

## Associate Scientist, Research

### Company

Visterra is a clinical stage biotechnology company committed to developing innovative antibody-based therapies for the treatment of patients with kidney diseases and other hard-to-treat diseases. Our proprietary technology platform enables the design and engineering of precision antibody-based product candidates that specifically bind to, and modulate, key disease targets. Applying this technology to disease targets that are not adequately addressed by traditional therapeutic approaches, we are developing a robust pipeline of novel therapies for patients with unmet needs.

Visterra is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Otsuka America, Inc., which is a U.S. holding company and a wholly owned subsidiary of Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. of Japan. Visterra has approximately 70 employees and is in Waltham, Massachusetts.

### Summary

Visterra, Inc., is looking to hire a highly motivated Associate Scientist with extensive experience in biochemistry, protein sciences, immunology and/or molecular biology to help further our antibody-based drug discovery programs. This individual will play a key technical role in developing new technologies and methodologies that augment Visterra's experimental platform for rapidly discovering and engineering antibody solutions to diverse targets. The successful candidate will advance core technologies critical to discovery programs in autoimmunity, immunology and other related areas. Strong biochemical and molecular biology skills are required, along with a positive attitude, an analytical mindset, and a creative problem-solving approach to discovery research. Relevant experience in development of screening/high-throughput methodologies in biologics/antibodies is highly preferred. This is a full-time laboratory-based position located at Visterra's Research and Development Office in Waltham, MA.

### Responsibilities

- Develop and optimize core experimental platform technologies and methods, including yeast library methods, droplet microfluidics, NGS, antibody engineering methods and characterization, high-throughput assay development.
- Troubleshoot new platform methods and workflows by designing and evaluating appropriate and systematic control conditions.

- Construct complex DNA libraries, QC libraries for quality, and manage interactions with CRO to perform NGS.
- Independently and effectively perform a variety of molecular and cellular methods, including FACS, high-throughput binding assays (Octet, Cytoscreen, ELISA), complex PCR and DNA assembly, and recombinant protein expression.
- Utilize a suite of dedicated graphical software packages for analysis of different types of high-throughput data (e.g., NGS), and summarize results in easy-to-understand and accessible formats.
- Critically review relevant literature pertaining to technologies or methodologies.
- Provide support to users less experienced in the use of platform technologies and methods, in the context of a collaborative team environment.
- Analyze datasets, summarize results, and document experiments clearly.
- Organize and communicate data and findings in team meeting presentations and in written protocols/documents.
- Operate effectively and collaboratively in a team-oriented research organization.

## Requirements

- A B.S. in biochemistry, molecular biology, immunology or related field with 5+ years of industry experience, or a M.S. in biochemistry, molecular biology, immunology or related field with 2+ years of biotech/pharmaceutical industry research experience. This is a non-Ph.D. level position.
- Proven strong biochemical skills with a solid understanding of binding interactions and affinity measurements. Experience with binding assays such as cell binding assays, SPR, Octet, ELISA is desired.
- Experience with recombinant protein expression, purification and characterization.
- Strong molecular biology skills, including complex PCR/PCR-based library construction/assembly methods, DNA characterization using Bioanalyzer, and NGS of libraries.
- Proven experience with biologic/antibody-based molecular and cellular characterization methods.
- Previous experience with biologic high-throughput libraries, such as phage/yeast display, is highly preferred.
- Experience with high-throughput molecular/cell biology assays, including automated liquid handlers (Tecan), and associated data analysis is highly preferred.
- Familiarity with FACS methods, including immune cell profiling and characterizations.
- An understanding of antibodies, their structure and function, and related immunology.

- An ability to think critically and analytically through development of new laboratory methods.
- An ability to work independently, effectively manage time, and meet deadlines.
- A strong attention to detail and the ability to maintain accurate experimental records.
- Exceptional organization and time-management skills and the ability to work on multiple projects concurrently; the ability to clearly and effectively communicate the key aspects of techniques and methodologies to less experienced users.
- Flexibility to changing needs and priorities, and comfort in a demanding and fast-paced biotech environment.
- Self-motivation, team attitude, positivity and enthusiasm.

*Visterra provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws.*

For consideration, please submit a cover letter and resume to [careers@visterrainc.com](mailto:careers@visterrainc.com).