**•Formatting:**

-3.2.3, 5.4.4 – Please split into two steps.

Each of these were accordingly split into two steps.

-3.2.9 – Please make the last sentence a note.

Remove the PCR strip tubes from the magnetic stand and add 22.5µL resuspension buffer to each tube. Gently pipette the entire volume up and down 10X to mix thoroughly or until the beads are fully resuspended.

Please advise which part of 3.2.9 should be a note. It is necessary to resuspend before proceeding to the next step.

-All figure legends should have a title and a brief description describing the figure.

Figure titles and legends have been extensively expanded and edited on page 12-13.

**•Grammar:**

-Please copyedit the manuscript for numerous grammatical errors. In particular, many protocol

steps contain sentences with comma splices or run-on sentences.

-2.1.2 – “pre-hit” should be “pre-heat”

This was corrected.

-5.2.5 – “table top mini centrifuge tubes” should be “table top mini centrifuge”

This was corrected.

-Informal abbreviations should not be used in the manuscript. Please use “hybridization” rather

than “hybe” throughout the manuscript.

This was corrected throughout the manuscript.

Methods have been further edited for run-on sentences and grammar.

**•Unnecessary branding should be removed:**

-5.5 – Illumina MiSeq

This was edited to Desktop Sequencer Loading Procedure.

-6.1 – FastQC – The name of a program should not be a section heading.

FastQC was edited to “Sequence Quality Assessment.”

RNASEQ QC was also edited to “RNASeq Quality Assessment.”

•If your figures and tables are original and not published previously, please ignore this comment.

For figures and tables that have been published before, please include phrases such as “Re-print with permission from (reference#)” or “Modified from..” etc. And please send a copy of the reprint permission for JoVE’s record keeping purposes.

Not applicable.

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DOI appears ok.