

## **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.