## How do you plan to use the Wharton MBA program to help you achieve your future professional goals? You might consider your past experience, short and long-term goals, and resources available at Wharton. (500 words)

### Fourth Draft

## When I was 18, I watched as firefighters escorted my dad out of a psychiatry clinic to be involuntarily committed to a facility. Years earlier, my dad had suffered a series of mini-strokes that damaged vital brain areas, leaving him with a severe personality disorder. Healthcare professionals said that commitment was our only option. I felt helpless to fix my dad's situation, and I don't want other people to have to go through that. I've seen how adverse health conditions can tear families apart and leave lasting scars. I want to develop treatment options to alleviate the suffering caused by health problems and give people hope.

## My long-term goal is to start a venture that delivers a novel medical therapy at scale. However, I have neither previous entrepreneurial experience nor a network of people who share my ambition. Before pursuing entrepreneurship, I plan to use my computer science background and the Wharton MBA to become an innovative product manager in the healthcare industry at a company like Pfizer or Redesign Health.

## My software engineering experience at Dexcom has prepared me to make this transition. I learned the product lifecycle from an engineer's perspective by taking a software platform from concept to MVP. I then led my development team for several months, during which I persuaded my product manager to grant the development team additional time to address critical architecture problems so that we could accelerate development. Next, I wanted to increase the rate at which my developers could create new features further, so I persuaded my leadership to approve using a new programming language by developing a proof-of-concept. I then implemented a strategy to onboard the other engineers to the new language while reducing development friction. I have experience getting a development team to work harmoniously with product management, and that experience will help me in the product manager role.

## I will major in Health Care Management and Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Wharton. Management and Strategy in Medical Devices and Technology will teach me how to treat "software as a medical device" as I seek to apply my computer science background to develop new medical therapies. Health Care Entrepreneurship will prepare me to launch a venture in an industry with high barriers to entry. The Product Management course will show me how to innovate and be agile in a heavily regulated industry.

## 

## I will apply to the Fall semester at the San Francisco campus, where I will use the immersive environment to learn how to innovate in the face of extensive regulations and make connections that will help me transition into product management. In the San Francisco campus curriculum, The Finance of Innovation will teach me how to raise capital for my future capital-intensive venture. The Negotiations course will prepare me to negotiate with healthcare providers and vendors in the healthcare industry.

## I will join Venture Labs as an "explorer," where I will build my network of entrepreneurial-minded individuals and learn first-hand what it takes to launch a venture.

## Taking into consideration your background – personal, professional, and/or academic – how do you plan to make specific, meaningful contributions to the Wharton community? (400 words)

### Fourth Draft

Given my undergrad and grad degrees in computer science and my professional experience as a cloud computing software developer, I know how to take software from idea to useable service while navigating the technical intricacies and limitations of cloud computing. In the Entrepreneurship Club, I will help my clubmates assess the viability of their ideas, propose technical solutions, and help build prototypes.

At Dexcom, I wanted to reach outside my day-to-day responsibilities, so I asked to help conduct interviews to hire software engineers. In my interviews, I learned how to discern top talent and that resumes can be deceiving.  Companies—especially start-ups—need to acquire top engineering talent to stay competitive, and innovators with great ideas can stumble in finding sound engineers to build their ideas. I will use my experience vetting software engineering candidates to help my classmates in the Entrepreneurship Club source the "builders" for their ideas. In the Healthcare Club, I want to lead a workshop on hiring practices for software engineers.

When I started working at Dexcom, the workload requirement for regulatory accountability equaled actual development. In other words, I spent about half of a software release cycle doing documentation and regulatory work. This burden slowed down the rate at which my team could innovate. I decided to automate much of our regulatory documentation creation so that we could spend more time creating actual value rather than dealing with overhead. In the Healthcare Club, I want to give a presentation at a club event on the importance of agile development while conforming to regulatory processes.

Complex technical concepts can be difficult for students to learn and internalize, especially if they have yet to gain prior experience in the subject area. During my undergrad program, I worked as a teaching assistant for the Computer Science department and helped hundreds of students—especially those who struggled—understand and apply complex technical concepts. I can help my Wharton classmates understand complex concepts related to my expertise by using questions to identify areas of logical disconnect and explaining concepts in simple terms.

Finally, I plan to start the MBA Chess Club at Wharton. I played in the Chess Club at BYU and found that non-competitive chess games are an excellent way to meet people and have one-on-one discussions. I want to bring that same networking capability to Wharton.