



Medicinal Chemist

Avacta's mission is to shape the future of treatment for cancer patients by developing novel therapeutics targeting the tumour microenvironment. Avacta Therapeutics is based at a State-of-the-Art facility in the White City district, at [Scale Space](#), on the Imperial College campus in West London.



Therapeutics

Avacta is developing tumour microenvironment targeted therapeutics based on its two proprietary platforms – Affimer® novel biological entities ([Affimer technology | Avacta Group plc](#)) and pre|CISION™ tumour targeted chemotherapy ([pre|CISION | Avacta Group plc](#)). Please refer to our website for further information about how these platforms are being developed: [Home | Avacta Group plc](#)

Why Join Us?

Avacta Therapeutics is a clinical stage oncology biotechnology company and part of Avacta Group plc. This is an exciting opportunity to join the therapeutics team at the very beginning of its growth journey and to contribute to building and shaping the team to bring novel cancer treatments to patients.

Shaping the future of cancer treatment with
powerful therapeutic and diagnostic platforms



Avacta's lead pre|CISION™ candidate, AVA6000, delivers the chemotherapeutic drug Doxorubicin directly to the tumour microenvironment. In the ongoing Phase I clinical trial, significant anti-tumour activity has been observed in some patients, while some others have exhibited stable disease. The drug also exhibited reduced toxicities as compared with standard dose Doxorubicin, and further clinical development is ongoing with the aim to provide benefit to patients. This data is described on a recent poster:

https://avacta.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Banerji-et-al-2024-AVA6000-AACR_final.pdf

Pipeline

In addition to being in the clinic with its lead pre|CISION™ targeted chemotherapy programme, Avacta also has a strong pre-clinical [pipeline](#) of both Affimer® and pre|CISION™ oncology candidates. This includes different drug warheads as well as different formats to target the drug to the tumour in a highly specific manner.

The Role of Medicinal Chemist

Innovation and collaboration are key for Avacta, and we are looking for a Medicinal Chemist to be responsible for the day-to-day chemistry support of our pre|CISION™ platform, overseeing the synthesis of novel compounds for drug discovery programs and managing the associated data.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Manage the synthesis of novel compounds with the potential to become pre-clinical candidates
- Tracking compound synthesis, compound storage and assay scheduling across multiple projects
- Manage chemical and biological data to support ongoing synthesis and understanding of SAR
- Collaborating with CROs
- Participate in project team meetings and present data to colleagues and management

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

- Ideally, PhD/MSc in Medicinal Chemistry, Organic Chemistry with some experience in drug discovery
- Strong synthetic chemistry skills and experience with a variety of synthetic techniques
- Experience of using chemistry/biology data handling systems, eg CDD, Dotmatics
- Experience in handling data within spreadsheets and databases

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- Experience with modern synthetic and analytical techniques, including HPLC, LCMS, and NMR
- Strong problem-solving and critical thinking skills
- Collaborative approach and the ability to operate successfully in both team environments and as a sole worker
- Able to multitask and prioritise projects to meet deadlines

Next Steps

Helen Reynolds, Founder of Vita Research Associates (+44 07780 968489), is our dedicated independent Talent Acquisition Consultant. Please send your CV to Helen directly on helen@vitaresearch.co.uk

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.