

Director, Health

Introduction

MHP Group is the integrated communications agency built for the Networked Age – a world that’s increasingly connected, complex, polarised and activist.

We are a family of brands (MHP, Mischief, Accord) that come together seamlessly.

We lead the way in the application of behavioural science to solve communications challenges. We create strategies and multichannel campaigns to engage every audience, from consumer to policy maker, and from stakeholder to shareholder.

With 200 specialists in London and San Francisco, we are trusted by many of the world’s leading businesses and brands.

Do you give a damn about Health?

The Health team within MHP Group has consistently been one of the highest performing and recognised practices in our industry – doubling in size over the last three years, winning the coveted Communique Public Affairs and Policy Agency of the Year in 2019 and 2020 and the PR Week Healthcare Practice of the Year in 2022.

From reversing UK Government policy on vaccinations, to building support for genomics in the NHS and shaping the environment for respiratory conditions globally – our work is diverse and challenging. We have the client roster to match, including Alexion, AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Gilead, Takeda, Save the Children, The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the UK Lung Cancer Coalition – to name but a few.

The team deliver projects at a UK, European, and Global level across a broad range of communications disciplines including policy, government affairs, media relations, patient advocacy and corporate communications.

Our varied work has one goal: to get people to give a damn about health, by building compelling campaigns which change the way that patients, professionals and policy makers think and act – to help enhance and extend people’s lives.

The role:

We are looking for a Director to lead and grow our UK public affairs work. You will work with the Head of the Health team to develop this part of our business, developing strategies to attract new clients and sectors (within health), providing senior counsel to existing clients, as well as sitting on the leadership team on the wider health practice. This is a unique opportunity for someone with leadership ambitions to take ownership of a valued and established brand in health public affairs and guide its evolution and future success.

You will be an ambitious healthcare public affairs or public relations consultant with a genuine interest and passion for healthcare communications and our sector. You’ll be committed to working and thinking hard, as well as having fun, delivering the outcomes that really matter for a range of commercial, voluntary and public sector clients – all of whom have an interest in health and care.

You will have experience of health public affairs and/ or patient advocacy through work in a previous consultancy or in-house at a charity, commercial or public sector environment. The key requirement will be a solid understanding of the healthcare landscape both within the UK and across other markets and a desire to apply these in a busy commercial environment.

As a Director you will be responsible for managing and guiding junior team members, ensuring effective team working and quality of work.

Key responsibilities:

- Act as senior counsel to clients, supporting the development of their communications strategies as a whole
- Oversee all client contact whilst shaping and steering programme strategy and delivery and responsibility for servicing, profitability, forecasting and billing
- Lead and sign off on policy engagement programmes
- Identify and extract data for analysis, generate hypotheses for investigation and identify top lines
- Responsible for growing existing and winning new business, leading on pitches and networking for leads.
- Oversee full account team, providing leadership example and guidance to peers and colleagues including resourcing issues, account performance and delivering internal training
- Confident in articulating analysis of the overall shape and role of social media and frequently contributing new content.

The successful candidate will have:

- Minimum eight years' work experience within agency/consultancy or in-house role within a commercial or patient/professional group setting
- Experience of pharmaceutical counsel and programmes
- Confidence and gravitas to advise senior clients on complex challenges
- Experience leading and shaping effective campaigns or large-scale programme with demonstrable outcomes
- Comprehensive understanding of the commercial healthcare and policy landscape
- Experience directly line managing and managing teams up to 6 people
- Strong skills in financial management

What we offer

You can expect a friendly and dynamic hybrid working environment and an office space in the heart of the buzzing West End. Our goal is to ensure that your career here with us is fulfilling and that you're learning every step of the way on your journey through our agency. We have an online learning platform that hosts a variety of content and allows you to map your career out with all the training available to you (both online and f2f).

We have superb benefits to match including: 28 days holiday (plus bank holidays), vitality private medical insurance, pension, season ticket loan, cycle to work & much more.

We also have a dedicated Well-being team along with a Representation, Diversity & Inclusion task force to make sure we look after all our employees so that everyone can bring their true whole self to work.