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Measurement of Transport Activities of Bile Acids in Human Multidrug Resistance-Associated Protein 3 Using Liquid **Chromatography–Tandem Mass Spectrometry**

Kana YAMAGUCHI¹⁾, Tsuyoshi MURAI¹⁾, Hikaru YABUUCHI²⁾ and Takao KUROSAWA¹⁾

- 1) Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Health Sciences University of Hokkaido
- 2) Office of Collaborative Research and Technology Development, Kobe University

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A method has been developed for the measurement of transport activities in membrane vesicles obtained from human multidrug resistance-associated protein 3-expressing Sf9 cells for 1β -hydroxy-, 6α -hydroxy- and unsaturated bile acids by high-performance liquid chromatography-electrospray ionization-tandem mass spectrometry. Calibration curves for the bile acids were linear over the range of 10 to 2000 pmol/mL, and the detection limit was less than 2 pmol/mL for all bile acids using selected reaction monitoring analysis. The method was applied to measurements of adenosine triphosphate-dependent transport activities of the membrane vesicles for the above-mentioned hydroxylated and unsaturated bile acids. The present study demonstrated that the human multidrug resistance-associated protein 3 vesicles accepted 1β -, 6α -hydroxylated and unsaturated bile acids along with common bile acids, such as glycocholic acid and taurolithocholic acid 3-sulfate. The developed method is useful for measurements of bile acid transport activities.



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