

Supplementary material for

Comparative metabolism of aflatoxin B₁ in mouse, rat and human primary hepatocytes using HPLC-MS/MS

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Purification of the reference compounds

AFB₁-N⁷-guanine

Table S1: SPE purification parameters for AFB₁-Gua.

SPE cartridge	Bond Elut PRS (1 mg, 6 mL)
Conditioning	6 mL 0.1 % FA in MeOH
Equilibration	6 mL 2 % FA
Washing 1	9 mL 2 % FA
Washing 2	12 mL MeOH
Elution	2 × 6 mL 5 % NH ₄ OH in MeOH

Table S2: Preparative HPLC purification parameters for AFB₁-Gua.

Column	Nucleodur Phenyl-Hexyl (250 × 4 mm, 5 µm), Macherey-Nagel		
Detection	UV (365 nm)		
Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % FA [%]	H₂O + 0.1 % FA [%]
1	1.5	95	5
7	1.5	85	15
20	1.5	85	15
30	1.5	5	95
35	1.5	5	95
35.1	1.5	95	5
45	1.5	95	5

AFB₁-Boc-lysine and AFB₁-lysine

Table S3: SPE purification parameters for AFB₁-Boc-lysine.

SPE cartridge	Strata X (1 g, 12 mL), Agilent
Conditioning	6 mL MeOH
Equilibration	6 mL H ₂ O
Washing 1	6 mL H ₂ O
Washing 2	6 mL MeOH/H ₂ O (1+1, v/v)
Washing 3	12 mL MeOH
Elution	2 × 6 mL 2 % FA in MeOH

Table S4: Preparative HPLC purification parameters for AFB₁-Boc-lysine and AFB₁-lysine.

Column	Nucleodur Phenyl-Hexyl (250 × 4 mm, 5 µm), Macherey-Nagel		
Detection	UV (399 nm)		
Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % FA [%]	H₂O + 0.1 % FA [%]
0	1.5	5	95
55	1.5	95	5
60	1.5	95	5
60.1	1.5	5	95
70	1.5	5	95

AFB₁-N-acetylcysteine

Table S5: SPE purification parameters for AFB₁-N-acetylcysteine.

SPE cartridges	Strata C18-E (2 g, 12 mL), Agilent	Strata-X 33 µm (100 mg, 3 mL), Agilent
Conditioning	10 mL MeOH	1 mL MeOH
Equilibration	10 mL H ₂ O	2 mL H ₂ O
Washing	10 mL H ₂ O	-
Elution	10 mL 10 % MeOH	1 mL MeOH
	10 mL 20 % MeOH	
	10 mL 30 % MeOH	
	10 mL 50 % MeOH	
	10 mL 70 % MeOH	
	10 mL 100 % MeOH	

Table S6: Preparative HPLC purification parameters for AFB₁-N-acetylcysteine.

1. Purification				2. Purification			
Column		Nucleodur Phenyl Hexyl (250 × 10 mm, 5 µm), Macherey-Nagel		Column		Nucleodur Phenyl Hexyl (250 × 4 mm, 5 µm), Macherey-Nagel	
Detection		UV (350 nm)		Detection		UV (350 nm)	
Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % FA [%]	H ₂ O + 0.1 % FA [%]	Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % FA [%]	H ₂ O + 0.1 % FA [%]
0	5	5	95	0	1.5	5	95
10	5	20	80	5	1.5	5	95
30	5	45	55	5	1.5	13	87
31	5	95	5	30	1.5	35	65
40	5	95	5	31	1.5	95	5
41	5	5	95	40	1.5	95	5
50	5	5	95	41	1.5	5	95
				50	1.5	5	95

AFB₁-GSH

Table S7: SPE purification parameters for AFB₁-GSH.

SPE cartridge	Strata C18-E (2 g, 12 mL), Agilent
Conditioning	10 mL MeOH
Equilibration	10 mL H ₂ O
Washing	10 mL H ₂ O
Elution	10 mL 10 % MeOH
	10 mL 20 % MeOH
	10 mL 30 % MeOH
	10 mL 50 % MeOH
	10 mL 70 % MeOH
	10 mL 100 % MeOH

Table S8: Preparative HPLC purification parameters for AFB₁-GSH.

Column	Nucleodur Phenyl-Hexyl (250 × 4 mm, 5 µm) Macherey-Nagel		
Detection	UV (399 nm)		
Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % FA [%]	H₂O + 0.1 % FA [%]
0	1.5	5	95
55	1.5	95	5
60	1.5	95	5
60.1	1.5	5	95
70	1.5	5	95

Characterization of reference compounds using HPLC-qToF-MS

Table S9: Analysis parameters for the characterization of reference compounds.

Column	Nucleodur Pyramid (100 × 2 mm, 3 µm), Macherey-Nagel		
Detection	HPLC-HRMS (Table S10)		
Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % FA [%]	H ₂ O + 0.1 % FA [%]
0	0.5	5	95
2	0.5	5	95
10	0.5	95	5
12	0.5	95	5
12.2	0.5	5	95
15	0.5	5	95

Table S10: Mass spectrometric parameters for the characterization of reference compounds.

Mass spectrometer	qTOF (Impact II)	
ESI source	Apollo II	
Source parameters	End Plate Offset	500 V
	Capillary	4500 V
	Nebulizer	2 bar
	Dry gas	10 L/min
	Dry temperature	220 °C
	Ion polarity	Positive
Fragmentation parameters	Spectra range	<i>m/z</i> 30-1000
	Spectra rate	6 Hz
	Auto MS/MS mode	
	Number of precursors	2
	Absolute threshold (1000 sum.)	200 cts.
	Exclude after	3 Spectra
	Release after	0.5 min
	Smart exclusion	3 ×

HPLC-qTOF-MS fragmentation spectra of reference compounds

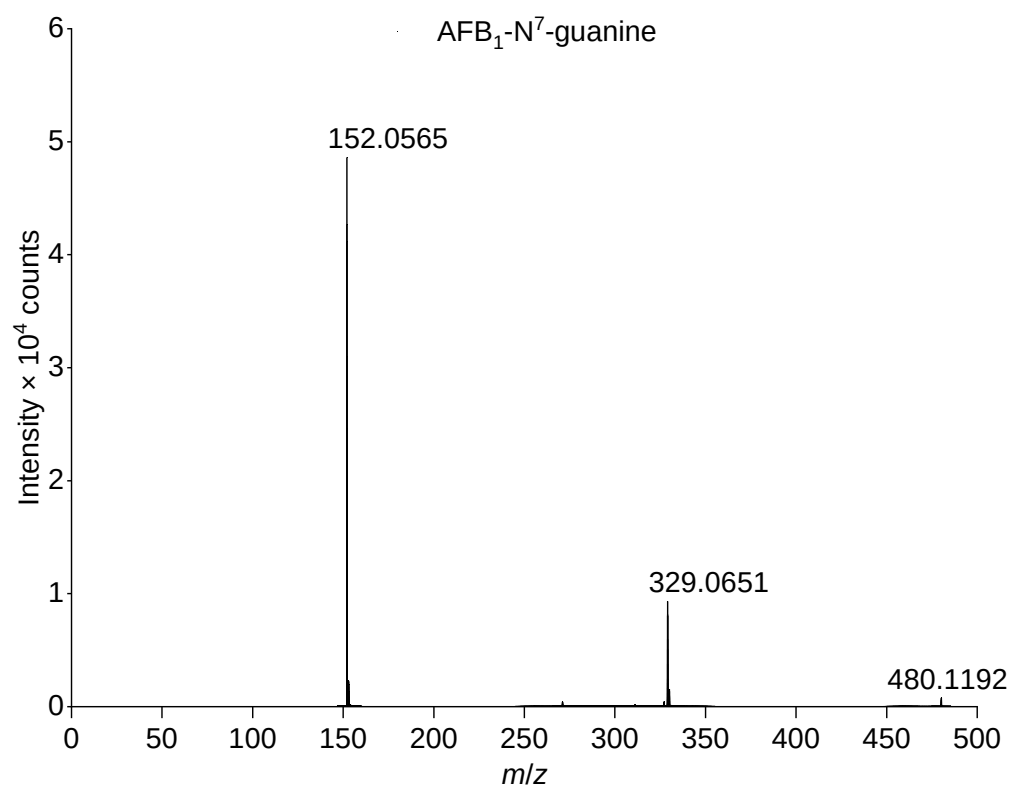


Figure S1: Fragmentation spectrum of synthesized AFB₁-N⁷-guanine reference.

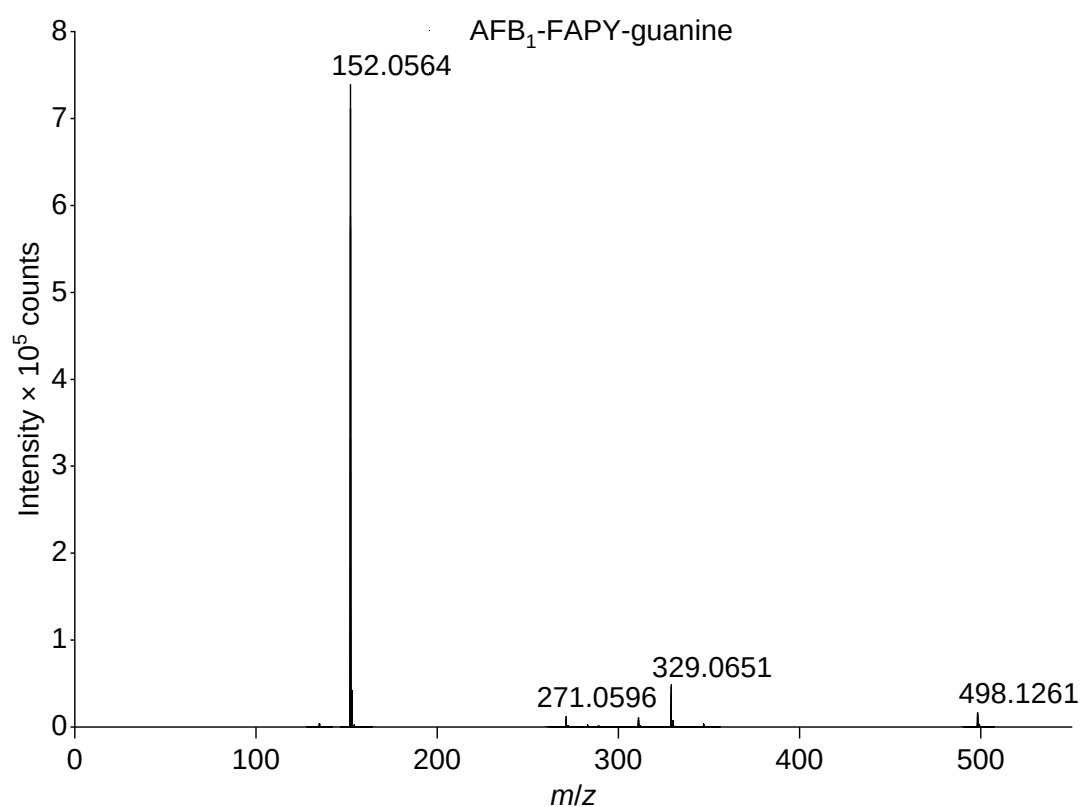


Figure S2: Fragmentation spectrum of synthesized AFB₁-FAPY-guanine reference.

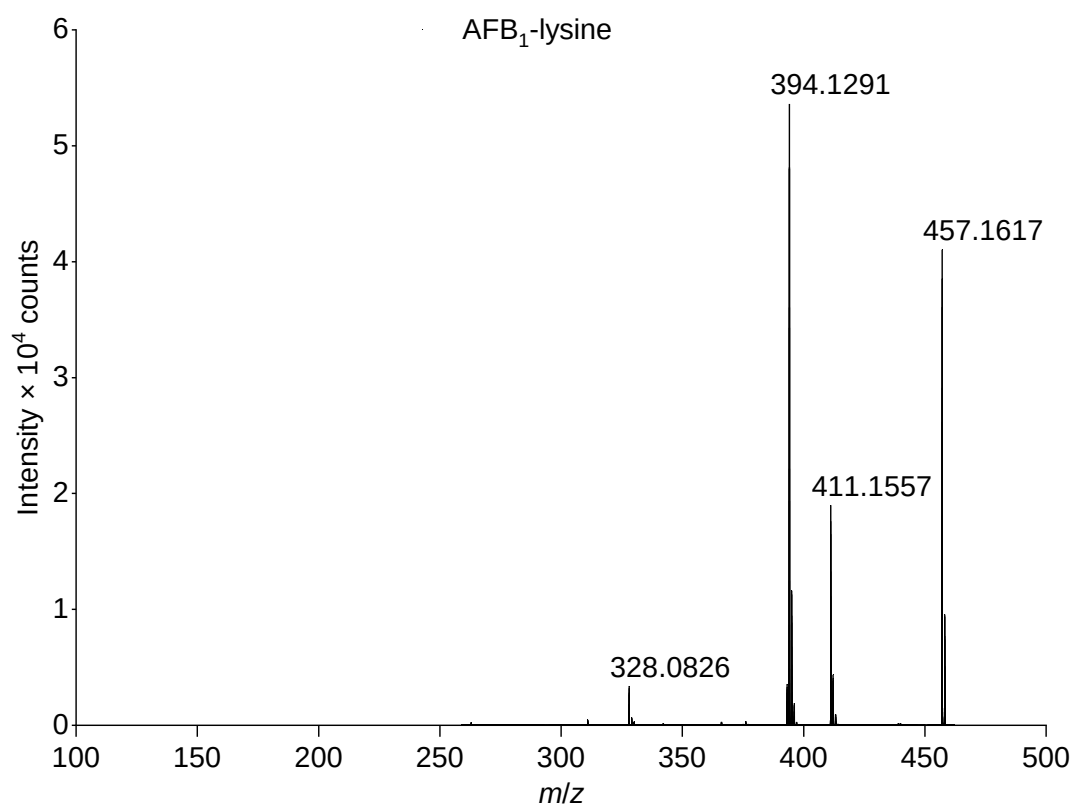


Figure S3: Fragmentation spectrum of synthesized AFB₁-lysine reference.

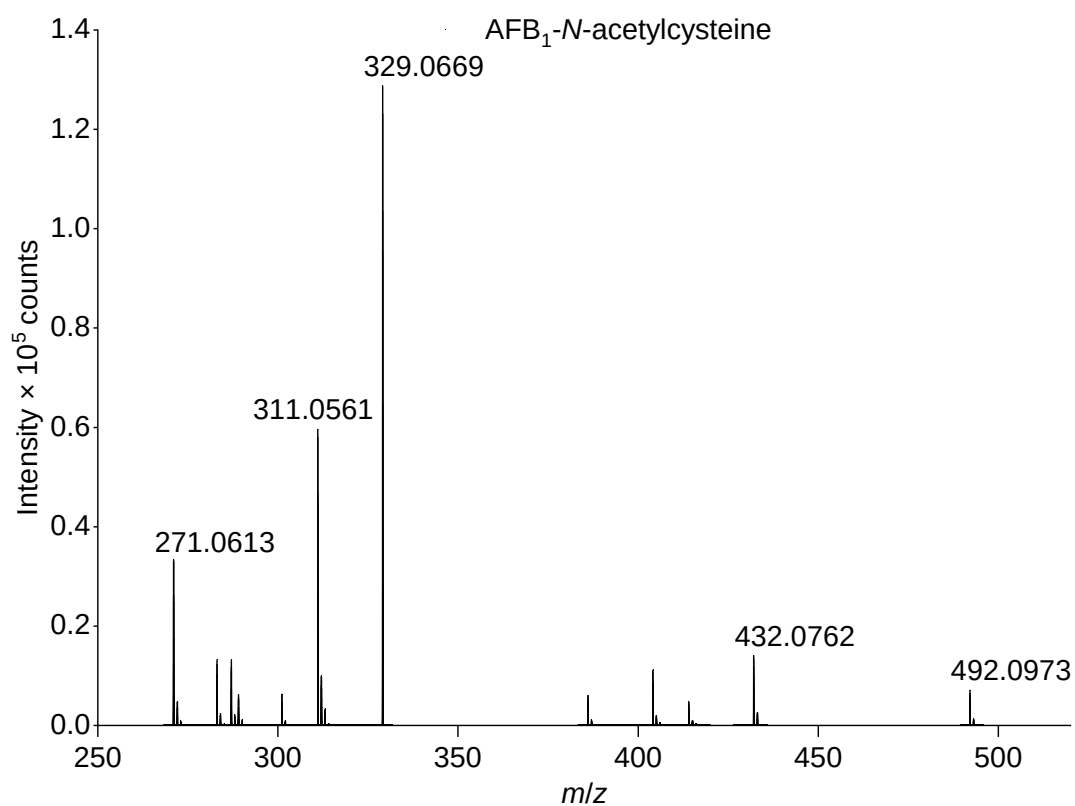


Figure S4: Fragmentation spectrum of synthesized AFB₁-N-acetylcysteine reference.

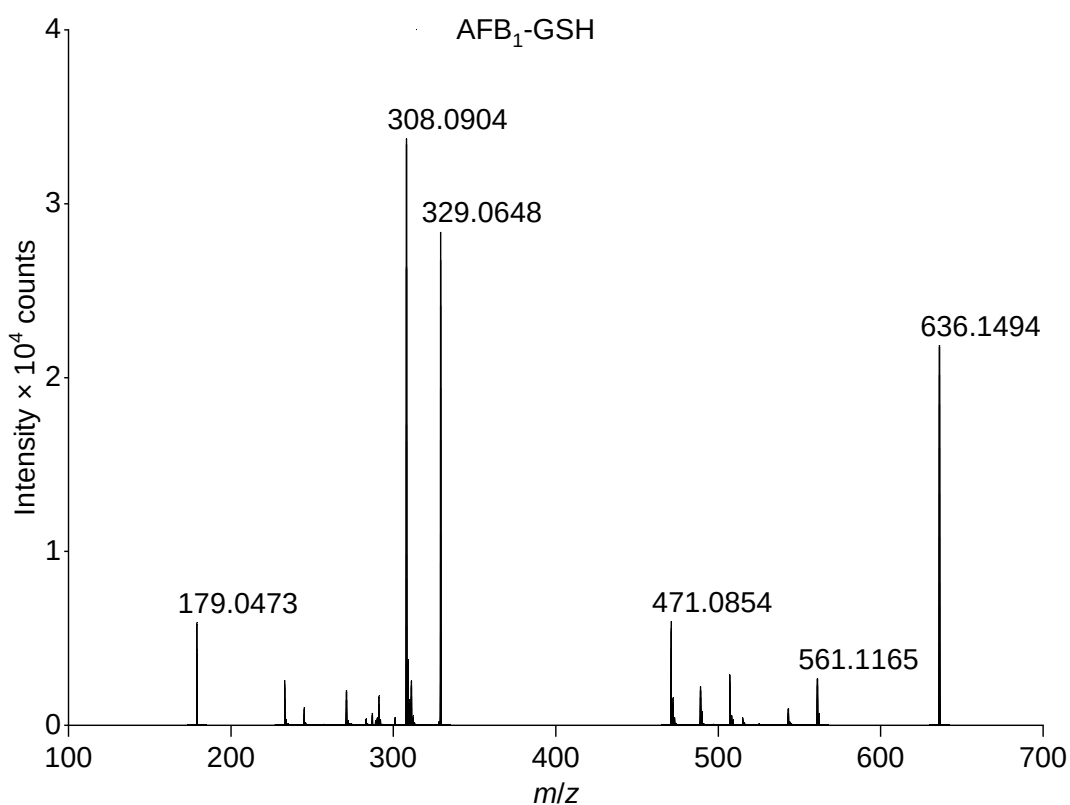


Figure S5: Fragmentation spectrum of synthesized AFB₁-GSH reference.

SPE clean-up of AFB₁-Lys in the samples

Table S11: SPE purification parameters for biological samples

SPE cartridge	Oasis MAX (1cc) (Waters)
Conditioning	1 mL MeOH
Equilibration	1 mL H ₂ O
Washing	1 mL H ₂ O
	1 mL MeOH/H ₂ O (7+3, v/v)
	1 mL 1 % ammonia in MeOH
	500 µL MeOH
Elution	1.5 mL 2 % FA in MeOH

HPLC-MS/MS methods for the metabolite quantification

Table S12: Analysis parameters for metabolite quantification.

AFB ₁ metabolites				AFB ₁ -Gua, 2'-deoxyguanosine			
Column		Nucleodur Pyramid (150 × 2 mm, 3 μm), Agilent		Column		Nucleodur Pyramid (150 × 2 mm, 3 μm), Agilent	
Detection		MS/MS (Table S13)		Detection		MS/MS (Table S13)	
Column		40 °C		Column		40 °C	
Autosampler		7 °C		Autosampler		7 °C	
Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % FA [%]	H ₂ O + 0.1 % FA [%]	Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % FA [%]	H ₂ O + 0.1 % FA [%]
0	0.5	5	95	0	0.5	0	100
1	0.5	5	95	2	0.5	0	100
12	0.5	95	5	10	0.5	95	5
14.5	0.5	95	5	12	0.5	95	5
14.6	0.5	5	95	12.1	0.5	0	100
17	0.5	5	95	15	0.5	0	100

Table S13: Mass spectrometric parameters for metabolite quantification.

Mass spectrometer	QTRAP 6500 (AB Sciex)	
ESI source	Ion Drive, Turbo V Source	
Source parameters	Ion spray voltage	4500 V
	Source temperature	400 °C
	Curtain gas	35 psi
	Ion source gas 1	45 psi
	Ion source gas 2	55 psi
	Cell entrance potential	10 V
	Cell exit potential	11 V
Scheduled MRM	Ionisation mode	positive
	Analysis window	30 s
	Target scan time	0.2 s

Table S14: MRM transitions of quantified metabolites (QTRAP 6500).

Analyte	Precursor <i>m/z</i>	Product <i>m/z</i>	Adduct	CE	DP
Aflatoxin B ₁	313.2	285.1	M+H	30	80
	313.3	241.0	M+H	50	80
Aflatoxin M ₁	329.1	273.0	M+H	33	41
	329.1	229.0	M+H	53	41
Aflatoxin P ₁	299.1	271.1	M+H	30	80
	299.1	215.1	M+H	38	80
Aflatoxin Q ₁	328.7	206.0	M+H	33	80
	328.7	177.0	M+H	47	80
Aflatoxicol	297.0	269.1	M-H ₂ O+H	29	80
	297.0	115.0	M-H ₂ O+H	83	80
AFB ₁ -GSH	636.2	329.1	M+H	35	80
	636.2	308.1	M+H	35	80
AFB ₁ -NAC	492.1	329.1	M+H	20	80
	492.1	311.1	M+H	30	80
AFB ₁ -Lys	457.2	394.1	M+H	29	38
	457.2	328.1	M+H	43	38
AFB ₁ -Gua	480.1	329.1	M+H	25	80
	480.1	152.1	M+H	25	80
AFB ₁ -FAPY	498.1	329.1	M+H	20	80
	498.1	480.1	M+H	15	80
2'-deoxyguanosine	268.1	152.1	M+H	15	80
	268.1	135.0	M+H	50	80

HPLC-MS/MS method (AFB₁-lysine)

Table S15: Analysis parameters for metabolite quantification.

Column	Reposil C18 AQ (150 × 2 mm, 3 µm), Dr. Maisch		
Detection	MS/MS (Table S16)		
Column oven	45 °C		
Autosampler	15 °C		
Time [min]	Flow Rate [mL/min]	ACN + 0.1 % AA [%]	H₂O + 0.1 % AA [%]
0	0.45	5	95
3	0.45	5	95
10	0.45	30	70
10.1	0.45	95	5
12	0.45	95	5
12.1	0.45	5	95
15	0.45	5	95

Table S16: Mass spectrometric parameters for quantification of AFB₁-lysine.

Mass spectrometer	QTRAP 7500 (AB Sciex)	
Source	OptiFlow Pro	
Source parameters	Ion spray voltage	2500 V
	Source temperature	550 °C
	Curtain gas	45 psi
	Ion source gas 1	65 psi
	Ion source gas 2	75 psi
	Ionisation mode	positive
	Scan type	MRM

Table S17: MRM transitions of quantified metabolites (QTRAP 7500).

	Precursor m/z	Product m/z	Dwell time	EP	CE	CXP
AFB₁-Lys	457.15	394.074	20	10	27	31
	457.15	410.958	10	10	15	5
	457.15	376.000	20	10	45	30
	457.15	328.000	10	10	42	30
ISTD AFB₁-Lys	465.15	400.100	10	10	27	31
	465.15	382.100	10	10	45	30
	465.15	329.100	10	10	42	30
	465.15	418.954	10	10	15	5

Quantification data

Table S18: Quantification data of metabolites in cell culture medium (matrix matched calibration with Williams E medium).

Metabolite	Conc.	Species	Time point	Dilution	Calibration range [ng/mL]	R ²
AFB ₁	1 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+99	0.01-5	0.997
	10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+99	0.25-25	0.999
AFP ₁	1 µM	Rat, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.025-25	0.998
		Mouse	10 min - 6 h	1+99	0.01-10	0.998
			24 h	1+1	0.025-25	0.998
	10 µM	Rat, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.05-25	0.988
		Mouse	10 min - 24 h	1+99	0.25-10	0.998
AFQ ₁	1 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.5-25	0.995
	10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.5-25	0.995
AFM ₁	1 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.025-25	0.999
	10 µM	Rat	10 min - 2 h	1+1	0.5-25	0.999
			4 h - 24 h	1+99	0.25-10	0.997
		Mouse	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.5-25	0.999
		Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.5-25	0.999
AFL	1 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.025-25	0.999
	10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.025-25	0.999
AFB ₁ -GSH	1 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.1-25	0.997
	10 µM	Rat	10 min - 1 h	1+1	0.25-25	0.999
			2 h - 24 h	1+99	0.25-50	0.998
		Mouse	10 min	1+1	0.25-25	0.999
			30 min - 24 h	1+99	0.25-50	0.998
		Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.25-25	0.999
AFB ₁ -NAC	1 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.025-25	0.998
	10 µM	Rat, Mouse	10 min - 6 h	1+1	0.025-25	1.000
			24 h	1+99	0.25-50	0.999
		Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.025-25	1.000
AFB ₁ -Lys	1 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.025-25	0.997
	10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.1-25	0.995
AFB ₁ -Gua	1 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.1-25	0.997
	10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	10 min - 24 h	1+1	0.25-25	0.998

Table S19: Quantification data of AFB₁-Gu and AFB₁-Lys in cell lysates after digestion (calibration in H₂O).

Metabolite	Sample	Species	Time point	Dilution	Calibration range [ng/mL]	R ²
AFB ₁ -Gua	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	-	0.1-100	0.998
dG	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+99	5-1000	0.996
AFB ₁ -Lys	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	SPE	0.005-5	0.998

Table S20: Quantification data of intracellular metabolites (calibration in H₂O).

Metabolite	Sample	Species	Time point	Dilution	Calibration range [ng/mL]	R ²
AFB ₁	1 µM	Rat, Mouse	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+4	0.001-0.5	1.000
	10 µM	Rat, Mouse	24 h	1+4	0.001-0.5	1.000
	10 µM	Rat, Mouse,	30 min, 2 h	1+499	0.01-10	0.999
	1 µM	Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+499	0.01-10	0.999
	10 µM	Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+499	0.01-10	0.999
AFP ₁	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+4	0.0025-1	1.000
AFQ ₁	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+4	0.0025-0.5	0.999
AFM ₁	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+4	0.001-0.5	0.999
AFL	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+4	0.001-1	1.000
AFB ₁ -GSH	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+4	0.025-10	1.000
AFB ₁ -NAC	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+4	0.0025-10	1.000
AFB ₁ -Gua	1 µM, 10 µM	Rat, Mouse, Human	30 min, 2 h, 24 h	1+4	0.01-10	1.000

The commercially available compounds (AFB₁, AFM₁, AFP₁, AFQ₁, AFL) were dissolved in ACN and the stock solutions were diluted with H₂O to a final concentration of 100 ng/mL. The AFB₁-adducts were stored in phosphate buffer and also diluted with H₂O to final concentrations of 100 ng/mL as stock solutions. The matrix-matched calibration was prepared from the stock solution adding the compounds and Williams E medium according to the dilution of the respective samples.

The quantification of AFB₁-Gua and dG in the DNA lysates was carried out without matrix in H₂O and the stock solutions used for this determination were dissolved also in H₂O at concentrations of 1 µg/mL AFB₁-Gua and 10 µg/mL dG.

Formation of AFP₁ glucuronide (AFP₁-Glc)

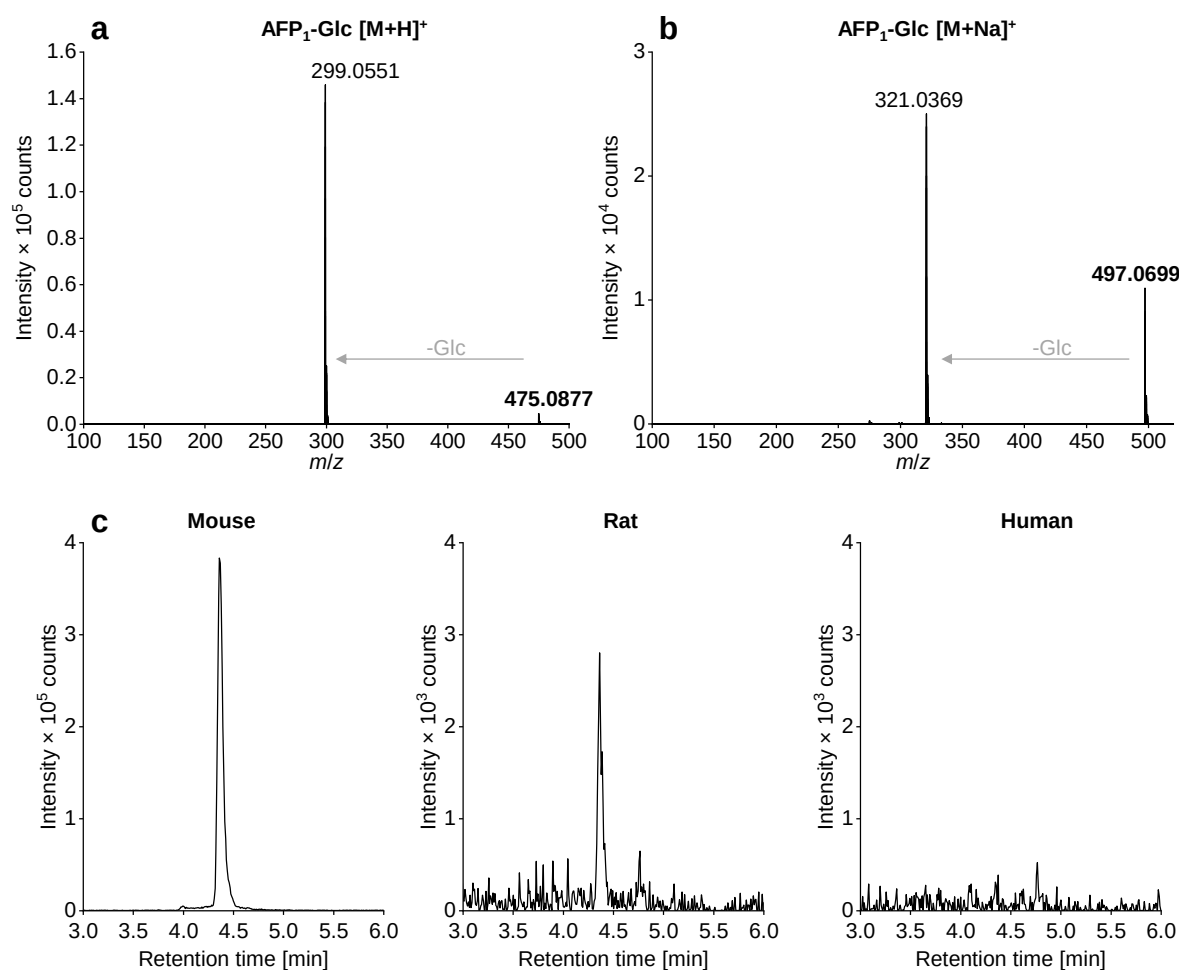


Figure S6: HPLC-HRMS fragmentation spectra of proton (a) and sodium adduct (b) of AFP₁-Glc with *m/z* 475.0877 and *m/z* 497.0699 showing a specific cleavage of glucuronide with AFP₁ as a product. The fragmentation spectra originated from the measurement of medium samples (24 h incubation of 10 µM AFB₁) from the mouse. Extracted ion chromatograms of *m/z* 475.0877 are shown to compare peak intensities of AFP₁-Glc in medium of mouse, rat and human hepatocytes after 24 h of incubation of 10 µM of AFB₁ (c). The medium was diluted 1 + 1 (v/v).

Formation rates of AFB₁ metabolites

Table S21: Formation rates of all metabolites calculated from medium samples.

		Formation rate [pmol/h]							
		AFP ₁	AFM ₁	AFQ ₁	AFL	AFB ₁ -GSH	AFB ₁ -NAC	AFB ₁ -Gua	AFB ₁ -Lys
1 µM (2 nmol)	Mouse	475 471	15 069	15		17 864	574		89
	Rat	2019	8155	87	306	13 012	486		191
	Human	5	452	99	1 109				70
10 µM (20 nmol)	Mouse	1 208 204	248 906	46 686	1 163	296 311	1 440		3 376
	Rat	6426	62 581	74 700	6 702	64 529	1 858	657	1 673
	Human	46	3 649	7 116	18 923			39	903