

## Lead of Preclinical Research (m/f/d)

ATAI is a Berlin, New York and London based biotech company builder with the ultimate vision to cure mental health disorders. We focus on developing solutions for people that suffer from a real unmet medical need; starting with the 320 million people who suffer from depression. We are particularly interested to revive and leverage the existing research on treatments with prior evidence for efficacy and safety in humans, such as psilocybin and ketamine, to initiate a paradigm shift. We currently have two platform companies that are active in the mental health area: COMPASS Pathways and Perception Neuroscience. In addition, we are passionate to back recent advancement in data sciences to enable people to live healthier and happier lives. To deliver on our vision we follow a decentralized, technology- and data-driven platform approach that provides the required technology, human and financial resources to our autonomous teams that develop incubated or acquired treatments. This approach enables us to bring therapeutics to patients in a more innovative, efficient and effective way.

### Opportunity:

- Be a major contributor to the success of a well-positioned, well-financed, early stage biotech company
- Become part of creating a radical new and impactful paradigm shift in drug development and patient care
- Work on improving the lives of millions of people with a real unmet need
- An open, results-driven and meritocratic start-up culture

### Summary

The Lead of Preclinical Research is responsible for overseeing both the strategic and operational aspects of the preclinical activities for all R&D projects within ATAI and its subsidiary organizations. In addition, this position will be responsible for preclinical due diligence in the context of business development activities.

### Responsibilities:

- Responsibility for design, qualification and execution of *in vitro* and *in vivo* pharmacology and toxicology programs required to support research leading to clinical candidate nomination through first-in-man
- Support nonclinical studies including experimental selection and validation of relevant species for safety/tox studies
- Work collaboratively within a multi-disciplinary environment, both within ATAI and subsidiary organization and, as required, with external consultants and CRO teams
- Work closely with the CSO to build and lead an interdisciplinary research program by collaborating on establishing scientific strategies, defining research goals and execution of new research projects
- Contribute to the production of project-related documents, budgets, presentations, patent and regulatory submissions as required

**Qualifications:**

- A BS with +20 years of experience or an MS/PhD with 10+ years of experience in CNS preclinical pharmacology and toxicology in the pharmaceutical industry
- At least 5 years in a leadership role and demonstrated leadership skills to serve as a change agent to identify needs and solutions, implement and support the building of a scientific organization is required.
- Fluent knowledge of all stages of preclinical and translational drug development
- Experience with managing preclinical studies, including GLP, with external contract research organizations is required.
- Experience with effective project team leadership and management oversight.
- Possesses well-grounded knowledge of regulatory affairs principles, practices and systems, especially in the areas of commercial drugs and lifecycle management.
- Is a creative, analytical problem solver, who acts decisively, yet communicates the risks and benefits associated with all potential solutions so that informed business decisions can be made.
- Able to work across multiple functions and geographies (e.g., US and non-US).
- Excellent communication (written and verbal) and presentation skills.
- Effective delegation of responsibility and authority, as needed.
- Attracted to a life sciences biotechnology environment with potential for future continued growth
- Strong time management, interpersonal and organizational skills.

**Skills and Abilities:**

- Analytical
- Strong management skills
- Excellent teamwork and collaboration skills
- Effective process and project management skills
- Solution oriented
- Outstanding written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to multi-task

**ATAI Competencies Include:**

- Decisions and Judgment: independently completing assigned tasks by gathering relevant information systematically and considering a broad range of issues or factors when making decisions.
- Ownership and Initiative: Assumes personal ownership and accountability for business results and solutions. Organizes work based on company/department goals. Develops alternative strategies when confronted with obstacles. Plans and organizes work so that timelines are met or exceeded.
- Communication skills: Expresses ideas and information effectively and constructively. Provides accurate and timely information to others within the department and across functional groups. Demonstrates attention to and understanding of others' comments, questions, and views.
- Leadership: Articulates a clear direction and demonstrates the ability to motivate and positively influence others. Effectively manages people, projects, and budgets. Clearly defines performance standards for employees and gives recognition when appropriate. Ensures employees have clear measurable goals aligned with organization's priorities and holds people accountable for results. Addresses performance and behaviour issues in a timely manner. Inspires people to excel by modelling excellence and enthusiasm. Empowers teams to solve problems and initiate improvements. Identifies organizational needs and attracts, selects and retains talent.