



# ABP Steroidal Module in blood

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# A step forward...

## URINE DRAWBACKS

### Confounding factors

#### ENDOGENOUS

UGT2B17  
polymorphism

#### EXOGENOUS

Bacterial contamination  
Ethanol consumption

### GC-MS Sensitivity

### T patch & gel administration

T. Kuuranne et al.

*Confounding factors and genetic polymorphism in the evaluation of individual steroid profiling.*

Br. J. Sports Med. (2014) 48(10):848-55

## BLOOD MATRIX

- Not easy to manipulate
- Reduced bacterial contamination
- Snapshot of athletes' physiological condition
- Accurate pharmacokinetics information
- Trend in clinical analyses (evaluation/expertise)
- 1 Sample -> 2 ABP modules

- Few data in doping context
- Invasive sampling (ethics)
- Sample stability (48h)
- Transportation strategy
- Small sample volume (4mL)



# Blood Steroid Profiling – Target Compounds

## UHPLC-MS/MS

Acquity BEH C<sub>18</sub> 100 x 2,1 mm , ID 1.7 μm

Flow rate 400 μL/min

Temperature 30°C

Inj. volume 10 μL

Phase A H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% FA

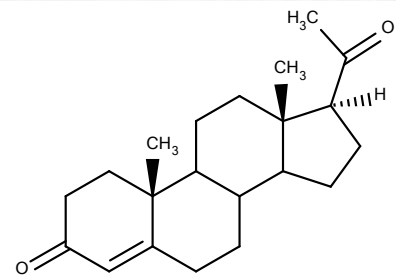
Phase B ACN + 0.1% FA

Gradient 0.5 min 25% B

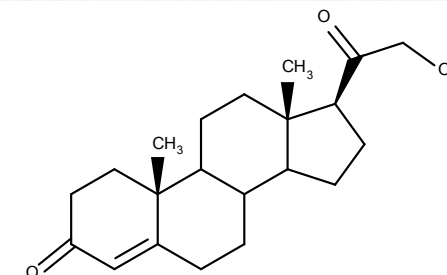
6 min 58% B

8 min 98% B

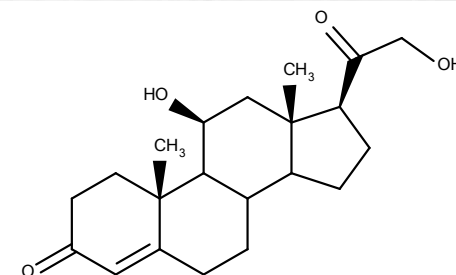
Total Run Time 11 min



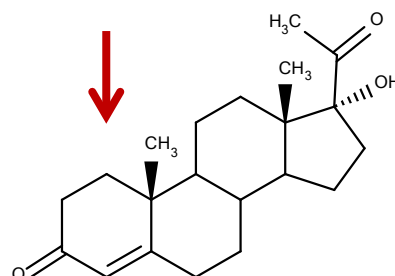
Progesterone



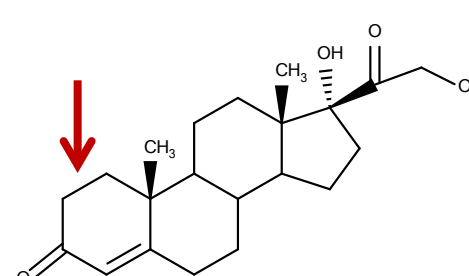
Deoxycorticosterone



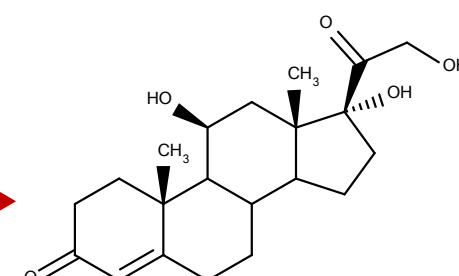
Corticosterone



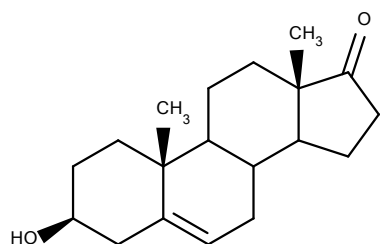
17α-Hydroxyprogesterone



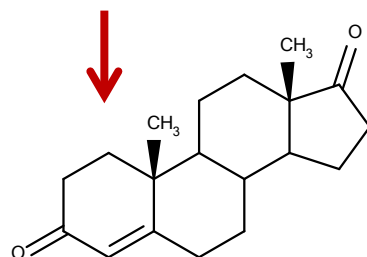
11-Deoxycortisol



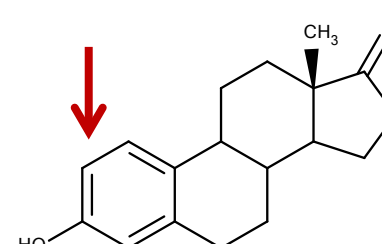
Cortisol



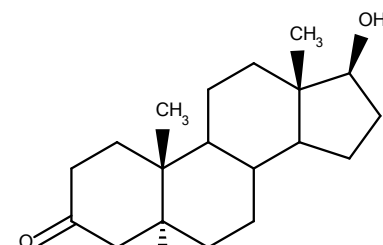
DHEA



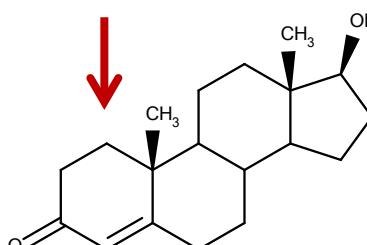
Androstenedione



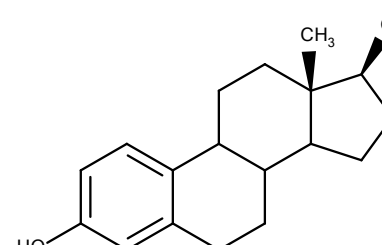
Estrone



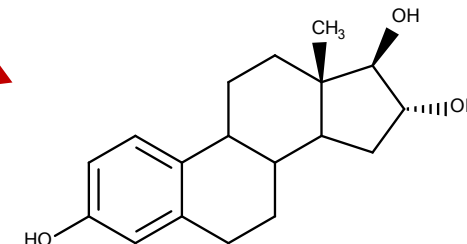
DHT



Testosterone



Estradiol



Estriol

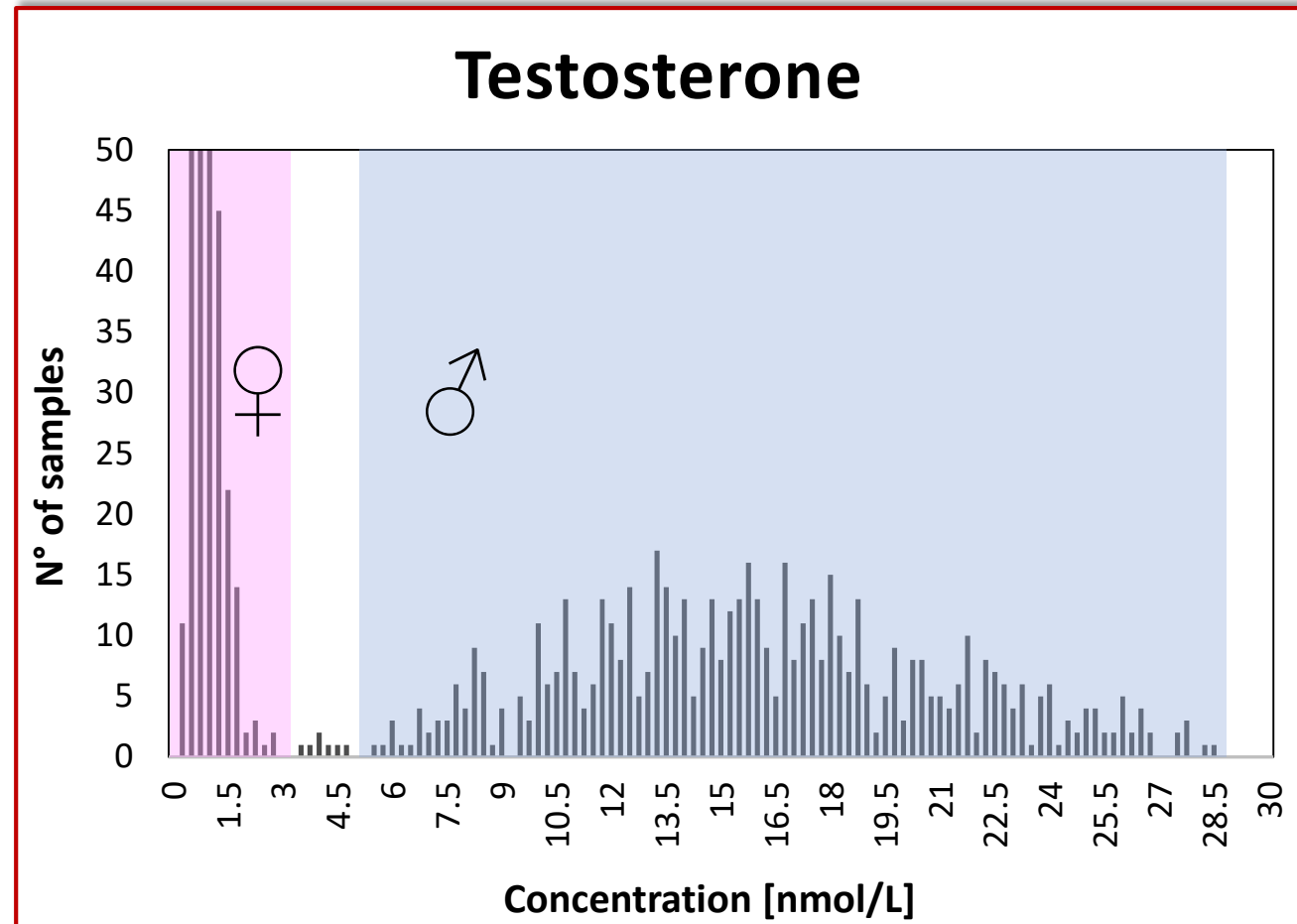


# Reference Intervals

COMPOUND	LLOQ (nmo/L)	REFERENCE INTERVAL (nmol/L)	
Testosterone	0.07	6.67 – 30.53	♂
		0.26 – 1.80	♀
Androstenedione	0.17	1.08 – 6.36	
Progesterone	0.05	0.05 – 0.32	♂
		0.06 – 39.59	♀
17αOH-progesterone	0.30	0.34 – 7.71	
DHEA	1.73	3.04 – 22.41	
DHT	0.17	0.46 – 2.76	♂
		n.d. – 0.92	♀
Corticosterone	0.29	0.85 – 38.47	
Cortisol	2.76	64.82 – 696.69	
11-deoxycortisol	0.07	n.d. – 2.20	

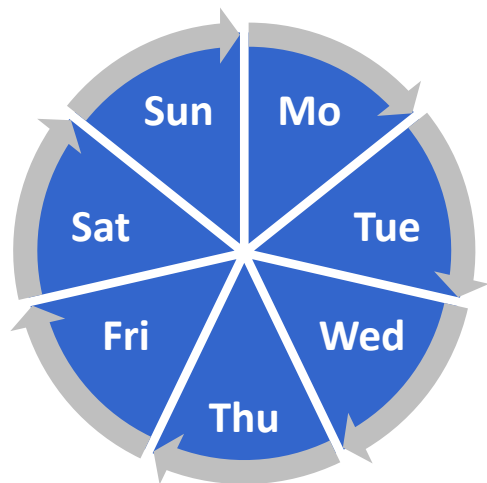


**1879 Elite Athletes**  
(1056 M, 824 F)



# Testosterone Clinical Study

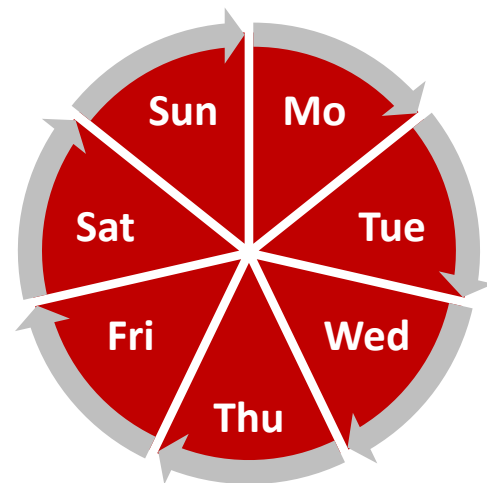
Population: 19 healthy men (UGT2B17: 7 ins/ins, 7 ins/del, 5 del/del)



**CONTROL**



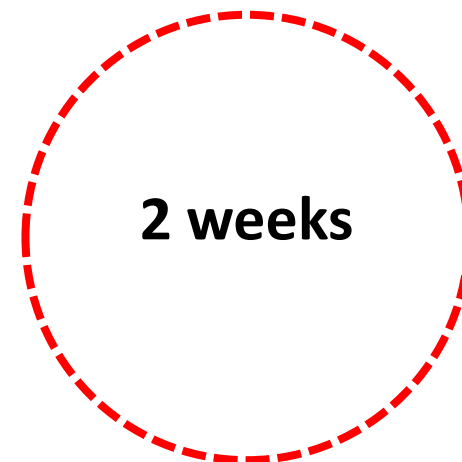
0h, 2h, 4h, 8h, 12h  
24h




**PATCH**




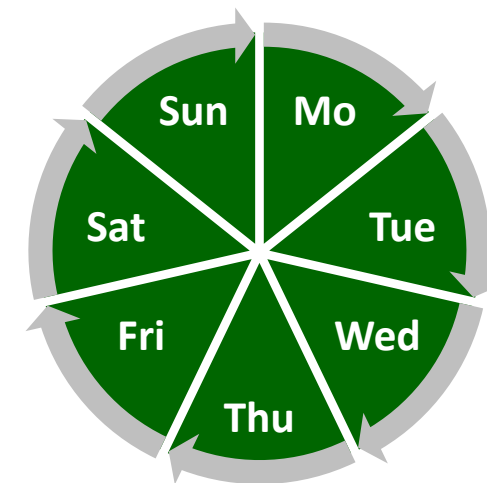
0h, 2h, 4h, 8h, 12h  
24h  
48h, 60h  
72h  
96h



**WASH OUT**

 = 2 x 2.4mg/24h T

 = 2 x 40mg TU



**ORAL**



 0h, 2h, 4h, 8h, 12h  
24h

 48h, 60h  
72h  
96h

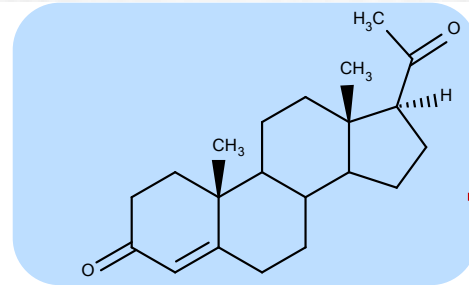


# Multivariate Statistical Analysis

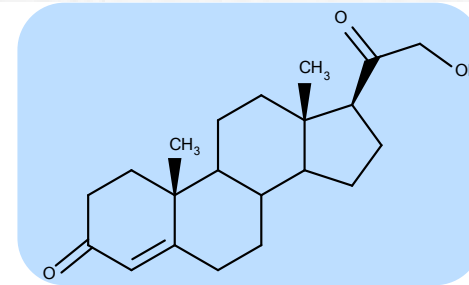
**Parallel Factor  
Analysis (PARAFAC)**

**Circadian Rhythm**

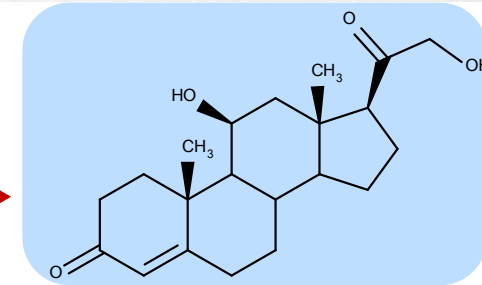
**Testosterone Intake**



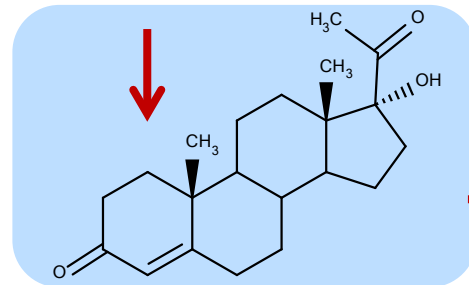
**Progesterone**



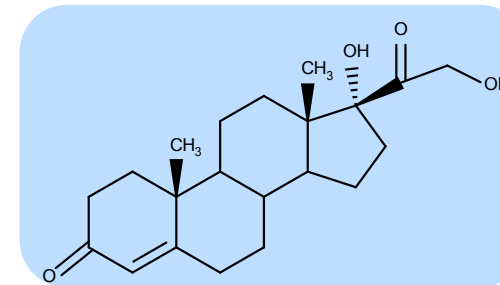
**Deoxycorticosterone**



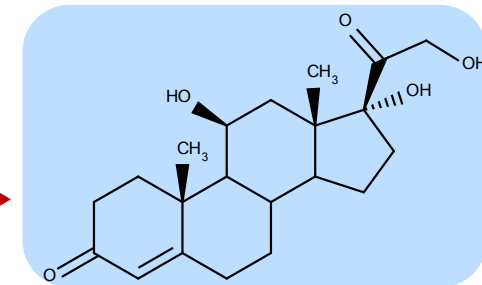
**Corticosterone**



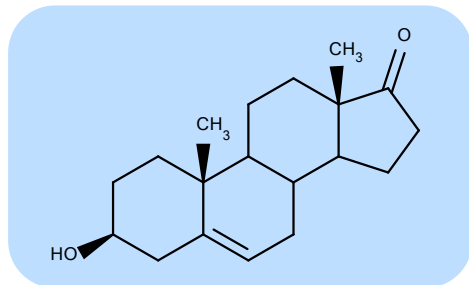
**17α-Hydroxyprogesterone**



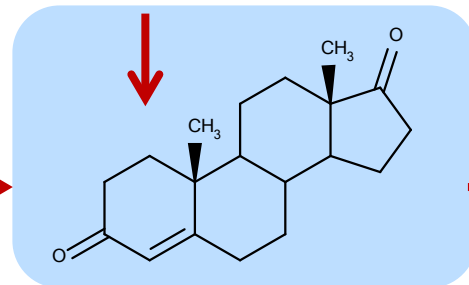
**11-Deoxycortisol**



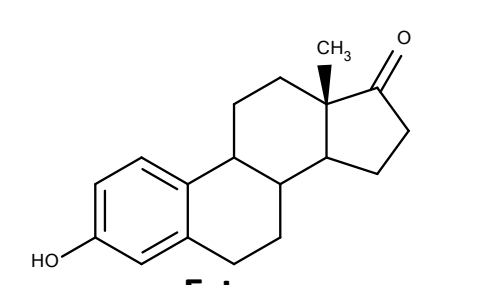
**Cortisol**



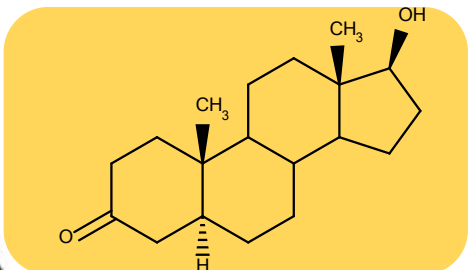
**DHEA**



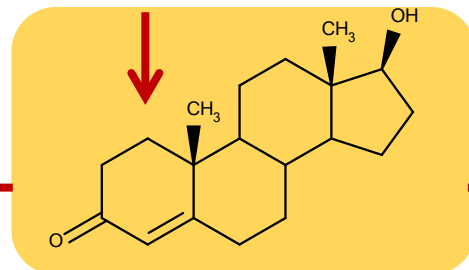
**Androstenedione**



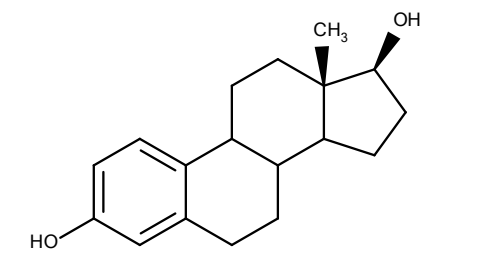
**Estrone**



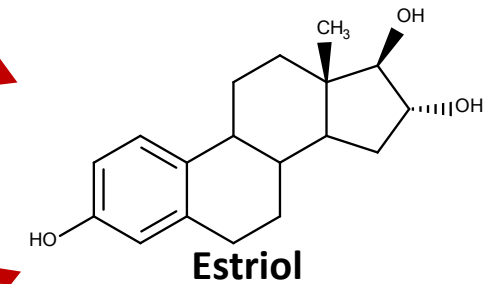
**DHT**



**Testosterone**



**Estradiol**



**Estriol**

*Unil*

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REDs - Research & Expertise  
in antiDoping sciences

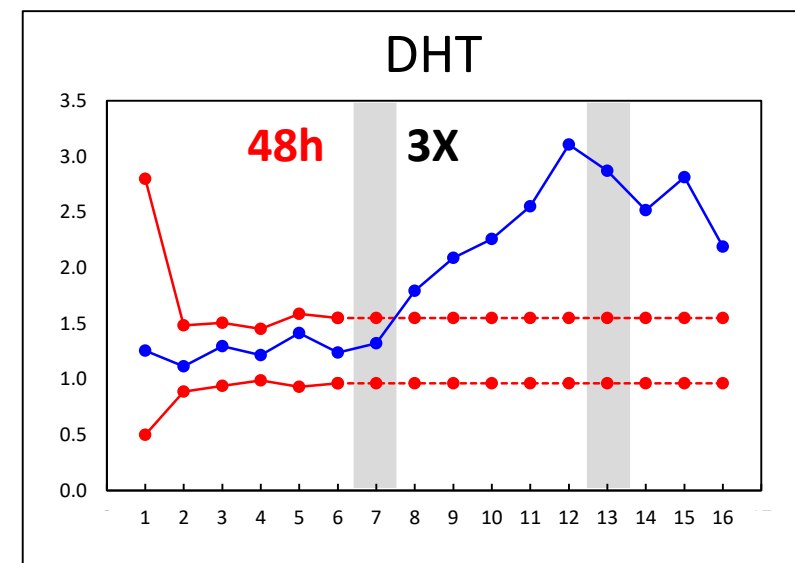
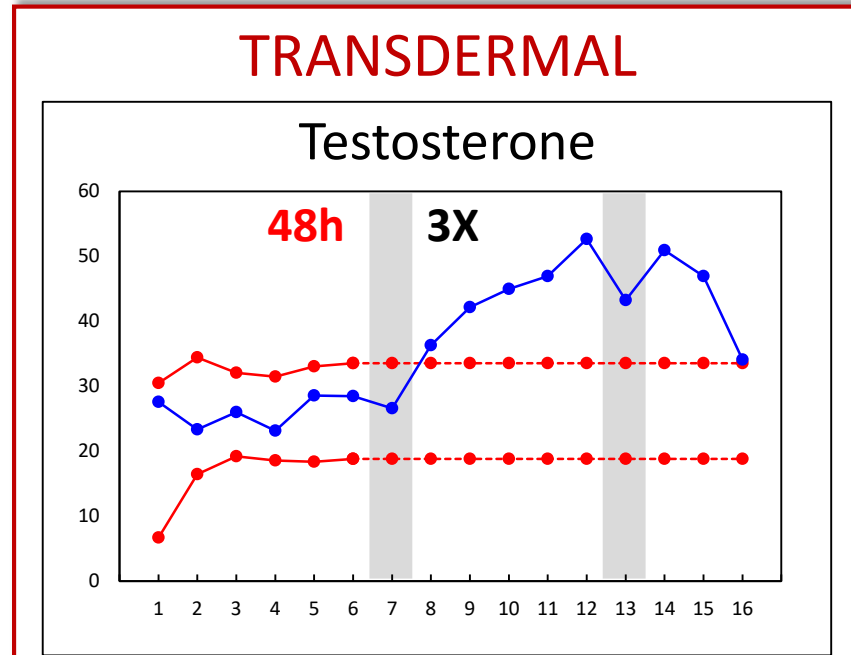
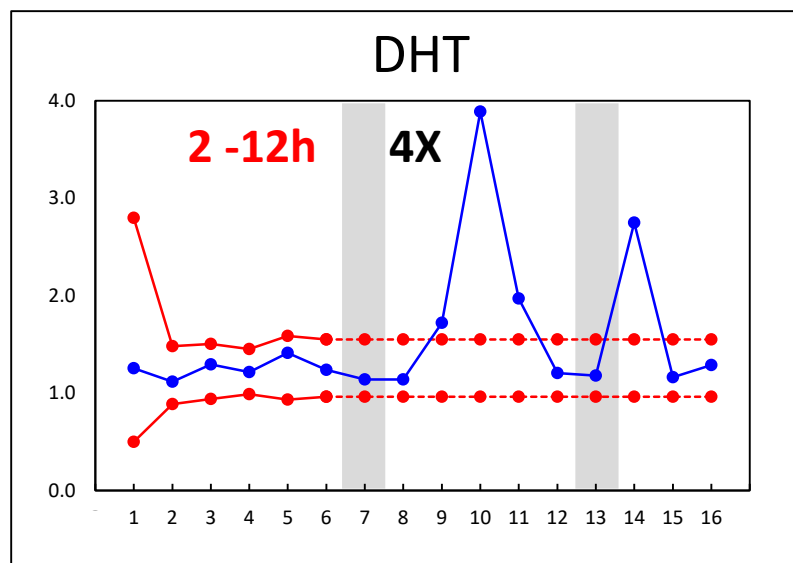
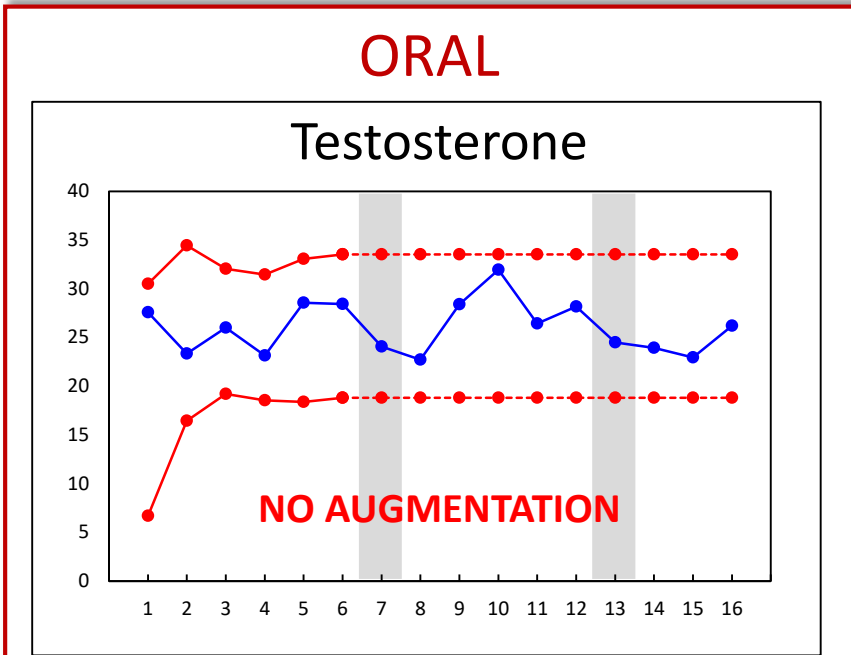


# Longitudinal Monitoring

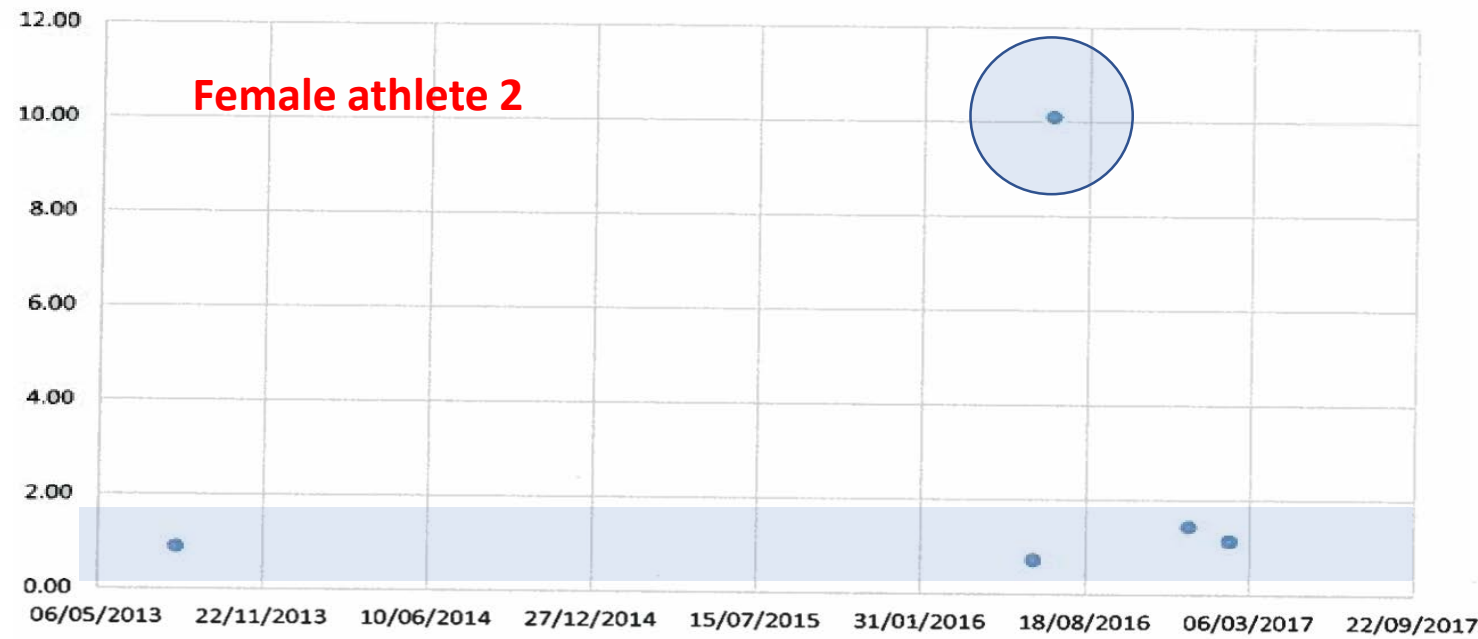
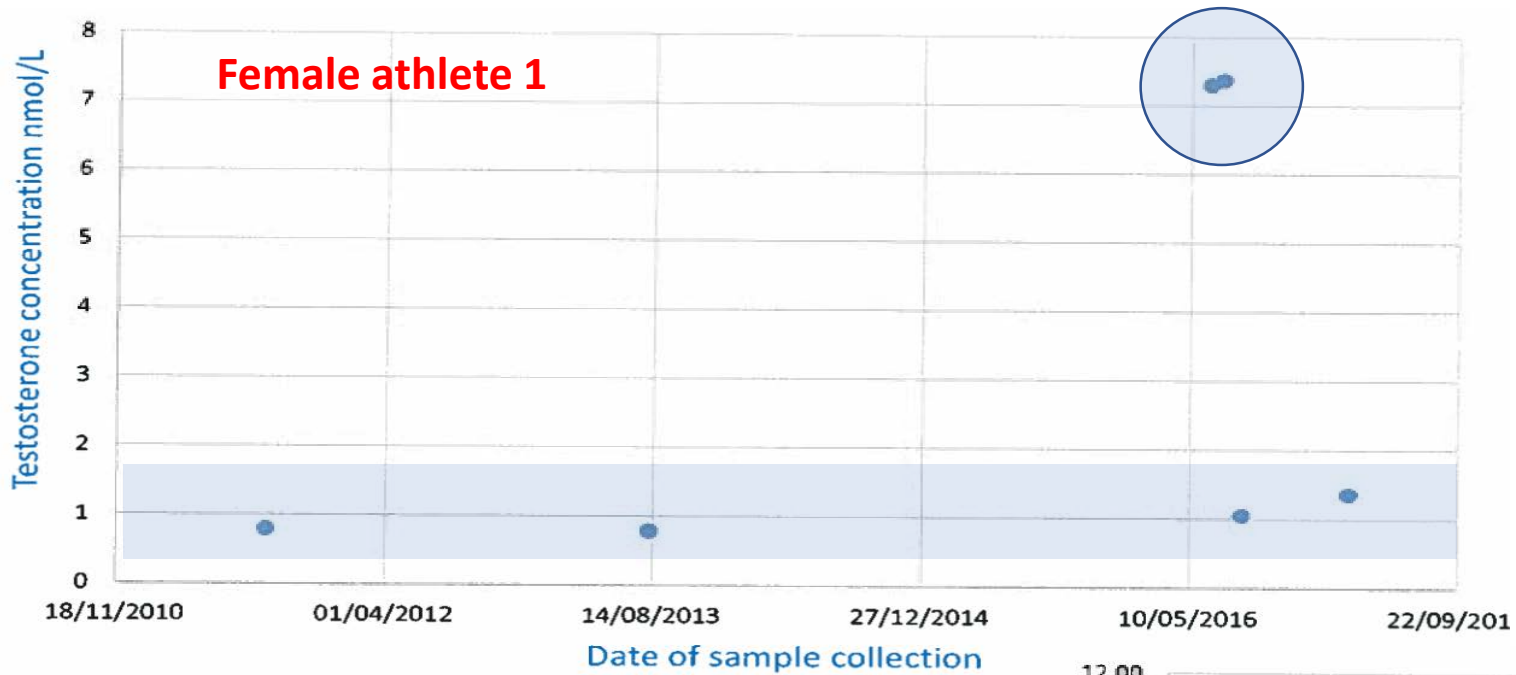
ins/ins  
ins/del  
del/del

F. Ponzetto et al.  
Longitudinal monitoring of endogenous  
steroids in human serum by UHPLC-  
MS/MS as a tool to detect testosterone  
abuse in sports.  
Anal. Bioanal. Chem. (2016), 408 (3):705-719

T intake



# 2 case reports



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REDs - Research & Expertise  
in antiDoping sciences



# Untargeted Approach - Steroidomics

## Sample Preparation

SPE

OASIS HLB  
(Waters)



**Loading** 200  $\mu$ L serum + 200  $\mu$ L  $H_3PO_4$  4%

**Washing** 400  $\mu$ L  $H_2O/MeOH$  95/5 (v/v)  
+ 0.1%  $NH_4OH$

**Elution** 50  $\mu$ L DCM

**Reconstitution** 50  $\mu$ L  $MeOH/H_2O$   
90/10 (v/v)

## UHPLC-HRMS

Kinetex  $C_{18}$  150 x 2,1 mm, ID 1.7  $\mu$ m

**Flow rate** 300  $\mu$ L/min

**Temperature** 30°C

**Inj. volume** 10  $\mu$ L

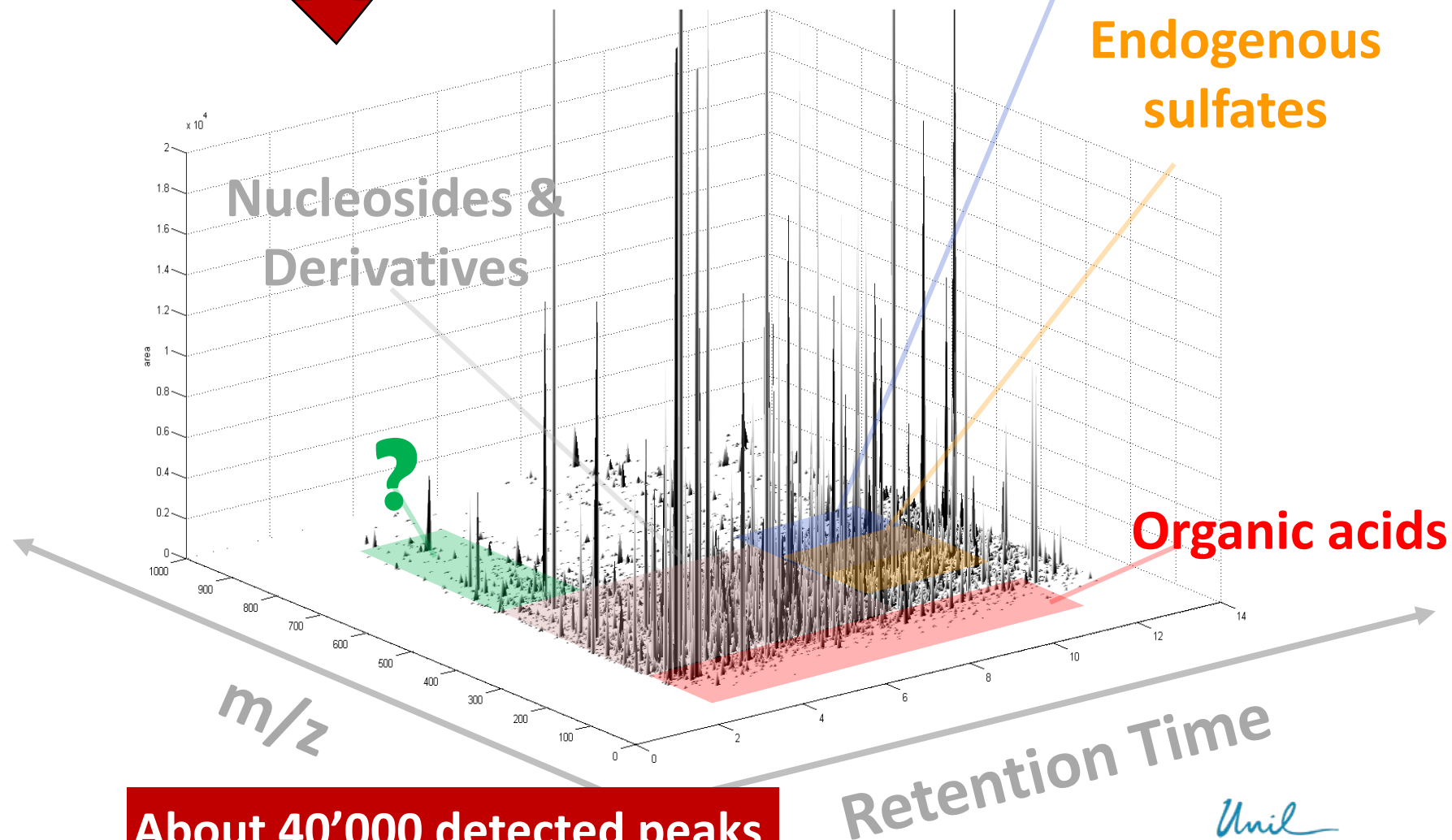
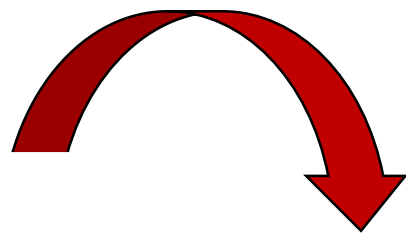
**Phase A**  $H_2O$  + 0.1% FA

**Phase B** ACN + 0.1% FA

**Gradient** 0.5 min 25% B

16.8 min 95% B

**Total Run Time** 27 min



About 40'000 detected peaks



# Focus on Steroid Compartment

## FILTRATION

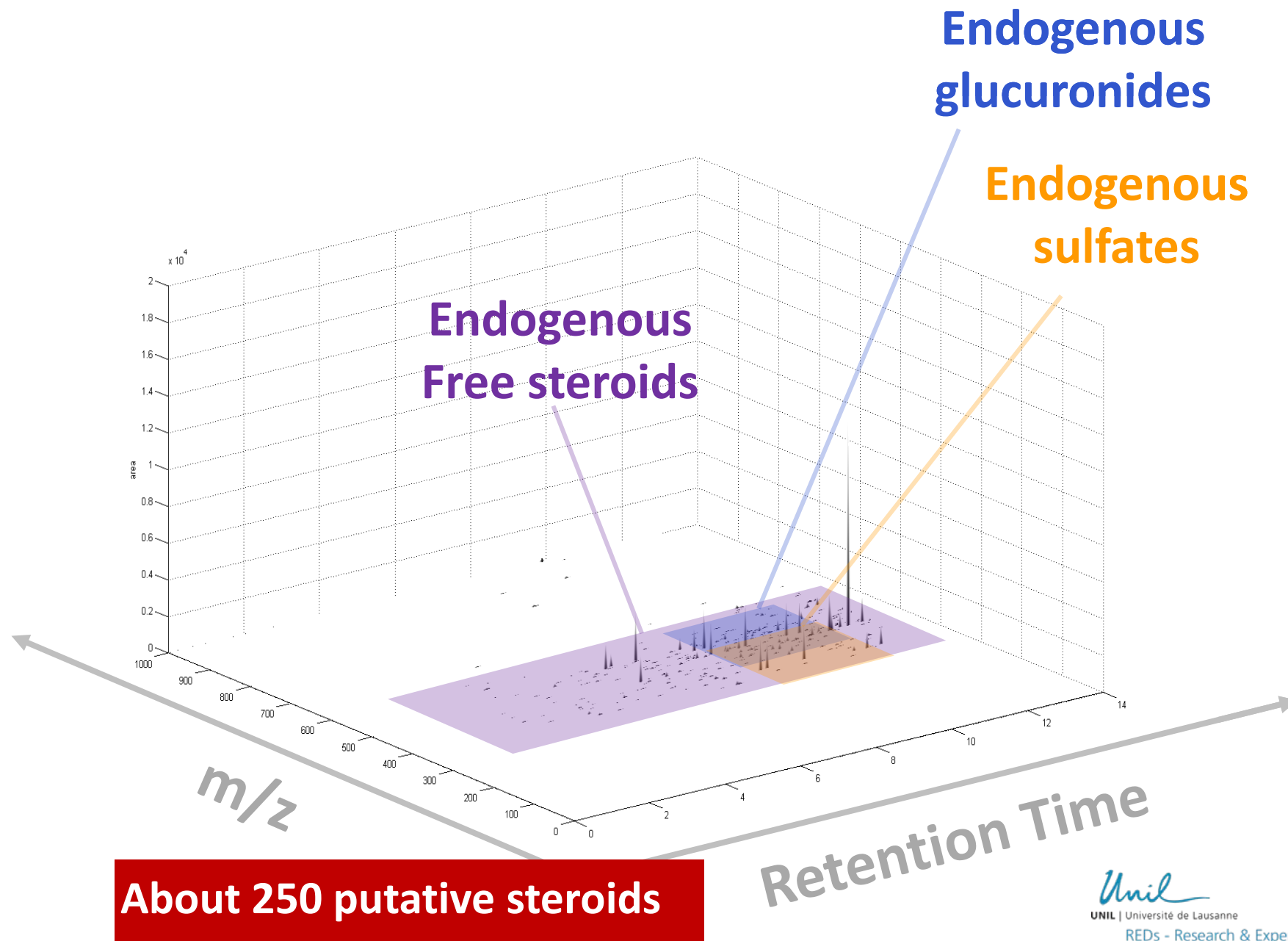
In-house Database  
(130 steroidal compounds)

Online Database



(Ret. Time prediction)

Literature  
Scientific Knowledge



About 250 putative steroids



# Biomarkers

Feature	m/z	rT	Molecular formula	Annotation Level	Adduct	ID	Rank
<b>Phase II metabolites</b> increase more than <b>Free steroids</b>				1	[M-H]-	<b>Androsterone Gluc</b>	1
				3	[M-H]-	Hydroxyandrosterone/Hydroxyetiocholanolone Gluc isomer	2
				3	[M-H]-	Hydroxyandrosterone/Hydroxyetiocholanolone Gluc isomer	3
				3	[M-H]-	Hydroxyandrostenedione Gluc isomer	4
				1	[M-H]-	<b>Etiocholanolone Gluc</b>	5
				3	[M-H]-	Hydroxyestradiol Gluc isomer	6
				1	[M-H]-	<b>5(a/b)-Androstan-3a,17b-diol-17-Gluc*</b>	7
N39	479.2295	6.15	C25H36O9	3	[M-H]-	Hydroxytestosterone/HydroxyDHEA Gluc isomer	8
N61	477.2126	6.67	C25H34O9	2	[M-H]-	Hydroxyandrostenedione Gluc isomer	9
N77					[M-H]-	<b>Testosterone Gluc</b>	
N28					[M-H]-	Hydroxytestosterone/HydroxyDHEA	
N62					[M-H]-	Hydroxyandrosterone/Hydroxyetioch	
N66					[M-H]-	Hydroxytestosterone/HydroxyDHEA	
N58					[M-H]-	Hydroxyandrostenedione Sulf isomer	
N74					[M-H]-	11-Ketoetiocholanolone Gluc	
N123	369.1745	8.57	C19H26O5S	1	[M-H]-	<b>Androsterone/Etiocholanolone Sulf*</b>	16
N111	463.2339	7.86	C25H36O8	3	[M-H]-	Androstenedione Gluc isomer	17
<b>Urinary Steroidal Markers</b> also increasing in blood				3	[M-H]-	17b-hydroxy-5b-estran-3-one Gluc	18
				3	[M-H]-	Hydroxytestosterone/HydroxyDHEA Gluc isomer	19
				3	[M-H]-	Hydroxyandrostenedione Sulf isomer	20
				3	[M-H]-	11b,20-Dihydroxy-3-oxopregn-4-en-21-oic acid Sulf	21
				1	[M-H]-	<b>Epiandrosterone Sulf</b>	22
				3	[M-H]-	11b,20-Dihydroxy-3-oxopregn-4-en-21-oic acid Sulf	23
				3	[M-H]-	Tetrahydrocortisol Gluc isomer	24
N50	385.1696	6.45	C19H30O6S	3	[M-H]-	Hydroxyandrosterone/Hydroxyetiocholanolone Sulf isomer	25

**Glucuronides**

increase more than  
**Sulfates**

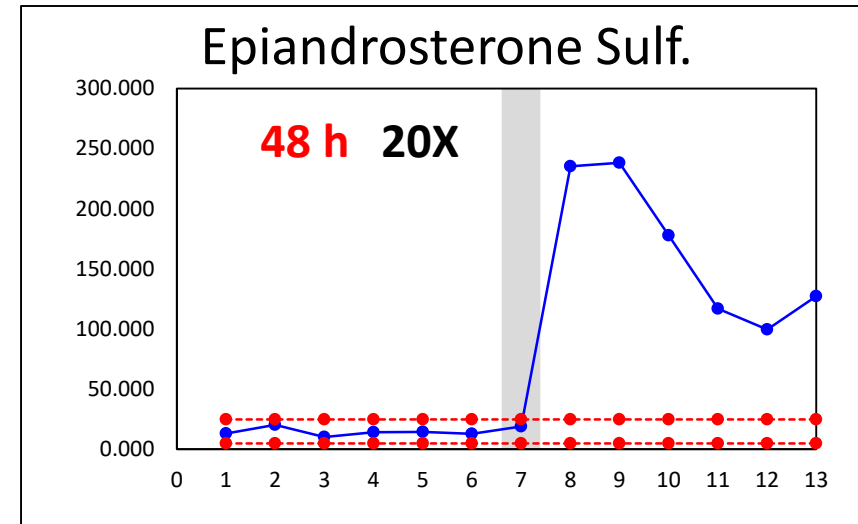
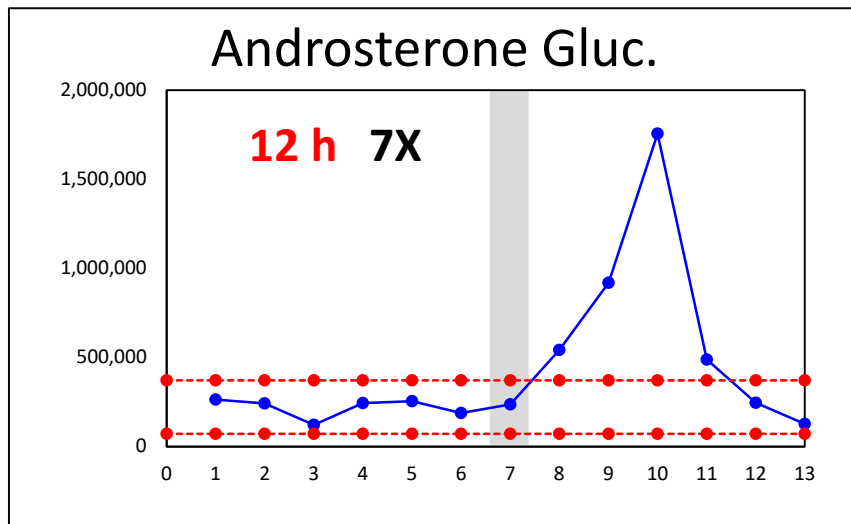
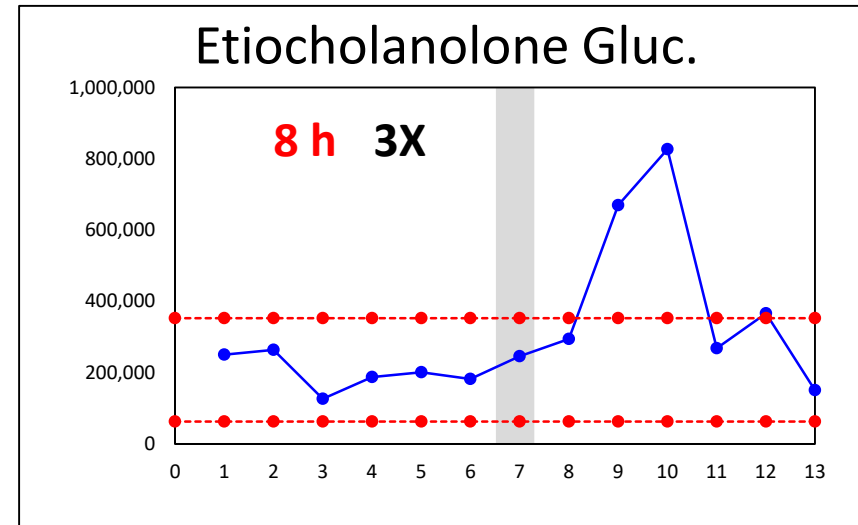
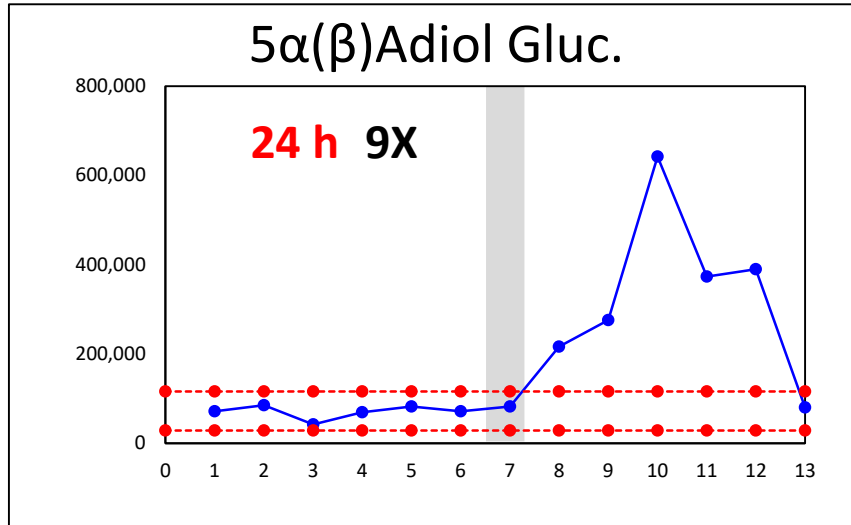
High presence of  
**Hydroxylated compounds**



# Longitudinal Monitoring

## NEW BIOMARKERS

T intake



# Conclusions & Perspectives



Longitudinal monitoring of blood T & DHT showed no differences between UGT2B17 genotypes



Compared to urinary T/E, increased sensitivity for transdermal administration



Steroidomics highlighted additional biomarkers of T intake (phase II met.)



Development and validation of a new quantitative UHPLC-MS/MS method



Application of the method on athletes' samples to obtain reference values (first point ABP) and check stability across time



# Aknowledgements

## COLLABORATORS



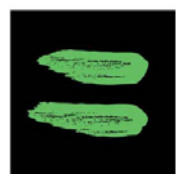
Dr. Tiia Kuuranne  
Dr. Raul Nicoli



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE

Dr. Julien Boccard  
Prof. Serge Rudaz

## FUNDING



WORLD  
ANTI-DOPING  
AGENCY

PARTNERSHIP FOR  
**clean competition**

