

Reviewer's report

Title: Optimization of DNA Extraction Kits for PCR-DGGE Analysis of Human Intestinal Microbial Communities from Fecal Specimens

Version: 1 **Date:** 2 July 2009

Reviewer: Alexander Haslberger

Reviewer's report:

For the molecular analysis of GI microbial communities the extraction of DNA from samples is a crucial step.

In this study, the relative efficacy of commercial DNA extraction was compared and optimized .

The objectives of the study are clear, well defined and of really acute relevance.

The methods are clear and the data reliable, really useful.

The writing is certainly good.

Minor comments, Minor Revisions

p 2, l 23 The conclusions do not really reflect the objectives and results of the study.

P 4, l 2 Does this conclusion (and only the 2 citations) really summarize the present state? Please expand slightly

P9, l16 Is there any explanation for this?

P15, l3 systems

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests