

CAREERS AND RECRUITMENT

First-quarter biotech job picture

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Beijing-based BeiGene has partnered with Guangzhou GET Holding Corp. to form BeiGene Biologics. The joint venture will construct a RMB 2.2-billion (\$330-million) manufacturing facility for BeiGene's biologics in Guangzhou and fund development of biologic candidates in China. BeiGene will also contribute biologic assets to the collaboration. The move comes as Chinese regulators require that biologics be manufactured in China as a prerequisite for approval.

Since the city and state governments of New York announced more than \$1 billion in initiatives in December 2016 to help turn New York City into a top-tier life science hub, Johnson & Johnson (New Brunswick, NJ, USA) has teamed up with New York State and the New York Genome Center to announce the launch of JLABS @ NYC in 2018, its sixth startup incubator

(after Houston, Toronto, San Diego, the Bay Area and Massachusetts). The 30,000-square foot facility is slated for the fashionable SoHo area and will host up to 30 biotech, pharma, medical device and consumer health companies with an emphasis on 'cross-sector' technologies.

Paris-based Sanofi and Lonza Group (Basel, Switzerland) will collaborate on a new large-scale mammalian cell culture facility for monoclonal antibody production in Visp, Switzerland. The companies will share equally in the initial investment of CHF 290 million (\$287.8 million), with the facility set to open in 2020.

Retrophin has announced it will close its office in Cambridge, Massachusetts, by year's end and consolidate its operations to San Diego to centralize expertise and improve efficiency. The rare disease treatment developer will relocate some of its 135 employees.

Advertised biotech and pharma sector jobs in the job databases tracked by *Nature Biotechnology* during the first quarter of 2017 are shown in **Tables 1** and **2**. Other downsizings within the life science industry are shown in **Table 3**.

Table 1 Who's hiring? Advertised openings at the 25 largest biotech companies

Company ^a	Number of employees	Number of advertised openings ^b		
		Monster	LinkedIn	Naturejobs
Monsanto	22,400	349	227	0
Amgen	17,900	605	618	0
CSL	12,196	1,000+	3,096	0
WuXi PharmaTech	8,837	78	57	0
bioMerieux	8,379	0	19	0
PerkinElmer	7,700	155	47	0
Bio-Rad Laboratories	7,600	2	147	0
Biogen	7,550	165	645	0
Biocon	7,310	0	0	0
Gilead Sciences	7,000	18	137	0
IDEXX Laboratories	6,400	262	475	0
Novozymes	6,267	27	8	0
Celgene	6,012	447	309	358
Endo Pharmaceuticals	5,062	104	54	0
Shire	5,016	229	193	0
Qiagen	4,339	60	125	0
Illumina	3,700	387	423	0
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals	2,925	294	404	0
Actelion	2,493	0	47	0
Alexion Pharmaceuticals	2,273	113	106	0
Biotest Pharmaceuticals	2,158	0	1	0
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	1,830	210	327	0
BioMarin Pharmaceutical	1,681	0	104	0
CK Life Sciences	1,675	0	0	0
AMRI	1,668	0	19	0
Total		4,505+	7,588	358

^aAs defined in *Nature Biotechnology's* survey of public companies (33, 703–709; 2015). ^bAs searched on Monster.com, LinkedIn.com and Naturejobs.com, 14 April 2017. Jobs may overlap.

Table 2 Advertised job openings at the ten largest pharma companies

Company ^a	Number of employees	Number of advertised openings ^b		
		Monster	LinkedIn	Naturejobs
Novartis	133,413	589	1,618	1
Johnson & Johnson	126,500	1,000+	1,619	2
Sanofi	113,496	1,000+	933	1
GlaxoSmithKline	98,702	8	692	1
Roche	88,509	595	1,334	6
Pfizer	78,300	371	644	1
Abbott Laboratories	77,000	460	453	1
Merck & Co.	70,000	807	944	1
AstraZeneca	57,500	6	523	38
Teva Pharmaceutical	43,009	0	183	0
Total		4,836+	8,943	52

^aData obtained from Statista. ^bAs searched on Monster.com, LinkedIn.com and Naturejobs.com, 14 April 2017. Jobs may overlap.

Table 3 Selected biotech and pharma downsizings

Company	Number of employees cut	Details
Cempra	91	Reduced head count by 67% to 45 following multiple setbacks related to Solithera (solithromycin).
Dynavax Technologies	100	Reduced head count by 38% to 164 and will focus on its immuno-oncology pipeline.
Great Basin Scientific	50	Reduced head count by 26% to refocus resources to its commercialized products. The company has four FDA-approved tests and panels to diagnose infectious diseases.
Nivalis Therapeutics	25	Reduced headcount by 83% to about 5 to preserve cash while exploring strategic alternatives, including an acquisition and merger.

FDA, US Food and Drug Administration. Source: *BioCentury*.

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