

SAVING LIVES..... SAVING MONEY.....

Career Planning

A presentation compiled by

The Australian Society for Medical Research

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Developing a plan for success

- **What are your career goals and options**
- **Time to move on?**
- **Strengths and weaknesses**

The academic career path

- **Research**

- Independence, originality and leadership
- Quality of publications
- Contribution to discipline
- Profile at national and international levels

- **Teaching**

- Undergraduate
- Postgraduate

The non-academic career path

- **Pharmaceutical industry**
- **Biotechnology**
- **Government**
- **Research management**

The active process of career planning

- **First action for planning your career**
“GET A MENTOR”
- **Position yourself in an appropriate city and institution**
- **Set short and long term goals**
- **Build a track record**

Building a track record

- **Individual Responsibility**
 - Your career - your responsibility
- **Outcomes**
 - Peer-reviewed publications
 - Highlight awards
 - Develop collaborations

Publications

- **Aim as high as reasonably possible**
- **Quality is important**
 - **Impact factor vs citations**
- **Conference presentations should be converted into journal papers within a short time**
- **Authorship position**

Maximise opportunities

- Counterbalance 'new' areas of research with projects which WILL yield publishable results
- Be prepared to complete and compete
- Be pro-active
- Network!
 - Referees
- Minimise problems
 - Track record – relative to opportunity

Demonstrate your independence

- Signal a change (no later than 5 years post-doc)
- Apply for fellowships
- Get involved in professional activities
- Ensure you write papers
 - Authorship position
- Ensure you write grants
 - Start with small grants as lead or sole investigator

The vicious grant cycle

- **To get a grant, need publications – to demonstrate independence need own grant!**
- **No grant is too small or insignificant**

Climbing the career ladder

- **Fastest way upwards is to keep moving**
- **Potential pitfalls**
- **Study leave option**
 - **New ideas / new collaborations**

The Australian Society for Medical Research



Public, Political and Scientific Advocacy

ASMR

Peak professional organisation representing
Australian Health and Medical Research

- **Direct membership**
- **Affiliated professional societies and medical colleges**
- **Corporate and foundation (patient groups) membership**

Reaching 142,000 Australians

- **Established 1961**
- **Independent**
- **Proven track record**



<http://www.asmr.org.au>

ASMR

Public Advocacy

ASMR Medical Research Week®

National Tour by the ASMR Medallist

Medical Research Week Dinners

Public Expositions

Community Lectures/Cinema Events

Schools Events

Careers Seminars

Awards and Prizes

Scientific Meetings



<http://www.asmr.org.au>

ASMR

Political Advocacy



<http://www.asmr.org.au>

Submissions to Government – 2009/10

DIISR Research Workforce Strategy Submission

Submission to the HSC on Economics

Pre-Budget Submission 2010

NHMRC Strategic Plan Consultation Paper

OSMR NSW Governance of Medical Research Institutes Consultation

NHMRC Partnership Centres of Research Excellence II

Consultation Paper on NHMRC Research Fellowship Scheme

NEAF (National Ethics Application Form) Evaluation

Lobbying

Face-to-face political visits/Letter writing political campaign

Protecting Government investment in NHMRC

Committed to advocacy for a sustainable investment mechanism for HMR

Facts and Figures

Access Economics Report, Exceptional Returns: The Value of Health R&D in Australia I and II (2003 and 2008)

HMR Workforce Study 2009

Campaign website <http://www.asmr.org.au/Campaign/campaign.html>

ASMR

Scientific Advocacy

Bi-annual Australian Health and Medical Research Congress

Annual National Scientific Conference

State Scientific Meetings

Careers Information and Development Workshops

Professional Development Workshops

ASMR Research Awards

Campion Ma Playoust Memorial Award

Newsletter

Email updates on important issues!

Online ASMR Member Directory

ASMR Mentor Program



<http://www.asmr.org.au>

ASMR

Become a Member

Your involvement is crucial!

Online Application

<http://www.asmr.org.au/membership>

Membership Application Form

<http://www.asmr.org.au/membership>

Cost

Ordinary membership 2010

\$112.30 pa

Overseas/Full time student/Retired 2005

\$ 62.30 pa

(Prices include GST)



<http://www.asmr.org.au>