Biomedical Transparency Summit (BMTS 2024)

Virtual Summit Series
Friday 12 April, 2024 - Friday 26 April, 2024

The 2024 Biomedical Transparency Summit is the 7th annual thought leadership gathering of biomedical research funders, policymakers, government departments, journal editors & publishers, tech developers, biopharma, and academia.

Session 1: 12 April 2024 3:00-4:30pm EDT

Improving Data Accessibility in Clinical Research (BMTS1)

3:00 **JR Meloro**
Global Head of Disclosure, Publications and Transparency
Pfizer

3:25 **Aaron Bernstein, PhD**
Tyler Beck, PhD
LITCOIN/NCATS
National Institutes of Health

3:50 **Prof. Paolo Nussenzveig, PhD**
Pro-Rector, Research & Innovation
University of Sao Paolo

Session 2: 19 April 2024 3:00-4:30pm EDT

Enhancing Ethical Considerations in Research and Publication (BMTS2)

3:00 **Daniel Kulp**
Chair
Committee on Publication Ethics

3:25 **Daniel Ucko, PhD**
Head of Ethics & Research Integrity
American Physical Society

3:50 **A/Prof. Margaret Henderson**
Health Sciences Librarian
San Diego State University

Session 3: 26 April 2024 3:00-4:30pm EDT

Advancing Science Policy - Challenges and Opportunities (BMTS3)

3:00 **Robert Marek & Sada Aksartova, PhD**
Assistant Director & Senior Analyst
US Government Accountability Office

3:25 **Adriana Bankston, PhD**
Policy Advisor
Universities Research Association

3:45 **Peter Derbyshire, PhD**
Founder & CEO
Center for Biomedical Research Transparency

4:10 **A/Prof. Sandra Petty, PhD**
Founder & CEO
Center for Biomedical Research Transparency

WELCOME Friday, April 12th, 19th, 26th 3:00-4.30pm EDT

Welcome to the Center for Biomedical Research Transparency (CBMRT)'s 2024 Biomedical Transparency Summit (BMTS)! It is the 7th annual thought leadership gathering of biomedical research funders, policymakers, government departments, journal editors & publishers, tech developers, biopharma, and academia.

At CBMRT, we are on a mission to transform biomedical research by ensuring all results - including negative and inconclusive results - are discoverable for the benefit of other researchers, clinicians and patients. As an innovative medical research charity founded in 2017 by Associate Professor Sandra Petty and Dr Hugo Stephenson, we have garnered recognition for our commitment to changing the research landscape.

Through strategic collaborations with leading research institutions, societies, and journals, CBMRT ensures that null results—the often-overlooked outcomes—find their place in the scientific discourse. Our efforts through the Null Hypothesis™ initiative have touched more than 750 researchers from 198 institutions worldwide, including universities such as Harvard, Stanford, Oxford, and Cambridge. The initiative has facilitated the publication of null results in highly cited premier journals such as Neurology, Circulation, and Stroke, and we look forward to welcoming more journals and publishers as partners as the initiative grows.

In addition to the Null Hypothesis™ initiative, CBMRT hosts the annual Biomedical Transparency Summits, bringing together key stakeholders in the research ecosystem. These summits serve as platforms for collaboration, fostering connections between research funders, policy makers, technology developers, editors, industry leaders, and academia, to drive further advancements in research transparency.

CBMRT is always seeking opportunities to partner with publishers, journals, institutions, funders and philanthropists who share our vision of promoting transparency in medical research. By 2030, our goal is to ensure that no critical null research goes unpublished or undiscoverable.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Dr. David Tovey, Scientific Advisory Committee, CBMRT; Co-Editor in Chief, Journal of Clinical Epidemiology; Emeritus Editor in Chief, Cochrane

David Tovey, FRCGP, MBChB is Co-Editor in Chief of the Journal of Clinical Epidemiology. In addition, he holds a portfolio of editorial and scientific support roles. He was Editor in Chief of the Cochrane Library from 2009-2019 and appointed Emeritus Editor in 2019. Prior to 2009, he was Editorial Director at the BMJ Knowledge Department, having also been a GP in South London from 1989 to 2003.

David lives in Sussex, UK. His professional interests focus on the need to provide health and social care decision-makers with credible, actionable, relevant, and up-to-date information to guide practice and policy.

Aaron Bernstein, Ph.D., NIH DATA Scholar, NIH Oxford-Cambridge Scholar, and Gates Cambridge Scholar, National Institutes of Health

Currently an NIH DATA Scholar at the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), Aaron Bernstein, Ph.D., is making significant contributions to the intersection of data science and medical research. His current work focuses on the development of the final LitCoin algorithm, an NIH initiative aimed at addressing the reproducibility crisis in scientific research. Bernstein's journey in academia and research is marked by prestigious accolades, including being an NIH Oxford-Cambridge Scholar and a Gates Cambridge Scholar, culminating in a PhD in Data Science from the University of Cambridge. His recent research has focused on developments in oncology, where he developed deep-learning algorithms for analyzing tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes in breast cancer histology images.

Tyler Beck, Ph.D., Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer), National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)

Tyler Beck, Ph.D., is currently serving as a Health Scientist Administrator (Program Officer) at the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) with a longstanding interest in science policy, particularly in the realms of genetics, genomics research, and public health. Working in clinical and translational research across esteemed academic institutions and government laboratories, Beck has honed a specialized focus on the clinical applications of next-generation sequencing. Beck's diverse expertise extends into multiple policy disciplines, including regulation, lawmaking, and advocacy, demonstrating his passion for bridging the gap between scientific discovery and its societal implications.

Prof. Paolo Nussenzveig, Ph.D., Pro-Reitor, Research & Innovation, University of Sao Paolo

Prof. Paulo A. Nussenzveig, is a leading international figure in quantum optics and quantum information science. As Pro-Reitor of Research & Innovation at the University of São Paulo, Prof. Nussenzveig is deeply invested in enhancing the scientific and publication process - his efforts being pivotal to the promotion scientific integrity and responsible research in Latin America. Nussenzveig's dedication to improving the scientific landscape extends beyond his administrative role, as evidenced by his involvement in discussions on scientific integrity and his advocacy for responsible research assessment. His commitment to these principles is aimed at fostering a transparent, ethical, and progressive scientific community.

Daniel Kulp, Ph.D., Chair, Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)

Daniel Kulp, Ph.D., the founder of Publication Integrity & Ethics Consulting, LLC (PIE Consulting), is a leading figure in the field of publication integrity and ethics. With a decade of practice in the arena, his consultancy provides support and guidance to editors, journals, and publishers, encompassing a wide spectrum of publication integrity and ethics issues. This includes advising on publication policies, best practices, and managing misconduct investigations. His leadership extends to his role as Chair of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), where he is dedicated to promoting ethical practices in publishing across the globe. COPE, under Kulp's guidance, focuses on education, support, and the development of a culture deeply rooted in ethical publication.

Daniel Ucko, Ph.D., Head of Ethics & Research Integrity, American Physical Society

Daniel Ucko, Ph.D., is Head of Ethics and Research Integrity at the American Physical Society (APS). His role encapsulates guiding the APS Publications Leadership in developing and implementing editorial policies and practices that uphold the highest standards of ethics and research integrity. Ucko's career reflects a dedication to ensuring the integrity of scientific publishing, including managing research misconduct investigations and serving as the primary liaison with institutional Research Integrity Officers and other publishers. With a unique background that combines scientific research with a second PhD in the philosophy of peer review, Ucko's contributions to the field are underscored by his significant experience as an editor for a world-renowned physics journal and his active participation in the development of a robust ethical framework in scientific discourse.

A/Prof. Margaret Henderson, Health Sciences Librarian, San Diego State University

Margaret Henderson, an Associate Professor and Health Sciences Librarian at San Diego State University, brings over two decades of rich experience to her role. Her tenure at SDSU, spanning from an Adjunct to an Associate Professor since January 2021, reflects her deep commitment to the health sciences library field. Prior to her current role, she significantly contributed to Virginia Commonwealth University's Tompkins McCaw Library for 17 years, where she also served as the Director of Research Data Management. Notably, Henderson has played a key role in navigating the complexities of public access plans from US federal agencies, underlining her expertise in managing research data and

compliance requirements. Henderson's work exemplifies a steadfast dedication to enhancing the accessibility and management of research information in the health sciences domain.

JR Meloro, Global Head of Disclosure, Publications & Transparency, Pfizer

J.R. Meloro is a distinguished biopharmaceutical executive with a long history in medical affairs and communications, currently Global Head of Disclosure, Publications, and Transparency at Pfizer since March 2019. With expertise in overseeing clinical trials registration, results posting, publications management, healthcare professional (HCP) payment transparency, and clinical trials data sharing, Meloro has advanced biopharma approach to transparency in medical research. Prior to this role, Meloro served as Chief of Staff in the Office of the Chief Patient Officer and Chief Medical Officer at Pfizer, enhancing strategic initiatives and leadership communications. Before joining Pfizer, Meloro held leadership positions at Medicus International and Grey Healthcare Group, specializing in global medical communications within oncology, and publication planning for the hematology portfolio, among other responsibilities.

A/Prof. Sandra Petty, Ph.D., Co-Founder & CEO of the Center for Biomedical Research Transparency (CBMRT), an academic and clinical neurologist at Alfred Hospital and St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne

Sandra Petty, MBBS FRACP Ph.D. an academic and clinical neurologist focusing on epilepsy and its co-morbidities. She undertook combined clinical and research training in neurology and bone health. She is a Senior Lecturer at The University of Melbourne Medical School, involved in teaching and medical student curriculum development, particularly transition to medical practice and medical cognizance. She completed specialist training in Neurology in 2006 and currently works in epilepsy at St Vincent's Hospital and at Alfred Health in Melbourne. Sandy was awarded her Ph.D. 2009, examining bone health, body composition falls and fracture risk in twins and siblings discordant for anti-epileptic medication use. She completed postdoctoral work utilizing a mouse primary calvarial osteoblast model and patch clamping technique to examine the effects of epilepsy medications on ion channels in osteoblasts. Sandy is an adjunct senior lecturer at Monash University School of Medicine.

Sandy is the founder of the Null Hypothesis initiative and is keen to facilitate transparent reporting of results in biomedical research - particularly regarding studies where there are negative or inconclusive results. This facilitates communication of results between scientists and clinicians and will improve research efficiency and better inform research study design and ultimately, patient care.

Adriana Bankston, Ph.D., Policy Advisor, Universities Research Alliance

Adriana Bankston is a distinguished advocate for scientific research and STEM workforce development, with a significant track record in policy advising and analysis across various prestigious organizations. As a Policy Advisor for the SPARC program at the Universities Research Association, she plays a crucial role in shaping the future of U.S. science and technology. Her previous roles include Principal Legislative Analyst at the University of California Federal Governmental Relations

and Policy & Advocacy Fellow at the Society for Neuroscience. Bankston's efforts extend to enhancing research impact in society through fellowships with ARIS and Sigma Xi, and supporting the STEM workforce with the American Society for Cell Biology, among others. Her work underscores her commitment to bridging the gap between science and policy, fostering innovation and U.S. competitiveness. Bankston holds a Ph.D. in Biochemistry, Cell and Developmental Biology from Emory University.

Dr. Hugo Stephenson, co-founder of the Center for Biomedical Research Transparency (CBMRT)

Dr. Hugo Stephenson is a Melbourne Medical School alumnus, a technologist, biotech services entrepreneur, and founder of many businesses in the clinical trials industry. These include DrugDev, a leading provider of eclinical technologies and clinical trial payment services; MediGuard, the largest online medication monitoring service; Health Research Solutions, a late-phase contract research organization; and MedSeed, a pioneer of hospital and GP decision support software. Hugo is passionate about organizations that think out of the box to solve problems and this has motivated him to establish CBMRT to address the current imbalances in biomedical research practices. Hugo has a wide range of interests that include proteomics, public health, robotics, and high-power rocketry. Hugo is also a non-executive director of the Induction Healthcare Group PLC, a leading developer of digital care tools for healthcare systems around the world.

Peter Derbyshire, Ph.D., Director, Policy and International Affairs, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering

Peter Derbyshire, Ph.D., is currently serving as the Director of Policy and International Affairs at the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, a role he has held since November 2023. With a tenure at the Academy since October 2021, initially as the Director of Policy and Government Relations, he has been involved in shaping policy development and fostering international affairs in the realm of technology and engineering. Prior to joining the Academy, Dr. Derbyshire contributed significantly to Science & Technology Australia, where his roles evolved from a Policy Officer to a Policy and Projects Manager. His extensive experience in policy development and project management, particularly within the scientific and technological communities, reflects a dedicated career aimed at enhancing the interface between science, technology, and policy.

Robert Marek, Assistant Director, US Government Accountability Office

Rob Marek serves as an Assistant Director at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), a role that places him at the intersection of science and technology policy within an independent and non-partisan framework. At the GAO, his expertise has been pivotal in exploring a variety of critical areas including federally funded advanced energy research, technology transfer from federal laboratories, competitive dynamics in the energy industry, and intricacies of the patent system. Marek's work significantly contributes to informing and guiding policy decisions, ensuring rigorous oversight and effective utilization of resources in science and technology domains critical to national interests and innovation. His contributions reflect a commitment to enhancing government accountability and fostering progress in science and technology policies.

Sada Aksartova, Senior Analyst, US Government Accountability Office

Sada Aksartova is a Senior Analyst in Science and Technology at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), an institution renowned for its rigorous oversight and assessment of government programs and activities. Holding a Ph.D. in sociology from Princeton University, Aksartova has contributed to numerous GAO reports - including the recent report "Better Data Will Improve Understanding of Federal Contributions to Drug Development" - that serve to improve government accountability and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of federal programs. The GAO, as an independent and non-partisan agency, serves as a vital resource for Congress, offering evaluations and recommendations that shape legislative and policy decisions, ensuring transparency and accountability across federal agencies.