

## Beckman Coulter, Illumina automate NGS applications, 7/13:106

Through a partnership with Illumina, Beckman Coulter Life Sciences will develop, distribute, and support automation for Illumina's TruSeq and Nextera next-gen sequencing sample preparation kits. Illumina will provide technical expertise on chemistry and protocols.

Optimized methods for the Illumina kits are built on Beckman's Biomek liquid-handling platforms, and solutions include a suite of Biomek methods to address the defined protocol for each Illumina kit. The suites may also automate Beckman's Agencourt extraction chemistries, AMPure XP kit for DNA purification, and SPRIselect reagent kit for efficient high-throughput, nucleic acid size selection, improving processes for NGS.

The first suite of methods, for Illumina's TruSeq Stranded mRNA library kit, was developed on Beckman's Biomek FXP Dual Arm Multi 96 and Span 8 instrument through collaboration with Beckman and Indiana University Center for Genomics and Bioinformatics. The suite covers all steps defined in each protocol and can process up to 96 samples per run. The methods generate quality libraries verified against Illumina's benchmark sequencing metrics. Preprogrammed methods will also address qPCR setup, normalization, and sample pooling.

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