



Press Release

Contact: Joanne Gere

Executive Director BioPharma Research Council

732-403-3137

jgere@biopharmaresearchcouncil.org

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**Internet of Medical Things
Addresses CyberSecurity Issues Facing Pharmas and Device Developers**

(Tinton Falls, NJ) At the Internet of Medical Things (July 29, 2015, Princeton NJ), speakers from Johnson & Johnson, the FDA, Sage BioSciences and MAW Consulting presented their perspectives on issues key to developing safeguards for drug development data, patient records, and medical devices.

Dr. Suzanne Schwartz, the FDA's Director for Emergency Preparedness addressed the agency's approach to building internal communications and public-private partnerships to enhance cybersecurity throughout the healthcare system. While it's not always easy to find a "front door" for collaborating with the FDA, she mentioned National Healthcare & Public Health Critical Infrastructure Protection (<http://www.nhisac.org/>). Resources from her talk and others are posted at www.biopharmaresearchcouncil.org

Colin Morgan, Information Security Officer for Global R&D at Johnson & Johnson, provided an overview of recent exposures, and emerging technologies such as telesurgery robots, bionic eyes, and other connected devices that provide potential targets for hackers.

Miranda Alfonso-Williams of MAW Consulting, formerly of GE Healthcare, provided a roadmap for integrating cybersecurity planning from the earliest stages of device development to hedge against vulnerabilities that may cause catastrophic impacts on both patients and companies.

As a vivid counterpoint, John Wilbanks of Sage Bionetworks shared his organization's iPhone-based program, enrolling and testing almost 70,000 participants in Parkinson's research pilot in just five months. By engaging many thousands of patients, and conducting research directly through the device (leveraging its interface and gyroscopes), the project seeks to demonstrate the value of patient-generated consent and open access to qualified researchers who can mine the gathered data.

"I came away with a number of ideas about the future," says Joanne Gere, Executive Director of the BioPharma Research Council, the program's convener. "We're committed to sharing knowledge about the process of balancing innovation and openness with security baked in at appropriate levels. That's a powerful through-line we'll cultivate in our 2016 programming."

The BioPharma Research Council (BRC) is an association for scientists across the many silos of biomedical research—industry, academic, nonprofit, government, and supplier labs and their teams. The BRC provides educational programs through conferences and webinars, all designed to help scientists succeed in cross-functional endeavors.

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Thank you each so much for your strong contributions to yesterday's program. The feedback is terrific- our participants really appreciated hearing from your different perspectives, and your generosity in spending time with them provided enhanced value to everyone's experience.

Among the comments I received, my favorite was, "I wish I had this program a year ago!"

It's an honor to convene around important knowledge sharing, and a pleasure to have had even a short moment with each of you.

I came away with a number of ideas about the future, and most particularly with a belief that the BRC can play a role in stimulating understanding of the process of balancing innovation and openness with security baked in at appropriate levels. That's a powerful through-line that I would like us to cultivate in our 2016 programming.

Please feel free to be in touch with your thoughts about yesterday and any future concepts we should consider, including holding similar conferences in different locations or virtually.

We'll be posting the presentations and slides as noted in your Speaker Releases, and will send an email when they're up (probably Monday). Thanks again for making this extended resource available. You can feel free to link to them as you wish.

In other news, we did receive a note from Hardik that he wasn't able to get to the conference, and I've reached out to try to include him in future activities, which may include a webinar or other setting.

Sent to Speakers:

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