

VACANCY

Job title: Senior/Principal Technical Specialist (Microbiology)

Location: Microgen/Lab 21, Camberley

Job Summary

The Novacyt Group is looking for an enthusiastic and talented Scientist for an opportunity to join an expanding manufacturing technical department within a fast-growing and friendly biotech business.

We are experts in the development, manufacture and distribution of high-quality diagnostic products. These include gold standard molecular assays and a growing portfolio of rapid immunoassays alongside blood grouping and latex agglutination applications. We have customers in many different industries including academia, research, diagnostics, food industry and the veterinary industry selling to over 100 countries worldwide.

You will be supporting the team's efforts to optimise and re-formulate products; supporting manufacturing and QC through problem solving, scientific interrogation and process improvement; design, develop and implement new manufacturing process' and support new product implementation and group manufacturing scale up activities. This role is focused on a broad spectrum of immunoassays contributing towards the company's range of rapid diagnostic products

Main duties and responsibilities

- Characterisation and Analysis of clinical products based around agglutination reactions, antibody antigen interactions and blood grouping:
 - Planning and conducting experiments; recording and analysing data independently
 - Understanding the product to improve manufacturing efficiency and quality.
 - Problem solving manufacturing and QC to drive improvement
 - Problem solving manufacturing to implement new process or alter scale of production
- Presenting results to senior/other technical or research staff
- Driving right first time manufacturing
- Supervising junior staff, including technicians
- Organising and undertaking product and QC studies
- Ensuring that quality standards are met
- Liaising with research and/or production staff to facilitate technology transfers and problem solving
- Supporting and implementing new equipment and processes
- Supporting scale up activities
- Keeping up to date with relevant scientific, technical and industry developments
- Advise on future product development and direction to maintain best in class products
- Work with other departments to build the manufacturing aspect of technical files
- Complete process validation activities and use process engineering to improve manufacturing and QC processes as well as tracking performance and identifying KPIs

Other duties and responsibilities

- Maintaining timelines and organizing multiple concurrent projects
- Understanding and implementing best practice
- Set and chair meetings with colleagues and peers to drive progress
- Verify data in both digital and written form
- Ensure lab cleanliness and safety by maintaining equipment and technician attire and managing potential contamination
- Handle necessary administrative paperwork and other documentation needed for validation activities and retain traceability of records
- Work with other researchers with various tasks, including research, analysis and presentation preparation

Qualifications and experience required

Essential

- A Bachelor's degree and MSc or PhD in a related field
- 3 years' experience in industry
- Minimum 1 year experience in a related manufacturing capacity
- Previous experience of latex agglutination technologies
- Previous experience in blood grouping analysis kits
- Strong microbiology knowledge
- Ability to plan experiments, problem solve and progress projects independently
- Coordinate multiple projects with challenging timelines
- Strong leadership
- Strong communication skills

Desirable

- Experience of working within a quality system, particularly ISO 13485.
- Knowledge of regulatory standards for food testing
- Previous statistical data analysis experience would be beneficial
- Previous experience in scientific product development or working alongside an R&D team to meet common goals of product performance and accurate manufacturing
- Experience handling Hazard Group 2 organisms in a Category 2 Laboratory
- Experience of microbiology and haematology diagnostic assay
- Working knowledge of HTA
- Knowledge of industrial manufacturing of latex agglutination products and blood grouping products

For further information or to apply for this vacancy please e-mail recruitment@novacyt.com