CAREER FEATURE

Second-quarter biotech job picture

A quarterly snapshot of job expansions, reductions and availability in the biotech and pharma sectors.

A spate of new construction was announced in the second quarter of 2019. In May, Bayer said it would invest \$150 million to build a cell culture facility on its campus in Berkeley, California, to accelerate the development of biological therapies. Scheduled for completion in 2021, the 40,000-square-foot site will support Bayer's oncology and cardiology pipelines. At the same time, Merck announced that it was adding 120,000 square feet to its 1.1-million-square-foot site in Elkton, Virginia, to increase production of its Gardasil human papillomavirus vaccine. The expansion is part of a nearly \$1-billion multistage investment. Iovance Biotherapeutics will invest \$75 million to build a production

facility in Philadelphia for its autologous tumor-infiltrating-lymphocyte-based T cell therapy products. The facility is expected to open in 2021. And Japan's Chugai Pharmaceutical said it would close two research laboratories in Gotemba and Kamakura City and consolidate their operations in a new core research laboratory in Yokohama. Due to open in August 2022, the \$1.2-billion Chugai Life Science Park Yokohama is intended to attract researchers both in and outside the company, from Japan and overseas.

As part of the reorganization of its R&D group away from cardiovascular diseases, Sanofi said it would reduce headcount by 466 employees in France and Germany. In France, the drugmaker will ramp up its immuno-oncology and gene therapy research. In Germany, Sanofi will invest more in antibody engineering. In addition, Sanofi will increase R&D spending in the United States—specifically its Massachusetts-based gene therapy group. GlaxoSmithKline also announced redundancies at its Stevenage, UK, and Upper Providence, Pennsylvania, sites, part of an R&D reorganization spurred by new management. GSK has slowed its research in the respiratory field and is also expanding its immunology and oncology portfolio.

Advertised biotechnology and pharmaceutical sector jobs in the job databases tracked by *Nature Biotechnology* were up slightly in the second quarter of 2019 (Tables 1 and 2) compared with the previous quarter (*Nat. Biotechnol.* 37, 569, 2019). □

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	Biospace
Shire	23,044	1	707	0
Amgen	20,800	503	0	694
Monsanto	20,500	44	0	0
Gilead Sciences	10,000	17	234	163
bioMérieux	9,971	0	15	0
Biocon	9,234	0	0	0
IDEXX Laboratories	7,600	0	189	0
Celgene	7,467	104	274	35
Biogen	7,300	0	196	0
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals	6,200	2	416	540
Illumina	6,200	60	167	0
Novozymes	6,109	0	0	0
Opko Health	6,030	4	4	0
Endo Pharmaceuticals	3,039	19	47	0
BGI Genomics	2,585	0	0	0
BioMarin Pharmaceutical	2,581	1	183	7
Alexion Pharmaceuticals	2,525	131	136	0
Biotest	2,474	1	181	0
Myriad Genetics	2,400	139	148	0
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	2,300	0	156	10
Evotec	2,178	0	8	0
Alkermes	2,000	142	197	0
GenScript Biotech	1,932	0	6	0
CK Life Sciences	1,688	0	0	0
Amphastar Pharmaceuticals	1,644	0	3	0
Total		1,168	3,267	1,449

^aAs defined in *Nature Biotechnology's* survey of public companies (36, 576–584; 2018). ^bAs searched on Monster.com, LinkedIn.com and Biospace.com, 2 July 2019. 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	Biospace
Johnson & Johnson	134,000	5	661	32
Novartis	125,000	13	246	156
Sanofi	106,600	43	396	0
Bayer	99,900	6	216	0
Abbott Laboratories	99,000	5	985	7
GlaxoSmithKline	98,500	0	382	0
Roche	93,700	4	833	7
Pfizer	90,200	764	217	3
Merck & Co.	69,000	1	513	4
Sinopharm	61,700	0	0	0
Total		841	4,449	209

^aData obtained from Statista. ^bAs searched on Monster.com, LinkedIn.com and Biospace.com, 2 July 2019. Jobs may overlap.

Michael Francisco

Senior Editor, *Nature Biotechnology*.

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