

Resident Leadership Award

Nicholas Cohen, MD

A family medicine resident at University Hospitals Case Medical Center (UHCMC) in Cleveland, Dr. Cohen completed medical school at New York University School of Medicine, New York, NY, and earned his bachelor of arts in philosophy from Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT.

Dr. Cohen was the clinic chief at UHCMC during the 2011-12 year where he led practice transformation aimed at National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) patient-centered medical home (PCMH) recognition. He created competency-based, point-of-care ultrasound curriculum that was integrated into the medical school and residency curriculums. Dr. Cohen also created a website for patient education videos, www.myfamilydocvideos.com, with over 25,000 hits per month.

“He also created mechanisms to gather and track data on trainees in order to evaluate the efficacy of the curriculum. To date, the curriculum has demonstrated improvement in post-test scores and skill acquisition by hands-on evaluation,” said award nominator Justin Lappen, MD. “I firmly believe that this curriculum has the potential to transform the teaching of ultrasounds to medical trainees in a variety of disciplines and to revolutionize the practice of primary care.”

Prior to medical school, Dr. Cohen was an Infantry 1st Lieutenant for the U.S. Army Airborne Rangers. There, he was the executive officer for a paratrooper company in the 82nd Airborne Division.

During both his military career and residency, Dr. Cohen has earned many honors and awards including the Tomorrow’s Leader Award from the American Academy of Family Physicians; an U.S. Army Achievement Medal, awarded by the Secretary of the Army for exceptionally meritorious service as a training non-commissioned officer, October 1998; and as a Delta Company Platoon Leader, January 2001, among others.

“Nick is a talented clinician who possesses all of the characteristics to make him a successful leader and clinician — empathy, dedication, intelligence, drive, and passion. However, his enthusiasm improving health care quality and delivery, and for the integration of technology into the daily practice of medicine truly distinguishes him as visionary, particularly for someone so early in his career,” said Dr. Lappen.

“Nick is among the most determined, focused, and motivated residents I have met during my eight years in the position. Nick translates motivation into action – massive action. He has fearlessly initiated and completed projects that are having far-reaching benefits for patients, providers, and our health care system,” said James Werner, PhD, MSSA, assistant professor Department of Family Medicine Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland.



Previous Winners

Lauren Burns, DO
Melissa Jefferis, MD
Gregory Whisman, MD
Eric Prenger, MD
Ryan Kauffman, MD