

# 10年以上の製薬企業勤務経験を有する 医師・研究者を対象にしたキャリア調査結果と考察

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## Results of a career survey of physicians and PhD researchers with 10 years or longer tenure in the pharmaceutical industry

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### Abstract

**Objective** : Industry physicians and PhD researchers (non-MD) working for pharmaceutical companies and clinical research organizations (CROs) for more than 10 years are regarded to be successful in their industry career. We aimed to characterize the success factors of those individuals.

**Methods** : A survey consisting of 28 questions regarding industry career experiences for physicians and PhD researchers with 10 years or longer industry experience was developed. This survey used Google Forms and targeted physicians and PhD researchers currently working in pharmaceutical companies and CROs in Japan.

**Results** : Responses from 74 physicians and PhD researchers to the survey were analyzed. Most were in their forties or fifties with 10-15 years of industry experience. Regarding challenges at the entry into the field, both physicians and researchers felt unclear career paths and lack of role models were most challenging. Most felt the occupation has been rewarding, and therefore they could overcome those challenges and continue working in the industry.

**Discussion** : Beliefs that they were making contributions for society fulfilled their motivation and supported their long-term commitment to the industry. In retrospect, half of the respondents identified something they should have engaged to further advance their career, which were reflected to the advice for the industry newcomers.

**Conclusion** : Keys for success of the industry career were positive behavior, courage to welcome challenging assignments, and improving communication skills. Expanding the network and having mentors were also highly recommended.

### Key words

pharmaceutical industry in Japan, pharmaceutical physicians, PhD industry researchers, pharmaceutical medicine, career survey

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