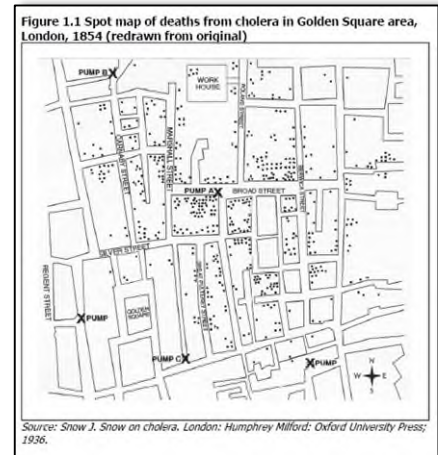


Infection Prevention, Healthcare Epidemiology, and Antimicrobial Stewardship Fellowship Track

Infection prevention, healthcare epidemiology, and antimicrobial stewardship are critical to the safe and effective delivery of patient care. The primary purpose of this fellowship track is to train fellows for a career in Infection Control/Healthcare Epidemiology and Antimicrobial Stewardship. An emphasis is placed on mastering the core competencies needed to assume leadership roles in these vital areas as well as designing and conducting investigations to advance our understanding of effective approaches. Physicians with clinical and research interests in these areas are ideal candidates. This one-year fellowship track takes place after the first ID Fellowship Clinical year. There is one fellow per year in this track at MGH.



Fellowship Components

The fellowship program has several components which are tailored to the individual fellow's clinical and professional development.

Didactics

The didactic component includes both formal coursework and participation in hospital-based conferences. Fellows will complete specific on-line courses offered in Infection Control and Antimicrobial Stewardship. Additionally, as part of mentored research, coursework may be undertaken through a customized curriculum developed through the MGH Clinical Research Program and the Harvard Catalyst. The goal of the coursework is to build or supplement the fellow's skills directly related to the fellowship.

Core Competency Development

Core competencies in Infection Prevention, Healthcare Epidemiology, and Antimicrobial Stewardship will be developed through a series of rotations in MGH/MEE Infection Control (IC) and the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP). Fellows are paired with staff in each group during the academic year. The Core Competency component is based on the following white papers:

- [Kaye KS, Anderson DJ, Cook E, Huang SS, Siegel JD, Zuckerman JM, Talbot TR. Guidance for infection prevention and healthcare epidemiology programs: healthcare epidemiologist skills and competencies. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2015 Apr;36\(4\):369-80. doi: 10.1017/ice.2014.79. PMID: 25998192.](#)
- [Cosgrove SE, Hermesen ED, Rybak MJ, File TM Jr, Parker SK, Barlam TF; Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America; Infectious Diseases Society of America; Making-A-Difference in Infectious Diseases; National Foundation of Infectious Diseases; Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society; Society of Infectious Disease Pharmacists. Guidance for the knowledge and skills required for antimicrobial](#)

[stewardship leaders. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2014 Dec;35\(12\):1444-51. doi: 10.1086/678592. PMID: 25419765.](#)

Project

Fellows will work with their mentor and IC or ASP during their clinical year to develop a project for implementation during their fellowship year that will lead to a conference abstract, a review paper, or a book chapter. Examples of projects include: a formal outbreak investigation or implementation and evaluation of a quality improvement intervention.

Dissemination/Education

Fellows are responsible for educating other fellows and residents and will present at least once in the Harvard-wide Infectious Diseases Conference and other venues as appropriate. Fellows will also lead a “Lunch and Learn” series for the MGH/MEE Infection Control.

Administration

Fellows are required to attend weekly IC staff meetings, the monthly hospital-wide Infection Control Committee meeting, and the monthly Antibiotic Stewardship Leadership Meetings, as well as the bi-annual ASP Meeting.

Mentorship

Fellows will be paired with faculty members with whom they will meet regularly during the fellowship to ensure progress towards fellowship goals.

Current Fellow

Our next fellow will be in the 2026-2027 Academic Year.

Recent Fellows

Akanksha Arya, MD, MBA (2024-2025)



Current Role: Fellow, Epidemic Intelligence Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Arya completed her MD at Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and her Internal Medicine Residency at Sidney Kimmel Medical College- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. She has also completed an MBA at Northwestern University-Kellogg School of Management. She entered the combined MGH/BWH Infectious Diseases Fellowship in 2023. Her areas of interest include public health, emerging pathogens, outbreak preparedness, and epidemiology. After completion of ID fellowship, she will serve as a CDC EIS officer at the Connecticut Department of Public Health.



Marisa Winkler, MD, PhD (2021-2022)



Current Role: Associate Director for Clinical Trials & CLIA Laboratory Director at JMI Laboratories

Dr. Winkler received her MD and PhD degrees from Case Western Reserve University in 2017 and 2015, respectively. She completed her Internal Medicine residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital in 2020 and joined the combined MGH/BWH Infectious Disease Fellowship. Her areas of interest include diagnostic and therapeutic stewardship, multidrug-resistant infections, and outbreak investigation and management. During 2022-2023, Dr. Winkler was the Clinical Microbiology Fellow at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Most recently, she was an Assistant Professor at Emory University School of Medicine and the Director of Antibiotic Stewardship, Emory University Hospital Midtown.

Sarimer Sánchez, MD, MPH (2019-2020)



Current Role: Assistant Dean for Admissions, School of Medicine at Ponce Health Sciences University

Dr. Sánchez received her medical degree from the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine in 2015 and completed an Internal Medicine residency at University of Pennsylvania in 2018. She entered the combined MGH/BWH Infectious Diseases Fellowship in 2018. After her clinical training, Dr. Sánchez enrolled in the Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard Medical School and obtained her MPH degree from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in May 2021. Her areas of interest include applied epidemiology, outbreak preparedness, and public health, with a focus on enhancing equitable delivery of communicable disease education and services to vulnerable populations. Most recently, Dr. Sánchez was Director of the Infectious Diseases Bureau at the Boston Public Health Commission.

Joshua Stripling, MD, DTMH (2017-2018)



Current Role: Assistant Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases, University of Alabama; Director of Stewardship, University of Alabama; Director of Infection Control, Birmingham Alabama VA Health Care System

Dr. Stripling received his MD degree from Mercer University in 2012. From there he completed his residency at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2015, staying for an additional year as Chief Medical Resident. He entered the combined BWH/MGH Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program in 2016. His areas of interest are antimicrobial stewardship and its impact on hospital associated infections such as *Clostridioides difficile*, FMT for treatment of recurrent CDI, and clinical education.



Karen Coffey, MD, MPH, FASCP (2016–2017)



Upcoming Role: Medical Director, MGH/MEE Infection Control; Associate Physician, Division of Infectious Diseases, Massachusetts General Hospital (September 2025)

Current Role: Assistant Professor, University of Maryland School of Medicine; Associate Hospital Epidemiologist VA Maryland Healthcare System

Dr. Coffey received her MD and her MPH from Tulane University School of Medicine and School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, respectively. She completed Internal Medicine residency in the University of Virginia Health System in 2015 and the same year joined the MGH-BWH Infectious Disease Fellowship Program. She went on to complete a third year of fellowship in the Pathology Department, obtaining board certification in Medical Microbiology. Her areas of interest include antimicrobial stewardship, hospital epidemiology, and clinical microbiology.

Molly Paras, MD, FIDSA (2015–2016)



Current Role: Program Director, Mass General Brigham Infectious Diseases Fellowship

Dr. Paras received her MD from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in 2010, completed internal medicine residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital in 2013, and the same year joined the MGB Infectious Disease (ID) Fellowship Program. Her areas of interest include cardiovascular infections, infection control, and medical education.

Faculty

Faculty are drawn from the Infectious Diseases Division, Infection Control, and Pharmacy Departments, with collaboration from other departments as appropriate given each fellow's individualized program plan.

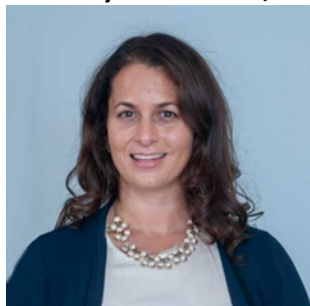
Alyssa R. Letourneau, MD, MPH, FIDSA
Program Director



Dr. Letourneau is the Medical Director of the MGH Antimicrobial Stewardship program and the Co-Chair of the Mass General Brigham Antimicrobial and Infectious Diseases Quality Collaborative. Her clinical interests include immunocompromised patients, antimicrobial prophylaxis, treatment of multidrug resistant organisms, and how antimicrobial stewardship intersects across these disciplines. The Antimicrobial Stewardship Program develops antimicrobial use policies that are implemented both at the MGH and Mass General Brigham.

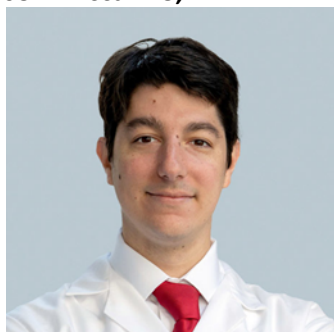


Kimberly Blumenthal, MD, MSc



Kimberly Blumenthal, MD, MSc is an Allergist/Immunologist and clinical researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital and Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. She is the Co-Director of the Clinical Epidemiology Research Center and Director of Research in the Center for Drug and Vaccine Allergy. Dr. Blumenthal performs drug and vaccine allergy research that uses methods of epidemiology, informatics, economics, decision science, and implementation science. Her research has been funded by the National Institute of Health, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and foundations, including the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Foundation and CRICO, the risk management foundation of Harvard Medical School. Dr. Blumenthal is internationally recognized for identifying the morbidity and mortality associated with unverified penicillin allergies and creating innovative approaches to the evaluation of penicillin and cephalosporin antibiotic allergies across different patient settings. Dr. Blumenthal has authored more than 200 peer-reviewed publications including leading high-impact manuscripts to publication in journals such as NEJM, Lancet, JAMA, and the BMJ. Dr. Blumenthal graduated from Columbia University with a BA in Economics. She studied medicine at Yale University School of Medicine, before training at the Massachusetts General Hospital for Internal Medicine and Allergy and Immunology. She completed a Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in 2017.

John Accarino, MD



John Accarino, MD, is an Allergist/Immunologist in the Department of Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital and Department of Pediatrics in the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children as well as Instructor at Harvard Medical School. He sees both children and adults. Dr. Accarino is a clinical researcher in drug allergy and quality director for the Mass General Brigham pediatric allergy/immunology department. He has launched the multisite prospective cohort United States Drug Allergy Registry Pediatrics (USDAR-Peds) and published penicillin allergy delabeling as an opportunity for quality improvement. He presents implementation of drug allergy challenges to local primary care practices, discussing the necessary consent, staff, equipment, and documentation to carry out direct drug challenges. He has described drug allergy in older adult populations and worked towards creating a specific standardized grading scale for drug allergy reactions. He received his medical degree from Albany Medical College and went on to residency training in pediatrics at Cohen Children's Medical Center in Queens, New York.



Robert Tucker, MPH, CIC, FAPIC



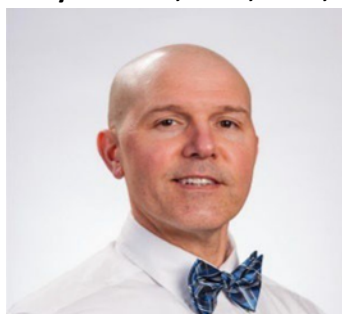
Mr. Tucker is the Senior Manager of Infection Control for Massachusetts General Hospital and Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. He earned his MPH degree in infectious disease epidemiology and biostatistics from Boston University School of Public Health in 2014 and has been working within IC for more than 10 years. His primary duty is the management of the MGH and MEE Infection Preventionists (IPs) whose activities include the identification of healthcare associated infections (HAIs) such as CLABSI, CAUTI, and SSI, the IC-related education and training of healthcare personnel, the completion of regular audits of IC practices, and the monitoring of adherence to MGB IC policies and procedures to comply with regulatory and accreditation standards. As one of the co-leaders of the MGH-MEE IC department, along with the MGH-MEE IC Medical Directors, he is also charged with the department's execution of MGB's IC priorities and directives through collaborating with clinical and non-clinical teams and leadership to enhance IC practices and reduce HAIs. Mr. Tucker has a Certification in Infection Prevention and Control (CIC) from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc (CBIC) and is a fellow of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC).

Ramy Elshaboury, PharmD, BCPS, BCIDP



Dr. Elshaboury is currently the Director of Clinical Pharmacy Services and Program Director for the Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. His areas of interest include pharmacy administration, antimicrobial stewardship and metrics, pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics in special populations, and clinical research.

Andy Gottlieb, MSN, MPH, FNP-BC



Mr. Gottlieb is the Executive Director of Occupational Health Services for Mass General Brigham. He oversees the day-to-day operations of multiple OHS clinics including MGH and BWH. As a member of the MGB OHS leadership team, he assists with identifying and managing enterprise wide OHS objectives. He provides consultation to HR, affiliate leadership, and managers across the network on occupational health matters including the interpretation of regulations and standards, potential organizational exposure and liability, surveillance requirements, fitness for duty cases, job accommodations, and injury and exposure prevention. He currently serves on the following committees: MGH Safety Committee, MGB Institutional Biosafety Committee, Emergency Preparedness Committee, the Boston Biosafety Committee, and is a member of the MGH Biothreats team.



Eileen F. Searle, PhD, RN, CCRN



Dr. Searle is the Director of Funded Projects within the Center for Disaster. In this role she serves as the Biothreats Program Director, overseeing development and implementation of MGH's hospital-wide special pathogens program and status as the Region 1 Emerging Special Pathogens Treatment Center (RESPTC), and as the Executive Director of the Region 1- Regional Disaster Health Response System. During the COVID response, Dr. Searle led the Mass General Brigham system-wide PPE Taskforce. She is a registered nurse with extensive experience caring for critically ill adult patients in acute care and community settings.

Erica S. Shenoy, MD, PhD



Dr. Shenoy is Chief of Infection Control at Mass General Brigham. She is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Shenoy's research has evaluated the clinical, operational, and economic impact of infection control strategies for multi-drug resistant pathogens and prevention of healthcare-associated infections through clinical studies and mathematical modeling, use of electronic health records for surveillance, and applied machine-learning techniques to create risk prediction models for infectious diseases. She is the Principal Investigator on a CDC-funded National Infection Prevention Strengthening grant focused on HCP and patient safety and is the Medical Director of the Regional Emerging Special Pathogens Treatment Center at MGH, one of thirteen federally funded centers with expertise in preparedness and response for emerging pathogens. In this role, she has responsibility for development and implementation of a comprehensive infection prevention program for the MGH Biocontainment Unit and Special Pathogens Program. Dr. Shenoy is a fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) and serves on the Board of Trustees of SHEA. She is a prior voting member of the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, from 2023-2025, when it was disbanded.

Kimon Zachary, MD



Dr. Zachary is Medical Director, MGH/MEE Infection Control, Director of Quality and Safety for the Division of Infectious Diseases, and an Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School. He has been a full-time attending physician in the Division of Infectious Diseases, and Assistant Chief of Infection Control, at MGH since 2000. He treats a broad array of infectious diseases in the outpatient and inpatient settings and has helped train and mentor numerous fellows. He chairs the MGH Tuberculosis Control Task Force and directs the hospital's HIV post-exposure prophylaxis program.

For more information, contact Jennifer Startek, Director of Education, MGH Division of Infectious Diseases, at jstartek@mgh.harvard.edu

