**TIBBS Career Blitz Career Profile Questionnaire**

1. Please provide your name and employer:
	* Parth Shah, PhD
	* Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine
2. What is your current title and how long have you worked in your current job?
	* Field Director – Immunology/GI MSLs
	* ~ 1.5 years
3. Where did you get your PhD and what discipline was it in?
	* The University of Akron in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
4. Did you do a postdoc?
	* Yes, at UT Southwestern Medical Center (Dallas, TX) and Texas A&M Health Science Center (College Station, TX)
5. What are your main daily responsibilities?
	* Oversight of my MSL team (6 direct reports), coaching and feedback
	* MSL team strategy, pull through of strategy
	* Professional Development of my MSL team
	* Projects
6. What are the keys to success in your career field?
	* Patience, persistence, flexibility & agility, empathy, emotional intelligence, self awareness, hard work, great communication & interpersonal skills.
7. What were the most important factors in choosing your career path and current employer?
	* Alignment with skills/professional interests, flexible schedule, career/professional growth opportunities, great science, patient outcomes improvement, competitive compensation + comprehensive benefits
	* Employer: reputation, robust pipeline/science, onboarding + continued support for professional growth, company/team culture, corporate responsibilities (social, environmental, etc.), work/life balance focus
8. What activities (if any) did you participate in that helped you be successful in obtaining your job?
	* Networking
	* Honing/conveying relevant “transferrable skills”, including speaking the right language
	* Enhancing clinical acumen
	* Taking initiative and learning from rejection; self reflection
9. What 1 or 2 pieces of advice do you have for people who want to land a job like yours?
	* Network, but approach it from the perspective of genuine interest in learning about career journey of others. Build relationships and don’t be transactional.
	* Hard work and perseverance
	* Self reflect often
	* Have a plan B, C, and D
10. How is the work/life balance in your career field and how much of a factor was that in your career choice?
	* Work/life balance is a huge focus at J&J and I love the flexible schedule I have not just in my current role, but also in my prior role as a MSL.
	* A very important factor, especially considering I was a new parent when I started at J&J; flexibility in my day-to-day and having major control over my schedule means a lot to me.