

Hi Everyone

There are a few Departmental acknowledgements this week.

The first was suggested by Davinia Withington and goes to Mary Decell. This is a bittersweet one as it coincides with the transfer of the TDR for which Mary and her nursing team has been such a vital support over the years. Mary has been instrumental in providing care to these complex and challenging children who have a technology dependency in a non-ICU setting with the goal of returning these children home. Mary has always been available to these children and their families and has worked diligently with multiple services and personnel to ensure the best care possible (our mantra and our sacred obligation). This relocation is driven by hospital budgetary realities which are rooted in the fact that though we as an institution may be creative and act to fill a pressing need in child health, this need may not be recognized by actual hard governmental budgetary support. Indeed we may be impacted for taking this initiative as it is funded out of a global budget for which we cannot run a deficit. Personally I have conceptual problems accepting this within a health care system that is dedicated to universal access to what is needed for health; which as Canadians we have collectively deemed to be a right and not a privilege.

The second acknowledgement was suggested by Richard Gosselin and goes to Catherine Henin and Mylene Dandevino for their work in the Residents Continuity Clinic in leading the development of innovative educational approaches and tools. The most recent of these being the creation, in collaboration with a group of interested residents, of videos that highlight techniques of physical examination of the various organ systems, which will be used by residents to improve their examination skills. This is yet another example of how our Department has always been in the forefront of educational innovation within the Faculty.

The final weekly acknowledgement goes to our residents, especially Elisa Ruano and Reem Al-Khaliifah. This collective kudo was suggested by Evelyn Constantin, Robert Brouillette and Richard Gosselin. While the resident staff deserve an acknowledgement every week, this is specifically given for RHALY (Residents for Healthy Active Living in Youth). Basically the residents on their own initiative have created an advocacy project to increase awareness of childhood obesity and to promote healthy active living among children and their families. Not only is this a clinically oriented project, in true academic fashion this has been paired with a research project and an educational initiative-in other words a triple play! Clearly they have been taught well by Departmental staff.

Have a great weekend everyone

Michael

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