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# Program

June 12 June 13

9:00

### Registration, networking and expo

Get your badge and join attendees for pre-conference networking and coffee while visiting the MaRS Impact Health expo.

10:00

### Welcome and opening remarks

Auditorium 15 min

What to look forward to on day one of MaRS Impact Health.

**Alison Nankivell** MaRS Discovery District
**Louise Pichette** MaRS Discovery District

10:15

### Opening keynote: Biotech market update from Jon Norris

Auditorium 20 min

Insights from the managing director of innovation banking at HSBC on how today's biotech funding environment is impacting early-stage ventures.

**Jonathan Norris** HSBC Innovation Banking

10:50

### Startup pitch: Biotech ventures

Auditorium 60 min

**Riley Hickman** Intrepid Labs
**David Cotnoir-White** Modulari-T
**Samantha McWhirter** University of Toronto
**Akeem Gardner** Canurta
**Mohammad Ali Amini** QurCan Therapeutics
**Wendy Naimark** Ripple Therapeutics
**Brian Jahns** Vasomune Therapeutics
**Parimal Nathwani** TIAP (Toronto Innovation Acceleration Partners)

12:00

### Lunch break, networking and expo showcase

Heritage Atrium & Collaboration Centre 60 min

### Networking (Provided by Stem Cell Network Canada)

Networking Zone: Collaboration Centre 60 min

12:15

### Startup pitch: Digital health and medical device ventures

Expo stage (Heritage Atrium) 45 min

**Shelley Vaisberg** Brainbot
**Mandy Woodland** Amp Health
**Rina Carlini** Healthyher.Life
**Shawn Mondoux** Prognostiq Health
**Leandro Faria** Starbem
**Amreesh Khanna** OraQ AI
**Rahul Samant** Rehabtronics
**Tabassum Pasha** WaiveTheWait
**Emil Savov** MaRS Investment Accelerator Fund

1:00

### Navigating post-launch complexities: Closing care gaps

Auditorium 30 min

How can AI and advanced analytics help identify the right patients for treatment, flag early indicators of disease and close care gaps? Hear from ventures and adopters in this rapidly-developing field.

**Jefferson Tea** Takeda Canada Inc.
**Aaron Leibtag** Pentavere Research Group
**Katie Hayes** Wittington Ventures
**Heather McDonald** AstraZeneca Canada
**Mathew Platt** Creative Destruction Lab

1:30

### Precision oncology's funding frenzy

Auditorium 30 min

The science isn't new, but the deal volume is. Antibody-drug conjugates and radiotherapies target cancerous cells while minimizing the effects of traditional chemo — and innovators in this space are making major strides and landing even bigger deals. This panel will explore what's driving the recent interest, the market opportunity for these complex treatments in Canada versus the U.S., the platforms supporting researchers, as well as the economic, efficacy and safety challenges that remain.

**Francine Lui** ProteinQure
**Ratmir Derda** 48Hour Discovery/University of Alberta
**Smruthi Vijayaraghavan** Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine
**Laszlo Radvanyi** Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
**Dozie Amuzie** JLABS Canada

2:00

### Scaling an in vivo CRISPR therapy using fruit flies

Auditorium 20 min

In 2023, we saw the first-ever approval of a medicine based on CRISPR technology, which is leading the way for new in vivo therapies, as well as treatments based on more efficient genome editors. This session features Jenthera and Future Fields.

**Matt Anderson-Baron** Future Fields
**Phil Roche** Jenthera Therapeutics Inc.
**Carly Weeks** The Globe and Mail/St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton

2:20

### Meet your twin: Digital twins and the potential for personalized medicine

Auditorium 25 min

Digital twins are virtual duplicates created to demonstrate how systems change when new variables are introduced. For startups Verto and Altis Labs, digital twins can speed up drug development as AI surrogates for clinical trials and deliver public health insights by testing population impacts. Gartner predicts that a quarter of healthcare delivery organizations will be using digital twins by next year, what are the most game-changing applications?

**Michael Millar** Verto Health
**Felix Baldauf-Lenschen** Altis Labs
**Charles Glaus** Bayer
**Ayesha Rashid** Xtalks

2:45

### Coffee break, structured networking sessions and expo showcase

Heritage Atrium and Collaboration Centre 45 min

### Workshop: Sustainable care — creating low carbon health systems

Collaboration Room 3 30 min

Did you know that healthcare is among the top five biggest global polluters? Discover how leading healthcare entities like the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) and UHN are spearheading initiatives towards carbon neutrality. Learn about their efforts to reach net zero, from energy-efficient infrastructure to waste reduction programs, and delve into the transformative impact these measures are having on both environmental sustainability and patient care.

**Mike Kurz** University Health Network
**Sarah Lowden** Canadian Medical Association
**Myles Sergeant** Canadian Coalition of Green Health Care
**Leah Perry** MaRS Discovery District

### Startup pitch: Digital health and medical device ventures

Expo stage (Heritage Atrium) 40 min

**Anthony Yong** Blue Ocean Technologies
**Lee-Anne Reuber** Sekond Skin Society
**Israel Gasperin** Zentrela
**Yoobin Lee** Quip Medical
**Christy Lee** PatientCompanion
**Dolma Tsundu** Flutter Care
**Ron Galaev** EmergConnect
**John David Chibuk** Blueberry X
**Krysta Traianovski** Velocity, University of Waterloo

3:30

### Navigating investments in biopharma: Models for innovation

Auditorium 30 min

How are pharma companies prioritizing and constructing new drug pipelines? What are the novel models for funding and supporting development? Hear from the innovation arms of several biopharmaceutical companies sharing their business development strategies and how biotech startups can win.

**Nisha Marathe** Roche Venture Fund
**Shaan Gandhi** Pfizer Ignite
**Gladys Nunez** Amgen
**David O'Neill** FACIT

4:00

### Self-driving laboratories: The future is now

Auditorium 10 min

Meet Alán Aspuru-Guzik, professor of chemistry and computer science at the University of Toronto. With prestigious research chairs in theoretical chemistry and AI, Alán leads groundbreaking work in quantum computing, driving advancements in chemical systems and accelerating global scientific discovery through academia and innovative ventures.

**Alán Aspuru-Guzik** University of Toronto

4:10

### AI-enabled drug discovery: Therapeutics as a service?

Auditorium 20 min

This discussion will explore the evolution of AI-driven platforms for drug discovery. Data driven and AI-enabled methods are speeding up the development of a product from the bench to the bedside, with business models falling along a spectrum from software as a service to the discovery and development of individual assets. What does the future of drug development really look like?

**Nancy Harrison** Amplitude Ventures
**Anne Woods** RBCx
**Naheed Kurji** Recursion Pharmaceuticals

4:30

### The frontiers of generative biology with Flagship Pioneering

Auditorium 25 min

With the help of generative AI and machine intelligence, we are making progress in better understanding the codes of life (DNA, RNA and proteins), and the implications for how we design and generate new medicines and materials will be profound. Flagship Pioneering general partner Geoffrey von Maltzahn closes out day one of MaRS Impact Health, describing some of the company's innovations on the frontiers of generative biology, including diverse technologies as protein design, gene writing, and somatic genetics in human health and sustainability.

**Geoffrey von Maltzahn** Flagship Pioneering

4:55

### Closing remarks

Auditorium 5 min

**Louise Pichette** MaRS Discovery District

6:00

### Offsite founder reception: Bridging research and real-world impact

Startuptive - 123 Edward St, Suite 205, Toronto, ON M5G 1E2 90 min

Join an offsite MaRS Health peer-to-peer event after day one of MaRS Impact Health.
This in-person networking session features **Nabanita Nawar**, CEO of HDAX Therapeutics, **Derek Sham**, CEO of COSM Medical, and **Brian Jahns**, COO of Vasomune Therapeutics. They will share their invaluable experiences as founders and executives in the healthcare industry.
**Please note that this event takes place at Startuptive (123 Edward St) and requires advance registration. RSVP for free here.**

June 12 June 13

8:30

### Invite-only breakfast roundtable: Catalyzing innovation in women's health

Collaboration Room 2 75 min

An intimate roundtable for philanthropic leaders delving into opportunities in women's health innovation, and how Canada's philanthropic community can support transformative women's health ventures with the potential for large-scale impact.

**Megan Dover** Cross Border Impact Ventures
**Jocelyn Wessels** Afynia Laboratories
**Laura Minquini** AthenaDAO
**Rachel Bartholomew** Hyivy Health
**Zayna Khayat** Deloitte Canada

9:00

### Registration, networking and expo

Heritage Atrium 60 min

Join attendees for pre-conference networking and coffee while visiting the MaRS Impact Health expo.

10:00

### Day Two: Opening remarks and vital signs

Auditorium 15 min

What to look forward to on day two of MaRS Impact Health, followed by a short pulse check on innovation in the device and digital health sectors.

**Amol Deshpande** MaRS Discovery District
**Louise Pichette** MaRS Discovery District

10:15

### Opening keynote from Brittany Barreto: Advancing women's health innovation

Auditorium 15 min

Brittany Barreto will explore the landscape of women's health innovation, drawing on her unique background as a scientist and entrepreneur. With a focus on technology and investment, she'll discuss practical strategies for advancing FemTech and transforming healthcare for women globally.

**Brittany Barreto** FemHealth Insights

10:30

### Closing the gap in healthcare for women

Auditorium 25 min

For too long, male physiology has informed health care for women. It's time that women's health be viewed as more than a niche market and not just through the narrow lens of reproductive health. This panel delves into ongoing gaps and why it's critical that investors prioritize women's health innovation.

**Danielle Graham** The Firehood
**Jocelyn Wessels** Afynia Laboratories
**Sabriya Stukes** SOSV
**Brittany Barreto** FemHealth Insights

10:55

### Announcement: Accelerating AI-powered healthcare applications

Auditorium 10 min

Bayer and Google Cloud announce a collaboration focused on development of artificial intelligence solutions to support radiologists.

**Dalton Thibodeau** Radiology at Bayer Pharmaceuticals

11:05

### Medical imaging evolution: Advancing therapies and diagnostics

Auditorium 30 min

Imaging data accounts for about 90 percent of all healthcare data. This makes it one of the most important sources of clinical evidence for diagnosis and managing patient conditions. How might AI solutions support the handling, analysis and interpretation of medical imaging data? What do these tools look like when applied in clinical practice? How can Canada's health systems adopt AI and deploy it in a way that helps radiologists and other clinicians who are under pressure and under-resourced? This panel will explore advances in novel AI-powered medical imaging technologies and pathways towards market adoption for impactful outcomes.

**Steve Rankin** Enlitic
**Shawna Pandya** Luxsonic Technologies
**Subrata Bose** Bayer
**Donny Cheung** Google Cloud
**Sunil Rajput** Alberta Innovates

11:35

### Fireside with Rishi Nayyar, co-founder and CEO, PocketHealth

Auditorium 15 min

Medical imaging is the spark to nearly every patient journey, yet manual and legacy image sharing systems deemphasize patient access to their own data, generating unnecessary costs, and delaying patient care. Hear from PocketHealth CEO Rishi Nayyar about evolving the way medical images are shared, while leveraging AI to personalize the patient's care journey with access, control, and a deeper understanding of their health records.

**Rishi Nayyar** PocketHealth
**Katherine Ward** Global News

11:50

### Startup pitch: Digital health ventures

Auditorium 55 min

**Keith Loo** Skinopathy
**Sabina Bruehlmann** Nimble Science
**Ray Yue** Care Group
**Beth Rogozinski** Oncoustics
**Nir Katchinskiy** PulseMedica
**Sakeena Mihar** Savyn
**Kashif Khan** Sonaro
**Paramita Chaudhuri Basu** API

12:45

### Lunch break, networking, workshops and expo showcase

Heritage Atrium and Collaboration Centre 60 min

### Workshop: Closing patient care gaps with AI

Collaboration Room 2 50 min

AI-driven healthcare solutions have been in the works for years, but the direct patient impacts are still limited. In this panel, we hear how healthcare experts are navigating the challenges of implementing and using AI in clinical practice with insights that can be applied in any field.

**Melanie de Wit** Unity Health Toronto
**Katherine Tattum** Tali AI
**René Azeez** MaRS Discovery District

### Workshop: Developing digital medical solutions and drugs more efficiently

Collaboration Room 3 45 min

Explore AI-powered apps that assist radiologists, reduce burnout and support more efficient diagnoses. This workshop is presented by Bayer.

**Subrata Bose** Bayer
**Carola Schmidt** Bayer

### Commercialization-partner pitch

Expo stage (Heritage Atrium) 45 min

**Adam Forman** Synakis
**Dmitri Boudovitch** Folium Labs
**Nicolas Coutin** Arrowsmith Genetics
**Yosuke Niibori** Re:Pair Genomics
**Ruben Rodrigo Lopez Salazar** Nanofacile
**Nicholas Calvert** Yellowbird Diagnostics
**Hugo Bohorquez** Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
**David Uehling** Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
**Anmol Nagpal** Nospharma

### Networking (Provided by Stem Cell Network Canada)

Networking Zone: Collaboration Centre 60 min

1:45

### How much data is enough data?

Auditorium 45 min

Join the Ontario Brain Institute's Centre for Analytics for a session showcasing pioneering neurotechnology ventures and research, culminating in a panel discussion delving into data in the realm of precision neuroscience.

**April Khademi** Toronto Metropolitan University
**Nardin Samuel** Cove Neurosciences, University of Toronto
**Joseph Geraci** NetraMark
**Francis Jeanson** Ontario Brain Institute

2:20

### Fireside with Ben Nashman, founder and CEO, Synex Medical

Auditorium 15 min

As of now, there are no commercially-available devices that measure blood glucose non-invasively. Learn how Synex Medical is attempting to solve for this.

**Ben Nashman** Synex Medical
**Manjula Selvarajah** CBC Radio One

2:35

### Active mobility and the growing need for assistive technology

Auditorium 25 min

People living with disabilities often can't get the assistive devices they need, and startups in this space face numerous barriers when commercializing these solutions. This panel features several experts navigating and supporting ventures as they tackle these scaling challenges.

**Milos Popovic** KITE University of Toronto
**Carolyn Moorlag** Sheridan College
**Pooja Viswanathan** Braze Mobility
**William Chernicoff** Toyota Mobility Foundation, North America

3:00

### Coffee break, structured networking sessions and expo showcase

Heritage Atrium and Collaboration Centre 35 min

### Workshop: Mind balance — Founder mental health

Collaboration Room 2 30 min

A founder's mental well-being is a critical determinant of startup success. Limited access to mental health support is an added challenge for founders and their teams. This session will discuss the results of a recent survey conducted by MaRS and District 3.

**Edna Chosack** District 3, Concordia University
**Alison Smith** Roga
**Louise Pichette** MaRS Discovery District
**Sarah Bartnicka** The Peak

### Workshop: Supporting early stage healthtech ventures

Collaboration Room 3 30 min

Fewer than one-third of companies make it past the first five years and if they do, it's even harder to scale. For healthtech ventures, securing investment often means proving a product or application has meaningful clinical impact. Clinical validation implies that startups can test their solutions in a real healthcare setting, something that isn't currently possible in Canada. This panel will explore opportunities and resources for the health system to better support healthtech ventures in Canada.

**Derek Exner** University of Calgary
**Rachel Bartholomew** Hyivy Health
**Moazam Khan** Velocity, University of Waterloo
**Rebecca Allan** BoxOne VC

### Startup pitch: Digital health and medical device ventures

Expo stage (Heritage Atrium) 35 min

**Ben Thomas** AMPLY Discovery
**Sola Adeleke** Curenetics
**Shubh Mittal** Seleste Innovations
**Fatemeh Ameri** PreciousMD

3:35

### Startup pitch: Device ventures

Auditorium 60 min

**Alison Smith** Roga
**Samuel Bourdon** Statera Medical
**Atefeh (Ati) Zarabadi** AiimSense
**Shalini Gupta** Asima Health
**Brent Willis** Voyageur Pharmaceuticals
**Catalina Vasquez** Nanostics
**Craig Johnson** MIMOSA Diagnostics
**Alex Muggah** Innovation Factory

4:35

### Closing panel: MedTech outlook from Boston Scientific and Stryker

Auditorium 25 min

Hear from global medtech market strategics Boston Scientific and Stryker on their Canadian footprints, areas of focus and approach to partnering. Moderated by an executive from AdvaMed, the world's largest trade organization representing medical technology (device, diagnostic, imaging and digital health technologies companies) and the organizer of The MedTech Conference.

**Ken Spears** Boston Scientific
**Lindsay Williams** Stryker Canada
**Ray Briscuso** AdvaMed

5:00

### Closing reception: Celebrating health founders

Heritage Atrium 90 min

That's a wrap! Join us for a closing reception as we celebrate MaRS Impact Health 2024 and its founders, entrepreneurs, partners and speakers.

# Speakers

**Alán Aspuru-Guzik**
University of Toronto

**Geoffrey von Maltzahn**
Flagship Pioneering

**Brittany Barreto**
FemHealth Insights

**Jonathan Norris**
HSBC Innovation Banking

**Phil Roche**
Jenthera Therapeutics Inc.

**Rishi Nayyar**
PocketHealth

**Matt Anderson-Baron**
Future Fields

**Michael Millar**
Verto Health

**Milos Popovic**
KITE University of Toronto

**Dozie Amuzie**
JLABS Canada

**Alison Nankivell**
MaRS Discovery District

**Louise Pichette**
MaRS Discovery District

**Danielle Graham**
The Firehood

**Amit Deshwar**
Kerna Labs

**Francis Jeanson**
Ontario Brain Institute

**Ben Nashman**
Synex Medical

**Francine Lui**
ProteinQure

**Nisha Marathe**
Roche Venture Fund

**Jefferson Tea**
Takeda Canada Inc.

**Aaron Leibtag**
Pentavere Research Group

**Sabriya Stukes**
SOSV

**Katherine Tattum**
Tali AI

**Melanie de Wit**
Unity Health Toronto

**Parimal Nathwani**
TIAP (Toronto Innovation Acceleration Partners)

**Emil Savov**
MaRS Investment Accelerator Fund

**Moazam Khan**
Velocity, University of Waterloo

**Joseph Geraci**
NetraMark

**Sarah Lowden**
Canadian Medical Association

**Markus Blank**
Bayer

**Megan Dover**
Cross Border Impact Ventures

**Sarah Bartnicka**
The Peak

**David O'Neill**
FACIT

**Felix Baldauf-Lenschen**
Altis Labs

**Sunil Rajput**
Alberta Innovates

**Subrata Bose**
Bayer

**Amol Deshpande**
MaRS Discovery District

**Jocelyn Wessels**
Afynia Laboratories

**Leah Perry**
MaRS Discovery District

**Dalton Thibodeau**
Radiology at Bayer Pharmaceuticals

**Smruthi Vijayaraghavan**
Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine

**Manjula Selvarajah**
CBC Radio One

**Naheed Kurji**
Recursion Pharmaceuticals

**Rachel Bartholomew**
Hyivy Health

**April Khademi**
Toronto Metropolitan University

**Steve Rankin**
Enlitic

**William Chernicoff**
Toyota Mobility Foundation, North America

**Krysta Traianovski**
Velocity, University of Waterloo

**Edna Chosack**
District 3, Concordia University

**Adam Forman**
Synakis

**Lee-Anne Reuber**
Sekond Skin Society

**Carolyn Moorlag**
Sheridan College

**Anne Woods**
RBCx

**Sabina Bruehlmann**
Nimble Science

**Pooja Viswanathan**
Braze Mobility

**Ayesha Rashid**
Xtalks

**Shawn Mondoux**
Prognostiq Health

**Katherine Ward**
Global News

**Carly Weeks**
The Globe and Mail/St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton

**Ruben Rodrigo Lopez Salazar**
Nanofacile

**Nardin Samuel**
Cove Neurosciences, University of Toronto

**Kashif Khan**
Sonaro

**Beth Rogozinski**
Oncoustics

**Heather McDonald**
AstraZeneca Canada

**Amreesh Khanna**
OraQ AI

**René Azeez**
MaRS Discovery District

**Dmitri Boudovitch**
Folium Labs

**Nancy Harrison**
Amplitude Ventures

**Mike Kurz**
University Health Network

**Shawna Pandya**
Luxsonic Technologies

**Leandro Faria**
Starbem

**Mandy Woodland**
Amp Health

**Laszlo Radvanyi**
Ontario Institute for Cancer Research

**Rahul Samant**
Rehabtronics

**Mohammad Ali Amini**
QurCan Therapeutics

**Wendy Naimark**
Ripple Therapeutics

**Katie Hayes**
Wittington Ventures

**Donny Cheung**
Google Cloud

**Nir Katchinskiy**
PulseMedica

**Derek Exner**
University of Calgary

**Israel Gasperin**
Zentrela

**Atefeh (Ati) Zarabadi**
AiimSense

**Sakeena Mihar**
Savyn

**Shaan Gandhi**
Pfizer Ignite

**Laura Minquini**
AthenaDAO

**Paramita Chaudhuri Basu**
API

**Christine Allen**
Intrepid Labs

**Alison Smith**
Roga

**Mathew Platt**
Creative Destruction Lab

**Nicholas Calvert**
Yellowbird Diagnostics

**Rebecca Allan**
BoxOne VC

**Samuel Bourdon**
Statera Medical

**Ratmir Derda**
48Hour Discovery/University of Alberta

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AMPLY Discovery

**Myles Sergeant**
Canadian Coalition of Green Health Care

**Samantha McWhirter**
University of Toronto

**Matthew Rosato**
PROVA Innovations

**Dolma Tsundu**
Flutter Care

**Sola Adeleke**
Curenetics

**David Uehling**
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Deloitte Canada

**Ray Briscuso**
AdvaMed

**Lindsay Williams**
Stryker Canada

**Ken Spears**
Boston Scientific

**Tabassum Pasha**
WaiveTheWait

**Carola Schmidt**
Bayer

**Gladys Nunez**
Amgen

**Trisha Hutzul**
Edwards Lifesciences

**Shelley Vaisberg**
Brainbot

**Anmol Nagpal**
Nospharma

**Keith Loo**
Skinopathy

**Brent Willis**
Voyageur Pharmaceuticals

**Yoobin Lee**
Quip Medical

**Fatemeh Ameri**
PreciousMD

**John David Chibuk**
Blueberry X

**Charles Glaus**
Bayer

**Ron Galaev**
EmergConnect

**Ray Yue**
Care Group

**Yosuke Niibori**
Re:Pair Genomics

**Shubh Mittal**
Seleste Innovations

**Alex Muggah**
Innovation Factory

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Blue Ocean Technologies

**Nicolas Coutin**
Arrowsmith Genetics

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Ontario Institute for Cancer Research

**Brian Jahns**
Vasomune Therapeutics