

Non-Opioid Pain Therapeutics Summit

Translating Novel & Transformational Analgesics into the Clinic

January 27-29, 2026 | **Boston, MA**

REGISTER BY FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 3 TO SAVE UP TO \$900

Transforming Efficacy & Tolerability of Pain Management with Nav 1.8 & Other Targets for Neuropathic, Chemotherapy-Induced, Musculoskeletal & Other Types of Pain

Your Expert Speakers Include:



Gregory Sullivan
Chief Medical Officer
Tonix



John Markman
Vice President
Global Pain
Eli Lilly



Bryan Moyer
Senior Vice
President, Discovery
Latigo Bioscience



Hongkang Zhang
Senior Director, Pain
Therapeutic Lead
Quiver Bioscience



Lizandra Marcondes
Senior Vice
President, Medical
Affairs & Drug Safety
Avertias Pharma



Darrell Henze
Executive Director
Merck

“The format promoted a lot of discussion between people who might not otherwise interact”

Bart Anderson, Senior Director, Grünenthal
5th Oligonucleotides for CNS Summit, 2025, World CNS Series

Uniting Pharma & Biotech Leaders to Transform Pain Management

 **Non-Opioid Pain Therapeutics Summit**
January 27-29, 2026 | Boston, MA

WELCOME

SPEAKERS

AGENDA

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REGISTRATION

Following the Vertex approval of JOURNAVX™ and Eli Lilly's acquisition of SiteOne for \$1B, alongside an influx of clinical trials and a resurgence of momentum, many companies have joined the pain therapeutics landscape in 2025. This revival of research into pain indications and targets means that the next 12 months will be crucial for R&D.

The **Inaugural Non-Opioid Pain Therapeutics Summit** will unite leading pain experts from biotech and pharma. 18+ world class speakers from the likes of **Eli Lilly**, **Merck**, **Quiver**, **Latigo** & **Orion** will share their insights on:

-  Exploring emerging therapeutic targets beyond NaV 1.8 to advance treatments for acute and chronic pain
-  Evaluating selectivity in pain drug development: balancing toxicology risk with efficacy to maximise therapeutic potential
-  Streamlining pain trials with genetic and pathophysiological approaches that reduce noise and deliver targeted treatments
-  Hearing clinical updates from the buzzing landscape of novel programs taking place
-  Discussing key takeaways from unsuccessful candidates and informing your pipeline priorities in pain
-  Identifying strategies to overcome translational challenges that have led to the graveyard of failed non-opioid pain therapeutics

Don't miss this niche and intimate opportunity to accelerate validated and novel targets, with the goal of improving tolerability and efficacy for the huge unmet need of patients suffering with pain.

Unmissable Agenda Highlights:



Unlock Next-Generation Pain Targets: Gain insights into emerging therapeutic approaches beyond NaV1.8, including dual-target GABA-A & DHODH modulation, NaV1.7 antisense oligonucleotides, and other innovative pain mechanisms



Optimize Drug Safety & Efficacy: Learn strategies for balancing selectivity, toxicology risk, and long-lasting pain relief, informed by sessions on selective sodium channel blockade and LEVI-04 non-opioid analgesics



Enhance Clinical Trial Design & Patient Outcomes: Explore innovative trial designs, patient-reported outcome strategies, and regulatory-aligned safety frameworks to accelerate development of effective pain therapeutics



Accelerate Translational Discovery: Learn how integrated preclinical platforms and human-centric models are accelerating the path from target identification to actionable pain therapies



Bridge the Gap from Lab to Clinic: Learn practical strategies to translate preclinical findings into successful clinical outcomes, including case study lessons from Phase II/III programs

YOUR INDUSTRY EXPERT SPEAKERS:



Asli Chrisenen
Director, Search & Evaluation
AbbVie



Guido Koopmans
Chief Scientific Officer
Algiax Pharma



Lizandra Marcondes
Senior Vice President,
Medical Affairs & Drug
Safety
Avertias Pharma



Shane Hegarty
Chief Scientific Officer
Axonis Therapeutics



John Markman
Vice President Global
Pain
Eli Lilly & Co



Bruce Bean
Professor of
Neurobiology
**Harvard Medical
School**



Clifford Woolf
Director FM Kirby
Neurobiology Centre
**Children's Hospital
Boston**



Bryan Moyer
Senior Vice President,
Discovery
Latigo Biotherapeutics



Simon Westbrook
Chief Scientific Officer
Levacept



Craig Granowitz
Chief Medical Officer
**Lexicon
Pharmaceuticals**



Darrell Henze
Executive Director
Merck & Co



Christopher Adams
Executive Director,
Search & Evaluation
Novartis



James Ellis
Chief Scientific Officer
Nocion Therapeutics



Heikki Mansikka
Vice President, Pain
Therapy
Orion Pharma



Hongkang Zhang
Senior Director, Pain
Therapeutic Lead
Quiver Bioscience



Gregory Sullivan
Chief Medical Officer
Tonix Pharmaceuticals



James Hackworth
Chief Business Officer
Tris Pharma



Jennifer Gewandter
Associate Professor
**University of Rochester
Medical Center**



Michele Curatolo
Chief Medical Officer
& Professor of
Anesthesiology & Pain
Medicine
**4E Therapeutics
& University of
Washington**

“Nice blend of emerging science, translational medicine and clinical development. Conference was not overwhelmingly large which allowed for great networking.”

Matt Kuntz, Vice President, Global Head, Regulatory Affairs, Neuroscience, AbbVie
Testimonial from the 7th Neuropsychiatric Drug Development Summit 2024, World CNS Series

Pre-Conference Workshop Day Tuesday, January 27, 2026

 **Non-Opioid Pain
Therapeutics Summit**
January 27-29, 2026 | Boston, MA

WELCOME

Workshop A

9.00-12.00

Advancing Patient Reported Outcomes (PROs) for Pain: Improving Validity in Patient Data

Traditional pain measures often fail to capture the complexity of patient experiences and can lack standardisation across trials leading to issues with data accuracy, and regulatory alignment. This workshop explores evolving methods for PROs, balancing real-world patient realities with scientific rigor, and leveraging technology that's developed significantly in the last two decades, to improve data quality.

Workshop Highlights

- Discover latest strategies to learn methods to improve accuracy in pain reporting through technology that can reduce subjectivity and recall bias
- Focus on aligning PROs and trial endpoints with regulatory expectations
- Evaluate different strategies towards PRO's with your peers and hear directly from Vertex on their approved framework
- Learn to assess pain in context, and the benefits, rather than average pain scores



Jennifer Gewandter
Associate Professor,
University of Rochester
Medical Centre

SPEAKERS

Lunch

12.00

Workshop B

1.00-4.00

Nav1.8, Nav1.7, & Kv7 as Combined Targets for Pain: From an Integrated Platform to Discovery & Translation

Nav1.8, Nav1.7, and Kv7, are central to pain signalling and represent promising targets for novel therapeutics. With emerging evidence indicating that concurrent modulation of these channels may produce advanced analgesic effects, offering therapeutic advantages over single-channel blockade. This workshop will explore how integrated in vitro and in vivo approaches, combined with the development of selective compounds, can accelerate progress from discovery to clinical application.

Key Questions Addressed:

- How do Nav1.7, Nav1.8, and Kv7 channels individually and collectively shape pain pathways, and how does combined modulation alter neuronal excitability? Can biomarkers track multi-channel engagement in vivo?
- How can integrated in vitro and in vivo platforms improve preclinical translation?
- What safety risks arise from co-modulating sodium and potassium channels, and how can they be mitigated?
- How can hybrid-selective compounds' challenges be addressed with integrated platform approaches?
- Can these strategies speed the discovery and clinical translation of pain therapeutics?



Clifford Woolf
Director FM Kirby
Neurobiology Centre,
Children's Hospital Boston



Bruce Bean
Professor
Neurobiology at Harvard
Medical School

AGENDA

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NEW DATA

REGISTRATION

End of Pre-Conference Workshop Day

Conference Day One

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

7.00 **Check In, Coffee & Light Breakfast**

7:55 **Chair's Opening Remarks**

Unlocking Breakthrough Pain Relief: Advancing Novel Targets & Therapies for Acute & Chronic Pain

- 8:00 **Rethinking Pain: A Dual-Target Approach Leveraging GABA-A & DHODH Modulation**
- Gain insights from Phase 2a clinical data of AP-325 in neuropathic pain and its impact on patient outcomes
 - Understand the next steps in clinical development and how this therapy could shape future treatment strategies
 - Explore the potential of dual-target mechanisms to deliver more effective, long-term pain relief



Guido Koopmans
Chief Scientific Officer
Algiax Pharmaceuticals
NEW DATA

- 8:30 **Development of a First-In-Class Oral KCC2 potentiator for Treating Chronic Pain: Advancing Precision Analgesics for Novel CNS Targets**
- Developing a non-opioid, first-in-class mechanism that a central nervous system-specific target to alleviate pain, without the side effects associated with existing analgesics
 - KCC2 potentiation is a novel approach to address CNS sensitization-driven pain, and enables precision analgesic approaches in pain populations. KCC2 potentiators have analgesic efficacy and address spinal disinhibition pathology in pain
 - Axonis first-in-class oral KCC2 potentiator, AXN-027, is advancing into Phase 1b/2a trials for treating pain



Shane Hegarty
Chief Scientific Officer
Axonis Therapeutics
NEW DATA

- 9:00 **Transforming Osteoarthritis Care: LEVI-04 as a Next-Generation Non-Opioid Analgesic**
- Mode of action of LEVI-04 as a first-in-class disease-modifying agent for osteoarthritis (OA)
 - Safety & efficacy data from a 500-patient Phase 2 clinical study; findings, conclusions and learnings to take forward
 - Insights into chronic pain in OA and the role of bone marrow lesions



Simon Westbrook
Chief Scientific Officer
Levcept
NEW DATA

9.30 **Speed Networking**

This informal session provides the perfect opportunity to build meaningful connections with pharma, biotech, and academic KOLs, exchange insights on translational strategies and trial design, and gain exclusive, first-hand perspectives on the latest breakthroughs in pain research.

10.00 **Morning Break & Refreshments**

Redefining Pain Management Beyond Opioids: Strategies to Minimize Misuse & Lower Barriers for Non-Opioid Pain Therapeutics to Market

- 11:00 **Overcoming Access & Adoption Barriers for Novel Non-Opioid Pain Therapies, a Medical Affairs Perspective**
- Discuss strategies to shift prescribing away from opioids
 - Share evidence generation strategies to pair new developments with real world evidence
 - Evaluating health economic studies to prove how this strategy can fit into the market landscape in a way that is cost effective



Lizandra Marcondes
Senior Vice President,
Medical Affairs & Drug Safety
Avertias Pharma

- 11:30 **Fireside Chat: Balancing Real-World Realities & Scientific Rigor in Pain Trial Patient Selection**
- Patients enter pain trials either after a drug washout period or while continuing their existing pain treatments, which influences baseline measurements.
 - Answering how can trials be designed that accurately represent real-world patient populations while preserving scientific rigor



Lizandra Marcondes
Senior Vice President,
Medical Affairs & Drug Safety
Avertias Pharma

Conference Day One

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

12.00 Networking Lunch

Driving the Next Wave of Precision Pain: Discovering Novel Targets for Translational Success

1:00 NaV1.7 Targeting Antisense Oligonucleotides: Emerging Modalities for Pain & Pipeline Development

- Utilizing ASOs as a novel way to modulate NaV1.7, which can circumvent the existing issues with small molecule inhibitors (e.g. autonomic side effects)
- Exploring how Quiver's integrated platform based on all-optical electrophysiology and machine learning has led to identifying novel candidate molecules alongside therapeutic targets
- Demonstrating how Quiver's platform can enrich the genetic medicine drug candidates with maximized therapeutic index



Hongkang Zhang
Senior Director, Pain
Therapeutic Lead
Quiver Bioscience

NEW DATA

1:30 Novel Target Identification & Translational Strategies in Pain Therapeutics

- Evaluating early-stage strategies for identifying novel pain targets and advancing them toward clinical development
- Discussing the challenges and lessons learned from a terminated program(s)
- Exploring opportunities for scientific dialogue on emerging translational approaches and priority topics in target discovery



Heikki Mansikka
Vice President Pain Therapy
Areas
Orion Pharma

2.00 Strategies for the Discovery, Validation & Prosecution of New Pain Targets

- Strategies to maximize success in selecting new pain targets are essential to guiding effective therapeutic development
- Validation of new pain targets using human biology to strengthen confidence in translational relevance
- Drug discovery approaches to advancing the development of new pain therapeutics



Bryan Moyer
Senior Vice President,
Discovery
Latigo Biotherapeutics

NEW DATA

2.30 Afternoon Break & Scientific Poster Session

Want to share your work but not ready for the big stage just yet? The Scientific Poster Session is your prime time to share your work with peers from various backgrounds, all focused on non-opioid pain therapeutics. Gain feedback on how you can accelerate the progression of your drug pipelines and build connections for potential collaborations to take your therapeutic from discovery to market.

Evaluating Selectivity in Pain Drug Development: Balancing Toxicology Risk with Efficacy to Maximise Therapeutic Potential

3.30 Next-Generation Pain Relief: Selective Sodium Channel Blockade for Targeted Analgesia

- Selective targeting of sodium channels in nociceptors including NaV 1.7, NaV 1.8 and NaV 1.9
- Understand how this approach differs from conventional pain therapies and the benefits of mechanism-specific targeting
- Explore the potential for localized therapy that minimizes impact on mechanoreceptors and motor neurons



James Ellis
Chief Scientific Officer
Nocion Therapeutics

NEW DATA

4.00 Roundtable: The Barriers Slowing Future Development of Non-Opioid Pain Therapeutics

Join expert-led roundtables to examine the key barriers slowing non-opioid pain therapeutic development and collaborate on actionable solutions to accelerate progress.

**Making Non-Opioids
Price Competitive**

**Modern Trials, Placebo, &
Regulatory Translation**

**Cultural Shift: What
Needs to Change**

4.30 Chairs Closing Remarks

Conference Day Two

Thursday, January 29

7.30 **Check In, Coffee & Light Breakfast**

8:55 **Chair's Opening Remarks**

Accelerating Pain Breakthroughs: Translational Models & Placebo Insights for Clinical & Regulatory Success

9:00 **Translational Models Driving Clinical Development of Novel Analgesics**

- Session details to be announced



John Markman
Vice President, Global Pain
Eli Lilly & Co

9:30 **Discovering the Power of Dual NMR Receptor Agonist: Unique Biology, Proven Safety & Clinical Breakthroughs**

- Overview of biology of the dual NMR agonist mechanism and how the interaction between these receptors creates a unique therapeutic profile
- Evaluate the strategies behind demonstrating that this complex mechanism delivers potent pain relief while showing evidence of minimal addiction risk or abuse potential
- Examine findings from phase III acute pain trials and the learnings that guide the translation of design elements into future chronic pain studies



James Hackworth
Chief Business Officer
Tris Pharma

10.00 **Morning Break & Refreshments**

Redefining Gold Standards: Human-Centric Models & Smarter Trial Design in Pain Research

11:00 **Fireside Chat: Setting The New Gold Standard: Human-Centric Pain Models Using DRG Neurons, Tissue Models & iPSCs**

- Discuss the technological, regulatory, and organizational shifts required to embed human-centric pain models as the new industry standard
- What are the current barriers to adoption? How can biopharma, CROs, and regulators collaborate to accelerate validation and scale-up of these models across the pipeline



Michele Curatolo
Chief Medical Officer &
Professor of Anesthesiology
& Pain Medicine
4E Therapeutics &
University of Washington

11.30 **Pilavapadin: A Novel Non-Opioid Mechanism of Action for Neuropathic Pain – Translational Insights from Preclinical to Clinical Studies**

- Pilavapadin, a first-in-class AAK1 inhibitor, offers a differentiated non-opioid mechanism for treating neuropathic pain, addressing limitations of current therapies
- Robust efficacy in multiple preclinical pain models supported advancement into clinical studies, which demonstrated target engagement, favourable PK, and a tolerable safety profile
- Clinical trials in neuropathic pain revealed analgesic activity and provided critical insights on dose optimization, patient variability, and trial design challenges in neuropathic pain



Craig Granowitz
Chief Medical Officer
Lexicon Pharmaceuticals

12.00 **Networking Lunch**

Aligning Pharma Priorities & Trial Design: Ensuring Translational Impact in Pain Therapies

1:00 **Panel Discussion: Pharma's Perspective on Search & Discovery in Pain Therapeutics**

- What is the industry looking for in terms of novel pain therapies?
- Target prioritization for pharma between NaV channels and emerging novel targets
- The importance of having pre-clinical data beyond animal studies to validate novel pain targets
- Utilizing human biology data sets to help determine the translational potential



Darrell Henze
Executive Director
Merck & Co



Asli Chrisensen
Director Search &
Evaluation
AbbVie



Christopher Adams
Executive Director
Search & Evaluation
Novartis



John Markman
Vice President, Global Pain
Eli Lilly & Co

Conference Day Two

Thursday, January 29

Optimizing Safety Frameworks, Innovative Trial Designs & Precision Pain Therapeutics for Accurate Data & Streamlined Regulatory Success

2.00 **Discussing the Recently Approved Tonmya, a Centrally Acting Non-Opioid Analgesic for the Treatment of Fibromyalgia**

- Key learnings from Phase III trials include study design, patient selection, endpoint development, and regulatory engagement to streamline approval
- Pharmacologically targeting non-refreshing sleep can improve pain and address other core symptoms of fibromyalgia
- Evaluating selectivity in pain drug development requires balancing toxicology risk with efficacy to maximize therapeutic potential



Gregory Sullivan
Chief Medical Officer
Tonix Pharmaceuticals

2.30 **Translational Science in Pain Research: Linking Patient Phenotypes to Molecular Mechanisms**

- Evaluating patients comprehensively using multiple measures, including pain assessments and somatosensory testing, to capture responses to diverse stimuli
- Discovering associations between clinical characteristics and molecular findings from patient tissue to identify potential therapeutic targets
- Investigating how specific pain phenotypes relate to underlying pain mechanisms, advancing understanding for more precise interventions



Michele Curatolo
Chief Medical Officer &
Professor of Anesthesiology
& Pain Medicine
4E Therapeutics &
University of Washington

3.00 **Chairs Closing Remarks**

Testimonials from Other World CNS Series Events

“Very informative sessions, great networking opportunities, and overall well-organized conference”

Issac Yun, Medical Science Liaison, **AbbVie**

“Opportunities for networking with various companies and experts in the space, informing both successes and challenges as well as brainstorm on the most likely productive path forward”

Minh To, Vice President, **Medicenna Therapeutic**

“The pre-conference workshop and presentations were of great quality, and the audience was interactive throughout. The small group roundtables fostered meaningful discussions”

Delphine Fagegaltier, Senior Director, **Merck & Co**

Partnership Opportunities



Non-Opioid Pain
Therapeutics Summit

January 27-29, 2026 | Boston, MA

Seize the Pain Market Opportunity: The Time to Engage is Now

Entering a breakthrough phase, with the recent approval of a NaV1.8-targeting drug and Eli Lilly's major investment through its acquisition of SiteOne, non-opioid pain therapeutic development is finally accelerating at a long-awaited pace.

However, following a graveyard of failed clinical trials, marked by high placebo responses, a lack of objective biomarkers for different pain types, and poor translatability between studies, the need for collaboration has never been greater to advance solutions and drive pain research toward even bigger milestones.

Your highly curated and targeted audience is urgently seeking new solutions to support progress- from placebo-controlled studies that generate high-quality clinical data, to advanced preclinical models that address translational gaps, and to biomarker and PRO platform developers who can validate novel pain-targeting mechanisms.



With unprecedented strategic focus from top biopharma companies in pain, it's time to position your company at the forefront of pain market solutions, with massive commercial opportunity awaiting.

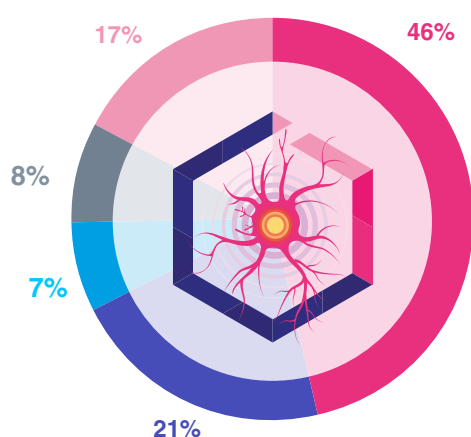


Build early relationships with direct access to decision makers new to the space as well as establishing yourself with the pioneering companies to align with their current unmet needs.



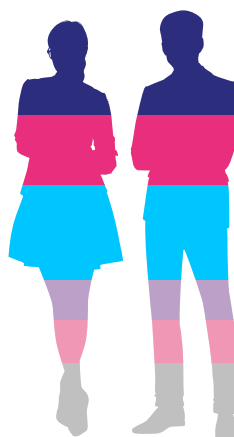
Be a crucial part of the excitement, showcase your solutions and uncover the next market trend in pain.

Company Type:



Biotech
Large Pharma
Academics
Investors
& Other
Service
Providers

Audience Seniority:



C-Level: 24%
VP/Head: 16%
Director: 22%
Manager/Team Lead: 9%
Professor: 10%
Other: 18%

*Statistics taken from 7th Neuropsychiatric Drug Development Summit

Contact

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Partnerships Director
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www.non-opioid-pain-therapeutics.com



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Ready to register?

3 Easy Ways To Book

 www.non-opioid-pain-therapeutics.com

 register@hansonwade.com

 +1 617 455 4188

3 Reasons to Attend:



DISCOVER how leading companies are advancing pain therapeutics through selective NaV channels such as Eli Lilly, Latigo & Quiver are advancing blockers, antisense oligonucleotides, gene therapies, and novel targets.



BUILD your expertise on the latest challenges, strategies, and solutions for target validation, translational models and innovative trial designs to accelerate successful pain therapies to market.



ENGAGE with industry leaders from pharma & biotech to share 70+ insights, foster collaborations, and explore practical solutions for developing safe, effective, and patient-centred pain treatments.

Industry Pricing	Register & Pay by Friday, October 3 to Save Up to \$900	On the Door Price
Conference + 2 Workshops	\$2,597	\$3,497
Conference + 1 Workshop	\$2,348	\$3,048
Conference Only	\$2,099	\$2,599
Academic Pricing	Register & Pay by Friday, October 3 to Save Up to \$900	On the Door Price
Conference + 2 Workshops	\$2,197	\$2,897
Conference + 1 Workshop	\$1,948	\$2,548
Conference Only	\$1,699	\$2,199
Solution Provider Pricing	Register & Pay by Friday, October 3 to Save Up to \$900	On the Door Price
Conference + 2 Workshops	\$4,197	\$5,097
Conference + 1 Workshop	\$3,698	\$4,398
Conference Only	\$3,199	\$3,699

Multi-Pass Discounts

10% discount **15% discount** **20% discount**
3 passes 4 passes 5+ passes

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:

The Colonnade

120 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02116, United States
www.colonnadehotel.com



Terms & Conditions

Full payment is due on registration.

Cancellation and Substitution Policy:

Cancellations must be received in writing. If the cancellation is received more than 14 days before the conference attendees will receive a full credit to a future conference. Cancellations received 14 days or less (including the fourteenth day) prior to the conference will be liable for the full fee. A substitution from the same organization can be made at any time.

Changes to Conference & Agenda:

Every reasonable effort will be made to adhere to the event programme as advertised. However, it may be necessary to alter the advertised content, speakers, date, timing, format and/or location of the event. We reserve the right to amend or cancel any event at any time. Hanson Wade is not responsible for any loss or damage or costs incurred as a result of substitution, alteration, postponement or cancellation of an event for any reason and including causes beyond its control including without limitation, acts of God, natural disasters, sabotage, accident, trade or industrial disputes, terrorism or hostilities

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www.non-opioid-pain-therapeutics.com



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SPEAKERS

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