



PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY AND MEDICINES DEVELOPMENT: REFLECTIONS & INSIGHTS

Continuing our series on Professional Identity and Medicines Development, we welcome the publication of another great essay from a graduate of our 2022 cohort, Eser Adiguzel. For this essay, Eser was asked to "**Discuss Professional Identity and the Sense of Purpose in Medicines Development and their relevance for professionals involved in the field.**" Thank you to Eser for allowing the Academy to feature your insights. Continue to page 2 to read a portion of her essay.

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PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY AND MEDICINES DEVELOPMENT: INSIGHTS FROM ACADEMY ALUMNA



Purpose goes beyond simply working to earn an income, but marrying work to things that impart personal motivation, fulfillment, and enjoyment. Patrino defines purpose as the reason WHY something is done or exists and discusses his high level of career satisfaction as his passion, purpose, and Professional Identity are highly aligned [1]. However, as discussed in the GMDP Academy video [2], 90% of people are not connected with their purpose and Professional Identity, which results not only in dissatisfaction in careers but potentially also disengagement from those around them. By connecting purpose to Professional Identity, one can reach increased trust, collaboration, connection, engagement, and pride and joy in their work. As Medical Affairs professionals in Medicines Development, many may share a common sense of purpose to improving health outcomes or quality of life for patients in creating and delivering better medicines. Understanding and identifying an individual's sense of purpose helps to identify how to engage in their profession in a way that is meaningful and fulfilling to them and leads the way to purposeful Professional Identity development.

As Jill Donahue discusses [3], one can help create a purpose-driven Professional Identity by asking themselves why they have chosen to be a Medical Affairs professional, what makes them proud, where do their desires to help others come from, and who do they ultimately want to help? Answering these questions can help Medical Affairs professionals to be excited in their career paths, find personal fulfillment and career satisfaction, engage those around them, and ultimately be beneficial for society.



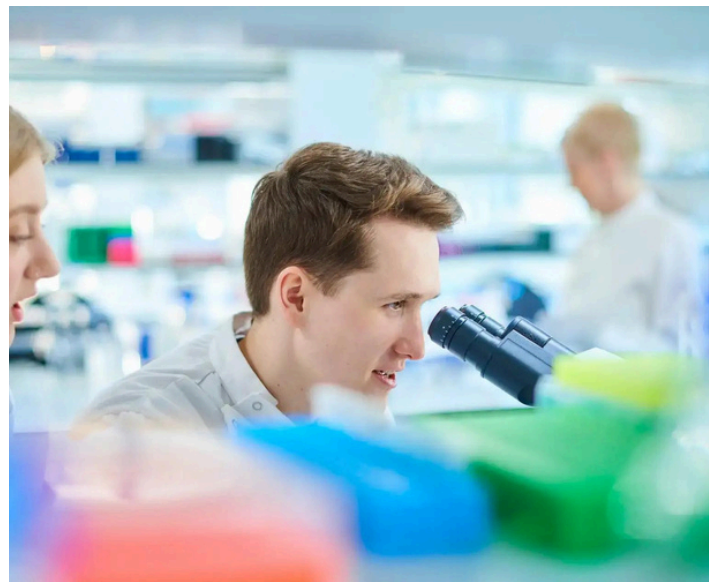
Eser Adiguzel entered the pharmaceutical industry in Medical Affairs in Canada after a decade in private healthcare and consulting. Her demonstrated leadership resulted in rapid career growth to leading the US medical team and to her current role leading the global medical affairs team and medical launch strategy in a priority therapeutic area.

Click [here](#) to read her complete essay.

ACCESS TO CANCER MEDICINES IN THE UK

With the MHRA now solely responsible for granting marketing authorization for new medicines, how has Brexit impacted patients' access to the latest cancer treatments in the UK? The UK officially concluded its 47-year membership in the EU on January 31, 2020. As a result, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) disengaged from the European Medicines Agency (EMA). Throughout the last three years, operating as the UK's independent regulator, the MHRA has implemented numerous changes. However, significant developments on January 24 and March 21, 2023, mark the most significant overhaul of trial regulation in two decades.

The decision by the MHRA to overhaul trial regulation is a welcome development. New measures will include streamlining clinical trial applications-



by combining regulatory and ethics reviews, implementing a maximum timeframe of 30 days for application reviews and 10 days for final decisions, and introducing a legal mandate requiring trial registration in a WHO-compliant public register and publication of a summary of results within 12 months of the end of the trial.⁴ Keep reading [here](#).

USING CHATGPT IN MEDICINE



For the past few decades, many of us have relied on “Doctor Google” to self-diagnose aches, pains and complaints, but now we consider the use of ChatGPT in medicine and medical advice. The advent of AI has brought a much more powerful tool to assist with medical diagnoses – ChatGPT-4. This is the next-generation version of the chatbot ChatGPT, which was unveiled only four months ago. Doctors believe the new AI will revolutionize their work and improve the lives of their patients. Three artificial intelligence experts have written an e-book titled: “The AI Revolution in Medicine”. In it, they say ChatGPT-4 will provide surgeons with critical, life-saving advice and information in real-time. The authors say: “We need to start understanding and discussing AI’s potential.”⁵ Continue reading [here](#).

EMA RECOMMENDS RSV VACCINE FOR OLDER ADULTS

EMA has recommended a marketing authorisation in the European Union (EU) for Arexvy (recombinant, adjuvanted), the first vaccine for active immunisation to protect adults aged 60 years and older against lower respiratory tract disease (LRTD) caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

RSV is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms. Most people recover within one to two weeks, but RSV can be serious in vulnerable people, including older adults and those with lung or heart disease and diabetes. In Europe, RSV causes an estimated 250,000 hospitalisations and 17,000 in-hospital deaths every year in people aged 65 years and older.



Arexvy contains an engineered version of the RSV fusion surface glycoprotein. This protein is essential for RSV to infect the body and is also the main target of the antibodies generated to fight the infection.⁶

Keep reading [here](#).

PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY FORMATION AMONG MINORITIES



Less than 15% of medical school students are from minoritized backgrounds, and early evidence shows their professional identity formation journey is more challenging. The in-depth interviews and qualitative analyses in this article shed light on their experiences and reveal crucial insights into the intersection of personal identity and medical culture.

"Results indicate that two themes speak to the process of PIF for minoritized students within the dominant cultures of medicine and medical education. First, participants experienced a complex push-pull of their personal identities: they pulled their personal identities into their professional development in positive ways, but also sometimes found it necessary to push their personal identities away and make them less salient in order to be successful."⁷ Read more [here](#).

INDIA'S ASCENDANCY IN 2023

2023 is an important year for India. The UN estimates that the country has now surpassed China as the world's most populous nation. It holds the G20 presidency, taken over from Indonesia, and its New Delhi Leader's Summit in September will be the first one hosted in South Asia. What will these developments mean for India's role in the international system? India says that it wants to amplify the voice of the Global South, and its G20 goals reflect this ambition. But the nationalist agenda of Narendra Modi's government, its resistance to multilateralism, and a raft of pressing domestic concerns threaten the chances of making these aims a reality.

India has undoubted strengths. Demography is not destiny, but it is powerful. While China's population is declining, India's is projected to continue increasing.



Its economy is the fifth largest in the world and growing.⁸ Read more [here](#).



LONG COVID IMPACTED NEARLY 36 MILLION EUROPEANS, WHO SAYS

Nearly 36 million people in Europe may have had long-lasting health problems from coronavirus infections they got during the first three years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Health Organization's regional director said Tuesday, a condition referred to as 'long COVID'. Dr. Hans Kluge said "long COVID" remained "a complex condition that we still know very little about" and "a glaring blind spot in our knowledge."

Unless we develop comprehensive diagnostics and treatment for long COVID, we will never truly recover from the pandemic."

While most people recover from COVID-19 within a few weeks after infection, some people have reported experiencing ongoing fatigue, shortness of breath and brain fog. WHO's Europe region covers 53 countries from Ireland to Uzbekistan with a combined population of more than 900 million. Statistics from University of Washington researchers indicate that about one in 30 of the region's residents have experienced "long COVID." in the past three years.⁹

Continue reading [here](#).



The GMDP Academy, in collaboration with King's College London, is thrilled to accept applications for the 2024 cohort of the highly acclaimed Certification in Medicines Development (CMD) program!

Join fellow professionals from around the world and advance your career with the 2024 GMDP Academy-King's College London Certification in Medicines Development Program .

Group rates are available for sponsoring organizations. For more information contact admissions@gmdpacademy.org.

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Email your news and updates to community@gmdpacademy.org.

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Thanks for reading!

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