Job Title: Senior Director/Director Translational Science

Reports to: Vice President, Early Development & Program Management

FLSA /Pay Grade: Exempt/Director

Why Artiva

Over the past decade we have seen stunning advances in the cellular immunotherapy therapy field in particular, with dramatic rates of clinical response in hematological malignancies, and rapid evolution of our understanding of factors that could extend this success to solid tumors. However, these transformative therapies are often accompanied by severe and potentially life-threatening toxicities, and patient access is limited by such factors as complex, time-consuming patient-specific manufacturing, variable product quality, and cost.

Our Mission

At Artiva, our mission is to deliver highly effective cell therapies that are also safe and immediately available and accessible to any patient who stands to benefit.

Position Summary

Reporting to the VP, Early Development & Program Management, the Director/Senior Director of Translational Science is responsible for leading Artiva's development and clinical application of product-related assays. Artiva is a start-up US-based biotechnology company developing a pipeline of novel allogeneic NK-cell therapy oncology products for application with monoclonal antibodies and/or engineered for specific tumor targeting. This position will be responsible for the design, development, and optimization of pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic, predictive, and prognostic assays to define parameters associated with NK cell-mediated clinical response. Assays will be developed via contract research organization (CRO) or in collaboration with our research partners. The successful candidate will have strong cell therapeutic development history with demonstrated leadership in immunological assay development and more specifically NK and/or T-cell immuno-oncology. A thorough understanding and application of flow cytometry and molecular/genomic techniques for studying immunological activity and therapeutic cell biodistribution and kinetics is a prerequisite for this position.

Role & Responsibilities

- Lead the development of highly sensitive and specific assays for the detection and tracking of human allogeneic NK-cells for the study of:
    - Therapeutic cell persistence
    - Patient-donor chimerism
    - Tumor infiltration
- Lead the definition and development of immune activity assays for assessment of pharmacodynamic response to cell therapies, including immune cell activation and cytokine upregulation
- Implement clinical assays that lead to identification of predictive and prognostic biomarkers associated with clinical response
- Define potential intrinsic and acquired resistance mechanisms and develop assays to further understanding of these mechanisms to inform future clinical programs
- Select, contract and manage CRO-driven programs for assay development, optimization and clinical sample analytics.
- Evaluate new technologies and assays that will enhance understanding of the parameters associated with clinical response.
- Collaborate with research and clinical staff and clinical-site partners for patient sample acquisition and testing procedures.
- Draft, optimize and implement SOPs supporting product and clinical sample analytics
- Draft relevant sections of CTDs to support IND filing, updates and maintenance
- Potential future responsibility for group-building and staff management
- Develop transparent relationships across the organization including GCLabCell and other partners and/or collaborators.

Experience, Education and Specialized Knowledge and Skills

Must thrive working in a fast-paced innovative environment while remaining flexible, proactive, resourceful and efficient. Ability to manage complex research and development functions and timelines through outsourced or partnered workflows is a requirement. Excellent interpersonal skills, ability to develop important relationships with key stakeholders, conflict management and negotiation skills, ability to analyze complex issues to develop relevant and realistic plans and recommendations. Demonstrated ability to translate strategy into action. Excellent analytical skills, ability to communicate complex issues in a simple way, and ability to orchestrate plans to resolve issues and mitigate risks.

- Ph.D. in immunology, biology, biochemistry or related discipline with a minimum of 10 years' experience within the biotechnology or pharmaceutical industry
- A minimum of 5 years' direct experience developing immunological, pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic assays for cell therapeutics is a requirement.

- Demonstrated expert knowledge of cell therapeutics, particularly T-cells and Natural Killer cells
- Proven ability to manage CRO-driven research and development programs and operate without internal company laboratories
- Demonstrated experience in SOP development and regulatory document drafting
- Excellent communication skills, verbal and written.
- Ability to interact effectively across boundaries using influencing and relationship building skills.
- Strong problem-solving capabilities with the ability to prioritize and make tradeoffs to achieve goals.
- Strong understanding of the drug development and regulatory process.

Competencies

- Decision Making
- Time Management
- Strategic thinker
- Operations Management
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Risk Management
- Business Planning
- Implementing Plans
- Analysis & Reporting
- Negotiation
- Leadership & Team Development

Attributes

- Honesty/Integrity
- Self-starter
- Creative/imaginative
- Self-controlled
- Positive
- Ambitious/driven
- Collaborative
- Communications
- Forward thinking
- Confident
- Intuitive
- Committed
- Agile
- Transparent

We look for talented, entrepreneurial people who share our values.

We are called to put the **safety** of our patients and employees first, and to act with **integrity** and the highest ethical standards. To achieve our mission, we must collaborate across the Company at all levels, and we must hold ourselves and our teams **accountable** for delivering the progress we commit to, on the timelines we set. We embrace **diversity**, we include people and their ideas, and we aspire to **excellence** by listening, understanding, sharing and responding. We want you to be fully **engaged**, to develop personally and professionally through this chapter in your life, and to have **fun** along the way.

Artiva Biotherapeutics is an equal opportunity employer that is committed to providing a work environment free of harassment and discrimination based upon a protected category, as well as an environment free from retaliation for protected activity.

Benefits

- The opportunity to work with a team of highly experienced professionals from clinical to regulatory to CMC to research
- To be part of building a company on the cutting edge of cell therapy that may be a game changer to patients in a culture that is entrepreneurial, highly collaborative and innovative
- Competitive compensation, including bonus
- Equity program
- Health and welfare benefits – Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401K, EAP

To apply, please send cover letter and resume/CV to: hr@artivabio.com.