

CS15: Multi-organ metabolism (MOM) of halogenated alkenes: trichloroethylene. The applied technology

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Introduction

Trichloroethylene (TCE) is a high-production volume halogenated alkene that is currently a ubiquitous environmental pollutant. Occupational investigations and animal studies have demonstrated that TCE can cause various types of toxicity, including hepatotoxicity, nephrotoxicity and neurotoxicity. Mechanistic *in vivo* and *in vitro* animal studies have shown that the hepatic and renal toxicities of TCE are not caused by the parent chemical but are the result of bioactivation to protein-reactive metabolites. Nephrotoxicity from TCE has been attributed to the mercapturic acid pathway and is one of the major concerns from TCE exposure. This process starts at the hepatic level with glutathione (GSH) conjugation followed by a multi-step process in the proximal tubule nephron: (1) γ -glutamyl transpeptidase (brush border), (2) dipeptidase metabolism (brush border), (3) cysteine transport uptake, and (4) β -lyase metabolism to a toxic thioketene. Here, we investigated the effects of two human relevant regioisomers of GSH conjugates S-(1,2-dichlorovinyl)-glutathione and S-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-glutathione, and their corresponding cysteine conjugates S-(1,2-dichlorovinyl)-cysteine and S-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-cysteine in different cell specific *in vitro* systems. We investigated which GSTs are involved in TCE GSH conjugation; we followed the kinetics of these hepatic conjugates in a renal model (RPTEC/TERT1) and investigated the transcriptomic response from a 24-h exposure of a range of sub-cytotoxic concentrations in hepatic (HepaRG), renal (RPTEC/TERT1), endothelial (HUVEC/TERT2), and neuronal systems (iPSC derived).

Case study testing approach

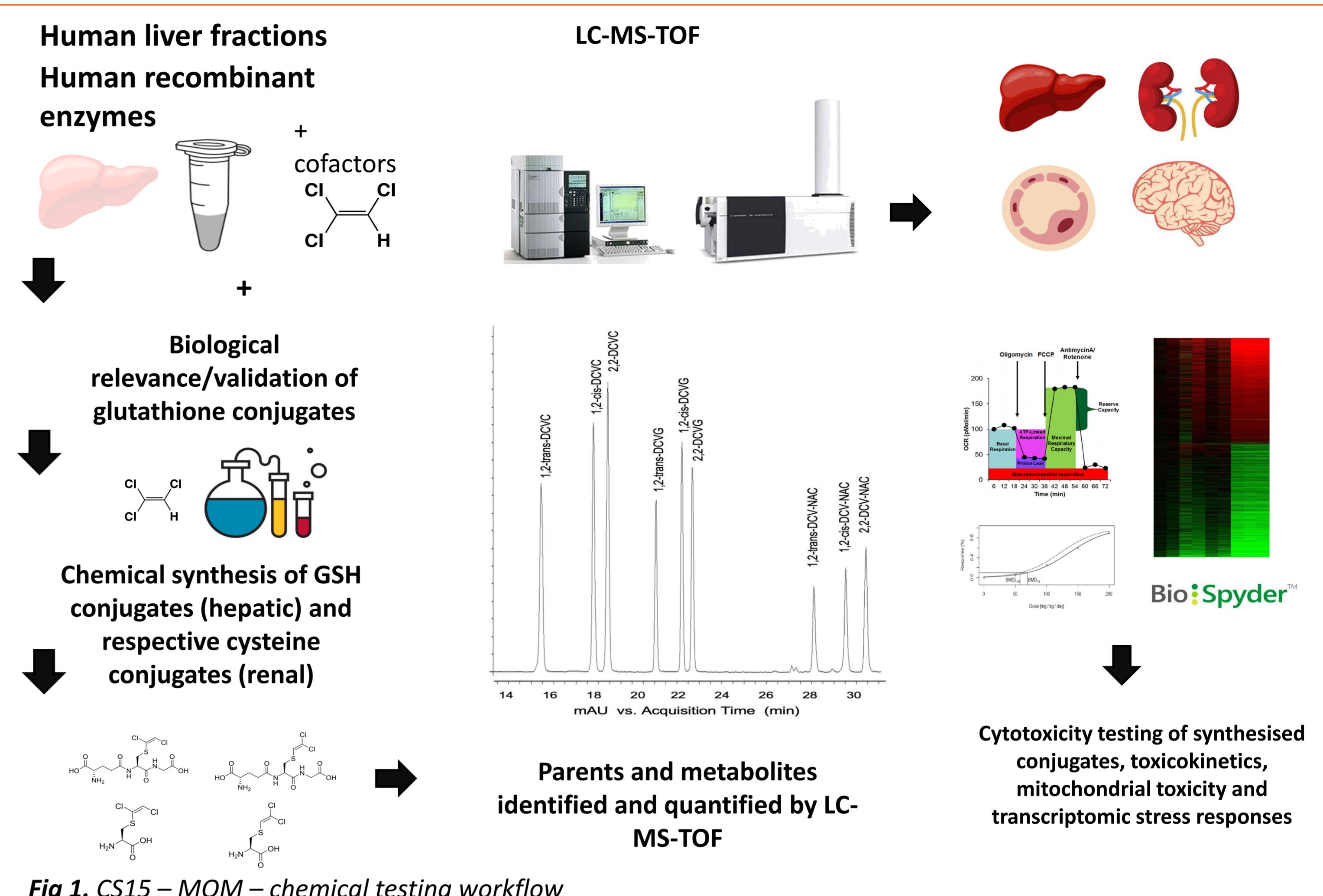


Fig 1. CS15 – MOM – chemical testing workflow

TCE hepatic GSH conjugation

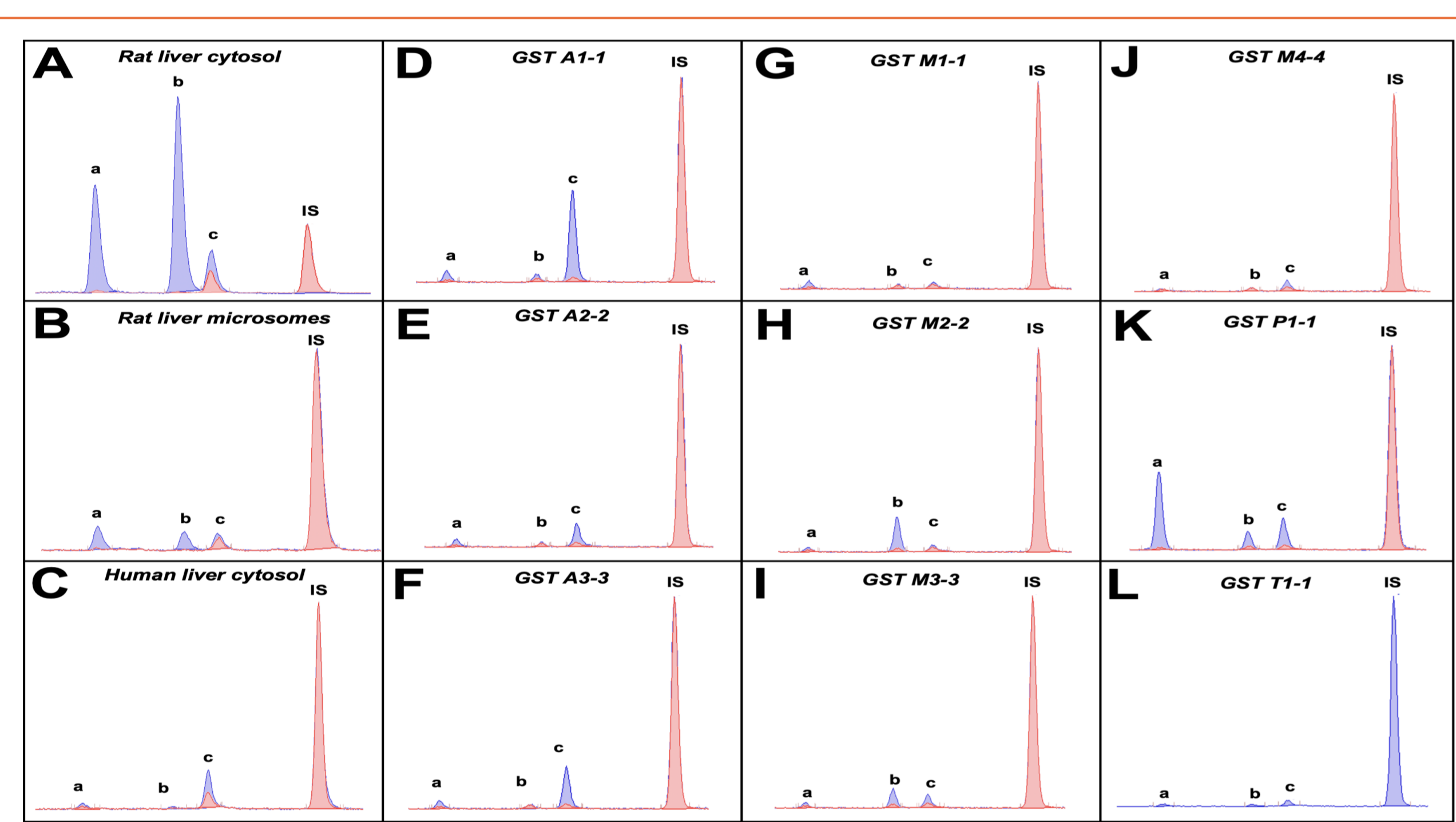


Fig 2. Regioselectivity of GSH-conjugation of TCE by rat and human liver fractions and recombinant human GSTs a) 1,2 trans DCVG, b) 1,2 cis DCVG, c) 2,2 DCVG. IS: internal standard, blue: without GST inhibitor, red: with GST inhibitor.

Renal kinetics of TCE-GSH conjugates

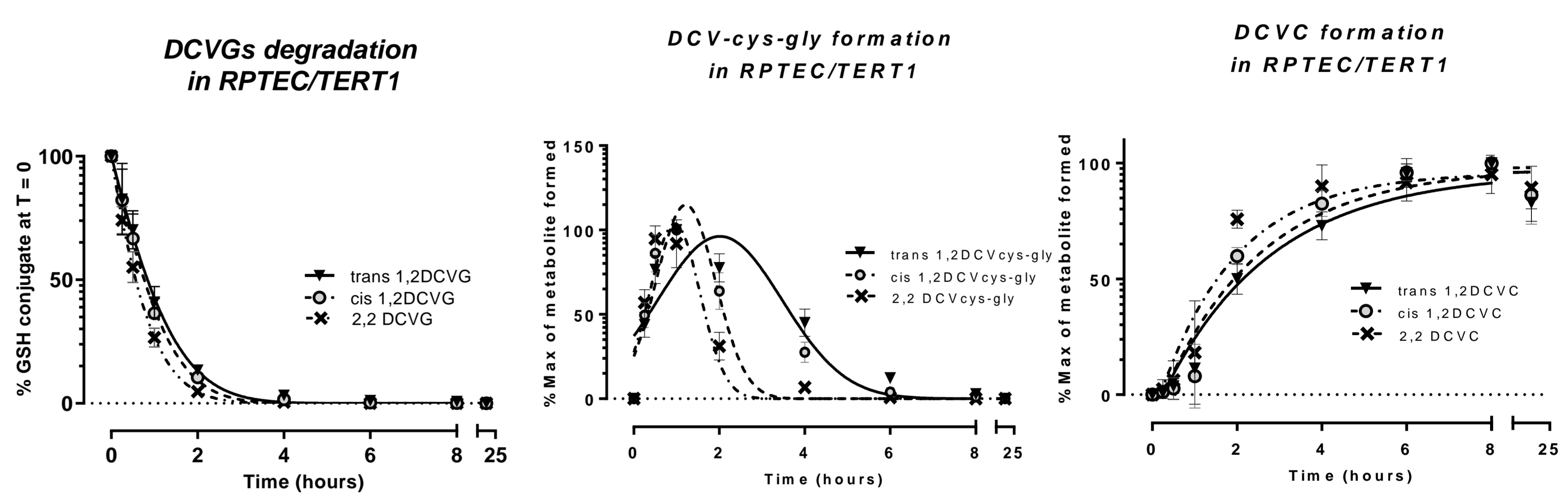


Fig 3. Biotransformation of 30 µM TCE-GSHs metabolites (1st order metabolites) over time in differentiated RPTEC/TERT1

Transcriptomic analysis of TCE conjugates

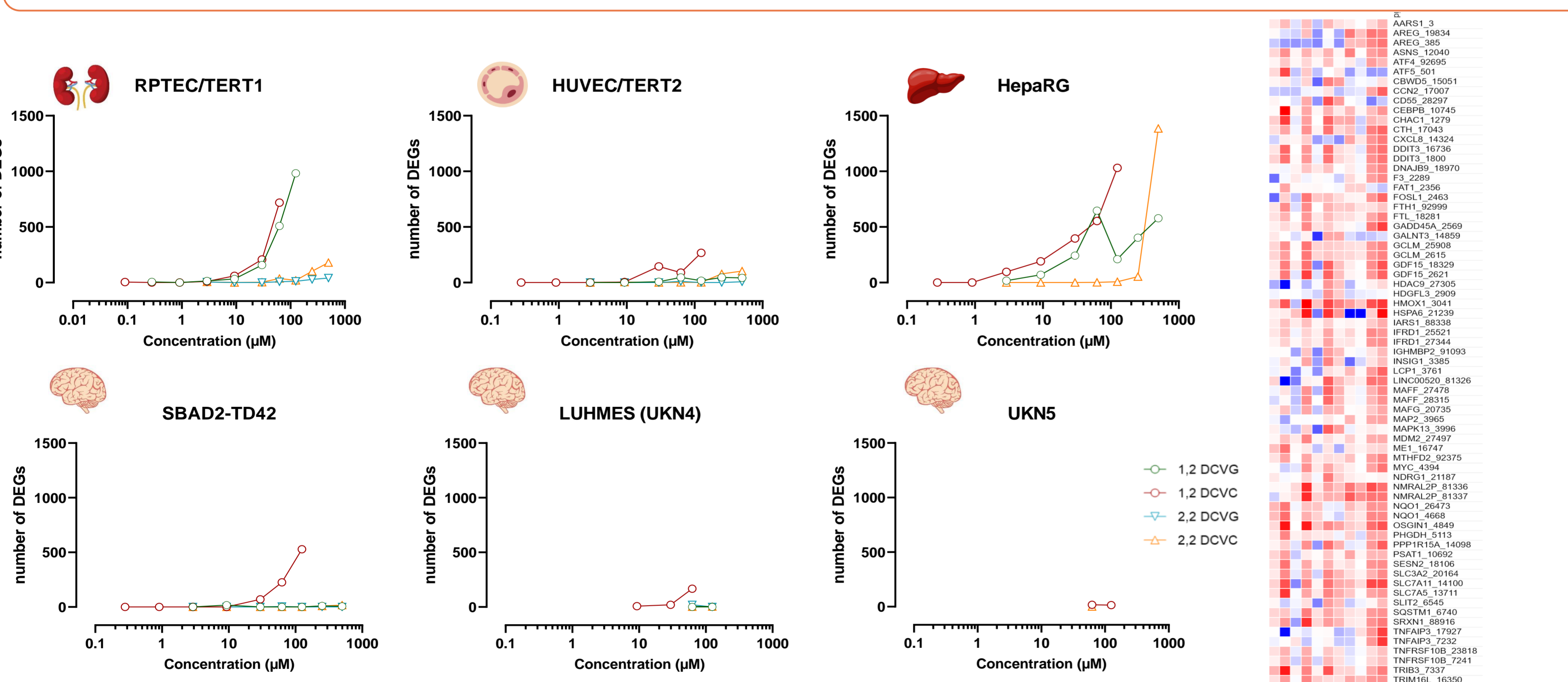


Fig 4. Total of differentially expressed genes (DEGs) with $padj < 0.01$ per cell type across compounds

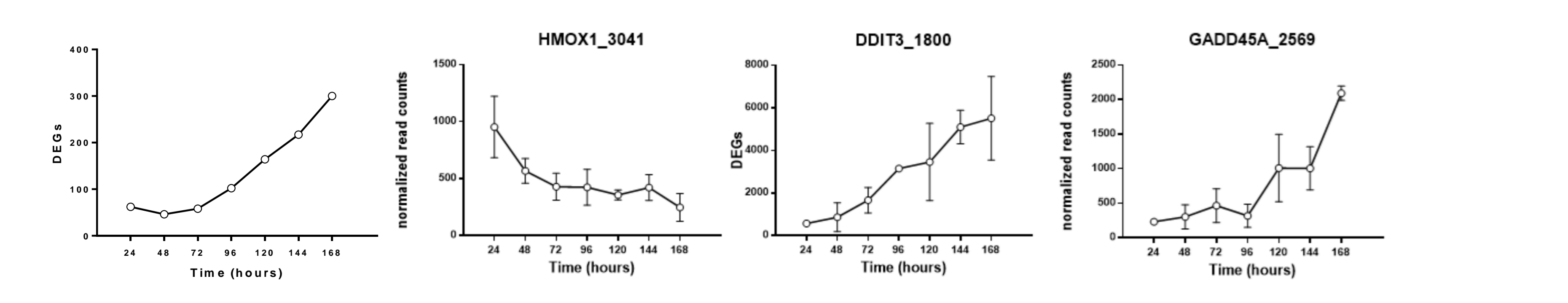


Fig 5. Seven day repeat dose treatment of highest sub-cytotoxic concentration of 1,2 DCVG in differentiated RPTEC/TERT1.

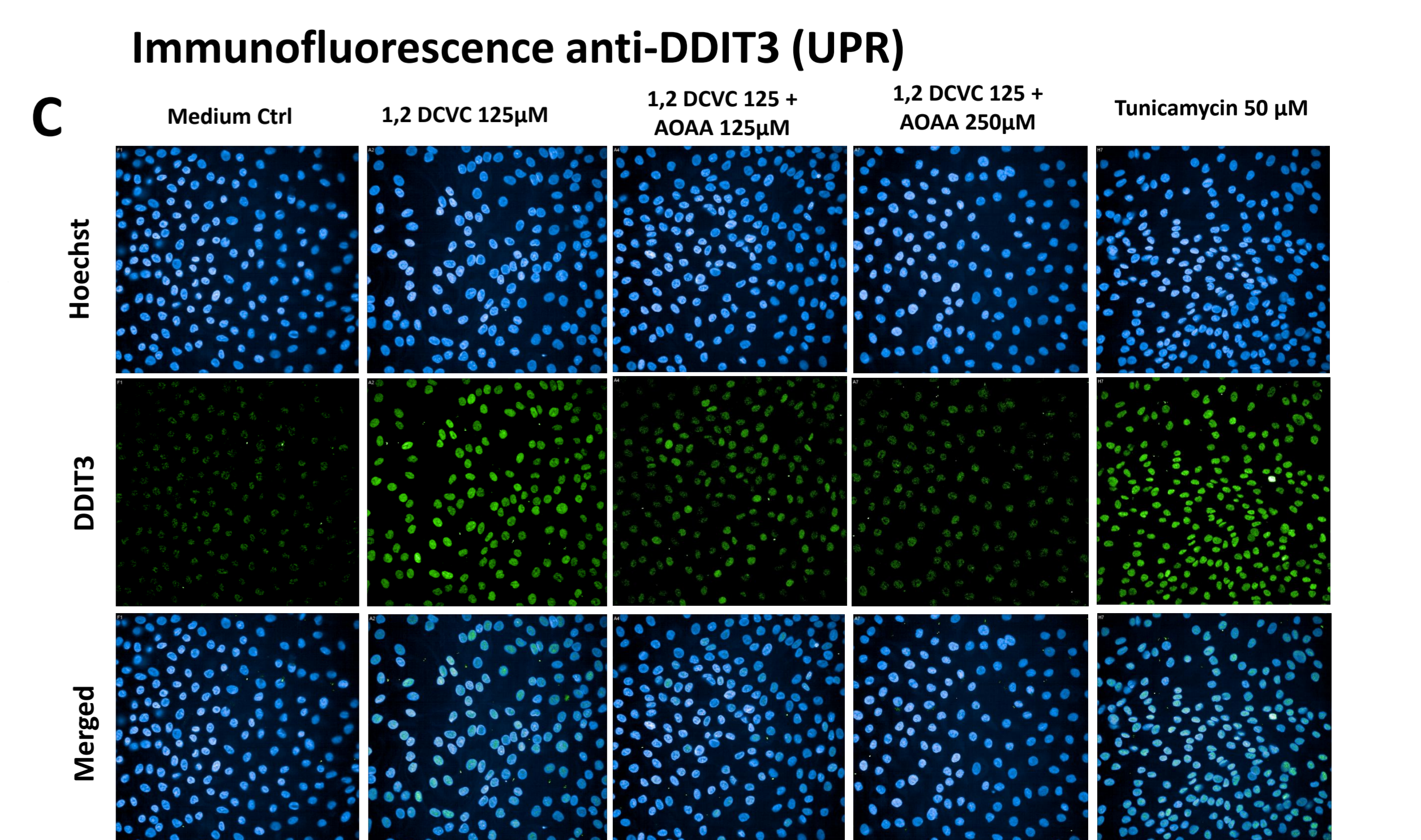
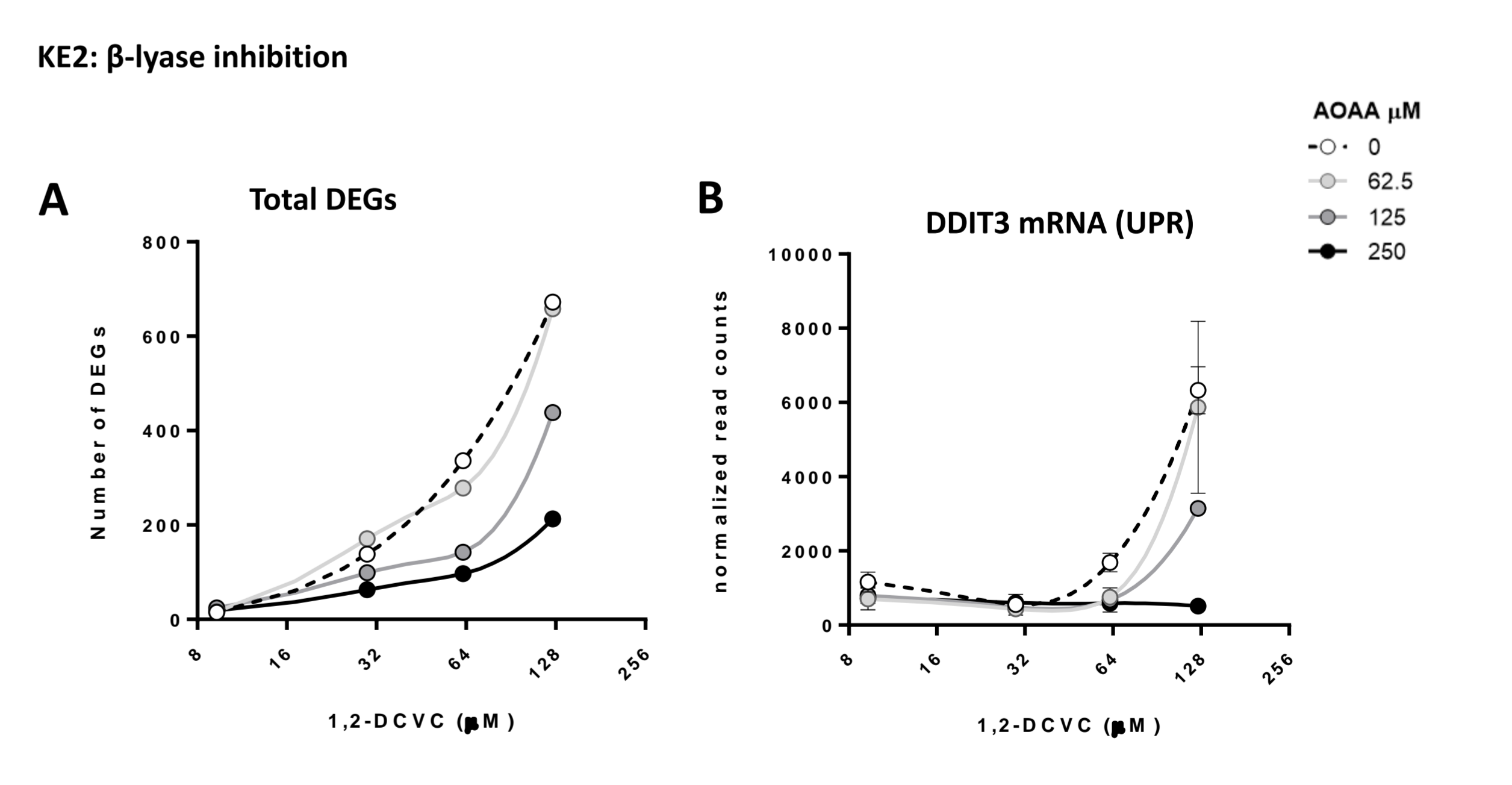


Fig 6. Co-incubation of 1,2 DCVC and general β -lyase inhibitor - Aminoxyacetic acid (AOAA) in differentiated RPTEC/TERT1 A) Number of total DEGs B) Normalized read counts for DDIT3 mRNA C) Immunocytochemistry for anti-DDIT3

