

Associate Director or Director, Clinical and Translational Development

Company

Visterra is a clinical stage biotechnology company committed to developing innovative biologic therapies (monoclonal antibodies and therapeutic muteins) for the treatment of kidney diseases, with an immuno-nephrology focus in drug development. Our proprietary technology platform enables the design and engineering of precision antibody-based or enhanced 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 90 employees and is located in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Summary

The Director/Associate Director, Clinical and Translational Development will report to the Vice President, Translational Medicine and Research, working closely with the scientific research staff and clinical development teams. The title (Director/Associate Director) and specific responsibilities will be tailored to the unique training background and experience of the candidate, with an expected emphasis on pre-clinical drug development of mAbs and recombinant proteins in nephrology and immunology/rheumatology indications.

The Director/Associate Director, Clinical and Translational Development position is designed for the recruitment and training of physician scientists who hope to pursue a career path in drug development, with postings both in the Boston biotech environment (Visterra, Inc.), and subsequently in Japan (Otsuka Pharmaceutical). Therefore, the principal qualifications include physician training (M.D. degree), fluency in Japanese and English, and translational research experience. It is intended that the Waltham-based (Visterra) experience timeframe will be approximately 2 to 3 years, although this is flexible.

Responsibilities

- In a matrix environment, provides medical and basic science insight to preclinical and clinical development activities, including but not limited to assessments of disease pathogenesis, unmet medical needs, target identification, drug development strategies, regulatory strategy, translational PD-outcome measure models, endpoint strategy

(approval, surrogate, exploratory), and critical assessments of competitors' therapeutics.

- Develops clinical development plans and protocol concepts from phase 1 through 3 to expedite drug development while ensuring delivery of robust data to support BLA filing.
- Provides scientific oversight and review of preclinical data, and authors clear and succinct summaries of ongoing work for internal communication.
- Works with internal clinical development teams to support verbal and written communications and interactions with regulatory authorities.
- Works collaboratively with internal teams to accumulate the scientific knowledge necessary to support drug development goals, and to manage, prepare and present scientific material for conference presentations or manuscripts, as appropriate.
- Assists in the identification, management and ongoing maintenance of relationships with key opinion leaders serving Visterra as clinical trial investigators, or through their participation in consulting relationships or scientific advisory board membership.
- Performs other duties as required.

Requirements

- An M.D. or M.D., Ph.D. with specialty training in internal medicine or pediatrics, and clinical subspecialty training and experience in nephrology, immunology, oncology, or rheumatology.
- Must have translational research experience relevant to clinical field of expertise. Clinical development experience is advantageous but not mandatory.
- Ability to synthesize and interpret diverse, multidisciplinary data sets, think critically, synthesize and extract simple principles from complex datasets.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills, as well as an ability to communicate effectively across a broad spectrum of audiences, both internal and external. Fluency in both English and Japanese is required.
- The temperament to enjoy and thrive in a multi-tasked and hands-on environment.

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.