

## Carrie Stewart, MD, joins spine center as specialist in non-surgical care of back & neck pain, EMGs

We're pleased to announce the addition of a new specialist in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Carrie Stewart, MD, who relocates back to Michigan where she grew up and trained. She is now seeing new patient referrals related to back and neck pain at the main office of Ann Arbor Spine Center on the campus of St. Joseph Medical Center in Ypsilanti. A physical medicine and rehabilitation (PMR) doctor, specializes in the non-surgical management of back and neck pain, including the role of soft tissue injury, posture, walking, standing and sitting affect the spine.

Dr. Stewart comes to Ann Arbor Spine Center from Kaiser Permanente offices in the Sonoma Valley of Northern California where she worked in the physical medicine and occupational medicine department of Kaiser's Santa Rosa medical office. Dr. Stewart earned her undergraduate degree from University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and completed her Doctor of Medicine at Wayne State University in Detroit. She completed her internship at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn, MI. Dr. Carrie Stewart is board-certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and joined Ann Arbor Spine Center in March 2010. Dr. Stewart completed her residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of California Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. Within her role at Ann Arbor Spine Center, Dr. Stewart will see new spine patients and perform EMG diagnostic tests.

What makes Ann Arbor Spine Center different from other spine treatment

centers is a multi-disciplinary approach to back and neck problems, says Dr. Jason Brodkey, a fellowship-trained neurospine surgeon at Ann Arbor Spine Center.

"Other groups provide only a single specialty orientation, and that unfortunately provides treatment bias. We were one of the first groups in the nation 10 years ago to blend ortho spine with neuro spine. This was way ahead of its time. Now we have included physical

medicine with Dr. Stewart and spine-specialized therapy with Brad Skinner. This can't help but improve spine care with a better team approach."

Dr. Stewart is pleased to be back in Michigan where she grew up in a small town in Southeastern Michigan. She and her husband, a physical therapist, have a home in the Ann Arbor area and are looking forward to raising their child among family and friends in Michigan.



*Carrie Stewart, MD, specializes 100% in back and neck pain. She relocates back to Michigan from the Northern California wine country region, where she saw back and neck pain patients in a clinic that saw recreational as well as on-the-job back injury related to the vineyard industry.*



**The Home Remedy Book**

For Back & Neck Pain

- Relieve simple back and neck pain
- Strengthen your back
- Make your back more flexible
- Learn what various symptoms mean
- Prevent future back pain attacks

ANN ARBOR  
SPINE CENTER  
A subsidiary of Michigan Brain & Spine Institute

*The physicians at Ann Arbor Spine Center want the patient to be well-informed about the causes of back and neck pain. Once an individual encounters back or neck pain, he or she is four times as likely to experience it again. This is why prevention is essential to long-term recovery.*

*As a community service, the spine center mails out a free, 36-page Home Remedy Book that has helped thousands of people with symptom relief. Contact us at 734.434.4110 and we will send your practice 20 Home Remedy Books to hand out to your patients. We also have an online encyclopedia on back and neck pain at [www.AnnArborSpineCenter.com](http://www.AnnArborSpineCenter.com).*

To refer a patient to Ann Arbor Spine Center, call us at 734.434.4110.

## Treatment bias is avoided by having PMR, ortho, neuro & spine therapy working together as a team approach

The problem with spine care is that too many times a patient experiences treatment bias, based on the specialty of the physician seeing the patient. The trend in spine is to blend physical medicine and spine therapists who specialize in non-surgical treatment options, with ortho and neuro spine surgeons. Ann Arbor Spine Center now includes a multidisciplinary team including the expertise of a physical medicine and rehabilitation (PMR) doctor or physiatrist who is experienced in back and neck pain, including on-the-job back injury.

Brad Skinner, one of the few McKenzie-credentialed spine therapists in the region, brings a level of spine expertise to patients of Ann Arbor Spine Center. Spine specialized physical therapy can help relieve pain symptoms, and uses exercise to make the back

stronger, more flexible and resistant to injury. Skinner received his Bachelors in Health Science and Masters in Physical Therapy from the University of Michigan. He has worked as an Orthopedic Physical Therapist in both hospital and private practice before creating his own physical therapy clinic. Brad has worked with a wide range of spinal disorders and has also received his certification in Industrial Injury Prevention.

If non-surgical options fail to resolve a patient's symptoms, the patient has access to ortho and neuro spine surgeons who do a high volume caseload of spine surgery. Electrodiagnostic studies (EMGs) are used at Ann Arbor Spine Center to provide physicians with information about the pain generator and if a person is appropriate for spine surgery.



Left, Brad Skinner provides hands-on manual therapy to a patient with low back pain. Below, Dr. Doug Geiger reviews a patient's diagnostic study.



The group is investing in patient education, including an online spine encyclopedia at AnnArborSpineCenter.com, with an exercise and anatomy library, and medical animations that explain symptoms and treatment options.

## LOCATIONS

### Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti Main Clinic

5315 Elliott Drive, Suite 102  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
Phone: 734.434.4110

### Chelsea satellite office

Chelsea Community Hospital  
Professional Building, Suite 302  
14650 E. Old US 12  
Chelsea, MI 48118  
Phone: 734.434.4110

### Brighton satellite office

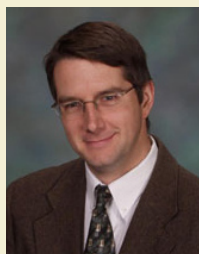
Genoa Medical Center  
2305 Genoa Business Park Drive,  
Suite 210  
Brighton, MI 48114  
Phone: 734.434.4110



**Martin J. Buckingham, M.D., F.A.C.S.**

Board-Certified Neurosurgeon

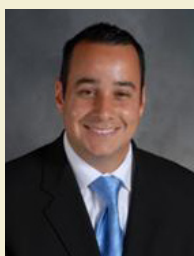
Dr. Martin Buckingham is Board-Certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgeons. Dr. Buckingham specializes in spine surgery, cranial surgery, brain tumors and microsurgery. Dr. Buckingham is a member of the College of Surgeons, the American Association of Neurological Surgeons and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. Locally, he belongs to the Michigan Association of Neurological Surgeons.



**Jason Brodkey, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.P.P.**

Board-Certified Neurosurgeon  
Board-Certified Pain Medicine,  
Fellowship-trained in spine

Dr. Jason Brodkey is Board-Certified with the American Board of Neurological Surgeons and with the American Board of Pain Medicine. He is also certified as a Fellow of Interventional Pain Practice. Dr. Brodkey specializes in complex spinal reconstruction, spinal cord and nerve stimulation, spinal infusion pump implantation and minimally invasive spine surgery.



**Mark H. Falahee, M.D., F.A.C.S.**

Board-Certified Orthopedic Surgeon  
Fellowship-trained in spine

Dr. Mark Falahee is a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon and specializes in adult spine care encompassing traumatic, metabolic, pathologic, and degenerative problems. Dr. Falahee also specializes in reconstructive thoracic and lumbar spine surgery. Dr. Falahee enthusiastically supports new innovations in spine care and delivery. He holds over 19 issued/pending patents related to spinal instruments and implants.



**Douglas F. Geiger, M.D., F.A.C.S.**

Board-Certified Orthopedic Surgeon  
Fellowship-trained in spine

Dr. Douglas Geiger is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He specializes in reconstructive and minimally invasive spine surgery as well as adult and pediatric scoliosis surgery. He completed a research fellowship at University of Minnesota and a spine fellowship at Twin Cities Scoliosis Spine Center. Dr. Geiger is a member of the North American Spine Society and the Scoliosis Research Society.

**Anthony P. Cucchi D.O.**

Board-Certified Orthopedic Surgeon  
Fellowship-trained in spine

Dr. Anthony Cucchi completed his orthopedic spine surgery fellowship in Ann Arbor, at Michigan Brain and Spine Institute. He specializes in adult spine care, adult reconstructive spine surgery, degenerative spine surgery and minimally invasive spine surgery. Dr. Cucchi is an active member of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, North American Spine Society and the American Osteopathic Association.



**Geoffrey M. Thomas, M.D., F.A.C.S.**

Board-Certified Neurosurgeon

Dr. Geoffrey Thomas is a board-certified neurological surgeon and specializes in adult spinal degenerative conditions and cervical spine reconstruction. Dr. Thomas also focuses on general neurosurgery, brain tumors, neurooncology and radiosurgery. Dr. Thomas was awarded membership into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. He is also an active member of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.



**Carrie Stewart, M.D.**

Board-Certified Physical Medicine

Dr. Carrie Stewart is a board-certified physical medicine physician who specializes in helping the back and neck pain sufferer return to activity without surgery. Dr. Stewart is proficient in the evaluation of spine patients, diagnostics and EMGs. She completed her MD degree at Wayne State University and a residency in PMR at University of California in Sacramento.