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Director/Senior Director, Preclinical Development

Company Overview

Strand Therapeutics is an early-stage biotechnology company utilizing synthetic biology to genetically program mRNA to deliver truly revolutionary immunotherapies.

Building on the idea of creating smart therapies that are capable of making sophisticated decisions, Strand was started by biological engineers working together at MIT who were seeking to apply the concept of the emerging field of mRNA therapeutics. This collaboration led them to build their own mRNA “programming language,” creating the world’s first platform for mRNA smart therapies.

The founders and scientific advisors of Strand Therapeutics are made up of well-known and highly regarded individuals in both academia and the biotech industry. We are located in the heart of Kendall Square in Cambridge, MA.

Become the next standout single *strand*!

Job summary

Strand is looking to build a team that understands the value of working at a start-up. Joining the company now at this management level places you alongside the founding executive team and world-leading advisors. You would be instrumental in building not only the preclinical pipeline, but also the company culture. We are looking for people who have the enthusiasm and motivation to be a highly contributing member of a small team. This opportunity will offer the employee the ability to have unparalleled agency over our R&D efforts by working closely with the founding team, as well as to form close partnerships with team members during the initial growth stage of the company.

We are looking for a highly motivated and innovative candidate for the role of Director/Senior Director, Preclinical Development. The expectation is that the Director/Senior Director, Preclinical Development will have experience leading pre-clinical stage programs and cross-functional teams. Reporting to the Founder/Head of R&D, the right candidate will be a strategic thinker that brings a leadership presence and enthusiasm for the company along with a deep scientific knowledge.

You are someone who is:

- Looking to grow their leadership/management skills and be an integral part of the company and research discovery.
- Searching for an opportunity to grow within an early-stage company and help invent the next generation of gene therapies.

- Willing to develop and nurture junior staff and serve as a team leader, mentor and advisor.
- Learns quickly on the job and can take up new and exciting projects without much oversight.

Some of the work you will be doing:

- Design and manage pre-clinical studies (GLP and non-GLP) for inclusion in IND.
- Select and manage contract research organizations (CROs) to support pre-clinical development programs.
- Present results to the company's Board of Directors, and other research team peers, as well as presenting externally at scientific meetings and conferences.
- Help recruit and lead R&D team of Ph.D. and non-Ph.D. scientists.
- Work closely with other functional areas and colleagues to ensure that all pre-clinical studies are performed in a quality, timely and scientific manner.
- Influence through effective communication, respectful challenge, and persuasion across the research organization.
- Exercise technical expertise in the design, execution, and interpretation of experiments that contribute to project goals.
- Prepare technical reports, quantitative analyses, protocols, and scientific presentations.
- Build capacity/functionality of the team by ensuring the latest methodologies and technologies are considered and adopted as applicable.

Qualifications

- Ph.D. with five plus years' or MSc with ten plus years' experience required; Oncology and/or immunology and/or Immuno-Oncology background is preferred.
- At least five years of post-degree research experience managing gene/engineered cell therapy programs in an industrial setting.
- Direct experience leading pre-clinical stage programs and a cross-functional team is required.
- Strong knowledge of pre-clinical drug development and FDA requirements is essential.
- Proven experience in design, coordination, analysis and documentation of preclinical studies.
- Demonstrated experience working across internal and external research teams. Prior experience working with CROs.
- Ability to quickly adapt to change and thrive in a dynamic and entrepreneurial early-stage environment.
- Candidate should be a strong team player with excellent oral and written communication skills and a demonstrated ability to work independently to design experiments, interpret data, troubleshoot, and adapt experimental design based on emerging data.

Strand offers a fast-paced, entrepreneurial, team-focused startup environment. We also offer a top-notch benefits package (health, dental, life, vacation, gym, and commuter) and work/life integration. Being part of the Strand team allows you to become part of a small team that supports professional development while working together to meet the company goals.

Strand Therapeutics is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, protected

veteran status or any other basis protected by applicable law. Strand does not accept unsolicited resumes from any source other than directly from candidates.

Job Type: Full-time

Salary: commensurate with role and experience