

Appendix A. Description of DNA extraction method.

Briefly, we removed the tip of the swab using a sterile blade and placed in a sterile Eppendorf. We then added 60 μ l of PrepMan Ultra (Applied Biosystems) with 30 to 40 mg of 0.5 mm zirconium/silica beads (Biospec Products). We homogenised the sample for 45 seconds in a TissueLyser 2 (Qiagen, Ltd.). After briefly centrifuging (2 min at 4000 rpm in a benchtop centrifuge) to settle all material to the bottom of the tube, we repeated the homogenisation and centrifugation steps. We then placed the homogenised sample in a 100 °C water bath for 10 min, cooled for 2 min, then centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 3 min. We recovered as much supernatant as possible and stored it at -20 °C until ready to be analysed.