**Scientist 2/3, Process Development**

NextCure is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company located in Beltsville, MD, focused on the discovery and development of first-in-class immunomedicines for the treatment of cancer and other diseases We are committed to professional development in the context of learning, managing, and developing our employees. We create a unique environment for our employees, providing exposure to various facets of our operations cultivating career 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 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 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 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 purification equipment such as 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 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.

**Basic Qualifications:**

* Bachelor’s degree in the life sciences, chemical or biochemical engineering or related field.
* >5 years of hands-on experience with process development studies using bench or pilot scale chromatography systems and/or filtration equipment.
* Experience with 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.

**Preferred Qualifications (Position level maybe adjusted for candidates with significant higher experience and qualifications):**

* Master’s or higher degree in the life sciences, chemical or biochemical engineering or related field.
* 3 or more years of experience in process development studies using bench or pilot scale chromatography systems and filtration equipment.
* Knowledge and experience demonstrated by scientific accomplishments with highly innovative protein purification strategies.
* Experience with use of engineering principles to perform process scale-up.