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15TH ANNUAL

Texas Life Science Forum

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

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November 10, 2026 | McNair Hall at Rice Business

TEXAS LIFE SCIENCE Forum

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2026 PLENARY SESSIONS

SHELL AUDITORIUM

7:30 am	**BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION | Rotunda and Virani Atrium**
8:30 am	**Welcome** **John (J.R.) Reale**, Executive Director, Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship **Jeff Wade**, Chairman, BioHouston
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** **Moderator: Annie Sendejo**, Vice President, Life Sciences Banking, J.P. Morgan **Ankit Aggarwal**, Executive Director, Healthcare Investment Banking, J.P. Morgan **Barbara Alcaraz Silva, PhD**, Executive Director, National Head Life Sciences and Healthcare Startup Banking, J.P. Morgan
9:20 am	**Company Presentations: Biopharmaceuticals A | Sponsored by Beacon CoLab, Monique Knighten, Executive Director** Orphagen Pharmaceuticals 4M Therapeutics CoRegen Branch Therapeutics Medley Therapeutics Persevere Therapeutics Stingray Therapeutics PDX Pharmaceuticals CELLeBRAIN Neurovantix Therapeutics
10:00 am	**NETWORKING BREAK | Virani Atrium |** Sponsored by Vinson & Elkins
10:30 am	**Fireside Chat with Michael Torres, PhD, Founder and Former CEO of CrossBridge Bio** **Moderator: Jeff Wade**, Chairman, BioHouston **Michael Torres, PhD**, Co-Founder, Board Member, Investor, MPN Therapeutics
10:50 am	**Company Presentations: Medical Devices A** Ansana Spatium Medical Magellan Biomedical Vertility Health Bairitone Health Aliform Implant Preservation Devices NovaScan Flux Robotics
11:30 am	**Investor Perspectives: Investment in Life Science Start-up and Emerging Growth Companies** **Moderator: Michael King**, Managing Director and Head of Research, Rodman & Renshaw **Chau Khuong**, Founder and Chief Investment Officer, CJNV Bioventures **Tom Luby, PhD**, Chief Innovation Officer, Texas Medical Center

Vote for the 2026 Texas Life Science Forum People's Choice Award!

VOTING CLOSES AT 4:30 PM

2026 PLENARY SESSIONS

SHELL AUDITORIUM

12:00 pm	**LUNCH AND NETWORKING | Virani Atrium |** Sponsored by Scottish Development International
1:00 pm	**Welcome Back** **Devin Dunn,** Vice President, Innovation, TMC Innovation Factory
1:05 pm	**Special Event: Building a Winning Team – 1x1 with Leigh Steinberg** **Moderator: David Shull**, President, Russo Partners **Adam Matthews**, Chief Executive Officer, Discover International **Leigh Steinberg**, Chairman of the Board, Steinberg Sports and Entertainment
1:30 pm	**Company Presentations: Medical Devices B** Akomera Cardiost Convergent Medical OptiLung Kallisio Imagine Devices ImmunoBreath
2:00 pm	**Company Presentations: Biopharmaceuticals B** OmniNano Pharmaceuticals PriveBio MusiQ Bio Avesta Bio Veneno Technologies
2:25 pm	**Translating World-Class Academic Research into Commercial Opportunities** **Moderator: Jeff Wade,** Chairman, BioHouston **Bruce Butler, PhD**, Vice President, Research and Technology Director, Office of Technology Management, UT Health Houston **Rima Chakrabarti, MD**, Co-founder and Managing Partner, RBL **Papia Ghosh, PhD**, Director, Business Development and Commercial Strategy, Strategic Industry Ventures, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center **Vineet Gupta, PhD**, Vice President for Innovation and Tech Development and Transfer, UTMB **Joseph Petrosino, PhD**, Chief Scientific Officer, Baylor College of Medicine
3:00 pm	**NETWORKING BREAK | Virani Atrium |** Sponsored by Perkins & Will
3:30 pm	**Company Presentations: Diagnostics** Lactocyte Diagnostics NBCL BV Seluna Voxel Systems Delphi Diagnostics AmyGo Solutions
4:00 pm	**Company Presentations: Biopharmaceuticals & Manufacturing** NodoN NeuroHagana Ltd. Nemea Therapeutics Sentinel PaxImmune Therapeutics Waventra Therapeutics Ambrosia Space Heliowave Technologies BioPure
4:40 pm	**Keynote - Arthur Sands, MD, PhD, President and CEO, Nurix Therapeutics**
5:00 pm	**Awards Presentations and Closing Remarks** Ten Most Promising Life Science Companies, Presented by **Monique Knighten**, Executive Director, Beacon CoLab Michael E. DeBakey Award, Presented by **Jeff Wade**, Chairman, BioHouston People's Choice Award
5:15 pm	**NETWORKING RECEPTION | Virani Atrium |** Sponsored by Pillsbury

2026 EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

2ND FLOOR EVENT SPACE, VIRANI HALL

9:20 am	**AI in Healthcare Innovation** **Moderator: Michael Silliman**, Partner, Baker Botts **Pothik Chatterjee**, Executive Director, Digital Health Institute, Rice University and Methodist Hospital **Kalen Hall, PhD**, CEO and Co-founder, Informuta **Drew Yashar**, Principal, Capital Factory
10:00 am	**NETWORKING BREAK | Virani Hall |** Sponsored by Vinson & Elkins
10:50 am	**New Directions and Opportunities in Alzheimer's, Dementia and Neurodegenerative Disease** **Moderator: Pablo Lapuerta, MD**, Chief Executive Officer, 4M Therapeutics **Hung-Kai Kevin Chen, MD, PhD**, Founder and CEO, Elixiron Immunotherapeutics and Neurovantix Therapeutics **Joshua Shulman, MD, PhD**, Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, and Molecular & Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine, Director of Baylor Center for Alzheimer's and Neurodegenerative Diseases **Sudhir Sivakumaran, PhD**, Chief Scientific Officer, Lewy Body Dementia Association
11:30 am	**One Asset, Two Indications: Optionality Under Constraint** **Moderator: Leah Goodman**, CEO, Biointelect **Rahul Aras, PhD**, President and CEO, Iterion Therapeutics **Sarah Hein, PhD**, CEO and Co-Founder, March Biosciences **Pablo Lapuerta, MD**, Chief Executive Officer, 4M Therapeutics
12:00 pm	**LUNCH AND NETWORKING | Virani Hall |** Sponsored by Scottish Development International
1:00 pm	**The Brain Economy | Sponsored by pH Partners** **Moderator: Ben Perkins**, Founder and Managing Partner, pH Partners **David Gow**, CEO Center for Houston's Future
1:40 pm	**Review of 2026 FDA Priorities and Preview of 2027** **Brian Mayhew**, Executive Vice President of Regulatory Policy, ELIQUENT Life Sciences
2:10 pm	**Life Science Mergers and Acquisitions Trends** **Gabriela de Almeida, PhD**, Managing Director and Partner, Boston Consulting Group
2:35 pm	**The Anatomy of an IP "Serious Adverse Event"** **Moderator: Eric Johnson**, Partner, Winston Taylor **Michael Dilling, PhD**, Executive Director, Commercialization & Technology Management, BCM Innovation Institute, Baylor College of Medicine **Dustin Edwards**, Partner, Winston Taylor
3:00 pm	**NETWORKING BREAK | Virani Hall |** Sponsored by Perkins & Will
3:30 pm	**Start-up Company Formation: Capital Structure, Equity Allocation, and Mistakes to Avoid** **Moderator: Robert Suffoletta**, Partner, Corporate and Securities, Wilson Sonsini **Aaron Schuchart**, President and CEO, Aether Therapeutics **Leslie Sloan, PhD**, CEO, OmniNano Pharmaceuticals
4:00 pm	**Bridging the Financing Gap** **Moderator: Adrian Trömel**, Interim Vice President for Innovation and Chief Innovation Officer, Office of Innovation, Rice University **Kristen Doyle**, Chief Executive Officer, Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas **Steve Lehmann**, Co-founder and Managing Partner, BCM Legacy Fund

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

4M Therapeutics, Skillman, New Jersey

We are developing safer medicines for mental health.

4mtx.net

Pablo Lapuerta: pablo@4mtx.net

Akomera, Houston, Texas

Akomera is protecting cancer patients from treatment-induced permanent hearing damage.

akomera.com

Sarah Kusumo: sarah.kusumo@akomera.com

Aliform, Dallas, Texas

Aliform is a US/Dutch company offering a new medical device platform to treat fibrotic skin tethering in reconstructive and aesthetic procedures.

aliformsurgical.com

Victor Suturin: victor.suturin@aliformsurgical.com

Ambrosia Space, Houston, Texas

Ambrosia is developing injectable, crystalline mAb manufacturing

ambrosiaspace.com

Mario Maggio: mario@ambrosiaspace.com

AmyGo Solutions, Dallas, Texas

At AmyGo Solutions, we are dedicated to developing cutting-edge diagnostics for early detection and monitoring of amyloidosis, enabling timely intervention and personalized treatment.

amygosolutions.com

Rose Pedretti: rpedretti@amygosolutions.com

Ansana, Maastricht, Limburg, Netherlands

Real-time asset and instrument management for Operating Rooms & Sterile Process Departments

ansana.health

Arnoud van den Berge: arnoud.vd.berge@ansana.health

Avesta Bio, Houston, Texas

Avesta Bio is a Houston-based biotechnology company developing AV108, a first-in-class therapy that depletes the stress-survival protein RLIP76 to treat p53-dysfunctional cancers, with a Phase I clinical trial targeted for Q2 2027 and platinum-resistant o

avestabio.com

Ian Morrison: akash@avestabio.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Bairitone Health, Houston, Texas

Bairitone Health is developing an FDA Breakthrough Device-designated, noninvasive diagnostic platform that maps airway collapse during natural sleep to help clinicians match obstructive sleep apnea patients to the right therapy.

bairitone.com

Meagan Pitcher: meagan@bairitone.com

BioPure, College Station, Texas

BioPure develops affinity membranes designed to help biologic manufacturers purify more product in less time and at lower cost, starting with antibodies and expanding into gene therapy.

bondwelltech.com/biopure

David Howell: dhowell@bondwelltech.com

Branch Therapeutics, Oro Valley, Arizona

Branch Therapeutics is developing first-in-class oral dual-pathway inhibitors that prevent cancer recurrence and block tumor proliferation.

branch-tx.com

Jacob Lackovic: lackovic@branch-tx.com

Cardiost, Houston, Texas

Cardiost is a Houston-based medical device company developing an implantable heart pump for patients whose heart failure remains debilitating despite current treatments.

cardiost.com

Nicolas Anzellini: nico@cardiost.com

CELLeBRAIN, Jeongeup, Jeonbuk, South Korea

CELLeBRAIN is Korean biotechnology company pioneering Mesenchymal Stem Cell-based Gene Therapy in solid tumors and fibrotic diseases.

cellebrain.com

Aujin Kim: aujinkim@cellebrain.com

Convergent Medical, Houston, Texas

Convergent Medical is a spin out of the Texas Medical Center Medical Device Labs, developing a Class II device that integrates negative pressure wound therapy with an ostomy appliance to address the leakage that causes peristomal skin complications.

convergentmed.com

David McDonough: david@convergentmed.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

CoRegen, Houston , Texas

CoRegen, Inc., a clinical-stage company, is pioneering a new cell therapy for solid tumors. Its lead candidate, CRG-150, is an autologous Treg therapy leveraging CRISPR-Cas9 knockout of the SRC-3 gene in Treg cells.

coregen.com

David Lonard: dlonard@bcm.edu

Delphi Diagnostics, Houston, Texas

Delphi Diagnostics aims to provide the most informative diagnostic to optimize personalized therapy for HR+ breast cancer patients

delphi-diagnostics.com

Federico Monzon: fmonzon@delphi-diagnostics.com

Flux Robotics, Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands

Flux Robotics builds a mobile robotic system that magnetically steers the tip of a single-use guidewire, so vascular specialists can navigate difficult arteries more predictably and with less risk of escalation.

fluxrobots.com

Christoff Heunis: c.heunis@fluxrobotics.nl

Heliowave Technologies, Houston, Texas

QC company for biopharmacetuical manufacturers

heliowavetech.com

Can Huang: c.huang@heliowavetech.com

Imagine Devices, Austin, Texas

Imagine Devices Inc. is a medical device company developing Trinity Tube, a multifunctional feeding tube that provides enteral feeding and internal vital signs and respiratory pressure monitoring in a single device.

imaginedevices.us

Iman Salafian: iman@imaginedevices.us

ImmunoBreath, Houston, Texas

ImmunoBreath is building a point-of-care breath test that identifies, before infusion, which CAR-T patients are at high risk of cytokine release syndrome (CRS) and neurotoxicity (ICANS).

faculty.mdanderson.org/profiles/teny_john.html

Teny John: tmjohn1@mdanderson.org

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Implant Preservation Devices, Leiden, Netherlands

Advancing care to save and improve the lives of patients suffering from Prosthetic Joint Infections by using induction implant heating technology

ipd.health

Richard van de Wateringen: vandewateringen@ipd.health

Kallisio, Baltimore, Maryland

Kallisio is a commercial-stage medtech company building a platform of patient-specific, 3D-printed devices that protect healthy tissue during cancer treatment, starting with Stentra, which is FDA cleared, CE marked and reimbursed today.

kallisio.com

Rajan Patel: rajan@kallisio.com

LactoCyte Diagnostics, Houston, Texas

LactoCyte Diagnostics is developing a first-of-its-kind, non-invasive, breast-specific liquid biopsy using human milk to provide personalized breast cancer risk assessment and breast health monitoring for lactating and postpartum women.

lactocyte.com

Samaneh Karami: skarami@Cougarnet.uh.edu

Magellan Biomedical, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada

Magellan Biomedical is developing CathPilot, a proprietary endovascular platform for precise catheter steering, navigation, and guidewire support across a broad range of complex minimally invasive cardiovascular procedures.

magellanbiomedical.com

Ali Tavallaei: ali.tavallaei@magellanbiomedical.com

Medley Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Medley Therapeutics is pioneering development of genetic medicines and advanced biologics for tissue regeneration, antifibrosis and oncology applications to reverse and cure severe disease.

medleytx.com

Tyler Kibbee: tkibbee@medleytx.com

MusiQ Bio, Arlington, Texas

MusiQ Bio is building a programmable delivery platform that uses targeted, drug-loaded microbubbles and ultrasound to deliver therapeutics across biological barriers.

musiqbio.com

Manwal Harb: manwal@musiqbio.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

NBCL BV, Nijmegen, Netherlands

NBCL is a Dutch point-of-care diagnostics company whose CONNECT analyzer gives surgeons a parathyroid hormone result in the operating room in five minutes, sold on a razor-and-blade model with more than 140 hospitals installed, over 90% gross margin on re

nbcl.nl

Rob Lips: rob@nbcl.nl

Nemea Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Nemea develops a first-in-class, biomarker-guided oral small molecule therapy for mitochondria-dependent cancers with a differentiated safety profile

nemearx.com

Andy Bader: abader@nemearx.com

NeuroHagana Ltd., Tel Aviv, Israel

A biotech company developing revolutionary emergency treatment for neurotrauma

neurohagana.com

Angela Ruban: Angela@NeuroHagana.com

Neurovantix Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Neurovantix Therapeutics is a clinical-stage biotech startup developing an oral therapy for Alzheimer's disease. This therapy targets microglia-driven neuroinflammation.

Hung-Kai Kevin Chen, MD, PhD: hkchen@neurovantix.com

NodoN, Austin, Texas

NodoN is building a programmable CHO-based ADC platform that installs "click-ready" unnatural amino acids at defined sites in antibodies, enabling faster, cleaner, more homogeneous ADCs with a wider therapeutic window and a licensing-first business model

nodon.bio

Benjamin Queener: ben@nodon.bio

NovaScan, Houston, Texas

NovaScan is an oncology medical device company developing an AI/ML-enabled bioimpedance platform that provides rapid, point-of-care cancer assessment, beginning with intraoperative margin assessment in dermatology and breast surgery.

novascaninc.com

Craig Davis: cdavis@novascaninc.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

OmniNano Pharmaceuticals, Houston, Texas

OmniNano is advancing a dual-mechanism therapy that targets barriers linked to treatment failure in pancreatic cancer — creating two paths to value: as a standalone treatment and in combinations designed to unlock the potential of other innovative therapies

omninanopharma.com

Leslie Sloan: leslie.sloan@omninanopharma.com

OptiLung, Houston, Texas

OptiLung is making the world's safest artificial lung.

opti-lung.com

Matthew Gelber: matt@opti-lung.com

Orphagen Pharmaceuticals, San Diego, California

Orphagen is a clinic ready novel drug targeting a transformative therapy for a rare and untreatable cancer.

orphagen.com/our-science

Bryan Jones: bryanjones3366@yahoo.com

PaxImmune Therapeutics/MD Anderson, Houston , Texas

PaxImmune Therapeutics: A lead therapeutic and platform technology for tackling chronic disease

faculty.mdanderson.org/profiles/david_piwnica-worms.html

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

PDX Pharmaceuticals, Portland, Oregon

PDX Pharmaceuticals is an IND-enabling biotech developing off-the-shelf nanotherapeutics and nanovaccines for solid tumors, using its proprietary Pdx-NP[a] platform to co-deliver multiple therapeutic payloads in a single particle.

pdxpharm.com

Worapol Ngamcherdtrakul: worapol@pdxpharm.com

Persevere Therapeutics, Chesterbrook, Pennsylvania

Persevere Therapeutics is a clinical stage oncology company with a first-in-class therapeutic.

perseveretherapeutics.com

Greg Bosch: greg.bosch@perseveretherapeutics.com

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Prana Surgical, Houston, Texas

Minimally invasive surgical platform for early lung cancer intervention

pranasurgical.com

Joanna Nathan: joanna@pranasurgical.com

PriveBio, Boston, Massachusetts

PriveBio is a precision medicine biotech is discovering and developing novel medicines to cure fibro-inflammation in cardiometabolic, renal diseases and obesity to address the urgent unmet medical need in the post-GLP1 era.

privebio.com

Laurent Audoly: laurent@privebio.com

Seluna, Dunblane, Stirling, United Kingdom

Seluna is a clinical AI interpretation layer that automates physiological waveform analysis for multi-disease neurological diagnostics

seluna.co.uk

Scott Black: scott.black@seluna.co.uk

Sentinel BioTherapeutics, Houston, Texas

Sentinel BioTherapeutics is a Houston-based clinical-stage biotech company developing localized immunotherapies that safely activate the immune system against solid tumors.

sentinelbiotx.com

Rima Chakrabarti: rima.chakrabarti@rbl-llc.com

Spatium Medical B.V., Rotterdam, Zuid Holland, Netherlands

Revolutionizing minimal access surgery

spatiummedical.com

Joost Hettinga: jhettinga@spatiummedical.com

Stingray Therapeutics, Houston, Texas

Stingray Therapeutics, an early clinical-stage biotechnology company raising a Series A to advance vizenpistat, an oral innate immunity re-activator, an ENPP1 inhibitor

stingraytx.com

Uma Bhatt: ubhatt@stingraytx.com

Veneno Technologies, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan

Veneno Technologies is a biotechnology company combining disulfide-rich peptides and AI trained on proprietary experimental data to unlock difficult drug targets, with an initial focus on targeted cancer radiotherapy.

veneno.co.jp/en/top-en

Takatoshi Kuno: takatoshi.kuno@veneno.co.jp

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Vertility Health, San Carlos, California

Vertility Health selects sperm by genotype before conception, starting with sex and trait selection in cattle and moving into human reproductive medicine.

activate.org/vertility-health

Bonnie Maven: bonnie@vertilityhealth.com

Voxel Systems, Houston, Texas

AI powered company specializing in MR spectroscopy.

voxelsystems.com

Walid Adham: walid@voxelsystems.com

Waventra Therapeutics, HOUSTON, Texas

Waventra Therapeutics is developing long-acting HGF mimetics to prevent ischemia-reperfusion injury, preserving tissue and organ function after heart attack, stroke, trauma, and other acute ischemic events.

waventratx.com

James Kelly: jkelly@waventratx.com



355,000
total building RSF

12 stories
lab/office on 2-10

35k-43.5k sf
floor plate sizes

60/40
lab/office ratio

6,000 sf
of retail and F&B

320,000
phase II building RSF

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SPEED AND QUALITY

Months sooner to first-in-human.

Rapid CTN start-up, with ICH-GCP data the FDA, EMA and TGA accept.

NAVIGATE EVERY STAGE

Early-Phase Research · Pre-Clinical · Clinical Trials · Registration · Patient Access · Market Shaping

WHY AUSTRALIA

- **Faster study start-up** than most major markets. Months sooner to first-in-human.
- **No US FDA IND** or GMP product required for Phase 1 under the CTN scheme.
- **FDA-recognized clinical data** — ICH-GCP data accepted by global regulators.
- **World-class** clinical research infrastructure, investigators and KOLs.
- **Up to 43.5% R&D Tax Incentive** on eligible clinical spend.

HOW BIOINTELECT IS UNIQUELY POSITIONED TO HELP

- **Development & regulatory strategy** aligned to FDA, EMA and TGA.
- **Clinical trial execution** — full-service CRO, Phase I–IV, ISO 9001 certified.
- **Australian operating model** — entity set-up, resident director and governance.
- **Commercial strategy & investor readiness** — business case, funding narrative, partnering.
- **Deep local ecosystem connections and understanding** — sites, KOLs, ethics committees.

QUESTIONS US FOUNDERS BRING US

Will my data be accepted by the FDA?

Yes. Australian ICH-GCP data meets global standards and supports US FDA IND submissions.

How fast can we get to first-in-human?

CTN start-up, dedicated early-phase sites and ethics committees. Months sooner than most markets.

Who actually runs my study?

A senior clinical project manager as your single point of contact; biweekly senior review.

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The firm's life sciences practice features a multi-disciplinary team of attorneys, patent agents, and IP professionals. We represent clients in a wide range of strategic and operational corporate areas and assist them with complex commercial and technology transactions driven by IP and innovation.

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