

Job Description: Senior Scientist II – In Vivo Pharmacology

Mestag's mission is to develop impactful new medicines for patients by targeting activated fibroblast populations and their role in influencing immune effector cells in disease. Our founding investigators comprise leading experts in inflammatory disease, cancer, computational biology and fibroblast biology from the University of Oxford, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. We are progressing a pipeline of first-in-class therapeutics to interrupt fibroblast-mediated effects on immune cells in inflammatory disease and immuno-oncology.

We are supported by leading global investors SV Health Investors, Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc., Forbion, GV (formerly Google Ventures) and Northpond Ventures. The company is headquartered in Cambridge, UK – the very heart of UK life sciences. In 2021, Mestag was recognised on the Fierce 15 list of innovative biotechnology companies.

We are dynamic, innovative and passionate about what we do. We are focused on the development of ground-breaking science in a fast-paced setting and are bringing together the very latest technology with the best minds in fibroblast research. Our achievements would not be possible without the outstanding team that make up Mestag. To realize our mission, we are looking for new team members to join us.

Job Summary

This is an outstanding opportunity for a proactive and energetic Senior Scientist II to join an innovative biotech to work closely with cross-functional teams both internally and externally. Utilising in depth knowledge of in vivo and ex vivo models to investigate the role of fibroblast biology in driving chronic inflammation and autoimmunity, the Senior Scientist II will be defining and implementing aspects of the biology strategy for early drug discovery programs to underpin the mechanism of action of lead candidates. In addition, he/she will have vision on how these studies can transform into translational studies to inform and support early phase clinical trials. The candidate must demonstrate a proven track record in in vivo models for inflammatory diseases, comfortable working in a fast-paced R&D environment and preferably have drug discovery experience in industry. This role is expected to spend approximately 50% of time in the lab.

This position will report to the Head of Biology.

Key Responsibilities

- Work with Mestag's program leads and senior leaders to design and execute in vivo and ex vivo disease tissue models for lead antibody discovery candidates in inflammation
- Be responsible for the design, implementation, and evaluation of ex vivo and in vivo studies to establish the efficacy, PK/PD, tolerability of antibodies and other therapeutics in animal models of inflammation and autoimmunity

- Working with CROs and academic collaborators, design and implement studies that will enable key mechanistic and biological hypotheses to be evaluated consistent with the timing and goals of the project, manage selection and outsourcing of the study, study design and data analysis (including to write and review study plans, ship reagents and materials, direct processes and manage studies to time and budget)
- Review and analyse endpoint data including complex flow cytometry/ ELISA, PK etc
- Carry out lab-based isolation of immune cells from blood and tissue and ex-vivo immune based assays plus analysis using including cell differentiation/activation, flow cytometry, ELISA, MSD, etc
- Writing reports and summaries, preparation of study reports and regulatory documents
- Actively contributing to a vibrant and innovative working environment where improvements and new ideas are adopted and freely shared among the teams
- Work collaboratively with Mestag's Data Sciences and Antibody Discovery teams to gain an integrated biological understanding of target biology and its role in disease
- Establish strong working relationships with CRO partners in order to collaborate and foster information exchange and to enable efficient execution of work packages
- Establish and effectively manage external stakeholders, CROs and academic collaborations, as required, to deliver work packages consistent with program needs
- Providing scientific coaching and mentorship for less experienced scientists in the team, as well as other scientists in our matrixed environment.
- Providing expert technical direction, challenge and problem solving in projects
- Working closely with other research functional teams and project teams to characterise Mestag targets and antibody therapeutics.
- Determines methods and procedures on new assignments and may coordinate activities of other personnel (Team Lead).
Interprets internal/external business challenges and recommends best practices to improve products, processes or services with the organizational/ departmental context.

Minimum Qualifications and Experience required

- A PhD in a relevant scientific discipline, strong scientific background, and expertise in immunology
- At least 4+ years' experience in scientific roles preferably within biopharma companies, including experience working with biologics
- Proven in vivo experience and experimental skills in the use of animal models for inflammation/autoimmunity (experience with oncology models a plus)
- Attention to detail and excellent analytical skills and understanding of statistical methods, preparation of reports, summaries, and regulatory documents
- Works on complex issues where analysis of situations or data requires an in-depth evaluation of variable factors. Exercises judgment in selecting methods, techniques, and evaluation criteria for obtaining results. Networks with key contacts outside own area of expertise.
- Experienced at managing complex external collaborations/partnerships and CROs, to successfully achieve project goals



- Desire to work in a fast-paced, quickly changing environment, showing agility/flexibility to meet deadlines and goals
- Ability to proactively troubleshoot and work independently
- Excellent communication skills (written and verbal) and interpersonal skills
- Inclusive, open-minded, collaborative, and forward-thinking