



Outstanding Clinician Award

Ennis James IV, M.D., epitomizes the MUSC values of compassion, respect, innovation, collaboration, and integrity. He is an approachable, results-oriented clinician who provides highly collaborative, patient-centric clinical care. James has garnered national and international recognition as an expert in the management of sarcoidosis, which has subsequently led to an increase in philanthropic support to the institution.

James received the medical degree from MUSC in 2007. He went on to complete a residency and fellowship in pulmonary and critical care at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he was both chief resident and chief fellow. In 2015, he returned to MUSC as a faculty member in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine.

Since 2018, James has served as the program director for the MUSC Susan Pearlstine Sarcoidosis Center of Excellence (SPSCOE). This multidisciplinary clinic provides care for a group of extremely sick, complex patients. Under his leadership, the SPSCOE has received numerous awards. In 2019, it became the first clinic in South Carolina to be recognized as a Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research and World Association of Sarcoidosis and Other Granulomatous Disorders Center of Excellence. Over the past few years, the clinic has increased its total patient encounters by over 40%, drawing patients from all over the southeastern United States.

An example of James's patient-centered approach includes the initiation of support groups to help sarcoid patients not feel so alone when dealing with this chronic disease. Further, he reached out to his patients to develop a patient-centered and practical set of solutions to improve patient follow-up. He successfully reduced the clinic's patient no-show rate to less than five percent.

James's dedication to excellent clinical care has been recognized by accolades across multiple quality care review platforms. One colleague describes James as "a fierce advocate for his patients." His expertise and passion for patient care, along with his willingness to go above and beyond for his patients, make the Medical University of South Carolina Foundation honored to present Ennis James IV, M.D., with the Outstanding Clinician Award on August 17, 2021.