

SUTER SCIENCE SEMINARS 2026-27

From Concept to Commercialization: Bringing the First Saliva-Based Strep Test to Market

Julia Halterman, PhD

*Founder and CEO
SalivIQ Diagnostics
Harrisonburg, VA*



Friday, April 9, 2027

10:15 a.m. • Science Center, room 106

Developing a diagnostic test requires more than a promising scientific concept. Dr. Halterman will discuss her journey founding SalivIQ Diagnostics and developing a saliva-based diagnostic test for strep throat. Her presentation will explore the science behind the test and the steps involved in bringing it to market, including product development, clinical studies, FDA review, and commercialization planning. She will also share experiences navigating the transition from scientist to entrepreneur and building a company around a new approach to testing.

Dr. Julia Halterman is the Founder and CEO of SalivIQ Diagnostics, a Harrisonburg-based company developing rapid, highly accurate saliva-based diagnostic tests. She earned her PhD in Pharmacology from the University of Virginia and served on the faculty at Eastern Mennonite University for 13 years in the Biology and Biomedicine programs. Since founding SalivIQ in 2024, she has led the development of its point-of-care strep throat test, guiding scientific development, clinical validation, and business strategy. Outside of work, she enjoys traveling, hiking, and biking with her husband and three children.



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