

**2014 ISCTM National Mental Health Research-to-Policy
Forum:**

**Revitalizing Academia-Industry
Collaboration
in Psychiatry Treatment Research**

February 19, 2014
Fairmont Hotel, Washington, DC

2014 ISCTM Mental Health Research-to-Policy Forum

FACULTY:

Frieda Lewis-Hall (Chief Medical Officer, Pfizer)

Jeffrey Lieberman (President, American Psychiatric Assoc; Psychiatry Chair, Columbia University)

Richard Frank (Professor of Health Economics, Harvard Medical School Dept. of Health Care Policy)

Ken Thompson (CMO Recovery Innovations, Past Medical Director of SAMHSA)

Howard Goldman (Editor, Psychiatric Services)

Fran Kritz (Senior Reporter, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Public Health Page)

SESSION CHAIRS:

Reuven Ferziger (past J&J and HMS/BIDMC)

Ron Manderscheid (NACBHDDD and Johns Hopkins)

Agenda

- Introductions
- Presentations
- Discussion

Break 10:10 – 10:20

- Case Discussion
- Next Steps

Upstream

Translational Valley of Death

Downstream



A Jewish wedding: dancing together without touching

- Historically the pipeline between discovering potential new treatments and making new treatments available to patients has benefited from robust scientific interaction between industry, academia and government. In recent years, these interactions have become increasingly complex. Many observers have related the dampening of industry-academia collaboration to the decline in the number of innovative new drugs developed annually. An important factor affecting scientific collaboration has been greatly heightened concern about the ethical and legal standards observed in these relationships. Over the last decade, psychiatric diseases have been at once one of the slowest areas of drug innovation and one of the most frequently identified areas of ethical concern and legal action. A growing number of initiatives are providing frameworks to stimulate industry-academia collaboration while maintaining legal and ethical boundaries. But it has been much easier to do this in “pre-competitive space,” at the more upstream, basic research end of the pipeline, than downstream, at the clinical research and patient end of drug development.

- In part 1 of this year’s ISCTM Policy Forum, leaders from academia, industry, government and journalism will describe the problems constraining academia-industry collaboration and paths being pursued to optimize collaboration.

In Part 2, the speaker panel and the audience will be presented with cases that both encourage and challenge opportunities for academia-industry collaboration. The cases will focus on downstream research on psychiatric diseases and treatments. The case discussions will be moderated to encourage audience participation.

Revitalizing Academia-Industry Collaboration in Psychiatry Treatment Research: Case Outline

A new receptor target has been identified for improving cognition. Strong in vitro and animal data support its potential for drug development. There is excitement among academic investigators that this discovery could lead to an entirely new treatment approach that would improve outcomes in several psychiatric disorders.

Several industry CNS R&D groups are seeking university collaborators to work with them on strategies to translate this discovery into a treatment.

Although the potential benefit of this treatment for people with mental illness is a high public health priority, the commercial opportunity is less robust. At several companies, business decision makers see more financial upside in other therapeutic areas.

One company has completed a successful Phase 2 trial and is planning its Phase 3 clinical trial program. While the company is eager to have individual academic experts consult on the study design, they are reluctant to have study sites within academic medical systems.

The company is also developing a research plan to support the value proposition for this drug to payers and health care systems. They are recruiting academic health services researchers to collaborate on studies demonstrating that the high projected cost of this treatment will be offset by decreases in hospitalization and ER visits and increases in capacity for self-care and employment.

- Discovery
- Animal Models
- Treatment

Upstream,

basic research

must be aligned with translational research

in order to ensure a continuous supply of leads into the development pipeline.

Downstream,

drug discovery and development

must be aligned with access

to ensure optimal health impact.

Challenges