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NEWSLETTER · IN CONVERSATION WITH ADAM WALKER (HELP ME GMP)

The other Adam Walker

My namesake, Adam Walker — Qualified Person, NHS manufacturing leader and co-founder of Help Me GMP — on ready-to-administer medicines, freeing nurses to nurse, and the personal reason he makes medicines at all.

Interviewing someone with your own name is a first for the podcast. This Adam Walker is a pharmaceutical quality leader and Qualified Person who heads development and innovation at the North East and North Cumbria Medicines Manufacturing Centre, and co-founded Help Me GMP, a free good-manufacturing-practice training platform followed worldwide. We share a name and, it turns out, a belief that the unglamorous end of medicine is where a lot of the good happens.



Making sure people get the time to make those memories is why I get up in the morning.

— Adam Walker (Help Me GMP), on Pharma Prescribed

One hour, door to needle

His clearest example is sepsis. The target is IV antibiotics within an hour of a patient walking into A&E — and if a nurse has to spend twelve to fifteen

minutes compounding that dose in a chaotic department, that's time lost. A ready-made, quality-assured bag pulled from a fridge changes the maths. Same logic for the furosemide given to someone drowning in their own lung fluid: grab it, give it, move on.

Letting nurses nurse

The second-order benefit is the one he cares about most. Nurses didn't enter the profession to make up medicines in a treatment room; ready-to-administer products hand that time back to patient care. It's a quietly radical reframing of manufacturing as a way to protect clinical time — playing each NHS profession to its strengths.

His why

The drive is personal. During his training year, his mother was diagnosed with grade-four bowel cancer; she enrolled on the FOLFOX study in 2003 hoping for a couple more months and had a remarkable response that gave her nine more years — enough to be at his wedding and meet his first son. That, he says plainly, is why he gets up in the morning: making sure people get the chemotherapy, and the time, they need.



Listen to the full episode

Adam Walker of Help Me GMP on Pharma Prescribed — at pharmaprescribed.com and wherever you get your podcasts.

Adam Walker is Head of Development and Innovation at the North East and North Cumbria Medicines Manufacturing Centre and co-founder of Help Me GMP.