

Yunping Li, MD, MSc named Inaugural Incumbent of the Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Nancy E. Oriol Chair in Obstetric Anaesthesia

Dr. Yunping Li, MD, MSc, Director of Obstetric Anesthesia at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) and Associate Professor of Anaesthesia at Harvard Medical School, will serve as the first incumbent of the Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Nancy E. Oriol Chair in Obstetric Anaesthesia, effective April 4, 2024. Dr. Li has distinguished herself as a clinician, educator, innovator and investigator in the care, safety and optimization of the pregnant patient during her extraordinary career. In addition to honoring Dr. Oriol, the endowed chair will empower Dr. Li to advance her academic research and teaching pursuits.

This endowed chair was established by Harvard Medical Faculty Physician's Inc. and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in 2024 to honor BIDMC's first Director of Obstetric Anesthesia, Nancy E. Oriol, MD. Dr. Oriol is a remarkably accomplished physician, teacher and humanitarian who is Associate Dean for Community Engagement in Medical Education at Harvard Medical School (HMS). As a longstanding anesthesiologist at BIDMC, she developed the "Walking Epidural," an anesthetic technique that allows women to ambulate during labor. She also founded the Family Van in 1992, a mobile health clinic that travels in Boston's underserved neighborhoods to provide care and address healthcare disparities. The van remains a trusted community resource that provides over 4,000 health and social service visits a year. In addition, Dr. Oriol invented two medical devices: the NEO-VAC Meconium Suction Catheter for newborn resuscitation, and a fetal data processing system and method for assessing fetal heart variability during labor to detect fetuses at risk for birth asphyxia. Dr. Oriol's pioneering spirit of creativity and innovation has also helped transform how we teach medicine. She co-founded HMS MEDscience, an innovative high school biology curriculum based on mannequin simulation that addresses the education achievement gap of local high schools and stimulates interest in careers in science and medicine.

Dr. Oriol has great admiration for Dr. Li and is thrilled to have her distinguished colleague as the first recipient of the chair named in her honor. Dr. Li, an obstetric anesthesiologist and Director of Obstetric Anesthesia at BIDMC, shares many of Dr. Oriol's skills and values. She joined BIDMC in 2000 and since that time has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to improving obstetric anesthesia here as well as in her native country of China. As Director of the "No Pain Labor & Delivery - Global Health Initiative" since 2011, she has traveled to China with colleagues each year to lead this highly effective teaching and development program that has increased safe, pain-free delivery of obstetric

anesthetics for women in China and decreased unnecessary caesarian births there. She is a co-author, along with her OB team, on “Obstetric Anesthesia: Quick References and Practice Guides,” published by McGraw Hill in 2023. This succinct, evidence-based book delivers all the information needed to provide safe, effective anesthesia care to pregnant woman in subacute and emergency situations.

On personal level, Dr. Li is known as a generous colleague and leader and a much-loved mentor to BIDMCs anesthesia residents and obstetric fellows. Many of her mentees have been inspired to specialize in obstetric anesthesia and have faculty positions at BIDMC and other top institutions.

Celebrating the establishment of the Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Nancy E. Oriol Chair in Obstetric Anaesthesia

March 27, 2024

Please join us on Thursday, April 4th as we celebrate the establishment of the Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Nancy E. Oriol Chair in Obstetric Anaesthesia. Named after obstetric anesthesiologist and founder of the Family Van, Nancy E. Oriol, this Chair honors the tremendous legacy of BIDMC’s first Director of Obstetric Anesthesia. Under Oriol’s leadership, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center’s Division of Obstetric Anesthesia became one of the world’s preeminent divisions for innovations in safe childbirth and foundational research in the field of obstetric anesthesia.

Created in 2024, the Chair’s inaugural incumbent is Yunping Li, Director of Obstetric Anesthesia and Associate Professor of Anaesthesia at Harvard Medical School. Li is a faculty anesthesiologist, educator, author and investigator whose current work focuses on the safety and optimization of care of the pregnant patient.

The Nancy E. Oriol Chair in Obstetric Anaesthesia is endowed by Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Inc and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

This event and reception will take place at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center's Leventhal Conference Room (East Campus, Shapiro 2nd floor) from 6-7:00 PM. It will also be available by livestream here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84924815670?pwd=d3p4d1NjMU9qVGgzalVqVTlQZU0zUT09>