

Associate Director, Biophysics / Biochemistry



At Kestrel our aspiration is to invent brilliant technologies and develop novel small molecule agents for cancer targets of exceptional scientific and clinical import, beginning with mutant RAS. Our reliance is on the rigorous application of innovative science in the service of the discovery of new medicines for people with cancer. Our priority is patients, always.

We are an oncology biotech start-up in its early stages of growth, having been in operation since January of 2022. The company has excellent funding and is in the process of expanding, hiring chemists and biologists as well as this position, and moving to new laboratory space.

We are seeking an outstanding individual to lead our Biophysics / Biochemistry function. The successful candidate will play a key role in establishing and directing biophysical and biochemical strategies to discover and optimize clinical candidates from hit identification through to IND submission of all of Kestrel's oncology projects.

The successful candidate will assume the role of Associate Director of Biophysics / Biochemistry and will report directly to the Head of Biology.

Key Responsibilities:

- Design, execute, and analyze data from biophysical and biochemical studies to characterize small molecules using techniques such as, but not limited to, NMR, SPR, and TR-FRET
- Implement new instrumentation, methods, and assay workflows for hit-to-lead / lead optimization compound screening
- Manage internal and external research activities conducted by CROs / collaborators
- Prepare study reports for regulatory filings (e.g., IND)
- Work collaboratively with chemistry and biology colleagues to ensure timely generation and dissemination of critical program data to enable decision-making and milestone progression

Professional Experience & Qualifications:

- Ph.D. in biophysics, biochemistry or related discipline
- 5+ years in the biotech / pharmaceutical industry or equivalent experience
- Expertise in biophysical and biochemical methods to characterize small molecules and enable hit-to-lead / lead optimization and MOA studies
- Demonstrated success in working with challenging oncology drug targets
- Experience managing junior scientists, external CROs and collaborations
- Excellent communication, organizational, and time management skills
- Experience with structural biology approaches a plus