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# Career Perspectives

## with a PhD in Natural & Life Sciences



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**Doctorate:**

Microbiology, Institut Pasteur Paris / Université Sorbonne Paris Cité, 2015

**Current Position:**

Head of Quality Systems and Data Review at ViruSure GmbH (Vienna)

### **What plans and ideas did you have during your doctorate?**

I aimed to transition from academia to a team-oriented environment, where every member collaborates towards a common goal rather than pursuing individual achievements. In academia, I felt that recognition was primarily given to first and last authors, overlooking the importance of each contribution to the overall success.

### **What does your professional life look like?**

My team and I are engaged in virtually every aspect of my company's testing services. We are involved from the start to the finish, including method validation, reviewing and releasing study plans, ensuring correct testing conduct, and reviewing and releasing all study data. We also handle the validation of computerized systems, such as electronic laboratory management systems, Next Generation Sequencing pipelines, ÄKTAs, and many more. Additionally, we are involved in deviation and change management, contributing to the continuous improvement of company procedures.

### **What do you enjoy most about your current job?**

I appreciate the diversity of tasks and the opportunity to gain insights into all facets of my company's operations. Instead of being confined to a narrow specialized area, we have a broad perspective and oversee various aspects of the work. Additionally, we interact with all other departments and participate in their team meetings. Colleagues frequently reach out to us for advice, which I find rewarding.

### **What role do skills gained in your PhD studies play in your current job?**

The ability to critically observe and question results ensures that data are evaluated thoroughly, and a high standard of accuracy and reliability is maintained. Additionally, the flexibility and capacity to quickly familiarize oneself with new topics allows to adapt to various challenges efficiently.

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