



**CALIFORNIA
LIFE SCIENCES**

INNOVATION SHOWCASE

Connecting CA's Most Promising Startups with Investors and Corporate Partners

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024 | THE FORUM AT GATEWAY OF THE PACIFIC, SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

DIGITAL PROGRAM

Welcome to the 2024 Fall Innovation Showcase

PROGRAM

1:00pm	Check-in
1:30-1:45pm	Welcome Remarks Mike Guerra, President & CEO, California Life Sciences Kinkead Reiling, Founder & CEO, Bonneville Labs
1:45-2:30pm	Panel Discussion Navigating the Road to Success— Founders' Perspectives on Creating, Building and Scaling Startups
2:30-2:50pm	Break
2:50-4:00pm	Company Presentations + Investor Q&A (2 parallel tracks) <i>Track A: Therapeutics</i> <i>Track B: Diagnostics & Precision Medicine</i>
4:00-4:20pm	Break
4:20-5:30pm	Company Presentations + Investor Q&A (2 parallel tracks) <i>Track A: Therapeutics</i> <i>Track B: Diagnostics & Precision Medicine</i>
5:30-7:00pm	Networking Reception & 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: Company Presentations

Track A: Therapeutics	Track B: Diagnostics & Precision Medicine
<u>Cenos Therapeutics</u> (Neuroscience)	<u>Lucidify</u> (Neuroscience)
<u>Reactosome</u> (Rare Diseases)	<u>Baltimore Respiratory Innovations</u> (Pulmonary)
<u>Olfera</u> (Neuroscience)	<u>iFocus</u> (Neuroscience)
<u>Radar Therapeutics</u> (Oncology)	<u>ALLEO LABS</u> (Neuroscience)

Session 2: Company Presentations

Track A: Therapeutics	Track B: Diagnostics & Precision Medicine
<u>Voro Therapeutics</u> (Oncology)	<u>CpG Diagnostics</u> (Oncology)
<u>Sift Biosciences</u> (Oncology)	<u>Orbits Oncology</u> (Oncology)
<u>TippingPoint Biosciences</u> (Oncology)	<u>Eximius Diagnostics</u> (Oncology)
<u>IHP Therapeutics</u> (Rare Diseases)	<u>MeCo Diagnostics</u> (Oncology)

Companies listed in presentation order.

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Panel Spotlight

Navigating the Road to Success – Founders' Perspectives on Creating, Building and Scaling Startups



**Shelley
Force Aldred,
PhD, CEO**

Co-founder,
Rondo Therapeutics



**Marco
Lobba,
PhD, CEO**

Co-founder, Catena Bio

MODERATOR



**Jonathan
Romanowsky,
MBA, CBO**

Co-founder,
Inflammatrix, Inc.



**Maria
Soloveychik,
PhD, CEO**

Co-founder,
SyntheX Inc.



**Ashley
Zehnder,
DVM, PhD, CEO**

Co-founder,
Fauna Bio.



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WACKER



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- Science-driven solutions
- Guidance from concept to commercialization
- A flexible partner who delivers

We are a proud sponsor of the 2024 FAST California Awards. Congratulations to the Wacker Biotech Discovery Award winners – Sophia Lugo and Eerik Kaseniit of Radar Therapeutics!

wacker.com/biologics

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Track A – Therapeutic Pitch Session #1

Presenting Companies

Cenos Therapeutics
(Neuroscience)

Reactosome
(Rare Diseases)

Offera
(Neuroscience)

Radar Therapeutics
(Oncology)

Investor Q&A



**Shawna Frazier,
Ph.D.**
Director,
AbbVie Ventures



**Karl Handelsman,
MBA, MS**
Managing Partner,
Codon Capital



**Stuart Hwang,
Ph.D.**
Venture Partner,
Remiges Ventures



**Satoshi Konagai,
MBA, MS**
Associate
Investment Director,
Astellas Venture
Management LLC



**Joe Markson,
Principal**
Venture Investments,
Novo Holdings US, Inc.

Cenos Therapeutics

SERVIER DISCOVERY AWARDEE

Advancing Next-Generation Brain Delivery for Oligonucleotide Therapies Targeting Neurological Disorders.

Cenos Therapeutics is pioneering the future of neurological health with innovative RNA therapeutics. Leveraging its proprietary brain shuttle platform, Cenos enables the deep brain delivery of oligonucleotide-based therapies, such as siRNA and antisense, through systemic administration (subcutaneous or intravenous), offering significant advantages in efficacy, safety, and convenience. Emerging from extensive preclinical research and operating with strong patent protection until 2043, Cenos aims to address key challenges in the treatment of neurological disorders. The company is advancing an internal pipeline targeting high-value orphan indications while plans to partner larger indications such as Alzheimer's and Parkinsons diseases.

CEO / FOUNDER

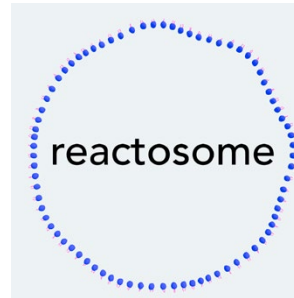


June Park, PhD

Dr. June Park is the Chief Executive Officer of Cenos Therapeutics. She formerly served as CEO at siRNAgen Therapeutics, a clinical-stage RNA company operating in the US and Korea, with a focus on immunology. In this position, she advanced a first-in-class compound to clinical trials. Dr. Park earned a Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge and a B.Sc. in Chemical and Biological Engineering from MIT. She has more than ten years of experience in the life sciences sector, including roles in drug discovery and healthcare consulting, where she provided strategic advice on commercial and pipeline initiatives. Dr. Park is passionate about developing curative and sustainable therapies for patients.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Ankush Argade, Founder, President and CSO, Amarit Biosciences, Inc.
- Irene Blat, PhD, Senior Director, Search & Evaluation–Oncology, Servier Pharmaceuticals
- Alicia Chung, PhD, Business Development & Strategy Advisor, Bionaut Labs
- Charles Cuminet, PharmD, Search & Evaluation Analyst–R&D, External Innovation, Servier Pharmaceuticals
- Tim Irving, MBA, Senior Director–Finance, Carmot Therapeutics, Inc.
- Dan Levy, PhD, Owner and Principal Consultant, DEL BioPharma LLC
- Qing Zhang, MD, MBA, Partner, LDV Partners

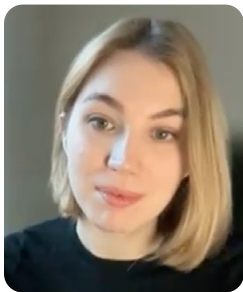


CHIESI DISCOVERY AWARDEE

A Novel Approach to Gene Therapy Using Synthetic Nuclei

Reactosome is advancing gene therapy with Synthetic Nucleus technology, grounded in two key innovations. The first is a precisely engineered, easily manufactured protein-based delivery compartment that allows targeted delivery of large therapeutic cargos without immune activation—overcoming key limitations of traditional carriers like LNPs and AAVs. The second is a synthetic expression system that enables sustained, finely adjustable RNA production within target cells, ensuring long-term therapeutic impact. Together, these components create a flexible platform applicable across a wide range of diseases. Reactosome is advancing a proprietary therapeutic pipeline and collaborating with pharmaceutical partners to address critical needs in gene therapy.

CEO / FOUNDER



Ksenia Burka

Ksenia Burka is a pioneering leader in genomic medicine, specializing in RNA therapeutics and synthetic biology. With a strong foundation in both academia and entrepreneurship, she has driven groundbreaking advancements in genome editing, stem cell biology, organoid models, and regenerative medicine. Ksenia has led high-impact research teams, expertly guiding complex projects from concept to execution, and has published widely cited scientific articles. Her expertise spans developing innovative solutions in genomic medicine and advancing research in cell differentiation, gene expression, and therapeutic interventions.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Irene Fung, MBA, Financial Consultant, Medtronic
- Luke Gruenert, Director Strategic Innovation, Rare Diseases, Chiesi USA, Inc.
- Gabriel Hitchcock, MBA, Healthcare Entrepreneur and Investor
- Chris Hoppe, MBA, VP, Engineered Biology Investments, General Inception
- Tom Lester, MBS, Consultant, InspireBio Consulting
- Nick Mordwinkin, PhD, Chief Business and Strategy Officer, Trace Neuroscience
- Simone Seiter, PhD, MBA, Senior Partner, Simon-Kucher & Partners
- Odessa Yabut, PhD, Preclinical Program Advisor



Harnessing the Olfactory System for Innovative Healthcare Solutions

Olfera is a biotechnology company pioneering new approaches by leveraging the human olfactory system. Through an in-depth exploration of the nose-to-brain pathway, Olfera is uncovering new possibilities for healthcare and therapeutic development. By leveraging its unique olfactory chemistry approach, Olfera unlocks the untapped potential of the olfactory pathway and develops novel effective, and safe neurological therapeutics. The company's core technology, OChip, is a groundbreaking in vitro model of the olfactory pathway that enables drug candidate screening and hit selection.

CEO / FOUNDER



Parnian Lak, PhD

Dr. Parnian Lak is a visionary leader with a strong background in life sciences. Her expertise spans academic and industry roles. Dr. Lak's diverse experience includes research in drug discovery, scientific consultancy, and teaching, with a focus on developing novel therapeutics.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Akash Datwani, PhD, Vice President, Business Development & Strategic Alliances- Alto Neuroscience
- Sundeep Dugar, PhD, President/CEO, Aayam Therapeutics
- Steven Green, JD, Partner at Goodwin
- Todd Lorenz, MD, Clinical Development Advisor, Novasenta LLC
- Monica Miller, Ed.D. CEO, BioArkitekta
- Michael Nowak, PharmD, Managing Partner, Nowak Ventures and Managing Director, BJC Capital Advisors
- Shamali Roy, PhD, Product Management & Strategic Partnerships, Vector Laboratories, Inc.
- Blisseth Sy, MS, Director of Business Development, OmniAb, Inc.

**WACKER BIOTECH AWARDEE**

Advancing Selectively Activated mRNA Therapies for Precision Medicine

Radar Therapeutics is developing highly specific genetic medicines through its platform for selectively activated mRNAs, enabling precise control over gene expression and activity at the cell type or cell state level. This technology offers the potential to transform treatment across a wide range of autoimmune, oncological, and rare diseases. The company was founded based on research from Stanford's Prof. Xiaojing Gao and MIT's Prof. Jim Collins, and is led by CEO Sophia Lugo and CSO Eerik Kaseniit. Radar Therapeutics recently raised \$13.5M in a seed round backed by investors such as NFX Bio, Eli Lilly & Company, and KdT Ventures, and has been recognized through various industry awards, including J&J Innovation's Cell & Gene Therapy QuickPitch Symposium and Abbvie's Golden Ticket Award.

CEO / FOUNDER**Sophia Lugo, MBA**

Sophia Lugo is a seasoned leader with a strong background in life sciences, focusing on diversity in biotech and the importance of innovation in healthcare. She frequently engages in discussions around breaking barriers in the biotech industry, advocating for increased diversity and inclusion as essential drivers of innovation and success. Sophia is passionate about streamlining the path from discovery to commercialization in biotech, fostering meaningful changes in the industry, and addressing overlooked opportunities. She has participated in and moderated panels addressing these topics, demonstrating her commitment to driving positive change in the life sciences sector.

CSO**Eerik Kaseniit**

Eerik Kaseniit is an accomplished bioengineer and co-founder of Radar Therapeutics, where he serves as Chief Scientific Officer, leading advancements in programmable mRNA technology for therapeutic applications. With a PhD in Bioengineering from Stanford University, Eerik's research focuses on developing novel RNA sensing mechanisms and applying synthetic biology to address complex medical challenges. His extensive experience includes roles in computational biology and genetic screening, making him a thought leader in the biotech industry's innovative mRNA and DNA therapeutics.

Track B – Diagnostics & Precision Medicine Pitch Session #1

Presenting Companies

Lucidify
(Neuroscience)

Baltimore Respiratory Innovations
(Pulmonary)

iFocus
(Neuroscience)

Alleo Labs
(Neuroscience)

Investor Q&A



**Robert Hess,
PhD**
Angel Investor,
NuFund Venture Group



**Sonia Maryam
Setayesh,
MS, PhD**
Investment Partner,
Civilization Ventures



**Artem A. Trotsyuk,
PhD**
Partner, LongeVC



**Qing Zhang,
MD, MBA**
Partner, LDV Partners



AI-Driven Platform for Early Detection of Delirium

Lucidify offers an AI-based platform designed to detect deadly brain failure, or delirium, through its LucidPro™ device, a quick and easy-to-apply sensor for continuous brain wave and biometric monitoring. The device uses edge-based processing and an AI algorithm that is personalized over time, providing just-in-time notifications that integrate with existing healthcare workflows. This approach improves on traditional detection methods, which rely on in-person, low-sensitivity spot-checks. By enabling early detection, LucidPro™ helps save lives, reduce hospital stays, and prevent long-term mental health issues, ultimately preserving patient autonomy and saving hospitals thousands of dollars per patient.

CEO / FOUNDER



Divya Chander, MD, PhD

Dr. Divya Chander is a physician, neuroscientist, and futurist with expertise in neuroanesthesia, critical care, and brain health. With a deep commitment to advancing brain health, Dr. Chander's work focuses on the intersection of neuroscience and technology. She is passionate about using AI and other cutting-edge technologies to transform the future of medicine. A global keynote speaker and expert in neural signal processing, Dr. Chander also explores the mapping of consciousness and the future of human augmentation.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Tony DeLizza, MS, Chief Business Officer, Gryphon Bio
- Faisal Khan, MBA, Senior Director, Marketing, Akura Medical
- Adam Mendelsohn, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, Vivani Medical
- Verna Rodriguez, Executive Director, MTM program, Master of Translational Medicine-UCB & UCSF
- Eunice Vukosavljevic, CEO, EOY Consulting, LLC
- Bradley Wait, MS, Consultant



Data Driven Oxygen Therapy for Modern Healthcare

Baltimore Respiratory Innovations is a digital health company transforming oxygen therapy through data-driven solutions. Their innovative remote patient monitoring system, featuring a smart oxygen companion and advanced analytics, passively integrates with existing oxygen equipment to collect actionable insights. By enabling earlier interventions and personalized support, they aim to enhance patient experiences, improve clinical outcomes, reduce healthcare costs, and ultimately save lives for this high-risk patient population.

CO-FOUNDER



Wilson Tang

Wilson Tang is currently a Research Associate Faculty member at Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he focuses on remote patient monitoring for long-term oxygen therapy patients. His research includes publications on the burden, needs, and documentation of oxygen therapy. A passionate healthcare entrepreneur, biomedical engineer, and data scientist, he is dedicated to developing the next generation of data-driven healthcare technology and AI solutions.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Craig Darling, VP, Sales & Marketing, Valar Labs
- Michael Hill, PhD, Global Head, Science & Technology and Innovation, Science Innovations L.L.C.
- Nick Polytaridis, MBA, Chief Operating Officer, Altra Inc.
- Robert Dickinson, Site Head, Novartis Biome SF, Novartis
- Vishal Dubey, MBA, Presidential Innovation Fellow, White House Presidential Innovation Fellows, AI and Digital Tech
- Wesley Jones, MBA, CEO and Co-Founder, Vonova
- Will Kruka, Founder and Managing Member, RubiconSail Advisors LLC



iFocus Health creates AI-driven reimbursable algorithms that objectively measure ADHD and other behavioral health conditions, making accurate care more accessible, affordable, and scalable.

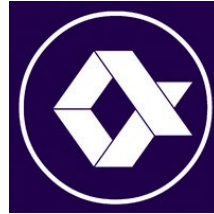
iFocus Health provides an objective biomarker that enables scalable mental health care, beginning with ADHD. Our AI-powered, webcam-based platform tracks ADHD patients' progress on real-life tasks from their own homes, offering clinicians concrete, data-driven insights that enhance treatment accuracy and efficiency. This technology supports clinicians in making informed medication adjustments, complementing traditional subjective assessments and improving long-term patient outcomes. Unlike diagnostic tools, iFocus is designed for ongoing treatment monitoring, which enables streamlined, routine follow-ups and allows clinicians to scale effective care. With a subscription model that charges only clinicians—who benefit from increased efficiency and revenue—iFocus Health is actively expanding its reach through partnerships with healthcare providers, making data-supported, accessible ADHD care a reality for patients and providers alike.

CEO / FOUNDER



Adi Diner, Ph.D.

Adi holds a Ph.D. in Physics and has over 20 years of experience in leading product development in the biotech and medical device sectors. Her deep technical knowledge and problem-solving abilities have been instrumental in guiding iFocus Health's vision and strategy. Adi is skilled in fundraising and has a proven track record of attracting investment for complex, tech-driven ventures. Her leadership experience includes building teams in challenging, high-stakes environments, ensuring that products are developed on time and within budget.



Alleo Labs is redefining neurological diseases as a spectrum, combining AI and drug discovery to develop precise medicines.

Despite decades of research, common brain disorders like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's still lack effective therapies. Traditional approaches have treated these complex diseases as single disease, overlooking shared underlying mechanisms. One critical hallmark we've identified is neuroinflammation—a key driver across these disorders = \$91B TAM. Alleo tackles neuroinflammation with a groundbreaking approach that goes beyond conventional therapies. Using advanced AI for patient stratification, target discovery, and small molecule design, Alleo has developed ALO-001, a potential first-in-class, oral, brain-penetrant DUB inhibitor. This lead candidate is engineered to reduce neuroinflammation.

CEO / FOUNDER



J. L. Ross, PhD

Dr. Jermaine Ross co-founded Alleo Labs in 2023, where he serves as CEO and President. Previously, he was VP and Head of Neuroscience at Immuneering (NASDAQ: IMRX), where he co-led the company to its IPO in 2021. Dr. Ross brings extensive experience in drug discovery and machine learning, backed by over 10 years of training as a neuroscientist and computational biologist at the NIH. He holds a B.S. from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Brown. Dr. Ross also serves on the NYC board of the Alzheimer's Association and is a William H. Gates Sr. Fellow.



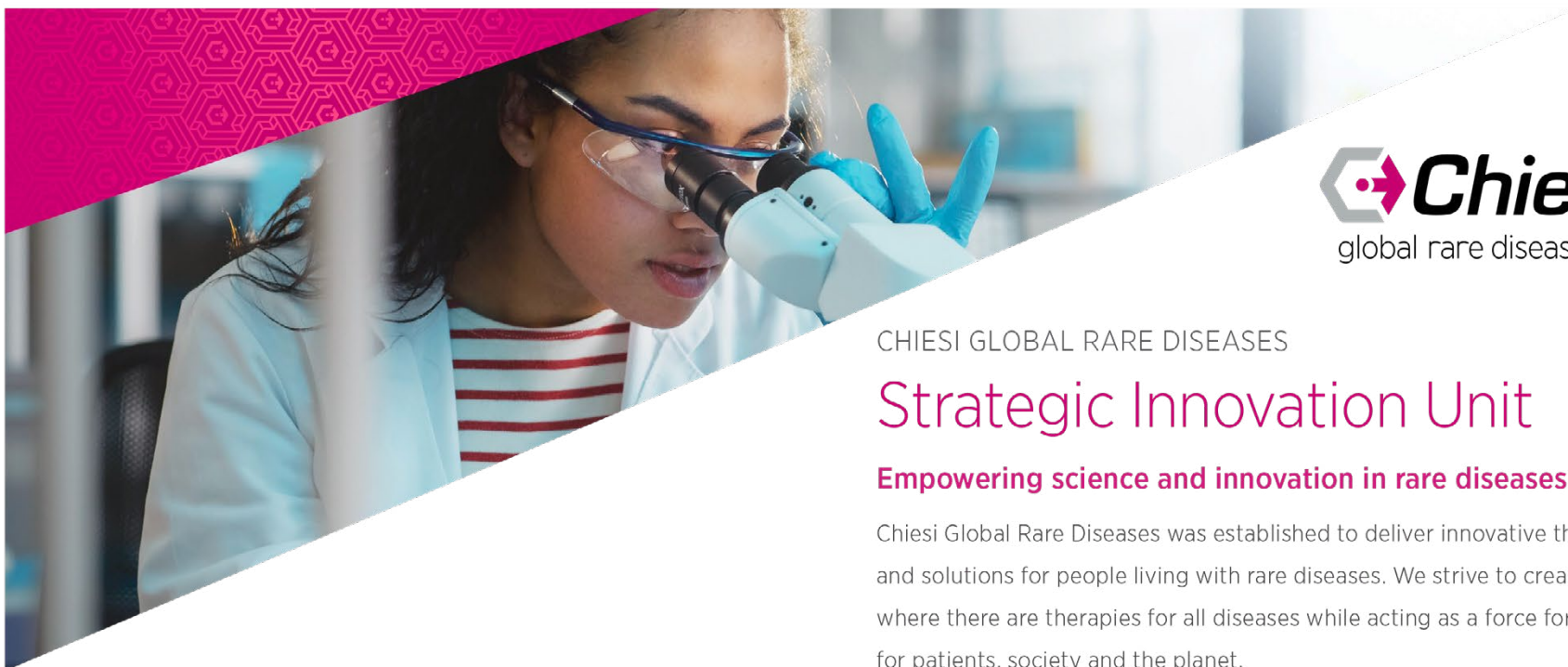
Science has the power to change lives for the better.

Our proven expertise and trusted portfolio of products and services, combined with a global reach and ability to provide customized materials of the highest quality for highly regulated applications move science forward.

As a global leader in life sciences, we fulfill our mission: to set science in motion to create a better world.

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CHIESI GLOBAL RARE DISEASES

Strategic Innovation Unit

Empowering science and innovation in rare diseases

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.

We are scouting and evaluating innovative therapeutic modalities emerging from academic and research institutes, as well as from start-up and early-stage biotech organizations.

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.

Learn more at ChiesiRareDiseases.com

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"As a family business, and as a certified Benefit Corporation, we have a long history of commitment to the rare disease community and will continue to reinvest in scientific research and innovation. We are serving as a preferred partner to advance development efforts, particularly to those that are investigating new modalities."

— Giacomo Chiesi
Head of Chiesi Global Rare Diseases

Chiesi Group
26/A, Via Palermo
Parma, Italy 43122

www.chiesi.com/en/

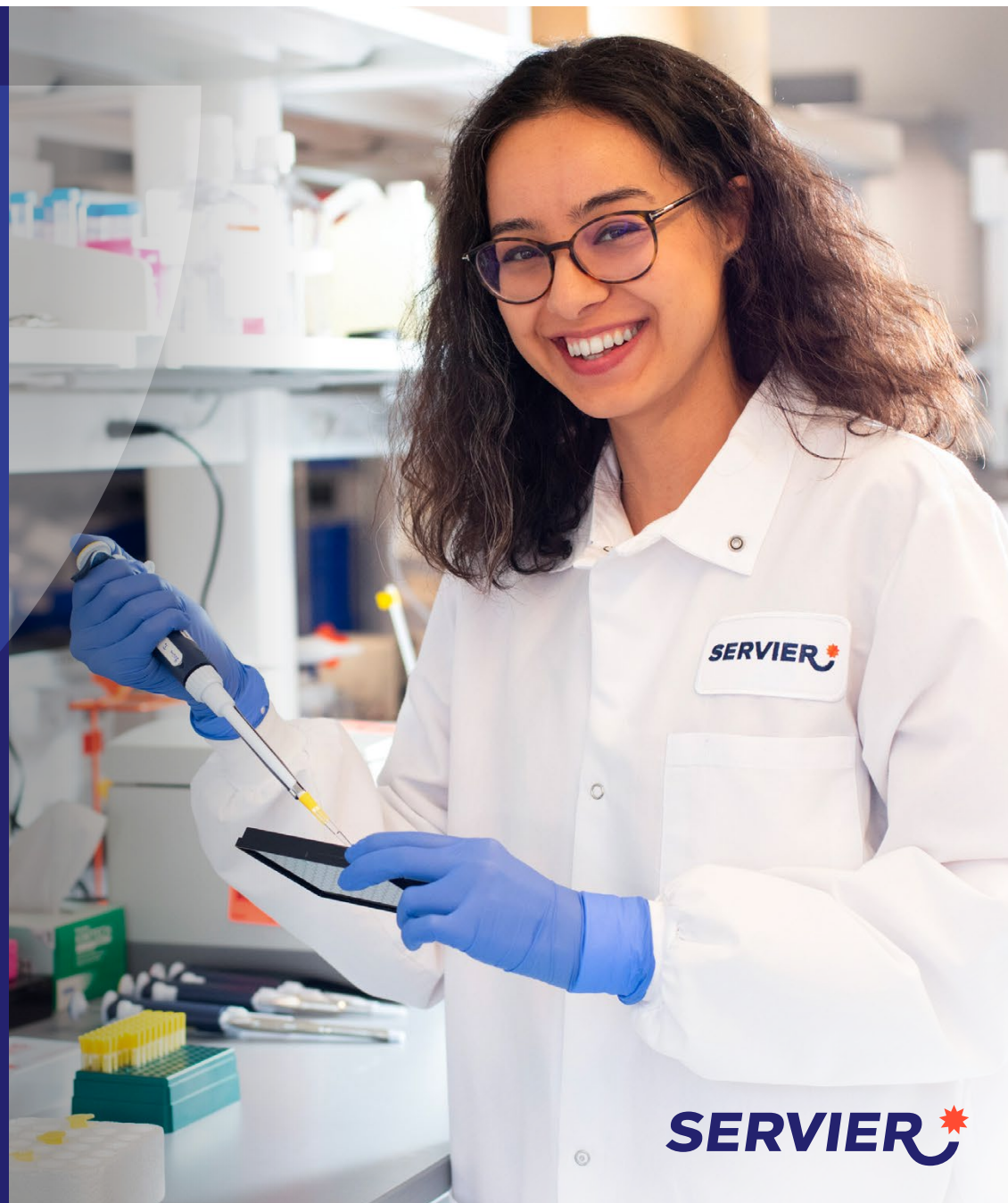
Chiesi Global Rare Diseases
One Boston Place Suite 400
Boston, MA 02108

grd.innovation@chiesi.com

A Global Pharmaceutical Group committed to therapeutic progress to serve patient needs

Servier is a global pharmaceutical group governed by a Foundation. With a strong international presence in 150 countries and a total revenue of 5.3 billion euros in 2022/2023, Servier employs 21,900 people worldwide. Servier is an independent group that invests over 20% of its brand-name revenue in Research and Development every year.

The ambition of the Servier Group is to become a renowned and innovative player in oncology. Its growth is based on a sustained commitment to cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, oncology, neuroscience and immuno-inflammatory diseases.



Track A – Therapeutic Pitch Session #2

Presenting Companies

Voro Therapeutics
(Oncology)

Sift Biosciences
(Oncology)

TippingPoint Biosciences
(Oncology)

IHP Therapeutics
(Rare Diseases)

Investor Q&A



**Shawna Frazier,
Ph.D.**
Director,
AbbVie Ventures



**Karl Handelsman,
MBA, MS**
Managing Partner,
Codon Capital



**Stuart Hwang,
Ph.D.**
Venture Partner,
Remiges Ventures



**Satoshi Konagai,
MBA, MS**
Associate
Investment Director,
Astellas Venture
Management LLC



**Joe Markson,
Principal**
Venture Investments,
Novo Holdings US, Inc.



Developing Tumor-Activated Multi-Specific Antibodies for Cancer Immunotherapy

Voro Therapeutics is advancing a precision medicine platform called PrimeBody, which uses tumor-activated multi-specific antibodies to harness the immunotherapy potential of myeloid cells. PrimeBody integrates modular components, including a myeloid checkpoint inhibitor, a myeloid immune stimulator, and novel masking technology, combined with tumor-targeting domains to provide anti-tumor activity in patients with treatment-refractory solid tumors. Led by a team of experienced oncology drug developers, Voro is currently in the lead identification stage for two programs and is incubated within Alloy Therapeutics' venture studio, 82VS.

CEO / FOUNDER



Ugur Eskiocak, PhD

Ugur Eskiocak is an accomplished cancer biologist with extensive expertise in immuno-oncology, molecular biology, genome editing, and high-throughput screening. His background includes experience in drug development, pre-clinical and clinical testing, and leading interdisciplinary teams. Ugur is passionate about translating innovative cancer research into new therapies, with a focus on creating impact through effective team collaboration and project management. He has advanced 6 immuno-oncology programs through IND-enabling studies and into the clinical trials in various leadership roles at Compass Therapeutics, Xilio Therapeutics, Takeda and Janux Therapeutics. With his broad skill set, Ugur continues to drive advancements in cancer biology and therapeutic development.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Tilmann Brotz, PhD, Principal, PharmaDirections
- Alicia Chung, PhD, Venture Advisor, Magnet Ventures
- Gary Choy, MBA, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, f5 Therapeutics, Inc.
- Vandana Date, JD, Strategic & Business Advisor, Self-employed
- Geoff Harris, PhD, Chief Executive Officer, Excellergy
- Ram Mandalam, PhD, Founder and CEO, Citra BioConsulting
- David Passmore, MBA, Head of Business Development, AbTherx
- Bryan Walsh, JD, Associate, Hogan Lovells



Sift Biosciences is Developing Next-Generation Immune Boosters Using AI and Microbial Memory

Sift Biosciences combines AI with high-throughput antigen screening to develop next-generation immunomodulators. The company's immune boosters can supercharge anti-cancer responses, with the goal of delivering lasting remissions to patients. Sift's initial focus is on gynecological cancers (GYN). Existing immunotherapies have limited success in GYN patients as the majority present with tumors that are immunologically "cold" due to a lack of highly immunogenic antigen targets. By leveraging, and redirecting, pre-existing immune-microbe interactions, Sift's proprietary, microbially derived antigens can transform these "cold" tumors "hot," leading to >50X improved immune responses against weakly immunogenic antigen targets. Sift's boosters are safe, targeted, and durable, offering a promising new strategy in the battle against cancer.

CEO / FOUNDER



Yue Clare Lou, PhD

Yue "Clare" Lou, Ph.D., is a scientist and founder with expertise in immunology, cancer research, bioinformatics, and microbiomes. She applies cutting-edge technologies such as AI and high-throughput screening to develop innovative solutions in healthcare. Her research has focused on computational frameworks for microbiome analysis and gene-editing tools, advancing understanding of the gut microbiome and contributing to groundbreaking work in cancer and autoimmune treatments. With a strong record of collaboration and securing non-dilutive funding, Clare is dedicated to leveraging science and technology to bring impactful change to medicine.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Caleb Bell, PhD, Founding President and Executive Director, Corundum Convergence Institute
- Trevor Collingwood, PhD, Independent Consultant
- Ambreen Farook, MBA CA-AM, Biotech Executive (Pfizer, Halozyme Therapeutics, Pyxis Oncology)
- Swaminathan Murugappan, MD, PhD, President and Owner, Trident Bio Consulting Inc.
- Nindhana Paranthaman, MD, MBA, Executive Medical Director, Clinical Development, Summit Therapeutics, Inc.
- Rahul Pathak, JD, PhD, Partner at Squire Patton Boggs
- Titus Plattel, MBA, CEO & President Viage Therapeutics/Biotech consultant, TP Consulting
- Maria Soloveychik, PhD, Co-founder and CEO, SyntheX Inc.
- Jeff Spencer, Founder and CEO, STATegics, Inc.

TIPPINGPOINT BIOSCIENCES

Targeting Genome Packaging Defects for New Therapeutic Approaches

TippingPoint focuses on diseases driven by defects in genome packaging, where single-target drugs often fail due to toxicity and resistance. Instead of targeting a single factor, TippingPoint's platform addresses the network of molecular interactions in defectively packaged disease genomes. This approach increases specificity, reduces toxicity, and is more resistant to drug resistance caused by single-factor mutations. The platform aims to develop new therapies for diseases with poor prognosis and limited treatment options, such as glioblastomas and neurodegenerative disorders, while also establishing a new drug discovery pipeline for diseases that currently lack effective treatments.

CO-FOUNDER



Laura Hsieh, PhD

Laura Hsieh, PhD, is a driven scientist and entrepreneur with a strong background in molecular biology, biochemistry, and genomics. She has spent over 14 years in research, contributing to groundbreaking work in chromatin biology and drug development. With a passion for innovation in healthcare, she is committed to addressing diseases with unmet needs. She has led her team in securing key milestones, including transitioning from academia to an incubator space and raising initial funding. Laura's experience spans from scientific research to leading strategic business efforts in biotech, making a significant impact in the field.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Krishna Allamneni, PhD, Executive Vice President, Chief Development Officer, Concarlo Therapeutics
- Deborah Cho, JD, Senior Associate, Hogan Lovells
- Ambreen Farook, MBA CA-AM, Biotech Executive (Pfizer, Halozyme Therapeutics, Pyxis Oncology)
- Matt Metz, PhD, PMP, Strategic Alliances Director, Natera
- Dalia Rayes, MBA, Founder and CEO, BioLaunch Advisors
- Phillip Stevens, PhD, MBA, Principal, AMP Stevens and Associates LLC
- Scott Turner, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer, Arda Therapeutics
- Lowell M. Zeta, JD, Partner, FDA & Life Sciences Regulatory and Compliance, Hogan Lovells



Pioneering Glycan-Based Therapies for Acute Treatment of Vaso-Occlusive Crises in Sickle Cell Disease

IHP Therapeutics, founded in 2020, is dedicated to developing novel glycans for the targeted treatment of serious diseases. Its lead program, IHP-102, has the potential to become the first on-demand, disease-modifying therapeutic for the acute treatment of vaso-occlusive crises (VOCs) in patients with sickle cell disease (SCD). While prophylactic and gene therapies have advanced, over 200,000 VOCs still occur each year in the U.S. (especially given recent setbacks in Biopharma SCD pipelines). Yet no therapeutic has been approved to treat acute VOCs. IHP-102 has shown best-in-class preclinical data in two independent gold standard models, positioning it to fill this unmet need. With U.S. revenue projections exceeding \$1.2 billion annually and potential U.S. healthcare savings of over \$10 billion, IHP-102 also represents a significant economic opportunity. In addition to the U.S. market, there is substantial potential in Europe, the GCC Region, and other countries. The program has received scientific validation through \$12.5 million in NIH grants and support from the Department of Defense. A pre-IND meeting with the FDA is planned for early 2025, with the goal of initiating clinical trials shortly thereafter.

CEO / FOUNDER



Rinko Ghosh, MBA

Rinko Ghosh is a seasoned biopharmaceutical executive with over 25 years of experience in the industry. He has a proven track record in executing high-value transactions, raising capital, and building developmental and commercial expertise in entrepreneurial organizations. With a focus on global health, Rinko is passionate about driving innovation to address unmet medical needs and improving patient outcomes. His leadership spans across multiple areas of drug development and commercialization, positioning him as a key player in the biotech and healthcare sectors.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Kimi Barrio, MBA, Executive Director, Business Development & Licensing, Sumitomo Pharma America, Inc.
- Ambreen Farook, MBA, CA-AM, Biotech Executive (Pfizer, Halozyme Therapeutics, Pyxis Oncology)
- Robert Galembo, PhD, Distinguished Scientist, Verge Genomics
- Ted Haxo, Independent Operations and Manufacturing Consultant
- Murtaza Kapadia, MBA, Strategic Planning, Consulting
- Jie Li, MD, Executive Director, Physician Scientist Lead, Astellas Gene Therapies
- Jenelle Lin, MS, Associate Director of Clinical Operations, Vir Biotechnology, Inc.

Track B – Diagnostics & Precision Medicine Pitch Session #2

Presenting Companies

CpG Diagnostics
(Oncology)

Orbits Oncology
(Oncology)

Eximius Diagnostics
(Oncology)

MeCo Diagnostics
(Oncology)

Investor Q&A



**Robert Hess,
PhD**

Angel Investor,
NuFund Venture Group



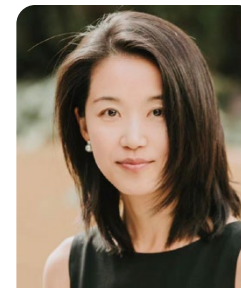
**Sonia Maryam
Setayesh,
MS, PhD**

Investment Partner,
Civilization Ventures



**Artem A. Trotsyuk,
PhD**

Partner, LongeVC



**Qing Zhang,
MD, MBA**

Partner, LDV Partners



USC MESH TRACK AWARDEE

A Non-Invasive Approach for Differentiating Benign and Malignant Pelvic Masses

CpG Diagnostics Inc's OvaPrint™ is a blood test designed to differentiate between benign and malignant pelvic masses through next-generation sequencing of cfDNA methylation patterns, enhanced by machine learning analysis. This non-invasive diagnostic aims to provide a safer, more accurate alternative to biopsies, which can be risky and are often avoided. By improving patient selection for surgery and reducing unnecessary procedures, OvaPrint™ helps optimize healthcare resources and patient outcomes. With its increased sensitivity and specificity for early-stage cancers, the test also aims to improve referral rates to gynecologic oncologists, whose involvement is known to improve the prognosis of patients with malignancies. Additionally, CpG Diagnostics is developing OvaPrint™ as a dual-purpose tool for ovarian cancer screening, offering a comprehensive solution for both preoperative evaluation and early detection of cancer.

CEO / FOUNDER



Bodour Salhia, PhD

Dr. Bodour Salhia is a passionate scientist with expertise in translational genomics and epigenomics, dedicated to advancing cancer research. Her work focuses on developing innovative solutions for early detection and treatment of cancer, with an emphasis on improving outcomes for patients with metastatic diseases. A strong advocate for patient engagement and community involvement, Dr. Salhia is committed to bridging the gap between the lab and the bedside through her research and public outreach. Her contributions to the field have earned her recognition as a leader in cancer genomics.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Jessica Aevertmann, MBA, Founder, Catalyst Healthcare Consulting, LLC
- Mike Henry, MBA, Chief Business Officer, Aldatu Biosciences
- Parisa Khosropour, Angel Investor, Tech Coast Angels
- Aditya Kulkarni, PhD, Founder, IndusQuad LLC
- Marielena Mata, PhD, Sr. Director, Clinical Biomarkers, Vividion Therapeutics, Inc.
- Swati Ranade, PhD, PMP, Director, Scientific Market Development, NanoString Technologies, Inc.
- Chandan Shee, PhD, Section Chief, CTLB, Department of Cannabis Control, California



AI-Driven Organoid Analysis for Accelerating Cancer Drug Discovery & Personalized Medicine

Orbits Oncology is building the leading computational platform for human-like tumor models, known as organoids, which act as surrogates of real-world patient tumors. Using advanced AI for computer vision and data processing, the platform analyzes organoid imagery combined with patient data and generates predictive models that translate research from the lab to patients in the hospitals. What distinguishes Orbits Oncology is their proprietary AI algorithms, which are specialized for organoids, up to 10,000 leaner than traditional neural networks, and validated on patient data. By unlocking the predictive potential of organoids, Orbits Oncology will bring patient insights early into research to deliver more personalized care to patients, with applications that include accelerating precision drug discovery and matching the right therapies to the right patients.

CEO / FOUNDER



Abraham Lin, PhD

Dr. Abraham Lin is a multidimensional researcher with a background in nuclear engineering, biomedical engineering, and plasma medicine. He has secured over \$1.5 million in research funding, mentored students across all academic levels, and authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Lin has been invited to speak at numerous international conferences, published multiple patents, and contributed significantly to research in multiple disciplines, including oncology and immunology. With a strong focus on interdisciplinary collaboration, his work continues to drive innovation by bringing engineering solutions to life sciences.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Russ Belden, Founder & CEO, Bridge
- Yamini Bynagari, PhD, Vice President Clinical Research, Verge Genomics
- John DeNuzzio, PhD, Principal, DeNuzzio MedTech Consulting
- Graham Howe, PhD, Vice President, Program Management Office, BD Biosciences
- Padma Kodukula, PhD, MBA, Chief Business Officer, A-Alpha Bio
- Stephanie Liu, MBA, Director of Business Development, Mirador Therapeutics
- Joe Markunas, CPA, Partner at CFOs2GO
- Todd Peterson, PhD, Founder and Principal, GenApex Bio; Co-Founder and SAB Chair, Aizen Therapeutics



Developing EV-Based Liquid Biopsies for Cancer Detection and Monitoring

Eximius Diagnostics, a UCLA spinoff, specializes in developing extracellular vesicle (EV)-based liquid biopsies for cancer diagnosis and monitoring, with a focus on early detection. Its first product, the Eximius Liver Cancer Test, is an in vitro diagnostic (IVD) designed to detect hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) using plasma samples from at-risk liver cirrhotic patients. This test employs qPCR technology to quantify HCC-specific EVs, allowing for early-stage (Stage 0-A) detection. With FDA Breakthrough Device Designation, the Eximius Liver Cancer Test in vitro diagnostic (IVD) in development is intended to provide an alternative to complement liver ultrasounds in aiding to enhance the early diagnosis of HCC for patients to have more accessible and sensitive options in return of better treatment outcomes.

CEO ADVISOR



Han-Yu Chuang, PhD

Dr. Han-Yu Chuang is a life science executive with extensive experience in molecular diagnostics, oncology, and prenatal care. With a background in bioinformatics and systems biology, Dr. Chuang specializes in the development and validation of clinical products throughout their life cycle. She is passionate about improving health equity through scalable technology innovations and has led multidisciplinary teams in bioinformatics, omics assays, and software development. Her work is focused on advancing precision diagnostics and personalized medicine.

ADVISORY TEAM

- Vandana Date, JD, Strategic & Business Advisor, Self-Employed
- David Davidovic, MBA, President at pathForward Strategic Consulting
- John Erickson, MS, President, RNA Disease
- Tom Klopach, MBA, Executive Consultant, TGK Lifescience
- Yvonne Linney, PhD, Strategic Advisor, Linney BioConsulting
- Doug Milikien, MS, Owner, Accudata Solutions, Inc.
- Diya Mohan, PhD, Staff Scientist Bioinformatics, Cepheid
- Steven Ross, Co-Founder, Chief Clinical and Education Officer, Cygenex, Inc.
- Branden Wolner, PhD, Senior Director of Microbiology, AQUA Cultured Foods



MeCo Diagnostics has developed the first and only clinically validated predictive biomarker test for breast cancer to leverage antifibrotic therapy, a fundamentally new modality of cancer treatment demonstrating stunning efficacy.

MeCo Diagnostics is a seed stage, venture-backed startup based in San Diego that has developed the first and only clinically validated predictive biomarker test for antifibrotic therapy, an emergent modality of breast cancer treatment that has recently demonstrated stunning efficacy. Our landmark 130-patient Phase 2 study reveals that our MeCo Score test can predict a substantial and durable reduction in risk of recurrence for a large subgroup of early-stage breast cancer patients. By leveraging a generic-emergent therapy as a proof of concept for our first-in-class therapy selection test, we are now set to unlock the first low cost, low toxicity, targeted therapy for breast cancer in history. We collaborate with numerous prestigious cancer centers, including Cleveland Clinic, City of Hope, and George Washington University, and our team has over 100 years of combined experience in diagnostics and therapeutics.

CEO / FOUNDER

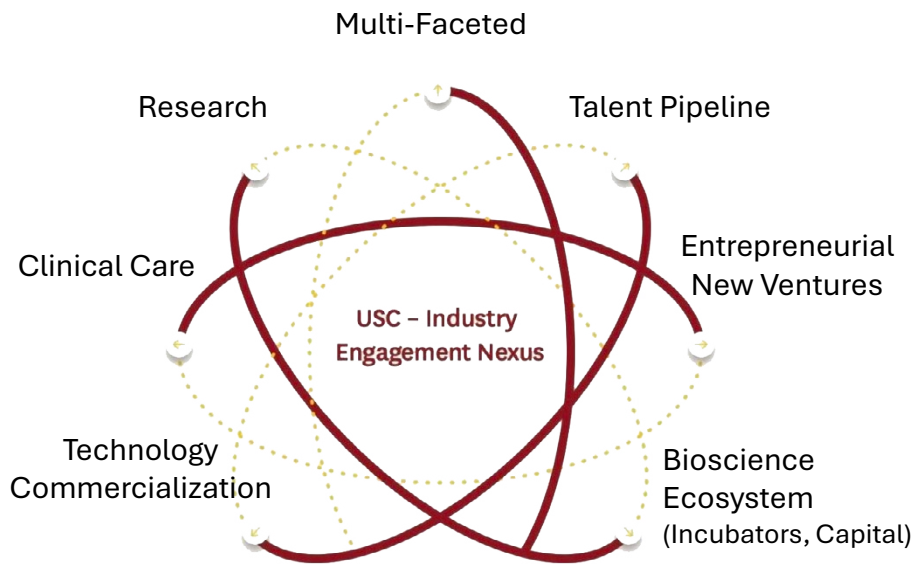


Adam Watson, Ph.D.

Dr. Adam Watson is the lead inventor of the MeCo Score, which he developed as part of his doctoral research. He completed his BSc in microbiology at the University of Victoria (Canada) and his Ph.D. in cancer biology at the University of Arizona. Before launching MeCo Diagnostics, Dr. Watson helped scale two other oncology-focused startups, first at Hawkeye Spectral Imaging, and then at Lynx Biosciences within the prestigious JLABS incubator at Johnson & Johnson in San Diego.

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FAST by the Numbers



151
STARTUPS
GRADUATED FAST



> \$2B
RAISED



> \$40M
IN REVENUES
GENERATED



14
EXITS
(11 ACQUIRED/MERGED & 3 IPO)



> 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
FAST GRADUATES
ARE IN CLINICAL TRIALS