



connections newsletter



**DEC 2018
UPDATE**

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NCBIO This Month

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Happy Holidays



NCBIO - Media

Find the latest news from NCBIO on the website ncbioscience.net, on [LinkedIn](#) and on Twitter at @ncbio.

NCBIO Links

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NCBIO Sustaining Members

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Wishing all of our NCBIO members and partners a Happy Holiday season. We are fortunate to work with such a great group of member representatives throughout the year to improve opportunities for life science companies. From Sam Taylor, Laura Gunter, Casey Nelson, Amber Niebauer, Brenda Summers and John Wagner, we wish you the best during the holidays and hope 2019 is a great year for all of you.

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Mike McBrierty New Chairman of NCBIO



Tom Staab, Sam Taylor and Mike McBrierty

Mike McBrierty of Biogen will serve as the new Chairman of NCBIO. The organization elected its Officers and Executive Committee at the November 8th Board meeting. McBrierty succeeds Tom Staab, Senior Vice President and CFO of BioCryst Pharmaceuticals. "NCBIO has a strong record of advocating for and serving the growing life science industry in the State," stated McBrierty. "I am pleased to have the opportunity to work with NCBIO's staff and membership to develop a strong policy agenda to present to the 2019 session of the North Carolina General Assembly and the 116th session of the U.S. Congress."

McBrierty is Associate Director, State Public Policy & Government Affairs for Biogen, a global biotechnology company with pioneering work in neuroscience. He is responsible for promoting Biogen's state-level policy interests in the southern region of the United States and works closely with industry, patient community and state government groups across his territory to advance policies that support the research, development, and delivery of innovative biopharmaceutical products. Before joining Biogen's Government Affairs team in 2013, McBrierty was the Public Affairs Lead at Biogen's Research Triangle Park (RTP), North Carolina site and served as North Carolina Director of the Biogen Foundation and member of the company's RTP Leadership Team.

"We are fortunate to have Mike serving as Chairman. He has a deep knowledge of the industry and a strong background in government relations," stated NCBIO President



Novartis



Pfizer



We Work For Health



NCBIO Supporting Members

Cook Medical



Merck



Sam Taylor. "We believe he can provide some new insights into the way we do our work and help us strengthen our advocacy efforts."

Elected Officers of the organization are Sam Taylor as President, Tom Fagley of Hughes Pittman & Gupton as Treasurer and Casey Nelson of NC BIO as Secretary. Those members elected to serve on the Executive Committee are Chris Capel (Smith Anderson), Jay Dixon (PPD), Maeve Gardner (GlaxoSmithKline), Christof Jensen (UCB), Scott Kohne (BASF), Scott Sewell (Cook Medical), Tom Staab (BioCryst), Susan Thomason (IQVIA), Rich West (Baebies), and Tim Willis (MED1 Ventures).

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General Assembly Changes in January

Under results of the 2018 General Election, Republicans will continue to hold the majority of seats in the State House and Senate in 2019, but the party will no longer hold super majorities in either chamber. The change will make it significantly more difficult for the Assembly to override vetoes by Governor Roy Cooper. Republicans appear to hold a 10-vote advantage in the State House and an 8-vote margin in the Senate according to unofficial results.

Two strong supporters of the life science industry lost in the November elections. Rep. Nelson Dollar (R-Wake), who served as House Senior Appropriations Chairman, lost his re-election bid. Life Science Caucus Senate Co-Chair, Senator Tamara Barringer (R-Wake) was also defeated.

"We are enormously grateful for the work of Representative Dollar and Senator Barringer and the support they have provided the industry," stated NC BIO President Sam Taylor. "Their presence will be sorely missed and will increase the importance of our work in educating new members of the General Assembly on life science issues. We look forward to working with the Life Science Caucus in 2019 to brief members of issues of importance to the industry and to continue tours of the industry across the State."

NC BIO will outline its 2019 Legislative agenda in the January newsletter.

Lawmakers were holding a lame duck session at the time of this writing. A summary of relevant activity during the session, which began on November 27, will be included in the next newsletter.

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NC Companies Win at SEBIO

The annual [Southeast BIO Investor & Partnering Forum](#) was held in Atlanta November 13-14. Congratulations to four North Carolina companies that won awards at the SEBIO conference. [Liquidia Technologies](#) won the Public Offering Award. "We are honored to be recognized for our successful initial public offering earlier this year, raising over \$53 million in gross proceeds," stated Neal Fowler, Liquidia's Chief Executive Officer. "This milestone reflects the hard work of our employees and the commitment and belief of our investors. On behalf of the Liquidia team, I want to thank SEBIO for this honor, as well as congratulate all other award recipients." [More](#)

[Humacyte](#) won the Strategic Investment Award. The company primarily focuses on developing and commercializing a proprietary novel technology based on human tissue-based products for key applications in regenerative medicine and vascular surgery. The Venture Funding Award went to [Precision Biosciences](#), which is striving to achieve its goal with ARCUS, its therapeutic-grade, naturally-derived genome editing system that combines both specificity and efficacy to help overcome life's greatest genetic challenges. [Locus Biosciences](#) received the award for Initial Venture Funding. Locus Biosciences is an emerging biotechnology company developing CRISPR Cas3-engineered precision antibacterial products. [More](#)

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Registration Open for Life Science Conference

Registration is now open for the [2019 CED Life Science Conference](#), in partnership with [NCBIO](#) and [NC Biotechnology Center](#). The event is February 26-27 at the Raleigh Convention Center. Conference Co-Chairs are:

- **Matthew Kane**, a serial entrepreneur, currently leads [Precision BioSciences](#)
- **Meg Powell**, CEO & Co-Founder of [TARGET PharmaSolutions](#)
- **Ken McBean**, President and CEO at [Chiesi USA](#)
- **Christy Shaffer**, General Partner at [Hatteras Venture Partners](#)

[Register now](#) to get early bird discount and save more as an NCBIO member. Contact [Amber Niebauer](#) for registration code. If you're interested in being a featured company at the CED Life Science Conference, [learn more and register](#) by December 4th.

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Invest in Cures Forum



[Debra Miller and Rich West](#)

[LaunchBio](#), [BioLabs North Carolina](#), the [North Carolina Biotechnology Center](#), [NCBIO](#), and the [Council for Entrepreneurial Development](#) hosted a forum with investment professionals from disease foundations to discuss their investment philosophies. During the panel on "How the Deal Was Done," Rich West, CEO of Baebies, and Debra Miller of CureDuchenne Ventures discussed how their organizations worked together and as a result of the investment, Baebies is adding Duchenne muscular dystrophy to its expanded newborn screening service. [More on the event.](#)

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Patient and Health Advocacy Summit

Laura Gunter attended the BIO Patient and Health Advocacy Summit in DC on October 25 and 26. The BIO sponsored event, in its 7th year, brought industry, patient groups and government together to consider best practices for policy and advocacy work. This event is free to member companies and patient groups, so feel free to contact [Laura](#) about attending in the future.

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NC Biotechnology Center Announces New Flash Grant

Flash Grants infuse a quick jolt of funding at a critical early point when a small, targeted influx of funds can be crucial to shaping innovative research ideas into high potential life science technologies, particularly in emerging and converging life science sectors. These grants provide up to \$24,000 to support short, sharply focused research projects that address at one or both program goals: to obtain crucial proof-of-concept or feasibility testing data necessary to suggest the disruptive potential of a life science technology, and/or to conduct the final experiment(s) needed to advance a basic life science research program into the translational research phase of development. [Learn more.](#)

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Biopharma Growth in Eastern NC

Triangle Business Journal recently ran a feature story on the growth of the life science industry in five Eastern NC counties – Edgecombe, Johnston, Nash, Pitt and Wilson. [Click](#) to see the article.

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NC State Program Celebrates Collaboration

NC State University's Master of Microbial Biotechnology (MMB) Program celebrated 15 years of collaboration with the biotech community on November 8th. The Symposium, "The Intersection of Science, Business, and Education," brought together leaders with direct connections to the MMB program to speak about their companies and interactions with students. NC BIO members speaking included keynotes by Eric Ward ([AgBiome](#)) and Paul Garofolo ([Locus Biosciences](#)), and panelists representing [BioResource International](#), [Novozymes](#), and [Syngenta](#). To learn more or to get involved, [click here.](#)

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New NC BIO Members



New and Previously Approved Members: Conley Hilliard, Joe Skinner and Leigh-Ann Dudley from Dewberry Engineering; Paula Barngrover from Premex; Mindy Gray from DPR Construction; and Ricky Spero from Redbud Labs

[BE&K Building Group](#) is an integrated construction services company serving advanced manufacturing and distribution, aerospace, biotech and pharma, food and beverage, mission critical, healthcare, higher education and commercial clients.

[Chubb](#) is the world's largest publicly traded P&C insurance company and the largest commercial insurer in the U.S. With operations in 54 countries and territories, Chubb provides commercial and personal property and casualty insurance, personal accident and supplemental health insurance, reinsurance and life insurance to a diverse group of clients. Chubb is a BIO Business Solutions partner. See Member Benefits for more information.

[Dewberry](#) is a leading, market-facing firm with a proven history of providing professional services to a wide variety of public- and private-sector clients. Services range from architecture to emergency management, climate change, engineering, transportation, water and a wide array of others.

[EwingCole](#) is an American integrated architecture, engineering, interior design and planning firm founded in 1961 as Alexander Ewing & Associates. The company brings together research, creativity, and technology through a rigorous process to create places where people live, learn, heal, work, and play.

[HIPRA](#) researches and develops vaccines, diagnostics and pharmaceuticals for animal health. Technology includes Smart Vaccination by HIPRA, a revolutionary concept that combines a smart vaccine including RFID technology in its label, a vaccination device which ensures precision and efficiency, and a new world of digital solutions in HIPRALink Vaccination.

[Newcomb & Boyd](#) offers clients a single source for MEP and specialty system design. With engineers in Atlanta and Charleston, Newcomb & Boyd's innovative engineering solutions have successfully met the needs of institutional, educational, government, military, and commercial clients for more than 90 years.

[Sage Therapeutics](#) is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company committed to developing novel medicines to transform the lives of patients with life-altering CNS disorders. Sage is developing a portfolio of novel product candidates targeting critical CNS receptor systems, including SAGE-217, which is in Phase 3 development in major depressive disorder and postpartum depression.

[Skanska USA](#) is one of the largest construction and development companies in the U.S., serving a broad range of clients. The life sciences teams solve challenges with a creative, balanced approach, and maintain a keen focus on clients' goals throughout the projects. The company brings value-driven solutions and collaborates with clients to provide future-enabled facilities where scientists will research, discover and manufacture life-changing medicines to promote longer, healthier lives. [Click](#) for local contact.

[Marlene Spritzer](#) is a commercial real estate expert specializing in representing corporate end-users, both tenants and owner-occupants. She focuses her practice on life science, healthcare, pharma, medical device, tech and other corporate occupiers of lab, office, industrial and flex facilities. Her unique background as an attorney, with a BS in Chemistry from Carnegie Mellon University, coupled with her Certified Commercial Investment Management (CCIM) certification and over 20 years of commercial real estate transactional experience, brings a strong knowledge base to her clients.

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At the National Level

Federal Administration Releases Plan on Drug Pricing

The industry has been quick to react to the drug pricing plan released in late October by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS announced and sought input on a new "International Pricing Index" (IPI) payment model to reduce what Americans pay for prescription drugs. NCPIO is working with our national partners on this issue.

Under the IPI model, described in an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM), Medicare's payments for select physician-administered drugs would shift to a level more closely aligned with prices in other countries. Overall savings for American taxpayers and patients are projected to total \$17.2 billion over five years.

"President Trump promised that he would bring down drug prices and put American patients first," said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. "With this innovative approach, he is now proposing historic changes to how Medicare pays for some of the most expensive

prescription drugs, securing for the American people a share of the price concessions that drug makers voluntarily give to other countries." [More](#)

Reacting to the plan, BIO President and CEO Jim Greenwood stated, "Adopting foreign price controls on American innovation puts America's patients last and diminishes their hope for a better future. Contrary to the President's repeated promises to end 'foreign free-loading,' this proposal embraces it and exacerbates its harmful effects. By adopting foreign price controls on the very small number of innovative medicines that make it to market, this proposal will severely chill investment in new cures and therapies for America's seniors."

Greenwood added, "To make matters worse, the proposal continues a troubling trend towards undermining the Medicare Part B drug program. This program supports the sickest, most vulnerable Medicare patients and accounts for only a small fraction of all Medicare spending. BIO will strongly oppose short-sighted and harmful changes to a program that is so vital to the health and well-being of our seniors." [More](#)

PhRMA President and CEO Steve Uhl stated, "The administration is imposing foreign price controls from countries with socialized health care systems that deny their citizens access and discourage innovation. These proposals are to the detriment of American patients. The United States has a competitive marketplace that controls costs and provides patients with access to innovative medicines far earlier than in countries with price controls, and it's why we lead the world in drug discovery and development. Americans have access to cancer medicines on average about two years earlier than in developed countries like in the United Kingdom, Germany and France."

"The proposed Medicare Part B model would jeopardize access to medicines for seniors and patients with disabilities living with devastating conditions such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune diseases. The administration's proposal will also hinder patient access by severely altering the market-based Medicare Part B program by reducing physician reimbursement and inserting middlemen between patients and their physicians." [More](#)

FDA Plans to Modernize 510(k) Medical Device Program

FDA Commissioner, Dr. Scott Gottlieb, and Director of the Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Dr. Jeff Shuren, made the following statement about proposed changes. "We're announcing changes to modernize the FDA's 510(k) clearance pathway, which accounts for the majority of devices that the FDA reviews. We're pursuing these changes to help keep pace with the increasing complexity of rapidly evolving technology. The new technology that we're seeing holds tremendous public health promise for patients. But with the advances also come new complexities that can make the review of safety and effectiveness more challenging. The framework we propose is aimed at efficiently advancing beneficial technology to patients, while solidifying FDA's gold standard for safety." [More](#)

AdvaMed CEO Scott Whitaker responded to the FDA proposed changes. "The medical technology industry is committed to patient safety as its first priority, and we agree with FDA that the 510(k) process is a crucial part of the agency's 'gold standard for safety and effectiveness.' As FDA notes, the 510(k) process has served the American public well, facilitating patient and physician access to more than 190,000 devices since its inception with an extraordinary record of safety." [More](#)

Mark Leahey, President and CEO of the Medical Device Manufacturers Association (MDMA), issued the following statement in response to FDA's updates to their Medical Device Safety Action Plan: "FDA is the gold standard when it comes to determining the safety and effectiveness of medical technologies. As MDMA reviews the updates to the FDA's 'Medical Device Safety Action Plan,' we strongly encourage Congress to provide the additional \$46 million requested in the President's budget to expand the agency's ability to assess medical device performance. These additional resources would allow FDA to continue to improve what is already a tremendous track record of protecting patients and spurring innovation." [More](#)

Medical Device Tax Repeal Efforts and News Articles on Devices

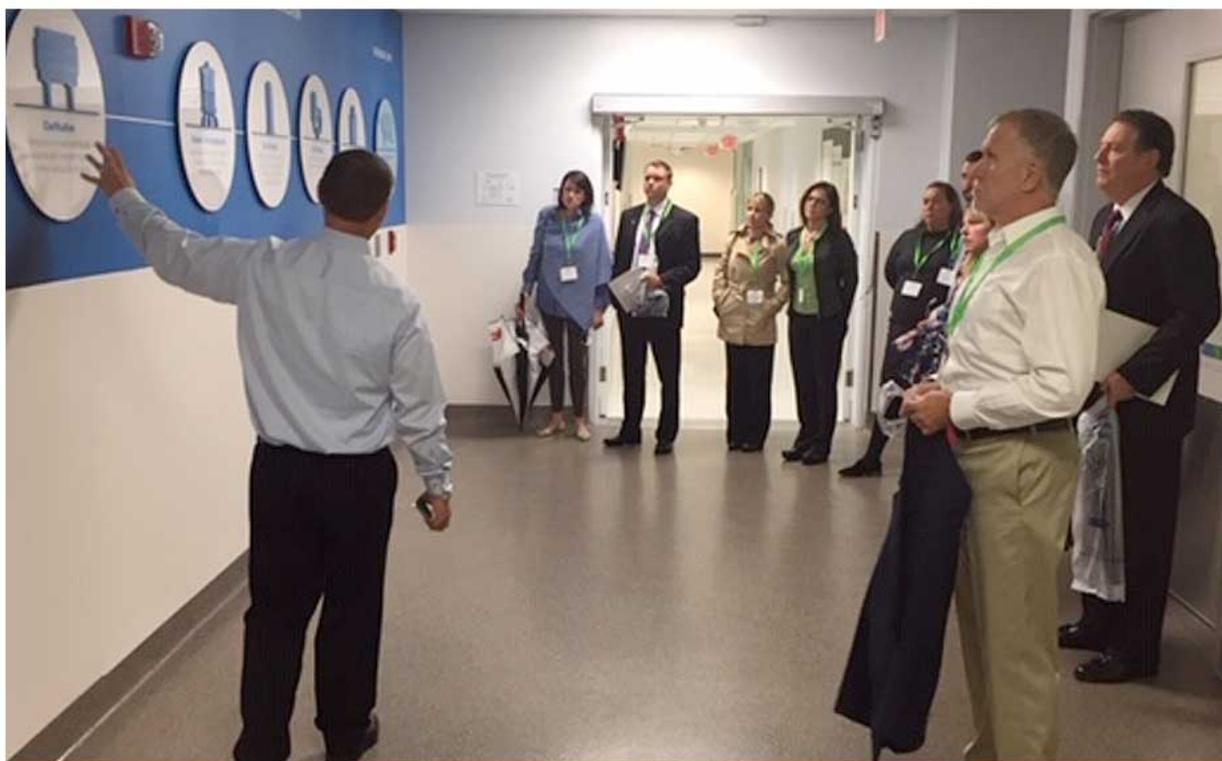
NCBIO is working with national partners on the repeal of the medical device tax by contacting the NC Congressional delegation and signing letters supporting repeal. AdvaMed, MDMA, MITA, and member companies continue a broad swath of advocacy activities as Congress returned and negotiations ramp up for potential lame duck legislation. The groups are tracking developments related to legislation to extend several miscellaneous tax provisions and/or make technical corrections to the tax reform bill passed last year. They are also following progress on the Farm Bill

conference report, which several members have prioritized for the lame duck and which could carry with it a package of supplemental policies, including repeal. Partners are continuing to assess the legislative landscape for the lame duck beyond the Farm Bill and tax extenders, such as the Part D cost-sharing fix that PhRMA is pursuing and efforts to further address the Cadillac or health insurance taxes. AdvaMed and the Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC) are driving a multi-stakeholder letter in support of repeal.

A series of news articles about medical devices have been released. AdvaMed commented on these recent stories from the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) on the medical technology industry: "Every one of us will inevitably face a moment where we will hope for a miracle to make a child, sibling, parent, grandparent, or loved one well again. Whether it's a pacemaker that keeps a heart beating, an implant that allows a child to hear for the first time, or an artificial knee that allows a grandmother to play with her grandkids, medical devices are the foundation of modern medicine, providing physicians and nurses the tools they rely on to improve patient care."

"Yet, instead of a comprehensive look at both the challenges and the achievements of an industry that touches almost every human life, these stories counterfeit the life-changing and life-saving solutions delivered to billions of people worldwide." [More](#)

Senator Tillis Visits Biogen



U.S. Senator Thom Tillis visited Biogen on Veterans Day, Monday, November 12. Prior to a tour of the state-of-the-art facility, Senator Tillis was part of a round table discussion on workforce needs and retraining programs for veterans entering the workforce; patient data issues around pre-existing conditions and genomic information; and drug pricing and potential effects on NC's biomanufacturing economy. Participants included Biogen, GSK, the NC Biotechnology Center, We Work for Health, the Alzheimer's Association, and NC BIO. We appreciate the Senator's interest and strong support of the industry.

Sign Up for BIO's One-on-One Partnering for JP Morgan Week

NCBIO members can take part in BIO's plans for One-on-One Partnering at the first major deal-making event of the new year, the J.P. Morgan Healthcare Conference. Let BIO help you efficiently plan your meetings and maximize your time in San Francisco during JPM week, January 6-10, 2019. [More](#) Join BIO, Big3Bio, and MacDougall Biomedical Communications for a webinar December 12 as they review the numerous receptions, conferences, and co-located events happening during JPM Week. [Register](#)

BIO CEO & Investor Conference

Now in its 21st year, the BIO CEO & Investor Conference is one of the largest investor conferences focused on established and emerging publicly traded and select private biotech companies. The event is February 11-12 in New York City. Each year the BIO CEO & Investor Conference provides a neutral forum where institutional investors, industry analysts, and senior biotechnology executives have the opportunity to shape

the future investment landscape of the biotechnology industry. [More](#)

Sign Up for Discount to BIO Convention

BIO is offering NCBio members the opportunity to lock in a significant discount on two premier registration packages for the 2019 BIO International Convention in Philadelphia, June 3-6: Convention Access and Convention Access & Partnering. Click this [link](#) to complete the form.

Registration for BIO 2019 is not required at this point. Simply complete the form, and you will be sent your discount code prior to registration opening in early January 2019. Complete the form by Friday, January 18th to receive your discount code.

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Member News

To be included in Member News, send information about your organization to Brenda Summers

[Aerie Pharmaceuticals, Inc](#) announced that it has built and commenced operation of its GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices)-validated manufacturing facility for production of ophthalmic implants using the proprietary PRINT® (Particle Replication in Non-wetting Templates) Technology platform. The company now occupies more than 60,000 sq. ft. of laboratory and office space at the Durham facility. [More](#)

[Glenmark Pharmaceuticals](#) celebrated the inauguration of its manufacturing site in Monroe. The Monroe facility will serve as the first manufacturing site for Glenmark in the United States, and the company anticipates the site will grow well beyond its current 168 employees. The Glenmark site is the largest pharmaceutical manufacturer in the Charlotte region. With more than 100,000 square feet, the Monroe facility is designed to manufacture a variety of fixed dose pharmaceutical formulations. Glenmark has invested more than \$100 million into the facility with plans for further expansion in the coming years. [More](#)

[Heat Biologics, Inc](#), a biopharmaceutical company developing drugs designed to activate a patient's immune system against cancer, announced the closing of its previously announced underwritten public offering of 8,000,000 shares of its common stock together with warrants to purchase 4,000,000 shares of its common stock at a combined price to the public of \$1.50. [More](#)

[Humacyte](#) announced the initiation of a U.S. Phase II vascular trauma clinical trial of HUMACYL®, its investigational human acellular vessel (HAV), for vascular replacement or reconstruction in patients with life- or limb-threatening vascular trauma. [More](#)

[IQVIA™](#) announced the launch of Informed Consent Form (ICF) Author, a SaaS eConsent tool for use in clinical trials. The online portal allows sponsors, sites, and contract research organizations (CROs) to produce their own ICFs for delivery via eConsent or traditional paper. [More](#)

[Merz](#) announced long-term results from a Phase 3 extension study of XEOMIN® (incobotulinumtoxinA) for the treatment of adults with chronic sialorrhea, also known as excessive drooling. Results were presented at the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (AAPM&R) Annual Assembly. [More](#)

[Novartis](#) announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has expanded the label for Promacta®(eltrombopag) to include first-line treatment for adults and pediatric patients two years and older with SAA in combination with standard immunosuppressive therapy (IST). [More](#)

[Pharmaceutical Product Development, LLC](#) (PPD) has been honored by Medidata (MDSO) with its Medidata Accelerator Award, recognizing PPD's commitment to innovation for advancing and accelerating the [drug development process](#). [More](#) A scientist in the PPD® Laboratories biomarker lab in Richmond, Virginia, has received industry recognition for her bioanalysis expertise. Jing Tu has been selected as the 2018 winner of the Bioanalysis Rising Star Award, selected from among 30 nominees across the globe. [More](#)

[RTI International](#) has been recognized as a Military Friendly® Supplier Diversity organization for 2019. Military Friendly® is the standard that measures an

organization's commitment, effort and success in creating sustainable and meaningful benefit for the military community. The designation follows on the heels of RTI's recent recognition as a Military Friendly® Employer for creating meaningful employment opportunities for the military community. "RTI recognizes the power of working with and supporting veteran-owned businesses as indispensable for creating strong teams and an innovative work environment," said RTI President and CEO Wayne Holden, Ph.D. [More](#)

[Sage Therapeutics](#) announced that the FDA Psychopharmacologic Drugs Advisory Committee (PDAC) and Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee (DSaRM) jointly voted (17 yes, 1 no) that data support the favorable benefit-risk profile of ZULRESSO™ (brexanolone) injection for the treatment of postpartum depression when administered by qualified staff in a facility that has been certified under a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS) program. [More](#)



Brent MacGregor, Gordon Naylor, Senator Richard Burr, Paul Perreault, Mayor Dick Sears, and Chad Salisbury

[Seqirus](#) announced a \$140M expansion to the Holly Springs manufacturing facility. The facility is part of a growth plan to meet the future demand for the Seqirus' cell-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine. The new addition will allow Seqirus to increase capacity for formulation, fall and finish manufacturing of cell-based and adjuvanted influenza vaccines in global markets. [More](#)

[Syneos Health™](#) announced the appointments of Jonathan Olefson as General Counsel and Corporate Secretary and Robert "Bobby" Parks as Chief Accounting Officer. [More](#)

[UCB](#) and [Biogen Inc.](#) announced top-line results from a Phase 2b study evaluating the safety and efficacy of dapirolizumab pegol (DZP), an anti-CD40L pegylated Fab, in adults with moderately-to-severely active systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) despite receiving standard-of-care treatment such as corticosteroids, anti-malarials and non-biological immunosuppressants. [More](#)

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NCBIO Member Benefits – New Discounts from NCBIO Member Companies

[BIO Business Solutions](#)[®] provides NC BIO members with numerous discount prices. With more than \$350 million in annual sales, BIO Business Solutions[®] aggregates the purchasing power of over 3,000 life science companies from North America. Find out more about [NC BIO discounts](#).

Time to renew your insurance policies? Check out [Chubb](#). For more than 25 years, Chubb has been providing cost-effective risk management and insurance protection tailored to the unique needs of biotechnology companies. Chubb's products include property and casualty, product liability, clinical trial liability, errors and omissions liability, and professional liability insurance. Chubb personnel specialize in the biotech market; they understand the issues and develop tailored solutions. You don't have to switch brokers – just ask your current broker for a Chubb BIO Business Solution quote. [More](#)

New benefit for NC BIO members through [BIO Business Solutions](#)[®]. BIO has partnered with [Scientist.com](#), the online marketplace for outsourced scientific services and products, to offer researchers access to a platform with thousands of pre-qualified suppliers providing custom research services. Immediate savings will be realized by sending requests to multiple suppliers in a single click. Benefits include:

- Savings realized by receiving competitive price quotes from multiple suppliers
 - Registering on the marketplace is free, and there are no set up, subscription, or user fees of any type.
 - Access to the world's largest commercial CRO network - 2,600+ prequalified, registered suppliers
 - Vendor consolidation - all contracting and billing managed by Scientist.com
- Choose from over 3,800 research areas, and [more](#).

[Aon](#), a BIO Business Solutions partner, is providing a new tool that [NC BIO member companies](#) can use to gain visibility into the organization's cybersecurity posture and risk maturity position.

This new tool, [Aon's Cyber Quotient Evaluation \(CyQu\)](#), is a dynamic cyber risk management analytical portal that was developed to empower mid-market enterprises to better understand areas of vulnerability and build a framework to strengthen and focus cybersecurity investments. CyQu is a software-driven assessment tool designed to:

- rapidly evaluate the enterprise cybersecurity posture
- benchmark cyber resilience against industry targets and peers
- streamline and facilitate risk transfer
- develop a data-driven risk management strategy

CyQu, a \$7,500 value, is complimentary to members for a limited time. [Learn more](#). Also, in early 2019, Aon will also host a webinar for BIO and Affiliate members to explore CyQu and the insights that can be gained.

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Calendar

To view full calendar, [click](#).

[LaunchBio's Larger Than Life Science: Big Holiday Party](#)

Thursday Dec 6, 2018

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[2018 SciTech Lecture Series: Future of the Technician Workforce 12-6-18](#)

Thursday Dec 6, 2018

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[ASAP RTP Chapter: Cybersecurity and Privacy in the Collaborative Economy 12-11-18](#)

Tuesday Dec 11, 2018

... [read more](#)

[NC Regulatory Affairs Forum - GDPR: What We \(Think\) We Know So Far \(webex\)](#)

Thursday Dec 13, 2018

... [read more](#)

[NCBiotech Ag Tech Professional Forum February 2019](#)

Wednesday Feb 20, 2019

... [read more](#)

[CED Tech Conference 2019](#)

Monday Feb 25, 2019 - Tuesday Feb 26, 2019

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