

1 Simultaneous determination of bufalin and its nine metabolites in rat
2 plasma for characterization of metabolic profiles and pharmacokinetic
3 study by LC-MS/MS

4 Wenlong Wei †, Yang Yu †, Xia Wang, Linhui Yang, Hang Zhang, Hongjian Ji,
5 Zhenwei Li, Jinjun HOU, Wanying Wu *, Dean Guo *

6
7
8 **Affiliation**

9
10 Shanghai Research Center for Modernization of Traditional Chinese Medicine,
11 National Engineering Laboratory for TCM Standardization Technology, Shanghai
12 Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Science, Shanghai, 201203,
13 China

14
15 † These two authors contributed equally to this work
16
17

18 **Correspondence:**

19 Prof. Wanying Wu, Shanghai Research Center for Modernization of Traditional
20 Chinese Medicine, National Engineering Laboratory for TCM Standardization
21 Technology, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences,
22 Haike Road 501, Shanghai 201203, China.

23 Email: wanyingwu@simm.ac.cn Phone: +86 21 20231000 2221 Fax: +86 21
24 50272789

25
26 Prof. De-an Guo, Shanghai Research Center for Modernization of Traditional Chinese
27 Medicine, National Engineering Laboratory for TCM Standardization Technology,

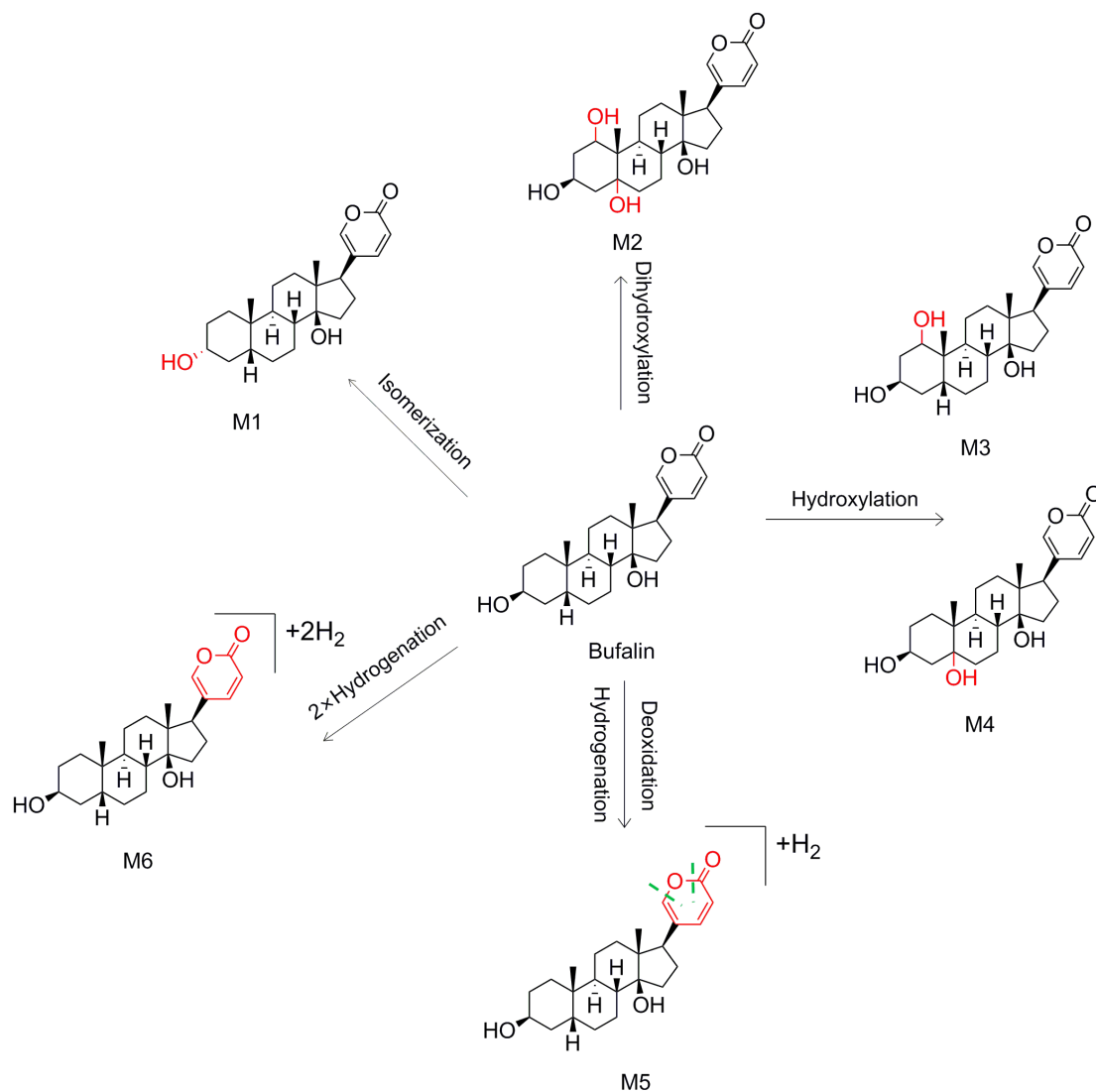
28 Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Haik Road 501,

29 Shanghai 201203, China.

30 Email: daguo@simm.ac.cn Phone: +86 21 20231000 2221 Fax: +86 21 50272789

31

Supporting Information



33

34

Figure S1 Proposed metabolic pathways of bufalin (M1, 3-epi-bufalin; M2, dihydroxylated bufalin; M3, 1- hydroxylated bufalin; M4, 5- hydroxylated bufalin;

35

M5, deoxidation-hydrogenation-bufalin; M6, 2x-hydrogenation-bufalin)

36

37

38

39

40

41

Table S1 The transformations included in UNIFI software

Name	Deita mass (Da)	Formula	Classifier
Decarboxylation	-43.9898	COO	phase I
Propyl ketone to acid	-40.0677	O-C ₄ H ₈	phase I
Tert-butyl to alcohol	-40.0677	O-C ₄ H ₈	phase I
Nitro reduction	-29.9742	H ₂ +O ₂	phase I
Decarbonylation	-27.9949	COO	phase I
Ethyl ketone to acid	-26.052	O-C ₃ H ₆	phase I
Isopropyl to alcohol	-26.052	O-C ₃ H ₇	phase I
Dehydration	-18.0106	H ₂ O	phase I
Aromatization	-6.047	H ₆	phase I
2 × Desaturation	-4.0313	H ₄	phase I
Desaturation	-2.0157	H ₂	phase I
Reduction	2.0157	H ₂	phase I
Oxidation+desaturation	13.9793	O-H ₂	phase I
Methylation	14.0157	CH ₂	phase II
Oxidation	15.9949	O	phase I
Hydration	18.0106	H ₂ O	phase I
Formylation	27.9949	CO	phase II
2×Oxidation + desaturation	29.9742	O ₂ -H ₂	phase I
2 × Oxidation	31.9898	O ₂	phase I
Dihydrondiol formation	34.0055	H ₂ O ₂	phase I
Acetylation	42.0106	C ₂ H ₂ O	phase II
3 × Oxidation	47.9847	O ₃	phase I
Propionyl conjugation	56.0262	C ₃ H ₄ O	phase II
Glycine conjugation	57.0251	C ₂ H ₃ NO	phase II
Butyryl conjugation	70.0419	C ₄ H ₆ O	phase II
Sulfation	79.9568	SO ₃	phase II
Phosphorylation	79.9663	HPO ₃	phase II
Malony	86.0004	C ₃ H ₂ O ₃	
Cysteine conjugation	103.0092	C ₃ H ₅ NOS	phase II
Taurine conjugation	107.0041	C ₂ H ₅ NO ₂ S	phase II
Cysteine S-conjugation	119.0041	C ₃ H ₅ NO ₂ S	phase II
Glutamine conjugation	129.0426	C ₅ H ₇ O ₃ N	phase II
Pentose	132.0432	C ₅ H ₈ O ₄	
Carnitine conjugation	144.1025	C ₇ H ₁₄ O ₂ N	phase II
Rhamnose	146.0579	C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₄	
Acetyl cysteine conjugation	161.0147	C ₅ H ₇ NO ₃ S	phase II
Glucosylation	162.0528	C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₅	phase II
Hex	162.0528	C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₅	
Hexose	162.0528	C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₅	
Gysgly S adduction	176.0526	C ₅ H ₈ N ₂ O ₃ S	phase II
Glucuronidation	176.0321	C ₆ H ₈ O ₆	phase II

Glucuronidation of carbamate	220.0219	$C_7H_8O_8$	phase II
Glutathione conjugation	289.0732	$C_{10}H_{15}N_3O_5S$	phase II
Glutathione S-conjugation	305.0682	$C_{10}H_{15}N_3O_6S$	phase II

43

44

45 Table S2 The concentration (ng/mL) of bufalin, 3-epi-bufalin and dihydroxylatedbufalin in rats after oral administration of 10 mg/kg (n = 3)

NO. Time (h)	Bufalin			3-epi-bufalin			Dihydroxylatedbufalin (0.84 min)			Dihydroxylatedbufalin (1.59 min)			Dihydroxylatedbufalin (2.68 min)		
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
0.083	10.69	15.40	11.00	1065.55	519.94	267.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.25	10.27	19.60	14.30	1279.06	1033.45	922.14	2.93	2.13	2.21	2.03	1.50	1.17	0.84	0.73	0.75
0.50	6.69	11.80	10.70	1089.87	1073.99	1175.66	6.39	5.68	6.71	5.17	5.90	7.77	1.88	2.33	3.00
0.75	5.09	7.63	10.30	820.96	790.21	1141.46	5.65	6.96	7.17	7.80	10.28	10.37	2.18	3.65	3.27
1.00	5.50	6.65	9.95	643.93	586.15	710.87	6.58	7.50	6.64	9.70	13.45	12.42	2.36	5.04	2.92
2.00	4.63	5.50	8.24	552.04	209.80	413.29	5.52	4.14	4.44	15.00	22.03	24.27	2.66	3.92	4.02
4.00	2.61	3.07	3.14	261.50	178.05	179.88	2.24	1.65	1.60	12.57	13.05	10.87	1.63	1.55	1.31
6.00	1.30	1.66	3.20	260.14	148.32	283.71	2.57	1.66	1.67	7.58	8.92	11.55	0.64	1.45	0.88
8.00	1.60	1.19	1.68	109.33	94.94	160.87	0.97	0.75	1.87	5.82	5.77	8.05	0.11	0.59	0.97
10.00	1.22	2.01	2.34	102.44	121.96	189.74	0.32	1.49	1.70	2.15	5.73	11.36	0.40	1.09	1.78

46

47

Table S3 The concentration (ng/mL) of hydroxylatedbufalin in rats after oral administration of 10 mg/kg (n = 3)

NO. Time (h)	Hydroxylatedbufalin			Hydroxylatedbufalin			Hydroxylatedbufalin			Hydroxylatedbufalin			Hydroxylatedbufalin		
	(1.63 min)			(3.81 min)			(1.29 min)			(2.02 min)			(3.42 min)		
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
0.083	7.75	3.07	0.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.84	11.90	4.76	190.57	77.37	40.59	57.23	27.84	20.87
0.25	11.83	12.64	7.14	1.98	1.87	1.59	51.63	43.38	34.39	253.91	260.48	243.26	79.08	88.86	78.47
0.50	14.26	17.44	14.18	5.30	5.34	6.42	65.78	67.17	62.77	265.53	352.37	376.36	87.63	136.83	129.18
0.75	12.36	18.38	16.38	7.17	8.79	8.88	62.61	67.23	73.99	206.41	333.45	385.12	83.83	130.75	133.00
1.00	11.73	16.63	11.50	11.41	11.36	10.59	59.76	61.29	54.04	161.01	267.91	255.23	78.87	115.21	106.64
2.00	8.73	6.76	8.30	17.00	16.83	22.72	37.49	26.36	38.64	119.83	94.26	158.36	50.58	39.13	60.19
4.00	2.88	3.08	2.94	16.37	12.50	18.12	13.10	10.41	10.02	53.32	48.59	53.19	16.27	16.49	16.22
6.00	2.75	2.25	2.84	12.89	11.90	14.69	12.47	10.75	13.57	51.53	45.07	89.34	17.11	15.61	24.84
8.00	1.45	1.03	2.16	11.30	6.69	13.33	5.04	5.86	9.32	22.18	27.17	51.01	6.83	8.18	17.00
10.00	0.43	1.03	2.30	7.04	6.96	17.00	3.11	8.59	10.66	15.00	35.34	57.28	4.45	10.82	18.40