

# Head of Data Science and AI

Job ID  
REQ-10042874  
Mar 07, 2025  
United Kingdom

## Summary

The Head of Data Science and AI will be responsible for leading the vision and strategy of the Data Science & AI team. This role aims to address unmet medical and process needs and drive innovation in line with the R&D AI strategy. The individual will promote a culture of data-driven decision-making across Novartis teams and supporting functions in Development, ensuring alignment with overall R&D and business goals.

This leader will act as a role model, elevating Data Science and AI as a strategic function. They will help Novartis leverage the latest AI innovations and gain external recognition as a leader in the field. They will possess a broad range of data and digital skills, mentor at the highest level, and serve as an enterprise leader.

Additionally, the Head of Data Science and AI will focus on attracting and retaining top talent, developing and empowering the team to reach their full potential, and forming top-tier external partnerships. They will provide guidance and coaching while maintaining a disciplined approach with clear accountabilities.

## About the Role

### Major accountabilities:

- Design and implement an efficient operating model for elevating the function of Data Science and AI, overall responsible for converting cutting-edge technology and data science advancements into solutions serving strategic objectives of the Novartis Development Organization
- Develop and lead a strategy and vision for Data Science & AI that aligns with and influences other functions to establish common goals, scientific questions and business objectives
- Build and mentor a high-performing AI team, fostering a culture of innovation, collaboration, and transparency
- Drive development of Data Science and AI talent, including staffing, designing career pathways and development opportunities, creating exposure and connectivity across the Development organization and beyond.
- Drive discovery and implementation of innovative advanced analytics and models/algorithms to generate insights that significantly impact success, cost, and timelines
- Developing and implementing the overall strategy for machine learning engineering and infrastructure for current and future AI solutions together with DDIT and other technology-related counterparts
- Engage non-technical audiences and influence non-analytical Enterprise Business Leaders to drive major strategic decisions based on analytical inputs and drive data-driven decision-making
- Ensure exemplary communication with all stakeholders, including internal associates and Enterprise business leaders
- Drive a data-centric and innovative cultural mindset change across NVS to enable data generation, broad

use, capability building, and advanced analytics and AI adoption

- Lead by example in promoting a collaborative and entrepreneurial culture and mindset. Be an agent for change and engage support for innovative ideas, methods, technologies, partnerships, and solutions, and ensure responsible use of AI technologies
- Identify and manage external workforce
- Demonstrate internal and external presence that brings recognition of Novartis as a leader and innovator in Data Science and AI
- Serve as a member of the Process Innovation and AI Leadership Team

#### **Minimum Requirements:**

- Advanced degree (Master's or Ph.D.) in Data Science, Computer Science, or a related field
- Minimum 10 years of relevant experience in Data Science with a track record of delivering global solutions at scale in healthcare settings, with a strong preference for experience in the Drug Development space.
- In-depth mastery of the external Data Science and AI environment and trends.
- A minimum of 5 years leadership experience with a track record of managing multidisciplinary teams and strong mentorship experience with the ability to lead and influence at the highest levels of the organization.
- Strong professional network across Academia would be an advantage.
- Extensive experience with managing change with organisational savviness and stakeholder engagement

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

**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

Development

Business Unit

Universal Hierarchy Node

Location

United Kingdom

Site

London (The Westworks)

Company / Legal Entity

GB16 (FCRS = GB016) Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd.

Alternative Location 1

Barcelona Gran Vía, Spain

Alternative Location 2  
Basel (City), Switzerland  
Alternative Location 3  
Dublin (NOCC), Ireland  
Functional Area  
Data and Digital  
Job Type  
Full time  
Employment Type  
Regular  
Shift Work  
No  
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