



Northern California Regional Chapter Spring Symposium 2026

“Innovations in Toxicology: End-to-End Strategies in Nonclinical Drug Development”

Tuesday, May 19th, 2026

Embassy Suites, 250 Gateway Blvd, South San Francisco, CA 94080

Time	Morning Session
8:15AM – 9:00AM	Registration, breakfast and vendor booth set-up
9:00AM – 9:10AM	Opening Message, NorCal SOT President Hemant Chavan, PhD, DABT , Genentech
9:10AM – 9:50AM	<i>TBD</i> Kavita Raman, PhD , Amgen
9:50AM – 10:25AM	<i>Barriers to Adoption: A Critical Look at the Developmental Neurotoxicity In Vitro Battery in Regulatory Contexts</i> Claire Koenig, PhD , Corteva Agriscience
10:25AM – 10:40AM	Gold Sponsor Talk - Altasciences Norbert Makori, BVM, MSc, PhD, DABT
10:40AM – 10:55AM	Coffee Break
10:55PM – 11:15AM	<i>Disposable E-Cigarettes & Hidden Toxic Metals: Implications for Human Exposure</i> Mark Salazar , UC Davis, Grad Student Achievement Award Winner
11:15AM – 12:00PM	<i>From Molecule Structure to Mechanisms: Unraveling In Vivo Chemical Bioactivity Using Zebrafish</i> Robyn Tanguay, PhD , Oregon State University
12:00PM – 1:30PM	Lunch Break and ‘Lunch with a Mentor’
Time	Afternoon Session
1:30PM – 1:35PM	Chapter Announcements
1:35PM – 1:55PM	<i>Single-nuclei transcriptomics reveal selective neurotoxicity and significant glial cell expansion during the epileptogenic period following organophosphate-induced status epilepticus</i> Matt Armstrong, PhD , UC Davis, Postdoc Achievement Award Winner
1:55PM – 2:30PM	<i>DART Strategy: Use of surrogate antibody and Health Authority Interaction (NHP is not the only option)</i> Yu-Mee Kim, PhD, DABT , Genentech
2:30PM – 2:45PM	Gold Sponsor Talk - LabCorp Marina Seme Nelson, PhD
2:45PM – 3:00PM	Coffee Break
3:00PM – 3:30PM	<i>Safety Pharmacology Case Study: Auditory Toxicity Testing for a Device-Drug Combination Product</i> Katie Sokolowski, PhD, DABT, DSP, UKRT, ERT , Septerna
3:30PM – 4:00PM	<i>Seizures in Drug Development: Detection, Mechanisms, and Real-World Cases</i> Brandon Pressly, PhD, DABT, DSP , Septerna
4:00PM – 5:30PM	Networking Reception

Please feel free to contact Hemant Chavan at Chavan.hemant@gene.com or Anna Engstrom engstrom.anna@gene.com if you have any questions or suggestions for future NorCal SOT symposia.