

Drew Albert, MD MBA

SPINE SURGEON · ORTHOWEST

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Spine Surgery Fellowship Texas Back Institute — Plano, TX	2024 - 2025
Orthopedic Surgery Residency Corewell Health Michigan State University — Grand Rapids, MI	2019 - 2024
Doctorate of Medicine Michigan State University College of Human Medicine — East Lansing, MI	2015 - 2019
Master of Business: Advanced Studies in Project Management Ferris State University College of Business — Big Rapids, MI	2015 - 2019
Bachelor of Science: Nutritional Science Michigan State University College of Agriculture & Natural Resources — East Lansing, MI	2012 - 2014
Basic Science Lansing Community College — Lansing, MI	2009 - 2012

HONORS

Master of Business — Highest Distinction (4.0 GPA)	2019
Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society	2018
Clerkship Honors — Surgery, Psychiatry, Pediatrics, OB/GYN, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine	2017 - 2018
Phi Kappa Phi International Honor Society	2015
MSU Honors — Nutrition and the Prevention of Disease; Fundamental Genetics	2014
Marilyn Mook Endowed Scholarship, MSU	2013
Bradford-Adams Endowed Scholarship for Natural Science, MSU	2013
MSU Dean's List (>3.5 GPA)	Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013
LCC President's List (4.0 GPA)	Fall 2009, Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012
Foundation Scholarship, Lansing Community College	2010

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Spine Surgeon OrthoWest — Carrollton, Georgia Orthopedic spine surgeon focusing on endoscopic spine, robotics, and minimally invasive techniques.	2025 - Present
Advisor Qompass AI Advising initial capital raise and first clinical models with reliable clinical outputs in spine and orthopedics.	2024 - Present
Advisor H7 Biocapital Venture Firm & Accelerator Advisor for founders in biotech, devices, and medtech.	2023 - Present

Advisory Board Member	2020 - Present
Global Health Impact Fund and Network	
Advisory board for a VC firm with over \$10M under management focused on early-stage healthcare technology.	
Advisor	2024 - 2025
MedEd Cloud	
Advised seed funding and groundwork for an AI-based medical education platform.	
MedLabs Healthcare Accelerator Advisor	2020 - 2024
ZGC Capital	
Mentor for MedLabs Accelerator (\$100,000 awards) across biotech, healthcare services, medtech, and devices.	
Leader, Orthopedic Research & Educational Resource System	2020 - 2024
Corewell Health MSU Orthopedic Surgery Residency — Grand Rapids, MI	
Built a research project database and onboarding system for attendings, residents, and students; organized operative technique and curriculum resources.	
Spectrum Residency Administrative Liaison	2020 - 2024
Process Improvement Project, Spectrum Health — Grand Rapids, MI	
Improved orthopedic trauma supply-room stocking efficiency to reduce ER splinting delays for patients and residents.	
Advisor	2019 - 2024
Spectrum Health Innovations — Grand Rapids, MI	
Advised and trialled innovation projects with engineering partners through research, design, and development.	
Founder	2019 - Present
Ortho Conditioning — orthoconditioning.com	
Online orthopedic education resource for healthcare professionals (~100,000 reader impressions / month).	
Founder	2019 - Present
Physician Forge — physicianforge.com	
Platform for physicians on leadership, business, and entrepreneurship.	
Advisor	2019 - 2021
SteriDev LLC — Lansing, MI	
Led marketing and commercialization of CleanCase, a sterile single-use cover for mobile devices in the sterile field.	
Flight Line Service Technician	2014 - 2015
The Aviation Center — Ann Arbor, MI	
Ran hangar / FBO operations including desk, fueling, servicing, and aircraft transport.	
Gold Mine Heavy Equipment Operator, Operations Director, Field Medic	2010 - 2015
Ellet Enterprises Inc. — Denali, AK	
>11,000 work hours across 6 seasons in the Alaska Range. Operated excavator, haul trucks, dozer, and loader; maintained processing plant and equipment (fabricating, welding, mechanics); crew medic (Northern Cairns Wilderness Field Medicine).	
Teaching Assistant	2013 - 2014
Michigan State University, Physiology 432 — East Lansing, MI	
Helped develop curriculum and weekly reviews for a senior-level physiology course sequence.	

PUBLICATIONS

Madden T, Pate M, Rossi D, Albert D, Kitschke SP, Roberts K. Massive bilateral infrapatellar bursitis: a rare manifestation. *Clin Case Rep J.* 2023;4(3):1-7.

Chitta S, Russo T, Albert A, MacFarlane J, Janish T, Russo S. En bloc resection of cervical spine osteoid osteoma with O-Arm navigation. *JBJS Case Connector*. September 2022. doi:10.2106/JBJS.CC.21.00630

Albert A, Poole E, Hartley B, Squiers M, Philips M, Cassidy J, Macfarlane J, Steensma R. Doxycycline injection treatment for unicameral bone cysts: A case series. *Journal of Translational Medicine*. doi:10.21203/rs.3.rs-245713/v1. Re-submission pending.

ABSTRACTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Sahara M, Elagamy N, Shashank C, Russo T, Watts D, Madden T, Albert A, Russo S, Roberts K. The effect of preoperative patient education class on postoperative spine surgery ED visits and readmissions. Corewell Health Research Day. April 2023. Podium.

Kothari P, Albert A, Hartley B, Potter R, Anderson J. The INBONE total ankle system: Long term clinical and radiographic outcomes. AOFAS Annual Meeting. September 2022. Poster and audio.

Chitta S, Russo T, Albert A, MacFarlane J, Janish T, Russo S. En bloc resection of cervical spine osteoid osteoma with O-Arm navigation. Michigan Orthopedic Society. June 2022. Podium.

Sahara M, Albert A, Winkel L, Poole E, Ogeh D, Karek R. Mobile os odontoideum: A case report. Michigan Orthopedic Society. June 2022. Podium.

Sahara M, Elagamy N, Shashank C, Russo T, Madden T, Albert A, Russo S, Roberts K. The effect of preoperative patient education class discontinuation on spine surgical outcomes. Michigan Orthopedic Society. June 2022. Podium.

Hartley B, Albert A, Poole E, Squiers M, Philips M, Cassidy J, Macfarlane J, Steensma R. Doxycycline injection treatment for unicameral bone cysts: A case series. Spectrum Health Research Conference. April 2021. Poster.

Hartley B, Albert A, Poole E, Squiers M, Philips M, Cassidy J, Macfarlane J, Steensma R. Treatment for unicameral bone cysts: A systematic review. Spectrum Health Research Conference. April 2021. Poster.

Wenzlick T, Madden T, Albert A, Fras A. The effect of tranexamic acid use on wound complications after hip hemiarthroplasty. Mid-America Orthopedic Association. September 2021. Podium.

Hartley B, Albert A, Peissig E, Jordan M, Barnes M, Roberts K. Pre-operative Fascia Iliaca Blocks Decrease Opioid Requirements in Hip Fracture Patients: A prospective cohort study. Spectrum Health Research Conference. April 2021. Poster; Robert J. Lucas Surgical Society Research Symposium. March 2021. Podium.

Albert A, Winkel L, Poole E, Cassidy J, Karek R. Multilevel revision corpectomy and expandable cage for severe cervical spine erosion in neurofibromatosis type 1. Spectrum Health Research Conference. April 2021. Poster.

Albert A, Palmer C, Rowe N, Luz C. Stress-induced hyperglycemia and outcomes of infection in orthopedic trauma patients. Sparrow Research Conference. April 2019. Poster.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Nonoperative and operative outcomes for scoliosis in West Michigan **2019 - 2024**

Albert A, Sahara M, Cassidy J — Helen DeVos Children's Hospital

Initiated a database for objective and patient-reported outcomes for pediatric congenital, infantile, and adolescent idiopathic scoliosis at a high-volume pediatric spine center.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Medial instability in multi-ligamentous knee injuries: MCL repair vs reconstruction **Pending**

Peterson JC, Janish T, Albert A, Jabara M — *Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research* (re-submission pending)

Mobile os odontoideum: A case report

Pending

Sahara M, Albert A, Winkel L, Poole E, Ogeh D, Karek R — *Global Spine Journal* (re-submission pending)

Radiographic outcomes of ABCs treated with denosumab	Pending
Albert A, Squiers M, Pate M, Winkel L, Poole E, Steensma R — Van Andel Institute (submission pending) Developed a radiographic system with Spectrum Health radiology to assess healing in aneurysmal bone cysts treated with denosumab.	
Treatment for unicameral bone cysts: A systematic review	Pending
Albert A, Poole E, Hartley B, Squiers M, Philips M, Steensma R (submission pending)	
Training quality and effectiveness in the clinical setting	2019 - Present
Albert A, Massol A, Herek J, Hassan S, Laird-Fick H — <i>Journal of Medical Education and Curricular Development</i>	
Long-term outcomes of total ankle systems (Agility, Inbone 1 & 2, Prophecy, Infinity)	2019 - Present
Albert A, Kothari P, Hartley B, Potter R, Anderson J — Orthopedic Associates of Michigan Helped procure industry funding (Wright Medical/Stryker) for the prospective arm; outcomes and implant survivability with focus on stemmed vs non-stemmed tibial components. In data collection.	
Robotic-assisted versus conventional unicompartmental knee arthroplasty	2017 - 2019
Albert A, Mesko JW — McLaren Greater Lansing Private outcomes database comparing STRIDE robotic-assisted UKA to ZUK for a single-surgeon series.	
Early diagnostic predictive analytics in sepsis outcomes	2016
Albert A, Zaroukian H — Sparrow Hospital Worked with health informatics and CIO on early sepsis detection processes; further development paused due to resource limits.	
Educational materials' effect on advanced directives and end-of-life care	2014
Albert A, Hughes J — MSU Clinical Emergency Medicine Research Course ED-based enrollment and data tracking on advanced directives education.	
Calorie restriction, aging, and natural killer cell immunity	2012
Albert A, Duriancik DM, Gardner M — Michigan State University Lab techniques including ELISAs, cell staining, flow cytometry, containment facilities, and mouse organ harvesting.	

VOLUNTEERISM

International Mission Trip Volunteer	2022 - Present
Riverview Church — Monterrey, Mexico Orphan care and housing construction.	
Associate Team Physician	2021
East Grand Rapids High School — Grand Rapids, MI	
Riv Kids Youth Ministry Leader	2018
Riverview Church — Holt, MI Led groups of 15-20 fourth-grade students on Sunday mornings.	
Medical School Tutoring Volunteer	2017 - 2018
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine — East Lansing, MI Step 1 guidance and suturing skills teaching for pre-PA and high school students.	
Special Olympics Medical Team Volunteer	2017 - 2018
Special Olympics State Poly Hockey Tournament — Lansing, MI	
MSU Gran Fondo Medical Team Volunteer	2017 - 2018
MSU Gran Fondo — Grand Rapids, MI	

Leader, Orthopedic Surgery Interest Group (OSIG)	2016 - 2018
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine — East Lansing, MI	
Organized events, resident/program-director sessions, and mentorship for students interested in orthopedics.	
Medical School Admissions Volunteer	2016 - 2018
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine — East Lansing, MI	
Applicant interviews, personal-statement review, and Q&A panels for accepted students.	
Youth Ministry Leader	2011 - 2014
Riverview Church — Holt, MI	
>1,800 volunteer hours as team leader for grades 6–8 (25–35 students weekly, including special needs); 11–16 hours/week preparation, teaching, events, and mentorship; also music leader (guitar).	
Hospital Volunteer	2012
McLaren Greater Lansing Emergency Department — Lansing, MI	
Room preparation and patient transport.	
Violin Volunteer	2010 - 2011
Food pantry fundraisers and New Haven Adult Foster Care	

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Arthroplasty: 25 Years at TBI — Case Presentation	2025
Seattle Science Foundation / Texas Back Institute — YouTube	
The Future of Spine Robotics and AI	2025
Neuroscience Grand Rounds — Texas Back Institute, Plano, TX	
Cervical Deformity Current Concepts	2025
Neuroscience Grand Rounds — Texas Back Institute, Plano, TX	
What I Learned About Leadership in the Alaskan Gold Mines	2023
Grand Rounds — Corewell Health MSU Orthopedic Surgery Residency, Grand Rapids, MI	
Lumbopelvic Fixation in the Trauma Setting	2023
Spine Grand Rounds — Corewell Health MSU Orthopedic Surgery Residency	
Triangular osteosynthesis origins and outcomes/techniques in spinopelvic trauma.	
Unique Spine Trauma in Grand Rapids: A Case Series	2022
Spine Grand Rounds — Spectrum Health MSU Orthopedic Surgery Residency	
Cervical Spine Trauma	2021
Spine Grand Rounds — Spectrum Health MSU Orthopedic Surgery Residency	
Lumbar Spinal Stenosis	2020
Spine Grand Rounds — Spectrum Health MSU Orthopedic Surgery Residency	
Spine Trauma Resident Educational Series	2020
Spine Grand Rounds — Spectrum Health MSU Orthopedic Surgery Residency	

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

Part 1 ABOS Boards, Passed	2024
USMLE Step 1 — Score 256	2017
USMLE Step 2 — Score 269	2018
USMLE Step 3 — Score 229	2019
Texas Medical License	2024 - Present

Texas Controlled Substance License	2021 - 2024
Michigan Limited Medical License	2019 - 2024
Michigan Controlled Substance License	2021 - 2024
Advanced Cardiac Life Support	2019 - Present
Pediatric Advanced Life Support	2019 - 2024
Advanced Studies in Project Management	2015 - 2019
Basic Life Support for Healthcare Professionals	2014 - 2019
Human Subject Research Protection Training	2014 - 2018
Annual Mine Safety and Basic First Aid Certification	2010 - 2015
Wilderness First Responder	2012 - 2015

COURSES ATTENDED

UltraMIS Spine Fellowship Forum, Arthrex — Naples, FL	2025
Endoscopic Spine Lab (Peter Derman, MD) — Plano, TX	2025
Cadaveric Spine Robotics and Nav Lab, Stryker Spine — Kalamazoo, MI	2024
Current Trends and Spine Surgical Solutions, Globus — Newport, CA	2023
Minimally Invasive Spine Solutions, Stryker — Nashville, TN	2023
Orthopedic Trauma Association, Basic — Phoenix, AZ	2022
Osteopathic Manual Medicine — MSU CHM	2015
Medical Business and Finance Elective — MSU CHM	2015

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

North American Spine Society (NASS)	2022 - Present
American Medical Association	2020 - Present
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS)	2019 - Present
Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society	2018 - Present
American Association of Physician Leadership	2015 - 2017
The American College of Healthcare Executives	2015 - 2017
Phi Kappa Phi International Honor Society	2012 - 2015

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Engineering Project: Mars Society Colony Competition	2014
Michigan State University College of Engineering — East Lansing, MI	
Team design of an economically sustainable Martian colony.	
Private Pilot training	2016 - 2019
Aviation Center — Ann Arbor, MI	
36 hours of flight time toward a private pilot license.	
Mid-Michigan Youth Symphony	2009
Guitarist, Rush Cover Band	2009 - 2014
Formal Violin Training	1994 - 2010

INTERESTS

Hiking with family, weight lifting, violin, guitar, aviation, audiobooks, podcasts.