

Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology Newsletter



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Welcome to our new fellows who started on July 1!



Jason Lofters, MD



Justin Battaglini, MD



Neha Garg, MD



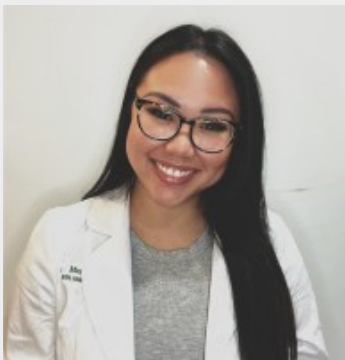
Thomas George, MD
(Geri-Onc)

New Hires



Joelle Mamon RN, BSN

Joelle Mamon RN, BSN, accepted a position as an Advanced Practice Provider starting 10/1. Joelle received a Bachelor of Arts degree in linguistics from the University of Rochester, and subsequently received a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the MGH Institute for Health Professions. She worked for several years as a nurse at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; she is currently completing her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Boston College Connell School of Nursing. Among her many achievements, she won a first-place award for a poster presentation on eliminating race-based medicine in primary care, at the 2022 Eastern Nursing Society annual conference.



Mary Do, MSN, FNP

Mary Do, MSN, FNP, accepted a position as an Advanced Practice Provider starting 10/1. Ms. Do received her undergraduate degree in nursing from Regis College and subsequently worked as a staff nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital and Lahey Hospital, where she gained experience caring for patients with both chronic and acute medical issues. She completed her Masters of Science in Nursing at the University of Massachusetts, Boston and has recently worked independently as a nurse practitioner in a CVS urgent care clinic and as a nurse practitioner for Monogram Health Care.



Leena Abdelghany

Leena Abdelghany joins us as a Senior Program Coordinator starting 7/31. Leena graduated from the Commonwealth Honors College at UMass Amherst with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology/Neuroscience and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. Leena will be assisting the Sickle Cell Disease Program and the Section of Hem Onc in administrative operations, including but not limited to managing calendars of senior leaders, scheduling meetings, compiling and tracking data, managing accounts, preparing presentations and reports, and other duties as assigned.

New Hires



Gwynne Özkan

Gwynne Özkan joined us as a Research Assistant in the Translational Research Core. Gwynne received a B.S. in Biomolecular Science from the University of Michigan. She loved her time as a Wolverine and was very dedicated to preserving the public health of her Ann Arbor community. Her volunteer work included many non-profits, mentoring the Intellectual and Developmentally Disabled community through Best Buddies and being a pen-pal to kindergarteners through K-grams. Additionally, she worked as a registered volunteer at the University of Michigan Health System to facilitate COVID-19 vaccine clinics and served as a Crisis Text Line Counselor. In response to the pandemic, she worked at Lynx Dx – Michigan’s largest COVID-19 testing center – as the lead coordinator for a clinical trial to validate an innovative saliva assay test. Also at Lynx Dx, she worked as the medical billing manager, advocating for fair COVID-19 testing coverage for vulnerable populations.



Fatema Tuj Zohura

Fatema Tuj Zohura joined us as as a Research Assistant in the Szalat lab. Fatema holds a Master of Science in Biopharmaceutical Analytical Science from Northeastern University and a Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology. Her knowledge and experience encompass various aspects of biopharmaceutical sciences, including cell culture, analytical techniques, lab safety, and management. She has had the privilege of contributing to the targeted protein degradation team as a Co-op student at UCB Biosciences. In that role, she was responsible for maintaining cell lines, optimizing phenotyping techniques, and validating antibodies. It was a rewarding experience to be part of such groundbreaking research. In addition to her industry experience, she has also served as a Teaching Assistant at Northeastern University, where she had the opportunity to share her knowledge and passion for biopharmaceutical sciences with students. She also gained valuable research experience at Worcester Polytechnical Institute and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Cancer Innovator Awards

We are delighted to announce the recipients of this year's Boston Medical Center Cancer Innovator Awards. These awards support early career investigators at Boston Medical Center who are performing innovative research in cancer and areas related to cancer. This year's awardees are:



Camille Edwards, MD

Camille Edwards, MD: "Mapping and modeling the molecular mechanisms of light chain induced organ dysfunction in systemic immunoglobulin light-chain amyloidosis."



Fabio Petrocca, MD

Fabio Petrocca, MD: "Characterization of primary T-cells and CAR-T cells in patients following stem cell transplantation."



Christopher Heaphy, PhD



Joakin Mori, PhD

Christopher Heaphy, PhD and Joakin Mori, PhD: "Racial differences in molecular subtypes and associations with poor outcomes in prostate cancer."

Promotions



Shuaiying Cui Ph.D

Shuaiying Cui, PhD, was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Medicine. Dr. Cui received his Ph.D. in Genetics at the University of Science and Technology of China and completed post-doctoral research fellowships in the laboratories of Yi Zhang and James Engel at the University of Michigan. He was recruited to Boston University and Boston Medical Center in 2016, where his work on elucidating new mechanisms for the induction of fetal hemoglobin has gained significant international attention. In 2019, Dr Cui received a prestigious Doris Duke Sickle Cell Disease/Advancing Cures Award, putting him in the company of a select group of high-profile national investigators in the field of red blood cell disorders. In 2022, Dr. Cui received an R01 grant for his work targeting PGC1-alpha as a potential treatment for sickle cell disease. Dr. Cui's research contributions have important scientific and therapeutic implications.

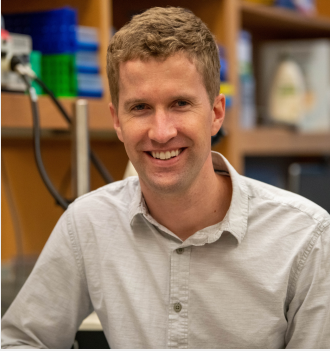
Awards



Chris Heaphy, PhD

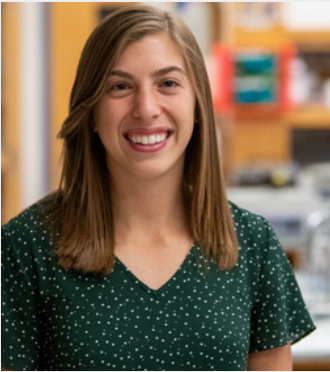
Chris Heaphy, PhD, was awarded an R01 grant for his project titled "The telomere biomarker as a tool to inform decision-making for aggressive salvage therapy in men with rising PSA post prostatectomy."

Awards



Elliott Hagedorn, PhD

Elliott Hagedorn, PhD, was awarded an Early-Career Scientific Research Grant from the Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies to further his work on blood stem cell migration.



Gwendolyn Beacham, PhD

Gwendolyn Beacham, PhD, in Dr. Hagedorn's lab was selected as a 2023 fellow by the Jane Coffin Childs Fund for Medical Research (JCC). The Fund has been successful since its launch in catalyzing the careers of scientific leaders who have gone on to make major scientific contributions that have advanced human health and fundamental science.



Edward (Eddie) Ruiz

Edward (Eddie) Ruiz, a second year PhD student in the Graduate Program for Genetics and Genomics, was recently selected as one of thirteen Hariri Fellows at Boston University. Eddie works with Dr. Ruben Dries to systematically investigate the role of RNA regulation in tissue and tumor development. A major focus of his research is the development of open-source computational methods to process and analyze large datasets from spatial omic technologies. As a Hariri Institute Graduate Student Fellow, Eddie is looking forward to learning from and facilitating connections between BU researchers in different fields who are interested in computational research methods.



Yanan Sun, PhD

Yanan Sun, PhD, in Dr. Cui's lab was awarded a 2023-2024 Research Fellowship by the Board of Directors of the Cooley's Anemia Foundation. This award has been granted upon the recommendation of the Foundation's Scientific Review Committee of the Medical Advisory Board.

Publications



Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD

Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD, published "[Eureka Moment-Innovation Comes of an Age in Light Chain Amyloidosis.](#)"

Sanchorawala V. Eureka Moment-Innovation Comes of an Age in Light Chain Amyloidosis. JCO Oncol Pract. 2023 Feb 28:OP2300033. doi: 10.1200/OP.23.00033. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36854072.

Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD, and collaborators published "[Health-Related Quality of Life Instruments for Clinical Trials in AL Amyloidosis: Report from the Amyloidosis Forum HRQOL Working Group. Patient Related Outcome Measures.](#)"

Rizio AA, White MK, D'Souza A, Hsu K, Schmitt P, Quock TP, Signorovitch J, Lousada I, Sanchorawala V. Health-Related Quality of Life Instruments for Clinical Trials in AL Amyloidosis: Report from the Amyloidosis Forum HRQOL Working Group. Patient Related Outcome Measures. 2023;14:153-169. {prepublished online May 18, 2023}

Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD, and collaborators published "[Birtamimab plus standard of care in light chain amyloidosis: the phase 3 randomized placebo-controlled VITAL trial.](#)"

Gertz MA, Cohen AD, Comenzo RL, Kastiris E, Landau HJ, Libby EN, Liedtke M, Sanchorawala V, Schönland S, Wechalekar AD, Zonder JA, Palladini G, Walling J, Guthrie S, Nie C, Karp C, Jin Y, Kinney GG, Merlini G. Birtamimab plus standard of care in light chain amyloidosis: the phase 3 randomized placebo-controlled VITAL trial. Blood. 2023; {prepublished online June 27, 2023}

Vaishali Sanchorawala, MD, and collaborators published "[Mapping cellular response to destabilized transthyretin reveals cell- and amyloidogenic protein-specific signatures.](#)"

Ghosh S, Villacorta-Martin C, Lindstrom-Vautrin J, Kenney D, Golden CS, Edwards CV, Sanchorawala V, Connors LH, Giadone RM, Murphy GJ. Mapping cellular response to destabilized transthyretin reveals cell- and amyloidogenic protein-specific signatures. Amyloid. 2023 Jul 13:1-15. doi: 10.1080/13506129.2023.2224494. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37439769.



Publications



Jean-Antoine Ribeil, MD



Martin Steinberg, MD



Galia Pollock, MD

Jean-Antoine Ribeil, MD, Martin Steinberg, MD, and Sickle Cell fellow Galia Pollock, MD, published "[An Integrated Therapeutic Approach to Sickle Cell Disease Management Beyond Infancy.](#)"

Ribeil J-A, Pollock G, Frangoul H, Steinberg MH. An integrated therapeutic approach to sickle cell disease management beyond infancy. Am J Hematol. 2023; 1-10. doi:10.1002/ajh.26956

Presentations



Martin Steinberg, MD

Martin Steinberg, MD, presented a lecture, "The lessons that have shaped an era of innovation" at a symposium and "Understanding the biology to guide an era of innovation in β -haemoglobinopathies," at the European Hematology Association meeting in Frankfurt, Germany on June 8th, 2023.

Patient Satisfaction Comments



Andreea Negroiu, MD

"Dr. Negroiu is one of the most patient and considerate providers that I received care from at BMC. She always listens to me and provides me with encouragement and support. She responds quickly to any and all of my messages and requests and explains things in a manner that I can always understand."



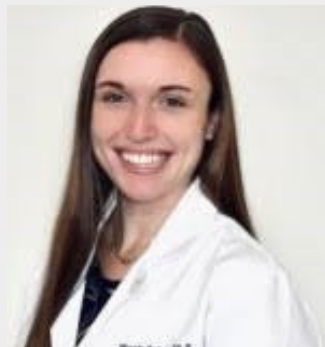
Mark Sloan, MD

"Dr. Sloan was very polite and listened to me. The girls that admitted me and did the blood work were excellent. I used to go to Dr. Winetrap and they treated me like royalty. I really love everyone there. Thank you so much. I just pray that everyone down there will walk away with good results. God bless."



Gretchen Gignac, MD

"I am very grateful for the treatment and attention received from the doctor and her assistants."



Nicole Faber, PA

"Nicole was very professional, very courteous. That's why I keep going back to Boston Medical, that's my favorite hospital. I've been going there for years."

Announcements

Boston University Human Resources



Dear Colleagues,

As announced earlier this Spring, Boston University will be moving exempt employees to a semi-monthly pay cycle on August 1st. Human Resources, Payroll, and the BUworks Business Warehouse team will hold a webinar for payroll coordinators on July 12th at 11AM to review changes that should be kept in mind and to answer any questions that departments may have.

If you wish to attend the webinar please register here:

https://bostonu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_51VInQMTaKrWkFo5akqfg, if you cannot attend we will be recording the session.

Leading up to the webinar please feel free to review the current [pay schedule change website](#) and also submit semi-monthly payroll questions through the existing [questions and concerns webform](#). We will continue to answer questions as they come in and plan to re-address questions at the webinar while taking new questions as well.

While the Organization Management (OM) and Personnel Administration (PA) forms will be largely unimpacted by the switch to semi-monthly, it will be important to have new form deadlines in mind. For general deadline information please review the [HRIS form deadline guidelines](#). As for specific month to month deadlines, HR and Payroll have integrated processing deadlines within the [standard payroll calendars](#). August 2023 and Sept 2023 already reflect the semi-monthly form deadlines, future months will be updated later after post go-live.

Please feel free to e-mail me with any questions or submit them via the webform mentioned above.

Announcements

Research Operations Contact List

Have a question or need advice	Contact	Central Mailbox	Expected turnaround	Escalation
Clinical Trial Office	Johanna.Chesley@bmc.org Office: (617) 414-2861 Cell: 617-549-3367 for urgent requests	clinicaltrialoffice@bmc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email response within 1-2 business days Voicemail response within 1-2 business days If urgent response needed contact Johanna's cell phone 	Tina.dasilva@bmc.org Office: (617) 414-2890
Clinical Research Network	Ryan.Schroeder@bmc.org Cell: (415) 637-6571	CRN@bmc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email response within 1-2 business days Voicemail response within 1-2 business days If urgent response needed contact Ryan's cell phone 	Johanna.Chesley@bmc.org Cell: 617-549-3367
Research Finance	Tyler.Flack@bmc.org Office: 617-414-2864 Cell: 707-328-5026 for urgent requests	Research.Finance@bmc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email response within 1-2 business days Voicemail response within 1-2 business days If urgent response needed contact Tyler's cell phone Calendar is up-to-date, feel free to schedule time for complex and urgent issues 	Tina.dasilva@bmc.org Office: (617) 414-2890
Research Administration Education and Training	Kaye.Mottola@bmc.org Office: (617)-414-2891 Cell: 801-674-9543 for urgent requests	BMCResearch.Operations@bmc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email response within 1-2 business days Voicemail response within 1-2 business days If urgent response needed, contact Kaye's cell phone Calendar is up to date, feel free to schedule time for complex and urgent issues 	Tina.dasilva@bmc.org Office: (617) 414-2890
Sponsored Programs Administration	Christopher.Garcia@bmc.org (617)-414-2852	Grants.Admin@bmc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-urgent emails respond within 1-2 business days. If marked urgent respond the same day during regular business hours. Voicemail response within 1-2 business days or as soon as possible if urgent even if it is to acknowledge receipt and inform the caller that you are working on a request. 	Tina.dasilva@bmc.org Office: (617) 414-2890

Upcoming Events



Department of Medicine

Evans Days

October 19-20, 2023



Evans Days Speakers:

Wilkins Visiting Professor



Barbara Kahn, MD

George R. Minot Professor of Medicine,
Harvard Medical School
Vice-Chair for Research Strategy,
Department of Medicine
Senior Faculty and Former Chief,
Division of Endocrinology,
Diabetes and Metabolism,
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Institute Member, Broad Institute of
MIT and Harvard

Ingelfinger Visiting Professor



Gbenga Ogedegbe, MD, MPH

Dr. Adolph & Margaret Berger
Professor of Population Health
Director, Institute for Excellence
in Health Equity (IEHE)
NYU Grossman School of
Medicine, NYU Langone Health



Upcoming Events

8/3/23, 12pm: Section Photo-Moakley Green

Follow Us on Instagram!

Hematology & Medical Oncology is 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/>

Available Career Opportunities as of July 2023:

- [Advanced Practice Provider, Hematology/Oncology](#)
- [Advanced Practice Provider, Neuro-Oncology and CNS Malignancies](#)
- [Clinical Investigator, Breast Oncology](#)
- [Clinical Investigator, Gastrointestinal Oncology](#)
- [Clinical Investigator, Hematology/Hematologic Malignancies](#)
- [Clinical Investigator, Neuro-Oncology](#)
- [Inpatient Hospitalist](#)
- [Administrative Manager, Finance Operations](#)