Summary

Physician-scientist with 8+ years of multidisciplinary experience across clinical medicine, clinical research, and biopharma. Strong scientific foundation in biostatistics, study design, medical writing and pharmacovigilance. Proven record of end-to-end project management, thriving in fast-paced environments and communicating complex information to diverse audiences. Passionate about democratizing healthcare, biosecurity and pandemic preparedness.

EDUCATION

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, NY, MSc. in Clinical Research	2018 - 2020
Details: Awarded certificate for course completion; Thesis pending (COVID-19).	
Sardar Patel University, India, MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery)	2007 - 2013
Details: 4.5 yrs coursework + 1 yr internship; US-MD equivalent; ECFMG certified.	

Professional Experience

Bluedot Impact, London Expert Facilitator and Reviewer

present

Reviews weekly session plans for the course as an experienced biosecurity expert. Facilitates weekly discussion sessions for the online course.

Convergent Research, London Independant Contractor

2023

Consulted on designing focused research organizations to accelerate metagenomic sequencing and Far-UVC technology for pandemic preparedness, including setting up a CRM, interviewing clinicians and KOLs, and advising clinical trial design for the safety and efficacy of UVC lights. Successfully received seed-corn funding for an MGS venture funded by the UK DSIT

Securebio (MIT sculpting evolution group), Cambridge, MA, Independant Contractor 2023 Authored and submitted a contract proposal to the CDC for a clinical trial studying the efficacy of germicidal Far-UVC lights in preventing respiratory diseases. Authored biosecurity policy papers with Prof. Kevin Esvelt, advocating for proactive pandemic prevention measures.

Alvea Holdings LLC, Cambridge, MA, Clinical Trial/Drug Safety Physician

2022

Led pharmacovigilance and supported clinical development for two novel COVID-19 vaccine projects conducted on accelerated timelines for early phase trials in SA and AU. was responsible for the statistical plan and protocol design. Conducted preclinical risk assessment and guided formulation development for vaccine candidates.

Icahn School Of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, NY, Post Doctoral Fellow, Microbiology 2021 –2022 Studied immune response to COVID mRNA vaccines, analyzing cytokines and antibodies in diverse patient populations. Work contributed to multiple publications in high-profile journals. Supervisor: Dr. Viviana Simon.

Icahn School Of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, NY, Sr. Clinical Research Coordinator 2020 – 2021 Set up clinical operations for two clinical research clinics, authored SOPS, conducted training, supporting data management, lab management (wet-lab) benchwork, blood processing, and inventory. Managed a multi-centre NIH funded study(IMPACC), and two intramural studies. All research operations were managed during intense pandemic lockdown challenges.

Icahn School Of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, NY, Graduate Teaching Assistant 2019 – 2020 Taught advanced biostatistics, including linear models, SAS coding and computational tools. Led modeling workshops and delivered independent lectures to graduate students while pursuing a Masters.

Mount Sinai Hospital, Spine Centre, NY Research Volunteer

2018

Assisted the study coordinator with industry-sponsored and academic orthopedic/device studies (Apple watch, implants) with setting up data-collection methods, IRB submissions, consenting, etc., while pursuing Masters.

Led and managed a level-2 ICU at a tertiary hospital. Designed monthly mortality meetings for ICU events. Authored SOPs for the ICU

Various Hospitals, India Resident Medical Officer, Medical Wards, ER, Peds 2014 – 2016 Delivered medical and surgical care in a ward, emergency room, and outpatient environment. Managed high-volume patients across multiple centers.

Research Papers

Antibody Responses to an Additional Dose of SARS-CoV-2 mRNA Vaccine in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients with and without HIV, *M Saksena et al (2022)*, American Journal of transplantation, (American Transplant Congress 2022, Abstract D138, Poster accepted, not presented)

Antibody Responses to an Additional dose of SARS-CoV-2 mRNA Vaccine in Solid Organ Transplant Recipients. *M Saksena et al (2022)*, Seronet Investigators Meeting 2022, National Cancer Institute (NCI) (Poster presented)

Antibody Responses in Seropositive Persons after a Single Dose of SARS-CoV-2 mRNA Vaccine, F Krammer et.al (2021), New England Journal of Medicine

Adverse Reactions of NSAIDs in orthopedic patients, A Gor and M Saksena (2011), Journal of Pharmacology and pharmacotherapeutics

Pharmacology and pharmacotherapeutics	
Licenses, Certifications, Awards	
Manifund Regranting Program, 3 mos FT salary to work with Convergent Research \$41800 2023	
Drug Information Association, Pre-Marketing Clinical Trial Safety Certificate 2022	
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, Certificate in Clinical Research Training Program 2021	
Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine, Fundamentals of Critical Care Certificate 2017	
Educational Commission of Foreign Medical Graduates, Certificate 2016	
Gujarat Medical Council, Registered Medical Practitioner (Medical License), 2013 – present	
Nadiad Medical Association, Young physician Award, ₹2000 2013	
Indian Council of Medical Research, Short Term Studentship, ₹5000 2009	
Nadiad Medical Association, Young Scholar Award, ₹2000 2007	
Other Professional Activities	
Hi-Med: Leader for High-Med India Chapter 2023	
Effective Altruism Global conference : Attended EAGx Boston(22), EAG London (22,23), EAG SF (22), EAG Bay Area(24)	
COVID-19 response NYC: Team Leader for the Clinical Operations group with the student volunteer taskforce at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai 2020	
Board of Directors, New York Chapter of American Academy of Emergency Physicians: Student representative Member $2019-2020$	

Dean Council, Pramukhswami Medical College: Student Representative 2008 – 2010

Writer/editor/performer for nationally broadcast radio show regarding aids awareness, hosted health education

2019 - 2020

2010 - 2011

American Academy of Emergency Physicians: Professional Membership

lectures for college students on AIDS.

Red Ribbon Club (National AIDS Control Organization): Student Leader

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Clinical Research: Protocol development, GCP, regulatory compliance (FDA, EMA, SAHPRA, TGA), pharmacovigilance, cross-functional collaboration, medical writing

Data Analysis: R, Python, SAS, REDCap, data visualization

Languages: Hindi, English, Gujarati, Spanish

Interests: AI in healthcare, biosecurity and pandemic prevention, forecasting, emceeing events,

Muay-Thai(kickboxing), tennis, singing