

Dr. Richard D. Connell
Vice President and Head of Asia Research
Pfizer (China) Research and Development Co., Ltd.



Rick is based in Shanghai, China to help establish the Anti-infective (AI) Research unit. He previously headed up the External Research Solutions Center of Emphasis (ERS COE) that managed the network of pre-clinical contract research organizations supporting Pfizer Research. This network comprises the external Chemistry, Biology, drug metabolism and material management providers for the Pharmatherapeutic and Biotherapeutic divisions with Pfizer's Research and Development organization. In addition to his day job, he was asked in 2010 to lead an income generation initiative to monetize underutilized assets and IP from the Pfizer Research organization.

Rick joined Pfizer in 1999 as Head of Cancer Chemistry in Groton, Connecticut. He went on to hold other positions of increasing responsibility within Pfizer including Head of Sex Health Chemistry (in Sandwich, UK), Head of Research Operations and Head of worldwide Chemistry Outsourcing. Prior to joining Pfizer, Rick started his professional career at Bayer Pharmaceuticals working in both their West Haven, Connecticut and at the Wuppertal, Germany research centers.

Rick obtained his PhD in Organic Chemistry from the University of Notre Dame. Prior to joining Bayer, he was a NIH postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University working under the direction of Professor E.J. Corey.
