

Third-quarter biotech job picture

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In the third quarter, Seoul-based Samsung Group announced a \$22 billion investment over the next three years in biopharmaceuticals, artificial intelligence and self-driving cars as it seeks ways to drive future growth. The company said it expected to add 40,000 employees in that time. While details of the plans were not disclosed, Samsung said it will also continue to invest in its contract manufacturing and biosimilar businesses.

In Europe, Boehringer Ingelheim (Ingelheim, Germany) will build a new biologicals development center at its R&D site in Biberach, Germany, at a cost of €230 million (\$268 million). The center will open in stages beginning in 2020 and will employ 500 employees.

Two pharmas announced the creation of new business units. Paris-based Sanofi will launch two new business units in 2019—one focused on China and emerging markets and the other on primary care. The

company just opened a global R&D operations hub in Chengdu with a \$77 million investment to support clinical R&D. The new primary care unit will combine Sanofi's diabetes and cardiovascular unit and established products unit portfolios, and will focus on mature markets. And Novo Nordisk will establish a new business development unit in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to identify new therapeutic approaches via collaborations with academic and biotech partners in four new translational R&D centers, scheduled to open this year. Two of the centers will be located in Denmark, one will be in Indianapolis and one in Oxford.

Takeda Pharmaceutical said it will move its US headquarters from Deerfield, Illinois, to the greater Boston area after its acquisition of Shire closes in the first half of 2019. Takeda currently has 5,000 US employees. The move allows the company to bring its US business units in closer proximity; it acquired Ariad Pharmaceuticals, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in February 2017.

Companies announcing headcount reductions in the third quarter include Roche's Genentech unit (223 employees at its South San Francisco headquarters), Novartis (140 employees at the Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research in Emeryville, California), Aquinox Pharmaceuticals (30 employees, or 53% of its workforce) and Ironwood Pharmaceuticals (40 employees, or 6% of its workforce, in connection with its plan to split into two publicly traded companies).

Advertised biotechnology and pharmaceutical sector jobs in the job databases tracked by *Nature Biotechnology* were slightly up in the third quarter of 2018 (Tables 1 and 2) compared with the previous quarter (*Nat. Biotechnol.* 36, 773, 2018).

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	23,906	100	467	0
Monsanto	20,800	725	218	0
Amgen	19,200	394	464	28
bioMérieux	9,335	0	16	0
Gilead Sciences	9,000	4	254	0
Biocon	8,234	0	0	0
Biogen	7,400	0	293	0
IDEXX Laboratories	7,365	1	142	2
Celgene	7,132	111	314	31
Novozymes	6,295	0	5	1
Opko Health	6,041	1	2	0
Illumina	5,500	112	416	0
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals	5,400	0	383	361
Endo Pharmaceuticals	4,894	50	42	0
Alexion Pharmaceuticals	3,121	103	114	0
AMRI	3,085	0	39	0
Actelion	2,624	0	15	0
Biotest	2,527	160	102	0
BioMarin Pharmaceutical	2,293	0	22	15
Myriad Genetics	2,206	80	270	0
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	2,150	294	58	10
Alkermes	1,750	482	567	0
CK Life Sciences	1,747	0	0	0
GenScript Biotech	1,592	0	1	0
Amphastar Pharmaceuticals	1,541	0	0	0
Total		2,617	4,204	447

^aAs defined in *Nature Biotechnology's* survey of public companies (35, 623–629, 2017).

^bAs searched on Monster.com, LinkedIn.com and Biospace.com, 9 October 2018. 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
Novartis	133,413	28	335	76
Johnson & Johnson	126,500	6,413	997	6
Sanofi	113,496	38	502	1
GlaxoSmithKline	98,702	1	223	0
Roche	88,509	3	13	8
Pfizer	78,300	413	355	0
Abbott Laboratories	77,000	40	172	6
Merck & Co.	70,000	17	589	0
AstraZeneca	57,500	3	60	22
Teva Pharmaceutical	43,009	0	202	0
Total		6,956	3,448	119

^aData obtained from Statista. ^bAs searched on Monster.com, LinkedIn.com and Biospace.com, 9 October 2018. Jobs may overlap.

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