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Virus-host metabolic interactions: using metabolomics to probe oxidative stress, inflammation and systemic immunity

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Chapter 7

Increased *in utero* metabolic stress elicits pro-inflammatory immune responses in cART-exposed infants born to HIV-infected women

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Abstract

Although combination antiretroviral therapy (cART) to HIV-infected women during pregnancy has dramatically reduced the risk of mother-to-child (MTC) transmission of HIV, there are concerns regarding potential adverse effects on growth and immune development in the infants following *in utero* cART exposure. cART is known to alter lipid metabolism and mitochondrial function, and disturb cell homeostasis in HIV-infected patients. The activation of these metabolic stress signaling pathways can lead to an array of responses including activation of innate immune responses and restriction of (cell) growth. However, it is unknown whether *in utero* cART exposure of the fetus born to HIV-infected women leads to dysregulation of fetal metabolism with implications for growth and immunity. Using novel comprehensive targeted metabolomics analyses of cord blood plasma, we investigated the impact of *in utero* HIV and cART exposure on the infants' (n = 12) metabolome focusing on the lipid and mitochondrial compartment compared to HIV-unexposed uninfected infants (HUU) (n = 15). The lipid profile was significantly altered in cART and HIV-exposed uninfected (HEU) infants, with increased triglyceride and decreased phospholipid species compared to control infants without *in utero* HIV and cART exposure. Furthermore, we detected an increase in oxidized lipids, which are the main products of reactive oxygen species (ROS) generated by dysregulated mitochondria. Compensatory mechanisms for restoring homeostasis and reducing cell stress signaling (e.g., cytochrome p450 activity) were reduced in HEU children with *in utero* cART exposure compared to HUU infants. Finally, the alterations in lipid metabolites and lipid peroxidation products were associated with increased levels of pro-inflammatory lysophospholipids as well as the pro-inflammatory cytokines IL-1 β and IP-10 respectively. Taken together, these data reveal disturbance of cell homeostasis following *in utero* cART and HIV exposure leading to increased immune activation in the infant.

Background

Combination antiretroviral therapy (cART) in HIV-infected pregnant women reduces the risk of mother-to-child (MTCT) transmission of HIV from 25-40% to less than 2%¹⁻³. The global effort to provide cART for pregnant HIV-infected women has dramatically reduced the number of newly infected infants, while at the same time leading to the rapid increase of HIV-exposed, uninfected infants (HEU), which are exposed to long-term cART *in utero*. Although the HEU infants are presumed to be healthy, elevated morbidity and mortality is reported in these infants ranging from increased susceptibility to infections to neurological abnormalities⁴⁻⁷. The underlying mechanisms responsible for these observations remain largely unknown; however, there are suggestions that *in utero* cART exposure induces metabolic dysregulation with consequences for growth, development and immune competence. cART is known to alter lipid metabolism and mitochondrial functioning in HIV-infected patients, including pregnant HIV-infected women⁸⁻¹⁴. Altered acyl-carnitine profiles¹⁵ and reduced mitochondrial DNA levels were reported in cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HIV-unexposed and uninfected (HUU) infants^{5,16-18}; both of which are reflective of mitochondrial dysregulation.

Disruption of cell homeostasis by cART-induced alteration in mitochondrial functioning and lipid metabolism may be particularly relevant during fetal development, as the demand for nutrients and energy is high. Cell stress due to altered metabolite levels is sensed by and activates highly conserved nutrient-sensing (stress) receptors in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER)^{19,20}. For example, excessive production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) due to mitochondrial dysfunction triggers the unfolded protein response (UPR) activating transcription factor 6 (ATF6) and inositol-requiring protein 1 (IRE1), which induce lipogenesis²¹. Furthermore, ER stress activates the unfolded protein responses (UPR's) pro-inflammatory c-Jun N-terminal kinase (JNK) and mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) pathways^{22,23}. In obese patients altered lipid levels leading to ER stress result in low-level inflammation observed as part of the metabolic syndrome^{22,24}. Although, HEU infants are suggested to be more susceptible to infections, innate and adaptive arms of the immune system have been reported to exhibit a pro-inflammatory signature²⁵⁻²⁸. These altered immune responses have been attributed to maternal HIV infection; however, the underlying mechanism is unknown, as HIV is not present in the infant. As described above, metabolic processes are critical modulators of immune responses²⁹⁻³⁴. Therefore, we hypothesized that *in utero* cART exposure induces metabolic dysregulation, which shapes the immune response in the infant.

Recently developed metabolomics techniques provide the unique opportunity to characterize the complexity of the metabolome with high sensitivity. Given the rapidly increasing number of HEU infants who are exposed *in utero* to cART, information on potential adverse effects of this exposure is crucial. Here, we used targeted metabolomics to compare the metabolite profile in cord blood obtained from cART-exposed HEU infants with HUU control infants born to healthy women. To determine the interaction between metabolites and immune responses we quantified levels of classical cytokines and chemokines in the same cord blood sample. Together, these analyses provide a unique metabolite profile to determine the impact of cART induced metabolic dysregulation of cell homeostasis and activation of pro-inflammatory immune responses.

Methods

Patients

Plasma was obtained from cord blood collected from 12 HEU infants that were exposed *in utero* to HIV and cART; plasma was also obtained from cord blood collected from 15 HUU infants who were born to HIV-negative mothers (and therefore not exposed to cART). The samples were collected at the Academic Medical Center (Amsterdam, the Netherlands). The study was approved by the local ethics committee and informed consent was obtained from participating mothers. For the HEU group, maternal viral load, CD4⁺ T cell count, and antiretroviral medications were obtained from the patient hospital records (**Supplementary Table S7.1**). The cART regimen that was used for each patient (**Table S7.1**) was based on viral resistance or the patient's treatment regimen prior to conception. According to guidelines established by the World Health Organization, the cART regimen consisted of two NRTI's (primarily zidovudine and lamivudine) and either a protease inhibitor (ritonavir-boosted lopinavir or nelfinavir) or an NNRTI (nevirapine). One patient took tenofovir/emtracitabine during the first trimester of pregnancy only combined with lamivudine and nevirapine, while another received nevirapine (NNRTI), in combination with Kaletra and saquinavir due to her individual resistance profile. During birth, all HIV-infected mothers were given intrapartum zidovudine. The clinical profile at delivery of the 12 mothers in the study indicates that the virus was suppressed appropriately, consistent with a mother-to-child transmission rate of <1%. The HIV-1 status of the infants was determined according the national protocol in the Netherlands for prevention of MTCT of HIV. HIV infection was evaluated at birth, 5 weeks and three months by measuring RNA viral load with PCR. At 18 months of age, HIV status of the infants was confirmed by showing absence of detectable HIV IgG. All infants were confirmed HIV-negative.

Sample collection

Immediately following delivery, umbilical cord blood was obtained from the clamped umbilical cord. Samples were collected in chilled heparin-containing Vacutainer tubes, and the plasma was separated by centrifugation at 5000×g for 10 min at 4°C. Aliquots of plasma were stored at -80°C prior to analysis and transported to the Biomedical Facility Leiden (Leiden University) for metabolomics analysis.

Quality control samples

Quality control (QC) samples were used during the metabolomics analyses for quality assurance purposes. Equal volumes of each study sample were pooled to generate a QC pool. A set of QC samples was then included in the analyses with the experimental groups on the individual metabolomics platforms, and the QC samples were distributed randomly through the samples prior to liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry (LC-MS) analysis. In addition, independent duplicate samples were randomly selected when sample volume permitted (10-15% of samples). Using the QC samples and duplicate samples, a double-quality-control approach was used to include metabolites that were measured accurately by the individual metabolomics platforms; only those metabolites for which the duplicate and QC samples had a relative standard deviation <30%, were considered to be measured accurately.

LC-MS targeted metabolomics analyses

Targeted metabolomics analyses were performed using standard operating procedures based on previously published methods ^{35,36}. The detailed procedures and target lists are provided in the Supplementary Methods.

Positive and negative lipid profiling

10- μ l and 20- μ l serum samples were spiked with calibration and internal standards and extracted using isopropyl alcohol (for the positive lipid platforms) or methanol (for the negative lipid platforms). Samples were analyzed using an ACQUITY UPLC system coupled to a 6530 Accurate Mass QToF (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA) ³⁶.

Oxylipin profiling

150- μ l serum samples were spiked with calibration and internal standards and diluted with a 5% methanol solution containing 0.1% acetic acid. Samples were extracted using solid-phase extraction (HLB Oasis, Waters Chromatography) and analyzed using an HPLC system coupled to a 6460 Agilent Triple Quadrupole mass spectrometer (Agilent Technologies) ³⁵.

Soluble immunological factors

A multiparameter Luminex bead assay (Invitrogen) was used to measure the levels of the following soluble factors in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions: IL1- β , IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-10, IL-13, IL-17A, IL-18, IFN- α , IFN- γ , IP-10, TNF- α , MIP-1 α , MIP-1 β , RANTES, and GM-CSF. Human serum CRP was measured with ELISA (R&D systems, Abingdon, United Kingdom).

Statistical data analyses

A combination of univariate bioinformatics approaches was performed using the R script-based online tool Metaboanalyst 3.0, a comprehensive tool suitable for analyzing metabolomics data ³⁷. Mann-Whitney U-test, and Fisher's exact test were used to compare differences in patient demographics on continuous and categorical variables respectively using SPSS version 23.0 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY). Pearson's correlation coefficients were calculated using SPSS. Significant Pearson correlations between immunological markers and metabolites were visualized using the Metscape application within Cytoscape (v3.2.1) ³⁸.

Following LC-MS analysis, peak integration, and determination of the relative ratios between metabolites and their corresponding internal standards, quality assurance was performed using the QC and duplicate samples. First, we evaluated the quality of the samples and assessed outliers based on a 95% confidence region in a Hotelling's T-squared distribution test. In all of the platforms measured, homogeneity was found among the two separate groups, and none of the samples were identified as outliers. Significant metabolites were identified based on the following two criteria: *i*) a fold change (FC) ≥ 1.25 or ≤ 0.75 , indicating a 25%

increase or decrease, respectively, and *ii*) a *p*-value <0.05 using the Mann-Whitney *U* test. The significant univariate results are shown on a volcano plot as colored symbols. Pearson's correlation coefficients were generated using log-transformed normalized data in SPSS. During the correlation analyses, each metabolite was tested against eight immunological markers, and no multiple testing correction was performed. Significant correlations were defined as a Pearson's coefficient (*r*) >0.46 or *r* <-0.46 and *p*<0.05.

Results

Patient demographics

In this prospective study, 12 HIV-infected - and 15 HIV-negative pregnant women were included. The baseline maternal group demographics (**Table 7.1**) were similar with regards to age, maternal pre-pregnancy BMI, and the gestation. More HIV-infected mothers were black compared to the mothers included in the control group (*p* = 0.03). As clinical metabolic measurements are not part of standard pregnancy care, these were only available for the HIV-infected women. Both triglycerides (1.8 mmol/L) and total cholesterol (5 mmol/L) were within upper-normal ranges for pregnant women³⁹. None of the women in both groups suffered from gestational diabetes. The HIV-infected women were in a good clinical condition and had a CD4⁺ T cell count in the first-trimester exceeding 200x10⁶ cell/L (**Table 7.1**). After initiating cART, the CD4⁺ T cell counts increased and viral load decreased; at delivery, viral load was undetectable in all women (**Table 7.1**). All mothers received cART in accordance with EACS guidelines including at least two nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs) in combination with either a protease inhibitor (PI) or non-nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI). Most women received zidovudine, lamivudine and ritonavir boosted lopinavir (n=8) (Table S1). None of the HIV-infected mothers transmitted the virus to their infant, which was verified via follow-up testing. The HEU and HUU infants were similar with regards to gestational age, birth weight, 1 and 5 min apgar scores, mode of delivery and gender. Only two infants, one in the HEU and one in the HUU, were small for gestational age (SGA).

Mitochondrial dysfunction and oxidative stress in cART-exposed HEU infants

To assess mitochondrial functioning, we measured ROS-catalyzed lipid peroxidation metabolites (oxylipins)^{40–43}. Using predefined criteria to identify significantly altered metabolites using the Mann-Whitney *U* test and Fold Change (FC) measurements (see Methods), 13 ROS-produced oxylipins were identified to be significantly increased in the cART-exposed HEU infants compared to controls. None of the oxylipins were decreased in the cART-exposed HEU infants (**Fig. 7.1** and **Table S7.2**). One infant was not exposed *in utero* to NRTI's and had lipid peroxidation metabolite profile comparable to those of the HUU infants. These findings indicate that compared to control infants, cART-exposed HEU infants have significantly altered mitochondrial functioning resulting in increased ROS production. As ROS are strong activators of lipogenesis, we next investigated whether *in utero* exposure to cART caused changes in the infants' lipid profiles.

Table 7.1: Patient Demographics

| Clinical variables | Control mother (n = 15) & HUU infants (n = 15) | | HIV positive mother (n = 12) & HEU infants (n = 12) | <i>p</i> -value |
|---|--|----------------|---|-------------------|
| | Median (75% CI) | | Median (75% CI) | |
| Mothers | | | | |
| Age (years) | 32.6 (30.7 - 33.2) | | 28.5 (28.2 - 32.4) | 0.50 ^a |
| Pre-pregnancy weight (kg) | 64.5* (62.7 - 66.9) | | 68.5 (65.7 - 74.2) | 0.41 ^a |
| Pre-pregnancy BMI | 22.04* (22.3 - 24.1) | | 23.67 (22.6 - 26.1) | 0.79 ^a |
| Total Triglycerides [#] (mmol/L) | - | | 1.80** (1.5 - 2.1) | |
| Total Cholesterol [#] (mmol/L) | - | | 5 ** (4.6 - 5.4) | |
| Glucose [#] (mmol/L) | - | | 4.30** (4.2 - 4.7) | |
| Ethnicity (W/B/SA) | 9/4/2 | | 3/9/0 | 0.03 ^b |
| Gestational Diabetes (Yes/No) | 0/15 | | 0/12 | |
| HIV viral load (copies/mL) | 1 st trimester | - | 528.5 (1269 - 9084) | |
| | 2 nd trimester | - | 50 (47.81 - 281) | |
| | 3 rd trimester | - | 0 | |
| CD4 count (10E ⁶ cells/L) | 1 st trimester | - | 455 (465.5 - 594.5) | |
| | 2 nd trimester | - | 520 (511.4 - 650.6) | |
| | 3 rd trimester | - | 700 (616.5 - 792.5) | |
| Infants | | | | |
| Gestation period (weeks) | 40 (37.63 - 39.97) | | 39.25 (38.74 - 39.82) | 0.57 ^a |
| Birth weight (g) | 3380 (3128 - 3494) | | 3085 (3009 - 3472) | 0.34 ^a |
| Apgar scores | 1 min | 9 (8.6 - 9.2) | 9 (7.4 - 9.1) | 0.91 ^a |
| | 5 min | 10 (9.5 - 9.9) | 10 (9.1 - 9.9) | 0.44 ^a |
| Mode of delivery (Vag/CS) | 14/1 | | 8/4 | 0.14 ^b |
| Gender (Male / Female) | 8/7 | | 7/5 | 0.55 ^b |

^a Mann-Whitney U-test; ^b Fisher's exact test; [#] Measured at the end of the 2nd trimester; ^{*}(^{**}) 1(2) missing value(s)

W - White; B - Black; SA - South Asian; Vag - Vaginal; CS - Caesarean section; CI - Confidence interval

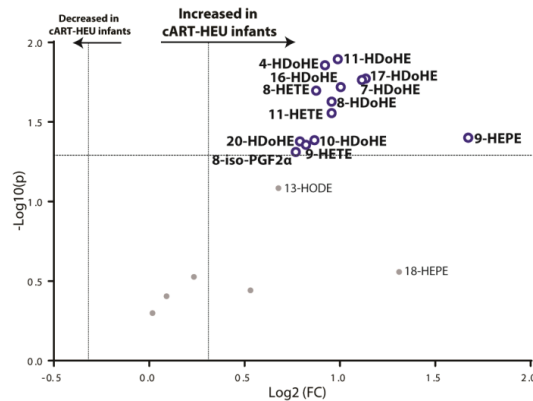


Figure 7.1: Volcano plot of the ROS-produced oxylipin profiles. Thirteen metabolites were identified as significantly increased (blue circles) in the cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HUU infants. HDoHE, hydroxyl-docosahexaenoic acid; HETE, hydroxy-eicosatetraenoic acid; HEPE, hydroxy-eicosapentaenoic acid; 8-iso-PGF_{2α}, 8-iso-prostaglandin F_{2α}.

Lipid profiles in cART-exposed HEU infants are characterized by hypertriglyceridemia

We evaluated the effect of *in utero* cART-HIV exposure on lipid metabolism in infants by measuring triglyceride, diacylglycerol, sphingomyelin, cholesterol ester, and free fatty acid profiles. We found that triglycerides with long and very long acyl chains were significantly increased in cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HUU control infants, suggesting that non-specific fatty acid elongation and biosynthesis were increased. In total, 2 diacylglycerols and 32 triglycerides were increased in the cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HUU control infants (**Fig. 7.2** and **Table S7.2**). In contrast, we observed no significant difference between cART-exposed HEU infants and HUU infants with respect to free fatty acids, cholesterol esters, or sphingomyelin levels (**Fig. 7.2**).

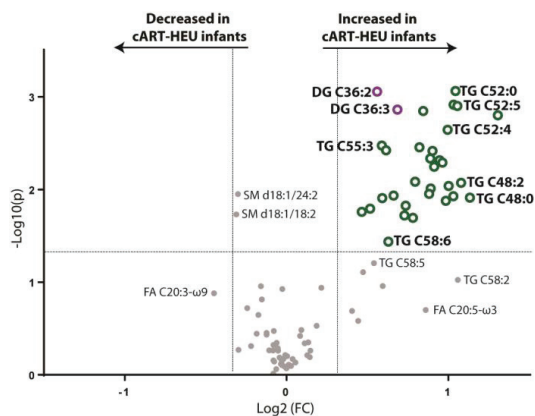


Figure 7.2: Volcano plot of lipid profiles. The 32 triglycerides and 2 diacylglycerols that were increased in cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HUU infants are shown as green and purple circles, respectively. TG, triglyceride; SM, sphingomyelin; CE, cholesteryl ester; FA, free fatty acid.

Hypertriglyceridemia is commonly observed in cART-treated HIV-infected adults. In particular, lopinavir, to which 8 of 12 infants were exposed to, increases triglyceride levels and to a lesser extent the NRTIs stavudine and abacavir^{44–48}. The slightly elevated triglyceride levels in cART-treated HIV-infected pregnant women cannot directly account for the increased levels of triglycerides measured in the infant, as only free fatty acids are transported across the placenta to the fetus⁴⁹, and no differences in free fatty acids between cART-exposed HEU infants and HUU infants were detected. Increased triglyceride levels in the infant depend on endogenous triglyceride synthesis, which occurs primarily on the ER. When triglycerides levels are high, triglycerides accumulate within the ER intermembrane space. To remove the surplus of triglycerides from the ER, the ER commences the formation of lipid droplets with an outer rim of ER membrane-derived phospholipids. Depletion of ER membrane-derived phospholipids serves as an ER stressor⁵⁰.

Decreased phospholipids in cART-exposed HEU infants

We therefore evaluated phosphatidylcholines and phosphatidylethanolamines, which are the most prevalent glycerophospholipids and components of the ER membrane. Our analysis revealed significant changes in glycerophospholipid levels (**Fig. 7.3**). Specifically, three phosphatidylcholines (C32:0, C32:1, and C36:3), two plasmalogen phosphatidylcholines (C34:1 and C36:4), and one phosphatidylethanolamine (C38:4) were significantly decreased in cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HUU infants (**Fig. 7.3, Table S7.2**).

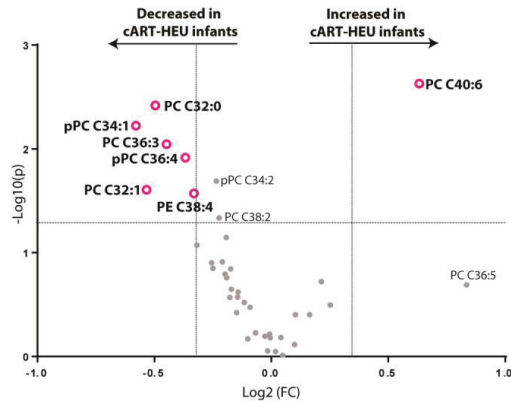


Figure 7. 3: Volcano plot of glycerophospholipid profiles. Overall, glycerophospholipids were reduced in the cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HUU infants. The glycerophospholipids, which were significantly altered are shown as pink circles. PC, phosphatidylcholine; pPC, plasmalogen phosphatidylcholine; PE, phosphatidylethanolamine.

Overall, we observed a decrease in phospholipid species in the cART-exposed HEU infants compared to control infants. In addition to their role in ER homeostasis, phospholipides - and specifically the hydrolysis products of phosphatidylcholines such as unsaturated lysophospholipids - have anti-inflammatory properties, inhibiting NF- κ B activation via the MAPK pathway^{51,52} while saturated lysophospholipids have a pro-inflammatory effect. As alterations in the lipid metabolism by cART-exposure may impact immune modulation by these metabolites, we subsequently assessed the lysophospholipid in both cART-exposed HEU infants and HUU infants.

cART-exposed HEU infants have increased levels of pro-inflammatory lysophospholipids

Two saturated stearic acid isomers (SN₁-lysophosphatidylcholine C18:0 and SN₂-lysophosphatidylcholine C18:0) and two saturated lysophosphatidylethanolamine species (C16:0 and C18:0) were significantly increased in cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HUU infants (**Fig. 7.4, Table S7.2**). Saturated lysophosphatidylcholines are robust pro-inflammatory molecules that activate cellular pathways, resulting in the production of IL-1 β , IL-6, and IL-8, as well as arachidonic acid secretion⁵³⁻⁵⁶. The functions of saturated lysophosphatidylethanolamines are less understood, although these molecules are structurally quite similar to saturated lysophosphatidylcholines. The unsaturated ω -9 SN₁-lysophosphatidylcholine C20:3 was reduced compared to HUU infants⁵⁵.

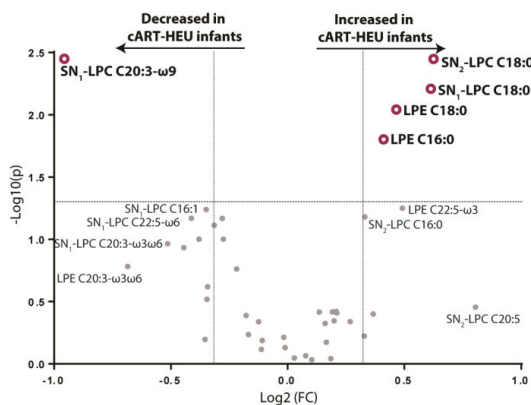


Figure 7.4: Volcano plot of lysophospholipid profiles. The increased saturated lysophospholipids and decreased unsaturated lysophospholipid in the cART-exposed HEU infants are shown as maroon symbols. LPC, lysophosphatidylcholine; LPE, lysophosphatidylethanolamine.

The analyzes of the ratio of saturated versus unsaturated lysophosphatidylcholines and lysophosphatidylethanolamines revealed that saturated species were twice as abundant as unsaturated species in the cART-exposed HEU infants (Fig. S7.1). In contrast, this ratio was balanced in the control group, indicating that unexposed infants maintain homeostatic control.

Compensatory anti-inflammatory oxylipin mediators are decreased in cART-exposed HEU infants impairing homeostatic control

Similar to lysophospholipids, the precursors of enzymatically synthesized oxylipins are produced by enzyme-mediated hydrolysis of membrane phospholipids, providing further assessment of the balance between pro-inflammatory and anti-inflammatory lipid mediators. This analysis revealed eight metabolites in the cyclooxygenase (COX), lipoxygenase (LOX), and cytochrome P450 (CYP) pathways that differed significantly between cART-exposed HEU infants and HUU infants (Fig. 7.5 and Table S7.2). Specifically, the CYP oxylipins 5,6-DiHETre, 8,9-DiHETre, and 11,12-DiHETre were significantly reduced in the cART-exposed HEU infants, indicating impaired CYP metabolism in this group. DiHETrEs eicosanoids are the stable, inactivated form of the short-lived active signaling mediators epoxyeicosatrienoic acids (EETs). Interestingly, 11,12-EET—which was significantly reduced in cART-exposed HEU infants compared to HUU infants—is a potent inhibitor of the NF- κ B pathway^{57,58}. EETs also affect mitochondrial functioning and lipid metabolism by activating PPAR α , which in turn induces mitochondrial β -oxidation. Furthermore, EETs regulate the secretion of insulin and glucagon via PPAR α , thereby acting as anti-hyperlipidemia and anti-hyperglycemia agents^{59,60}. The reduction in DiHETrE levels indicates reduced anti-hyperlipidemia capacity and increased ER stress in cART-exposed HEU infants.

The other four identified enzyme-derived oxylipin metabolites are in the LOX pathway and included 20-carboxy-LTB₄, protectin DX (PDX), 5-HEPE, and 9-HOTrE. Notably, 20-carboxy-LTB₄, which was increased in the cART-exposed HEU infants, is the stable downstream metabolite of leukotriene B₄, a potent pro-inflammatory mediator in asthma^{61,62}. Overall, the changes in oxylipin levels measured in cART-exposed HEU infants indicate that the immune system in these infants is predisposed to develop pro-inflammatory responses, while compensatory mechanisms to reduce hyperlipidemia are reduced.

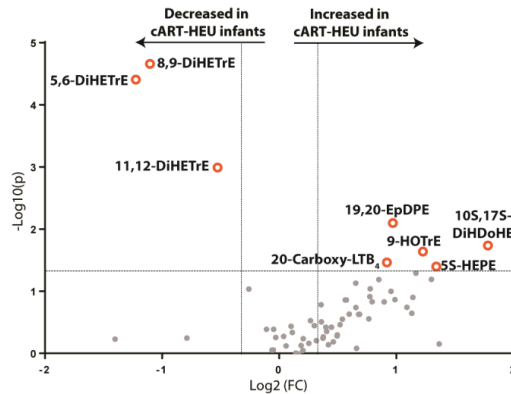


Figure 7.5: Volcano plot of COX, LOX, and CYP oxylipin profiles. Significantly increased or decreased oxylipins in the cART-exposed HEU infants compared to the HUU infants are shown as orange circles. DiHETE, dihydroxy-eicosatrienoic acid; EpDPE, epoxy-docosapentaenoic acid; DiHDoHE, dihydroxydocosa-4,7,11,13,15,19-hexaenoic acid; HOTrE, hydroxy-9Z,11E,15Z-octadecatrienoic acid; HEPE, hydroxy-eicosapentaenoic acid; 20-carboxy-LTB₄, 20-carboxy-leukotriene B₄.

Increased levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines and chemokines correlate to specific metabolites derived from lipid metabolism and mitochondria in cART-exposed HEU infants

We aimed to confirm the proinflammatory milieu based on the above described oxylipin profile, by examining in addition classically measured cytokines and chemokines using a multiplex bead assay and assess a correlation between the metabolites and hallmark immune markers of inflammation in cART-exposed HEU and HUU infants²⁷. **Fig. 7.6** shows correlation networks for the metabolite classes that correlated significantly to the immunological markers (**Tables S7.3-S7.7**); multiple testing correction was not performed, as only class responses—and not individual correlations—were interpreted. Overall, we found that triglycerides, diacylglycerols, and phospholipids (**Fig. 7.6B**) correlated with innate pathway markers (IL-1 β , IL-8, MIP-1 α , and MIP-1 β), reflecting the pro-inflammatory effect of the disturbed lipid metabolism. ROS-catalyzed lipid peroxidation products correlated almost exclusively with IP-10, part of the IFN- α pathway (**Fig. 7.6A**). The levels of IL-4, IL-5, IL-13, IL-17A, IL-18 and IFN- α and IFN- γ were below the detection limit of the sensitive multiplex bead assay in cord blood. C-reactive protein (CRP) was also assessed as this is a classical clinical marker for inflammation, however the concentration of CRP was more than 3 log lower than the clinically.

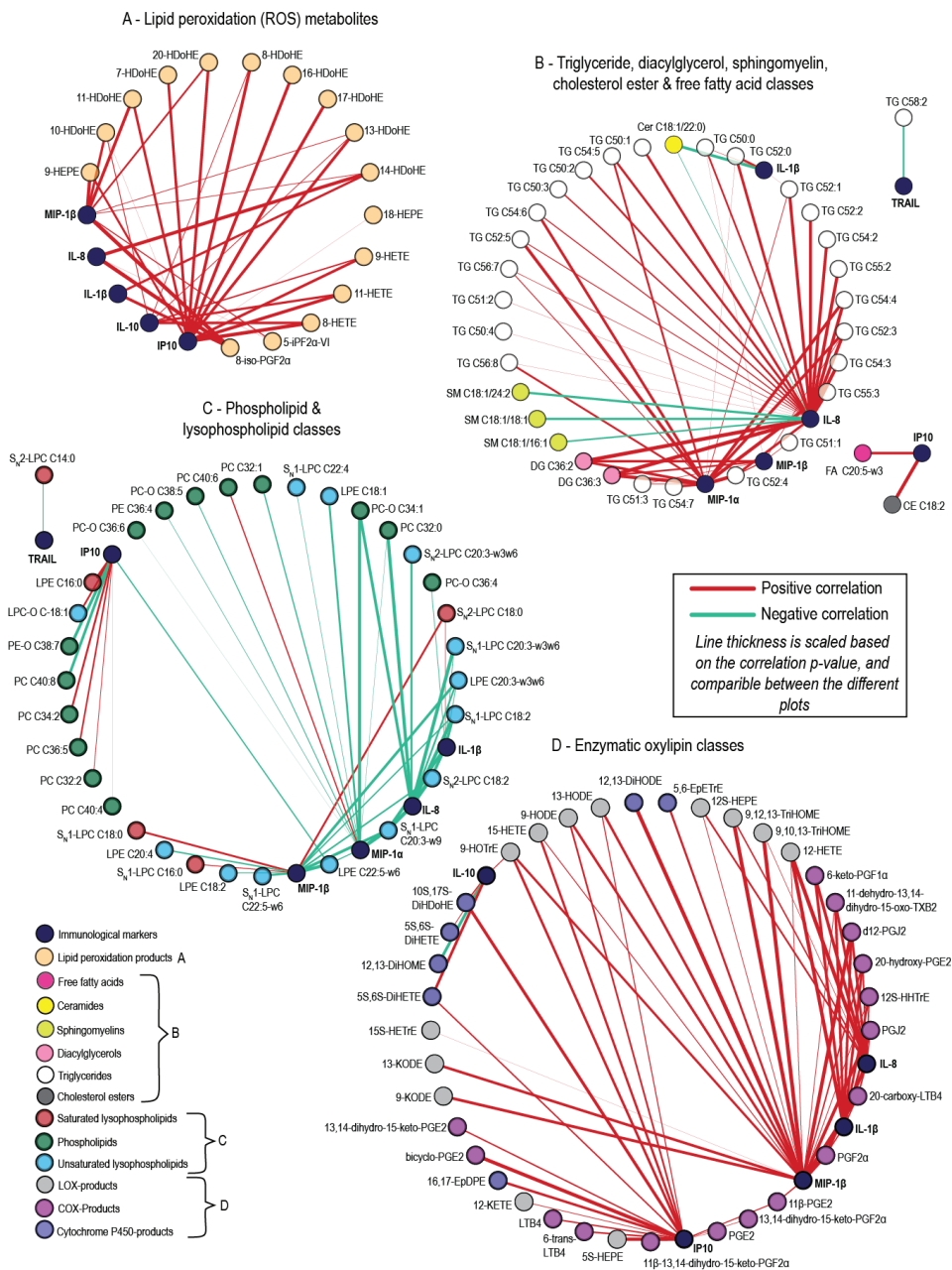


Figure 7.6: Pearson's correlation networks illustrating the correlation between metabolite classes and classic immunological markers. The correlation network shows the correlations ($p < 0.05$) between the measured cytokines and chemokines and the normalized metabolites for: (A) ROS lipid peroxidation metabolites; (B) triglycerides, sphingomyelins, diacylglycerols, cholesterol esters, and free fatty acids; (C) phospholipids and lysophospholipids; and (D) enzymatic oxylipins.

relevant cut-off and not significantly different between the 2 groups (median cART-exposed HEU infants = 0.00012 mg/mL and median HUU infants = 0.00009 mg/mL $p = 0.547$). Low concentration of these cytokines

and chemokines is a well-known phenomenon in newborn infants. Together these data suggest the role of two separate pathways: first, changes in lipid metabolism and subsequent ER stress are correlated with increased activation of the MIP-1 α and β , IL-1 β and IL-8 pathways; in the second pathway, mitochondrial dysfunction increases the production of ROS and peroxidized lipids, which are associated with the IFN- α pathway. Both pathways were correlated with enzymatic oxylipins (**Fig. 7.6D**), saturated lysophospholipids (**Fig. 7.6C**), unsaturated lysophospholipids (**Fig. 7.6C**), and sphingomyelins (**Fig. 7.6B**), all of which are reflective of the pro-inflammatory milieu resulting from cell stress.

Discussion

Here, we investigated the impact of *in utero* cART-HIV exposure on lipid metabolism and mitochondrial functioning in uninfected infants born to HIV-infected women, using novel metabolomics tools. The metabolite profile observed in HEU infants exposed to long-term cART *in utero* is characterized by cell stress and dysregulation of metabolites with immune modulatory capacities, ultimately leading to a pro-inflammatory milieu in these infants. Specifically, we detected elevated levels of ROS-catalyzed lipid peroxidation products, increased levels of triglycerides and decreased levels of phospholipids. Mitochondrial dysfunction has been recognized as an adverse effect of NRTIs, and in particular of stavudine and zidovudine, which are actively transported across the placenta and can be detected in fetal blood and amniotic fluid⁶³. NRTIs inhibit mtDNA replication⁶⁴, while indirectly affecting the electron transport chain's complexes assembling. The augmented peroxidized lipids provide a robust assessment of the consequences *in vivo* of the mitochondrial dysfunction due to NRTIs in HEU infants.

In addition, the lipid metabolome of cART-exposed HEU infants was also significantly differed from HUU infants (**Fig. 7.7**), including high triglycerides at levels similar to patients who are treated with PIs. As PIs are not actively transported across the placenta and detected at lower concentrations in cord blood^{65,66}, it had been assumed that PIs have a minimal effect on the developing fetus. The reduced levels of CYP4A and CYP2B6 eicosanoids in cART-exposed HEU infants however support a direct effect of PIs on fetal cells. Protease inhibitors—in particularly ritonavir, a booster that is often added to other PIs such as lopinavir and used for maternal treatment in this study—have been previously shown to inhibit CYP enzyme activity⁶⁷. Next to PIs, stavudine or abacavir in combination with lamivudine can also induce hypertriglyceridemia, although the cART-exposed HEU infants were exposed to lamivudine in combination with zidovudine, the NRTI exposure may have further exacerbated triglyceride levels⁶⁸. Of note, triglyceride levels in the black population are lower compared to the white population, as more black infants were HEU compared to the HUU infants, the increased triglycerides in these HEU infants could therefore be an underestimation of the impact of *in utero* cART exposure^{69,70}. The observed altered lipid metabolome of cART-exposed HEU infants in this study provides the first report that *in utero* exposure to PIs can alter the lipid profile and CYP enzyme activity in the fetus.

Furthermore, our results show that alterations in metabolite profile due to antiretroviral drugs can induce cell stress modulating immune responses. Lipid peroxidation products positively correlated with IP-10.

The role of ROS in activation of the inflammasome is well known, however ROS can also induce metabolic stress by inhibiting the sarco/endoplasmic reticulum calcium transport ATPase (SERCA) pump^{71,72}, thereby disabling the ER's central role in Ca²⁺ homeostasis and activating ER stress signaling pathways (e.g., the PERK pathway) and the production of IP-10 (**Fig. 7.7**). Additionally, hypertriglyceridemia and the resulting disrupted ER membrane homeostasis - illustrated by reduced phosphatidylcholine levels in cART-exposed HEU infants - activate the ER stress-induced UPR. UPR induces the translocation of NF- κ B to the nucleus and transcription of proinflammatory gene products (**Fig. 7.7**), including IL-1 β , IL-8, MIP-1 α , and MIP1 β , which were associated with triglycerides and saturated lysophosphatidylethanolamines and lysophosphatidylcholine levels in cART-exposed HEU infants. Lastly, significantly lower levels of the potent anti-inflammatory arachidonic acid-derived CYP metabolites were detected in cART-exposed HEU infants, reducing compensatory homeostatic mechanisms in the infants. Taken together, the metabolic perturbations in cART-exposed HEU infants were characterized by an altered lipid metabolism and mitochondrial dysfunctioning, resulting in a pro-inflammatory milieu in cART-exposed HEU infants. Further studies are required to understand how these changes in metabolites and downstream immune responses provide the underlying conditions for the described increased susceptibility of cART-exposed HEU infants to intracellular pathogens⁷³⁻⁷⁵. However, immune inflammation does not equal immune competence as patients with inflammatory disease can have an increased susceptibility to infections. Skewing of immune responses away from T helper 1 (Th1), IFN- γ responses may contribute to this susceptibility in cART-exposed HEU infants²⁷.

Our results provide a novel framework for further studies identifying the precise mechanisms resulting in continuous low-level immune activation even in successfully cART-treated patients with an undetectable viral load⁷⁶. The ongoing immune activation in these patients has been attributed to residual viral replication, activating immune cells, such as dendritic cells and monocytes as well as T and B cells⁷⁷⁻⁷⁹. The IFN- α pathway has been identified to play an important role in this ongoing immune activation and associated non-AIDS-related comorbidities. Although a separate effect of the maternal HIV-infection cannot be excluded, the results from uninfected infants here suggest that NRTIs, by inducing mitochondrial dysfunction, can activate the IFN- α pathway and contribute to low-level immune activation. Furthermore, PI-induced lipid perturbations eliciting ER stress may further aggravate immune activation via MIP-1 α and β , IL-1 β and IL-8 in virally suppressed HIV-1-infected individuals^{76,77}. Investigating the role of drug-induced ER stress and inflammation may provide new insights to prevent ongoing immune activation in HIV-infected patients on cART. It is currently unclear whether the altered metabolism in cART-exposed HEU fetuses has long-term consequences either due to disturbed fetal development during exposure or due to long-lasting perturbations of metabolic pathways via for example epigenetic modifications⁸⁰. After cessation of PI treatment in adults' triglyceride levels return to normal values, which suggests that this may also occur in the cART-exposed HEU infants. However, consequences of the altered lipid metabolism may reach beyond its effect on immune responses. Lipids are a critical component of the brain, and essential for early brain development⁸¹. Disturbance of lipids may affect brain development. Studies investigating long-term effects of *in utero* exposure to NRTI in patas monkeys furthermore showed abnormal mitochondrial morphology and altered mtDNA levels persisting for up to 3 years of age⁸². A recent study by Jao et al, showed that the acyl-carnitine profile and branched amino acids

were associated with an altered insulin metabolism in HEU infants at 6 weeks of age⁸³. These mitochondrial abnormalities, underscore the need for further studies to assess whether changes in fetal metabolism resulting from exposure to drugs have long-term clinical consequences.

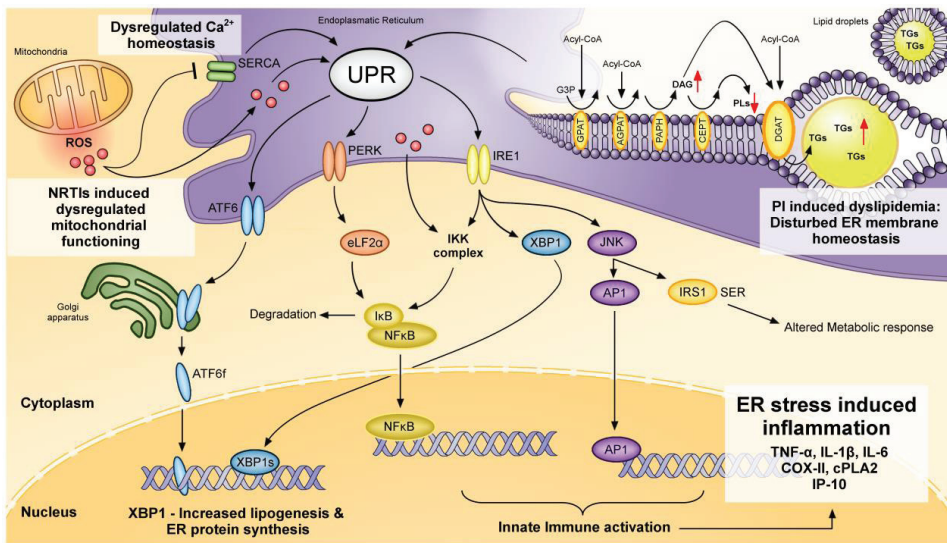


Figure 7.7: *In utero* metabolic changes due to cART exposure and the role of the ER in stress and innate signaling. Nucleotide reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NRTI)-induced mitochondrial dysfunction leads to increased levels of ROS, which are sensed by the ER. PI-induced lipid dysregulation leads to increased triglycerides (TGs) and decreased phospholipids (PLs), thereby disrupting ER membrane homeostasis. ER stress activates unfolded protein response (UPR) signaling via ATF6, PERK, and IRE1. Activated transcription factors translocate to the nucleus, where they activate both the proinflammatory innate immune response and pathways for lipogenesis.

Next to cART exposure, the infants were also exposed to the consequences of the maternal HIV-infection, which may have affected the infants' metabolome. The potential consequences of the two most important remaining changes in optimally treated HIV-infected patients - microbial translocation due to the reduced intestinal barrier and increased levels of type 1 interferons due to residual viral replication - will be discussed here, as they have been implicated in changes in triglyceride levels. LPS concentration in plasma has been reported to be associated with triglyceride levels in untreated HIV-infected patients and treated patients with lipodystrophy. Interestingly an association between LPS and triglycerides was not observed in cART treated HIV-infected individuals without lipodystrophy^{84,85}. Since these infants were not infected nor did they have lipodystrophy, it seems less likely that LPS crossing the placenta induced the changes in the lipid metabolism in the fetus. Furthermore, type 1 interferons (IFN) can also interfere with the lipid metabolism. Treatment with PEG IFN- α of HIV and HCV co-infected patients has been described to lead to increased levels of triglycerides in some studies^{86, 87}. Therapeutic concentrations of IFN- α are higher compared to *in vivo*

measured concentrations in virally suppressed HIV-infected patients. In addition, maternal cytokines in circulation are notoriously insufficiently transported across the placenta, even during bacterial placental inflammation. In addition, PIs, in particular ritonavir-boosted lopinavir to which the infants are exposed here, are more potent inducers of triglycerides compared to above described effects of microbial translocation and type 1 interferons⁸⁴⁻⁸⁶. Thus, although these indirect routes affecting lipid metabolism cannot be excluded, cART exposure is likely the main driver of dyslipidemia observed in the cART-exposed HEU infants and fits the complex metabolic phenotype of HEU infants. This concurs with several large cohort studies of HIV-infected women and their offspring showing that cART, viral load and maternal immune markers such as CD4 have separate effects in multivariable models on immune parameters in infants such as infant total lymphocyte count, CD4 count, CD8 count and IgG⁸⁸⁻⁹⁰. As the immune system of treated HIV-infected women more closely resembles the immune system of healthy women than untreated HIV-infected women and studies of cART-exposed infants born to healthy women are not feasible due to ethical reasons, we deemed it appropriate to compare cART-exposed HEU with HUU infants to determine the impact of cART on the fetal metabolism.

Our study investigating systemic immunometabolism in cART-exposed HEU infants is at the interface of immune and metabolic responses in health and disease and provides new insights in the modulatory capacity of metabolites of immune responses and their contribution to pathology. Moreover, these studies provide a unique opportunity to identify novel pathways and clinically relevant biomarkers, which can be targeted in order to treat specific diseases. Newly developed targeted metabolomics provide the tools to identify metabolites both quantitatively and qualitatively, with higher sensitivity than can be achieved using non-targeted methods such as nuclear-magnetic-resonance-based techniques (NMR). However, because not all metabolites are measured in the plasma, some metabolic information can potentially be missed. Since these targeted metabolomics approaches require only 5 - 150 μ L plasma per platform, they are ideal for studies limited in sample volume such as infant studies, while still being able to measure a broad range of metabolites. Furthermore, the approach taken here using chemical compounds to quantify ROS production via lipid peroxidation, provides the opportunity to measure the actual consequences of produced ROS *in vivo*. Comparatively, measuring mitochondrial functioning at the extreme borders through *in vitro* stimulants and inhibitors using Seahorse technology doesn't reflect the physiological *in vivo* conditions in HEU infants. Taken together the metabolomics platforms used in this study provided the opportunity to assess metabolites reflecting the *in vivo* metabolic state in cART-exposed HEU infants and to identify pathways impacted by *in utero* cART exposure. Further *in vitro* mechanistic studies will be needed to fully understand the dysregulation of pathways that lead to the altered metabolism in cART-exposed HEU infants, and long-term follow-up studies are required to confirm our findings and determine whether these perturbations persist beyond infancy. The required sample size used in our study was informed by previously published work in patas monkeys as well as in cART-exposed HEU infant studies⁹¹⁻⁹³. Testing of a large number of intermediate metabolites within a pathway increased the robustness and power of our analyses.

In conclusion, our results demonstrate extensive dysregulation of several metabolic pathways in infants with *in utero* exposure to cART and HIV, providing the underlying conditions for a pro-inflammatory milieu observed in these infants. These studies indicate that cART-exposure has a significant impact on cell

functioning at birth and may have long-lasting adverse effects. Although cART is critical in preventing MTCT of HIV, longitudinal studies assessing metabolic functioning in the infants and *in vitro* studies uncovering the underlying molecular pathways are required to design optimal prevention of MTCT of HIV regimens, with minimal adverse effects.

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Chapter 7 Supplementary information

Table S7.1: Clinical information of the HIV-infected pregnant mothers who received cART

| Mothers | | Viral Load (copies/mL) | | | CD4 count (10E6 cells/L) | | | Days on ART treatment till infant DOB | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Age (y) | Ethnicity | 1st trimester | 2nd trimester | 3rd trimester | NADIR# | 1st trimester | 2nd trimester | 3rd trimester | Zidovudine + Lamivudine | Lopinavir + ritonavir | Neflavinir | Nevirapine | Tenofovir | Saquinavir |
| 38 | White | 0 | 0 | 0 | 180 | 420 | 380 | 380 | 0 | 377 | 0 | 377 | 0 | 377 |
| 33 | Black | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 540 | 460 | 500 | 331 | 0 | 331 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 39 | Black | 0 | 0 | 0 | 720 | 790 | 720 | 850 | 329 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 28 | White | 4244 | 65 | 0 | 720 | 720 | 910 | 1050 | 129 | 24 | 105 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 29 | Black | 829 | 1180 | 0 | 450 | 450 | 460 | 590 | 489 | 29 | 460 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 26 | Black | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 830 | 770 | 830 | 223 | 0 | 0 | 458 | 109* | 0 |
| 32 | White | 228 | 153 | 0 | 690 | 690 | 920 | 1170 | 111 | 87 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 28 | Black | 39419 | 279 | 0 | 290 | 290 | 300 | 500 | 138 | 92 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 39 | Black | 8863 | 196 | 0 | 450 | 450 | 550 | 700 | 113 | 95 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 24 | Black | 4573 | 54 | 0 | 440 | 440 | 500 | 710 | 161 | 111 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 26 | Black | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 460 | 540 | | 490 | 0 | 0 | 490 | 0 | 0 |
| 21 | Black | 3963 | 46 | 0 | 290 | 290 | 380 | 470 | 120 | 120 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

* Tenofovir was discontinued in the 1st trimester of pregnancy

NADIR - Lowest CD4 count

Table S7.2: Metabolites identified as significantly different between *in utero* cART- and HIV-exposed (HEU) infants and HUU control infants. Selected metabolites for biological interpretation adhering to the predefined univariate scores criteria for the cART-exposed HEU infants and HUU infants.

| Targeted Metabolomics platform | Metabolite class | Metabolite | Univariate comparison | | Descriptive statistics | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | | | MW t-test (p - value) | Fold Change (FC) | HUU infants | | cART-exposed HEU infants | |
| | | | | | Mean (SD) | Median (Range) | Mean (SD) | Median (Range) |
| Oxylipins Platform | Non-enzymatic Oxylipins | 10-HDoHE | 0.041 | 4.13 | 3.25 (1.41) | 1.89 (5.83) | 4.31 (2.73) | 4.32 (7.35) |
| | | 11-HDoHE | 0.013 | 5.43 | 19.37 (12.04) | 15.79 (45.07) | 37.63 (21.14) | 37.01 (64.95) |
| | | 11-HEHE | 0.028 | 3.71 | 4.31 (2.44) | 3.63 (8.18) | 8.34 (5.1045) | 7.86 (17.3) |
| | | 16-HDoHE | 0.019 | 5.04 | 2.33 (1.29) | 2.22 (5.11) | 4.51 (2.6757) | 4.86 (7.33) |
| | | 17-HDoHE | 0.017 | 5.53 | 6.00 (2.59) | 6.06 (9.51) | 11.76 (5.2) | 13.65 (13.50) |
| | | 20-HDoHE | 0.042 | 3.52 | 2.32 (0.59) | 1.51 (3.11) | 3.03 (1.73) | 2.75 (5.22) |
| | | 4-HDoHE | 0.014 | 5.55 | 10.36 (5.46) | 9.05 (17.53) | 16.28 (8.51) | 15.76 (28.05) |
| | | 7-HDoHE | 0.017 | 6.66 | 0.16 (0.10) | 0.13 (0.31) | 0.37 (0.29) | 0.28 (0.92) |
| | | 8-HDoHE | 0.024 | 5.06 | 0.15 (0.08) | 0.13 (0.29) | 0.37 (0.27) | 0.30 (0.78) |
| | | 9-HEHE | 0.02 | 3.3 | 2.74 (1.61) | 2.26 (5.17) | 5.03 (2.66) | 5.06 (8.09) |
| | | 9-HEPE | 0.04 | 5.29 | 0.03 (0.0247) | 0.02 (0.08) | 0.10 (0.08) | 0.06 (0.22) |
| | | 9-HETE | 0.044 | 3.15 | 3.80 (2.69) | 3.37 (11.54) | 7.63 (4.3829) | 7.81 (12.09) |
| | | 8-iso-PGF2 α | 0.049 | 2.40 | 3.59 (2.35) | 3.23 (10.20) | 7.78 (5.02) | 7.51 (14.54) |
| | | DG (36:2) | 0.0008 | 1.47 | 0.27 (0.05) | 0.39 (0.13) | 0.30 (0.11) | 0.29 (0.39) |
| DG (36:3) | 0.001 | 1.61 | 0.19 (0.06) | 0.18 (0.2) | 0.50 (0.11) | 0.36 (0.45) | | |
| TG (48:0) | 0.011 | 2.2 | 0.24 (0.15) | 0.22 (0.43) | 0.54 (0.35) | 0.42 (0.92) | | |
| TG (48:1) | 0.013 | 2.05 | 0.71 (0.42) | 0.57 (1.32) | 1.45 (1.04) | 1.45 (3.93) | | |
| TG (48:2) | 0.011 | 2.12 | 0.48 (0.3) | 0.44 (0.95) | 1.02 (0.79) | 0.96 (3) | | |
| TG (48:3) | 0.003 | 2.47 | 0.1 (0.06) | 0.09 (0.21) | 0.25 (0.17) | 0.22 (0.65) | | |
| TG (50:0) | 0.005 | 1.87 | 0.21 (0.08) | 0.22 (0.29) | 0.39 (0.19) | 0.36 (0.55) | | |
| TG (50:1) | 0.018 | 1.73 | 2.73 (1.28) | 2.44 (4.76) | 4.71 (2.62) | 4.12 (7.51) | | |
| TG (50:2) | 0.019 | 1.66 | 3.69 (1.66) | 3.5 (5.91) | 6.14 (3.15) | 6.02 (9.93) | | |
| TG (50:3) | 0.006 | 1.85 | 1.36 (0.61) | 1.3 (1.88) | 2.52 (1.19) | 2.23 (3.51) | | |
| TG (50:4) | 0.002 | 2.05 | 0.23 (0.1) | 0.23 (0.35) | 0.47 (0.21) | 0.46 (0.64) | | |
| TG (51:1) | 0.008 | 1.95 | 0.1 (0.06) | 0.1 (0.21) | 0.2 (0.12) | 0.2 (0.43) | | |
| TG (51:2) | 0.016 | 1.85 | 0.19 (0.1) | 0.16 (0.31) | 0.35 (0.23) | 0.3 (0.87) | | |
| TG (51:3) | 0.009 | 1.89 | 0.11 (0.06) | 0.09 (0.17) | 0.21 (0.11) | 0.18 (0.38) | | |
| TG (52:0) | 0.001 | 2.06 | 0.04 (0.03) | 0.03 (0.1) | 0.09 (0.04) | 0.09 (0.12) | | |
| TG (52:1) | 0.001 | 1.8 | 0.91 (0.33) | 0.89 (0.96) | 1.63 (0.65) | 1.67 (1.95) | | |
| TG (52:2) | 0.009 | 1.59 | 5.93 (2.2) | 6.26 (7.92) | 9.42 (4.23) | 8.85 (11.93) | | |
| TG (52:3) | 0.004 | 1.77 | 5.34 (2.25) | 5.02 (7.34) | 9.43 (4.21) | 8 (11.71) | | |
| TG (52:4) | 0.003 | 1.99 | 1.77 (1.01) | 1.34 (3.35) | 3.52 (1.8) | 3.07 (5.37) | | |
| TG (52:5) | 0.002 | 2.08 | 0.41 (0.16) | 0.41 (0.56) | 0.85 (0.4) | 0.86 (1.26) | | |
| TG (54:1) | 0.008 | 1.67 | 0.08 (0.04) | 0.07 (0.13) | 0.13 (0.06) | 0.13 (0.22) | | |
| TG (54:2) | 0.002 | 1.53 | 0.66 (0.26) | 0.59 (0.89) | 1.01 (0.32) | 1.03 (0.96) | | |
| TG (54:3) | 0.007 | 1.44 | 1.47 (0.65) | 1.44 (2.61) | 2.11 (0.71) | 2.02 (2.12) | | |
| Positive Lipid Platform | Triglycerides | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------|---------|------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| | | TG (5:4:4) | 0.008 | 1.51 | 1.26 (0.72) | 1.21 (2.96) | 1.9 (0.7) | 1.97 (2.07) |
| | | TG (5:4:5) | 0.005 | 1.74 | 1.15 (0.35) | 1.03 (2.04) | 2.01 (0.92) | 1.76 (2.46) |
| | | TG (5:4:6) | 0.005 | 1.93 | 0.69 (0.31) | 0.62 (1.08) | 1.33 (0.7) | 1.06 (1.97) |
| | | TG (5:4:7) | 0.012 | 2.01 | 0.17 (0.1) | 0.17 (0.36) | 0.35 (0.2) | 0.27 (0.64) |
| | | TG (5:5:2) | 0.016 | 1.39 | 0.15 (0.05) | 0.15 (0.15) | 0.21 (0.07) | 0.21 (0.19) |
| | | TG (5:5:3) | 0.004 | 1.5 | 0.15 (0.05) | 0.15 (0.18) | 0.22 (0.07) | 0.2 (0.2) |
| | | TG (5:6:7) | 0.014 | 1.99 | 0.59 (0.38) | 0.58 (1.2) | 1.18 (0.67) | 0.94 (1.98) |
| | | TG (5:6:8) | 0.011 | 1.86 | 0.34 (0.2) | 0.33 (0.65) | 0.63 (0.34) | 0.48 (0.94) |
| | | PC (3:2:0) | 0.002 | 0.71 | 1.11 (0.29) | 1.19 (0.79) | 0.79 (0.22) | 0.72 (0.67) |
| | | PC (3:2:1) | 0.029 | 0.69 | 0.98 (0.38) | 0.89 (1.17) | 0.67 (0.6) | 0.58 (2.29) |
| | | PC (3:6:3) | 0.009 | 0.73 | 5.74 (1.53) | 5.52 (5.65) | 4.21 (1.39) | 3.96 (4.79) |
| | | PC (4:0:6) | 0.004 | 1.55 | 1.28 (0.36) | 1.42 (1.2) | 1.98 (0.66) | 1.97 (2.3) |
| | | PC (O-3:4:1) | 0.007 | 0.66 | 0.26 (0.08) | 0.28 (0.24) | 0.18 (0.06) | 0.15 (0.18) |
| | | PC (O-3:6:4) | 0.012 | 0.77 | 0.55 (0.14) | 0.51 (0.44) | 0.43 (0.08) | 0.41 (0.3) |
| | | PE (3:8:4) | 0.027 | 0.79 | 0.17 (0.04) | 0.16 (0.13) | 0.13 (0.04) | 0.13 (0.15) |
| | | SN1-PC (1:8:0) | 0.006 | 1.54 | 2.21 (0.61) | 2.24 (2.14) | 3.39 (1.38) | 3.14 (4.49) |
| | | SN1-LPC (2:0:3-w9) | 0.003 | 0.51 | 0.01 (0.007) | 0.01 (0.02) | 0.006 (0.005) | 0.004 (0.01) |
| | | SN2-LPC (1:8:0) | 0.003 | 1.54 | 0.23 (0.06) | 0.23 (0.21) | 0.36 (0.13) | 0.33 (0.43) |
| | | LPE (1:6:0) | 0.015 | 1.32 | 0.08 (0.02) | 0.07 (0.05) | 0.11 (0.03) | 0.11 (0.11) |
| | | LPE (1:8:0) | 0.009 | 1.38 | 0.09 (0.01) | 0.09 (0.05) | 0.11 (0.04) | 0.11 (0.14) |
| | | 10S,17S-DHEDoHE | 0.018 | 5.12 | 0.04 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.14) | 0.06 (0.053) | 0.05 (0.18) |
| | | 11,12-DHEDoHE | 0.001 | 0.18 | 0.094 (0.025) | 0.09 (0.11) | 0.07 (0.018) | 0.057 (0.06) |
| | | 19,20-EpDPE | 0.008 | 6.6 | 95.1 (33.7) | 102.3 (130.3) | 121.78 (33.51) | 135.1 (116.9) |
| | | 20-carboxy-LTB4 | 0.032 | 1.61 | 0.08 (0.013) | 0.05 (0.16) | 0.09 (0.08) | 0.05 (0.22) |
| | | 5,6-DHEDoHE | <0.0001 | 0.25 | 0.04 (0.013) | 0.04 (0.05) | 0.02 (0.013) | 0.016 (0.034) |
| | | 5S-HEDoHE | 0.004 | 5.68 | 3.94 (2.01) | 4.13 (6.67) | 9.97 (8.03) | 7.06 (24.17) |
| | | 8,9-DHEDoHE | <0.0001 | 0.18 | 0.054 (0.015) | 0.051 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.02) | 0.013 (0.054) |
| | | 9-HOoHE | 0.023 | 3.53 | 3.29 (1.94) | 3.19 (8.79) | 7.23 (4.66) | 7.12 (12.61) |

DG – Diacylglycerol; TG – Triglyceride; PC (O) – Plasmalogen phosphatidylcholine; PE – Phosphatidylethanolamine; LPC (O) – Lysophosphatidylcholine; LPE – Lysophosphatidylethanolamine.

Table S7.3: Pearson's correlation analysis results of significant ROS oxylipin correlations with classic immunological markers.

| Platform | Class | Metabolite | Pearson Correlation | p value (2-tailed) | N | Type of correlation (Pos/Neg) | Immunological marker | Immune pathway | |
|-------------|--------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|----|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Oxylipins | ROS | 10-HDoHE | .471* | .049 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 18-HEPE | .473* | .048 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 9-HEPE | .540* | .021 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 11-HDoHE | .551* | .018 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 9-HETE | .562* | .015 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 7-HDoHE | .563* | .015 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 13-HDoHE | .580* | .012 | 18 | Pos | | IP10 | IFNa pathway |
| | | 20-HDoHE | .580* | .012 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 8_HDoHE | .581* | .011 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 16-HDoHE | .582* | .011 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 17-HDoHE | .592** | .010 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 11-HETE | .605** | .008 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 8-HETE | .651** | .003 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 13-HDoHE | .487* | .041 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 8_HDoHE | .488* | .040 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 10-HDoHE | .494* | .037 | 18 | Pos | | IL-10 | |
| | | 9-HETE | .511* | .030 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 11-HETE | .543* | .020 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 8-HETE | .561* | .015 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 14-HDoHE | .542* | .020 | 18 | Pos | | IL-1beta | |
| | | 8-iso-PGF2a | .576* | .012 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 5-iPF2a-VI | .472* | .048 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 14-HDoHE | .621** | .006 | 18 | Pos | | IL-8 | Inflammasome/ Innate Pathway |
| | | 8-iso-PGF2a | .683** | .002 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 5-iPF2a-VI | .498* | .035 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 20-HDoHE | .523* | .026 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 10-HDoHE | .554* | .017 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| | | 11-HDoHE | .583* | .011 | 18 | Pos | | | |
| 9-HEPE | .632** | .005 | 18 | Pos | | MIP-1beta | | | |
| 8-iso-PGF2a | .730** | .001 | 18 | Pos | | | | | |
| 13-HDoHE | .843** | .000 | 18 | Pos | | | | | |
| 14-HDoHE | .849** | .000 | 18 | Pos | | | | | |

Table S7.4: Pearson's correlation analysis results of significant lipid metabolite (triglycerides, sphingomyelins, ceramides, cholesteryl esters, and free fatty acids) correlations with classic immunological markers.

| Platform | Class | Metabolite | Pearson Correlation | p value (2-tailed) | N | Type of correlation (Pos/Neg) | Immunological marker | Immune pathway |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Negative mode Lipids | Free fatty acid | FA (20:5-w3) | .547* | .015 | 19 | Pos | IP10 | IFN α pathway |
| | | Cholesterol-ester | CE (18:2) | .614** | .005 | 19 | | |
| Positive mode Lipid | Ceramide | Cer (d18:1/22:0) | -.562* | .012 | 19 | Neg | IL-1beta | |
| | | Cer (d18:1/22:0) | -.471* | .042 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | Diacylglycerol | DG (36:3) | .681** | .001 | 19 | Pos | IL-8 | |
| | | DG (36:2) | .690** | .001 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | DG (36:2) | .550* | .015 | 19 | Pos | MIP-1alfa | |
| | | DG (36:3) | .621** | .005 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | DG (36:3) | .507* | .027 | 19 | Pos | MIP-1beta | |
| | | DG (36:2) | .542* | .017 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | Sphingomyelin | SM (d18:1/16:1) | -.502* | .028 | 19 | Neg | IL-8 | |
| | | SM (d18:1/18:1) | -.527* | .020 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | | SM (d18:1/24:2) | -.528* | .020 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | Triglyceride | TG (52:1) | .458* | .048 | 19 | Pos | Inflammasone/ Innate Pathway | |
| | | TG (50:0) | .467* | .044 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | TG (52:0) | .524* | .021 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | TG (56:8) | .457* | .049 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | TG (50:4) | .459* | .048 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | TG (51:1) | .459* | .048 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | TG (51:2) | .463* | .046 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | TG (56:7) | .468* | .043 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | TG (52:5) | .482* | .037 | 19 | Pos | | |
| TG (54:6) | | .482* | .036 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| Triglyceride | TG (50:3) | .497* | .030 | 19 | Pos | IL-8 | | |
| | TG (50:0) | .506* | .027 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | TG (50:2) | .512* | .025 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | TG (54:5) | .528* | .020 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | TG (50:1) | .539* | .017 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | TG (52:4) | .539* | .017 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | TG (52:0) | .546* | .016 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | TG (52:1) | .577** | .010 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| TG (52:2) | .577** | .010 | 19 | Pos | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|------|----|-----|-----------|
| TG (54:2) | .577** | .010 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (55:2) | .579** | .009 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (54:4) | .581** | .009 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (52:3) | .591** | .008 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (54:3) | .598** | .007 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (55:3) | .606** | .006 | 19 | Pos | |
| <hr/> | | | | | |
| TG (52:0) | .462* | .046 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (52:1) | .474* | .040 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (51:3) | .475* | .040 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (56:7) | .479* | .038 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (56:8) | .512* | .025 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (54:5) | .513* | .025 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (54:7) | .542* | .017 | 19 | Pos | MIP-1alfa |
| TG (54:6) | .543* | .016 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (52:3) | .562* | .012 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (54:4) | .573* | .010 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (52:5) | .575* | .010 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (55:3) | .598** | .007 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (52:4) | .631** | .004 | 19 | Pos | |
| <hr/> | | | | | |
| TG (50:0) | .457* | .049 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (51:3) | .468* | .043 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (52:3) | .468* | .043 | 19 | Pos | MIP-1beta |
| TG (51:1) | .471* | .042 | 19 | Pos | |
| TG (52:4) | .482* | .036 | 19 | Pos | |
| <hr/> | | | | | |
| TG (58:2) | -.505* | .027 | 19 | Neg | TRAIL |

Table S7.5: Pearson's correlation analysis results of significant phospholipid metabolite correlations with classic immunological markers

| Platform | Class | Metabolite | Pearson Correlation | p value (2-tailed) | N | Type of correlation (Pos/Neg) | Immunological marker | Immune pathway |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|--------------------|----|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Positive mode Lipids | Phospholipids | PC(40:4) | -.462* | .046 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | | PC(O-36:6) | .464* | .046 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | PC(32:2) | .477* | .039 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | PC(36:5) | .502* | .028 | 19 | Pos | IP10 | IFN α pathway |
| | | PC(34:2) | .516* | .024 | 19 | Pos | | |
| | | PC(40:8) | -.548* | .015 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | | PE(O-38:7) | -.565* | .012 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | | PC(O-36:4) | -.476* | .039 | 19 | Neg | IL-1beta | |
| | | PC(O-34:1) | -.565* | .012 | 19 | Neg | IL-8 | |
| | | PC(32:0) | -.581** | .009 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | | PC(O-36:6) | -.460* | .048 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | | PC(32:0) | -.464* | .045 | 19 | Neg | | Inflammasome/ Innate Pathway |
| | | PE(36:4) | -.471* | .042 | 19 | Neg | | |
| | | PC(O-38:5) | -.478* | .038 | 19 | Neg | MIP-1alfa | |
| PC(40:6) | .488* | .034 | 19 | Neg | | | | |
| PC(32:1) | -.491* | .033 | 19 | Neg | | | | |
| PC(O-34:1) | -.580** | .009 | 19 | Neg | | | | |

Table S7.6: Pearson's correlation analysis results of significant lysophospholipid metabolite correlations with classic immunological markers

| Platform | Class | Metabolite | Pearson Correlation | p value (2-tailed) | N | Type of correlation (Pos/Neg) | Immunological marker | Immune pathway | |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Negative mode Lipids | Lyso-phospholipids | LPE (22:5-w6) | -.489* | .034 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | LPC (O-18:1) | .510* | .026 | 19 | Pos | IP10 | IFN α pathway | |
| | | LPE (16:0) | .616** | .005 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | | SN2-LPC (18:0) | .471* | .042 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (20:3-w3w6) | -.472* | .041 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | LPE (20:3-w3w6) | -.473* | .041 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (18:2) | -.520* | .022 | 19 | Neg | | IL-1beta | |
| | | SN2-LPC (18:2) | -.556* | .013 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (20:3-w9) | -.579** | .009 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | LPE (20:3-w3w6) | -.508* | .027 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN2-LPC (20:3)-w3w6 | -.522* | .022 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (20:3-w3w6) | -.594** | .007 | 19 | Neg | | IL-8 | |
| | | SN1-LPC (18:2) | -.619** | .005 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (20:3-w9) | -.659** | .002 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN2-LPC (18:2) | -.664** | .002 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (22:4) | -.469* | .043 | 19 | Neg | | | Inflammasome/ Innate Pathway |
| | | LPE (22:5-w6) | -.484* | .036 | 19 | Neg | | MIP-1alfa | |
| | | LPE (18:1) | -.514* | .024 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (20:3-w9) | -.716** | .001 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | LPE (18:2) | -.479* | .038 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (16:0) | .482* | .037 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | LPE (20:4) | -.492* | .032 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (18:2) | -.492* | .032 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN2-LPC (18:2) | -.501* | .029 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | SN2-LPC (18:0) | .512* | .025 | 19 | Pos | | MIP-1beta | |
| | | SN1-LPC (18:0) | .515* | .024 | 19 | Pos | | | |
| | | SN1-LPC (22:5-w6) | -.519* | .023 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| | | LPE (20:3-w3w6) | -.546* | .016 | 19 | Neg | | | |
| SN1-LPC (20:3-w9) | -.556* | .013 | 19 | Neg | | | | | |
| LPE (22:5-w6) | -.592** | .008 | 19 | Neg | | | | | |
| SN2-LPC (14:0) | -.480* | .037 | 19 | Neg | | TRAIL | | | |

Table S7.7: Pearson's correlation analysis results of significant COX, LOX, and CYP oxylipin metabolite correlations with classic immunological markers

| Platform | Class | Metabolite | Pearson Correlation | p value (2-tailed) | N | Type of correlation (Pos/Neg) | Immunological marker | Immune pathway |
|-----------------|--------|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Oxylipins | COX | 11beta-13,14-dihydro-15-keto-PGF2a | .476* | .046 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | PGE2 | .478* | .045 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-PGF2a | .484* | .042 | 18 | Pos | IP10 | IFN α pathway |
| | | 11beta-PGE2 | .500* | .035 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-PGE2 | .512* | .030 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | bicyclo-PGE2 | .644** | .004 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | PGF2a | .502* | .034 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 20-carboxy-LTB4 | .511* | .030 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | PGJ2 | .538* | .021 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 12S-HHTrE | .545* | .019 | 18 | Pos | IL-1beta | |
| | | 20-hydroxy-PGE2 | .557* | .016 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | d12-PGJ2 | .558* | .016 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | TXB2 | .568* | .014 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 6-keto-PGF1a | .572* | .013 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | bicyclo-PGE2 | .530* | .024 | 18 | Pos | IL-6 | |
| | | PGJ2 | .501* | .034 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 12S-HHTrE | .509* | .031 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 20-carboxy-LTB4 | .514* | .029 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 20-hydroxy-PGE2 | .518* | .028 | 18 | Pos | IL-8 | Inflammasome/ Innate Pathway |
| | | d12-PGJ2 | .550* | .018 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | TXB2 | .558* | .016 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 6-keto-PGF1a | .589* | .010 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | PGF2a | .624** | .006 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 11beta-PGE2 | .505* | .033 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | 20-hydroxy-PGE2 | .512* | .030 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | PGJ2 | .597** | .009 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | | d12-PGJ2 | .663** | .003 | 18 | Pos | MIP-1beta | |
| PGF2a | .715** | .001 | 18 | Pos | | | | |
| 20-carboxy-LTB4 | .719** | .001 | 18 | Pos | | | | |
| TXB2 | .800** | .000 | 18 | Pos | | | | |
| 12S-HHTrE | .811** | .000 | 18 | Pos | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|--------|------|----|-----|-----------|---------------------------------|
| | 16,17-EpDPE | .551* | .018 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 10S,17S-DiHDoHE | .583* | .011 | 18 | Pos | IP10 | IFN α pathway |
| | 5S,6S-DiHETE | .491* | .039 | 18 | Pos | | |
| CYP | 10S,17S-DiHDoHE | .503* | .033 | 18 | Pos | IL-10 | Inflammasome/ Innate Pathway |
| | 12,13-DiHOME | -.578* | .012 | 18 | Neg | | |
| | 5,6-EpETrE | .539* | .021 | 18 | Pos | MIP-1beta | |
| | 12,13-DiHODE | .675** | .002 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 12-KETE | .489* | .039 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 13-HODE | .497* | .036 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | LTB4 | .505* | .032 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 8S,15S-DiHETE | .509* | .031 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 6-trans-LTB4 | .517* | .028 | 18 | Pos | IP10 | IFN α pathway |
| | 9-HODE | .519* | .027 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 15-HETE | .542* | .020 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 9-HOTrE | .556* | .017 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 5S-HEPE | .624** | .006 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 9-HOTrE | .492* | .038 | 18 | Pos | IL10 | |
| | 8S,15S-DiHETE | .558* | .016 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 12-HETE | .647** | .004 | 18 | Pos | IL-1beta | |
| | 9,10,13-TriHOME | .484* | .042 | 18 | Pos | | |
| LOX | 9,12,13-TriHOME | .509* | .031 | 18 | Pos | IL-8 | |
| | 12S-HEPE | .523* | .026 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 12-HETE | .685** | .002 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 15S-HETrE | .471* | .048 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 15-HETE | .491* | .038 | 18 | Pos | | Inflammasome/ Innate Pathway |
| | 9-HOTrE | .546* | .019 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 13-HODE | .555* | .017 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 9-HODE | .556* | .017 | 18 | Pos | MIP-1beta | |
| | 13-KODE | .560* | .016 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 9-KODE | .577* | .012 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 9,10,13-TriHOME | .687** | .002 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 9,12,13-TriHOME | .722** | .001 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 12S-HEPE | .786** | .000 | 18 | Pos | | |
| | 12-HETE | .904** | .000 | 18 | Pos | | |

Supplementary Figures

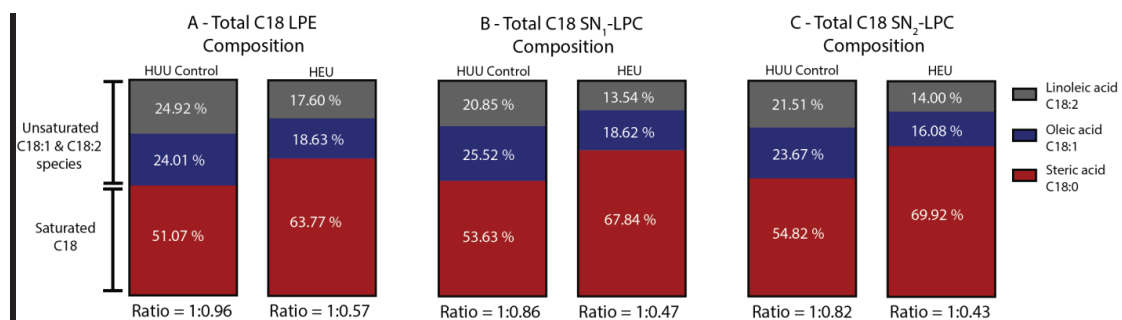


Figure S7.1: Lysophospholipid C18 species composition: Investigating the saturation vs. unsaturation ratio in the C18 LPE and SN_{1/2}-LPC species all showed the same trend. Due to the significant increases in stearic acid lysophospholipids and the downwards trend of the unsaturated C18 species the cART-exposed HEU infants shows an almost doubling in the ratio of stearic acid vs. oleic and linoleic acid species compared to HUU infants. Red, blue grey represent stearic acid (C18:0), oleic acid (C18:1) and linoleic acid (C18:2) respectively.

Supplementary Methods

1. Positive lipid profiling

Positive lipids were extracted with isopropyl alcohol (IPA). In short, 1000 μ L IPA containing calibrant and internal standards both at C4 levels were added to 10 μ L serum to precipitate proteins. After centrifugation (12,100 rpm, 10 mins, at RT) supernatant containing the lipids is transferred to vials for LC-MS analysis. In total 2.5 μ L was injected for analysis.

1.1 Equipment

Chromatographic separation was achieved on an ACQUITY UPLC™ HSS T3 column (1.8 μ m, 2.1 x 100mm) with a flow of 0.4 mL/min over a 16 min gradient. The lipid analysis is performed on a UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF (Agilent 6530, Jose, CA, USA) high resolution mass spectrometer using reference mass correction. Lipids were detected in full scan in the positive ion mode.

1.2 List of Detected Metabolites

| Lipid Class | Lipidmaps | Metabolite species | Amount (n) |
|--|-----------|---|------------|
| Cholesteryl ester (CE) | ST0102 | C18:1; C18:2; C20:4; C22:6 | 4 |
| Ceramides (Cer) | SP02 | d18:0/24:0; d18:0/22:0; d18:1/22:0; d18:1/24:1; d18:1/24:0 | 5 |
| Diacylglycerol (DG) | GL0201 | C36:2; C36:3; C28:0 | 3 |
| Lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC) | GP0105 | C14:0; C16:0; C16:1; C18:0; C18:1; C18:2; C18:3; C19:0; C20:3; C20:4; C20:5; C22:6 | 12 |
| Lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE) | GP0205 | C18:0 | 1 |
| Phosphatidylcholine (PC) | GP0101 | C32:0; C32:1; C32:2; C34:1; C34:2; C34:3; C34:4; C36:1; C36:2; C36:3; C36:4; C36:5; C38:2; C38:3; C38:4; C38:5; C38:6; C38:7; C40:4; C40:5; C40:6; C40:7; C40:8 | 23 |
| Phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) | GP0201 | C30:0; C36:3; C36:4; C38:2; C38:4; C38:6 | 6 |
| Plasmalogen Lysophosphatidylcholine (pLPC) | GP0106 | C16:1; C18:1 | 2 |
| Plasmalogen Phosphatidylcholine (pPC) | GP0102 | C34:1; C34:2; C34:3; C36:4; C36:5; C36:6; C38:4; C38:5; C38:6; C38:7 | 10 |
| Plasmalogen Phosphatidylethanolamine (pPE) | GP0202 | C38:7 | 1 |
| Sphingomyelins (SM) | SP0301 | d18:1/14:0; d18:1/15:0; d18:1/16:0; d18:1/16:1; d18:1/18:0; d18:1/18:1; d18:1/18:2; d18:1/20:0; d18:1/20:1; d18:1/21:0; d18:1/22:0; d18:1/22:1; d18:1/23:0; d18:1/23:1; d18:1/24:0; d18:1/24:1; d18:1/24:2 | 17 |
| Triglycerides (TG) | GL0301 | C48:0; C48:1; C48:2; C48:3; C48:4; C50:0; C50:1; C50:2; C50:3; C50:4; C51:1; C51:2; C51:3; C52:0; C52:1; C52:2; C52:3; C52:4; C52:5; C54:1; C54:2; C54:3; C54:4; C54:5; C54:6; C54:7; C55:2; C55:3; C56:3; C56:7; C56:8; C58:2; C58:5; C58:6; C58:8; C58:10 | 35 |

2. Polar negative lipid profiling

Polar lipid extraction is performed by methanol extraction. Briefly, 440 μL methanol containing internal standard is added to 20 μL serum. After centrifugation, the protein is precipitated and the lipid containing supernatant is transferred to clean Eppendorf tubes and the solvent is evaporated using a Speedvac. The dried lipids were reconstituted in 145 μL isopropanol, 0.1% formic acid and transferred to autosampler vials. In total 8 μL was injected for analysis.

2.1 Equipment

Chromatographic separation was achieved on an ACQUITY UPLC™ HSS T3 column with a flow of 0.4 ml/min over 15 min gradient. Free fatty acids and lyso-phospholipid content is analyzed with a UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF (Agilent 6530, Jose, CA, USA) high resolution mass spectrometer using reference mass correction. Polar lipids were detected in full scan in the negative ion mode.

2.2 List of Detected Metabolites

| Lipid Class | Lipidmaps | Metabolite species | Amount (n) |
|--|-----------|--|------------|
| Free fatty acids (FA) | FA01 | C14:0; C17:1; C18:1; C18:2; C18:3-(w3w6); C20:1; C20:2; C20:3-(w9); C20:3-(w3w6); C20:4-(w6); C20:5-(w3); C22:0; C22:2; C22:3; C22:4; C22:5-(w3); C22:5-(w6); C22:6; C24:1; C24:2 | 21 |
| Lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC) | GP0105 | <i>sn1</i> : C14:0; C15:0; C16:0; C16:1; C18:0; C18:1; C18:2; C20:1; C20:2; C20:3-(w9); C20:3-(w3w6); C20:4; C20:5; C22:4; C22:5-(w3); C22:5-(w6); C22:6 <i>sn2</i> : C14:0; C16:0; C16:1; C18:0; C18:1; C18:2; C20:3-(w3w6); C20:4; C20:5; C22:6 | 28 |
| Lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE) | GP0205 | C16:0; C18:0; C18:1; C18:2; C20:3-(w3w6); C20:4; 22:5-(w3); 22:5-(w6); C22:6 | 9 |
| Plasmalogen Lysophosphatidylcholine (pLPC) | GP0106 | C16:0; C18:0; C18:1; C18:2 | 4 |

3. Oxylipin profiling

The oxylipin platform covers classical and non-classical eicosanoids from different poly unsaturated fatty acids (PUFA), including n-6 and n-3 PUFAs such as linoleic acid and arachidonic acid (both n-6) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) (both n-3). 250 μL of each plasma sample were spiked with antioxidants and internal standard mix (Table 8), diluted and add to the SPE cartridge using a hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (HLB) (Oasis, Waters). Oxylipins were eluted with methanol and ethyl acetate. To concentrate, the eluate was gently dried under nitrogen stream and reconstituted in 50 μL of injection solvent (acetonitrile and methanol,1:1 v/v). In total 5 μL was injected for analysis.

3.1 Equipment

The HPLC was coupled to electrospray ionization on a triple quadrupole mass spectrometer (Agilent 6460, San Jose, CA, USA). Separation was done by HPLC (Agilent 1260, San Jose, CA, USA) using an Ascentis® Express column (2.1x150 mm, 2.7 μ m particles; Supelco, Bellefonte, PA, USA) with 0.35 mL flow during 28 min gradient. Oxylipins were detected in negative ion mode using dynamic Multiple Reaction Monitoring (MRM).

3.2 List of Detected Metabolites

| Metabolite | Systematic Name | Chemical formula | Lipid maps ID | Inchy-Key |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 10-HDoHE | (+/-)-10-hydroxy-4Z,7Z,11E,13Z,16Z,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000027 | DDCYKEYDGTGCKAS-SKSHMZPZSA-N |
| 10S,17S-DiHDoHE | 10(S),17(S)-dihydroxy-4Z,7Z,11E,13Z,15E,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O4 | LMFA04000047 | CRDZYJSQHCXHEG-XLBFCUQGSAN |
| 11,12-DiHETrE | (\pm)11,12-dihydroxy-5Z,8Z,14Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H34O4 | LMFA03050008 | LRPPQRCHCPFBPE-LZXKBWHHSA-N |
| 11,12-EpETrE | (\pm)11(12)-epoxy-5Z,8Z,14Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03080014 | DXOYQVHGIODESM-LZXKBWHHSA-N |
| 11beta-13,14-dihydro-15-keto-PGF2a | 9S,11R-dihydroxy-15-oxo-prost-5Z-en-1-oic acid | C20H34O5 | LMFA03010203 | VKTIQNYPMSCHQI-KGILNJEJGSA-N |
| 11beta-PGE2 | 9-oxo-11S,15S-dihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid | C20H32O5 | LMFA03010060 | XEYBRNLFPEZDVAW-YUOXZBOXSAN |
| 11-HDoHE | (+/-)-11-hydroxy-4Z,7Z,9E,13Z,16Z,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000028 | LTERDCBCHFKFRI-BGKMTWLOSAN |
| 11-HETE | 11R-hydroxy-5Z,8Z,12E,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03060028 | GCZRCCHPLVMMJE-WXXMURGXSA-N |
| 12,13-DiHODE | (+/-)-12,13-dihydroxy-9Z,15Z-octadecadienoic acid | C18H32O4 | LMFA02000046 | RGRKFKRAFZJQMS-OOHFSOINSA-N |
| 12,13-DiHOME | 12,13-dihydroxy-9Z-octadecenoic acid | C18H34O4 | LMFA01050351 | CQSLTKIXAJTQGA-GJGKEFFFSAN |
| 12,13-EpOME | (+/-)-12(13)-epoxy-9Z-octadecenoic acid | C18H32O3 | LMFA02000038 | CCPPLJZDQAOLD-FLIBITNWSAN |
| 12-HETE | 12-hydroxy-5Z,8Z,10E,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03060088 | ZNHVWPKMFKADKW-VXBMJZGYSAN |
| 12-KETE | 12-oxo-5Z,8Z,10E,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H30O3 | LMFA03060019 | GURBRQGDZZKITB-VXBMJZGYSAN |
| 12S-HEPE | 12S-hydroxy-5Z,8Z,10E,14Z,17Z-eicosapentaenoic acid | C20H30O3 | LMFA03070008 | MCRJLMXYVFDXLS-UOLHMMFFSAN |
| 12S-HHTrE | 12S-hydroxy-5Z,8E,10E-heptadecatrienoic acid | C17H28O3 | LMFA03050002 | KUKJHGXXZWHBSG-WBGSEQOASAN |
| 12S-HpETE | 12S-hydroperoxy-5Z,8Z,10E,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O4 | LMFA03060013 | ZIOZYRSDNLNNJ-VXBMJZGYSAN |
| 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-PGD2 | 11,15-dioxo-9S-hydroxy-5Z-prostenoic acid | C20H32O5 | LMFA03010022 | VSRXYLYXIXYEST-KZTWKYQFSAN |
| 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-PGE2 | 9,15-dioxo-11R-hydroxy-5Z-prostenoic acid | C20H32O5 | LMFA03010031 | CUJMXIQZWPZMNQ-XYYGWQPLSAN |

| | | | | |
|---|---|----------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-PGF _{2a} | 9S,11S-dihydroxy-15-oxo-5Z-prostenoic acid | C20H34O5 | LMFA03010027 | VKTIONYPMSCHQI-XAGFEHLVSA-N |
| 13,14-dihydro-PGF _{2a} | 9S,11R,15S-trihydroxy-5Z-prostenoic acid | C20H36O5 | LMFA03010079 | LLQBSJQTCCKVWTD-QPJXVBHSA-N |
| 13-HDoHE | (+/-)-13-hydroxy-4Z,7Z,10Z,14E,16Z,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000029 | SEVOKGDVLLIUMT-SKSHMZPZSA-N |
| 13-HODE | 13S-hydroxy-9Z,11E-octadecadienoic acid | C18H32O3 | LMFA02000154 | HNICUWMFWZBIFP-BSZOFBHSA-N |
| 13-HpODE | (±)13-hydroperoxy-9Z,11E-octadecadienoic acid | C18H32O4 | LMFA02000034 | JDSRHVWSAMTSSN-BSZOFBHSA-N |
| 13-KODE | 13-keto-9Z,11E-octadecadienoic acid | C18H30O3 | LMFA02000016 | JHXAZBBVQSRKJR-BSZOFBHSA-N |
| 14,15-DiHETrE | 14,15-dihydroxy-5Z,8Z,11Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H34O4 | LMFA03050010 | SYAWGTIVOGUZMM-ILYOTBPNSA-N |
| 14,15-DiHETrE | (±)14,15-dihydroxy-5Z,8Z,11Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H34O4 | LMFA03050010 | SYAWGTIVOGUZMM-KZTFMOQPSA-N |
| 14,15-EpETrE | (±)14(15)-epoxy-5Z,8Z,11Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03080013 | JBCSUHKPLGKXKH-KZTFMOQPSA-N |
| 14-HDoHE | (+/-)-14-hydroxy-4Z,7Z,10Z,12E,16Z,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000030 | ZNEBXONKCYEJAF-BGKMTWLOSA-N |
| 15-deoxy-delta-12,14-PGD ₂ | 9S-hydroxy-11-oxo-5Z,12E,14E-prostatrienoic acid | C20H30O4 | LMFA03010051 | QUGBPWLPAUHDTI-PLGLXCLHSA-N |
| 15-HETE | 15S-hydroxy-5Z,8Z,11Z,13E-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03060001 | JSFATNQSLKRBCI-VAEKSGALSA-N |
| 15S-HEPE | 15S-hydroxy-5Z,8Z,11Z,13E,17Z-eicosapentaenoic acid | C20H30O3 | LMFA03070009 | WLKCSMCLEKGTB-DBVSHIMFSA-N |
| 15-keto-PGF _{2a} | 9S,11R-dihydroxy-15-oxo-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid | C20H32O5 | LMFA03010026 | LOLJEILMPWPILA-AMFHKTBMSA-N |
| 15S-HETrE | 15S-hydroxy-8Z,11Z,13E-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H34O3 | LMFA03050007 | IUKXMNDGTWTNTP-OAHXIXLCSA-N |
| 16,17-EpDPE | (±)16(17)-epoxy-4Z,7Z,10Z,13Z,19Z-docosapentaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000037 | BCIXZWCPBLWCRV-QCAYAECISA-N |
| 16-HDoHE | (±)16-hydroxy-4Z,7Z,10Z,13Z,17E,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000031 | CSXQXWHAGLIFHH-VUARBIEWSA-N |
| 17,18-DiHETE | (+/-)-17,18-dihydroxy-5Z,8Z,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O4 | LMFA03060078 | XYDVGNAQQFWZEF-JPURVOHMSA-N |
| 17-HDoHE | (±)17-hydroxy-4Z,7Z,10Z,13Z,15E,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000032 | SWTYBBUBEPPYCX-VIIQGJSXSA-N |
| 18-HEPE | (±)18-hydroxy-5Z,8Z,11Z,14Z,16E-eicosapentaenoic acid | C20H30O3 | LMFA03070033 | LRWYBGFVUBWMO-UXNZXXPISA-N |
| 19,20-DiHDPA | (±)19,20-dihydroxy-4Z,7Z,10Z,13Z,16Z-docosapentaenoic acid | C22H34O4 | LMFA04000043 | FFXKPSNQCPNORO-MBYQGORISA-N |
| 19,20-EpDPE | (+/-)-19(20)-epoxy-4Z,7Z,10Z,13Z,16Z-docosapentaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000038 | OSXOPUBJJDUAOJ-MBYQGORISA-N |
| 20-carboxy-LTB ₄ | 5S,12R-dihydroxy-6Z,8E,10E,14Z-eicosatetraene-1,20-dioic acid | C20H30O6 | LMFA03020016 | SXWGPVJGNOLNHT-VFLUTPEKSA-N |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|----------|--------------|------------------------------|
| 20-HDoHE | (+/-)-20-hydroxy-4Z,7Z,10Z,13Z,16Z,18E-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000033 | YUZXOJOCNGKDNI-LFVREGEGSA-N |
| 20-hydroxy-LTB4 | 5S,12R,20-trihydroxy-6Z,8E,10E,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O5 | LMFA03020018 | PTJFJXLGRSTECQ-PSPARDEHSA-N |
| 20-hydroxy-PGE2 | 9-oxo-11R,15S,20-trihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid | C20H32O6 | LMFA03010014 | AZIGEYVZEVXWAD-NZGURKHLISA-N |
| 4-HDoHE | (±)4-hydroxy-5E,7Z,10Z,13Z,16Z,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000024 | IFRKCNPQVIJFAQ-PQVBWYWSA-N |
| 5,6-DiHETrE | 5S,6S-dihydroxy-7E,9E,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O4 | LMFA03060018 | UVZBUUTTYHTDRR-WAQVJNLQSA-N |
| 5,6-EpETrE | (±)5(6)-epoxy-8Z,11Z,14Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03080017 | VBQNSZQZRAGRIX-GSKBNKFLISA-N |
| 5-HETE | 5S-hydroxy-6E,8Z,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03060002 | KGJJOYOSFUGPC-JGKLHWIESA-N |
| 5-HETrE | 5S-hydroxy-6E,8Z,11Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H34O3 | LMFA03050005 | LSADDRSUZRRBAN-FDSUASFISA-N |
| 5-IPF2a-VI | 5,9S,11R-trihydroxy-6E,14Z-prostadienoic acid-cyclo[8S,12R] | C20H34O5 | LMFA03110011 | RZCPXIZGLPAGEV-SUHLLOIRSA-N |
| 5-KETE | 5-oxo-6E,8Z,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H30O3 | LMFA03060011 | MEASLHGILYBXFO-XTDASVJISA-N |
| 5S,14R-Lipoxin B4 | 5S,14R,15S-trihydroxy-6E,8Z,10E,12E-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O5 | LMFA03040002 | UXVRTOKOJOMENI-WLPVFMORSA-N |
| 5S,15S-DiHETE | 5S,15S-dihydroxy-6E,8Z,10Z,13E-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O4 | LMFA03060010 | UXGXCGPWWGSUMNI-BVHTXILBSA-N |
| 5S,6R-LipoxinA4 | 5S,6R,15S-trihydroxy-7E,9E,11Z,13E-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O5 | LMFA03040001 | IXAQOQZEOGMIQS-SSQFXEBMSA-N |
| 5S,6S-DiHETE | 5S,6S-dihydroxy-7E,9E,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O4 | LMFA03060018 | UVZBUUTTYHTDRR-WAQVJNLQSA-N |
| 5S,6S-Lipoxin A4 | 5S,6R,15S-trihydroxy-7E,9E,11Z,13E-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O5 | LMFA03040001 | IXAQOQZEOGMIQS-SSQFXEBMSA-N |
| 5S-HEPE | 5S-hydroxy-6E,8Z,11Z,14Z,17Z-eicosapentaenoic acid | C20H30O3 | LMFA03070010 | FTAGQROYQYQRHF-GHWNLOBHSA-N |
| 6-keto-PGF1a | 6-oxo-9S,11R,15S-trihydroxy-13E-prostenoic acid | C20H34O6 | LMFA03010001 | KFGOFTHODYBSGM-ZUNNJUCSA-N |
| 6-trans-LTB4 | 5S,12R-dihydroxy-6E,8E,10E,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O4 | LMFA03020013 | VNYSSYRCGWBLG-UKNWISKWSA-N |
| 7-HDoHE | (±)7-hydroxy-4Z,8E,10Z,13Z,16Z,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000025 | OZXAIIRPOOJTI-XJAVJPOHSA-N |
| 8,9-DiHETrE | 8,9-dihydroxy-5Z,11Z,14Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H34O4 | LMFA03050006 | DCJBINATHQHPKOTYAUOURKSA-N |
| 8,9-EpETrE | (±)8(9)-epoxy-5Z,11Z,14Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03080019 | DBWQSCSXHFNTMO-ZZMPYBMWSA-N |
| 8_HDoHE | (±)8-hydroxy-4Z,6E,10Z,13Z,16Z,19Z-docosahexaenoic acid | C22H32O3 | LMFA04000026 | ZHBVYDMSPPDAKE-VTIZNUJUSA-N |
| 8-HETE | (±)8-hydroxy-5Z,9E,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03060086 | NLUNAYAEIJYXRBHEJOTXCHSA-N |

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| 8-HETrE | 8S-hydroxy-9E,11Z,14Z-eicosatrienoic acid | C20H34O3 | LMFA03050011 | SKIQVURLERJJK- RDCCVJQZSA-N |
| 8-iso-PGF2a | 9S,11R,15S-trihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid- cyclo[8S,12R] | C20H34O5 | LMFA03110001 | PXGPLTODNUVGFL- NAPLMKITSAN |
| 8S,15S-DiHETE | 8S,15S-dihydroxy-5Z,9E,11Z,13E-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O4 | LMFA03060050 | NNPWRKSGORGTIM- HCCKYKKOSAN |
| 9,10,13-TriHOME | E)-9,10,13-Trihydroxy-11-octadecenoic acid | C18H34O5 | LMFA02000168 | NTVFQBIHLSPEQG- BUHFOSPRSAN |
| 9,10-DiHOME | 9,10-dihydroxy-12Z-octadecenoic acid | C18H34O4 | LMFA02000229 | XEBKSQSGNGRGDW- CJWPDEFJNSAN |
| 9,10-EpOME | (+/-)-9(10)-epoxy-12Z-octadecenoic acid | C18H32O3 | LMFA02000037 | FBUKMF0XMZRGRRB- XKJZPPFASAN |
| 9,12,13-TriHOME | 9S,12S,13S-trihydroxy-10E-octadecenoic acid | C18H34O5 | LMFA02000014 | MDIUMSLCYIJBQC- MVFISOIOZSAN |
| 9-HEPE | (±)-9-hydroxy-5Z,7E,11Z,14Z,17Z-eicosapentaenoic acid | C20H30O3 | LMFA03070029 | OXOPDAZWPWFJEW- IMCWFPBLSAN |
| 9-HETE | (±)-9-hydroxy-5Z,7E,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O3 | LMFA03060089 | KATOYYZUTNAWSA- OIZRIKEUSAN |
| 9-HODE | (±)-9-hydroxy-10E,12Z-octadecadienoic acid | C18H32O3 | LMFA02000151 | NPDSHTNEKILQJ- ZJHFMPGASAN |
| 9-HOTrE | 9S-hydroxy-10E,12Z,15Z-octadecatrienoic acid | C18H30O3 | LMFA02000024 | RIGGEAZDITKMXSI- MEBVITJQTSAN |
| 9-KODE | 9-oxo-10E,12Z-octadecadienoic acid | C18H30O3 | LMFA02000274 | LUZSWWYKKLTDHU- ZJHFMPGASAN |
| bicyclo-PGE2 | 9,15-dioxo-5Z-prostaenoic acid-cyclo[11S,16] | C20H30O4 | LMFA03010034 | CGCZPIJMGKLVITQ- PAJBVNRRSAN |
| d12-PGJ2 | 11-oxo-15S-hydroxy-prosta-5Z,9,12E-trien-1-oic acid | C20H30O4 | LMFA03010020 | TUXFWOHFPFBNEJ- GJGHEGAFSAN |
| LTB4 | 5S,12R-dihydroxy-6Z,8E,10E,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid | C20H32O4 | LMFA03020001 | VNYSSYRCGWBHLG- AMOLWHMGSAN |
| PGD1 | 9S,15S-dihydroxy-11-oxo-13E-prostaenoic acid | C20H34O5 | LMFA03010049 | CIMMACURCPXICP- PNQRDDRVSAN |
| PGE2 | 9-oxo-11R,15S-dihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid; Prostin E2 | C20H32O5 | LMFA03010003 | XEYBRNLFEZDVAW- ARSRFYASSAN |
| PGF2a | 9S,11R,15S-trihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid | C20H34O5 | LMFA03010002 | PXGPLTODNUVGFL- YNNPMVKQSAN |
| PGJ2 | 11-oxo-15S-hydroxy-prosta-5Z,9,13E-trien-1-oic acid | C20H30O4 | LMFA03010019 | UQOQENZLBSFKO- POPPZSFYSAN |
| TXB2 | 9S,11,15S-trihydroxy-thromboxa-5Z,13E-dien-1-oic acid | C20H34O6 | LMFA03030002 | XNRNNGPBEPRNAR- JQBLCGNGSAN |

