

Supporting Information

Concentrations and Profiles of Urinary Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon

Metabolites (OH-PAHs) in Several Asian Countries

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Sample Pretreatment

- (1) Urine samples are removed from the freezer (-80°C) and thawed in a 4°C dark room overnight;
- (2) At room temperature, urine samples are Vortex mixed for 30 seconds, and 2 mL of urine is transferred into a 15 mL glass tube using ejector variable volume micropipettor;
- (3) Analytical standards are removed from the refrigerator and brought to room temperature. 80 μL of internal standards (16 ng for 1-NAP and 2-NAP, and 4 ng for others), 1 mL of ammonium acetate buffer (1 M, $\text{pH}=5.5$), and 50 μL of β -glucuronidase (200 units/mL) are added;
- (4) Samples are gently mixed and then incubated overnight at 37°C (~ 16 h);
- (5) Urine samples are diluted with 2 mL water; and then extracted with 5 mL organic solvent (80% pentane:20% toluene, v:v) by shaking 30 min;
- (7) After centrifugation at $3600 \times g$ for 20 min, the up layer is transferred into a 15 mL glass tube;
- (8) Repeat the liquid-liquid extraction procedure one more time;
- (9) The combined extraction is further purified with 1 mL AgNO_3 solution (1 M) by shaking 15 min. The solution is centrifuged 10 min at $3600 \times g$ and the up layer is transferred into a 15 mL glass tube;
- (10) The collected fraction is concentrated under a gentle stream of nitrogen (first at 30°C and then at 45°C). The final solution is diluted to 0.4 mL by methanol for instrumental analysis.

Instrumental Analysis

An AB-Sciex 5500 triple quadrupole mass spectrometer (ESI-MS-MS; Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA), equipped with an Agilent 1100 Series HPLC system (Agilent Technologies Inc., Santa Clara, CA), was used for analysis.

- Chromatographic separation is achieved using a Agilent Eclipse Plus C18 column (100 mm × 4.6 mm, 3.5 µm);
- The mobile phases are methanol (A) and methanol-water solution (2:3, v:v) (B) of 350 µL/min. The mobile phase gradient is as follows: 0.0-2.0 min, 95% B; 5.0-15 min, 45% B; 16.0-19.0 min, 20% B; 25.0-32.0 min, 95% B.
- The injection volume is 10 µL.
- Nitrogen is used as both curtain and collision gas.
- Target compounds are determined by multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) in the negative ionization mode.
- MS/MS parameters have been optimized for each target compound, by infusion of 20 ng/mL standard solution.
- The interface heater temperature is 500 °C and the IonSpray Voltage is -4500.

d₇-1-NAP and d₇-2-NAP were used as internal standards for quantification of 1-NAP and 2-NAP, ¹³C-1-PYR, ¹³C-6-CHRY, ¹³C-3-BCP and ¹³C-1-BAA are used as internal standards for quantification of 2-FLUO, 1-PYR, 1-CHRY and 6-CHRY, 3-BCP and 1-BAA, and ¹³C-3-PHEN are used as internal standards for 2-FLUO, 2-PHEN, 3-PHEN, 4-PHEN and 9-PHEN, respectively.

The limit of quantification (LOQ) is determined based on the linear range of the calibration curve prepared at the concentration range of 0.025 to 20 ng/mL. Concentrations in samples which are at least the same as the lowest acceptable standard concentration are considered to be

94 valid. The LOQ (2 mL sample taken for extraction and 0.4 mL taken for instrumental analysis)

95 was 40 pg/mL for 1-NAP and 2-NAP and 10 pg/mL for other compounds.

96 The entire system from sample injection to data acquisition is computer-controlled with

97 Analyst 1.5 software Components for AB Sciex triple quadtm 5500 system.

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100	TABLE S1. Characters of Urine Samples from Asian Countries				
101		Age ≤10	10 < Age ≤ 40	Age > 40	Average
102	China (40/44) ^a	3/5	27/30	10/9	29±16
103	India (21/17) ^b	0/-	12/10	9/4	37±17
104	Japan (7/27)	0/1	7/20	0/6	32±10
105	Korea (18/22) ^c	0/0	12/18	6/4	35 ±11
106	Kuwait (15/23)	3/3	4/10	8/10	37±21
107	Malaysia (19/10)	0/0	16/8	3/2	30±9
108	Vietnam (13/10)	0/0	2/5	11/5	51±19
109	^a (female/male); ^b ages of three samples from India are not clear; ^c information of 20 samples from Korea are				
110	not available				

TABLE S2. The Results of Quality Assurance/Quality Control System (average values)

Compound	Method blank (n=10)	Blank spiked (n=8)	Matrix spiked (n=8)	Matrix Duplicate (n=8)	sample (n=308)
d7-1-NAP	40%	43%	37%	37%	34%
d7-2-NAP	26%	26%	38%	39%	32%
C ¹³ -3-PHEN	65%	68%	66%	73%	68%
C ¹³ -1-PYR	10%	17%	51%	48%	24%
C ¹³ -6-CHRY	8%	14%	46%	55%	31%
C ¹³ -3-BCP	62%	72%	59%	62%	62%
C ¹³ -1-BAA	52%	57%	28%	28%	49%
2-NAP	0.039 ng/mL	109%	128%	19% (CV) ^a	~
1-NAP	0.028 ng/mL	105%	115%	21% (CV)	~
2-FLUO	< LOQ	89%	85%	18% (CV)	~
2-PHEN	0.010 ng/mL	NA ^b	NA ^b	19% (CV)	~
3-PHEN	0.009 ng/mL	92%	107%	20% (CV)	~
9-PHEN	< LOQ	NA ^b	NA ^b	19% (CV)	~
4-PHEN	< LOQ	70%	92%	18% (CV)	~
1-PYR	0.068 ng/mL	92%	109%	22% (CV)	~
1-CHRY	0.159 ng/mL	79%	137%	< LOQ	~
3-BCP	< LOQ	94%	98%	< LOQ	~
6-CHRY	0.045 ng/mL	69%	108%	< LOQ	~
1-BAA	0.021 ng/mL	87%	89%	< LOQ	~

^a CV = coefficient variation^b 2-PHEN and 9-PHEN were not spiked into samples.

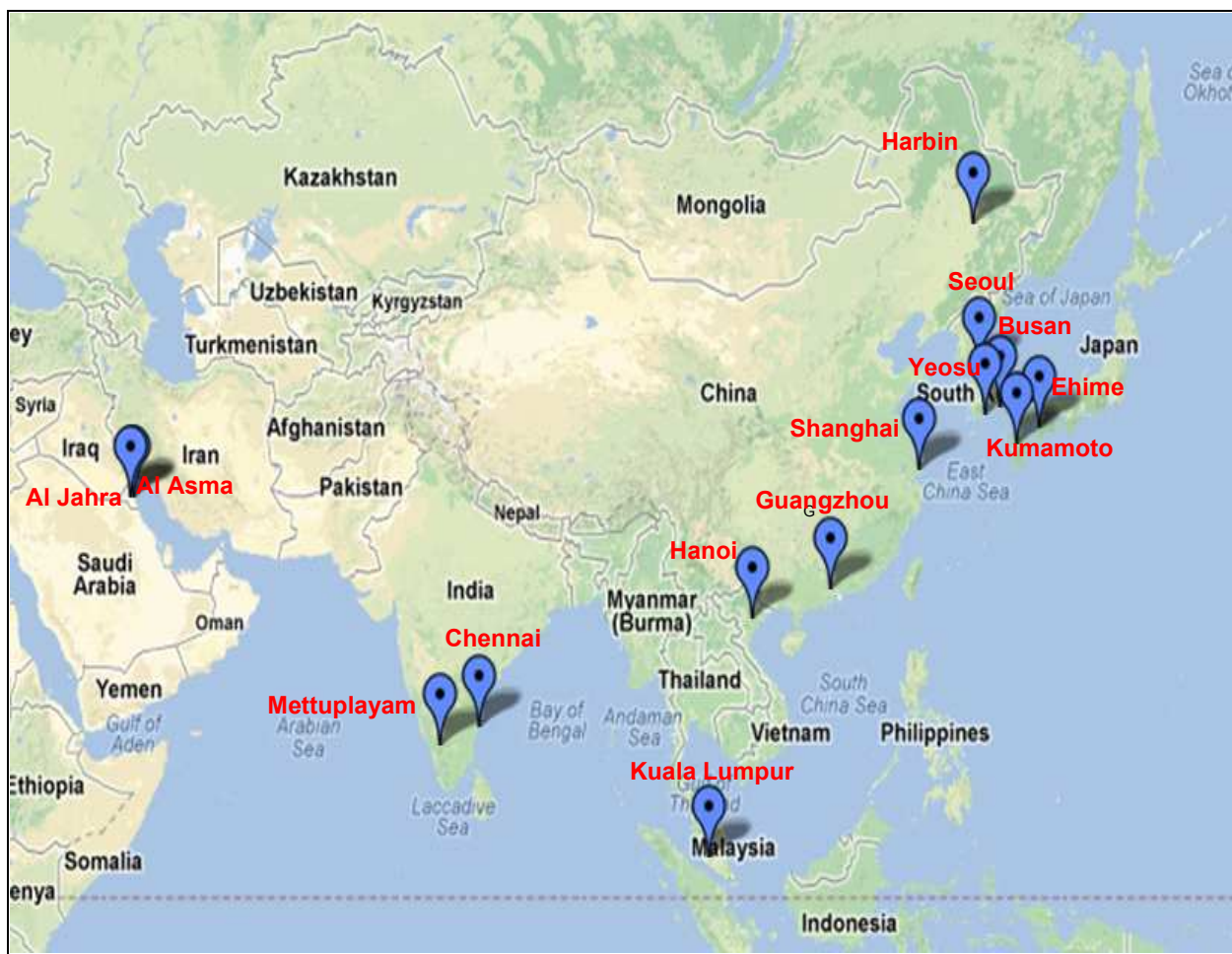


Figure S1. Urine sampling sites in Asian countries in the present study

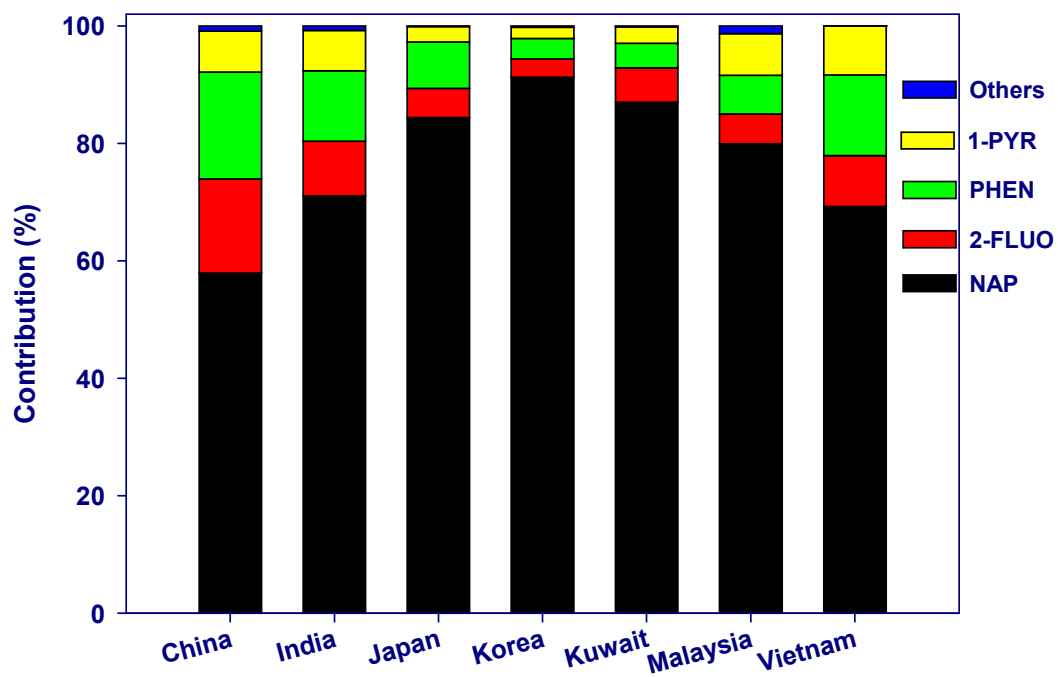


Figure S2. Concentration Contribution of OH-PAHs to $\Sigma_{12}\text{OH-PAHs}$ in Asian Countries.

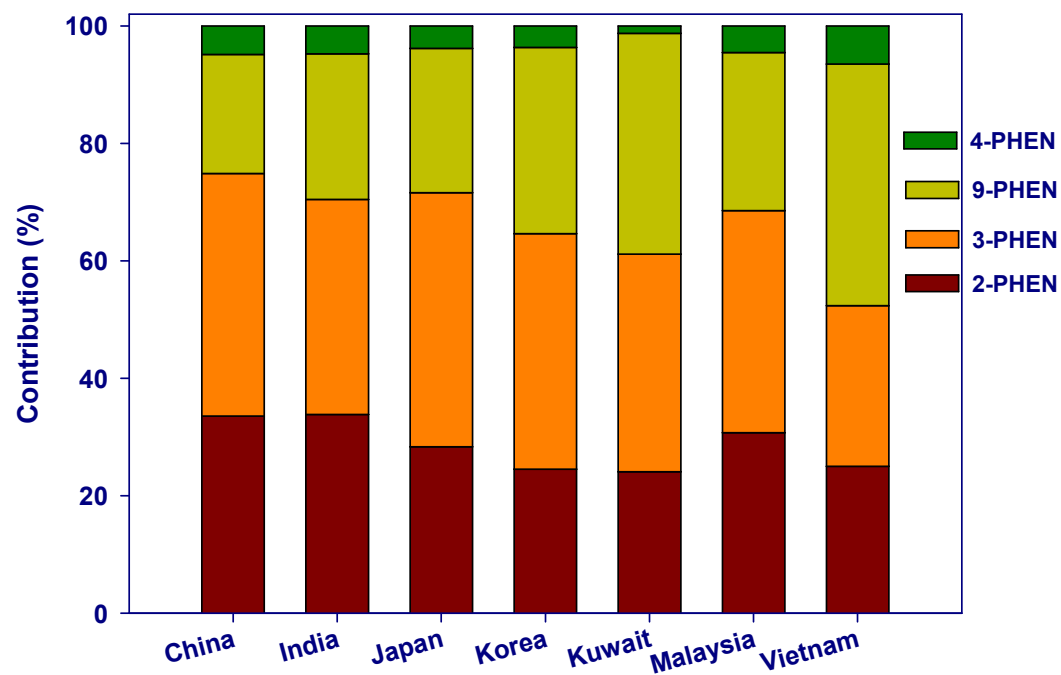


Figure S3. Concentration Contribution of Individual hydroxylic phenanthrene to PHEN in Asian Countries.