Breakthroughs in Ovarian and Breast Cancers

This program will be led by experts in breast and ovarian cancer, and moderated by a cancer survivor and women’s health advocate.

It will highlight some of the most exciting advances in detection, prevention, treatment, and continuous monitoring of these diseases.

Program Description
Cancers of the breast, colon, endometrium, lung, cervix, skin, and ovaries most often affect women. One in eight women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime. Ovarian cancer will affect one in seventy women and is the deadliest gynecological cancer. Early detection and knowing what can be done to help prevent or more effectively treat these cancers can help save lives.

A competitive poster session will feature research addressing the unmet challenges in diagnosis, treatment and monitoring these complex cancers.

We hope you’ll join our moderator and panel of experts as they present and discuss exciting breakthroughs as well as the barriers to early detection and treatment of ovarian and breast cancers. Learn about a new fallopian tube diagnostic device to detect earlier precursors of ovarian cancer, advances in Molecular Breast Imaging (MBI), the most recently FDA approved earlier detection screening assays for ovarian malignancy and several new therapeutic products for both breast and ovarian cancer that are moving through the last phases of clinical trials.

This program is intended for those who care about women and their good health, for medical device, pharmaceutical and biotech companies interested in developing breakthrough products, for financial/investment companies looking for ways to foster innovation and for those in government and healthcare interested in saving women’s lives through earlier and more definitive cancer diagnosis and treatment.

For more information, go to mdgboston.org
MDG Boston 2016–2017 Forum Schedule

Sep 14  Reading Your Mind:  
Understanding Your Brain Through Physical Response  
Co-Champions: Peter Madras, Geoffrey Moodie, Trish Robertson

Sep 28  10th Annual:  
Transitioning Into and Within the Medical Device Industry  
Champion: Lisa Sasso

Oct 5  Medical Device Security in a Connected World  
Co-Champions: Dick O’Brien, Eric Soederberg

Nov 2  Counterfeit Medical Devices:  
A Threat to Your Business and Your Health  
Co-Champions: Hank Allard, Rich Nadeau, Mark Schonfeld

Dec 13  Healthcare Innovation for Developing Countries  
Co-Champions: Christina DeMur, Paul Hartung, Prakash Manandhar

Jan 18  Breakthroughs in Diagnosis and Treatment of Ovarian and Breast Cancer  
Co-Champions: Dave Jacobs, Jerry Shapiro

Feb 1  Improving Patient Safety:  
through Hardware and Software Product Design  
Co-Champions: Ingrid Centurion, Eric Cunningham

Mar 1  Wearables for Patient Driven Healthcare:  
Development, Research, and Pitfalls to Commercialization  
Co-Champions: Jeff Karg, Keith Kowal

Apr 5  Valuing (And Pricing) Positive Outcomes  
And How it Impacts The Therapies That Patients Receive  
Champion: Aaron Cohen

May 1  Cost Effective Geriatric Care  
Co-Champions: Hank Allard, John Libertino

Jun 12  Collaborating for Progress: What Engineers and Entrepreneurs need to know to work with Doctors  
Co-Champions: Peter Madras, John O’Gara

NEW Location: Regis College Fine Arts Center, Weston, MA

Member News

Welcome these New MDG Members:

Elizabeth Bailey, MPP  
Winthrop Baylies  
Traynor Canny  
Shalabh Chandra  
Sophie Chapelle  
Brian Geisel  
John Grady  
Constantinos Katevatsis  
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Sen Lin  
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Sreeram Mullankandy  
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Jenny Olsen  
Timothy Preterro  
Patricia Randall  
Tom Waddell  
Meg Wirth

Renewed MDG Members:

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Andrew Halpert  
Jerry Jennings  
Shankar Krishnan  
Dan Lausten  
Robert Phelps  
Mira Sahney  
Phyllis Swartz  
Bob Vecchiotti
Allene Diaz  
*SVP of Global Commercial Development*  
*Tesaro, Inc.*  
Tesaro has six novel breast and ovarian oncology products in their clinical trial pipeline. Allene who has held senior marketing, product planning and new product development positions with EMD Serono, Biogen, Amylin and Pfizer believes that relationships are vital to the success of business and is committed to being a trusted partner to the cancer community.

Janet Baum, M.D.  
*Radiologist, Harrington Memorial Hospital*  
Janet led the breast center at Cambridge Health Alliance where she evaluated many new breast cancer technologies for medical device companies. While officially “retired”, Janet continues to contribute to breast cancer awareness, detection and treatment.

Jennifer Barton, Ph.D.  
*Interim Director of the BIO5 Institute and Professor of Biomedical Engineering at University of Arizona*  
Jennifer will discuss optical imaging techniques and tools she’s developing for early detection of ovarian cancer. These tools hold the promise of preventing ovarian cancer by detecting and eliminating cancer cells within the fallopian tube before these cells drop onto the ovary.

Valerie Palmieri  
*President and CEO, Vermillion and ASPIRA Labs*  
Valerie has more than 30 years of experience in diagnostics. Vermillion developed the first FDA cleared software based test that uses a blood sample to test for ovarian cancer. Five proteins that change due to ovarian cancer are tested and result in a single numerical score between 1 and 10 to indicate the likelihood that a pelvic mass is benign or malignant. This test represented a new class of software based liquid biopsy. Under Valerie’s leadership a second generation test with improved specificity has been developed and cleared by the FDA.

Sarah Kalil  
*COO of Boston Microfluidics*  
Sarah is a seasoned life sciences leader. As COO of Boston Microfluidics, a development stage diagnostic company Sarah is focused on simplifying the patient sample collection process to make testing more accessible for patients around the world. Sarah is also a breast cancer survivor whose therapies included seven surgeries, 30 days of radiation, 20 chemotherapy infusions and participation in a clinical study to assess the effects of combining approved chemotherapy drugs with the drug Herceptin that has been so effective in cases of HER2 breast cancer.

Shelley Amster  
*Founder & Principal ShelleyCO*  
Vermillion developed the first FDA cleared software based test that uses a blood sample to test for ovarian cancer. Five proteins that change due to ovarian cancer are tested and result in a single numerical score between 1 and 10 to indicate the likelihood that a pelvic mass is benign or malignant. This test represented a new class of software based liquid biopsy. Under Valerie’s leadership a second generation test with improved specificity has been developed and cleared by the FDA.

Dave Jacobs  
*Director, Medical Device Development Boston Engineering, Inc.*

Jerry Shapiro  
*President Floelle, Inc.*

If you have any comments regarding this forum, please send them to MDGforums@MDGboston.org
MDG Boston

We would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers who help to make this organization a success.

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About MDG Boston

MDG is the professional association for career building, knowledge acquisition and mutual support for New England medical technology professionals.

MDG sponsors Forums, Networking, SIGs (Special Interest Groups), Workshops and Special Events where diverse industry leaders can share their experience and knowledge as presenters and through peer-to-peer communications.

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