



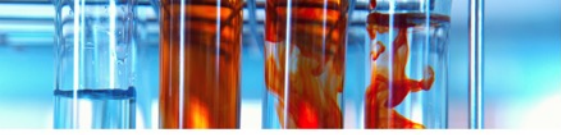
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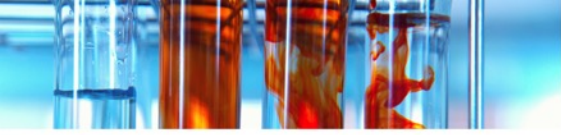
## Using the Flexibility of Hybrid LC-MS/MS to Address Typical Challenges in Quantitation of Large Molecules

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## Agenda

- Introduction to large molecule bioanalysis
- The increasing role of hybrid LC-MS/MS in large molecule bioanalysis
- Case Studies
- Conclusions



## Introduction

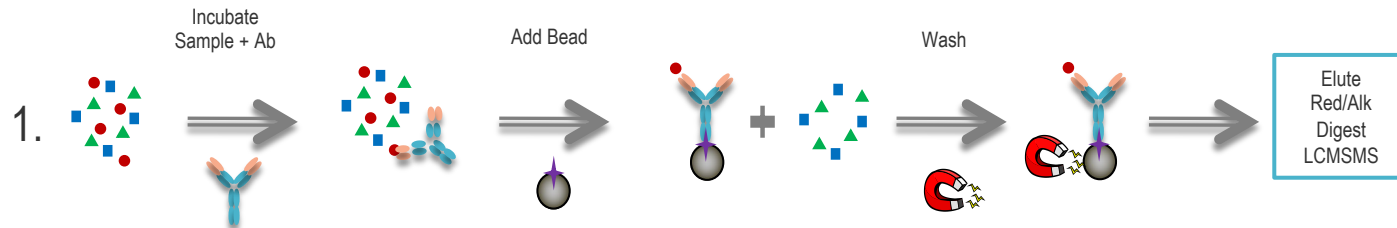
- Instinct when thinking about bioanalysis of large molecules is towards ligand binding assays (LBA) .
- Typical sandwich assay requires two antibodies for successful analysis
  - Capture antibody to bind target analyte
  - Detection antibody with conjugated to allow detection
- Lack of available reagents often call for alternative approaches for large molecule bioanalysis
  - Opportunity for MS-based approaches

## Principles of Hybrid LC-MS/MS

- Definition: Hybrid LC-MS/MS is a technique which combines an enrichment step (typically an antibody enrichment on beads or columns) with the selectivity and sensitivity provided by LC-MS/MS
- Target analytes have masses in the range of tens to hundreds of thousands of daltons
- Typical mass range of triple quadrupole mass spectrometer is 5-2000 Da (SCIEX API-6500) so surrogate peptide approach is necessary
- Following digestion, unique peptide is extracted and quantitated allowing PK modelling for large molecules
- The ability to optimize multiple steps plays into the flexibility of hybrid LC-MS/MS

# Typical Hybrid LC-MS/MS Methodology

Capture



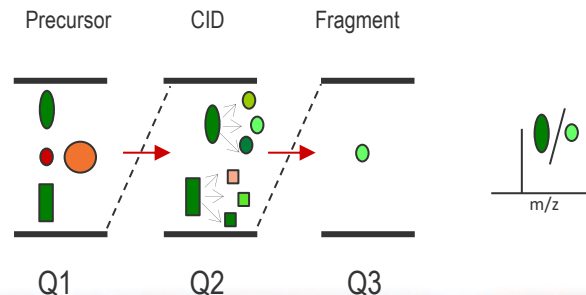
Detector

2.



- MS detector allows one to “dial” in selectivity
- Only need 1 Ab

## Multiple Reaction Monitoring



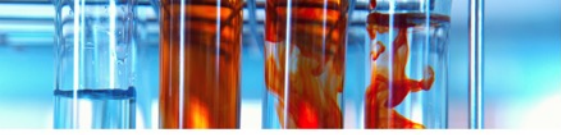
## Typical Project Workflow for Hybrid LC-MS/MS

- In-silico modelling to predict potential target peptides following enzymatic digestion (trypsin, chymotrypsin, Lys-C etc)
- Identify peptides with chain length to work well with LC-MS/MS
- Digestion in solution & LC-MS/MS of putative candidates (screening for sensitivity, selectivity)
- Performance of key peptides in matrix
- Selection of primary peptide for further development & synthesis of stable-labeled extended peptide



## Hybrid LC-MS Value to Large Molecule Bioanalysis

- Lack of availability of reagents does not prevent development of an LC-MS/MS assay
  - Feasible to develop LC-MS/MS assay with one or no good reagents
- Use selectivity from extraction, chromatography and MS/MS to avoid interferences
- Ready translation between species with some sequence changes. Less concern on effect on Ab binding
- Ability to work around and detect simple sequence changes (e.g. – 1 amino acid, phosphorylation)
- Flexibility in analysis – not tied to a single molecular entity
  - Ability to provide multiple data assessments at any time
  - Same protein but different parts of the molecule



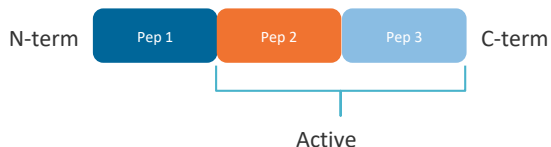
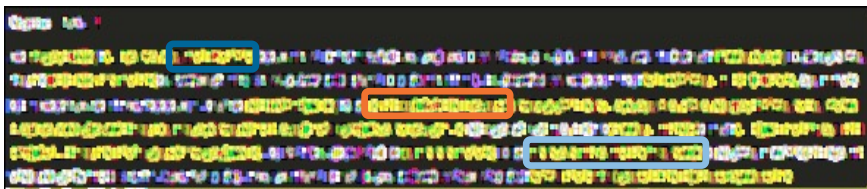
## Case Studies

- Case Study #1 – Flexibility in Analyte Candidate Selection
- Case Study #2 – Bioanalysis of Biomarker Long & Short Forms
- Case Study #3 – Rapid Assay Development for ADC Stability Screening & PK Support
- Case Study #4 – Lack of Availability of Protein Reference Standard for Ophthalmic Assay



## Case Study #1 – Flexibility in Analyte Candidate Selection

- Original project scope – PK assay for biotherapeutic using LBA
- Observed issues with instability impacting assay development & quantitation
- Pivot to hybrid LC-MS/MS to troubleshoot instability

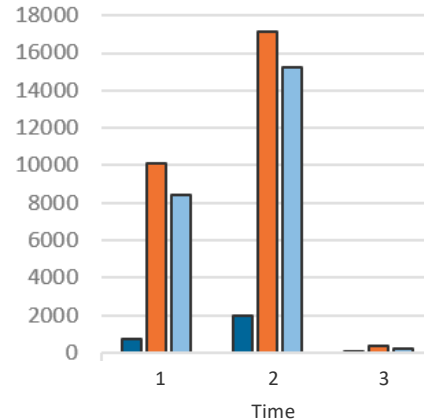
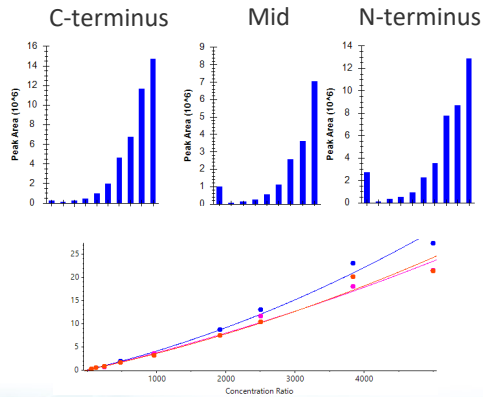


Multiplexed hybrid LC-MS/MS assay using selected peptides from different regions of protein

# Case Study #1 – Flexibility in Analyte Candidate Selection

- Quantify several peptides
- Choose across entire protein (N-term, Mid, C-term)
- PK assay as well as stability information – correlated with activity/efficacy etc.

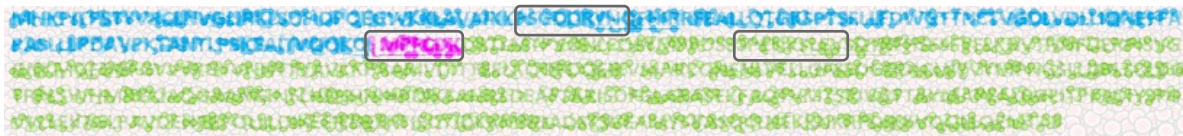
Calibration curves



- N-terminal peptide rapidly lost compared to other protein regions
- Drug was still active so assumption - N-term not required for activity

# Case Study #2 – Bioanalysis of Biomarker Long & Short Forms

- Goal: To develop an assay for short and long isomers of a protein biomarker



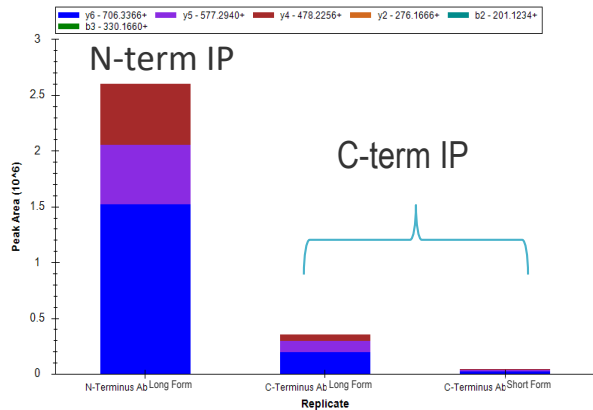
Cyan – specific to long form peptide

Magenta – specific to short form peptide

Green – Common/total peptide

- Challenges
  - Identify unique peptide for each isoform
  - Only 1 peptide can differentiate “short” form
  - Can we get a 2 plex assay – short and long forms?
- Initial Approach
  - 2 Plex assay
    - IP with C-term Ab – capture both short and long isoforms
- Findings
  - C-terminal could not be used for 2 plex assay
  - Insufficient sensitivity for long and short forms
- Pivot to alternative approaches
  - IP with N-term Antibody for long form
  - How to measure short form?
    - Incorporate total assay

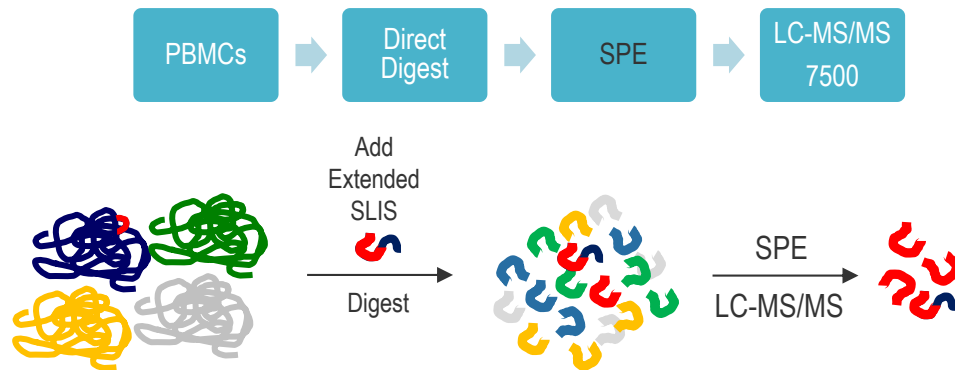
# Case Study #2 – Bioanalysis of Biomarker Long & Short Forms



## Results

- N-terminal IP yielded much better sensitivity for Long Peptide
- No direct measurement possible for short peptide
- Dual workflow

## Total Measurement - Traditional LC-MS/MS



## Long Isoform - Hybrid LC-MS/MS



$$\text{Short} = \text{Total} - \text{Long}$$

# Case Study #2 – Bioanalysis of Biomarker Long & Short Forms

## Total Assay – Traditional LC-MS/MS

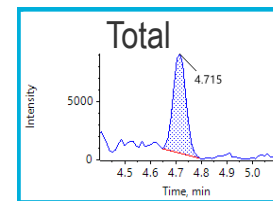
**Standard Curves in 0.1% BSA in Deionized Water**

| Component Name | Actual Conc (ng/mL) | Num. Values | Mean   | % CV | % Accuracy |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------|------|------------|
| Common - Total | 5                   | 2 of 2      | 5.2    | 1.9  | 104.6      |
| Common - Total | 10                  | 2 of 2      | 9.2    | 1.4  | 91.7       |
| Common - Total | 20                  | 2 of 2      | 19.5   | 6.5  | 97.7       |
| Common - Total | 40                  | 2 of 2      | 39.6   | 4.6  | 98.9       |
| Common - Total | 80                  | 2 of 2      | 81.3   | 7.3  | 101.7      |
| Common - Total | 160                 | 2 of 2      | 165.2  | 1.8  | 103.2      |
| Common - Total | 320                 | 2 of 2      | 308.6  | 10.5 | 96.5       |
| Common - Total | 640                 | 2 of 2      | 692.2  | 9.0  | 108.2      |
| Common - Total | 1280                | 2 of 2      | 1265.3 | 4.2  | 98.9       |
| Common - Total | 2560                | 2 of 2      | 2526.8 | 2.4  | 98.7       |

**Quality Controls in 0.1% BSA in Deionized Water**

| Name   | Actual Conc (ng/mL) | Dilution Factor | Num. Values | Mean    | % CV | % Accuracy |
|--------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------|------|------------|
| Common | 20                  | 1               | 3 of 3      | 17.0    | 10.4 | 85.2       |
| Common | 60                  | 1               | 3 of 3      | 46.5    | 6.9  | 77.6       |
| Common | 500                 | 1               | 3 of 3      | 381.7   | 3.6  | 76.4       |
| Common | 2000                | 1               | 3 of 3      | 1578.7  | 5.2  | 78.9       |
| Common | 10000               | 10              | 3 of 3      | 10239.3 | 2.0  | 102.4      |

Detection of Total and Long forms in isolated PBMC's from about 1 million cells.



Lysis with 400  $\mu$ L TPER buffer  
~11 ng/mL

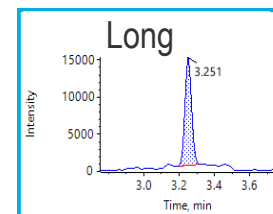
## Long Isoform Assay – Hybrid LC-MS/MS

**Standard Curve in 0.1% BSA in Deionized Water**

| Name | Actual Conc (ng/mL) | Num. Values | Mean   | % CV  | % Accuracy |
|------|---------------------|-------------|--------|-------|------------|
| Long | 5                   | 2 of 2      | 4.8    | 6.46  | 96.53      |
| Long | 10                  | 2 of 2      | 10.8   | 7.03  | 107.76     |
| Long | 20                  | 2 of 2      | 19.5   | 8.37  | 97.4       |
| Long | 40                  | 2 of 2      | 41.1   | 0.21  | 102.72     |
| Long | 80                  | 2 of 2      | 80.7   | 5.06  | 100.89     |
| Long | 160                 | 2 of 2      | 154.7  | 5.69  | 96.71      |
| Long | 320                 | 2 of 2      | 305.1  | 7.15  | 95.36      |
| Long | 640                 | 2 of 2      | 654.6  | 7.05  | 102.28     |
| Long | 1280                | 2 of 2      | 1285.3 | 11.57 | 100.41     |
| Long | 2560                | 2 of 2      | 2559.2 | 3.13  | 99.97      |

**Quality Controls in 0.1% BSA in Deionized Water**

| Name | Actual Conc (ng/mL) | Dilution Factor | Num. Values | Mean   | % CV | % Accuracy |
|------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------|------|------------|
| Long | 5                   | 1               | 3 of 3      | 5.1    | 4.8  | 102.3      |
| Long | 15                  | 1               | 3 of 3      | 14.8   | 1.9  | 98.8       |
| Long | 500                 | 1               | 3 of 3      | 491.2  | 6.6  | 98.2       |
| Long | 2000                | 1               | 3 of 3      | 2127.4 | 14.5 | 106.4      |
| Long | 10000               | 10              | 3 of 3      | 9972.7 | 6.1  | 99.7       |

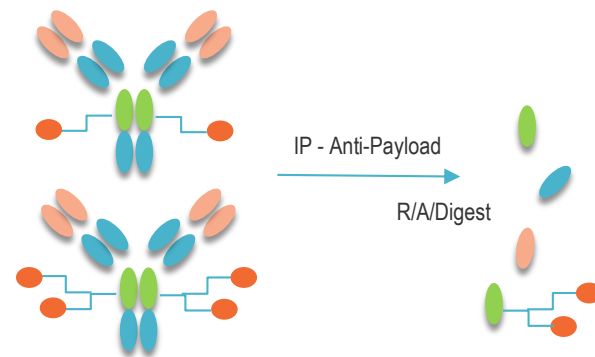


Lysis with 400  $\mu$ L TPER buffer  
~9 ng/mL



## Case Study #3 – Rapid Assay Development for ADC Stability Screening & PK Support

- Goal: To develop a PK assay for multiple human ADC in preclinical species for *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* studies
  - Various DAR's with same payload (MMAE)
  - Step 1 – In-vitro stability to identify most stable ADCs
  - Step 2 – In-vivo PK for top 3 ADCs
- Experimental Approach –
  - MMAE Antibody immunoprecipitation followed by digestion and LCMSMS
  - +/- Reduction/Alkylation
  - Monitor Common Fc peptides (Several to choose from (Trp sites))
  - DAR insensitive – Will capture any DAR > 0
  - 20 different candidate ADC's screened

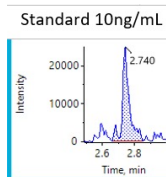


ASTK**GPSVFPLAPSSK**STSGGTAALGCLVKDYFPEPVTVSWNSGALTSVGHVTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVP  
 SSSLGTQTYICNVNHHKPSNTKVDKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLGGPSVFLFPPKPK**DTLMISRTPEVTC**  
 VVVDVSHEDPEVK**FNWYVDGVEVHNAK**TKPREEQYNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSNKALP  
 A**PIEK**TISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTK**NQVSLTCLVK**GFYPSDIAVEWESNGQPENNYK**TPPVLDSD**  
 G**SFFLYSKLTVDK**SRWQQGNVFCFSVMHEALHNHYTQK**SLSLSPGK**

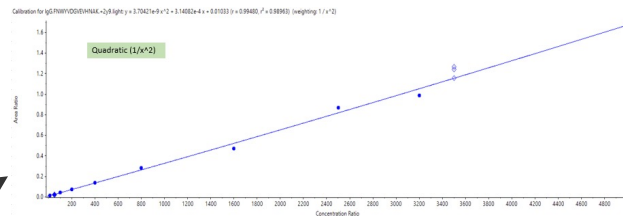


# Case Study #3 – Rapid Assay Development for ADC Stability Screening & PK Support

- 1.5 to 2 Day MD – verify peptide sensitivity, assess accuracy & precision
- Typical range 10-5000 ng/mL (25  $\mu$ L mouse plasma)
- Surrogate Matrix STD's (0.1% BSA) and Matrix QC's
- Several Fc peptides (FNW, VVSV, GPS, etc)

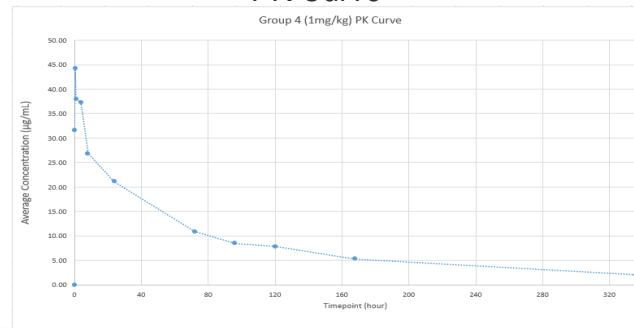


Standard Curve



| Component Name               | Actual Concentration (ng/mL) | Num. Values | Mean (ng/mL) | Average Accuracy | Value #1 (ng/mL) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 10                           | 1 of 1      | 10.3         | <b>102.8</b>     | 10.3             |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 50                           | 1 of 1      | 39.2         | <b>78.4</b>      | 39.2             |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 100                          | 1 of 1      | 112          | <b>112.5</b>     | 112              |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 200                          | 1 of 1      | 207          | <b>103.4</b>     | 207              |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 400                          | 1 of 1      | 411          | <b>102.9</b>     | 411              |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 800                          | 1 of 1      | 858          | <b>107.2</b>     | 858              |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 1600                         | 1 of 1      | 1452         | <b>90.7</b>      | 1452             |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 2500                         | 1 of 1      | 2648         | <b>105.9</b>     | 2648             |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 3200                         | 1 of 1      | 3006         | <b>93.9</b>      | 3006             |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 5000                         | 1 of 1      | 5113         | <b>102.3</b>     | 5113             |

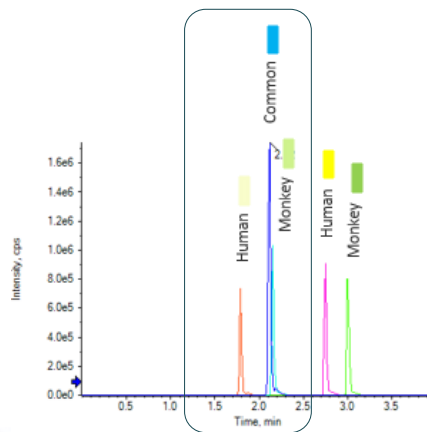
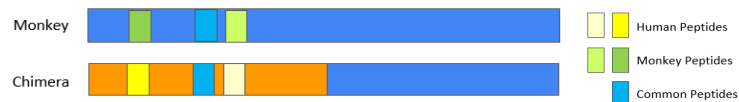
PK Curve



| Component Name               | Actual Concentration (ng/mL) | Num. Values | Mean (ng/mL) | Standard Deviation | Percent CV | Average Accuracy Across Replicates | Value #1 (ng/mL) | Value #2 (ng/mL) | Value #3 (ng/mL) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 0                            | 0 of 3      | N/A          | N/A                | N/A        | N/A                                | 0                | 0                | 0                |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 50                           | 3 of 3      | 43.7         | 7.8                | 17.88      | 87.5                               | 34.7             | 47.9             | 48.6             |
| IgG.FNWYVDGVEVHNAK.+2y9.lght | 3500                         | 3 of 3      | 3694.3       | 166.3              | 4.50       | 105.6                              | 3507             | 3752             | 3824             |

# Case Study #4 – Lack of Availability of Protein Reference Standard

- Goal: Development of an assay to be able to differentiate endogenous monkey from chimeric forms of expressed protein following administration of gene therapy
- Approach/Strategy
  - IP with C-term Ab – capture monkey and chimera
  - Identify peptides for total target protein and expressed chimera
  - No protein STD – use Peptide STD's (long/flanked ISTD) and bridged to protein with cell lysates

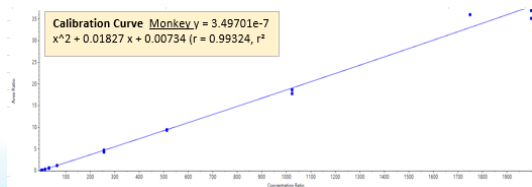


# Case Study #4 – Lack of Availability of Protein Reference Standard

## Typical Peptide Standard Curve (NHP)

| Calibration Curve Statistics - Peptide Standards in Surrogate Matrix |                  |              |              |                 |       |        |                    |
|--|------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-------|--------|--------------------|
| Component Name   | Actual Conc (pM) | Replicate #1 | Replicate #2 | Replicates Used | Mean  | St Dev | Average % Accuracy |
| Monkey   | 0.5              | 0.415        | 0.56         | 2 of 2          | 0.487 | 0.102  | 21.0               |
| Monkey   | 1                | 1.62         | 1.837        | 0 of 2          | N/A   | N/A    | N/A                |
| Monkey   | 2                | 2.70         | 1.90         | 2 of 2          | 2.30  | 0.562  | 24.5               |
| Monkey   | 4                | 3.48         | 3.75         | 2 of 2          | 3.62  | 0.19   | 5.3                |
| Monkey   | 16               | 15.2         | 17.8         | 2 of 2          | 16.5  | 1.85   | 11.2               |
| Monkey   | 32               | 28.4         | 32.5         | 2 of 2          | 30.4  | 2.958  | 9.7                |
| Monkey   | 64               | 66.8         | 66.2         | 2 of 2          | 66.5  | 0.41   | 0.6                |
| Monkey   | 256              | 235          | 257          | 2 of 2          | 246   | 15.2   | 6.2                |
| Monkey   | 512              | 513          | 507          | 2 of 2          | 510   | 4.2    | 0.8                |
| Monkey   | 1024             | 959          | 1000         | 2 of 2          | 980   | 29.52  | 3.0                |
| Monkey   | 1750             | 1900         | 1899         | 2 of 2          | 1899  | 0.6    | 0.0                |
| Monkey   | 2000             | 1951         | 1858         | 2 of 2          | 1905  | 65.3   | 3.4                |

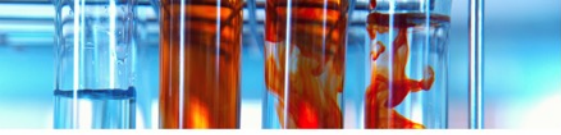
| Peptide Quality Controls in Surrogate Matrix |                  |              |              |              |          |      |                    |
|--|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|------|--------------------|
| Component Name                               | Actual Conc (pM) | Replicate #1 | Replicate #2 | Replicate #3 | Rep Used | Mean | Average % Accuracy |
| Monkey                                       | 1                | 1.07         | 1.07         | 0.88         | 3 of 3   | 1.00 | 10.6               |
| Monkey                                       | 3                | 3.05         | 3.40         | 2 of 3       | 3.23     | 0.25 | 7.8                |
| Monkey                                       | 50               | 51.4         | 53.1         | 52.6         | 3 of 3   | 52.4 | 1.7                |
| Monkey                                       | 1500             | 1388         | 1568         | 1542         | 3 of 3   | 1499 | 6.5                |



- Fit-for-purpose assay qualified to detect chimera and confirm presence of human, NHP or common peptides
- Use of SCIEX API-7500 to achieve the most sensitivity needed for the retinal punches.
- Ability to report approximate picomolar concentrations for protein (0.5 to 2000 pM).
- Matrix effects checked with various dilutions of an overexpressed lysate to test the protein recovery was consistent. Use as “QCs”

## Conclusions

- Flexibility of hybrid LC-MS/MS key to successful assay development
  - Ability to measure multiple different peptides within an analyte
  - Optimization of capture reagents, extraction, digestion, downstream analysis
- Lack of availability of reagents does not prevent development of an LC-MS/MS assay
- Successful fit-for-purpose assays can be developed for proteins or biomarkers when no protein standards are available.
- Combination of hybrid LC-MS/MS with traditional extraction approaches can provide more complete picture
- Use of “generic” assays can leverage rapid assay development



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**Thank you for your  
attention**