**Supplementary Files:**

**Supplemental Figure 1: Gene transcripts identified and their overlap using the Illumina and Nugen library preparation kits. Two saliva samples were analyzed. While there is a substantial overlap in gene detection, Illumina identified more gene targets.**

![Chart

Description automatically generated]()

**Supplemental Figure 2: A schematic of the methodology to assess varying library preparation kits (a) and varying alignment software (b) to improve performance of saliva samples on the RNASeq platform.**

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