



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.”*
- However, there is a little bit more to add to this definition...

**American College of Clinical Pharmacy*

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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Program Type

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 renowned 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)?

***Senst BL, et al. Am J Hosp Pharm 1990**



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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