

SCIENTIST/SENIOR SCIENTIST, ASSAY DEVELOPMENT, CELL BASED ASSAYS

We are looking for a Scientist or Senior Scientist (depending on experience) to lead from the bench within the Assay Development team. This opportunity is flexible enough to suit someone working currently at a Senior Scientist level who would thrive on the challenge of helping us build a function, or an individual looking to progress either now or soon into a Senior Scientist position and gain greater independence. This will involve leading the design, development and optimisation of in vitro biological assays focused towards potency assays and cell-based assays, establishment of Standard Operating Procedures and protocols. In addition, analysis, interpretation and reporting of results will be expected. The individual will also be expected to be an ambassador for quality in analytical procedures.

Key responsibilities:

- Lead development of potency assays and cell-based assays for drug candidate characterisation, pre-clinical analytics and clinical assays.
- Work within multi-functional Project Teams to deliver assays to meet project goals.
- Provide technical oversight and direction for development of assays to meet performance requirements.
- Ensure experiments and data management activities result in robust, quality data to inform decision making on projects.
- Contribute a broad technical skill set.
- Carry out analyses of data to identify issues and implement necessary changes.
- Supervise or line manage research associates, depending on experience.
- Support best practice and be aware of regulatory guidelines with a view to transferring methods into a regulated environment to be used under GMP and GLP regulations
- Operate and validate all items of equipment or IT needed for experimentation, data analysis, storage and data entry.
- Read scientific literature and keep up with the new trends and techniques related to role.

Essential:

- PhD in a biological subject with relevant focus on cell biology or biochemistry or equivalent industry experience.
- Proven potency assay and cell-based assay experience.
- Proven experience working in a team.
- Proficient in designing and optimising biological experiments for robust and reliable data quality, interpretation of data and trouble shooting.
- Extensive experience in record keeping and understanding of factors affecting assay robustness and levels of data quality.

Desirable:

- Relevant industry experience will be an advantage.
- Knowledge in immunology and/or cancer biology will be an advantage.

Skills and Knowledge:

Demonstrates competent knowledge of assay development and data generation. Strong working knowledge of potency assay requirements and developing assays to meet requirements, from early development stage through to regulated product release.

Essential:

- Proficient in a range of assay formats (at least 2 of the following: ELISA and cell-based potency assays, reporter gene assays, ADCC, CDC, ADCP, flow cytometry).
- Solid understanding of statistics as it applies to bioassays.
- Excellent record keeping and data recording.
- Experience in maintaining quality during multiple ongoing experiments.
- Ability to work unsupervised.

Strongly Desirable:

- Experience of working in cross-functional teams
- Knowledge in the development of antibody-based therapeutics.
- Previous industry experience in a regulated environment (GLP, GMP, ISO).
- Experience in supporting and mentoring junior staff.

Competencies:

- A fast learner and highly motivated.
- Strong communication skills and proven ability to work well in teams.
- Organised with strong attention to detail.
- Enthusiasm to learn and optimize new methods.

What F-star can offer you

We get things done, we keep things simple and we're driven by the science. We're ambitious so we work hard to create an environment where we can take smart risks. We want to be innovative so encourage debate and collaboration to challenge the usual way of doing things. We love our celebrations, socialising and perks, which make F-star a fun and diverse place to work. And most of all, everyone has the opportunity to make a difference.

Benefits:

- Pension (8% non-contributory)
- Long Term Incentive Bonus System
- Private Medical Insurance
- Health cash plan
- Life assurance
- 25 days holiday
- Travel insurance
- Enhanced Maternity, Paternity, Adoption pay