



Scientist 2/3, Process Development

Company Overview

NextCure is a growing clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company located in Beltsville focused on discovering and developing first-in-class immunomedicines for the treatment of cancer and other diseases. NextCure is committed to professional development in the context of learning, managing, and developing its employees. We create a unique environment for our employees, providing exposure to various facets of our operations cultivating career growth and development. We are excited about the ongoing work at NextCure and invite you to come join us in the culture and build your career in an environment that nurtures professional growth and development.

Role Summary

We are seeking highly motivated engineers and scientists to lead or support process development of large molecule biopharmaceuticals. The Scientist will be expected to design and execute studies to develop process parameters, evaluate limits, assess robustness and recommend optimum process conditions for cell culture and/or purification steps. The Scientist will also be responsible for scaling-up the developed steps to pilot and/or manufacturing scale to gain a full understanding of how bench-scale development culminates into viable clinical or commercial processes. The successful candidate will work in high-performing teams, collaborate across technical functions, utilize sound scientific principles, and ultimately play a critical role in bringing innovative therapies to patients.

Responsibilities

- Design and execute cell culture and/or protein purification studies at bench and pilot scale to develop bioprocessing steps for monoclonal antibodies and other complex biologics.
- Analyze and evaluate data and make sound conclusions based on scientific principles or statistical methodologies.
- Establish appropriate set-points and ranges leading to robust and repeatable process performance.
- Challenge current paradigm to significantly improve cell culture productivity, process yield and efficiency through implementation of new technologies, optimization of platforms and improved raw materials.
- Operate automated and semi-automated small and pilot-scale bioreactors and protein purification systems.
- Utilize high-throughput cell culture and purification equipment such as ambr15, ambr250 and liquid handlers.

- Perform process scale-up to pilot or clinical manufacturing scale equipment using engineering principles.
- Support pilot and clinical manufacturing as needed.
- Perform in-process analytical testing using Nova, cell counters, Solo VPE and other technologies
- Perform simple product quantity and quality analyses using technologies such as HPLC
- Working in teams, plan and schedule studies, develop timelines and create raw material usage plans.

Required education and experience

- Bachelor's degree in the life sciences, chemical or biochemical engineering or related field. Master's or higher degree in the life sciences, chemical or biochemical engineering or related field preferred
- 2 years of hands-on experience with process development studies using bench or pilot scale bioreactors, chromatography systems and filtration equipment. +3 experience preferred
- Experience with mammalian cell culture systems and purification of antibodies or biologics.
- Experience with operation and maintenance of in-process analytics such as Nova, cell counters, HPLC systems, SOLO VPE or other relevant technologies.
- Experience of authoring technical reports, brief technical presentations and conference posters and abstracts.
- Experience of design of experiments, simple statistical analysis and data interpretation.
- Knowledge and experience demonstrated by scientific accomplishments with high productivity cell lines, cell culture systems or highly innovative protein purification strategies.
- Experience with use of engineering principles to perform process scale-up.
- Experience of media and/or feed optimization to significantly increase cell culture productivity.

Qualifications

- Must have strong organizational skills and an ability to handle track and execute multiple priorities.
- Highly motivated, with willingness to acquire new skills and ability to learn quickly.
- Detail oriented, good documentation practices, technical writing, and verbal communication skills.
- Possess problem solving and analytical skills and be an independent and creative thinker.



- Ability to navigate and be successful in a fast-paced, highly matrixed work environment. Interpersonal and leadership skills to work with teams in different functions and organizations.

NextCure is an Equal Opportunity Employer and offers a competitive salary, cross functional exposure and potential career growth in a scientifically engaged team work environment.

Qualified candidates should email their resume to info@nextcure.com.