Head of Bioinformatics, Muna Therapeutics

Who We Are

Muna Therapeutics is a biotech company that develops first-in-class therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases. Our scientific founders are from Aarhus University and VIB / KU Leuven, and we are backed a syndicate of leading European and US investors, from whom we raised a Series A round of funding. Muna Tx's strategy is based on an innovative, all-in-human discovery engine, deep understanding of disease genetics and pathophysiology, world-class structural biology expertise, and experienced medicinal chemistry and translational biology, focused on developing first-in-class small molecule therapeutics for neurodegenerative diseases including Frontotemporal Dementia, Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease. The company is located in Copenhagen and Aarhus, Denmark and Leuven, Belgium.

The Role

We are seeking to fill the role of **Head of Bioinformatics,** leading our data science driven activities across project teams and Muna sites. This includes providing support to our target discovery platform originating in an all-in-human spatial transcriptomics approach established at Muna Leuven as well as bioinformatic support to our drug discovery programs advancing towards IND enabling studies. The incumbent will be responsible for implementing state-of-the-art analysis tools to genomics and proprietary transcriptomics data and subsequent integration of proteomics and additional functional metadata. Moreover, he or she will lead the data science driven identification of molecular biomarkers and secure access to clinical and real-word data bases for their validation. The successful candidate will report directly to the Chief Scientific Officer and lead a team of biologists and bioinformaticians. The role requires regular presence both at the Copenhagen and Leuven sites.

Responsibilities

- Lead and integrate bioinformatics activities across Muna sites and ensure timely support of bioinformatic analyses to projects and the target discovery platform.
- Enable drug target identification from transcriptomics databases.
- Critically evaluate the strengths and limitations of novel bioinformatic tools and databases to analyze -omics data and drug target approaches.
- Develop internal capabilities and establish strategic external collaborations.
- Lead the bioinformatics team to design, execute, analyze and interpret complex data sets.
- Work collaboratively with the Chief Scientific Advisor to implement Muna´s research strategy and ensure alignment with business strategy.

- Foster teamwork, collaboration, and open communication across the company and ensure timely information flow towards the management team.
- Contribute to and/or lead the preparation of key internal and external presentations, including presentations at scientific meetings and manuscripts for publication.

Qualifications

- PhD in Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, Neuroscience, Biomedicine or related field.
- Three to 5 years of postdoctoral experience in bioinformatics, preferably related to Neuroscience and neurodegeneration with strong record of research accomplishments, presentations at scientific meetings and peer-reviewed publications.
- Proven experience in working with genomics, genetics, transcriptomics, and proteomics.
- Insight into translational medicine, biomarker development, and clinical and real-world databases.
- Previous biotech or pharma/industry experience, with experience in supervising and/or leading multi-disciplinary research projects and groups.
- Solid understanding and practical experience with bioinformatics tools, including machine learning.
- Solid knowledge of GWAS, exome-, single-cell and -nucleus RNA sequencing and -omics platforms.
- Insight into machine learning algorithms, scripting language, cloud computing, and robust understanding of statistical testing.
- Able to work effectively in cross-functional teams with strong communication skills to interact with colleagues across the R&D value chain.
- Comfortable with the dynamic pace and rapid decision-making needs of a startup environment.
- Results-oriented professional with can-do attitude and willing to go the extra mile.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills; ability to communicate effectively to stakeholders across the organization, to the Board and external stakeholders.

How to Apply

Send cover letter and full Curriculum Vitae, including name and contact information for 2-3 professional references as PDF files by email to the attention of Dr. Niels Plath, Chief Scientific Officer (careers@munatherapeutics.com).

Closing Date: 15th February 2022