
Principal Medicinal Chemist

The company

Sitryx Therapeutics Limited is a newly established immunometabolism company focused on applying breaking science relating to the manipulation of metabolism and metabolic reprogramming to develop disease modifying therapeutics targeting:

- Immuno-oncology: limiting the growth of cancer cells by enhancing anti-cancer immune responses and/or recruiting tumour metabolic activity
- Immuno-inflammation: switching immune cell activity from a pathogenic to a homeostatic state to treat inflammatory and autoimmune disorders

The Role

Working with the Head of Chemistry & Intellectual Property and various Contract Research Organisations, the successful applicant will be responsible for driving medicinal chemistry projects and coordinating synthetic chemistry activities to ensure the delivery of high-quality small molecule development candidates within competitive timeframes, while safeguarding the Company's intellectual property by advancing its patent estate.

Main responsibilities

- Manage remote teams of medicinal and synthetic chemists at Contract Research Organisations efficiently
 - Integrate project biology, DMPK, safety and toxicology data to enable successful hit-to-lead and lead optimisation campaigns through outstanding molecular design
 - Draft patent applications through collaboration with external patent attorneys and Contract Research Organisations
 - Work collaboratively within the Company's project teams, with colleagues in biology and with external collaborators such that objectives are met in a timely manner through the development of effective project plans
 - Communicate strategies effectively, interpret and summarise complex data for presentation to different audiences
 - Prioritise work according to project goals and take responsibility for the timely delivery of objectives
 - Keep up to date with state-of-the-art technologies and knowledge of developments in medicinal chemistry and project-related areas of immunometabolism
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Qualifications & Technical experience

Qualifications

Essential

- PhD or equivalent in organic chemistry or medicinal chemistry with a minimum of 7 years' experience in an industrial drug discovery environment; or
- Undergraduate degree with minimum 10 years' experience in an industrial drug discovery environment
- Inventorship on patent applications exemplifying biologically-important molecules

Highly desired

- Background in oncology and/or immunology
- Strong publication record in peer-reviewed journals and a track record of presenting at scientific conferences
- Working in a fast-paced, virtual, "start-up" environment

Technical experience

- Managing remote teams of medicinal and synthetic chemists at Contract Research Organisations
- Exceptional knowledge of synthetic and medicinal chemistries supplemented by a solid understanding of biological signalling pathways, structure-based drug design and ADME optimisation in drug discovery
- Experienced in all stages of the interdisciplinary drug discovery process from target selection and hit identification, through hit-to-lead and lead optimisation, to the delivery of development candidates
- Proficient in assessing the patent landscape and independently driving patent filings to protect the Company's intellectual property

Behaviours

- Collaborative and emotionally intelligent with strong interpersonal and influencing skills
- Innovative and creative problem solver displaying genuine respect for alternate views
- Excellent organisational skills and attention to detail
- Demonstrates commitment to goals and a sense of urgency in fulfilling ambitious objectives
- Self-driven and self-motivated
- Flexible and adaptable

In return we offer

- Competitive salary package
 - Pension
 - 25 days Annual Leave plus Bank Holidays (pro rata)
 - Private Medical Insurance
 - Life Assurance
 - Discretionary bonus
 - Opportunity to work with a fun, dynamic and rapidly growing team
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