

CSRF 2019 PATIENT JOURNEY SUMMIT

FACULTY BIOSKETCHES



Amy Dahm is a CSRF advisor and patient advocate for rare disease, including Cushing's Syndrome and post-operative adrenal insufficiency. She has represented CSRF on a national and international level.

As a cyclical adrenal Cushing's patient, Ms. Dahm underwent a unilateral adrenalectomy in 2014 with Dr. Stratakis' team at NIH. Since then, she has felt driven to advocate on behalf of Cushing's patients and find the best and newest tools for fellow Cushing's patients to improve their experiences.

She has lobbied on behalf of the Cushing's Support and Research Foundation for increased NIH funding on the Hill during Rare Disease Week, and the directors of *Ms. Diagnosed*, a documentary about gender inequities in medicine, filmed her efforts. This

summer Ms. Dahm represented American Cushing's patients and CSRF at the World Alliance of Pituitary Organizations (WAPO) in Lyon, France.

Prior to her diagnosis, Ms. Dahm was a diplomat with the U.S. State Department and an international business consultant with firms such as Bain & Co. She earned her MBA from The Wharton School and has lectured at The Foreign Service Institute and The Wharton School.

In addition to being a frequent writer for and contributor to CSRF, she has appeared as a guest on the Harvard Business Review, CBS Radio, Wharton Radio, and the Empowered Patient Podcast. Her service dog, Sam, was profiled for the rare disease platform Patient Worthy.



Dr. Georgiana Dobri is a board-certified neuroendocrinologist who specializes in disorders of the pituitary and adrenal glands. She provides expert, compassionate care to patients of the Pituitary and Neuroendocrine Program of the Weill Cornell Medicine Brain and Spine Center, and offers ongoing therapies to post-surgical patients. Before joining Weill Cornell Medicine, Dr. Dobri served as Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, and Associate Staff in the Cleveland Clinic Department of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases, where she took care of high-complexity patients in her pituitary and adrenal clinics.

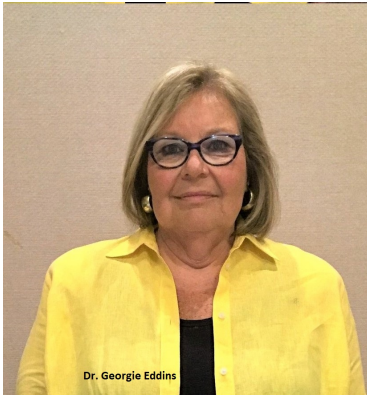
Dr. Dobri received her medical degree from Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, Romania, and spent three years of endocrinology residency in Romania before completing her internal medicine residency at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. She completed an endocrinology fellowship in pituitary and adrenal disorders at the Cleveland Clinic.

Dr. Dobri's research, publications, and invited talks are concentrated on pituitary and neuroendocrine pathology.

"I have been captivated by the complex interactions of the pituitary hormones since I first came to learn about them, and I have made studying these disorders the focus of my work. I am committed to helping the patients whose lives are so deeply affected by them.

Cushing syndrome is probably the most challenging endocrine disorder to diagnose and treat; thinking outside the box and at times using dynamic hormonal testing are required to tackle it.

"It is a privilege to provide outstanding, compassionate endocrine care for patients with pituitary and adrenal pathologies or neuroendocrine tumors. I take a multidisciplinary approach to these disorders and work very closely with my colleagues in neurological surgery, endocrine surgery, ENT, neuroradiology, neuro-ophthalmology, and neuropathology at the Weill Cornell Pituitary Clinic to ensure comprehensive and expedient evaluation and treatment."



Dr. Georgie Eddins, Ph.D., L.C.P., is a licensed clinical psychologist in private practice in McLean, Virginia. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree from the University of Kentucky, a Master of Science in Counseling from Johns Hopkins University and holds a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Walden University.

In addition to private practice, her counseling-related work includes 19 years working at The Women's Center in Vienna, Virginia providing clinical services for adults, families, adolescents, children, low-income, and ethnic minorities. Her clinical practice has included individual, group, family and couples' therapy for personal and relationship issues as well as a broad range of mental health diagnoses including personality, adjustment, and eating disorders; mood disorders of anxiety and

depression; substance abuse; sexual abuse; sexual assault; domestic violence; post-traumatic stress disorder; and crisis intervention.

She provides pre-surgical psychological evaluations for bariatric surgery patients and is a member of the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery as an Integrated Health Care Professional. She is involved in providing individual psychological support for bariatric surgery patients, has assisted with post-surgical support groups, and has led psychoeducational seminars.

In 2012 Dr. Eddins was diagnosed with Cushing's disease and had [transsphenoidal pituitary surgery](#) at the University of Virginia Pituitary Clinic to remove a pituitary macroadenoma. She has been in remission for seven years. She lived with undiagnosed Cushing's disease for about 15 years. During those 15 years, she had gastric bypass surgery for her obesity and subsequently gained half of the weight lost years before her Cushing's diagnosis. She is a participant of the Washington DC metro area CSRF support group. Dr. Eddins has been studying the most recent research on Long-term Quality of Life in Cushing's Syndrome after Remission.

Professional Affiliations:

- American Psychological Association
- Virginia Academy of Clinical Psychologists
- American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
- Psi Chi-National Honor Society in Psychology



Leslie Edwin has been President of CSRF since January 2018; before that she served in various volunteer roles for a few years while attempting to recover from a first round of treatments for pituitary Cushing's. Leslie had a hypophysectomy in January 2013 after an unsuccessful surgery the previous month. She experienced recurrence in January 2016 after a brief "remission". After six weeks of radiation and 18 months of Korym, Leslie's cortisol levels normalized enough to come off all treatment for hypercortisolism and she remains in this grey area today.

It has truly been a privilege and pleasure to organize this meeting, and I can't wait to attend it as a patient. Thank you so much for being here!



Dr. Maria Fleseriu, MD, FACE is President of the Pituitary Society and a Professor of Medicine and Neurological Surgery and Director of the Northwest Pituitary Center at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, Oregon, USA.

Dr. Fleseriu has a long-standing clinical and research interest in the pathophysiology and treatment of pituitary and adrenal disorders. She is a frequent plenary guest speaker at national and international meetings on treatment of Cushing's, acromegaly and growth hormone deficiency, is global principal investigator in clinical trials, and has authored over 160 manuscripts in prestigious journals and book chapters.

Dr. Fleseriu serves on the Board of Directors and chairs Physician Education Committee for Pituitary Society, she serves on several committees for the Endocrine Society, Pituitary Society, and American Association of Clinical Endocrinology and she is past chair of the Endocrine Society Guidelines Committee and the Hypopituitarism task force.

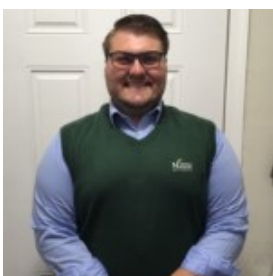
Dr. Fleseriu is Chief Editor of Pituitary Endocrinology for *Frontiers in Endocrinology*, Section Head for *Pituitary and Neuroendocrine F 1000*, Associate Editor for *European Journal of Endocrinology*, *Reviews in Endocrinology and Metabolism* and *Acta Endocrinologica*, Senior Editor for *Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism CR* and a member of the editorial board of *Pituitary* and *Endocrine*. She has been involved in leadership positions of educational programs sponsored by the Endocrine Society, the Pituitary Society, and patient advocacy groups to teach physicians and patients about pituitary tumors and neuroendocrine disorders. She has served on multiple scientific advisory boards for biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies and participated in study design and has been global principal investigator for Cushing's, acromegaly and growth hormone deficiency studies.

Dr. Fleseriu received her medical degree from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, Romania and completed endocrinology training at University Hospital Sibiu, National Institute of Endocrinology "C.I Parhon" (with focus on pituitary disorders), Romania and Centre Hospitalier Luxembourg in Luxembourg. She pursued additional residency in internal medicine at Case Western Reserve University and an endocrinology fellowship at Cleveland Clinic in USA.



Dr. Eliza Geer is an endocrinologist who specializes in caring for people with [pituitary](#) and neuroendocrine diseases. She is the Medical Director of Memorial Sloan Kettering's [Multidisciplinary Pituitary & Skull Base Tumor Center](#). Her research interests focus on achieving a better understanding of how pituitary tumors develop and characterizing long-term outcomes in patients with Cushing's syndrome. She has conducted several studies investigating body composition, appetite, and inflammation in patients with Cushing's disease, and is involved in clinical trials investigating new medical therapies for patients with Cushing's and acromegaly.

Dr. Geer completed her internship and residency at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia Medical Center, and fellowship in endocrinology and metabolism at the Icahn School of Medicine/Mount Sinai Medical Center. As part of her academic career, she spent 10 years as a faculty member at the Icahn School of Medicine and Mount Sinai Medical Center. She is currently an associate professor of medicine and an active member of the Endocrine Society, the Pituitary Society, and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists.



Blake Heflin was diagnosed with classical non-salt wasting CAH at age 4. He graduated from Christopher Newport University with an Honors: B.S in Cellular, Molecular, and Physiological Biology and is currently attending George Mason for a Master's in Health Administration and Health Systems Management. Blake serves as the Vice President of the Board of Directors for Adrenal Insufficiency United ([AIUnited.org](#)).



Dawn Herring is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist with over 20 years of experience. She currently works as a clinical supervisor at a Counseling Center at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California. Previously, Dawn has worked in the field of military family violence, with civilian law enforcement, and in private practice treating and intervening in family violence and trauma. Dawn has extensive public speaking experience in the areas of compassion fatigue and self-care, healthy relationships, family violence prevention, trauma and stress management. She is certified in EMDR, an evidence based treatment modality for trauma. She has done trainings for the Independence Fund, Heroes & Healthy Families and the Drug Enforcement Agency.

Dawn is a Cushing's Disease survivor, having undergone transsphenoidal surgery in June, 2014. She also has undergone two total hip replacements, one in 2013 and the other in 2015. She writes a biannual coping article for the Cushing's Support and Research Foundation and is working on a book for survivors and family members, From Chaos to Wellness Coping with Cushing's Disease.



Dr. Adriana Ioachimescu obtained her MD degree from "Carol Davila" University in Bucharest, Romania in 1995 where she started her academic journey soon thereafter. She obtained her PhD in Endocrinology in 2001 from the same university. After moving to the US, Dr. Ioachimescu completed a fellowship in endocrinology in 2006 at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio, subsequently becoming a faculty member first at the Cleveland Clinic, then at Emory University.

Dr. Ioachimescu is currently a Professor of Medicine and Neurosurgery and the co-director of the Emory Pituitary Center, a busy practice in Atlanta.

"I feel privileged to care for a large number of patients with pituitary and adrenal tumors. I am passionate about educating students, physicians and other healthcare practitioners regarding pituitary and adrenal disorders.

I am the chair of the Early Career Development Committee of the Pituitary Society, and the vice-chair of the Pituitary, Gonadal, Adrenal, and Neuroendocrine Disease State Network of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists. I have written numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, as well as educational materials for patients.

My current research interests are in the field of outcome prognostication and novel therapies. I hope the research generated by my team will translate into earlier diagnosis and personalized treatment for patients with pituitary and adrenal diseases, including those with Cushing's syndrome."



Dr. Meg Keil is a clinical researcher with the NICHD Office of the Clinical Director at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD. Dr. Keil has worked as a pediatric nurse practitioner for over 30 years, caring for children with chronic medical conditions. She received her PhD in Nursing from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and is a graduate of the University of Colorado and Georgetown University.

Dr. Keil's research focuses on bio-behavioral outcomes of early life adversity, pediatric Cushing syndrome, and quality of life and other outcomes associated with chronic endocrine disorders in children. Dr. Keil has authored or co-authored numerous articles published in peer-reviewed journals on pediatric endocrine disorders, including Cushing syndrome, quality of life outcomes, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, obesity,

and pituitary tumors. Dr. Keil has experience in leadership roles in professional nursing organizations, including PENS (Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society) and the European Society of Endocrinology Nurses Working Group.

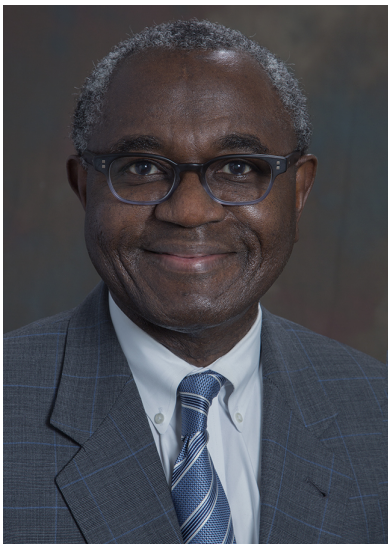


Muriel Marks is executive director of the World Alliance of Pituitary Organizations (WAPO) focusing on pituitary & related diseases. As an international non-profit umbrella organization, WAPO supports national patient organizations in several ways, including an annual summit, a quarterly newsletter and awareness campaigns.

After years of unknown complaints, Muriel was diagnosed with Cushing's Disease in 2010. Since 2013 Muriel is a primary adrenal insufficiency patient. Muriel's personal goal is to support and raise awareness for pituitary and adrenal patients where possible!



Dr. Lynnette Nieman is a Senior Investigator at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD, USA and head of the Endocrine Consult service at the NIH Clinical Center. Dr. Nieman is an active clinical investigator, with eleven protocols. Her research interests include disorders of cortisol deficiency and excess, and female reproduction. She has authored more than 280 publications and sponsored three investigational new drug applications, one of which was licensed in the US and Europe. She has received the NIH Director's Award, NIH Clinical Teacher of the Year Award and the Endocrine Society's Distinguished Physician award and has provided Congressional testimony. Dr. Nieman served as the President of the Endocrine Society from March 2017 to March 2018.



Dr. Nelson Oyesiku is Professor of Neurological Surgery and Medicine (Endocrinology) at Emory University. He is the Al Lerner Chair in Neurosurgery, Vice-Chairman, Dept of Neurological Surgery and Director of the Neurosurgical Residency Program. Dr Oyesiku is co-director of the Emory Pituitary Center and has one of the most active neurosurgical practices in the country devoted to pituitary surgery. Dr. Oyesiku obtained his MD from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He obtained an MSc in Occupational Medicine from the University of London, UK and completed a PhD in Neuroscience at Emory University. He completed his Surgery Internship at the University of Connecticut-Hartford Hospital and obtained his neurosurgical training at Emory University, Atlanta. He is board-certified by the American Board of Neurological Surgery. He received an NIH K08 Award and Faculty Development Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation was a recipient of an NIH R01 award and PI of the R25 NIH training grant for Neurosurgery. Dr Oyesiku's laboratory is focused on the molecular pathogenesis of pituitary adenomas.

Dr Oyesiku has served Emory University on various committees and on several state, regional, national and international committees for all the major neurosurgical organizations. He has served on the Board of Directors and as Chairman of the American Board of Neurological Surgery. He was on the Residency Review Committee of Neurosurgery. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and has served on its Board of Governors. Dr. Oyesiku has been President of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and served on the Executive Committee of the CNS. He has served as Secretary/Treasurer and President of the Georgia Neurosurgical Society,

President of the Society of University Neurosurgeons, and Vice-President of the American Academy of neurological Surgeons. He is chair of the Neuroendocrine Committee of the WFNS and is President of the International Society of Pituitary Surgeons. He was Scientific Program Co-Chair for the WFNS 2009 meeting. He is AANS Delegate to the WFNS and serves on the Executive Committee. He is President-Elect of the World Federation of Neurological Surgeons. He is on the board of directors of the FIENS. Dr Oyesiku has served on several NIH Study Sections.

Dr Oyesiku is Editor-in-Chief of NEUROSURGERY, and he is reviewer for several journals. He is author of over 150 scientific articles and book chapters.

He has been selected by his peers as one of *The Best Doctors in America* and was selected by the Consumer Research Council of America as one of *America's Top Surgeons*. He is named in *Marquis Who's Who in America*. He is a member of the Honor Medical Society - Alpha Omega Alpha. He was recently awarded the "Gentle Giant Award" for his services to Pituitary Surgery and Medicine. He has been visiting professor at several departments of neurosurgery in the United States and abroad.



Dr. Suzanne Penna is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Neuropsychology Division at Emory University School of Medicine. She completed her PhD in clinical and neuropsychology at Georgia State University, and completed her neuropsychology internship at Yale University School of Medicine, and Fellowship training at University of Alabama Birmingham. Dr. Penna is Board Certified in neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology/American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology. She is the director of training for Emory's neuropsychology program, from graduate to fellowship levels. Dr. Penna serves as the Traumatic Brain Injury Clinical Director for Emory Veterans Program. Her research focus is on examining cognitive changes associated with chronic medical illness. She currently conducts clinical assessments and research on individuals with Cushing's syndrome both pre and post-surgery.



Dr. Constantine A. Stratakis trained in Athens, Greece and Paris, France before joining the Developmental Endocrinology Branch of the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD, where he worked on the genetics of familial glucocorticoid resistance.

At Georgetown University, Washington, DC, he completed a residency in Pediatrics and two fellowships, in Pediatric Endocrinology, and Medical Genetics. At NICHD, he served as Branch Chief and then Head of the largest Clinical Research program of NICHD (2003-2011), and Director of the NIH Pediatric Endocrinology Fellowship Program (2002-2014). Since 2011, Dr. Stratakis is the Scientific Director of NICHD, one of the largest NIH Institutes.

Dr. Stratakis is internationally recognized for his research on Cushing syndrome and other diseases, mentorship, and leadership. He is an internationally acclaimed leader on research of the genetic defects leading to diseases of the endocrine glands, mostly in association to predisposition to tumors. His laboratory has identified genes involved in syndromes such as Carney complex and described new entities, such as X-

LAG (X-linked acroigantism), 3-PAs (the 3 Ps association of paragangliomas pheochromocytomas and PA), and isolated micronodular adrenocortical disease (iMAD).

Dr. Stratakis has been extremely successful in employing genetic linkage and other genome-wide tools to identify most of the genes known to be responsible for adrenocortical tumor (ACT) and pituitary adenoma (PA) formation. It should be noted that it was his identification of the protein kinase A (PKA) regulatory subunit type 1A (PRKAR1A) as the gene responsible for Carney complex in 2000 that led to the identification of the PRKACA gene as the most commonly mutated gene in all benign ACTs in 2014 by his and other laboratories.

Most recently, Dr. Stratakis has described novel genes, such as *GPR101* in gigantism, and succinate dehydrogenase (SDH) defects in a variety of tumors, including a disease that bears his name, the dyad of paragangliomas and gastric stromal sarcomas or Carney-Stratakis syndrome. Dr. Stratakis' laboratory has led the efforts to show that many gastric stromal sarcomas (GIST) are due to SDH deficiency, a finding that may change the prognosis of these sarcomas for thousands of patients. His laboratory identified the molecular signature for Carney Triad (i.e. SDHC methylation) that has led to a widely used molecular test for the diagnosis of this rare disease and the associated so called "wild-type" GISTs.

Dr. Stratakis is the author of more than 700 publications and served in major Editorial roles of leading journals, including Deputy Editor of the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism (2010-2015) and co-Editor, Molecular & Cellular Endocrinology (2016-today) and Hormone & Metabolic Research (2015-today). Dr. Stratakis received the 1999 Award for Excellence in Published Clinical Research and the 2009 Ernst Oppenheimer Award both from the US Endocrine Society, and a number of other honors, including a number of NIH Merit Awards; he also has been named Visiting Professor in academic centers around the world. He is the recipient of The 2019 Dale Medal from the British Endocrine Society, and for his work on Cushing syndrome received in 2018 the European Society of Pediatric Endocrinology (ESPE) the International Award. He served as the 2018-2019 President of the Society of Pediatric Research (SPR). He is an honorary member of the Hellenic Society of Cardiology (2017) and the Hellenic Endocrine Society (2019) for his work on the genetics of hypertension and endocrine diseases, respectively. He holds two honorary doctoral degrees from the Universities of Liege (2013) and Athens (2017).

As a mentor, Dr. Stratakis has trained more than 200 students, residents, pre-doctoral, post-doctoral and clinical fellows, and now nurtures the careers of junior faculty members and investigators. He has received numerous recognitions for his mentorship and teaching, including the most recent (2017) Great Teacher award at the NIH.



Shannon Taylor is a graduate of Christopher Newport University with a B.A. in Communication, now in the final year of her graduate program in Health Communication at George Mason University, where she is also an instructor in Communication. Shannon serves as the secretary on the Board of Directors of Adrenal Insufficiency United, a non-profit organization dedicated to bettering the lives of adrenal insufficient patients through education, emergency protocols, and legislation. She came into the AI community after meeting her significant other, Blake Heflin, who was diagnosed with classical non-salt wasting CAH at age 4.



Dr. Nicholas A. Tritos is a staff neuroendocrinologist in the Neuroendocrine and Pituitary Tumor Clinical Center and a faculty member in the Neuroendocrine Unit at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston. He completed medical studies at the University of Athens (MD, DSc) and at Harvard Medical School (MMSc). He serves as Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr Tritos completed his postgraduate medical training in Internal Medicine and Endocrinology at Beth Israel Medical Center in Boston and received board certifications from the American Board of Internal Medicine in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism and Internal Medicine.

Dr Tritos' main clinical and research interests include pituitary disease, growth hormone deficiency in adults and regulation of energy homeostasis. At present, he mainly conducts clinical research focusing on pituitary tumors and growth hormone deficiency in adults. Dr Tritos has served on the Curriculum Committee at Tufts University School of Medicine. He currently serves as Chair of the Endocrine Fellowship Curriculum Committee, is a member of the Clinical Competency Committee at MGH, a subspecialty core educator for endocrinology, and the Director of the Endocrine and Neuroendocrine Electives for MGH medical residents. He has served on several national Committees in professional organizations, including the Endocrine Society and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists.

Dr Tritos has authored over 110 peer-reviewed publications and 20 book chapters. He serves as Associate Editor or editorial board member for several professional journals. He is the recipient of the 2011 MGH/ Gilbert H Daniels Award for excellence in teaching. He was nominated for the 2016 MGH/ Massachusetts General Physicians Organisation (MGPO) McGovern Award for clinical excellence, and has an active research portfolio focused on clinical research.



Lisa Ward, PA-C has been practicing with Dr. Ioachimescu and Dr. Oyesiku and the Emory Pituitary Center since 2012. She has been in practice since 2005 after graduating with a Masters in Medical Science from the Emory Physician Assistant Program. Prior to pituitary medicine she worked in hospital medicine and family medicine.

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INDUSTRY BIOSKETCHES



Joseph K. Belanoff, M.D. is a co-founder of Corcept Therapeutics and has served as a member of the Board and as the Company's Chief Executive Officer since 1999. Dr. Belanoff is currently an Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University since 1992. Dr. Belanoff received his B.A. from Amherst College and his M.D. from Columbia University's College of Physicians & Surgeons.



Dr. Nerissa Kreher is an accomplished physician executive and pediatric endocrinologist with strong biotech experience in Clinical Development and Medical Affairs. Her expertise is in the development of medications/ products for rare diseases spanning multiple therapeutic areas. Equipped with an MBA and an in-depth understanding of commercialization, she has made an impact at small (pre-IPO/start-up), medium and large biotech organizations, including private and public companies.

Having gained international clinical and medical experience at multiple organizations, Dr. Kreher has an ability to execute global strategies. Her track record includes clinical trial site expansion and regulatory interaction throughout Europe, demonstrating her strong cultural savvy.

Currently the Chief Medical Officer at Tiburcio, Dr. Kreher oversees clinical and regulatory development strategy. She serves on the start-up's senior leadership team and also presents to its board of directors. Prior to joining Tiburcio, Dr. Kreher was Chief Medical Officer at AVROBIO where she oversaw clinical and regulatory development for multiple, ex vivo lentiviral gene therapy programs in lysosomal storage diseases. She was a member of the IPO team (with the CEO and CFO) that successfully led to the upsized \$116M IPO at AVROBIO in June 2018. Her role continued to include ongoing interactions with investors following the IPO.

At Zafgen, Dr. Kreher was Global Head (VP) of Clinical and Medical Affairs at Zafgen, where she created a global Medical Affairs organization and took on additional clinical responsibilities. Most notably, she was the Lead for addressing a crisis (significant safety signal in a clinical trial that impacted a phase 3 program). She previously guided Global Clinical Development programs for Neonatology at Shire. Prior to that position, she was Executive/Senior Medical Director at Enobia Pharma and conducted due diligence that helped lead to Alexion's \$1B+ acquisition of Enobia.

Dr. Kreher holds multiple degrees, including an Executive MBA from Northeastern University, an MD from East Carolina University School of Medicine and an MS in Clinical Research from Indiana University. She is certified in Pediatric Endocrinology by the American Board of Pediatrics.



Matthew Pauls has more than 20 years of leadership experience in the pharmaceutical industry and has been president, chief executive officer and director of Strongbridge Biopharma plc since August of 2014. He brings extensive general management and commercial leadership experience to the company, including U.S. and global product launches, negotiation and execution of numerous business development transactions, significant experience in raising capital in the public markets, clinical development, and oversight of global technical operations.

Before joining Strongbridge, Matt was the chief commercial officer at Inmed, a publicly traded biopharmaceutical company. Prior to that, he served as senior vice president, head of global commercial operations at Shire Pharmaceuticals and also held senior positions at Bristol-Myers Squibb in brand management and payer marketing, and at Johnson & Johnson in various U.S. and global commercial roles.

Matt was previously the chairman of the board of directors at Mast Therapeutics, Inc., and currently serves on the board of directors of Strongbridge Biopharma, Savara Pharmaceuticals, Zyla Life Sciences, and is a volunteer board member of The

Pennington School in Pennington, New Jersey.

Matt holds MBA and BSBA degrees from Central Michigan University and earned his JD from Michigan State University College of Law.



Jay Welsh began his career in the 1990s with Forest Laboratories (now Allergan) in the specialty, hospital and government markets. During his tenure at Forest is where he first began to focus on drugs and biologics used to treat rare and Orphan diseases. He continued to work on rare disease drugs at Ovation Pharma (now Lundbeck) in porphyria, epilepsy, movement and clotting disorders, etc. Later he was on the management team that built the US affiliate of Recordati Rare Diseases with continued focus in porphyria and urea cycle disorders. Since mid-2018, Jay has worked closely with HRA Pharma Rare Diseases, which is committed to expanding its

US presence, thus increasing access to its products used to diagnose and treat rare endocrine diseases.

Commercializing drugs and building companies that support rare diseases continues to be a primary focus for Jay which is why he's grateful to be a part of the HRA Pharma Rare Diseases team. HRA Pharma Rare Diseases has been committed to supporting the rare disease community for nearly 20 years in Europe and is now increasing its footprint in the US. Jay has a BA in Biology from William Jewell College (MO) and an MBA from the University of Chicago and resides in the Chicago, IL area.