





Company Overview

BIOCAPTIVA is a University of Edinburgh staff spin-out company, founded in 2018, developing an innovative technology platform for oncology and the broader precision-medicine market. Its technology enables early cancer detection, disease monitoring, and advanced multi-omics research, offering a less invasive and more informative alternative to conventional tissue biopsies. Through this approach, BIOCAPTIVA aims to transform how cancer and other diseases are detected and managed, supporting earlier diagnosis and improved patient outcome.

Key Challenges Addressed

Current liquid biopsy workflows face key limitations including low yield and inconsistent quality of cell-free DNA and other nucleic acids obtained from standard blood draws and plasma processing.

These constraints restrict the sensitivity of cancer detection and limit the utility of liquid biopsy tools in both clinical and research applications.

BIOCAPTIVA tackles this market gap with its proprietary polymer-based capture technology, which enhances the recovery of nucleic acid recovered directly from biofluids. This improvement increases the volume and quality of material available for sequencing and molecular analysis, expanding the potential to detect a broader range of cancer types and stages, monitor treatment response more accurately, and generate richer genomic datasets for oncology clinical trials and precision medicine research.



Role of Roslin Innovation Centre

BIOCAPTIVA joined Roslin Innovation Centre in November 2024, benefitting access to shared infrastructure and the University of Edinburgh's advanced biofluid technologies. This strategic move has provided the company with cost-effective, high-quality facilities, including equipment that would otherwise be prohibitively expensive, to refine its liquid-biopsy platform while fostering connections with nearby biotech and health-sector companies.

By establishing its dedicated headquarters at Roslin Innovation Centre, BIOCAPTIVA has expanded its partnerships with investors like Old College Capital, the University of Edinburgh's venture investment fund, and Cancer Research Horizons. These relationships have opened pathways into oncology, diagnostics, and clinical-trial networks. The company has also deepened its long-standing scientific ties with the University of Edinburgh, where its liquid-biopsy and polymer-chemistry technologies originated, unlocking new intellectual property and enhanced access to cancer and genetics facilities.