Stanescu, Diana

Dr. Diana Stanescu is a physician scientist with an interest in the developmental biology of pancreatic endocrine cells. Her current research is aimed at bridging the existing knowledge gap between the maturation of embryonic and fetal beta cells and stem-cell derived beta cells. The results of this research could lead to improvements in vitro differentiation protocols and help in providing a cell replacement therapy for patients with type 1 diabetes.

She received her medical degree from Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, Romania. Shortly after graduation, she moved to New York and started pediatrics residency training program at the SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn (Downstate Medical Center), where she later became Chief Resident in Pediatrics. Her training continued at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia as a pediatric endocrinology fellow. During the research portion of her fellowship training, she was supported by the prestigious Pediatric Scientist Development Program to pursue an extensive project in the lab of Dr. Doris Stoffers in the Institute of Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism at University of Pennsylvania.

Since 2017, she transitioned to her own independent lab at CHOP. Current projects in her lab involve understanding human pancreatic endocrine cells maturation, postnatal functional maturation of insulin producing cells and the role of glutamine in pancreatic endocrine cell differentiation.