

Understanding AI's Impact on Gene Therapy: What it Means for North Texas



Andrew Busey, Co-Founder and Co-CEO of Form Bio, sees AI as pivotal for augmenting gene therapy development. He expects AI advancements to lead to more practical starting points in R&D, driving down costs and accelerating progress in the field.

Gene therapy developers find themselves at the forefront of this paradigm shift. North Texas is a center of excellence with outstanding research, industry leaders, and ample resources for gene therapy discovery and commercialization. Leveraging AI algorithms, companies like Form Bio are unlocking new frontiers de-risking, and optimizing viral vector design, thereby enhancing safety profiles, manufacturability of therapies and reducing costs.

[Learn more](#)

**FORM
BIO**

Data Risks: Resilience in the Age of AI Join BioNTX in Fort Worth on Thursday, February 15th

In a world where AI is imploding for businesses, cyber risk must be a priority. Where does AI intersect with your business - as an opportunity and a risk?

In the final event of our cyber awareness series with ishca health, our panelists will share forecasts and key elements for consideration to navigate through this transformational era.



Hazel Chappell
CEO & Founder
ishca health
(Moderator)



Gurshaman Baweja, PhD, MBA
General Partner
Enterprise Venture



Susan Butler
Director of
Product Management
Kerv.ai



Panna Sharma
CEO & President
Lantern Pharma

Register now

Celebrating International Women's Day

March 8th at Pegasus Park

JOIN IN CELEBRATING WOMEN'S IMPACT IN LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTHCARE INNOVATION



Women Investing in Women Panel

Meet the visionaries investing in the future of innovation and explore how they are shaping the success of women leaders in life sciences with critical financing and mentorship. From groundbreaking discoveries to impactful collaborations, uncover how these influential leaders are building the future of the industry for women.



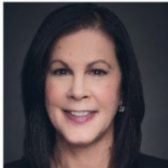
Erin Glass
M&A and Executive
Liability Advisor
Lockton Companies



Rebecca Allan, PhD
Senior Analyst
BoxOne Ventures



Heather Antioquia
Senior Director of
Program Management
Xontogeny



Vikki Gaddy, SPHR
VP, Portfolio Company
Operations, HR & Talent Strategy
Deerfield Management



Jessie Santana
VP of Life Sciences &
Healthcare Services
JP Morgan

Register now!

Children's Health and UTSW Announce Plans for New Pediatric Health Campus

UTSouthwestern
Medical Center®



Children's Health and UT Southwestern Medical Center have announced plans for a new \$5 billion pediatric health campus in Dallas' Southwestern Medical District. Spanning more than 33 acres, the campus will feature a patient-centric design to address demand for pediatric services, while serving as a collaborative hub for innovation, academic research, and training.

The 2 million square-foot hospital will consist of two 12-story towers and one eight-story tower, replacing the current Children's Medical Center Dallas.

[Read full press release](#)

UT Tyler School of Medicine Receives Foundational Gift for Lung Disease Research





The University of Texas at Tyler School of Medicine has received a \$1.25 million dollar gift in support of Dr. Jennifer R. Honda's lung disease research.

The university said the gift from the Padosi Foundation will help fund Honda's research into nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM), an infection that UT Tyler said is an emerging public health threat that damages and scars the airways making those infected more at risk to other infections.

[Read full press release](#)

UT Tyler Graduate Program Recognized Among Best in the World



UTTyler
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER



Julie V. Philley, MD

The University of Texas at Tyler's School of Nursing ranks among the nation's top 50 online graduate nursing programs and seventh for veterans, according to U.S. News and World Report. UT Tyler is also fourth in Texas overall. Additionally, its Master of Business Administration and graduate education programs were recognized among the best online programs.

Dr. Julie V. Philley, UT Tyler's executive vice president for health affairs, celebrated this achievement, emphasizing the school's role in shaping healthcare leaders dedicated to improving patient care and nursing practice.

[Read full press release](#)

Baylor Study Highlights Long-Term Effects of COVID-19 on Perception of Time & Wellbeing



Baylor University sociologists Matthew Andersson, PhD, and Paul Froese, Ph.D., investigated multifaceted time perceptions during the pandemic and their effects on mental well-being. Their findings were just published in the journal *Time & Society*.

The researchers found that Americans generally reported some degree of feeling rushed while also perceiving multiple types of time distortion involving slowness, quickness and days and weeks blending together. This disorientation also was frequently reported alongside other pandemic-related stressors, including economic strain, working from home, homeschooling a child and severe household conflict.

[Read full press release](#)

Texas Tech University Launches ONE Health for Research & Commercialization

Lubbock leaders celebrated as the ONE Health initiative, spearheaded by Texas Tech University and the TTU Health Sciences Center, inched closer to reality with a search for an executive director underway and the recent creation of *The Hub*, research commercialization incubator.

Lance McMahon, vice president of research at TTUHSC, said that all five schools within the TTU system are positioned to collaborate and create energy to address health and resource challenges faced by Texans.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER.



[Read full press release](#)

BioNTX Career Expo Highlights Pathways and Strategies for Industry Job-seekers



The highly anticipated 3rd annual BioNTX Career Expo proved a pivotal event, bridging the gap between aspiring professionals and opportunities in the burgeoning fields of biomedical science, technology and healthcare innovation. With a focus on empowering

attendees to navigate the competitive landscape of these industries, the Expo served as a dynamic platform where students and job seekers converged to access invaluable resources and insights.

Throughout the event, attendees had the unique opportunity to engage with expert speakers who shared their wealth of knowledge and experience. Distinguished guests provided invaluable guidance on a wide array of topics essential for career success, including mastering the art of interviews, honing networking skills, optimizing LinkedIn profiles to attract recruiters, and crafting impactful resumes that capture attention.

By offering practical tips and strategies, the speakers equipped attendees with the tools needed to not only navigate the complexities of the job market but also to stand out and excel in their respective fields. The Career Expo underscored BioNTX's unwavering commitment to fostering talent and driving innovation in biotechnology and healthcare, while also serving as a testament to the organization's dedication to supporting the next generation of professionals in these critical sectors.



Industry Opportunity Alert: UNT HSC Seeks Biotech and Pharma Internships for Graduates



The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (HSC) is actively seeking internship sites for graduating students enrolled in the Master of Science in Drug Discovery and Development (MS-DDD) program.

Companies and non-academic institutions interested in collaborating are encouraged to participate in this valuable initiative.

The HSC MS-DDD program is a rigorous, career-oriented curriculum aimed at equipping individuals with the skills needed for success in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries.

- Collaborate with the premiere Health Science Center in Fort Worth
- Train future generations of working professionals for the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries



Learn more about the MS-DDD program

Contact UNTHSC if interested in being an internship site



BIONTX MEMBER NEWS

Island Pharmaceuticals Wraps Dosing Study for Dengue Drug Candidate



Island Pharmaceuticals has successfully completed dosing all subjects in its ISLA-101 Single Ascending Dose study, with the Safety Review Committee confirming the safety and tolerability of all three doses based on available preliminary data.

The ISLA-101 drug candidate is being repurposed for the prevention and treatment of Dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases. Moving forward, blood samples from study participants will be analyzed in the company's analytical laboratory to assess the levels of ISLA-101 in the blood. The company remains on track to report the data in early 2024.

[Read full press release](#)

CostPlus Drugs Announces Liviniti Partnership



Liviniti, a leader in the pharmacy benefit management industry known for its commitment to transparency and delivering prescription drug savings, announced its partnership with the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company (Cost Plus Drugs). Through the partnership, Liviniti aims to further enhance medication accessibility, promote price transparency, and ensure affordability for its members.

[Read full press release](#)

From North Texas to Y Combinator: Velorum Therapeutics Revolutionizes Cancer Therapy



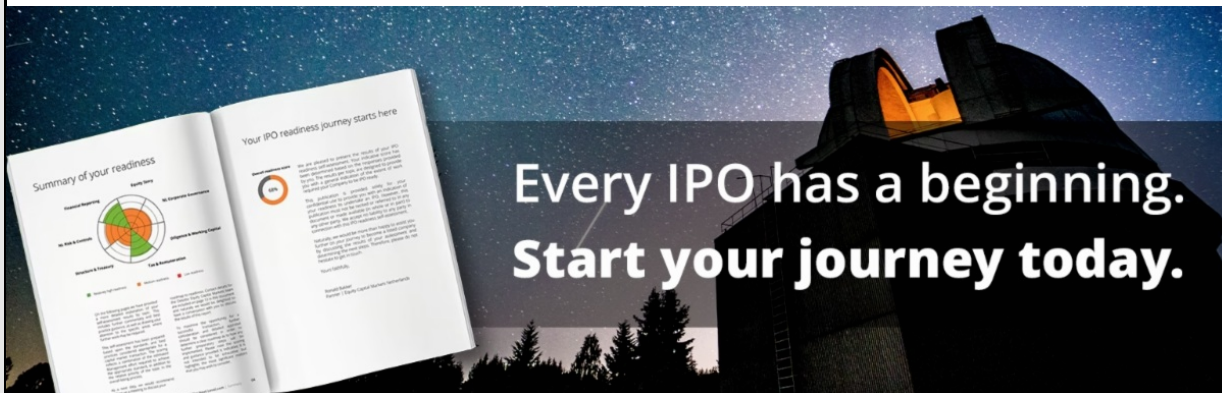
Pouya and Parsa Modareszadeh, brothers and co-founders of Velorum Therapeutics, are advancing a novel class of cancer drugs designed to disrupt tumor metabolism, effectively starving cancer cells. By targeting heme, a molecule essential for cancer growth, their patented drugs aim to deprive cancer cells of vital nutrients, paving the way for promising human clinical trials, starting with lung cancer, next year.

The North Texas natives' data demonstrates high efficacy against multiple cancers, while sparing healthy cells even at maximum doses. Additionally, by depriving tumors of essential nutrients, they become more vulnerable to existing cancer therapies such as radiation, chemotherapy, and immunotherapy.

[Read full press release](#)

Start-Up Essentials: Deloitte Launches New IPO-Optimizing Tool

Deloitte.



Every IPO has a beginning.
Start your journey today.

Preparing for an initial public offering (IPO) demands meticulous planning and strategic timing. BioNTX is proud to present the Deloitte IPO tool. This user-friendly and complimentary resource, offers invaluable insights across eight key areas, guiding organizations through the complexities of going public.

[Complete the assessment today](#)

Resource Alert: 2024 McDermottPlus Healthcare Policy Election Guide



**McDermott
Will & Emery**

[View resource center](#)

The McDermottPlus Election 2024 Resource Center offers essential tools for navigating healthcare policy during this election year, including analyses on key variables, outlooks for 2024, a calendar of primaries and key dates, insights on healthcare extenders, and trackers for committee memberships and congressional retirements.

RSM Recognized Among America's Greatest Workplaces for Diversity



RSM

RSM has earned recognition as one of America's Greatest Workplaces for Diversity 2024. This prestigious accolade, established in partnership with Newsweek and Plant-A Insights Group, underscores RSM's commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive workplace environment.

The assessment for America's Greatest Workplaces for Diversity 2024 involved a thorough evaluation of publicly accessible data, discussions and interviews with HR professionals, and confidential online surveys conducted among employees.

[Read full press release](#)

Medix Receives 2024 Best of Staffing Awards for Outstanding Service



Medix has been recognized in ClearlyRated's 2024 Best of Staffing Client Diamond and Talent Awards, recognizing service to clients and talent. Andrew Limouris, President & CEO, expressed gratitude for the acknowledgment, highlighting the company's unwavering commitment to customer and talent satisfaction. This marks Medix's tenth consecutive year of recognition in the client category and its second consecutive year in the talent category.

[Read full press release](#)

UNTHSC College of Pharmacy: Preparing Students for Careers in Health Outcomes



Patrick Pithua, DVM, PhD

The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth's College of Pharmacy hosts two online programs geared towards preparing students for careers in health outcomes research: the Certificate in Applied Health Outcomes Research and the Master of Science in Applied Outcomes Research. Patrick Pithua, DVM, PhD, successfully completed the Master of Science in Applied Outcomes Research entirely online within a year.

Reflecting on his experience, Pithua credits the program for equipping him with essential skills, particularly in analyzing real-world data such as claims, surveys, and electronic health records to generate impactful evidence. He emphasizes his commitment to leveraging his expertise to contribute to improving health outcomes and advancing health equity.

[Read full press release](#)

Welch Foundation to Fund UTA Research on Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis





Dr. Kayunta Johnson-Winters, PhD

The Welch Foundation has awarded a grant to support University of Texas at Arlington research aimed at understanding why certain strains of the causative agent of tuberculosis (TB), are resistant to treatment.

Expressing gratitude for the support, Dr. Kayunta Johnson-Winters stated, "I'm honored that the Welch Foundation recognizes the importance of our research. TB remains a global pandemic, claiming the lives of approximately 1.5 million people annually." An estimated 1.8 billion individuals, roughly a quarter of the world's population, are infected with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Among those carrying the bacterium, approximately 10% will develop active TB, contributing to further transmission.

[Read full press release](#)

UT Dallas Researchers Develop Handheld Sensor for Rapid Fentanyl Detection

Researchers at the University of Texas at Dallas have engineered an innovative handheld sensor offering rapid detection of fentanyl in urine samples with 98% accuracy.

Led by Dr. Shalini Prasad, head of UTD's bioengineering department, the advancement not only promises expedited fentanyl screening but also opens avenues for future applications, such as saliva testing. Furthermore, the sensor's versatility extends to substance analysis by facilitating straightforward mixing of samples with water.



THE UNIVERSITY
OF TEXAS AT DALLAS



[Read full press release](#)

UT Southwestern Professor Awarded Hill Prize for Cholesterol Control Research



UT Southwestern
Medical Center®



Dr. Russel DeBose-Boyd, PhD

Dr. Russell DeBose-Boyd, PhD, Professor of Molecular Genetics at UT Southwestern Medical Center, has been honored with the Hill Prize in Biological Sciences by TAMEST for his groundbreaking research on cholesterol control mechanisms.

This recognition, supported by Lyda Hill Philanthropies, highlights Dr. DeBose-Boyd's pivotal work on HMG-CoA reductase regulation, crucial for cholesterol synthesis. His research holds promise for advancing treatments, including statins, for managing high blood cholesterol levels, thus contributing significantly to cardiovascular health.

[Read full press release](#)

BIONTX MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Fragomen: Providing Global Immigration Solutions for a Modern World

FRAGOMEN



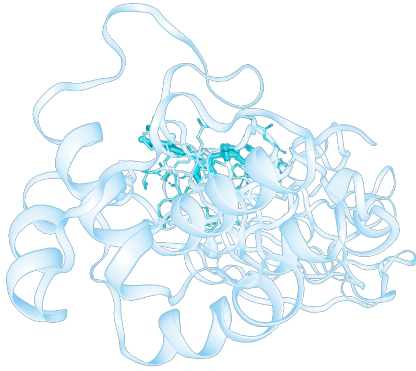
Kristi Taylor, JD, Partner at Fragomen

Fragomen is an immigration powerhouse in the United States, with extensive experience and resources fostered through collective years of law practice. The majority-women company represents an ethnically diverse collection solutions-oriented professionals. Like North Texas itself, innovation, opportunity and optimism shape the way Fragomen provides customized immigration services.

Dallas-office Partner, Kristi Taylor, J.D., provided insights and strategies for career and visa-seeking life science innovators and academics during the recent, 3rd annual BioNTX Career Expo. Through her expertise in corporate immigration, worksite immigration compliance, and the development and implementation of global mobility immigration programs, she advises Fortune 500 companies on a variety of matters, including defending employer sanctions cases, strategies for addressing workforce reductions, due diligence, and other immigration issues during mergers and acquisitions.

[Learn about Fragomen](#)

Ro5: Accessible AI for Drug Discovery



Learn about
Ro5

Ro5 is an AI company that provides the benefits of AI and digital transformation through a software platform that empowers biopharma companies to focus on what they're best at- drug discovery; because disease doesn't wait.

With 13 approved patents, and eight pending approval, the company makes AI accessible to the biopharma industry by providing the expertise, infrastructure, software, models, and data necessary for digital transformation. Most importantly, Ro5 provides support for each individual stage of the drug discovery process for pharma, biotech, and academic institutions with Ro5's AI platforms in Target Evaluation & Prioritization, Hit Identification, Hit to Lead Optimization.

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Elevate Your Startup at MassChallenge

Application closes on February 29th



MASSCHALLENGE

Join MassChallenge's exclusive 3-month mentor-based program running from July to September 2024, designed to support startups at all stages of development. By participating, you'll unlock access to a network of global partners, receive world-class mentoring, and have the chance to compete for cash prizes.

Apply now

Calling All Founders: BioMedSA to Host Spring Investor Pitch Day Competition

BioMedSA's annual spring BioFest Invest gathers investors from across the nation and Texas bioscience companies seeking investment funding, while sharing best practices, connections, and valuable advice.

Start-ups and Founders showcase pitch decks, investors engage with live or virtual presentations, and judges assess for a chance to win a \$10,000 cash prize and prize packages exceeding \$10,000.



presents

BIOFEST

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Upcoming Events & Opportunities



Career Roadmaps in Biomedical Engineering and the Medical Devices Industry

Join HBA to hear invaluable insights and personal experiences, providing a roadmap for those aspiring to carve a successful career path in biomedical engineering and the dynamic realm of medical devices.

February 13, 2024

[Learn more](#)



Tour of UTARI

Join The Aerospace & Defense Forum for presentations and tour of UTARI, a highly advanced multi-discipline research institute.

February 14, 2024

Fort Worth, Texas

[Learn more](#)



Enhancing AI and Cyber Awareness for Optimal Security

In a world where AI is everywhere, cyberbiosecurity is becoming increasingly a priority. The challenges and opportunities in protecting your biggest asset - your data - will be explored and will help you begin to understand the risks specific to bioscience.

February 15, 2024

Fort Worth, TX

[Learn more](#)



AI Panel Discussion

Join Healthcare Think Tank to learn implement AI efficiently and securely in the healthcare industry.

February 15, 2024

Austin, Texas

[Learn more](#)



Utilizing AI in Gene and Cell Manufacturing

Join ASGCT to explore the roles of AI and automation in propelling the latest advances in genetics and regenerative medicine and the rapid pace of progress.

February 16, 2024

[Learn more](#)



The Future of Venture Forum Part 1

Join The DEC Network for an evening filled with insights, networking, and inspiration as we delve into the forefront of the entrepreneurial landscape.

February 21, 2024

[Learn more](#)



Unveiling the Impact of Privacy Compliance in Canada

Join MyData-TRUST to learn the effectiveness of extending GDPR compliance to Canada in light of recent developments.

February 22, 2024

[Learn more](#)



2024 Texas Healthcare Challenge

Join Health Wildcatters to be apart of groundbreaking series of healthcare hackathons that bring together individuals from various backgrounds and professions.

February 23 - 24, 2024

[Learn more](#)



Women Driving Innovation

Join BioNTX to celebrate International Women's Day and connect with the women leaders in the North Texas life sciences sector!

March 8, 2024

Dallas, TX

[Learn more](#)



Biomedical Research Open House

Join UTARI to learn more about their facility and the Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center (TMAC).

March 8, 2024

Fort Worth, Texas

[Learn more](#)



Branding + Biotech: Your Brand Makes the First Impression

Join BioNTX to hear a panel discussion led by healthcare branding experts and investors, followed by one-on-one sessions to get real time, personalized feedback on your pitch deck and overall company branding.

March 19, 2024

Dallas, TX

[Learn more](#)



Best Practices for Building a Life Science Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

Join BioNTX for its inaugural program in Tyler, TX, as we embark on a captivating journey through the vibrant world of life sciences in North Texas.

March 22, 2024

Tyler, TX

[Learn more](#)

Happy Lunar New Year!

As we enter the Year of the Dragon, we celebrate the Leadership, Collaboration, and Success of North Texas Life Sciences; and look forward to the next chapter of Breakthroughs, Innovations and Prosperity in 2024!

HAPPY YEAR OF THE DRAGON!



HAPPY
LUNAR
NEW YEAR
2024



BIONTX

February 12, 2024

Stay Connected!



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