

About Viska Bio

Viska Bio focuses on treating chronic and infectious diseases by harnessing the body's innate immune response. 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.

Viska Bio is seeking a highly motivated and experienced Senior Director, Research & Development to lead a growing scientific team, be responsible for executing Viska's scientific research strategy, and development of the research platform. You will provide direction, mentor, and grow with the research team.

You will be a critical integrator and decision maker in Viska's preclinical programs and partner with the CEO to strengthen and expand our proprietary platforms. The ideal candidate must be independent, results oriented, have excellent communication skills and be able to effectively lead in a highly dynamic, collaborative, and fast-paced entrepreneurial environment currently in the heart of Cambridge at LabCentral.

Key Responsibilities:

- Drive the development of the scientific strategy for the preclinical development of our cancer immunotherapy program, aligning it with the overall corporate objectives and therapeutic goals.
- Oversee the design, planning, and execution of preclinical studies, including in vitro and in vivo experiments to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and mechanism of action of drug candidates.
- Develop collaborative relationships with Key Opinion Leaders in therapeutic areas of interest.
- Maintain partnerships with Contract Research Organizations.
- Develop and manage external research collaborations.
- Communicate platform strategy, insights, and key conclusions to executive management and external stakeholders.
- Recruit, mentor, and manage a high-performing team of scientists, providing scientific expertise, professional development opportunities, and fostering a culture of collaboration, resilience, ambition, and innovation.
- Lead and support team preparation for IND filing for Viska's lead drug candidate.
- Support the development of Viska's IP portfolio, working closely with the team to plan, create, and execute an aggressive IP strategy to protect and expand Viska's intellectual property.

Qualifications:

- Accomplished scientific leader with expertise in oncology or immunology research.

- PhD or equivalent with 5+ years of Biotech industry experience is a must.
- Deep knowledge of immunology, oncology, and cellular and molecular biology, in vitro assay development, in vivo experimental design and execution.
- Proven R&D functional experience and understanding.
- Deep expertise and demonstrated leadership in immunology or cancer biology research, clear understanding of the role of translational research/medicine in drug development.
- Capable of managing multiple projects concurrently in a fast-paced environment while leading a team of highly motivated, dedicated scientists.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively lead, mentor, and manage a successful laboratory team.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills across all levels within an organization and with external partners; highly attentive to detail.
- Strengths in the following areas: creativity, problem-solving, flexibility, commitment, and relationship management.