



NEWSLETTER #27

October 12 - 25, 2020

כ"ד תשרי – ז' חשוון התשפ"א



NEW BIU ACADEMIC YEAR

שנה"ל מתחדשת בבר-אילן

The Bar-Ilan University academic year opened on Sunday October 18, 2020. We wish our students enthusiasm and success in their studies; our teachers satisfaction and insight as they guide the next generation of scientists and practitioners; and our researchers creativity culminating in exciting and important results.

A few stats to open up the new year:

New 4-yr track MD students	74	New MSc students	35
New 3-yr track MD students	54	New PhD students	18
Total MD students	463	Total graduate students	137 (24 international)
“Staj”	112		
Graduates	464		
Principal Investigators (PIs)	26		
Laboratories	20		
New Azrieli researchers	4		

NEONATOLOGY CONFERENCE (PROF. ERIC SHINWELL)

כנס: פרופ' שינוול

Prof. Eric Shinwell, Associate Dean of Medical Education and Director of Neonatology at the Ziv Medical Center in Safed, was the invited speaker at a Europe-Asia conference in Neonatology based in Russia. Prof. Shinwell presented his research, Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia, and then responded to requests for advice on specific cases. The conference was attended by approximately 150 neonatologists via Zoom and was also broadcast on YouTube.

Pictured to the right: Prof. Shinwell (top left); Prof. Mark Prutkin, Yekaterinburg Regional Childrens Hospital, a Russian neonatology specialist (top right); Prof. Sergey Ivanov, chief of NICU at the St. Petersburg Childrens Hospital (bottom).



RESEARCHER PROFILE: DR. EILAM PALZUR

הכר את החוקר: דר' עילם פלצור

Dr. Eilam Palzur is a researcher at the Institute for Medical Research, Galilee Medical Center, Nahariya. He earned his PhD in Neurophysiology from the faculty of medicine at the Technion (Haifa). He also holds a BSc in biology from the faculty of natural sciences at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

His PhD thesis, in collaboration with the Israeli Naval Medical Institute, was about the beneficial effects of hyperbaric oxygen therapy cerebral cell death following head trauma. Dr. Palzur has experience in hyperbaric oxygen therapy and in brain physiology and metabolism. He has published 11 papers in peer reviewed journals, and actively participated in national and international conferences.

He is currently the manager of both Prof. Soustiel's brain research lab and Prof. Bornstein's gynecology research lab. The research in both labs is true translational research initiated by a clinical need aimed to improve the healthcare provided to the patients.



The brain research lab is studying the mitochondrial involvement in cerebral cell death following brain injury and stroke utilizing a holistic approach: from animal behavior to cellular response and mitochondrial metabolism.

The gynecology lab is focused on the study of vulvodynia - a chronic pain in the vulva, particularly the links between inflammation, chronic pain, neuromodulation, and neuroproliferation combining basic and clinical research.

Besides being a researcher, Dr. Palzur is married, and a father of two. He is also an enthusiastic sailor, trekker, and traveler.



Publications (<https://medicine.biu.ac.il/en/research-news>) פרסומי מחקר

Reminder that publications by Azrieli faculty are generally posted in chronological order based on publication date, per PubMed listings.

- Vikrant Palande, Dorith Raviv Shay, Milana Frenkel-Morgenstern: Detection of Cell-Free DNA in Blood Plasma Samples of Cancer Patients (J Vis Exp .)
- Chaim Putterman: Age-associated changes in the circulating human antibody repertoire are upregulated in autoimmunity (Immun Ageing .)
- Maya Frank Wolf, Rosa Michlin, Yaniv Farajun, Ella Ophir, Jacob Bornstein: Intrauterine bacterial growth in elective and non-elective caesarean sections (J Obstet Gynaecol .)
- Dana Binyamin, Nir Werbner, Meital Nuriel-Ohayon, Atara Uzan, Hadar Mor, Oren Ziv, Omry Koren: The aging mouse microbiome has obesogenic characteristics (Genome Med.)
- Yana Lerner, Wessal Hanout, Shulamit Fluss Ben-Uliel, Samar Gani, Michal Pellach Leshem, Nir Qvit: Natriuretic peptides as the basis of peptide drug discovery for cardiovascular diseases (Curr Top Med Chem .)
- Enav Yefet: One elevated oral glucose tolerance test value in pregnancy increases the risk for future diabetes mellitus type 2 (Arch Gynecol Obstet .)
- Nehama Cohen-Kfir, Miriam Ethel Bentwich, Nomy Dickman, Basem Higazi, Limor Kalfon, Mary Rudolf, Tzipora C Falik-Zaccai: Challenges to effective and autonomous genetic testing and counseling for ethno-cultural minorities: a qualitative study (BMC Med Eth
- Chen Shochat, Rajashekar Donaka, David Karasik: Deletion of SREBF1, a functional bone-muscle pleiotropic gene, alters bone density and lipid signaling in zebrafish (Endocrinology .)
- Pre- and Post-Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement Serum Brain Natriuretic Peptide Levels and All-Cause Mortality (Cardiology .)
- Naama Garmi, Suheil Nasrallah, Yacov Baram, Adina Katz, Avishai Koren, Maya First, Arnon Blum: Platelets and Breast Cancer (Isr Med Assoc J .)
- Taer Abu Jabal, Magid Ganayem, Avi Peretz, Orna Nitzan: The Undesired Outcomes of Bodybuilding: An Intra-Deltoid Abscess Caused by Eikenella corrodens After Licking the Needle (Isr Med Assoc J .)
- Inbar Ben Shachar, Ilan Atlas: Increased ultrasonographic endometrial thickness is associated with poor survival in patients with endometrial cancer: An Israel gynecologic oncology group study (Eur J Surg Oncol .)
- Rina Dolinski, Luiza Akria, Yevgeni Yampoulski, Jamal Awad: A Case of Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis Associated With Mediterranean Spotted Fever in a Healthy 29-Year-Old Female (Open Forum Infect Dis .)



- Atara Uzan-Yulzari, Maya Morr, Hala Tareef-Nabwani, Oren Ziv, Anca Leibovici, Ayelet Shai, Omry Koren: The intestinal microbiome, weight, and metabolic changes in women treated by adjuvant chemotherapy for breast and gynecological malignancies (BMC Med.)
- Nir Qvit: Engineering "Antimicrobial Peptides" and Other Peptides to Modulate Protein-Protein Interactions in Cancer (Curr Top Med Chem .)
- Avinoam Markovich, Ohad Ronen: Factors predicting length of stay in patients hospitalized for acute parotitis (J Investig Med .)
- Inbar Ben-Shachar, Ilan Atlas: Age is an independent predictor of outcome in endometrial cancer patients: an Israeli Gynecology Oncology Group cohort study (Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand .)
- Celia Suru: Daratumumab for relapsed AL amyloidosis - when cumulative real-world data precedes clinical trials: A multisite study and systematic literature review (Eur J Haematol .)
- Tomer Meirson: Survival-Inferred Fragility Index of Phase 3 Clinical Trials Evaluating Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors (JAMA Netw Open .)

Faculty News (<https://medicine.biu.ac.il/en/faculty-news>) חדשות הפקולטה

- [Book Launch Event: Active Education for Future Doctors \(Nomy Dickman, Barbara Schuster eds.\)](#)



Media Exposure (<https://medicine.biu.ac.il/en/media>) חשיפה במדיה באנגלית

- [Algemeiner: Young Doctors Help Fight Israel's War on COVID-19](#)
- [JPost.com: Vitamin D deficiency linked to increased risk for COVID-19](#)
- [inews.co.uk: Circuit Breaker: Israel's second Covid lockdown is working, but it's not a long-term solution](#)
- [NewScientist.com: Should We Plan for Regular "Circuit Breaker" Coronavirus Lockdowns?](#)

Image Gallery/Photo Albums (<https://medicine.biu.ac.il/en/gallery>) גלריית תמונות

Nothing new for now...stay tuned...

REMINDERS על תשכחו

Updates/ads/notifications can be posted on the English Faculty of Medicine [opening page](#). Let [me](#) know.





The Azrieli
Faculty of Medicine
Bar-Ilan University

When the End Is Just the Beginning: The COVID-19 Vaccine Challenge

A webinar series with five of the world's foremost experts on vaccines, pandemics, and public health systems



Nearly eight months into the pandemic, hopes of conquering COVID-19 still largely rest on a vaccine. Thanks to the unprecedented speed and scale of development, dozens of candidates are now in advanced clinical trials. Yet whether vaccines will meet our hopes for a return to normal—now, or in the years to come—will depend on our ability to meet a new kind of challenge, one as logistical, operational, and cultural as it is epidemiological, and far more complex than any the world has faced in the history of immunization to date.



SESSION 1 | Monday, November 2, 2020, 6 pm (IST)

"The Vaccine is Not the (Whole) Answer: Learning to Live with the COVID-19 Pandemic"

Prof. David Heymann, Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and advisor to the WHO on COVID-19



SESSION 2 | Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 6 pm (IST)

"Ten Years in Less than Ten Months: Running Vaccine Trials During a Pandemic"

Prof. Andrew Pollard, chief investigator of global clinical trials for the Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine candidate



SESSION 3 | Wednesday, November 18, 6 pm (IST)

"Lessons from Africa: Immunizing Populations in Low-Income Settings"

Dr. Chikwe Ihekweazu, director general of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and a leader in its successful efforts to contain the country's COVID-19 outbreak



SESSION 4 | Wednesday, November 25, 6 pm (IST)

"It's All in the Delivery: Operational and Logistical Challenges in Deploying a Pandemic Vaccine"

Prof. Michael Edelstein, principal investigator in population health at the BIU Azrieli Faculty of Medicine and former lead for COVID-19 community surveillance at Public Health England



SESSION 5 | Monday, November 30th, 6 pm (IST)

"Treating Patients, Testing Patients: A Hospital at the Forefront of COVID-19 treatments"

Dr. Ravit Barkama, assistant vice president of clinical development at Holy Name Medical Center in Tenafly, New Jersey, a leader in COVID-19 clinical trials

Registration is free but space is limited.

To register for all or some of the sessions, visit:

<https://medicine.biu.ac.il/en/webinarCovidNov2020>

Registration for each session will close 24 hours before the beginning of the session or as soon as the session is fully booked.

All lectures take place at Israel Standard Time.