

→ Performance LEADERS

These life-sciences C-suite executives are leading their companies and groups with tenacity, determination, and courage amid myriad market challenges and opportunities.



With keen insight and an unwavering dedication to patients, Dr. Todd Sherer inspires collaboration and action across stakeholders, and is truly a leader for the next generation of drug discovery and development.

Todd Sherer, Ph.D., CEO of The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF), is directing the organization's research strategy and is responsible for the organization's overall scientific and fundraising direction to speed treatment breakthroughs and a cure for Parkinson's disease.

Dr. Sherer has been a key architect of the foundation's strategy to define high-priority research areas for Parkinson's disease — therapeutic targets and approaches that are closest or most critical to practical relevance in patients' daily lives — to leverage donor-raised capital to push projects in these areas toward the clinic.

Becoming CEO of the foundation has been a career highlight for Dr. Sherer, but it was not

Dr. Todd SHERER The Right Foundation

his first association with Parkinson's disease. While at Emory University, Dr. Sherer was involved in the discovery that established that the pesticide rotenone is a potential cause for Parkinson's disease.

Dr. Sherer recently provided expert testimony before Congress on the National Center for Advancing Translational Science, NIH's first institute devoted to meaningfully progressing early-stage discoveries toward practical patient relevance. As VP, research programs, then chief program officer and now CEO, Dr. Sherer has overseen MJFF investments of almost \$78 million for more than 160 industry-led projects.

The MJFF's recent collaboration with Sanofi could yield the first drug to treat PD's cognitive symptoms. Further, the groundbreaking PD biomarker study PPMI has attracted 11 funding partners from big pharma to date. And the foundation's new Fox Trial Finder clinical trial recruitment tool has recruited more than 8,000 PD patients and controls ready to participate in clinical trials. With keen insight and an unwavering dedication to patients, he inspires collaboration and action across stakeholders, and is truly a leader for the next generation of drug discovery and development. 



Did You Know?

Dr. Todd Sherer was voted "all-around athlete" at summer camp.

PRAGMATIC. DETERMINED.

NAME: Todd Sherer, Ph.D.

CURRENT POSITION: CEO, The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Jan. 14, 1973; Franklin Square, N.Y.

EDUCATION: B.S., Duke University; Ph.D., University of Virginia

FIRST JOB: Basketball coach, summer camp

FIRST INDUSTRY-RELATED JOB: Scientific Manager, The Michael J. Fox Foundation

ALTERNATIVE PROFESSION: College basketball broadcaster

PROFESSIONAL MENTORS: Debi Brooks, The Michael J. Fox Foundation; Katie Hood, The Michael J. Fox Foundation; Dr. J. William Langston, The Parkinson's Institute; Dr. Timothy Greenaymre, Pittsburgh Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS: The Movement Disorder Society; The Society for Neuroscience

AWARDS AND HONORS: Bio Rad American Society for Cell Biology Travel Award; Eric Lothman Award for Outstanding Graduate Student in Neuroscience; NIEHS Travel Award

GIVING BACK: Breast cancer organizations; The Michael J. Fox Foundation

WORDS TO LIVE BY: Yes, if

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