



ORBIT DISCOVERY

Membrane Protein Scientist (OD-2020-002)

About us

Orbit Discovery is a rapidly growing biotech company specialising in peptide drug discovery, built on a novel screening platform developed at the University of Oxford. Orbit Discovery is well funded and seeks to develop highly efficacious peptide-based biological drugs which are suitable and affordable for large patient groups. Orbit has internal drug discovery programmes and works in collaboration with major pharmaceutical companies in co-development projects.

We offer a comprehensive employment package, including competitive salary, access to share options and a range of additional employee benefits.

Overview of the Role

We are seeking protein scientists with experience in protein purification and characterisation to join our expanding Target Biology team. We are particularly interested in candidates with experience in integral membrane protein purification to be a part of our ambitious GPCR screening program.

You will be working within Orbit's Target Biology group to purify and prepare target proteins for screening using our novel peptide display platform. The company has made substantial recent investment in equipment and expertise with a view to building a world-class target biology research group.

The Target Biology group produces protein via a coordinated cell culture pipeline which you will assist in managing. As such, experience in basic cell culture techniques (i.e., baculovirus-based protein expression, cell splitting, transfection, etc.) and an ability to plan for upcoming requirements are preferred.

Purified target protein will also be used to characterize potential lead compounds in-house, thus experience in assaying for function or ligand binding *in vitro* will be highly advantageous.

In addition, we hope you will bring your own insights and experience to the on-going development of Orbit Discovery's technology portfolio.

Job Responsibilities

- Express and purify target proteins for screening on Orbit Discovery's peptide display platform
- Assist with the maintenance of cell cultures and co-ordination of Orbit's in-house protein production pipeline
- Contribute to the on-going development of Orbit Discovery's in-house screening platform
- Keep up to date with the literature in the field and seek ways to implement emerging technologies and techniques in the lab.
- Design and perform experiments to characterize effect of peptide leads on target proteins.





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- Ensure laboratory records are complete, accurate and up to date
- Provide regular presentations at both team and company level on progress

Job Requirements

Essential

- PhD in molecular biology and biochemistry
- Proven experience in recombinant expression and purification of non-trivial protein targets
- Excellent aseptic cell culture technique for maintenance and transfection/transduction of common eukaryotic cell lines (eg. Sf9, HEK293)
- Experience using molecular biology tools to design and produce DNA for expressing protein constructs
- Capacity to execute tasks independently to achieve company goals on an established timeline.
- Superb communication, organization, multi-tasking, creativity, adaptability, and teamwork skills.
- Knowledge of, and appreciation for, laboratory safety procedures.
- Enthusiasm to work in a dynamic research environment.

Desirable

- Experience using the baculovirus expression vector system (BEVS) to overexpress protein.
- Purification of G-protein Coupled Receptors (GPCRs) or other integral membrane proteins
- Some experience in structural biology; using protein structure to inform investigation on the effect of ligand binding on target function
- Familiarity with various common membrane mimetics used in protein purification (ie nanodiscs, SMALPs, liposomes etc)

Further enquiries about this role can be directed to simon.bushell@orbitdiscovery.com

Applicants should provide a full CV, contact details for 2 referees and a cover letter describing their suitability for the position.

In response to the ongoing pandemic, Orbit Discovery is operating as a COVID-safe workplace with social distancing, enhanced sanitation, and flexible remote working measures in place.

Applications should be sent to Careers@orbitdiscovery.com

All data will be treated in line with our privacy policy which can be found on our website.

