



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.

We are seeking an outstanding candidate to join us and assist in the development of our viral gene therapy production platform.

Senior Scientist, AAV Vector Development

In this role, you would support research-grade AAV vector production for our drug discovery and preclinical gene therapy studies. You would have the opportunity to make significant contributions in our dynamic start-up environment where self-driven, enthusiastic employees thrive.

Responsibilities:

- Assist with design and set-up of a vector core laboratory;
- Establish and carry out small scale AAV vector production, purification and analysis to enable in vitro and in vivo research activities;
- Set up and manage helper plasmids and vector inventories;
- Maintain production cell lines and their inventory;
- Coordinate production needs with internal teams and manage production;
- Collaborate to evaluate and characterize critical vector attributes;
- Contribute to AAV capsid screening and selection activities;
- Optimize viral vector designs for efficient delivery of Locana's RNA-targeted gene therapies;
- Author technical reports;
- Perform other related duties as required.

Requirements:

- MS/PhD in molecular biology, virology, or related field;
- 5+ years experience in viral vector production; experience in an industry-setting is highly desired;
- Familiarity with using lab-scale production platforms for live virus or viral vector production;
- Thorough understanding of virus characterization methods including nucleic acid and protein-based approaches;
- Demonstrated skills in sterile tissue culture techniques including transfection, transduction, and developing and maintaining cell lines and their inventory;
- Critical thinking, analytic skills and trouble-shooting ability;
- Meticulous attention to detail and strong record keeping skills;

- 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.

The level of this role will be based on candidate's skills and qualifications.

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, finances and family needs of our employees. Send your cover letter and resume for immediate consideration.

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.