

Electronic Supplementary Information

Combining targeted and untargeted screening of environmental contaminants reveals associations between PFAS exposure and vitamin D metabolism in human plasma

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1. Chemical information on targeted compounds

Table S1. Chemical formulas, monitored m/z, and retention times for targeted compounds and internal standards

Compound	Abbreviation	Class	Formula	m/z	rt (min)	Formula IS	m/z IS
Bisphenol A	BPA	Bisphenol	C15H16O2	227.1077	6.17	[13C]12C3H16O2	239.1480
rac- α -1,2,5,6,9,10-Hexabromocyclododecane	α -HBCD	HBCD	C12H18Br6	640.6374	9.59	[13C]12H18Br6	652.6777
rac- β -1,2,5,6,9,10-Hexabromocyclododecane	β -HBCD	HBCD	C12H18Br6	640.6374	9.71	[13C]12H18Br6	652.6777
rac- γ -1,2,5,6,9,10-Hexabromocyclododecane	γ -HBCD	HBCD	C12H18Br6	640.6374	9.8	[13C]12H18Br6	652.6777
6-Hydroxy-2,2',4,4'-tetrabromodiphenyl ether ^a	6-OH-BDE47	OH-BDE	C12H6Br4O2	500.6987	9.35	[13C]12H6Br4O2	512.7390
6-Hydroxy-2,2',4,4',6-pentabromodiphenyl ether ^a	6-OH-BDE100	OH-BDE	C12H5Br5O2	578.6093	9.64	[13C]12H5Br5O2	590.6495
2,2',3,4',5,5',6-Heptachloro-4-biphenylol ^a	4-OH-PCB-187	OH-PCB	C12H3Cl7O	408.7901	9.24	[13C]12H3Cl7O	420.8304
2,2',3,3',4',5,5'-Heptachloro-4-biphenylol a	4-OH-PCB-172	OH-PCB	C12H3Cl7O	408.7901	9.81	[13C]12H3Cl7O	420.8304
2',3,4',5,5'-Pentachloro-4-biphenylol ^a	4-OH-PCB-120	OH-PCB	C12H5Cl5O	340.8681	9.55	[13C]12H5Cl5O	352.9083
2',3',4',5'-Tetrachloro-4-biphenylol a	4-OH-PCB-61	OH-PCB	C12H6Cl4O	306.9070	9.21	[13C]12H6Cl4O	318.9473
2',3,3',4',5,5'-Hexachloro-4-biphenylol ^a	4-OH-PCB-159	OH-PCB	C12H4Cl6O	374.8291	9.93	[13C]12H4Cl6O	386.8694
2',4',5'-Trichloro-4-biphenylol ^a	4-OH-PCB-29	OH-PCB	C12H7Cl3O	270.9490	8.72	[13C]12H7Cl3O	282.9892
3',4'-Dichloro-4-biphenylol ^a	4-OH-PCB-12	OH-PCB	C12H8Cl2O	236.9879	8.15	[13C]12H8Cl2O	249.0282
1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluoro-1-decanesulfonic acid (8:2)	8:2FTS	PFAS	C10H5F17SO3	526.9615	8.2	[13C]2C8H5F17SO3	528.9682
1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluoro-1-hexanesulfonic acid (4:2)	4:2FTS	PFAS	C6H5F9SO3	326.9743	5.69	[13C]2C4H5F9SO3	328.9810
1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluoro-1-octanesulfonic acid (6:2)	6:2FTS	PFAS	C8H5F13SO3	426.9679	7.24	[13C]2C6H5F13SO3	428.9746
N-ethylperfluoro-1-octanesulfonamidoacetic acid	N-EtFOSAA	PFAS	C12H8F17NO4S	583.9830	8.63	C12D5H3F17NO4S	589.0144
N-methylperfluoro-1-octanesulfonamidoacetic acid	N-MeFOSAA	PFAS	C11H6F17NO4S	569.9673	8.43	C11D3H3F17NO4S	572.9862
Perfluoro-1-octanesulfonamide	FOSA	PFAS	C8H2F17NO2S	497.9462	8.66	[13C]8H2F17NO2S	505.9730
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	L-PFBS	PFAS	C4HF9O3S	298.9430	4.88	[13C]3CHF9O3S	301.9530
Perfluorodecane sulfonic acid ^b	L-PFDS	PFAS	C10HF21O3S	598.9238	8.56	NA	NA
Perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid ^b	L-PFHps	PFAS	C7HF15O3S	448.9334	7.33	NA	NA
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	PFHxS	PFAS	C6HF13O3S	398.9366	6.75	[13C]3C3HF13O3S	401.9467
Perfluoro-n-butanoic acid	PFBA	PFAS	C4HF7O2	212.9792	1.84	[13C]4HF7O2	216.9926
Perfluoro-n-decanoic acid	PFDA	PFAS	C10HF19O2	512.9600	8.21	[13C]6C4HF19O2	518.9802
Perfluoro-n-dodecanoic acid	PFDoA	PFAS	C12HF23O2	612.9537	8.88	[13C]2C10HF23O2	614.9604
Perfluoro-n-heptanoic acid	PFHpA	PFAS	C7HF13O2	362.9696	6.67	[13C]4C3HF13O2	366.9830
Perfluoro-n-hexanoic acid	PFHxA	PFAS	C6HF11O2	312.9728	5.8	[13C]5CHF11O2	317.9896
Perfluoro-n-nonanoic acid	PFNA	PFAS	C9HF17O2	462.9632	7.79	[13C]9HF17O2	471.9934
Perfluoro-n-octanoic acid	PFOA	PFAS	C8HF15O2	412.9664	7.29	[13C]8HF15O2	420.9933
Perfluorononane sulfonic acid ^b	L-PFNS	PFAS	C9HF19O3S	548.9270	8.21	NA	NA
Perfluoro-n-pentanoic acid	PPPeA	PFAS	C5HF9O2	262.9760	4.37	[13C]5HF9O2	267.9928
Perfluoro-n-tetradecanoic acid	PFTeDA	PFAS	C14HF27O2	712.9473	9.4	[13C]2C12HF27O2	714.9540
Perfluoro-n-tridecanoic acid ^c	PFTrDA	PFAS	C13HF25O2	662.9505	9.16	NA	NA
Perfluoro-n-undecanoic acid	PFUdA	PFAS	C11HF21O2	562.9568	8.57	[13C]7C4HF21O2	569.9803

Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	PFAS	C8HF17O3S	498.9302	7.8	[13C]8HF17O3S	506.9570
Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid ^d	L-PFPeS	PFAS	C5HF11O3S	348.9398	6	NA	NA

a: Only heavy isotope labelled standards were used for these compounds, i.e. no native references

b: No IS available, use IS for perfluorooctanesulfonic acid

c: No IS available, use IS for perfluoro-n-dodecanoic acid

d: No IS available, use IS for perfluorohexanesulfonic acid

2. Representative chromatogram from injection of pooled sample

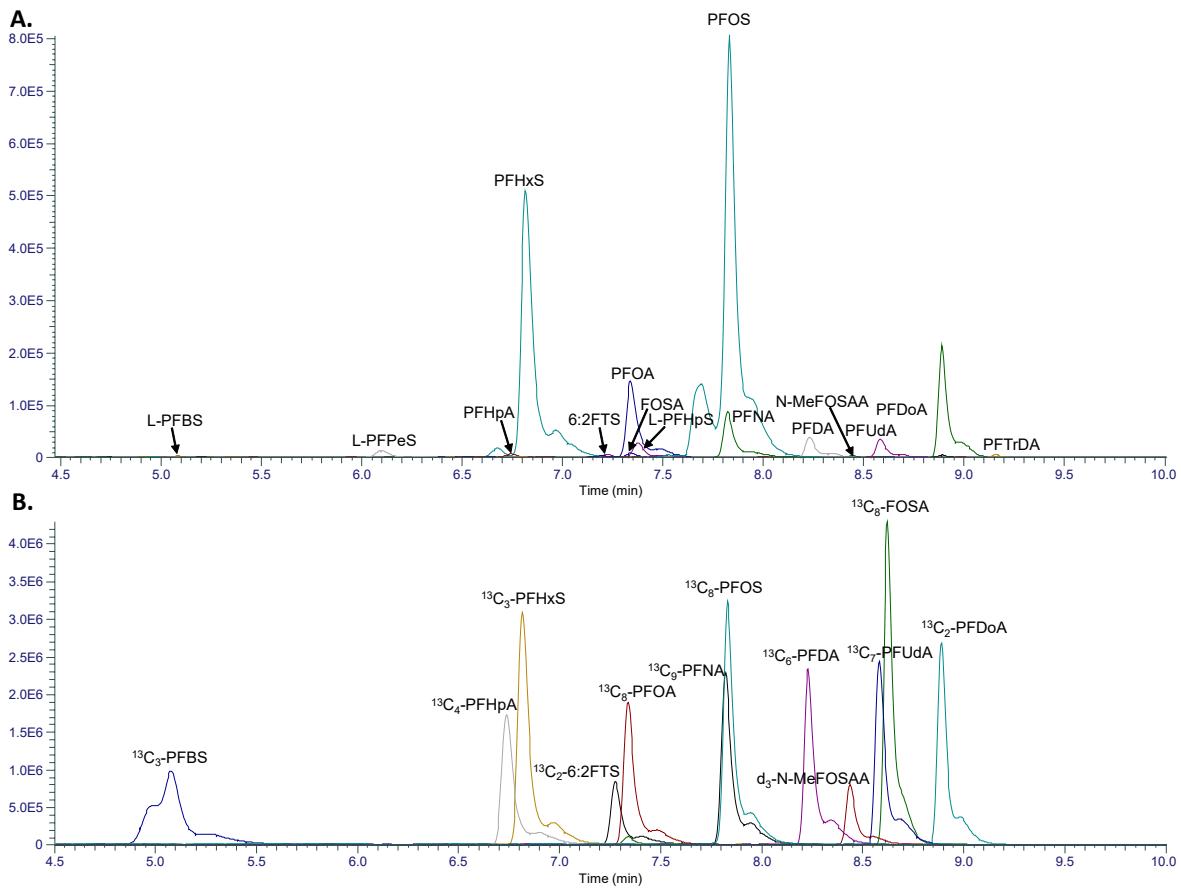


Figure S1. Representative chromatogram of a pooled sample containing all 100 samples under study, with the detected targeted analytes indicated (A; upper chromatogram). The corresponding internal standards (if available; not all targeted compounds had corresponding IS) are indicated in the lower chromatogram (B; concentrations of all internal standards correspond to 10 ng/mL).

3. Validation results

Table S2. QC performance in terms of CV% and bias% for the validated compounds with both native standards and heavy isotope labeled standards; calibration curve slopes, the estimated limit of detection (LOD) and lowest limit of quantification (LLOQ), and estimated matrix effects for all compounds

Compound	Abbreviation	QC performance					Slope of calibration curve	Estimated LOD (ng/mL)	Estimated LLOQ (ng/mL)	Matrix effect % ^c
		CV% intra-batch (n=3)	CV% inter-batch (n=18)	Bias% intra-batch (3) ^a	Bias% inter-batch (18) ^b					
Bisphenol A	BPA	8.6	18.9	43.5	29.1		0.612	2.50	5.00	106
Hexabromocyclododecane ^d	HBCD	8.3	9.5	-13.6	-14.3		0.974	0.63	1.25	55
6-Hydroxy-2,2',4,4'-tetrabromodiphenyl ether ^e	6-OH-BDE47	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.04	0.08	76
6-Hydroxy-2,2',4,4',6-pentabromodiphenyl ether ^e	6-OH-BDE100	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.63	1.25	56
2, 2',3, 4',5, 5',6-Heptachloro-4-biphenylol ^e	4-OH-PCB-187	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.04	0.08	55
2, 2',3,3', 4',5, 5'-Heptachloro-4-biphenylol ^e	4-OH-PCB-172	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.16	0.32	58
2',3, 4',5, 5'-Pentachloro-4-biphenylol ^e	4-OH-PCB-120	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.01	0.02	90
2',3', 4',5'-Tetrachloro-4-biphenylol ^e	4-OH-PCB-61	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.04	0.08	70
2',3,3', 4',5, 5'-Hexachloro-4-biphenylol ^e	4-OH-PCB-159	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.16	0.32	43
2',4',5'-Trichloro-4-biphenylol ^e	4-OH-PCB-29	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.16	0.32	65
3',4'-Dichloro-4-biphenylol ^e	4-OH-PCB-12	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.995	0.16	0.32	69
1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluoro-1-decanesulfonic acid (8:2)	8:2FTS	3.0	5.7	-6.1	-2.7		0.988	0.01	0.02	76
1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluoro-1-hexanesulfonic acid (4:2)	4:2FTS	7.1	9.8	9.5	3.5		0.983	0.04	0.08	118
1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluoro-1-octanesulfonic acid (6:2)	6:2FTS	3.3	5.6	12.1	15.6		0.594	0.01	0.02	168
N-ethylperfluoro-1-octanesulfonamidoacetic acid	N-EtFOS AA	2.8	5.6	-7.8	-4.9		0.995	0.04	0.08	100
N-methylperflu	N-MeFO	2.9	4.8	-6.5	-3.1		0.987	0.04	0.08	92

oro-1-octanesulfonamidoacetic acid	SAA								
Perfluoro-1-octanesulfonamide	FOSA	2.6	5.1	-3.7	0.0	0.985	0.01	0.02	85
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	L-PFBS	1.4	6.3	5.5	0.9	0.988	0.01	0.02	136
Perfluorodecano sulfonic acid ^f	L-PFDS	1.5	6.7	-10.1	-1.4	0.980	0.01	0.02	78
Perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid ^f	L-PFH _p S	3.7	6.7	-4.1	4.0	0.977	0.01	0.02	92
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	PFHxS	3.0	5.1	-4.1	-1.0	0.991	0.01	0.02	93
Perfluoro-n-butanoic acid	PFBA	3.3	6.3	33.1	35.0	0.866	0.63	1.25	129
Perfluoro-n-decanoic acid	PFDA	2.5	5.5	-7.1	-2.1	0.995	0.01	0.02	69
Perfluoro-n-dodecanoic acid	PFDoA	3.2	5.2	-1.4	2.0	0.987	0.01	0.02	92
Perfluoro-n-heptanoic acid	PFHpA	2.5	5.3	-0.9	2.5	0.975	0.01	0.02	101
Perfluoro-n-hexanoic acid	PFHxA	2.7	7.4	-8.0	-2.7	0.977	0.01	0.02	93
Perfluoro-n-nonanoic acid	PFNA	2.3	6.9	21.2	33.7	0.982	0.01	0.02	92
Perfluoro-n-octanoic acid	PFOA	9.0	6.3	-4.0	0.7	0.982	0.01	0.02	99
Perfluorononane sulfonic acid ^f	L-PFNS	3.2	5.8	-1.9	-0.1	0.981	0.01	0.02	66
Perfluoro-n-pentanoic acid	PPeA	16.8	18.7	-6.9	4.6	0.981	0.01	0.02	56
Perfluoro-n-tetradecanoic acid	PFTeDA	2.8	5.3	-1.1	0.3	0.995	0.01	0.02	98
Perfluoro-n-tridecanoic acid ^g	PFTrDA	4.8	6.9	12.8	20.4	0.990	0.01	0.02	107
Perfluoro-n-undecanoic acid	PFUdA	2.2	7.9	33.6	53.7	0.881	0.01	0.02	89
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	3.3	5.5	-1.6	2.7	0.984	0.01	0.02	93
Perfluoropentanesulfonic acid ^h	L-PPeS	3.2	6.2	-6.9	-0.5	0.980	0.01	0.02	90

a: Matrix effects (%) were calculated for each compound by dividing the mean peak area of the calibrators prepared with newborn bovine serum by the mean peak area of calibrators prepared without matrix (prepared in 3:1 MeOH:H₂O), and then multiplied with 100.

b: Bias% inter-batch was calculated within the first batch (three QCs per concentration level per batch) comparing the calculated concentration for QCs with the nominal concentrations. Equation: ((“mean calculated concentration for QC” - “nominal concentration”)/“nominal concentration”)*100

c: Bias% intra-batch was calculated for all batches (including the total 18 QC s at each concentration level) comparing the calculated concentration for QC s with the nominal concentrations. Equation: ((“mean calculated concentration for QC” - “nominal concentration”)/“nominal concentration”)*100

d: Combined validation results for the three evaluated HBCD isomers (α , β , and γ)

e: Only heavy isotope labelled standards were used for these compounds, i.e. no native references. No spiked QC s were prepared for these compounds.

f: No IS available, use IS for perfluorooctanesulfonic acid

g: No IS available, use IS for perfluoro-n-dodecanoic acid

h: No IS available, use IS for perfluorohexanesulfonic acid

4. Detailed correlation heatmaps including p-values

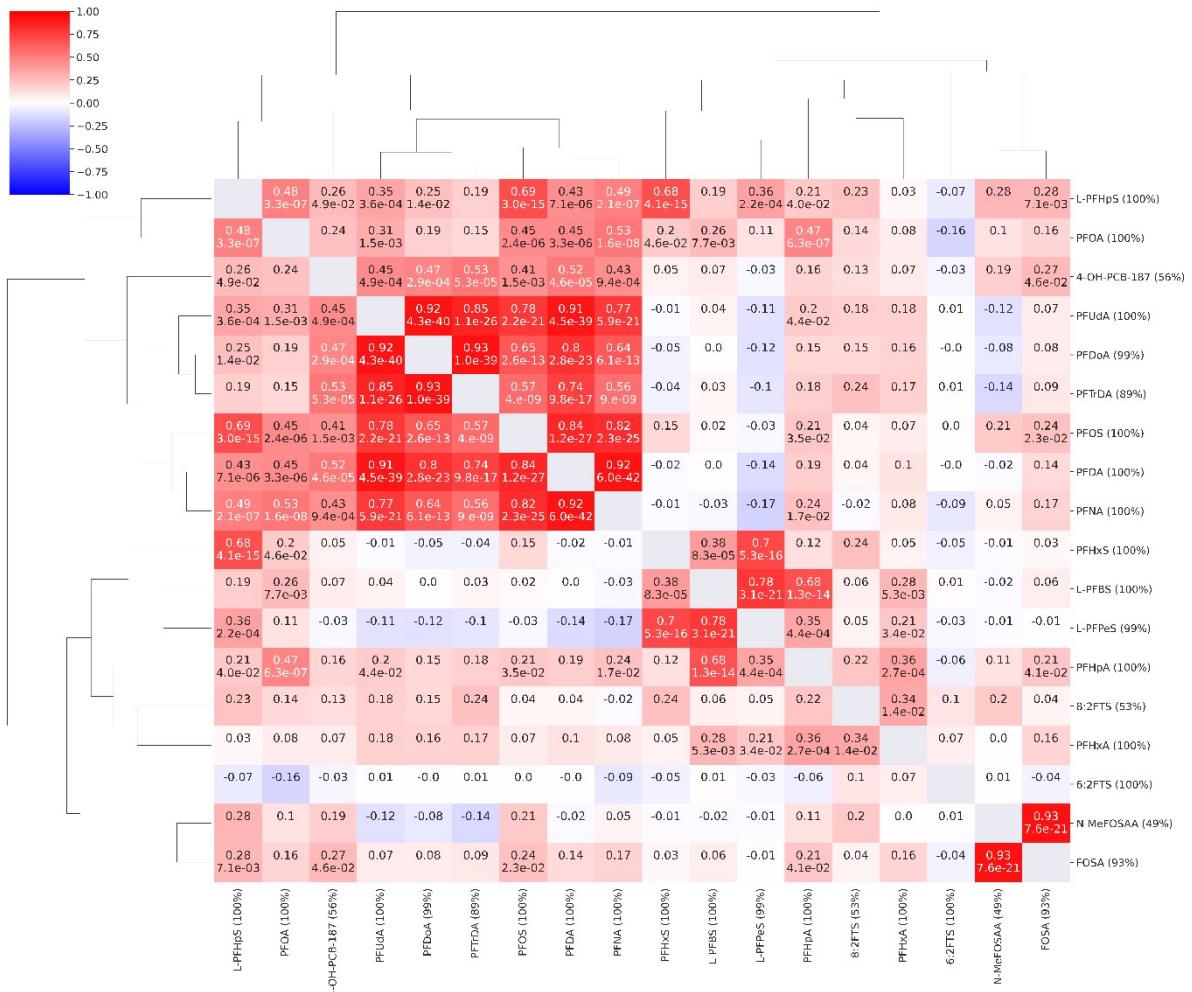


Figure S2. Detailed correlation heatmap including p-values (below correlation coefficients) corresponding to Figure 2 in manuscript: Correlation heatmap for the compounds observed in the targeted analysis ($n=18$, coverage cutoff $\geq 15\%$). The percentage values within parentheses next to compound names indicate compound coverage.

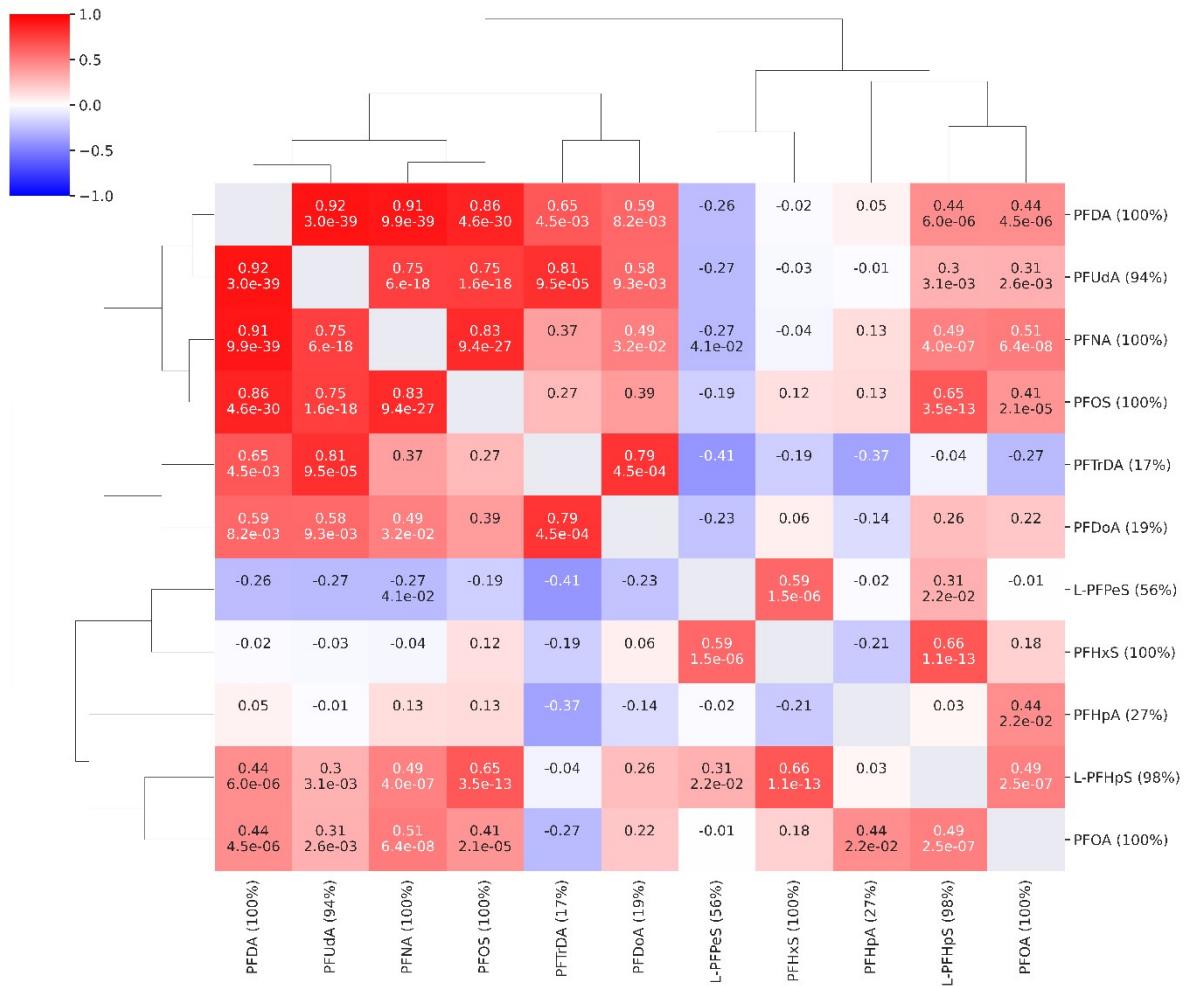


Figure S3. Detailed correlation heatmap including p-values (below correlation coefficients) corresponding to Figure 3 in manuscript: Correlation heatmap for the compounds from the target list observed in the untargeted analysis ($n=11$, coverage cutoff $\geq 15\%$). The percentage values within parentheses next to compound names indicate compound coverage.

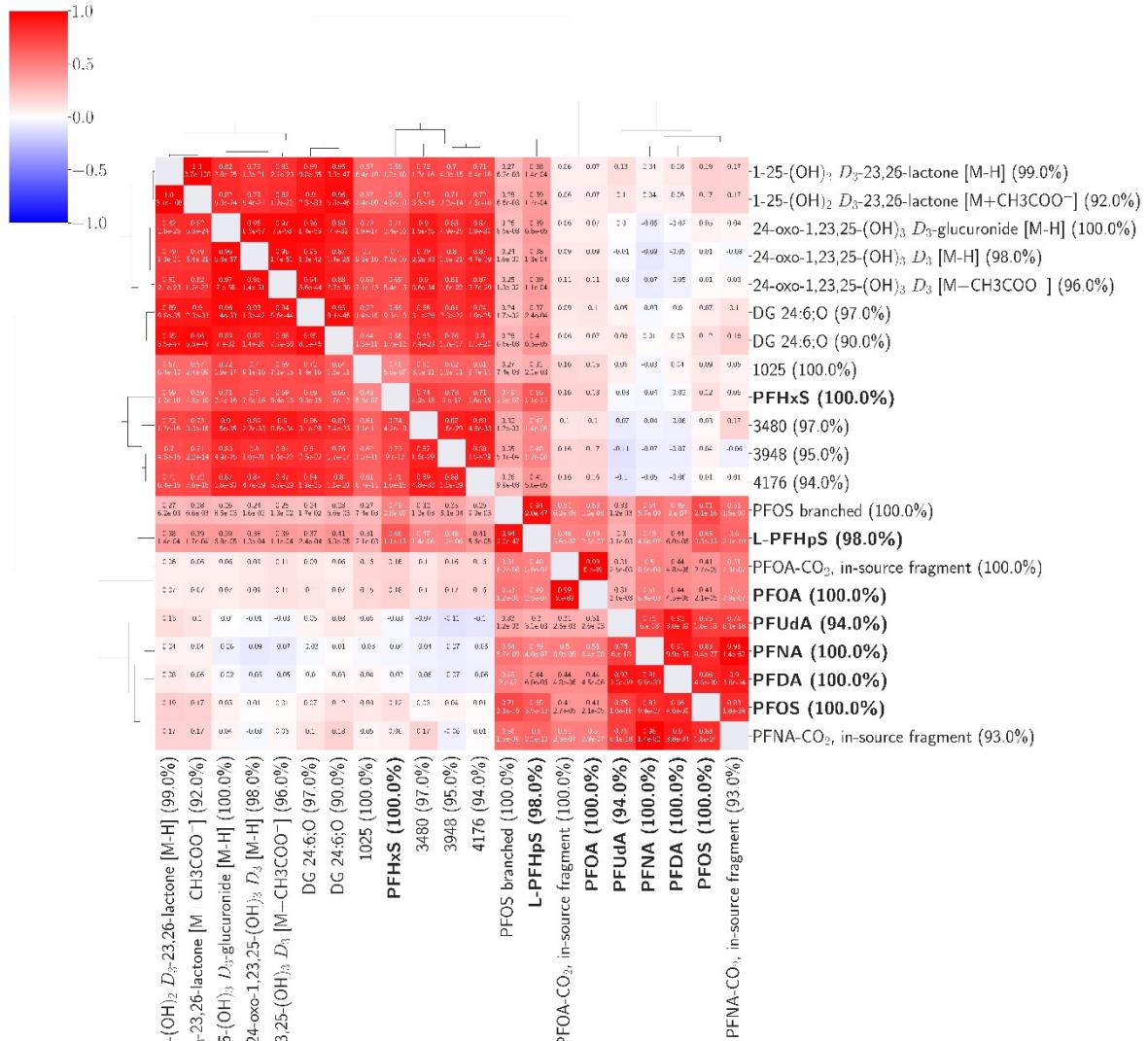
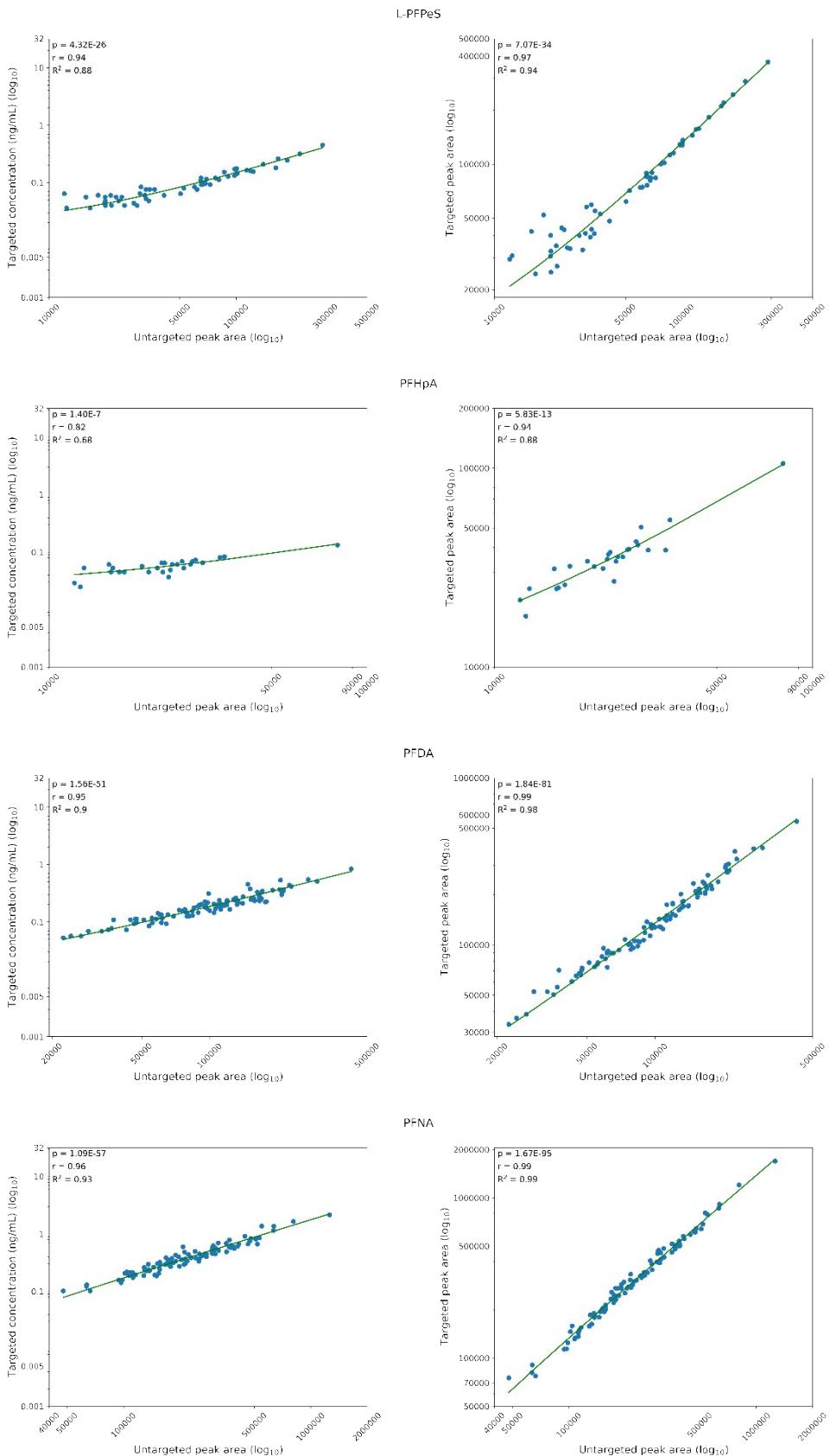
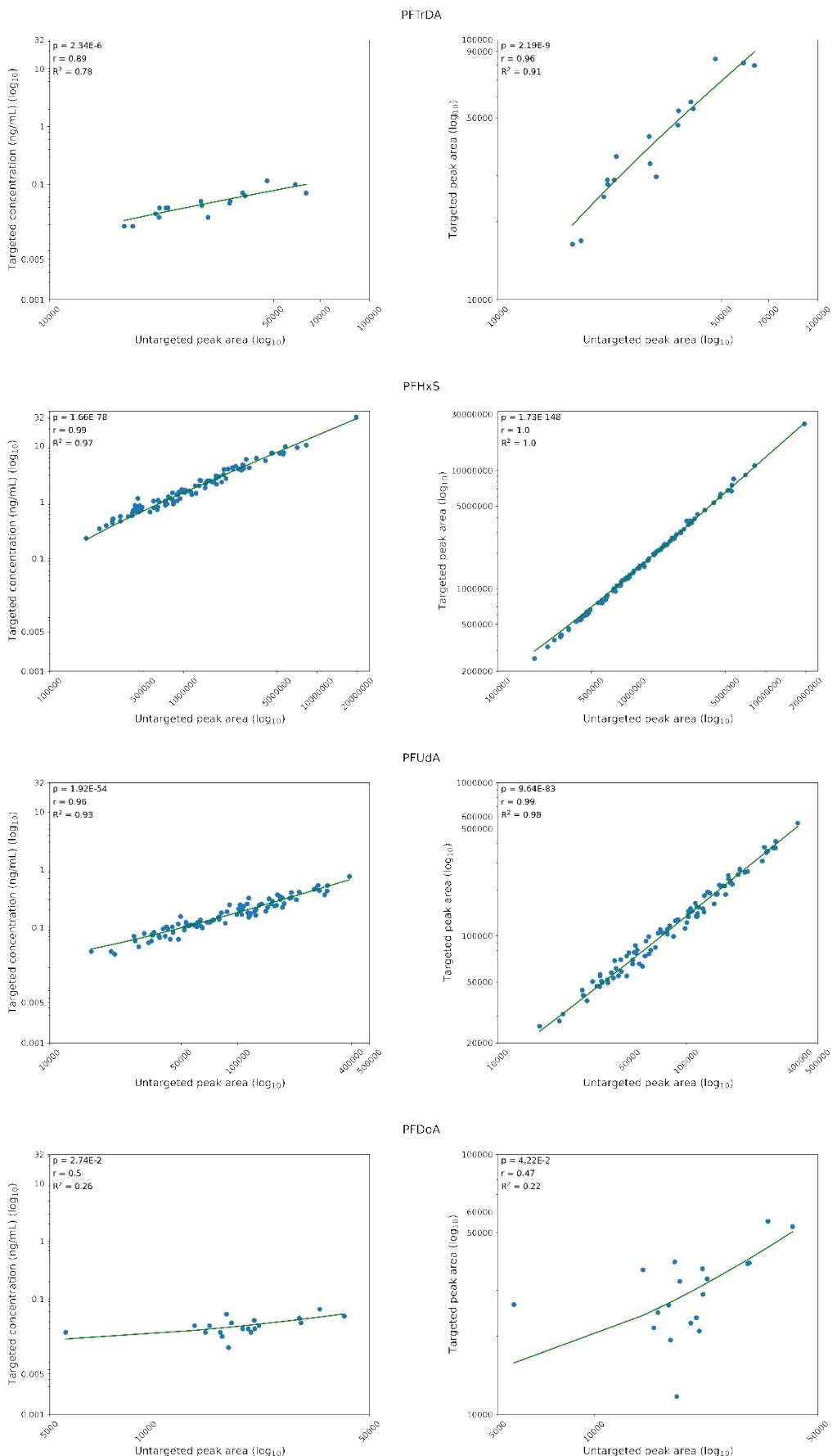


Figure S4. Detailed correlation heatmap including p-values (below correlation coefficients) corresponding to Figure 4 in manuscript: Fourteen unknown features were found to be associated with seven confirmed environmental contaminants. The percentage values within parentheses next to compound names indicate compound coverage.

5. Correlation plots targeted vs untargeted methods





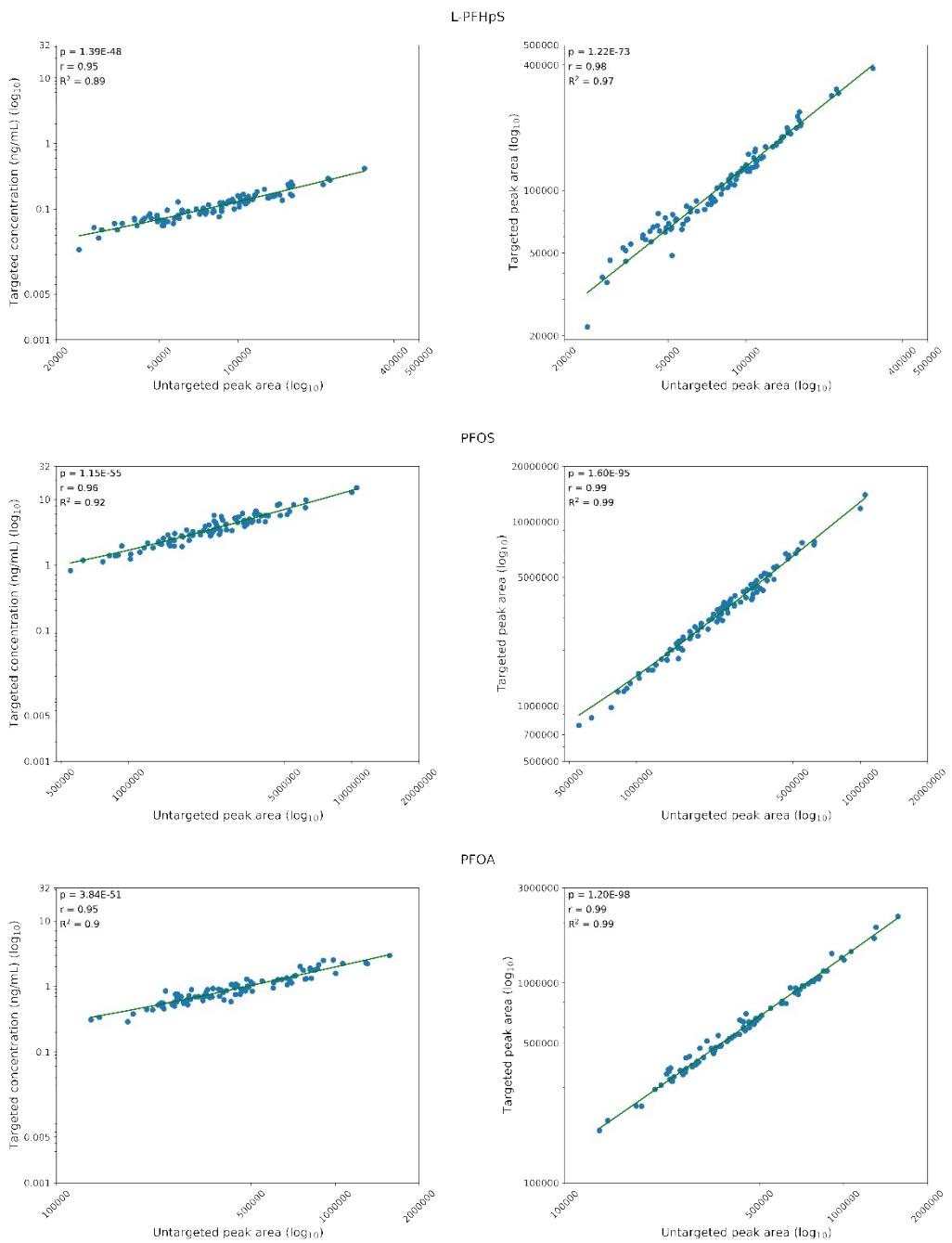
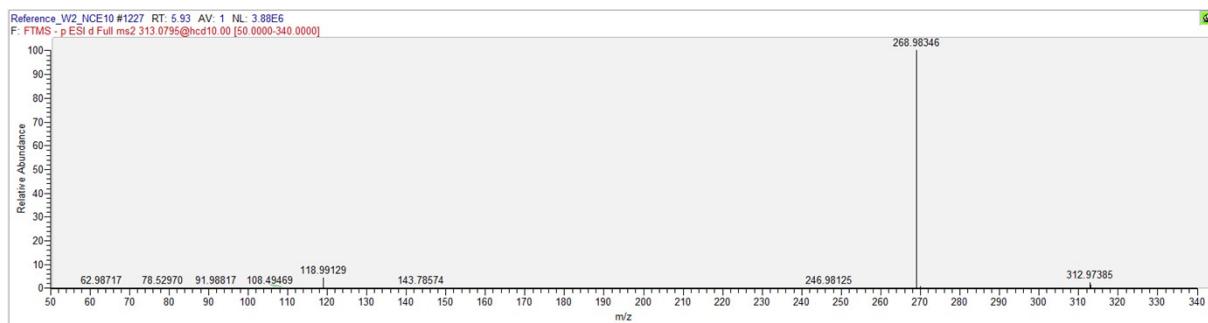


Figure S5. Correlation plots for the compounds detected using both the targeted and untargeted methods. The correlation plots to the left show the correlations between the concentrations estimated using the targeted approach (\log_{10} transformed) and the peak areas from the untargeted approach (\log_{10} transformed). The correlation plots to the right show the correlations between the peak areas from the targeted approach (\log_{10} transformed) and the peak areas from the untargeted approach (\log_{10} transformed).

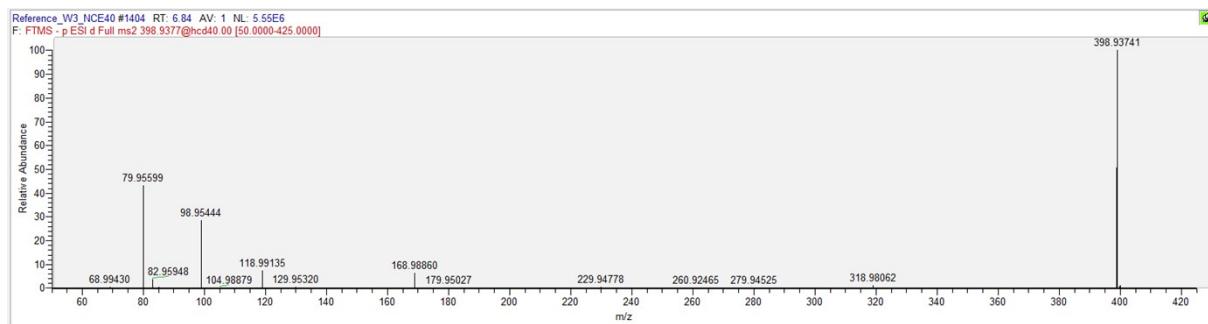
6. Example MS2 spectra: Perfluoro-n-hexanoic acid vs Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid

The value of using a range of collision energies to collect high-quality MS2 spectra is illustrated by the examples of Perfluoro-n-hexanoic acid (PFHxA) and Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS). Linear perfluorocarboxylic acids, e.g. PFHxA, are almost fully fragmented even at low collision energies (here NCE 10; the lowest possible option on the used instrument) while perfluroalkylsulfonates, e.g. PFHxS require high collision energies (here NCE 40, the highest NCE used in the present study).

PFHxA, NCE: 10



PFHxS, NCE: 40



7. Nontargeted PFAS species detected from untargeted data

Table S3. Nontargeted PFAS species detected from untargeted data

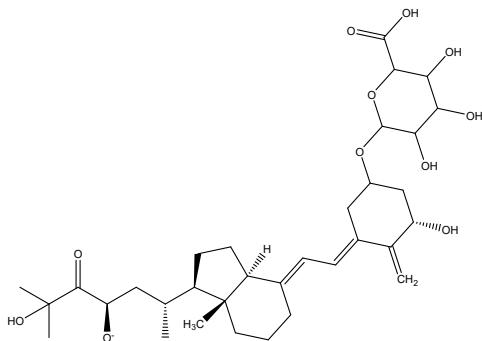
Unknown ID	Observed m/z	rt min	Predicted logKow	Correlated with	Correlation coefficient (p-value) ^a	Identity (confidence level) ^b	Molecular formula	Mass error ppm	Listed logKow
1772	368.977	7.36	4.89	PFOA	0.99 (p= 6E-89)	PFOA-CO ₂ (in-source fragment, level 2)	C7H1F15	0.99	4.89
4424	418.9741	7.83	5.33	PFNA, PFOS, PFDA, PFUdA	0.98 (p= 1.4E-62) , 0.83 (p= 1.8E-24), 0.90 (p= 3.8E-34), 0.76 (p= 6.1E-18)	PFNA-CO ₂ (in-source fragment, level 2)	C8H1F17	1.65	5.56
1673	498.931	7.69	5.23	L-PFH _n S	0.94 (p= 2.0E-47)	PFOS Branched (level 2)	C8H1F17O3S1	1.56	4.68

^a p-values for correlation coefficients. All p-values are presented in the Supplementary information.

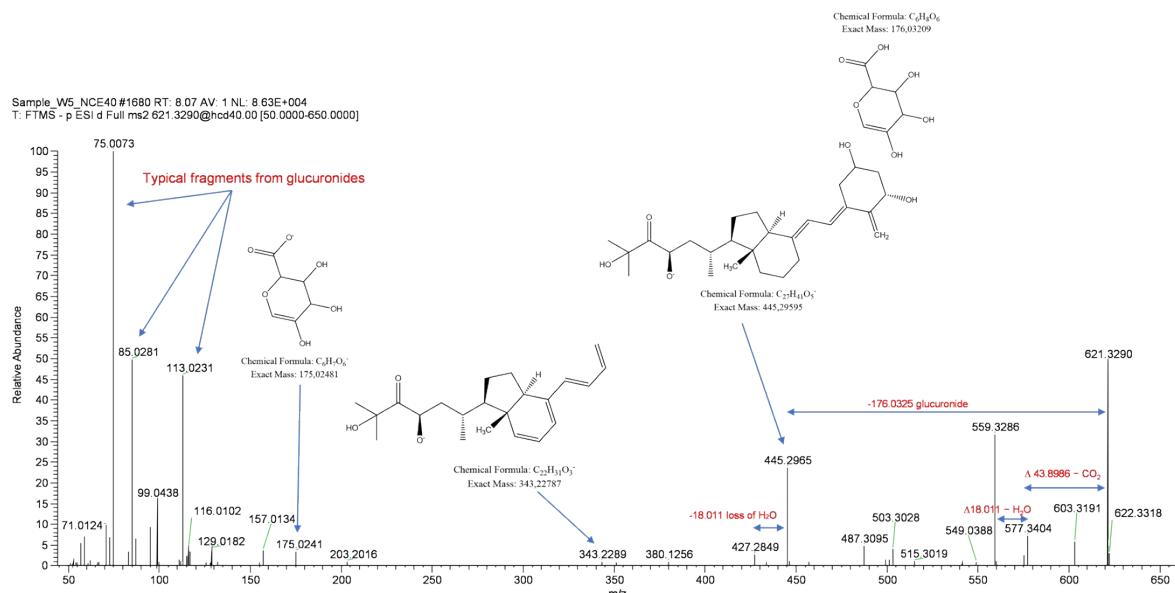
^b Identification confidence levels according to Schymanski et al. 2014

8. Annotated MS₂ spectra of non-targeted compounds

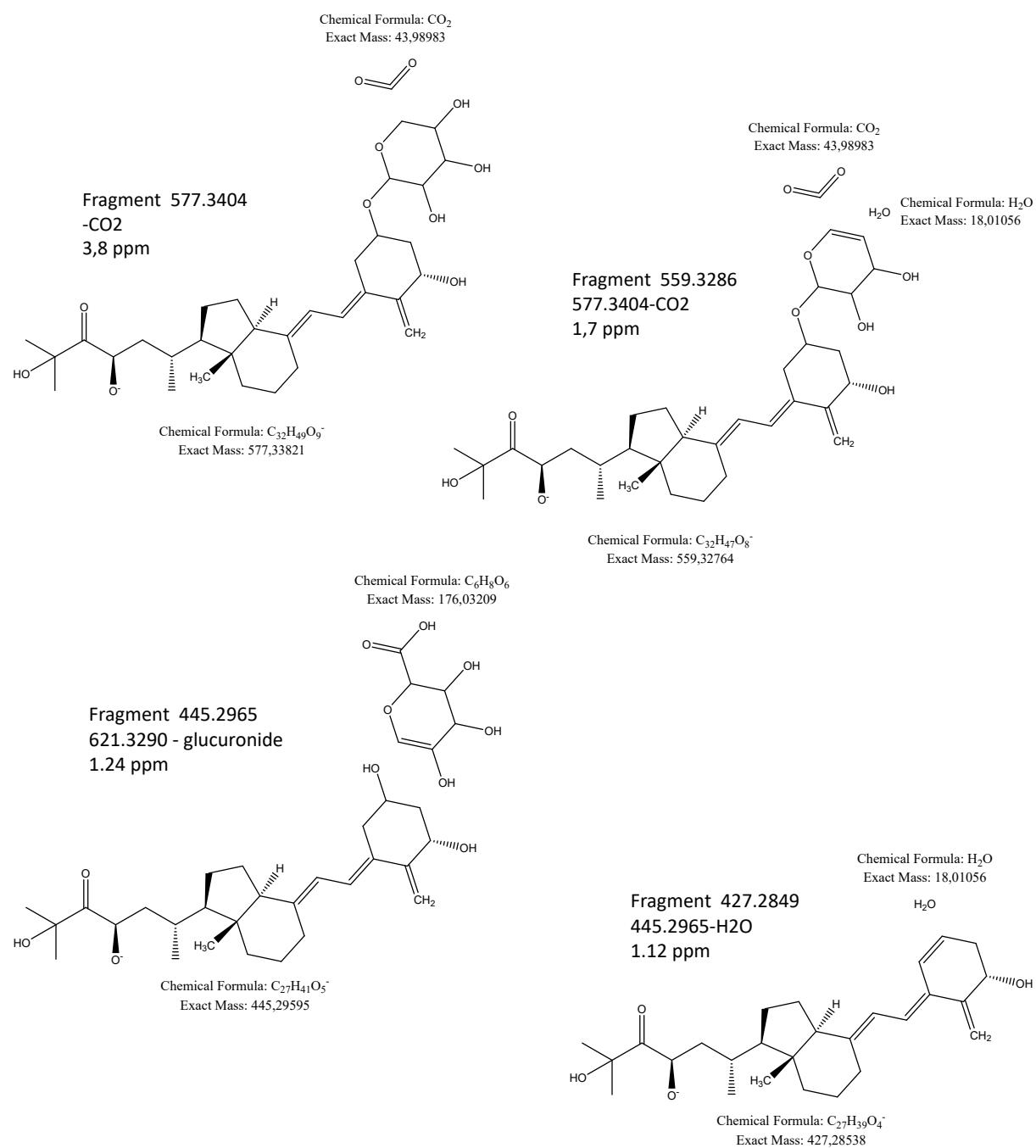
- 24-oxo-1,23,25-trihydroxyvitamin D₃-glucuronide

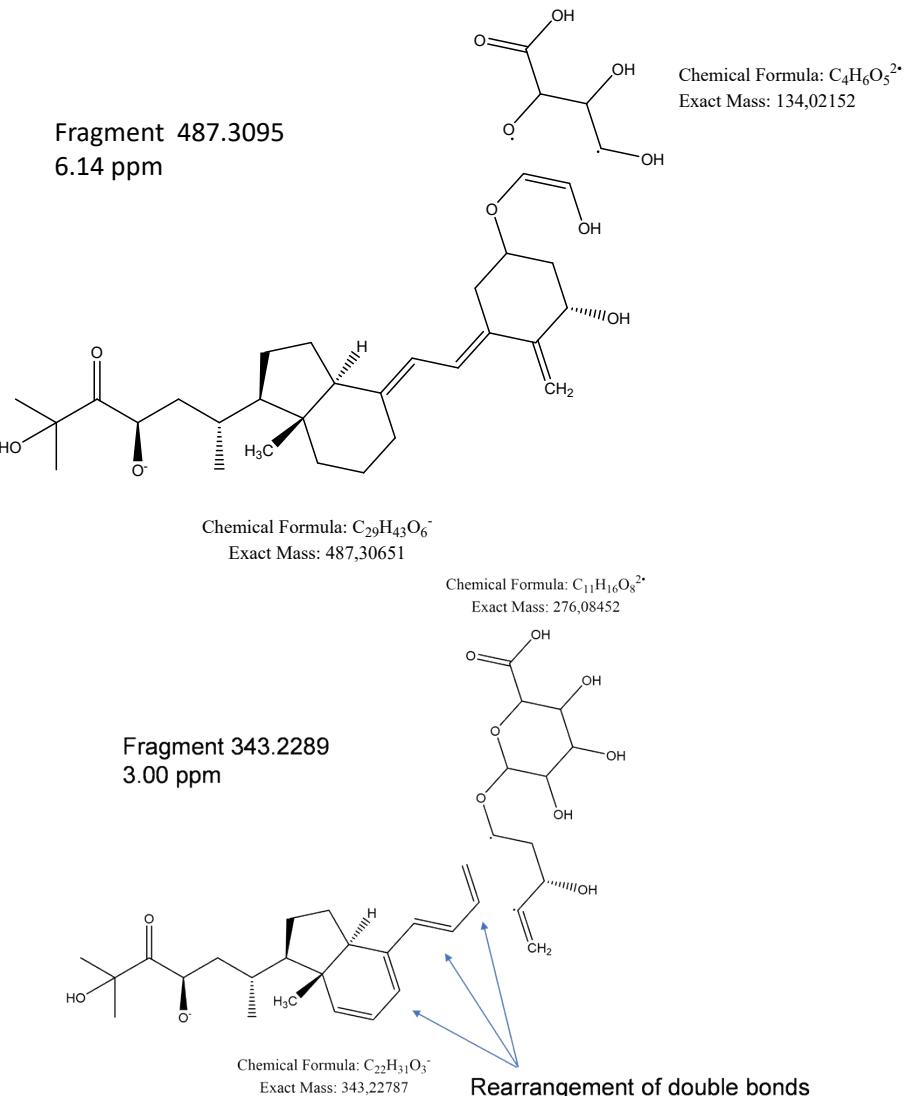


Structure for 24-oxo-1,23,25-trihydroxyvitamin D₃-glucuronide

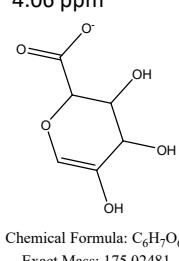


Proposed structures for observed fragments

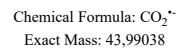
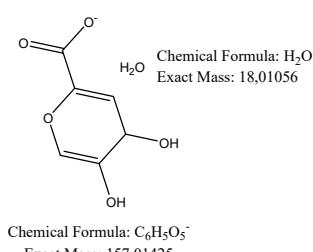




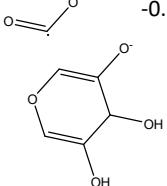
Fragment 175.0241
4.06 ppm



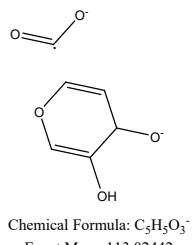
Fragment 157.0134
5.41 ppm



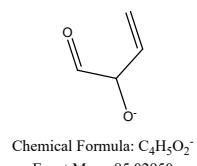
Fragment 129.0182
-0.6 ppm



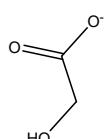
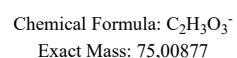
Fragment 113.0231
2.21 ppm



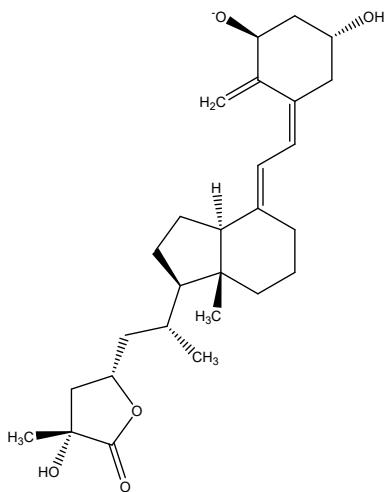
Fragment 85.0281
4.7 ppm



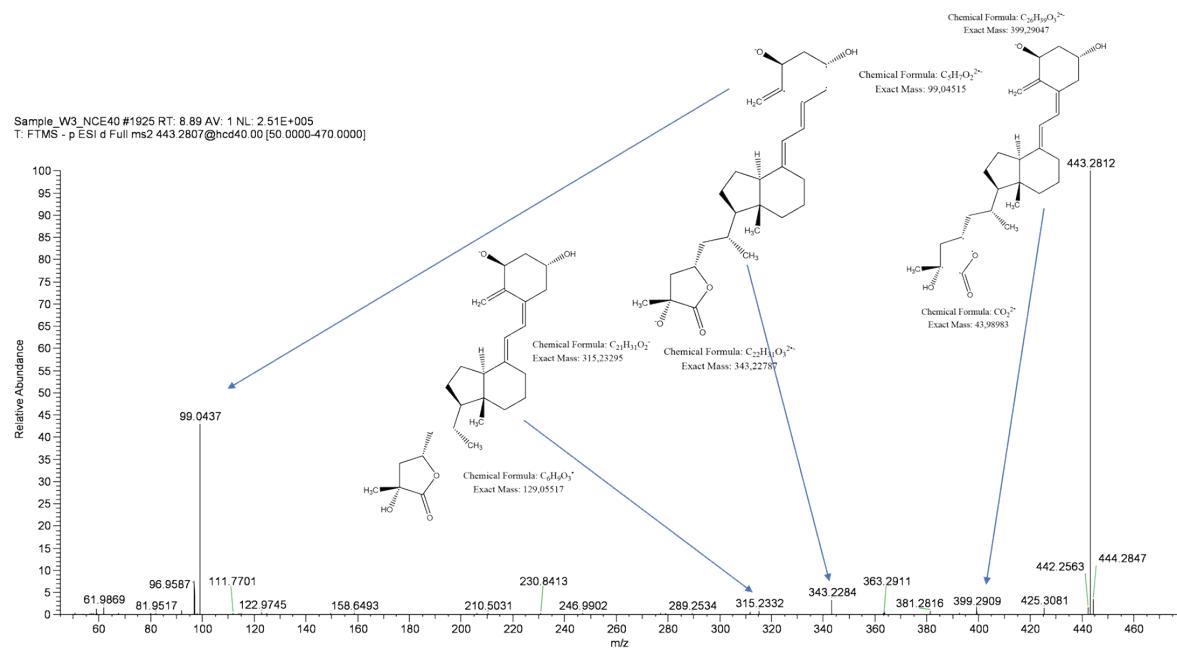
Fragment 75.0073
-4.62 ppm



- 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D3-23,26 lactone



Structure for 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D3-23,26 lactone

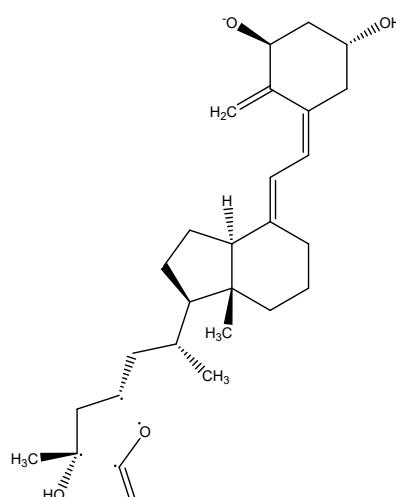


Proposed structures for observed fragments

Fragment 399.2909

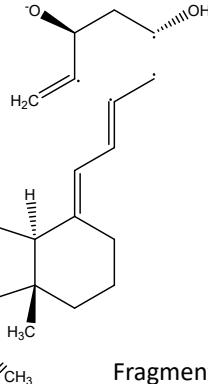
1.08 ppm

Chemical Formula: $C_{26}H_{39}O_3^{2+}$
Exact Mass: 399,29047



Chemical Formula: CO_2^{2+}
Exact Mass: 43,98983

Fragment 99.0437

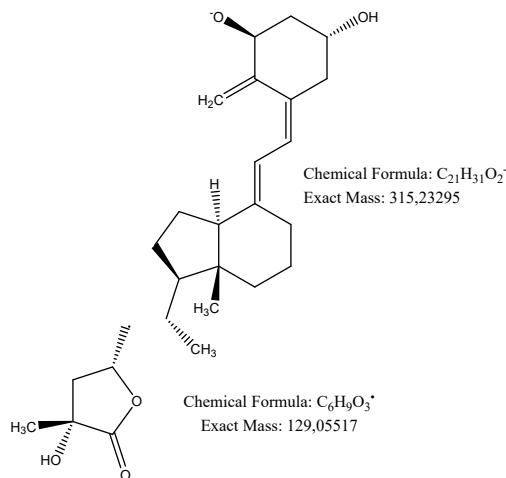


Chemical Formula: $C_5H_7O_2^{2+}$
Exact Mass: 99,04515

Fragment 343.2284
1.54 ppm

Chemical Formula: $C_{22}H_{31}O_3^{2+}$
Exact Mass: 343,22787

Fragment 315.2332
0.79 ppm

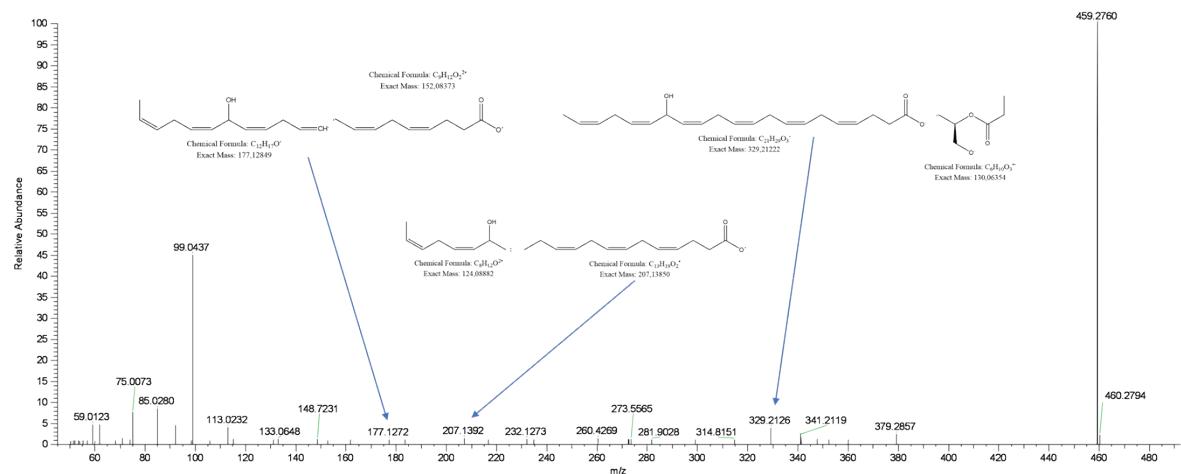


Chemical Formula: $C_{21}H_{31}O_2^-$
Exact Mass: 315,23295

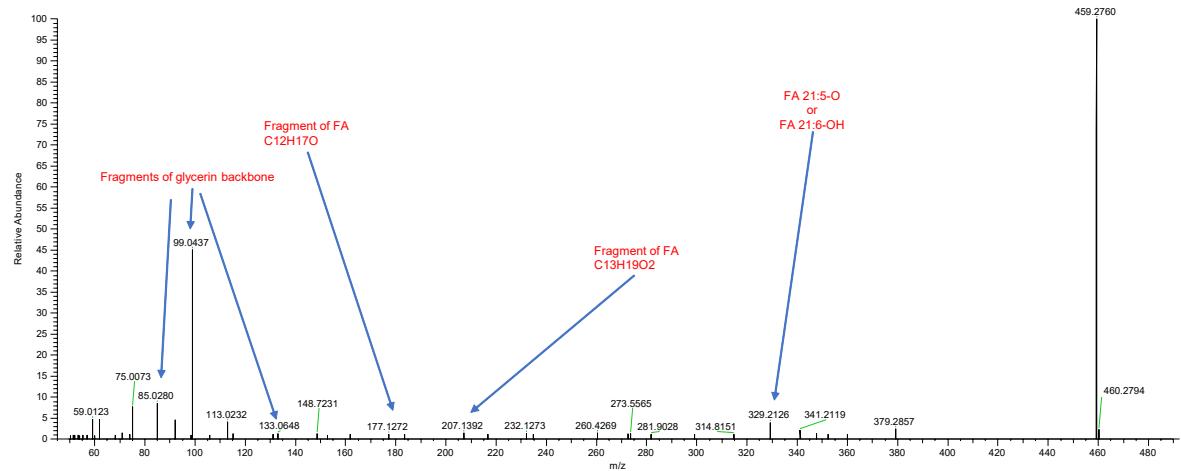
Chemical Formula: $C_6H_9O_3^{\cdot}$
Exact Mass: 129,05517

- Diglyceride lipid: DG 24:6;O

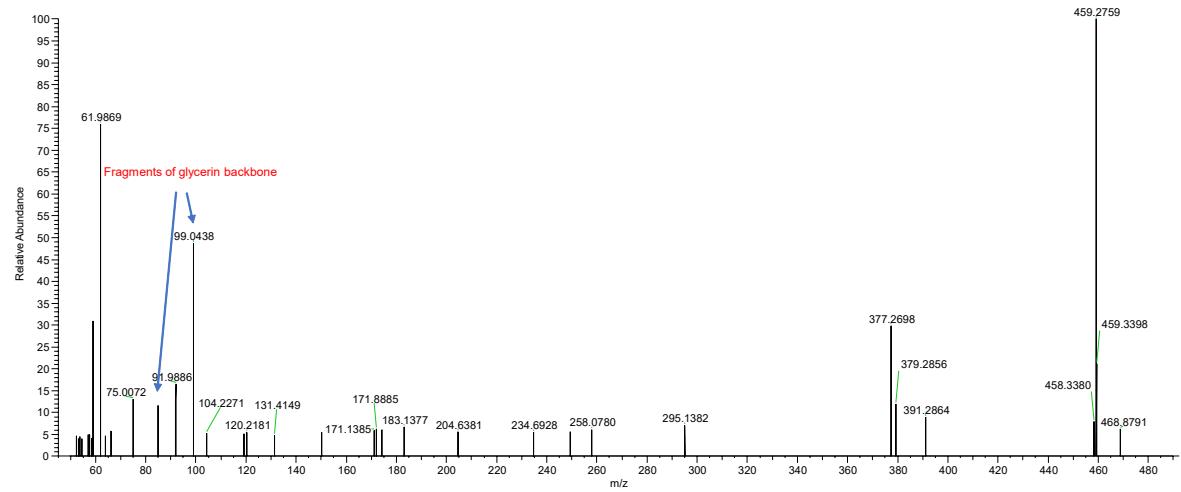
Sample_W3_NCE40 #1763 RT: 8.22 AV: 1 NL: 4.27E+004
T: FTMS - p ESI d Full ms2 459.2036@hcd40.00 [50.00000-485.0000]



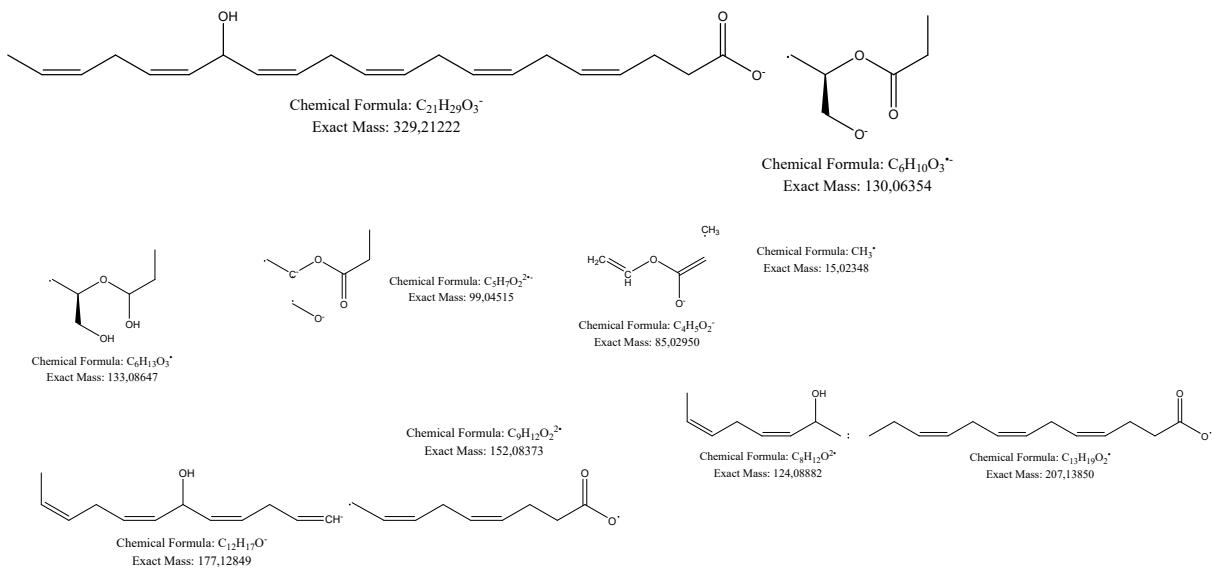
Sample_W3_NCE40 #1763 RT: 8.22 AV: 1 NL: 4.27E+004
T: FTMS - p ESI d Full ms2 459.2036@hcd40.00 [50.0000-485.0000]



Sample_W3_NCE40 #1730 RT: 8.08 AV: 1 NL: 8.22E+003
T: FTMS - p ESI d Full ms2 459.2762@hcd40.00 [50.0000-485.0000]



Proposed structures for observed fragments



9. Investigation of possible associations between PFAS and major vitamin D metabolites

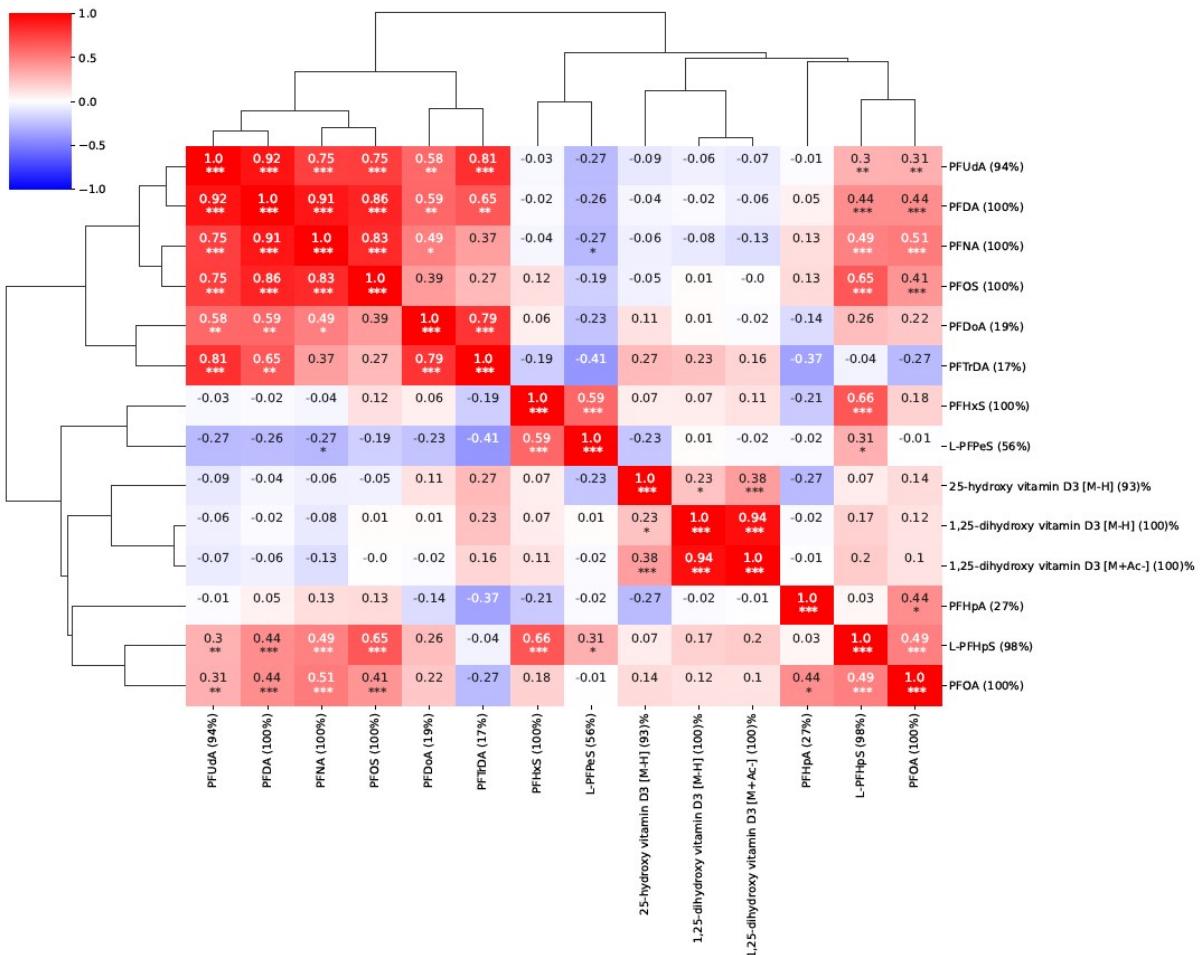


Figure S6. Possible associations between PFAS and major vitamin D metabolites 25-hydroxyvitamin D3 and 1,25-hydroxyvitamin D3 were investigated. No statistically significant associations were found.