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Dear Helen

Thank you for the invitation to review your report on mutation scanning by high resolution melt (HRM).

HRM is an exciting new tool that we firmly believe has great utility. However, as often happens with even the best new technology, there is a lag period before widespread acceptance. An independent and unbiased evaluation such as yours can speed introduction and acceptance by presenting real-world data free of marketing hype.

We found your report well constructed and very detailed. Perhaps the most important aspect is the inclusion of all the original data. This is a resource that scientists rarely get access to, and it underlines the openness and unbiased nature of the manuscript.

We are pleased with the effectiveness of the Rotor-Gene in this study. The extreme optical and thermal uniformity afforded by its unique rotary design makes it ideally suited to challenging applications like HRM. We have every confidence in its performance and capabilities.

One aspect that emerged from your report is the utility of real-time amplification data in HRM analysis. We have found that real-time amplification plots (curves) that appear abnormal or have a  $C_T$  (threshold cycle)  $>30$  cycles typically result in variable HRM results. Your data also supports this. Examining real-time data prior to HRM is thus a great way to quality control samples for inhibitors, chemistry issues or just too little starting material. The fact that real-time amplification and HRM analysis can be run consecutively in the Rotor-Gene is convenient.

Corbett Life Science has a strong commitment to HRM technology and we look forward to further advances in this exciting new arena. Feedback, like that provided by your report, leads directly to further development and improvement from us.

On behalf of Corbett Life Science I would like to thank you for sharing your HRM experience freely with the wider scientific community.



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