

Job Description

Job Title: Research Associate

Reports to (Position): Head of R&D USA	Posting Date: Nov 2020
Department: ONK Therapeutics Inc, San Diego	Approximate start Date: Dec 15th 2020

Position Summary

ONK Therapeutics is an innovative cell therapy company dedicated to the development of best in class, off-the-shelf/allogeneic chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) natural killer (NK) cell therapies for patients suffering from both hematologic and solid tumors. The company's innovative approach to CAR therapy harnesses the innate biology of NK cells, whose function is further optimized through additional genetic engineering of the cells to improve their cytotoxicity and their function, even in the hostile tumor micro-environment. It is widely postulated that CAR therapy based on NK cells will be capable of overcoming some of the shortcomings that have been experienced with CAR therapy using conventional cytotoxic T cells. ONK therapeutics has further developed a dual-targeting approach to enhance activity of CAR-NK cells along several fronts.

We are seeking talented and enthusiastic research associates who would participate in several of the cell therapy programs. He/she will be responsible for establishing infrastructure, participating in developing strategies, techniques and approaches in support of consolidating current NK cell therapy programs and developing next generation ideas and products. Experience with novel cellular technologies, in vivo evaluation of modalities in an oncology setting and experience with approaches for gene editing or acumen to pick these up is important.

Essential Functions

- Participate in the development, execution and documentation of strategies for isolating and modifying NK cells from primary sources.
- Develop and demonstrate exceptional skills at handling NK cells.
- Has cell culture experience that includes handling of primary cells.
- Can demonstrate capability to handle nucleic acid constructs and modification of effector lymphocytes.

Education/Experience Requirements

- Possession of a Bachelors with at least 1-4 years of experience, preferably in an industry environment in one of the following disciplines: cancer cellular therapy, cancer immunology, immunology or related field.
- Prior experience with cellular therapies is desirable. Experience with developing lymphocyte-based cell therapies, especially in an industry setting would be preferred.
- Ability to be flexible, innovative and highly organized to work quickly and efficiently in a growing biotech start-up environment is necessary.

Required Competencies – Knowledge, Skills, Abilities

- Experience in different techniques used in immunology and cancer cell biology for characterizing native and modified lymphocytes for product development.
- Some experience with in vitro cell-based assays
- Experience with isolation and culturing of lymphocytes from various sources is desirable
- Is a team player and has experience with working in a team setting.

- Well organized and has willingness to pick up cutting-edge techniques and ability to document protocols and data generated from them.

Location and address:

ONK Therapeutics Inc, San Diego
3210 Merryfield Row
San Diego, CA 92121