

## A multiscale lipid and cellular atlas of the human kidney

Elizabeth K. Neumann,<sup>1,2</sup> Nathan Heath Patterson,<sup>1,2</sup> Leonoor E.M. Tideman,<sup>3</sup> Lukasz G. Migas,<sup>3</sup> Madeline E. Colley,<sup>1,2</sup> Melissa A. Farrow,<sup>1,2</sup> Jamie L. Allen,<sup>1,2</sup> Emilio S. Rivera,<sup>1,2</sup> Carrie E. Romer,<sup>1,2</sup> Haichun Yang,<sup>4</sup> Maya Brewer,<sup>4</sup> Kavya Sharman,<sup>2,5</sup> Raymond C. Harris,<sup>4,6,7</sup> Agnes B. Fogo,<sup>4,6,7</sup> Danielle B. Gutierrez,<sup>1,2</sup> Mark P. de Caestecker,<sup>4</sup> Richard M. Caprioli,<sup>1,2,8</sup> Raf Van de Plas,<sup>1,3</sup> Jeffrey M. Spraggins<sup>1,2,8,9</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biochemistry, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA 37232.

<sup>2</sup>Mass Spectrometry Research Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA 37232.

<sup>3</sup>Delft Center for Systems and Control, Delft University of Technology, 2628 CD Delft, The Netherlands.

<sup>4</sup>Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, Department of Medicine, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN USA 37232.

<sup>5</sup>Program in Chemical & Physical Biology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, USA 37232.

<sup>6</sup>Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN USA 37232.

<sup>7</sup>Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, USA 37232.

<sup>8</sup>Department of Chemistry, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA 37232.

<sup>9</sup>Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA 37232.

\*Correspondence Author: Jeff.Spraggins@Vanderbilt.edu

### Summary

The human kidney is composed of over 26 cell types that actively coordinate with each other to form higher-order structures, such as the nephron. It is not yet understood how these structures vary throughout a single organ or amongst the same organs within the human population. We have developed an extensive lipid and cellular atlas of the human kidney consisting of over 3 million cells comprising 75,000 functional tissue units (*i.e.*, glomeruli, proximal tubules, distal tubules, and collecting ducts) from 13 human subjects. This atlas was developed using spatially registered and integrated technologies consisting of imaging mass spectrometry, multiplexed immunofluorescence, stained microscopy, and autofluorescence microscopy, to comprehensively probe large (*i.e.*, centimeter-sized) areas of tissue. The cellular organization and lipid profiles of glomeruli, proximal tubules, distal tubules, and collecting ducts were discovered through these multimodal imaging data as well as their intra- and inter-subject variance. Relating the lipid profiles obtained from imaging mass spectrometry to distinct cell types obtained from immunofluorescence allowed us to hypothesize the functional role of specific phospholipids that have not previously been described. These hypotheses include subject characteristics, such as BMI and sex. The integrated data from the aforementioned datasets provide a valuable reference for kidney researchers, are publicly available through the NIH Human Biomolecular Atlas Program (<https://portal.hubmapconsortium.org/>), and discussed below.

### Introduction

While the roles of specific cell types and multicellular functional tissue units (FTUs) are generally well known, the molecular and numerical heterogeneity throughout a single organ or between organs within the human population has yet to be determined, particularly as a function of demographics (*e.g.* sex, race, age, etc.) and anthropometric indicators (*e.g.* height, weight, body mass index (BMI), etc.). Exploring the

underlying similarities and differences between these patient factors is key for extrapolating the drivers of functional efficiency, transition to disease, and disease severity<sup>1-3</sup>. Comprehensive atlases provide a means to generate new hypotheses and the foundation for biomedical researchers to answer these types of questions. Recently, the National Institutes of Health and private organizations have funded atlas efforts, such as the Allen Brain Atlas<sup>4</sup>, Human Cell Atlas (HCA)<sup>5,6</sup> Human Biomolecular Atlas Program (HuBMAP)<sup>7</sup>, BRAIN Initiative<sup>8</sup>, Kidney Precision Medicine Project<sup>9</sup>, and Human Tumor Atlas Network<sup>10</sup>, targeting an array of healthy and/or diseased organs. Collectively, these initiatives constitute hundreds of scientists from across the world. Here, as part of HuBMAP, we analyze the human kidney to investigate how it varies on both the lipidomic and cellular level within and among different tissue subjects, particularly as it relates to obesity and sex.

The kidney is responsible for waste management, electrolyte balance, blood pressure control, and red blood cell production among other functions<sup>11-13</sup>. To execute these functions, this complex organ consists of at least 26 distinct cell types and an average of over one million nephrons per kidney in humans<sup>14,15</sup>. A nephron is involved in kidney function and consists of a glomerulus that is linked to distal and proximal tubular segments, afferent and efferent arterioles, and peritubular capillaries. Nephrons are distributed at different depths within the renal cortex, with deep nephrons subserving different functions than more superficial nephrons in the kidney. In addition, peritubular interstitial spaces are drained by lymphatics, and contain a diverse, and spatially distinct populations of renal interstitial cells, mononuclear phagocytes, and other immune cells<sup>16</sup>. This dynamic network of cell types and multicellular functional tissue units not only varies throughout the kidney itself, but also from one human to another<sup>17</sup>. For instance, the physiological differences in kidney function and disease development have been well studied between men and women, including blood pressure regulation<sup>18</sup>, diabetes<sup>19</sup>, chronic kidney disease<sup>20</sup>, and proximal tubule composition<sup>21</sup>. While many studies attribute these differences to sex hormones or size differences<sup>22</sup>, prior publications have not profiled the spatial or molecular landscape of the kidney with the level of coverage provided in this work. The integration of data that span spatial scales and molecular profiles across the tissue allows for the creation of a molecular and cellular atlas, which can be explored and leveraged to study how differences between groups manifest physiologically<sup>23,24</sup>.

The atlas presented here consists of expansive, integrated, and spatially resolved lipid and cellular information for 13 human subjects at unprecedented specificity and scale; we visualize single cells and functional tissue units (*i.e.* glomeruli, proximal tubules, distal tubules, and collecting ducts) across large tissue regions. This atlas incorporates spatially resolved data from mass spectrometry, highly multiplexed immunofluorescence, histological stains, and autofluorescence (AF) microscopy. Each component of the atlas is publicly available (<https://portal.hubmapconsortium.org/>). Our atlas spans multiple scales of spatial granularity, from large tissue areas to single cells and from averaged populations to individual subjects, serving as a resource for exploring the biomolecular landscape that informs health and disease.

## Results and Discussion

### *Overview of atlas data and methods*

Constructing molecular and cellular atlases require data collection over long periods of time (months to years) requiring special considerations for minimizing variability associated with tissue collection or experimental factors, enabling robust and reproducible sampling, and ensuring resulting data can be integrated (Figures 1A and S1)<sup>25</sup>. To begin, remnant tissue with warm and cold ischemia times shorter than 5 min and 30 min, respectively, is collected from unilateral nephrectomies performed for medical

indications (Figures 1B and S1A-C). Approximately half of the tissue is formalin-fixed and paraffin-embedded (FFPE) for histological (Figure S1D) and pathological assessment (Table S1-3) and the other half is fresh frozen (Figure S1E) and subsequently processed for imaging mass spectrometry, AF microscopy, and multiplexed immunofluorescence (Figures 1C and S1G-J), allowing both cellular and lipid profiling of major kidney FTUs. Using this workflow, we have acquired 13 multimodal datasets from subjects with ages ranging from 20 to 77 years old, body mass indexes (BMI) between 22 and 45.5, and both sexes (Table S2). It is estimated that 40% of biomarker-related studies in the nephrology field are misleading because of the exclusion of women<sup>26</sup>. To combat this, we have selected tissues from subjects that cover a wider range of patient demographics and clinical factors. This enables us to explore the lipid and cellular heterogeneity of the kidney as it relates to BMI and sex. In brief, datasets consist of AF microscopy (Figures S2-3), matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization imaging mass spectrometry (MALDI IMS) in both positive (Figures S4-S31) and negative ion modes (Figure S32-S59), co-detection by indexing (CODEX) multiplexed immunofluorescence (Figures S60-S66, Table S4), and periodic acid Schiff (PAS) stained microscopy (Figure S67). Each modality provides a different, complementary view of the tissue architecture. For instance, MALDI IMS provides untargeted, spatial information for hundreds of lipids nearing cellular resolution<sup>27</sup>. AF microscopy is a label-free microscopy method, which is used as the basis for computational segmentation of the tissue into FTUs<sup>28</sup>. The lipid markers obtained using MALDI IMS corresponding to specific FTUs, such as glomeruli and proximal tubules, can subsequently be extracted from the IMS-generated mass spectra and AF-supplied FTU masks generated using a machine learning workflow (Figure 1D.1). We then classify IMS pixels into FTUs based on their mass spectra using a decision-tree-based gradient boosting model and quantitatively estimating the importance of each molecular species for recognizing a given functional tissue unit using Shapley additive explanations (SHAP)<sup>29,30</sup>. By bridging the observations from the different imaging modalities and mining their cross-modal relationships in an automated way, it becomes possible to estimate FTU-specific lipid markers and empirically determine molecular profiles for each segmented structure. To ground these broad, label-free molecular observations to established protein-based studies, we also employ more targeted modalities such as CODEX multiplexed immunofluorescence to spatially label and report specific cell types at sub-cellular resolution. The spatial resolution of these multiplexed immunofluorescence approaches is 250 nm (diffraction-limited) for >20 protein targets. The high spatial resolution and number of protein targets enable cellular neighborhoods to be calculated (Figure 1D.2)<sup>31-33</sup>. Furthermore, AF microscopy is not only used to automatically obtain FTU masks, but also to establish a common spatial coordinate framework across all modalities and tissue sections. For this reason, AF microscopy is collected on all tissue sections and enables registration and integration of MALDI IMS, multiplexed immunofluorescence, and histological stains<sup>34,35</sup>. Further details are found in the supplemental methods and published elsewhere as a protocol<sup>36</sup> and in the references cited above.

#### *Overview of atlas composition from single cells to functional tissue units*

Our atlas provides intra- and inter-patient spatially resolved lipid and cellular profiles from 13 subjects (Figure 2). Overall, we detected an average of 222±19 lipids (Figure 2A, Table S5-6) and 3255±754 cells/mm<sup>2</sup> (Table S7) within these samples with extremes of 192-258 lipid features and 2100-4336 cells/mm<sup>2</sup>, respectively. Lipids vary in their relative abundance within individual patients, although the molecular markers associated with different FTUs are largely conserved (Figure 2A). For instance, PC(16:0\_18:1) has higher discriminative importance, as measured by its SHAP score, for collecting ducts and its relative signal intensity is generally conserved from subject-to-subject, while lipids such as PA(36:2) have a high intensity within FTU for VAN0029 (62-year-old, white male, BMI 34.9) compared to the

composite. Additionally, the relative composition of cell types is different from subject-to-subject, especially for cells expressing nestin and  $\beta$ -catenin (Figure 2B, Table S8-9). Beyond individual cells, we segmented each tissue into discrete functional tissue units (Table S10), with a total of 863 glomeruli, 8008 collecting ducts, 10662 distal tubules, and 55569 proximal tubules segmented within all images (Figure 2C, Figure S68).

To explore how the cellular architecture (*i.e.*, neighborhoods) varies from subject-to-subject (Figure 2D-E), we calculated the cellular neighborhood composition within a 25  $\mu\text{m}$  radius surrounding each cell for all subjects (Figure 2D, Table S11) and individual subjects (Figure 2E, Table S12-S19). In brief, these analyses provide a semi-quantitative form of spatial phenotyping with a panel consisting of both classic and less commonly used protein markers<sup>37</sup>. Using these neighborhood analyses, we determined overall trends with cell types that were correlated (e.g. PARP1 and CD31 expressing cells), uncorrelated (e.g. nestin and  $\beta$ -catenin expressing cells), and anticorrelated (e.g. renin and KDR expressing cells), although the exact Spearman correlation coefficients varied from subject-to-subject. Spearman correlation values above 0.7 (highly correlated) are particularly interesting since these suggest conservation of the cellular architecture across the millions of cellular neighborhoods calculated within this dataset. Several expected correlations are noted that have well established biological context, such as those between CD31 and renin or nestin and laminin, which stain adjacent cell types. Because cells have unique, but interdependent functions, cells that are often in neighborhoods with one another may interact more regularly. While some of these trends are known, this atlas provides a broad overview of cellular neighborhoods across large tissue areas from all subjects. Subject-to-subject differences in correlation coefficients likely have functional relevance and may serve as a heuristic for neighborhood reorganization as a function of organ region, age, or pathological state.

Spatially delineating masks for each FTU type, in combination with the interpretable machine learning based detection of FTU-specific markers, enables us to determine lipid profiles for glomeruli (Figures S69-S73 and Table S20), distal tubules (Figures S74-S78 and Table S21), proximal tubules (Figure S79-S83 and Table S22), and collecting ducts (Figures S84-S88 and Table S23). This exploration comprises most segments within the nephron. Moreover, the calculated SHAP score of each lipid provides us with quantitative measures of molecular features that characterize each functional tissue unit (Figures S89-S90)<sup>29</sup>. Many lipids appear to have approximately long normal distributions, such as phosphatidic acid (PA)(O-38:1) within glomeruli (Figure S73) and sphingomyelin (SM)(d16:1\_20:0) within proximal tubules (Figure S83). The unimodal distributions potentially indicate a single population distribution exists in the kidney. Conversely, several features, such as phosphatidylcholine (PC)(16:0\_16:0) (Figure S73&S78) and phosphatidylethanolamine (PE)(O-38:5) (Figure S78), appear to be bimodal and PE-Ceramide(Cer)(40:1) is more complex (Figure S78). This perhaps indicates different physiological states of the FTUs and lends to the diversity and dynamic nature of phospholipids. For instance, cellular membranes with a higher accumulation or proportion of PC(16:0\_16:0) may be in a more stable, less physiologically active state.<sup>38</sup>

#### *Spatial differences related to obesity and sex*

While we are developing an atlas of normal human tissue, variability related to patient demographics and other individual characteristics should not be ignored. Thus, we can more granularly analyze this atlas to determine lipid features related to features such as BMI (Figure 3A, Figure S91, and Table S24) and sex (Figure 3B, Figure S92, and Table S25) using the computational approaches described above. Stark differences can be observed when subdividing the subjects with BMIs above or below 30 as a heuristic for obese and non-obese, respectively. For example, we have determined that PAz-PC (*i.e.*, 1-palmitoyl-2-

azelaoyl PC), phosphatidylserine (PS)(26:0), and PE(O-38:5) are some of the top markers for differentiating samples from obese vs non-obese subjects (Figure 3A.1). Furthermore, cellular neighborhoods involving calbindin or aquaporin 2 (among others) are potentially disrupted between obese and non-obese individuals (Figure 3A.2). Akin to the cellular neighborhood analysis, we calculated Spearman correlation coefficients for lipids within a one-pixel radius (10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) of one another. We found substantial differences in the molecular neighborhood correlations between obese and non-obese subjects (Figure 3A.3). To put these observations into context, we examined the putative role of the lipids that are most drastically altered. For instance, PAz-PC is an oxidized lipid more abundant within the organs of obese subjects and was computationally determined to be the largest discriminator between obese and non-obese subjects (Figure 3A.1, Figure S91). Prior research shows that this lipid has a higher abundance in kidney failure<sup>39</sup>. While it is not understood if the oxidized phosphatidylcholines are produced as a result of or to combat a disease state, their higher abundance in obese patients indicates poorer kidney health. Other lipids, such as PE(O-38:5), show large disparities between obese and non-obese subjects based on the violin plots, providing targets for future, targeted experimentation. For instance, PE(O-38:5) may promote the reabsorption of metabolites and proteins from urine based on the finding that high abundance of this lipid induces negative membrane curvatures that promote endocytosis<sup>40</sup>. Kidneys in obese patients often have hyperfiltration, which may contribute to obesity-related glomerulopathy and other kidney disease<sup>41</sup>. This may explain the higher abundance of PE(O-38:5) in kidneys from obese patients. The functions of most discrete lipids are elusive as of now, and the findings in this atlas serve as preliminary evidence for further investigation of the essential roles that lipids play in health and disease.

The lipid information can be further supplemented by cellular neighborhood analysis with CODEX glomerular (Figure S93) and tubular (Figure S94) markers. Most notably, correlation coefficients decrease for calbindin-expressing cells and MARCKS expressing cells within obese subjects compared to their non-obese counterparts. Differences within calbindin expression may indicate reduced absorption of calcium<sup>42</sup>, which may be dysregulated in obesity<sup>43</sup>. Differential MARCKS expression may indicate dysregulated sodium reabsorption<sup>44</sup> which is also affected by obesity<sup>45</sup>. Changes within these correlation values perhaps indicate that there is a change in the relative neighborhood that may contribute to hyperfiltration among other responses. These changes indicate potential restructuring of cellular neighborhoods between obese and non-obese individuals. Additional comorbidities or patient information were explored for their effect on cellular neighborhoods (Table S26-S44). While additional patients are required to fully characterize how cellular neighborhoods change as a function of demographic characteristics or disease, these initial results support further investigation of cellular neighborhoods within these different tissue parameters, particularly with additional molecular context. This may help provide context to disease progression and the inclusion of additional comorbidities may better stratify this disordered state.

Beyond BMI, we explored the molecular differences between male and female subjects (Figure S92, and Table S25). Overall, PE(O-38:5) and PS(26:0) accounted for the largest difference between the sexes based on the SHAP analysis. Further inspection of the violin distribution plots shows that both lipids displayed bimodal-like distributions in male subjects (Figure 3B.1). Other lipids that differ in male and female subjects have complex distributions and demonstrate the diversity and complexity of phospholipids. Additionally, cellular neighborhoods for seven of the 23 marker panel are strongly correlated in men, but only weakly correlated in women (Figure 3B.2). Additionally, we determined that there are stronger molecular neighborhood correlation coefficients calculated for men than for women (Figure 3B.3). Through these analyses, we can parse lipids that are highly correlated within a 10  $\mu\text{m}$  neighborhood, such

as PE(18:2\_20:0) and PE(18:1\_18:1), which may indicate that they share either functionally relevant roles in membrane fluidity<sup>46,47</sup>, enabling metabolite transport<sup>48-50</sup>, or other cellular functions<sup>51,52</sup> as they are known to induce a negative membrane curvature<sup>53</sup>. However, additional validation studies are required for understanding the exact function (Figure 3B.3). The Spearman correlation coefficients of molecules detected within male and female subjects are generally similar, indicating that many phospholipids are likely conserved between the sexes, at least within the context of 10  $\mu$ m spatial neighborhoods. There are some exceptions to this trend, such as PS(26:0), which has a mostly uncorrelated relationship to other lipids within kidneys from female subjects but a higher correlation coefficient with other lipids in kidneys from male subjects (Figure 3B.3). This trend may result in phenotypic or disease severity differences between men and women and would be a key candidate for additional research. Additional lipids that show this distribution include Ceramide 1-phosphate (CerP)(36:2;2O).

#### *Nephron component profiles based on obesity and sex*

While lipid profiles for the entire tissue provide broad trends, each tissue can be functionally reduced into different segments within a nephron (*i.e.*, FTUs). Lipid differences as a function of obesity or sex may differ when examining different functional regions within the kidney and are difficult to examine with bulk approaches. Thus, we extended these analyses to determine lipid differences related to obesity (Figure 4) or sex (Figure 5) within the FTUs of the nephron, such as glomeruli (Figure S95-96 and Table S45-46), proximal tubules (Figure S97-98 and Table S47-48), distal tubules (Figure S99-100 and Table S49-50; and collecting ducts (Figure S101-102 and Table S51-52) as opposed to the whole sampled region. The differences between FTUs of obese and non-obese patients are starker than those for sex. For instance, the lipids that differentiate obese and non-obese patients are conserved among many of the nephron segments: PAz-PC, PC(26:0), PE(O-38:5), and PC(16:1\_16:0) (Figure 4.2). As such, these lipids may be a renal response to an obese phenotype and serve as putative therapeutic or diagnostic markers. As an example, obesity represents a chronically inflamed state and under these conditions, coagulation factors are aberrantly expressed or regulated, promoting increased prothrombotic risk<sup>54,55</sup>. The oxidized phospholipid, PAz-PC, could be an important molecule in the feedback loop that exists between obesity and risk factors for cardiovascular disease as PAz-PC inhibits the tissue factor pathway inhibitor (TFPI)<sup>56,57</sup>. TFPI inhibits the tissue factor dependent, or extrinsic coagulation, pathway by directly and indirectly perturbing the activation of the serine protease Factor Xa that interacts with fibrin, a marker of obesity<sup>58</sup> and linked to cardiovascular disease<sup>59</sup>. Further, PE(O-38:5) may enable hyperfiltration across the entire nephron, as discussed above. While putative, this is the type of insight that can be gleaned from the atlas information, enabling future functional studies aimed at understanding the dynamic role of lipids in physiological function. The molecular neighborhoods are also different between obese and non-obese subjects indicating that the lipidome is broadly affected. Moreover, the cellular neighborhoods of obese patients have lower Spearman correlation coefficients compared to their non-obese counterparts, indicating differential neighborhoods between the two states. This is exemplified by cells expressing calbindin (Figure 4D.1 and E.1; other proteins show this trend as well), which are moderately correlated in non-obese subjects and weakly negatively correlated in obese subjects.

Further, lipid differences between male and female patients may be related to hormones, which have a known effect on kidney function<sup>19,60-66</sup>. However, different lipid distributions exist for each functional tissue unit perhaps indicating a differential response to these hormones<sup>67-69</sup>, although the relationship is certainly complicated<sup>70</sup> (Figure 5B-E.2). Largely, each FTU has a different set of top markers. Despite these differences, molecular neighborhoods in men and women are largely similar (Figure 5.3), indicating that

a level of global conservation and high correlations (e.g. PA(36:1) and PS(18:1\_18:0), Figure 4B.3 or PE(16:0\_18:2) and PE(18:2\_18:2), Figure 5C.3) between two lipids may indicate a functional codependence. Moreover, lipids that do not differ significantly between male and female FTUs may serve a conserved, housekeeping role. When considering the cellular neighborhoods of markers known to colocalize within a functional tissue unit (Figure 5.1), neighborhoods including cytokeratin 7 within both distal tubules (Figure 5D.1) and collecting ducts (Figure 5E.1) show the largest difference between the sexes. Cytokeratin 7 is a structural polypeptide that is involved in epithelial differentiation and repair within the kidney<sup>71</sup>, perhaps lending to a hypothesis for differential response to disease severity.

## Conclusion

Here we have constructed a multimodal, high-dimensional atlas of the human kidney including lipid, cellular, and histological imaging data, as well as pathophysiological information for each subject. As part of the NIH HuBMAP consortium, the data is freely accessible to the greater community (<https://portal.hubmapconsortium.org/>). As an initial demonstration, we show data comparing the lipid and cellular neighborhood differences between subjects with BMIs below or above 30 as a heuristic for obesity, and differences between men and women. Additional insight into the cellular and lipid variance associated with demographics may help explain the functional ramifications resulting in differential severity in diseases such as chronic kidney disease, cancer, and diabetes<sup>72-78</sup>. Lipids, particularly in the context of functional tissue units and cellular neighborhoods, are chronically understudied compared to their transcript and protein counterparts, despite their clear involvement in health and disease. Many large studies assume that genetic expression is sufficient for understanding disease states. While likely true in many cases, there is a known discordance in gene expression and metabolomic profiles, indicating that further research in this area is required for understanding complex physiology. Understanding molecular and cellular profiles has direct ties to personalized medicine and improved therapeutics. As a step towards reducing this discrepancy, our atlas serves to catalog the cellular and lipids differences on a multiscale level. Ultimately, multidimensional and multiscale atlas efforts, such as the one discussed here, provide several key findings for a defined, targeted validation, and serve as a resource for others to use to generate new hypotheses and corroborate orthogonal studies.

## Acknowledgements

Support was provided by the NIH Common Fund and National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (U54DK120058 awarded to J.M.S. and R.M.C.), the National Science Foundation Major Research Instrument Program (CBET-1828299 awarded to J.M.S. and R.M.C.). E.K.N. is supported by a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences training grant (T32ES007028) and National Institutes of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (1F32DK128887-01A1 awarded to E.K.N.). The Cooperative Human Tissue Network is supported by the NIH National Cancer Institute (5 UM1 CA183727-08). R.V. and L.G.M. were furthermore supported by the Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (Dutch Research Council), ZonMw, FLAG-ERA, and the European Commission through the FLAG-ERA III JTC project SMART BRAIN (NWO 680-91-319 under NWO-domain Exakte en Natuurwetensch., together with NWO-domain Sociale en Geesteswetensch.), which is a Partnering Project to the EU's Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation under the Specific Grant Agreement No. 785907 (Human Brain Project SGA2). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health, the Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek, ZonMw, FLAG-ERA, or the European Commission.

## Author Contributions

**EKN** Designed experiments, performed autofluorescence microscopy, MALDI mass spectrometry, CODEX multiplexed immunofluorescence experiments, and histological staining. Performed cellular and molecular neighborhood analysis. Performed data interpretation in consult with other authors. Conceptualized and wrote the manuscript with edits from other authors. Organized and oversaw the project. **NHP** Performed image registration, CODEX image preprocessing, and segmentation of autofluorescence microscopy. Managed and uploaded data to HuBMAP data repositories in addition to coordinating data transfer between other coauthors. Provided key insight into project development and key input to manuscript preparation. **LEMT** Performed SHAP analyses and provided data to construct each IMS data figure. Provided key input into manuscript writing. **LGM** Performed both intra and inter MALDI IMS data preprocessing including peak alignment, calibration, normalization, and extraction. Provided input into manuscript writing. **MEC** Performed lipidomics sample preparation and generated lipid library. **MAF** Provided key input into data interpretation, analysis, and manuscript preparation. **JA** Performed experimental sample preparation as well as managed tissue repository. **ESR** Aided in lipidomics experiments. **CR** Helped with CODEX multiplexed immunofluorescence sample preparation. **HY** Performed pathological assessment in conjunction with AFB. **MB** Performed tissue embedding and freezing. **KS** Assisted in AF segmentation workflows. **RH** Provided key insight into project development and manuscript preparation. **ABF** Supervised HY, performed pathological assessment, provided manual segmentation masks for training of automatic segmentation, provided insight into the CODEX antibody panel, and aided in data interpretation. **DBG** Supervised JA and CR and participated in manuscript editing and compilation. **MRdC** Supervised MB and managed IRB protocols and sample acquisition. Helped with data interpretation. **RMC** Supervised EKN, NHP, JA, MC, ESR, MF, CR, KS, and DG. Obtained funding and contributed to manuscript development. **RP** Supervised LEMT and LGM. Provided contributions to mass spectrometry data analysis and input in manuscript writing. **JMS** Supervised EKN, NHP, JA, MC, ESR, MF, CR, KS, and DG. Conceived and directed the project and participated in manuscript writing.

## References:

- 1 Gambara, V., Mecca, G., Remuzzi, G. & Bertani, T. Heterogeneous nature of renal lesions in type II diabetes. *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* **3**, 1458-1466 (1993).
- 2 Toyota, E. *et al.* Global heterogeneity of glomerular volume distribution in early diabetic nephropathy. *Kidney International* **66**, 855-861 (2004).
- 3 Najafian, B., Alpers, C. E. & Fogo, A. B. in *Diabetes and the Kidney* Vol. 170 36-47 (Karger Publishers, 2011).
- 4 Sunkin, S. M. *et al.* Allen Brain Atlas: an integrated spatio-temporal portal for exploring the central nervous system. *Nucleic Acids Research* **41**, D996-D1008, doi:10.1093/nar/gks1042 (2012).
- 5 Regev, A. *et al.* The Human Cell Atlas. *eLife* **6**, doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.7554/eLife.27041> (2017).
- 6 Rozenblatt-Rosen, O. *et al.* Building a high-quality Human Cell Atlas. *Nature Biotechnology* **39**, 149-153, doi:10.1038/s41587-020-00812-4 (2021).
- 7 Hu, B. C. The human body at cellular resolution: the NIH Human Biomolecular Atlas Program. *Nature* **574**, 187-192, doi:10.1038/s41586-019-1629-x (2019).
- 8 Ecker, J. R. *et al.* The BRAIN Initiative Cell Census Consortium: Lessons Learned toward Generating a Comprehensive Brain Cell Atlas. *Neuron* **96**, 542-557, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuron.2017.10.007> (2017).

9 Ong, E. *et al.* Modelling kidney disease using ontology: insights from the Kidney Precision Medicine Project. *Nature Reviews Nephrology* **16**, 686-696, doi:10.1038/s41581-020-00335-w (2020).

10 Rozenblatt-Rosen, O. *et al.* The Human Tumor Atlas Network: Charting Tumor Transitions across Space and Time at Single-Cell Resolution. *Cell* **181**, 236-249, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2020.03.053> (2020).

11 Gowda, S. *et al.* Markers of renal function tests. *N Am J Med Sci* **2**, 170-173 (2010).

12 Koeppen, B. M. & Stanton, B. A. *Renal Physiology E-Book: Mosby Physiology Monograph Series*. (Elsevier Health Sciences, 2012).

13 Eaton, D. C. & Pooler, J. P. *Vander's renal physiology*. (Mc Graw Hil Medicall, 2009).

14 Al-Awqati, Q. & Oliver, J. A. Stem cells in the kidney. *Kidney International* **61**, 387-395, doi:10.1046/j.1523-1755.2002.00164.x (2002).

15 Puelles, V. G. *et al.* Glomerular number and size variability and risk for kidney disease. *Current Opinion in Nephrology and Hypertension* **20**, 7-15 (2011).

16 Palmer, L. G. & Schnermann, J. Integrated control of Na transport along the nephron. *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* **10**, 676-687 (2015).

17 Keesing, F., Holt, R. D. & Ostfeld, R. S. Effects of species diversity on disease risk. *Ecology letters* **9**, 485-498 (2006).

18 Hilliard, L. M., Sampson, A. K., Brown, R. D. & Denton, K. M. The "His and Hers" of the Renin-Angiotensin System. *Current Hypertension Reports* **15**, 71-79, doi:10.1007/s11906-012-0319-y (2013).

19 Maric, C. Sex, diabetes and the kidney. *American Journal of Physiology-Renal Physiology* **296**, F680-F688, doi:10.1152/ajprenal.90505.2008 (2009).

20 Cobo, G. *et al.* Sex and gender differences in chronic kidney disease: progression to end-stage renal disease and haemodialysis. *Clinical Science* **130**, 1147-1163, doi:10.1042/cs20160047 (2016).

21 Hutchens, M. P., Dunlap, J., Hurn, P. D. & Jarnberg, P. O. Renal Ischemia: Does Sex Matter? *Anesthesia & Analgesia* **107** (2008).

22 Neugarten, J., Kasiske, B., Silbiger, S. R. & Nyengaard, J. R. Effects of Sex on Renal Structure. *Nephron* **90**, 139-144, doi:10.1159/000049033 (2002).

23 Lake, B. B. *et al.* An atlas of healthy and injured cell states and niches in the human kidney. *bioRxiv*, 2021.2007.2028.454201, doi:10.1101/2021.07.28.454201 (2021).

24 Martín-Saiz, L. *et al.* High-Resolution Human Kidney Molecular Histology by Imaging Mass Spectrometry of Lipids. *Analytical Chemistry* **93**, 9364-9372, doi:10.1021/acs.analchem.1c00649 (2021).

25 Neumann, E. K. *et al.* Protocol for multimodal analysis of human kidney tissue by imaging mass spectrometry and CODEX multiplexed immunofluorescence. *STAR Protocols* **2**, 100747, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xpro.2021.100747> (2021).

26 Bairey Merz, C. N. *et al.* Sex and the kidneys: current understanding and research opportunities. *Nature Reviews Nephrology* **15**, 776-783, doi:10.1038/s41581-019-0208-6 (2019).

27 Spraggins, J. M. *et al.* High-Performance Molecular Imaging with MALDI Trapped Ion-Mobility Time-of-Flight (timsTOF) Mass Spectrometry. *Analytical Chemistry* **91**, 14552-14560, doi:10.1021/acs.analchem.9b03612 (2019).

28 Patterson, N. H. *et al.* Autofluorescence microscopy as a label-free tool for renal histology and glomerular segmentation. *bioRxiv* (2021).

29 Tideman, L. E. M. *et al.* Automated biomarker candidate discovery in imaging mass spectrometry data through spatially localized Shapley additive explanations. *Analytica Chimica Acta* **1177**, 338522, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aca.2021.338522> (2021).

30 Lundberg, S. M. *et al.* From local explanations to global understanding with explainable AI for trees. *Nature Machine Intelligence* **2**, 56-67, doi:10.1038/s42256-019-0138-9 (2020).

31 Neumann, E. K. *et al.* Highly Multiplexed Immunofluorescence of the Human Kidney using Co-Detection by Indexing (CODEX). *bioRxiv*, 2020.2012.2004.412429, doi:10.1101/2020.12.04.412429 (2020).

32 Radtke, A. J. *et al.* IBEX: A versatile multiplex optical imaging approach for deep phenotyping and spatial analysis of cells in complex tissues. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* **117**, 33455-33465, doi:10.1073/pnas.2018488117 (2020).

33 Goltsev, Y. *et al.* Deep Profiling of Mouse Splenic Architecture with CODEX Multiplexed Imaging. *Cell* **174**, 968-981.e915, doi:10.1016/j.cell.2018.07.010 (2018).

34 Patterson, N. H., Tuck, M., Van de Plas, R. & Caprioli, R. M. Advanced Registration and Analysis of MALDI Imaging Mass Spectrometry Measurements through Autofluorescence Microscopy. *Analytical Chemistry* **90**, 12395-12403, doi:10.1021/acs.analchem.8b02884 (2018).

35 Patterson, N. H. *et al.* Next Generation Histology-Directed Imaging Mass Spectrometry Driven by Autofluorescence Microscopy. *Analytical Chemistry* **90**, 12404-12413, doi:10.1021/acs.analchem.8b02885 (2018).

36 Neumann, E. K. *et al.* Protocol for multimodal analysis of human kidney tissue by imaging mass spectrometry and CODEX multiplexed immunofluorescence. *STAR protocols* **2**, 100747 (2021).

37 Neumann, E. K. *et al.* Highly multiplexed immunofluorescence of the human kidney using co-detection by indexing. *Kidney International* **101**, 137-143, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.kint.2021.08.033> (2022).

38 Pennington, E. R. *et al.* Distinct membrane properties are differentially influenced by cardiolipin content and acyl chain composition in biomimetic membranes. *Biochim Biophys Acta Biomembr* **1859**, 257-267, doi:10.1016/j.bbamem.2016.11.012 (2017).

39 Solati, Z., Edel, A. L., Shang, Y., O, K. & Ravandi, A. Oxidized phosphatidylcholines are produced in renal ischemia reperfusion injury. *PLOS ONE* **13**, e0195172, doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0195172 (2018).

40 Jarsch, I. K., Daste, F. & Gallop, J. L. Membrane curvature in cell biology: An integration of molecular mechanisms. *J Cell Biol* **214**, 375-387, doi:10.1083/jcb.201604003 (2016).

41 Kovesdy, C. P., Furth, S. L. & Zoccali, C. Obesity and Kidney Disease: Hidden Consequences of the Epidemic. *American Journal of Nephrology* **45**, 283-291, doi:10.1159/000458467 (2017).

42 Sooy, K., Kohut, J. & Christakos, S. The role of calbindin and 1,25dihydroxyvitamin D3 in the kidney. *Current Opinion in Nephrology and Hypertension* **9** (2000).

43 Nobre, J. L. *et al.* Role of vitamin D in adipose tissue in obese rats programmed by early weaning and post diet calcium. *Molecular Nutrition & Food Research* **60**, 810-822, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1002/mnfr.201500735> (2016).

44 Song, C. *et al.* Myristoylated alanine-rich C kinase substrate-like protein-1 regulates epithelial sodium channel activity in renal distal convoluted tubule cells. *American Journal of Physiology-Cell Physiology* **319**, C589-C604, doi:10.1152/ajpcell.00218.2020 (2020).

45 Hall, J. E. The Kidney, Hypertension, and Obesity. *Hypertension* **41**, 625-633, doi:doi:10.1161/01.HYP.0000052314.95497.78 (2003).

46 Dawaliby, R. *et al.* Phosphatidylethanolamine Is a Key Regulator of Membrane Fluidity in Eukaryotic Cells. *J Biol Chem* **291**, 3658-3667, doi:10.1074/jbc.M115.706523 (2016).

47 Colombo, S. *et al.* Phospholipidome of endothelial cells shows a different adaptation response upon oxidative, glycative and lipoxidative stress. *Scientific Reports* **8**, 12365, doi:10.1038/s41598-018-30695-0 (2018).

48 Lee, H. J., Balasubramanian, S. V., Murer, H., Biber, J. & Morris, M. E. Modulation of sulfate renal transport by alterations in cell membrane fluidity. *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences* **88**, 976-980, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1021/jf990114c> (1999).

49 Balasubramanian, S. V., Straubinger, R. M. & Morris, M. E. Salicylic Acid Induces Changes in the Physical Properties of Model and Native Kidney Membranes. *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences* **86**, 199-204, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1021/jf9602756> (1997).

50 Hsu, B. Y. L. *et al.* Membrane fluidity and sodium transport by renal membranes from dogs with spontaneous idiopathic Fanconi syndrome. *Metabolism* **41**, 253-259, doi:[https://doi.org/10.1016/0026-0495\(92\)90267-E](https://doi.org/10.1016/0026-0495(92)90267-E) (1992).

51 Farge, E., Ojcius, D. M., Subtil, A. & Dautry-Varsat, A. Enhancement of endocytosis due to aminophospholipid transport across the plasma membrane of living cells. *The American journal of physiology* **276**, C725-733, doi:10.1152/ajpcell.1999.276.3.C725 (1999).

52 Patel, D. & Witt, S. N. Ethanolamine and Phosphatidylethanolamine: Partners in Health and Disease. *Oxidative Medicine and Cellular Longevity* **2017**, 4829180, doi:10.1155/2017/4829180 (2017).

53 McMahon, H. T. & Boucrot, E. Membrane curvature at a glance. *J Cell Sci* **128**, 1065-1070, doi:10.1242/jcs.114454 (2015).

54 Samad, F. & Ruf, W. Inflammation, obesity, and thrombosis. *Blood, The Journal of the American Society of Hematology* **122**, 3415-3422 (2013).

55 Miszta, A. *et al.* Application of a plasmin generation assay to define pharmacodynamic effects of tranexamic acid in women undergoing cesarean delivery. *Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis* **19**, 221-232, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1111/jth.15114> (2021).

56 Bochkov, V. *et al.* Pleiotropic effects of oxidized phospholipids. *Free Radical Biology and Medicine* **111**, 6-24 (2017).

57 Salomon, R. G. Structural identification and cardiovascular activities of oxidized phospholipids. *Circulation research* **111**, 930-946 (2012).

58 Kopec, A. K. *et al.* Thrombin promotes diet-induced obesity through fibrin-driven inflammation. *The Journal of clinical investigation* **127**, 3152-3166 (2017).

59 Ząbczyk, M., Natorska, J. & Undas, A. Fibrin clot properties in atherosclerotic vascular disease: from pathophysiology to clinical outcomes. *Journal of Clinical Medicine* **10**, 2999 (2021).

60 Silbiger, S. & Neugarten, J. Gender and human chronic renal disease. *Gender Medicine* **5**, S3-S10, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.genm.2008.03.002> (2008).

61 Valdivielso, J. M., Jacobs-Cachá, C. & Soler, M. J. Sex hormones and their influence on chronic kidney disease. *Current Opinion in Nephrology and Hypertension* **28** (2019).

62 Ahmed, S. B. & Ramesh, S. Sex hormones in women with kidney disease. *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation* **31**, 1787-1795, doi:10.1093/ndt/gfw084 (2016).

63 Melo Junior, A. F. *et al.* Involvement of sex hormones, oxidative stress, ACE and ACE2 activity in the impairment of renal function and remodelling in SHR. *Life Sciences* **257**, 118138, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lfs.2020.118138> (2020).

64 Laughlin, G. A., Barrett-Connor, E. & May, S. Sex-specific determinants of serum adiponectin in older adults: the role of endogenous sex hormones. *International Journal of Obesity* **31**, 457-465, doi:10.1038/sj.ijo.0803427 (2007).

65 Lima-Posada, I. & Bobadilla, N. A. Understanding the opposite effects of sex hormones in mediating renal injury. *Nephrology* **26**, 217-226, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1111/nep.13806> (2021).

66 Dubey, R. K., Oparil, S., Imthurn, B. & Jackson, E. K. Sex hormones and hypertension. *Cardiovascular Research* **53**, 688-708, doi:10.1016/s0008-6363(01)00527-2 (2002).

67 Link, J. C. & Reue, K. Genetic Basis for Sex Differences in Obesity and Lipid Metabolism. *Annual Review of Nutrition* **37**, 225-245, doi:10.1146/annurev-nutr-071816-064827 (2017).

68 Mittendorfer, B. Sexual Dimorphism in Human Lipid Metabolism. *The Journal of Nutrition* **135**, 681-686, doi:10.1093/jn/135.4.681 (2005).

69 Gravholt, C. H. *et al.* Glucose Metabolism, Lipid Metabolism, and Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Adult Turner's Syndrome: The impact of sex hormone replacement. *Diabetes Care* **21**, 1062-1070, doi:10.2337/diacare.21.7.1062 (1998).

70 Wang, X., Magkos, F. & Mittendorfer, B. Sex Differences in Lipid and Lipoprotein Metabolism: It's Not Just about Sex Hormones. *The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism* **96**, 885-893, doi:10.1210/jc.2010-2061 (2011).

71 Ng, K. L. *et al.* Utility of cytokeratin 7, S100A1 and caveolin-1 as immunohistochemical biomarkers to differentiate chromophobe renal cell carcinoma from renal oncocytoma. *Transl Androl Urol* **8**, S123-S137, doi:10.21037/tau.2018.11.02 (2019).

72 Ganeshan, B. & Miles, K. A. Quantifying tumour heterogeneity with CT. *Cancer Imaging* **13**, 140-149, doi:10.1102/1470-7330.2013.0015 (2013).

73 Eberhard, A. *et al.* Heterogeneity of Angiogenesis and Blood Vessel Maturation in Human Tumors: Implications for Antiangiogenic Tumor Therapies1. *Cancer Research* **60**, 1388-1393 (2000).

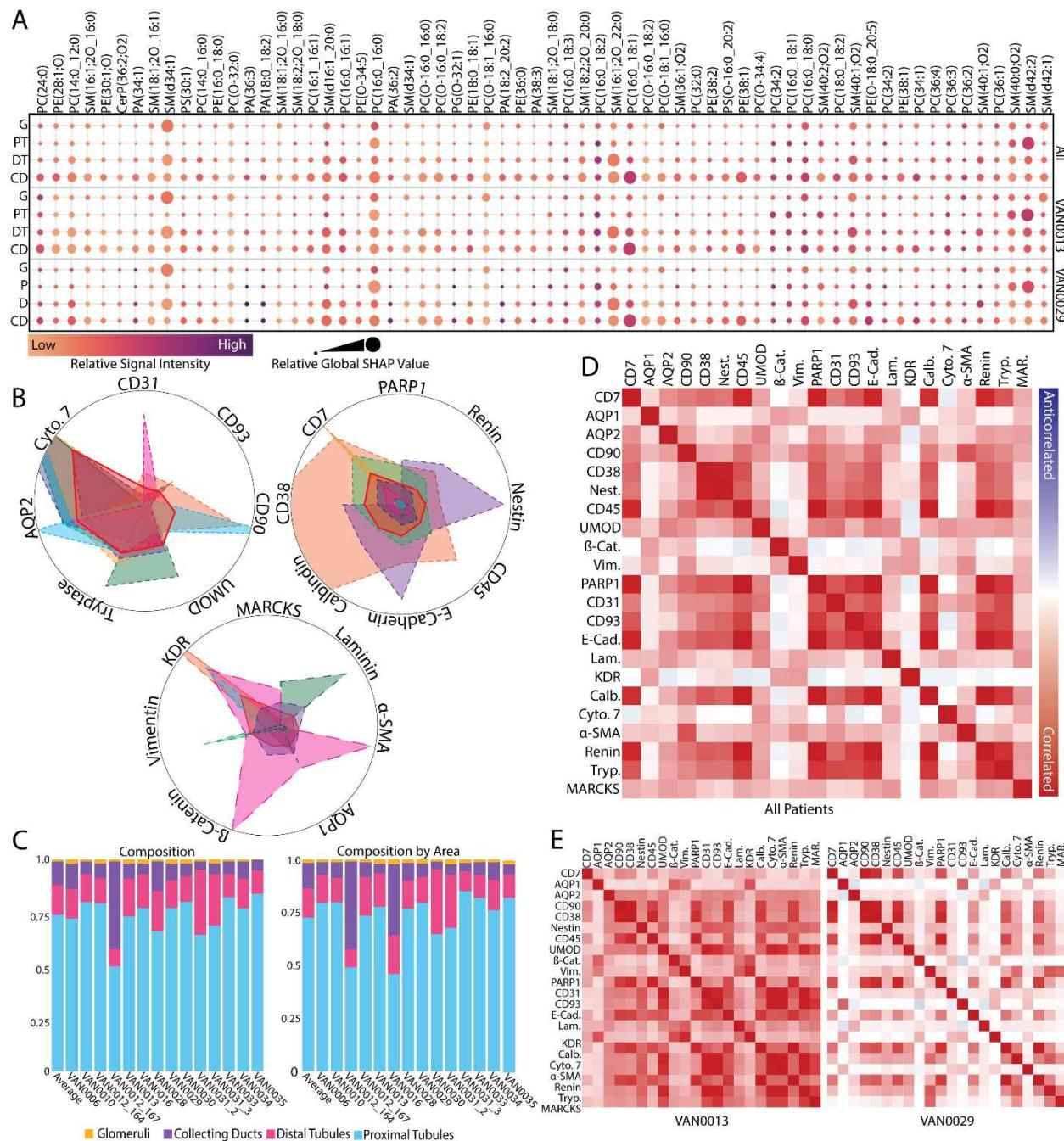
74 Tuomi, T. *et al.* The many faces of diabetes: a disease with increasing heterogeneity. *The Lancet* **383**, 1084-1094, doi:[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(13\)62219-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(13)62219-9) (2014).

75 Battaglia, M. *et al.* Introducing the Endotype Concept to Address the Challenge of Disease Heterogeneity in Type 1 Diabetes. *Diabetes Care* **43**, 5-12, doi:10.2337/dc19-0880 (2019).

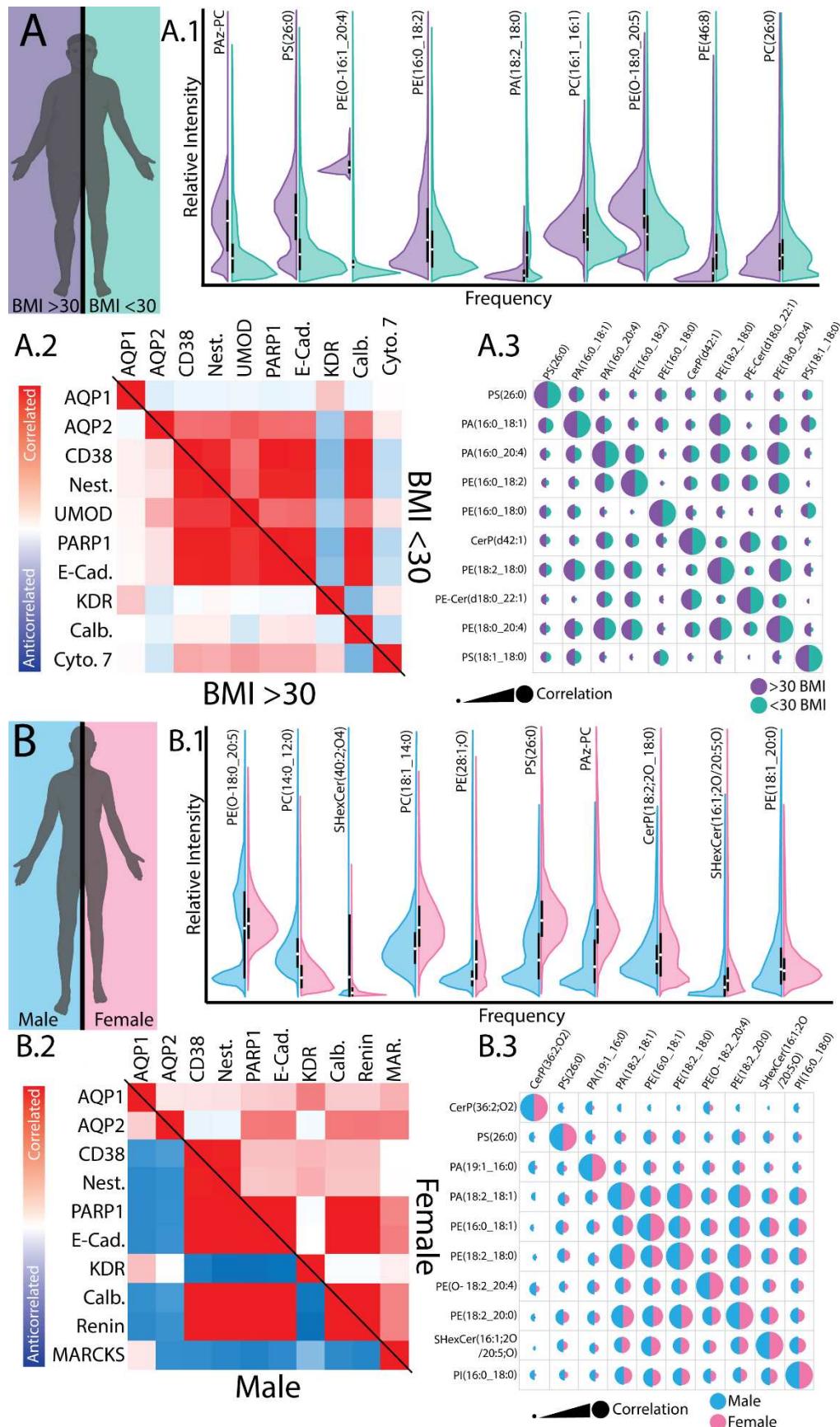
76 Ma, F., Sun, T., Liu, L. & Jing, H. Detection and diagnosis of chronic kidney disease using deep learning-based heterogeneous modified artificial neural network. *Future Generation Computer Systems* **111**, 17-26, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.future.2020.04.036> (2020).

77 Abeysekera, R. A., Healy, H. G., Wang, Z., Cameron, A. L. & Hoy, W. E. Heterogeneity in patterns of progression of chronic kidney disease. *Internal Medicine Journal* **51**, 220-228, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1111/imj.14770> (2021).

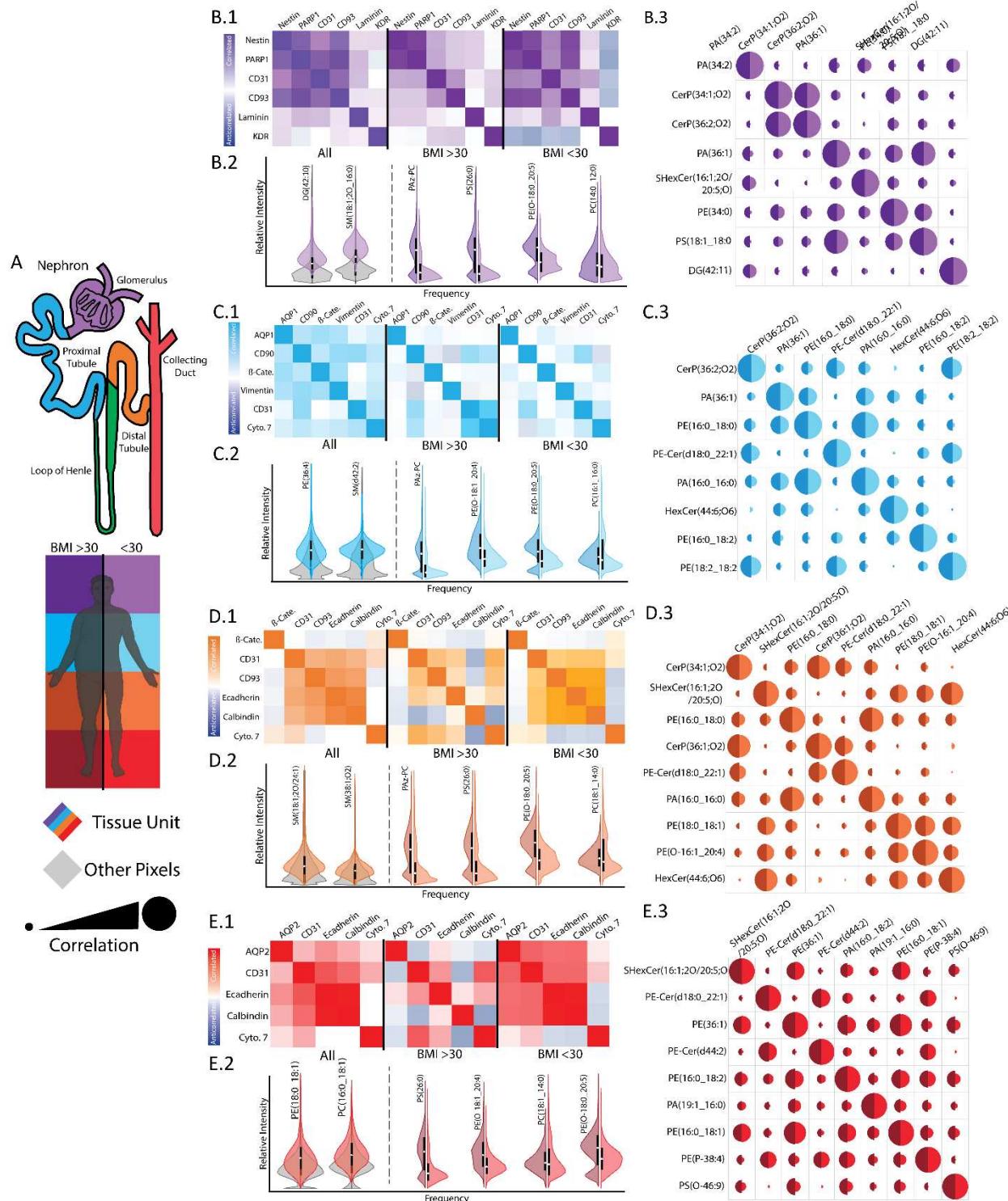
78 De Nicola, L. & Zoccali, C. Chronic kidney disease prevalence in the general population: heterogeneity and concerns. *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation* **31**, 331-335, doi:10.1093/ndt/gfv427 (2015).



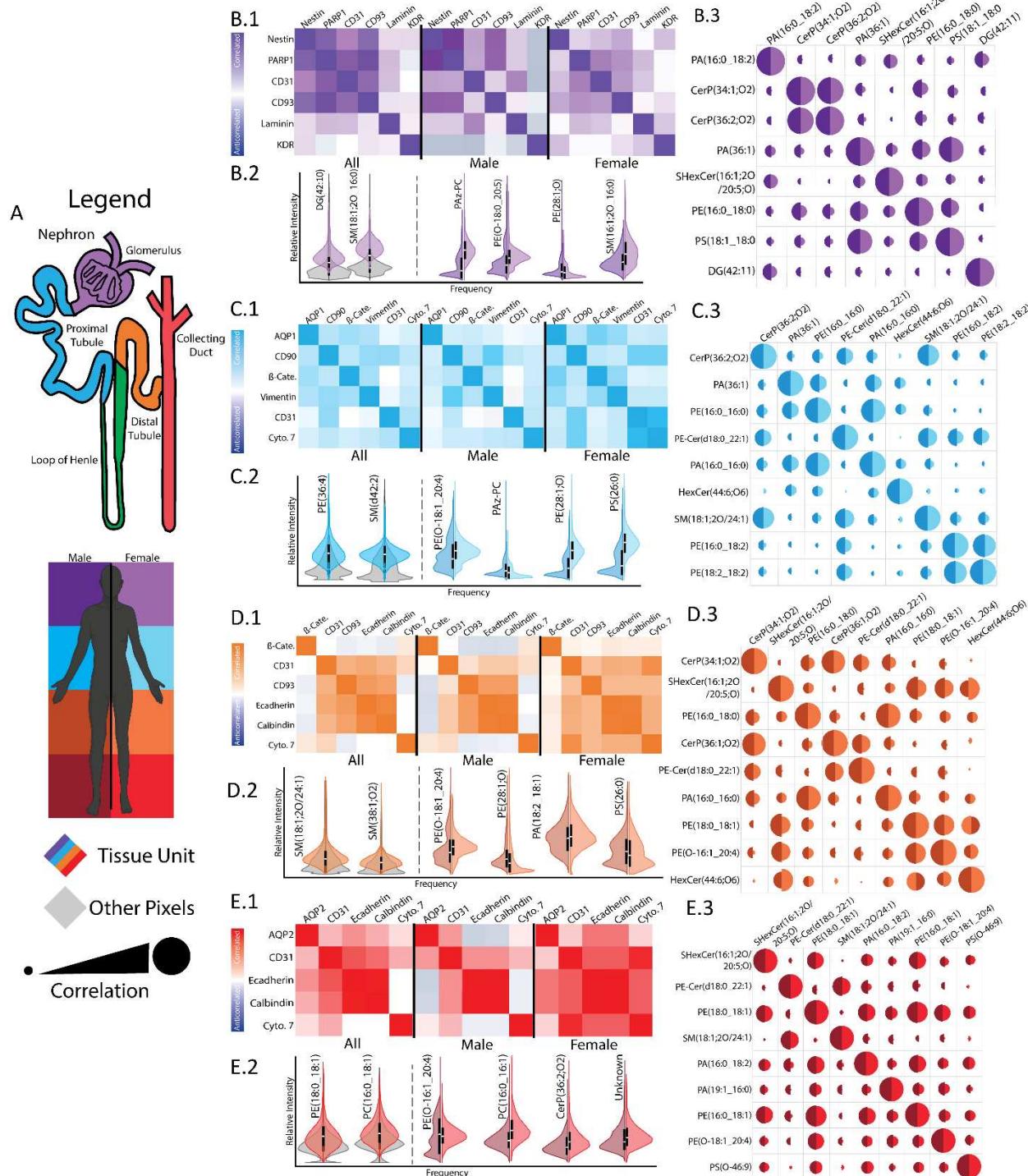
**Figure 2.** Overview of data represented within the kidney atlas. **A)** Intensity and SHAP scores for a subset of 64 lipids as a composite of all patients and then two extracted patients for glomeruli (G), proximal tubules (PT), distal tubules (DT), and collecting ducts (CD). **B)** Radar plots showing the relative number of cells expressing each protein antigen averaged (solid red line) and on an individual patient level (dashed line), ordered by relative cell number. **C)** Relative composition of different functional tissue units within the cortex from each patient holistically (left) and normalized by area (right). **D)** Protein neighborhoods derived for all patients and **E)** a subset of subjects that demonstrates how the cellular architecture varies between each subject.



**Figure 3:** Lipid and cellular profiles of the subjects subdivided by **A)** BMI and **B)** sex. **A.1)** Violin plots for nine lipids with the highest SHAP scores that differentiate tissue originating from male (blue) and female (pink) subjects. **A.2)** Cellular neighborhoods for ten markers that vary between men and women, where red is highly correlated and blue is highly anticorrelated based on Spearman correlation values and a neighborhood size of 25  $\mu\text{m}$  from the cell center. **A.3)** Molecular neighborhoods for ten lipids detected in negative ion mode where circle radius is proportional to the Spearman correlation coefficient. Pixel neighborhoods were 1 pixel (10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) from the pixel of interest. **B.1)** Violin plots for nine lipids with the highest SHAP scores that differentiate tissue originating from patients with BMIs above 30 (purple) and below 30 (green). **B.2)** Cellular neighborhoods for ten markers that vary between obese and non-obese, where red is highly correlated and blue is highly anticorrelated based on Spearman correlation values and a neighborhood size of 25  $\mu\text{m}$  from the cell center. **B.3)** Molecular neighborhoods for ten lipids detected in negative ion mode where circle radius is proportional to the Spearman correlation coefficient. Pixel neighborhoods were 1 pixel (10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) from the pixel of interest.



**Figure 4:** Summary of lipid and cellular differences between FTUs from patients with BMIs above 30 (obese) and below 30 (non-obese). **A)** Color-coded legend for interpretation of the remaining figures associated with **B)** glomeruli, **C)** proximal tubules, **D)** distal tubules, and **E)** collecting ducts. Differences between obese and non-obese subjects can be seen in the extrapolated **1)** cellular neighborhoods, **2)** lipid species, and lipid neighborhoods associated with different segments of the nephron.



**Figure 5:** Summary of lipid and cellular differences between FTUs from male and female subjects. **A)** Color-coded legend for interpretation of the remaining figures associated with **B)** glomeruli, **C)** proximal tubules, **D)** distal tubules, and **E)** collecting ducts. Differences between the sexes can be seen in the extrapolated **1)** cellular neighborhoods, **2)** lipid species, and **3)** lipid neighborhoods associated with different segments of the nephron.