

DANIEL S. RIZZUTO, PHD

46 Warren Court
South Orange NJ 07079
(206) 601-4382
dan.rizzuto@gmail.com

Experienced neurotechnology leader. I drive innovation and team performance.

EDUCATION

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY Postdoctoral Fellow, Neural Engineering	2002-2005
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY PhD, Neuroscience <i>Thesis: The computational and electrophysiological foundation of item and associative memory</i>	2002
KEENE STATE COLLEGE BS, Bio-mathematics	1996

SUMMARY OF SKILLS

- Neurotechnology product development
- Fundraising and grant writing
- Intellectual property development
- Hiring and performance management
- Project and program management
- Clinical & regulatory affairs

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NIA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

President, Chief Technology Officer

Nov 2024 – present

- Recruited and led an exceptional team of eight engineers to deliver an implant-grade prototype of a Class III closed loop neurostimulation device for treating memory loss.
- Demonstrated performance and safety of prototype neurostimulation device in preclinical studies.

Founder, Chief Executive Officer

Jan 2018 – Oct 2024

- Raised \$13M in funding from DARPA, the US Army, and private investors to develop neurostimulation therapy for memory impairment.
- Acquired and integrated technology for brain stimulation and sensing leading to development of a prototype device demonstrating core system functionality.
- Developed intellectual property strategy resulting in seven granted patents (5 US, 2 EU) and five pending patents across five different patent families.
- Developed regulatory strategy and obtained substantial agreement with FDA on the clinical development plan across multiple meetings.
- Received 2019 Most Promising Startup award from Neurotech Reports.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Director of Cognitive Neuromodulation

Jun 2014 – Jan 2018

- Project director for a \$24 million, DARPA-funded effort to develop a novel brain stimulation system to improve human memory performance.
- Designed closed-loop brain stimulation device, developed clinical protocol, obtained IRB approval at nine clinical sites, and enrolled over 400 patients.
- Publicly released the largest human brain recording and stimulation data set ever developed ([website](#)); published 10+ peer-reviewed manuscripts and 20+ conference proceedings.

- Filed two US patents for enhancing human cognitive performance using brain stimulation ([one granted](#) and [one pending](#)).
- Received Gold Electrode award for 2015 Researcher of the Year from Neurotech Reports.

ALLEN INSTITUTE FOR BRAIN SCIENCE

Sr. Scientific Program Manager

Jun 2013 – Jun 2014

- Managed development of a high-throughput brain imaging research pipeline using optical microscopy to visualize cortical information processing.
- Co-organized the first ever NeuroFutures 2014 conference. Brought together national thought leaders in brain stimulation, brain mapping, and brain computer interfaces; attracted over 170 regional participants and kept net income positive. A second conference was held again in 2015.

VARIAN MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Manager, Clinical and Pre-Market Regulatory Affairs

Jan 2012 – Jun 2013

- Managed data collection for an international clinical trial of an implantable transponder to improve the delivery of radiotherapy to lung cancer patients; obtained marketing approval from the European Union (CE Mark) for a non-implantable version of the fiducial marker.

SWEDISH NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE

Research Manager

Jan 2009 – Jan 2012

- Doubled research program capacity to 80 clinical research projects and over 600 patients enrolled while maintaining staffing levels and improving staff satisfaction.
- Negotiated (and renegotiated) dozens of budgets & contracts with study sponsors, leading the department to its first-ever positive net income.
- Co-PI on \$3M grant from NIH to be part of the NeuroNEXT consortium for translational research; outcompeted the University of Washington, the #1 recipient of NIH funding.

Northstar Neuroscience, Inc.

Research Project Manager

Oct 2007 – Jul 2008

- Developed strategic plan for feasibility studies of a Class III neurostimulation device to treat major depression.
- Developed IDE protocol with clinical investigators; led investigator summit meetings; worked with clinicians to publish five conference proceedings.
- Coordinated development of FDA IDE application and obtained approval ahead of schedule.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Published in: Nature Communications, Current Biology, Neuron, Nature, Nature Neuroscience, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, NeuroImage, Journal of Experimental Psychology, Cerebral Cortex, Neural Computation, Journal of Neuroscience ([complete bibliography on Pubmed](#))

Invited speaker: Milken Neurotechnology Retreat 2020; NANS Emerging Technology Forum 2019; 2019 IEEE Neurotechnology Entrepreneurship Workshop; 2017 DBS Think Tank; 2017 North American Neuromodulation Society; University of Miami 2016 Neural Engineering Research Symposium; NeuroFutures 2015; Neurotech Leaders Forum 2015; Co-chair: NeuroFutures 2014.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Most Promising Startup (2019), Mack Technology Fellow (2016), Neurotechnology Researcher of the Year (2015), Caltech Certificate in Technology Management (2008), Gosney Postdoctoral Fellowship (2002-2005), NIH Predoctoral Fellowship (1999-2002), Santa Fe Institute Complex Systems Summer School Fellowship (2001), fMRIDC Neuroinformatics Fellowship (2000)