



The American College of Sports Medicine® (ACSM) is pleased to present Cindy J. Chang, M.D., FACSM, FAMSSM with a 2022 ACSM Citation Award for her significant contributions to the fields of sports medicine and exercise science.

Dr. Chang earned a B.S. in zoology in 1984 and an M.D. in 1989, both from The Ohio State University. She completed her family medicine residency at UCLA Medical Center in 1992. She then returned to The Ohio State University to complete a fellowship in primary care sports medicine from 1992 to 1993.

Dr. Chang holds a number of positions: At the University of California, San Francisco, she is a clinical professor in the Departments of Orthopaedics and Family & Community Medicine, the fellowship program director for primary care sports medicine, and co-director of the UCSF Benioff Childrens Hospital Oakland Sports Concussion Program. Previously the head team physician at the University of California, Berkeley from 1995 to 2008, she was the first female to lead a Division I program that included football. She continues at Cal as a sports medicine specialist and volunteer team physician, is team physician for the Oakland Roots, a USL professional men's soccer team, and is also a team physician and member of the US Rowing Sports Medicine and Science Committee. She was president of AMSSM in 2011-2012 and was elected to the ACSM Board of Trustees in 2017.

Dr. Chang served as a USA team physician for the 1998 Nagano Paralympic Games and the 2002 Salt Lake City Paralympic Games, then as chief medical officer for Team USA at the 2007 Rio de Janeiro ParaPan Am Games, 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, and the 2012 London Olympic Games. In the summer of 2020, she provided consultation and medical care as the lead team physician in the WNBA Bubble, or "Wubble", in Bradenton, Florida. She has also frequently been involved in important outreach work, from chairing the California Interscholastic Federation's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to develop medical-related policies for safe and equitable participation in high school sports, going to Sacramento to advocate for state licensure of athletic trainers, and creating Berkeley Rep Rx, a volunteer medical network for visiting actors and musicians.

According to nominator Dr. Margot Putukian, FACSM, FAMSSM, "Her volunteer work as a sports medicine physician in the Berkeley community is too numerous to mention but she has always given of herself and her expertise willingly and with a passion for serving diverse communities and helping others. In her work at UCSF and UC-Berkeley she has worked with medical students, residents, and sports medicine fellows, creating a long-lasting mentorship for all interested in primary care sports medicine."



Dr. Chang has also received numerous awards and recognition for her accomplishments. Dr. Putukian notes: “She has received the Founders Award from the AMSSM (2003), presented to the individual who exemplifies “the best in sports medicine”, the Dr. Ernst Jokl Sports Medicine Award by the United States Sports Academy (2013) for her contributions to the growth and development of sports medicine through practice and/or scholarly activity, the Jack Weakley Award of Distinction by the National Athletic Trainers’ Association (2016), and a Humanitarian Service Grant by the AMSSM in 2016 for her work in supporting humanitarian/sports medicine initiatives in an underserved area.”

ACSM is honored to confer upon Dr. Chang a 2022 Citation Award.