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Innovation in pediatric medical devices: Thinking outside the box

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Pediatric medical device development is approximately 10 years behind adult device development. The reasons for this are multiple, the primary being that most devices in the pediatric space are smaller markets. Innovation can be successful in pediatrics however, if inventors are willing to think outside the box when it comes to design, funding, regulation and research on devices for kids. This talk will cover the reasons behind the 10 year lag between pediatric and adult device development and methods that innovators across the country are using to overcome these hurdles. Examples of recent success in pediatric medical device and ways to innovate as a pediatrician will also be discussed.

Biography

Gwenyth Fischer is a Pediatric Critical Care Physician and Assistant Professor at Masonic Children's Hospital and Medical Device Center Innovation Fellow alumni at the University of Minnesota. She is also the Founder and Director of the Pediatric Device Innovation Consortium based at the University of Minnesota. In addition, she serves as the Clinical Advisor to the University of Minnesota Medical Device Center and Pediatric ECMO and Cardiopulmonary Director at Masonic Children's Hospital. She has disclosed over 25 inventions to the University, several in the pediatric space. Her research interests are in the area of design, development, testing and regulation of pediatric specific technologies.

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