EVALUATION OF DIFFERENT INTERNAL STANDARDIZATION APPROACHES FOR THE QUANTIFICATION OF MELATONIN IN CELL CULTURE SAMPLES BY 1D- AND 2D-HPLC-ESI-MSMS

Amanda Suárez Fernández¹, Adriana González Gago¹, Francisco Artime Naveda^{2,4}, Javier García Calleja¹, Anna Zawadzka⁵, Zbigniew Czarnocki⁵, Juan Carlos Mayo Barrallo^{2,3,4}, Rosa M. Sainz Menéndez^{2,3,4}, Pablo Rodríguez-González^{1,4}*, J. Ignacio García Alonso^{1,4}.

¹ Department of Physical and Analytical Chemistry. University of Oviedo. Faculty of Chemistry. Julian Clavería 8, 33006 Oviedo, Spain.

² Department of Morphology and Cell Biology. University of Oviedo. Faculty of Medicine. Julián Clavería 6, 33006 Oviedo, Spain.

³ University Institute of Oncology of Asturias (IUOPA). University of Oviedo, Spain.

⁴ Instituto de Investigación Biosanitaria del Principado de Asturias (ISPA), Oviedo, Spain.

*author for correspondence: rodriguezpablo@uniovi.es

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Figure S1. Scan (A) and product ion scan selecting $[M+H]^+$ (m/z = 233.2) as precursor ion (B) mass spectra for melatonin (MEL).



Figure S2. Scan (A) and product ion scan selecting $[M+H]^+$ (m/z = 233.2) as precursor ion (B) mass spectra for melatonin (MEL)





Figure S3. Scan (A) and product ion scan selecting $[M+H]^+$ (m/z = 249.2) as precursor ion (B) mass spectra for cyclic 3-hydroxymelatonin (c3OHM)



Figure S4. Scan (A) and product ion scan selecting $[M+H]^+$ (m/z = 237.1) as precursor ion (B) mass spectra for N¹- acetyl-N²-formyl-5-methoxykynuramine (AFMK)



Figure S5. Scan (A) and product ion scan selecting $[M+H]^+$ (m/z = 265.1) as precursor ion (B) mass spectra for N¹-acetyl-5-methoxykynuramine (AMK)



Figure S6. Optimization of the ion source parameters for MEL (*), c3OHM (*), AFMK (*) and AMK (*)





Figure S7. Scan (A) and product ion scan selecting $[M+H]^+$ (m/z = 192.2) as precursor ion (B) mass spectra for 5-methoxytryptophol (surrogate IS)

Figure S8. Scan (A) and product ion scan selecting $[M+H]^+$ (m/z = 190.9) as precursor ion (B) mass spectra for 6-methoxytryptamine (IS)



Figure S9. Plot of measured versus added MEL concentration of a homogenized PC3 cell culture sample fortified with 0, 0.5 and 1.8 µg g⁻¹. The samples were measured by 1D-LC-MSMS and the experimental concentrations calculated using four different strategies: 1) using the surrogate IS and the IS, 2) using only the surrogate IS, 3) using only the IS and 4) without using the surrogate IS or IS. n=3 independent replicates were performed for each concentration level and each replicate was injected in triplicate in the LC-MSMS. The points of the graphics correspond to individual injections in the LC-MSMS system.



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Figure S10. Plot of measured versus added MEL concentration of a homogenized PC3 cell culture sample fortified with 0, 0.5 and 1.8 µg g⁻¹. The samples were measured by 2D-LC-MSMS and the experimental concentrations calculated using four different strategies: 1) using the surrogate IS and the IS, 2) using only the surrogate IS, 3) using only the IS and 4) without using the surrogate IS or IS. n=3 independent replicates were performed for each concentration level and each replicate was injected in triplicate in the LC-MSMS. The points of the graphics correspond to individual injections in the LC-MSMS system.



Figure S11. Comparison of theoretical and experimental isotope composition. Experimental values were obtained by 1D-LC-ESI-MS/MS measurement for selected SRM transitions.



Table S1. Concentration values obtained for a ${}^{13}C_1$ -MEL solution. The average concentration was obtained by reverse IDMS experiments performed in three independent blends.

Blend	Concentration (µg/g)	RSD (%)
1	1.062 ± 0.008	0.8
2	1.067 ± 0.002	0.2
3	1.070 ± 0.005	0.5
Average	1.067 ± 0.006	0.6

Figure S12. A) 1d-LC-MSMS and B) 2D-LC-MSMS chromatograms of blended solutions containing labelled and a certified standard of natural abundance MEL.

