



BIENVILLE
Orthopaedic Specialists
H A N D C E N T E R

The Most Comprehensive Hand Care in Southern Mississippi

Medical Directors:



Alexander D. Blevens, M.D.



Henry T. Leis, M.D.

Alexander D. Blevens, M.D. - joined Bienville Orthopaedic Specialists in 1995. He is Board Certified in Orthopaedic Surgery and has a Certificate of Added Qualification in Hand Surgery by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgeons. He attended medical school at Northwestern University; and completed his orthopaedic residency at Loyola University Medical Center. Dr. Blevens completed a Hand Surgery Fellowship at Loma Linda University Medical Center; Loma Linda, California.

Alexander D. Blevens, M.D. has special interest, training, and expertise in hand surgery. The majority of his practice involves the surgical reconstruction and rehabilitation of degenerative, traumatic, congenital, and inflammatory conditions of the hand, wrist and elbow. He believes that communication and knowledge are the keys to providing the finest medical care. He assembled a team of professional registered nurses, certified hand therapists, and occupational therapists that all work together at the Hand Center of Bienville Orthopaedic Specialists to expedite your recovery.

Henry T. Leis, M.D. - joined Bienville Orthopaedic Specialists, LLC in 2008 and specializes in hand surgery as well as general orthopaedics. He is board certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery. He attended medical school at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and completed his orthopaedic residency at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland AFB in Texas. After his residency, Dr. Leis completed a hand surgery fellowship at the San Antonio Hand Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Hand Therapists:

Melissa Hartsfield, OTR/L, CHT is the Director of the Hand Center. She graduated from Northeast Louisiana University in 1988. She had been practicing as an Occupational Therapist since 1988 and has been a Certified Hand Therapist since 1994. She has been with the Hand Center since 1999. She is a member of the American Society of Hand Therapists. Melissa has made many community and peer presentations on various hand therapy subjects.

Jane Alford, OTR/L, CHT graduated from LSU Medical Center in 1988. She has been an Occupational Therapist for over 20 years and a Certified Hand Therapist for 7 years. Jane has been with the Hand Center since 2003 She has presented several lectures on various subjects relating to Hand Therapy.

Ophelia Abrahams, OTR/L, CHT graduated from the University of Durban-Westvill in South Africa. She began practicing occupational therapy in 1994 and has been a Certified Hand Therapist since 2007. She joined the Hand Center of Bienville Orthopaedic Specialists in July 2008.

The Hand Center of Bienville maintains a staff of specially trained, experienced Certified Hand Therapists (CHT's), occupational therapy assistants and technicians specializing in the treatment of problems and injuries of the hands and upper extremities. Certified Hand Therapists have a minimum of five years clinical practice, including 4,000 hours or more of direct practice in hand therapy. Additionally, our Certified Hand Therapists have successfully passed a voluntary comprehensive test of advanced clinical skills and theory. The CHT credential is recognized by many professional organizations as a benchmark for excellence in advanced specialty credentialing in health care.

The intricate anatomy of the arm and hand frequently requires very delicate surgery. The technical complexity of these kinds of surgeries necessitates a high level of competence by therapists with advanced skills during the postoperative recovery. Therapists must be knowledgeable about these advanced surgical techniques and postoperative therapy to become a CHT.

Hand Therapy is indicated for a variety of shoulder, elbow, wrist and hand problems including: arthritis, fractures, dislocations, sprains, strains, nerve injuries and compressions, tendonitis, tennis elbow, tendon repairs, and joint contractures.

Using specialized skills in assessment and treatment, hand therapists promote the goals of preventions of dysfunction, restoration of function, and/or reversal of progression of pathology in order to enhance participation in life situations for individuals with upper extremity injury and disease. We provide the best possible therapeutic treatment choosing from a full range of treatment approaches including custom splinting, wound care, scar management, heat, cold, electrical stimulation, ultrasound, range of motion and strengthening exercises, work conditioning and activities of daily living.

The Hand Center of Bienville has 3 locations to serve our patients: Cedar Lake (Biloxi), Orange Grove (Gulfport) and Pascagoula.

At the Hand Center of Bienville Orthopaedic Specialists, we focus on three goals: minimize pain, maximize function and realize both as quickly as possible.

Appointments Available in Biloxi, Gulfport and Pascagoula:

228-392-9355

Types of Conditions Treated:

- * Amputations
- * Arthritis
- * Carpal tunnel syndrome
- * Congenital abnormalities
- * Crush injuries
- * Cumulative trauma
- * Dexterity problems
- * Dislocations
- * Fractures
- * Industrial/traumatic injuries
- * Joint replacements
- * Lacerations
- * Nerve injuries
- * Reconstructive surgery
- * Repetitive motion injuries
- * RSD/Complex regional pain syndrome
- * Shoulder injuries
- * Soft tissue wounds/injuries
- * Sports injuries
- * Strains/sprains
- * Tendonitis
- * Tendon injuries
- * Tennis elbow/Golfers elbow
- * Trigger finger