

# Hiring into the pharmaceutical industry

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## **Current Landscape is not good**

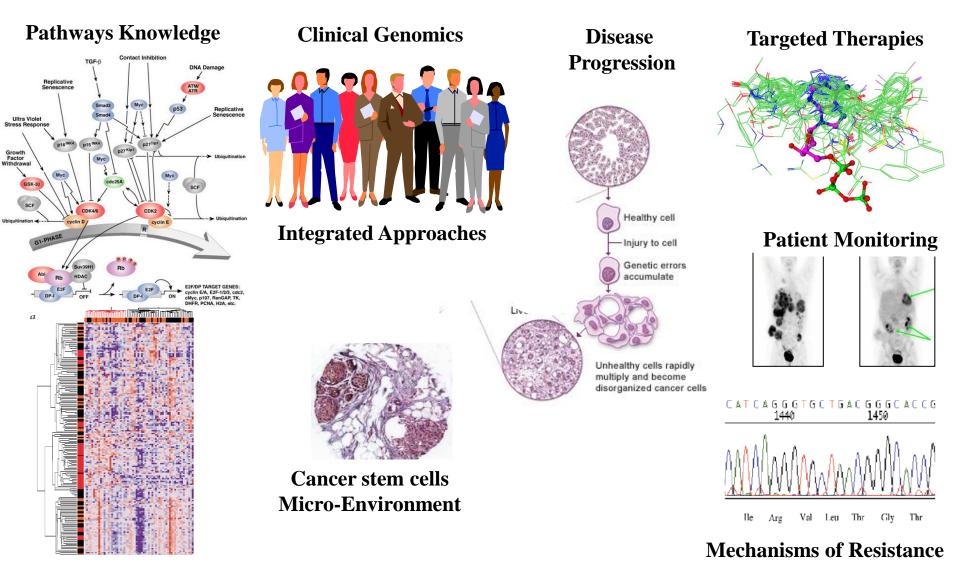


#### Competitive job environment

- Industry under a great deal of change
  - Cause
    - Increasing investment has not yielded increased new drugs
    - Patent expiries = Loss of revenues
  - Effect
    - Sharpened focus on fewer disease areas
    - Consolidation, cut-backs, M&A, closures
- On average for each opening
  - > 100 applicants
  - 5-10 highly qualified
  - How do you make yourself stand out?
- Great science goes on in industry
- Hiring focused on Ph.D.-level

## Discovery and Innovative Strategies in Oncology: New Approaches





## **Example Job Description**







#### www.pfizer.com/careers

Job ID # 930794

In Vivo Target ID Validation Lab Leader (Oncology)

- Responsibilities
  - Statement
- Position purpose
  - Statement
- Organizational relationships
  - Statement
- Primary duties
  - 9 bullet statements
- Qualifications
  - Training & Education Preferred
    - 8 bullet statements
  - Prior Experience Preferred
    - 7 bullet statements

## How do I find a job that fits me and my expertise?



- Network
- Search broadly, apply selectively
  - Company websites
  - Ads in key journals
  - Job websites geared toward scientific positions e.g. biospace.com
  - Biotech community websites e.g. <u>massbio.org</u>
  - Job boards in Academic depts
  - Key Pls
  - Job fairs
- Apply when no openings

### "Technical" skills we seek/train



- PDM Computational ADME, PK/PD modeling, systems pharmacology,
- Oncology Research Computational biology, bioinformatics, PK/PD, cell and molecular biology.
- Chemistry Med. Chem. Design, structural biology.
- Drug Safety In-vivo experience.

### Other skills we seek



Teamwork, interpersonal relationships, focus, time management, drive, motivation, dedication, decisive, teamwork, interpersonal relationships, communication – verbal and written, influencing skills, focus, decisive, collaborative, drive, self-starting, communication, presentation skills, teamwork, committed to continuous learning, change agile, innovative, personal leadership . . .

## Take home messages



- Seek advice, different opinions, tips
- Competitive job environment, not easy to crack
- Produce, accomplish, have impact
- Create and leverage your (credible) network
- Search broadly, apply selectively
- Read the job description
- Well-prepared resume is your strongest ally
- Interview: be prepared and be yourself