2023-2024 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Outstanding Role Model

Name of Nominee Dr. Patricia Meyer

Dr. Meyer is an excellent physician who her patients love, a great teacher, and an expert and advocate for a group of patients who can have a difficult time getting the care they deserve.

She consistently does everything she can for her patients, going above and beyond to make sure they get the care that they deserve. One instance in particular was on a Friday afternoon when a patient desperately needed some supplies due to their paralysis and she spent so much time and effort discussing with the nursing staff to try and find a medical supply group that could bring the supplies over the weekend to said patient. She constantly was fitting in her patients who urgently needed to see her, often when she was supposed to be taking her lunch breaks. Furthermore, she would anticipate her patients needs and be incredibly proactive in their care. I think this is one of the main reasons why when I interviewed her patients, they would frequently tell me how grateful they were they had Dr. Meyer and how lucky I was to be able to learn under her.

Besides going above and beyond for her patients, she was an excellent teacher. She taught me how to phrase questions and pose follow-ups that would elucidate more information that the patient might not have thought about or thought was unimportant. She actively involved me with the patients, taking the time to prepare me before entering the room and asking me things I thought should be on the differential and how those symptoms would appear clinically. She helped me refine my note-writing, make my presentations more concise, and she illustrated how to work through differential diagnoses.

Finally, she is an advocate and physician for patients with mobility impairments like spinal cord injuries, spina bifida, and cerebral palsy among other conditions. She spent a great deal of time teaching me about the various concerns that need to be monitored more closely in some of these patient populations. She is crucial in ensuring accessibility for those patients and also teaches other physicians how they can better support this patient population.

Dr. Meyer does it all. Her patients seek her out as a PCP from other patient referrals, she advocates for better care to a patient population that struggles to receive adequate care because the clinics, and the system as a whole, were not designed with them in mind, and all the while can teach and explain disease processes to a first-year medical student. Eventually when I am a physician I hope I do those things half as well as she does and she is undoubtedly an “ Outstanding Role Model. ”

Written by: Nicholas Olson

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