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## Supporting Information

A pre-column derivatization method allowing quantitative metabolite profiling of carboxyl and phenolic hydroxyl group containing pharmaceuticals in human plasma via liquid chromatography-inductively coupled plasma-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-ICP-MS/MS)

Sanwang Li<sup>a</sup>, Balázs Klencsár <sup>a</sup>, Lieve Balcaen <sup>a</sup>, Filip Cuyckens<sup>b</sup>, Frederic Lynen <sup>c</sup>, Frank Vanhaecke <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Ghent University, Department of Chemistry, Atomic and Mass Spectrometry Research Group (A&MS), Campus Sterre, Krijgslaan 281-S12, 9000 Ghent, Belgium

<sup>b</sup> Pharmacokinetics, Dynamics & Metabolism, Janssen R&D, Turnhoutseweg 30, 2340 Beerse, Belgium <sup>c</sup> Ghent University, Department of Organic and Macromolecular Chemistry, Campus Sterre, Krijgslaan 281-S4bis, 9000 Ghent, Belgium

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Figure S-1. Investigation of the effect of the TEA concentration: HPLC-UV chromatograms of diclofenac and 4'-hydroxy-diclofenac standard and derivatized spiked plasma samples with 2, 4, 10 and 20 mM of TEA

Peaks: 1: 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac; 2: diclofenac; 3: primary derivative of 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac; 4: derivative of diclofenac; 5: secondary derivative of 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac

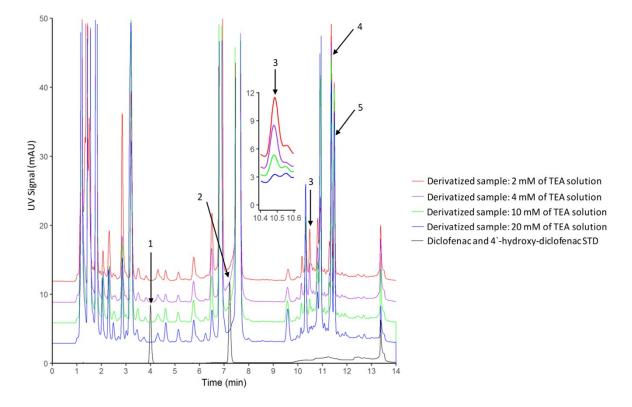


Figure S-2. Investigation of the effect of the reaction temperature: HPLC-UV chromatograms of diclofenac and 4'-hydroxy-diclofenac standard and derivatized spiked plasma samples at room temperature, 40  $^{\circ}$ C, 60  $^{\circ}$ C and 80  $^{\circ}$ C

Peaks: 1: 4'-hydroxy-diclofenac; 2: diclofenac; 3: primary derivative of 4'-hydroxy-diclofenac; 4: derivative of diclofenac; 5: secondary derivative of 4'-hydroxy-diclofenac

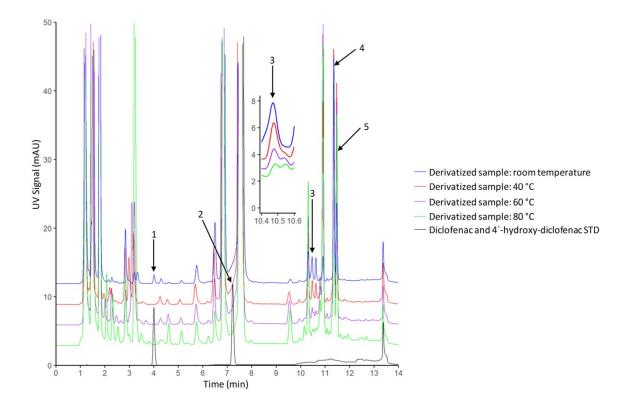


Figure S-3. Investigation of the effect of the reaction time: HPLC-UV chromatograms of diclofenac and 4'-hydroxy-diclofenac standard and derivatized spiked plasma samples at 80 °C with 15 min, 30 min, 45 min and 60 min reaction time

Peaks: 1: 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac; 2: diclofenac; 3: primary derivative of 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac; 4: derivative of diclofenac; 5: secondary derivative of 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac

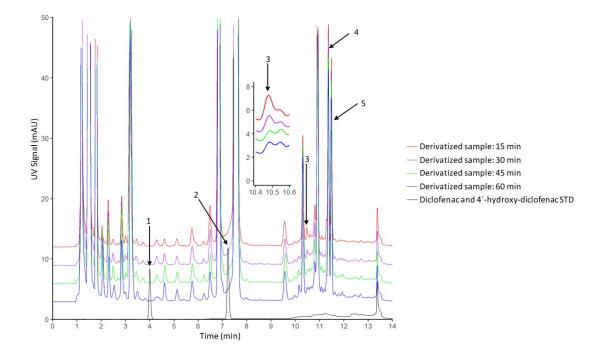


Figure S-4. Investigation of the effect of the *p*-BPB concentration: HPLC-UV chromatograms of diclofenac and 4'-hydroxy-diclofenac standard and derivatized spiked plasma samples with 4, 8, 20 and 40 mM of *p*-BPB

Peaks: 1: 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac; 2: diclofenac; 3: primary derivative of 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac; 4: derivative of diclofenac; 5: secondary derivative of 4`-hydroxy-diclofenac

