



THE UNIVERSITY
OF ADELAIDE
AUSTRALIA

The tale of a peripatetic clinical pharmacologist

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My journey - 1

- **trained here in medicine 1978**
 - **started physician training here**
 - **dropped out to catch fish up north**
 - **realised the error of my ways – completed physician training in Adelaide**
 - **not impressed with academic career prospects here**
 - **went back up north to catch more fish**
 - **realised the error of my ways**
 - **was hired to work in clinical pharmacology at Wellcome Labs, London 1987**
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My journey - 2

- **1994 become Medical Director of Medeval, a small CRO owned by University of Manchester**
 - **1996 MD degree U Of A on work at Wellcome**
 - **surprisingly led onto to many invitations to speak**
 - **kept up an active publication record**
 - **2001 was part of a management buyout team**
 - **Medeval became largest Phase 1 unit in the UK : 80 beds, 200 staff**
 - **2003 sold company to ICON**
 - **2005 career break in Sweden**
 - **late 2005 back at U of A**
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My lessons

- **be good at what you do**
 - **this is easier if you enjoy it**
 - **do what you are good at and ignore advice on what is popular**
 - **offer to help / take on the difficult / stretch yourself**
 - **don't burn bridges**
 - **maintain a good network**
 - **be prepared to travel and take on risk**
 - **don't expect life to follow a plan : all you can do is optimise the short-term and maybe medium term**
 - **don't go up north to catch fish!**
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