🌐 SARS-CoV2 genome sequencing protocol (1200bp amplicon "midnight" primer set, using Nanopore Rapid kit) V.5

⚑ Version 1 is forked from nCoV-2019 sequencing protocol v2 (GunIt)

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2 *Works for me* dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.btsrnnd6

Coronavirus Method Development Community

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ABSTRACT

To enable faster, easier sequencing of SARS-COV2 genomes with fewer steps than current methods, we use multiplexed 1200 base pair PCR amplicons with the Oxford Nanopore RAPID barcoding kit.

UPDATE: The Rapid barcoding protocol is now (March 2021) available on the Oxford Nanopore website for 1-96 samples "PCR tiling of SARS-CoV-2 virus with rapid barcoding (SQK-RBK110.96)" https://community.nanoporetech.com/protocols/pcr-tiling-of-sars-cov-2-virus-with-rapid-barcoding-sqk-rbk110/v/PCTR_9125_v110_revA_24Mar2021

This is a modification of the ARTIC amplicon V3 sequencing protocol for MinION for nCoV-2019 developed by Josh Quick. The ARTIC method uses 400 base pair amplicons and the Oxford Nanopore Ligation barcoding kit (LSK-109).

The protocol described here, dubbed the Midnight protocol, makes two important changes to the ARTIC V3 protocol:
1. We have increased the size of the amplicon size to 1200bp. Using just 29 amplicons, the midnight primers anneal to only 4.5% of the viral genome compared to 17% or more of the genome, lowering the chance that viral mutations will cause dropouts due to primer mismatches.
2. We use the RAPID barcode kit RBK004 (or, available as of March 2021 for 1-96 samples with the RBK110-96), which requires less time and fewer reagents than the ligation based LSK-109 protocol.

The amplicons produced in this protocol can also be used for Illumina sequencing (i.e. using a transposon based shearing like Nextera or the Lotus kit https://sg.idtdna.com/pages/landing/coronavirus-research-reagents/ngs-assays#resources)

The original publication that describes this protocol is here along with important considerations is here: https://academic.oup.com/biomethods/article/5/1/bpaa014/5873518?login=true

Primers were all designed using Primal Scheme: http://primal.zibraproject.org/, described here https://www.nature.com/articles/nprot.2017.066.

Primer sequences are here (and listed directly in the protocol) https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1M5I_C56ZC8_2Ycgm9EFieVlVNqxsP7dXAnGoBZy3nDo/edit?usp=sharing

The primer scheme .bed and .tsv files necessary for the ARTIC variant calling pipeline are at Zenodo: https://zenodo.org/record/3897530#.Xv5EFpMzadY

Version history:
- V5: Changed Reverse transcription part of the protocol to use the LunaScript™ RT SuperMix Kit in place of SSIV as it is easier, performs similarly, and is less expensive. The PCR step was changed to use the Q5®Hot Start High-Fidelity 2X Master Mix in place of the Q5 reagents individually, as this cuts down pipetting steps, performs similarly, and is similar in cost.
- V4: updated .bed and .tsv file link to point to Zenodo (and not google drive).
- V1-V3: included primers sequences in the protocol, fixed step 17.12 from elute in "molecular grade water or Elution buffer" to elute in "10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0 with 50 mM NaCl", as suggested on the Oxford Nanopore protocol, changed images from ARTIC protocol image to our own.

PROTOCOL CITATION

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https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.btsrnnd6
Version created by Nikki Freed

GUIDELINES

This has now been tested on a wide variety of patient samples and variants of concern (as of April 1, 2021).

PRIMERS
- Primers purchased as a pool from IDT, SARS-Cov2-*Midnight*-1200, 500rxn, 10007184 (can be purchase individually and pooled).

RNA EXTRACTION KIT
- Extraction kits; Zymo Quick-RNA Viral Kit   Zymo   R1034

OR
- i.e. QIAamp Viral RNA Mini   Qiagen   52904

OR other suitable RNA extraction method.

REVERSE TRANSCRIPTION
⊠ LunaScript RT SuperMix Kit - 100 rxns **New England Biolabs Catalog #E3010L**

PCR
⊠ Q5 Hot Start High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase - 500 units **New England Biolabs Catalog #M0493L**

CLEAN UP
⊠ Agencourt Ampure XP **Beckman Coulter Catalog #A63880**

SEQUENCING PREPARATION FOR OXFORD NANOPORE
⊠ SQK-RBK004 Rapid Barcoding Kit **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK004** Step 13

⊠ ONT MinION Flow Cell R9.4.1 **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #FLO-MIN106D**

Please follow standard health and safety guidelines when working with COVID-19 patient samples.

| cDNA preparation | 5m |

1 UPDATE March 2021: This protocol is now listed on the Oxford Nanopore Protocols website for 1-24, 1-48 or 1-96 samples using the RBK110.96 kit as the **Midnight protocol** PCR tiling of SARS-CoV-2 virus with rapid barcoding (SQK-RBK110.96)" 5m

Mix the following components in an 0.2mL 8-strip tube on ice;

Component	Volume
LunaScript®RT SuperMix Kit (5x)	🥛2 µl
Template RNA	🥛8 µl
Total	🥛10 µl

Viral RNA input from a clinical sample should be between Ct 18-35. If Ct is between 12-15, then you can dilute the sample 100-fold in water, if between 15-18 then dilute 10-fold in water. This will reduce the likelihood of PCR-

inhibition. It is good practice to carry a negative control (e.g. water) through the entire process from cDNA preparation to sequencing. You will only carry 5 µl of this reaction into the next PCR step.

A mastermix should be made up in the **mastermix cabinet** and aliquoted into PCR strip tubes. Tubes should be wiped down when entering and leaving the mastermix cabinet.

2 Gently mix by pipetting and pulse spin the tube to collect liquid at the bottom of the tube.

3 Incubate the reaction in a PCR machine: 13m

    🌡 **25 °C** 🕐 **00:02:00**

    🌡 **55 °C** 🕐 **00:10:00**

    🌡 **95 °C** 🕐 **00:01:00**

    Hold at 🌡 **4 °C**

Primer pool preparation

4 If required, resuspend lyophilised primers at a concentration of 100µM each

Primers for this protocol were designed using Primal Scheme and generate overlapping 1200bp amplicons. Primer names and dilutions are listed here:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1M5I_C56ZC8_2Ycgm9EFieVlVNqxsP7dXAnGoBZy3nDo/edit?usp=sharing.
We have tested multiplexing 1500 nt and 2000 nt amplicons as well, all work. These are included in the link. Here we will discuss just the protocol for 1200 nt amplicons as they worked best in our hands.
You can order these as an oligo pool from IDT: https://sg.idtdna.com/site/order/poolentry/

4.1 Primers used to generate 1200 bp amplicons are here:

Primer Name	Sequence	Pool	Length	Tm	Start
SARSCoV_1200_1_LEFT	ACCAACCAACTTTCGATCTCTTGT	1	24	60.69	30
SARSCoV_1200_1_RIGHT	GGTTGCATTCATTTGGTGACGC	1	22	61.49	1205
SARSCoV_1200_3_LEFT	GGCTTGAAGAGAAGTTTAAGGAAGGT	1	26	61.19	2153
SARSCoV_1200_3_RIGHT	GATTGTCCTCACTGCCGTCTTG	1	22	61.5	3257
SARSCoV_1200_5_LEFT	ACCTACTAAAAAGGCTGGTGGC	1	22	60.55	4167
SARSCoV_1200_5_RIGHT	AGCATCTTGTAGAGCAGGTGGA	1	22	61.16	5359
SARSCoV_1200_7_LEFT	ACCTGGTGTATACGTTGTCTTTGG	1	24	60.8	6283
SARSCoV_1200_7_RIGHT	GCTGAAATCGGGGCCATTTGTA	1	22	61.53	7401
SARSCoV_1200_9_LEFT	AGAAGTTACTGGCGATAGTTGTAATAACT	1	29	60.59	8253
SARSCoV_1200_9_RIGHT	TGCTGATATGTCCAAAGCACCA	1	22	60.29	9400
SARSCoV_1200_11_LEFT	AGACACCTAAGTATAAGTTTGTTCGCA	1	27	60.74	10343
SARSCoV_1200_11_RIGHT	GCCCACATGGAAATGGCTTGAT	1	22	61.8	11469
SARSCoV_1200_13_LEFT	ACCTCTTACAACAGCAGCCAAAC	1	23	61.55	12450
SARSCoV_1200_13_RIGHT	CGTCCTTTTCTTGGAAGCGACA	1	22	61.38	13621
SARSCoV_1200_15_LEFT	TTTTAAGGAATTACTTGTGTATGCTGCT	1	28	60.06	14540
SARSCoV_1200_15_RIGHT	ACACACAACAGCATCGTCAGAG	1	22	61.12	15735
SARSCoV_1200_17_LEFT	TCAAGCTTTTTGCAGCAGAAACG	1	23	61.28	16624
SARSCoV_1200_17_RIGHT	CCAAGCAGGGTTACGTGTAAGG	1	22	61.19	17754
SARSCoV_1200_19_LEFT	GGCACATGGCTTTGAGTTGACA	1	22	61.91	18596
SARSCoV_1200_19_RIGHT	CCTGTTGTCCATCAAAGTGTCCC	1	23	61.62	19678
SARSCoV_1200_21_LEFT	TCTGTAGTTTCTAAGGTTGTCAAAGTGA	1	28	60.58	20553
SARSCoV_1200_21_RIGHT	GCAGGGGGTAATTGAGTTCTGG	1	22	60.95	21642
SARSCoV_1200_23_LEFT	ACTTTAGAGTCCAACCAACAGAATCT	1	26	60.18	22511
SARSCoV_1200_23_RIGHT	TGACTAGCTACACTACGTGCCC	1	22	61.52	23631
SARSCoV_1200_25_LEFT	TGCTGCTACTAAAATGTCAGAGTGT	1	25	60.51	24633
SARSCoV_1200_25_RIGHT	CATTTCCAGCAAAGCCAAAGCC	1	22	61.45	25790
SARSCoV_1200_27_LEFT	TGGATCACCGGTGGAATTGCTA	1	22	61.75	26744
SARSCoV_1200_27_RIGHT	TGTTCGTTTAGGCGTGACAAGT	1	22	60.74	27894
SARSCoV_1200_29_LEFT	TGAGGGAGCCTTGAATACACCA	1	22	61.1	28677
SARSCoV_1200_29_RIGHT	TAGGCAGCTCTCCCTAGCATTG	1	22	61.61	29790

Primers for **Pool 1**

Primer Name	Sequence	Pool	Length	Tm	Start
SARSCoV_1200_2_LEFT	CCATAATCAAGACTATTCAACCAAGGGT	2	28	61.27	1100
SARSCoV_1200_2_RIGHT	ACAGGTGACAATTTGTCCACCG	2	22	61.33	2266
SARSCoV_1200_4_LEFT	GGAATTTGGTGCCACTTCTGCT	2	22	61.66	3144
SARSCoV_1200_4_RIGHT	CCTGACCCGGGTAAGTGGTTAT	2	22	61.49	4262
SARSCoV_1200_6_LEFT	ACTTCTATTAAATGGGCAGATAACAACTG	2	29	60.18	5257
SARSCoV_1200_6_RIGHT	GATTATCCATTCCCTGCGCGTC	2	22	61.75	6380
SARSCoV_1200_8_LEFT	CAATCATGCAATTGTTTTTCAGCTATTTTG	2	30	60.39	7298
SARSCoV_1200_8_RIGHT	TGACTTTTTGCTACCTGCGCAT	2	22	61.39	8385
SARSCoV_1200_10_LEFT	TTTACCAGGAGTTTTCTGTGGTGT	2	24	60.32	9303
SARSCoV_1200_10_RIGHT	TGGGCCTCATAGCACATTGGTA	2	22	61.5	10451
SARSCoV_1200_12_LEFT	ATGGTGCTAGGAGAGTGTGGAC	2	22	61.48	11372
SARSCoV_1200_12_RIGHT	GGATTTCCCACAATGCTGATGC	2	22	60.48	12560
SARSCoV_1200_14_LEFT	ACAGGCACTAGTACTGATGTCGT	2	23	61.12	13509
SARSCoV_1200_14_RIGHT	GTGCAGCTACTGAAAAGCACGT	2	22	61.94	14641
SARSCoV_1200_16_LEFT	ACAACACAGACTTTATGAGTGTCTCT	2	26	60.18	15608
SARSCoV_1200_16_RIGHT	CTCTGTCAGACAGCACTTCACG	2	22	61.17	16720
SARSCoV_1200_18_LEFT	GCACATAAAGACAAATCAGCTCAATGC	2	27	62.03	17622
SARSCoV_1200_18_RIGHT	TGTCTGAAGCAGTGGAAAAGCA	2	22	60.68	18706
SARSCoV_1200_20_LEFT	ACAATTTGATACTTATAACCTCTGGAACAC	2	30	60.15	19574
SARSCoV_1200_20_RIGHT	GATTAGGCATAGCAACACCCGG	2	22	61.39	20698
SARSCoV_1200_22_LEFT	GTGATGTTCTTGTTAACAACTAAACGAACA	2	30	61.44	21532
SARSCoV_1200_22_RIGHT	AACAGATGCAAATCTGGTGGCG	2	22	62.03	22612
SARSCoV_1200_24_LEFT	GCTGAACATGTCAACAACTCATATGA	2	26	60.13	23518
SARSCoV_1200_24_RIGHT	ATGAGGTGCTGACTGAGGGAAG	2	22	61.74	24736
SARSCoV_1200_26_LEFT	GCCTTGAAGCCCCTTTTCTCTA	2	22	60.29	25690
SARSCoV_1200_26_RIGHT	AATGACCACATGGAACGCGTAC	2	22	61.5	26857
SARSCoV_1200_28_LEFT	TTTGTGCTTTTTAGCCTTTCTGCT	2	24	60.14	27784
SARSCoV_1200_28_RIGHT	GTTTGGCCTTGTTGTTGTTGGC	2	22	61.82	29007

Primers for **Pool 2**

5   If you have ordered each primer independently and need to generate primer pool stocks: add 🥤**5 µl** of each primer from Pool 1 to a 🥤**1.5 mL** Eppendorf labeled "Pool 1 (100µM)" and each primer from Pool 2 to a 🥤**1.5 mL** Eppendorf labelled "Pool 2 (100µM)". These are your 100µM stocks of each primer pool.

> Primers should be diluted and pooled in the **mastermix cabinet** which should be cleaned with decontamination wipes and UV sterilised before and after use.

6   Dilute this primer pool 1:10 in molecular grade water, to generate 10µM primer stocks. It is recommend that multiple aliquots of each primer pool are made to in case of degradation or contamination.

> Primers need to be used at a final concentration of 0.015µM per primer. In this case (1200 nt amplicons), pool 1

has 30 primers and pool 2 has 28 primers, so the requirement is 1.13µL for primer pool 1 and 1.05µL for primer pool 2 (10uM) per 25µL reaction. However, as these values are relatively close, we round up and down to 1.1ul for both pools, so the pools can be made in a similar fashion. For other schemes, adjust the volume added appropriately.

Multiplex PCR

7 In the mastermix hood set up the multiplex PCR reactions as follows in 0.2mL 8-strip PCR tubes:

Component and volume per sample	Pool 1	Pool 2
Q5® Hot Start HF 2x Master Mix	12.5 µl	12.5 µl
Primer Pool 1 (10µM)	1.1 µl	0 µl
Primer Pool 2 (10µM)	0 µl	1.1 µl
Nuclease-free water	8.9 µl	9.0 µl
Total	22.5 µl	22.5 µl

A PCR mastermix for each pool should be made up in the **mastermix cabinet** and aliquoted into labelled PCR strip tubes. Tubes should be wiped down when entering and leaving the mastermix cabinet. The PCR can also be done in half reaction size for cost savings.

8 In the **extraction and sample addition cabinet:**

add 2.5 µl each cDNA sample to a tube containing 22.5 µl **Pool 1**. Mix well by pipetting.

Add 2.5 µl each cDNA sample to a tube containing 22.5 µl **Pool 2**. Mix well by pipetting.

The **extraction and sample addition cabinet** should should be cleaned with decontamination wipes and UV sterilised before and after use.

9 Pulse centrifuge the tubes to collect the contents at the bottom of the tube.

10 Set-up the following program on the thermal cycler:

2h 40m

Step	Temperature	Time	Cycles
Heat Activation	98 °C	00:00:30	1
Denaturation	98 °C	00:00:15	25-35
Annealing and Extension	65 °C	00:05:00	25-35
Hold	4 °C	Indefinite	1

We generally use 32 cycles, however the original ARTIC protocol states "Cycle number should be 25 for Ct 18-21 up

to a maximum of 35 cycles for Ct 35". We have found no improvements to the protocol by changing the annealing temperature. We found it is not advisable to reduce the extension time below 5 minutes.

📈 Final concentrations of PCR products typically range from ~5 - 150ng/ul as measured by Qubit.

Pooling and PCR quantification

11   Label a 🧪 **1.5 mL** Eppendorf tube for each sample and combine the two pools the PCR reaction as follows:

Component	Volume
Pool 1 PCR reaction	🧪 **10 µl**
Pool 2 PCR reaction	🧪 **10 µl**
Total	🧪 **20 µl**

At this stage, care should be taken with amplified PCR products. Only open tubes in a designated post-PCR workspace with equipment that is separate from areas where primers and mastermixes are handled.

After combining the two pools of amplified DNA, the PCR products can be used for Oxford Nanopore Sequencing, using the RAPID barcode kit RBK004, as described in this protocol (below, Steps 15 onward).

Alternatively, these amplicons can be used for Oxford Nanopore Sequencing, following Josh Quick's ligation based protocol (CoV-2019 sequencing protocol v2, dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdp7i5rn, at step 15) using the SQK-LSK109 kit.

Alternatively, these amplicons can also be used for Illumina sequencing, such as found here: https://www.protocols.io/view/sars-cov-2-genome-sequencing-using-long-pooled-amp-befyjbpw or https://sg.idtdna.com/pages/landing/coronavirus-research-reagents/ngs-assays#resources

We have found that performing an Ampure XP bead clean up at this stage does not improve performance and omitting it can save costs. Therefore, we do not do a bead clean up step at this stage.

11.1   Quantify DNA using a Qubit or other method. Quantification using Nanodrop is not recommended. If you do not have a Qubit or want to save time/costs, you can omit this step.

📋 DNA quantification using the Qubit fluorometer **by Nikki Freed**	PREVIEW	RUN	∧

1.1.1   Prepare a mastermix of Qubit™ working solution for the required number of samples and standards. The Qubit dsDNA

kit requires 2 standards for calibration (see note below).

Per sample:

Qubit® dsDNA HS Reagent 🔲**1 µl**

Qubit® dsDNA HS Buffer 🔲**199 µl**

> If you have already performed a calibration on the Qubit machine for the selected assay you can use the previous calibration stored on the machine. We recommend performing a new calibration for every sample batch but a same-day calibration would be fine to use for multiple batches.
>
> To avoid any cross-contamination, we recommend that you remove the total amount of working solution required for your samples and standards from the working solution bottle and then add the required volume to the appropriate tubes instead of pipetting directly from the bottle to each tube.

1.1.2 Label the tube lids. Do not label the side of the tube as this could interfere with the sample reading.

> Use only thin-wall, clear, 0.5mL PCR tubes. Acceptable tubes include Qubit™ assay tubes (Cat. No. Q32856)

1.1.3 Aliquot Qubit™ working solution to each tube:
- standard tubes requires 190µL of Qubit™ working solution
- sample tubes require anywhere from 180−199µL (depending how much sample you wish to add).

The final volume in each tube must be 200µL once sample/standard has been added.

1.1.4 Add 10µL of standard to the appropriate tube.

1.1.5 Add 1−20µL of each user sample to the appropriate tube.

> If you are adding 1−2µL of sample, use a P-2 pipette for best results.

1.1.6 Mix each tube vigorously by vortexing for 3−5 seconds.

1.1.7 Allow all tubes to incubate at room temperature for 2 minutes, then proceed to "Read standards and samples".

1.1.8 On the Home screen of the Qubit™ 3 Fluorometer, press DNA, then select 1X dsDNA HS as the assay type. The Read standards screen is displayed. Press Read Standards to proceed.

> If you have already performed a calibration for the selected assay, the instrument prompts you to choose between reading new standards and running samples using the previous calibration. **If you want to use the previous calibration, skip to step 12**. Otherwise, continue with step 9.

1.1.9 Insert the tube containing Standard #1 into the sample chamber, close the lid, then press Read standard. When the reading is complete (~3 seconds), remove Standard #1.

1.10 Insert the tube containing Standard #2 into the sample chamber, close the lid, then press Read standard. When the reading is complete, remove Standard #2.

1.11 The instrument displays the results on the Read standard screen. For information on interpreting the calibration results, refer to the Qubit™ Fluorometer User Guide, available for download at thermofisher.com/qubit.

1.12 Press Run samples.

1.13 On the assay screen, select the sample volume and units:
- Press the + or – buttons on the wheel, or anywhere on the wheel itself, to select the sample volume added to the assay tube (from 1–20µL).
- From the unit dropdown menu, select the units for the output sample concentration (in this case choose ng/µL).

1.14 Insert a sample tube into the sample chamber, close the lid, then press Read tube. When the reading is complete (~3 seconds), remove the sample tube.

1.15 **The top value (in large font) is the concentration of the original sample and the bottom value is the dilution concentration**. For information on interpreting the sample results, refer to the Qubit™ Fluorometer User Guide.

1.16 Repeat step 14 until all samples have been read.

1.17 Carefully **record all results** and store run file from the Qubit on a memory stick.

1.18 All negative controls should ideally be 'too low' to read on the Qubit machine, but MUST be < 1ng per ul. If your negative controls >1ng per ul, considerable contamination has occurred and you must redo previous steps.

Normalisation

12 Label a 🥛**0.2 mL** PCR tube for each sample.

12.1 Adjust the amount of DNA in the tube to be 🥛**100 ng** total per sample in 🥛**7.5 µl** molecular grade water. For example if your PCR reaction is at 100ng/ul, add 1ul of the PCR reaction to 6.5ul of molecular grade water. Input to the Rapid Barcoding kit will vary depending on the amplicon length but we have determined 50-200 ng works for efficient barcoding of this amplicon length. If there is under 100ng or you do not know the concentration, simply use all 🥛**7.5 µl** of the pooled PCR reaction. Use the full 🥛**7.5 µl** of the negative control, even if there is no detectable DNA in the PCR reaction.

Rapid barocoding using the SQK RBK004

13 Mulitple samples can be run on the same flow cell by barcoding. Up to 12 samples at a time can be run using the RBK004 kit, up to 96 if you are using the RBK110.96 kit. Amplicons from each sample will be individually barcoded in the following steps. It is highly recommended to use the current Oxford Nanopore Protocol for the following steps. Tip: aliquot the Rapid barcodes into a PCR strip to enable multi channelling. They are briefly described here.

⊗SQK-RBK004 Rapid Barcoding Kit **Oxford Nanopore Technologies Catalog #SQK-RBK004**

13.1 Add 🥛**7.5 µl** of each diluted PCR reaction from step 15 to the labeled PCR tube.   5m

Set up the following reaction for each sample:

Component	Volume
DNA amplicons from step 15 (100ng total)	🥛**7.5 µl**
Fragmentation Mix RB01-12 (one for each sample, included in kit)	🥛**2.5 µl**
Total	🥛**10 µl**

13.2 Mix gently by flicking the tube, and spin down.

13.3 Incubate the reaction in a PCR machine: 5m
🌡 **30 °C**   for   ⏲**00:01:00**
🌡 **80 °C**   for   ⏲**00:01:00**
🌡 **4 °C**   for   ⏲**00:00:30**

13.4 Pool all barcoded samples, noting the total volume.

14 Ampure XP Bead Cleanup. Use a 1:1 ratio of sample to beads.   15m

14.1 Vortex SPRI beads thoroughly to ensure they are well resuspended, the solution should be a homogenous brown colour.

⊠ Agencourt AMPure XP **Beckman Coulter Catalog #A63880**

14.2 Add an equal volume (1:1) of SPRI beads to the sample tube and mix gently by either flicking or pipetting. For example add ⬜**50 µl** room temperature SPRI beads to a ⬜**50 µl** reaction.

14.3 Pulse centrifuge to collect all liquid at the bottom of the tube.

14.4 Incubate for ⏱**00:05:00** at room temperature.

14.5 Place on magnetic rack and incubate for ⏱**00:02:00** or until the beads have pelleted and the supernatant is completely clear.

14.6 Carefully remove and discard the supernatant, being careful not to touch the bead pellet.

14.7 Add ⬜**200 µl** of freshly prepared room-temperature [M]**80 % volume** ethanol to the pellet.

14.8 Keeping the magnetic rack on the benchtop, rotate the bead-containing tube by 180°. Wait for the beads to migrate towards the magnet and re-form a pellet. Remove the ethanol using a pipette and discard.

14.9 ↻ and repeat ethanol wash.

4.10 Pulse centrifuge to collect all liquid at the bottom of the tube and carefully remove as much residual ethanol as possible using a P10 pipette.

4.11 With the tube lid open incubate for ⏱ **00:01:00** or until the pellet loses it's shine (if the pellet dries completely it will crack and become difficult to resuspend).

4.12 Remove the tube from the magnetic rack. Resuspend pellet in 🧪**10 µl** 10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0 with 50 mM NaCl, mix gently by flicking and incubate at room temperature for ⏱ **00:02:00** .

4.13 Place on magnet and transfer sample to a clean 1.5mL Eppendorf tube ensuring no beads are transferred into this tube.

15 Add 🧪**1 µl** of RAP (from the RBK004 kit) to 🧪**10 µl** cleaned, barcoded DNA from step 17 . Mix gently by flicking the tube, and spin down.
> 1m

16 Incubate the reaction for ⏱ **00:05:00** at room temperature.
> 5m

17 The prepared library is used for loading into the MinION flow cell according to Oxford Nanopore Rapid Barcoding (RBK004) protocol. Please refer to the Oxford Nanopore Rapid Barcoding RBK004 protocol at this stage. Store the library on ice until ready to load**.**
> 10m

MinION sequencing

18 Start the sequencing run using MinKNOW.

19 Depending on the variation in coverage of each amplicon, generally, you will need approx 10,000 to 20,000 reads or 10-20Mb **per sample** to confidently assemble and call variants. This can typically be achieved on a minION flow cell in under two hours when running 12 samples. Less time if running fewer samples. You can also use the Rampart pipeline for a real time assessment of the coverage, which enables you to turn off the sequencing when you have captured enough data. Details on that here: https://artic.network/ncov-2019/ncov2019-bioinformatics-sop.html

20 The primer scheme .bed and .tsv files necessary for the ARTIC variant calling pipeline are at Zenodo: https://zenodo.org/record/3897530#.Xv5EFpMzadY