Director, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics

COMPANY OVERVIEW

AIRNA is pioneering the discovery and development of RNA editing therapeutics to deliver on the promise of genetically defined medicines for patients with rare and common diseases. RNA editing is poised to lead the next generation of RNA therapeutics by targeting diseases not accessible through other approaches with a medicine that can be conveniently re-dosed and manufactured. AIRNA's founders, Thorsten Stafforst and Jin Billy Li, were the first to elucidate a therapeutic approach for precise editing of RNA using the endogenous enzyme ADAR. Initial financing of the company was led by ARCH Venture Partners, with participation from ND Capital, Fast Track Initiative (FTI), Novalis, and Codon Capital. AIRNA has headquarters in Cambridge, MA, with research operations in Tübingen, Germany.

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are seeking innovative computational scientist and team lead to establish and lead the data science team. He/she will work collaboratively with our drug development and platform sciences group to develop groundbreaking RNA editing projects changing the landscape of therapies for wide ranging genetic and common diseases. This individual will lead an effort using a big data science approach and cutting-edge AI tools to help answer key biological questions central to advancing our RNA editing pipeline. AIRNA's culture is innovative, science-first, collaborative, fast-paced, and fun, and the company is looking for a distinctive individual who is excited about working with great teams and being a part of building a world-class company.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Mine large public domain data bases to build innovative analysis strategies to generate focused hypotheses for the identification of new therapeutic targets.
- Apply advanced analytics to large-scale Genome-Wide Association Studies (GWAS) and mutation datasets and interpret genomic information for a variety of Cardiovascular, Thrombotic and Metabolic or Rare genetic diseases.
- Combine molecular biology and epidemiology expertise with data analysis strategies to identify novel gain of function variants.
- Build a bioinformatics pipeline to identify novel therapeutic targets suitable for ADAR mediated RNA editing
- Participate in dynamic team-based, milestone-driven projects to identify and validate key functional questions across a development program.
- Build AI based data analysis strategies to identify chemical modification patterns required for efficient endogenous ADAR based RNA editing.
- Effectively manage a small team of internal and external computational biologists
- Publish and present findings in peer-reviewed journals and scientific conferences.
- Prepare written and oral reports on a regular basis.
- Maintain clear and accurate communication with supervisor, team members, and collaborators.
- Use data analysis, visualization, storytelling, and data technologies to scope, define and deliver AI-based solutions.

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QUALIFICATIONS:

- Computational scientist and team lead with over 10 years of experience in biotech or biopharma R&D experience
- Proven track record of leading an innovative bioinformatics teams
- Successfully developed and advanced data science driven hypothesis from concept to pre-clinical or clinical development across multiple therapeutic areas
- Experience with machine learning algorithms and data mining methods.
- Strong background in scientific computing and analysis of large data sets Proficiency in a high-level programming language such as Python, R, Scala and experience with cloud computing is a plus.
- Committed to advancing the line of research and finding pragmatic solutions to the immediate project needs.
- Familiarity with models & AI products applied to a broad range of business use cases related to research and development.
- Innovative and critical thinking, problem solving, cross-disciplinary communications
- Prior experience in mentoring, coaching and managing a multi-disciplinary team.
- Strong publication record strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Positive, collaborative, and committed team member.

COMPENSATION:

AIRNA Bio is prepared to offer the successful candidate a competitive cash compensation package together with attractive equity participation. Additionally, a package of benefits will be provided.

LOCATION:

This role will be based in AIRNA's corporate headquarters in Cambridge, MA.