

New York Academy of Sciences Features HemoShear Platform for Liver Diseases



HemoShear Therapeutics' platform for identifying novel treatment approaches generated significant interest at the New York Academy of Sciences Translational Approaches for Human Liver Disease [symposium](#) held on February 20. Among the oldest scientific organizations in the United States, the Academy's membership has featured thinkers and innovators from all walks of life, including U.S. Presidents Jefferson and Monroe, Thomas Edison, Charles Darwin, Margaret Mead, and many more. This week's meeting attracted more than 100 scientists from academia and industry to address methods for bridging the research gap from preclinical animal models to much-needed treatments for patients.

Brian Wamhoff, PhD, Head of Innovation, was invited to speak about advances generated by HemoShear's transformational in vitro human liver platform for drug discovery in non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH), a fast-growing liver disease with no approved treatments. HemoShear's REVEAL-Tx™ platform has a number of advantages over current approaches because it uses human tissue to interrogate drug responses rather than using animal or cell-line models.

Dr. Wamhoff presented how the REVEAL-Tx™ platform accurately replicates the human pathophysiological pathways of NASH to validate disease targets, explore drug intervention strategies and select drug candidates with higher probabilities of clinical success. HemoShear has studied more than 20 NASH drugs in development across the industry to provide scientific insights to help lead to better therapeutics.

"There are more than 40 drugs in the pre-clinical and clinical development stages for NASH, but innovative approaches have been stymied by a lack of disease understanding and animal models that do not reliably map to the human response," says Wamhoff. "The experts at the Academy meeting were very interested in our powerful tool that converges great human biology and computational science to generate valuable insights that will accelerate progress."

Recognizing the incredible promise of the platform, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company entered into a [drug discovery partnership](#) with HemoShear last October. The collaboration, worth up to \$470 million in milestone payments, provides Takeda with exclusive access to HemoShear's REVEAL-Tx™ platform to discover novel targets and accelerate development of best-in-class therapies for NASH and other liver diseases.

In addition to NASH, HemoShear's [drug discovery programs](#) are focused on propionic and methylmalonic acidemias, rare genetic metabolic disorders with no currently effective treatment.