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In this episode, Taren Grom, Editor of PharmaVOICE, meets with Kinnari Patel, PharmD, chief operating officer and head of development at Rocket Pharmaceuticals.

Taren: Kinnari, welcome to the PharmaVOICE WoW podcast program.

Dr. Patel: Thank you so much for having me here, and it's great to speak to you. I just wanted to say for a minute that I really admire the work you do to bring the pharmaceutical and biotech industry together and to create avenues like this to share knowledge and best practices. The work through PharmaVOICE, events you host, and now the WoW podcast is a great way for us to really share and learn from each other. So I really appreciate you doing this, as well as having me available for this Q&A.

Taren: Well thank you so much. That was very kind of you to say. We're so grateful to be able to reconnect with you since your PharmaVOICE 100 back in 2018. I know through that experience working with you on that issue that you have a real passion for rare disease and rare disease patients. Can you tell our audience what fuels this passion for you?

Dr. Patel: My passion is really fueled through meeting these patients and their families. It actually started back in 2004 when I was doing a pharmacy rotation at the Office of Orphan Product Development. And during that rotation, I had numerous opportunities to meet patients, patient advocacy groups and hear about their struggles, their loved ones that were dying of rare diseases. Unfortunately, many of them were parents of kids that were battling fatal diseases and had a few months to live. At that point, it just felt so heartbreaking to feel their struggle, their pain, and their helplessness. So my motivation and drive really became stronger after meeting them and the few weeks I was at the FDA really changed the trajectory of my career, and in the last 15 years I've really focused on the rare disease drug development.

It's kind of cool because in the process through all the large pharmas and companies that I've been at we've been able to really champion the rare disease change and increase awareness. But more recently right before I joined Rocket, I was at BMS, AstraZeneca and it was on the last five to seven years, I saw cancers and metastatic melanoma, rare

diseases, etc., become from life-threatening diseases to extending patient lives. So really for me, the challenge was how do we make this a one-and-done cure. And that's how I ended up joining Rocket four years ago where Rocket's focus is simple. It's we want to help patients with rare diseases, mostly pediatric indication are the ones we pursue, and we want to do this from a scientific platform which really one-and-done cure hopefully for these patients. That's kind of been all of it put together in the last 15 years, I feel like my passion is coming together and it's really just making an impact one patient, one disease at a time.

Taren: That's amazing. It's so true that rare disease community just is so inspirational and you're right, when you speak to these parents, you want to do everything possible to help them because it's just, in some cases, so heartbreaking.

Dr. Patel: It really is. It feels like we know so much and we have so many knowledge tools and where to get information on clinical trials, etc., and unfortunately most of these parents don't know this and they don't have a healthcare background or have the support system to get more information about the diseases or even the right experts at the table.

So anything we can do to make a dent – as I'm sure you know, there's 7000 rare diseases at this point and only about 10 percent of them have treatment options. So most of these diseases, even if the patient actually gets the right diagnosis, they have no option available to them. Hopefully, we can work together to change that in the years and in the decades to come.

Taren: I agree with you. I hope so too. You're right, and even when they do get that diagnosis there isn't a drug for them. But so oftentimes that diagnosis is prolonged as well because the disease is just so rare that the physicians just don't have experience with those conditions, which is another complication.

Dr. Patel: Definitely. There are many challenges and that's one of them. So I'm hoping that the events that we're doing at Rocket and other organizations and patient advocacy to bring the rare disease community together, but also to bring those that are in the biotech healthcare industry to really learn about these unique rare diseases will hopefully help patients get better diagnosis, faster diagnosis because it's really a race against time.

Taren: It is a race against time – perfectly said. Speaking of that rare disease community, talk to me about what your plans are for Rare Disease Day this year. Our conversations really the timing is spot on. Last year I understand you were instrumental in getting the Empire State Building lit up in rare disease colors. Tell me about what you're doing this year and how did you make that happen?

Dr. Patel: Oh my god, it was so fun. About two years ago – we’ve always done rare disease events and activities in-house in the company, but about two years ago, our company with about 25 employees we felt kind of grown up – it’s all relative, right. And we said let’s do something to bring the biotech industry and the healthcare industry in New York City together. Around the same time we moved in to the 75th floor of the Empire State Building as our headquarters. When we moved here, our relations with NORD and NIH and the rare disease community they kept on saying ‘hey, did you know Empire State Building changes their lights for events.’ We would love for them to have this iconic building recognize the rare disease day, and we found out that many requests in the prior years were rejected. So we said why not put together our connections that we have independent of this building, as well as NIH, NORD and other organizations power together to put in a really sincere global request to do this. We were so ecstatic that the request was supported by Empire State. They were great partners.

We had a small event of about 75 people coming together, mostly Rocket and patient advocacy groups, and at the end of the day, we were able to see the iconic building change its light. And for me that was an amazing for us to know. But later on, two or three days later we found out through social media and Facebook pages and NORD pages that this was a really, really moving thing for patients around the world. There were posts of solidarity. There was outpouring of support saying ‘I’m struggling or my child is struggling and thank you for recognizing this and bringing us together.;

So this really fueled us in our energy in what we want to do this year. True to the nature of Rocket – and Rocket is unique because our CEO and the co-founder, Dr. Gaurav Shah, he’s actually a musician. He’s not just any musician; he’s a Grammy nominated musician. He really runs this company like an orchestra where each of us have our expertise and together we make better sound than each of us alone. That’s the philosophy he runs this company. So we said, ‘why not bring the music and the arts and treating a patient holistically.

So this year we’re calling it I am RARE, hear me ROAR. This event is going to take place at Carnegie Hall. Empire State Building has once again agreed to change the lights. The NASDAQ Towers and our friends there have also agreed to post it at the Times Square about this event and really raise awareness to the millions of people that walk through Times Square area about rare diseases.

The event is really simple. It’s going to take place on the rarest day of the year, and this year that being Saturday and February 29th and it’s going to be taking place from 3 to 7 p.m. Initially we’ll have patients and their families sharing stories about struggles of getting a diagnosis, to not having a therapy option available, to even a patient sharing their perspective on what gene therapy meant for them and how they went through the

process of clinical studies and how they can educate other patients. At the end, we'll have a reception with the 1920s music – because this came up with our HR advisor, Greg Reynolds and our CEO and myself a few months ago saying, “Oh my god, can you believe it's 2020 already.” We talked about how the 1920s was such an amazing decade, where did you know that it was a decade where penicillin and insulin were discovered. These therapies are treated and used by millions of patients even in this day and age. We feel like the 2020s are the era where we can have a lot of rare disease and lot of diseases be treated in a curative fashion through gene therapy.

This whole thing of bringing the eras of science, music we're really, really excited about this event. We hope you can join us on that day, and we hope your listeners are able to join us as well. There's more information available about the registration of the event on our website at rocketpharma.com.

Taren: That's awesome. What a great event to be putting on and what a great event to be a part of, and thank you for allowing our listeners to be a part of it as well. How exciting – and I just think such thoughtful care that you all took to put it together, it's really quite evident, again what rare disease patient means to you all. It's exciting. So let's talk about some of the rare disease programs you have implemented over your career. I know that these are challenging programs to put together, but talk to me about some of the ones that you have worked on that have meant the most to you.

Dr. Patel: Some of the ones in the past really started from doing educational things to different pharmacy universities as drug development courses and evolved into some of the larger pharmaceuticals and now Rocket doing a company-wide awareness. But I think the most impactful for me, I would have to say, is the work we're doing at Rocket of bringing the patients into development, not just for our therapies, for other diseases that at this point have no therapeutic option to see if there's ways that we can advance science in those fields. Also looking at compounds and products mechanism of action across even prior companies I've been at to say hey mechanistically does product X, Y, and Z impact or have a potential impact for a rare disease.

A lot of the work done there through other companies has just been wonderful because some of these therapies I've seen come to market have been [working through research advancements. So I know at least one or a few more patients have hope for a therapeutic option.

So I think to me, that's been the most impactful, and I think the only way we can do this is we can make a difference. As you know, NORD was started by a mom that had a kid with a rare disease. We believe in the power of one. We believe that if many people

know about rare diseases and the struggle, we can as a community really, really make an impact.

So my success will be to have people come together and make an impact in totality and advance the science and the therapies and the struggles for these patients and overcome them.

Taren: I love that – the power of one; that’s very poignant. Earlier on you alluded to some of the gene therapy work that you all are doing and really in a short amount of time, four years or so, you’ve been instrumental in leading Rocket’s growth from a three-person company to a public company with five innovative gene therapy products in development. Talk to me about what those early days were like and how you’re managing the growth today.

Dr. Patel: Oh my god, it’s absolutely insane to think how far we’ve come in such a short time. On one hand, it feels like I’ve been doing this for decades; on the other hand, it feels like it was just yesterday. It really is insane.

I think what happened is the first few months we actually didn’t even have our own office space. So for six months we were in the back conference room, sharing a table with four of us – our chief medical officer, our CEO, myself, and another colleague trying to figure out what do we license? What are the monogenic diseases out there? What gene therapeutic platforms could be applicable for them and what all the things to know?” So it was like a little puzzle box. We had a puzzle of, here’s what we know and here’s what we don’t know and there was a lot that we didn’t know. We were like, how do we get the experts around the table to help us figure out some of the unknowns and move this forward.

This morning we are having new hired training for about 20-some team members that recently joined, and we were just reflecting the similar questions saying, how did we get this far and is it real and is this what we expect? And the answer is no. On one hand, we knew it’s possible to be the next Genentech because Genentech had started somewhere, but would we be that? – We hoped for it. But would we get as far as we did so quickly? We were never expecting this.

But it really came down to honestly, the philosophy we had of the few core people. It focused on five Ps. We really care about the patients. We feel really, really fortunate that patients in the communities – even when we didn’t have therapies or really more than 10, 20 million at our disposal – welcomed us into the community.

One of the most memorable things we did is, Camp Sunshine is a non-profit organization where the Foundation brings patients and their families struggling with this life-threatening disease together. They invited, our chief medical officer, our CEO, and myself to come and spend two days with all the patients, the scientists that have been working 20 plus years trying to figure out what can we do beyond a bone marrow transplant for these patients. And we got to learn firsthand what's important to the patients, and we used that knowledge a few years later to really design the clinical studies that make sense for them and that would add value for them.

The second P that we focused on is pipeline. How do we get innovative pipeline and innovative in a specific sense that, can we find monogenic rare diseases where a change of correction of that defective gene could really make an impact on that disease and could be curative.

Then the other thing we were fortunate to do is getting the right partners at the table. The CIEMAT organization where we've licensed three of our programs is the NIH of Spain. So we were able to partner with them and they're part of the Rocket family. The same 15:30 organization in California gave us fundings of nearly 10 million dollars to help advance our LED program in clinical studies. We've had some amazing partners like Stanford, UCSC, UCLA, even Lund University in Sweden, etc., coming together. So I think learning from these world renowned either the disease expert or gene therapy expert has been such a humbling experience that we brought.

And our forth P is really about the people. The people we have at Rocket, it's a unique culture, and I would love for you to come and visit us and spend time with our team. Because our team, yes they're extremely intelligent, curious, hardworking team members, but the one thing they have is they have this enormous passion and drive to make a difference. They want to make a difference in the scientific platform. They want to make a difference in patients. I think that's what drives us to be really successful. And that philosophy started from the back conference room within the first few months and it still carries us forward having the right team at the core, but also having the right vision of why we're doing this and what can we do to next phase of Rocket.

I think as we talk about the next phase as you said, we have five programs – four in the clinic this year, US and EU. Then we also recently announced that we're doing in-house manufacturing because gene therapy is really complicated to manufacture. If we can do this in-house ourselves, we can do it more effectively and more cost-friendly; so that's really our goal. We're expanding in a way that's hopefully thoughtful and sensible but stays true to the successes and the reason we've been successful to date.

Taren: That's amazing. What a story to tell and how gratifying it must be to see the progress you've made in such a relatively short time. And yes, you all could be the next to Genentech. You're right, they did have to start someplace and with that great vision and with your five P principles, you're on the right path. Not to add another P, but there you go. I think it's a remarkable story. I also think that you have a remarkable role to play. You wear two very distinct hats; you're the chief operating officer but you're also head of development. So talk to me how you work with that duality and tell me what a day is like for you.

Dr. Patel: It's so hard to describe. I think it goes back to the simple philosophy we have at Rocket which is we wear multiple hats. We do whatever we need to do to move the pipeline forward in a sensible way. We really focus on each patient being treated at a time with the highest quality product.

My objective as a chief operating officer is really the company's objective. And what that means in terms of functionality is, I work on everything from a day-to-day of HR hiring, interviewing people, to writing regulatory briefing books – still do, I love it, it's my bread and butter – to overseeing trainings for new hires, patient advocacy, clinical science and operations. It really comes down to, we all wear multiple hats and that's the culture that we have at Rocket.

The fun thing about the development side of things is I love the fact that we can integrate all of the complexities of gene therapy and drug development together. The development hat is really rewarding because it's fun. It's challenging but also fun, because when we see these therapies being brought to patients and seeing potential cures and benefit risks that they have in a positive light, that makes it all worth it. I mean, the coolest thing is because of our multi – we wear multiple hats, we are not afraid to roll up our sleeves and in each person in the company, whether you're an admin, you are the CEO, each of us are considered working leaders. Which means every one of us rolls up our sleeves and does the job, but also each of us are expected to behave as true leaders for the company, for the industry, and for the patient. And that philosophy has helped that less than 20 people in the R&D organization, we were able to get seven applications of four R&D and four clinical trial applications in Europe together across two platforms. The prospect of helping the patients with devastating diseases and moving so much in the basics of clinical development which is challenging to begin with, to do it in such small and few patients – such small numbers of actual team members is remarkable.

So to me, the development hat, whether it's development or CEO, it all comes together. Our philosophy that we ask whether you're a finance person or you're R&D and scientist is simple – Let's make sure that every dollar we use is used towards advancing the science and making a therapy available for patient. And you can come at it from any

angle that you'd like some functionally but we are all working towards the same goal. I think that's the fun part of wearing multiple hats at this company, is you feel the impact and you get to see the patients and interact with them.

Taren: Even with the multiple hats it's a remarkable story and what a unique model you all have in terms of developing a corporate culture that empowers all of your employees to act on the behalf of patients right from the start; so kudos to you all. Let's talk about some of those drug development issues that you face in terms of rare disease. How do you think companies, such as yours, are overcoming some of those traditional obstacles? Because let's face it, to put forward that many applications in such a short amount of time you may have found some secret sauce.

Dr. Patel: Our secret sauce is really copy paste. No, I'm kidding. It really becomes where we use each other's talents and the more we do this thinking over and over, the more we learn. But I think that the biggest value for us has been the ecosystem. So we work hand-in-hand with FDA, EMA and Spanish Health Authority. I think having that open and honest dialogue from the beginning helps you understand what needs to go on these applications, what kind of preclinical studies you need to do. But then also having the right team members with the right expertise that says 'hey, let's be a little more conservative.' It's a new area where there's not a lot of regulations and guidance, where we try to think about what's the purest way, the highest quality product could we put together. And from a clinical operations perspective, how do we design a trial and put the right team, the medical team together at the hospital so when a patient comes through they have the best experience and the white glove service. So that way it's a little less stress for them to deal with and they can really focus on their recovery.

So we really do things with that perspective and hopefully that makes a difference. The cool thing is we're not afraid to make mistakes and learn from them. So even a few weeks ago, I went to California to meet one of the moms who has gone through our gene therapy and my coffee conversation was like, what can we do better? What did we not do right and how do we fix this. And simple things as, 'hey, could you make sure you give me a cheat sheet of when I should eat, what I should eat before the next day's lab.' Having those direct conversations really helps us make this a program that is good for the patients.

Taren: Fabulous. Let's switch tacks a little bit here. You are one of a few women sitting in a chief operating role in a pharma company. Do you consider yourself to be a role model and at the same time, what are some of the challenges for women who want to reach the C-suite?

Dr. Patel: I've never thought about myself as a role model, I'll be honest. To me, it comes with so much sense of responsibility and accomplishment and I feel like I'm just getting started. But I think when I became C-suite two years ago, the board unanimously asked me to be chief operating officer and my answer was, "no, thank you. I'm not qualified. Let me find you the right person to be at the table." That was my honest truth in my response to them because there was so much I didn't know and I was so afraid of making a decision or making a decision that maybe is not the best decision. So, to me, that's really fearful.

So what I try to do is I've tried to reach out to other women leaders that were in similar positions and unfortunately, most startup companies have traditional all boys club leadership. Traditionally not too many females are doing fast paced gene therapy type of work that we do. So it was quite a lonely job at first, and I'm fortunate because I was able to be honest and not have that held against me when I said, "I don't know what I'm doing. I need help." And our CEO, Gaurav, he's an extremely supportive leader and he's really focused on us being a team at Rocket and its partners. So he encouraged me to attend Harvard Business School Program which was designed for first time C-suite or industry leaders for advanced management program. And at this program, I was able to interact with leaders from 40 plus countries, including a handful of female leaders. So I was able to formulate not just skill sets and toolboxes needed to help us succeed in the next phase, but also to have the core system available.

I believe there's a lot more we need to do to get the women at the table because I know there's so many females that are qualified to do this and do this even better than I can. And hopefully the work that you're doing here with having these podcasts of WoW as well as some of the other works will help next generation of women leaders be recognized earlier on and brought to the table where they can really make an impact because that diversity of thinking and experience helps everybody.

Taren: Thank you, and I'm so glad that you took that leap because you're obviously doing a fantastic job. But I also think that it shows some humility to say I don't know what I don't know, and yet you had the courage to go and find the answers. So that's fantastic, and that's a great lesson to everybody. You don't know everything, so how do you find the information or get the knowledge to lift you up to that next level. So that's fantastic.

Dr. Patel: Thank you. It's hard to say that because you're nervous and you want to prove yourself. But I encourage more people to really understand themselves. So know what you know, know what your strengths that you bring to the table, but also where you need to ask for help, reach out for help.

Taren: Exactly, and you had a supportive CEO, which not everybody does. So you were in a fortunate position where he looked at you and said this is talent I need and I'm going to get her what she needs to help lead this company. So that's also a great asset.

Dr. Patel: It really is. He's just an amazing leader that's very supportive, and I think the opportunities – our founding chairman, Dr. Rod Wong for RTW Foundation, they were really about it's not about the age. It's not about what you look like. It's what you bring to the table and what you strive as to make a difference. We think that philosophy that resonates within Rocket even now and will continue to help more individuals have opportunities based on what they can do and how much they're driven by their passion to make things move forward, more leaders, more male sponsors need to be like them.

Taren: Agreed. Speaking of passion, I also know you have a passion for mentoring and sponsorship yourself. So tell me why this is important to you.

Dr. Patel: It actually comes back to this question I kind of thought about and said where does this all come from? Because I've always been a tutor from middle school onward to a TA in college, that's how I made my extra money is I TA'd science and labs. But it really comes down to my mom. My mom had this dream of being a teacher and unfortunately, growing up in India as a female, she didn't have that opportunity. But she always, always echoed with my sisters and I, the value of education and value of helping each other because that's the only way everyone is going to move together and move communities and families together.

So as an immigrant child when I first came to Corporate America and college was easy, because it's all about just intelligence and passing exams which I was pretty good at. But coming to Corporate America that was completely foreign. I made so many mistakes. Oh my god, I would ask my sister and she's like, "listen, I'm a scientist. I can't help you." So there were a lot of know-hows that I had lost and a lot of hard work and mistakes I made which probably made things life harder for me and my husband. So I want to make sure that we can kind of get rid of this hardship for the next generation or the individuals that want to do this, whether they're immigrants or whether it's their first time they're in American corporation or trying to get even individuals that have been exposed to this to do it more efficiently.

So one of the few things that I had going for me is I kept on focusing just on the hard work. But I was surrounded by amazing company leaders along the journey where people saw in me what I didn't see in myself because I just never had the experience. For example a colleague is a former FDA division director, so when I met her she was head of US Policies and Regulatory at Novartis. She motivated me to think bigger and she

said, “if you have a passion and work ethic that you have you can really make an impact.”

So one of the things I kept on running into as a challenge was I’d see these amazing compounds but couldn’t make a business case of getting companies to support this financially from a commercial model. So with her help, I was able to go to NYU Executive MBA. She wrote me this amazing letter, which is still moving and I keep it in my small folder of things that you go to when you are having a bad day or a down day to motivate you and think positively. There were other leaders like Dr. Brian Daniels, Dr. Marlene Haffner from the FDA that gave me the first exposure to rare disease. These leaders and sponsors really made an impact in me finding my path. So I want to do the same and pay this forward. I want to help mentor our team and people we cross paths with, so they can figure out their strengths and they can hopefully also find out some of the gaps that they have and maybe work on them.

This is not a short term vision of let’s just meet an objective, let’s make sure we do one treatment a year and that’s it. It’s an ongoing goal. Let’s help each other become better versions of ourselves, so that way we can help the next generation and the generations there to follow. And hopefully do it in a way without making the same mistakes that I’ve made and others make along the way, and hopefully we can eliminate that time there.

Taren: I love that. Let’s talk about some of those lessons. So wind up the way back machine, is there something that you know now that you didn’t know then?

Dr. Patel: I think there are four things. Some of them I knew back then but I didn’t know the impact of it and in the short term I felt like a failure and bad mistakes, but now I really cherish them. I think that is to never give up. When you know you’re doing the right thing, even if it’s not the popular thing or the cool thing at the table, saying it makes a difference. And being that voice that says ‘hey, I have a different opinion or a different idea and here’s why.’ Having that confidence to do that – doesn’t matter if you’re again, a manager or vice president or C-suite – being able to do that early on is really valuable.

My first job that I ever had I went to an open Q&A session where they said ‘hey, here’s the strategies,’ and I knew I would have questions and I raised my hands and had some really strong questions and thoughts from my prior experience and at the end of the meeting, somebody pulled me and said, “Kinnari, that’s just sad, you’re not supposed to actually share, because now people are not happy with you.” I’m like, “oops.” All this time it felt like a mistake like what am I doing speaking my mind. But now I feel like I’m glad I did. So that’s one of the lessons I’ve learned along the way.

The second one we talked about is really asking for help. Ask for help when you don't know something. It really goes a long way.

I think the one that I am so, so privileged and I don't know how I got this lucky is describing your passion. If you know what you love to do and the sooner you find out what your passion is, you can devote all of your energy towards that and that takes you a long way in making everything happen.

So that to me, those were my three key lessons – speak up, even if it's not cool or popular. You might not be liked in the moment but if you're doing the right thing by the science, the pipeline, and the patients, you'll be okay in the long run. That was a good one.

Taren: I think those are three great ones. Now finally, tell me about that wow moment that helped shape your career. Can you pick one out of your really long and distinguished and very successful career?

Dr. Patel: There are so many times that I interacted with patients and communities all the way back from 2005, 2006 onwards and some of them I still keep in touch with, that I couldn't think of a single moment or an event. What I would say is my career has really been shaped every time I interact with the patient or have them get access to a therapy, I feel this huge sense of accomplishment and also this huge need to do more.

One of the reminders that I had three years ago is one of our disease research called LAD1. It's a really, really rare disease, life threatening disease where unfortunately, two-thirds of the patients die by the age of 2. Because of the crazy unmet medical need and the therapy where the only thing available is bone marrow transplant if they were lucky enough to have a sibling that survived the disease, which doesn't happen to be the case in most situations unfortunately. I had gone around the world, in India a few hospitals meeting patients as well as our CMO and our CEO to Europe, US, India, etc., and we had identified about a dozen patients for this clinical study that we were putting together. And to me, it's not a sense of accomplishment as sort of a wakeup call to me, is by the time we were able to get the clinical study up and running, unfortunately most of those kids had already passed away. It made me feel like such a failure, but it also made me feel like, okay, this is why we need to do things faster and better and we need to bring all of the communities together.

We ran into issues of immigration of trying to get these patients to the clinical studies and etc. So my goal is how do we share the knowledge of best practices we've learned at Rocket so other patients can get to their therapies faster so they can have and hope.

Our goal is kind of simple. At Rocket Pharma if we can work on diseases that are maybe so uncommon that most companies are like, ‘no thank you, it’s not worth the cost and investment.’ But if we can do this in a platform way where we have two platforms and gene therapy, we can add in more diseases to it in a cost effective scalable manner. Maybe it’s not just the five diseases we have in the pipeline now that we can help cure, but maybe there’ll be hundreds more that we can do ourselves. Or by sharing our knowledge with the community, with health authorities, we can do this for a lot more diseases than ever imagined.

That’s kind of, I think, for me, the accomplishment is yet to come. That’s the long and short answer, I’m sorry; because I think there’s so much more I need to do here and so much more we all need to do together.

Taren: Thank you so much for sharing that very personal insight. I have got chills. I can’t imagine what you were feeling at that time in India when you had met the patients, you got to know the families, and then yet you couldn’t do anything to help them. I can feel the devastation but I can see also how it really sparked you to be bolder in your approach, to solve some of these medical challenges. So thank you so much for sharing that.

Dr. Patel: It was a very moving experience and I think not just for me, but for the Rocket team members. That’s why we do things, even though the Rocket team members are working to do what they do around the clock here for the science, we do things like the Rare Disease Day to get the awareness out to broader patients and broader healthcare providers. So hopefully there’s less time to first diagnosis, there’s less time to finding the right clinical studies or therapy available and hopefully get more therapies available.

Taren: Thank you so much again Kinnari, I look forward to seeing what you all do on Rare Disease Day. We’ll be tracking along with you. So congratulations and go get them.

Dr. Patel: Thank you, and thank you so much for your support in raising the awareness and we really, really appreciate everything you’re doing for this community as well.

Thank you for listening to this episode of WoW – the Woman of the Week podcast series. For more information about Rocket Pharmaceuticals, visit rocketpharma.com. While there, you can RSVP for Rare Disease Day sponsored by Rocket and co-sponsored by RTW.

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