2018-2019 Recently Appointed Professors

Appointed since November 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019

Faculty of Medicine reception held on May 13, 2019

Elizabeth H. Baldini, MD

Dr. Baldini is Professor of Radiation Oncology, Part-time, at Brigham and Women's Hospital and serves as the Radiation Oncology Director of the Dana-Farber Sarcoma Center. Her clinical and research efforts focus on defining patterns of recurrence for sarcoma and mesothelioma with a goal of developing innovative treatment strategies that tailor the judicious use of radiation therapy for these diseases. Several of her research findings have been incorporated into both US and European national cancer guidelines.

Mary L. Bouxsein, PhD

Dr. Bouxsein is Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where she is Director of the Center for Advanced Orthopedic Studies. Her research has contributed to the understanding of skeletal fragility from a biomechanics framework, and includes studies in osteoporosis, disuse and, intense physical activity. She is a recognized leader in the use of non-invasive imaging to assess skeletal structure and strength.

David M. Briscoe, MBBCh

Dr. Briscoe is Professor of Pediatrics at Boston Children's Hospital and Director of the Transplant Research Program. His research is based on the concept that transplanted allografts produce factors that promote or inhibit local immunity. Studies from his laboratory have identified molecules that function to initiate and sustain intragraft mechanisms of rejection, and others that function to regulate and control alloimmunity through the modulation of T cell activation.

Jennifer R. Brown, MD, PhD

Dr. Brown is Professor of Medicine at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute where she founded and directs the Center for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). Her clinical research has revolutionized the treatment landscape of CLL through the development and FDA approval of multiple highly effective targeted therapies. Her current interests focus on understanding the mechanisms of therapeutic toxicity and resistance and on developing combination therapies to overcome them, whereas her translational research has focused on the genomic landscape of CLL.

Adam S. Cheifetz, MD

Dr. Cheifetz is Professor of Medicine at the Beth Israel Deaconess and Director of the Center for Inflammatory Bowel Disease. He is a well-recognized leader in the treatment of Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, and other inflammatory bowel diseases. Dr. Cheifetz was the first to demonstrate that proactive monitoring of concentrations of antibodies directed against TNF, as well as dosing to a therapeutic window, improved outcomes. This led to changes to practice.

Laurie E. Comstock, PhD

Dr. Comstock is Professor of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She studies predominant components of the human gut microbiota, and has made fundamental discoveries of bacterial properties involved in shaping the composition of this medically important ecosystem. Her continuing work includes translating these discoveries to alter the gut microbiota for therapeutic purposes and to treat infectious diseases.

Alessandro Doria, MD, PhD

Dr. Doria is Professor of Medicine at the Joslin Diabetes Center. His research focuses on identifying predisposing factors for the cardiovascular complications of diabetes and turning this knowledge into novel approaches to prevent, stop, or reverse these health problems. His most important discovery is the identification of a genetic locus that influences cardiovascular risk only in the presence of diabetes, raising the prospect of developing new drugs tackling coronary heart disease among patients with diabetes.

Dean Eliott, MD

Dr. Eliott is Professor of Ophthalmology at Massachusetts Eye and Ear, Director of the Retina Service, and Director of the Retina Fellowship. He is a recognized leader in fellowship education and on surgery for complex retinal conditions. He was among the first to perform clinical trials in intravitreal sustained drug delivery, epiretinal prosthesis, subretinal stem cell transplantation, and gene therapy for a variety of blinding retinal disorders leading to innovative therapeutic approaches.

Irene Ghobrial, MD

Dr. Irene Ghobrial is Professor of Medicine at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Director of the Clinical Investigator research program, Co-Director of the Center for Prevention of Progression and co-leader of the Blood Cancer Research Partnership. Her research focuses on understanding mechanisms of tumor progression from early precursor conditions such as monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) and Smoldering disease to symptomatic Multiple Myeloma (MM) and Waldenstrom Macroglobulinemia (WM). She is interested in developing new molecular/genomic markers that predict progression in precursor conditions, which can identify patients who should be eligible for therapeutic interventions to prevent progression, or potentially cure the disease at the earliest stages.

Catherine M. Gordon, MD, MS

Dr. Gordon is Professor of Pediatrics at Boston Children's Hospital where she is Chief of the Division of Adolescent Medicine. She has a long-term interest in pediatric bone health and has investigated the mechanisms of bone loss in adolescents with anorexia nervosa and other common pediatric chronic diseases. She has also worked with children with the rare disease progeria, investigating skeletal consequences of their disease and new therapies to prevent cardiovascular sequelae and prolong their lives.

Theodore S. Hong, MD

Dr. Hong is Professor of Radiation Oncology at Mass General Hospital and Director of Gastrointestinal Radiation Oncology. He specializes in treating gastrointestinal cancers with radiation therapy, and has a specific interest in evaluating new strategies of multidisciplinary treatment, proton therapy, and new radiation/drug combinations through prospective clinical trials. His research has established new standards in the management of liver tumors in localized, unresectable pancreatic cancer.

Leslie S. Kean, MD PhD

Dr. Kean is Professor of Pediatrics at Boston Children's Hospital and Director of the Pediatric Stem Cell Transplant Program at Boston Children's Hospital/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Her research is focused on the mechanisms underlying immune tolerance after hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, with a specific focus on graft-versus-host disease (GvHD), transplant rejection, and the reconstitution of protective immunity after transplantation. She has used both animal models and mechanistic studies linked to her clinical trials to investigate the cellular and molecular mechanisms of GvHD and transplant rejection, and to test the impact of novel immunosuppressive therapies on these processes.

Dennis H. Kim, MD, PhD
Dr. Kim is Professor of Pediatrics at Boston Children's Hospital where he is Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases. He is a physician-scientist who has focused on the genetic analysis of innate immunity and host-microbe interactions using C. elegans as a model organism. His research has led to insights into how interactions with microbes can modulate the integrative physiology and behavior of a simple animal host.

Benjamin Z. Leder, MD
Dr. Leder is Professor of Medicine at Mass General Hospital and Medical Director of Endocrine Associates, the clinical arm of the MGH Endocrine Unit. His research has focused on understanding the hormonal modulators of skeletal metabolism and using that understanding to develop novel osteoporosis treatment strategies. His current work focuses on optimizing the combined and sequential use of anabolic and antiresorptive agents to preferentially stimulate modeling-based bone formation and increase skeletal integrity in postmenopausal women.

Anthony J. Lembo, PhD
Dr. Lembo is Professor of Medicine at the Beth Israel Deaconess where he directs the gastrointestinal motility service and the anorectal motility testing laboratory. He is recognized for his innovative treatment of patients with complex gastrointestinal motility disorders. He is also a leading trialist who has designed and organized a series of large randomized controlled trials that have led to FDA approval of three important new drugs over the last decade.

A. James Moser, MD
Dr. Moser is Professor of Surgery at the Beth Israel Deaconess and Co-Director of the Pancreas and Liver Institute. He is a pioneer in advanced minimally-invasive and robotic surgery of the pancreas, which has changed global surgical practice. He is a funded translational scientist performing biomarker discovery and studying novel therapeutics for pancreatic cancer.

Reza Nezafat, PhD

Dr. Nezafat is Professor of Medicine at the Beth Israel Deaconess where he serves as Scientific Director of the Cardiac MR Center. He is a pioneer in the development and application of cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging technology. His work has contributed to advances in translational cardiovascular imaging research and helped further clinical decision-making through accurate diagnostic and prognostic information.

Chandrajit P. Raut, MD

Dr. Raut is Professor of Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Surgery Director of the Center for Sarcoma and Bone Oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and Program Director of the Dana-Farber/Partners Cancer Care Complex General Surgical Oncology Fellowship. His laboratory work and clinical trials focus exclusively on improving outcomes in patients with soft tissue sarcoma. He is developing a novel, chemotherapy-eluting, biodegradable implant to place in the operative bed following tumor resection to reduce recurrence rates.

Michael J. Rivkin, MD

Dr. Rivkin is Professor of Neurology at Boston Children's Hospital where he founded and directs the multidisciplinary Stroke and Cerebrovascular Center. He is a recognized leader in the field of pediatric stroke. His research employs multimodal quantitative magnetic resonance imaging to identify the effect of cerebral injury on brain development and cognitive outcome in children.

Lecia V. Sequist, MD, MPH

Dr. Sequist is Professor of Medicine at Mass General Hospital where she is Director of the Center for Innovation in Early Cancer Detection. Her research has focused on EGFR mutation-positive lung cancer and she has been integral in elucidating molecular mechanisms of acquired resistance to targeted therapy and developing novel precision medicine treatments. She is now focusing on early detection of cancer by developing and deploying technologies that can broaden our ability to screen for this disease.

Thomas D. Sequist, MD

Dr. Sequist is Professor of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and the Chief Quality and Safety Officer at Partners Healthcare System. He has focused on improving quality of care and promoting safe, equitable care by leveraging electronic health record tools, and patient and provider engagement strategies. As a member of the Taos (tah-os) Pueblo tribe in New Mexico, Dr. Sequist is a leading expert in Native American health policy, advancing our understanding of care provided by the Indian Health Service.

Akiko Shimamura, MD, PhD

Dr. Shimamura is Professor of Pediatrics at Boston Children's Hospital and Director of the Bone Marrow Failure and Myelodysplastic Syndrome Program at the Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. Her clinical and research interests focus on elucidating the molecular and genetic mechanisms of bone marrow failure and clonal evolution. Her work has identified novel genetic causes of bone marrow failure and cancer predisposition to improve diagnosis and treatment.

David M. Weinstock, MD

Dr. Weinstock is Professor of Medicine at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Co-Leader of the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Leukemia Program. His research is focused on defining and targeting susceptibilities in lymphoid cancers. This effort spans basic, translational, and clinical efforts, as well as bioengineering approaches for interrogating single cells.

Timothy Wilens, MD

Dr. Wilens is Professor of Psychiatry at Mass General Hospital where he is Chief of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Co-Director of the Center for Addiction Medicine. He is a renowned expert on the relationship of developmental psychopathology and its treatment on the development of cigarette and substance use disorders. He is also renowned for his clinical research on the pharmacological treatments of ADHD across the lifespan and the therapeutic use and misuse of stimulant medications.

Torunn I. Yock, MD

Dr. Yock is Professor of Radiation Oncology at Mass General Hospital where she is Chief of Pediatric Radiation Oncology and the Department's Quality Improvement Chair. She has revolutionized the use of proton readiotherapy as the gold standard for treating pediatric patients. She is recognized as an international leader in educating physicians at new proton facilities on how to safely administer proton radiation therapy to the pediatric population.