



Job Title: Biophysical Scientist (Ref: BS/0117)

Location: Cambridge, UK

Astex Pharmaceuticals is a world leader in innovative drug discovery and development. The company has successfully applied its proprietary Fragment-Based Drug discovery platform to generate multiple new drug candidates that are progressing in clinical development. Astex continues to grow and focuses on Oncology and Neurological Disorders. We have opportunities at our Cambridge, UK, Research Centre for experienced and imaginative scientists, wishing to develop their career in a thriving multidisciplinary, industrial environment.

CURIOSITY, CREATIVITY AND INNOVATIVE SCIENCE FOR DRUG DISCOVERY

...UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL

Astex's Molecular Sciences Department is responsible for supporting all activities spanning 'gene to structure' and for prosecuting Astex's fragment based (Pyramid™) screens. Pyramid™ screening currently utilises X-ray crystallography and an ensemble of biophysical techniques including NMR, surface plasmon resonance (SPR), mass spectrometry (MS), isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC), and thermal unfolding (Tm).

The Biophysical Scientist role is laboratory based and will be focussed on enabling biophysical screens to support Pyramid™ campaigns, developing quantitative models of ligand binding and probing the mechanism of action, thermodynamics and kinetics of ligand binding. Applicants should have significant experience of probing protein-small molecule interactions using SPR and ideally have familiarity with other biophysical methods.

The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to multiple projects in parallel and work within interdisciplinary project teams. As such, applicants should have excellent team-working and verbal and written communication skills. Additionally the successful candidate will be able to pursue their personal development through internal and external presentations, collaborations and publications in high impact journals.

We'd like to hear from candidates who have experience and expertise in the following areas:

- PhD, ideally with proven drug discovery experience in an industrial environment, or equivalent academic setting.
- Extensive SPR experience, specifically in probing protein–small molecule interactions
- Knowledge and experience of problem solving and of developing models for complex interacting systems (e.g. allosteric systems)
- Excellent communication skills and ability to work in teams

It would be an advantage if candidates have:

- Experience of recombinant protein expression & purification
- Proficiency in a range of biophysical techniques (eg NMR, MS, Tm, ITC, other)

We offer excellent career development opportunities as well as a highly competitive salary and benefits package.

Closing Date: 2nd March 2017

To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter quoting the job reference: **BS/0117** to HR.UK@astx.com

*For information on Astex Pharmaceuticals please visit: www.astx.com
For information on Otsuka Pharmaceuticals please visit: www.otsuka.co.jp*