



RESIDENT PHYSICIAN OF THE MONTH

JUNE

Dr. Warren Sun General Surgery University of Alberta

Originally born and raised in Toronto, it only took nine years to finally consider myself an Albertan! I have been living in Edmonton since moving out here for medical school, after completing undergrad in biochemistry and chemical engineering in Ottawa. Now as I am wrapping up my residency training in General Surgery at the U of A and preparing to move back to Toronto for a fellowship in Advanced Minimally-Invasive and Bariatric Surgery, I can say that it's true when they say "The days are long, but the years are short." I am so grateful for training in such a strong program with amazing mentors and co-residents.

Outside of the OR, you can find me exploring restaurants around the city with my fiancée. She has been such a huge support through a busy residency, all while completing her own as well. Uccellino is our go-to celebration spot. I also love my Toronto Raptors and will hopefully be able to catch another championship run soon.

Thank you to PARA and my co-residents physicians for nominating me for this honour!

A colleague shared this about Dr. Sun:

We are so excited about nominating Warren Sun, a PGY-5 in General Surgery, as the PARA Resident of the Month.

First, being a Lead Resident Physician in General Surgery comes with its own set of challenges. It is an immense responsibility to take care of a large team of surgical patients every day. A good Lead Resident Physician knows how to balance good patient care, with junior colleague teaching, all the while maintaining their own wellbeing.

Warren consistently achieves this difficult balance in his daily routine. For example, he leads the team efficiently in the morning to finish rounds before the OR start – which then allows them to have time for "morning team coffee" and teaching. He prepares teaching topics relevant to all his trainees – from medical students to junior residents. In the operating room, he regularly goes above and beyond to advocate for his junior colleagues to participate in the surgeries – instead of simply observing. This level of advocacy can be difficult to balance with time efficiencies required in the typical OR day. However, while most senior surgical residents share similar responsibilities, what makes Warren the most deserving of the award is that he shares his knowledge and devotes his time with patience, kindness, and compassion. By default, he creates a positive learning environment for his colleagues to learn and strive in.

This is such a crucial part of the changing surgical landscape and thereby sets an example for his junior resident physicians. Many view him as a role model. In addition, he is a great consultant for other specialties – he is always polite, thoughtful, and informative on the phone and in person. This helps foster multidisciplinary care for the patients. Beyond trying to create a positive learning environment for his junior residents, he has also been acknowledged as an outstanding resident physician from the medical students rotating through general surgery. Without breaking into his computer to "copy and paste" the student evaluations he has received, we can summarize to say that his evaluation also speaks to his kindhearted nature. The medical students consistently comment on how Warren welcomes them to be part of the surgical team, which in turn helps to foster their passion for medicine. Warren has not only been part of informal student teaching as a Lead Resident Physician, but also contributes to teaching clerkship lectures, suturing courses, and mentorship of medical student through the many numerous research projects he spearheaded during residency.

In conclusion, we wish to nominate Warren as he is a remarkable individual who deserves recognition for his accomplishments, but mostly importantly his kindness towards others.