

**Zafrira Avnur, PhD**  
**Chief Scientific Officer and Partner**  
**Quark Venture Inc.**

In October 2016 Dr. Avnur Joined Quark Venture Inc. as Chief Scientific officer and partner at Quark Venture Inc., a venture investment fund focused on life sciences investments.

Dr. Avnur was the Global Head of Academic Innovation, Roche Partnering from 2009 until October 2016. In this role she was responsible for creating relationships with the world's leading academic institutions and world class innovators, gaining Roche early access to innovation. Dr. Avnur has established agreements with over 20 universities, started more than 100 academic programs. Dr. Avnur created the ROADS (Roche Alliance with Distinguished Scientists) program, a model for collaboration between Industry and Academic institutions. Dr. Avnur found and performed scientific evaluation of opportunities and in-licensing leads mainly in early stage throughout the world. From these she has created nine start-up companies. Several of these innovations were recognized as Game Changing Innovation at Roche.

Preceding her current academic innovation leadership role, Dr. Avnur moved to Roche Partnering group (Basel, Switzerland, 2006) and assumed responsibility for scientific evaluations of partnering opportunities and joined the "Finder" group for Biomarkers for all therapeutic areas. She acted as Liaison between Pharma and Diagnostic Divisions' Biomarkers activities, and contributed to the PHC (Personalized Health Care) initiative.

Prior to her partnering roles, Ms. Avnur worked in diagnostics and pharmaceuticals research and development for nearly 20 years. Her focus areas included diagnostics, the finding of biomarkers in various therapy areas (including Asthma and COPD, transplant genitourinary, CNS, arthritis, transplant and hepatitis C.), preclinical pharmacology (osteoporosis), overseeing the advancement of compounds from the bench into the clinic. Major scientific achievements include advancing three compounds (a PTHrP analog and two vitamin D analogs, for the treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis) from early exploratory discovery research to the clinic.