FINAL AGENDA

CAMBRIDGE HEALTHTECH INSTITUTE'S 13TH ANNUAL

Immuno-Oncology SUMMIT 2025

AUGUST 11-13, 2025

Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing

PHILADELPHIA, PA + VIRTUAL

Solid Tumors: Translating Innovation into Patient Impact

Table of Contents

Conference Programs

- Bi & Multispecific Engineering
- Translating Multispecific Success
- Antibody-Drug Conjugates
- Breakthroughs in Cell Therapy
- Autoimmunity
- Innate Immunity

Plenary Keynote

Biao Zheng, PhD
CEO, BRL Medicine

Plenary Keynote Panels

Rakesh Dixit, PhD, DABT
President & Founder, Bionavigen Oncology, LLC and Regio Biosciences

Carter Caldwell, MBA
Co-Investment Program Director, University of Pennsylvania

Karen Chagin, MD
Senior Vice President, Early Stage Development, Adaptimmune

Margery Ma, PhD
Principal Consultant, NonClinical Regulatory Affairs, Eliquent Life Sciences

David Sommerhalder, MD
Clinical Investigator, Oncology, NEXT Oncology

Tatiana Novobrantseva, PhD
CSO, NextPoint Therapeutics

Vitalay Fomin, PhD
Co-Founder, Numenos AI

Shameer Khader, PhD
Executive Director, Global Head of Data Science, Data Engineering and Computational Biology, Sanofi

Kristen Meerbrey, PhD
Director of Target Discovery, Therapeutic Innovation Center, Baylor College of Medicine

Register Early for Maximum Savings!

About the Event

Commercializing breakthrough immune-oncology therapeutics is becoming increasingly challenging due to funding limitations, high cost and attrition rates in the clinic, regulatory uncertainties, persistent therapeutic safety and efficacy concerns, and a general lack of understanding of basic biology guiding research in this space. As we develop the 2025 conference program, we are struck by the fact that, despite these challenges, there remains a strong desire to continue to find effective therapeutics for solid tumors.

The 13th Annual Immuno-Oncology Summit 2025 showcases successes in preclinical and clinical studies grounded in a deep understanding of biology. Coverage spans solid tumor innovations, including bi/multispecific antibodies, antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs), allogenic and *in vivo* CAR-Ts, TILs, TCRs, Tregs, multiple cell therapies working together, the tumor microenvironment, innate immunity, gamma delta T cells, NK cells, organoid modeling, data science, and machine learning. The program also explores autoimmunity as a critical and complementary area of focus.

Table of Contents

Plenary Keynote Sessions

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2025 | 8:00 AM

8:00 am Organizer's Welcome Remarks
Nikki Cerniuk, Conference Producer, Cambridge Healthtech Institute

8:05 Plenary Keynote Introduction *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

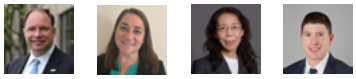
8:15 Off-the-Shelf Allogeneic CAR T Therapy in the Treatment of Severe Autoimmune Diseases
Biao Zheng, PhD, CEO, BRL Medicine

Current treatments for severe autoimmune diseases have considerable toxicity and are not effective in all patients. Conceptually, a deep depletion of B cells could trigger an immune reset in autoimmune diseases. Autologous CD19-targeted CAR-T therapies have been explored in several autoimmune diseases and reported promising efficacy. In this study, a healthy donor-derived, multiplex genome-edited allogeneic CD19-targeted CAR-T product was developed for refractory autoimmune diseases with excellent safety and efficacy profiles.

9:00 PANEL DISCUSSION: Advancing Immunotherapy: Strategies for Preventing Attrition
Moderator: Rakesh Dixit, PhD, DABT, President & Founder, Bionavigen Oncology, LLC and Regio Biosciences

- Navigating regulatory pathways
- Addressing toxicity during discovery
- Securing funding and optimizing budgets
- Improving translation from preclinical models

Panelists:



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Margery Ma, PhD, Principal Consultant, NonClinical Regulatory Affairs, Eliquent Life Sciences

David Sommerhalder, MD, Clinical Investigator, Oncology, NEXT Oncology

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025 | 3:45 PM

3:45 pm PANEL DISCUSSION: Accelerating IO through Target Discovery
Moderator: Tatiana Novobrantseva, PhD, CSO, NextPoint Therapeutics

- Driving target identification and validation
- Synergistic strategies: promising target combinations for solid tumors
- Balancing efficacy and toxicity in IO

Panelists:



Vitalay Fomin, PhD, Co-Founder, Numenos AI

Shameer Khader, PhD, Executive Director, Global Head of Data Science, Data Engineering and Computational Biology, Sanofi

Kristen Meerbrey, PhD, Director of Target Discovery, Therapeutic Innovation Center, Baylor College of Medicine

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SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship Level	Exhibit Hall & Delegate Passes	Thought Leadership & Branding
PREMIER SPONSOR	• One 8′ x 10′ exhibit space inside the exhibit hall • Three (3) main-conference registrations – excludes access to short courses • One (1) main-conference registration for speaker – excludes access to short courses • Two (2) exhibit-only staff registrations	• **30-minute presentation (embedded or luncheon) within a specific program** • Choose one or two of these following options: o Exclusive Tote Bag Sponsorship o Exclusive Badge Lanyard Sponsorship o Exhibit Hall Reception o VIP Dinner with 10-12 invited guests o Wireless Internet Sponsorship o 5-7 1:1 Meetings o Additional 30-minute presentation • Listing as Premier Sponsor in conference brochure, website, onsite signage • One pre-event email blast to all conference attendees • Logo on cover of the program materials • Includes one floor-standing meter board strategically placed in high-traffic area • Includes literature insert placed in conference attendee tote bags onsite • Approximately 3-weeks pre-event: attendee list for one-time physical mailing via a 3rd party mail • Full contact information of all participants registered for the program in which your presentation occurred – approximately one week after event • Top-tier corporate logo on the cover the final conference brochure – contingent upon CHI marketing deadlines
CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP: PRESENTATION	• One 8′ x 10′ exhibit space inside the exhibit hall • Two (2) main-conference registrations – excludes access to short courses • One (1) main-conference registration for speaker – excludes access to short courses • Two (2) exhibit-only staff registrations	• 15- or 30-minute presentation (embedded or luncheon) within a specific program (luncheon only available as 30-minute talk) • Luncheon option includes lunch (boxed or buffet, depending on venue and room setup) served to session attendees • Approximately 3-weeks pre-event: attendee list for one-time physical mailing via a 3rd party mail • Full contact information of all participants registered for the program in which your presentation occurred – approximately one week after event • Corporate logo in final conference brochure – contingent upon CHI marketing deadlines • Corporate logo with link on sponsor page of the event website • Customized banners for you to promote your participation on social media, website and via email • Onsite signage designating your company as a corporate sponsor
CORPORATE SPONSOR: PLENARY KEYNOTE INTRO	• One 8′ x 10′ exhibit space - includes side rails and backdrop with pipe and drape. Additional furnishings and materials can be ordered through the event General Contractor. Information for ordering will be provided in your exhibitor kit • Two conference registrations plus one for company's speaker (total of 3) – excludes access to the short courses	• Sponsor will send an executive from their company to deliver 10-minute introductory presentation during a plenary keynote session • Literature distribution in the keynote session room • Promotion as Corporate Sponsor in Conference Proceedings
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CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP: INVITATION-ONLY DINNER	• One 8′ x 10′ exhibit space inside the exhibit hall • Two (2) main-conference registrations – excludes access to short courses • One (1) main-conference registration for speaker – excludes access to short courses • Two (2) exhibit-only staff registrations	• CHI will work closely with Sponsor to develop an invitation format and invitees list • Sponsor will preselect TOP prospects whom they want to meet with from the pre-conference attendee list CHI will extend invitations • CHI will forward the pre-registration list 3-4 weeks out from the event date (post advanced registration deadline) to ensure largest prospect list • Sponsor selects the number of prospects requested by the Client Service Specialist. This is a larger number than desired amount • Promotion as Corporate Sponsor on conference brochure • Onsite signage designating your company as a corporate sponsor • CHI will send Sponsor attendee list from dinner including full contact info
CORPORATE SUPPORT SPONSOR	• One 8′ x 10′ exhibit space inside the exhibit hall • Two (2) main-conference registrations – excludes access to short courses • Two (2) exhibit-only staff registrations	• Corporate logo in final conference brochure – contingent upon CHI marketing deadlines • Corporate logo with link on sponsor page of the event website • Onsite signage designating your company as a Corporate Support sponsor

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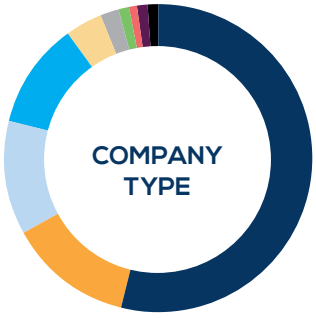
For more information regarding exhibit and sponsorship, please contact:

Phillip Zakim-Yacouby
Senior Business Development Manager
781.247.1815
philzy@cambridgeinnovationinstitute.com

2024 Attendee Demographics



- Biotech 54%
- Healthcare..... 13%
- Pharma..... 12%
- Academic..... 11%
- Services..... 4%
- Government 2%
- CRO 1%
- Financial..... 1%
- Press 1%
- Societies 1%

- Scientist/Technologist..... 27%
- Executive..... 25%
- Director..... 14%
- Professor 13%
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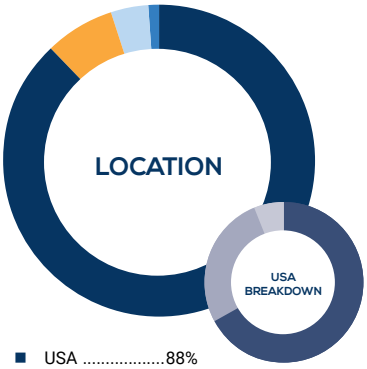

- USA 88%
- Europe 7%
- Asia 4%
- Rest of World ..1%

- East Coast..... 67%
- West Coast 22%
- Mid West 11%

8TH ANNUAL

BI & MULTISPECIFIC ENGINEERING

Enhancing T Cell Engagers and Data-Driven Design

MONDAY, AUGUST 11

7:00 am Registration and Morning Coffee *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

PLENARY KEYNOTE SESSION

8:00 Organizer's Welcome Remarks
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Moderator: Rakesh Dixit, PhD, DABT, President & Founder, Bionavigen Oncology, LLC and Regio Biosciences
- Navigating regulatory pathways
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Karen Chagin, MD, Senior Vice President, Early Stage Development, Adaptimmune
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David Sommerhalder, MD, Clinical Investigator, Oncology, NEXT Oncology

BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS AND COFFEE

9:35 Networking Coffee Break and Breakout Discussions *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*
Breakout Discussions are informal, moderated discussions, allowing participants to exchange ideas and experiences and develop future collaborations around a focused topic. Each discussion will be led by a facilitator who keeps the discussion on track and the group engaged. To get the most out of this format, please come prepared to share examples from your work, be a part of a collective, problem-solving session, and participate in active idea sharing. Please visit the Breakout Discussions page on the conference website for a complete listing of topics and descriptions.

IN-PERSON BREAKOUT TABLE: Bi and Multispecific T Cell Engagers in an Era of Increased Awareness of Tumor and Patient Heterogeneity
Siddhartha Roychoudhury, PhD, Asset Leader, Immuno-Oncology Development, Astellas Pharma
- How do we go about selecting the right tumors for the right MOA?
- How can we explore novel approaches to MOA-driven patient enrichment?
- How can we develop options for rational combinations?

THE RISE OF T CELL ENGAGERS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

10:20 Chairperson's Opening Remarks
Genevieve Desjardins, PhD, Principal Scientist, Mutispecific Therapeutic Antibodies, Zymeworks

10:25 Bispecific T Cell Engager Therapy for Solid Tumors: A Look at Recent Advances and Future Directions
Siddhartha Roychoudhury, PhD, Asset Leader, Immuno-Oncology Development, Astellas Pharma
Development of bispecific T Cell Engagers (TCEs) against solid tumors has been fraught with unique challenges, including immune suppressive tumor microenvironment, tumor heterogeneity, variable target expression, and off-target, peripheral T cell activation. I will discuss learnings from recent advances in this field and share my thoughts on design characteristics, target selection, adverse event management, biomarkers, dose section/optimization, and CDx options for developing novel TCEs.

10:50 Co-Stimulatory Bispecific Engagers for the Treatment of Solid Tumors
Elaine C. Chen, PhD, Scientist II, Translational Biology & Discovery, Rondo Therapeutics
Rondo has developed CD28 agonistic antibodies for bispecific engineering to treat solid tumors. While T cell engagers have proven success in hematologic cancers, efficacy in solid tumors remains limited. Co-stimulatory bispecifics have the potential to enhance T cell responses in immunologically hot tumors. RNDO-564, a CD28 x Nectin-4 bispecific antibody has an affinity-tuned CD28 binder, potent anti-tumor activity, and favorable developability features, making it an ideal therapeutic candidate for mUC.

11:15 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

11:45 Transition to Lunch

11:55 Luncheon Presentation *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)* **or Enjoy Lunch on Your Own**

12:25 pm Session Break

THE RISE OF T CELL ENGAGERS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)

1:20 Chairperson's Remarks
Zhao Peng, PhD, Senior Scientist, Antibody Discovery & Engineering, AstraZeneca

1:25 Engineering Immune-Cell Engagers to Overcome Tumor Immune Escape Mechanisms
Stefano Sammicheli, PhD, Director, Ichnos Sciences

The presentation will highlight IGI's BEAT technology and its role in engineering bispecific and trispecific immune cell engagers to overcome tumor immune escape. It will cover the preclinical development of two molecules: a bispecific CD47-CD38 innate cell engager and a trispecific BCMA-CD38 T cell engager, both in Phase I clinical trials and recently published in Nature Communications and Nature Cancer (2024).

1:50 Merging Biology with Ingenuity: Improving Antigen Selectivity of Immune Engagers

Zhao Peng, PhD, Senior Scientist, Antibody Discovery & Engineering, AstraZeneca

T cell engagers (TCEs) in solid tumor therapies has been hindered by off-target toxicities arising from the expression of TAAs on healthy tissues. To overcome this limitation, we introduce here an innovative dual-targeting trispecific T cell engager. This modality integrates an anchoring arm to target TAA1 and an affinity-attenuated active arm for TAA2, enabling precise discrimination between tumor and normal tissues and substantially improves the therapeutic index (TI).

2:15 Developing Bispecific T Cell Engagers against Novel pHLA Targets

Marvin Gee, PhD, Co-Founder & Vice President, Target Discovery, 3T Biosciences

3T Biosciences is developing a bispecific T cell engager against a novel pHLA target discovered from patient immune responses. This target has been validated from a patient immune response and profiled for RNA, protein, and pHLA expression. It's found to be expressed in colorectal cancer and other high unmet-need solid-tumor indications, including TNBC and squamous NSCLC.

2:40 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

3:10 Grand Opening Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

OPTIMIZING CONSTRUCT AND DATA-DRIVEN DESIGN

3:50 Chairperson's Remarks

Elaine C. Chen, PhD, Scientist II, Translational Biology & Discovery, Rondo Therapeutics

3:55 FEATURED PRESENTATION: Engineering Trispecific T Cell Engager Leveraging Conditional CD28 Co-Stimulation to Treat Solid Tumors

Genevieve Desjardins, PhD, Principal Scientist, Mutispecific Therapeutic Antibodies, Zymeworks

Developing multispecific antibodies as therapeutics requires optimizing various properties to enhance biological function. We have established a high-throughput screening process to assess the activity of multispecific antibodies while simultaneously engineering key characteristics, including format, affinity, valency, and developability. Using this process, we developed ZW209, a trispecific co-stimulatory T cell engager, that optimally engages CD3 and CD28 and redirects cytotoxic T cell response to DLL3-expressing tumor cells.

4:20 Using TriKE-PACC Molecules to Drive NK-Cell Multispecific Tumor Targeting and Bypass Immune Suppression

Martin Felices, Assistant Professor, Medicine, Hematology & Oncology, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Antigen escape and suppressive signals can limit NK cell immunotherapy. We have previously described the TriKE platform, which drives NK cell antigen-specific activation while also providing an IL-15 signal. To enhance the capabilities of these molecules, we built backpacks (PACCs), that attach to the IL-15 moiety in the TriKE to add one more antibody fragment that can mediate tumor antigen binding or blockade of CD16 shedding.

4:45 High-Throughput Proteomics: Discovering Multi-Epitope Nanobodies for Multispecific Antibody Design

Yi Shi, PhD, Associate Professor, Protein Engineering, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

This presentation will discuss high-throughput proteomics for discovering multi-epitope nanobodies. These nanobodies enable the design of multispecific antibodies, enhancing therapeutic potential. The method facilitates rapid identification and characterization of diverse binding domains for complex targeting strategies.

5:10 Advancing Drug Discovery with Hypoxic 3D Tumor Models

Orna Rabinovich Ernst, PhD, Senior Scientist, R&D, AstraZeneca

The development of 3D tumor models marks a significant advancement in cancer research, providing more accurate representation of tumor biology and drug response than traditional 2D cultures. Our research utilizes high-content imaging to explore effects of hypoxia on tumor progression and treatment resistance within complex 3D models, including spheroids and organoids. This approach not only deepens our understanding of tumor biology but also opens new avenues for novel hypoxia-targeted therapies.

5:35 Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

6:35 Close of Day

WOMEN IN SCIENCE MEET-UP

6:45 pm IN-PERSON ONLY: Women in Science Meet-Up

Amina Metidji, PhD, Senior Scientist, AstraZeneca

- Which woman has been an inspiration/mentor to you in your career?
- How can we encourage young women in science?
- What were your biggest work-life balance challenges and what have you done to manage these?

4TH ANNUAL

BREAKTHROUGHS IN CELL THERAPY

Advancing Adoptive Cell Therapy for Solid Tumor Success

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David Sommerhalder, MD, Clinical Investigator, Oncology, NEXT Oncology

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IN-PERSON BREAKOUT TABLE: New Opportunities to Promote Tumor Antigen Presentation through Myeloid Cell Therapies
Warren Anderson, PhD, Scientist III, Immunology, Inceptor Bio
- Recent technological advances have made concepts like tumor vaccines or transgenic TCRs more promising than ever. Can myeloid cell therapies perform similarly with reduced labor and cost?
- What have we learned thus far about the practical limitations of generating myeloid-based cell therapies? What has succeeded?
- Considering the successes of CAR Ts or T-cell directed therapies, how should we approach the idea of myeloid based cell therapies? Competitor or teammate?

IN-PERSON BREAKOUT TABLE: Bridging Science and Support: Integrative Strategies in Cell Therapy
David James, Resident Physician, Ric Scalzo Institute for Botanical Research, Naturopathic Specialists LLC
- Integrative and naturopathic oncology can support patients undergoing advanced immunotherapies (CAR T, bispecifics, NK cells, dendritic cells)
- Biomarker and interleukin profiling (IL-6, IL-8, IL-1β, VEGF, MMP9, TNF-α) monitor response and toxicity, patient-centered
- Evidence-informed supportive care offers practical strategies for managing adverse events (CRS, neurotoxicity, fatigue)
- Shared decision-making aligns complex therapies with patient values and quality of life
- Real-world insights explore harmonizing conventional and integrative care for better outcomes

NEXT-GENERATION ADAPTIVE IMMUNOTHERAPY: TILs, TCRs, AND BEYOND

10:20 Chairperson's Opening Remarks
Tatiana Novobrantseva, PhD, CSO, NextPoint Therapeutics

10:25 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Cryptigen TSAs: Proteogenomic Identification of Novel Targets for Immunotherapies from the Cryptic Genome
Jonathan D. Moore, PhD, Founding CEO & CSO, Epitopea
Epitopea is a Universite de Montreal spin-off company developing immunotherapies targeting tumor-specific antigens derived from the cryptic or dark genome. Verified to be presented on cancer cells by mass spectroscopy, these cryptigen TSAs are far more numerous than mutation-encoded neoantigens and sufficiently shared to make off-the-shelf immunotherapeutics viable. With a high fraction being immunogenic, Cryptigen TSAs provide exciting new targets for cancer vaccines and TCR-based therapeutics.

10:50 EnLIGHTEN: A Novel Viral Immunotherapy Platform
Francesca Barone, PhD, CSO, Candel Therapeutics
Candel Therapeutics' enLIGHTEN platform uses HSV-based gene constructs to precisely modify solid tumor microenvironments. Combining oncolytic viruses with personalized gene payloads, enLIGHTEN leverages human biology and data-driven design. This unique approach allows tunable immunotherapies, aiming to personalize tumor modulation for improved therapeutic outcomes.

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11:45 Transition to Lunch

11:55 Luncheon Presentation *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)* **or Enjoy Lunch on Your Own**

12:25 pm Session Break

NEXT-GENERATION ADAPTIVE IMMUNOTHERAPY: TILs, TCRs, AND BEYOND (CONT.)

1:20 Chairperson's Remarks
Sarah Lensch, PhD, Senior Scientist, Arsenal Bio

1:25 Dendritic Cell Therapy Double Loading
David James, Resident Physician, Ric Scalzo Institute for Botanical Research, Naturopathic Specialists LLC
Dendritic cell therapy double loading is an advanced immunotherapy approach for cancer that enhances dendritic cells' ability to stimulate anti-tumor immune responses. This method involves loading dendritic cells with two types of tumor antigens: one to prime a broad immune response and another to target specific tumor markers. By activating both innate and adaptive immunity, double loading improves efficacy in combating cancers, especially in overcoming tumor immune evasion.

1:50 Enforced E-Selectin Ligand Installation Enhances Homing and Efficacy of Adoptively Transferred T Cells
Peng Wu, PhD, Professor, Chemical Physiology, Scripps Research Institute
Adoptive T cell transfer has transformed hematologic cancer treatment but struggles with solid tumors due to poor T cell infiltration. The E-selectin/sialyl Lewis X (sLeX) interaction is key for leukocyte extravasation. Enforced sLeX display on T cells can be achieved via FuT-6 mediated exofucosylation, which enhances tumor infiltration and therapy efficacy in murine models, including solid tumors and metastases, making it a promising strategy for improving adoptive T cell therapy.

2:15 Engineered off-the-Shelf CIR NK Cells with Novel Costimulatory Domains Exhibit Long-Lasting Effector Functions against Hematologic and Solid Tumors
Raphael G. Ognar, Co-Founder & President & CEO, NKILT Therapeutics
HLA-G is normally expressed in the placenta to direct immune tolerance but is derepressed in about 50% of leukemias and solid tumors to direct immune evasion. NKILT has developed Chimeric ILT Receptor technology (CIR) to specifically target HLA-G. Further, proprietary activation mechanisms drive potent and persistent cytotoxicity in natural killer cells. CIRNK cells have strong potential as an allogeneic, off-the-shelf therapy against a wide range of cancer indications.

2:40 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

3:10 Grand Opening Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

ADVANCING CAR T IN SOLID TUMORS: COMBINATIONS AND INNOVATIONS

3:50 Chairperson's Remarks
Jonathan D. Moore, PhD, Founding CEO & CSO, Epitopea

3:55 STASH-Select: A Platform for Multi-Vector Engineering and Single-Step Selection of Cell Therapies Bearing Multiple Enhancements
Louai Labanieh, PhD, Research Scientist, Bioengineering, Stanford University
Next-generation CAR T cells endowed with multiple enhancements could overcome the numerous challenges for treating solid tumors but will require the introduction of multiple genetic modules that often exceed the cargo capacity of a single vector. However, multi-vector engineering results in a heterogeneous, poorly-defined cell product. Here we report on STASH-Select, a simple platform technology for purifying cells containing multiple genetic modifications using a single-step selection compatible with GMP workflows.

4:20 OUTLAST CAR T Cells Exhibit Superior Effector Function against Solid Tumors
Warren Anderson, PhD, Scientist III, Immunology, Inceptor Bio
CAR T cell therapies remain unsuccessful in treating solid tumors due to the hostile tumor microenvironment (TME). OUTLAST conditioning exposes CAR T cells to TME-like conditions *ex vivo* for superior function against solid tumors. OUTLAST CAR T cells show sustained activation, resistance to TGFB, and superior durability *in vivo* in a tumor re-challenge model. OUTLAST anti-CD70 CAR Ts are currently under evaluation in a Phase 1 clinical trial for ccRCC.

4:45 Modular Synthetic Biology for Developing Potent and Selective CAR T Therapies for Solid Tumors
Sarah Lensch, PhD, Senior Scientist, Arsenal Bio
ArsenalBio utilizes synthetic biology to improve both the specificity and potency of CAR T cells for targeting solid tumors. ArsenalBio's logic-gated technology enables CAR T cells to selectively respond only when two tumor antigens are present, minimizing off-target effects on healthy cells. Additionally, these CAR T cells are engineered with Synthetic Pathway Activators (SPA) and shRNAs to enhance persistence and survival within the immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment.

5:10 Driving CARs Through Intracellular Targets
Mark Yarmarkovich, PhD, Principal Investigator, Assistant Professor, NYU School of Medicine
Most cancer drivers are intracellular where they are inaccessible to conventional CAR T cells. We have developed tools for identifying tumor-specific molecules presented on HLA and targeting them using peptide-centric (PC)-CAR T cells. These therapies demonstrate potent preclinical efficacy and are entering the clinic in 2025.

5:35 Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

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Amina Metidji, PhD, Senior Scientist, AstraZeneca
- Which woman has been an inspiration/mentor to you in your career?
- How can we encourage young women in science?
- What were your biggest work-life balance challenges and what have you done to manage these?

8TH ANNUAL

TRANSLATING MULTISPECIFIC SUCCESS

From Complex Formats to Clinical Impact for Solid Tumors

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00 am Registration and Morning Coffee *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

LESSONS FROM PROMISING SOLID-TUMOR THERAPEUTICS AND EMERGING MULTISPECIFIC INNOVATIONS

8:30 Chairperson's Opening Remarks
Yuanwang Pan, PhD, Senior Scientist, R&D, Amgen

8:35 FEATURED PRESENTATION: Bispecific Antibody Combinations for Optimized Anti-Tumor Activity in Liquid and Solid Tumors
David J. DiLillo, PhD, Senior Director, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals
Co-localizing "signal 1" (TCR/CD3) and "signal 2" (co-stimulation) within the tumor microenvironment by using xCD3 and xCostim bispecific antibodies drives superior anti-tumor responses over xCD3 alone. Integrating signal 3 (cytokine support) also allows for deeper anti-tumor responses. Preclinical and clinical data support rational combinations with bispecific antibodies engaging these distinct pathways.

9:00 Advancing Immunotherapy: Key Learnings from Promising Solid-Tumor Trials with PRAME-Targeted TCR Bispecifics
Ana R Ribeiro, PhD, Associate Director, Immunocore
This presentation reviews recent solid-tumor trials employing PRAME-targeted TCR bispecific immunotherapies. Key learnings include insights into efficacy, safety profiles, and patient selection criteria. We will discuss advancements in overcoming solid-tumor microenvironment challenges and optimizing these promising cancer treatments.

9:25 Where Design and Biology Converge—Advancing DuetMab Degraders for Translational Success
Amina Metidji, PhD, Senior Scientist, AstraZeneca
Targeted protein degraders offer a highly specific therapeutic approach to modulate disease-relevant proteins while potentially minimizing systemic toxicities associated with global inhibition. By selectively eliminating pathogenic proteins, degraders address challenges posed by targets with multiple roles across tissues. We will discuss the principles behind DuetMab Degraders, which are designed to harness selective protein degradation to achieve precise therapeutic effects while aiming to mitigate toxicity.

9:50 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

10:20 Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

11:00 Mechanisms of Action: BiME-Mediated Macrophage Activation in Solid Tumors
Hongtao Lu, PhD, CSO & Co-Founder, Discovery, Elpiscience Biopharma Ltd.
This presentation will detail the mechanisms of action for BiME-mediated macrophage activation in solid tumors. We will explore how BiMEs engage macrophages, induce tumor cell phagocytosis, and modulate the tumor microenvironment. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the cellular interactions driving BiME efficacy.

11:25 AutoRegulation Facilitates the Development of Next-Generation Smart Immunotherapies with an Autonomous Self-Regulating Capability
David W. Granger, PhD, Vice President, R&D, NovalGen Ltd.
NovalGen's AutoRegulation (AR) technology provides precision control of immunotherapies that safeguards against both overactivation and exhaustion of the immune system, improving therapeutic index, promoting community-based treatment, and enhancing clinical efficacy. AR is an intrinsic element of NVG-222, a ROR1-targeting T cell engager (TCE) for oncology, and NVG-666, a CD19-targeting TCE for autoimmune disease, both of which are clinic-ready with first-patient dosing expected within the next year.

11:50 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

12:20 pm Transition to Lunch

12:30 Luncheon Presentation *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)* **or Enjoy Lunch on Your Own**

1:00 Session Break

ACCELERATING MULTISPECIFICS TO THE CLINIC: OVERCOMING KEY OBSTACLES

1:45 Chairperson's Remarks
David W. Granger, PhD, Vice President, R&D, NovalGen Ltd.

1:50 Preclinical Validation and Modeling to Prevent Clinical Attrition of Bispecifics and Multispecifics
Kanishka Fernando, PhD, Research Fellow, Translational Tumor Engineering, National University of Singapore
This presentation addresses strategies to improve clinical outcomes for multispecific antibodies. We'll discuss preclinical validation and modeling techniques used to predict efficacy and safety. The goal is to identify and mitigate factors that contribute to clinical failures, enhancing the development of these therapies.

2:15 Strategies for Preventing Clinical Attrition of Bispecific Antibodies in Solid Tumors
Debasis Chakrabarti, PhD, Executive Director, Oncology Clinical Development, Jazz Pharmaceuticals
In this presentation, we will discuss strategies to reduce clinical failures of bispecific antibodies targeting solid tumors. We'll focus on key challenges and potential solutions for improving their efficacy and safety.

2:40 Addressing Safety Concerns of Trispecific NK Cell Engagers for Improved Clinical Outcomes
Nicholas A. Zorko, PhD, Assistant Professor, Hematology & Oncology & Transplant, University of Minnesota Twin Cities
The field of immune engagers for solid tumors is rapidly advancing. As more products reach early-phase clinical trials, new safety signals are emerging along with novel management strategies. Natural killer cells in particular offer a potential for safer administration of immune engagers. In this session, we will review the safety data collected from our CD33-targeting tri-specific killer engager molecules and how this is being translated to our solid tumor platform.

3:05 Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

SPEED NETWORKING

3:25 pm IN-PERSON ONLY: How Many New Contacts Can You Make?
Nikki Cerniuk, Conference Producer, Cambridge Healthtech Institute
Join us for a dynamic speed networking session at the IO Summit. Make quick and impactful connections! Be yourself, share your background, business cards (or LinkedIns), and connect with potential collaborators in a fun and focused environment. Briefly summarize your research in one minute and get ready to meet fellow attendees who share your interests. We'll provide the space, timers, and exciting group of researchers to make introductions a breeze.

3:45 IDP-002: A PD1xCD6 Bispecific Antibody That Improves PD-1 Receptor Occupancy and Enhances Cytotoxic over Regulatory T Cell Responses
Pamela M. Holland, PhD, Senior Vice President Biology, Biology, InduPro
Although anti-PD-(L)1 therapies have been transformative, many patients dont respond. We developed IDP-002, a PD1xCD6 bsAb that facilitates PD-1 blockade driven by cis-binding to CD6, enhanced PD-1 receptor occupancy and synapse sequestration. IDP-002 promotes effector T cell proliferation and cytotoxic responses and has reduced effects on Tregs over effector T cells. IDP-002 activity derives from combination of complete PD-1 blockade and the engagement of unique signaling pathways downstream of CD6.

4:10 Development of T Cell Engager Molecules with Tumor-Selective Activity for the Treatment of Solid Cancers
Yuanwang Pan, PhD, Senior Scientist, R&D, Amgen
On-target off-tumor toxicity is a key issue that can limit the clinical success of T cell engager molecules in solid tumors. Using examples from both the preclinical and clinical settings, this presentation will review several engineering strategies that have been employed to increase the therapeutic index of T cell engager molecules to spare normal tissues toxicity.

4:35 Safeguarding Multispecific Antibody Innovation: Strategies for IP Protection
Eric Chang, PhD, Associate Director, Intellectual Property, Xencor
This presentation addresses protecting innovations in multispecific antibody development. We'll discuss key intellectual property strategies, including patent and trade secret considerations. The aim is to provide an overview of securing novel antibody technologies in a competitive landscape.

5:00 Close of Day

"I am very impressed by the quality of speakers representing companies that are on the forefront of developing next-gen Immuno-Oncology therapies."

Jim Andorko, PhD, Director, Discovery, Interius BioTherapeutics, Inc.

INAUGURAL

AUTOIMMUNITY

Unraveling Molecular Mechanisms and Engineering Targeted Solutions

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00 am Registration and Morning Coffee *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

MOLECULAR MECHANISMS IN AUTOIMMUNITY

8:30 Chairperson's Opening Remarks
Jo B.L. Tan, PhD, Senior Vice President, R&D, Parvus Therapeutics

8:35 Cancer Immunotherapy: Autoimmunity as Side Effect and New Venue
William Bracamonte, PhD, MD, Clinical Fellow, Rheumatology, Yale
Cancer immunotherapy has ushered in a new chapter in cancer therapeutics. However, cancer therapeutics are often associated with deleterious autoimmune phenomena (immune-related adverse events: irAEs). The immunopathogenesis of irAE, and to which extent it resembles spontaneous autoimmunity, is under scrutiny. Conversely, cellular immunotherapy is a potential treatment for autoimmune disorders. In this talk I will discuss the state-of-the-art of the Jing-Jang regarding autoimmunity as side effect and potential target of immunotherapy.

9:00 Solving Autoimmunity Through the First Signal 1-Based Treatment
Peter Joyce, PhD, CEO & Co Founder, Greywolf Therapeutics
What if we could eliminate autoantigens at the source to control T cells? Unlike Signal 2&3 based treatments, that work outside the cell, Signal 1-based ERAP inhibition works within cells to treat at the source – potentially delivering the first disease-modifying treatment for an autoimmune disorder. By blocking the presentation of these antigens, which trigger the incorrect immune response, we seek to stop T cells from attacking healthy cells.

9:25 Bioengineered Healing: Designing Biomaterials to Outsmart Autoimmune Diseases
Clinton Smith, PhD, Research Associate, Biomedical Engineering, University of Florida
Current autoimmune treatments rely on systemic immunosuppressants, increasing the risk of infection. Targeted approaches are needed to address disease mechanisms more precisely. Polymeric biomaterials offer a promising strategy for autoimmune therapy through specific targeting and immunomodulation. This presentation highlights synthetic platforms that co-deliver antigens with immunomodulatory factors or polymers, enabling a tunable, precise approach to autoimmune treatment and addressing unmet clinical needs.

9:50 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

10:20 Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

11:00 Selective T Cell Depletion through the Use of Novel, Selective TCR Alpha and Beta Chain-Targeting Bispecific Antibodies
Andrew Bayliffe, PhD, CSO, Marengo Therapeutics
Although B cell depleting therapeutic constructs have shown benefit in certain autoimmune diseases, attempts to effect broad T cell depletion have not been effective due to adverse effects of T cell aplasia. Due to the linkage between germline-encoded TCR variants and HLA alleles, close associations exist in HLA-associated autoimmune diseases. Using selective TCRVBeta BsAb's constructs we have demonstrated targeted depletion of autoreactive T cell subsets in human and murine models.

11:25 PD-1 x CD2 Cis-Acting Bispecific Antibodies Are Potent PD-1 Agonists That Restrain Human T Cell Responses Independent of Fc-Receptor Engagement
Marc A. Gavin, PhD, Senior Research Fellow & Head, Immunology, InduPro
PD-1 is an inhibitory co-receptor expressed on autoreactive T cells. IDP-003 is a PD-1 agonist that pairs PD-1 in cis to CD2. CD2 ligand CD58 expression on APCs is required for activity, driving PD-1 phosphorylation, T cell suppression, and attenuation of xeno-GVHD. As CD58 is expressed on APCs and non-immune cells, IDP-003 should resolve pathology driven by autoantigens presented on both immune cells and non-immune cells in diverse autoimmune conditions.

11:50 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

12:20 pm Transition to Lunch

12:30 Luncheon Presentation *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)* **or Enjoy Lunch on Your Own**

1:00 Session Break

ADVANCING AUTOIMMUNE TREATMENTS: CHALLENGES AND BREAKTHROUGHS

1:45 Chairperson's Remarks
Clinton Smith, PhD, Research Associate, Biomedical Engineering, University of Florida

1:50 Advancing Patient Outcomes with Bispecific TCR Therapies for Autoimmune Indications
Annelise Vuidepot, PhD, Senior Vice President and CTO, Immunocore
This talk explores the potential of bispecific TCR therapies in autoimmune diseases. We will review recent clinical data demonstrating promising patient outcomes focusing on targeted immune modulation. Key topics include efficacy, safety, and the mechanisms by which these therapies restore immune balance, offering new hope for chronic autoimmune conditions.

2:15 Exploring Trispecific T Cell Engagers: A Novel Approach to Autoimmunity Treatment
Leonardo J. Borras, PhD, CSO, CDR Life
Trispecific T cell engagers offer a novel approach to autoimmunity treatment by simultaneously engaging T cells with two target antigens and a costimulatory molecule. This presentation explores the design and preclinical evaluation of these engineered molecules. By precisely directing T cell activity, trispecific engagers aim to selectively eliminate pathogenic cells while minimizing off-target effects, offering a promising therapeutic strategy for various autoimmune diseases.

2:40 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Precision Targeting of Autoimmune B Cells with Chimeric Antigen Receptor T Cells
Marco Ruella, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Scientific Director, Lymphoma Program, Division of Hematology and Oncology and Center for Cellular Immunotherapies, University of Pennsylvania
In his talk, Dr. Ruella will discuss how CAR T cell therapy can selectively deplete autoreactive B cells in autoimmune diseases. He will focus on targeting IGHV4-34, a BCR component implicated in lupus and cold agglutinin disease. Dr. Ruella will present preclinical data, translational potential, and challenges, highlighting how CAR T cells can reset immune dysregulation while preserving protective immunity.

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3:05 Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall with Poster Viewing
(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)

SPEED NETWORKING

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Nikki Cerniuk, Conference Producer, Cambridge Healthtech Institute
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3:45 Pioneering the Use of Nanoparticles to Enable Disease-Specific Immune Modulation
Jo B.L. Tan, PhD, Senior Vice President, R&D, Parvus Therapeutics
Tr1 T cells are a class of immune-suppressive, self-regulating T cells that induce immune tolerance locally. Parvus Therapeutics has developed a precision medicine platform termed navacims that couples disease-relevant peptide-MHCII complexes to iron-oxide nanoparticles shown to induce the differentiation of Tr1 T cells *in vivo*. This platform extends to inflammatory bowel disease, type-1 diabetes, multiple sclerosis, and other autoimmune conditions, showcasing the broad therapeutic potential of pMHC.

4:10 Presentation to be Announced

5:00 Close of Day

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

7:00 am Registration Open

BREAKFAST BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS

7:30 Breakfast Breakout Discussions *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

Breakout Discussions are informal, moderated discussions, allowing participants to exchange ideas and experiences and develop future collaborations around a focused topic. Each discussion will be led by a facilitator who keeps the discussion on track and the group engaged. To get the most out of this format, please come prepared to share examples from your work, be a part of a collective, problem-solving session, and participate in active idea sharing. Please visit the Breakout Discussions page on the conference website for a complete listing of topics and descriptions.

IN-PERSON BREAKOUT TABLE: Selecting ADC Design Features for a Specific Target and Indication

Ian Nessler, PhD, Senior Scientist II, Quantitative, Translational, and ADME Sciences, AbbVie

- Target Characterization: Expression and Internalization Profile
- Design Considerations for Heme vs. Solid Tumor Indications
- Payload Selection (Bystander vs. Non-Bystander Payloads)
- Future Directions and Novel ADC Formats

INNOVATIONS IN ADC DESIGN AND ENGINEERING

8:30 Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Chewei Anderson Chang, PhD, Senior Scientist II, Oncology Discovery Research, AbbVie

8:35 Engineering Antibody-Drug Conjugates for Optimal Payload Delivery in Solid Tumors

Ian Nessler, PhD, Senior Scientist II, Quantitative, Translational, and ADME Sciences, AbbVie

The inherent complexity of antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) is a double-edged sword that provides opportunities to perfect therapeutic action while also increasing confounding factors in therapeutic failures. In this work, we discuss how payload delivery in solid tumors can be optimized by engineering ADC characteristics to match target properties such that a maximum number of tumor cells are targeted with a therapeutically active concentration of payload at tolerated doses.

9:00 A Concept for the Novel Cleavable Linker: Design, Synthesis, and Application in Conjugation Chemistry

Utpal Majumder, PhD, Senior Scientist, R&D, Eisai

Traditionally, physiological thiol gradient is used as a trigger for drug release from the antibody-drug conjugate (ADC) containing a disulfide-based linker. Herein, a novel concept exploiting this physiological phenomenon to design a new class of cleavable linker with no disulfide bond is presented. Favorable stability in human serum, intracellular drug release in the context of ADCs, and plausible payload release mechanism are discussed.

9:25 Talk Title to be Announced

Vitalay Fomin, PhD, Co-Founder, Numenos AI

9:50 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

10:20 Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall with Last Chance for Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

10:50 ABBV-319: A CD19-Targeting Glucocorticoid Receptor Modulator Antibody-Drug Conjugate Therapy for B-Cell Malignancies

Chewei Anderson Chang, PhD, Senior Scientist II, Oncology Discovery Research, AbbVie

ABBV-3 19 is an antibody-drug conjugate (ADC) that consists of a potent glucocorticoid receptor modulator (GRM) agonist payload. This molecule leverages the treatment learnings from glucocorticoids (prednisone, dexamethasone) as part of the standard-of-care treatment for B-cell malignancies (e.g., R-CHOP or hyper-CVAD). This presentation outlines the preclinical characterization of ABBV-319's mechanisms of action and its anti-tumor activities in B-cell malignancies, supporting the advancement of the molecule into Phase I clinical trial.

11:15 SC134, a Fucosyl-GM1 Targeting GlyMab for ADC Development in Small-Cell Lung Cancer

Mireille Vankemmelbeke, PhD, Principal Scientist, Scancell, Ltd.

Fucosyl-GM1 (FucGM1), a glycolipid overexpressed in the majority (>70%) of small-cell lung cancer (SCLC) cases with virtually no expression in normal tissues, has shown promise as a target for immunotherapy. SC134, a FucGM1-specific GlyMab not cross-reacting with normal gangliosides, exhibits avid tumor targeting and efficient internalization. SC134- ADC based on Deruxtecan conjugation demonstrated potent *in vitro* and *in vivo* SCLC killing, warranting further development for SCLC therapy.

11:40 Nonclinical Considerations in ADC Therapeutics Development

Margery Ma, PhD, Principal Consultant, NonClinical Regulatory Affairs, Eliquent Life Sciences

Will provide a regulatory roadmap outlining the regulatory requirements for ADC therapeutics, from discovery to first-in-human trials and marketing approval.

12:05 pm Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

12:35 Transition to Lunch

12:45 Luncheon Presentation *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)* **or Enjoy Lunch on Your Own**

1:15 Session Break

IMPROVING ADC TOLERABILITY AND EXPANDING THERAPEUTIC HORIZONS

2:00 Chairperson's Remarks

Rakesh Dixit, PhD, DABT, President & Founder, Bionavigen Oncology, LLC and Regio Biosciences

2:05 Comparison of Cancer-Targeting and Stromal-Targeting Antibody-Drug Conjugates Using Bystander Quantitative Systems Pharmacology Models

Ezgi Wood, PhD, Associate Director, QSP, Bristol Myers Squibb

This talk presents ADC mathematical models incorporating both antigen-positive and antigen-negative cells. Simulations suggest that response to ADC treatment might not be durable when antigen-positive and antigen-negative cells grow independently. However, stromal-targeting ADCs could overcome this limitation, as antigen-positive stromal cells may be recruited into the

tumor. Additionally, we demonstrate that ADCs with more permeable payloads and less-stable linkers may enhance efficacy in cases of heterogeneous target expression.

2:30 Improving the Therapeutic Window of ADCs through Multi-Step Engineering

Yang Feng, PhD, Biologist, Mouse Cancer Genetics Program, NIH NCI

Toxicity is the primary reason for ADC attrition. To improve the tolerability of B7-H3 targeted ADCs, we describe a multipronged approach involving site-specific drug conjugation, Fc silencing, optimization of drug-linker length, and post-conjugation purification. The lead ADC, m276-SL-PBD, eradicated large PDX tumors and improved overall survival. By combining judicious ADC engineering with personalized therapy through cancer-payload matching, we describe a path for the development of safe and effective ADCs.

2:55 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Impacts of ADCs on the Immune Response to Cancer

Ryan A. Heiser, PhD, Director Immuno-Oncology, Pfizer

Antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) employ tumor-selective monoclonal antibodies to deliver cytotoxic agents directly to tumor cells, minimizing toxicities associated with systemic chemotherapy. The full therapeutic potential of ADCs may be realized when combined with therapies that promote sustained cancer immunosurveillance. To achieve this, a deeper understanding of ADC biology, the immunogenic effects of tumor-cell killing by ADC payloads, and impacts on the immune response is required.

3:20 Smaller, Faster, Multifunctional: Nanofitin Small Formats for a Different Therapeutic Window against Solid Tumors

Olivier Kitten, PhD, Founder & CEO, Affilogic

Nanofitins are small protein scaffolds used as building blocks to form novel compounds with profiles adjusted to need. Affilogic formed drug conjugates with short half-life, high tumor uptake, and multiple functions in one single molecule.

PLENARY KEYNOTE SESSION

3:45 PANEL DISCUSSION: Accelerating IO through Target Discovery



Moderator: Tatiana Novobrantseva, PhD, CSO, NextPoint Therapeutics

- Driving target identification and validation
- Synergistic strategies: promising target combinations for solid tumors
- Balancing efficacy and toxicity in IO

Panelists:
Vitalay Fomin, PhD, Co-Founder, Numenos AI
Shameer Khader, PhD, Executive Director, Global Head of Data Science, Data Engineering and Computational Biology, Sanofi

4:30 Conference Wrap-Up

4:45 Close of Summit

"Presentations were high quality and rigorous in data presentation. Very innovative treatment of immune-oncology."

Plenary Keynote: Jakob Dupont, MD, Executive Partner, R&D, Sofinnova Investments

2ND ANNUAL

INNATE IMMUNITY

Strategies and Tools for Targeting the Solid Tumor Microenvironment

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

7:00 am Registration Open

BREAKFAST BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS

7:30 Breakfast Breakout Discussions *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

Breakout Discussions are informal, moderated discussions, allowing participants to exchange ideas and experiences and develop future collaborations around a focused topic. Each discussion will be led by a facilitator who keeps the discussion on track and the group engaged. To get the most out of this format, please come prepared to share examples from your work, be a part of a collective, problem-solving session, and participate in active idea sharing. Please visit the Breakout Discussions page on the conference website for a complete listing of topics and descriptions.

IN-PERSON BREAKOUT TABLE: Translating *in vitro* Immuno-Oncology Models to *in vivo* Impact

Craig Thalhauser, PhD, Senior Director, Clinical Pharmacology & Quantitative Sciences, Genmab US Inc

- What limits current *in vitro* models from accurately reflecting the complex tumor microenvironment and *in vivo* bispecific antibody activity?
- Designing *in vitro* assays that better predict targeted efficacy and potential for off-target effects within the TME
- Promising *in vitro* technologies for predicting *in vivo* bispecific antibody behavior

TOOLS AND MODELS FOR TRANSFORMATIVE INNATE IMMUNITY

8:30 Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Vladimir Roudko, PhD, Director, Advanced Translational Programs, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals

8:35 Multiomic Studies of the Tumor Microenvironment Implicate a CCL8/CCL13+ Macrophage Subset in Resistance to CAR T Cell Therapy

Zinaida Good, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Stanford University

Spatial transcriptomics and single-cell sequencing provide insights into immunotherapy response within tumor microenvironments. By mapping gene expression at tissue and cellular levels, we identified CCL8/CCL13+ macrophages mediating resistance to CAR T therapy and chemoimmunotherapy in large B cell lymphoma. For diffuse midline glioma, we combined complementary spatial technologies to achieve unprecedented resolution of its microenvironment. These approaches uncover new therapeutic vulnerabilities and resistance mechanisms across cancer types.

9:00 Spatial Positioning and Matrix Programs of Cancer-Associated Fibroblasts Promote T Cell Exclusion in Human Lung Tumors

Shilpa Keerthivasan, PhD, Associate Director, Immunology, Bristol Myers Squibb

Single-cell RNA sequencing and multiplex imaging of lung tumors revealed two CAF populations, MYH11+ and FAP+, driving T cell exclusion. These CAFs form dense barriers with distinct matrix compositions, collagen IV and XI/XII respectively, compared to T cell permissive CAFs. This study identifies unique CAF-mediated T cell marginalization mechanisms, suggesting targeted therapies to improve immunotherapy efficacy in T cell excluded tumors.

9:25 Mathematical Modeling of Bispecific Antibodies in Immuno-Oncology to Uncover Key Features of TME Modulation

Craig Thalhauser, PhD, Senior Director, Clinical Pharmacology & Quantitative Sciences, Genmab US Inc

Bispecific antibodies like acasunlimab and GEN1042 conditionally activate pathways for targeted T-cell invigoration within the tumor microenvironment (TME), aiming to reshape it. Mechanistic models of NSCLC and HNSCC, alongside preclinical data, can optimize bispecific design and dosing for improved T-cell activity while limiting exhaustion, offering advantages over earlier 4-1BB agonists.

9:50 Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

10:20 Coffee Break in the Exhibit Hall with Last Chance for Poster Viewing *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)*

10:50 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Interactions between the Microbiome and Host Mediate Immunotherapy Responses in Breast Cancer

Katherine L. Cook, PhD, Associate Professor, Cancer Biology, Wake Forest University

Successful clinical studies establishing immune checkpoint blockade (ICB) efficacy in triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) enabled FDA approval for anti-PD-1 therapy in combination with chemotherapy for treatment of TNBC patients. While an important advancement, many patients still fail to respond to ICB or develop resistance, and thus new strategies are needed to improve response. Our group investigates the impact of the microbiome and microbiota-derived metabolites on ICB-chemotherapy responsiveness in TNBC.

11:15 Engineering a Chemostatic Microenvironment for Intestinal Cancer Research

Jiaquan Yu, PhD, Research Scientist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

In our pioneering, under-review work, we construct a physiologically relevant *ex vivo* colorectal cancer (CRC) interface, unveiling two groundbreaking findings. Firstly, we establish that it is the oxygen gradient—not merely the absolute oxygen levels—that dictates CRC proliferation and architecture. Furthermore, this model facilitates an exploration into how these hypoxic gradients enables novel studies on epithelial-microbiota cocultures and tumor-T cell interactions.

11:40 Multiomics Approaches for Biomarker Discovery in the Immunotherapy Space

Vladimir Roudko, PhD, Director, Advanced Translational Programs, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals

Multiomics approaches, integrating genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and metabolomics, are crucial for biomarker discovery in immunotherapy. This presentation will highlight how these integrated analyses identify predictive and prognostic biomarkers, improving patient stratification and treatment response prediction. We will explore the power of combining diverse data types to enhance our understanding of immune responses and therapeutic efficacy.

12:05 pm Sponsored Presentation *(Opportunity Available)*

12:35 Transition to Lunch

12:45 Luncheon Presentation *(Sponsorship Opportunity Available)* **or Enjoy Lunch on Your Own**

1:15 Session Break

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NOVEL STRATEGIES BASED IN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF SOLID TUMOR BIOLOGY

2:00 Chairperson's Remarks
Shilpa Keerthivasan, PhD, Associate Director, Immunology, Bristol Myers Squibb

2:05 Targeting Innate Antigen-Presenting Cells for Solid Tumor Immunotherapy
Malay Haldar, PhD, Associate Professor, Pathology, University of Pennsylvania
Immunotherapy targets T cells, but resistance reveals myeloid cell importance. Myeloid cells—macrophages, DCs, monocytes—show diverse functions in solid tumors, impacting outcomes. We aim to characterize this diversity to find new immunotherapy targets. I will describe our research uncovering these novel cellular and molecular targets.

2:30 Functional Effects of Cancer Cell Phagocytosis on Tumor Macrophages
Kristin V. Tarbell, PhD, Associate Director, Discovery, Amgen
This presentation explores how cancer cell phagocytosis affects tumor macrophages. Single-cell profiling in mouse tumors revealed phagocytosis-related macrophage gene changes. These signatures identified phagocytic human macrophages in NSCLC transcriptomics. Spatial analysis revealed co-localized cell states, indicating potential antigen presentation. Understanding these interactions may yield therapeutic targets to modulate macrophage behavior and boost anti-tumor immunity.

2:55 Targeting NKG2D/NKG2DL Pathway for Cancer Immunotherapy: The Viability and the Complexity
Jennifer Wu, PhD, Mary and Patrick Scanlan Professor, Urology and Immunology, Northwestern University
NKG2D is an activating receptor expressed by all human NK, CD8T, subsets of gamma-delta T cells, and activated macrophages, The ligands of NKG2D are generally absent in healthy tissues. This uniqueness has attracted the vitality in harnessing NKG2D pathway for cancer therapy, with efforts on targeting NKG2D ligands and utilizing NKG2D for cell-based therapy. I will discuss the unrecognized complexity of this pathway and potential viable strategies.

3:20 Allogenic Enhanced Natural Killer Cells without Lymphodepletion in Solid Tumors
Paul Y. Song, CEO & Chairman, NKGen Biotech
Natural killer (NK) cells play a key role as the main effector cells toward cancer in innate immunity. Current allogeneic donor-derived products require lymphodepletion to prevent immunologic rejection of donor cells, but this can negatively impact combination therapies where a robust T cell response is desired. We discuss the scientific data and initial clinical results using our allogenic NK cell therapy (SNK02) in solid tumors without lymphodepletion.

PLENARY KEYNOTE SESSION

3:45 PANEL DISCUSSION: Accelerating IO through Target Discovery



Moderator: Tatiana Novobrantseva, PhD, CSO, NextPoint Therapeutics
- Driving target identification and validation
- Synergistic strategies: promising target combinations for solid tumors
- Balancing efficacy and toxicity in IO

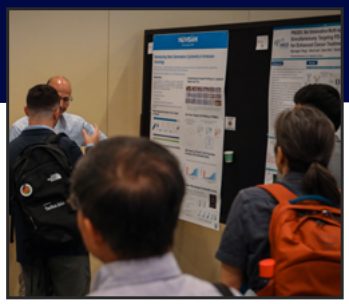
Panelists:
Vitalay Fomin, PhD, Co-Founder, Numenos AI
Shameer Khader, PhD, Executive Director, Global Head of Data Science, Data Engineering and Computational Biology, Sanofi

4:30 Conference Wrap-Up

4:45 Close of Summit



Immuno-Oncology SUMMIT 2025



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