

iGIANT Roundtable Cambridge

March 17, 2016

Co-Hosts: AMWA, Boston Scientific, and Medstro

PARTICIPANTS

Aquinnah Pharmaceuticals, Inc

Glenn Larsen, PhD - President and CEO

American Medical Women's Association

Eliza Lo Chin, MD, MPH - Executive Director

Samia Osman - Student President

Umber Ahmed - Pre-medical Student Leader

Boston Scientific

Kenneth Stein, MD - SVP, Chief Medical Officer, Rhythm Management Group

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Division of Preventive Medicine

Aditi Hazra, PhD, MPH - Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Brigham and Women's Hospital Innovation Hub

Lesley Solomon, MBA

Executive Director

Broad Institute

Eleanor Howe, PhD - Bioinformatics Scientist

Stephanie Loranger, PhD - Director of Project Planning and Execution

Claire Churchhouse, PhD (unable to be present) - Scientific Advisor

Empiriko Corporation

Pam Randhawa, MPM - CEO and Founder

EXXclaim Capital

Anula Jayasuriya, MD, PhD, MBA - Managing Director and Founder

**Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center (M2D2) at University of
Massachusetts Lowell**

MaryAnn Picard, MS, MBA - Associate Director

Massachusetts Medical Society Charles River District

Laura McCann, MD - Vice-president of Charles River District and Delegate
Member, Committee of Women in Medicine

Medstro

Jennifer Joe, MD - Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder

Jim Ryan, MS - Chief Operating Officer

Molly Siegel - Intern, NEJM Group Open Forum

Medtech Boston

Jennifer Joe, MD - Editor in Chief and Founder
Jim Ryan, MS - Senior Editor and Co-Founder
Abigail Ballou, MPhil - Managing Editor

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine

Roberta Gebhard, DO - Representative, Group on Women

SolaMed Solutions, LLC

Saralyn Mark, MD - President

Verdant Health

Kirti Patel, MD, MHL - CEO and Founder

ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY

Discussion points during the roundtable included the following:

- Better understanding is needed regarding differences in gender/sex in medicine and science and to create biomedical platforms that look at these different physiological processes. We will start seeing different patterns emerging and will be better able to stratify the design of new drugs and treatment tailored to men and women. To do this, there is a need for scientific studies to include both male and female cells and subjects in testing both in preclinical and in clinical studies. Currently, women are significantly unrepresented in cardiovascular clinical trials though the FDA is promoting initiatives to help drive more enrollment for women. Marketing research may be needed to address this problem. Promoting women in scientific fields may help in this area, so there have been efforts to improve the representation of women and minorities in scientific research. Company policies on diversity and inclusion in the workforce including advisory boards may help ensure equal representation, as well as diversity in leadership roles. This is essential to ensuring that all voices are heard.
- “Gender Lens Investing – investing with gender equity in mind.” Diverse investors lead to diverse companies and products which will take into consideration the differences such as sex and gender. It is important for funding endeavors to focus on products and services that will improve the health of men and women.
- Precision prevention can be an approach to improve health for men and women.
- Awareness of this issue and the iGIANT can be enhanced through social media platforms as a forum of communication, innovation challenges, and networking within the tech community.