

## What is a Pharmacologist?

Pharmacology is the study of how molecules work inside the body and can be used as medicines. A pharmacologist is a scientist working to find and test new medicines. Students might be familiar with words like 'pharmacist' and 'pharmacy' which share the same root word: 'pharmakon,' which is Greek for drug or poison!

## What does the Pharmacologist do in Venom CoLab?

The Pharmacologist learns about the health problem the team is trying to solve. They have the most background information on how systems of the body are expected to function, and what has changed when experiencing a health problem like pain, blood clotting, cancer, and autoimmune diseases. The Pharmacologist gets specific background information about cell receptors involved in the health issue. In Chapter 4, The Pharmacologist runs an additional experiment to test whether molecules from venom could work as medicines for humans.

## XR Component

The Pharmacologist uses XR in Chapter 4. In Chapter 3, the team identified at least 2 molecules that have an expected effect that could help address the health issue. In Chapter 4, the pharmacologist further tests these molecules on samples of liver cells to make sure there are no negative effects on the liver, such as causing liver cells to burst.

