

2022-2023 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Demonstrating Leadership

Name of Nominee Dr. Jason Zamkoff

Dr. Zamkoff, or JZ to all who work with him, is the embodiment of leadership in the clinical space. As a preceptor, he has gone above and beyond to give me opportunities to practice my clinical skills, including contacting clinical teams all over the hospital to get me the best learning experiences. With every patient, he acted with the highest level of professionalism and worked to include me as an important member of the clinical team in every situation. Throughout the year, his mentorship has allowed me to feel comfortable in independently gathering a history, performing the necessary physical exam components, doing an oral presentation, and writing a note. Every piece of feedback he gave me was thoughtful and he always made time for me.

Beyond his work as my preceptor, JZ was responsible for creating and spearheading the surgical co-management model at CHCO on Pink Team. Throughout the year, I had the privilege of working on the Pink Team with JZ and seeing the incredible job they do in preventing medical errors and delivering high quality care to patients that may have otherwise not obtained the attention they needed. Through this team, I have witnessed JZ work with patients and parents experiencing some of the most challenging medical situations that someone could go through. In these moments, I have seen how JZ's empathy and ability to connect with people provided comfort and assurance to those who desperately needed it. And this comfort is not only extended to his patients, but to his clinical team as well. Whether it was hype-up music in the team room during the RSV crisis or conversations with his colleagues about sports (despite his beloved Syracuse experiencing some significant setbacks through the course of the season), JZ's humor and positive energy throughout the last year uplifted the spirits of everyone who worked with him.

JZ's leadership doesn't stop at the creation of the Pink Team. He also serves as a safety coach for Target Zero. On several occasions, I had the opportunity of joining JZ as he worked with other clinical teams at CHCO to ensure patient safety through effective communication and clinical knowledge.

I am incredibly grateful to have worked with Dr. Zamkoff over the course of the last year. He is a leader amongst his colleagues and makes life easier for everyone he encounters at CHCO, all while being an excellent teacher and mentor to me. The skills that I have learned from him have not only prepared me for my LIC year but will also make me a better doctor in the future. I hereby nominate him for the Demonstrating Leadership Golden Stethoscope, and I can think of no one more deserving.

Written by: Dennis Pales