

Senior R&D Legal Counsel, Global Clinical Development & Operations

Job ID

REQ-10075902

May 11, 2026

LOC_GB

About the Role

- Serve as strategic legal partner to Global Clinical Development and Operations leaders across complex R&D activities
- Advise on clinical trial contracting, including site, vendor, and outsourced study agreements across multiple jurisdictions
- Provide regulatory legal guidance to support compliant, efficient global clinical operations and R&D initiatives
- Support licensing, alliance management, and mergers and acquisitions through contract analysis, negotiation, and risk mitigation
- Lead simplification, harmonisation, and improvement of Research and Development contract templates, playbooks, and ways of working
- Drive adoption of automation and artificial intelligence to modernise legal contracting processes and increase efficiency
- Collaborate cross-functionally to anticipate legal risk, resolve issues pragmatically, and advance Novartis' Research and Development strategy

Essential Requirements

- Law degree or equivalent qualification with admission to practice law in a recognised jurisdiction
- Extensive post-qualification experience in life sciences, ideally gained within a pharmaceutical company or contract research organization, or with a top-tier law firm representing life science clients
- Proven experience advising on clinical trial-related contracts and documentation, including site and vendor agreements
- Strong expertise providing regulatory and contracting legal support in a highly regulated research and development environment
- Demonstrated ability to analyse complex legal issues, manage risk, and deliver pragmatic, business-focused solutions
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to influence senior stakeholders across global, cross-functional teams

Commitment to Diversity & Inclusion:

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

You'll receive:

Competitive salary, short term incentive bonus, Pension scheme, share purchase scheme, Health insurance, 25 days annual leave, Flexible working arrangements, subsidized dining facilities, Employee recognition scheme, learning and development opportunities

To learn more about the culture, rewards and benefits we offer our people [click here](#).

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 \(PDF 30 MB\)](#)

Division

DIV_LE

Business Unit

Legal

Location

LOC_GB

Site

London (The Westworks)

Company / Legal Entity

GB16 (FCRS = GB016) Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd.

Functional Area

FCT_LI

Job Type

Full time

Employment Type

Regular

Shift Work

No

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