2024-2025 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Outstanding DOCS Preceptor

Name of Nominee Dr. Jennifer Sedler

I had the priviledge of working alongside Dr. Jennifer Sedler in the Children ' s Hospital of Colorado during my first year at CUSOM. Throughout my time with her, it became quite evident that she embodies the ideals and qualities of what it means to be a physician mentor: commitment to lifelong learning, approachability, strong communication skills, professionalism, supportive, insightful, inclusive, and guidance.

Dr. Sedler approached her patient ' s stories with compassion and commitment to using evidence-based medicine to enhance patient outcomes and lifelong learning. After patient handoffs at the start of our shifts, Dr. Sedler would walk me through each patient ' s clinical presentation and story, taking the time to use clinical pathways to enhance my understanding of the evaluation, diagnosis, and care of patients with specific conditions such as DKA and asthma. She also enriched my learning by discussing genetic syndromes like Noonan ' s, 48-XXXY, and Ehlers-Danlos. These real-life cases brought context and clarity to the material I was learning in medical school.

Beyond her clinical teaching, Dr. Sedler created an inclusive and encouraging learning environment. Any time I prefaced a question with, " This might be a dumb question… ", she would immediately reassure me with, " There ' s no such thing as a dumb question ". This really allowed me to feel comfortable asking clarifying questions about our clinical pathways in supporting our patient ' s diagnoses. This consistent support gave me the confidence to ask questions and engage more deeply with the material. Her humility was also evident: when she didn ' t have an immediate answer, she openly acknowledged it and modeled collaborative learning by looking it up with me.

One moment that particularly stood out was when I shared my concerns about my mental health and requested time off. Dr. Sedler responded with empathy and compassion, validating my feelings and even sharing her personal connection to mental health. Her support during this vulnerable moment made a lasting impact on me and strengthened our mentor-mentee relationship in a profound way.

During my time with Dr. Sedler, I was provided the opportunity to join her during " Residents Week ". Here, I was offered the chance to follow a patient case, pre-round on the patient to gain a better understanding of their clinical picture, and present on my patient during rounds with the team. Dr. Sedler helped me create a strong oral presentation, highlighting key elements attendings look for. Her feedback, along with that of the residents, was constructive and empowering; I felt prepared, confident, and valued as part of the team.

Throughout my time with Dr. Sedler, I have grown immensley as a student doctor and future physician. I ' ve learned to take thorough patient histories, perform physical exams, refine oral presentation skills, write clinical notes, and understand the reasoning behind treatment plans. I truly could not have asked for a more supportive, skilled, and

Written by: Ethan Smith