

Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology

Newsletter



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Dr. George Murphy featured in Health Disparities:
Where Do We Go From Here? [Watch here](#)



Now, more than ever, an entire nation looks to us for research, treatments and answers. Let's imagine what more we can do together — for our community, our country, and the world.

Welcome New Faculty



Jose Acevedo, MD

Dr. Jose Acevedo joined our Breast Oncology Program in July after completing his Hem/Onc fellowship with us in June. Dr. Acevedo received his medical degree from the Universidad CES Escuela de Medicina in Columbia, where he won several awards for his clinical research. He subsequently completed his internship in internal medicine at Boston University. Throughout his time in our fellowship program, he impressed everyone with his outstanding clinical skills, his commitment to his patients, and his interests in clinical research. Among his many accomplishments, his article on treating advanced HR positive ERBB2 negative breast cancer was recently featured in the ASCO Post.



Lindsey Hildebrand, MD

Dr. Lindsey Hildebrand joined us in July as a Hospitalist. Dr. Hildebrand received her medical degree from the University of Massachusetts School of Medicine, and was active in numerous teaching initiatives as a peer educator at the University of Massachusetts and as a resident educator during her internal medicine residency at Boston Medical Center and Boston University School of Medicine. During her rotations on our Hematology/Oncology inpatient service, she impressed many of the faculty with her outstanding patient care as well as her teaching and leadership abilities.

Welcome New Faculty



Meredith Halpin, MD

Dr. Meredith Halpin joined our Genitourinary Oncology program in August after completing her Hem/Onc fellowship with us in June. Dr. Halpin received her medical degree from St. George's University, and completed her residency in internal medicine at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center where she also served as chief resident. While in our fellowship program, Dr. Halpin served as one of our geriatric oncology fellows, as well as one of our chief fellows during her senior year. Dr. Halpin has impressed us all with her clinical abilities and her leadership skills, and her ideas and organizational abilities were instrumental in the fellowship redesign last year.



Raphael Szalat, MD

Dr. Raphael Szalat is joining us on September 1 as the new Director of the Multiple Myeloma Program. In this capacity, Dr. Szalat will help lead our clinical efforts in multiple myeloma and will also initiate a laboratory-based research program focused on identifying the molecular and genetic basis of this disease. He received his medical degree and early medical training in Paris, and then served as Chef de Clinique for three years in Immunology and Hematology at Saint-Louis Hospital. He subsequently received a PhD from the University of Paris, Sorbonne while also working as a research fellow investigating the genomics of multiple myeloma with Dr. Nikhil Munshi at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School. Dr. Szalat completed his Hem/Onc fellowship with us in June and was a chief fellow in his senior year. He is an accomplished physician/scientist that has already published widely, and impressed us all with his clinical skills during his fellowship.

Awards



Congratulations to Dr. Vaishali Sanchorawala who has been selected for membership to the BUMG Clinical Excellence Society. The BUMG Clinical Excellence Society was established in 2017 to recognize the highest level of clinical excellence. Dr. Sanchorawala was selected for this honor as she attained finalist status in the Excellence in Leadership award category. Recipients of this award demonstrate characteristics of a great leader, embody core BUMG values and have made exceptional contributions to enhancing clinical infrastructure and/or supporting excellence in patient care.

Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD



Congratulations to Charlene Sylvestre, NP-C, for being a recipient of the 2021 Advanced Practice Provider Excellence Award. She was selected from a truly outstanding group of nominees representing the best clinicians and clinical leaders from across the institution. Nurse Sylvestre was also selected to be inducted into the BUMG Clinical Excellence Society. The Society was formed in 2017 to recognize the highest level of clinical excellence.

Charlene Sylvestre, NP-C

Publications



Hussein Assi, MD

Dr. Hussein Assi and collaborators published Rapid Progression After ^{177}Lu -DOTATATE in Patients With Neuroendocrine Tumors.



Isabel Dominguez, PhD

Dr. Isabel Dominguez and collaborators published Okur-Chung neurodevelopmental syndrome-linked CK2 α variants have reduced kinase activity



Chris Heaphy, PhD

Dr. Chris Heaphy and collaborators published Oncogenic gene fusions in nonneoplastic precursors as evidence that bacterial infection can initiate prostate cancer.

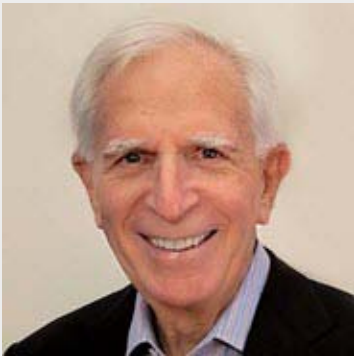
Publications



Dr. Vaishali Sanchorawala and colleagues published Marked progress in AL amyloidosis survival: a 40-year longitudinal natural history study.

Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD

Presentations



Martin Steinberg, MD

Dr. Martin Steinberg will present a lecture at the 6th Annual Cell and Gene Therapy Symposium (Virtual Meeting) for the Centre for Stem Cell Research, Vellore, India held on September 1-3, 2021.

Dr. Martin Steinberg will present a lecture on "Apheresis and Gene Therapies in Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia," at the World Apheresis Association webinar on Cellular Therapies, Transplantation and Thrombosis Related to COVID-1 on September 15, 2021.

Jeans Friday



thank you

It has been a year like no other, but despite all of the challenges, our cancer team has not only risen to the occasion but surpassed expectations in so many different ways.

A few accomplishments include more patients than ever are choosing to receive their cancer care at BMC, enrolling more patients on treatment trials than in any past year, and receiving a record number of applications for our training and research programs.

Our Cancer Center also recently renewed its status with full accreditation from the Commission on Cancer.

As a small but fun gesture of thanks and acknowledgement for everyone's hard work, we received approval to designate Friday July 30th as "Jeans Friday". Donuts were also passed out to clinic employees as a small token of appreciation.

Clinic Updates

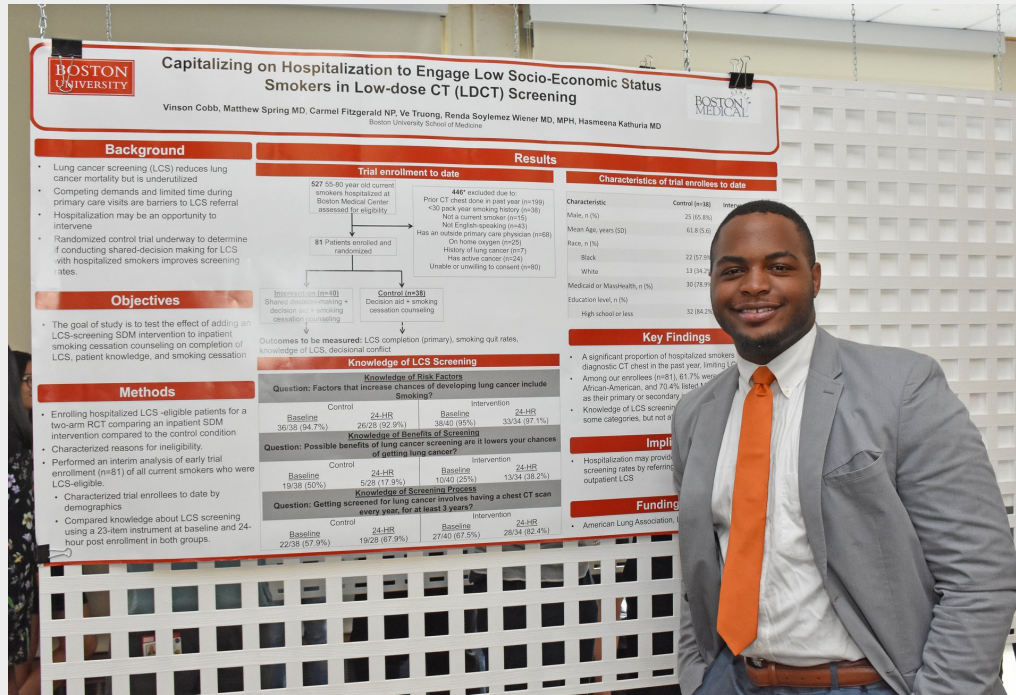


A few exciting announcements in regards to our clinic administrative and medical assistant teams:

- Estelle Cadrain joined our front desk team as an ASR II. She has experience working with underserved populations and is very eager to join our team.
- Rose Daguerre joined our team as a certified Medical Assistant on 8/16. Many of you may recognize her from when she was the temp MA who was working with us earlier this year.

Please join us in welcoming our new team members Estelle and Rose!

STaRS Scholars Complete 2021 Summer Training



The STaRS scholars completed the 2021 Summer Training as Research Scholars (STaRS) program! Thank you to all the professionals that help achieve the mission of the program to diversify the biomedical workforce.

Special thanks to members of the Hem/Onc section **Drs. Hui Feng, Gareth Morgan and Laura Lowery** for providing outstanding research experiences for our scholars. Also, my thanks to **Drs. Hui Feng, Gareth Morgan, and Christopher Heaphy** for delivering research skills training sessions to the scholars. - Dr. Isabel Dominguez

Donating Supplies to Haitian Relief Efforts



BMC is collecting supplies to aid in the Haitian relief efforts, following the devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Two collection boxes have been placed on Yawkey 6th floor (residents' room and outside of administrative office) and will remain through September 12 at which point the supplies will be shipped to Haiti.

Needed supplies include: canned tuna, salmon, rice, beans, spaghetti, crackers, diapers, clothes for children and adults, toiletries, flashlights, batteries, tents, mosquito nets, Band-Aids, hydrogen peroxide, alcohol, water, gloves, masks, Tylenol, first aid kits, wound care kits.

Additionally, our colleagues who have ongoing partnerships with clinicians and relief organizations in Haiti have provided a list of reputable nonprofit organizations for those looking to support relief efforts with a donation: 2021 Mass Haitian Relief Task Force via HAU, Equal Health, Health Equity International, and Partners in Health.

MBTA Pass Order Deadline: September 5

The deadline to enroll in, cancel, or change your MBTA pass is the 5th of the month prior to the effective month. For example, the deadline for your October MBTA pass is September 5.

Charlie Card/Link Pass: If you have lost your MBTA pass, your card doesn't work, or you have inquiries regarding any credits owed to you, please reach out to Commuter Benefit Solutions directly for their assistance.

Commuter Rail Passes: If your commuter rail pass is not received, or lost, you may be reimbursed by purchasing a replacement pass at full price, and submitting a claim reimbursement form and a receipt to Commuter Benefit Solutions. All reimbursement for passes lost or not received must be submitted by the 10th of the prior month. Please note that members are only eligible for one claim approval within a calendar year.

Contact Commuter Benefit Solutions at 888-235-9223, option 1 or visit [CommuterBenefits.com](https://www.commuterbenefits.com).

COVID-19 Vaccination Workplace Requirement

The BMC COVID-19 vaccination requirement deadline is [October 15, 2021](#). By that date, all LIPs must either obtain at least one vaccine dose and share their vaccination information into the BMCHS Employee Health Portal OR receive an approved exemption, which must be requested by September 17. There will be very few exemptions approved.

Employee Vaccination Clinic Hours and New On-Demand Option

Walk-in vaccinations are available at the ground floor Dowling clinic location at 850 Harrison Avenue. Departments may also page a COVAX nurse at 2829 to come vaccinate employees on-demand in ambulatory clinics, the ED, and inpatient floors.

Dowling Hours of Operation:

Mon, Wed, Fri: 6 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Tues, Thurs: 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Sat, August 21: 7 a.m. – 12 p.m.

COVAX (on-demand) Hours of Operation:

Mon – Fri: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Evenings by request

BMC Cancer Research Innovator Awards

The BU-BMC Cancer Center is delighted to announce that Boston Medical Center is sponsoring a new research grant program to support junior faculty at the beginning of their careers who are performing innovative research in cancer and areas related to cancer. Research may include basic, translational, or clinical research; priority will be given to innovative projects with the potential to significantly increase understanding of underlying cancer mechanisms, lead to the development of new therapeutic strategies, or otherwise positively impact cancer care. Funding will be for one year, in the amount of \$50,000. Candidates must be in the first four years of their faculty appointment and must work in BMC space.

To apply, please submit the following materials by Oct 1, 2021:

- Chair or Section Chief nomination letter
- A one-page description of the proposed research
- A proposed budget: funds may be used for salary support, supplies, and other appropriate research related expenses
- Candidate CV

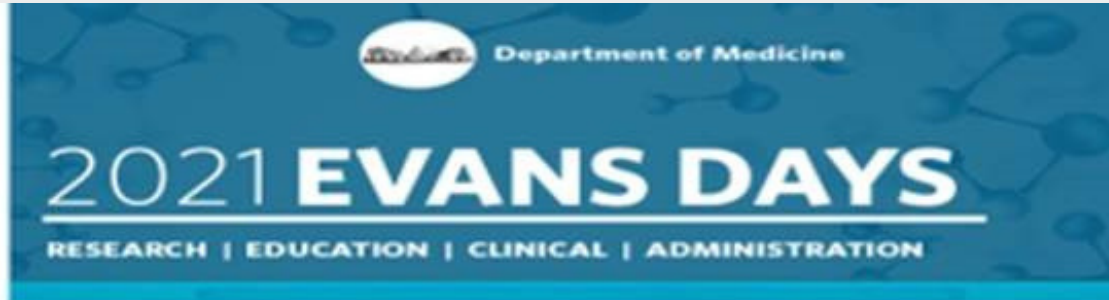
Please send any questions and application materials to: Erin.McCarthy@bmc.org

DOM Faculty Development and Diversity Grants

Are you a DOM faculty member who seeks to further your professional development? Are you interested in developing research, clinical, leadership, administrative, or advocacy skills? Then apply for a Faculty Development and Diversity Grant! Upcoming 2021-2021 Grant Deadlines:

- October 15th, 2021
- January 15th, 2022
- April 15th, 2022

Please find out more information on the FD&D [website](#) or contact them at bumcfdd@bu.edu with questions.



2021 Schedule

**Thursday,
October 7, 2021**

Oral Presentations

8:30am – 9:30am

Poster Sessions

9:30am – 12:30pm

Dr. Coleman interviews Ingelfinger Professor Dale Abel, MD, PhD

12:30pm – 1:00pm

ARC Presentations

1:15pm – 2:15pm

Wilkins Visiting Professor Lecture

3:00pm – 4:00pm

Drew Weissman, MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania



All events on October 7th will be virtual and take place on the EposterBoards Platform.

**Friday,
October 8, 2021**

Ingelfinger Visiting

Professor Lecture

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Dale Abel, MD, PhD

Professor of Internal Medicine –
Endocrinology and Metabolism
University of Iowa
Roy J. & Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine
Department of Internal Medicine



Please use the DOM Grand Rounds Zoom link:

<https://bostonu.zoom.us/j/94558249649?pwd=MFhvenlZOWVvWkZPeXF4QkphRnJQdz09>

Meeting ID: 945 5824 9649. Passcode: 447072

Announcements

Follow Us on Instagram!



Hematology & Medical Oncology is officially LIVE on Instagram!
Follow us at [@BMCHemOnc](https://www.instagram.com/BMCHemOnc)

If you or one of your patients would like to be featured, please submit a request at <https://www.bumc.bu.edu/hematology/announcement-requests/>

BMC Provider Profile Update Form

If you would like to add updates to your BMC Provider Profile Page, please fill out the form [linked here](#).

Available Career Opportunities as of August 2021:

- Clinical Investigator, Hematology/Hematologic Malignancies
- Advanced Nurse Practitioner (Stem Cell Transplant)
- Advanced Nurse Practitioner (GU)
- Director of Operations - Cancer Care
- Clinical Research Coordinator
- Sickle Cell Clinical Research Assistant
- Clinical Research Coordinator – Hematology and Medical Oncology
- Research Assistant - Hematology and Medical Oncology
- Advanced Fellowship, Sickle Cell Disease

Upcoming Section Events



9/16/21, 12:00pm: [Hem/Onc Section Meeting](#)

9/17/21, 3:00pm: [Anti-Racism Event For Staff](#)

9/24/21, 3:00pm: [Anti-Racism Event For Faculty](#)

10/7/21, 12:00pm: [Hem/Onc Section Meeting](#)

10/7/21: DOM Evans Days

10/15/21, 11:45am, Moakley Green: [Hem/Onc Section Photo](#)

10/15/21, 3:00pm: [Anti-Racism Event For Entire Section](#)