

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.



Jason Lai, MD

Emergency Medicine
University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics
Madison, Wisconsin

About the project:

“One of Jason’s projects this year has been the introduction of Patient Safety Updates throughout the residency programs in our institution. These are brief recurring talks about various patient safety topics that are delivered by each program’s designated RQSC resident representative during residency educational conference. The intention is to enhance each residency program’s patient safety curriculum with timely, specialty-specific, and actionable patient safety information that is delivered by one of their peers.”

“We have already witnessed several remarkable institution-wide changes come about as a result of resident efforts. After the dermatology resident RQSC representative shared a patient safety story with the rest of her program, one of her resident colleagues initiated a quality improvement project to create an order set within our electronic health record for bedside procedures that includes all of the necessary and standard post-procedural activity and nursing care orders. Another resident’s patient safety discussion with his colleagues uncovered and addressed persistent stigma among residents towards the Patient Safety Net event reporting system. Within our Family Medicine residency program, their patient safety update prompted several other residents in the program to bring up a recurring issue involving an incorrect reference range for a commonly used outpatient lab test. This issue was subsequently brought to the attention of our health system’s Laboratory Services department, who is actively working to implement that change in our electronic health record system.”