

MEDIA RELEASE

From Neurotech to Superpowered Protein: The Final Health.Pioneers Mix

Vienna, September 24th, 2018 - With the second edition of Health.Pioneers coming up on October 10th, we reveal more international speakers for the industry-focused event in Vienna. We also confirm the over 70 startups and their inspiring ideas selected to pitch and exhibit at Vienna BioCenter - and the jury members who'll judge them as they compete for the Health.Pioneers Challenge Award powered by UNIQA.

Fittingly for what will be World Mental Health Day, we're proud to be hosting psychotherapist **Benjamin Fry**, founder of **NeuralSolution**. He will speak about groundbreaking emotional and mental health treatment and demystifying the field.

Furthermore, we'll be welcoming **Professor Siegfried Meryn** of the **Medical University of Vienna**, who is also the General Secretary of the International Society of Men's Health and the man behind various preventive healthcare initiatives.

The audience will also get to hear from **Verena Kretschmann**, Head of European Operations at **Medicus**, an Artificial Intelligence-based platform that converts health data into an interactive experiences with personalized insights and smart coaching for the user's wellbeing. She'll be taking part in our *Open Innovation* panel discussion.

In total, 25 startups will introduce themselves either in the event's exhibition area or on stage. This small group has been hand-selected from over 200 applications, and represents a variety of the most innovative companies in the healthcare scene.

The Health.Pioneers Challenge Award Powered by UNIQA will be divided into two pitching tracks, with each startup having three minutes to convince the jury and win a pitching slot Pioneers'19, our flagship event on May 9th-10th, 2019. The two pitching tracks are *Digital Health* and *Medical Technology*:

Among those pitching in the *Digital Health* track will be **Doctorly**, whose software solution helps doctors simplify and speed up administrative tasks, **Cognuse**, an Estonian startup offering a comprehensive rehabilitation platform, and **GoClinic**, who will explain more about their Blockchain-based digital healthcare system.

In the *Medical Technology* track, companies such as London-based **ThinkSono**, which has developed a hand-held Deep Vein Thrombosis detection device, and 'protein superpowering' startup **VALANX Biotech** will get the chance to pitch. **MicroQuin** and **CytoSwitch** have also been chosen for this track.





The confirmed jury members, investors and experts in the health sector travelling from as far as Texas to join us, are:

- Dr Hubert Zajicek (Health Wildcatters)
- Casper Smeets (Rockstart Digital Health)
- Tony Chang (Merck Ventures)
- Philipp Ritterhaus (HTGF)
- Katharina Ehrenfellner (CONDA)
- Lucanus Polagnoli (Speedinvest)
- Peter Lasinger (capital300)
- Nikolaus Wrabetz (UNIQA)

Andreas Nemeth, CEO at our partner **UNIQA Ventures**, is excited to see the new technological solutions these hopeful founders will be pitching: "I see exponential medical technologies as a key catalyst for innovation and transformation of the healthcare system," he says. "I believe in the transformative power startups have on changing entire industries, and this will play out in healthcare too."

The exhibition area will be led by our Pioneers'19 winning startup **SzeleSTIM**, who will show off the latest iteration of their chronic pain treatment earpiece solution. A few of the other exhibiting startups include **Active Wearables**, **Braincontrol**, **Cooltec**, **HappyMed**, **ReFlex** and **VivoSensMedical**.

Meanwhile we'll be running a 'Hot Seat' session on raising follow-on funding for a special group of the 70+ attending startups. In this discussion, Series A startup founders will have the chance to pick the brains of a panel experienced investors. They will also be able to gain one-on-one life sciences-specific insights in the Office Hours session, and learn about startup-corporate collaboration in a workshop run by Pioneers Discover.

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Note to the Editors

Media Contact: For further information contact: media@pioneers.io. For more news from the world of Pioneers, visit our blog (<http://pioneers.io/blog>) or follow us on social media:



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About Pioneers:

Pioneers is the ultimate One-Stop Hub for global tech innovators to access high-value, curated and qualified data of early-stage and Series A European startups. It establishes and facilitates direct, meaningful business relationships between startups, corporate executives, and investors. Established in 2009 in Vienna, Pioneers helps redefine industries by creating various platforms to help develop future technologies and introduce cutting-edge solutions. Its services include digital services, consultancy, ventures services, events and inspirational, tailor-made offline experiences. Pioneers Discover, its consultancy services arm, which was founded in 2013, shapes the future of corporates and the public sector by introducing entrepreneurial tools, methods, and innovation driven corporate culture. Its investment arm Pioneers Ventures, which was founded in 2015, advances the growth of early-stage startups.

