

10TH ASIA-PACIFIC PHARMA CONGRESS

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Evolution of bio-pharmaceutical innovation

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The presentation will first explore the challenges faced by bio-pharmaceutical industry. This includes brief discussion around: (i) Global economy slump (ii) tougher regulatory atmosphere (price controls & reimbursement pressures; post-market surveillance; increased inspections and oversight - drug safety laws). (iii) dearth of blockbuster drugs; patent expirations and generics. (iv) malaise of pharmaceutical industry around restructuring, divestitures, cutbacks. (v) shift towards biologics, biosimilars and/or personalised medicines. (vi) electronic health records & globalisation of medical information. (vii) counterfeits & quality related issues eroding consumer confidence. (viii) manufacturers' dilemma: Invest, retreat or outsource. (ix) providers' dilemma: Concern for patient vs. cost of care, etc. Subsequently, the presentation will substantially address 'innovation as the preferred choice' to grow as well as sustain a competitive edge in the market. The impact of biotechnology on the traditional pharmaceutical industry will be used as an example which predominantly revolutionised the pharmaceutical industry and how the management of pharmaceutical innovation today particularly differs from the conventional practices in the industry. Further debate will be on how & what the role of innovative management practices can have on bringing together the stakeholder needs and pharmaceutical business models. On the same note, but in extended/different settings: from a tech-transfer office's perspective - systematically overview the journey of innovation (from scientific discovery to commercialisation) will be presented. There is a need for development of 'human social capital' & 'cultivation of the right culture' to facilitate effectiveness in such journey. The presentation will discuss the best executive leadership practices to build a resilient & agile organization, achieving success in this transition, embarked on innovation.

Biography

Sakthivel Sekar is a business savvy R&D professional with multi-disciplinary educational background (across Engineering, Science & Management). His experience spans across internationally renowned premier academic institutions, pharmaceutical industries, CRO & Govt. research agencies. He is currently a Senior Research Fellow & Lead PI of the JCO Development Platform Grant at A*Star, Singapore, active in early stage/translational drug discovery research trials across multiple therapeutic areas. Prior to relocating to A*Star in early 2012, he was a Janssen Postdoctoral Fellow (2008-2011, Belgium) and Dorothy Hodgkin Postgraduate Fellow (2005-2010, UK). He serves as a scientific, IP, business or technical due diligence Review Panellist for NMRC, Singapore and several peer-reviewed scientific journals including *Psychopharmacology*, *Brain Research Bulletin*, *JMRI*, etc. He appeared in 40+ international conferences/meetings, so far, recipient of several competitive awards, featured in Channel New Asia as one of the Game Changers in the Scientific EcoSystem in Singapore (March 2017). He has developed particular expertise in bio-pharmaceutical innovation and intrapreneurship.

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