

## **MAXWELL® FSC INSTRUMENT: THE ADVANCEMENT OF PERSONAL AUTOMATION**

Mary Dressler, Cristopher Cowan, Ph.D., Anupama Gopalakrishnan, Ph.D.

Promega Corporation, 2800 Woods Hollow Rd, Madison, WI, 53711

DNA extraction is an integral part of casework sample processing workflow. This study describes the development of the Maxwell® FSC (forensic sample concentrator) instrument for extraction of high purity DNA from a variety of casework samples using the DNA IQ chemistry. The extracted DNA will be compatible with downstream applications such as quantification and STR analysis.

The Maxwell® FSC instrument is controlled by a graphical user interface running on a touchscreen tablet PC, it has an improved user experience, sample tracking and reporting capabilities relative to the currently available Maxwell® 16 instruments. A bar code reader will be included with the instrument while Promega's Quantus™ Fluorometer can be used as an optional accessory for quantitation of samples using a fluorescent intercalating dye-based chemistry. Data is presented to show comparable performance of the DNA IQ chemistry processed on the Maxwell® FSC to other Maxwell® 16 instruments based on yield using buccal swabs and whole blood as samples.

**Key Words:** DNA IQ, casework, sample tracking,