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ONT Flongle FlowCell Sequencing of cfDNA

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We are still developing and optimizing this protocol

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Abstract

This protocol is a custom adaptation for cfDNA sequencing using ONT Flongle Flow Cell, Watchmaker genomics library prep kit and STRECK tubes. It is meant for microbial cfDNA Sequencing.



Protocol materials

- ✕ Proteinase K **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #100005393**
- ✕ SDS 20% solution **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #05030-500ML-F**
- ✕ cfPure Lysis/Binding Buffer **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2**
- ✕ cfPure Magnetic Bead **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2**
- ✕ cfPure Wash Buffer **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2**
- ✕ cfPure Wash Buffer **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2**
- ✕ cfPure Elution Buffer **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2**
- ✕ ER/AT Buffer **Watchmaker Genomics Catalog #7K0101-024**
- ✕ ER/AT Enzyme Mix **Watchmaker Genomics Catalog #7K0101-024**
- ✕ Ligation Buffer **Watchmaker Genomics Catalog #7K0101-024**
- ✕ Ligation Enzyme **Watchmaker Genomics Catalog #7K0101-024**
- ✕ Ligation Adaptor (LA) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies**
- ✕ Ligation Sequencing Kit V14 **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-LSK114**
- ✕ AMPure XP Beads (AXP) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK114.96**
- ✕ Short Fragment Buffer (SFB) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies**
- ✕ Elution Buffer (EB) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies**
- ✕ Flow Cell Flush (FCF) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK114.96**
- ✕ Flow Cell Tether (FCT) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK114.96**
- ✕ Flongle Sequencing Expansion **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #XP-FSE002**

Plasma Isolation from STRECK Tube

30m

- 1 Cell-Free DNA BCT is a blood collection tube that stabilizes cell-free DNA for up to **14 days at 6 °C to 37 °C*** and CTCs for up to 7 days at 15 °C to 30 °C*. It is available as a CE marked in vitro diagnostic device or as a Research Use Only tube, depending on region of use.
- 2  300 rpm, 20°C, 00:20:00 , If the tubes were still at room temperature for > 24h you can skip 20m step.
Centrifuge the STRECK tube  Sample



Expected result

Expect to see the phases, plasma, plaquettes and leucocytes, and hematites

- 3  5 mL Pippete the Plasma into a 15 mL Falcon tube
- 4  3000 rpm, 20°C, 00:10:00

10m

**Expected result**

Debris and Cells in the pellet

5  Sample Pipette the supernatant into a new Falcon 15 mL tube.

6 Freeze at  -20 °C

Extract cfDNA from plasma isolated from STRECK Tubes using cfPure

46m 10s

7 Thaw the plasma  On ice 1 hour

8 Add  30 µL  Proteinase K Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #100005393 at 50 mg/mL to each tube

9 Add  50 µL  SDS 20% solution Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #05030-500ML-F for every 1 mL of plasma.

10 Incubate at  56 °C for  00:20:00 in the water bath with low shake

20m

11 After incubation place tubes  On ice for  00:05:00 to cool  Room temperature

5m

12 Add  1.25 mL  cfPure Lysis/Binding Buffer BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2 for every  1 mL of Plasma

13 Add  25 µL of  cfPure Magnetic Bead **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2** for every  1 mL of Plasma.

Important: Mix well prior to adding. There should be no visible sedimentation at the bottom of the solution after mixing.

14 Adapt the Falcon 15 mL tubes by attaching 2 mL eppendorf using tape

15 Vortex or  3000 rpm, 00:10:00 on

10m

Equipment

Digital Vortex-Genie 2

NAME

Vortex

TYPE

Scientific Industries, Inc

BRAND

SI-A236

SKU

<https://www.scientificindustries.com/digital-vortex-genie-2.html>^{LINK}

at  Room temperature

16 Place tube(s) into a magnet stand  00:03:00 to  00:05:00 or until solution clears.

3m

17 While keeping the tube(s) on the magnet stand, remove supernatant. Be careful not to remove magnetic particles

18 Keep tube(s) on magnet stand for  00:01:00 , and remove residual supernatant

1m

19 **First Wash**



- 19.1 Add  1000 μL of  cfPure Wash Buffer **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2** to lysis/binding tube(s)
- 19.2 Resuspend beads by vortexing  00:00:10 or pipetting up and down 10 times 10s
- 19.3 Transfer magnetic particle suspension into 1.5 ml micro tube(s) on magnet stand
- 19.4 Allow beads to attach to magnet stand for 10-30 seconds
- 19.5 Pipette supernatant from 1.5 ml tube(s) and use the supernatant to wash the lysis/binding tube(s)
- 19.6 Transfer the rest of the magnetic particles in lysis/binding tube(s) to the 1.5 ml tube(s)
- 19.7 Keep tube(s) on magnet stand for 10-30 seconds or until solution is clear
- 19.8 Remove as much buffer as possible using a 1000 μL pipette. Tap magnet stand on bench 5 times and remove remaining wash buffer with 200 μL pipette
- 19.9 Transfer tube(s) to non-magnetic rack and add  1000 μL of  cfPure Wash Buffer **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2**
- 19.10 Resuspend beads by vortexing for 20 seconds or pipetting up and down 10 times
- 19.11 Place tube(s) on magnet stand for 10-30 seconds. Remove as much buffer as possible using a 1000 μL pipette
- 20 **Second Wash**



- 20.1 Transfer tube(s) to non-magnetic rack and add  1000 μL of **80% EtOH**
- 20.2 Resuspend beads by vortexing for 20 seconds or pipetting up and down 10 times
- 20.3 Place on magnet stand for 10-30 seconds or until solution clears
- 20.4 Remove as much buffer as possible using a 1000 μL pipette. Remove remaining EtOH with 200 μL pipette
- 20.5 Transfer tube(s) to non-magnetic rack and add  1000 μL of **80% EtOH**
- 20.6 Resuspend beads by vortexing for 20 seconds or pipetting up and down 10 times
- 20.7 Place on magnet stand for 10-20 seconds. Remove as much EtOH as possible using a 1000 μL pipette and leave cap open. Remove remaining EtOH with 200 μL pipette. Leave tube(s) open on magnet stand for  00:02:00

2m

21 Elution Step

- 21.1 Transfer microtube(s) to non-magnetic rack and add  50 μL of  cfPure Elution Buffer **BioChain Catalog #K5011610-V2** and resuspend the beads.
Important: A minimum of 20 μL of cfPure Elution Buffer per ml of plasma is recommended to elute DNA to ensure optimal yields
- 21.2 Vortex or shake tube(s) vigorously for  00:05:00
- 21.3 Centrifuge tube(s) briefly. And Place tube(s) on magnetic rack for 10 to 30 seconds.
- 21.4 Transfer elute into a new 1.5 ml tube(s)

5m



Library Preparation for ONT using WatchMaker

32m

22 Thaw  On ice all reagents and samples

23 End Repair A-tailing

23.1 Prepare End Repair and A-tailing (ER/AT) master mix.

 7 μL  ER/AT Buffer Watchmaker Genomics Catalog #7K0101-024

 3 μL  ER/AT Enzyme Mix Watchmaker Genomics Catalog #7K0101-024 for every sample

Component	Volume (μL)
ER/AT Buffer	7
ER/AT Enzyme Mix	3

23.2 Mix with pipette up and down

23.3 Prepare a 200 μL eppendorf with  25 μL of H_2O +  25 μL of cfDNA  Sample

23.4 Add  10 μL of ER/AT master mix into  50 μL  Sample

Component	Volume (μL)
Input DNA	50
End repair and A-tailing master mix	10



23.5 Place the tubes in the thermocycler and initiate the end repair and A-tailing program

Step	Temperature	Time
Lid temperature	85°C ¹	N/A
End repair	20°C	30 min
A-tailing	65°C	30 min
HOLD	4°C	HOLD

¹A heated lid is required for this incubation. If possible, set the temperature of the lid at 85°C, instead of the usual ~105°C.

23.6 Proceed immediately to Adapter Ligation after the program has finished and the samples have returned to  4 °C

24 Adapter Ligation

24.1 Prepare the Ligation master mix as follows:

 25 µL

 Ligation Buffer **Watchmaker Genomics Catalog #7K0101-024**

 5 µL

 Ligation Enzyme **Watchmaker Genomics Catalog #7K0101-024**

Component	Volume (µL)
Ligation Buffer	25
Ligation Enzyme	5

24.2 Add the Ligation master mix  30 µL to the  Sample  60 µL and  3 µL of  Ligation Adaptor (LA) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies** from the

 Ligation Sequencing Kit V14 **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-LSK114**

Component	Volume (μL)
End repair and A-tailed DNA	60
Adapter	5
Ligation master mix	30

Here it says 5 μL but we use **3μL**

24.3 Place the sample tubes in the thermocycler and initiate the Ligation incubation program

15m

Step	Temperature	Time
Lid temperature	OFF	N/A
Ligation	20°C	15 min ¹

¹Ligation time may be extended to a maximum of 16 hours. Library quality decreases with overnight ligation.

 00:15:00

24.4 Once the program has completed, proceed immediately to Post-ligation Cleanup

25 Post-Ligation Cleanup

25.1 Thaw SPRI beads

 AMPure XP Beads (AXP) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK114.96**

 On ice to  Room temperature



25.2 Add  93 μL of

 AMPure XP Beads (AXP) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK114.96**

to the  93 μL  Sample (from thermocycler)

NOTE: SPRI-to-sample bead ratios may be optimized for different applications or adapter configurations. A ratio of 0.8X is recommended as a starting point when using high-quality DNA and full-length adapters. Then 'stubby' adapters are used, the SPRI bead ratio may be increased to 1X (95 μL) to improve performance.

25.3 Transfer the mix to a new 1.5 mL eppendorf tube. Incubate the library-bead mixtures at  Room temperature for at least  00:05:00 to maximize library recovery.

5m

25.4 Place sample tubes on a magnet for at least  00:05:00 , or until all beads have been collected on the tube wall and the solution is clear

5m

25.5 Carefully remove and discard the supernatant from each tube

25.6 Add  200 μL of  Short Fragment Buffer (SFB) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies** ,taking care to not disturb the bead pellet on the tube wall.
IMPORTANT: Do not use ethanol, use SFB for the cfDNA

25.7 Incubate tubes at room temperature for at least 30 sec without removing the tube from the magnet or disturbing the bead pellet.

25.8 Repeat  25.6

25.9 Allow remaining  Short Fragment Buffer (SFB) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies** to evaporate by allowing the pellets to air dry for  00:03:00

3m

25.10 Remove sample tubes from the magnet and carefully resuspend each bead pellet in  22 μL of  Elution Buffer (EB) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies** . Pipetting carefully will minimize bubbling and allow for greater library recovery.

- 25.11 Incubate tubes at r  Room temperature for at least  00:02:00 before placing 2m
back on the magnet.
- 25.12 Leave sample tubes on the magnet for at least  00:02:00 , or until all beads have 2m
collected on the tube wall and the solution is clear
- 25.13 Carefully transfer  22 µL of each library-containing supernatant to a new, labeled
tube. If desired, library amplification may be carried out in the same tube in the presence
of SPRI beads (See Library Amplification for reaction setup and Appendix A for details
regarding PCR in the presence of beads).
- 25.14 Samples can be stored at 4°C for up to 1 week and at -20°C for up to 1 month

ONT Flongle FlowCell Sequencing

26

Equipment

MinION Mk1C	NAME
Sequencer	TYPE
Oxford Nanopore Technology	BRAND
MIN-101C	SKU
https://store.nanoporetech.com/minion-mk1c.html	LINK



Equipment

Flongle Flow Cell (R10.4.1)

NAME

Flow cell

TYPE

Oxford Nanopore Technologies

BRAND

FLO-FLG114

SKU

<https://store.nanoporetech.com/flongle-flow-cell-pack-r10-4-1.html>^{LINK}

27 Prepare Flush Cell Buffer

 117 µL Flow Cell Flush (FCF) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK114.96** 3 µL Flow Cell Tether (FCT) **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK114.96**

28 Prepare library for load

Reagent

Volume

Sequencing Buffer (SB)

 15 µL

Library Beads (LIB)

 10 µL

3 - 20 fMol of the DNA library

 5 µL

Total

 30 µL

from

 Flongle Sequencing Expansion **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #XP-FSE002**

29 Load the Flongle Flow Cell after FloCell check