

Key Influencers Speak out to Support Alzheimer's XPRIZE at 2017 Global XPRIZE Visioneers Summit



Ricardo Allegri, MD PhD, Chief of Cognitive Neurology, FLENI

“The initiative will be very important because the earlier we detect the disease, the greater the possibility to find an effective treatment.”



Jack Andraka, Inventor, Scientist & Cancer Researcher

“The prize fits nicely into the XPRIZE framework.”



David Bennett, MD, Director, Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center

“Alzheimer's is going to crash the aging economies around the world.”



Dale Bredesen, MD, Founding President & CEO, Buck Institute for Age Research

“Medicine is 100 years behind Silicon Valley. XPRIZE exists to change the world in a disruptive way.”



Rachel Buckley, PhD, Research Fellow in Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital

“This is clearly a problem that we need to tackle, and I believe that XPRIZE is the best way to do this.”



Meryl Comer, Advocate, Author, Journalist, President and CEO of the Geoffrey Beene Foundation Alzheimer's Initiative

"I don't envision there being something to save my husband or my mother, who's too old, or for me, as a matter of fact."



Jeffrey Cummings, MD ScD, Director, Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health

"We've got to solve this problem, and we can do it with the Alzheimer's XPRIZE."



P. Murali Doraiswamy, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Duke University

"We need a goal of focusing on next generation biomarkers."



Phyllis Ferrell, MBA, Global Alzheimer's Disease Platform Team Leader, Eli Lilly

"Lilly has been in Alzheimer's disease research now for over 30 years. But we know we cannot do it alone. This disease is a beast."



Howard Fillit, MD, Founder and Chief Science Officer, Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation

"For almost 40 years, I have been working to find a cure and effective treatments for Alzheimer's Disease."



James Firman, EdD, President & CEO, National Council on Aging

"I can't think of a more important topic for an XPRIZE."



Adam Gazzaley, MD PhD, Co-Founder & Chief Scientist, JAZZ Venture Partners

"Scaling and getting attention is the biggest plus in participating in an XPRIZE."



Michael Hodin, CEO, Global Coalition on Aging / Managing Partner, High Lantern Group

“Not since the Middle Ages with the Bubonic Plague have we been afflicted as a society across the world by such an epidemic.”



Takeshi Iwatsubo, MD, Neurologist, Professor, University of Tokyo

“Now, Alzheimer’s disease has become a global issue.”



Jo Ann Jenkins, CEO, AARP

“As our population ages and people live longer, one of the greatest challenges we face as a nation is putting an end to Alzheimer’s disease.”



Wambui Karanja, Executive Director, African Community Services of Peel

“More than four million people live with dementia in Africa.”



Mehmood Khan, MD, Chief Scientific Officer and Vice Chairman, PepsiCo

“And one thing we all know as scientists is that some of the greatest breakthroughs happen at the convergence of different disciplines, when different perspectives come together.”



Robert Kramer, Founder & CEO, National Investment Center for Seniors Housing & Care (NIC)

“We have got to take a radically different approach to stopping this disease.”



Geoffrey Ling, MD, Professor, Neurology, Johns Hopkins Hospital

“The time really is now to go ahead and do an XPRIZE for Alzheimer’s disease. The technological revolution that is applicable to this space is great.”



Mary Michael, Vice President, Patient Advocacy & Stakeholder Management, Otsuka America Pharmaceutical

“The XPRIZE can be the catalytic force that Alzheimer’s innovation so desperately needs.”



Mark Michalski, MD, Executive Director, Center for Clinical Data Science at Massachusetts General Hospital & Brigham and Women’s Hospital

“It’s a long time coming, using data and crowdsourcing to find better ways to diagnose this debilitating disease.”



Rosabeth Moss Kanter, PhD, Ernest L. Arbuckle Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

“Crowdsourcing, creating networks, looking for new kinds of solutions that are unique, novel, and fresh—That’s the way we will make progress.”



Greg O'Brien, Journalist & Author of *On Pluto: Inside the Mind of Alzheimer’s*

“And now the disease has come for me. I’ve been diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer’s.”



Mehmet Oz, MD, Author, Host of *The Dr. Oz Show*, Vice-Chair and Professor of Surgery at Columbia University

“Maybe it will come from artificial intelligence, perhaps physics. That’s the beauty of crowdsourcing a solution to this devastating health problem. And why I’m so excited about XPRIZE Alzheimer’s.”



Suzana Petanceska, PhD, Program Director, Neuroscience Division, National Institute on Aging

“There is so much data that can be mined. There’s data we haven’t even scratched the surface on.”



Daisy Robinton, PhD, Postdoctoral Scientist, Boston Children’s Hospital

“Researching the brain is the last frontier of biology. We need to do a better job of how we’re approaching the question we’re interested in answering.”



Bob Schafer, PhD, Director of Research, Lumos Lab

“It’s exciting to think of a central place where different data sets could come together.”



Dr. Pernessa Seele, Founder & CEO, Balm in Gilead

“My grandmother died of Alzheimer’s. My mother now has Alzheimer’s. Memory gone.”



Dennis Selkoe, MD, Professor of Neurological Disease, Harvard Medical School

“The goal is to identify Alzheimer’s disease and other similar cognitive disorders in people much earlier than we do now.”



Eliav Shaked, Founder and CEO, RetiSpec

“We are very excited to extend our support to the XPRIZE Alzheimer’s competition because it really goes along with our mission statement, which is to transform Alzheimer’s treatment from reactive to proactive.”



Reisa Sperling, MD MMSc, Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School

“The time is overdue for the public’s perception to change dramatically regarding Alzheimer’s.”



Robert Stein, MBA CAE, President & CEO, American Society of Aging

“Investing in an Alzheimer’s XPRIZE will catalyze through leaders and change agents from fields far-ranging and from nations around the globe working together to end Alzheimer’s in our lifetimes.”



Rudy Tanzi, PhD, Vice Chair of Neurology and Director of the Genetics and Aging Research Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School

“The time is now and the XPRIZE can make it happen.”



Dylan Wint, MD, Director, Neurodegeneration Education, Cleveland Clinic

“We don’t have good ways of accessing the pathology in the human being. We need a biomarker that starts to change earlier in the process. Early detection can break the cycle.”



Loretta Woodward Veney, Author, Trainer, Motivational Speaker

“If this disease could only have been detected early or prevented, [...] we’d be happily living our lives without the dread and the heartache of watching our loved ones wither away each and every day.”