

# Outstanding Physician Experience...

SHORT VERSION

... to boost Brand Preference

The Smart Manager Series (#6)

**Position Paper** 

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#### 1. Introduction

### Offering outstanding Physician Experience is a source of competitive differentiation likely to boost their brand preference

**Forward** 



- By offering outstanding experiences to physicians<sup>1</sup>, pharma companies are more likely to:
  - Keep on interacting with them
  - Differentiate positively their products from competition
  - Optimize their market share evolution
- For so doing, we propose a methodology and tools to help pharma companies

"Managing customer experience bolsters your brand" - Stan Phelps



#### 1. Introduction

The purpose of Physician Experience is to urge pharma companies to provide physicians not only with products and customized services but to enrich their life with memorable events

Physician Experience – Definition

### Evolution of the drug prescribing model



- Delivering experiences, delighting physicians, is a powerful means to cope with product and service commoditization
- Experience is the perception resulting from interactions with a product, its associated services and the company
- Physician Experience needs to be extraordinary, memorable and compelling to generate a competitive advantage



#### 2. Why is Physician Experience so Important?

Providing positive experiences to physicians will increase their loyalty and preference for the brand, while turning them into advocates, which will drive sales and profit growths

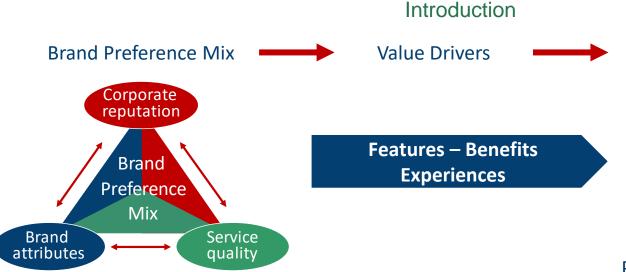
Physician Experience Objective



- Positive Physician Experience leads to:
  - Satisfaction and positivity
  - Delight and happiness
- Satisfied and delighted physicians by experiences will:
  - Be more loyal, increasing the retention rate
  - Show a stronger preference
  - Be inclined to recommend



The features of the Brand Preference Mix components should offer meaningful benefits and delightful experiences to physicians to strengthen their preference



- Brand Preference Mix must be activated to bring superior benefits and experiences to physicians than competitors do...
- ... so that to convince them to prescribe more and to recommend the brand

**Individual Physician Portrait** 



#### Physicians **preference** is **driven by**:

- Needs [rational-based]
- Wants [emotional-based]

#### But **limited by**:

• Fears [rational- and emotional-based]



### The Brand Preference Mix determines the key drivers that can be activated to enhance prescriber preference and thus optimize market share

The Brand Preference Mix



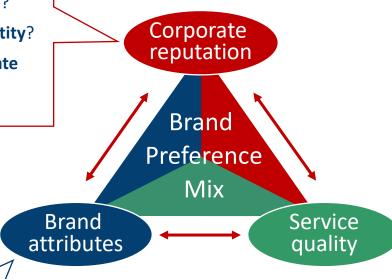
- To increase physician preference for brands to gain prescription share ...
- ... Pharma companies must optimize the three components of the Brand Preference Mix:
  - The perceived value of their brand
  - The perceived quality of the services they offer and deliver to physicians
  - Their corporate reputation
- These three components must be strongly linked in the mind of the prescribers



# To activate the Brand Preference Mix components of their drugs, pharma companies should address the following key issues

The Brand Preference Mix levers

- How to create a superior image?
- How to build an appealing identity?
- How to maintain a good corporate reputation that induces the preference of physicians?
- How to install a perception of drug uniqueness?
- How to generate "preference" of physicians by highlighting specific drug attributes?
- How to leverage corporate reputation and service offering?



- What services to offer to physicians which will lead to a stronger corporate reputation and/or brand preference?
- How to ensure a sustainable excellence in the execution¹ of these services?
- How to make sure the proposed services are associated with the right pharma company and the right brand?



### The Brand Preference Mix determines the key drivers that can be activated to enhance prescriber preference and thus optimize market share

The Physician Experience Level

- Delivering an outstanding Physician Experience requires:
  - A clear value proposition based on the **Brand Preference Mix**
  - An intimate understanding of individual physicians' "needs", "wants" and "fears"
- Physician Experience should consider:
  - Cognitive (knowledge, exposure)
  - Affective (appreciation, preference)
  - Conative (prescription, recommendation) perspectives of the experience

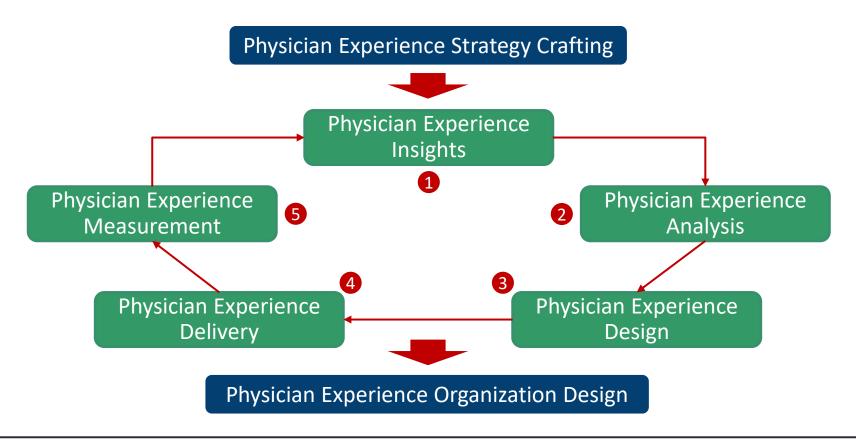


Physician Experience



The following 5-step approach will help pharma companies deliver a consistently outstanding experience to physicians whose expectations keep on rising

Introduction





# Physician Experience must move to the strategic agenda of pharma companies as patient-centricity did for most organizations

Physician Experience Strategy Crafting

#### Step 1

 Define a clear vision, bought in by collaborators

#### Step 2

 Involve physicians and collaborators across the company to craft strategy and tactics

#### Step 3

Integrate experience strategy into the brand strategy

- Physician Experience strategy crafting should be:
  - PERSONALIZED: apply individual insights gathered at each touchpoint
  - CONVENIENT: offer convenient services to physicians
  - ACCESSIBLE: ensure an easy and quick access to collaborators to fulfill their needs

"Physician Experience Strategy needs to be aligned with the strategic square of the company"



One should understand why each physician is disappointed, satisfied or delighted by each moment of truth between him, the company, its marketed brands and offered services

1 Physician Experience Insights

#### Why to gather data?

- Engage with physicians to better understand them<sup>1</sup>
- The value of these data depends on the insights they will bring
- Data relative to every touchpoint should help understand which interactions increase engagement and hurt it; and why
- Define the actions that will drive a positive change in physician opinion and behavior

#### What data to gather? - Small data

- Specific and individualized data are the starting point to improve Experience
- They enable to choose a specific initiative to be implemented for a specific physician

#### What data to gather? - Big data

- Big data have more to do with strategic decisions and directions
- At tactical level, big data can be used to feed algorithms to predict Physician Experience issues or solutions to propose

"Physicians expectations are also set by their experience in other sectors which are far ahead2"

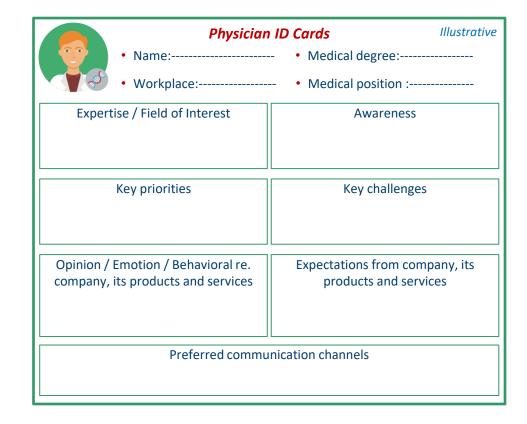


Personas or individual ID cards are commonly used to help design an optimal experience model to meet/exceed individual expectations and thus achieve a sustainable competitive advantage

2 Physician Experience Analysis (1/5)

#### Personas & Physician ID Cards

- Experience should be analyzed from the outside in with the help of personas<sup>1</sup>
- Individual portraits (ID cards) based on real data, would be preferable because they enable to determine, for each physician:
  - Who are they?
  - What are their opinions, emotions, behaviors?
  - What is their historical experience with the company, its products and services?
  - What do they want, need, fear?



Sources: Smart Pharma Consulting



# Physician journey mapping will complete personas or individual ID cards to evaluate physician practical and emotional degree of satisfaction at each touchpoint

2 Physician Experience Analysis (2/5)

#### Physician journey mapping – Introduction

- Physicians journey mapping enables to understand:
  - What are their touchpoints?
  - How do they interact with the company, its brands and services?
  - The emotional connection they feel at each interaction across all touchpoints,

to explore how to eliminate "pain points" and reinforce "delight points" to create an emotional attachment to the brands

- Thus, it is possible to enable an end-toend redesign of the physician journey
- Audit of practices and capabilities; and mapping of existing Physician Experience will raise important questions, such as:
  - Where are the pain and delight points?
  - Is there a clear understanding of how physicians feel about existing processes?
  - What ideas do in-field collaborators have to enhance experience of physicians?
  - What key learnings can be applied?
  - Which channels do physicians prefer?



In practice, the most important journeys should be selected, and their respective pain points addressed, physician by physician, through a cross-functional contribution of collaborators

2 Physician Experience Analysis (3/5)

### Physician journey mapping – In practice (1/2)

- 1st step: identify the most important<sup>1</sup> journeys and pain points through:
  - Top-down, judgement-driven analyses
  - Bottom-up, data-driven analyses
- 2<sup>nd</sup> step: pinpoint the touchpoints between the physician, the brand, the company and the services it proposes
- 3<sup>rd</sup> step: evaluate the physician' perceptions at each touchpoint, their root causes and the likely impact on its behavior

- The journey mapping should be carried out, physician by physician, to obtain a precise diagnosis to redesign interactions
- A robust journey mapping requires:
  - The contribution of different departments<sup>2</sup>
  - The input of physicians to make sure all key touchpoints have been selected, the internal performance assessment and their related causes are valid

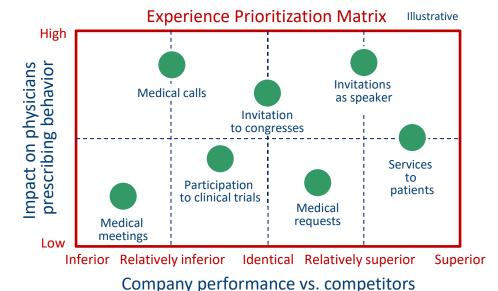


# The redesign of journeys should have an important impact on the physician's prescription and offer opportunities for significant improvements

2 Physician Experience Analysis (4/5)

### Physician journey mapping – In practice (2/2)

 This matrix helps select journeys that should be redesigned to improve experience



- The matrix considers two criteria:
  - The most impactful journeys on physician's prescription, beyond product attributes
  - The performance of the company, relative to competitors
- Feasibility (organizational, technical, financial, legal, etc.) should be considered
- The matrix can be used for individual or groups of physicians, by therapeutic area, by country, etc.



This journey map depicts the medical call made to a physician to identify the pain points and neutral points that represent opportunities of transformation into delight points

2 Physician Experience Analysis (5/5)

Simplified illustration

#### Physician journey mapping – Medical call experience

	Pre-call	Call	Post-Call
Touchpoints <sup>1</sup>	<ol> <li>Next call planning w/ the med rep</li> <li>Call to the med rep to clarify the program of a symposium the physician is considering to attend</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Introduction by the med rep who indicates the objective of the call</li> <li>Answer to questions asked to the med rep during previous calls</li> <li>Detailing of the promoted brand by the med rep</li> <li>Questioning by the med rep re. the number of patients under his brand</li> <li>Overall call perceived as too long and not very interesting</li> </ol>	<ul><li>8. Reception of a reprint from the medical department, following a specific demand during the call</li><li>9. Reception of an e-mail with a link to a webinar</li></ul>
Emotions <sup>2</sup>	1 2	3 4 1 6 7	8 9 ———————————————————————————————————
Opportunities	Determine, in agreement with the physician, a topic to be covered during the next call to be planned	<ul> <li>6. The physician does not want to be asked by the med rep to prescribe the brand he promotes. Alternative approaches should be implemented to engage the physician to extend his usage of the brand</li> <li>7. Better manage the call duration and determine what could have made the physician more interested by the content of the call</li> </ul>	8. The process should be rethought so that the physician feels delighted by the way his demand is fulfilled

<sup>1</sup> Interactions of the physician – <sup>2</sup> What does the physician feel and think?



### The way services are delivered is more important than the service itself, knowing that emotions shape the attitudes which drive decisions

3 Physician Experience Design (1/2)

#### Physician Experience design to leave an enjoyable footprint

- Physician Experience design refers to the creation of touchpoints which are concrete and controllable elements that can be identified, crafted and integrated
- Designing or redesigning experience should aim to deliver, at each touchpoint:
  - Better interactions
  - Integrated and coherent experiences
- The level of customization should be adjusted by individual physician

- A Physician Experience plan should be elaborated and integrated to each brand plan, ensuring it supports the brand
- The challenge is to create an emotional connection with physicians at touchpoints by:
  - Addressing pain points
  - Creating good content that will meet their needs and lead to positive feelings
  - Empowering physician-facing collaborators

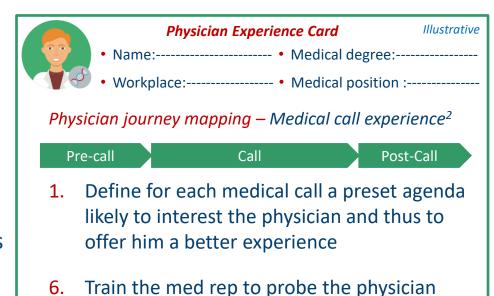


### The initiatives designed to enhance the experience of individual physicians should remove hassles and offer delightful interactions

3 Physician Experience Design (2/2)

#### Physician Experience Card

- This card formalizes a specific action plan to enhance each physician experience
- Key learnings from individual physician<sup>1</sup> and from the mapping of his journeys will be used
- To select the touchpoints to be redesigned, they should be categorized as follows:
  - The "musts" requiring to meet expectations
  - The "pluses" leading to preference
  - The "minuses" inducing negative feelings and behavior due to poor experience



about his practice and to engage him in a

more subtle manner to avoid annoying him

Sources: Smart Pharma Consulting

<sup>1</sup> As gathered in the Physician ID Card – <sup>2</sup> See illustration p.24

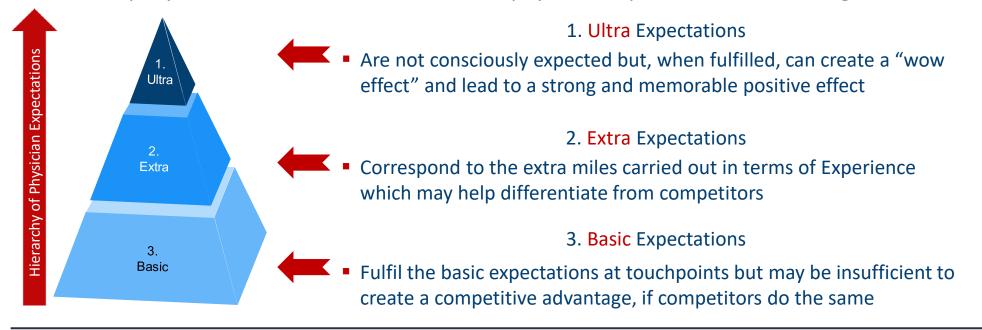


Physician Experience delivery must attempt to create delight by adding positive and memorable emotions at each touchpoint to strengthen physician preference

4 Physician Experience Delivery

#### Excellence in execution

 Outstanding Physician Experience requires to define the best way to manage touchpoints with the company, its brands and services to exceed physician expectations and to delight him



Sources: Smart Pharma Consulting



### Measuring Physician Experience is essential to evaluate the pharma company, its brands and related services; and fill potential gaps

5 Physician Experience Measurement

#### Key points

- Measuring Experience is essential to evaluate the pharma company, its brands and related services proposed
- Physicians feedback should be captured in real time, or soon after the interaction
- These information being evolutive, permanent data gathering...
- ... and regular control of their quality should be organized

- One should measure data that will give insights on Physician Experience with metrics such as:
  - The Brand Preference Mix Index (BPMI)
  - The Net Promoter Score (NPS)
  - The Customer Satisfaction Score (CSAT)
  - The Customer Effort Score (CES)
- These metrics can be combined to measure the quality of execution of the different interactions

"If you cannot measure it, you cannot improve it"



The organization should be designed based on an "outside-in" view of Physician Experience to ensure a consistency in the quality of interactions along the key journeys

Physician Experience Organization Design

*Culture* Activities

- Nurture a culture of superior Experience
- Develop a powerful vision¹
- Install a participative culture<sup>2</sup>
- Encourage creativity, experiment and best practice sharing

- Focus on activities that support Physician Experience strategy
  - Develop skills of collaborators
  - Carefully plan and monitor the execution of key interactions



#### **Processes**

Sources: Smart Pharma Consulting

- Introduce a continuous and cross-department system to capture physician emotions
- Ensure all functions work together<sup>3</sup>
- Design simple and easy processes

- **Structure**
- Design an agile structure
- Set up a flat and lean organization
- Have a platform with physicians' opinion, behavior and emotion data

<sup>1</sup> To connect employees. Set clear performance expectations, hold them accountable, give them regular feedbacks, reward their performance, share outcomes, etc. – <sup>2</sup> Solicit ideas and inputs, listen to people, select and implement their most appropriate suggestions to improve Physician Experiences – <sup>3</sup> Medical affairs, marketing, sales, market access, digital, compliance, etc., to collect insights and redesign enhanced interactions



#### 5. Conclusion

### A superior valued-added experience leads to physicians' preference over competitors offer but requires to recruit talented and passionate people to offer moments of exception

Key Success Factors to Deliver Awesome Physician Experience

#### Vision & Ambition

Vision and ambition should be set by the CEO and shared with all collaborators

#### Strategy

- Should be crafted to consistently meet or even exceed physicians' expectations across their journeys
- Greater Experience creates stronger engagement, positive opinion and thus enhances brand preference
- Deliver compelling stories and experiences with strong contents through conventional and digital channels

#### **Tactics**

- Mapping journeys helps select the most important ones, i.e. those influencing the most physician's prescription
- Journey maps are essential to develop actions based on individual physician emotion, opinion and behavior
- Physician Experience includes interactions with in-field and office-based collaborators, and digital interactions

#### **Organization**

- Physician Experience is a holistic approach requiring the engagement of everyone from the company
- Design an integrated approach to ensure the congruence in the messages conveyed and the consistency in the quality of interactions, while making access to proposed services as easy as possible for physicians

Sources: Smart Pharma Consulting



#### 6. Smart Pharma Service Offering

#### **How to implement a Physician Experience Program?**

#### **Consulting Services**

- Smart Pharma Consulting is well-known for its ability to link strategy and tactics
- Thus, we can help pharma companies:
  - Define a vision and set an ambition
  - Write a communication plan to ensure the Physician Experience Program will become part of the company culture and be adopted by most of the collaborators
  - Craft a Physician Experience strategy
  - Select the key tactics to be implemented to best support the Physician Experience strategy
  - Rethink the organization (i.e. activities/competences, structure, processes and culture)

#### Conferences & Seminars

- We give lectures and organize workshops for Management Committees, Operational Committees, Market Access, Medical, Market, Sales,... departments
- We share concepts, methods and tools, easy to implement
- We use examples, exercises and case studies to facilitate adoption

#### Training Program

Example of a One-Day Program		
9:00	Introduction to the program	
9:10	Definitions, concepts, methods, tools related to Experience	
10:40	Break	
11:00	Exercises: Defining a shared vision & ambition  — Crafting a strategy — Mapping physician journeys and selecting the most relevant	
12:30	Lunch	
13:30	Case study #1: Rethinking medical calls experiences	
15:00	Break	
15:20	Case study #2: Rethinking medical meetings	
16:50	Conclusion and key takeaways	
17:30	End of the program	
	(The program content can be customized)	

#### **Target Audience**

- Any collaborators from pharmaceutical companies, whatever their level of responsibility and seniority
- Participants can be part of the medical, marketing, commercial, market research, strategic,... departments

Sources: Smart Pharma Consulting



Consulting firm dedicated to the pharmaceutical sector operating in the complementary domains of strategy, management and organization

#### **The Smart Manager Series**

- This series intends to provide practical recommendations to enhance the efficacy and efficiency of executives in order to help them become or remain Smart Managers
- The five previous issues of this series are dedicated to:
  - #1: Time Management (2017)
  - #2: Project Management (2018)
  - #3: Key Performance & Key Execution Indicators (2018)
  - #4: Excellence in Execution (2019)
  - #5: Storytelling in business (2019)

#### **Issue #6: Outstanding Physician Experience**

... to Boost Brand Preference

- Attempting to make each interaction between physicians and pharma companies relevant, seamless, hassle-free and delightful will place as a differentiator leading to brand preference
- This sixth issue explains the concept of Physician Experience and proposes a method, practical examples and ready to use tools

"Physicians experiencing unique interactions are excellent promoters"

#### **Smart Pharma Consulting Editions**



- Besides our consulting activities which take 85% of our time, we are strongly engaged in sharing our knowledge and thoughts through:
  - Our teaching and training activities
  - The publication of articles, booklets, books and expert reports
- As of today, more than 80 publications in free access can be downloaded from our website
- Since the beginning of 2012, we have published:
  - 18 business reports (e.g. The French Pharma Market The French Generics Market, incl. Biosimilars)
  - 6 position papers in the "Smart Manager Series"
  - 9 position papers in the "Best-in-Class Series"
- Our research activities in pharma business management and our consulting activities have shown to be highly synergistic
- We hope that this new publication will interest you and we remain at your disposal to carry out consulting projects or training seminars to help you improve your operations

Best regards

Jean-Michel Peny