

Medical Communications - The Agency Perspective

Dave Cornick Manager, Scientific and Editorial Services PAREXEL MedCom

PAREXEL Proprietary and Confidential. Copyright © 2009, PAREXEL International Corporation. All rights reserved.

Today's Agenda

- What we do?
- How we do it?
- What we look for in a scientific writer?
- Training and career opportunities



What we don't do!

- "Sell drugs"
- "Ghost write!"
- "Work for the Lancet"

Quote of the Day:

 "I have no idea what Dave does but he seems to enjoy it...something medical?"
© Dave's Mum

What we actually do is...





Translate Complex Scientific Data into Motivating Communications



Agenda

- What we do?
- How we do it?
- What we look for in a scientific writer?
- Training and career opportunities



What is "Pre-launch Marketing"?

- Medical communication activities carried out before a drug is available for doctors to prescribe
- This can include:
 - Market Development
 - highlighting unmet medical needs
 - improving knowledge of a disease area
 - presenting a new therapeutic approach
 - Product Support
 - specific product information
 - Internal Communication
 - organisation and planning



What will Pre-marketing Achieve?



Why is Pre-launch Marketing Important?

- Development of a new drug takes around 10-15 years
- For every new drug that succeeds there is another that fails
- Patent on new drug is for 20 years
- Cost of development ~\$1 billion
- There maybe as little as 5 years to recoup investment
- Increasing competition and pressures on the industry make effective pharmaceutical marketing ever more important
- Medical communications can continue until well *after* launch



Typical Scientific Projects

Managing/tracking client's data

Disseminating data/scientific messages





Journals Manuscripts Proceedings

Congresses

Abstracts Scientific posters Speaker slides Symposium materials Exhibit panels Post-meeting publications **Stand Alone**

Monographs Websites Slide kits Newsletters CD-ROM Videos



The Scientific and Editorial Delivery Process

Confirm requirements + budgets

Project kickoff

Create schedules (Liaison with Studio, Meetings, Exhibits, Despatch)

There is more to it than just writing good science!

Internal/Client/Faculty approvals

To Studio for layout

Internal/Client/Faculty approvals

To print + despatch/shipping

Reconciliation/Debrief



Agenda

- What we do?
- How we do it?
- What we look for in a scientific writer?
- Training and career opportunities



The Ideal Scientific Writer



Can You Meet The Daily Challenge?

Working to budget





The Rewards of Medical Writing

- Intellectual challenge
- Being at the forefront of medical science
- Developing good working relationships
 - Colleagues
 - Clients
 - Opinion leaders
- Seeing the end product
- Contributing to the company's success/growth
- Remuneration, benefits
- Travel



Why PAREXEL MedCom?

- Over 90 on-staff Scientific Writers and Editors
 - 74% Advanced degrees, 60% with PhDs or MDs
 - 50% Published authors
 - Many on journal Editorial Boards
- Unrivalled training program The Academy
- Breadth of opportunities within Scientific and Editorial Services
 - Promotion from within
 - Well defined career path
- Supportive, informal, and pleasant working environment
- Healthy emphasis on work life balance
- Sports and Social Club



How to become a Scientific Writer...

- Get a biomedical degree and/or relevant pharma experience
 - Advanced qualifications are preferable
- Practice your writing skills
 - You will be assessed via a writing sample!
 - Demonstrate an ability to write creatively and accurately
 - Demonstrate a deep understanding of science and interpretation of clinical trial/scientific data
- Apply
 - Direct: To agencies
 - Speculative: Networkpharma or Inpharm
 - Job adverts: Guardian, New Scientist, EMWA
- Interview
 - Screening call
 - Writing sample
 - Face-to-face interview



Dave's Story



Charlie's Story



BSc in Medical Biochemistry

Postgraduate research (4 years)



Medical Writer (6 years)



Medical Writer (6 years)



Head-hunted to join PAREXEL



Dominik's Story



BSc in Biochemistry and Zoology





Environmental volunteer work in Brazil





Surfer and PAREXEL freelancer in Oz



MSc Environmental Conservation²⁰



Nick's Story



Karen's Story



Agenda

- What we do?
- How we do it?
- What we look for in a new medical writer?
- Training and career opportunities



PAREXEL Fellowship of Scientific Writers and Editors

- Recognizes unique core competencies and supports and further enhances the world-class capability of PAREXEL
 - Scientific credentials
 - Scientific writing expertise
 - Editing and QC excellence
- Fellowship Professional Development
 - Foundation: Writers and Editors
 - Senior: Experienced Writers and Editorial Specialists
 - Masters: Managers, Directors, Lead Scientific Specialists, Scientific Strategic Advisors
- Associate Academy Members
 - Freelance professionals meeting PAREXEL's professional standards



What Does the Academy Training Cover?

- PAREXEL has invested heavily in customized Academy training for Scientific Writers and Editors
- Provides ongoing professional development on:
 - Scientific writing for different audiences and media
 - Statistical analysis and interpretation
 - Publication program development and implementation
 - Publication guidelines (PhRMA, OIG, ICMJE, CONSORT, etc)
 - Project management
 - Quality control procedures
 - Communication excellence
- Training programs are conducted through structured workshops, seminars, and practical sessions
- Refresher courses are provided as required



Training and Development for Editorial Specialists

- A rigorous program of tailored training is available for Editorial Specialists, providing comprehensive skills in:
 - Copyediting
 - Proofreading, formatting, style guidelines
 - Use of grammar
 - Project management
 - · Print and production processes; interactive media
 - Pharma guidelines
 - On-screen editing
 - PowerPoint



The Sales Slide!









Competitive Intelligence





Any Questions?



Trial Branding





Exhibits





