

Director, Translational Medicine Expert (Neurodegeneration)

Job ID

REQ-10088329

Sep 23, 2026

LOC_CH

About the Role

Key Responsibilities:

1. Translational Strategy & Program Leadership

- - Define and execute integrated translational strategies across neurodegeneration programs
 - Lead translational components from preclinical → Phase 1/2 clinical studies
 - Drive program progression through key decision gates (e.g., IND, TDP, IDPA)
 - Ensure strong mechanistic linkage between target biology, biomarkers, and clinical endpoints

2. Biomarker & Endpoint Leadership

- - Collaborate with Biomarker Development colleagues toward development and validation of:
 - Molecular biomarkers (tissue, blood, CSF where applicable)
 - Functional endpoints (strength, mobility, disease-specific measures)
 - Patient-reported outcomes (PROs)
 - Establishing quantitative biomarkers to support:
 - Target engagement
 - Disease modification
 - Dose selection and PoC decisions
 - Integrate biomarker strategy into clinical protocols and operational plans
 - Drive early biomarker de-risking, a key priority in neuromuscular programs

3. Early Clinical Development (Phase 1/2)

- - Co-lead design and execution of early clinical studies
 - Define:
 - Dose escalation strategy
 - Exposure–response framework
 - Translational endpoints (biopsy, imaging, functional)
 - Ensure TM leadership within Clinical Trial Teams (CTTs) for:
 - Trial design
 - Execution oversight
 - Data interpretation and decision-making

4. Cross-Functional Leadership

- - Serve as core Translational Medicine representative within global project teams
 - Partner closely with:
 - Clinical Development
 - Biomarker Development
 - Clinical Pharmacology (PKS)
 - Preclinical Safety (PCS)

- Regulatory
- Drive alignment between research, TM, and development organizations

5. External Scientific Leadership

- ◦ Build and lead collaborations with:
 - Academic KOLs
 - Patient advocacy groups (critical in rare neuromuscular disease)
 - Technology partners (imaging, omics platforms)
- Contribute to scientific strategy and external positioning of programs

6. Patient-Centered Development

- ◦ Integrate the patient voice into translational and clinical strategies
- Advance:
 - Meaningful functional endpoints
 - Patient-relevant outcome measures
 - Innovative trial approaches (e.g., decentralized models where feasible)

7. Portfolio Contribution & Strategic Input

- ◦ Contribute to:
 - Asset prioritization and portfolio strategy
 - Competitive differentiation strategy (e.g., vs RNA or gene therapy competitors)
- Provide scientific input to:
 - Business development / due diligence
 - Indication expansion strategies

Essential Requirements:

- MD, neurologists, clinical training in neurodegenerative diseases
- Experience in translational medicine, early clinical development, or experimental therapeutics.
- Ability to shape development strategies, execute early clinical studies, and influence regulatory/packages supporting differentiation.

Desirable Requirements:

- Experience working in pharmaceutical/biotech company strongly preferred.
- PhD, PharmD, or equivalent in:
 - Neurology / Neuroscience
 - Neurodegenerative diseases

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:

- 150,500.00 - 279,500.00 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

Primary location salary range

CHF150,500.00 - CHF279,500.00

Division
DIV_RE
Business Unit
Research
Location
LOC_CH
Site
Basel (City)
Company / Legal Entity
C028 (FCRS = CH028) Novartis Pharma AG
Functional Area
FCT_RD
Job Type
Full time
Employment Type
Regular
Shift Work
No
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