Interview

RxSource's inspirational women: Let's get to know Meredith Gironta, Director, Operations





To mark International Women's Day in March, we have taken the opportunity to sit down with our own inspirational women to get to know them a little better. In this blog, we have sat down with Meredith Gironta, RxSource's Director of Operations. Meredith is one of our newer team members but comes with a wealth of knowledge from her many years of industry experience. Let's learn more about how Meredith got to where she is today.

What was your very first job role?

My first job was as an Emergency Medical Technician in New Jersey.



What was the key driving factor that made you want to work within the Pharmaceutical Industry?

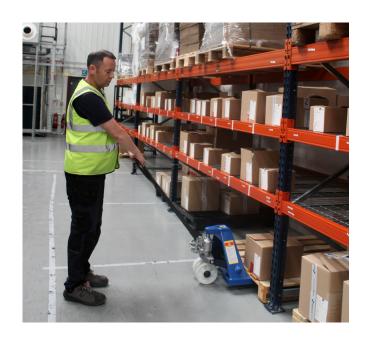
Since my first job, I have always gravitated towards jobs that help people. Working in the pharma industry allows me to do that by helping patients get their pharmaceuticals in a timely manner. Working in clinical trials allows me to provide services that help accelerate the development of new medicines for patients with a wide range of diseases. I have had family members experience serious illnesses in the past, so being part of an industry developing life changing treatments fills me with immense pride. I really enjoy the fast-paced environment in clinical trial supply.

Tell us a little more about your journey to your current job role.

After I worked in Emergency Medicine for about 10 years, I moved into a different area of Operations: third-party Logistics. I maintained home delivery sites for different furniture organizations in the New York/New Jersey area. I also did some work in Ohio to help overhaul underperforming sites. I subsequently moved into Warehousing Operations, where I gained a lot of knowledge of how to run large distribution operations, with 300 people reporting up through me and a million square foot warehouse. I then had an opportunity to move into Clinical Trial Supply operations which I felt like was bringing my career full circle, back to helping patients.

What is it that you do in your current role?

I manage Operations for all the RxSource sites (US, Canada, and Ireland). I have an operations Manager at each site to run the day-to-day, but I support an overall Operations strategy, continuous improvement, and new projects. It's not uncommon to see me in a packaging room to keep my secondary packaging skills sharp; I believe we are all one team, and it is important to "walk a mile" in the other person's shoes from time to time to ensure all processes are run as efficiently as possible.



What do you like most about what you do?

The best part about my job role is that no two days are the same. Operations is a fast-paced, dynamic environment and everything we do ultimately helps patients get their medicine, which can be lifesaving or give them more time with their loved ones.



What do you like to do in your spare time?

In my spare time, I attend graduate school at Penn State (WE ARE!) for my MBA and a concurrent master's in supply chain. I graduate at the end of this summer. I also enjoy running and race a few ultramarathons each year.

If you could give your younger self any advice, what would it be?

Ask questions and be a good listener. In my younger years, I was always concerned that asking questions would make me look dumb. However, when I started asking questions, I started learning so much more and then could share that learning with others. It also allowed me to make more connections with people and truly listening, as opposed to simply listening to respond. Developing this skill has allowed me to be vulnerable and to absorb more knowledge.



Is there any advice you would give someone looking to progress their career in this industry?

Find a mentor. I have had two excellent mentors in my career who have given advice on how to best position myself to progress and pushed me to volunteer for projects that I didn't think I was ready for, which ended up giving me valuable experience in the industry.

Meredith Gironta, Director, Operations



l year+ with RxSource





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