

Pharmawire Editorial Biographies



Sasha Damouni, Global Editor of Pharmawire

Sasha joined The Mergermarket Group's New York office in August 2004 initially as an M&A life sciences reporter. She was promoted to launch Pharmawire as the Editor in North America and most recently in 2009 she was appointed Global Editor of Pharmawire. After completing an MA in International Journalism at City University, London, Sasha moved to Amman, Jordan just weeks before the initial US strikes in Iraq in 2003. While there she worked for The Star (a national Jordanian newspaper) reporting on the war, Jordanian economy, environment, health, and politics. Soon after, she moved to New York where she wrote for NY News Network, an online news service.

North America

Kimberly Ha, Deputy Editor

Kimberly Ha is deputy editor for Pharmawire, a part of the Mergermarket Group. She has a BA in psychology from New York University, with a concentration in neuroscience. She has been with Mergermarket for five years, covering healthcare. She started out as a financial journalist in Hong Kong, covering live M&A deals, before moving to New York to join Pharmawire in 2007. Kimberly generates daily breaking news, and market moving scoops. She was previously a court reporter for the Hong Kong Government. Her articles have also appeared in AsiaMoney and Hong Kong Magazine.

Beth Herskovits, Content Editor

Beth Herskovits copy edits all Pharmawire articles before they go out on the site. She has been with the news service since its launch in 2007, starting as a reporter covering litigation, drug development and regulatory issues. She previously served as news and online editor at Pharmaceutical Executive magazine, as well as deputy news editor and healthcare reporter for PRWeek, where she covered drug marketing and public affairs. She has also written for publications as diverse as Medical Marketing & Media, The Staten Island Advance, and The Forward. She is a graduate of Cornell University.

Elizabeth Krutoholow, Senior Journalist/Analyst

Elizabeth Krutoholow attended Boston University where she studied Biology. She held an internship at Genstruct, a computational systems biology company, where she studied the mechanisms of prostate cancer to aid several pharmaceutical and biotech companies in their drug development. After obtaining her BA, she worked at the Joslin Diabetes Center in the Cellular and Molecular Physiology Department as a Research Assistant where she studied the molecular mechanisms of type II diabetes. Elizabeth then attended graduate school at New York University, where she graduated with distinction with an MS. Her thesis focused on the biochemical pathways involved in pancreatic cancer. Elizabeth joined Pharmawire in February of 2008.

Jacqueline Kwong, Journalist

Jacqueline Kwong graduated from the Brooklyn Law School and passed the New York Bar in 2008. She attended Cornell University for her undergraduate degree and majored in biology. During her college years, she worked on an independent research project, studying the effect of insulin-growth factors on adult stem cells. Jacqueline covers litigation issues and drug development for Pharmawire.

James Avallone, Senior Journalist

James Avallone graduated from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill with honors, with concentrations in both medicine and history. Previous to joining Pharmawire he worked at the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center as a cancer researcher, focusing on developing novel combinations for the treatment of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. James has also spent time in rural Thailand teaching English in an orphanage and aiding in a local clinic.

Marc Longpre, Journalist

Marc Longpre covers legal and regulatory issues for Pharmawire, as well as drug development. He previously covered the healthcare sector for PRWeek. He was also a reporter at the Half Moon Bay Review and the San Francisco Examiner. Marc has a MA from Queen Mary College, University of London and a BA from the University of Colorado.

Eddie Smiley, Analyst

Eddie Smiley joined Pharmawire in June of 2007 after graduating with an M.Sc Biochemistry from Université de Montréal and a concentration in business from HEC (École des Hautes Études Commerciales). He completed 4 internships at the National Research Institute of Canada, specializing in computational chemistry and protein expression. He is currently studying to be a Chartered Financial Analyst.

Europe

Kirsty Barnes

Kirsty is a senior reporter covering drug development and contract services at Pharmawire. Previous roles include editor of pharmaceutical industry news websites www.Outsourcing-Pharma.com and www.In-PharmaTechnologist.com. Prior to this she has worked as a medical writer and a scientist, having obtained a degree in biomedical science, majoring in pathology, at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS).

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