

Contents

Contributors	00
Abbreviations	00
Preface	00
1 An introduction to real-time PCR	00
<i>Gregory L. Shipley</i>	
1.1 Introduction	00
1.2 A brief history of nucleic acid detection and quantification	00
1.3 Real-time quantitative PCR a definition	00
1.4 Practical and theoretical principles underlying real-time PCR	00
1.5 Real-time PCR instrumentation – an overview	00
1.6 Detection chemistries used in real-time PCR	00
1.7 Performing a real-time RT-PCR experiment	00
1.8 What lies ahead	00
References	00
Protocol 1.1	00
Protocol 1.2	00
Protocol 1.3	00
Protocol 1.4	00
Protocol 1.5	00
2 Data analysis and reporting	00
<i>Pamela Scott Adams</i>	
2.1 Introduction	00
2.2 Standard curves	00
2.3 Preliminary assay analysis	00
2.3.1 Amplification curves	00
2.3.2 Baseline	00
2.3.3 Threshold	00
2.3.4 Proper controls	00
2.3.5 Experimental samples	00
2.3.6 Quantifying data	00
2.4 Data reporting and statistics	00
References	00
3 Relative quantification	00
<i>Michael W. Pfaffl</i>	
3.1 Introduction	00
3.2 Relative quantification: The quantification is relative to what?	00

3.3	Normalization	00
3.4	Mathematical models	00
3.5	Real-time qPCR amplification efficiency	00
3.6	Determination of the amplification rate	00
3.6.1	Dilution method	00
3.6.2	Fluorescence increase in exponential phase	00
3.6.3	Sigmoidal or logistic curve fit	00
3.6.4	Efficiency calculation in the exponential phase using multiple models	00
3.7	What is the right crossing point to determine?	00
3.8	Relative quantification data analysis and software applications	00
3.8.1	LightCycler Relative Quantification Software	00
3.8.2	REST	00
3.8.3	Q-Gene	00
3.8.4	qBASE	00
3.8.5	SoFAR	00
3.8.6	Dart-PCR	00
3.9	Conclusion	00
	References	00
4	Normalization	00
	<i>Jim Huggett, Keertan Dheda and Stephen A. Bustin</i>	
4.1	Introduction	00
4.2	General error and directional shift	00
4.3	Methods of normalization	00
4.3.1	Sample size	00
4.4	Conclusion	00
	References	00
5	High-throughput primer and probe design	00
	<i>Xiaowei Wang and Brian Seed</i>	
5.1	Primer and probe design guidelines	00
5.1.1	Primer specificity	00
5.1.2	Primer length	00
5.1.3	Primer GC content	00
5.1.4	Primer 3' end stability	00
5.1.5	Primer sequence complexity	00
5.1.6	Primer melting temperature	00
5.1.7	Primer location in the sequence	00
5.1.8	Amplicon size	00
5.1.9	Cross-exon boundary	00
5.1.10	Primer and template sequence secondary structures	00
5.1.11	TaqMan probe design	00
5.1.12	Molecular beacon probe design	00
5.2	PrimerBank – an online real-time PCR primer database	00
5.2.1	Primer design algorithm	00
5.2.2	PrimerBank	00
5.2.3	Experimental validation of the primer design	00
5.3	Experimental protocol using PrimerBank primers	00
5.3.1	Reverse transcription (RT)	00

5.3.2	Real-time PCR	00
5.3.3	Troubleshooting	00
5.4	Web resources about primer and probe design	00
5.4.1	Real-time PCR primer and probe databases	00
5.4.2	Primer and probe design tools	00
5.4.3	Other useful web sites	00
	References	00
6	Quantitative analysis of ocular gene expression	00
	<i>Stuart N. Peirson</i>	
6.1	Introduction	00
6.1.1	Gene expression in the eye	00
6.1.2	Problems associated with ocular gene expression	00
6.2	Relative quantification	00
6.2.1	The R ₀ method	00
6.2.2	Kinetic approaches to qPCR	00
6.2.3	Accurate normalization	00
6.3	Assay considerations	00
6.4	Conclusions	00
	References	00
7	Quantitative gene expression by Real-Time PCR: A complete protocol	00
	<i>Thomas D. Schmittgen</i>	
7.1	Introduction	00
7.2	Materials	00
7.2.1	Reagents and consumables	00
7.2.2	Equipment	00
7.3	Procedure	00
7.3.1	Sample preparation	00
7.3.2	Isolation of RNA from cultured cells or blood	00
7.3.3	Isolation of RNA from whole tissue	00
7.3.4	RNA quantification	00
7.3.5	DNase treatment	00
7.3.6	cDNA synthesis	00
7.3.7	SYBR® green	00
7.3.8	Primer design	00
7.3.9	Real-time PCR	00
7.3.10	Data analysis	00
7.3.11	Calculation of fold-change in gene expression	00
7.4	Troubleshooting	00
7.5	Critical steps	00
7.6	Comments	00
	References	00
8	Real-time PCR using SYBR® Green	00
	<i>Frederique Ponchel</i>	
8.1	Introduction	00
8.2	SYBR® Green chemistry	00
8.3	Primer design	00
8.3.1	Step by step primer design: β -actin for a cDNA quantification assay	00

8.4	Primer optimization	00
8.4.1	Absolute quantification of gene expression	00
8.4.2	Relative quantification of gene expression	00
8.4.3	Relative quantification of different gene modifications (amplification, deletion, rearrangement, translocation)	00
8.5	Melting curve analysis	00
8.6	Quantification of gene modification	00
8.6.1	DNA quantification	00
8.6.2	Gene amplification	00
8.6.3	Gene deletion	00
8.6.4	Gene rearrangement	00
8.6.5	Gene copy number	00
8.7	RNA quantification	00
8.7.1	RNA extraction	00
8.7.2	cDNA preparation	00
8.7.3	Reference gene validation	00
8.7.4	Splice variants and splicing machinery	00
8.7.5	Promoter switch	00
8.8	Allelic discrimination	00
8.9	Chromatin immunoprecipitation	00
8.10	Conclusion	00
	References	00
9	High-resolution melting analysis for scanning and genotyping	00
	<i>Virginie Dujols, Noriko Kusakawa, Jason T. McKinney, Steve F. Dobrowolsky and Carl T. Wittwer</i>	
9.1	Introduction	00
9.2	High-resolution instrumentation	00
9.2.1	The HR-1 instrument	00
9.2.2	The LightScanner instrument	00
9.2.3	The LightCycler 480 instrument	00
9.3	Saturating dyes	00
9.3.1	LCGreen dyes	00
9.4	Mutation scanning	00
9.4.1	PCR protocols for scanning	00
9.4.2	Principles of scanning by melting	00
9.4.3	Software tools for heterozygote identification	00
9.4.4	Scanning for homozygous variants	00
9.5	Amplicon genotyping	00
9.6	Unlabeled probe genotyping	00
9.6.1	PCR protocols for unlabeled probe genotyping	00
9.6.2	Instrumentation for unlabeled probe genotyping	00
9.6.3	Simultaneous genotyping and scanning	00
9.7	Simplification of genotyping and mutation scanning	00
	References	00
10	Quantitative analyses of DNA methylation	00
	<i>Lin Zhou and James (Jianming) Tang</i>	
10.1	Introduction	00
10.2	<i>MDR1 (ABCB1, Gene ID 5243) as a primary target locus</i>	00

10.3	Primer design	00
10.4	Data evaluation: I. Assay-to-assay variability	00
10.5	Data evaluation: II. <i>MDR1</i> CpG methylation as quantified by qPCR	00
10.6	Expanded analyses	00
	References	00
	Protocol 10.1	00
11	Mitochondrial DNA analysis	00
	<i>Steve E. Durham and Patrick F. Chinnery</i>	
11.1	Introduction	00
11.2	Mitochondrial genetics	00
11.2.1	mtDNA mutations	00
11.2.2	mtDNA copy number and heteroplasmy	00
11.2.3	The threshold effect	00
11.2.4	Mutation rate of mtDNA	00
11.2.5	Mitochondrial DNA, aging and disease	00
11.3	Mitochondrial DNA analysis by real-time PCR	00
11.3.1	Detection method	00
11.3.2	Oligonucleotide fluorescent probes	00
11.3.3	DNA binding dyes	00
11.3.4	Considerations when designing a mtDNA real-time assay	00
11.4	Discussion	00
	References	00
12	Real-time immuno-PCR	00
	<i>Kristina Lind and Mikael Kubista</i>	
12.1	Introduction	00
12.1.1	Immunoassays	00
12.1.2	Immuno-PCR	00
12.2	Assemblages for real-time immuno-PCR	00
12.2.1	Attaching capture antibody	00
12.2.2	Labeling detection antibody with DNA	00
12.3	Real-time immuno-PCR details	00
12.3.1	Reaction containers and instruments	00
12.3.2	DNA-label	00
12.3.3	Blocking agents	00
12.3.4	Controls	00
12.3.5	Optimizing concentrations	00
	References	00
	Protocol 12.1	00
13	Clinical microbiology	00
	<i>Burcu Cakilci and Mehmet Gunduz</i>	
13.1	Introduction	00
13.1.1	Importance of detection and quantification in microbiology	00
13.1.2	From traditional methods to real-time PCR in microbiology	00
13.2	Real-time PCR studies in microbiology	00
13.2.1	Basics for microbial quantitation	00
13.2.2	Bacteria	00
13.2.3	Fungi and parasites	00

References	00
Protocol 13.1	00
14 Clinical virology	00
<i>David M. Whiley and Theo P. Sloots</i>	
14.1 Introduction	00
14.2 Qualitative real-time PCR for viral disease	00
14.2.1 Sequence variation and assay performance	00
14.3 Virus typing using sequence-specific probes	00
14.3.1 Hybridization probes	00
14.3.2 Additional comments	00
14.4 Quantification of viral load	00
14.4.1 The use of an internal control in clinical molecular virology	00
14.4.2 Impact of target sequence variation on qPCR	00
14.4.3 Additional comments	00
14.5 Conclusions	00
References	00
Protocol 1	00
Protocol 2	00
Protocol 3	00
Protocol 4	00
15 Solid organ transplant monitoring	00
<i>Omaima M. Sabek</i>	
15.1 Introduction	00
15.2 Real-time quantitative PCR	00
15.3 RNA normalization	00
15.4 Immunologic monitoring in solid organ transplantation	00
15.5 Pharmacogenetics in solid organ transplantation	00
15.6 Cytokine polymorphism analysis	00
15.6.1 Recipient and donor polymorphisms	00
15.6.2 Ethnicity and cytokine gene polymorphism	00
15.7 Viral infection in transplant patients	00
References	00
Protocol 15.1	00
16 Real-time PCR applications in hematology	00
<i>Anne M. Sproul</i>	
16.1 Specimens	00
16.2 Specimen quality	00
16.3 Template preparation	00
16.4 DNA isolation	00
16.5 PCR inhibition	00
16.6 RNA isolation	00
16.7 cDNA synthesis	00
16.8 Relative versus absolute quantitation	00
16.9 Control genes for MRD in leukemia	00
16.10 Controls for real-time PCR	00
16.11 Assay design	00
16.12 Laboratory precautions	00

16.13	PCR reaction set-up	00
16.14	Interpretation and quantitation	00
16.15	Sensitivity	00
16.16	Targets for detecting MRD	00
16.16.1	Fusion transcripts	00
16.16.2	Rearrangements of immunoglobulin/ TCR genes in lymphoid neoplasia	00
	References	00
	Protocol 1	00
	Protocol 2	00
17	Real-time PCR for prenatal diagnosis of monogenic diseases caused by single nucleotide changes	00
	The example of the hemoglobinopathies	
	<i>Joanne Traeger-Synodinos, Christina Vrettou and Emmanuel Kanavakis</i>	
17.1	Introduction to prenatal diagnosis (PND) in clinical genetics	00
17.2	Classic mutation detection methods for prenatal diagnosis of monogenic diseases and best practice guidelines	00
17.2.1	Classic mutation detection methods	00
17.2.2	Best practice guidelines for prenatal diagnosis	00
17.3	Sources of fetal samples for prenatal diagnosis	00
17.4	Real-time PCR protocols for PND and PGD applied to the hemoglobinopathies background and design of protocols	00
17.4.1	Real-time PCR and allele discrimination using the LightCycler™ (system 1.0 or 1.5)	00
17.4.2	Molecular basis of β -hemoglobinopathies	00
17.4.3	Principles behind design of LightCycler™ probe sets and assays in the β -globin gene (appropriate for Systems 1.0 and 1.5)	00
17.4.4	Additional considerations in design of single-cell genotyping for PGD using real-time PCR	00
17.4.5	Potential advantages of real-time PCR protocols for PND and PGD	00
	References	00
	Protocols for preparing fetal DNA samples	00