

## Senior 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 80 employees and is located in Waltham, Massachusetts.

### Summary

Visterra, Inc., aims to hire a highly motivated Senior Scientist to take a leading role in our antibody development programs. This individual will have a key role in advancing Visterra's early research programs in autoimmunity, immunology and related areas.

Program teams at Visterra are responsible for developing therapeutic candidates from conception through to pre-clinical and IND-enabling studies. As a senior member of a program team, this individual will be responsible for design and implementation of library-based protein engineering technologies, discovering therapeutic antibodies, and demonstrating of *in vitro* and *in vivo* proof-of-concept for therapeutic candidates.

Candidates should have demonstrated excellence conducting original research in biochemistry or molecular biology. Experience working on team-based projects and supervising or mentoring junior scientists is critical. Specific experience in immunology, protein or antibody engineering, multi-specific antibody formats, and/or automation technologies is beneficial but not required.

The ideal candidate should have Ph.D. in biochemistry, molecular biology or related field and at least 3 years of postdoctoral research experience in biotech or academic settings. This is a full-time laboratory-based position located at Visterra's facility in Waltham, MA.

### Responsibilities

- Work collaboratively on a project-based team developing therapeutic biologic molecules from conception through to pre-clinical *in vivo* studies.
- Design and implement *in vitro* screening of novel drug candidates using yeast display and other selection and protein engineering technologies.

- Characterize biologic drug candidates using *in vitro* and cell biology assays based on ELISA, SPR, flow cytometry, and related techniques.
- Develop and execute high-throughput screening using automation technologies.
- Analyze data for internal decision making, publications, presentations, patents and regulatory filings. Present key results to leaders within Visterra and throughout Otsuka.
- Supervise and mentor junior scientists.

### Requirements

- Ph.D. degree in biology or a related field and 3+ years of postdoctoral research experience, or B.S./M.S. with >12 years of directly relevant experience and a record of independent research.
- Demonstrated ability to conduct independent research in cell biology, protein biochemistry, immunology, target discovery, or therapeutic mechanism of action.
- Experience in molecular biology, and specifically in developing and executing quantitative biochemical assays, using techniques such as ELISA, SPR, qPCR.
- Enthusiasm to lead all aspects of a therapeutic discovery program, from initial candidate discovery through to IND-enabling studies.
- Demonstrated strong ability to communicate in writing and oral presentations.
- Understanding of antibody structure and function, roles in immune regulation, and therapeutic applications.
- Experience in screening and characterization of protein-based therapeutics using *in vitro* and/or cell-based assays. Experience using phage display, yeast display, or *in vitro* directed evolution is especially relevant.
- Use of flow cytometry and cell sorting in the context of immunology or protein engineering.
- Experience with high-throughput automation technologies, such as a Tecan liquid handling robot.

*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).