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## JOB OPTIONS FOR PHYSICIANS WITHOUT A MEDICAL DOCTOR (MD) LICENSE

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## Introduction

This guide is intended to provide job some options that international Medical Graduates (IMG's)/Physician may find meaningful as alternative occupations in the medical field, while working toward obtaining their (MD) license. This guide has three sections of job titles: Mid to Senior-level positions, Entry to mid-level job titles, Entry-level positions. Each section provides a list of job titles that you might be interested in and eligible to apply for without a U.S. Medical Doctor license given your background and education in medicine/healthcare. Each section provides sample descriptions for some of the jobs listed.

### **Suggestions for Job Search**

Make a note of positions that interest you and learn more about these positions. There are several websites that offer a full description of careers in healthcare. Like: [www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/home.htm), [allied health](#) and [non-clinical healthcare professions](#) jobs are often a good fit for IMGs. There are also these three areas to consider in your job search:

#### **1. Research careers**

If you are research-oriented, the recommendations are that you familiarize yourself with Responsible Conduct of Research. Learn the research lingo. Most research positions require that you present your data to an audience that sometimes consists of your peers, medical students, staff, and even Nobel Laureates. There are weekly meetings where you discuss your data and current articles of interest, so good communication skills are vital. If you are not a native English-speaker and communication is a barrier, work in a cell culture lab preparing specimens for research may be ideal. If you don't mind working with mice, there is always a great demand for persons with a medical background who can work with mice. If this is an area in which you might be interested, start by viewing the information on this website:

<http://microsurg.hs.columbia.edu/index.html>.

#### **2. Pharmaceutical industry**

Pharmaceutical companies have jobs for physicians who are not licensed or board certified. These jobs are in the areas of clinical trials, basic science research, product development, marketing, administration and finance.

Pharmaceutical sales and pharmaceutical liaison positions generally do not require an MD and there are international medical graduates who find jobs in pharmaceutical sales or pharmaceutical liaison.

### 3. Business

Financial firms that have investments in healthcare companies hire MD's to review and report on investments. These are generally full time jobs that require travel and can provide opportunities for executive level promotions.

### **Potential Job Options without a U.S. Medical Doctor (MD) License**

The relicensing process can take years to complete. Taking an alternative job within the healthcare field while you work towards relicensing can help you in a variety of ways, including:

- The ability to create relationships with U.S. licensed MDs and develops a professional network in U.S. healthcare.
- The ability to learn the U.S. healthcare work culture and system.
- Obtain relevant U.S. work experience (ideally clinical) to make you more competitive in the USMLE process

This list will give you some ideas about job titles that do not require a U.S. Medical Doctor license, but could draw on your medical knowledge experience and expertise. These positions may or may not be open at the time of your job search, so it is important to job search regularly and often. Global Talent Idaho recommends actively searching for open positions, at a minimum, of at least every 3 days.

### **Tier 1 Job Titles (Mid to senior-level that generally DO NOT require certifications/license)**

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**MD license not required.** Number of open positions is lower than tier 2 positions and numbers of applicants are fewer than tier 2, but all applicants are extremely well qualified. Positions are very competitive, so having a well-tailored resume, high quality, well-written and well-tailored cover letter along with a high quality and complete online application will be important factors in being selected for an interview. If selected for an interview will you need to make sure you have practiced and are well-prepared for the types of questions you may get asked. GTI HIGHLY recommends utilizing GTI staff to help with applications before submitting

- Biochemist and Biophysicist
- Microbiologist

- Biological Technician
- Clinic Assistant
- Clinical Educator – Inter-professional (Non-RN)
- Clinical Research Associate
- Clinical Coordinator
- Consumer Safety Officer (Regulatory Health Project Manager)
- Drug Safety Specialist
- Education Technician
- Family Advocate
- Healthy Connections Coordinator
- Health Educator/Community Health Worker
- Healthcare/Medical-related Instructor
- Health Navigator
- Health Program Specialist
- Healthcare Policy Analyst
- Health Screening Coordinator
- Health Technician
- Infection Disease Control/Prevention Specialist
- Medical Interpreter
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Microbiologist
- Occupational Health and Safety Specialist
- Pharmacologist Position with the FDA
- Patient Care Coordinator, Non-clinical
- Psychiatric Technician
- Wholesale and Manufacturing Sales Representative

## Tier 2 Job Titles (Entry to mid-level jobs that generally DO require short-term certifications)

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Entry-level healthcare positions that **require short-term certifications**; Market demand is high, so usually positions are regularly open; Having a previous healthcare background combined with **the certification** make you more competitive for the roles assuming your resume, cover letter, application are well-done with high quality and attention paid to the details; Additionally, you will need to outperform other candidates in the interview process. GTI can help with this.

- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
  - Clinical Assistant 1
  - Clinical Assistant 2
  - Support Associate
- Certified Surgical Technologist (CST)
- Dental assistant
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer and Cardiovascular Technologist
- EMT and Paramedic
- Health Record Specialist it is a similar program to EMR Data Integrity Analyst and EMR Document Specialist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Billing & Coding
  - Medical Billing Specialist (hospital side and physician side)
  - Insurance Recovery Specialist (HB and Pb)
  - Coding Associate (in school to get CPC)
  - Charge Capture Specialist 1 or 2
  - Health Record Specialist
  - EMR Data Integrity Analyst
  - EMR Document Specialist
  - Physician Services Coder 2
- Nursing Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist

- Paramedic

**Note:** For more information about these jobs certification programs and availability look at the guide in this link: <http://globaltalentidaho.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Healthcare-Education-Pathways-Guide.pdf>

### **Tier 3 Job Titles (Entry-level positions that generally DO NOT Require Certifications)**

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These are entry level positions that generally **require no certification** or in some cases basic certifications like CPR, Assist with Medications, etc. There are always openings; 100+ applicants generally apply for each opening because there are a lot of people with the required skill set. These could be considered health-care related survival jobs that could lead to advancement if you do a good job in the role.

- Administrative Assistant
- Administrative Specialist
- Central Processing Associate
- Central Processing Tech
- Credentialing Assistant
- Diet Clerk
- Distribution Clerk
- Electroneurodiagnostic Tech
- Employee Health Services Specialist
- Environmental Services Tech
- Film Librarian – maintain accurate records of patient films
- Health Records Specialist
- Healthcare Resource Specialist
- Lab Office Assistant
- Meals on Wheels Coordinator

- Medical Receptionist
- Medical editing
- Medical Tech
- Office Assistant
- Operating Room Assistant
- Optician, Dispensing
- Patient Access Specialist
- Patient Accounts Representative
- Patient Advocate
- Patient Care Representative
- Patient Services Representative
- Patient Specialist
- Production Operator
- Pharmacy Aide
- Psychiatric Technician and Aide
- Sterile Processing Tech
- Technical writing/scientific writing

### **Tier 4 Job Titles (Entry to mid-level jobs requiring longer-term formal education programs)**

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Tier 4 job titles require a minimum of an associate's or often a bachelor's degree in a particular field to be considered for the position.

- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency medical technician (EMT)
- Epidemiologist
- Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologist and Technician
- Medical Records and Health Information Technician



- Occupational Health and Safety Technician
- Physician Assistant
- Physical Therapist Assistant and Aide
- Physiology, Personal Training
- Radiation Therapist
- Radiologic and MRI Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist
- Therapist

### **Clinical research associations:**

There are a couple of organizations that you may want to look at if you have an interest in research, as described below.

#### **Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA)**

As per their website “The Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA) is a non-profit, charitable and educational membership organization committed to providing education, certification, and networking opportunities to all persons involved in clinical research activities. SOCRA, the premier educational organization for oncology site coordinators, has now emerged as a leading educational organization for clinical researchers in all therapeutic areas, supporting industry, government and academia.” You can take courses and certifications. There is also a database of clinical research job opportunities as well as training opportunities.

#### **Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP)**

Their website states “The Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) is the primary resource for clinical research professionals in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, and those in hospital, academic medical centers and physician office settings.” You can also take courses and certifications through this organization.

#### **Note:**

***For more information related to the degree programs and availability look at the guide in this link:***

***<http://globaltalentidaho.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Healthcare-Education-Pathways-Guide.pdf>***

***For more details about health care jobs and statistics look in this link:***

***<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/home.htm>***