Head of Gene Therapy

Position summary:

Tevard Biosciences, an exciting company co-founded by renowned MIT molecular cell biologist Harvey Lodish developing novel tRNA based gene therapies for rare diseases, is seeking a Head of Gene Therapy, based in Cambridge, MA.

As the Head of Gene Therapy, you will report directly to the CSO and be responsible for defining and executing our gene therapy strategy and lead research teams to develop life-changing therapies for patients with severe genetic disorders. You will lead the company’s development of innovative tRNA payloads delivered through AAV vectors and lead a team of highly talented scientists responsible for constructing and producing novel therapeutic candidates for research and developing and optimizing them for clinical trials. You will be expected to manage the career development and performance of the existing team and recruit top talent.

Key responsibilities for this position include:

- Continuously innovate and execute on our gene therapy and delivery strategy
- Lead internal gene therapy teams and oversee the construction, in vitro and in vivo characterization of AAV vectors with tRNA payloads, guide choice of animal models, preclinical efficacy, biodistribution and pharmacology studies
- Oversee development of potency assays
- Deliver clinical candidates leveraging our tRNA platform
- Proactively engage with Process Development, Regulatory and Nonclinical Development to support the advancement of therapeutic candidates towards IND filing and clinical studies
- Provide technical leadership and guidance, data review, project timelines, budget and people management
- Manage resource allocation and make effective “go/no-go” decisions
- Manage the career development and performance of research teams. Hire top talent and integrate new team members into a productive and innovative team environment
- Identify and evaluate new delivery technology opportunities, both viral and non-viral, in collaboration with the Business Development and Research teams
- Oversee competitive intelligence in relevant areas by forging relationships with external experts, attending scientific conferences and staying apprised of emerging scientific literature
- Represent Tevard Biosciences to the external scientific community in presentations, publications, and other mediums
Qualifications:

- PhD in molecular biology, virology, or a related scientific discipline
- Minimum 10 years of experience in the biotechnology and/or pharmaceutical industry and a minimum 5 years of technical leadership/management
- Expertise in viral vector biology and therapeutic vector delivery
- Experience with animal study design and execution in mouse and NHP models of systemic gene delivery
- A thorough understanding of construct design, biodistribution and viral vector-related safety issues and ability to solve associated scientific and technical challenges
- A track record of taking a viral vector-based therapies to IND and clinical studies
- An understanding of the regulatory aspects of advancing gene therapies towards the clinic
- Well versed in approaches to viral therapies across multiple indications
- Demonstrated ability to effectively manage high performing teams
- Collegial, dedicated, hard-working, and dependable

Additional qualifications:

- Ability to thrive and innovate in a fast-paced and complex biotech environment
- Ability to lead, mentor and develop scientific talent at all levels
- Excellent communication and decision-making skills
- Skilled in managing business relationships with internal and external partners

Title commensurate with level of experience.

Contact:

Interested parties please send CV and cover letter to careers@tevard.com.

We are an equal employment opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law.