



# DARK BLUE

## THERAPEUTICS

PIONEERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF  
ONCOLOGY MEDICINES

A new precision oncology biotech based in Oxford with an exciting portfolio of next-generation small molecule programs exploiting cancers vulnerabilities and dependencies.

**We are growing our team and looking for a senior medicinal chemistry leader!**

**If you have a passion to apply your science to the discovery of transformational cancer medicines and have broad experience and outstanding skills in medicinal chemistry then get in touch.**

**[Recruitment@darkbluetx.com](mailto:Recruitment@darkbluetx.com)**

LOCATION: Oxford, UK

SALARY: Competitive salary and benefits package, relative to qualifications and experience.

### **About Dark Blue Therapeutics**

Dark Blue Therapeutics is a new precision oncology biotech company based in Oxford with an exciting portfolio of novel next-generation small molecule programs that exploit cancers vulnerabilities and dependencies. We have multiple projects in drug discovery targeting first and best-in-class drugs with a clear line of sight to transformational medicines in molecularly defined patient populations. Our approach exploits a deep translational understanding of target biology coupled with industry leading structurally enabled medicinal chemistry. We believe the challenges of cancer drug discovery require a fully committed collaborative approach to succeed and we partner with world leading academics in Oxford and beyond to leverage deep target, mechanistic and disease insights.

The company is led by a group of passionate, seasoned industry experts with a driving belief that great science, coupled with exceptional teamwork is the key to delivering transformational medicines to patients.

### **Position Summary**

As a medicinal chemistry leader, you will have a critical role to play in driving the delivery of our innovative portfolio and be a key member of the R&D team reporting to the VP of Chemistry. The role can be at the Associate Director or Director level depending on experience.

You will use your expertise to lead med chem programmes across different stages of the drug discovery phases, from hit discovery to candidate selection. We use a network of external chemistry discovery partners to deliver our science, and you would play a leading role in managing the science and relationships and contributing to the overall external science strategy. Additionally, in this role you will work closely with both internal and external experts across the pre-clinical discovery sciences (biology, pharmacology, ADMET, safety, CMC, IP) and be expected to contribute across disciplines and/or lead project tactics to focus on the critical path to delivery. You can also expect to regularly interact directly with leading Oxford University academic scientists and the Dark Blue Tx senior leadership, including the CSO and CEO. This is an exciting opportunity to join a growing company and shape the future direction of how we deliver our chemical science.

Roles and responsibilities include:

- Scientific leadership across medicinal and synthetic chemistry.
- Leading drug molecule design & synthesis, data analysis of SAR & SPR profiles.
- Leading medicinal chemistry contributions across the portfolio of projects at all stages.
- Designing project plans to focus on the critical path to expedite project progression at all stages.
- Developing project resourcing plans to make most efficient use of resources.
- Lead our external resources to deliver high quality chemistry output, quickly.
- Identifying opportunities to enhance delivery whether through identification of capability gaps or identifying external expertise to accelerate delivery.

- Work closely with external principal investigators to drive contributions and maximise benefit to projects.
- Contribute to target selection, prioritisation, and advancement discussions.
- Working in and potentially lead interdisciplinary project teams.
- Leading or contributing to filing of appropriate patent applications and contributing to overall IP strategy.
- Presenting plans and results internally, including potentially at board level and externally.

Essential requirements:

- Ph.D. in chemistry or a related discipline or a BSc/MSc degree with significant experience in a fast-paced pharma or biotech company, including leading projects to successful milestones.
- Experience of leading multiple parallel scientific workstreams to successful outcomes.
- An expert understanding of small molecule design including SBDD, property and multi-parameter-based approaches to address multiple compound issues (e.g., potency, ADMET, safety, cost of goods).
- Evidence of your own scientific contributions to progress projects to milestones including candidate nomination.
- Clearly evidenced ability to drive delivery through others whether internal or externally.
- A strong understanding of the chemistry CRO landscape as evidenced by a strong network and experience of delivering projects through external resources.
- Broad experience of multiple modes of action (antagonists, agonists, degraders, protein stabilisers etc...) and routes of administration and scheduling (IV, oral etc...)
- Strong scientific reputation as evidenced by publications, patents and presentations.
- Exceptional written and oral communications and ability to pitch appropriately for the audience.
- Strong individual leadership, resilience and team working skills.
- A flexible approach to work that aligns with a fast-paced biotech culture.

Experience in the following areas is preferred but not essential:

What's on offer:

Competitive salary and benefits package including share options and discretionary bonus.

If you interested in hearing more about this opportunity, please send your CV to:

[recruitment@darkbluetx.com](mailto:recruitment@darkbluetx.com)