Supporting Information

The impact of commonly used alkylating agents on artefactual peptide modification

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Percent alkylation following reaction with 2-chloroacetamide (CA) or iodoacetamide (IOA). Data is mean ±SD for 3 independent experiments. Note the scale used on the Y-axis.



Figure S2A

S3

Sequence: **N**QVAMNPTNTIFDAK Modification: N-terminal alkylation Alkylating agent: IOA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified): 3.6



Sequence: IINEPTAAAIAYGLDK Modification: N-terminal alkylation Alkylating agent: IOA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified): 99.5



Sequence: **P**MILGYWNVR Modification: N-terminal alkylation Alkylating agent: IOA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified): 31.7



Sequence: **A**MGIMNSFVNDIFER Modification: N-terminal alkylation Alkylating agent: IOA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified): 2.0



Sequence: LGAGYPMGPF**E**LLDYVGLDTTK Modification: Alkylated E Alkylating agent: IOA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified): 1.1



Sequence: LEL**E**MTPQGTLAER Modification: Alkylated E Alkylating agent: IOA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified): 2.1



Sequence: NLHNITGVLMTDSDFVSAVK Modification: Alkylated T Alkylating agent: IOA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified): 2.3



Sequence: IQLMYIWVDGTGEGLR Modification: Alkylated Y Alkylating agent: IOA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified): 0.6





Level of deamidation (N,Q) and pyroGlu(Q,E) following reaction with CA or IOA. Data is mean \pm SD for 3 independent experiments. An asterisk (*) indicates a significant difference between CA and IOA treated samples. Significance is at least p <0.05. It is likely the result is only significant given the large number of individual samples used in the study, as the standard deviation clearly overlaps between the two datasets.



Level of carbamylation (N-terminal or K) following reaction with CA or IOA. Data is mean \pm SD for 3 independent experiments.



Level of N-terminal carbamylation for samples processed under pressure (PCT), or at 1 atm (bench). Samples are further divided into CA or IOA alkyated. Data is presented as the mean of 4 samples performed in 1 experiment.

Whilst the IOA treated bench samples do show higher levels of carbamylation compared to the CA treated samples, a greater number of experiments is required to test this hypothesis. Note there was no significant difference for the CA vs IOA treated samples (N-terminal carbamylation), with 3 separate sets of experiments and 8 samples in each group (Fig S4).



Level of pyro-Glu(Q) for samples processed under pressure (PCT), or at 1 atm (bench). Data is presented as the mean of 8 samples performed in 1 experiment. Note the CA and IOA alkylated samples were pooled after no significant difference (*t*-test) was found between the groups.

Note that two identical LC-MS/MS systems were used to collect the data. Whilst identical in terms of hardware and methods, we still see variations in peptide retention time between the systems.

Each system ran both CA and IOA treated samples, they were not used exclusively.

These variations are systematic and reproducible.

















Retention Time

Sequence: SGPFGQIFRPDNFVFGQSGAGNN**W**AK Modification: Wox, DiWox Alkylating agent: CA Batch: 2 Ratio (native/modified) Wox: 18.1 Ratio (native/modified) DiWox: 22.4 Sequence: SGPFGQIFRPDNFVFGQSGAGNN**W**AK Modification: Wox Alkylating agent: CA Batch: 3 Ratio (native/modified) Wox: 33.1







Level of MSO for samples processed using CA sourced from three different suppliers. Data is presented as the mean of 5 samples performed in 1 experiment.



Level of oxidised W (Wox) or dioxidised W (DiWox) samples processed using CA sourced from three different suppliers. Data is presented as the mean of 5 samples performed in 1 experiment.



Digestion statistics for treatment with three different suppliers of CA where; OMC, no missed cleavages; MC, missed cleaved peptides; semi-trypsin, semi-tryptic peptides. Data is presented as the mean of 5 samples performed in 1 experiment.



Study

Level of MSO for data sourced from 2 published studies using CA. In all cases data is presented as the mean of 4 samples.



Level of oxidised W or dioxidised W for data sourced from 2 published studies using CA. In all cases data is presented as the mean of 4 samples.