



Virscio is a translational research and development company devoted to providing predictive preclinical research models and services to accelerate therapeutic candidate evaluation and reduce the risk of clinical failure. Virscio engages with leading pharmaceutical, biotechnology and academic sponsors and collaborators to design and execute a wide range of translational studies and research programs across multiple therapeutic areas. Our goal is to provide the most robust possible preclinical understanding of the efficacy and safety of novel therapies, medical devices and delivery technologies. Virscio is committed to achieving meaningful advances in human health through scientific innovation and efficiency, and humane and judicious application of preclinical test systems. Our team and work environment have been assembled and developed to achieve these goals, while maintaining utmost respect for animal welfare, our employees and the continued success of our clients and collaborators.

Position: Research Ophthalmologist

Location: Virscio laboratory and testing facility, St. Kitts, West Indies

Job Description

Virscio is seeking a medical or veterinary ophthalmologist to perform preclinical studies related to contract research engagements and internal research and development. The position requires fluency and expertise with the language, literature, objectives and methodologies of preclinical ophthalmic research related to describing and characterizing disease pathophysiology, and evaluating the efficacy, pharmacology and safety of new therapeutics, medical devices, and drug delivery technologies. Additionally, the position will require the candidate to apply knowledge and expertise in identifying and proposing new or improved ophthalmic model development opportunities and for managing the associated characterization and validation of those models in multiple disease areas. An important component of the model development and commercialization responsibilities will include outreach to commercial and academic organizations to define unmet disease modeling needs and associated technical and scientific considerations that might influence validation and application of such models. Proficiency with associated research methods and familiarity with related ophthalmic fields is critical for both direct participation in data collection and interpretation, and effective communication of company capabilities, as well as management and oversight of project team members who may be delegated specific technical responsibilities.

Responsibilities

- Advance scientific and commercial interactions with existing ophthalmology focused sponsoring organizations, and to identify, cultivate and engage with new sponsors
- Lead the design, execution and analysis of *in vivo* ophthalmic translational research studies, and generation of associated protocols and reports, for both internal R&D and sponsor-funded projects and programs
- Contribute to junior scientific staff development through scientific support and oversight
- Oversee and guide scientific practice and data quality of data managers and technical staff
- Development of new research methodologies and test systems, and optimization of existing systems
- Oversight of data generation and maintenance of protocol-specified study support materials such as datasheets, data entry spreadsheets, and protocol specific standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Establish an in-depth knowledge of facility SOPs and contribute to their maintenance
- Contribution to maintenance of facility good laboratory practices (GLPs) and AAALAC credentials
- Oversee study data and sample quality control

- Writing scientific manuscripts, grants and the technical aspects of business plans and marketing materials
- Present company research capabilities and study outcomes at relevant scientific meetings
- On-site and off-site client, inspector and vendor interactions
- Supporting the business development aspects of collaborator and client engagement

Education/Experience Requirements

- M.D. or D.V.M. degree with 2 or more years of experience within the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and/or contract research industry or a competitive academic setting
- Minimum of 2 years of laboratory experience working with *in vivo* and *in vitro* models, preferably including mammalian translational models

Additional Requirements

- Able to live and work in St. Kitts
- Demonstrated ability to adapt to the unique challenges of fast-paced research environments
- Publication record and demonstrated experience establishing new scientific methodologies
- Must have experience working in a protocol driven environment on *in vivo* and/or molecular models
- Must have a firm understanding of research and development as pertains to drug development
- Must have exceptional interpersonal, communication and presentation skills and comfort interacting with external sponsors and leading members of the scientific community
- Experience supervising junior scientists or working remotely also favored
- Experience working with and under IACUC oversight in AAALAC-accredited facilities preferred

To Apply

Send a resume and cover letter describing why you would be a good fit for this position and estimated salary requirements to jobs@virscio.com

Virscio offers competitive compensation commensurate with experience, with benefits

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