

# PRESS RELEASE

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### Outsourced Pharma CDMO Leadership Awards Partner with Tufts CSDD for Independent Survey Execution

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The Outsourced Pharma CDMO Leadership Awards have partnered with the Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development (Tufts CSDD) to independently design, field, and analyze the research underlying the 2026 awards program.

For 15 years, the CDMO Leadership Awards have served as a widely referenced benchmark for evaluating contract development and manufacturing organizations based on real outsourcing experience. This new partnership formalizes the independent research foundation behind the awards as they continue to scale globally.

Award recipients are determined solely through recommendations from pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical professionals who have directly worked with the CDMOs they evaluate. Sponsorships, advertising, and commercial relationships do not factor into award selection.

The awards and ceremony are produced by Life Science Connect and hosted by Outsourced Pharma. The awards ceremony is a longstanding fixture during DCAT Week and expanded internationally in October 2025 with the launch of the CDMO Leadership Awards Europe.

"The CDMO Leadership Awards exist to reflect real outsourcing experience, not marketing claims," said Louis Garguilo, Chief Editor of Outsourced Pharma. "Partnering with Tufts CSDD brings independent academic rigor to survey design, respondent validation, and data analysis, reinforcing the integrity of a program that has long relied on peer feedback from experienced pharma and biotech professionals."

Beginning with the 2026 awards cycle, Tufts CSDD is responsible for survey design, respondent validation, and statistical analysis. Life Science Connect publishes the results and hosts the awards event but does not select award recipients. All responses are confidential and reported only in aggregate.

The 2026 Outsourced Pharma CDMO Leadership Awards will take place on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, during DCAT Week in New York City at The Pool. Additional information is available at [cdmoleadershipawards.com](http://cdmoleadershipawards.com).

#### About Life Science Connect

Life Science Connect is a trusted media, data, and engagement platform serving the global life sciences industry through independent journalism, research-driven insights, and industry-recognized events.

#### About Outsourced Pharma

Outsourced Pharma is dedicated to helping biopharma professionals and their organizations become more effective in drug development and manufacturing outsourcing, with a focus on the selection and management of CDMO partners.

#### About the Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development

The Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development is an academic research center at Tufts University School of Medicine focused on improving the efficiency, quality, and impact of pharmaceutical development through objective, data-driven research.

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