

CDEM Faculty Highlight



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1. What is your most memorable moment of teaching?

There isn't just one. I think that the most memorable things are when students come back later (on our rotation or other rotations or even as residents) and say "do you remember when we saw that patient?" I'm so proud that they remember that they were successful with a procedure or took a pearl away that helped them in the future.

2. Who or what is your biggest influence?

There are many. Tom Lukens, from my residency, who would buy us poor residents food and drinks with the promise that we would pay it forward someday, something I do with my students and residents. Rose Naunheim, who is one of my colleagues, who I have never seen get flustered once in the 19 years that I have known her. Larry Lewis, who finds the fun in every shift and teaching point. And the students and residents who actually push me to look things up, continue to learn, and not sit on my laurels.

3. Any advice for other clerkship directors?

Have fun while teaching. It shouldn't be a chore or a job. We forget where we were so many years ago. Just walking a student through a foley placement or allowing them to do CPR or a FAST scan is a really big deal and imprints the excitement of medicine on them, even if it is not a big deal for us anymore.

4. What is your favorite part about being and educator/director?

Both the "ah-ha" moments that the students have as well as the feedback that they give me. They know what works best as part of their education, and they will let you know how you can be a better educator for them.

5. Any interesting factoids you would like to share?

I have run 10 half marathons and have driven down and up the Camino de la Muerte (Death Road) in Bolivia.