

# 2026 @Philly Cell & Gene Therapy Annual Conference

Date :

May 8, 2026 8 AM – 6 PM

May 9, 2026 8 AM – 6 PM

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel  
480 N Gulph Rd  
King of Prussia, PA 19406



**PHILLY**

Advanced Cell and Gene Therapy  
in Philadelphia

Strategic partner:



**THE CHAMBER**  
of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia

# SAPA-GP

## VISION

To make lasting impact in the life science community in the Greater Philadelphia area by becoming a go-to organization for professional networking and leadership development bringing key stakeholders together and supporting regional initiatives.

## MISSION

- To promote pharmaceutical sciences and biotechnology.
- To contribute to public health education by raising public awareness.
- To facilitate scientific and business cooperation.
- To foster the career development of pharmaceutical professionals.



# WELCOME LETTER

Dear Esteemed Speakers, Sponsors, Members, Guests, and Volunteers,

Welcome to the 5<sup>th</sup> @Philly Cell and Gene Therapy Annual Conference, proudly organized by SAPA-GP. It is a true pleasure to welcome you to the Greater Philadelphia area as we celebrate an important five-year milestone—for this conference and for our growing cell and gene therapy community.

Over the past five years, this conference has evolved into a premier platform for scientific exchange, professional development, and collaboration within one of the world's most dynamic cell and gene therapy hubs. What began as an inaugural gathering has grown into a vibrant annual forum bringing together scientists, clinicians, entrepreneurs, regulators, investors, and industry leaders—united by a shared commitment to advancing transformative therapies for patients.

The pace of progress in cell and gene therapy has been nothing short of remarkable. In the past year, we continued to see strong regulatory momentum, including FDA approvals such as KRESLADI, ENCELTO, ITVISMA, WASKYRA, and OTARMENI. These milestones underscore the scientific maturity of the field and its expanding clinical impact. Looking ahead, continued innovation across platforms, manufacturing, and development strategies is expected to further accelerate the translation of CGT discoveries into approved medicines.

While the industry has experienced periods of challenge and recalibration, the Greater Philadelphia region remains a resilient and thriving epicenter for cell and gene therapy research, development, and manufacturing. This enduring strength is fueled by our deep scientific heritage, robust academia–industry partnerships, and—most importantly—the people and teams who drive innovation forward.

This year's conference builds on our legacy with a thoughtfully curated program featuring expert-led scientific sessions, insightful panel discussions, company showcases, and rich networking opportunities. We are honored to host an exceptional group of speakers and deeply grateful to our sponsors, whose generous support makes this event possible. We also extend our sincere appreciation to our dedicated volunteers and organizing committee—your commitment and hard work are the foundations of this conference's success.

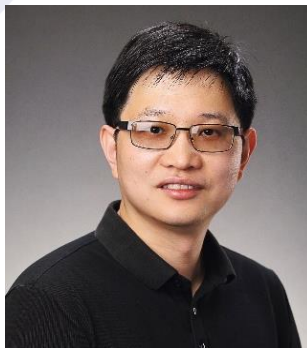
As we mark five years of @Philly Cell and Gene Therapy Conference, we celebrate not only how far the field has come, but also the collaborative spirit that will shape its future. We hope you find this conference informative, inspiring, and impactful—and that it sparks new ideas, partnerships, and opportunities. Thank you for being part of this milestone year. We wish you a productive and enjoyable conference.

Sincerely,

SAPA-GP President's Office



Evelyn Guo, M.D., M.B.A., M.S.  
President-elect of SAPA-GP  
2027-2028  
Conference Co-Chair



Xinjun Zhang, Ph.D.,  
President of SAPA-GP  
2026-2027  
Conference Chair



Lu Wang, Ph.D., M.B.A.,  
Immediate Past President of  
SAPA-GP 2025-2026  
Conference Co-Chair

# SPONSORS



# PARTNERSHIPS



# PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>

8:00 a.m.

Registration

8:40 a.m.

## Opening Remarks

Xinjun Zhang, Ph.D., President, SAPA-GP, Conference Chair of @Philly, Associate Director, Merck

## Keynote Speech: Advancing Genetic Medicine

Peter Marks, Ph.D., M.D., Senior Vice President, Molecule Discovery and Head of Infectious Disease, Eli Lilly and Company

## Keynote Speech: Hemophilia Gene Therapy and Lessons from Translational Investigation

Lindsey George, M.D., Director of Clinical In Vivo Gene Therapy, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Grand Ballroom

10:10 a.m.

## Coffee Break & Networking

10:30 a.m.

Gene Therapy	CMC	Business	Business Parallel Session
Grand Ballroom	Centennial Ballroom I	Centennial Ballroom II	Centennial Ballroom III

Beyond Orphan:  
Unlocking Gene Therapy  
for the Millions

From Source to Product  
Quality Considerations

Building Success: the  
Business Case for Advanced  
Therapies in Greater  
Philadelphia

The Current Trends of  
Investment and Deal-Making  
in Biotech

12:00 p.m.

## Lunch & Networking

12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch  
Session Merit/Mianus  
Capital

12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch  
Session  
TriApex Laboratories Co.,  
Ltd.

12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch  
Session  
ChromaTan

Centennial Ballroom I

Centennial Ballroom II

Wayne

1:20 p.m.

## Keynote Speech: Biotech Entrepreneur Saga

Sheila Mikhail, J.D., M.B.A., Co-founder and CEO, M34 Therapeutics

Grand Ballroom

2:05 p.m.

## Coffee Break & Networking

2:25 p.m.

Gene Therapy	CMC	2:25-2:55 p.m. Company Showcase Medicilon USA Corp	Business
Grand Ballroom	Centennial Ballroom I	Centennial Ballroom II	Centennial Ballroom III

Gene Therapies for CNS  
Diseases: Emerging  
Strategies to  
Therapeutic Impact

Advance Process and  
Quality Control for CGT  
Manufacturing

Building Effective Preclinical  
Strategies for Cell & Gene  
Therapies: Integrating  
Models, Bioanalysis, and  
Safety Evaluation

The Unwritten Rules of  
Biotech Leadership, What  
Women Need to Know

3:55 p.m.

## Coffee Break & Networking

4:15 p.m.

Gene Therapy	CMC	Gene Therapy Parallel Session	Business
Grand Ballroom	Centennial Ballroom I	Centennial Ballroom II	Centennial Ballroom III

Gene Editing One Step  
Further: From Ex Vivo to  
In Vivo Therapies

Current CMC Strategy and  
Future Perspectives

CARs Inside: In Vivo  
Immune Engineering for the  
Next Generation

Pearl Meets Brotherly Love:  
Unlocking Biotech  
Opportunities Between  
Hong Kong and Philadelphia

6:00 p.m.

9:00 p.m.

## Award Ceremony & Gala Dinner (ticket only)

Grand Ballroom

# PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

8:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m.

**Keynote Speech: Immune Responses to AAV Gene Delivery for Muscle and CNS**

Terence Flotte, M.D., Provost, Executive Deputy Chancellor, Dean, T.H. Chan School of Medicine, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School

**Keynote Speech: Advancing Precision Medicine: Oligonucleotide and Genome Editing Therapeutics**

Laura Sepp-Lorenzino, Ph.D., Principal, GNMmeds LLC

Grand Ballroom

10:30 a.m.

**Coffee Break & Networking**

10:50 a.m.

**Clinical & Regulatory**

**RNA Therapy**

**Cell Therapy**

**Career Development**

**Business**

Grand Ballroom

Centennial Ballroom I

Centennial Ballroom II

Centennial Ballroom III

Wayne

CGT Proof-of-Concept Clinical Development Strategy: Investigator Initiated Trial (IIT) perspective

Advancing Bioanalysis for Novel RNA Therapies

Advances in Editing and CAR-T Cell Therapy

Job Search Strategy and Cross Sector Career Paths

Science, Interrupted: A Biotechnology Origin Story

12:20 p.m.

**Lunch & Networking**

**12:35 -1:35 p.m. Lunch Session MCE**

**12:35-1:35 p.m. Lunch Session Sciex**

Centennial Ballroom I

Centennial Ballroom II

1:50 p.m.

**Clinical & Regulatory**

**RNA Therapy**

**Cell Therapy**

**Career Development**

Grand Ballroom

Centennial Ballroom I

Centennial Ballroom II

Centennial Ballroom III

Regulatory Strategy in CGT: From Approval to Long-Term Oversight

DMPK and Translation of Oligonucleotide Therapeutics

Novel Strategy in Editing and Cell Therapy

Promotion Readiness and Professional Branding

3:20 p.m.

**Coffee Break & Networking**

**Book Signing: LinkedIn Profile for Dummies**

3:40 p.m.

**Clinical & Regulatory**

**RNA Therapy**

**Cell Therapy**

Grand Ballroom

Centennial Ballroom I

Centennial Ballroom II

Clinical Development Strategies for Next-Generation Oncology Therapies in Treatment-Resistant Cancers

Translating RNA Innovation: Bridging Discovery Science and Regulatory Approval

Panel Discussion: Future of Cell & Gene Therapy

5:10 p.m.

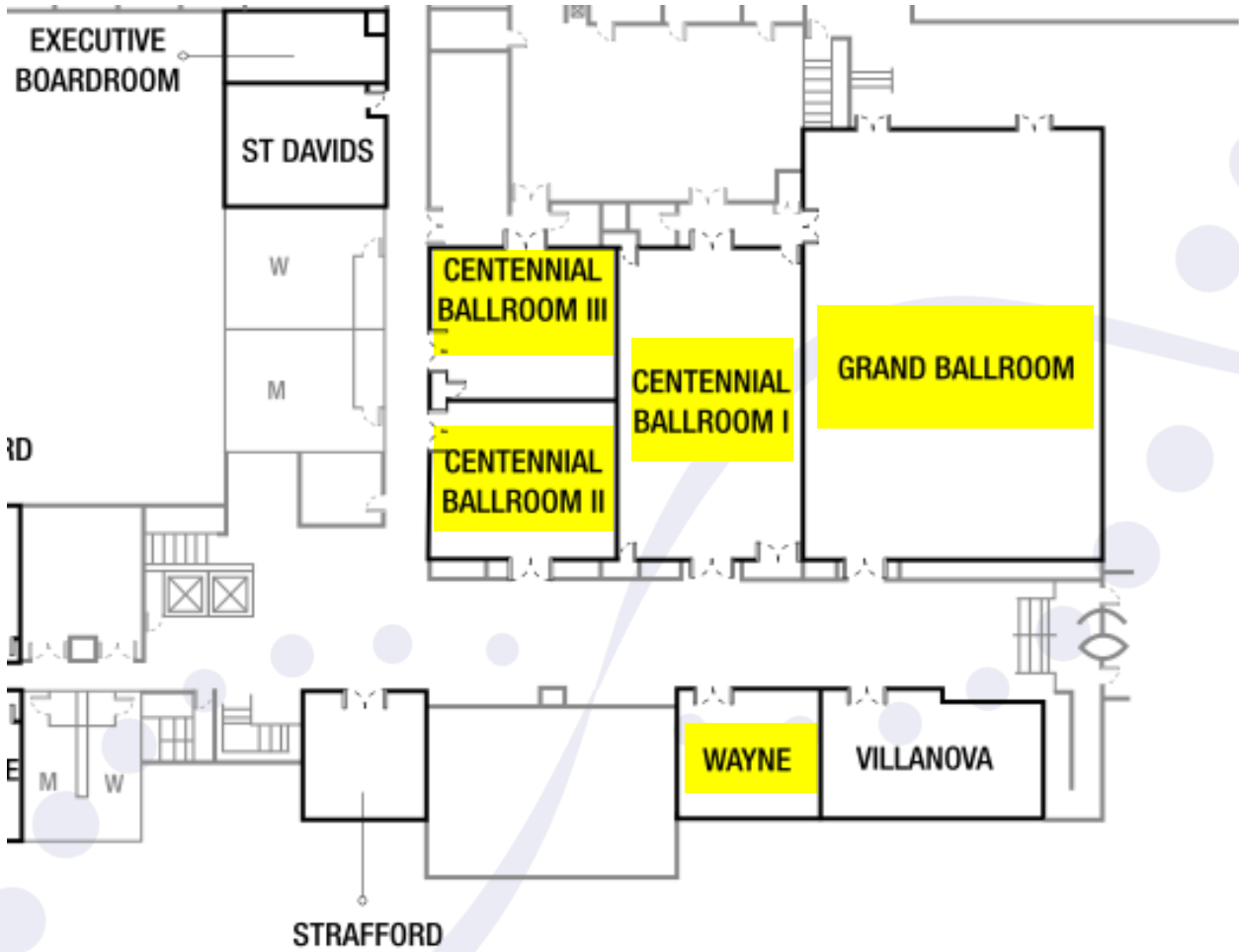
**Closing Ceremony**

Grand Ballroom

5:20 p.m.

**Reception**

# MAP



# THINK GREEN, GO DIGITAL

To help you make the most of your conference experience, we will be using the Eventee mobile app as your central hub for real-time agenda updates, detailed speaker and session information, personalized scheduling, networking and direct messaging, as well as the ability to submit questions during each session.

## Instruction

Conference App: Step-by-step guide (Download → Network → Program → Connect)

### 1. Scan the QR code

Use your phone camera (or any QR scanner) to scan the conference app QR code.

Tap the link that pops up to download/install the app.

### 2. Open the app + register/log in

Launch the app after installation.

Select Register / Sign Up to create your account, then Log In.

### 3. Go to the Networking tab to start connecting

Tap Networking to join the attendee network.

Start browsing attendees and message/connect with others directly in the app.

### 4. Use the Program tab to review the agenda + speakers

Tap Program to view the full schedule.

Click into sessions to see speaker details, including bios and related info.

### 5. Connect in person using QR codes (scan theirs / share yours)

When you meet someone, scan their personal QR code in the app to connect instantly.

To share your info, tap the QR code icon in the lower-right corner to generate your QR code—others can scan it to get your contact details and connect.

## Eventee QR Code



# KEYNOTE SESSIONS

Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>

## Opening Remark

Grand Ballroom

**8:40-8:50 a.m.** [Xinjun Zhang](#), Ph.D., President, SAPA-GP, Conference Chair of @Philly, Associate Director, Merck

## Keynote

Grand Ballroom

**Session Chair:** [Haichen Yang](#), M.D., M.B.A, M.A., Conference Advisory Committee Co-chair, VP, Clinical Research, Amicus Therapeutics

**8:50-9:30 a.m.** **Advancing Genetic Medicine**  
[Peter Marks](#), Ph.D., M.D., Senior Vice President, Molecule Discovery and Head of Infectious Disease, Eli Lilly and Company

**Session Chair:** [Xinjun Zhang](#), Ph.D., President, SAPA-GP, Conference Chair of @Philly, Associate Director, Merck

**9:30-10:10 a.m.** **Hemophilia Gene Therapy and Lessons from Translational Investigation**  
[Lindsey George](#), M.D., Director of Clinical In Vivo Gene Therapy, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

## Keynote

Grand Ballroom

**Session Chair:** [CJ \(Chunjuan\) Song](#), Ph.D., Conference Co-director, VP, R&D, ExeGenesis Bio  
**1:20-2:05 p.m.** **Biotech Entrepreneur Saga**  
[Sheila Mikhail](#), J.D., M.B.A., Co-founder and CEO, M34 Therapeutics

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

## Keynote

Grand Ballroom

**Session Chair:** [Evelyn Guo](#), Ph.D., M.B.A, President-Elect, SAPA-GP, Medical Director, Genmab  
**9:00-9:45 a.m.** **Immune Responses to AAV Gene Delivery for Muscle and CNS**

[Terence Flotte](#), M.D., Provost, Executive Deputy Chancellor, Dean, T.H. Chan School of Medicine, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School

**Session Chair:** [Tao Niu](#), Ph.D., Conference Director, Director, Quantitative Clinical Pharmacology, Sarepta Therapeutics

**9:45-10:30 a.m.** **Advancing Precision Medicine: Oligonucleotide and Genome Editing Therapeutics**

[Laura Sepp-Lorenzino](#), Ph.D., Principal, GNMmeds LLC

# SPONSOR SESSIONS

Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>

## Merit/Mianus Capital Lunch Session

Centennial Ballroom I

**Session Chair:** Leon “Jun” Tang, Ph.D., M.S., Founder & VP of BD, ISWT BioAdvisory & Mianus Accelerator

**12:15-1:15 p.m.** **Mianus Accelerator: Clinical Development with “China Speed”**  
Steve Yang, M.B.A., C.F.A., Co-founder and CEO, Merit/Mianus Capital

## TriApex Laboratories Lunch Session

Centennial Ballroom II

**Session Chair:** Zhiyi Cui, Ph.D., Associate Director, GSK

**12:15-1:15 p.m.** **AAV Viral Vectors in Non-Human Primates**  
Guodong Zhang, Ph.D., VP of Business Development, TriApex Laboratories Co., Ltd.

## ChromaTan Lunch Session

Wayne

**Session Chair:** Peng Wang, Ph.D., Associate Director, Technical Business Development, Lonza  
**12:15-1:15 p.m.** **BioRMB-Next Generation Purification Solution for AAV with Increased Recovery and Reduced Resin Consumption**  
Oleg Shikazh, CEO, Chromatan Inc

## Company Showcase

Centennial Ballroom II

**Session Chair:** Bo Zhai, Ph.D., Sr. Principal Scientist II, Johnson & Johnson  
**2:25-2:55 p.m.** **Building Effective Preclinical Strategies for Cell & Gene Therapies: Integrating Models, Bioanalysis, and Safety Evaluation**  
Yan Zhou, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Business Development, Medicilon USA Corp

# GENE THERAPY

Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>

## Gene Therapy

Grand Ballroom

### Session 1: Beyond Orphan: Unlocking Gene Therapy for the Millions

Session Chair: [CJ Song](#), VP R&D, Head Preclinical Development, ExeGenesis Bio

10:30-11:00 a.m.

#### Ocular Gene Therapy-From Rare to Common Diseases

[Abhi Gupta](#), M.B.A., EVP, Commercial & Business Development, Ocugen, Inc.

11:00-11:30 a.m.

#### Beyond Anti-VEGF: Unmet Needs and Emerging Therapeutic Frontiers in Age-Related Macular Degeneration

[Yin Shen](#), M.D., Ph.D., CEO, Augelux Therapeutics

11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

#### Developing Safe, Effective and Affordable AAV Gene Therapy Drugs

[Daozhan Yu](#), Ph.D., CEO, AAVnerGene Inc.

## Gene Therapy

Grand Ballroom

### Session 2: Gene Therapies for CNS Diseases: Emerging Strategies to Therapeutic Impact

Session Chair: [Zhenhua Wu](#), Ph.D, CEO, ExeGenesis Bio

2:25-2:55 p.m.

#### Receptor-targeting AAV Variants Achieved Efficient CNS Transduction in both Mice and NHPs

[Zhenhua Wu](#), Ph.D, CEO, ExeGenesis Bio

2:55-3:25 p.m.

#### Symptomatic delivery of a BBB-crossing AAV to restore TDP-43 function rescues motor neuron disease

[Philip C. Wong](#), Ph.D., Professor Pathology, Johns Hopkins University

3:25-3:55 p.m.

#### First-in-Human Evaluation of Astrocyte-to-Neuron Conversion for Neurorestoration in Parkinson's Disease

[Jingmin Zhou](#), Ph.D., Co-founder & CEO, Genemagic Bio

## Gene Therapy – Parallel Session

Grand Ballroom

### Session 3-1: Gene Editing One Step Further: From Ex Vivo to In Vivo Therapies

Session Chair: [Lili Wang](#), Ph.D., Consultant, Retired from University of Pennsylvania

4:15-4:45 p.m.

#### OTC-HOPE: The First In-Vivo, Liver Directed, AAV-Mediated, Targeted Gene Insertion Clinical Trial in Infants

[George A. Diaz](#), M.D., Ph.D., Vice President, Therapeutic Area Lead, UCDCs, iECURE, Inc.

4:45-5:15 p.m.

#### TBD

[Vibha Jawa](#), Ph.D., CSO, EpiVax

# GENE THERAPY

Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>

Gene Therapy - Parallel Session

Centennial Ballroom II

## Session 3-2: CARs Inside: In Vivo Immune Engineering for the Next Generation

**Session Chair:** [Yixuan Ming](#), Ph.D., Process Development Scientist, Genentech Inc.

**4:15-4:45 p.m.**

### **In Vivo CAR-T Revolution**

[Zhenghong Gao](#), Ph.D., Cofounder, COO, Uni-Pioneers, Bio-Med., Inc

**4:45-5:15 p.m.**

### **Transient Immunomodulation using Targeted mRNA-LNPs to Combat Viral Persistence**

[Edward F. Kreider](#), M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

**5:15-5:45 p.m.**

### **The Best-in-Class PBMC iPSC Reprogramming Kit via circRNA-LNP; Newest Advancement on ex vivo and in vivo CAR-T**

[Jeffrey Hung](#), Ph.D., Vice President of Commercial Strategy at uBrigene Biosciences

# CMC

Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>

## Chemistry, Manufacturing and Controls (CMC)

Centennial Ballroom I

### Session 1: From Source to Product Quality Considerations

**Session Chair:** [Huize Yan](#), M.S., Senior Scientist, Genentech Inc.

**10:30-11:00 a.m.** **What AUC can teach us about AAVs and LNPs**

[Borries Demeler](#), Ph.D., Professor, Canada 150 Research Chair

**11:00-11:30 a.m.**

**Cell-Derived Nanoparticles for T-Cell Activation: A refined method with Improved Expansion, Potency and Persistence**

[Pedro A. Moura](#), Ph.D., SVP, Head of Technology, BlueWhale Bio

**11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**CMC Isn't the Problem — When You Start Is**

[Patrick M. Dentinger](#), Chief Executive Officer, CellPort

## Chemistry, Manufacturing and Controls (CMC)

Centennial Ballroom I

### Session 2: Advance Process and Quality Control for CGT Manufacturing

**Session Chair:** [Huize Yan](#), M.S., Senior Scientist, Genentech Inc.

**2:25-2:55 p.m.**

**Advancing siRNA Manufacture - From Conventional to Thermostable Enzymatic Ligation**

[Chris \(Xiaocen\) Li](#), Ph.D., Director of Oligonucleotide Science and Technology, Hongene Biotech

**2:55-3:25 p.m.**

**Quality Attributes of Empty, Partial, Full and High Density rAAV Capsids**

[Bashkim Kokona](#), Ph.D., Lead Scientist, Genentech Inc.

**3:25-3:55 p.m.**

**From Ex Vivo to In Vivo CAR-T: Evolving Lentiviral Vector Manufacturing and CMC Strategies**

[Eric Lin](#), Sr. Manager, Viral Vector Process Development, ProBio Inc

## Chemistry, Manufacturing and Controls (CMC)

Centennial Ballroom I

### Session 3: Current CMC Strategy and Future Perspectives

**Session Chair:** [Lu Wang](#), Ph.D., M.B.A., Director, PTCG, Genentech Inc.

**4:15-4:45 p.m.**

**TBD**

[Lake N. Paul](#), Ph.D., CEO and Founder, BioAnalysis

**4:45-5:15 p.m.**

**Panel Discussion**

All CMC speakers

# BUSINESS

Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>

## Business

Centennial Ballroom II

### Session 1: Building Success: the Business Case for Advanced Therapies in Greater Philadelphia

**Panel Moderator:** Bryan Tsao, Ph.D., Manager, the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia

10:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Rebecca Grant, DVM., Senior Director, Philadelphia Department of Commerce  
Jeff Alexander, Ph.D., Site Head, Lilly Gateway Labs  
Kurt Imhof, VP, Life Sciences Pennsylvania

## Business – Parallel Session

Centennial Ballroom III

### Session 1-2: The Current Trends of Investment and Deal-Making in Biotech

**Panel Moderator:** Leon Tang, Ph.D., Founder, InScienceWeTrust BioAdvisory

Al Hawkins, M.B.A, M.S., Co-Founder & President, Syndeo

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Pavel Khrimian, M.B.A, Co-Founder & CBO, Dekka Biosciences Inc.  
Madee Gooriah, Pharma.D., Executive Director, Business Development, Legend Biotech  
Rui Che, Senior Managing Director, KPMG LLP  
Morgan Conn, Ph.D., Principal, Pharmacallis Advisory LLC.

## Business

Centennial Ballroom III

### Session 2: The Unwritten Rules of Biotech Leadership, What Women Need to Know

**Session Chair:** Lisa Baskin, SVP, Scheer Partners, Inc.

**Moderator:** Heather Rose, PhD, JD. VP, Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals

Crystal Jin, Ph.D., Co-Founder and CEO, Bound Therapeutics

Sarah Johnson, Ph.D., MBA, Head of Global BD, Jecho Laboratories

2:25-3:55 p.m.

Dora Mitchell, Ph.D., SVP and Chief of Staff, Interius Biotherapeutics  
Stella Vnook, Ph.D., Founder and CEO, AVIVA VENTURES  
Jing Yang, Ph.D., Co-Founder and CSO, BaseCure Therapeutics

## Business – Parallel Session

Centennial Ballroom III

### Session 3: Pearl Meets Brotherly Love: Unlocking Biotech Opportunities Between Hong Kong and Philadelphia

**Panel Moderator:** Seamus Jiang, MBA, Managing Director, PWC

4:15 - 5:45 p.m.

Bojing Fu, MA, Director, Philadelphia Department of Commerce

John Hu, Ph.D., Co-Founder and CEO, HIO Biosciences

Yi Xie, Head of Business and Talent Attraction / Investment Promotion, InvestHK

Laurent Metz, Co-Founder and President USA, Cortexx Medical Intelligence

# SPONSOR SESSIONS

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

## MedChemExpress Lunch Session

Centennial Ballroom I

**Session Chair:**

**12:35-1:35 p.m.**

Jing Zhen, Ph.D., Principal Scientist, Merck

**MCE's GMP Small Molecules Empowering Cell and Gene Therapy**

Wei Li, Ph.D., President, MedChemExpress LLC

## Sciex Lunch Session

Centennial Ballroom II

**Session Chair:**

**12:35-1:35 p.m.**

Shuo Huang, Ph.D., Study Director, TriApex Laboratories Inc.

**Unlocking the Frontier of mRNA-Based Therapeutics Analysis with CE**

Mukesh Malik, Ph.D., Sr. Applications Scientist, Commercial, Sciex

**Novel Analytical Workflows for Cell and Gene Therapy**

David Colquhoun, Ph.D., Advanced Workflows Specialist, SCIEX

# CLINICAL AND REGULATORY

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

Clinical and Regulatory

Grand Ballroom

## Session 1: CGT Proof-of-Concept Clinical Development Strategy: Investigator Initiated Trial (IIT) perspective

Session Chair:

[Bo Liang](#), Ph.D., Chairman & CEO, IVIEW Therapeutics Inc.

10: 50 – 11: 05 a.m.

**How to apply and operate gene therapy IIT in China**

[Fang Lu](#), M.D., Deputy director of Ophthalmology, West China Hospital, Sichuan University

11: 05 – 11: 20 a.m.

**UGX-201 Optogenetic Gene Therapy for Advanced Retinitis Pigmentosa: A Pilot Investigator-Initiated Trial**

[Peirong Lu](#), Ph.D., M.D., Director, Department of Ophthalmology, The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University

11: 20 – 11: 35 a.m.

**Navigating IIT in China**

[Heping Xie](#), M.S., VP of Business Development, PanaCRO

11: 35 – 11:50 a.m.

**Ocular Gene Therapy: Advancing First-in-Patient Glaucoma Gene Therapy**

[Bo Liang](#), Ph.D., Chairman & CEO, IVIEW Therapeutics Inc.

**Panel Discussion**

[Bo Liang](#), Ph.D., Chairman & CEO, IVIEW Therapeutics Inc.

[Fang Lu](#), M.D., Deputy director of Ophthalmology, West China Hospital, Sichuan University

11: 50 – 12:20 p.m.

[Peirong Lu](#), Ph.D., M.D., Director, Department of Ophthalmology, The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University

[Heping Xie](#), M.S., VP of Business Development, PanaCRO

[Cheng Wang](#), Ph.D., CEO, Innovec Biotherapeutics

Clinical and Regulatory

Grand Ballroom

## Session 2: Regulatory Strategy in CGT: From Approval to Long-Term Oversight

Session Chair:

[Melody Dai](#), Ph.D., RAC, Principal, GMS

1:50-2:20 p.m.

**Paving the way for Gene Therapy Approval in an Evolving Regulatory Environment**

[Jim Wang](#), Ph.D, MBA, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs at Regeneron

2:20-2:50 p.m.

**Case studies of a Regulatory Playbook: Avoiding Disasters and Finding Wins**

[Daniela Drago](#), Ph.D., Partner at NDA Partners, Adjunct Associate Professor at George Washington University's School of Medicine

2:50-3:20 p.m.

**What to Expect from FDA in 2026 and Beyond: Trends and Developments for CGT**

[Jae Kim](#), J.D., Partner, FDA Practice of DLA Piper LLP in the Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia offices

# CLINICAL AND REGULATORY

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

Clinical and Regulatory

Grand Ballroom

## Session 3: Clinical Development Strategies for Next-Generation Oncology Therapies in Treatment-Resistant Cancers

Session Chair:

Melody Dai, Ph.D., RAC, Principal, GMS

3:40-4:40 p.m.

### Oncolytic Virus Therapy for Triple-Negative Metastatic Breast Cancer

Ashok Srivastava, M.D., Chief Medical Officer at AyurDatta Solutions

Elias Tharakan, B.S., CEO/CTO at AyurDatta Solutions

4:40-5:10 p.m.

### Development of Novel Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) Products: Historical Perspective and Future Considerations

John Rossi, M.S., SVP, Translational Medicine, New Co

# BUSINESS

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

Business

Wayne

## Session 1: Science, Interrupted: A Biotechnology Origin Story

Session Chair:

Haichen Yang, MD, MBA, VP, Amicus Therapeutics

10:50 a.m. -12:20 p.m.

David Cole, Ph.D., MBA, President and CEO, Science History Institute

# CELL THERAPY

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

## Cell Therapy

Centennial Ballroom II

### Session 1: Advances in Editing and CAR-T Cell Therapy

- Session Chair:** [Xiao Huang](#), Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Drexel University
- 10:50-11:20 a.m.** **Reprogramming Immune Interactions with Immune Engineering and Genome Editing**  
[Xiaoyu \(Ariel\) Zhou](#), Ph.D., Assistant Professor, The Wistar Institute and University of Pennsylvania
- 11:20-11:50 a.m.** **Universal Cell Therapy for Solid Tumors**  
[Adam Snook](#), Ph.D., Associate Professor, Thomas Jefferson University
- 11:50 a.m.-12:20 p.m.** **In Vivo CAR-T and Gene Editing: the Manufacturing Reality behind the Promise**  
[Peng Wang](#), Ph.D., Associate Director, Lonza

## Cell Therapy

Centennial Ballroom II

### Session 2: Novel Strategy in Editing and Cell Therapy

- Session Chair:** [Naman Patel](#), M.S., Senior Scientist, Johnson & Johnson
- 1:50-2:20 p.m.** **Targeted Nanomedicine Across Biological Barriers: From Vascular Recognition to Intracellular Delivery**  
[Jia Nong](#), Ph.D, Research Associate, University of Pennsylvania,
- 2:20-2:50 p.m.** **Developing Bespoke Gene Editing Therapies for Patients with Urea Cycle Disorders**  
[Sarah A Grandinette](#), Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
- 2:50-3:20 p.m.** **Precision A3G Base Editors for Disease Modeling and Correction**  
[Tyler Daniel](#), Ph.D., Candidate, University of Pennsylvania

## Cell Therapy

Centennial Ballroom II

### Session 3: Panel Discussion: Future of Cell & Gene Therapy

- Session Chair:** [Shelly Gao](#), Ph.D., Director, University of Pennsylvania.
- 3:40-4:40 p.m.**
- Panelist:** [Michael Kalos](#), Ph.D., Managing Director, Next Pillar Consulting, LLC  
[Xiao Huang](#), Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Drexel University  
[Xiaoyu \(Ariel\) Zhou](#), Ph.D., Assistant Professor, The Wistar Institute and University of Pennsylvania  
[Peng Wang](#), Ph.D., Associate Director, Lonza

# RNA THERAPY

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

## RNA Therapy

Centennial Ballroom I

### Session 1: Advancing Bioanalysis for Novel RNA Therapies

- Session Chair:** [Aihua Liu](#), Ph.D., Executive Director, Resolian
- 10:50-11:20 a.m.** **Challenges and Strategies for Bioanalysis of Antibody-Oligonucleotide Conjugates**  
[Long Yuan](#), Ph.D., Director, Drug Metabolism & Pharmacokinetics, Biogen
- 11:20-11:50 a.m.** **Bioanalytical and Immunogenicity Strategies for RNA Therapeutics**  
[Rashmi Jalah](#), Ph.D., Director, Bioanalysis, Bioanalytical Discovery and Development Sciences, Johnson & Johnson (J&J)
- 11:50 a.m.-12:20 p.m.** **Challenges and Solutions in Bioanalysis for RNA Therapies**  
[Yunlin Fu](#), Ph.D., Associate Director of Bioanalysis, Novartis

## RNA Therapy

Centennial Ballroom I

### Session 2: DMPK and Translation of Oligonucleotide Therapeutics

- Session Chair:** [Zhuo Chen](#), Ph.D., Associate Director, GSK
- 1:50-2:20 p.m.** **DMPK Considerations for Oligonucleotide-Protein Conjugates**  
[Babak Basiri](#), Ph.D., Director, ADME/PK, Dyne Therapeutics
- 2:20-2:50 p.m.** **Predicting Human Pharmacokinetics and Dose of Liver-Targeting GalNAc-Conjugated siRNAs**  
[Xianwei Zhang](#), Ph.D., Senior Scientist, DMPK, Alnylam Pharmaceuticals
- 2:50-3:20 p.m.** **Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetic Studies of Oligonucleotides**  
[Ganesh Moorthy](#), Ph.D., Senior Director, Frontage Laboratories Inc,

## RNA Therapy

Centennial Ballroom I

### Session 3: Translating RNA Innovation: Bridging Discovery Science and Regulatory Approval

- Session Chair:** [Xin Li](#), Ph.D., Advisor, Eli Lilly and Company  
[Xiumin Liu](#), Ph.D., Associate Director, Kymera
- 3:40-4:10 p.m.** **RNA Oligonucleotide Therapeutics: Toxicity, PD, PK & First-in-Human Dose Selection**  
[Xiaochun Chen](#), Ph.D., CSO and VP, Joynn laboratory
- 4:10-4:40 p.m.** **Chemistry Guided RNA Therapeutics: Tackling Challenges via Anticlastic RNAs**  
[Bhaskar Halami](#), Ph.D., Principal Scientist, Alloy Therapeutics Inc.  
**ModDetect® Antibodies for Sequence-Independent Detection of Modified Oligonucleotides**
- 4:40-5:10 p.m.** **Seth Farrier**, B.S., Senior Research Scientist, R&D, Rockland Immunochemicals, Inc.

# CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>

Career Development

Centennial Ballroom III

## Session 1: Job Search Strategy and Cross Sector Career Paths

**Moderator:** Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Operating Officer and Scientific Director, CytoEX Inc.

**10:50 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.** Panel Discussion

**Panelists**

Adetoun Adeniji-Adele, Ph.D., Associate Director of HR, Integral Molecular  
Phil Brooks, B.S., VP of Programming and Innovation, Graduate Philadelphia  
Ralf D. Wiedemann, JD, Immigration Attorney, Law Office of Ralf D. Wiedemann LLC  
Linda Zhao, M.B.A., M.S., Managing Director, MSQ Ventures

Career Development

Centennial Ballroom III

## Session 2: Promotion Readiness and Professional Branding

**Moderator:** Patricia Tsao, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Operating Officer and Scientific Director, CytoEX Inc.

**1:50 – 3:20 p.m.** Panel Discussion

**Panelists**

Wei Gao, Ph.D., Principal Scientist, Vaccine Analytical Research and Development, Merck & Co., Inc.  
Joanna Ghayad, Pharma.D., Founder, CEO, Executive Coach, Joanna Ghayad Coaching  
Evelyn Guo, M.D., M.B.A., Medical Director, Genmab  
Michael Kalos, Ph.D., Managing Director, Next Pillar Consulting  
Donna Serdula, B.A., Founder & President, Vision Board Media, LLC

Meet the Author: Donna Serdula

Main Lobby

*LinkedIn Profile for Dummies* Book Signing

**3:20-3:40 p.m.**

A strong LinkedIn profile drives visibility, credibility, and access to opportunities. *LinkedIn Profile for Dummies* by Donna Serdula extends beyond LinkedIn, focusing on clear positioning, consistent messaging, and a standout professional identity. Don't miss the chance to get a signed copy and meet the author.

# ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Conference Co-Chair	Lu Wang, Evelyn Guo
Program Director	Tao Niu
Program Co-Director	CJ Song, Bill Lu, Huize Yan, Jin Wen

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Chair	Haichen Yang, Jing Yang
Advisor	Federico Mingozzi, Guangping Gao, James Fendrick, Vibha Jawa

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Project Management	Shuo Huang, Zhongyue (Claire) Yuan
Logistics	Sherry Wang, Yifan Gong
Business Development	Hui Wang
IT & Website	Jialie Luo, Ruixi Wang

## Track Leads

Gene Therapy	CJ Song, Yixuan Ming
Cell Therapy	Jake Dong
RNA Therapy	Aihua Liu, Xiumin Liu, Xin Li, Zhuo Chen
CMC	Huize Yan
Clinical & Regulatory	Melody Dai, Shelley Xiao Hu
Commercial	Jeff He
Business	Bill Lu, Lisa Berger Baskin, Leon Tang
Career Development	Patricia Tsao
Lunch Session and Company Showcase	Hui Wang

# SESSION CHAIRS AND VOLUNTEERS

## Session Chair

Lisa Baskin	Zhuo Chen	Zhiyi Cui	Melody Dai	Borries Demeler
Shelly Gao	Evelyn Guo	Shuo Huang	Xiao Huang	Bo Liang
Xin Li	Aihua Liu	Fang Lu	Peirong Lu	Yixuan Ming
Shankar Musunuri	Tao Niu	Naman Patel	Heather Rose	Leon Tang
Cheng Wang	Lili Wang	Lu Wang	Peng Wang	Heping Xie
Huize Yan	Haichen Yang	Bo Zhai	Xinjun Zhang	Jing Zhen

## Volunteers

Dylan Chen	Lily Chen	Xuguang Chen	Yifeng Chen	Jiachen Feng
Ethan Guo	Cynthia He	Dian He	Derui Huang	James Huang
Xueting Huang	Tianying Jiang	Zhiying Jiang	Wenji Lei	Ran Li
Minghao Li	Wilson Li	Ying Liu	Aiden Lin	Alexander C Ma
Angela Piao	Lele Song	Donna Serdula	Lucas Tong	Kyle Wu
Sam Wu	Tianqi Wu	Weiyue Xin	Tiange Xiao	Hui Xuan
Kellen Xu	Lisa Yu	Zorina Zeng	Christian Zhang	Emily Zhang
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Leah Zhu	Vivian Zhu			



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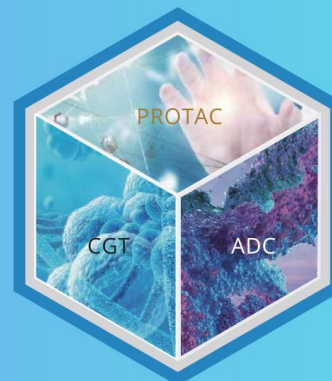
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- Protocol Development
- Pre-IND Data Preparation
- CDE Meeting Support
- IND Submission
- Local Regulatory Representative
- Ethics Consultation
- Site Screening



### IIT & Phase I-III Trial Conduct

- Investigator-Initiated Trial (IIT)
- Project Management
- Clinical Trial Operation
- Subject Recruitment
- SMO & Lab Management
- Data Management
- Statistical Analysis
- Pharmacovigilance
- FSP
- Vaccine Trials



### NDA & BLA Registration

- CSR Writing
- RMP Writing
- Preparation of NDA Submission Package
- NDA Submission
- CDE Communication Support



### Post Market/RWS

- Post Market Research (RCT)
- Real World Study
- Post Market Safety Surveillance
- Supplementary Submission

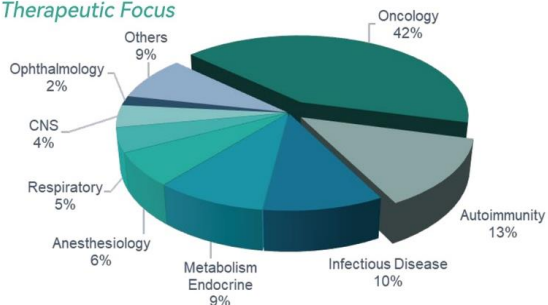


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**Presented by:** Patrick Dentinger, CEO of CellPort



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- Study design and operations
- Medical monitoring
- Pharmacovigilance
- Data management

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- Phase II/III studies
- Study design and operations
- Medical monitoring
- Pharmacovigilance
- Reporting and regulatory submission
- Supporting clinical services



Hi, I am Dr. T from TriApex!



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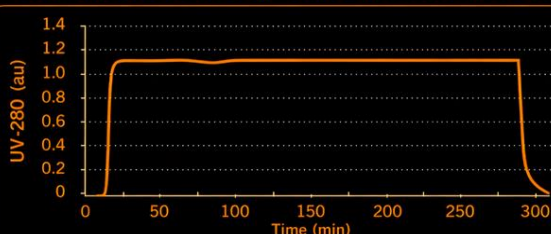
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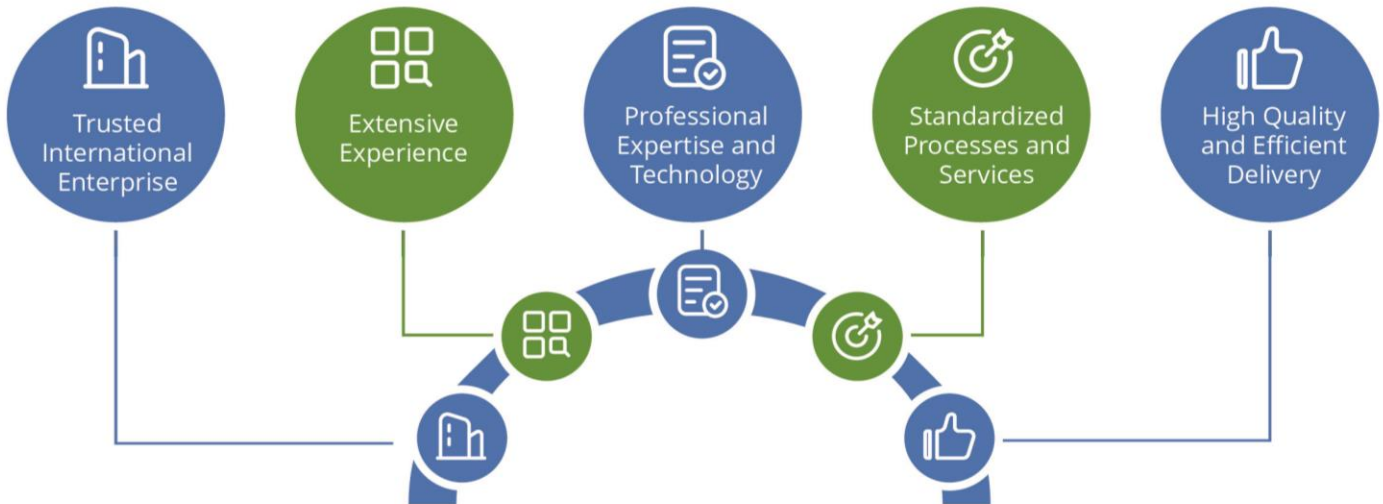


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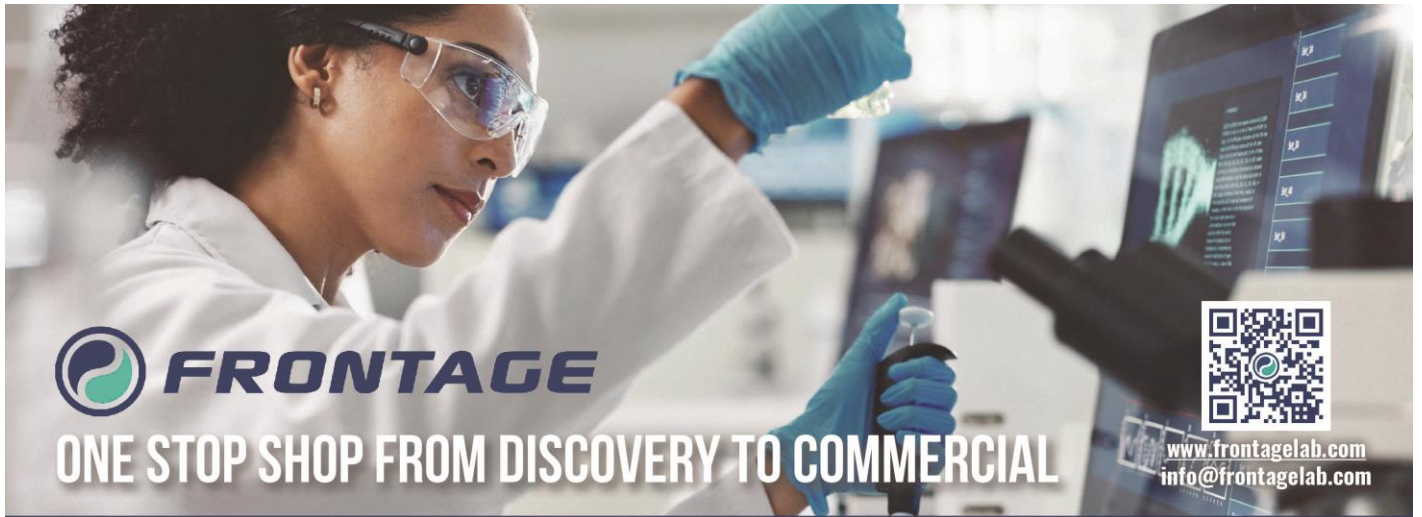
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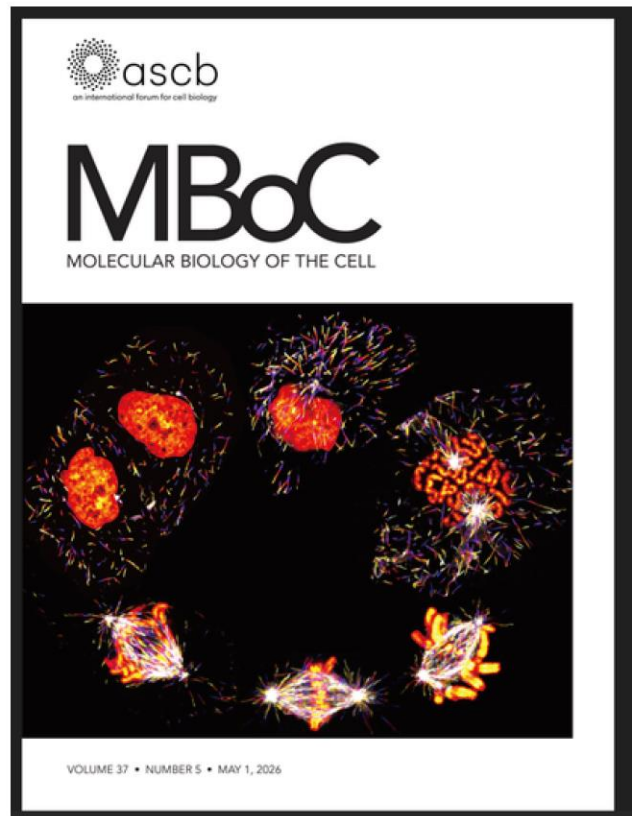
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