

**Supplementary Table 1 Summary of studies reporting significant differences in blood composition of myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome patients ( $P \leq 0.1$ )**

Study/year	Population studied/study design	Diagnosis criteria	Technique	Metabolites with increased levels			Metabolites with decreased levels		
Germain et al., 2020 <sup>[9]</sup>	26 ME/CFS (26 F & 0 M). Age range 22-72. Median age 52. Mean age 49.7. 26 HC (26 F & 0 M). Age range 22-66. Median age 43. Mean age 41.5.	CDC criteria	LC-MS	Ceramides	CER(18:1)	p = 0.004	Acyl choline	Palmitoylcholine	p = 0.01
					CER(20:0)	p = 0.03		Linoleoyl <b>choline</b>	p = 0.02
					CER(18:0)	p = 0.01		Arachidonoyl <b>choline</b>	p = 0.03
				Dipeptides	Gammaglutamyltyrosine	p =0.025 q= 1		Phenylalanylalanine	p< 0.05
					Hydroxyasparagine		Dipeptides	Etiocholanolone glucuronide	p< 0.05
					4-hydroxyglutamate			Cysteinylglycine	
				Sphingolipids		p = 0.03 q= 0.23		Valylleucine	
				Sphingomyelins		p = 0.035	3-hydroxylaurate		
				Acylcarnitines	arachidoyl <b>carnitine</b> (C20)	p = 0.057	Androgenic Steroids	Oleoylcholine	p = 0.06
					adipoyl <b>carnitine</b> (C6-DC)			DHEA	N/A
Zhang et al., 2019 <sup>[10]</sup>	105 CFS (65 F & 40 M). 97 DD (56 F & 41 M). 190 HC (69 F & 121 M).	N.A	H-NMR	B: Isoleucine					p < 0.05
				B: Leucine					
				B: Glucose					
				B: Serine					
				B: Tyrosine					
				B: Valine					
				B: 1-methylhistidine					
				B: Alanine					
				F: Succinylacetone					
				F: Glutamate					
				F: Threonine					
				F: Lysine					
				F: Glutamine					
				F: Acetone					
				M: Proline					
				M: Glycerol					
				M: Glycine					
				M: Lactate					
				M: Pyruvate					
				M: Creatinine					
				M: N-Nitrosodimethylamine					
McGregor et al.,	11 ME/CFS (11F & 0 M) Mean age 30.9.	Canadian	H.NMR				Hypoxanthine		p < 0.001
							Lactate		p < 0.01

2019 <sup>[11]</sup>	25 HC (24 F & 1 M). Mean age 33.6. Age range N/A.	criteria		Glucose		p < 0.01	Phenylalanine		N/A
Germain et al., 2018 <sup>[12]</sup>	32 ME/CFS (32 F & 0 M). Age range 19-71. Median age 50. Mean 49.2. 19 HC (19 F & 0 M). Age range 20-66. Median age 50. Mean 48.5.	Fukuda criteria	LC-MS	Cofactors and Vitamins	Alpha-CEHC glucuronide	p = 0.018 q= 0.13	Nucleotides	Inosine 5'-monophosphate (IMP)	p = 0.003 q= 0.11
					Gamma-CEHC glucuronide	p = 0.019 q= 0.13		2'-O-methylcytidine	p = 0.009 q= 0.13
					Heme	p = 0.02 q= 0.06			
					Gamma-CEHC	p = 0.05 q= 0.08			
				Energy	Alpha-ketoglutarate	p = 0.03 q= 0.03		Adenosine 3'-5'-cyclic monophosphate (cAMP)	p = 0.012 q= 0.13
				Peptide	Gamma-glutamylthreonine	p = 0.03 q= 0.11			
Nagy-Szakal et al., 2018 <sup>[13]</sup>	50 ME/CFS (41 F & 9 M). Age range 20-66. Median age 54. 50 HC (41 F & 9 M). Age range 21-67. Median age 53. Mean age 51.	Fukuda and Canadian consensus criteria	LC-MS/MS	Lysine		p < 0.05	Phosphatidyl <b>choline</b> (PC)		p = 0.017
				Phenylacetylglutamine			Carnitine- <b>choline</b>		
				Threonic acid			Lysophosphatidyl <b>choline</b> (LPC)	p < 0.05	
				Hexaethylene glyco					
				α-N-phenylacetyl-glutamine					
				ε-caprolactam					
				Pantothenic acid (Vit. B5)					
				Urobilin					
				Mannitol					
				Tyrosine					
				Methionine					
				Triglyceride (TG)			p = 0.580	Betaine	
Ceramide		p = 0.1							
Ruiz-Núñez et al., 2018 <sup>[14]</sup>	98 CFS ( 77 F & 21 M). Age range 21-69. Median age 43. 99 HC (76 F & 23 M). Age range 19-65. Median age 39 years. Mean: N/A.	Fukuda criteria	LC-MS	Inflammation	TC/HDL-C ratio	p = 0.001	Thyroid function	TT3	p < 0.001
					Ferritin	p = 0.007		TT4	
								HDL-C	
				SPINA-GD				p = 0.010	
				SPINA-GT				p = 0.047	
				Vitamin D		N/A	Intestinal Permeability	Zonulin	p = 0.002
							Inflammation	Tryptophan	p = 0.003
Kynurenine	p = 0.035								
Germain et al.,	17 ME/CFS (17 F & 0	Fukuda	QE-MS	Palmitate		p = 0.033 q = 0.4	Ethanolamine phosphate		p = 0.002 q = 0.191
							ATP		p = 0.002 q = 0.129
							ADP		p = 0.003 q = 0.129

2017 <sup>[15]</sup>	M). 15 HC (15 F & 0 M). Age range 42-68. Median and mean age: N/A.	criteria		Glycero-3-phosphate		p = 0.033 q = 0.24	Glyoxylate		p = 0.007 q = 0.129		
							Taurine		p = 0.007 q = 0.13		
							Choline phosphate(1-)		p = 0.008 q = 0.129		
				Trans-vaccenate-elaidate-oleate		p = 0.037 q = 0.24	Glucose		p = 0.009 q = 0.129		
							Glycocholate		p = 0.011 q = 0.137		
							CDP-choline		p = 0.014 q = 0.164		
				Stearate		p = 0.08 q = 0.342	5-amino-1-(5-phospho-D-ribose)imidazole-4-carboxamide		p = 0.037 q = 0.245		
Oxaloacetate		p = 0.039 q = 0.246									
Yamano et al., 2016 <sup>[16]</sup>	67 CFS (51 F & 16 M). 66 HC (51 F & 15 M). Age range 20-60. Median and mean age: N/A.	CDC criteria	CE-TOFMS	ratio of ornithine/citrulline		p < 0.001	Urea		p < 0.01		
							Citrulline				
				ratio of pyruvate/isocitrate		p < 0.01	Citrate		p < 0.05		
							Isocitrate				
				Ornithine		p < 0.05	Malate		p < 0.1		
							Aconitate				
Piruvate		p < 0.1	ATP		N/A						
Naviaux et al., 2016 <sup>[17]</sup>	45 CFS (23 F & 22 M). Age range 20-67. Mean age ( 52 F & 53 M). 39 HC (21 F & 18 M). Age range 23-69. Mean age ( 48 F & 53 M). Median age N/A.	Canadian, and Fukuda criteria	HILIC, ESI-MS, and MS/MS	Stress conditions	B: Pyrroline-5-Carboxylate (P5C)	p = 0.014	Vitamin	B: Riboflavin	p = 0.005		
								B: Flavin Adenine Dinucleotide (FAD)		N/A	
							Glycosphingo lipids	B: Glucosylceramide (GC)		p = 0.03	
								B: Dihexosylceramide (DHC)			
								B: Trihexosylceramide (THC)			
					B: Arginine		Purine	B: Purines		N/A	
								F: Plasma adenosine			
								M: Plasma uric acid			
					Branch Chain Amino Acid		B: 2-Hydroxyisocaproic acid (HICA)				
					Cholesterol		B: Lathosterol				
					Aromatic Amino Acid		M: 4-hydroxyphenyllactic acid (HPLA)				
							F: Phenyllactic acid (PLA)				
					Bile acid		F: Chenodeoxycholic acid (CDCA)				

B= both, F = female, M = male, HC = healthy control. N/A = not available.