



Wayne M. Goldstein, MD

SURGEON, SCHOLAR, INNOVATOR

When Wayne M. Goldstein, MD '78, BA '74, meets with a patient, he sits at eye level and never leaves the room until the patient rises first. For Goldstein, medicine is about more than science. "There is a difference between treating a patient and caring for a patient," he says. "Caring is comforting them and answering their questions."

For a high-volume orthopaedic surgeon, giving each patient time and understanding may be challenging, but it is uncompromised. "The pressures of

medicine make it difficult," Goldstein says. "You have to do things in quantity and not slow down. I am a great advocate for the human part of medicine. Don't ever make a robot out of me."

This dedication to his patients, combined with a research prowess and desire to innovate, led the orthopaedic surgeon to create the Illinois Bone and Joint Institute in 1991. The private, office-based partnership since has become a model for the delivery of healthcare, one that has been adopted by other medical specialties. Today, the Illinois Bone and Joint Institute has 15 offices across the Chicago metropolitan area.

"Our business model organizes doctors and lets them be doctors, so they can go toe-to-toe with insurance companies and hospitals. We have common information systems and the same billing company," says Goldstein. Within the Illinois Bone and Joint Institute is the not-for-profit Illinois Bone and Joint

Foundation, which collects clinical and surgical patient data. "I wanted to continue research," says Goldstein. "Research was moving away from hospitals, and the best way to get patient data and keep it in one location was to create my own institute. I wanted to keep the educational part pure. Our practice also attracts industry grants for research because we have high patient volume and follow-up, which produces results we can publish."

Not content with the status quo of surgery, Goldstein developed special instruments for performing hip replacements on obese patients in 2000. "I used these same instruments on average-weight patients and they were so effective I thought, 'Why do we need to make such a big incision?' So I shrunk the incision to four inches." Goldstein teaches this revolutionary procedure, called minimal incision total hip replacement, to doctors around the country

A doctor once told Goldstein that it is said, "If you help or save one person, you will save the world."

using learning centers and a DVD he helped produce.

"He's innovative from a design perspective," says Jill Branson, RN, BSN, who developed Goldstein's research department at the Illinois Bone and Joint Institute and worked in surgery at Lutheran General Hospital for 16 years. "Because he's done so many surgeries, he knows the best techniques and understands how instruments and implants can be better-designed."

Research has long been an interest of this Rogers Park native. Goldstein graduated from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a degree in biology and from UIC College of Medicine in 1978. Always the academic, in his first year of medical school, Abbott Laboratories awarded him a grant to study one of the first anti-herpes virus drugs. Throughout his first two years of medical school, he also did research for George Jackson, MD, the retired head of infectious disease. "I had done research as an undergrad," Goldstein explains. "Dr. Jackson was a very nice person and a terrific doctor. It kept my interest in doing research and being innovative."

During his junior year in medical school, he had just returned from his honeymoon and was having coffee with classmate Jay Goldstein, MD (no relation), now vice head of clinical affairs in the department of medicine. "He suggested that we do orthopaedics because it was easy and fun," says Goldstein about his friend. "It wasn't easy, but it was fun and had lots of toys. I knew then that orthopaedics was a potential future career." A rotation in orthopaedic surgery with Riad Barmada, MD, confirmed his decision and led to a residency at UIC.

"One thing Dr. Barmada did—partly out of fear and partly out of love—was make us study," Goldstein says. "I was so driven to study that by my last year of residency, I scored in the 100th per-

centile on the intraining exam." It was the highest score in the country. "It showed that UIC taught us well."

Robert Ray, MD, former head of orthopaedics at UIC, suggested Goldstein complete a fellowship in joint replacement. The question was where. "Dr. Ray asked, 'Why not Harvard?' He got me an application and called me a few weeks later and told me to fly out to Boston for an interview. I was completely Illinois-educated and didn't know if I'd be able to compete. Once there I knew I was well-trained and ready," Goldstein says. He completed a fellowship in joint replacement at Brigham and Women's Hospital, affiliated with Harvard University Medical School.

As a clinical professor of orthopaedics at UIC, Goldstein's commitment to residents runs deep. "I'm trying to help bring the residency into the next generation, which is going to change how we train doctors. It must be transformed because there are limits with resident hours and how much time is spent in the office. Not that many years ago you could be a resident and reside in the hospital and learn everything. That doesn't occur anymore. Orthopaedics is learned in the office as well." As a researcher and surgeon who has had the opportunity to see many patients and perform a large number of surgeries, he feels an obligation to report what he has learned.

A doctor once told Goldstein that it is said, "If you help or save one person, you will save the world." A doctor from Sierra Leone, Africa, recently sought out Goldstein for her own knee replacements. Back in Africa she performs surgery and provides basic medical care to patients in a 21-bed clinic. The prophecy came true. "By replacing her knees I have given Sierra Leone back their doctor. She returned to Africa the next month to treat patients and save many lives."

With more than 10,000 joint replace-

ments in his career, Goldstein has few spare moments. "Very few doctors are willing to take the time to run the business aspects of their practice," says Branson. "He has an administrative staff that handles daily issues but he's still involved when they need him. It's unusual to find a very busy surgeon who is willing to take on that responsibility."

Goldstein is a visionary, Branson says. "He wants to lead the way in healthcare in terms of building an innovative practice and providing compassionate patient care. You will find surgeons who care for a high volume of patients or are involved in academics or are business managers, but it's rare to find someone who is interested and willing to manage all three. He's able to juggle quite a few things at once, and his energy is amazing."

He is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Arthroplasty* and was past president of the Illinois Orthopaedic Society. He oversaw fundraising for the Barmada Professorship in orthopaedics and will help raise funds for the new orthopaedic research building at UIC.

Occasionally an orthopaedic procedure fails and some surgeons shy away from performing the revision that's necessary. Not Goldstein. "Dr. Goldstein is willing to be creative and innovative to come up with a solution," says Branson. "He prides himself in having a strong knowledge of medicine, and he's not afraid to collaborate with other doctors on complex cases."

Last year Branson's sister sent a co-worker to Goldstein with a complicated knee problem that her doctors in Indiana were planning to treat with an amputation. **"Dr. Goldstein did research on her rare condition and involved several other surgeons to collaborate and plan the best treatment options for her," says Branson. "He performed the surgery and she's doing very well." Lucky for her, she found Goldstein.**