

## Business Consortium

 **Mission of AABC**

The mission of the Alzheimer's Association Business Consortium (AABC) is to advance Alzheimer's disease research and innovation in small- and medium-size biotechnology, diagnostics, medical device and contract research organizations.

AABC members work in areas of common interest pre-competitively to advance both the field of Alzheimer's research and the goals of its member organizations. They provide leadership and direction to the group's areas of focus, which include, but are not limited to, collaborations, recognition and visibility, and knowledge and information sharing. AABC welcomes new members who are aligned in their commitment to research and innovation. To express interest in joining, please email [Joseph Araujo](#) or [Dr. Codi Gharagouzloo](#), co-chairs, or [Dr. Christopher Weber](#), facilitator.

 **Welcome to our New Members**

AABC is growing! Welcome to:

- » **Constance McKee, MBA & Stephen B. Kahl Ph.D.**, [Manzanita Pharmaceuticals, Inc.](#) Manzanita Pharmaceuticals, Inc., is a therapeutics company focused on neurological conditions that can be treated with drugs or contrast agents attached to neurotrophins. For Alzheimer's disease and dementia, the company is developing anti-inflammatory drug payloads that may be administered intranasally.
- » **Knut M. Wittkowski, Ph.D.**, [ASDERA LLC](#). ASDERA LLC develops IP for oral drugs for treating and nutraceuticals for preventing cancer and neurodegenerative diseases by modulating the endocytosis-lysosome-autophagy axis.
- » **Lauren D'Angelo, MBA**, [Alpha Cognition](#). Alpha Cognition is a clinical stage, biopharmaceutical company dedicated to developing treatments for under-served neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's dementia, Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI) and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

 **News from AABC Members****Neuronascent Announces Publication of Pre-clinical Results of Alzheimer's Disease Clinical Candidate, NNI-362.**

Neuronascent is a clinical stage company founded to discover and develop novel therapies to halt and/or reverse diseases of the central nervous system by promoting true neuron regeneration. The short report in the [Stem Cell Research & Therapy journal](#) entitled "Novel pharmacotherapy: NNI-362, an allosteric p70S6 kinase stimulator, reverses cognitive and neural regenerative deficits in models of aging and disease." The report describes the phenotypic screen used by Neuronascent to discover NNI-362 and details the *in vitro* and *in vivo* results of this NCE. This small molecule therapy is presently in Phase 1a clinical trial for mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease, which is supported by a NIA R01 grant in healthy aged volunteers. The unique mechanism-of-action of NNI-362 targeting an allosteric auto-inhibitory site allows for selective neuron generation in age-related degenerative disorders and aims to be the first disease-modifying and potentially "curative" therapy for diseases such as Alzheimer's.

**DIAMIR****DiamiR Announces Acquisition of CLIA Lab from Interpace Biosciences**

DiamiR, a developer of innovative blood-based diagnostic tests for brain health and other diseases, announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certified laboratory in New Haven, Connecticut from Interpace Biosciences, Inc.,

"Acquisition of this CLIA-certified lab facility significantly expands DiamiR's capabilities to develop and commercialize our microRNA-based tests for early detection, differential diagnosis, prediction of

progression and monitoring of brain health and other conditions,” commented Dr. Samuil Umansky, president and chief scientific officer of DiamiR. “It is especially timely as our lead pipeline product, CogniMIR™, for mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer’s disease, enters late stages of development and validation. CogniMIR™ combines brain-enriched and inflammation-associated microRNA biomarkers detectable in blood plasma and algorithm classifier. DiamiR’s other programs focus on analysis of circulating organ-enriched microRNAs as peripheral epigenetic biomarkers of disease severity and progression as well as response to treatment during drug development.”

[Learn more.](#)



## Virtual Events

### Continuing to Serve Small Businesses During the Pandemic

The National Institute on Aging Office of Small Business Research (OSBR) is adapting and working hard to support small companies, entrepreneurship and innovation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The [NIA OSBR](#) offers opportunities to connect and learn about small business funding. Follow them on [LinkedIn](#) for additional networking opportunities for grantees and investors.

### Register today

Join us in Denver, USA, or online for [AAIC 2021](#), July 26-30. The world’s leading basic scientists, clinical researchers, early career investigators, clinicians and the care research community convene at AAIC to share breaking research discoveries that will lead to methods of prevention and treatment and improvements in diagnosis for Alzheimer’s disease.

[Registration](#) for the online conference is available at no cost for members of the [International Society to Advance Alzheimer’s Research and Treatment \(ISTAART\)](#). Not yet a member of ISTAART? Join today — new members can select the **ISTAART + AAIC** bundle during registration to receive no-cost registration to attend AAIC online or in-person registration discounts, plus year-long ISTAART membership and benefits, including networking opportunities and access to Professional Interest Area (PIA) events.



## Social Media

Join our new [LinkedIn](#) page! As discussed during the AAIC AABC meeting, please visit our page and request to join. We look forward to using the page to foster partnerships and communications!



## Alzheimer’s Association Science Hub App



Science Hub provides the latest news right in the palm of your hand. This trusted tool distributes research, spreads awareness and delivers accurate information directly to your phone.

Learn more at [alz.org/sciencehub](http://alz.org/sciencehub), or search “Science Hub” in your app store.



## Spread the Word

To help us grow AABC, please continue to introduce new members and companies to our group. We also welcome ideas or events for this newsletter so we can better serve you. Please send your suggestions to [Ashley Hansen](#).