

 **Mission of AABC**

The mission of the Alzheimer's Association® Business Consortium (AABC) is to advance Alzheimer's disease research and innovation in small- and medium-size biotechnology, diagnostics, medical device and contract research organizations.

AABC members work in areas of common interest pre-competitively to advance both the field of Alzheimer's research and the goals of its member organizations. They provide leadership and direction to the group's areas of focus, which include, but are not limited to, collaborations, recognition and visibility, and knowledge and information sharing. AABC welcomes new members who are aligned in their commitment to research and innovation. To express interest in joining, please email [Dr. Jacob Donoghue](#) or [Dr. Codi Gharagouzloo](#), co-chairs, or [Dr. Christopher Weber](#), facilitator.

 **Congratulations to the New AABC Co-Chair**

Congratulations to Dr. Jacob Donoghue, who was elected as the new AABC co-chair for a two-year term. Dr. Donoghue is the CEO and co-founder of Beacon Biosignals, Beacon's EEG neurobiomarker platform is engineered to accelerate clinical trials and enable new treatments for patients with neurological and psychiatric disease. We are delighted to have him serve in this role. The Alzheimer's Association extends its gratitude to Joseph Araujo for his service to AABC. Under his leadership, AABC has grown in membership and hosted events that have advanced our mission. We look forward to working with the two co-chairs, Dr. Donoghue and Dr. Gharagouzloo, in the upcoming year, and would like to thank everyone for their continued participation.

 **Welcome to our New Members**

AABC is growing! Welcome to:

- » **Ananth Annapragada & Carlo Medici, Alzeca Biosciences.** Alzeca Biosciences is a start up company focused on developing molecular MRI-based imaging agents for the early, accurate, and cost-effective detection of Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases. Its novel and proprietary technology platform is based on nanoparticles carrying a targeted ligand and a macrocyclic Gd-based contrast medium. When injected intravenously, the nanoparticle goes to the brain and selectively binds the target clearly and simply detected via a routine MRI scan. MRI offers numerous advantages versus PET, including no radiation exposure to patients, significantly lower costs, and much wider access and availability worldwide. The company's lead product, an A-beta amyloid targeting agent, is currently undergoing proof-of-concept in humans, whereas a novel tau targeting agent is in the pre-clinical stage.
- » **Bushra Siddiqi & Najeeb Qadi, Cogni.Dx.** Cogni.Dx is a London-based start-up company that provides early-stage diagnostic and long-term care solutions for neurological conditions. The first condition they are tackling is Dementia. Their primary innovation is to accelerate the diagnosis of dementia and MCI at the primary care level. They have developed an electronic tool that relies on a focused, structured and validated set of higher mental function history questions, along with a custom-built battery of cognitive assessments, to instantly deduce the probable dementia diagnosis, down to the exact subtype, in fewer than 30 minutes.
- » **Chris Winrow & Chad Glasser, Cycleron.** Cycleron Therapeutics is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, that applies neurological insights to discover, develop, and commercialize innovative medicines for people with serious diseases of the central nervous system (CNS). Lead programs include CY6463, a pioneering CNS-penetrant sGC stimulator in clinical development for Alzheimer's disease with vascular pathology (ADv), mitochondrial encephalomyopathy, lactic acidosis and stroke-like episodes (MELAS), and cognitive impairment associated with schizophrenia (CIAS). Cycleron is also advancing CY3018, a next-generation sGC stimulator.
- » **Mohammed Adnan-Azam & Prithviraj Ray, Demai Tech.** Demai Technologies identifies behavioural biomarkers for personalised dementia care and treatment. The biomarkers are based on the Neuropsychiatric Index used for dementia treatment globally. The company uses fitness trackers for Persons With Dementia and our companion journaling app for the caregivers to identify these biomarkers and patterns to enable time specific, targeted interventions.

- » **Scott Caroen, Franck Brinkhaus, Bryan Oronsky, & Richard Gordon, EpicentRx.** EpicentRx is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company with a small molecule, brain-penetrant NLRP3 inhibitor, RRx-001, currently in Phase 3 for the treatment of cancer. On the heels of a grant from the Michael J. Fox Foundation (MJFF) to study RRx-001 in Parkinson's disease, and a poster presentation at AAIC on Alzheimer's disease, EpicentRx kicked off a partnership with the University of Queensland (UQ) and noted inflammasome researcher Dr. Richard Gordon. The goal of this partnership with UQ is to study the therapeutic potential of RRx-001 and a pipeline of follow-on small molecule NLRP3 inhibitors in neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/ motor neuron disease (ALS/MND), Huntington's disease, and multiple sclerosis (MS), the better to rapidly translate them to clinical application and make a difference in the lives of patients and their families. More information can be found [here](#).
- » **Dhivya Venkat, Esya Labs.** Esya Labs is a London-based molecular diagnostic company targeting neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer's disease. Using award-winning DNA nanoprobe, they combine patented intracellular analytics and AI to profile disease-specific lysosomal dysfunction. We are bringing to market an early diagnostic for Alzheimer's disease whilst working with pharmaceutical companies to assist their drug discovery projects and clinical trials.
- » **Roe Hevrony, ImmunoBrain Checkpoint.** ImmunoBrain Checkpoint (IBC) is a clinical stage biotechnology company transforming the fight against neurodegeneration and aging by targeting the immune system, restoring brain immune communications and boosting natural repair mechanisms. IBC's lead program is a proprietary antibody targeting the inhibitory immune checkpoint pathway, PD-1/PD-L1, to treat Alzheimer's disease. IBC's novel approach for the treatment of neurodegeneration is based on years of innovative, cutting edge scientific discoveries made in the lab of Professor Michal Schwartz at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel.
- » **Natalie Green, Kernel.** Natalie Green, Kernel. Kernel Flow is the first technology ever built that can record hi-res brain data at scale. On par with cheap DNA sequencing in terms of its impact to human health and performance optimization.
- » **Mohammed Adnan Azam & Ray Prithviraj, Demai Technologies Pte Ltd.** Demai Technologies identifies behavioural biomarkers for personalised dementia care and treatment. The biomarkers are based on the Neuropsychiatric Index used for dementia treatment globally. We use fitness trackers for Persons With Dementia and our companion journaling app for the caregivers to identify these biomarkers and patterns to enable time specific, targeted interventions.



News from AABC Members



Acelot has hired a new full time CEO, Kate Planey, Kate will be leading the buildout of their small molecule discovery platform and validation of their existing assets. She previously co-founded Mantra Bio, an exosome therapeutics startup. More information about Kate can be found [here](#). Acelot is also hiring a scientist with neurodegenerative in vitro assay expertise. Please see the job posting [here](#).



» Inc. Magazine named Unlearn as one of their "Best Workplaces" of 2022! We're so proud of our team of scientists, biostatisticians, and clinical trial experts who are pioneering AI in healthcare. Explore [Inc. Magazine's list](#) of 475 employers who have "cracked the code for excellent company culture" and visit our [careers page](#) if you share our mission: driving clinical trial timelines towards zero.

» Why can't we agree on how to define digital twins in health care? Watch our latest Endpoints webinar with CEOs from the digital twin frontier to learn what digital twins are and how they can be applied within healthcare. Panelists include Unlearn's founder and CEO, Charles Fisher, François-Henri Boissel, co-founder and CEO of Nova Discovery, Jonathan Baptista, co-founder and CEO of DeepLife and Simon Sonntag, founder and CEO of Virtonomy. [Streaming now.](#)

» Unlearn's Chief Science Officer, Dave Miller, will be presenting at the 15th Clinical Trials on Alzheimer's Disease (CTAD) 2022, from Nov. 29-Dec. 22, in San Francisco. Dave will discuss how Unlearn's TwinRCT solution reduced the control arm size for a phase 2 study in Alzheimer's disease by more than 20% while controlling for type-1 error. CTAD's [preliminary program](#) is now available to view.



Andreas Kopke, Managing Director of bioExpert recently organized and ran the Neuro4D conference. The Neuro4D Conference 2022 had 65 participants from 10 countries, and featured 14 academic presentations, nine drug discovery presentations, four service company presentations, 8 lively panel discussions, and 21 posters. Many presented results originated from collaborations that were started during earlier Neuro4D conferences, which is the main objective for this conference and facilitates success in drug discovery. The face-to-face meeting was much appreciated after two years during which such interaction was impossible due to the coronavirus pandemic. A full summary can be found [here](#).



Imaginostics received a \$725,000 investment from the Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation (ADDF) to support its pilot clinical study testing a novel imaging approach that can measure structure and function of the vascular system in the brain.

A significant portion of dementia cases have some aspect of cerebral small vessel disease, but current methods for quantitatively measuring vascular structure and function in living patients are limited. In their study, Imaginostics will collaborate with researchers at Harvard Medical School's Brigham and Women's Hospital to use their novel approach in patients with vascular dementia and mild cognitive impairment. If successful, Imaginostics would have a sensitive biomarker that could allow for earlier and more accurate diagnosis, as well as better clinical trial enrollment and outcome measurements of vascular function.

>> AAIC 2022 Annual Meeting

The Alzheimer's Association International Conference® 2022 (AAIC®) was held in San Diego, CA, USA, and online, July 31-Aug. 4. AAIC convened over 10,000 attendees, with 5,500 joining in person, and featured more than 2,900 posters and over 700 podium presentations sharing the latest advancements in dementia science. During AAIC, the AABC hosted luncheon on Aug. 2, providing those in San Diego with a unique opportunity to network, explore common areas of interest, and discuss new areas of collaboration, recognition and visibility for the membership. The luncheon featured two panel discussions, *Therapeutic targets & strategies in Alzheimer's disease and Biomarkers and Artificial Intelligence in Alzheimer's disease*. Each panel featured AABC members and invited guests in lively discussions on advancing therapeutic strategies, combination treatment strategies in Alzheimer's disease, and how Artificial Intelligence is changing the way we collect and analyze data. The conversations and exchanges at AAIC help support advancements in dementia science.

AAIC 2023 is July 16-20 in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Visit alz.org/aaic for updates and abstract submission deadlines, as well as to sign up to receive conference alerts, program announcements and registration information.

in Social Media

Join our new [LinkedIn](#) page! AAs discussed during the AABC meeting at AAIC, please visit our page and request to join. We look forward to using the page to foster partnerships and communications.

Join our new Slack channel! We have launched a Slack Channel to have open and direct communications between all members. If interested in joining, please reach out to [Ashley Hansen](#).



Alzheimer's Association Science Hub App

SCIENCE HUB
alzheimer's association

Science Hub provides the latest news right in the palm of your hand. This trusted tool distributes research, spreads awareness and delivers accurate information directly to your phone.

Learn more at alz.org/sciencehub, or search “Science Hub” in your app store.



Spread the Word

To help us grow AABC, please continue to introduce new members and companies to our group. We also welcome ideas or events for this newsletter so we can better serve you. Please send your suggestions to [Ashley Hansen](mailto:Ashley.Hansen@alz.org).