

What is Hand Surgery?

Our hands serve many purposes. Hands help us eat, dress, write, earn a living, create art, and do many other activities. To do these tasks and activities, our hands require sensation and movement, such as joint motion, tendon gliding, and muscle contraction. When a problem takes place in the hand, care must be given to all the different types of tissues that make function of the hand possible.

- **Hand surgery is the field of medicine that deals with problems of the hand, wrist and forearm.**
- **Hand surgeons care for these problems without surgery, and they are specially trained to operate when necessary.**
- **Many hand surgeons are also experts in diagnosing and caring for shoulder and elbow problems.**
- **Hand surgeons are orthopedic, plastic or general surgeons who have additional training in surgery of the hand.**
- **To become members of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand, hand surgeons must take a full year of additional training and must pass a rigorous certifying examination.**