

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 70 employees and is located in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Summary

Visterra, Inc., is looking to hire a Senior Scientist with a solid foundation in human immunology and pathophysiology and broad experience in discovery and development of antibody-based therapeutics.

This individual will play a key role in leading drug discovery programs, by conceiving, developing and implementing assays to support discovery and validation of therapeutic antibody candidates. The successful candidate will be a collaborative team player, an effective manager, a critical thinker and clear communicator. The ideal candidate should have an advanced degree in immunology, biology, biochemistry or related field and a minimum of seven years (post-graduate) of research experience in a biotech or pharmaceutical setting.

This is a full-time laboratory-based position located at Visterra's facility in Waltham, MA.

Responsibilities

- Lead project-based teams developing therapeutic biologic molecules from conception through pre-clinical in vivo studies.
- Design and perform experiments involving yeast surface display, antibody libraries, antibody engineering and in vitro / in vivo antibody / antigen characterization.
- Independently analyze scientific results, troubleshoot methods, and conceive creative solutions and workflows to address challenges.
- Evaluate novel technologies in antibody discovery and molecular biology to enhance and streamline discovery workflows.
- Document, analyze and interpret data for internal decision making, publications, presentations, patents and regulatory filings.

- Develop research plans and manage multiple workflows and activities.
- Manage activities at contract research organizations (CROs).
- Maintain expertise in the field by staying current to relevant literature and attending relevant conferences.

Requirements

- A Ph.D. or equivalent advanced degree in biology, biotechnology, or related field and a minimum of seven years (post-graduate) of research in industry.
- Relevant experience in screening and characterization of biologics, protein engineering and production, and assay automation.
- Proven track record of developing and implementing biochemical and cell-based assays
- The ability to design, develop and execute in vitro and in vivo experiments to probe disease biology and characterize drug candidates.
- A strong ability to communicate scientific topics in writing and presentations.
- Strong self-motivation and demonstrated ability for independent work in a laboratory setting.
- Strong data analyses skills, and solid written and oral scientific communication and documentation skills.

Other Qualifications

- A strong foundation in the understanding of antibody structure and function, their roles in immune regulation, and therapeutic applications.
- Experience in the 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; next generation sequencing (NGS) is especially relevant.
- Experience in the use of flow cytometry (FACS).
- An understanding of protein structure and basic ability to analyze protein structure (e.g., PyMol).
- Experience conducting original research in cell biology, immunology, target discovery, or therapeutic mechanism of action.
- Experience with high-throughput automation technologies, such as a Tecan liquid handling robot.
- A proven track record of managing a team of scientists and research associates.

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



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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.