



**Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities
Metabolomics Research Group (MRG)
Inter-Laboratory Experiment Announcement**

[PLEASE CIRCULATE]

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the first ABRF Metabolomics inter-laboratory experiment, a 'round robin' experiment organized by the ABRF Metabolomics Research Group.

Samples consist of two groups of normal human plasma with spiked in compounds. There will be three samples, or biological replicates in each group (n = 3 design). Compounds are spiked at different levels, thus differentiating the two groups. Reporting endpoints will be (1) masses or chemical shift of each unknown (2) chemical identity of each unknown (3) relative fold-change between the two groups with statistics. The study should be compatible with many methodological approaches in metabolomics, including, but not limited to: LC/MS, GC/MS, NMR, as well as other methods. Participants are expected to use their preferred analytical approaches; as with any metabolomics profiling experiment, the most comprehensive results would be expected using a combination of approaches. The design reflects issues encountered in an actual metabolomics experiment conducted with human or animal specimens. The experiment is in the spirit of other ABRF Research Group studies, such as those conducted in proteomics; all results produced by the participants will be anonymous; results will not be associated with a particular laboratory or institution. After the study closes, the results from all laboratories will be compiled and reported during the MRG session at the ABRF2011 conference (<http://abrf2011.abrf.org>). At that time, the identity and relative concentrations of spiked-in compounds will also be revealed.

It is anticipated that lyophilized samples will be sent out in November 2010, with a deadline for analysis as yet to be determined. As materials are limited, it will be necessary for each participant requesting samples to commit to performing the analysis and completing the results survey.

IMPORTANT: Those interested in participating in the study should email William Wikoff: wrwikoff@ucdavis.edu, with subject: "ABRF metabolomics study", along with your name, contact information, and name of the lab PI. Please forward this notice to any individual or laboratory that may have an interest in participating.

Sincerely,

William R. Wikoff, PhD

ABRF Metabolomics Research Group committee chair, *UC Davis Genome Center*, and the

ABRF metabolomics Research Group committee

Dr. Pavel Aronov - *Stanford University*

Dr. John M Asara - *Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center*

Dr. Brenda Kesler - *Thermo Fisher Scientific*

Dr Thomas M. O'Connell - *University of North Carolina*

Prof. Vladimir Shulaev - *Virginia Bioinformatics Institute*

Dr. Vladimir V. Tolstikov - *UC Davis Genome Center*

Chris W Turck (EB Liaison) - *Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry*

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