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Scientist, Ex Vivo and In Vitro Oncology

Company Overview

Strand Therapeutics is an early-stage biotechnology company utilizing synthetic biology to genetically program mRNA to deliver truly revolutionary immunotherapies.

Building on the idea of creating smart therapies that are capable of making sophisticated decisions, Strand was started by biological engineers working together at MIT who were seeking to apply the concept to the emerging field of mRNA therapeutics. This collaboration led them to build their own mRNA “programming language,” creating the world’s first platform for mRNA smart therapies.

The founders and scientific advisors of Strand Therapeutics are made up of well-known and highly regarded individuals in both academia and the biotech industry. We are located in the heart of Kendall Square in Cambridge, MA.

Become the next standout single *strand*!

Job summary

Strand is looking to build a team that understands the value of working at a start-up. Joining the company now means having vast opportunities to learn and grow including having the exposure to all aspects of building a company. We are looking for people who have the enthusiasm and motivation to be a highly contributing member of a small team. This opportunity will offer the employee the ability to work closely with the founding team, as well as to form close partnerships with team members during the development and formation of the company.

We are looking for a highly motivated and innovative candidate for the role of Scientist, Ex Vivo and In Vitro Oncology. This is a fantastic opportunity to make a significant impact as a scientifically motivated self-starter capable of independently conceiving, conducting, and critically analyzing his/her own work with minimal supervision.

You are someone who is:

- Searching for the opportunity to sharpen their drug discovery skills, develop their leadership skills as an integral part of Strand’s drug discovery efforts.
- Willing to teach, mentor, and facilitate the professional development of your teammates.
- Searching for an opportunity to help build an early-stage company and invent the next generation of gene therapies.

- Motivated to seek out and embrace new ideas/technology, learn quickly on the job, and take up new projects with limited oversight.
- Scientifically curious and intellectually involved in research projects.
- A supportive teammate that promotes diversity and inclusiveness in and out of the workplace.
- Eager to execute studies to meet ambitious development timelines in a fast-paced research environment.

Some of the work you will be doing:

- Help guide and implement our ex vivo/in vitro preclinical oncology research strategy including planning and executing experiments that support non-routine research activities and project goals.
- Develop and validate preclinical 3D cancer cell-based assays to support efficacy and mechanism of action studies, drug candidate screening, combination screening, and biomarker discovery.
- Design and execute experiments to evaluate changes in immune cell activity in complex tissue microenvironments ex vivo.
- Build capacity/functionality of the team by ensuring the latest methodologies and technologies are considered and adopted as applicable.

Required Qualifications:

- Ph.D. in biological sciences or related discipline.
- Strong background in immunology, oncology, immuno-oncology, stromal biology, or bioengineering.
- Demonstrated experience in 3D cancer cell culture, organoids, and tissue microenvironment modeling.
- Extensive experience working with human tumor surgical specimens and biopsies, and isolation of immune cells from tissues.
- Proficient in ancillary in vitro assays, including flow cytometry, multiplex immunohistochemistry, fluorescent microscopy, immune cell-based assays, TCR and transcriptome sequencing.
- Proficiency with fundamental molecular biology and cell biology concepts and techniques.
- Comfortable working with cross-functional teams and prior experience working with CROs and external partners.
- Exceptional ability to communicate clearly and respectfully to individuals from diverse backgrounds and diverse subject matter expertise.
- Highly organized and capable of maintaining detailed and complete electronic records.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently to design and execute experiments, interpret data, troubleshoot, and adapt experimental design based on emerging data.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Industry experience and/or postdoctoral training.
- Expertise in iPSC-derived cancer organoids or human organ-on-chip technology.
- Understanding of the therapeutic landscape of immunotherapy, mRNA therapeutics, or gene therapies.

Strand offers a fast-paced, entrepreneurial, team-focused work environment. We also offer a top-notch benefits package (health, dental, life, vacation, and commuter) and work/life integration. Being part of the Strand team allows you to become part of a small team that supports professional development while working together to meet the company goals.

Strand Therapeutics is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, protected veteran status or any other basis protected by applicable law. Strand does not accept unsolicited resumes from any source other than directly from candidates.

Job Type: Full-time

Salary: commensurate with role and experience