

Department of Neurology

Department Highlights

Welcome New Residents!

We're excited to welcome the Neurology Residency Class of 2030 to BIDMC!

This exceptional group of physicians joins us from outstanding medical schools across the country and around the world, bringing diverse experiences, talent, and a shared commitment to advancing patient care.

Beth Israel Deaconess
Medical Center

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL

2026-2027 Neurology Residents

PGY 1 Residents	 Kiera Borthwick, MD Pager 37261	 Lauren Canha, MD Pager 91362	 Benjamin Coleman, MD Pager 91363	 Janessa Engelmeyer, MD Pager 91369	 Natalie Gurevich, MD Pager 91393	 Juliana Katz, MD Pager 91395	 Kyoko Kohno, MD Pager 91396	 Ava Siegel, MD Pager 91397	 Oliver Zhou, MD Pager 91398
PGY 2 Residents	 Trey Baird, MD Pager 91080	 Megan DeLong, MD, PhD Pager 91081	 Shannon Gu, MD Pager 91082	 Carolyn Habiger, MD Pager 91084	 Michael Hebert, MD Pager 91086	 Katrina Mulloz, MD Pager 91087	 Rebecca Ripperton, MD Pager 91056	 Yunting 'Mary' Yu, MD Pager 91088	
PGY 3 Residents	 Anika Daya, MD Pager 38038	 Annie He, MD Pager 38040	 Jony Hsu, MD Pager 38042	 Sweta Joshi, MD Pager 38043	 Mayumi Koshiyama, MD Pager 38044	 Hannah Lahey, MD Pager 38045	 Alexis Poyliart, MD Pager 38054	 Karthan Reddy, MD Pager 38055	
PGY 4 Residents	 Abhilasha Boruah, MD Pager 37595	 Valerie Braddick, MD Pager 35796	 Rebecca Dann, MD, MS Administrative Chief Pager 37618	 Michelle Hick, MD Administrative Chief Pager 37630	 Clayton Neal, MD Pager 37645	 Ziqiang 'Selina' Lin, MD Pager 38289	 Hanna Peterson, MD Pager 37649	 Dylan Selbst, MD Administrative Chief Pager 37658	 Eileen Yung, MD, MS Pager 37665

Full Residency Class 2026-2027



Residents and Faculty enjoyed the annual Resident Welcome Party at Dr. Rutkove's home on 7/9.

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Department Highlights

BIDMC Neurology on Capitol Hill



Samuel Frank, MD, recently joined advocates in Washington, D.C., meeting with members of Congress to raise awareness for Huntington's disease and other rare neurological disorders.

The meetings emphasized the importance of transparency, consistency, and flexibility in the regulatory process for rare disease drug development, helping ensure patient and clinician perspectives remain part of the national conversation.



Kumar featured in WBUR

In a recent **WBUR Cognoscenti** op-ed, our Department's own **Sandeep Kumar, MD**, outlined a vision for strengthening stroke systems of care across Massachusetts by improving emergency transport, transfer coordination, and timely access to advanced stroke treatment. Read more [here](#).

Stroke Team Launches B.E. F.A.S.T. Fridays

Congratulations to **Jillian O'Sullivan, Nicole Houpes, Kathy Bear**, and the stroke nursing team on launching **B.E. F.A.S.T. Fridays**, a mobile-friendly stroke education program designed to reinforce rapid stroke recognition through short, engaging learning modules. [Explore the module here](#).



Department of Neurology

Faculty Achievements



A Historic Achievement for Pushpa Narayanaswami, MD

Please join us in congratulating Pushpa Narayanaswami, MD, on two extraordinary achievements.

Dr. Narayanaswami has been named the next Editor in Chief of Muscle & Nerve, becoming the first woman in the journal's history to serve in this prestigious role. She was also honored with the 2026 Distinguished Physician Award from the American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine (AANEM), recognizing her exceptional contributions as a clinician, educator, and leader.

These honors reflect Dr. Narayanaswami's remarkable impact on the field of neuromuscular medicine and bring tremendous distinction to our department.



Shih appointed Associate Professor

Congratulations to **Ludy Shih, MD**, on her appointment as Associate Professor of Neurology. This well-deserved achievement recognizes her outstanding contributions to patient care, education, research, and academic leadership. We congratulate Dr. Shih on this exciting milestone.

Department of Neurology

Faculty Achievements

HMFP Outstanding Colleague Awards

Congratulations to **Alexandra Stillman, MD, Alexandra Hovaguimian, MD, Ludy Shih, MD, and Jonah Zuflacht, MD**, who were among the 79 nominees recognized through the **HMFP Outstanding Colleague Award** program. Their nominations reflect their commitment to supporting colleagues during times of personal and professional need.



Congratulations to **Grace Ho, MD**, on her appointment as **Head of the Hinton Society at Harvard Medical School**. In this leadership role, she will serve as a Principal Clinical Experience (PCE) Mentor, helping guide and support Harvard medical students as they develop their clinical skills and professional identities. We congratulate Dr. Ho on this well-deserved recognition and her continued commitment to medical education and mentorship.

Congratulations to **Maggie Fermentai**, who was nominated for the **Boston Globe's Salute to Nurses** and recognized through the BIDMC Nursing Awards Program. Her nomination beautifully captured the impact she has on patients and colleagues:



"Maggie is one of the most caring and empathetic people I have met. She cares for her patients with compassion and understanding... The Neurology department is lucky to have her on their team."

Read more about Maggie and all the nominated nurses across the region [here](#).

Department of Neurology

Faculty Achievements



Congratulations to **Áine Russell** on earning her graduate degree from Bentley University this spring. We are proud to celebrate this important milestone and wish her continued success.

Welcoming New Hires



**Alana Breen, RN - Ambulatory
Clinical Nurse Manager**



**Belinda Duklaska - Practice
Manager (CNU, Movement, MS)**



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
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Harvard Medical
Faculty Physicians
at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Beth Israel Lahey Health 
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



Fried Received National TMS Research Grant

Congratulations to **Peter Fried, MD**, and postdoctoral fellow **Giacomo Bertazzoli, PhD**, on receiving the **Neil S. Hirsch Neurotherapeutic TMS Research Grant** from the Foundation for the Advancement of Clinical TMS (FACTMS).

Their newly funded project, **ReCARE-TMS (Restoring Cognition after Amyloid Removal using TMS)**, will investigate whether transcranial magnetic stimulation can improve cognition in patients with Alzheimer's disease following amyloid removal therapy.

1. Haack M, Chan J, Engert LC, Dang R, Wang H, Borducchi EN, Shah K, Liu J, Sun H, Ganglberger W, Karlson EW, Prather AA, Barouch DH, **Mullington JM**. [The effect of pre-existing sleep disturbance on T cell responses to SARS-CoV-2 variants, pro-inflammatory and pro-resolving mediators, and glucocorticoid sensitivity in Long COVID](#). Sci Rep. 2026 Apr 3;16(1).

Division/program: Sleep / Neuroimmunology | PMID: 41933012 | PMCID: PMC13199573 | Publication type: Original research

2. Dookhy J, Cummings M, Price E, Liu Y, Gutierrez-Gomez S, O'Shea S, **Frank S**, Au R, Gurnani AS, Ang TFA, Mez J, **Shih LC**. [Dementia Incidence in Individuals With Parkinson's Disease in the Framingham Heart Study](#). Ann Clin Transl Neurol. 2026 Apr 7.

Division/program: Movement Disorders | PMID: 41944089 | DOI: [10.1002/acn3.70383](#) | Publication type: Original research

3. Ramirez-Plascencia OD, De Luca R, Machado NLS, Eghlidi D, Khanday MA, Bandaru SS, Raffin F, Vujovic N, **Arrigoni E**, **Saper CB**. [A hypothalamic circuit for circadian regulation of corticosterone secretion](#). Nat Commun. 2026 Apr 7;17(1):4940.

Division/program: Sleep / Basic Neuroscience | PMID: 41946720 | PMCID: PMC13233844 | DOI: [10.1038/s41467-026-71482-0](#) | Publication type: Original research

4. Parent JH, Levine T, **Freeman R**, **Gibbons CH**. [The Syn-Q study: detection of cutaneous phosphorylated alpha-synuclein in Parkinson's disease progression: a trial protocol](#). Front Neurol. 2026 Apr 14;17:1823991.

Division/program: Autonomic Neurology | PMID: 42057930 | PMCID: PMC13121157 | DOI: [10.3389/fneur.2026.1823991](#) | Publication type: Protocol



5. Awamleh M, Hamad M, Jariri A, **Selim M**. [Artificial intelligence in stroke management: From prevention to treatment](#). Digit Health. 2026;12:20552076261433849.
Division/program: Stroke | PMID: 42052419 | PMCID: PMC13111860 | DOI: [10.1177/20552076261433849](#) | Publication type: Review
6. Lian G, Khabazeh A, **Sheen V**. [A modified CRISPR/Cas9 approach in silencing the triplication in Down syndrome: A treatment path XISTs](#). Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2026 Apr 21;123(16):e2517953123.
Division/program: Epilepsy / Neurogenetics | PMID: 41973928 | PMCID: PMC13099551 | Publication type: Original research
7. Sun H, Dang R, Li P, Xiao W, Scott-Sutherland J, Sassower KC, **Westover MB**, Felsenstein D, Thomas RJ, **Haack M**, **Mullington JM**. [Facility-measured sleep electroencephalographic microstructures in long COVID](#). Sleep. 2026 Apr 22:zsag090.
Division/program: Sleep / Epilepsy Data Science | PMID: 42017829 | DOI: [10.1093/sleep/zsag090](#) | Publication type: Original research
8. Ning MH, Sun H, Passera B, Das DB, **Westover MB**, Pascual-Leone A, Santarnecchi E, **Shafi MM**, Ozdemir RA. [Complexity of resting cortical activity predicts neurophysiological responses to theta-burst stimulation but fails to generalize: A rigorous machine-learning approach](#). PLoS Comput Biol. 2026 Apr 30;22(4):e1014154.
Division/program: Noninvasive Brain Stimulation / Data Science | PMID: 42060616 | PMCID: PMC13132237 | DOI: [10.1371/journal.pcbi.1014154](#) | Publication type: Original research
9. Young MJ, **Simon D**, Evans BJ. [Safeguarding Neural Data](#). Neurology. 2026 May 26;106(10):e214942. Epub 2026 Apr 30.
Division/program: Movement Disorders / Ethics | PMID: 42060878 | DOI: [10.1212/WNL.0000000000214942](#) | Publication type: Viewpoint
10. Blank LJ, Johnson EL, Pellerin KR, Sarkis RA, Gaston TE, **Shafi MM**, Zepeda R, Camitan M, Anderson T, Hankerson A, Jan A, Jung K, Leake M, **Westover MB**, Lam AD. [Late-Onset Seizures: Etiology and Demographics in US Tertiary Care Epilepsy Centers](#). Neurology. 2026 Jun 9;106(11):e214948. Epub 2026 May 7.
Division/program: Epilepsy | PMID: 42096671 | DOI: [10.1212/WNL.0000000000214948](#) | Publication type: Original research
11. Yekeduz MK, van Gool R, van der Heijden H, Sonbas-Cobb B, Shah N, Johnson G, Timpani CA, Shulman J, Rameh V, Hsu EE, LeSon C, Lee PY, Vogel AP, Al-Hertani W, Park HJ, Rybalka E, **Rutkove SB**, Upadhyay J. [Multimodal Noninvasive Biomarker Characterization of Structural and Functional Alterations in ADSS1-Deficient Myopathy](#). J Inherit Metab Dis. 2026 May;49(3):e70193.
Division/program: Neuromuscular | PMID: 42023707 | DOI: [10.1002/jimd.70193](#) | Publication type: Original research



12. Lu N, Kunicki ZJ, Jones RN, Vasunilashorn SM, Inouye SK, Pascual-Leone A, **Fong TG**, Metzger E, Libermann T, Trivison TG, Marcantonio ER, Ngo LH. [Cognitive Trajectories After Major Surgery in Older Adults and Factors Associated With Severe Decline](#). J Am Geriatr Soc. 2026 May 16.

Division/program: Cognitive Neurology / Delirium | PMID: 42142032 | Publication type: Original research

13. Friedman JH, Akbar U, Beehler B, Chou KL, Cloud LJ, Deik A, Gilbert R, Gomperts SN, Goudreau JL, Gunzler SA, Lizarraga K, Malaty I, Maurer CW, Miyasaki J, Mohammed N, Morgan JC, Munhoz RP, Pal G, Shulman L, **Simon D**, Pontone G. [True vignettes: interesting, illustrative examples of behavioral abnormalities in people with Parkinson's disease](#). Arq Neuropsiquiatr. 2026 May;84(5):1-6.

Division/program: Movement Disorders | PMID: 42150593 | PMCID: PMC13183462 | DOI: [10.1055/s-0046-1822631](#) | Publication type: Clinical observations

15. Diamond AB, **Fried PJ**, **Buss SS**, **Mullington JM**, Brown JC, MacDonnell K, Mattos MK. [Treating insomnia in mild cognitive impairment: a novel approach combining transcranial magnetic stimulation with cognitive behavioral therapy](#). Int Rev Psychiatry. 2026 May 19:1-17.

Division/program: Cognitive Neurology / Noninvasive Brain Stimulation / Sleep | PMID: 42157607 | DOI: [10.1080/09540261.2026.2671089](#) | Publication type: Original research

16. Sonbas-Cobb B, **Rutkove SB**, Wei B, Robicheau S, Arnold WD, Hives K, Bartlett A, Riley P, Pagan A, Chrzanowski SM, Darras BT, Kolb SJ. [Multifrequency Electrical Impedance Myography Enhanced with Machine Learning for Screening Patients with Neuromuscular Disorders](#). Ann Biomed Eng. 2026 May 22.

Division/program: Neuromuscular | PMID: 42171878 | DOI: [10.1007/s10439-026-04175-w](#) | Publication type: Original research

17. Musaeus CS, Curnin CB, Muthupalaniappan S, Friedman G, Aslarus I, Hayashi T, Smith MA, **Press DZ**. [Feasibility and validity of the D-Cog: A novel digital spatial working memory test for dementia assessment](#). J Alzheimers Dis. 2026 Jun;111(3):1309-1316.

Division/program: Cognitive Neurology | PMID: 42012391 | Publication type: Validation study

18. Goldenholz DM, Goldenholz SR, Mullan H, Moss R, **Drislane FW**, **Westover MB**. [Self-Reported Seizure Durations](#). JAMA Neurol. 2026 Jun 8.

Division/program: Epilepsy | PMID: 42258203 | DOI: [10.1001/jamaneurol.2026.1644](#) | Publication type: Original research

19. Hshieh TT, Kunicki ZJ, **Fong TG**, Marcantonio ER, Schmitt EM, Xu G, Jones RN, Inouye SK. [Rehospitalization and the Association of Postoperative Delirium With Cognitive Decline in Older Adults](#). JAMA Intern Med. 2026 Jun 8.

Division/program: Cognitive Neurology / Delirium | PMID: 42258189 | DOI: [10.1001/jamainternmed.2026.1910](#) | Publication type: Original research

20. Park CM, Kim EG, **Luo L**, Shi SM, McCarthy EP, Kim DH. [Social determinants of health and utilization of transitional and chronic care management services among Medicare beneficiaries: a case-control study](#). Gerontologist. 2026 Jun 9;66(7).

Division/program: Movement Disorders / Health Services | PMID: 42166741 | DOI: [10.1093/geront/gnag113](#) | Publication type: Original research

21. Balshi A, Dempsey JP, Zhang-James Y, **Sloane JA**. [Electronic Health Record-Based Estimates of Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis Epidemiology in a Large Healthcare Network, 2000-2025](#). Neurohospitalist. 2026 Jun 18;19418744261463751.

Division/program: Neuroimmunology | PMID: 42333211 | PMCID: PMC13283612 | DOI: [10.1177/19418744261463751](#) | Publication type: Original research

22. Viola M, Reda H, **Hovaguimian A**, **Zuflacht J**. [Education Research: Case-Based and Near-Peer Teaching on Functional Neurologic Disorder in the Neurology Clerkship: A Cross-Site Comparative Pilot Study](#). Neurology Education. 2026 Jul 6:e200342.

Division/program: General Neurology / Neurohospitalist Education | PMID: 42404405 | PMCID: PMC13330575 | DOI: [10.1212/NE9.000000000200342](#) | Publication type: Education research