

# Determination of Mifepristone in Human Plasma by Automated On-Line SPE Combined with MS/MS

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## Introduction

Mifepristone is a synthetic steroid compound that has been studied in Phase II clinical trials for many medical uses, including: oral contraception, uterine fibroids, endometriosis, major depression with psychotic features, glaucoma, meningiomas, Cushing's syndrome, and various cancers. Mifepristone can be detected by LC/MS/MS following sample clean-up by various methods, including: protein precipitation, solid phase extraction, or liquid/liquid extraction. However, automated on-line SPE circumvents the need for an analytical HPLC column and provides a rapid, highly selective method of sample clean-up, allowing detection at levels relevant for therapeutic drug monitoring (100 ng/mL) in human plasma.

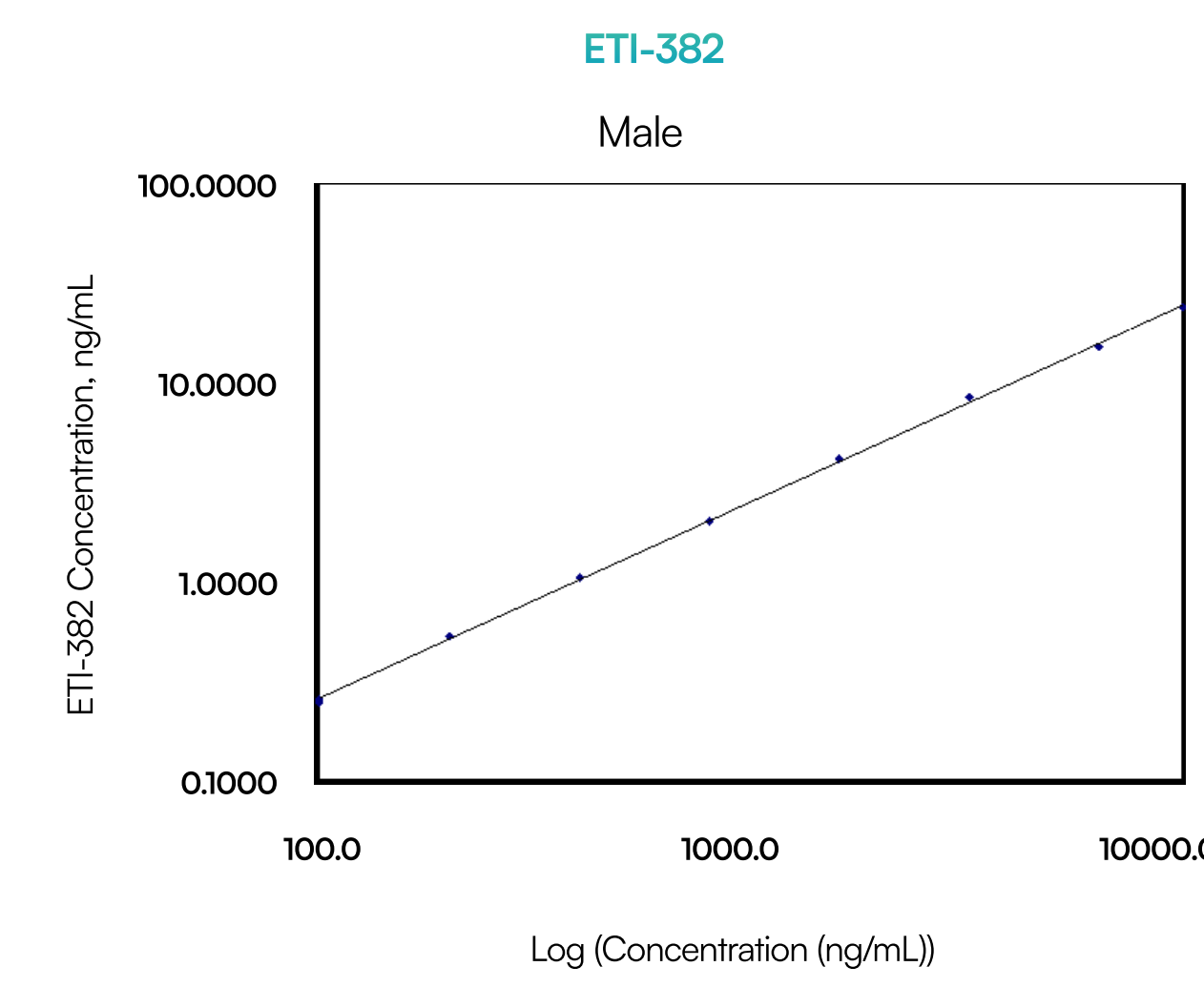
## Methods

<b>Instrumentation</b>	Spark Holland Symbiosis SPE-LC system coupled to a Micromass Quattro Micro tandem quadrupole mass spectrometer
<b>Analyte</b>	Mifepristone
<b>Internal Standard</b>	Mifepristone-d <sub>3</sub>
<b>Sample Volume</b>	0.05 mL
<b>Sample Preparation Method</b>	Plasma proteins are precipitated with 2 mL of 1% ammonium formate in methanol. The samples are vortexed, centrifuged, and a 0.7 mL aliquot is transferred to a well plate. A 0.005 mL aliquot was injected on the Symbiosis SPE-LC system.
<b>Analytical Column</b>	N/A
<b>SPE Cartridge</b>	HySphere C18 HD (Spark Holland, The Netherlands)
<b>Mass Transitions</b>	
<b>Mifepristone:</b>	430.30 > 372.20
<b>I.S. (Mifepristone-d<sub>3</sub>):</b>	433.30 > 375.20
<b>On-line SPE Conditions</b>	
<b>Condition:</b>	1 mL methanol
<b>Equilibrate:</b>	1 mL Water:Acetonitrile:Formic Acid (950:50:1, v/v/v)
<b>Load:</b>	1 mL Water:Acetonitrile:Formic Acid (950:50:1, v/v/v)
<b>Wash:</b>	0.5 mL Water:Acetonitrile:Ammonium Formate:Formic Acid (700:300:1.25:0.8, v/v/w/v)
<b>Elute:</b>	Standard mode (HPLC solvent stream is the eluting solvent) 0.45 mL Methanol:Water:Ammonium Formate:Formic Acid (700:300:0.75:0.6, v/v/w/v)
<b>Retention Times</b>	
<b>Mifepristone, I.S.:</b>	~0.4 min
<b>Injection to Injection Cycle Time</b>	2.03 minutes
<b>Curve Range</b>	100 to 10,000 ng/mL

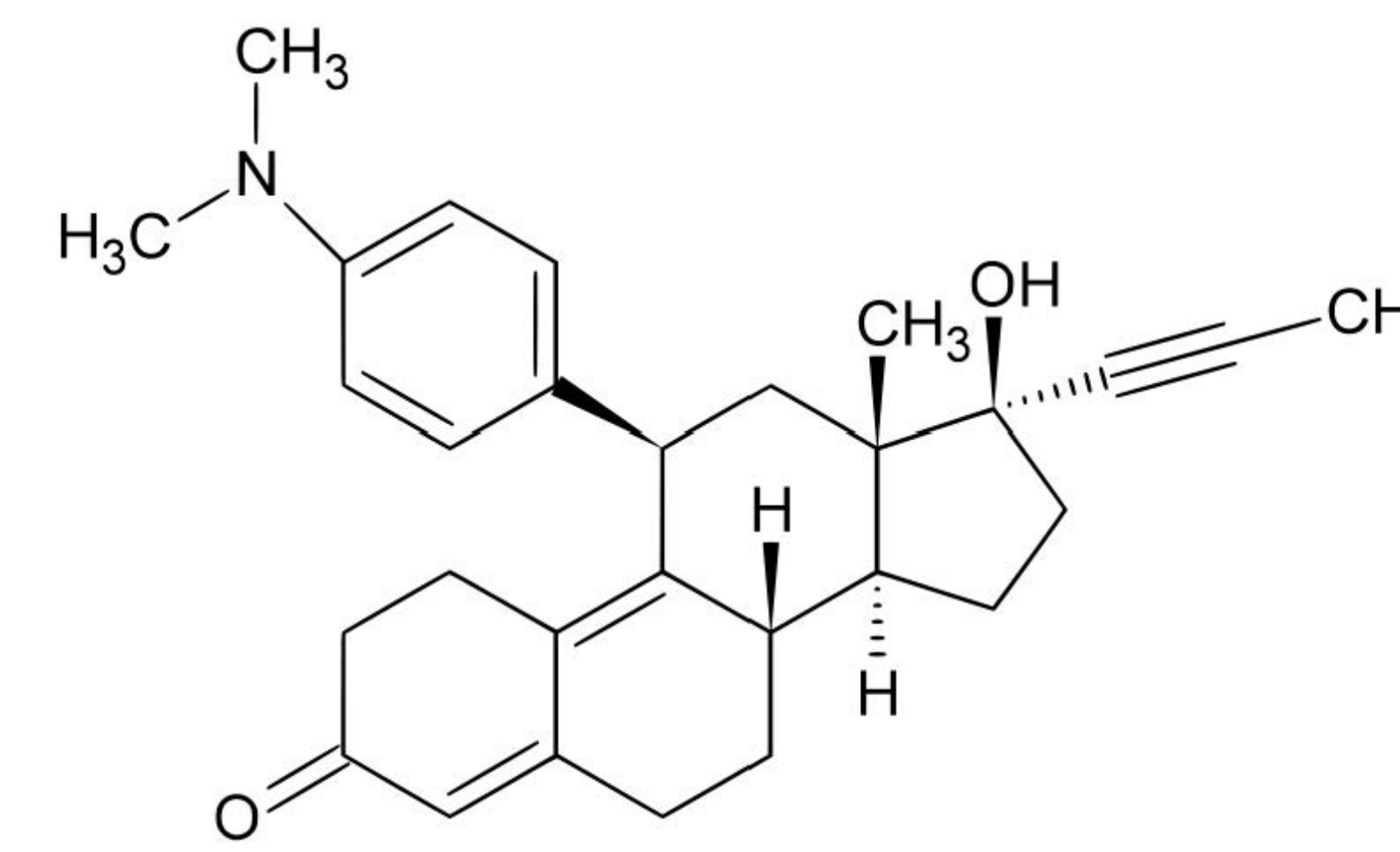
## Conclusions

- A robust, specific, and simple assay for the analysis of mifepristone in human plasma has been validated.
- On-line SPE is an effective clean-up step to achieve specificity for mifepristone.
- The method is suitable to quantify human plasma in therapeutic drug monitoring studies.

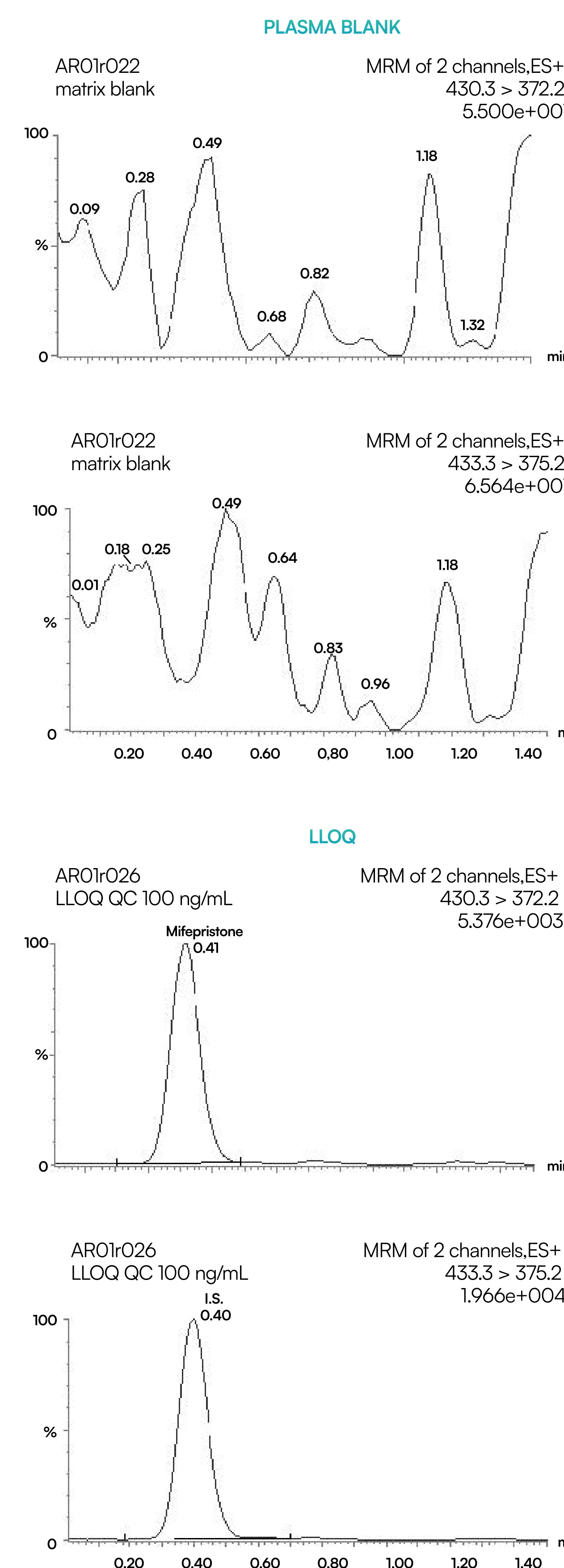
Representative Calibration Curve (100 to 10,000 ng/mL) for Mifepristone in Human Plasma



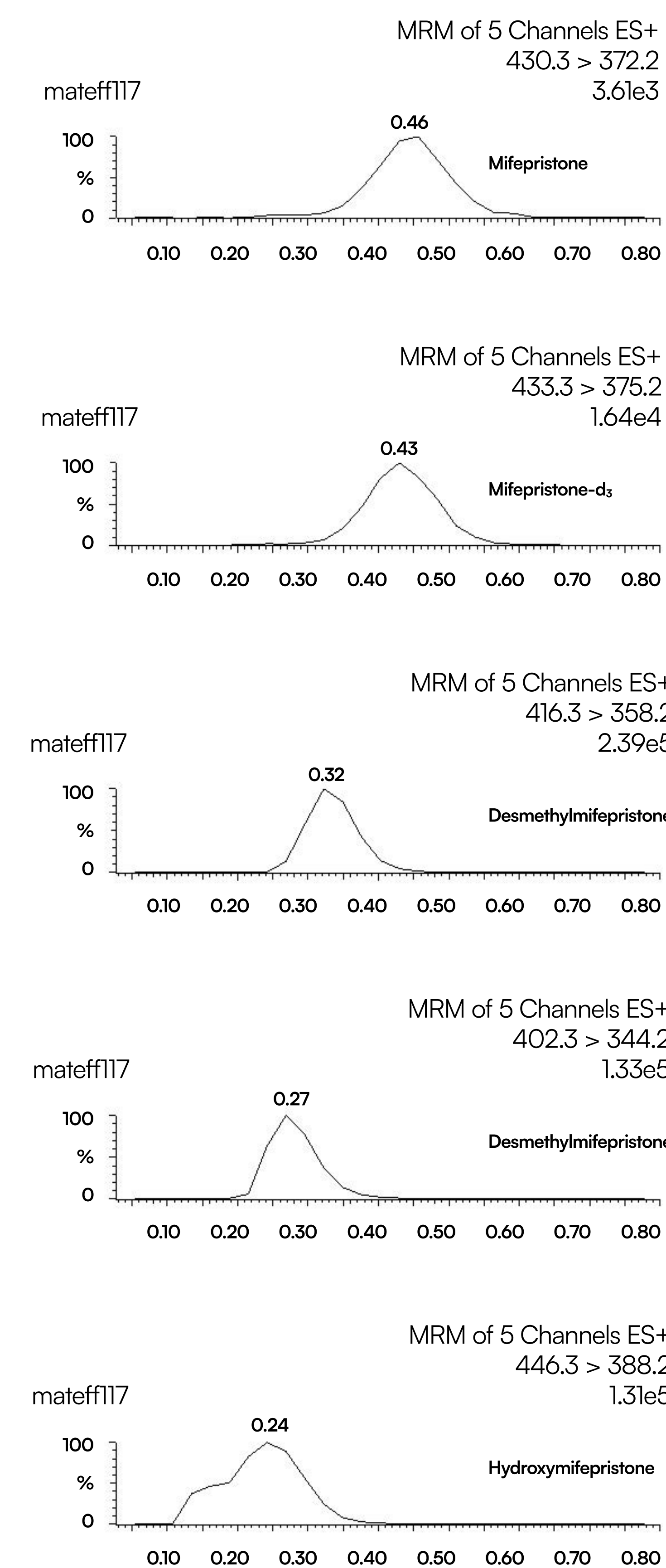
## Structure



Representative Chromatograms for Mifepristone and Internal Standard in Human Plasma



Representative Chromatograms Showing Separation of Mifepristone and its Major Metabolites (Not Analyzed) on the SPE Cartridge



## Accuracy and Precision

### Interday

Analytical Run	Replicate	Concentration (ng/mL)				
		100	300	1,000	3,000	8,000
AR01	1	104	325	1040	3250	7920
	2	104	311	1060	3110	8010
	3	104	313	1040	3110	8020
	4	107	308	1040	3150	8070
	5	102	308	1030	3190	7800
	6	106	306	1070	3190	7890
AR02	1	99.8	299	979	3090	7650
	2	103	315	1000	3130	7750
	3	102	306	1020	3160	7660
	4	101	296	1000	3090	7710
	5	98.3	305	989	2980	7600
	6	98.5	296	988	3080	7860
AR03	1	102	294	1030	2980	7530
	2	95.0	307	1020	3160	8030
	3	107	329	1020	3100	8020
	4	105	291	1050	3180	7830
	5	91.7	314	1050	3160	7840
	6	110	311	1020	3040	7450
AR04	1	97.7	327	992	3090	7890
	2	101	297	1000	3150	7940
	3	102	315	1000	3000	7750
	4	108	322	1000	2970	7880
	5	99.9	301	1020	3050	7860
	6	104	294	1000	2970	8100
	Mean	102	308	1030	3100	7840
	%CV	4.09	3.52	2.63	2.53	2.21
	%DEV	2.00	2.67	3.00	3.33	-2.00

Interday accuracy and precision were determined by analyzing replicate QC samples in human plasma at five concentrations over the course of four separate analyses.

## Impact of Matrix Effect

Theoretical Concentration (ng/mL)	Plasma Lot Number	Replicate	Reported Concentration (ng/mL)	%DEV	Lot Acceptance
100	BC1810PM2	1	99.3	-0.700	Pass
		2	95.6	-4.40	Pass
		3	95.2	-4.80	Pass
	BC1810PM3	1	97.2	-2.80	Pass
		2	101	1.00	Pass
		3	98.2	-1.80	Pass
	BC1810PM4	1	95.8	-4.20	Pass
		2	97.3	-2.70	Pass
		3	95.1	-4.90	Pass
	BC1810PM6	1	92.6	-7.40	Pass
		2	93.5	-6.50	Pass
		3	91.6	-8.40	Pass
BC04070PM1	1	95.5	-4.50	Pass	
	2	97.5	-2.50	Pass	
	3	91.5	-8.50	Pass	
BC04070PM3	1	97.1	-2.90	Pass	
	2	98.1	-1.90	Pass	
	3	104	4.00	Pass	
					Overall Acceptance: 100%

The impact matrix effect on mifepristone was determined by calculating the %DEV of three replicates for each lot spiked at the LLOQ.

## HPLC Carry-Over Evaluation for Mifepristone in Human Plasma

Analytical Run	Lowest LLOQ Peak Height	Replicate	Concentration (ng/mL)		Carry-Over Percentage of LLOQ Peak Height*
			Carry-Over ULOQ	Carry-Over Peak Height	
MB01	3.813	1	397.997	0	0.00%
		2	406.438	0	0.00%
		3	449.103	0	0.00%
		4	429.762	0	0.00%
		5	428.220	0	0.00%
		6	508.032	0	0.00%

\* Following injection of a unique ULOQ sample

HPLC carryover was evaluated by injecting a precipitation solution blank sample immediately following a unique ULOQ sample not included in the calibration curve. A mean response less than 20.0% of the LLOQ peak height indicates that there is no significant carry-over effect between injections.