



Career Development in Pharmaceutical Statistics

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Food and Drug Administration

- Drug approval
- If a company develops pain killer
- Many patients claim their pain reduced
- Can FDA approve this drug?
- It is a placebo effect
- Two distributions should separate
- 1962 Kefauver Harris Amendment



Clinical Biostatistician

- Consulting
- Design and analysis of clinical trials
- Help team members understanding risks (Type I and II)
- Strategic input to individual trials
- Strategic input to the entire clinical development of new drugs



Career Opportunity

- Are you looking for a job? Or a career?
- What would be an ideal career opportunity?
- An environment that will help you develop yourself into who you want to be



Ownership

- Own your project – don't think this is my boss's assignment, or the team's project
- If I am spending my own money developing this drug, what should I do
- No one washes a rental car



Develop yourself

- Explore yourself
- Prove yourself
- Know yourself
- Accept yourself
- Be yourself



Experience

- In science, there is only one truth – trial and error
- Don't be afraid of making mistakes
- We should be afraid of not learning from our mistakes
- Experiences came from learnings of our own mistakes



Corporate Culture

- We work closely with supervisor, team members and fellow statisticians
- Need to pay attention to the big picture – organization, operation, and culture
- Horizontal connections, vertical structure, longitudinal development over time



Job Security

- Where do you get job security?
- Salary increase?
- Promotion?
- What people give you, they can take it away
- Job security comes from within



Job Security

- Things people cannot take away
- Your contributions, your knowledge
- Your friends
- Making friends, establish network
- In a project team, be a friend with team members
- Learn what they think



Seek opportunities to make a contribution

- Make your contribution to a piece of collaborative work
- A publication
- A presentation
- A particular deliverable
- Team work
- Be truthful, be realistic, be practical



Build a dream

- Would you like to develop yourself to be an operator, or a strategist?
- Where you want yourself to be in 10 years or 20 years?
- Find mentors, role models



Membership, Network

- Participate in meetings and conferences
- Learn what people are doing
- If you present, you may establish collaborators
- Volunteer in organizations
- “Passion makes career and volunteering builds character”
- Make friends



A rewarding career

- Being part of a team that promotes science or scientific thinking
- Continue learning cutting-edge science and technology
- Saving company millions of dollars
- Well compensated
- Making contributions to patient care