

# 2022 MEDICAL INNOVATION CHALLENGE

JULY-OCTOBER 2022

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

Four Advanced Technology International (ATI) consortia combined their collective power to offer an innovation Challenge and \$250,000 total prize. Although their ideal solution sets varied slightly, they all sought competitive innovations in health and biotech with dual application for both civilian and military populations. Further, they offered membership at no cost for one year for finalists, enriching their base and strengthening their offering to consortia clients.

## OUTCOME & RESULTS

TechConnect expanded the Challenge to span two in-person pitch opportunities with the first at TechConnect World Innovation Conference for \$50K and ending with the larger prize pool at Defense TechConnect where \$25K was offered to a student team and the remaining \$175K went to seven distinct solution providers.

### Winners were:

- » Darwin Biosciences (Boulder, CO)
- » Limax Biosciences (Somerville, MA)
- » Matregenix (Irvine, CA)
- » SafeBeat Rx (Chico, CA)
- » Sana Health (Sandy, UT)
- » Sense Neuro Diagnostics (Cincinnati, OH)
- » Sonogen Medical (Chevy Chase, MD)
- » Eclipse (San Francisco, CA)

Of the 145 applicants, 88% desired membership in at least one of the sponsoring consortia. This speaks to interest not only in the available no-strings-attached funding but also in future engagement with the client. Further, the consortia often struggle to find nontraditional innovators without support, and 65% of applicants to this Challenge have not done business with the federal government within the last three years.

TechConnect was excited to offer such a robust prize to the innovation community and to successfully scout new ideas to support national defense.

**145**  
ENTRIES

**28%**  
PROVEN  
MANUFACTURABILITY

**65%**  
NON-  
TRADITIONAL  
APPLICANTS

**43%**  
EARLY STAGE  
STARTUP

**8**  
COUNTRIES

**88%**  
INTEREST IN  
CONSORTIUM  
MEMBERSHIP

**26%**  
TRL 4

**45%**  
PROTOTYPE  
STAGE

**32%**  
VETERAN, WOMAN, OR MINORITY-OWNED

**32**  
US STATES

**60%**  
SBIR-FUNDED