

## Surgical Assistants

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**Jeffrey L. Nacht, MD**  
Orthopedic Surgery  
Arthroscopic Surgery  
Sports Medicine

**Gregory A. Popich, MD**  
Orthopedic Surgery  
Arthroscopic Surgery  
Sports Medicine

**David A. Coons, DO**  
Orthopedic Surgery  
Arthroscopic Surgery  
Sports Medicine

**James R. Gardiner, MD**  
Orthopedic Surgery  
Arthroscopic Surgery  
Sports Medicine

**Andrea J. Young, MD**  
Orthopedic Surgery  
Arthroscopic Surgery  
Sports Medicine

**Lynn Page, PA-C**

**John Racette, OPA-C**

Promoting Active  
Healthy Lifestyles

Surgical assistants are often used during surgical procedures to assist the surgeon in performing the procedure. These assistants are trained in assisting with surgical procedures of many types. Some procedures are performed with another surgeon as the assistant, some are performed with a physician assistant as the assistant, and some are performed with a registered nurse first assistant or a nurse practitioner as the assistant.

The assistant may help with a variety of tasks during the surgical procedure including retracting and helping to expose surgical anatomy for the surgeon, helping the surgeon align and stabilize fractures during fixation, helping the surgeon with implantation of surgical devices, helping the surgeon with closure of the incision, helping the surgeon with application of the dressings, braces, or casts. The assistant often prepares the post-operative orders with the supervision of the surgeon and accompanies the patient to the recovery room. A surgical assistant is always under the direct supervision of the attending surgeon.

It is not always known who will be the actual surgical assistant when a particular surgery is scheduled for a future date.

The following is a list of frequently used assistants who are staff members of Pacific Sports Medicine.

David Coons, D.O.  
James Gardiner, M.D.  
Jeffrey Nacht, M.D.  
Lynn Page, PA-C  
Gregory Popich, M.D.  
John Racette, OPA-C  
Andrea Young, M.D.

Surgical assistants are also occasionally used who are not staff members of Pacific Sports Medicine. The following is a list of assistants used who are not staff members of Pacific Sports Medicine.

Gerald Anderson, M.D.  
Thomas Irish, M.D.  
Roger Grayson, PA-C  
Stephen Baker, PA-C  
Carmen Catzoela, RNFA  
Marie Zornes, RNFA  
Susan Dahl, RNFA  
Barbara Taylor, ARNP  
Joanna Ellis, RNFA  
C.J. Welter, RNFA  
Linda DeCarlo, ARNP

The name of the actual surgical assistant used will be listed on the formal dictated operative note, as well as the written immediate post-operative note.

If you have any questions regarding the use of a surgical assistant, please address them with your surgeon.