Boston University
Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine

Boston Medical Center
Department of Urology

2025-2026

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Introduction

The Department of Urology at Boston University School of Medicine offers a fully accredited postgraduate residency training program in the specialty of Urology, which will prepare the resident staff to evaluate, understand, and treat both the medical and surgical aspects of all types of genitourinary disease. The clinical training program is rigorous and intense. It is also quite varied in terms of the spectrum of cases, patients, and situations encountered. The program strives to enhance the academic nature of this profession by creating a vigorous and enjoyable atmosphere to foster scientific curiosity.

Our program participates in the resident match. Each year two PGY1 residents will enter the program. Matched candidates will directly matriculate to the Urology Residency Program. The Urology clinical program length is five years.

The institutions participating include: Boston Medical Center (our main campus); Boston Children's Hospital; the Boston VA Healthcare System (Jamaica Plain and West Roxbury campuses).

Department of Urology Attending Staff

Boston Medical Center

Chairman	Toby C. Chai, MD
Residency Program Director	Linda Ng, MD
Associate Program Director	Robert D. Oates, MD
	Ricardo Munarriz, MD
	David S. Wang, MD
	Mark H. Katz, MD
	Andrew P. Orlando, MD

Boston Children's Hospital

Chairman	Carlos Estrada, MD, MBA
Residency Program Director	Erin McNamara, MD
	Shima Anwar, MD, Ph.D
	Stuart Bauer, MD
	Joseph Borer, MD
	Bartley Cilento, MD, MPH
	Julia Finkelstein, MD, MPH
	Christine Fitzgerald, MD, Ph.D
	Melise Keays, MD. MSc
	Michael Kurtz, MD. MPH
	Richard Lee, MD
	Ted Lee, MD
	Caleb Nelson, MD, MPH
	Siam Oottamasathien, MD
	Kenneth Softness, MD
	Hsin-Hsiao 'Scott' Wang, MD
	Hatim Thaker, MD
	Margaret Werner, MD
	Rena Xu, MD
	Richard Yu, MD

Boston VA Health Care System

Chief	Lori Lerner, MD Jerilyn Latini, MD Timothy Ellis, MD Rachel Greenberg, MD Dianne Sacco, MD
Residency Program Coordinator	Karen E. Clements

General Program Overview

As defined by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), Urology is a medical and surgical specialty involving disorders of the genitourinary tract, including the adrenal gland. Specialists in this discipline must demonstrate the knowledge, skill, and understanding of the pertinent basic medical sciences. Residency programs must educate physicians in the prevention of urologic disease, and in the diagnosis, medical and surgical treatment, and reconstruction after surgery for neoplasms, deformities, and injuries.

The entire Program is of sixty (60) months duration of postgraduate medical education. This Program is accredited by the ACGME. Six months of the PGY-1 year will be in general surgery with 6 months of clinical urology. This is followed by forty-eight (48) months of clinical urology, including the final twelve (12) months of chief residency. During all urology training years, appropriate clinical responsibility is given, under supervision, at institutions approved as part of the Urology Residency Program.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants for the Boston University Urology Training Program should have the following credentials: An expected M.D. Degree or ECFMG equivalent. Those applicants accepted to begin a urology residency at Boston University in July 2026 will now complete a PGY-1 year, of which 6 months will be in general surgery, ICU, trauma, plastics and the other 6 months will be urological training.

The BUMC Urology Training Program is a fully accredited five-year clinical training program with two residents accepted per year. Residents interested in research may elect to take additional fellowship training. Each resident will spend a total of 16 months at the Boston Veterans Administration Healthcare System Medical Center; 38 months at Boston Medical Center Main Campus and 6 months at Boston Children’s Hospital, Pediatric Urology. Therefore, 38 of 60 months will be spent by each resident in direct association with key personnel here at Boston University responsible for resident teaching.

Applicants with one of the following qualifications are eligible for appointment to the Boston University Urology Residency Program:

Graduates of medical schools in the United States and Canada accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). Graduates of colleges of osteopathic medicine in the United States accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). Graduates of medical schools outside the United States and Canada who meet one of the following qualifications: (a) Have received a current valid certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates; (b) Have a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in a U.S. licensing jurisdiction; (c) Have completed a Fifth Pathway Program provided by an LCME-accredited medical school. In addition, the applicant must be able to obtain a valid Massachusetts license.

The Boston University Department of Urology seeks to encourage residency applications from all qualified individuals as per the stipulations above. There is specifically no discrimination on the basis of age, sex, ethnic background, religious beliefs, or sexual orientation. We are particularly interested in those with a track record of excellence in scholarly pursuits and academic endeavors. The Boston University Urology Residency Program participates in the Program administered through the American Association of Medical Colleges Centralized Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) Matching System. This matching system is available at http://www.aamc.org.

American Board of Urology Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be a graduate of a medical school approved by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) or a school of osteopathy approved by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation of the American Osteopathic Association, and have completed a urology residency program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada [RCPS(C)]. ACGME training programs in urology are described in the American Medical Association Graduate Medical Education Directory, Section II, "Essentials of Accredited Residencies in Graduate Medical Education: Institutional and Program Requirements."

The American Board of Urology mandates a minimum of 5 clinical years of postgraduate medical training. Training must include:

- 48 months in an ACGME- or RCPS(C)- approved urology program spent in clinical urology.
- 3 months of general surgery in an ACGME- or RCPS(C)- approved surgical program.
- 3 months of additional core surgical training (e.g. intensive care unit, trauma, vascular surgery, cardiac surgery, etc.) in an ACGME- or RCPS(C)- approved surgical program.
- 3 months of urology
- 3 months of other rotations, not including dedicated research time, in an ACGME- or RCPS(C)- approved core surgery program, including additional urology rotations.

Research rotations cannot interfere with the mandated 12 months of general surgery or the 48 months of clinical urology.

Residents must comply with the guidelines in place at the time of enrollment in the program.

All rotations listed above that are not part of the core urology training must have been approved by the candidate's program director. As part of the core urology training, the candidate must have completed at least 12 months as a chief resident in urology with the appropriate clinical responsibility and under supervision during the last two years of training in an ACGME-approved program.

Participating Institutions

The sponsoring institution is Boston Medical Center. Participating institutions include the Boston VA Healthcare System at both the Jamaica Plain and West Roxbury campuses. In addition, Boston Children's Hospital provides pediatric urologic education. The assignments at the participating institutions are of sufficient length to insure a quality educational experience. Residents rotate at Boston Children's Hospital for six months. Residents rotate at the VA Medical Center for a total of sixteen months. There are no routine assignments to institutions distant from our sponsoring or participating institutions. Such affiliations, if ever required or beneficial to a particular resident, would be justified and a rationale provided in terms of the educational experience otherwise not available in our program.

Educational Program

All of the attending staff at Boston Medical Center, the Veterans Administration Medical Center and Boston Children's Hospital feel quite strongly about teaching residents the medical and surgical aspects of Urology. They also believe in continued education for themselves, and constant improvement of their knowledge and operative skills. It has been the philosophy of the department to have fellowship trained experts to cover a wide range of urologic subdisciplines. In that regard, some of the faculty at Boston Medical Center and their particular areas of expertise are listed below:

Toby C. Chai, MD	Female pelvic medicine, neuro-urology and reconstructive surgery
Mark H. Katz, MD	Urologic oncology, minimally invasive surgery, robotic surgery
Ricardo Munarriz, MD	Male and female sexual medicine and surgery, transgender surgery
Linda Ng, MD	Female pelvic medicine, neuro-urology and reconstructive surgery
Robert D. Oates, MD	Male reproductive medicine and surgery, transgender surgery
David S. Wang, MD	Minimally invasive techniques, robotic surgery, laparoscopic surgery

Block diagram of the program:

	3 Months	3 Months	4 Months	2 Months
URO-1	General Surgery	ICU, Trauma, Plastic Surgery	BMC Urology	Boston VAMC Urology

	3 Months	3 Months	3 Months	3 Months
URO-2	BMC Urology	Boston VAMC Urology	BMC Urology	Boston VAMC Urology

	3 Months	3 Months	3 Months	3 Months
URO-3	BMC Urology	Boston Children's Hospital Urology	BMC Urology	Boston Children's Hospital Urology

	6 Months	6 Months
URO-4	Subspecialty Urology Office / Clinical Research	BMC Urology

	6 Months	6 Months
URO-5	BMC Urology: Academic Chief Resident	Boston VAMC Urology: Chief Resident

Program Curriculum:

The educational philosophy of our department focuses on two prime objectives: the training of residents for the practice of clinical urology and, at the same time, instilling a sense of academic productivity and achievement. These goals are not mutually exclusive. A solid basis in the pathophysiology of urologic disease is necessary for the development of a clinical practitioner in urology. However, urology is a dynamic and ever-changing specialty that relies on scientific investigation and innovation to allow the specialty to continue to improve and evolve. Over the course of the last twenty-five years the management of urologic disease has evolved from an essentially open surgical specialty to a minimally invasive field that involves both medical and surgical aspects of disease treatment. Resident education therefore involves total care of the urologic patient, from the initial clinic presentation to the formulation of a treatment plan and on to follow-up of outcomes.

PGY 1 residents learn basic management skills of the general surgical and the urologic patients, learning basic surgical skills, care of patients in intensive care and acquiring basic urologic knowledge.

PGY 2 residents learn basic management skills of the urologic patient, master basic technical skills, e.g. cystoscopy, diagnostics, etc., and acquire fundamental urologic knowledge and understanding of the urologic literature.
PGY 3 residents continue the mastery of urologic skills with advanced responsibility in patient management. During the rotation at Boston Children's Hospital they learn basic management of the pediatric urologic patient and the surgical skills required in pediatric urology.
PGY 4 residents gain the initial responsibility of a Chief Resident with advanced surgical techniques and preparation of case presentations and conferences at the main campus. At present, the PGY 4 resident also attends subspecialty clinics to further explore certain areas of urological expertise that the department possesses as well as having time to perform clinical research.
PGY 5 residents serve as "Chiefs" while honing advanced surgical skills and decision making. Chief residents supervise and instruct junior residents and medical students with greater autonomy and responsibility for patient management decisions.

Regularly Scheduled Conferences

Conference	Name of Institution	Frequency	Conference Leader
Morbidity & Mortality	All Participating Sites	1 / month	Chief of Service
Journal Club	Boston Medical Center Boston VAMC	4 / year	Attending Staff
Core Curriculum Conference	Boston Medical Center Boston VAMC	1 / week	Program Chairman
Babayan Visiting Professor	Boston Medical Center Boston VAMC	1/ year	Program Chairman
Krane Visiting Professor	All Participating Sites	1 / year	Program Chairman
Indications Conference	Boston VAMC Boston Children's Hospital	1 / week 1 / week	Chief of Service Urology Resident
Multidisciplinary Tumor Board, Imaging and Uropathology	Boston Medical Center Boston VAMC Boston Children's Hospital	3 / month 2 / month 1 / month	Attending Staff Attending Staff Attending Staff
Pediatric Uro-Radiology	Boston Children's Hospital	1 / week	Radiology Attending
Pediatric Urology Grand Rounds	Boston Children's Hospital	1 / week	Urology Resident
Pediatric Urology Research	Boston Children's Hospital	1 / week	Chief of Urology
Pediatric Urology Staff Didactic Lectures	Boston Children's Hospital	1 month	Urology Attending
Urology Grand Rounds Lecture Series	Boston Children's Hospital	1 / month	Urology Attending
Surgical M&M	Boston VAMC	1 / month	Chief of Surgery
Bladder Dysfunction Conference	Boston VAMC	1 / week	Chief of Service
Surgery Grand Rounds	Boston VAMC	1 / week	Chief of Surgery

UROLOGIC RESEARCH

Research Laboratories:

The Urology Laboratories at Boston Children's Hospital are located on the 4th and 11th floors of the Enders Research Building. They consist of over 6000 sq. ft. of dedicated research space and are fully equipped for tissue engineering, molecular and cellular biology. Included are facilities for mammalian cell culture, large animal surgery, conference rooms, and research administration offices. Three Department of Urology faculty (two MDs and one Ph.D scientist) act as principal investigators (PI) and direct a range of experimental projects related to the genitourinary system and urologic pathophysiology. The research conducted by the Urology Department is funded by a number of extramural sources, including the National Institutes of Health, the American Foundation for Urologic Disease, CaPCURE, and corporate sponsors. All three are principal investigators of NIH RO1 grants. Numerous collaborative studies are performed with the other laboratories engaged in molecular and cellular biological investigation housed within the Enders building and in neighboring institutions (Harvard Medical School and the Harvard-affiliated hospitals) located in the Longwood Medical Area. Core facilities for DNA sequencing, peptide and oligonucleotide synthesis, imaging, electron microscopy, and antibody development are housed in the Enders building and are available for our use. The laboratory serves as a teaching facility for urology fellows and residents. Recent publications from the laboratory have appeared in Cancer Research, Proceeding of the National Academy of Sciences, Kidney International, Journal of Cellular Physiology, DNA and Cell Biology, Investigative Radiology, Advances in Experimental Medicine & Biology, Journal of Urology, and Lasers in Surgery and Medicine.

The research facility located at the Boston V.A. Hospital is under the directorship of Dr. Kazem Azadzoi. There are two full-time laboratory technicians. The focus of the laboratory is smooth muscle physiology and pharmacology as it relates to bladder and prostate function as well as corporal smooth muscle function. At the West Roxbury VA campus, Dr. Maryrose Sullivan staffs an active research laboratory as well. The focus of her lab involves investigating voiding dysfunction. Bladder dysfunction is a common finding in patients with diseases such as diabetes, spinal cord injury and bladder outlet obstruction. To examine the mechanisms contributing to bladder overactivity or underactive bladder, this lab utilizes various relevant animal models of disease. Using a variety of functional, molecular and imaging approaches, research is designed to better understand the mechanisms responsible for normal and defective neurotransmission and smooth muscle activity in health and disease.

Clinical research is carried out on all campuses and residents are strongly encouraged to be active in this area. Presentations at various meetings at the local, national, and international level are supported by the department. Invited chapters, peer-reviewed publications, Institutional Review Board studies, etc are all emphasized and are collaborative efforts with residents and attending staff.