

Sequencer ABI 3100 Care and Feeding:

Sequencer should be cleaned, once a week during heavy use or every 2-3 weeks if rarely used. For cleaning, boil water and go to the data collection software. Open tools/refill polymer. It will lead you through the whole thing.

Remember. Don't give the machine too much to think about at one time. It freezes.

Make sure there are extra stocks of canned air for drying and running buffer.

Make sure there are spare syringes and syringe tips.

Capillary arrays are replaced every 2-300 runs. Look to see if peaks are getting especially broad and sequences shorter.

Capillary arrays come in two sizes. Short ones are for size fragments, long ones for sequencing.

Sequencer uses 50-80 μl per run. 1 run is 16 samples.
This means the 3100 uses 300-480 μl per 96 well plate.

Buffer can be exchanged every 3-4 plates.

One run, 16 samples, requires approximately 2 1/2 hours. That makes 7 1/2 hours for 48 samples and 15 hours for a whole plate.