Aquinnah Pharmaceuticals Position Description

Research Associate

Aquinnah Pharmaceuticals is a vibrant new biotechnology company located at Lab Central, a new state of the art facility in the heart of Cambridge, MA, with a focus on developing novel treatments for ALS, Alzheimer’s and other neurodegenerative diseases, based on the biology of RNA binding proteins.

We are seeking an exceptional Research Associate to expand our drug discovery team capabilities.

The successful candidate should be highly motivated, flexible and enjoy working in a team-based environment with a strong interest in contributing to the discovery of new therapies for the treatment of neurodegenerative disease.

This position is laboratory-based and requires strong experimental skills with a background in cell biology, primary neuronal cultures and experience in quantitative assay development. Under supervision, the candidate will assist in duties including, but not limited to: cell culture maintenance, compound screening, biochemical assays, immunocytochemistry, and analysis using state of the art high-content imaging. Strong communication skills are required including the ability to analyze and report on the results. The candidate will be expected to function efficiently and cooperatively within a team and maintain accurate and clear project records. The ideal candidate will be creative, energetic and motivated. Candidates should have a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree in neuroscience, biology, or related field. Salary will be competitive and commensurate with experience.

Responsibilities include:

- Culture and maintenance of both cell lines and primary cells, including rodent primary neurons and iPSC-derived neurons
- Stable cell line generation
- Harvesting and maintenance of embryonic rodent primary neurons to develop secondary assays
- Assessment of compound efficacy via immunocytochemical, biochemical and molecular biology techniques, such as immunostaining, immunoblotting, and immunoprecipitation
• Interaction and collaboration with biology and chemistry team members to improve the compound properties and activity
• Analysis of experimental data, addressing methodological problems in experimental protocols and results, and presenting data
• Documentation, compilation, and assistance in interpretation of experimental data.
• Presentation of data to supervisor in oral and written reports
• Management of databases or spreadsheets to compile and present results in a meaningful manner
• Consulting scientific literature as needed

Experience and skills required:

• A Bachelor’s (+5 yrs experience) or Master’s (+3 yrs experience) degree in neuroscience, cell biology or related discipline
• Proficiency in basic lab techniques and principles of cell biology, biochemistry and neurobiology preferred
• Proficiency in rodent embryonic brain dissection and harvesting primary neurons techniques is highly desirable
• Experience in assay development
• Experience in a biotech/pharma setting highly preferred
• Knowledge of relevant scientific databases preferred

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, and national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

For further information, visit our website at AquinnahPharma.com

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