

CHRISTOPHER P. KAUFFMAN, M.D.

394 Harding Place, Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37211
615-834-4482

EDUCATION

- M.D. State University of New York - Health Science Center at Brooklyn
Brooklyn, NY
August 1989 - May 1993
- M.S. State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY
Major: Natural Sciences/Biology
August 1988 - September 1989
- B.S. Cornell University, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Ithaca, NY
Major: Biology
August 1984 - May 1988

POST-GRADUATE EXPERIENCE

- Fellowship- Spinal Surgery
University of California at San Diego
August 1, 1998 – July 31, 1999
Director: Steven R. Garfin, MD
- Resident- Orthopaedic Surgery
University of Medicine and Dentistry New Jersey; Newark, NJ
July 1, 1993- June 30, 1998
Director: Fred F. Behrens, MD

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

- Physician - State of Tennessee
Physician - State of Connecticut
Physician - State of California
- American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery – Board Certified 7/02

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Medical Association – Active
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons – Active
North American Spine Society- Active
Tennessee Medical Association- Active

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES

- American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

AAOS Coding, Coverage, and Reimbursement Committee 2003- 2016, 2020-present
NASS6 – SpinePAC
Board of Directors 2020-present

North American Spine Society
Board of Directors –2011 – 2014, 2019-present

Health Policy Director – 2013- 2014, 2020-present

Program Co-Chair – NASS 26th Annual Meeting, Chicago IL 11/2011

Chairman –Professional, Economic and Regulatory Committee –2011 -2013

Chairman - Coding and Reimbursement Committee 2006-November, 2011

Co-Chairman - Performance Measurement Committee - 2008-2013

Course Director 2006 – 2011– Essentials and Controversies of Operative and Non-operative Spine Care Coding – 3-4 courses yearly

Operative Coding Committee 2003-present

Professional, Economic and Regulatory Committee 2007- 2013

Health Policy Council 2008- 2014

AMA – NASS alternative representative to PCPI – Physician Consortium for performance Improvement. 2009 -2012

Reviewer for Spine (Journal) 2004-2012

Reviewer for The Spine Journal 2014- present

Reviewer for North American Spine Society Journal 2020-present

EMPLOYMENT

Private Practice
Hughston Clinic/Premier Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine, PLC
394 Harding Place
Nashville, TN 37211
January 1, 2013 - Present

Private Practice
Christopher P Kauffman, MD
Spinal Surgery
1616 West Main Street Suite 300
Lebanon, TN 37087
September 2004-December 31,2012

Adjunct Faculty
Meharry Medical College
Dept Of Surgery, Division Orthopaedic Surgery
1005 Dr. D.B. Todd Jr., Blvd.
Nashville, TN, 37208
2006- Dec 31, 2010

Assistant Clinical Professor
UCSD – Dept of Orthopaedic Surgery
350 Dickinson St. Suite 121
San Diego, CA 92103-8894

September 1,2000 – August 2004

Spine Surgery and Orthopaedic Trauma
The Orthopaedic Group, L.L.C.
199 Whitney Ave #1, New Haven, CT 06511
September 1,1999- August 31,2000

Clinical Instructor, Orthopaedic Surgery
Yale University – School of Medicine, New Haven, CT
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
September 1, 1999 - August 31,2000

Clinical Instructor, Orthopaedic Surgery
University of California at San Diego, San Diego, CA
August 1, 1998 – August 31,1999
Chairman: Steven R Garfin, M.D.

COURSE PRESENTATIONS

- 2015 American Academy of orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting- Federation of Spine Associations. L4-5 Degenerative Spondylolisthesis. L3-4, L4-5 Stenosis. Posterior Decompression With Posterolateral Fusion is Best. March 28, 2015.
- 2013 Essentials and Controversies of Operative and Non-operative Spine Care Coding 2013. North American Spine Society. Multiple lectures. Chicago, IL and New Orleans,LA, 7/2013 and 10/2013
- 2012 Essentials and Controversies of Operative and Non-operative Spine Care Coding 2012. North American Spine Society. Multiple lectures. Salt lake City UT and Dallas, TX 2/2012 and 10/2012
- 2012 The Eighth Annual Evidence and Technology Spine Summit Course Director – North American Spine Society, Park City UT, February 22-26,2012
- 2012 NASS Program Chair - Federation of Spine Associations Specialty Day American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery Annual Meeting 2012, San Francisco CA, February 11,2012
- 2012 Moderator Evidenced Based Medicine and Spinal Surgery and Osteoporotic Compression Fractures - Federation of Spine Associations Specialty Day American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery Annual Meeting 2012, San Francisco CA, February 11,2012
- 2012 “Evidence Based Medicine – Kyphoplasty “ - Federation of Spine Associations Specialty Day American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery Annual Meeting 2012, San Francisco CA, February 11,2012
- 2011 Healthcare Reform and Beyond – “EMR Implementation and Associated Incentives North American Spine Society’s 26th Annual Meeting Chicago, Illinois November 3, 2011
- 2010 Nursing in Spine Care. “Emerging Spine Trends and Technology: What’s Lurking in the Future?”. North American Spine Society 25th Annual Meeting. Orlando, FL, October 5, 2010
- 2010 Lumbar Interbody Fusion Technologies. “Economics and Coding”

- 2010 Essentials and Controversies of Operative and Non-operative Spine Care Coding 2010. North American Spine Society.
Course Chairman. Multiple lectures.
Orlando, FL October 4-5, 2010
- 2010 Essentials and Controversies of Operative and Non-operative Spine Care Coding 2010. North American Spine Society.
Course Chairman. Multiple lectures.
Copper Mountain, CO March 5-6, 2010
- 2009 Essentials and Controversies of Operative and Non-operative Spine Care Coding 2009. North American Spine Society.
Course Chairman. Multiple lectures.
Baltimore MD, July 24-25, 2009
- 2009 2009 Reimbursement Landscapes and Sandtraps For Spine Surgery. Complex Spine Solutions. Las Vegas, NV July 23-24, 2009
- 2009 Essentials and Controversies of Operative and Non-operative Spine Care Coding
Course Chairman. Multiple lectures.
New Orleans, LA April 3-4 24-25, 2009
- 2009 AAOS One-Day Part II 2009 Board Preparatory Review Course #3223 and #3238 American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Rosemont, IL
June 26-27, 2008
- 2008 1. Pay for Performance – What you need to Know. 2. Evaluation and Management Essentials. 3. New Procedure Codes
11th Annual Symposium Current Advances in Surgery. Orthopaedic Surgery: Avoiding Complications, Improving Outcomes. Cancun, Mexico.
Dec 9-11, 2008.
- 2008 The Socioeconomic Sport of Spine Care, “The Players and Fans”
North American Spine Society 23rd Annual Meeting, Toronto Canada
Oct 13-18, 2008
- 2008 Young Surgeons Forum, “Procedure to Payment: A Primer in the RVU System”
North American Spine Society 23rd Annual Meeting, Toronto Canada
Oct 13-18, 2008
- 2008 AAOS One-Day Part II 2009 Board Preparatory Review Course #3223 and #3238 American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Rosemont, IL
June 27-28, 2008
- 2008 AAOS One-Day Part II Board Certification Review Course #3222 and #3237 American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Rosemont, IL
June 27-28, 2008
- 2008: St Louis University Practical Anatomy and Surgical Education Workshop
“The Latest Minimally Invasive Techniques for the treatment of Thoracolumbar Spine Disorders”
St. Louis University, St Louis, MO
March 28-29, 2008
- 2008: Current Controversies and Advanced Techniques in Interbody and Vertebral Body Replacement Surgery
“Pearls and Pitfalls of Coding for Interbody and VBR Procedures”
Denver, CO Feb 22-23, 2008

- 2007 American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
One-Day Part II 2007 Board Certification Review
Rosemont, IL
June 22,2007
- 2006: St Louis University Practical Anatomy and Surgical Education Workshop
“The Latest Minimally Invasive Techniques for the treatment of Thoracolumbar Spine Disorders”
St. Louis University, St Louis, MO
February 10-11, 2006
- 2005-12 North American Spine Society- Coding and Reimbursement Update Courses
Lecturer on Spine coding and reimbursement
3-4 Courses yearly - February, July and October

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2001: University of California at San Diego; San Diego, California
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
“Rabbit fusion model using Macropore bone graft containment system”
Christopher P Kauffman, MD
- 1998-9: University of California at San Diego; San Diego, California
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
“Osteoporosis in Prostate Cancer Patients Treated with Hormonal Therapy.”
Steven R Garfin, M.D., Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
- 1998: University of California at San Diego; San Diego, California
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
“Anterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion using a New Fusion Cage –
Animal Model and Histologic Analysis of Results.”
Vert Mooney, M.D. Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
- 1996-7: University of Medicine and Dentistry New Jersey; Newark, NJ.
Dept. of Orthopaedic Surgery, Division of Biomechanics.
“Biomechanical Model and Comparison of Anterior Lumbar
Interbody Fusion and Posterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion.”
Casey Lee, M.D., Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
- 1993: State University of New York- Health Science Center At Brooklyn
Brooklyn, NY
“Meta- Analysis of Surgical Outcome in Scoliosis, A Thirty-One Year
Review of Eleven Thousand Patients.”
Thomas R. Hafer, M.D., Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
- 1992: State University of New York- Health Science Center At Brooklyn
Brooklyn, NY
"Biomechanics of the Spine in Sports."
Thomas R. Hafer, M.D., Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
- 1991: State University of New York- Health Science Center At Brooklyn
Brooklyn, NY
"The Anatomy of a Fracture: The Development of a Three-Dimensional Finite
Element Model of the Spine to Explain the Burst Fracture."
Thomas R. Hafer, M.D., Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
- 1991: State University of New York- Health Science Center At Brooklyn
Brooklyn, NY
"The Effect of Disc Hydration on Vertebral Load Distribution and
Displacement in a Burst Fracture."

1990: State University of New York- Health Science Center At Brooklyn
Brooklyn, NY
Summer Fellow for the Dean's Task Force for Small Group Learning
Developed a teaching module for medical college Histology course.
Lucy Frank Squire, M.D., Professor of Radiology

PUBLICATIONS

NASS Appropriate Use Criteria – Degenerative Lumbar Spondylolisthesis 2021

Kauffman CP, Reiter MF and Mitchell W. Updates Regarding Anthem Coverage Policies and Coding. Spine Line. November-December 2017. 27-29

Kauffman CP. Return to the Operating Room following decompression surgery – Infection or not Infection? That is the Question. Spine J. Feb 16 (2) : 197-8. 2016 [PMID: 26891921](#)

Blasier RD, Kauffman Cp and Saiz P. Can Posterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion and Decompression be Reported at Same Interspace?.SpineLine. March/April. 25-27. 2016

Blasier, RD,Kauffman CP, and Sullivan,W. 2012 Coding Changes for Spine Procedures. Spine Line. January/February 2012. 30-34.

Kauffman CP, Sullivan,W. 2011 Coding Changes for Spine Procedures. Spine Line. January/February 2011.

Kauffman CP, O'Brien DR. 2010 Coding and Medicare Reimbursement Changes. Spine Line. January/February 2010.

Kauffman CP, O'Brien DR. Coding Transpedicular Approach or Lumbar Posterolateral Extradural Exploration/ Decompression vs PDD vs Annuloplasty. Spine Line November/December 2009.

Kauffman CP, O'Brien DR. 2009 CPT Changes for Spine Procedures. Spine Line. January/February 2009.

Kauffman,CP. Category III AMA CPT Codes. Spine Line. March April 2008.

Bono CM, Bawa M, White KK, Mahar A, Vives M, Kauffman C and Garfin SR. Residual Motion on Flexion-Extension Radiographs after Simulated Lumbar Arthrodesis in Human Cadavers. Journal of Spinal Disorders. 2007. [PMID: 18600148](#)

Kauffman CP, Yeung CA, Yeung AT. Percutaneous Lumbar Surgery. Rothman-Simeone The Spine, 5th edition. Editors: Herkowitz HN, Garfin SR, Eismont FJ, Bell GR. Elsevier Science. Philadelphia. 2005.

Bono CM, Kauffman CP and Garfin SR. Vertebral Body Augmentation: Kyphoplasty. Emerging Spinal Surgical Techniques. Corbin T, Connelly PJ, Yuan H, Bao Q, and Boden S. Quality Medical Publishing. St Louis. 2005.

Eastlack R, Kauffman CP. Pyogenic Spinal Infections. Spine Surgery: Essentials of Orthopaedics. Editors: Bono CM, Garfin SR. Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins. Philadelphia. 2003.

Eastlack R, Kauffman CP. Atypical Spinal Infections. *Spine Surgery: Essentials of Orthopaedics*. Editors: Bono CM, Garfin SR. Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins. Philadelphia. 2003.

Bono CM, Vives MJ and Kauffman CP. Cervical Injuries: Indications and Options for Surgery. *Spinal Cord Medicine, Principles and Practice*. Lin, VW editor. Demos Medical Publishing, Inc. New York. Pp 131-141. 2003.

Williams SK, Kauffman CP, Stimson, E Garfin SR. Tuberculous Infections of the Spine. *Principles and Practice of Spine Surgery*. Editors – Vaccaro A, Betz R and Zeidman SM. Mosby, Philadelphia. 2003. pp 175-86.

Kauffman CP, Bono CM, Vessa PP, Swan KG. Postoperative Synergistic Gangrene After Spinal Fusion. *Spine*. 2000 Jul 1. 25(13): 1729-1732 [PMID: 10870152](#)

Kauffman CP, Williams SK, Stimson E, Garfin SR. Spinal Granulomatous Infection. *Seminars in Spine Surgery*. 2000. 12(4). 192-202

Kauffman CP, Garfin SR. Spinal Stenosis, Pathophysiology and Symptom Complex Update 1999. *Seminars in Spine Surgery*. 1999; 11(3). 209-14.

Levine RG, Kauffman CP, Reilly MC and Behrens FF. "Floating Pelvis" – A Combination of Bilateral Hip Dislocations with Lumbar Chance Fracture. *J Bone Joint Surg Br*. 1999 Mar; 81(2): 309-11 [PMID: 10204941](#)

Haher TR, O' Brian M, Kauffman C, and Liao K. "Biomechanics of the Spine in Sports." *Clinics in Sports Medicine* 1993; 12(3): 449-64. [PMID: 8364985](#)

POSTERS

Vives M, Manos R, Yuan P, Kauffman CP, Garfin S, Yetkinler D. "The Effect of Radiofrequency Energy on Dural Tissue: Histomorphologic Analysis. International Society for the Lumbar Spine, 29th Annual meeting. Cleveland, Ohio. May 14-18, 2002.

PRESENTATIONS

The Future of Outcomes Assessment on Consumer Choice, Provider Referral, Accreditation, Reimbursement and provider Compensation.. North American Spine Society - 28th Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. October 10, 2013.

Current Assessment Research Tools and Practices: an Overview. North American Spine Society - 28th Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. October 10, 2013.

Navigating CMS Quality Initiatives: Avoiding Penalties. North American Spine Society - 28th Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. October 9, 2013.

"Being Your Own Boss: The T-Rex of Health Care". North American Spine Society 25th Annual Meeting. Orlando, FL, October 7, 2010

"2011 CPT Update" North American Spine Society 25th Annual Meeting. Orlando, FL, October 6, 2010

"Top Three Coding Questions of 2007" Socio-Economic Affairs Presentation. North American Spine Society 22nd Annual Meeting. Austin, TX. Oct 23-27, 2007

"X-Stop Coding and Add-On Payment" Socio-Economic Affairs Presentation. North American Spine Society 21st Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA. Sept 26-30, 2006

"Evaluation and Management CPT Guidelines/Proper Coding"

“Spinal Anatomy as it pertains to CPT Coding”

“22000 Series Codes”

Christopher P Kauffman, MD

North American Spine Society- CPT Coding Course

New Orleans, LA

April 1-2, 2005

“Evaluation and Management CPT Guidelines/Proper Coding”

“Spinal Anatomy as it pertains to CPT Coding”

Christopher P Kauffman, MD

North American Spine Society- CPT Coding Course

Squaw Valley, CA

January 28-29, 2005

“Posterior/Posterolateral Approach to Fusion for Low Back pain- Best technique, latest results”

Kauffman, CP

The Spine Study Group 15th Symposium

Palm Beach, FL May 20, 2004

“Spinal Trauma: Rationale for Operative Treatment”

Kauffman, CP

Critical Care Summer Session 2002

San Diego, CA 7/2002

“Radiographic Evaluation of Spinal Trauma”

Kauffman CP

Othopaedic Trauma Association 7th Annual Residents Fracture Course

San Diego, CA 10/20/2001

“Spinal Trauma: Surgical Treatment as an Aid to Rehabilitation”

Kauffman, CP

Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Association Annual Meeting

Coronado, CA April 2001

“New Concepts in the Treatment of Compression Fractures.”

Kauffman, CP

The Spine Study Group 12th Symposium. February 2000.

“Operative Treatment of Thoracolumbar Trauma”

Kauffman, CP

University of California, San Diego. March 1999.

“Spinal Stenosis – Diagnosis and Treatment”

Kauffman, CP

University of California, San Diego. January 1999.

“First Reported Case of Post-Operative Synergistic Gangrene affecting the Axial Skeleton.”

Kauffman, CP., Vessa, P., Dwyer, J., and Swan, KG.

New Jersey Orthopaedic Society Annual Meeting. October 1995.

“Meta- Analysis of Surgical Outcome in Scoliosis, A Thirty-One Year Review of Eleven Thousand Patients.”

Haher, TR., Merola, A., Zipnick, R., Orchowski, J., Kauffman, CP.

Scoliosis Research Society, Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting- September, 1994

“The Anatomy of a Fracture: The Development of a Three-Dimensional Finite Element Model of the Spine to Explain the Burst Fracture.”

Haher, TR., Orchowski, J., Kauffman, CP., Liao, K., Shalhoub, J.

Scoliosis Research Society, Twenty Seventh Annual Meeting - September, 1992

"The Effect of Disc Hydration on Vertebral Load Distribution and Displacement in a Burst Fracture."

Haher, TR., Orchowski, J., Kauffman, CP., Liao, K., Shalhoub, J.

Scoliosis Research Society, Twenty Seventh Annual Meeting - September, 1992

HONORS

Resident Teaching Award - 1998

UMDNJ- Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

Russell S Hibbs Award - 1994

Scoliosis Research Society, Twenty-Eighth Annual Meeting- September, 1994

"Meta- Analysis of Surgical Outcome in Scoliosis, A Thirty-One Year
Review of Eleven Thousand Patients."

Haher, TR., Merola, A., Zipnick, R., Orchowski, J., Kauffman, CP.