

# From Rutgers PhD to Medical Affairs Professional...

Dharm Patel, PhD Medical Strategy & Scientific Affairs Manager LEO Pharma Inc.

## My Academic Career

- BS: Monmouth University, Molecular Biology
  - 8 year BS/MD Program with Drexel University
- PhD: Rutgers University, Biochemistry
  - Lab: Samuel Bunting, PhD, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry
  - Fellowship: Rutgers Biotechnology Training Program
    - Coursework outside PhD
    - Summer internship in Medical Strategy & Scientific Affairs at LEO Pharma
  - Fellowship: New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research Fellowship
  - iJOBs Training Program
  - Certificate: Pharmaceutical and Clinical Trial Management
  - All other PhD related activities (beside teaching)

## PhD & Post-doctoral Trainees in iJOBS



## iJOBS Training





- SciPhD: Leadership and Business Skills for Scientists provided by Human Workflows, LLC; Winter 2015 (first cohort)
- Industry site visit (Merck)
- Workshops and Career Panels
   (Job Simulation, Primers, Job Search, Career Roundtables)

- Professional Shadowing/ Externship:
  - Oncology Medical Affairs & Health Systems, Merck & Co.
- Industry Mentor:
  - Rosemarie Logan, Consultant –
     Regulatory Science

#### Additional Coursework

Programming
Methodologies for
Numerical Computing

Career Track Example Skill Classes
One 40-Hour Class

Project Management; Perspectives in Drug Development

**Drug Discovery through Preclinical Development** 

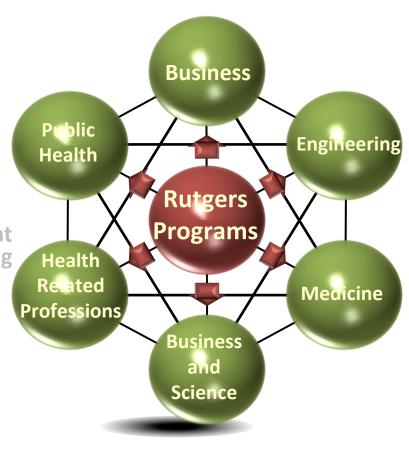
Health Economics and Public Policy

Clinical Trials, Adverse Event Reporting, Post-Marketing

**Practical Aspects of Clinical Trial Design** 

Bioengineering in Biotech and Pharma Industries

**Fundamentals of Regulatory Affairs** 



Phase 2

INITIATE

US Healthcare System & Managed Markets

Drug Development: From Concept to Market

**Project Management** 

**Finance & Accounting** 

**Organizational Leadership** 

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

## **Job Search Preparation**

- One on one mentoring sessions with Oystir/DOC employees to refine resume and cover letter
- LinkedIn Counseling with 2Actify
- Strategize on job search approach
- Prepare for interviews

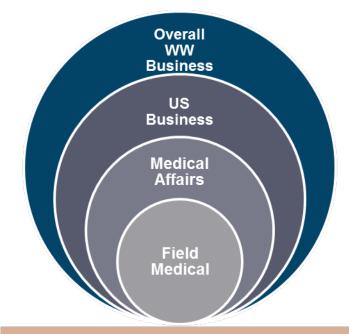






#### **Medical Affairs...**

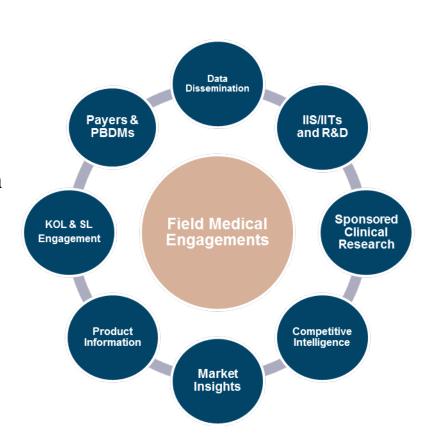
- fulfills a strategic role in dissemination of complex medical data, scientific insights, and evidence in support of therapies and therapeutic areas.
- cultivates relationships with a growing array of stakeholders that influence therapeutic decisions (Figure 1).
- has deep product knowledge (approved and off-label) and significant disease understanding.
- generate and present high-quality scientific knowledge to educate stakeholders about next-generation products and RWE.
- advises the business on unmet medical needs, market potential, and market-based strategy.



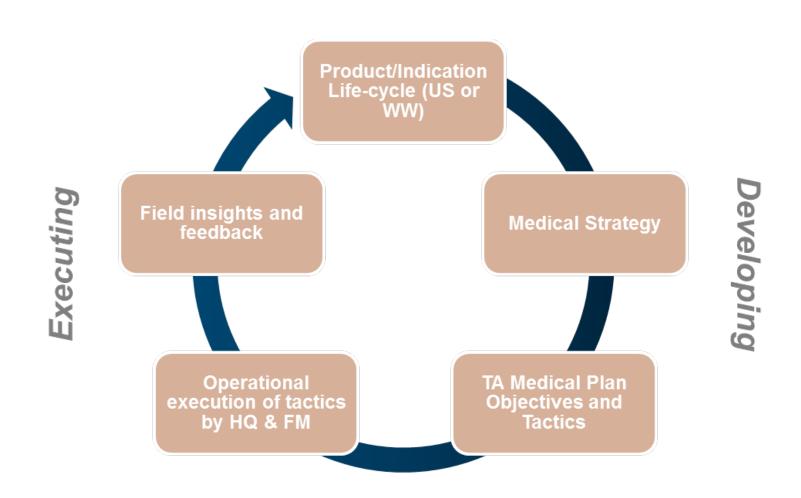
Physicians, HCPs, Payers/PBDMs, Patient Groups, Societies and Key Opinion Leaders

#### Field Medical Teams...

- proactively and reactively communicate key scientific data to support proper therapy use.
- identify, build, and maintain relationships with key stakeholders (Figure 2).
- maintain and communicate deep medical and product expertise.
- continuously collect feedback and signals from the field to influence in-house activities (R&D, evidence generation, medical communication, life cycle management).



### **Medical Strategy & Tactics Informing the Business**



#### Advice...not from me

- Create your own, unique career trajectory
- Explore, define, and plan your career...it doesn't 'just happen'.
- The first "NO" is when the fun starts!
- Are you *operational* or are you *strategic*?
- A resume is not a CV; a CV is not a resume.
- Having a technical or therapeutic expertise is key.
  - Don't be afraid to jump between either!
- You are all qualified...just prove it!
- Networking, networking, networking

#### BE NORMAL...

-Martin Yarmush, MD, PhD