Title: Research Associate

Company Overview:

Viska Bio is currently looking for experienced professionals to contribute to its pre-clinical research program. We focus on treating chronic and infectious diseases through the body's innate immune system. Using patented fusion proteins, our technology naturally induces the death of targeted, unwanted cells, such as cancer cells, and trains the body's immune system to protect itself.

Job Overview:

We are looking for a skilled and motivated scientist with strong problem-solving skills and demonstrated experience in protein biochemistry, therapeutic protein development, and assay development. A strong background in enzymology would be a plus. You will be responsible for protein expression, purification, and characterization efforts, with emphasis on production, biochemical assays, and cell-based assays. You will be required to design and execute experiments and provide data, as well as present the data to the project team and senior management.

You should be able to work independently, be technically creative, and excited to excel in a lab-focused, scientific role in a fast-paced, collaborative start-up environment.

Key responsibilities:

- Establish and manage protein expression program.
- Utilize and optimize protein purification schemes to isolate proteins of interest.
- Perform biochemical characterization of proteins by analytical SEC, SDS-PAGE or other in vitro assays.
- Develop and apply cell-based assays to characterize protein function.
- Perform bacterial transformation and extraction of plasmid DNA.
- Maintain mammalian cell cultures.
- Execute experiments for ongoing projects.
- Accurately report results and methods, including recording information in an electronic lab notebook.
- Communicate efficiently with team members and management, and present data to colleagues and management.

Candidate profile:

- A minimum of two years of prior industry experience required.
- Experience in recombinant protein expression, purification, and characterization in mammalian cell expression systems, including CHO and HEK293 flasks systems.
- Experience with bacterial transformation and DNA extraction.
- Experience with biochemical assays, such as ELISAs and qPCR.
- Experience running SDS-PAGE and Western blots.
- Experience with HPLC.
- Experience with cell-based assays.
- Strong analytical and data analysis skills.
• Ability to multitask and work independently.
• Strong attention to detail and organizational skills.
• Knowledge of oncology or immunology is beneficial.
• Experience with protein engineering and construct design is beneficial.
• Excellent problem-solving skills are a must. Demonstrated ability work as part of a team to execute experimental plans and deliver results is necessary.

Computer Skills:

• Expertise with Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint and Word, as well as graphing software (i.e. GraphPad Prism) is required. Experience with PyMOL, SnapGene and electronic lab notebooks is beneficial.

Education:

• A MS in Biology, Biochemistry, or related field, as well as 4+ years of laboratory experience is required.