

**Taos Orthopaedic Institute Disclosure:**  
**-Financial Agreements with Orthopaedic Companies.**  
**-Taos Orthopaedic Institute Physician Travel**

Taos Orthopaedic Institute and a related institution, Taos Orthopaedic Institute Research Foundation (TOIRF), have been active in education and research including teaching and development of new implants and improved surgical instruments and techniques. As part of this work, Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctors have worked under contract with orthopaedic companies, providing consulting services on new products and input on research and development. In addition, Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctors have given instructional lectures on implants and surgical and rehabilitation techniques to other doctors and medical personnel. Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctors have invested in physical therapy and MRI services and given lectures on our protocols to physical therapy and MRI personnel. In return for this time and expertise, Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctors and staff has been paid consulting fees, distributions, royalties, research grant funding, and educational grant funding, and TOIRF has been gifted educational grants, research grants, and Fellowship grants.

During the year ending December 2008, Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctors or TOIRF received something of financial value from, Arthrex, Breg, Smith & Nephew, Sanofi Aventis, Taos Center for Rehabilitation, Taos MRI, Zimmer.

Our doctors use products and prescribe services from these companies in the care of patients, and also use similar products from other companies and implant manufacturers. The selection of which product to use or prescribe is based only on what is best for a patient, not on which company makes the product.

Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctors are member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) which holds its members to high ethical standards to ensure that even the appearance of a conflict of interest does not jeopardize the trust that patients place in our doctors. AAOS has adopted Standards of Professionalism that require orthopaedic surgeon members to identify and disclose potential conflicts of interest to our patients, the public, and colleagues. These Standards also clearly articulate how and under what circumstances AAOS members may work with and be compensated by industry, as well as the penalties for failure to comply. You can learn more about these Standards of Professionalism at the AAOS website:  
<http://www.aaos.org/industryrelationships>

It is important to our office that you are aware of these financial relationships with orthopaedic implant manufactures and service providers, that our office puts the interests of patients first, and that we are available to answer any questions that you may have.

In addition, because Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctors are active in education and research including teaching, our doctors often travel out of town to fulfill various medical education and research obligations. It is possible that after you receive care from a Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctor, your doctor may be out of town if or when you require additional or emergency care. It is important to our office that you are aware that Taos Orthopaedic Institute doctors frequently travel, and also function as a team, so when your doctor is out of town, coverage from one of our other doctors will be available.