



7th Annual

Neuropsychiatric Drug Development Summit

Fuelling Next Generation Neuropsychiatric Approvals

Exclusive Interview With:



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How has the psychiatry treatment landscape evolved over the last 12 months and where do you see it heading in the next few years?

There is certainly reason for hope – positive trials, reinvestment in CNS, and an appreciation that the status quo is not sufficient for patients. The challenge, I think, is maintaining a focus on innovation rather than repetition. Ensuring transformational interventions for patients with significant unmet need – that’s what we’re trying to accomplish with Delix’s neuroplastogens.

Following recent approvals, with more anticipated this year, where is the field looking next to develop more effective, differentiated and transformative therapies for mental health disorders?

Two approaches are required – the first is pushing the envelope on innovation. The second, and arguably more important of the two, is understanding how mental health treatments are delivered. It is certainly exciting to see movement towards specialized and potentially “personalized” approaches to neuropsychiatric care. My concern, though, is that this approach will only reach a small slice of the population that could benefit. Most mental health care is delivered in a primary care setting – not under the care of a psychiatrist, let alone a precision psychiatry clinic. We need to be working towards interventions that can be delivered

using the current treatment infrastructure. Safe, well-tolerated, oral, take-home therapies – these remain critical attributes to a truly breakthrough mental health treatment.

Which specific challenges are you looking forward to addressing with colleagues at the Neuropsychiatric Drug Development Summit in order to collaboratively propel advancements?

The importance of collaboration, particularly from a regulatory perspective, and the need to remain humble. The brain is and will always be the most complex organ – and we have barely scratched the surface in terms of understanding the underlying drivers of brain pathology, let alone how to correct them.

Which sessions in the agenda are you most looking forward to at the 7th Neuropsychiatric Drug Development Summit?

The pre-conference workshop on the value of EEG as a translational tool is of particular interest. This is a method that has stood the test of time in CNS (decades of experience and data), and combined with new computational approaches, we have the potential to make significant advances in how we think about early-stage CNS development.

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the full program here



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