Communication

# Impact of Polypharmacy on Candidate Biomarker miRNomes for the Diagnosis of Fibromyalgia and Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Striking back on Treatments

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**Abstract:** Fibromyalgia (FM) and Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) are diseases of unknown etiology presenting complex and often overlapping symptomatology. Despite promising advances on the study of miRNomes of these diseases, no validated molecular diagnostic biomarker yet exists. Since FM and ME/CFS patient treatments commonly include polypharmacy it is of concern that biomarker miRNAs are masked by drug interactions. Aiming at discriminating between drug-effects and true disease-associated differential miRNA expression, we evaluated the potential impact of commonly prescribed drugs on disease miRNomes, as reported by the literature. By using the web search tools SM2miR, Pharmaco-miR and repoDB, we found a list of commonly prescribed drugs that impact on FM and ME/CFS miRNomes and therefore could be interfering in the process of biomarker discovery. On another end, disease-associated miRNomes may incline patient's response to treatment and toxicity. Here, we explored treatments for diseases in general that could be affected by FM and ME/CFS miRNomes finding a long list of them, including treatments for lymphoma, a type of cancer affecting ME/CFS patients at a higher rate than healthy population. We conclude that FM and ME/CFS miRNomes could help refine pharmacogenomic/pharmacoepigenomic analysis to elevate future personalized medicine and precision medicine programs in the clinic.

**Keywords:** Fibromyalgia (FM); Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS); microRNA; miRNome; pharmacogenomics; pharmacoepigenomics; SM2miR; Pharmaco-miR; repoDB; ME/CFS Common Data Elements (CDEs).

## 1. Introduction

Fibromyalgia (FM) is a debilitating disorder characterized by low pain threshold and muscle tenderness accompanied by bowel abnormalities, sleep disturbances, depressive episodes, cognitive problems and chronic pain [1-4]. Despite commonly comorbid with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS), a disease also showing a complex clinical pathophysiology [5-11], these syndromes have been classified by the International Classification of

Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) with separate codes (M79.7 and R53.82 or G93.3 if post-viral, for FM and ME/CFS respectively) [12]. However, disease distinctions remain under debate [5].

Although possibly underestimated, the global prevalence for FM has been set at 2-8% and at 0.23-0.41 for ME/CFS with predominant ratios of females over males [13-17]. In addition, increasing numbers of patients being affected at early ages [18] highlights the considerable and raising needs for appropriate healthcare programs and the stepping demands for alleviation of associated economic/social burdens.

Post-exertional malaise (PEM) a clinical hallmark of ME/CFS together with additional clinical and biological parameters differing between these two diseases [19-24] seem to support a distinct underlying pathophysiology and possibly etiology for FM and ME/CFS. Aimed at clarifying this diagnostic conflict through an improved understanding of the biology of disease onset and evolution, some research groups, ours included, have set searches to identify molecular biomarkers of these illnesses [25].

MicroRNAs or miRs constitute attractive candidates for the diagnosis of FM and ME/CFS as they have been found to associate with disease state of other complex chronic diseases [26,27] and may even be used to measure disease stage and response to treatments [28]. In their mature form (20-22 nts), they epigenetically control gene expression by directing particular sets of mRNAs presenting partial complementation, often, in their 3'UTR region, to degradation [29]. Other regulatory mechanisms have also been linked to the activity of these small molecules [30].

In addition to their biomarker value, miRNAs could potentially be targeted by small drugs, either directly through the binding of chemical compounds to particular grooves or pockets of their secondary structures, in their mature or precursor forms, as isolated or complexed molecules; or indirectly by interfering with proteins involved in their biogenesis or recycling, including regulation of transcription factors driving miRNA synthesis [31-34]. Therefore, directional FM and ME/CFS treatments based on miRNA targeting strategies are envisioned as potential curative therapies by themselves or as co-adjuvants in a near future.

MiRNA capacity to sense and respond to environmental cues [35-37], however, makes the establishment of correlations between particular disease estates and miRNA profile changes challenging. To minimize potential environmental confounding factors healthy participants are often population matched by sex, age; and quite frequently by BMI (body mass index) with the participating patient group. Careful selection of participants and proper study design are key factors in identifying miRNA disease-associated profiles (disease miRNomes), as miRNA levels also change in response to hormone challenges, during aging and metabolic states [38-41], including the post-prandial estate [42]. In the context of FM and ME/CFS, since miRNomes change with exercise [43], inclusion of sedentary control groups would be desirable.

Current treatments of both, FM and ME/CFS, diseases are symptom palliative only [44-48]. Due to multi-symptomatology, patient prescriptions frequently involve polypharmacy which may significantly impact downstream molecular analysis of disease. With this perspective, a recent joint initiative worked out by the NINDS (National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke) at the NIH (National Institute of Health) in Bethesda, MD (USA) and other federal agencies has made available case report forms (CRFs) and guidelines to register drug use in ME/CFS studies [49]. The ME/CFS Common Data Elements initiative or CDE Project aimed at standardizing clinical relevant variables for the study of ME/CFS covers various areas organized by domains and sub-domains. Information is publicly available at: <a href="https://www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov/MECFS.aspx#tab=Data\_Standards">https://www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov/MECFS.aspx#tab=Data\_Standards</a> [49].

A recently observed feature of miRNAs is their role at determining drug efficacy [50,51]. The traditional field of pharmacogenomics dealing at how individual genomic features, including SNPs (single nucleotide polymorphisms) and CNV (copy number variants), influences patient's response to drug-based treatments and sensitivity to toxic effects is becoming complemented by individual epigenetic profiles including alternative splicing events and miRNomes (pharmacoepigenomics) with the aim of elevating predictions of most effective and safest options towards improved personalized treatments in the clinic [52-55]. In addition to epigenetic regulation of drug targets,

regulation of genes related to drug absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) may translate into significant inter-individual differences to drug response [56]. In this context it should be of relevance to take into account patient's FM or/and ME/CFS condition when standardized treatments for diseases other than FM and ME/CFS are at need. In particular, FM and ME/CFS associated miRNA profiles might promote drug efficacy or inhibit drug function when compared to non-FM and non-ME/CFS patients and consequently impact or influence FM and ME/CFS patient's response to pharmacological treatments or sensitivity to adverse reactions. Interestingly, and in line with this, FM and ME/CFS patients report suffering from multiple chemical sensitivity [57].

In this paper we have interrogated the potential impact of commonly prescribed drugs to treat FM and ME/CFS on miRNA profiles in an effort to discern between miRNAs potentially linked to disease from those that might be consequence of drug intake. On another side, we have evaluated miRNA-target genes-drug interactions of differentially expressed (DE) miRNAs in FM and ME/CFS as an approach to determine the ability or predisposition of these patients to respond to common clinical treatments for disease in general, including diseases other than FM and ME/CFS which may appear comorbid at some point of FM and ME/CFS patients' lives.

## 2. Materials and Methods

# 2.1. Study search

To locate experimental work aimed at studying miRNA profiles in FM or ME/CFS, a bibliographic search following the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses criteria (PRISMA)[58] was performed using Pubmed and Web of Science databases [59,60] up to January 2019. The search terms used in "all fields" included: "fibromyalgia" AND "microRNA" OR "miR" on one side, and "chronic fatigue syndrome" AND "CFS" in combination with "microRNA" OR "miR" in another. The use of the following terms: "myalgic encephalomyelitis" to describe the disease did not yield any additional experimental publications in the field. The trial Pubmed Labs tool, including article snippets and other improvements was also used in the search [61]. Manual curation to filter out non-experimental or unrelated hits was applied.

For compounds commonly prescribed to treat symptoms in FM and ME/CFS a search in Cochrane library and Pubmed databases [59,62] was performed using as search terms either "fibromyalgia systematic review" AND "drug" or "chronic fatigue syndrome" AND "CFS systematic review" AND "drug" or "myalgic encephalomyelitis systematic review" AND "drug". Most recently updated reviews were adopted as reference manuscripts.

# 2.2. Identification of miRNA-drug-disease interactions

Features of miRNAs and drugs understudy, International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) names included, were found in miRBase and Drugbank databases, respectively [63,64]. FM and ME/CFS miRNomes were evaluated for miRNA-drug interactions using either SM2miR or Pharmaco-miR web search tools [65,50]. To find potential miRNomes derived from patient polypharmacy, SM2miR output was filtered using as criteria "drugs commonly prescribed to treat FM and ME/CFS symptoms", as described in the previous 2.1. section. Treatments to disease to which FM and ME/CFS patients may respond differently than non-FM non-ME/CFS population were spotted by searching the repoDB database [66] with the Pharmaco-miR drug hits obtained with FM or ME/CFS miRNome searches.

## 3. Results

# 3.1. miRNomes associating with the studied diseases

## 3.1.1. miRNomes of FM

By reviewing the literature, as described in Methods, we found five studies reporting differential expression (DE) of particular miRNAs in FM patients with respect to healthy population using multiplex approaches, either microarrays or RT-qPCR panels (Table S1 &Table 1). One of them measured miRNA levels in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)[67], while the rest evaluated them in blood fractions [68-71]; two used white blood cells [69,71] and two analyzed serum [68,70].

According to these reports, a total of 85 FM patients and 86 healthy participants have been screened for differential miRNA expression finding little coincidences (only 9 miRNAs reported by more than one study) (Table 1, miRNAs in bold) even within the same blood fraction type and although authors report use of common diagnostic criteria (ACR 1990). Gene Ontology (GO) analysis, however, more commonly showed metabolic and neural pathways associating to DE miRNAs, indicating common cellular pathways affected by different FM miRNomes.

**Table 1.** Summary of studies evaluating FM miRNomes by multiplex approaches.

Source of RNA	Diagnostic criteria /Clinical parameters	Cohorts	Technical approach	Over-expressed microRNAs	Under-expressed microRNAs	RT-qPCR validated miRNAs	GO terms mainly affected	References
Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)	ACR 1990, FIQ & MFI- 20*	10 FM 8 HC	microRNA Ready- to-Use PCR microchip (Exiqon, Denmark Cat No 203608)		miR-21-5p, miR-145- 5p, miR-29a-3p, miR- 99b-5p, miR-125b-5p, miR-23a-3p, miR-23b- 3p, miR-195-5p, miR- 223-3p	N/A	Glial and Neuronal response, Insulin-like growth factor pathway, Alzheimer and Parkinson, Autoimmunity and Energy metabolism	Bjersing et al, 2013 <sup>[67]</sup>
Serum	ACR 1990, FIQ & MFI- 20*	20 FM 20 HC	microRNA Ready- to-Use PCR microchip (Exiqon, Denmark Cat No 203608)	miR-320a	miR-103a-3p, miR- 107, let-7a-5p, mir- 30b-5p, miR-151a-5p, miR-142-3p, miR- 374b-5p.	N/A	Neuronal regeneration, Opioid tolerance, Dopamine neurotransmitter receptor activity, cell division, stress response, energy metabolism, lipid metabolism, Alzheimer	Bjersing et al, 2014 <sup>(68)</sup>
PBMCs	ACR 1990, FIQ & MFI- 20*	11 FM 10 HC	3D-Gene Human miRNA Oligo chips (version 16.0; Toray Industries)		miR-223-3p, miR- 451a, miR-338-3p, miR-143-3p, miR-145- 5p, miR-21-5p	miR-223-3p, miR-451a, miR- 338-3p, miR-143- 3p, miR-145-5p	Nervous system, Inflammation, Diabetes, Major depressive disorder,	Cerdá- Olmedo et al, 2015 [69]
Serum	ACR 1990/2010, FIQ, FAS, HAQ & ZSAS/ZSD S*	14 FM 14 HC	Serum/Plasma Focus miRNA PCR Panel I+II (96-wells Exiqon)	<b>Pooled Sera</b> : <u>miR-10a-5p</u> , <b>miR-320b</b> , miR-424-5p	Pooled Sera: miR-20a-3p, miR-139-5p  Individual Sera: miR-23a-3p, miR-1, miR-133a, miR-346, miR-139-5p, miR-320b	N/A	Brain development, Immune response, Osteogenesis, Myoblast differentiation, Autism, Epilepsy, Cellular proliferation and differentiation, Muscular athrophy, Complex regional pain syndrome, among other	Masotti et al, 2016 <sup>(७४)</sup>
White blood cell (WBC)	ACR 1990, FIQ, NPSI- G, GCPS & ADS*	30 FM 34 HC	miRCURY LNA miRNA array (Exiqon, Vedbaek, version 19.0, with 2042 analyzed microRNAs)	miR-136-5p, miR-4306, miR-744-5p, miR-4301, miR-151a-3p, miR-584-5p, miR-4308, miR-221-3p, miR-584-5p, miR-199a-5p, miR-126-3p, miR-126-5p, miR-130a-3p, miR-146a-5p, miR-125a-5p, miR-4429, miR-320b, miR-320a, miR-320c, miR-17-3p, miR-423-3p, miR-320c, miR-199a-3p, miR-335-5p, miR-331-3p, miR-339-5p, miR-92a-3p, let-7b-5p, miR-222-3p, miR-33a, let-7i-5p, miR-185-5p, miR-22-3p, miR-133p, miR-133a-3p, let-7d-5p, miR-133a-3p, miR-133a-3p, miR-135p, miR-133a-3p, miR-133a-3p, miR-133a-3p, miR-133a-3p, miR-133a-3p, miR-30d-5p, miR-301a-3p, miR-374c-5p, miR-17-5p, miR-18b-5p, miR-1	miR-4639-3p, miR- 3685, miR-943, miR- 877-3p	miR-199a, miR- 151, miR-103, Let-7d, miR-146a	Cell proliferation, differentiation, brain development, Opioid Tolerance	Leinders et al, 2016 <sup>[7]</sup>

\*ACR: American College of Rheumatology 1990/2010 criteria; FIQ; Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire; MFI-20: Multidimensional Fatigue Inventory; FAS: Fibromyalgia Assessment Status; HAQ: Health Assessment Questionnaire; ZSAS, ZSDS: Zung Self-Rating Anxiety and Zung Self-Rating Depression Scale; NPSI-G: Neuropathic Pain Symptom Inventory; GCPS: Graded Chronic Pain Scale; ADS: Allgemeine Depressions-Skala. Bolded miRs correspond to miRs DE according to more than one FM study. Underlined miRs correspond to miRs DE in FM and ME/CFS studies.

## 3.1.2. miRNomes of ME/CFS

A similar bibliographic search to the one performed in FM (section 3.1.1. of this manuscript) yielded, after filtering out unrelated, gene-focussed studies, only three studies showing DE of miRNAs in ME/CFS at basal levels, yet, they included a similar total number of patients and controls (83 and 98, respectively) (Table 2) [72-74]. It should be noted that an additional multiplex miRNA study evaluating DE of miRNAs in ME/CFS upon exercise challenge was excluded on the basis of reporting no basal disease miRNomes [75]. Again, as in FM studies, little overlap of DE miRNAs could be found across ME/CFS studies (only 4 miRNAs were reported by more than one ME/CFS study, bolded miRNAs in Table 2). In this case, this could be somehow expected as blood fractions and diagnostic criteria varied across studies. In fact, only the most recent study by Petty et al., included the more restrictive Canadian criteria for patient selection [74]. Nevertheless, once more, a coincidence of mainly affected GO terms was found, pointing at major immune defects in ME/CFS through different miRNomes.

Table 2. Summary of studies evaluating ME/CFS miRNomes by multiplex approaches

Source of RNA	Diagnostic criteria	Cohorts	Technical approach	Over-expressed microRNAs	Under-expressed microRNAs	RT-qPCR validated microRNAs	GO terms mainly affected	References
NK & CD8+ cells	Fukuda	28 ME/CFS 28 HC	Analyzed by RT-qPCR 19 microRNAs: miR-10a miR- 16,miR-15b,miR-107,miR- 128b,miR-146a,miR-191,miR- 21,miR-223, ,miR-17-5p,miR- 150,miR-103,miR-106b,miR- 126,miR-142-3p,miR-146- 5p,miR-152,miR-181,let-7a.		NK: miR-10a, miR- 146a, miR-191, miR- 223, miR-17-5p, miR- 21, miR-106, miR-152, miR-103	N/A	Cytotoxicity of NK and CD8* cells, cytokine expression, cell proliferation, apoptosis, development and differentiation of effector CD8*	Brenu et al., 2012 <sup>[72]</sup>
Plasma	Fukuda	20 ME/CFS 20 HC	MicroRNA profiling by HiSeq2000 sequencing (Illumina HiSeq2000)	miR-548j, miR-548ax, miR- 127-3p, miR-381-3p, <u>miR- 331-3p</u> , miR-136-3p, miR- 142-5p, miR-493-5p, <u>miR- 143-3p</u> , miR-370, miR-4532	miR-126, miR-450b- 5p, miR-641, miR-26a- 1-3p, miR-3065-3p, miR-5187-3p, miR-16- 2-3p, let-7g-3p	miR-127-3p, miR-142-5p, miR-143-3p	Autoimmunity, T cell development, cytokine production, inflammatory responses, apoptosis	Brenu et al., 2014 <sup>[73]</sup>
PBMCs	Fukuda & Canadian	35 ME/CFS 50 HC	Ambion Bioarray microarrays (version 1 targeting 385 miRNA sequences)	let-7b, miR-103, miR-126, miR-145, miR-151, miR-181a, miR-185, miR-191, miR-197, miR-199a, miR-19b, miR-210, miR-22-5p, miR-24, miR-27a, miR-27b, miR-30c, miR-30d, miR-320, miR-324-3p, miR-324-3p, miR-324, miR-325, miR-326, miR-330, miR-324, miR-325, miR-325, miR-325, miR-325, miR-325, miR-4225, miR-423, miR-92, miR-99b		miR-99b, miR-30c, miR-126, miR-330-3p	Angiogenesis, invasion, migration and proliferation in dendritic cells, , proliferative, cytotoxic and cytokine effector function in NK cells	Petty, et al., 2016 <sup>[74]</sup>

Bolded miRs correspond to miRs DE according to more than one ME/CFS study. Underlined miRs correspond to miRs DE in FM and ME/CFS studies. This Table has been adapted from Almenar-Perez et al., 2019 (Clinical Therapeutics, under review).

Surprisingly as many as 19 miRNAs were found to be commonly reported as DE by FM and ME/CFS studies, the significance of which is unknown at present (miRNAs underlined in Tables 1 & 2).

# 3.2. Polypharmacy potentially impacting miRNA profiles

As mentioned above, our general aims included determining drug-miRNA and drug-disease interactions in the context of FM, or ME/CFS miRNomes, for the purpose of identifying potential interference of drugs in miRNA profiling which could bias research outcomes one side, and, on another, determine whether disease miRNA profiles could influence drug response in these patients. This section focuses on selecting drugs commonly prescribed to FM and ME/CFS patients to evaluate the effect that polypharmacy might have on miRNomes of these diseases.

# 3.2.1. Polypharmacy in FM

Based on the recent Cochrane report by Häuser et al, [44] drugs that have been commonly used to treat FM in the clinical practice can be classified into the following six classes: antidepressants, antiepileptics, antipsicotics, cannabinoids, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and opioids. Rather than analyzing the quality of evidence of clinical trials using these substances, we were interested in assigning the active principle and IUPAC names to the reported compounds, to facilitate our downstream analysis (Table 3). Additional literature supporting the use of compounds for each of the six classes described by Häuser et al., to treat FM patients is provided in Table 3 [76-93].

**Table 3.** Classification of drugs commonly prescribed to FM patients

Table 3. Classification of drugs commonly prescribed to FM patients						
Family	Subfamily Active principle IUPAC name		Reference			
	Serotonin- Norepinephrine	Milnacipran	(±)-(1R,25)-rel-2-(Aminomethyl)-N,N-diethyl-1- phenylcyclopropane-1-carboxamide	Cording M et al., 2015 <sup>[76]</sup>		
	reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs)	Duloxetine	(+)-(S)-N-Methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yloxy)-3- (thiophen-2-yl)propan-1-amina	Lunn MP et al., 2014[77]		
		Citalopram	(RS) -1- [3- (dimethylamino) propyl] -1- (4- fluorophenyl) -1,3-dihydroisobenzofuran-5- carbonitrile			
		Fluoxetine	(RS) -N-Methyl-3-phenyl-3- (4- trifluoromethylphenoxy) propylamine	Walitt B et al., 2015 <sup>[78]</sup>		
	Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)	Paroxetine	(3S, 4R) -3 - [(1,3-Benzodioxol-5-yl oxy) methyl] - 4- (4-fluorophenyl) piperidine	Riera R, 2015 <sup>[79]</sup>		
		Tryptophan	2-amino-3- (1H-indol-3-yl) propanoic acid			
Antidepressants		Escitalopram	(S)-1-[3-(Dimethylamino)propyl]-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3-dihydroisobenzofuran-5-carbonitrile			
		Sertraline	(15,4S)-4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-amine			
	Tricyclic antidepressants	Amitriptyline	8-methyl-2,3,3a,4,5,6-hexahydro-1H- pyrazino[3,2,1-jk]carbazole	Moore RA et al.,2015[80]		
	Monoamine oxidase	Pirlindole	8-methyl-2,3,3a,4,5,6-hexahydro-1H- pyrazino[3,2,1-jk]carbazole	Tort S et al., 2012 <sup>[81]</sup>		
	inhibitors (MAOIs)	Moclobemide	4-chloro-N- (2-morpholin-4-ylethyl) benzamide	,		
		Mirtazapine	(RS)-1,2,3,4,10,14b-Hexahydro-2-methylpyrazino[2,1-a]pyrido[2,3-c][2]benzazepine	Welsch P et al., 2018 <sup>[82]</sup>		

	1st Generation	Phenytoin	5,5-diphenylimidazolidine-2,4-dione	Birse F et al., 2012 <sup>[83]</sup>
	2nd Generation	Valproic acid (Sodium valproate)	2-propylpentanoic acid	Gill D et al., 2011 <sup>[84]</sup>
		Clonazepam	5-(2-Chlorophenyl)-7-nitro-1,3-dihydro-1,4- benzodiazepin-2-one	Corrigan R et al., 2012 <sup>[85]</sup>
Antiepileptics	3rd Generation	Pregabalin	(S)-3- (amynomethyl)-5-methylhexanoic acid	Derry S et al., 2016 <sup>[86]</sup>
	ord Generation	Gabapentin	2-[1-(amynomethyl)cyclohexyl]ethanoic acid	Wiffen PJ et al., 2017 <sup>[87]</sup>
		Lacosamide	N2-acetyl-N-benzyl-D-homoserinamide	Hearn L et al., 2016[88]
		Topiramate	2,3: 4,5-Bis-O- (1-methylethylidene) -beta-D- fructopyranose sulfamate	Wiffen PJ et al. , 2013[89]
Antipsychotics	Atypical	Quetiapine	2- (2- (4-dibenzo [b, f] [1,4] thiazepine-11-yl-1-piperazinyl) ethoxy) ethanol	Walitt B et al., 2016 (Jun) <sup>[90]</sup>
Cannabinoids	Synthetic	Nabilone	(6aR,10aR)-rel-1-Hydroxy-6,6-dimethyl-3-(2-methyl-2-octanyl)-6,6a,7,8,10,10a-hexahydro-9H-benzo[c]chromen-9-one	Walitt B et al., 2016 (Jul) <sup>[91]</sup>
	Selective inhibitor of Cyclooxygenase 2 (COX-2)	Etoricoxib	5-cloro-6'-metil-3-[4-(metilsulfonil)fenil]-2,3'- bipiridine	
Nonsteroidal anti- inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)	Inhibitor of prostaglandin	Ibuprofen	(RS)-2-(4-(2-Methylpropyl)phenyl)propanoic acid	Derry S et al., 2017 <sup>[92]</sup>
	synthesis	Naproxen	(+)-(S)-2-(6-Methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)propanoic acid	Deliy 3 et al., 2017
	Inhibitor of Cicloxygenase (COX-1 and COX-2)	Tenoxicam	(3E)-3-[hydroxy(pyridin-2-ylamino)methylene] - 2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-4H-thieno[2,3-e] [1,2]thiazin-4-one 1,1-dioxide	
Opioids	oids Semi synthetic Oxycodone		(5R, 9R, 13S, 14S) -4,5-α-epoxy-14-hydroxy-3-methoxy-17-methyl-morphinan-6-one	Gaskell H et al., 2016 <sup>[93]</sup>

# 3.2.2. Polypharmacy in ME/CFS

Opposite to FM, no drug-based Cochrane review for the treatment of ME/CFS could be found. The three hits obtained by using the MeSH search terms "Chronic Fatigue Syndrome" were reviews on exercise, CBT (cognitive behaviour therapy) and Chineese herbs [94-96]. Therefore, we decided to use as reference papers to evaluate common drug-based ME/CFS therapies the recent reviews by Collatz et al., and Smith et al., [97,98]. Additional bibliography supporting the use of polypharmacy in ME/CFS was also included [48,97,99-107]. Similar to what has been described in the previous section 3.3.1. a documented summary of drugs commonly prescribed to ME/CFS patients that could impact miRNA screenings is shown in Table 4 together with active principles and IUPAC names.

Table 4. Classification of drugs commonly prescribed to ME/CFS patients

Family	Subfamily	Active principle	IUPAC name	Reference	
Anticonvulcanto	2nd Compression	Gabapentin	2-[1-(amynomethyl)cyclohexyl]ethanoic acid	Castro-Marrero J et al.,	
Anticonvulsants	3rd Generation	Pregabalin	(S)-3- (amynomethyl)-5-methylhexanoic acid	2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
		Nafazodone	2-[3-[4-(3-chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]propyl]-5-ethyl-4-(2-phenoxyethyl)-1,2,4-triazol-3-one	Collatz A et al., 2016 <sup>[97]</sup>	
		Bupropion	(RS)-2-(tert-Butylamino)-1-(3- chlorophenyl)propan-1-one		
		Citalopram	((RS)-1-[3-(Dimethylamino)propyl]-1- (4-fluorophenyl)-1,3- dihydroisobenzofuran-5-carbonitrile		
	Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)	Escitalopram	((S)-1-[3-(Dimethylamino)propyl]-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3-dihydroisobenzofuran-5-carbonitrile	Castro-Marrero J et al.,	
		Fluoxetine	(RS) -N-Methyl-3-phenyl-3- (4- trifluoromethylphenoxy) propylamine	2017	
		Sertraline	(15,4S)-4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-amine		
		Paroxetine	(3S, 4R) -3 - [(1,3-Benzodioxol-5-yl oxy) methyl] -4- (4-fluorophenyl) piperidine		
Antidepressants	Serotonin- norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs)	Methylphenidate Methyl phenyl(piperidin-2-yl)acetate		Blockmans D and Persoons P, 2016 <sup>[99]</sup> ; Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
		Duloxetine	(+)-(S)-N-Methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yloxy)-3-(thiophen-2-yl)propan-1-amine	Castro-Marrero J et al.,	
		Venlafaxine	(RS)-1-[2-dimethylamino-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-ethyl]cyclohexanol	2017	
		Amitriptyline	3- (10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo [a, d] cycloheptene-5-ylidene) -N, N- dimethyl-1-propanamine		
		Clomipramine	3-(2-chloro-5,6- dihydrobenzo[b][1]benzazepin-11-yl)- N,N-dimethylpropan-1-amine		
	Tricyclic antidepressants	Desipramine	3-(5,6-dihydrobenzo[b][1]benzazepin- 11-yl)-N-methylpropan-1-amine	Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
		Doxepin	(3E)-3-(6H-benzo[c][1]benzoxepin-11-ylidene)-N,N-dimethylpropan-1-amine		
		Imipramine	3-(5,6-dihydrobenzo[b][1]benzazepin- 11-yl)-N,N-dimethylpropan-1-amine		
		Nortriptyline	3-(5,6-dihydrodibenzo[2,1-b:2',1'-f][7]annulen-11-ylidene)-N-methylpropan-1-amine		

	Monoamine oxidase	Moclobemide  Phenelzine	4-chloro-N-(2-morpholin-4-ylethyl)benzamide 2-phenylethylhydrazine	Collatz A et al., 2016 <sup>[97]</sup> Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
	inhibitors (MAOIs)	Selegiline	(R)-N-methyl-N-(1-pheny lpropan-2-yl)prop-1-yn-3-amine	Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
	Noradrenergic and specific serotonin antagonist (NaSSAs)	Mirtazapine	(RS)-1,2,3,4,10,14b-Hexahydro-2-methylpyrazino[2,1-a]pyrido[2,3-c][2]benzazepine	Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
	Monoaminergic stabiliser	(-)-OSU-6162	(3S)-3-[3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-1- propylpiperidine	Nilsson MKL et al., 2017 <sup>[100]</sup>	
	Stimulant to α2- Receptors	Clonidine hydrochloride	N-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-4,5-dihydro- 1H-imidazol-2-amine;hydrochloride	Collatz A et al., 2016 <sup>[97]</sup>	
Antihypertensive	Angiotensin II receptor agonist	Olmesartan medoxomil	(5-metil-2-oxo-2H-1,3-dioxol-4-il)metil 4-(2-hidroxipropan-2-il)-2-propil-1-({4- [2-(2H-1,2,3,4-tetrazol-5- il)fenil]fenil}metil)-1H-imidazole-5- carboxilato	Proal AD et al., 2013[101]	
	Fatty acid oxidant	L-Carnitine	3-Hydroxy-4- (trimethylazaniumyl)butanoate	Plioplys AV and Plioplys S., 1997 <sup>[102]</sup>	
Antioxidant	Ubiquinone	CoQ10	[(2E,6E,10E,14E,18E,22E,26E,30E,34E)-3,7,11,15,19,23,27,31,35,39-Decamethyltetraconta-2,6,10,14,18,22,26,30,34,38-decaenyl]-5,6-dimethoxy-3-methylcyclohexa-2,5-diene-1,4-dione		
	Re-Dox Agent	NADH	Nicotine adenine dinucleotide		
	Omega-3 fatty acid	α-lipoic acid  Docosahexaenoic acid(DHA)	(R)-5-(1,2-dithiolan-3-yl)pentanoic acid (4Z,7Z,10Z,13Z,16Z,19Z)-docosa- 4,7,10,13,16,19-hexaenoic acid		
Antioxidant	Vitamins	Vitamin C  Folate (Vitamin B9)	(2R)-2-[(1S)-1,2-dihydroxyethyl]-3,4-dihydroxy-2H-furan-5-one  (2S)-2-[[4-[(2-Amino-4-oxo-1H-pteridin-6-yl)methylamino]benzoyl]amino]pentan edioic acid	Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
		Hydroxycobalamin Vitamin B12)	Coα-[α-(5,6-dimethylbenzimidazolyl)]- Coβ-hydroxocobamide		
	Blocking adhesion and viral penetration	Amantadine	1-amino-adamantane	Plioplys AV and Plioplys S., 1997 <sup>[102]</sup>	
Antiviral		Valganciclovir	[2-[(2-amino-6-oxo-3H-purin-9-yl)methoxy]-3-hydroxypropyl] (2S)-2-amino-3-methylbutanoate	Collatz A et al., 2016 <sup>[97]</sup> ; Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
Anuvildi	Acid nucleics analogs	Acyclovir	2-amino-9-(2-hydroxyethoxymethyl)- 3H-purin-6-one	Castro-Marrero Let al	
	Valacyclovir		2-[(2-amino-6-oxo-3H-purin-9-yl)methoxy]ethyl (2S)-2-amino-3-methylbutanoate	Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	

		Hydrocortisone	(11β)-11,17,21-trihydroxypregn-4-ene- 3,20-dione	Blockmans D et al., 2003 <sup>[104]</sup> ; Collatz A et al., 2016 <sup>[97]</sup>	
Corticoids	Glucocoticoid	Fludrocortisone	(85,9R,10S,11S,13S,14S,17R)-9-fluoro- 11,17-dihydroxy-17-(2-hydroxyacetyl)- 10,13-dimethyl-1,2,6,7,8,11,12,14,15,16- decahydrocyclopenta[a]phenanthren-3- one	Blockmans D et al., 2003 <sup>[104]</sup>	
Nonsteroidal anti- inflammatory	Inhibitor of	Ibuprofen	(RS)-2-(4-(2- Methylpropyl)phenyl)propanoic acid	Castro-Marrero J et al.,	
drugs (NSAIDs)	prostaglandin synthesis	Naproxen	(+)-(S)-2-(6-Methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)propanoic acid	2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
	Immunomodulatory do uble stranded RNA	Rintatolimod	5'- Inosinic acid, homopolymer, complex with 5'-cytidylic acid polymer with 5'- uridylic acid (1:1)	Strayer DR et al., 2012[105]	
	Anti-neoplastic	Sodium dichloroacetate	Dichloroacetic acid	Comhaire F., 2018 <sup>[106]</sup>	
	Ig gamma-1 chain C region	Rituximab	Lithium;4-[2- (diethylamino)ethylcarbamoyl]-2- iodobenzoate		
Others	Proliferation inductor from B cells	Intravenous immunoglobulin (Immunoglobulin G)	(2S)-2-[[(2S)-1-[(2S)-6-amino-2-[[(2S),3R)-2-[[(2S)-6-amino-2-[[(2S)-2-[((2S)-4-amino-2-[[(2S)-2-amino-3-(1H-indol-3-yl)propanoyl]amino]-4-oxobutanoyl]amino]-3-hydroxybutanoyl]amino]hexanoyl]pyrrolidine-2-carbonyl]amino]-5-(diaminomethylideneamino)pentanoicacid	Collatz A et al., 2016 <sup>(97)</sup>	
	Hormone	Growth hormone (Somatotropina)	D-alanyl-glycyl-DL-cysteinyl-D-lysyl- D-asparagyl-D-phenylalanyl-D- phenylalanyl-D-tryptophyl-D-lysyl-D- threonyl-D-phenylalanyl-DL-threonyl- D-seryl-L-homocysteine (3->14)- disulfide		
	Wakefulness- promoting	Modafinil	2-[(diphenylmethyl)sulfinul]acetamide		
	Peripherally- selective antihistamine	Terfenadine	1-(4-tert-butylphenyl)-4-[4- [hydroxy(diphenyl)methyl]piperidin-1- yl]butan-1-ol		
	Precursor of Creatine	Guanidinoacetic acid (Glycocyamine)	2-(diaminomethylideneamino)acetic acid	Ostojic SM et al., 2016 <sup>[107]</sup>	
Pain		Codeine	(5α,6α)-7,8-didehydro-4,5-epoxy-3-methoxy-17-methylmorphinan-6-ol		
	Opiate Morphine		(4R,4aR,7S,7aR,12bS)-3-Methyl- 2,3,4,4a,7,7a-hexahydro-1H-4,12- methanobenzofuro[3,2-e]isoquinoline- 7,9-diol	Castro-Marrero J et al., 2017 <sup>[48]</sup>	
	Opiod	Tramadol	(±)-cis-2-[(dimetilamino)metil]-1-(3- metoxifenil) ciclohexanol hidrocloruro		
Psycho- pharmaceutical	Benzodiazepine	Galantamine hidrobromide	(4aS,6R,8aS)-5,6,9,10,11,12-Hexahydro- 3-methoxy-11-methyl-4aH-	Collatz A et al., 2016 <sup>[97]</sup>	

			[1]benzofuro[3a,3,2-ef][2]benzazepin-6- ol	
	Psychostimulant	Dextroamphetamine	(2S)-1-phenylpropan-2-amine	

Although possibly not complete, Tables 3 and 4 include the most representative compounds to treat FM and ME/CFS according to the consulted authors [44,48,76-93,99-107]. Unexpectedly, a single IUPAC overlap, corresponding to the Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI) Fluoxetine, was found for drugs commonly prescribed for FM and ME/CFS (in bold in Tables 3 &4); indicating little prescription overlap at the IUPAC name level despite both groups of patients presenting common symptomatology. Special attention should be placed to common prescriptions as they may more readily allow identifying effects of drugs on miRNA levels over disease-related changes.

## 3.3. miRNA-drug interactions in FM & ME/CFS

With the intention to discriminate whether the miRNomes proposed to associate with FM, or with ME/CFS, are derived from drug intake differences between the patient and control groups, we performed a screen of drugs that could alter any of the miRNAs in these miRNomes using the SM2miR web server [65] and each of the individual DE miRNAs or disease miRNome as the input, as previously detailed in the Methods section.

The SM2miR drug output file (Table S2) was contrasted with the FM & ME/CFS polypharmacy tables (Tables 3&4), finding that five of the commonly prescribed drugs for FM or ME/CFS (DHA, fluoxetine, glucocorticoids, morphine and valproate) are estimated to alter the levels of one or more of the miRNAs found DE in FM or ME/CFS screenings (potential disease-associated miRNomes) and therefore these drugs could constitute confounding variables of the assay (Table 5) [108-113]. Overlapping tendencies may suggest that the detected differences between studied groups associate with treatment rather than constituting potential biomarkers of disease, while opposed tendencies might reflect additional factors leading to differential expression other than drug intake, disease status included. Importantly, as summarized in Table 5, the expression of miRNA-27b reported in miRNomes of both FM and ME/CFS in more than one report [67,74] is affected by the only overlapping compound commonly prescribed for treatment of both diseases (Fluoxetine), indicating a potential druginterference effect. Three additional miRNAs reported as miRNomes of ME/CFS by more than one study (miR-26a, miR-126 & miR-191) are also affected by drugs frequently prescribed to ME/CFS patients and therefore special attention should be paid when interpreting miRNome results including these miRNAs.

It must be pointed out that, in an effort to complete the search as much as possible the list of DE miRNAs in FM and ME/CFS used in the SM2miR search not only included the miRNAs listed in Tables 1 & 2 but also those documented in supplementary tables of the listed literature [67-74].

Table 5. Effect of FM & ME/CFS polypharmacy on miRNomes associated to disease

Prescribed drugs	miR affected	Disease	miR levels in patients	Treatment effect	Reference
	miR-30c	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
Docosahexaenoic	miR-143-3p	ME/CFS	↑(Plasma) [73]	Up-regulated	Gil-Zamorano J et al., 2014[108]
acid (DHA)	miR-181a-5p	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	miR-330	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	iD 27h	FM	↓(CSF*) [67]	. The monulated	Rodrigues AC et al., 2011[109]
Fluoxetine	miR-27b	ME/CFS	↑( PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	,
	miR-16	ME/CFS	↓(Plasma) [73]	Up-regulated	Rainer J et al., 2009 <sup>[110]</sup>
	miR-19b	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	miR-181a	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	Rainer J et al., 2009[110]; Lu S et al.,
	miR-223	ME/CFS	↓(NK cells) [72]	Up-regulated	2012[111]
	miR-21	ME/CFS	↓(NK cells) [72]	Up-regulated	
	miR-10a	ME/CFS	↓(NK cells) [72]	Up-regulated	
	miR-27a	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
Glucocorticoid	miR-99b	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	miR-126	ME/CFS	↓(Plasma) <sup>[73]</sup> ↑(PBMCs) <sup>[74]</sup>	Up-regulated	Lu S et al., 2012[111]
	miR-145	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	miR-146a	ME/CFS	↓(NK cells) [72]	Up-regulated	
	miR-324-5p	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	miR-339-3p	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	miR-16	ME/CFS	↓(Plasma) [73]	Up-regulated	
	miR-24	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	miR-30c	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Up-regulated	
	miR-146a	ME/CFS	↓(NK cells) [72]	Up-regulated	
	miR-21	ME/CFS	↓(NK cells) [72]	Down-regulated	
Morphine	miR-26a	ME/CFS	↓(NK cells) [72]  ↑(PBMCs) [74]	Down-regulated	Dave R.S & Khalili K., 2010[112]
piune	miR-99b	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Down-regulated	
	miR-191	ME/CFS	↓(NK cells) [72] ↑(PBMCs) [74]	Down-regulated	-
	miR-320a	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Down-regulated	
	miR-320c	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Down-regulated	
	miR-423-5p	ME/CFS	↑(PBMCs) [74]	Down-regulated	
	miR-21	FM	↓(PBMCs) [69]	Up-regulated	Fayyad-Kazan H et al., 2010[113]
Valproate	miR-125a	FM	↑(WBC**) [71]	Down-regulated	Tay yau Nazan II et al., 2010

# 3.4. Drug-disease interactions based on FM and ME/CFS miRNomes

To evaluate potential biased responses of FM and ME/CFS patients to pharmacotherapy in general, due to their DE miRNA profiles, we searched for diseases commonly treated with small-molecule drugs that depend on gene sets linked to FM or ME/CFS miRNomes (miRNA-gene-drug datasets). With this purpose individual DE miRNAs in FM or ME/CFS were used as input in the Pharmaco-miR web search tool [50]. The output constituted a list of genes whose expression is dependent on FM and ME/CFS DE miRNAs (Table S3) and a third column facilitating small molecule drug associations for these gene lists. Among the 709 small molecules linked to FM miRNome only 595 appeared registered in Drugbank database. And, out of the 668 small molecules associating with ME/CFS miRNomes, 557 appeared registered in Drugbank [64].

Finally, Drugbank numbers of these small molecules were used as the input to search repoDB, a database of small drugs developed by Brown & Patel to facilitate screenings for drug repositioning [66]. The results (Table S3, miRNome-drug-disease tabs) show 1480 and 1455 diseases treated with small molecules respectively associating with FM or ME/CFS miRNomes after filtering out duplications. Out of these diseases potentially impacting individualized medicine programs for FM and ME/CFS patients, more than 30% corresponded to cancer of some type. Within cancer, 13 % corresponded to lymphoma, and 14% to lymphoma plus leukaemia. This seems to indicate that quite possibly FM and ME/CFS patients may respond differently to treatments for these diseases with respect to non-FM, non-ME/CFS patients and, therefore, attention is advised in individualized medicine programs for the treatment of these cancers in the case of FM and CFS/ME patients.

# 4. Discussion

This paper evaluates for the first time the relationship between commonly prescribed drugs for FM and ME/CFS and miRNA expression and compares these profiles to FM and ME/CFS reported miRNomes in an effort to discern miRNAs presenting differential expression due to medication from differences more likely related to disease. The resources used in this study are limited and therefore it is expected that the evidence presented here will be refined as more data becomes available. The topic is not exclusive of FM and ME/CFS as it can be extended to any other study evaluating miRNomes associated to disease. However, the fact that FM and ME/CFS patients are usually polymedicated to palliate the multiple symptoms that associate with these illnesses, extends this concern to higher levels, particularly demanding careful registry of study participants medication, when restrictive medication inclusion criteria is not an option. In this sense, the ME/CFS Common Data Elements initiative [49] has made publicly available medication guidelines and CRFs at the disposition of researchers which may help standardize medication registry in ME/CFS studies.

Although some researchers have expressed their concern of the impact of drug use by FM and ME/CFS patients on the study of molecular markers and although recent work in the area is already reporting the medication used by participants [71,113], the information of registered drugs is not yet used to evaluate potential interference or bias of results. To elevate biomarker screenings of FM and ME/CFS based on miRNA profiles, complex stratified analysis to filter out potential drug and other confounding variables will be required. The complexity and limitations of this analysis is served by the fact that miRNA expression respond to many cues, such as exercise and diet, hormone, sex and aging [38-43].

A commonly used approach, to minimize confounding variables, although not free of certain difficulties for sampling, is to set restrictive inclusion criteria including sex selection, narrow age range, and BMI. This is important in miRNA screenings as these parameters are known to affect miRNA profiles [114]. Additional sampling details such as fasting blood draw and selection of sedentary healthy controls may improve study outcomes. Some authors have even taken into account time of blood collection to reduce circadian variation [71], however, it may not be possible to eliminate polypharmacy, particularly in studies including severely affected FM and ME/CFS patients.

Prescriptions for other common health problems such as diabetes or high cholesterol, diet supplements and some recreational drugs alter the expression of some miRNAs in FM & ME/CFS miRNomes (Table S4) [109,116-127]. Hormones and other natural compounds also impact FM &

ME/CFS miRNomes (Table S5)[108,128-138], stressing the necessity for researchers to collect complete medical histories of participants to accurately evaluate miRNAs as biomarkers of these diseases.

On another end, despite FM & ME/CFS miRNomes relate to disease or derive from chronic polypharmacy use, DE miRs should represent a relevant factor to take into account when treatments for other diseases such as cancer are due. Here, we performed an analysis of the diseases whose treatment response could differ in the context of FM & ME/CFS miRNomes, finding a broad range of them. The major representation of cancer (above 35%) might merely reflect the fact that more studies are registered in the field, biasing databases. Importantly, a relevant number of hits associated with lymphoma, a type of cancer appearing at higher incidence among ME/CFS patients [139], possibly due to associated immune dysfunctions of this disease.

Personalized medicine programs considering miRNome backgrounds may more adequately select effective treatments with reduced side effects. It is therefore envisioned that future improved therapeutic analysis, including pharmacogenomics and pharmacoepigenomics (precision medicine programs), will rely on complex software tools fed with large datasets. Further miRNA profiling studies including larger number of samples are required to build on the scarce available FM & ME/CFS miRNome data. Since technical variability in miRNA qPCR replicates has been documented, with TaqMan overweighing qScript PCR [140], future studies should include repeated independent measures or either use alternative enzyme-free approaches such as NanoString [141].

In general we have evaluated the effects of polypharmacy and miRNomes at individual levels, meaning that the information obtained here corresponds to the effects of a single drug on DE miRNAs or the impact of an individual miRNA on drug performance, however, the effects of combined therapies on miRNA profiles or sets of DE miRNAs on drug-response may not replicate or be additive of single events, highlighting the limitation of our study. In addition, most molecular data come from analysis of blood or other body fluid samples and more sparely from non-cancerous solid tissues, limiting the validity of results, as miRNA profiles are known to be tissue restricted [142]. Drug-assays are performed in either animal models or tumor cell lines leading to results that may not replicate in other systems; many miRNAs are primate or human specific [63,143].

In summary, as larger data sets become available to nurture databanks, biomarker discovery will be facilitated and personalized medicine programs will be refined, upgrading current diagnostic tools and clinical treatments. Drug-transcriptome interactions are key factors in either context, particularly in diseases subject to polypharmacy such as FM and ME/CFS.

# 5. Conclusions

The analysis presented here strongly supports a potential impact of FM and ME/CFS polypharmacy in the discovery of miRNomes associating with these diseases. Additional carefully designed studies including larger cohorts of patients providing complete drug registry to permit stratified analysis will facilitate identification of DE miRNAs linked to these diseases.

FM and ME/CFS miRNomes may predispose patients to respond differently to a large variety of drug-based treatments, including those used for a large number of cancers, highlighting the importance of considering this epigenomic bias in refined personalized programs towards improving patient's response to clinical treatments while minimizing toxicity. It is estimated that future more sophisticated informatic tools will help with these predictions, however, the paucity of molecular studies in FM and ME/CFS currently limits their development.

**Supplementary Materials:** The following are available online at www.mdpi.com/xxx/s1, Table S1: PRISMA based search of FM and ME/CFS miRNA profiling studies, Table S2: FM and ME/CFS miRNomes SM2miR-based drug search, Table S3: FM and ME/CFS miRNomes PharmacomiR-based gene-drug associations and repoDB-drug-disease screening, Table S4: Effect of additional drugs, supplements and recreational drugs on FM & ME/CFS miRNomes and Table S5: Effect of hormones and other natural compounds on FM & ME/CFS miRNomes.

**Abreviations:** Fibromyalgia (FM); Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS); microRNAs (miRs); Differentially Expressed (DE); American College of Rheumatology (ACR); Gene Ontology

(GO); Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses criteria (PRISMA); International Classification of Diseases (ICD); NonSteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs); Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT); International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC); Concept Unique Identifiers (CUI); National Clinical Trial (NCT); Common Data Elements (CDE); Case Report Forms (CRFs); National Institute of Health (NIH); Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, and Excretion (ADME); Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI); Serotonin-Norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs); Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs).

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