



RESI BOSTON 2026

September 22-23: Westin Copley Place, Boston | September 25, 28-29: Virtual Partnering



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ONSITE GUIDE

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RESI

2027 CONFERENCE SERIES



RESI JPM 2027

JAN 11-12: SAN FRANCISCO MARRIOTT MARQUIS
JAN 13, 18-19: VIRTUAL PARTNERING



RESI ASIA JAPAN 2027

APR 13: ANA INTERCONTINENTAL TOKYO
APR 15-16, 19-20: VIRTUAL PARTNERING



RESI PHILADELPHIA 2027

JUN 7: CONVENE 30 SOUTH 17TH STREET
JUN 8-9, 14-15: VIRTUAL PARTNERING



RESI BOSTON 2027

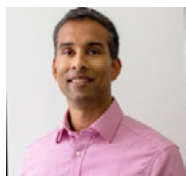
SEPT 22: THE WESTIN COPLEY PLACE
SEPT 23-24, 27-28: VIRTUAL PARTNERING

Take \$100 off with discount code RESI100 for future RESIs.

For more information about our future events,

visit our website RESIConference.com or contact us at RESI@lifesciencenation.com.

WELCOME TO RESI BOSTON



Life Science Nation (LSN) is thrilled to welcome global investors, strategic licensing partners, and startup founders to Boston. As a key component of Biotech Week Boston, this year's RESI expands into an immersive two-day in-person conference on September 22–23 at The Westin Copley Place, followed by three days of virtual partnering on September 25 and September 28–29, providing opportunities for high-value connections and global collaboration.

Across the two in-person days, RESI delivers an expansive program designed to accelerate early-stage fundraising and strategic growth. Attendees can participate in dynamic investor panels, educational workshops, and two concurrent tracks of the Innovator's Pitch Challenge (IPC). IPC finalists pitch live to investor judges across biotech, medtech, diagnostics, and digital health. We invite all attendees to visit the active exhibition area in the ballroom to meet the founders and vote for their favorite innovations using "RESI Cash."

Featured Curated Investor Programs:

Global Family Office BioForum (GFOB) | Day 1 • Tuesday, Sept 22

Now in its 8th year, GFOB provides a private, curated environment for active family offices to exchange direct co-investment strategies, assess emerging healthcare opportunities, and syndicate early-stage life science deals. As part of the broader RESI conference program, the Family Office Investors Panel is open to all RESI attendees, offering founders and other participants the opportunity to hear directly from family office investors about their investment strategies, priorities, and approach to early-stage life science opportunities.

Cross-Border Investor Luncheon (CBIL) | Day 2 • Wednesday, Sept 23

Formalizing cross-border syndication through LSN's global network, CBIL is a private, screened luncheon connecting regional venture funds with international investors. This dedicated forum enables international capital to participate in vetted regional deals while unlocking global distribution and syndicate reach across Asia, Europe, and the Americas.

Throughout the venue, be sure to connect with tech hub and leading service providers supporting emerging life science ventures with laboratory infrastructure, legal counsel, and operational scaling.

RESI Partnering serves as the engine of the event, facilitating hundreds of curated 1:1 meetings between capital and innovation across both in-person days and continuing seamlessly into the three virtual partnering days (Sept 25, 28–29) to engage participants across global time zones.

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We wish you a highly productive, inspiring, and deal-making experience at RESI Boston!

THE WESTIN COPLEY PLACE

3RD FLOOR

WiFi: RESI_Conference

PW: resi2026

Sept 22-23 | 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM: Breakfast (Foyer)

Sept 22 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Global Family Office BioForum Luncheon

(St. George D - Private luncheon by Invitation Only)

Sept 23 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Cross-Border Investor Luncheon

(St. George D - Private luncheon by Invitation Only)

Sept 22-23 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch (Foyer)

Sept 22 | 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Cocktail Reception (Foyer)

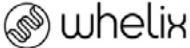


Innovator's Pitch Challenge Directory

EXHIBITION & TABLE NUMBER GUIDE (PART 1 / 3)

Tables #01 – #25

RESI Boston 2026

 Genome & Company Table #01	 ILIAS Biologics Table #02	 artiCure Table #03	 Crafton Biotechnology Table #04	 WellPep Co., Ltd. Table #05
 CAIMI Co., Ltd. Table #06	 Medicell Table #07	 MTech Lab Co. Ltd. Table #08	 WALK101 Table #09	 nSAGE Inc Table #10
 Repair Biotechnologies, Inc. Table #11	 PrevEp Table #12	 Baebies, Inc. Table #13	 B4-RNA Table #14	 Curigin Table #15
 Elisigen Table #16	 Kanjin Therapeutics Table #17	 Survivant Biologics Table #18	 Synaptic Bio Table #19	 Whelix Table #20
 Synergy MedTech Table #21	 Etienna Bio, Inc. Table #22	 New View Medical Table #23	 ODDIFACT Table #24	 BioCopy AG Table #25

Innovator's Pitch Challenge Directory

EXHIBITION & TABLE NUMBER GUIDE (PART 2 / 3)

Tables #26 – #50

RESI Boston 2026

 Nemea Therapeutics Table #26	 Zyneyro Table #27	 Migration Biotherapeutics Table #28	 Bilan Therapeutics Table #29	 Synvest Imaging Table #30
 Nomocan Pharmaceuticals Table #31	 Restorear Table #32	 HabitAware Table #33	 Safebeat rx Table #34	 Haima Therapeutics Table #35
 Spatial Surgical Table #36	 Alphyn Biologics Table #37	 Sus Clinicals, Inc. Table #38	 Koi Biotherapeutics Inc Table #39	 Orthonika Table #40
 Qoral Table #41	 NeuroGT Table #42	 Tegmine Therapeutics, Inc. Table #43	 Attuned HealthTech Table #44	 Sensa Neuroscience Table #45
 RevelNext Inc. Table #46	 Gradient Medical Table #47	 Eclipse Regensis Table #48	 Acrobat Genomics Table #49	 Up Oncolytics Table #50

Innovator's Pitch Challenge Directory

EXHIBITION & TABLE NUMBER GUIDE (PART 3 / 3)

Tables #51 – #75

RESI Boston 2026



RSP Systems

Table #51



Sightera Biosciences

Table #52



Minze Health

Table #53



Pictor

Table #54



Captura BioPharma

Table #55



Oncovita

Table #56



Brainalyze

Table #57



Annulus Therapeutics

Table #58



Cytosolix, Inc.

Table #59



Witii Pharmaceuticals

Table #60



Adaptyx Biosciences

Table #61



Nodal Therapeutics, Inc.

Table #62



Ironsides Medical

Table #63



REMA Sleep

Table #64



Valeb

Table #65



CPTx

Table #66



Intra Therapeutics

Table #67



StimOxyGen

Table #68



Fortiscience, Inc.

Table #69



CB Therapeutics

Table #70



MediSieve Limited

Table #71



MelliCell

Table #72



PulManage, Inc.

Table #73



BobcatBio

Table #74



neuroTHEP
Pharmaceuticals

Table #75

AGENDA - SEPTEMBER 22

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM: Breakfast Buffet (Foyer)

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Onsite Partnering (Essex Ballroom + Staffordshire)

Investor Panels
(St. George A&B)

Innovator's Pitch Challenge

Track 1
(Essex Northwest)

Track 2
(Essex Northeast)

Workshops
(St. George C)

9:00 AM
-
9:50 AM

WHY BOSTON LEADS BIOTECH

Inside One of the World's Most Successful Life Science Ecosystems

SESSION #1

THERAPEUTICS

SESSION #2

MEDICAL DEVICES & DIAGNOSTICS



**INTRODUCING
BLPN |
ACCELERATING
LIFE SCIENCES
TOGETHER**

10:00 AM
-
10:50 AM

PARTNERING WITH HEALTH SYSTEMS

Turning Clinical Validation into Commercial Success

SESSION #3

THERAPEUTICS

SESSION #4

THERAPEUTICS



**FOCUS ON
SCIENCE,
BUILD FOR
SCALE DE-RISKING THE
FIRST 18 MONTHS**

11:00 AM
-
11:50 AM

BACKING TOMORROW'S THERAPEUTICS

How Venture Investors Evaluate Early-Stage Biotech

SESSION #5

MEDICAL DEVICES

SESSION #6

MEDICAL DEVICES



**AN AI-DRIVEN ANTIBODY
DISCOVERY PLATFORM
FROM TARGET TO
ANTIBODY LEADS IN CLICK**

12:00 - 1:00 PM: Lunch Break (Foyer)

12:00 - 1:00 PM: Global Family Office BioForum Luncheon
(St. George D - Private luncheon by Invitation Only)

1:00 PM
-
1:50 PM

INSIDE THE PHARMA PARTNERING PLAYBOOK

How Early-Stage Innovation Gets on Big Pharma's Radar

SESSION #7

MEDICAL DEVICES

SESSION #8

R&D / LIFE SCIENCE
TOOLS AND PLATFORMS



TALES FROM THE ROAD
Biotech and MedTech Innovators on their Fundraising Journey

2:00 PM
-
2:50 PM

STRATEGIC CAPITAL

How Corporate Venture Investors Accelerate Healthcare Innovation

SESSION #9

THERAPEUTICS

SESSION #10

THERAPEUTICS



Co.Lab
Bringing your brilliant ideas to life

**BRIDGING ASIA'S NEXT
BIOTECH INNOVATIONS
TO GLOBAL PARTNERS:
A BAYER CO.LAB
SHOWCASE**

3:00 PM
-
3:50 PM

BUILDING THE FUTURE OF CHRONIC DISEASE CARE

Innovation Across Therapeutics, Devices, and Digital Health

SESSION #11

THERAPEUTICS

SESSION #12

THERAPEUTICS & DIAGNOSTICS

4:00 PM
-
4:50 PM

THE NEW FACE OF FAMILY OFFICE INVESTING

How Private Capital Is Reshaping Early-Stage Healthcare

SESSION #13

THERAPEUTICS

SESSION #14

MEDICAL DEVICES & DIAGNOSTICS



**FROM COMPELLING
SCIENCE TO AN
INVESTABLE
DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

5:00 - 7:00 PM: Cocktail Reception (Foyer)

AGENDA - SEPTEMBER 23

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM: Breakfast Buffet (Foyer)
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM: Onsite Partnering (Essex Ballroom + Staffordshire)

	Investor Panels (St. George A&B)	Innovator's Pitch Challenge		Workshops (St. George C)
		Track 1 (Essex Northwest)	Track 2 (Essex Northeast)	
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	THE FIRST BELIEVERS <i>The Investors Behind Tomorrow's Breakthrough Companies</i>	SESSION #15 CNS / NEUROLOGY	SESSION #16 THERAPEUTICS	 FUNDING INNOVATION: CAPITAL AND ACCESS IN JAPAN'S LIFE SCIENCE ECOSYSTEM
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	CLOSING THE GAP IN WOMEN'S HEALTH <i>Investing in One of Healthcare's Largest Untapped Markets</i>	SESSION #17 THERAPEUTICS	SESSION #18 MEDICAL DEVICES	 NEGOTIATING EARLY STAGE FINANCING TERM SHEETS
11:00 AM - 11:50 AM	INVESTING FOR IMPACT <i>Generating Returns While Improving Global Health</i>	SESSION #19 CARDIOVASCULAR & METABOLIC DISEASES	SESSION #20 THERAPEUTICS	 FROM SCIENCE TO SIGNAL
<p>12:00 - 1:00 PM: Lunch Break (Foyer) 12:00 - 1:00 PM: Cross-border Investor Luncheon (St. George D - Private luncheon by Invitation Only)</p>				
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	INVESTOR REVERSE PITCH #1	 UNLOCKING THE HIDDEN VALUE OF RELATIONSHIPS IN LIFE SCIENCES	BEYOND SBIRS: HOW THE NIH CAN FACILITATE AND ACCELERATE YOUR COMMERCIALIZATION GOALS	
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	INVESTOR REVERSE PITCH #2			 COMPANY VALUATION FOR FUNDRAISING

The RESI Boston Innovator's Pitch Challenge winners will be officially announced on the afternoon of Day 2, September 23. Following the live reveal, these standout early-stage companies will receive continued exposure with dedicated features on the RESI website and LSN's "Next Phase" Newsletter. Subscribe today to receive the official winner results, plus weekly updates on industry trends, hot investor mandates, early-stage fundraising strategies, and exclusive RESI promotions delivered directly to your inbox.

NEXT PHASE»



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GLOBAL FAMILY OFFICE BIOFORUM

8th Annual Luncheon at RESI Boston 2026

Tuesday, Sept 22, 2026 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM | Westin Copley Place (St. George D)

About The BioForum

Life Science Nation (LSN) invites qualified family office investors to a private, curated environment designed to:

- Exchange strategies across asset classes & healthcare themes
- Share deal flow insights & emerging biotech opportunities
- Explore co-investment partnerships in early-stage therapeutics

2026 Special Theme: The Japan Bridge

Japan has world-class science, deep pharmaceutical expertise, and a rich pipeline of emerging life science technology. It is now delivering an innovation bridge that connects that innovation to the global life science community.

At RESI Boston 2026, our 8th annual Global Family Office BioForum Luncheon will bring together international family offices for a private, invitation-only conversation about the emerging bridge between Japan and the rest of the world. I will be joined by Keiko Kobayashi of the Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster (KBIC) and Rick Berenson, Managing Director of Venzyme Catalyst.

KBIC is one of Japan's largest life science clusters, and our work together is centered on three objectives: helping Japanese technology assets enter the global arena, bringing international investors and strategic partners closer to Japan's innovation ecosystem, and fostering cross-border investment syndicates that connect Japanese and international investors around opportunities in both markets.

The pieces are coming together. KBIC brings the Japanese ecosystem, company pipeline, and government relationships. Venzyme Catalyst brings early-stage assessment, shaping, and de-risking. LSN brings commercialization preparation, RESI, BD Assist, and its global network of investors and licensing partners. Keiko will share what KBIC is building in Japan, while Rick and I will explain how the commercialization engine connects regional innovation to the global marketplace.

Featured Presenters



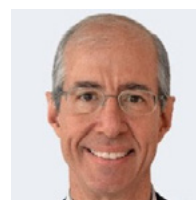
Dennis Ford

Founder of Life Science Nation,
Creator of RESI, and Architect of
LSN Labs



Keiko Kobayashi

Business Strategies, Head
of International Ecosystem
Development, KBIC



Rick Berenson

Managing Director, Venzyme
Catalyst

Exclusive Investor Gathering • By Invitation Only

CROSS-BORDER INVESTOR LUNCHEON

A private, screened luncheon for regional and international investors seeking syndicate partners.

Wednesday, Sept 23, 2026 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM | Westin Copley Place (St. George D)

Where Cross-Border Deal Flow Actually Happens

Every VC and PE firm says they want cross-border deal flow. Few have it. Most cross-border relationships stop at an introduction that never becomes a term sheet, because access without real syndicate standing on the other side rarely converts.

At RESI Boston 2026, Life Science Nation is convening a Cross-Border Investor Luncheon with Simon Hua, Chairman of BioMetas, to explore how cross-border access actually works through one of the hardest markets to enter.

Simon spent fifteen years in investment banking in Hong Kong, then a decade building and scaling the equity-for-service model that turns CRO relationships into equity stakes and syndicate seats, first at Viva Biotech, then ChemPartner, and now BioMetas. He has led CROs and his own fund, CFS Capital, to incubate and invest in over 100 innovative biotechs globally, while building an ecosystem with academic research institutions, government platforms, and VCs including Huagai Capital, E-Fund Capital, and Qiming Venture Partners.

The luncheon is built around a simple premise: bring together VCs and PE firms that want genuine syndicate relationships outside their own region, with funds that can send them deal flow and receive it in return.

Simon will speak directly to how that access works: how the equity-for-service model surfaces promising biotechs before they are broadly shopped, and how that early visibility converts into syndicate seats alongside the region's leading investors.

Whether you are looking east or west, the practical question is the same:

How do you actually get inside?

Featured Presenter



Simon Hua

Chairman of BioMetas



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We look forward to the opportunity to connect!

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The RSM Catamaran logo is positioned in the bottom left. The background features a stylized illustration of a catamaran with a wireframe sail and hull, set against a dark blue background with a city skyline silhouette and a digital grid pattern.

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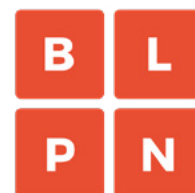
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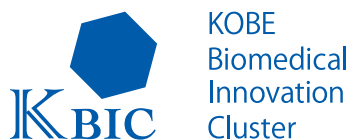


Bayer Co.Lab is Bayer's pioneering global network of life science incubators focused on disruptive innovation and scientific breakthroughs. With strategic locations in Cambridge, Berlin, Kobe, and Shanghai, Bayer Co.Lab brings together early-stage life science entrepreneurs with world-class expertise, resources, and global networks to help transform groundbreaking ideas into impactful healthcare solutions. The network seeks innovative technologies and creative approaches aligned with Bayer's strategic research areas, while providing support to participating startups with no strings attached.

Designed to reduce the financial and operational barriers facing emerging life science companies, Bayer Co.Lab provides access to state-of-the-art laboratory and office space, shared scientific equipment, and a dynamic community of fellow innovators. Startups can also benefit from tailored mentorship from Bayer experts around the globe, gaining access to scientific and industry expertise while remaining independent. Through its international network, Bayer Co.Lab helps foster connections between entrepreneurs and leading life science innovation ecosystems around the world.

By combining cutting-edge infrastructure, expert mentorship, and opportunities for global connectivity, Bayer Co.Lab creates an environment where visionary early-stage companies can focus on advancing their science, generating data, and developing the next generation of healthcare solutions.

>> For more information, please visit <https://colab.bayer.com>.



The Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster (KBIC) is the largest biomedical cluster in Japan, offering a highly integrated platform that promotes networking and innovative collaboration among businesses, academic institutions, and medical organizations. KBIC brings together a concentrated community of nearly 350 companies, universities, research institutes, and specialized hospitals, all dedicated to advancing cutting-edge medical technologies and pioneering scientific discoveries through close collaboration. FBRI is also home to the Foundation for Biomedical Research and Innovation at Kobe (FBRI), the core organization supporting this cluster. KBIC actively promotes biomedical innovation through advanced clinical research and translational medicine, with a particular focus on biomanufacturing as well as cell and gene-based technologies. In addition, KBIC fosters cross-border collaboration and open innovation among cutting-edge startups through its international networks. KBIC provides an ideal environment for organizations seeking to establish a presence in Japan, invest in life sciences, or identify strategic partners across academia, healthcare, and industry.



BioMetas is a trusted partner for early-stage biotech innovators, providing a comprehensive suite of preclinical research services. With expertise spanning target validation, recombinant protein expression, antibody production, in vitro assays, in vivo pharmacology, DMPK/exploratory toxicology, and GLP-compliant safety assessment, BioMetas enables startups to progress their drug discovery and development programs efficiently, from a concept to an IND-ready candidate. By streamlining the preclinical process and providing milestone-driven support, BioMetas helps biotech companies de-risk their assets and position them for successful global partnering opportunities.

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Where health innovation grows stronger, together

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Biovia is bringing together more than 350 members and many partners, including companies, research institutes, universities, hospitals, R&D-enabling companies, investors and government.

BRONZE SPONSORS



Inertia is a trusted partner for startups and innovators looking to bring bold product ideas to life. We support clients through every stage of hardware development—from concept to manufacturing—offering expertise in design, prototyping, engineering, and supply chain management. Beyond the creative spark, we handle the critical details that ensure success, like design for manufacturing and logistics. For us, innovation begins with a blank page and the belief that ‘nothingness’ can become something impactful. We’re inspired by the genius of our clients and team, driven to turn visionary ideas into real-world solutions. With curiosity as our compass and execution as our strength, Inertia is committed to building not just what’s new, but what’s needed—solutions that make life easier, better, and more joyful. With the right vision, we know we can go anywhere.



Steri-Tek, based in Fremont, CA, with a new facility in Lewisville, TX is a high-volume E-beam/X-Ray contract sterilizer and R&D innovation center serving the medical device, biotech, pharmaceutical and other industries. Steri-Tek is an ISO 11137 and ISO 13485 certified, FDA registered, DEA licensed as well as State of California Medical Device and Drug Manufacturing licensed facility.

The California facility boasts two state-of-the-art 10 MeV, 20 KW linear accelerators. The Texas facility utilizes two state-of-the-art 10 MeV, 30 KW linear accelerators. Both offer simultaneous beam processing that allows for high volume production, providing uniform dose to the product without having to rotate the customer’s boxes. This DualBeam™ configuration significantly increases efficiencies, expands product options, and serves as an effective back-up for the accelerators. Steri-Tek has developed a proprietary system for radiation sensitive materials such as drugs/biologics, combination devices, bioabsorbables, implantables, advanced polymers and other complex products.

Steri-Tek offers;

- Turnkey Validation Services (per ISO 11137 Vdmax and Method I)
- Rapid Turnaround on Routine Sterilization Processing (48 hours standard with RUSH 24 hour and 4 hour turnaround available)
- DualBeam™ E-beam/X-ray processing (Highest up time in industry)
- Expert Consultation Services to optimize E-beam/X-ray sterilization processing and throughput of complex devices



BioClinical Solutions (BCS) partners with emerging biotech and investors to accelerate clinical development while protecting capital. We provide strategic clinical development leadership, regulatory guidance, operational oversight and CRO management that help sponsors meet funding milestones, reduce unnecessary spend and generate the data needed to drive valuation and partnership opportunities.

Stop by our booth to discuss your program, upcoming milestones and development challenges. We would be delighted to share practical strategies that can help maximize value, reduce risk and extend runway.

EXHIBITORS



For more than twenty years, Synvia has led clinical research in Latin America, and today it runs studies for pharmaceutical sponsors in Brazil and abroad.

Strategically based in the state of São Paulo, Brazil, the company operates more than 20,000 m² of specialized infrastructure, home to the largest analytical park in Latin America. Its facilities are internationally audited and operate in compliance with ANVISA, FDA and EMA standards.

As a full-service CRO, Synvia covers the entire pharmaceutical development chain, from early-phase and bioequivalence studies to large-scale multicenter trials, supported by its own central laboratory. The same structure sustains Brazil's largest wide-detection-window toxicology operation.

With more than 900 professionals, over 200 pharmaceutical sponsors, 2,000 studies completed, a database of 150,000 volunteers and proprietary AI-powered platforms, Synvia delivers end-to-end solutions under one roof, so every sponsor works with a single accountable partner from protocol design to regulatory submission.



Danforth Health provides cross-functional expertise and execution for life science companies navigating every stage from discovery through launch — spanning business operations, regulatory, clinical, and commercialization. Acting as a flexible, embedded extension of client teams, Danforth helps companies reduce risk, advance with efficiency, and direct investment toward the decisions that drive patient impact. Headquartered in Waltham, Massachusetts, the company has partnered with more than 1,800 life science companies worldwide. Additional information is available at www.danforthhealth.com.



Eva Garland Consulting partners with innovative organizations to secure and manage non-dilutive funding from federal and private sources. With more than \$2B raised across thousands of grants and contracts, EGC has supported over 5,000 clients worldwide—including startups, established companies, universities, and government agencies—to advance breakthrough technologies through commercialization.



Inmedix®, Inc. is a medical diagnostics company pioneering the field of stress biology through its FDA-cleared CloudHRV® platform. We unlock the missing link in clinical treatment by measuring how stress drives disease. By capturing precise data on autonomic nervous system function in just five minutes, Inmedix helps physicians personalize treatment and improve outcomes. With a scalable SaaS model and growing clinical evidence base, we're building the future of stress-informed care.

EXHIBITORS



G31 is a strategic communications partner, exclusively in life sciences, working with biotech, diagnostics, medical device, and specialty pharma companies. That could be a Series A raise where investors keep missing the point. A product launch where the sales team isn't ready. A conference poster that feels too clunky. Wherever the communication gap is, we can help.

We ask: if this all went right, what would that look like? Every engagement starts with that question, then works backward to figure out what each audience needs to understand, what action they need to take, and what tools will help get them there. The deliverable could be a deck, a website, a healthcare provider email campaign, patient education, or a sales training. The product is always the same: clear understanding and the resources to take action.

G31's CEO is a former healthcare provider who has walked hospital floors, worked with insurance systems, and understands what it takes to move a clinician or a patient to action. That clinical fluency, combined with regulatory awareness and a team with more than 100 years of combined experience in medical marketing means we see the reason to believe in the science and can tell the story in a way that resonates for the audience.

We work across the full life sciences spectrum, from pre-seed founders with a stuck slide to VP-level commercial teams six months away from launch to a commercial product that's not getting the traction it deserves.

Client testimonial: "Group 31 has become an indispensable partner, enabling us to raise over \$120M in funding and start two clinical trials. They work within our budget, execute efficiently on mission-critical items, and bring HCP experience together with outstanding communication abilities." JB, CEO



Biotechgate is a leading business development and licensing database for the entire life science industry, offering a wealth of information on over 69,000 life science company profiles. Thanks to its unique data sourcing process, the profiles include company descriptions, contact information, product pipeline information, financing rounds, and management details, making it an invaluable resource for life sciences start-ups, pharma companies, investors, and other industry professionals. Biotechgate also features 30,000 licensing deals and a clinical trials database containing over 800,000 records from registries around the world.



Founded in 2002, Leader Bank is a Massachusetts-based entrepreneurial financial institution that approaches banking differently. The core tenets of Leader Bank include client services, exemplary products, and innovation to meet the needs of its clients. Leader Bank's best-in-class staff has been at the forefront of supporting the bank's rapid growth and client-oriented solutions, as the bank has continued to expand its commercial and retail products and solutions over the last two decades. Leader Bank is a committed corporate citizen and prides itself on partnering with and supporting philanthropic organizations. More information on Leader Bank can be found at www.leaderbank.com.

To contact Leader Bank, N.A., please call our toll free number 877-691-7900. We look forward to working with you.

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Join us October 18–21, 2026, in Boston, MA for The MedTech Conference, hosted by AdvaMed. This is where the medtech community gathers in one place to explore the latest in innovation, investment insights, regulatory and payment updates, AI, and the future of health care technology. Connect with 4,000+ leaders from global medtech companies, fast-growing startups, investors, and strategic partners. With curated partnering, dynamic education, interactive innovation spaces, and high-value networking, The MedTech Conference is where the industry comes together to accelerate what's next

INVESTOR PANELS

Insights from early-stage capital leaders shaping the future of therapeutics, devices, and digital health.

Why Boston Leads Biotech

Inside One of the World's Most Successful Life Science Ecosystems

Greater Boston is the global epicenter of life science innovation — world-class research institutions, venture capital, entrepreneurs, and pharma all within one collaborative ecosystem. Local investors discuss what makes it work, emerging trends, and how founders can plug into one of the deepest pools of life science capital anywhere.



MODERATOR

Ronald Dorenbos

Founder & Managing Director
BioFrontline Ltd.

Ronald Dorenbos studied Molecular Biology and Biotechnology in the Netherlands and obtained a Master's degree in both subjects. After obtaining his PhD in Molecular Genetics from the University of Groningen, he performed research at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital. Ronald has a background in life sciences and business with a focus on strategy, innovation, dealmaking and investments. He held roles at Takeda Pharmaceuticals, including Head of Innovation and Associate Director of Business Development. At BioFrontline, he advises on strategic growth and licensing transactions, having completed executive programs at Harvard Business School and MIT Sloan.



Jason Kraus

Investor

Boston Harbor Angels

Jason Kraus has an extensive background on both the venture capital side and as an entrepreneur. He was an associate for the venture arm of a private family office, reviewing hundreds of pitch deck presentations to filter companies for the investment team. Additionally, he serves as a screening committee member for the Boston Harbor Angels and now partners with the CEO of the Boston Harbor Angels group, Ziad Moukheiber, on the EQx Fund. As an entrepreneur, Jason started his own startup consulting firm, Prepare 4 VC, to bring the investor's perspective to startups and help them get funded.



Maggie O'Toole

President & CEO

LabCentral

Maggie O'Toole is the CEO of LabCentral, the premier Massachusetts-based network of coworking laboratory facilities for high-potential life-sciences and biotech startups. She is responsible for driving the organization's growth, while maintaining its vibrant culture, high operational standards, and best-in-class service to its residents and the broader life-sciences community. Maggie previously held the role of Chief Operating Officer, responsible for managing the day-to-day operations and scaling of the organization. During her tenure at LabCentral, Maggie has played an integral role in expanding the company's real estate footprint and services across Cambridge and Boston, launching LabCentral 238 and regional innovation hubs.

Partnering with Health Systems

Turning Clinical Validation into Commercial Success

Health systems are increasingly vital partners for early-stage healthcare companies — as clinical collaborators, pilot sites, customers, and investors. This panel covers how startups build productive relationships with hospitals and integrated delivery networks, including pilot programs, procurement challenges, and evidence generation.



MODERATOR

Rick Berenson

Executive Committee Member

Mass Medical Angels (MA2)

Rick Berenson will present a practical approach for how family offices can assess early-stage biotech without building a whole internal diligence team. As a 15-year leader at Mass Medical Angels (MA2)—a Boston-based life science group made up entirely of industry veterans—Rick has helped refine a model that quantifies risk and potential return by leveraging the “wisdom of an expert crowd.” He’ll explain how MA2 has used targeted microinvestments to derisk promising projects and turn them into investable biotech companies and how family offices can take advantage of this model to build a capital-efficient, scalable biotech investment pipeline.



Divya Yerraguntla

Investor

Life Science Angels

Divya is a global commercial and business development leader with 25+ years in pharma, biotech, and digital health. She has led 30+ award-winning drug launches, driven strategic partnerships, and founded AI-Enabled Health. A published thought leader and passionate mentor, she also hosts the Woman to Woman podcast, sharing insights on leadership, innovation, and industry trends.



Bilal Salyad

**Associate Director, Field Medical Systems
Lead**

Biogen Inc.

Bilal Salyad is a Strategic Medical Operations and Digital Innovation leader with deep experience enabling Field Medical excellence through systems, analytics, governance, and AI-driven transformation. In his role as Field Medical Systems Lead at Biogen, Bilal partners closely with Medical Director Offices and Field Leadership to translate medical strategy into scalable operating models, compliant systems, and actionable insights. His work bridges medical affairs, technology, and analytics, driving high-visibility initiatives across launch readiness, AI adoption, CRM modernization, and data governance across North America and global teams.

Backing Tomorrow's Therapeutics

How Venture Investors Evaluate Early-Stage Biotech

Venture capital remains the primary source of funding for breakthrough therapeutic innovation. This panel brings together VCs actively investing from company formation through Series A, focused on scientific diligence, milestone planning, and what separates the most compelling therapeutic startups from the rest.

**MODERATOR****Caleb Bell****Venture Partner**

Beyond Next Ventures

Caleb is a scientist, entrepreneur and venture builder launching and investing in early-stage companies at the intersection of life sciences and technology. Currently, Caleb serves as a Venture Partner at Beyond Next Ventures, an early-stage deep-tech venture capital firm where he supports and leads investments in cutting-edge startups across synthetic biology, healthcare, and deep technology. He is also a co-founder and General Partner at 44.01 Ventures, a seed-stage firm focused on early-stage opportunities in therapeutics and platforms.

**Jonathan Ilicki****Principal**

Industrifonden

Jonathan Ilicki is an Investment Manager at Industrifonden, an evergreen venture capital firm focusing on the Nordics. Jonathan is also the Chair of the Board at the Nordic Digital Health Council. A medical doctor and certified surgeon by training, Jonathan previously worked in clinical medicine and led health tech startups before moving into venture capital. He focuses on investments across early-stage therapeutics, medical devices, and health technologies.

**Kathy Ku****Partner**

Sazze Partners

Kathy started her career building two startups in manufacturing / consumer goods, one of which was an early pioneer in developing ceramic filtration technology and distributing them globally to 40+ countries. Later, she pivoted into investments, working for an early-stage deep-tech/life sciences firm. Currently, she is an early-stage investor at Sazze Partners, an early-stage venture capital firm that focuses on supporting diverse, international founders. She evaluates breakthrough platform technologies, next-generation therapeutics, and computational biology approaches.

**Daniel Teper****Managing Partner, Yaday Health**

YADAY Health

Daniel Teper is a serial entrepreneur and a corporate strategist who has founded, led, and advised numerous biopharmaceutical companies. He has extensive executive experience in the pharmaceutical industry, having held senior management roles at global pharma leaders as well as prominent life sciences investment banks. At YADAY Health, he focuses on company creation and strategic investments across clinical-stage therapeutics.

**Le Zhan****Executive Director**

Yunion Healthcare Ventures

Le Zhan is a Partner and Executive Director at YUNION Healthcare Ventures, a Shanghai-based healthcare fund. He focuses on global early-stage investments in innovative therapeutics and diagnostics, with particular interest in oncology, auto-immune diseases, and emerging platform technologies. He works actively with cross-border syndicates to support clinical pipeline progression and company financing strategies.

Inside the Pharma Partnering Playbook

How Early-Stage Innovation Gets on Big Pharma's Radar

Large pharmaceutical companies continue to expand their reliance on external innovation, partnering with startups earlier through research collaborations, option-to-license agreements, and strategic investments. This panel explores how pharma identifies emerging technology and how founders can position for successful BD conversations.



MODERATOR

Nikhil Mutyal, Ph.D.

Head of Search and Evaluation,
Respiratory and Immunology
AstraZeneca

Nikhil Mutyal, Ph.D. is Head of Business Development for Respiratory & Immunology at AstraZeneca, leading global business development across therapeutic areas, stages, and modalities. With previous BD leadership roles at Merck, Jazz Pharmaceuticals, and AVEO Oncology, he excels at identifying breakthrough science and executing transformative partnerships. Nikhil earned his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Northwestern University and completed management training at Kellogg School of Management.



Nimisha Gupta

Head of Business Partnerships
Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Inc

Nimisha Gupta is the Head of Strategic Business Partnership Operations at Jazz Pharmaceuticals, where she leads diligence and integration efforts across a range of deal types and business partnerships. Previously, she led the Mergers & Acquisitions group at Genpact, building a high-performing team that expanded the company's presence in life sciences M&A for global pharmaceutical clients. With 15 years of experience in R&D pipeline strategy, due diligence, and asset valuation, Nimisha has advised on complex med tech and biotech transactions. He has also led technology valuations for multiple deal types at Merck and Organon. Nimisha earned his PhD in cell and gene therapy from Georgia Tech—where she also founded a startup based on her research—and will graduate with her MBA from Wharton in May 2025.



Armin Rump

Director of Global Business Development
Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

Based in Otsuka's US head office in Princeton, Armin is part of Otsuka's evaluation team, charged with identifying, evaluating and bringing into Otsuka's global development pipeline new innovative drugs that address serious medical needs one of Otsuka's two areas of strategic interest, (a) neuroscience, including psychiatry and neurology, and (b) specialty pharma, particularly rare kidney, autoimmune diseases and inborn errors of metabolism. Armin obtained his M.S. from the University of Stuttgart and his Ph.D. in molecular & cellular biology from the University of Tokyo. He has been involved in many of Otsuka's licensing deals and acquisition deals, including the recent acquisition of Janna Therapeutics.



**Parthiban Rajasekaran
(Parthi)**

Innovation Lead, Global Innovation &
Emerging Sciences Vaccines R&D
Sanofi

Parthiban Rajasekaran (Parthi) is an innovation lead at Sanofi, where he drives strategic external collaborations by sourcing, evaluating, and negotiating partnerships with academic and industry leaders. In this role, he engages with early-stage innovators and entrepreneurs via a sponsored research framework to help groom emerging ideas into derisked assets. He also serves as Sanofi's scientific lead for sponsored research collaborations. In his previous industry roles with Quanterix and Biotechnie, Parthi worked with the sales and BD teams as technical expert for 5 different product lines with a direct impact on the P&L. Before moving to the industry, he was a research assistant professor at the University of Central Florida working on developing alternatives to antibiotics. He has published over 30 scientific articles including 3 patents. The recombinant vaccine platform developed as part of his PhD dissertation work won the AVMA award for the perceived impact in containing microbial resistance. Parthi holds a PhD in infectious diseases and immunology from Virginia Tech and a BVSc (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) from Madras Veterinary College.



Shivanrjani Sridharan

Executive Director, Business
Development & Licensing
Bayer

Shivanrjani Sridharan is Executive Director of Business Development & Licensing at Bayer, driving strategic partnerships and transactions to address critical unmet patient needs. With extensive cross-border experience spanning oncology, immunology, and metabolic diseases, she has successfully sourced, negotiated, and executed approximately 15 complex global transactions across in-licensing, asset acquisitions, R&D collaborations, and out-licensing. Combining a solid scientific background in cancer research with entrepreneurial execution, Sridharan specializes in pipeline strategy for novel biologics, small molecules, and biosimilars, while advancing impactful strategic alliances and commercial initiatives across mature and emerging global biopharmaceutical markets.

Strategic Capital

How Corporate Venture Investors Accelerate Healthcare Innovation

Corporate venture groups have become key participants in healthcare investing, offering capital, strategic expertise, and commercial networks with a longer-term lens than traditional VCs. This panel examines how CVCs evaluate opportunities and how founders can maximize value from strategic investors.



MODERATOR
Andrew Merken
Senior Partner
Polsinelli PC

Andrew Merken is a nationally recognized corporate and transactional lawyer who represents a wide variety of early and growth stage clients covering the entire business life cycle, from start-up (formation and organizational matters) to seed and venture stage funding to growth stage (later stage funding, corporate collaborations and buy-side M&A) and ultimately exit (sell-side M&A or IPO). Andy actively works with his clients in all such phases with the additional support of transactional and subject matter experts including FDA, IP, Licensing, Employment, Tax and Cross-Border. On the institutional side, Andy represents VC funds, angel investors, family offices and private foundations in investing in and/or collaborating with their portfolio companies and also has represented investment banks in public offerings, private placements and M&A transactions. Andy works primarily with life sciences (biotech, pharmaceuticals, medical device, and digital health) and health care companies but also represents high tech clients in such industries as consulting, real estate, professional services and food services.



Austin Hwang
Principal
ADVentures (ADV), Analog Devices

Austin Hwang is a Principal at ADVentures (ADV), the corporate venture capital arm of Analog Devices embedded within the Analog Garage innovation hub in Boston. He identifies, leads, and manages strategic early-stage investments across frontier technologies, focusing on cutting-edge intersections of physical sensing, semiconductors, digital biology, healthcare, and advanced artificial intelligence. Leveraging Analog Devices' deep engineering infrastructure and commercial scale, Hwang works closely with portfolio startup founders to de-risk core technical platforms, validate scalable architectures, and accelerate commercial pathways across global industrial, computing, and life sciences markets.



Satoshi Konagai
Investment Lead
Astellas Venture Management (AVM)

Mr. Konagai joined AVM in 2020. Before joining AVM, he worked at the Strategic department at Astellas Pharma Inc. based in Tokyo HQ since 2015. He has led various internal projects and evaluation of external later stage opportunities across multiple therapeutic areas and modalities including Oncology, Ophthalmology and regenerative medicine. In parallel, he served as a member who develops corporate global R&D strategy and business strategy for regenerative medicine using his scientific and business intelligence. From 2004 to 2015, he was engaged in Oncology research programs including kinase inhibitors, Immuno-Oncology and biologics from target discovery to clinical stage as a pharmacology research scientist in Drug Discovery Research Center at Astellas Pharma Inc. Mr. Konagai has received his Master of Life Science degree in the field of Integrated Life Science from Kyoto University.



Shane Duffy
Head of Open Innovation
Avanos Medical, Inc.

As Senior Manager of Research and Development at Avanos Medical (Formerly Halyard Health / Kimberly Clark), Shane Duffy leads the Acute Pain new product development team working on the next generation of products and new platforms, including organic development and also in-organic M&A deals. Prior to Avanos, Shane also held positions in Medtronic and B+B SmartWorx an Advantech company.



Tao Fang
Sr. Associate
MRL Ventures Fund (MRLV)

Tao Fang, Ph.D. joined MRL Ventures Fund (MRLV) in 2025 as a senior associate, bringing expertise in early-stage biotech innovation and investment. In his role, Fang plays a critical part in sourcing and evaluating promising biotech startups, partnering with visionary entrepreneurs to build the next generation of companies that address unmet medical needs and advance human health. Prior to MRLV, Fang worked at Flagship Pioneering, where he was responsible for the ideation and incubation of bioplateform companies and contributed to the launch of Ampersand Biomedicines and Profound Therapeutics. Before Flagship, he held various research positions at Eli Lilly and Company and Repertoire Immune Medicines. He was also an early founding member of Cerberus Therapeutics. Fang earned his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Georgia and an MBA from the Stern School of Business, and completed his National Cancer Institute postdoctoral fellowship at the Whitehead Institute. His research has been at the interface of chemistry and immunology, focusing on immune modulation and visualization.

Building the Future of Chronic Disease Care

Innovation Across Therapeutics, Devices, and Digital Health

Chronic diseases account for the majority of healthcare spending worldwide, creating enormous demand for innovative solutions that improve outcomes while reducing long-term costs. This panel explores where investors see the greatest opportunities across chronic disease management — emerging technologies, evolving reimbursement models, and what early-stage companies must demonstrate to attract investment in one of healthcare's largest and fastest-growing markets.

**MODERATOR****Soyoung Park****General Partner**

1004 Venture Partners

Soyoung Park is General Partner at 1004 Venture Partners, focusing on transformative longevity technologies and modern healthcare infrastructure. Bringing over 15 years of healthcare entrepreneurship and venture investment experience, she has backed more than 20 emerging life science and health tech startups and contributed to three successful acquisition exits generating 3–5x cash-on-cash return multiples. Soyoung holds an MBA from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

**Navin Govind****Partner**

Evidence Ventures

Navin Govind is a Partner at Evidence Ventures and the Founder and CEO of Aventyn, a digital therapeutics company developing clinically validated platforms for cardiometabolic and renal health. A serial entrepreneur and patent holder, he co-founded K-Labs to lead AI-driven health data initiatives aimed at reducing chronic disease burden and care costs. Navin serves on the American Heart Association Center for Health Technology and Innovation Business Team and advises global femtech and digital health innovators.

**Dr. Nuné Martiros****Vice President**

Paladin Capital Group

Dr. Nuné Martiros is Vice President at Paladin Capital Group, sourcing and evaluating investments for the Digital Biology fund and collaborating with venture studio General Inception. She previously developed early-stage biotech companies at Foresite Labs and was a Fellow at Flagship Pioneering. Holding an undergraduate degree and Ph.D. in Neuroscience from MIT alongside postdoctoral training at Harvard University, Nuné has published extensively on neural circuitry and dopamine signaling while receiving multiple competitive NIH grants.

**John Tremblay****Investor**

Launchpad Venture Group

John Tremblay is an angel investor with Launchpad Venture Group and leads digital health consulting at Healthy Context, LLC. Previously Vice President of Digital Strategy & Portfolio for Fresenius Medical Care's \$5B MedTech renal division, he led the launch of two life-saving home dialysis therapies now serving over 34,000 patients nationwide. John also served as an NSF I-Corps instructor mentoring deep tech spinouts and holds an MBA in Technology Innovation and BS in Electrical Engineering from Northeastern University.

The New Face of Family Office Investing

How Private Capital Is Reshaping Early-Stage Healthcare

Family offices have moved well beyond passive investing, with many now leading rounds, syndicating deals, and building dedicated venture strategies. This panel explores what differentiates family offices from traditional VC and how startups can engage this fast-growing capital source.

**MODERATOR****Sally Wang Liang****Managing Partner**
Xpanse Venture

Sally Wang Liang JD MPH is Managing Partner at Xpanse Venture. She has been a biotech venture capitalist, previously as Partner at Highlight Capital (HLC), co-leading the life sciences VC group of an internationally ranked Growth Equity and Venture Capital firm with \$3.8B under management, and Venture Partner at Viva Bioinnovator, a corporate VC, where she managed 11 of their portfolio companies, 8 on the Board. She has over 20 years of life sciences, biopharma, and healthcare industry experience as a founder, operator, patent attorney, and management consultant. Sally received an A.B. in Biology from Harvard College, a J.D. from Harvard Law School, and an M.P.H from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

**John Abeles****General Partner**
Northlea Partners

Dr. John H Abeles BSc(Hons) MBChB obtained his degree in Medicine and a degree in Pharmacology from the University of Birmingham (England). After practising Medicine in London and Connecticut, he held senior medical positions in US pharmaceutical companies, including Sterling Drug, Pfizer, and USV, before becoming the first full-time MD securities analyst on Wall Street in 1975 with Kidder Peabody. He later formed MedVest Group and his family office, Northlea Partners, which maintains an active venture capital practice. He has founded and invested in numerous early-stage biomedical companies and serves as an adviser to the Institute for Translational Medicine at the University of Birmingham.

**Marc Appel****Managing Partner**
Pacific Bridge NY

Marc Appel, JD, MBA, is Managing Partner at Pacific Bridge NY and an advisor to university innovation programs including Yale's Blavatnik Program, Cornell's tech transfer office, and Dartmouth's Cancer Accelerator. He founded Orange Grove Bio and served as its CEO from 2019 to 2024, also helping launch biotech companies like IpiNovyx Bio and Allonix Therapeutics. Marc was previously a healthcare investor at Marathon Asset Management, Highbridge Principal Strategies, and Eaton Vance, and began his career at McKinsey & Co. He holds a B.A. from Yale, a J.D. from Harvard Law School, and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

**Julio de Unamuno IV****Managing Member**
Science Capital LLC

Julio de Unamuno IV is Managing Partner at SDVC, a first-check fund in California backing top US Deep Science startups building in Longevity, AI, and Quantum Bio leveraging his track record building HomeLab Powered By LabFellows, a biotech accelerator with 4 unicorns and portfolio valued at \$4.6B over six years. Julio studied at the University of San Diego, where he used AI to research, develop, and publish on Hunter-Killer Peptides as potential anti-cancer therapeutics. He then spent two decades inside pharma and biotech operating across R&D, regulatory, manufacturing, and business development before becoming inspired to fix our broken healthcare system. He is the Founder & CEO of LabFellows, a TechBio startup where he raised millions in venture capital and scaled to profitability. Through LabFellows, he also runs HomeLab, a global, remote-first accelerator for startups building at the frontiers of Deep Science in Longevity, AI, and Quantum Bio. His family office, Science Capital LLC, often invests alongside SDVC.

The First Believers

The Investors Behind Tomorrow's Breakthrough Companies

For many startups, the most important investment isn't the biggest – it's the first. Early investors provide the capital, validation, and momentum that help companies reach their first institutional financing and beyond. This panel brings together experienced early-stage investors to discuss how they evaluate opportunities before traditional venture rounds, the milestones that create conviction, and how startups can navigate the earliest stages of fundraising.

**MODERATOR****Renaud Jacquemart, PhD****CEO**

Omnium Global

Renaud Jacquemart, Ph.D., MBA, is CEO and Founder of Omnium Global, a life sciences venture studio and advisory firm specializing in bioprocess intensification, CMC development, and technology commercialization. Bringing over 25 years of international biopharmaceutical leadership, he previously held senior executive roles at MilliporeSigma, BIOVECTRA, and BioPlan Associates. Renaud specializes in solving complex CMC hurdles to transition novel bioplatfroms into scalable clinical pipelines and investable early-stage ventures.

**William Hsu, PhD****Principal**

NuFund Venture Group

William Hsu, Ph.D., is a Principal at NuFund Venture Group (formerly Tech Coast Angels Orange County), one of the nation's most active early-stage investment syndicates. Merging deep scientific insight with venture finance, he leads deal sourcing, due diligence, and syndication across biotechnology, life sciences tools, and medical devices. Dr. Hsu works closely with academic spinouts and scientist-founders to validate platform technologies, de-risk regulatory pathways, and accelerate clinical translation.

**Rohit Jain****CIO**

HBS Alumni Angels of Northern CA

Rohit Jain is Chief Investment Officer for HBS Alumni Angels of Northern California, an advisor at the Harvard New Venture Contest, and a mentor at the Harvard Innovation Labs. He also serves as VP of Technology, Applications & Analytics at iRhythm Technologies (NASDAQ: IRTC). Rohit previously held leadership roles at IBM, Stanford, and Upwork (NASDAQ: UPWK), and co-founded early consumer internet startup Dhobighat.com. He holds an alumnus credential from Harvard Business School.

**Nate Macht****Lead, Digital Health Acceleration**
ACS BrightEdge

Nate Macht leads Digital Health Acceleration at ACS BrightEdge, the impact venture capital arm of the American Cancer Society. He invests in early-stage oncology ventures spanning screening, prevention, survivorship, and patient surveillance, while directing the BrightEdge Entrepreneurs accelerator to scale solutions tackling care access and social determinants of health. Nate holds an MBA in Entrepreneurship and Innovation from Northeastern University and completed specialized executive education at Harvard Medical School.

**Dushyant Pathak, PhD****CEO**

Autobahn Labs

Dushyant Pathak, Ph.D., MBA, is CEO of Autobahn Labs, contributing two decades of leadership spanning academic drug discovery, corporate venture development, and public markets. Formerly UC Davis's first Associate Vice Chancellor of Research for Innovation & Technology Commercialization and founder of Venture Catalyst, he has guided transformational biopharma alliances, M&A transactions, and a NASDAQ IPO. Dushyant holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University and an MBA from UC Berkeley Haas.

Closing the Gap in Women's Health

Investing in One of Healthcare's Largest Untapped Markets

Women's health is emerging as one of the most exciting investment categories, driven by growing recognition of historically underserved conditions and expanding scientific innovation. This panel covers where capital is flowing across reproductive health, menopause, oncology, and more.

**MODERATOR****Yvanka de Soysa****Associate**
Foreground Capital

Yvanka de Soysa is a biomedical scientist turned investor with a passion for leveraging scientific innovation to transform healthcare for women. She is an Associate at Foreground Capital, bringing expertise at the intersection of translational science, venture capital, and entrepreneurship. Yvanka previously worked across the life sciences ecosystem, including venture capital at Hevolution Investments and 5AM Ventures, venture creation at Flagship Pioneering, and business development at Harvard University's Office of Technology Development. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neuroimmunology as a William Randolph Hearst Fellow at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital. She earned her PhD in cardiac development and single cell genomics at UCSF and holds a BA in Biological Sciences and International Relations from Smith College.

**Mo Soleja**
Managing Director
Golden Seeds

Mo Soleja is a Managing Director at Golden Seeds, an early-stage investment firm focused on empowering women-led enterprises. Bringing extensive cross-functional leadership in venture investing, global operations, and corporate strategy, he actively sources, evaluates, and syndicates high-potential early-stage opportunities across life sciences, healthcare, enterprise software, and consumer technology. Soleja works closely with dynamic founding teams across the Golden Seeds nationwide investor network, providing targeted board-level mentorship, strategic growth guidance, and milestone-driven capital deployment to scale innovative, diverse ventures from proof-of-concept to sustainable commercial expansion.

**Rohit Nuwal**
Partner
TELUS Ventures

Rohit Nuwal is a Partner at TELUS Global Ventures (TGV), Canada's largest (100+ investments till date) and the most active CVC. As a part of a global fund with AUM of ~1Bn, he is leading investments in Healthtech, as well as supporting coverage of other innovative foundational technologies. As an experienced VC, he helps portfolio companies with their strategy agendas and growth initiatives. Prior to joining TGV, Rohit led investments for Bertelsmann. Previously, he spent nearly five years as a management consultant with BCG & Accenture. Raised in India, Rohit is an avid yoga practitioner and a certified yoga trainer.

**Jay Campbell**
Venture Partner
5 Horizons Capital

Jay Campbell is the Managing Director of the Cancer Research Institute's (CRI) Clinical Accelerator and Venture Fund. In this capacity he is responsible for CRI's clinical trial activities and venture investing practice. Jay spent over 15 years in the financial services industry, including 13 years focused on the life sciences as an investment banker, before transitioning to industry over nine years ago. He has held roles of increasing seniority in business/corporate development and investor relations as well as serving on executive teams. Jay is currently a member of the advisory boards for three private life sciences companies. Throughout his career, he has successfully worked on 43 strategic/ financing transactions and investments representing over \$13.4 billion.

Investing for Impact

Generating Returns While Improving Global Health

Impact investing is an increasingly important capital source for companies tackling major healthcare challenges. This panel examines how impact investors measure outcomes beyond financial performance and identify opportunities to improve access, affordability, and equity while creating long-term value.

**MODERATOR****David Fogel**

Screening & Due Diligence Member
Mass Medical Angels

David Fogel is an active investor and Member of the Screening and Due Diligence Committees at Mass Medical Angels (MA2), a premier angel group dedicated exclusively to healthcare innovation. Leveraging extensive expertise in biomedical asset evaluation, corporate strategy, and early-stage financings, he evaluates and syndicates investments across medical devices, diagnostics, digital health, and therapeutics. David actively mentors founders across Greater Boston on clinical development, IP positioning, and regulatory de-risking.

**Farnaz Bakhshi, PhD**

Director, Innovation
ACS BrightEdge

Farnaz Bakhshi, Ph.D., is Director of Innovation at ACS BrightEdge, leading flagship initiatives including the BrightEdge Entrepreneurs program and regional accelerators. She previously held pivotal tech transfer and business development leadership roles at Caltech, Mass General Brigham, Tufts University, and UMass Medical School, negotiating high-value licensing deals and establishing proof-of-concept seed funds. Farnaz earned her Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the University of Illinois at Chicago after co-founding an early-stage startup.

**Alan Chiu, PhD**

Scientist
Breakthrough T1D

Alan Chiu, Ph.D., is a Scientist at Breakthrough T1D (formerly JDRF), the premier global organization funding type 1 diabetes cures. Combining expertise in cellular engineering, islet biology, and biomaterials, he evaluates scientific initiatives accelerating disease-modifying therapies, regenerative medicine, and cell replacement strategies. Dr. Chiu collaborates with academic researchers, biotechnology founders, and clinicians worldwide to translate promising laboratory breakthroughs into scalable clinical therapeutics.

**Scott Davis**

Managing Director
The Sontag Foundation

Scott Davis is Managing Director at The Sontag Foundation and manages its mission-driven venture affiliate, the Brain Tumor Investment Fund. Bringing deep experience across venture capital, operational leadership, and biomedical commercialization, he oversees both philanthropic research grant deployment and early-stage equity investments. Scott sources and supports breakthrough neuro-oncology ventures and novel platforms to accelerate curative translational therapies for patients with brain tumors.

**Garrett Peterson**

Chief Strategy Officer & Partner
Yahara Ventures

Garrett Peterson is Chief Strategy Officer and Partner at Yahara Ventures, contributing over 35 years of technology and business leadership in biohealth. Previously CIO of the Wisconsin State Public Health Laboratory, he led major laboratory informatics programs for federal agencies including the CDC. At Yahara Ventures, Garrett evaluates early-stage life science companies on clinical utility, growth potential, and societal health impact. He holds a degree in Computer Science and an MBA.

INNOVATOR'S PITCH CHALLENGE TRACK 1

Top early-stage innovators pitch live to investor judges across therapeutics, medical devices, diagnostics, and digital health.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 1

Therapeutics



Annulus Therapeutics

TABLE #58

Annulus Therapeutics is a preclinical stage biotechnology company with a mission to harness novel research and bring meaningful change to neuropsychiatric care. We aim to transform scientific advancement into treatments that truly change lives. While the recent approval of Cobenfy validates the muscarinic class, the field remains limited by the poor metabolic stability and "leaky" selectivity of first-generation assets like xanomeline. Annulus Therapeutics has identified a novel lead compound with superior drug-like properties that may negate the need for peripheral blockers and enable a simplified dosing regimen.



Elisigen

TABLE #16

Elisigen is a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing AAV gene therapies for chronic retinal and neurological diseases. NG101, our lead program for wet age-related macular degeneration, is completing a Phase 1/2a trial in North America and has received FDA Fast Track designation. Its clinical results provide positive proof of concept for NG101 and early clinical validation of the lower-dose product strategy enabled by our proprietary high-efficiency promoter platform, CAT311. EG103, a first-in-class TAF4 gene therapy for geographic atrophy, builds on this platform and our ophthalmic AAV development experience to address one of the largest remaining unmet needs in retina. Across the pipeline, our proprietary dual-plasmid manufacturing platform, Helper-in-One, supports efficient and scalable AAV production and a path toward broader patient access.



NeuroGT

TABLE #42

NeuroGT is a mission-driven clinical-stage Public Benefit Corporation developing cures for five deadly, ultra-rare, pediatric neuro-degenerative diseases. These one-time gene therapy treatments will prevent or halt disease progression in children born with Sanfilippo Syndrome A, B, or C, Hunter Syndrome, and Hurler-Scheie Syndrome giving these children and their families the greatest chance of living full, healthy and happy lives. To support its mission financially, NeuroGT is actively commercializing three transformative Gene Therapy enabling technologies including: a low-cost, high-yield Cell Line for AAV Gene Therapy Manufacturing; a highly-effective Antibody Depletion Technology for AAV Gene Therapy administration to patients with pre-existing antibodies, or re-administration; and a unique Extracellular Vesicle Technology for Gene Therapies with non-secreted proteins which delivers a bystander effect significantly reducing the dose-needed and toxicity risks.



Sensa Neuroscience

TABLE #45

Sensa Neuroscience is developing SEN126, a novel small-molecule therapy for drug-resistant epilepsy. SEN126 is an analog of CBD (formulated as Epidiolex, Jazz Pharmaceuticals) with improved drug properties through the stabilization of an active intermediate metabolite. The pharmacology of SEN126 includes improved interactions with TRPV1 and 5-HT targets, while significantly reducing inhibition of hERG and BSEP and other off-target interactions. In vivo testing shows superior efficacy, reduced DDI, improved safety and formulation.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 3

Therapeutics



Crafton Biotechnology

TABLE #04

Crafton Biotechnology is a biotechnology company developing novel therapeutics to address unmet medical needs. Crafton has developed a uniquely designed circular mRNA that can efficiently express therapeutic proteins with high safety and low immunogenicity. To leverage this circular mRNA technology, Crafton has successfully generated an in vivo CAR-T therapy for treating solid tumors by overcoming the immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment through cytokine secretion. In addition, by integrating advanced computational approaches, Crafton is actively designing novel functional proteins with high specificity, stable folding, and low immunogenicity, thereby broadening the potential applications of circular mRNA therapeutics. Crafton is committed to pioneering next-generation therapies for hard-to-treat diseases through this combined strategy of circular mRNA and novel functional proteins.



Repair Biotechnologies, Inc.

TABLE #11

Repair Biotechnologies develops the proprietary Cholesterol Degrading Platform (CDP), a first-in-class, modular gene therapy platform delivering fusion proteins that break down excess intracellular free cholesterol, reversing tissue pathology. The platform addresses atherosclerosis, metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH), and homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH), diseases with high unmet medical need. Preclinical data shows CDP safely reverses atherosclerotic plaques in multiple animal models, resolving lipid cores and calcification. CDP achieves targeted gene expression using localized Delivery Vehicles, such as AAVs and LNPs. Repair Biotechnologies is conducting preclinical IND-enabling studies for its lead atherosclerosis program, expecting to enter the clinic in 2026. Repair Biotechnologies is a preclinical-stage company backed by venture funding and NIH grants.



PrevEp

TABLE #12

PrevEp develops drugs for epilepsy prevention and treatment using small molecules targeting protein folding. We target acquired epilepsies, which arise secondary to brain injuries like stroke, traumatic brain injury, and brain infections. In contrast to 30+ antiseizure medications that only suppress seizures symptomatic of underlying epilepsy, our lead compound PEP-101 has the potential to be disease-modifying, preventing the development of acquired epilepsy after an epileptogenic insult. PEP-101 reduced seizure incidence by 73% in a clinically relevant rodent model of post-stroke epilepsy. Furthermore, in contrast to antiseizure medications which often fail to treat acquired epilepsies and cause systemic side effects, PEP-101 shows efficacy in drug-resistant epilepsy models with no behavioral side effects. PrevEp has received \$3.2M non-dilutive funding, completed safety profiling of PEP-101, and is completing IND-enabling studies.



CB Therapeutics

TABLE #70

The best-selling drug in the world is brewed in yeast. Semaglutide's backbone is produced via fermentation because chemical synthesis cannot deliver the yield, purity, or cost structure that global demand requires. CB Therapeutics takes that proven principle further. Our precision fermentation platform produces complex, high-value peptides—including GLP-1/GIP receptor agonists, salmon calcitonin, and novel cyclic variants—with higher yields, purer chirality, and drastically lower COGS than traditional solid-phase peptide synthesis (SPPS). Where SPPS generates tons of toxic solvent waste and struggles with peptides beyond 30 amino acids, our engineered microbial systems produce full-length, biologically active peptides at commercial scale using renewable feedstocks. With 12 granted patents and a team that has taken molecules from bench to ton-scale GMP production, CB Therapeutics is building the bio-foundry for the next generation of peptide therapeutics. We are raising our Series B to expand commercial production capacity and advance proprietary oral delivery formulations.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 5

Medical Devices & Digital Health

**HabitAware****TABLE #33**

HabitAware makes Keen, the first clinically validated wearable therapeutic for Body-Focused Repetitive Behaviors (BFRBs) such as trichotillomania (hair pulling), dermatillomania (skin picking), and onychophagia (nail biting). The device uses patented gesture detection algorithms to identify specific subconscious repetitive movements and delivers real-time gentle vibration feedback, shifting user behavior from unconscious action to mindful awareness. Supported by grant funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and clinical studies with leading academic psychiatric centers, HabitAware has already empowered over 30,000 users across the globe to regain control of their mental health and wellbeing.

**Ironsides Medical****TABLE #63**

Ironsides Medical, a Mass Eye & Ear spin-out, is solving the #1 reason for pediatric surgery—ear tubes. We have developed a non-surgical, office-based treatment system that safely eliminates the need for general anesthesia in young children suffering from chronic middle ear effusion.

**REMA Sleep****TABLE #64**

REMA Sleep Inc. is developing a non-invasive, daytime medical device to treat Sleep Apnea by targeting the root cause: muscle tone loss in the upper airway. Rather than requiring patients to wear cumbersome CPAP masks or invasive oral appliances overnight, REMA Sleep delivers daytime neuro-stimulation to tone pharyngeal muscles during wakefulness. This therapeutic stimulation restores nighttime neuromuscular integrity, preventing airway collapse during sleep and offering an elegant, high-compliance alternative for millions suffering from obstructive sleep apnea.

**PulManage, Inc.****TABLE #73**

PulManage is a digital health company modernizing how respiratory data is collected and utilized. By integrating FDA-cleared hardware spirometry with an intuitive mobile application, PulManage enables real-time pulmonary monitoring in remote patient settings, providing clinicians with actionable longitudinal respiratory insights while minimizing clinic visits for patients with chronic lung disease.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 7

Medical Devices



New View Medical

TABLE #23

New View Medical is a medical technology company pioneering surgeon- controlled visualization in minimally invasive surgery through its VisionPort™ platform. VisionPort™ is a single-use integrated laparoscopic port that combines visualization, illumination, and access into one device — consolidating what traditionally required separate camera and access systems into a streamlined surgeon-controlled platform at the point of entry. The technology is designed to simplify OR workflow, reduce set-up and turnover time, free clinical staff from camera-holding duties, and potentially reduce the number of ports required during surgery. Following FDA clearance of its first- generation device and successful in-vivo validation, the company is advancing its next-generation system focused on enhanced imaging performance, improved economics, and broader procedural applicability within the growing laparoscopic surgery market.



Restorear

TABLE #32

RestorEar Devices is an innovative medical device company dedicated to developing and commercializing non-invasive technologies for hearing loss prevention and chronic hearing conditions. Pioneering targeted therapeutic hypothermia for auditory health, RestorEar addresses critical unmet needs in hearing conservation. The company has developed key proprietary solutions: ReSurg, a specialized surgical device designed to preserve residual hearing during inner ear procedures, and ReBound, a wearable consumer headset providing localized cooling to mitigate noise-induced hearing damage and manage tinnitus. By bridging the gap between clinical otology and consumer hearing protection, RestorEar delivers clinically backed physical therapies to safeguard lifelong hearing health.



Orthonika

TABLE #40

Orthonika is a spin-out from Imperial College London developing a Class III medical device for total meniscus replacement. We received breakthrough device designation in February 2026 and are working with FDA on an early clinical feasibility study. We are seeking funds to finalise pre-clinical testing and deliver a first in human study.



Qoral

TABLE #41

Conceived of by an orthopedic surgeon and founded upon a collective 200+ years of medical industry experience, entrepreneurship & brand expertise, Qoral delivers a breakthrough in personal protection for surgeons & operating-room staff performing high-splash orthopedic surgeries and other invasive procedures. Predicated on disposability, the lightweight single-day-use Qoral system eliminates the discomfort, bioburden and logistical hurdles of existing systems. It also outperforms in value, saving surgery centers and hospitals thousands of dollars a year. By removing capital expenditure & fees and increasing compliance through simplicity of use, Qoral expands the ortho-focused surgical helmet market towards half a billion dollars in recurring sales from all high-splash surgeries. Global expansion, government contracts for military field hospitals & disaster relief, and availability to NGOs expand the total available market beyond \$2B.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 9

Therapeutics



Nomocan Pharmaceuticals

TABLE #31

NomoCan Pharmaceuticals offers first-in-kind targeted therapies for some of the most aggressive cancers with unmet medical need. Our platform technology not only makes available a selective and specific diagnostic and prognostic test for early detection, but more remarkably, it introduces a highly effective therapeutics for the treatment of various cancers in order to “Bring Hope” to patients affected by this devastating disease.



Koi Biotherapeutics Inc

TABLE #39

Koi Biotherapeutics is a Dana-Farber Cancer Institute spinout developing CAR-Enhancer (CAR-E), a first-in-class biologic designed to improve the persistence, expansion, and durability of cell therapies after infusion. Unlike approaches that require re-engineering cells, CAR-E is administered after standard cell therapy and is designed to enhance existing therapies rather than replace them, creating broad partnering opportunities across the cell therapy ecosystem. The lead program targets relapse after BCMA CAR-T therapy in multiple myeloma, providing a rapid path to human proof-of-concept. The platform is supported by strong preclinical efficacy and safety data and publications in Nature Biotechnology and the Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer. Koi has received an NIH SBIR Direct Phase II award (~\$2M) and was selected for the NIH NExT program (through Dana-Farber Cancer Institute) to support IND-enabling activities. The company is currently raising \$4.5M to complete a definitive Phase I clinical trial.



CPTx

TABLE #66

CPTx is a leader in developing the next generation of non-viral, DNA-based in vivo CAR T cell therapies, uniquely overcoming key challenges in both oncology and autoimmune disease. CPTx's immune-quiet proprietary DNA platform enables control over the duration of gene expression from transient to permanent, supports the co-delivery of multiple genes, and allows for repeat administration.



BobcatBio

TABLE #74

BobcatBio is spearheading the development of macrophage-based cell therapies for the treatment of solid tumors. Leveraging our deep understanding of the biology of myeloid cells—the cells that drive immune responses—BobcatBio engineers specially-equipped macrophages from a patient's own blood cells without any genetic modifications and then provides those cells back to the patient. In pre-clinical studies, this approach has been shown to generate polyclonal tumor neo-antigen-specific killer T cell responses as well as polyclonal tumor neo-antigen-specific antibody responses, leading to complete resolution of treated tumors. This also yields an adaptive immune response that is elaborated in space (targeting metastatic lesions) and time (providing long-term immunity to prevent recurrence). In addition, because this therapeutic approach does not target specific singular tumor-associated antigens, BobcatBio technology provides a highly modular platform that is applicable across many solid tumor types, without requiring pre-identification of target tumor antigens in the patient.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 11

Therapeutics



Survivant Biologics

TABLE #18

Survivant Biologics is a Korea-based oncology biotech founded in 2025 by Dr. Suhyun Park, developing novel antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) that target newly identified tumor-specific membrane antigens. The company's lead candidate, SV-101, leverages a proprietary hydrophilic cleavable linker and a potent topoisomerase I inhibitor payload, designed to overcome target antigen heterogeneity and bystander resistance in solid tumors. In vivo xenograft studies demonstrate complete tumor regressions across refractory breast and gastrointestinal cancer models with excellent systemic tolerability.



Nemea Therapeutics

TABLE #26

Nemea Therapeutics, Inc., is a preclinical-stage biotech that recently launched out of Harvard Medical School to develop novel, small-molecule allosteric modulators for neurological and rare diseases. Supported by foundational research from leading structural biology laboratories, Nemea's platform targets cryptic allosteric pockets on G-protein coupled receptors and ion channels, achieving subtype-specific engagement that avoids the off-target receptor desensitization associated with conventional orthosteric agonists. The company is advancing lead programs toward clinical candidate selection in treatment-resistant depression and developmental epileptic encephalopathies.



WiTii Pharmaceuticals

TABLE #60

WiTii Pharmaceuticals is a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on developing first-in-class topical and oral treatments for immune-mediated dermatological and mucosal diseases. By re-engineering proven anti-inflammatory scaffolds into localized delivery matrices, WiTii maximizes tissue concentration at the lesion site while minimizing systemic drug absorption and adverse events. The company's lead asset, WT-041, is being advanced for severe oral lichen planus and aphthous stomatitis, addressing high-unmet mucosal conditions with limited therapeutic options.



Intra Therapeutics

TABLE #67

Intra Therapeutics is a preclinical stage biotherapeutics company founded in 2024 to engineer cell-penetrating biologic therapies against undruggable intracellular targets. Its proprietary Intracellular Delivery Platform (IDP) uses engineered endosomal escape peptides to shuttle functional therapeutic antibodies and macromolecular proteins across intact cellular membranes, engaging disease-driving transcription factors and oncogenic signaling complexes previously considered inaccessible to biologics.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 13

Therapeutics



Kanjin Therapeutics

TABLE #17

Kanjin Therapeutics is a US and Japan based global biotechnology startup with pioneering RNA therapeutics. Using chemical modification chemistry and tissue-targeted delivery conjugates, Kanjin develops siRNA and antisense oligonucleotides for severe metabolic and neuromuscular disorders where conventional small molecules and biologics have failed to show therapeutic efficacy.



ODDIFACT

TABLE #24

ODDIFACT is an AI-native predictable orphan drug pipeline generator leveraging real-world clinical genomics and structural phenotype modeling to discover novel disease-modifying therapies for rare genetic diseases. By mapping patient-specific genetic variants against chemical bioactivity graphs, ODDIFACT uncovers druggable allosteric pockets and therapeutic repurposing opportunities with high translational success rates. The company has already identified preclinical drug candidates for three monogenic lysosomal storage disorders and is expanding strategic partnering programs with rare disease foundations and institutional investors.



Alphyn Biologics

TABLE #37

Alphyn is a clinical-stage pharma company commercializing a patented new class of drugs through its proprietary Zabalafin Drug Platform. Zabalafin-based drugs are Multi-Target Therapeutics® because they have multiple bioactive compounds that provide multiple mechanisms of action that allows them to treat individual diseases in multiple ways, to be more effective, and to treat multiple diseases, with strong safety, side effect, and patient tolerability profiles and faster, less costly drug approval process.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 15

CNS / Neurology

**Synergy MedTech****TABLE #21**

Synergy is developing a next-generation neuromodulation platform for obstructive sleep apnea (OSA). By applying proprietary closed-loop stimulation to the hypoglossal nerve timed precisely with respiratory effort, Synergy prevents airway collapse without requiring bulky implantable generators or invasive surgical dissection, delivering a minimally invasive solution for CPAP-intolerant patients.

ZYNEYRO**Zyneyro****TABLE #27**

Zyneyro is a Danish biotech developing first-in-class, non-opioid therapies for severe chronic pain and neurological disorders. Spun out from the University of Copenhagen, Zyneyro has unraveled the molecular mechanisms of pain signaling complexes within sensory neurons. Its lead peptide conjugate selectively inhibits disease-specific protein-protein interactions downstream of nociceptive receptors, providing potent, long-lasting analgesia without the tolerance, sedation, respiratory depression, or addiction liabilities inherent to opioids. Zyneyro is completing IND-enabling studies for its lead program in neuropathic pain.

**Brainalyze****TABLE #57**

Brainalyze is creating the category of biochemical fingerprinting for brain health. By combining ultra-fast laser spectroscopy with proprietary machine-learning neural networks, Brainalyze decodes the complex metabolic signatures of cerebrospinal fluid and blood plasma in under 5 minutes. This point-of-care biochemical profile allows emergency physicians and neurologists to diagnose acute traumatic brain injury (TBI), stroke subtypes, and early-stage neurodegenerative diseases with unprecedented molecular specificity, transforming triage decisions when every second counts.

**MelliCell****TABLE #72**

MelliCell is developing an oral pill for obesity, autism, and dementia by targeting dysfunctional adipocyte signaling. Founded on discoveries from Harvard and Joslin Diabetes Center, MelliCell identified that hypertrophic fat cells release toxic metabolic signals that cross the blood-brain barrier, triggering neuroinflammation and cognitive decline. MelliCell's small molecule program resets adipocyte metabolic homeostasis, promoting healthy lipid storage, reducing systemic inflammation, and restoring neurological function in preclinical disease models.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 17

Therapeutics

**artiCure****TABLE #03**

artiCure develops sRRV, a semi-replicating retroviral vector platform for refractory solid tumors. The genome is split across two vectors that cannot replicate alone, removing the payload limit and the recombination that destroyed earlier replicating vectors. Several full length genes are therefore carried together and expressed sustainably as the vector spreads through tumor tissue without lysing cells. That sustained, tumor wide expression drives the two mechanisms solid tumor therapy depends on: TME remodeling and immunogenic cell death. Lead program ARTI-101 pairs cytosine deaminase with HSV thymidine kinase for recurrent glioblastoma. Protocol complete with Samsung Medical Center; GMP finishes 2026, first dosing targeted 2027. Follow-on programs extend the engine to retinoblastoma, cytokine and checkpoint combinations, and CD19 tagging for CAR-T in TNBC. artiCure is raising a US\$7M Series A and seeks licensing and co-development partners: the second vector slot is open to a partner's gene.

**Synaptic Bio****TABLE #19**

Synaptic Bio is developing a bispecific antibody platform designed around the biology of the immune synapse. Rather than merely cross-linking T cells and tumor antigens, Synaptic Bio's engineered bispecifics control the geometry, valency, and spatial distance of immune synapse formation. This targeted synapse architecture induces robust cytolytic degranulation while avoiding non-specific hyper-cytokine release and T-cell exhaustion. The company's lead asset is in IND-enabling studies for hematologic malignancies and solid tumors with low target density.

**Tegmine Therapeutics, Inc.****TABLE #43**

TegMine Therapeutics is defining a new class of oncology therapeutics targeting aberrant cancer glycoforms. Normal cell surfaces are protected by complex glycan coatings, but malignant transformation alters glycosylation pathways, exposing unique tumor-specific glyco-epitopes across multiple cell-surface receptors. TegMine has developed antibodies that selectively bind these cancer-specific glycoforms, leaving normal tissues untouched. By conjugating these selective binders into potent ADCs and T-cell engagers, TegMine targets high-unmet solid tumors that lack conventional protein-based targets, unlocking entirely new therapeutic targets.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 19

Cardiovascular & Metabolic Diseases

GENOME & CO

Genome & Company

TABLE #01

Genome & Company is a biotechnology company dedicated to discovering and developing next-generation therapeutic candidates across novel oncology, immuno-oncology, and microbiome pathways. Utilizing its proprietary target discovery engine, GNOCLE™, the company identifies novel immune-checkpoint targets and disease-specific bacterial metabolites. Its lead programs include first-in-class monoclonal antibodies and microbiome-derived therapeutics targeting immuno-suppressive pathways in solid tumors and metabolic disorders. Genome & Company is conducting Phase 2 clinical trials in Asia and North America while expanding global co-development partnerships.



Safebeat rx

TABLE #34

Safebeat Rx (YC S21) makes software that powers cardiac therapeutics monitoring, allowing pharmaceutical companies and health systems to safely initiate and manage antiarrhythmic medications remotely. By replacing expensive 3-day hospital telemetry admissions with AI-driven electrocardiogram risk prediction at home, Safebeat Rx drastically lowers treatment costs and improves patient adherence.



Fortiscience, Inc.

TABLE #69

Fortiscience is a University of Washington spinout developing first-in-class small-molecule therapeutics to protect against acute ischemia-reperfusion injury and chronic cardiac tissue remodeling. Spun out of foundational cardiology research, Fortiscience has unraveled mitochondrial oxidative pathways that become hyperactivated during acute myocardial infarction and post-cardiac arrest resuscitation. Its lead candidate stabilizes mitochondrial membrane integrity, blunting cardiomyocyte necrosis and preserving long-term ventricular ejection fraction. Preclinical studies demonstrate a 40% reduction in cardiac infarct size and significant prevention of downstream congestive heart failure. Fortiscience is completing IND-enabling safety studies.

INNOVATOR'S PITCH CHALLENGE TRACK 2

Top early-stage innovators pitch live to investor judges across therapeutics, medical devices, diagnostics, and digital health.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 2

Medical Devices & Diagnostics

**Attuned HealthTech****TABLE #44**

One in twenty Americans are using a ketogenic diet to address challenging metabolic conditions like Alzheimer's, diabetes, epilepsy, and weight management. Our non-invasive, continuous metabolic monitor is designed to help these individuals understand how their diet, medications, and physical activity are impacting their health, allowing them to optimize their outcomes. Measuring only one biomarker - glucose - does not capture the impact of nutrition on metabolic health. Adding ketones provides a window into an individual's fuel source, whether it is carbohydrates or fat. Our system will provide continuous, real-time feedback with zero user-calibration requirements, minimal skin disruption, and no fingersticks. Continuous Ketone and Glucose Monitoring (CKGM) holds immense promise for personalized healthcare, and our team is uniquely positioned to deliver this next-generation health tracking technology.

**Eclipse Regeneration****TABLE #48**

Eclipse Regeneration, Inc. is developing the first restorative therapy to address pediatric Short Bowel Syndrome (SBS), an orphan disease where babies do not have enough small intestine to absorb food and water. SBS can be fatal, and patients are dependent on intravenous feeding, leading to liver failure, recurrent systemic infections, and high costs. Eclipse has developed an implantable distraction enterogenesis system that mechanically stimulates the body to grow intestine. Eclipse's first-in-human clinical trial has started, with one patient fully treated and two currently enrolled. Eclipse was awarded the 2025 FDA Pediatric Device Consortia (PDC) and 2024 MassMEDIC Medtech Impact Award.

**Minze Health****TABLE #53**

Minze Health is a commercial-stage medical device and digital health company transforming the diagnosis and treatment of lower urinary tract symptoms, a market affecting over 2.3 billion people globally. Minze provides a connected digital health ecosystem, including automated home uroflowmetry, electronic bladder diaries, and a clinician portal, shifting traditional in-clinic diagnostics to the home. The solution reduces diagnostic lead times from weeks to days, while significantly lowering healthcare costs.

**Adaptyx Biosciences****TABLE #61**

Adaptyx Biosciences, a Stanford University spin-off, is building a biomonitoring platform that leverages 15 years of research in molecular switches and microarray patches, enabling minimally-invasive real-time, continuous sensing of small molecules and proteins. Adaptyx's library of multi-analyte sensors will enable deeply personalized medicine across drug dosing, hormone regulation, kidney health, cardiovascular disease, and oncology.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 4

Therapeutics



Bilan Therapeutics

Bilan Therapeutics

TABLE #29

Bilan Therapeutics is a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing innovative treatments for neurological and psychiatric diseases. Our lead molecule, BT-001, is being developed for Alzheimer's disease and major depressive disorder. It acts by restoring balance to the brain's internal network to improve memory and cognitive function while also reducing anxiety and depression. Backed by solid scientific research, BT-001 has shown promising results in initial studies, opening new possibilities for patient care in high-unmet-need areas.

**Haima Therapeutics**

TABLE #35

Haima Therapeutics is a pre-clinical stage biotechnology company focused on developing bio-inspired therapies for bleeding, thrombosis, and inflammation. The company's lead product, SynthoPlate, is an artificial platelet that halts bleeding by selectively targeting sites of injury and amplifying the body's natural clotting mechanisms. Synthetic platelets overcome the biological and logistical limitations of donor platelets, as they are shelf-stable, pathogen-free, and cost-effective. Haima is completing its IND-enabling work to enter the clinic in 2026 with funding support from the NIH and DoD.

**Up Oncolytics**

TABLE #50

UP Oncolytics is a preclinical-stage biotechnology company developing a first-in-class oncolytic virus platform to treat solid tumors, with an initial focus on Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC). While the FDA approved the first bispecific T-cell engager (BiTE) for SCLC in 2024, only a small subset of patients respond, and nearly all develop resistance. UP Oncolytics' lead candidate, UP-001, uses a viral vector armed with multiple therapeutic payloads to selectively destroy cancer cells, remodel the immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment, and generate a durable anti-tumor immune response. The company is currently completing IND-enabling studies.

**Cytosolix, Inc.**

TABLE #59

Cytosolix has the only platform that can target oral drugs selectively to tumors based on extracellular acidity, a universal feature of solid cancers. Our Lead asset CYTX-101 has proven anti-tumor activity in preclinical models without toxicity or on-target adverse effects. By concentrating drug activity within acidic tumor tissue while sparing healthy organs, this approach significantly expands the therapeutic window. Cytosolix is currently progressing IND-enabling studies to advance CYTX-101 into clinical trials, providing a new oral therapeutic option for patients with difficult-to-treat solid malignancies.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 6

Medical Devices



CAIMI Co., Ltd.

TABLE #06

CAIMI Co., Ltd. is a South Korea-based medical AI company developing real-time diagnostic assistance software for gastrointestinal endoscopy. Founded in 2020 and headquartered in Incheon, CAIMI's flagship AI platform, ALPHAON, detects and classifies lesions during upper and lower GI endoscopy, supporting physicians with real-time navigation, sensitivity-adjustable AI detection, and automated procedure quality control. ALPHAON-S (gastric) and ALPHAON-C (colon) are commercialized products, clinically validated with AUCs of 0.962 and 0.967 respectively, and are backed by peer-reviewed publications in Diagnostics (MDPI). CAIMI holds Korean medical device manufacturing and GMP approval, ISO 13485:2016 certification, and 11 domestic and 1 U.S. patent, and is currently pursuing CE (MDR) certification for international expansion. The company has 8 domestic hospital installations with a 0% customer churn rate, and active partnerships across Mongolia, the UAE, Brazil, Vietnam, and Armenia.



Spatial Surgical

TABLE #36

Spatial Surgical is developing a robotic-assisted surgical device for the millions of patients who cannot be addressed by current minimally invasive methods, including surgical robots, and still undergo open surgery today. The device integrates a soft tissue laser with intraoperative robotic visualization into a single handpiece that surgeons can seamlessly integrate into their practice with minimal learning curve. The laser provides bloodless incision, ablation, and cauterization with less damage than traditional hand tools, while the intraoperative visualization technology provides robotic-assisted capabilities such as surgical site magnification, fluorescence guided surgery, and AI-assisted tissue identification. With its device, Spatial Surgical aims to improve upon the poor clinical outcomes of open surgery, a space that has seen little innovation for decades. The market for device sales is approximately \$3 billion in the U.S. and \$4.5 billion globally. Five robust provisional patent applications have been filed.



Gradient Medical

TABLE #47

Gradient Medical is a Raleigh, North Carolina-based medical technology company developing next-generation interventional oncology therapies for patients with difficult-to-treat and inoperable solid tumors. Gradient's flagship INSPIRE platform uses ultrashort, non-thermal pulsed electric fields to precisely ablate tumor tissue while minimizing damage to surrounding structures. The technology combines controlled energy delivery with real-time sensing to enable predictable, scalable treatment zones and rapid procedures. Gradient is advancing INSPIRE from preclinical development toward clinical translation, with an initial focus on expanding treatment options for patients who are not candidates for surgery or conventional therapies. The company's multidisciplinary team of engineers, oncologists, and scientists is focused on translating pulsed electric field technology into safe, practical, and clinically impactful cancer treatments.



Valeb

TABLE #65

Valéb is a revolutionary new treatment of cervical precancer. The current treatment has been frozen for 40 years and Valéb deals with all side effects left: no smoke, automated procedure, removing only diseased tissue. This means 60% less tissue removal. On long term better follow up and less obstetrical complications.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 8

R&D / Life Science Tools and Platforms

**WellPep Co., Ltd.****TABLE #05**

WellPep Co., Ltd. is a South Korea-based peptide R&D and manufacturing company with proprietary capabilities in peptide design, synthesis, screening, optimization, and scale-up production. The company supplies peptide-based cosmetic ingredients and provides customized R&D and manufacturing services while advancing three peptide-based therapeutic pipelines: WP-101, a next-generation peptidomimetic antibiotic for multidrug-resistant Gram-negative infections; WP-601, a DKK1-targeting peptide for hair-loss prevention; and WP-301, a neuroinflammation-targeting therapeutic peptide for dementia and cognitive impairment. Leveraging its integrated peptide platform, WellPep is seeking strategic partnerships for co-development, licensing, and global commercialization.

**Whelix****TABLE #20**

Whelix is building the intelligent physical infrastructure for life science, starting with the automation of mammalian cell culture, the manual, error-prone first step of nearly all \$300B+ research and biomanufacturing. For decades, biology has advanced through skilled hands at the bench, one pipette at a time, slow, inconsistent, poorly documented, and hard to scale. Whelix changes that: our platforms, Associan™ and Technician™, combine purpose-built robotics with agentic AI so scientists can describe a protocol in plain language and watch it run, reliably and reproducibly, generating structured data with every experiment. Whelix is already deployed and validated at a top research university, with purchase orders and evaluations across some of the largest pharma and biotech companies. This is the foundation for a new model of biological research, where humans innovate, AI plans, and robotics execute, accelerating discovery by bridging the gap from in silico design to physical execution.

**Sus Clinicals, Inc.****TABLE #38**

Sus Clinicals' technology enables healthcare clients to advance the most promising therapeutics to human clinicals more quickly, predictably, and efficiently. Our proprietary, FDA-cleared large animal research platform is focused initially on oncology, but over time could extend more broadly to other therapeutics. It is the first and only solution that truly addresses the systemic lack of predictive preclinical models in life science research. Our platform generates predictive data to help researchers accelerate those therapies most likely to work in humans, and shut down less promising paths prior to expensive human trials.

**AcrobatGenomics****Acrobat Genomics****TABLE #49**

Acrobat Genomics is building the functional data layer for AI-driven protein and genome engineering. The functional data layer unlocks biology never before seen in nature. For example, the Acrobat platform (AcrobaTx) has produced a functional de novo gene editor that is one of the most divergent (~2X), compact (<400 amino acids), and active systems published. In addition, it has low predicted immunogenicity, which makes it attractive for direct in vivo applications. In addition, its platform is being tested against strict technical milestones within a multi-year DARPA contract focused on advancing AI-guided protein engineering to inhibit multi-domain, complex proteins.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 10

Therapeutics

**BioCopy AG**

TABLE #25

BioCopy is a Swiss-German biotech company headquartered in Basel, with a state-of-the-art laboratory in Emmendingen, Germany. The company operates a platform for end-to-end TCR and TCR-like therapeutic development, addressing oncology and autoimmune targets. Leveraging a patented label-free screening technology, BioCopy delivers high-throughput synergy and safety profiling across thousands of peptide-HLA (pHLA) complexes simultaneously. By combining real-time binding kinetics with functional validation, the platform de-risks candidate selection, accelerates hit identification, and confirms specificity against off-target human tissue libraries. BioCopy collaborates with biopharmaceutical leaders to develop best-in-class, clinically viable adoptive cell therapies and bispecific TCR engagers for hard-to-treat diseases.

**Sightera Biosciences**

TABLE #52

Sightera Biosciences is pioneering the next-wave of AI drug discovery, by turning therapeutic biology into a computable science. Its proprietary multi-omics foundation models decode complex cellular networks, identifying novel disease mechanisms and target opportunities previously hidden in high-dimensional biological data. By uniting generative chemistry with predictive perturbation models, Sightera designs highly selective small molecules for difficult-to-drug oncology and immunology targets. The company's integrated computational-experimental platform compresses discovery timelines from years to months while systematically minimizing off-target liabilities.

**Captura BioPharma**

TABLE #55

Captura's C2E2 is an orally bioavailable DTPA ester designed as a universal sequestering agent for toxic heavy metals and transuranic actinides, including americium, plutonium, and curium. While current DTPA formulations require daily intravenous infusions and are strictly limited to extracellular distribution, C2E2 readily crosses cellular membranes, clearing intracellular heavy metal deposits from critical organ reserves. Backed by extensive federal non-dilutive development contracts from BARDA and the Department of Defense, Captura is progressing C2E2 through IND-enabling safety studies as an essential medical countermeasure for nuclear incident preparedness and broad occupational metal toxicity.

**StimOxyGen**

TABLE #68

StimOxyGen is a preclinical biotechnology company developing SGEN-33, a novel pH-responsive oxygen-generating biomaterial platform designed to overcome tumor hypoxia. Severe hypoxia in the tumor microenvironment drives resistance to radiation, chemotherapy, and immunotherapies. Upon localized delivery, SGEN-33 decomposes selectively in the acidic tumor milieu to produce sustained molecular oxygen, re-oxygenating hypoxic tumor niches without systemic toxicity. Preclinical studies demonstrate that SGEN-33 restores radiation sensitivity, enhances cytotoxic T-cell infiltration, and significantly prolongs survival in aggressive solid tumor models.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 12

Therapeutics & Diagnostics

**Medicell****TABLE #07**

Medicell Healthcare is a bio-medical device company that developed the "Mycosis Medicell" transdermal drug delivery patch system for treating onychomycosis and stubborn fungal infections. Utilizing proprietary microneedle penetration and sustained-release hydrogel formulations, the system delivers high localized antifungal concentrations directly beneath the nail plate, overcoming traditional oral toxicity liabilities and achieving superior mycological cure rates compared to topical varnishes.

WALK101**WALK101****TABLE #09**

X-ray is the most common imaging exam in the world — and 75% of X-rays are musculoskeletal. Yet conventional radiography fails to reveal dynamic biomechanical instability because imaging is performed while the patient is static. WALK101 has developed dynamic weight-bearing radiographic positioning hardware paired with computerized kinematics analysis, allowing orthopedic surgeons and physical therapists to visualize joint movement and ligament laxity under real physiological walking loads.

**Migration Biotherapeutics****TABLE #28**

Migration is building the first platform capable of controlling cancer cell migration to prevent metastases before they take root. By interrogating the mechanosensitive signaling pathways that govern cell polarity and extravasation, Migration's lead biologic inhibitors lock circulating tumor cells in a dormant state, blocking their migration into secondary organ beds. Preclinical models of breast and lung metastasis demonstrate over 85% reductions in metastatic colony formation, paving the way for a transformative anti-metastatic therapeutic class.

**Pictor****TABLE #54**

Pictor® is a decision-grade targeted proteomics platform that enables partners to discover, validate, and clinically implement high-multiplex biomarker signatures from minimal blood volumes. Using proprietary nano-well enzyme-linked assays and microfluidic detection, Pictor delivers absolute quantification across 30+ protein targets simultaneously in less than an hour, accelerating translational precision medicine in infectious disease, autoimmunity, and oncology.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 14

Medical Devices & Diagnostics

**Baebies, Inc.****TABLE #13**

Baebies is revolutionizing point-of-care diagnostics with FINDER, the world's first digital microfluidics platform capable of running both molecular and immunoassay panels on a single droplet of blood. By manipulating discrete nanoliter-sized droplets electrically without pumps, valves, or tubing, FINDER delivers central-laboratory accuracy in less than 15 minutes at the patient bedside. Backed by commercial newborn screening solutions that have screened over 15 million babies across the globe, Baebies is expanding FINDER's multiplex test menu to address neonatal sepsis, infectious disease panels, and pediatric critical care emergencies.

**B4-RNA****TABLE #14**

B4-RNA is a seed-stage biotech developing an RNA-based liquid biopsy platform for early cancer detection. While current ctDNA assays struggle with low shedding in early-stage tumors, B4-RNA analyzes tumor-educated blood platelets (TEPs) and extracellular RNA signatures that amplify cancer signals at the earliest stages of oncogenesis. Using high-throughput sequencing combined with machine-learning classification algorithms, B4-RNA identifies tissue-of-origin across eight major cancer types from a standard blood draw. The company is validating its diagnostic algorithms in multi-center clinical cohorts to establish a new gold standard in non-invasive, multi-cancer early detection.

**Synvest Imaging****TABLE #30**

Synvest Imaging Inc. is a preclinical life sciences and molecular imaging company developing ultra-sensitive PET tracers that quantify active neuroinflammation and synaptic density in vivo. By visualizing microglia activation and synaptic loss before irreversible neurodegeneration occurs, Synvest's proprietary radiotracers serve as essential companion diagnostics for clinical trials in Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and multiple sclerosis, enabling biopharmaceutical partners to stratify patients accurately and track disease-modifying treatment efficacy.

**RevelNext Inc.****TABLE #46**

RevelNext Inc. is a medical device company dedicated to the 3 million people around the world living with lower-limb loss. RevelNext has engineered an adaptive, micro-hydraulic prosthetic ankle-foot system that dynamically adjusts ground compliance in real time across uneven terrain. By replicating anatomical ankle biomechanics, RevelNext reduces metabolic expenditure, eliminates compensatory gait asymmetry, and restores natural mobility and confidence to amputees.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 16

Therapeutics



nSAGE Inc

TABLE #10

nSAGE Inc. is a pioneering biotechnology company dedicated to transforming the landscape of cell and gene therapy manufacturing. By deploying automated, closed-system bioreactor technologies and advanced cellular engineering tools, nSAGE standardizes stem cell expansion and viral vector harvesting. Its proprietary bioprocessing systems drastically compress production lead times, lower batch-to-batch variability, and reduce COGS, enabling cell and gene therapy innovators to scale life-saving therapies from bench to commercial scale safely and cost-effectively.



Curigin

TABLE #15

Curigin is a Korean biotechnology company pioneering next-generation RNA interference (RNAi) therapeutics. Utilizing its proprietary dual-action RNA delivery platform, Curigin simultaneously silences multiple oncogenic driver pathways in solid tumors while overcoming conventional RNA degradation and tissue delivery barriers.



Oncovita

TABLE #56

Pleural mesothelioma remains one of the most lethal solid tumors. Survival is often measured in months and standard chemotherapy or checkpoint inhibitors rarely provide lasting remission. Oncovita is developing a first-in-class oncolytic viral immunotherapy derived from an attenuated measles virus platform (MeasAdv). MeasAdv selectively enters CD46-overexpressing cancer cells, replicates rapidly to induce immunogenic cell death, and unleashes systemic anti-tumor immunity against distant metastases. Preclinical data shows dramatic tumor clearance in mesothelioma and chemo-resistant ovarian cancer models. Oncovita is completing regulatory submissions to initiate Phase 1/2 clinical evaluation.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 18

Medical Devices



MTech Lab Co. Ltd.

TABLE #08

MTech Lab Co., Ltd. is a startup founded to develop early diagnosis and treatment technologies for human and animal diseases using Raman spectroscopy and artificial intelligence. The main products are human medical devices and veterinary in vitro diagnostic medical devices. MTech Lab developed an AI Raman solution that non-destructively discriminates normal and damaged human menisci during arthroscopic knee surgery in real time. We are also developing in vitro diagnostic equipment for severe animal diseases using biological samples such as canine urine and serum.



Etienna Bio, Inc.

TABLE #22

Etienna Bio, Inc., is an early-stage biotechnology company developing autologous cellular therapies for soft tissue repair. Current surgical options for substantial soft tissue deficits rely on synthetic meshes or acellular dermis that suffer from foreign-body reactions, high infection rates, and poor tissue integration. Etienna Bio extracts and processes patient-derived adipose and stromal vascular fractions within an automated point-of-care device to produce living autologous tissue grafts. These bio-integrative grafts promote rapid revascularization, stimulate native collagen synthesis, and restore structural contour without immunological rejection, providing a biological alternative for complex breast reconstruction and deep wound healing.



RSP Systems

TABLE #51

RSP Systems A/S develops non-invasive glucose monitoring system to the market for people with diabetes. The technology is based on Critical Depth Raman Spectroscopy, which allows for touch-based, painless, and continuous optical blood glucose measurement.



MediSieve Limited

TABLE #71

MediSieve is developing Magnetic Blood Filtration, a platform designed to selectively capture and remove specific disease-causing substances directly from a patient's bloodstream. The system integrates magnetic antibody-coated beads that bind target pathogens, cytokines, or toxins with high affinity. Patient blood is then circulated through an extracorporeal magnetic filter that traps the magnetized target complexes while returning cleaned whole blood safely back to circulation. By physically stripping inflammatory mediators and toxins during severe sepsis and cytokine release syndrome, MediSieve provides an immediate, targeted therapeutic intervention to arrest multi-organ failure when pharmacotherapies are too slow or ineffective.

Innovator's Pitch Challenge — Session 20

Therapeutics

The logo for ILIAS Biologics features the word "ILIAS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with a red circle to its right. Below "ILIAS" is the word "Biologics" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.**ILIAS Biologics****TABLE #02**

ILIAS Biologics is transforming drug development through engineered exosome therapeutics. Its proprietary platform, EXPLOR®, utilizes optogenetic molecular switches to actively load high molecular weight active proteins into the internal lumen of exosomes with high efficiency. Unlike surface-conjugated systems, EXPLOR® encapsulates intact proteins inside exosomes, protecting therapeutic cargos from systemic enzymatic degradation and immune neutralization while enabling delivery across biological barriers directly into target cell cytoplasm. Lead candidate ILB-202 has completed Phase 1 clinical trials for severe systemic inflammatory and fibrotic indications.

The logo for Nodal Therapeutics features a black hexagon with a white stylized 'N' inside. To the right of the hexagon is the word "Nodal" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, and below it is the word "Therapeutics" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.**Nodal Therapeutics, Inc.****TABLE #62**

Nodal Therapeutics, Inc. is a start-up developing a single-treatment strategy that can durably stop autoimmune disease by generating antigen-specific immune tolerance (ASIT). The technology is nucleated from Prof. Chris Jewell's lab at the University of Maryland, with best-in-class pre-clinical data showing remission with a single treatment in numerous models spanning diseases such as multiple sclerosis, type 1 diabetes, and transplantation, as well as safety data in non-human primates. The strategy is centered around a microparticle depot administered into the lymph node. This transforms the node into a factory that generates antigen-specific regulatory immune cells, while avoiding systemic exposure or off-target immune effects. A simple outpatient injection of these depots into a lymph node could create selective and long-lasting remission of autoimmune disease.

The logo for neuroTHEP Pharmaceuticals features the word "neuro" in a black, sans-serif font, followed by "THEP" in a bold, green, sans-serif font. Below "neuroTHEP" is the word "PHARMACEUTICALS" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.**neuroTHEP Pharmaceuticals****TABLE #75**

neuroTHEP Pharmaceuticals Inc. is an emerging preclinical biotechnology company developing first-in-class neuroprotective and disease-modifying small-molecule therapeutics for Alzheimer's disease and other tauopathies. By targeting pathological tau hyperphosphorylation and toxic tau oligomerization before neurofibrillary tangle deposition, neuroTHEP's lead compounds arrest synaptic disintegration and preserve neuronal viability in preclinical models. The company is completing lead optimization to advance its therapeutic candidates into formal IND-enabling development.

ENTREPRENEUR'S WORKSHOPS

Actionable insights and operational strategies from industry experts to accelerate early-stage growth and fundraising.

Introducing BLPN

Accelerating Life Sciences Together



Life sciences is built on extraordinary innovation, but no company, investor, agency, or service provider succeeds alone. The greatest opportunities emerge when the different stakeholders across our ecosystem understand how to use their resources, relationships, and expertise to advance one another.

In this interactive one-hour discussion, BLPN Co-Founders Caley Anderson and Christiaan Engstrom will introduce the BLPN community and its simple mantra: **Find Someone to Help. Repeat.** They will then engage leaders representing venture capital, family offices, broker-dealers, federal agencies, advisors, and industry service providers in a practical conversation about how each plays a distinct role in moving life science innovation forward.

A Collaborative Paradigm Across the Ecosystem

Rather than approaching the ecosystem as a collection of individual transactions, this session explores what happens when stakeholders actively look for ways to strengthen each other's missions: How can an investor make a valuable introduction even when a company is not right for their fund? How can federal resources complement private capital? How can advisors and platforms create connections that accelerate companies rather than simply sell to them?

The goal is to leave attendees with a different way of thinking about networking: not *"who can help me?"*, but **"who can I help next?"** When that behavior becomes repeatable across an ecosystem, relationships become stronger, resources move faster, and promising life science companies have a better opportunity to reach the patients who need them.

FEATURED PERSPECTIVES



Demet Aybar
Industry Services
U.S. Lab Partners



Mark Gannott
Venture Capital
Suncoast Ventures



Ray Jordan
Family Office
Elmstead Partners



Dov Kolton
Broker-Dealer Platform
Floww



Tetsu Yung
Advisory & Japan Market
Global Life Sciences

Focus on Science, Build for Scale

De-Risking the First 18 Months

VCs invest in groundbreaking science, but long-term success demands a foundational business platform. This session walks early-stage life sciences leaders and investors through the most common back-office pitfalls and lays out a practical "minimum viable back office" framework that protects downside risk without slowing the science. We'll connect operational discipline to VC diligence, board confidence, and long-term value creation.



PRESENTER

Keith DePhillips

Life Sciences Strategic Managed
Services Leader
RSM US LLP

With over 20 years of experience in IT and cloud infrastructure, Keith DePhillips specializes in helping life sciences organizations optimize technology to drive research innovation and operational growth. His career spans hands-on IT operations to leading strategic advisory initiatives, integrating cutting-edge solutions that support research excellence and operational efficiency. Keith is dedicated to enabling life sciences teams to focus on the science by providing secure, scalable, and compliant IT systems, enhancing cybersecurity, optimizing data management, and executing digital transformation.

RenSuper Workstation: An AI-Driven Antibody Discovery Platform

From Target to Antibody Leads in a Click

Discover how Biocytogen's RenSuper Workstation seamlessly integrates large-scale in vivo RenMice immunization, NGS, AI-powered high-throughput screening, and experimental validation to deliver development-ready antibody sequences. Explore how this platform unlocks access to fully human antibodies with comprehensive data packages, enabling rapid candidate identification and compressing timelines from years to months.



PRESENTER

Yuan Tian, Ph.D

Marketing Manager
Biocytogen

Yuan Tian serves as Marketing Manager at Biocytogen Pharmaceuticals, a global biotechnology enterprise advancing novel antibody drug discovery and gene-edited preclinical models. She drives strategic brand positioning, international event marketing, and digital outreach initiatives, effectively communicating Biocytogen's core technology platforms—including the RenMice® fully human antibody discovery engine and comprehensive preclinical pharmacology services. Working at the intersection of scientific communication and commercial development, Tian collaborates closely with cross-functional scientific, business development, and operational teams to expand Biocytogen's visibility, foster strategic pharmaceutical partnerships, and support the organization's continuous global expansion across North America and overseas life science ecosystems.

Tales from the Road

Biotech and Medtech Innovators on Their Fundraising Journey

Fundraising in the life sciences is a multi-year roadshow full of critical milestones, operational pivots, and negotiation hurdles. In this open, founder-led workshop, experienced biotech and medtech entrepreneurs share the unvarnished realities of building an early-stage company, raising institutional capital, and securing commercial partnerships. Attendees will hear direct takeaways on finding the right investors, structuring early rounds, overcoming setbacks, and what it truly takes to advance breakthrough innovations from bench to market.

**MODERATOR****Greg Mannix**VP, International BD
Life Science Nation

Greg Mannix is Vice President of International Business Development at Life Science Nation. After graduating from the University of California, he began his life sciences career in Europe, earning a Master's from IE Business School in Madrid. With extensive international sales and marketing leadership in medical devices across Europe, North America, and Latin America, Greg equips early-stage companies with partnering strategies to execute global fundraising campaigns, cross-border investments, and M&A transactions.

**James Biggins**President & CEO
Access Vascular, Inc.

James Biggins is the Founder, President, and CEO of Access Vascular, Inc., a commercial-stage medtech company transforming intravenous therapy with patented, thrombus-resistant hydrogel biomaterials. Biggins brings deep medical device leadership from engineering and product development roles at Boston Scientific, Medtronic, and Ocular Therapeutix, where he advanced over a dozen devices from concept to commercialization. He holds a B.S. in Plastics Engineering from UMass Lowell and an M.B.A. from Babson College.

**Andrew Holman, M.D.**CEO & Co-Founder
Inmedix

Dr. Andrew Holman is Co-Founder and CEO of Inmedix, a medical diagnostics company pioneering the field of immuno-autonomics and stress biology in autoimmune disease. A clinical rheumatologist who discovered dopamine agonists as a therapy for fibromyalgia, Dr. Holman focuses on how autonomic stress influences disease onset and treatment response, developing predictive heart rate variability (HRV) diagnostics to improve patient outcomes and guide targeted biologics.

**Debbie Kantor, MSN, APRN**CEO & Co-Founder
HERO Medical Technologies

Debbie Kantor is the Founder and CEO of HERO Medical Technologies, a medtech company leveraging wearable sensors and AI/ML for emergency field triage and head trauma care. A nurse practitioner trained at the University of Pennsylvania with over 25 years of clinical and academic faculty experience, Debbie invented HERO's patented rapid head-dressing system. Supported by federal defense OTA awards and JLABS recognition, she leads HERO's mission to transform pre-hospital critical care.

**David Lagares, Ph.D.**CEO & President
Zenon Biotech

Dr. David Lagares is Founder, CEO, and President of Zenon Biotech and co-founder of Mediar Therapeutics, developing first-in-class mechano-therapeutics and anti-fibrotic medicines. Spun out from his laboratory at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital, Dr. Lagares has secured multi-million dollar venture capital and non-dilutive funding, translating foundational discoveries published in Nature and Science from target discovery through clinical trials.

Bridging Asia's Next Biotech Innovations to Global Partners



A Bayer Co.Lab Showcase

As Title Sponsor of RESI Boston 2026, Bayer Co.Lab, Bayer's global network of life science incubators supporting early-stage entrepreneurs and breakthrough innovation, is proud to host Connecting Asian Biotech Innovation with Global Partners: A Bayer Co.Lab Showcase.

This 2-hour program will feature 7 emerging biotechnology companies from Korea and Japan, showcasing innovative therapeutic approaches across gene therapy, RNA therapeutics, exosome technologies, small molecules, and other next-generation platforms.

The showcase reflects Bayer Co.Lab's commitment to fostering early-stage innovation and creating connections across global life science ecosystems. By bringing promising Korean and Japanese biotech companies to RESI Boston, the program aims to create new opportunities for international collaboration and connect emerging innovators with pharmaceutical partners, investors, and other strategic stakeholders.

Investors, pharmaceutical and strategic partners, business development and licensing professionals, and other industry leaders interested in discovering emerging Asian biotech innovation and exploring potential collaboration opportunities are warmly invited to attend.

PITCHING COMPANIES

artiCure KOREA

Tumor-selective replicating gene therapy targeting solid tumors

Crafton Biotechnology JAPAN

mRNA therapeutics supported by advanced computational approaches

Curigin KOREA

RNA-based therapeutic technologies across multiple disease areas

Elisigen KOREA

Next-generation gene therapy with programs in ophthalmology

Genome & Company KOREA

Microbiome-driven therapeutic discovery and development

ILIAS Biologics KOREA

Exosome-based therapeutics for inflammatory and fibrotic diseases

Kanjin Therapeutics JAPAN

RNA therapeutics, including siRNA and antisense approaches, for areas of unmet medical need

From Compelling Science to an Investable Development Plan



Five Risks to Resolve Before Your Next Investor Meeting

Promising science alone does not create an investable biotechnology company. Investors also need to see a credible path from candidate selection to clinical evidence, regulatory acceptance, value creation, and ultimately a successful partnership or exit. In this practical session, Certara expert, Geoff Fatzinger, will examine five common development gaps that weaken investor confidence: an unclear value proposition, insufficient translational evidence, an untested regulatory path, poorly justified dose and endpoint decisions, and financing milestones that are disconnected from the development plan. Using real-world development perspectives, the speakers will show how integrated scientific, regulatory, and model-informed planning can expose these risks earlier and turn a compelling scientific story into an executable, investor-ready program. Attendees will leave with five questions their teams should be able to answer before their next investor or partnering meeting.



Geoff Fatzinger

Vice President, Regulatory Strategy
Certara

Geoff brings 20+ years of expertise and a demonstrated record of regulatory and business accomplishments covering the United States, Europe and Asia Pacific where he has served as a subject matter expert (SME) Reviewer and Commentator on New and Advanced Technologies for various agencies and continues to do so today. His experience spans national regulatory bodies world-wide, including the FDA in the US, as well as agencies in China and Japan. His team advises both big pharma teams and biotech startups as well as governmental entities, providing them expertise to help navigate regulatory challenges—whether current or anticipated—while providing a global regulatory perspective to guide the best path forward.

Mr. Fatzinger is the Vice President, Regulatory Strategy, Certara, responsible for providing strategic regulatory oversight to product development and commercialization. Geoff is a highly experienced, results-oriented global regulatory professional, with very strong strategic capabilities and a very solid technical background that has allowed him to lead companies and projects to new levels of success in a variety of highly competitive industries, cutting-edge markets, and fast-paced environments.



For emerging biotech

Turning compelling science into an investable plan

You know your biology better than anyone in the room. Investors need to see the development plan around it. That is where raises stall.

An investor-ready plan

Target product profile, competitive positioning and a model-informed development plan through Phase 1, with timelines and costs investors can test.

Expertise on demand

Regulatory, CMC, DMPK, toxicology, clinical pharmacology and market access. One program lead, with specialists who flex in and out as your program evolves.

The investor's lens

VC and private equity firms rely on us for scientific due diligence. We apply that same scrutiny to your asset before they do.

Scoped to your round Pre-seed · Seed · Series A · Series B and beyond

>90% of FDA novel drug approvals since 2014 supported by Certara

\$65B+ raised by our clients since 2019

250+ biotechs joined Certara in 2025

Bio Venture Catalyst

Let's build the plan investors will fund

certara.com/services/bio-venture-catalyst

Meet us at RESI Boston for a complimentary strategy session with our early development experts.



Funding Innovation: Capital and Access in Japan's Life Science Ecosystem



Japan's life sciences ecosystem relies on a diverse network of public funding, national institutions, corporate venture teams, and independent investors. In this session, leaders from AMED, NCCJ/ENSEMBLExJ, and pharmaceutical VCs will explore how early-stage innovation is identified, de-risked, and financed. Founders and investors will gain practical insights into where each organization enters the journey, what evidence unlocks funding, and how international companies can successfully navigate Japan's connected life sciences market.



Tetsu Yung
Founder & CEO

TETSUNAGI Consulting, Inc.

Tetsu Yung is Founder and CEO of TETSUNAGI Consulting, Inc., bringing more than 20 years of experience across the pharmaceutical, CRO, and academic sectors in Japan. Fluent in five languages and holding a PhD in molecular biology and an MBA in Finance and International Management, he combines scientific expertise with business leadership. During 12 years at Covance, Labcorp, and Fortrea, he led clinical studies, mentored project leaders, and served as a key expert on integrating Japan into global clinical operations. Previously at Eisai, he contributed to regulatory strategy, licensing evaluations, and global pipeline oversight, helping drive significant commercial value.



Yoshikazu Ando
Associate

Chugai Venture Fund

Yoshikazu Ando has had a distinguished career in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Prior to joining CVF, as a member of the Chugai Partnering team, he excelled in collaborations between Roche, other biotech partners and Chugai, sealing agreements that strengthened partnerships. After joining Chugai in 2019, he played a key role in the licensing of Chugai's antibody engineering technology. He spent seven years at a trading company, promoting research collaborations between major Japanese pharma and overseas biotechs. With a PhD in medical science from Kyoto University and research at RIKEN, he analyses immune cells, animal models and GTPases in cancer, and holds an MBA.



Sho Takahata

Senior Director, Venture Investment
Meiji Pharma USA

Sho Takahata is Senior Director of Venture Investment at Meiji Pharma USA, based in the Greater Boston biotech hub. He spearheads the company's corporate venture capital initiatives across North America, identifying and executing strategic investments in early- and clinical-stage life science startups. His primary focus spans innovative therapeutics and platform technologies in central nervous system (CNS) disorders, oncology, and infectious diseases. Leveraging his deep background in global pharmaceutical business development, Takahata actively bridges cutting-edge North American biotechnology with Meiji Group's clinical development, manufacturing, and commercialization capabilities across global and Asian markets.



Natalie Roy D'Amore
Venture Partner

Fast Track Initiative, Inc.

Natalie Roy D'Amore joined FTI in 2024 as a Venture Partner to build out the US team, focusing on Newco creation and startup support. Natalie brings 20+ years of drug discovery experience across academia, biotech, and pharma. She previously served as Head of External Innovation at Seres Therapeutics advancing microbiome therapeutics, and spent 13 years at Takeda Pharmaceuticals, where as Head of Oncology Partnerships she built the portfolio through strategic collaborations and seed investments. Natalie also led an incubator and research team from concept to IND, and served as project leader at Millennium Pharmaceuticals.



Wakako Toga
Deputy Director

NCCJ / ENSEMBLExJ

Wakako Toga is Deputy Director at the National Cancer Center Japan (NCCJ) within the ENSEMBLExJ initiative, an industry-academia-government open innovation platform focused on accelerating cancer drug discovery and translational oncology. She plays an instrumental role in bridging Japanese oncology research institutions with global biotechnology companies, pharmaceutical partners, and investors. Through ENSEMBLExJ, she facilitates collaborative clinical development, multi-omics biomarker evaluation, and cross-border licensing to translate cutting-edge scientific discoveries from Japanese clinical and academic centers into transformative global therapeutics.



Nobuhiro Tanno
Head of Boston Office
AMED

Nobuhiro Tanno serves as the Head of the Boston Office for the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), Japan's primary national funding agency for medical research and innovation. Based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, he leads AMED's overseas initiatives in North America to foster cross-border translational research, strategic academic alliances, and industry collaborations. Tanno actively bridges Japanese life science researchers, clinical innovators, and biotech startups with the Greater Boston life sciences ecosystem, facilitating global clinical partnerships, technology transfer, and international co-development programs.

Negotiating Early Stage Financing Term Sheets

Presented by Polsinelli PC



This interactive workshop, organized and led by Polsinelli, will provide early-stage CEOs and management an overview of the latest trends in early stage financing term sheets, particularly Convertible Notes, SAFEs and Series Seed Preferred, and in particular comparing these financing structures to traditional Series A Preferred. The workshop will cover common issues of interest to entrepreneurs including valuation, conversion triggers, dilution, priority stack/liquidation preference, investor board rights and investor protective provisions. Experts from the legal and investment perspectives will discuss both the legal and business impact of these different types of financings to founders and will provide insights on current market trends. Q&A will be strongly encouraged.



Andrew Merken
Senior Partner
Polsinelli PC

Andrew Merken is a nationally recognized corporate and transactional lawyer who represents a wide variety of early and growth stage clients covering the entire business life cycle, from start-up (formation and organizational matters) to seed and venture stage funding to growth stage (later stage funding, corporate collaborations and buy-side M&A) and ultimately exit (sell-side M&A or IPO). Andy actively works with his clients in all such phases with the additional support of transactional and subject matter experts including FDA, IP, Licensing, Employment, Tax and Cross-Border. On the institutional side, Andy represents VC funds, angel investors, family offices and private foundations.

From Science to Signal

Presented by Life Science Nation



Strong science alone rarely attracts investors; startups must also communicate clear investment signals. This workshop introduces the Science to Signal operating system, a framework designed to help founders communicate investability and align strategies with how capital providers assess risk. The session will also explore how tech hubs and incubators use Science to Signal enterprise licensing to strengthen startup readiness and improve capital formation.



Karen Deyo
VP of Product, Israel BD
Life Science Nation

Karen Deyo is the VP of Product at Life Science Nation, responsible for new product development and LSN's educational content. In addition to her role as VP of Product, she is actively involved in Israel BD, utilizing her professional and personal connections to connect LSN to the Israeli life sciences startup community. She started out at LSN as part of the investor research team, speaking to investors and learning their investment mandates. Karen utilizes her experience speaking with investors as well as her scientific background to help startups translate their science and prepare for their global partnering campaigns.



Max Braht
VP of Business Development
Life Science Nation

At Life Science Nation (LSN), Max leads the Global Business Development team and directly oversees the U.S. East Coast region, where he is based. He is responsible for assisting early-stage companies across the life sciences — including therapeutics, devices, diagnostics, and digital health — in expanding beyond their local regions and connecting with global investors through participation in LSN's Redefining Early Stage Investments (RESI) conference and the use of LSN's curated Investor Platform.

Beyond SBIRs: How the NIH Can Facilitate and Accelerate Your Commercialization Goals

Presented by NCI Technology Transfer Center / NIH

The National Institutes of Health's (NIH), world's largest biomedical research institute, could benefit your company in ways distinct from the value-add of SBIRs. Participants will learn how the NIH Intramural Program is a global resource with unique expertise, capabilities, tools and programs. Across 27 Institutes and Centers, NIH works with companies to positively impact their chances as an equity investment, a M&A target, and an active employer, overcoming technology and knowledge gaps to get products to market.



Dr. Darex Vera Rodriguez
BD and Marketing Fellow
NCI Technology Transfer Center

Dr. Darex Vera Rodriguez is a Business Development and Marketing Fellow within the NIH Office of Technology Transfer. He is a key member of the Technology Analysis and Marketing Unit, which serves to connect the innovation ecosystem to NIH expertise, capabilities and support. He earned his PhD in Biochemistry and Biophysics along with a micro-credential in Regulatory Affairs from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC). During his time at UNC, Darex worked as a technology commercialization consultant for a startup developing a medical device aimed at improving treatment outcomes for individuals with Parkinson's disease. Through this experience, he discovered his passion for technology transfer and decided to leverage his scientific and business skills to pursue a career in this field. Earlier, Darex completed his Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Biotechnology with a minor in Project Management at the University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez. Darex is an avid skier and rollerblader. He also enjoys traveling and learning about diverse cultures around the world. One of his goals is to combine his love for travel with his professional interests to advance life sciences development and contribute to human health improvement across borders.

Money Ball: Unlocking the Hidden Value of Relationships in Life Sciences

Presented by Biotech Leaders & Partners Network (BLPN)



Capital, science, and intellectual property matter. But behind nearly every meaningful life science transaction is another powerful asset: relationships. Money Ball is BLPN's community-driven model for putting those relationships to work. In three years, BLPN has grown into an invite-only, member-led club of 550+ lifetime members, 5,000+ social members, and 15,000+ subscribers, united by one principle: Find Someone to Help. Repeat. At RESI Boston, BLPN co-founders Caley Anderson and Christiaan Engstrom will showcase four Money Ball companies supported by BLPN members through investor, strategic partner, and customer introductions, along with expertise in fundraising, licensing, capital strategy, and company growth. One relationship leads to an investor. Another opens a strategic door. Another brings expertise or a customer. That is the multiplier effect of community. Four Money Ball CEOs will share their companies and missions, then the RESI community will be invited to participate as BLPN does: listen, identify where you can contribute, and make the next connection.

Who Should Attend

Founders raising capital, investors expanding deal flow, strategic and licensing partners seeking opportunities, and industry leaders who want to put their relationships to work.

What You'll Take Away:

- Four emerging life science opportunities from showcase CEOs
- A live demonstration of the community-driven Money Ball model
- How relationships compound into capital, partnerships, and growth
- A practical, high-trust alternative to transactional networking

"A network tells you who you know. A community asks who you can help."

Company Valuation for Fundraising

Presented by Venture Valuation AG, Switzerland



VENTURE VALUATION
GLOBAL VALUATION SERVICES

Valuation is a critical aspect of fundraising. Applying an average value to every company at a given financing stage simply no longer works. For entrepreneurs and investors alike, it is essential to understand the specific value drivers of a company. In this workshop, we review the financing trends of recent years, discuss the dos and don'ts of speaking with investors, and explore how to value a life science company that has no revenues yet.



Patrik Frei

Founder & CEO

Venture Valuation AG, Switzerland

Dr. Patrik Frei is the founder and CEO of Venture Valuation AG, a company he established in 1999 to provide independent valuation services for high-growth industries. His first client was Novartis Venture Fund, and he has since conducted over 1,000 valuations for investors, biotech, pharma, and medtech companies. Patrik earned his degree from the University of St. Gallen and completed his PhD at EPFL Lausanne, focusing on the assessment and valuation of high-growth companies. He has served on multiple boards (public/private) including Ophthalmopharma, where he successfully out-licensed a portfolio of products. His articles have been published in journals such as "Nature Biotechnology" and Natures BioPharmaDealmakers and he has published a book on valuation as well as numerous other business publications. Dr. Frei also lectures and runs workshops on valuation worldwide — for BIO, universities such as Seoul National University, EPFL Lausanne, and the University of St. Gallen, and in-house for pharma companies.

ABOUT THE BOOK

A primary objective for life science executives is raising capital. Very often, however, a lack of marketing and sales skills impedes their efforts. Focusing regionally, rather than globally, only compounds the challenge.

The Life Science Executive's Fundraising Manifesto helps scientists understand the fundamental skills needed to brand and market their companies, using a consistent message to achieve compelling results from a fundraising campaign. It teaches you how to aggregate a list of potential global investors that are a fit for your company's products and services. Then it explains how to efficiently and effectively reach out to potential investor targets, start a dialogue that fosters a relationship, and ultimately secure capital allocations.

Raising capital is not a one-time event. It must be an ongoing part of your business strategy. *The Life Science Executive's Fundraising Manifesto* reveals the expertise required to continually fundraise and bring your ideas to market.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

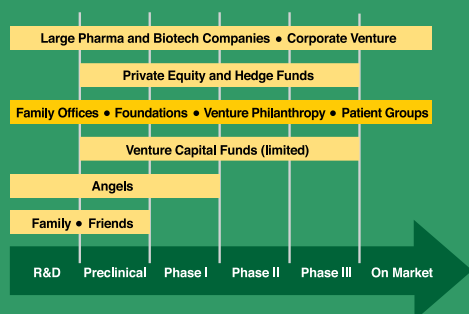
Visit www.FundraisingManifesto.com

or visit the Life Science Nation table in the exhibit hall

The Life Science Executive's FUNDRAISING MANIFESTO

BEST PRACTICES FOR IDENTIFYING CAPITAL IN THE BIOTECH AND MEDTECH ARENAS

by Dennis Ford



Contributors

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