



Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities

Business Office:

2019 Galisteo Street, Bldg. I, Santa Fe, NM 87505

Tel: 505-983-8102 ♦ Fax: 505-989-1073 ♦ Email: abrf@abrf.org

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Dear Colleague,

As the field of Proteomics quickly advances, the challenges faced by Proteomic laboratories is multifaceted. One aspect is locating and identifying sites of posttranslational modification. Hence, the Proteomics Research Group (PRG) of the Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities (ABRF) has designed a collaborative study focusing on locating sites of phosphorylation and would like to invite you to participate. The primary goals of this study are:

- To provide a mechanism so that participating labs can evaluate their capabilities in locating sites of phosphorylation in a non-radioactive sample
- To provide an introduction to these technologies for those laboratories that do not currently offer them.
- To obtain data that would allow a comparison of the strategies used and aid in optimization of these techniques.
- To compile data on a representative “unknown” that might help establish realistic expectations for the analysis of sites of phosphorylation.

In order to increase participation in the study, this years study is open to both ABRF members and non-members. However, the total number of samples is limited and priority will be given to ABRF members. Non-members are encouraged to join the ABRF and more information can be found at <http://www.abrf.org>

The sample for this study, ABRF-PRG03, will be a SDS-PAGE isolated protein(s) subjected to enzymatic digestion by the PRG and then distributed in a lyophilized state for resuspension and analysis. Participants will be asked to analyze the sample and identify the site(s) of phosphorylation. We anticipate distributing the samples in **September 2002**, and request that the resulting data be returned **late November, 2002** so that sufficient time will be available to tabulate and present the results at the 2002 ABRF Meeting (February 10-13, 2003 in Denver CO).

Please note that this sample will only be sent to those laboratories that request it by sending an email to ABRFPRG03@wistar.upenn.edu prior to September 10, 2002. Please place sample request in the subject line. Include your name, affiliation and complete mailing address in the body of the email. The Proteomics Research Group would like to encourage as much participation as possible. Since the member-laboratory’s work and the PRG's preparation of the samples represent substantial effort, we ask that you only request a sample if there is a reasonable probability you will be able to participate and return your data to the Research Group.

As with past ABRF studies, the resulting data will be returned via a third party to protect the anonymity of the respondents. Summaries of the results of this study will be provided to all participants. We thank you for your support of the ABRF and we look forward to your participation in this unique study.

Sincerely,

The ABRF Proteomics Research Group