Position: Senior Scientist, Medicinal Chemistry

Mirati Therapeutics (NASDAQ: MRTX) is a San Diego-based clinical-stage biotechnology company dedicated to advancing novel therapeutics that extend the lives of patients by directly addressing the genetic and immunological drivers of cancer. Mirati is developing novel direct inhibitors of KRAS mutations including adagrasib (MRTX849), a potent and selective inhibitor of KRAS G12C. This historically difficult to drug target is present in approximately 14% of NSCLC adenocarcinomas, 4% of colorectal cancer as well as smaller percentages of several other difficult-to-treat cancers. Adagrasib (MRTX849) is being evaluated in a Phase 1/2 clinical trial as a treatment for patients with KRAS G12C-positive tumors. Our research on G12C has led to breakthroughs in targeting other KRAS mutations including G12D which drives tumor growth in more patients than G12C and includes pancreatic, colorectal and other types of cancer.

Mirati is also developing sitravatinib, designed to selectively target a spectrum of tyrosine kinases implicated in both tumor growth and the suppression of immune responses to tumors. Sitravatinib has demonstrated durable responses in lung cancer patients whose cancer has progressed despite treatment with checkpoint inhibitors - an area of significant unmet medical need. Sitravatinib is being evaluated in multiple clinical trials to treat patients who are refractory to prior immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy, including a potentially registration-enabling Phase 3 trial of sitravatinib in combination with a checkpoint inhibitor in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) that is currently enrolling patients.

We are Mirati

Our mission is to discover, design, and deliver breakthrough therapies to transform the lives of cancer patients and their loved ones. We have built a culture fueled by accountability, urgency, collaboration and open-mindedness, and have established ourselves as an innovator within our industry. As we grow, we are looking to build diverse teams, with skilled individuals that are passionate about their work.

Why join us?

The drug discovery team at Mirati is responsible for the invention, optimization and characterization of small molecules as clinical candidates for the Mirati research portfolio. Mirati is seeking an extraordinary synthetic organic chemist to join the drug discovery team at the Senior Scientist level within the medicinal chemistry group.

Your Responsibilities:

- Utilize cutting-edge synthetic methodologies and techniques to design and execute efficient syntheses of target compounds.
- Develop and utilize a deep knowledge of medicinal chemistry and drug discovery principles to advance portfolio projects from inception to the selection of development candidates.
- Create optimization strategies for improving lead series potency, selectivity, physiochemical properties, in vitro ADME, and PK by coupling multivariant SAR analysis with hypothesis-driven medicinal chemistry design principles.
- Work closely with structural biology and computational chemistry colleagues to develop hypotheses that address key drug optimization goals and design novel compounds testing those hypotheses.
- Create intellectual property that advances portfolio projects. Prepare and update patent applications protecting lead series.
- Prepare and present summaries of work for department and project meetings.
• Coordinate activities with outside partners and CROs; help maintain corporate database; prepare and deliver internal presentations, patent applications and external publications as driven by the project and corporate strategies.
• Engage with CMC and early development teams to facilitate IND-enabling activities for drug substance to ensure a seamless transition from late discovery to early development with internal accountability and flexibility.
• Maintain all appropriate legal and corporate standards for lab safety and hazardous material management; execute daily chemistry operations with an approach designed to minimize risks and hazardous waste streams.

What is Required:

• Ph.D. in synthetic organic chemistry with 0–4 years of experience post-degree in an academic or industrial setting
• A track record of synthetic productivity and problem solving, as demonstrated by patent applications, publications, and presentations
• Ability to apply the principle of physical organic chemistry to rationalize reaction mechanism and molecular interactions
• Demonstration of outstanding communication skills through internal/external presentations and publications
• Flexibility in adapting methods/skills according to evolving priorities
• The ability to work within a fast-paced matrixed team of experts and scientific associates

Mirati’s policy is to provide equal employment opportunities to all applicants and employees without regards to race, color, religion, creed, gender identity or expression, age, national origin or ancestry, citizenship, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, membership in the uniformed services, genetic information, or any other basis protected by applicable law.

Notice to Third Party Agencies: Please note that Mirati Therapeutics Inc. does not accept unsolicited resumes from recruiters or employment agencies.