



Supplementary Materials: Automated Pre-Analytic Processing of Whole Saliva Using Magnet-Beating for Point-of-Care Protein Biomarker Analysis

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Figure S1. Standard curves from the ELISA measurements of the three salivary biomarkers MMP-8 (a), MMP-9 (b), and TIMP-1 (c). The standard curves follow a logistic 4-parameter fit of the form $y = A2 + (A1 - A2)/(1 + (x/X0)^p)$.

Table S1. Screening design for the Design of Experiments (DoE) in Minitab.

RunOrder	Beads (Yes/No)	Volume (µL)	Frequency (Hz)	Duration (min)	Viscosity (mPa∙s)	Total Protein Concentration (mg/mL)
1	YES	300	10	2.5	8.3	1.9
2	YES	200	5	4	6.4	2.2
3	YES	200	15	2.5	6.9	1.8
4	NO	200	10	1	7.2	2.2
5	YES	200	5	1	9.1	2.0
6	NO	300	10	2.5	6.0	2.8
7	YES	300	15	1	7.5	Error in System
8	NO	300	5	4	6.9	2.2
9	YES	400	10	4	4.9	2.3
10	YES	400	5	1	6.1	2.3
11	NO	400	5	2.5	5.5	2.5
12	NO	200	15	4	12.3	2.6
13	NO	400	15	4	4.5	2.7
14	NO	400	15	1	5.6	2.7



Figure S2. Measurement of the volume of freshly collected saliva samples by weighing the pipetted amount of whole saliva. Three different samples were provided by voluntary donors. All samples were pipetted 5 times. The deviation of the pipetted from the expected volume is shown in the left Y-axis. The variation of the repeated pipetting is shown as a CV in the right Y-axis. Water was used as a reference.

Table S2. Total protein concentration measured with the BCA assay. The same samples were treated either with magnet-beating or with the reference method and the derived total protein concentration was compared to the total protein concentration of the untreated whole saliva samples.

Total Protein Concentration [mg/mL] Measured with BCA Assay							
Sample	Whole Saliva	Magnet-beating	Reference Method				
1	3.88	4.26	3.32				
2	3.35	5.14	3.47				
3	2.20	2.40	2.30				
4	3.22	3.93	4.18				



Figure S3. Batch-mode mixing (DOI: 10.1039/B418253G) was conducted on disk after the magnetbeating. Three whole saliva samples (fresh, treated with magnet-beating, and treated with the reference method) were mixed with distilled water (1:10) on disk in a total volume of 70 μ L. After the mixing on disk (with min/max –10/10 Hz, acceleration 40 Hz/s) for 1 min, three representative samples of 5 μ L were pipetted out of the mixing chamber from three different positions (see red numbers). The total protein concentration was evaluated using a BCA assay to gain information on the homogeneity of the mixing. The CV of the total protein concentration between the three representative samples within one mixing chamber is shown and is approximately 3× lower for the treated than the untreated whole saliva. As a reference, vortex mixing of untreated whole saliva in a tube was used (dashed line), where consequently also three different positions in the tube were tested after mixing.



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