David C. Leach Award

Named to honor the ACGME’s former Executive Director, Dr. David C. Leach (1997 – 2007), and his commitment to resident education and physician well-being, this award recognizes resident/fellow-led projects and innovations.

Abhiram M. Kondajji, DO, MS
Surgery
Cleveland Clinic - South Pointe Hospital
Warrensville Heights, Ohio

About the project:

“Dr. Kondajji implemented a daily spaced-repetition question-based program. Weekly didactic content has transitioned to Socratic sessions where challenging topics are allotted more time for group discussion; this differs from the previously used PowerPoint presentation style resident-led educational sessions. Monthly skills labs parallel the SCORE (Surgical Council on Resident Education) curriculum. A surgical rotation guidebook was created to orient new medical students, interns, and off-service residents to the surgical services covered in the residency program.”

“Using the test banks provided by the residency program, Dr. Kondajji implemented a monthly mock surgery in-service exam. This monthly testing is in addition to the daily questions that residents complete using the spaced-repetition question system. This approach has prompted more independent reading on unfamiliar topics and has led residents to better understand the current treatment guidelines.”

“The program has transitioned the senior (PGY-4 and 5) residents to home-call, which has allowed more operative experience during the senior years while decreasing the call burden for the entire cohort. Excellent patient care continues while allowing seniors to transition to practice under the guidance of the teaching faculty. Residents attend educational activities that would have otherwise been missed due to the resident being post-call.”