



Job title: Research Scientist
Reporting to: CTO
Location: Science Creates, St Philips Central, Bristol, UK
Hours of work: Full time, for 6 months, with the potential to move to permanent.
Closing date: 2nd May 2023
Benefits package: £32,000 - £35,000, dependent on experience
Expected start date: 1st July 2023

Company profile

[Rosa Biotech](#) aims to provide patients with low-cost, scalable tests for chronic diseases.

We are a UK SME spun out from the University of Bristol in 2019, building on the work of founder Prof Dek Woolfson, a world-leading expert in protein design. Rosa is led by CEO Dr Mark Street-Docherty, and is backed by a team of experienced, high-profile business angels.

We are based in the vibrant [Science Creates](#) deep-tech ecosystem in the heart of Bristol and operate a dedicated laboratory at the St Philips incubator. Our sensing platform, Pandra, combines arrays of designed barrel-forming peptides and machine learning algorithms to create a powerful clinical biosensor for detecting life-threatening diseases in patient blood.

We are growing our diverse team to accelerate the development of our platform and its application in the clinic. We are looking for an enthusiastic and driven team player to join us on this journey.

Job description

This is an exciting opportunity to join a vibrant research team that combines expertise in bioinformatics and computational design, peptide and protein chemistry, and product commercialisation. The position is initially fixed term, as part of a specific NIHR grant-funded project, which runs for 6 months from 1st July to 31st December 2023, with potential for full time conversion in 2024.

In this post, you will develop and test new peptide and fluorophore components to incorporate into Rosa's core sensing platform, Pandra. This is with the specific aim of creating sensor arrays compatible with instrumentation widely utilised in a clinical laboratory setting. The produced sensor arrays would then be trained and tested for the detection of chronic liver disease in patient serum. In addition, we are a small and nimble company with flexibility being highly valuable to us. As such, from time-to-time, you may be required to briefly switch to working on other projects to meet broader deadlines.

We are seeking exceptional candidates with a PhD in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Bioengineering or a related discipline. Expertise in one or more of fluorescence spectroscopy, protein-ligand interactions, biophysics, peptide/protein handling, biosensing and qPCR would be a distinct advantage, and applicants with multiple of these skill sets are encouraged to apply. We are keen to receive applications from ambitious, and energetic individuals with an interest in translating laboratory-based research into real-world applications.

Roles and responsibilities

Research responsibilities

- Assisting with all aspects of research conducted in the laboratory as and when required
- Keeping accurate records of experimental procedures, workflows, and data
- Analysing and interpreting data and presenting work in a clear and concise fashion at regular company meetings and to external collaborators
- Testing new and existing peptide and fluorophore sensor components
- Training and testing newly developed sensor arrays to differentiate patient serum samples

Person specifications

Relevant skills & experience

Essential

- An ambitious team player who can conduct themselves in a polite, respectable, and professional manner when dealing with others
- Extensive practical laboratory experience
- Ability to formulate and execute an experimental work plan
- A demonstrable ability to innovate and think laterally
- An ability to work independently and as part of a team
- An ability to forge new collaborative partnerships and to work alongside third parties
- Ability to take accurate records of work carried out
- Ability to liaise and communicate effectively with a wide variety of internal and external contacts
- Excellent numeracy and literacy, and computer literacy

Desirable

- Experience with qPCR assays, instrumentation and data analysis
- Fluorescence assay development
- Expertise in the handling and analysis of fluorescent molecules
- Biophysical analysis of peptides/proteins
- Experience with the handling and analysis of biological fluids
- Experience with high-throughput assays and functional assays of peptides/proteins
- Experience working with peptide/protein array technologies
- Experience working with robotics and automation pipelines
- Experience with computational ligand docking and/or other computational methods of probing protein-ligand interactions
- A keen interest in learning computer programming and scripting
- Experience in using electronic notebooks
- Experience of working in a multidisciplinary team in an early-stage company
- Experience of GLP, GMP and/or GCLP

Relevant qualifications

Essential

- A PhD in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Bioengineering or a related discipline, or equivalent research experience

Eligibility and expectations

In order to qualify for this position, you **must be** authorised to live and work in the UK. If you are applying from outside of the UK, you **must** state in your cover letter your right to work status e.g., UK citizen, EU Settlement Scheme, other.

As this position is for a specific grant-funded project starting on the 1st July 2023, we are looking for candidates that are able to start either on or as close to that date as possible. The employment contract is for the duration of the project (6 months from the start date to the 31st December), with the potential to become permanent as Rosa expands its team.

Most of the work is expected to take place at Science Creates, St Philips Central, Albert Road, Bristol, BS2 0XJ and occasionally at the BioSuite Facility of the Faculty of Life Science, Biomedical Sciences Building, University of Bristol, Tankard's Cl, University Walk, Bristol BS8 1TD.

The role may also involve short visits to other organisations in the UK and abroad, with the potential for occasional overnight stays.

At Rosa Biotech, we value diversity. We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome employees who meet the job requirements, regardless of gender, ethnic origin, disability, age, religion or sexual orientation. You must have respect for others and a commitment and enthusiasm for high standards and continuous improvement.

Important information regarding your application

By making this application, you confirm your consent for Rosa Biotech to hold details of your application and associated personal information strictly for recruitment purposes. Rosa Biotech will keep all recruitment documentation for 12 months following the job position being filled. The successful candidates' recruitment documentation will be kept in accordance with Rosa Biotech's Internal Personal Data Policy.

If you wish for your information to be removed from our records before that date, please contact hr@rosabio.tech stating "Personal information removal request" in the title of your email or by writing to us at Rosa Biotech Limited, Albert Road, Bristol, BS2 0XJ.

How to apply

Please send your CV with a cover letter to: admin@rosabio.tech, including "Job application – Research Scientist" in the subject line to apply for this role.

The deadline for application is 2nd May 2023 at 5 pm UK time.

Successful candidates will be contacted for an interview within 1 week of the closing date.