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Suzanne Tomlinson, PhD, MBA, is the Director of Research Programs and Strategic Initiatives for the Gulf Coast Consortia. Her primary responsibilities include direction of the 12 GCC research consortia and clusters. In addition, she directs the development of new multi-institutional research initiatives, scientific conferences, grant proposals, curriculum, and manages the John S. Dunn Foundation Collaborative Research Award Program. In addition, she directs the award winning GCC Rigor and Reproducibility Program and is Co-PI of the Cancer Therapeutics Program. She earned her Ph.D. at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), Galveston, TX, in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, specializing in computational drug discovery and lead optimization in the development of West Nile and dengue virus protease inhibitors. As a Postdoctoral Fellow, she developed aldose reductase inhibitors as potential colon cancer therapeutics. Her current research interests remain in therapeutic drug development and commercialization via academia and biotech startup.