

Biomarker Lead

Job ID
REQ-10049586
Apr 21, 2025
Japan

Summary

This is a newly created position regarding the establishment of a clinical translational research hub.

800 biomarker discovery and development projects, across more than 100 clinical studies, which generate 20 petabytes and 2 million patient-years of data! All waiting for you to unlock the next breakthrough in medicine.

Biomarkers are critical components of translational research, enabling robust therapeutic and mechanistic hypothesis testing in early and late clinical development, and as precision medicine enablers covering the potential contexts of use e.g. confirm target engagement and pathway modulation, assess efficacy and response, PD/PK, safety, disease modification, patient selection or stratification, and compound differentiation that directly support program decision making.

Biomarker development (BMD), is part of Translational Medicine in Novartis, is a dedicated group of >130 associates who deliver innovative biomarker solutions for clinical studies across the whole spectrum of modalities (imaging, digital, soluble, cellular, DNA, RNA, data analytics) where line functions and the therapeutic area (TA) matrix team develop, communicate and biomarker and translational strategies with the clinical teams and decision boards.

BMD is expanding in Japan, and we are hiring for two Biomarker Lead (BML) positions. As a BML, you will define the biomarker strategies and plans for a set of programs/projects, defined by asset or by indication, from early to later stage clinical development. You will also build external collaborations with academia or clinical sites to advance the knowledge around translational sciences and biomarker solutions focused on diseases, indications or pathways. The BML will be responsible to translate the preclinical discovery efforts into a clinical fit for purpose plan, as well as develop and mature the clinical biomarker plans as the program progresses through the various phases. The BML will oversee the integration into clinical protocols and lead the review and discussions at the different teams and boards. Finally, the BML can lead a matrixed biomarker team of scientific experts to build on the biomarker strategies and plans.

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About the Role

The BML accountabilities and responsibilities

- Acts as BMD strategic and scientific leader in Japan at project or collaboration level to lead biomarker strategies and plans with the various local and global team members.
- Develops deep understanding of the translational biomarkers for a project/program (and associated clinical studies), focused on compound, disease, target, and pathway biology.
- Establishes scientific partnerships with local KOLs around biomarkers and translational research.
- Support health authorities' interactions around biomarkers and translational research.
- Ensures alignment and connectivity with other BMLs, therapeutic area leads and heads across assets, indications, and therapeutic areas.
- Partner with Biomarker Study Experts (BSE) and BMD Line Function Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) on the study strategic planning, and BM implementation.
- Is responsible for the contextualization and interpretation of the biomarker data including CSR review.
- Cooperates closely with Therapeutic Area Biomarker Head (TABH) or Therapeutic Area Biomarker Lead (TABL) as well as BMD Line Functions to enable the development of project/study level biomarker strategy and plans, implementation, contextualizing, and interpretation.
- Is an enterprise partner and strategic leader in the matrix environment, able to integrate and represent projects in the internal/external scientific discussions and initiatives.

BML requirements

- PhD, MD, MD/PhD, or MS degree is required.
- Good understanding of biology and translational research that can be applied to questions of patient's selection, enrichment, dose selection, efficacy and response, disease progression, mechanism of actions, among others.
- Scientific excellence supported by academic and/or industry career track, and/or high -quality publications; clinical and/or biological expertise.
- Significant relevant experience after your MD/PhD/postdoc including drug development, clinical research/development, or translational research.
- Track record of contributions to clinical programs and studies in pharma industry (or biotech) is strongly preferred.
- Experience and familiarity with quantitative research and data is preferred, examples include biostatistics, omics profiling, AI/ML, bioinformatics, computational biology, clinical imaging, machine learning, or data

science.

- Proven success in leading and partnering in multidisciplinary matrix teams across Pharma/biotech, or academic institutions.
- Creative and innovative leadership, experience in balancing big picture thinking with detailed analyses and operational aspects.
- Well-developed interpersonal and leadership skills with strong presence and ability to influence and navigate large organizational structures as well connect and network with KOLs.
- Fluent English and Japanese required.

Why Novartis: Helping people with disease and their families takes more than innovative science. It takes a community of smart, passionate people like you. Collaborating, supporting and inspiring each other. Combining to achieve breakthroughs that change patients' lives. Ready to create a brighter future together? <https://www.novartis.com/about/strategy/people-and-culture>

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Division

Biomedical Research

Business Unit

Universal Hierarchy Node

Location

Japan

Site

Toranomon (NPKK Head Office)

Company / Legal Entity

JP05 (FCRS = JP005) Novartis Pharma K.K.

Functional Area

Research & Development

Job Type

Full time

Employment Type

Regular

Shift Work

No

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