

Research and development

[Healthcare and Life Sciences](#) / Capability

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Kearney's Healthcare and Life Sciences Practice includes globally recognized leaders in research and development (R&D) decision-making.

We have supported drug development strategies for hundreds of molecules across all key disease areas and indications. In fact, we have designed R&D governance processes for more than dozen leading pharmaceutical companies, including five of the top 10 global pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Recently, pharma has turned a corner, rekindling optimism that has been absent for the better part of a decade. But challenges persist for even the most admired R&D organizations. Regulatory scrutiny has moved beyond safety and efficacy to include impacts on value and system sustainability. Advances in digital health and system biology are increasing the complexity of research and clinical trial endeavors. And the costs of bringing a drug to market continue their inexorable rise.

We believe the winners will navigate this abundant yet challenging environment with practical, disciplined approaches to proactively position for a new era of medicines discovery and development.

Kearney works with you to build the critical keys to R&D success:

Strategic decision-making. Best practice R&D governance fosters innovative investment alternatives; enables transparent, credible valuations; and ensures resource allocation is decision-focused and aligned to strategy. We help clients shape investment strategies to win at the product and portfolio level:

- What molecule development strategy will maximize value while taking into consideration scientific, market, and payer risk?
- How can you achieve full visibility on trade-offs, clarity of choice, and organizational capability to deliver an optimized portfolio?

High-achieving operations. The best R&D organizations drive excellence on multiple fronts: process, capability, and organization. We help you design a future-proof R&D approach, aligned to their culture and aspiration:

- What R&D operating model will optimize our performance and achieve desired results?
- How can we unlock transformational value with step change in efficiency and cost discipline?

Practical digital. R&D is awash in digital experiments, but only a few achieve meaningful impact. We help you innovate and scale digital solutions that unleash transformative R&D outcomes:

- How can prediction and personalization insights shape better medical therapies?
- How do you embed data and digital technology into your product to amplify its efficacy and impact for patients?
- How can you leverage digital methods to make R&D more agile and efficient?

We stay at the forefront of the world of digital through our partnership with the World Economic Forum and our Digital Business Forum, accelerating the path to scale and impact, and helping our clients gain advantage through digital disruption.

About Kearney

For 100 years, Kearney has been a leading management consulting firm and trusted partner to three-quarters of the Fortune Global 500 and governments around the world. With a presence across more than 40 countries, our people make us who we are. We work impact first, tackling your toughest challenges with original thinking and a commitment to making change happen together. By your side, we deliver—value, results, impact.

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