

1 **Phenolic and microbial-targeted metabolomics to discovering and**
2 **evaluating wine intake biomarkers in human urine and plasma**

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28 **Abbreviations used:** AUC, area under the curve; DHPV, dihydroxyphenyl- γ -
29 valerolactone; DRW, dealcoholized red wine; MRM, multiple reaction monitoring;
30 PCA, principal component analysis; PM, prediction model; ROC, receiver operating
31 characteristic; RW, red wine; T_{max}, time to maximum; t_{1/2}, half-life.

32 **Keywords:** exposure biomarkers / nutrimetabolomics / logistic regression models /
33 targeted metabolomics / wine

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35

36 **ABSTRACT**

37 The discovery of biomarkers of intake in nutritional epidemiological studies is essential
38 in establishing an association between dietary intake (considering their bioavailability)
39 and diet-related risk factors for diseases. The aim is to study urine and plasma phenolic
40 and microbial profile by targeted metabolomics approach in a wine intervention clinical
41 trial for discovering and evaluating food intake biomarkers.

42 High-risk male volunteers (n=36) were included in a randomized, crossover intervention
43 clinical trial. After a washout period, subjects received red wine or gin, or dealcoholized
44 red wine over 4 weeks. Fasting plasma and 24-h urine were collected at baseline and
45 after each intervention period. A targeted metabolomic analysis of 70 host and
46 microbial phenolic metabolites was performed using UPLC-MS/MS. Metabolites were
47 subjected to stepwise logistic regression to establish prediction models and received
48 operation curves were performed to evaluate biomarkers.

49 Prediction models based mainly on gallic acid metabolites, obtained sensitivity,
50 specificity and area under the curve (AUC) for the training and validation sets of
51 between 91% and 98% for urine and between 74% and 91% for plasma. Resveratrol,
52 ethylgallate and gallic acid metabolite groups in urine samples also resulted in being
53 good predictors of wine intake (AUC>87%). However, lower values for metabolites
54 were obtained in plasma samples. The highest correlations between fasting plasma and
55 urine were obtained for the prediction model score ($r=0.6$, $P<0.001$), followed by gallic
56 acid metabolites ($r=0.5-0.6$, $P<0.001$). This study provides new insights into the
57 discovery of food biomarkers in different biological samples.

58

59 **1 Introduction**

60 Biomarkers in epidemiological and clinical trials have to be indicators of exposure and
61 must have several characteristics, including being robust, sensitive to changes, specific
62 to the dietary source and biologically and physiologically understandable [1]. In the
63 food research field, this means that biomarkers have to be an objective measure of
64 intake and an evaluated indicator of food intervention [2]. There has been much in-
65 depth discussion concerning their ability to solve classical problems regarding
66 estimating an index of quantitative exposure to individual food [1-3], and recently,
67 identifying dietary patterns that may be related to major health benefits. Hence, there is
68 an increased interest in biomarker research for the development of new functional
69 foods, as well as for the validation of existing biomarkers [4]. Therefore, global
70 metabolic approaches need to be carried out in order to evaluate the role of individual or
71 groups of metabolites in the discrimination of selected food consumption.

72 After consumption of polyphenols, beneficial health effects in the prevention of diseases
73 have been widely analysed in *in vivo* and *in vitro* studies [5-7]. In particular, the
74 consumption of grape-derived products such as red wine (RW) and dealcoholized RW
75 (DRW) has been associated with a protective effect against cardiovascular diseases,
76 possibly through their anti-inflammatory and antihypertensive activities [5, 8]. These
77 associations were first linked to phytochemicals found in foods, which could exert their
78 biological activity. However, in recent years there has been increasing attention paid to
79 the metabolites formed in the organism, especially those formed by microbiota, due to
80 their role in the prevention of some diseases such as obesity and diabetes [9, 10]. This
81 supposes an increase in the variety of metabolites found in biofluids after consumption,
82 and therefore an increased number of possible food biomarkers [11]. Moreover, new
83 targeted and untargeted approaches have also increased the range of metabolites found

84 in biofluids, allowing the use of metabolomic tools for a new approach in biomarker
85 research. In the case of RW, resveratrol metabolites have been described as being good
86 biomarkers of wine intake [12, 13], and gallic acid has also been suggested as a marker,
87 due to its increased excretion after wine consumption [14]. Both compounds were
88 determined in 24-h urine. This sample has been suggested as being better for biomarker
89 determination than others but since it is difficult to obtain in large epidemiological
90 studies [1, 12-14], other samples such as fasting plasma need to be assessed for their
91 potential to identify biomarkers.

92 Here, we study the phenolic and microbial profile by a targeted metabolomics approach
93 in a wine intervention clinical trial for the discovery and evaluation of biomarkers of
94 wine intake considering both fasting plasma and 24-h urine samples.

95

96

97 **2 Materials and Methods**

98 **2.1 Subjects and study design**

99 Thirty-six volunteers were included for the study of the targeted phenolic metabolite
100 profile. The study was an open, randomized, crossover and controlled clinical
101 intervention trial comprising three 4-week periods [5]. Baseline characteristics of
102 participants and inclusion and exclusion criteria are given in detail in the Supporting
103 Information and Supporting Information Table S1. After following a 15-day run-in
104 period free of grape-derived products and alcoholic beverages, subjects were requested
105 to consume 272 mL of RW (30 g ethanol/day), 272 mL of DRW and 100 mL of gin (30
106 g ethanol/day) every day for 4 weeks, following the same background diet. Fasting
107 blood samples (n=33) and 24-h urine samples (n=36) were collected after each
108 intervention period and immediately stored at $-80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ until analysis. The Institutional
109 Review Board of the hospital approved the study protocol. All participants gave written
110 consent before participation in the study. This trial was registered in the Current
111 Controlled Trials at the International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number
112 Register, at controlled-trials.com, as ISRCTN88720134.

113

114 **2.2 Chemicals and reagents**

115 Chemical reagents and solvents used in this study are detailed in Supporting
116 Information.

117

118 **2.3 Red wine, dealcoholized red wine and gin**

119 The RW and DRW used in this study were made with the Merlot grape variety, from the
120 Penedès appellation (Catalonia, Spain). No differences in phenolic composition were

121 found between wines (Supporting Information Table S2) [15]. Xoriguer gin was used to
122 ensure the same alcoholic consumption as the RW period.

123

124 **2.4 Sample extraction**

125 The targeted analyses of microbial-derived and conjugated metabolites were performed
126 using solid-phase extraction. Oasis® MCX and HLB 96-well plates (Waters, Milford,
127 Massachusetts) were used in hydrolyzed and non-hydrolyzed samples, respectively, as
128 previously described [16-18]. Briefly, urine and plasma samples (1 mL) were loaded
129 onto the conditioned cartridge plate. Then the cartridges were washed and analytes were
130 eluted with methanol or acidified methanol (0.1% formic acid), respectively. Eluates
131 from both extraction methods were evaporated to dryness under a gentle stream of
132 nitrogen gas [17]. Residues were reconstituted with 100 µL of taxifolin (1.64 µmol/L)
133 dissolved in mobile phase [16, 18].

134

135 **2.5 UPLC-MS/MS analysis**

136 The analysis of metabolites in urine and plasma was performed by UPLC-MS/MS
137 equipped with a binary solvent manager and a refrigerated autosampler plate (Waters
138 Acquity UPLC system, Milford, MA, USA), coupled to an AB Sciex API 3000 triple
139 quadrupole mass spectrometer equipped with a turbo ion spray, in a negative
140 electrospray ionization mode (PE Sciex). An Acquity UPLC BEH C18 (Milford, MA,
141 USA) (1.7 µm, 2.1 mm × 5 mm), using a pre-filter, working at 40 °C with 0.5 mL/min
142 with an injection volume of 5 µL, was used as described before [16]. Mobile phase A
143 (0.1% formic acid) and B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) were used at a flow rate of
144 500 µL/min with the following proportions (v/v) of phase A [t(min),%A]: (0,92);

145 (2.5,50); (2.6,0); (3,0); (3.1,92); (3.5,92). The MS/MS parameters used were as
146 previously described [16, 17].

147

148 **2.6 Quantitative analysis**

149 For quantification purposes, data were collected using the multiple reaction monitoring
150 (MRM) mode (Table 1 and Table 2) with a dwell time of 10 ms. When commercial
151 standards were not available, concentrations were quantified using the most similar
152 compound standard curve. Results were expressed as their equivalents [16]. The mean
153 recovery of analytes ranged from 87% to 109%, and accuracy and precision of analytes
154 at different concentrations were <15% [16, 17].

155

156 **2.7 Statistical analysis**

157 Two statistical programs for data analysis were used: the MetaboAnalyst Web-based
158 platform [19] and IBM SPSS Statistics software program for Windows version 20
159 (Chicago, IL). The overall approach is described with the following steps: i) Data
160 normalization of quantified phenolic metabolites was performed by a cube root
161 transformation and a range scaling of the data; ii) This data retrieved an unsupervised
162 segregation by principal component analysis (PCA) and hierarchical clustering analysis;
163 iii) ANOVA for repeated measures was used to compare changes in phenolic
164 metabolites in plasma and urine after intervention treatments (Bonferroni post hoc test);
165 iv) Among the metabolites that displayed significantly different levels between wine
166 interventions and baseline or gin period, a binary stepwise logistic regression analysis
167 was performed to assess which metabolite combination predicted the wine intervention.
168 For this purpose, 80% of random samples of wine interventions and baseline or gin
169 periods were used as a training set, in which the logistic regression model was

170 calculated, and the remaining samples of each group (20%) were used as a validation
171 set; v) The sensitivity, specificity and area under the curve (AUC) of the model were
172 compared with parameters of phenolic metabolite groups in the whole population
173 through a receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve. The phenolic metabolite
174 groups in urine and plasma are described in Supporting Information Table S3. In
175 addition to the metabolites analysed in this study, resveratrol data from previous
176 analysis [15] were included to be evaluated and compared, since resveratrol has already
177 been described as a wine intake biomarker [12, 13].

178 The optimal cut-off for the ROC curves was determined through the identification of the
179 shortest distance to the optimal point (0,1) for which specificity and sensitivity was
180 calculated.

181 To estimate the association between fasting plasma and 24-h urine in the prediction
182 models and within the phenolic metabolite groups, the Spearman correlation
183 coefficients were calculated. Statistical significance was defined as $P \leq 0.05$.

184 **3 Results**

185 **3.1 Urine and plasma analysis of targeted polyphenol metabolomic pattern**

186 Nineteen individual metabolites and conjugates of (epi)catechin, methyl(epi)catechin
187 and dihydroxyphenyl- γ -valerolactone (DHPV), and 10 phenolic acids including
188 methylgallic sulfate and the group of total resveratrol metabolites significantly increased
189 in urine after RW or DRW interventions compared to the baseline or gin periods (Table
190 1). Only ethylgallate metabolites showed a statistically significant difference between
191 both wine periods of intake. The plasma metabolites that increased after the wine
192 interventions in relation to the baseline or gin periods included 10 phenolic acids, such
193 as gallic acid and DHPV and their conjugates (Table 2).

194 The PCA differentiated easily between urinary samples from RW and DRW
195 interventions and samples from those in the baseline or gin period (Supporting
196 Information Fig. S1A). PC1 explained 41.9% of the total variance while PC2 explained
197 7.6% of the total variance, where the loading plot showed that gallic acid, ethylgallate
198 and resveratrol metabolites were mainly responsible for this difference (data not
199 shown). The clustering analysis executed by the heat map compared the metabolites of
200 the participants in the four intervention periods. This was used as a first approach to
201 assess the possible use of phenolic groups as biomarkers of wine consumption. A
202 progression in the strongest discriminatory signals was observed in the heat map
203 (Supporting Information Fig. S1B). The strongest discriminatory signals were observed
204 for resveratrol, gallic acid and ethylgallate metabolites, followed by (epi)catechin and
205 valerolactone metabolites, and the least discriminatory signals were those of phenolic
206 acids.

207

208 **3.2 Evaluation of food intake biomarkers**

209 The applicability of a logistic regression model involving multiple metabolites was
210 examined to find the best markers of wine consumption in hydrolyzed and non-
211 hydrolyzed fasting plasma and 24-h urine samples from a clinical study in the training
212 set. Metabolites that displayed significantly different levels between wine interventions
213 and the baseline or gin period were subjected to a stepwise variable selection method.
214 The results of the model for each type of sample are shown in Table 3. Metabolites
215 included in the models did not display multicollinearity (data not shown). Both groups
216 of resveratrol (resveratrol biomarker and microbial resveratrol metabolites) showed
217 AUC over 96% and were analyzed only in non-hydrolyzed urine samples. Therefore,
218 they were excluded from the logistic regression to be able to compare models with the
219 same metabolites between different samples. The validity of the model was confirmed
220 with the validation set and then applied to the whole population. The results of
221 sensitivity, specificity and AUC for the model were higher than 92% and 74% for urine
222 and fasting plasma samples, respectively, among training and validation sets, and for the
223 whole population (Table 4). The global performance of the model for each kind of
224 sample considering the whole population was depicted in the ROC curves (Supporting
225 Information Fig. S2) and compared with the results obtained for the different phenolic
226 groups (Table 4 and Supporting Information Fig. S2). In hydrolyzed urine, the best
227 sensitivity, specificity and AUC were obtained for the model, followed by ethylgallate.
228 In non-hydrolyzed urine samples, the groups of ethylgallate, methylgallic and
229 resveratrol metabolites (AUC: 93–99%) resulted in being better discriminators of wine
230 intake than (epi)catechin and DHPV metabolites (AUC: 76–86%). The best sensitivity
231 and specificity were obtained for the model and for microbial resveratrol metabolites
232 (cut-off value: 1424.19 $\mu\text{mol}/24\text{-h}$), and closely followed by the resveratrol biomarker.
233 Plasma metabolites were weaker indicators of wine intake. Only the model in both

234 hydrolyzed and non-hydrolyzed samples and methylgallic sulfate in non-hydrolyzed
235 samples had an AUC over 80%, which matched the results obtained in the prediction
236 model.

237

238 **3.3 Correlations between fasting plasma and 24-h urine**

239 Correlations of individual metabolites, phenolic metabolite groups and the prediction
240 model between 24-h urine and fasting plasma samples were performed (Table 5). The
241 highest correlations were obtained for the prediction model score in both hydrolyzed
242 and non-hydrolyzed samples ($r=0.565$ and 0.599 , $P<0.001$, respectively) (Table 5 and
243 Supporting Information Fig. S3), followed by the gallic acid metabolite group ($r=0.451$
244 and 0.587 , $P<0.001$, respectively). The group of flavan-3-ols and DHPV metabolites
245 had lower but significant correlation values ($r=0.4$, $P<0.001$) in non-hydrolyzed
246 samples.

247

248 **4 Discussion**

249 This is the first study in which phenolic metabolites from wine intake have been
250 systematically evaluated and trialled in quantitative approach for the discovery and
251 discrimination of food intake biomarkers.

252 In this work, up to 70 and 30 phenolic metabolites have been identified and quantified
253 in 24-h urine and fasting plasma samples, respectively, at baseline and after RW, DRW
254 and gin interventions using a UPLC-MS/MS targeted analysis. Only 19 metabolites of
255 (epi)catechin, methyl(epi)catechin and DHPV, 10 phenolic acids and resveratrol
256 metabolites resulted in being higher in urine after RW and DRW compared with
257 baseline or gin periods (Table 1). No differences were observed between RW and DRW
258 metabolites in plasma and urine except for urinary concentrations of ethylgallate and its
259 metabolites, whose concentration increased after the RW period ($P<0.001$). Ethylgallate
260 is a wine compound derived from ethanol and gallic acid esterification [20], with similar
261 concentration values in both wines (Supporting Information Table S1). The increment
262 observed after RW intake may be due to the fact that ethylgallate could also be formed
263 in the organism influenced by ethanol and gallate consumption through ethyl
264 esterification by human esterases or by microbial metabolism [21, 22]. Up to this point,
265 the results have shown individual statistical differences for metabolites between groups
266 or the baseline time period. Previous targeted studies on the metabolism of polyphenols
267 have also used these kind of approaches to evaluate statistical differences between
268 groups in searching for polyphenol biomarkers [14, 17, 23] and sometimes they only
269 focused on a few metabolites that could not represent the global fingerprint [14].

270 In this study, the metabolites that displayed significant differences between both wine
271 interventions and the baseline or gin period were selected as metabolite biomarker
272 candidates to be evaluated in the stepwise logistic regression analysis. This approach,

273 traditionally used in clinical diagnosis [24], allows the identification of combinations of
274 metabolites from several origins that increased their discriminate power regarding single
275 metabolites. To our knowledge, this approach has been applied for the first time in
276 targeted studies of polyphenol food research. Advantages over previous works were the
277 high number of metabolites quantified that were added to this new step, which allowed
278 the discrimination of those metabolites as better predictors of wine intake.

279 All of the metabolites included in the model (Table 3) could come from the microbial
280 degradation of several wine phenolics [11] and some of them are also present in wine
281 composition, such as gallic acid, ethylgallate and 2,4-dihydroxybenzoic acid [16, 25,
282 26]. Gallic acid could also be released from several compounds present in wine, such as
283 gallates and anthocyanins [14, 27]. 2,4-Dihydroxybenzoic acid has also been described
284 as coming from the degradation of anthocyanins [28] and 3-hydroxyphenylacetic and *p*-
285 coumaric acids, derived from procyanidins and anthocyanins, respectively [18, 29],
286 which can be found in high content in wine [25]. Other analysed phenolic acids were
287 not considered in the model since they were less discriminant as most arise from several
288 food compounds. Thus, these metabolites could be misleading if they were considered
289 as biomarkers, as has previously been suggested after the intake of berries [11, 30].

290 Once the model for each kind of sample was obtained, the AUC, sensitivity and
291 specificity and ROC curves evaluated their capacity to discriminate wine consumers. In
292 addition, these values were compared with those corresponding to phenolic metabolite
293 groups (Table 4 and Supporting Information Fig. S2). The resveratrol biomarker and
294 microbial resveratrol metabolites had similar values to the model, with AUC values of
295 96.5 and 98.8%, respectively. Until now, phase II metabolites of resveratrol have been
296 proposed as good biomarkers of wine intake [12, 13], but microbial-derived metabolites
297 have not been evaluated before. As was discussed above, one of the characteristics of a

298 good biomarker is being specific to food intake, thus resveratrol is well known for being
299 almost exclusively distributed in grape products [31]. The fact to validate biomarkers is
300 of great importance since there is the need for objective measures of food exposure that
301 allow accurate measures taking into account their bioavailability [32]. Other phenolic
302 groups with good but lower AUC values than the model were ethylgallate and gallic
303 acid metabolites (Table 4). Thus, they could also be considered as biomarkers of wine
304 intake. Previously, some authors positively associated gallic acid and methylgallic acid
305 with the consumption of wine [33], but, to our knowledge, no associations have been
306 published for ethylgallate. Gallic acid has even been described as the main metabolite of
307 ethylgallate, with longer T_{max} and t_{1/2} than its parent compound [34]. Both ethylgallate
308 and gallic acid have been described in other foods, such as grape products, wine and
309 vinegar, and tea, nuts and berries [25]. Other metabolites such as (epi)catechin and
310 valerolactones were less discriminant than those described metabolites and the model.
311 Although the concentrations of flavan-3-ols are high in wine, they are not exclusively of
312 wine since metabolites have been described after cocoa, tea or nut consumption [18, 35,
313 36]. As far as we know, previous studies have evaluated a single or groups of
314 metabolites as biomarkers of specific food consumption. Therefore, as commented
315 above, a same biomarker could be associated to different foods. Here, the application of
316 this targeted metabolomic approach allows to define a specific biomarker imprinting of
317 wine intake.

318 The type of sample matrix in which biomarkers are measured also influences biomarker
319 evaluation [37]. Twenty-four hour urine has been described as the gold standard sample
320 for biomarker evaluation [38] and it provides a better measure of total polyphenol
321 metabolites than fasting plasma as it provides a better index of intake [1]. However, for
322 practical reasons, 24-h urine is not an easy sample to obtain in large-scale

323 epidemiological studies [1]. Consequently, we have assessed that fasting plasma should
324 be considered for biomarker determination. In this study, individual and phenolic
325 metabolite groups along with the score obtained from the prediction model (Supporting
326 Information Fig. S3) were correlated between fasting plasma and 24-h urine (Table 5).
327 The best correlations were observed among model scores from hydrolyzed and non-
328 hydrolyzed samples, indicating that those volunteers that were better classified as wine
329 consumers were done so through both urine and plasma samples ($r=0.565$ and $r=0.599$,
330 respectively $P<0.001$). Valerolactones and gallic acid microbial metabolites that also
331 had significant correlations were selected for their important role as biomarkers in urine,
332 and possible presence in fasting plasma due to their longer half-life [34, 36].
333 Ethylgallate could not be evaluated due to the low concentrations obtained in plasma
334 since the T_{max} and half-lives of ethylgallate were expected to be lower than its main
335 metabolite gallic acid [34]. Although the coefficients of correlation were significant, the
336 r values were clinically moderate ($r < 0.750$) [37], which was similar to previous studies
337 that correlated urinary and plasma alkylresorcinol metabolites [37]. Correlations
338 between 24-h urine and fasting plasma have been previously described for total
339 flavonols in a crossover trial with a low flavonoid diet or with the same diet
340 supplemented with flavonols ($r=0.624$) [39], as well as for isoflavones, using spot
341 plasma ($r=0.99$) [40]. These correlations could open the possibility of finding those
342 metabolites in plasma and establishing them as biomarkers of consumption and effect,
343 but larger studies in a free-living population are needed to confirm and generalize this
344 statement. In addition, a problem with the fasting plasma, as suggested previously [41],
345 could be the substantial number of concentrations that are lower than the limit of
346 quantification due to the short half-lives of polyphenol metabolites.

347 This study proposes the use of a quantitative targeted metabolomics approach that
348 combines phenolic and microbial analysis, logistic regression joining with ROC curves
349 in interventional studies to identify, evaluate and compare single, groups of biomarkers
350 and the biomarker imprinting of wine intake. Correlations between fasting plasma and
351 urine provide the opportunity to discriminate metabolites that could be good urinary
352 biomarkers of consumption, both in urine and plasma. This approach is a promising tool
353 that has great potential for identifying possible food biomarkers to evaluate compliance
354 in clinical studies, identify eating patterns and make associations between polyphenol
355 consumption and health benefits.

356

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372

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TABLE LEGENDS

Table 1. Urinary concentrations of metabolites in 36 subjects at baseline and after the three intervention periods.

Table 2. Fasting plasma concentrations of metabolites in 33 subjects at baseline and after the three intervention periods.

Table 3. Urine and plasma metabolites in hydrolyzed and non-hydrolyzed samples selected by the stepwise logistic regression model for discriminating wine consumers obtained from the training set.

Table 4. Threshold (cut-off), sensitivity, specificity, AUC and confidence interval of phenolic metabolite group biomarkers and the prediction model.

Table 5. Spearman's correlations between fasting plasma and 24-h urine samples for individual, phenolic metabolite groups and the prediction model.

Table 1. Urinary concentrations of phenolic metabolites in 36 subjects at baseline and after the three intervention periods.^a

Metabolites	MRM	Urine samples (μmol , 24-h) ^b				<i>P</i> ^c
		BAS	RW	DRW	GIN	
<i>Hydroxybenzoic acids</i>						
4-Hydroxybenzoic acid	137/93	25.79±2.21 ^a	29.84±3.52 ^{a,b}	34.30±2.81 ^b	27.07±2.21 ^a	0.006
3-Hydroxybenzoic acid	137/93	3.77±1.27 ^{a,b}	4.11±0.89 ^{a,b}	5.67±1.57 ^b	2.97±0.9 ^a	0.001
2,4-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	153/109	1.57±0.17 ^a	2.47±0.35 ^b	2.67±0.37 ^b	1.62±0.22 ^a	<0.001
2,6-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	153/109	6.19±0.6 ^a	8.35±0.91 ^b	8.74±0.88 ^b	6.08±0.59 ^a	<0.001
2,5-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	153/109	16.23±1.65 ^a	24.79±2.91 ^b	27.29±2.9 ^b	17.2±2.2 ^a	<0.001
3,5-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	153/109	3.93±0.66 ^{a,c}	6.41±1.01 ^{a,b}	7.57±1.26 ^b	3.97±0.72 ^c	0.006
Protocatechuic acid	153/109	12.10±1.15	13.07±1.27	14.45±1.66	11.29±1.19	0.09
Syringic acid	197/121	0.73±0.15 ^a	1.91±0.43 ^b	2.03±0.32 ^b	0.70±0.17 ^a	<0.001
4-Hydroxyhippuric acid	194/100	54.05±5.42	58.83±4.47	72.13±9.02	53.63±5.69	0.09
3-Hydroxyhippuric acid	194/150	192.30±39.81	204.09±38.07	237.58±54.21	169.25±34.57	0.19
<i>Gallic acid metabolites</i>						
Gallic acid	169/125	0.85±0.18 ^a	5.61±0.49 ^b	4.76±0.53 ^b	0.73±0.17 ^a	<0.001
Methylgallic acid ^e	167/108	2.97±0.42 ^a	4.37±0.62 ^b	4.76±0.68 ^b	3.03±0.41 ^a	<0.001
Methylgallic sulfate ^{d,e}	263/183	2.97±0.74 ^a	24.8±5.64 ^b	19.94±3.08 ^b	2.00±0.60 ^a	<0.001
<i>Ethylgallate metabolites</i>						
Ethylgallate	197/169	1.06±0.37 ^a	8.19±0.93 ^b	4.97±0.73 ^c	0.22±0.09 ^a	<0.001
Ethylgallate sulfate ^{d,e}	277/197	2.16±0.76 ^a	24.18±2.73 ^b	15.81±1.64 ^c	0.36±0.14 ^a	<0.001
Ethylgallate glucuronide 1 ^{d,e}	373/197	36.73±6.01 ^a	176.89±20.38 ^b	114.52±10.77 ^b	31.49±5.43 ^a	<0.001
Ethylgallate glucuronide 2 ^{d,e}	373/197	101.74±22.4 ^a	366.5±37.6 ^b	240.9±24.23 ^c	64.5±5.75 ^a	<0.001
<i>Hydroxyphenylacetic acids</i>						
Phenylacetic acid	135/91	22.15±2.21 ^{a,b}	25.49±2.40 ^{a,b}	27.66±3.00 ^a	21.31±2.17 ^b	0.005
3-Hydroxyphenylacetic acid	151/107	24.72±3.50 ^a	52.27±6.76 ^b	56.57±6.9 ^b	19.74±2.51 ^a	<0.001
2-Hydroxyphenylacetic acid	151/107	5.89±0.40 ^{a,b}	6.48±0.55 ^{a,b}	7.41±0.54 ^b	5.76±0.49 ^a	0.008
3,4-Dihydroxyphenylacetic acid	167/123	1.61±0.17 ^a	1.98±0.17 ^{a,b}	2.37±0.24 ^b	2.12±0.32 ^{a,b}	0.026
Homovanillic acid	181/137	164.35±13.99	185.49±21.12	215.13±25.55	166.92±23.28	0.09
<i>Hydroxycinnamic acids</i>						
<i>m</i> -Coumaric acid	163/119	0.54±0.09 ^{a,b}	0.86±0.20 ^a	0.83±0.20 ^{a,b}	0.40±0.06 ^b	0.005
<i>p</i> -Coumaric acid	163/119	0.64±0.07 ^a	1.75±0.35 ^b	1.48±0.15 ^b	0.55±0.08 ^a	<0.001

<i>o</i> -Coumaric acid	163/119	0.07±0.02	0.11±0.05	0.10±0.03	0.13±0.03	0.19
Caffeic acid	179/135	5.42±0.34 ^a	5.84±0.47 ^{ab}	7.05±0.55 ^b	4.83±0.45 ^a	<0.001
Ferulic acid	193/134	11.80±0.98 ^a	15.7±1.79 ^{ab}	15.25±0.94 ^b	11.16±0.83 ^a	0.002
Sinapic acid	223/164	0.99±0.18	1.25±0.19	1.43±0.2	1.18±0.26	0.091
<i>Hydroxyphenylpropionic acids</i>						
3-(3-Hydroxyphenyl) propionic acid	165/121	6.22±1.09 ^a	7.13±1.26 ^{ab}	10.07±2.05 ^b	4.70±0.87 ^a	<0.001
3-(4-Hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid	165/121	287.44±27.16	371.63±45.16	389.2±39.36	313.3±36.76	0.06
Dihydrocaffeic acid	181/137	14.09±1.39 ^{ab}	16.22±1.75 ^{ab}	17.29±1.50 ^b	12.87±1.51 ^a	0.018
<i>Flavan-3-ols</i>^e						
∑(Epi)catechin glucuronides ^d	465/289	9.42±1.58 ^a	24.15±3.20 ^b	26.61±5.39 ^b	6.72±1.87 ^a	<0.001
∑(Epi)catechin sulfates ^d	369/289	3.04±0.49 ^a	10.17±1.44 ^b	10.69±1.66 ^b	2.50±0.44 ^a	<0.001
∑ Methyl(epi)catechin glucuronides ^d	479/303	3.76±0.93 ^a	15.95±2.41 ^b	13.84±2.74 ^b	3.32±0.84 ^a	<0.001
∑ Methyl(epi)catechin sulfates ^d	383/303	10.87±1.94 ^a	25.27±2.92 ^b	25.64±3.39 ^b	7.33±1.9 ^a	<0.001
<i>Glycinates</i>						
Vanilloylglycine	224/180	0.80±0.09 ^a	1.41±0.26 ^b	1.31±0.16 ^{ab}	0.80±0.13 ^a	0.001
Feruloylglycine	250/100	9.23±1.05	11.27±1.38	11.24±1.31	8.88±1.35	0.14
<i>Hydroxyphenylvalerolactones</i>^e						
DHPV 1	207/163	6.73±1.21 ^a	13.80±2.78 ^b	13.61±2.68 ^b	3.67±0.77 ^a	<0.001
DHPV 2	207/163	18.50±3.67 ^a	34.20±5.59 ^b	37.04±4.31 ^b	7.80±1.97 ^c	<0.001
∑ DHPV glucuronides ^d	383/207	70.62±14.54 ^a	157.76±27.06 ^b	177.49±24.62 ^b	36.52±8.84 ^a	<0.001
∑ DHPV sulfates ^d	287/207	527.13±55.87 ^a	876.9±101.81 ^b	913.43±114.12 ^b	418.39±71.73 ^a	<0.001
MHPV	221/162	ND	ND	ND	ND	
MHPV glucuronide ^d	397/221	23.81±4.43 ^{ac}	37.36±6.57 ^{ab}	38.43±7.08 ^b	20.24±4.19 ^c	<0.001
∑MHPV sulfates ^d	301/221	32.29±5.52 ^{ab}	38.42±6.12 ^{ab}	43.13±6.52 ^b	24.9±4.26 ^a	0.006
<i>Stilbenes</i>^{d,f}						
Resveratrol Biomarker ^g	-	692.21±208.33 ^a	5352.45±661.99 ^b	5824.25±722.19 ^b	238.00±84.61 ^a	<0.001
∑Resveratrol Microbial Metabolites	-	506.39±107.97 ^a	4208.95±430.76 ^b	5230.62±508.44 ^b	283.86±76.23 ^a	<0.001
∑Total resveratrol metabolites	-	811.54±211.27 ^a	6282.25±770.39 ^b	7090.29±822.66 ^b	306.08±90.44 ^a	<0.001
<i>Other polyphenols</i>						
Enterolactone	297/254	8.73±1.10 ^a	11.4±2.19 ^{ab}	14.81±3.40 ^b	7.82±0.94 ^a	0.001
Pyrogallol	125/69	1.96±0.43 ^a	8.00±1.19 ^b	8.08±1.78 ^b	2.99±0.58 ^a	<0.001

^a BAS, baseline; DRW, dealcoholized red wine; DHPV, dihydroxyphenyl- γ -valerolactone; MHPV, methoxyhydroxyphenyl- γ -valerolactone; MRM, Multiple Reaction Monitoring; RW, red wine.

^b Results are expressed as mean \pm SEM.

^c Changes in variables were determined by using the ANOVA analysis for repeated measures. Means in a row with different superscript letters are significantly different, $P < 0.05$ (Bonferroni post hoc test).

^d Metabolites determined in non-hydrolyzed samples.

^e Identification of metabolites described previously by Boto-Ordoñez et al.[16]

^f Data obtained from a previous study by Rotches-Ribalta et al.[15]

^g Resveratrol Biomarker described by Zamora-Ros et al.[12].

Table 2. Fasting plasma concentrations of metabolites in 33 subjects at baseline and after the three intervention periods.^a

Metabolites	MRM	Plasma samples ($\mu\text{mol/L}$) ^b				<i>P</i> ^c
		BAS	RW	DRW	GIN	
<i>Hydroxybenzoic acids</i>						
4-Hydroxybenzoic acid	137/93	3.26±0.14	3.47±0.12	3.44±0.09	3.02±0.17	0.22
3-Hydroxybenzoic acid	137/93	ND	ND	ND	ND	
2,4-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	153/109	ND	ND	ND	ND	
2,6-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	153/109	0.08±0.01	0.10±0.01	0.10±0.01	0.08±0.01	0.38
2,5-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	153/109	0.04±0.01	0.05±0.01	0.07±0.02	0.03±0.01	0.08
3,5-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	153/109	ND	ND	ND	ND	
Protocatechuic acid	153/109	1.74±0.06	1.74±0.08	1.86±0.08	1.69±0.07	0.73
Syringic acid	197/121	ND	ND	ND	ND	
4-Hydroxyhippuric acid	194/100	0.17±0.02	0.16±0.02	0.17±0.02	0.15±0.01	0.85
3-Hydroxyhippuric acid	194/150	0.85±0.53	1.03±0.45	1.21±0.62	0.69±0.32	0.89
<i>Gallic acid metabolites</i>						
Gallic acid	169/125	0.02±0.001 ^a	0.04±0.005 ^b	0.03±0.002 ^{a,b}	0.02±0.002 ^a	<0.001
Methylgallic acid ^e	167/108	0.04±0.004 ^a	0.07±0.02 ^b	0.06±0.01 ^{a,b}	0.04±0.01 ^a	0.037
Methylgallic sulfate ^{d,e}	263/183	0.002±0.0004 ^a	0.02±0.004 ^b	0.01±0.002 ^b	0.001±0.0003 ^a	<0.001
<i>Ethylgallate metabolites</i>						
Ethylgallate	197/169	0.03±0.01	0.04±0.01	0.09±0.06	0.03±0.02	0.93
Ethylgallate sulfate ^{d,e}	277/197	ND	ND	ND	ND	
Ethylgallate glucuronide 1 ^{d,e}	373/197	0.10±0.018.9	0.36±0.21	0.12±0.03	0.17±0.07	0.16
Ethylgallate glucuronide 2 ^{d,e}	373/197	0.09±0.011.63	0.11±0.02	0.10±0.01	0.09±0.02	0.45
<i>Hydroxyphenylacetic acids</i>						
Phenylacetic acid	135/91	0.37±0.03	0.38±0.03	0.38±0.03	0.36±0.04	0.76
3-Hydroxyphenylacetic acid	151/107	0.22±0.03 ^a	0.38±0.06 ^{b,c}	0.40±0.04 ^b	0.24±0.04 ^{a,c}	0.002
2-Hydroxyphenylacetic acid	151/107	0.08±0.01	0.10±0.01	0.10±0.01	0.08±0.01	0.33
3,4-Dihydroxyphenylacetic acid	167/123	0.03±0.01	0.03±0.01	0.03±0.01	0.02±0.01	0.80
Homovanillic acid	181/137	ND	ND	ND	ND	
<i>Hydroxycinnamic acids</i>						
<i>p</i> -Coumaric acid	163/119	0.005±0.002 ^a	0.02±0.003 ^b	0.02±0.003 ^b	0.02±0.003 ^b	<0.001

<i>m</i> -Coumaric acid	163/119	ND	ND	ND	ND	
<i>o</i> -Coumaric acid	163/119	ND	ND	ND	ND	
Caffeic acid	179/135	0.09±0.01	0.09±0.01	0.11±0.01	0.08±0.01	0.19
Ferulic acid	193/134	1.63±0.06	1.65±0.06	1.69±0.06	1.55±0.04	0.56
Sinapic acid	223/164	ND	ND	ND	ND	
<i>Hydroxyphenylpropanoic acids</i>						
3-(4-Hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid	165/121	3.34±0.17	3.44±0.23	3.54±0.17	3.05±0.24	0.30
3-(3-Hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid	165/121	0.21±0.05	0.21±0.05	0.29±0.06	0.15±0.04	0.14
Dihydrocaffeic acid	181/137	ND	ND	ND	ND	
<i>Flavan-3-ols</i>^e						
(Epi)catechin glucuronide ⁴	465/289	0.02±0.01 ^a	0.05±0.01 ^b	0.04±0.01 ^b	0.02±0.01 ^a	<0.001
Methyl(epi)catechin glucuronide ⁴	479/303	0.01±0.001 ^{a,c}	0.03±0.01 ^b	0.02±0.01 ^{a,b}	0.01±0.001 ^c	0.004
<i>Glycynates</i>						
Vanilloylglycine	224/180	0.03±0.001	0.03±0.001	0.03±0.001	0.03±0.001	0.24
Feruloylglycine	250/100	0.08±0.002	0.09±0.003	0.09±0.003	0.08±0.003	0.44
<i>Hydroxyphenylvalerolactones</i>^e						
DHPV 1	207/163	0.07±0.02 ^{a,c}	0.16±0.03 ^b	0.10±0.02 ^{a,b}	0.04±0.02 ^c	<0.001
DHPV 2	207/163	0.17±0.04 ^{a,c}	0.45±0.1 ^b	0.29±0.06 ^{a,b}	0.10±0.03 ^c	<0.001
∑ DHPV glucuronides ^d	383/207	0.18±0.05 ^{a,b}	0.46±0.13 ^b	0.29±0.06 ^{a,b}	0.14±0.08 ^a	<0.001
∑ DHPV sulfates ^d	287/207	ND	ND	ND	ND	
MPHV	221/162	ND	ND	ND	ND	
MHPV glucuronide ^d	397/221	ND	ND	ND	ND	
∑ MPHV sulfates ^d	301/221	ND	ND	ND	ND	
<i>Other polyphenols</i>						
Enterolactone	297/254	0.01±0.002	0.01±0.002	0.02±0.01	0.01±0.002	0.18
Pyrogallol	125/69	ND	ND	ND	ND	

^a BAS, baseline; DRW, dealcoholized red wine; DHPV, dihydroxyphenyl-*c*-valerolactone; MHPV, Methoxy-hydroxyphenyl-valerolactone; MRM, Multiple Reaction Monitoring; ND, no detected; RW, red wine. ^b Results are expressed as mean ± SEM. ^c Changes in variables were determined by using the ANOVA analysis for repeated measures. Means in a row with different superscript letters are significantly different, $P < 0.05$ (Bonferroni post hoc test). ^d Metabolites determined in non-hydrolyzed samples. ^e Identification of metabolites described previously by Boto-Ordoñez et al. [16]

Table 3. Urine and plasma metabolites in hydrolyzed and non-hydrolyzed samples selected by the stepwise logistic regression model for discriminating wine consumers obtained from the training set

	Coefficient	Standard error	p value	Coefficient CI 95%
URINE				
<i>Hydrolyzed samples</i>				
2,4-Dihydroxybenzoic Acid	0.60	0.23	0.007	0.16, 1.05
Gallic Acid	0.84	0.24	<0.001	0.38, 1.31
Ethylgallate	0.48	0.18	0.009	0.12, 0.83
<i>Constant</i>	-4.47	0.94	<0.001	-6.31, -2.63
<i>Non-Hydrolyzed samples</i>				
Methylgallic Acid Sulfate	0.17	0.06	0.005	0.05, 0.29
Ethylgallate Sulfate	0.41	0.10	<0.001	0.21, 0.62
<i>Constant</i>	-4.19	0.91	<0.001	-5.98, -2.41
PLASMA				
<i>Hydrolyzed samples</i>				
3-Hydroxyphenylacetic Acid	2.38	1.02	0.020	0.39, 4.38
Gallic Acid	62.21	22.41	0.006	18.29, 106.12
<i>p</i> -Coumaric Acid	40.91	15.43	0.008	10.67, 71.14
<i>Constant</i>	-3.09	0.79	<0.001	-4.64, -1.54
<i>Non-Hydrolyzed samples</i>				
Methylgallic Acid Sulfate	525.00	118.68	<0.001	292.39, 757.61
<i>Constant</i>	-1.63	0.35	<0.001	-2.32, -0.94

Table 4. Threshold (cut-off), sensitivity, specificity, AUC and confidence interval of phenolic metabolite group biomarkers and the prediction model

	Threshold ^a	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	AUC (%)	AUC 95% CI (%)
URINE					
<i>Hydrolyzed samples</i>					
Gallic Acid Metabolites	4.89	88.89	77.80	87.75	81.97, 93.53
DHPV Metabolites	18.17	83.33	66.70	81.15	74.14, 88.17
Phenolic Acid Metabolites	207.2	69.44	62.50	71.95	64.03, 80.34
Ethylgallate	0.69	93.06	84.72	92.35	87.73, 96.97
Training Set		94.74	91.23	96.24	92.73, 99.76
Validation Set		93.33	93.33	96.00	89.24, 100.0
All population		91.66	91.66	96.14	93.12, 99.16
<i>Non-hydrolyzed samples</i>					
(Epi)catechin Metabolites	39.84	75.00	83.33	86.32	80.38, 92.27
DHPV Metabolites	695.53	66.70	73.60	76.33	68.70, 83.96
Ethylgallate Metabolites	152.31	98.60	84.70	93.67	89.49, 97.86
Methylgallic Sulfate	5.49	87.50	86.11	93.23	89.31, 97.15
Resveratrol Biomarker	1966.05	91.67	95.83	96.45	93.38, 99.52
Resveratrol Microbial Metabolites	1424.19	95.83	93.06	98.77	97.46, 100.0
Training Set		94.74	96.49	98.68	97.13, 100.0
Validation Set		100.0	93.33	96.44	89.32, 100.0
All population		95.83	94.44	98.40	96.80, 100.0
PLASMA					
<i>Hydrolyzed samples</i>					
Gallic Acid Metabolites	0.06	68.18	57.58	64.10	54.66, 73.53
DHPV Metabolites	0.14	68.18	62.12	68.37	59.31, 77.42
Phenolic Acid Metabolites	0.24	72.73	65.15	68.02	58.88, 77.16
Training Set		74.07	76.92	80.13	71.75, 88.51
Validation Set		75.00	100.0	88.10	74.20, 100.0
All population		75.76	74.24	81.18	73.86, 88.49
<i>Non-hydrolyzed samples</i>					
(Epi)catechin Metabolites	0.03	69.70	75.76	76.92	68.76, 85.07
DHPV Metabolites	0.06	72.73	62.12	71.12	62.37, 79.87
Methylgallic Sulfate	0.002	84.85	77.27	87.50	81.65, 93.35
Training Set		85.19	76.92	86.89	80.13, 93.66
Validation Set		91.67	78.57	91.07	80.22, 100.0
All population		84.85	77.27	87.50	81.65, 93.35

DHPV, dihydroxyphenyl- γ -valerolactone; ROC, receiver operating characteristic.

^aUrine ($\mu\text{mol}/24\text{-h}$) or plasma ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$).

Table 5. Spearman’s correlations between fasting plasma and 24-h urine samples for individual, phenolic metabolite groups and the prediction model

	<i>R</i>	<i>P</i>
<i>Hydrolyzed samples</i>		
Gallic acid	0.338	<0.001
3-Methylgallic acid	0.441	<0.001
Gallic acid group	0.451	<0.001
2,5-Dihydroxybenzoic acid	0.411	<0.001
Protocatechuic acid	0.174	0.046
3-(3-Hydroxyphenyl)propionic acid	0.402	<0.001
Ferulic acid	0.253	0.003
4-Hydroxyhippuric acid	0.310	<0.001
3-Hydroxyphenylacetic acid	0.444	<0.001
2-Hydroxyphenylacetic acid	0.204	0.019
Enterolactone	0.503	<0.001
<i>p</i> -Coumaric acid	0.370	<0.001
Phenolic acid group	0.442	<0.001
DHPV1	0.321	<0.001
DHPV2	0.336	<0.001
DHPV group	0.348	<0.001
Prediction model score	0.565	<0.001
<i>Non-hydrolyzed samples</i>		
Methylgallic acid sulfate	0.587	<0.001
(Epi)catechin glucuronide 3	0.342	<0.001
Methyl (epi)catechin glucuronide 2	0.294	0.001
Flavan-3-ol group	0.382	<0.001
DHPV1 Glucuronide	0.321	<0.001
DHPV2 Glucuronide	0.342	<0.001
DHPV Group	0.356	<0.001
Prediction model score	0.599	<0.001