

Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology Newsletter



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Dr. Vaishali Sanchorawala presented on "Non-Immunoglobulin Renal Amyloidosis" at the Onconeurology Symposium at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute on September 18, 2026. The symposium brought together experts to share advances in cancer and kidney care. Thank you, Dr. Sanchorawala, for sharing your expertise and representing our section!

New Faculty



Sarah Auerbach

Sarah Auerbach, NP will join the Section of Hematology and Oncology on December 1 as a Nurse Practitioner specializing in breast oncology.

Sarah earned her Master of Science in Nursing from Georgetown University and brings extensive experience in emergency medicine, surgery, and palliative care. Most recently, she completed the Harvard Interprofessional Palliative Care Fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital, where she provided compassionate care to children with serious illnesses and their families across a variety of settings.



Elise Reiche

Elise Reiche, PA-C, will be joining the Section of Hematology and Oncology as a Physician Assistant in November 2026.

Some of you may already recognize Elise from her clinical training at Boston Medical Center, where she completed a HemOnc rotation during her PA studies at Boston University. During her time with our team, she developed a strong interest in hematologic and oncologic care and quickly demonstrated her commitment to compassionate, patient-centered medicine.

Elise brings a diverse clinical background that includes experience in hematology and oncology, addiction medicine, emergency medicine, family medicine, neurology, surgery, and primary care.



Ticco Robinson

Laticco "Ticco" Robinson, PA-C will be joining the Section of Hematology and Oncology on November 1, 2026, as a member of our Amyloidosis team.

Ticco brings more than a decade of clinical experience as a PA, most recently serving in the Division of Nephrology at Tufts Medical Center, where he has been an integral member of the Kidney and Blood Pressure Center and dialysis programs since 2015. He has also been recognized for his excellence in patient care, receiving the Tufts Medical Center Saltonstall Employee of the Month Award in 2019.

New Faculty



Abhishek Janardan

Abhishek Janardan, MD, has accepted a hospitalist position within the Section of Hematology and Oncology, with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2027.

Dr. Janardan earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin and is currently completing his Internal Medicine residency at Boston Medical Center. During his training, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to clinical care, medical education, mentorship, and research. His scholarly work has focused particularly on multiple myeloma, cellular therapies, and other areas of hematology and oncology.

Dr. Janardan is already a valued member of the BMC and BU community, and we are delighted that he will continue his career with us.



Wataru Ebina

Wataru Ebina, MD, PhD, will be joining the Section of Hematology and Oncology at BUMG as a faculty member in GI Oncology starting in early 2027.

Wataru brings an exceptional background as a physician-scientist and clinician, having earned his MD and PhD from Harvard Medical School's Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology, followed by Internal Medicine residency and Hematology/Oncology fellowship training at NYU Langone Health. Throughout his training, he has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to clinical excellence, academic medicine, and advancing innovative cancer therapies.

His research interests are broad and highly translational, with a particular focus on cancer immunology, the microbiome, and mechanisms to enhance responses to immunotherapy. His accomplishments have been recognized nationally, including receiving the 2024 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Bristol Myers Squibb Young Investigator Award. Wataru has authored numerous impactful publications and holds several patents related to stem cell biology, gene editing, and RNA therapeutics. His passion for integrating scientific discovery with clinical care will further strengthen our growing GI oncology and research programs.

New Faculty



Emily Mann

We are thrilled to share that **Emily Mann, MD** has signed on to join our Hematology & Oncology faculty beginning in August 2027! Emily will take on the role as Medical Director of Cancer Genetics. She will focus her clinical efforts on cutaneous oncology, cutaneous manifestation of malignancy, sarcoma, hematology, and high- risk genetics. We are especially excited that she will be remaining in the section and continuing her career with our team.

Emily has longstanding ties to BU and BMC, having completed her undergraduate and medical degrees at Boston University, followed by her internal medicine residency and chief residency at BMC. She was a member of our section as a hospitalist before beginning her Hematology/Oncology Fellowship at BMC.

She brings a strong commitment to caring for underserved patients and a passion for medical education, mentorship, and curriculum development.



Karina Verma

We are thrilled to share that **Karina Verma, MD** has signed on to join our Hematology & Oncology faculty, specializing in Breast Oncology, beginning in August 2027! We are especially excited that she will be remaining in the section and continuing her career with our team.

Karina earned her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College and her medical degree from Drexel University College of Medicine. She completed her internal medicine residency at Boston Medical Center, where she received the Outstanding Citizenship Award and served as Chief Medical Resident, before joining our fellowship, where she is currently Chief Fellow.

A dedicated educator, Karina helped establish the Department of Medicine's Medical Education Pathway for fellows and developed a case-based hematology/oncology curriculum for residents. Her research interests include addressing disparities in breast cancer care. She is also committed to quality improvement and is currently participating in the American Society of Hematology's Quality Improvement Training Institute.

New Staff



Katie Magni

Welcome **Katie Magni**, our new Nurse Director, who started on September 14! Katie brings more than 24 years of oncology nursing experience, with a strong clinical background and a deep commitment to delivering exceptional, patient-centered cancer care. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated outstanding leadership, clinical expertise, and a passion for supporting both patients and staff while advancing excellence in oncology practice.



Isabelle Attahi

Please join us in welcoming **Isabelle Attahi** to the Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology, where she joined the team as an BU Graduate Student Administrative Assistant in September 2026.

Isabelle brings a background in healthcare and laboratory administration. Most recently, she worked as a Clinical Administrative Coordinator at Tufts Medical Center, where she supported patient workflows, administrative operations, and coordination with clinical and billing teams. Prior to Tufts, Isabelle worked with Boston University's Neurovascular Imaging Laboratory, supporting research through procurement and operational oversight for a NIH-funded BRAIN Initiative.

She earned her M.S. in Health Informatics from Boston University and is currently pursuing her Master of Divinity at Boston University School of Theology, with a focus on Ecclesial Ministry.



Nicole Johnston

Welcome to our new Operations Manager, **Nicole Johnston**! Nicole joins us from Brigham & Women's Hospital where she has been an Operations Manager for both the Inpatient HemOnc service and Perioperative team. Nicole impressed the interview team with her knowledge, leadership skills, and admiration for BMC's mission. She has a passion for serving the HemOnc patient population and is excited to join the team!

HemOnc Awards/Promotions



Erin McCarthy

We are excited to recognize **Erin McCarthy, MS**, Associate Administrative Director of Research for the Section of HemOnc, as a July 2026 STARDom Award recipient for Service that is Consistently Exceptional!

Erin has been an invaluable member of the BU/BMC community for an incredible 20 years, growing through a number of administrative leadership roles before becoming our Associate Administrative Director of Research. Throughout her tenure, she has built an extraordinary depth of institutional knowledge and has become a trusted resource for colleagues across the Section and beyond.

Erin is known for her responsiveness, reliability, incredible work ethic, and willingness to step in wherever she is needed.



Nellie Ferrara

Please join us in congratulating **Nellie Ferrara**, who was awarded the BU Distinguished Staff award for Going Above and Beyond!

This well-deserved recognition reflects Nellie's tremendous dedication to our section and her consistent willingness to go above and beyond to support our faculty, staff, and broader team. Nellie wears many hats, approaches each responsibility with care and professionalism, is the organizational and emotional anchor of the section while providing seamless administrative leadership. She has moved from an exceptional staff member to a regional and national leader in medical administration.



Sophie Kempe

Congratulations to **Sophie Kempe** for being awarded a Student Research Award (SRA) from the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) at BU! Sophie is currently a Sophomore at BU doing cancer research in the Heaphy Lab. This semester she will continue her work on evaluating the Spatial Relationship Between Stromal Periostin Expression and Macrophage Infiltration in Prostate Cancer.

HemOnc Awards/Promotions



Tashia Prince-Lacombe

Please join us in congratulating **Tashia Prince-Lacombe, DNP**, on her induction into the 2026 BUMG Clinical Excellence Society!

This recognition reflects Tashia's outstanding dedication to our patients, colleagues, and the Section of Hematology and Oncology. We are incredibly fortunate to have her leadership, expertise, and commitment within our section.

Please also join us in congratulating Tashia on earning her Doctor of Nursing Practice another wonderful achievement to celebrate!



Meredith Halpin

Please join us in congratulating **Dr. Meredith Halpin**, who has been named the recipient of the 2026 BUMG Clinical Excellence Award for Excellence in Care!

This well-deserved recognition celebrates Dr. Halpin's exceptional dedication to her patients and her continued commitment to providing compassionate, high-quality care.



Charlene Sylvestre

Please join us in congratulating **Charlene Sylvestre, NP**, on receiving the Department of Medicine's APP Community Engagement and Advocacy Award!

A longtime and much-loved member of our Sickle Cell team, Charlene brings dedication, compassion, and a strong commitment to supporting our patients and community. We are delighted to see her contributions recognized with this well-deserved honor.

Congratulations, Charlene, and thank you for all you do!

HemOnc Awards/Promotions



Ruben Dries

Please join us in congratulating **Ruben Dries, PhD**, and his team on their involvement in three exciting research awards:

- National Science Foundation POSE Phase I Award**

Building an Open-Source Ecosystem for Spatial Multi-Scale and Multi-Omics Data Science

Ruben and his lab will lead the scoping analysis for transforming the Giotto Suite into a sustainable open-source ecosystem.

- NIH R03 Award**

Personalized Spatial Regulatory Networks to Decode Breast Cancer Microenvironments

This project will develop a novel methodology to map patient-specific gene regulatory networks within breast cancer microenvironments at high resolution.

- NIH R01 Award**

Lung-Specific Mechanisms of TB Progression

Led by Dr. Igor Kramnik at Boston University, this study will include Ruben and his team's expertise in spatial workflows, data integration and analysis, interpretation of results, and manuscript preparation.



Umit Tapan

Please join us in congratulating **Umit Tapan, MD**, on his promotion to Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine, effective June 25, 2026. This promotion was recently approved by the School of Medicine and recognizes Dr. Tapan's outstanding contributions to patient care, education, leadership, and academic medicine.

Dr. Tapan has been an invaluable member of the Section of Hematology and Medical Oncology, demonstrating exceptional dedication to our patients, trainees, and colleagues. His leadership and commitment to advancing clinical excellence have made a meaningful impact across our section and the broader Boston Medical Center community.

HemOnc Grand Rounds

Thursday, October 29, 2026 | 12:00 p.m.

Topic: Immune-Related Adverse Events (irAEs)

Guest Speakers – Massachusetts General Hospital:

- Kerry L. Reynolds, MD
- Sherin J. Rouhani, MD, PhD
- Leyre Zubiri, MD, PhD

Join us to learn from our guest speakers' experience and expertise in immunotherapy complications.

Location: FGH first-floor conference room + virtual option

Lunch will be provided!

Join Us for BMC's EQTY 2026!

Two days of learning and conversation about advancing health equity | October 19–20

October 19 — Inclusive Research Symposium

Explore the evolving landscape of cell and gene therapies and how these groundbreaking treatments can be developed and delivered more inclusively to benefit every community. Our CAMED/BMC colleagues Drs. Fabio Petrocca, Liz Klings, Darrell Kotton, Andrew Wilson, Elizabeth Pearce with opening and closing remarks from Megan Bair-Merritt and Tony Hollenberg.

October 20 — EQTY 2026: Forward by Design

Continue the conversation with an exciting lineup of speakers including opening remarks from Drs. Thea James, speakers Allastair Bell, Melissa Gilliam as well as Dr. Uche Blackstock, whose book we previously discussed together, .

BMC community members can receive complimentary tickets using code BMCHS26.

We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to connect with colleagues and learn from leaders working to advance equitable care!

[Explore the program and register](#)

DoM “Kudos Corner”

The Kudos Corner will be a new weekly email featuring your submissions to highlight:

Kudos

Recognize a colleague or team for kindness, support, teamwork, inclusion, innovation, leadership, outstanding service, or going above and beyond.

Celebrations

Share a personal milestone you would like the DOM community to celebrate, such as a wedding, new family member, graduation, retirement, or another special occasion.

Think about the colleagues who make a positive difference, whether through a major accomplishment, behind-the-scenes problem-solving, a helping hand, or a simple act of kindness. This is your opportunity to help them feel seen and appreciated!

Submissions may recognize an individual or a team. Participation is voluntary, and personal news or identifying details will not be published without permission.

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/01a03a1237957f29926582ba0670abd6>

Annual Department of Medicine Evans Days

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026

Oral Presentations (breakfast served)

8:15am – 9:15am | BU Instructional Building, L110, 72 East Concord St.

Basic Science Posters Presentation

9:30am – 11:00am | BU Instructional Building, Hiebert Lounge, 14th floor

Basic Science & Clinical Research Posters Presentation

11:15am – 12:45pm | BU Instructional Building, Hiebert Lounge, 14th floor

ARConvergence & David Coleman Awardee Presentations (lunch served)

1:00pm – 2:00pm | Evans Building, Keefer Auditorium

Wilkins Visiting Professor Lecture

2:00pm – 3:00pm | Evans Building, Keefer Auditorium

Benjamin L. Ebert, M.D., Ph.D. President and CEO, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School

Director, Harvard Cancer Consortium

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

Ingelfinger Visiting Professor Lecture

12:00pm – 1:00pm | Evans Building, Keefer Auditorium

Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

19th Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Happy Physician Assistant Appreciation Week!



Annual HemOnc Clinic Breakfast



New Observership Submission Form

We would like to remind you all of the launch of our new online submission form for Observership applications that is now located on our website. This new system is designed to streamline the application process and make it smoother in the initial stages of onboarding.

Starting today, all observership applications must be submitted through the online form, which can be accessed at:

<https://www.bumc.bu.edu/hematology/observership-requests/>. The form also includes the rules and regulations, which were discussed at our last Section meeting, that were put in place by BMC.

If you have already submitted an application through email, there is no need to reapply using the new form. However, you are encouraged to use the online system for any future applications.

Faculty & Staff Recognition Award

Call for Nominations!



Do you know someone who has gone above and beyond? Nominate them today and let their efforts be celebrated!

<https://www.bumc.bu.edu/hematology/faculty-staff-awards/>

The section of Hematology & Medical Oncology “Employee Recognition Award” is designed to recognize faculty and staff who work within administration, clinical care and research. This award serves as a means to celebrate excellence, foster a culture of appreciation, and inspire continuous improvement within the departmental community. It is designated for those who have demonstrated outstanding contributions, deliver exceptional service, and go above and beyond their expected duties in the section and the Cancer Center.

Upcoming Events

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 October 2026:

- Clinical Investigator, Gastrointestinal Oncology
- Clinical Investigator, Genitourinary Oncology
- Advanced Practice Provider, Neuro-Oncology and CNS Malignancies
- Director, Ambulatory Medical Director
- Director, Neuro-Oncology Program
- Director, Sickle Cell Program
- Clinical Investigator Hematology/Hematologic Malignancies
- Advanced Practice Provider, Stem Cell Program
- Advanced Practice Provider, Hematology and Hematologic Malignancies
- Advanced Practice Provider: Sickle Cell Disease and Hemoglobinopathies
- Physician: Academic Clinical Investigator- Breast Oncology