



At Locana, we are creating a new class of precision medicines to treat a range of human genetic diseases. Locana's RNA-targeting technology platform allows us to precisely address these mutations on the level of RNA. By targeting RNA, our approach avoids the risk of off-target effects in DNA and is suited to address many diseases linked to dysfunctional processing of RNA. The wide range of potential indications is supported by the modularity of our RNA-targeting gene therapies which are composed of interchangeable components that provide exquisite control of specificity and activity.

Research Associate / Senior Research Associate, Screening and Assay Development

We are looking for an outstanding individual to join our screening and assay development group.

In this role, you will execute screening activities for the purpose of identifying and characterizing lead candidate RNA-targeting therapies for further development. You will apply your skills and knowledge of sterile cell culture and molecular biology techniques to perform established assays as well as contribute to optimization and evaluation of new assays. Our successful candidate will have proficiency in general cell culture techniques including maintenance of cell lines and primary cell cultures and performing transfection-based cell treatments. The successful candidate will also be proficient at performing microtiter-based assays, RNA preparation, and real-time qRT-PCR. Ideal applicant will have track record of thriving in a fast-paced lab setting with the ability to effectively manage multiple tasks simultaneously to meet deadlines.

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for performing sterile cell and organotypic tissue cultures.
- Perform microtiter plate-based cell treatments and assays (i.e. cell transfections, viability assays, ELISAs, etc.).
- RNA preparation and real-time qRT-PCR.
- Analyze results and generate reports on assays performed.
- Manage equipment maintenance and calibration.
- Manage and coordinate multiple projects.

Qualifications:

- BS/MS in one of the following disciplines: Cell Biology, Molecular Biology, Neurobiology, or similar.
- 3-7 years of hands-on cell culture and molecular biology experience (industry experience highly preferred).
- Experience with mammalian cell culture and cell-based assays required.
- Experience with standard molecular biology techniques required (real-time qRT-PCR, electrophoresis, etc.).
- Critical thinking, analytic skills, trouble-shooting ability and attention to detail.
- Capability to multi-task, be independent, self-motivated, as well as work in a highly collaborative setting.

- Excellent oral and communication skills.
- Desire to be part of a rapidly evolving organization which requires flexibility, and a willingness to learn new techniques and methods.
- Experience with primary tissue slice and organotypic cultures preferred.
- Experience using high-throughput liquid handling robotics preferred.
- Experience with immunostaining (IHC), in situ hybridization (ISH) preferred.
- Familiarity with neurobiology preferred.
- Other duties as required.

The level of this role will be dependent on candidate experience.

Locana is dedicated to fostering a workplace that keeps our team inspired and engaged. We offer an inclusive company culture where employees feel respected and valued. Our comprehensive benefit programs support the healthcare and retirement saving needs of our employees and their families. Email cover letter and resume to careers@locanabio.com.

Locana is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, national origin, genetics, disability, age, sexual orientation, veteran status or any other protected categories.