

NGS Laboratory Technician

Location: Chesterford Research Park, Great Chesterford

Job Type: Full-time

About Broken String Biosciences

Broken String Biosciences is a Cambridge-based genomics company with the goal of developing safer cell and gene therapies by assessing the stability of the genome. We are leveraging state of the art genomic sequencing technologies to better understand the factors that determine on and off-target activity during CRISPR genome editing, with the vision to build a technology platform that will drive the development of CRISPR gene therapies that are safer by design. Starting with our first patented technology, INDUCE-seq, which for the first time enables precise digital mapping of DNA double strand breaks in the genome, Broken String Biosciences is building a suite of genomics technologies that will assess all elements of genetic safety during the genome editing process. This will provide the information required to design CRISPR gene therapies that are fundamentally safer, ensuring that this potentially life-saving technology can be delivered to patients.

With offices based at the BioData Innovation Centre (BIC) on the world-renowned Wellcome Genome Campus, and lab at the Chesterford Research Park, this is an exciting opportunity to join a well-funded and fast-paced start-up in the CRISPR and genomics space at a very early stage

Position overview

We are seeking a highly motivated **NGS Laboratory Technician** to join a small team and support our lab operations in a range of CRISPR gene editing safety applications.

As an **NGS Laboratory Technician**, you provide technical and non-technical assistance to ensure smooth day to day running of laboratory tasks and maintenance. You will be responsible for ordering and preparing reagents, managing consumables stock, and maintaining laboratory equipment.

You will deploy your technical skill by processing biological samples and preparing INDUCE-seq NGS libraries according to standard operating procedures. This includes all Illumina sequencing library preparation, performing QC analysis, planning sequencing runs, and reporting outcomes to the wider team. This work forms part of existing projects focussed on CRISPR genome editing analysis in partnership with several world-leading cell- and gene therapy companies. You will be joining an energetic and forward-looking team applying cutting-edge laboratory, bioinformatics, and data science techniques to help improve the next generation of gene and editing therapies.

In a start-up, things change fast and frequently, so we are looking for someone who is dynamic and adaptable to change. You are the ideal candidate if you are looking to develop your scientific skills within an ambitious start-up and have impact as a part of a growing team.

Role & Key Responsibilities

- Receive, handle, mark, and store samples accurately
- Process sample submission forms and QC samples on arrival from clients
- Process INDUCE-seq samples through a multi-day protocol
- Manage and order reagents, enzyme kits, and general lab stock
- Conduct fragment size and qPCR QC analysis and report on sample quality
- Plan and execute Illumina sequencing runs

Essential skills and qualifications

- MSc. or BSc. in a related life-science field with a strong background in molecular biology
- 'Hands-on' experience and knowledge in genomics, molecular biology, and microbiology techniques, such as DNA/RNA extraction, PCR, qPCR, cloning, and aseptic techniques.
- Experience with NGS library preparation workflows and Illumina sequencing
- Experience with working at scale in a 96-well format
- Work according to basic molecular biology laboratory standards
- Excellent communication skills, interact with a diverse team of experts to report your findings

Preferred skills and qualifications

- Experience with CRISPR genome editing methods and analysis
- Experience running and troubleshooting Illumina sequencing experiments

Salary: Competitive with benefits and participation in company share scheme

Reporting to: Laboratory Operations Manager