



# Metabo-lipidomics of Fibroblasts and Mitochondrial-Endoplasmic Reticulum Extracts from ALS Patients Shows Alterations in Purine, Pyrimidine, Energetic, and Phospholipid Metabolisms

Submitted by Beatrice Guillaumat on Mon, 02/18/2019 - 10:00

Titre	Metabo-lipidomics of Fibroblasts and Mitochondrial-Endoplasmic Reticulum Extracts from ALS Patients Shows Alterations in Purine, Pyrimidine, Energetic, and Phospholipid Metabolisms
Type de publication	Article de revue
Auteur	Veyrat-Durebex, Charlotte [1], Bris, Céline [2], Codron, Philippe [3], Bocca, Cinzia [4], Chupin, Stéphanie [5], Corcia, Philippe [6], Vourc'h, Patrick [7], Hergesheimer, Rudolf [8], Cassereau, Julien [9], Funalot, Benoit [10], Andres, Christian R [11], Lenaers, Guy [12], Couratier, Philippe [13], Reynier, Pascal [14], Blasco, Hélène [15]
Editeur	Springer (part of Springer Nature)
Type	Article scientifique dans une revue à comité de lecture
Année	2019
Langue	Anglais
Date	Août 2019
Numéro	8
Pagination	5780-5791
Volume	56
Titre de la revue	Molecular Neurobiology
ISSN	1559-1182
Mots-clés	amyotrophic lateral sclerosis [16], fibroblasts [17], Lipidomics [18], Metabolomics [19], mitochondria [20], Oxidative Stress [21]

Résumé en  
anglais

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is characterized by a wide metabolic remodeling, as shown by recent metabolomics and lipidomics studies performed in samples from patient cohorts and experimental animal models. Here, we explored the metabolome and lipidome of fibroblasts from sporadic ALS patients (n = 13) comparatively to age- and sex-matched controls (n = 11), and the subcellular fraction containing the mitochondria and endoplasmic reticulum (mito-ER), given that mitochondrial dysfunctions and ER stress are important features of ALS patho-mechanisms. We also assessed the mitochondrial oxidative respiration and the mitochondrial genomic (mtDNA) sequence, although without yielding significant differences. Compared to controls, ALS fibroblasts did not exhibit a mitochondrial respiration defect nor an increased proportion of mitochondrial DNA mutations. In addition, non-targeted metabolomics and lipidomics analyses identified 124 and 127 metabolites, and 328 and 220 lipids in whole cells and the mito-ER fractions, respectively, along with partial least-squares-discriminant analysis (PLS-DA) models being systematically highly predictive of the disease. The most discriminant metabolomic features were the alteration of purine, pyrimidine, and energetic metabolisms, suggestive of oxidative stress and of pro-inflammatory status. The most important lipidomic feature in the mito-ER fraction was the disturbance of phosphatidylcholine PC (36:4p) levels, which we had previously reported in the cerebrospinal fluid of ALS patients and in the brain from an ALS mouse model. Thus, our results reveal that fibroblasts from sporadic ALS patients share common metabolic remodeling, consistent with other metabolic studies performed in ALS, opening perspectives for further exploration in this cellular model in ALS.

URL de la notice <http://okina.univ-angers.fr/publications/ua18849> [22]  
DOI [10.1007/s12035-019-1484-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12035-019-1484-7) [23]  
Lien vers le document <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs12035-019-1484-7> [24]  
Titre abrégé Mol. Neurobiol.  
Identifiant (ID) PubMed 30680691 [25]

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