

October Program
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TOPIC: **R&D Productivity: Are There Winning Strategies?**

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R&D is the lifeblood of the pharmaceutical and biotech industry. However, the industry is coping with ever-rising costs for R&D, coupled with increasing governmental and social pressures to keep prices down. These economic issues are driving industry consolidation around the world.

According to a study released by Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development in 2006, top U.S. drug companies have increased the number of new clinical trials by more than 50 percent since 2002, following a 21 percent decline from 1993-97 to 1998-02, signaling a possible resurgence in R&D productivity. If that is the case, what are the main drivers?

At this program, two experts from different disciplines discuss R&D productivity from their own perspectives. The discussion includes but not limited to:

- How do the FDA and pharma companies define R&D productivity, and how is it measured?
- The key issues affecting R&D productivity today and recent trends – has big pharma emerged from R&D productivity doldrums? If so, how?
- How has the FDA's "Critical Path Initiative" improved R&D productivity?
- What can be done to increase R&D productivity? What technologies are available?