Welcome from the Chair

Since its origins in the 1860s under the leadership of David Williams Cheever, MD (1831-1915), the Department of Surgery at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, originally referred to as the “Fifth (Harvard) Surgical Service,” has been a preeminent center of surgical care, training, and research. In this tradition, we continue to rededicate ourselves each and every day to providing innovative care of the highest quality, developing next-generation therapies for the surgical patient through basic and clinical investigation, and preparing future leaders who will be inspired to invent the future of American surgery.

We believe that the challenge to any surgical training program is to understand the value of individual freedom, nurture intellectual diversity, appreciate flexibility, and promote originality. We believe in fostering the development of imaginative master surgeons and surgeon-innovators who will cross boundaries to identify new solutions to current and future challenges.

For 150 years, a foundation of excellence in the Department of Surgery at BIDMC has been nurtured and sustained by a variety of outstanding leaders of Harvard Medical School. Our duty has always been to create a supportive, nurturing, and collaborative environment that encourages each and every member of our community to think differently and challenge the status quo so that modern medical miracles continue to occur.

Elliot L. Chaikof, MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Surgery
Surgeon-in-Chief, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Johnson and Johnson Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

“We were trained to be both patient- and research-focused, encouraged to think about the disease process, and look for data. As a result, the program produced people who were especially thoughtful, and thus more likely to become surgical leaders.”

— Susan Love, MD, MBA (1979), Founder and Chief Visionary Officer, Dr. Susan Love Foundation for Breast Cancer Research; Author of Dr. Susan Love’s Breast Book
Welcome from the Program Director

On behalf of the faculty of the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Department of Surgery, I welcome your interest in our general surgery training program. With a wealth of clinical experience and exceptional research opportunities, we are committed to training superior clinicians who will also become future leaders in American surgery. As a Harvard surgical training program, we are proud of our longstanding commitment to surgical education and innovation at every level.

The impact of the alumni of our residency program — as leaders in both academia and in their communities — attests to the high quality, depth, and breadth of our program. Our residents, a diverse group of individuals selected predominantly from the top of their graduating class, demonstrate dedication to and excellence in their studies as well as in research, service, and/or leadership. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply through ERAS.

We appreciate your interest in the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center General Surgery Residency Program, and look forward to receiving your completed application.

Tara S. Kent, MD, MS
Program Director, General Surgery Residency,
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Vice Chair, Education, Department of Surgery
Associate Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

“I left Chile to get the best possible training at BIDMC, for which I am extremely grateful, and I have brought that training back to help the people of Chile and Latin America. My story demonstrates the truly international impact of the BIDMC Surgery training program.”

— Martín J. Dib, MD (2014), Chief of Transplant, Hospital Clínico Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile; Assistant Professor of Surgery, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Training Program Leadership

Elliot L. Chaikof, MD, PhD  
Chair, Department of Surgery  
Johnson and Johnson Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Tara S. Kent, MD, MS  
Program Director  
Vice Chair, Education  
Division of General Surgery  
Associate Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Anne C. Fabrizio, MD  
Associate Program Director  
Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery  
Instructor in Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Benjamin C. James, MD, MS  
Associate Program Director  
Division of Surgical Oncology  
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Charles S. Parsons, MD  
Associate Program Director  
Division of Acute Care Surgery, Trauma, and Surgical Critical Care  
Instructor in Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Sidhu Gangadharan, MD, MHCM  
Assistant Program Director  
Division of Thoracic Surgery/Interventional Pulmonology  
Associate Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

“\The residency promoted core values such as honesty, compassion, professionalism, stamina, and evidence-based practice — all under a ubiquitous demand for excellence. These were the most transformative years of my life.\”

— C. Keith Ozaki, MD (1995), Director, Vascular Surgery Research and Vice Chair, Department of Surgery, Brigham and Women’s Hospital; John A. Mannick Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School
About Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, a major teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School, is renowned for excellence in patient care, research, teaching, and community service. Located in the heart of Boston’s medical community, it serves more than a half million patients annually from Boston and surrounding communities, as well as patients from around the nation and the world.

The roots of the Harvard Surgical Service at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center reach back to 1864, establishing it as one of the oldest academic programs in the nation. Our explicit mission is to provide advanced surgical care of the very highest quality to those in need, improve health through innovation and discovery, and prepare future leaders in American surgery.

In 1864, a brilliant young surgeon named David Williams Cheever, MD (standing, center) joined the staff at the newly established Boston City Hospital, which was one of two Boston hospitals associated with Harvard Medical School. Dr. Cheever, the son and grandson of physicians who trained under Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr., created and grew a vibrant surgical program that rapidly established itself as a vital center for clinical care, training, and research of Harvard Medical School. A pioneering surgeon and man of immense dedication and integrity, Dr. Cheever served as the second Chair of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, succeeding Henry J. Bigelow at the Massachusetts General Hospital. He was editor of the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* (a predecessor of the *New England Journal of Medicine*), and in 1889 served as President of the American Surgical Association. In 1915, the year of Dr. Cheever’s death, the Harvard Surgical Service was renamed the Fifth (Harvard) Surgical Service.

The Beth Israel and New England Deaconess hospitals came together as Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in 1996, but for nearly a century each was a national leader in health care with a long history of excellence in patient care, innovative research, and outstanding medical education. The New England Deaconess Hospital was originally founded to care for the city’s underserved residents in 1896 as part of the charter of the Methodist deaconess movement. In 1916, Beth Israel Hospital was established by Boston’s Jewish community to meet the needs of the growing immigrant population.

Today, the medical center is a tertiary/quaternary hospital with a wide range of multidisciplinary, cutting-edge clinical programs. Nearly 30,000 operative procedures are performed each year at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, making it one of the busiest centers for surgical care in the United States.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center is part of Beth Israel Lahey Health, a health care system that brings together academic medical centers and teaching hospitals, community and specialty hospitals, more than 4,000 physicians, and 35,000 employees in a shared mission to expand access to care and advance the science and practice of medicine through groundbreaking research and education.

A 350,000-square-foot, 10-story clinical tower will open in 2022.
Patient Care
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center is a nonprofit health care institution providing care for patients of any race, creed, color, or nationality.

The medical center features:
• A state-of-the-art inpatient clinical center, as well as a new 350,000-square-foot, 10-story clinical tower on the main campus and an ambulatory surgery center nearby, both of which will open in 2022. Combined, these facilities have a total of 51 operating rooms
• 749 licensed beds, including 106 critical care unit beds
• Emergency care provided in the modern 23,000-square-foot Berenson Emergency Department, which has more than 55,000 patient visits a year and offers a full range of emergency services, including a Level I Trauma Center and heliport
• The Carl J. Shapiro Clinical Center, a nine-story, technologically advanced ambulatory care center. The majority of ambulatory surgery takes place in the Shapiro Clinical Center and its connected Feldberg operating rooms

“My top residency choice was BIDMC, largely because of its clinical and research strengths. I am grateful to the program not only for the excellent training I received, but also for the support of so many outstanding faculty throughout my residency and beyond.”
— Prathima Nandivada, MD (2018), Department of Surgery, Boston Children’s Hospital; Assistant Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Nearly 30,000 operative procedures are performed at BIDMC every year.

Research
Innovative biomedical and clinical research is supported by grants from private foundations and government agencies. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center is one of the top independent teaching hospitals in the nation in terms of research funding from the National Institutes of Health. The medical center shares important clinical, research, and educational programs with institutions such as the Harvard-wide Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center, Joslin Diabetes Center, Boston Children’s Hospital, Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering of Harvard University, Harvard Stem Cell Institute, Harvard-MIT Broad Institute, and the Consortia for Improving Medicine with Innovation & Technology (CIMIT).
Medical Education

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center has a longstanding commitment to educating medical students, residents, and postgraduate fellows.

— UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

As one of Harvard Medical School’s major teaching sites, BIDMC provides major core clerkships for the school’s second-year students, and each department offers a wide variety of clinical electives for fourth-year students.

— GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

In addition to its General Surgery Residency Program, BIDMC sponsors residencies in anesthesiology, medicine, emergency medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, orthopedics, otorhinolaryngology, pathology, plastic and reconstructive surgery, podiatric surgery, psychiatry, radiology, urologic surgery, and integrated vascular surgery.

— POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

BIDMC sponsors clinical fellowships in breast surgical oncology, cardiothoracic surgery, colon and rectal surgery, neurovascular surgery, GI and minimally invasive surgery, hand/upper extremity surgery, interventional pulmonology, plastic surgery, surgical critical care, minimally invasive urologic surgery, and vascular surgery, in addition to a wide variety of medical specialties.

“I benefited from the broad and diverse training and research opportunities offered by the BIDMC surgical residency, which in my view is the best in Boston.”

— David C. Linehan, MD (1997), Seymour I. Schwartz Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery, University of Rochester Medical Center
General Surgery Residency Program

The General Surgery Residency Program consists of 14 first-year residents, including nine categorical (full five-year), five non-designated preliminary residents, and a categorical integrated vascular surgery intern. Residents from anesthesia, urology, otolaryngology, plastic surgery, and vascular surgery rotate to general surgery as well.

In the PGY-2 year there are nine categorical residents and three preliminary residents. In the PGY-3, PGY-4, and PGY-5 Chief Resident level, there are nine categorical residents. All members of the housestaff hold academic appointments as Clinical Fellows in Surgery at Harvard Medical School.

The surgical training program produces the country’s future surgical leaders. Clinical excellence is the foundation upon which that leadership is built, and our training programs strive to help young surgeons develop technical, cognitive, and leadership expertise. At all levels, the housestaff receive training and practical experience in the pre-operative, operative, and post-operative care of patients.

The Beth Israel Deaconess program places a strong emphasis on resident-faculty interaction to enhance trainees’ education. Teaching conferences and seminars for housestaff capitalize on working relationships developed with the attending staff.

Upon completion of five years of surgical training, residents are eligible for the American Board of Surgery Examination. Our graduates consistently obtain outstanding specialty fellowships in surgical oncology, breast surgical oncology, trauma, critical care, cardiothoracic, hepatopancreatoiliary, pediatric, transplant, colorectal, plastic, and vascular surgery. Graduates typically attain superb opportunities in major academic medical centers.

— PGY-1 Year

The internship year focuses on the acquisition of basic principles and clinical skills in general surgery. The majority of these rotations are at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, supplemented by a pediatric surgery rotation at Boston Children’s Hospital, as well as experiences with Harvard-affiliated faculty at external sites, including Mount Auburn Hospital or Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital. Pre-and post-operative patient care is emphasized under the guidance of attending surgeons and resident staff. Interns participate in procedures that are appropriate for their stage of training and can expect to perform approximately 130 surgical cases.

— PGY-2 through PGY-4

The second and third years of residency include longer rotations to provide more in-depth training in general surgery, transplant, vascular, and trauma surgery, as well as critical care and endoscopy. During these rotations, residents hone their skills in the work-up of the surgical patient through consults in the emergency room and inpatient settings, learn how to care for critically ill patients, and begin to step into the role of senior resident on certain services. In the operating room, residents focus on the acquisition of complex laparoscopic and open skills including bowel resection and anastomosis, neck dissection, and vascular anastomosis. The PGY-2 year includes dedicated critical care rotations and an endoscopy rotation. The PGY-3 year includes a dedicated cardiac surgery experience. In the fourth year, senior-level experience is obtained in general surgery, vascular, thoracic, and pediatric surgery at Boston Children’s Hospital. A significant portion of the year is spent as the senior resident in acute care and trauma surgery, offering the resident leadership of a complex, high-volume service and the opportunity to teach junior residents in the operating room.

— PGY-5 Chief Residency

During the fifth year of training, chief residents further hone their clinical skills, performing more than 250 operations as surgeons in their final year. In their chief year, residents are also encouraged to develop their administrative and teaching skills by leading didactic sessions, heading inpatient teams, and teaching junior residents. Two chief residents are selected by their peers to serve as administrative chief residents. Along with peer-elected representatives from each postgraduate year, they serve as resident representatives to the Housestaff Education Committee. During the chief year, residents may tailor their experiences to their future subspecialty.
External Rotations

While most of the residency years are spent at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, this experience is rounded out with clinical rotations with Harvard-affiliated surgical staff at these nearby hospitals:

— **BOSTON CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL**

Boston Children’s Hospital is the largest pediatric hospital in the United States with one of the largest pediatric surgery programs in the world. The Department of Surgery at Boston Children’s Hospital provides general and specialized surgical services to infants, children, and adolescents suffering from a wide range of congenital and acquired conditions. Rotations at Boston Children’s Hospital for BIDMC surgical residents in their first and fourth years offer a concentrated experience in pediatric and adolescent surgery. Opportunities to gain additional research experience at Children’s during elective periods are also available.

— **BETH ISRAEL DEACONESS HOSPITAL – NEEDHAM**

Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital–Needham is an acute-care community hospital that has served Needham and surrounding communities in the western suburbs of Boston for more than 80 years. The hospital provides outpatient and inpatient services, comprehensive diagnostic facilities, and a full-service emergency department, and cares or patients within the Lank Cancer Center and Surgical Pavilion and a 40,000-square foot Outpatient Center. This preceptorship provides the mid-level resident a unique opportunity to view the practice of community general surgery, surgical oncology, and colorectal surgery as well as broad exposure to all venues - from evaluation in the emergency room, to the operating room and SICU, to post-operative follow-up in the clinic.

— **CAMBRIDGE HOSPITAL AND HEALTH ALLIANCE**

Cambridge Hospital is a 277-bed, acute-care hospital, with a commitment to vulnerable and diverse patients in Cambridge, Somerville, and Boston’s metro-north communities. Its ambulatory care division offers medical/surgical emergency rooms, a Level 2 Trauma Center, a primary care center, and more than 25 specialty clinics. Residents assigned to Cambridge Hospital gain experience with serious surgical problems in an urban hospital and extensive training in endoscopy, as well as ambulatory surgery experience.

— **METROWEST MEDICAL CENTER**

MetroWest Medical Center is a 307-bed medical center with campuses in Framingham and Natick, suburbs west of Boston. Formed in 1991 from the merger of Framingham Union Hospital (founded in 1925) and Leonard Morse Hospital (founded in 1899), the medical center serves the residents of communities west of Boston. Services include a busy Emergency Department, medical and surgical care, obstetrics, and behavioral health. At MetroWest, the PGY-4 resident completes an apprentice-style rotation with one of the faculty members of the BIDMC Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery.

— **MOUNT AUBURN HOSPITAL**

Mount Auburn Hospital, located near Harvard Square in Cambridge, is a 217-bed acute-care, teaching hospital serving the health care needs of residents in Boston’s northern and western suburbs. The hospital offers comprehensive inpatient and outpatient medical, surgical, obstetrical, and psychiatric services. Mount Auburn has a strong surgical orientation in general and vascular surgery, surgical oncology, and colorectal surgery.

— **SIGNATURE HEALTHCARE BROCKTON HOSPITAL**

Founded in 1896, Signature Healthcare Brockton serves residents south of Boston in Brockton and 21 surrounding towns in Plymouth County, caring for a community that includes many minority, immigrant, and socioeconomically disadvantaged residents. With 216 beds, the hospital provides medical/surgical, pediatric, and obstetrics services. For the intern and mid-level resident, this rotation offers excellent operative experience in general and vascular surgery.
“I am very fortunate to have trained at BIDMC, where I had fantastic mentors and a broad experience with many high-risk, high-acuity patients. When I went into combat, I felt so well trained that I was able to walk into the OR without fear and get to work.”

— Jeremy W. Cannon, MD (2005), Colonel, U.S. Air Force Reserves; Trauma Medical Director and Section Chief of Trauma, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; recipient of the U.S. Air Force 2011 Paul W. Myers Award

Didactic Teaching
The residency has a formal structured educational program, including a strong didactic conference schedule, to provide a basic foundation of surgical knowledge and skills. The core curriculum didactics are based on the SCORE® curriculum, to which each resident has full access. In addition to a range of conferences that are unique to each clinical service, there are a number of department-wide conferences focused on resident education.

Regular weekly conferences (Wednesdays) include:
• Surgical Service Morbidity and Mortality Conference
• Surgical Grand Rounds
• Core Curriculum Conference, including ABSITE review

Regular monthly conferences (Thursdays) include:
• Surgical Horizons Seminar Series
• Chair’s Conference

Advanced Simulation and Skills Center
In 2006, the Carl J. Shapiro Simulation and Skills Center (SASC) at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center became the first regional Simulation and Skills Center in North America accredited by the American College of Surgeons. The SASC offers the latest advances in medical simulation technology combined with progressive teaching methods to replicate real-life patient-care situations, from routine procedures to acute management crises. The scale and scope of the SASC make it one of the most comprehensive centers in the country. In addition to high-fidelity mock operating and intensive care unit rooms, the SASC features two skills lab areas, providing learners with hands-on training for basic clinical procedures; open surgical skills; and endoscopic, ultrasonography, and laparoscopic skills.

In the SASC, residents have the opportunity to learn and practice skills that are specific to their rotation through formal training sessions. During the PGY-1 year, interns attend an additional 75 hours of practical skills sessions taught by BIDMC faculty members and senior residents. These sessions include: laparoscopic and minimally invasive skills, central line and chest-tube placement, use of electrosurgical and stapling instruments, and ultrasound imaging. PGY-2 to PGY-5 residents also have scheduled skills sessions.
Distinguished Visiting Professors

As part of our commitment to surgical education, the Department of Surgery invites a dozen or more distinguished national leaders in surgery as visiting professors each year. During their tenure, each visiting professor has the opportunity to interact closely with surgical residents in small group forums. Visiting professors also present at Grand Rounds, providing faculty and residents with the opportunity to gain insight into their areas of expertise.

Surgical Horizons Seminar Series

Emerging and senior leaders from both surgical and nonsurgical disciplines who are currently pursuing endeavors that promise to dramatically alter the landscape of care for surgical patients are invited to speak as part of our monthly Surgical Horizons Seminar Series. Topics range from data science, machine learning, precision medicine, device development, immunotherapy, regenerative medicine, and drug discovery.

Clinical Scholarship Program

Our Clinical Scholarship Program pairs all first-year categorical general surgery residents with a faculty research mentor who guides the residents throughout the year as they acquire the skills to develop and implement a clinical research project. Residents are given one month of protected time during the second half of the first year in which to complete their project. The objectives of the Clinical Scholarship Program are to provide residents with a robust foundation for scholarship early in their training, promote additional clinical mentorship opportunities, and enhance the opportunity to engage in efforts that will ultimately change the way we care for the surgical patient. By providing this experience early in the training program, our goal is to facilitate residents’ interests in scholarship, research, and an academic career. In 2020, the Clinical Scholarship Program received a Program Award for a Culture of Excellence in Mentoring (PACEM) award from Harvard Medical School.

The FIRST Program

The FIRST (Facilitating Innovative Research and Surgical Trials) Program provides surgery faculty and residents with an accessible, robust research infrastructure. The goal is to provide current and emerging surgeon-investigators in the Department of Surgery with the expertise, resources, assistance, and support they need to conduct clinical research in today’s increasingly complex environment.

FIRST offers a comprehensive range of customized, essential services, all of which are designed to make it as easy and efficient as possible for Surgery faculty and trainees to pursue clinical research. Support may be as straightforward as answering a question to providing hands-on assistance with managing the myriad tasks associated with study design, implementation, and analysis. In 2021, the FIRST Program received a Program Award for a Culture of Excellence in Mentoring (PACEM) from Harvard Medical School.
Resident as Educator Program

Throughout training, a primary responsibility of senior residents is to teach more junior surgical residents and medical students on their service. Senior residents are also responsible for assigning cases, clinically supervising medical students and residents, and preparing material for service and teaching conferences. Our Resident as Educator Program facilitates and supports the development of our residents as outstanding surgeon-educators. Senior residents are encouraged to apply for admission to the BIDMC Academy of Medical Educators (see below). The Resident as Educator Program curriculum includes two components:

Seminars

Interactive, team-based learning seminars are held with the goal of introducing the theory and practice of adult teaching and learning, including bedside and intraoperative teaching that promotes the transmission of clinical and technical knowledge, behavior, and skills. In addition, annual sessions on the learning environment are conducted for new and returning trainees.

Self-study

A multidisciplinary curriculum includes a series of five videos and an accompanying facilitator guide that reviews effective adult learning principles with the following goals: review knowledge, skills, and methods associated with best clinical teaching practices; encourage application of adult learning principles in any clinical setting; and develop experience serving in supervisory roles, providing effective feedback, leading small-group discussions, and teaching procedural skills to medical students and resident colleagues.

BIDMC Academy of Medical Educators

The BIDMC Academy of Medical Educators is an important forum for residents interested in medical education. Open to senior residents at or above the PGY-3 level, Academy membership provides the opportunity to participate in professional development seminars, engage in collaborative projects, and take advantage of educational services for the advancement of innovation and science in medical education. Academy offerings include workshops on the flipped classroom, navigating educational change, and providing feedback to the difficult learner.

Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory: Comparative Physiology

Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory (MDIBL) is a nonprofit biomedical research institution in Maine where permanent and visiting scientists and students study marine and non-marine organisms to learn about the basic biology of life. Five PGY-2 residents are selected each year to receive a scholarship to attend a weeklong course in comparative clinically focused physiology, which covers topics that include cardiac augmentation, water balance, chloride secretion, biliary function, vascular tone, and hematology. The course also allows time for exploring the Maine coastline, including nearby Acadia National Park.

Committee on Social Responsibility

The Department of Surgery’s Committee on Social Responsibility, comprising faculty, trainees, and staff, focuses on several important areas of social responsibility: hunger, homelessness, human trafficking, health equality, childhood education, and medical missions. During orientation, incoming interns have an opportunity to volunteer at the Greater Boston Food Bank. Other volunteer opportunities are available throughout surgery residency.

Residents have many opportunities to volunteer, including at the Greater Boston Food Bank.
Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
The mission of the Department of Surgery’s Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), which was established in 2018, is to foster a culture where everyone in the department can excel, regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, country of origin, immigration status, or disability. Committee membership consists of faculty, residents, and fellows who volunteer to serve on sub-committees focused on issues related to sustaining a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community. In 2021, Harvard Medical School awarded the Department of Surgery the Harold Amos Faculty Diversity Group award, which recognizes those who have made significant achievements in moving the medical school toward being a diverse and inclusive community.

Anatomical Basis of General Surgery
This course, taught by Harvard Medical School’s Director of Clinical Applications of Anatomy Course in conjunction with BIDMC surgical faculty, provides PGY-3 residents with a solid foundation in the anatomical basis of all aspects of general surgery. Through 10 sequential cadaver laboratories, each focusing on a different aspect of anatomy, residents will acquire the in-depth anatomical knowledge, techniques of exposure, and skills required of a general surgeon.

Harvard Program in Global Surgery and Social Change
The mission of the Harvard Program in Global Surgery and Social Change (PGSSC) is to achieve excellence and equity in global surgical and anesthesia care through leadership and innovation in education, training, research, clinical care, and advocacy. Projects undertaken by the PGSSC consist of sustainable efforts to improve delivery of quality surgery and anesthesia in low- and middle-income countries in the Americas, Africa, and the Caribbean. Successful applicants for support through the Paul Farmer Global Surgery Research Fellowship obtain the medical and non-medical skills they need to improve the health of some of the world’s most impoverished people.

Harvard Surgical Program in Innovation (SPIN)
The Harvard Surgical Program in Innovation (SPIN) is open to all General Surgery residents at BIDMC. The program enables residents to become surgical innovators, by combining the collaborative spirit of a hackathon with a more structured series of educational workshops. Residents meet for a series of monthly Saturday sessions in which they learn computer and electronic skills necessary to design and produce a medical device prototype. In between these formal sessions, they meet as teams and individually with the course directors and expert advisors from the Boston innovation ecosystem of biotech and medtech entrepreneurs and venture capitalists. Assigned readings and videos demonstrating techniques are posted online. The experience culminates in a “pitch finale” where the teams pitch their ideas before a panel of expert judges.

Harvard Medical School selected the Department of Surgery for its 2021 Harold Amos Faculty Diversity Group Award, accepted by faculty members Anne Fabrizio, MD, and Sidhu Gangadharan, MD, MHCM.
Research

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center consistently ranks as a national leader among independent hospitals nationwide in funding from the National Institutes of Health. The Department of Surgery’s robust research program receives more than $21 million in funding from the NIH and other federal sources, foundations, private industry, and philanthropists. With faculty appointments at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), our surgical faculty are members of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute, the Wyss Institute of Biologically Inspired Engineering, the Harvard-MIT Broad Institute, the Harvard Program in Global Surgery and Social Change, and the Consortia for Improving Medicine with Innovation & Technology (CIMIT).

Our diverse research programs focus on six thematic areas:

- Cancer biology
- Glycobiology
- Health services and surgical outcomes research
- Innate and adaptive immunity
- Nutrition and metabolism
- Regenerative medicine

Following the second or third clinical year, residents are required to pursue a two-year research elective in any number of available areas that include basic science or clinical outcomes. It is also possible for residents to seek advanced degrees in public health, business administration, or education. We recognize the importance of developing the next generation of surgeon-scientists and are supportive of residents who wish to pursue a PhD during residency training. These opportunities are intended to teach residents the requisite skills to become surgeon-investigators engaged in clinical or translational research and leaders in academic surgery. BIDMC surgery residents have been very successful in obtaining high-quality research and clinical fellowships in Boston and nationwide. There are multiple mechanisms, listed below, to provide residents with salary support to help defray the costs of an advanced degree, research supplies, or a research technician. Residents may also obtain full salary support through a commitment to clinical moonlighting at BIDMC during the fellowship period.

- The Sandra and Richard Cummings Resident Research Fellowship in Surgery is awarded to five residents annually based on the merits of their proposed research.
- Institutional research training grants (Surgical Critical Care, Gastrointestinal Diseases, Vascular Surgery, Transplantation, Pediatric Surgery, and Global Health) supported through the NIH and other sources
- A prospective fellow and principal investigator may apply for a fellowship grant from the NIH, American College of Surgeons, Society of University Surgeons, or other foundations
- A principal investigator may support the research fellow directly

During their clinical training, opportunities are also available for surgical housestaff to participate in clinical research conducted by members of the Department of Surgery.
Department Leadership

Elliot L. Chaikof, MD, PhD
Chair of Surgery and
Surgeon-in-Chief
Johnson and Johnson
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Richard D. Cummings, PhD
Vice Chair, Basic and
Translational Research
S. Daniel Abraham Professor of
Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Allen D. Hamdan, MD
Vice Chair, Operations
Associate Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Ted A. James, MD, MS
Section Chief of Breast
Surgical Oncology
Vice Chair, Academic Affairs
Associate Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Daniel B. Jones, MD, MS
Vice Chair, Technology
and Innovation
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Tara S. Kent, MD, MS
Vice Chair, Education
Associate Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Sidney Levitsky, MD
Senior Vice Chair
David W. and David Cheever
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

A. James Moser, MD
Co-Director, Pancreas
and Liver Institute
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

James R. Rodrigue, PhD
Vice Chair, Clinical Research
Professor, Harvard Medical
School

Richard Whyte, MD, MBA
Vice Chair, Quality, Safety,
and Clinical Affairs
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Program Division Chiefs

Acute Care Surgery, Trauma,
and Surgical Critical Care
Charles H. Cook, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Bariatric and Minimally
Invasive Surgery
Daniel B. Jones, MD, MS
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Cardiac Surgery
Kamal R. Khabbaz, MD
David S. Ginsberg Associate
Professor of Cardiac Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Colon and Rectal Surgery
Evangelos Messaris, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

General Surgery
Mark P. Callery, MD
William V. McDermott
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Plastic and
Reconstructive Surgery
Bernard T. Lee, MD, MBA, MPH
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Surgical Oncology
Jonathan Critchlow, MD
(Interim)
Associate Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Thoracic Surgery/Interventional
Pulmonology
Sidhu Gangadharan, MD, MHCM
Associate Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School

Transplant Surgery
Devin E. Eckhoff, MD
Peter Medawar Professor of
Surgery, Harvard Medical School

Vascular and
Endovascular Surgery
Marc L. Schermerhorn, MD
George H. A. Clowes Jr.
Professor of Surgery,
Harvard Medical School
Selected Research Programs

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

**Gabriel A. Brat**, MD, MPH, MSc  
Biomedical informatics, machine learning, and clinical decision making

**Charles H. Cook**, MD  
Bacterial sepsis and reactivation of latent cytomegalovirus

**Carl J. Hauser**, MD  
Regulation of innate immunity in trauma with an emphasis on translational biology

**Wolfgang G. Junger**, PhD  
Inflammatory responses to Trauma

**Michael B. Yaffe**, MD, PhD  
DNA damage and trauma

### Cardiac Surgery

**Louis Chu**, MD  
Development of cardiac surgery simulators for training and operative planning, assessment of frailty in the cardiac patient

**Kamal R. Khabbaz**, MD  
Transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), mitral valve repair, predictive markers of postoperative adverse events, 3D printing for cardiac repair

### Colon and Rectal Surgery

**Evangelos Messaris**, MD, PhD  
Outcomes research in colorectal surgery patients

### Gastrointestinal and Hepatopancreatobiliary Surgery

**Mark P. Callery**, MD  
Outcomes research in high acuity pancreaticobiliary surgery

**Susan J. Hagen**, PhD  
Cellular mechanisms in the development of gastric cancer

**Tara S. Kent**, MD, MS  
Patient-centered outcomes research in pancreaticobiliary surgery, surgical education

**A. James Moser**, MD  
Multi-center research study of biomarker discovery for therapeutics in pancreatic cancer

### Glycobiology

**Richard D. Cummings**, PhD  
Glycobiology of cancer, innate and adaptive immunity, and infectious disease. Dr. Cummings is the scientific founder of Selexys Pharmaceuticals

### Metabolism and Obesity

**Daniel B. Jones**, MD, MS  
Comparative effectiveness and outcomes of bariatric surgery; evaluation of new clinical interventions for the treatment obesity; simulation in surgical education

### Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

**Bernard T. Lee**, MD, MBA, MPH  
Near-infrared imaging technologies for flap perfusion in face transplantation models; clinical outcomes and patient satisfaction in breast reconstruction surgery

**Samuel J. Lin**, MD, MBA  
Microelectromechanical systems devices for peripheral nerve modulation; clinical outcomes in breast reconstruction; and advanced 3D printing for reconstructive surgery

**Dhruv Singhal**, MD  
Microsurgical techniques for the prevention and treatment of lymphedema; evaluation of integrative medicine applications to plastic surgery care
Surgical Oncology
Benjamin C. James, MD, MS
Population-level analysis of thyroid cancer incidence and the clinical and economic implications of this rapid rise. Biomarkers of thyroid cancer

Ted A. James, MD, MS
Breast cancer surgery outcomes to derive best practices, determine optimal processes, and improve quality of patient care

Barbara Wegiel, PhD
Heme degredation pathway and the cytoprotective protein heme oxygenase-1 in the development and prevention of cancer

Michael B. Yaffe, MD, PhD
Cell signaling: Approaches to targeted cancer therapy

Jin-Rong Zhou, PhD
Mechanisms of nutraceutical components on the prevention and treatment of cancer

Transplant Surgery
Amy Evenson, MD, MPH
Clinical outcomes in abdominal transplantation, hepatobiliary surgery, and dialysis access

Leo E. Otterbein, PhD
Therapeutic strategies to limit maladaptive inflammatory responses that contribute to acute injury, chronic disease, and cancer

James R. Rodrigue, PhD
Behavioral health aspects of organ transplantation and organ donation

Vascular and Endovascular Surgery
Elliot L. Chaikof, MD, PhD
Thrombosis, atherosclerosis, biologically inspired materials and drugs, genome editing, and cell and tissue engineering

Mauricio A. Contreras, MD
Developing novel biomaterial surfaces

Christiane C. Ferran, MD, PhD
Role of A20 in organ transplantation, diabetes, atherosclerosis, and hepatitis

Frank W. LoGerfo, MD
Developing novel biomaterial surfaces; mechanisms of prosthetic arterial graft failure and prevention of intimal hyperplasia in vein grafts; role of neuropeptides in diabetic wound healing

Leena Pradhan-Nabzdyk, PhD, MBA
Mechanisms of prosthetic arterial graft failure and prevention of intimal hyperplasia in vein grafts; role of neuropeptides in diabetic wound healing

Marc L. Schermerhorn, MD
Re-engineering the delivery of care for patients with vascular disease; comparative effectiveness of surgery and endovascular therapy for treatment of vascular disease

Aristidis Veves, MD, DSc
Regenerative medicine; mechanisms of microvascular disease, wound healing, and peripheral neuropathy in diabetes
About Boston

Founded in 1630, Boston is rich in history and culture. The city is an academic center with more than 100 colleges and universities, and a center of technology, with more than 3,000 computer and biotech businesses. Boston is also home to three medical schools and more than 20 hospitals. Boston offers historic sites, beautiful parks, world-class museums, a renowned symphony orchestra, excellent dining, a diverse population, and five professional sports teams. For more information about Boston, please visit www.visitboston.org or www.bostonusa.com.
Houseofficer Salaries and Benefits
The program provides a wide range of benefits, including malpractice insurance coverage, on-call meals, and short- and long-term disability insurance. The program also offers the opportunity to purchase several types of health, dental, and life insurance. Each resident is allotted four weeks of vacation per year; all chief residents are allotted funds for travel to one conference or other educational program. In addition, the program has a liberal leave of absence policy for residents who are new parents, require medical leave, or need to care for a seriously ill family member. BIDMC also offers numerous resources to promote work/life balance and overall wellness.

Licensure
All residents and clinical fellows appointed to the Beth Israel Deaconess Surgical Service must have either a current limited license or a full license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Applications for the limited license may be obtained from the Surgery Education office. Limited licenses must be renewed every year, up to a maximum of five years. The cost of the license is $100 annually.

Application Process and Deadline
The Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Surgical Residency Program participates in the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS). The program selects interns through the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) in accordance with the policies established by the NRMP. The deadline for receipt of all application documents is October 15. All applicants are required to pass USMLE Step-2 before starting in a first-year position. Please note that the program supports J-1 visas for international trainees.

Interviews
Each application is reviewed holistically with an eye toward a combination of overall academic excellence, leadership ability, career-development potential, and personal character. Qualified individuals will be invited to interview. Interviews are held on selected Wednesdays in December and January. No interviews are scheduled without an invitation, and no individual interviews are scheduled outside of the scheduled sessions.

“The culture was intensely focused on providing the best patient care possible and I’ve always strived to maintain that focus.”
— Richard Hodin, MD (1990), Chief of Academic Affairs, Department of Surgery; Surgical Director, Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Inflammatory Bowel Disease; Chief of Endocrine Surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital; Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School