

I am nominating my preceptor, Brian Juan, MD., for the Best Phase 1 preceptor for 2020-2021. Dr. Juan exudes communication expertise, compassionate practice, cultural sensitivity, Mr. Miyagi mentorship, and a jolting persona. These qualities garnish a learning environment that takes my medical school education and experience to a whole new level. Dr. Juan's dedication to my training allows me to reinforce the material from my communications, clinical, and science courses.

Delivering compassionate and culturally sensitive care to patients is a pledge I set for myself upon entering medical school. Having the opportunity to train with Dr. Juan gives me the confidence to develop these traits as a provider. Dr. Juan's vigilance to patients' conditions and outcomes shapes this confidence. For example, despite a busy schedule, Dr. Juan made the time to have a local ER see a patient he was concerned about; he advocated for the patient to get a STAT CT scan the moment they walked through the door. Dr. Juan explained that the patient might have to wait several days to get a scan with a referral. He thought the patient needed it sooner to rule out serious complications. He then made sure the patient and their family knew where the hospital was and if they had transportation. This devotion towards patients serves as a role model and reassurance that compassionate care is possible in a high-volume practice.

I worked in construction for a year. Lifting wood and carrying a nail gun all day takes a toll on your body. Dr. Juan has honed the cultural awareness for Latinx and other immigrants who work in these labor-intensive jobs. For example, a Latinx and Filipino patient both came in for elbow pain. Dr. Juan made sure he knew what their jobs were, which were in construction and a warehouse, respectively. He knew these populations were at risk for repetitive movements with their work. Dr. Juan provided treatment for their pain, exercise instructions in their language, and offered occupational therapy as an option. Dr. Juan's social diligence prepares me to serve a diverse population but is also touching given my background in these work settings with Latinx immigrants.

Subsequently, Dr. Juan's mentorship is stimulating and exciting. He keeps me on my toes with questions that allow me to apply what I am learning in my blocks and research new material to expand my horizons. For example, Dr. Juan continuously checks where I am in my curriculum and adapts the questions, he asks me. For instance, after I told him I was in my CardioVascular Pulmonary Renal (CVPR) block, he started asking more about cardio drugs' mechanism. Dr. Juan also presents the opportunity to explore other topics not yet covered by my curriculum. For example, Dr. Juan looks ahead in his schedule on the days I come in and suggests an issue I should study to prepare for the patients I get to examine. Through this, I learned more about the USPSTF screening recommendations based on age and gender. These extra efforts by Dr. Juan provide an extra push to better prepare for my exams, clinical rotations, and the boards.

Nevertheless, Dr. Juan's welcoming personality makes my preceptorship experience a fun one. His smile and humor help me feel like I am a part of his team. For these reasons and many more, I nominate Dr. Brian Juan for the Best Phase 1 preceptor.