2022–2023 Recently Appointed Professors

Recognized at the May 8, 2023, meeting of the Faculty of Medicine

Caroline M. Apovian, MD

Professor of Medicine
Brigham and Women's Hospital

Dr. Apovian is Professor of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Co-Director of the Center for Weight Management and Wellness (CWMW). Her research focuses on obesity medicine and nutrition. As a weight management expert, she is known for her research, teaching, and as a healthcare provider.

Hyeryun Choe, PhD

Professor of Pediatrics
Boston Children's Hospital

Dr. Choe is Professor of Pediatrics at Boston Children's Hospital. Her research focuses on the mechanisms by which enveloped viruses enter their target cells, and the cellular factors required for viral replication. Her identification of cellular receptors and coreceptors for HIV-1, New World arenaviruses, and SARS coronavirus has contributed to a better understanding of the diseases caused by these viruses and development of therapeutics.

Michael P. Curry, MD

Professor of Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Dr. Curry is Professor of Medicine at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where he is Section Chief of Hepatology. He is a recognized leader in clinical care for patients with advanced end-stage liver disease. His research focuses on treating complications of advanced cirrhosis and reversal of liver failure following eradication of viral hepatitis thus decreasing the need for liver transplantation for this indication.

Corey S. Cutler, MDCM, MPH

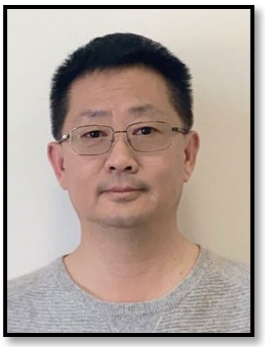
Professor of Medicine
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Dr. Cutler is Professor of Medicine at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where he is Director of the Adult Stem Cell Transplantation Program. He is a recognized leader in the prevention and management of acute and chronic graft-vs.-host disease. His work has led to the FDA approval of three drugs, including the first compound developed specifically for the management of graft-versus-host disease (GvHD).

Shingo Kajimura, PhD

Professor of Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Dr. Kajimura is Professor of Medicine at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. His research focuses on understanding the molecular basis of bioenergetics, with an emphasis on the role of brown fat in energy homeostasis. This has led to the discovery of new pathways of thermogenesis and therapeutic targets for insulin resistance, dyslipidemia, and Type 2 diabetes.



Jian Kong, MB, MS, MPH

Professor of Psychiatry
Massachusetts General Hospital

Dr. Kong is Professor of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital. His research focuses on brain mechanisms underlying experimental pain perception and modulation, placebo and nocebo effects, alternative medicine, peripheral and brain stimulation, pathophysiology of chronic pain, depression, cognitive decline, and autism. This has led to research aimed at developing new non-pharmacological treatments for chronic pain and other disorders.

Robina Matyal, MBBS

Professor of Anaesthesia
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Dr. Matyal is Professor of Anaesthesia at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where she serves as Vice Chair of Education and Director of Vascular Division. Her research focuses on elucidating cellular pathways underlying development of cardiovascular disease in women as well as in patients with diabetes and metabolic syndrome. Through her research, she aims to pave the way for innovative therapeutic interventions that manipulate these pathways and improve patient outcomes.

Trista E. North, PhD

Professor of Pediatrics
Boston Children's Hospital

Dr. North is Professor of Pediatrics at Boston Children's Hospital and Co-Director of the Developmental and Regenerative Biology Graduate Program at Harvard Medical School. Her research focuses on elucidating mechanisms of cellular cross-talk and extrinsic regulation of developmental hematopoiesis utilizing zebrafish, murine, and human iPSC models. This work has relevance to *ex vivo* production of hematopoietic stem cells for therapeutic use and has been translated into clinical trials to improve outcome in patients undergoing stem cell transplants.

Andrew J. Schoenfeld, MD, MSc

Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
Brigham and Women's Hospital

Dr. Schoenfeld is Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital, where he serves as Vice Chair of Clinical Academic Affairs in Orthopedic Surgery. His research focuses on treatment decision making for patients with spinal metastases and reducing sustained prescription opioid use after surgery. His work has led to the development of the New England Spinal Metastasis Score (NESMS) and the Stopping Opioids after Surgery (SOS) score.

Kristina Simonyan, MD, PhD

Professor of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery
Mass Eye and Ear

Dr. Simonyan is Professor of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Mass Eye and Ear, where she serves as Director of Laryngology Research. She is a recognized leader in the field of neural control of speech production and its impairments in movement disorders, particularly dystonia. Her research has helped define the current view of dystonia as a neural network disorder, which has led to the translational development of novel diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for patients with dystonia and other movement disorders.

Michael Springer, PhD

Professor of Systems Biology
Harvard Medical School

Dr. Springer is Professor of Systems Biology at Harvard Medical School. His research focuses on uncovering principles of biological design, diagnostic development, and microbial engineering for sustainability. This work led to the establishment of the Harvard University Clinical Lab, which ran COVID-19 testing for Harvard and MIT.

Robert J. Thomas, MBBS, MMSc

Professor of Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Dr. Thomas is Professor of Medicine at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and serves as the Director of the Institute for Personalized Sleep Health. His research spans brain health in sleep and sleep disorders, diagnosis and treatment of complicated forms of sleep apnea, and development of algorithms applied to sleep signals for improved diagnosis of sleep disorders and biological understanding of sleep state. He has developed an FDA-approved wearable sleep tracker, provided the original description of complex sleep apnea, and pioneered a multi-modal approach to precision treatment of sleep apnea.

Robert W. Yeh, MD, MSc, MBA

Professor of Medicine
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Dr. Yeh is Professor of Medicine at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where he is Director of the Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Center for Outcomes Research, and Section Chief of Interventional Cardiology. His research focuses on applying innovative approaches to assess the effectiveness of cardiovascular interventions and policies and to advance the manner in which real-world evidence is used to support therapeutic evaluation. As the inaugural Director of the Smith Center, he has established a nationally recognized center of excellence for cardiovascular health services, outcomes, and policy research.

Li Zhou, BMed, PhD

Professor of Medicine
Brigham and Women's Hospital

Dr. Zhou is Professor of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She is a recognized leader in the integration of biomedical informatics and clinical medicine who has made remarkable contributions to the field by developing innovative technologies in artificial intelligence for medicine, including natural language processing, machine learning, and temporal reasoning. Her innovations have significantly improved the speed of processing and data mining of clinical documentation, facilitating decision-making and enhancing patient care.

José R. Zubizarreta, PhD

Professor of Health Care Policy
Harvard Medical School

Dr. Zubizarreta is Professor of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School. His work centers on the design and analysis of randomized experiments and observational studies. He has developed novel statistical methods for causal inference and impact evaluation to advance research in health care and public policy.