

Richard Zackary Unger, MD
zackungermd.com
danortho.com

Education

Undergraduate

Morehead State University, Morehead, KY, *August 2005-May 2009*
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Biology minor
Member MSU Golf team
GPA: 4.0 (Summa Cum Laude)
Dean's List, 8 consecutive semesters of undergraduate study
Member Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society

Medical School

University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Lexington, KY, *August 2010-May 2014*
Doctorate in Medicine, With Distinction
Inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society

Internship/Residency in Orthopaedic Surgery

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, *July 2014-June 2019*

Fellowship in Orthopaedic Sports Medicine

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, *August 2019-July 2020*
Assistant Team Surgeon-UK Athletics

Medical Licensure

Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure (*Active*)

Professional Affiliations

Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, *Inducted 2008*
Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, *Inducted 2013*
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, *Member since 2014*
American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, *Member since 2016*
Mid-America Orthopaedic Association, *Member since 2016*
Arthroscopy Association of North America, *Member since 2019*

Team/Event Coverage Experience

Centre College Athletics, 2020-Present

- Team Surgeon

Boyle County High School Athletics, 2020-Present

- Team Physician

Danville High School Athletics, 2020-Present

- Team Physician

Mercer County High School Athletics, 2020-Present

- Team Physician

University of Kentucky Athletics, 2019-2020

- Assistant Team Surgeon for UK Football and UK Basketball
- Surgical consultation for multiple sports
- Pre-participation physicals

George Rogers Clark High School, 2019

- Team physician for football team

Kentucky State University, 2017 & 2018

- Team physician coverage of home football and basketball games
- Coverage of weekly multisport training rooms
- Pre-participation physicals

Georgetown College

- Coverage of multisport training rooms & basketball games, 2016-2017
- Pre-participation physicals, summer 2017

PGA Barbasol Championship

- Physician coverage for players/caddies, July 2018

Bryan Station High School, 2017 & 2018

- Team physician for football team

Woodford County High School

- Football game coverage, fall 2017

Honors and Awards

Kentucky Orthopaedic Society Annual Meeting Resident Research Award Winner, 2016

- Awarded to top resident research/presentation

Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society, 2013

- Awarded for character, scholarship, service, and leadership during medical training

Ohio Valley Conference Medal of Honor: 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

- Award given to student-athletes earning a 4.0 GPA

Outstanding Chemistry Student, Morehead State University, May 2009

- Award given to student with best GPA in Chemistry over 4 years

Outstanding Organic Chemistry Student, May 2008

- Award given to student with top GPA in Organic Chemistry

Most Improved Award, Morehead State University Golf Team, May 2008

R.O.Y. Award, Morehead State University, May 2008

- Award given to player with best work ethic on MSU golf team

Community Service and Extracurricular Activities

University of Kentucky Orthopaedic Surgery Resident Curriculum Committee, 2017-2019

- Worked to improve didactics, workshops, and other educational activities

Advanced Trauma Life Support Instructor, 2015-2019

University of Kentucky College of Medicine Student Ambassadors, August 2011-2014

- Discussed careers in medicine with elementary through high school students throughout the state of Kentucky to help encourage future healthcare involvement

Anatomy Mentors Program, 2011

- Mentored a small group of first year medical students on study skills and test preparation for the first year Gross Anatomy course

Salvation Army Student-Run Free Clinic Volunteer, 2010-2014

Orthopaedic Surgery Interest Group, 2010-2014

Ward O. Griffen Surgery Society, 2010-2014

Morehead State University Men's Golf Team-NCAA Division I, 2005-2009

Notable Work Experiences

Orthopaedic Surgeon

Danville Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine, *August 2020-Present*

Internship/Residency in Orthopaedic Surgery

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, *July 2014-June 2019*

Fellowship in Orthopaedic Sports Medicine

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, *August 2019-July 2020*

Assistant Team Surgeon-UK Athletics

Summer Research Assistant, Vanderbilt University Orthopaedic Surgery-Trauma Division, 2011

- Coordinated with Vanderbilt Department of Orthopaedics to create a comprehensive database for bicondylar tibial plateau fractures
- Work led to a peer-reviewed publication as well as local and national presentations

Research Assistant, Indiana University Hospital, Gastroenterology/Endoscopy, June-August 2009

- Observed endoscopic procedures and interacted with patients in the clinical setting
- Multiple databases compiled including colon polyps discovered by colonoscopy, residual gastric contents after bowel preparation, and quality assurance measures
- Work led to two peer-reviewed publications

Biology Teacher, Wabash City Schools, September 2009-May 2010

- AP Biology, General Biology instruction

Pro Shop Staff, Honeywell GC, May 2007-August 2008

- This opportunity provided insight into serving the public as well as enhancing leadership and management skills.

Publications

Unger RZ, Skipper ZT, Ireland ML. Golf: Injuries and Treatment. *Specific Sports-Related Injuries*, Ch. 21, pp 301-314, 2021.

Zacharias AJ, Whitaker JR, Collofello BS, Wilson, BR, **Unger RZ**, Ireland ML, Johnson DL, Jacobs CA. Secondary Injuries After Pediatric Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction: A Systematic Review with Quantitative Analysis. *American Journal of Sports Medicine*, Vol 49 (4), pp 1086-1093, 2021.

Cronin KJ, Magnuson JA, Murphy ML, **Unger RZ**, Jacobs CA, Blake MH. Responsiveness of Patient-Reported Outcomes in Shoulder Arthroplasty: What are we actually measuring? *Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery*, Vol 30(5), pp 1174-1180, 2021.

Unger RZ, Burnham JM, Gammon BS, Malempati CS, Jacobs CA, Makhni EC. The Responsiveness of Patient Reported Outcome Scores in Shoulder Surgery is Dependent on the Underlying Pathology. *American Journal of Sports Medicine*, Vol 47, issue 1, pp 241-247, Epub January 2018 and printed January 2019.

Gartsman GM, Morris BJ, **Unger RZ**, Laughlin MS, Elkousy HA, Edwards TB. Characteristics of Clinical Shoulder Research Over the Last Decade: A Review of Shoulder Articles in The Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery from 2004 to 2014. *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery America*, vol 97, no. 5, e26 (1-8), 2015.

Morris BJ, **Unger RZ**, Archer KR, Mathis SL, Perdue AM, Obrebsky WT. Risk Factors of Infection After ORIF of Bicondylar Tibial Plateau Fractures. *Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma*, vol. 27, no. 9, pp. 196-200, 2013.

Kamineni S, **Unger RZ**, Desai R. Shoulder Arthrodesis in the Management of Glenohumeral Pathologies. *Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Arthroplasty*, Vol 3, 2019.

Unger RZ, Amstutz SP, Seo DH, Huffman M, Rex DK. Willingness to Undergo Split-Dose Bowel Preparation for Colonoscopy and Compliance with Split-Dose Instructions. *Digestive Diseases and Sciences*, vol. 55, no. 7, pp. 2030-2034, 2010.

Huffman M, **Unger RZ**, Thatikonda C, Amstutz SP, Rex DK. Split-dose bowel preparation for colonoscopy and residual gastric fluid volume: an observational study. *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*, vol. 72, no. 3, pp. 516-522, 2010.

International Presentations

Unger RZ, Burnham JM, Gammon L, Malempati CS, Jacobs CA, Makhni EC. Responsiveness of Patient-Reported Outcome Measures After Shoulder Instability Surgery: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

- Poster Presentation at American Orthopaedic Society of Sports Medicine 2017 Annual Meeting in Toronto, ON

Muchow RD, Wilson B, Wade A, Nzegwu I, Zuelzer D, **Unger RZ**, Beimisch C, Tabaie S, Kulkarni VA, McKie. Proximal Femoral Remodeling and Growth Two Years after Threaded Screw Stabilization in Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis.

- Electronic Poster Presentation at 2017 EPOSNA Annual Meeting in Barcelona, Spain.

Gartsman GM, Morris BJ, **Unger RZ**, Laughlin MS, Szerlip BW, Elkousy HA, Walch G, Edwards TB. Trends in Shoulder Research Over the Last Decade: A Review of Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery Shoulder Articles.

- Poster Presentation at XXVI Congress of the European Society for Shoulder and Elbow Surgery (SECEC/ESSSE). September 2015, Milan, Italy

National Presentations

Zacharias AJ, Whitaker JR, Wilson BR, **Unger RZ**, Johnson DL, Ireland ML, Jacobs CA. Secondary Injuries Prevalent for Females Following Pediatric ACL Reconstruction: A Systematic Review.

- Podium Presentation presented by Zacharias AJ at Southern Orthopaedic Association Annual Meeting, July 2019, Amelia Island, FL.

Unger RZ, Burnham JM, Gammon L, Malempati CS, Jacobs CA, Makhni EC. Responsiveness of Patient-Reported Outcome Measures After Shoulder Instability Surgery: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

- Podium Presentation at Mid-America Orthopaedic Association 2017 Annual Meeting in Amelia Island, FL

Burnham JM, **Unger RZ**, Gammon L, Malempati CS, Jacobs CA, Makhni EC. Responsiveness of Patient-Reported Outcome Scores After Rotator Cuff Surgery: Which Score is Best?.

- Podium Presentation at Mid-America Orthopaedic Association 2017 Annual Meeting in Amelia Island, FL

Burnham JM, Malempati CS, Rao AJ, **Unger RZ**, Howard JS, Lattermann C, Jacobs CA, Makhni EC. Which Patient Reported Outcome (PRO) Measure Should We Use for ACL Reconstruction Patients? Assessing Relative Responsiveness of Commonly Used Scores.

- Electronic Poster Presentation at Arthroscopy Association of North America 2017 Annual Meeting

Murr KA, **Unger RZ**, Burnham JM, Wright RD, Moghadamian ES. Post-traumatic avascular necrosis in talar neck fractures with extension into the talar body.

- Podium Presentation by Murr, KA at American Academy of Orthopaedics Society Meeting, March 2015, Las Vegas, NV.

Morris BJ, **Unger RZ**, Perdue AM, Obremsky WT. Complication Rates Following Operative Fixation of Bicondylar Tibial Plateau Fractures.

- Poster #34 at Orthopaedic Trauma Association Annual Meeting 2011, October 12-15, San Antonio, TX.

Regional/Local Presentations

Whitaker JR, Zacharias AJ, Wilson BR, **Unger RZ**, Johnson DL, Ireland ML, Jacobs CA. Secondary Injuries Prevalent for Females Following Pediatric ACL Reconstruction: A Systematic Review.

- Podium Presentation by Whitaker JR at University of Kentucky Orthopaedics Thomas Brower Visiting Professor Symposium, June 2019.

Unger RZ. Ulnar Collateral Ligament Injuries in the Throwing Athlete.

- Grand Rounds Presentation, University of Kentucky, May 2019.

Cronin KJ, **Unger RZ**, Bell J, Jacobs CA, Blake M, Sajadi KR, Hettrich CM. Responsiveness of Patient Reported Outcomes in Shoulder Arthroplasty: What are we actually measuring?

- Podium Presentation by Cronin KJ at Southern Orthopaedics Association, July 2019.
- Podium Presentation by Cronin KJ at University of Kentucky Orthopaedics Thomas Brower Visiting Professor Symposium, June 2018.

Zacharias AJ, Whitaker JR, **Unger RZ**, Wilson B, Jacobs CA, Ireland ML, Johnson DL. Secondary Injuries Prevalent Following Pediatric ACL Reconstruction: A Systematic Review.

- Podium Presentation by Zacharias, AJ at University of Kentucky Orthopaedics Thomas Brower Visiting Professor Symposium, June 2018.

Unger RZ, Burnham JM, Gammon BS, Malempati CS, Jacobs CA, Makhni EC. Responsiveness of Patient Reported Outcome Scores in Shoulder Surgery: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

- Podium Presentation at University of Kentucky Orthopaedics Thomas Brower Visiting Professor Symposium, June 2016.
- Podium Presentation at 2016 Kentucky Orthopaedic Society Meeting. Lexington, KY. September 2016.
- Winner Resident Research Award of Kentucky Orthopaedic Society meeting

Murr KA, **Unger RZ**, Burnham JM, Wright RD, Moghadamian ES. Post-traumatic avascular necrosis in talar neck fractures with extension into the talar body.

- Podium Presentation by Murr, KA at Kentucky Orthopaedic Society 2014 Annual Meeting.

Morris BJ, **Unger RZ**, Perdue AM, Obremsky WT. Complication Rates Following Operative Fixation of Bicondylar Tibial Plateau Fractures.

- Poster Presentation, Alpha Omega Alpha Research Day, March 2012, University of Kentucky.
- Poster Presentation at 30th Annual Vanderbilt Research Symposium, April 2012, Vanderbilt University.

Unger RZ, Blankenbueler MT. The Organic Synthesis of Furan-2-yl-[5-(furan-2-yl-hydroxy-methylene)-cyclopenta-1,3-dienyl]-methanone.

- Organic Synthesis/Analysis of Pharmaceuticals, Undergraduate Senior Thesis, Morehead State University, January-December 2008
- Poster Presentation, Kentucky Academy of Sciences, November 2008, Lexington, KY.

Abstracts/Projects

Boden KT, Molina DM, **Unger RZ**, Johnson DL. Iatrogenic Chondral Injury with Retrograde Femoral Nailing Resulting in Symptomatic Intra-Articular Loose Bodies: A Case Report and Literature Review.

- Manuscript submitted to *American Journal of Sports Medicine*, 2020.

Jacobs CA, **Unger RZ**, Johnson DL. Clinical Performance of an Augment for Suspensory Fixation Devices Used with Hamstring Autografts During Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction.

- Project and manuscript during fellowship training at the University of Kentucky.

Unger RZ, Murr KA, Burnham JM, Wright RD, Moghadamian ES. Post-Traumatic Avascular Necrosis in Talar Neck Fractures with Extension into the Talar Body.

- Project and manuscript prepared during residency training at the University of Kentucky.

Wilson BR, Zuelzer DA, **Unger RZ**, Dittmer AJ, Molina D, Cassidy RC, Muchow R. Impact of Study Habits and Curriculum Involvement on Orthopaedic In-Training Performance: A Quality Improvement Project.

- Project performed at the University of Kentucky, 2014-2019, Lexington, KY.

Unger RZ, Riley SA. Outcomes after Formal Physical Therapy or Home Exercise Program in Various Shoulder Pathologies: A Quality Improvement Project.

- Project performed at Shriners Hospital for Children, 2017-2018, Lexington, KY.

Malempati CS, Jochimsen KN, Jacobs CA, **Unger RZ**, Burnham JM, Duncan ST. Return to Sport After Acetabular Labral Repair in Competitive Athletes: A Systematic Review.

- Abstract submitted to AAOS for 2017 meetings.

Muchow RD, Wilson B, Wade A, Nzegwu I, Zuelzer D, **Unger RZ**, Beimisch C, Tabaie S, Kulkarni VA, McKie. Proximal Femoral Remodeling and Growth Two Years after Prophylactic Threaded Screw Placement in Hips Contralateral to Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis.

- Abstract #1043 submitted to 2017 EPOSNA Annual Meeting in Barcelona, Spain.

Last Updated: 10/24/21