

Alumni Association Newsletter



Mass General Brigham Alumni Network

The [Mass General Brigham Alumni Network](#) is a social platform, that will help you remain engaged with your respective training program(s). A range of benefits include knowledge of upcoming networking and social gatherings, continuing education resources, mentorship opportunities, and a directory.

Start by creating your account [here](#).



We're thrilled to introduce our latest initiative designed to foster growth and connection within our community—the Mass General Brigham Alumni Association Mentorship Program, accessible through the Alumni Network platform. This program puts you in charge, allowing you to tailor your mentorship journey to suit your aspirations—be it career progression, guiding a trainee, research exploration, or leadership growth.

To help you get started, we've linked a concise [two and a half minute instructional video](#) that walks you through navigating the platform. You'll learn how to:

- Search for mentors/mentees (trainees) who align with your career goals or interests.
- Engage directly through the platform's messaging tools.
- Customize your mentorship journey based on your unique needs.

Warm Regards

Serghino L. René
Associate Director, Alumni Engagement
Mass General Brigham



2,500 residents
and fellows



320 Graduate Medical Education
programs at any given time

Stay informed with [Alumni website](#)
and [MGB Alumni Network](#): your social
alumni community

Mass General Brigham

Mass General Brigham researchers honored with national medals



President Joe Biden has [announced](#) the latest recipients of the National Medal of Science and National Medal of Technology and Innovation — the nation's highest honors for achievement and leadership in advancing the fields of science, technology and innovation. The awardees received their medals at a ceremony held at the White House on January 3.



Two Mass General Brigham researchers were recognized as recipients. [Emery Brown, MD, PhD](#), (Anesthesiology, Massachusetts General Hospital) is a laureate for the National Medal of Science and [David R. Walt, PhD](#),

(Pathology, Brigham and Women's Hospital) is a laureate for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation. [Read more here.](#)



Mass General Brigham president and CEO Anne Klibanski named as one of modern healthcare's most influential people

Modern Healthcare has named Mass General Brigham president and CEO [Anne Klibanski, MD](#), as one of the 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare for 2024. The complete rankings can be found in the December 9 issue of *Modern Healthcare* magazine, and profiles of all the honorees are available online on [Modern Healthcare's website](#). [Read more here](#)

Honoring Mass General Brigham's Remarkable Nobel Legacy



The Nobel Prize is widely regarded as the pinnacle of achievement for researchers, symbolizing an

extraordinary breakthrough in their field. When the Swedish chemist, inventor, and entrepreneur Alfred Nobel died in 1896, his will stated that his fortune would be used to reward “those who, during the preceding year, shall have

conferred the greatest benefit to humankind.” His reward recognizes exceptional contributions to fields such as physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and peace.

[Gary Ruvkun, PhD](#), an investigator in Molecular Biology at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and professor of Genetics at Harvard Medical School, is the latest in a long line of researchers from Mass General Brigham to receive the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. [Read here.](#)

** **Take the test:** Get to Know the Mass General Brigham Nobel Prize Winners. [How well do you know him and Mass General Brigham's other Nobel Prize winners?](#)*

Unifying in service of our mission

In the spring of 2024, Mass General Brigham [announced a vision](#) for MGB's two academic medical centers, Massachusetts General Hospital and [Brigham and Women's Hospital](#), that includes creating single, unified departments that build on the impressive foundations of clinical programs at each hospital and operate seamlessly for the benefit of our patients, our people and the communities they serve. Recently, MGB announced several appointments to expanded leadership positions and the launch of Mass General Brigham Cancer. [Read more here.](#)

Mass General Brigham researchers make Their 2025 cardiovascular predictions

cardiovascular research experts across Mass General Brigham to see what scientific breakthroughs or advancements they predict will happen in 2025. [Read more.](#)



Mass General Brigham 'Research Wrapped' for 2024

Experts from across our academic medical centers and specialty hospitals played key roles in many of the biggest medical news stories of 2024. With over [85 Highly Cited Researchers™](#), publications from this year, especially in basic and foundational research, may lay the groundwork for breakthroughs in the decades ahead. [Read more.](#)

Brigham and Women's Hospital



Research Spotlight: Lipid Nanoparticle Therapy Developed to Stop Tumor Growth and Restore Tumor Suppression

Yang Zhang, PhD, and Jinjun Shi, PhD, both of the Center for Nanomedicine and Department of Anesthesiology, Perioperative and Pain Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital, are co-senior authors of a paper published in ACS Nanoscience Au, [Lipid Nanoparticle Delivery of mRNA and siRNA for Concurrent Restoration of Tumor Suppressor and Inhibition of Tumorigenic Driver in Prostate Cancer](#). [Read more](#).



Research Spotlight: gastroenterology education improved through inpatient care teaching model

Ryan Flanagan, MD, MPH, of the Department of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital, is the lead author of a paper published in Gastroenterology, "[The Educational Impact of the GI Hospitalist Model on Gastroenterology Fellowship Training](#)." [Read more](#).



Research Spotlight: uncovering the mechanisms behind T cell differentiation

Vijay K. Kuchroo, PhD, DVM, of the [Gene Lay Institute of Immunology and Inflammation](#) of Brigham and Women's Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School and the [Ann Romney Center for Neurologic Diseases](#) at Brigham and Women's Hospital, is the co-corresponding author of a paper published in Nature, "[Neuropeptide signaling orchestrates T cell differentiation](#)." [Read more](#).

Common Brain Network Links Brain Atrophy Patterns Seen in Schizophrenia

A new study led by investigators from [Mass General Brigham](#) has identified a unique brain network that links varied patterns of brain atrophy, or shrinkage, associated

with schizophrenia. By combining neuroimaging data from multiple studies involving more than 8,000 participants, the research team found a specific connectivity pattern of atrophy that was present across different stages and symptoms of schizophrenia — and distinct from brain networks associated with other psychiatric disorders. The findings will help to guide a clinical trial that will start recruiting patients soon and will assess brain stimulation sites connected to the schizophrenia network. Results are published in [Nature Mental Health](#). [Read more](#).

Brigham Bulletin

The Brigham Bulletin is Brigham and Women's Hospital's weekly print and online news publication, written for and about the Brigham's 17,000+ employees and highlighting stories from the hospital's mission areas of patient care, research, education and community outreach. Keep up with the latest happenings in the Brigham Bulletin [here](#).

Brigham Clinical and Research News

Monthly online publication for and about Brigham clinicians and researchers. [Read the latest here](#).

Heart & Science

Monthly publication covering the work of nurses and Patient Care Services staff. [Read the latest here](#).

Continuing Professional Development

Select Grand Rounds are now accessible to alumni of Mass General Brigham training programs!

The Office of Continuing Professional Development is collaborating with the Mass General Brigham Alumni Association to offer educational opportunities to alumni of Mass General Brigham training programs.

Alumni can view and sign up for upcoming sessions on the [Alumni Association Network](#). You will need to create an account. Once your account is approved, you will have access to the site and upcoming sessions. [Click here](#) for instructions to claim credit.

Courses

Our courses are led by experts in the field from Mass General Brigham. Find a course that meets your educational needs through our [catalogue](#).

Mar 28, 2025 - Mar 29, 2025

[2025 Update on Vasculitis and Polymyalgia Rheumatica & Vasculitis Ultrasound Workshop](#)

Mar 29, 2025 - Mar 30, 2025

[2025 Musculoskeletal Ultrasound at the Point-of-Care](#)

Apr 3, 2025 - Apr 5, 2025

[Advances and Controversies in Benign Colorectal Surgery: International Perspectives](#)

May 9, 2025

[Midlife Women's Health 2025: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Care](#)

Mass Eye and Ear



Shedding light on CVI: The Leading but Often Undiagnosed Cause of Childhood Vision Loss

Mass Eye and Ear optometrist and researcher [Lotfi Merabet, OD, PhD, MPH](#), is studying and raising awareness for cerebral visual

impairment (CVI) and is helping lead a national charge to get the condition better recognized and treated. [Read more](#).

Anesthesiology at Mass Eye and Ear's evolution from 1824 through today

Mass Eye and Ear is celebrating its 200th anniversary, and throughout the year, the *Focus* blog will feature [stories on the hospital's past, present and future](#). This month, *Focus* is spotlighting Mass Eye and Ear's Anesthesiology Department, a dedicated and specialized service that has grown to 35 anesthesiologists on staff. [Read more](#).

Preclinical Tests Show mRNA-based Treatments Effective for Blinding Condition

Mass Eye and Ear preclinical research shows proof of concept that mRNA-based therapies might be effective in treating eye conditions like proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR), a disease caused by eye injury or complication from

surgery that currently has no effective treatment other than additional surgical procedures. [Read more](#).

eye Insights clinical newsletter

eye Insights is a premier clinical practice newsletter for ophthalmologists published by [Massachusetts Eye and Ear](#) and [Massachusetts General Hospital](#). Distributed twice a year, *eye Insights* offers busy physicians practical and relevant best practice information from Mass Eye and Ear specialists. Each issue covers a different ophthalmic disease or condition and is available in both print and digital form. [Read the latest and past issues here](#)

Eye Witness

Eye Witness shares Harvard Ophthalmology key accomplishments with faculty, trainees, staff, alumni, affiliates, partners, and friends. The newsletter is published three times a year and is available in both print and digital form [Read the latest issue here](#).

Focus

Focus, a health blog that shares stories and insights related to Mass Eye & Ear areas of expertise — otolaryngology (ear, nose, and throat) and ophthalmology (eye) – from the perspective of the author. [Read the latest posts here](#).

Mass General Hospital

Bench Press

Bench Press, blog on science news and discoveries from the Mass General Research Institute, tapped into the (very clever) minds of Massachusetts General Hospital researchers and clinicians, asking them about the breakthroughs in medicine they anticipate happening in the coming year. [Read the latest posts here](#).

Caring issue

Under the leadership of senior vice president, Debbie Burke, RN, *Caring Headlines*, the newsletter for Nursing and Patient Care Services, highlights the accomplishments of clinicians and support staff in Nursing; Physical and Occupational Therapy; Social Service; Respiratory Care; Speech, Language and Swallowing Disorders; Spiritual Care; Orthotics; and Volunteer, Information Ambassador and Interpreter Services. *Caring* shares stories of interest to healthcare professionals throughout the MGH community. [Read current and past issues here](#).

McLean Hospital

The Lincoln Residence is using TMS to trailblaze a path to mental health recovery

Nestled in the tranquil setting of Lincoln, Massachusetts, McLean Hospital's newest residential program—the Lincoln Residence—offers an innovative approach to treatment-resistant depression and anxiety through [transcranial magnetic stimulation](#) (TMS).

This cutting-edge program blends advanced medical therapies with compassionate, personalized care in a serene and exclusive setting. The Lincoln Residence is redefining recovery for individuals seeking hope and lasting relief. [Read more here.](#)



Endowed Fund honors Joseph Stoklosa, MD, while enhancing clinical care and training

[Joseph Stoklosa, MD](#), clinical director of McLean's Division

of Psychotic Disorders, never knew Andrew Smith. But Smith's legacy will ensure that McLean's superb care for patients with psychotic disorders will continue in perpetuity.

Stoklosa is the inaugural incumbent of the Andrew L. Smith Clinical Directorship. This endowed clinical leadership role is permanently supported by income from a gift from Andrew's parents—Ed and Kitty Smith. The honor was presented to Stoklosa at a ceremony in April. [Read more.](#)

Board of Visitors gathers to reconnect and learn at annual meeting

McLean held its 10th annual Board of Visitors meeting. The Board of Visitors (BoV) comes together each spring to connect more deeply around their shared interest in mental health issues and learn about McLean's role in the field.

They delight in this opportunity to engage with each other and McLean's leadership and staff. The group boasts over 200 members, and about 100 individuals attended this year's meeting, including one of the group's newest members: Paul Mannix. [Read more here.](#)

Horizons

[Horizons](#) is a publication for friends and supporters of McLean Hospital. [Read the latest issue here.](#)

Salem Hospital

Salem Hospital Celebrates 150th Anniversary

Salem Hospital celebrated its 150th anniversary during a ceremony held in its main lobby Tuesday. Hospital leaders, employees, and local dignitaries - including Salem Mayor Dominick Pangallo, State Senator Joan Lovely, and members of the Salem City Council - were among those in attendance for a speaking program that also featured historical banners, exhibits, and refreshments. [Read more here.](#)

Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital

Spaulding Rehabilitation Nursing and Therapy Center Brighton earns highest performing rating in US News & World Report 2024-2025 Best Nursing Homes survey

For the seventh straight year *U.S. News & World Report* named [Spaulding Rehabilitation Nursing and Therapy Center Brighton](#) a Best Nursing Home for Short-Term Rehabilitation. Honored each year since opening in 2017, Spaulding Brighton was selected as a [Best Nursing Home for 2024-25](#) by *U.S. News & World Report*. [Read more here.](#)

Study Identifies Mechanism Underlying Increased Osteoarthritis Risk in Postmenopausal Females

A new study by Spaulding Rehabilitation researchers provides critical insights into the relationship between menopause and osteoarthritis, a condition that affects millions of postmenopausal women. [Read more.](#)

Alumni Spotlight: Thomas D. Sequist, MD, MPH



Tom Sequist, MD, MPH, is the Chief Medical Officer at Mass General Brigham. He oversees system-wide strategies for improving patient and clinician experiences, quality, safety, equity, pharmacy, and community health. He is a practicing general internist at Brigham and Women's Hospital and is a Professor of Medicine and Professor of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Sequist's research interests focus on quality measurement and improvement, health care equity, patient and provider education, and the innovative use of health information technology.

Dr. Sequist grew up in New York though his family was originally from New Mexico. He is a member of the Taos Pueblo American Indian tribe. They moved to New York for his father's work. Once Dr. Sequist finished high school, his family returned to New Mexico. He and his wife matched to the Brigham Internal Medicine Residency together and trained in the Harvard Vanguard/Atrius track.

Dr. Sequist loved residency. He loved being in the thick of things and learning all about medicine. He was also training during the computer boom of the late 1990s and used his Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering that he received from Cornell University to attempt to integrate the use of computers into today's health care system. Since he always loved data sheets and workflows, it was an exciting time to be able to see the outcomes that could be implemented with the use of computers. And though he loved helping to modernize the health care industry he also always remembered his roots and where he came from.

Some mentors of Dr. Sequist during training were Marshall Wolf, MD, Patrick T. O'Gara, MD, James C. Fang, MD, FHFSA, Frederic S. Resnic, MD, John Ayanian, MD, David W. Bates, MD, Thomas H. Lee, Jr., MD, and David D. Potter, PhD.

It was during the summer before starting medical school at Harvard that Dr. Sequist began working to inspire and motivate other young American Indians to follow the same pathway that he did. With the encouragement of Dr. Potter, Dr. Sequist worked with other Native students to create the [Four Directions Summer Research Program](#), which is a program designed for American Indian College students who are interested in pursuing a career in Medicine.

Dr. Sequist originally thought once he completed training that he would return to New Mexico and care for the people of the Taos Pueblo tribe. At the same time, Dr. Potter encouraged him to explore the field of health policy. This way he could see how his work would directly impact and assist the American Indian population on a grander scale.

When thinking about the equity movement that started in the late 90s, the results were often about disparities between the White/Black/Asian communities. There was sometimes a category called "other" or a small footnote that read "American Indians excluded due to small sample size." There has never been and continues to be a distressingly small number of research studies centered around the health status of American Indians.

When Dr. Sequist began his journey into health equity, Dr. Ayanian was incredibly supportive while also pointing out that he would have to do most of the footwork in the field to find the data focused on American Indian health care outcomes. Dr. Sequist eagerly accepted the challenge and continues his work in attempting to alleviate the disparities in the American Indian communities.

A study published by the CDC in 2023 showed that the American Indian population suffered the greatest loss of life during the COVID Pandemic and that the average life expectancy of the American Indian population is to the age of 65. Dr. Sequist sees these glaring, off the record disparities for the American Indian population and is determined to be a catalyst of change.

His work with the Four Directions Summer Research Program at Brigham and Women's Hospital and his role as the Medical Director of the Brigham and Women's Hospital [Physician Outreach Program with the Indian Health Services](#) are only some of many ways that he hopes to tackle and change the massive disparities that affect the American Indian population to this day. Read more about Dr. Sequist and his work:

- https://physiandirectory.brighamandwomens.org/details/1355/thomas-sequist-internal_medicine-boston
- <https://hcp.hms.harvard.edu/people/thomas-sequist>