

2024 Pharmacy to Dose Mentor of the Year Nominees

1. Brian Gilbert, PharmD, MBA, BCCCP, FCCM, FNCS

Brian has dedicated substantial time to teaching and mentoring pharmacy residents. In addition to serving as the PGY Critical Care Residency Program Director, Brian volunteers his time through the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology Section (CPP) Mentor-Mentee Match. Brian was paired with one of my previous PGY2 residents and went above and beyond in mentoring him, guiding the resident through a Pharmacy Grand Rounds presentation and collaborating on a review article. This is evidence of Brian's dedication to teaching and mentoring future pharmacists. Brian also dedicates significant time to professional organizations, helping to advance pharmacy practice locally and nationally. In these roles, Brian actively sought ways to include learners in the organization and programming. Brian consistently goes above and beyond to network with learners and make them feel included.

I have known Dr. Gilbert for approximately eight years, during which time I have served as his colleague, co-investigator and friend. He is one of the first people I turn to as a sounding board when troubleshooting a problem or brainstorming an idea. He is also one of the founding leaders of a national organization for emergency medicine pharmacists: the Academic Emergency Medicine (EM) Pharmacists Interest Group, within the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine. As the inaugural chair for this organization, I have heavily rely on Dr Gilbert's mentorship and expertise in order to ensure we are successful long-term. I have been consistently impressed by his tenacity, outstanding advocacy for the profession of EM pharmacy and how he interacts with his many mentees... in addition to his ever-entertaining conference attire =) Furthermore, I have collaborated with him on research and scholarly works. As such, I feel I am able to provide insight into his substantial credentials for this Award. There numerous ways in which Dr. Gilbert is embodies the Outstanding Mentor Award. First, he is a PGY-2 Critical Care Residency-trained pharmacist serving as an EM Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at Wesley Medical Center, a teaching hospital that services adult and pediatric patients as a Level 1 Trauma Center, Primary Stroke Center. This busy emergency department (ED) services approximately 135,000 annual visits. During Dr Gilbert's tenure in this role, he has been able to establish and build up EM clinical services. In this capacity, he serves as the medication expert, actively involved in shaping the care plans for each patient and attending medical emergencies at the bedside, providing support or encouragement for medical decisions on the basis of best available evidence, individualization of care to the specific patient, determination of risks and benefits of medical therapies, and availability and cost-effectiveness of medications. In addition to his daily patient care responsibilities, Dr Gilbert is a leader amongst his colleagues, providing multidisciplinary education and actively engaging in quality improvement initiatives with the EM physicians, nurses, and pharmacy residents. Finally, Dr Gilbert has been the PGY-2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency Program Director since 2020, a role that he excels at and takes very seriously. He frequently has an entourage of current and former trainees at professional conferences, which attests to his dedication to mentoring. Dr Gilbert is a national leader in EM pharmacy. He has produced over 50 peer-reviewed publications. This is an impressive feat considering he is a full-time clinician. He is able to balance his desire to generate innovative research with his demanding clinical, teaching and administrative responsibilities as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in a busy ED. Additionally, Dr Gilbert has established himself as an expert on thromboelastography and hemostatic management, among other EM pharmacotherapy topics. He has given over 40 regional, national, and international presentations on these subjects. He has earned the award of Conference Speaker of the Year 2023 from the Pharmacy to Dose Podcast for his educational and entertaining approach to teaching. He is also very active within the Neurocritical Care Society, Society of Critical Care Medicine and American College of Clinical Pharmacy, and in his home state of

Kansas, where is past president of Kansas Council of Health-System Pharmacy, earning KCHP Pharmacist of the Year Award for his efforts. Over the past three years, I also have had the pleasure to work with Dr. Gilbert on several projects, including a review article entitled Tracing the Lines: A Review of Viscoelastography for Emergency Medicine Clinicians that was painstakingly written and should serve as a primer for EM clinicians for years to come. It was the second most downloaded manuscript in 2023 at the Journal of the American College of Clinical Pharmacists. We are also co-investigators for numerous Emergency Medicine PHARMacotherapy Research NETwork (EMPHARM-NET) projects and publications. The mission of EMPHARM-NET is to foster and conduct high quality, transformative, multidisciplinary research pertaining pharmacotherapy in the emergently ill population across the United States. It is for these reasons that I can highly recommend Dr. Gilbert for this Award. He is one of the most productive and innovative clinicians in his field and is sure to leave a legacy in EM pharmacotherapy. His persistence, determination, and dedication to mentoring the next generation of leaders make him an excellent candidate for the Outstanding Mentor Award!

2. Andrea Sikora, PharmD, MSCR, BCCCP, FCCM, FCCP

When you look up "mentor" in the dictionary, it would be fitting to see a picture of Andrea Sikora. Dr. Sikora is the most natural and genuine mentor I have ever encountered. Despite her extremely busy schedule as a clinical pharmacist, faculty member, NIH-funded researcher, wife, and mother, she constantly seeks out opportunities to invest her time and energy in mentoring others, even when these mentoring relationships have no inherent benefit for her. I have seen this unfold in so many scenarios including students, residents, junior pharmacists, and even those more senior than her. As one small example, she was first introduced to a student through a formal meeting with them and the College of Pharmacy Academic and Professionalism Committee, on which she was serving. Despite the less than ideal circumstances for meeting and the fact that the student was located on a different campus four hours away, Dr. Sikora reached out to them after the meeting to offer her mentorship through a challenging situation and this has developed into a full-fledged mentoring relationship. She has such a knack for identifying what others needs in terms of mentorship and she is remarkably capable of providing this needed guidance. Dr. Sikora truly is the gold standard for mentors and is highly deserving of this recognition.

3. Patrick Wieruszewski, PharmD, BCCCP

Dr. Patrick Wieruszewski is an outstanding, highly skilled, motivated pharmacist who has had considerable success in the early and now middle part of his career. He began his career at the bedside caring for complex critically ill cardiothoracic surgery patients. His daily observations of the devastating impact that post-surgical complications have on patients and families inspired his efforts to advance therapeutic individualization in this population to improve outcomes. In recognition of his scholarly acumen, he was the first Department of Pharmacy trainee at Mayo Clinic to achieve academic rank during his training program. He has since been promoted to a dual appointment as an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Pharmacy. Most recently, Dr. Wieruszewski was selected for the Department's competitive Career Development Award which protects 20% of his time to explore research on vasoplegic shock. He has a demonstrated track record of success with more than 80 peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters in high impact journals. Each abstract, paper, quality project, or grant is indicative of his tireless effort to advance our understanding of how to improve care for these patients. Directly at the point of the award, one facet of this lasting impact that Patrick has made at Mayo Clinic and beyond is through the education and training of others. Dr. Wieruszewski has formally mentored 24 trainees and early career faculty members during his time at Mayo Clinic and precepted countless more pharmacy

students and residents. Patrick is an engaged, introspective, and goal-oriented mentor. His mentees would account that the high expectations that he has of others he similarly expects of himself. He is present, accountable, and willing to lend a hand, regardless of whether you are his formal mentee, or someone within or beyond our Department who needs help. As the Mayo Midwest Pharmacy Research Committee chair, he is a point person for research in the Department across the enterprise and avails himself to all manner of people seeking support. His successes are reflected in the successes of his mentees, who have received Top Trainee Poster Awards at conferences, secured competitive academic positions, and been featured on the national stage. Beyond the classical 1:1 mentorship dyads that he takes on, he extends his commitment to education to individuals beyond our institution. Dr. Wieruszewski has been invited to provide insights to clinicians and scientists from Critical Care, Pharmacy, Surgery, and Anesthesia during six prestigious visiting professorship visits in just the last three years in addition to countless local, regional, and national presentations.

His unwavering dedication, patience, and exceptional teaching have been transformative throughout my emergency medicine residency and critical care fellowship. Dr. Wieruszewski's guidance has not only shaped my career but has also ignited my passion for research, which has become the central focus of my professional journey. His mentorship has empowered me to achieve significant milestones, including several peer-reviewed publications and abstract presentations, and has instilled in me a deep belief in my potential. Dr. Wieruszewski's impact on my career is profound, exemplifying the qualities of an outstanding mentor who truly deserves this award. His support and dedication have been pivotal in helping me realize my potential and pursue a career driven by a love for research.

Patrick is the consummate teammate and mentor and is fully deserving of receiving the Mentor of the Year award. He has impacted countless multidisciplinary learners and staff through dissemination of knowledge pertaining to patient care and facilitation of high-impact, methodologically diverse, research projects. Aspects of his mentorship that I'd like to highlight include that he is incredibly generous with his time and skills, he has the answer to seemingly every question I ask, and he is genuinely invested in my growth while challenging me to be a better clinician, researcher, and person. The breadth of his mentorship is also impressive. Beyond direct instruction of learners, he oversees the facilitation of projects of >75 peers within the institution as chair of the Mayo Midwest Pharmacy Research Committee. He is a role model in the truest sense of the phrase.

Patrick is an amazing mentor for the same reasons he is an amazing practitioner, researcher and teacher - he expects excellence from himself and others. He sees the potential in everyone and works tirelessly to bring that out in them. Beyond that, he is humble and selfless - he has on many occasions suggested papers or projects for new investigators or writers to do with his guidance, so they can get a publication under their belt.