

Department of Pathology

Welcome New Hires!



Scott J. Rodig, MD, PhD, an internationally recognized hematopathologist, physician-scientist, and academic leader, has joined the BIDMC Department of Pathology as the inaugural **Vice Chair of Hematopathology**. A Professor of Pathology at Harvard Medical School and previously an attending pathologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Dr. Rodig brings more than two decades of clinical, research, and leadership experience at the forefront of hematologic malignancies.

He has authored over 350 peer-reviewed publications, ranks among the top 1% of most-cited researchers in clinical medicine, and has played a pivotal role in discoveries and diagnostic innovations that have shaped modern lymphoma care. In his new role, he is leading and strengthening the collaboration between Dana-Farber's Hematologic Malignancies programs and BIDMC Pathology, advancing integrated clinical care, translational research, and education.

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Adriano Piris, MD, an expert with extensive experience, has joined **Dermatopathology** where he signs out routine cases, intramural and extramural consults, and participates in the department's academic and teaching activities. He is a graduate from the Medical School of the Universidad Nacional de Asuncion in Paraguay. He completed postgraduate training at Berkshire Medical Center and Massachusetts General Hospital (AP) and BIDMC (Dermatopathology).

He is a former Assistant Professor in Dermatology at Harvard Medical School and former Director of the Mihm Cutaneous Pathology Consultative Service at Brigham and Women's Dermatology. He is currently a senior dermatopathology consultant for Sonic Health Care USA. He has worked with the Melanoma Group of the National Cancer Institute in Milan, Italy. Most recently, in collaboration with the Mohs micrographic surgery unit at Brigham and Women's Dermatology, he developed the first and only scoring system for desmoplasia in cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, a work recently published in the [*Journal of Investigative Dermatology*](#).

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Feidi Chen, MD, PhD, a former BIDMC AP/CP resident, completed a PhD in Experimental Pathology at the University of Texas Medical Branch, followed by postdoctoral research fellowships at Washington University School of Medicine and the Cleveland Clinic. Most recently she completed a Breast Pathology Fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital.



Pu Ni, MD, completed a master's degree in Medical & Molecular Genetics at Indiana University, followed by an AP/CP residency at Mount Sinai West/Morningside Hospital, where she also served as Chief Resident. Most recently, Dr. Ni completed a Gastrointestinal Pathology Fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital.



Carla Calagua, MD, completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at BIDMC, where she focused on the molecular pathology of aggressive prostate cancer, treatment resistance, tumor immunology, and biomarker development. She completed an AP/CP residency at Mount Sinai West/Morningside Hospital, where she also served as Chief Resident, followed by a Genitourinary Pathology Fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

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Dongling Wu, MD, joins us as a **Breast and Genitourinary Pathologist**. She completed an AP/CP residency at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra Northwell Health, followed by a postdoctoral research scholarship and a Uropathology Fellowship at NYU Langone Health. She completed a Breast Pathology Fellowship at BIDMC and most recently a Surgical Pathology Fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.



Yinan Hua, MD, PhD, joins us as a **per diem Head & Neck Pathologist**. She earned a PhD in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Wyoming, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. She completed an AP/CP residency at Baylor Scott & White Health/Texas A&M University, where she served as Chief Resident, followed by a Cytopathology Fellowship at BIDMC. Most recently, she served as a Surgical Pathologist and Cytopathologist at Tufts Medical Center, where she also held the role of Associate Program Director for the Pathology Residency Program.



Debasmitta Das, MD, joins us as a **per diem Community Pathologist** serving our Needham and Milton practices. She completed an AP/CP residency at Danbury Hospital/Yale School of Medicine, followed by a Gastrointestinal Pathology Fellowship at BIDMC. Most recently, she served as a Surgical Pathologist at Anna Jaques Hospital/BILH in Newburyport, Massachusetts, and at Boston Medical Center – South in Brockton.

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Danielle Stamer, MD, joins our **Dermatopathology** team. She completed her Dermatopathology Fellowship and AP/CP Residency at BIDMC, where she also served as Chief Resident. She earned her MD from the UMASS Chan Medical School. Her research interests focus on dermatopathology, with particular emphasis on cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, biomarker discovery, and the application of emerging molecular techniques to the diagnosis and treatment of skin disease.



Xia Qian, MD, joins our **Dermatopathology** team. She completed her AP/CP Residency and Dermatopathology Fellowship at BIDMC. She earned both her MD and PhD from Nanjing Medical University in Nanjing, China. She brings an extensive background in both clinical pathology and translational research, with prior work spanning cancer biology, liver disease, and gastrointestinal pathology. Her current research focuses on melanoma and inflammatory skin diseases, including the clinicopathologic features of mucosal melanoma and cutaneous syphilis.

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Maxwell Roth, MD, joins the Division of Laboratory and Transfusion Medicine as **Assistant Director of the Blood Bank** and **Director of Transfusion Informatics**. He received his MD from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed his residency in AP/CP at Massachusetts General Hospital. He subsequently completed a fellowship in Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine at Mass General Brigham. His research focuses on informatics-based approaches to investigate transfusion medicine practices and outcomes in critically ill patients, as well as studying blood cell population dynamics.



Before joining BIDMC, **Xuefei Huang, MD, PhD**, was an Assistant Professor of Pathology at UMass Chan Medical School with expertise in gastrointestinal, pancreatobiliary, liver, and liver transplant pathology. She began medical school at the age of 16 and earned an MD and PhD in China. Her doctoral research was among the first to demonstrate the therapeutic potential of Aurora kinase inhibition in acute myeloid leukemia, with the findings published in *Blood*. She was a postdoctoral fellow at MD Anderson Cancer Center and Boston Children's Hospital. She completed her AP/CP residency at UMass Chan Medical School, where she served as Chief Resident, followed by a fellowship in Gastrointestinal and Liver Pathology at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She has authored and co-authored numerous peer-reviewed publications in leading journals.

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Giuseppe Mignosa, MBA, MLS(ASCP), joins the department as **Executive Director of Pathology**. Throughout his career, Giuseppe has focused on building supportive, collaborative laboratory environments and leading teams through periods of growth and transition. His work has emphasized quality, communication, and creating cultures where people feel valued and able to do their best work.

He most recently served as Director of Laboratory Operations at Waterbury Hospital in Connecticut, partnering closely with UConn Health during a period of organizational change. Previously, he served as System Director of Laboratory Services for Hartford HealthCare, where he led multi-site operations and supported system-wide quality and standardization initiatives.

Giuseppe holds an MBA from Southern Connecticut State University and is certified as a Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS) through the ASCP. He recently relocated to Boston.

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Award, Honors, and New Roles



James Kirby, MD, has been appointed as **Vice Chair of the Division of Laboratory and Transfusion Medicine**, with oversight of HLA, Cytogenetics, and Molecular Pathology.



Stefan Riedel, MD, PhD, has been appointed as **Director of Industry-sponsored Research and Industry Relations**.

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Award, Honors, and New Roles



Paul VanderLaan, MD, PhD, was recently appointed as **Professor of Clinical Pathology** at Harvard Medical School. He is currently serving as Interim Vice Chair, Anatomic Pathology, Academic and Faculty Affairs.



Ömer Yilmaz, MD, PhD, will serve as the inaugural **Director of Translational Research**. In this new position, he will help better connect clinical and research missions in practical, collaborative, and innovative ways. In addition to being a pathologist, he is also a Professor of Biology at MIT's Koch Institute and Director of the MIT Stem Cell Initiative.

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Award, Honors, and New Roles

Cindy Hayne, MD, PhD, Received the BIDMC GME Program Director Excellence Award



(L-R) Carrie Tibbles, MD, Director, Graduate Medical Education, BIDMC; Cindy Hayne, MD, PhD; Richard Schwartzstein, MD, Executive Director, Carl J. Shapiro Institute for Education and Research and Vice President, Education, BIDMC.

Cindy Hayne, MD, PhD, has been selected as the recipient of this year's BIDMC GME Program Director Excellence Award. This annual award recognizes a program director who has “demonstrated a commitment to advancing graduate medical education at BIDMC through educational and clinical quality improvement, service excellence, and innovation.” Dr. Hayne has worked tirelessly to ensure that we have an outstanding residency training program, and her leadership, commitment, and thoughtful oversight of graduate medical education have had a tremendous impact on the department. Learn more about last week's Education Week activities [on the Portal](#).

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Laboratory Updates

Cancer Service Expansion: BIDMC Cordage Park in Plymouth

As part of expanding access to cancer care, two hematology-oncology and infusion facilities are under construction, BIDMC Cordage Park in Plymouth, and a companion site in Quincy. The BIDMC Pathology Department will manage the lab at Cordage Park, which is expected to open in early 2027. Cordage Park will increase infusion chair capacity from the current 22 chairs at BID-Plymouth, to 36 chairs. It will also provide advanced clinical offerings, such as access to clinical trials and a rotation of oncology sub-specialty physicians. Together, these new sites aim to improve access, enhance patient convenience, and deliver comprehensive, leading-edge cancer care within local communities. Below is a recent photo of the Cordage Park lab under construction.

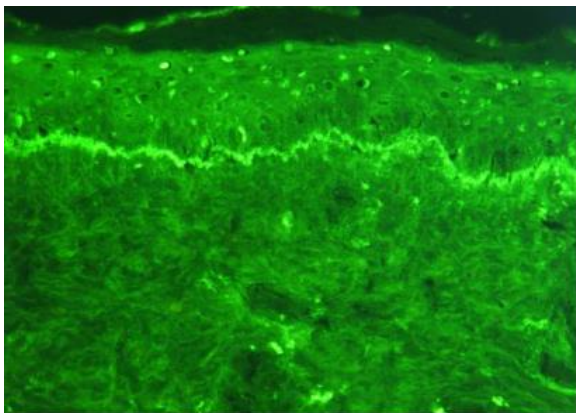


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Laboratory Updates

Beyond the Lab Door: Anatomic Pathology

The Anatomic Pathology department has many moving parts. From the cutting room where specimens are accessioned, grossed and prepared to histology where the tissue is processed, embedded, cut and stained, every step requires precision and skill. Our special stains, IHC (immunohistochemistry), EM (electron microscopy), and IF (Immunofluorescence) teams use advanced techniques to detect special markers that are critical for diagnosis. Our Cytology division plays a key role in evaluating cells from body fluids and fine needle aspirations. Our Send Out teams ensure that these specialized tests are complete both in house and at reference labs, while the slide library preserves and organizes cases for future review, teaching and patient care. None of this would function without our administrative staff who help coordinate workflows, manage reports and consults and keep communication flowing. Every role is essential and every detail matters. *Contributed by Allyson Lewis, Anatomic Pathology Technologist*



Photomicrograph of a histological section of human skin prepared for direct immunofluorescence using an anti-IgG antibody. The skin is from a patient with systemic lupus erythematosus and shows IgG deposit at two different places: The first is a band-like deposit along the epidermal basement membrane ("lupus band test" is positive). The second is within the nuclei of the epidermal cells (anti-nuclear antibodies).

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Laboratory Updates

Beyond the Lab Door: Blood Bank

A blood bank is a facility that collects, tests, separates, and stores donated blood and its components (like platelets, plasma, and red cells) to ensure they are safe for medical transfusions. It acts as a crucial supply chain, providing blood for surgeries, emergencies, and chronic diseases while ensuring compatibility and preventing diseases. Below is an interview with a Blood Bank Technologist.

Q: What surprised you about this work?

A day in the life of a blood bank tech can have a wide range of possibilities. One day you could feel like a medical detective, methodically combing through Epic charts and testing a series of antibody identification panels to discover which type of antibody a patient has developed. Another day, you could be running around the lab, preparing blood products for coolers to help a patient through a life-threatening situation. When a trauma case comes through the emergency department and the clinical team activates a massive transfusion protocol, you have to act fast. You never know what kind of day you'll get!

Q: If your department had a mascot what would its name be and what would it look like?

It would be a red drop of blood with a cape, a Blood Bank Superhero who's ready to save lives.



Q: Have you had any other jobs that were useful for this one?

I worked as an ice cream scooper in high school. I took orders and made sure the customer got exactly what they asked for. There are some surprising similarities to blood bank in that way. Now instead of flavors of ice cream, it's types of blood! Completing orders at the ice cream shop prepared me well for my job as an MLS in blood bank because I've developed a strong attention to detail and a warm customer service demeanor.

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Laboratory Updates

Beyond the Lab Door: Chemistry

Chemistry lab tests, or blood chemistry panels, are routine blood tests used to evaluate overall health by measuring electrolyte levels, organ function (kidneys, liver), and metabolic markers. Common panels include the Basic Metabolic Panel (BMP) and Comprehensive Metabolic Panel (CMP), often requiring fasting for 8–12 hours before a venipuncture. Below is an interview with a Chemistry Technologist.

Q: What surprised you about this work?

How some things never change.

Q: If your department had a mascot what would its name be and what would it look like?

Doc Brown the Mad Scientist [from *Back to the Future*].

Q: Have you had any other jobs that were surprisingly useful for this one?

Analyzers are mostly all the same. If you've learned a few, you can pretty much run any of them.

Chemistry has a new automated analyzer. Cobas Pro: cobas® pro integrated solutions runs qualitative, semiquantitative, and quantitative clinical chemistry and immunochemistry assays as well as ion-selective measurements. (*Image below from the company*).



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Publications

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