Nonclinical Scientist Job Description

Atsena Therapeutics is a clinical-stage gene therapy company leveraging novel AAV capsids for the treatment and prevention of blindness caused by inherited retinal disease. We pride ourselves on being at the cutting edge of ocular gene therapeutics and on bringing them to the clinic with excellence, integrity, and urgency. Our lead programs, gene therapies for Leber congenital amaurosis (LCA1) and X-linked retinoschisis (XLRS), are currently being evaluated in Phase 1/2 clinical trials. We are also advancing additional preclinical programs to treat other forms of inherited retinal diseases.

Position Summary:
We seek a motivated, self-starter Scientist to join an exciting, fast paced, and highly collaborative team focused on development of ocular gene therapies. The successful candidate will be responsible for *in vitro* and *in vivo* characterization of AAV gene therapy vectors. The position requires attention to detail and ability to multitask as there are often multiple, concurrent projects. The ideal candidate will have a solid foundation in molecular biology techniques, protein purification and assay development, reagent development, mammalian cell culture, flow cytometry and NGS data analysis. This is a lab-based position.

Responsibilities:

- Design *in vitro, in vivo*, and *ex vivo* experiments to test efficacy and safety of AAV gene therapy vectors
- Perform laboratory techniques including DNA/RNA purification and analysis (qPCR, ddPCR, RT-qPCR, NGS), protein and antibody purification, and analysis (SDS-PAGE, WES/JESS, ELISA, MSD), flow cytometry
- Assay method development and optimization in multiple matrices
- Liaise with external vendors/CROs for assay transfer/validation
- Rigorous data analysis and effective communication to all stakeholders
- Meticulous record keeping, documentation, and reporting of research
- Contribute to/author study reports, study protocols, and SOPs
- Comply with standard laboratory practices and company policies, including documentation and biosafety policies
- Contribute to the overall mission and culture of Atsena Therapeutics

Qualifications:
Ph.D. in molecular biology, genetics, biochemistry, or related scientific discipline with 1-2 years of post-degree experience in gene therapy. Proven hands-on experience with nucleic acid and protein purification and analytical techniques. Proven hands-on experience designing studies to evaluate AAV vectors in cell culture and *in vivo*. Experience in ocular gene therapy, GxP documentation, and knowledge of FDA guidelines on method development/validation and/or ICH analytical procedures is a plus.

Skills:

- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Able to balance working collaboratively with a team and taking independent ownership of tasks
- Passion for translational research, scientific innovation and creative problem solving

ATSENA THERAPEUTICS

- Excellent attention to detail and organizational skills, with a focus on quality
- Able to effectively prioritize time and manage multiple projects in a fast-paced environment