

Celebrating Women's History Month

The Center for Diversity and Inclusion and Office for Women's Careers will be highlighting outstanding women in medicine and their achievements this March.



Throughout history, women have played a vital role in advancing medical knowledge and patient care, often overcoming significant barriers and discrimination. In our own institution, we are fortunate to have many talented and dedicated women physicians and researchers who are making invaluable contributions every day. This month, we celebrate the remarkable achievements of women in medicine, and we reaffirm our commitment to embracing equity and creating an environment where all women can thrive and reach their full potential.



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Nawal Nour, MD, MPH, MBA

Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Brigham and Women's Hospital | Kate Macy Ladd Professorship, Dept of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Biology, Harvard Medical School | *Obstetrics/Gynecology*



Dr. Nour's research concentrates on health and policy issues related to female genital cutting (FGC) while her practice provides care to women who have undergone this procedure. For her establishment of the African Women's Health Center, the only hospital center in the US that focuses on supporting the physical and emotional needs of those who have undergone FGC, Dr. Nour has been honored as a MacArthur Foundation Fellow. She has published numerous research articles on global health and FGC, including a book, *Obstetrics and Gynecology in Low-Resource Settings*. She has also chaired international and national committees that address reproductive health, human rights, and diversity, equity, and inclusion issues. Dr. Nour currently leads the number one obstetrics and gynecology department in the US.

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Daphne Haas-Kogan, MD, MBA

Chief, Enterprise Radiation Oncology and Radiation Oncology, Mass General Brigham | Professor of Radiation Oncology, Harvard Medical School, Willem and Corri Hees Family | Chair, Radiation Oncology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Mass General Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston Children's Hospital



Dr. Haas-Kogan's laboratory research has focused on characterizing aberrant signaling pathways in gliomas and investigating agents that target these signaling cascades. Dr. Haas-Kogan has been the Principal Investigator on many grants funded by NIH/NCI, philanthropic organizations, and industry collaborations. Dr. Haas-Kogan has been selected as one of the top physicians in the United States by several publications. She has received several teaching awards including the Henry J. Kaiser Award for Excellence in Teaching from UCSF School of Medicine. She continues to successfully lead and perform laboratory research, design clinical trials, establish robust collaborations with neuro-pathologists, neuro-oncologists, and neuro-radiologists, and develop a thriving clinical practice in radiation oncology. In 2016, Dr. Haas-Kogan was appointed to the Blue Ribbon Panel of scientific experts, cancer leaders, and patient advocates that will inform the scientific direction and goals at NCI of Vice President Joe Biden's National Cancer Moonshot Initiative. In 2017, she was elected to the Association of American Physicians (AAP). In 2019, she was elected to the National Academy of Medicine and was awarded a Fellowship by the American Society of Radiation Oncology. Most recently, she was awarded the highest mentorship recognition at DFCI as the 2021 recipient of The Edward J. Benz, Jr. Award for Advancing the Careers of Women Faculty.

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JoAnn E. Manson, MD, MPH, DrPH, MACP

Chief, Division of Preventive Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital | Professor of Medicine, Michael and Lee Bell Professor of Women's Health, Harvard Medical School Physician, Brigham and Women's Hospital | Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health



Dr. Manson is a physician epidemiologist, endocrinologist, and Principal Investigator (PI) or co-PI of several research studies, including the Women's Health Initiative Clinical Center In Boston, the cardiovascular component of the Nurses' Health Study, the VITamin D and Omega-3 Trial (VITAL); the COSMOS trial, and the Vitamin D for CCOVID-19 (VIVID) trial. Her primary research interests include randomized clinical prevention trials of nutritional and lifestyle factors related to heart disease, diabetes, and cancer, the role of endogenous and exogenous estrogens as determinants of chronic disease, life course-related risk factors for CVD in women, and biomarker predictors of CVD. Dr. Manson has been a leading researcher in the two largest women's health research projects ever launched in the United States—the first large-scale study of women begun in 1976 as the Harvard Nurses' Health Study, and the National Institute of Health's Women's Health Initiative, which involved 164,000 healthy women.

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Remembering Nina Starr Braunwald, MD

A Pioneer in Cardiac Surgery



Dr. Braunwald was one of the first women to train as a general surgeon at New York's Bellevue Hospital, from 1952 to 1955. A pioneer in the field of heart surgery, she led the team that was the first to replace a human heart valve (with a valve which she had also designed). She was the first woman to be certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, and the first woman to be elected to the American Association for Thoracic Surgery.

In 1960, at the age of 32, Dr. Braunwald led the operative team that implanted the first successful artificial human mitral valve replacement, which she had designed and fabricated. She then developed a cloth-covered mechanical valve (the Braunwald-Cutter valve), which was implanted into thousands of patients during the late 1960s and early 1970s. She joined the Brigham community as faculty in 1972.

Source: [Changing the Face of Medicine | Nina Starr Braunwald \(nih.gov\)](https://www.nih.gov/health-topics/nina-starr-braunwald)