

# Genetic Analysis of Pyrazinamide Resistance in MDR/XDR South African *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Strains Using Next-Generation Ion Torrent Sequencing

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# Study Objectives

- 1. Develop a standardized sequencing methodology/protocol using the Ion Torrent.**
  - » Streamlined library prep
  - » No ancillary equipment
  - » Reduced laboratory footprint
  - » Safe for standard laboratories
- 2. Develop a protocol using 5 full-length MTB genes for detecting and characterizing MDR/XDR strains.**
  - » Proof of principle using 5 genes, expandable to 16+ genes
  - » Standardized amplification and thermocycling
- 3. Evaluate the developed protocol using a limited set of retrospectively collected susceptible, MDR and XDR strains.**
  - » Collected from Gauteng and Kwa-Zulu Natal Provinces in South Africa
  - » Clinical isolates collected between July-November, 2011

# PrimeStore®

SPECIMEN COLLECTION & PRESERVATION SOLUTION FOR  
MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTIC APPLICATIONS

**PrimeStore® MTM** is a sample collection solution  
that safely inactivates microbes,  
and stabilizes/preserves RNA and DNA for downstream  
Nucleic Acid Testing (NAT).....



**...and Next Generation Sequencing**

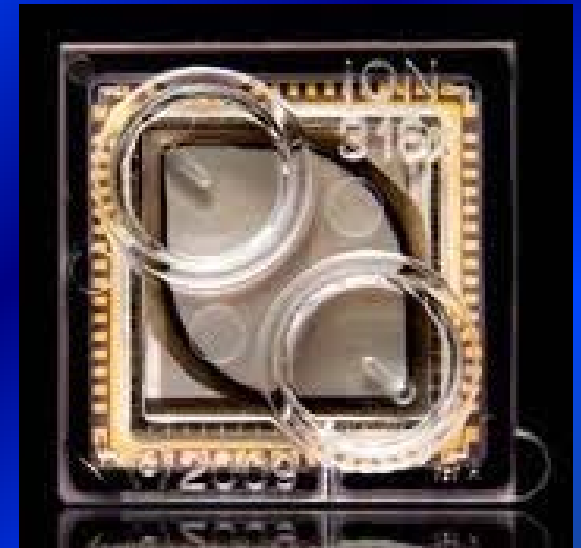
Demystifying Pyrazinamide • September 5-6, 2012

# Next Generation Ion Torrent Sequencing

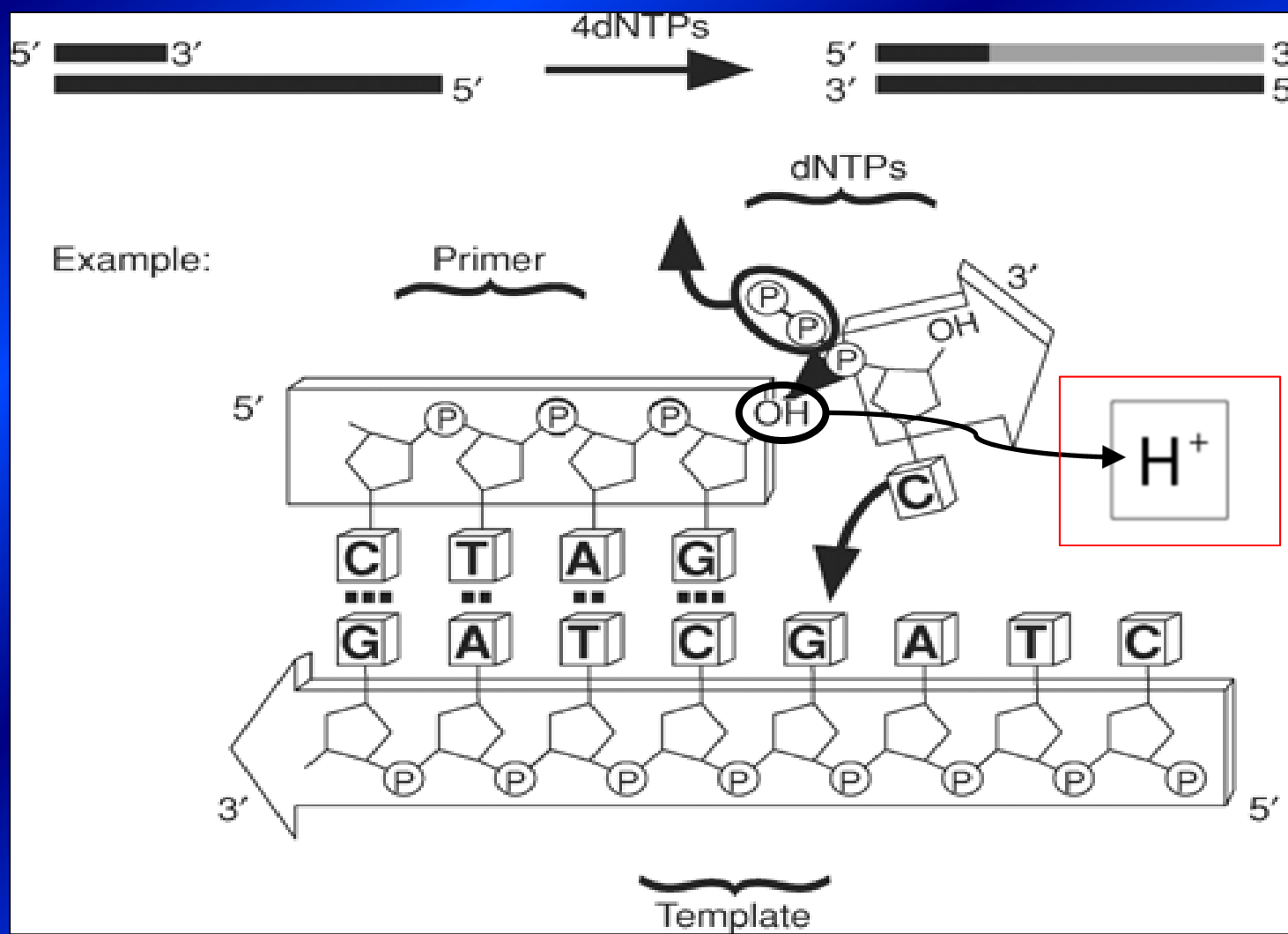


~TB drug resistance chip~

1. *rpoB*
2. *katG*
3. *gyrA*
4. *rrs* (16s rRNA)
5. *pncA*



# Ion Torrent-How does it work?



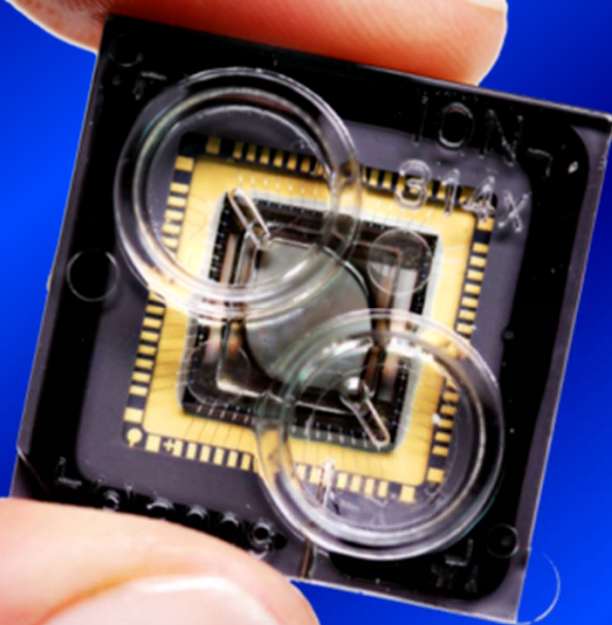
Simple,  
Natural  
Chemistry

# The Chip is the Machine™

Scalability

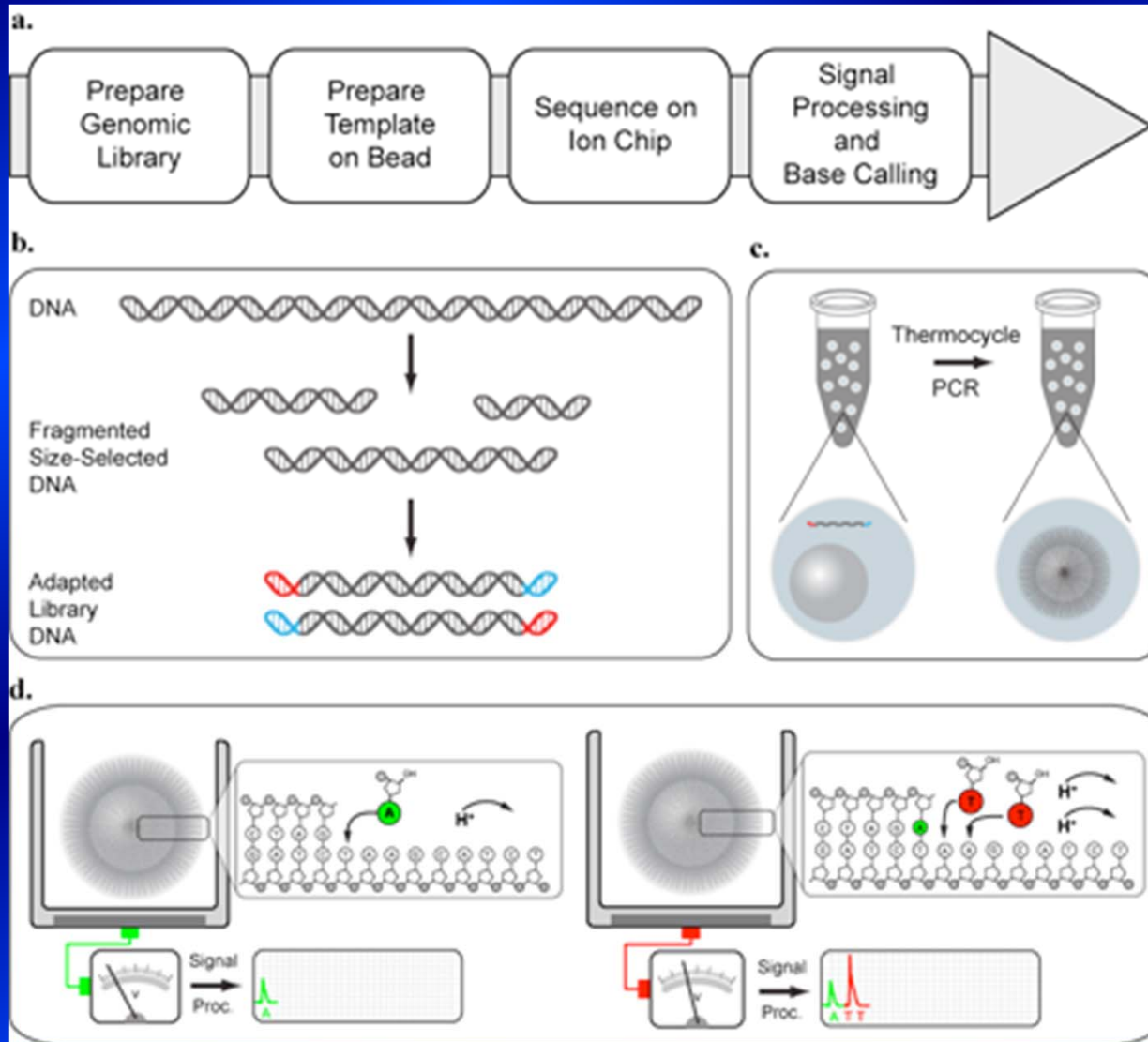
Simplicity

Speed





# Technology Summary



# Ion DNA Barcode Adaptor 1-16



01

## Construct Library

1 Enzymatic Fragmentation

2 End Repair and Ligate Adaptors

3 Optional Amplification

4 Normalize and Pool Libraries

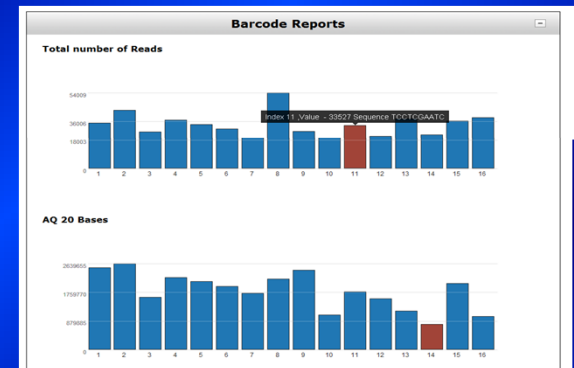
1 day

Efficient multiplexing up to 16 libraries

Reduces cost/sample

Minimal adaptor sequence for added sample identification confidence

Automation compatible

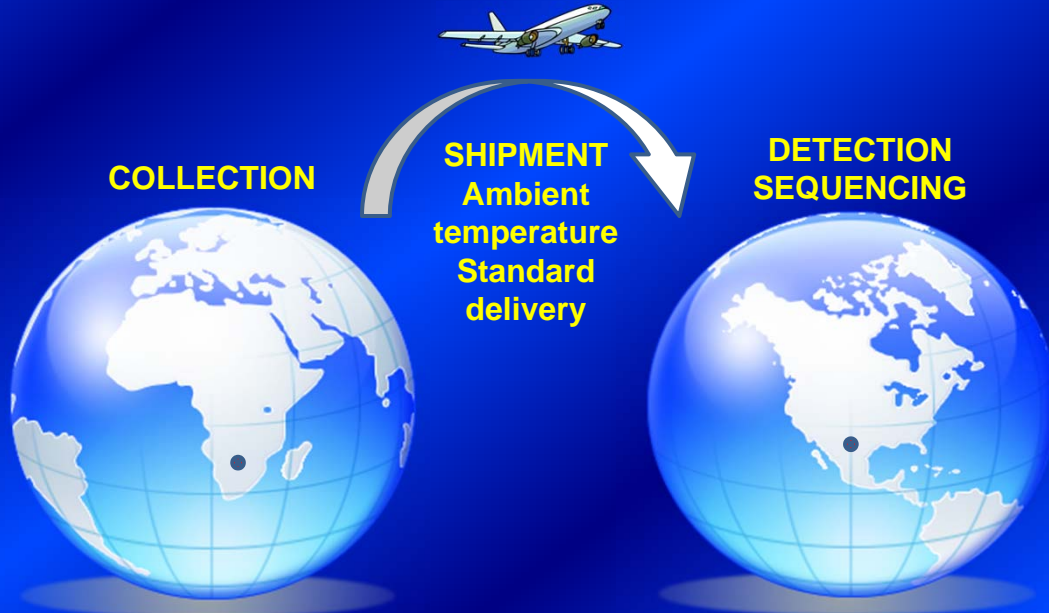




# Molecular Basis of Drug Resistance in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

Drug	Gene	Function	Prevalence (%)
Isoniazid	<i>katG</i>	Catalase peroxidase	~40–60
	<i>inhA</i>	Enoyl-acyl carrier protein reductase	~25
	<i>ahpC</i>	Alkyl-hydroperoxide reductase	~10
	<i>kasA</i>	Ketoacyl acyl carrier protein synthetase	
Rifampicin	<i>rpoB</i>	$\beta$ -subunit of the RNA polymerase	~95
Pyrazinamide	<i>pncA</i>	Pyrazinamidase	~95
Streptomycin	<i>rpsL</i>	Ribosomal S12 protein	~60
	<i>rrs</i>	16S rRNA	~20
Amikacin/kanamycin	<i>rrs</i>	16S rRNA	~70–90
Capreomycin	<i>rrs</i>	16S rRNA	~90
	<i>tlyA</i>	rRNA methyltransferase	
Fluoroquinolone	<i>gyrA, gyrB</i>	DNA gyrase	~80–90
Ethambutol	<i>embCAB</i>	Arabinosyl transferase	~60

# Next Generation Ion Torrent Sequencing



PrimeStore MTM™ collection & shipment from Pretoria, South Africa

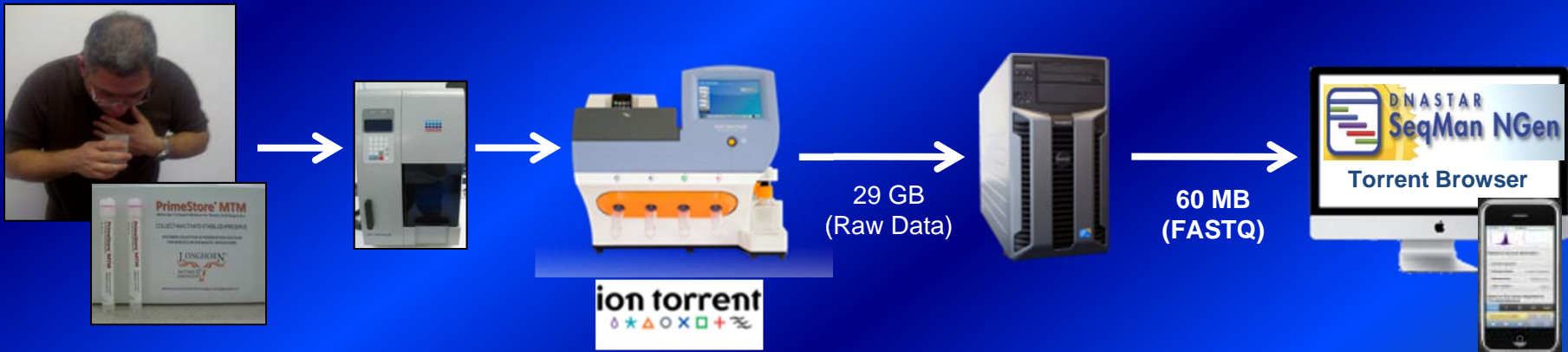
4 day transit to San Antonio, Texas, USA

TB drug susceptibility chip

1. *rpoB*
2. *katG*
3. *gyrA*
4. *rrs* (16s rRNA)
5. *pncA*\*

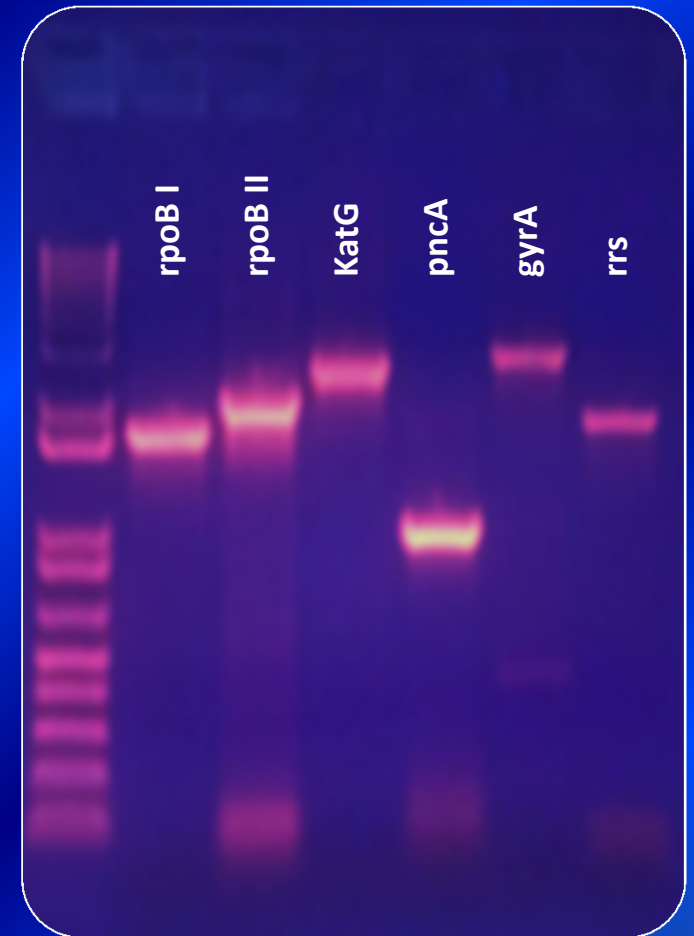


11,472 bp total  
X 16 barcodes  
=183,552 bps



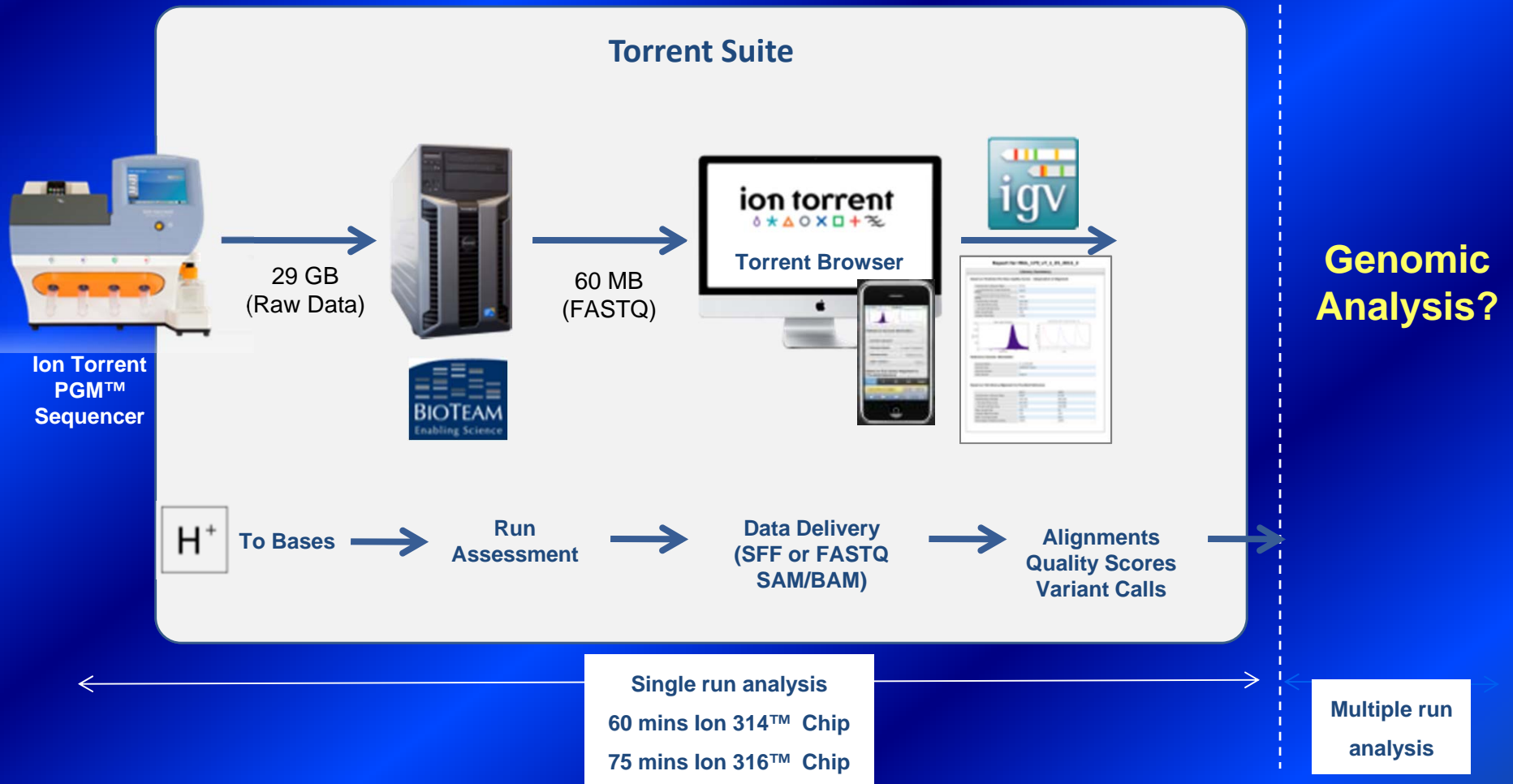
# Full-Length Gene Amplification for TB Drug Resistance

- ❖ Representative amplicons for 5 MTB genes (*rpoB*, *katG*, *pncA*, *gyrA*, and *rrs*).
- ❖ A total of 11,432 bps for five genes were sequenced for each clinical isolate.
- ❖ A 1.0% agarose gel with 1 KB ladder is shown.

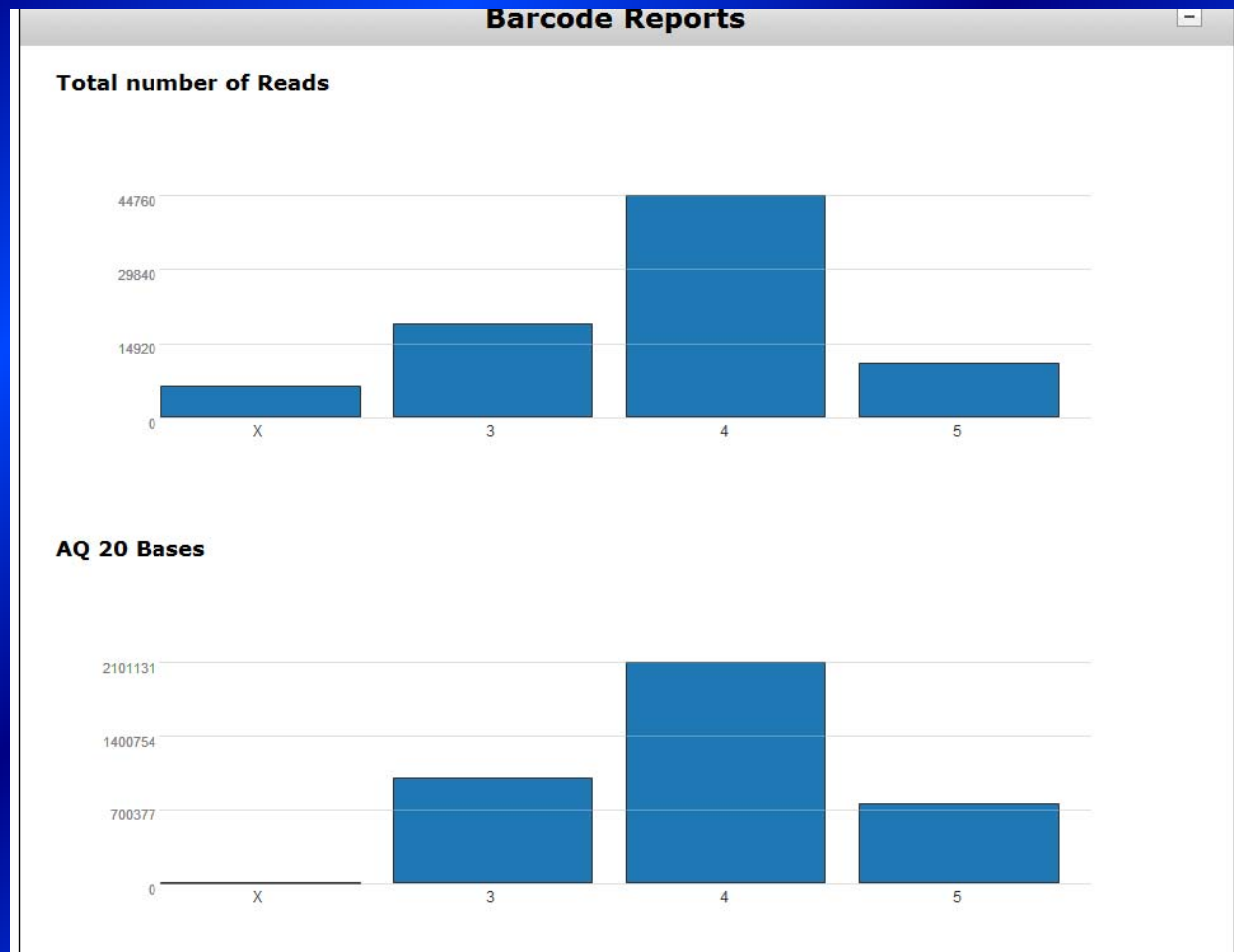


# Ion Torrent Server and Suite

*Web based data delivery with integrated alignment and variant calling*



# Barcoded Samples



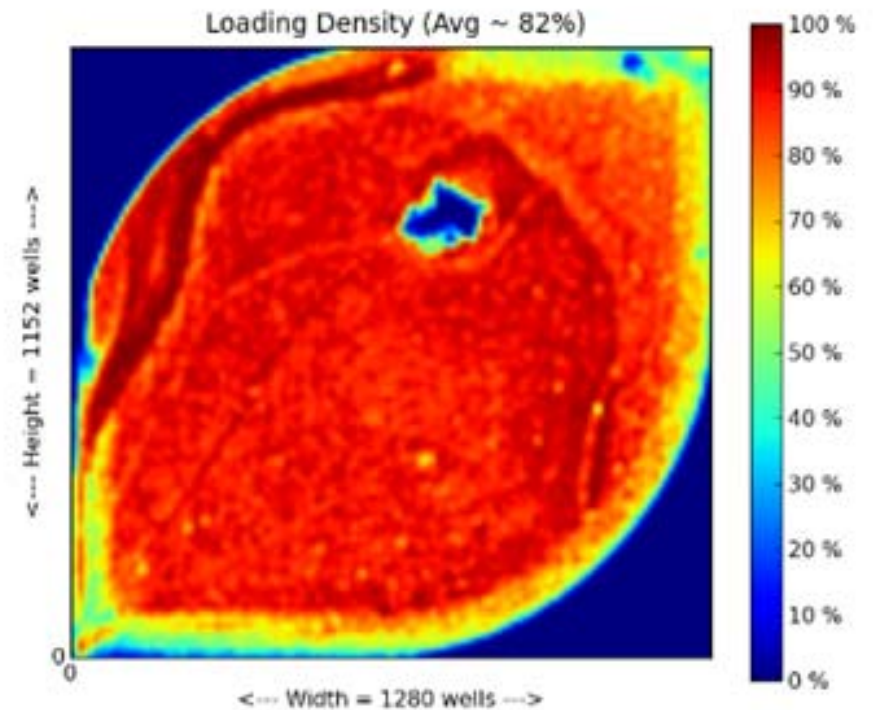
Demystifying Pyrazinamide • September 5-6, 2012



# 314 Chip Ion Sphere Particle (ISP) Loading Density Map

	Count	Percentage
Total Addressable Wells	1,262,519	
▸ Wells with ISPs	1,050,930	83%
▸ Live ISPs	1,003,694	96%
▸ Test Fragment ISPs	4,407	<1%
▸ Library ISPs	999,287	100%

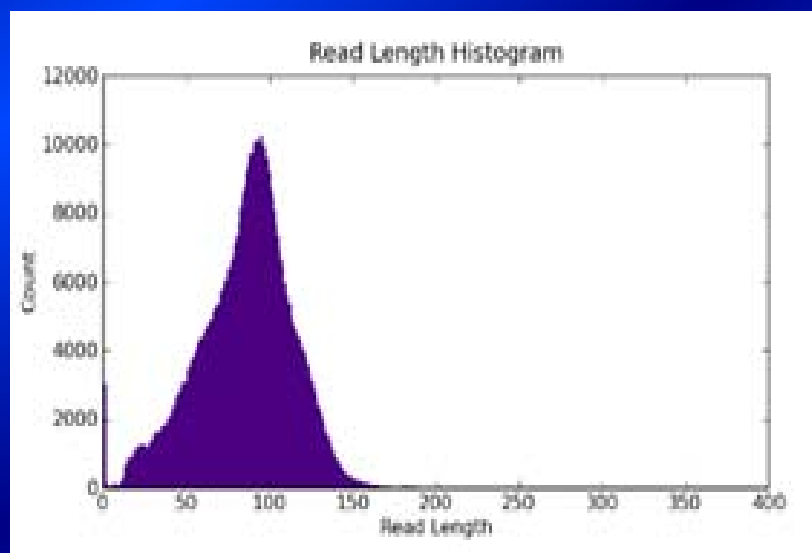
	Count	Percentage
Library ISPs / Percent Enrichment	999,287	95%
▸ Filtered: Polyclonal	260,393	26%
▸ Filtered: Primer dimer	577	<1%
▸ Filtered: Low quality	163,448	16%
▸ <b>Final Library Reads</b>	<b>574,869</b>	<b>58%</b>



314 Chip Density Map

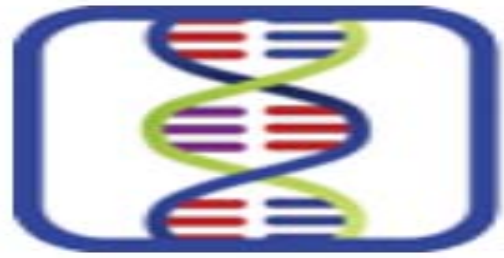


# MTB Library Run Summary



## Based on Full Library Alignment to Provided Reference












	AQ17	AQ20	Perfect
Total Number of Bases [Mbp]	10.63	8.31	7.50
Mean Length [bp]	68	60	56
Longest Alignment [bp]	133	133	130
Mean Coverage Depth	1,232.90×	963.10×	868.90×
Percentage of Library Covered	96%	96%	96%



DNASTAR  
**Lasergene**®

## LaserGene 10 Core Suite



-  GeneQuest
-  GenVision Utility
-  GenVision
-  MegAlign
-  PrimerSelect
-  Protean 3D
-  Protean
-  SeqBuilder
-  SeqMan Pro
-  SeqNinja
-  EditSeq





# Compare Assembled Barcoded Samples

MegAlign - [File Edit View Options Net Search Window Help]

Sequence Name

29 Sequences

H3Rv Ion Torrent reference strain  
Najir 1 H37Rv rpoB  
KZN 4207 reference strain  
BC1-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC2-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC3-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC4-rpoB Contig\_1  
BC5-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC6-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC7-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC8-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC9-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC10-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC11-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC12-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC14-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC15-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
BC16-rpoB Contig\_1.seq  
Patient 2919984  
2961678.rpoB  
3050732.rpoB  
2875244.rpoB  
2937643.rpoB  
2997164.rpoB  
rpoB.barcode6  
rpoB.barcode7  
rpoB.Barcode8  
rpoB.Barcode9  
rpoB.barcode10

Pos = 1312

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G A C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

1320 1330 1340 1350 1360 1370 1380 1390 1400

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G A C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G A C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

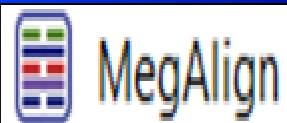
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A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

A A G G A G T T C T T C G G C A C C A G C C A G C T G A G C C A A T T C A T G G C C A G A A C A A C C C G C T G T C G G G G T T G A C C C A C A A G C G C C G A C T G T C G G C G

Multiple sequence alignments



# Protein Translation

MegAlign - [Final25.rpoB alignment.04-08-2012.meg]

File Edit Align View Options Net Search Window Help

Sequence Name - Pos = 1393

Consensus

29 Sequences

	440	450	460	470	480	490	500	510	520
H3Rv Ion Torrent reference strain	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLSALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
Najir 1 H37Rv rpoB	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLSALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
KZN 4207 reference strain	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLSALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
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BC2-rpoB Contig_1.seq	KEFFGTSQLSQFMGQNNPLSGLTHKRRLSAPGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
BC3-rpoB Contig_1.seq	KEFFGTSQLSQFMGQNNPLSGLTHKRRLSAPGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
BC4-rpoB Contig_1	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLLALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
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Patient 2919984	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLLALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
2961678.rpoB	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLLALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
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rpoB.barcode7	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLSALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
rpoB.Barcode8	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLSALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						
rpoB.Barcode9	KEFFGTSQLSQFMDQNNPLSGLTHKRRLSALGPGGLSRERAGLEVRDVHPSHYGRMCPIETPEGPNI	GLI	GSLSVYARVNPFGFIETPYR						

amino acid substitution mutations



Ion Torrent Sequencing  
Sample 3100029  
>100X Coverage

# *pncA* Gene

Raw nucleotides  
(960 bps)

```
ACGGATTTGTCGCTCACTACATCACCGGCGTGATCTATCCCGCCGGTTGGGTGGCCGCCGCTCAGCTGGTCATGTTGCGGATCGTCGCGG  
CGTCATGGACCCTATATCTGTGGCTGCCGCGTCGGTAGGCAAACCTGCCGGGCGAGTCGCCCGAACGTATGGTGGACGTATGCGGGCGTT  
GATCATCGTCGACGTGCAGAACGACTTCCGCGAGGGTGGCTCGCTGGCGGTAACCGGTGGCGCCGCGCTGGCCCGGCCATCAGCGAC  
TACCTGGCCGAAGCGGCGGACTACCATCACGTCGTGGCAACCAAGGACTTCCACATCGACCCGGGTGACCACTTCTCCGGCACACCGGA  
CTATTCCTCGTCGTGGCCACCGCATTGCGTCAGCGGTACTCCCGGCGCGGACTTCCATCCCAGTCTGGACACGTGGCAATCGAGGCGGT  
GTTCTACAAGGGTGCCTACACCGGAGCGTACAGCGGCTTCGAAGGAGTCCGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGG  
ACCGGCGCTCGATGAGGTCGATGTTGGTTCGGTATTGCCACCGATCATTGCGTGGTACGCAATGGCTTG  
GCCACCAGGGTGTGGTGGACCTGACAGCGGGTGTGTGGCCGATACCAAGGAGTCCGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGG  
GAGTTGGTTTGCAGTCTCTGATGGCACCGCCGAACCGGGATGAACTGTGGTCAAGCGGCCGCCGCGC  
ACGACCGCGCCGGCTGGGTGCGGTTGTTACCGGTGACGCGCGGGTCCGACAGGTGGGGCATGAG  
GCCATCGGCCGCTTCTACGACACCTTCATCGGGCCGCGGGATATCACGTTCCGGC
```

T → C

Full coding region  
(561 bps)

```
ATGCGGGCGTTGATCATCGTCGACGTGCAGAACGACTTCCGCGAGGGTGGCTCGCTGGCGGTAACCGGTGGCGCCGCGCTGGCCCGCG  
CCATCAGCGACTACCTGGCCGAAGCGGCGGACTACCATCACGTCGTGGCAACCAAGGACTTCCACATCGACCCGGGTGACCACTTCTCC  
GGCACACCGGACTATTCTCCTCGTCGTGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGGCGG  
AATCGAGGCGGTGTTCTACAAGGGTGCCTCGAAGGAGTCGACGAGAACGGCACGCCACTGCTGAA  
TTGGCTGCGGCAACGCGGCGTCCGATGAGTCCGATCATTGTGTGCGCCAGACGGCCGAGGACGCGGTA  
CGCAATGGCTTGGCCACCAGGGTGTGGTGGCCGATAACCACCGTCGCCGCGCTGGAGGAGATGCGC  
ACCGCCAGCGTCGAGTTGGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTTGCGAGTT
```

C → R

Protein  
(186 amino acids)

```
MRALIIVDVQNDFREGGSLAVTGGAAALARAI SDYLA EAADYHHVVATKDFHIDPGDHFSGTDPDYSS  
WPPHCVSGTPGADFHP SLDTSAIEAVFYKGAYTGAYSGFEGVDENGTPLLNWLRQRGVDEVDVVGIA  
TDHCVRQTAEDAVRNLATRVLVDLTAGVSADTTVAALEEMRTASVELVCSS.
```

# Genetic Analysis of *pncA* gene from a Clinical Sample

Sequence Name	< Pos = 1
Consensus	ATGCGGGCGTTGATCATCGTCGACGTGCAGAACGACTTCTGCGAGGGTGGCTCGCTGGCGGTAAACCGGTGGCGCCGCCTGGCCCGCGCCATCA
4 Sequences	10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90
2997164	ATGCGGGCGTTGATCATCGTCGACGTGCAGAACGACTTCTGCGAGGGTGGCTCGCTGGCGGTAAACCGGTGGCGCCGCCTGGCCCGCGCCATCA
3050732	ATGCGGGCGTTGATCATCGTCGACGTGCAGAACGACTTCTGCGAGGGTGGCTCGCTGGCGGTAAACCGGTGGCGCCGCCTGGCCCGCGCCATCA
3100029	ATGCGGGCGTTGATCATCGTCGACGTGCAGAACGACTTCTGCGAGGGTGGCTCGCTGGCGGTAAACCGGTGGCGCCGCCTGGCCCGCGCCATCA
3153565	ATGCGGGCGTTGATCATCGTCGACGTGCAGAACGACTTCTGCGAGGGTGGCTCGCTGGCGGTAAACCGGTGGCGCCGCCTGGCCCGCGCCATCA

Nucleotides

Sequence Name	< Pos = 1
Consensus	MRALIIVDVQNDFCEGGSLAVTGGAALARAI SDYLAEAADYHHVVATKDFHI DPGDHFSGTPDYSSSWPPHCVSGTPGADFHPSLDTSI EAV
4 Sequences	10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90
2997164	MRALIIVDVQNDFCEGGSLAVTGGAALARAI SDYLAEAADYHHVVATKDFHI DPGDHFSGTPDYSSSWPPHCVSGTPGADFHPSLDTSI EAV
3050732	MRALIIVDVQNDFCEGGSLAVTGGAALARAI SDYLAEAADYHHVVATKDFHI DPGDHFSGTPDYSSSWPPHCVSGTPGADFHPSLDTSI EAV
3100029	MRALIIVDVQNDFCEGGSLAVTGGAALARAI SDYLAEAADYHHVVATKDFHI DPGDHFSGTPDYSSSWPPHCVSGTPGADFHPSLDTSI EAV
3153565	MRALIIVDVQNDFCEGGSLAVTGGAALARAI SDYLAEAADYHHVVATKDFHI DPGDHFSGTPDYSSSWPPHCVSGTPGADFHPSLDTSI EAV

Amino Acid

Cys → Arg

C<sup>14</sup>R substitution  
PZA Resistance



# PCR amplification primers used for full-length analysis of MTB Genes

Amplification Target	Forward	Reverse	Amplicon (bp)
rrs (16s)	5'-TTCTAAATACCTTTGGCTCCCT -3' 22nt	5'-TGGCCAACCTTTGTTGTCATGCA -3' 22nt	1680
rpoB	5'- TCCTCTAAGGGCTCTCGTT -3' 19nt	5'- GTCAGGTACACGATCTCGT -3' 19nt	1625
rpoBII (2nd half)	5'- ATCGAAACGCCGTACCGCAA -3' 20nt	5'-TGACGTCGAGCACGTAACCTCCCT -3' 23nt	2056
katG	5'- ACACCAACTCCTGGGAAGGAAT -3' 21nt	5'- TGATCGCACATCCAGCACATT -3' 22nt	2447
gyrA	5'- AAGGATGTTTCGGTTCCTGGAT -3' 21nt	5'- TAACACTCGTACCCGGCT -3' 18nt	2664
<b>pncA</b>	<b>5'- GACGGATTTGTCGCTCACTAC-3' 21nt</b>	<b>5'- GCCGGAGACGATATCCAGAT-3' 20nt</b>	<b>960</b>

- ✓ 11,432 bases per isolates
- ✓ Universal amplification parameters
- ✓ Universal thermocycling parameters

# *pncA* Gene Results

Summary of 6 amino acid mutations in the *pncA* gene of 26 (14 MDR, 7 XDR and 5 fully susceptible) *M. tuberculosis* isolates from South Africa deduced by Ion Torrent sequencing and culture.

No. of isolates (n=26)	GenBank Accession No(s).	Amino Acid Substitution(s)‡ in the <i>pncA</i> gene (3619 bps)	Pyrazinamide Result by:	
			Ion Torrent†	Bactec MGIT 960
3		<b>C14R</b>	<b>Resistant</b>	<b>Resistant</b>
1		<b>A102V</b>	<b>Resistant</b>	<b>Resistant</b>
1		<b>Q122(Stop)</b>	<b>Resistant</b>	<b>Resistant</b>
16		Wild Type‡	Sensitive	Sensitive
1		<b>V139G</b>	<b>Resistant</b>	<b>Resistant</b>
1		<b>R154G</b>	<b>Resistant</b>	<b>Resistant</b>
2		<b>L172P</b>	<b>Resistant</b>	<b>Resistant</b>
1		<b>Silent (C195T)¥</b>	Sensitive	Sensitive

†Pyrazinamide resistance is known to occur in several mutations described by *Mphahlele et al.*

‡Compared to H37Rv reference strain.

¥One strain contained a silent (synonymous) nucleotide mutation at position 195 (C→T).

Daum *et al.*, under review, *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*, 2012

# Conclusions

- Collection and ambient temperature shipment of MTB samples in PrimeStore® MTM provides a safe and cost effective approach for global MTB drug resistance surveillance using Ion Torrent/Next Gen sequencing.
- PZA resistance was observed in 9 of 26 isolates characterized, with 6 different mutations detected in at least one strain.
- Ion Torrent sequencing characterized 5 substitution mutations and an uncommon Q122(Stop) mutation in the *pncA* gene.
- Combined with other full-length resistance genes the developed Ion Torrent method characterizes MDR and XDR strains with overall performance comparable to Hain LPA, and offers potential discovery of novel resistance mutations.
- Future studies are in progress to include ALL (known) genes implemented in TB drug resistance and to compare newly identified and known resistance mutations to quantitative MIC value.

# Semiconductor Sequencing Review

FROM ION TORRENT

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## Dr. Luke Daum, co-founder of Longhorn Vaccines & Diagnostics, discusses the development of an antibiotic-resistance test for tuberculosis on the Ion Personal Genome Machine™ (PGM™) Sequencer.

Dr. Luke T. Daum, Chief Scientific Officer and a co-founder of Longhorn Vaccines & Diagnostics has developed an assay on the Ion PGM™ Sequencer for detecting antibiotic resistance and sensitivity in tuberculosis strains collected from developing countries, starting with those in Africa. The assay is for epidemiological and surveillance monitoring of geographically significant strains of the disease, which infects one third of the world's population, with upwards of 10 percent of those people developing active tuberculosis. Using current culture methods, it can take up to four months or longer to get results from drug susceptibility tests in developing countries throughout Africa. Dr. Daum's multi-drug resistant (MDR) test would provide results in two days. Ion Torrent products, including the Ion PGM Sequencer, are for Research Use Only. They are not intended for any animal or human therapeutic or diagnostic use. This interview was conducted with Dr. Luke T. Daum who is currently conducting research in Africa. The comments given in the interview relate to the use of the Ion technology in Africa only. No use of the Ion technology in the U.S. is implied. Dr. Daum is not employed by Life Technologies, nor was he paid to take part in this interview.

**We want to talk about your test, but before we get into that, can you give us some background on TB in the developing world? How big of a problem is it?**

**Luke Daum:** Tuberculosis or TB is an infectious bacterial disease that is caused by

*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, which infects the lungs. It's transmitted from person to person through droplets from the throat or lungs of people who have active respiratory disease. Tuberculosis is a major problem worldwide, and a lot of people don't understand this. Overall, one third of the world's population is currently infected with TB, and upwards of 10% will develop active tuberculosis. In any given year, on average 1.7 million people die of complications due to active tuberculosis, which

equates to an average of 4,700 deaths per day, and the TB problem in Africa specifically is staggering. Among the 15 countries with the highest estimated TB incidence rates, 13 are in Africa. Africa also has a high incidence of HIV infection – about 10% of the population in South Africa has HIV. People that are infected with HIV and TB are about 20 to 40 times more likely to develop active Tuberculosis than people not infected with HIV living in the same country.



DR. LUKE T. DAUM  
Co-founder, Longhorn Vaccines & Diagnostics, Inc.

Luke T. Daum earned a Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology at the University of Texas at San Antonio and spent eight years establishing and managing the Air Force's Influenza Strain Surveillance Laboratory. In 2007 he left the Air Force to co-found Longhorn Vaccines & Diagnostics. The company's first product, PrimeStore® MTM, inactivates microbes and then stabilizes and preserves the released RNA and DNA at ambient temperature until the samples can be processed in a molecular diagnostics laboratory by PCR or other nucleic acid tests.

# Acknowledgements





**Luke T. Daum, Ph.D.**



**QUESTIONS?**

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