Legal Officer (80-100%)

The Swiss Personalized Health Network (SPHN) coordinates the development of a data infrastructure for the responsible use of health-related data for research throughout Switzerland. To support the SPHN Management Office in Bern and the SPHN Data Coordination Center (DCC) in Basel, we are looking for a Legal Officer (80-100%) starting from January 1st 2024 or upon agreement.

The successful candidate will contribute to the legal, contractual and certification activities of SPHN and support the initiative and implementation groups on compliance matters in collaboration with hospitals, scientific partners and research institutions. Moreover, she/he will provide legal support for the creation and operation of SPHN’s successor organization (SPHN-DCC) after 2024.

Role Description

– Negotiate, draft and review multi-party agreements / technology transfer agreements (in English) for the exchange and use of health data for research, in compliance with the Human Research Act and the Federal Data Protection Act and the related cantonal legislation;
– Ensure proper setup and management of consultancy and collaboration agreements and other relevant contracts and documents for SPHN and the DCC.
– Development and review of internal strategies and regulations as well as support and monitoring of their implementation;
– Conduct legal investigations and provide legal advice in the areas of biomedical and clinical research, protection of personal data, regulation of medical devices (e.g., algorithms), as well as in connection with business, labor and administrative law;
– Support the SIB Data Protection Officers in their tasks with a view to take over this responsibility for the future SPHN-DCC from 2025 onwards;
– Reporting is to the SPHN Managing Director and the DCC ELSI Team Lead.

Your skills

– You are an extremely trustworthy and reliable person who contributes to the achievement of the organization's goals with commitment and enthusiasm. You see yourself as part of the whole, but work independently.
– You have excellent organizational skills and work with great diligence. You are used to setting priorities, meeting deadlines and being flexible in a diverse, dynamic environment.
– With excellent communication skills, tenacity and patience as well as a strong sense of confidentiality and discretion, you can also support complex negotiations and advise partners.
Desired Profile

- Master degree or higher education in law from a Swiss university;
- Excellent knowledge of Swiss and EU legislation on data protection and biomedical research involving human beings;
- Knowledge of intellectual property law and open-source licenses;
- Good knowledge of regulatory, accreditation or compliance issues;
- Substantial practical experience in drafting, reviewing and negotiating complex agreements in the field of biomedical research and technology transfer;
- Ideally 3 - 5 years’ experience as a Legal Officer;
- Fully proficient in English and at least German or French with good knowledge of the other national language. Ideally, able to review contracts in all three languages.

We offer

- Participation in an important research policy initiative to strengthen data-driven Personalized Health research in Switzerland and internationally;
- Challenging and varied activities in a motivated, committed team;
- Numerous contacts with university hospitals and universities, political authorities, research funding institutions and patient organizations;
- A workplace close to the train station in Basel or Bern (both possible, with regular – at least weekly – visits to the other location) and possibility for home office.

Please send your application with all supporting documents in a single PDF via email to dcc@sib.swiss by October 20, 2023.

Contact for questions

Dr. Thomas Geiger, Managing Director SPHN: t.geiger@sphn.ch, 031 306 92 95
Dr. Julia Maurer, ELSI Team Lead SPHN-DCC: julia.maurer@sib.swiss, 077 435 55 94