



### **RuDASA Doctor of the Year 2018**



Dr Mikail Gurland graduated from the University of Cape Town in 2015 and thereafter began his two years of internship training at Charlotte Maxeke Hospital in Gauteng. He then commenced his Community Service year at Tintswalo Hospital in January 2018 - a small hospital located in Acornhoek, Mpumalanga. The underlying ethos of this hospital is Primary Healthcare and embodying the Batho Pele approach to service delivery. In his short time working at the hospital, he has shown great initiative in striving to better service delivery and promote a supportive working environment. Most notable of which, is his commitment to the rehabilitation unit.

He initiated a multi disciplinary team ward round to include Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists, Dieticians, Pharmacists, and Psychologists. This aided in identifying patients who would benefit from rehabilitative care, and also created a learning opportunity as staff became more aware of the scope of practice of their colleagues which further benefited the referral process and thus, patient care was improved.

Dr Gurland makes himself easily accessible to consult during the rehabilitation unit's weekly clinics held for children with Cerebral Palsy as well as adults who have survived strokes. He has a passion for attending home visits with therapists which benefits not only the patients, but the rehabilitation team as well. He has proven to be humble and does not see himself as being above anyone else, treating patients and health care workers with equal respect, and will often join the rehabilitation staff for coffee. He even bought a new kettle for the unit!

He has also taken it upon himself to do weekly outreach at Brooklyn Clinic. By playing for the hospital soccer team, he shows commitment to strengthening camaraderie amongst his colleagues and connect with the community through sport. He also joins the Physiotherapy exercise classes with the Psychiatric inpatients! His commitment to the community was further strengthened when he moved into the village close to the hospital. This not only allows him to be readily available for calls, but also shows his willingness to interact with the community as a whole.

Dr Gurland is also a volunteer for the Tshemba Foundation. This initiative aims to give local and international medical professionals an opportunity to work at Tintswalo Hospital and in the surrounding communities. He aids in welcoming and facilitating the volunteers experience at the hospital.

Though he faces many challenges, he is always committed to patient care as well as learning from others and imparting knowledge. He has shown himself to be a great asset to the hospital and the rehabilitation unit. We therefore believe he is a worthy recipient of recognition and happily nominate him for the RuDASA Doctor of the year award.

Mikail truly lives up to his motto of "TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!"

Dr Gurland was nominated by the Rehabilitation Unit at Tintswalo Hospital

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