

# Sanofi

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## Informational Interview with Melvin Sanicas at Sanofi

**Could you describe your current role?** Medical Affairs. Providing scientific advice on Sanofi products, clinical trials and health economics and epidemiology studies. Developing relationships with external experts and other stakeholders like payers and governments to discuss the value of our vaccines. Half year before tender in hospital preparing documents for why vaccine needed and when a new product is launched, very busy period. Engaging doctors, advocacy groups and healthcare professionals to increase awareness of disease in the public, which is highly important for travel vaccines.

**What does the average day look like in that job role?** Very different day to day with questions from media/public/doctors using the product. Need to ensure information is accurate on product with the correct ethics to meet local legal requirements.

**What kind of skills do you considered most relevant in your current job?** Epidemiology and biostats very important for the role. Fact checking the marketing sector, need to know pathogenesis, incidence/prevalence, immunity and latest research on the targeted pathogen to ensure trust within the medical community.

**What pieces of advice would you give a current Masters/PhD student when applying for jobs within global health?** Medical scientific liaison officer is an entry level role linking medical and commercial with an organisation such as Sanofi. Usually applicants from post graduate school/1-year internship with a medical setting such as a laboratory/hospital. Health economics and outcome team get science background for the quantitative analysis

**Do you often have entry-level opportunities for graduate students / internship opportunities?** Medical scientific liaison ideal for entry to middle level position in the company

**What would be the ideal profile for candidates?** Candidate must demonstrate they can learn fast and be adaptable with desire to review regulatory documents (scientific publications, clinical trial documents and regulatory dossier). Role involves speaking to doctors (specialist or GP) with years of expertise, discussing product with them requires high level of knowledge about the disease and the product. Demonstrating these skills in previous experience is important.

**What previous experience do you recommend for students at LSHTM, in particular for those who have limited work experience?** Depends on the nature of company so experience is situational. Usually looking for internships in related fields.

**Recruitment practices/cycles:** Regional team in Asia so send human resources staff to different medical schools, intern from public health school and postgraduate internship program 1-2 yr then hired as full time employees

Offices and roles worldwide.

Website:<http://en.sanofi.com/index.aspx>