

Table 1 | Replicate hierarchy in a hypothetical mouse single-cell gene expression RNA sequencing experiment

	Replicate type	Replicate category ^a
Animal study subjects	Colonies	B
	Strains	B
	Cohoused groups	B
	Gender	B
	Individuals	B
Sample preparation	Organs from sacrificed animals	B
	Methods for dissociating cells from tissue	T
	Dissociation runs from given tissue sample	T
	Individual cells	B
	RNA-seq library construction	T
Sequencing	Runs from the library of a given cell	T
	Reads from different transcript molecules	V ^b
	Reads with unique molecular identifier (UMI)	T
	from a given transcript molecule	

^aReplicates are categorized as biological (B), technical (T) or of variable type (V). ^bSequence reads serve diverse purposes depending on the application and how reads are used in analysis.