



Project Director

Take the lead in one of Denmark's most entrepreneurial and fast-growing Pharma companies

Ascendis Pharma is an entrepreneurial and fast-growing company where skilled, agile and highly resourceful professionals can truly make their mark. Ascendis offers a dynamic place for employees to grow and develop their skills, while influencing the direction of this high potential global company.

As Project Director at Ascendis Pharma you will play a critical role in driving sustainable growth by shepherding the project progress and success for one or multiple projects. You will be responsible for facilitating strategic discussions and decision-making, communicating with all relevant stakeholders across functions and with Senior Management Team and ensuring timely execution of the project(s).

With direct report to the VP, Strategic Planning & Project Management Group based in Palo Alto, California, USA.

Your key responsibilities are:

- Lead project(s) execution from preclinical candidate selection through commercial activities
- Create integrated project plans; implement and monitor progress against project plans and revise as necessary
- Define critical path, at-risk activities, interdependencies, anticipate bottlenecks, and clear barriers to progress
- Recommend composition of cross-functional Core Team, including changes as project evolves; foster excellent cross-functional collaborative spirit and approach
- Lead Core Team in:
 - Prioritizing activities and problem-solving to meet milestones and timelines
 - Strategic initiatives (e.g., plans and requirements to enter new geography, consideration of working with additional supplier) by collaborating with line organizations and communicating options and recommendation to relevant leadership
 - Ensuring all members and their organizations are aligned on project progress, key milestones, risks, and mitigation strategies

- Update timelines, resources, and budget as timelines and/or strategic priorities shift, and/or issues arise; communicate to all relevant stakeholders (including Senior Management) accordingly
- Lead preparation of materials for internal updates, including Monthly Project Reports, Project Reviews, Board of Directors meetings
- Set agenda and objectives and lead Project Reviews, as well as communicate decisions made, action items, and minutes to all relevant stakeholders, including Senior Management Team
- Collaborate with other functions (e.g., Medical Affairs, Commercial, Communications) on preparation of agenda, objectives, materials, and post-event communications for external events (e.g., conferences, ad boards)
- Lead/contribute to operational initiatives, as needed; examples could include:
 - Scenario planning and forecasting use of drug supply
 - Acting as point of contact for external partners (e.g., Regulatory CRO)
 - Contributing to brand naming
- Review and contribute to key project documents (e.g., clinical protocols, regulatory documents, posters, scientific publications, investor updates); ensure cross-functional collaboration and alignment when regulatory documents are being prepared
- Gather, analyze, codify, and distribute competitive intelligence
- Prepare and communicate project budget, and facilitate resource/capacity planning; follow up on accruals
- Support other Ascendis functions (e.g., Clinical, Medical Affairs, Commercial) in engaging the community (e.g., patients, KOLs, patient advocacy groups), if desired
- Stay current on key publications and share findings with key stakeholders (e.g., scientific literature, competitors' updates, analyst reports, regulatory landscape changes)
- Share best practices and learnings with other Project Directors

Your qualifications are pharmaceutical R&D drug development knowledge, with experience in multiple functions (e.g. Nonclinical, CMC, Clinical Development, Clinical Operations, Regulatory Affairs, Medical Affairs). You have 10+ years of experience in project management in R&D drug development and/or managing teams, with experience across multiple line organizations (e.g. Nonclinical, CMC, Clinical, Clinical Operations, Regulatory Affairs, Medical Affairs). You are proficient in English, both written and spoken and you must be highly skilled in MS Office.

You have a Master's Degree in Biochemistry, Engineering, Pharmacy or the like and preferably a Post Graduate Degree (PhD) within Life Science.

You are a person with strong leadership skills, including the ability to lead colleagues across line organizations outside of reporting relationships. You have experience with managing projects in a matrix driven pharmaceutical or biotechnological company. You have exceptional interpersonal skills incl. cultural sensitivity and your communications skills both spoken and written must be exceptional as well. You have excellent analytical skills and possess the ability to provide strategic insight and problem solving concerning quantifying options, tradeoffs, budgets, and resources needed. Moreover, you are highly motivated and interested in being challenged professionally and you have strong interpersonal skills. You have a high level of organizational skill and you pay attention to details. Finally, you are able to travel up to 25% of the time domestically and internationally.

Ascendis Pharma offers the candidate the possibility to create a meaningful impact on the organization's success, while developing him/herself professionally. As Ascendis Pharma is growing rapidly, the company provides many opportunities for career and professional development.

Travelling: +/- 40 days/year

Domicile: Ascendis Pharma resides in a wonderful office facility in Tuborg Havn in Hellerup with a view of the harbor, the canals, and the sea.

For more details about the job or the company, please contact Partner Jørn Duhn, Unique Human Capital on M +45 21 75 19 25 or Senior Research Consultant Jeanne Dederding, Unique Human Capital on M +45 28 74 58 71. All applications must be in English and are treated confidentially.

Want to apply? Please send your application and CV to mail@uhc.dk. Write "Project Director, Ascendis Pharma" in the subject field.

Ascendis Pharma A/S is an international company with offices in Copenhagen, Germany, and the US. Ascendis Pharma is building an integrated biopharmaceutical company to advance its pipeline of long-acting prodrug therapies. They employ their proprietary TransCon technology platform to generate therapeutics with best-in-class profiles that address large markets with significant unmet medical needs. Ascendis Pharma has a diversified and balanced high-value product pipeline, including internal programs and partnerships with market leaders. Read more at www.ascendispharma.com