Larry Munger, Ph.D.
doctors offices in town employs some athletic trainers also so you'll see them versus a nurse
that comes in to see when you go to for an orthopedic injury, you might see an athletic trainer
come in to see you. But like Covenant employees athletic trainers, UMC employs some athletic
trainers. And so all the medical systems in the area employee athletic trainers also. So you'll see
the growth pretty much it continues to grow where we're at, but I call it we call them industrial
athletes, tactical athletes, student athletes, professional athletes. And then you have a lot of
the club sports where you don't see as many athletic trainers in the club sports settings. But
you'll see at some of these club sports events, where they'll have tents and stuff set up with
athletic trainers to try to take care of acute injuries.

What are some misconceptions that people have about athletic
trainers?
3:15
I think one of the big misconceptions, that we're just, we hand out a lot of ice, we hand out
water, we stand on the sidelines, we do some taping. And that's all we do. And that's kind of I
think I saw an infographic that kind of said, the iceberg of athlete training. That's kind of what
people see that we're doing. So we're the ones sitting on the sidelines, someone gets hurt, we
might run out there. But really we're involved in all phases of athletes health care, and I say
athletes healthcare, that can be industrial athletes and individuals that were really there for
anything they need health wise. And so we can try to refer them out to see a doctor. So we
need to know what referral services we have. So interprofessional education and
understanding what other professions do is really important. And around teams, we have a big
sports medicine team. So you have doctors, counselors, physical therapist, other athletic
trainers, fitness coaches, you've talked to the coaches, you have all those individuals. But we're
involved in the mental health, we're involved in emergency care, we're involved in evaluating
the injury, right when it happens, trying to set up a prof
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Larry Munger, Ph.D.
you're not helping out your team. And so we try to do things to make sure that they stay
healthy. And at this time, at the end of the year, is when guys have all those nicks and bruises
and they might have a little bit of pain here. but you're really working on trying to make them
so they're available to participate in their sport, they're available to play for their team, and
keep the load down on other players. But if we can elongate, and ensure that athletes have a
longer playing career, they're going to be, they're going to be more successful and enhanced,
they're going to come back and hopefully appreciate all the things that we've done for them
throughout their careers.