

Department of Neonatology

New staff arrivals, awards, honors & leadership positions

April – June 2026

Welcome to Neonatology



Megan Connelly, MD, joined our team on the BIDMC Cochran Newborn Service and BID Plymouth.

Dr. Connelly earned her medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine, followed by pediatric residency training at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. She joins us from Brigham & Women's Hospital, where she has served as Associate Medical Director of Well Newborn Care.



Margaret "Peggy" Dyer, MD, FAAP, joined our Neonatology Department this spring. Dr. Dyer is a board-certified pediatrician with experience as a Newborn Hospitalist in both Level I and Level II nurseries. She earned her medical degree from St. George's University School of Medicine and completed her pediatric residency at the University of Florida and Stony Brook University. Most recently, Dr. Dyer served as a Newborn Hospitalist at Trinity Health of New England Mercy Medical Center. Prior to that, she was a Newborn Hospitalist and Level II NICU Attending with Boston Children's Hospital Division of Newborn Medicine at Charlton Memorial Hospital.



Ramon Reddick, MD, recently joined our Cochran Newborn Service in a part-time role. Since 2024, Dr. Reddick has provided adult hospitalist care within the BILH system, a role he will continue alongside his work with the Cochran Newborn Service.

Dr. Reddick earned his medical degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine. He completed his residency in Combined Internal Medicine & Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine/Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. His professional interests include undergraduate medical education, and he's passionate about training the next generation of physicians.

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Steven Soriano, DO, FAOBP, FAAP, recently joined our Neonatology Department as a neonatal hospitalist. Dr. Soriano brings extensive pediatric experience to the role, having most recently served as Director of Pediatrics at Lamoille Health Partners in Morrisville, Vermont and as a pediatric hospitalist for critical access hospitals in Vermont and New Hampshire.

He completed his pediatrics residency at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York, and earned his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the University of North Texas. Dr. Soriano is a Fellow of both the American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics and the American Board of Pediatrics and served as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine.

His clinical interests include improving neonatal resuscitation outcomes, neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome (NOWS), breastfeeding promotion, complex care coordination, and social determinants of health.



Jill Vitale, PA-C, has joined the NICU Advanced Practice Provider group. Jill is an experienced Physician Assistant with experience caring for critically ill infants in Level III & IV NICUs at UMass Memorial Medical Center. She also brings a passion for education, serving as Clinical Faculty at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, where she precepted PA students pursuing careers in neonatology.

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Neonatology Faculty Named to Massachusetts Perinatal Advisory Committee

Munish Gupta, MD, MMSc, and **Karen McAlmon**, MD, have been appointed to the Perinatal Advisory Committee (PAC) for the MA Department of Public Health (DPH). The PAC advises the DPH on issues related to Maternal and Newborn Services in the Commonwealth. These appointments are a testament to the tremendous leadership of Drs. Gupta and McAlmon provide in our state.



Munish Gupta,
MD, MMSc



Karen
McAlmon, MD

HMFP Outstanding Colleague Award Nominations

Dara Brodsky, MD, and **Emily Whitesel**, MD, were nominated for the [HMFP Outstanding Colleague Award](#). These awards recognize the deeply valued efforts of physicians who have gone above and beyond in support of a colleague to offer guidance, encouragement, or assistance during a time of personal or professional need.



Dara
Brodsky, MD



Emily
Whitesel, MD

Dr. Sanford Named Chair of Pediatrics at Anna Jaques Hospital

Amanda (Mandi) Sanford, MD, has been named Chair of Pediatrics at Anna Jaques Hospital (AJH), effective January 2026. Dr. Sanford will continue to serve as a hospitalist in addition to her new AJH position. Dr. Sanford brings nearly two decades of pediatric and neonatal expertise to this new leadership role.



Since 2018, Dr. Sanford has served as Director of the Neonatal Hospitalist Program at BIDMC, where she has worked to grow the neonatal hospitalist program and strengthen clinical and delivery room skills among early-career faculty through the development of a procedural bootcamp. She also focuses on clinician wellness and is a co-chair of the BIDMC NICU Wellness committee and a member of the HMFP Physician Wellness Committee.

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Dr. Beam Named Recipient of the Harvard Medical School Faculty Fellowship



Kristyn Beam, MD, has been named a recipient of the 2026-2028 Harvard Medical School Faculty Fellowship, administered by the Office for Culture and Community Engagement.

The Fellowship is a two-year, non-degree Faculty Fellowship program designed to address faculty needs for additional support to conduct a mentored research project, including clinical and/or translational research, and to provide release time from responsibilities at a key point in their career development. Fellows are provided opportunities to participate in OCCE-sponsored faculty development activities that enhance their leadership skills and visibility, and present at the 2028 Annual Health Policy Meeting.

During this program, Dr. Beam will develop and prospectively evaluate a Respiratory Trajectory Index (RTI), an AI-based clinical decision support tool designed to guide extubation timing in the neonatal intensive care unit.

Dr. King Named NEPS Mentor of the Year



Brian King, MD, has been named Mentor of the Year for Neonatology by the New England Perinatal Society (NEPS).

This honor is especially meaningful because it comes directly from trainees. Each year at the NEPS annual scientific meeting, trainee awards are presented for research excellence in neonatology and maternal-fetal medicine, and trainees are also invited to nominate mentors who have made a lasting impact on their training. Dr. King's recognition reflects the dedication, guidance, and support he brings to the trainees he works with every day.

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Dr. Fraiman Selected as Fenwick Leadership Fellow

Yarden Fraiman, MD, MPH, has been selected as a Fenwick Leadership Fellow in the 2026–2027 Boston Children's Hospital Sandra L. Fenwick Institute Leadership Development Fellows Program.



The Fenwick Institute is dedicated to improving children's health outcomes by cultivating the next generation of healthcare and research leaders. As part of this competitive fellowship, Dr. Fraiman will take part in monthly leadership seminars and panel discussions led by national and international experts in healthcare leadership and will complete a hands-on healthcare process improvement project. The program is recognized as a Boston Children's Hospital Center for Education Excellence & Innovation Certificate Program, reflecting its high standards of educational excellence.

Dr. Fraiman Appointed to Pediatrics Editorial Board

Dr. Fraiman has also been welcomed to the general editorial board of *Pediatrics* by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Dr. Fraiman's first term will begin on July 1, 2026, and run through June 30, 2029. As a member of the editorial board, Dr. Fraiman will play a key role in shaping the scholarship published in one of the field's leading journals, contributing expertise to guide the future of pediatric research and practice.

Dr. Shephard Honored Among Medicine's Top Female Leaders

Barbara Shephard, MD, has been selected as a Castle Connolly Exceptional Women in Medicine award recipient. This distinguished list recognizes female Castle Connolly Top Doctors who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, expertise, and dedication in their respective fields. In addition to meeting the rigorous requirements for Castle Connolly Top Doctor status, honorees are selected based on additional qualifications, including research and academic contributions, volunteer work within healthcare, and training at top institutions.



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Fellows Recognize Faculty Excellence: 2026 Honor Roll Announced

BIDMC's 2026 annual Harvard Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship "Honor Roll" Awardees were recently recognized. These awards are voted on anonymously by the fellows to recognize faculty who have gone above and beyond for the fellows in teaching, mentorship, and advocacy. Each fellow nominated faculty who made a significant impact on their education, research training, or career development over the past year.

2026 annual Harvard Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship "Honor Roll" Awardees at BIDMC

Timmy Ho, MD, MPH

Brian King, MD

Emily D. Whitesel, MD

Gia E. Yannekis, MD, MPH

Dr. Zupancic Named Chief Impact Officer, Delivers AAP Silverman Lecture

We are pleased to share two significant recognitions for **John Zupancic**, MD, MS, ScD, Associate Chief of Neonatology at BIDMC, and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School.



Dr. Zupancic has been named to the newly created role of Chief Impact Officer for Vermont Oxford Network, a position he will hold in addition to his ongoing roles at BIDMC and HMS. Vermont Oxford Network is a nonprofit, voluntary collaboration of healthcare professionals working as an interdisciplinary community to change the landscape of neonatal care. Their mission is to improve the quality, safety, and value of care for newborn infants and their families through a coordinated program of data-driven quality improvement, education, and research. In this new role, Dr. Zupancic will help guide the network's efforts to improve outcomes for newborns and their families across its member hospitals.

2026 AAP William Silverman Lecture

Dr. Zupancic was also honored with the distinction of delivering the 2026 AAP William Silverman Lecture at the Pediatric Academic Societies meeting in Boston. His lecture, titled, "*Ten Provocations from Meta-Research in Neonatology*," explored opportunities to improve the value and efficiency of randomized trials in our field.

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Drs. Angelidou and Beam Selected for 2026 Hub Spark Grant Award

Asimenia Angelidou, MD, PhD, and **Kristyn Beam**, MD, have been selected as recipients of a 2026 Hub Spark Grant Award for their project, *A novel multi-modal approach using artificial intelligence and preterm saliva for rapid diagnosis of bronchopulmonary dysplasia*.

Bronchopulmonary dysplasia is a chronic lung condition that affects premature infants leading to lifelong health problems and sometimes death. The project will leverage artificial intelligence to decode chest imaging information, which combined with clinical data and analysis of the salivary secretome aims to create a powerful early detection system to promptly identify the most at-risk infants and tailor precision treatments.



Asimenia
Angelidou, MD, PhD



Kristyn
Beam, MD

The Hub Spark Grants support innovative, collaborative pilot projects within BIDMC's Translational Research Hubs, interdisciplinary communities dedicated to accelerating the translation of research from bench to bedside. This grant program leverages advanced technologies from BIDMC's Institutional Research Cores to advance groundbreaking science.

Dr. Lee Selected for Shapiro Institute's Foundations of Medical Education Course

Jennifer Lee, MD, MS, FAAP, has been selected to participate in the Shapiro Institute's Foundations of Medical Education course for the 2026–2027 academic year. This competitive faculty development program equips participants with the core knowledge, practical skills, and evidence-based strategies needed to launch or advance a career as a teacher and educator in academic medicine. Through interactive sessions and discussions with experienced faculty, participants build a strong foundation in the principles of effective teaching and medical education.



Dr. Lee serves as Associate Director of Network Clinical Practice and Education for BILH Neonatology, Associate Medical Director of the Special Care Nursery at Beverly Hospital, and Attending Neonatologist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.