



Candidate Information

Position:	Senior Technician (Genomic Technologist)
School/Department:	Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology
Reference:	20/108212
Closing Date:	Monday 18 May 2020
Salary:	£33,797 to £40,322 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 23 April 2020
Duration:	This is a fixed term position until 31 January 2023

JOB PURPOSE:

To be responsible for the day to day operation of the ACTIONED (integrAted moleCular soluTions fOr diagNostics and Early Detection) project which is a consortium of three main partners – Precision Medicine Centre of Excellence at Queen's University Belfast, Roche Diagnostics Ltd and Sonrai Analytics Ltd.

Providing high-level technical expertise and to be responsible for the co-ordination of multiple genomic and tissue-based technologies.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Management of the day to day running and operation of the ACTIONED project from a technical and laboratory perspective.
2. Work with the key partners to implement new genomic and tissue-based technologies for the ACTIONED project within the Precision Medicine Centre of Excellence.
3. Manage a team of technical staff to deliver the goals and objectives of the ACTIONED project. Standardising laboratory practices, protocols and rotations and liaising with the scientific and clinical leads to ensure efficient running of the project.
4. To develop and advise on relevant new laboratory-based techniques and technologies. Provide high-level technical expertise to the ACTIONED programme.
5. Management and co-ordination of the shipment and transfer of samples from collaborators on the ACTIONED project ensuring that all regulatory documentation and agreements are in place for their transfer.
6. Liaise with the Quality Lead on the implementation, monitoring and reviewing of all aspects of Health and Safety for the ACTIONED project ensuring good laboratory practice, COSHH etc, as required.
7. Advise the Head of Laboratory Operations on the installation and maintenance of the new equipment ensuring adherence to University and procurement procedures.
8. Liaise with the relevant Finance staff with regard to financial forecasts for the ACTIONED project i.e. providing schedules for ordering reagents for the various work packages.
9. Contribute to the preparation of the quarterly reports for Innovate UK on progress within the various work packages.
10. To undertake any other reasonable duties, within the general ambit of the post and the competence of the post-holder, in accordance with the changing needs and demands of a dynamic research environment.
11. Participate in Continuous Professional Development. This will be done through annual appraisal.

Planning and Organising:

1. Co-ordinate technical/scientific activities of the ACTIONED project taking into account long term objectives.
2. Determine technical priorities and allocate resources to meet planned objectives and requirements.
3. Contribute to the development of policies, procedures and plans within the ACTIONED project.
4. To participate in appropriate rotas as required.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Procurement of specialised equipment ensuring University procedures are adhered to.
2. Train and provide specialist technical guidance and support to others.
3. Ensure equipment is maintained to schedule and that all maintenance is documented.

4. Ensure service operates within available resources, provide information on the performance of specified activities and indicate problems without delay. Implement cost improvement programmes as directed by senior staff.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Regular contact with industry partners (first point of contact).
2. Daily contact with managers, academic, research staff and students. University staff in other departments, NHS staff, external agencies and international collaborators.
3. Genomic/genetic technologists and BMS staff from local and national health services.
4. Regular contact with external suppliers and colleagues.
5. Keep abreast of technical/scientific developments.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. *Academic or vocational qualifications (HNC/HND or higher (e.g. NVQ , degree or equivalent standard) in a relevant scientific subject e.g. Biomedical Science, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Genetics, Biochemistry
2. *4 years' recent relevant hands-on experience within a Health Science laboratory that includes molecular pathology and genomics.
3. Experience in the discipline reflected in relevant involvement in academic, industry or research programmes.
4. Ability to develop, troubleshoot and perform a range of technical duties to a very high standard.
5. Significant experience with NGS in cancer specimens (FFPE, ctDNA, HMW).
6. Experience in a CPA/UKAS environment, including SOP development.
7. Experience with tissue-based work and clinical samples for molecular analysis.
8. Competent in the use and care of a range of laboratory equipment and processes
9. Good understanding of Health and Safety regulations and other legislation related to laboratory research eg Human Tissue Act, Radiation Protection, COSHH, MHRA, GMO.
10. Full understanding of EQA & QC and their implications.
11. Good organisational and interpersonal skills.
12. Well-developed oral and written communication skills.
13. Ability to interact with staff of all grades.
14. Ability to interact with key stakeholders independently.
15. Demonstrates the ability to train and supervise staff, students and laboratory users in use of equipment and techniques.
16. Demonstrates logical reasoning and problem solving skills.
17. Willingness to learn, teach and maintain new laboratory methodologies.
18. Self-motivated and industrious. Must be willing to take both a hands-on and a supervisory role.
19. Proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment.
20. To participate in appropriate rotas as required, outside normal working hours.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. *Honours Degree or higher in a relevant scientific subject eg biological or biomedical subject, or equivalent.
2. MSc or PhD.
3. *Recent experience with a broad range of research techniques in Molecular Pathology including:
 - Experience working with cancer FFPE and cfDNA samples and / or
 - Experience with H&E, IHC and scanning /QC of slides for digital pathology.
4. *Experience with computer maintenance and IT support.
5. *Recent experience in managing sizable projects (which included delegation of tasks to others).
6. Demonstrate knowledge of procurement procedures.
7. Awareness of clinical significance of laboratory findings and implications for patients.
8. Ability to efficiently work with a multitude of researchers and clinical staff within the genomics and tissue-pathology setting.
9. Demonstrate good communication skills and enthusiasm to develop and maintain productive relationships with staff.