



Richard B. Gaynor, M.D.
SU2C Scientific Advisory Committee



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President, Chief of Research and Development, BioNTech US
Member, Stand Up To Cancer Scientific Advisory Committee
Cambridge, MA

Richard Gaynor, M.D. is currently President, Chief of Research and Development at BioNTech US. He joined Neon Therapeutics in 2016 as President of Research and Development until its acquisition by BioNTech in 2020. Prior to joining Neon, Gaynor was Senior Vice President of global product development and medical affairs at Lilly Oncology. In total, he spent 15 years in senior roles at Lilly Oncology where he led preclinical and early clinical research, directed the biomarker and research groups, and served on key company portfolio review committees.

Gaynor began his career in academia, spending nine years on the faculty at UCLA School of Medicine followed by 11 years on the faculty at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, including serving as the Chief of the Division of Hematology-Oncology and Director of the Simmons Cancer Center. In 2002, he moved to Eli Lilly, where he began his industry career overseeing both oncology drug discovery and early clinical development. Gaynor chaired the Lilly Oncology Research and Development Committee and helped oversee a variety of collaborations, including with Bristol-Myers Squibb, Merck, AstraZeneca and GE. He is the author of nearly 150 publications and has served on numerous boards and committees, including several with the AACR, the Stand Up To Cancer Scientific Advisory Committee, the MD Anderson Moon Shots Advisory Board, the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation and Accelerating Cancer Cures. Gaynor holds an MD from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and, following his residency in internal medicine there, he completed fellowship training in hematology-oncology at the UCLA School of Medicine.