



Plexxikon

[Wayne Spevak, Ph.D.](#)

Vice President, Chemistry



Dr. Spevak has served as vice president of chemistry since August 2018. More recently, he was senior director of chemistry since 2016. He joined Plexxikon in 2004 as a senior scientist and has led the chemistry group since 2009. He is an inventor on 45 issued U.S. patents, and was a contributing member of drug discovery teams leading to 11 novel molecules entering human clinical trials, including Zelboraf®, Plexxikon's first oncology drug now approved in the U.S. and many other countries. Dr. Spevak is an enthusiastic practitioner of medicinal chemistry based on structure-guided drug design. Prior to Plexxikon, he was director of chemistry at Thios Pharmaceuticals. He began his industry career at Telik, holding a series of positions with increasing responsibility. Dr. Spevak earned his undergraduate degree from Northwestern University, and his Ph.D. degree in chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.