

The Company

Engitix (<http://engitix.com/>) was spun-out of the Institute for Liver and Digestive Health (ILDH), Division of Medicine, University College London (UCL) in 2016 by Dr Giuseppe Mazza, an inventor of decellularization protocols for human liver and other tissues, and Professor Massimo Pinzani, Director of ILDH and a world-renowned expert in the field of liver fibrosis. The Company acquired an exclusive license in 2017 from UCLB, UCL's commercialisation company, to enabling extracellular matrix (ECM) patents and other intellectual property. It is currently based at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead, London, United Kingdom.

Engitix is the first organisation in the world that has validated its proprietary patented technologies allowing the development of human tissue-specific and disease-specific human extracellular matrix (ECM) platform for accelerating and improving the drug discovery process through successful collaborations with several biotechnology and global pharmaceutical organisations. The company's 3D human liver ECM scaffolds represent the enabling tool for a better understanding of the ECM remodelling process in liver disease, with the consequent selection of more realistic targets for biomarkers and drug identification, development and validation within the same unique "all human" 3D model.

Engitix announced on the 27th of November 2018 that it has successfully closed a £5million Series A financing led by a private investor. With this new investment, Engitix is now evolving its business model to in-house drug discovery, to develop a pipeline of candidate drugs targeting liver fibrosis and liver and pancreatic cancers.

The Company's mission is to increase the efficacy and to the reduce cost of later stage drug failure by establishing more advanced platforms for drug target identification and validation in which healthy and diseased cells can be tested with potential therapeutic agents within their natural physiological and pathological microenvironment. A key current limitation in developing more effective treatments in fibrosis and various solid cancers has been the failure to include human ECM in experimental models, with many compounds failing in late stage clinical trials because of lack of efficacy.

Engitix is currently planning more than 4 target identification and drug development programs in liver fibrosis, hepatocellular-carcinoma, pancreatic cancer and liver metastasis. The successful fundraising has created the opportunity to attract an experienced scientific leader to grow the current team and drive these programmes forward into clinical development.

Job Description

- **Reports to:** Chief Scientific Officer
- **Direct reports:** Up to two direct reports
- **Location/Travel:** The role will be based at the Royal Free Hospital in London

The role as Project Manager Liver Fibrosis Preclinical

We are looking for a full time Project Manager and scientific expert with an understanding of liver fibrosis and drug development. You must have knowledge and experience from preclinical work in liver fibrosis, and knowledge in cholangiopathy is an advantage. You will cooperate with and report to the company's CSO.

You should plan, initiate and monitor experiments, analyse data and draw conclusions. The role includes working with many contacts both internally and externally, including international CROs/collaborators/research groups, which will require strong communication and people skills.

As the company is agile and dynamic, you must have a "can do" attitude and unafraid to "roll up your sleeves". While you are independent, you are also a proactive team player who enjoys coordinating people and project management.

Key responsibilities

- Responsible for updating project plans, such as project goals, timelines, budget, resources, etc.
- Present project status including risk management, budget, resources, etc. to project teams
- Coordinate planning and implementation of preclinical studies in accordance with current regulations
- Write/coordinate study protocols and reports
- Responsible for procurement and contacts with CROs/consultants
- Maintain knowledge of regulations and standards for preclinical research as well as responsibility for compliance
- Keep the company updated about relevant liver fibrosis activities globally
- Attend relevant conferences and present research results

Required Qualifications and Skills

- Postgraduate qualification
- Experience of biotech/pharmaceutical companies or academic postdoc experience
- Experience of preclinical research
- Experience in molecular biology and tissue culture (primary cells)
- Knowledge in liver fibrosis
- Experience of project management
- Selection and contracting of subcontractors/CRO
- Experience of Microsoft Office

Professional and Personal Competences

- Applies and shares specialised and detailed technical expertise. Strong analytical ability
- Strong ability to organise, plan and implement activities according to set goals, and capability to run several activities simultaneously
- Creates good relationships and networks with stakeholders at different levels, demonstrating interest and understanding for other people
- Takes own initiatives, works independently, makes quick and clear decisions
- Shows quick understanding of new information and collects comprehensive information to support decision making
- Adapts to changing conditions and accepts new ideas and initiatives
- Works productively in a high-pressure environment and balances the demands of work and personal life

Benefits

- A competitive package is available, along with entry into the company's incentive scheme. Relocation packages will also be considered.

If you would like to apply for this position, please send a full CV along with a covering letter to career@engitix.com