



Neurosurgery residents distinguish themselves locally, nationally

Our program graduates residents who are ready to become actively contributing members of the neurosurgical community. They show this in many ways during their years at Henry Ford, including through local and national honors, and patient dedication.

HENRY FORD RESIDENT AWARDS

Every year, out of the hundreds of residents being trained across all specialties at any given time at Henry Ford Health System, only 19 are nominated for special achievement recognition. This year, Hesh Zakaria, M.D. (featured in photo above, middle), was awarded the 2019 Outstanding Resident Award and Richard Rammo, M.D., was nominated for the 2019 Outstanding Teaching Resident Award. It is rare for a department – especially one as small as ours considering all of the medicine and surgical trainees – to have residents recognized at this level in both categories.

EXCELLING IN WRITTEN BOARD EXAMS

Over the last few years, Henry Ford neurosurgery residents have steadily improved their scores on the American Board of Neurological Surgery (ABNS) written board exams, culminating with the first break into the 700+ range last year, by Dr. Rammo. This year, Karam Asmaro, M.D., has achieved an even more momentous record. With a score in the high

800s and the 99th percentile, Dr. Asmaro is now the highest scoring resident in our program for the board exams. In addition, out of more than 400 neurosurgery residents, Dr. Asmaro earned the top score in the country for 2019.

FOCUSING ON PATIENT NEEDS

Recently, Resident Scott Lim, M.D., with shunt programmer in hand and without being asked, drove an hour a half to reset a shunt valve for a patient whose settings became altered after an MRI. This patient would have had to pay \$1,500 for ambulance transportation (not covered by insurance because he had come to our clinic one week prior) and they had no other means of transportation to get the valve checked. Thanks to Dr. Lim, everything was reset appropriately and the patient and family now have tremendous peace of mind.

RECENT RESIDENT FELLOWSHIPS

- Lara Massie, M.D., 2019, Spine, University of Virginia
- Richard Rammo, M.D., 2019, Functional/Epilepsy, Cleveland Clinic
- Rizwan Tahir, M.D., 2020, Cerebrovascular, Thomas Jefferson University
- Hesham Zakaria, M.D., 2020, Spine/Spine Oncology, Johns Hopkins University