



**Harvard Medical
Faculty Physicians**

at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

3RD ANNUAL

Emerging Leaders in Inflammatory Skin Diseases

May 20-22, 2027

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA





Course Description

Dermatology is a growing field with emerging therapies and increasing treatment costs. Healthcare institutions are undergoing tremendous disruption and change, necessitating a diverse array of leaders to be involved in decision-making processes. This course, ***Emerging Leaders in Inflammatory Skin Diseases***, is designed to empower executive leaders in dermatology to leverage their strengths, acquire the skills needed for authoritative influence, negotiate effectively, conduct challenging conversations, efficiently lead conflict resolution, and implement and maintain necessary changes in their work and life environments.

Join us in Boston!

This course will be held at the Klarman Building, BIDMC, 111 Francis Street, Boston, MA
Visiting participants can choose to stay nearby—hotel details to follow.

COURSE DIRECTORS



Alexa B. Kimball, MD, MPH

CEO and President, Harvard Medical
Faculty Physicians at Beth Israel
Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC)
Professor, Dermatology,
Harvard Medical School
Board Member, BIDMC and
Beth Israel Lahey Health



Beth Israel Lahey Health
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



Afsaneh Alavi, MD

Professor of Dermatology, Mayo Clinic
Director, Medical Dermatology
Fellowship, Mayo Clinic
Board Member of Hidradenitis
Suppurativa Foundation



COURSE FACULTY



Meghan Agnew, MBA

Chief Financial Officer, Harvard Medical
Faculty Physicians at BIDMC



Kristen Beech, Esq.

Chief Legal Officer and Vice President,
Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians
at BIDMC



Eva Cullen, PhD

Vice President Medical Affairs
and Research, MoonLake
Immunotherapeutics



Dawn Davis, MD

Consultant Physician (tenured faculty),
Mayo Clinic Rochester; Professor of
Dermatology and Pediatrics, Mayo Clinic
College of Medicine and Science



Mercedes Diz

CEO, Highlight Therapeutics



Esther Freeman, MD, PhD

Director, Clinical Innovation and
Education; Massachusetts General
Hospital Center for Global Health;
Director, Global Health Dermatology;
Massachusetts General Hospital
Department of Dermatology; L'Oréal
Dermatological Beauty/CeraVe Endowed
Chair in Global Health Dermatology;
Associate Professor, Harvard Medical
School; Co-Founder, GLODERM; Deputy
Chair, International Foundation for
Dermatology



Melinda Gooderham, MD

Investigator, Probioty Medical Research;
Medical Director, SKiN Centre for
Dermatology; Assistant Professor,
Queens University; Consultant Professor,
Regional Health Centre



Shlomit Halachmi, MD, PhD

Founder and CEO, Building 66 LLC

COURSE FACULTY



Susan Hamilton Meier

Founder & Principal,
Susan Meier Studio



Amy McMichael, MD, FAAD

Professor of Dermatology, Wake Forest
University School of Medicine



Amy Susan Paller, MS, MD

Walter J. Hamlin Professor and Chair,
Department of Dermatology; Professor,
Department of Pediatrics; The Feinberg
School of Medicine of Northwestern
University



Martina J. Porter, MD

Vice Chair for Research and Academics,
Department of Dermatology; Assistant
Professor of Dermatology, Harvard
Medical School; Director, Clinical
Laboratory for Epidemiology and Applied
Research in Skin (CLEARS), BIDMC;
Attending Physician, Dermatology, BIDMC



Adam Rodman, MD

Director of AI Programs, Carl J. Shapiro
Center for Research and Education;
Associate Professor of Medicine,
Harvard Medical School; Assistant
Professor of Biomedical Informatics,
Harvard Medical School



Vivian Y. Shi, MD, FAAD

Professor, University of Washington;
Founding Director of Clinical Trials,
University of Washington; Executive
Board Member, Hidradenitis Suppurativa
Foundation



Kanade Shinkai, MD, PhD

Professor of Clinical Dermatology,
University of California, San Francisco



Olayemi (Yemi) Sokumbi, MD

Professor of Dermatology and Lab
Medicine & Pathology, Mayo Medical
School; Director of Practice, Department
of Dermatology, Mayo Clinic in Florida;
Medical Director, Business Development,
Mayo Clinic in Florida; Director, American
Board of Dermatology; Board Member,
American Society of Dermatopathology;
Board Member, Marani Health Inc.;
Charities, Jacksonville, Florida



Magdalena B. Wozniak, PhD

Senior Clinical Development Director,
Novartis, Ireland

Program (TBC)

DAY ONE: Thursday, May 20, 2027

17:00–19:00 Welcome Reception and Dinner • Dr. Alexa B. Kimball's home

DAY TWO: Friday, May 21, 2027

7:30–8:00 Registration and Welcome Breakfast

8:00–8:15 Welcome and Introduction to the Course • Afsaneh Alavi, MD and Alexa B. Kimball, MD, MPH

Understanding Leadership in Healthcare and Academic Institutes. Session Director: Afsaneh Alavi, MD

8:15–8:45 Leading with Impact • Alexa B. Kimball, MD, MPH

This inspiring session helps you to identify the principles of transformative leadership. Learn how to drive meaningful change, empower teams, and create a legacy of innovation and excellence in your professional journey.

8:45–8:55 Q&A / Interactive Session • Alexa B. Kimball, MD, MPH

8:45–9:15 Leading in Times of Change: Navigating the AI Era • Adam Rodman, MD

In this session, we will explore how leaders can successfully guide teams through rapid change, with a focus on the opportunities and challenges created by artificial intelligence in dermatology and academic medicine.

9:15–9:25 Q&A / Interactive Session • Adam Rodman, MD

9:25–9:45 Interactive Session: Does Imposter Syndrome Really Exist? How to Navigate in Your New Leadership Role • Dawn Davis, MD and Yemi Sokumbi, MD

This interactive workshop explores the concept of imposter syndrome and examines whether it helps or hinders our personal and professional growth. Through guided reflection, discussion, and practical strategies, participants will learn to strengthen self-confidence, reframe self-doubt, and navigate leadership and professional roles with greater confidence and authenticity.

9:45–9:55 Q&A / Interactive Session • Dawn Davis, MD and Yemi Sokumbi, MD

9:45–10:05 Coffee break

10:05–12:05 Creating Your Own Brand • Susan Hamilton Meier and Alexa B. Kimball, MD, MPH

This session will bring a presentation of concepts and tools emerging leaders can use in building their personal brand and telling their story. The session will begin with what personal branding is and why it's important, followed by a framework for developing a personal brand. We will discuss how to craft a succinct "elevator pitch" as well as "pillars" that help organize your communication and reinforce your brand.

12:05–12:50 Lunch

Communication Skills. Session Director: Alexa B. Kimball, MD, MPH

12:50–13:20 Interactive Session: Mentorship, Sponsorship, and Coaching • Afsaneh Alavi, MD and TBC

In this interactive session, we will explore the value of mentorship in professional development and how mutual support can drive success for both mentors and mentees.

13:20–13:30 Q&A / Interactive Session • Afsaneh Alavi, MD and Ruth Ann Vleugels, MD, MPH, MBA

13:20–13:50 Panel: Building Strong Industry Partnerships: A 360-Degree Approach • Magdalena B. Wozniak, PhD (Novartis, Ireland); Eva Cullen, PhD (MoonLake); Shlomit Halachmi, MD, PhD (Building 66); Mercedes Diz (Highlight Therapeutics); other panelists TBC *In this session, learners will gain insights into developing and maintaining productive relationships with industry partners.*

This session covers the full spectrum of collaboration, from ethical considerations to maximizing mutual benefits.

13:50–14:00 Q&A / Interactive Session • Magdalena Wozniak, PhD (Novartis, Ireland); Eva Cullen, PhD (MoonLake); Shlomit Halachmi, MD, PhD (Building 66); Mercedes Diz (Highlight Therapeutics); other panelists TBC

14:00–14:40 Workshop: Negotiations and Conflict Management • Amy McMichael, MD, FAAD and Amy Paller, MS, MD

This interactive workshop equips participants with practice skills to navigate conflict, manage disputes, and reach mutually beneficial agreements. Attendees will explore effective conflict-resolution and negotiation techniques that can be applied to challenging conversations and situations in professional settings.

- 14:40–15:00** **Coffee break**
- 15:00–15:40** **Workshop: The Art of Clear Communications** • Melinda Gooderham, MD and Martina J. Porter, MD
This workshop will equip participants with tools to craft and deliver compelling TED-style or keynote presentations. Learn how to engage audiences with powerful storytelling, clear messaging, and confident delivery to make a lasting impact.
- 15:40–16:20** **Panel Discussion: Life Lessons: What I Wish I Knew Early in My Career (personal and work life)** • All faculty
- 16:20–16:30** **Debriefing and findings of the day**
- 18:00–20:00** **Course Dinner** • Harvard Club Boston

DAY THREE: **Saturday, May 22, 2027**

- 8:00–8:20** **Welcome Breakfast**
- 8:20–8:30** **Welcome and Day One Debriefing** • Afsaneh Alavi, MD and Alexa B. Kimball, MD, MPH

Finance and Industry. Session Director: Martina J. Porter, MD

- 8:30–9:00** **Financial Literacy and Personal Finance** • Meghan Agnew, MBA
This session equips you with the knowledge to make informed decisions and optimize financial outcomes in research and healthcare settings.
- 9:00–9:10** **Q&A / Interactive Session** • Megan Agnew, MBA
- 9:10–9:40** **Strategies for Successful Academic Publishing** • Kanade Shinkai, MD, PhD
In this session, we will discuss practical strategies for developing impactful research, selecting the right publication opportunities, navigating the peer-review process, and building a strong academic publication portfolio.
- 9:30–9:50** **Q&A / Interactive Session** • Kanade Shinkai, MD, PhD
- 9:50–10:10** **Increased Efficiency and How to Start Clinical Trials** • Melinda Gooderham, MD and Vivian Y. Shi, MD, FAAD
This session focuses on tools and techniques to boost productivity while ensuring high-quality outcomes.
- 10:10–10:20** **Q&A / Interactive Session** • Melinda Gooderham, MD and Vivian Y. Shi, MD, FAAD
- 10:20–10:45** **Coffee break**
- 10:45–11:15** **Parallel Workshops:**
- 1. Early Career — Finding Your Academic Niche** • Vivian Y. Shi, MD; Yemi Sokumbi, MD; Amy McMichael, MD, FAAD; and Kanade Shinkai, MD
How to identify your unique academic focus, align clinical and scholarly interests, find the right mentors and collaborators, and build a foundation for a successful academic career.
 - 2. Mid-Career — Continuing to Excel** • Amy McMichael, MD, FAAD; Kanade Shinkai, MD, PhD; and Esther E. Freeman, MD, PhD
How to examine strategies for sustaining professional growth, expanding leadership and scholarly impact, developing new opportunities, and maintaining momentum through the mid-career years.

Innovation Navigation. Session Director: Melinda Gooderham, MD

- 11:15–11:35** **Your Legal Questions about Consulting Agreements Answered** • Kristen Beech, Esq.
In this session, we will discuss key legal considerations when entering consulting agreements, including contracts, compensation, intellectual property, conflicts of interest, and institutional requirements.
- 11:35–12:15** **Panel Discussion Part II: Life Lessons — What I Wish I Knew Early in my Career (Personal and Work Life)** • All faculty

Talk to Action. Session Directors: Afsaneh Alavi, MD and Alexa B. Kimball, MD, MPH

- 12:15–13:15** **Lunch and Wrap Up. Your Plan and How to Move Forward** • Alexa B. Kimball, MD and Afsaneh Alavi, MD



Course Objectives

Upon completion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- Employ techniques for leading with impact
- Use effective methods for navigating change in the healthcare setting within the field of dermatology
- Discuss innovative strategies for building resilience and managing stress in high pressure dermatology settings
- Understand how to build on your strengths as a leader yielding positive performance
- Understand best practices on conflict negotiation and confronting challenging conversations
- Employ best practices in order to achieve financial literacy and key competencies for clinical trial and conflict negotiations
- Discuss best practices for leadership in the clinical research environment
- Employ techniques for effectively using storytelling to communicate with impact and build your brand
- Discuss how to best support others in leadership and effectively engage our community with the goal of improving the landscape of leadership within the field of dermatology

METHODOLOGY

Our course includes didactic presentations, small group workshops, and discussion aimed to help participants build their skills as leaders in the dermatology field.

PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATIONS

There are 25 spaces open for mid-career academic or clinical leaders in inflammatory skin diseases. Course tuition fees will be provided for successful applicants. **Travel scholarships may be provided to successful applicants.** Details to follow.

Application deadline is January 31, 2027. To learn more about eligibility or to submit an application to attend, please visit DermatologyLeadership.com. Please email Meaghan Cussen at mcussen@bidmc.harvard.edu with any questions.

COURSE SPONSORSHIP

We are offering four levels of support for each course:

- Platinum \$50,000
- Gold \$25,000
- Silver \$15,000
- Bronze \$10,000

The sponsorship level determines placement in promotional materials, course program, and in-course recognition slides, as well as number of invitations to social events. Please email Meaghan Cussen at mcussen@bidmc.harvard.edu for additional details.



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