



Principal Scientist, Toxicology

Skyhawk Therapeutics is seeking a Principal Scientist to join the talented, growing startup team in Waltham, MA.

Skyhawk is committed to discovering, developing and commercializing small molecule therapeutics that correct RNA splicing. We use our novel SkySTAR™ platform (Skyhawk Small molecule Therapeutics for Alternative splicing of RNA) to develop drug candidates directed to targets for some of the world's most intractable diseases including cancer, neurological conditions, and other "undruggable" targets against a wide range of conditions.

Position Overview

Skyhawk Therapeutics is looking for a Toxicologist to join our multidisciplinary team, providing safety assessment of novel small molecule therapeutics being developed for neurodegenerative disease and oncology areas. Responsibilities include participating in the development of safety testing strategies for discovery programs, designing / overseeing in vitro and in vivo toxicology studies and developing risk assessments to enable project progress to key decision points and nomination of drug candidates into early clinical development. As our programs mature, the responsibilities will include support for Development-stage programs and representation of Preclinical Safety on internal and external scientific teams and committees.

Role and Responsibilities (include, but are not limited to):

- Serve on project teams for development/discovery programs, primarily for neurodegeneration and oncology
- Collaborate effectively with other scientists, including Medicinal Chemists, Pharmacokineticists, Pharmacologists, external Toxicology Consultants to generate early nonclinical safety plan and design, execute and interpret results from in vitro and in vivo toxicology studies.
- Independently develop solutions and strategies within own expertise, while using breadth of knowledge of other disciplines
- Scientifically assess and recommend vendors, and outsource nonclinical studies to appropriate CROs
- Oversee the design, reporting and interpretation of exploratory and GLP-compliant studies that are outsourced
- May develop and oversee in vitro toxicology assays in-house and manage the work of others directly or in a matrixed structure to validate or confirm results generated by CROs
- Summarize safety studies for internal and external review and regulatory submissions
- May participate in early clinical candidate selection and asset characterization in support of clinical trials
- Assess innovative technologies in the field of toxicology, evaluate new in vitro, in vivo and in silico screening assays, and provide recommendations to advance Skyhawk's toxicology screening strategy as appropriate

Education/Skills/Experience Requirements:

- PhD in toxicology, pharmacology or cell biology and a strong scientific track record.
- Minimum of 7-9 years toxicology experience in the biopharmaceutical industry and postdoctoral training
- Solid understanding of the drug discovery and development process through experience in pharmaceutical safety, with exposure to disciplines within and outside drug safety and toxicology
- Demonstrated experience and expertise in both in vitro and in vivo toxicology assessment for small molecule therapeutics
- Proven organization and time management skills including ability to manage outsourced studies
- Experience with the design and execution of in vivo experiments to determine the effects of therapeutics on biological systems, as related to human safety risk understanding
- Hands-on experience with in vitro toxicology experimentation is critical
- Strong communication, presentation and influencing skills across disciplines
- Motivation, creativity, collaborative spirit and team-oriented mindset focused on problem solving in a goal-focused manner

To Apply: Please send resume and cover letter to olesia@skyhawktx.com

A COVER LETTER IS REQUIRED. Please explain why this job is of interest to you. Detail your strengths and weaknesses as they pertain to the requirements and responsibilities of this position.