

George R. Painter, PhD

Co-founder and Chair, Scientific Advisory Board



George Painter, PhD is a co-founder and Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board at Altesa. Dr. Painter is an endowed distinguished professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology at Emory University School of Medicine, CEO of the Drug Innovation Ventures at Emory (DRIVE), and Executive Director of the Emory Institute for Drug Development. Dr. Painter has decades of experience in the discovery and development of drugs. Most recently, Dr. Painter was the inventor of Molnupiravir, an FDA-authorized oral anti-viral drug to treat COVID-19 – now marketed by Merck. Previously, Dr. Painter co-founded and led the biotechnology firm Chimerix, Inc. During his tenure there, he led the development of a drug for its FDA-approved indication, treatment of smallpox, as well as multiple clinical studies investigating prevention and treatment of adenovirus infection in stem cell transplant patients, a previously untreatable and often fatal infection in children. Before Chimerix, Dr. Painter was a founding member of the management team of Triangle, Inc., where he led the development of the now widely used HIV drug, Emtriva. In 2002, Triangle was sold to Gilead Sciences.