**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.