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Texas Life Science Forum

Advancing medtech, biotech and healthcare innovation at the premier life science conference in Texas.

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November 11, 2025 | McNair Hall at Rice Business

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2025 MORNING PLENARY SESSIONS

	PLENARY SESSIONS - SHELL AUDITORIUM
7:30 am	**BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION | Jamail Plaza |** Sponsored by Insperity
8:30 am	**Welcome** **Jeff Wade, JD**, Chairman, BioHouston **Brad Burke**, Associate Vice President, Industry & New Ventures, Rice Innovation, Ion; Executive Director, Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship
8:35 am	**Texas Medical Center – Catalyst for Innovation** **William McKeon,** President and CEO, Texas Medical Center
8:50 am	**Perspectives on Biotech Market Conditions and Capital Raising Environment** **Introduction: Patrick Clayton, PhD**, Vice President, Life Sciences and Healthcare Startup Banking, J.P. Morgan **Moderator: Annie Sendejo**, Vice President, Life Sciences Banking, J.P. Morgan **Barbara Alcaraz Silva, PhD**, Executive Director, Life Sciences and Healthcare Startup Banking, J.P. Morgan **Sean MacGregor, JD**, Executive Director, Healthcare Investment Banking, J.P. Morgan
9:20 am	**Company Presentations - Medical Devices A** Fixnip US Roam Technologies Respiree OsseoLabs Aspira Medical OUI-Medical Liquet Medical Endomedix Dynamic Light
10:00 am	**NETWORKING BREAK | Jamail Plaza |** Sponsored by Austin Bioscience Incubator
10:30 am	**Company Spotlight** **Sarah Hein, PhD**, Co-founder & CEO, March Biosciences **Suma Gopinathan, PhD, MPharm.**, Senior Vice President, Discovery, Lexicon Pharmaceuticals (Nasdaq: LXRX)
10:50 am	**Company Presentations - Diagnostics** SingleCell Biotechnology Train Genomics Acuamark Diagnostics
11:05 am	**Company Presentations - Digital Health** MobilityZ Health PDC Remote Care Alwayslab
11:20 am	**Biotech Investing from Angels to Series A** **Moderator: Emily Reiser, PhD**, Strategy and New Ventures, Texas Medical Center **Bryson Saéz, MBA**, Life Science - Investor Lead, HAN and Venture Partner, Novellus Ventures **Fred Shane**, CEO, Axil Capital Advisors **Drew Yashar**, Senior Associate, Life Sciences, Capital Factory

2025 AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSIONS

	PLENARY SESSIONS - SHELL AUDITORIUM
12:00 pm	**LUNCH AND NETWORKING | Jamail Plaza**
1:00 pm	**Welcome Back** **John "JR" Reale, Jr.**, Managing Director for Startup Engagement, Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship
1:05 pm	**Company Presentations - Biopharmaceuticals A** PHIOGEN Miracle Regeneratives NKILT Therapeutics InterAct Therapeutics Velvet Therapeutics Tomahawk Oncology Oncotherics IonTX PaxImmune Therapeutics OmniNano Pharmaceuticals
1:50 pm	**Company Presentations - Medical Devices B** SageSpectra Cardiost Modulate Technologies Xander Medical Previze.AI OptiLung (fka Additive Biomedical) Freyya
2:20 pm	**Translating World-Class Academic Research into Commercial Opportunities for Patient Benefit** **Joseph Petrosino, PhD**, Chief Scientific Innovation Officer, Baylor College of Medicine **Bruce Butler, PhD**, Vice President, Research and Technology Director, Office of Technology Management, UT Health **Vineet Gupta, PhD**, Vice President for Innovation & Tech Development & Transfer, UTMB **Emily Barnhill, MHA**, Vice President, Strategic Industry Ventures, MD Anderson **Moderator: Suzanne Tomlinson-Mathis, PhD, MBA**, Director, Research Programs and Strategic Initiatives, Gulf Coast Consortia for Quantitative Biomedical Science
3:00 pm	**NETWORKING BREAK | Jamail Plaza |** Sponsored by Vinson & Elkins
3:30 pm	**Company Presentations - Biopharmaceuticals B** Bectas Therapeutics 4M Therapeutics HydroGene Therapeutics ENB Therapeutics Ypsilon Tx Oticara CrossBridge Bio Circurna
4:05 pm	**Company Presentations - Biopharmaceuticals C** Allterum Therapeutics 7 Hills Pharma Persevere Therapeutics PINOVA Therapeutics Orphagen Pharmaceuticals Iterion Therapeutics Indapta Therapeutics Medley Therapeutics
4:40 pm	**Keynote - Johnson & Johnson** **Bob Radinsky, PhD**, Vice President, Global Head, Oncology External Innovation, Johnson & Johnson
5:00pm	**Awards Presentations and Closing Remarks** Ten Most Promising Life Science Companies - Presented by **Verena Kallhoff, PhD, MBA**, Senior Director, Global Life Sciences, Greater Houston Partnership Michael E. DeBakey Award - Presented by BioHouston People's Choice Award - Presented by **Stephanie Gan**, Director of Governance and Partnerships, Health Emergency Readiness Canada, Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada
5:15 pm	**NETWORKING RECEPTION | Jamail Plaza**

2025 EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

	EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUM, ANDERSON FAMILY COMMONS (AFC) **Moderator: Jeff Wade, JD**, Chairman, BioHouston
10:00 am	**NETWORKING BREAK | Jamail Plaza |** Sponsored by Austin Bioscience Incubator
10:30 am	**Raising Your Seed or Series A in 2025: Trends, Terms, and Traps** **Michael Torosian, JD**, Partner, Baker Botts
11:20 am	**Introduction to the Digital Health Institute (Rice + Houston Methodist)** **Pothik Chatterjee, MBA**, Executive Director, Digital Health Institute, Rice University and Methodist Hospital **Khurram Nasir, MD, MPH**, Chief, Cardiovascular Prevention and Wellness, Houston Methodist Hospital, Co-Director, Houston Methodist-Rice Digital Health Institute, Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College
12:00 pm	**LUNCH AND NETWORKING | Jamail Plaza**
1:00 pm	**Texas Support for Life Science Innovation** **Kristen Doyle, JD, MSTC**, CEO, Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) **Ken Smith, PhD, JD, MBA**, Chief Product Development Officer, CPRIT **Victoria Ford, MPA**, CEO, Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute
1:40 pm	**Intellectual Property Strategy and Challenges for Emerging Life Science Companies** **Raymond Miller, JD**, Partner, U.S. Chair, Life Sciences Patent Development and Strategy, DLA Piper **Michael Dilling, PhD, MBA**, Executive Director of Commercialization, BCM Innovation Institute
2:20 pm	**Building a Comprehensive Life Sciences Ecosystem: Incentives, Talent and Collaboration** **Moderator: Verena Kallhoff, PhD, MBA**, Senior Director, Global Life Sciences, Greater Houston Partnership **Shawn Cloonan, JD**, Co-Life Science Lead and General Counsel, McCord Development **Chris Wild, PhD**, Assistant Vice Chancellor/Vice President, San Jacinto College **Danielle Scheiner,** Vice President, Regional Economic Development, Greater Houston Partnership
3:00 pm	**NETWORKING BREAK | Jamail Plaza |** Sponsored byVinson & Elkins
3:30 pm	**CGT Supply Chain Management for Development and Commercialization** **Laine Linden,** Head of Technical Operations, CTMC **Scott Nudelman,** Co-founder and Managing Principal, Vitrian

Vote for the 2025 Texas Life Science Forum People's Choice Award

VOTING CLOSES AT 4:30 PM

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

4M Therapeutics, Skillman, New Jersey

4M Therapeutics is developing safer, more effective treatments for neuropsychiatric conditions like bipolar disorder, a $3B U.S. market. Our lead candidate, 4MT2001, is a kidney-safe, targeted lithium mimetic derived from ruboxistaurin, offering improved safety and efficacy. Backed by a living human brain cell platform and a team of world-class scientists and biotech veterans, we enable faster, de-risked development towards the market. We've raised $8M and are seeking $1M more to complete manufacturing and initiate Phase 1 trials. We aim to transform care for bipolar disorder and drive the future of neuropsychiatric treatment.

4mtx.net

Pablo Lapuerta: pablo@4mtx.net

7 Hills Pharma, Houston, Texas

7 Hills Pharma is a clinical-stage pharmaceutical company developing first-in-concept immunomodulators to augment a broad range of immunotherapies for the treatment of drug-resistant solid tumors, augmentation of cell therapies, and prevention of infectious diseases. Our compounds are selective, allosteric, systemic activators of the integrins LFA-1 and VLA-4 that have been shown in preclinical models to augment the effectiveness of checkpoint inhibitors for solid tumors, improve stem cell and adoptive cell therapies for blood cancers and solid tumors, as well as the effectiveness of infectious disease vaccines. Our lead molecule, Alintegimod, is currently in Phase Ib/IIa clinical trials for the treatment of solid tumor patients with progressive disease on prior therapy.

7hillspharma.com

Siddhartha De: siddhartha@7hillspharma.com

Aakha Biologics, Frisco, Texas

Aakha Biologics focuses on pioneering multispecific antibody therapies for cancer treatment. The company was founded by Hemanta Baruah with support from 82VS - the venture studio arm of Alloy Therapeutics. Its pipeline includes: 1. A first-in-class MICA-based T cell bispecific engager with a novel target engagement strategy. This innovation is backed by a peer-reviewed JITC publication, that was published in collaboration with UT Southwestern (UTSW). 2. A first-in-class tri-specific antibody targeting EGFR ◊ cMET ◊ NK cells. Designed to block ligand binding and enhance NK cell activation, this candidate has the potential to outperform Amivantamab through the integration of a dedicated NK-activating binding arm.

aakha.bio

Hemanta Baruah: hemanta.baruah@aakha.bio

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Acuamark Diagnostics, New York, New York

Acuamarkís novel, next-gen molecular assays have for the first time achieved accurate Stage I detection from blood. Our results in CRC Stage I / II detection are market-leading (relative to e.g. Exact Sciences, Guardant H, Freenome, etc.). Optimized for population-scale deployment, our system integrates seamlessly into existing workflows ó no major equipment or infrastructure changes required ó is fully automatable, highly scalable, has strong unit economics, rapid adoption potential and extends into a pipeline across multiple cancers. With a $100B global CRC screening market as our entry point, ADX is building a scalable cancer-detection platform that combines transformative commercial potential and vast societal benefit. Series B will fund commercial system lock, commercialization-start readiness, and readiness to start the pivotal FDA study (PMA) ó positioning ADXí technology for long-term category leadership, and M&A optionality (as of 18 months after Series B close).

acuamarkdx.com

Bernard Peperstraete: info@acuamarkdx.com

Allterum Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Developed at the National Cancer Institute, Allterum Therapeutics is developing 4A10, an anti-CD127 monoclonal antibody for treating acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), B-cell malignancies, and lymphomas with CD127 over-expression. Allterum is also exploring relapsed/refractory solid tumors with CD127 overexpression. We have recently received FDA clearance to enter the clinic for a Phase I/IIa in humans in late 2025/early 2026.

allterum.com

Yan Moore: ymoore@allterum.com

Alwayslab, Bellerose, New York

Alwayslab offers an AI-digital platform that allows patients to complete their preliminary labs remotely and accurately. Patients complete a thorough questionnaire that identifies any risk factors or red flags that warrant additional workups. Then, Alwayslab presents the patient and their proposed work up and differential diagnosis to the physician. The physician can approve or tweak the recommendation. The patient receives an action plan and labs to complete. Patients can complete the labs remotely or at their local lab. The physician can review the lab results and the Alwayslab summary. If additional workup is required, Alwayslab can repeat the process. The clinic can then continue to monitor the patient through their next steps, pregnancy, IUI, or IVF. Our platform expands access to care, improves patient retention, reduces costs, and provides decision support tools for clinicians.

alwayslab.com

Elise Waldron-Young: elise.waldron@alwayslab.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Aspira Medical, Houston, Texas

Aspira Medical is a medical device company that unmasks aspiration pneumonia, a silent killer and a leading cause of ICU deaths. Its breakthrough is a wearable ultrasound patch that continuously monitors gastric distension, an early trigger of aspiration, so clinicians can act before pneumonia develops. The system fits seamlessly into ICU workflows through a disposable component and bedside display, creating a scalable recurring revenue model. Supported by exclusive licensing from Baylor College of Medicine and early validation studies, Aspira is advancing toward FDA clearance with the mission to transform ICU care and stop aspiration pneumonia before it strikes.

aspiramed.co

Zaffer Syed: zaffer@aspiramed.co

Bectas Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Bectas Therapeutics is a preclinical-stage biotechnology company developing monoclonal antibody therapies for cancer and auto-immune diseases. Our programs combine best-in-class drugs with precision biomarkers that enable first-in-class therapies to serve patients across multiple diseases. The Bectas team brings together world leading expertise in the development of precision therapies, deep expertise in understanding the immune system, and operational experience that has delivered multiple approved therapies for patients. Our mission is to bring precision to immune therapies in order to fully realize the potential of the immune system to deliver curative therapies for people living with cancer and autoimmune diseases.

bectastx.com

Ronan O'Hagan: ronan.ohagan@bectastx.com

Cardiost, Houston, Texas

Cardiost is developing LAUD, a fully implantable, drivelineless destination-therapy mechanical circulatory support device that unloads the left atrium and provides partial-flow augmentation (1ñ2.5 L/min) for advanced heart failure. ThromBUST is a rapid ischemia-detection and triage system that shortens pain-to-needle time via vectorcardiography analytics and pre-arrival activation. Together, they aim to improve survival and quality of life while reducing readmissions, length of stay, and total cost of care.

cardiost.com

Nicolas Anzellini: nico@cardiost.com

Circurna, Houston, Texas

Circurna has developed a proprietary circular RNA platform called ciRNA that is being used to develop therapeutics to treat a variety of diseases, including cancers, autoimmune, fibrosis and other diseases. ciRNA is room temperature stable, can be administered painlessly through the use of microneedle patches and results in significant protein production in vivo for a long period of time; and considerably more protein and time than mRNA. Circurna has begun its GLP to GMP manufacturing process which will be completed in 2026 and will initiate its first Phase I clinical trial in 2027. Circurna is currently raising a $5 million Seed2 round and will initiate at $50 million Series A in 2027. Circurna intends to partner with pharma companies throughout the world on therapeutic development. Circurna is based at K2 Bio in Houston, Texas.

circurna.com

Peter Weinstein: peter@circurna.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

CrossBridge Bio, Houston, Texas

CrossBridge Bio is an advanced antibodyñdrug conjugate (ADC) company creating dual-payload therapeutics that achieve deeper, safer, and more sustained cancer responses. Founded in 2023 in Houston, the companyís proprietary EGCit branched linker platform allows the development of site-specific, highly stable ADCs that overcome resistance and reduce off-target toxicity. Its lead program, CBB-120, a TROP2 Top1i/ATRi dual-payload ADC, has demonstrated best-in-class preclinical efficacy and safety, supported by $13 million in seed and grant funding. CrossBridge is now moving forward toward IND-enabling studies.

crossbridgebio.com

Michael Torres: mjtorres@crossbridgebio.com

Dynamic Light, Austin, Texas

Blood flow visualization that allows assessment of vessel & tissue viability during microsurgery that is non-invasive, requiring no needles/dyes, no patient contact, continuous and real time.

dynamiclight.com

Steve Whitlock: steve@dynamiclight.com

ENB Therapeutics, New York, New York

While immunotherapy has changed cancer treatment, more than half of patients still donít respond. The key barrier is the endothelin B receptor, or ETBR, which prevents immune cells from entering tumors and is expressed by ~40% of solid tumors. Our lead program, ENB-003, is the first selective ETBR inhibitor in the clinic. In Phase 1, we saw dramatic and durable responses in patients who historically had zero chance of benefiting from immunotherapy ó with a strong safety profile. Weíre now launching Phase 2 in platinum-refractory/resistant ovarian cancer, a $1.5 billion market, with the potential to expand across other solid tumors. Backed by partnerships with Merck, Coherus, MD Anderson, and the Cancer Research Institute, weíre raising a $17.5 million Series B to fund this next stage. Our goal: unlock immunotherapy for drug-resistant cancers and deliver greater than 10x returns for investors by 2028.

enbpharma.com

Sumayah Jamal: sjamal@enbpharma.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Endomedix, Montclair, New Jersey

Endomedix has developed a new patented (9 issued) chemistry for a platform of biomaterials for biosurgery applications. The biomaterials are structured and dynamic, and performance parameters can be tuned for different intended uses. The first spinoff from this platform is PlexiClot Absorbable Hemostat to control bleeding in brain and spinal surgeries. Neurosurgery is a $1.9B segment of the $4.5B absorbable hemostat market. PlexiClot's patented material and mechanisms of action leapfrog the current standard of care in terms of performance and safety. It's unique action eliminates one source of complications and re-operations produced by current methods. Through reductions in re-operations, long hospital stays and readmissions documented as major sources of complications in these surgeries, PlexiClot can help hospitals avoid hundreds of millions of unreimbursed costs in neurosurgery while improving clinical outcomes and simplifying hemostasis methods for surgeons.

endomedix.com

Richard Russo: rrusso@endomedix.com

Fixnip US, Houston , Texas

Fixnip US Inc. is a US medical device company that revives the field of breast augmentation through the FixNip Nipple Reconstruction Implant (NRI). FixNip offers women who have had breast cancer surgery and their physicians a revolutionary, minimally invasive and safe approach for nipple areola reconstruction. The NRI provides breast cancer survivors with natural nipple reconstruction and helps them regain self-confidence. Important features of a reconstructed nipple are overall symmetry and a durable and sturdy vertical projection. Fixnip US ink has received a Grant from CPRIT - Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas of 7.26 M$ in total, including 4.8 M$ raised from CPRIT and 2.4 M$ from matching funds. Fixnip US opened a US Houston based headquarters in Houston Texas and began registration activity with the FDA. The company signed contracts with Hospitals and CRO and started the clinical trial activities.

fixnip.com

David Mizrachin: david@fixnip.com

Freyya, Salt Lake City, Utah

Freyya is commercializing a tampon-like wearable that provides real-time pelvic floor monitoring and therapy. One in four women suffer pelvic floor disorders, often from childbirth or menopause, leading to incontinence and pain. Our device shifts care from reactive to proactive by enabling AI-driven diagnosis and personalized rehabilitation immediately after inciting events. A 25-participant clinical study confirmed comfort, secure fit, and reproducible results, positioning us for FDA clearance early next year.

freyya.com

Gabriele Niederauer: g.niederauer@freyya.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

HydroGene Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

HydroGene has developed the first non-viral gene therapy that works in large animal models. Currently, viral gene therapies have been leveraged in patients, but come with high cost, significant safety risks, and inability to redose. By achieving gene delivery without the use of viruses, HydroGene has solved a key goal of the field. HydroGene's initial focus is on disorders affecting the liver, using a common clinical procedure for organ-specific gene delivery. Clinical studies planned focus on rare genetic diseases, with potential to expand into common disorders such as MASH, diabetes, and cancer.

hydrogenetx.com

Robert Kruse: robert@hydrogenetx.com

Indapta Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Indapta is a biotechnology company harnessing the natural power of the immune system to fight cancer and autoimmune diseases through its universal natural killer (NK) cell platform derived from healthy donors. The companyís allogeneic platform is based on a subset of NK cells deficient in the FceR1g protein, known as g-NK cells. These cells demonstrate enhanced potency in killing cancer cells and autoreactive T and B cells. Indapta aims to bring this off-the-shelf cellular therapy to patients with cancer and autoimmune diseases, addressing the limitations of existing treatments and advancing the next generation of immune-based therapies.

indapta.com

Guy DiPierro: gdipierro@indapta.com

InterAct Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

InterAct Therapeutics is a platform biotech developing innovative gene therapies to treat metastatic cancers. Our lead asset is IAT-S2, which targets breast cancer-derived liver metastases, reprogramming the liver microenvironment to inhibit tumor growth. We are developing additional drugs to treat other metastatic cancers (e.g., lung, liver, GI). We are approximately 18 months from IND submission. We have significant in vivo data showing efficacy. Our technology is based upon the novel science developed by Isaac Chan, MD, PhD, at The Chan Lab at UT Southwestern.

InterActTx.com

Dan Hargrove: dhargrove@InterActTx.com

IonTX, Friendswood, Texas

IonTX†is a preclinical-stage biotech startup spun out from the University of Texas Medical Branch, developing innovative rapidly-acting treatments for neurological and neuropsychiatric disorders. The company targets intracellular ion channel-associated proteins through protein-protein interaction modulation to regulate voltage-gated sodium channels, normalizing neuronal hypo- or hyperexcitability that drives disease pathology. IonTX offers disease-modifying therapies with potential for localized effects and personalized medicine approaches. Their four lead candidates target early Alzheimer's disease, anhedonia, substance use disorder, and peripheral pain, demonstrating†in vivo†efficacy in animal models without toxicity or adverse side effects.

iontxinnovation.com

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PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Iterion Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Iterion Therapeuticsí lead asset, tegavivint, is the most advanced Wnt/?-catenin inhibitor in clinical development. By targeting TBL1, a critical co-activator of Wnt-driven gene expression, tegavivint uniquely degrades nuclear ?-catenin and blocks oncogenic transcription while avoiding toxicities associated with upstream Wnt-pathway inhibitors. In a completed Phase 1 HCC trial, tegavivint demonstrated durable responses, ctDNA reductions, improved liver function, and outcomes superior to late-line TKIs. Positioned to become the first targeted therapy for Wnt-mutated HCC, Tegavivint also has broad applicability across the >500,000 Wnt-driven cancers diagnosed annually, representing a multi-billion-dollar opportunity.

iteriontherapeutics.com

Rahul Aras: rahul@iteriontx.com

Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, The Woodlands, Texas

Lexicon Pharmaceuticals is a biopharmaceutical company that has harnessed the power of genetics for drug discovery. Our research team has generated a pipeline of novel drug candidates in clinical development across a broad range of indications. We have applied gene knockout technology to thousands of potential drug targets encoded in the human genome. Our scientists have gained a thorough understanding of target biology and identified new points of intervention for future therapies. We have integrated a series of recombinant DNA and chemistry technologies into a systematic drug discovery and development process. Our unique knowledge of targets from the human genome has allowed us to better evaluate and advance novel drug candidates with great promise for patients. Our genomics-based approach to drug discovery has enabled our scientists to select drug targets across a broad range of indications with high unmet medical need. All of our drug candidates are new molecular entities discovered internally by our dedicated drug discovery teams and designed to affect particular points on a genetically-defined pathway that can be used to fight a disease process. We have advanced new therapies across a wide spectrum of human disease, from conditions affecting millions of people, such as diabetes, to carcinoid syndrome, an orphan cancer indication with few treatment options.

lexpharma.com

Suma Gopinathan

Liquet Medical, Glen Allen, Virginia

Liquet Medical is a med-tech company pioneering a more personalized approach to pulmonary embolism (PE) care. Its FDA-cleared Versusô Catheter uniquely combines dual-tip infusion with real-time pulmonary artery pressure monitoring, enabling physicians to deliver therapy to both lungs simultaneously while tracking physiologic response. This innovation provides the flexibility to optimize dosing and duration based on each patientís needs, with the goal of improving outcomes, reducing risks, and lowering overall treatment costs. By advancing physiology-guided therapy, Liquet Medical is shaping the future of individualized PE treatment and addressing a critical gap in todayís one-size-fits-all approaches.

liquetmedical.com

John Schindler: j.schindler@liquetmedical.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

March Biosciences, Houston, Texas

March Biosciences is a Houston-based, clinical stage cell therapy company focused on T cell diseases in oncology and autoimmunity. The companyís lead asset, MB-105, is currently in a multi-site Phase 2 trial in the US.

march.bio

Sarah Hein: sarah@march.bio

Medley Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Medley Therapeutics specializes in pioneering the development of advanced biologics and genetic medicines to effectively treat chronic diseases. The company's portfolio includes genetic medicines to endogenously regenerate and repair organs as well as advanced biologics aimed at treating life-threatening cancers and fibrotic diseases. Medley Therapeuticsí lead gene therapy candidate in development (YAP-101) is aimed at cardiac regeneration through modulation of the Hippo/YAP signaling pathway and related mechanisms.

yaptx.com

Tyler Kibbee: tkibbee@yaptx.com

Miracle Regeneratives, Houston, Texas

Miracle Regeneratives is a new biotech company formed to commercialize transformative cures for orphan diseases. We utilize gene therapy and regenerative medicine, harnessing the body's own regenerative capacity to heal deadly diseases. We are not satisfied with the state of orphan disease treatment where millions of people have few options. We see a future where rare liver disease is reversible and curable, not a death sentence. With partnerships and investments from major philanthropists and families, we are seeking additional funding to complete IND-enabling studies to progress our lead therapy to the clinic.

miracle-regen.com

Duncan Fox: duncan@miracle-regen.com

MobilityZ Health, Cypress, Texas

MobilityZ Health is an AI-powered digital health platform designed for orthopedic, physiotherapy, and primary care providers to remotely triage, monitor, and assist in diagnosing musculoskeletal injuries through a telehealth/video-embedded medical device data system (MDDS) that works on a camera-based movement analysis system. By supporting hybrid care models that incorporate both asynchronous and synchronous modules across pre- and post-surgical treatments, the platform delivers critical data to assist clinical decisions, streamline workflows, and enhance efficiency. Patients gain faster access to MSK care anytime and anywhere, enabling quicker recovery and preventing disability. Looking ahead, MobilityZ Health is advancing toward an AI-enabled Software as a Medical Device (SAMD) for musculoskeletal diagnosis.

mobiltiyzhealth.com

Sucheshna Patil: sp@mobilityzhealth.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Modulate Technologies, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Modulate Technologies streamlines and personalizes the non-surgical treatment of spinal disorders, starting with scoliosis. Current scoliosis braces are outdated, uncomfortable, and inconsistent, leading to poor compliance and costly surgeries. Our platform combines AI, biomechanical simulations, and additive manufacturing to deliver hyper-personalized braces that are lighter, more breathable, and clinically validated for improved fit and correction. Integrated sensors and remote monitoring enhance compliance and follow-up. By automating the workflow from images to brace delivery, we reduce inefficiencies for clinicians and patients. With strong IP, clinical validation, and a stepwise go-to-market strategy, we usher in the next generation of personalized orthopedic treatments.

modulate.ca

Aymeric Guy: aymeric.guy@modulate.ca

NKILT Therapeutics, Houston , Texas

NKILT has developed a cell therapy product that targets HLA-G which is expressed in 50% of human cancers across indications. HLA-G is difficult to target with conventional methods and NKILT has made a patented method to target HLA-G. It uses donor derived Natural Killer Cells to target achieve scale and economy for wide patient access.

nkilt.com

Henri Bayle: henri.bayle@nkilt.com

OmniNano Pharmaceuticals, Houston, Texas

OmniNano Pharmaceuticals is a preclinical-stage company developing next-generation therapies for some of the toughest cancers to treat, starting with pancreatic cancer. Based on breakthrough research from MD Anderson, our patented micelle platform carries and releases combinations of cancer drugs where theyíre needed mostóinside tumors. Lead asset, ONP-001, targets both the cancer cells and the dense tissue that protects them, breaking down barriers to treatment and opening the door to more effective responses. In preclinical PDAC models, ONP-001 remodeled the TME, increased intratumoral drug concentrations, reduced metastatic burden, and extended survival, supporting clinical development.

omninanopharma.com

Leslie Sloan: leslie.sloan@omninanopharma.com

OncoTherics, Shepshed, Leicestershire, United Kingdom

OncoTherics Limited was formed in the UK in 2009, by BioStatus Limited, who have funded all of the company's research and development to date (see biostatus. com). OncoTherics Limited is a company registered in England and Wales, reg no: 06940617 OncoTherics Poland Sp. Zo.o. was formed in 2018 to take advantage of the advantageous grant opportunities in Poland. On 27th October 2021, the company transformed to a SpÛ?ka akcyjna (S.A.). To complete the last phase of its development programme, the company is now relocating to the USA, where the expertise, clinical access and financial resources will drive the company through clinical trials to a planned exit.

oncotherics.com

Stefan Ogrodzinski: stefan@oncotherics.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

OptiLung (fka Additive Biomedical), Houston, Texas

OptiLung is commercializing a game-changing platform technology for extracorporeal blood oxygenation devices. These devices are used to support life in critically ill patients, allowing their heart or lungs to recover from acute trauma or infection. By 3D-printing the oxygenator as a single piece, OptiLung can make the blood flow path essentially perfect, reducing clotting and inflammation, improving patient outcomes, and reducing costs. OptiLung envisions that its technology will become the standard for blood-gas exchange applications, beginning with long-term extracorporeal life support and expanding into cardiopulmonary bypass.

opti-lung.com

Matthew Gelber: matt@opti-lung.com

Orphagen Pharmaceuticals, San Diego, California

With $40+ M in non-dilutive grant and partnership revenue, Orphagen has pioneered development of first-in-class small molecule drug candidates that precisely target unexplored members of the nuclear receptor superfamily, a major source of drugs in inflammation and oncology. Our lead asset is a tumor-selective IND-ready small molecule, OR-449, for treatment of adrenocortical carcinoma (ACC), a devastating cancer in both adults and children. OR-449 has potential for rapid approval and commercialization given the lack of effective therapies in ACC. Premium pricing for a rare cancer therapy like OR-449, with an estimated total accessible U.S. market of 1,500 patients, could generate $500 M/year for treatment of ACC alone. The target of OR-449 is also highly expressed in defined subsets of more prevalent cancers, such as head and neck and lung squamous, suggesting potential for expanded approvals as a precision therapy in a significantly larger patient population.

orphagen.com

Scott Thacher: smt@orphagen.com

OsseoLabs, Bloomington, Indiana

OsseoLabs is a deep-tech medtech company transforming reconstructive and orthopedic care with an end-to-end platform that unites OsseoVisionô (AI surgical planning), OsseoMatrixô (patented TPMS porous design), OsseoOptimizedô (topology optimization), and titanium/bioresorbable Mg-alloy implants. Our workflow reduces design time by >90%, cuts OR time by up to 50%, and lowers device cost by ~53%. We operate an ISO 13485 facility with 3ñ10 day turnaround and have completed 250+ clinical cases with 90+ repeat surgeons. With 60+ regulatory-ready products and distributors across Europe, MENA, and SEA, weíre scaling precision surgery globally.

osseolabs.com

Vikram Ahuja: vikram@osseolabs.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Oticara, Austin, Texas

Oticara's lead product is the only sterilizable, nasal-mucosa-optimized steroid cream, administered by Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) physicians via a custom applicator. This patient-friendly, single-dose in-office therapy delivers lasting relief for chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS) patients, and it enables delivery throughout the sinuses while limiting systemic exposure compared to oral steroids. Clinical studies have demonstrated rapid and sustained symptom improvement, even amongst patients whose symptoms have not been controlled by available therapies. With an initial focus on post-surgical CRS patients, Oticara is advancing a new treatment option for one of the most difficult-to-treat populations in ENT.

oticara.com

Chris Marich: chris.marich@oticara.com

OUI-Medical, Dallas, Texas

OUI-Medical's P-scope device is the first portable and disposable laparoscope that enables immediate visualization in the ICU, reducing delays, avoiding costly OR transfers, and improving patient outcomes. This is a step-change from traditional laparoscopic towers and exploratory surgery. Why it matters: - Addresses ICU sepsis triage, where delayed diagnosis drives mortality (up to 70% risk during transport). - Offers immediate bedside visualization, avoiding OR delays and freeing OR capacity. - Strong economic case: $200 COGS vs. $2,000 ASP (90% margin), with clear CPT reimbursement pathways. - Initial beachhead: unexplained abdominal sepsis (187k U.S. cases/yr), with expansion into trauma, oncology, and womenís health ($8.6B TAM). - Proven team with deep med-tech commercialization experience and patents granted in India/Australia (US/EU pending).

oui-medical.com

Ashley Scott: ashley@altruitypartners.com

PaxImmune Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

We are a proven academic drug development team within MD Anderson. We have invented a novel class of protein biologics targeted at immune cell reprogramming to cure chronic inflammatory diseases. Our lead candidate demonstrates strong efficacy in vivo: against radiation-induced fibrosis, MASH liver fibrosis, and HLH. We aim to advance our lead biologic into first-in-human trials within 18 months. We are seeking a joint venture partner to accelerate lead development and unlock the broad therapeutic potential of this platform technology.

mdanderson.org

David Piwnica-Worms: dpiwnica-worms@mdanderson.org

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

PDC Remote Care, The Woodlands, Texas

PDC Remote Care is a device-agnostic, AI-enabled hypertension platform that empowers medical practices with real-time, verified blood-pressure data and an end-to-end workflow for remote patient monitoring. Our proprietary software and connected devices handle provisioning, patient engagement, triage, and audit-ready documentationóreducing staff burden while improving BP control. Practices unlock a recurring revenue stream from remote monitoring without buying into a single device vendor. In the past year, we onboarded 19 practices across seven states and supported 600+ patients. Weíre raising pre-seed capital to scale to 5,000 patients, deepen analytics, and expand EHR integrationsópositioning PDC as the operating system for hypertension care.

pdcremotecare.com

Adeyemi Oginni: adeyemi@pdcremotecare.com

Persevere Therapeutics, Chesterbrook, Pennsylvania

Persevere is a clinical-stage oncology company raising a $5M Seed round to conduct a Phase 1b/2 trial in ovarian cancer with its novel small molecule, misetionamide. The company signed a Definitive Asset Purchase Agreement to acquire this non-core oncology program from Swiss-based Geistlich Pharma's subsidiary, Panavance, where Perseverefs founder previously served as CEO and led the program. New investors benefit from $40m of Geistlich/Panavance's development costs to-date - - essentially a non-dilutive investment. The program is significantly de-risked with a Phase 1 in pancreatic cancer recently completed, extensive xenograft and toxicology studies conducted, all CMC is finalized, API manufactured for the clinical trial, and two open INDs cleared by the FDA. Misetionamide, is protected by a robust IP estate with granted COM and manufacturing patents, and Perseverefs experienced life sciences team is positioned to execute this plan.

panavance.com

Greg Bosch: greg.bosch@perseveretherapeutics.com

PHIOGEN, Houston, Texas

PHIOGEN is a biotechnology company pioneering dual-action bacteriophage therapeutics to combat drug-resistant and recurrent bacterial infections. Our platform identifies and evolves highly functional phages capable of both eliminating active infections and stimulating protective immunity to prevent reinfection. With a lead program targeting recurrent urinary tract infections and a pipeline addressing bloodstream infections and other critical unmet needs, PHIOGEN is advancing a transformative approach that reduces reliance on antibiotics and slows antimicrobial resistance. Supported by leading academic collaborations, FDA-reviewed data packages, and non-dilutive funding, we are building a capital-efficient path to deliver first-in-class, durable infectious disease solutions.

phiogenpharma.com

Amanda† Burkardt: amanda@phiogenpharma.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

PINOVA Therapeutics, Miami, Forida

PINOVA Therapeutics is developing a price-competitive intranasal delivery system using our proprietary nasal swab. Our lead product, NAXVY, is an over-the-counter (OTC) naloxone nasal swab. Naloxone works by blocking the effects of opioids and is the standard emergency treatment for opioid overdoses. NAXVY produces 74% higher exposure 2.5 minutes after dosing, when compared to the leading opioid reversal nasal spray, NARCAN. PINOVA has a fully automated manufacturing line that can produce up to 3.2 million units of NAXVY annually. Most importantly, PINOVAís proprietary swab technology is broadly applicable and can be easily adapted for the nasal delivery of other drugs.

pinovatx.com

Sep Sarshar: ssarshar@pinovatx.com

Previze.AI, Houston, Texas

Each year in the U.S., more than 230,000 patients have spinal metastasis, where the cancer spreads to their spine. For the 12% who fracture, the result is debilitating pain, emergency hospitalizations, invasive surgeries, and cancer therapy delays that lead to early death. Previze.AI is transforming this reality. Our AI-enabled software analyzes routine CT scans to predict fractures before they occur, enabling oncologists to intervene early and prevent fractures. We are piloting our technology with leading cancer centers, including Baylor College of Medicine and MD Anderson, on the path to FDA clearance and commercial launch.

previzeai.com

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Pulmotect, Houston, Texas

Pulmotectís lead therapeutic, PUL-042, administered by inhalation, activates the innate immune defenses in the lung to provide immediate protection from inhaled pathogens. It provides protection against respiratory viral, bacterial, and fungal pathogens. The initial target indication is the reduction of the incidence, duration, and/or severity of respiratory infection and complications in immunocompromised cancer patients, where there is a clear unmet need. Demonstration of effectiveness in cancer patients is a springboard to other large patient populations, such as COPD, asthma, influenza and potential future pandemics. This indication has a market potential greater than $1 billion in the USA.

pulmotect.com

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Respiree, Houston, Texas

Respireeô is an AI/ML health tech company building state-of-the-art clinically-validated artificial intelligence (AI) for managing disease progression across healthcareís care continuum. The 1Bioô platform by Respireeô uses data from the EHR and its proprietary US-patented and FDA-cleared sensors to longitudinal measure and track disease progression. Respireeô is now available in U.S., Australia and Asia-Pacific (APAC). Respireeô is CE marked, has received regulatory clearances in Australia from the Therapeutics Goods Administration and has received the 510k clearance from the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

respiree.com

Gurpreet Singh: gurpreet@respiree.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Roam Technologies, Carlton, New South Wales, Australia

Roam Technologies is bringing true mobility to oxygen therapy with Juno, the worldís first clinically validated, tankless, continuous-flow oxygen generator. Current solutions tether patients to heavy cylinders or under-deliver oxygen during exertion, leading to poor adherence and costly readmissions. Juno provides reliable, medical-grade oxygen in a handheld device, improving mobility, outcomes, and quality of life while lowering provider logistics costs. Backed by U.S. patents, early clinical validation, and strategic health system collaborations, Roam is raising a US$6M Seed round to achieve FDA clearance and scale for US launch.

roamtech.ai

Shan-Shan Wang: shanshan.wang@roamtech.ai

SageSpectra, Conroe, Texas

SageSpectra is developing a versatile platform combining optical sensing and AI for reliable tissue health and chronic disease monitoring. Our patch measures both tissue oxygen saturation (StO?) and temperature, enabling early detection of complications following reconstructive flap surgery. By providing real-time, remote monitoring of surgical flaps from hospital to home, SageSpectra empowers clinicians to reduce costly reoperations, shorten hospital stays, and improve patient outcomes. We are initially focused on post-operative monitoring of surgical flaps, where early detection of flap compromise can save up to $150,000 per avoided flap failure. Our platform technology also extends to wound care, ICU monitoring, and chronic disease applications for a TAM of ~$3.2B. In parallel, SageSpectra is advancing a handheld device for peripheral arterial disease screening in the UK. With patents granted, NIH SBIR funding, clinical partnerships, and early licensing revenue, SageSpectra is building the future of tissue health and chronic disease monitoring.

sagespectra.com

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SingleCell Biotechnology, Dallas, Texas

SingleCell Biotechnology, a UT Southwestern spinout, is transforming precision oncology with next-generation single-cell assays that reveal key cancer cell subpopulations (clonogenic, migratory, and dormant cell phenotypes), that drive recurrence and resistance. Powered by AI and machine learning, our platform delivers functional insights and predictive models to improve drug discovery and patient outcomes. Current assays miss these key tumor subpopulations that drive relapse and resistance, leading to therapies that are often developed based on incomplete or misleading data. SingleCellís label-free, phenotype-driven technology uncovers these hidden cells, enabling more accurate preclinical testing and better therapeutic targeting.

scellbio.com

Bryan Presley: bpresley@scellbio.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Tomahawk Oncology, Houston, Texas

ï Worldís First Systemically administered engineered oncolytic virus (OV) off the potent HSV-2 platform. ï Treats Late-Stage Solid Cancer Tumors: Allogeneic, off the shelf COGS and robust mfg. ï Highly Efficacious: The virus has fusogenic properties, leading to more efficient tumor killing. ï Specific and Targeted: Designed to be Ras-dependent for replication restricting full replication capacity to RAS-activated tumor cells, ensuring safety. ï Treats Primary Tumors and Metastasis: Current OVís are intra tumorally administered. but our systemic administration allows it to treat the primary tumor and metastases. ï Activates the Immune System: OnkAx-3 turns “cold” tumors “hot” attracting NK cells and tumor-specific T cells.

tomahawkthera.com

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Train Genomics, Houston, Texas

Train Genomics is a startup that aims to transform in-vitro infectious disease diagnostics with its commercial software platform, SeqMag. Built upon proven synthetic DNA screening technology in SeqScreen, SeqMag combines ultra-sensitive pathogen discovery with ultra-accurate false-positive filtering to deliver precise, actionable results without overwhelming clinicians. Optimized for low-biomass samples and diverse pathogens, SeqMag integrates seamlessly into hospital workflows to provide fast, reliable answers at the point of care. By shifting pathogen detection from an expensive, last-resort option to a rapid, routine diagnostic tool, Train Genomics is poised to redefine the standard of care and capitalize on a critical gap in the infectious disease diagnostics market.

traingenomics.com

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Velvet Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Velvet Therapeutics is developing non-viral, DNA-driven, in vivo cell therapies against solid tumors. Velvet is raising a $5.5MM Seed 2 preferred stock financing and has raised $4MM to date. Velvet’s proprietary chimeric antigen receptors (“CAR-X”) activate both the innate and the adaptive immune systems, growing their ability to kill solid tumors. Multiple cell types are enlisted, including antigen-presenting cells and T-cells. Key team members and Advisors were involved in the leadership and execution of Modernaís in vivo cell therapy collaboration with Carisma Therapeutics.

velvettherapeutics.com

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Voxel Systems, Austin, Texas

Voxel Systems turns everyday MRI scanners into biochemical sensors. Our core product, VxMRSô, leverages transforming Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (MRS) to deliver a fast, noninvasive ìvirtual biopsyî of brain chemistry - capturing neurometabolic fingerprints on existing scanners, then converting those spectra into clinician friendly insights. We hold the exclusive license to a U.S. governmentñdeveloped, patented MRS algorithm and are building the operating system for brain biochemistry at scale.

voxelsystems.com

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PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Xander Medical, Williston, Vermont

Xander Medical is revolutionizing orthopedic surgery with innovative fixation systems designed to address critical intra-procedural challenges. Our novel Interlock Screw features a proprietary secondary extraction interface that enables simple, efficient removal of stripped, broken, or damaged screwsóeliminating costly complications and improving patient outcomes. Founded in 2023 by siblings Ali and Jackson Bisaccia, we've earned recognition including the NIH DEBUT Award, becoming the youngest graduates of the NIH C3i Program, and presenting to legislators at the NIBIB's Discoveries in Health Technologies event. We're currently part of TMCi's 2025/2026 HealthTech Innovation Cohort, advancing toward FDA 510(k) clearance in Q1 2027.

xandermed.com

Ali Bisaccia: ali@xandermed.com

Ypsilon Tx, Houston, Texas

Ypsilon Therapeutics is expanding the reach of antibody therapeutics. Ypsilon is advancing a new class of cancer therapies with TCR mimics (TCRm), designed to address unmet needs in solid tumors. TCRm are novel antibodies that bind peptide/MHC complexes, unlocking access to tumor-specific intracellular targets beyond the reach of conventional antibodies. Ypsilonís TCRm T cell engagers bispecific antibodies bring the precision of TCR recognition with the potency and good manufacturability of antibody therapeutics. TCRm driving immune responses by redirecting a patientís own immune system to eliminate their tumors. The companyís lead program targets antigens highly expressed in cancers such as triple-negative breast cancer with limited expression in normal tissues. Ypsilon is led by two seasoned immunologist and drug hunters, Dr. Dongxing Zha and Dr. Michael Kalos. Backed by a CPRIT Seed Award and strong scientific expertise, Ypsilon is driving transformative therapies toward clinical development for patients with limited treatment options.

Ypsilontx.com

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How Houston Supports Your Growth

THRIVING INNOVATION HUB

Houston hosts a vibrant community of about 1,100 life sciences and biotech companies, bolstered by world-class universities, leading medical research institutions, accelerators, and a robust commercialization infrastructure.

TALENT BASE

In addition to a steady stream of university talent coming out of renowned institutions of higher learning, strategic talent and upskilling initiatives prepare our workforce for the future.

OPERATIONAL EASE & AFFORDABILITY

Boasting a friendly business and permitting environment, Houston offers affordable lab space and low cost of living, making scaling and hiring easier.

MORE INFORMATION

Visit houston.org for more information, or contact the Greater Houston Partnership's Senior Director of Global Life Sciences Verena Kallhoff, PhD, MBA at **vkallhoff@houston.org**.

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- Investment Policy Creation
- Strategic Cash Management
- Morgan Markets
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Expansion/Later Stage/Established

- IPO or M&A
- International Banking
- Liquidity and Investment Solutions
- Capital Markets
- Private Banking
- Broadened Cash Management Solutions
- Loans

Commercialization

- Capital Markets
- IPO or M&A Advisory
- Payments Processing
- Complex Treasury needs

TMC | VENTURE FUND

Seed for Life Science Groundbreakers

A minimally invasive robotic heart device. AI-based clinical trial matching. Surgical tools with artificial vision. Real-time monitoring of sepsis. Predictive analytics across the continuum of care. These are just some of the early-stage developments supported by the TMC Venture Fund.

Since its founding in 2017, the TMC Venture Fund has partnered with companies that have raised over $1.6 billion. Because TMC doesn't just provide the world's best medical care, we help innovators create it. Find out more at **tmcventurefund.com**.

OUR CURRENT PORTFOLIO

Devices

ALLEVIANT · BRITESEED · CORINNOVA · cnsdose. · HAMILTON HEALTH BOX

ictero MEDICAL · intelligent implants · LIFELET MEDICAL · MOTIF NEUROTECH · Noninvasix

NUASurgical™ · SONAVEX Empowered Patient Care · Surf THERAPEUTICS · VENOSTENT · VIVIFI MEDICAL

prana surgical · Volumetric · PATHEX purifying life

Digital

BABYSCRIPTS™ · Clarium · DEEP 6 AI · KODA HEALTH · luma™

LenaHealth · Medable · Medical INFORMATICS · NarrativeDx · trusted

Therapeutics

CROSSBRIDGE BIO · MARCH BIOSCIENCES