

ACCELERATING DRUG DISCOVERY THROUGH VENTURE PHILANTHROPY

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Drug discovery and development is a very risky, costly and time-consuming activity. Bringing new drugs to market has been estimate to take 12-15 years at a cost of US \$1B.

Developing disease-modifying drugs for chronic diseases of the nervous system has been especially difficult. Despite this, there has been much research regarding the basic mechanisms of chronic neurodegenerative disease that could form the basis of new drug development programs. However, a funding gap exists in the translation of this science into new therapeutics. In this session, we will discuss how venture philanthropy is increasingly taking a role in advancing high risk, early stage therapeutic approaches to chronic diseases of the nervous system, such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and Huntington disease.