

# Principal Scientist II, Cell & Gene Therapy Delivery

Job ID  
REQ-10021278  
Sep 10, 2024  
USA

## Summary

Position is onsite in San Diego

LI #onsite

Summary:

INNOVATION, QUALITY, COLLABORATION, PERFORMANCE, COURAGE AND INTEGRITY

Novartis Biologics Center (BRC) builds the Novartis biologics pipeline in collaboration with Biomedical Research disease and functional area departments via a breadth of technologies for discovery of antibody, protein, cell and gene therapy-based therapeutics. The Cell and Gene Therapy (CGT) group within BRC drives a diverse portfolio of modalities including multi-specific antibodies, CAR-T, RNA therapeutics and AAV. Through cell and viral engineering as well as innovative and rational protein design, the CGT group is a global team that works collaboratively with disease area groups to broaden the use of biologics into therapeutic applications where conventional antibodies have limitations.

As a Principal Scientist II part of the BRC CGT group in San Diego, CA, you will have a unique opportunity to be at the cutting edge of cell and gene therapy field, and lead and contribute to the development of innovative medicines for patients devastated by diseases in collaboration with partners across the global Novartis research and development network.

## About the Role

**Your responsibilities will include, but are not limited to:**

- Lead, oversee and/or participate in next generation CGT delivery improvement projects across multiple Novartis sites to enable pipeline and platform advances and novel therapeutic capabilities in close collaboration with disease area leaders and global project teams.
- Undertake and lead efforts to develop more potent, safer and tolerable LVV and AAV vectors. The mechanisms in scope include, but are not limited to, improving tropism/targeting, reduction of immune response, spatial/temporal regulated expression control strategies, circuit engineering, transcriptional/post-transcriptional aspects and strategies for high throughput optimization of vector components.
- Enable translation from *in vitro/in vivo* mouse and nonhuman primate POC studies to therapeutic disease programs for preclinical development.
- Initiate, lead and contribute to interdisciplinary research programs in a highly collaborative and matrixed manner across internal groups and with external partners.
- Experience and familiarity with neuromuscular, cardiovascular, liver, and/or kidney diseases are a plus.
- Prepare reports, manuscripts and protocols, adhering to the good research practices and quality culture

across NIBR. Present results at appropriate internal and external meetings and conferences.

- Other related duties as assigned.

### **What you'll bring to the role:**

### **Requirements:**

- Bachelor's degree in cell and gene therapy, bioinformatics, molecular/cell biology, bioengineering, or related scientific field with 12 years industry or equivalent experience or Master's with degree in cell and gene therapy, bioinformatics, molecular/cell biology, bioengineering, or related scientific field with 10 years industry or equivalent experience or PhD with 6 years of industry or equivalent experience.
- Successful track-record in directly and in a matrix manner leading scientists and project team members with diverse background is required
- Demonstrated expertise in LVV and AAV biology, virology, viral tropism engineering transcriptional and post-transcriptional mechanisms and analytical/process development for LVV/AAV production is required
- The position requires ability to work collaboratively across a dynamic and collaborative scientific and development environment. Therefore adaptability to emerging project/group needs, excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, and strong interpersonal skills are required.
- Strong publication, patent and/or external presentation record.

### **Desired**

- Genetic/epigenomic/transcriptomic profiling technologies, genome engineering (e.g. CRISPR), nonviral gene therapy, sh/miRNA biology, and or analytical/process development for LVV/AAV production are highly desired.

Please note this job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

**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?

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**Commitment to Diversity & Inclusion:** The Novartis Group of Companies are Equal Opportunity Employers and take pride in maintaining a diverse environment. We do not discriminate in recruitment, hiring, training, promotion or other employment practices for reasons of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital or veteran status, disability, or any other legally protected status. We are committed to building diverse teams, representative of the patients and communities we serve, and we strive to create an inclusive workplace that cultivates bold innovation through collaboration and empowers our people to unleash their full potential.

**Novartis Compensation and Benefit Summary:** The pay range for this position at commencement of employment is expected to be between \$124,000-\$186,000/year; *however, while salary ranges are effective from 1/1/24 through 12/31/24, fluctuations in the job market may necessitate adjustments to pay ranges during this period. Further, final pay determinations will depend on various factors, including, but not limited to*

*geographical location, experience level, knowledge, skills, and abilities.* The total compensation package for this position may also include other elements, including a sign-on bonus, restricted stock units, and discretionary awards in addition to a full range of medical, financial, and/or other benefits (including 401(k) eligibility and various paid time off benefits, such as vacation, sick time, and parental leave), dependent on the position offered. Details of participation in these benefit plans will be provided if an employee receives an offer of employment. If hired, employee will be in an “at-will position” and the Company reserves the right to modify base salary (as well as any other discretionary payment or compensation program) at any time, including for reasons related to individual performance, Company or individual department/team performance, and market factors.

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Division

Biomedical Research

Business Unit

Pharma Research

Location

USA

Site

San Diego

Company / Legal Entity

U175 (FCRS = US175) Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Inc.

Functional Area

Research & Development

Job Type

Full time

Employment Type

Regular

Shift Work

No

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