

## Sample desalting for mass spectrometry

Revised June 2006 by Lori.

Equipment:

C18 Spec tips, Varian, cat #A57203

p200 pipetman

We use a p200 pipetman to wash and elute spec tips. For each wash, pipet the required volume into the top of the spec tip, then press the p200 tip firmly into the spec tip and depress the plunger to drive the liquid through the device.

1. Wet the spec tip by pushing through 200  $\mu$ l of HPLC grade methanol.
2. Wash the spec tip with 3 x 200 $\mu$ l 5% acetonitrile/5% formic acid.
3. If your sample does not already contain an acidic ion pairing agent, add formic acid to your sample to 5%.
4. Push the sample through the spec tip. You may pass the sample through several times, washing with 5% acetonitrile/5% formic acid between each pass, if you would like to maximize binding.
5. Wash with 3 x 200  $\mu$ l 5% acetonitrile/5% formic acid.
6. Elute with 2 x 100  $\mu$ l 80% acetonitrile/5% formic acid.
7. Speed vac the sample to dryness.

Reagents:

HPLC grade methanol

5% HPLC grade acetonitrile/5% formic acid

80% HPLC grade acetonitrile/5% formic acid

Make solutions with MilliQ or better water.