Microbiome Scientist Job Posting

Company Overview

Astarte Medical is the first microbial health informatics company focused on improving health outcomes during the first 1000 days of life. This is a unique window of opportunity to optimize gut and immune health outcomes as it is a period of tremendous potential and enormous vulnerability. We are combining evidence-based research, microbiome data and an innovative software platform to optimize care and significantly improve outcomes, initially for our nation's tiniest and highest risk patient: preterm infants.

Our flagship product, MAGI, the Microbiome And Gut Inflammation score is a vital sign for the gut. MAGI quantifies gut health at the bedside, without requiring sequencing, by leveraging clinical and biodemographic data of both mom and baby and applies a proprietary algorithm to create a risk score. MAGI is based on the work of Astarte's scientific co-founder, Katherine Gregory, RN, PhD, who has spent the last 12 years conducting preterm infant microbiome and nutrition studies. We are creating the largest and most comprehensive dataset on preterm infant gut health. In the clinic, MAGI stratifies infants at risk, empowering clinicians to personalize care through better stewardship of antibiotics, optimized nutrition, and the introduction of pre- and probiotics. MAGI is currently in development and is expected to be ready for pilot in late 2019.

Job Description: Competitive applicants should have a Ph.D. and 3-5 years of independent work experience or post-doctoral training as a microbiologist, computational biologist, or bioinformatician working on complex microbial communities. The candidate should be proficient in all steps involved in the planning and execution of microbiome profiling experiments and will oversee technical staff to ensure exceptional standards in laboratory protocols, including high-throughput sequencing.

The candidate will be responsible for tailoring both wet-lab procedures and downstream analyses to address key biological questions related to the microbiome in neonatal health and disease. Candidates must be comfortable working with command-line tools and scripting (Python or R/Bioconductor), and have experience applying these tools to analyze 'omics datasets, particularly those generated by microbiome 16S rRNA gene sequencing and shotgun bacterial metagenomics. The successful candidate will be able to move comfortably from raw sequence data, to preprocessing and quality control of data, through detailed analysis using established pipelines (e.g., QIIME, Mothur, DADA2, and MetaPhlAn2).

Additional expertise in either integrating diverse datasets (e.g., metabolomics with transcriptomics) or correlating microbiome data with clinical metadata is preferred but not required. The candidate will be an integral part of a small and interdisciplinary team where one-on-one interactions and strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential to success.

Location: Foster City, California

Timing: November 1, 2018

Contact:
Interested candidates should submit a CV and cover letter to careers@astartemedical.com

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