



Research Scientist (Organic/Medicinal Chemist)

- ◆ **Apply your organic/medicinal chemistry knowledge to pharmaceutical product development**
- ◆ **Exciting opportunity to join the journey from R&D to clinical development**
- ◆ **Melbourne biotech based in the Parkville precinct**

The Company

PolyActiva is a Melbourne based biotechnology company that has developed a unique technology for site-specific drug delivery. The company has a world class R&D team and an established network of key local and international collaborators with truly cross disciplinary capabilities. The company is currently transitioning from an R&D focus into clinical development as two of its ophthalmology products move into clinical trials. Now is an exciting time to join the company and leave your mark on this journey.

The Opportunity

Due to continued growth and success, PolyActiva is seeking an experienced synthetic organic/medicinal chemist to join our team for a fixed 12 month term. This is a laboratory-based position reporting to the Head of Chemistry. Your primary responsibilities will be to deliver agreed pharmaceutical development outcomes through experimental design, method development, conduct of experiments and data analysis. Specifically:

- ◆ Design and synthesis of organic compounds on milligram to multi-gram scale for use as precursors, monomers and co-monomers for the preparation of drug-polymer conjugates.
- ◆ Use standard techniques, particularly flash chromatography, for the purification of small organic molecules.
- ◆ Use and interpret data obtained from NMR, FTIR, HPLC(MS), MS to monitor, characterise and, if necessary, make recommendations for future targets and priorities.
- ◆ Produce scientific reports, patents and peer-reviewed journal articles, SOPs, MBRs and other GMP documentation..
- ◆ Contribute to the development of novel pharmaceutical products based on the company's drug polymer conjugates.
- ◆ Contribute to the effective functioning of PolyActiva's research team and help deliver its organisational objectives.

Position Requirements

Essential

- ◆ Tertiary qualification in synthetic organic or medicinal chemistry. A PhD qualification would be preferred but non-PhD qualified applicants with equivalent experience will also be considered.
- ◆ Strong theoretical and practical knowledge of current synthetic organic/medicinal chemistry and its techniques and a proven ability to conduct innovative research and synthesise target organic compounds.
- ◆ Ability to perform purification on milligram to multi-gram scale using chromatographic separation, recrystallisation, distillation or other standard methods.
- ◆ The ability to use and interpret NMR, FTIR, HPLC(MS), and MS spectral data for analysis and characterisation of organic molecules.
- ◆ Proficiency in the use of computers and appropriate software such as MS Office®, along with a strong working knowledge of specific programs such as Chemdraw®, SciFinder®, MestReNova®, TopSpin® or similar.
- ◆ Planning and organisational skills, with an ability to prioritise multiple tasks and meet deadlines working in a lively but sometimes pressured environment.



- ◆ Strong written and oral communication skills.
- ◆ Excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to work both independently and harmoniously within a small, cross-disciplinary, multi-site based team environment.
- ◆ Demonstrated track record and commitment to occupational health and safety.

Desirable

- ◆ Experience in prodrug chemistry.
- ◆ Experience working in a laboratory or manufacturing operation to ISO/GLP/GMP standards.
- ◆ Experience with GPC and/or MALDI and other analytical techniques.
- ◆ Knowledge of issues relating to the generation and protection of intellectual property including preparing data for patent filing and reviewing patent and other literature for patent validity assessment.

The Offer

PolyActiva offers an exceptionally collegiate and supportive work environment. The company expects, and provides, excellent professional standards and work ethics with a 'hands on' attitude. Successful candidates will attract a competitive salary package.

As a valued member of this team, you will have the opportunity to demonstrate your talent and shape this emerging business.

Technical enquiries about this role should be directed to Dr Andrew Donohue on (03) 9903 9520 or andrew.donohue@polyactiva.com.

If you are interested in joining PolyActiva in this exciting new challenge, please email your CV with your cover letter and a statement addressing the selection criteria, to janet.preuss@polyactiva.com.