

Research Associate

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 Research Associate with research experience in biochemistry, protein sciences and/or molecular biology applied in the context of antibody-based therapeutic drug discovery. This individual will play a key technical role in advancing Visterra's early research programs in autoimmunity, immunology and other related areas of therapeutic interest through the design and implementation of library-based screening methods, recombinant protein production, protein engineering, and biochemical, biophysical, and biological characterization of early and late stage leads to support the discovery and validation of therapeutic antibody candidates. The ideal candidate should have B.S. or M.S. degree in biochemistry, molecular biology or related field and a minimum of one year "at the bench" research experience. Relevant experience in the screening and characterization of biologics is preferred. This is a full-time laboratory-based position located at Visterra's Research and Development Office in Waltham, MA.

Responsibilities

- Perform in vitro screening and characterization of biologics-based drug candidates using a number of immunological, biochemical, and cell-based assays.
- Participate in the construction and screening of antibody libraries through immunization, antibody display, and flow cytometry.
- Cloning and production of recombinant proteins and antibodies.

- Implement high throughput methods to support biochemical and immune-based assay development and screening.
- Analyze and summarize key data sets, results and research updates for internal review, including written technical reports and oral presentations.
- Operate, collaborate, and communicate effectively in a team oriented, cross functional research and development organization.

Requirements

- A bachelor's or master's degree biochemistry or related field and a minimum of one year "at the bench" experience.
- Strong interest in protein engineering and structure-based antibody design.
- A basic understanding of antibodies, their structure and function, and related immunology. Experience with biologics and therapeutic antibodies preferred.
- Strong data analyses skills and the ability interpret, communicate, document complex data.
- Team-oriented, detail-oriented, organized, enthusiastic and flexible with highly effective communication skills (written and oral).
- Hands on experience in one or more of the following areas:
 - Molecular cloning and recombinant expression and purification of proteins.
 - Biochemical binding assays such as ELISA, SPR, or Biolayer Interferometry.
 - Cellular profiling by flow cytometry and related analytical methods.
 - Yeast/phage surface display and next generation sequencing (NGS).
 - Aseptic technique and culture of mammalian, insect, and/or yeast cells.

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.