



## **Job Description**

Senior Scientists  
**VaxNewMo LLC**

August 5th, 2019

## **Company profile:**

VaxNewMo is a biopharmaceutical company developing next-generation conjugate vaccines to prevent deadly bacterial infections. Conjugate vaccines are conventionally manufactured using complex synthetic chemistry to covalently link bacterial surface polysaccharides to an immunogenic carrier protein. The process of chemical conjugation is well known for its complexity, high costs and laboriousness. To bypass the dependency on chemical conjugation, VaxNewMo utilizes a biological approach to develop conjugate vaccines (i.e. bioconjugate vaccines), whereby, the nonpathogenic bacterium *E. coli* is engineered to produce conjugate vaccines in lieu of chemistry. Currently, VaxNewMo has three vaccines in development: a multivalent pneumococcal bioconjugate vaccine, a bivalent *Klebsiella pneumoniae* bioconjugate vaccine, and a multivalent Group B *Streptococcus* bioconjugate vaccine.

VaxNewMo's bioconjugate vaccines are being developed using its patented bioconjugation platform, which harnesses the power of bacterial glycosylation systems to attach polysaccharides to carrier proteins all within the periplasm of *E. coli*. VaxNewMo is currently funded through multiple, non-dilutive SBIR/STTR grants from the National Institutes of Health.

## **Summary:**

VaxNewMo is looking to hire at least two scientists to accelerate the development of its bioconjugate vaccine pipeline. It is essential that these individuals be energetic, self-motivated and excited about working for a start-up biotech company. Much like biotech companies before us, scientific team members are often a company's greatest technology. The candidates will be independently responsible for generating VaxNewMo's glycoengineered *E. coli* strains and/or bioprocessing and downstream purification of bioconjugate vaccines.

## **Essential Functions:**

The objectives of these positions are molecular microbiological and biochemical development of VaxNewMo's bioconjugation platform for commercial-scale use. These positions will also require scientific writing likely in the form of patent applications, manuscripts and grant writing. Ideal candidates will be expert multitaskers and comfortable wearing multiple hats and assisting others with their projects.

**Requirements:** We are hiring multiple scientists; therefore, expertise in all of the listed points below is not necessarily required. If you are a talented microbiologist or a great protein chemist, VaxNewMo is interested in learning more about how you feel you can add value to our team.

- Ph.D. in Microbiology, Biology, Biochemistry, or Biomedical Sciences. Recent graduates and postdoctoral associates are equally encouraged to apply.
- Microbial glycobiology experience is considered a high priority asset; however, it is not an essential requirement.
- Strong understanding of microbiological, protein purification, and/or microbial bioprocessing principles substantiated by a successful track record of scientific publications.

- Extensive hands-on experience with bacterial genetic engineering in the form of chromosomal insertions, plasmid construction, and use of modern cloning technologies, such as, Gibson Assembly Cloning, In-Fusion Cloning and experience with restriction enzyme-based cloning.
- Experience with protein characterization via SDS-PAGE, Western blotting, and purification with state-of-the-art FPLC equipment.
- Experience with microbial fermentation, bioprocessing and/or parallel processing.
- Strong interpersonal skills are required – we are a small team; therefore, effective communication will help VaxNewMo achieve its technical milestones while maintaining a collegial work environment.

**Reports to:** CEO

**Location:** St. Louis, Missouri. VaxNewMo has its own private laboratory within the BioGenerator Accelerator Labs, which, as of August 2019, has moved into the newly renovated Crescent building located at 4340 Duncan Ave, St. Louis, MO 63110. BioGenerator is part of the larger BioSTL umbrella, which helps drive biotech economic development in St. Louis. According to *biospace.com*, “St. Louis is one of the fastest-growing and top-ranked emerging life science markets in the U.S.”

**Compensation:** The compensation package will be competitive, commiserate with experience and include an allowance for healthcare as well as an equity component.

**Send resumes to:**

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

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