

From the Desk of
JOHN E. HERZENBERG, MD

April 17, 2023

Dear Patients and Families,

I have some important news to share: I will be retiring from clinical practice, as of July 1, 2023. As a founding member of the Rubin Institute for Advanced Orthopedics, I have thoroughly enjoyed the past 22 years at Sinai Hospital, providing care to you and your children. I have had an amazing career over the past 44 years since graduating medical school. With your trust, and often willingness to travel great distances to see me, I have had the privilege of being involved in the development of an entire new field in orthopedics: limb lengthening and deformity correction. This has led me to write books, articles, teach at seminars and to lecture and operate around the world. I have gotten great satisfaction from caring for your children with clubfoot, watching them grow up to become active children with straight feet.

Recently, I was out for a few months on medical leave. I'm happy to tell you that all is resolved. I am back in excellent health and back to work full time. Nonetheless, undergoing a health crisis does cause one to think about life and priorities. More importantly, my wife Merrill and I are expecting our first grandchild in August, in Colorado. After much consideration, we've decided that we want to be involved on a daily basis in the life of our granddaughter. As such, we will be relocating to Boulder later this summer.

Good news: I will remain involved with Sinai Hospital/Rubin Institute, as an emeritus faculty member participating in research, publishing, education, the annual Baltimore Limb Deformity Course, fundraising and organizing international outreach missions.

More good news: There will be no interruption of service for my patients, as my partner Dr. Philip McClure will be taking over my practice. Dr. McClure is an exceptionally well-qualified pediatric orthopedic surgeon, having trained at Brown University, followed by three postgraduate fellowships: trauma, pediatric orthopedics, and limb lengthening. We recruited Dr. McClure four years ago, specifically for this transition. He has been working closely with me and my patients over these past four years in limb lengthening, general pediatric orthopedics, and clubfoot. Many of you have already met him, and enjoyed his expertise, calm demeanor, and gentle personality. Our Physician Assistant, Renee Hunter, MPAS, PA-C, who has been working with me for the past 17 years, will work with Dr. McClure, providing additional continuity and expertise for our patients and families.

Dr. McClure is very active academically in teaching our residents/fellows, publishing in the medical literature, and serving in various capacities in regional, national, and international medical organizations. He is director of our annual Baltimore Limb Deformity Course, and travels regularly overseas on volunteer orthopedic missions to the developing world. He will be taking over as Director of our International Center for Limb Lengthening (ICLL), in addition to being the Director of our Limb Lengthening Fellowship program and Assistant Director of our Orthopedic Residency program.

I am leaving the Sinai pediatric orthopedic service in the exceptionally qualified hands of Dr. McClure and Dr. Shawn Standard. Dr. Standard has been at Sinai for the past 20 years and has an international reputation in limb lengthening, complex hip surgery, Perthes Disease, and Radial Club Hand. Together with the other outstanding faculty of the ICLL, Drs. Assayag, Bibbo, Conway, and Siddiqui, I am confident that my legacy will continue.

I thank each of you for entrusting me with the privilege to care for you and your children over the past many decades. I am eternally grateful for your loyalty and for a most satisfying career.

Fondly,

John Herzenberg, MD