

Management Team Bios



Timothy Sweeney, MD, PhD

Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Timothy Sweeney, MD, PhD, is a licensed physician and data scientist with over 10 years of experience researching sepsis. He is co-founder and CEO of Inflammatix, Inc., which focuses on using robust informatics and machine learning to derive novel HostDx™ diagnostics based on ‘reading’ patterns in the immune system. Dr. Sweeney completed his MD and PhD at Duke University, after which he was a surgery resident at Stanford. While training as a surgeon, he became frustrated with the limitations of current diagnostic tools for infection. During his residency, he completed a postdoctorate MS in Biomedical Informatics, mentored by Dr. Purvesh Khatri. Together they designed the custom informatics algorithms for sifting through heterogeneous ‘big data,’ which formed the core technology on which Inflammatix is based. Inflammatix’s first tests are focused on diagnosing acute bacterial and viral infections and sepsis. The company is funded by Khosla Ventures, Stanford-StartX Fund and the U.S. government’s DARPA program.



Jonathan Romanowsky

Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer

Jonathan Romanowsky is co-founder and chief operating officer of Inflammatix. He has nearly 15 years of novel, high value molecular diagnostics commercialization experience, including serving in commercial leadership roles at Telomere Diagnostics, Veracyte, CardioDx and CareDx. He has successfully brought product concepts from development through launch to achieving standard-of-care status. He has lead numerous commercialization efforts in product management, marketing, operations, reimbursement and sales in the United States and abroad. Previously, Jonathan pioneered electronic prescribing at iScribe (now part of CVS) and was a business strategy consultant for Bain & Company. Jonathan earned his Bachelor of Science in Political Economy from the University of California, Berkeley and his MBA from Stanford University, focusing on medical technology innovation.



Oliver Liesenfeld, MD, PhD

Chief Medical Officer

Oliver Liesenfeld, MD, has over 25 years of industry and academic experience in the diagnostics field, with a focus on molecular diagnostics and infectious diseases. As chief medical officer at Roche Molecular Diagnostics, he built a state-of-the-art medical department and led the company's clinical science, medical affairs, clinical operations and biometrics functions. His team designed and executed numerous clinical trials to support regulatory approvals and commercialization of the company's broad product portfolio, including the LightCycler® SeptiFast test for use in sepsis diagnosis. Dr. Liesenfeld previously served as associate professor of Medical Microbiology and Infection Immunology at the Charite Medical School in Berlin, Germany, where his research focused on the immune response to infections. He holds an MD and a doctoral (Dr. med) degree from the Free University of Berlin, Germany and completed his residency in medical microbiology and infection epidemiology at the Charite Medical School, Berlin. He also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine at Stanford University. Dr. Liesenfeld has authored more than 160 articles in peer-reviewed journals and more than 30 book chapters.



Ljubomir Buturovic, PhD

Vice President of Informatics

Ljubomir Buturovic, PhD, is vice president of informatics at Inflammatix where his team leverages novel data science, machine learning and artificial intelligence to develop and validate the robust clinical algorithms that power the company's diagnostic tests. Prior to Inflammatix, Dr. Buturovic was the principal at Clinical Persona, a consulting firm specializing in machine learning algorithm development for the life sciences industry. He previously served as chief scientist at Pathwork Diagnostics, Inc., where he led predictive algorithm development for two FDA-cleared genomics tests for cancer. Prior to that, he was bioinformatics director at Incyte Corporation. He has served as adjunct professor of computer science at San Francisco State University since 2005. Dr. Buturovic received his PhD in electrical engineering from University of Belgrade, Serbia, and did postdoctoral training at Boston University's BioMolecular Engineering Research Center.





Purvesh Khatri, PhD

Co-Founder and Scientific Advisor

Purvesh Khatri, PhD, is co-founder and scientific advisor to Inflammatrix and is an assistant professor at the Stanford Institute for Immunity, Transplantation and Infection. He has more than 15 years of professional experience in the areas of bioinformatics, computational biology, and translational medicine. He is well known for work on the development of ontological and pathway analysis of high-throughput molecular data, and for the integration and analysis of high-throughput genomics and proteomics data. Dr. Khatri developed the first tool – Onto-Express – for analysis of microarray data using gene ontology. He expanded his work in ontological analysis to develop a suite of web-based open access tools, Onto-Tools. His recent work is focused on developing computational methods for integrated, multi-cohort analysis of publicly available data to increase the sample size as well as better account for heterogeneity observed in real world patient populations. Using these methods, he has identified highly specific and sensitive biomarkers for: 1) acute solid-organ transplant rejection, 2) cancers (pancreatic cancer, small cell and non-small cell lung cancer, mesothelioma), and 3) infectious diseases (sepsis, respiratory viral infections, tuberculosis).

Board of Directors



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Vijit Sabnis, PhD

Venture Partner at Khosla Ventures

Dr. Sabnis is a venture partner at Khosla Ventures, where he focuses on emerging physical and life science technologies.



Steve Tablak

Former Chairman and CEO, GeneWeave

Dr. Tablak joined GeneWeave with a great idea for a transformative IVD and helped to build a great company.

Advisors



Mark Eshoo, PhD

Acting VP of R & D, Inflammatrix

Dr. Eshoo previously served as the Director of New Technology Development at Abbott Labs.



Jesús Bermejo-Martin, MD, PhD

Principal Investigator, BioSepsis

Jesús F Bermejo-Martin, MD, PhD, trained in Medicine at the University of Valladolid, Spain.



Hector Wong, MD

Professor of Pediatrics

Dr. Wong is a Professor of Pediatrics at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.