

# BETTER BIOTECH

## THIS IS GILBERT, ARIZONA

### What makes Gilbert a Better Location For Biotech?

Located in the southeast valley of the Phoenix metropolitan area, Gilbert, Arizona has seen an influx of world-class facilities, talents, innovations and public private partnerships.

Some of the nation's major healthcare players like **Dignity Health** (formerly Catholic Healthcare West), **Banner Healthcare** and **M.D. Anderson Cancer Center** call Gilbert home. Their cutting edge research and development of life saving devices and procedures have been noted world-wide. In addition, Gilbert has experienced substantial growth in algae technologies, particularly in pharmaceuticals/nutraceuticals which provide health and medical benefits. Finally, Gilbert is well-known for stem cell transplant therapies and regenerative medicine through firms like **Celebration Stem Cell Centre**, **Translational Research Institute**, and **Cardiovascular & Stem Cell Consultants**.

The development of intellectual properties in the community led Gilbert to being named one of the nation's **Top 20 Thriving Cities** with an average of **259 patents a year**. This coupled with the rapid growth of NIH grant funding to Arizona institutions over the last decade (65.3 %) proves there are limitless possibilities for collaboration.

Gilbert has over **2 million-square feet of hospital and clinical research facilities** including Banner M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, the Ironwood Cancer Research Center; Mercy Gilbert Medical Center, Banner Gateway Medical Center and Gilbert Hospital. Additionally, Gilbert has approximately **30 acres of commercial real estate earmarked** for healthcare facilities and service.



#### NOTABLE ADVANCEMENTS

- Cardiovascular, stem cell and oncology sciences and research
- Regenerative medicine
- Pharmaceuticals/nutraceuticals
- Medical Device

#### WORKFORCE

- Gilbert's STEM Workforce grew by 9% in the last five years - out-pacing major metro cities like San Francisco
- Within a 30-minute Commute:
- Access to a workforce of 1 million individuals
  - 100,000 healthcare practitioners and technicians
  - Biomedical jobs are growing three times faster than the national average

#### EDUCATION

- 38% of Gilbert residents hold a bachelor's degree or higher - out-pacing the national average of 28.1%
- 69 colleges, universities and technical schools are within a 30-minute commute
- Gilbert's Campo Verde High School offers one of the state's only K-12 biomedical programs that prepare high school students for biotechnology jobs

## GILBERT-BASED INVESTMENT

**Banner MD Anderson Cancer Center:** Banner Health, one of the country's largest nonprofit hospital systems, has joined internationally renowned cancer treatment and research organization, MD Anderson, offering the broadest extension of MD Anderson's cancer care program outside Houston, Texas.

Banner MD Anderson Cancer Center provides care for all types of cancers with a primary focus in breast, lung, gynecologic, gastrointestinal, prostate, and skin cancers, as well as liquid tumors such as lymphoma and leukemia.

They recently completed Phase 2 (111,000-square-foot) of the expansion to their existing 133,000-square-foot facility and already have plans in place for a Phase 3 expansion.

**Celebration Stem Cell Centre:** Registered with the FDA in 2010, Celebration is designed to process and store umbilical cord blood for potential use in patient transplant and regenerative medicine.

Primary services include the processing and banking of private umbilical cord blood, a public cord blood donation bank, and adult stem cell processing. The Stem Cell Centre also offers genetic counseling, bone marrow match testing, and a registry that will be available to the public and medical community.

**Translational Research Institute (TRI):** Celebration Stem Cell Centre recently doubled the size of its facility in Gilbert to house the Translational Research Institute. Seen as the next key component in the advancement of cellular technologies and stem cell therapy in the United States, TRI is a private company formed to develop innovative treatments for cardiovascular disease through breakthrough cellular technologies and medical devices.

TRI will fund clinical research projects and establish strategic partnerships with world-leading scientists and principal investigators in stem cell transplant therapies and regenerative medicine.

**Cardiovascular & Stem Cell Consultants (CSCC):** Focused on evidenced-based cardiovascular care, CSCC provides patients access to the newest investigational treatments for advanced cardiovascular disease such as adult stem cells and gene therapy.

Dr. Nabil Dib, MD, MSc, FACC has been conducting research and developing the newest investigational treatments for advanced cardiovascular disease for more than 10 years. He is internationally known for his research with stem cell therapy and led the first clinical trial in the U.S. for stem cell transplantation for patients with severe heart failure.

CSCC is currently enrolling in Phase I, II and III research studies using adult stem cells, angiogenesis (growing new blood vessels) and genomics in patients with heart failure, chronic chest pain, coronary artery disease and heart attacks.

**Heliae:** Develops, and deploys technology solutions that enable society to harness the full value of algae. Heliae produces valuable ingredients that offer advanced nutritional value to new and existing nutraceutical, food and feed supplies

Heliae's algae strains and growth platform also offers an economic novel and economic pathway to a range of therapeutics that meet the increasing market demand for natural bio-based therapies. Trials with their therapeutic products are underway and are showing significant health and disease prevention therapies beyond conventional pathways.

## REGIONAL ASSETS

Further collaboration efforts exist with not only Gilbert-based anchors, but also with other regional assets:

- Arizona Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University
- AZBio
- Barrow Neurological Institute
- BioAccel
- Critical Path Institute
- Flinn Foundation
- International Genomics Consortium
- Science Foundation Arizona
- Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen)



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