



Job Title: Cell & Gene Therapy Scientist/Engineer

Company Overview – About Avectas

Avectas is an Irish, privately-owned cell engineering technology business currently building out its North American footprint. We are focused on improving the cost, manufacture and patient outcomes for the next generation of cellular therapies. Avectas is developing a unique cell engineering platform, SOLUPORE™, to enable the *ex-vivo* manufacture of gene modified cell therapy products. SOLUPORE™ produces superior results related to the delivery of molecular cargo and related to improved potency over other delivery technologies. In addition, the technology will facilitate multiple gene edits and is cost-effective and scalable. Avectas is currently developing the clinical (cGMP) technology embodiment while enhancing its dataset, implementing its commercialization strategy, and building out the team.

This role is a unique opportunity at a development-stage company, who are focused on building out their footprint in North America. Avectas is supported with field-leading advisors, and a highly experienced technical/operational team. You will help us to continue to build a transparent and successful organisation focused on delivering our SOLUPORE™ cell engineering platform for the next generation of cell and gene therapies.

Role Overview

We are seeking for a motivated Scientist to join an exciting, fast growing and well-financed company to develop and optimize a non-viral, cell engineering technology. The successful candidate will be a key member of the Scientific team while under the broader umbrella of the Technical Operations team, they will be in close collaboration with both the Process Development and the Engineering team, supporting the development of the SOLUPORE™ technology. This role reports to the Scientific Director of Cell and Gene Therapy.

Location

MaRS Discovery District, 13th Floor West Tower, Toronto, Canada

Job Title:	Scientist/Engineer	Travel Required (%):	Up to 40% travel*
Department/Group:	Technical Operations	Position Type:	Permanent
Location:	MaRS Discovery District, 13 th Floor West Tower	Date:	14 th October 2020
Level:	4	*Travel will be required up to 40% of the time to conduct work at the Ireland-Avectas site and partner sites once COVID-restrictions lift.	
Line Manager:	Scientific Dir. Of Cell & Gene Therapy		

Job Description

Role and Responsibilities

Responsibilities will also include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Lead day-to-day research activities including design, execution, statistical data analysis and interpretation of scientific experiments
- Provide technical input/guidance relating to the company's assay development
- Collect and analyze data from various assays, track and trend data and establish specifications for critical process controls
- Author and review SOPs, study protocols, reports and other scientific and quality documents
- Present scientific data to colleagues in group meetings, prepare and present internal and external presentations (presentations, posters, publications) as required
- Engage in all required Departmental meetings and working closely with cross-functional teams
- The role will require flexibility to travel to sites in Canada/US/Europe and to project meetings away from site

Skills/Knowledge/Experience Required

Qualifications & Experience

The successful candidate must be self-motivated and a team player. Must be highly motivated and able to deliver on defined timelines, in collaboration with colleagues. The role requires excellent troubleshooting skills, creative thinking and deep understanding of the principles of experiment design and statistical analysis.

- At a minimum M.Sc + 3 years of experience or PhD in Bioengineering, Biomedical Engineering or related fields
- A proven ability to be highly productive and successful in a high pace work environment
- Prior experience editing iPSCs and primary immune cells highly preferred
- Must have extensive experience with viral and non-viral genome engineering methods
- Strong statistical background and competency in using statistical software
- Excellent attention to detail and meticulous bench work with a solid understanding of aseptic techniques and technologies in cell culture
- Prior experience with plate and cell-based assays including techniques such as molecular biology, digital and quantitative PCR, NGS, western blotting, and ELISA
- Demonstrated expertise in flow cytometry panel development, execution and data analysis software (e.g. FlowJo)

- Skilled in initiating and managing projects of complex scope, including cross-functions
- Experience of upstream and downstream bioprocessing, ATMP manufacturing and/or process development environment

Desirable Skills

- Formal training in project management
- Experience with DoE and Multivariate statistical analysis
- Hands on experience in high-throughput screening and automation
- Experience in process analytical development and familiarity with QC release assays
- Experience/understanding of operating within a Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) environment
- Practical understanding of qualification and/or validation of analytical assays (e.g. to GLP or GMP regulations) and familiarity with Good Documentation Practices
- Knowledge of FDA and additional multijurisdictional regulatory guidelines (HC, EMA, PMDA, etc.) on method development/validation

Skill and Competencies

- Manage projects by developing study designs, workstreams, timelines and deliverables while driving project execution to meet corporate expectations
- Good problem-solving skills and logical approach to solving scientific problems
- Excellent interpersonal skills and communication skills, both verbal and written
- Strong evidence of problem-solving/troubleshooting skills
- Work as part of a multi-disciplinary team with other scientists, engineers and manufacturing personnel

Prepared By:	Jessica Schwaber	Date:	14 th October 2020
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How to Apply:

Application should include:

- A letter of interest
- Complete Curriculum Vitae

To apply for this position please address all materials to **Jessica Schwaber, jschwaber@avectas.com**.

This post will stay active until the position is filled. We would like to thank all applicants, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.