



31ST ANNUAL THOMAS B. DAMERON JR.  
ORTHOPAEDIC CONFERENCE

# OPTIMIZING THE SURGICAL JOURNEY

Infection, Recovery, and  
Readmission Reduction

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026 • 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

The McKimmon Conference and Training Center, 1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh, NC 27606

**REGISTRATION:** 7:30 am • **PROGRAM:** 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

The purpose of the 31st Annual Dameron Lectureship in Orthopaedics is to bring together physicians, nursing professionals, and rehabilitation specialists to address key aspects of operative musculoskeletal care across the surgical continuum. This conference will focus on orthopaedic trauma, fragility fracture management, same-day surgical care, post-operative rehabilitation, and strategies to reduce complications and readmissions. Through practical, case-based discussions, attendees will gain actionable insights into coordinated, team-based approaches that support safer surgeries, smoother recoveries, and improved patient outcomes.

## Target Audience

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Physicians, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Physical Therapists

## Learning Objectives

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At the conclusion of this competency-based activity, the participant should be able to:

- Discuss key considerations in the management of orthopaedic trauma and fragility fractures across the surgical continuum.
- Identify strategies to reduce surgical site infections and perioperative complications in operative orthopaedic care.
- Review best practices for same-day surgical care, including nursing workflows and patient preparedness.
- Discuss the role of post-operative physical therapy in optimizing recovery and functional outcomes.
- Recognize common risk factors for post-operative readmissions and approaches to early intervention.
- Compare clinical perspectives on readmission prevention from both nursing and rehabilitation standpoints.
- Apply coordinated, team-based care principles to improve recovery, reduce complications, and support safer transitions of care.

JOINT PROVIDERSHIP

**WAKE AHEC**

**PART OF NC AHEC**

and

**Thomas B. Dameron, Jr.  
Foundation for  
Orthopaedic Education**



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## Speakers



**Course Director  
Scott Eskildsen, MD**

Raleigh Orthopaedic Clinic



**Greg Baez, RN**  
UNC Rex Hospital



**Isaac Bragg, RN**  
UNC Rex Hospital



**Tonya Cramer, MD**  
Essential Health



**Jennifer Harrison, PT**  
Raleigh Orthopaedic Clinic



**Lori Kleeberg, RN**  
UNC Rex Hospital



**Anna Patterson, PT**  
Raleigh Orthopaedic Clinic



**Justin Ray, MD**  
Raleigh Orthopaedic Clinic

## Agenda

7:30 am	<b>Registration and Continental Breakfast</b>	9:55	<b>Bones Aren't Rocks: The Biology Behind Fracture Prevention</b> Tonya Cramer, MD
8:00	<b>Welcome &amp; Opening Comments</b> Scott Eskildsen, MD	10:20	<b>From Surgery to Recovery: Leveraging Interdisciplinary Teams to Reduce 30-Day ED Revisits for THR and TKR Patients</b> Lori Kleeberg, RN and Isaac Bragg, RN
8:10	<b>Best Practices in the Management of Orthopaedic Trauma</b> Justin Ray, MD	10:45	<b>The Role of Physical Therapy in Early Recognition of Complications and Reducing Readmission Rates</b> Anna Patterson, PT
8:35	<b>Same-Day Orthopaedic Care: Nursing Strategies for Efficiency and Safety</b> Greg Baez, RN	11:15	<b>Physical Exam (Breakout)</b> Entire Faculty
9:00	<b>Optimizing Outcomes: Preoperative Through Postoperative Care</b> Jennifer Harrison, PT	11:45	<b>Questions &amp; Answers</b> Entire Faculty
9:25	<b>Questions &amp; Answers</b> Entire Faculty	12:00 pm	<b>Adjourn</b> Scott Eskildsen, MD
9:35	<b>Break</b>		

# OPTIMIZING THE SURGICAL JOURNEY

## Infection, Recovery, and Readmission Reduction

### Planning Committee

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#### Raleigh Orthopaedic Clinic

Scott Eskildsen, MD

Tina Doody, MAT

#### Essential Health

Tonya Cramer, MD

#### UNC REX Hospital

Kimberly West, RN

#### Wake AHEC

Sandie Manning, MAEd

### Credit

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**CME Credit:** The Wake Area Health Education Center (Wake AHEC) designates this live activity for a maximum of 3.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Southern States CME

Collaborative (SSCC) through the joint providership of Wake Area Health Education Center and Thomas B. Dameron, Jr. Foundation for Orthopaedic Education. The Wake Area Health Education Center is accredited by the SSCC to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

**NCBPE:** Wake AHEC is a pre-approved provider for NCBPE Continuing Competence Activities. This activity is 3.5 hours.

**Contact Hours:** Wake AHEC will provide up to 3.5 contact hours to participants upon completion of this program activity.

**Wake AHEC CEU:** Wake AHEC will provide 0.4 CEU to participants upon completion of this activity.

A participant must attend 100% of the program to receive credit. Partial credit will not be awarded.

### Registration Fee

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- **Early Fee** - \$65; after March 6, 2026 \$80.
- Vouchers will be accepted.
- Registration will include online handouts and online certificate of completion.
- Continental Breakfast will be provided.
- To assure quality programming and safety for all participants, babies and children may not attend this program.
- Call 919-350-8547 for our Inclement Weather Updates.
- Attendance at this activity grants permission for Wake AHEC to use any photographs, audio, video, or other images from this activity for promotional or educational purposes. Please notify an AHEC staff member if you have concerns.

**Cancellations and Refunds** Registrants cancelling between two weeks and five full business days prior to the first day of the event are refunded at 70% of the registration fee (minimum \$25 cancellation fee). No refunds or credits will be given for cancellations received after five full business days prior to the program. Substitutions are encouraged.

### ADA Statement

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Visit [wakeahec.org](http://wakeahec.org) for our ADA Statement.

### Questions?

- Lue McKnight at [lmcknight@wakeahec.org](mailto:lmcknight@wakeahec.org) or 919-350-0469
- Alexis Siver at [asiver@wakeahec.org](mailto:asiver@wakeahec.org) or 919-350-0434



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