January 11, 2019

Hi Everyone,

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement, the first for 2019, was suggested by Diane Munz the indefatigable head of the McGill Community Pediatricians' Group and goes to two MDCM students who received the Group's 2018 Student Awards. I have reprinted below what Diane wrote:

"Shawn Stochmanski, did his 2 week pediatric selective in community pediatrics. He had just finished a month on the adult wards at the Montreal General Hospital and in his med 3 year, he functioned like a pediatric R-1. Very reliable physical exam skills [ears, murmurs, rales]. He could examine by himself and write up a 300lb non-verbal teen with autism, and was able to correctly interpret the boy's artistic work. Shawn did a thorough pediatric evaluation and wrote the consult reply on a 3 year old refugee from Cameroun with cleft palate and other previously undiagnosed medical problems. He took the initiative to check the Epipens stored at Mackay and found they had expired, so the stocking clerk was notified. His calm and kind manner made youth with disabilities feel comfortable talking to him.

Jarred Slimovitch, did his 2 week pediatric selective in community pediatrics in August, early in his med 3 year. Without prior experience, he learned quickly to examine ears without discomfort, do accurate physical exams, write up progress notes in paper and electronic files, and did clear & concise file reviews of children with complex disabilities at Mackay. He is good at searching for information on the internet e.g meaning of low homocysteine levels in a child with multiple anomalies and challenging parents that we had to see at craniofacial/cleft palate clinic. Jarred interacts very well with children of all ages, getting them to smile and talk with him.

Both of these medical students are calm, thoughtful and reliable team players who can step up to any unexpected challenges that health care may offer- exactly the kind of people we all want to work with.

This year's awards are in honour of Dr Jacques Belley, who graduated in medicine from U of M in 1964, and received his pediatric certification in 1968. He has been a beloved community pediatrician in St Lambert for many decades, and a supporter of our community based pediatrics group since the start of our association back in 1985."

Let's hope that Shawn and Jarred chose a career path that leads them to child health.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Michael
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