

Career Sheet: Research and Development Analyst



PETROULA ECONOMOU (R&D SENIOR ANALYST, REMEDICA PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY)

I hold a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the University of Cyprus, and currently, I work as a Research and Development senior analyst at Remedica pharmaceutical company. I'm in charge of the analysis of the quality of pharmaceutical products in each production stage. In this way, our company provides high-quality and safe products to our customers.



OVERVIEW OF THE JOB

My responsibility as an R&D analyst is to follow certain methods of drug analyses to check if the products meet predefined specifications. I collect data from the analyses and prepare quality control reports.



WHAT INSPIRED YOU

During my studies at the University of Cyprus, my department organised a career week where several companies and organisations visited and informed us about their field and how it relates to our studies. Since then, I have decided to follow a career in pharmaceuticals.



TYPICAL WORKING DAY

Every morning I check the results from the previous analysis and prepare the quality control report. After, I send the report to the manager of my department. Finally, based on my schedule, I may have to prepare a new analysis or design new methods and protocols for upcoming analyses.



STUDY & CAREER PATH

I finished senior high school following the scientific direction elective courses. I entered the Department of Chemistry of the University of Cyprus, and I got my degree in general chemistry. As soon as I finished my studies, I started working in the pharmaceutical industry.



KEY SKILLS

As a R&D analyst, I need the following key skills to develop my job:

- Quality control analysis is my main professional skill since it is exactly what I do.

- Personal responsibility: I must be very careful with the chemicals that I use to avoid any accidents, and with the interpretation of the results to provide accurate and reliable outcomes.
- Time management: I must complete one analysis on time and provide the results so that the other departments can proceed (e.g. production department).
- Collaboration: I collaborate with laboratory assistants, other quality control analysts and people from other departments to safeguard that all quality control procedures are made correctly.
- Problem-solving: Concerning all the above, I am in charge of solving any problems that may arise during my job (e.g. accident, methodological issues, collaboration issues etc).
- People management: I supervise and support my team (i.e. other control analysts and laboratory assistants).



CAREER PROSPECT

With my skills, I can work in any other quality control laboratory related to analytical chemistry, other than the pharmaceutical industry, such as the food industry.



CHALLENGES

The main challenge is to complete one analysis on time and give accurate results. My company produces medicines, so it is crucial to human health to produce quality products.



YOUR ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Students should follow what they like. It is important to do a job that they love because then they can address every challenge. Thus, it is necessary to learn more details about several job profiles, to understand the pros and cons and to seek more information.



YOUR ADVICE TO TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Teachers and parents must find the necessary means (e.g. seminars, websites) to introduce students to STEM careers and support their choices.



LEARN MORE

Remedica website: <https://www.remedica.eu/>

COORDINATOR

PREMIUM PARTNERS

GENERAL PARTNERS