



The Metabolic Fate and Effects of 2-Bromophenol in Male Sprague-Dawley Rats

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1 Abstract

- 2 1. The metabolic fate and urinary excretion of 2-bromophenol, a phenolic metabolite of
- 3 bromobenzene, was investigated in male Sprague Dawley rats following single intraperitoneal
- 4 doses at either 0, 100 or 200 mg/kg.
- 5 2. Urine was collected for seven days and samples analysed using ¹H NMR spectroscopy,
- 6 inductively coupled plasma (ICP)MS, and UPLC-MS.
- 7 3. ¹H NMR spectroscopy of the urine samples showed that, at these doses, 2-bromophenol had
- 8 little effect on endogenous metabolite profiles, supporting histopathology and clinical chemistry
- 9 data which showed no changes associated with the administration of 2-bromophenol at these
- 10 doses.
- 11 4. The use of ICP-MS Provided a means for the selective detection and quantification of
- 12 bromine-containing species and showed that between 4 and 25% of the dose was excreted via the
- 13 urine over the 7 days of the study for both the 100 and 200 mg doses respectively.
- 14 6. The bulk of the excretion of Br-containing material had occurred by 8 hr post administration.
- 15 UPLC-MS of urine revealed a number of metabolites of 2-bromophenol, with 2-bromophenol
- 16 glucuronide and 2-bromophenol sulphate identified as the major species. A number of minor
- 17 hydroxylated metabolites were also detected as their glucuronide, sulphate or O-methyl
- 18 conjugates. There was no evidence for the production of reactive metabolites.

19 **Keywords.** 2-Bromobenzene, metabolism, nephrotoxicity, metabonomics.

21 Introduction

22 The compound 2-bromophenol is a metabolite of bromobenzene, a well-known nephro- and

23 hepatotoxin, which has been used as a solvent, fire retardant and a component of motor oils.

24 Following ingestion bromobenzene is metabolised in the liver to a range of oxidised metabolites

25 including 2-bromophenol and 2-bromohydroxyquinone (Lau *et al.*, 1984a). Both 2-bromophenol

26 and 2-bromohydroxyquinone are readily transported from the liver to the kidneys, and the

27 reaction of the latter with glutathione produces various mono- and di-substituted conjugates

28 (Parke and Piotrowski, 1996). The accumulation of these conjugates, in addition to the depletion
29 of the local glutathione pool, is thought to be the cause of renal toxicity (Lau et al,1984b). In
30 addition to 2-bromohydroxyquinone it has been suggested that 2-bromophenol is also a
31 nephrotoxin. Thus, Bruchajzer et al (2002) observed changes in the composition of the urine of
32 rats administered the compound, including increased protein excretion and elevated epithelial
33 cell content, which they considered as being due to kidney damage. However, they also
34 observed variability in the concentrations of 'classic markers of nephrotoxicity' such as
35 creatinine. Currently, there is little information about the potential mechanism of the proposed
36 nephrotoxicity toxicity of 2-bromophenol in the rat.

37 Here, as part of a study undertaken by the Consortium of Metabonomic Toxicology (COMET)
38 (Lindon et al., 2005), metabolite profiling has been performed on rat urine to identify changes in
39 endogenous metabolites and define the excretion and composition of 2-bromophenol-related
40 material excreted via the urine following single i.p. administration of either 0, 100 or 200 mg/kg
41 of 2-bromophenol. Urine was analysed using ¹H NMR spectroscopy, bromine-detected
42 inductively couple plasma (ICP) MS and ultra (high) performance liquid chromatography
43 (U(H)PLC-MS) to characterise the effects of 2-bromophenol on urinary composition and
44 determine the metabolic fate of the compound itself.

46 **Materials and Methods**

47 *Solvents & chemicals*

48 HPLC grade methanol (MeOH) was purchased from Fisher Scientific Leicestershire, UK). Ultra-
49 pure water (18 MΩ @ 25 °C) was produced in-house using an ELGA (Marlow, UK) water
50 purification system. 3-(trimethylsilyl)-[2,2,3,3,-2H4]-propionic acid (TSP) 3-[2,2,3,3-2H4]
51 trimethylsilyl propionate sodium salt (TSP), ammonium acetate, potassium bromide, sodium
52 dihydrogen phosphate and disodium hydrogen phosphate were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich
53 Company, Ltd (Gillingham, UK). NMR-grade deuterium oxide (²H₂O) was obtained from Goss
54 Scientific Instruments (Nantwich, UK).

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3 55 Optima grade LC-MS water was purchased from Fluka (Leicester, UK). Acetonitrile (LC-MS
4 56 grade), formic acid (LC-MS grade), ammonium acetate (LC-MS grade), leucine enkephalin
5 57 acetate salt hydrate and sodium formate solution were purchased from Sigma Aldrich
6 58 (Gillingham, UK).
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10 11 ***Study conduct***

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13 60 Urine and serum samples were collected after the intraperitoneal (IP) administration of 2-
14 61 bromophenol as a single dose to male Sprague-Dawley rats. The rats (10 animals/group) were
15 62 dosed with 2-bromophenol at either 100 (numbers 11-20) or 200 (number 21-30) mg/kg in corn
16 63 oil (control rats (numbers 1-10) were dosed with corn oil). Rats were housed in metabolism
17 64 cages and urine was collected for metabolite profiling and clinical analysis. Urine samples were
18 65 collected at 16 hours pre-dose, at time of dose and at 8, 24, 48 72, 120, 144 and 168 hours post
19 66 dose, with a total of 230 samples collected. Clinical observations and body weight were recorded
20 67 daily. Clinical chemistry was performed on study day 2, 24 hours after treatment (all rats); study
21 68 day 3, 48 hours after treatment (group A); and on study day 8, 168 hours after treatment (group
22 69 B). Five animals from each group were sacrificed on study day 3 and five were sacrificed on
23 70 study day 8. Kidneys were removed and were examined histopathologically. Samples were
24 71 stored at -40 °C prior to analysis.
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34
35 72 The study was subject to all relevant national regulations governing the conduct of animal
36 73 studies and the specific protocols described in this paper were reviewed and approved by the local
37 74 Departmental Review to ensure that they adhered to the principals of minimising animal suffering.
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40 41 ***¹H NMR spectroscopy***

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43 76 Before ¹H NMR spectroscopy urine samples were centrifuged at 12000G for 5 min at 4°C to
44 77 remove particulates and 250 µL of sample aliquoted into 2 mL cryo-vials and diluted 1:2 with
45 78 phosphate buffer. A quality control mixture containing 10 µL of each sample was also prepared.
46 79 Each urine sample was centrifuged at 12000g at 4 °C for 5 min and subsequently 500 µL was
47 80 transferred into 96-well plates using a Bruker (Bruker, Rheinstetten, Germany) Sample Track
48 81 system and a Liquid Handler 215 preparation robot. ¹H NMR spectroscopy was performed at a
49 82 field strength of 14.1 T (¹H 600.29 MHz) on a Bruker spectrometer using a 5 mm broadband
50 83 inverse configuration probe with a z axis magnetic field-gradient capability. The spectrometer
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3 84 was equipped with a Bruker Sample Jet system set to 5mm shuttle mode with a cooling rack of
4 85 refrigerated tubes at 6 °C and controlled via a Bruker Avance III console. The ¹H NMR spectra
5 86 of the urine were measured using one-dimensional (1D) nuclear Overhauser enhancement
6 87 spectroscopy (NOESY)-presat (noesypr1d) pulse sequence (Stonehouse and Keeler, 1995). The
7 88 data were acquired using Topspin 3.2 and run under automation by IconNMR.

89 **¹H NMR Spectral Data Analysis**

10 90 After phasing to correct for first and zero-order errors, and baseline correction to account for
11 91 distortions of the base values, the ¹H NMR spectral data were imported to MATLAB R2012b
12 92 (Natick, Massachusetts, U.S.A.) using the Metaspectra program script, using a resolution of
13 93 0.00055. The data were then aligned using Recursive Segment-Wise Peak Alignment (RSPA)
14 94 (Veselkov et al., 2008) and normalised by Probabilistic Quotient to account for, and exclude,
15 95 systematic sources of bias within samples which were not due to biological processes or
16 96 environment. Statistical Recouping of Variables (SRV) (Blaise et al., 2009) was then used for
17 97 peak detection, and the integrated dataset was exported to SIMCA-P+ 13.0.2 software for
18 98 multivariate analysis.

99 **ICP-MS-based Total Bromine Analysis**

100 100 The determination of total bromine in the samples was performed by flow injection analysis
101 101 (FIA) with direct infusion of samples into the ICP-MS at 0.5 mL/min using 5 µL of
102 102 sample/standard. For the purposes of quantification aqueous calibration standards were produced
103 103 using potassium bromide over the concentration range 5 to 25 µg/mL using ultra-pure water.
104 104 Samples were infused directly into a NexION 300D ICP-MS (PerkinElmer SCIEX, Shelton, CT
105 105 USA) using a Waters Alliance 2695 HPLC system (Waters Corporation, Milford, MA) with the
106 106 samples maintained at 4^o C within the sample compartment of the autosampler. For
107 107 determination of total bromine both calibration standards and urine samples were injected into a
108 108 flowing stream of a 90:10 v/v mixture of 0.1 % (v/v) nitric acid in methanol (prepared using the
109 109 HPLC systems solvent mixing capability). The analysis time for the FIA was 2 minutes/sample.
110 110 The concentration of bromine was determined operating the ICP-MS in standard mode (**Table**
111 111 **1**). A cooled spray chamber was used to reduce the solvent loading into the plasma. Oxygen was
112 112 introduced into the sample stream to reduce the build-up of carbon on the sampler cone.

113 ICP-MS Data Processing/Analysis

114 All data was collected using NexION 1.5 software (PerkinElmer SCIEX, Shelton, CT USA),
115 peak area integration was carried out using Analyst 1.4.2 (AB Sciex UK Ltd, Cheshire UK).
116 Statistical analysis was carried out using Microsoft Excel 2010.

117 U(H)PLC-MS Sample Analysis

118 A 150 μ L aliquot of urine was mixed with 300 μ L water to dilute the salt concentration before
119 protein removal via precipitation with acetonitrile (1:2 v/v). These samples were vortexed and
120 left at -20 °C overnight, then centrifuged for 5 min at 12 000 g at 4 °C before 50 μ L of sample
121 was taken and added to 150 μ L water in 350 μ L 96-well plates (Waters Corporation, Milford,
122 USA) and were stored at -20°C until analysis. Prior to analysis the sample order was randomised
123 using the Microsoft Excel random number generator function. A pooled quality control (QC)
124 sample was prepared (Gika et al. 2008) by combining 100 μ L of each sample and diluting 1:4.
125 Immediately before analysis the plates were centrifuged at 1700 g and then placed into the
126 autosampler at 4 °C. Reversed-phase gradient liquid chromatography was performed on an
127 Acquity UPLC system (Waters Ltd, Elstree, UK) coupled to a Synapt G2 triple quadrupole dual
128 time-of-flight mass spectrometer (Waters MS technologies, Ltd., Manchester). UPLC-MS was
129 performed by injecting 2 μ L of sample onto a Waters HSS T3 1.8 μ m, 2.1 x 100 mm UPLC
130 column, maintained at 40 °C, at a flow rate of performed at 0.5 mL/min. Linear gradient elution
131 was performed using mobile phases composed of 0.1 % formic acid in water (solvent A) and 0.1
132 % formic acid in acetonitrile (solvent B). The starting composition was 1 % B, held for 1.0 min,
133 increasing to 15 % at 3.0 min, 50 % at 6.0 min, 95 % at 9.0 min, returning to 1 % B at 10 min,
134 and followed by a 2 min re-equilibration step prior to the next injection (total cycle time 12 min).
135 Mass spectrometry was performed with electrospray ionisation operated in both positive (ESI+)
136 and negative ion modes (ESI-) The instrument was operated in sensitivity mode and set to
137 acquire data over the m/z range 50 – 1200 with a scan time of 0.1 s. All mass spectral data were
138 collected in centroid mode using the MSe data acquisition function. For mass accuracy, leucine
139 enkephalin (MW = 555.62) was used as a lock mass at a concentration of 200 pg/ μ L (in 1:1 v/v
140 CH₃CN:H₂O, 0.1 % formic acid) infused at a flow rate of 20 μ L/min via a lock spray interface.
141 The data were collected using MassLynx V 4.1 software (Waters Corporation, Milford, USA).

142 UPLC-MS Data Analysis

143 Each UPLC-MS data set was pre-processed using Transomics (Non Linear Dynamics, UK). The
144 ion intensities for each peak detected were then normalised, within each sample, to the median
145 peak intensity in that sample. The resulting peak marker tables, comprising m/z, RT and
146 normalised intensity values for each variable in every sample, were exported to SIMCA-P+
147 13.0.2 software (Umetrics, Umea, Sweden) for multivariate analysis. Bromine-containing
148 metabolites were detected using the specific bromine isotope pattern.

150 Results and Discussion

151 *Clinical Pathology*

152 None of the animals in the study exhibited any major adverse clinical signs attributable to
153 treatment with 2-bromophenol although weight loss was seen in all groups, particularly animals
154 in the high dose group, during the first 24 hours following administration. Recovery from weight
155 loss occurred in all groups from Day 2 although this was at a slightly lower rate for the high dose
156 group in comparison with the control and low dose animals. By Day 8, body weights were
157 similar for all three groups. The high dose group showed mild clinical signs, including transient
158 tremors, slight laboured respiration and inactivity; however these effects were minor and the
159 animals had recovered by days 2-3 post dose.

160 As the administration of bromophenol has previously been associated with nephrotoxicity,
161 characterised by necrotic damage to the proximal tubule cells, clinical chemistry and
162 histopathology of the kidneys were performed. It was expected that the high dose would cause
163 changes in the kidney but no mortality.

164 Urinalysis showed statistically significant decreases in urinary osmolality, creatinine, potassium
165 and glucose for the high dose animals between 0 and 8 hours after dosing on Day 1. However,
166 there was no consistent pattern of variation in organ weight data to indicate an effect of treatment
167 with 2-bromophenol and no macroscopic changes that could be attributed to the administration
168 with the compound were noted at either 48 or 168 hours after dosing. Overall the clinical
169 chemistry of the urine showed no trends and all animals were within the normal ranges for each

170 test. The overall results of the clinical chemistry are summarised in **Table S1** in supplementary
171 information.

172 Histopathological examination of the kidneys identified no overall effect of 2-bromophenol
173 administration. Some general mild nephropathy was present in the kidneys of all animals (dosed
174 and control). This not considered severe enough to cause any symptoms, although two low dose
175 group animals did show signs of minimal localised inflammation. Two animals out of ten from
176 the high dose group showed evidence of slight tubular regeneration, characterized by pale
177 basophilic epithelial cells and necrotic cellular debris within the lumen of the proximal tubules
178 but the remaining animals in this group showed no evidence of kidney damage. One control and
179 one high dose animal showed signs of hyaline droplet formation indicative of a low level
180 background of tubular damage in the test animals. Overall, there were no differences between the
181 kidney tissues of any of the groups.

182 **¹H NMR Spectroscopic Analysis of Urine**

183 The effects of 2-bromophenol administration on endogenous metabolite profiles were
184 investigated via the multivariate statistical analysis of the ¹H NMR spectral data with principal
185 components analysis (PCA) showing a general separation of the 200 mg/kg-dosed animals from
186 the other two groups, but very little differentiation of the 100mg/kg dose group from the controls
187 (Supplementary data **Figure S1**). In the high dose group the maximal response was detected at
188 48hrs post dose with increased amounts of hippurate (3.96/7.56/7.84 ppm, $p = 7 \times 10^{-17}/3.78 \times$
189 $10^{-18}/6.16 \times 10^{-17}$), aminohippurate (6.87ppm, $p = 1.49 \times 10^{-17}$) and 3-methylhistamine (2.84
190 ppm, $p = 2.29 \times 10^{-20}$) observed compared to control and low dose groups. This is illustrated in
191 the S plot, derived from the OPLS model constructed from these data, shown in **Figure 1**.
192 Hippurate is a generally ubiquitous component of urine and its utility as a potential biomarker in
193 metabonomic studies has been reviewed by Lees et al. (2013). In the rat the kidney represents
194 the main route of excretion for hippurate and, if there is impaired renal function, has been seen to
195 accumulate in the serum (Niwa, 1996) coupled with a reduction of urinary concentrations
196 (Bairaktari et al., 2001). As a result it might be expected that, if 2-bromophenol were a
197 nephrotoxin, urinary concentrations would fall, rather than increase as observed here.

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3 198 Examination of the spectra from both 100 and 200 mg/kg dose groups did not reveal any
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5 199 significant contribution from 2-bromophenol or its metabolites at any time point.
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7 200 **ICP-MS Analysis of Urine**

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10 201 ¹H NMR spectroscopy had not detected any signals other than those of the normally present
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12 202 endogenous compounds. Therefore both bromine-detected ICP-MS (and subsequently)
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14 203 U(H)PLC-MS) was performed on the urine samples to determine if any 2-bromophenol-related
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16 204 material had been excreted in the urine and thereby confirm exposure of the kidney to it, or its
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18 205 metabolites. The quantitative nature of ICPMS for bromine enabled the determination of the total
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20 206 concentrations of 2-bromophenol-related compounds in the urine. The results of Br-detected
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22 207 ICP-MS clearly showed that, for both 100 and 200 mg doses, between ca. 4 and 25% of the
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24 208 administered bromine was excreted in the urine over the first 48 hours of dosing, the bulk of it in
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26 209 the first 8 hours. There was however, wide inter animal variation with, at both doses, mean
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28 210 excretion, up to 48 hrs post dose, of ca. 15%. The excretion of Br in the urine of the 100 mg/kg
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30 211 dose illustrating the time course of excretion for each animals is shown in **Figure 2a** and the
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32 212 cumulative excretion is provided in **Figure 2b**. Essentially similar profiles were seen for the 200
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34 213 mg/kg dose (data not shown).

35 214 **U(H)PLC-MS Analysis**

36 215 Untargeted reversed-phase U(H)PLC-MS, in both positive and negative ESI modes, was
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38 216 performed on the urine samples to determine changes in endogenous metabolite profiles and
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40 217 characterise the metabolites of 2-bromophenol excreted in the urine. After processing with
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42 218 Transomics Software the extracted metabolic signatures, defined by retention time and m/z ratio,
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44 219 were analysed using multivariate statistics as performed on the ¹H NMR spectroscopic data. The
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46 220 positive ESI data showed no separation by either dose group or time points on PCA, indicating
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48 221 minimal perturbation of the endogenous metabolites following 2-bromophenol administration,
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50 222 and no further analysis of these data was undertaken. In the case of the negative ESI data PCA
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52 223 analysis showed a good, apparently dose-dependent, separation between the control and dosed
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54 224 groups. Initial PCA modelling of the negative ESI dataset revealed distribution patterns within
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56 225 the models which indicated both dose and time-dependent effects (**Figure 3**). The maximal

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3 226 “response” was seen for the high dose group, at 8 hours post dose with a diminishing effect at 24
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5 227 hours, after which time the metabolic profiles of the animals returned to ‘normal’.

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10 229 Furthermore, no doubt due to due to the greater sensitivity of MS analysis for some analytes,
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12 230 more subtle differences were detected leading to some differentiation between the low dose and
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14 231 control classes which were previously undetected by ^1H NMR spectroscopy. Subsequent OPLS
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16 232 modelling (**Figure 4, lower**) of the 8 hour time point provided very strong models ($R^2 = 0.99$,
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18 233 $Q^2 = 0.71$). On investigation the separations was seen to be largely due to the presence of
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20 234 brominated metabolites of 2-bromophenol of m/z 252.93 and 348.97 respectively. Analysis of
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22 235 the U(H)PLC-MS data identified these discriminating ions as a direct sulfate and glucuronides of
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24 236 2-bromophenol respectively (**Figure 4 upper**). Each of these metabolites showed the distinctive
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26 237 1:1 isotope pattern characteristic of bromine and, due to fragmentation in the ion source,
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28 238 appropriate losses of 80 and 176 Da, diagnostic of the sulphate and glucuronic acid moieties
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30 239 respectively. An ion consistent with a 2-bromophenol glucuronide dimer (m/z 718.94), with the
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32 240 similar retention time to the glucuronide, was also seen. However, this was likely an artefact
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34 241 resulting from in source dimerization. Due to poor ionisation under these U(H)PLC-MS
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36 242 conditions we were unable to detect 2-bromophenol itself (either as the pure standard or in urine
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38 243 samples). These data are summarized in **Table 2**.

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40 244 Clearly, the presence of bromine, with ^{79}Br and ^{81}Br isotopes present at a ratio of approximately
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42 245 1:1 provides a characteristic and very distinctive isotope pattern in mass spectra. We therefore
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44 246 searched the U(HP)LC-MS data for ions with this isotopic signature in order to highlight the
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46 247 presence of other metabolites of 2-bromophenol. A typical example is illustrated in **Figure 5**
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48 248 (upper) where an 0-8 hr high dose urine sample (negative ESI data) has been used to generate an
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50 249 “isotopogram” by extracting all ions containing an isotopic pattern with a mass difference of 2
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52 250 Da at a ratio of 1:1, thereby showing only ions containing the bromine isotopic pattern. This
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54 251 selective trace (“bromatogram”) highlights 6 bromine-containing peaks, for which spectra are
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56 252 provided in **Figure 5** (lower). Based on annotation using MS/MS fragmentation spectra, the first
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58 253 3 eluting peaks corresponded to a hydroxylated 2-bromophenol conjugated with to glucuronic
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60 254 acid (tentatively assigned as hydroxy 2-bromophenol glucuronide (peak 1)) and two sulphated
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256 mono-hydroxylated metabolites (peaks 2 and 3), one of which presumably corresponds to

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3 256 hydroxy 2-bromophenol sulfate whilst the other is sulfated at the alternative hydroxyl group. The
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5 257 major signals detected (peaks 4 and 5) corresponded to the previously identified 2-bromophenol
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7 258 sulfate and glucuronide metabolites respectively. The MS/MS spectrum of the sixth peak
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9 259 contained the characteristic sulphate 80Da loss, plus the addition of oxygen and a methyl group
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11 260 leading to the tentative assignment of this compound as 2-hydroxy(3-methoxy)bromophenol
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13 261 sulphate (although the alternative configuration of 2-methoxy-, 3-sulfate is clearly possible). The
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15 262 methylation of vicinal aromatic diols by catechol-O-methyltransferase is well known (Huotari et
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17 263 al, 2002) and conjugation with a methyl group, which would increase the lipophilicity of the
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19 264 compound, is also consistent with the increased retention time of this metabolite compared to the
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21 265 mono-sulfate.

21 266 Glutathione conjugates and related mercapturates and cysteinyl conjugates are one of the major
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23 267 indications of potential toxicity via reactive metabolites, and have been detected as a result of the
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25 268 metabolism of 2-bromohydroxyquinone. The MS data were therefore carefully searched data for
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27 269 any evidence of their production. However, we were unable to detect any evidence of the
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29 270 presence of glutathione conjugates, nor were cysteinyl or mercapturic acids detected in the urine.
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31 271 This suggests that 2-bromophenol, at these doses and in this strain of rat, does not produce
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33 272 reactive intermediates following I.P. administration.

34 273 To investigate any potential changes in endogenous metabolites that had been masked by the
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36 274 presence of the 2-bromophenol metabolites the ions for the sulphate and glucuronide conjugates
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38 275 were removed from the MS data which enabled the identification of hippurate, and citrate as
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40 276 being elevated in the 2-bromophenol dose groups

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42 277 The absence of these metabolic markers of nephrotoxicity at either dose level, despite the clear
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44 278 evidence from ICP- and U(H)PLC-MS of urinary excretion, and therefore organ exposure, to 2-
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46 279 bromophenol-related metabolites, supports the absence of kidney damage indicated by ¹H NMR-
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48 280 based metabonomic phenotyping, clinical chemistry and histopathology. The overall conclusion
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50 281 from this study with respect to nephrotoxicity was therefore, that, after single doses of either 100
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52 282 or 200 mg/kg, 2-bromophenol is not a potent nephrotoxin.

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2
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10
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334 damage in patients with obstructive jaundice. *Hepatology*, 33 (6), 1365 – 1369.

Table 1. Operating parameters of the PerkinElmer NexION 300D ICP-MS (*Oxygen introduced into the sample stream at the base of the torch).

Sample introduction	
	Micromist 149597 concentric nebuliser
	ESI PC ³ Cooled quartz cyclonic spray chamber
	Quartz sample injector
Operating parameters	
Plasma power	1600 W
Plasma gas (Ar) flow	18.0 L/min
Auxiliary gas (Ar) flow	1.2 L/min
Nebuliser gas (Ar) flow	1.14 L/min
DRC oxygen flow	0.6 mL/min
Oxygen flow*	0.01 L/min
Sample uptake rate	0.5 mL/min

Table 2 Metabolites of 2-Bromophenol identified by UPLC-MS in Negative Ion ESI

Metabolite	Measured Mass	Retention Time	Formula	Isotopogram peak number
Hydroxy 2-bromophenol glucuronide	362.97	3.01	C ₁₂ H ₁₅ O ₉	1
Hydroxy 2-bromophenol sulfate	268.89	3.09	C ₆ H ₇ O ₅ BrS	2
Hydroxy 2-bromophenol sulfate	268.89	3.39	C ₆ H ₇ O ₅ BrS	3
2-bromophenol sulfate	252.90	4.47	C ₆ H ₆ O ₄ BrS	4
2-bromophenol glucuronide	348.98	4.43	C ₁₂ H ₁₄ O ₈	5
2-bromophenol glucuronide dimer	718.94	4.46	--	5
Hydroxy (3-methoxy) 2- bromophenol sulphate	282.91	5.14	C ₇ H ₈ O ₅ BrS	6

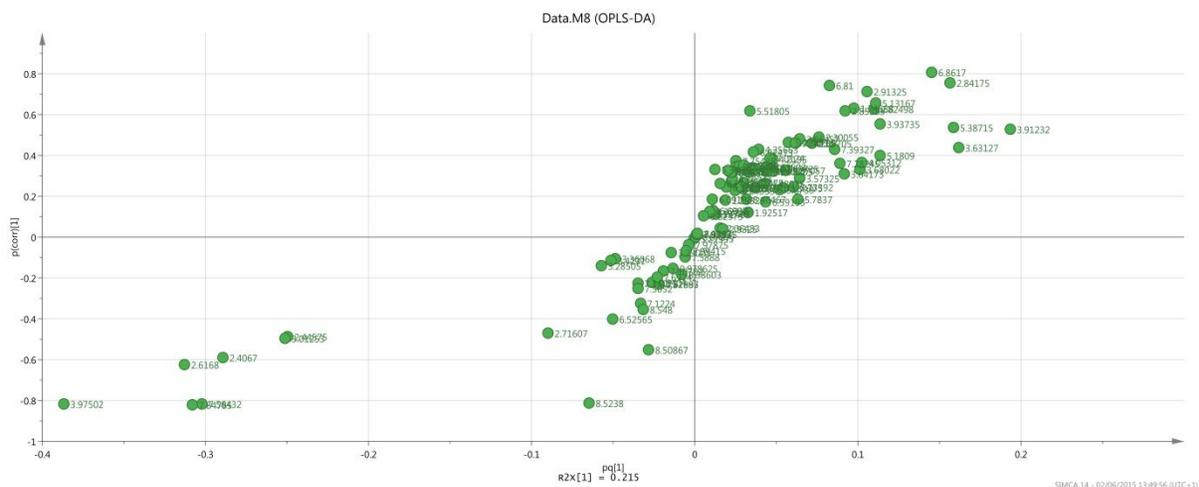
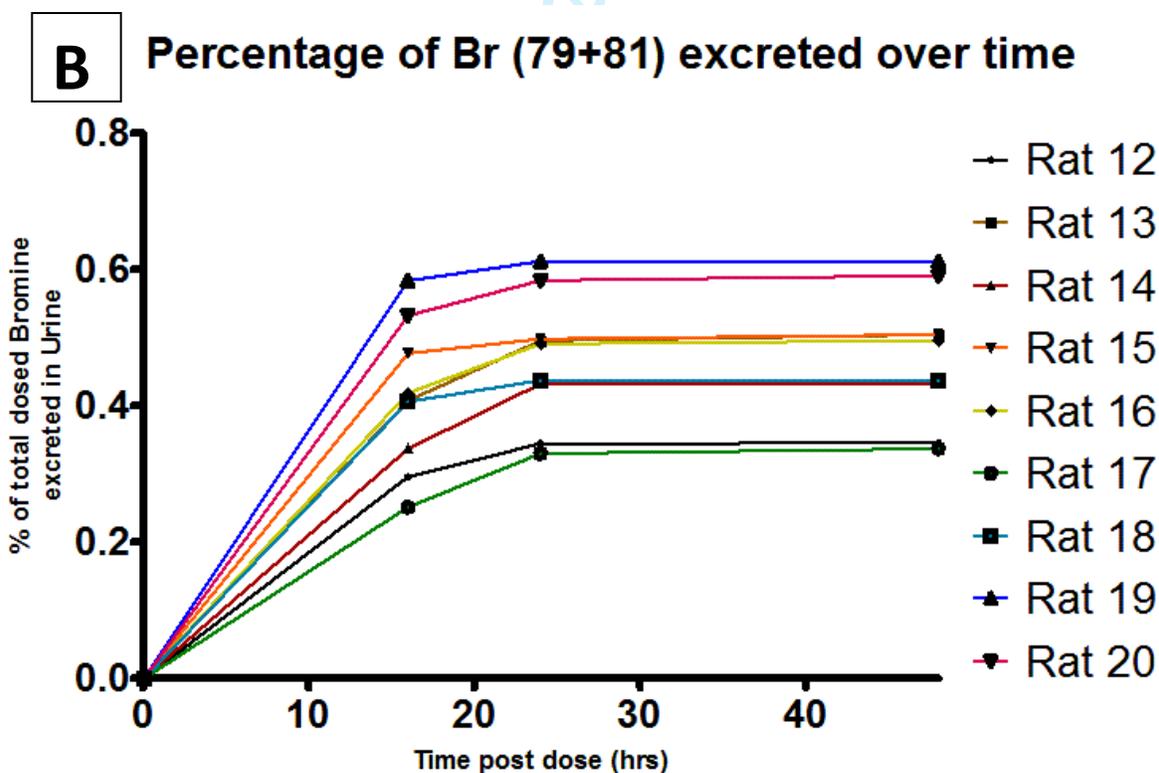
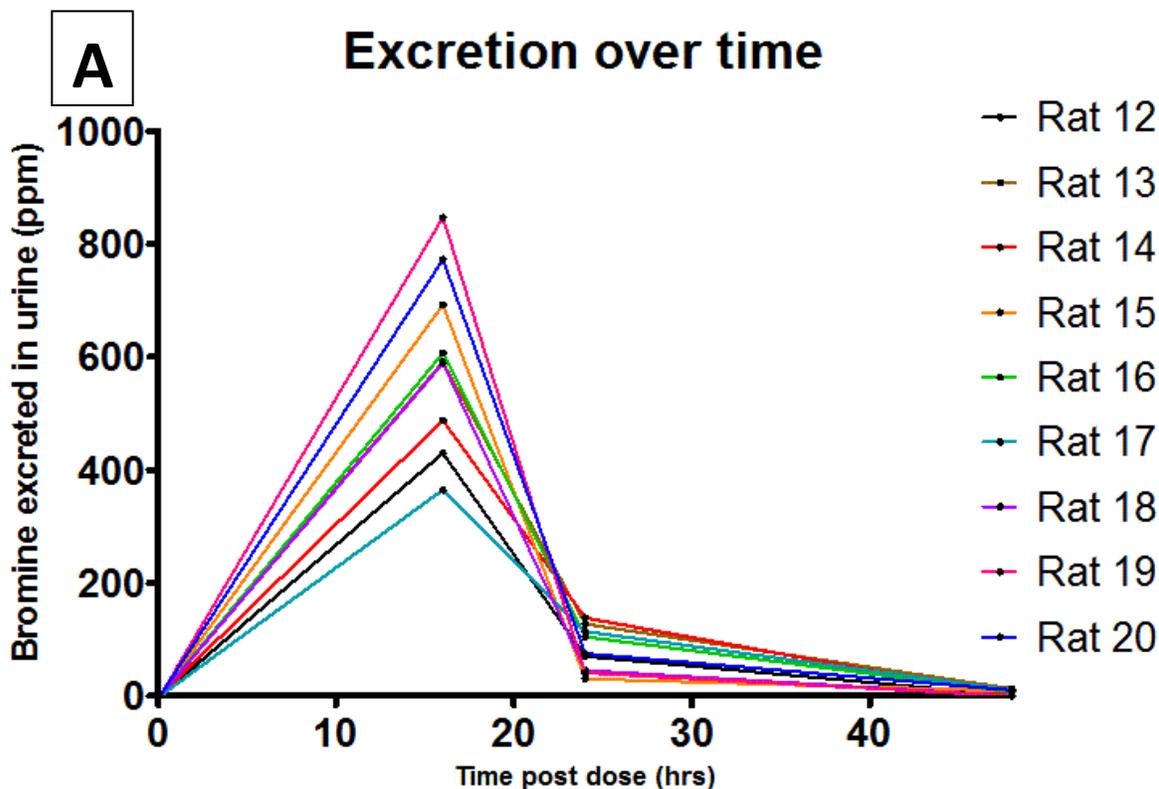


Figure 1. An S plot derived from the OPLS model of the ^1H NMR spectroscopic data, comparing high dose and control groups at 8 hours post dose. The data points in the bottom left quadrant of the plot, and therefore highly abundant in the treatment group, represent hippurate (3.96/7.56/7.84 ppm, $p = 7 \times 10^{-17}/3.78 \times 10^{-18}/6.16 \times 10^{-17}$), aminohippurate (6.87 ppm, $p = 1.49 \times 10^{-17}$) and N-acetylhistamine (2.84 ppm, $p = 2.29 \times 10^{-20}$).



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3 **Figure 2.** Determination of total bromine in rat urine by ICP-MS after I.P. administration to the
4 rat administered at 100 mg/kg of 2-bromophenol by flow injection analysis. (A) Time course of
5 excretion of Br and (B) Cumulative excretion of Br by individual animals.
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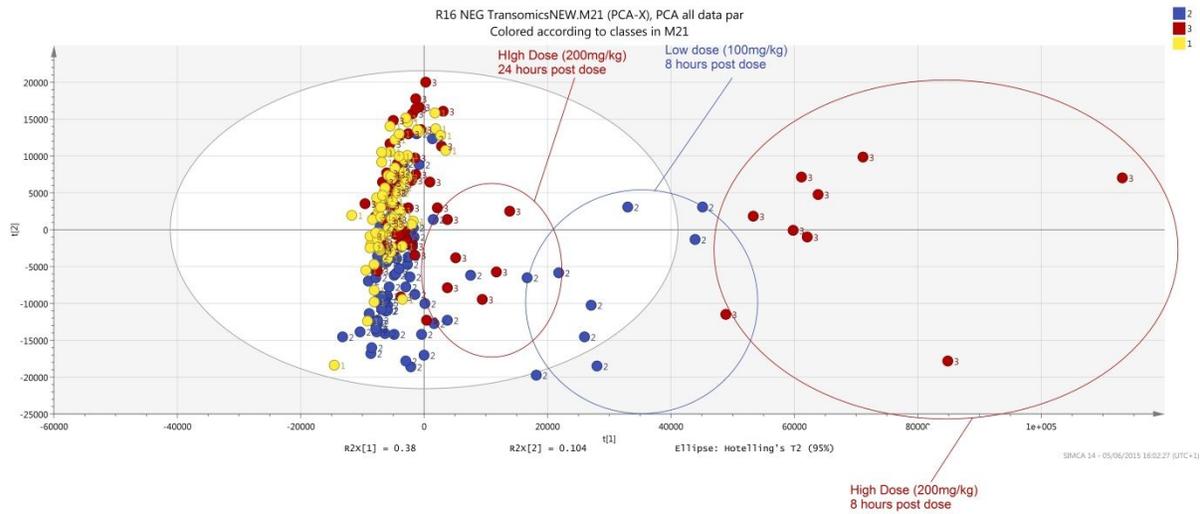


Figure 3. PCA scores plot of the model comparing dose groups, acquired by negative mode ionisation. There is good separation between the groups and the distance the samples deviate from the controls seems to be dose dependant.

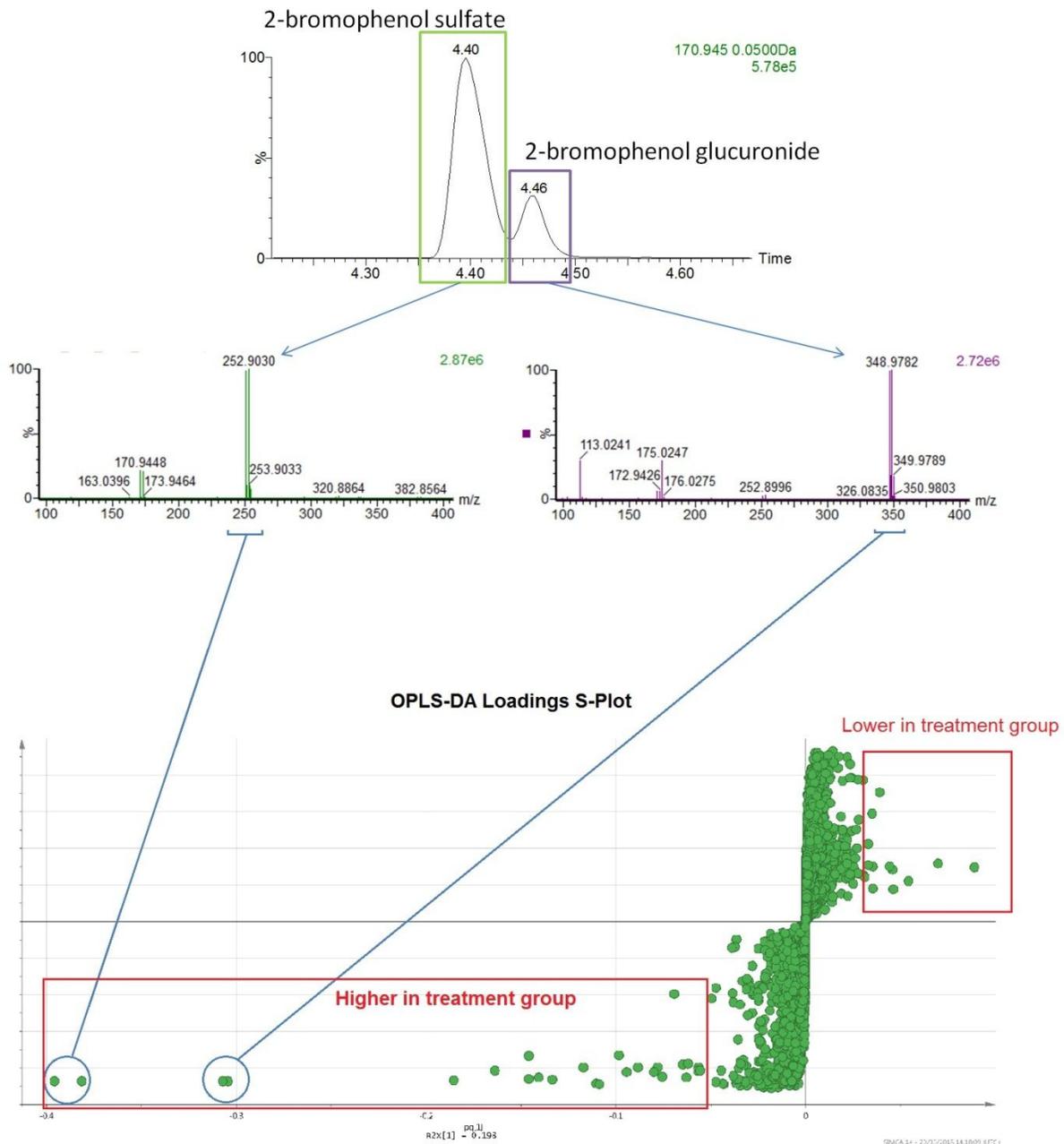


Figure 4. Composite plot highlighting the two most prominent 2-bromophenol metabolites. Inspection of the S-plot (bottom) derived from the OPLS model comparing low dose and controls, the ions influencing discrimination relate to 2-bromophenol sulphate (m/z 252.9) and 2-

1
2
3 bromophenol glucuronide (m/z 348.97). The chromatographic peak extraction (top) and the
4 related mass spectra are also provided.
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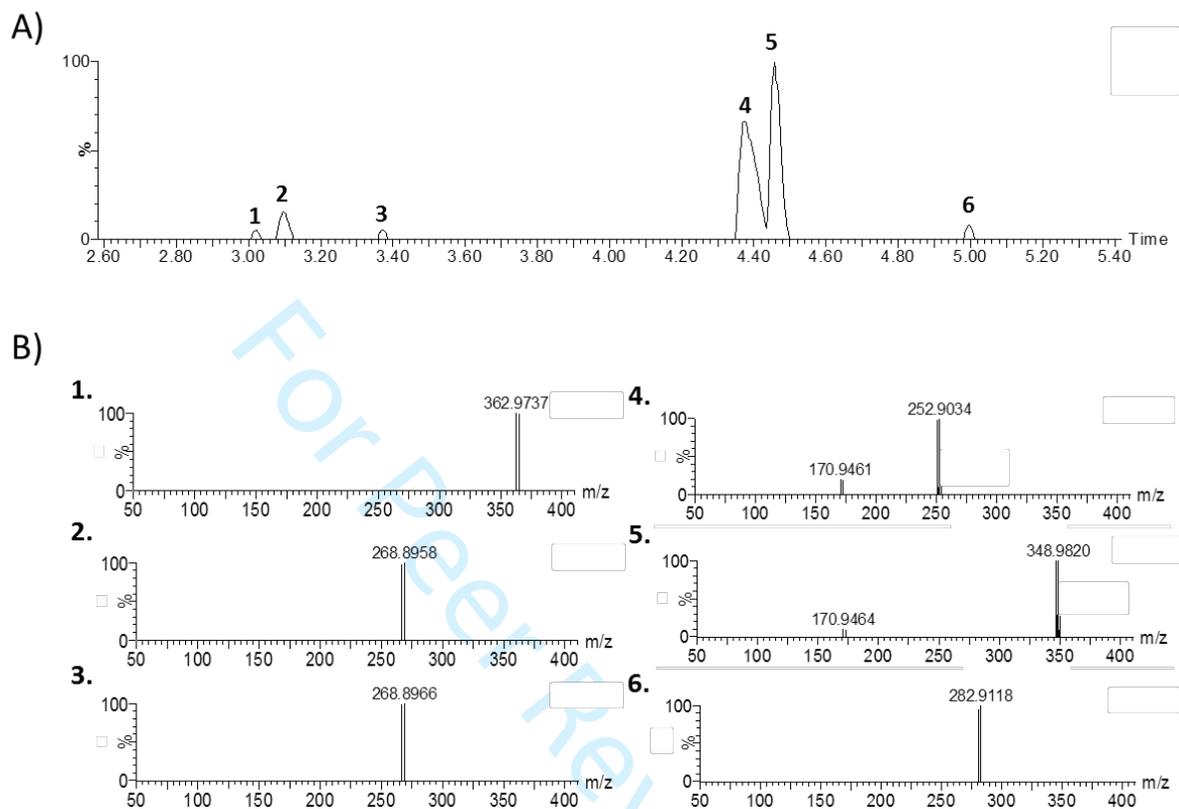


Figure 5. Isotopogram (top) and the related mass spectra (bottom). The chromatographic peaks are numbered and match up to the numbered mass spectra.

Supplementary data

The Metabolic Fate and Effects of 2-Bromophenol in Male Sprague-Dawley Rats

Table S1: Clinical Chemistry Data for 2-Bromophenol Dosing to the Rat

Treatment	Dose mg/kg/day	Protein	glucose	Creatinine	Potassium
8 Hours					
Vehicle (corn oil)	0	0.23 ± 0.11	1.19 ± 0.38	8.55 ± 1.33	236 ± 38
2-Bromophenol	100	0.18 ± 0.04	1.05 ± 0.27	6.92 ± 1.43	217 ± 44
2-Bromophenol	200	0.27 ± 0.12	0.85 ± 0.27	5.21 ± 1.77	165 ± 52
Day 1					
Vehicle (corn oil)	0	0.31 ± 0.2	1.52 ± 0.28	9.85 ± 1.23	390 ± 52
2-Bromophenol	100	0.24 ± 0.06	1.43 ± 0.35	8.18 ± 1.4	341 ± 71
2-Bromophenol	200	0.44 ± 0.13	1.45 ± 0.32	8.57 ± 2.0	317 ± 82

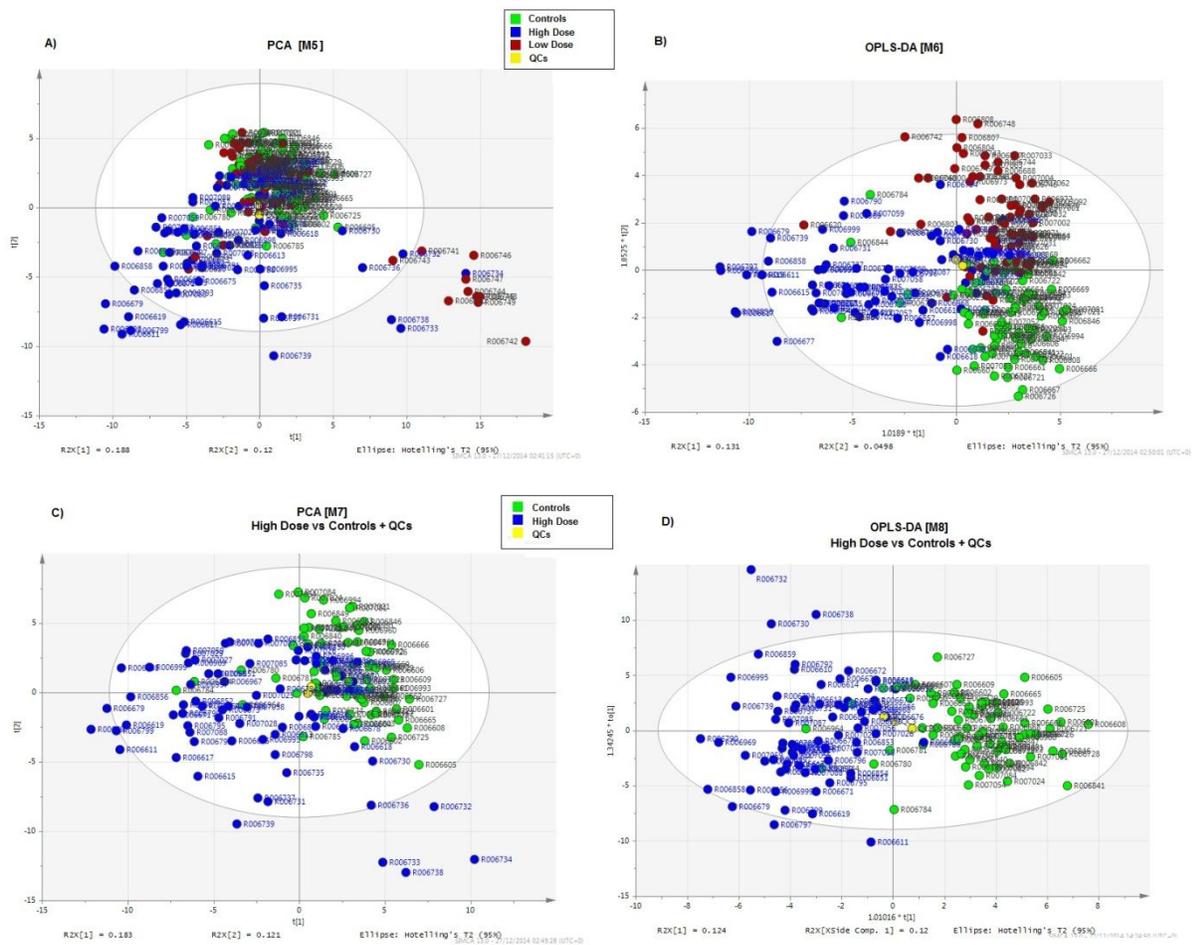


Figure S1. The scores plots from the multivariate analysis of the NMR data. A) and B) are the scores of PCA and OPLS-DA, respectively, of the whole data set. There is trend in statistical space pushing the 200 mg/kg dose group away from the other two. This trend is highlighted when the 100 mg/kg dose group is removed in C) and D) (PCA and OPLS-DA, again respectively). The samples coloured in Yellow are QC samples and these are present consistently in the middle of statistical space.