Senior Scientist

Hours: 37.5 hours per week

Location: Manchester

Benefits: 25 Holidays per year plus Bank Holidays

Optional pension schemes

Life Assurance

Private Health Insurance

Income Protection Insurance

Gym Membership

Are you excited by technical challenges and finding your feet in a start-up company?

Do you have a passion for science and technology and want to help shape a growing dynamic company?

We are committed at Apis, to realise the clinical potential of systems biology and medicine in the diagnosis and personalisation of treatment. We seek to develop biomarkers that deliver significant improvements in the prediction and prevention of disease.

Our attractive location in the city centre, right at the heart of Manchester's global Genomics Campus, gives us the unique opportunity to collaborate closely with the hospitals and universities to influence the future of medicine and healthcare.

We are looking for an individual to design and lead the execution/interpretation of technical studies while finding optimal ways of working to maximise efficiency. The conclusions that you deliver will input into key decisions in the development of diagnostic systems and workflows.

You will be highly motivated, organized, and keen to build on your existing knowledge.

At Apis we are an equal opportunity employer. We value innovative and different ways of thinking and we strive for inclusivity.

Specific Responsibilities:

- Work closely with the Technical Development Lead in a medium- to high-complexity environment to deliver studies on time and with the planned resources
- Design scientifically rigorous technical studies to answer key questions which provide input to drive projects forwards
- Detailed planning to ensure delivery of study designs. This will involve: determining statistically significant replicate numbers, assessing sample/reagent requirements and sourcing according to forecasts, prioritisation of studies running in parallel, commitment to timelines
- Leading the execution of studies, this will require supervision of small teams
- Analysis, interpretation and presentation of data to junior and senior members of staff
- Generation of protocols, laboratory notebook write-ups and design control reports compliant with appropriate quality and regulatory standards
- Lead delivery of the practical elements of studies which can include: Nucleic acid extraction using manual extraction kits and or automated instruments; PCR manual setup and or using automated instruments; Gel electrophoresis; Next Generation Sequencing; Precision serial dilutions; Handling and processing of biological samples
- Have the ability to develop/collect ideas to creatively and constructively find the best solutions to drive projects forwards when challenges arise
- Deliver systematic troubleshooting activities when required for root-cause analysis
- Maintain expert knowledge of their area of working including keeping up to date with the latest R&D workflows, scientific literature, as well as any standards and guidelines for design and analysis of relevant technical studies (e.g. CLSI guidelines).
- Effective communication and coordination with other team members both junior and senior across different R&D functions including Quality Assurance, Statistics, and Bioinformatics.
- Work as part of the team to ensure a safe and efficient working environment
- Coach and mentor junior staff to guide continuous development, compliance, and ongoing improvement in document quality and study design
- Take an active part in your personal development and ensure that your knowledge, skills and competencies enable you to carry out your role at the company
- Actively contribute towards the company culture and provide ideas on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of processes within the company
- Undertake any other tasks and responsibilities, as reasonably requested, by the company.

Person Specification:

- University degree/PhD education in the area of Chemical, Biological Sciences or related discipline, or equivalent experience in a laboratory-based role (e.g. 3 years) plus ≥ 4 years work experience in a laboratory-based role
- Advanced skills in data analysis and interpretation, including an understanding of descriptive statistics (e.g., mean, median, standard deviation) and use of basic statistical tools
- Excellent verbal/written communication skills with the ability to tailor communication to the target audience
- Proven organisational skills, self-motivated with attention to detail
- Essential laboratory experience will include: processing biological samples, nucleic acid extraction using manual extraction kits and/or automated instruments
- Experience with a minimum of one of the following downstream workflows: Real-Time PCR manual setup and/or using automated instruments; Next-Generation Sequencing
- Proficient in MS Office (e.g. Excel, Word, Outlook and PowerPoint)
- To be successful you will be a keen learner who enjoys finding creative solutions to technical challenges and optimizing ways of working to maximise efficiency. You will be highly motivated to stay at the forefront of science in the development of IVD workflows

Other experience in the following areas would be desirable:

- Experience in a regulated environment (e.g. under ISO accreditation), working in a Containment Level 2 laboratory
- Infectious disease or oncology, nucleic acid sequencing
- Use of or development of automated molecular diagnostic systems
- Primer design and bioinformatics
- Leading a small R&D team