OrthoCarolina offers an orthopedic Spine Surgery Fellowship, led by seven fellowship-trained orthopedic spine surgeons who are active members of a number of professional organizations, including the North American Spine Society, the Scoliosis Research Society, the Cervical Spine Research Society, the Spine Society of Europe and the Orthopaedic Trauma Association.

Fellows in this program typically participate in more than 500 cases a year. The fellow is able to choose the cases that will best suit his or her educational needs. Of these cases, the majority are adult degenerative; a substantial number of cases involve pediatric deformities, tumor and trauma, as well as adult deformity. Anterior and posterior exposures to the entire spine are performed.

Research, both clinical and basic science, is expected. Fellows work with the OrthoCarolina Research Institute (OCRI) on clinical studies, recently including cervical disc replacement. They also work with the UNC Charlotte School of Engineering for biomechanical studies. Fellows will complete two projects or papers during the year. Attendance at two national spine meetings is also planned and required.

Once fellows are acclimated to our clinic system, they are responsible for a clinic once a week, where they make decisions independently. They also participate in the residency spine clinic at Carolinas Medical Center once or twice a month.

For information about our Spine Surgery Fellowship, contact Annette Wilson at annette.wilson@orthocarolina.com.