



The Premier Meeting Across All Stakeholders in Immuno-Oncology  
*March 24-26, 2025, Boston Sheraton Hotel, Boston, MA*



## 2025 Event Highlights

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| Topics & Who Covered Them  
| Photographs From the Event

| Next Year's Dates  
| The Reviews Are In

# Welcome

In this special report, we provide a summary of the highlights from the 11th annual Immuno-Oncology 360° (IO360°), March 24-26, 2025 at the Sheraton Boston Hotel in Boston, MA. The summit brought together leaders from the science and business communities for a comprehensive program focused on data-driven advancements in immuno-oncology.

**Day One** opened with Dr Crystal Mackall, Stanford University, receiving the inaugural IO360° Lifetime Achievement award, which honors leaders whose groundbreaking contributions have profoundly shaped immuno-oncology. In her keynote, Dr Mackall presented data on her CAR T work targeting GD2 for the treatment of diffuse midline gliomas and research into blocking macrophage phagocytosis of T cells.

MUSC Hollings Cancer Center's **Dr William Hawkins** provided a fundamental overview on neoantigen vaccines for pancreatic cancer. Delphi Ventures's **Dr Deepa Pakianathan** presented the fundamental principles of ADC design and key strategies for efficacy. Novartis' **Dr Chaitanya Divgi** discussed the immunological effects of radiopharmaceuticals. A panel discussion focused on Project Optimus, and how to balance innovation and practicality in IO dose selection.

**Day Two** began with insights from Pfizer's Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer, **Dr Andrew Baum**, who spoke about the company's evolving business development strategy in IO. Eikon Therapeutics' **Dr Roy Baynes** and Truist Securities' **Asthika Goonewardene** dove into the impact of bispecific antibodies targeting PD-1 and VEGF for the IO landscape and market dynamics, and **Dr Graig Suvannavejh**, Mizuho Securities USA, gave an overview of the biotech markets and IO outlook.

Dr Baum and **Dr Axel Hoos**, formerly of Scorpion Therapeutics, each led panel discussions on M&A, partnerships and biotech investments in IO, and navigating the IO investing/fundraising environment in 2025, respectively. At the annual IO360° debate, J&J Innovative Medicine's **Dr Charles Drake** and **Dr Alexander Eggermont**, Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology / UMC Utrecht, Utrecht University, argued the merits of monotherapy versus combination therapy in treatment efficacy and IO innovation.

Starting **Day Three**, **Dr Elliott Norry**, Adaptimmune, presented the organization's advancements in TCR-based cell therapy, highlighting the recent FDA approval of afamitresgene autoleucel. **Dr Georg Schett**, Uniklinikum Erlangen and FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, showcased the potential of CAR-T in addressing unmet needs in autoimmune diseases.

A panel discussion focused on navigating IO drug development in a saturated field. Dr Eggermont spoke about neoadjuvant immunotherapy clinical developments. **Dr Christine Ward**, Moderna, led a panel on advancing cancer vaccines and neoantigen therapies. **Dr Zhen Su** gave a progress update on TCR-targeted bispecific antibody monotherapy in solid tumors. Dr Drake closed the program with a presentation on solid tumor CD3 redirectors.

For the first time, IO360° introduced poster sessions to the program as an additional platform to share scientific advancements. Across **multiple tracks**, IO360° speakers presented on: novel IO technologies; new tech in transformational biology; oncology clinical operations; breakthroughs in translational science, imaging and biomarkers; IO cell therapy and innovations in process to generate cell therapies; and innovations in cell types employed in cell therapies.

We are pleased to share **highlights from IO360° 2025**. A big thank you to everyone who participated in this year's event.

Sincerely,  
**The IO360° team**

**Danny McCarthy**  
Multimedia Editor

**Valerie Bowling**  
Executive Director

**Meredith Sands**  
Executive Director,  
Strategic Partnerships

**Elizabeth Bard**  
Vice President, Sales

**Kate Woda**  
Senior Director

**BreAnna Bugbee-Barrett**  
Senior Conference &  
Multimedia Marketing  
Manager

**Adam Kolanko**  
Vice President, Sales

**Shelby Casabura**  
Strategic Partnership  
Associate



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# IO360° Speaking Faculty Shines

## Co-Chairs:

- **Axel Hoos, MD, PhD**, Former CEO, Scorpion Therapeutics
- **William Ho, MBA**, President & CEO, IN8Bio
- **Theresa LaVallee, PhD**, Chief Development Officer, Coherus BioSciences
- **Christine Ward, PhD**, VP, Head of Translational Medicine - Therapeutics & Oncology Development, Moderna

## Presenting the IO360° Lifetime Achievement Award Presenter:

- **Rosanna Ricafort, MD**, VP and Head, Hematology and Cellular Therapy Development, BMS

## Opening Keynote on Evolution and Future Directions in Cell Therapy:

- **Crystal Mackall, MD**, FAAP, FAACR, Ernest and Amelia Gallo Family Professor and Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine; Founding Director, Stanford Center for Cancer Cell Therapy; Director, Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy @ Stanford; Associate Director, Stanford Cancer Institute, Stanford University

## TCR-Based Cell Therapy Keynote on Transforming Treatment for Solid Tumors:

- **Elliot Norry, MD**, FACP, CMO, Adaptimmune LLC

## Strategic Vision and Innovation in IO:

- **Andrew Baum, MD**, Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer, Pfizer

## CAR-T in Autoimmune Diseases Keynote:

- **Prof. Dr. Georg Schett**, VP Research FAU and Head of Department of Medicine 3 – Rheumatology and Immunology, Uniklinikum Erlangen and FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

## Fundamental Biology Talk:

- **William Hawkins, MD**, Deputy Director, Hollings Cancer Center; Vice Chair of Clinical Affairs, Department of Surgery, AR Folk Professor of Surgery, MUSC Hollings Cancer Center

**“It’s an intimate setting where innovative life science companies share their extraordinary and painstaking work to fight deadly cancers alongside many companies that support their efforts with the same dedication.”**

*Julia O’Lynn, Image Analysis Group*

# IO360° Speaking Faculty Shines

## Designing Best in Class ADCs for IO:

- **Deepa Pakianathan, PhD**, Managing Partner and CEO/Co-Founder, Delphi Ventures / Stealth Oncology Company

## Immunological Effects of Radiopharmaceuticals:

- **Chaitanya Divgi**, Sr Strategic Expert, Therapeutic Innovation, Novartis

## Balancing Innovation and Practicality in IO Dose Selection:

- **Gideon Blumenthal, MD**, VP, Clinical Development Oncology, Merck Research Labs
- **Andrea Ferris**, President & CEO, LUNGeity
- **Greg Goldmacher, MD, PhD, MBA**, Associate VP, Clinical Research; Head, Clinical Imaging & Pathology, Merck Research Laboratories
- **Ryan Sullivan, MD**, Director, Center for Melanoma / Associate Professor, Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School
- **Wim Vos, PhD**, CEO, Radiomics.bio

## Track Chairs:

- **David Leung, MD, PhD**, Head of Imaging, Daiichi Sankyo
- **Raluca Verona, PhD**, Head, Oncology Precision Medicine Group, AbbVie
- **Andy Lee**, SVP, Head of Global Clinical Trial Operations, Merck & Co., Inc.
- **Carol Haddad**, Executive Director, Oncology Clinical Sciences and Study Management, Merck Research Laboratories
- **Marisa Dolled-Filhart, PhD**, Global Team Lead, Early Oncology; Asset and Portfolio Management, Daiichi Sankyo US
- **Leon 'Jun' Tang, PhD**, Founder / Scientific Advisor, InScienceWeTrust BioAdvisory / Mianus Capital
- **Rachel Salazar, DHSc**, SVP, R&D Strategy & Operations, Bicara Therapeutics
- **Michael Kalos, PhD**, Managing Director, Next Pillar Consulting
- **Rosanna Ricafort, MD**, VP and Head, Hematology and Cellular Therapy Development, BMS
- **Samik Upadhaya, PhD**, Director of Scientific Affairs, Cancer Research Institute (CRI)
- **Hanif Gabrani-Juma, BEng, MASc**, Associate Director – Translational Medicine Strategy Radiology Imaging & AI, Oncology R&D Cancer Biomarker Development, AstraZeneca
- **Christine Ward, PhD**, VP, Head of Translational Medicine - Therapeutics & Oncology Development, Moderna
- **Theresa LaVallee, PhD**, Chief Development Officer, Coherus BioSciences

# IO360° Speaking Faculty Shines

## IO Novel Technologies Showcase:

- **Oliver Bohnsack, MD, PhD, MBA**, Vice President, Scientific and Medical Services, Head of Oncology, Perceptive
- **Dongxiao Feng**, Vice President, GenoBioTX
- **Jennifer L. Frahm, PhD**, Director of Global Field Applications, Standard BioTools
- **Lan Huang, PhD**, Chairwoman, CEO & Co-Founder, BeyondSpring Inc.
- **Petr Jordan, PhD**, CTO, Onc.AI
- **Ramji Srinivasan**, Co-founder and CEO, Teiko.bio
- **Tad George, PhD**, Senior VP, Biology R&D, RareCyte
- **Maria Karasarides, PhD**, Scientific Advisor, Picture Health
- **Adam Laing, PhD**, CSO and Co-Founder, IMU Biosciences
- **Timothy London, PhD**, Director of Molecular Biology & Cell Engineering, RoukenBio
- **Jennifer Stewart, PhD**, VP, Flow Cytometry Strategy, TD2

## Women Leaders in IO Panel:

- **Christine Ward, PhD**, VP, Head of Translational Medicine - Therapeutics & Oncology Development, Moderna
- **Helena Chaye, PhD, JD**, CEO, Kalivir Immunotherapeutics
- **Rachel Humphrey, MD**, President and Founding CEO, Normunity
- **Randi Isaacs, MD**, Chief Medical Officer, Werewolf Therapeutics
- **Ashley Lakner, PhD**, Head, Oncology Discovery - pRED Oncology, Roche

## New Tech in Transformational Biology:

- **Raluca Verona, PhD**, Head, Oncology Precision Medicine Group, AbbVie
- **Gordon J Freeman, PhD**, Professor of Medicine, Division of Hematologic Malignancies, Department of Medical Oncology, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute / Harvard Medical School
- **Robert Getts, PhD**, Co-Founder & Chief Platform Technologies Officer, Code Biotherapeutics
- **Tatiana Novobrantseva, PhD**, CSO, NextPoint Therapeutics

## Oncology Clinical Operations:

- **Carol Haddad**, Executive Director, Oncology Clinical Sciences and Study Management, Merck Research Laboratories
- **Andy Kinley, PhD**, Vice President of Operational Strategy, Precision for Medicine

**“I valued the balance of science & business.”**

*Melissa Hayes, NextPoint Therapeutics*



## IO360° Speaking Faculty Shines

- **Nathanial “Nat” Ramuthaga, Med.Sci. & Pr.Sci.Nat.**, Clinical Operations Portfolio Leader (COPL) PDG, SA & SSA, Geo Lead – South Africa & SSA, APO & CoE Country Lead, Roche
- **Millie Shultz**, Head of Americas, Site and Country Operations, Oncology Division, Pfizer
- **Sarah A. White, MPH**, Executive Director, Multi-Regional Clinical Trials Center, Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard (MRCT Center)
- **Marta Arias-Salgado**, Head, Global Clinical Supply, Merck Research Labs
- **Samit Bhatt, PharmD, MBA**, VP, Clinical Trial Patient Solutions, Myonex
- **Luisa Freitas dos Santos, PhD**, Head, Clinical Supply, GSK
- **Michael Ku, PharmD, MBA**, Head, Global Clinical Supply, Pfizer
- **Richard Walovitch, PhD**, CSO, Voiant
- **Scott K Pruitt, MD, PhD**, AVP & Head, Translational Oncology, Merck Research Laboratories
- **JD Alvarez, MD, PhD**, Global Head, Companion Diagnostics, Daiichi Sankyo US
- **Erin Grath**, Senior Director Regulatory Affairs, Merck & Co., Inc.
- **John Simmons, PhD**, Global VP, Biopharma Partnerships, Natera
- **Adrelia Allen, PharmD**, Executive Director, Clinical Trial Patient Diversity, Global Clinical Trial Operations, Merck Research Laboratories
- **Brittany Gerald-Lewis**, Associate Director, Clinical Trial Health Equity, Moderna
- **Julie Martin, MSc, MBA**, President & CEO, Scimega Research
- **Jeanne Regnante**, Founder / Strategic Health Equity Advisor, Patient 3i, LLC / Tigerlily Foundation
- **James Riddle, MCSE**, CIP, CPIA, CRQM, Senior Vice President, Global Review Operations, Advarra
- **Christine Gause, PhD**, VP, Late Development Statistics, Merck
- **Jie Ding, PhD**, SVP, Biometrics, InxMed
- **Ellie Stukalin, PhD**, Associate Director, Biostatistics, Takeda Pharmaceuticals
- **Ramachandran Suresh, PhD**, Therapy Area Head, Oncology and Hematology Biostatistics, Amgen

### Breakthroughs in Translational Science, Imaging & Biomarkers:

- **Anne-Marie Martin, PhD**, SVP & Global Head, Precision Medicine, R&D, GSK
- **Gregory Frank, PhD**, Global Scientific Partnering Strategy, Immuno-Oncology, GE HealthCare
- **Ben Glass**, VP, Product and Translational Research, PathAI
- **Catherine Hines, PhD**, Executive Director and Head, Clinical Imaging, GSK
- **Jayant Narang, MD**, Sr Medical Director, Clinical Oncology Imaging Lead, Preclinical and Translational Sciences, Takeda Pharmaceuticals
- **David Rimm, MD, PhD**, Professor of Pathology, Director of Pathology Tissue Services & Director of Translational Pathology, Yale School of Medicine

# IO360° Speaking Faculty Shines

- **David Shames, PhD**, VP, Global Head of Biomarkers and CDx Development, Beigene
- **Kirsteen Maclean, PhD**, Principal Scientist, Scientific Affairs, NeoGenomics
- **Jonathan Rosenberg, MD**, Chief, Genitourinary Oncology Service, Division of Solid Tumor Oncology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- **Swayampakula Ramakanth, PhD**, Managing Director, Equity Research, H.C. Wainwright & Co.

## Bispecific Antibodies Targeting PD-1 and VEGF: Impact for the IO Landscape and Market Dynamics:

- **Roy Baynes, MD, PhD**, EVP & CMO, Eikon Therapeutics
- **Asthika Goonewardene, MBA**, Managing Director, Senior Biotech Analyst, Truist Securities

## Biotech Markets & IO Outlook:

- **Graig C. Suvannavejh, PhD**, Managing Director, Equity Research Biopharmaceuticals & Biotechnology, Mizuho Securities USA

## Poster Presenters:

- **David A. Braun, MD, PhD**, Louis Goodman and Alfred Gilman Yale Scholar & Assistant Professor of Medicine, Pathology, and Urology, Yale School of Medicine
- **Jay Fine, PhD**, President, Research & Development, EvolveImmune Therapeutics
- **Chiquita Hanindya**, Scientist, Cell Biology, BlueWhale Bio
- **Gopal Krishnan, PhD**, Manager, Biologics, Promega
- **Ramji Srinivasan**, Co-founder and CEO, Teiko.bio
- **Kristen Wangerin, PhD**, Senior Imaging Technology Leader, Pharmaceutical Diagnostics, GE HealthCare
- **Alia Zander, PhD**, Senior Data Scientist, Machine Learning, Tempus
- **Jenny Zilberberg, PhD**, Head of Research, Invax, Inc.

## IO360° Biotech Showcase:

- **Tony Arulanandam, PhD**, CEO and Founder, Synaptimmune Therapeutics
- **Victor Goldmacher**, Chief Scientific Officer, ImmuVia, Inc.
- **Vikram Kansra, PhD**, Founder & CEO, Vicero Bio
- **Kuldeep Neote, PhD**, CEO, Diadem Biotherapeutics
- **Pan Pan, PhD, MBA**, SVP, Head of Business Development, OncoC4

**“I loved the end-to-end multiperspective topics in a variety of formats. I felt inspired by the thought-leaders and industry.”**

*Natalie Hecht, Immatics*

# IO360° Speaking Faculty Shines

## Business Development Strategies in IO:

- **Andrew Baum, MD**, Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer, Pfizer
- **Rick Aldridge, MBChB**, Managing Director, Healthcare, Lazard
- **Rakhshita Dhar**, Senior Director, Venture Investments, Health, Leaps by Bayer
- **Emmett Schmidt, MD, PhD**, VP, Clinical Oncology and Lead, External Collaborations, Merck
- **Gayatri Varma, PhD**, Executive Director and Head of Transactions, Oncology R&D, AstraZeneca
- **Evan Zisholtz, JD**, VP, Global Business Development, Immunai

## Navigating Immuno-Oncology Investments in 2025:

- **Axel Hoos, MD, PhD**, Former CEO, Scorpion Therapeutics
- **Kalli Dircks**, Managing Director, Global Capital Markets, Morgan Stanley
- **Carl Gordon, PhD**, CFA, Managing Partner, OrbiMed Advisors LLC
- **Rajiv Kaul**, Portfolio Manager, Equity Division, Fidelity Investments

## Breakthroughs in Translational Science, Imaging and Biomarkers:

- **Nina Shah, MD**, Global Head of Multiple Myeloma Clinical Development and Strategy, Hematology R&D, AstraZeneca
- **Dejan Knezevic, PhD**, Senior Director, Pharma Partnerships, Natera
- **Vipul Baxi, MBA**, Executive Director, Computational Imaging and Digital Biomarkers, Amgen
- **Sharon Benzeno, PhD, MBA**, Chief Commercial Officer, Immune Medicine, Adaptive Biotechnologies
- **Olga Kubassova, PhD**, Founder and President, Image Analysis Group
- **B. Dusty Majumdar, PhD**, CEO, PredxBio

## IO Cell Therapy:

- **Arjun Goyal, MD, MPhil, MBA**, Former Co-founder & Managing Director, Vida Ventures
- **Sarah Warren, PhD**, Senior Director, Corporate Development Lead, Cell Therapy Search and Evaluation, Kite Pharma / Gilead Sciences
- **Michael Kalos, PhD**, Managing Director, Next Pillar Consulting
- **Gwendolyn Binder, PhD**, President, Science & Technology, Cabaletta Bio
- **Greg Sawyer, PhD**, Chief BioEngineering Officer, Chair, Department of BioEngineering, Moffitt Cancer Center
- **Serena De Vita, MD, PhD**, VP, Global Franchise Head and Global Clinical Strategy Head, Late Development Oncology, Cell Therapy, AstraZeneca
- **Arvind Natarajan, PhD, MBA**, SVP, Process and Analytical Development, Iovance Biotherapeutics Inc
- **Sarah Warren, PhD**, Senior Director, Corporate Development Lead, Cell Therapy Search and Evaluation, Kite Pharma / Gilead Sciences



# IO360° Speaking Faculty Shines

## Breakthroughs in Translational Science, Imaging and Biomarkers:

- **Ashley Lakner, PhD**, Head, Oncology Discovery - pRED Oncology, Roche
- **Kristen Wangerin, PhD**, Senior Imaging Technology Leader, Pharmaceutical Diagnostics, GE HealthCare
- **John Mumm, PhD**, President & CEO, DEKA Biosciences
- **Siraj Ali, MD, PhD**, Global VP of Translational Medicine, Lunit
- **Erik Manting, PhD**, CEO, Mendus
- **Mark Landers**, VP, Precision Medicine, Akoya Biosciences Inc.
- **William Ho, MBA**, President & CEO, IN8Bio
- **Kristin Price**, Senior Product Director, Guardant Health
- **Zdravka Medarova, PhD**, CSO & Co-founder, TransCode Therapeutics

## Innovations in Process to Generate Cell Therapies:

- **Saba Ghassemi, PhD**, Research Assistant; Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania
- **Maurits Geerlings, MD, MBA**, President & CEO, NanoCell Therapeutics, Inc
- **Andrew Scharenberg, MD**, Co-Founder & CEO, Umoja Biopharma
- **Yevgeny Brudno, PhD**, Associate Professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina State University
- **Birgit Schultes, PhD**, SVP, Head of Cell Therapies, Intellia Therapeutics

## Innovations in Cell Types Employed in Cell Therapies:

- **Ruben Rodriguez, PhD**, Head of Research, cTRL Therapeutics
- **Joanne Smith-Farrell, PhD**, CEO & Director, Be Bio
- **Aaron Cooper, PhD**, VP, Early Discovery, ArsenalBio

## IO360° Annual Debate – Monotherapy vs Combination Therapies in IO:

- **Charles Drake, MD, PhD**, VP, Immuno-Oncology, J&J Innovative Medicine
- **Alexander Eggermont, MD, PhD**, CSO / Professor, Clinical & Translational Immunotherapy, Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology / UMC Utrecht, Utrecht University
- **David Feltquate, MD, PhD**, CMO, iTeos Therapeutics

## Navigating IO Drug Development for Biotechs in a Saturated Field:

- **Sarah Warren, PhD**, Senior Director, Corporate Development Lead, Cell Therapy Search and Evaluation, Kite Pharma / Gilead Sciences
- **Roy Baynes, MD, PhD**, EVP & CMO, Eikon Therapeutics

# IO360° Speaking Faculty Shines

- **Sharon Benzeno, PhD, MBA**, Chief Commercial Officer, Immune Medicine, Adaptive Biotechnologies
- **Rachel Humphrey, MD**, President and Founding CEO, Normunity
- **Theresa LaVallee, PhD**, Chief Development Officer, Coherus BioSciences

## PRAME TCR-Ts for Patients with Solid Cancers:

- **Delfi Krishna, PhD, MBA**, Vice President Late-Stage Development, Immatics Biotechnologies

## The Next Generation of CTLA-4 and PD1 Inhibition

- **John Kurland, PhD**, VP, Global Product Leader IO - GI and Head and Neck Cancers, AstraZeneca

## Oral HPK1 inhibitor As Monotherapy and Combination For Advanced Solid Tumors:

- **David A. Braun, MD, PhD**, Louis Goodman and Alfred Gilman Yale Scholar & Assistant Professor of Medicine, Pathology, and Urology, Yale School of Medicine

## Clinical and Translational Learnings During Development of Abecma:

- **Timothy Campbell, MD, PhD**, VP, Hematology and Cell Therapy, Early Clinical Development, BMS

## CHS-114 Treatment in HNSCC Patients with and without Toripalimab:

- **Varun Kapoor, PhD**, Senior Director, Translational Medicine, Coherus Biosciences

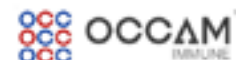
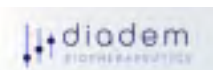
## Targeting CTLA-4+ Tregs to Overcome MSS CRC Resistance:

- **Peter (Peizhi) Luo, PhD**, Chairman, CEO & President of R&D, Adagene

## IO Clinical Advancements:

- **Alexander Eggermont, MD, PhD**, CSO / Professor, Clinical & Translational Immunotherapy, Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology / UMC Utrecht, Utrecht University
- **Christine Ward, PhD**, VP, Head of Translational Medicine - Therapeutics & Oncology Development, Moderna
- **Laureen Ojalvo, MD, PhD**, Executive Medical Director, Oncology Clinical Development, Moderna Therapeutics
- **Wei Zheng, PhD**, Head of Oncology Bioinformatics, Moderna Therapeutics
- **Zhen Su, MD, MBA**, CEO & Director, Marengo Therapeutics
- **Charles Drake, MD, PhD**, VP, Immuno-Oncology, J&J Innovative Medicine

# Thank you to the IO360° 2025 Sponsoring Companies





*SAVE THE DATE FOR 2026*



*February 10–12*

*Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston, MA*

*Annual Event*

*Digital Editorial*

*Year-Round Podcasts and Webcasts*

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