Dr. James Hadfield

Vaccine and Infectious Disease Division,

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center,

Seattle,

WA 98109

USA

Dear Editors,

Please find attached an application note entitled **“Nextstrain: real-time tracking of pathogen evolution”** which we wish to be considered for publication as an applications note in Bioinformatics.

Nextstrain allows near real-time surveillance of pathogen outbreaks such as Zika, Ebola and influenza by utilizing the public sharing of genomic data. The software consists of database related scripts, bioinformatics analysis tools and an interactive web application ([www.nextstrain.org)](http://www.nextstrain.org)) which is continuously updated as genomes are made public. All code is open source and available at [www.github.com/nextstrain](http://www.github.com/nextstrain). The analysis tools are appropriate for scientists, whilst the website presents data appropriate for researchers, public health officials and a more general audience.

We look forward to hearing from you, and are happy to answer any further questions you may have.

Yours truly,

../../../scratch/sig.jpg

James Hadfield