UCLA Sports Medicine Specialists Help Keep Bruin Athletes Ready to Compete

With more than 100 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championship titles in 17 different sports, the UCLA Bruins rank number one in the nation when it comes to athletic success. To ensure the student athletes are always ready to compete, the Bruins rely on a team of dedicated certified athletic trainers and the expertise of the UCLA Athletics Department medical staff, which includes five orthopaedic surgeons and three family medicine physicians affiliated with the UCLA Sports Medicine Program. The medical staff provides consultations, surgical care and non-surgical care for approximately 700 athletes competing in 22 different varsity sports ranging from basketball, football and soccer to tennis, golf, gymnastics and track.

“We see and treat students with potentially season-ending or career-ending injuries who are very motivated to listen to our advice and work hard to improve their conditions,” says David R. McAllister, M.D., associate team physician with the UCLA Athletic Department and chief of the sports medicine service in the UCLA Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. “It’s very gratifying to work with these athletes.”

The work of Dr. McAllister and colleagues, however, is not limited to college students. The UCLA Sports Medicine Program is one of the largest and most comprehensive in Southern California, with approximately 1,500 surgeries and more than 45,000 patient visits annually. In addition to orthopaedic surgeons and family medicine physicians with subspecialty training in sports medicine, the UCLA team of experts also includes musculoskeletal radiologists trained in diagnosing a broad range of athletic injuries and disorders, including shoulder, elbow, wrist, knee and ankle conditions.

“We’re extremely proud of our long-standing relationship with the UCLA Athletics Department, but our service is available to anyone,” says Dr. McAllister. “We’ve built a world-class reputation for clinical excellence in sports medicine and orthopaedics. Athletes and non-athletes of all ages, including many UCLA employees, benefit from our background and expertise. We are pleased to provide high quality sports medicine care to all of our patients.”

UCLA is ranked #16 in the nation for orthopaedic care by *U.S. News and World Report* magazine.