

Job Description

Job Title: Scientist

Reports to (Position): Head of R&D USA	Posting Date: Nov 2020
Department: ONK Therapeutics Inc, San Diego	Approximate start Date: Dec 15 th 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 scientists who would help initiate and develop several of the cell therapy programs. He/she will be responsible for establishing infrastructure, strategies, techniques and approaches in support of consolidating current NK cell therapy programs and developing next generation ideas and products. These individuals will develop and implement approaches to assess the phenotype, function, potency, and functional attributes of unmodified and engineered NK cells, especially related to gene-edited cells. 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

- Develop, execute and document strategies for isolating and modifying NK cells from primary sources.
- Demonstrate exceptional skills at handling NK cells.
- Has cell culture experience that includes handling of primary cells.
- Experience with oncology-targeting experiments in mice models or ability to pick these up rapidly.
- Can demonstrate capability to work with nucleic acid constructs and modification of effector lymphocytes.

Education/Experience Requirements

- Possession of a PhD in immunology and lymphocyte biology with post-doc experience, or a Bachelor's with at least 6 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 important. Experience with developing lymphocyte-based cell therapies, especially in an industry setting would be preferred.
- Experience with modification of lymphocytes for product development is essential.
- 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.

- Capability to assist with planning proof of concept studies in different cancer models both in vitro and in vivo are desired.
- Experience with isolation and culturing of lymphocytes from various sources is necessary.
- Is a team player and significant experience with working in a team setting.
- Well organized and has good experience in designing and documenting protocols and data generated from them.

Location and address:

ONK Therapeutics Inc, San Diego

3210 Merryfield Row

San Diego, CA 92121