

**CIRM Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group
Biographical information of candidates nominated to serve as
Scientific Members of the Working Group**

Nazem Attasi, MD

Associate Director of the Neurological Clinical Research Institute (NCRI) at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston, Massachusetts, Assistant Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School, completed Neurology training at Boston University Medical Center and Fellowship in Neuromuscular Disorders and Clinical Trials at MGH. He received his Masters of Medical Science in 2010 from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Atassi is Co- Chair of the Upper Motor Neuron Task Force at the Northeast ALS Consortium (NEALS) and he serves on the Advocacy subcommittee of the ALS Research Group (ALSRG). Dr. Atassi received several awards including the MIT 100K Life Science Award from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the Anne B. Young Translational Neuroscience Fellowship, and NIH K23 Career Development Award. He is the Primary Investigator for several research projects focusing on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) and Primary Lateral Sclerosis (PLS) clinical trials and neuroimaging. Dr. Atassi attends two clinics at MGH: ALS multidisciplinary clinic and Neuromuscular clinic.

Kenneth L. Brayman, MD, PhD, FACS

Dr. Brayman is Professor of Surgery, Medicine and Biomedical Engineering at the University of Virginia. Dr Brayman is the Director of the Charles O. Strickler Transplant Center at the University of Virginia Health System and Division Chief of Transplant Surgery in the Department of Surgery, at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. Dr. Brayman earned his MD, PhD, and completed a residency in General Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and a fellowship in Transplantation Surgery at the University of Minnesota. He is board certified by the American Board of Surgery. His clinical practice includes kidney and pancreas transplantation, general and endocrine surgery in transplant candidates and recipients, islet transplantation, hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery, and vascular procedures in patients with renal failure. Dr Brayman is the Nabi Biopharmaceuticals Professor of Transplantation at the University of Virginia.

Dr. Brayman has over twenty years of experience as a principal investigator in basic and translational research and clinical trials. His research interests include stem and somatic cell therapy and immunosuppression in autoimmunity and transplantation, genomics in autoimmunity and transplantation, inflammation, chronic allograft nephropathy, solid organ transplantation in patients with HIV, islet cell transplantation, transplantation tolerance, regulatory t cell and gene therapy and xenotransplantation. Dr Brayman was responsible for developing and establishing the Islet Isolation GMP Facility at UVA and has overseen the allo- and auto-transplantation of islets in more than 25 recipients. The Islet Transplant Program, headed by Dr. Brayman, uses an FDA-approved Human Islet Isolation class 10,000 GMP Facility at UVA for the isolation of clinical-grade pancreatic islets for transplants and currently participates with the NIH-sponsored Collaborative Islet Transplant Registry (CITR).

Dr. Brayman serves on many national committees and is a member of numerous professional and scientific societies including the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the American Society of Transplant Physicians, the American College of Surgeons, the Society of University Surgeons, the Southern Surgical Association and the American Surgical Association. Dr. Brayman is also a founding member of the International Pancreas and Islet Transplant Association and the Cell Transplantation Society. He is widely published in scientific and professional journals on topics related to his research and clinical experience.