

Job Description

Job Title: Scientist – Technology and Process Innovation

Reporting to: Managing Director - Technology and Process Innovation

Location: 12th Floor Tower Wing, Guy's Hospital, Great Maze Pond, London SE1 9RT

The Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult (CGT Catapult) is an independent innovation and technology organisation committed to the advancement of cell and gene therapies with a vision of a thriving industry delivering life changing advanced therapies to the world. Its aim is to create powerful collaborations which overcome challenges to the advancement of the sector.

With over 400 experts covering all aspects of advanced therapies, it applies its unique capabilities and assets, collaborates with academia, industry and healthcare providers to develop new technology and innovation.

The Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult works with Innovate UK.

Purpose of Role:

The purpose of this role is to support the development of novel cell and gene therapy medicinal products and associated technologies for multiple clients and Collaborators. Working in multidisciplinary teams, the Scientist – Technology and Process Innovation (TPI) will play a key role in delivery of projects, applying in-depth technical expertise in autologous and allogeneic analytical characterisation to accelerate the development and translation of ATMPs and associated technologies.

Key Accountabilities:

- Working in a matrix-team environment drive forward laboratory-based development activities across a range of projects using subject matter expertise in the planning and execution of laboratory work.
- Act as “super user” for appropriate equipment and create and deliver training to members of the TPI team and/or wider organisation as required.
- Working closely with project and programme leads, feeding into strategy discussions contributing technical insights.
- Maintain accurate records and manage data in line with company policies.
- Support and coordinate project's activities of junior members of the TPI team through training and data analysis revision.
- Record, analyse, and communicate experimental findings in electronic laboratory notebooks, scientific reports, posters and peer-reviewed publications and present results internally and to external Collaborators.

- Maintain high standards of laboratory practices in all development activities.
- Represent the TPI team at cross-functional project meetings, external events, and national/international conferences.

Experience:

- Extensive experience in multicolour flow cytometry including panel design, development and analysis is essential.
- Demonstrable experience of executing agreed research independently with minimal supervision is essential.
- Experience of qPCR and/or ddPCR assay development including primer design, DNA/RNA isolation/purification and PCR quantification using data analysis packages and metabolite analysis is desirable.
- Experience of performing cell-based assays is desirable.
- Experience in the application of analytical characterisation techniques in autologous and allogeneic cell therapy is desirable.
- Experience of assay qualification is desirable.
- Proven experience of effectively delivering training and developing other team members is desirable.
- Experience in cell selection of immune cells is desirable.
- Experience of statistical tools such as method validation and/or Design of Experiments to drive efficient and robust experimental design is desirable.
- Experience of tech transfer to/from commercial and research organisations is desirable.

Knowledge / Skills / Competencies:

- Highly motivated, pragmatic and practical to support the mission of the Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult to accelerate the development of a commercial cell and gene-based therapy industry in the UK.
- Desire to establish a high profile career within cell and gene sector and the personal drive to help push the sector to be a commercial success.
- Excellent working knowledge in the development of analytical assays for immunotherapy characterisation.
- Knowledge of aseptic cell culture methods for 2D and 3D systems including plates, flasks, G-REX, and stirred tank bioreactor systems is essential.
- High level interpersonal, communication (oral and written) skills and emotional intelligence.
- Comfortable operating autonomously once goals and objectives are set.
- Excellent planning, reporting and communication skills.
- Ability to work within a fast-paced matrix-team environment, maintaining a high standard of work with limited supervision.
- Good IT skills including experience of using data analysis software packages.
- Proven ability to use initiative and engage constructively with colleagues at all levels across different departments to deliver objectives.
- Accurate with strong attention to detail.
- High degree of motivation, problem solving skills and innovative thinking.

- A good team player with a hands-on approach, and adaptable to new challenges.
- A positive attitude towards learning, personal and professional development.
- Keeps up to date with professional knowledge, expertise and best practice.
- Willingness to travel.
- Good external facing skills and ability to build relationships is essential.

Education / Qualifications:

- PhD or MSc with 3+ years industrial experience within the Life Sciences sector.

CGT Catapult is committed to providing an equal, diverse, and inclusive work environment where everyone's contributions are valued. We celebrate differences, empower and inspire everyone, because when everyone is included, everyone wins. In 2024, we received bronze accreditation from Inclusive Employers.