Making the Switch: A Perspective on Transitioning to Industry

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SEEKING TO REDEFINE
WHAT IS POSSIBLE
IN THE TREATMENT OF MENTAL ILLNESS
Why enter industry?

- Diverse career opportunities
- Cutting edge scientific projects
- Atmosphere
- Pace
- Data-driven projects
Alternative considerations

Whereas about 65% of US PhD-holders continue into a postdoc, only 15–20% of those move into tenure-track academic posts.

Understanding who you are…

and where you want to go…

• Your narrative
• Accomplishments
• Your current functional role
• Bridge between your chapters
• Goals
• Dream job or transitional opportunity
“Elevator pitch”

- Always tailor to your audience
- Hone the message - keep it simple and clear
- Limit technical terminology
- Brief description of background with key accomplishments
- Highlight companies / experiences likely to be shared or admired
- Next steps
Breakout activity: Elevator pitch
What is your value proposition?

- Project Management
- Communication (written and oral)
- KOL
- Relationship builder
- Strategist
- Innovator
- Problem solver (let’s face it… complicated problems)
- What else?
Understanding who you are...
and where you want to go...

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How diversified do you like to be?
Understanding the functional roles available

- Scientist
- Scientific / Medical Writer
- Postdoctoral Fellow
- Regulatory
- Intellectual Property
- Grants Management
- Contracts
- Clinical studies
- Many, many more
Breakout activity: Short-term career goal

1. What is your ideal next step?
2. What is your realistic next step?
3. What is an acceptable entry-level position?
4. Why?
Preparing to get “there”

1. What is the last event you attended?
2. Who did you meet / re-connect with?
3. How are you staying in contact with them?
4. Who didn’t you meet and why?
5. What are you doing to connect with them?
How do you make the connections to begin the transition process?
Online applications = online presence
What is your brand?
What is your brand?
Volunteer for work to meet key contacts, help and learn
Summary

• Deliver a simple, impactful and polished message during any professional interaction
• Highlight your accomplishments and value
• Explore the many available opportunities in industry
THANK YOU!

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