



CALIFORNIA
LIFE SCIENCES

INNOVATION SHOWCASE

SPOTLIGHTING **BIG** IDEAS AND **BOLD** SCIENCE

DECEMBER 10 | 1-7 PM | SAN CARLOS

DIGITAL PROGRAM

WELCOME TO THE 2025 FALL INNOVATION SHOWCASE

PROGRAM

1:00 PM	CHECK-IN
1:30-1:45 PM	WELCOME REMARKS Mike Guerra President & CEO, California Life Sciences
1:45-2:30 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION 'The Biotech Big Picture: Understanding Deal Drivers, Current Priorities & the Path Forward'
2:30-2:50 PM	BREAK
2:50-3:50 PM	COMPANY PRESENTATIONS AND INVESTOR Q&A 2 Parallel Tracks Track A: Therapeutics Track B: TechBio, MedTech & Tools
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: MedTech & Tools
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, TECHBIO & TOOLS
SYRNA THERAPEUTICS Immunology, CNS	DINYA DNA Tools
QUM THERAPEUTICS Oncology	AIKIU INC. AI Drug Discovery
DM THERAPEUTICS Gene Therapy	NEUROSENTRY Central Nervous System
CRAFTON BIOTECHNOLOGY Oncology	ICARUS THERAPEUTICS Clinical AI

SESSION 2: PRESENTATIONS

TRACK A THERAPEUTICS	TRACK B MEDTECH, TECHBIO & TOOLS
BRAINSTORM THERAPEUTICS Central Nervous System	BUTTERFLY BIOSCIENCES Women's Health
AIVOCODE INC Central Nervous System	OPAL THERAPEUTICS Women's Health
EDITPEP Central Nervous System	ACURION HEALTH Oncology

Companies listed in presentation order.

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PANEL SPOTLIGHT

THE BIOTECH BIG PICTURE: UNDERSTANDING DEAL DRIVERS, CURRENT PRIORITIES & THE PATH FORWARD



Irene Blat

*Head of External Innovation,
North America
Servier Pharmaceuticals*



Shawna Frazier

*Director
AbbVie Ventures*



Nikole Kimes

*Founder & CEO
Siolta Therapeutics*



Joe Markson

*Principal, Venture
Investments
Novo Holdings US*



Michael Karavolias

*Statewide Industry
Engagement Manager
GO-Biz*

Session Moderator



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TRACK A: THERAPEUTIC PITCH SESSION #1

PRESENTING COMPANIES



SYRNA THERAPEUTICS
Immunology, CNS



QUM THERAPEUTICS
Oncology



DM THERAPEUTICS
Gene Therapy



CRAFTON BIOTECHNOLOGY
Oncology

INVESTOR PANEL



Hu Sheng Qian
*Director, Boehringer Ingelheim
Venture Fund*



Joe Markson
*Principal, Venture Investments
Novo Holdings US*



Nicole Sonner
*Associate
Playground Global*



Satoshi Konagai
*Investment Lead
Astellas Venture Management*



Shawna Frazier
*Director, West Coast Ventures
AbbVie*



Stuart Hwang
*Venture Partner
Remiges Ventures*



SYRNA THERAPEUTICS

REVOLUTIONIZING DRUG DISCOVERY THROUGH STRUCTURE-GUIDED PROTEIN DISCOVERY

Syrna Therapeutics is the first mRNA focused structure-guided drug discovery company. The company has achieved three scientific breakthroughs that revolutionize targeting mRNA with small molecules: (a) selective translation inhibition in cells through formation of covalent small molecule–mRNA adducts; (b) use of 3D structural information to identify and valid novel small molecule binding sites within mRNA; and (c) structure-guided drug discovery against mRNA. Syrna uses 3D structure to identify and validate structured domains in the mRNA encoding disease-causing proteins as small molecule targets and has done so for over 25 proteins across diverse protein classes. The company's inhibitors prevent expression by selectively forming a covalent adduct at the structured domain of the targeted mRNA. This mechanism of action is independent of any inherent biological function of the mRNA where the small molecule binds and thus bypasses the need to find a compound-RNA binding site combination that produces a desired phenotypic based on the RNA's native biology. Syrna's lead programs are optimization-ready and focus on mRNAs encoding immunology and neurodegeneration targets. The company's compounds are designed to be orally bioavailable, cell permeable, systemically active, and CNS-penetrant, overcoming key limitations of existing modalities that block protein function or inhibit expression.

CEO / FOUNDER

DAVID WEITZ

David is founder / CEO of Syrna Therapeutics, Inc., the first structure-guided drug discovery company targeting mRNA. Syrna is advancing small molecules that covalently modify mRNA to inhibit translation. David was with Takeda for roughly 20 years prior to Syrna. From 2016-2020, he led Takeda's San Diego research site where he built the site's agile, collaborative and entrepreneurial approach to drug discovery research and had direct responsibility for Structural Biology, Biophysics, Protein Engineering, Early Target Discovery, and Computational Biology. David also held leadership positions in Takeda's Legal, IP BD departments. David was General Counsel of Syrrx before Takeda acquired it in 2005. Prior to Takeda/Syrrx, David was a partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati focusing on life science intellectual property. David received a B.S. in chemistry from M.I.T., a M.S. in chemistry from UC Berkeley and a Juris Doctor from UC Berkeley.





QUM THERAPEUTICS

DEVELOPING NEXT-GENERATION MULTI-SPECIFIC T CELL ENGAGERS ENGINEERED FOR SAFE, DURABLE, AND PRECISE IMMUNOTHERAPY AGAINST CANCER AND AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES.

QUM Therapeutics is a San Francisco-based biotechnology company developing next-generation T cell engagers (TCEs) to address critical unmet needs in oncology and autoimmune disease. The company's proprietary Q²TCE (Quiet T Cell Engager) platform is a novel class of multispecific antibodies precisely engineered at the T cell-binding interface to eliminate pathogenic or tumor cells while minimizing cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and T cell exhaustion—two major limitations of current TCEs. By uniting deep expertise in molecular immunology, antibody engineering, and translational oncology, QUM is pioneering a next generation of safe, durable, and effective immune therapies for both solid tumors and autoimmune diseases. Operating from MBC BioLabs in San Francisco, QUM Therapeutics embodies a patient-centered approach that integrates innovation, scientific rigor, and care-driven design to transform the future of targeted immunotherapy.

CEO / FOUNDER

JAEHAK OH, PHD

Dr. Jaehak Oh is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of QUM Therapeutics, where he leads the development of next-generation T cell engager therapies for cancer and immune-related diseases. Before founding QUM, Dr. Oh served as a Senior Scientist in Immuno-Oncology at Amgen, where he led multiple preclinical programs advancing novel myeloid-targeted immunotherapies. Earlier, he was a Senior Scientific Researcher in Cancer Immunology at Genentech, where he contributed to the development of RNA-based cancer vaccine platforms in collaboration with BioNTech and conducted pioneering work on tumor-associated macrophage modulation. Dr. Oh earned his PhD in Molecular Immunology and BS in Biology from Seoul National University and completed postdoctoral research at the University of California, San Francisco, focusing on dendritic cell-mediated immune regulation. He is the author of more than a dozen peer-reviewed publications and an inventor on multiple patents in immunotherapy and immune cell genome editing using CRISPR.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Chris Haskell, PhD** | Head, JLABS San Francisco Bay Area, Johnson & Johnson
- **Lane Lowenstein, MBA, CPA** | Founder & Principal, Lowenstein Advisors
- **Matan Rapoport, PhD, MBA** | BD & Strategy Advisor
- **Michael J. Nowak, MBA, PhD** | Managing Director, BJC Capital Advisors LLC
- **Stephanie Liu, MBA** | Head of Business Development, Mirador Therapeutics
- **Stephen Cary, PhD** | Founder, Opus Mine
- **Susan Lacy, PhD** | Principal Consultant, Composite BIO Consulting
- **Swaminathan Murugappan, MD, PhD** | President and Owner, Trident Bio Consulting Inc



DM THERAPEUTICS

PIONEERING NON-VIRAL GENE THERAPY WITH A FULLY SYNTHETIC PLATFORM FOR SAFE, DURABLE, AND PRECISE GENETIC CORRECTION IN PREVIOUSLY UNTREATABLE DISEASES.

DM Therapeutics is a preclinical-stage biotechnology company pioneering Dark Matter DNA™, a next-generation, non-viral gene therapy platform engineered for safe, durable, and precise genetic correction. This fully synthetic system enables delivery of large genes and nuclease-free editing, overcoming the size limits, immunogenicity, and manufacturing challenges of viral vectors. By integrating molecular engineering, bioinformatics, and scalable synthesis, DM Therapeutics achieves stable, tunable gene expression across diverse therapeutic applications. Its lead programs target inherited retinal diseases where no approved treatments exist and durable transgene expression is critical for patient outcomes. Beyond ophthalmology, Dark Matter DNA extends to broader genetic disorders previously inaccessible due to vector limitations or safety concerns. Headquartered in Santa Cruz, California, DM Therapeutics is advancing Dark Matter DNA to deliver transformative, durable genetic medicines and unlock new possibilities for patients with previously intractable diseases.

CEO / FOUNDER

JAKE LESNIK

Jake Lesnik is the CEO and Co-Founder of DM Therapeutics, where he leads the company's vision to build the future of gene therapy with its Dark Matter DNA™ platform. A biotechnology executive with more than 18 years of leadership experience in business development, commercial strategy, and operations, Jake brings a unique blend of scientific and strategic insight to the company's mission. Before founding DM Therapeutics, he led commercial functions at multiple cell and gene therapy startups, including Mekonos, where he established partnerships with global pharma and biotech firms and helped scale the company's technology platform. He also serves as Chief Business Officer at Editpep and founded Natural Bridges Bio, a consulting firm supporting early-stage biotechs with business development and market-entry strategy. Earlier in his career, Jake held leadership roles in marketing, sales, and product management, helping to launch first-in-market tools for CRISPR and exosome research. He earned his degree in Bioinformatics from Stanford University and is recognized for his ability to translate complex science into transformative business outcomes.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Aalap Shah, MS** | President and CEO, Fedspout
- **Anil Chhibbar, MSc** | Principal Consultant, Pharmatech Associates (a USP company)
- **Gebhard Neyer, PhD, MBA** | Senior Vice President, Product Development, Nuvie Bio
- **Jennifer Low, MD, PhD** | CEO and Founder, Wield Therapeutics, Inc.
- **Michael Boyne, PhD** | Co-Founder and Principal, CatalystBio
- **Michael Guderyon, PhD** | Principal Engineer. CARGO Therapeutics
- **Simone Seiter, MD, PhD** | Senior Partner, Commercial Strategy & Excellence, Simon-Kucher & Partners
- **Sonia Appel, MS** | Founder and Principal Consultant, Alismere Life Sciences
- **Trevor Collingwood, PhD** | CEO, ColBio Consulting, LLC



CRAFTON BIOTECHNOLOGY

TRANSFORMING MRNA'S SAFETY, EFFICACY AND SPEED INTO LASTING CANCER CARE THROUGH PROPRIETARY RNA CHEMISTRY AND HIGH-FIDELITY SYNTHESIS TECHNOLOGIES FOR SCALABLE PRECISION MEDICINE.

Crafton Biotechnology is a privately held mRNA therapeutics company developing next-generation vaccines and treatments powered by proprietary RNA chemistry and synthesis technologies. Its platform includes PureCap®, the world's most advanced mRNA Cap2 analog enabling GMP-grade production of ultra-pure, fully functional mRNA with superior protein expression, and CRAFT™ (Constructed RNA with Advanced Functional Technology), a DNA-free synthesis system that allows rapid de novo generation of capped and chemically modified mRNA within one week. These innovations enable unprecedented control, purity, and speed in mRNA manufacturing. Crafton's lead oncology program in HPV associated cancer vaccine is expected to enter IND enabling by 2027 and has a second pipeline in colorectal cancer which will be in collaboration with a large US cancer center. Crafton also has an infectious disease program in partner with the Japanese government to enter the clinic in 2026 and is expected to achieve human data by mid-2027. Headquartered in the Nagoya University Incubation Facility in Japan and with a US subsidiary in CA, Crafton Biotechnology is transforming mRNA's safety, efficacy and speed into lasting cancer care through proprietary RNA chemistry and high-fidelity synthesis technologies for scalable precision medicine.

CEO / FOUNDER

KELVIN S. L. CHAN, PHD

Dr. Kelvin S. L. Chan is the Chief Technology Officer of Crafton Biotechnology, where he leads the company's technical and strategic initiatives to advance next-generation mRNA therapeutics through proprietary RNA chemistry and synthesis platforms. A globally experienced healthcare investor-operator, Dr. Chan brings over a decade of leadership spanning biotechnology, venture capital, and drug discovery. Before joining Crafton, he was Director of Commercial Strategy and Business Development at Kudo Biotechnology, an mRNA CDMO he helped launch, and held prior roles at RVAC Medicines, ABio-X Holdings, Tavistock Group, and EDBI, the strategic investment arm of Singapore's Economic Development Board. His career began as a scientist at The Scripps Research Institute, where his doctoral work in organic chemistry produced highly cited discoveries in drug synthesis. A recipient of the National Science Scholarship from Singapore's A*STAR, Dr. Chan earned his BA (Hons) in Chemistry from the University of Cambridge and his PhD from Scripps Research.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Ambreen Farook, MBA, CA-AM** | Biotech Executive (Partnerships & Corporate Strategy)
- **Eleni Venetsanakos, PhD** | Principal Consultant, Southern Sky Advisors LLC
- **Jeff Spencer, PhD** | Founder and CEO, STRATEGICS, INC.
- **Jie Li, MD** | Executive Director, CNS TA Research Lead, Astellas Cell & Gene Research Unit
- **Katie Kramer, JD** | Associate, Hogan Lovells
- **Murtaza Kapadia, MBA** | Senior Officer, Product Integration, Gates Foundation
- **Titus Plattel, MSc., MBA** | President, Viage Therapeutics; Executive in Residence, Cleveland Clinic Innovations; Strategic Advisor, 5 Horizons Ventures
- **Vandana Date, JD** | Strategic & Business Advisor, Self-Employed

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Chiesi Global Rare Diseases was established to deliver innovative therapies and solutions for people living with rare diseases. We strive to create a future where there are therapies for all diseases while acting as a force for good, for patients, society and the planet.

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Strategic Innovation Unit focuses on three areas of innovation:

- > Gene editing
- > Gene therapy
- > Delivery vectors

Let's collaborate with the rare disease community around the globe to bring a voice to underserved people in the health care system. Together we can provide long-term solutions for patients with rare diseases.

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— Giacomo Chiesi
Head of Chiesi Global Rare Diseases

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One Boston Place Suite 400
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grd.innovation@chiesi.com

TRACK B: MEDTECH PITCH SESSION #1

PRESENTING COMPANIES



DINYA DNA
Tools



AIKIUM INC
AI Drug Discovery



NEUROSENTRY
Central Nervous System



ICARUS THERAPEUTICS
Clinical AI

INVESTOR PANEL



Artem Trotsyuk
Partner
LongeVC



Christopher Ghadban
Head, Life Sciences Investing
The Venture Collective



Georgia Lu
Founding Partner
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Sonia Maryam Setayesh
Investment Partner
Civilization Ventures



Qing Zhang
Partner
LDV Partners

DINYA

DINYA DNA

ACCELERATING TIME-TO-MARKET THROUGH A NEXT-GENERATION ENZYMATIC DNA SYNTHESIS PLATFORM THAT ENABLES RAPID, HIGH-FIDELITY, GENE-LENGTH DNA PRODUCTION.

DINYA DNA is revolutionizing access to high-quality genetic material through its next-generation enzymatic DNA synthesis platform. Traditional synthesis methods are slow, error-prone, and limited in sequence length and complexity—bottlenecking innovation across therapeutics, synthetic biology, and agriculture. DINYA's breakthrough technology directly synthesizes long double-stranded DNA with unprecedented speed, fidelity, and sequence diversity, eliminating the need for oligo assembly and dramatically reducing turnaround times from weeks to days. Its Exponential Synthesis platform enables scalable, template-independent, multi-enzyme reactions that produce gene-length DNA efficiently and reliably. By removing long-standing constraints in DNA manufacturing, DINYA empowers scientists and companies to design, build, and test genetic constructs faster and with greater accuracy—setting a new industry standard for performance and accessibility in synthetic biology.

CEO & CO-FOUNDER

BEN LERMAN, MS, MBA

Ben Lerman is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of DINYA DNA, leading the company's mission to redefine DNA synthesis through advanced enzymatic engineering and automation. Before founding DINYA, he led multidisciplinary design and product development initiatives for global healthcare and life-sciences clients. His prior experience includes engineering and design roles where he contributed to next-generation life science automation and medical device development. Ben holds dual master's degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology—an MS in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA from the MIT Sloan School of Management—and a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Northeastern University.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Chris Hoppe, MBA** | Vice President, Engineered Biology, General Inception
- **Dirk Thye, MD** | Chief Executive Officer, Quince Therapeutics
- **Madoo Varma, PhD** | Senior Vice President, Strategy & Business Development, Self-Employed
- **Mike Benchimol, PhD** | Focused Insights
- **Philippe Cronet, PhD** | General Manager, Wacker Biotech USA
- **Richard Kurtz, PhD** | Vice President, Corporate Business Development, Bio-Rad Laboratories
- **Swati Ranade, PhD, PMP** | Head of Science, MicroPure Genomics Inc.



AIKIUML INC

PIONEERING THE DISCOVERY OF NEXT-GENERATION PROTEIN THERAPEUTICS THROUGH THE INTEGRATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ULTRA-LARGE-SCALE WET-LAB EXPERIMENTATION TO UNLOCK THE UNDRUGGABLE PROTEOME.

Aikium Inc. is an artificial intelligence–driven biotechnology company pioneering the discovery of next-generation protein therapeutics through the integration of deep learning and ultra-large-scale wet-lab experimentation. Powered by its proprietary Yotta Display and Yotta-ML² platforms, Aikium generates and analyzes over five million new protein–protein interactions per week, creating the world’s most comprehensive and dynamic proteomic database. This data foundation enables Aikium to model and design therapies that target the “undruggable” half of the human proteome—regions traditionally inaccessible to small molecules or antibodies. Founded by experts from NVIDIA, Harvard, 10x Genomics, NIH, and the Wyss Institute, the company’s multidisciplinary team combines expertise in AI, protein engineering, and high-throughput biology to unlock new therapeutic frontiers. Aikium’s discovery engine is already identifying and validating novel drug candidates against complex disease targets such as GPCRs and ion channels. Supported by the inaugural Nebius AI Drug Discovery Award, Aikium is redefining the boundaries of precision drug discovery, with a bold mission to develop 100 transformative therapies within the next decade and to reshape how medicine is discovered, designed, and delivered for patients worldwide.

CEO / FOUNDER

ESWAR IYER, PHD

Dr. Eswar Iyer is the CEO and Co-founder of Aikium Inc., where he leads a pioneering team advancing AI-driven synthetic biology to unlock the “undruggable” proteome. With more than a decade of experience bridging computational design and experimental biology, Dr. Iyer has established Aikium’s Yotta-ML² platform—the world’s first trillion-protein screening system—designed to address one of drug discovery’s most persistent challenges: data sparsity. Prior to founding Aikium, he served as a senior scientist and later staff scientist at 10x Genomics, where his technical leadership led to the creation and development of the spatial transcriptomic platforms, Visium-HD and Xenium. As a postdoctoral researcher at Harvard Medical School’s Wyss Institute under Dr. George Church, he developed foundational tools in multiplexed tissue engineering and in situ sequencing. Dr. Iyer holds a PhD in Molecular Biology from George Mason University and a Master’s in Biological Sciences from Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani. He is an inventor on more than 100 patents spanning multiomics, AI, and synthetic biology, and his visionary leadership continues to drive Aikium’s mission to revolutionize therapeutic discovery through digital biology.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Aditya Kulkarni, PhD** | Founder, IndusQuad LLC
- **Amanda Kohler, PhD** | Founder, Tyralla Consulting LLC
- **Diya (Srividya) Mohan, PhD** | Founder and Principal Consultant, Helixa.bio
- **Lavanya Anandan, PhD** | Strategic Advisor & Angel Investor
- **Lorena Riol Blanco, PhD** | Vice President of Biology, Evommune
- **Matthew Metz, PhD, PMP** | Strategic Alliances Director, Naterra
- **Padma Kodukula, MBA, PhD** | CEO, ScopeSys Inc.; Member, Board of Directors, Simmunome Inc.
- **Venkatramana Pegadaraju, MBA, PhD** | President Elect, TIE San Diego



NEUROSENTRY

ADVANCING REAL-TIME STROKE DETECTION AND MONITORING WITH A PROPRIETARY EEG-BASED SOFTWARE PLATFORM THAT DELIVERS CONTINUOUS, AUTOMATED, AND PHYSICIAN-GUIDED NEUROLOGICAL ASSESSMENT.

NeuroSentry is a medical technology company advancing real-time stroke detection and monitoring through its proprietary EEG-based software platform. Originating from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), NeuroSentry addresses one of the most critical gaps in neurological care—recognizing strokes in sedated or anesthetized patients, where traditional tools often fail. Its flagship system enables continuous, automated analysis of brain activity, quantifying stroke onset and severity in real time through intuitive visualizations and numeric trend outputs. Unlike AI-dependent systems, NeuroSentry's platform applies deterministic analytics and signal processing, preserving physician oversight while supporting fast, evidence-based decision-making. The technology is non-invasive, hardware-agnostic, and integrates seamlessly with hospital EEG systems, bedside monitors, and future wearable applications. Supported by NSF I-Corps funding and multiple patents, NeuroSentry has validated its system across large datasets and is preparing for an FDA 510(k) submission in 2026. By combining precision, accessibility, and interoperability, the company is redefining stroke detection to save lives and reduce the global burden of undiagnosed neurological events.

CEO / FOUNDER

MAURO CAFFARELLI, MD | CO-FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Dr. Mauro Caffarelli is an Assistant Professor with a dual appointment in the UCSF Departments of Neurology and Pediatrics and Co-Founder of NeuroSentry. He is one of a handful of academic dual-certified child neurologist-intensivists in the United States. In his clinical practice as a pediatric intensivist, he is continually faced with children who experience stroke as a complication of a procedure or their critical illness. His academic work is thus motivated by the goal to make continuous brain monitoring accessible to his intensivist and anesthesiologist colleagues to enable early stroke detection and treatment. His research focus is on the creation and validation of new techniques to diagnose stroke using creative mathematical manipulations of electroencephalography (EEG) data. His goal is to transform continuous EEG into a monitoring modality accessible to non-neurologists who need help answering time-sensitive questions about their patient's brain health. Having recognized the clinical gap in periprocedural stroke recognition, Dr. Caffarelli invented the Correlate Of Injury to the Nervous System (COIN) index to help non-experts use EEG for stroke detection during anesthesia.



ROHIT JAIN, PHD | CO-FOUNDER & CEO

Dr. Rohit Jain is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of NeuroSentry, where he leads the company's vision to bring real-time, precision stroke detection to clinical practice. An applied mathematician and data scientist by training, Dr. Jain brings deep expertise in computational modeling, machine learning, and biomedical signal processing. Before founding NeuroSentry, he served as Head of Data Science at UCSF, leading development of EEG analytics within the Departments of Neurology and Pediatrics, and previously held leadership roles at nference and NeuTrace, where he contributed to FDA-cleared cardiac electrophysiology systems. His work has resulted in multiple granted and published patents in medical device software, data visualization, and predictive analytics. Dr. Jain earned his PhD in Mathematics and MS in Computational Science, Engineering, and Mathematics from The University of Texas at Austin, where he studied under Fields Medalist Alessio Figalli and Abel Laureate Luis Caffarelli. Under his leadership, NeuroSentry is evolving from a research concept into a clinically validated platform with regulatory readiness and strong strategic partnerships, driving a future where brain data translates directly into life-saving clinical action.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Adam Mendelsohn, PhD** | Chief Executive Officer, Vivani Medical, Inc.
- **Ambreen Farook, MBA, CA-AM** | Biotech Executive (Partnerships & Corporate Strategy)
- **Amir Tehrani, MS** | Chief Executive Officer, MaxQ Medical
- **Geetha Rao, PhD** | Chief Executive Officer, Springborne Life Sciences
- **Michael Hill, PhD** | Co-Founder; Global Head, Science & Technology and Innovation, Science Innovations LLC
- **Nick Polytaridis, MBA** | Digital Health Strategy & Innovation, Portfolio Lead, Samsung Electronics
- **Sarah Suleman, MD** | Head of Strategy and Operations, Symbian Health
- **Somesh Ganesh, PhD, MBA** | Vice President of Advanced Technology Development, H2scan Corporation; Head of Product, Sentire Medical Systems



ICARUS THERAPEUTICS

CLINICAL TRIALS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW DRUGS AND TREATMENTS, BUT THEY ARE OFTEN SLOW, EXPENSIVE, AND INEFFICIENT; ICARUS THERAPEUTICS AIMS TO ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES BY LEVERAGING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY TO STREAMLINE THE CLINICAL TRIAL PROCESS.

Pharmaceutical companies spend \$240 billion yearly recruiting patients and conducting clinical trials to bring new drugs to market. One of the critical rates limiting factors behind this crisis in enrollment is the lack of patients and, on the flip side, lack of sponsor awareness of matching with the right patients and at the right time. A key trend in the market since COVID-19 is the shift to decentralized clinical trials. Icarus removes the pain points and bottlenecks of (1) patient awareness and (2) patient enrollment in clinical trials. ICARUS will be the #1 clinical trial enrollment platform in the USA - for patients and for sponsors. Over 90% of clinical trials fail, primarily due to a lack of enrollment. We bridge that gap for patients and clinical trial providers. Market: The global clinical trials market size was valued at USD \$49.8 billion in 2022 and is expected to expand at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.8% from 2023 to 2030. More linearly, the patient recruitment and retention services market are predicted to reach a market value of \$5.3B by 2023. Problem: "Patient recruitment and engagement is the most expensive and difficult part of a clinical trial. The stats are astonishing: recruitment costs up to 40% of all trial expenditure yet 80% of clinical trials fail to meet enrollment deadlines. Indeed, an overall third of all delays for Phase III studies are attributed to enrollment issues." Our end-to-end platform solves this problem by matching Principal Investigators (PIs) and patients using AI technology at site networks and unstructured data outside sites.

CEO / FOUNDER

NATE HUGHES, MPH, MPP, MPHIL | CO-FOUNDER & CEO

By forging relationships through trust and communication, my mission is to democratize access to biotechnology by improving decision-making and streamlining processes. I leverage my network and expertise in epidemiology, bio stats, machine learning algorithms, data analysis, market analysis, and strategy to deliver bespoke solutions that advance therapies, improve health outcomes, and accelerate drug development in diverse ecosystems from Dublin, Cambridge, Torrey Pines, to SSF. I have a track record of closing complex deals, raising funds, launching drugs, and building great teams and am a published author on topics related to biotechnology, data, and medicine.



JACK OWENS | CO-FOUNDER & COO

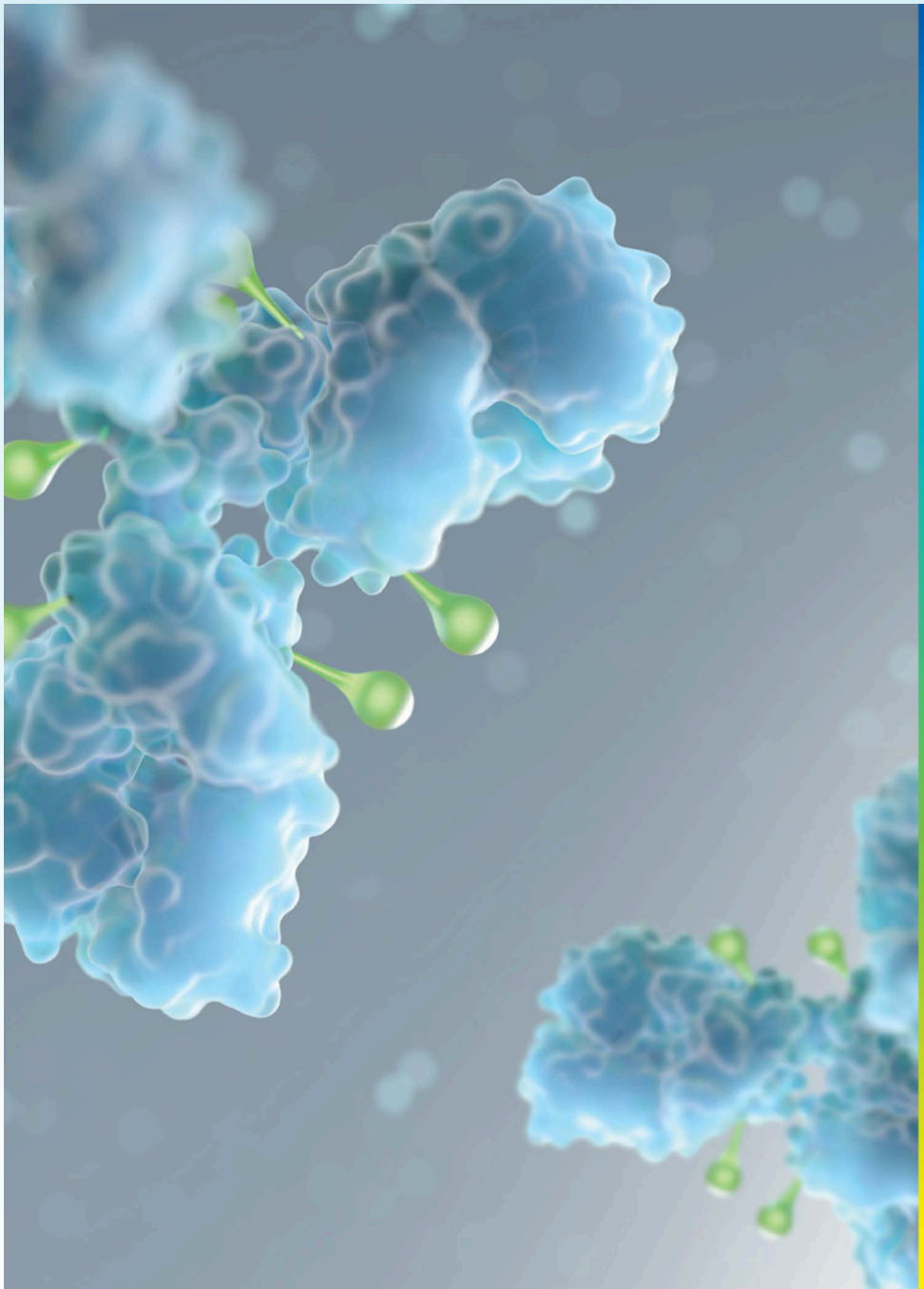
I am inspired by applications for computational and systems-level analysis to accelerate breakthroughs in biotechnology. My work bridges computer science, biochemistry, and data analytics to uncover insights that drive smarter drug development, optimize clinical processes, and improve patient outcomes. With expertise in machine learning, molecular modeling, software engineering and bioinformatics, I focus on transforming complex biological patient data into actionable knowledge. I aim to advance the integration of artificial intelligence and quantitative modeling into biotechnological research, empowering teams to make informed, data-driven decisions that streamline discovery, enhance therapeutic precision, and ultimately, expand access to life-saving innovations.



BOB CARR, MD, MPH | CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

Robert Carr is Chief Medical Officer at Kumanu and former Senior VP at GlaxoSmithKline, he leads the clinical and science-based strategy at Kumanu and Icarus to promote purpose-centered wellbeing. A physician-executive, educator, and certified executive coach, Dr. Carr brings more than three decades of experience advancing preventive medicine, leadership development, and population health in both corporate and academic settings.





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TRACK A: THERAPEUTIC PITCH SESSION #2

PRESENTING COMPANIES



**BRAINSTORM
THERAPEUTICS**
CNS



AIVOCODE INC
CNS



EDITPEP
CNS

INVESTOR PANEL



Hu Sheng Qian
*Director, Boehringer Ingelheim
Venture Fund*



Joe Markson
*Principal, Venture Investments
Novo Holdings US*



Nicole Sonnert
*Associate
Playground Global*



Satoshi Konagai
*Investment Lead
Astellas Venture Management*



Shawna Frazier
*Director, West Coast Ventures
AbbVie*



Stuart Hwang
*Venture Partner
Remiges Ventures*



BRAINSTORM THERAPEUTICS

TRANSFORMING NEUROTHERAPEUTIC DISCOVERY THROUGH PATIENT-DERIVED BRAIN ORGANOID, BIOMARKER-DRIVEN ASSAYS, AND AI-POWERED ANALYTICS TO ACCELERATE BREAKTHROUGHS IN BRAIN DISEASE TREATMENT.

BrainStorm Therapeutics is a precision neuroscience company transforming neurotherapeutic discovery through patient-derived brain organoids, biomarker-driven assays, and NVIDIA Award-winning artificial intelligence. The company's scalable platform enables early human validation of therapeutic targets and efficacy, addressing the >90% clinical trial failure rate caused by inadequate preclinical models. Backed by the National Science Foundation and strategic partners, BrainStorm advanced a repurposed therapy for a rare neurodevelopmental disorder to an FDA-cleared Phase 2 trial in under nine months—without animal data. Its expanding pipeline includes AI-prioritized programs targeting genetically validated pathways in Parkinson's disease and novel hits for two X-linked genetic epilepsies: Rett syndrome and CDKL5 deficiency disorder. By integrating experimental and computational neuroscience, BrainStorm is bridging the translational gap in CNS drug development and redefining how brain disease therapies are discovered, validated, and delivered to patients.

CEO / FOUNDER

ROBERT FREMEAU, PHD | FOUNDER & CEO

Dr. Robert Fremeau is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of BrainStorm Therapeutics, a precision neuroscience company transforming CNS drug discovery through patient-derived brain organoids and AI-powered analytics. A molecular neuroscientist and biotech entrepreneur with more than two decades of experience in target validation, translational research, and clinical development, Dr. Fremeau is internationally recognized for his pioneering work in the discovery of vesicular glutamate transporters and neurochemical pathways underlying brain function and disease. Prior to founding BrainStorm, he served as Chief Scientific Officer at Vyant Bio, where he led programs advancing organoid-based therapeutics for Rett syndrome and CDKL5 deficiency disorder, and held senior scientific leadership roles at CAMP4 Therapeutics and AegisCN LLC. Dr. Fremeau earned his PhD in Biochemistry from The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences and completed postdoctoral training in Molecular Neuroscience at Columbia University. Under his leadership, BrainStorm Therapeutics has been recognized by NVIDIA and California Life Sciences for innovation in AI-driven neurotherapeutics and remains at the forefront of developing clinically translatable therapies for neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative disorders.



MAYA GOSZTYLA, PHD | CO-FOUNDER & CSO

Dr. Maya Gosztyla is a molecular and RNA biologist and Co-Founder & Chief Scientific Officer of BrainStorm Therapeutics, where she leads the development of organoid-based and AI-driven platforms for central nervous system (CNS) drug discovery. With deep expertise in RNA regulation, stem cell biology, and neurodegenerative disease mechanisms, she bridges wet-lab experimentation with computational modeling to uncover new therapeutic targets for disorders such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and Rett syndrome. Dr. Gosztyla earned her Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences from the University of California, San Diego, where she pioneered RNA-targeted CRISPR strategies and brain organoid models of neurodegenerative disease. She has authored more than 15 publications in leading journals including Nature Neuroscience, Molecular Cell, and PNAS. A Biocom Catalyst Awardee and winner of multiple startup competitions—including 1st Place at San Diego Startup Week (2025) and Audience Choice Awards at JPM Women's Health and the AI Conference—Dr. Gosztyla is recognized for her innovative use of AI in translational biology and her leadership in advancing next-generation CNS therapeutics.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Ankush Argade** | Founder, President, and Chief Scientific Officer, Amari Biosciences, Inc.
- **Bryan Walsh, JD** | Senior Associate, Hogan Lovells
- **Irene Blat, PhD** | Head of External Innovation, North America, Servier
- **Leslie Holsinger, PhD** | Nonclinical Research and Development Consultant; Head of Research and Development, Isosterix
- **Marine Dumont** | Search & Evaluation Analyst, Oncology, Servier Pharmaceuticals
- **Masoud Mokhtari, PhD** | Senior Vice President, Clinical Development, Skyhawk Therapeutics
- **Michele Libonati, MS** | Owner, GritBio Strategic Consulting
- **Monica Miller, MS, EdD** | Founder and Chief Executive Officer, BioArkitekta, LLC
- **Odessa Yabut, PhD** | Strategic Scientific Advisor (Discovery/Preclinical Research)
- **Ralitsa Petrova, PhD** | Project Manager, SPARK NS
- **Renee T. Williams, PhD, MBA** | Founder and Managing Partner, Williams Biotech Consulting, LLC
- **Robert Galemme, PhD** | Principal, Robert Galemme Consulting, LLC



AIVOCODE INC

ADVANCING NOVEL THERAPEUTICS FOR NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES THROUGH A PROPRIETARY DISCOVERY PLATFORM THAT UNCOVERS DISEASE-SPECIFIC TARGETS DRIVING NEURODEGENERATION.

AivoCode Inc. is an emerging biotechnology company advancing novel therapeutics for critical neurological diseases with significant market potential, including traumatic brain injury, Alzheimer's disease, and degenerative eye disorders. Spun out of a leading academic lab at the Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute in La Jolla, AivoCode has developed a target discovery platform designed to uncover understudied yet disease-specific targets driving neurodegeneration. The company's approach enables precision targeting of key molecular mechanisms underlying neuronal injury and degeneration. Supported by multiple federal grants and contracts, AivoCode is now raising a Seed round to fund IND-enabling studies for its lead neuroprotective candidate. The company's intellectual property portfolio includes an exclusive license to issued patents covering multiple novel therapeutic entities, establishing a strong foundation for clinical and commercial development.

CEO / FOUNDER

AMAN MANN, PHD

Dr. Aman Mann is the Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of AivoCode Inc., where he leads the company's mission to revolutionize neuroprotection and neurodegeneration therapeutics through a target agnostic screening platform. With over 20 years of experience in biotechnology entrepreneurship, translational research, and drug development, Dr. Mann has guided AivoCode from concept to multiple federally funded programs as principal investigator on NIH and Department of Defense awards. Prior to founding AivoCode, he served as a Research Assistant Professor at the Sanford Burnham Medical Discovery Institute in La Jolla, where he led biomarker discovery and therapeutic development efforts in neurological and oncological diseases. His earlier work includes developing peptide and nanoparticle-based strategies for targeted drug delivery in brain and tumor vasculature. Dr. Mann earned his PhD in Bioengineering from the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Bioengineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. His research and leadership continue to drive AivoCode's commitment to addressing some of the most challenging unmet needs in neurological medicine.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Akash Datwani, PhD** | Founder, CEO, and President, Trait Therapeutics
- **Ambreen Farook, MBA, CA-AM** | Biotech Executive (Partnerships & Corporate Strategy)
- **Dan E. Levy, PhD** | CEO and Principal Consultant, DEL BioPharma LLC
- **Gregory J. Opiteck, PhD** | Vice President, Head of Precision & Translational Medicine, Affini-T Therapeutics
- **Greta Wodarczyk, PhD** | Co-founder and Principal, CatalystBio
- **Russ Belden** | Founder & CEO, Bridge
- **Sonya Trejo, MS, RAC** | Independent CMC Consultant, Knowing Why LLC



EDITPEP

DEVELOPING NEXT-GENERATION CRISPR MEDICINES FOR THE BRAIN THROUGH A PROPRIETARY PEPTIDE-MEDIATED PLATFORM THAT ENABLES SAFE, PRECISE, AND SCALABLE IN VIVO GENOME EDITING.

Editpep is a preclinical biotechnology company developing next-generation CRISPR medicines for the brain using its proprietary PERC™ and PERCEPT™ platforms which deliver CRISPR as a biologic modality for safe, efficient, and targeted in vivo genome editing. Spun out of UC Berkeley's Innovative Genomics Institute (IGI), Editpep's technology overcomes the size, safety, and biodistribution limitations of viral vectors and lipid nanoparticles through transient, non-integrating delivery that supports scalable, GMP-ready manufacturing. The platform is effector-agnostic and compatible with nucleases such as Cas9, Cas12a, and base editors, providing unprecedented flexibility for therapeutic design. Editpep's lead programs address Huntington's disease and Dravet syndrome, two severe central nervous system disorders with no curative treatments. By combining deep expertise in genome editing, biochemistry, and translational neuroscience, Editpep is advancing multiple programs toward IND-enabling studies, with the first clinical trial anticipated in two years. Headquartered at Bakar BioLabs in Berkeley, California, the company holds the exclusive global therapeutic license for the PERC™ and PERCEPT™ platforms, positioning it to transform genetic medicine for the brain and beyond.

CEO / FOUNDER

DANA FOSS, PHD

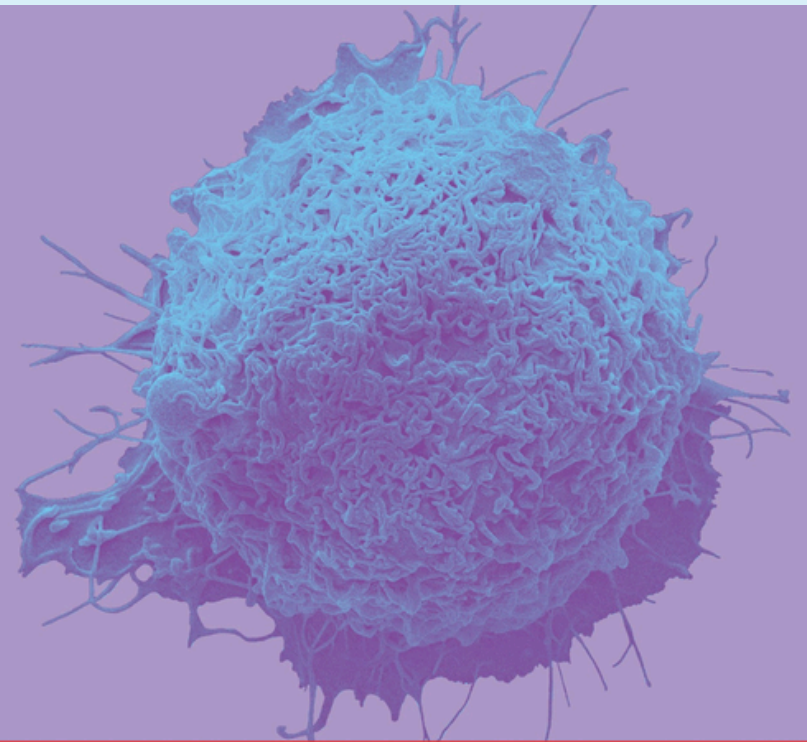
Dr. Dana Foss is the CEO and Co-Founder of Editpep, where she leads the company's mission to translate cutting-edge CRISPR research into therapeutic solutions for genetic diseases. A protein and RNA biochemist with deep expertise in CRISPR-Cas9 editing and RNA delivery, Dr. Foss developed Editpep's foundational technology during her postdoctoral research in the Wilson Lab at UC Berkeley's Innovative Genomics Institute, co-supervised by Dr. Ross Wilson and Nobel Laureate Jennifer Doudna. Her work, published in Nature Biomedical Engineering, demonstrated peptide-mediated delivery of CRISPR enzymes into primary human lymphocytes—a breakthrough that underpins Editpep's approach to non-viral gene editing. Before founding Editpep, Dr. Foss served as Head of Therapeutic Technologies at Related Sciences, where she evaluated novel genetic medicine platforms. She holds a PhD in Biochemistry and has been awarded the highest tier graduate and postdoctoral fellowships for her academic work, as well as co-authored 15 publications and been recognized for her contributions to gene and cell-based therapy innovation.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Bryan Walsh, JD** | Senior Associate, Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology, Hogan Lovells US LLP
- **Chimwemwe Mwase, PhD** | Consultant Strategic Innovation, Chiesi Global Rare Diseases
- **Luke Gruenert** | Director, Strategic Innovation, Rare Diseases, Chiesi USA, Inc.
- **Michelle Manzo, MPH, CMPP** | Senior Medical Outcomes Liaison, Epilepsy and Rare Syndromes, UCB
- **Nick Mordwinkin, PharmD, PhD** | Chief Business Officer & Chief Strategy Officer, Trace Neuroscience
- **Omkar Joshi, PhD** | Chief Technical Officer, Valitor
- **Shailesh Chavan, MBBS** | Chief Medical Officer, Ingenious Global Health
- **Thomas Lester, MBS** | Consultant, InspireBio Consulting
- **Tomohisa Shibata, PhD** | Associate Director, Astellas Pharma

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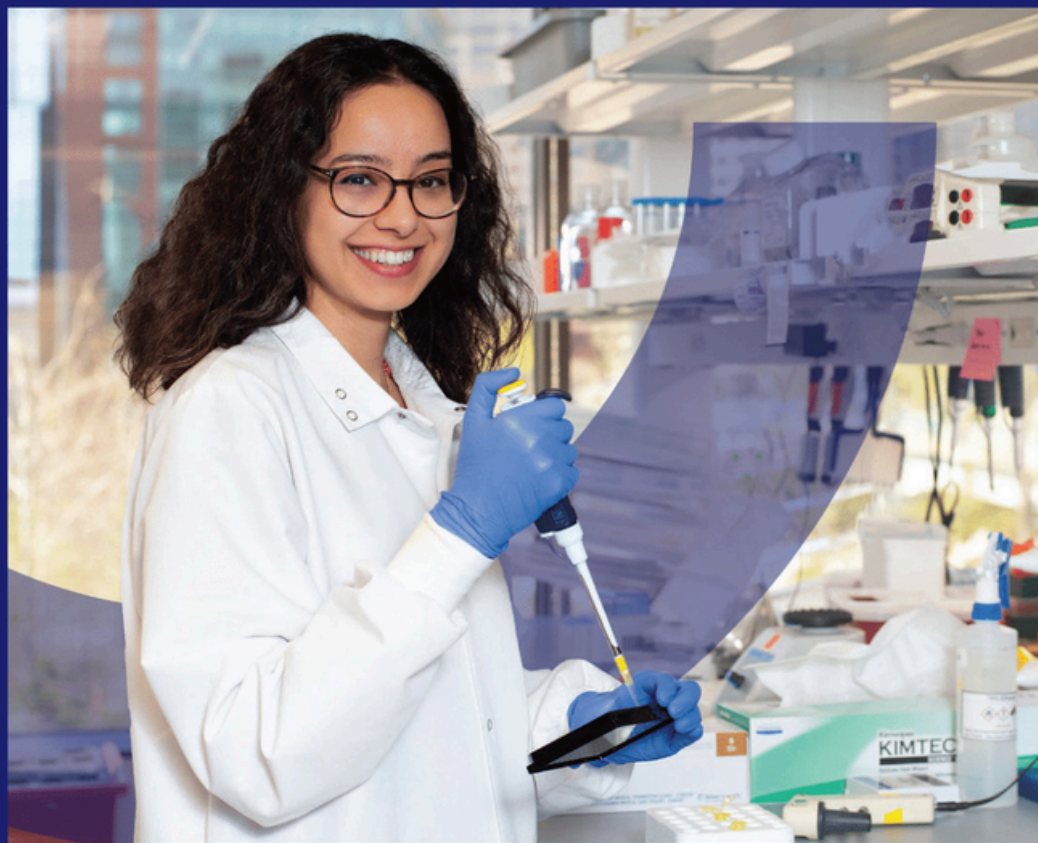


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TRACK B: TECHBIO PITCH SESSION #2

PRESENTING COMPANIES



**BUTTERFLY
BIOSCIENCES**
Women's Health



OPAL THERAPEUTICS
Women's Health



ACURION HEALTH
Oncology

INVESTOR PANEL



Artem Trotsyuk
Partner
LongeVC



Christopher Ghadban
Head, Life Sciences Investing
The Venture Collective



Georgia Lu
Founding Partner
Magnet Ventures



Sonia Maryam Setayesh
Investment Partner
Civilization Ventures



Qing Zhang
Partner
LDV Partners



BUTTERFLY BIOSCIENCES

REDEFINING WOMEN'S HEALTH DIAGNOSTICS WITH A SINGLE, DATA-DRIVEN HYSTEROSCOPIC PROCEDURE THAT DELIVERS RAPID, ACCURATE, AND PATIENT-FRIENDLY GYNECOLOGIC EVALUATIONS.

Butterfly Biosciences is redefining women's health diagnostics by addressing the inefficiencies and inaccuracies of current gynecologic evaluation methods. Each year, over 35 million women in the U.S. undergo a lengthy and fragmented diagnostic process for gynecologic conditions—costing an estimated \$68 billion annually and taking an average of 4–6 months across multiple clinic visits. Butterfly's breakthrough product, Butterfly InSights, is an in-office, data-driven hysteroscopic device and procedure that replaces four of the six standard diagnostic steps with a single 10-minute, non-invasive visit that is both efficient and patient-tolerable. By integrating advanced imaging, ergonomic design, and digital workflow compatibility, Butterfly InSights enables clinicians to achieve rapid, accurate diagnoses while enhancing patient comfort and reducing system-wide costs. Headquartered in California, Butterfly Biosciences is setting a new standard for precision, accessibility, and efficiency in reproductive healthcare.

CEO / FOUNDER

MOSES CESARIO, MS

Moses Cesario is the CEO of Butterfly Biosciences, Inc., bringing a career that began on the computer science side of biotech with bioinformatics at Neomorphic, where he helped develop efficient methods to sequence, analyze, and discover genes—work that continued after Neomorphic's acquisition by Affymetrix. At Affymetrix, he contributed to genetic diagnostics, co-developing the NetAffx platform to map and annotate research to the human genome and working on targeted gene-expression tools, including the design of multiple research-focused microarray “gene chip” sets. Today, he leads Butterfly's translational mission at the intersection of medical devices, diagnostics, and reproductive endocrinology—pursuing less invasive, easy-to-tolerate solutions that can empower genetic diagnostics, enhance the path to pregnancy, and support disease avoidance. His prior leadership includes roles such as CEO/President at Previvo Genetics and consulting executive posts. Moses holds a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley, and an M.S. in Computer Science from Golden Gate University.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Chris Meda, MS** | Chief Commercial Officer, AmplifiDx
- **Faisal Khan, MBA** | Sr. Director Marketing, Akura Medical
- **Graham Howe, PhD** | Vice President, Program Management Office, BD Biosciences
- **Jill Konowich, MD, PhD** | Radiation Oncologist & Independent Consultant, Therapeutics and Medical Devices
- **Lin Ye, MBA** | Finance Director, Global Corporate FP&A, Veeam Software
- **Mike Neidert, MBA, PhD** | Vice President of Strategic Development, Veranex
- **Shaunak Roy, PhD** | Senior Vice President, Research and Development, Visby Medical
- **Tom Klopach, MBA** | Executive Consultant for Life Sciences



OPAL THERAPEUTICS

TRANSFORMING WOMEN'S HEALTH DRUG DISCOVERY WITH THE FIRST "UTERUS-IN-A-DISH" PLATFORM THAT MODELS HUMAN REPRODUCTIVE TISSUE FOR ADVANCED DISEASE RESEARCH AND THERAPY DEVELOPMENT IN CHRONIC GYNECOLOGICAL DISORDERS LIKE ENDOMETRIOSIS AND UTERINE FIBROIDS.

The lack of effective, non-surgical therapeutics in women's reproductive health stems from a fundamental gap in translational research tools, specifically, the absence of reliable, human-based preclinical models that accurately predict clinical outcomes. Opal Therapeutics has built a platform to fix this broken system, remove the scientific bottleneck, and unlock access to the trillion-dollar women's health market. Our lab-grown uterine models generate human data from day one, unlocking more accurate drug discovery, better outcomes for women, and reducing attrition rates for pharma - resulting in billions of dollars of savings. By collecting menstrual blood and uterine biopsies from diverse donors, Opal is building a comprehensive biobank of patient-derived uterine organoids that reflect the full spectrum of menstrual and reproductive health across age and patient background. These 3D models are assayed for morphology, cytokine signaling, and gene expression, enabling high-resolution disease modeling and drug screening. Targeting conditions such as endometriosis, uterine fibroids, and menstrual disorders, Opal provides a scalable and clinically relevant platform that accelerates therapeutic innovation in women's health. Headquartered in San Francisco and a participant in Techstars San Francisco '24, Opal integrates bioengineering, data science, AI, and translational biology to close the discovery gap.

CEO / FOUNDER

MORGAN M. STANTON, PHD

Dr. Morgan Stanton is the Founder and CEO of Opal Therapeutics, leading the company's mission to advance women's health through innovative organoid science. She holds a PhD in Chemistry from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and completed her Postdoc at the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems. Before founding Opal, Dr. Stanton served as Director of Discovery Biology at Herophilus, where she led organoid-based disease modeling for neurodegenerative and psychiatric disorders. Her 15 years of experience in biotechnology spans discovery biology, biomaterials, and tissue engineering with more than 18 publications and two patents, she brings deep expertise in translating cutting-edge research into scalable biotechnologies that bridge scientific rigor and clinical relevance.



ADVISORY TEAM

- **Andrew (Andy) Cunningham, MB BCh, MBA** | Senior Vice President, Clinical Development, CalciMedica
- **Blisseth Sy, MS** | Principal & Founder, Bio-Synergia
- **Cristina Stoyanov, PhD** | Founding Partner, Bluezone Capital; Angel Investor
- **Jenna Doe, MBA** | Chief of Staff & Operations Leader, Early-Stage Biotech Startups
- **Kimi Barrio, MBA** | Biotech Business Development & Strategy Executive
- **Ritesh Banerjee, PhD** | Strategy Professional and Startup Advisor
- **Shreya Patel, MD, MPH** | Physician & Commercial Strategy Leader
- **Sobha Pisharody, PhD** | Co-Founder and CEO, icosiMED, Inc.
- **Tilman Brotz, PhD** | Principal, PharmaDirections



ACURION HEALTH

ADVANCING PRECISION ONCOLOGY THROUGH AI-POWERED DIGITAL PATHOLOGY THAT PREDICTS THERAPY RESPONSE DIRECTLY FROM TISSUE SAMPLES—ENABLING FASTER, MORE ACCESSIBLE, AND DATA-DRIVEN CANCER TREATMENT DECISIONS.

Acurion is an artificial intelligence–driven precision oncology company transforming how cancer treatment decisions are made through advanced digital pathology. Powered by proprietary machine learning algorithms, Acurion’s platform analyzes routine histopathology slides to identify predictive biomarkers that indicate which patients are most likely to benefit from specific therapies. Unlike traditional genomic assays that require costly and time-consuming sequencing, Acurion’s approach delivers actionable insights directly from existing tissue samples—enabling faster turnaround, broader accessibility, and seamless integration into clinical workflows. The company’s lead product, OncoGaze™, is in late-stage development for predicting therapy response in breast, ovarian, and pancreatic cancers. By combining proprietary image-based AI models with rigorous clinical validation, Acurion addresses a critical unmet need for scalable and cost-effective precision oncology. With a mission to make personalized cancer treatment decisions possible for every patient, everywhere, Acurion is redefining the future of precision medicine.

CEO & CO-FOUNDER

RICK FULTZ | CEO & BOARD MEMBER

Rick brings more than two decades of life-science leadership to the company. Previously he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Business Officer at Biocom California, scaling membership, strategic partnerships and geographic expansion, and was earlier a Partner at First Capital Accelerator where he focused on early-stage company growth and fundraising. He holds a Master’s in Public Policy from New England College and a B.S. in Economics from University of Delaware.



FENG CAO, PHD | COO

Feng Cao, PhD is the Chief Operating Officer of Acurion, bringing over 20 years of experience in molecular diagnostics and precision medicine. Before joining Acurion, he served as CTO at Epic Sciences, leading development of a liquid biopsy test for metastatic breast cancer, and as VP of R&D at Castle Biosciences, a public company focused on melanoma and esophageal cancers. Previously, Dr. Cao was COO at AltheaDx, where he secured Medicare coverage for a pharmacogenomics test for depression and anxiety. Earlier in his career, he held leadership roles at Hologic and Third Wave Technologies, contributing to the first FDA-cleared companion diagnostic for a colorectal cancer drug. Dr. Cao earned his Ph.D. in Cell Biology from the Medical College of Wisconsin and an M.S. in Computer Science from Marquette University.



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FAST BY THE NUMBERS

 **151**
 STARTUPS GRADUATED FAST

 **\$2B+**
 IN FUNDING RAISED

 **\$40M+**
 IN REVENUES GENERATED

 **14**
 EXITS (3 IPO &
 11 ACQUIRED / MERGED)

 **1,400+**
 JOBS CREATED

 **12,000+**
 HOURS OF PRO BONO
 MENTORING PROVIDED

 **400+**
 EXPERTS FOR MENTORING
 (50% C-SUITE)

 **135**
 STUDENT PROJECT MANAGERS
 PARTICIPATED

 **7**
 GRADUATES IN CLINICAL TRIALS