David C. Leach Award



In honor of former ACGME Executive Director David C. Leach, MD (1997-2007) and his contributions to resident education and well being, the ACGME created this award in 2008. This award is unique in that it acknowledges and honors residents, fellows, and resident/fellow teams and their contributions to graduate medical education. The ACGME congratulates the 2018 recipients of the David C. Leach, MD Award.



Srilakshmi Vallabhaneni, MD Internal Medicine Medstar Harbor Hospital Baltimore, Maryland

About the project:

"One of [Dr. Vallabhaneni's] projects is the implementation of one-page patient discharge summary for patients to improve communication with patients at discharge and provide quality care. The project was also targeted to improve resident satisfaction on the floors and improve student education. Her second project was the education of residents about the threshold for red cell transfusion based on current guidelines. This project

was targeted to reduce the inappropriate use of red cell transfusion and educate residents at the same time."

"The project of "One-page patient discharge summary" improved communication with patients significantly evidenced by improvement in our patient satisfaction scores. The project also improved satisfaction among residents as many of them feel very contended that they have given the patients very detailed written copy of their medical problems and the changes made to their medications/tests done. This, in turn, eliminated repeat testing that can be done if the patient visits another hospital."

"RBC transfusion threshold project has helped with educating the residents about the current guidelines and threshold for transfusion. Several examples were created in the module, which helped residents understand different scenarios for transfusing and not transfusing. This, in turn, reduced inappropriate use of packed red cells and health care cost."