2020-2021 Golden Stethoscope Nomination

Nominated for: Best Patient/Physician Communication Skills

Name of Nominee Dr. Mollie Jacobs

To whom it may concern,

In school we learn the clinical skills required to examine a patient but from Dr. Mollie Jacobs, I've learned how to connect with a patient. Dr. Jacobs is a family medicine physician practicing out of the WISH clinic in the AOP. Everyday, she sees women with a variety of problems from a simple persistent cough to a more sensitive, private topic of discussion. And with every patient, regardless of their complaint, Dr. Jacobs makes them feel heard, validated and understood. Not only that but she sets them at ease, soothing any embarrassment or shyness that accompanies female health insecurities. I watch the stress melt off their face as she normalizes an odor or itchiness, creating a safe space for true conversation. And in this bubble of security, the patient provides more details to her initial story, providing essential background information that allows us to come to a diagnosis. I've loved watching her maneuver through difficult patient conversations or complete tricky exams while joking about life and being truly present in every single room. She has taught me how to practice with a personality- I think I connect with her so much because she brings her joy into the room and that is how I want to be as a physician. Not only is she wonderful with her patients, but she's also wonderful with me. When teaching, she obviously has an abundance of clinical knowledge but always meets me at my level of understanding. I'm never made to feel inadequate but I'm always challenged. Dr. Jacobs is receptive to any feedback I have and quickly implements that into our sessions; after I told her I wanted to work on developing a more thorough differential she walked me through every step of her thought process and challenged me to do the same on the next case. It can be intimidating to ask questions but every time I make myself vulnerable, she validates my question and provides a thorough, respectful answer. I feel incredibly lucky to have started my clinical experience with Dr. Jacobs because she is a fantastic doctor that provides high-level care, and she does it all in cute, orange leather booties!

Please consider Dr. Jacobs for the Golden Stethoscope Award as she truly exemplifies a compassionate health care provider.

Thank you,
Lillie

Written by: Lillian Toaspern

University of Colorado
Anschutz Medical Campus