Fellowships as a Post-Graduate Opportunity

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Outline

• Definition of a fellowship
• Fellowship programs
  • Academic fellowship
  • Industry fellowship
• How to get started?
  • Which fellowship to pick from?
  • What are the barriers/obstacles?
• Career opportunities from fellowships
• Panel session of current fellows
Definition

• A fellowship is a “directed, highly individualized, postgraduate program developed to prepare the participant to become an independent researcher.”

*American College of Clinical Pharmacy

• However, there is a little bit more to add to this definition…
Definition – cont’d

• The previous definition is academically focused.

• The definition does not consider how a fellowship is viewed from an industry perspective.

• The previous definition needs to consider what types of careers/jobs will be available upon completion of a fellowship.
Academic Fellowships

• Setting: College, University and/or hospital
  • (some fellowships can be divided; 1 year at an academic institution, another year in industry)

• Duration: 1 to 3 years

• Previous experience: Completion of residency may or may not be required

• Salary: varies $40-60K/yr
Academic Fellowships – cont’d

• Generally an split of your time b/t research-related and clinically-related functions.
  
  • Key point: The majority of time will be spent on research-related functions
  
  • This contrasts the amount of time spent for research-related functions for a residency
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Industry Fellowships

• Setting: Pharmaceutical or Biotech company

• Duration: 1 to 2 years
  • Some fellowships can be divided; 1 year at an academic institution, another year in industry

• Previous experience: Residency is not required

• Salary: varies; $40-60K/year
Industry Fellowships

- Experiences gained in several areas or departments:
  - Medical Affairs
  - Medical Communications/Education
  - Global Marketing/Market Research
  - R & D Strategy and Analysis
  - Clinical Operations/Clinical Research
  - Clinical Pharmacology/Early Development
  - Regulatory Affairs
Which fellowship to pick from?
Fellowship Selection

The most important determinant to fellowship selection = Program reputation*

• Questions to ask
  • Are preceptors renown for their clinical, teaching, or research experience?
  • How long has the program been in existence?
  • How many fellows have completed the program?
  • What is the retention rate of fellows?
  • How are fellows treated (responsibilities)?

Why a fellowship?
Career Opportunities

• Opportunities for the ‘non-traditional’ careers
• Depends on what area your focused on during fellowship
• Fellowship programs set you up for areas in
  • Biotech and/or pharmaceutical industry
  • Academia (Clinical vs. Basic Sciences faculty track)
  • Government (FDA CDER/CBER Office of Clinical Pharmacology)
  • Consulting for various biotech/pharma. companies
Panel Session

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