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February Careers Newsletter 2023

Welcome to the next edition of the Careers Newsletter, this month we will focus on careers within the Pharmaceutical Sector

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This Month's newsletter will focus on jobs in the Pharmaceutical Sectors

Let's explore the world of the pharmaceutical sector and see the different roles and how you can build a Career in this field.



This is a knowledge driven industry, requiring a highly skilled workforce and directly employs over 73,000 people, with over 23,000 of these in research and development. The pharmaceutical industry also indirectly generates at least 200,000 more jobs making it a substantial employer in the UK, and these figures have stayed relatively stable over recent years. As employees in the pharmaceutical industry add more per head to the UK economy than any other sector, employment in the industry is highly valued.

SKILLS BUILDER

What skills do science and pharmaceutical employers want?

- analytical, methodological problem-solving skills and logical, objective thinking.
- excellent observational skills and attention to detail.
- commercial awareness.
- an enquiring mind.
- communication and interpersonal skills.
- creativity.
- strong IT and numeracy skills.

Must-Have Skills to Find a Job in the Pharmaceutical Industry

There is, however, some skills which are a must and comprise of Project Planning, Specialisation, Transferable skills, strategic thinking and Creative Problem Solving, Management skills, Awareness of Industry Trends. Understanding of regulations and Legal Matters, another skill needed is Conflict Resolution and Teamwork.

Most people know what doctors, nurses, dentists and vets do. But many people are not sure what a research chemist does, or what a pharmacologist is.

If you enjoy learning about science a career in the pharmaceutical industry may be for you. There are also lots of jobs for non-scientists, so even if you don't want to study science, there's likely to be a job in the industry for you.

Explore the range of jobs available under [Working in the industry](#). (Click on Link)

At school you have many choices to make about which subjects to study. Normally people choose the subjects that they like and are good at. Although this is a good way to help you pick, it's important to think carefully about your choices and what effect these may have on what you can do in the future.

The more you know about your options, the better your decisions are likely to be. To help you we've identified a few important things to consider when you're selecting subjects to study at school and college:

Choices (here you will learn how important it is to think carefully about your choices and what effect these may have on what you can do in the future).

Choices at 14

Even if science isn't your favourite subject or you find science hard, try not to be afraid of a challenge. Studying and doing well in science will keep many options open to you in the future. The subjects you choose to study for GCSE, will determine which A levels you can take, and this then affects which university courses and jobs you can apply for. As it is hard to 'pick up' a subject in the future that you've dropped, making the right choices at this age is very important.



Choices at 16

At 16 you are faced with some big decisions that can make a real difference to the university and career options open to you in the future. Do I stay at school and study for A levels, what subjects should I choose? Should I go straight to work or train on-the-job with an apprenticeship. Make sure you take the time to find out all the information you need to make these important decisions.



Choice at 18

Choosing whether to go to university and what to study are hard decisions to make. But perhaps full-time university study isn't for you. If full-time university study isn't for you, you may consider getting straight into the industry through an apprenticeship. Some companies take on school leavers with A-levels who start out as technicians on their manufacturing sites or research labs and study part-time to gain further qualifications. Take a look at the [Apprenticeships](#) page to find out more. Although entering straight into the workplace at 16 or 18 through apprenticeships or on-the-job training may be appealing and is a good route for many, completing a degree does have its benefits. Government data shows that graduates earn more than non-graduates and have a lower unemployment rate.



Why work in the industry?

JOB SATISFACTION

If you ask anyone who works in the pharmaceutical industry what their main motivation is, it's more than likely you'll hear the same answer: improving people's lives. As the benefits of new medicines are felt by people all over the world, not many jobs offer you more of a chance to do this. Such an environment brings great job satisfaction, whether you're working on a cost-saving device, marketing tool, or discovering a new chemical compound that has the potential to save someone's life. After all, it's all part of the same process.



BENEFITS

Jobs in the pharmaceutical industry are typically well paid and often come with other benefits such as bonuses, medical insurance, pension plans and transport loans.

Within the industry holiday allowance and parental leave are normally good, and there is often the option of flexible working hours. Many companies promote sports and social activities and charity events. This makes for a sociable environment with a healthy balance between life inside and outside work resulting in lively and enthusiastic employees. To find out more about what it's like to work in the industry browse through the [Case Studies](#) section.



WHO WORKS IN PHARMACEUTICALS?

Employees in the pharmaceutical industry come from a range of backgrounds and have a range of qualifications creating a diverse working environment.

Qualifications which are most in demand for in the pharmaceutical sector are:

The pharmaceutical industry is a highly regulated one, so it's important that you have the hard skills necessary to navigate these regulations. You should be well-versed in areas such as finance, accounting, and marketing. Additionally, having a background in science or medicine will give you an advantage when applying for jobs.

A career as a pharmacist, for example, requires a minimum of a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree. To be a successful chemist or chemical engineer in this industry, you'll need to have at least a bachelor's degree in chemistry. For management-level positions, you'll need excellent problem-solving skills and the ability to lead a team. Those in management positions are also responsible for creating and implementing strategies that will help their company succeed. These positions may require an MBA or other advanced degrees. Look at the table below to get an idea of which degrees and experience levels are required for some of the top positions in the pharmaceutical industry. The important thing is to find a career path that calls to you and to make sure you have the hard skills necessary to excel in that area. With the right education and experience, you can succeed in any role in the pharmaceutical industry.

Position	Required Education/Experience
Pharmacist	Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree
Chemist or chemical engineer	Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry
Medical sales representative	Bachelor's Degree: Master's optional
Product manager	Bachelor's Degree: Master's optional
Regulatory affairs manager	Bachelor's Degree: Master's optional
Clinical research associate	Bachelor's Degree: Master's optional



There is a lot of various roles within this sector below you will see some useful we the chance to look at all the different roles.

Useful Websites

<https://www.abpi.org.uk/careers/>

<https://www.abpi.org.uk/partnerships/>

<https://www.abpi.org.uk/facts-figures-and-industry-data/medicine-discovery-facts-and-figures/>

[ANALYTICAL CHEMIST](#)

[BIOLOGIST \(BIOMARKERS\)](#)

[BIOSTATISTICS MANAGER](#)

[CHEMIST \(MANUFACTURING\)](#)

[CLINICAL DATA MANAGER](#)

[CLINICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE](#)

(These are just a few of the roles available to look at other roles click onto)

<https://www.abpi.org.uk/careers/job-case-studies/>

Colleges/Universities / Pharmacology / Science

Below is a list of some of the best universities.

University College London

Nottingham Trent University

University of Dundee

University of Oxford

University of Huddersfield

University of Liverpool

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings/pharmacology-and-pharmacy?tabletype=full-table>



Awakening minds

OUR CORE VIRTUES



Achieving dreams



Serving others