Preclinical MRI Scientist

Job Description

1900 – the year when Ciba, one of the predecessor companies of Novartis, produced its first pharmaceutical substances. The Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research (NIBR), created in 2002, is the innovation engine of Novartis today - we collaborate across scientific and organizational boundaries, with a focus on powerful new technologies that have the potential to help produce therapeutic breakthroughs. The preclinical Magnetic Resonance Imaging unit at NIBR is seeking an experienced and highly motivated individual to perform preclinical MRI experiments and data analysis. As part of the preclinical MRI team, you will support the development of therapies in a wide range of disease areas. You will participate in the design and modification of research protocols for MRI experiments, and then independently acquire MR data and analyze it.

Your responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Overseeing and coordinating all lab activities.
- Planning and executing imaging sessions, including preparing animals for imaging and operating the MRI scanner.
- Teaching others to perform MRI experiments.
- Overseeing the data collection process and managing the laboratory’s network of raw and processed imaging data; ensuring that all experimental methods and results are saved in the Electronic Laboratory Notebook in a timely fashion.
- Performing data analysis using image analysis software.
- Basic troubleshooting of electrical and mechanical equipment.
- General administrative duties for maintaining the infrastructure of the lab – ordering laboratory supplies, equipment, and services; writing/maintaining IACUC protocols.
- Monitoring safety procedures and ensuring compliance with all institutional regulations.

Minimum qualifications:

- A bachelor’s degree in science;
- Experience in running MRI experiments;
- Rodent handling experience;
- A high degree of computer literacy;
- Experience with using image analysis software;
- Must have broad knowledge of scientific principles and imaging techniques;
- Able to effectively structure tasks, set priorities, and set deadlines;
- The ability to work independently to identify problems and troubleshoot solutions;
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, written and verbal communication skills;
- Ability to thrive in a fast-paced, team environment.

Additional, highly desirable qualifications:

- An advanced degree in an imaging-related field or in pharmacological sciences is preferred.
- Experience with minor surgical procedures and rodent tail vein injections is an advantage.