

URL: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/clips/persevere-through-the-fog>

At Octave Bioscience, says the company's co-founder and COO Melinda Thomas, the team often finds the road ahead shrouded in foggy, sometimes even white-out conditions. But because Thomas and her co-founder Bill Hagstrom both have deep experience leading biomedical startups, they now have the confidence to trust that their team will find solutions.



Transcript

and that's what they were asking me to do.. So, as an entrepreneur, you need to have the confidence to start the company, get involved in the company, but then you need the confidence to persevere.. Right, you're gonna, if you're trying to do something new and innovative, there's not gonna be a clear roadmap.. My company now, Octave Bioscience, as Tom described it, we're trying to do a pretty complex thing, and in fact, we have four different things we're doing.. Each one could be their own company.. So not only are we trying to stand up four companies at the same time, but we're trying to coordinate them, so very complex.. It's in healthcare, makes it even more challenging.. So, there are moments where we're trying to figure something out, and the road ahead, not so much roadblocks, but say foggy, maybe whiteout conditions.. We just don't quite know what to do or how to move forward, but my business partner in this, Bill Hagstrom, and I have had enough experience that we know you just have to keep moving forward.. With a startup, you don't have the choice to quit or stop..

You have to figure it out, and we have the confidence from our past experiences of working hard to learn our craft to know we will work it out, and we have hired this incredible team, who we will come through the fog into the promised land, and the things they've innovated on every day, it's better than I could've even hoped..