## 3130 Genetic Analyser by Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA

The 3130 Genetic Analyser is the latest low throughput, automated capillary electrophoresis platform from Applied Biosystems.

The machine within the Department of Cancer Studies and Molecular Medicine is a 4 capillary device fitted with a single 96 well plate platform for automated analysis of up to 96 samples in a single run. The machine is linked to a computer workstation complete with sequence analysis software and Genemapper ID, fragment analysis software.

The 3130 is currently run using POP4 polymer which allows accurate DNA fragment sizing up to approximately 500bp and DNA sequence analysis in the same range. There is the possibility of running different polymer solutions if required.

Current usage primarily involves analysis of short tandem repeat markers (STR), amplified with one of Applied Biosystems own Human Identification kits. There are numerous 'off-the-shelf' kits produced by this company for analysis of human and animal STR's as well as SNP, AFLP and methylation kits for various organisms. It is also possible to design your own assay, single or multiplexed, for analysis on this machine.

Advice on designing your own assay can be sought from the Applied Biosystems technical support team by emailing abduk@appliedbiosystems.co.uk.