

May 8, 2020

Hi Everyone!

This week's Departmental Acknowledgement was suggested and provided by Samara Zavalkoff our Pediatric Critical Medicine Program Director. It is pasted below:

*I'd like to nominate the six PICU fellows, **Drs. Zahraa Al Lawati, Lona Mwenda, Donovan Duncan, Paulina Armendariz, Flora Taher and Ravi Jayas** (chief) for this week's Departmental Acknowledgement.*

Amidst the many of us who are working hard, and in unusual ways, during this COVID pandemic, the PICU fellows are front and centre. As usual, one of these committed doctors is in house every night in the PICU, and available for consultation for critically ill patients and are always ready to support treating teams. Since COVID hit, quarantine and illness have caused many scheduling changes, often with little warning. The PICU fellows have stepped up to repeatedly cover these holes, activating a newly created backup schedule (under our Chief, Ravi's leadership) and without complaint. These acts of professionalism are to be applauded.

Even more impressive is how they took on the challenge to clinically prepare for COVID in the PICU. They led journal clubs, created protocols, did literature reviews, created checklists, attended war room meetings and created cheat sheets. They reviewed ACLS protocols, attended training on adult ICU management and shared experiences from their home centres and countries. When the two adult patients rolled over from the Vic, they nervously met them with open arms and rose to the challenge with the PICU team to sort our best practice, translate medication infusion rates and communicate with their next of kin.



I am proud to call them my colleagues!

Samara Zavalkoff

Have a great weekend everyone! Happy Mother's Day to all our moms out there!

Michael

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