February 17-19, 2026 | Boston, MA

www.glioblastoma-drugdevelopment.com

REGISTER BY OCTOBER 31 TO SAVE UP TO $700

7th Annual

Glioblastoma Drug Development Summit

Trailblazing Next-Generation Glioblastoma & Glioma Therapies

Innovating Preclinical & Clinical Development of Novel Glioblastoma Therapies To Improve Tumor Targeting & Engage Investors to Accelerate Efficacious Therapies for Patients

Expert Speakers Include:

Jonathan Pritz
Director – Venture Investment
RA Capital Management

Carla Bauer
Director - Oncology Search & Evaluation, Business Development & Licensing
Merck

Kimberley Lindstrom
Senior Vice President - Regulatory Science
Day One Biopharmaceuticals

Sam Blackman
Entrepreneur-in-Residence
Google Ventures

Francesca Barone
Chief Scientific Officer
Candel Therapeutics

David Tran
Chief of Neuro-Oncology and Co-Director of the USC Brain Tumor Centre
University of Southern California

> Multiple stakeholders who are leading the fight against GBM from respective fronts. Small crowd leading to great engagement
>
> **Senior Director, Alexion**

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Welcome to Your Exclusive Opportunity to Network with Industry Leaders & Investors in the Glioblastoma Drug Development Landscape

7th Annual Glioblastoma Drug Development Summit
February 17-19, 2026 | Boston, MA

Recent milestones, including **Kite Pharma/Gileads's** success with their phase I CAR-T program for Glioblastoma and Day One Bio's recent approval in low-grade glioma, have reignited momentum in glioblastoma drug development. With growing interest in combination approaches involving radiation, viral vectors, and immunotherapies, the investment landscape is heating up. **Modifi Bio**, **Telix Pharmaceuticals**, and **Medicenna Therpaeutics** have recently received high profile investor backing, underscoring the urgency to understand investor priorities and align scientific innovation with commercial strategy.

Returning for its 7th year, the **Glioblastoma Drug Development Summit** remains the definitive forum for overcoming the toughest translational and clinical hurdles in GBM; **from toxicity and trial design to regulatory navigation and blood-brain barrier penetration.**

This year's agenda features six deep-dive workshops and two days of cutting-edge content, including:

- Next-generation CAR-T and gamma-delta T-cell therapies designed to **overcome GBM's immunosuppressive microenvironment**
- Advanced imaging and liquid biopsy strategies to **tackle pseudo-progression and improve trial endpoints**
- Investor and pharma business development panels revealing **what drives partnerships and funding decisions in this high-risk space**
- Breakthroughs in patient-derived models and organoids to **accelerate preclinical validation and reduce failure rates**

Hear from leaders at **AstraZeneca**, **Merck**, **Genenta Sciences**, **Day One , Google Ventures and more** and more as they share actionable insights to advance your pipeline and improve patient outcomes.

Join a curated network of C-suite executives, scientific innovators, and strategic investors, all united by one mission: *to deliver transformative therapies for one of the most devastating and underserved cancers*.

What Our Speakers have to Say

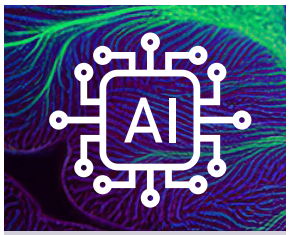
"Multiple stakeholders who are leading the fight against GBM from respective fronts. A highly engaged audience leading to great engagement"

Alexion

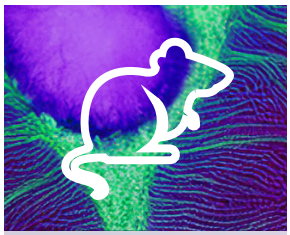
"Collaborative environment encouraged openness and honesty and a willingness to share information on the Glioblastoma field"

ANGLE Europe

Key Benefits of Attending



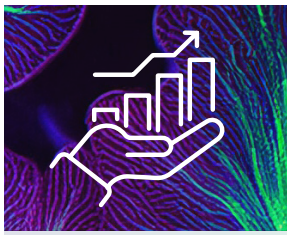
Uncover how novel technologies such as AI, multiomics, computational biology and molecular subtyping can inform patient stratification and expedite clinical and translational strategies in glioblastoma drug development with David Tran, **USC** and **Starlight Therapeutics**



Discussing the use of K9 models, patient-derived models, GBM organoids and engineered rodent models in supporting successful IND applications with **Astra Zeneca**, **Harvard Medical School**, and **Medicenna Therapeutics**

Delve into innovative treatment modalities such as tumor fighting gene therapies, cancer vaccines, CAR-T and ADC approaches from **KiraGen Bio**, **Cecava**, **CNS Pharma** and **Aimed Bio**

Advancing unique, patient-centric trial designs that eliminate placebo or control arms, ensuring critically ill patients receive cutting-edge therapies with **Candel Therapeutics** and **Telix Pharmaceuticals**



Navigate the challenging investment and partnership landscape in glioblastoma (GBM) drug development and understand the key drivers behind partnerships, in-licensing, and philanthropic and venture investments, with insights from leaders at **RA Capital Management**, **Merck**, **White Lion Capital**, **Brain Tumor Investment Fund**, and **Google Ventures**

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What's New For 2026?

60+ Attendees

11 New Speaking Companies

5 CAR-T focused case studies

8 Talks Sharing New Clinical Data

1 Investor Matchmaking Session

8+ hours of meaningful networking

Pitch Slam

Join our **Glioblastoma Pitch Slam** for a unique opportunity to present your technology directly to leading investors and business development executives. We're inviting 4 innovative biotechs to deliver a 15-minute pitch with a guaranteed audience of our expert panelists from top investment firms and pharma companies.
Email sponsor@hansonwade.com to find out more.

Investment & Partnerships Spotlight

Jonathan Pritz, Director – Venture Investment, **RA Capital Management**
Jonathan is an Investment Director with the Venture division of RA Capital Management. Jonathan's primary responsibilities are to work closely with members of the investment team, RA's Venture incubator (Raven) and portfolio companies to help build investment theses and support our portfolio companies to help understand the competitive and pipeline strategy. Jonathan holds a BS in Microbiology and Cell Science from the University of Florida and a PhD in Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology from Harvard University.

Carla Bauer, Director - Oncology Search & Evaluation, Business Development & Licensing, **Merck**
Carla is a business development and licensing professional who spent many years at the bench and led a team to support bringing various modalities to the clinic for a variety of chronic respiratory diseases. Broad areas of interests ranging from translational sciences, regenerative medicine, host-pathogen interactions, epithelial cell biology, interferon, NFkappaB and inflammasome biology, and oxidative stress signaling.

John Higgins, Managing Director, **Brain Tumor Investment Fund**
John Higgins is Managing Director at the Brain Tumor Investment Fund, the venture philanthropy arm of NBTS. John's career spans 30 years in biopharma commercialization and business development within both large and emerging companies, most recently as VP Commercial and Corporate Development at Istari Oncology, a startup focused on glioblastoma and other solid tumors. John's role in BTIF leverages NBTS internal expertise and external networks to identify, evaluate, and invest in promising biopharma, diagnostic, and medical device companies developing advances for brain tumors.

Ranjit Bindra, Co-Founder, Modifi Bio & Harvey & Cate Cushing Professor, **Yale Medical School**
Innovate GBM is a nonprofit organization working to accelerate advancements in glioblastoma (GBM) treatment by building a unified, collaborative ecosystem among researchers, clinicians, investors, regulatory bodies, and patient advocates.

Yash Thukral, Co-Executive Director, **White Lion Capital**
Ranjit is a serial biotech entrepreneur, I am focused on the oncology therapeutics space, with a passion for building valuable companies. Over the last 10 years, while full-time on faculty at Yale, I have co-founded four companies: Cybrexa Therapeutics, Alphina Therapeutics, Modifi Bio, and B3 Therapeutics.

Sam Blackman, Entrepreneur-in-Residence, **Google Ventures**
Sam is a mission-driven physician-scientist, pediatric hematologist-oncologist, and seasoned biotechnology executive, focused intensely on the pre-clinical and clinical development of new therapeutics for children with cancer. Sam has had a 13+ year history in oncology clinical development, prior to founding Day One Bio, and has held roles of increasing responsibility in various setting, ranging from large global pharmaceutical companies (Merck, GlaxoSmithKline) to small venture-backed startups (Mavupharma, Silverback).

New Companies for 2026

cecava | KiraGen Bio | LAMINAR PHARMA | AIMEDBIO | MEDICENNA

Your 26+ Expert Speakers

7th Annual Glioblastoma Drug Development Summit
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Innovative Pharma & Biotech

Aaron Edwards
Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer
KiraGen Bio

Carlo Russo
Chief Medical Officer
Genenta Science

Daniel Yokell
Vice President – Theranostic & Neuro-oncology
Telix Pharmaceuticals

David Anderson
Chief Scientific Officer
VBI Vaccines & HDT Bio

Kimberley Lindstrom,
Senior Vice President - Regulatory Science
Day One Biopharmaceuticals

Do-Hyun Nam
Founder & Chief Executive Officer
Aimed Bio

Fahar Merchant
President & Chief Executive Officer
Medicenna Therapeutics

Francesca Barone
Chief Scientific Officer
Candel Therapeutics

Mykola Zdioruk
Senior Scientist
AstraZeneca

Panna Sharma
President & Chief Executive Officer
Lantern Pharma

Raul Perez-Olle
Senior Vice President - Head of Medical Affairs & Late-Stage Clinical Development
Imvax

Sandra Silberman
Chief Medical Officer
CNS Pharmaceuticals

Saskia Biskup
Managing Director
Cecava

Victoria Llano Canellas
Chief Strategy Officer
Laminar Pharma

Jason Binder
Head of Patient Experience
Pathos AI

Liisi Laaniste
Chief Scientific Officer & Co-Founder
CoSyne Therapeutics

Jianping Huang
Chief Executive Officer
Immunogenik

Investment & Partnership Executives

Carla Bauer
Director – Oncology Search & Evaluation, Business Development & Licensing
Merck & Co.

John Higgins
Managing Director
Brain Tumor Investment Fund

Jonathan Pritz
Director – Venture Investment
RA Capital Management

Sam Blackman
Entrepreneur-in-Residence
Google Ventures

Yash Thukral
Founding Partner
White Lion Capital

Your 26+ Expert Speakers

Leading Academics

David Tran
Associate Professor & Co-Director - Neuro-Oncology, Neurological Surgery & Neurology
University of Southern California

Ranjit Bindra
Harvey & Kate Cushing Professor
Yale University

Ulrike Gerdemann
Principal Investigator & Physician Scientist
Dana-Faber Cancer Institute & Harvard Medical School

Zohreh Amoozgar
Visiting Scientist & Lab Head
Harvard Medical School

"The summit covered diverse important topics in GBM field, ranging from more basic to clinical and investment. Great opportunities for discussion on key open topics to understand perspective from leaders in their area of focus"

Medicenna Therapeutics

"The diverse content that covered everything from funding GBM trials to new technologies/approaches to early clinical solutions. The round tables were a good way to promote discussion"

Global Coalition for Adaptive Research

Preconference Workshop Day
Tuesday, February 17th 2026

Workshop A – Harnessing Omics Data & Molecular Subtyping to Inform Patient Stratification in Clinical & Translational Strategies in Glioblastoma Drug Development

8.00 Join this workshop to deepen your understanding of how omics approaches and molecular subtyping are used to stratify glioblastoma patients and define target populations for new therapies

- Examining the strategic integration of multi-omics including genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics and epigenomics for a more comprehensive and clinically actionable GBM classification system
- Identifying and validating specific molecular features as robust markers for defining GBM subtypes with prognostic and predictive value
- Leveraging molecular subtyping further down the line in development to design biomarker-driven clinical trials to enrich patient experience and improve trial efficiency
- Identifying and validating novel biomarkers with a focus on their identification in discovery
- Looking towards personalized GBM treatment where therapy selection is guided by a patient's molecular profile

David Tran, Division Chief, Neuro-oncology & Co-Director, **USC Brain Tumour Centre**

Francesca Barone, Chief Scientific Officer, **Candel Therapeutics**

Workshop D – Advancing Imaging Techniques to Tackle Challenges Associated with Pseudo-progression & Pseudo-response in Glioblastoma Patients

8.00 Join this workshop to discuss best practices and future innovations in brain imaging to distinguish between pseudo-responses and real changes more effectively in GBMs

- Exploring strategies to avoid serial brain biopsies GBM drug development to accurately assess dose selection and discover new biomarkers without invasive techniques
- Discussing advanced neuroimaging strategies to address the challenges of high glucose uptake in the brain such as novel PET ligands that target GBM metabolic pathways beyond glucose
- Evaluating the RANO assessment in modern GBM trials, focussing on how pseudo-progression and pseudo-responses can confound a drug's true efficacy
- Exploring novel and complementary assessment methods, such as volumetric analysis, advanced imaging biomarkers, and the integration of iRANO criteria for GBM immunotherapies, that can provide a more accurate and reproducible picture of tumor response
- Addressing the practical challenges of standardizing new methodologies across different clinical sites and the regulatory considerations for their use as primary or secondary endpoints

Dan Yokell, VP - Theradiagnostic Neuro-oncology, **Telix Pharmaceuticals**

10.30 Morning Refreshments

Workshop B – Exploring Strategies to Define Direct Vs Indirect Target Engagement with Glioblastomas

11.00 Join this workshop to establish a clear framework for defining direct target engagement direct vs indirect target engagement

- Navigating the application of cutting-edge preclinical methodologies to confirm on-target binding with GBM cells such as mass spectrometry, thermal shift assays and radiolabels compounds for PET imaging to visualize drug-target engagement.
- Analyzing changes in signalling pathways, gene expression and immune cell phenotypes within the GBM tumour microenvironment
- Advancing biomarker tracking within the blood-brain barrier to track drug effect with ctDNA and immune markers
- Deepening the understanding of direct vs indirect engagement to understand the design rationale of combination therapies
- Driving the analysis of PK/PD markers to monitor the emergence of drug resistance in recurring GBMs

Jianping Huang, Chief Executive Officer, **Immunogenik**

Aaron Edwards, Co-Founder & Chief, Executive Officer, **KiraGen Bio**

Workshop E – Assessing Current Clinical Biomarkers & Defining a Future Gold Standard for Surrogate Endpoints in Glioblastoma Clinical Development

11.00 Join this workshop to establish a future direction towards achieving a gold standard surrogate endpoint for GBM clinical trials

- Discussing innovative, non-invasive strategies for dose selection and defining a biologically effective dose in GBM trials such as using advanced imaging biomarkers and liquid biopsies from CSF to overcome the infeasibility of serial brain biopsies
- Exploring the challenges in gaining regulatory approval and validate advanced imaging biomarkers to build a strong scientific case for their use as reliable indicators of therapeutics response
- Diving into the limitations of using 'Progression Free Survival' as a surrogate endpoint for overall survival in GBM due to pseudo-progression and designing trials that can use complementary endpoints to accurately differentiate between treatment-based inflammation and true disease progression
- Addressing the FDA's hesitation to accept PFS as a standalone surrogate for accelerated approval in GBM
- Exploring alternative or composite endpoints that could meet regulatory standards

Ulrike Gerdemann, Principal Investigator, Physician Scientist at Boston Children's Hospital

Sandra Silberman, Chief Medical Officer, CNS Pharma

Pre-Conference Workshop Day
Tuesday, February 17, 2026

1.00 Lunch & Networking

Workshop C - Moving Towards Standardized Preclinical & Translational Study Methodology to Advance the Next Generation of Glioblastoma Models

2.00 Join this workshop to collectively work towards standardized and effective preclinical GBM models to ensure convincing preclinical data is produced to reduce regulatory bottlenecks

- Acknowledging the current limitations with preclinical and translational models that mimic the human immune system for immunotherapy research in Glioblastoma
- Discussing strategies to overcome the challenges of in preserving cellular and mutational diversities in primary tumours to overcome the prolonged development time
- Advancing the use of K9 models as an improved model for paediatric Glioblastomas
- Exploring patient-derived glioblastoma organoid models to recapitulate the heterogeneity of glioblastomas to overcome the complexities of developing effective therapeutic strategies
- Evaluating the practical applications of glioblastoma organoids for rapidly testing patient-specific treatment strategies involving correlating mutation profiles with drug responses to advance personalized therapies

Zohreh Amoozgar, Visiting Scientist & Lab Head, **Harvard Medical School**

Fahar Merchant, CEO, **Medicenna Therapeutics**

Workshop F – Reconsidering Approaches to Regulatory Interactions to Overcome Challenges in Dose Selection, Preclinical Data Package and Clinical Endpoint Selection

2.00 Join this workshop to enjoy candid and actionable discussions around effectively communicating with regulatory agencies

- Exploring the necessary scientific and clinical data required to successfully advocate for regulatory waivers or alternative review pathways, particularly for a disease with a high failure rate and limited treatment options
- Innovative strategies for presenting a robust scientific rationale and a compelling data package that can persuade agencies to be more flexible, and for establishing a collaborative dialogue from the pre-IND stage through clinical development
- Discussing the validation of non-traditional endpoints and building strong scientific cases to convive regulators to accept them for accelerates approval, particularly given the challenges with endpoints like PFS and OS
- Discussing the benefits of a balanced perspective, where regulatory professionals from both the pharmaceutical industry and agencies can share their insights to better align on expectations and overcome shared challenges
- Discussing what a more flexible, adaptive regulatory framework for GBM drug development could look like including streamlining trial designs, facilitation biomarker-driven patient selection and creating a clearer path to approval that incentivizes innovation whilst maintain patient safety

Kimberley Lindstrom, Senior Vice President - Regulatory Science, Day One Biopharmaceuticals, **Day One Biopharmaceuticals**

4.30 End of Workshop Day

> "The 'speed dating' networking session and the investor rotation sessions were a great way to get one-on-one time with colleagues. Additionally the workshops were excellent and correctly sized to maximize interactions and effectiven"
>
> **CraniUS**

Conference Day One
Wednesday, February 18, 2026

7.30 **Registration & Light Breakfast**

8.20 **Chair's Opening Remarks**

Overcoming the Brain's Immunosuppressive Environment with Cell Therapy Approaches for Breakthrough GBM Treatments

8.30 **Exploring Next-Generation CAR-T Treatments for Glioblastomas to Overcome the Tumor Microenvironment & Ensure Efficacy**

Ulrike Gerdemann
Principal Investigator & Physician Scientist
Dana-Faber Cancer Institute & Harvard Medical School

- Reviewing critical lessons from past CAR-T clinical trials in GBM to highlight efficacy barriers caused by the tumor microenvironment
- Detailing next-generation CAR-T strategies designed to resist suppression through the knockdown of upstream receptors that sense TME signals to enhance CAR-T survival in the brain
- Discussing how these novel approaches can overcome GBM's immune resistant phenotype and achieve durable and efficacious tumour clearance

9.00 **Multiplex-Edited CAR-T in GBM: Building a Blueprint to Overcome TME Barriers**

Aaron Edwards
Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer
KiraGen Bio

- Lessons from prior GBM CAR-T trials defining durability requirements and key TME barriers
- Rationale for multiplex editing and validation in patient-derived GBM models
- Why allogeneic CAR-T is well-suited for GBM compared to other modalities

9.30 **Reprogramming Tumor Microenvironment of Wild Type Glioblastoma by Cell Therapy Based on Interferon-Alpha Transduced Autologous TIE-2+ Macrophages: A Phase 1 Study in Newly Diagnosed GBM Patients**

Carlo Russo
Chief Medical Officer
Genenta Science

- Discussing the development of a novel cell therapy approach that uses modified macrophages to manipulate the tumor microenvironment in glioblastoma
- Highlighting the translation of a wild-type GBM strategy from the lab into a Phase 1 clinical trial, with a focus on how the therapy's mechanism impacts patient outcomes
- Exploring the early-stage findings from this study and their implications for the future of GBM therapy, specifically through a patient-centric, immunotherapeutic approach

10.00 **Speed Networking**

Put a face to a name – this session is the perfect opportunity to get face-to-face time with key opinion leaders, leading companies, and innovative researchers in the Glioblastoma field. Establish meaningful connections and gain individual insight beyond the papers and press releases into the pioneering research and technique applications.

10.30 **Morning Refreshments & Networking**

11.00 **Panel Discussion – Navigating Next-Generation GBM Immunotherapies & Delineating a Path to Clinical Success**

- Diving into the scientific breakthroughs in GBM immunotherapies including oncolytic viruses, cell therapies and bispecific antibodies to overcome immunosuppression in the brain
- Navigating the biomarker validation process in order to identify reliable and predictive biomarkers accurately assess the effect of immunotherapies for GBM
- Advancing clinical endpoints for immunotherapies to overcome challenges involved with pseudo-progression

Ulrike Gerdemann
Principal Investigator & Physician Scientist
Dana-Faber Cancer Institute & Harvard Medical School

Aaron Edwards
Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer
KiraGen Bio

Carlo Russo
Chief Medical Officer
Genenta Science

Conference Day One
Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Exploring Effective Clinical Development Beyond Phase I Trials to Overcome Funding Challenges, Improve Efficiency & Ultimately Get from Bench to Bedside Faster

Francesca Barone
Chief Scientific Officer
Candel Therapeutics

11.30 Integration of Biomarkers & Imaging to Define Patient Response in a Phase I/II Clinical Trial

- Outlining a strategy for integrating diverse data streams, from molecular biomarkers to advanced imaging, to create a unified view of patient response
- Discussing how real-time insights from biomarkers and imaging can inform dynamic adjustments to drug dosage and treatment schedules, moving beyond traditional safety metrics
- Exploring how this integrated approach can provide a more robust and evidence-based foundation for making critical decisions about advancing the drug to a larger trial

12.00 Lunch & Networking

Advancing Biomarker-Based Enrollment, Predictive Biomarkers & Diagnostics for Glioblastomas to Improve Diagnostic & Clinical Accuracy

Daniel Yokell
Vice President – Theranostic & Neuro-oncology
Telix Pharmaceuticals

1.00 Reconsidering the Design of Phase II/III Clinical Trials to Ensure Patients Overcome Challenges with Standard Control Arms for More Streamlined Trials

- Discussing strategies for molecular profiling and imaging biomarkers to successfully stratify patients for clinical trials
- Exploring innovative control arms using AI and predictive measure to address budget constraints and patient recruitment challenges
- Overcoming current standard of care involving toxic agents such as TMZ that might hinder the potential benefits of novel therapeutics

1.30 Driving the Use of Biomarker-Based Enrollment in GBM trials to Accelerate Clinical Success & Improve Patient Outcomes

- Addressing the lack of analysis of molecular data in current enrolment protocols for GBM trials
- Discussing strategies to incorporate biomarker-based enrolment given the rise of personalized therapies
- Establishing the efficacy of targeted treatments in recurrent GBM to accelerate the delivery of peronalized therapies

Liisi Laaniste
Chief Scientific Officer
CoSyne Therapeutics

Daniel Yokell
Vice President – Theranostic & Neuro-oncology
Telix Pharmaceuticals

Francesca Barone
Chief Scientific Officer
Candel Therapeutics

Liisi Laaniste
Chief Scientific Officer
CoSyne Therapeutics

2.00 High-throughput Drug Perturbation in Patient-Derived Gliomaspheres Enables Patient Stratification

- Value of deep genetic characterisation and functional genomics on low-passage patient-derived glioma tumorspheres
- Genetic biomarker identification and validation
- Rapid clinical impact of tumour precision targeting by clinical stage drugs

2.30 Afternoon Refreshments & Pitch Slam

Our pitch slam welcomes the opportunity for 4 biotechs eager to promote their technology to our investors through 15-minute presentations with a guaranteed audience of our investment and pharma business development speakers.

Conference Day One
Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Navigating the Investment & Partnerships Landscape in GBM Drug Development to Gain Visibility & Fund Preclinical Studies to Advance Assets Through the Clinic

3.30 **Pharma Perspectives Panel Discussion: Successfully Engaging with Large Pharma Companies to Secure Future Partnerships for GBM Therapeutic Development**

- Identifying specific data packages, preclinical models and clinical milestones that will make a GBM asset attractive for a partnership, beyond scientific novelty
- Strategies for pitching, due diligence considerations and building collaborative relationships to effectively engage with big pharma business development teams to secure a deal
- Insights into creative deal terms, IP considerations and defining clear roles and responsibilities to ensure both partners are aligned on the path to clinical and commercial success

Carla Bauer
Director – Oncology Search & Evaluation, Business Development & Licensing
Merck & Co.

Ranjit Bindra
Harvey & Kate Cushing Professor
Yale University

4.00 **Targeted DNA Modification as a Novel Glioma Therapy: Journey from Bench to Biotech to Pharma…to Bedside…**

Ranjit Bindra
Harvey & Kate Cushing Professor
Yale University

- Tracing the journey of a groundbreaking technology, targeted DNA modification, from its initial discovery at the research bench to its successful translation into a biotech platform
- Detailing the strategic and financial evolution of the technology, highlighting how it attracted investment and ultimately led to a significant acquisition by a major pharmaceutical company
- Examining the path forward for this therapy, exploring how a promising scientific concept, now backed by a major pharma's resources, is being advanced from the lab to clinical development and ultimately, to the patient's bedside

4.30 **Investor Perspectives Panel Discussion: What Drives Philanthropic & Venture Investment in the Challenging Glioblastoma Landscape?**

- Discussing key milestones, translatable models and biomarkers that are prioritized by investors to mitigate the high-risk nature of GBM drug development
- Exploring how philanthropic funds can de-risk early-stage assets for later VC investment, highlighting overlapping interests and divergencies and how to create a compelling value-proposition for both
- Managing venture philanthropy co-investments, public-private partnerships, and strategic alliances, that are essential for accelerating the development of transformative therapies in this challenging field

Jonathan Pritz
Director – Venture Investment
RA Capital Management

Yash Thukral
Founding Partner
White Lion Capital & Innovate GBM

John Higgins
Managing Director
Brain Tumor Investment Fund

Sam Blackman
Entrepreneur-in-Residence
Google Ventures

5.00 **Matchmaking Roundtables:**

Immerse yourself in the most valuable networking session of the conference & discuss your portfolio through face-to-face meetings with our expert panellists.

6.00 **Chair's Closing Remarks**

6.10 **End of Conference Day 1**

Conference Day Two
Thursday, February 17, 2026

8.00 Registration & Light Breakfast

8.50 Chair's Opening Remarks

Advancing Next-Generation Technologies to De-Risk Development & Expedite the Evaluation of Novel Therapeutic Strategies

9.00 **A Novel Approach for Glioma Therapy: Targeting Cell Membrane Lipids with Melitherapy**

Victoria Llano Canellas
Chief Strategy Officer
Laminar Pharma

- Innovating Melitherapy as a platform that specifically targets lipids within the cell membrane, offering a unique approach that contrasts with traditional protein-focused drug design
- Using synthetic fatty acids to modify the composition and fluidity of the cell membrane, which interferes with membrane-associated proteins responsible for disease processes like tumor growth
- Sharing MIN-001-1203 trial of 2-hydroxyoleic acid in patients with advanced solid tumors, including malignant glioma, has shown very promising results, highlighting the potential for significant clinical benefit

9.30 **Precise ADC Drug Discovery & Development From Bench to Bedside**

Do-Hyun Nam
Founder & Chief Executive Officer
Aimed Bio

- Outlining how advanced computational methods and high-throughput screening of omics data are used to precisely identify and validate novel targets for antibody-drug conjugates, ensuring a strong scientific rationale from the outset
- Discussing the crucial role of patient-derived xenografts and patient-derived organoids in evaluating ADC efficacy and safety
- Detailing the process of translating a successful ADC candidate into a clinical setting

10.00 **Accelerating GBM Drug Development with Innovative Patient-Derived Models of the TME**

Fahar Merchant
President & Chief Executive Officer
Medicenna Therapeutics

- Advancing organoids and xenografts for high-throughput screening and biomarker identification to effectively evaluate novel therapeutic strategies and reduce failure risk
- Discussing the maintenance of genetic and molecular heterogeneity of human tumors to provide a more predictive platform for preclinical research
- Modelling recurrent tumors with patient-derived models to replicate selection pressure from prior therapies

10.30 **AI-Enabled Drug Discovery & Development for Glioblastoma**

Panna Sharma
Chief Executive Officer & President
Lantern Pharma

- Discussing how artificial intelligence is being used to analyze complex genomic, proteomic, and clinical data to identify novel drug targets and accelerate the discovery of new therapies for glioblastoma
- Optimizing clinical trial design and patient stratification, helping to identify the right patients for specific treatments and accelerate the path to regulatory approval
- Highlighting how machine learning models are being developed to predict individual patient response to different therapies, enabling personalized treatment strategies and improving outcomes in this difficult-to-treat cancer

11.00 Morning Refreshments & Networking

11.30 **Assessing the Current in Engineered Rodent Models of GBM to Align with Regulatory Requirements**

Mykola Zdioruk
Senior Scientist
Astra Zeneca

- Evaluating the utility of genetically engineered mouse models, xenograft cell lines, and syngeneic models to determine their relevance and effectiveness in glioblastoma research
- Learning how to use these advanced models to accurately simulate the glioblastoma microenvironment and enhance the effectiveness of preclinical drug testing
- Identifying the most suitable modelling approaches for ensuring that preclinical findings are reliable and can be successfully translates into clinical applications

Conference Day Two
Thursday, February 17, 2026

12.00 **Amplifying the GBM Family Voice: Real-Time Insights to Accelerate Trial Design and Enrollment**

Jason Binder
Head of Patient Experience
Pathos AI

- Sharing how the GBM AI Agent—an anonymized, real-time support platform engages thousands of glioblastoma families worldwide
- Capturing the lived experience behind treatment choices, clinical trial interest, and barriers to participation
- These insights act as a continuous, global focus group, offering researchers, biotech, and advocacy leaders actionable intelligence to refine trial design, strengthen recruitment, and ensure cutting-edge therapies reach the patients who need them most

12.30 **Panel Discussion – Future Directions in GBM Models**

- Moving beyond traditional models to accurately replicate the TME and immune system of the human brain
- Outlining the technological innovations that are needed to make glioblastoma models truly predictive
- Standardizing models to ensure they are credible for regulatory submission and inform personalized medicine

Fahar Merchant
President & Chief Executive Officer
Medicenna Therapeutics

Mykola Zdioruk
Senior Scientist
AstraZenenca

1.00 **Installing GPS on CAR T Cells: First-in-Human Phase I Trial of 8R-70CAR in Glioblastoma**

Jianping Huang
Chief Executive Officer
Immunogenik

- First-in-human Phase I clinical trial of 8R-70CAR T cells in GBM
- Novel IL-8 receptor “GPS” design to improve CAR T cell trafficking
- Early clinical signals of extended survivals

1.30 **Lunch & Networking**

Exploring the Advancements in Liquid Biopsies & Combination Therapies in Bringing Precision Medicine to GBM Patients

2.30 **Roundtable – Breaking Down Barriers in the Traditional Dogma of Drug Development for GBM to Overcome Delays in Bringing Combination Therapies to Patients**

Dan Yokell
VP - Theradiagnostic Neuro-oncology
Telix Pharmaceuticals

- How can the GBM field move beyond traditional IP models to foster collaboration for combination therapies?
- How can the GBM community standardize preclinical models, data, and trial designs to prevent the wasteful duplication of work?
- What changes are needed in trial design and regulatory pathways to overcome the delays in bringing combination therapies to market?

3.00 **Panel Discussion - Leveraging Advanced Liquid Biopsies as a Next Generation Diagnostic Technique for GBM Assessments**

- Discussing the limitations of traditional liquid biopsies using ctDNA for GBM monitoring
- Exploring innovative techniques to capture and analyse circulating tumour cells from blood or CSF samples
- Assessing the clinical utility liquid biopsies for GBMs to inform active genetic mutations and methylation status for treatment guidance

David Tran
Associate Professor & Co-Director - Neuro-Oncology, Neurological Surgery & Neurology
University of Southern California

Fahar Merchant
President & Chief Executive Officer
Medicenna Therapeutics

Conference Day Two
Thursday, February 17, 2026

3.30 Afternoon Refreshments & Networking

Advancing Novel Modalities in Glioblastomas

Sandra Silberman
Chief Medical Officer
CNS Pharmaceuticals

4.00 **Navigating the Use of Small Molecules to Treat GBMs Through Improved BBB Crossing**

- Exploring the advantages of small molecules in GBM treatment including crossing the BBB effectively and reaching tumour cells in the CNS
- Designing small molecules to selectively target specific molecular pathways and genetic alterations driving GBM growth and resistance
- Highlighting the role of small molecules within combination therapies to optimize their use alongside other treatments

David Anderson
Chief Scientific Officer
VBI Vaccines & HDT Bio

4.30 **Advancing the Use of Cancer Vaccines in Glioblastoma to Reprogram the Patient's Immune System**

- Discussing the importance of tumor antigen selection and balanced immunity in vaccine design
- Addressing the tumor microenvironment to enhance cancer vaccines

Saskia Biskup
Managing Director
Cecava

5.00 **Advancing the Use of Cancer Vaccines in Glioblastoma to Reprogram the Patient's Immune System**

- Designing vaccines to prime and activate the patient's own immune system to recognize and attack specific GBM cells
- Identifying and utilizing GBM specific tumor antigens to develop targeted and effective vaccine strategies
- Focussing on GBM vaccines in combination with other modalities to overcome the TME and boost anti-tumor response

5.30 **Chair's Closing Remarks**

5.40 **End of Conference Day 2**

> "I was extremely pleased with the way the entire summit was organized. Everything from the line up of the speakers to the networking opportunities was very well planned and executed"
>
> Diakonos Oncology

Partner With Us

7th Annual Glioblastoma Drug Development Summit
February 17-19, 2026 | Boston, MA

Your Global Platform to Foster New & Existing Relationships within the Rapidly Evolving Glioblastoma Space

As the only event dedicated exclusively to glioblastoma (GBM) drug development, this summit provides a unique platform for industry leaders to engage directly with top experts across the field. Our attendees are actively **seeking innovative models, diagnostics, delivery and imaging technologies**, making this the perfect opportunity to identify market gaps and position your services as the solution.
With the **recent acquisition of Modifi Bio by Merck**, investment and partnerships in GBM and CNS tumor treatment have surged. This is a critical moment to establish strategic partnerships and thought leadership as the field reaches a pivotal turning point.

A Unique Platform & Networking Opportunity

As the only event dedicated exclusively to glioblastoma (GBM), this meeting is the premier destination for experts in the field. It offers unparalleled networking with key decision-makers across all areas of GBM research, providing a unique platform to engage with leaders shaping the future of treatment and innovation.

Direct Commercial Opportunities

Position yourself directly in front of a room of neuro-oncology experts who have a direct need for your services. This is a prime opportunity to generate new commercial partnerships and rub shoulders with industry leaders.

Addressing Preclinical Challenges

A major challenge in GBM drug development is the difficulty in obtaining reliable preclinical results. The field is highly receptive to innovative approaches that address this obstacle, presenting a perfect opportunity for you to showcase the promise of your brain models to drug developers.

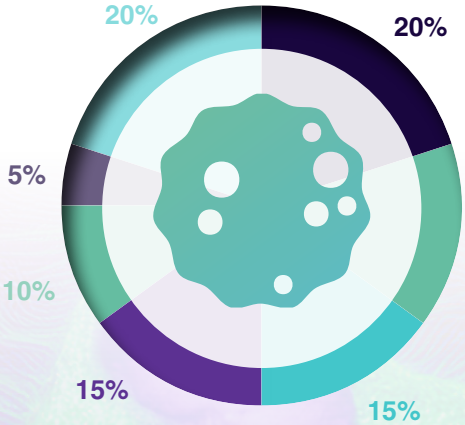
What the industry are searching for?

- CNS/Brain Models
- Diagnostic Providers
- Global CROs
- Advanced Brain Imaging Providers

Seniority of Attendees

- Chief/ CXO - 35%
- President/VP - 20%
- Director - 15%
- Manager/Head - 10%
- Scientist/ Academic - 20%

Type of Companies Attending



- Drug Developer
- Equiptment Providers
- Healthcare Providers
- Research Institiute/ University
- Financial Services
- Softwares/ Computer Services
- Other

*Based on xxx

Get Involved

Maddie Woodside
Partnerships Director
Tel:+1 617 455 4188
Email: sponsor@hansonwade.com

Ready to Register?

3 Easy Ways to Book

www.glioblastoma-drugdevelopment.com

Tel: US +1 617 455 4188

Email: info@hansonwade.com

Discover how leading glioblastoma drug development companies are harnessing the power of AI and molecular subtyping to avoid the need for control arms and inform patient stratification in GBM clinical trials

Build your understanding of the current models available for preclinical and translational validation of GBM therapeutics including K9 models, engineered rodent models, patient-derived models, and organoids to streamline bench to bedside development.

Engage with the close-knit glioblastoma community and peers from leading pharma and biotech to build lasting companies to build lasting connections, complementary collaborations, and best solutions for GBM drug development.

Drug Developers	Register by Friday, October 31 & Save up to $700	On the Door Price
Conference + Workshop Day	$3,497	$4,197
Conference Only	$2,599	$2,999

Academic Pricing	Register by Friday, October 31 & Save up to $700	On the Door Price
Conference + Workshop Day	$2,897	$3,597
Conference Only	$2,199	$2,599

Solution & Service Providers	Register by Friday, October 31 & Save up to $700	On the Door Price
Conference + Workshop Day	$4,397	$5,097
Conference Only	$3,299	$3,699

*To qualify for the drug developer rate your company must have a public drug pipeline and not offer fee-based services. Please visit the website for full pricing options or email info@hansonwade.com

Do you work for a Not-for-Profit organization? Email us at info@hansonwade.com to inquire about attending

**To qualify for academic & research rate you must be full time academic. Please visit the website for full pricing options or email info@hansonwade.com

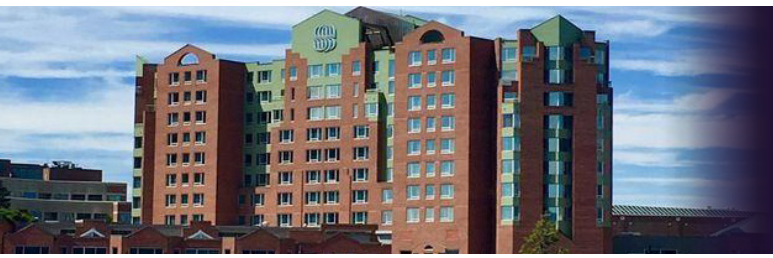
Team Discounts***

- **10% discount – 2+ Attendees**
- **15% discount – 3+ Attendees**
- **20% discount – 4+ Attendees**

***Please note that discounts are only valid when two or more delegates from one company book and pay at the same time.

Discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Only one discount offer may be applied to the current pricing rate.

Contact: register@hansonwade.com



Venue

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