



## **Bioinformatics Scientist**

Immediate start

LifeArc is the new name for MRC Technology, a medical research charity with a 25 year legacy of helping scientists and organisations turn their research into treatments and diagnostics for patients.

LifeArc is pioneering new ways to turn great science into greater patient impact. It brings together a network of partners to tackle specific diseases and directly funds academic and early stage research.

So far, LifeArc's work has helped to develop four drugs (Keytruda®, Actemra®, Tysabri® and Entyvio®) and a test for antimicrobial resistance.

LifeArc's Centre for Diagnostic Development (CDD) operates at the interface between academic research and the Diagnostic industry. We offer collaborative diagnostic assay development and validation, helping translate early stage diagnostic research through to its commercial exploitation and its use in the clinic.

Our facility has state of the art data capture and management systems and uses the latest technological platforms such as Next Gen Sequencing and multiplex qPCR to design and develop innovative molecular diagnostics. The team has recently relocated to a large facility in the Edinburgh BioQuarter, so this is an exciting time to help grow and contribute to CDD's success.

CDD is committed to developing its bioinformatics team to provide analytical support to ongoing projects and to develop novel *in silico* candidate gene signature and software. We are seeking a highly motivated, well-organised scientist to be responsible for the application of cutting edge machine learning algorithms and development of computational approaches for the analysis of large datasets. You will be expected to bring new ideas, enthusiasm, and a commitment to excellence to a dynamic scientific team.

The successful candidate will develop and use established computational approaches for the analysis of high throughput genome/transcriptome datasets with a goal of identifying candidate diagnostic or prognostic markers for diseases within LifeArc's high priority health areas. In-house experimental data is generated on various qPCR platforms in addition to Illumina MiSeq and Oxford Nanopore sequencers. Project work at CDD spans all project phases including discovery, feasibility planning, development and validation.

The role also requires you to evaluate relevant sections of proposed incoming project and report findings to the scientific team. Therefore, you should be adept in communicating with scientists of different skill levels and ability, and be able to provide effective training/advice, when required.

You will be educated to MSc or PhD in Biology, Bioinformatics, Statistics, Computer Science or an equivalent postgraduate qualification in a closely related discipline. This role also requires you to be skilled at programming in at least one of Python, Perl, Java, R, Lua, bash or equivalent. Experience of working in a clinical or diagnostic environment would be particularly desirable. Experience working with next-generation sequencing data, and Minlon data in particular would be an asset.

It is LifeArc's policy to employ individuals on the basis of their suitability for the work to be performed and their potential for development, regardless of age, sex, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, marital status, pregnancy or maternity, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief.

Your salary will be determined by qualifications and experience. In addition, LifeArc offers a defined contribution pension scheme, private health insurance, a flexible benefits scheme and 31 days paid holiday per year.

To apply please email your CV and covering letter explaining why you want to work for LifeArc to: [recruitment@lifearc.org](mailto:recruitment@lifearc.org) or by post to Recruitment, LifeArc, Accelerator Building, Open Innovation Campus, Stevenage, SG1 2FX (electronic applications preferred).

**Closing date: November 12, 2017.**