



**Robert M. Plenge, MD-PhD**

Vice President, *Translational, Research & Early Development*

Head, *Inflammation & Immunology Thematic Center of Excellence*

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**Robert is Vice President, Translational Development, Research & Early Development and Head of the Inflammation & Immunology Thematic Center of Excellence (TCoE) Unit at Celgene.** He is responsible for the strategic vision, implementation, and partnership of novel therapies for immune, inflammatory, and fibrotic disorders.

Prior to joining Celgene in May 2017, Robert was Vice President and Head of Translational Medicine at Merck & Company. His team was responsible for translating basic science into therapeutic trials across all therapeutic areas, with areas of emphasis such as: identifying novel targets and pathways based on causal human biology (e.g., human genetics, pharmacological perturbations); deploying molecular and imaging biomarkers into clinical trials; and conducting first-in-human studies, clinical proof-of-concept trials, and additional Phase I/IIa studies to support registration.

Robert graduated *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Science from the University of California, San Diego in 1992; received his MD and PhD degrees from Case Western Reserve University in 2000; completed his Internal Medicine residency as a Molecular Medicine Fellow at University of California, San Francisco in 2002; and served as rheumatology fellow at Brigham and Women's Hospital from 2002-2006 and post-doctoral research fellow at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard from 2003-2007. Between 2007-2013 he was on the faculty of Harvard Medical School and an Associate Member of the Broad Institute while practicing clinical rheumatology and running a research laboratory at Brigham & Women's Hospital. Robert's original research has been published in *Nature*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Science*, *Nature Genetics*, and other top-tiered medical journals (≥100 publications with ~20,000 citations to date).

In recognition of his accomplishments, Robert has received numerous awards, including: *Pre-doctoral Clinical Award* from The American Society of Human Genetics (1995); *The Young Investigator Award* from the Department of Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital (2008); *Career Award for Medical Scientists* from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund (2008); and election to The American Society for Clinical Investigation (2012).

He lives with his wife and three daughters in Wellesley, MA. He enjoys outdoor activities, socializing with friends and family, and participating in any activities that his kids want him to do.

A link to Robert's "failure" CV can be found [here](#).