



THE TEXAS POLICY VOICE FOR HEALTHCARE AND BIOSCIENCE

Virtual Spring Policy Summit Program
Life Science Innovation Drives a Healthy Texas

March 10, 2021
10:00-11:30 am

10:00 10:45 **An Update on COVID-19 and How Texas is Creating a Post-Pandemic Environment Panel**

America's biopharmaceutical industry has swiftly responded to the COVID-19 pandemic through research and development and creating diagnostics, vaccines and therapeutics, but that is only the start of creating a post-pandemic environment. This discussion will focus on the innovation of COVID vaccines, what policies are necessary to ensure Texans can access to these treatments, how we approach getting Texans back to work and safely re-opening the state. *Confirmed Speakers:*

Dave Hering, Regional President of Vaccines for North America, Pfizer
David Lakey, M.D., Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, University of Texas System
Andrew Strong, Partner, Pillsbury
Moderator: Bradley Westmoreland, State Government Affairs, Genentech

10:45-11:00 **The Cost of Innovation Keynote**

Scott LaGanga, Senior Vice President of State Advocacy and State Policy, PhRMA

11:00-11:30 **The Important of Patient Access**

The progression of innovation has resulted in new discoveries and treatments to life saving medications for rare diseases. Strong policies foster innovation and are critical to ensuring patients receive access to the discoveries being created. This discussion will focus on the impacts of COVID-19 on the rare disease community, and what policies are important for the Texas Legislature to pass to ensure Texans can access and afford lifesaving treatments. *Confirmed Speakers:*

Dennis Borel, Executive Director, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
Tiffany Cook, Senior Director, CureDuchenne
James Grey, Managing Director, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Greg Hansch, Executive Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness Texas
Moderator: Mike McBrierty, Director, State Public Policy and Government Affairs at Biogen and Chair of the THBI Rare Disease Workgroup

11:30 **Closing Remarks**