# **BOSTON UNIVERSITY** School of Medicine
# Department of Surgery

## *Annual Report 2016*

**Providing the best surgical patient care**
**Conducting world-class research**
**Teaching tomorrow's leaders**


BOSTON UNIVERSITY

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

# A Letter from the Chair

During the past year, the Department of Surgery has been productive and successful, advancing the department's mission to provide the finest patient care, conduct world-class research and offer state-of-the art education.

We are deeply indebted to Dr. Gerard Doherty, former *James Utley Professor and Chair* of the Department of Surgery at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM) and *Surgeon-in-Chief* at Boston Medical Center (BMC), for his dedication and tremendous contributions to the Department of Surgery at BUSM and BMC over nearly five years, and we wish him nothing but the greatest success in his new role as *Moseley Professor of Surgery* at Harvard Medical School and *Surgeon-in-Chief* at Brigham and Women's Health Care & Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

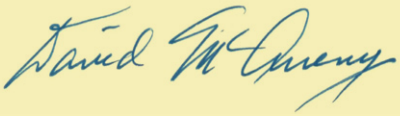
Our faculty continues to grow. Jason Hall, MD, MPH, FACS, FASCRS, became the new *Section Chief* of Colon & Rectal Surgery and *Co-Director* of the Dempsey Center for Digestive Disorders this past spring. We also welcome new faculty as of late summer 2016: Thurston Drake, MD, MPH, Section of Surgical Endocrinology; Luise Pernar, MD, Section of Minimally Invasive and Weight Loss Surgery; Sabrina Sanchez, MD, MPH, Sections of Acute Care & Trauma Surgery and Surgical Critical Care; and Kei Suzuki, MD, Division of Thoracic Surgery.

Research in the department is also making tremendous strides. Major highlights include grant funding to study protein feeding in post-traumatic injury, as well as circulating tumor DNA as a biomarker in esophageal and head and neck cancer.

Of course, our faculty and residents continue to focus on enriching surgical education. This year, our department launched exciting education research initiatives around topics such as: developing and studying a new assessment tool that will help plastic surgeons better assess medical student and resident competencies; a qualitative study exploring the experiences of women surgeons during training and throughout their careers; the effects of a new "Real World Curriculum Evaluation," designed to prepare surgery residents for many of the challenges they will encounter during their careers (and that are not ordinarily addressed in a traditional residency curriculum); and an evaluation of a mentoring program for 4th year medical students who plan to match in general surgery.

We also see significant progress on the transformation of our campus. Milestones completed during the past year include major updates to the Moakley and Yawkey buildings. These changes are preludes to next year's opening of the new operating rooms, including a hybrid operating room and collaborative interventional suites, as BMC consolidates clinical care to a single campus. These efforts fulfill the promise of the 20 year-old merger and prepare the medical center to thrive well into the future.

Whether through the education of the next generation of surgeons, pioneering research, or outstanding clinical care, the Department of Surgery remains poised to care for citizens of Boston, New England and the world.



David McAneny, MD
*Ad Interim Chair and Professor of Surgery,*
Department of Surgery,
Boston University School of Medicine

## DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY BY THE NUMBERS

**Clinical Divisions/Sections:** *14*

**Clinical Faculty (BMC):** *42*

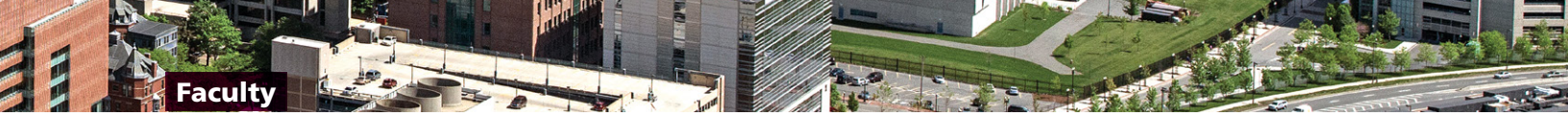
**Residents and Fellows::** *42*

**ACGME-Accredited Surgical Residencies:** *1*

**ACGME-Accredited Specialty Fellowships:** *2*

**OR Procedures:** *7,287*

**Outpatient Visits:** *57,439*




# DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY FACULTY

BU School of Medicine attracts distinguished and highly accomplished faculty who are dedicated to the academic and clinical missions of the School. Our faculty is engaged in treating diverse patient populations, providing patient-centered training and performing cutting-edge research. Many of our faculty are nationally renowned, providing the latest technologically advanced treatments.

## Acute Care & Trauma Surgery/Surgical Critical Care

**Peter Burke, MD**
*Section Chief,* Acute Care & Trauma Surgery
*Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Robert Schulze, MD**
*Section Chief,* Surgical Critical Care
*Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine
*(recommended for)*

**Tejal Brahmbhatt,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

**Tracey Dechert, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery*,
Boston University School of Medicine

**Andrew Glantz, MD,** *Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**George Kasotakis, MD, MPH,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Chaitan Narsule, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

**Sabrina Sanchez, MD, MPH,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

**Bedabrata Sarkar, MD, PhD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Lisa Allee, MSW, LICSW,** *Instructor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Cardiac Surgery

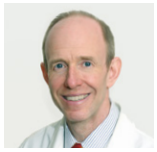
**Karl Karlson, MD**
*Division Chief,* Cardiac Surgery
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Colon and Rectal Surgery

**Jason Hall, MD, MPH**
*Section Chief,* Colon & Rectal Surgery
*Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine
(recommended for)

**Angela Kuhnen, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Minimally Invasive and Weight Loss Surgery



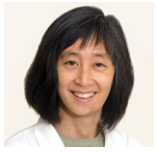
**Donald Hess, MD**
*Section Chief,* Minimally Invasive and Weight Loss Surgery
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Brian Carmine, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Cullen Carter, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

**Luise Pernar, MD ,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

## Pediatric Surgery



**Catherine Chen, MD, MPH**
*Section Chief,* Pediatric Surgery
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Harvard Medical School

**Thomas Hamilton, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Harvard Medical School

**Konstantinos Papadakis, MD,** *Instructor,*
Harvard Medical School

**Jason Smithers, MD,** *Instructor,*
Harvard Medical School

**Jay Wilson, MD,** *Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Harvard Medical School

## Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

**Jaromir Slama, MD**
*Division Chief,* Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Nilton Medina, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Smita Ramanadham, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine


# Faculty

## Podiatry Surgery

**Geoffrey Habershaw, DPM**
*Division Chief,* Podiatry Surgery
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Ewald Ray Mendeszoon Jr., DPM,** *Instructor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**David Negron, DPM, MBA,** *Instructor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Justin Ogbonna, DPM,** *Instructor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Hau Pham, DPM,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Wei Tseng, DPM,** *Instructor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

**Vitaliy Volansky, DPM,** *Instructor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Surgery Education Office

**Douglas Kauffman, PhD**
*Associate Chair for Education*
*Associate Professor of Surgery*,
Boston University School of Medicine
*(recommended for)*

## Surgical Endocrinology

**David McAneny, MD**
*Section Chief*, Surgical Endocrinology
*Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**F. Thurston Drake, MD, MPH,** *Laszlo N. Tauber Assistant Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine

**Teviah Sachs, MD, MPH,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Surgical Oncology

**David McAneny, MD**
*Section Chief*, Surgical Oncology
*Professor of Surgery*,
Boston University School of Medicine

**Maureen Kavanah, MD,** *Associate Professor of Surgery*,
Boston University School of Medicine

**Jane Mendez, MD,** *Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Teviah Sachs, MD, MPH,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Surgical Research

**Tony Godfrey, PhD**
*Associate Chair of Research*
*Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Marina Malikova, PhD, MSci, MA, CCRA, RAC**
*Executive Director,* Surgical Translational Research Operations and Compliance

**Fabio Petrocca, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Amy Rosen, PhD,** *Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Thoracic Surgery

**Hiran Fernando, MD**
*Division Chief,* Thoracic Surgery
*Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

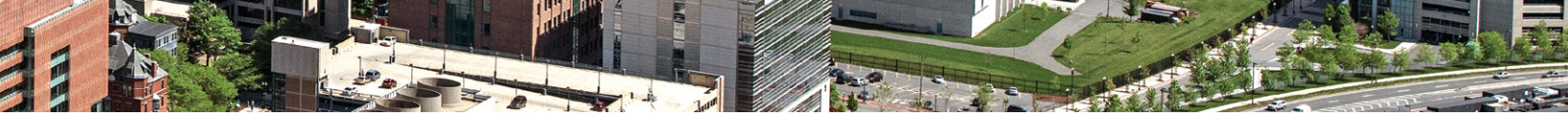
**Virginia Litle, MD,** *Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Kei Suzuki, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

## Transplant Surgery

**Matthew Nuhn, MD**
*Division Chief*, Transplant Surgery
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Amitabh Gautam, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine



## Vascular and Endovascular Surgery

**Alik Farber, MD**
*Division Chief,*
Vascular and Endovascular Surgery
*Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Jeffrey Kalish, MD,** *Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Jeffrey Siracuse, MD, RPVI,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery*,
Boston University School of Medicine

**Jonathon Woodson, MD*,** *Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

*Dr. Woodson is a member of the BU School of Medicine Department of Surgery faculty but not clinically active at this time. He most recently served as *Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs,* U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), from 2010 to 2016. Dr. Woodson is currently the *Lars Anderson Professor in Management and Professor of the Practice* at the BU Questrom School of Business, as well as a *Professor of Health Law, Policy and Management* at the BU School of Public Health. He is leading the creation of a university-wide Institute for Health System Innovation as *Faculty Director,* which will focus on expanding health system research initiatives across BU.

## Veterans Affairs (VA) Boston Healthcare System

GENERAL SURGERY

**Kamal Itani, MD,** *Chief of Surgery,*
VA Boston Healthcare System;
*Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine

**Miguel Haime, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**James McPhee, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Patrick O'Neal, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Vivian Sanchez, MD,** *Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

RESEARCH

**Hillary Mull, PhD,** *Research Assistant Professor,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Amy Rosen, PhD,** *Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Cape Cod Hospital (Cape Cod Healthcare)

**Stephen Brooks, MD,** *Clinical Assistant Professor,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Lawrence Novak, MD,** *Surgery Residency Program Director,*
Cape Cod Hospital

## Roger Williams Medical Center

**N. Joseph Espat, MD,** *Chairman,* Department of Surgery,
Roger Williams Medical Center; *Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Steven Katz, MD,** *Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Ponnandai Somasundar, MD,** *Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Ting Zhao, MD,** *Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## Emeritus

**Robert Beazley, MD,** *Professor Emeritus of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Benedict Daly, MD,** *Professor Emeritus of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine


# Constructing Today. Building for Tomorrow.

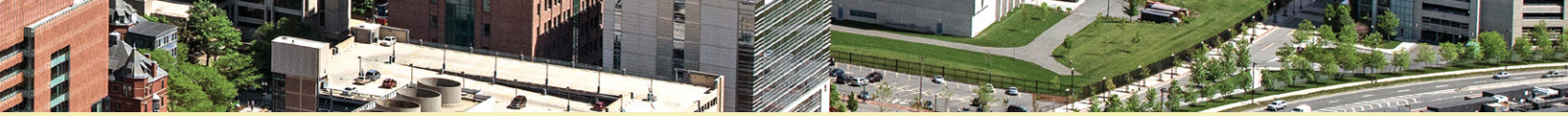
Boston Medical Center continues to transform its clinical campus to prepare the hospital to thrive well into the future.

## Moakley Addition

This new 32,000 square foot addition opened last year to house patient care services and the Solomont Simulation Center which was moved from the Newton Pavilion.

## Hybrid Operating Room

A new Hybrid OR will be built in the Menino Building and used for vascular/endovascular cases and trauma procedures. It will include advanced medical imaging devices to greatly improve efficiency, patient safety and outcomes.



## General Operating Rooms

Through expansion and remodeling of our current OR space in the Menino Building, the average size of each of the new operating rooms will increase by 50% to approximately 600 square feet and will be equipped with versatile surgical lighting, defined laminar air flow and convenient equipment and anesthesia booms — allowing universal flexibility within each.

## Emergency Department

BMC will expand its Emergency Department (ED), increasing the size by almost 30%. The new ED will integrate with Urgent Care, and will include a separate behavioral health treatment area, patient drop-off and expanded ambulance bay.


## Transport Bridge

The newly constructed transport bridge will be used to transport patients from the helipad to the ED.

## Yawkey Lobby

BMC renovated the Yawkey lobby this year to provide access to the mezzanine-level cafeteria. The bright, modern layout complements the design of the Yawkey Center, creating a unified look and feel to the BMC campus.

## Women and Children's Facility

To better serve mothers and babies, BMC constructed a new Women and Children's facility in Yawkey that opened this year. The area features all private maternity rooms and is designed around BMC's industry leading Mother Baby rooming-in "Couplet Care" practice. It also includes state-of-the-art private bays for neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) patients.


## Yawkey Cafeteria

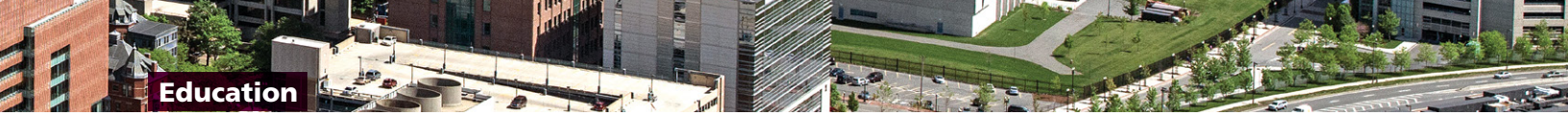
BMC opened a new cafeteria on the mezzanine level of Yawkey Center this year. The bright, open space provides seating for more than 200 people.

## Demonstration Kitchen

The newly designed Demonstration Kitchen, also opened this year, and is located in the Yawkey cafeteria. The Demonstration Kitchen is a fully equipped modern kitchen which provides a pleasant setting for patient and employees to learn how to cook healthy meals as well as how to utilize the foods that come from the Preventative Food Pantry.


## Preventative Food Pantry

The new Preventative Food Pantry opened this year. Patients can receive food that is compatible with their medical and dietary needs, as prescribed by their physician and provides food to more than 9,000 patients and their household members each month.




# SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Surgery Residency Program provides residents with the range and depth of academic experience and academic exposure required to develop superior surgical skills and an ability to make mature, informed, independent judgments.

Graduates of the program are expected to be superior general surgeons or surgical specialists. This level of capability is attained through a program that offers extensive clinical exposure at every level of training.

## Current Residents

### PGY 1

**Mark Biebel, MD,** Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

**Derek Chicarilli, MD,** St. George's University School of Medicine

**Alaina Geary, MD,** Tufts University School of Medicine

**Jeremiah Knapp, MD,** Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine

**Scott Levin, MD,** The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

**Andrea Madiedo, MD,** University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine

**Benjamin Nelson, MD,** Boston University School of Medicine

**Jacob Nudel, MD,** Harvard Medical School

**Tyler Robinson, MD,** Boston University School of Medicine

**Shanta Shepherd, MD,** Medical College of Wisconsin

**Garret Winkler, MD,** University of Texas School of Medicine at San Antonio

### PGY 2

**Nkiruka Arinze, MD,** Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

**Joshua Davies, MD,** Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine

**Megan Janeway, MD,** Boston University School of Medicine

**Majd Kabbani, MD,** University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

**Kim Na Eun, MD,** Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

**Miriam Neufeld, MD,** Indiana University School of Medicine

### PGY 3

**Olga Beresneva, MD,** Drexel University College of Medicine

**Christopher Graham, MD,** SUNY Downstate Medical Center

**Krista Hachey, MD, MPH,** The Alpert Medical School at Brown University

**Elica Inagaki, MD,** Medical College of Wisconsin

**Andrew McChesney, MD,** University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine

**Rumbidzayi Nzara, MD,** University of Minnesota Medical School

### PGY 4

**Ryan Macht, MD,** New York University School of Medicine

**Feroze Sidwa, MD,** University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio

**Kathryn Van Orden, MD,** University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey/R.W. Johnson Medical School

**Kimberly Zamor, MD,** Chicago Medical School, Rosalind Franklin University

### PGY 5

**Matthew Brady, MD,** Tufts University School of Medicine

**Elizabeth King, MD,** Georgetown University School of Medicine

**Joanna Ng, MD,** Boston University School of Medicine

**Aaron Richman, MD,** University of California San Diego School of Medicine

**Matthew Scriven, MD,** Georgetown University School of Medicine


## Surgical Residency Program (continued)

### RESEARCH

**Maunil Bhatt, MD,** Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

**Matthew Egyud, MD,** Boston University School of Medicine

**Dar Heinze, MD,** University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine

**Praveen Sridhar, MD,** Boston University School of Medicine

**Stephanie Talutis, MD,** New York Medical College

**Jian Zheng, MD,** USF Health Morsani College of Medicine

### 2016 GRADUATES

**Gustavo Bauza, MD**
Surgical Critical Care Fellowship
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ

**Kendra Iskander, MD**
Private Practice

**Chinwe Kpaduwa, MD**
Plastic Surgery Fellowship
University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA

**Juan Rodolfo Mella, MD**
Plastic Surgery Fellowship
Lahey Hospital and Medical Center, Burlington, MA

**Elliot Pennington, MD**
Pediatric Surgery Fellowship
McGaw Medical Center - Northwestern University, Chicago, IL

### CURRENT FELLOWS

**Surgical Critical Care Fellowship**

**Michael Hernon, MD**
University of Massachusetts Medical School

**Charles Jeffrey Siegert, MD**
Emory University School of Medicine

**Vascular Surgery Fellowship**

**Sergio Casillas Berumen, MD**
Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Tijuana
Facultad de Medicina y Psicología

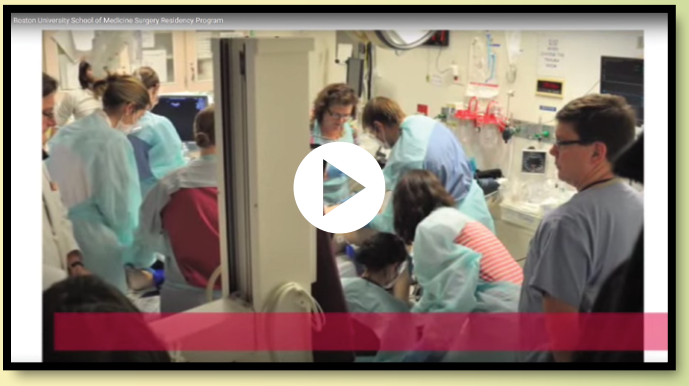
**Steven Pike, MD**
University of Arizona College of Medicine

## SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM VIDEO

*Learn more about Boston University School of Medicine Surgery Residency Program, view our informative video online at:*

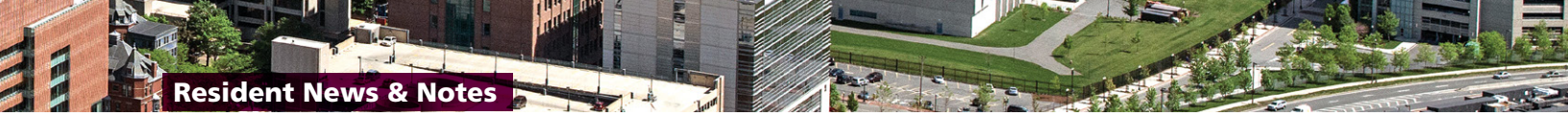
**www.bumc.bu.edu/surgery/training/residency**

*Or, navigate to the video by scanning this QR code with a QR reader app.*



2015-16 Chief Residents

*(Left to Right) Juan Rodolfo Mella, MD; Chinwe Kpaduwa, MD; Kendra Iskander, MD; Gustavo Bauza, MD; and Elliot Pennington, MD*





**Matthew Egyud, MD,** received a travel grant for the 2016 Gordon Conference on Rare Cells in Circulation and Liquid Biopsies in Cancer and his abstract, "*Detection of Tumor-specific Mutations in Circulating, Cell-free DNA: Potential for a Biomarker in Esophageal Adenocarcinoma,*" was chosen for oral presentation.

**Krista Hachey, MD, MPH,** won best Research Symposium Presentation at the 25th Grasberger Research Symposium Lecture and Visiting Professorship and gave presentations at the 11th Annual Academic Surgical Congress on near infrared imaging in lung cancer (Society of University Surgeons (SUS) Resident Scholar Award Talk) and paclitaxel-loaded films for treatment of sarcoma. She had manuscripts published in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* and *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and received a Master in Public Health (MPH) degree from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

**Elica Inagaki, MD,** was lead author of "*Tracking breeds success: improving the retrieval rate of inferior vena cava filters with a multidisciplinary team approach*," published in *The Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*. She presented two podium presentations: "*Outcomes of peripheral vascular interventions for lower extremity acute limb ischemia*," at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions and "*Preoperative hypoalbuminemia is associated with poor clinical outcomes after open and endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair,*" at the Western Vascular Society 31st Annual Meeting and had two poster presentations: "*Preoperative hypoalbuminemia is associated with poor clinical outcomes after open and endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair*" and "*Role of language discordance in readmission rate and complications after infrainguinal bypass*," at the Society for Vascular Surgery 2016 Vascular Annual Meeting. She was also the recipient of two traveling fellowships: 2015 American Heart Association Peripheral Vascular Disease Fellows in Training Travel Stipend and 2016 Society for Vascular Surgery Travel Scholarship.

**Ryan Macht, MD,** completed a Master of Science (MS) in Health Services Research at Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH). He presented at several national meetings including the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) Meeting, Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES) and Surgical Education Week. Additionally, he co-authored a chapter in "*Surgical Quality Improvement*," with Dr. David McAneny and published several manuscripts of his recent work.

**Joanna Ng, MD,** was the commencement speaker at the 2016 Boston University Department of Sociology graduation.

**Feroze Sidhwa, MD, MPH,** won Best Research Poster at the 25th Annual Grasberger Research Symposium Lecture and Visiting Professorship and received three grants from the Committee of Interns and Residents' Quality Improvement Council for quality improvement projects in the Department of Surgery. He was lead author of, "*Diagnosis and Treatment of the Extraesophageal Manifestations of Gastroesophgeal Reflux Disease,*" published in *Annals of Surgery* and presented at the 2015 American Academy of Pediatrics Annual Meeting on, "*A Prioritization Scheme for Collaborative Quality Improvement Efforts and Comparative Effectiveness Research in Pediatric Appendicitis.*"

**Stephanie Talutis MD, MPH,** is currently serving two years as a Fellow in the Study of Quality and Patient Safety in the Department of Surgery. In addition to her involvement with the Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) initiative, she is developing many other quality improvement projects, such as the reduction of pulmonary complications in patients who require emergency operations, the incidence of delirium in critically ill patients, and the development of an enhanced VTE prophylaxis protocol. She was the lead author of a paper in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons (JACS), "Trends in Pediatric Surgery Operative Volume among Residents and Fellows* (Talutis S, McAneny D, Chen C, Doherty G, Sachs T.), and presented the paper at the New England Surgical Society Annual Meeting in Newport, RI.





## Visiting Professors

### Grasberger Research Symposium Lecture and Visiting Professorship

**Diana L. Farmer, MD**

*Chair and Pearl Stamps Stewart Professor,* Department of Surgery, UC Davis

*Surgeon-in-Chief,* UC Davis Children's Hospital

### George H. Clowes, Jr., MD Trauma Lecture and Visiting Professorship

**Thomas M. Scalea, MD**

*Director,* Program in Trauma and *Physician-in-Chief,* R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center

*Honorable Francis X. Kelly Distinguished Professorship in Trauma Surgery,* University of Maryland School of Medicine

### Peter J. Mozden Visiting Professorship in Surgical Oncology

**Patricia L. Roberts, MD**

*Chair,* Division of Surgery, Lahey Hospital and Medical Center

*Professor of Surgery,* Tufts University School of Medicine

### Boston Medical Center Visiting Professorship in Vascular Surgery

**Richard P. Cambria, MD**

*Robert R. Linton, MD, Professor of Vascular & Endovascular Surgery,* Harvard Medical School

*Division Chief,* Vascular & Endovascular Surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital

**Jon Matsumura, MD**

*Professor and Chair,* Division of Vascular Surgery, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

## Current Selected Education Research Projects

### Plastic Surgery Assessment Study

This study is a collaboration between the Department of Surgery's Surgery Education Office (SEO) and Smita Ramanadham, MD, *Attending Surgeon*, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Boston Medical Center and *Assistant Professor of Surgery* at Boston University School of Medicine. In this study we are developing a new assessment tool that will help plastic surgeons better assess medical student and resident competencies during plastic surgery rotations.

### Women in Surgery

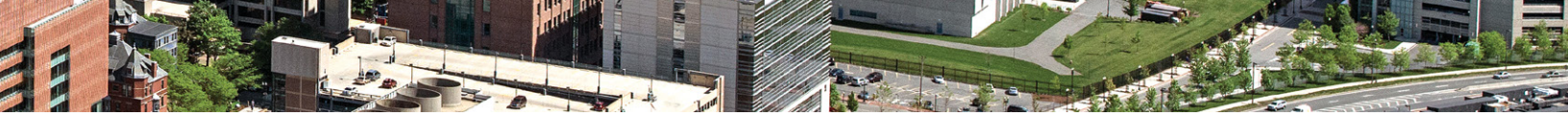
This qualitative study explores the experiences of women surgeons at various points in their training and throughout their career. We explore that challenges, tell the stories and identify themes common to women as they begin their training and throughout their careers.

### Real World Curriculum Evaluation

This study will be evaluating the effects of the new "Real World Curriculum," created by Tejal Brahmbhatt, MD, *Attending Surgeon*, Sections of Acute Care & Trauma Surgery and Surgical Critical Care at Boston Medical Center and *Assistant Professor of Surgery*, Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*. This project involves the development of a two-year long curriculum designed to help surgery residents identify and prepare for many of the challenges they will have in the early stages of their careers that are not often addressed in traditional surgery curriculum

### 4th Year Mentoring

In this study, the Department of Surgery's Surgery Education Office (SEO) is assisting with the evaluation of a project with Tracey Dechert, MD, *Attending Surgeon*, Sections of Acute Care & Trauma Surgery and Surgical Critical Care at Boston Medical Center and *Assistant Professor of Surgery*, Boston University School of Medicine, who has developed a mentoring program for 4th year medical students who plan to match in general surgery. This year-long program addresses issues such as how to prepare application materials for surgery residency programs, how to interview, what to consider when making your list, and how to prepare for and what to anticipate from your internship. Many of our participants end up enrolled in our Surgical Bootcamp.



# SOCIAL RESPONSIBILTY IN SURGERY

Tracey Dechert, MD, BUSM Assistant Professor of Surgery and trauma surgeon at BMC has launched a Social Responsibility in Surgery (SRS) working group which advocates to support the concept of social responsibility in surgery.

SRS is aimed to embolden surgeons to recognize the responsibility they have as healthcare leaders and push them to advocate for improving surgical care as one of the many needs and priorities within the healthcare system as well as confront the disparities in health and in healthcare that exist within surgical care. The SRS group at BU School of Medicine is working to encourage academic institutions and hospitals to establish SRS as a unifying field, and seek wider support from their communities and partner organizations.

The BU School of Medicine Surgical Interest Group which has already developed a successful program that pairs medical students with residents and faculty by research interests has introduced an additional research track in SRS, which will highlight and streamline opportunities for research and training. The research track will also foster a community of surgeons and trainees at our hospital committed to addressing social barriers to surgical care.

Dr. Dechert along with her colleague Dr. Douglas F. Kauffman, PhD, *Associate Chair for Education*, presented the paper: "*Socially Responsible Surgeons: Surgeons as Leaders in the Coordination of Systems Based Healthcare*," at the annual meeting of the Association of Surgical Education in Seattle, WA

Future goals of the SRS group is to seek partnerships with the Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH) to develop course curricula to address surgical disease at a community level and eventually lead to fellowship offerings for surgical residents interested in SRS.


## Enhanced Recovery After Surgery to be Implemented in all Surgical Specialties at BMC

Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) is a multimodal approach to perioperative care that is based upon strong clinical evidence. In ERAS, a multidisciplinary team coordinates and standardizes patient care across the perioperative continuum. The ERAS system has been associated with decreased postoperative morbidity, mortality, length of hospital stay, and recovery time, ultimately enhancing the value of care. The protocol was first introduced in Europe but is gaining popularity in the United States.

"There has historically been wide variation among surgery and anesthesia practices throughout the world, including at Boston Medical Center (BMC)," says David McAneny, MD, BUSM professor of surgery and ad interim chair of the Department of Surgery at BUSM and chief of General Surgery and of Surgical Oncology at BMC. "The care that a patient receives is often a function of a surgeon's training and the institution's heritage rather than predicated upon best practices presented in the literature. This variation may contribute to complications and a slower postoperative recovery."

Evidence suggests that the physiology of traditional perioperative care, such as fasting for prolonged periods prior to operations, extensive opioid usage, and aggressive fluid administration, may adversely affect a patient's postoperative recovery. As a result, patient care is now being standardized using approaches such as ERAS to improve outcomes while also reducing recovery time.

Boston Medical Center's ERAS initiative began in 2014. This major effort is co-sponsored by the Departments of Anesthesia, Nursing, and Surgery and involves stakeholders across multiple disciplines throughout the hospital (e.g., Information Technology Services, Respiratory Care, Endocrinology, Diabetes, Nutrition and Weight Management, Rehabilitation Therapies, Patient/Equipment Transport, Pharmacy, Infectious Disease and Procedural Operations).

The ERAS project is led by a Steering Committee, co-chaired by David McAneny, MD and Keith Lewis, RPh, MD, BUSM professor and chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and chief of Anesthesiology at BMC and coordinated by Pamela Rosenkranz, RN, MSN, MEd, director of clinical quality and patient safety in the Department of Surgery.

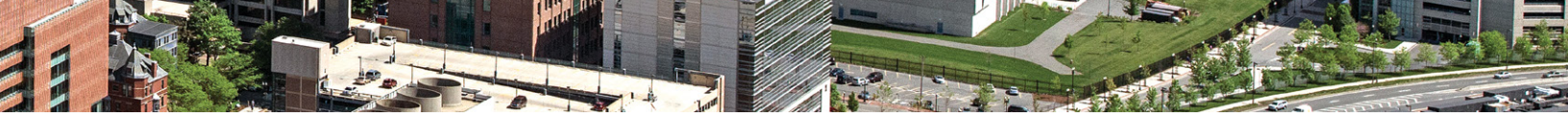
Three multidisciplinary teams report to the Steering Committee and are responsible for the key phases of the protocol:

- Anesthesia practices/multimodal pain control
- Surgery practices
- Education (patients and their families as well as staff)

These multidisciplinary teams reviewed the literature related to ERAS and selected the elements of ERAS that best fit BMC's culture and patient population. Major components of ERAS include:

- Multimodal analgesia with an emphasis on the reduction or elimination of narcotics.
- Goal-directed perioperative fluid resuscitation to avoid the deleterious effects of historical volume over-expansion.
- Pre-operative education and optimization.
- Specific features such as: the elimination of "NPO after midnight" rules; a carbohydrate-rich sports beverage being drunk two hours before surgery; avoidance of nasogastric tubes and peritoneal drains; immediate resumption of a diet after surgery; uniform practices in the operating room (e.g., the usage of wound protectors, changing gowns and gloves after anastomoses, isolating instruments used in the creation of anastomoses, etc.); and intensive mobilization of the patient in line with the ICOUGH™ protocol featured in the 2015 BUSM Department of Surgery Annual Report).

"The team decided to initially implement ERAS in General Surgery patients undergoing elective major abdominal operations, and the program will ultimately apply to all surgical specialties at BMC," says Rosenkranz. "The pilot effort has allowed us the opportunity to 'fine-tune' the multidisciplinary processes before their widespread institutional adoption."



After several months of planning, BMC's first ERAS patient was enrolled in October 2015. Preliminary data were presented to the ERAS Steering Committee in April 2016, permitting a critical evaluation of protocol compliance. "Based upon the information, the planning team has begun to refine the protocol, reconcile potential barriers, and create a sustainable process for monitoring protocol adherence and reporting data to front line staff," says McAneny.

"The team's plan is to offer the ERAS protocol to all surgery specialties in a deliberate and structured manner. While this initiative will require substantial resources and changes to traditional perioperative practices, our team is confident that the ERAS program will provide significant benefits to all patients undergoing operations at BMC."

## Emergency Preparedness in the Operating Room

### Creating World Health Organization (WHO)-Adapted Standardized Response Protocols for Environmental Operating Room Emergencies to Ensure Patient Safety

Although unexpected environmental failures, (e.g., HVAC failures, oxygen system failures, sprinkler system failures, etc.) in the operating room (OR) are rare, they may still occur. Considering that patients undergoing operations are defenseless and completely rely upon their surgeons, anesthesiologists, and OR staff for their safety, those providers need to be prepared, both in their response to the emergency at-hand and in knowing the measures they need to take after the event, to ensure that patients are not adversely affected.

The Department of Surgery's Clinical Quality and Patient Safety Group is led by David McAneny, MD, BUSM professor of surgery and ad interim chair of the Department of Surgery at BUSM and chief of General Surgery and of Surgical Oncology at BMC, along with a team that includes Pamela Rosenkranz, RN, MSN, MEd, director of clinical quality and patient safety in the Department of Surgery. They recruited a multidisciplinary team to create a standardized, clinical checklist that will guide OR staff regarding actions to be taken in the event of environmental failures, with the goals of improving outcomes and reducing costs of care incurred with these events.

Based on an exhaustive literature review, the Quality Improvement (QI) Team discovered that no formal protocols existed regarding environmental failures and crises in the OR. Therefore, the group sought to ensure that all personnel in the OR know their roles and responsibilities in the event of an environmental emergency and that they are trained to respond quickly to protect patients. Funding for this initiative was provided by two BMC patient safety grant awards.

### Crisis Checklists for Operating Room Emergencies (C2ORE)

The Department of Surgery has spearheaded the development and implementation of WHO-adapted C2ORE for OR teams to follow during the following environmental emergencies:

1. Water failure;
2. HVAC system failure;
3. Medical gases failure;
4. Structural damage in the OR (e.g., by earthquake, fire, flood, etc.); and
5. Physical threat (threats to the safety of staff and/or patients by a disgruntled person).

These situations have been deemed to be BMC's top five environmental hazards by emergency response specialists (protocols for fires in the OR are already in wide circulation). The checklists consider the potential effects of each adverse event and display a sequence of standard responses to ensure patient and staff safety.

OR teams at BMC have had the opportunity to participate in training sessions in the Solomont Simulation Center to better understand their roles in responding to various environmental threats and professional C2ORE videos were also created and utilized as main components of the education sessions. The next step is to disseminate this training program to other institutions through publications and lectures.



## Caprini Risk Assessment Tool Prevents Postoperative Complications in Thoracic Surgery Patients

The Caprini Risk Assessment Model, developed by Dr. Joseph Caprini, *Clinical Professor of Surgery* at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, calculates the likelihood of a patient developing a postoperative Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) event. The correlation between a patient's Caprini score and a VTE is well validated in general surgery, plastic surgery, urology and otolaryngology. As a result, surgeons may administer risk-stratified VTE prophylaxis to patients.

The Caprini Model is used by surgeons at Boston Medical Center (BMC), including in general surgery, otolaryngology, plastic surgery, thoracic surgery, urology and vascular surgery. It is also being introduced on other services, such as neurosurgery, obstetrics/gynecology and orthopedic surgery. This program was implemented at BMC in 2011, after National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) data revealed a higher than predicted rate of postoperative VTE.

David McAneny, MD, BUSM professor of surgery and ad interim chair of the Department of Surgery at BUSM and chief of General Surgery and of Surgical Oncology at BMC, along with a team that includes Pamela Rosenkranz, RN, BSN, MEd, Director of Clinical Quality and Patient Safety in the Department of Surgery, spearheaded, developed and implemented a standardized VTE prevention protocol. Numerous surgery residents have participated on this team, including Michael Cassidy, MD, Ryan Macht, MD and Stephanie Talutis, MD. The initiative includes mandatory VTE risk assessment (predicated upon Caprini score) and risk-based prophylaxis guidelines, including extended courses of pharmacologic prophylaxis beyond discharge when indicated.

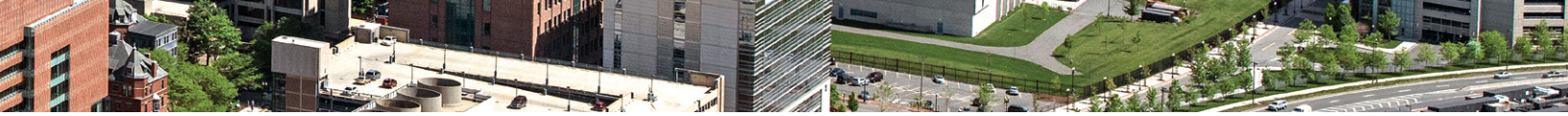
The team examined NSQIP data to compare the likelihood of a postoperative VTE event in general surgery prior to and after implementing the standardized risk-stratified protocol. The odds ratio of a VTE diminished from 3.02 (tenth decile) to a nadir of 0.70, with three consecutive reporting periods in the first decile.

"The Caprini scoring system had been well validated in terms of its predictive value for VTE," says McAneny. "To our knowledge, ours was the first study to demonstrate a reduction of VTE events based upon the standardized and required use of the Caprini model, in conjunction with a formal mobilization program." In fact, Dr. Caprini has acknowledged this program as the "Boston Experience – Benchmark for the Nation." The BU Caprini model is available in the Epic electronic medical record library. In addition, preliminary discussions are underway for international dissemination.

This exciting effort captured the attention of Virginia R. Litle, MD, BUSM professor of surgery and thoracic surgeon at BMC. As of 2013, the Caprini Model had not been validated as a predictor of VTE in thoracic surgery patients, not to mention as a successful prophylactic measure in that population.

Litle led a team that included BMC surgery resident Krista Hachey, MD, MPH, and several medical students. They conducted separate analyses of patients undergoing resections of both esophageal cancers and lung cancers, retrospectively applying the Caprini risk stratification model to these patients. "We wanted to see if there was an association between the scores and VTE events in our patients, and we determined that there indeed was," says Litle. "Once the correlation became clear, we implemented the Caprini Risk Assessment Model for all thoracic surgery patients."

Litle and her team of investigators conducted a third study to establish how well their service complied with calculating Caprini scores and with prescribing prolonged prophylaxis upon hospital discharge, and whether patients adhered with outpatient daily injections of low molecular weight heparin. They learned that the 60-day VTE rate has declined since implementation of the program, and they also affirmed protocol adherence by both patients and their team. Litle and her group are now prospectively accruing patients and believe that they are the only program in the country to implement, study and publish the Caprini Risk Assessment Tool in thoracic surgery.



Dr. Litle was recently appointed by the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS) to develop international guidelines for VTE prevention in this high-risk surgical population; she will work with colleagues from the European Society of Thoracic Surgeons. In addition, her research has been published in the Journal of the American College of Surgeons, *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery* and *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. These investigations have resulted in multiple presentations at national and regional meetings by mentored residents and students.

## ICOUGH™ Program Receives Awards

The Massachusetts Hospital Association (MHA) honored the **ICOUGH**™ Program this year with its inaugural Accountable Care Compass Award that recognizes "excellence and innovation in the delivery of high-quality, safe, and efficient care." The program received First Place in the "Reducing Hospital-Acquired Conditions and Readmissions" category.

The **ICOUGH**™ Program was also selected honorable mention winner of the 2016 Gage Award (Quality Category), a national award sponsored by America's Essential Hospitals.

Icough℠

**I**ncentive spirometry,
**C**oughing and deep breathing,
**O**ral care,
**U**nderstanding (patient education),
**G**etting out of bed, and
**H**ead of bed elevation.




Research is an integral part of the Department of Surgery, and reflects a major commitment to advance the field. Ongoing work in the department includes basic and translational research in fields as diverse as the immunobiology of sepsis, the biology and treatment of acute lung injury and the molecular analysis of cancer. All of these take place in the modern laboratory facilities of the Boston University Medical Campus (BUMC). Active collaborations with colleagues at the schools of Medicine, Engineering, Public Health and Management enhance projects in the clinical, health services and education research arenas.

## Clinical Research

The Office of Surgical Translational Research: Operations and Compliance in the Department of Surgery, led by Marina Malikova, PhD, MSci, MA, CCRA, RAC is responsible for clinical trials and basic biomedical research operations, macro-management of research programs, providing guidance and oversight to the project managers, Clinical Research Associates (CRAs), Clinical Research Coordinators (CRCs) and laboratory staff. The office also provides assistance to investigators with protocol and informed consent writing, regulatory submissions, clinical trial agreements and budgets development and post-award financial management. In addition, the office is responsible for developing and implementing adequate systems and procedures to ensure research quality control and compliance, efficient day-to-day research operations that meet the needs of the Department of Surgery.

The Clinical Research Program is comprehensive and supports every aspect of clinical research conduct. The program assists investigators in protocol development and grant submissions for competitive clinical research grants. The program works in conjunction with pharmaceutical and device companies to conduct industry clinical trials. The program supports regulatory (IRB and other regulatory agencies), administrative (budget and contracts), and clinical (patient enrollment, management and data collection) components.

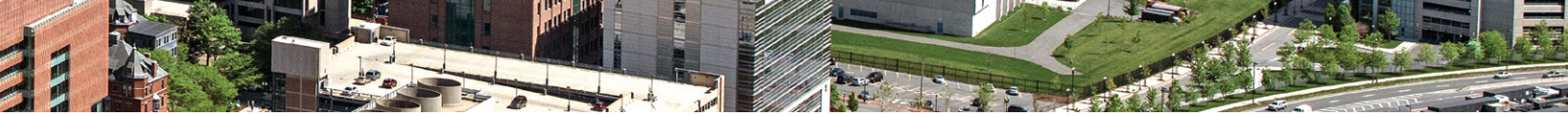
## Selected Grants

**"Early and Adequate Protein Feeding Post-Traumatic Injury"**
**Sponsor:** *National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) R21 DK108145*
**Principal Investigator:** Peter Burke, MD
**Co-Investigator:** Lorraine Young, MS
$478,500

**"Circulating tumor DNA as a biomarker in HNSCC"**
**Sponsor:** Boston University Clinical & Translational Science Institute (BU-CTSI) Pilot Grant Program (funded by the parent NIH CTSI award 1UL1TR001430)
**Principal Investigator:** Scharukh Jalisi, MD
**Co-Investigators:** Tony Godfrey, PhD and Anand Devaiah, MD
$20,000

**"Targeted polymerized shell microbubbles to image surgical adhesions"**
**Sponsor:** NIH/NIGMS (1R41GM116530-01A1)
**Principal Investigator:** Joyce Wong, PhD
**Co-Investigator:** George Kasotakis, MD, MPH
$26,413

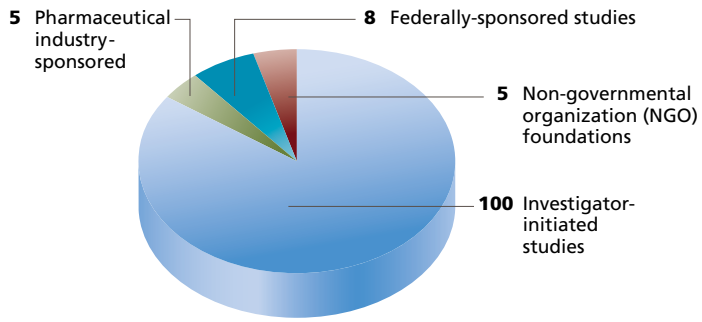
**"Predicting and Preventing Re-Admissions within 30 days after Surgery"**
**Sponsor:** National Institutes of Health (NIH) – National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) – Boston University Clinical & Translational Science Institute (BU-CTSI) (1UL1TR001430-01)
**Principal Investigator:** Ioannis Paschalidis, PhD
**Co-Investigator:** George Kasotakis, MD, MPH
$20,000



## Open Clinical Research Protocols

As of September 1, 2016, the Department of Surgery at BMC has 118 open clinical research protocols managed by dedicated teams of researchers in the state-of-the-art facilities within BUMC

The chart illustrates the wide range of funded research work at BMC.




## Selected Clinical Trials

| PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR | CLINICAL TRIAL | DIRECT COSTS | INDIRECT COSTS | SPONSOR |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Currently Open for Enrollment** | | | | |
| *Division of Podiatry Surgery* | | | | |
| **Hau Pham, DPM** | A Phase 3 Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Blinded Study to Investigate the Safety and Efficacy of a Topical Gentamicin-Collagen Sponge in Combination with Systemic Antibiotic Therapy in Diabetic Patients with an Infected Foot Ulcer | $84,202.50 | $25,260.75 | Innocoll Pharmaceuticals |
| *Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery* | | | | |
| **Alik Farber, MD** | Randomized Trial Comparing a Dual Action Pneumatic Compression System against Multi-Layer Bandaging Systems: A non-inferiority study | $88,750.00 | $26,625.00 | Tactile Ltd |
| **Jeffrey Kalish, MD** (BMC site investigator) **Alik Farber, MD** (Principal Investigator and Executive Chair) | Randomized, Multicenter, Controlled Trial to Compare Best Endovascular versus Best Surgical Therapy in Patients with Critical Limb Ischemia | $95,287.00 | $61,936.55 *65% overhead* | NIH/ NHLBI |
| **Completed Trials** | | | | |
| *Division of Podiatry Surgery* | | | | |
| **Hau Pham, DPM** | A Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel-group, Vehicle-controlled Phase 3 Clinical Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of DSC127 in Treating Non-healing Foot Ulcers in Subjects with Diabetes Mellitus | $163,700.00 | $49,110.00 | DermaSciences |
| **Hau Pham, DPM** | A Multicenter, Randomized, Controlled, Open-Label Trial to Assess the Clinical Effectiveness of DermACELL®, Conventional Care Wound Management, and GraftJacket® in Subjects with Chronic Wounds in the Lower Extremities | $218,647.60 | $65,594.00 | LifeNet Health, Inc |
| *Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery* | | | | |
| **Alik Farber, MD** | Evaluation of a Dual Action Pneumatic Compression System: Tolerance and Comfort in Patients with Venous Leg Ulcers | $123,606.67 | $37,082.00 | Tactile Ltd |
| **Alik Farber, MD** | A Phase 3 Randomized, Double Blind, Vehicle Controlled Study Investigating the Safety and Efficacy of HP802-247 in the Treatment of Venous Leg Ulcers. HP802-247 study with skin cell derived, fibroblast based biologic | $199,550.00 | $59,865.00 | Smith and Nephew Inc. |
| **Alik Farber, MD** | A Non-Interventional Safety Study Providing 12 Months Follow-Up from First Exposure to HP 802-247 in Subjects with Venous Leg Ulcer | $46,800.00 | $14,040.00 | Smith and Nephew Inc. |
| **Alik Farber, MD** | A Phase 3 Randomized, Double Blind, Vehicle Controlled Study Investigating the Safety and Efficacy of HP802-247 in the Treatment of Venous Leg Ulcers >12 cm2 to ≤ 36 cm2 | $142,748.06 | $42,824.00 | Smith and Nephew Inc. |

# Researcher Spotlight: Tony E. Godfrey, PhD

Tony E. Godfrey, PhD, is associate chair of Surgical Research in the Department of Surgery at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM) and associate professor of Surgery at BUSM.

Dr. Godfrey earned a bachelor's of science degree in biochemistry from Brunel University in England, followed by a doctorate in molecular biology and biochemistry, also from Brunel. He attended the University of California, San Francisco, for postdoctoral fellowships and managed UCSF's Genome Analysis Core Facility before his first faculty position at the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to joining BU School of Medicine, Dr. Godfrey was a *Research Associate Professor* in the Department of Surgery at the University of Rochester Medical Center in Rochester, NY.

Dr. Godfrey's research has largely focused on cancer genetics and molecular pathology. Currently, his major focus is on Barrett's esophagus and esophageal adenocarcinoma; a tumor with rapidly increasing incidence in the United States.

Esophageal adenocarcinoma is a very aggressive tumor and while the strongest risk factors are widely known and clinicians can identify high-risk individuals, the majority of cases are identified when the tumors are already locally advanced or metastatic. According to Godfrey, "approaches that increase our ability to detect these cancers earlier have the potential to minimize treatment morbidity and save lives."

Dr. Godfrey is looking at ways to develop a new approach for screening and surveillance of individuals at increased risk for development of esophageal adenocarcinoma. This is a multi-center project led by Dr. Godfrey and Dr. Lincoln Stein at the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (OICR). Screening and surveillance for esophageal cancer is currently performed by endoscopy and esophageal biopsy and they are trying to develop a molecular cytology test using a device called the EsophaCap® to collect cells from the esophagus combined with DNA sequencing to detect mutations associated with cancer.

"Since the EsophaCap® is essentially a large pill on a string, the cytology collection can be performed in a doctor's office without the need for sedation or anesthesia," says Godfrey. "If we can prove that sequencing of the cytology samples allows us to detect cancer with good sensitivity and specificity, this could lead to a much less invasive and potentially more cost-effective approach to esophageal cancer detection. Early detection of tumors should also lead to better treatment options and better outcomes."

Godfrey's long-term goal for the project is to start clinical trials to compare screening and surveillance using the EsophaCap® versus endoscopy. He also plans to extend this work to cover esophageal squamous cancer and use the genomic data generated in this project to try and better understand the pathways involved in initiation and progression of esophageal adenocarcinoma to identify novel therapeutic targets.

Dr. Godfrey's second area of focus is on detection of cancer DNA in the blood as a possible biomarker for detection and monitoring of disease. As tumors grow they release DNA and other cell contents and these can be found in the blood. New technologies now detect tumor DNA in the blood based on very sensitive detection of mutations that are present in the tumor DNA and the amount of tumor DNA in the blood seems to correlate with the size of the tumor. "Tumor DNA in the blood may be useful for cancer detection and also for monitoring cancer progression and response to therapy," says Godfrey. "We recently developed a new method for detection of circulating tumor DNA and have been applying it to esophageal and head and neck cancers.

The esophageal work was funded by an NIH R21 grant and Godfrey now has an R01 grant that should start in the fall of 2017. The head and neck cancer work is being done in collaboration with Anand Devaiah, MD, BUSM associate professor of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, Neurological Surgery and Ophthalmology and Attending Surgeon in the Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery at Boston Medical Center and Primary Investigator, Scharukh Jalisi, MD, BUSM associate professor of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery and Director of Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery and Skullbase Surgery and Director of the Head and Neck Cancer Center of Excellence at Boston Medical Center. The research is funded through a Boston University Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) pilot grant.

While the circulating tumor DNA work is still much more exploratory at this point, over the next five years Dr. Godfrey will be evaluating it as an early detection biomarker and also as a prognostic biomarker in early stage tumors and hopes to extend this work into head and neck cancer, pancreatic cancer, melanoma and others.

# Department Welcomes New Chief of Colon & Rectal Surgery

**Jason F. Hall, MD, MPH, FACS, FASCRS**

*Section Chief,* Colon & Rectal Surgery, Boston Medical Center
*Co-Director,* Dempsey Center for Digestive Disorders, Boston Medical Center
*Associate Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine

Dr. Jason Hall is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross (cum laude). He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School as well as a Master of Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health. He completed a residency in General Surgery at the Massachusetts General Hospital and served as the Churchill Assistant in Surgery (Super-Chief Resident). Dr. Hall completed a fellowship in Colon and Rectal Surgery at Lahey Hospital & Medical Center. He is board certified by the American Board of Surgery and the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery. Dr. Hall has received a traveling fellowship from the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery, holds leadership positions in a number of national and regional societies and has an active research career. His clinical interests include: colorectal cancer, laparoscopic surgery, robotic surgery, minimally invasive surgery, crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, diverticulitis, complex abdominal wall reconstruction, anorectal conditions and surgery, and sphincter sparing surgery.

**F. Thurston Drake, MD, MPH**

*Attending Surgeon,* Section of Surgical Endocrinology, Boston Medical Center
*Laszlo N. Tauber Assistant Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine

to come

Dr. Drake received his Medical Degree from the University of Utah School of Medicine in Salt Lake City, UT and a Master of Public Health from the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. He completed a residency in General Surgery at University of Washington Medical Center and a Fellowship in Endocrine Surgery at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) in San Francisco, CA. He is board certified by the America Board of Surgery. His research and clinical interests include: general surgery and endocrine surgery (including surgery for diseases of the thyroid, parathyroid and adrenal glands), improving ¬-outcomes for common surgical diseases, innovations in surgical education and improving access to surgical care in the developing world.

**Luise I. Pernar, MD**

*Attending Surgeon,* Section of Minimally Invasive and Weight Loss Surgery, Boston Medical Center
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

Dr. Pernar received her medical degree from Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA. She completed a residency in General Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA, followed by a fellowship in Advanced Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery also at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She is board certified by the American Board of Surgery. Her clinical and research interests include: laparoscopic bariatric surgery, hernia surgery, gallbladder surgery, foregut surgery, endoscopy, surgical education and surgical outcomes.

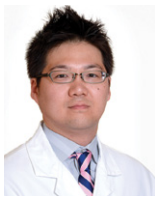
**Sabrina E. Sanchez, MD, MPH**

*Attending Surgeon,* Sections of Acute Care & Trauma Surgery and Surgical Critical Care, Boston Medical Center
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine *(recommended for)*

Dr. Sanchez received her Medical Degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine in Chicago, IL and a Master of Public Health from the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. She completed a residency in General Surgery at University of Washington Medical Center and a Fellowship in Surgical Critical Care at the University of Michigan Hospitals in Ann Arbor, MI. She is board certified by the American Board of Surgery. Her clinical and research interests include: geriatric surgery, long term quality of life after trauma, palliative care in surgical ICU settings, and resident education and well-being.

**Kei Suzuki, MD**

*Attending Surgeon,* Division of Thoracic Surgery, Boston Medical Center
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine (*recommended for)*



Dr. Suzuki received his Medical Degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham, AL. He completed a residency in General Surgery at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York, NY and a Fellowship in Thoracic Surgery at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's (MSKCC) joint program with New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical College (NYPH/WCMC). He is board certified by the America Board of Surgery. His research and clinical interests include: prognostication and tumor immunology of early lung adenocarcinoma and robotic surgery.


## Faculty News & Notes

**Lisa Allee, LICSW, MSW,** presented a poster, "*PTSS in Trauma Service Patients: An Exploratory Study*," at the International Traumatic Stress Symposium; was an invited discussant on the "*Injury prevention programs against distracted driving among students*," (Joseph B., *Trauma Acute Care Surg*) at the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma's (EAST) Scientific Assembly; and received another Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding award for the Community Violence Response Team (CVRT), an increase for FY '17 ($523,776), that will add four new FTEs to the current CVRT team.

**Peter Burke, MD,** was named Chair of the Massachusetts Committee on Trauma and received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Exploratory/Developmental Grant (R21) for: "Early and Adequate Protein Feeding Post-Traumatic Injury" ($261,000).

**Tracey Dechert, MD,** was elected to membership in the New England Surgical Society (NESS) and the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST).

**Alik Farber, MD,** was the Presidential Guest Lecturer at the 31st Annual Meeting of the Western Vascular Society. He was appointed to both the Research Council and Program Committee of the Society of Vascular Surgeons (SVS). He is a principal investigator of the $25 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) four-year, randomized clinical trial—the BEST-CLI Trial (Best Endovascular versus Best Surgical Therapy in Patients with Critical Limb Ischemia) which currently has 127 sites open for enrollment and 670 patients enrolled. He also co-authored 22 peer reviewed or invited papers and two book chapters. Notable examples include: "*Reporting standards of the Society for Vascular Surgery for endovascular treatment of chronic lower extremity peripheral artery disease*," published in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*; "*Design and Rationale of the BEST-CLI Trial,*" published in the *Journal of the American Heart Association*; and two articles in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* about the Vascular Physicians Offer and Report (VAPOR) Trial, a pilot trial for smoking cessation provided by surgeons.

**Amitabh Gautam, MD, FRCS,** was Invited Faculty at the Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Organ Transplantation (ISOT); served as a Region 1 Representative on the Minority Affairs Committee of the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)/Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN); and was a speaker at the Banaras Hindu University, Department of Surgical Oncology, Centenary Year Lecture Series in Varanasi, India.

**Kamal Itani MD,** was elected and approved by the Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) as Chair of the Research Committee; he received the Presidential Citation, the highest recognition given by The Association of VA Surgeons; he was voted President-Elect of the Surgical Infection Society and will serve as President in 2017; and was appointed to the Editorial Board of *JAMA Surgery.* Dr. Itani also served as Visiting Professor at Alberta University, guest speaker of the Edmonton Surgical Society in Canada and as the STAR Visiting Professor at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

**Jeffrey Kalish, MD,** has been appointed *Associate Professor of Surgery* at BU School of Medicine.

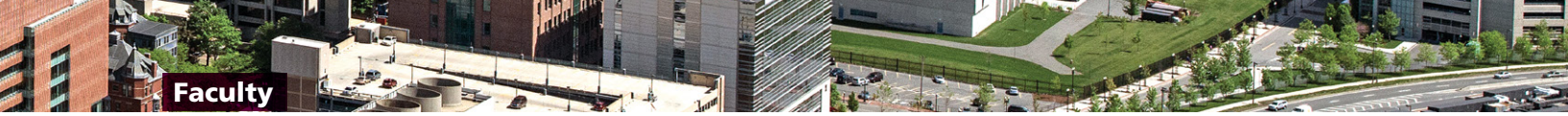
**George Kasotakis, MD, MPH,** was the recipient of a National Institutes of Health - National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIH-NIGMS) grant, "*Targeted polymerized shell microbubbles to image surgical adhesions*" as co-investigator and National Institutes of Health - National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NIH-NCATS) grant, "*Predicting and Preventing Re-Admissions within 30 days after Surgery*," as co-primary investigator; he was the author of a textbook chapter, '*Surgical Nutrition*' in "*Greenfield's Surgery: Scientific Principles and Practice*" (6th Edition) and the author of a textbook chapter, *'Trainee Participation in Emergency Surgery: What Are the Consequences?'* in "*Advances in Surgery*" (2015 Edition). He was the lead author of two papers in *Annals of Surgery and Advances in Surgery*; an Invited Moderator at the Annual Meeting for the Association for Academic Surgery; and was Course Director for the American College of Surgeons (ACS) courses: ATOM (Advanced Trauma Operative Management) and ASSET (Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma).

**Virginia Litle, MD,** has been appointed *Professor of Surgery* at BUSM.

**Marina Malikova, PhD, MSci, MA, CCRA, RAC,** was an invited speaker at: Cambridge Healthtech Institute's 4th Annual Clinical Trial Oversight Summit, the Drug Information Association's (DIA) 51st Annual Meeting (also served as Chairperson for the Systematic Approach to Study Start Up Session), the 7th Annual Clinical Operations Executives (SCOPE) Summit and the 5th Annual Cambridge Healthtech Institute's Clinical Trial Innovation Summit. She was also the lead author of two papers in *Clinical Investigation* and *Journal of Clinical Investigation* which described methodology for accurate cost estimation and efficient clinical trial execution and received Regulatory Affairs Certification (RAC) a board dual certification in US regulations for medical devices and pharmaceuticals.

**David McAneny, MD,** was named *Ad Interim Chair* of the Department of Surgery at BU School of Medicine and has been appointed *Professor of Surgery* at BUSM; he was elected Secretary of the Boston Surgical Society (BSS); and was elected to the Scholars Foundation Board of the New England Surgical Society (NESS). He was listed as a Boston Magazine "Top Doc" 2015; America's Top Doctors for Cancer 2016; America's Top Doctors 2016; Top Cancer Specialists 2016; and America's Top Surgeons 2016. He also co-authored seven peer reviewed or invited papers.

**Hillary Mull, PhD,** is in year two of a four year Career Development Award through the VA Health Services Research and Development program. To date, she has presented findings on her study of outpatient surgical adverse event detection at four national conferences and has two first-author publications in press, one in *American Surgeon* and the other in the *Journal of Patient Safety*. She has also contributed to five publications on medical and surgical hospital readmissions.




**Hau Pham, DPM,** was appointed as a member of the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Podiatric Medical Society; he was a speaker at the Annual Meeting for the American Podiatric Medical Association in Philadelphia July 2016 on, "*Digital Amputations in the Diabetic Foot Ulcers: A Retrospective Study*"; and was the co-author of two publications in *ePlasty* and *Gene Therapy.*

**Bedabrata Sarkar, MD, PhD,** presented "*Percutaneous Cholecystectomy for Acute Cholecystitis: Patient Characteristics and Clinical Outcomes,*" at the New England Surgical Society Meeting (NESS) and also presented a poster, "*Acute Ethanol Exposure Increases IL-6 Levels but does not Decrease Sepsis Survival,*" at the Shock Society Annual Meeting.

**Jeffrey Siracuse, MD, RPVI,** received an National Institutes of Health (NIH) sub-award as principle investigator studying the effect of preoperatively functional status on postoperative outcomes; he was the lead author on 12 papers, including papers in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery* and the *British Journal of Surgery* and co-author on 21 papers; he presented plenary presentations at the Society of Vascular Surgery and the Society of Clinical Vascular Surgery national meetings; he obtained certification for Boston Medical Center (BMC) to perform fenestrated endovascular aortic aneurysm repair; and he was named *Medical Director* of the Pre Procedure Clinic at BMC.

# Boston

*Boston Magazine*'s 2015 "**TOP DOCS**" issue recognized six Department of Surgery faculty members as being rated "tops" in their respective fields:

**Peter Burke, MD**
Surgery

**Alik Farber, MD**
Vascular Surgery

**Hiran Fernando, MD**
Thoracic & Cardiac Surgery

**Donald Hess, MD**
Surgery

**Maureen Kavanah, MD**
Surgery

**David McAneny, MD**
Surgery


## Leadership

**David McAneny, MD**
*Ad Interim Chair,* Department of Surgery,
*Professor of Surgery*, Boston University School of Medicine

**Tracey Dechert, MD**
*Associate Program Director,* Surgery Residency,
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Alik Farber, MD**
*Associate Chair for Clinical Operations,*
Department of Surgery,
*Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Donald Hess, MD**
*Program Director,* Surgery Residency,
*Assistant Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

**Virginia Litle, MD**
*Associate Program Director,* Surgery Residency,
*Professor of Surgery,* Boston University School of Medicine

**Jane Mendez, MD**
*Clerkship Director,*
*Associate Professor of Surgery,*
Boston University School of Medicine

## How to Give

Grounded by a proud tradition, we now focus our attention firmly on the future and are moving forward with the confidence that we are doing, and teaching people to do, necessary and important work. We invite you to be a part of this exciting era in our department by making a gift to the **Department of Surgery Discretionary Fund** in support of our efforts.

Your gift will help advance our clinical education and research goals and help foster the next generation of skilled surgeons. Please visit **www.bumc.bu.edu/supportingbusm/donate** to make an online gift or contact the BUSM Development Office at 617.638.4570 or busmdev@bu.edu.

## Contact Us

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