

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Part III

During the film answer the following questions:

1. Explain—“Innovation is extremely difficult.”
2. Explain— “Skepticism is really powerful.”
3. Why did Jim move from Berkeley to Sloan-Kettering in New York?
4. What is the role of the FDA in drug research?
5. Why was there a lag before the tumors shrank?
6. What happened to Sharon after she was given Jim’s drug?
7. How did Bristol-Myers-Squibb change how they evaluated the success of the cancer treatment during the trials with Jim’s drug ipi?
8. How long did it take to actually develop ipi after Jim’s initial discovery?
9. How many patients have been treated with cancer immunotherapy?

After the film, answer the following questions:

10. Explain how money impacts basic research and also the development of drugs.
11. How does “Big Pharma” impact and/or drive drug research?
12. How does the story of the development of ipilimumab compare with the work done on the development of a vaccine for the COVID-19 coronavirus?
13. Why is it important to have good communication between researchers as a part of the scientific research process?
14. Who can be a scientist?

