

Senior Expert / Senior Principal PKS Data Scientist & Scientific Software Engineer (Dual level posting)

Job ID

REQ-10079732

Aug 06, 2026

LOC_CH

About the Role

200+ experimental datasets are generated every day in the Pharmacokinetic Sciences (PKS) department at Novartis Biomedical Research. This role sits at the center of efforts to unlock the value of these data for decision making and to shape the future of medicine through advanced data science.

As Senior Expert II / Senior Principal Data Scientist & Scientific Software Engineer, you will join the Modeling & Simulation Data Science team in the Translational Medicine Unit and work at the intersection of data science, software engineering, and drug discovery. You will apply machine learning, statistics, and modern software development practices to harness ADME and PK data, uncover structure-property relationships, and translate scientific and business needs into scalable, strategically aligned solutions.

You will collaborate closely with Data & Digital and PKS wet- (ADME and bioanalytical) and dry-lab (modeling) teams to identify opportunities where data, applications, and in silico methods can meaningfully improve decision quality, efficiency, and scientific impact. In addition to hands-on technical delivery, you will help shape and champion fit-for-purpose solutions that are robust, reusable, and maintainable in a production setting.

This role is ideal for a scientifically grounded data scientist who combines strong analytical depth with practical software engineering expertise, and who is motivated by delivering measurable impact in drug discovery through high-quality data products, machine learning, and computational innovation.

Key Responsibilities

- Senior Principal: Act as a senior Modeling & Simulation Data Science representative on discovery and lead optimization programs, contributing scientific and strategic input to project discussions and decisions, and helping shape data science direction across programs.
Senior Expert II: Act as a key Modeling & Simulation Data Science representative on discovery and lead optimization programs, providing expert scientific input and contributing to project discussions and decisions.
- Senior Principal: Partner with Data & Digital and PKS wet- and dry-lab teams to identify priority gaps, clarify business needs, and translate them into strategically aligned analytical and computational solutions with broad scientific and operational impact. Own the
- Senior Expert II: Partner with Data & Digital and PKS wet- and dry-lab teams to identify priority gaps, clarify business needs, and translate them into high-impact analytical and computational solutions for projects and platforms.
- Design, build, and maintain scalable applications, workflows, and data pipelines that support scientific analysis and decision making across projects and modalities.
- Develop, evaluate, and deploy machine learning and statistical models to uncover relationships between chemical structure and molecular or pharmacokinetic properties.
- Apply data mining, visualization, and exploratory analysis to derive insight from complex experimental datasets and communicate findings clearly to diverse stakeholders.
- Senior Principal: Create and implement project- or modality-specific in silico models and data strategies that accelerate and streamline compound progression decisions while informing broader scientific direction and capability

development.

- Senior Expert II: Create and implement project- or modality-specific in silico models and data approaches that accelerate and streamline compound progression decisions.
- Write production-quality code following strong software engineering practices, including version control, testing, documentation, and maintainability standards.
- Senior Principal: Lead and shape cross-functional initiatives across data science, software engineering, and laboratory teams, driving strategic alignment and organizational impact.
- Senior Expert II: Contribute to and coordinate cross-functional initiatives across data science, software engineering, and laboratory teams to deliver high-quality solutions.
- Senior Principal: Promote and champion the broad adoption of in-house tools, applications, and data science methods, helping shape best practices and strengthen data science capabilities across Translational Medicine and PKS.
- Senior Expert II: Promote the adoption and effective use of in-house tools, applications, and data science methods across projects and teams to maximize scientific impact.
- Senior Principal: Stay current with advances in AI/ML, statistics, and computational methods relevant to ADME, PK/PD, and drug discovery, and proactively evaluate and bring appropriate innovation into practice to improve efficiency and scientific impact.
- Senior Expert II: Stay current with advances in AI/ML, statistics, and computational methods relevant to ADME, PK/PD, and drug discovery, and help bring appropriate innovation into practice within projects and workflows.

Essential Requirements

- Advanced degree in a relevant scientific or quantitative field such as cheminformatics, bioinformatics, biomedical engineering, computational biology, computational chemistry, AI/ML in life sciences, or a related discipline.
- Senior Principal: PhD with 5+ years or MSc with 8+ years of relevant work experience applying data science in drug discovery, translational research, or related scientific environments, with a track record of leading complex initiatives and influencing scientific direction.
- Senior Expert II: Relevant work experience applying data science in drug discovery, translational research, or related scientific environments, with a strong record of independent technical contribution and expert delivery in collaborative settings.
- Senior Principal: Strong expertise in machine learning, statistics, and reproducible data science workflows, with demonstrated ability to apply them to complex scientific problems and guide others in their effective use.
- Senior Expert II: Strong expertise in machine learning, statistics, and reproducible data science workflows, with demonstrated ability to apply them independently to real scientific problems.
- Proficiency in Python and/or R, with solid software development practices including version control, testing, documentation, and production-quality coding standards.
- Senior Principal: Experience designing, developing, and deploying robust analytical applications, computational workflows, or machine learning systems, including shaping reusable solutions and technical direction in collaborative environments.
- Senior Expert II: Experience designing, developing, and deploying robust analytical applications, computational workflows, or machine learning systems in collaborative environments.
- Senior Principal: Demonstrated ability to work across multidisciplinary teams, influence stakeholders, and translate complex analytical concepts into clear, actionable insights for scientists, partners, and leaders.
- Senior Expert II: Demonstrated ability to work across multidisciplinary teams and translate complex analytical concepts into clear, actionable insights for scientists and stakeholders.
- Senior Principal: Strong communication, collaboration, and leadership capabilities, with demonstrated ability to influence decisions and help shape direction in cross-functional settings.
- Senior Expert II: Strong communication and collaboration capabilities, with the ability to influence project decisions in cross-functional settings.

- Senior Principal: Excellent understanding of drug discovery processes, with particular relevance to ADME, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, or related translational data domains, and ability to articulate the impact and value of data science in strategic terms.
- Senior Expert II: Good understanding of drug discovery processes, with particular relevance to ADME, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, or related translational data domains, and ability to apply data science effectively to relevant scientific problems.

Desirable Requirements

- Experience with discovery-stage PK modeling, ADME data interpretation, or relating preclinical properties to in vivo pharmacokinetic behavior.
- Familiarity with modern machine learning approaches such as deep learning, generative algorithms, or explainable AI in drug discovery contexts.
- Experience with modern scientific software or web application development frameworks, including JavaScript-based front-end technologies (e.g., Svelte).
- Knowledge of SQL, databases, Linux-based environments, and scalable data engineering patterns for scientific workflows.
- Experience working with small molecules, peptides, RNAs, or other modalities in discovery-stage data analysis.

This is a dual posting. The final level & title of the offer role would be determined by the hiring team based on the skills, experience & capabilities required to perform the role at the level the role has been offered

Benefits & Rewards

At Novartis, we're committed to reimagining medicine together - and rewarding the people who make it happen.

Expected Annual Base Salary Range for role:

- Senior Expert: 102,200.00 - 189,800.00 CHF Annual
- Senior Principal: 129,500.00 - 240,500.00 CHF Annual

The base salary offered is determined based on gender-neutral objectives, such as relevant skills, competencies and experience in accordance with the Novartis pay setting policy and upon joining Novartis will be reviewed periodically.

In addition to your base salary, you may be eligible for a performance-based bonus depending on certain performance parameters.

The rewards of being part of our team go far beyond base pay and incentives. We also offer a variety of competitive benefits in kind to help you thrive personally and professionally, such as insurance plans, retirement plans, wellbeing resources and global recognition programs. In addition, we provide flexible and hybrid working options, where possible, and minimum 14 weeks paid parental leave.

In addition to your base salary, you may be eligible for a performance-based bonus depending on certain performance parameters. Long-term equity awards granted at group level may also be part of your package. Further details will be provided during the application process.

Pay equity is a fundamental principle of our employment policy and reflects our commitment to create a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment that treats all employees with dignity and respect, as outlined in our Code of Ethics.

Read our brochure to learn more about our global total rewards offering:

https://www.novartis.com/sites/novartis_com/files/novartis-life-handbook.pdf

Note: Benefits and compensation may vary by country and are subject to local legal requirements, including provisions of collective bargaining agreements where applicable. A full overview of your compensation package, including any relevant collective bargaining agreement details applicable to your role based on your employment location and Novartis employer entity, will be communicated separately to you during the application process.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion / EEO

Novartis is committed to building an outstanding, inclusive work environment and diverse teams' representative of the patients and communities we serve.

Accessibility and accommodation

Novartis is committed to working with and providing reasonable accommodation to all individuals. If, because of a medical condition or disability, you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the recruitment process, or in order to receive more detailed information about the essential functions of a position, please send an e-mail to diversity.inclusion_ch@novartis.com and let us know the nature of your request and your contact information. Please include the job requisition number in your message.

Role Requirements

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>

Benefits and Rewards: Learn about all the ways we'll help you thrive personally and professionally.

[Read our handbook \(PDF 30 MB\)](#)

Primary location salary range

CHF102,200.00 - CHF189,800.00

Division

DIV_RE

Business Unit

Research

Location

LOC_CH

Site

Basel (City)

Company / Legal Entity

C028 (FCRS = CH028) Novartis Pharma AG

Functional Area

FCT_DD

Job Type

Full time

Employment Type

Regular

Shift Work

No

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