



## **Job Description**

Senior Scientist/Engineer, Polysaccharide Process Development  
**Vaxcyte, Inc.**

June 2020

## **Company Profile:**

Vaxcyte, Inc. (Nasdaq: PCVX) is a next-generation vaccine company seeking to improve global health by developing superior and novel vaccines designed to prevent some of the most common and deadly infectious diseases worldwide. Our exclusively licensed cell-free protein synthesis platform and our proprietary know how enable us to design and produce optimized protein carriers and antigens, the critical building blocks of vaccines, in ways that we believe conventional vaccine technologies cannot. Our pipeline includes pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, or PCV, candidates that we believe are the most broad-spectrum PCV candidates currently in development, targeting the \$7 billion global pneumococcal vaccine market. Our lead vaccine candidate, VAX-24, is a preclinical, 24-valent broad-spectrum pneumococcal conjugate PCV with preclinical proof-of-concept demonstrating potential to replace the standard of care that we expect to advance into clinical trials in the second half of 2021. Our pipeline also includes VAX-XP, a PCV with an expanded breadth of coverage of at least 30 strains, including newly emerging strains responsible for invasive pneumococcal disease and antibiotic resistance; VAX-A1, a prophylactic vaccine candidate designed to prevent Group A Strep infections; and VAX-PG, a therapeutic vaccine candidate designed to slow or stop the progression of periodontal disease by targeting the keystone pathogen responsible for this chronic, oral inflammatory disease. We completed our initial public offering in June 2020, raising \$287.5 million in gross proceeds.

## **Summary:**

Vaxcyte is looking for an energetic and talented Sr. Scientist/Engineer to contribute to the Polysaccharide development and manufacturing group within the CMC team. Vaxcyte is developing a multi-valent polysaccharide-based conjugate vaccine, based on a novel carrier protein produced using the Xpress CF platform. Polysaccharides are a critical component in conjugate vaccines.

The successful candidate will have practical laboratory experience developing processes related to biotechnology, biopharmaceuticals, or vaccine industries. The candidate will be eager to utilize and learn new laboratory skills as this person will be responsible for collaboration on experimental design and execution of experiments to further the polysaccharide development and manufacturing program. This position will require 50-80% time in the lab and this person will be able to independently detail experimental procedures/results in written and presentation formats. The successful candidate will interface closely with the CMC team, write detailed technical reports, present experimental results internally, and interface with external CMO partners.

## **Essential Functions:**

- Design and execute experiments to further develop the upstream processes including:
  - Colony selection/cell line development
  - Fermentation basal and feed media optimization
  - Bioreactor environmental conditions optimization
  - Depth and tangential flow filtration development
  - Scalability studies
- Operate and maintain instrumentation for bacterial fermentation (BSL2) and primary recovery (filtration, TFF etc.) of bacterial polysaccharides utilizing aseptic technique

- Characterize polysaccharide targets using various analytical methods (Anthrone, Lowry, SEC-MALS etc...)
- Assists in design and execution of upstream process characterization studies
- Keep accurate and current records of research and/or project related activities in laboratory notebooks
- Prepare technical reports, summaries of testing, and detailed protocols
- Present/communicate data to polysaccharide team as well as broader CMC team
- Contribute to technical discussions within the CMC team
- Research literature to identify novel methodologies and solve scientific problems and apply to the overall program
- Tech transfer fermentation/primary recovery processes to external manufacturing groups
- Writes, reviews, and approves R&D protocols, batch records, and reports in support of process development, and assay development
- Works within a team environment and provides support as necessary to further the team's initiatives

### **Requirements:**

- PhD in Bioprocess Engineering, Chemical Engineering, or a related discipline, with 2+ years of industry experience; M.S. with 5+ years of industry experience; or B.S. with 10+ years of industry experience
- Practical experience with and theoretical knowledge of traditional processing unit operations including fermentation, TFF, depth filtration and chromatography
  - Hands-on experience with automated process equipment such as DASbox/Gip, Ambr systems, Akta chromatography, and TFF preferred
- Solid understanding of the principals of DoE (Design of Experiments); practical experience with DoE software; proficient in the design and interpretation of statistically-modelled experiments
  - Process characterization experience is a plus
- Understanding of engineering principles involved in scaling processes from development lab to pilot / manufacturing plant
  - Prior experience in polysaccharide development is a plus
- Working knowledge of the requirements of GMP manufacturing
- Experience working with CDMOs and ability to effectively communicate experimental design and results to a CDMO
- Ability to travel internationally to a CMO as some international travel may be required
- Demonstrated success working in a cross-functional team environment on multiple projects; ability to work effectively as a member of a team to deliver results
- Strong interpersonal skills, with excellent written and verbal communication skills

**Reports to:** Associate Director, Polysaccharide Process Development

**Location:** Foster City, CA

**Compensation:**

The compensation package will be competitive and includes comprehensive benefits and an equity component.

**Send resumes to:**

[careers@vaxcyte.com](mailto:careers@vaxcyte.com)

Vaxcyte, Inc.

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