The Year of the Brain: Advances in Imaging, Diagnostics and Therapeutic Delivery

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Next Stage Solutions, Inc has developed a Best Practices Benchmark Assessment Tool to identify risks in a company’s key business activities. The tool allows companies to compare themselves to the best practices of successful companies, and to make important investment decisions to improve business processes based on risks and rewards.

Sponsor Highlight

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Program Description

Academic researchers in neuroscience are providing game-changing insights into brain function while creating extraordinary advances in the technologies required to develop better treatments. Imaging advances alone have created the potential for revolutionary gains in pre-asymptomatic diagnosis and treatment of a wide array of neuropsychiatric conditions such as Parkinson’s disease, Alzheimer’s disease, depression, stroke, injuries, and brain cancers.

This MDG Special Event reports on key advances in basic and applied science and what they mean for entrepreneurs, medical product developers, health care providers and patients. At this meeting, you will gain an up-to-date, broad perspective on where the treatment of neurological disease is headed, uncover possible new business opportunities, and meet some of the major players making this happen here in Boston.

A distinguished panel of researchers and clinicians, moderated by David Pierson of Foley Hoag LLP, will discuss the current state of neuroscience, promising biopharma and device industry initiatives, and future prospects for the treatment of neurological disorders.

A Growing Global Market

- Alzheimers and other dementias are projected to show a 66% increase in global disease burden from 2005 to 2030 [WHO]
- Neurological disorders constitute ~12% of the total deaths worldwide [WHO]
- North America is largest market for neurological devices in 2012 w/ highest predicted growth rate in Asia-Pacific at >18% from 2013-2019. [Research and Markets]
Panelists

David Pierson - Partner, Foley Hoag LLP
Mr. Pierson is a partner in the Business Department. He represents a broad range of companies in a variety of industries, including companies in the life sciences, medical device and software and technology industries. He advises these clients on a wide range of matters, including corporate finance, securities, mergers and acquisitions, general corporate and contract matters. His practice includes providing advice to emerging companies regarding corporate formation, founder arrangements, angel and venture capital financings, equity incentive plans and strategic transactions. David also represents U.S. and foreign venture capital firms in connection with their investments throughout the U.S.

Bertha Madras, PhD - Professor of Psychobiology, Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School
A neuroscientist, Dr. Madras developed the Division of Neurochemistry at Harvard Medical School Primate Center to investigate addiction biology, ADHD, Parkinson’s disease and other neuropsychiatric disorders. She is principal editor of several books on addiction, served as Deputy Director for Demand Reduction (prevention, interven-tion, treatment) in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and has received numerous awards, including an NIDA Public Service award, an NIH MERIT award and American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry Founders’ Award.

Xue Han, PhD - Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Joint Professor of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Boston University
Dr. Han is developing radical new genetic, molecular, and optical neurotechnologies and application protocols to treat neurological and psychiatric diseases. Her neuroengineering lab invents and applies a variety of genetic, molecular, pharmacological, optical and electrical tools and other nanotechnologies to study neural circuits and how they relate to behavior (e.g., movement, attention, memory, and decision making) as well as normal cognition and pathology. She holds a PhD in physiology from the University of Wisconsin.

John Gabrieli, PhD - Director, Athinoula A. Martinos Imaging Center at the McGovern Institute for Brain Research, MIT
Dr. Gabrieli is the Grover Hermann Professor of Health Sciences and Technology and Cognitive Neuroscience at MIT. His cognitive neuroscience research focuses on memory, language, and thought. His recent research has focused on brain development in children and adolescents, including studies of dyslexia, ADHD, and autism. He is also a principal investigator of the McGovern Institute for Brain Research, a faculty member of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and an associate researcher in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Miles Cunningham, MD, PhD - Neuropsychiatrist at Harvard Medical School, Laboratory Director at McLean Hospital, Co-founder and Medical Advisor, Atanse, Inc.
Dr. Cunningham is a staff physician at McLean, Mount Auburn and Tewksbury hospitals and he serves as the medical director of McLean’s Residence at the Brook. The leading edge of his practice is neuropsychiatry and its interface with neurosurgical patients. As a scientist, Dr. Cunningham has pioneered and practiced precision stereotactic surgery in experimental models. He holds an MD from Harvard Medical School and PhD from MIT. He has received more than 15 academic and science awards and is a prolific writer, researcher, and advisor at Harvard Medical School.

Teo Forcht Dagi, MD, DMedSc - Director and Chief Medical Officer at Prismic Pharmaceuticals, Visiting Professor at Harvard Medical School
A neurosurgeon, neuroscientist and venture Capitalist, Dr. Dagi is recognized as a pioneer in the use of artificial intelligence engines for decision support in neurosurgery. Trained at the MGH and in London, his research interests include the electrophysiology of the limbic system, temporal lobe epilepsy, head trauma and brain tumors. More recently, he has concentrated on healthcare IT, clinical decision support and patient safety. Dr. Dagi has been a consultant to the U.S. FDA and other government health agencies and has been an advisor to industry and served as a director to many privately held and publicly traded companies. He is affiliated with Broadview Ventures.

Co-Champions for this Event

Ed Berger - Principal, Larchmont Strategic Advisers
Peter N. Madras, M.D. - Senior Staff, Department of Urology, Lahey Health and Hospitals
MDG Boston
We would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers who help to make this organization a success.

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