

Supplementary methods

Hair samples treatment, digestion and their analysis were as reported in ref. 23, without modification. XSERIES 2 ICP-MS (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Germany) was used in the standard configuration, with ASX-510 auto-sampler (Cetac, USA). Instrument optimization was by auto-tune function, when required. The instrument parameters were: RF Power (W) 1400, Cool Gas Flow (L/min) 13, Auxiliary Gas Flow (L/min) 0.8, Nebuliser Gas Flow (L/min) 0.85-0.90, Sample Uptake Rate (mL/min) 0.4 approx., Sample Introduction System Concentric nebuliser with low-volume impact bead spray chamber (not cooled) and one-piece torch (1.5mm ID injector); Cones Nickel, Xi Design; Detector Simultaneous pulse/analogue; Uptake Time 25 seconds at 50 rpm; Stabilization Delay 10 seconds at 17 rpm; Wash Time 40 seconds at 50 rpm, Survey Runs 1 – scanning; Main Runs 3 - peak jumping; Number of Points per Peak 1; Dwell Time / Point 5 - 50 ms; Number of Sweeps / Replicate 25. Internal Standardization Technique Interpolation, using 6Li, 45Sc, 115In, 159Tb. Total Time per Sample 2:45 minutes.