

Alejandro Tortoriello, MD

Program Manager
Venture Development, Strategic Industry Ventures
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas



The grass doesn't have a chance to grow under his feet

Alejandro Tortoriello, MD is that guy who always asks “why?”. And if he’s not satisfied with the answer, he moves into action mode when he can to make things better.

A native of Mexico, Alejandro spent a summer during medical school doing research at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Inspired by his time at MD Anderson, he returned to Mexico and started two companies: one focused on preventing diabetes and obesity in children and a second involving the creation of work space where physicians could focus on patient care and less on back-office functions.

Alejandro currently works with faculty, researchers, employees and others at MD Anderson Cancer Center to take innovative ideas for improved patient care from the lab to the bedside.

UT System piloted a venture-mentoring program with MD Anderson that now supports 7 UT System institutions by connecting faculty and staff with experienced business mentors. Alejandro’s favorite part of the job is the community volunteer mentor network that supports individual projects. He works with retired executives and entrepreneurs who volunteer their time and expertise to guide the venture groups toward a successful solution to the problem they are addressing.

This is my story

<i>MD Anderson School(s) from which I graduated</i>	The University of Texas MD Anderson Odyssey Fellowship Program
<i>Graduation Year</i>	2018
<i>Current Employer</i>	MD Anderson Cancer Center
<i>Current City</i>	Houston, Texas
<i>Current Position</i>	Program Manager Venture Development, Strategic Industry Ventures
<i>What is your career motivation?</i>	During school I was the one who always asked <i>why?</i> Most often the answer was “ <i>because we’ve always done it this way</i> ” or “ <i>no one has come up with a better way to do it.</i> ” When I see a problem, I want to find a solution. I translated that skill and interest into a career focused on innovation.
<i>Academic area of specialization</i>	Innovation, entrepreneurship and commercialization
<i>Who are your mentors?</i>	Dr. Roberto Adachi & Chris Taylor Dr. Adachi believed in me and opened doors of opportunity for me at MD Anderson Cancer Center. Chris Taylor was my mentor during my fellowship and together we accomplished great things. Roberto Adachi, MD is a clinical faculty member of the Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Division of Internal Medicine at MD Anderson Cancer Center. Chris Taylor is the director of the Center for Entrepreneurship Advancement at MD Anderson Cancer Center.
<i>Family Life</i>	Alejandro is married with one child
<i>Graduate school(s) from which I received a degree(s)</i>	Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico Medical Doctor, 2015

This is my story

<i>Undergraduate school(s) from which I received a degree(s).</i>	Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico Bachelor in Biosciences with a minor in Research and Innovation, 2011
<i>High school from which I received a degree.</i>	Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico

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