Biography:

James Munday BSc (Hons), D.Phil, Cert Mgmt:

My doctorate at the University of Oxford involved research in the field of Molecular and Cellular immunology. The work I carried out during this time lead to several publications on a family of cell adhesion molecules know as Siglecs (Sialic acid binding immunoglobulin like lectins). After completion of my doctorate I continued my academic career as a postdoctoral scientist at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. This work focussed on early haematopoiesis and vasculogenesis in embryonic stem cells. After successful completion of this position I gained my first position in the pharmaceutical Industry as a Senior Scientist at Celltech/UCB in the Assay Technologies group. My role was to support the development and implementation of assays that assess biomarkers for PK/PD relationships to predict potency and efficacy of compounds in-vivo for a variety of disease endpoints. I then moved to Quotient Bioresearch, where I worked on a diverse range of bioanalytical based projects and biomedical testing for external pharmaceutical clients. This lead to my current role as European lead for Immunology and Immunotoxicology at Covance. This role involves responsibility for a team of over 80 scientists actively involved in developing new therapeutics from early development to late stage clinical activities in the area of Immunology and Immunotoxicology at sites in Harrogate, Huntingdon and Muenster. The work done by my department has been part of the global effort in developing new therapies for COVID 19. I can't talk on specific elements of this work due to confidentiality and sensitivity of activities that we are performing but will be happy to give an overview of the current science and some future thoughts on where things may go with novel therapeutics that are being developed for treatment of COVID-19.

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