

# MRC Holland Support

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## Getting started with digitalMLPA

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### Note

This article is about digitalMLPA. For information about conventional MLPA, see [this article](#).

This article is intended to help you get started with your first digitalMLPA™ experiments. The sections below contain an overview of the most important resources, and offer a suggested reading order.

## Step 1: Understanding digitalMLPA

Watch the first short video below for an overview of the digitalMLPA technique and its advantages. Watch the second video below to get familiar with the technical principle of digitalMLPA, or read [this textual explanation](#) instead. For a more in-depth look into the technique and its advantages, you can also watch the on-demand webinar [digitalMLPA: Where MLPA Meets NGS](#) (25 min).



## Step 2: Experimental setup

Make sure to review the [digitalMLPA General Protocol](#) in detail before starting. The protocol contains important information about things like validation, sample selection, instrument settings and critical experimental steps. It is very important to

follow the protocol exactly, as deviations may lead to unreliable results.

The protocol also contains a list of everything that you need to set up a digitalMLPA experiment. This includes things like a thermocycler with a heated lid, a [supported Illumina sequencer](#), ultrapure water and standard laboratory consumables.

## Step 3: Data analysis software

Correct data analysis is a critical step in any experiment, but especially so for the wealth of data produced by a single digitalMLPA experiment. Our free digitalMLPA analysis software, Coffalyser digitalMLPA™, has been designed specifically for digitalMLPA, and helps you get the most out of your data. For a general overview of the software, see [this web page](#). [Download Coffalyser digitalMLPA here](#).

Read the [user manual](#) for help setting up your first experiment. If you want to get an idea of the software and the output it generates, you can analyse one of our [data demo sets](#).

## Step 4: Quality control

Proper assessment of the quality of your data is critical for reliable results. Coffalyser digitalMLPA performs a large number of quality checks automatically. Many of these checks are based on the quality control probes that are present in every digitalMLPA probemix, which can help detect all kinds of experimental issues. The [digitalMLPA General Protocol](#) contains more information about the quality control probes in digitalMLPA probemixes.

## Step 5: Result interpretation

If the data passed the quality checks in Coffalyser digitalMLPA, you can continue with the interpretation of the results. Coffalyser digitalMLPA indicates which probes were found to have ratios different from the reference sample population. Read the [user manual](#) for more information about this.

## More information

You can search or browse our [help centre](#) for answers to frequently asked questions.

If you prefer to learn in a more classical setting, you can consider attending one of (virtual) workshops or webinars. More information about the contents and schedule of our workshops is available in our [events overview](#).

## Stay in touch

You are always welcome to [contact us](#). Although we cannot help you with a clinical interpretation of your results, our technical support team is always happy to help you with troubleshooting, and to answer any other questions that you may have.

We also recommend registering for an [MRC Holland account](#) on our website. This account enables you to:

- Obtain your free copy of Coffalyser digitalMLPA and our other data analysis software.
- Add products to your favourites, and subscribe to notifications about important changes to your favourite products or their product documentation.
- Manage your subscription to our general newsletter.
- View a history of your conversations with our support department.

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#### Related Pages

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- [Video: What is SALSA digitalMLPA?](#)

#### Disclaimer

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*The information provided in this material is correct for the majority of our products. However, for certain applications, the instructions for use may differ. In the event of conflicting information, the relevant instructions for use take precedence.*