



BEN JOHNSON

CLINICAL TRIALS ASSOCIATE
CANCER RESEARCH



"Love the variety and the interactions with people"

Academic profile

Degree

None

Post grad

None

Qualification/achievement you are most proud of

Pilots licence to captain hotel barge in France

Subjects you enjoyed at school

Geology, History, English

Career Summary

Accidental! I became healthy volunteer for an Asthma study and the research nurses spoke about their roles in research, which took my interest. I had a bank job at the time and the traveling was getting me down. So I took up a CTA role at University Hospital Southampton. After 9 months I switched to Cancer Research on the Target Lung study. I was my own boss, had autonomy, and was trusted to do the job well. 6 years later I'm still here! We now have a team of 4, and I've trained all new colleagues (13 in total, most move on after cutting their teeth, to other research roles). I'm a valued member of the team, integral to success of study (highest recruiting cancer study in Wessex, top 5% nationally). I love the people/patient interactions and the fine tuning processes with public engagement.

What inspired you?

I fell into working in science, I did not choose it. Never thought I'd end up in a Lab (some of the time). So happy that have ended up in current role – major career change!

Describe your job



Did you know

If the inner surface of the lungs could be stretched out flat, they would occupy an area of around 80 to 100 square meters – about the size of half of a tennis court!

Top tip

Work harder than you think you need to at A levels. Don't pigeon hole yourself/ambitions. Take your time. Whatever you do will be fine, you can always change direction. It's never too late...

Best thing about my job

Bringing on my new colleagues, nurturing their early careers.

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