Pin Sen

Trainee Development:

As a past trainee of Mr Sen, I can unequivocally say that more than any other trainer in the region, he has inspired me (and several others) in every respect.

He has absolutely made himself available for teaching for all of the trainees in the region. An example of his constant dedication to our training was when he specifically booked reduced clinics in the run up to our clinical FRCS examination recently – much to the disdain of the hospital management. Trainees from around our region attended and were able to utilize his patients in a mock examination setting. He instructed each trainee to watch and mark each other as examiners – scoring each other in various domains during the history/examination as well as during a mock viva after each case which he conducted himself. This allowed for objective feedback and allowed us all to experience the exam pressure and hence improve. The 3 other trainees that attended found these sessions extremely useful and they stated that no other trainer had offered anything similar to them before. After a whole clinic like this he sat with us for 4 hours of continuous viva practice well into the evening! 2 days in a row this continued.

His knowledge base is exemplary and he regularly quotes papers and gives appropriate references to back up any discussion. He actively encourages debate and welcomes counter-arguments to his views so long as they can be justified.He is extremely generous with his knowledge and time. After these evening sessions, us trainees went to dinner. Mr Sen went home and researched the salient points of the topic we’d been discussing and e-mailed us the references/papers so as to not leave any areas uncovered.

Professionalism:

Mr Sen is an absolute gentleman and consummate professional in every environment I’ve witnessed him in. He is deeply unassuming and humble yet is equipped with unfathomable knowledge and experience that in different hands could easily result in arrogance and pride. It is clear that his patients come first at all times and his approach is solely evidence-based. He holds the respect of his staff and colleagues without even trying.

Leadership:

Mr Sen has shown his deftness in assuming leadership in numerous roles within the hospital and the department- principally based around teaching at all levels; arranging teaching and training sessions – even for trainees he has never met before. He is a great mentor and the go-to person for pastoral support. He is calm and considered and always accessible and approachable on any matter. He can be contacted at any time day and night for assistance. Trainees feel rapidly at ease with him and able to open up.

Communication:

Mr Sen has an admirable easiness with his manner in all arenas. Whether it’s breaking bad news to a patient or explaining something to someone more junior; he has a natural calmness and logicality which gets his points and messages across without making the other person feel diminished in importance or stature. He respects those around him and considers all views. He is honest in his feedback also, not fearing to tell the truth to trainees in an effort to encourage them to excel and work to their strengths.

Resourcefulness:

He has always impressed us with the range of contacts which he readily calls on whenever any of us needed any help on gaining experience in an area not openly offered within our deanery.

He seems to have a cache of highly respected individuals in any field willing to help him out at fairly short notice- I think that in itself speaks volumes. He has offered to support trainees with fellowships and observerships abroad on numerous occasions; facilitating this himself personally.

Summary:

Mr Sen is an inspirational figure, surgeon and trainer. I absolutely believe that Mr Sen deserves the distinction of Trainer of the Year. We trainees are fortunate to know him and we feel there are few like him. He is an asset that deserves just recognition for his services to training.