

Advancing the Future of Orthopedics

Optimizing Athletic Movement and Biomechanical Performance

One of the main goals of the Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation researchers at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health is to determine how to reduce re-injury rates in athletes and people of all activity levels.

All too often, people return to sport and activity too soon which increases the risk of re-injury or leads to development of a chronic problem and longer recovery. This means more time living with pain, and more time off work and away from doing the activities that they enjoy. Chronic/overuse injuries account for more than 50 percent of injuries in primary care practices, indicating that this is a significant issue for athletes and non-athletes alike.

Scientists in the Department's Neuromuscular Biomechanics Lab are conducting studies using predictive modeling and technology such as active motion capture and advanced imaging systems. The goal is to understand why athletes in the same sport, and with the same injury, differ in their recovery times, how quickly they are able to return to sport and their long-term prognoses.

The Department's research team wants to conduct a longitudinal, large-scale, multicenter study that identifies classic milestones of recovery and persistent neuromuscular deficits, so that an optimal treatment plan can be created for each patient, regardless of their level of athletic ability or activity.

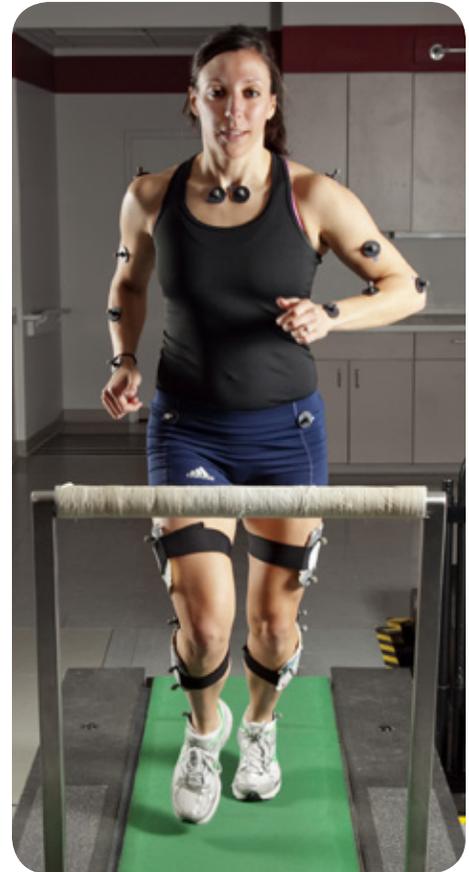
This type of study is being considered at several research universities throughout the country. The Department has the infrastructure in place to be the primary investigators for this research, however philanthropic support is needed to make it happen.

Philanthropic funding goal: \$2 million

To learn more about research in athletic movement and biomechanical performance or to make a contribution online, please visit ortho.wisc.edu/giving or contact:

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