

Research Associate II Job Description

Atsena Therapeutics is a clinical-stage ophthalmic gene therapy company that is leveraging novel AAV technologies designed to overcome the unique hurdles presented by retinal disease. Our lead program is evaluating ATSN-201 in an ongoing Phase I/II clinical trial for X-linked retinoschisis (XLRS), a progressive genetic condition affecting boys and men that is typically diagnosed in childhood. We are also advancing ATSN-101 for Leber congenital amaurosis type 1 (LCA1), one of the most common causes of blindness in children, towards a Phase 3 trial. We have additional preclinical programs to treat other forms of inherited retinal disease as well as novel capsid technology.

At Atsena, we are bringing patients into focus. We are passionate about finding cures for visually impaired and blind individuals and are driven by cutting edge science to ensure we achieve the safest and most effective results.

Position Summary:

We are seeking a Research Associate II to join our Upstream Process Development team within our CMC Department. This role will support ongoing development efforts for our clinical and non-clinical programs. The successful candidate will be responsible for cell culture process development and research-grade production of AAV vectors using Atsena's platform suspension cell culture process. Other key responsibilities include data entry and analysis using Atsena's electronic lab notebook. The ideal candidate will be a team-player, detail-oriented, thrive in a fast-paced technical environment, demonstrate independent planning and organizational skills, possess an inquisitive and open mind, and communicate scientific concepts effectively. This is primarily a lab-based position (90%).

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Biotechnology, Cell Biology, or related field, with a minimum of 1 to 2 years of relevant experience in bioprocessing
- Prior experience with suspension mammalian cell culture and aseptic handling
- Proficiency with transient transfection methodologies
- Proven ability to troubleshoot cell culture experiments effectively
- Excellent documentation, communication, data analysis, and reporting skills

Preferred Qualifications:

- Familiarity with electronic lab notebooks
- Experience with filtration and AAV production
- Hands on experience running single-use bioreactors
- Operational knowledge of automated cell counters and metabolite analyzers
- Knowledge and application of Design of Experiments (DoE) principles

