

Open Position

Scientist/Senior Scientist Gene Therapy

Asgard Therapeutics AB, Lund, Sweden

Asgard Therapeutics is a *spin-off* from Lund University, Sweden, aiming to advance cancer immunotherapies by harnessing direct cell fate reprogramming technologies. Our lead program, TrojanDC, is a paradigm-shifting gene therapy that reprograms cancer cells into antigen-presenting dendritic cells, unleashing the immune system against cancer. Asgard is building a multidisciplinary team that understands the value and opportunities of working in a startup based in a unique platform technology. We are looking for team members who are creative and passionate about making a contribution to the cancer immunotherapy field and improve patients' lives.

Position overview

We are seeking a highly enthusiastic and innovative Scientist/Senior Scientist searching for an opportunity to help building an early-stage company and contribute to the development of next generation cancer immunotherapies.

The successful candidate should have the ability to design experiments autonomously, analyze complex data, troubleshoot technical issues, and supervise junior staff. Strong interpersonal, verbal and written communication skills are required. Experimental rigor, scientific curiosity and ability to work in a fast-paced environment, adapting to evolving priorities are musts. The position will be lab-based and research activities will be performed in collaboration with the Cell Reprogramming in Hematopoiesis and Immunity Lab at Lund University (<http://www.pereiralab.com/>).

Profile

Scientist/Senior Scientist with background in gene therapy vector development and validation to help establishing a best-in-class *in vivo* reprogramming delivery platform. The candidate will develop and test viral and non-viral delivery systems to deliver reprogramming factors. The ideal candidate should have a proven track record in developing gene therapies, preferentially applied *in vivo* or *in situ*, as well as a broad understanding of viral-based immunotherapies and their applications to cancer treatment.

Responsibilities:

- Drive innovative research on *in vivo* direct reprogramming modalities, with particular focus on dendritic cell reprogramming and tumor targeting.
- Design and generate novel delivery vectors that encode reprogramming factors.
- Optimize sequences, tropism, production of delivery system for enhanced efficacy and safety.
- Develop functional and analytical methods to characterize the TrojanDC gene therapy product;
- Design, plan, and execute scientific experiments autonomously to complete program and company goals within designated timelines.
- Collect and document primary data to maintain up to date records.
- Analyze, summarize and communicate data to Asgard's R&D and executive leadership team.

Qualifications:

- PhD in molecular or cellular biology, genetics, biochemistry or related discipline, with 0-5 years of post-graduation experience in academic or industrial environment. Applicants within 2-years after completing their PhD studies are encouraged to apply.
- In-depth expertise in development of viral and non-viral gene therapy vectors, molecular cloning and vector production.
- Experience with general *in vitro* cell culture techniques, including culture of cell lines and primary cells.
- Previous experience in *in vivo/in situ* gene therapy is desirable. Experience in cell reprogramming is a plus.

Literature:

- Rosa FF, Pires CF, Kurochkin I, Ferreira AG, Gomes A, Palma LG, Shaiv K, Solanas L, Azenha C, Papatsenko D, Schulz O, Reis e Sousa C, Pereira CF. [Direct Reprogramming Fibroblasts into Antigen-Presenting Dendritic Cells](#). *Science Immunology* 2018, 7, 3 (30).
- Pires CF, Rosa FF, Kurochkin I and Pereira C-F (2019) [Understanding and Modulating Immunity With Cell Reprogramming](#). *Front. Immunol.* 10:2809. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2019.02809.

Job Type: Full-time

Salary: commensurate with role and experience.

Application:

Please email your CV, cover letter and contact information for two references to info@asgardthx.com to apply. Asgard will review applications on a rolling basis and only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.