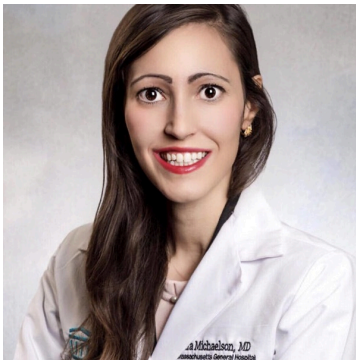




Neurology Grand Rounds

April 23, 2025

Aligning the Ivory Tower with Biotech Power: A New Paradigm for Partnership between Academia and Industry



Nara Michaelson, M.D., MS

Clinical Fellow in Neurology
Multiple Sclerosis & Neuroimmunology Fellowship
Program
Department of Neurology, Mass General Brigham

Nara Miriam Michaelson, M.D., MS is currently a Multiple Sclerosis & Neuroimmunology Fellow at Mass General Brigham in Boston, MA. She completed her neurology residency at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, NY, where she worked with Dr. Susan Gauthier to study the impact of paramagnetic rim lesions (PRLs) in multiple sclerosis (MS) minority populations. Originally from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, she moved to the east coast to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and majored in Brain & Cognitive Sciences (Course IX). She attended Dartmouth Medical School, where she was the President and Founder of the Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN) chapter, which organized events to raise awareness for multiple sclerosis. Currently, as a Clinical Research MS Fellow, she is studying potential imaging biomarkers with Dr. Eric Klawiter to further elucidate mechanisms underlying demyelinating lesions. She has a strong interest in clinical trial design, and she was awarded the Anne B Young/Translational Neuroscience Fellowship to study drug development in collaboration with scientists at Biogen. In addition, she received the Sylvia Lawry Fellowship from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS). She served on the editorial board for the Resident & Fellow Section of the journal *Neurology* for 3 years, and she pioneered the creation of new blogs such as *SIGNposts*, which seeks to inspire medical students to explore the field of neurology. Her additional interests include promoting the use of creative writing in medicine. She has published several short stories in the *Journal of Graduate Medical Education* and the journal *Neurology*, and she received the 2024 "Best Essay" award from the Consortium of Residents and Fellows/American Academy of Neurology for her article titled "*The Unraveling*," which highlighted her experience with newly diagnosed MS patients.

Targeting Neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's Disease



Roman Loonis, M.D., Ph.D.

PGY6 | MGB Neurology | Clinical Neurophysiology
Fellow

Associate Medical Director in Neuroscience, Takeda

Roman Loonis, M.D., Ph.D. is a neurologist and neuroscientist with expertise in clinical neurophysiology, translational research, and drug development. He completed his neurology residency and clinical neurophysiology fellowship at Mass General Brigham, and most recently served as a Clinical Translational Fellow at Pfizer, where he focused on neuroinflammation and biomarker strategies in Alzheimer's disease. He is currently an Associate Medical Director in Neuroscience at Takeda, leading early-stage drug development efforts in neurodegeneration. Dr. Loonis earned his MD/PhD from Boston University School of Medicine. His doctoral research in cognitive neuroscience, conducted at MIT's Picower Institute for Learning and Memory, explored the neurophysiology of learning and memory with an emphasis on cortical microcircuits, oscillatory dynamics, and error feedback.

Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Time: 12:00–1:00 PM

Location: Bornstein Family Amphitheatre, 45 Francis Street

Directions: Coming from 45 Francis Street lobby, take left at (F) elevators, take next right, take left on Main Pike, 2nd door on right. Coming from 75 Francis Street Lobby, take escalators to 2nd floor Main Pike, take right, first double doors on left past 45 Francis Lobby entrance.

Zoom: <https://partners.zoom.us/j/83944357264?pwd=raf1KgKxaMJmsWgXLhrsZYD0yoWDg1.1>

Webinar ID: 839 4435 7264

Passcode: 456430

CME Credit: CME Credit is not offered for this session.

Grand Rounds Recordings

Recordings are available on the following sites:

- [MGH Website](#)
- [BWH Website](#)

ACCREDITATION

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