

WiSTEM2D PhD Panel

Agenda

3:00 - 3:05 Log-on / Start

3:05 - 3:15 Introductions: Dean Alder & Nick

3:15 - 4:00 Panelist Slides and Introduction

4:00 - 4:25 Q&A

4:25 - 4:30 Wrap-Up: Dean Alder

Johnson and Johnson – Overview

Our Credo and our purpose

At Johnson & Johnson we believe good health is the foundation of vibrant lives, thriving communities and forward progress. We strive to not only innovate across MedTech and Innovative Medicine but to improve access and affordability to lifesaving and life-enhancing treatments and medical solutions around the world. We are able to do this because for more than 80 years, our commitment to helping people has been built into our mission statement and purpose.

Our commitment

>138,000

Dedicated employees around the world

Top 5

Rank in Access to Medicine Index

\$17.2 B

Invested in R&D in 2024 to help move treatments forward

Johnson and Johnson – Innovative Medicine

Innovative Medicine

Oncology

10+ products in market
26 approved indications

Innovative Medicines:



Immunology

6 products in market
14 approved indications

Innovative Medicines:



Neuroscience

5 products in market
6 approved indications

Innovative Medicines:



Johnson and Johnson – Medical Technology (MedTech)

MedTech

Cardiovascular

Addressing one of the largest unmet needs in healthcare

MedTech Innovation:



VARIPULSE™ Platform



Dual Energy THERMOCOOL
SMARTTOUCH™ SF Catheter



Shockwave Intravascular
Lithotripsy System



Impella® Heart
Pump Technology



OMNYPULSE™
Catheter

Surgery

Advancing the science of surgery and pioneering what's next

MedTech Innovation:



ETHICON™ 4000
Surgical Stapler



OTTAVA™
Robotic
Surgical
System

Vision

Developing transformational innovations to improve the health of patients' eyes

MedTech Innovation:



ACUVUE® OASYS 1-Day Family



TECNIS Odyssey™



TECNIS PureSee™

Event Sponsor – WiSTEM2D



Mission

At J&J, we are dedicated to the values in **Our Credo**. We support and inspire all in their pursuit of STEM²D studies and careers globally.

Vision

We aim to inspire and empower women and men on their STEM²D journeys through access, engagement and skill development. Together, we believe STEM²D professionals are powerful catalysts for change in the world.



Panelists



Andrea Stevens, PhD
Senior Director
Medical Access Strategy (IM)



Rajesh Arasada, PhD
Senior Scientist GCDS
Global Data Science (IM)



Yoliem Miranda Alarcón, PhD
Senior Scientist Process
Process (IM)



Chang Zhang, PhD
Manager Search Solutions
Medical Content Solutions (IM)



Shereka Banton, PhD
Associate Director
Regulatory Affairs (MT)

Career Journey – from the lab to the office

 **PhD, Transplantation Immunobiology**



Research Scientist 



Senior Clinical Scientist 
 **Q² Solutions** 

**Senior Director, Precision Medicine
Access & Policy**
Johnson & Johnson 

Director, Value & Access



Andrea Stevens, PhD
Senior Director Precision Medicine Access
J&J Innovative Medicine
Global Commercial Data Science

Senior Director Precision Medicine Access & Policy

- SME in diagnostic testing and reimbursement
- Ensure an optimal clinical practice environment at the time of launch in all countries
- Demonstrate the value of testing to multiple stakeholders supported by evidence
- Across brand and asset-specific test reimbursement/policy shaping strategy
- Oversee cross-functional teams and strategic alignment across global brand, BD, R&D and regulatory functions
- Collaborate with industry, academic, and government partners through consortia

If a J&J product requires a test, we ensure the test is an enabler, and not a barrier, to patients accessing the treatment

Career Tips for PhDs

Be Open-Minded and Flexible

Your first job after graduation doesn't define your whole career. Stay open to new roles and experiences.

Leverage Networking and Online Presence

Actively network and use platforms like LinkedIn to showcase your skills and connect with professionals. Curate your online profile carefully and keep it up to date.

Find Mentors and Champions

Mentors offer guidance and champions advocate for you. These relationships are essential for career development and success.



Rajesh Arasada - Data Science Journey

Email: rarasada@ITS.jnj.com, LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/rajesharasada/>

M.Sc. Microbial Technology

Lab Tech in JNCASR: DNA Vaccines – HIV



Post-Doc. Yale Uni., New Haven, USA

Biochemistry

Cell Biology

Molecular Genetics

Super-resolution microscopy

MATLAB

Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine

- NA Commercial DS
- Global Commercial DS



2001

2006

2011

2017

2021

Cell Biology, Ph.D., Germany

LMU, Munich

Biochemistry

Cell Biology

Molecular Genetics



NYCDS Academy



NYC DATA SCIENCE
ACADEMY

Roles and Responsibilities:

Prepare J&J for a successful product launch, reaching patients with the most unmet medical need

Yolien Miranda Alarcón, PhD

Senior Scientist, Drug Product Development

Happy to connect on
LinkedIn if you have any
question!



- Hometown– Hatillo, PR
- Maternal family from Bogotá, Colombia
- Grew up around a dairy farm
- FFA & 4-H Club active member/ dairy farm state competition
- Committed in increasing in DE&I in STEM through academic and professional organizations: SACNAS, HOLA, SMDP, and other organizations

Background

Academic Training

- B.S in Chemistry– Fordham University, NY
- Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering – Rutgers University, NJ
- Thesis foci- tissue engineering and biomaterials
- Internship: Finance in Biotech Hedge fund
- Co-op: GSK in pharmacokinetics & pharmacodynamics

- Fill/finish manufacturing of Monoclonal Antibodies
 - Process Development
 - Tech-transfer lead
- API Cell Therapy (CAR-T)
- Spray drying & drug-delivery devices
- RadioPharm (ADCs)
- Ultra high concentration-drug delivery

Drug Product Development

Professional Extracurricular Activities

- SACNAS Professional Chapter Co-Founder & Lead
- SMPD J&J Alumni
- MBA at Villanova University; concentration in Business Analytics

Some pearls of wisdom I can share from my on my career path include:

- Seek mentorship from professionals you have an interest in their career path.
- Develop a diverse skill set (not only technical, but also people skills, writing, public speaking, etc.).
- Seek leadership and mentoring opportunities. Stay involved in professional organizations.
- Embrace interdisciplinary work and continuous learning.
- Be humble (but confident), respectful, and have a thirst for knowledge.



Chang Zhang, PhD

Background

- PhD in Computational Materials Science from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities (2014 - 2019)
- Internship at Twist-East and Seagate (2018)
- Data Science Consultant at Blue Cross Blue Shield (2019)
- Data Scientist/Manager at Johnson & Johnson (2020 - 2025)
- GenAI Product Manager at Johnson & Johnson (2025 - now)

Current Role

Liaison between Medical Affairs and technology teams for GenAI powered digital products for medical content search and creation:

- Identifying new business needs to support medical engagement and evidence dissemination processes
- Translating business needs into technical language for tech teams to develop new capabilities
- Providing operational support to ensure the smooth functioning of the product platform

Advise for job hunting

- Start your preparation early
- Don't overlook opportunities outside your primary domain
- Network, network, network

Shereka Banton



Associate Director
Regulatory Affairs
Johnson & Johnson
srbanton@gmail.com

Oversight of surgical
devices sold in 100
countries (incl. new
product launch)

ETHICON
a Johnson & Johnson company

Partner with Pharma to
co-develop wearable
device for at-home use



Keys to landing first role

- ✓ Research
- ✓ "Sounds like, looks like"
for CV & interviews
- ✓ Be OK with <100% fit
- ✓ Maintain your hobbies

J&J MedTech

Partner with external
companies to ensure
availability of surgical
hemostats



NASEM engagement



**BS Biomedical Engineering
Georgia Tech**



**Georgia
Tech**



**Wallace H. Coulter Department of
Biomedical Engineering**
Georgia Tech College of Engineering and Emory School of Medicine



**EMORY
UNIVERSITY**



**PhD Biomedical Engineering
Georgia Tech**
Research on SCD &
S&T Policy

Q&A

Wrap-up