JOB DESCRIPTION

Role: Assay Development: Associate Scientist / Scientist / Senior Scientist
Location: Scale Space, White City, London
Duration: Permanent
Hours: Full time (37.5 hrs/ week)
Travel: Occasional

General Purpose and Scope

Avacta Life Sciences is a clinical stage oncology drug company. Our aim is to utilise our innovative therapeutic and diagnostic platforms to treat cancer and other diseases to provide benefit to patients, including those who do not respond to existing therapies.

We have our own drug discovery and diagnostics development laboratories, while also collaborating with academic labs and industry.

Avacta's therapeutics division has recently re-located to Scale Space in London, a new hub of technology and life science organisations.

Our Affimer® biotherapeutics platform is a novel biotherapeutic based on a naturally occurring human protein. This can be engineered to bind target proteins with antibody-like affinity and specificity, with the benefit of engineering additional specificities and payload delivery.

Our pre|CISION™ tumour targeted chemotherapy is undergoing clinical trials. This targeted chemotherapy platform releases active drug only in the tumour, thereby limiting systemic exposure of potentially toxic anti-cancer treatments.

Innovation and collaboration are key for Avacta, and we are looking to expand the team with people well-versed in expression construct design and engineering to successfully express proteins destined for biochemical, biophysical, and structural studies.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- The candidate will be responsible for developing and executing strategies and experimental work, where appropriate under supervision of an experienced scientist. The role requires providing innovative solutions to trouble-shoot and optimise procedures to deliver results to support programme delivery.
- Investigate new plate-based protein and cellular assays.
- Depending on experience, be able to work with different levels of supervision and communicate effectively across disciplines.
- Provide additional support for scientific staff.
- Maintain expertise in their subject area, developing new approaches to support cell-based assay development.
- Collaborate with external partners and present work at internal meetings and to collaborating partners.
- Work effectively within a team and possess good inter-personal, communication

and presentation skills.
- Work will be within multi-disciplinary teams: flexibility to work on multiple programmes and different functional activities and resilience to move between these are key.

This job description is not exhaustive and you may be required to undertake other duties that are in line with the above responsibilities.

Education/Experience/Skills

- PhD or equivalent with several years relevant lab-based experience.
- Experience in developing and executing ELISAs and plate-based reporter cellular assays. This includes assay set-up and analysis. Knowledge of automation and high throughput analysis is valuable. Knowledge of cell culture and related techniques is required.
- The role will require flow cytometry analysis, and experience in related techniques is preferred. Experience in performing assays with primary cells is an advantage.
- Knowledge of immunology and related assays is strongly preferred.
- Good communication across the organisation and ability to work in a team environment.
- One role to design and manage out-sourced in vivo studies. For this position, experience in oncology and immuno-oncology is key and includes experience of phenotypic analysis of ex vivo material.

Applications

Helen Reynolds at Vita Research Associates is our dedicated independent Talent Acquisition Consultant. Please send your CV to Helen at the following address: helen@vitaresearch.co.uk quoting the relevant reference number.

For further information or if you have any questions or concerns about the role or the recruitment process, please address them to Helen directly on +44 (0)7780 968489 or via the email above.

Equal opportunities

Avacta proudly operates as an equal opportunities' employer that values diversity and inclusivity. We therefore welcome all applications regardless of disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, colour, race, religion, or ethnic origin.