

The Effect of Fluoride on the Structure, Function, and Proteome of Intestinal Epithelia

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Abbreviations: AFM, atomic force microscopy; CFTR, cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator; ENaC, epithelial Na⁺ channel; HEPES, 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid; IBMX, 3-isobutyl-1-methylxanthine; I_{sc} , short-circuit current; NKCC, Na-K-Cl co-transporter; R_t , transepithelial resistance; SEM, standard error of the mean.

ABSTRACT: Fluoride exposure is widespread, with drinking water commonly containing natural and artificially added sources of the ion. Ingested fluoride undergoes absorption across the gastric and intestinal epithelia. Previous studies have reported adverse gastrointestinal effects with high levels of fluoride exposure. Here, we examined the effects of fluoride on the transepithelial ion transport and resistance of three intestinal epithelia. We used the Caco-2 cell line as a model of human intestinal epithelium, and rat and mouse colonic epithelia for purposes of comparison. Fluoride caused a concentration-dependent decline in forskolin-induced Cl⁻ secretion and transepithelial resistance of Caco-2 cell monolayers, with an IC₅₀ for fluoride of about 3 mM for both parameters. In the presence of 5 mM fluoride, transepithelial resistance fell exponentially with time, with a t_{1/2} of about 7 h. Subsequent imaging by immunofluorescence and scanning electron microscopy showed structural abnormalities in Caco-2 cell monolayers exposed to fluoride. The Young's modulus of the epithelium was not affected by fluoride, although proteomic analysis revealed changes in expression of a number of proteins, particularly those involved in cell-cell adhesion. In line with its effects on Caco-2 cell monolayers, fluoride, at 5 mM, also had profound effects on Cl⁻ secretion and transepithelial resistance of both rat and mouse colonic epithelia. Our results show that treatment with fluoride has major effects on the structure, function, and proteome of intestinal epithelia, but only at concentrations considerably higher than those likely to be encountered *in vivo*, when much lower fluoride doses are normally ingested on a chronic basis.

Keywords: fluoride; epithelial ion transport; gastrointestinal epithelia; atomic force microscopy; cell stiffness; proteomics

INTRODUCTION

Fluoride exposure is common worldwide. The anion occurs naturally and is also commonly added to drinking water, with current World Health Organization guidelines (2006) recommending levels of 1.5 mg/L. Dental caries is a significant healthcare problem, occurring in 46% of 15 year-olds in the UK, for example (Murray et al., 2015), and fluoride is widely known for its beneficial effects in combating this condition (Parnell et al., 2009). Inadequate levels of exposure to fluoride (<0.5 mg/L in drinking water) can result in increased predisposition to caries, while excessive intake is associated with dental, and at higher levels, skeletal, fluorosis (McDonagh et al., 2000). Although, water is often the predominant source of intake, dental hygiene products, food and teas can also contribute to fluoride ingestion (Fawell et al., 2006). Importantly, levels of fluoride exposure are inconsistent worldwide, with many countries such as India and China reporting endemic fluorosis (Jolly et al., 1969; Lyth, 1946) as a result of naturally elevated levels in drinking water.

Ingested fluoride undergoes rapid gastric absorption in a pH-dependent manner, as a result of the high lipid solubility of hydrogen fluoride (Gutknecht and Walter, 1981), and increasing acidity increases the rate of uptake (Whitford and Pashley, 1984). Other factors, such as recent food consumption or dietary calcium consumption, can limit fluoride absorption (Whitford, 1994). The remaining fluoride is mostly absorbed in the small intestine (Nopakun et al., 1989), with a rate independent of pH (Buzalaf and Whitford, 2011). Gastrointestinal toxicity has been observed with fluoride, and gastrointestinal symptoms have been reported in cases of skeletal fluorosis (Dasarathy et al., 1996). Chronic ingestion of fluoride has also been correlated with histologically observable damage to the gastric epithelium (Das et al., 1994). These studies, although small-scale, indicate that further study of the potential adverse effects of fluoride on the gastrointestinal tract is warranted.

The intestinal epithelium is highly specialized, with distinct apical and basolateral transporters, and this functional polarization facilitates a broad range of absorptive and secretory functions (Cuthbert et al., 1999). Na^+ acts as the lead ion for absorption, with the Na^+/K^+ -ATPase producing an inward electrochemical gradient for Na^+ . This gradient enables diffusion of Na^+ into the cell through epithelial Na^+ channels, which is accompanied by Cl^- and water movement. The Na-K-Cl co-transporter (NKCC1) moves Cl^- ions into the cell via secondary active transport, coupled with Na^+ and K^+ . K^+ then passes through basolateral K^+ channels, which hyperpolarizes the cell, thereby increasing the driving force for Cl^- exit. Cl^- secretion through apical Ca^{2+} -activated chloride channels and the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) is accompanied by Na^+ and water (Barrett and Keely, 2000). Elevations of intracellular cAMP promote secretory mechanisms by actions on CFTR, NKCC1 and the basolateral KvLQT1 K^+ channel (Cuthbert et al., 1999).

Tight junctions between gastrointestinal epithelial cells form a continuous barrier between apical and basolateral cell surfaces, and control transport via the paracellular pathway (Balda et al., 1992). Tight junctions determine the integrity and core physiological properties of epithelia, such as the nature of molecules and ions that can diffuse across. Their regulation allows these epithelial properties to undergo dynamic changes (Matter and Balda, 2003). Tight junction complexes are composed of three key components: integral proteins, such as zona occludens-1 (ZO-1), that traverse the intercellular space, plaque proteins that join the integral proteins to the cytoskeleton, and a diverse range of multifunctional nuclear/cytosolic proteins (Schneeberger and Lynch, 2004). The ‘tightness’ or permeability of these junctions to ions is often measured via transepithelial resistance (R_t). As a result of the need for extensive absorption and secretion, the gastrointestinal tract has a relatively low R_t , with the exception of the terminal colonic regions (Anderson and Van Itallie, 2009).

The concentrations of fluoride required to produce toxic effects on the gastrointestinal tract, and importantly whether such concentrations are reached *in vivo*, are unclear. Here, we studied the effects of fluoride on the structure, function, and proteome of a model colonic epithelial cell line, the human Caco-2 cell line, and also on transepithelial ion transport in rat and mouse colonic epithelia. We observed profound structural and functional effects of fluoride; however, these effects were produced at fluoride concentrations that are unlikely to be encountered *in vivo*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Cell Culture

Caco-2 cells were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (Life Technologies), containing 10% fetal bovine serum, 1% penicillin and 1% streptomycin at 37°C in an atmosphere of 5% CO₂/95% air. For polarized monolayer formation, cells were seeded into Snapwell™ inserts (Corning), which contained a 12-mm diameter polycarbonate membrane with 0.4-µm diameter pores. Inserts were placed in 6-well plates with 1.5 mL and 4 mL of medium on the apical and basolateral sides of the monolayers, respectively. Cells were cultured for 14-16 days to allow the formation of a tight, polarized epithelium. Note that although the Caco-2 cell line was originally derived from a human colon adenocarcinoma, the characteristics of the cells in culture depend heavily on culture conditions and are often more similar to those of small intestinal enterocytes (Sambuy et al., 2005). For this reason, we regard the Caco-2 cell monolayers as a model of a human intestinal epithelium in general, rather than of a colonic epithelium in particular.

Preparation of Rat and Mouse Colonic Epithelia

Wild type rats and mice of mixed weight, age and sex were used to provide sections of colonic tissue. Following cervical dislocation, the peritoneum was dissected away; the colon

was removed and the tissue was maintained in aerated (5% CO₂/95% O₂) Krebs-Henseleit solution (117 mM NaCl, 4.7 mM KCl, 2.5 mM CaCl₂, 1.2 mM MgSO₄, 1.2 mM KH₂PO₄, 24.8 mM NaHCO₃, 11.1 mM glucose, pH 7.4). The section of colon below the caecum was divided into three or four 1.5-cm segments, which were incised along the mesenteric line. The serosa and muscularis mucosae were then removed using watchmaker's forceps.

Measurement of Transepithelial Ion Transport and Resistance

Voltage clamps (DVC-1000 Epithelial Voltage/Current Clamp, World Precision Instruments) were calibrated before each experiment (Input/Offset and Fluid RES compensation set to 0.0). Snapwell™ inserts with confluent Caco-2 cell monolayers were transferred to Ussing chambers (Ussing and Zerahn, 1951) with a 1.13 cm² aperture (World Precision Instruments). For colonic epithelia, the aperture was 0.2 cm². The monolayers or epithelia were bathed on both apical and basolateral sides with 20 mL of Krebs-Henseleit solution at 37°C, and continuously aerated with 5% CO₂/95% O₂. Chambers were left for 10-30 min to equilibrate once voltage clamping had begun. PowerLab 2/25 software (ADInstruments) was used to record the short-circuit current (I_{sc}) across the epithelium, with one data point per second plotted on continuous axes of I_{sc} versus time. All traces were recorded using PowerLab hardware with LabChart software, and data were analysed using Microsoft Excel software. Transepithelial resistance (R_t) was measured via changes in I_{sc} during 5-s pulses to a 2-mV transepithelial voltage every 30 s, according to Ohm's law, ($R_t=V/I$). 3-isobutyl-1-methylxanthine (IBMX; Sigma), amiloride (Sigma) and furosemide (Sigma) were dissolved in water, while forskolin (Calbiochem) was dissolved in 95% ethanol. Drugs were diluted to appropriate final concentrations in Krebs-Henseleit solution.

Data Analysis

All traces were viewed on a LabChart Reader, and data were recorded in a Microsoft Excel 2013 spreadsheet for further analysis. For all data, mean and standard error of the mean (SEM) were calculated.

Concentration-response curves for the effects of fluoride or forskolin on ΔI_{sc} and for the effect of fluoride on R_t were plotted in Excel 2013. Data were fitted to the following 4-parameter logistic equation using the maximum likelihood approach:

$$E = \frac{Min - Max}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{[A]}{10^{-pIC_{50}}}\right)^{n_H}\right)} + Max$$

where E is the response (ΔI_{sc} or R_t), $[A]$ is [NaF] or [forskolin], Min is the response when $[A]=0$, Max is the response when $[A]=\infty$, $pIC_{50}=-\log(IC_{50})$, and n_H is the Hill Coefficient.

For these data an additional model was used for the residual error variance (RUV):

$$RUV_i = \alpha^2 \hat{y}_i^\gamma$$

where RUV_i is the residual unexplained variance for data point i , α^2 is a variance parameter, and \hat{y}_i is the modeled response for data point i . γ defines the relationship between residual error and response; e.g. when $\gamma = 0$, residual error is constant (i.e. homoscedastic) and when $\gamma = 2$, the standard deviation of the residual error is directly proportional to the response (i.e. the coefficient of variation is a constant).

The Excel Solver function was used to minimize the value of extended least squares to fit the curves, integrating both of the above models. GraphPad Prism 6 or 7 was used to plot exponential decline curves of R_t and ΔI_{sc} in time-course experiments, to carry out linear regression and to compare data sets with unpaired t-tests. Two-way ANOVA tests with Bonferroni's post-hoc tests were used to compare the difference in means between control and fluoride exposure data for experiments on colonic epithelia. One-way ANOVA tests with

Tukey's post-hoc tests were used to determine how means changed during each protocol. Significance was taken at $P < 0.05$.

Scanning Electron Microscopy

Cell monolayers on polycarbonate membranes (excised from Snapwell™ inserts) and supported on coverslips were quench-frozen by plunging, cell face first, into melting propane cooled in liquid nitrogen. Monolayers were freeze-dried in a modified Edwards 306 Auto 306 carbon coating unit (Warley and Skepper, 2000). After drying, the cells were coated with carbon and attached to scanning electron microscopy stubs with colloidal silver. The cells were coated with 10 nm of gold in a Quorum/Emitech K575X sputter coater and viewed in an FEL-Philips XL30 FEGSEM at 5 kV.

Immunofluorescence

Cell monolayers were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde in phosphate-buffered saline, and permeabilized by treatment with 0.05% saponin in the same buffer containing 0.2% gelatin. Monolayers were incubated in permeabilization buffer containing rat monoclonal anti-zona occludens-1 (ZO-1) monoclonal antibody (eBioscience), followed by fluorescein isothiocyanate-conjugated rabbit anti-rat secondary antibody (Sigma). The cells were then subjected to fluorescence microscopy.

Measurement of Young's Modulus

The stiffness of living Caco-2 epithelial cell monolayers, as represented by their Young's modulus, was determined using an atomic force microscopy (AFM) nano-indentation technique (Heinz and Hoh, 1999; Kasas and Dietler, 2008). The Young's modulus was calculated via the force that had to be exerted to indent the cell membrane by a fixed distance. Measurements were conducted at room temperature using a scanning probe microscope (BioScope® I SPM, Bruker) integrated into an inverted microscope (Axiovert 135, Zeiss).

Cell monolayers growing in 6-well culture plates were washed with 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid- (HEPES)-buffered saline solution (135 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM CaCl₂, 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.4) and bathed in the same solution during experiments. Measurements were performed using soft cantilevers (spring constant, <20 pN/nm; Novascan) with a polystyrene sphere (diameter, 10 μm) as the tip. A maximal loading force of 10 nN was applied. For each monolayer, 9 cell areas were chosen and 25 force-distance curves were collected for each area. AFM data were collected with NanoScope software 5.31 (Bruker). Young's modulus values were calculated from force-distance curves using AtomicJ Software (Hermanowicz *et al.*, 2014). Average Young's modulus values were calculated for each cell area, and these values were in turn averaged to produce a single value for each monolayer. Four monolayers were analysed for each condition (i.e. with or without fluoride treatment).

Proteomic Analysis of Caco-2 Cells

Caco-2 cell monolayers were either untreated (control) or exposed to 5 mM fluoride (as NaF) for 24 h. Experiments were conducted in quintuplicate. Membrane proteins were extracted using a Mem-PER™ eukaryotic membrane protein extraction kit (Thermo Scientific). The fraction containing hydrophobic proteins was collected and the proteins were purified using detergent removal spin columns (Thermo Scientific). Proteins were extracted, reduced, alkylated and digested as previously described (Antonio *et al.*, 2017), and then analyzed using a nanoAcquity UPLC-XEVO QToF mass spectrometry system (Lima Leite *et al.*, 2014). Differences in expression between the groups were assessed using PLGS software and expressed as $P < 0.05$ for down-regulated and $(1 - P) > 0.05$ for up-regulated proteins. Functional enrichment was analysed using ClueGo, a Cytoscape plugin. For each comparison, bioinformatics analysis was performed, as described previously (Orchard, 2012; Bauer-Mehren, 2013; Millan, 2013; Lima Leite *et al.*, 2014).

RESULTS

Effect of Fluoride on Caco-2 Cell Monolayers

Caco-2 cells were cultured for 14-16 days on polycarbonate membranes to produce polarized monolayers, and transepithelial ion transport was measured using short circuit current (I_{sc}) recordings in Ussing chambers. Addition of forskolin (10^{-5} M) to both sides of the monolayer, in the presence of the phosphodiesterase inhibitor IBMX (10^{-4} M), was used to elevate intracellular cAMP concentration. Forskolin treatment caused a transient rise in I_{sc} (asterisk), through a cAMP-dependent stimulation of Cl^- transport via CFTR [Fig. 1(A)]. The transient nature of the effect of forskolin on Caco-2 monolayers has been observed previously (Zhu et al., 2005; Jantarajit et al., 2017) and may be a result of a lack of hyperpolarising K^+ channels in the basolateral membrane, which sustain prolonged secretory responses in other epithelia (see below). The forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} in untreated monolayers (transporting area 1.13 cm^2) was typically about $2 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$, and the transepithelial resistance was about $350 \Omega \text{ cm}^2$. Preincubation of the monolayers in medium containing various concentrations of fluoride for 48 h resulted in a concentration-dependent reduction in forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} [Fig. 1(B)], with an IC_{50} for fluoride of 3.1 mM (95% confidence interval, 2.9-3.3 mM). Transepithelial resistance (R_t) was also reduced in a concentration-dependent manner by fluoride treatment over a 48-h period [Fig. 1(C)], with an identical IC_{50} of 3.1 mM (95% confidence interval, 2.6-3.7 mM). The time-course of the effect of fluoride (5 mM) on R_t was exponential, with a $t_{1/2}$ of 7.08 ± 2.98 h [Fig. 1(D)].

To probe the effect of fluoride on the fine structure of the Caco-2 cell monolayer, we used scanning electron microscopy. Confluent monolayers were either untreated or treated for 48 h with 5 mM fluoride, conditions that reduced transepithelial resistance to zero (see above). Typical scanning electron micrographs are shown in Fig. 2. As can be seen, the apical

surface of the control monolayer was almost flat, although individual cells could just be discerned [Fig. 2(A)]. In contrast, the surface of the fluoride-treated monolayer was highly disrupted, with apparent gaps in the monolayer and the presence of rounded cells [Fig. 2(B)]. This observation suggested that the tight junctions between the cells might have been disrupted by fluoride treatment. To test this possibility, we examined the distribution of the tight junction protein ZO-1 by immunofluorescence [Fig. 3]. We found that the control monolayer had a regular pavement-like appearance, with polygonal staining for ZO-1 [Fig. 3(A)]. In contrast, the fluoride-treated monolayer showed a more irregular ZO-1 staining pattern [Fig. 3(B)]. Further, the polygons bounded by ZO-1 were larger than in the control monolayer and often enclosed more than one cell, as indicated by the nuclei that were visible in the image (arrows). Fluoride, therefore, disrupted the tight junction arrangement in Caco-2 cell monolayers.

We also examined the effect of fluoride on the Young's modulus of Caco-2 epithelia by nanoindentation using AFM. Cell monolayers growing in plastic culture dishes were either incubated with 5 mM fluoride for 48 h or left untreated. At the end of the incubation period, the mechanical properties of cells within the monolayers were measured using AFM probes with spherical tips as mechanosensors. The AFM probe was lowered onto the cell monolayer until it made contact with the apical membrane. It was then allowed to indent the cells for ~300 nm, which resulted in bending of the cantilever upon which the tip is mounted. This bending was amplified by a laser beam projected onto the back of the cantilever, and the reflected beam was monitored by a split photodiode. The tip was retracted from the cell, and multiple cycles of indentation and retraction were carried out. A force-distance curve was plotted for each cycle, relating the bending of the cantilever (or the applied force) to the position of the sample. The Young's modulus of each cell was then calculated from the slope of this curve. The values of Young's modulus for control and fluoride-treated cells were

12.9±3.3 (n=4) and 21.0±3.1; (n=4) kPa, respectively ($P=0.12$). Hence, fluoride treatment did not significantly affect the Young's modulus of the cells, as we reported recently for M-1 mouse kidney cortical collecting duct epithelia (Antonio et al., 2017). It is noteworthy that the Young's modulus of the Caco-2 cell monolayer is substantially greater than the 1 kPa obtained for M-1 cell monolayers, although it is similar to the value of about 25 kPa reported for MDCK cell monolayers (Schulze et al., 2017).

Effect of Fluoride on Rat Colonic Epithelia

As mentioned above, Caco-2 cell monolayers are not an ideal model of a colonic epithelium. Hence, we sought to determine the effect of fluoride on *ex vivo* colonic epithelia. Representative cumulative concentration-response results for forskolin acting on a rat colonic epithelium are shown in Figure 4(A). Initially, amiloride (10^{-5} M) was added to the apical side of the epithelium to inhibit Na^+ entry through epithelial Na^+ channels (ENaCs). In fact, amiloride did not evoke a response (arrowhead), indicating that electrogenic Na^+ transport does not contribute to the I_{sc} in this epithelium. Addition of forskolin (10^{-5} M) to both sides of the epithelium (asterisks) caused a long-lasting increase in I_{sc} , in contrast to the transient response seen in Caco-2 cell monolayers (above). This is likely because basolateral K^+ channels in the native colonic epithelial cells have a greater ability to maintain a hyperpolarised state, and thus to maintain Cl^- secretion, compared with Caco-2 monolayers (Cuthbert et al., 1999). Forskolin caused a concentration-dependent increase in I_{sc} , peaking at about $125 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ [Fig. 4(A)], far greater than the $2 \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$ seen in Caco-2 cell monolayers (above). Addition of furosemide (10^{-4} M) to the basolateral side of the epithelium at the end of the experiment almost abolished the forskolin-induced increase in I_{sc} (circle), consistent with its action as a blocker of NKCC1. Pre-treatment of the epithelia for 30 min with 5 mM fluoride almost completely abolished the I_{sc} response to forskolin [Fig. 4(B)]. In addition, the I_{sc} responses to the voltage pulses grew progressively during the course of the experiment (~ 1

h), indicating that R_t was falling, likely because of a continuing effect of fluoride. Combined data for forskolin acting on control and fluoride-treated rat colonic epithelia are shown in Figure 4(C). The parameters of the curve for the control epithelia were $EC_{50}=3.33 \times 10^{-7}$ M, $Min=-2.87 \mu A$, $Max=26.93 \mu A$, Hill coefficient 0.95. The effect of fluoride on forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} was highly significant (two-way ANOVA; $P<0.0001$). In fact, for the fluoride-treated tissues, forskolin did not cause a positive change in I_{sc} . The resistance of control rat colonic epithelia was about $35 \Omega \text{ cm}^2$, far lower than the value for Caco-2 cell monolayers, and remained constant for up to 3.5 h [Fig. 4(D)]. Consistent with its effect on forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} , fluoride caused a dramatic reduction in R_t over a 30-min incubation period, and there was no significant further decrease over a subsequent 3-h incubation (one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post-hoc test; $P\geq 0.05$). R_t for fluoride-treated epithelia was significantly lower at all time points than R_t for control epithelia ($P<0.0001$).

Effect of Fluoride on Mouse Colonic Epithelia

As in the rat colonic epithelia, forskolin caused a concentration-dependent increase in I_{sc} in mouse colonic epithelia, rising to about $80 \mu A/\text{cm}^2$ at 10^{-5} M forskolin [Fig. 5(A)]. Again, pre-treatment of the epithelia for 30 min with 5 mM fluoride almost completely abolished the I_{sc} response to forskolin. The parameters of the curve for the control epithelia were $EC_{50}=2.71 \times 10^{-7}$ M, Hill coefficient=2.21, and for fluoride-treated epithelia the parameters were $EC_{50}=2.93 \times 10^{-7}$ M, Hill coefficient=12.08. After fluoride treatment, the maximum response to forskolin was reduced by 78% from $77 \mu A/\text{cm}^2$ to $17 \mu A/\text{cm}^2$. As with rat epithelia, the effect of fluoride on forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} was highly significant (two-way ANOVA; $P<0.0001$). The resistance of control mouse colonic epithelia was about $50 \Omega \text{ cm}^2$ (i.e. higher than that in the rat colonic epithelia), and again remained constant for up to 3.5 h [Fig. 5(B)]. Fluoride reduced R_t during a 30-min incubation period, and again there was no significant further decrease over the subsequent 3 h (one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post-

hoc test; $P \geq 0.05$). In mouse epithelia treated with fluoride ($n = 5$), transepithelial resistance was lower than in control epithelia ($n = 2$). R_t for fluoride-treated epithelia was significantly lower at all time points than R_t for control epithelia ($P < 0.0001$).

Proteomic Analysis

Caco-2 cell monolayers were either untreated (control) or exposed to 5 mM fluoride for 24 h. Comparative analysis showed 5 and 103 proteins up- and down-regulated, respectively, in the fluoride-treated group compared with control [Table SI]. The numbers of proteins exclusively expressed in the control and fluoride-treated groups were 229 [Table SII] and 113 [Table SIII], respectively. GO analysis showed that proteins with altered expression were most commonly related to the “homophilic cell adhesion via plasma membrane adhesion molecules” term, with a 14% frequency. In addition, 8% of the proteins were related to “response to unfolded protein”, while 7% were related to “pyridine-containing compound metabolic process”. Exposure to fluoride changed the expression of various proteins related to cell motility and adhesion. The expression of proteins related to actin binding, such as various isoforms of alpha-actinin was increased, while the expression of various isoforms of tubulin and actin was decreased. In addition, some proteins related to cell-matrix and cell-cell adhesion were uniquely identified in the group exposed to fluoride, such as integrin beta-4 fragment (J3KSH9), while others were uniquely identified in the control group, such as vinculin (P18206) and multiple isoforms of protocadherin. Furthermore, exposure to fluoride reduced the expression of various proteins related to different steps of protein synthesis and folding, as depicted in the sub-network shown in Figure 6, where many proteins with altered expression interacted with SNW domain-containing protein 1 (Q13573), which is involved in transcriptional regulation. Among the interacting proteins are 78 kDa glucose-regulated protein (GRP78; P11021) and elongation factor 1-alpha 1 (P68104), which were down-regulated by fluoride, and 116 kDa U5 small nuclear ribonucleoprotein component (Q15029)

and nuclear receptor corepressor 2 (Q9Y618), which were absent after exposure to fluoride. Other proteins related to folding that were also reduced in sub-network are endoplasmic (P14625), down-regulated by fluoride and T-complex protein 1 subunit beta (P78371) absent upon exposure to fluoride.

DISCUSSION

We have investigated the effects of fluoride on three types of intestinal epithelium: Caco-2 cell monolayers, and rat and mouse colonic epithelia. We found that fluoride reduced forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} and R_t in all three epithelia. In Caco-2 cell monolayers, these functional effects of fluoride were accompanied by perturbations of the morphology of tight junctions between the cells, as revealed by both scanning electron microscopy and anti-ZO-1 immunofluorescence. In this context, our finding that the expression of alpha-actinin-4 (P043707) was increased upon exposure to fluoride is interesting. This protein is involved in tight junction assembly in epithelial cells probably through interaction with MICALL2; specifically, it links MICALL2 to the actin cytoskeleton and recruits it to tight junctions (UNIPROT).

The Caco-2 adenocarcinoma cell line forms monolayers that are of similar morphology to native enterocytes (Hidalgo et al., 1989), and polymerase chain reaction analysis has shown that transporter expression is similar to that in the small intestine (Maubon et al., 2007). In our experiments, fluoride reduced forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} and R_t over identical concentration ranges (IC_{50} , 3.1 mM). Hence, the Caco-2 cell monolayers are considerably less sensitive to fluoride than M-1 mouse kidney cortical collecting duct epithelia, in which both I_{sc} and R_t are reduced to zero at 1 mM fluoride (IC_{50} , 300 μ M; Antonio et al., 2017). Although its molecular basis is unclear and the first insights into this aspect have only been

recently reported (Melo et al., 2017), this difference might reflect the fact that the intestinal epithelium is the first barrier encountered by ingested fluoride.

Interestingly, while we found that both I_{sc} and R_t in Caco-2 cell monolayers were reduced to zero at 5 mM fluoride, others have shown that cell viability is unaffected by fluoride at concentrations up to 5.2 mM (Rocha et al., 2013). This discrepancy suggests that changes in transepithelial ion transport and resistance are particularly sensitive cytotoxic effects that are manifest before cell viability is compromised (Narai et al., 1997). In support of this suggestion, Wang et al. (2001) found a diminished R_t in endothelial cells exposed to 20 mM NaF after 10 min, despite cell viability assays indicating no cytotoxicity at 2 h. The fact that forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} and R_t were equally sensitive to fluoride suggest that the two effects have a common cause. The observed effects on tight junction morphology could account for the reduced R_t , which in turn would reduce the electrogenic ion transport across the epithelium, thereby explaining the reduction in I_{sc} .

Various intracellular targets of fluoride have been identified in previous studies. There have been several reports of effects on the cytoskeleton; for example, endothelial cells exposed to fluoride undergo contraction and increased intercellular separation (similar to the effect observed in the present study), which coincides with increased myosin light chain phosphorylation (Wang et al., 2001). However, the fact that fluoride did not affect cell stiffness in our experiments would appear to rule out a significant effect on the cytoskeleton of Caco-2 cells. A 24-h exposure to fluoride (2.1-8.4 mM) induced DNA damage and cytotoxicity in human embryo hepatocytes (Wang et al., 2004). Further, in human oral mucosal fibroblasts, fluoride caused ATP depletion, disturbed protein synthesis and diminished mitochondrial function in a concentration-dependent manner above 4 mM (Jeng et al., 1998). The observed reduction in the number or amount of proteins identified upon treatment with fluoride suggests that protein synthesis and folding had been adversely

affected [Tables SI-SIII, Fig. 6]. Fluoride may also directly inhibit ion transport through effects on the Na^+/K^+ -ATPase (Murphy and Hoover, 1992), or a reduction in intracellular ATP levels, as seen in macrophages at physiologically relevant plasma fluoride concentrations (Gutowska et al., 2010). In the present study, expression of two isoforms of ATP synthase was reduced upon exposure to fluoride [Table SI]. Numerous intestinal epithelial transporters can be modulated via phosphorylation (Barrett and Keely, 2000); hence, the known actions of fluoride on cellular phosphatases and kinases, either direct or via intracellular pathways, could result in altered ionic transport. It has been reported, for instance, that fluoride can inhibit renal phosphatases at micromolar levels (Partanen, 2002), and exert effects on G-protein signaling, protein kinases A and C, and tyrosine kinase in human lung epithelial cells (Refsnes et al., 2003).

Current World Health Organization guidelines (2006) recommend water fluoride levels of 1.5 mg/L (~80 μM), which is significantly lower than the concentrations producing effects in our experiments. The highest groundwater fluoride level observed in India, 48 mg/L (2.5 mM; Fawell et al., 2006), approaches our IC_{50} in Caco-2 cell monolayers, but any meaningful comparison would have to be based on the assumption that the epithelium would be directly exposed to the imbibed fluid. The fact that 5 mM fluoride had similar effects on rat and mouse colonic epithelia to those on Caco-2 cell monolayers suggests that the results obtained with the intestinal cell line are relevant to the behavior of intestinal epithelia *in vivo*. On the other hand, we need to recognize that our experiments involved only exposure to fluoride for a maximum of 72 h, raising the possibility that our results may not be directly applicable to the situation where people are exposed chronically to low-levels of fluoride in drinking water.

In conclusion, our results show that fluoride exposure induces changes in the structure, function and proteome of intestinal epithelia, but only at concentrations higher than those likely to be encountered under normal circumstances.

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Fig. 1. Effect of fluoride on the function of Caco-2 cell monolayers. (A) Representative response to forskolin, added at the asterisk. Transepithelial resistance (R_t) was measured via changes in I_{sc} during 5-s pulses to a 2-mV transepithelial voltage every 30 s. (B) Relationship between forskolin-stimulated I_{sc} and fluoride concentration. Bars show SEM (n=4-14). The dashed line shows the IC_{50} value. (C) Relationship between R_t and fluoride concentration. Bars show SEM (n=4-14). The dashed line shows the IC_{50} value. (D) Time-course of the effect of fluoride on R_t . Bars show SEM (n=3-15).

Fig. 2. Effect of fluoride treatment on epithelial structure. Representative scanning electron micrographs of the apical surface of a control epithelium (A) and an epithelium treated for 48 h with 5 mM fluoride (B). Scale bars, 5 μ m.

Fig. 3. Effect of fluoride on tight junction integrity. Immunofluorescence images showing the distribution of ZO-1 in a control epithelium (A) and in an epithelium treated for 48 h with 5 mM fluoride (B). Arrows indicate areas enclosed by ZO-1 that contain more than one nucleus. Scale bar, 50 μ m.

Fig. 4. Effect of fluoride on the function of rat colonic epithelia. (A) Representative cumulative concentration-response data for forskolin acting on a control rat colonic epithelium. Amiloride (10^{-5} M) was added at the arrowhead to block ENaC. Increasing concentrations of forskolin (10^{-7} M, 3×10^{-7} M, 10^{-6} M, 3×10^{-6} M and 10^{-5} M) were then added at the asterisks. Finally, furosemide (10^{-4} M) was added at the circle to block NKCC1. Transepithelial resistance (R_t) was measured via changes in I_{sc} during 5-s pulses to a 2-mV transepithelial voltage every 30 s. Time scale bar, 10 min. (B) Representative cumulative concentration-response data for forskolin acting on a rat colonic epithelium that had been pre-

treated with fluoride for 30 min. Drugs were added as in (A). Time scale bar, 10 min. (C) Relationship between I_{sc} and the concentration of forskolin in control (circles; n=11) and fluoride-treated (5 mM; squares; n=12) epithelia. Bars show SEM. Data were fitted to a 4-parameter logistic equation. Asterisks indicate a significant difference between control and fluoride (two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni's post-hoc test: ***, $P < 0.001$; ****, $P < 0.0001$). (D) Time-course of the effect of fluoride on R_f . Data are shown for control (circles; n=2) and fluoride-treated (5 mM; squares; n=6) epithelia. Bars show SEM. Asterisks indicate a significant difference between control and fluoride (two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni's post-hoc test: **, $P < 0.01$; ****, $P < 0.0001$).

Fig. 5. Effect of fluoride on the function of mouse colonic epithelia. (A) Relationship between I_{sc} and forskolin concentration in control (circles; n=31) and fluoride-treated (5 mM; squares; n=12) epithelia. Bars show SEM. Data were fitted to a 4-parameter logistic equation. Asterisks indicate a significant difference between control and fluoride (two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni's post-hoc test, *** $P < 0.001$, **** $P < 0.0001$). (B) Time-course of the effect of fluoride on R_f . Data are shown for control (diamonds; n=2) and fluoride-treated (5 mM; squares; n=5) epithelia. Bars show SEM. Asterisks indicate a significant difference between control and fluoride (two-way ANOVA with Bonferroni's post-hoc test: **, $P < 0.01$; ****, $P < 0.0001$).

Fig. 6. Subnetwork created by ClusterMark® to establish the interaction between proteins in Caco-2 cells identified as having differential expression in the fluoride-treated group compared with control. The color of the nodes indicates the differential expression of each protein, with its access code. The dark red nodes indicate proteins unique to the control. The nodes in gray indicate the interacting proteins predicted by CYTOSCAPE®, which were not

identified in the present study. The light red nodes indicate proteins downregulated in the fluoride-treated group. According to the UNIPROT data base, the proteins illustrated are: P78371: T-complex protein 1 subunit beta; Q5VW00: DDB1- and CUL4-associated factor 12-like protein 2; Q9Y618: Nuclear receptor corepressor 2; Q15029: 116 kDa U5 small nuclear ribonucleoprotein component; P06733: Alpha-enolase; P11021: 78 kDa glucose-regulated protein; P14625: Endoplasmin; P07437: Tubulin beta chain; P68104: Elongation factor 1-alpha 1; P68133: Actin, alpha skeletal muscle; O43823: A-kinase anchor protein 8; O15379: Histone deacetylase 3; O95503: Chromobox protein homolog 6; O94905: Erlin-2; Q13573: SNW domain-containing protein 1; Q96D17: tRNA pseudouridine(38/39) synthase; Q01534: Testis-specific Y-encoded protein 1; P17020: Zinc finger protein 16.

Figure 1

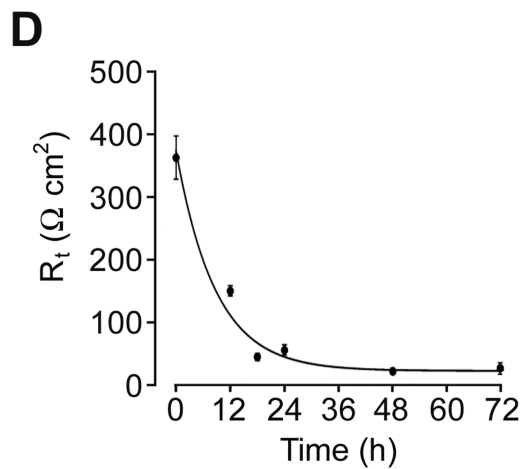
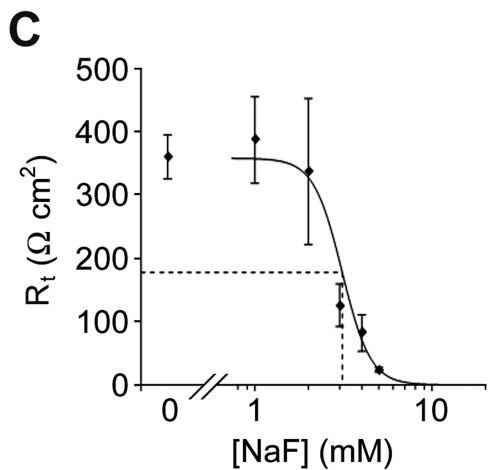
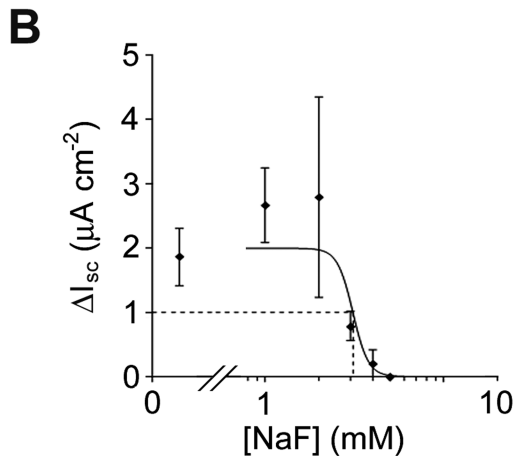
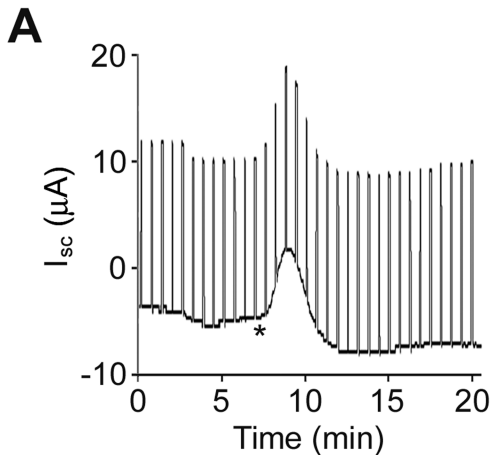
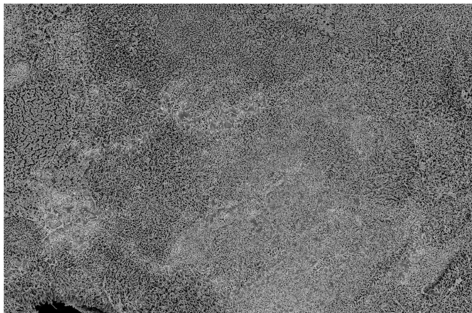


Figure 2

A

Control



B

5 mM NaF

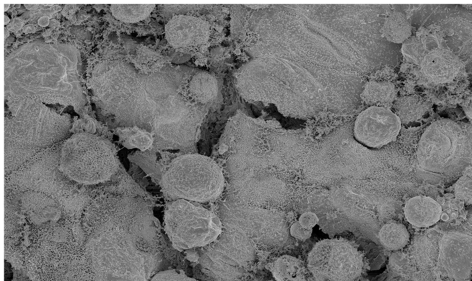
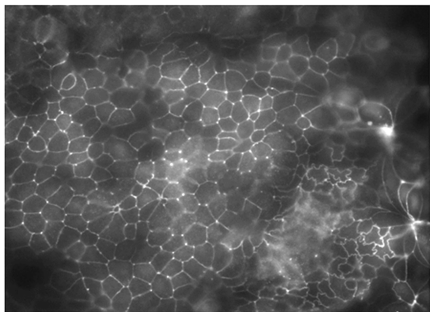


Figure 3

A

Control



B

5 mM NaF

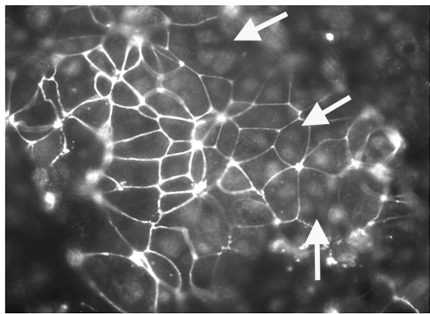


Figure 4

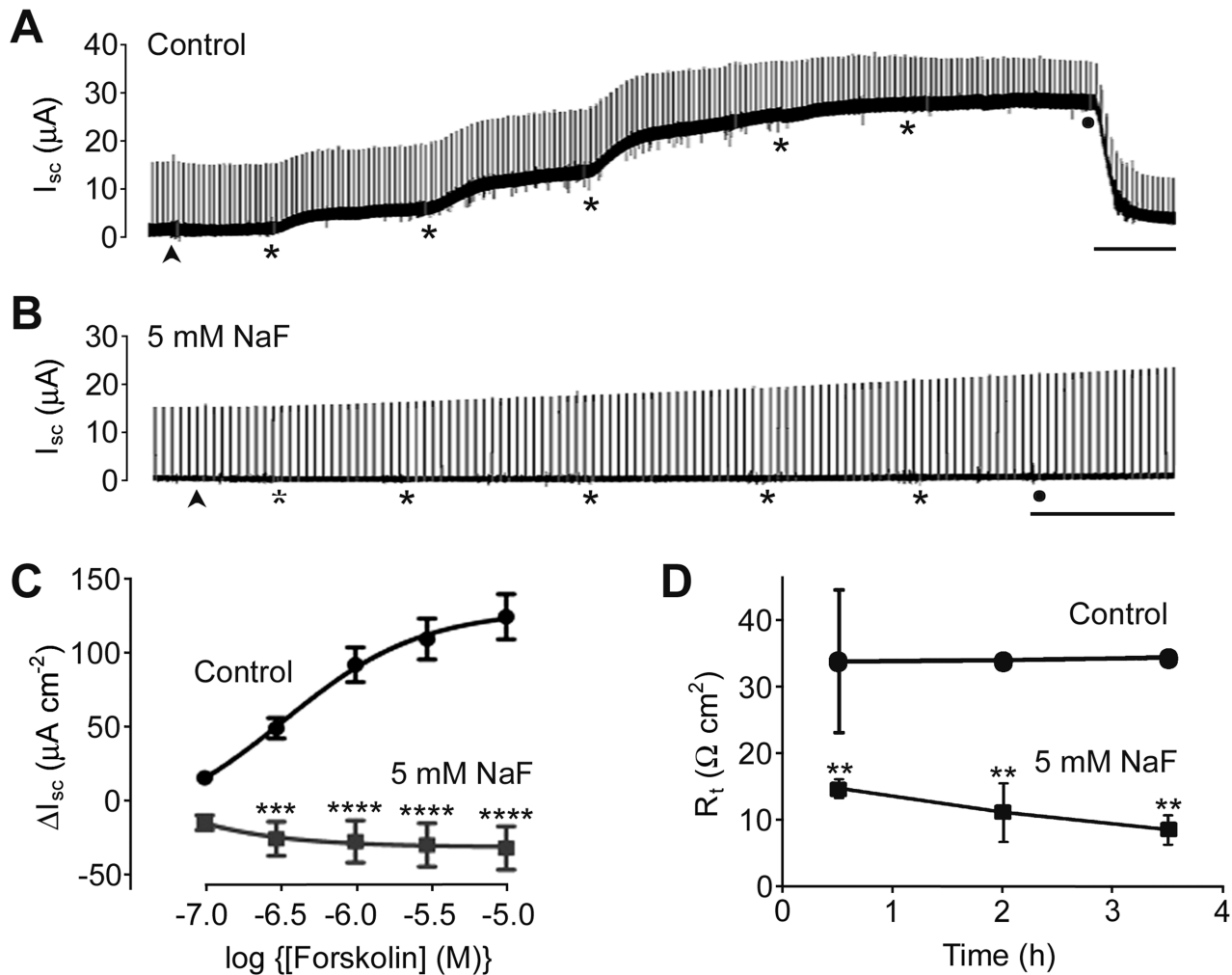


Figure 5

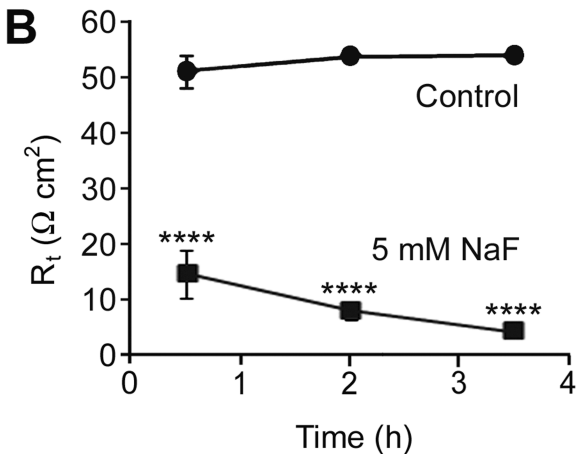
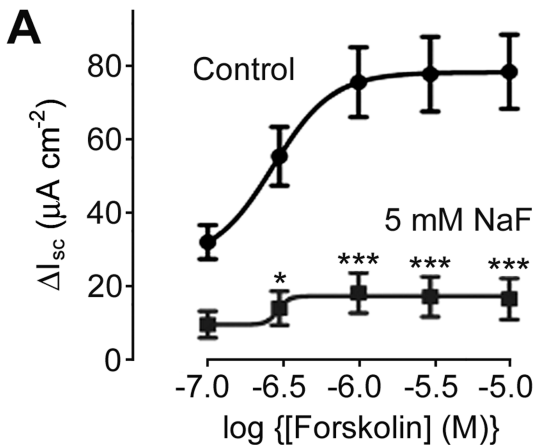


Figure 6

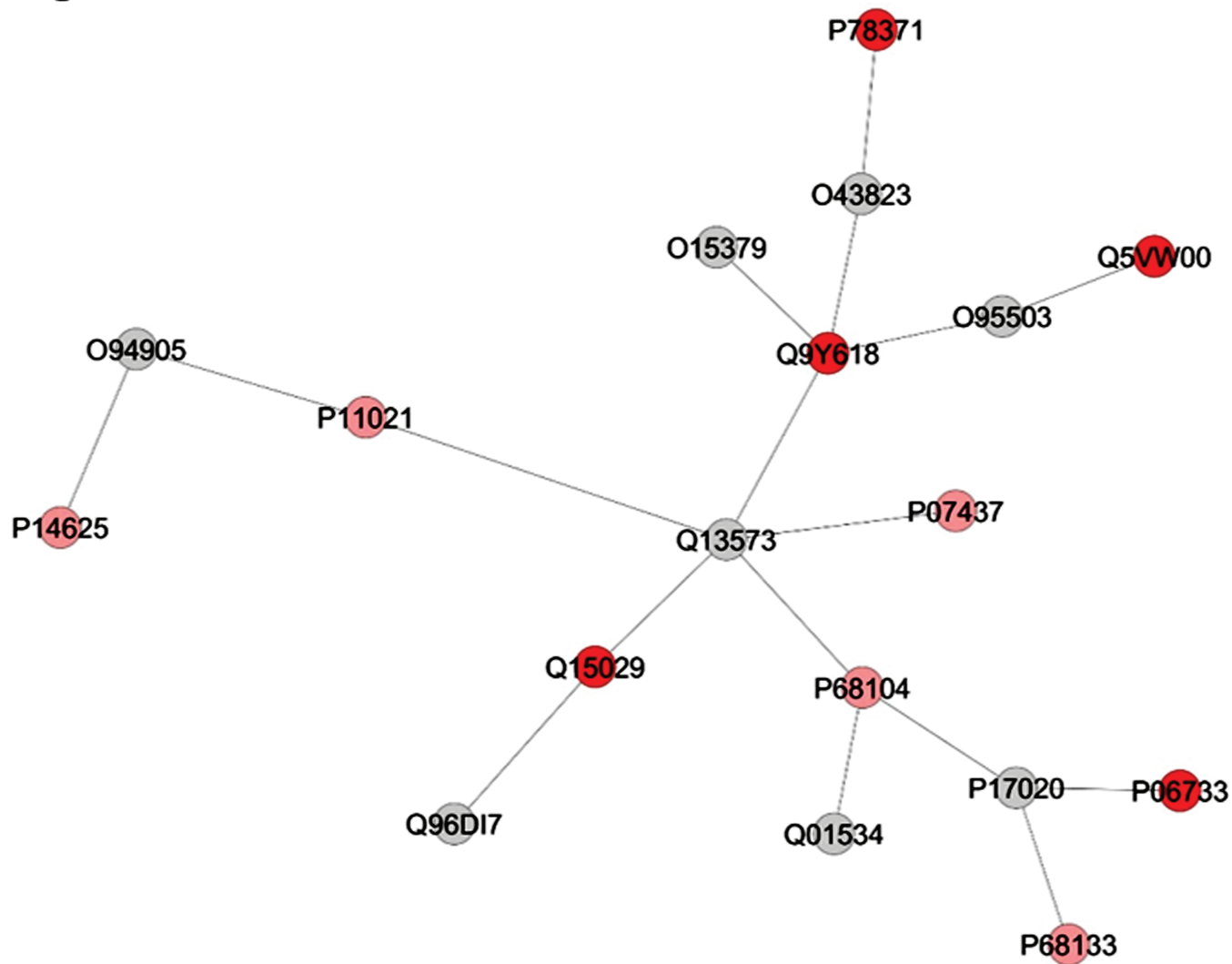


Table SI. Proteins with significant changes in expression in Caco-2 cells treated with 5 mM fluoride compared with control group.

| Accession | Gene | Description | PLGS score | Ratio (F:control) |
|------------------|-------------|---|-------------------|--------------------------|
| H7C5W8 | ACTN1 | Alpha-actinin-1 (Fragment) | 139.78 | 3.71 |
| P06748 | NPM1 | Nucleophosmin | 214.84 | 1.65 |
| O43707 | ACTN4 | Alpha-actinin-4 | 160.85 | 1.40 |
| P12814 | ACTN1 | Alpha-actinin-1 | 155.07 | 1.36 |
| P05787 | KRT8 | Keratin. type II cytoskeletal 8 | 102.01 | 1.16 |
| E9PNX1 | SERPINH1 | Serpin H1 (Fragment) | 302.27 | 0.94 |
| P06576 | ATP5B | ATP synthase subunit beta, mitochondrial | 294.93 | 0.73 |
| P25705 | ATP5A1 | ATP synthase subunit alpha, mitochondrial | 1135.13 | 0.66 |
| Q14974 | KPNB1 | Importin subunit beta-1 | 77.39 | 0.64 |
| P04350 | TUBB4A | Tubulin beta-4A chain | 203.76 | 0.64 |
| D6RBL5 | ANXA5 | Annexin | 129.84 | 0.63 |
| Q9NY65 | TUBA8 | Tubulin alpha-8 chain | 75.7 | 0.59 |
| Q13748 | TUBA3C | Tubulin alpha-3C/D chain | 75.7 | 0.59 |
| Q6PEY2 | TUBA3E | Tubulin alpha-3E | 97.19 | 0.59 |
| P68366 | TUBA4A | Tubulin alpha-4A chain | 75.7 | 0.59 |
| H3BUX2 | CYB5B | Cytochrome b5 type B | 290.73 | 0.58 |
| H7BZJ3 | PDIA3 | Protein disulfide-isomerase A3 (Fragment) | 343.91 | 0.58 |
| O43169 | CYB5B | Cytochrome b5 type B | 290.73 | 0.58 |
| Q71U36 | TUBA1A | Tubulin alpha-1A chain | 5341.14 | 0.58 |
| D6RFH4 | CYB5B | Cytochrome b5 type B | 290.73 | 0.58 |
| Q9BQE3 | TUBA1C | Tubulin alpha-1C chain | 5341.14 | 0.58 |
| P08758 | ANXA5 | Annexin A5 | 347.24 | 0.58 |
| E9PHT9 | ANXA5 | Annexin | 315.4 | 0.57 |
| P68363 | TUBA1B | Tubulin alpha-1B chain | 5341.14 | 0.57 |
| P14625 | HSP90B1 | Endoplasmin | 324.98 | 0.54 |
| J3KNF8 | CYB5B | Cytochrome b5 type B | 290.73 | 0.54 |
| A0A087X2E9 | GSTP1 | Glutathione S-transferase P (Fragment) | 600.61 | 0.54 |

| | | | | |
|------------|-----------|---|---------|------|
| P10809 | HSPD1 | 60 kDa heat shock protein, mitochondrial | 1750.41 | 0.53 |
| Q15084 | PDIA6 | Protein disulfide-isomerase A6 | 101.95 | 0.53 |
| P07900 | HSP90AA1 | Heat shock protein HSP 90-alpha | 551.7 | 0.52 |
| P0C221 | CCDC175 | Coiled-coil domain-containing protein 175 | 75.97 | 0.52 |
| O00299 | CLIC1 | Chloride intracellular channel protein 1 | 210.21 | 0.51 |
| A8K7Q2 | HSPA8 | Heat shock cognate 71 kDa protein | 203.82 | 0.51 |
| Q58FF7 | HSP90AB3P | Putative heat shock protein HSP 90-beta-3 | 43.05 | 0.51 |
| P32119 | PRDX2 | Peroxiredoxin-2 | 507.16 | 0.51 |
| P08238 | HSP90AB1 | Heat shock protein HSP 90-beta | 147.59 | 0.50 |
| Q06830 | PRDX1 | Peroxiredoxin-1 | 507.16 | 0.50 |
| P40926 | MDH2 | Malate dehydrogenase. mitochondrial | 407.79 | 0.49 |
| P30101 | PDIA3 | Protein disulfide-isomerase A3 | 162.74 | 0.49 |
| Q96GW1 | HSP90B1 | Endoplasmin | 67.13 | 0.48 |
| P11142 | HSPA8 | Heat shock cognate 71 kDa protein | 1813.21 | 0.48 |
| P30084 | ECHS1 | Enoyl-CoA hydratase. mitochondrial | 236.87 | 0.47 |
| A0A087WVQ9 | EEF1A1 | Elongation factor 1-alpha 1 | 515.19 | 0.46 |
| A0A0G2JIW1 | HSPA1B | Heat shock 70 kDa protein 1B | 1752.97 | 0.46 |
| P0DMV9 | HSPA1B | Heat shock 70 kDa protein 1B | 1752.97 | 0.46 |
| P68104 | EEF1A1 | Elongation factor 1-alpha 1 | 515.19 | 0.46 |
| Q5VTE0 | EEF1A1P5 | Putative elongation factor 1-alpha-like 3 | 515.19 | 0.46 |
| P0DMV8 | HSPA1A | Heat shock 70 kDa protein 1A | 1752.97 | 0.45 |
| E9PNE6 | HSPA8 | Heat shock cognate 71 kDa protein | 1700.33 | 0.45 |
| J3KPS3 | ALDOA | Fructose-bisphosphate | 355.5 | 0.45 |
| E9PKE3 | HSPA8 | Heat shock cognate 71 kDa protein | 1785.87 | 0.44 |
| P04075 | ALDOA | Fructose-bisphosphate aldolase A | 355.5 | 0.44 |
| P12277 | CKB | Creatine kinase B-type | 212.43 | 0.44 |
| A8MX94 | GSTP1 | Glutathione S-transferase P | 963.37 | 0.44 |
| P17066 | HSPA6 | Heat shock 70 kDa protein 6 | 1425.92 | 0.44 |
| G3V3R4 | TUBB3 | HCG1983504. isoform CRA_c | 320.37 | 0.44 |
| P11021 | HSPA5 | 78 kDa glucose-regulated protein | 415.61 | 0.44 |
| P54652 | HSPA2 | Heat shock-related 70 kDa protein 2 | 1774.68 | 0.44 |

| | | | | |
|------------|--------|---------------------------------------|---------|------|
| G3V2R8 | TUBB3 | HCG1983504, isoform CRA_e | 320.37 | 0.44 |
| G3V5W4 | TUBB3 | Tubulin beta-3 chain | 320.37 | 0.44 |
| P09211 | GSTP1 | Glutathione S-transferase P | 963.37 | 0.44 |
| G3V2N6 | TUBB3 | HCG1983504, isoform CRA_d | 320.37 | 0.44 |
| Q05639 | EEF1A2 | Elongation factor 1-alpha 2 | 95.38 | 0.43 |
| P62937 | PPIA | Peptidyl-prolyl cis-trans isomerase A | 1440.16 | 0.43 |
| P60709 | ACTB | Actin, cytoplasmic 1 | 575.04 | 0.43 |
| F5H5D3 | TUBA1C | Tubulin alpha-1C chain | 5341.14 | 0.43 |
| P63261 | ACTG1 | Actin, cytoplasmic 2 | 575.04 | 0.43 |
| Q9BYX7 | POTEKP | Putative beta-actin-like protein 3 | 502.31 | 0.42 |
| A5A3E0 | POTEKP | POTE ankyrin domain family member F | 502.31 | 0.42 |
| F8WE65 | PPIA | Peptidyl-prolyl cis-trans isomerase | 1440.16 | 0.42 |
| Q13885 | TUBB2A | Tubulin beta-2A chain | 1454.28 | 0.42 |
| P34931 | HSPA1L | Heat shock 70 kDa protein 1-like | 1786.52 | 0.42 |
| P38646 | HSPA9 | Stress-70 protein, mitochondrial | 854.97 | 0.42 |
| Q9BVA1 | TUBB2B | Tubulin beta-2B chain | 1454.28 | 0.42 |
| Q562R1 | ACTBL2 | Beta-actin-like protein 2 | 507.48 | 0.42 |
| P63267 | ACTG2 | Actin, gamma-enteric smooth muscle | 507.48 | 0.42 |
| Q6S8J3 | POTEE | POTE ankyrin domain family member E | 502.31 | 0.42 |
| Q13509 | TUBB3 | Tubulin beta-3 chain | 1443.49 | 0.41 |
| P48741 | HSPA7 | Putative heat shock 70 kDa protein 7 | 1404.53 | 0.41 |
| P00558 | PGK1 | Phosphoglycerate kinase 1 | 119.27 | 0.41 |
| A0A0B4J269 | | Uncharacterized protein | 1443.49 | 0.41 |
| F8VS66 | TUBA1C | Tubulin alpha-1C chain | 5265.44 | 0.41 |
| Q5JP53 | TUBB | Tubulin beta chain | 1454.28 | 0.41 |
| V9GZ37 | HSPA1A | Heat shock 70 kDa protein 1A | 81.96 | 0.41 |
| P68133 | ACTA1 | Actin, alpha skeletal muscle | 507.48 | 0.41 |
| P07437 | TUBB | Tubulin beta chain | 1454.28 | 0.41 |
| P68032 | ACTC1 | Actin, alpha cardiac muscle 1 | 507.48 | 0.41 |
| P62736 | ACTA2 | Actin, aortic smooth muscle | 507.48 | 0.41 |
| P13796 | LCP1 | Plastin-2 | 48.98 | 0.41 |

| | | | | |
|------------|---------|---|---------|------|
| H3BQN4 | ALDOA | Fructose-bisphosphate aldolase | 355.5 | 0.41 |
| G3V2A3 | TUBB3 | Tubulin beta-3 chain (Fragment) | 1123.12 | 0.41 |
| A0A087WUM2 | LDHAL6A | L-lactate dehydrogenase | 80.83 | 0.40 |
| Q5ST81 | TUBB | Tubulin beta chain | 1133.91 | 0.40 |
| P68371 | TUBB4B | Tubulin beta-4B chain | 1326.88 | 0.40 |
| P55072 | VCP | Transitional endoplasmic reticulum ATPase | 68.43 | 0.40 |
| P30041 | PRDX6 | Peroxiredoxin-6 | 236.73 | 0.39 |
| O60486 | PLXNC1 | Plexin-C1 | 17.18 | 0.39 |
| P00338 | LDHA | L-lactate dehydrogenase A chain | 80.83 | 0.38 |
| Q6ZMR3 | LDHAL6A | L-lactate dehydrogenase A-like 6A | 85.76 | 0.38 |
| Q3ZCM7 | TUBB8 | Tubulin beta-8 chain | 203.76 | 0.38 |
| A0A075B724 | TUBB8 | Tubulin beta-8 chain | 192.97 | 0.37 |
| P09104 | ENO2 | Gamma-enolase | 101.14 | 0.37 |
| M0QX14 | TUBB4A | Tubulin beta-4A chain | 192.97 | 0.37 |
| P07195 | LDHB | L-lactate dehydrogenase B chain | 120.82 | 0.36 |
| P0CG39 | POTEJ | POTE ankyrin domain family member J | 293.29 | 0.29 |
| P0CG38 | POTEI | POTE ankyrin domain family member I | 286.08 | 0.29 |
| E5RIZ5 | PPIA | Peptidyl-prolyl cis-trans isomerase A | 731.15 | 0.27 |
| C9J5S7 | PPIA | Peptidyl-prolyl cis-trans isomerase | 1440.16 | 0.26 |

Identified proteins are organized according to the PLGS score. Identification is based on protein ID from UniProt protein database (<http://www.uniprot.org/>).

Table SII. Proteins identified exclusively in untreated Caco-2 cells (control).

| Accession | Gene | Description | PLGS score |
|------------------|---------------|--|-------------------|
| P31939 | ATIC | Bifunctional purine biosynthesis protein PURH | 604.69 |
| D6R904 | TPM3 | Tropomyosin alpha-3 chain | 426.32 |
| Q5HYB6 | DKFZp686J1372 | Epididymis luminal protein 189 | 426.32 |
| Q8NA19 | L3MBTL4 | Lethal(3)malignant brain tumor-like protein 4 | 397.51 |
| P13639 | EEF2 | Elongation factor 2 | 326.82 |
| Q15029 | EFTUD2 | 116 kDa U5 small nuclear ribonucleoprotein component | 307.44 |
| P06733 | ENO1 | Alpha-enolase | 252.36 |
| E5RGE1 | YWHAZ | 14-3-3 protein zeta/delta (Fragment) | 251.38 |
| H3BRD5 | MYO9A | Unconventional myosin-IXa | 248.17 |
| B2RTY4 | MYO9A | Unconventional myosin-IXa | 248.17 |
| Q5VU61 | TPM3 | Tropomyosin alpha-3 chain | 240.83 |
| K7EL95 | QTRT1 | Queuine tRNA-ribosyltransferase (Fragment) | 240.33 |
| J3KQ43 | ALS2 | Alsin (Fragment) | 230.18 |
| H0Y8Y2 | ANK2 | Ankyrin-2 (Fragment) | 225.34 |
| Q9BWD1 | ACAT2 | Acetyl-CoA acetyltransferase. cytosolic | 219.28 |
| H7BYH4 | SOD1 | Superoxide dismutase [Cu-Zn] | 216.39 |
| Q58EX7 | PLEKHG4 | Puratrophin-1 | 215.35 |
| H3BR70 | PKM | Pyruvate kinase | 215.17 |
| P35579 | MYH | Myosin-9 | 214.35 |
| H3BQP9 | PLEKHG4 | Puratrophin-1 (Fragment) | 212.05 |
| H0Y933 | ANK2 | Ankyrin-2 (Fragment) | 202.89 |
| B1AH99 | MYH9 | Myosin-9 (Fragment) | 200.43 |
| Q5BKV1 | MYH9 | MYH9 protein | 200.43 |
| P18206 | VCL | Vinculin | 187.78 |
| H0YK48 | TPM1 | Tropomyosin alpha-1 chain | 185.49 |
| J3KN67 | TPM3 | Tropomyosin alpha-3 chain | 185.49 |
| P13797 | PLS3 | Plastin-3 | 182.39 |
| F5H0C5 | PHB2 | Prohibitin-2 | 180.6 |
| X6R3G6 | MFGE8 | Lactadherin | 174.75 |
| P15822 | HIVEP1 | Zinc finger protein 40 | 171.73 |
| I3L504 | EIF5A | Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 5A-1 | 171.23 |
| O95994 | AGR2 | Anterior gradient protein 2 homolog | 169.8 |
| A0A0A0MSQ0 | PLS3 | Plastin-3 | 168.48 |
| F5H212 | HIVEP1 | Zinc finger protein 40 | 168.17 |
| Q9UJA1 | FBXL5 | F-box/LRR-repeat protein 5 | 165.83 |
| Q9HC52 | CBX8 | Chromobox protein homolog 8 | 159.88 |
| H7C0P3 | NCOR2 | Nuclear receptor corepressor 2 (Fragment) | 159.79 |
| A0A096LPE1 | VCL | Vinculin | 159.5 |
| P07864 | LDHC | L-lactate dehydrogenase C chain | 159.42 |
| F5H245 | LDHC | L-lactate dehydrogenase | 159.42 |
| Q9UBB9 | TFIP11 | Tuftelin-interacting protein 11 | 157.39 |

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|------------|----------|---|--------|
| C9J2N3 | HIVEP1 | Zinc finger protein 40 (Fragment) | 157.15 |
| Q16586 | SGCA | Alpha-sarcoglycan | 148.07 |
| Q9UGJ1 | TUBGCP4 | Gamma-tubulin complex component 4 | 140.96 |
| F5H365 | SEC23A | Protein transport protein Sec23A | 140.63 |
| F8W775 | NRCAM | Neuronal cell adhesion molecule | 137.15 |
| H3BQY4 | TUBGCP4 | Gamma-tubulin complex component 4 (Fragment) | 131.05 |
| A0A087X2B3 | NRCAM | Neuronal cell adhesion molecule | 130.06 |
| Q9NUJ7 | PLCXD1 | PI-PLC X domain-containing protein 1 | 129.95 |
| C9JP92 | PLCXD1 | PI-PLC X domain-containing protein 1 (Fragment) | 129.95 |
| X6RFG1 | PLCXD1 | PI-PLC X domain-containing protein 1 (Fragment) | 129.95 |
| Q9BXI2 | SLC25A2 | Mitochondrial ornithine transporter 2 | 127.87 |
| Q9UN70 | PCDHGC3 | Protocadherin gamma-C3 | 123.77 |
| G3V5X8 | SEC23A | Protein transport protein Sec23A | 121.08 |
| Q9Y5F6 | PCDHGC5 | Protocadherin gamma-C5 | 118.22 |
| F5GXQ8 | SYNE1 | Nesprin-1 | 117.96 |
| P35243 | RCVRN | Recoverin | 116.92 |
| Q7Z3Z4 | PIWIL4 | Piwi-like protein 4 | 116.87 |
| Q5VW00 | DCAF12L2 | DDB1- and CUL4-associated factor 12-like protein 2 | 115.37 |
| Q03403 | TFF2 | Trefoil factor 2 | 115.28 |
| Q9Y5H1 | PCDHGA2 | Protocadherin gamma-A2 | 114.39 |
| P68036 | UBE2L3 | Ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2 L3 | 113.46 |
| A6NIW5 | PRDX2 | Peroxiredoxin 2, isoform CRA_a | 111.75 |
| A0A0A0MRI2 | SNX6 | Sorting nexin 6, isoform CRA_b | 111.38 |
| Q9UNH7 | SNX6 | Sorting nexin-6 | 111.38 |
| Q9Y5G2 | PCDHGB2 | Protocadherin gamma-B2 | 111.32 |
| Q16854 | DGUOK | Deoxyguanosine kinase. mitochondrial | 110.51 |
| A0A0A0MQW1 | KSR1 | Protein kinase C | 110.47 |
| Q8IVT5 | KSR1 | Kinase suppressor of Ras 1 | 110.47 |
| O00764 | PDXK | Pyridoxal kinase | 110.18 |
| P98160 | HSPG2 | Basement membrane-specific heparan sulfate proteoglycan core protein | 108.94 |
| Q9Y5G1 | PCDHGB3 | Protocadherin gamma-B3 | 108.32 |
| Q6WCQ1 | MPRIP | Myosin phosphatase Rho-interacting protein | 106.18 |
| H0YMU7 | KMT2C | Histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 2C | 105.6 |
| P18615 | NELFE | Negative elongation factor E | 105.31 |
| F5H422 | SYNE1 | Nesprin-1 | 103.79 |
| Q13315 | ATM | Serine-protein kinase ATM | 103.62 |
| F5H4Q0 | SYNE1 | Nesprin-1 | 101.21 |
| Q8WV37 | ZNF480 | Zinc finger protein 480 | 99.51 |
| Q9Y5G3 | PCDHGB | Protocadherin gamma-B1 | 99.11 |
| Q9Y5G0 | PCDHGB5 | Protocadherin gamma-B5 | 99.11 |
| A0A0U1RQT3 | HSPG2 | Basement membrane-specific heparan sulfate proteoglycan core protein (Fragment) | 99.11 |
| Q9BQI5 | SGIP1 | SH3-containing GRB2-like protein 3-interacting protein 1 | 98.31 |
| O00567 | NOP56 | Nucleolar protein 56 | 97.79 |
| A0A087WUC2 | PCDHGC4 | Protocadherin gamma-C4 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5H4 | PCDHGA1 | Protocadherin gamma-A1 | 97.17 |

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|------------|----------|---|-------|
| Q9Y5H3 | PCDHGA10 | Protocadherin gamma-A10 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5H2 | PCDHGA11 | Protocadherin gamma-A11 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5H0 | PCDHGA3 | Protocadherin gamma-A3 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5G9 | PCDHGA4 | Protocadherin gamma-A4 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5G8 | PCDHGA5 | Protocadherin gamma-A5 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5G7 | PCDHGA6 | Protocadherin gamma-A6 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5G6 | PCDHGA7 | Protocadherin gamma-A7 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5G5 | PCDHGA8 | Protocadherin gamma-A8 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5G4 | PCDHGA9 | Protocadherin gamma-A9 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5F9 | PCDHGB6 | Protocadherin gamma-B6 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5F8 | PCDHGB7 | Protocadherin gamma-B7 | 97.17 |
| Q9Y5F7 | PCDHGC4 | Protocadherin gamma-C4 | 97.17 |
| Q9UN71 | PCDHGB4 | Protocadherin gamma-B4 | 97.17 |
| Q9BR81 | PCDHGC3 | Protocadherin gamma subfamily C. 3 | 97.17 |
| A0A087WT05 | PCDHGA4 | Protocadherin gamma-A4 | 97.17 |
| A0A087WYB5 | PCDHGC3 | Protocadherin gamma-C3 | 97.17 |
| O60330 | PCDHGA12 | Protocadherin gamma-A12 | 97.17 |
| P78371 | CCT2 | T-complex protein 1 subunit beta | 97.14 |
| F5GWF6 | CCT2 | T-complex protein 1 subunit beta | 97.14 |
| B9A041 | MDH1 | Malate dehydrogenase. cytoplasmic | 95.61 |
| Q9BSH5 | HDHD3 | Haloacid dehalogenase-like hydrolase domain-containing protein 3 | 94.33 |
| Q8IXJ6 | SIRT2 | NAD-dependent protein deacetylase sirtuin-2 | 94.13 |
| D6REN3 | PSMG4 | Proteasome assembly chaperone 4 | 93.54 |
| F5H116 | PIWIL4 | Piwi-like protein 4 | 91.82 |
| E9PD43 | NELFE | Negative elongation factor E (Fragment) | 91.39 |
| G3V2U1 | SNX6 | Sorting nexin-6 | 91.38 |
| Q8TEW0 | PARD3 | Partitioning defective 3 homolog | 91.36 |
| F6R8P8 | SGIP1 | SH3-containing GRB2-like protein 3-interacting protein 1 (Fragment) | 91.1 |
| H7C5N6 | ASIC3 | Acid-sensing ion channel 3 (Fragment) | 90.61 |
| H0YFT4 | SYNE1 | Nesprin-1 (Fragment) | 90.51 |
| F8W1K6 | PLXNC1 | Plexin-C1 | 90.23 |
| H0YHE0 | HEATR5A | HEAT repeat-containing protein 5A (Fragment) | 89.68 |
| P35613 | BSG | Basigin | 88.52 |
| P38159 | RBMX | RNA-binding motif protein, X chromosome | 88.05 |
| E7EUT5 | GAPDH | Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase | 87.3 |
| Q5VWU8 | PARD3 | Partitioning defective 3 homolog | 86.75 |
| E9PCA1 | CCT5 | T-complex protein 1 subunit epsilon | 85.59 |
| P51689 | ARSD | Arylsulfatase D | 84.67 |
| H0Y7E2 | MPRIP | Myosin phosphatase Rho-interacting protein (Fragment) | 84.4 |
| Q5VWV2 | PARD3 | Partitioning defective 3 homolog | 83.94 |
| P09622 | DLD | Dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase. mitochondrial | 82.64 |
| Q92954 | PRG4 | Proteoglycan 4 | 82.36 |
| O43615 | TIMM44 | Mitochondrial import inner membrane translocase subunit TIM44 | 81.79 |
| G3V140 | CEP57L1 | Centrosomal protein CEP57L1 | 81.68 |
| Q6P2R3 | C6orf182 | C6orf182 protein | 81.68 |

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|------------|-----------|---|-------|
| F5GZI3 | PARD3 | Partitioning defective 3 homolog | 79.32 |
| A0A0A0MT41 | PLCXD1 | PI-PLC X domain-containing protein 1 (Fragment) | 78.85 |
| Q9H841 | NIPAL2 | NIPA-like protein 2 | 78.79 |
| E9PEX6 | DLD | Dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase | 78.72 |
| Q86UP8 | GTF2IRD2 | General transcription factor II-I repeat domain-containing protein 2A | 78.57 |
| Q6EKJ0 | GTF2IRD2B | General transcription factor II-I repeat domain-containing protein 2B | 78.57 |
| E5RJN3 | NCAPH2 | Condensin-2 complex subunit H2 (Fragment) | 78.19 |
| H7C327 | ARSD | Arylsulfatase D (Fragment) | 77.96 |
| Q5QPM2 | RALY | RNA-binding protein Raly (Fragment) | 75.39 |
| Q9Y618 | NCOR2 | Nuclear receptor corepressor 2 | 74.87 |
| G5E977 | NAPRT | Nicotinate phosphoribosyltransferase | 74.87 |
| P41970 | ELK3 | ETS domain-containing protein Elk-3 | 74.61 |
| Q6IQ55 | TTBK2 | Tau-tubulin kinase 2 | 73.66 |
| Q5GLZ8 | HERC4 | Probable E3 ubiquitin-protein ligase HERC4 | 72.95 |
| H3BUY5 | RBMX | RNA-binding motif protein. X chromosome | 72.77 |
| Q8N4C6 | NIN | Ninein | 72.6 |
| Q5JXT2 | NOP56 | Nucleolar protein 56 (Fragment) | 72.13 |
| B1AP52 | PARD3 | Partitioning defective 3 homolog | 72 |
| J3QRL2 | MPRIP | Myosin phosphatase Rho-interacting protein (Fragment) | 71.82 |
| H0Y8T1 | SGCA | Alpha-sarcoglycan (Fragment) | 71.68 |
| P14866 | HNRNPL | Heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein L | 70.48 |
| C9J066 | NIN | Ninein | 69.31 |
| M0R2S2 | EPS15L1 | Epidermal growth factor receptor substrate 15-like 1 | 69.07 |
| H0Y6K7 | HERC4 | Probable E3 ubiquitin-protein ligase HERC4 (Fragment) | 69.02 |
| Q13439 | GOLGA4 | Golgin subfamily A member 4 | 68.25 |
| A6ZIE4 | MUC1 | MUC1 isoform M10 | 67.94 |
| A6ZIE3 | MUC1 | MUC1 isoform M9 | 67.94 |
| B1AVQ7 | MUC1 | Mucin-1 | 67.94 |
| F8WCH0 | ACTG2 | Actin, gamma-enteric smooth muscle | 67.19 |
| G5E9R0 | ACTB | Actin, cytoplasmic 1 | 67.19 |
| F8WB63 | ACTG2 | Actin, gamma-enteric smooth muscle | 67.19 |
| J3KT65 | ACTG1 | Actin, cytoplasmic 2 | 67.19 |
| Q9UIJ7 | AK3 | GTP:AMP phosphotransferase AK3, mitochondrial | 67.19 |
| H0YM25 | GOLGA6L22 | Golgin subfamily A member 6-like protein 22 | 66.77 |
| O95271 | TNKS | Tankyrase-1 | 65.89 |
| F8VQ14 | CCT2 | T-complex protein 1 subunit beta | 64.31 |
| P21549 | AGXT | Serine--pyruvate aminotransferase | 63.53 |
| Q8IZA0 | KIAA0319L | Dyslexia-associated protein KIAA0319-like protein | 63.22 |
| O95613 | PCNT | Pericentrin | 63.06 |
| Q12765 | SCRN1 | Secernin-1 | 62.31 |
| O00192 | ARVCF | Armadillo repeat protein deleted in velo-cardio-facial syndrome | 62.23 |
| E7EWY6 | TNKS | Tankyrase-1 | 62.2 |
| A0A0B4J292 | TTBK2 | Tau-tubulin kinase 2 | 61.74 |
| Q8TD31 | CCHCR1 | Coiled-coil alpha-helical rod protein | 60.29 |
| B1AN15 | KIAA0319L | Dyslexia-associated protein KIAA0319-like protein (Fragment) | 60.1 |

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|------------|-----------|---|-------|
| B4DYG9 | KIAA0319L | Dyslexia-associated protein KIAA0319-like protein | 60.1 |
| H0YDE5 | KIAA1549L | UPF0606 protein KIAA1549L (Fragment) | 59.92 |
| H0YME6 | KIF23 | Kinesin-like protein | 59.34 |
| Q17RN3 | FAM98C | Protein FAM98C | 59.15 |
| P30520 | ADSS | Adenylosuccinate synthetase isozyme 2 | 59.08 |
| K7EQV0 | NLRP11 | NACHT, LRR and PYD domains-containing protein 11 | 58.44 |
| Q8N7Z2 | GOLGA6L1 | Golgin subfamily A member 6-like protein 1 | 58.06 |
| A8MZA4 | GOLGA6L6 | Golgin subfamily A member 6-like protein 6 | 58.06 |
| P08243 | ASNS | Asparagine synthetase [glutamine-hydrolyzing] | 57.22 |
| B8ZZP4 | SCRN1 | Secernin-1 | 56.35 |
| C9JJX6 | ARVCF | Armadillo repeat protein deleted in velo-cardio-facial syndrome | 55.95 |
| Q9BW61 | DDA1 | DET1- and DDB1-associated protein 1 | 55.36 |
| P54278 | PMS2 | Mismatch repair endonuclease PMS2 | 55.27 |
| Q14232 | EIF2B1 | Translation initiation factor eIF-2B subunit alpha | 55.26 |
| P10632 | CYP2C8 | Cytochrome P450 2C8 | 55.16 |
| P24821 | TNC | Tenascin | 54.66 |
| Q9H4A4 | RNPEP | Aminopeptidase B | 54.59 |
| O15049 | N4BP3 | NEDD4-binding protein 3 | 53.76 |
| H3BS38 | GOLGA6L2 | Golgin subfamily A member 6-like protein 2 | 53.21 |
| Q53F39 | MPPE1 | Metallophosphoesterase 1 | 53.21 |
| Q58FF6 | HSP90AB4P | Putative heat shock protein HSP 90-beta 4 | 52.77 |
| Q9UPN4 | CEP131 | Centrosomal protein of 131 kDa | 52.42 |
| Q5TZA2 | CROCC | Rootletin | 51.91 |
| A6NKB8 | RNPEP | Aminopeptidase B | 51.22 |
| C9JHJ5 | GOLGA4 | Golgin subfamily A member 4 (Fragment) | 50.95 |
| A0A0B4J1R6 | TKT | Transketolase | 48.8 |
| P29401 | TKT | Transketolase | 48.8 |
| K7EJ21 | QTRT1 | Queuine tRNA-ribosyltransferase (Fragment) | 48.36 |
| K7ESP6 | QTRT1 | Queuine tRNA-ribosyltransferase (Fragment) | 48.36 |
| I3L2X7 | CEP131 | Centrosomal protein of 131 kDa (Fragment) | 45.01 |
| P46108 | CRK | Adapter molecule crk | 43.67 |
| Q00341 | HDLBP | Vigilin | 41.77 |
| A0A0A0MRF5 | SIRT2 | NAD-dependent protein deacetylase sirtuin-2 | 39.73 |
| A0A087WYM3 | SIRT2 | NAD-dependent protein deacetylase sirtuin-2 | 39.73 |
| E7EWX6 | SIRT2 | NAD-dependent protein deacetylase sirtuin-2 (Fragment) | 39.73 |
| H0Y394 | HDLBP | Vigilin (Fragment) | 39.71 |
| A0A024R4E5 | HDLBP | High density lipoprotein binding protein (Vigilin). isoform CRA_a | 39.71 |
| I3L2J8 | CEP131 | Centrosomal protein of 131 kDa | 39.32 |
| Q14145 | KEAP1 | Kelch-like ECH-associated protein 1 | 34.64 |
| A0A0G2JP78 | RAD17 | Cell cycle checkpoint protein RAD17 | 32.34 |
| O75943 | RAD17 | Cell cycle checkpoint protein RAD17 | 32.34 |
| A0A0G2JPT5 | RAD17 | Cell cycle checkpoint protein RAD17 | 32.34 |
| Q13127 | REST | RE1-silencing transcription factor | 32.15 |
| Q01484 | ANK2 | Ankyrin-2 | 31.91 |
| Q3V6T2 | CCDC88A | Girdin | 31.6 |

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|--------|----------|---|-------|
| E9PEI6 | DPCR1 | Diffuse panbronchiolitis critical region protein 1 | 26.7 |
| I6L894 | ANK2 | Ankyrin-2 | 26.1 |
| O75643 | SNRNP200 | U5 small nuclear ribonucleoprotein 200 kDa helicase | 25.7 |
| A4UGR9 | XIRP2 | Xin actin-binding repeat-containing protein 2 | 24.44 |
| Q5HYC2 | KIAA2026 | Uncharacterized protein KIAA2026 | 24.2 |
| H0Y786 | NEB | Nebulin (Fragment) | 18.28 |
| H0YEM4 | VWA3B | von Willebrand factor A domain-containing protein 3B (Fragment) | 18 |
| Q9P2D7 | DNAH1 | Dynein heavy chain 1. axonemal | 17.05 |

Identified proteins are organized according to the PLGS score. Identification is based on protein ID from UniProt protein database (<http://www.uniprot.org/>).

Table SIII. Proteins identified exclusively in fluoride-treated Caco-2 cells.

| Accession | Gene | Description | PLGS score |
|------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| H0YMU9 | ANXA2 | Annexin | 1593.78 |
| P07355 | ANXA2 | Annexin A2 | 1593.78 |
| E5RGW4 | NPM1 | Nucleophosmin (Fragment) | 250.85 |
| J3KSH9 | ITGB4 | Integrin beta-4 (Fragment) | 247.77 |
| A0A0C4DGS6 | BCAS4 | Breast carcinoma-amplified sequence | 237.43 |
| Q8TDM0 | BCAS4 | Breast carcinoma-amplified sequence 4 | 237.43 |
| A0A0U1RQV5 | uncharacterized | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | 214.16 |
| Q5JYR7 | RPN2 | Dolichyl-diphosphooligosaccharide--protein glycosyltransferase subunit 2 (Fragment) | 193.9 |
| Q5JYR4 | RPN2 | Dolichyl-diphosphooligosaccharide--protein glycosyltransferase subunit 2 (Fragment) | 193.9 |
| P04844 | RPN2 | Dolichyl-diphosphooligosaccharide--protein glycosyltransferase subunit 2 | 193.9 |
| W4VSR2 | MPND | MPN domain-containing protein | 181.72 |
| H0YJ09 | HAUS4 | HAUS augmin-like complex subunit 4 (Fragment) | 181.55 |
| Q9P253 | VPS18 | Vacuolar protein sorting-associated protein 18 homolog | 172.92 |
| P13929 | ENO3 | Beta-enolase | 172.1 |
| H0YMC9 | VPS18 | Vacuolar protein sorting-associated protein 18 homolog | 164.5 |
| J3KTM9 | KPNB1 | Importin subunit beta-1 (Fragment) | 160.11 |
| J3QRG4 | KPNB1 | Importin subunit beta-1 (Fragment) | 158.13 |
| F8VY02 | ERP29 | Endoplasmic reticulum resident protein 29 | 143.29 |
| P30040 | ERP29 | Endoplasmic reticulum resident protein 29 | 143.29 |
| F5H0C8 | ENO2 | Enolase | 138.07 |
| F8VUW4 | PLXNC1 | Plexin-C1 (Fragment) | 136.15 |
| A6NMY6 | ANXA2 | Putative annexin A2-like protein | 132.54 |
| I3L391 | CACNA1A | Voltage-dependent P/Q-type calcium channel subunit alpha-1A (Fragment) | 109.81 |
| Q7Z494 | NPHP3 | Nephrocystin-3 | 108.79 |
| Q6DKI2 | LGALS9C | Galectin-9C | 107.29 |
| Q3B8N2 | LGALS9B | Galectin-9B | 107.29 |
| Q6DN72 | FCRL6 | Fc receptor-like protein 6 | 104.59 |
| F5GYB3 | FCRL6 | Fc receptor-like protein 6 (Fragment) | 104.59 |
| Q8N5I4 | vPS18 | Dehydrogenase/reductase SDR family member on chromosome X | 104.37 |
| P51571 | SSR4 | Translocon-associated protein subunit delta | 100.78 |
| A0A0J9YXS1 | NPHP3-ACAD11 | Protein NPHP3-ACAD11 (Fragment) | 95.06 |
| A0A0A0MQU4 | SCLY | Selenocysteine lyase | 88.85 |
| Q96I15 | SCLY | Selenocysteine lyase | 88.85 |
| E9PFF5 | FXR1 | Fragile X mental retardation syndrome-related protein 1 | 87.67 |
| H7C4Y8 | BCAS4 | Breast carcinoma-amplified sequence 4 | 87.44 |
| H3BR68 | ALDOA | Fructose-bisphosphate aldolase A (Fragment) | 87.03 |
| A6NMU3 | STAM | Signal transducing adapter molecule 1 (Fragment) | 80.12 |
| A1L0T0 | ILVBL | Acetolactate synthase-like protein | 79.34 |
| P31150 | GDI1 | Rab GDP dissociation inhibitor alpha | 79.19 |

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|------------|-----------------|---|-------|
| B4DQB2 | VNN2 | Vascular non-inflammatory molecule 2 | 76.89 |
| J3KQQ7 | VNN2 | Vascular non-inflammatory molecule 2 | 76.89 |
| J3QT03 | VNN2 | Vascular non-inflammatory molecule 2 | 76.89 |
| Q96RU2 | USP28 | Ubiquitin carboxyl-terminal hydrolase 28 | 74.97 |
| F5H0E2 | SLC3A2 | 4F2 cell-surface antigen heavy chain (Fragment) | 74.53 |
| Q9UHB7 | AFF4 | AF4/FMR2 family member 4 | 71.08 |
| F5H8A6 | TNFRSF1A | Tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily member 1A (Fragment) | 71.01 |
| P39687 | ANP32A | Acidic leucine-rich nuclear phosphoprotein 32 family member A | 70.02 |
| Q92688 | ANP32B | Acidic leucine-rich nuclear phosphoprotein 32 family member B | 70.02 |
| C9JCE0 | AFF4 | AF4/FMR2 family member 4 (Fragment) | 68.97 |
| F5GZ74 | USP28 | Ubiquitin carboxyl-terminal hydrolase 28 | 66.94 |
| Q86YA3 | ZGRF1 | Protein ZGRF1 | 64.56 |
| O95197 | RTN3 | Reticulon-3 | 63.86 |
| Q9UHD1 | CHORDC1 | Cysteine and histidine-rich domain-containing protein 1 | 63.79 |
| Q8N1H7 | SIX6OS1 | Protein SIX6OS1 | 63.53 |
| G3XAL8 | ZGRF1 | HCG21296, isoform CRA_a | 62.92 |
| Q9H6D7 | HAUS4 | HAUS augmin-like complex subunit 4 | 60.8 |
| B7Z4M1 | RTN3 | Reticulon | 59.74 |
| Q6ZUS5 | CCDC121 | Coiled-coil domain-containing protein 121 | 58.28 |
| P51172 | SCNN1D | Amiloride-sensitive sodium channel subunit delta | 58.17 |
| J3QR96 | LGALS9C | Galectin | 57.64 |
| P07237 | GN=P4HB | Protein disulfide-isomerase | 55.83 |
| P11169 | GN=SLC2A3 | Solute carrier family 2, facilitated glucose transporter member 3 | 55.66 |
| O94761 | RECQL4 | ATP-dependent DNA helicase Q4 | 55.4 |
| G5E9G6 | TRIP12 | E3 ubiquitin-protein ligase TRIP12 | 54.38 |
| E9PS00 | FADS3 | Fatty acid desaturase 3 | 52.72 |
| O14772 | FPGT | Fucose-1-phosphate guanylyltransferase | 50.8 |
| D6REN9 | ZGRF1 | Protein ZGRF1 (Fragment) | 49.88 |
| O00182 | LGALS9 | Galectin-9 | 49.65 |
| Q96S94 | CCNL2 | Cyclin-L2 | 48.94 |
| F8W876 | MASP1 | Mannan-binding lectin serine protease 1 | 48.48 |
| G3V1X1 | ZFC3H1 | Proline/serine-rich coiled-coil 2, isoform CRA_a | 47.82 |
| Q9H813 | TMEM206 | Transmembrane protein 206 | 46.94 |
| P30048 | PRDX3 | Thioredoxin-dependent peroxide reductase, mitochondrial | 46.62 |
| Q96KP4 | CNDP2 | Cytosolic non-specific dipeptidase | 46.07 |
| A0A087X072 | RECQL4 | ATP-dependent DNA helicase Q4 | 45.85 |
| Q4G0X0 | DMD | DMD protein | 45.36 |
| A0A0C4DGR2 | PTOV1 | Prostate tumor overexpressed gene 1, isoform CRA_d | 45.05 |
| P05062 | ALDOB | Fructose-bisphosphate aldolase B | 44.56 |
| Q9Y6N5 | SQRDL | Sulfide:quinone oxidoreductase, mitochondrial | 44.15 |
| K7EIL6 | uncharacterized | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | 43.8 |
| K7ESL4 | RAD51D | DNA repair protein RAD51 homolog 4 | 43.8 |
| Q86XW9 | NME9 | Thioredoxin domain-containing protein 6 | 43.45 |
| P54257 | HAP1 | Huntingtin-associated protein 1 | 42.61 |
| Q16352 | INA | Alpha-internexin | 42.26 |

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|------------|----------|--|-------|
| Q96T88 | UHRF1 | E3 ubiquitin-protein ligase UHRF1 | 42.07 |
| Q8TDB8 | SLC2A14 | Solute carrier family 2. facilitated glucose transporter member 14 | 40.63 |
| O94989 | ARHGEF15 | Rho guanine nucleotide exchange factor 15 | 40.44 |
| A0A087X0B9 | PTPRQ | Phosphatidylinositol phosphatase PTPRQ | 39.86 |
| A0A087WZU1 | PTPRQ | Phosphatidylinositol phosphatase PTPRQ | 39.86 |
| Q96P48 | ARAP1 | Arf-GAP with Rho-GAP domain. ANK repeat and PH domain-containing protein 1 | 39.54 |
| A1A4Y4 | IRGM | Immunity-related GTPase family M protein | 38.35 |
| A0A087WTJ0 | RECQL4 | ATP-dependent DNA helicase Q4 (Fragment) | 38.16 |
| O43426 | SYNJ1 | Synaptojanin-1 | 37.8 |
| Q14BN4 | SLMAP | Sarcolemmal membrane-associated protein | 37.58 |
| P13489 | RNH1 | Ribonuclease inhibitor | 36.97 |
| Q4KMQ1 | TPRN | Taperin | 36.3 |
| A0A0J9YYG8 | DLG5 | Disks large homolog 5 (Fragment) | 35.03 |
| Q9C0H5 | ARHGAP39 | Rho GTPase-activating protein 39 | 34.19 |
| Q9P2E2 | KIF17 | Kinesin-like protein KIF17 | 33.08 |
| Q01546 | KRT76 | Keratin, type II cytoskeletal 2 oral | 32.85 |
| O95936 | EOMES | Eomesodermin homolog | 32.42 |
| Q86VW1 | SLC22A16 | Solute carrier family 22 member 16 | 32.27 |
| H0Y3F1 | SCNN1D | Amiloride-sensitive sodium channel subunit delta (Fragment) | 32.09 |
| Q9UJV3 | MID2 | Probable E3 ubiquitin-protein ligase MID2 | 31.99 |
| Q6ZMY3 | SPOCD1 | SPOC domain-containing protein 1 | 29.75 |
| Q5XKE5 | KRT79 | Keratin, type II cytoskeletal 79 | 27.42 |
| P12035 | KRT3 | Keratin, type II cytoskeletal 3 | 27.42 |
| Q9UBT2 | UBA2 | SUMO-activating enzyme subunit 2 | 25.08 |
| Q8NDM7 | CFAP43 | Cilia- and flagella-associated protein 43 | 20.5 |
| Q99728 | BARD1 | BRCA1-associated RING domain protein 1 | 19.8 |
| E9PPM7 | SPOCD1 | SPOC domain-containing protein 1 | 18.83 |
| Q14693 | LPIN1 | Phosphatidate phosphatase LPIN1 | 18.83 |
| H0Y390 | MACF1 | Microtubule-actin cross-linking factor 1. isoforms 1/2/3/5 (Fragment) | 11.09 |

Identified proteins are organized according to the PLGS score. Identification is based on protein ID from UniProt protein database (<http://www.uniprot.org/>).