iJOBS Career Panel: Medical Devices
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Josh Leipheimer, PhD
Senior Scientist
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Josh Leipheimer is a Senior Scientist at Glaukos, a medical device company that specializes in finding novel solutions to various ophthalmic diseases, particularly glaucoma. Josh specializes in the fields of robotics and computer vision and is interested in finding novel uses for machine learning algorithms for medical imaging problems.

Josh obtained his PhD in Biomedical Engineering from Rutgers in 2022. During that time, his research project, developing a robotic device for automated blood draws, resulted in two patent submissions, a first-in-human clinical study, and received media attention from organizations such as Discover Magazine and Forbes - Innovation.

In his free time, Josh enjoys designing strategy board games and chasing his two cats, Momo and Taro, around the house.

Shruti Saxena, Ph.D
Medical Technology Scientist
Collagen Matrix, Inc
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Medical Technology (MedTech) Scientist with 3+ years of Industry experience in steering medical device product development and commercialization. Developed US marketable medical devices following FDA/ISO standards and design control principles. PhD in Material and Life Sciences along with 4+ years of Postdoctoral researcher experience in regenerative medicine.

Divya Bhatnagar, PhD
Sr. Product Development Engineer
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Divya Bhatnagar is a Sr. Product Development Engineer (Project Lead) at 3DBiotherapeutics where she leads various R&D projects from design to execution internally and with CROs for spinal disc regeneration and surgical mesh platform. Before joining 3DBiotherapeutics, she worked as a Lead Scientist at Aspect Biosystems and as a Senior Scientist at Semma Therapeutics on the Type-I diabetes combination products platform.

Divya completed her Ph.D. at Stony Brook University in Materials Science and Engineering and her postdoc at Center for Biomaterials, Rutgers University. She also holds a mini-MBA in BioPharma Innovation from Rutgers University. Over the course of her academic and industrial career, Divya has worked in research and process/product development of novel biomaterial technologies, stem cells-based combination products and medical devices for tissue engineering, regenerative medicine, and cell therapy applications.

Divya is a co-inventor in 5 US patents and has co-authored a book on “Biomedical Polymers”. She has authored several peer-reviewed publications and has presented at over 30 national and international conferences.

Emily Reiser, PhD
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Dr. Emily Reiser is the Associate Director of TMC Innovation, managing the Accelerators for Cancer Therapeutics and Healthtech. Emily served previously as the Innovation Community Engagement Senior Manager and draws on her extensive experience managing the TMC Innovation network ensuring all stakeholders have the opportunity to connect to the resources they need to be successful.

For several years she has supported and influenced the Houston life science innovation community through her work at the Texas Medical Center, and previously via her leadership role with Enventure, a grassroots, non-profit organization supporting entrepreneurship training and life science company formation. Emily also worked directly with TMCi Accelerator company, Noleus Technologies, directing business development.

Emily earned a bachelor’s degree in Biology from Emory University and a PhD in Bioengineering from Rice University focused on drug delivery for cancer immunotherapy.

Eric Pierce, PhD
Product Development Manager
Medtronic
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Eric Pierce, PhD, PMP, is a Product Development Manager (R&D) at Medtronic's Structural Heart & Aortic Operating Unit, where he leads a team of engineers and oversees test strategy for all transcatheter heart valve New Product Development teams. Eric has over 14 years of relevant experience, most notably including product testing, evidence generation, and project/people management. Eric completed his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech/Emory, where he studied the biomechanics of mitral valve disease and device-tissue interaction. He also served for two years in the US Peace Corps, teaching high school math and science in Lesotho (Africa). Eric lives in Orange County, CA with his wife and two daughters.