Robina Matyal awarded first appointed as the first incumbent of the BIDMC Leonard Bushnell Chair of Anaesthesia

When Dr. Daniel Talmor met Dr. Leonard Bushnell he was impressed with the influential physician who was Chair of the Department of Anesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Medicine twice during his career. On February 12 during Anesthesia Week, Dr. Talmor announced that Robina Maytal, MD, will be the first incumbent of the BIDMC Endowed Leonard Bushnell Chair in Anaesthesia and compared her distinguished career with Dr. Bushnell’s.

“Dr. Bushnell started the ICU Service at BIDMC, was Chair of the IRB for many years, and started the Acute Pain Service,” said Dr. Talmor. Dr. Talmor highlighted Dr. Bushnell’s enormous impact on the field of critical care medicine. “He published significant work, was a major contributor to the field of ventilator associated pneumonia and GI bleeding. He also started the BIDMC Foundation which funds a great deal of our academic work. He was a real Renaissance man so we can celebrate his legacy by naming Renaissance woman, Dr. Robina Maytal, as first recipient of his Chair.”

Dr. Maytal, who was recently appointed Chief of the Division of Vascular Anesthesia, came to BIDMC as a resident in 2001. She has proven herself a superb clinician, an admired and innovative teacher, and a highly prolific researcher with close to 100 publications, many of them in high-impact publications. Her current research focuses on optimizing perioperative care through basic science research, perioperative education and use of ultrasound a comprehensive bench to bedside model.

“Robina has taught almost everyone in this room ultrasound and has developed program after program to teach at all levels,” said Dr. Talmor. “She is an amazing educator, a stellar clinician and has a broad spectrum of research. She is also incredibly generous in sharing that research and bringing new investigators into the fold.”

Dr. Maytal, is originally from Pakistan and now resides in Brookline, was delighted to receive this award and described her philosophy regarding the relationship between research and patient care as “optimizing clinical care from bench to bedside.”

Dr. Talmor said that Dr. Maytal’s personal qualities are just as impressive as her professional accomplishments. “On a personal level she has raised three terrific sons and is an example to us all on how you can have a great home life and family and be a wonderful colleague as well.”