4th UNICA STUDENT WEBINAR ON
"PHARMA AND BIOMEDICAL CAREERS IN EUROPE

11 May 2021, 14:30-17:30 am CET

Registration is free but mandatory at
https://www.unica-network.eu/event/unica-student-webinars-pharma-and-biotech-careers-in-europe/

Further information:
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PROGRAMME

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION (15')

Luciano Saso, UNICA President
Ruben Viegas, Vice President of External Relations in EPSA
Sibel Süzen, Professor of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Ankara University and Member of the UNICA Steering Committee
Lilian M. Azzopardi, President of the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy
Josse R Thomas, Guest Lecturer at KU Leuven and Senior Consultant at PharmaCS

SESSION I: OPPORTUNITIES IN EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS (45')

Career paths in the EC/DG Health by ***Kristof Bonnarens***, European Commission/DG Health (EC/DGS) (15') -
What is life like at EMA? Is it right for you? How can you work at EMA? By *Philip Hines,* European Medicines Agency (EMA) (15')
Discussion (15')

BREAK (5')

SESSION II: OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICIANS (45')

Career opportunities for physicians in the biopharmaceutical industry by ***Anke Van den broeck,*** Medical Director, Amgen BeLux (15')
Medical Affairs: roles, responsibilities and opportunities by ***Laura Salvi***, CMR Associate Director & Obesity Medical Manager, Novo Nordisk Italy (15')
Discussion (15')

BREAK (5')

SESSION III: OPPORTUNITIES IN MANUFACTURING (45')

Job opportunities in quality organisation within the pharmaceutical industry by ***Maaike Gons, Data Integrity Officer at Sanofi, France*** (15')
Job and career opportunities in pharmaceutical manufacturing: product manufacturing by ***Tom Janssens***, Janssen Belgium
Discussion (15')

CLOSING: Luciano Saso & Josse R Thomas (5')

Prof. Luciano Saso (Faculty of Pharmacy and Medicine, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) received his PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Sapienza

University in 1992. He is author of more than 250 scientific articles published in peer reviewed international journals with impact factor (SASO-L in www.pubmed.com, total impact factor > 800, H-index Google Scholar 47, Scopus 39). He coordinated several research projects and has been referee for many national and international funding agencies and international scientific journals in the last 30 years. Prof. Saso has extensive experience in international relations and he is currently Vice-Rector for European University Networks at Sapienza University of Rome. In the last 15 years, he participated in several projects and has been speaker and chair at many international conferences organised by the UNICA network of the universities from the Capitals of Europe (http://www.unica-network.eu/) and other university associations. Prof. Saso has been Member of the Steering Committee of UNICA for two mandates (2011-2015) and he is currently President of UNICA (2015-2023).

Ruben Viegas is a Portuguese pharmacist from the south of Portugal. He has a master degree in physical exercise and health and is currently a PhD student in the Faculty of Pharmacy from the University of Lisbon. He is currently the Vice President of External Relations in EPSA."

Professor Sibel Suzen, Ankara University, Faculty of Pharmacy, UNICA steering Committee member. Sibel Süzen is professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Ankara University. Her research is focused on the synthesis and development of antioxidant-based anticancer compounds, their biological evaluation, melatonin-based compounds in drug research. She graduated from Ankara University Faculty of Pharmacy in 1985. After completing her Master's Degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry at the same university in 1989, she received her doctorate in 1997 from the University of Swansea, UK, Department of Chemistry. She continued her research at Swansea University in various years. She has been a member of European Farmacopea expert in Group (Semi synthetic and synthetic compounds) since 2011. In the last 10 years, she has been working as Institutional Erasmus Coordinator, Internationalization and Foreign Relations Coordinator of Ankara University. She has been coordinating the opening of English taught programs as well as international projects, internship agreements and educational programs of the EU. She was vice-rector for International Relations and Projects at Ankara University since 2019-20. She carried out numerous projects supported by Tübitak and University resources. She is the author of more than 100 scientific articles and many chapters in various books both in Turkey and abroad. She worked as project manager and organized several scientific meetings. She has been a member of the Editorial Board of various scientific journals.

Lilian M. Azzopardi is a Professor of Pharmacy and Head of Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Malta. Professor Azzopardi serves as chairperson of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery Doctoral Committee. She has an extensive academic experience and she has spearheaded innovative introductions in pharmacy education that are directed to meet the needs of the health services and the pharmaceutical industry. Professor Azzopardi is well acknowledged in the international field for her ability to ingrain in the education process ways how to combine the basic sciences with the practice areas to meet the needs of stakeholders. Her ability to do this is enhanced by her experience in practice in hospital and community pharmacy and in the pharmaceutical industry. She published several papers and books mainly related to quality systems, pharmacist interventions, and pharmacy education. She has received research awards by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) and the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy. She served as an ad-interim Director and a member of the Publications Committee of the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Malta. Professor Azzopardi was the co-chair of the working group of the FIP Nanjing Statements on Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Education and is a member of the advisory group of the Academic Institutional Membership (AIM) within FIP. She currently serves as President of the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy.

Josse R Thomas graduated as a Pharmacist and holds a PhD degree in Medical Sciences (pharmacology) from the University of Leuven. He is also certified as Clinical Pharmacologist and has more than 30 years of experience in clinical drug development in the pharmaceutical industry. In addition, he holds various academic and consulting positions, including Guest Lecturer at KU Leuven (clinical drug development), member of the Research Ethics Committee of UZ/KU Leuven, member of the Clinical Trials Board of KCE, member of the working group at the FAMHP for the implementation of the EU Clinical Trials Regulation & Medical Devices Regulation in Belgium, and Senior Consultant at PharmaCS. He is also co-author of the book 'Global New Drug Development: An Introduction', published by Wiley-Blackwell, and a reference in its field.

Working for and with authorities

Kristof Bonnarens

Policy Officer Pharmaceuticals, DG HEALTH (European Commission)

Working for a public administration is not the evident choice for someone with a biomedical education. Nevertheless, the biomedical field has a lot of different rules and is in constant evolution. During this webinar, we will touch upon the different aspects of working for authorities, albeit national or European. Some tips to identify interesting opportunities will be shared, together with recommendations how to approach authorities when working in the private sector.

Kristof Bonnarens graduated as an industrial pharmacist in 2001. After a short career in the pharmaceutical industry, he started working for the Belgian Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products. In 2009, he became the Head of the clinical trials division, being responsible for the authorization of clinical trials in Belgium. In this role, he also became the European representative for Belgium during the negotiations for the new European legislation on clinical trials. In 2016, he started working for pharma.be, the Belgian association for innovative medicines, for who he did representation work on issues around substances of human origin, advanced therapies, biological medicines,… Since May 2019, he works for the European Commission, on the implementation of the Clinical Trials Regulation, the policy supervision of the European Medicines Agency and, more recently, the export authorizations of COVID-19 vaccines.

What is life like at EMA? Is it right for you? How can you work at EMA?

Philip Hines
European Medicines Agency

I am currently working at the European Medicines Agency in their regulatory science and innovation division. I have been helping draft their five year strategy and establish their horizon scanning function. In parallel I am completing a PhD at Maastricht University.

Career opportunities for physicians in the biopharmaceutical industry

Anke Van den broeck Medical Director AMGEN BeLux.

Have you already considered a career in the biopharmaceutical industry? Are you curious to find out why physicians make a move towards this less known field? Do you want to know what it can offer you? Are you the right person? Is it the right timing? During this webinar we will discuss the link between a pharmaceutical career and the medical sector and give an overview of the different jobs you can perform in your early career. Moreover, we will share some requirements that are needed to get hired and to become successful. The objective of this session is to give you a better understanding of why, when and how you should consider a career opportunity in pharma.

Anke Van den broeck works as a ***Medical Director for the biotechnology company AMGEN in the BeLux***. After her medical school, she completed her specialty in Abdominal Surgery with an extra residency in Hepatobiliary Surgery at the University of Leuven, Belgium. She holds a PhD on translational research in Pancreatic Cancer.She started her career at AMGEN in 2013 and has held different roles in Medical Affairs, both at local and regional level. Prior to her current role, Anke was Business Unit Director for the oncology department.As she had no information when she decided to stop her clinical career, Anke has supported many initiatives since to better educate medical students on the different options the pharmaceutical industry can offer.

Medical Affairs: roles, responsibilities and opportunities

Laura Salvi
CMR Associate Director & Obesity Medical Manager, Novo Nordisk Italy

In the most classic sense, the Medical Affair within a pharmaceutical company plays a central role as it is the department that provides scientific support to the various business functions and ensures the sharing of scientific information with key opinion leaders (KOL) in a peer-to-peer dialogue. In the last years, the Medical Affair is acquiring more and more a strategic role with the necessary development of skills that go beyond the deep and updated knowledge of scientific data. The Medical Department operates in constant synergy and collaboration with Clinical Operations, Market Access and Marketing departments in a *continuum* of activities that follow the development of a drug from its clinical development to the marketing phase. Within the Medical Affair operate different roles including the Medical Manager, the Medical Advisor and the Regional Medical Advisor, each with different responsibilities but with the common goal of ensuring the best solutions to people affected by a specified disease.

Laura Salvi is a Medical Doctor with specialization in Endocrinology and Metabolic diseases. She began her career in the pharmaceutical industry in 2016 as Medical Advisor and now she works in Novo Nordisk Italy as CMR Associate Director & Obesity Medical Manager

Job opportunities in quality organisation within the pharmaceutical industry

Maaike Gons, Data Integrity Officer at Sanofi, France

Quality Assurance is an essential department supporting the objectives of a company to ensure quality of products and services troughout their lifecycle - from research and development to manufacturing, distrbution and discontinuation. Quality guidelines apply to medicinal products, but also to products like medical devices, cosmetics, neutraceuticals. This makes QA a very broad discipline with many opportunities troughout a career, from starter to senior level. Key areas are Quality Management Systems, Quality audit&compliance and Quality operations. The deploiement of quality systems & the quality strategy are based on international health-related regulations for Good Manufacturing Practices, or GxP, like the Eudralex from EMA or FDA regulations, using digitalization as an enabler, to assure patient safety. By performing quality audits an independent assessment of the compliance of different fonctions within the company is performed, to drive continous improvement and support inspection readiness. The mission of Quality Operations is to lead and coordinate quality and compliance for exemple on a manufacturing site, to ensure products are manufactured and distributed in compliance with the regulations. Quality Operations is accountable for the compliance level and quality performance of products, with application of risk management principles and with a strong drive for continous improvement. Training and Third Party and Supplier Mangement are also key aspects to ensure compliant operations. In this presentation you will get insight in different opportunities that exist within a typical quality organisation within the pharmaceutical industry.

Maaike GONS, Data Integrity Officer at Sanofi, France. Maaike Gons graduated as a pharmacist at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands in 2003. After a few years in a public pharmacy, she made the transfer to the pharmaceutical industry. She held several positions within global companies, going from a manufacturing role directly involved with the shop floor at a sterile manufacturing site, to different quality management roles responsible for the set up and maintenance of quality management systems for Good Manufacturing and Good Distribution Practices. She has actively participated in > 10 Health Authority Inspections. In her current position Maaike is Data Integrity Officer responsible for the strategy on DI governance for a manufacturing site for Biologics. She works in an international environment with colleagues throughout Europe and the US.

Job and career opportunities in pharmaceutical manufacturing: product manufacturing

Tom Janssens
Senior Operations Manager Parenteral Products, Janssen Pharmaceutica, Belgium

Have you ever wondered how medicines are being manufactured? Have you ever thought about how several single ingredients can be turned into a cream, syrup, sterile injection, sterile eye-drop, transdermal patch or any other therapeutic form? Ever questioned how medicines are filled and packaged into the final packaging configuration that a patient or healthcare professional receives? Then Pharmaceutical Manufacturing provides the answer! Pharmaceutical manufacturing is the place where process, equipment, and product knowledge meet. Following stringent cGMP regulations and in close collaboration with the Quality Assurance, medicinal products are compounded, filled, and packaged into safe, quality, efficient and reliable medicines. Pharmaceutical manufacturing covers a wide range of activities, starting with the purchase of the right materials, until the release of the finished goods and shipment towards the patients and many more.

Tom Janssens graduated as a master in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Leuven in Belgium 2006 and subsequently graduated as an Industrial Pharmacist and certified Qualified Person in 2007. After initial experiences as a consultant for the pharmaceutical industry and a quality & compliance role at a local third-party manufacturer, he started in 2011 at Janssen in Beerse (Belgium), part of Johnson & Johnson. Throughout his career at Janssen, Tom gained experience in different aspects of the pharmaceutical supply chain, mainly focusing on project execution, quality assurance & operations. Since 2018, Tom is leading the Parenterals compounding, filling & optical inspection department responsible for manufacturing sterile, injectable products.