



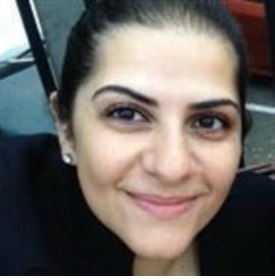




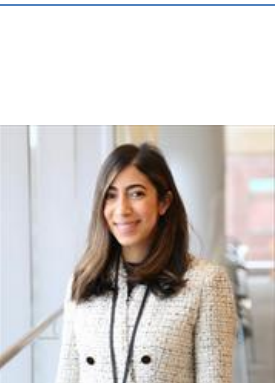
2022-2023 Women's Leadership Program Participants

Headshot	Name	Department	Track	Bio
	Jennifer Beane	Computational Biomedicine	Basic Scientist/ Translational Scientist	<p>I graduated from Dartmouth College with a B.A. in Engineering Sciences (B.A.) and a B.E. in Biochemical Engineering (B.E.). After working in biotech, I earned a PhD in Bioinformatics at Boston University where I became interested in lung translational science in the lab of Dr. Avrum Spira. My thesis work focused on identifying molecular alterations in the airway field of injury associated with smoking and lung cancer. My work demonstrated that lung cancer-related airway gene expression changes are independent of clinical lung cancer risk factors, thus demonstrating the clinical utility of a gene expression-based lung cancer biomarker. I continued this work as a postdoctoral associate under Dr. Avrum Spira and broadened our understanding the airway field of injury associated with other smoking-related lung diseases.</p> <p>In 2011, I was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Section of Computational Biomedicine at BUSM, and I have been recently promoted to Associate Professor. As a faculty member, I have focused on developing early detection and risk biomarkers as well as chemoprevention strategies for lung cancer. I have taken a multi-pronged approach by 1) trying to expand our molecular knowledge of existing promising chemoprevention agents, by 2) developing biomarkers for early detection and risk of lung cancer as well as surrogate markers of efficacy for chemoprevention agents, and by 3) discovering novel targetable pathways to prevent or delay the onset of lung cancer.</p>
	Hanni Menn-Josephy	Medicine/ Renal	Clinician Educator	<p>I am an Assistant Professor and an attending physician in the Renal Section at BMC, with a special interest in Autoimmune Kidney Diseases and Lupus Nephritis. I am the Co-Director of the Lupus multidisciplinary clinic, which serves as a national referral center for patients with lupus and lupus nephritis.</p> <p>I graduated from the Bruce Rappaport School of Medicine in the Technion, Äì Israel, where I also completed my Internal Medicine residency. Nephrology was my passion since the early days of my clinical studies, and in pursue of the best possible training, I moved to Boston in 2009 to start my combined research-clinical training at BMC. Under the guidance of Dr. Ian Rifkin, I studied the regulating pathways of IFN in both lupus mice models and in primary human cells. In 2015 I joined the Renal Section faculty at BMC.</p> <p>In 2013 we established the multidisciplinary lupus and autoimmunity center. Our center has been participating in numerous clinical trials studying lupus patients with that are refractory to standard therapies. We also established an autoimmunity clinical registry of patients and continuously collect blood and tissue samples for our repository.</p> <p>In addition to co-directing the lupus clinic, I am involved in research and quality initiatives focusing on improving access to care and reducing health inequity for our patients. I have a strong commitment to expanding our clinic, and to continuously providing our patients with the best possible medical, as well as social.</p>

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	<p>Angela Reffel</p>	<p>Medicine/GI</p>	<p>Clinician Educator</p>	<p>I have been a physician assistant since 1988. My first position out of PA school was at the Fenway Community Health Center as a primary care provider with a special emphasis on HIV care. I also moonlighted at Planned Parenthood in their evening GYN clinic. In the years since, I have worked in urgent care, performed flexible sigmoidoscopy in the gastroenterology clinic at Harvard Vanguard, and from 2000-2002, was the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program Coordinator for the Department of Public Health. In 2022, I joined the Boston University Department of Medicine, Section of Gastroenterology, where I initially also performed screening flexible sigmoidoscopies and then began working with the hepatology group in the outpatient clinic. I subsequently joined the Physician Assistant Program in 2016 as the Associate Director of Clinical Education, but was promoted to Director of Clinical Education after just one month after the departure of my predecessor. I stepped away from clinical practice in 2020 to focus on the needs of the PA program during the pandemic. This year will mark my 20 year anniversary at Boston University.</p>
	<p>Ludy Shih</p>	<p>Neurology</p>	<p>Clinician Scientist</p>	<p>Dr. Ludy Shih is Associate Professor of Neurology at Boston University School of Medicine in the Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center and Director of the Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) Program at Boston Medical Center. Dr. Shih has clinical expertise in the use of DBS for movement disorders, including the formation of interdisciplinary teams caring for individuals with complex Parkinson's disease care needs. She has research interests in gait and tremor, PD and related disorders and their intersection with cognitive impairment and aging. She is interested in developing digital motor signatures and has applied quantitative techniques to studying movement in both healthy and clinical populations, such as those who receive interventions such as DBS for PD and essential tremor (ET). Her work includes the use of wearable sensors and other objective methods to assess and characterize tremor, gait and related neurologic impairments in order to develop clinical and translational tools for detecting and managing these impairments. In addition, she is interested in the use of technology to improve access to care for individuals with motor and cognitive impairment. In addition to conducting clinical trials, she has developed investigator-initiated work that has been funded by the Michael J. Fox Foundation and the Consortia for Improving Medicine with Innovation and Technology (CIMIT).</p>
	<p>Aala Jaber</p>	<p>Medicine/ Renal</p>	<p>Clinical Administrator</p>	<p>I obtained my medical degree from the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Ireland. Following the successful completion of my initial training in internal medicine, I became a member of the Royal College of Physicians. I then completed a research fellowship in the laboratory of Dr. Andrey Cybulsky at McGill University (Montreal, Quebec), where I examined the cellular signaling pathways involved in kidney development and cellular kidney injury.</p> <p>After my research fellowship at McGill University, I pursued a clinical and research nephrology fellowship at Boston University Medical Center. In 2019, I joined the faculty of Nephrology Department at Boston University Medical Center as an assistant professor. In June 2021, I was appointed the Medical Director of the Acute Dialysis program at Boston University Medical Center.</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Ilona Kopits</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Medicine/ Geriatrics</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clinician Educator</p>	<p>I completed my Family Medicine residency and Geriatrics fellowship training at Boston University Medical Center. I have been a faculty member since 2008 in the Boston University Geriatrics Section, where I precept primary care residents in their longitudinal geriatric outpatient clinic and direct the PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) rotation for the BU Geriatrics fellowship. My research interests have included falls assessment, Alzheimer,Ås disease, and evaluation of function and disability. I am also a primary care physician with the PACE organization of Upham,Ås Corner Health Center where I have provided medical leadership in developing the program,Ås first supportive housing unit in collaboration with the Boston Housing Authority. I was a scholar at the Tideswell Leadership in Aging Program at UCSF in 2017 where my practicum project focused on this topic.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Titilayo Ilori</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Medicine/ Renal</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clinician Scientist</p>	<p>I am an Assistant Professor of Medicine, a nephrologist, clinical researcher, and epidemiologist. My professional goal is improving health outcomes in underrepresented groups and my research focus is gene x environment interactions in kidney disease. I am a product of three continents, born in the US, completed Medical School in Lagos Nigeria and introduced to research in the UK and finally my postgraduate nephrology and clinical research training in the US. I am also passionate about mentoring and coaching young professionals in academia especially those from underrepresented groups. I have a K23 from the NIDDK looking at diet and Apolipoprotein L1 Nephropathy in Kidney disease. I also have a masters in clinical research from Emory University. I am passionate about organizational leadership, operations, strategy, and innovation.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Abrar Al- Faraj</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Neurology/ Epilepsy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clinician Scientist</p>	<p>I am a neurologist and an epilepsy specialist with a goal to become an expert clinician, innovator - scientist and leader in the field of epilepsy. I have a special interest in women's health with epilepsy, specifically understanding how epilepsy impacts women's reproductive health, pregnancy, and postpartum experiences. I fostered an interest in clinical research in the last two years of my training, during my fellowship in clinical neurophysiology and epilepsy. As an international graduate with little exposure to research during medical school years, I lacked many skills to embark on this path. I was fortunate to have a great mentor that encouraged me to explore this path and to be in a great institution that provided me with abundant resources to learn the fundamentals of clinical research. As a result, I have successfully published several papers in high-impact journals in the past two and half years. My experience inspired me to support and encourage medical students and residents with limited experience to explore the field of research and offer mentorship and support to be involved in clinical research. Thus, one of my goals is to gain the necessary leadership skills to develop a structured program that supports clinical research for students/residents with limited research experience, specifically ones who are international graduates. My second goal is to become an expert clinician and independent investigator in the field of epilepsy.</p>