

Position Description



HARRY PERKINS INSTITUTE
OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

Position Description Overview	
Position Title	Scientific Officer, New Technologies
Position ID Code	OPS029
Work Area, Division	Genomics WA, Operations
Reports To	Technical Manager (The Kids) (Primary Supervisor) Director, Genomics WA (The Perkins)
Direct Reports	Nil
Award	Professional Employees Award

Proudly Perkins	
Our Vision	A pioneering Western Australian medical research institute improving health outcomes globally.
Our Purpose	Helping people live healthier, longer lives.
Our Values	
Respect	Respect is at the core of our organisation. We treat everyone in our diverse community with honesty, integrity and respect.
Innovation	We are a talented group of like-minded individuals at the forefront of modern medical research, using our creativity and the latest technology in our relentless quest for medical breakthroughs.
Passion	We bring a passion and commitment to every aspect of our work.
Collaboration	We recognise the power of working closely with each other and our collaborators to achieve the outstanding results for which we strive.

Diversity and Inclusion Statement

At the Perkins, we value, embrace, and celebrate the strength of our diverse experiences, thoughts, and beliefs. We are committed to a safe, equitable and inclusive culture where every person can innovate and thrive. This enables us to deliver pioneering research that improves global health outcomes.

Position Purpose

The Scientific Officer, New Technologies plays a leading role in the development and implementation of upstream workflows for tissue preparation for spatial transcriptomics, new workflows for new sequencers and assists the wet lab team in day-to-day service provision. This role supports users of Genomics WA, ensures service quality by adhering to ISO and National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) standards, and contributes to acquiring NATA accreditation for new services.

Position Title	Version	Date Approved	Responsible Manager	Responsible Executive	Approved
Scientific Officer, New Technologies	2	09/03/2026	Director, Genomics WA	Chief Operations Officer	Chief People Officer

Position Outcomes and Key Goals

1. Develop and implement upstream tissue preparation workflows for all spatial transcriptomics services in Genomics WA.
2. Deliver services using existing and new technologies, including the development and preparation of SOPs and worksheets for new workflows.
3. Provide client-facing service delivery across spatial transcriptomics, RNA/DNA/single cell protocols and sequencing workflows.
4. Support accreditation processes and ensure documentation aligns with ISO/NATA requirements.

Key Duties/Accountabilities

1. Establish and implement services for upstream tissue preparation workflows (sectioning, staining, imaging).
2. Develop, implement and deliver services on new sequencers and support service delivery.
3. Train members of the team on new workflows to ensure consistent practices.
4. Support the day-to-day services of the wet lab team, including sequencing using new sequencers and library preparation for spatial transcriptomics, RNA/DNA and single cell and other services where required.
5. Maintain documentation to meet NATA standards.
6. Liaise with clients to understand their tissues and tailor spatial transcriptomics services to meet their needs.
7. Liaise with other researchers and lab managers at various partner sites to access resources required for tissue preparation for spatial transcriptomics.
8. Strictly adhere to the standards required of a NATA accredited facility.
9. Contribute to planning and future service needs.
10. Complete other duties as requested by supervisor and/or manager.

Selection Criteria – Qualifications, Licences, Skills, Knowledge, Experience

1. Tertiary qualifications (Bachelor's, Masters, or PhD) in a relevant field.
2. Demonstrated experience of working in a histology lab and conducting block preparation, de-crosslinking, deparaffinization, staining and imaging techniques.
3. Demonstrated experience with molecular biology workflows such as DNA/ RNA extraction, quantifications and PCRs with the ability to learn and perform complex workflows such as spatial transcriptomics and single cell library preparations and operate complex instruments.
4. Strong knowledge of spatial transcriptomics and NGS platforms.
5. Ability to use multiple types of microscopes and various instruments used for tissue and slide preparations.
6. Ability to write and follow detailed SOPs, including record keeping.
7. Excellent problem-solving skills with high attention to detail.
8. Ability to work effectively as part of a team using well-developed communication and collaboration skills.
9. Experience preparing spatial transcriptomics libraries (desirable).
10. Familiarity with processes used in NATA accredited laboratories (desirable).
11. Experienced in next generation sequencer operation (desirable).
12. Satisfactory National Police Certificate.

Special Requirements

1. This role works across both the Perkins and The Kids sites.

Key Working Relationships

1. Genomics WA Team.
2. Research clients and collaborators.
3. Partner organisations.

Work Health and Safety

1. Take reasonable care for the health and safety of self and others. This includes taking appropriate actions to avoid, eliminate or minimise hazards.
2. Act honestly and report all incidents, hazards, and injuries immediately.
3. Comply with any reasonable instruction given, or policy or procedure administered, by the Perkins that supports the Perkins to provide a safe work environment.
4. Use equipment and materials as trained and required, and according to the manufacturer's instructions.
5. Actively promote a positive safety and health culture, demonstrating attention to physical, mental, emotional, cultural and psychological safety.

Professional Development

1. Accept responsibility for updating knowledge and skills related to professional practice.
2. Actively participate in performance feedback, reflecting on own performance and growth opportunities.
3. Contribute to the creation of development and performance goals.