



### **iJOBS Career Panel: Project Management**

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

10:30 AM



**Rebecca Baerga, PhD**

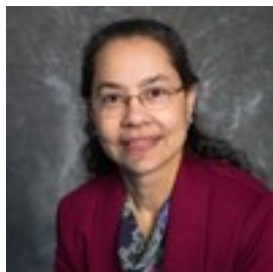
Director, Project Management

Global Project and Alliance Management (GPAM)

[rebecca.baerga@merck.com](mailto:rebecca.baerga@merck.com)

Rebecca joined Merck and GPAM in 2017. During her tenure in GPAM, she has provided PM leadership to multiple programs within several diverse therapeutic areas including Women's Health (Nexplanon Product Development Team, the Women's Health pipeline) where she was instrumental in the successful transition to Organon, Diabetes, Early Oncology, and most recently Infectious Diseases. Rebecca is also a Staff Manager for Specialists and Associate Specialists within GPAM where she was instrumental in establishing the group as well as hiring and onboarding new staff.

Prior to joining Merck, Rebecca served as Project Manager and later Director Preclinical Operations for a cancer biotech start-up Niiki Pharma. There she managed a successful preclinical program allowing submission of two Investigational New Drug (IND) applications to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and aided the chief medical officer in ensuring proper clinical trial setup and execution. After the successful acquisition of Niiki Pharma, Rebecca transitioned to the education sector to oversee the research pipeline work for the new product development team at Educational Testing Service (ETS). During her tenure at ETS, she played a critical role in the launch of three innovative products. Rebecca holds a Ph.D. in Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology from Rutgers University and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP®).



**Claudia Campbell, PMP**

Chairperson, PMINJ Life Sciences LCI

Independent PM consultant

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Claudia Campbell-Matland has over 30-years' experience in the in vitro diagnostic and medical device industries managing a variety of business-critical programs and projects including new product development, Quality System remediations, postmarket support and functional department integrations. As an independent project management and quality consultant, she now works with start-up companies to manage translation of their research into a compliant design & development process, and

supports postmarket activities for small medical device companies with risk management and other quality system expertise. Claudia enjoys sharing her project management knowledge as a contract instructor with Rutgers' Continuing Education Office. She launched PMINJ's Life Sciences LCI (Local Community of Interest) in 2019, and leads its core team in developing events & content for Chapter members working and/or interested in the life sciences industry. Claudia received her M.S. in Microbiology at Rutgers University Graduate School / UMNDJ, and is also a certified Project Management Professional® and Quality System internal auditor.



**David Dalessandro, PMP**

Sr. Director Program Management

Sherlock Biosciences

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David Dalessandro is an experienced new product development leader, innovator and project manager, with a broad range of experience in implantable medical devices, in vitro diagnostics and consumer products. He has over 35 years of experience with Johnson & Johnson where he held leadership positions in R&D, Project Management and Supply Chain across the medical device, pharmaceutical and consumer sectors. During that time, he led high-performing teams to successfully develop and launch over 20 medical devices in cardiovascular, surgical, orthopedic, diagnostics and consumer markets, many achieving domestic and international market leadership positions. David recently joined Sherlock Biosciences, a biotech startup developing at-home diagnostic tests based on CRISPR technology for the detection of DNA and RNA, where he is the Sr. Director of Program Management. David holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and an M.S. in Engineering Management, both from New Jersey Institute of Technology. He is a Certified Project Management Professional (PMP), holds a Certification in Innovation and Entrepreneurship from Stanford University and six issued US Patents for medical devices.



**Carlos Caicedo, PhD**

Director of R&D/Technical Lead Surface Technologies against SARS CoV2

Orthobond Corporation

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Dr. Carlos Caicedo is a Biomedical Engineer by training who has worked on development of innovative technologies throughout his professional career. After working on 3-dimensional biomaterial scaffolds to support in vivo-like cellular response in normal and cancer cells, he joined Orthobond in 2012 to support the antimicrobial characterization of covalently bound antimicrobial surfaces. Carlos supports the company by providing creative solutions during early-stage business initiatives. These creative solutions have helped Orthobond secure future intellectual property and process optimization to simplify the antimicrobial process on a variety of medical devices. In specific, Carlos directs and participates in root-cause analysis to maintain high-quality antimicrobial surfaces for medical devices. He also supports technology transfer activities, as a subject matter expert, to future antimicrobial medical device manufacturing facilities. Lastly, Carlos interfaces with Orthobond's Business unit to support timeline execution of high risk/high reward proof-of-concept scientific

opportunities with a variety of medical device industries.