Be the new

Head of Medicinal Chemistry

in a biotech company focused on the discovery, design and development of innovative peptide-based medicines

Zealand Pharma A/S (Zealand) is seeking an exceptional scientist and leader to head our Peptide Medicinal Chemistry department. Reporting to the Chief Science Officer, the successful candidate will develop scientific strategies, lead and mentor a team, and build partnerships cross-functionally to advance Zealand’s programs. You will be part of an exceptional research team and help advance discovery and development of groundbreaking therapies for serious unmet medical needs.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Lead Chemistry Research operations to ensure high quality NME productivity.
- Maintain scientific as well as competitor awareness in the fields of chemistry, peptide technology and peptide drugs. As a core member of the R&D leadership team, drive overall chemistry strategy for Research activities in line with objectives.
- Develop and maintain a group with the necessary skills and competencies and seek operational effectiveness and continuous improvement.
- Manage overall Chemistry OPEX budget and contribute to R&D OPEX, CAPEX and external budget planning and adherence.
- Lead and manage the Medicinal Chemistry and Chemoinformatics team in Copenhagen and direct activities of dedicated FTEs based in a CRO in China.
- Responsibilities include objective setting, recruitment, people engagement and development, talent management, performance management and succession planning.
- Lead the development of a Chemistry Department that aspires to scientific leadership in the field of peptide design, facilitating innovation and adding to the Company intellectual property portfolio.
- Contribute to evaluation and recommendation for in-licensing, partnership or M&A opportunities.
- Develop and maintain good relationships across the interfaces with Legal, IP, IT and Business Development. Working in partnership with these functions, maximize internal project value or capture external project value.
- Establish and maintain relationships with scientific KOLs and leading academic groups. Manage chemistry related external collaborations and ensure that contractual obligations are met, with the support of Alliance Management.
- Ensure effective use and oversight of CROs to bring value and flexibility to Zealand Pharma.
- Represent and promote the Company externally.

Qualifications:

- Requires a PhD or equivalent in chemistry, pharmaceutical development, or related discipline.
- Minimum of 10+ years industrial experience working in a managerial/leadership or a senior scientific role and with a demonstrated track record advancing therapeutics from discovery into clinical development.
- Extensive team leadership and people management experience in a cross-functional team setting.
- Expert knowledge of scientific principles and concepts.
- Has established a reputation as a leader in the field with sustained performance and accomplishment.
- Deep understanding of the drug discovery and development process and cross-functional dependencies.
- Successful track record and experience in a chemistry lead role on multiple R&D teams across more than one therapeutic area.
- Strong mentoring and leadership skills, with emphasis on developing and coaching junior scientists to build a high-performing team.
- Ability to stay abreast and critically evaluate scientific literature and new technology as it relates to the discovery and development of new medicines.
- Excellent verbal (proficient English is mandatory), written and interpersonal communication skills, and ability to develop and grow strong cross-site/function collaborations.

What we offer

Zealand’s employees are one of the company’s most important assets. We strive to attract, develop and retain the best talents, and to be a company where every employee can thrive.

At Zealand, we understand the value of a diverse workforce. As an employee, you will be part of an innovative, cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural working environment.

We offer a combined salary package including pension scheme and health insurance, as well as the option of joining the company lunch program, and use of massage, fitness and social facilities.

To find out more about working at Zealand, visit our careers site and view our company video at:

www.zealandpharma.com/zealand-as-a-work-place/
www.zealandpharma.com/video-about-zealand-new/

Application

Please send your application and CV with the title “Head of Chemistry” no later than July 5, 2019:

career@zealandpharma.com

or

Zealand Pharma A/S
Att.: HR
Smedeland 36
DK-2600 Glostrup

About Zealand Pharma A/S

Zealand Pharma A/S (Nasdaq Copenhagen and New York: ZEAL) (“Zealand”) is a biotechnology company focused on the discovery and development of innovative peptide-based medicines. More than 10 drug candidates invented by Zealand have advanced into clinical development, of which two have reached the market. Zealand’s current pipeline of internal product candidates focus on specialty gastrointestinal and metabolic diseases. Zealand’s portfolio also includes two clinical license collaborations with Boehringer Ingelheim and pre-clinical license collaboration with Alexion Pharmaceuticals.

Zealand is based in Copenhagen (Glostrup), Denmark. For further information about the Company’s business and activities, please visit www.zealandpharma.com or follow Zealand on LinkedIn or Twitter @ZealandPharma.