

## **BIO Breakout Session: “Predictive Diagnostics” Track**

Wednesday May 5, 8-9:30 am, Room S402A

### **Session Title: “Functional Biomarkers: The Next Phase of Personalized Medicine?”**

Abstract: Much has been said about the limited number of clinically validated, biomarker-based tests to effectively stratify patients and predict drug response to both chemotherapy and targeted cancer therapeutics. To discuss this problem, this panel of experts will explore the limitations of current classes of biomarkers based on traditionally processed blood and tumor samples. The panel will then discuss the opportunities (and challenges) presented by functional biomarkers, including novel ex vivo biomarkers that are evoked from living cells, as well as analysis of cultured or xenograft cells from patient samples. Participating panelists/presenters will represent a range of drug development and molecular diagnostic companies that are using or developing live tumor cell based tests, including chemosensitivity and resistance assays (CSRAs), patient-specific xenograft models, and ex-vivo tests to evoke novel RNA and protein biomarkers for leukemia, lymphoma and solid tumors designed to predict patient response to chemotherapy and targeted cancer therapeutics.

#### Moderator:

Dr. Douglas P. Clark, Chief Science Officer, BioMarker Strategies (confirmed)

#### Panelists:

Dr. David Parkinson, President and CEO, Nodality (confirmed)

Dr. Nicholas C. Dracopoli, Vice President, Biomarkers, Centocor R&D, Johnson & Johnson (confirmed)

Dr. Manny Hidalgo, CSO, Champions Biotechnology (confirmed)

Dr. Alan Wells, CSO, Precision Therapeutics (confirmed)