

ONCO/Reveal™ Solid Tumor Panel for Ion Torrent Library Preparation User Guide

FOR RESEARCH USE ONLY

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	2
How Does the ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel Work?	2
REVISION HISTORY	4
GETTING STARTED	5
Components of the ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel	5
ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel Indexing Kits	5
User-supplied Reagents	6
Consumables	6
Equipment Requirements	7
BEST PRACTICES	8
ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel Workflow	9
DNA INPUT INFORMATION	10
LIBRARY PREPARATION PROTOCOL	10
Gene-specific PCR: Amplify Genomic DNA Targets	10
Gene-specific Primer Digestion	13
Purify the Gene-specific PCR Product	14
Indexing PCR: Amplify the Libraries	17
Purify the Libraries	19
Qubit Quantitation of Purified Libraries	22
Prepare Diluted Libraries for Sequencing	23
Preparing a Sample Sheet	23
TROUBLESHOOTING	24

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INTRODUCTION

The ONCO/Reveal™ Solid Tumor Panel targets numerous, relevant gene regions of interest for researchers looking to explore the genetic sequences of both germline and formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) DNA samples from solid tumor samples. The panel utilizes Pillar Biosciences' proprietary SLIMamp® (stem-loop inhibition mediated amplification) technology, allowing researchers to amplify regions of interest in a simple, multiplex reaction for subsequent sequencing.

The workflow of the ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel can be performed and loaded onto the sequencing instrument by researchers within one day. The protocol also contains numerous stopping points for users who have time limitations.

How Does the ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel Work?

A pair of DNA oligos was designed for each region of interest, or hot spot. Each region is amplified in the first round of gene-specific PCR (GS-PCR), the excess primers are digested, and the products are subsequently purified via size selection. After purification, a second round of PCR adds index adaptors and P5 and P7 sequences to each library for sample tracking and sequencing on Illumina's flow cells. Those products are further purified and sequenced (Figure 1).

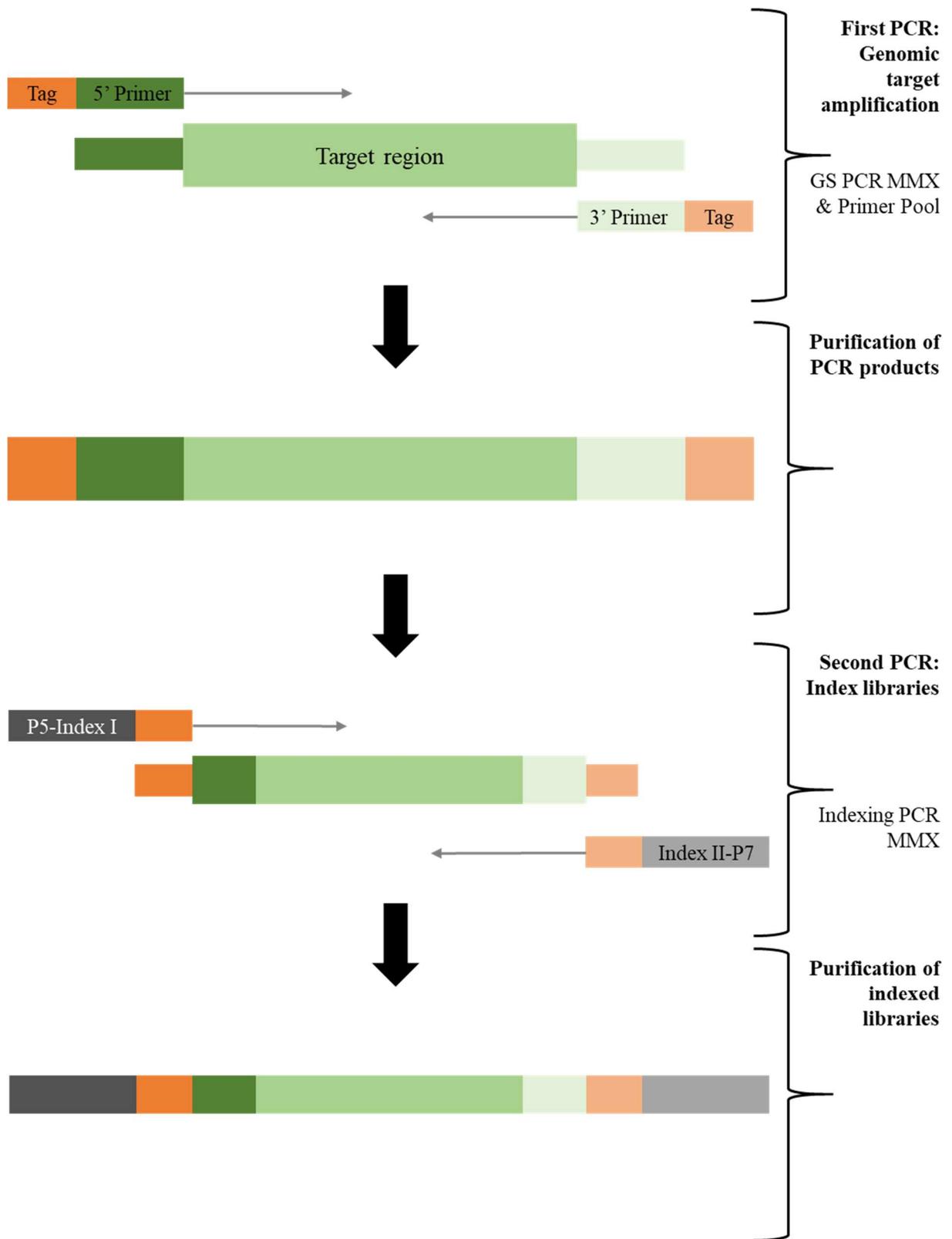


Figure 1. Overview of ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel library preparation.

REVISION HISTORY

2019-09: Initial Release

GETTING STARTED

This section describes the necessary equipment, reagents, and consumables needed before performing the protocol.

Components of the ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel

Reagent	Use	Area Use	Storage
<i>CH222 Oligo Pool</i>	Gene-specific PCR	Pre-PCR	-15° to -25°C
<i>Gene Specific PCR Master Mix (2x)</i>	Gene-specific PCR	Pre-PCR	-15° to -25°C
<i>GC Rescue G</i>	Gene-specific PCR	Pre-PCR	-15° to -25°C
<i>Exonuclease I</i>	Gene-specific PCR	Pre-PCR or Post-PCR	-15° to -25°C
<i>Indexing PCR Master Mix (2x)</i>	Indexing PCR	Pre-PCR	-15° to -25°C

ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel Indexing Kits

Reagent and Part Number	Use	Area Use	Storage
<i>Pillar Biosciences Ion Torrent Indexing Kit A 24 combinations – 96 reactions</i> PN: IDX-TI-1001-96	Indexing PCR	Pre-PCR	-15° to -25°C

Only one index kit is needed per assay. Multiple options are available to meet your throughput needs.

All reagents in the kit should be used in designated areas specified above to prevent amplicon contamination. Each area designated for pre-PCR and post-PCR should have dedicated equipment, supplies, and reagents to prevent contamination.

User-supplied Reagents

Reagent	Area use	Supplier
<i>10 N NaOH or 1 N NaOH</i>	Post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Agencourt AMPure XP Beads</i>	Post-PCR	Beckman Coulter, #A63881/ #A63880
<i>Ethanol, 200 proof for molecular biology</i>	Post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Nuclease-free water</i>	Pre- and Post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Qubit dsDNA High Sensitivity assay kit</i>	Post-PCR	Invitrogen, #Q32851/ #Q32854
<i>Agarose gel, 2% (optional)</i>	Post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>DNA molecular weight markers (optional)</i>	Post-PCR	General lab supplier
Or <i>Bioanalyzer High Sensitivity DNA Analysis (optional)</i>	Post-PCR	Agilent #5067-4627/ #5067-4626
<i>Uracil-DNA glycosylase (UDG) (optional)</i>	Pre-PCR	NEB, #M0280S or #M0280L
<i>10 mM Tris-HCl w/ 0.1% Tween-20, pH 8.5 (optional)</i>	Post-PCR	Teknova, Cat#T7724

Consumables

Item	Area Use	Supplier
<i>1.5 mL microcentrifuge tubes</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>96-well PCR plates, 0.2 mL</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	Axygen, Part Number 6551 or equivalent
<i>Microplate sealing film</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	Axygen, Part Number PCR-TS or equivalent
<i>Conical tubes, 15 mL</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Conical tubes, 50 mL</i>	Post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Low retention, aerosol filter pipette tips</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Solution basin (trough or reservoir)</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	Fisher, Part Number 13-681- 506 or equivalent
<i>Qubit Assay tubes</i>	Post-PCR	Invitrogen, Part Number Q32856

Equipment Requirements

Equipment	Area Use	Supplier
<i>Centrifuge adapted for PCR plates, tabletop</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Gel electrophoresis apparatus (optional) or</i>	Post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>2100 Bioanalyzer Instrument (optional)</i>	Post-PCR	Agilent. #G2939BA
<i>Magnetic stand for 96 wells</i>	Post-PCR	Life Technologies, Part Number 12331D or 12027
<i>Microfuge</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Thermal cycler, heated lid capability</i>	Post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Pipettes, 0.5-1000 μL capabilities</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	General lab supplier
<i>Qubit Fluorometer</i>	Post-PCR	Invitrogen, Part Number Q33216, Q33218 or equivalent
<i>Vortexer</i>	Pre- and post-PCR	General lab supplier

Other general lab supplies needed to carry out the protocol include laboratory gloves, ice, ice buckets, tube racks, etc.

For reagents, consumables, and equipment required in both pre- and post-PCR processes, dedicated supplies (including gloves, lab coats, etc.) should be located in both areas.

BEST PRACTICES

The following steps are recommended to improve consistency and reduce contamination:

- **Work areas:** To reduce the risk of contamination from PCR amplicons, supplies should not be moved from one area to another. Separate storage areas (including refrigerators, freezers) should also be designated for pre- and post-PCR products.
- **Lab cleanliness:** To further reduce the possibility of contamination, clean work areas between experiments with laboratory cleaning solution (70% alcohol or freshly-made 10% hypochlorite solution). A periodic cleaning of the floor is also recommended.
- **Floor:** Items that have fallen to the floor are assumed to be contaminated and should be discarded. Gloves should also be changed after handling a contaminated item. If a sample tube or non-consumable item has fallen and remained capped, thoroughly clean the outside with a laboratory cleaning solution before use (70% alcohol or freshly-made 10% hypochlorite solution).
- **Aliquot reagents:** Aliquot frozen reagents into smaller volumes to prevent freeze/thaw cycles. For reagents stored at higher temperatures, aliquot from the stock and work from the aliquots to reduce the risk of stock contamination. In the case of contamination, aliquots can help to determine the source of contamination more quickly and easily.
- **Multichannel pipettes:** Use multichannel pipettes for consistency and efficiency among numerous samples.
- **Pipette tips:** Change tips between each sample to prevent cross-contamination. Discard any tips that may have become contaminated due to contact with gloves, lab bench, tube exteriors, etc.
- **Open containers and lids:** To prevent possible contamination from the air, keep tubes closed when not directly in use, avoid reaching over open containers, and cover plates with seals or lint-free laboratory wipes.

ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel Workflow

The following chart (Figure 2) demonstrates the workflow for performing the ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel library preparation.

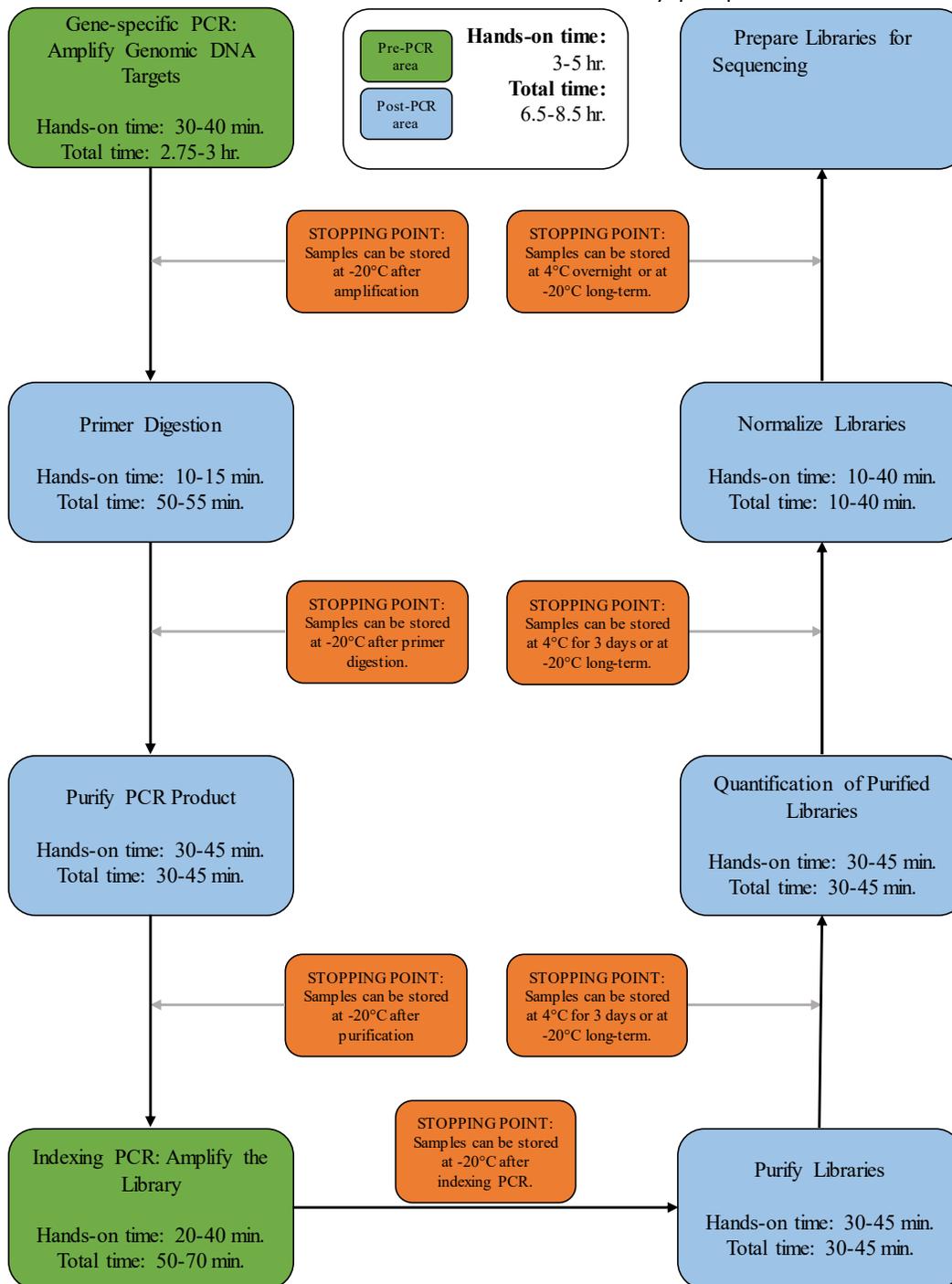


Figure 2. The ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel workflow can be completed within a day but contains multiple stopping points for users with time constraints.

DNA INPUT INFORMATION

The following protocol includes information for preparing libraries using genomic DNA from tissue or FFPE samples.

The recommended DNA input is 10-75 ng per PCR reaction for standard genomic DNA. For good quality gDNA, lower amounts of input may be used with acceptable yield and quality scores. The recommended DNA input is 10-75 ng per PCR reaction for FFPE DNA. For FFPE DNA, lower input can be used, but the yield and quality score will be low.

For FFPE samples, it is recommended that Uracil-DNA glycosylase (UDG) be added to the initial gene-specific reaction. The deamination of cytosine to uracil is a common cause of the presence of artificial C>T (or G>A) variants. To reduce such artifacts due to DNA damage in FFPE samples, UDG can be added to the reaction during the initial setup of gene-specific PCR.

LIBRARY PREPARATION PROTOCOL

Hands-on time: 3-5 hours

Total time: 6.5-8.5 hours

Gene-specific PCR: Amplify Genomic DNA Targets

Hands-on time: 30-40 minutes

Total time: 2.75-3 hours

The following steps are performed in a pre-PCR area. For this portion of the protocol, have an ice bucket prepared. Keep the Gene Specific PCR Master Mix (GS PCR MMX) and CH222 Oligo Pool on ice.

1. **Prepare a PCR master mix:** Vortex and spin the GS PCR MMX and oligo pool before use. For each PCR reaction, the volume of each component is listed on the next page.

Note: *The Gene Specific PCR Master Mix is viscous. Ensure the mix is fully homogenized before adding other reaction components. Vortexing is recommended and will not adversely affect enzyme activity.*

- a. To prepare the PCR master mix, add components except genomic DNA to a 1.5 mL microtube and keep on ice.

For example, to prepare enough mixture for 10 samples, mix 125 μL of GS-PCR MMX, 50 μL of primer pool, 10 μL UDG (optional; see DNA input note), and the appropriate amount of water. Add reagent overage appropriately.

- b. Mix the PCR master mix by vortexing on medium speed for 10 seconds and spin down the solution in a microfuge. Transfer (25-n) μL of master mix to each sample well in a PCR plate, strip tube, or PCR tube.

Reagent	Volume (μL) (without UDG)	Volume (μL) (with UDG)
Gene Specific PCR Master Mix	12.5	12.5
CH222 Oligo Pool	5.0	5.0
Genomic DNA (20 ng*)	n	n
UDG (5 units/ μL)	0.0	1.0
GC Rescue G	1.25	1.25
Nuclease-free water	6.25-n	5.25-n
Total	25.0	25.0

*The DNA concentration can be determined by the Qubit dsDNA BR Assay Kit (Life Technologies, Cat. No. Q32850 or Q32853; Quantitation range 2-1,000 ng) or the Qubit dsDNA HS Assay Kit (Life Technologies, Cat. No. Q32851 or Q32854; Quantitation range 0.2-100 ng).

The recommended DNA input is 10-75 ng per PCR reaction for standard genomic DNA and 10-75 ng for FFPE DNA. It is recommended that the quality of FFPE DNA be checked by qPCR (Taqman RNase P Detection Reagents Kit (Life Technologies, Cat. No. 4316831)) or a Bio-analyzer. If the FFPE DNA is not severely degraded, the DNA input can be as little as 5 ng. However, if the FFPE DNA is severely degraded, it is recommended to increase the DNA input quantitated by qPCR or Bio-analyzer when possible.

Note about FFPE samples: For FFPE samples, it is recommended that UDG be added to the reaction to reduce artifacts from fixation and storage. The deamination of cytosine is a common cause of the presence of artificial C>T (or G>A) variants.

2. **Add DNA:** Add (n) μL of genomic DNA (or water for a no-template control).
3. **Seal and mix:** Carefully seal the reactions and vortex for 10-15 seconds.
4. **Spin:** Briefly spin the reactions to remove any air bubbles from the bottom of the wells and spin down droplets from the seal or side walls.

5. **Perform PCR:** Perform the following program with the heated lid on:

Temperature	Time	Number of Cycles (without UDG) *	Number of Cycles (with UDG)
37°C	10 minutes	0	1
95°C	15 minutes	1	1
98°C	1 minute	5	5
58°C	2 minutes		
60°C	4 minutes		
64°C	1 minute		
72°C	1 minute		
95°C	30 seconds	18	18
66°C	3 minutes		
8°C	Hold	1	1

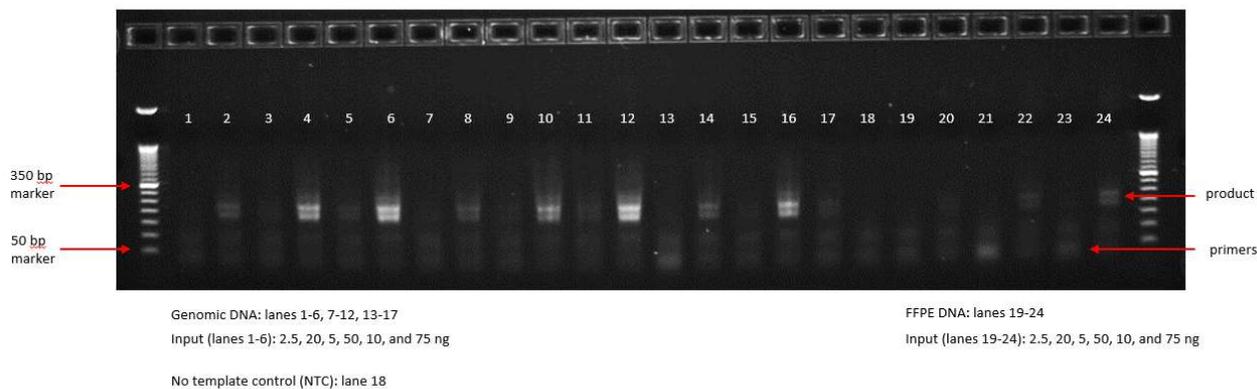
*If multiple sample types are being processed (non-FFPE vs FFPE DNA), reactions with and without UDG can be run simultaneously. The 37°C incubation will not adversely affect the PCR reaction. Therefore, reactions with and without UDG can be run with the same cycling conditions.

IMPORTANT: Do not leave the reactions at 8 °C overnight. Precipitation may occur when the reactions are incubated at 8 °C overnight.

STOPPING POINT: The gene-specific PCR reactions may be stored at -20 °C after cycling.

Quality Control

The following image is an example of gDNA and FFPE samples after the Gene Specific PCR using various inputs on a 2% agarose gel.



Gene-specific Primer Digestion

Hands-on time: 10-15 minutes

Total time: 50-55 minutes

The following steps are performed in a post-PCR area. Exonuclease I dilution may be performed in a pre-PCR area. For this portion of the protocol, have an ice bucket prepared. Keep the exonuclease on ice. Keep the sample reactions at ambient temperature.

1. Briefly spin the reactions to remove any droplets from the side walls. Carefully remove the seal or caps.
2. **Dilute Exonuclease:**
 - a. Invert the Exonuclease I to mix and spin in a microfuge to remove any droplets from the lid.
 - b. For 10 samples, dilute 30 μ L of the exonuclease I in 20 μ L nuclease-free water to prepare 50 μ L of diluted exonuclease. Add reagent overage as appropriate. Any excess dilution can be stored at -20°C overnight for a second use.

IMPORTANT: *The exonuclease solution is viscous and requires careful attention when pipetting. The diluted exonuclease I is good for a second use the next day if stored overnight at -20°C. Otherwise, freshly dilute the exonuclease before adding it to the samples.*

3. **Add Exonuclease:** Add 5 μ L of the diluted exonuclease to each sample, pipetting up and down to mix.
4. **Seal and mix:** Carefully seal the reactions. Pulse vortex the reactions on a medium setting for 5-10 seconds.
5. **Spin:** Briefly spin the reactions to remove any air bubbles from the bottom of the wells and spin down droplets from the seal or side walls.
6. **Perform digestion:** Perform the following program with the lid on:

Temperature	Time	Number of Cycles
37°C	20 minutes	1
80°C	10 minutes	1
8°C	Hold	1

IMPORTANT: *Do not leave the reactions at 8 °C overnight. Precipitation may occur when the reactions are incubated at 8 °C overnight.*

STOPPING POINT: *The gene-specific PCR reactions may be stored at -20 °C after primer digestion.*

Purify the Gene-specific PCR Product

Hands-on time: 30-45 minutes

Total time: 30-45 minutes

The following steps are performed in a post-PCR area.

Pre-purification

Warm AMPure beads: Take out Agencourt AMPure XP beads from 4°C and incubate at room temperature for at least 30 minutes before use.

If samples were stored at -20°C, remove from the freezer to thaw to ambient temperature before purification.

IMPORTANT: *It is critical that the AMPure beads reach room temperature before performing the purification process. The temperature of the bead solution can alter the purification process.*

Gene-specific Product Purification

1. If the samples were stored at -20°C or condensation has formed, briefly spin the samples upon thawing to remove droplets from the side walls. Carefully remove the seal or caps.
2. **Mix beads:** Vortex AMPure XP beads thoroughly until all beads are well dispersed.

IMPORTANT: *It is critical that the AMPure beads solution is homogeneous before performing the purification process. A non-uniform distribution can affect the purification process.*

3. **Add water to sample:** Add 20 µL of nuclease-free water to each well or add enough water to bring the volume to 50 µL.

TIP: *Use a trough and multichannel pipette to quickly and easily add the water to each well. The same method can be applied to add the beads and 70% ethanol.*

4. **Add beads:** Add 60 µL beads (**1.2x** beads if the volume is not currently 50 µL) to each well. Pipette the mixture up and down 10 times. If bubbles form on the bottom of the wells, briefly spin the samples and mix again.
5. **Bind PCR product to beads:** Incubate the samples for 5 minutes at room temperature.

TIP: During the incubation time, prepare a 50 mL solution of 70% ethanol by combining 35 mL of ethanol and 15 mL of molecular biology grade water, which will be used to wash the beads in step 8.

6. **Separate beads containing PCR product:** Place the samples on a magnetic rack until the solution appears clear, which can take up to 5 minutes.
7. **Remove supernatant:** Carefully remove the supernatant from each well without disturbing the beads from the wall of each well.
8. **Wash beads:** Leave the samples on the magnetic rack. Add 150 μ L of freshly prepared 70% ethanol to each well without disturbing the beads. Incubate 30 seconds, and then remove the supernatant from each well.

IMPORTANT: Do not allow the ethanol mixture to remain open to the air. The ethanol concentration will change over time, affecting the washing of the beads. Pour only enough solution for each wash.

9. **Second wash:** Repeat step 8 for a second 70% ethanol wash. Remove the supernatant from each well. The unused solution of ethanol can be used to purify the libraries after indexing PCR.
10. **Remove remaining ethanol wash:** Remove trace amounts of ethanol completely from each well. Spin the samples in a benchtop centrifuge for 10-15 seconds, place the samples back on the magnetic rack, and use a 10 or 20 μ L tip to remove the remaining ethanol solution at the bottom of the wells.
11. **Resuspend beads:** Remove the samples from the magnetic rack, and immediately resuspend the beads in each well using 32 μ L nuclease-free water. Gently pipette the suspension up and down 10 times. If bubbles form on the bottom of the wells, briefly spin and mix again.

Note: Do not allow the beads to over-dry. During the purification, the beads tend to clump and “fan.” Be sure to immediately resuspend the beads after removing the ethanol wash.

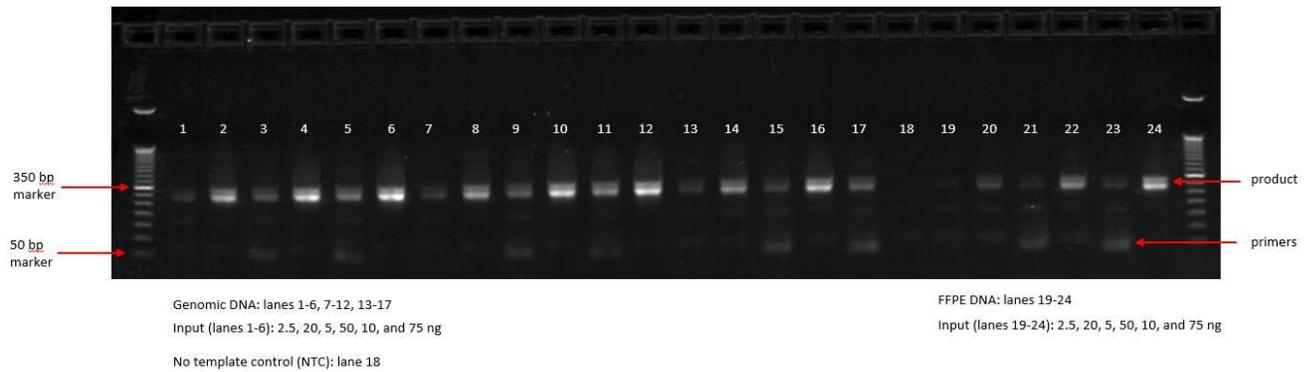
12. Incubate the elution at room temperature for 5 minutes to fully elute the product.

TIP: After resuspending the beads, cover the samples and prepare the reactions for indexing the libraries using the Indexing PCR Master Mix in the Pre-PCR area. Alternately, the purified gene-specific PCR product (on beads) may be stored at -20 $^{\circ}$ C after elution.

STOPPING POINT: The purified PCR product may be stored with the beads at -20 $^{\circ}$ C.

Quality Control

The following image is an example of gDNA and FFPE samples after the Indexing PCR using various inputs on a 2% agarose gel.



Indexing PCR: Amplify the Libraries

Hands-on time: 20-40 minutes

Total time: 50-70 minutes

The following steps should be performed in a pre-PCR area. For this portion of the protocol, have an ice bucket prepared. The Indexing PCR Master Mix should be kept on ice.

1. **Add indexing primers:** For each indexing reaction, add 4 μL of the appropriate IonXpress Barcode indexing primer and Common indexing primer to each sample well being used.
2. **Prepare a master mix:** Vortex and spin the Indexing PCR Master Mix before use. To prepare the PCR master mix, combine the Indexing PCR Master Mix and water sufficient for the samples being processed with overage.
 - a. For example, to prepare enough mixture for 10 samples, mix 250 μL of Indexing PCR MMX and 110 μL of water. Add reagent overage appropriately.
 - b. Mix the PCR master mix by vortexing on medium speed for 10 seconds and spin down the solution in a microfuge. Transfer 36 μL of master mix to each sample well in a PCR plate, strip tube, or PCR microtube. To prevent cross-contamination of indices, be sure to change tips between each well.

Reagent	Volume (μL)
Indexing PCR Master Mix (2x)	25.0
IonXpress Barcode Index	4.0
Common Index	4.0
Nuclease-free water	11.0
Gene-specific PCR product, without beads*	6.0
Total	50.0

* The remaining first PCR product (on beads) can be stored at 4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ overnight or at -20 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for long-term storage.

The following steps should be performed in a post-PCR area. **Important:** Cover or seal the reactions before transferring from the pre-PCR area to the post-PCR area.

3. **Separate beads:** Place the gene-specific PCR product elution on the magnet to separate the beads from the eluent.

4. **Add gene-specific PCR product:** Add 6 μ L of the gene-specific PCR product, without the beads, to the corresponding wells and carefully seal the plate or cap the tubes. Small amounts of bead carry-over may occur and will not significantly impact the PCR reaction.
5. **Mix and spin:** Pulse vortex the sealed reactions on a medium setting for 5-10 seconds to mix. Briefly spin down the reactions to remove any bubbles within the reaction solutions.
6. **Perform PCR:** Perform the following program with the heated lid on:

Temperature	Time	Number of Cycles
95°C	2 minutes	1
95°C	30 seconds	
66°C	30 seconds	6
72°C	60 seconds	
72°C	5 minutes	1
8°C	Hold	1

STOPPING POINT: *The indexed libraries may be stored at -20 °C.*

Purify the Libraries

Hands-on time: 30-45 minutes

Total time: 30-45 minutes

Pre-purification

Keep Agencourt AMPure XP beads at room temperature while the indexing PCR is being performed unless samples are going to be stored at -20°C.

If samples were stored at -20°C remove the samples from the freezer to thaw to ambient temperature before purification. Remove Agencourt AMPure XP beads from 4°C and incubate at room temperature for at least 30 minutes before use.

IMPORTANT: *It is critical that the AMPure beads reach room temperature before performing the purification process. The temperature of the bead solution can alter the purification process.*

Library Purification

The following steps should be performed in a post-PCR area.

1. If the samples were stored at -20°C or condensation has formed, briefly spin the samples once thawed to remove any droplets from the side walls. Carefully remove the seal or caps.
2. **Mix beads:** Vortex AMPure XP beads thoroughly until all beads are well dispersed.

IMPORTANT: *It is critical that the AMPure beads solution is homogeneous before performing the purification process. A non-uniform distribution can affect the purification process.*

3. **Add beads:** Add 50 µL beads (1.0x beads if reaction is not at 50 µL) to each well. Pipette the mixture up and down 10 times. If bubbles form on the bottom of the wells, briefly spin and mix again.

TIP: *Use a trough and multichannel pipette to quickly and easily add the beads to each well. The same method can be applied to the washes in steps 6-8.*

4. **Bind libraries to beads:** Incubate the samples for 5 minutes at room temperature to bind the libraries to the beads.

5. **Separate libraries on beads:** Place the samples on a magnetic rack until the solution appears clear, which can take up to 5 minutes.
6. **Remove supernatant:** Carefully remove the supernatant from each well without dislodging the beads from the wall of each well.
7. **Wash beads:** Leave the samples on the magnetic rack. Add 150 μ L of freshly-prepared 70% ethanol to each well without disturbing the beads. Incubate 30 seconds, and then remove the supernatant from each well.

IMPORTANT: Do not allow the ethanol mixture to remain open to the air. The ethanol concentration will change over time, affecting the washing of the beads. Pour only enough solution for each wash.

8. **Second wash:** Repeat step 7 for a second 70% ethanol wash. Remove the supernatant from each well.

IMPORTANT: Remove trace amounts of ethanol completely from each well. If ethanol drops are attached to the sidewall of some wells, spin the samples in a benchtop centrifuge for 10-15 seconds and use a 10 or 20 μ L tip to remove the remaining solution from wells.

9. **Dry beads:** Let the beads air dry at room temperature for 2-5 minutes.

IMPORTANT: Do not over-dry the beads. The beads have sufficiently dried when the bead mass has small cracks in the middle. If large cracks have appeared among the entire bead ring or they are flaky, they are over-dried. Beads that are too dry may be difficult to resuspend.

10. **Resuspend beads:** Remove the samples from the magnetic rack and resuspend the dried beads in each well using 32 μ L nuclease-free water. Gently pipette the beads suspension up and down 10 times. If bubbles form on the bottom of the wells, briefly spin and mix again.
11. **Elute libraries:** Incubate the resuspended beads at room temperature for 5 minutes to elute the final libraries.
12. **Separate libraries from beads:** Place the elutions on the magnetic rack at room temperature until the solution appears clear. Transfer 30 μ L of clear supernatant from each well of the PCR plate or tubes to the corresponding well of a new plate or tube.

TIP: During the incubation and magnetic separation of the beads, cover the samples and prepare the solutions needed for quantitation in the next

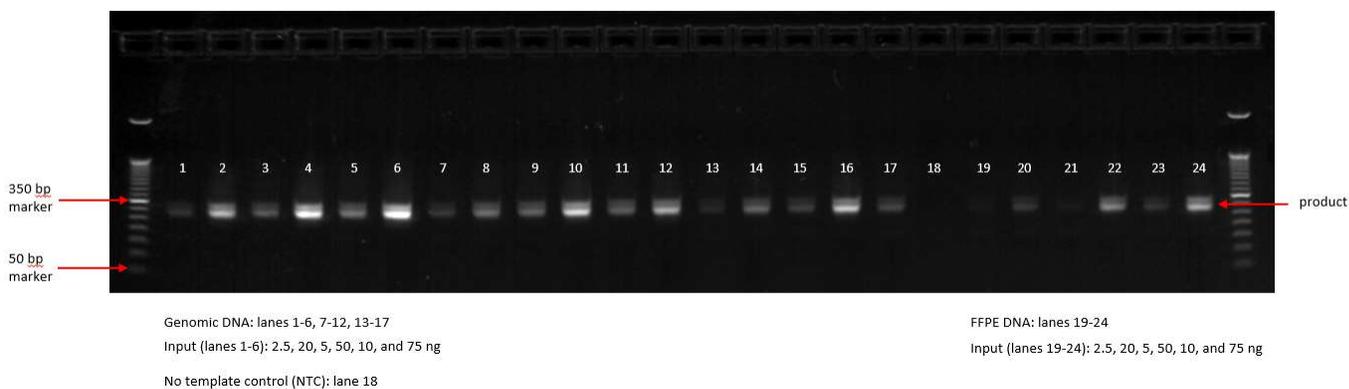
section. The purified libraries may also be stored at 4 °C for up to 3 days or at -20 °C for longer-term storage.

13. Analyze an aliquot of each library per the instructions in the next section.

STOPPING POINT: The purified libraries may be stored at 4 °C for up to 3 days. Store the purified libraries at -20 °C for longer-term storage.

Quality Control

The following image is an example of final libraries for gDNA and FFPE samples using various inputs on a 2% agarose gel after purification.



Qubit Quantitation of Purified Libraries

Hands-on time: 30-45 minutes

Total time: 30-45 minutes

The following steps should be performed in a post-PCR area.

1. **Prepare buffer with dye:** Dilute the Qubit dsDNA HS reagent 1:200 in Qubit dsDNA HS buffer. Vortex briefly to mix Qubit working solution. For example, 2000 μL is sufficient buffer for 10 readings (8 samples + 2 standards). Combine 1990 μL of Qubit dsDNA HS buffer and 10 μL HS reagent. Add reagent overage appropriately.

IMPORTANT: *Fluorescent dyes are sensitive to light. Protect the Qubit buffer mixture with dye from light.*

2. **Label tubes:** Set up 0.5 mL Qubit tubes for standards and samples. Label the tube lids.
3. **Prepare standards:** Transfer 190 μL of Qubit working solution into two tubes for standard 1 and standard 2, and then add 10 μL of each standard to the corresponding tube.

IMPORTANT: *New standard dilutions should be prepared with the samples. Do not re-use standard dilutions from previous experiments.*

4. **Prepare samples:** Transfer 198 μL of Qubit working solution to each tube, and then add 2 μL of each sample to the tube (1:100 dilution).
5. **Mix and spin:** Mix the tubes by vortexing and then spinning the tubes briefly.
6. Incubate the tubes at room temperature for 2 minutes.
7. **Measure concentration:** Measure the concentration of each sample on the Qubit 2.0 Fluorometer per the Qubit User Guide. Use the dsDNA High Sensitivity assay to read standards 1 and 2 followed by the samples.
 - a. If any sample concentrations are above the linear range of the instrument, prepare a new dilution using 199 μL Qubit buffer with dye and 1 μL sample (1:200 dilution). Repeat steps 5-7.
8. **Calculate concentration:** Calculate the concentration (in $\text{ng}/\mu\text{L}$) of each undiluted sample. Convert the concentration of each sample to nM (1 $\text{ng}/\mu\text{L}$ of library is equal to **5 nM** of library for the ONCO/Reveal Solid Tumor Panel).

$$2 \text{ in } 200: [X \text{ ng} \cdot \text{mL}^{-1}] \times [1 \text{ mL} \cdot 1000 \mu\text{L}^{-1}] \times \text{dilution factor } [100] = [Y \text{ ng} \cdot \mu\text{L}^{-1}]$$

$$1 \text{ in } 200: [X \text{ ng} \cdot \text{mL}^{-1}] \times [1 \text{ mL} \cdot 1000 \mu\text{L}^{-1}] \times \text{dilution factor } [200] = [Y \text{ ng} \cdot \mu\text{L}^{-1}]$$

$$[Y] \text{ ng} \cdot \mu\text{L}^{-1} \times [5 \text{ nM} \cdot \text{ng}^{-1} \cdot \mu\text{L}] = [Z \text{ nM}]$$

STOPPING POINT: *The undiluted libraries may be stored at 4 °C for up to 3 days. Store libraries at -20 °C for long-term storage.*

Prepare Diluted Libraries for Sequencing

Continue with template generation and sequencing following Ion torrent protocol

Preparing a Sample Sheet

IMPORTANT: *See the attached Appendix A for information regarding Pillar's IonXpress Indexing primers.*

TROUBLESHOOTING

Issue	Potential Cause	Solution
Low yield of gene-specific product	DNA quantity or quality	The recommended input for the assay is 10-75 ng of genomic DNA. Higher quantities may be necessary for low or poor quality FFPE samples.
	Improper cycling	Check that the cycling protocol performed is the appropriate protocol for gene-specific amplification.
Low indexing efficiency	Improper Ampure purification	Incomplete Ampure purification or loss of gene-specific product will affect the indexing PCR reaction. The purified product can be checked on an agarose gel to ensure the gene-specific product was not lost or that clean-up was sufficient to remove excess primers.
		The Ampure bead ratio and ethanol concentration affect the PCR cleanup. Ensure the correct Ampure concentration was used for cleanup and fresh, 70% ethanol is used for the wash.
		Leftover ethanol from the wash steps can hinder the PCR reaction. Remove as much of the ethanol during the final wash step with a pipette and dry the beads to ensure the residual ethanol has evaporated.
	Partial primer digestion	Poor digestion of the gene-specific primers can hinder the indexing efficiency of the indexing PCR reaction. Check the primer digestion using an agarose gel.
	Incomplete deactivation of exonuclease	The inactivation of the nuclease and Ampure purification is necessary before performing indexing PCR. Leftover active exonuclease can

		digest the indexing PCR primers, reducing the yield of the indexing PCR reaction.
Low library yield	DNA quantity or quality	<p>The recommended input for the assay is 10-75 ng of genomic DNA. Higher quantities may be necessary for low or poor quality FFPE samples.</p> <p>Run the product from the gene-specific PCR on agarose gel to check the yield.</p> <p>The product can also be checked on an agarose gel after indexing PCR before and after Ampure purification.</p>
	Improper Ampure purification	<p>Incomplete Ampure purification or loss of product will affect the final yield. The purified product can be checked on an agarose gel to ensure the product was not lost during PCR cleanup.</p> <p>The Ampure bead ratio and ethanol concentration affect the PCR cleanup. Ensure the correct Ampure concentration was used for cleanup and fresh, 70% ethanol is used for the wash.</p>
The libraries over-cluster or under-cluster on the MiSeq	Normalization and mix of libraries is not 10 pM (v2), 12 pM (v3), or 1.8 pM (NextSeq)	Check the 5 nM library mix using Qubit or RT-PCR. Dilute the denatured library mix as needed to adjust for the difference in concentration.
	Improper library quantitation	<p>Improper library quantitation may result in artificially high or low yields, which affects downstream normalization.</p> <p>Re-quantitate the final libraries and/or the normalized libraries to check for the expected values.</p>

	Improper Ampure purification	<p>Changing the ratio of Ampure beads affects the purification of the products. Notably, the presence of primer dimers can cause an underestimation of total quantity, causing over-clustering.</p> <p>The Ampure bead ratio and ethanol concentration affect the PCR cleanup. Ensure the correct Ampure concentration was used for cleanup and fresh, 70% ethanol is used for the wash.</p> <p>The final libraries can be checked on an agarose gel for the proper product size and presence of primer dimers.</p>
No-template control contains amplicons	Cross-contamination	<p>Make sure to change tips between samples, and avoid waving over tubes or plates. When liquid handling, be careful to avoid waving used tips over samples. Poor sealing or residual liquid in tips can cause contamination of nearby samples. If possible, leave adjacent wells empty between samples.</p> <p>Work spaces and equipment for pre-PCR and post-PCR should be separated to prevent amplicon contamination.</p> <p>Periodically clean the work space, floor, equipment, and instrumentation with a laboratory cleaning solution (10% bleach, 70% isopropanol, or 70% ethanol) to break down amplicons on surfaces.</p>

Appendix A

Index Name	Index Barcode Sequence
lonXpress_1	CTAAGGTAAC
lonXpress_2	TAAGGAGAAC
lonXpress_3	AAGAGGATTC
lonXpress_4	TACCAAGATC
lonXpress_5	CAGAAGGAAC
lonXpress_6	CTGCAAGTTC
lonXpress_7	TTCGTGATTC
lonXpress_8	TTCCGATAAC
lonXpress_9	TGAGCGGAAC
lonXpress_10	CTGACCGAAC
lonXpress_11	TCCTCGAATC
lonXpress_12	TAGGTGGTTC
lonXpress_13	TCTAACGGAC
lonXpress_14	TTGGAGTGTC
lonXpress_15	TCTAGAGGTC
lonXpress_16	TCTGGATGAC
lonXpress_17	TCTATTGTC
lonXpress_18	AGGCAATTGC
lonXpress_19	TTAGTCGGAC
lonXpress_20	CAGATCCATC
lonXpress_21	TCGCAATTAC
lonXpress_22	TTGAGACGTC
lonXpress_23	TGCCACGAAC
lonXpress_24	AACCTCATTTC

Index Name	Index Barcode Sequence
lonXpress_25	CCTGAGATAC
lonXpress_26	TTACAACCTC
lonXpress_27	AACCATCCGC
lonXpress_28	ATCCGGAATC
lonXpress_29	TCGACCACTC
lonXpress_30	CGAGGTTATC
lonXpress_31	TCCAAGCTGC
lonXpress_32	TCTTACACAC
lonXpress_33	TTCTCATTGAAC
lonXpress_34	TCGCATCGTTC
lonXpress_35	TAAGCCATTGTC
lonXpress_36	AAGGAATCGTC
lonXpress_37	CTTGAGAATGTC
lonXpress_38	TGGAGGACGGAC
lonXpress_39	TAACAATCGGC
lonXpress_40	CTGACATAATC
lonXpress_41	TTCCACTTCGC
lonXpress_42	AGCACGAATC
lonXpress_43	CTTGACACCGC
lonXpress_44	TTGGAGGCCAGC
lonXpress_45	TGGAGCTTCCTC
lonXpress_46	TCAGTCCGAAC
lonXpress_47	TAAGGCAACCAC
lonXpress_48	TTCTAAGAGAC