Bioinformatics Scientist
Edinburgh

LifeArc is a medical research charity with a 25-year legacy of helping scientists and organisations turn their research into treatments and diagnostics for patients.

We are pioneering new ways to turn great science into greater patient impact at LifeArc. We do this by bringing together a network of partners to tackle specific diseases and by directly funding academic and early stage research.

The Role

You will join a collaborative environment comprising 20 scientific and other staff with academic and industry backgrounds. Our work is project-oriented, leading to coordinated efforts with much communication, towards common objectives in getting diagnostics to patients. Our main objective of translating research knowledge and potential into diagnostic tests gives rise to a diverse range of such projects, with each one posing different challenges for wet and dry lab scientists.

The Bioinformatics Scientist is an expert role and you will be a key member of the small but growing bioinformatics group. You will be interested in developing strategic bioinformatics capability, but also show immediate and continued commitment to hands-on planning and implementation of bioinformatics analyses for lab-based projects, with particular importance placed on next generation or 3rd generation sequencing technology.

Day to day you will be advising lab team leaders on bioinformatics aspects of laboratory experiments, independently planning and carrying out bioinformatics analyses and presenting them to colleagues or collaborators.

You will be expected to be fluent in one programming language (Python, Bash, R, Perl, …) for building sequencing analysis pipelines (e.g. SNP/SNV calling) or solving specific analysis problems. You will also contribute expertise and thinking to larger strategic data science/informatics activities.

You will have recent practical experience of the required skill base from within industry or academia, and this should include:

- Identification, application and modification of bioinformatics tools -- including command line tools -- in the analysis of (ideally human) sequencing data
- Understanding chemistry terminology (e.g. adapters, indexes, unique molecular tags) of a next generation or 3rd generation sequencing technology platform and library structure
- Basic familiarity with molecular biology as applied to genomics and transcriptomics
- Ability to progress work independently and provide high-level assessments of bioinformatics matters with respect to LifeArc objectives
- Willingness to work in an ISO13485-regulated environment and conform to standards of documentation and validation of work (knowledge of those standards is not a prerequisite)
- Working collaboratively, maintaining good communication internally, and engaging with external academics or industry colleagues
- Understanding research methodology and objectives as used by external collaborators
Any additional experience in laboratory bench work, industry roles, in vitro diagnostics, software development, human clinical samples, and project and people management can also be highlighted in your application.

**Salary**

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.

LifeArc is committed to the principles and practices of equal opportunities and to encouraging the establishment of a diverse workforce. It is our 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. This includes creating a culture that fully reflects our commitment to equal opportunities for all.

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

**Closing date:** 18th October 2019