Job Title: **Senior Research Fellow (SRF),** DST-funded International Healthcare AI Project, Koita Centre for Digital Health, Ashoka University

Reports to: **Dr. Suvrankar Datta**, Principal Investigator and **Dr. Anurag Agrawal**, Co-Principal Investigator and Head, Koita Centre for Digital Health

Location: **Ashoka University**, Rajiv Gandhi Education City, Sonipat, Haryana **(On-Site)**

Experience (in years): Minimum 2 years of post-Master's research/relevant experience (as per DST norms for SRF)

Nature of work: **Full-time, in person** (Yearly – Extendable up to 3 years or more for the duration of the Project)

About Ashoka University:

Ashoka University -India's premier interdisciplinary teaching and research university. An institution that has become a beacon of academic excellence in less than 10 years since its inception. At Ashoka, we encourage you to embrace the new, push the boundaries for continuous learning, and adapt to a world of constant change Because we believe that each Ashokan is capable of becoming a thought leader.

As part of our thriving and committed workforce, you will:

Be Mission-Driven: Champion interdisciplinary learning, innovative pedagogy, and academic rigor to transform Indian higher education.

Think Strategically: Collaborate with visionary minds to shape the future of higher education through strategic planning and a forward-thinking approach.

Act Authentically: Embrace authenticity and integrity, fostering an inclusive and supportive environment where every voice is valued.

Take Accountability: Own your work and drive positive change, as an empowering individual seeking to make a meaningful contribution.

Build Collaboration: Experience the power of teamwork and diverse perspectives, working collectively towards our shared goals.

Deliver Excellence: Strive for excellence in all aspects, upholding the highest standards of academic excellence, student support, and professional development opportunities.

At Ashoka University, we are on a mission to redefine higher education and create a remarkable space where innovation and collaboration thrive. As a **pioneering force in interdisciplinary learning**, we **continually grow and adapt** to stay at the forefront of educational excellence with emphasis on inclusivity and equal opportunity. Our philosophy revolves around **care, well-being, and connection**, which are deeply embedded in everything we do.

When you join our community, you become part of an extraordinary journey in which you can unleash your potential and make a meaningful impact. Where education empowers, where innovation thrives, and where excellence and humility coexist. We truly believe the world will enrich itself when there is progress with purpose.

About Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka (KCDH-A):

Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka (KCDH-A) is an interdisciplinary Centre, offering robust academic and research programmes aimed at advancing and developing a fresh perspective on Digital Health. It focuses on the convergence of healthcare, genomics, information technology, and artificial intelligence revolutions. KCDH-A aspires to nurture a new generation of Digital Health thinkers, innovators, and implementers through a balanced emphasis on education and research.

- The Centre offers strong academic programmes in digital health & informatics, drives research in next-generation digital health tools & solutions, and creates strong executive education in digital health.
- KCDH-A is a joint centre of the Trivedi School of Biosciences and the Department of Computer Science at Ashoka University, established with support from Koita Foundation, a philanthropic organisation with a mission to accelerate Digital Health adoption in India.

Role and Responsibilities:

This position is part of a **national-mission research project** supported by the Department of Science and Technology (**DST**), Government of India in collaboration with the National University of Singapore (**NUS**) supported by Agency for Science, Technology and Research (**A*STAR**), Government of Singapore.

The project aims to build an equitable, India-first foundation model for medical imaging, trained on large and demographically diverse datasets that are genuinely representative of Indian patient populations, beginning with chest X-rays (CXR). The work is conducted with leading clinical data partners of India and sits at the intersection of large-scale deep learning, medical imaging, and health-data infrastructure.

The Senior Research Fellow will help build the data backbone on which this foundation model is trained and will work alongside an international team for building one of India's first equitable medical foundational models. The role offers a rare opportunity to contribute to building the underlying intelligence layer for radiology in India.

- Build and maintain the imaging data pipeline on India-based servers — ingestion, de-identified storage, and organisation of chest X-rays and associated radiology reports received from clinical partner sites.
- Design and maintain metadata schemas; ensure alignment, consistency, and quality control across datasets received from multiple partners (e.g., harmonising DICOM metadata, report fields, and labels).
- Pull, curate, and version datasets for model training and benchmarking in coordination with the NUS modelling team.
- Maintain data-governance hygiene — track de-identification, manage access controls, and support compliance with the data-sharing agreement, institutional ethics requirements, and the DPDP Act.
- Provide research-coordination support: track project milestones and MoU progress, maintain meeting records and action items, and serve as an operational point of contact with partner institutions.
- Document infrastructure, pipelines, and processes for reproducibility, and contribute to technical reports and publications arising from the project.

Part of the work will also include **fully funded national and international visits** to clinical sites and travel, including workshops in Singapore (1 – 2 times a year) and various conferences.

Qualifications:

- Post Graduate Degree in Basic Science OR Graduate/Post Graduate Degree in a Professional Course, selected through any one of the following processes:

  a. Scholars selected through National Eligibility Tests - CSIR-UGC NET including lectureship (Assistant Professorship) and GATE.

  b. Selection through National level examinations conducted by MoE and its Agencies and Institutions such as UGC / IIT / IISc. / IISER / IIIT etc.

- A minimum of two years of research experience.

Candidates with relevant industry research experience in healthcare AI, medical imaging infrastructure, or machine-learning engineering and are interested in switching to academic research roles (emoluments as per DST norms) are encouraged to apply. Exceptionally qualified candidates may be considered for equivalent project positions depending on experience and institutional norms.

Skills Required:

- Strong technical know-how in data infrastructure: databases, file/object storage, scripting (Python preferred), and version control (Git).
- Exceptional attention to detail and the organisational discipline to manage structured data and documentation reliably.
- Familiarity with Linux-based environments, remote servers, containerization (Docker), or GPU-compute workflows is desirable.
- Desirable: familiarity with medical imaging formats (DICOM/NIfTI), PACS, or healthcare data; exposure to machine-learning / deep-learning workflows; and experience with cloud or on-premise server administration and data-governance practices
- Familiarity with SQL/NoSQL databases, object storage systems, and data orchestration pipelines is desirable.
- Exposure to distributed training, HPC environments, large-scale dataset management, or multimodal AI workflows is desirable.
- Familiarity with healthcare interoperability standards (DICOM, HL7, FHIR) and PACS/RIS ecosystems is desirable.

What this role offers:

- The opportunity to help build one of India's first equitable medical-imaging foundation models, working at the frontier of healthcare AI, in one of the leading radiology AI labs of the country.
- International collaboration with the National University of Singapore (NUS), including fully funded research visits to Singapore (travel and accommodation supported).
- Support to present at and attend leading international conferences (including A*-tier venues), with funding for participation.
- A pathway to take on greater responsibility as the work matures, including the potential to play a founding role should the research translate into a spin-off venture.

Application Submission Process:

We invite you to embark on this journey by submitting your application for the Senior Research Fellow (SRF) position on the DST-funded Healthcare AI Project at Ashoka University. To ensure your candidacy receives the attention it deserves, kindly follow the application submission process outlined below:

Prepare an Updated CV: Showcase your professional accomplishments, skills, and experiences in an updated curriculum vitae.

Submit Your Application: Email your CV to head.kcdha@ashoka.edu.in (and cc: suvrankar.datta@ashoka.edu.in) ensuring the subject line reads as follows: "**SRF – KCDHA _ *Applicant Name***". This will help us efficiently process your application.

Include Essential Details: Along with your CV, kindly provide the following information:

- **Last compensation received**: We value your expertise and acknowledge the importance of fair compensation.
- **Expected salary**: Share your aspirations for growth and remuneration. This is important as we receive a high volume of applications and helps us triage according to allowed budget by Grant Agency.
- Notice period: Inform us of the time required to transition from your current role, if applicable.

Pursuit for Excellence: At Ashoka University, we strive for excellence in all aspects of our operations. Therefore, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted as part of our rigorous selection process.

Adherence to Deadlines: To ensure fairness and efficiency, please submit your application **as soon as possible**, preferably by **June 10th, 2026**. **Interviews will start on a rolling basis in 1st week of June and interviews will close once suitable candidate is selected**. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

We look forward to receiving your application as we embark together on a remarkable journey of professional growth and development. Join our exceptional community at Ashoka University, where excellence is nurtured, and aspirations are transformed into reality.