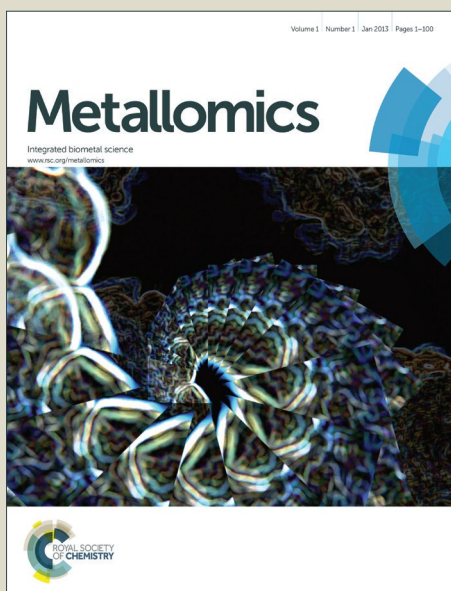


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Differential effects of metal ions on TCDD-induced cytotoxicity and cytochrome P4501A1 gene expression in a zebrafish liver (ZFL) cell-line

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Abstract

Trace metal ions and trace organic compounds are common co-contaminants in the environment that pose risks to human health. We evaluated the effects of four metal ions (As^{3+} , Cu^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and Zn^{2+}) on 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-Dioxin (TCDD) induced cytotoxicity and the expression of the cytochrome P4501A1 gene (*cyp1a1*) in the zebrafish liver (ZFL) cell line. A metal accumulation study showed that Cu and Zn did not accumulate in ZFL cells. However, As and Hg did accumulate, which resulted in the inhibition of TCDD-mediated induction of *cyp1a1* mRNA and protein expression, and 7-ethoxyresorufin O-deethylase activity. A luciferase assay showed that both As^{3+} and Hg^{2+} inhibited the TCDD-induced activity of gene constructs containing either synthetic 3XRE or a distal *cyp1a1* promoter region, implying that the decreased levels of TCDD-induced *cyp1a1* were due to transcriptional effects. A proteomic study showed that the toxic effects of As^{3+} might be due to changes in cellular metabolic processes, the cellular stimulation response and the cellular redox state in ZFL cells.

Keywords: biomarkers, combined effects, proteomics, trace metals

Introduction

The aromatic hydrocarbon receptor (AHR) plays a central role in the toxicity of numerous polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), by controlling the expression of a battery of detoxification enzymes responsible for drug metabolism¹. Cytochrome P4501A1 (CYP1A1) is an important AHR target gene, which is a phase I drug-metabolizing enzyme and useful biomarker for analyzing the cellular responses and actions of PAHs such as 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD), in both mammals and fish^{22, 3}. The transcriptional activation of the *cyp1a1* gene is mediated by the binding of aromatic (or aryl) hydrocarbon (AH) ligands, such as TCDD or benzo(a)pyrene, to the cytosolic AHR. Upon ligand binding, the ligand–receptor complex dissociates from the heat shock protein HSP90 and migrates to the nucleus with the aryl hydrocarbon receptor nuclear translocator (ARNT)⁴. The entire complex then acts as a transcription factor that binds to xenobiotic responsive elements (XREs) located in the promoter region of the *cyp1a1* gene to activate its transcription⁵.

In zebrafish, there are several isoforms of CYP1, AHR, and ARNT proteins. Five *cyp1* genes have been identified in this species: *cyp1a1*, *cyp1b1*, *cyp1c1*, *cyp1c2*, and *cyp1d1*⁶. Of these, *cyp1a1* is the most well studied and sensitive to PAH induction^{6, 7}. Zebrafish possess three *ahr* genes: *ahr1a*, *ahr1b* and *ahr2*. Only AHR1B and AHR2 proteins are capable of binding to TCDD with high-affinity and are transcriptionally active^{8, 9, 10}. The induction of *cyp1* genes

1 in zebrafish is largely via AHR2^{7, 11}. Experimental evidence has demonstrated
2 that one form of ARNT2, ARNT2b, forms a functional heterodimer with AHR2
3 to induce XRE (xenobiotic response element) driven transcription following
4 TCDD treatment^{9, 12, 13}. Therefore, in this study we examined the expression of
5 *cyp1a1*, *ahr2* and *arnat2b* in ZFL cells following the administration of metal
6 ions and TCDD.

7 Among the various reactions catalyzed by CYP1A1, hydroxylation at an
8 aromatic ring's vacant position is considered the hallmark of the initiation of
9 carcinogenesis through the formation of highly reactive conversion products
10 (such as epoxides) that can cause oncogenic mutations in experimental
11 animals and humans¹⁴ and other toxic effects including birth defects, immune
12 suppression, and endocrine disruption¹⁵.

13 Trace metals are highly toxic environmental contaminants that are not
14 biodegradable¹⁶. Mercury and arsenic are two of the most toxic metal ions to
15 humans¹⁷. Although some trace metals (such as copper and zinc) are essential
16 to metabolism in the human body, they can lead to acute or chronic poisoning
17 at higher concentrations. Exposure to trace metals comes from numerous
18 sources, including air, water, soil, and food contaminated by industrial pollution,
19 which can result in adverse effects on human metabolism. Trace metals and
20 other environmental pollutants including classes of highly toxic and persistent
21 environmental carcinogens such as PAHs (typified by TCDD), are common
22 co-contaminants from hazardous waste treatment sites, such as electronic

1 waste dumps and thermal treatment facilities. These pollutants are also
2 co-released from activities such as fossil fuel combustion and municipal waste
3 incineration¹⁸.

4 Previous studies have indicated that co-contamination by trace metals and
5 PAHs could enhance or reduce the carcinogenicity of PAHs by modifying the
6 expression of the *cyp1a1* gene^{19, 20}. Recently, we observed that cadmium can
7 inhibit CYP1A1 induction in ZFL cells (unpublished data). Although the
8 regulation of CYP1A1 by trace metal ions has been documented in several cell
9 lines and species, the currently available studies on the mechanisms of the
10 regulation of different metals on CYP1A1 induction are controversial.
11 Emerging evidence suggests that AHR ligand and metal co-treatment
12 generates different biological responses than would be expected according to
13 the toxicological mechanisms of each considered separately²¹. Any influence
14 of metals on the capacity of AHR ligands to induce CYP1A1 will influence the
15 carcinogenicity and mutagenicity of the AHR ligands. Therefore, there is a
16 need to understand the mechanisms driving these responses and to define the
17 exact role of AHR ligands and metals in the promotion of carcinogenesis.

18 Zebrafish is a useful model for studying developmental genetics and
19 toxicology due to their rapid development, conserved molecular pathways and
20 potential for high throughput screening²². Because the liver is the primary
21 organ for metabolism, detoxification and homeostasis, understanding the
22 molecular mechanisms involved in the modulation of AHR-related gene

1 expression by Cd²⁺ in a zebrafish liver (ZFL) cell line is useful and informative
2 23, 24.

3 As a first step to establishing the interaction between trace metals and
4 AHR ligands, we undertook extensive studies to determine the effect of
5 non-essential trace metals (Hg²⁺ and As³⁺) and essential trace metals (Cu²⁺
6 and Zn²⁺) on the induction of *cyp1a1* by TCDD in ZFL cells. Inhibition of
7 *cyp1a1* gene expression was observed after exposure to non-essential metals
8 but not essential metals. To further understand the inhibition mechanism of the
9 non-essential metals on *cyp1a1*, two-dimensional electrophoresis (2-DE) and
10 matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight (MALDI-TOF) MS/MS
11 approaches were also applied to elucidate the potential mechanism of As³⁺ on
12 *cyp1a1* inhibition.

13 Toxicoproteomics is a relatively new discipline that applies global
14 proteomic technologies to toxicological studies. Its aim is to detect critical
15 proteins and pathways disrupted by exposure to harmful chemicals and
16 environmental stressors²⁵. It is also a powerful tool to reveal how trace metals
17 affect *cyp1a1* expression and consequently alter CYP1A1 activity.

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19 **2. Materials and methods**

20 **2.1 Cell cultures and treatments**

21 The ZFL cell line, obtained from the American Type Culture Collection
22 (ATCC, CRL2643), was maintained in a standard culture medium comprising

1 50% L15 medium, 35% Dulbecco's modified medium (DMEM) and 15% Hams
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6 F12, supplemented with 1.5 g/L sodium bicarbonate, 15 mM HEPES, 0.01
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9 mg/ml insulin, 50 ng/ml EGF, 5% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum and a 1%
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11 penicillin/streptomycin mixture at 28°C, as previously described ²³. All of the
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13 reagents were purchased from GIBCO Invitrogen Cell Technologies, Life
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15 Technologies (NY, USA).
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18 For the cellular treatments, the ZFL cells were seeded in 6-, 24- and
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20 96-well cell culture plates and 100-mm cell culture dishes at an appropriate
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22 density in complete standard culture medium. A concentrated stock solution of
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24 50 ppm TCDD (Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, MA, USA) in dimethyl
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26 sulfoxide (DMSO, cell culture grade, Steinheim, Germany) and 50 mM CuCl₂,
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28 50 mM ZnCl₂, 10 mM HgCl₂ and 10 mM AsCl₃ (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, USA)
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30 dissolved in double deionized water was prepared separately. The cells were
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32 treated in serum-free media with TCDD (3/30 nM) and/or a series of
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34 concentrations of Cu²⁺, Zn²⁺, Hg²⁺, and As³⁺ (5%, 10%, or 25% LC50 values).
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36 The LC50s of Cu²⁺, Zn²⁺, Hg²⁺, and As³⁺ on ZFL cells are 308.1 μM, 343.5 μM,
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38 68.6 μM, and 44.3 μM respectively, as reported previously ²⁶.
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49 **2.2 Cytotoxicity assay**

50 Cytotoxicity assays were determined with AlamarBlue™ assays as
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52 previously described²⁷. The ZFL cells were seeded on 96-well plates with a
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54 density of 1×10⁵ per well and pre-incubated in the standard culture medium
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overnight before exposure. After pre-incubation, the medium was removed and the cells were exposed to media with TCDD (3/30 nM) and/or a series of concentrations of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and As^{3+} (5%, 10%, or 25% LC50) for 24 h. Six replicates were performed on the same plate for each dose. The medium with TCDD and trace metals was replaced with 100 μL fresh medium containing 10% AlamarBlue™ (Biosource, Invitrogen, NY, USA) and incubated for 2 h. The fluorescent signal was measured using a fluorescent microplate reader (Polarion, TECAN, Switzerland) with an excitation wavelength of 535 nm and an emission wavelength of 595 nm. The percentage of cytotoxicity was calculated by rating the control and treatment group readings.

2.3 Determination of metal concentrations in zebrafish and ZFL cells

The ZFL cells were exposed to a series of concentrations of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and As^{3+} (5%, 10%, or 25% of the LC50 values) with or without 3 nM TCDD. All samples were harvested, weighed, and digested with concentrated nitric acid (Merck) at 60 °C for 4 h. Concentrations of Cu and Zn were determined with graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrophotometry (Hitachi Z2700)²¹, and concentrations of Hg and As were determined with flame atomic absorption spectrophotometry (Hitachi Z2300). The results are expressed as mg metal/kg cells. Each treatment was performed in triplicate.

2.4 Determination of enzyme activity

The CYP1A1-dependent 7-ethoxyresorufin O-deethylase (EROD) activity in intact, living cells was assessed using 7-ethoxyresorufin (7-ER, Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, USA) as a substrate, following a previous method²⁸ with some optimization. The ZFL cells were seeded into 96-well plates, 10^5 cells per well. The next day, the medium was replaced with freshly made medium containing a series of concentrations of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and As^{3+} (5%, 10%, or 25% LC50) and TCDD. After incubation for 24 h, the cells were rinsed twice with ice-cold Tris-HCl (pH 7.4) and then pre-incubated with 5 μM of 7-ethoxyresorufin (7-ER), 80 μl per well, at 28 °C with shaking. After 20 min, 5 mM of NADPH (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, USA), 20 μl per well, was added to initiate the EROD reaction. After 10 min, the reaction was stopped using ice-cold methanol. The EROD activity in the wells was analyzed by measuring resorufin production fluorometrically (530 nm excitation and 590 nm emission) using a fluorescent plate reader (Polarion, TECAN, Switzerland). Then the protein concentration of each well was measured for calibration.

2.5 Protein extraction and Western blot analysis

After incubation with Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , As^{3+} and TCDD as described above, the ZFL cells were collected in an RAPI lysis buffer (25 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.6), 150 mM NaCl, 1% NP-40, 1% sodium deoxycholate, 0.1% SDS) and 10 $\mu\text{l}/\text{ml}$ of 100 $\times$ protease inhibitor (Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA)²². The total cellular proteins were obtained by incubating the cell lysates on ice for 30 h,

with intermittent homogenization every 10 min, followed by centrifugation at 12,000× *g* for 30 min at 4 °C. The supernatant fractions were collected to determine the protein concentration using a BCA protein assay kit (Pierce, Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA). Western blot analyses were performed using a previously described method. Briefly, 30 µg of protein from each treatment group was separated by 10% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS)-polyacrylamide gel, and then electrophoretically transferred to polyvinylidene difluoride membranes. Protein blots were then blocked overnight at 4 °C in TBST (50 mM Tris-base, 0.15 M sodium chloride, 0.1% Tween-20) containing 5% skim milk powder. After blocking, the blots were incubated for 2 h at room temperature with a primary polyclonal anti-rabbit CYP1A1 antibody (GeneTex, Hsinchu City, Taiwan, Republic of China, 1:800) in TBST solution. The membranes were washed three times with TBST and incubated for 1 h with a secondary antibody, HRP-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG (Pierce, Thermo Fisher Scientific, MA, USA, 1:5000). The membranes were then washed three more times and the bands were visualized using the enhanced chemiluminescence method according to the manufacturer's instructions (Santa-Cruz Biotechnology, Texas, USA).

2.6 RNA extraction, cDNA synthesis and real-time polymerase chain reaction

Samples of zebrafish liver cells, embryos, larvae, and organs exposed to a

1 series of concentrations of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , As^{3+} and TCDD as described
2 above, were collected for total RNA extraction using the Trizol reagent (Takara
3 Biotechnology, Japan). Reverse transcriptions (RTs) were performed using the
4 PrimerScriptTM RT reagent kit (Takara Biotechnology, Japan) according to the
5 manufacturer's instructions. A 1 μg RNA template from each sample was then
6 converted into cDNA in a 20 μl volume at 42 °C for 30 min. The reverse
7 transcription products were quantified using NANODROP 2000C (Thermo
8 Fisher Scientific, MA, USA).

9 The mRNA expression changes in the AHR pathway-related genes in the
10 ZFL cells and zebrafish exposed to different concentrations of Cd^{2+} and TCDD
11 were verified with real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
12 methods using the ABI 7500 Fast system (Applied Biosystems, CA, USA). The
13 glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) was the most stable
14 reference gene after exposure to Cd^{2+} and TCDD, and thus was used as the
15 internal control for normalization²³. SYBR® Green PCR Master Mix (Takara
16 Biotechnology, Japan) was used in the real-time PCR analysis. All of the gene
17 sequences used in this study were obtained from the NCBI Gene Bank and the
18 latest zebrafish genome databases (Zv9 and Vega49). The primer sets were
19 designed using the NCBI PCR Primer Design online tool, Primer-BLAST
20 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/tools/primer-blast>). The nucleotide sequences of
21 the forward and reverse primers for the genes selected and their accession
22 numbers are listed in Table 1 and validated as described in Chen et al.

(2014)²³. The relative expression of each gene was calculated as previously described using the formula of relative fluorescence = $2^{\Delta\Delta Ct}$.

2.7 Transient gene expression study and luciferase assay

The ZFL cells were maintained according to the methods described in section 2.1. The cells were seeded in 24-well plates and incubated for 24 h before transfection. A reporter vector was introduced into cells using Lipofectamine 2000 reagent (Life Technologies, Inc., Carlsbad, USA) following the manufacturer's protocols. Triplicated transfections were performed using 500 ng of total DNA containing 400 ng reporter vector and 100 ng pRL-TK vector (Promega, Madison, USA) as internal controls. After transfection, the cells were exposed to different concentrations of Cu²⁺, Zn²⁺, Hg²⁺, As³⁺ and TCDD for 24 h. The cells were then harvested to determine luciferase activity using the Dual-Luciferase® Reporter Assay System (Promega, Madison, USA), according to the manufacturer's instructions, with a GloMax-96-Micro plate Luminometer (Promega, Madison, USA). The data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA with GraphPad Prism® 5 software.

2.8 Isolation of the cytosolic fraction

The treated ZFL cells were thawed at room temperature and suspended in a 200 µl native lysis buffer I (25 mM Tris-HCl, 2 mM DTT, 20 µM PMSF, pH 7.4)²². The cells were then lysed by ultrasonic fragmentation at 4 °C for 10 min.

1 The sample was then centrifuged at $1500 \times g$ for 10 min. The supernatant was
2 further centrifuged at $105,000 \times g$ for 30 min to collect the cytosolic fraction. All
3 centrifugations were processed at 4°C . Then the supernatant was collected
4 and purified by 2D-Clean KIT (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, USA) and the pellet
5 was resolved in lysis buffer II (8 M urea, 4% CHAPS, 2 M thiourea, 50 mM DTT,
6 10 mM Tris, 1 mM EDTA, and 0.0002% bromophenol blue). The protein
7 concentration was determined using the Bradford protein assay (Bio-Rad, USA)
8 with bovine serum albumin as the standard, then each sample was adjusted to
9 2 mg/ml and aliquots were stored at -80°C .

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11 **2.9. Two-dimensional gel electrophoresis (2-DE) and in-gel digestion and** 12 **protein identification**

13 Two-dimensional gel electrophoresis (2-DE) and in-gel digestion and
14 protein identification were performed according to previously reported
15 procedures^{22,29}. Briefly, the cytosolic samples were mixed with a rehydration
16 buffer and then isoelectric focusing (IEF) was carried out using Ettan IPGphor
17 (GE Health, USA) with precast immobilized pH gradient (IPG) strips (ready-strip
18 IPG strips, pH range 3–10, 13 cm long, GE Health, USA). A total of 350 μg
19 protein was loaded and incubated for 12 h at 20°C with 30 V, followed by IEF
20 for 2 h with 500 V, 1 h with 1000 V, the gradient elevating to 8000 V for 25,000
21 Vh and 8000 V continued for 10,000 Vh. After the IEF steps, the IPG strips
22 were incubated at room temperature for 15 min in an equilibration buffer, and a

1 second equilibration step was carried out for another 15 min under the same
2 conditions, except that the dithiothreitol was replaced with 135 mM
3 iodoacetamide. The equilibrated strips were then loaded onto 12%
4 polyacrylamide (14 cm × 16 cm, 1 mm thick) with SDS and a 2 cm stacking gel
5 of 4% polyacrylamide placed on top. After separation, the proteins were
6 visualized by silver staining, as recommended by the manufacturer (GE Health,
7 USA), and each treatment was replicated three times. The 2-DE images were
8 scanned and analyzed using ImageMaster 2-D Elite software. Image spots
9 were initially automatically outlined and matched, and then manually edited.
10 The intensity volume of each spot was calculated by background subtraction
11 and total spot volume normalization, and the resulting spot volume percentage
12 was used for comparison. For each treatment, three 2-DE gels were used for
13 analysis, and those spots with more than 1.2 fold difference were picked up for
14 identification.

15 The protein spots of interest were manually excised from the 2-DE gels.
16 Each protein sample was further processed by enzymatic digestion with trypsin
17 to generate peptide fragments. The tryptic peptides were mixed with 4 mg/ml
18 acyano-4-hydroxycinnamic acid (CHCA) in 50% ACN and 0.1% TFA, spotted
19 onto the target plate and allowed to dry. MALDI–TOF MS was performed with a
20 Bruker Ultraflex extreme MALDI-TOF/TOF spectrometer (Bruker Daltonik GmbH,
21 Bremen, Germany). Mass data acquisitions were piloted by FlexControl
22 software using the automatic run. All MS survey scans were acquired over the

1 mass range 500–4000 m/z in the reflectron positive-ion mode and accumulated
2 from 4000 laser shots with acceleration of 20 kV. The data were searched by
3 ProteinScape 3.0 using MASCOT (Matrix Sciences, London, United Kingdom)
4 as a search engine against the NCBI database or Swiss protein database.

6 **2.10 Bioinformatic analysis of 2-DE data**

7 The differentially expressed proteins were subjected to PANTHER 10.0
8 classification (www.pantherdb.org)³⁰ and DAVID³¹ to understand their
9 biological context. The list of UniProt accession numbers was uploaded and
10 mapped against a reference *Danio rerio* dataset to extract and summarize
11 molecular functions, biological processes, class of protein and clusters of
12 functions. For protein–protein interaction network analysis, the BVA-analyzed
13 differentially expressed proteins were subjected to STRING 10.0
14 (<http://string-db.org>)³². Interaction networks were obtained on the basis of
15 confidence and evidence. The predicted associations between genes based
16 on observed patterns of simultaneous expression were also considered.

18 **2.11 Statistical analyses**

19 All of our results are presented as mean± standard deviation (S.D.) in triplicate,
20 at least. The gene expression levels and normalized values in all of the figures
21 were compared using one-way ANOVA and Tukey's Multiple Comparison Test
22 on Prism5 software (GraphPad, San Diego, USA). A probability value of

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1 **protein and mRNA expression**

2 Trace metals were shown to differently regulate AHR target genes at the
3 transcriptional and post-transcriptional level. To understand how these metals
4 modulate the enzyme activity, protein and mRNA expression level of *cyp1a1*,
5 ZFL cells were treated with different concentrations of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and
6 As^{3+} alone and with 3 or 30 nM TCDD. None of the four metal ions had any
7 significant effect on *cyp1a1* induction including enzyme activity (Fig. 3), protein
8 (Fig. 4) and mRNA (Fig. 5) expression level. However, co-treatment with TCDD
9 induced EROD enzyme activity (Fig. 3), and both protein levels (Fig. 4) and
10 mRNA (Fig. 5) of *cyp1a1* were significantly decreased by Hg^{2+} and As^{3+} .
11 Treatments with Cu^{2+} and Zn^{2+} had no effect on *cyp1a1* induction by TCDD.
12 Similar regulations of these metals were observed on the mRNA expression
13 level of *ahr2* and *arnt2b*, which are two upstream genes that mediate *cyp1a1*
14 transcription. As the AHR2/ARNT2b complex plays an important role in
15 CYP1A1 induction, decreased expression of these two genes could partially
16 explain the reduction of CYP1A1 expression by Hg^{2+} and As^{3+} , perhaps due to
17 the inhibition of transcriptional initiation.

19 **3.3 Effects of trace metals on TCDD-Induced luciferase activity**

20 To further examine whether the effect of trace metals on TCDD-mediated
21 *cyp1a1* induction is regulated at the transcriptional initiation level, ZFL cells
22 were transfected with TCDD-responsive CYP1A1 (P-2626/-2099) and 3XRE

1 constructs and then treated with 3 or 30 nM 2,3,7,8-TCDD in the absence or
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1 constructs and then treated with 3 or 30 nM 2,3,7,8-TCDD in the absence or
2 presence of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and As^{3+} at various concentrations. Compared to
3 TCDD treatment alone, co-treatment with Hg^{2+} and As^{3+} reduced the
4 magnitude of TCDD-induced luciferase activation in the 3XRE reporter. And for
5 the CYP1A1 (P-2626/-2099) construct, although in some high concentration
6 group (co-treatment with 30nM TCDD), the reduction in luciferase activity is
7 not statistical significant, a decrease trend can be still observed (Fig. 6).
8 Consistent with their regulation of CYP1A gene and protein expression levels,
9 Cu^{2+} and Zn^{2+} had no effect on TCDD-induced luciferase activity. These results
10 suggest that xenobiotic responsive elements not only conferred
11 TCDD-responsiveness but also mediated the inhibition of Hg^{2+} and As^{3+} on
12 TCDD-induced CYP1A1 gene transcription.

13
14 **3.4 Differential expression of cytosolic proteins revealed by the**
15 **proteomic approach**

16 To further understand the response of AHR pathway inhibition by
17 non-essential metals at the protein expression level, a proteomic approach
18 was applied to reveal As^{3+} -induced differential protein expression after
19 co-exposure with TCDD. Using 2-DE analyses, about 600 spots were detected
20 in each image as shown in the representative image (Fig. 7). A total of 42 spots
21 with different abundance were found in the As^{3+} and TCDD co-treatment group
22 compared with the control and TCDD alone (Fig. 7). The locations of these 42

spots on a 2-D gel are marked and numbered (Fig.7 C) and amplified figures of each identified spot are shown in Fig. 8. Identified proteins with information and the average expression levels from three gels for each group are shown in Table 2. The density of those identified spots were also shown in Fig. S1 with significance after statistical analysis. Among these spots, 20 spots were up-regulated by TCDD treatment alone compared with the control group, 7 of them were further increased after co-treatment with As^{3+} , 12 were down-regulated, and the remaining one was not significantly affected by As^{3+} compared with the TCDD treatment group. Sixteen spots were down regulated by TCDD treatment alone, 3 were further diminished by As^{3+} co-treatment, 12 were further increased and 1 was not significantly affected. The 6 remaining spots were not significantly affected by TCDD; 5 of them increased after co-treatment and one decreased.

3.5 Bioinformatics analysis of identified proteins

To further explore cellular pathways and protein functions in response to As^{3+} and TCDD stress, the data obtained from the proteomic analysis were analyzed using PANTHER, DAVID and STRING. According to gene ontology analysis by PANTHER, the identified proteins were divided into 10 groups: chaperones, cytoskeletal proteins, glycolysis related enzymes, oxidoreductases, nucleic acid binding proteins, calcium-binding proteins, protein kinase activity, transporters, metal ion binding proteins and other

1 functions (Table 2). Exploring the annotations group by group rather than one
2 by one, gene ontology enrichment analysis was performed by DAVID, which is
3 a powerful tool grouping similar, redundant and homogeneous annotation
4 content from the same or different sources into annotation groups^{33, 34}. Similar
5 annotation terms are grouped into clusters so that the user can read through
6 the important terms block by block instead of individually. Using functional
7 annotation clustering analysis in DAVID, the functions of 42 proteins were
8 divided into 3 clusters focusing on glycolysis, nucleotide binding and ion
9 binding (Table S1). The *p*-values of the first cluster (glycolysis) are all less than
10 0.05, which means the enrichment score is greater than 1.3, representing
11 more important (enriched) terms. According to KEGG pathway analysis, the
12 differential expressed proteins were mainly concentrated in glycolysis and
13 gluconeogenesis, and fructose and mannose metabolism pathways.

14 As shown in Fig. 9, to find relevant proteins among the multiple
15 identifications obtained by proteomic analysis, we subjected the list of the 42
16 different proteins from Table 2 to bioinformatics analysis in the STRING
17 database, which integrates interaction data from several bioinformatics
18 sources and provides information about physical and functional properties,
19 known and predicted interactions of genes and their products³⁵. A general
20 interaction network including all identified proteins is shown in Fig. 9A. DAVID
21 was also used to highlight the functional annotation clustering inside the
22 identified potential protein network. As shown in Fig. 9B, these proteins are

involved in metabolic processes, stress responses to chemical stimuli and oxidative processes according to the gene ontology descriptor “biological process.” According to their classification under the gene ontology descriptor “molecular function” the proteins are mainly for chemical binding and catalysis, as shown in Fig. 9C.

4. Discussion

Non-essential elements are toxic because they take over the binding sites of essential elements, and they are also usually persistent and thus have the potential to accumulate via the food chain, leading to human health problems if contaminated food is consumed. Essential elements such as Cu and Zn are needed for important metabolic functions³⁶, but can be toxic at higher concentrations, and excessive levels are damaging at the cellular level and to the organism as a whole³⁷. The chemical basis of metal toxicology is still not sufficiently understood, but a uniform mechanism for all toxic metals is implausible due to great variation in chemical properties and toxicological endpoints³⁸. The different effects of essential (Cu and Zn) and non-essential (As and Hg) metals on CYP1A1 induction observed in zebrafish further confirm the various and complicated toxic mechanisms involved in metal toxicity.

Although As and Hg are non-essential metals and do not have specific transport proteins or channels, they are transported via channels used by essential metals such as Cu and Zn. It has been reported that transport

1 proteins such as divalent metal transport 1 (DMT1) and Zn transporters (ZnT)
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1 proteins such as divalent metal transport 1 (DMT1) and Zn transporters (ZnT)
2 can transport toxic metals from the intestine to internal organs such as the liver
3 and cause toxicity if they are not removed quickly^{40, 41}. However, essential
4 metals are eliminated much more slowly than non-essential metals, resulting in
5 the accumulation of essential metals, which can be significant if metal
6 concentrations in the environment are beyond a certain threshold⁴². A study in
7 Tilapia showed much higher accumulation of non-essential metals than
8 essential metals, and the level of accumulated Cu was higher than Zn⁴².
9 Similarly, the results of the present study demonstrate that the levels of Hg and
10 As significantly increased in ZFL cells after exposure and a slightly increased
11 level of Cu was also observed, whereas no accumulation of Zn was found,
12 perhaps due to the high background level. These results suggest that the
13 different effects of essential and non-essential metals on CYP1A1 induction
14 might be due primarily to different levels of accumulated metals, and the
15 metals that have high uptake and low elimination are expected to inhibit
16 CYP1A1 induction.

17 CYP1A1 is the most widely studied Phase I CYP enzyme involved in PAH
18 bio-activation in fish, and it is responsible for both metabolic activity and PAH
19 detoxification⁴³. Although several studies have reported that the induction of
20 CYP1A1 in different species can be inhibited by metal treatments, the
21 molecular response to CYP1A1 inhibition by trace metals was not investigated.
22 Therefore, in this study, a proteomic approach was adopted to explore the

1 temporal changes in cytosolic protein expression that are associated with As³⁺
2 and TCDD intoxication in ZFL. Our results identified 42 proteins, which are
3 mainly involved in metabolism, the stress response and oxidation.

4 Metabolic processes are known to play a vital role in determining the fates
5 of environmental pollutants during biotic degradation. For instance, the
6 expression level of several proteins is associated with glycolysis, and TCDD
7 and As³⁺ affect gluconeogenesis. TCDD has been reported to disrupt
8 glycolysis and gluconeogenesis by altering relevant enzyme activity⁴⁵. Among
9 these proteins, two classes of fructose-bisphosphate aldolases A/C-B (ALDO),
10 enolase 1/3 (ENO) and L-lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) were down-regulated
11 by TCDD, but co-exposure with As³⁺ up-regulated the expression levels of all
12 of these proteins. Fructose bisphosphate aldolase takes part in the fourth step
13 of glycolysis, catalyzing the cleavage of fructose 1,6-bisphosphate into
14 glyceraldehyde3-phosphate⁴⁶. Enolase is a key glycolytic enzyme that
15 catalyzes the dehydration of 2-phosphoglycerate to phosphoenolpyruvate in
16 the last step of the catabolic glycolytic pathway⁴⁷. LDH catalyzes the last step
17 in anaerobic glycolysis, the conversion of pyruvate to lactate, with the
18 concomitant oxidation of NADH⁴⁸. The down-regulation and up-regulation of
19 glycolytic enzymes by TCDD/PAHs and trace metals, respectively, have been
20 reported in previous studies⁴⁹⁻⁵², but their combined effects have not been
21 reported. Because the glycolytic pathway is the major energy source for many
22 cells, the effect of TCDD and As³⁺ on these proteins suggests that they might

1 both disturb energy metabolism.

2 Phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK), which catalyzes the reversible transfer of
3 a phosphate group from 1,3-bisphosphoglycerate (1,3-BPG) to ADP producing
4 3-phosphoglycerate (3-PG) and ATP, was not affected by TCDD but increased
5 by As^{3+} after co-treatment⁵³. Triosephosphate isomerase B catalyzes the
6 reversible interconversion of the triose phosphate isomers dihydroxyacetone
7 phosphate and D-glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate⁵⁴. Both these enzymes play a
8 reversible role in catalysis and are involved in glycolysis and gluconeogenesis.
9 The different effect of TCDD on these two enzymes compared to its effect on
10 the glycolytic enzymes described above further supports the suggestion that
11 TCDD might disrupt the glycolysis process, reducing energy production, and
12 such inhibition could be reversed by As^{3+} . A similar disturbance of energy in
13 response to AHR activation by PCBs has been reported⁵⁵. Besides, increased
14 expression of malate dehydrogenase (MDH), a mitochondrial enzyme involved
15 in gluconeogenesis, following TCDD, but decreased after co-exposure with
16 As^{3+} provided further evidence that TCDD might promote gluconeogenesis
17 and As^{3+} might reverse the imbalance of energy metabolism caused by
18 TCDD⁵⁶.

19 The second important pathway affected by TCDD and As^{3+} is the stress
20 response to chemical insults. Chaperones constitute a large group of proteins
21 associated with this process. For the six proteins with altered abundance, five
22 heat shock proteins (HSPs) and one stress-induced phosphoprotein (STIP)

1 were identified in the proteomic studies. All of these proteins were
2 down-regulated by TCDD alone, which is in line with the results of Sarioglu et
3 al. (2006), which showed a marked down regulation of HSP90 in 5L rat
4 hepatoma cells after treatment with TCDD⁵². Interestingly, after co-treatment
5 with As³⁺, all of these stress response proteins were up-regulated compared
6 with TCDD exposure alone.

7 Induction of HSPs by trace metals is regarded as a defense mechanism in
8 response to metal exposure^{57, 58}. HSPs act as chaperones, which protect
9 protein substrates from conformational damage and they can also act at
10 multiple points in the apoptotic pathways to ensure that stress-induced
11 damage does not inappropriately trigger cell death⁵⁹. Stress-induced
12 phosphoprotein is known as heat shock protein-organizing protein, and has a
13 similar molecular function to the HSP family⁶⁰. Before binding to TCDD, AHR
14 has its own complex binding with many other proteins including HSP90, which
15 is a chaperone that functions as a ligand binding AHR⁶¹. Although the HSP
16 proteins identified in the current study are mainly from the HSP70 and 60
17 families, recent experimental results suggest that a number of co-chaperones,
18 such as HSP70 and p60, are part of the HSP90-related multichaperone
19 complex⁶² and might associate with the AHR complex at various stages during
20 the lifetime of the AHR^{63, 64}. The main role of HSP90 in the AHR complex is to
21 keep proper folding and stability of the AHR⁶⁵, and HSP70 appears to be
22 important for protein folding involving HSP90⁶⁶. Therefore, HSP70 might play

1 an important role in maintaining the stability of the AHR complex and the
2 decreased abundance of these proteins indicates a reduced AHR complex
3 level and thus increased AHR/ARNT2b heterodimers. Elevation of HSPs by
4 As^{3+} suggests that more HSPs might be needed to form the AHR complex and
5 keep it in the cytoplasm and to suppress the nuclear translocation of AHR to
6 bind with ARNT.

7 Oxidative stress is also a response to toxicity. TCDD exerts many of its
8 effects by inducing CYP1A1 gene expression, which increases electron
9 transfer to molecular oxygen leading to the formation reactive oxygen species
10 and lipid peroxidation⁶⁷. Trace metals, including As^{3+} , have been reported to
11 induce oxidative stress by cycling between oxidation states, or by interacting
12 with antioxidants and increasing inflammation, resulting in the accumulation of
13 free radicals in cells⁶⁸. Therefore, a change in oxidation-related proteins would
14 be expected with exposure to these metals.

15 The increased expression of glutathione reductase (GTR), which catalyzes
16 the reduction of glutathione disulfide to the sulfhydryl form glutathione (GSH),
17 and is a critical molecule in resisting oxidative stress and maintaining the
18 reducing environment of the cell⁶⁹, might be viewed as a protective response
19 to the oxidative stress induced by TCDD. However, the decreased expression
20 level during co-exposure with As^{3+} suggests that As^{3+} might suppress this
21 defense system. Increased GSH might cause the up-regulation of GTR and
22 glutathione S-transferase P (GSTP1), a detoxification enzyme that catalyzes

1 the conjugation of many hydrophobic and electrophilic compounds with
2 reduced GSH⁷⁰, which was also up-regulated by TCDD. This is in consistent
3 with the findings that GSTP was also induced by TCDD in human hepatocyte
4 cultures⁷¹ and human breast cancer cells⁷². However, unlike GTR, As³⁺ further
5 increased the level of GSTP after co-exposure. Both GTR and GSTP
6 participate in the maintenance of cellular redox homeostasis through a number
7 of convergent and divergent mechanisms; the relevant functional
8 consequences associated with the opposite regulation of As³⁺ on these two
9 proteins remains to be determined.

10 TCDD and As³⁺ treatment also changed the abundance of several structural
11 proteins, including β -actin1 protein (ACTB), two tropomyosins (TPM4A, TPM3)
12 and cofilin2 (CFL2). Tropomyosin, an important light chain regulatory protein in
13 cardiac muscle, showed a small degree of up-regulation in the TCDD treated
14 ZFL cells. This finding is consistent with several previous TCDD toxicological
15 studies in which very similar pattern of up-regulations in various tropomyosin
16 isoforms were observed^{73, 74}. The levels of TPM binding protein and ACTB,
17 another important globular multi-functional protein that forms microfilaments,
18 were also increased by TCDD. As³⁺ further changed the abundance of these
19 proteins after co-exposure. It appears likely that the alterations in their
20 expression reflect an extensive reorganization of the cytoskeleton in ZFL cells.

21 We also observed changes in the abundance of numerous other proteins
22 that had not yet shown to be affected by TCDD and As³⁺, which may provide

1 novel starting points for the exploration of specific aspects of combined dioxin
2 and metals toxicity. An example include the altered abundance of
3 transketolase isoform X3, which has been reported to be involved in the
4 reductive CBB cycle and non-oxidative part of the pentose phosphate pathway,
5 and plays a critical role in connecting the pentose phosphate pathway to
6 glycolytic intermediates⁷⁵. Another interesting observation is the up-regulation
7 of translationally controlled tumor protein homolog (TCTP), a growth-related,
8 calcium binding and heat stable protein⁷⁶ with a crucial cellular role.
9 Interestingly, recent reports describe human TCTP as a novel anti-apoptotic
10 protein involved in cell survival^{77, 78}. Up-regulation of this protein by TCDD and
11 the further increase after co-treatment suggest that As may promote
12 TCDD-induced cell proliferation. Further studies on this protein may yield
13 interesting novel findings with regard to the combined toxicological mechanism
14 of TCDD and trace metals.

15 In summary, differential regulation of the TCDD-induced AHR pathway by
16 essential and non-essential metals was observed in ZFL cells. The uptake of
17 the essential metals Cu and Zn was not significant in the cells and they had no
18 impact on TCDD-induced toxicity or CYP1A1 levels. However, the
19 non-essential metals As and Hg can be accumulated in ZFL cells, and thus
20 inhibited the induction of CYP1A1 by TCDD through transcriptional initiation
21 inhibition. Subsequently, a 2-DE proteomic approach was applied to study the
22 changes of cytosolic proteins induced by TCDD and As³⁺ exposure. We

identified significant changes in the proteome of the ZFL cells following TCDD and As³⁺ exposure leading to alterations in metabolic processes, cellular stimulation responses and the cellular redox state of the ZFL cells. Collectively, the protein expression information provides insight into potential molecular mechanisms of TCDD and As³⁺ toxicity.

Conflict of interest statement

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

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Figure legends

Fig. 1 Metal levels in ZFL cells. ZFL cells were exposed to 5%, 10%, or 25% LC50 of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and As^{3+} alone or in the presence of 3 nM TCDD for 24 h. After exposure, ZFL cells were collected and digested for uptake measurements. Values are means $\pm$ S.D. Tukey's multiple comparison test was used to compare the accumulation level from different treatments in each group (same letter indicates no significant difference).

Fig. 2 Combined cytotoxicities of As^{3+} , Cu^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , Zn^{2+} and TCDD on ZFL cells. ZFL cells were exposed to different concentrations of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , As^{3+} and TCDD for 24 h. The data are expressed as percentage of untreated control, which is set at 100%, $\pm$ S.D. (N = 6).

Fig. 3 Effects of As^{3+} , Cu^{2+} , Hg^{2+} and Zn^{2+} on the induction of EROD activity in ZFL cells. Cells were treated with 5%, 10%, or 25% LC50 of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and As^{3+} alone or in the presence of 3 nM TCDD for 24 h. The values represent mean activity $\pm$ S.D. (N = 6). The data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA ($*p < 0.01$, $**p < 0.05$, $***p < 0.005$) comparing each group with the control. Tukey's multiple comparison test was used to compare results of fold inductions from different treatments in each group (same letter indicates no significant difference).

Fig. 4 Effect of As^{3+} , Cu^{2+} , Hg^{2+} and Zn^{2+} on TCDD-induced CYP1A1 protein. ZFL cells were treated for 24 h with increasing concentrations of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , and As^{3+} alone or in the presence of 3 nM TCDD. The intensity of CYP1A1 protein bands was normalized to GAPDH signals, which were used as a loading control. One of three representative experiments is shown.

Fig. 5 Effects of As^{3+} (A), Cu^{2+} (B), Hg^{2+} (C), Zn^{2+} (D) and TCDD on the mRNA expression level of *cyp1a1*, *ahr2* and *arnt2b* in ZFL cells after a 24-h treatment. The results are represented as the mean $\pm$ S.D. of six replicates. The data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA ($*p < 0.01$, $**p < 0.05$, $***p < 0.005$), comparing each group with the control. Tukey's multiple comparison test was used to compare the results of fold inductions from different group.

Fig. 6 Dual luciferase assay of TCDD-inducible gene constructs (P-2626/-2099 and 3XRE) in ZFL cells exposed to As^{3+} , Cu^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , Zn^{2+} and TCDD. The transfected cells were treated with TCDD alone or in the presence of As^{3+} , Cu^{2+} , Hg^{2+} and Zn^{2+} for 24 h. The bars represent the mean $\pm$ S.D. of the three replicates. ($p < 0.05$, $n = 3$, one-way ANOVA, Tukey's test).

Fig. 7 Representative image of CBB stained 2-DE gel (A: Control; B TCDD; C: TCDD + As^{3+}). Total cytosolic proteins were loaded and separated using

1 IPG strips (pH 3–10)/SDS-PAGE (10% acrylamide). The circled spots
2 represent the matched spots in the three gels, and the spot numbers refer to
3 the proteins with modified abundance after TCDD and AS³⁺ treatment that
4 were selected for mass spectrometry (see Table2).

5 **Fig. 8 Magnified images of protein spots that showed significantly**
6 **different changes.** Zoom-in regions of typical 2-DE demonstrate the effect of
7 TCDD and joint TCDD and AS³⁺ exposure on the regulation of these identified
8 proteins. The protein name of each spot is shown in Table 1.

9 **Fig. 9 Protein–protein interaction network visualized on the STRING**
10 **website.** The list of identified proteins was subjected to STRING (v. 10)
11 analysis to reveal functional interactions between the proteins which
12 expression level were affected either by TCDD treatment alone or TCDD and
13 As³⁺ co-treatment. Each node represents a protein, and each edge represents
14 an interaction. The original graphic output was modified to fit the proteins,
15 according to their classification under the gene ontology descriptors “biological
16 process” (B): metabolic process (confined within the black circle), response to
17 chemical stimulus (confined within the red circle) and oxidative process
18 (confined within the blue circle), and “molecular function” (C): catalytic and
19 binding (confined within the black and red circle respectively) as revealed by
20 the Database for Annotation (DAVID)

21 **Fig. S1** Protein abundance of identified protein spots. The values represent
22 mean density ± S.D. (N = 3). The data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA (*p <
23 0.01, **p < 0.05, ***p < 0.005) comparing each group with the control. Tukey’s
24 multiple comparison test was used to compare results of fold inductions from
25 different treatments in each group (same letter indicates no significant
26 difference).

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Table 1 Nucleotide sequences of primers in the gene expression analysis using real-time quantitative PCR assay.

Gene (Accession number)	Primer	Nucleotide Sequence (5'–3')
<i>gapdh</i> (NM_213094)	Forward	CGACCTCACCTGCCGCCTTACA
	Reverse	GTCATTGAGGGAGATGCCAGCG
<i>cyp1a1</i> (AF210727.2)	Forward	CGCTTGTATGGGCTTGTCTCT
	Reverse	CGCAGCTAAAACAGGCACTC
<i>ahr2</i> (NM_131264.1)	Forward	ACGGTGAAGCTCTCCCATA
	Reverse	AGTAGGTTTCTCTGGCCAC
<i>arnt2b</i> (AY007992.1)	Forward	CCGCTGTAAACCCATCGGAA
	Reverse	AATCCATCCCCGCTGATCTC

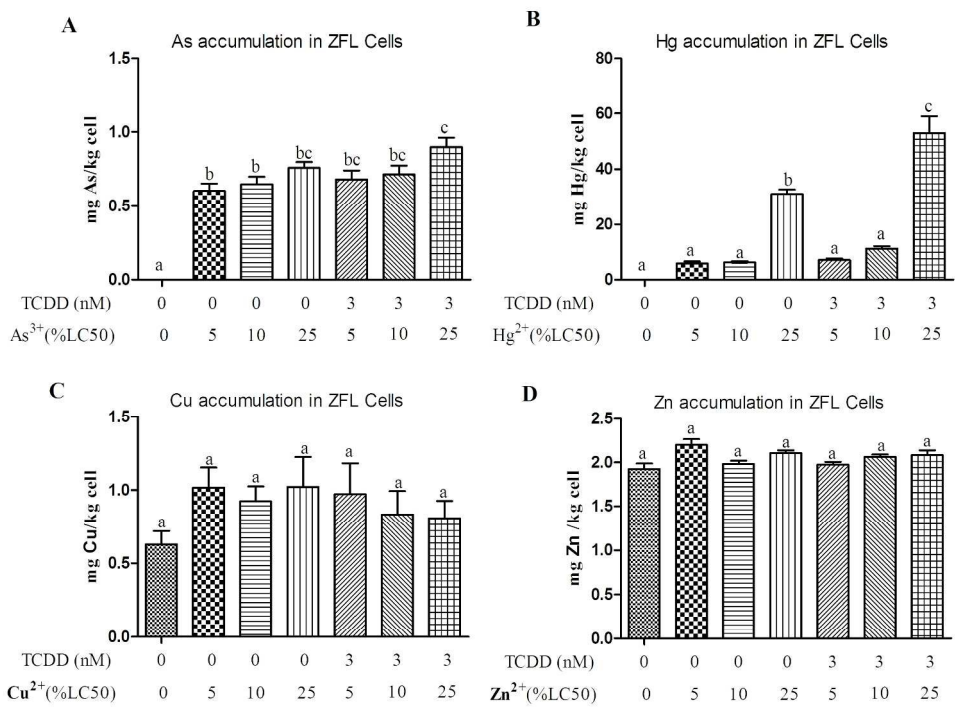
Table 2. Identified proteins differentially expressed in the ZFL cells after As³⁺ and TCDD treatment.

Spot No.	Protein Name	Accession No.	Gene Symbol	MW (kDa)/Pi	Individual spot intensity/total intensity (average value %)			
					Control	TCDD	TCDD+ As ³⁺	
Chaperones								
2	heat shock protein 5	gi 39645428	hspa5	71.90/5.04	0.082	0.0134	0.212	
3	heat shock cognate 71 kDa protein	gi 160333682	hsp70l	71.10/5.31	0.118	0.109	0.302	
4	heat shock cognate 70-kd protein	gi 18858871	hsp70l	72.40/6.29	0	0	0.112	
5	heat shock 70 kDa protein	gi 528474057	hsp70	70.40/5.53	0	0	0.0184	
6	stress-induced-phosphoprotein 1	gi 56090148	stip1	61.60/6.43	0.0298	0.0215	0.0594	
8	60 kDa heat shock protein	gi 31044489	hspd1	61.20/5.56	0.0753	0.0674	0.1148	
Cytoskeletal proteins								
17	Bactin1 protein	gi 28279111	actb1	41.70/5.3	0.0887	0.153	0.112	
29	tropomyosin alpha-4 chain isoform 2	gi 47085929	tpm4a	28.50/4.63	0.110	0.155	0.208	
30	tropomyosin alpha-3 chain isoform 2	gi 41393141	tpm3	28.80/4.76	0.0148	0.038	0.0588	
42	cofilin 2	gi 47271384	cfl2	18.80/6.84	0.0248	0.0153	0.0128	
Glycolysis-related enzymes								
13	alpha-enolase	gi 47085883	enoa	47.00/6.16	0.0162	0.0099	0.0285	
15	enolase 3, (beta, muscle)	gi 68086449	eno3	47.40/6.19	0.0397	0.0318	0.0694	
21	Pgk1 protein	gi 41388972	pgk1	44.70/6.47	0.0343	0.035	0.0678	
20	fructose-bisphosphate aldolase	gi 35902900	aldocb	39.20/6.21	0.0217	0.0191	0.0453	

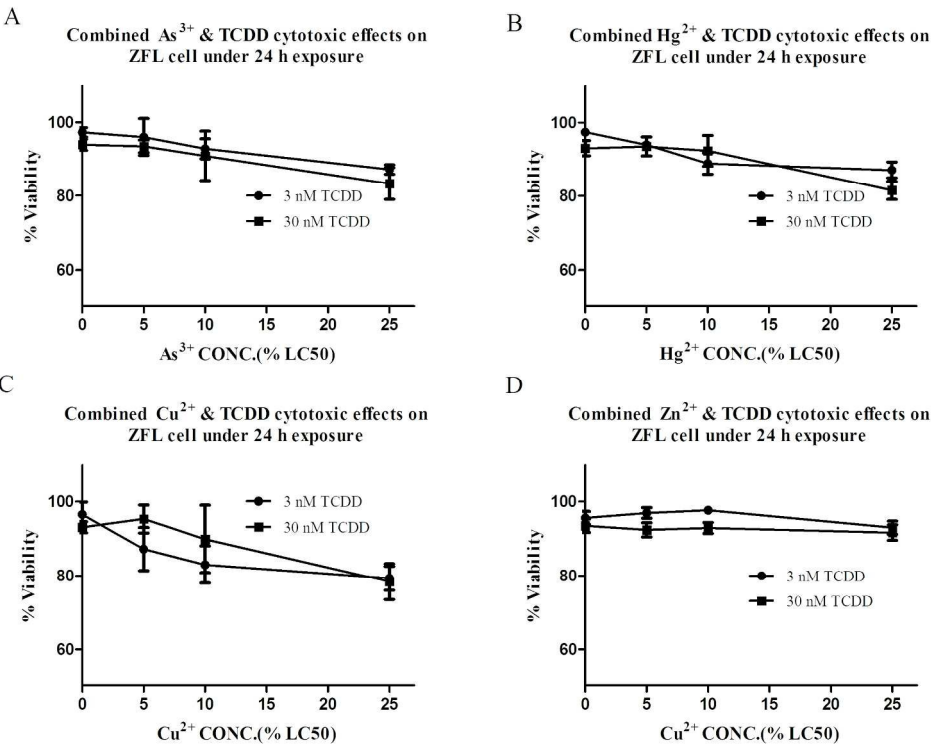
	C-B						
22	fructose-bisphosphate aldolase A	gi 41282154	aldoa	39.70/8.45	0.0913	0.0614	0.0326
26	L-lactate dehydrogenase B-A chain	gi 18858961	ldhba	36.20/6.39	0.0236	0.022	0.0414
39	triosephosphate isomerase B	gi 47271422	tpi1b	26.80/6.9	0.0709	0.142	0.0614
Oxidoreductases							
9	prolyl 4-hydroxylase subunit alpha-2 precursor X1	gi 55925444	p4ha2	58.80/5.46	0.0145	0.0088	0.02
16	PREDICTED: glutathione reductase, mitochondrial isoform X2	gi 528500417	gsr	50.70/6.92	0.076	0.123	0.086
19	4-hydroxyphenyl pyruvate dioxygenase	gi 51230599	hpd	44.60/5.84	0.0254	0.0125	0.0117
31	electron transfer flavoprotein subunit alpha, mitochondrial	gi 38707985	etfa	35.10/6.91	0.0178	0.0087	0.0101
32	malate dehydrogenase, mitochondrial	gi 47085883	mdh	35.40/8.4	0.024	0.0231	0.0167
40	glutathione S-transferase pi	gi 18858197	gstp1	23.50/8.17	0.00562	0.0112	0.032
41	flavin reductase	gi 50540440	fre	21.10/8.72	0.00869	0.0133	0.0282
Nucleic acid binding proteins							
1	CDC48	gi 34740143	CDC48	89.40/5.13	0.0661	0.0233	0.0202
11	UV excision repair protein RAD23 homolog B isoform X1	gi 528512712	RAD23B	40.00/4.62	0.0198	0.0278	0.0268
14	Sjogren syndrome antigen B (autoantigen La)	gi 41054695	ssb	46.10/6.68	0.0568	0.0613	0.0345
18	PREDICTED:	gi 52849	hnmpab	36.10/5.2	0.0238	0.016	0.0101

	heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein A/B isoform X1	9299					
27	heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein A/B	gi 47086935	HNRNPA B	34.20/6.85	0.112	0.145	0.117
33	elongation factor 1-beta isoform X2	gi 528481866	eef1b2	15.60/4.16	0.0747	0.0789	0.142
Calcium-binding proteins							
10	calreticulin 3b precursor	gi 50355968	calr3b	48.30/4.34	0.0569	0.0598	0.152
24	Annexin A1a	gi 31419751	anxa1a	37.70/5.93	0.142	0.167	0.113
28	Annexin A2a	gi 38566042	anxa2a	38.10/7.56	0.122	0.178	0.118
37	translationally-controlled tumor protein homolog	gi 37700237	tpt1	19.00/4.52	0.126	0.115	0.226
Protein kinase activity-related proteins							
25	Si:dkey-180p18.9 protein	gi 63101286	Si:dkey-180p18.9	38.90/6.55	0.0453	0.0520	0.0589
34	adenylate kinase 2, mitochondrial isoform X1	gi 528510213	ak2	25.80/5.53	0.0256	0.0141	0.0165
Transporters							
23	inorganic pyrophosphatase	gi 62955639	ppa	32.60/5.25	0.0636	0.0587	0.102
Metal ion binding proteins							
7	transketolase isoform X3	gi 528517580	Tkt	63.00/7.21	0.148	0.311	0.223
Others							
12	uncharacterized protein LOC405841 precursor	gi 47086229	LOC405841	54.60/4.92	0.0198	0.0278	0.0372
35	proteasome subunit alpha type-1	gi 51010945	psma1	29.20/6.20	0.0228	0.0202	0.0493
36	bisphosphoglyce	gi 38488	pgam1a	28.90/6.1	0.0130	0.0169	0.0134

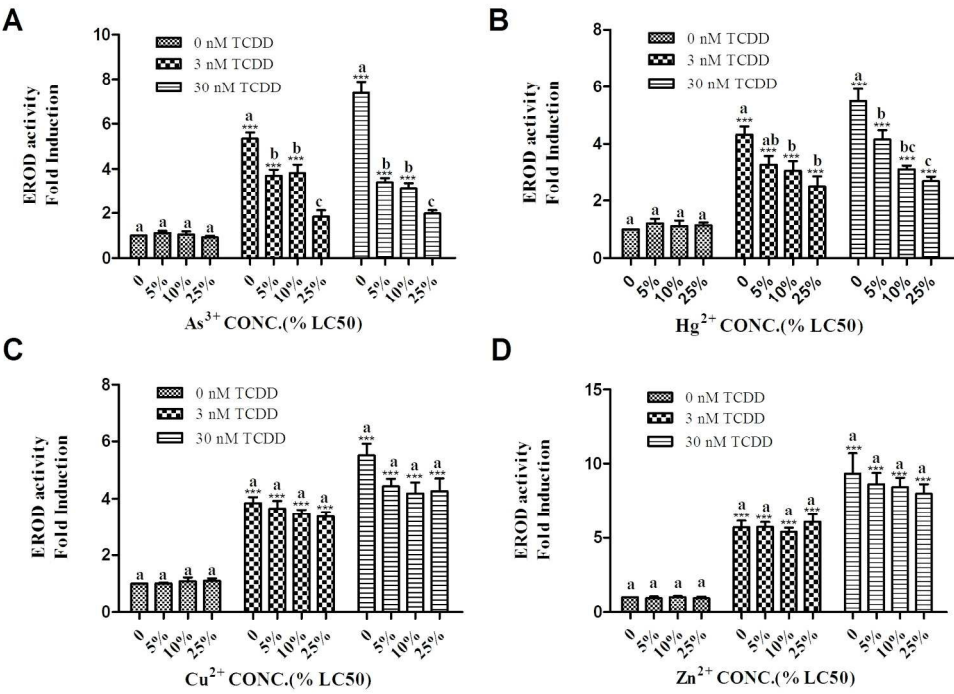
	rate mutase 1a	700		9			
38	uncharacterized protein LOC100145226	gi 18760 8635	LOC1001 45226	22.30/6.0 8	0.0289	0.0183	0.0176



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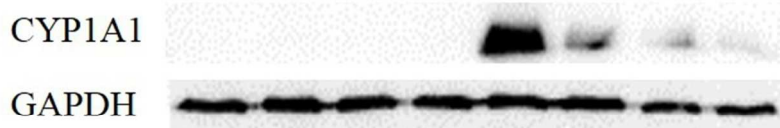


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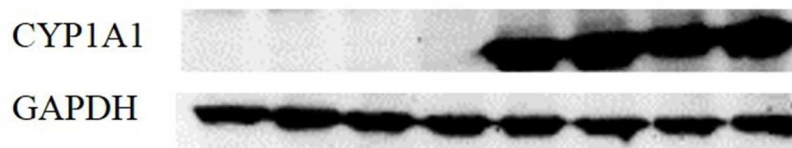


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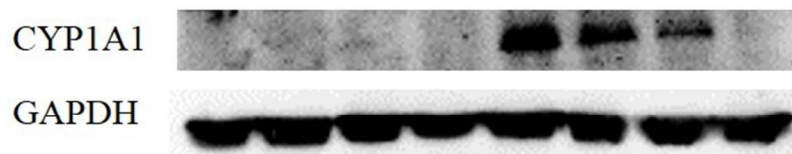
TCDD (nM)	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
As ³⁺ (%LC 50)	0	5	10	25	0	5	10	25



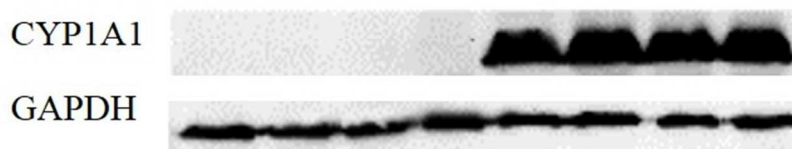
TCDD (nM)	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Cu ²⁺ (%LC 50)	0	5	10	25	0	5	10	25



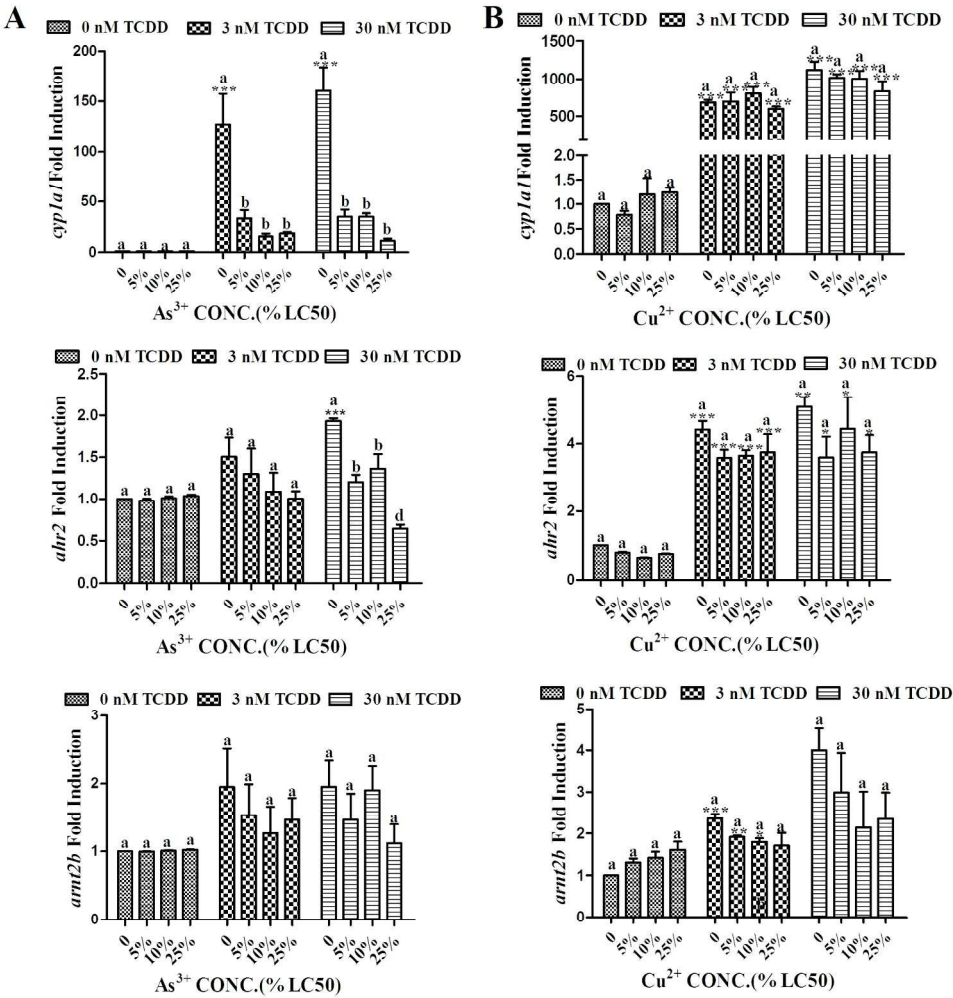
TCDD (nM)	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Hg ²⁺ (%LC 50)	0	5	10	25	0	5	10	25



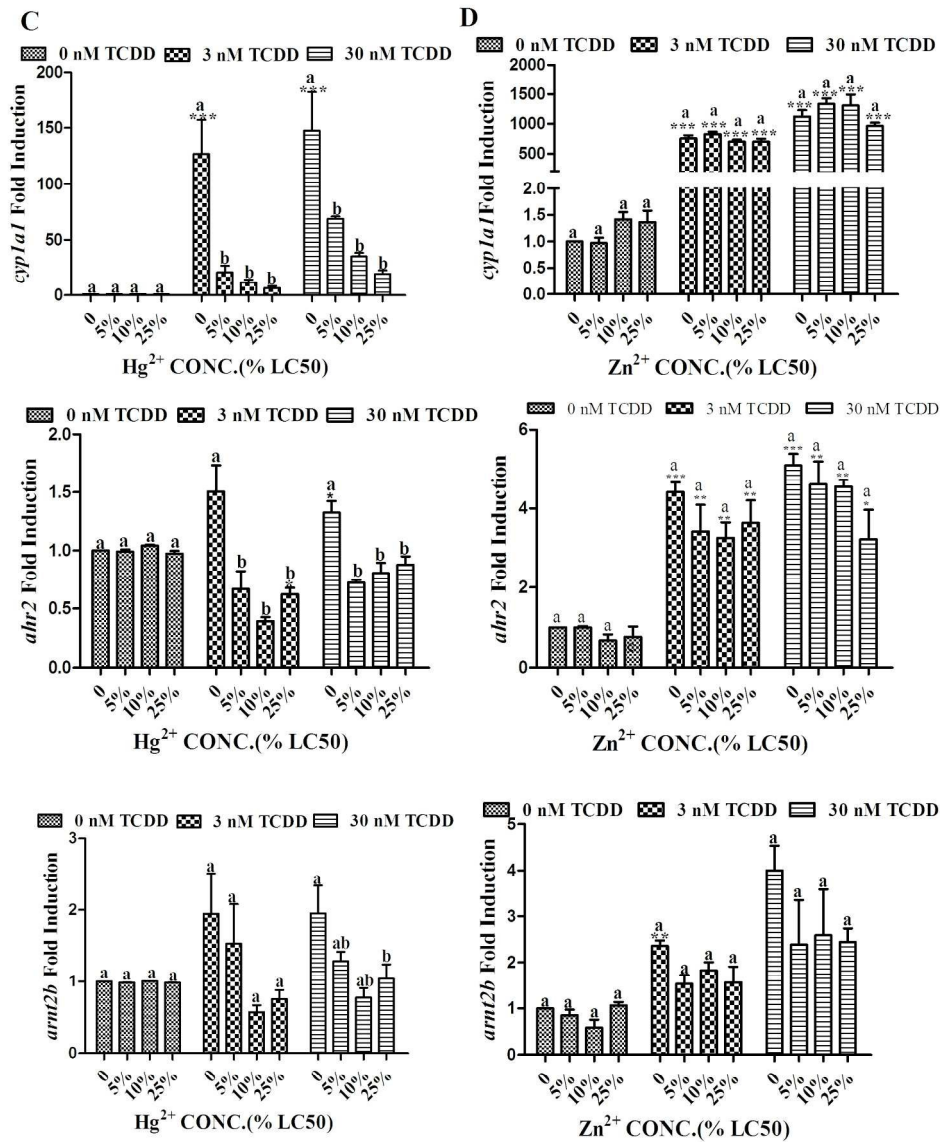
TCDD (nM)	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Zn ²⁺ (%LC 50)	0	5	10	25	0	5	10	25



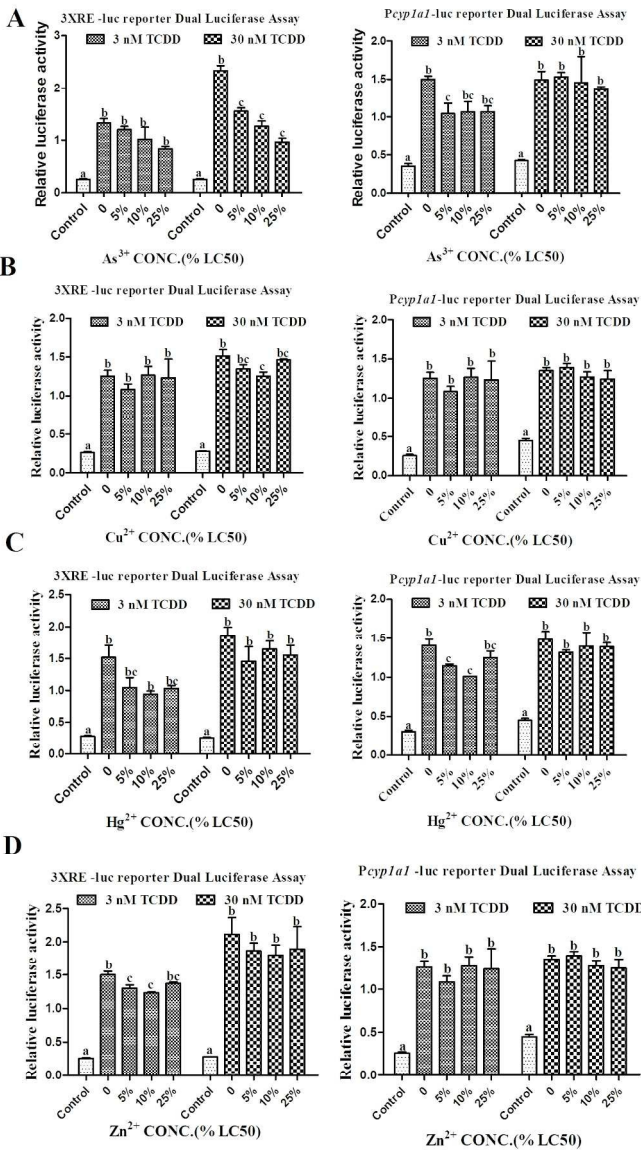
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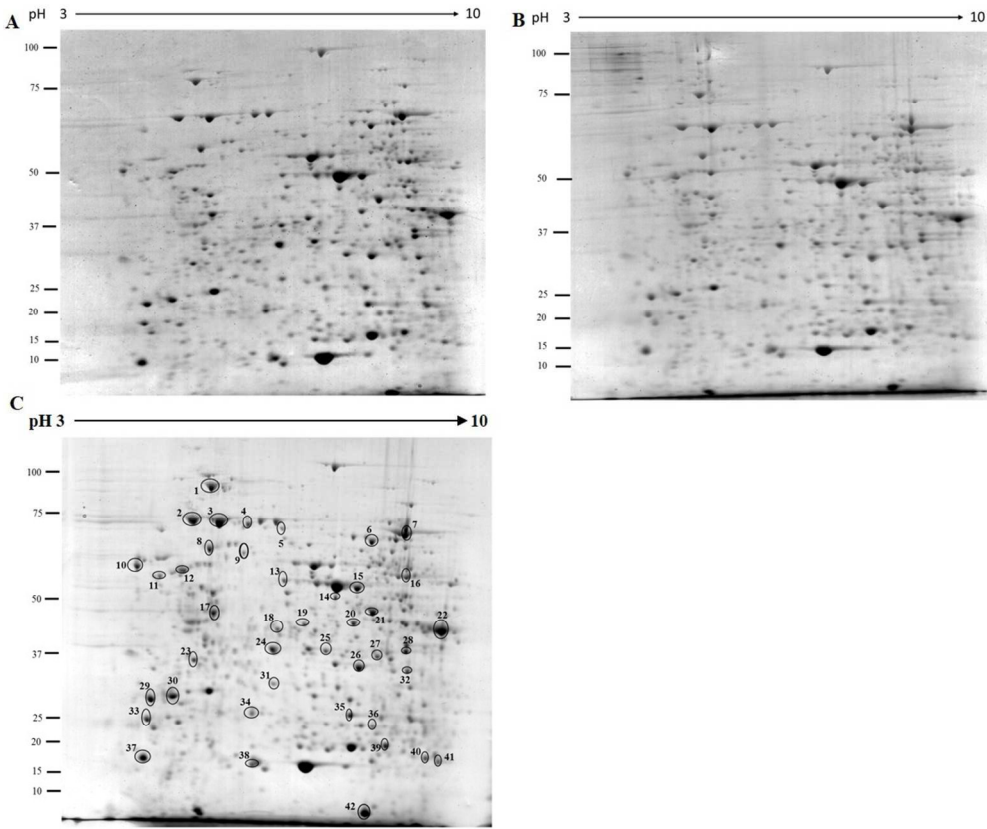
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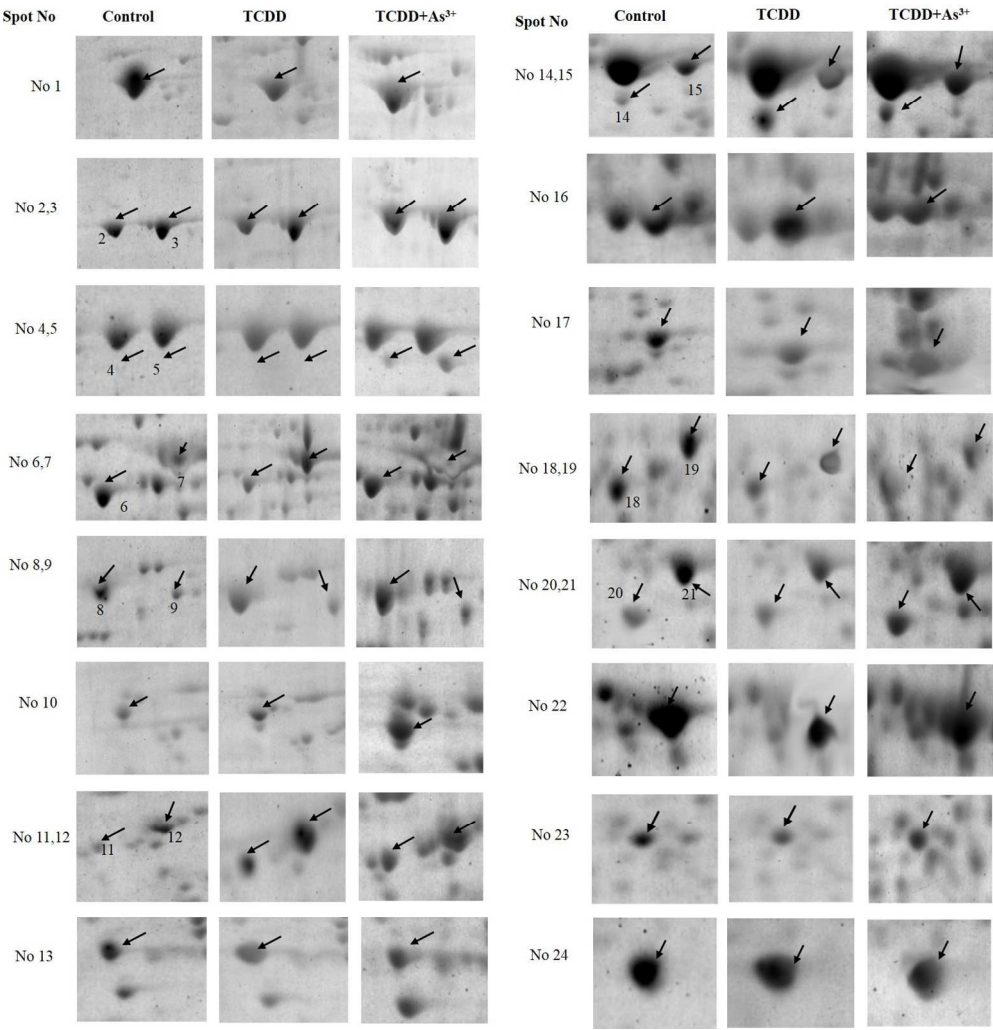
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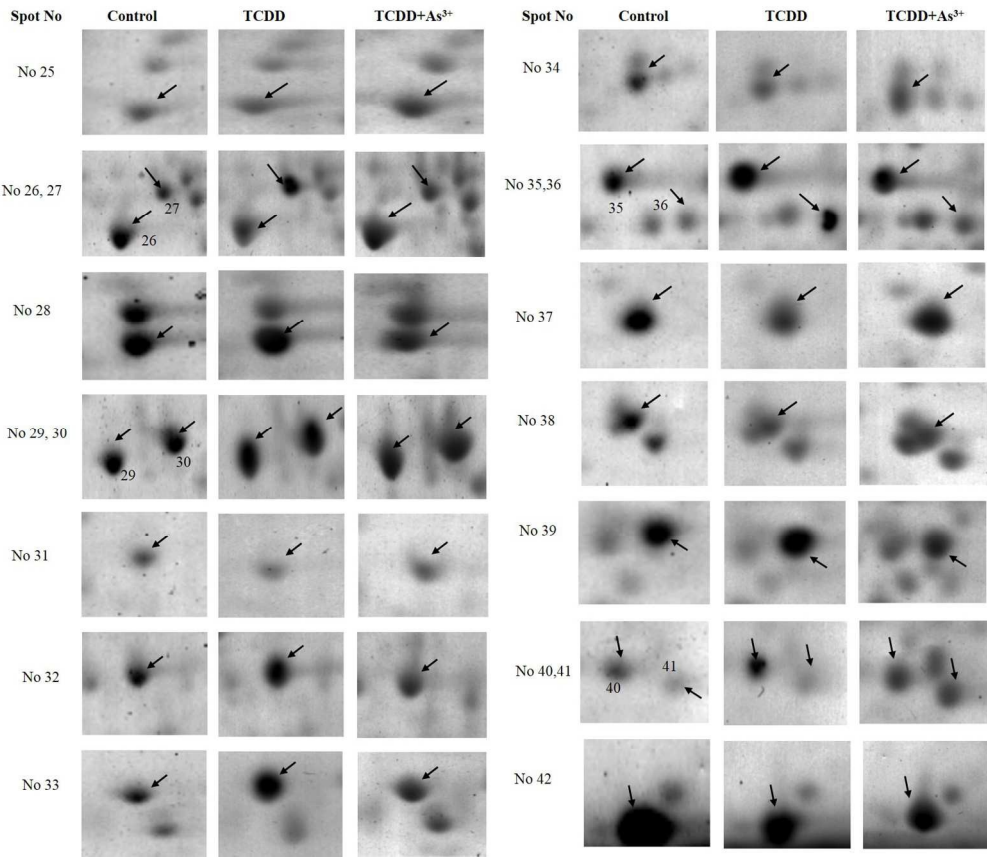
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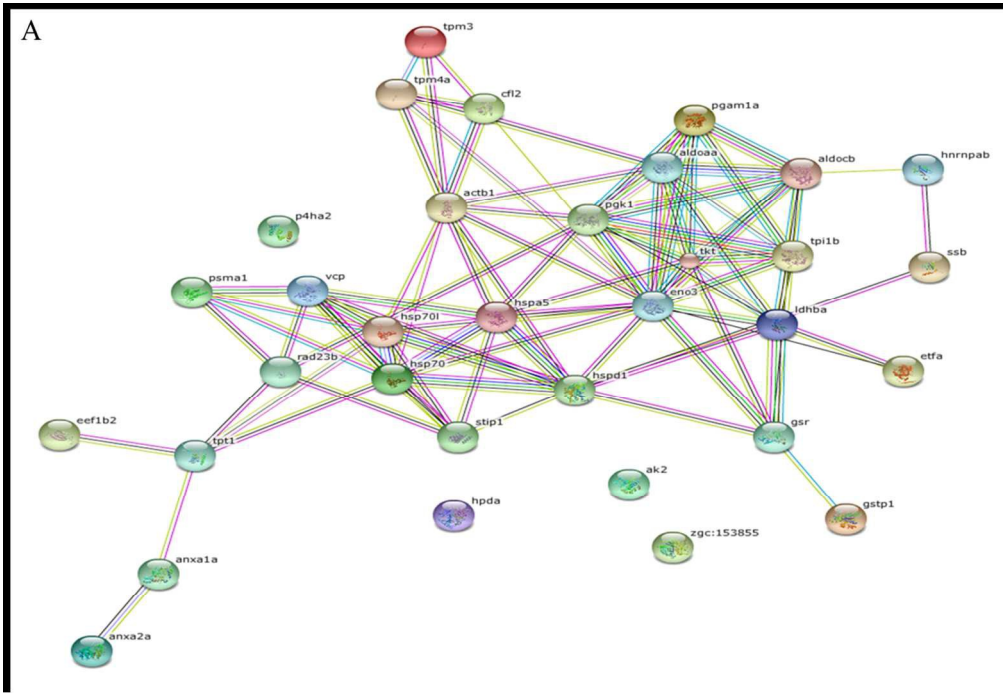
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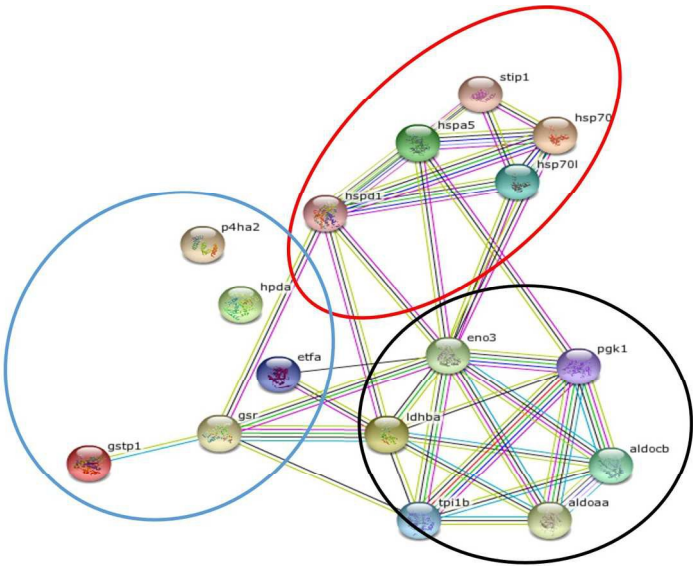


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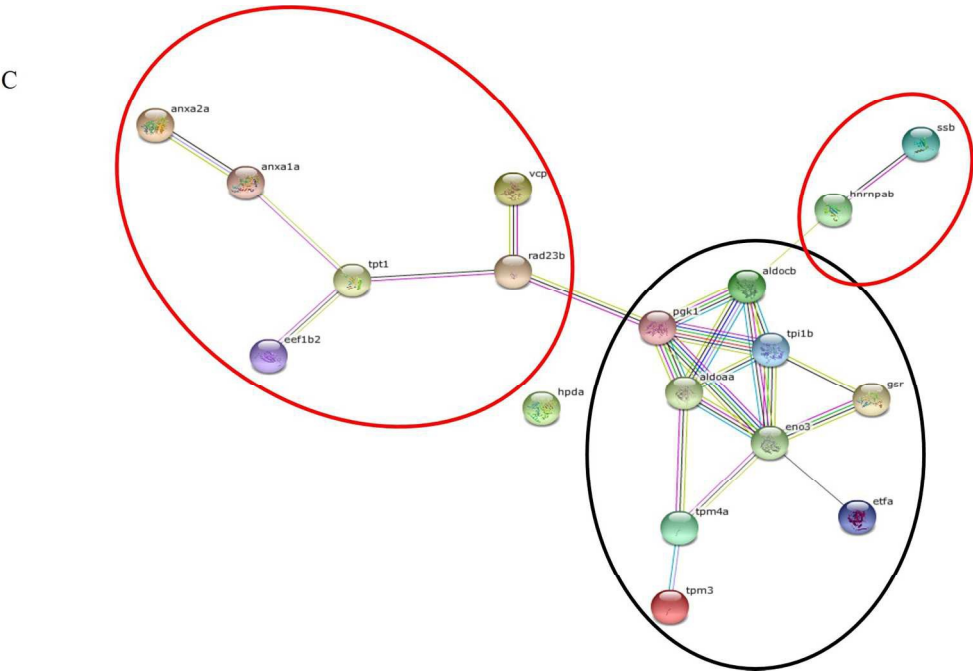
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