

ANNUAL RESEARCH REPORT FY2026

Together with our patients,
we are driving the future of
care and closing health gaps.

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS
AND GYNECOLOGY

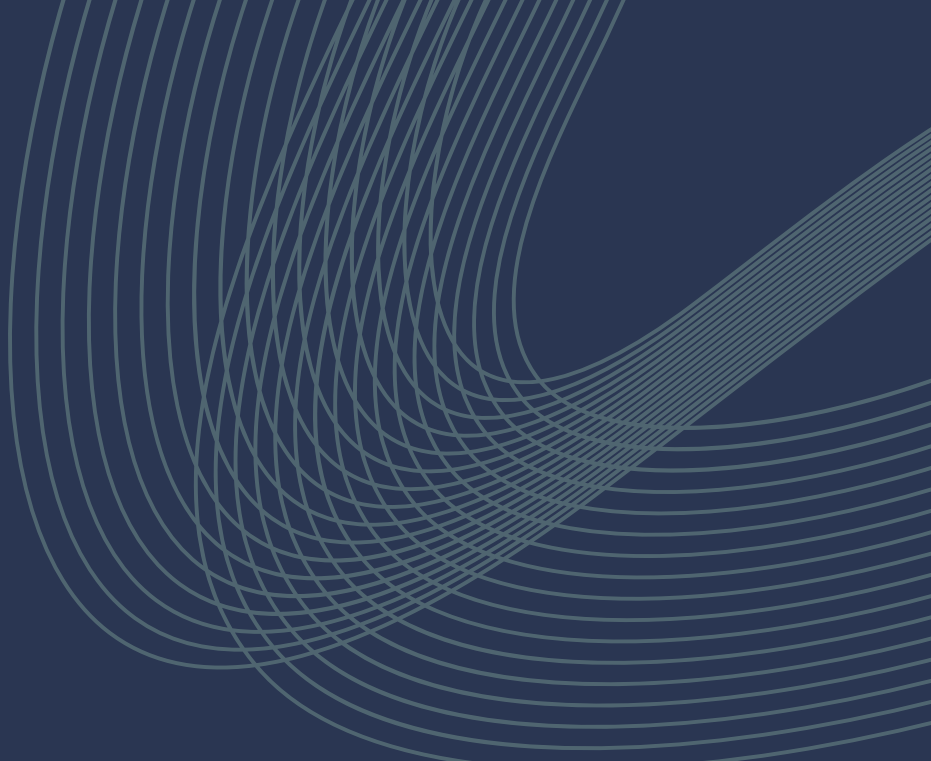


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A NOTE FROM THE VICE CHAIR OF RESEARCH

Sheree Boulet, DrPH, MPH



I am honored to share the Department's inaugural Annual Research Report for Fiscal Year 2026. In a year marked by uncertainty across the research landscape, our faculty, staff, and trainees demonstrated remarkable resilience and dedication to advancing research that improves patient care and addresses the complex health needs of the communities we serve.

This year, our investigators secured 15 grants totaling more than \$2.5 million, supporting over 20 faculty members. Their work resulted in 53 scientific publications and a growing portfolio of research and programmatic initiatives focused on improving health outcomes, expanding access to evidence-based care, and promoting health equity.

I am truly grateful for the passion and perseverance of our research community and look forward to another year of discovery, collaboration, and impact.

RESEARCH MISSION AND VISION



Mission

Our mission is to lead clinical and translational research that expands equitable access to high-quality health care, fosters physical and mental well-being, and supports health across the life course. Grounded in the principles of reproductive justice and health equity, our work is deeply rooted in community engagement and driven by a commitment to meaningful, inclusive partnerships.

Vision

Our vision is to be a nationally recognized leader in multidisciplinary research that advances reproductive and maternal health and reduces health inequities, with a dedicated focus on historically marginalized and underserved populations.

RESEARCH SUMMARY

Research Revenue FY25

\$3,300,000

Research Revenue FY26

\$2,800,000

Performance Metrics

Metric	FY25	FY26
Number of grant submissions	29	28
Number of grants awarded	8	7
Number of active grants	34	35
Number of faculty with research effort	21	23
FY25: October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025 FY26: October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026		

Top Funding Sources

- 01 Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- 02 National Institutes of Health
- 03 Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute
- 04 Society of Family Planning

RESEARCH LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION



Sheree Boulet, DrPH, MPH

Associate Professor and Vice Chair of Research

Dr. Boulet serves as the Vice Chair of Research and provides leadership, strategic direction, and administrative operational oversight for the Department's research portfolio and staff.



Michelle Huezo Garcia, PhD, MPH

Director of Research Operations

Dr. Huezo Garcia leads the administrative, financial, and logistical infrastructure supporting research and development activities. She oversees pre- and post-award functions related to grants and contracts, implements research operations and processes, and supports with execution of strategic goals.



Ran Zhang, PhD, MSW

Postdoctoral Fellow

Dr. Zhang collaborates with faculty and residents to advance research initiatives and provides mentorship and support throughout the research process. She contributes to resident research education and supports project development, data analysis, and dissemination.

DeNina Tate, MS

Grants and Contracts Financial Analyst

Nina supports with post-award financial functions for OBGYN research contracts and grants. She collaborates with investigators and the central research team in the financial management, planning, and reporting of programs, grants, and contracts.

RESEARCH FACULTY AND STAFF

Faculty Researchers



Sheree Boulet, DrPH, MPH

Vice Chair of Research and Associate Professor

Research interests: maternal morbidity, structural determinants of health, perinatal care



Rachel Cannon, MD

Assistant Professor

Research interests: abortion stigma, contraceptive coercion, health equity, and contraception for patients with complex medical conditions



Erica Holland, MD

Assistant Professor

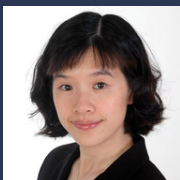
Research interests: role of urine drug testing in pregnancy, opioid use disorder during pregnancy, pain management during and after childbirth, ethical issues surrounding the care of pregnant individuals



Naima Joseph, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor

Research interests: perinatal infectious disease, maternal morbidity and mortality



Wendy Kuohung, MD

Associate Professor

Research interests: disparities in reproductive care, placental development, microbiome of the reproductive tract



Glenn Markenson, MD

Professor

Research interests: Preterm birth prevention, maternal vaccination

RESEARCH FACULTY AND STAFF (CONTINUED)



Nyia Noel, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor

Research interests: fibroids, endometriosis, maternal morbidity and mortality, and health care access and systems delivery



Kari Radoff, DrPH, CNM

Assistant Professor

Research interests: perinatal education, shared decision-making, implementation science, human-centered design methods



Kelley Saia, MD

Associate Professor

Research interests: treatment of substance use disorders in pregnancy and post-pregnancy



Elizabeth Stier, MD

Professor

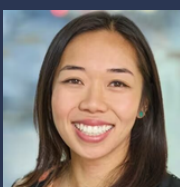
Research interests: cervical and anal cancer prevention and treatment



Kelly Treder, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor

Research interests: family planning, impact of racism on reproductive health and reproductive health outcomes



Samantha Truong, MD

Assistant Professor

Research interests: migrant justice, abortion navigation, birth equity/respectful patient care, refugee/(im)migrant/newcomer health, global health



Katharine White, MD, MPH

Chair and Professor

Research interests: shared decision-making, miscarriage management, sexual wellness/dysfunction

RESEARCH FACULTY AND STAFF (CONTINUED)

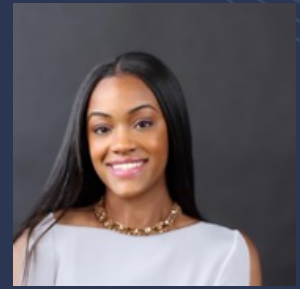
Research Staff



Alana Martinusen, MPH
Program Manager



Jasmin Eatman, MS
Graduate Research Assistant



Myiera Seymour, MPH
Graduate Research Assistant



Ashley Kim, MPH
Research Technician



Justin Grant
Graduate Research Assistant

GRANTS AND PROGRAMS: HIGHLIGHTS

01

A Machine Learning Approach to Preeclampsia Risk Prediction in a Diverse Population (Investigator: Sheree Boulet; Sponsor: Massachusetts Life Sciences Center)

The objective of this study is to use BMC data to develop a risk prediction model for preeclampsia using machine learning methods. This project is part of the Massachusetts Preeclampsia Research & Equity Consortium to advance understanding of and care for individuals with hypertensive disorders of pregnancy.

02

Grants to Increase Maternal Care Access and Expand Delivery Models (Investigator: Kari Radoff; Sponsor: Massachusetts Department of Public Health)

The Perinatal Roadmap Project is a multidisciplinary initiative to develop a comprehensive, evidence-based, digital education resource grounded in national health promotion priorities for people throughout pregnancy, birth, and the postpartum period. The Bump & Beyond Roadmap launched in May 2026 and has developed and translated educational content across the perinatal continuum, expanded multilingual patient resources, and integrated decision support tools and clinical education materials for implementation across the health system.

03

APOL1 Variant-overexpressing Cell Lines in Compound Screening for Preeclampsia Drug Discovery (Investigator: Wendy Kuohung; Sponsor: March of Dimes)

Therapies for preeclampsia have not advanced for over a century, and delivery of the fetus and placenta, often preterm, is the only known cure for preeclampsia, a leading cause of maternal mortality and morbidity globally. We have created placental cell lines carrying variants of the APOL1 gene known to increase preeclampsia risk in pregnant people of recent African ancestry when present in the fetus, to be used 1) to study how APOL1 variants disrupt placental cell function, and 2) in an assay to screen libraries of new and existing drugs to identify safe and effective treatments for preeclampsia.

04

Massachusetts State Opioid Response - Project RESPECT (Investigator: Kelley Saia; Sponsor: Massachusetts Department of Public Health)

This grant supports Project RESPECT's integrated clinical care model and strengthens the program's ability to provide comprehensive, evidence-based treatment for pregnant and postpartum individuals affected by substance use. This funding has advanced specialized clinical services, expanded treatment and recovery supports, and enabled the program to respond to the evolving and complex needs of this patient population.

05

Grants to Support Improvements in Reproductive Health Access, Infrastructure, and Security (Investigators: Katharine White and Rachel Cannon; Sponsor: Massachusetts Department of Public Health)

This grant supports BEACON (Bringing Excellence to Abortion and CONtraception), which provides high quality, evidence-based reproductive health care, including full spectrum of abortion care to the Massachusetts legal limit, for a primarily underserved and medically complex patient population.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Granillo Arce M, Montgomery A, Koo K, Koritsanszky L, Crevecoeur T, Fox E, Khoury R, Louis K, Ameresekere M, Truong SQ. Centering Reproductive and Migrant Justice: Dismantling Inequities in Newcomer Pregnancy Care. *Obstet Gynecol.* 2026;147(6):e129-e140

Joseph NT, Trost SL, Hollier LM, Perkins KM, Goodman DA, Leonard M, Busacker A. Pregnancy-Related Mortality Due to Infection: Maternal Mortality Review Committees in 29 U.S. States, 2017-2019. *Obstet Gynecol.* 2026;147(6):857-865.

Wong ML, Pancholi R, Yinusa-Nyahkoon L, White KO, Woodhams E. Assessing motivating factors for IUD self-removal through focus groups and simulation. *Contraception.* 2026;161:111456.

Wise LA, Schildroth S, Lovett SM, Geller RJ, Patchel SA, Gaston SA, Jackson CL, Bethea TN, Coleman CM, Wegienka G, Wesselink AK, Harmon QE, Baird DD, Noel NL. Use of chemical hair straighteners in relation to incidence and growth of uterine leiomyomata: a prospective ultrasound study. *Am J Epidemiol.* 2026;195(5):1462-1467.

Streeter L, Barrera E, Adler M, Redwood E, Boskey ER, Pollock N, Abbott J. Toward the inclusion of transgender and nonbinary residents among obstetrics and gynecology residency programs across the nation: a needs assessment. *Am J Obstet Gynecol.* 2025; 233(6):681.e1-681.e17.

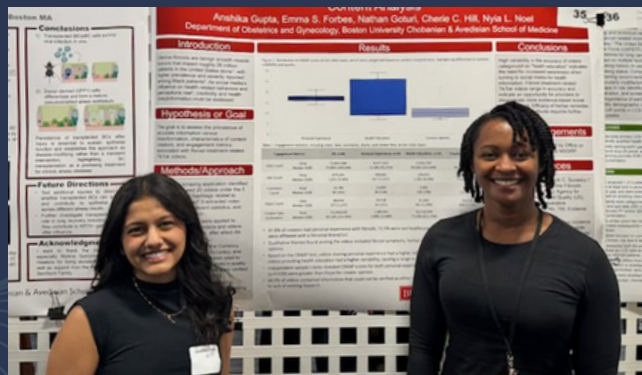
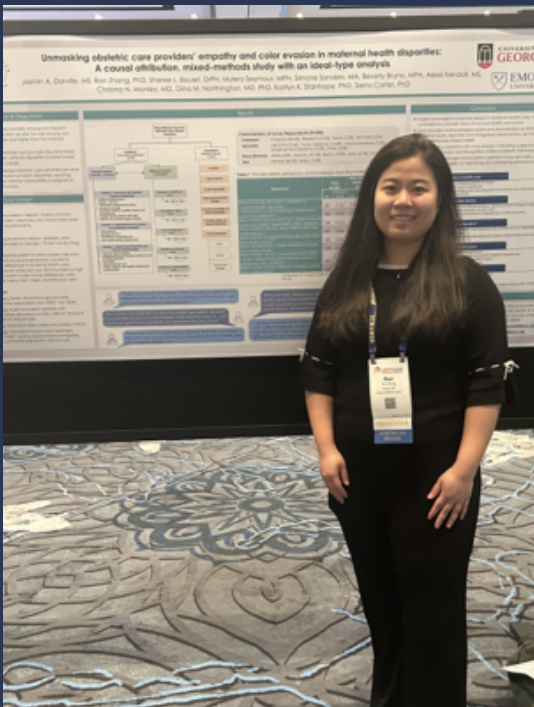
Forman RN, Cruikshank AB, Stransky ML. Bridging the gaps: key insights of mobile dyadic postpartum care models. *Curr Opin Pediatr.* 2026;38(1):25-30.

Ajewole CO, Rubin BR, Cherfane GH, Politch JA, Doherty A, Khemani N, Barakat A, LeBedis C, Gadson AK, Lee YW, Wang JJ, Kuohung W. Risk factors for misdiagnosis of interstitial ectopic pregnancy. *Emerg Radiol.* 2025;32(6):841-848.

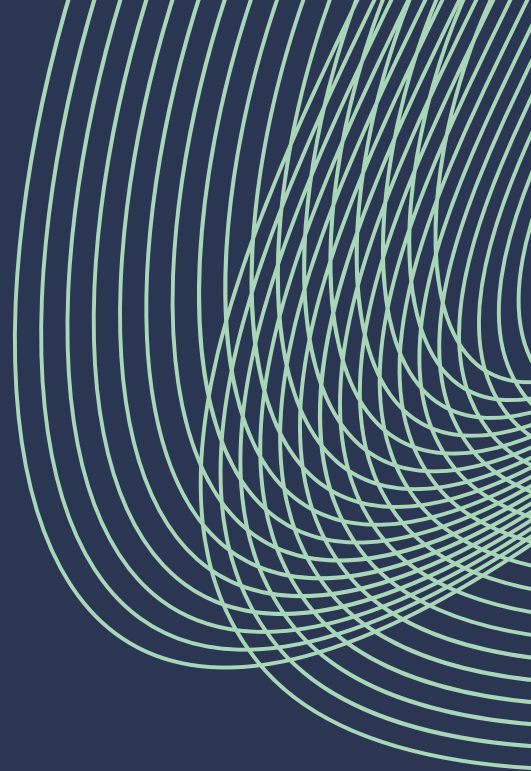
Huezo Garcia M, Parker SE, Ncube CN, Yarrington CD, Werler MM. Multimorbidity and Risk of Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes in a Safety-Net Hospital Cohort. *Womens Health Issues.* 2026:S1049-3867(26)00102-7.

Shah N, Woodhams E, Navarro A. Clinical Effects of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Newest Restrictions on the Etonogestrel Implant. *Obstet Gynecol.* 2026; May 28 (in press).

RESEARCH IN ACTION



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US.



CENTER
**BOSTON
MEDICAL**

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