Associate Scientist, Analytical Development

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 75 employees and is located in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Summary

The Associate Scientist reports to the Associate Director of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Technology (PST) and supports analytical activities to progress molecules from early development through to clinical trials and product licensure. The Associate Scientist is accountable for analytical development and characterization of Visterra’s pipeline molecules. The Associate Scientist will work very closely with internal QA, QC, Manufacturing, and Clinical teams as well as with Contract Test and Manufacturing partners.

This is a full-time position based in Visterra’s facility in Waltham, MA.

Responsibilities

- Provide analytical support to research and development teams to support lead candidate identification and development.
- Generate standard operating procedures for characterization of biologics for use at Visterra, train lab members and transfer analytical methods to CMOs.
- Identify and stay current with new analytical technologies and methods for characterization of biologics.
- Perform characterization and degradation studies on lead candidates and share results with cross-functional teams.
- Develop protocols for assay qualification and validation, review and approve data.
- Prepare presentations for external partners and internal meetings and represent analytical and CMC issues.
- Provide analytical support for investigations at CTOs and CMOs, generate hypothesis, critically review results.
- Maintain a contemporary knowledge of current industry trends, standards and
methodologies.
• Actively participate in program teams, as well as collaborate effectively across functions and external partners.
• Other duties and responsibilities as required by departmental and business needs.

Requirements

• At least 5 years of industry or related professional analytical experience in an industrial setting.
• A BS Degree in chemistry, biochemistry or a related analytical scientific discipline.
• Hands-on experience with some of the following analytical methods; HPLC, UPLC, CE-SDS, SDS-Page, protein purification, CEX, icIEF, LC-MS, Glycan analysis, ELISAs, and cell-based potency assays.
• Experience with analytical software Excel, Chemstation, SoftMax, PRISM, and Empower.
• Strong interest in innovative strategies for analysis and control of new modalities of biologics.
• Experience with trouble-shooting assays, creative problem-solving, and method transfer.
• Ability to work in a fast-paced dynamic environment with changing priorities, forward thinking with flexibility to support multiple development programs simultaneously.
• Skilled in managing cross functional relationships and collaboration as a team member.
• Experience with writing reports, generating presentations, working with external teams and maintaining timelines.
• Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

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 resume to careers@visterrainc.com.