

Job opportunity at Aelin Therapeutics

Team Leader Biology (Leuven, Belgium)

Aelin Therapeutics is a biopharmaceutical company pioneering peptide-based novel drug modalities to create powerful first-in-class antibiotics and agents against high-value undruggable human targets. The technology, branded Pept-ins™, harnesses the power of protein aggregation to induce specific functional knockdown of a target protein. The Pept-in™ technology allows for the rational design of novel peptide-based therapeutics and differentiates itself from other therapeutic modalities through its unique mode of action, its designability and broad target space.

Aelin Therapeutics is building a motivated and innovative team to realize the therapeutic potential of Pept-ins. The company has activities in Ghent and Leuven, Belgium. This job opportunity is a vacancy in Leuven.

For more information please visit www.aelintx.com.

Role Description

The team leader Biology will be a key member of Aelin's R&D management team providing strong scientific, operational and strategic leadership to the *in vitro* and *in vivo* biology team. Besides line management of direct reports, the candidate is expected to contribute to the further evolution of the team in line with the progression of the company.

Responsibilities

- Oversee the development and the execution of strategies to (i) select and optimize Pept-In lead candidates and (ii) characterize the *in vitro* and *in vivo* mode of action, DMPK, efficacy and safety of Pept-In lead candidates
- Contribute to the performance of the company through leadership of own team, participation in relevant operational, scientific and/or project meetings and present scientific output
- Team leader role: lead, develop and organize activities of the *in vitro* and *in vivo* biology team; maintain focus and provide direction to the team members; support empowerment of the team
- Ensure a high-level scientific standard is maintained on all projects (experimental design conduct and reporting)
- Present complex scientific data in a clear, comprehensive manner
- Ensure smooth communication and interactions with the other teams and all stakeholders
- Contribute to resource and budgeting exercises
- Support and implement operational excellence projects to improve organizational efficiency and effectiveness
- Establish and maintain a network in the academic world; manage academic collaborations; engage with KOLs
- Involved in new target selection
- Involved in grant writing
- Involved in IP filing strategy

Key skills

- Solid knowledge of drug discovery and development processes
- Ph.D. (or equivalent) with at least 10 years of industrial experience (including biotech's), with relevant work experience in drug discovery and development through cell biology, cellular pharmacology, translational medicine or related discipline
- In-depth knowledge in the oncology therapeutic area is a plus
- Experience with proven track record in cellular target and disease-related *in vitro* assay development and target-based cellular assays that probe the pharmacological modulation of the target activity in the cellular context, and with *in vivo* pharmacology models
- Good understanding on how targets/ pathways can be modulated
- Critical mind-set when looking at scientific data, both from internal and external sources
- Ability to support multiple projects within a matrix-based organization and via external collaborations
- Ability to adapt activities & priorities to meet challenging deliverables
- Creative and able to bring new ideas from scientific literature and integrate knowledge coming from different sources; pragmatic and problem solver attitude
- Team player with objectives-driven mind-set
- Excellent organization and communication skills
- Positive attitude and biotech 'can do' mentality
- Open-minded, ability to adopt knowledge & learnings on a new drug modality (Pept-ins) and translate to meaningful *in vitro* and *in vivo* biology read-outs

Our offer

- A competitive salary and benefits package
- An entrepreneurial and stimulating working environment in an ambitious start-up biotech company
- Excellent career development opportunity, with exposure to all aspects of R&D in the company

Do you have the right qualifications, a bright mind, sharp instincts, collaborative spirit, and innovative vision and are you interested in joining our entrepreneurial team? Then forward a short motivation letter and your CV to careers@aelintx.com