

Recognizing Outstanding Service Excellence



Robert Martindale, MD, PhD
General Surgery

Suzanne Hurford & Sharon Bertuleit submitted the following nomination . . .

This is the story:

Three years ago Dr. Martindale became the Physicians Champion for the Wound-Ostomy Department. When given this title Dr. Martindale chuckled that he felt a little uncomfortable with the super-hero overtones of the title. As we have worked with him for several years now, it's become evident that this is a well-deserved moniker.

Dr. Martindale so believes in the importance of teaching wound care and nutrition support that he established the first ever surgical residency rotation at OHSU with the emphasis on these disciplines.

Meet our patient: A woman as referred to our department by her primary care physician for a non-healing lower extremity wound. By the time she walked into our office she had tried multiple treatment modalities for over one year with no success. The wound clearly required surgical debridement and our superhero was on the way. Dr. Martindale quickly established rapport with our patient and secured an operating room for the following day. After debridement, the patient was followed weekly by the surgical resident on the wound rotation, and complete closure of the wound was achieved in four months. It would have been impossible to have achieved this feat without Dr. Martindale on our team.

Dr. Martindale loves his work and loves to teach. He approaches every patient and every situation with enthusiasm, energy, and a can-do-make-it-happen attitude. He is winsome in his bedside manner and conducts himself collegially with nurses and physicians alike. Dr. Martindale values the input of all our members of the health care team and is willing and eager to share from his experience and knowledge.

We, and many of our patients are indebted to Dr. Martindale, Wound Department Physician Super Hero, for his commitment to quality patient care, to teaching and to OHSU.



Award Recipient - December 2008