# **Newsletter**

December 2020 - March 2021

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#### **Upcoming Events**

Look out for our emails and subscribe to our calendar to find out about new events hosted by the BCH PDA, OFT, and the greater Boston research community: tinyurl.com/BCHPDAcalendar

- Every Wednesdays @ 1 pm: Career Journal Club with Dr. Jim Gould and Dr. Lu-Ann Pozzi
- Jan 28: Industry Job Talk Coaching with Bill Lindstaedt, MS. Registration TBA
- February: Valentine's Poems, details TBA
- March: Leveraging your LinkedIn, details and registration TBA

Everyone in the PDA board wishes the postdocs and research staff a healthy and happy holidays! Hopefully we can take a much





needed break from the endless zoom meetings and workshops and come back stronger in January!

To submit comments, articles, or ideas for future newsletters, please contact: Postdoc-publicaffairs@ childrens.harvard.edu. For more information on the postdoc association, find us at:

Childrens.org Twitter (@BCHPostdoc) **Facebook** LinkedIn

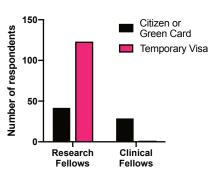
Check out our newsletter online!

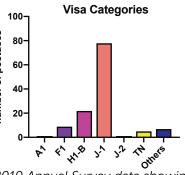


### **Dear International Postdocs**

by Nick Hanovice & Julie Sesen

This year has been turned upside down in countless ways, and recent efforts to change the rules governing visas have added to the burden of our international colleagues. In 2019, in response to the 5 Postdoc Association's Annual Survey, 63.6% of our postdoc community (124 out of 195 respondents) rely on their visa status to be able to continue their research. As of December 2020, 636 BCH employees are on visas, among them, 69.3% are Research Fellows, representing 71 countries and 8 visa categories (values provided by the BCH Immigration officers). We have watched a torrent of news discussing articles these possible changes, which brings upon an understandable anxiety concerning changes have actually been enacted, and what ramifications these changes might 2019 Annual Survey data showing have to those who work in our community. To address this, we set out to find experts who could demystify the new re-





the representation of different visa statuses within our research and clinical postdoc populations.

strictions put in place by the Trump Administration and spell out, to the best of their abilities, exactly how these changes affect our postdocs. We spoke with two experts: Shaun Foster, an immigration attorney and partner at Pampanin Foster LLC, and Gail Robinson, the Immigration Manager at Boston Children's Hospital, to describe how BCH has been affected and their response.

Shaun Foster, J.D, Associate Attorney, Partner, Pampanin Foster LLC We sent Mr. Foster the following questions and followed up with an interview for further context and information. Below are his written responses to our questions, and we've added additional information and quotes from our interview:

### Could you explain the major changes that have happened which could affect scientists working at Boston Children's Hospital?

One major change was to the H-1B CAP process. For researchers staying at Children's, this doesn't apply. But if you're looking to leave the academic world in favor of the private sector or industry, then it does. They introduced a new "pre-registration" process this year. It cuts the time, effort, and cost involved in learning one's "lottery" outcome (government filing fee, in fact, is just ten bucks). You no longer have to build and file full cases. Process is much more streamlined. It makes a lot more sense.

For both new Hs and Js, one issue this year was a complete suspension of overseas visa processing, starting in March and continuing into July. This meant that if [you are[ scheduled to start in that time-frame, you couldn't get a visa to support it; all Consulates worldwide were closed.

Even once "reopened", certain services still are not available and appointment slots are limited. That's crazy far in advance and inconvenient. There also were restrictions on entering the country directly from parts of Europe and from China. I have someone "stuck" in Poland, approved for an H-1B, just waiting for this to be lifted. It's been hard to manage.

Unfortunately, Mr. Foster indicated that the main cause of this suspension is health-related, not legal: we cannot expect any real improvement in processing rates until the coronavirus pandemic is successfully controlled. Assuming that vaccine distribution proceeds smoothly and coronavirus-related restrictions begin to ease in mid-2021, he anticipates that suspensions will be quickly repealed and the process will be sped then. This is cold comfort for those currently impeded by the delays, however.

Another development worth monitoring is a new DHS proposal to make the H1B cap lottery system weighted in favor of jobs that are higher paying. Mr. Foster indicated that while this may not affect postdocs, who usually have secondary degrees and considerable resumes and who work on important problems, it will be bad for those who are paid less and have fewer qualifications. In industry, for example, fewer lower-paid research associates would be able to work. Mr. Foster observed that this rule has Biden's tacit support, making it likely to stick around.

Finally, the Final Rule on Public Charge was issued early this past January. It was intially ried up in litigation, but has recently re-emerged. Essentially, this rule requires applicants seeking permanent status here to complete the extremely onerous Form I-944. "It's just one more hurdle you have to overcome," he said, "and it gives them just a little bit more in their toolkit to maybe strike down your case."

# What are the major issues that you foresee postdocs having to deal with?

The next big problem (and this still is pending) would be elimination of "per country limits" on the green card side. Under the current system, only so many Green Cards can be issued each fiscal year per category and per country. So at first glance, changing that sounds great, right? Wrong. While it would help people from India, it would harm folks from every other country around the globe and make Green Card processing (through employment) painfully slow. This is very timely information, as there's a bill around this, potentially to be tied to the funding and stimulus package currently being negotiated.

This rule has the potential to be a last-minute addition to either the Omnibus Spending Bill or Economic Stimulus Bill that Congress is currently in the midst of negotiating. Mr. Foster stressed that this rule,

if enacted by Congress, would have deleterious impacts on people from many countries that are hoping to achieve permanent status. "it's been suggested to me that this would basically stymie employment-based permanent immigration, where we might not have it anymore because it just takes too long to have it come to fruition." He added that this rule would also be harder to undo than those enacted by executive order, meaning, "among the things that we've seen introduced, that would be the worst."

# What would you recommend international postdocs do right now in response to these issues?

Postdocs are often in a position to self-petition for permanent residence. "National Interest Waivers" ("NIWs") represent one such method. The bill I mention above (regarding "per country limits"), even if signed into law, it would not take effect until October 2022. This gives time and incentive to maybe act now. I did once give a small presentation on NIWs at Children's through the postdoc group. My slides are attached. I would be happy to deliver this again via Zoom in the new year if you would like. You would be welcome to share the slides as well. (Editor's note: we would be happy to share these slides at your request.)

#### What steps would you recommend institutions like Boston Children's Hospital take to protect postdoc's interests?

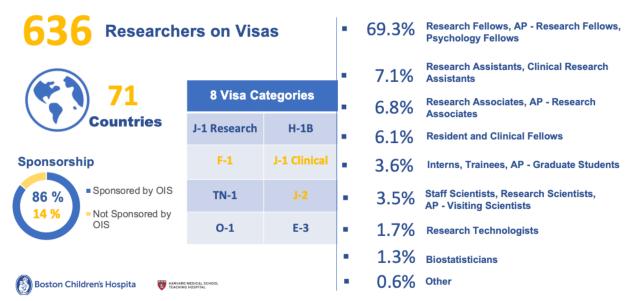
Communicate and disseminate. Get the information out. Keep up with the changes. Keep researchers apprised of the changes. This has been hard as there have been so many so fast. I would also say communicate with local federal leaders in Congress. Share stories of the challenges, the impact on work and on research. That's a very distinguished and well-respected institution. Hearing from Children's leadership on how certain policy changes or initiatives have been damaging, this could go a long way, as that's a major voice.

#### What do you think will happen next?

The election results are big. Never has the federal platform been more xenophobic and intended to discourage immigration. Those days are ending. It's a welcome development and change for immigrant communities and for immigration advocates like myself. That said, it's unclear how long it will take the Biden administration to impact the culture of the agencies on the other side. The optics might not look great in peeling it all back. I think we'll continue as we are for now.

Part of the reason for this stems from domestic politics: after assuming power, the next administra-

## Overview: Boston Children's Visa Landscape (December 2020)



tion will confront related public health and economic crises where political capital is scarce and US unemployment is high. This may explain Biden's support for the wage-based changes to the H-1B lottery system.

The run-off elections in Georgia are pivotal. There's obviously a lot more Biden can do with the Senate (already having the House). Regardless of this, the Department of Homeland Security will be run (upon Senate confirmation) by Alejandro Mayorkas, a Cuban immigrant himself. That could be big. Through his leadership, I'm hopeful and cautiously optimistic that we can return to valuing immigration, appreciating the benefits and contributions it delivers, and embrace it again once more. As Trump's term showed, the executive branch has a lot of power (subject to control by the courts) to use its broad rule-making authority to enact new policies and rules. I'm thinking we'll see more of this in the coming years, through adoption of laws that are more sensible, positive, and which can enable us to do more (not less) to strengthen the positives we get as a country through supporting immigration.

While this has been an unprecedented year, full of uncertainty and challenge, it is important to remember that our community, both at Boston Children's Hospital and in the Greater Boston Area, offers excellent resources should we need them. Speaking for immigration attorneys and his law firm, Mr. Foster said "while all of this turmoil and increased challenges have brought a lot of complications to our field and personal lives, we learned that we can respond...and we're still able to deliver results."

### **Gail Robinson**, Immigration Manager at Boston Children's Hospital, Office of Immigration Services, Legal, and Human Resources

In addition to new employment processes and visa applications, Gail Robinson (Immigration Manager), Kate Sullivan (Senior Immigration Specialist), Will Blouin (Immigration Specialist) & Elizabeth Bennett (Immigration Specialist), our Immigration officers, track each employee under visas to remind them to get appropriate signatures, renewal or transfer beforehand. On behalf of the Postdoc Association and all BCH Postdocs, we thank you for your patience and support throughout this process that can be very stressful and challenging for some of us.

# How has BCH and the greater research community been affected by these new immigration rules?

Quite a few rules and proclamations have been issued over the past year, many have been related to COVID. Fortunately, the numbers of affected researchers currently at BCH has been small relative to our total research population. Quite a few researchers who were scheduled to come to BCH from abroad in 2020 have postponed to 2021 due to COVID.

These rules have had the most significant impact to BCH:

a. Various COVID-based travel bans (February – May, 2020) – we have had several dozen new and current researchers who have been temporarily affected by these travel bans. Over the past three months, our researchers have been more successful returning to the US after the National Interest Exception process was implemented in Au-

- gust, 2020. A small handful of researchers have opted to postpone their arrivals until later in 2021 and some have opted to cancel their plans to come to the US due to COVID.
- b. H-1B proclamation (June, 2020) this rule has prevented a handful H-1B employees from being able to enter the U.S. We are actively working on National Interest Exceptions for several H-1B employees.
- c. Dept of Labor Rule increasing prevailing wages and USDHS Rule further restricting H-1B processing (10/8/2020). Fortunately, these rules were essentially stopped after judgement was made on the 3 lawsuits in early December.
- d. PROPOSED Rule to eliminate Duration of Status for F-1 and J-1 visa holders. Boston Children's Hospital submitted a hospital-wide comment letter in addition to collaborating on a joint letter with the Coalition for Pediatric Medical Research.

#### How is BCH responding to these new rules?

BCH is actively engaged with institutions from across the country to advocate for our international colleagues. The two rules affecting H-1B, E-3, and some permanent residency applications were published and were set to go into effect without a proper comment and review period. Thankfully, due to the steadfast advocacy of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the National Association of International Educators (NAFSA) which BCH is a member of, these rules have been stopped by two federal courts with a decision on a 3rd lawsuit still pending. (same editor's note as above)

The Office of Immigration Services, Legal, and Human Resources have been working diligently since the October 8th rule was announced to find feasible alternate wage surveys to use in place of the Department of Labor inflated prevailing wages.

Can you explain the law suits that have been filed? Three lawsuits were filed to challenge the two rules announced on 10/8/2020:

- <u>Chamber of Commerce</u> et al. v. DHS et al., Case No. 4:20-CV-7331 (N.D. Ca., October 19, 2020). Challenges both the DOL and DHS interim final rules. See the U.S. Chamber Litigation Center for more information, including case filings. Set Aside which means the rule cannot proceed.
- <u>Purdue, et al.</u> v. Scalia, Case No. 1:20-CV-03006 (D.D.C., October 19, 2020). Challenges the DOL rule only. Court ruled in favor of plaintiffs which means the rule cannot proceed.
- ITServe Alliance Inc., et al. v. Scalia, Case No. 3:20-14604 (D.N.J., October 16, 2020). Challenges the DOL rule only. Set Aside which means the rule

#### cannot proceed.

# What long term effects do you think these rules will have on our postdoc and medical community?

The Biden Administration has already signaled that they plan to dismantle some of the Proclamations and Executive Orders issued by the Trump Administration. We will need to monitor closely what happens in the US immigration world over the next four years, especially when it comes to the 2024 election; however, at this time, we do not expect these rules to have long-term effects on the post-doc and medical community.

Have you noticed any changes in the number of international postdocs at BCH since the Trump administration is in place compared to before?

Thankfully, no. Although we have seen a small decrease in new post-docs coming to the US from abroad due to COVID.

Apart from postdocs, have departmental HR managers or Pls reached out to you with concerns they might have?

Yes, HR Manager, Pl's, and Department Managers and Administrators reach out to our office frequently with concerns and questions.

### **International Postdocs' Voices**

By Kimberly Wong, Cynthia Kanagaratham, Nick Hanovice & Julie Sesen

We wanted to directly engage with international postdocs at BCH and provide a platform voice to voice their feelings and concerns about visa uncertainty insecurity in our community. We talked to BCH postdocs with different backgrounds and visa status-

es: Alessandra (A), Margherita (M), Barbara (B) and 3 other postdocs who wished to remain anonymous (An#1, An#2, An#3) answered our questions (slightly edited for clarity).





red Our Alessandra (left) and Margherita (slightly (right), two postdocs at BCH.

How long have you been a postdoc at BCH? What is your immigration status?

A. I started my Postdoc position at BCH back in August 2017, and since then I have been on a J1 VISA.
M. I have been a postdoc at BCH since October 2016.
I moved to Columbia University from Dec2018 to Dec2019 and I came back to BCH a year ago. I am on

a J1 visa.

**B**. Since July 2018, I am on a J2 (so not sponsored by BCH)

An#1. Since November 1, 2020, on a TN-1 visa.

**An#2**. I have been a postdoc with BCH for 17 months now. I started as a OPT/F-1 employee, and have since been elevated to an H1B visa.

**An#3**. I have been a postdoc at BCH from August 2017, so now 3 years and 4 months. I am under a J1 visa and during the spring I obtained an extension from 3 years to 5 years of J1.

# Are you affected by the new rules on J-1 and H-1B visas that went in effect recently? If yes, how?

A. From my understanding, there is not a definitive change on the rules for J1 VISA yet, so I believe J1 VISA holders will not see any changes for now. In case this new rule will pass, I will probably be affected because I am in the 4th year of J1, and I will not have the option to renew it to the 5th year.

M. I have a valid stamp on my passport, so technically I could travel but I do not feel comfortable doing it. Since it seems that being able to re-enter the country is discretionary on each agent at customs, it is risky anyway. In addition, it might be that the US Consulate in Italy won't give me the exceptional permit to travel during the pandemic. There are too many things that might go wrong that could prevent me from getting back into the US. As a last item, I am on my last year of J1, I need to apply to an H1B to keep working in the US, and after the latest rule on the minimum salary applied to H1Bs, it is going to be tricky to apply for it. **B**. So far it looks like only H1B visas were actually affected and there was no change to the DS-2019 rule yet. I am in the process of applying for a new DS-2019 via my husband through MIT (looks good so far, no USCIS interference needed, fingers crossed!) The uncertainty and constantly changing rules are difficult to deal with though, you never know what's going to happen or if you missed something.

**An#1**. No; on TN-1 VISA. I'm unaware of new rules that apply to TN visas; it turns out that the old NAFTA (TN) agreements were ported to the USMCA trade agreements.

**An#2**. I am definitely affected by the new rules. The executive order banning new H1B visas to be issued (I was state side when I changed status so to re-enter I would need a new H1B visa stamp in my passport) eliminated any chance to go home until at least December 31. When it was signed, it seemed the pandemic may be mitigated, so having this additional barrier to seeing my family despite potential control over the COVID-19 situation added another level of psychological strain. It made the separation appear real for the first time. Quite frankly, I felt like this was

one step closer to becoming one of those horror stories of scientists working for countries in the middle east needing state approval to fly home. It was new and shocking to me. Keep in mind, this was before the election, so it was also not clear if this was just a first step in another 4 year 2nd term of this administration.

**An#3**. Since I extended my J1 VISA before these rules were in place, I should not be affected. But I do not have a fully clear picture about these new rules. For sure, I will be affected in the moment that my J1 visa will expire and will need to pass to a H1B visa or apply for another visa.

# What are your current career plans? Have these changed with the new immigration rules? How hopeful are you for your future career?

A. Coming to the USA, I have always dreamed of getting the best education possible and staying for as long as I could for satisfying professional growth. With immigration rules changing so fast, my future (probably a lot of Postdocs' futures) is not so certain anymore. It is a fact that we don't know for how long we will be able to stay. However, my plans have not changed, even if I always make sure there is a plan B ready if something will go wrong. With this in mind, hopefully, one day at the time, we will find a way to keep advancing our careers in this country.

**M**. I would like to keep working at BCH for at least another two years and then move to a company. I would like to apply to a medical device company, R&D, or start my own one. But in any case, needing a sponsor makes everything more difficult. I am hopeful, because in Italy we say "Hope is the last thing to die!!", but I would really like some more stability and to not live with the anxiety of being kicked out of the country at any time.

**B**. We were considering staying in the US but new immigration laws, bans on green cards, and difficulties of getting H1B visas are just too much to deal with so unless something about these rules changes soon, we won't even try.

**An#1**. I plan to immigrate to the USA in 2021 after I complete medical school in Canada, and match in the USA for residency. I have some concerns about being accepted, hence I'm doing a post-doc here.

**An#2**. It made me question a lot of things. My original plan was to rely on the network I had established here and seek employment stateside. When these executive orders hit, and the cry for a more nationalist attitude on the job market was imposed by the administration, my personal focus expanded to also look for continuing career opportunities back home in Europe. It appeared my chances at landing a job after my postdoc as an international scholar would

be even smaller in a crowded market. I am still keeping my options open for a return to Europe. If anything, this showed me to have a thorough Plan B in place.

**An#3**. My career plans are undefined at the moment. The main obstacle is not the change in the immigration rules but the lack of relevant publications from my postdoc. If it was easier for me to stay in the USA and not so expensive and difficult to apply for a green card, I would probably stay in the USA and look for an alternative carrier here.

Do you think this will impact future prospective postdocs coming from your alma mater? Would you recommend them to go elsewhere for a postdoc than the US?

**A**. Unfortunately, it seems that this is already happening. In the last few years, there was someone coming to Boston every few months for a Postdoc position. I have not heard anything like this in months, and even the people who had already plans to come have changed their mind due to this [rule] change.

**M**. I think these rules will definitely impact new postdocs coming to the US. I think people will still try, given the high quality education you can get here, but, at the end of the day, there are so many other high level Universities all over the world that can offer great opportunities, and people would look elsewhere.

**B**. It is still an awesome experience to be here at BCH and in the US in general so I would still recommend it. I am hopeful though that the change in administration will have a favorable outcome for us internationals. If not, then this will certainly impact the academic landscape because it will be impossible for highly qualified people to stay or even enter the US.

**An#1**. I believe that the USA has some of the finest institutions in the world and that it can be a great opportunity to learn; however, given the political sphere, I do have some concerns about future career prospects.

An#2. My alma mater is stateside, so it won't change for most students. For other international students I would actually recommend prospective postdocs to come to the Longwood area and specifically BCH. Having experienced other immigration/international student offices, BCH was the first time I felt like they were going "to bat for me". When it was time to seek a continuing visa option for me this spring, the immigration office and my department weighed the options and deemed the H1B the safer route over the J-1 option to ensure completion of the postdoc and set me up with a better chance for a stateside career. Of course there are financial resources that need to be in place, but this was sadly the first time I was even

able to voice my preference and rationale for it. It was the first time I felt heard. I don't even dare to imagine the uncertainty students at smaller/less prestigious institutions are facing at this time.

An#3. There is no doubt that the new immigration rules will impact new postdocs coming to the USA. Already the old way that H1B visas were handled was making it difficult for some people that have already been a J1 visa holder to come back or stay in the USA. With the new salary rules, sponsors in the USA will limit the number of foreign researchers due to money availability, without thinking about possible discrimination in choosing people that are without family and do not have access to J2 visa sponsorship .But I started to believe one thing: if a country/institution/company does not want to help me to stay, it does not deserve "to use my brain" for its advantage. Limiting the access of researchers to the USA is a loss for the USA. It is not fair towards humanity but it is their loss. Take away all foreign researchers from the USA and research will go really bad. Postdocs and researchers are not stealing the jobs of American citizens, we are taking over the jobs that only a few of them want to do. And these rules are not increasing the available positions that will make people willing to take over a job that is stressful and unpaid.

Is your PI aware of these rules? Have they addressed it during lab meetings or spoken to you about it (about any concerns you may have)? Or have you approached your PI with your concerns?

**A**. I doubt that any PI will know these rules, they are not really clear and they need a lot of talking and researching to be able to have a complete understanding of it. Although we have been talking a lot about my immigration status, and my concerns regarding it, I have found it more reassuring talking to our Immigration Specialists about it.

**M**. Yes, my PI is aware and we have been discussing it, mainly in view of a possible application to an H1B. We'll see how it goes in a few months. Hopefully with the new administration, things will get less hectic!

**B**. My PI knows about it and she is concerned too and tries to address these issues at various faculty meetings, but so far I haven't heard back. We thought that weekly or biweekly updates on immigration or visa status would be helpful so that we stay informed but unfortunately this hasn't happened yet so I have to try to get this information somehow on my own or see if things have changed.

**An#1**. We have not discussed the new rules; however, I've been working with the International office for hiring; although the process is slow, they had all the necessary support letters for getting me hired.

An#2. My PI is not immersed in those rules, but has

an open ear for my concerns and struggles. As such, she asked me to voice my concerns and preferred course of action when it comes to the visa situation. She has been great all around helping me deal with this and getting paperwork approved.

**An#3**. I am not sure how much my PI is aware of these rules, but he did not address them during lab meetings or face to face/zoom meetings with me. I do not think PIs at Harvard university are really so worried about these rules. If the new rules will decrease the access of researchers to the USA by 50%, the 50% of allowed researchers will always prefer to go to Harvard or big universities than small unknown universities. PIs here will always find postdocs for their labs. The problems will be for small universities and young PIs, who will have more difficulties.

#### **Resources for International Postdocs**

From 2019, but still a great resource for taxes, health insurance, or setting yourselves up in the US:

- International Postdoc Survival Guide by the National Postdoctoral Association
- The visa woes that shattered scientists' American dreams by Nature

Interested in a virtual scientific event or an online career development course but there's a fee?

The PDA will fund up to \$100 towards your registration fees!

Please submit an application by emailing <u>postdoc@childrens.harvard.edu</u> with the following information:

- Full name and Lab
- Title of the course
- Date of the event (must be scheduled Jan-March)
- 4-5 lines about what motivates you to attend this course



#### **OUR TEAM**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**: Kimberly Wong and Sreya Ghosh (co-presidents), Julie Sesen (treasurer), Caroline Schuster-Kubaczka (secretary)

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CONTENT CONTRIBUTORS: Nicholas Hanovice, Cynthia Kanagaratham, Sreya Ghosh, Julie Sesen, and Kimberly Wong

**LAYOUT EDITOR: Kimberly Wong** 

### **Recent Events**

All-Star Mentoring night: We had a full house for our Annual All-Star Mentoring night! Congratulations to the PDA Best Mentor Award winners, Dr. Melissa Putman & Dr. William (Bill) Pu. Thank you to Gus Cervini, the award presenter for the evening, all the mentors and attendees for making this new virtual mentoring night such a success!



<u>Holiday gift bags!</u> In lieu of a holiday party, this year the PDA Networking and Outreach committee organized gift bags for over 150 postdocs! We hope to get together and celebrate a busy year next winter!







<u>Virtual Escape Rooms!</u> Postdocs worked together to escape from (or get eternally locked in) their rooms!







### **BCH Postdoc Achievements!**

If you would like to share a recently published a paper or award recieved, contact us at <u>postdoc-publicaffairs@childrens.harvard.edu</u> (provide your full name, lab, title and journal for publications and information on sponsor for awards). Congrats to the authors and awardees!

#### **Publications from BCH Postdocs**

**Ângela Crespo**, Lieberman lab (PCMM) published: "Decidual NK Cells Transfer Granulysin to Selectively Kill Bacteria in Trophoblasts" in Cell. [Link]

**Yohei Tomita**, Smith lab (Ophthalmology) published 6 papers:

- "Pemafibrate Protects Against Retinal Dysfunction in a Murine Model of Diabetic Retinopathy" in Int. J. Mol. Sci. [Link]
- 2. "An Ex Vivo Choroid Sprouting Assay of Ocular Microvascular Angiogenesis" in J Vis Exp. [Link]
- 3. "Wnt signaling activates MFSD2A to suppress vascular endothelial transcytosis and maintain blood-retinal barrier" in Science Advances. [Link]
- "PPARα Agonist Oral Therapy in Diabetic Retinopathy" in Biomedicines. [Link]
- 5. "IGF1, serum glucose, and retinopathy of prematurity in extremely preterm infants" in JCI Insight. [Link]
- 6. "Vitreous metabolomics profiling of proliferative diabetic retinopathy" in Diabetologia. [Link]

**Theo van den Broek,** Carroll Lab (PCMM) published: "Coronavirus: postdoc winners need paid extensions" in Nature [Link] and

"How I started a journal for postdoctoral researchers" in Nature. [Link]

**Junho Kim,** Lee lab (Genetics & Genomics) published: "APP gene copy number changes reflect exogenous contamination" in Nature. 2020. [Link]

**Ali Jannati,** Rotenberg Lab (Neurology) published 2 papers:

- 1. "Large-scale analysis of interindividual variability in theta-burst stimulation data: Results from the 'Big TMS Data Collaboration'" in Brain Stimulation. [Link]
- 2. "EEG markers predictive of epilepsy risk in pediatric cerebral malaria A feasibility study" in Epilepsy & Behavior. [Link]

**Hani Harb,** Chatila lab (Immunology) published: "A regulatory T cell Notch4–GDF15 axis licenses tissue inflammation in asthma" in Nature Immunology. [Link]

**Dheeraj Soni,** (Precision Vaccines Program/Infectious Diseases) published 2 papers:

- 1. "The sixth revolution in pediatric vaccinology: immunoengineering and delivery systems" in Pediatric Research. [Link]
- 2. "Towards Precision Vaccines: Lessons From the Second International Precision Vaccines Conference" in Frontiers in Immunology. [Link]

**Henry Lee,** Hensch & Rotenberg lab (Neurology) made the cover of PNAS - September. [Link]

**Julie Sesen,** Smith lab (Vascular Biology Program) published: "Translation reprogramming by eIF3 linked to glioblastoma resistance" in NAR Cancer. [Link]

**Jin Cui,** Lehtinen lab (Pathology) published: "Inflammation of the Embryonic Choroid Plexus Barrier following Maternal Immune Activation" in Developmental Cell. [Link] This work has been highlighted by BCH Discoveries.

**Mootaz M. Salman**, Kirchhausen Lab (PCMM) published: "Design and Validation of a Human Brain Endothelial Microvessel-on-a-Chip Open Microfluidic Model Enabling Advanced Optical Imaging" in Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology. [Link]

**Elena Morrocchi & Dheeraj Soni,** Precision Vaccines Program (Infectious Diseases) published: "Neonatal monocytes demonstrate impaired homeostatic extravasation into a microphysiological human vascular model" in Scientific Reports. [Link]

**Hendrik Wesseling, Waltraud Mair & Mukesh Kumar,** Steen Lab (Pathology) published: "Tau PTM Profiles Identify Patient Heterogeneity and Stages of Alzheimer's Disease" in Cell. [Link]

**Keerthana Deepti Karunakaran** (Anesthesiology/Critical Care and Pain Medicine) published 2 papers:

- "NIRS Measures in Pain and Analgesia: Fundamentals, Features, and Function" in Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews. [Link].
- 2. "The laminar pattern of resting state in human cerebral cortex" in Magnetic Resonance Imaging. [Link]
  And a book chapter: "Review of Resting-State Functional Connectivity Methods and Application in Clinical Conditions". In Book: Diwadkar V, Eickhoff SD (ed.). Brain Network Dysfunction in Neuropsychiatric Illness: Methods, Applications and Implications. 2021
- **L. A. Liggett,** Sankaran lab published: "Unraveling Hematopoiesis through the Lens of Genomics" in Cell. [Link]

**Dania Zhivaki,** Kagan Lab published: "Inflammasomes within Hyperactive Murine Dendritic Cells Stimulate Long-Lived T Cell-Mediated Anti-tumor Immunity." In Cell Reports. [Link]

**Matthias Lambert,** Kunkel lab (Genetics and Genomics) published: "PDE10A inhibition reduces the manifestation of pathology in DMD zebrafish and represses the genetic modifier PITPNA" in Molecular Therapy. [Link]

#### **Awards to BCH Postdocs**

**Simon Yuan Wang**, Greer lab was awarded the "Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Research Fellowship" [Link]

**Yohei Tomita**, Smith lab (Ophthalmology) was awarded the "2020 Alcon Research Institute Young Investigator Grant". [Link] And "The Japanese Ophthalmology Society Young Investigator Award". [Link]

**Sanna Gudmundsson,** was awarded a 2+2 years postdoctoral scholarship from "the Alice and Knut Wallenberg Foundation". [Link]

**Dania Zhivaki**, Kagan Lab was awarded the 2020 "Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Research Fellowship". [Link]

**Karen Aymonnier,** Wagner lab (PCMM) was awarded the "Young researcher Price" by the French Bettencourt-Schueller Foundation. [Link]