

MEDIA RELEASE

3D Bioprinted Organs, AI Powered Diagnostics & Health-Enhancing Jewellery

Speakers Revealed For Health.Pioneers!

Vienna, September 3rd, 2018 - With the second edition of Health.Pioneers coming up at the Vienna BioCenter on October 10th, we're pleased to announce the first round of top speakers and startups for the event, which will once again be the ultimate gathering for innovators in healthcare. Attendees can look forward to talks from the likes of women's health tech leader **Urška Sršen**, 3D bioprinting expert **Melanie Matheu** and **Chris Edson**, who'll share insights on his Open Innovation experiences.

With Open Innovation at the heart of the event's philosophy, we're bringing together innovators and decision-makers from the pharma, biotech, insurance and public health sectors at the Vienna BioCenter.

The line-up of both speakers and startups is now taking shape, and the quality is just as exciting as that of the first Health.Pioneers event in Amsterdam last October. At this year's edition, headlined *Catalyzing Innovation: from prevention to personalized treatment*, all the talks and startup pitches will take place on a single stage.

Five years ago, **Bellabeat** Co-Founder and our first keynote speaker, **Urška Sršen**, was pitching in front of a Pioneers audience at our flagship event in 2013. Since taking victory at the Hofburg, she and her smart jewellery company have gone on to become leaders in the field of women's health. She'll talk about how a greater focus on beautifully-designed health tracking products for women can be used to bring more attention and understanding to the topic of their health.

Another keynote speaker will be **Visulytix** Co-Founder and CMO **Sameer Trikha**. He'll demonstrate the fascinating diagnostic power of his company's AI-powered software, which can help detect a range of diseases through analysis of the retina. The technology can already offer clinical decision support for the detection of diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration, as well as early insights into Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases.

Huge potential in healthcare also lies in 3D bioprinting, and one of the leaders in this area is **Prellis Biologics** CEO and Co-Founder **Melanie Matheu**. She'll deliver a keynote on laser-based tech that can create functional human tissues and organs, with applications including organ transplants, drug discovery and toxicology testing.

Keynote speaker **Balder Onarheim** will be demonstrating how neurostimulation can make individuals more creative and productive. He's the Co-Founder and CEO of **PlatoScience**, a company that's developed the world's first headset to support brain training and enhance cognitive performance.





Open Innovation, the power of collaboration between startups and larger organizations, will be a further key theme at this industry-focussed event. Co-Founder and CEO **Chris Edson** will illustrate its potential by representing **OurPath**, the first online behavioural change program to be commissioned by the National Health Service in the UK. He will give insights into the company's experiences of working with the NHS and the international pharma corporation Roche during our Open Innovation panel together with **Olivier Heyning**, Co-founder and CEO of **LUMICKS**, who will speak about the startup's recent collaboration with AstraZeneca and the University of Cambridge to form the first ever *Center of Excellence for Dynamic Single-Molecule Analysis for Accelerated Drug Discovery and Biology*.

On the startup front, we've already finalised a number of the 50 seed-stage entrepreneurs we're inviting to the event. These include Finnish smart pill tracker solution **Popit** and Hungarian innovators **Healcloud**. The latter brings two innovative software solutions to the table: One provides actionable insights from electronic health records through big data analytics, while the other is a real-world evidence tool that helps cut the duration of clinical research. Our oncology startups include **CytoSwitch** and **MicroQuin**. The former has a targeted chemotherapeutics solution currently in pre-clinical development, with promising in vivo data. MicroQuin is at a similar stage, working on a cell-penetrating peptide that conjugates with existing chemotherapeutics to selectively target cancer cells.

As part of our commitment to Series A startups, we're also inviting 20 of these more advanced enterprises. They won't be taking part in the pitching contest, but they will take part in workshops, office hours and networking sessions dedicated exclusively to their stage of development. They'll also be considered as speakers.

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Note to the Editors

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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.



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