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**HIGH-RESOLUTION MASS SPECTROMETRY APPLIED TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF TRANSFORMATION PRODUCTS OF QUINOLONES FROM STABILITY STUDIES AND NEW METABOLITES OF ENROFLOXACIN IN CHICKEN MUSCLE TISSUES**

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26 **Abstract**

27 The aim of this work was the identification of new metabolites and transformation  
28 products (TPs) in chicken muscle from Enrofloxacin (ENR), Ciprofloxacin (CIP),  
29 Difloxacin (DIF) and Sarafloxacin (SAR), which are antibiotics that belong to the  
30 fluoroquinolones family. The stability of ENR, CIP, DIF and SAR standard solutions  
31 versus pH degradation process (from pH 1.5 to 8.0, simulating the pH since the drug is  
32 administered until its excretion) and freeze-thawing (F/T) cycles was tested. In addition,  
33 chicken muscle samples from medicated animals with ENR were analyzed in order to  
34 identify new metabolites and TPs.

35 The identification of the different metabolites and TPs was accomplished by  
36 comparison of mass spectral data from samples and blanks, using liquid  
37 chromatography coupled to quadrupole time-of-flight (LC-QqToF) and Multiple Mass  
38 Defect Filter (MMDF) technique as a pre-filter to remove most of the background noise  
39 and endogenous components. Confirmation and structure elucidation was performed by  
40 liquid chromatography coupled to linear ion trap quadrupole Orbitrap (LC-LTQ-  
41 Orbitrap), due to its mass accuracy and MS/MS capacity for elemental composition  
42 determination.

43 As a result, 21 TPs from ENR, 6 TPs from CIP, 14 TPs from DIF and 12 TPs from SAR  
44 were identified due to the pH shock and F/T cycles. On the other hand, 14 metabolites  
45 were identified from the medicated chicken muscle samples. Formation of CIP and  
46 SAR, from ENR and DIF, respectively, and the formation of desethylene-quinolone  
47 were the most remarkable identified compounds.

48 **Keywords:** Quinolones, chicken muscle, metabolites, transformation products, high-  
49 resolution mass spectrometry.

50

## 51 **1. Introduction**

52 Quinolones are one of the most widely used class of antibiotics in human and veterinary  
53 medicine. Their main uses in veterinary are therapeutic (treatment of bacterial  
54 infections), prophylactic (prevention of infections) and as growth promoters of animals  
55 intended for human consumption, although this last use is not allowed in the European  
56 Community [1,2].

57 Misuse of antibiotics in animals and the medicated animal slaughter before the  
58 metabolism and excretion of the antibiotic after therapeutic treatment, can lead to the  
59 presence and accumulation of residues of these antibiotics and their metabolites in food  
60 for human consumption. The intake of this food can result to health risks, such as  
61 allergy problems, toxicity and potential development of resistant bacterial strains when  
62 these antibiotic residues pass to humans through the food chain [3].

63 In order to regulate the use of these substances, to avoid risks to consumer health, the  
64 European Community has laid down a set of policies and measures, including the  
65 establishment of maximum residue limits (MRLs) for these antibiotics in animal food  
66 according to each species and tissue. A list of allowed substances, with MRL, is  
67 available in the Annex I of Commission Regulation 37/2010 [4,5]. However, this  
68 legislation generally include only the active compound (antibiotic) and in some cases,  
69 the main known metabolite. Other unknown metabolites and TPs possibly formed  
70 through the pH shock (from 1.2 in stomach to 8.0 in colon), interaction with biological  
71 substances or the own animal metabolism are not included in this Regulation. In  
72 addition, new TPs could be formed due to the complex sample treatment, which could  
73 be wrongly interpreted as metabolites and could contribute to pharmacological activity.  
74 Therefore, the identification of these unknown metabolites and TPs becomes necessary

75 to understand the possibly associated toxicity or harmful effects to human health and to  
76 avoid misleading results.

77 In the literature, most of the TPs and metabolites described for quinolones come mainly  
78 from photo-degradation studies in environmental samples [6-12] and microbiological  
79 transformation products [13-20]. However, to our knowledge, studies focused on  
80 metabolites and TPs as antibiotic residues in animal tissues for human consumption,  
81 generated by biotransformation processes after pharmacological treatment, are scarcely  
82 described in the literature [21-23].

83 Accordingly, the present study was focused on the effect of pH and F/T cycles on the  
84 formation of TPs from ENR, CIP, DIF and SAR, as well as the determination and  
85 identification of new metabolites and TPs from chicken muscle samples from medicated  
86 animals with ENR.

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## 98 **2. Experimental**

### 99 *2.1. Reagents and materials*

100 Quinolones were purchased from different pharmaceutical firms: Enrofloxacin (ENR)  
101 from Cenavisa (Reus, Spain), Ciprofloxacin (CIP) from Ipsen Pharma (Paris, France),  
102 Difloxacin (DIF) and Sarafloxacin (SAR) from Abbot (Madrid, Spain). Quinolones  
103 were in their free form with a purity of  $\geq 99\%$ , according to the specifications of the  
104 pharmaceutical firms.

105 Hydrochloric acid (HCl), acetic acid (HAcO), formic acid (HFO), trifluoroacetic acid  
106 (TFA), diethylmalonic acid (DEMA), ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), potassium dihydrogenphosphate  
107 (KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>), sodium hydroxide (NaOH), methanol (MeOH, HPLC grade) and acetonitrile  
108 (MeCN, HPLC and MS grade) were provided from Merck (Darmstadt, Germany).

109 Dichloroacetic acid (DCA) was provided from Carlo Erba (Milano, Italia) and  
110 ammonium acetate (NH<sub>4</sub>AcO, MS grade) from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA).

111 Ultrapure water was obtained from a MilliQ system from Millipore (Billerica, MA,  
112 USA). Solid-phase extraction (SPE) cartridges Isolute ENV+ (3 mL / 200 mg) were  
113 supplied by Biotage AB (Uppsala, Sweden). The 22 and 45  $\mu\text{m}$  nylon filter membranes  
114 by Sharlab (Barcelona, Spain) were used to filter the extracts before injection in the  
115 chromatographic system.

116

### 117 *2.2. Preparation of standard and working solutions*

118 Individual ENR, CIP, DIF and SAR stock solutions were prepared at a concentration of  
119  $100 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  in HAcO  $0.050 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ .

120 In order to investigate the generation of TPs at different pH values, buffers between pH  
121 1.5 and 8.0 were prepared to make the antibiotic working solutions. pH 1.5 was  
122 obtained from an aqueous solution of DCA 0.1% (v/v) and adjusted with HCl  $1.0 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$

123 <sup>1</sup>; pH 2.0 and 2.5 buffers were reached with HFO 0.1% (v/v) adjusted with HCl 1.0 mol  
124 L<sup>-1</sup> and NH<sub>3</sub> 0.1 mol L<sup>-1</sup>, respectively; pH 3.0 and 3.5 buffers were obtained from HAcO  
125 0.1% (v/v) adjusted with HCl 0.1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> and NH<sub>3</sub> 0.1 mol L<sup>-1</sup>, respectively; pH 4.5 and  
126 5.5 buffers were also obtained from HAcO 0.1% (v/v) adjusted with NH<sub>3</sub> 1.0 mol L<sup>-1</sup>.  
127 An aqueous solution of DEMA 0.010 mol L<sup>-1</sup> was used for pH 6.5 and 8.0 buffers, the  
128 solution was adjusted with HCl 0.1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> and NH<sub>3</sub> 1.0 mol L<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.  
129 Phosphate solution (0.050 mol L<sup>-1</sup>) was adjusted to pH 5.0 with NaOH 0.1 mol L<sup>-1</sup>.  
130 Hydroorganic solution TFA:H<sub>2</sub>O:MeCN (2:23:75, v/v/v) were also prepared.

131

### 132 2.3. Instrumentation

133 Liquid chromatography with ultraviolet detection (LC-UV) analyses were performed  
134 using an HP Agilent Technologies 1100 quaternary pump liquid chromatograph  
135 (Waldbronn, Germany).

136 LC-MS analyses were performed using an Agilent 1200 RRLC binary pump liquid  
137 chromatograph (Waldbronn, Germany) coupled to a hybrid quadrupole time-of-flight  
138 QSTAR Elite Mass Spectrometer from Applied Biosystems (Concord, Ontario,  
139 Canada), equipped with a Turbo Ion Spray source.

140 Both LC separations were carried out using an Agilent Zorbax Eclipse XDB-C<sub>8</sub> column  
141 of 150 x 4.6 mm i.d. 5µm (Waldbronn, Germany) protected by a Kromasil C<sub>8</sub> 20 x 4.5  
142 mm i.d. 5µm guard column from Aplicaciones Analíticas (Barcelona, Spain), working  
143 at room temperature.

144 LC-MS/MS analyses were performed using an Accela HPLC system from Thermo  
145 Fisher Scientific (Hemel Hempstead, UK) coupled to a linear ion trap quadrupole-  
146 Orbitrap (LTQ-Orbitrap) Velos-Hybrid FT Mass Spectrometer from Thermo Fisher  
147 Scientific (Hemel Hempstead, UK), equipped with a heated electrospray ionization

148 (HESI) interface. The LC separation was carried out using a Waters Symmetry C<sub>8</sub> 50 x  
149 2.1 mm i.d. 5µm (Milford, Massachusetts, USA), working at room temperature.  
150 SPE was carried out on a SUPELCO vacuum manifold connected to a SUPELCO  
151 vacuum tank (Bellefonte, PA, USA).  
152 Auxiliary apparatuses were: a CRISON 2002 potentiometer (±0.1 mV) (Barcelona,  
153 Spain) equipped with a CRISON 5203 combined pH electrode from Orion Research  
154 (Boston, MA, USA) used to measure the pH of the buffer solutions; a centrifuge 460R  
155 of Hettich Zentrifugen (Tuttlngen, Germany) used in sample treatment and a TurboVap  
156 LV system from Caliper LifeSciences (Hopkinton, MA, USA) with nitrogen stream for  
157 the evaporation of the extracts. An analytical balance with a precision of ±0.1 mg and a  
158 vortex-mixer were also used.

159

## 160 *2.4. Procedures*

### 161 *2.4.1. Preliminary stability studies*

162 In order to study the stability of quinolones versus pH and F/T cycles, stock solutions of  
163 each antibiotic were diluted in each buffer solution (pH values from 1.5 to 8.0) to obtain  
164 a concentration of 10 mg L<sup>-1</sup> and analyzed after 1, 2 and 3 F/T cycles at -20°C. Samples  
165 were kept at -20°C for 24h between each F/T cycle.

166 In addition, blanks were prepared taking 100 µL from the 0.050 mol L<sup>-1</sup> HAcO solution  
167 and were diluted in each buffer solution.

168

### 169 *2.4.2. Medicated animal samples*

170 Chicken muscle samples from medicated animals with ENR were analyzed. Chickens  
171 were medicated according to the pharmacological administration protocol fit for human  
172 consumption. The therapeutic treatment involved a daily dose of 16 mg/kg of ENR

173 dissolved in the chicken drinking water during 4 days. Fresh pre-solutions of the  
174 antibiotic and the medicated water were prepared every day just before it is offered to  
175 the animals. Two types of samples were analyzed; two male broiler chickens  
176 slaughtered on the third day of the pharmacological treatment (3-day treated) and two  
177 male broiler chickens slaughtered four days after pharmacological treatment ends (post-  
178 treatment). In addition, two male broiler chickens (non-medicated chickens) randomly  
179 selected from the poultry farm were sacrificed and used as blanks. Chickens were  
180 sacrificed after 23 days (3-day treated) and 28 days (post-treatment and blanks) of life.  
181 Meat was minced, homogenized and stored at -20°C until sample treatment.

182

#### 183 *2.4.3. Sample preparation*

184 Samples were processed according to a validated LC-MS/MS multi-residue method for  
185 the determination of  $\beta$ -lactams compounds in animal tissue [24,25], modifying the  
186 elution stage of the SPE. In order to determine if the method for  $\beta$ -lactams was also  
187 valid for quinolones, recoveries from spiked muscle samples with the four studied  
188 quinolones were carried out. Results showed a recovery of 81.6% for ENR, 62.6% for  
189 CIP, 73.2% for DIF and 70.5% for SAR, which were considered acceptable values.  
190 Briefly, antibiotics were extracted from 4g ( $\pm$  0.1mg) of minced chicken muscle with a  
191 mixture of 2mL of MilliQ water and 20mL of MeCN. After shaking for 2 min, the  
192 mixture was centrifuged at 3500 rpm (5 min) and the obtained hydroorganic extract was  
193 evaporated under N<sub>2</sub> stream in a TurboVap system at 35°C until 2mL as final volume.  
194 25mL of 0.050 mol L<sup>-1</sup> phosphate solution at pH 5.0 was added to the remaining  
195 aqueous extract and the resulting mixture was processed by SPE. The Isolute ENV+  
196 cartridges were activated with 2mL of MeOH, 2mL of MilliQ water and 2mL of 0.050  
197 mol L<sup>-1</sup> phosphate solution at pH 5.0. The muscle extract was then loaded to the



198 cartridge and washed with 3mL of phosphate solution at pH 5.0 and 1mL of MilliQ  
199 water, followed by the elution of the analytes with 5mL of the hydroorganic solution  
200 TFA:H<sub>2</sub>O:MeCN (2:23:75, v/v/v) and 1mL of MeCN. The produced SPE eluates were  
201 evaporated to dryness at 35°C under N<sub>2</sub> stream and reconstituted with 200µL of MilliQ  
202 water. Prior to injection, samples were filtered and stored at -20°C.  
203 An aliquot of 20µL and 10µL of the extracts were injected into the chromatographic  
204 system for the LC-QqToF and LC-LTQ-Orbitrap experiments, respectively.

205

#### 206 *2.4.4. Instrumental conditions*

207 LC-UV and LC-QqToF analyses were performed at a constant flow rate of 1.0 mL min<sup>-1</sup>.  
208 LC-LTQ-Orbitrap analyses were performed at a constant flow rate of 0.3 mL min<sup>-1</sup>. In  
209 all cases, the same binary solvent system was used: solvent A, 0.005 mol L<sup>-1</sup> NH<sub>4</sub>AcO  
210 adjusted at pH 2.5 with HFO and solvent B, MeCN.

211 LC-UV analyses gradient system was programmed as follows: initially 12% B, from 0  
212 to 7.5 min B was maintained at 12%, from 7.5 to 23.5 min B was linearly increased to  
213 29% and from 23.5 to 25 min decreased to 28%. Finally B decreased to initial  
214 conditions in 1 min and maintained at this percentage for 2 min. The detection was  
215 carried out at 280 nm for all quinolones. Acquisition and data processing were  
216 performed by ChemStation software Agilent Technologies (Waldbronn, Germany).

217 LC-QqToF analyses gradient system was programmed as follows: initially 14% B, from  
218 0 to 5 min B increased to 21%, from 5 to 6 min B increased to 24%, from 6 to 7.5 min B  
219 increased to 25%, from 7.5 to 9 min B increased to 54% and then maintained at 54% for  
220 0.5 min. Finally B decreased to 14% in 0.5 min and maintained at this percentage for 3  
221 min. A T-piece splitter (3:1) was used to reduce the flow-rate entering into the  
222 electrospray ionization source. Working in positive ionization mode, optimized

223 instrument parameters settings were the following: Ion Spray (IS) voltage was 4500V;  
224 gas temperature 400 °C; Declustering Potential (DP) 60 V; Focusing Potential (FP) 350  
225 V and Declustering Potential 2 (DP2) 10 V. Mass spectrometry analyses were carried  
226 out on full-scan MS mode, working at a resolving power of 10000 and with a mass  
227 range of 100–1000 Da at a scan rate of 1s per spectrum. Analyst QS version 2.0 and  
228 Peak View 1.2 from Applied Biosystems (Toronto, Canada) were used for the  
229 acquisition and data processing, respectively.

230 LC-LTQ-Orbitrap analyses gradient system was programmed as follows: initial 3% B,  
231 from 0 to 5 min B increased to 25%, from 5 to 6 min B increased to 35%, from 6 to 7  
232 min B increased to 55% and then maintained at this percentage for 1 min. Finally B  
233 decreased to 3% in 1.5 min and maintained at this percentage for 3 min. Mass  
234 spectrometry analyses were carried out on full-scan MS and product ion scan MS/MS  
235 modes with a mass range of 100–1000 Da. The resolving power was 30000 and 15000  
236 for the full-scan and MS/MS events, respectively. Employing positive ionization mode,  
237 a multiple component detection method was used as a default values of the parameters  
238 settings to carry out the different experiments. A source voltage of 3500V and a  
239 capillary temperature of 300°C were used as main parameters settings. Collision energy  
240 (HCD) of 40-70% was used for the MS/MS experiments. Acquisition and data  
241 processing were performed by Xcalibur 2.1 QualBrowser from Thermo Fisher Scientific  
242 (Hemel Hempstead, UK).

243

#### 244 *2.4.5. Data processing*

245 Metabolites and TPs identification in the medicated chicken muscle samples were  
246 performed by processing the accurate-mass full-scan raw data by MMDF [26-28] using  
247 Peak View 1.2 from Applied Biosystems (Toronto, Canada). ENR ( $m/z$  360.1718), CIP

248 ( $m/z$  332.1405), the core substructure with  $m/z$  263.0826, formed by the piperazine ring  
249 loss, and the glucuronide conjugation of ENR ( $m/z$  536.2039), were used as MDF  
250 templates. The MDF window was set to  $\pm 40$  mDa around the mass defects of the  
251 templates over a mass range of  $\pm 50$  Da around the filter template masses. The use of  
252 MMDF technique as a pre-filter enabled the reduction of most of the false-positive  
253 peaks (endogenous components) and background interferences.  
254 Once the data was filtered, comparison of mass spectral data between samples and  
255 blanks enabled to differentiate the metabolite ions of interest from interference ions in  
256 the biological matrix, especially those ions that show a very low intensity by LC-MS.  
257 The identification of the different TPs in the preliminary stability study was performed  
258 directly by comparison of mass spectral data from samples and blanks.  
259 The confirmation and structure elucidation of the identified metabolites and TPs were  
260 carried out by the MS/MS spectrum generated by the product ion scan of each ion.

261

### 262 **3. Results and discussion**

#### 263 *3.1. Effect of pH and F/T cycles*

264 Figure 1 shows the effect of pH on ENR, CIP, DIF and SAR after applying three F/T  
265 cycles for each pH value. Areas were obtained by LC-UV and rescaled to values  
266 between 0 and 1 (relative values) for each pH value and F/T cycle, which enabled a  
267 better visualization and interpretation of the variation of the compound depending on  
268 the pH or the number of applied F/T cycles. Rescaling was accomplished by dividing  
269 the area obtained for each pH value and F/T cycle by the larger area of those areas  
270 obtained for the compound. This procedure was carried out for each compound.  
271 Considering that a degradation lower than 10% negligible, at extreme pH values, the  
272 compounds do not show significant degradation after applying three F/T cycles.

273 However, at pH values between 2.5-3.5 and 6.5, a degradation around 15-25% is  
274 observed for the four studied quinolones. At these pH values, significant degradation is  
275 observed after applying the first F/T cycle, whereas for the rest of the pH values,  
276 degradation is less pronounced when increasing the number of applied F/T cycles.

277

### 278 *3.1.1. Transformations products*

279 Table 1 shows a summary of the observed TPs from ENR, CIP, DIF and SAR standard  
280 solutions when were subjected to different conditions of pH and after applying three F/T  
281 cycles. In Table 1, mass spectral data and MS/MS spectrum for each compound are shown.  
282 Proposed structures for each compound are shown in Figures 2 and 3.

283 According to the structure for each compound, main degradation processes of ENR, CIP,  
284 DIF and SAR are piperazine ring and aromatic core transformations. Main degradation  
285 steps involved in the piperazine ring substituent were ring cleavage and once the ring has  
286 been cleaved, the resulted primary or secondary amine undergoes further degradation that  
287 leads to methylated, formylated and acetylated products in positions 1 and 4 of the  
288 piperazine ring. Other degradation conversions are oxidative steps (oxo-formation),  
289 hydroxylation and methylation in positions 2 and 3 of the piperazine ring, as well as N-  
290 oxidation, N-hydroxylation, N-formylation, N-acetylation, N-demethylation and N-  
291 deethylation, with or without subsequent ring cleavage, in position 4 of the piperazine ring.  
292 Aromatic core reactions were mainly based on the hydroxylation at the two available  
293 positions on the aromatic ring, as well as the defluorination of the molecule.  
294 Decarboxylated compound were also observed for ENR and SAR, as well as combinations  
295 of piperazine ring and aromatic core based reactions.

296 TPENR-1, TPENR-3, TPENR-5, TPENR-9, TPENR-10, TPENR-13, TPENR-14,  
297 TPENR-17, TPENR-18, TPCIP-1, TPCIP-4, TPDIF1, TPDIF-3, TPDIF-7, TPSAR-3 and

298 TPSAR-6 are quinolone structures described in literature as photo-degradation products in  
299 environmental samples [6-12] and microbiological transformation products [13-20] but, to  
300 our knowledge, the rest of the observed compounds have not been described previously.

301 From the intensity showed by LC-MS, the different compounds can be divided in three  
302 groups. In the first group TPENR-20, TPCIP-5, TPDIF-13, TPSAR-11 and TPENR-21,  
303 TPCIP-6, TPDIF-14, TPSAR-12 are included. Those ones are structure related compounds  
304 and show the most intense signal. These compounds could be formed by quinolone  
305 degradation and interaction with reagents present in the medium. The second group would  
306 be formed by TPENR-3 (CIP) and TPDIF-3 (SAR), formed via N-desethylation and N-  
307 desmethylation of ENR and DIF, respectively, and TPENR-5, TPCIP-1, TPDIF-1 and  
308 TPSAR-3, formed by piperazine ring cleavage (deethylation). In the third group would be  
309 the rest of the compounds, which show a very low intensity.

310 Figure 4 shows the effect of pH on the main observed TPs for each quinolone. Peak  
311 areas were rescaled following the same procedure indicated in section 3.1. As Figure 4  
312 shows, all TPs were formed at all pH values and most of them show the same behavior  
313 than ENR, CIP, DIF and SAR. At pH values between 2.5-3.5 and 6.5 were less formed  
314 than for the rest of pH values, except for TPENR-20, TPCIP-5, TPDIF-13, TPSAR-11 and  
315 TPENR-21, TPCIP-6, TPDIF-14, TPSAR-12, which show just the opposite behavior.  
316 Therefore, the formation of those TPs could explain the behavior showed by the four  
317 studied quinolones and the rest of TPs.

318

### 319 *3.2. Medicated animal samples*

320 Chicken muscle samples from medicated animals with ENR (explained in section 2.4.2)  
321 were analyzed with the purpose of identifying those unknown metabolites and TPs  
322 which could be present in the animal tissue and therefore, can lead to health risks when

323 pass to humans through the food chain. These metabolites and TPs could be formed by  
324 interaction with biological substances, biotransformation reactions that occur in the own  
325 animal (metabolism) or even originated by the complex sample treatment.

326 Table 2 shows a summary of the identified metabolites obtained from the chicken  
327 muscle samples from the medicated animals with ENR. In Table 2, mass spectral data,  
328 MS/MS spectrum and the proposed structure for each metabolite are shown.

329 According to the proposed structure for each metabolite shown in Table 2, main  
330 biotransformation processes of ENR due to the animal metabolism are piperazine ring  
331 transformations as occur in preliminary study. Piperazine ring cleavage (M1 and M3),  
332 piperazine ring cleavage and the subsequent addition of methyl and acetyl groups in  
333 positions 1 and 4 (M6 and M11), oxidation in position 2 (M8 and M14) and N-  
334 deethylation, N-demethylation, N-acetylation and N-hydroxylation in position 4 of the  
335 piperazine ring (M2, M5, M9 and M12) were observed. Aromatic core biotransformation  
336 reactions were also observed, mainly based on the hydroxylation of the aromatic ring and  
337 the defluorination of the molecule, with or without subsequent hydroxylation, such as M4,  
338 M10 and M13. Other biotransformation processes combined piperazine ring and aromatic  
339 core based reactions, such as M7 and M10.

340 The two most abundant observed metabolites were M2, formed by the N-desethylation  
341 of ENR, leading to ciprofloxacin [14,15,18,20,21], and M3, originated by the piperazine  
342 ring cleavage (deethylation), leading to desethylene-enrofloxacin [14,15,18,20,21].

343 Other metabolites which had a great abundance in the samples were M1, M4 and M10.

344 As for the grade of the animal metabolism, after four days of pharmacological treatment  
345 ends, the animal metabolized and excreted most of the metabolites. However, the  
346 supplied antibiotic (ENR) and some of the metabolites observed after three days of

347 pharmacological treatment (M1, M2, M3, M4 and M10) still remain in the animal  
348 muscle tissue.

349 As occur for ciprofloxacin (M2) and desethyleno-enrofloxacin (M3), M1, M8, M9, M10  
350 and M14 are quinolone structures described in literature as microbiological  
351 biotransformation products [14,15,18,20] and metabolite residues of ENR in animal  
352 tissues for human consumption [21], but M4, M5, M6, M7, M11, M12 and M13 have  
353 not been described previously in the literature

354 Metabolites M1, M2, M3, M6, M8, M9, M11, M12, M13 and M14 were also observed  
355 as TPs in the preliminary study (TPENR-1, TPENR-3, TPENR-5, TPENR-8, TPENR-9,  
356 TPENR-10, TPENR-13, TPENR-15, TPENR-16 and TPENR-17, respectively).

357

### 358 *3.2.1. Structural elucidation of the main metabolites*

359 In general, the loss of water  $[M+H-H_2O]^+$ , the loss of the carboxyl moiety  $[M+H-CO_2]^+$   
360 and the loss of the fluoride  $[M+H-HF]^+$  are characteristic fragmentation pathways for  
361 fluoroquinolones [11,29]. Moreover, ENR in particular shows the loss of the  
362 cyclopropyl group  $[M+H-C_3H_5]^+$  and the N-desethylation followed by the degradation  
363 steps of the piperazinyl moiety  $[M+H-C_2H_4-C_2H_5N]^+$  (see ENR in Table 2). Thus, the  
364 appearance of these fragmentations in the MS/MS spectrum can give hints, for example,  
365 at the existence of an intact carboxyl moiety or an intact piperazinyl moiety. Figure 5  
366 shows the MS/MS spectra of the main metabolites.

367 The compound with  $m/z$  263.0822 (Figure 5A) displayed all typical product ions of  
368 ENR, giving the loss of  $H_2O$  ( $m/z$  245.0722), the loss of the cyclopropyl group ( $m/z$   
369 222.0436), decarboxylation and desaturation ( $m/z$  217.0772), the combined loss of  $H_2O$   
370 and the cyclopropyl group ( $m/z$  204.0330) and the combined loss of the carboxyl group,  
371 a carbonyl group and the partial cyclopropyl group cleavage ( $m/z$  177.0824), except for

372 the degradation of the piperazinyl moiety. Consequently, it reflects an ENR derivative  
373 with a NH<sub>3</sub> substituent in position 7 as is the case for M1 (Table 2).

374 MS/MS measurements of the compound with *m/z* 332.1405 (Figure 5B) showed typical  
375 fragmentation pathways such as the loss of H<sub>2</sub>O leading to *m/z* 314.1302, the loss of the  
376 carboxyl group resulting in *m/z* 288.1509 and the combined loss of the carboxyl group  
377 and fluoride yielding *m/z* 268.1445. These fragments do not hint any plausible structure,  
378 but the combined fragments of *m/z* 245.1087, originated by the loss of the carboxyl  
379 group and the piperazinyl moiety, *m/z* 231.0928 equivalent to the loss of the carboxyl  
380 group and the further degradation of the piperazine ring and *m/z* 204.0693, which  
381 combines the loss of the carboxyl group, the piperazinyl moiety and the loss of the  
382 cyclopropyl group, reflects the absence of a N-ethyl group in position 4 of the molecule,  
383 which indicates that the compound with *m/z* 332.1405 can be assigned to the proposed  
384 structure for M2 (Table 2).

385 The compound with *m/z* 334.1556 showed also typical fragmentation pathways (Figure  
386 5C) such as the loss of fluoride leading to *m/z* 314.1500, the combined loss of H<sub>2</sub>O and  
387 fluoride yielding *m/z* 296.1395, the combined loss of the carboxyl group, desaturation  
388 and fluoride resulting in *m/z* 268.1445 and the combined loss of H<sub>2</sub>O, fluoride and the  
389 cyclopropyl group giving the fragment with *m/z* 255.1003. The fragments with *m/z*  
390 289.0983, originated by the loss of an ethyl group and NH<sub>3</sub> and *m/z* 245.1087 due to the  
391 combined loss of the carboxyl group, an ethyl group and NH<sub>3</sub>, and moreover, the  
392 fragments with *m/z* 263.0827 and *m/z* 219.0928 in whose structures remains only a  
393 primary amine as substituent in position 7, in combination with the lack of the typical  
394 piperazinyl moiety fragment ions, suggests the piperazine ring cleavage, which is in  
395 agreement with the proposed structure for M3 (Table 2).



396 The substance with  $m/z$  342.1806 (Figure 5D) possessed the fragment ions of the loss of  
397  $H_2O$ , which leads to  $m/z$  324.1707, the loss of the carboxyl group giving  $m/z$  298.1912  
398 and the combined loss of  $H_2O$ , followed by N-desethylation and desethylation due to  
399 the piperazine ring cleavage resulting in  $m/z$  268.1081, as well as the combined loss of  
400 the carboxyl group, N-desethylation and degradation of the piperazinyl moiety yielding  
401  $m/z$  227.1178, and the decarboxylation, N-desethylation and further degradation of the  
402 piperazinyl moiety leading to  $m/z$  213.1021. However, the lack of the typical fluoride  
403 loss fragment ion suggests the absence of the fluoride according to the proposed  
404 structure for M4 (Table 2).

405 MS/MS measurements of the compound with  $m/z$  374.1701 (Figure 5E) show the loss  
406 of  $H_2O$  ( $m/z$  356.1602), the loss of the carboxyl group ( $m/z$  330.1970), the combined  
407 degradation of the piperazinyl moiety and N-desethylation ( $m/z$  303.0971) and the  
408 combined N-desethylation, loss of  $H_2O$  and the degradation of the piperazinyl moiety  
409 ( $m/z$  285.0868). Furthermore, N-desethylation and a further degradation of the  
410 piperazine ring give the fragment with  $m/z$  277.0817 and the combined loss of the  
411 carboxyl group, desaturation, N-desethylation and the piperazinyl moiety leads to  $m/z$   
412 257.0919. Subtraction between molecular formulas of ENR and the identified  $m/z$   
413 374.1701, obtained by the QualBrowser software from Thermo Fisher Scientific, gives  
414 a difference of  $[M+2H+2O-F]^+$ , which suggests the defluorination of the molecule and  
415 the addition of two hydroxyl groups. The lack of the typical fluoride loss fragment ion  
416 and the absence of the loss of a hydroxyl group from the combined piperazine ring  
417 fragments ions in the MS/MS spectrum, suggest that the metabolite was originated by  
418 the replacement of the fluoride for a hydroxyl group and the hydroxylation of the  
419 aromatic core in one of the two available positions, as reflects the proposed structure for  
420 M10 shown in Table 2.

#### 421 **4. Conclusions**

422 A total of 21 TPs from ENR, 6 TPs from CIP, 14 TPs from DIF and 12 TPs from SAR  
423 were identified due to the pH shock and F/T cycles, where the formation of CIP and  
424 SAR, from ENR and DIF, respectively, the formation of desethylene-quinolone and the  
425 formation of TPENR-20, TPCIP-5, TPDIF-13, TPSAR-11 and TPENR-21, TPCIP-6,  
426 TPDIF-14, TPSAR-12, were the most remarkable observed compounds. The four  
427 quinolones showed a sharp instability at pH values between 2.5-3.5 and 6.5, which  
428 could be explained by the formation of two related structure compounds for each one  
429 (TPENR-20, TPCIP-5, TPDIF-13, TPSAR-11 and TPENR-21, TPCIP-6, TPDIF-14,  
430 TPSAR-12).

431 In the analysis of the chicken muscle samples from the medicated animals with ENR, a  
432 total of 14 metabolites were identified. Formation of CIP (M2) and desethylene-  
433 enrofloxacin (M3) were the most abundant observed metabolites. The animal  
434 metabolized and excreted most of the metabolites after four days the medical treatment  
435 ended, but residues of ENR and some metabolites (M1, M2, M3, M4 and M10) still  
436 remained in the animal muscle tissue.

437 Regarding to the main degradation and biotransformation processes of quinolones  
438 observed in both studies, stand out piperazine ring and aromatic core based reactions.

439

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539 **Figure captions**

540 Figure 1. Effect of pH and F/T cycles on standard solutions of ENR, CIP, DIF and SAR.

541 Symbols:

542



543

544 Figure 2. Proposed structures for the identified TPs from ENR (A) and CIP (B) standard  
545 solutions at different pH values.

546

547 Figure 3. Proposed structures for the identified TPs from DIF (A) and SAR (B) standard  
548 solutions at different pH values.

549

550 Figure 4. Effect of pH on major TPs.

551

552 Figure 5. MS/MS spectra of the main identified metabolites of ENR in the medicated  
553 chicken samples. A) M1, B) M2, C) M3, D) M4 and E) M10.



Table 1. Mass spectral data and MS/MS spectrum of the identified TPs from ENR, CIP, DIF and SAR due to pH shock and F/T cycles.

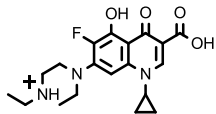
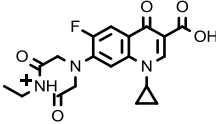
Compound	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> <sub>exp</sub>	RT (min)	Molecular Formula	[M+H] <sup>+</sup> <sub>theo</sub>	m/z error (ppm)	MS/MS spectrum
<b>ENR</b>	360.1715	4.90	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>23</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	360.17180	-0.8	360.1719, 342.1612, 340.1656, 316.1820, 286.0986, 257.1085, 245.1085, 231.0928
TPENR-1*	263.0820	6.79	[C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	263.08265	-2.5	263.0829, 245.0722, 222.0436, 217.0772, 204.0330, 177.0824
TPENR-2	316.1813	4.20	[C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>23</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O] <sup>+</sup>	316.18197	-2.1	316.1829, 296.1767, 268.1451, 260.1202, 245.1092, 231.0934, 204.0698
TPENR-3*	332.1407	4.60	[C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	332.14050	0.6	332.1407, 314.1302, 288.1509, 268.1445, 245.1087, 231.0928, 204.0693
TPENR-4	334.1187	6.47	[C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	334.11976	-3.2	334.1195, 316.1090, 299.0842, 289.0970, 271.0874, 263.0826, 245.0720, 217.0406
TPENR-5*	334.1553	4.44	[C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	334.15615	-2.5	334.1561, 314.1500, 296.1395, 289.0983, 268.1445, 263.0827, 255.1003, 245.1087, 219.0928
TPENR-6	348.1346	6.10	[C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	348.13541	-2.3	348.1352, 330.1248, 302.1298, 289.0976, 287.1428, 285.1267, 245.1084
TPENR-7	348.1353	6.64	[C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	348.13541	-0.3	348.1352, 330.1246, 313.1003, 288.1152, 271.0876, 263.0822, 230.0483, 217.0406
TPENR-8*	348.1710	4.78	[C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>23</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	348.17180	-2.3	348.1718, 304.1818, 273.1269, 245.1084, 233.1084, 219.0927, 205.0771
TPENR-9*	374.1498	3.99	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	374.15106	-3.4	374.1510, 356.1411, 346.1557, 314.0937, 289.0981, 286.0985, 275.0827, 271.0877, 257.0724
TPENR-10*	374.1502	7.49	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	374.15106	-2.3	374.1511, 356.1406, 332.1029, 314.1301, 295.0951, 272.0829, 243.0562, 231.0564
TPENR-11	374.1865	5.24	[C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>25</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	374.18745	-2.5	374.1871, 356.1765, 330.1974, 302.1659, 286.0980, 271.1239, 259.1241, 245.1086, 205.0770
TPENR-12	376.1294	7.61	[C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	376.13033	-2.5	376.1306, 348.1353, 334.1187, 330.1247, 316.1086, 289.0982, 262.0748
TPENR-13*	376.1660	4.60	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>23</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	376.16671	-1.9	376.1668, 358.1561, 346.1548, 289.0983, 275.0824, 262.0749, 244.1012
TPENR-14	376.1657	5.00	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>23</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	376.16671	-2.7	376.1668, 358.1558, 332.1765, 305.0930, 301.1216, 261.1034, 233.0720
TPENR-15*	376.1662	5.27	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>23</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	376.16671	-1.4	376.1669, 359.1639, 344.1404, 330.1614, 315.1740, 300.1507, 287.1429
TPENR-16*	376.1655	5.77	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>23</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	376.16671	-3.2	376.1666, 332.1767, 301.1219, 261.1036, 247.0879, 220.0642
TPENR-17*	388.1297	6.64	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	388.13033	-1.6	388.1305, 360.1367, 348.0995, 342.1262, 330.0885, 320.1048, 302.0571
TPENR-18	390.1449	6.75	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	390.14598	-2.8	390.1472, 372.1361, 362.1514, 320.1053, 305.0936, 291.0783, 273.0674, 259.0519, 231.0568
TPENR-19	390.1449	7.08	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	390.14598	-2.8	390.1468, 372.1359, 362.1518, 320.1045, 299.0839, 291.0781, 273.0674, 259.0519, 231.0568
TPENR-20	462.1595	0.50	[C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>24</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	462.16194	-5.3	462.1621, 444.1511, 436.1827, 418.1723
TPENR-21	490.1560	0.50	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>24</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	490.15685	-1.7	490.1562, 476.1408, 448.1459, 422.1668, 404.1563, 394.1721, 378.1770, 376.1612, 360.1663
<b>CIP</b>	332.1405	4.70	[C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	332.14050	0.0	332.1407, 314.1302, 312.1345, 288.1509, 268.1445, 245.1087, 231.0928, 204.0693
TPCIP-1	306.1241	4.31	[C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	306.12485	-2.4	306.1255, 288.1148, 286.1190, 268.1084, 263.0830, 245.0722, 236.0595, 227.0692, 217.0410
TPCIP-2	346.1188	5.96	[C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	346.11976	-2.8	346.1196, 328.1087, 284.1186, 275.0824, 257.0721, 242.0721, 229.0771
TPCIP-3	346.1548	4.75	[C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	346.15615	-3.9	346.1559, 328.1457, 302.1663, 285.1269, 257.1085, 245.1084, 231.0928, 204.0691
TPCIP-4	360.1344	7.35	[C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	360.13541	-2.8	360.1351, 342.1221, 318.0888, 301.0848, 286.0984, 272.0826, 261.0663, 248.0589, 243.0562
TPCIP-5	434.1297	0.46	[C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>8</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	434.13064	-2.2	434.1310, 416.1203, 408.1516, 390.1413
TPCIP-6	462.1257	0.46	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	462.12555	0.3	462.1259, 448.1092, 420.1149, 394.1356, 376.1251, 366.1404, 350.1456, 348.1300, 332.1349
<b>DIF</b>	400.1466	5.43	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	400.14672	-0.3	400.1469, 382.1362, 356.1572, 336.1508, 311.0991, 299.0993, 285.0835
TPDIF-1	374.1310	5.21	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	374.13107	-0.2	374.1317, 354.1253, 343.0894, 336.1148, 325.0787, 317.0738, 308.1198, 299.0994, 280.1248
TPDIF-2	382.1557	5.20	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	382.15615	-1.2	382.1566, 364.1460, 338.1665, 321.1276, 308.1559, 293.1086, 281.1088, 267.0930
TPDIF-3	386.1308	5.34	[C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	386.13107	-0.7	386.1316, 366.1254, 342.1416, 322.1352, 299.0993, 285.0836, 279.0930
TPDIF-4	414.1250	4.69	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	414.12599	-2.4	414.1262, 386.1316, 368.1200, 347.1063, 343.0894, 329.0734, 325.0784, 311.0627

TPDIF-5	414.1616	5.68	[C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	414.16237	-1.9	414.1622, 370.1726, 339.1176, 313.1146, 299.0989, 285.0835
TPDIF-6	416.1401	4.78	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	416.14164	-3.7	416.1417, 398.1300, 371.0840, 343.0895, 327.0938, 299.0990
TPDIF-7	416.1413	5.05	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	416.14164	-0.8	416.1422, 398.1316, 386.1314, 353.1170, 343.0891, 329.0732, 316.0657
TPDIF-8	416.1403	5.45	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	416.14164	-3.2	416.1417, 398.1311, 372.1522, 350.0941, 315.0936, 301.0785
TPDIF-9	416.1410	5.82	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	416.14164	-1.5	416.1416, 372.1521, 359.0841, 341.0733, 315.0943, 287.0628, 274.0675
TPDIF-10	430.1203	5.72	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	430.12090	-1.4	430.1218, 402.1264, 373.0671, 356.0848, 343.0892, 329.0734, 317.0734, 299.0994
TPDIF-11	430.1208	7.15	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	430.12090	-0.2	430.1210, 412.1107, 402.1258, 384.1161, 356.0843, 345.0679, 327.0577, 317.0730, 299.0629
TPDIF-12	430.1210	7.36	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	430.12090	0.2	430.1209, 412.1100, 402.1260, 384.1164, 356.0844, 345.0680, 327.0572, 317.0732
TPDIF-13	502.1363	0.52	[C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	502.13687	-1.1	502.1365, 484.1268, 476.1569, 458.1472
TPDIF-14	530.1308	0.52	[C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>9</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	530.13178	-1.8	530.1312, 516.1155, 488.1219, 462.1418, 444.1317, 434.1475, 418.1526, 416.1359, 400.1422
<b>SAR</b>	386.1311	5.38	[C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	386.13107	0.1	386.1315, 368.1206, 366.1249, 342.1415, 340.1260, 322.1351, 299.0992, 285.0836
TPSAR-1	318.0566	7.92	[C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>10</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	318.05724	-2.0	318.0574, 300.0467, 272.0518, 256.0568, 244.0569, 224.0505
TPSAR-2	342.1412	4.91	[C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	342.14125	-0.1	342.1417, 322.1353, 299.0994, 294.1042, 285.0837
TPSAR-3	360.1154	5.15	[C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	360.11542	-0.1	360.1159, 343.0893, 340.1096, 322.0990, 317.0737, 299.0993, 294.1041, 279.0931, 266.1091
TPSAR-4	398.1498	5.31	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	398.15106	-3.2	398.1516, 380.1409, 354.1615, 337.1221, 311.1193, 297.1037, 281.0724
TPSAR-5	402.1247	5.11	[C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	402.12599	-3.2	402.1265, 382.1206, 364.1092, 352.1102, 343.0894, 329.0737, 316.0658
TPSAR-6	402.1249	7.50	[C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	402.12599	-2.7	402.1264, 384.1160, 343.0887, 317.0735, 299.0624, 271.0675
TPSAR-7	414.1616	5.95	[C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	414.16237	-1.9	414.1631, 386.1315, 366.1255, 343.0895, 325.0786, 299.0994
TPSAR-8	416.1042	6.59	[C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	416.10525	-2.5	416.1057, 388.1107, 372.1165, 342.0683, 329.0745, 316.0662, 299.0651
TPSAR-9	416.1053	6.84	[C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	416.10525	0.1	416.1058, 388.1111, 370.1005, 345.0686, 327.0576, 318.0578, 299.0632
TPSAR-10	428.1414	8.03	[C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	428.14164	-0.6	428.1415, 410.1316, 386.1309, 366.1376, 343.0888, 329.0730, 325.0781
TPSAR-11	488.1210	0.51	[C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>8</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	488.12122	-0.5	488.1219, 470.1106, 462.1424, 444.1313
TPSAR-12	516.1158	0.51	[C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>9</sub> F] <sup>+</sup>	516.11613	-0.6	516.1165, 502.0996, 474.1052, 448.1265, 430.1160, 420.1310, 404.1363, 402.1210, 386.1261

(\*) TPs from ENR also identified as metabolites in the chicken muscle samples (M1, M2, M3, M6, M8, M9, M11, M12, M13 and M14, respectively)

Table 2. Mass spectral data, proposed structures and MS/MS spectrum for the identified metabolites of ENR in the medicated chicken samples.

Compound	$[M+H]^+$ <sub>exp</sub>	RT (min)	Molecular Formula	$[M+H]^+$ <sub>theo</sub>	<i>m/z</i> error (ppm)	Proposed structure	MS/MS spectrum
ENR	360.1713	4.87	$[C_{19}H_{23}N_3O_3F]^+$	360.1718	-1.4		360.1721, 342.1613, 340.1656, 316.1818, 286.0985, 257.1084, 245.1084, 231.0927
M1	263.0822	6.77	$[C_{13}H_{12}N_2O_3F]^+$	263.08265	-1.7		Figure 5A
M2	332.1405	4.59	$[C_{17}H_{19}N_3O_3F]^+$	332.14050	0.0		Figure 5B
M3	334.1556	4.41	$[C_{17}H_{21}N_3O_3F]^+$	334.15615	-1.6		Figure 5C
M4	342.1806	4.29	$[C_{19}H_{24}N_3O_3]^+$	342.18122	-1.8		Figure 5D
M5	346.1552	4.65	$[C_{18}H_{21}N_3O_3F]^+$	346.15615	-2.7		346.1563, 328.1462, 302.1665, 285.1278, 257.1086, 245.1087, 231.0929, 204.0693
M6	348.1716	4.77	$[C_{18}H_{23}N_3O_3F]^+$	348.17180	-0.6		348.1718, 304.1818, 273.1269, 245.1084, 233.1084, 219.0927
M7	372.1915	4.75	$[C_{20}H_{26}N_3O_4]^+$	372.19178	-0.8		372.1919, 328.2017, 297.1470, 272.1400, 257.1284, 241.0971, 227.0813, 215.0811
M8	374.1500	3.70	$[C_{19}H_{21}N_3O_4F]^+$	374.15106	-2.8		374.1510, 356.1411, 346.1557, 314.0937, 289.0981, 286.0985, 275.0827, 271.0877, 257.0724, 245.1093
M9	374.1496	7.47	$[C_{19}H_{21}N_3O_4F]^+$	374.15106	-3.9		374.1511, 356.1406, 332.1029, 314.1301, 295.0951, 272.0829, 243.0562, 231.0564
M10	374.1701	4.69	$[C_{19}H_{24}N_3O_5]^+$	374.17105	-2.5		Figure 5E
M11	376.1673	4.58	$[C_{19}H_{23}N_3O_4F]^+$	376.16671	1.6		376.1668, 358.1561, 346.1548, 289.0983, 275.0824, 262.0749, 244.1012
M12	376.1664	5.23	$[C_{19}H_{23}N_3O_4F]^+$	376.16671	-0.8		376.1669, 359.1639, 344.1404, 330.1614, 315.1740, 300.1507, 287.1429

<b>M13</b>	376.1657	5.84	$[C_{19}H_{23}N_3O_4F]^+$	376.16671	-2.7		376.1666, 332.1767, 301.1219, 261.1036, 247.0879, 220.0642
<b>M14</b>	388.1302	6.63	$[C_{19}H_{19}N_3O_5F]^+$	388.13033	-0.3		388.1305, 360.1367, 348.0995, 342.1262, 330.0885, 320.1048, 302.0571

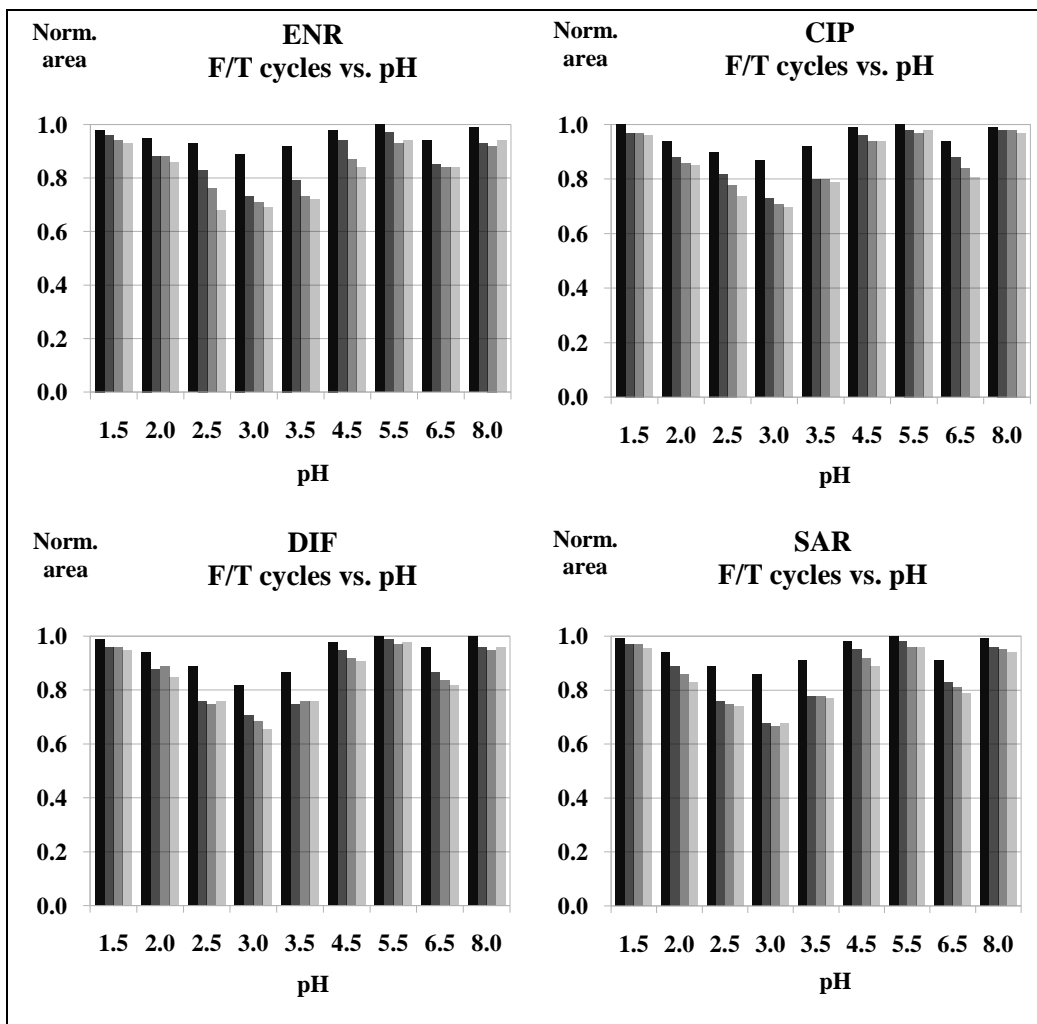


Figure 1.

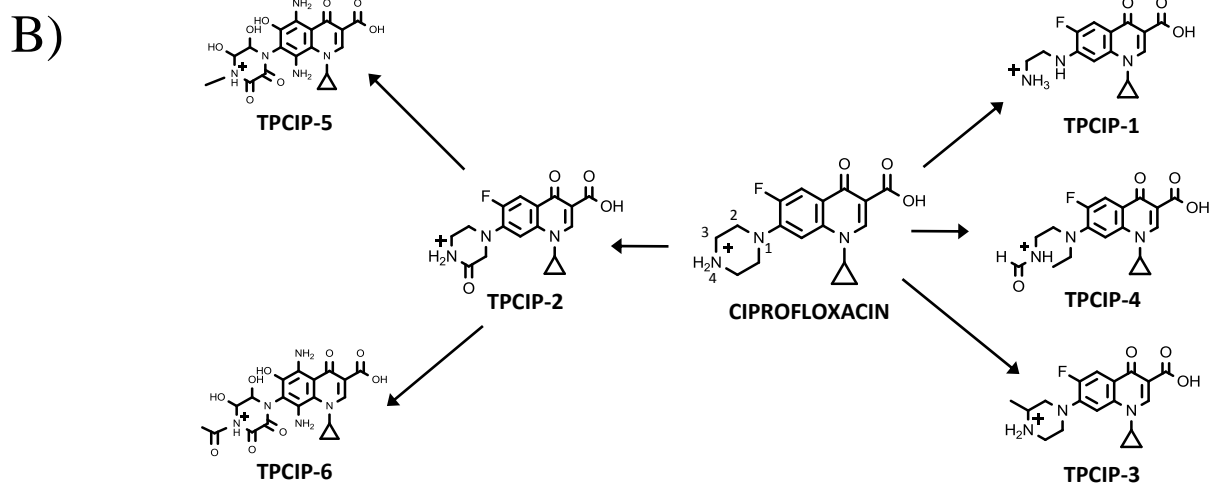
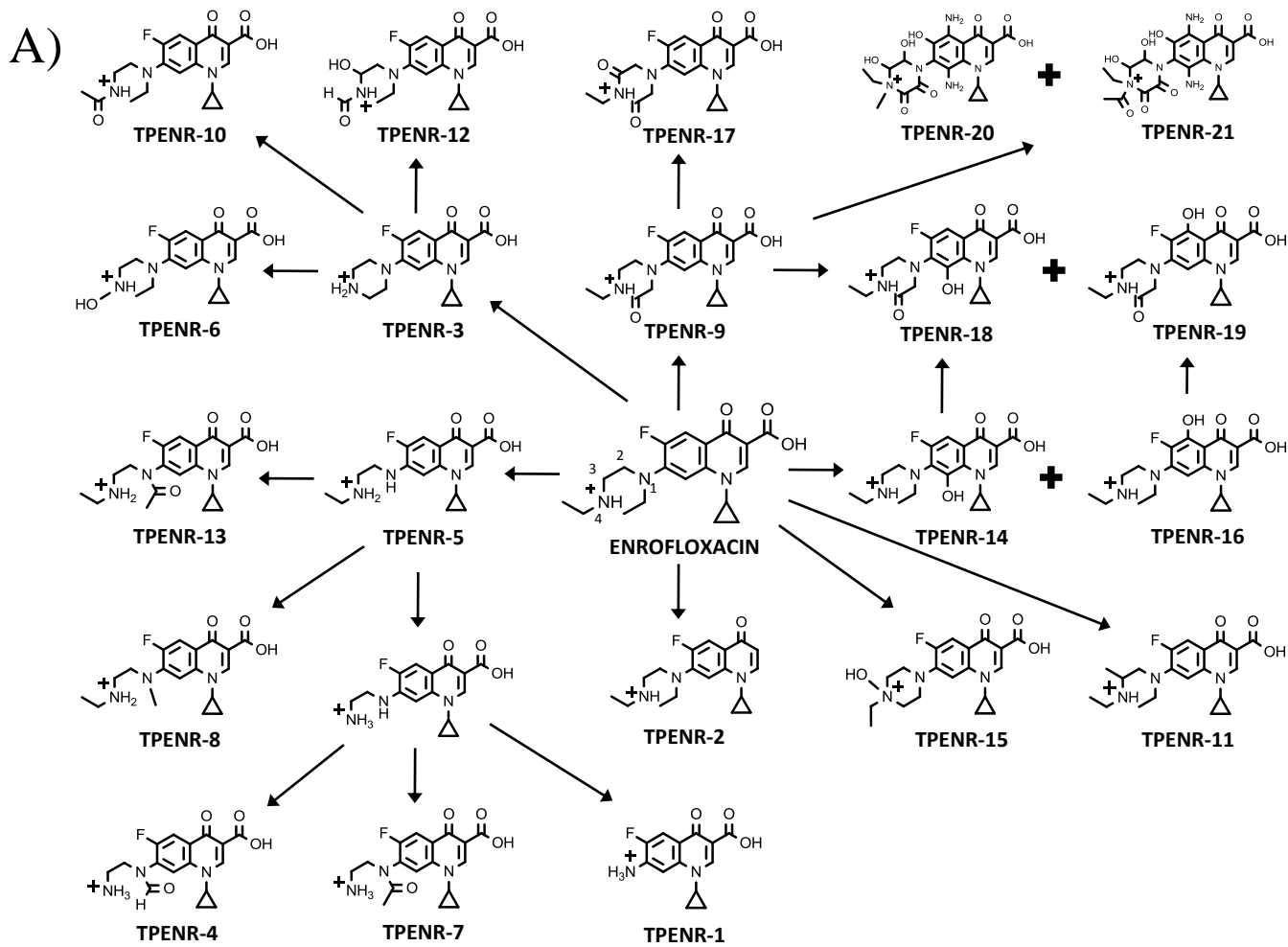


Figure 2.

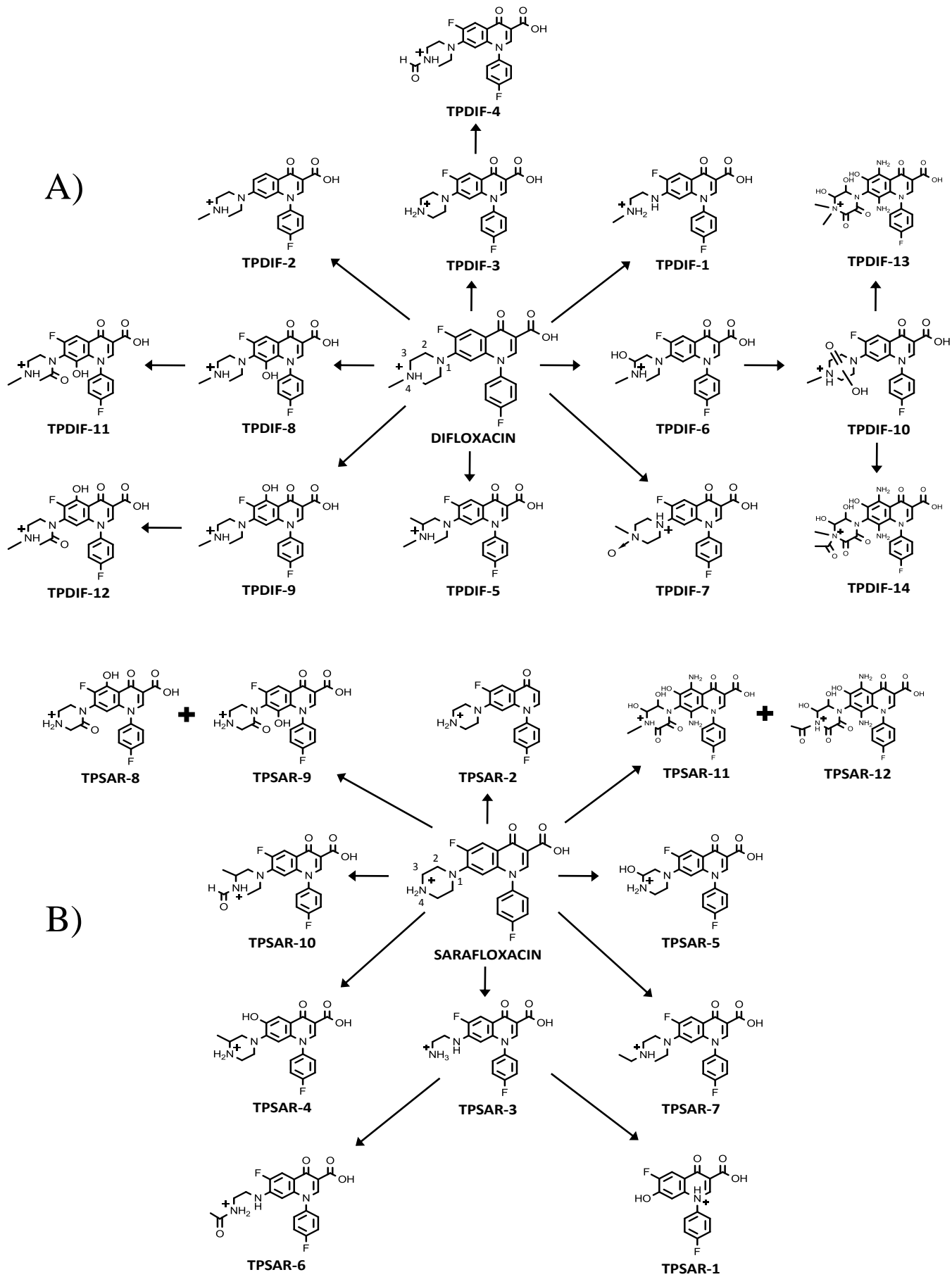


Figure 3.

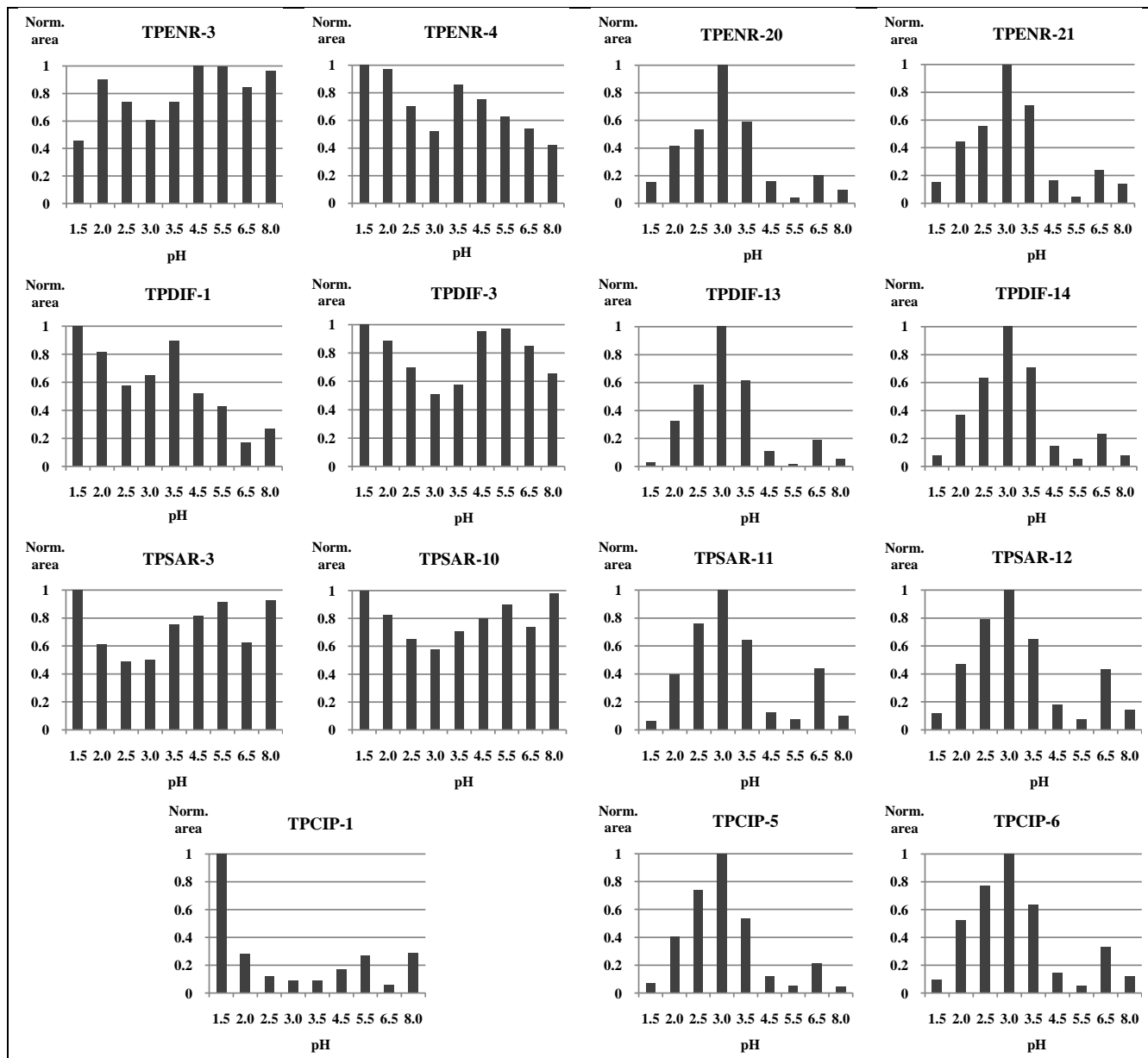


Figure 4.



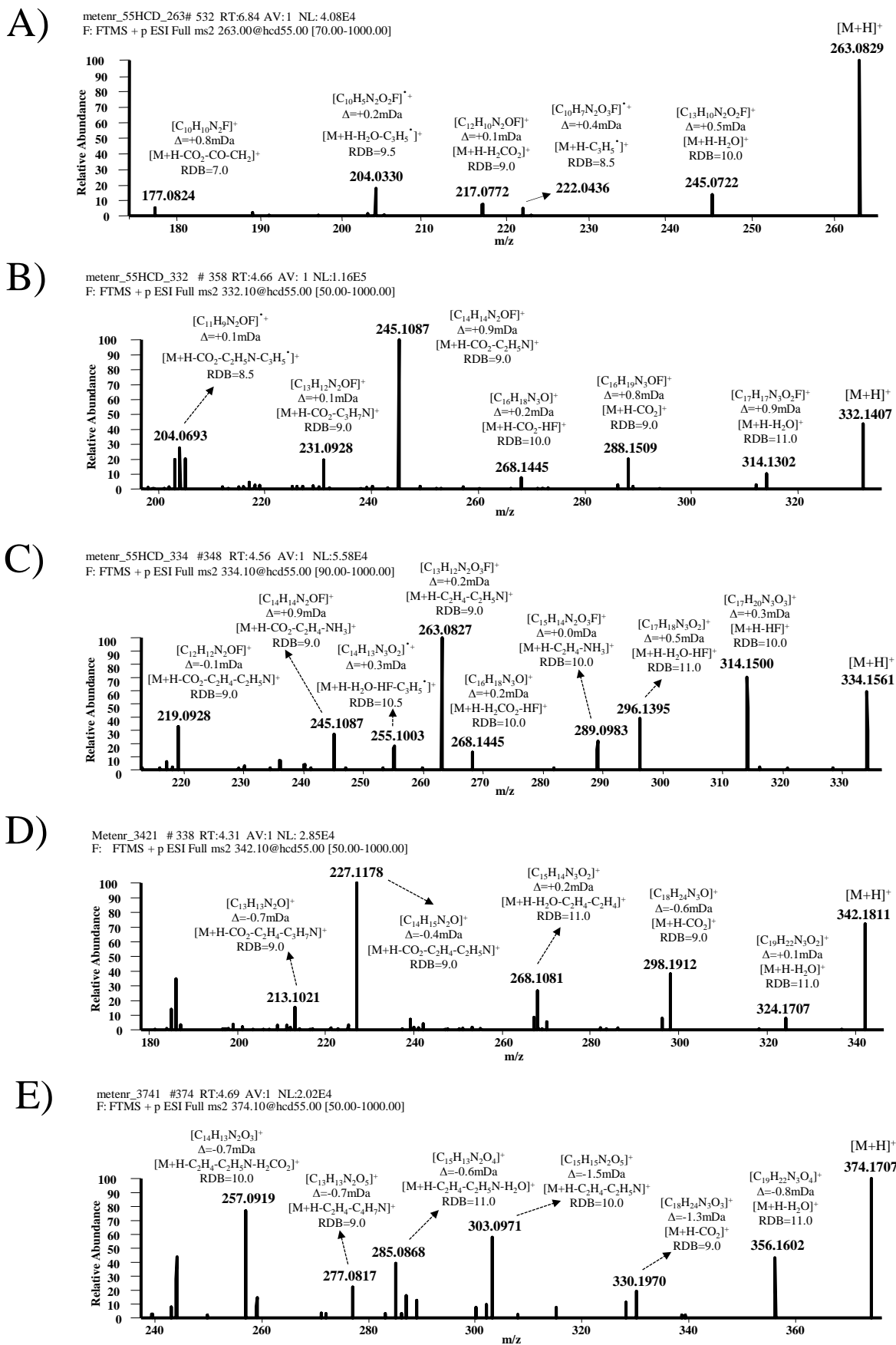


Figure 5.