



Senior Scientist, Molecular Biology/Virology

Vaccitech

Oxford Science Park
Supervisor: Director Virology, Vaccitech

POSITION SUMMARY:

Vaccitech Ltd is seeking a molecular biologist to join a team focused on viral vectored vaccines research and development. The successful candidate will play a critical role in the development of new approaches to generate viral vaccine vectors, including (but not limited to) adenoviral and poxviral vectors. The candidate will perform molecular cloning and characterization of viruses as well as take part in developing new methods of generating recombinant vectors. Required qualifications include a PhD degree in a Biological or Biochemical Science as well as working knowledge of molecular biology, cell biology and microbiology procedures and practices. A background in virology (preferably adenoviruses) is highly desirable but not essential.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Under the guidance of the Director of Virology, develop new vectors for use as vaccines, and new methods to generate recombinant viral vectors:
- Construct and characterise various customised shuttle plasmids for the generation of recombinant viral vectors.
- Cloning of adenoviral genomes into plasmid vectors using a variety of cloning techniques.
- Recover engineered candidate vaccine viruses from cell cultures transfected with plasmids in compliance with GLP guidelines.
- Characterize rescued viruses by genomic sequencing and growth characteristics; analyse and report results.
- Participate in developing new methods and processes for the generation of viral vectors
- Prepare study reports for leadership and manuscripts for publication in scientific journals.

Perform other duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:

1. PhD with more than 2 – 5 years of relevant experience in Virology, Molecular/Cellular Biology, Microbiology, or Biochemistry.
2. Applicants must have a solid background in one of the following areas:
 - Molecular virology with extensive cloning experience;
 - Viral vector engineering (vaccines or gene therapy fields)
3. Extensive interpersonal and management skills, with ability to work independently and collaboratively with other scientists and laboratorians.
4. Meticulous bench working habit, precise record-keeping, and strong organizational and communication skills
5. A self-starter with the ability to work in a fast-paced environment and adapt quickly to changing needs and priorities; proven ability to prioritize and manage multiple tasks simultaneously.

TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Minimal

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English fluency