

Department of Neonatology

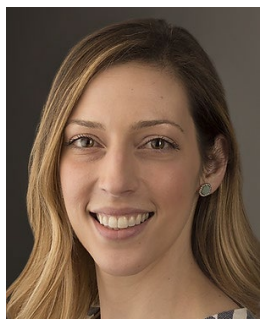
Awards & Honors

New Chair, HMFP Board of Directors



Congratulations to **DeWayne Pursley**, MD, MPH, Chief of the BIDMC Department of Neonatology, on his appointment as Chair of the HMFP Board of Directors. Dr. Pursley succeeds Mary Ann Stevenson, MD, PhD, who has completed her term as Board Chair and will now serve as Chair of the Finance Committee.

2025 BIDMC Center for Healthcare Delivery Innovation Grant



We are pleased to announce that **Kristyn Beam**, MD (pictured on the left), and **Timmy Ho**, MD, are co-PI recipients of a 2025 BIDMC Center for Healthcare Delivery Innovation Grant.

Their project, “Large Language Model-generated Plain Language Addendum to Notes (LLM-PLANS)” leverages Drs. Beam’s and Ho’s complementary interests and skills to provide families with plain language summaries of daily notes, a key to improving care for vulnerable populations and addressing one aspect of health literacy challenges in the NICU.

Harvard Medical School Promotion



Congratulations to **Munish Gupta**, MD, MMSc, on his promotion to Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School.

As Director of Quality in the Department of Neonatology, Dr. Gupta has led many efforts to advance safe, effective, and equitable clinical care for BIDMC newborns. Beyond BIDMC and Harvard, through his innovations, teaching, scholarship, and expert leadership, Dr. Gupta has had a significant and broad impact on neonatal quality improvement in the state, country, and throughout the world. Within the neonatology community, he is acknowledged as one of the country’s experts in quality improvement methodology.

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Dr. Kunz R01 Research Grant Award



Congratulations to **Sarah N. Kunz, MD, MPH**, who was awarded an R01 research grant for her project, “Predicting the Effect of Obstetric Unit Closures on Maternal and Neonatal Outcomes.” This work is important and timely as the predicted increase in hospital and obstetric service closures may significantly impact obstetric and preterm outcomes. Dr. Kunz will be using network science methodologies to study these effects, the characteristics of affected hospitals and patients, and the mitigating role of transport systems.

Congratulations Physician Leadership Program Graduates



Congratulations to **Justin Goldstein, MD**, who was one of 13 recent graduates of the 2024-25 BILH Physician Leadership Program (PLP), a 12-month leadership development program designed to help physicians strengthen their leadership competencies.

Dr. Goldstein’s PLP project created an electronic dashboard containing data from all BILH birthing centers on more than 25 patient care-related metrics. This will provide the framework for future system-wide QI endeavors, census management and care coordination in Neonatology.

Dr. Goldstein’s PLP coach shared, “I so enjoyed coaching Justin. Besides always coming to coaching prepared, he challenged himself to stretch and work on various goals for the year. I saw him grow in risk-taking as well as providing more positive and constructive feedback to those he led. He brings a holistic approach to leadership, which is complemented by his kind and caring personality.”

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New Staff Arrivals

Welcome Dr. Yannekis



We're pleased to welcome **Gia Yannekis**, MD, MPH, who joined the Department of Neonatology in July. Dr. Yannekis earned her medical degree from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her pediatric residency at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and her fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital.

Dr. Yannekis' research focuses on delineating the differential impacts of neonatal intensive care unit level and volume on morbidity of minority versus non-Hispanic white neonates, and evaluated effects of delivery hospital quality on neonatal outcomes. Her work was presented at multiple national conferences and published in the Journal of Perinatology. She completed the Harvard-wide Pediatric Health Services Research Fellowship, served as chief fellow, and earned a master's in Public Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.