



Oregon Bioscience Association

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Neela Patel, PhD
Director, External Research
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Dr. Patel is Director, External Research for Abbott Laboratories with responsibility for identification and evaluation of discovery-stage collaboration and licensing opportunities in the Western US. In addition, Dr. Patel serves as the therapy area liaison for oncology, partnering with senior management to create the overall strategy for the pipeline, conducting pro-active searches for assets and collaborators, and assessing all incoming opportunities worldwide for technical robustness and strategic fit.

Dr. Patel has over seventeen years pharma/biotech industry experience with small molecules and biologics from early stage discovery through IND filing, with a focus on oncology and ophthalmology. Most recently, she led Preclinical and Translational Medicine at Poniard Pharmaceuticals where she established the biology department and jointly created a preclinical product pipeline with the head of chemistry. Prior to Poniard, Dr. Patel served in drug discovery management positions of increasing responsibility at Genentech, SUGEN/Pharmacia, and Roche Bioscience. Dr. Patel was also a key member of several start-up company teams to establish the overall business and scientific strategies and to seek funding, including securing a total of \$37M in Series A for Ophtherion, Inc.

Dr. Patel graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University with a B.S. in Biology and B.A. in Humanities (with Honors), and holds a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the University of California, Los Angeles. She completed her post-doctoral training at DNAX/Schering Plough.