

Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL  
TEACHING HOSPITAL

News from the Roberta and Stephen R. Weiner Department of Surgery  
at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

# INSIDE SURGERY

## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

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## Message from the Chair

Every city has a story, every building a soul, every brick a tale to tell. From my office in the neighboring Lowry Building, I was able to watch the construction of BIDMC's first new building in over a quarter century. As the structure rose, it struck me that it was, and is, a reflection of what makes Boston unique: a city rich in history where innovators in medicine, engineering, and industry intersect to reimagine—and then build—a better future for us all.

With the Klarman Building now in full use, I often take note of its effect on those for whom it was designed: our patients, their loved ones, and the clinicians and staff who care for them. From the moment one enters the lobby, with its elevated ceiling, soothing colors, and large windows, it is clear that this is a place of healing. Hallways bathed in natural light, quiet waiting areas, subtle artwork, and a rooftop garden only reinforce this impression.

Perhaps less evident to patients and visitors is that this building is also a place that promotes collaboration, innovation, and learning. Its spacious meeting areas and conference rooms, connectivity, and advanced technologies, as well as its large, state-of-the-art operating rooms that enable multidisciplinary teams to perform complex procedures, provide the optimal environment for fulfilling our missions to advance medicine, train our successors, and care for those in need.

The renowned architect I. M. Pei once remarked, "You only have to cast your eyes on buildings to feel the presence of the past, the spirit of a place; they are the reflection of society." But in recognizing that a building is far more than steel and glass, perhaps Sir Winston Churchill captured it best in observing that, "We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us."



Elliot Chaikof, MD, PhD



## Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL  
TEACHING HOSPITAL

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The mission of the Department of Surgery:

- Provide care of the very highest quality
- Improve health through innovation and discovery
- Prepare future leaders in American surgery
- Serve our communities with sensitivity and compassion

### Surgery Chair

Elliot Chaikof, MD, PhD

### Editor/Writer

Hilary Bennett

### Photography

Danielle Duffey, BIDMC  
James Dwyer, BIDMC  
Isadora Jacquez, BIDMC  
Ruslan Korets, BIDMC  
Melissa Ostrow

Please forward comments, news items, and requests to be added to or removed from the mailing list to: Editor, *Inside Surgery*, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Department of Surgery, LMOB-9C, 110 Francis St., Boston, MA 02215.

**E-mail:** [surgerycommunications@bidmc.harvard.edu](mailto:surgerycommunications@bidmc.harvard.edu)

**Tel:** 617-632-9581

[bidmc.org/surgery](http://bidmc.org/surgery)

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# Building for the Future

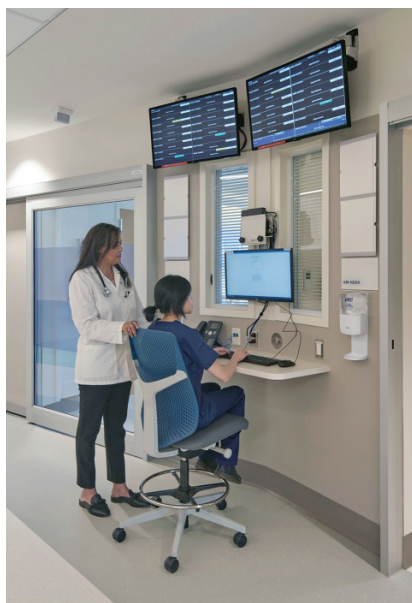
## Klarman Building Reflects 21st Century Health Care



The Klarman Building is “wired for the future” to accommodate sophisticated technology, complex treatments, and team-based care. The building is also energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable.

In early April, BIDMC welcomed patients and their families to the Klarman Building, the first new building at BIDMC in more than a quarter century. Located on BIDMC’s West campus, the gleaming 11-story inpatient building houses 158 single-bed, family-friendly patient rooms; a state-of-the-art surgical pavilion; and naturally lit spaces throughout that are conducive to healing, learning, and innovation.

The spacious surgical pavilion has eight operating rooms: two robotic/minimally invasive surgery



ORs, one neurosurgery OR, four cardiac surgery ORs, and a hybrid OR, which can be adapted for a variety of procedures. According to Surgery Chair **Elliot Chaikof, MD, PhD**, the new ORs were designed to accommodate the latest technologies and multidisciplinary teams that are needed to perform some of today’s most advanced, complex surgical treatments.

“Increasingly, the types of challenges we are taking on in the OR require diverse teams working side by side—for example, head and neck surgeons with neurosurgeons (*see page 11*), plastic surgeons with surgical oncologists, or cardiothoracic surgeons with vascular surgeons,” says Dr. Chaikof. He points out that the building’s spacious, high-tech ORs and meeting areas also provide an optimal learning environment for surgical trainees.

Named by longtime BIDMC supporters Beth and Seth Klarman, the Klarman Building also features a new medical helicopter landing pad; versatile diagnostic and procedural suites; and a 30-bed intensive care unit (ICU), which was named the Healthcare Heroes

Intensive Care Unit in recognition of staff members’ lifesaving work during the COVID-19 pandemic and every day. The rooftop Anderson & DeSimone Healing Garden offers an outdoor place of respite for patients, families, and caregivers.



Consistent with BIDMC’s commitment to environmental stewardship, the Klarman Building was awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold Status, a globally recognized symbol of sustainability. With an innovative rainwater reuse system, strategic use of natural light, and other environmentally friendly features, the building was constructed to lower greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the use of energy and water.



# Congratulations to Our 2023 Graduates



The 2023 graduates of the BIDMC General Surgery Residency Program and Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency Program (from left): Drs. Stefanie Lazow, Khaled Hammouda, Jonathan Pastrana Del Valle, Claire Sokas, Gabrielle Dombek, Benjamin Scott, Kayla Isbell, Mark Kashtan, Alessandra Storino Gonzalez, and Jennifer Li (Integrated Vascular Surgery).

## RESIDENTS

### GENERAL SURGERY

#### Gabrielle Dombek, MD

*Fellowship:* Colorectal Surgery, Lahey Hospital & Medical Center

#### Khaled Hammouda, MD

*Fellowship:* Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

#### Kayla Isbell, MD

*Fellowship:* Vascular Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine

#### Mark Kashtan, MD, MPH

*Fellowship:* Pediatric Surgery, Loma Linda University Children's Hospital

#### Stefanie Lazow, MD

*Fellowship:* Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, Vanderbilt University

#### Jonathan Pastrana Del Valle, MD

*Fellowship:* Colorectal Surgery, University of South Florida

#### Benjamin Scott, MD

*Fellowship:* Plastic Surgery, University of Pittsburgh

#### Claire Sokas, MD

*Fellowship:* Colorectal Surgery, University of Minnesota

#### Alessandra Storino Gonzalez, MD

*Fellowship:* Colorectal Surgery, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

### INTEGRATED VASCULAR SURGERY

#### Jennifer Li, MD

### NEUROSURGERY

Aristotelis Filippidis, MD, PhD  
Dominic Harris, MD

### PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Kaimana Chow, MD  
Amer Nassar, MD

### PODIATRIC SURGERY

Kevin Buczkowski, DPM  
Juan Ceja Solorio, DPM

### UROLOGIC SURGERY

Kenneth Softness, MD

## FELLOWS

### ACUTE CARE SURGERY

Joanna Etra, MD

### ADVANCED GI AND MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

Janso Padickakudi Joseph, MD

### BREAST SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

Kathryn Capasso, MD

### CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

Jamal Chizoba Anyalebechi, MD  
(cardiac track)

Kenneth Patrick Seastedt, MD

(thoracic track)

### COLON AND RECTAL SURGERY

Alexandre Mikhail, MD

### ENDOVASCULAR AND OPERATIVE NEUROVASCULAR SURGERY

Max Shutran, MD

### HAND/UPPER EXTREMITY SURGERY

Andrew Bauder, MD  
Gregory Frechette, MD  
Kevin Zuo, MD

### INTERVENTIONAL PULMONOLOGY

Khaled Alshabani, MD  
Jorge Munoz, MD  
Michael Murn, MD  
Kai Swenson, MD

#### Advanced Diagnostic Bronchoscopy

Sid Bhasin, MD  
Alba Rivera Diaz, MD  
Luis Gerena, MD  
Arshad Kamal, MD  
Amrita Karambelkar, MD  
Neda Valizadeh, MD

### MINIMALLY INVASIVE UROLOGIC SURGERY

Utsav Bansal, MD

### OTOLARYNGOLOGY-HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

Head and Neck Surgical Oncology and Microvascular Reconstruction  
Anton Warshavsky, MD

Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

Mohamed Aboueisha, MD

### PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Aesthetic and Reconstructive Plastic Surgery  
Vickram Tandon, MD

Lymphatic  
Mohamed Ismail Aly, MD  
(October 2023)

Reconstructive Microsurgery  
Dylan Perry, MD

### SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE

Michael Dombeck, MD

### VASCULAR SURGERY

Nicholas Swerdlow, MD



# Academic Mentorship Program Launches

**B**uilding a successful and rewarding career in academic surgery requires hard work, perseverance, and opportunity. But for early- and mid-career faculty seeking to advance their academic careers there is another component that is just as—if not more—important to success: a mentor who knows the ropes and can provide ongoing advice, feedback, and support.

With this in mind, the Department of Surgery, under the leadership of Vice Chair of Clinical Research **Jim Rodrigue, PhD**, launched the Research and Academic Mentorship Program in Surgery (RAMPS) last November. While the department offers a range of faculty development activities, this is its first formal academic mentorship program.

The mission of RAMPS is to promote excellence in academic surgery by facilitating the academic, research, and professional development of surgeons and researchers at the instructor and assistant professor level.

“Only about half of surgery departments in the U.S. have a formal academic mentorship program,” says Dr. Rodrigue. This is despite the known benefits to participants, such as greater professional satisfaction and confidence, academic promotion, achievement of career goals, and prevention of burnout. Surgery departments benefit, too, from improved faculty satisfaction, retention, and recruitment.



*Urologic surgeon Dr. Heidi Rayala meets with one of her mentors, Dr. Jim Rodrigue, who launched and leads RAMPS.*

## Academic strategic plan

The centerpiece of RAMPS is the creation and execution of an academic strategic plan. This is developed by mentees after discussions with their mentor, a senior-level (associate professor or professor) faculty member with a track record of successful mentoring.

This individualized plan becomes the road map for defining next steps, identifying resources, and measuring mentees' progress. Regularly scheduled meetings with members of their mentorship network provide an opportunity to address challenges, acknowledge successes, and course correct.

To date, 27 early- and mid-career faculty members across 12 Department of Surgery divisions or programs have participated in RAMPS, which is voluntary. One is **Heidi Rayala, MD, PhD**, a mid-career urologic surgeon and assistant professor. “Having a mentor who can understand your unique situation, help you fine-tune your goals, identify the right resources and projects to pursue, and provide affirmation and perspective, is incredibly important,” says Dr. Rayala, whose mentor is Dr. Rodrigue.

A case in point: Dr. Rayala had planned to expand her teaching roles but in discussions with Dr. Rodrigue she realized that focusing more on her other interests—clinical innovation and cancer disparities—is more likely to help her attain her academic career goals.

Toward that end, Dr. Rayala is currently engaged in clinical research assessing the use of self-administered nitrous oxide to improve the experience of patients undergoing a variety of painful outpatient procedures, including prostate biopsies.

## A great start

With RAMPS now up and running, Dr. Rodrigue is pleased by the response and expects to see even greater participation in the future. “RAMPS is off to a great start,” he says, noting that the ongoing support from Surgery Chair **Elliot Chaikof, MD, PhD**, for this program has been key to its early success.

Dr. Rayala says it can be challenging to build a successful career in academic surgery, particularly with a busy clinical schedule and family commitments. But thanks to RAMPS, she and many others who are taking part in the program are now well on their way.

# Welcome New Trainees

We welcome our new trainees to the Department of Surgery and to BIDMC.

## RESIDENTS

### GENERAL SURGERY: Categorical Interns



**Elisabeth Abeles, MD**  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine



**Samridhi Banskota, MD**  
Emory University School of Medicine



**Jackson Fulk-Logon, MD**  
University of Colorado School of Medicine



**Justin Heidel, MD**  
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine



**Paige Holden, MD**  
University of Connecticut  
School of Medicine



**Alexander Idarraga, MD**  
University of Wisconsin School  
of Medicine and Public Health



**Juhye Kang, MD**  
University of Maryland School of Medicine



**Lisa Kojima, MD**  
Case Western Reserve University  
School of Medicine



**Jeslyn Rodriguez, MD**  
Albany Medical College

### GENERAL SURGERY: Preliminary Interns

**Natalia Chaves, MD**  
Universidad de Los Andes Facultad de Medicina

**Diana del Valle Jimenez, MD**  
Universidad de la Salle Facultad Mexicana de Medicina

**Ashley Lanys, MD**  
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland School of Medicine

**Pramod Nepal, MD**  
KIST Medical College

**Prabh Pannu, MD**  
Government Medical College Chandigarh

### INTEGRATED VASCULAR SURGERY



**James O'Leary, MD**  
University of Queensland-Ochsner  
Clinical School

### NEUROSURGERY

**Coleman Riordan, MD**  
University of Massachusetts T. H. Chan  
School of Medicine

### OTOLARYNGOLOGY-HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

**Gabriella Ojeda-Badillo, MD**  
Tufts University School of Medicine

**Lauren Schlegel, MD**  
Sidney Kimmel Medical College at  
Thomas Jefferson University

### PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

**Ainsley Taylor, MD**  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

### PODIATRIC SURGERY

**Drishti Dhawan, DPM**  
Temple School of Podiatric Medicine

**Michelle Kung, DPM**  
Temple School of Podiatric Medicine

### UROLOGIC SURGERY

**Benjamin Green, MD**  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

**Eric Macdonald, MD**  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine



## FELLOWS

### ADVANCED DIAGNOSTIC BRONCHOSCOPY

**Brenda Garcia, MD**

Northwell–Lenox Hill Hospital

**Pedro Baez-Gutierrez, MD**

VA Caribbean Healthcare System

**Hana Rajevac, MD**

Lahey Hospital & Medical Center

**Wallace Thomas, MD**

Larkin Community Hospital

### ADVANCED GI AND MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

**May-Anh Nguyen, MD, MBA**

Toronto Academic Health Science Network

### CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

**Miguel Leiva Juarez, MD**

New York Presbyterian–Columbia University Medical Center  
*Thoracic track*

**Diana Pratt, MD**

Baystate Health  
*Cardiac track*

### COLON AND RECTAL SURGERY

**Richard Huettemann Jr., MD**

Medical University of South Carolina

### ENDOVASCULAR AND OPERATIVE NEUROVASCULAR SURGERY

**Sandeep Muram, MD**

University of Calgary (Canada)

### HAND/UPPER EXTREMITY SURGERY

**Nicholas Genovese, MD**

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School-affiliated hospitals

**Corinne Wee, MD**

Cleveland Clinic

**Ryan Xiao, MD**

Mount Sinai

### INTERVENTIONAL PULMONOLOGY

**Ernesto Casillas, MD**

UCSF Medical Center

**Amrita Karambelkar, MD**

Tufts Medical Center

**Fahim Pyarali, MD**

Cedars Sinai

**Brian Rosenberg, MD**

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center/  
Massachusetts General Hospital

### MINIMALLY INVASIVE UROLOGIC SURGERY

**Phillip Kim, MD**

UC Davis Health

### PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

**Joshua Bloom, MD**

Tufts Medical Center  
*Independent Plastic Surgery Fellow*

**Tessa Campbell, MD**

Montefiore Medical Center  
*Microsurgery*

**Yuma Fuse, MD**

Cancer Institute of JFCR (Japan)  
*Lymphatics*

**Chamilka Merle, MD**

Washington Hospital Center  
*Independent Plastic Surgery Fellow*

**Brittany Vieira, MD**

Mass General Brigham  
*Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery*

### SURGICAL CRITICAL CARE

**Daniel Bent, MD**

Temple University Hospital  
*Acute Care Surgery/Surgical Critical Care*

**Arfry Marcelino, MD**

NYC Health and Hospitals/Lincoln  
*Surgical Critical Care*

### VASCULAR SURGERY

**Shin Rong Lee, MD, PhD**

Yale School of Medicine



First-year urologic surgery resident Dr. Benjamin Green confers with chief resident Dr. Suprita Krishna.

# Saving More Lives Through Transplantation

## Transplant Institute Grows to Meet Need for Lifesaving Organs

For every patient with end-stage organ disease who receives a transplant, there are countless more anxiously waiting for that life-altering call informing them that a suitable organ has been identified.

In New England alone, there are currently more than 5,200 people waiting for a kidney and nearly 950 waiting for a liver, according to the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network. Due to the chronic shortage of donor organs across the nation, most patients have been waiting for years and, tragically, some will die of their disease before an organ becomes available.

Under the leadership of **Devin Eckhoff, MD**, who was recruited to BIDMC in 2020 as Chief of Transplant Surgery and Director of the BIDMC [Transplant Institute](#), BIDMC is making significant progress toward increasing the opportunities for patients to receive kidney, liver, and pancreas transplants.

### Record patient volumes

The Transplant Institute has experienced record transplant volumes in the past few years, making it the second busiest in New England and one of the fastest growing transplant centers in the nation. In 2022, for example, the Transplant Institute performed 185 abdominal transplants (79 livers and more than 100 kidneys) compared to 88 in 2020, and is on track for another record year.

Dr. Eckhoff says this growth has largely been achieved by expanding the Institute's criteria for deceased donor acceptance.

"BIDMC has the infrastructure, experience, multidisciplinary team, and culture that makes it possible for us to accept organs from donors with co-morbidities such as advanced age, high BMI, and other factors and save more lives," says Dr. Eckhoff. Research has shown that when managed by an experienced transplant team, the outcomes in these cases are excellent.

He notes that the Transplant Institute has also recruited new faculty, including **David Lee, MD** (see page 21), Director of the Liver Program, and grown its leadership team, promoting longtime BIDMC transplant surgeon **Amy Evenson, MD, MPH**, to Director of the Kidney, Pancreas, and Living

Donor Program. Under Dr. Evenson's leadership, the Transplant Institute plans to grow the living kidney donor program to further increase the number of patients who can receive a transplant.

### Donor Care Unit designation

In the fall of 2022, BIDMC partnered with [New England Donor Services](#) to establish the first Donor Care Unit (DCU) in New England. A DCU is designed to manage the process of maintaining organ function and recovering organs from deceased organ donors. Prior to joining BIDMC, Dr. Eckhoff established one of the first hospital-based DCUs in the country.

Among many other benefits, DCUs have been shown to increase the number of organs transplanted and decrease the rate at which donated organs are not used. These facilities also provide donor families with a supportive environment during a challenging time. Indeed, donor families consistently report high overall satisfaction with their DCU experience.

### BIDMC Donor Special Care Center

BIDMC's DCU, named the BIDMC Donor Special Care Center (BDSCC), will open next year. The BDSCC's mission is to provide outstanding and compassionate care to deceased donors and their families and streamline and expedite all aspects of donor care, from evaluation to organ recovery.

In addition, the BDSCC will advance the science and protocols associated with donor care to maximize the number of organs obtained from each donor. It will also provide a valuable training opportunity for surgical residents, be a source of tissue for researchers in the region, and improve transplantation nationally through participation in a consortium of other hospital-based DCUs.

Dr. Eckhoff is the Executive Director of the BDSCC, and transplant surgeon **Vanessa Cowan, MD**, who is board-certified in critical care, is the Medical Director. Representatives from the many departments and divisions involved in donor management, from pathology and radiology to cardiology and social work, as well as representatives from New England Donor Services, will serve on the BDSCC Executive Board.

The 6,000-square-foot facility will be located

**"Transplantation is a team sport that involves all members of the Transplant Institute as well as specialists throughout BIDMC."**

— **Devin Eckhoff, MD**





*BIDMC Transplant Institute transplant surgeons (standing, from left) Drs. Devin Eckhoff, Kristin Raven, and David Lee, and (seated, from left) Amy Evenson and Vanessa Cowan.*

in renovated, dedicated space in the Farr Building, close to ORs and other services essential to organ evaluation and recovery in the Rosenberg Building. It will contain three ICU beds, two private waiting rooms for family members, workstations, a break room, and on-call room.

Near each ICU bed will be a large-screen monitor where family members can upload images of their loved one. "This will give everyone who participates in the donor's care a sense of what the person was like and further reinforce the individual as a hero," says Dr. Eckhoff.

### **Normothermic machine perfusion**


The BDSCC will have an organ perfusion lab/clean room for normothermic machine perfusion (NMP) of organs prior to their transplantation. This new technology maintains livers and other organs in a functioning state, perfused with warm, oxygenated, nutrient-enriched blood. NMP optimizes the quality of organs, which might otherwise be turned down or cause post-transplant complications resulting from damage caused by cold storage in transit.

NMP also allows the transplant team to assess organs' viability prior to transplantation, thereby reducing risk for recipients and increasing the use of donated organs. As organs can be maintained longer with NMP, there is also more time to coordinate transplant teams and services and to perform operations during the daytime, when more personnel are at the hospital.

### **A team sport**

Dr. Eckhoff says the Transplant Institute will continue its focus on reducing death rates of those awaiting organs by expediting transplants and expanding organ acceptance criteria. Other priorities are to reduce organ recipients' length of stay through enhanced recovery pathways and to minimize complications.

"Transplantation is a team sport that involves all members of the Transplant Institute as well as specialists throughout BIDMC," says Dr. Eckhoff. "We have a superb team in place and the strong support of administration, as well as those in the regional transplant community, so we are well-positioned to save as many lives as possible."



# HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

The Department of Surgery congratulates the following faculty members on their Harvard Medical School promotions or appointments in 2021 and 2022.

## 2021

**APPOINTED: Associate Professor of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery**



**Scharukh Jalisi, MD**

*Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery  
Chief, Division of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery*

**PROMOTED: Associate Professor of Surgery**



**Mark Wyers, MD**

*Vascular and Endovascular Surgery*

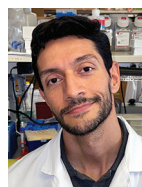
**PROMOTED: Assistant Professor of Surgery**



**Cleide Angolano, PhD**

*Surgical Sciences*

**PROMOTED: Assistant Professor of Surgery**



**Rodrigo Alves de Souza, PhD**

*Surgical Sciences*

**APPOINTED: Assistant Professor of Surgery**



**Anupama Seshadri, MD**

*Acute Care Surgery, Trauma, and Surgical Critical Care*

## 2022

**PROMOTED: Associate Professor of Neurosurgery**



**Martina Stippler, MD**

*Neurosurgery*

**PROMOTED: Associate Professor of Ophthalmology**



**Nurhan Torun, MD**

*Ophthalmology  
Chief, Division of Ophthalmology*

**PROMOTED: Assistant Professor of Surgery**



**Jacques Kpodonu, MD**

*Cardiac Surgery*

**APPOINTED: Assistant Professor of Surgery**



**Patric Liang, MD**

*Vascular and Endovascular Surgery*

**APPOINTED: Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery**



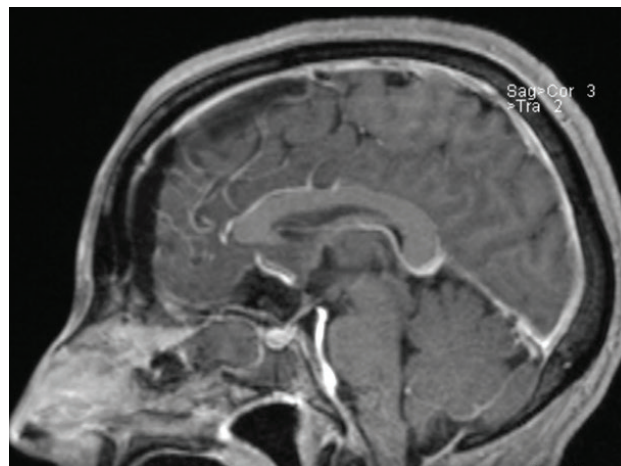
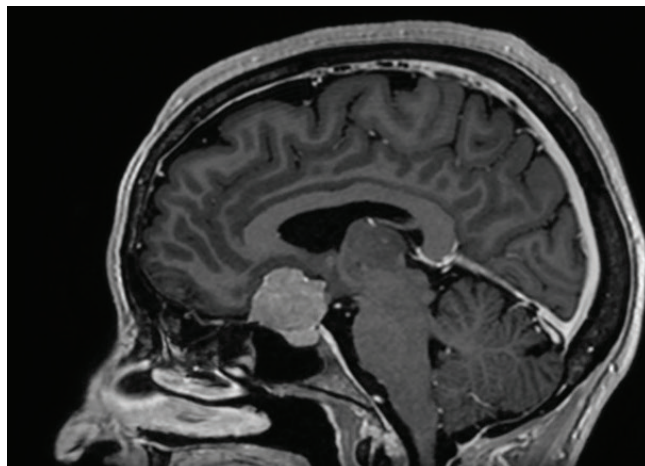
**Ziev Moses, MD**

*Neurosurgery*



# Endoscopic Skull Base Surgery Expands

## Greater Scope and Capacity



From left: These MRI images depict a skull base tumor (planum sphenoid meningioma) before and after it was surgically removed by otolaryngologist Dr. Christopher Brook and neurosurgeon Dr. Martina Stippler using an endoscopic approach.

The skull base is an area where many vital structures, such as the bottom of the brain, major blood vessels, and cranial nerves, are closely located in a small space. To surgically repair defects or remove abnormal growths in this cramped region while preserving crucial functions like vision, smell, swallowing, and hearing, requires a combination of experience, expertise, and teamwork.

BIDMC offers just such a combination. Skull base surgery is performed by a highly experienced, multidisciplinary team (*see page 28*) that includes otolaryngologists and neurosurgeons, who work side-by-side in the OR and collaborate on treatment plans and postoperative care. Depending on the patient's condition and treatment approach, specialists from other BIDMC departments may also participate in care, including endocrinologists, neuro-ophthalmologists, and radiation oncologists.

For many BIDMC patients, skull base surgery may be done

endoscopically, a minimally invasive approach that entails accessing the surgical area with an endoscope through a natural orifice in the skull, usually the nose. Prior to the development of endoscopic skull base surgery, creating an opening in the skull (a craniotomy) was the only option.

**“Now our patients with virtually any type of skull base condition may be considered for the minimally invasive approach.”**

— Christopher Brook, MD

### Endoscopic advantages

According to otolaryngologist **Christopher Brook, MD**, the endoscopic approach offers several advantages over open surgery. Significantly, it provides access to areas that would otherwise be very difficult to reach. Additionally, it avoids the need for external incisions and reduces hospital stays.

While offered for years for

patients with a variety of conditions, endoscopic skull base surgery at BIDMC has recently expanded its scope and capacity following the recruitment of Dr. Brook and other surgeons in the Division of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery.

Now patients with virtually

any type of skull base condition—including pituitary and olfactory tumors, nasal sinus tumors, chordomas, acoustic neuromas, meningiomas, and paragangliomas—may be considered for the

minimally invasive approach.

Endoscopic surgery is also an option for the repair of skull base defects and cerebrospinal fluid leaks.

### A top-notch team

Dr. Brook emphasizes that, whether skull base surgery is endoscopic or open, the surgical team must be highly trained, experienced, and collaborative. “We have a

*Continued on page 28 >*

# NEWS BRIEFS



**Arriyan (Sammy) Dowlatshahi, MD**, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, was named “Physician of the Year” at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Milton (BID-Milton). Dr. Dowlatshahi was nominated for this honor by OR, inpatient, and outpatient clinic nursing staff. A plastic surgeon with added qualification in hand surgery, Dr. Dowlatshahi is Director of Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery at BID-Milton.



**Ted James, MD, MHCM**, Chief of Breast Surgical Oncology, was selected to serve as Vice Chair of the Massachusetts Medical Society’s Committee on Quality of Medical Practice. The committee is focused on improving the quality of care provided by physicians, including attention to patient and physician satisfaction/ experience and cost-effectiveness.



**Mark Callery, MD**, Chief of General Surgery, received the Nonie Lowry Distinguished Service Award from the Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (AHPBA), the highest honor in his specialty of HPB surgery. The award is given to a highly distinguished physician in

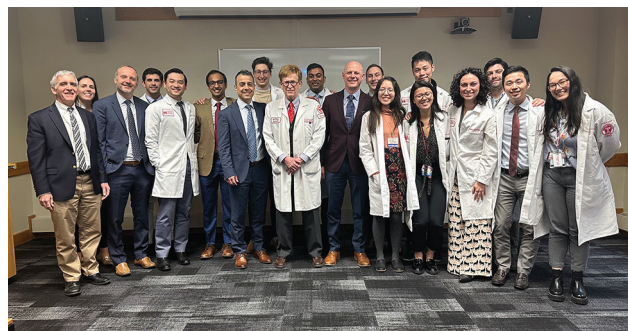
the HPB field with longstanding participation in the AHPBA. Dr. Callery, who has been an active member of the AHPBA for 25 years, was president of the association in 2008-09 and is currently president of the AHPB Foundation.



**Susan Hagen, PhD**, Surgical Sciences, was invited by the National Institutes of Health (NIH)’s Center for Scientific Review to serve as a member of the Drug and Biologic Disposition and Toxicity Study Section, Digestive, Kidney and Urological Systems

Integrated Review Group (IRG) for a four-year term. Members review applications submitted to NIH, make recommendations on the applications to the

appropriate NIH national advisory council or board, and survey the status of research in their fields. Dr. Hagen was selected as a result of the quality of her research, publications in scientific journals, and other scientific achievements.



**Andrew Wagner, MD**, Urologic Surgery, was a visiting professor at the Temple University Department of Urology in Philadelphia, where he also served as a judge for the Philadelphia Urologic Society annual resident essay contest. In the photo (above), Dr. Wagner (seventh from left) joined Chair of Urology Dr. Jack Mydlo (center) and Temple’s Urology faculty and residents. Dr. Wagner was also recently a visiting professor at the Rush University Department of Urology in Chicago.

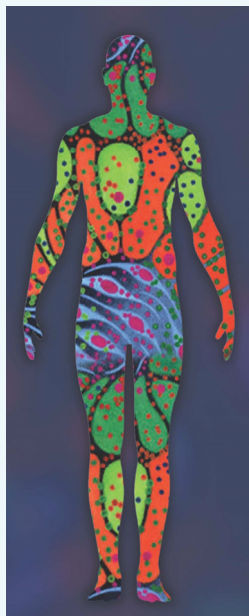


Education Vice Chair **Tara Kent, MD, MS**, is the Medical Education Program Senior Advisor (Surgery) for IMPACT MED (Improving Access, Curriculum, and Teaching in Medical Education and Emerging Diseases). An alliance that brings together university, public sector,

and private sector partners, IMPACT MED aims to build a strong and effective health workforce in Vietnam that is able to respond to 21st-century priorities and contribute to the health of the country. The IMPACT MED alliance works with Vietnamese universities and policymakers to improve undergraduate and graduate medical education. IMPACT MED, which has been funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) since 2016, recently received a second round of USAID funding. The principal investigator is Lisa Cosimi, MD, an infectious disease specialist at Brigham and Women’s Hospital.



A team led by **Dhruv Singhal, MD**, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, was awarded a \$4 million U54 grant last year from the National Institutes of Health Human BioMolecular Atlas Program (**HuBMAP**) to map the human lymphatic system at the gross, cellular, and molecular level. The aim of HuBMAP is to develop a framework for mapping the human body's cell types to better understand the relationship between cell function and health and apply that knowledge to transform health care.



The HuBMAP logo. BIDMC leads the lymphatics HuBMAP consortium.

The BIDMC-led lymphatics HuBMAP consortium is collecting and analyzing lymphatic tissues and providing multidisciplinary expertise in the lymphatic system. BIDMC's Spatial Technologies Unit, led by Ioannis Vlachos, PhD, provides expertise for the generation of high-resolution 3D spatial maps. BIDMC teams are working with collaborators at the University of Southern California and the University of Pennsylvania.

"This support will allow us to establish foundational knowledge that will ultimately lead to a better understanding of the origins of lymphatic diseases, such as lymphedema. The ultimate goal is to discover novel approaches to prevention, treatment, and management," says Dr. Singhal, Co-Director of the Boston Lymphatic Center, a joint program between BIDMC and Boston Children's Hospital.



**Boris Gershman, MD**, Urologic Surgery, was named to the 2023-24 American Urological Association (AUA) Leadership class. The AUA Leadership Program was developed for urologists who have demonstrated leadership skills and want to further develop those skills.

Applicants from each AUA geographic section are selected to participate in the highly competitive yearlong program, which includes leadership training, group projects with mentors, and other activities.



**Benjamin James, MD, MS**, Surgical Oncology (Chief of the Section of Endocrine Surgery), was appointed as Chair of the Research Committee of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons. He also serves as Chair of the Health Services Research Committee and was

appointed to the Council of the Association for Academic Surgery.



**Pavan Mallur, MD**, Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, was recently elected as an Active Fellow of the Triological Society, the most prestigious society in otolaryngology. Active fellowship in the Triological Society requires submission and acceptance by peers of a thesis comprising an original body of research. Dr. Mallur's thesis described

his 10-year experience examining the effects of Botox injections on patients with idiopathic chronic cough. Results from the study—the largest of its kind, involving 50 patients and nearly 200 injections—indicated a statistically validated improvement in patient-reported outcome measures for cough after Botox injections as well as no serious side effects from the treatment. Dr. Mallur was inducted into the society in May. In this photo Dr. Mallur (right) is joined by division Chief **Scharukh Jalisi, MD**.

# NEWS BRIEFS



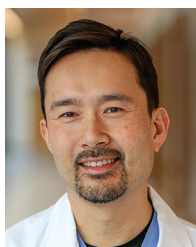
**Dhruv Singhal, MD**, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, was awarded the Young Microsurgeon's Award/Lecture from the World Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery (WSRM). The award is given every other year to a microsurgeon 45 years of age or

younger who has a history of innovation in the field of reconstructive microsurgery. Dr. Singhal delivered a keynote address at WSRM's biennial meeting in Singapore.



Congratulations to the following members of the Department of Surgery for being named to *Boston Magazine's* annual "Top Doctors 2023."

Drs. **Richard Bartlett, Mark Callery, David Caradonna, Thomas Cataldo, Elliot Chaikof, Peter Chang, Joseph Ciccone, Stephen Eyre, Sidharta Gangadharan, Allen Hamdan, William Innis, Scharukh Jalisi, Ted James, Kamal Khabbaz, Ruslan Korets, Mark Kuperwaser, Stephen Lazarou, Bernard Lee, Samuel Lin, David Liu, Adnan Majid, Kevin McCarthy, Evangelos Messaris, Leonard Miller, Donald Morris, Christopher Ogilvy, Aria Olumi, Hassan Rastegar, Heidi Rayala, Marc Schermerhorn, Sumner Slavin, Andrew Wagner, Shaun Wason, Richard Whyte, and Mark Wyers.**



**Masashi Kai, MD**, recently joined the Division of Cardiac Surgery as the Surgical Director of Heart Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support. Dr. Kai is an instrumental member of the large, multidisciplinary Beth Israel Lahey Health (BILH)

Heart Transplant Program team.

Dr. Kai completed advanced fellowship training in cardiothoracic surgery at New York University and heart transplant and mechanical circulatory support at Columbia University (*see page 20*).

Before joining BIDMC, Dr. Kai was the Surgical Director of the Heart Transplant Program at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, New York. There he performed more than 300 heart transplants, achieving outcomes that consistently exceeded national benchmarks.



In April, BIDMC recognized the tenth anniversary of the Boston Marathon bombings with events that included a well-attended remembrance ceremony, which featured a panel discussion with three marathon bombing survivors who were treated at BIDMC: Paul Norden, Rebekah Gregory, and Patrick Downes. The panel was coordinated and moderated by **Alok Gupta, MD**, Acute Care Surgery, Trauma, and Surgical Critical Care, and Kerri Celucci Albert, RN, an Assistant Nursing Director. Later a commemorative tree was planted on the campus as a symbol of the growth and strength of the BIDMC community during and following the tragic events of 2013.



**James Naples, MD**, Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, received a \$50,000 Harvard Catalyst grant to study acute dizziness and evaluate the use of otologic biomarkers to aid in the diagnosis of this condition. Dr. Naples also participated in a Society of Academic Emergency

Medicine writing group to develop guidelines, which will be published soon, for the management of acute dizziness in the emergency department. In addition, he was invited to serve on the editorial boards of two leading journals in otolaryngology: *Ear & Hearing* and *Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery*.



**Jim Rodrigue, PhD**, Transplant Surgery, was appointed to several key positions at the American Society of Transplantation (AST). In addition to serving as Chair of the AST Conflict of Interest Committee, he is a member of the AST Governance Committee and

the Governance Council for the Living Donor Circle of Excellence. Dr. Rodrigue is also a member of the



## New Specialty Clinics

### ENT ALLERGY CLINIC

**Christopher Brook, MD**, Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, recently established the BIDMC ENT Allergy Clinic, which offers diagnosis, testing, and the latest treatments—including sub-lingual immunotherapy (SLIT)—for patients with inhalant allergies. SLIT is a convenient and safe alternative for selected patients that enables them to self-administer tablets or drops under the tongue at home and avoid weekly or monthly trips to the clinic for allergy shots. Otolaryngologist **David Caradonna, MD, DMD**, and **Arita Basso, RN**, work with Dr. Brook in the Allergy Clinic, which is located in a recently renovated area in the Shapiro Clinical Center.

### LATINX COLORECTAL SURGERY CLINIC

Last fall, the Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery, under the leadership of chief **Evan Messaris, MD, PhD, MBA**, and General Surgery resident **Ana Sofia Ore, MD, MSc, MPH**, established the BIDMC Latinx Colorectal Surgery Clinic—the first such clinic in Massachusetts—to provide culturally competent care to the Latinx community in the Boston area. The Latinx Clinic team of colon and rectal surgeons and bilingually-certified surgical residents and staff provides comprehensive care for patients with colorectal cancer, anorectal diseases, inflammatory bowel disease, and other colorectal conditions, with a focus on improving the quality of care for Latinx patients.



### AUTOSOMAL DOMINANT POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE CLINIC

In collaboration with BIDMC nephrologist Peter Czarnecki, MD, **Christopher Ogilvy, MD**, Neurosurgery, established a clinic for the multidisciplinary care of patients with autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD), the most common life-threatening single-gene disease. ADPKD patients are at risk for end-stage kidney disease and other serious conditions, including intracerebral aneurysm rupture. Recently, the PKD Foundation designated BIDMC as a “PKD Center of Excellence,” which signifies that it has the expertise, experience, personnel, and processes to provide comprehensive multidisciplinary care for patients and families affected by ADPKD.

Program Planning Committee for the 2023 and 2024 Cutting Edge of Transplantation (CEOT) annual meetings.



**Adnan Majid, MD**, Thoracic Surgery and Interventional Pulmonology, was invited to speak at several international meetings. In May, Dr. Majid, Chief of the Section of Interventional Pulmonology, addressed the European Congress for Bronchology and Interventional

Pulmonology in Madrid on the role of cone beam CT in accessing peripheral nodules. He also presented at the Asian Pacific Congress on Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology on photodynamic and

other modalities for malignant central airway tumors.

Additionally, Dr. Majid discussed dynamic airway disorders at the Latin American Thoracic Association Congress in the Dominican Republic and gave two presentations at the American Association for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (AABIP) annual meeting: one on the multidisciplinary approach to tracheobronchomalacia (TBM) and the other on the role of medical thoracoscopy in pleural space infections. Recent Interventional Pulmonology fellowship graduate **Kai Swenson, MD**, was also an invited speaker at the AABIP research symposium.

# NEWS BRIEFS



**Aria Olumi, MD**, Chief of Urologic Surgery, is serving as president of the New England Section of the American Urological Association (NEAUA) and will reside over the association's 92nd annual meeting in New Hampshire in September.



**Martina Stippler, MD**, Neurosurgery, was elected to the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS COT), whose mission is to eliminate preventable deaths and disabilities worldwide by preventing injury and improving the outcomes of trauma patients. Among the

COT's many initiatives are its trauma systems programs, which focus on evaluating trauma and emergency response systems, providing guidance for trauma system development, building partnerships with the military to share battlefield lessons, and creating and sustaining a national trauma system.



A poster by members of the Division of Podiatric Surgery won two top awards at the 2023 Annual Scientific Conference of the American College of Foot & Ankle Surgeons. The poster, "Long Term Functional Outcomes of Hallux Amputations at Various Anatomic Levels," received

the Scientific Committee Choice Award and the First Place Award in the scientific format category. The authors were former podiatric surgery resident **Amish Dudeja, DPM**; 2023 graduates **Juan Ceja Solorio, DPM**, and **Kevin Buczkowski, DPM**, and (pictured) division chief **John Giurini, DPM**.



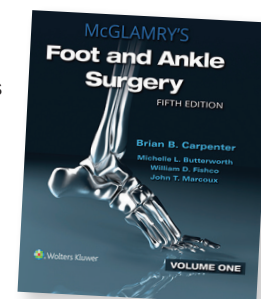
**Amy Evenson, MD, MPH**, Transplant Surgery, was recently elected to the Transplantation Advisory Council (TAC) of the American Board of Surgery (ABS) and will serve a six-year term. TAC serves as a voice for transplant surgeons within the ABS. Earlier this year, Dr. Evenson

completed her tenure as Chair of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons Curriculum Committee.



**John (JT) Marcoux, DPM**, Podiatric Surgery, was co-editor of the 5th edition of "McGlamry's Foot and Ankle Surgery." The iconic textbook has been a valuable resource

to thousands of foot and ankle surgeons worldwide.



The Alliance to Cure Cavernous Malformation designated BIDMC and its Brain Aneurysm Institute, led by **Christopher Ogilvy, MD**, Neurosurgery, as a "CCM Clinical Center" for the management of patients with cerebral cavernous malformation (CCM). Designation as a CCM Clinical Center requires meeting strict criteria for patient volume, research, multidisciplinary staffing, and education. Dr. Ogilvy is Director of the CCM Clinical Center and **Philipp Taussky, MD**, Neurosurgery, is Co-Director. Here, Dr. Ogilvy displays a plaque presented by (left) Naomi Risch and (right) John Andres, patients who work with the Alliance to Cure, during an event at BIDMC to announce the designation.



**Ruslan Korets, MD**, Urologic Surgery, was awarded a grant from the Society of Academic Urology to develop a pilot point-of-care ultrasound curriculum in urology residency training. This is a collaborative effort with a team led by Ryan Steinberg, MD, in the

Department of Urology at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. The goal is to expand the curriculum to other institutions after the pilot. Dr. Korets also recently completed a Rabkin Fellowship in Medical Education, a competitive yearlong BIDMC fellowship that provides faculty with an opportunity to develop the skills to launch or advance careers in medical education and/or academic leadership.





General Surgery resident **James Wallace, MD**, received the Outstanding Resident as Teacher Award for the 2022–23 academic year. Dr. Wallace was selected for the award due to his talent as an educator as well as the positive feedback about

his teaching abilities by the 2022-23 BIDMC Principal Clinical Experience Harvard Medical School class. Dr. Wallace and other BIDMC colleagues who were selected as outstanding teachers were honored during the medical center's Education Week in June. In the photo (above), Dr. Wallace receives his award from Richard Schwartzstein, MD, Executive Director of the BIDMC Shapiro Institution for Education and Research.



**Aristotelis Filippidis, MD, PhD**, was a featured speaker in "Future Leaders in Neurosurgical Oncology," an interactive webinar series presented by the Section on Tumors of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons and the Congress of Neurological

Surgeons. Dr. Filippidis spoke about his experiences in neurosurgical oncology and challenging neurosurgical oncology cases encountered during his training with BIDMC neurosurgeons **Rafael Vega, MD, PhD**, **Martina Stippler, MD**, and **Ron Alterman, MD**, Chief of Neurosurgery. Dr. Filippidis, who recently graduated, was the inaugural resident in the combined BIDMC–Boston Medical Center Neurosurgical Residency Program.



**Dhruv Singhal, MD**, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and JOBST Lymphatic Research Fellow **Rosie Friedman**, received funding from the Harvard Radcliffe

Institute to offer an accelerator workshop next May entitled "Bringing to Light the Invisible Lymphatic Anatomy of the Human Body." The two-day, invitation-only workshop will convene a group of international experts in biomedical engineering, surgery, anatomy, comparative biology, and radiology to explore new noninvasive ways to improve visualization of lymphatic system anatomy. Better visualization could lead to advances in the prevention and management of

lymphatic diseases, including lymphedema, which disproportionately affects women after surgical treatment for breast and gynecologic cancers.



**Ted James, MD, MHCM**, Vice-Chair of Academic Affairs, conducted a pilot program on leadership development coaching in late 2022 and early 2023. Five Surgery faculty members were selected to participate in the program, which included three coaching sessions over three months. The participants reported that the coaching helped them with time management, leadership skills, and program development, and that they would recommend it to others. The program, which offers CME credits, is now available to all Surgery faculty, and Dr. James plans to expand it in the future.



**Gabriel Brat, MD, MPH**, Acute Care Surgery, Trauma, and Surgical Critical Care, was a keynote speaker at the 2023 Conference on Health IT and Analytics (CHITA) in Washington, DC. Dr. Brat addressed "Collaborative AI in Surgery: Opportunities for Human-Computer Augmentation."

Dr. Brat also served on the program committee of the annual Symposium on AI for Learning Healthcare Systems (SAIL), an international conference that explores the integration of AI techniques into clinical medicine. At SAIL, Dr. Brat organized a series of panels and events that brought together renowned experts to discuss the future of surgical AI.

In June, Dr. Brat was interviewed for the American College of Surgeons "Operative Word" podcast about his paper, "Understanding the Value of a Physician's Intuition When Assessing Risk Factors for Surgery," which was published recently in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*. Co-authors are: **Jayson Marwaha, MD, MBI**; **Brendin Beaulieu-Jones, MD, MBA**; **Margaret Berrigan, MD**; **William Yuan, PhD**; **Stephen Odom, MD**; **Charles Cook, MD**; **Benjamin Scott, MD**; **Alok Gupta, MD**; **Charles Parsons, MD**; and **Anupamaa Seshadri, MD**. This work builds on a growing collaboration among BIDMC's divisions of Acute Care Surgery, Trauma, and Surgical Critical Care; Colon and Rectal Surgery; and Gynecologic Oncology.

## IN MEMORIAM

Last year the Department of Surgery lost two giants in academic surgery: **Anthony “Tony” Monaco, MD**, and **William Silen, MD**.



### Anthony Peter “Tony” Monaco, MD

Dr. Monaco, a pioneer in transplantation, organ donation and procurement, and transplant immunology, passed away in August 2022 at age 90. A renowned and beloved surgeon-scientist, teacher, and mentor in the Department of Surgery, Dr. Monaco was the Peter Medawar Professor of Surgery *Emeritus* at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Monaco graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and magna cum laude from Harvard Medical School, where he was elected to *Alpha Omega Alpha*. Following his residency at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), Dr. Monaco completed a research fellowship

in immunology and a clinical fellowship at Harvard Medical School.

After several years at MGH, Dr. Monaco went to Boston City Hospital, where he founded the organ transplantation service of the Fifth (Harvard) Surgical Service, which became the Division of Transplant Surgery at BIDMC, one of the foremost transplant centers in the world. Dr. Monaco, who served for many years as Chief of Organ Transplantation at New England Deaconess Hospital and subsequently BIDMC, was named a Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School in 1977 and became the Peter Medawar Professor of Surgery in 1995.

Dr. Monaco was committed to research that would have the potential to address important clinical problems. He was the first to demonstrate in preclinical studies that a short course of anti-lymphocyte antibodies (anti-thymocyte globulin, or ALG) given at transplantation caused lymphocyte depletion, thus reducing the amount of chronic immunosuppression needed to maintain a successful transplant. This remains the major use of ALG today. Dr. Monaco was also the first to demonstrate the synergistic effects of donor bone marrow transplantation with anti-lymphocyte antibodies to facilitate tolerance induction.

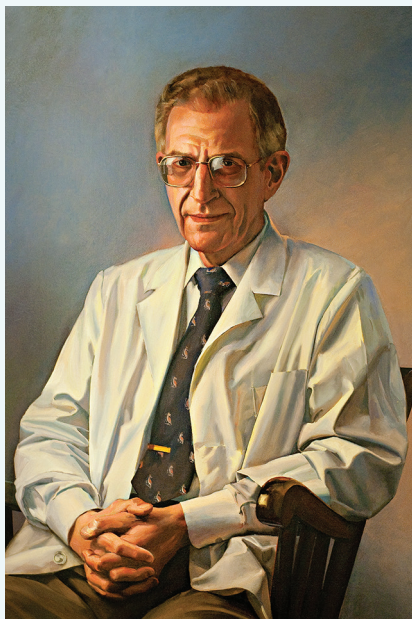
Dr. Monaco was also known for his success in teaching and mentoring several generations of trainees, faculty, and research investigators. Many of his former students are now leaders in clinical transplantation and transplant immunology.

Dr. Monaco’s numerous achievements include authoring or co-authoring hundreds of scientific publications; serving as a founding member and Chair of the New England Organ Bank; and as President of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons and the International Transplantation Society. He was also an Honorary Fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Dr. Monaco received many awards throughout his career, including the Sir Peter Medawar Prize of the Transplantation Society and the Roche Pioneer Award of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons. He held leadership roles at numerous academic journals, including serving as the editor of *Transplantation* for more than 30 years.

Dr. Monaco was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Mary Louise (“Mary Lou”), and leaves behind his sons Peter and his partner, Nancy; Mark and his wife, Jennifer; Christopher and his wife, Lisa; and his daughter Lisa, as well as four grandchildren.





## William Silen, MD

Dr. Silen, whose dedication to teaching, mentoring, and excellence in patient care influenced the careers of scores of trainees and faculty, passed away in September 2022 at age 95.

Dr. Silen was born and raised in San Francisco, attended the University of California, Berkeley, and UCSF Medical School, where he trained in surgery. From 1966 to 1994, Dr. Silen was Chief of Surgery at Beth Israel Hospital and the Johnson and Johnson Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. Many of Dr. Silen's trainees now hold leadership positions at academic health care institutions throughout the United States and abroad

and are continuing the legacy of mentoring they learned from Dr. Silen.

In 2000, Dr. Silen received the Lifetime S. Robert Stone Award for Teaching at Harvard Medical School and was the first recipient of a Harvard Medical School mentoring award named after him: the William Silen Lifetime Achievement in Mentoring Award. For more than three decades, Dr. Silen edited *Cope's Early Diagnosis of the Acute Abdomen*, a text beloved by generations of medical students and residents for its clinical pearls of wisdom.

Among the most prominent positions held by Dr. Silen during his career were as President of the American Gastroenterological Association, President of the Society of Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, and Honorary Fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons of England. He was the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Julius Friedenwald Award from the American Gastroenterological Association in 1996 for his impact on the field of gastroenterology.

From 1995 to 2000, Dr. Silen was the first Harvard Medical School Dean for Faculty Development and Diversity. He created and oversaw a comprehensive program that provided leadership, guidance, and support for

academic and professional career development and promoted increased recruitment, retention, and advancement of underrepresented minorities and women.

Following his tenure as a dean at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Silen continued for many years to teach and mentor pre-med students at Brandeis University and medical students at BIDMC. In 2014, supported by gifts from generous donors, including many alumni who trained under Dr. Silen, the Silen Visiting Professorship of Surgery in the Department of Surgery was established in his honor. Every year since, renowned leaders in surgery have shared their insights and expertise with BIDMC trainees and faculty.

Dr. Silen was predeceased by his wife of 73 years, Ruth (Heppner) Silen, and his son, Stephen Silen. He leaves behind his brother, Harold Silen, and his sister, Harriet Saltzman, as well as his daughter, Dr. Deborah Silen; his son, Dr. Mark Silen; his daughter-in-law, Pirjo Silen; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

# New Faculty

For more information about our faculty, including their clinical and research interests, practice sites, and contact information, please visit the "[Find-A-Doctor](#)" section on the BIDMC website.

## CARDIAC SURGERY



### Vladimir Birjiniuk, MD

**Medical School:** Sackler School of Medicine (Israel)

**Residency:** Cardiac Surgery, Rambam Medical Center Haifa (Israel)

**Fellowship:** Cardiothoracic Surgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital



### Masashi Kai, MD

*Surgical Director, Heart Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support*

**Medical School:** Jikei University School of Medicine (Japan)

**Residency:** Cardiovascular Surgery, Kyoto University-affiliated hospitals

**Fellowships:** Cardiothoracic Surgery, New York University/ NYU hospitals; Heart Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support, Columbia University/New York Presbyterian Hospital



### Hassan Rastegar, MD

*Surgical Director, Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Center*

**Medical School:** Shiraz University Medical School (Iran)

**Residency:** General Surgery, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

**Fellowship:** Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, Northwestern University McGaw Medical Center

## GENERAL SURGERY



### Rahul Gupta, MD

**Medical School:** University College of Medical Sciences, University of Delhi

**Residency:** General Surgery, New York Medical College Brooklyn Queens Program; St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital,

University Hospital of Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons

**Fellowship:** Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



### Kevin E. McCarthy, MD

**Medical School:** Tufts University School of Medicine

**Residency:** General Surgery, Maine Medical Center



### Adriana Meholick, MD

**Medical School:** University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

**Residency:** General Surgery, UMass Chan Baystate Medical Center

**Fellowship:** Advanced GI Minimally Invasive/Bariatric Surgery, Hackensack University Medical Center

## NEUROSURGERY



### Ghusn Al Sideiri, MD

**Medical School:** Sultan Qaboos University-Muscat (Oman)

**Residency:** Neurosurgery, McGill University-affiliated hospitals

**Fellowships:** Neurosurgery and Radiosurgery Oncology, Cleveland Clinic; Spine Surgery, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



### Joshua Aronson, MD

**Medical School:** Harvard Medical School

**Residency:** Neurosurgery, Massachusetts General Hospital

**Fellowship:** Functional Neurosurgery, Massachusetts General Hospital



### Ziev Moses, MD

**Medical School:** Dartmouth Medical School

**Residency:** Neurosurgery, Brigham and Women's Hospital

**Fellowship:** Neurosurgery (Spine), Rush University Medical Center



### Philipp Taussky, MD

*Co-Director, Brain Aneurysm Institute; Co-Director, Comprehensive Stroke Center*

**Medical School:** University of Basel (Switzerland)

**Residency:** Neurosurgery, Kantonsspital Aarau (Switzerland)

**Fellowships:** Neurosurgery (Skull Base/Cerebrovascular), University of Utah-affiliated hospitals; Neurosurgery (Endovascular), Mayo Clinic



## PODIATRIC SURGERY



### Elena Manning, DPM

**Medical School:** Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine

**Residency:** Podiatric Medicine and Surgery, Mount Auburn Hospital

## SURGICAL ONCOLOGY (BreastCare Center)



### Michelle Haslinger, MD

*Director, Oncoplastic Breast Program, BIDMC BreastCare Center*

**Medical School:** Jacobs School of Medicine

**Residency:** General Surgery, University at Buffalo-affiliated hospitals

**Fellowships:** Plastic Surgery, University of Colorado-affiliated hospitals; Breast Surgical Oncology, Georgetown University Hospital/Washington Hospital Center



### Ranjna Sharma, MD

*Director, Breast Surgery, BID-Needham; Co-Director, BreastCare Center, BID-Needham; Associate Program Director, BIDMC Breast Surgical Oncology Fellowship*

**Medical School:** Ohio State University College of Medicine

**Residency:** General Surgery, University of Illinois at Chicago

**Fellowship:** Breast Surgical Oncology, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

## THORACIC SURGERY/INTERVENTIONAL PULMONOLOGY



### Jason Beattie, MD

**Medical School:** Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons

**Residency:** Internal Medicine, Columbia University Medical Center

**Fellowships:** Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, New York University Langone Medical Center; Interventional Pulmonology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center/Massachusetts General Hospital

## TRANSPLANT SURGERY



### David Lee, MD

*Director, Liver Program*

**Medical School:** University of Michigan Medical School

**Residency:** General Surgery, Rush University Medical Center/Cook County Hospital

**Fellowships:** Transplant Surgery Research, University of Chicago; Transplant Surgery, University of Michigan Medical Center

## UROLOGIC SURGERY



### Yanina Barbalat, MD

**Medical School:** Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

**Residency:** Urology, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

**Fellowship:** Voiding Dysfunction and Female Pelvic Medicine, Columbia University Irving Medical Center



### Shaun Wason, MD

**Medical School:** Howard University College of Medicine

**Residency:** Urology, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

**Fellowship:** Endourology, Eastern Virginia Medical School/Sentara Norfolk General Hospital

## VASCULAR AND ENDOVASCULAR SURGERY



### David Gillespie, MD

*Section Chief, Vascular Surgery, Signature Healthcare-Brockton Hospital*

**Medical School:** Uniformed Services University F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine

**Residency:** General Surgery, Boston (University) Medical Center

**Fellowship:** Vascular Surgery, Boston (University) Medical Center

# Food is Health Raises a Record \$305,000

## Helping Food-Insecure Families for 11 Years



Speakers at Food is Health were (standing, from left) Dr. Allen Hamdan, Catherine D'Amato, Dr. Kevin Tabb, Dr. Jacob Mirsky, and (seated) Billie Jo Caceres, a GBFB client.

**B**IDMC's Klarman Building was the setting of the 11th annual "Food is Health" fundraiser on March 1, marking the first public gathering to be held in the beautiful new building and the first time the event took place on the BIDMC campus.

Food is Health (formerly Food is Medicine) raises awareness of and support for the Greater Boston Food Bank's (GBFB) mission to end hunger in Eastern Massachusetts. As the largest hunger-relief organization in New England, GBFB sources over 100 million pounds of healthy food each year for its

600 partner food pantries, mobile markets, and other food programs.

The event was launched in 2012 by Surgery Vice Chair **Allen Hamdan, MD**, a vascular surgeon, following a conversation with department Chief **Elliot Chaikof, MD, PhD**, during which Dr. Hamdan expressed his interest in establishing an initiative to help people dealing with food insecurity gain access to a vital component of good health—nutritious food.

With the ongoing support of Dr. Chaikof and the Department

of Surgery; the department's Committee for Social Responsibility, which Dr. Hamdan co-leads with **Ted James, MD, MHCM**; and BIDMC leadership, Food is Health has grown each year, raising more than \$1.1 million for the GBFB. This is the equivalent of nearly three million healthy meals for families in the region.

This year's gala, the first in-person gathering since 2019, raised a record \$305,000 for the GBFB. Attended by more than 200 people, Food is Health was sponsored by a growing roster of individuals and businesses across diverse sectors.

This year, Dr. Hamdan and former BIDMC Board of Trustees Chair Carol Anderson, who both serve on the GBFB Board of Directors, launched and co-chaired a new Food is Health Committee, a group of community leaders with a longstanding commitment to building healthy communities in Massachusetts. Dr. Hamdan and Ms. Anderson have worked together on Food is Health since its inception.

As in years past (except during the pandemic), the



Surgery trainees (from left) Drs. Omar Haque, James Wallace, and Jeremy Darling.





*Carol Anderson (center) serves on the GBFB Board of Directors and co-chairs the Food is Health Committee with Dr. Allen Hamdan.*

Since its inception, **Food is Health** has raised more than **\$1.1 million** for the Greater Boston Food Bank.



evening included cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, and a brief program. Speaking this year were Kevin Tabb, MD, president and CEO of Beth Israel Lahey Health; Catherine D'Amato, GBFB president and CEO; Jacob Mirsky, MD, medical director of the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Revere Food Pantry and

an internist at MGH Revere; Billie Jo Caceres, a GBFB client; and Dr. Hamdan.

"I am so grateful to Carol Anderson, to Drs. Chaikof and Tabb and BIDMC President Pete Healy, as well as the entire BIDMC community, for recognizing the value of this initiative early on and for their and so many others'

continual support," says Dr. Hamdan. "We all understand that it is consistent with BIDMC's mission that every family in our community should have access to nutritious food."

*The date for the 2024 Food is Health gala will be posted soon on the GBFB website. Donations are always gratefully accepted.*



*Dr. Alexa Kimball, President and CEO of Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians at BIDMC (HMFP), chats with Food is Health board member Carol Anderson.*



*Chief of Cardiac Surgery Dr. Kamal Khabbaz and Myrna Khabbaz bid on offerings at the silent auction.*

# Selected Publications

## Acute Care Surgery, Trauma, and Surgical Critical Care

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## Cardiac Surgery

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*Faculty names are in bold; trainee names are in italics; staff names are underlined.*

## Colon and Rectal Surgery

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## Neurosurgery

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## Thoracic Surgery and Interventional Pulmonology

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## Vascular and Endovascular Surgery

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# Surgery Awards Recognize Excellence

Department of Surgery awards are announced each June at the White Coat Ceremony, during which rising chief residents in General Surgery and Integrated Vascular Surgery receive their white coats from graduating chiefs. We congratulate the following 2022 and 2023 award recipients.

## HAROLD BENGLOFF AWARD

*Voted by residents as the faculty member who best exemplifies humanism in teaching.*

**Mandeep Saund, MD** (2022)  
**Christopher Boyd, MD** (2023)



Dr. Saund



Dr. Boyd

## EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH MENTORSHIP AWARD

*To the faculty member whose sustained commitment to and investment in the research development of students, trainees, and junior faculty demonstrate excellence in mentoring.*

**Benjamin James, MD, MS** (2022)  
**Tara Kent, MD, MS** (2023)



Dr. James



Dr. Kent

## CHA CIRCLE AWARD

*To the resident who best embodies the values of Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA): compassion, integrity, respect, community, learning, and excellence in patient care.*

**Claire Sokas, MD** (2022)  
**James Wallace, MD** (2023)



Dr. Sokas



Dr. Wallace

## KHALID KHWAJA FACULTY AWARD

*To the junior clinical faculty member who best fosters a culture of collaboration, respectfulness, compassion, and shared sense of purpose in their interactions with trainees, employees, and patients.*

**Arriyan (Sammy) Dowlatshahi, MD** (2022)  
**Amy Evenson, MD, MPH** (2023)



Dr. Dowlatshahi

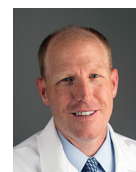


Dr. Evenson

## JOHN L. ROWBOTHAM AWARD

*To the faculty member who, as chosen by residents, best exemplifies excellence in clinical surgical teaching.*

**Charles Parsons, MD** (2022)  
**Wesley Vosburg, MD** (2023)



Dr. Parsons



Dr. Vosburg

## GEORGE W. B. STARKEY AWARD

*To the faculty member with the highest-rated teaching evaluations from second-year Harvard Medical School students in the Core Surgery Clerkship.*

**Jordan Bohnen, MD** (2022)  
**James Naples, MD** (2023)



Dr. Bohnen



Dr. Naples



Following the White Coat Ceremony, rising chief residents gathered for a photo with Surgery Chair Dr. Elliot Chaikof (far left) and General Surgery Residency Program Director Dr. Tara Kent (second from left) and Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency and Fellowship Program Director Dr. Mark Wyers (far right). From left, the 2023–2024 chief residents are: Drs. Jane Cheng, Jordan Broekhuis, Donna Marie Alvino, Christina Marcaccio (Integrated Vascular Surgery), Jacqueline Wade, Lumeng Jenny Yu, Omar Haque, James Wallace, and Jessica Means.

### RESIDENT TEACHER AWARD

Voted by residents as the senior resident who best exemplifies teaching to other residents.

**Daniel Wong, MD** (2022)

**Alessandra Storino, MD** (2023)



Dr. Wong



Dr. Storino

### ISAAC O. MEHREZ AWARD

To the third-year resident selected by Mount Auburn Hospital surgeons for “Dedication to the highest quality care, honesty, a willingness to learn, and a sense of humor.”

**Kelsey Romatoski, MD** (2022)

**Ashlyn Whitlock, MD** (2023)



Dr. Romatoski



Dr. Whitlock

### RUSSELL J. NAUTA AWARD

To the resident who best exemplifies the compassion and commitment that Dr. Nauta shared with each of his patients.

**Daniel Wong, MD** (2022)

**Claire Sokas, MD** (2023)



Dr. Wong



Dr. Sokas

### PRIMARY CLINICAL EXPERIENCE OUTSTANDING RESIDENT TEACHING AWARD

Selected by all Harvard Medical School students who rotated at BIDMC Surgery as the resident who best exemplifies dedication to teaching.

**Eve Roth, MD** (2022)

**James Wallace, MD** (2023)



Dr. Roth



Dr. Wallace

### THORACIC SURGERY SERVICE AWARDS

To the PGY-1 and PGY-4 with the best performance on the Thoracic Surgery Service.

**Camila Guetter, MD, PGY-1; Claire Sokas, MD, PGY-4** (2022)

**Sandy Carpenter, MD, and Sally Justus, MD, PGY-1;**  
**Lumeng Jenny Yu, MD, PGY-4** (2023)



Dr. Guetter



Dr. Sokas



Dr. Carpenter



Dr. Justus



Dr. Yu



Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Department of Surgery, LMOB-9C  
110 Francis Street  
Boston, MA 02215

Beth Israel Lahey Health 

< *Continued from page 11*

top-notch team of fellowship-trained surgeons and other specialists who work together inside and outside the OR to ensure that our patients

receive excellent, well-coordinated care,” says Dr. Brook. BIDMC also offers other important services, including a state-of-the-art

neurosurgery OR, a pituitary clinic, and stereotactic radiosurgery for patients who require radiation treatment.

## THE SKULL BASE SURGERY TEAM

### Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery



**Christopher Brook, MD**



**David Caradonna, MD, DMD**



**Ernest (Ted) Gomez, MD, MTR**



**Scharukh Jalisi, MD**



**James Naples, MD (Otology)**

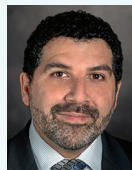
### Neurosurgery



**Martina Stippler, MD**



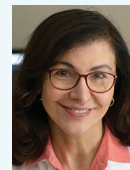
**Philipp Taussky, MD**



**Raphael Vega, MD, PhD**



**Marc Bouffard, MD (Neurology)**



**Nurhan Torun, MD**

### Neuro-ophthalmology

### Radiation Oncology



**Nima Aghdam, MD**



**Lauren Hertan, MD**



For more information, visit our [website](#). To schedule an appointment or make a referral, call 617-632-7500. To make a referral (only) by e-mail, contact [ENT@bidmc.harvard.edu](mailto:ENT@bidmc.harvard.edu).