

Finalists Selected For 7th Annual BioHealth Capital Region Crab Trap Competition

– Winner to be announced as part 2022 BioHealth Capital Region Forum –



ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND, September 12, 2022 – A panel of investor judges and an audience of industry leaders will gather for the presentations of five early-stage companies at the 7th Annual BioHealth Capital Region Crab Trap Competition at US Pharmacopeia on September 21st in Rockville, Maryland. Created in 2016, the competition highlights the commercialization potential of biohealth technologies throughout the region and beyond.

Previous winners include [NanoChon](#) (2021), whose technology is a minimally invasive early intervention that could help avert the need for total knee replacement. [BrainScope](#) (2020) is a commercial-stage medical neurotechnology company focused on assessing traumatic brain injuries, including concussions. [Floreo Inc.](#) (2019) has developed a VR platform that teaches social, behavioral, communication, and life skills for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), ADHD, Anxiety, and other neurodiverse conditions. [Galen Robotics](#) (2018) is a company developing a surgical robotic platform intended to fill needs unserved in the current surgical robotics market, including neurosurgery,

otolaryngology, tissue reconstruction, intrauterine brain, and spine surgery. [Lifesprout](#) (2018) is developing revolutionary products for aesthetic and regenerative medicine. And [Sonavex](#) (2016) is a medtech company focused on automated ultrasound solutions to quantify and visualize critical clinical data for surgeons who need reliable information on-demand.

For the first time in its history, this year's Crab Trap features prizes worth more than \$50,000 including a \$10,000 cash prize from Wilson Sonsini, a \$5,000 cash from Montgomery County (for a firm headquartered in Montgomery County, Maryland), a one-year residency at JLABS @ Washington, D.C., and Preclinical CRO services from Noble Life Sciences.

To attend the Crab Trap as part of the 8th Annual BioHealth Capital Region Forum visit <https://bit.ly/BHCRForum2022>.

The 2022 BioHealth Capital Region Crab Trap Finalists who will present at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21st, are:

Kubanda Cryotherapy

Kubanda has developed a low-cost cryotherapy device for treating veterinary tumors, shifting the care paradigm from expensive, seldom-used specialty centers to patients' local, general veterinary clinics.

Presenter: Bailey Surtees, CEO. Kubandacryotherapy.com.



Neuroene Therapeutics

Neuroene is a biotherapeutics company developing neural cell therapies with single-dose curative potential for the treatment of chronic neurological disorders. Presenter: Sherine Chan, CEO.

Neuroenetherapeutics.com.



Perfusion Medical

Perfusion Medical is commercializing PEG-20k, a breakthrough IV solution for restoration of tissue perfusion invented at the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Medicine. Presenter: Gerard Eldering, CEO.

Perfusionmedical.com.



Polaris Genomics

Polaris Genomics is bringing molecular diagnostics to mental health care and has developed an RNA panel, TruGen-1, that accelerates the research, development, and evaluation of mental health diagnostics and novel therapeutics. Presenter: Charles Cathlin. Polarisgenomics.com.



VPIX Medical

VPIX Medical has developed a real-time, digital biopsy platform, which enables surgeons to perform enhanced cancer surgery.

Presenter: Heejoon Um, Director. Vpixmedical.com.



The Crab Trap finalists will be presenting to a panel of prominent industry funding experts and executives including:

- Rich Bendis (Moderator), President & CEO, **BioHealth Innovation, Inc.**
- Sally Allain, Head, **JLABS @ Washington, DC**
- Lora Green, Partner, **Wilson Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati**
- Conley Jones, Principal, **Alexandria Venture Investments**
- John Newby, Chief Executive Officer, **Virginia Biotechnology Association**



- Katherine Hill Ritchie, Senior Director, **Venture Funds, TEDCO**
- Ethel Rubin, Entrepreneur in Residence, **NIH/BioHealth Innovation, Inc.**
- Brett Shealy, Executive Director, **Life Sciences Banking, J.P. Morgan**

About BioHealth Capital Region

The BioHealth Capital Region (BHCR) consisting of Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC is the prominent BioHealth cluster in the Mid-Atlantic. The BHCR encompasses more than 800 life sciences companies, over 70 federal labs, and world-class academic and research institutions. According to Genetic Engineering News (2021), the BHCR is ranked 4th in Top Biopharma Clusters in the country. The BHCR brand represents a collaboration among leading stakeholders with a collective goal to make the BHCR a top 3 biohealth cluster by 2023. <http://www.biohealthcapital.com/>

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