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Selected articles made freely available, including helpful slides and key points for discussion in your Journal Club. The link below provides free access to both the article and Journal Club content.

Multiplexed Elimination of Wild-Type DNA and High-Resolution Melting Prior to Targeted Resequencing of Liquid Biopsies Ioannis Ladas, Mariana Fitarelli-Kiehl, Chen Song, Viktor A. Adalsteinsson, Heather A. Parsons, Nancy U. Lin, Nikhil Wagle, G. Mike Makrigiorgos
www.clinchem.org/content/63/10/1605

PEARLS OF LABORATORY MEDICINE

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Kevin Dumas
Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
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ON THE COVER Mother and fetal nucleic acids. In the past decade, cell-free nucleic acids have drawn attention for their potential in noninvasive diagnosis, especially cancer detection and prenatal testing. Cell-free DNA (cfDNA)-based noninvasive prenatal testing has

been used widely for the screening of fetal aneuploidy. While cfDNA can reveal static genetic information about the fetus, cell-free RNA (cfRNA) can reflect the dynamic changes of different tissues during pregnancy in both the mother and the fetus. However, cfRNA can be highly degraded and present in low concentrations, making it challenging to prepare useful sequencing libraries from cfRNA. This issue of *Clinical Chemistry* contains an article describing the systematic assessment of different RNA-sequencing library preparation methods for cfRNA samples, plus a new approach for simultaneously monitoring of immune response and microbial infections during pregnancy through plasma cfRNA sequencing. (See pages 1669 and 1695.) Reproduced with permission from Stephan Schmitz Illustration.



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