Hello and welcome, I am Shanthi Kappagoda, Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases. I am one of 3 physicians, along with Jenny Aronson and Amy Chang who work in the Stanford Orthopedic Infections Clinic in Redwood City.

In this clinic we see bone and joint infections and wound infections. These are illnesses that are managed collaboratively with ID in partnership with orthopedic surgery or wound care doctors. Here in this building there more than 40 subspecialty orthopedic surgeons – who specialize in hip and knee replacements, foot and ankle surgeries, shoulder and hand surgery, sports medicine, trauma surgery, bone tumors and podiatry. There is also a busy wound care center with 11 different physicians in vascular surgery and plastic surgery. We also have a large group of radiologists who subspecialize in musculoskeletal radiology in the building who we can review X-rays and MRIs with.

The most common thing we see here are prosthetic knee and hip infections. These are complex to manage and involve both surgery and antibiotics. We in ID see these patients together in the same visit with their surgeon, we discuss the plan together with the patient and collaborate on the plan of care. A lot of our patients have had recent knee or hip replacements or are using a wheelchair or crutches and really appreciate that they can see both their doctors in one visit. This is a referral center for the region and a lot of patients travel far to come to Stanford.

We also participate in a monthly multi-disciplinary conference for limb preservation, called STEPP. Stanford Extremity Preservation Program. This is similar to tumor board except we review a series of patients who are at risk of needing an amputation. It involves musculoskeletal radiology, podiatry, orthopedic and plastic surgery, ID, palliative care and social work. The goal of this program is to get all the specialists in one place, intervene early and prevent patients from needing an amputation.

As a fellow you will have the chance to join us in this clinic to get very comfortable with managing bone and joint infections which is a big part of ID practice. And for people interested in research in bone and joint infections we also have a lot of opportunities to collaborate on clinical research with our orthopedic surgery colleagues.

Thanks so much for your interest in our fellowship program and I hope it sparks an interest in ortho-ID!