



## INNOVATION®SHOWCASE

Spotlighting Big Ideas and Bold Science

WED JUNE 4TH | 1 - 7 PM | BAKAR BIOENGINUITY HUB | BERKELEY

**DIGITAL PROGRAM** 

## **WELCOME TO THE 2025 SPRING INNOVATION SHOWCASE**

PROGRAM		
1:00 PM	CHECK-IN	
1:30-1:45 PM	WELCOME REMARKS  Mike Guerra   President & CEO, California Life Sciences Gino Segre, PhD   Managing Director, Bakar Labs	
1:45-2:30 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION  'Beyond Capital: Building Strategic Partnerships for Startup Growth'	
2:30-2:40 PM	BREAK	
2:40-3:50 PM	COMPANY PRESENTATIONS AND INVESTOR Q&A  2 Parallel Tracks Track A: Therapeutics Track B: MedTech	
3:50-4:00 PM	BREAK	
4:00-5:00 PM	COMPANY PRESENTATIONS AND INVESTOR Q&A  2 Parallel Tracks Track A: Therapeutics Track B: TechBio (AI & Digital Health)	
5:00-7:00 PM	NETWORKING RECEPTION AND SOLUTIONS CORRIDOR	
COMPANY PRESENTATIONS FORMAT		

Each presenting company will give a 10-minute presentation followed by a five-minute Q&A with the investor panel.

SESSION 1: PRESENTATIONS			
TRACK A Therapeutics	TRACK B Medtech		
<b>SIMURX</b> Oncology	<b>TAKEOFF41</b> Neonatology		
<b>VOYANT BIO</b> Immunotherapy	<b>PHASER SOLUTIONS</b> Biomanufacturing		
ORO THERAPEUTICS Oncology	<b>NEEDLEGPS</b> Radiology		
<b>INAPILL</b> Immunology	<b>BIOXYTECH RETINA</b> Opthamology		
SESSION 2: PRESENTATIONS			
SESSION 2: P	RESENTATIONS		
SESSION 2: P  TRACK A THERAPEUTICS	RESENTATIONS  TRACK B TECHBIO (AI & DIGITAL HEALTH)		
TRACK A	TRACK B		
TRACK A THERAPEUTICS KOPRA BIO	TRACK B TECHBIO (AI & DIGITAL HEALTH) MISOGI LABS		

Companies listed in presentation order.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

#### PLATINUM SPONSORS













#### **GOLD SPONSORS**

Keck School of Medicine of USC **MESH Academy** 

#### INNOVATION SHOWCASE SPONSORS

PITCH TRACK SPONSOR







Johnson&Johnson

#### SOLUTIONS CORRIDOR EXHIBITORS















#### INDUSTRY SUPPORTERS













## PANEL SPOTLIGHT

# BEYOND CAPITAL: BUILDING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS FOR STARTUP GROWTH



Gino Segre (Moderator) Managing Director Bakar Labs



Luke Gruenert

Director, Strategic

Innovation

Chiesi Global Rare Diseases



Peter Kotsonis
Asst. Vice Chancellor
Innovation + Partnerships
Univ. of California, SF



Sonia Maryam Setayesh

Investment Partner

Civilization Ventures



Wesley Jackson
President & CSO
Valitor

## **TRACK A: THERAPEUTIC PITCH SESSION #1**

#### **PRESENTING COMPANIES**

#### **INVESTOR PANEL**



SIMURX Oncology



VOYANT BIO Immunotherapy



Oncology

Oncology



INAPILL Immunology



**Dana Watt**Partner

Breakout Ventures



**Karl Handelsman** *Managing Partner*Codon Capital



Satoshi Konagai Associate Investment Director Astellas Ventura Management



**Helen Siaw**Senior Associate
Aditum Bio Fund



Philipp Sander
Investment Analyst
IndieBio/SOSV



**Stuart Hwang**Venture Partner
Remiges Ventures



## Simurx SIMURX, INC.

#### DEVELOPING ADVANCED CAR T-CELL THERAPIES TARGETING THE TUMOR MICROENVIRONMENT IN SOLID TUMORS

Simurx, Inc. is a biotechnology company dedicated to developing innovative CAR T-cell therapies specifically engineered to overcome the immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment (TME) found in solid tumors. Utilizing its proprietary Chimeric TGFB-Signaling Receptor (CTSR) platform, Simurx significantly enhances T-cell persistence, proliferation, and infiltration, addressing major challenges that have historically limited the effectiveness of CAR T-cell therapies. Driven by advanced protein engineering and translational immunotherapy, Simurx positions itself at the forefront of cancer treatment innovation, with potential to markedly improve outcomes for patients facing challenging cancers. The company's robust preclinical and clinical research pipeline is bolstered by strategic partnerships and funding, including a substantial \$6 million grant from the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), highlighting its commitment to translating cutting-edge science into transformative therapies for patients.

#### CEO / FOUNDER

#### SHAHAB ASGHARZADEH. MD

Dr. Shahab Asgharzadeh is the Founder and CEO of Simurx, Inc., and a distinguished Professor at the University of Southern California (USC). He is internationally recognized for his groundbreaking contributions to pediatric oncology, genomics, and cancer immunotherapy, having dedicated more than two decades to advancing innovative translational research. Dr. Asgharzadeh has been instrumental in the conceptualization and development of the Chimeric TGF\(\beta\)-Signaling Receptor (CTSR) platform, which addresses key barriers faced by current CAR T-cell therapies. His visionary leadership has facilitated substantial funding, including a \$6 million grant from the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), underscoring his expertise in transitioning novel scientific discoveries into impactful clinical solutions, significantly improving therapeutic options and outcomes for cancer patients globally.

- Alexander Soloviev | Business Development Manager – West, Excellos
- Bryan Walsh, JD | Senior Associate, Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology, Hogan Lovells USTLP
- Crystal Hsu | Associate Director, Investment Banking, Back Bay Life Science Advisors
- Matan Rapoport, PhD, MBA | Senior Consultant, Foresight Science & Technology
- Michael Guderyon, PhD | Principal Engineer, **CARGO Therapeutics**
- Mohammad El-Kalay, PhD | Biotech Executive, Technical Operations/CM
- Murtaza Kapadia, MBA | Principal, Ark Rivers
- Swaminathan Murugappan, MD, PhD President and Owner, Trident Bio Consulting Inc.
- Tom Zarembinski, PhD, MBA, PMP | Senior Consultant

## Voyant Bio VOYANT BIO

#### OVERCOMING RESISTANCE TO CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY BY REWIRING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN IMMUNE CELLS.

Voyant Bio is an innovative biotechnology company leveraging advanced Al-powered microscopy and spatial analytics to design highly precise immunotherapies aimed at improving the efficacy of cancer treatments. The company's proprietary platform, Voyant PM, comprehensively maps complex immune cell interactions within tumor microenvironments, identifying critical therapeutic targets previously invisible through traditional methods. Voyant Bio addresses a significant clinical need by developing treatments for patients who do not respond adequately to current immunotherapies. Founded in 2023 and headquartered in San Diego, California, Voyant Bio is part of the prestigious Merck Digital Sciences Studio accelerator, underscoring its strategic position at the intersection of cutting-edge computational biology and transformative immunotherapy. By translating novel discoveries from spatial biology into actionable clinical therapies, Voyant Bio aims to fundamentally improve outcomes for cancer patients worldwide.

#### **CEO / FOUNDER**

#### **ASSAF MAGEN, PHD**

Assaf Magen, PhD, is the CEO and Founder of Voyant Bio, a recognized expert in computational biology, immunology, and data science, with extensive experience in spatial biology research. Dr. Magen earned his PhD in Computational Biology and has published influential research on immune cell interactions and their role in cancer resistance mechanisms in prestigious journals, including Nature Medicine. His visionary leadership combines innovative computational techniques with deep biological insights, guiding Voyant Bio's development of precision immunotherapies. Under his guidance, the company's unique Al-driven microscopy platform is redefining therapeutic strategies by precisely targeting cellular interactions within tumors, significantly improving the potential for successful immunotherapy outcomes for patients with treatment-resistant cancers.

- Jenelle Lin, MS | Associate Director of Clinical Operations, Aditum Bio
- Marielena Mata, PhD | Sr. Director, Clinical Biomarkers, Vividion Therapeutics, Inc.
- Ambreen Farook, MBA, CA-AM | Biotech Executive (Partnerships & Corporate Strategy)
- Scott Turner, PhD | Chief Scientific Officer, Arda Therapeutics
- Shamali Roy, PhD, MBA | Director, Product Management & Strategic Partnerships, Vector Laboratories, Inc.
- Swati Ranade, PhD, PMP | Independent Consultant, ConsultOmics



## **ORO THERAPEUTICS**

#### ADVANCING PEPTIDE-DRUG CONJUGATES (PDCS) FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY-RESISTANT CANCERS.

Oro Therapeutics is an innovative biotechnology company developing novel peptide-drug conjugates (PDCs) specifically designed to treat cancers resistant to current immunotherapy approaches, particularly focusing on elderly and frail patient populations often excluded from traditional therapies. Oro's proprietary technology leverages unique enzymatic characteristics of cancer cells, employing a targeted "Trojan Horse" approach that enhances delivery and therapeutic precision, while significantly reducing toxicity. The company's lead candidate, ORO-352, targets tumors with upregulated aminopeptidases, utilizing a novel linker technology to enhance the therapeutic index and expand patient eligibility. Oro Therapeutics is strategically positioned to address critical unmet medical needs for transplant-ineligible populations, clearly targeting relapsed/refractory patients. By overcoming significant limitations of existing immunotherapies, Oro is committed to delivering effective, tolerable, and accessible cancer treatments to underserved patient groups.

#### **CEO / FOUNDER**

#### MATT SMITH | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Matt's most recent role was VP, Commercial Strategy and Alliance Management at Kronos Bio. Prior to that role, he led Market Access, Distribution and Supply Chain supporting the launch of Pepaxto in the US at Oncopeptides, Inc. Matt had previously served in commercial roles of increasing responsibility at Dynavax Technologies, XOMA, Medivation, and Genentech. The first 5 years of his career in the biotech industry were in Clinical Development at both Gilead Sciences and Intarcia Therapeutics. Matt holds an MBA from the University of San Francisco and a BA from Connecticut College.

#### FREDRIK LEHMANN, PHD | CHIEF SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

Before joining Sound Bioventures in Sep' 2023, Fredrik was a venture partner at Industrifonden. Prior to this role, he held senior executive and operational roles at several companies, including oncopeptides AB (head of research and CMC). He also founded several life sciences companies including OT Chemistry, which was acquired by Recipharm in 2015. Fredrik has a PhD. From Goteborg University and an executive MBA from Stockholm School of Economics. In addition, he has published over 50 peer reviewed articles and 25 patent applications.

- **Kimi Barrio, MBA** | Biotech Business Development and Strategy Executive
- Irene Blat, PhD | Senior Director, Search & Evaluation - Oncology, Servier Pharmaceuticals
- Robert Galemmo, PhD| Principal, Robert Galemmo Consulting, LLC
- **Stephanie Liu, MBA** | Head of Business Development, Mirador Therapeutics
- Lucia Mokres, DVM | Chief Consultant, Araneae Consulting
- Shinji Ogino, PhD | Head, Strategy and Operations, Xyphos Biosciences, an Astellas company



#### ADVANCING ORAL IMMUNOMETABOLIC THERAPIES FOR INFLAMMATORY AND AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES.

Inapill is developing orally available small molecule covalent inhibitors of a key immune cell metabolism (immunometabolism) pathway, thus preventing immune cells from producing entire cascades of disease-driving proinflammatory cytokines in autoinflammatory, autoimmune, and chronic inflammatory indications. Inapill's therapeutic will replace current cytokine-neutralizing biologics (e.g. anti-IL-1B, anti-TNF, \$22.5B USD market combined in 2022) by offering improved efficacy and patient compliance. Inapill has in vivo proof-of-concept in a mouse model of the autoinflammatory disease CAPS, as their lead asset prevents lethal IL-1B- and TNF-driven autoinflammation. Inapill also has chronic inflammatory disease in vivo proof-of-concept in high fat diet-fed mice, where their lead asset reverses obesity-driven adipose tissue and liver inflammation, Type 2 Diabetes, and liver steatosis/fibrosis. Inapill's vision is to develop one "pipeline-in-a-pill" therapeutic that can treat multiple inflammatory and autoimmune diseases by targeting a key underlying driver - shifts in cellular immunometabolism.

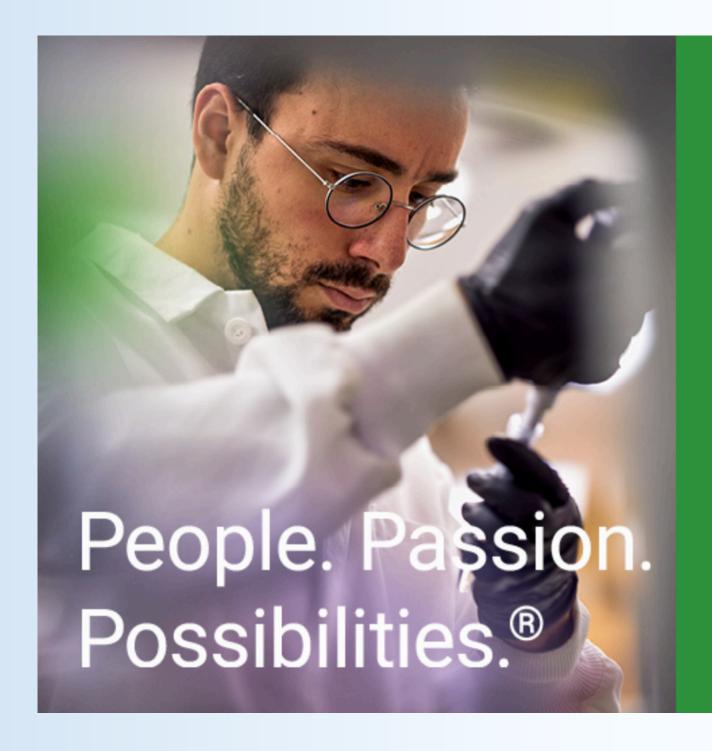
#### **CEO / FOUNDER**

#### **GREG TIMBLIN, PHD**

Dr. Greg Timblin earned Chemistry and Biology degrees from Nebraska Wesleyan University, and a Molecular and Cell Biology Ph.D. from UC Berkeley. As an American Diabetes Association postdoctoral fellow at UC Berkeley and UCSF, Dr. Timblin studied the regulation of proinflammatory gene expression by immunometabolic pathways. He applied his findings to

translational studies tuning down cellular metabolic pathways to suppress disease-causing inflammation, and tuning up the same pathways to help the immune system fight cancer and pathogens. Dr. Timblin co-founded Inapill with the therapeutics team at General Inception to translate his academic research. Under his guidance, Inapill continues to make critical advancements in therapeutic candidates designed to offer more effective small molecule treatments for inflammatory and autoimmune disease, addressing significant unmet patient need.

- Ankush Argade | Scientific Research Advisor, Stanford University School of Medicine
- Greg Opiteck, PhD | Head of Precision & Translational Medicine, Affini-T Therapeutics
- John G. Bauman, PhD | Process
   Development, Manufacturing & Medicinal Chemistry Consultant, RAM Consulting
- Nick Mordwinkin, PharmD, PhD | Chief Business Officer & Chief Strategy Officer, Trace Neuroscience
- Rahul Pathak, JD, PhD | Partner, Squire Patton Boggs
- Vandana Date, JD | Advisor, Mentor, Entrepreneur



At AbbVie, we create medicines and solutions that put impact first—for patients, communities, and our world.

abbvie

## Join the best cost-saving program for stocking your lab

Avantor – BIO Cost-Savings program: the nation's largest and leading program for laboratory supplies. BIO gives you what you need: an unbiased choice of best-in-class manufactured brands, the Avantor® Collection of Brands.

We support you with exclusive access to discounted pricing, free shipping on freight/hazardous materials and rebates. You have access to our dedicated specialists, discounts on new service engagements through Avantor Services, and our BIO Customer Care Team!

Visit avantorsciences.com to learn more.





From discovery to commercialization, Avantor is setting science in motion to create a better world.



©2025 Avantor® Inc. All rights reserved.





## **TRACK B: MEDTECH PITCH SESSION #1**

#### PRESENTING COMPANIES



TAKEOFF41
Neonatology



PHASER SOLUTIONS
Biomanufacturing



NEEDLEGPS Radiology



BIOXYTECH RETINA Opthamology

#### **INVESTOR PANEL**



Alex Trombetta

Principal

Initiate Ventures



Artem A. Trotsyuk

Partner

LongeVC



**Georgia Lu**Founding Partner
Magnet Ventures



Sonia Maryam Setayesh
Investment Partner
Civilization Ventures



## TAKEOFF41

## IMPROVING NEONATAL HEALTH THROUGH A DATA-DRIVEN PLATFORM FOR TOTAL PARENTERAL NUTRITION (TPN) IN NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNITS.

Takeoff41 leverages artificial intelligence to guide critical interventions during the earliest stages of life, significantly enhancing neonatal healthcare outcomes. Founded in 2024, Takeoff41's flagship product is a data-driven platform designed to streamline the complex and lengthy process of total parenteral nutrition (TPN) prescription in neonatal intensive care units (NICUs). The platform has demonstrated substantial efficacy in blinded studies, with physicians showing a 50% preference for Takeoff41's Algenerated solutions over historical prescriptions. Recognized by ASPEN for outstanding research, the company has secured venture capital and a Fast-Track STTR, underscoring its innovation and market potential. The founders, recognized experts in maternal and child health AI with significant Stanford University affiliations, are deeply committed to advancing neonatal health solutions and have publications in prestigious journals including Science Translational Medicine and Nature Medicine.

#### **CEO & CO-FOUNDER**

#### **JOE PHONGPREECHA. PHD**

Dr. Joe Phongpreecha is the CEO and Co-founder of Takeoff41, completing a postdoctoral study in Biomedical Data Science from Stanford University. Dr. Phongpreecha specializes in developing Al-driven healthcare solutions, particularly focused on maternal and neonatal health. His distinguished research has been widely recognized, securing multiple prestigious awards, including the Fast-Track STTR grant for Takeoff41. With over 20 peer-reviewed publications, his expertise encompasses machine learning applications, predictive analytics, and clinical decision support systems. Under his leadership, Takeoff41 is poised to redefine neonatal care standards by bringing robust, data-driven solutions to the forefront of pediatric clinical practice, significantly improving healthcare delivery and patient outcomes for vulnerable populations.

- Aditya Kulkarni, PhD | Founder, IndusQuad LLC
- Craig Darling | VP, Sales & Marketing, Valar Labs
- Jill Konowich, MD, PhD | Radiation Oncologist & Independent Consultant, Therapeutics and Medical Devices
- M. Victoria Reade, MBA, BSN, FRSA | Chief Operating Officer, Vita Imaging
- **Mike Henry** | Chief Business Officer, Aldatu Biosciences
- Nick Polytaridis, MBA | Digital Health Strategy & Innovation, Portfolio Lead, Samsung Electronics
- **Robert L. Dickinson** | Principal, Spindle Life Sciences Consulting, Inc.
- **Sarah Suleman, MD** | Head of Strategy and Operations, Symbian Health
- Verna Rodriguez | Executive Director, MTM Program, Master of Translational Medicine - UCB & UCSF



## **PHASER SOLUTIONS**

## ENABLING THE RAPID EXPANSION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF CRITICAL THERAPEUTIC PRODUCTS THROUGH NOVEL STERILE MANIFOLD FILLING.

Implementing traditional final product filling solutions typically takes up to 2.5 years and requires significant capital investment, forcing most therapeutic manufacturers to outsource this critical step or rely on risky manual processes. Syn-Fill<sup>TM</sup> changes the equation by offering a plug-and-play, automated closed manifold system that slashes implementation time to as little as 6mo. and reduces costs by up to five times compared to legacy technologies. Having advanced filling capabilities rapidly accessible (whether for in-house production or to enable end-to-end contract manufacturing) enables accelerated time to market, control over product quality, and improved chances of clinical and commercial success.

#### CEO / FOUNDER

#### **ADAM MORGENTHALER**

Adam Morgenthaler is the CEO and Founder of Phaser Solutions, dedicated to innovating sterile manufacturing processes through modular fill/finish systems. Adam's expertise encompasses advanced engineering, product development, and process optimization in pharmaceutical manufacturing. His strategic vision has been instrumental in driving the

development of Phaser's user-friendly and cost-effective solutions designed to support therapeutics production. Under his leadership, Phaser Solutions aims to redefine the standards of sterile filling, ensuring that every injection should have robust sterility assurance no matter what the lot size or clinical trial phase.

- Carl Patterson, MS, SSGB, SSBB | Director of Quality, LATITUDE Pharmaceuticals Inc.
- Howard Edelman | Chief Revenue Officer, Healthcare Practice Lead, Product Realization Group
- Matthew Worrallok, PhD | Manager, Technical Operations, Poseida Therapeutics, Inc.
- **Meserve Platt** | Principal, Platt Power Packaging
- Michael Hill, PhD | Co-Founder; Global Head, Science & Technology and Innovation, Science Innovations LLC
- Rohullah Latif, MBA | Director of Consulting, Azzur Group
- Walt Cecka | Medical Technology Fellow, Triple Ring Technologies



## **NEEDLEGPS**

#### REVOLUTIONIZING CT-GUIDED NEEDLE PLACEMENT THROUGH ADVANCED PRECISION GUIDANCE TECHNOLOGY.

NeedleGPS is a medical device company dedicated to transforming CT-guided needle procedures through innovative real-time angular guidance technology. Current CT-guided interventions rely heavily on visual estimation and operator experience, leading to variability, increased radiation exposure, and procedural inefficiencies. NeedleGPS directly addresses these challenges with a compact, precision-engineered device designed to significantly improve procedural accuracy, safety, and efficiency. Its core technology provides physicians with continuous real-time directional feedback, effectively eliminating trial-and-error approaches and reducing procedure times. Designed to integrate seamlessly into standard clinical environments, NeedleGPS is ideal for hospital and outpatient settings, targeting applications such as tumor biopsies, spinal injections, and pain management procedures. As demand for minimally invasive procedures continues to rise, NeedleGPS is positioned to set new standards in interventional radiology and patient care.

#### CEO / FOUNDER

#### LOHITH KINI, MD, PHD | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dr. Lohith Kini is the Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder of NeedleGPS and a Neuroradiology Fellow at UCSF. He is a physician-scientist dedicated to building medical technologies that improve the diagnosis and treatment of intractable diseases. With an M.D.-Ph.D. in neuroengineering from UPenn and engineering degrees from MIT, he applies artificial intelligence and biomedical data science to clinical radiology and neurology. He believes that significant advances in academic medicine require partnerships between clinicians and industry to translate discoveries from bench to bedside. Through an entrepreneurial approach, he is committed to transforming clinically-informed research into real-world solutions that enhance patient care.

#### BRIAN HAAS. MD | CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

Dr. Brian Haas is the Chief Medical Officer and Co-founder of NeedleGPS and an Associate Professor of Radiology at UCSF. He is a fellowship-trained thoracic radiologist with extensive clinical expertise in image-guided thoracic procedures. Dr. Haas combines deep clinical experience with a strong background in medical innovation, focusing on developing technologies to enhance procedural precision, patient safety, and overall healthcare efficiency. Under his clinical leadership, NeedleGPS is pioneering advancements in minimally invasive, highly accurate needle placement technology, significantly transforming interventional radiology practices.

- Faisal Khan, MBA | Sr. Director Marketing, Akura Medical
- Geetha Rao, PhD | CEO, Springborne Life Sciences
- Graham Howe, PhD | Vice President, Program Management Office, BD Biosciences
- Irene Fung, CFA | Financial Consultant, Medtronic
- Mike Neidert, MBA, PhD | Vice President of Strategic Development, Veranex
- Tony DeLizza, MS | Principal, First Light, LLC
- Will Kruka | Founder and Managing Member, RubiconSail Advisors LLC



## **BIOXYTECH RETINA, INC.**

NONINVASIVE IMAGING PLATFORM FOR EARLY DETECTION AND MONITORING OF DIABETIC RETINOPATHY THROUGH ADVANCED RETINAL OXYGENATION MEASUREMENT.

Bioxytech Retina, Inc. is a clinical-stage medical device company developing a groundbreaking noninvasive retinal scanning technology designed for the early detection and monitoring of diabetic retinopathy (DR). Unlike current diagnostic tools that detect DR only after irreversible structural damage occurs, Bioxytech's innovative technology measures functional changes in retinal oxygenation, allowing for earlier and more actionable intervention. Their compact, Al-enhanced module seamlessly integrates with existing fundus cameras without disrupting clinical workflow, generating precise and continuous metrics of disease severity. This provides clinicians with an advanced tool for patient risk stratification and optimized treatment planning. With over 420 million people living with diabetes globally—nearly half at risk for DR—Bioxytech Retina addresses a significant unmet need for improved retinal disease screening and monitoring. The target market includes optometrists, ophthalmologists, and primary care providers, representing an addressable market exceeding \$4.5 billion across North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific. Having successfully demonstrated proof of concept in preclinical and early human studies, Bioxytech is currently advancing its next-generation system enhanced with Al integration and is seeking \$10 million in funding for commercial development, regulatory studies, and strategic team expansion.

#### CEO / FOUNDER

#### **ALI BASIRI, PHD**

Dr. Ali Basiri is the CEO and Founder of Bioxytech Retina, Inc. He holds a PhD in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from The Catholic University of America, specializing in bio-optics, medical device instrumentation, data analysis, and image processing. Dr. Basiri combines his extensive engineering expertise with innovative approaches to ophthalmic diagnostics, developing advanced imaging technologies for early detection and monitoring of diabetic retinopathy. Under his leadership, Bioxytech Retina is positioned to significantly enhance clinical outcomes and improve quality of life for millions affected by diabetes globally.



Hogan Lovells
Life Science and
Health Care

Regardless of the sector in which you operate or the maturity of your products, we understand how to bridge the gap between the challenges you face and the outcome you want. From budding startups to multinational enterprises, we've been there before and know how to position you for success.

Whatever your challenge, wherever the issue, Hogan Lovells has you covered.





### Our Passion is Helping Scientists Follow Theirs.

We understand that behind every human achievement, there is great science. Scientists and clinicians like you work tirelessly to make a lasting impact on people and the world.

As champions of science and a global leader in laboratory and clinical technologies, we are committed to helping you make continuous advancements in areas such as cancer research, sustainable energy and drug development.

Our team will work with you to understand your challenges so we can provide you with insightful and transformative solutions.

See how we can collaborate with you to bring great science to life at:

agilent.com/go/greatscience

@ Agilent Technologies, Inc. 2024

## **TRACK A: THERAPEUTIC PITCH SESSION #2**

#### **PRESENTING COMPANIES**

#### **INVESTOR PANEL**



KOPRA BIO
Oncology



SCUDO BIOSCIENCES
Transplant



RESVITA BIO
Dermatology



**Dana Watt**Partner

Breakout Ventures



**Karl Handelsman** *Managing Partner*Codon Capital



Satoshi Konagai Associate Investment Director Astellas Ventura Management



**Helen Siaw**Senior Associate
Aditum Bio Fund



Philipp Sander
Investment Analyst
IndieBio/SOSV



**Stuart Hwang** *Venture Partner*Remiges Ventures



## **KOPRA BIO**

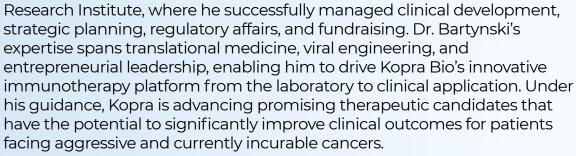
#### ENGINEERING VIRUSES THAT TEACH THE IMMUNE SYSTEM TO KILL CANCER.

Kopra Bio is a seed-stage biotechnology company developing genetically engineered viral immunotherapies designed to train the immune system to effectively target and eliminate cancer cells. Kopra's innovative approach leverages groundbreaking research and technology from UCSF, initially targeting glioblastoma—one of the most aggressive and treatment-resistant brain cancers. The company's lead candidate, KB-516, has demonstrated transformative efficacy in preclinical models, significantly improving survival rates compared to existing FDA-approved therapies. Kopra's engineered viruses infect tumor cells, converting them into therapeutic biofactories that stimulate robust immune responses against cancer. Based in San Francisco and supported by Y Combinator (S24), Kopra Bio is poised to redefine cancer treatment paradigms, addressing critical unmet needs in oncology through a unique combination of viral engineering, immunotherapy, and precision medicine.

#### **CEO / FOUNDER**

#### **ANDREW BARTYNSKI, PHD**

Dr. Andrew Bartynski is the CEO and Co-founder of Kopra Bio. He holds a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Southern California and has extensive experience launching and scaling biotechnology ventures. His prior leadership roles include executive positions at ANA Therapeutics, YourChoice Therapeutics, and the Alexander Shulgin





- Dan E. Levy, PhD | CEO and Principal Consultant, DEL BioPharma LLC
- David Davidovic, MBA | Founder and Principal, pathForward Strategic Consulting
- David Passmore, MBA | Biologics Drug Discovery and Technology Licensing Expertise
- Michael Nowak, MBA, PhD | Managing Director, BJC Capital Advisors LLC
- Tim Herpin, MBA, PhD | Biotech BD & Strategy advisor
- Titus Plattel, MSc., MBA | CEO & President, Viage Therapeutics, Inc.
- Todd Lorenz, MD | Acting Chief Medical Officer, Novasenta



## **SCUDO BIOSCIENCES**

#### PIONEERING IMMUNE SHIELDS FOR ORGAN TRANSPLANTS.

Scudo Biosciences envisions a world where patients receive organ transplants without extensive waiting, require minimal immunosuppression, and enjoy significantly improved long-term health outcomes. "Scudo," meaning 'shield' in Italian, encapsulates the company's core innovation—immune shield technology designed to revolutionize organ transplantation. By reprogramming solid organs using ex vivo gene therapy during machine perfusion, Scudo reduces donor-recipient matching requirements and minimizes the need for lifelong immunosuppressive medications, thereby broadening patient access and substantially improving clinical outcomes. Scudo's initial therapeutic focus targets heart transplants, addressing critical unmet needs for hypersensitive patients who are unlikely to find suitable donor matches. The company also plans to expand its technology to broader patient populations and additional organ types, such as kidneys. Currently in a pre-seed phase, Scudo maintains exclusive and unrestricted access to the background intellectual property protecting its immune shield molecules, positioning itself to redefine transplant medicine and patient care.

#### CEO / FOUNDER

#### SHEENA MCGOWAN, PHD | CEO

Dr. Sheena McGowan is the CEO and Co-founder of Scudo Biosciences. She holds a PhD in Structural Biology and has extensive experience in academic research and biotechnology leadership. Dr. McGowan has contributed to numerous high-impact scientific publications and has gained international recognition for her innovative work in protein structure, function, and engineering. At Scudo, she leads the company's strategic direction and oversees the advancement of proprietary immune shielding technologies aimed at significantly improving organ transplantation outcomes and transforming patient lives.

#### **ASHLEY BUCKLE, PHD | CTO**

Dr. Ashley Buckle is the CTO and Co-founder of Scudo Biosciences and a leading expert in protein engineering and structural biology with over three decades of experience. He trained in protein biochemistry at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge, UK under the mentorship of Sir Alan Fersht, a pioneer in the field. Dr. Buckle has spent his career engineering therapeutic proteins for enhanced stability, affinity, and function in both academia and industry, across both traditional and emerging biologic formats, with over 160 publications and 11 patents. At Scudo, he provides deep scientific leadership and translational insight, having created and developed the company's foundational research program and secured its first non-dilutive funding through a \$1.5M grant from the Gates Foundation. He continues to guide the development of Scudo's immune-shielding technologies that aim to reshape transplant outcomes and long-term patient care.

- Ambreen Farook, MBA, CA-AM | Biotech Executive (Partnerships & Corporate Strategy)
- Andrew Hollands, PhD | Vice President, Research Operations, SciThera
- Eunice Vukosavljevic, CP | Executive Clinical Operations Consultant, Biotech/Pharma
- Jie Li, MD | Executive Director. CNS TA Research Lead. Astellas Cell & Gene Research Unit
- Mark Kline, PhD | COO and Co-Founder, X-Therma Inc.
- Monica Alfaro Welling, MBA | Co-founder & Managing Director, Atheln, Inc.
- **Sonia Appel, MS** | Founder and Principal Consultant, Alismere
- Vandana Date, JD | Investor, Portfolia



## **RESVITA BIO**

#### TRANSFORMING DERMATOLOGY WITH CONTINUOUS TOPICAL PROTEIN THERAPY.

ResVita Bio is a therapeutics company dedicated to developing transformative treatments for severe skin diseases. Their proprietary technology delivers continuous topical protein therapies using genetically engineered bacteria, uniquely combining the therapeutic potency of biologics with the topical convenience and targeted delivery of small molecules. This groundbreaking approach avoids systemic safety concerns and enhances treatment effectiveness. ResVita Bio's lead therapeutic candidate targets Netherton Syndrome, a rare and serious pediatric dermatological disease affecting approximately 13,000 patients in the U.S. and EU, with a projected domestic total addressable market of \$900 million. Following productive interactions with the FDA, ResVita Bio is advancing toward clinical trials, supported by compelling preclinical efficacy data that industry experts have described as exceptional. Based in Berkeley, California, ResVita Bio has raised \$4 million to date and is poised to advance its therapies into clinical development, aiming to significantly improve patient outcomes in dermatology.

#### **CEO / FOUNDER**

#### **AMIN ZARGAR, PHD**

Dr. Amin Zargar is the CEO and Founder of ResVita Bio, holding a PhD in Bioengineering from the University of Maryland, College Park. His expertise encompasses synthetic biology, genetic engineering, and therapeutic development for dermatological conditions. Dr. Zargar has a distinguished track record of translating cutting-edge biological research into commercially viable therapies, particularly in protein-based treatments. At ResVita Bio, he leads a dedicated team advancing innovative topical protein therapies designed to address critical unmet needs in severe pediatric dermatological diseases.

- Akash Datwani, PhD | Vice President, Business Development & Strategic Alliances, Alto Neuroscience
- Alicia Chung, PhD | Business Development & Strategy Advisor, Bionaut Labs
- Chimwemwe Mwase, PhD | Strategic Innovation Manager (Consultant), Chiesi USA, Inc.
- Maria Soloveychik, PhD | Co-founder and CEO, SyntheX, Inc.
- Praneeti Pathipati, PhD | Program Manager, Business Development and Licensing, UCSF Innovation Ventures
- Simone Seiter, MD, PhD | Senior Partner,
   Commercial Strategy & Excellence, Simon-Kucher
   & Partners
- Tilmann Brotz, PhD | Principal, PharmaDirections
- **Tim Irving, MBA** | Senior Director of Finance, Carmot Therapeutics, Inc.
- Trevor Collingwood, PhD | Chief Technology Officer, Acrigen Biosciences

ACCELERATE YOUR COMPANY

at UC Berkeley's world-class incubator for life-science startups.

More than \$625 million investment raised!

- Everything that a bio-entrepreneur needs, all in one location.
- We enable bio startups to hit the ground running and focus on advancing their technology.
- We connect you to sophisticated resources from UC Berkeley and the Bay Area, tailored to earlystage entrepreneurs.
- Now open to teams from around the world so anyone can leverage all that UC Berkeley offers.
- Join our extraordinary community of entrepreneurs, investors, and industry affiliates.





visit bakarlabs.berkeley.edu





## **TRACK B: TECHBIO PITCH SESSION #2**

#### **PRESENTING COMPANIES**



MISOGI LABS
Al Drug Discovery



DABBLE HEALTH
Neurology



MINE Metabolic

#### **INVESTOR PANEL**



Alex Trombetta

Principal

Initiate Ventures



Artem A. Trotsyul Partner LongeVC



**Georgia Lu**Founding Partner
Magnet Ventures



Sonia Maryam Setayesh
Investment Partner
Civilization Ventures



## **MISOGI LABS**

#### BUILDING AN AI-DRIVEN MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY PLATFORM TO ACCELERATE DRUG DISCOVERY.

Misogi Labs is revolutionizing drug development by leveraging advanced artificial intelligence and machine learning in medicinal chemistry. The company has created an intuitive Al-driven platform designed to model, predict, and optimize absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity (ADMETox) properties of drug molecules in mere seconds. This transformative approach eliminates months of costly and inefficient trial-and-error processes traditionally required in drug discovery. By significantly enhancing decision-making capabilities for medicinal chemists, Misogi's platform increases the likelihood of success for every molecule tested—ultimately expediting the development of safer, more effective therapeutics for patients. Misogi's unique integration of physics-based machine learning, closed-loop experimental data, and advanced Al agents is enabling the creation of precisely tailored small-molecule medicines, dramatically expanding the potential scope and efficiency of pharmaceutical innovation.

#### CEO / FOUNDER

#### **JESSICA MUSTALI, MSC**

Jessica Mustali is the CEO and Co-founder of Misogi Labs, holding an MSc in Bioengineering and Biomedical Engineering. She has extensive experience in the development and commercialization of digital therapeutics and advanced drug discovery platforms. At Misogi Labs, Jessica leads strategic vision, operational and product execution, driving innovation in Al-powered medicinal chemistry to accelerate drug discovery and improve therapeutic outcomes. Her leadership has positioned Misogi Labs at the forefront of Al integration in preclinical R&D, transforming the efficiency and precision of therapeutic development.

- Charles Gluchowski, PhD | Independent Life Sciences Consultant
- Diya Mohan, PhD | Principal Consultant, Bioinformatics and Data Science Consulting
- Lorena Riol Blanco, PhD | Vice President of Biology, Evommune
- Matthew Metz, PhD, PMP | Strategic Alliances Director, Natera
- Matt Sitter, MBA | Chief Executive Officer, Advantage Foundry Network (AFN)
- **Michelle Chen, PhD** | Chief Business Officer, Insilico Medicine
- Padma Kodukula, MBA, PhD | Member, Board of Directors, Simmunome Inc.



## **DABBLE HEALTH**

## TRANSFORMING PERSONAL PHOTOS INTO ENGAGING COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS THROUGH AI-DRIVEN ANALYSIS TO SUPPORT EARLY DETECTION OF COGNITIVE CHANGES.

Dabble Health has developed Momento, an Al-powered platform transforming personal photos into interactive cognitive assessment activities. By integrating clinical utility with emotional engagement, Momento addresses two key challenges in cognitive health: early detection and consistent monitoring. The platform uniquely combines clinically validated cognitive insights for healthcare providers with meaningful family interactions centered around shared memories. This dual approach positions Dabble Health at the intersection of healthcare innovation and family connection, opening revenue streams across senior living facilities, healthcare systems, and consumer markets. Momento's clinical validation demonstrates an impressive 80% F1 score in detecting Mild Cognitive Impairment, with larger studies ongoing. As cognitive health concerns grow, Dabble Health aims to redefine brain health monitoring and memory care through easily accessible, Al-driven solutions.

#### **CEO & CO-FOUNDER**

#### **LAWRENCE CHERNIN, PHD**

Dr. Lawrence Chernin leads Dabble Health as CEO and Co-founder, driving the company's mission to revolutionize cognitive health monitoring through AI technology. With a Ph.D. in Astronomy from Harvard and a Miller Research Fellowship at UC Berkeley, Lawrence brings analytical expertise to healthcare innovation. Motivated by personal experience with Alzheimer's in his family, he combines over 20 years in machine learning with a commitment to improving early detection of cognitive decline. His experience building technology solutions that reach millions drives Dabble Health's mission to make cognitive monitoring more accessible for everyone.





## MINE INC.

#### PRECISION DIGITAL HEALTH PLATFORM FOR METABOLIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT.

MINE Inc. (Metabolic Insight Neural Engine) is a precision digital health company transforming the management of metabolic conditions through proprietary multiomic diagnostics and Al-driven personalization. MINE decodes each user's unique metabolic fingerprint, delivering real-time insights, personalized coaching, and incentive-based health engagement directly through its intuitive mobile platform. As the long-term health needs of GLP-1 receptor agonist users (e.g., Ozempic, Wegovy) become increasingly important, MINE's solution supports sustained metabolic health beyond pharmacological interventions. Seamlessly integrating with Electronic Health Records (EHR) systems, MINE offers continuous patient monitoring and clinically valuable data for healthcare providers. With over 200 million individuals globally affected by metabolic syndrome, MINE targets a substantial and growing \$6 billion serviceable market. The company strategically blends direct-to-consumer subscriptions and outcomes-based healthcare partnerships, enabling scalable growth. Strategic collaborations, including partnerships with companies like Pendulum Therapeutics, further position MINE to rapidly scale across both consumer wellness and clinical healthcare markets.

#### **CEO & CO-FOUNDER**

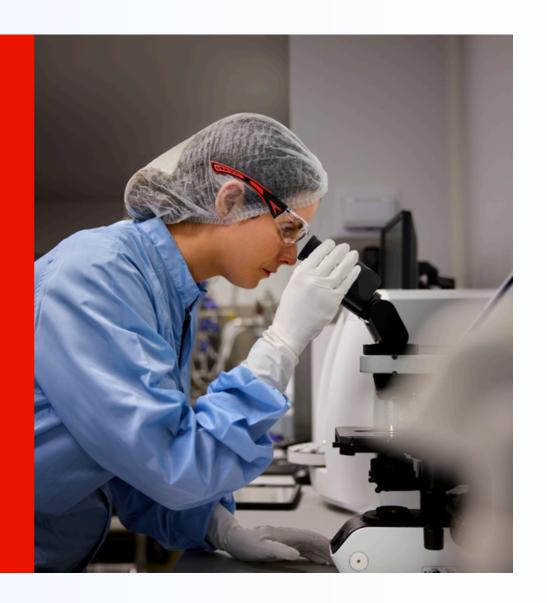
#### **BOBBY KWAN, PHD**

Dr. Bobby Kwan is the CEO and Co-founder of MINE Inc., holding a PhD in Biochemistry from Johns Hopkins University. His doctoral research focused on multiomic metabolic responses in complex biological systems, directly informing MINE's innovative platform. With extensive expertise in biochemistry, metabolic diseases, and data-driven product development, Dr. Kwan has established a reputation for translating rigorous scientific research into impactful, user-centered health technologies. At MINE Inc., he leads the development of intelligent, empathetic tools designed to empower users in sustainably managing their metabolic health, significantly improving long-term patient outcomes. His leadership is strategically driving MINE's expansion, bridging consumer wellness and healthcare ecosystems.

# Accelerate your innovation at JLABS



Johnson&Johnson



# FAST California FOSTERING INNOVATION

California Life Sciences invites applications from pioneering startups developing groundbreaking solutions across all areas of life sciences for the **Fall 2025 FAST California Program.** 

#### This is your opportunity to:

- Access tailored mentorship from industry leaders.
- Refine your business strategy with expert guidance.
- Build a robust network within the life sciences ecosystem.

#### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Based in California
- Less than 12 employees
- Raised no more than \$5 million in dilutive funding.

#### Fall 2025 Special Awards

- Chiesi Discovery Award Rare Disease Therapies
- Servier Discovery Award Oncology & Neurology

FAST California is offered at no cost, and we don't take any equity.

Don't miss this chance to accelerate your company's growth and position yourself for long-term success.

**Apply by July 5th** for consideration for the Fall 2025 Cohort.



## **FAST BY THE NUMBERS**









EXITS (3 IPO & 11 ACOUIRED / MERGED)

1,400+



HOURS OF PRO BONO MENTORING PROVIDED





