



MILITARY MEDICINE

# CHAD HIVNOR

CARLOS JAVIER SANCHEZ | SABJ



Health  
Care  
Heroes



## CHAD HIVNOR

DERMATOLOGIST  
DERMSA

### ABOUT THE WINNER:

For the past 15 years, Dr. Chad Hivnor has devoted his talents to treating wounded warriors at Lackland Air Force Base. Recognized as a trailblazer in dermatology, Hivnor's accomplishments include the use of laser hair removal and Botox treatments to ensure the proper functions of prosthetic limbs.

So deep is his dedication to wounded warriors that even after leaving active duty from the Air Force three years ago and joining DermSA, he transitioned to the Air Force Reserves so that he could continue treating wounded warriors — often as a volunteer.

It's little wonder then that when asked what he would love to own, he said "a hunting ranch for wounded warriors."

### Q&A:

**WHO WAS YOUR MENTOR, AND WHAT WAS HIS OR HER IMPACT ON YOUR LIFE?** I have always thought of my father as the epitome of a mentor throughout my life. We lost him this past year. I have found it is easy to overlook the small, subtle things that mentors do until you don't have that available. My father has taught me fortitude, the value of a dollar and how to give all.

**TELL US ABOUT A SIGNIFICANT EVENT THAT MAKES YOU REFLECT, "THIS IS WHY I DO WHAT I DO."** I was following up with one of the first patients I treated with a fractionated laser for scarring, and he mentioned he could open his mouth at least a centimeter in all directions the day of the treatment. This effect continued. This one-on-one conversation changed the course of my career and helped change the way dermatologists think about scars. We can help patients functionally and not just cosmetically. That is why I do what I do.

**WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED FOR AS A HEALTH CARE HERO?** I would like to be remembered as someone who gave in all aspects of life, but in particular with patient care. Many things psychologically go underappreciated in patient care, especially with scars. I hope that I address each patient uniquely, totally and as sincerely as I would with my own family member.

