

High resolution HLA typing



Headlines:

- Introduction: Allogenicity and alloreactive T cells
- The donor with compatible HLA to prevent T cell alloreactivity
- HLA typing resolution
- High resolution definitions
- High resolution HLA typing in clinical settings
- High resolution donor- recipient HLA matching
- HLA typing techniques and resulting resolutions
- NGS workflow for High resolution HLA-typing

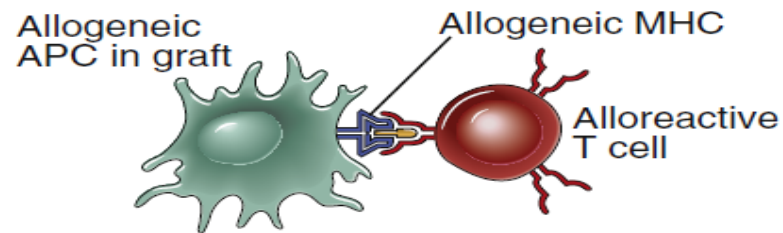
Introduction:Allogenicity and alloreactive T cells

The immunogenetic relationship between the **donor** and **recipient** profoundly influences the outcome of **HCT**, much more so than with **solid organ transplants**.

Presentation of Allogenic MHC molecules

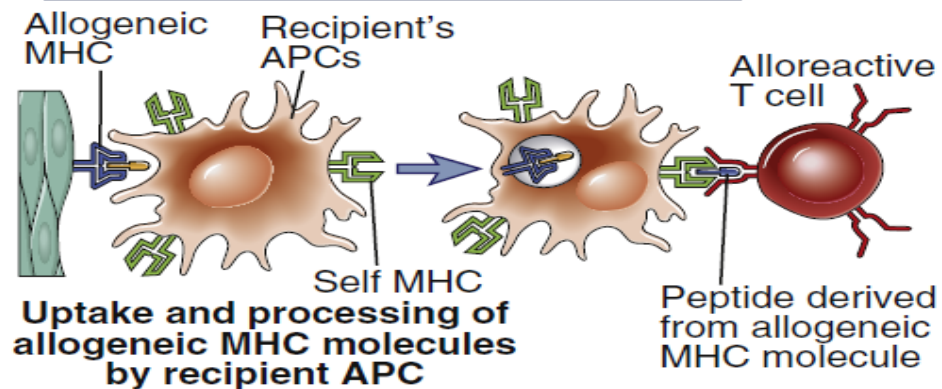
- **Allogenic MHC** are presented for recognition by the **alloreactive T cell** of a recipient in two fundamentally ways:

A Direct alloantigen recognition



T cell recognizes unprocessed allogeneic MHC molecule on graft APC

B Indirect alloantigen presentation



Presentation of processed peptide of allogeneic MHC molecule bound to self MHC molecule



Principles of direct recognition of allogenic MHC by Alloreactive T cells

Allogenic T cells are very frequent

Up to 1% to 2% of all T cells in an individual, 100 to 1000 times greater than the frequency of T cells specific for any microbial peptide displayed by self MHC molecules.

Alloreactive T cells have a high affinity TCR for Allogenic MHC .

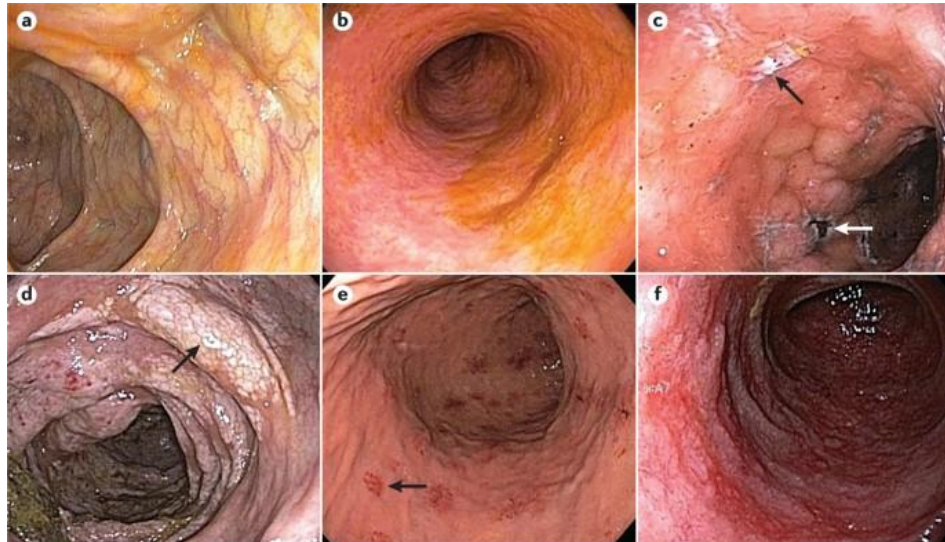
Alloreactive T cells do not rely on Co-stimulatory CD28 signaling.

Direct recognition and activation of **alloreactive T cells** may occur regardless of which peptide is carried by allogenic MHC molecule.

Alloreactive T cells that respond to the allogenic MHC are cross-reactive memory T cells.

HLA matching avoids **activation of alloreactive T cells** by major histocompatibility antigens (MHC)

Acute graft versus host disease



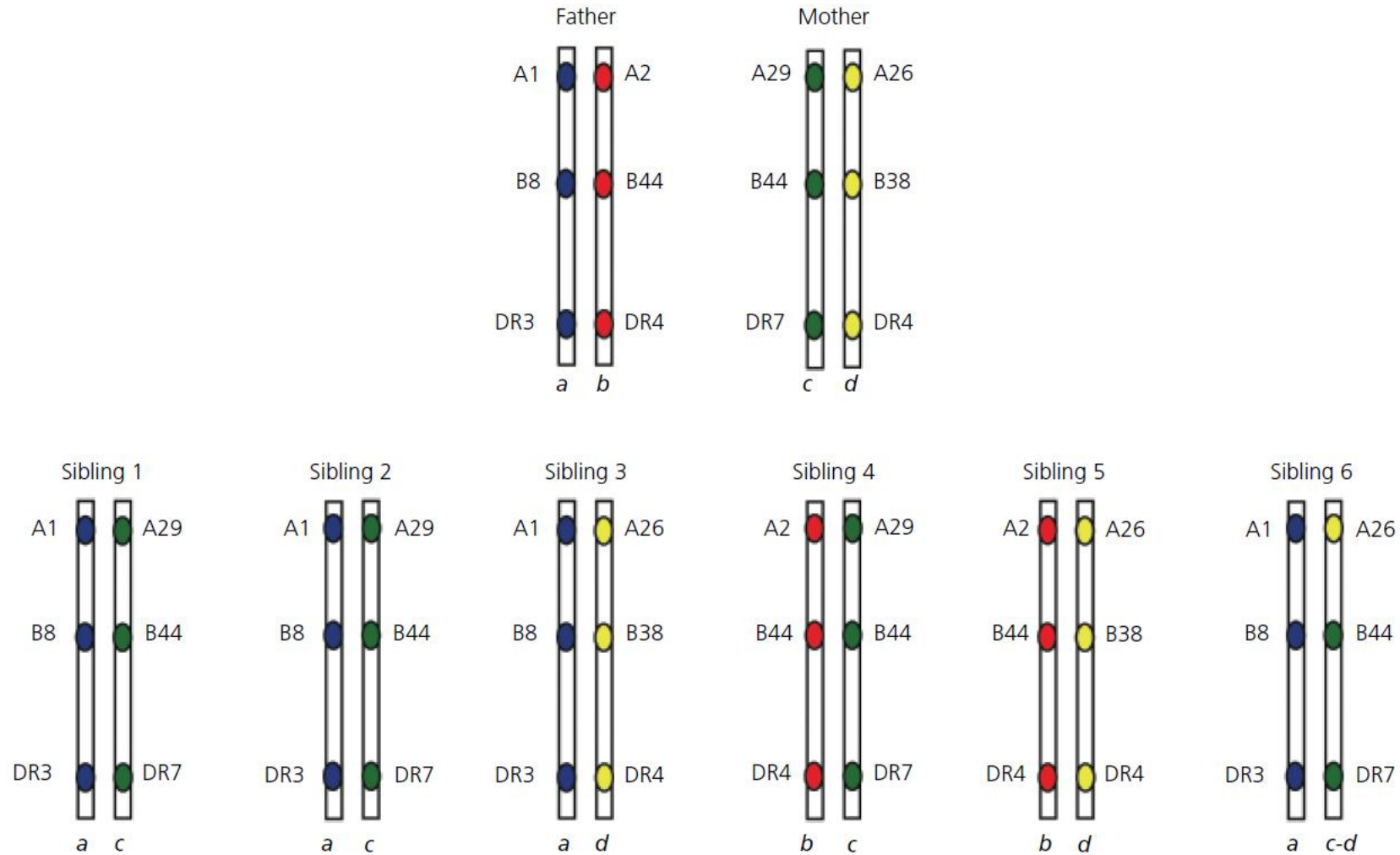
The donor with compatible HLA to prevent T cell alloreactivity

The best results are seen after transplantation from **HLA-genotypically identical sibling** donors, **matched related donor (MRD)**, but only 30% of patients have such a donor.

Identical-by-descent (IBD)

Genotypically identical siblings who have inherited the same maternal and paternal chromosome 6

A family study and haplotypes for finding match related donor (MRD)



Some patients without an HLA-identical sibling have an HLA-haploidentical family member with limited mismatching between the non-shared haplotypes.

Previous studies have shown that patients receiving **an HLA-haploidentical transplant** incompatible for a single HLA-A, -B, or -DR antigen can have disease free survival (DFS) similar to that of patients with marrow from HLA-genotypically identical sibling donors, although HLA mismatching increases the risk of GVHD.

In HLA haploidentical, problems related to GVHD can be overcome by **removing T cells** from the graft or by giving **cyclophosphamide** after transplantation to eliminate T cells that are activated after they recognize recipient

HCT from **HLA-phenotypically matched unrelated donors (MUD)** or cord blood donors is an alternative for patients who lack a donor.

Unrelated HCT has been made feasible by the development of **large registries of HLA-typed individuals** and **cryopreserved cord blood units** available to serve as a source of hematopoietic cells.

With registries currently available in the United States and in other countries, it is now possible to identify an HLA-A, B-phenotypically matched DRB1 allele-matched unrelated donor for at least **70% of white persons**.

There are currently >25 million volunteer unrelated donors and UCB units listed on **Bone Marrow Donors Worldwide** (www.bmdw.org/accessed June 2015).

This **centralized database** of donors allows clinicians, and other professionals involved in donor selection, to search for donors in their own country (registry) and donors all over the world simultaneously.

HLA alleles are more **diverse** in **Hispanic** and **black populations**, and success rates for matching unrelated donors in these populations are **lower than in white persons**.

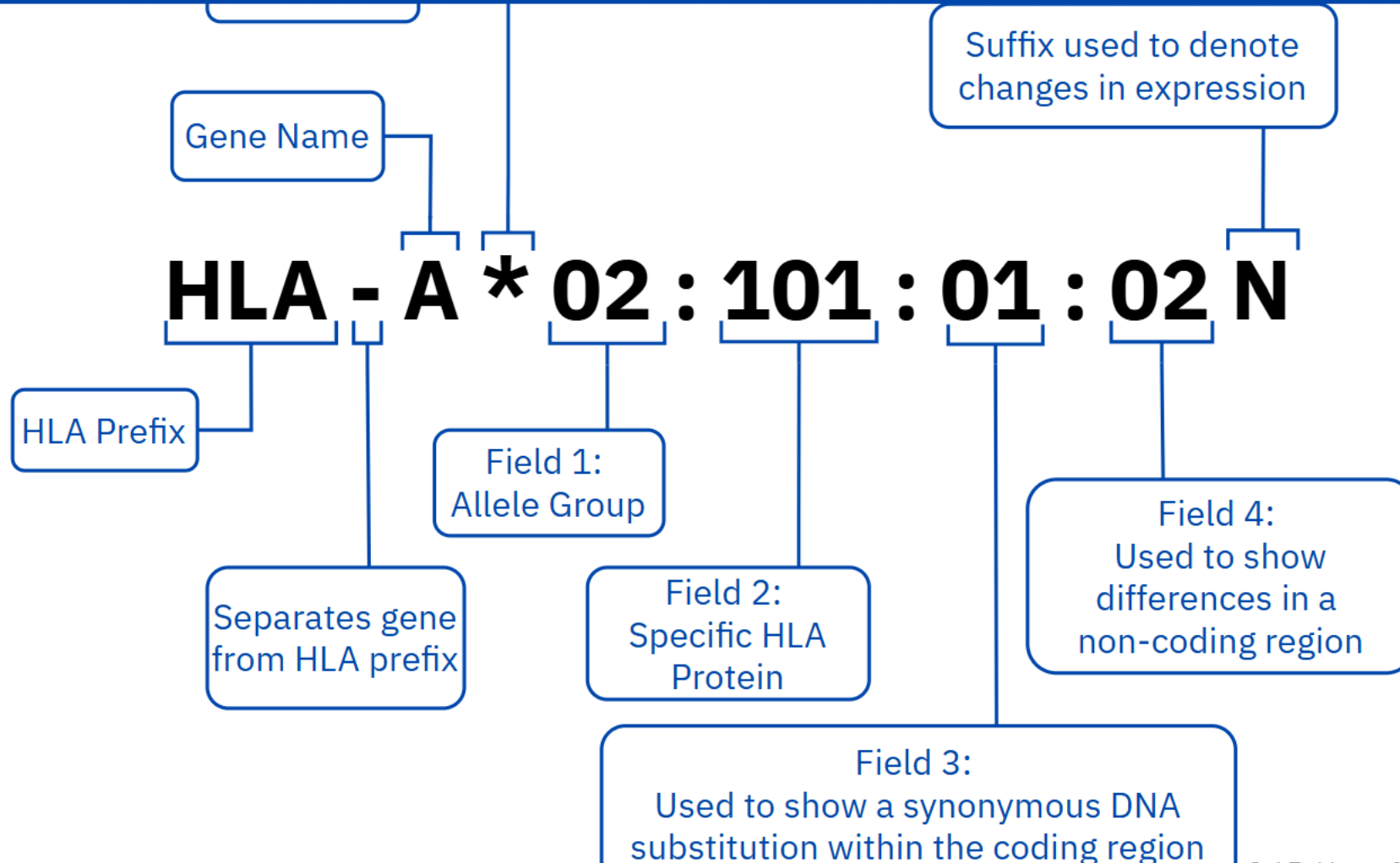
If a **single** HLA-A, -B, or -DRB1 mismatch were allowed, then it would be possible to identify donors for many more patients.

In certain circumstances, **DFS** for patients with HLA-A, -B, -C, -DRB1, and DQB1 allele-matched **unrelated donors** may be comparable to that for similar patients with HLA-genotypically identical sibling donors.

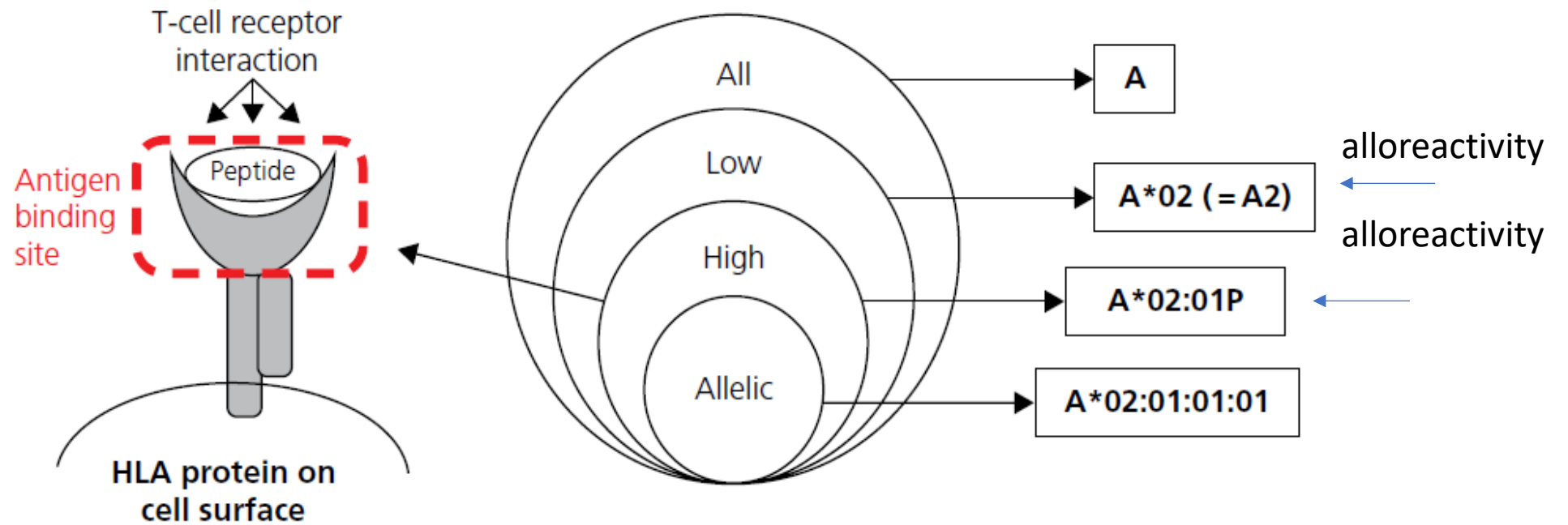
Identical-by-state (IBS)

Phenotypically matched **unrelated individuals** who fortuitously share the same HLA antigens

HLA typing resolution



HLA typing resolution. The **Venn diagram** illustrates increasing levels of HLA typing resolution



High-resolution Vs Allelic resolution

High-resolution HLA typing defines the **specific DNA sequence of the antigen binding site**.

Allelic resolution defines a single allele as defined by **a unique DNA sequence for the HLA gene**

High resolution definitions

High resolution typing: A high-resolution HLA genotype is reported in molecular HLA nomenclature to at least the second field, and may include P or G group designations.

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P groups

HLA alleles having **nucleotide sequences** that encode **the same protein sequence for the peptide binding domains** (exon 2 and 3 for HLA class I and exon 2 only for HLA class II alleles).

This analysis is performed on the **protein sequence**.

The group designation will contain **a minimum of four digits**.

Designated by an upper case 'P' which follows the 2 field allele designation.

A*01:02P

A*01:02:01:01/A*01:02:01:02/A*01:02:01:03/A*01:02:02/A*01:412

G groups

HLA alleles that have identical nucleotide sequences across the exons encoding the peptide binding domains (exon 2 and 3 for HLA class I and exon 2 only for HLA class II alleles)

Designated by an upper case 'G' which follows the first 3 fields of the allele designation of the lowest numbered allele in the group.

The group designation will contain a minimum of six digits.

The algorithm used to generate the G groups does include alleles which contain unsequenced regions.

A*01:02:01G A*01:02:01:01/A*01:02:01:02/A*01:02:01:03/A*01:412/A*01:420N

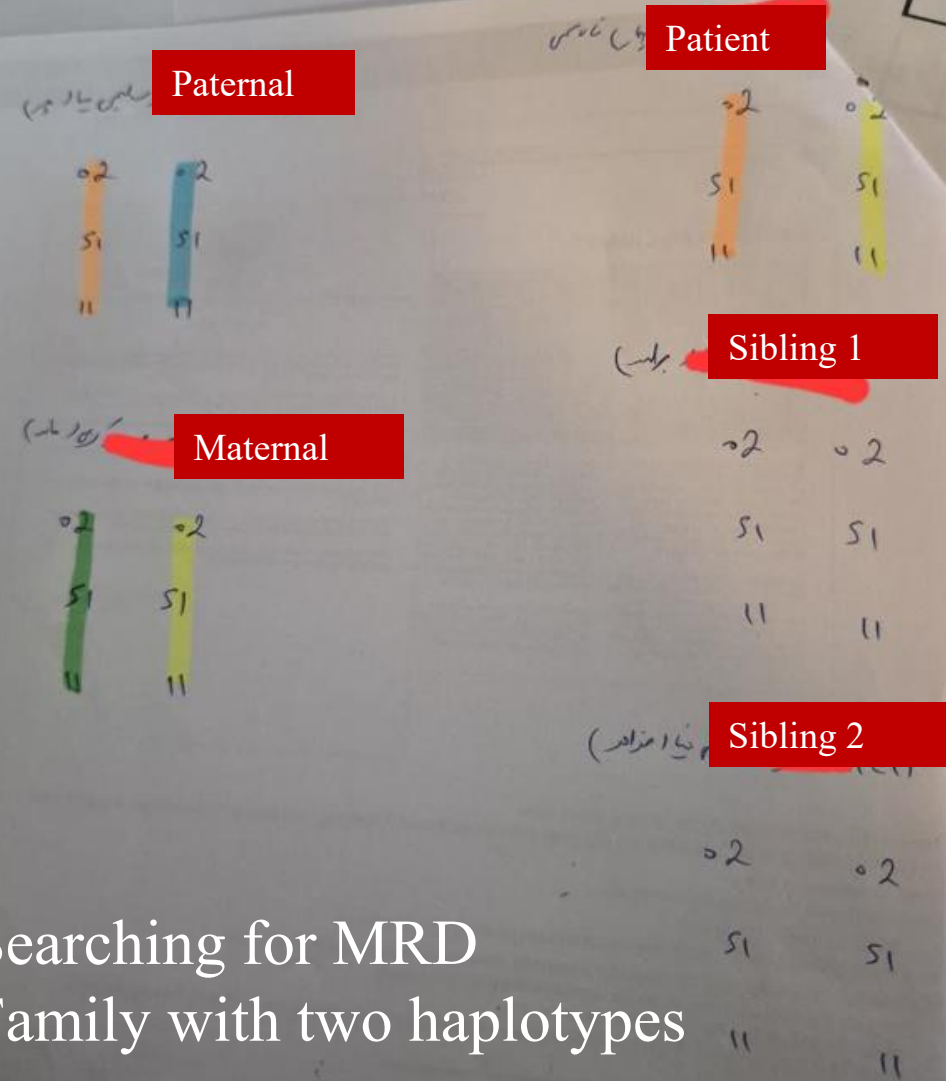
High resolution HLA typing in clinical settings

High resolution HLA typing indications

Challenges in finding definite haplotypes in family studies

Finding matched unrelated donor (MUD)

Searching for MRD Family with two haplotypes



Finding match unrelated donor (MUD)



Patient care ▾

Get involved ▾

What we do ▾

Stories and impact ▾

What are you looking for?



\$ Donate ↗

Join registry ↗

Help people with blood cancers or disorders get a life-saving transplant

About donating blood stem cells



High resolution donor- recipient HLA matching



TRANSPLANTATION | DECEMBER 15, 2007

High-resolution donor-recipient HLA matching contributes to the success of unrelated donor marrow transplantation

Stephanie J. Lee, John Klein, Michael Haagenson, Lee Ann Baxter-Lowe, Dennis L. Confer, Mary Eapen, Marcelo Fernandez-Vina, Neal Flomenberg, Mary Horowitz, Carolyn K. Hurley, Harriet Noreen, Machteld Oudshoorn, Effie Petersdorf, Michelle Setterholm, Stephen Spellman, Daniel Weisdorf, Thomas M. Williams, Claudio Anasetti



Blood (2007) 110 (13): 4576–4583.

<https://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2007-06-097386>

[Article history](#) ⌵

High-resolution DNA matching for HLA-A, -B, -C, and -DRB1 alleles is associated with higher rates of survival.

The minimal consensus on compatibility testing requires high resolution typing for HLA-A, -B, -C, and -DRB1.

Many centers in Europe also include **HLA-DQB1** compatibility in donor selection strategies.

The relevance of HLA-DPB1 matching in unrelated stem cell transplantation has long remained undefined.

This may be due to several characteristics that distinguish HLA-DPB1 antigens from other classical HLA-molecules.

DPB1 mismatches

Classified as permissive and non-permissive.

Permissive mismatches do not elicit strong T cells.

Nonpermissive mismatches have stronger immunogenicity and elicit stronger T cell responses.



BRIEF REPORT | FEBRUARY 18, 2021

Permissive HLA-DPB1 mismatches in HCT depend on immunopeptidome divergence and editing by HLA-DM

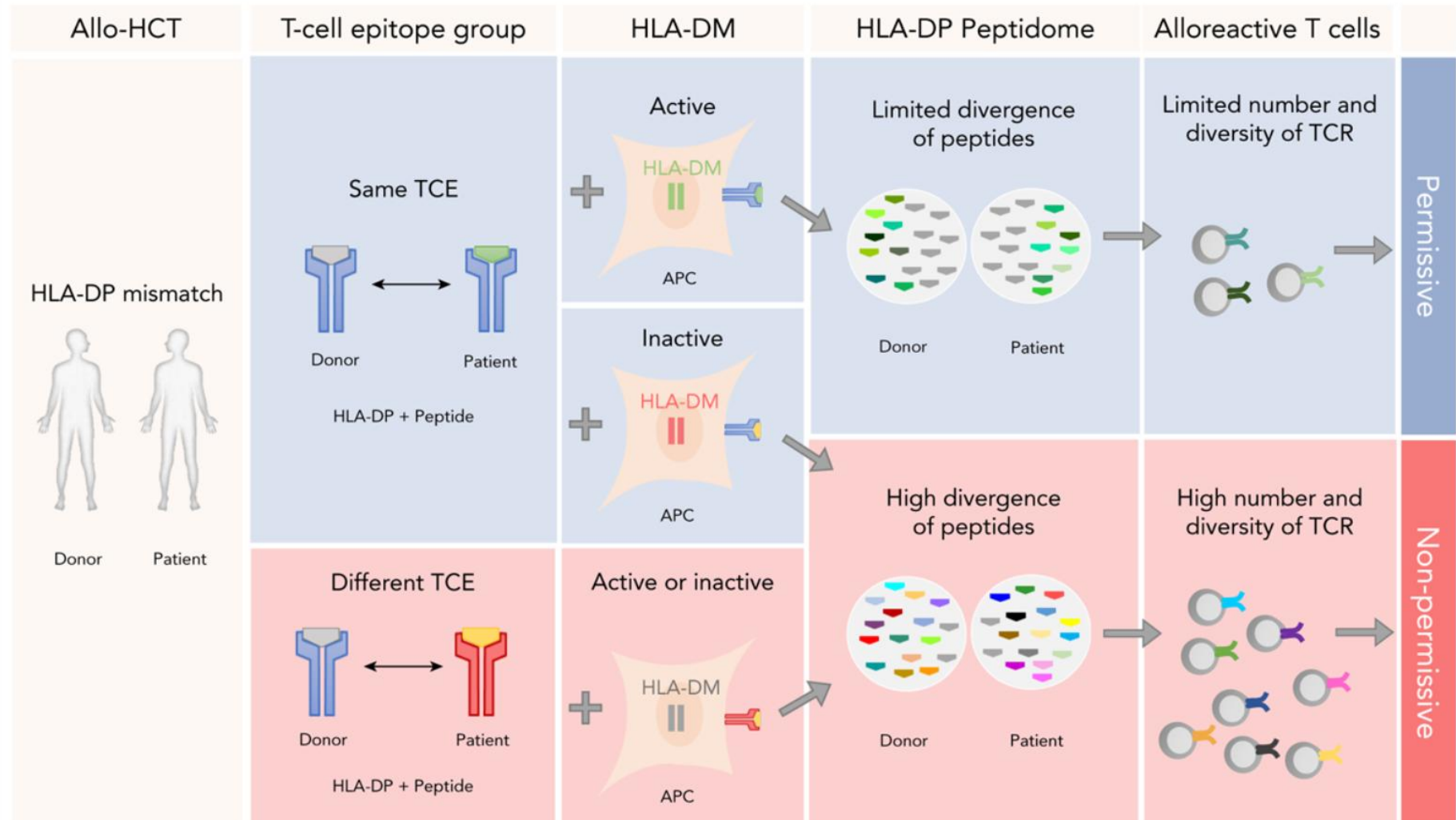
 Brief Report

Thuja Meurer, Pietro Crivello, Maximilian Metzger, Michel Kester, Dominik A. Megger, Weiqiang Chen, Peter A. van Veelen, Peter van Balen, Astrid M. Westendorf, Georg Homa, Sophia E. Layer, Amin T. Turki, Marieke Griffioen, Peter A. Horn, Barbara Sitek, Dietrich W. Beelen, J. H. Frederik Falkenburg, Esteban Arrieta-Bolaños, Katharina Fleischhauer

- Permissive HLA-DPB1 mismatches in HCT are characterized by **limited immunopeptidome divergence**, mirrored by **alloreactive TCR diversity**.
- The peptide editor **HLA-DM** plays a key role in harnessing T-cell alloreactivity to permissive HLA-DP by **restricting its peptide repertoire**.

HLA-DM–mediated modulation of **alloreactive T-cell responses** to **HLA-DP** in healthy individuals and transplanted

Permissive HLA-DPB1 mismatches in HCT depend on immunopeptidome divergence and editing by HLA-DM



HLA typing techniques and resulting resolutions

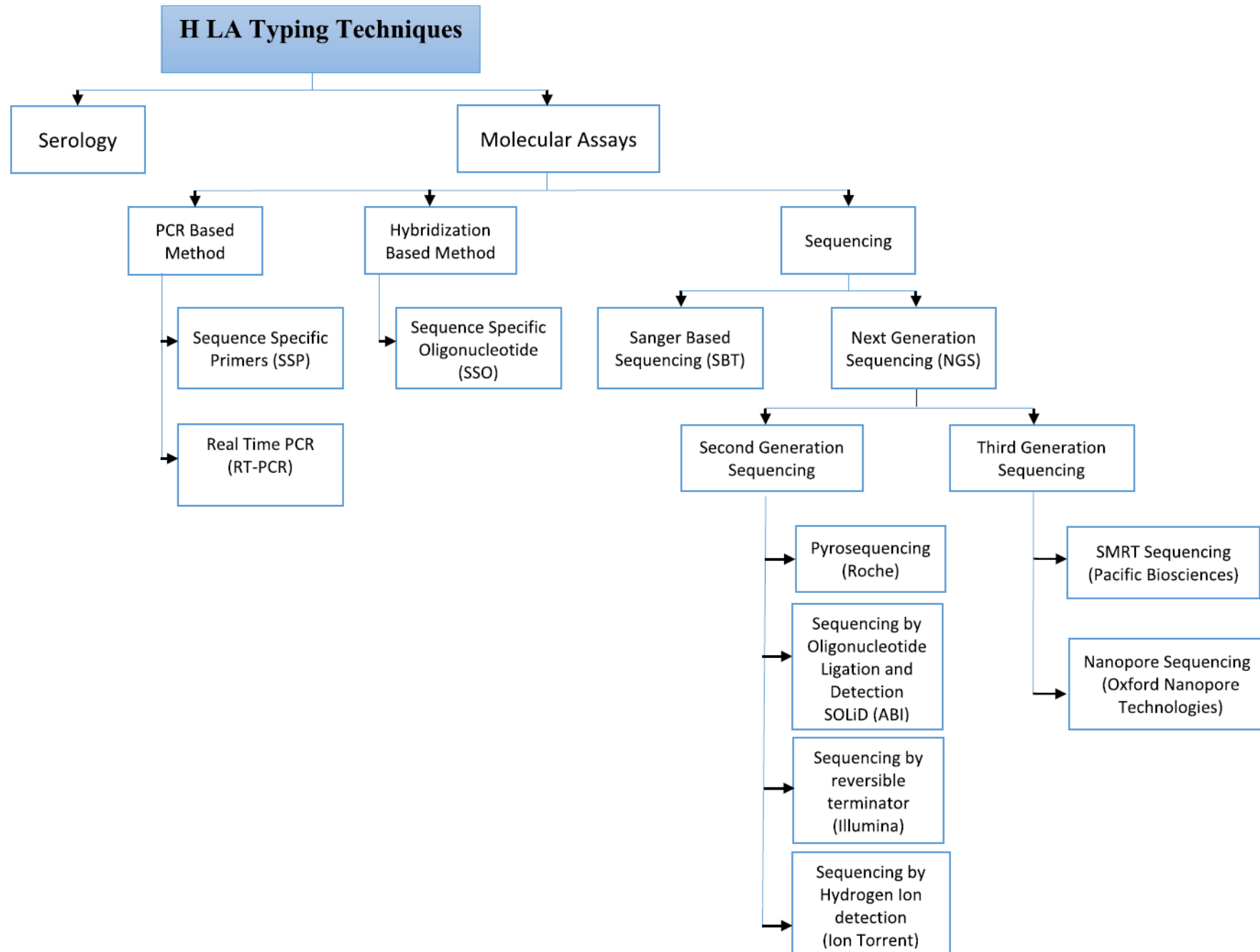


Table 2.1 HLA typing techniques and resulting resolution.

Methodology	Approach	Interpretation	Resolution	Application	Results
Serology	Cellular assay based on complement fixation by HLA specific antibodies	Cell death – yes/no	Low	Family screening Null allele confirmation	A2, A24
Sequence-specific primers (PCR-SSP)	HLA sequence-specific PCR primers	Amplification – yes/no	Low to high, dependent on DNA sequence coverage	Family screening Verification typing	Low - A*02:XX, A*24:XX or A*02AB, A*24:BC High – A*0201 g, A*24:02 g
Sequence-specific oligonucleotide probes (PCR-SSOP)	HLA sequence-specific oligonucleotide probes that bind to polymorphic sequences of amplified DNA	Probe binding – yes/no	Low to high depending on DNA sequence coverage	Family screening Verification typing	Low - A*02:XX, A*24:XX or A*02AB, A*24:BC High – A*02:01G, A*24:02G
Sanger sequence-based typing (SBT)	HLA amplicon sequencing using base termination	Base pair reads and consensus alignment	High to allele level depending on coverage	All	High – A*02:01G, A*24:02G Allele – A*02:01:01:03, A*24:02:01:01
Next-generation sequencing (NGS)	Multiple platforms, based on massive parallel sequencing reactions	Base pair calling and consensus alignment	High to allele level depending on coverage	All	High – A*02:01G, A*24:02G Allele – A*02:01:01:03, A*24:02:01:01

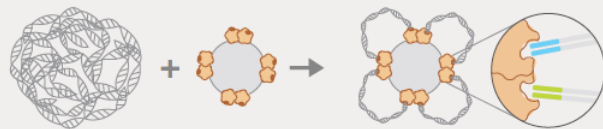
NGS workflow for High resolution HLA-typing

STEP

1

Whole Genome Library Generation

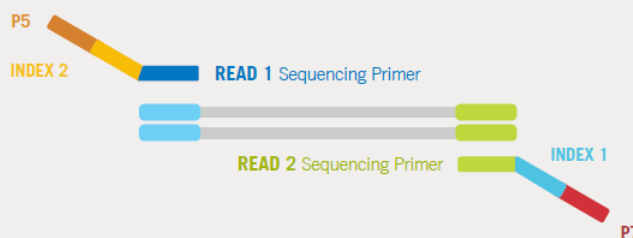
🕒 3.5 hrs / 2 hrs hands-on



Tagmentation

Genomic DNA is bound, fragmented and tagged by the bead bound transposons - one sample per well

**LESS INPUT DNA
REQUIRED: >50NG
OF INPUT DNA**



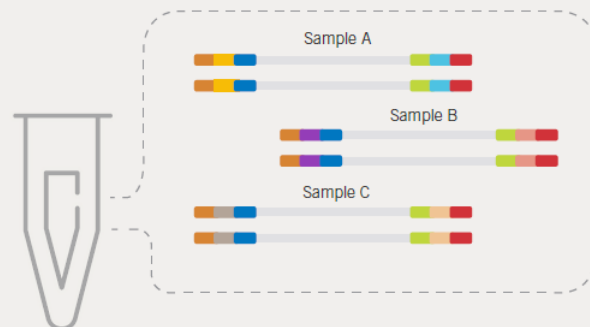
Wash beads

Removing any unbound DNA

Index PCR amplification

Clean up & size selection

Early indexing
leads to
**REDUCED RISK
OF SAMPLE
SWITCHING**



**Pool all the sample Libraries
into a single tube**

No manual quantification of
DNA is required prior to pooling

SINGLE TUBE WORKFLOW

Additional genes
can be added
without impacting
the workflow

STEP

2

Hybrid Capture

🕒 5.5 hrs / 2 hrs hands-on

NO LONG RANGE
PCR MEANS
YOU GET:

CONSISTENT
ALLELE BALANCE

REDUCED ALLELE
DROP OUT RATES

NO PCR ARTIFACTS

Hybridize probes

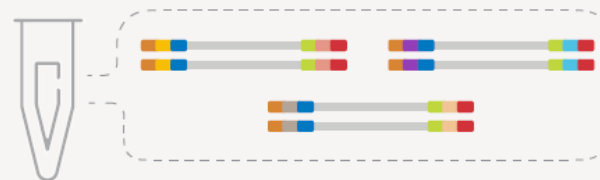
🕒 90 min or overnight
at 62°C

Capture target
fragments

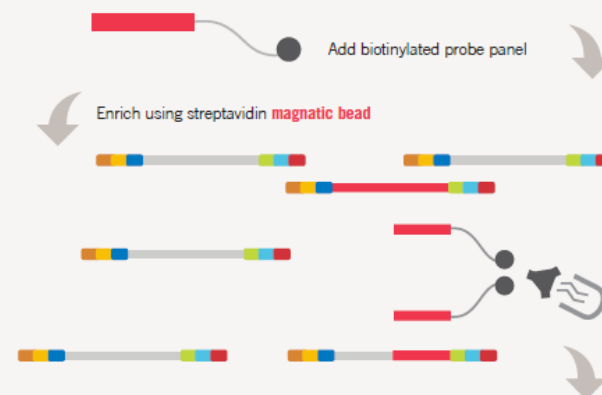
Amplify

Clean up

POOLED SAMPLE LIBRARIES



GENES OF INTEREST CAPTURE



ENRICHED LIBRARY



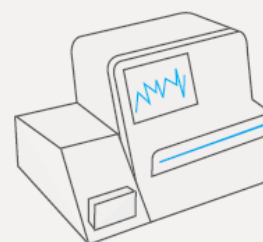
ENRICHED AND INDEXED LIBRARY READY FOR SEQUENCING

STEP

3

Sequencing

🕒 17-24 hrs / 15 min hands-on



Sequencing on the
Illumina platforms

MiSeq, MiniSeq, iSeq

Workflow Overview

