

# Development of biopredictive dissolution methods



Physiologically Based Biopharmaceutics Modeling (PBBM) Best  
Practices for Drug Product Quality: Regulatory and Industry  
Perspectives

Raimar Loebenberg University of Alberta  
August 29-31, 2023



# Dissolution and absorption processes

## Examples:

Permeability controlled absorption

Dissolution controlled absorption

Lysosomal trapping

Enteric coated formulations

Biphasic dissolution

Lipid dissolution

## Conclusions

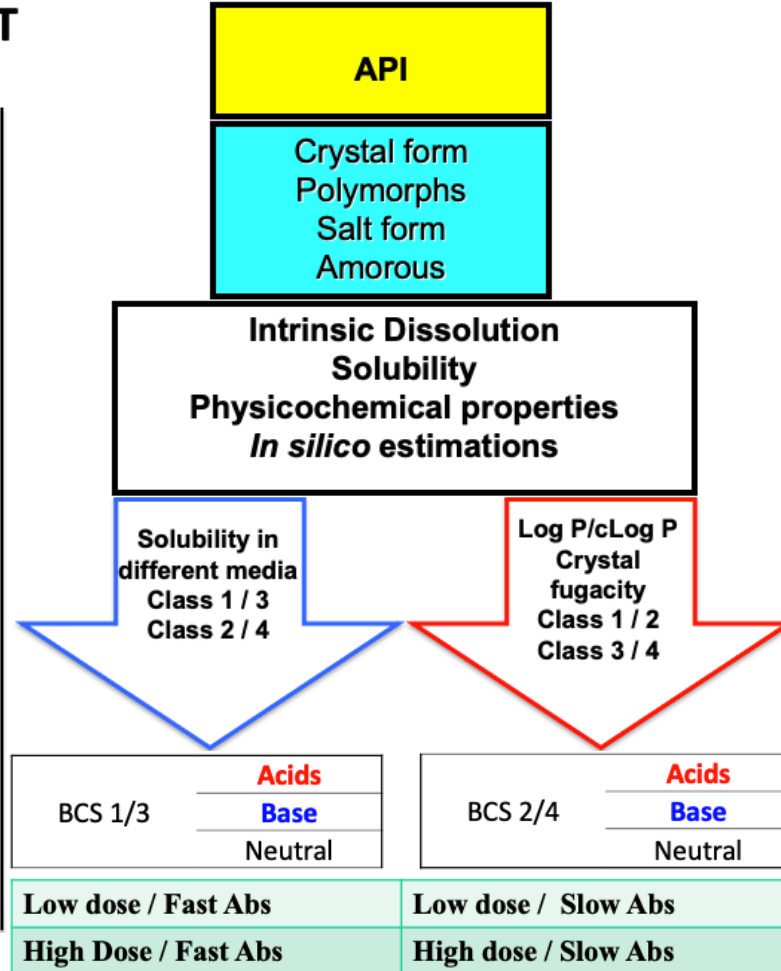
# Drug Development and QC Method Development Sequences

## EARLY DEVELOPMENT

API  
Basic  
Properties

R&D  
Development

Provisional  
BCS Classification



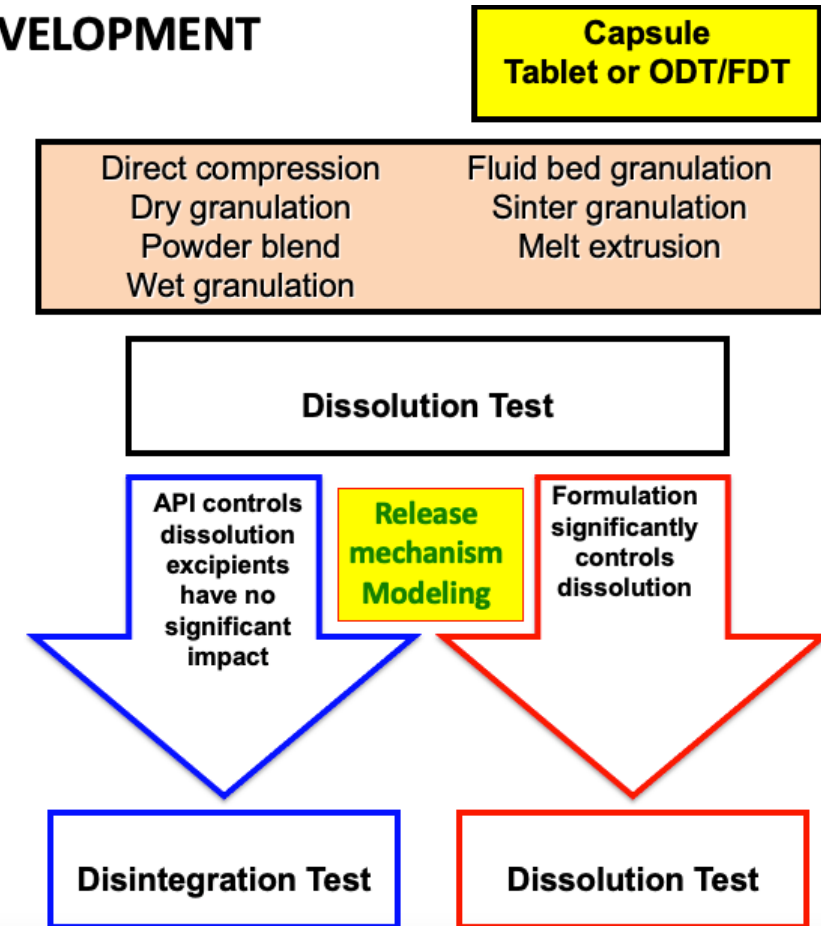
## PHASE 1/2 R&D DEVELOPMENT

Dosage form  
Manufacturing  
process

R&D  
Development

Proposed New  
Formulation  
Classification:  
**API vs.**  
**Formulation**  
Controlled Dissolution

**QC Method**





Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



International Journal of Pharmaceutics 328 (2007) 12–21

---

---

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF  
PHARMACEUTICS

---

---

[www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm)

Review

## Current perspectives in dissolution testing of conventional and novel dosage forms

In most cases the goals of QC versus R&D approaches make it necessary to **design two different dissolution protocols**. An over-discriminatory test might be suitable for QC purposes to detect even small production deviations. However, such a test is not desirable for the prediction of the *in vivo* performance of drug product. Here dissolution testing should be a sensitive and a reliable predictor of bioavailability. Dissolution testing is used here as a predictive tool for the *in vivo* performance of a drug product. This requires that the *in vitro* and *in vivo* dissolution behavior of a dosage form be either similar or have a scalable relationship to each other.

## Evaluation of Various Dissolution Media for Predicting *In Vivo* Performance of Class I and II Drugs

E. Galia,<sup>1</sup> E. Nicolaidis,<sup>2</sup> D. Hörter,<sup>1</sup> R. Löbenberg,<sup>1</sup>  
C. Reppas,<sup>2</sup> and J. B. Dressman<sup>1,3</sup>


### INTRODUCTION

The use of high throughput techniques for screening new compounds for pharmacological activity is becoming increasingly important (1). As a result, drugs being developed today exhibit an ever wider range of physicochemical characteristics. To assess whether these compounds possess not only the desired pharmacological activity but also the properties necessary for adequate bioavailability following oral administration, additional tests are required. Especially sought after are *in vitro* tests that are capable of predicting *in vivo* performance.

As predicted, dissolution of class II drugs proved to be in general much more dependent on the medium than class I drugs. With the array of compendial and physiological media available, **it should be possible to design a suitable set of tests to predict the *in vivo* dissolution of both class I and II drugs from immediate release formulations.**

minutes. The dissolution rate of metoprolol was shown to be dependent class I compound (3).

## **Evolution of Choice of Solubility and Dissolution Media After Two Decades of Biopharmaceutical Classification System**

**Nadia Bou-Chacra,<sup>1</sup> Katherine Jasmine Curo Melo,<sup>1</sup> Ivan Andrés Cordova Morales,<sup>1</sup> Erika S. Stippler,<sup>2</sup> Filippou Kesisoglou,<sup>3</sup> Mehran Yazdanian,<sup>4</sup> and Raimar Löbenberg<sup>5,6</sup> **

*Received 14 December 2016; accepted 11 April 2017*

**Abstract.** The introduction of the biopharmaceutics drug classification system (Biopharmaceutics Classification System (BCS)), in 1995, provided a simple way to describe the biopharmaceutics behavior of a drug. Solubility and permeability are among the major

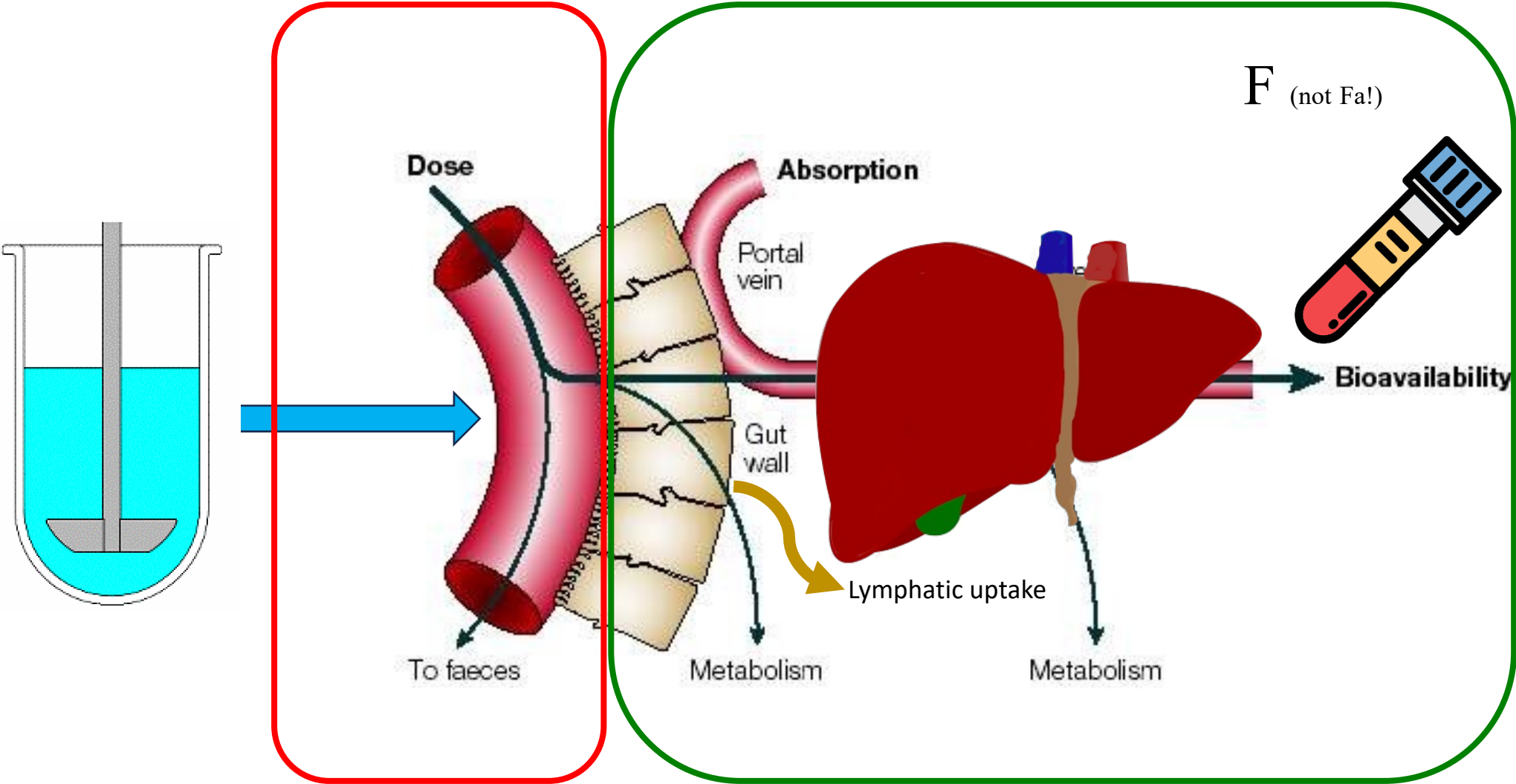
**At this time point, there is no universal medium available which can be used to predict every drug substance's solubility or a drug product's in vivo dissolution behavior**

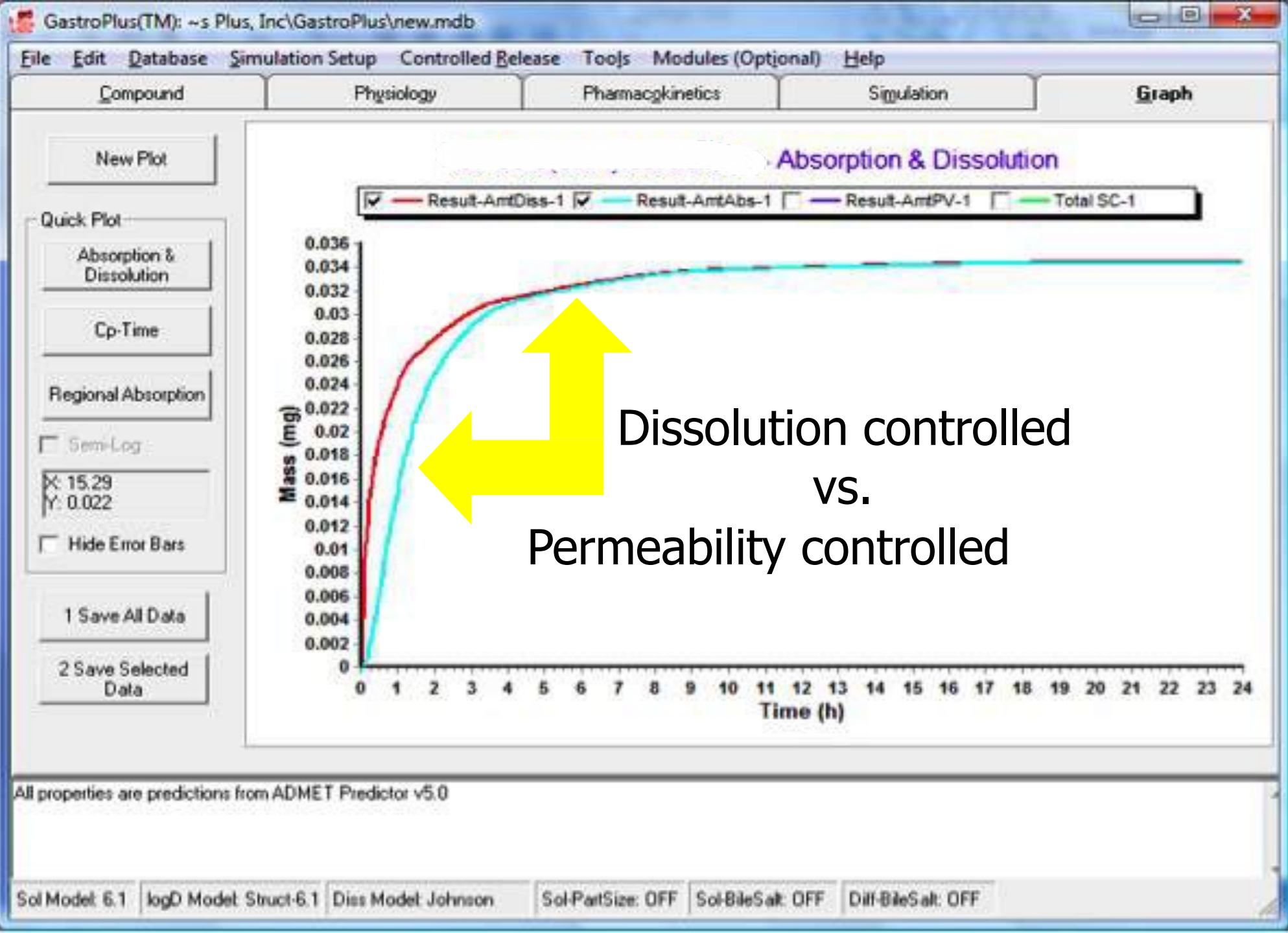
---

**KEY WORDS:** BCS; dissolution; IVIVC; solubility.

Dosage form interface

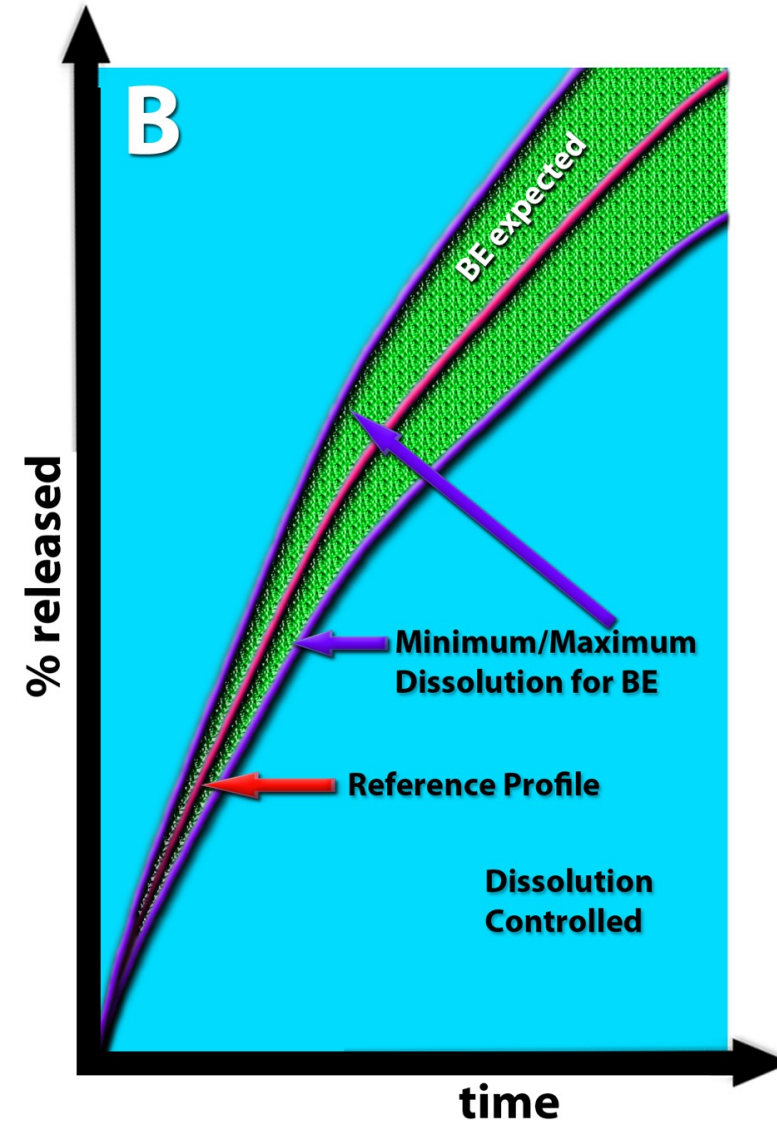
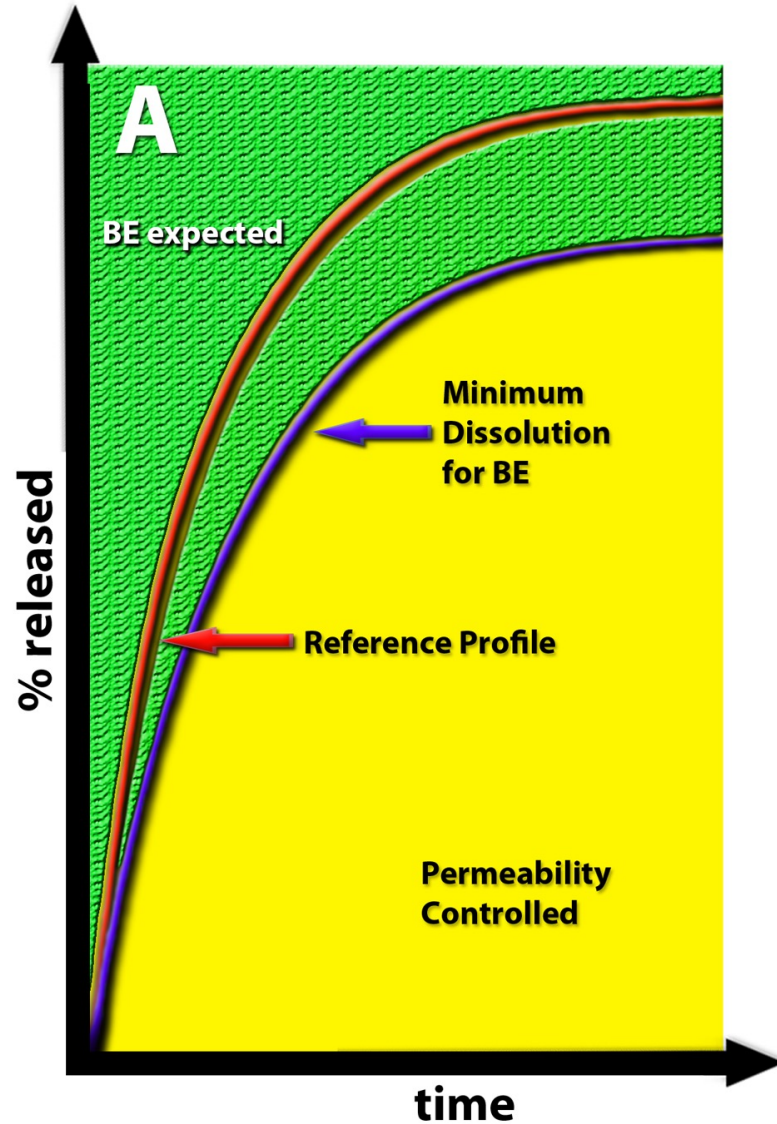
Biological System





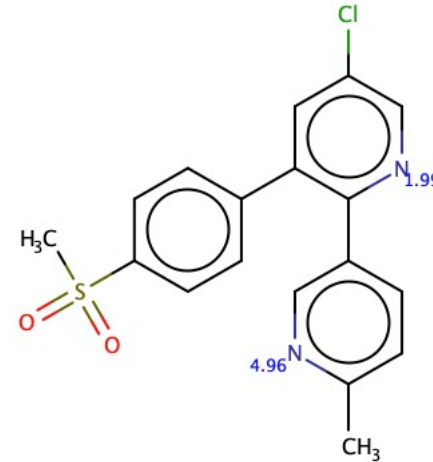


# Permeability vs Dissolution Controlled Absorption

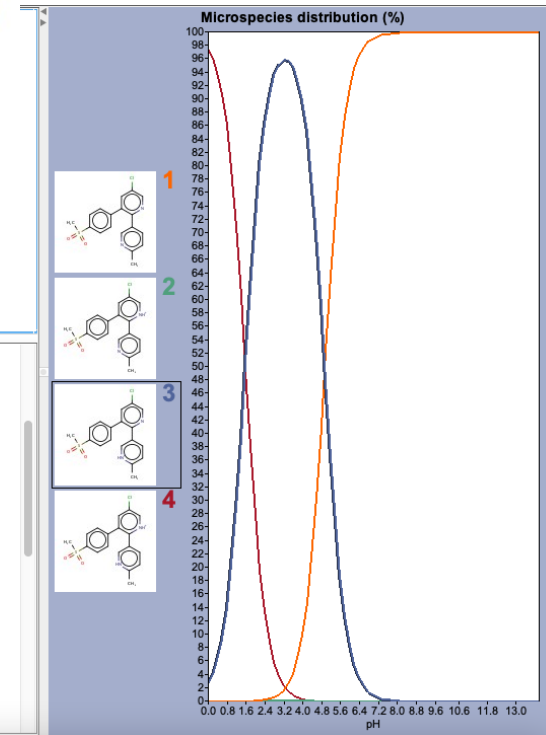


# Example: Permeability controlled Absorption Dynamic Dissolution of a Weak Base: Etoricoxib

- pKa = 1.99, 4.96
- logP = 3.1
- Oral bioavailability is 100% (Agrawal et al, 2003)



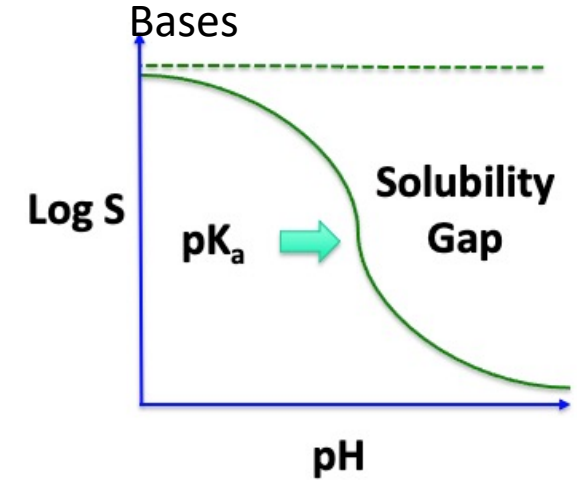
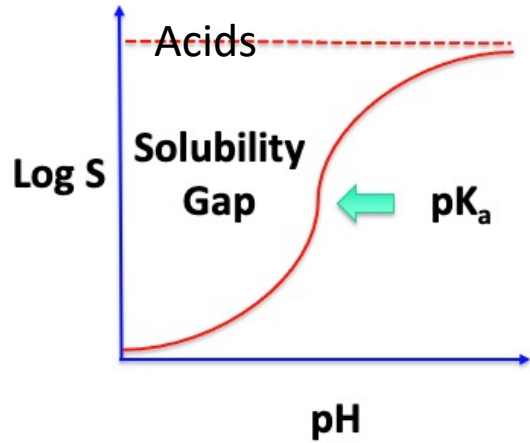
2.60	0.40	0.10	90.68	8.83
2.80	0.65	0.10	93.51	5.75
3.00	1.04	0.10	95.16	3.69
3.20	1.67	0.10	95.88	2.35
3.40	2.64	0.10	95.78	1.48
3.60	4.14	0.10	94.83	0.92
3.80	6.43	0.10	92.90	0.57
4.00	9.84	0.10	89.72	0.35
4.20	14.76	0.09	84.94	0.21
4.40	21.55	0.08	78.24	0.12
4.60	30.35	0.08	69.51	0.07
4.80	40.86	0.06	59.04	0.04
5.00	52.27	0.05	47.66	0.02
5.20	63.45	0.04	36.50	0.01
5.40	73.34	0.03	26.62	0.00
5.60	81.35	0.02	18.63	0.00
5.80	87.36	0.01	12.63	0.00
6.00	91.63	0.01	8.36	0.00
6.20	94.55	0.01	5.44	0.00
6.40	96.49	0.00	3.50	0.00
6.60	97.76	0.00	2.24	0.00
6.80	98.57	0.00	1.42	0.00
7.00	99.10	0.00	0.90	0.00
7.20	99.43	0.00	0.57	0.00
7.40	99.64	0.00	0.36	0.00
7.60	99.77	0.00	0.22	0.00



	pH	Solubility (mg/mL)	Dose(mg)		
			60	90	120
			Dose/solubility ratio (mL)		
SGF (Without enzymes)	1.2	13.21 ± 1.39	4.5	6.8	9.1
Acetate Buffer	4.1	0.60 ± 0.12	100.0	150.0	200.0
Blank FeSSIF	5.0	0.22 ± 0.04	272.7	409.1	545.5
FeSSIF (with bile salts and lecithin)	5.0	0.28 ± 0.03	214.3	321.4	428.6
Blank FaSSIF	6.5	0.16 ± 0.04	375.0	562.5	750.0
FaSSIF (with bile salts and lecithin)	6.5	0.14 ± 0.03	428.6	642.9	857.1
SIF pH 6.8	6.8	0.14 ± 0.02	428.6	642.9	857.1

# Gastrointestinal transit

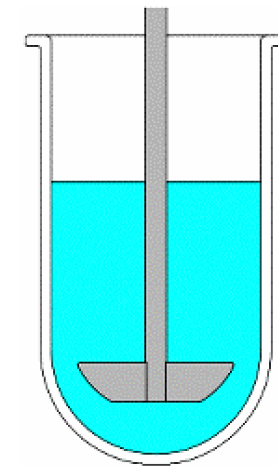
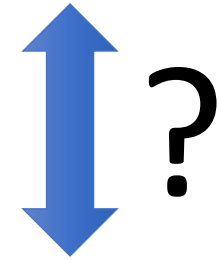
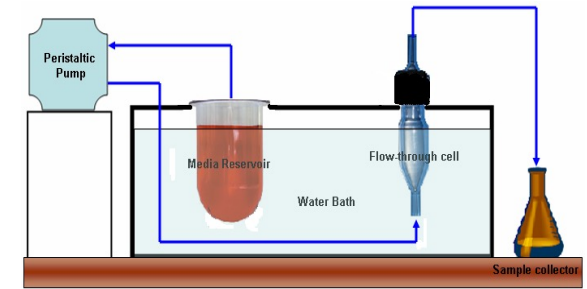
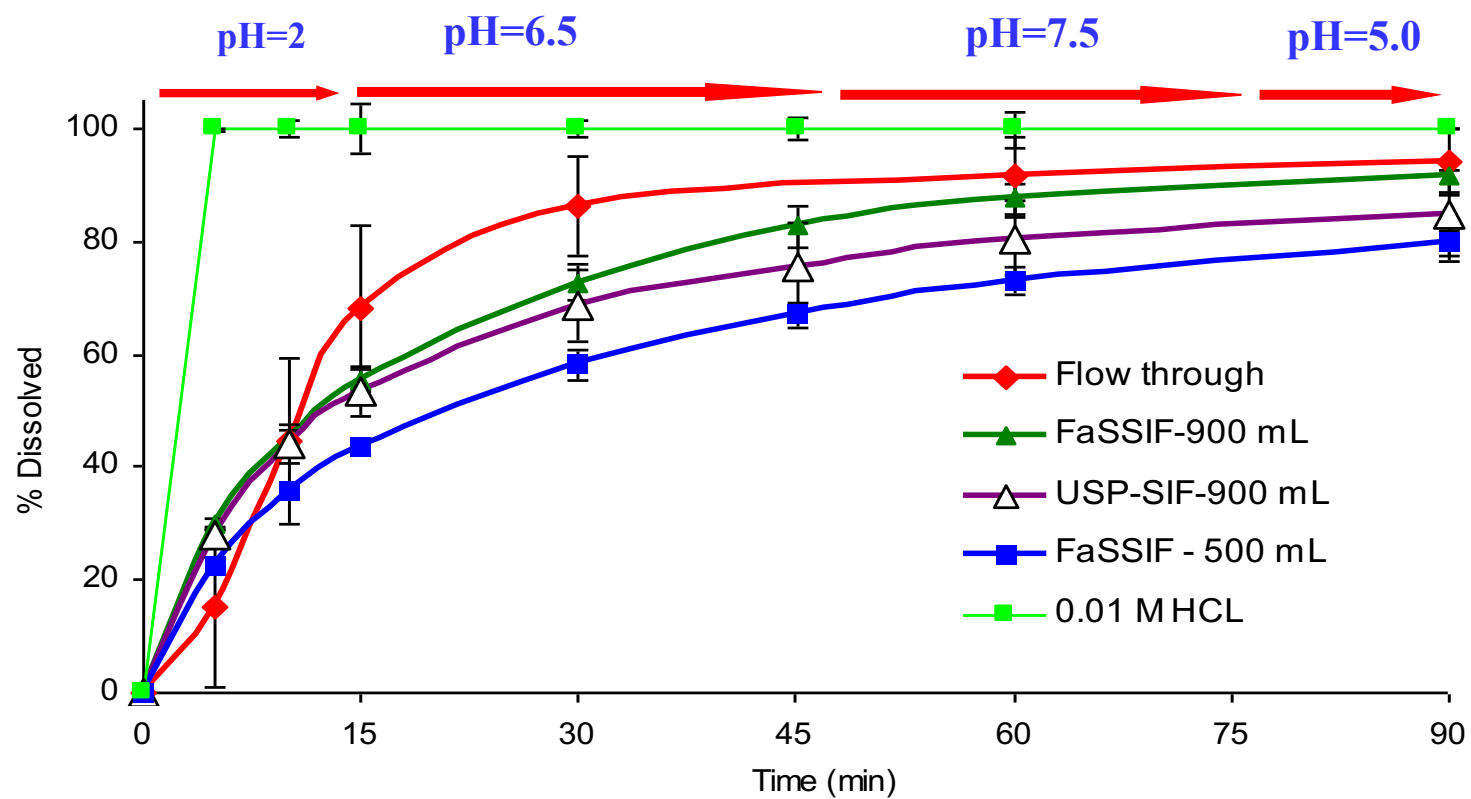
*dosage form* ⇨ *disintegration* ⇨ *dissolution* ⇨ *absorption*



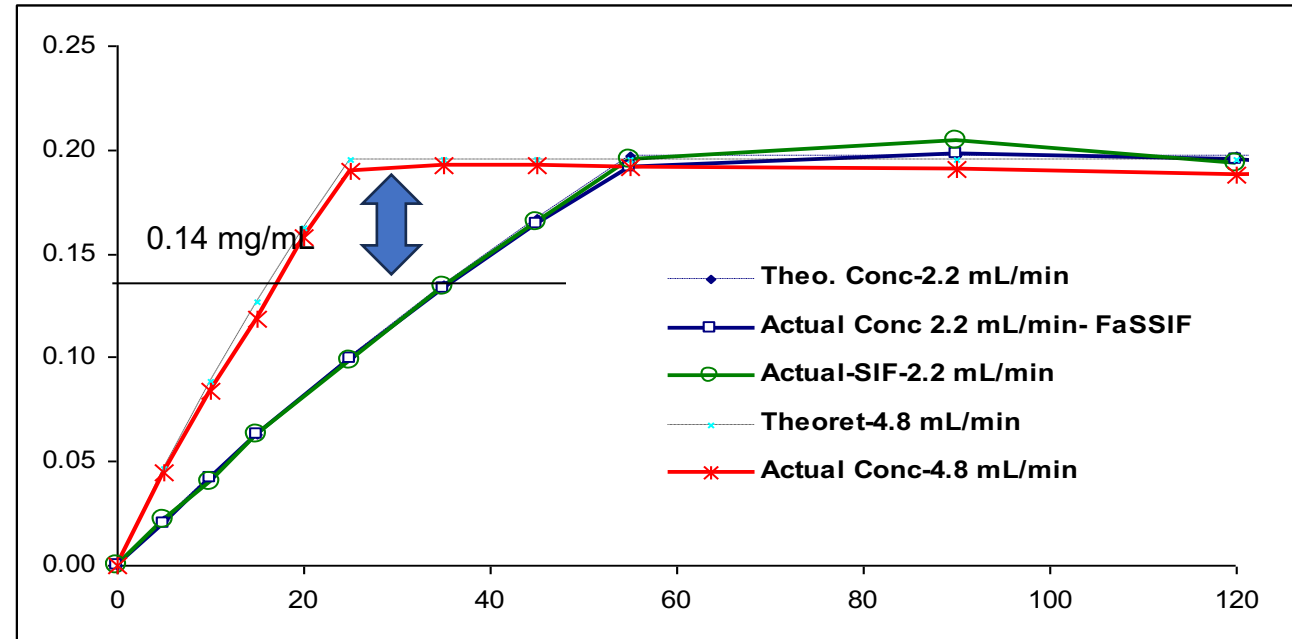
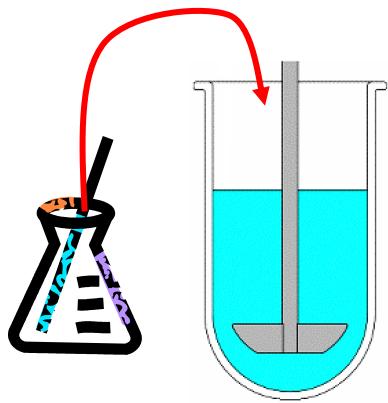
Missing  
in a compendial  
dissolution test

	motility	permeability	enzymes
gastric emptying	pH	bacteria	viscosity
pH 1-2		pH 6 -7.5	pH 5

# Summary: Dissolution Profiles

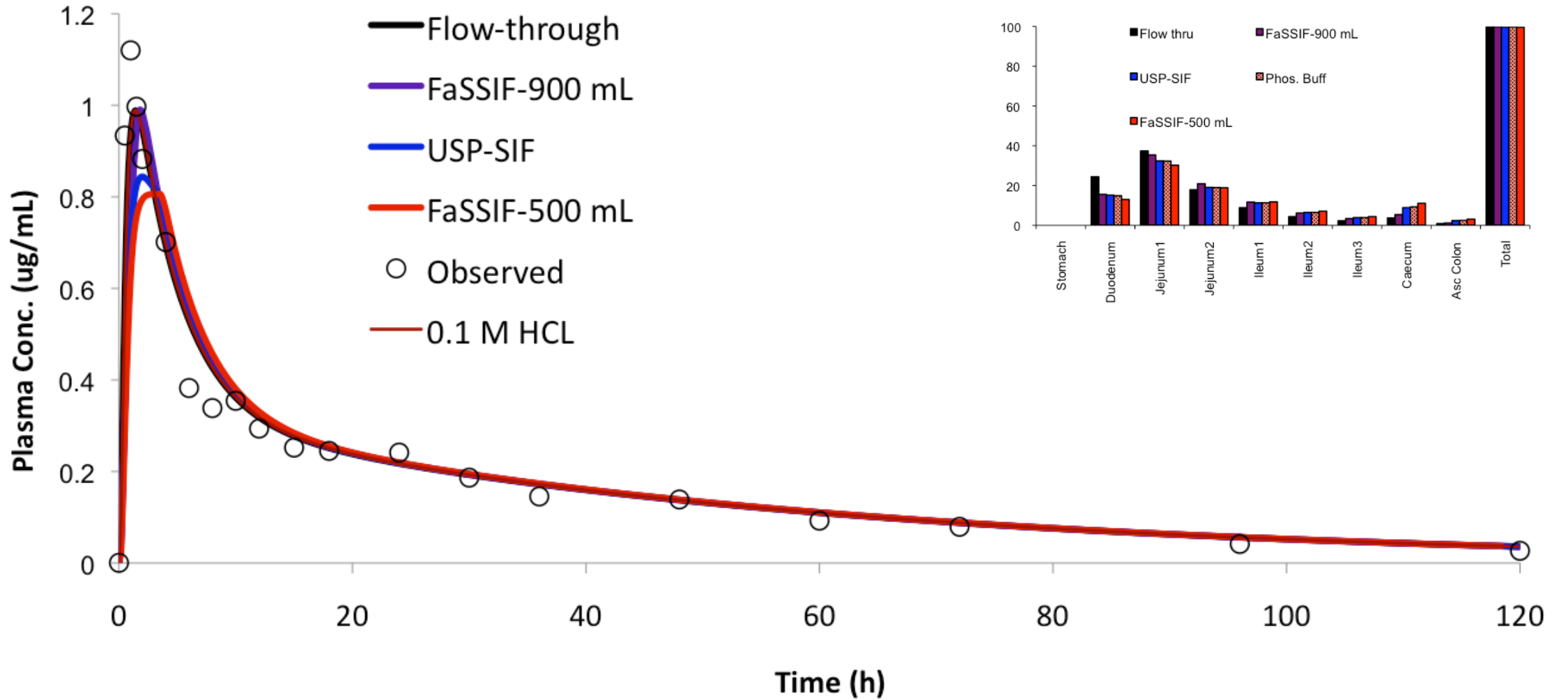


# Investigating possible *in vivo* precipitation using a transfer model

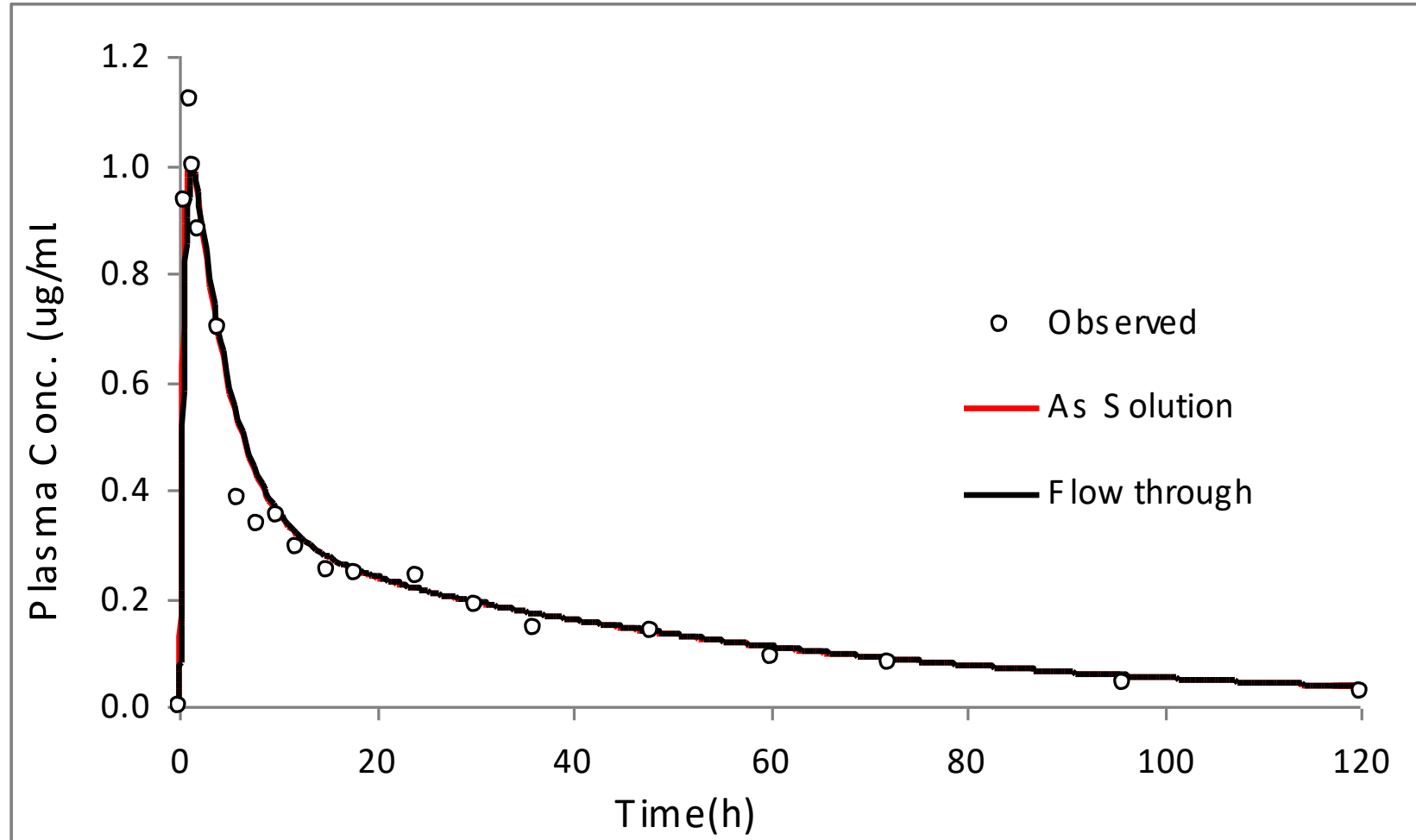


The transfer model showed a higher drug concentration compared to the shake flask method(Back line)

# Simulations results



Simulations as a solution compared with flow through cell showed not significant differences



**The profiles are superimposable**



Research paper

## Computer simulations using GastroPlus™ to justify a biowaiver for etoricoxib solid oral drug products

Arthur Okumu<sup>a</sup>, Marie DiMaso<sup>b</sup>, Raimar Löbenberg<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alta., Canada

<sup>b</sup> Merck Frosst Canada Inc., Kirkland, Que., Canada

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article history:

Received 12 May 2008

Accepted in revised form

Available online xxxx

#### Keywords:

BCS

Bioequivalence

IVIVC

In-silico

Permeability

Etoricoxib

In vitro results combined with *in silico* simulations using GastroPlus support scientifically that a biowaiver for immediate release etoricoxib solid oral dosage forms is justified.

combined with *in silico* simulations using GastroPlus support scientifically that a biowaiver for immediate release etoricoxib solid oral dosage forms is justified.



# ASD- Model

## Relative Bioavailability Estimation of Carbamazepine Crystal Forms using an Artificial Stomach-Duodenum Model

STEPHEN R. CARINO, DAVID C. SPERRY, MICHAEL HAWLEY

Pfizer Corporation, Michigan Pharmaceutical Sciences, 7000 Portage Road, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001

*Received 4 May 2005; revised 17 August 2005; accepted 23 August 2005*

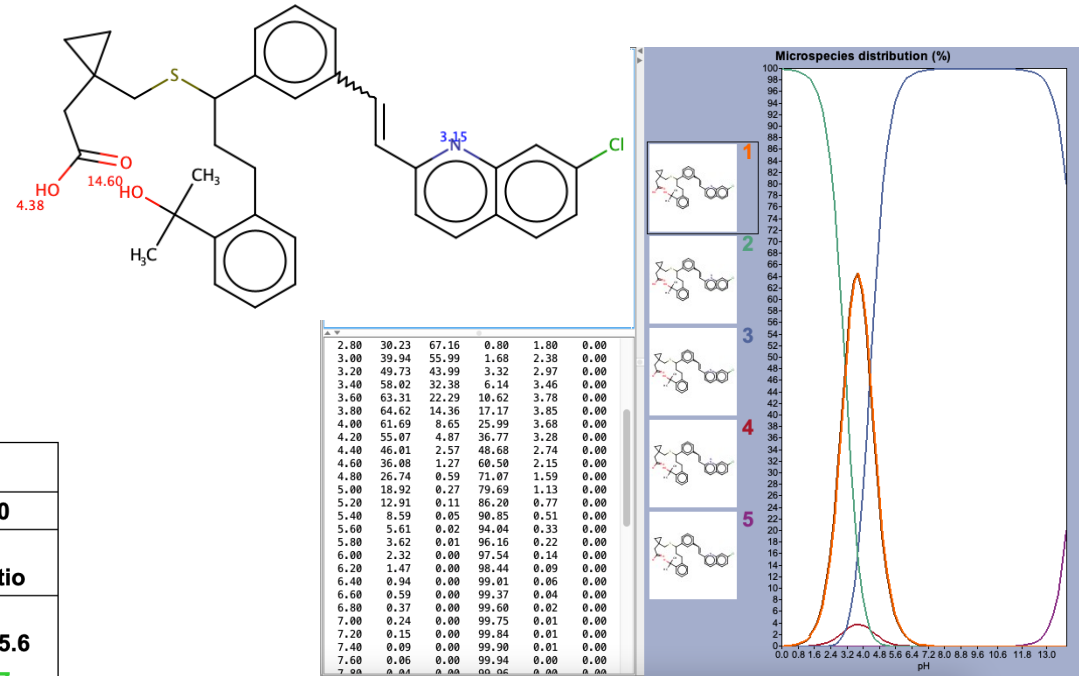
*Published online in Wiley InterScience (www.interscience.wiley.com). DOI 10.1002/jps.20495*

**ABSTRACT:** The *in vitro* dissolution of carbamazepine (CBZ) was investigated using an automated artificial stomach-duodenum (ASD) model. Successful simulation of the dog physiology in the fasted state showed that the rank order of the ASD estimated bioavailabilities is as follows: Form III > Form I > dihydrate. This result is in excellent agreement with those found in literature. Additional simulations comparing different gastric transit times during fasted and fed states are also discussed. © 2005 Wiley-Liss, Inc. and the American Pharmacists Association *J Pharm Sci* 95:116–125, 2006

**Keywords:** carbamazepine; solid forms; dissolution; bioavailability; *in vitro* models; solubility; solid state; thermodynamics; preformulation; polymorphs

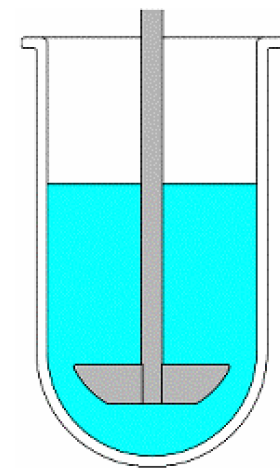
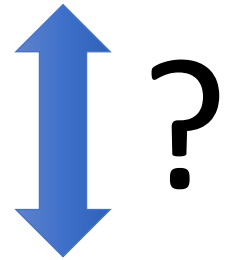
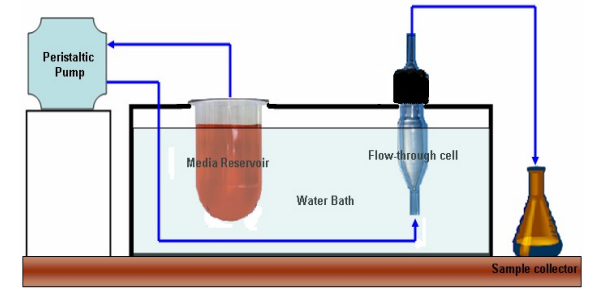
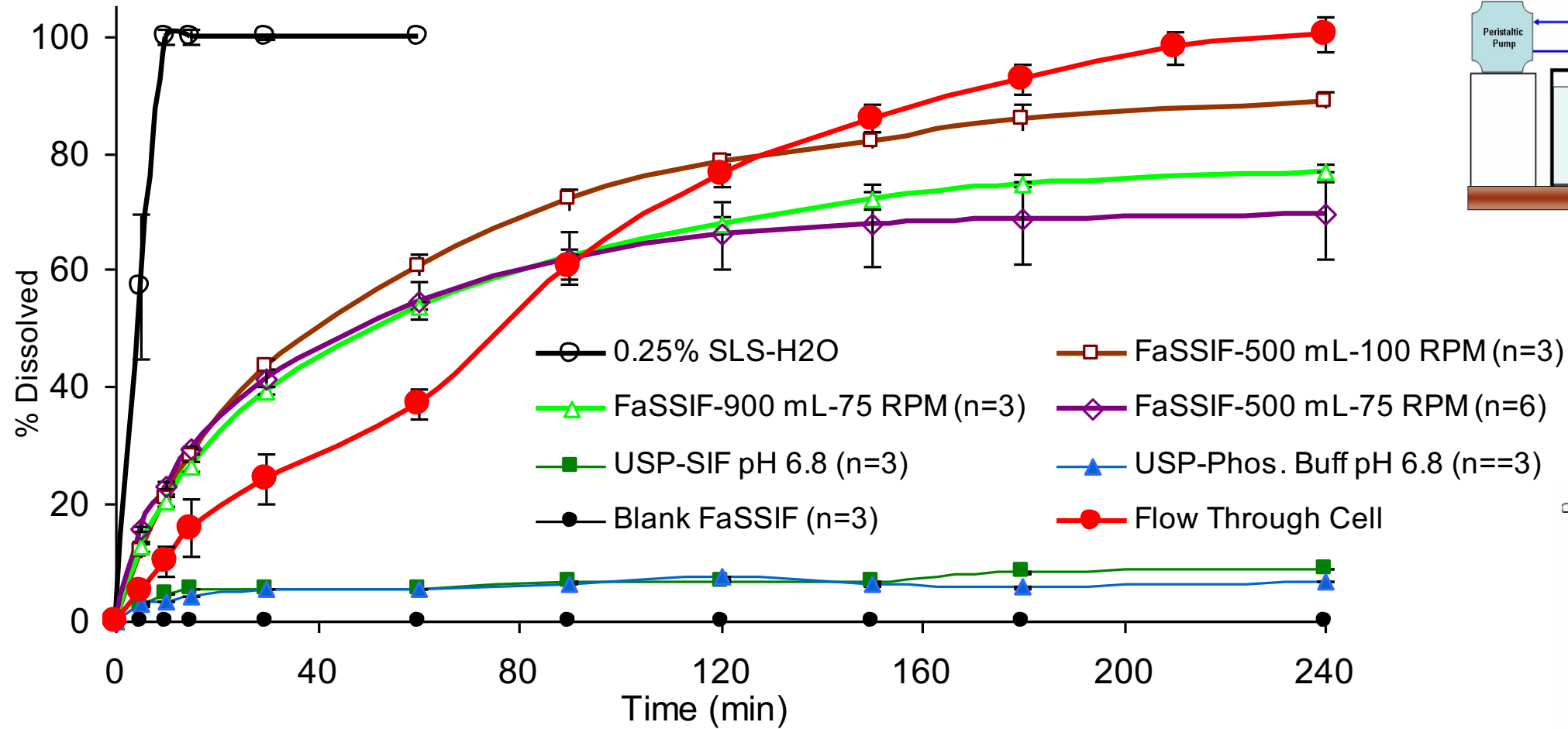
# Example: **Dissolution** controlled Absorption Dynamic Dissolution of Montelukast Sodium

- pKa = 3.1 and 5.7 Basic and Acetic
- logP = 7.01, **highly lipophilic**
- >99% bound to plasma proteins
- **Oral bioavailability variable** 58-70%  
(Cheng, et al 1996)

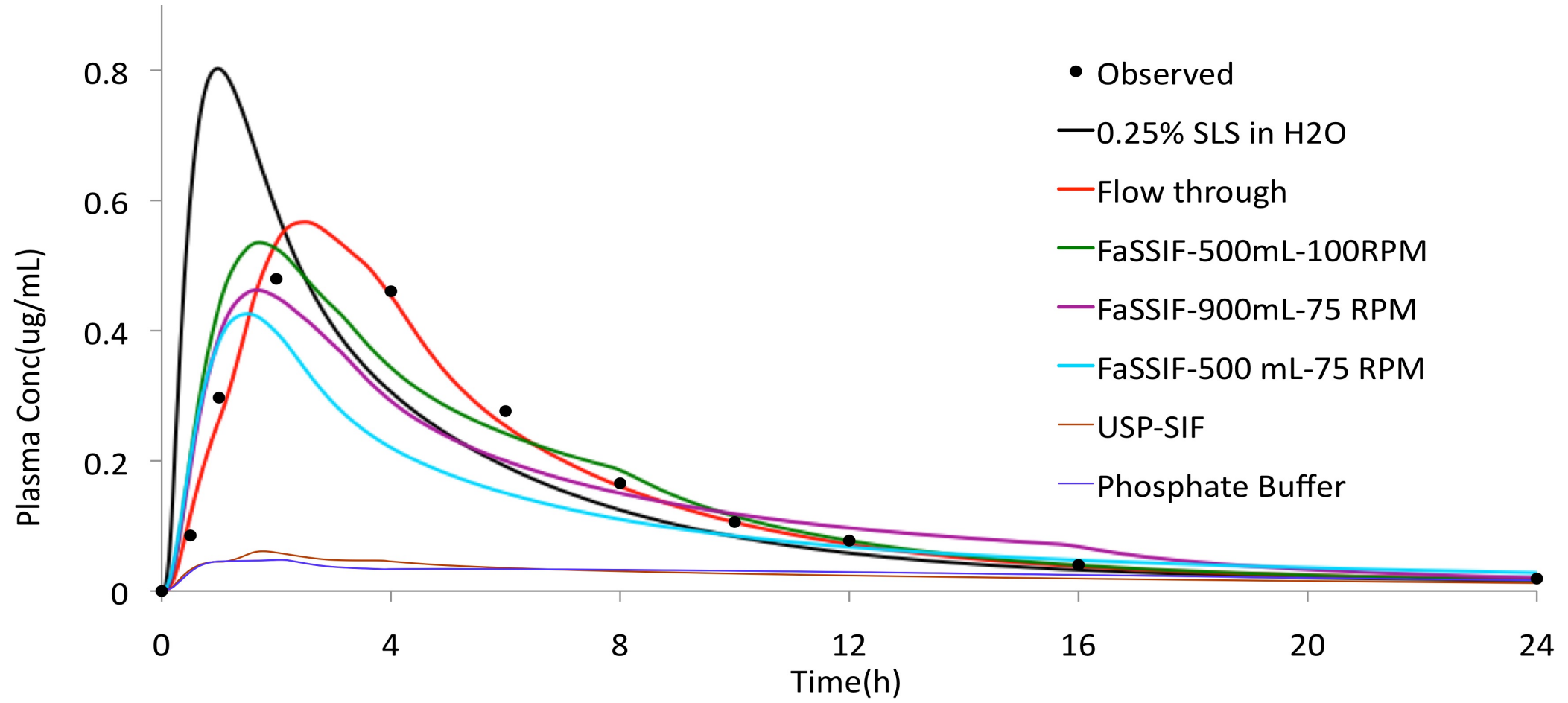


	pH	Solubility (mg/mL)	Dose (mg)	
			4	10
			Dose/solubility ratio	
SGF (without enzymes)	1.2	0.00018	27777.8	55555.6
SGF-0.25% SLS	2.0	0.240	16.7	41.7
Acetate Buffer	4.1	0.002	2500.0	5000.0
LQ-FeSSIF	5.0	0.030	133.3	333.3
HQ-FeSSIF	5.0	0.015	266.7	666.7
LQ-FaSSIF	6.5	0.020	200.0	500.0
HQ-FaSSIF	6.5	0.205	19.5	48.8
LQ-FaSSIF	7.5	3.370	1.2	3.0
HQ-FaSSIF	7.5	4.690	0.9	2.1

# Dissolution Profiles



# Simulations Results



# Dynamic Dissolution Testing To Establish *In Vitro/In Vivo* Correlations for Montelukast Sodium, a Poorly Soluble Drug

Arthur Okumu,<sup>1</sup> Marie DiMaso,<sup>2</sup> and Raimar Löbenberg<sup>1,3</sup>

*Pharmaceutical Research*, Vol. 25, No. 12,  
DOI: 10.1007/s11095-008-9642-z

*Received April 15, 2008; accepted May 28, 2008; published online June 17, 2008*

**Purpose.** The objectives of the study was to develop a dissolution test method that can be used to predict the oral absorption of montelukast sodium, and to establish an *in vitro/in vivo* correlation (IVIVC) using computer simulations.

**Methods.** Drug solubility was measured in different media. The dissolution behaviour of montelukast sodium 10 mg film coated tablets was studied using the flow-through cell dissolution method following a

Dynamic dissolution testing using the flow through cell seems to be a powerful tool to establish *in vitro/in vivo* correlations for poorly soluble drugs as input function into GastroPlus.

# An In Vivo Predictive Dissolution Methodology (iPD Methodology) with a BCS Class IIb Drug Can Predict the In Vivo Bioequivalence Results: Etoricoxib Products

by  Isabel Gonzalez-Alvarez <sup>1,2</sup>  ,  Marival Bermejo <sup>1,2,\*</sup>  ,  Yasuhiro Tsume <sup>1</sup> ,  
 Alejandro Ruiz-Picazo <sup>2</sup> ,  Marta Gonzalez-Alvarez <sup>2</sup>  ,  Bart Hens <sup>1</sup>  ,  
 Alfredo Garcia-Arieta <sup>3,†</sup>  ,  Greg E. Amidon <sup>1</sup>  and  Gordon L. Amidon <sup>1</sup> 

<sup>1</sup> Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA

<sup>2</sup> Department Engineering Pharmacy Section, Miguel Hernandez University, San Juan de Alicante, 03550 Alicante, Spain

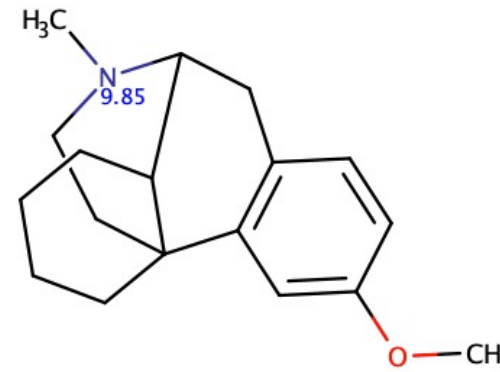
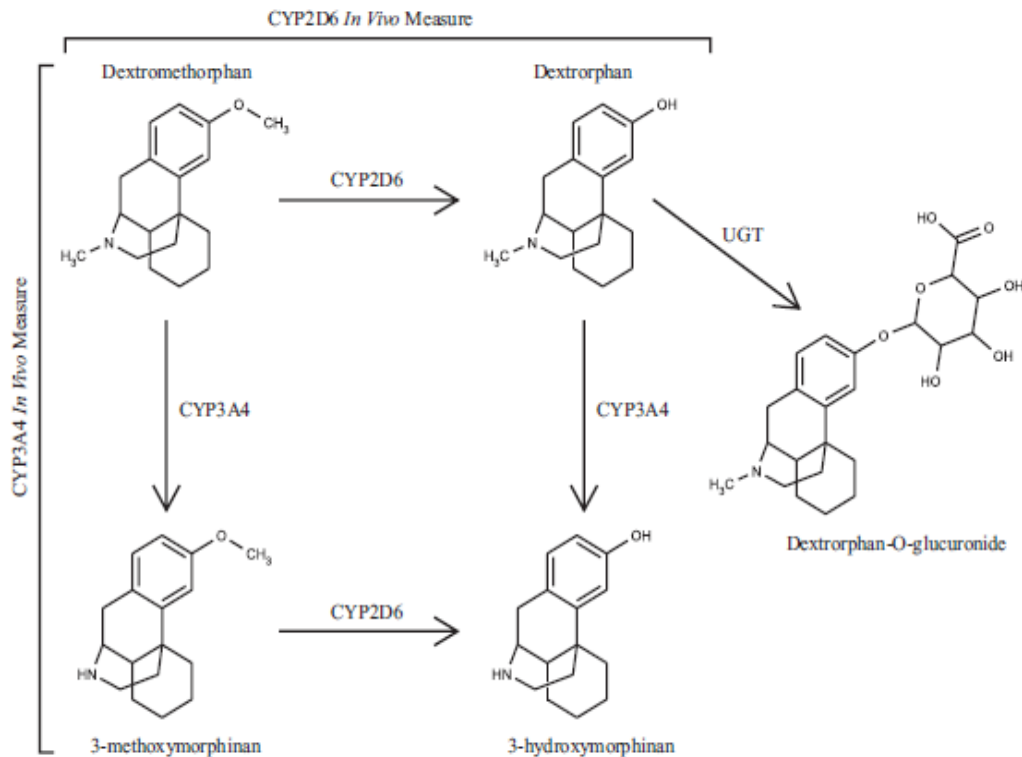
<sup>3</sup> División de Farmacología y Evaluación Clínica, Departamento de Medicamentos de Uso Humano, Agencia Española de Medicamentos y Productos Sanitarios, 28022 Madrid, Spain

\* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed.

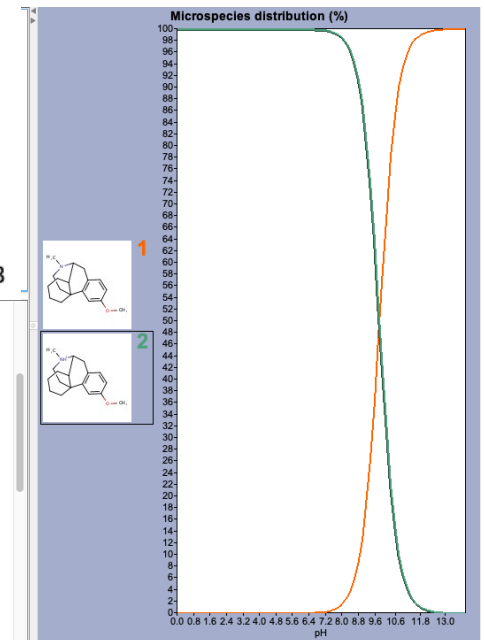
† This manuscript represents the personal opinion of the author and does not necessarily represent the views or policy of the Spanish Agency for Medicines and Health Care Products.

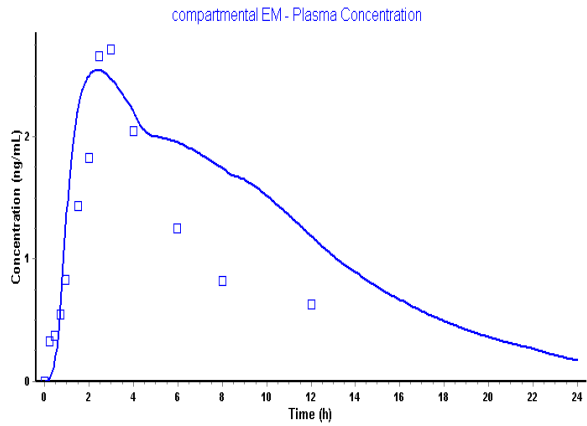
# Example: Lysosomal trapping of Dextromethorphan

- Weak bases with high pKa
- Pharmacokinetic differences EM/PM



2.80	0.00	100.00
3.00	0.00	100.00
3.20	0.00	100.00
3.40	0.00	100.00
3.60	0.00	100.00
3.80	0.00	100.00
4.00	0.00	100.00
4.20	0.00	100.00
4.40	0.00	100.00
4.60	0.00	100.00
4.80	0.00	100.00
5.00	0.00	100.00
5.20	0.00	100.00
5.40	0.00	100.00
5.60	0.01	99.99
5.80	0.01	99.99
6.00	0.01	99.99
6.20	0.02	99.98
6.40	0.04	99.96
6.60	0.06	99.94
6.80	0.09	99.91
7.00	0.14	99.86
7.20	0.23	99.77
7.40	0.36	99.64
7.60	0.56	99.44
7.80	0.80	99.11





DDDPlus(TM): dex.mdb (C:\Users\MSa...\Des...\SLP...)

File Database Simulation Setup Tools Modules Help

Formulation Experimental Setup Simulation

dextromethorphan

**Apparatus Type:**  
 USP Flow Thru  
 Closed Loop  Open Loop

**Experimental Parameters:**

- Fluid Flow Rate (ml/min): 100
- Medium Volume (mL): 900
- Medium Viscosity (g/cm<sup>2</sup>s): 0.007
- Medium pH: 7.8
- Fluid Velocity (cm/s): 166.667
- Medium Type: USP Phosphate Buffer 7.8

Experiment Phase  
Medium Composition

IVIVCPlus(TM)

File Objective Function Weighting

In Vitro Data In Vivo Data **IVIVC** Convolution

**Drug Records:**

- PD 30mg EM Gorski
- PD 30mg PM Gorski
- compartmental groski
- IVIVC EM

**Deconvolution Methods:**

- Mechanistic Absorption Model (GastroPlus)
- Numerical Deconvolution
- Loo-Riegelman (3-compartment model)
- Loo-Riegelman (2-compartment model)
- Wagner-Nelson (1-compartment model)

**IVIVC Procedure**

- Deconvolute Then Correlate  Correlate Directly (1 Step)

**Correlation Function:**

- Select All
- Linear
- Power Function
- Second Order Polynomial
- Third Order Polynomial

**Status Window:**

Power Function:  
 $y = 16.19 * (x)^{5.238}$   
 where x = Fraction in vitro release and y = Fraction absolute bioavailability

**Plot:**

Cursor Pos.: X: 14.94 Y: -24.07

X-axis: Time

Y-axis: Plasma Concentration

- Plasma Concentration
- Systemic Fraction
- Fraction Absolute Bioav.
- In Vitro Release
- Area Under Curve (AUC)

Other type of plot:  
 Levy Plot

Y-axis scaling:  
 Logarithmic Scale  Linear Scale  Hide Legend

Deconvolute Form Correlation Stop Save IVIVC

DDDPlus(TM): C:\Users\MSarfra\...\Desktop\SLP\_Workspace\dex.mdb

File Chart

R<sup>2</sup> Active Ing = NA

Plotting Options:

- Select Curves
- Refresh Curve
- dextromethorphan Percent Dissolved
- dextromethorphan Amt. Diss. vs. Time
- Particle Size Distribution
- pH vs. Time

Mouse X,Y Position:  
 Left Y-Axis  Right Y-Axis  
 X: 1.331E3 Y: 1.133

Clear Plot

**dextromethorphan**

Percent Dissolved (%)

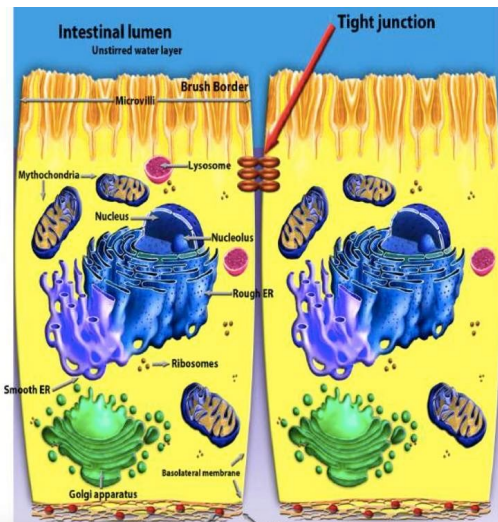
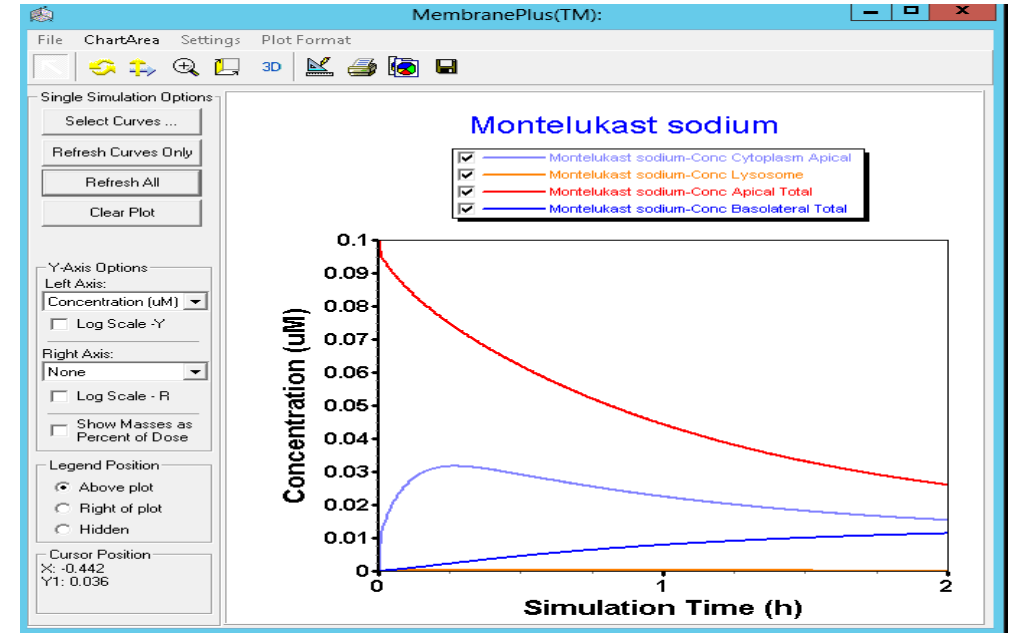
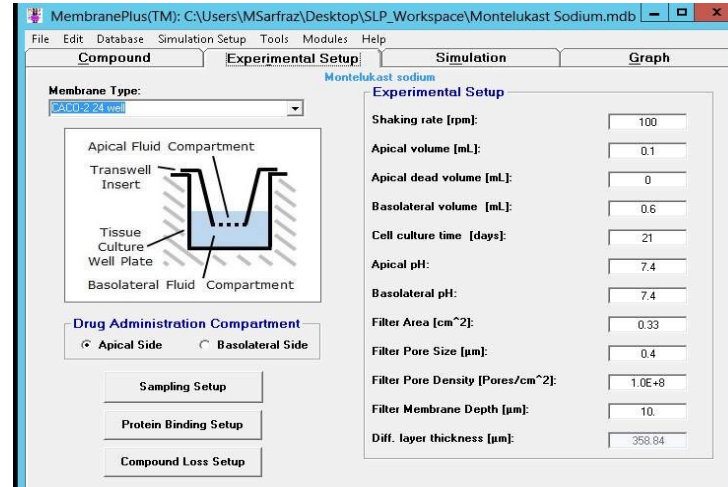
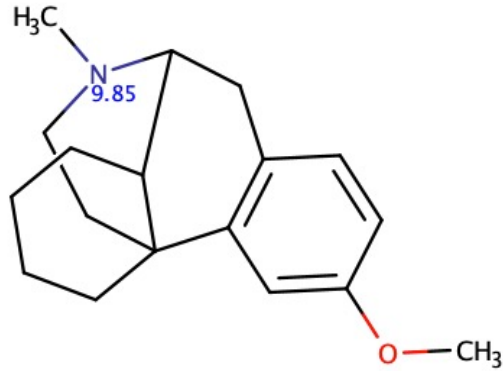
Time (min)

Legend:  dextromethorphan-% Diss.

dextromethorphan Fixed pH OFF MicroClimate pH ON Auto Calculate Porosity ON 12:25:26 PM



# Membrane Plus simulations

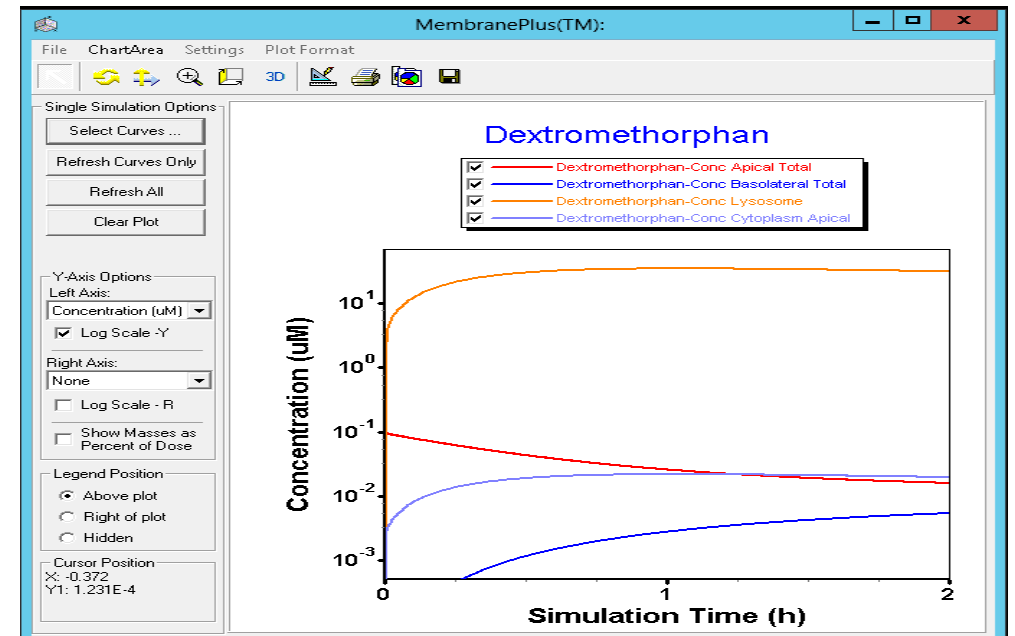
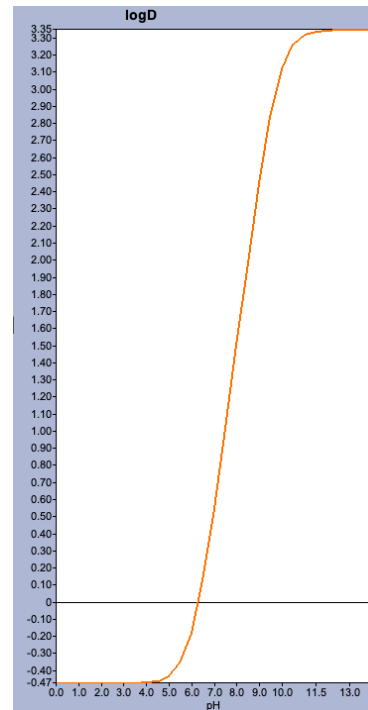


Gut: pH 5.5 -7.0

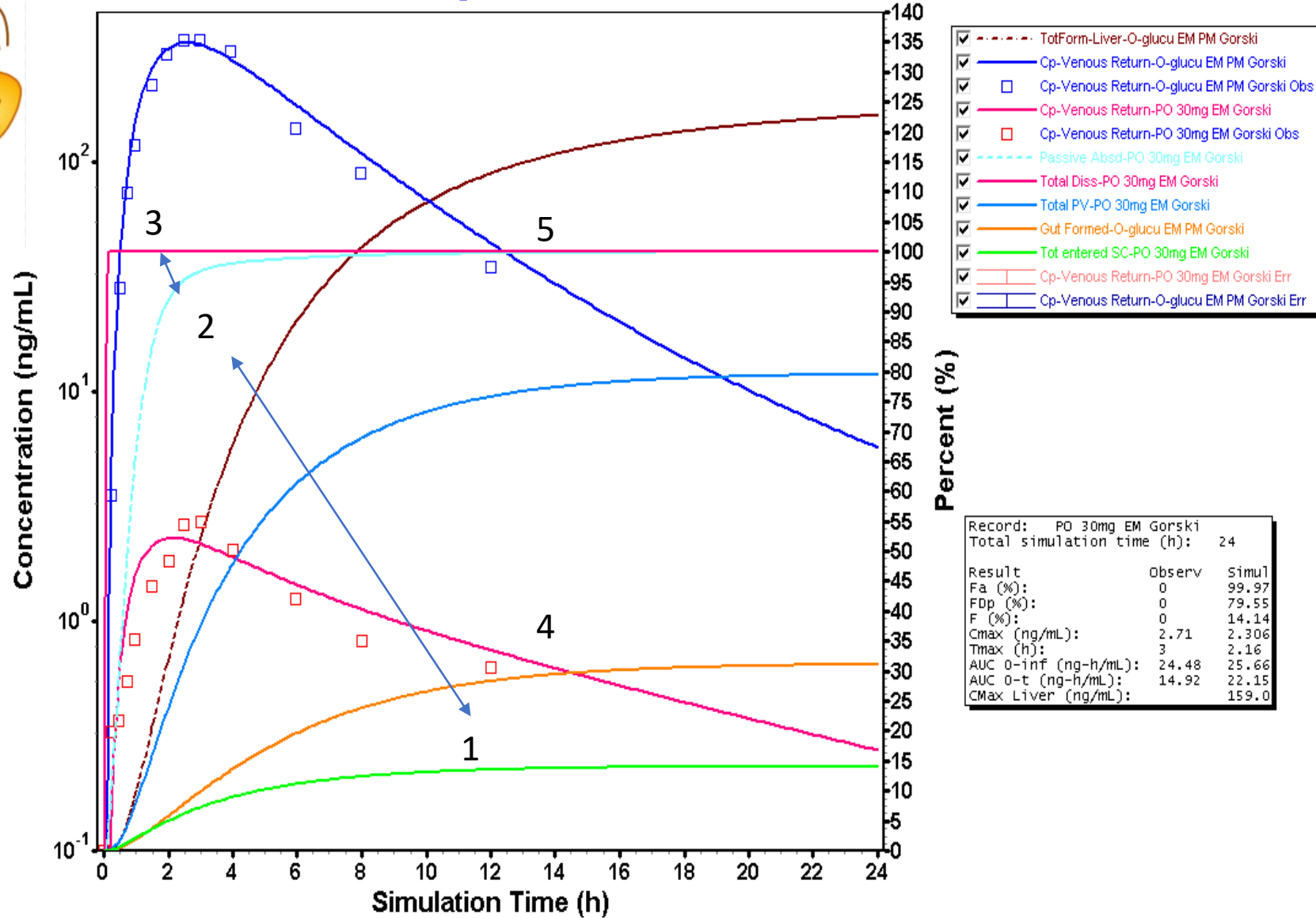
Cytoplasm pH 7

Lysosome:  
pH 4.5 -5.5

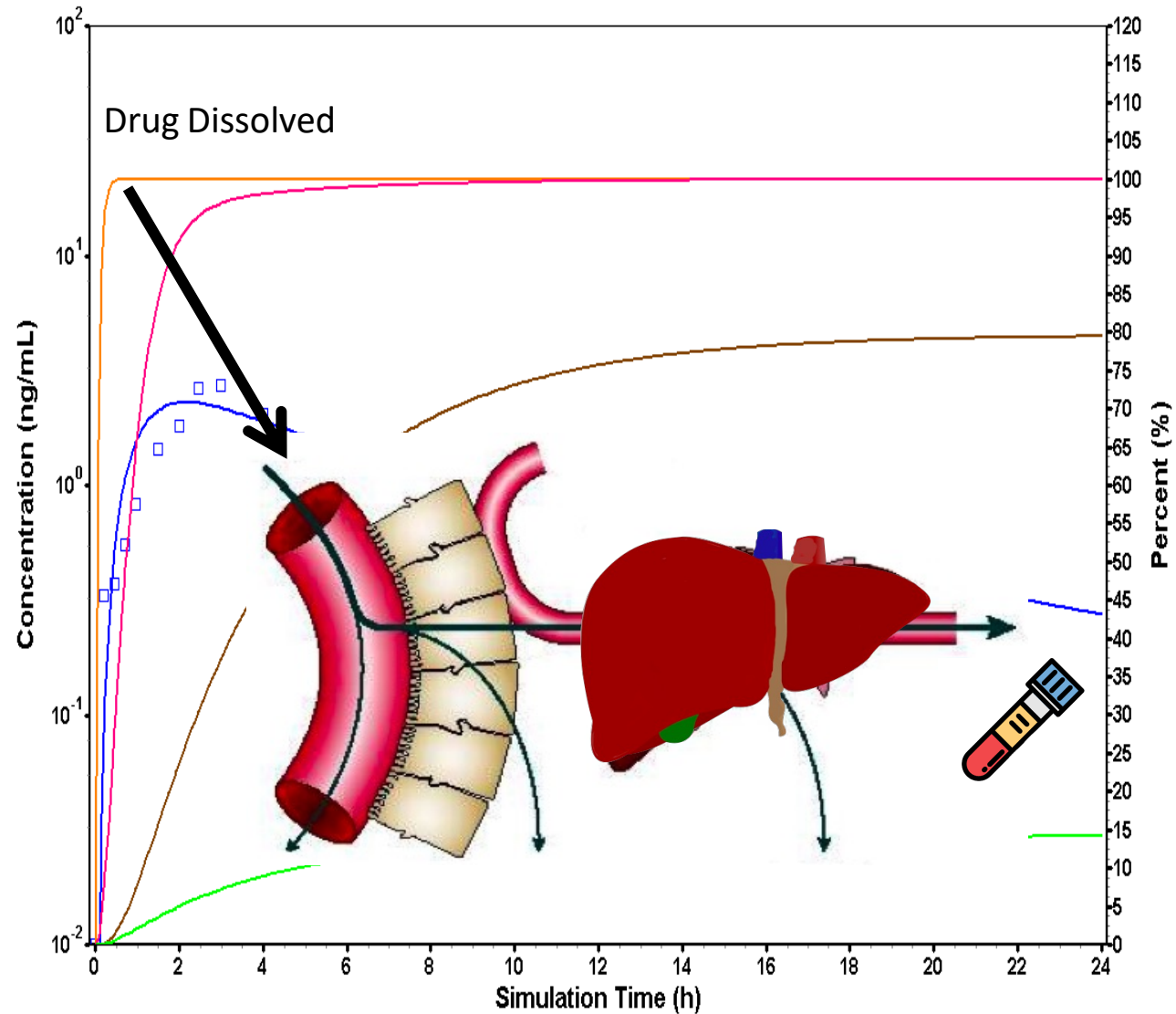
Blood 7.4



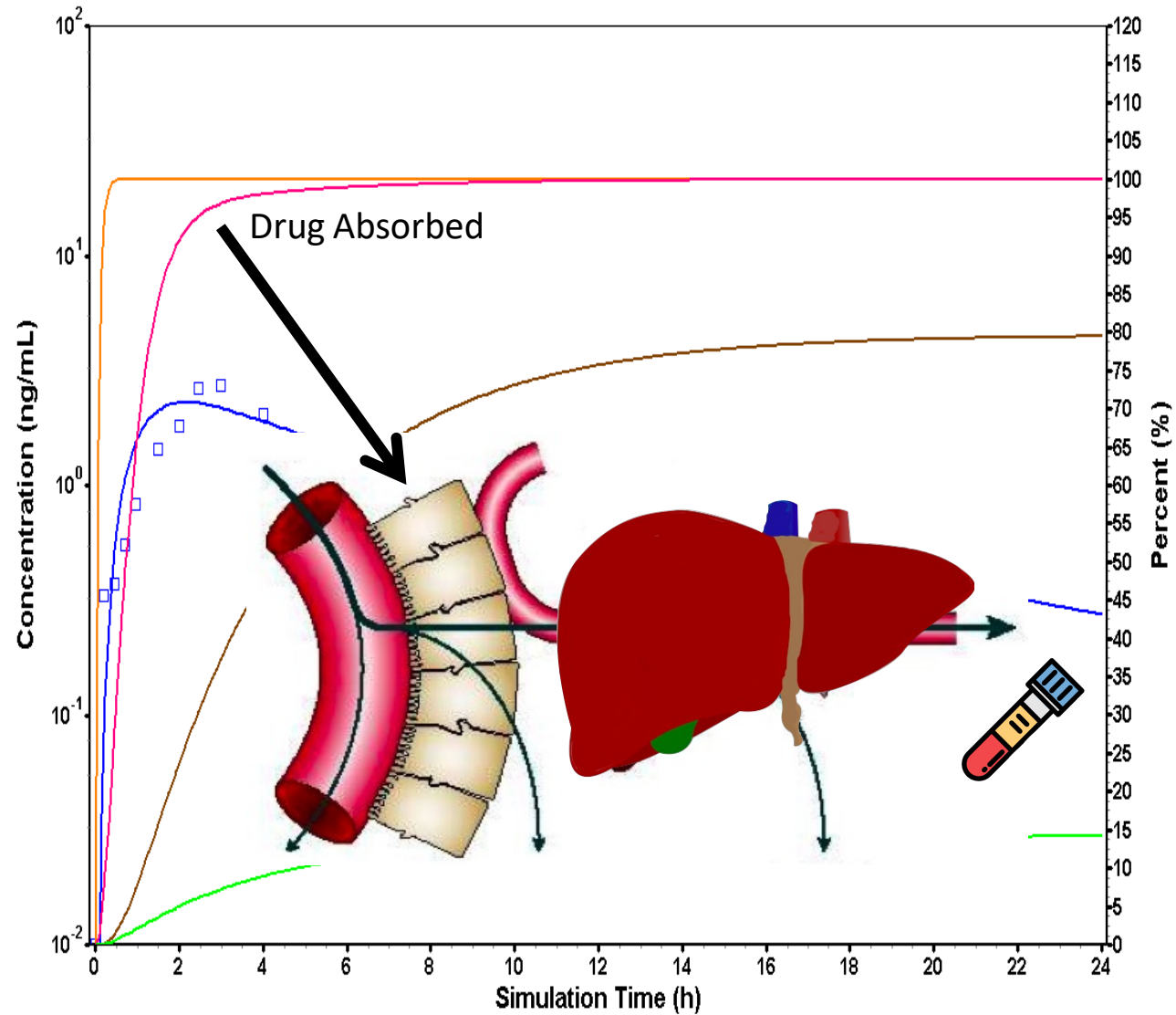
# Simulation of PO 30mg EM Gorski study



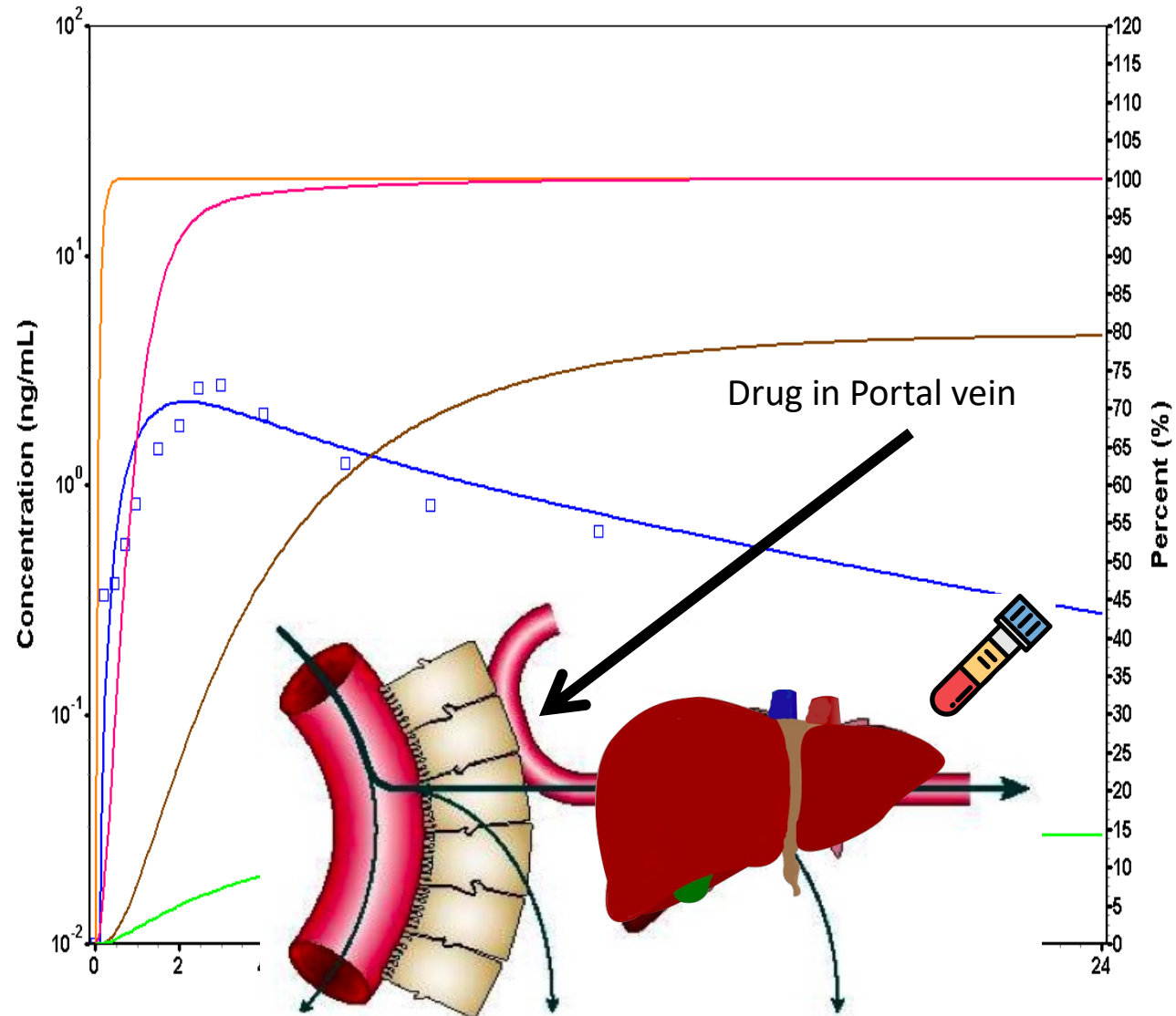
# Dextromethorphan in Extensive metabolizers



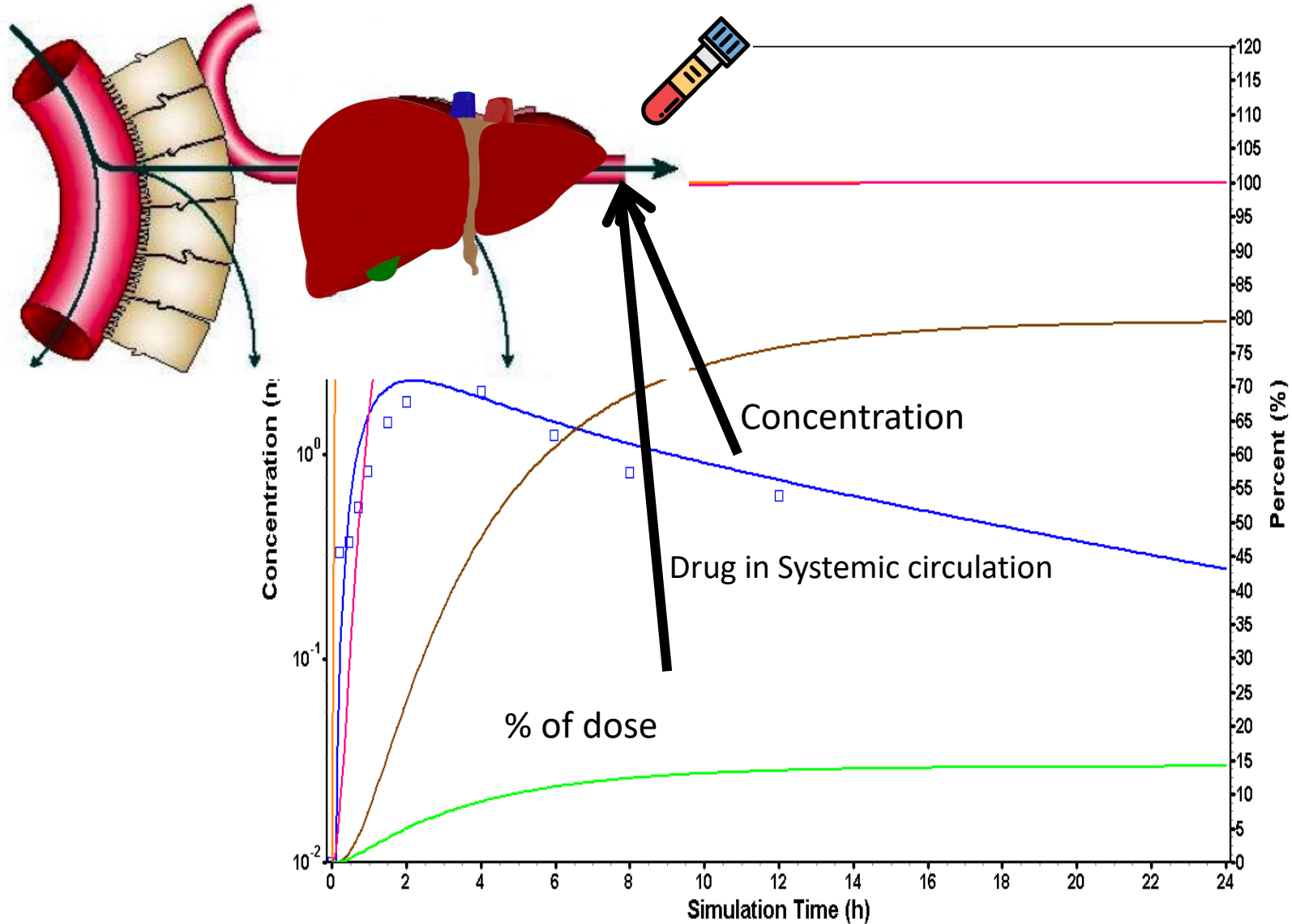
# Dextromethorphan in Extensive metabolizers



# Dextromethorphan in Extensive metabolizers



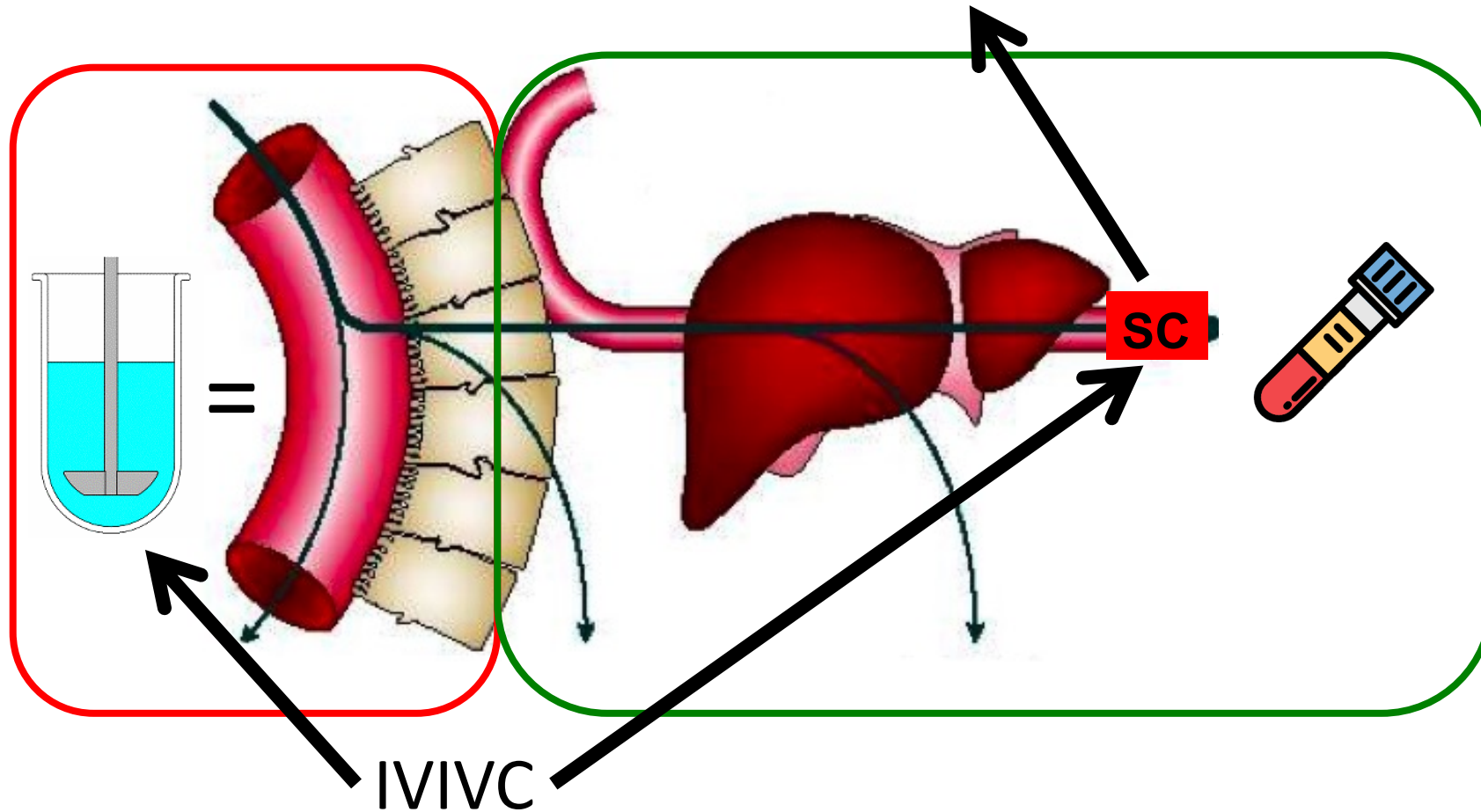
# Dextromethorphan in Extensive metabolizers



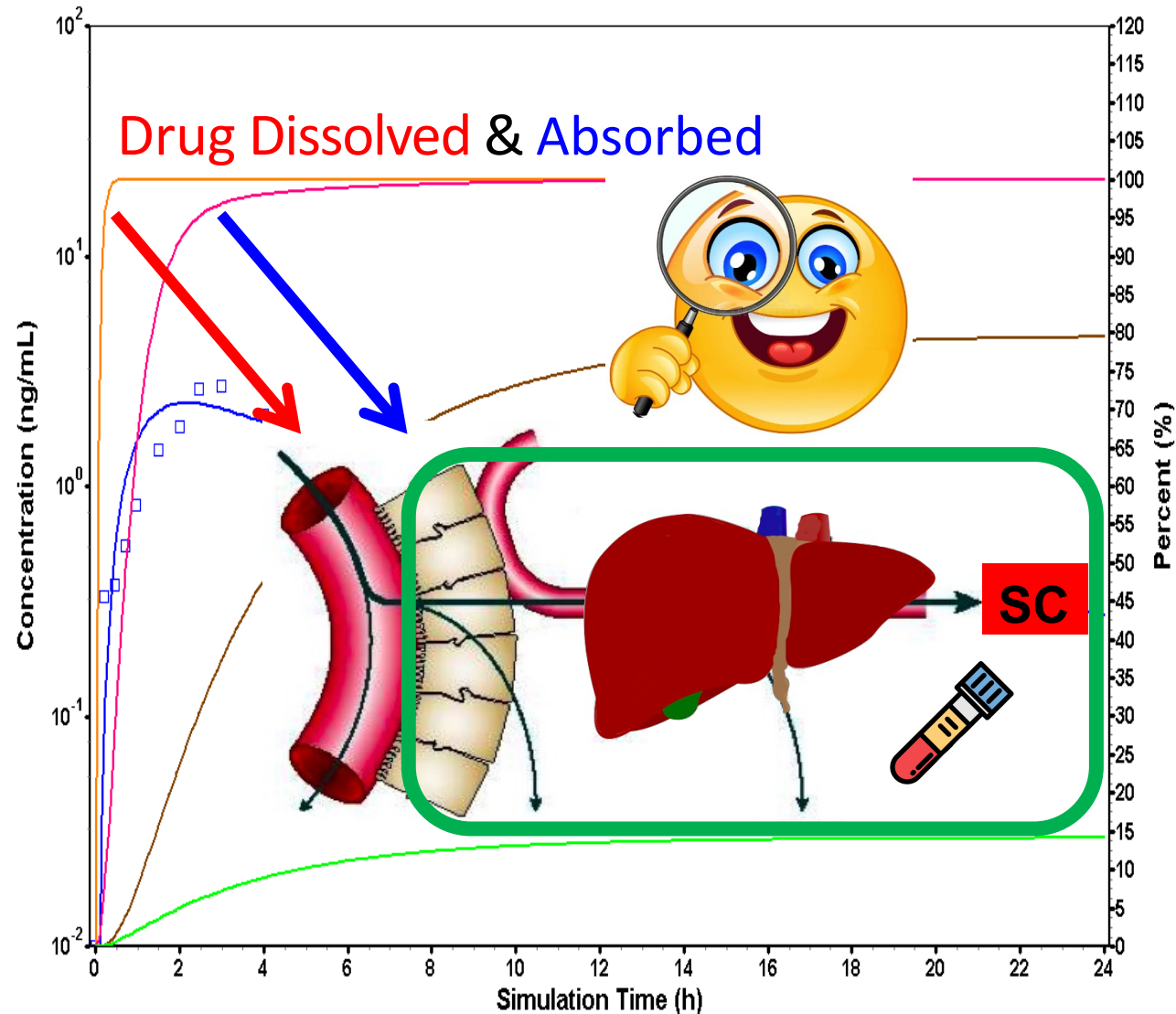
# Classical PK model

Wagner Nelson:

$$D_0 = D_{\text{body}} + D_{\text{urine}} + D_{\text{not Abs}}$$
$$\% D_{\text{Abs}} = D_{\text{body}} + D_{\text{urine}}$$



# Dosage form impact is limited to the gut lumen / enterocyte interface!!!







Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

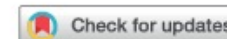
Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences

journal homepage: [www.jpharmsci.org](http://www.jpharmsci.org)



Pharmaceutics, Drug Delivery and Pharmaceutical Technology

## The Irrelevance of *In Vitro* Dissolution in Setting Product Specifications for Drugs Like Dextromethorphan That are Subject to Lysosomal Trapping



Michael B. Bolger<sup>1,2</sup>, Joyce S. Macwan<sup>1</sup>, Muhammad Sarfraz<sup>3,4</sup>, May Almukainzi<sup>5</sup>, Raimar Löbenberg<sup>3,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Simulations Plus, Inc., Lancaster, California 93534

<sup>2</sup> USC School of Pharmacy, Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Los Angeles, California 90089

<sup>3</sup> Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E1 Canada

<sup>4</sup> College of Pharmacy, Al Ain University of Science and Technology, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

<sup>5</sup> College of Pharmacy, Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**For this class of drug, the rate of in vitro and in vivo dissolution is not a sensitive factor in determining bioequivalence.**

This study shows that dissolution and the rate of absorption into the enterocytes are clinically irrelevant for the performance of DEX immediate release product. **An understanding of the entire underlying mechanistic processes of drug disposition is needed to define clinically relevant product specifications for DEX.**

# Sub-cellular sequestration of alkaline drugs in lysosomes: new insights for pharmaceutical development of lysosomal fluid

Malaz Yousef<sup>1,2</sup>, Tyson S. Le<sup>1</sup>, Jieyu Zuo<sup>1</sup>, Chulhun Park<sup>3</sup>, Nadia Bou Chacra<sup>4</sup>,  
Neal M. Davies<sup>1,\*</sup>, and Raimar Löbenberg<sup>1,\*</sup>

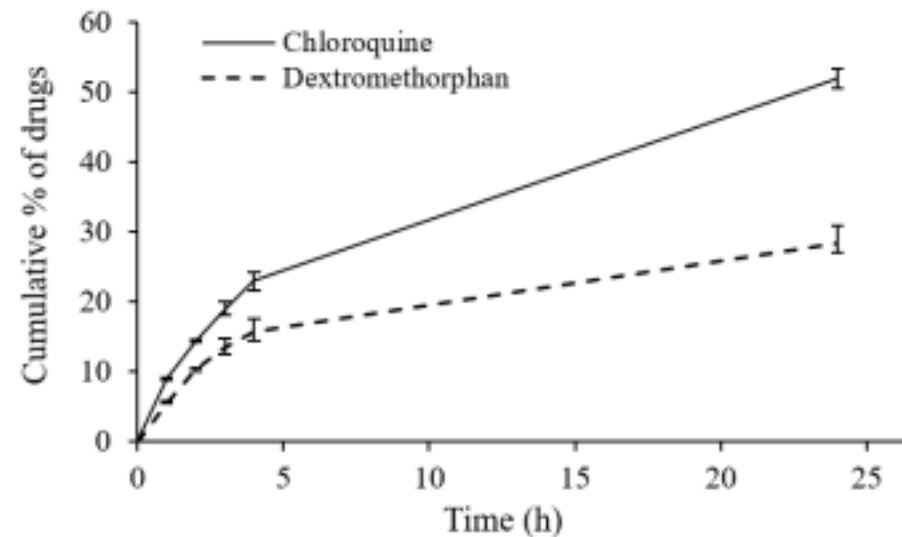
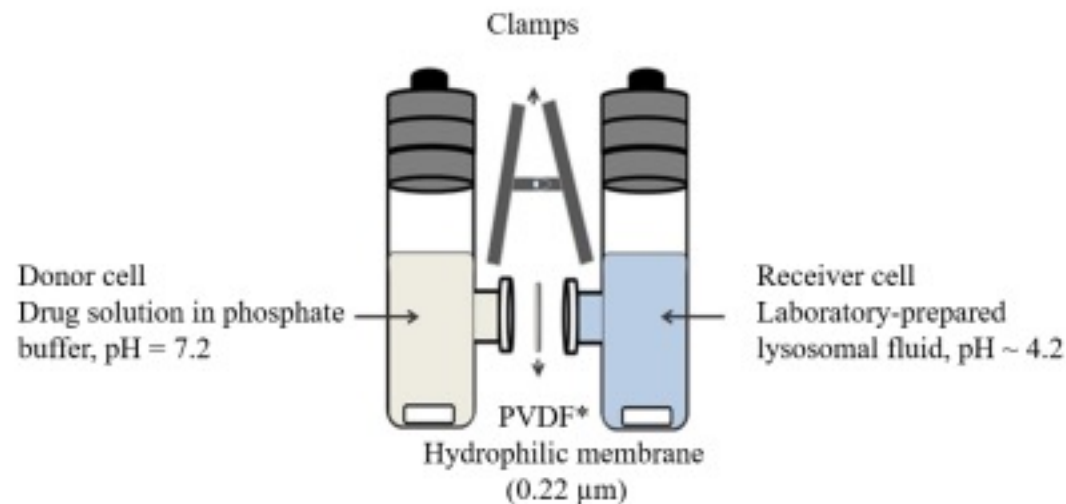
<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

<sup>2</sup>Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Khartoum, Khartoum, Sudan.

<sup>3</sup>College of Pharmacy, Jeju National University, Jeju 63243, South Korea.

<sup>4</sup>Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The obtained result helps fill the void with a lysosomal fluid that can be used to examine various factors related to pharmaceutical product performance including dissolution, solubility, and disposition which are relevant and necessary parts of drug and product development.



# Enteric Coated Dosage Forms

European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics 142 (2019) 8–19



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejpb](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejpb)



Review article

Simulated, biorelevant, clinically relevant or physiologically relevant dissolution media: The hidden role of bicarbonate buffer

Daniela Amaral Silva<sup>a</sup>, Jozef Al-Gousous<sup>b</sup>, Neal M. Davies<sup>a</sup>, Nadia Bou Chacra<sup>c</sup>, Gregory K. Webster<sup>d</sup>, Elke Lipka<sup>e</sup>, Gordon Amidon<sup>b</sup>, Raimar Löbenberg<sup>a,\*</sup>



Considerable discrepancies between phosphate and **bicarbonate buffer** dissolution results have been reported for certain dosage forms, e.g. **enteric coated formulations**. The role and need of bicarbonate-based buffers in quality control testing requires scientific analysis.

1946



Canadian Medical Association  
Journal  
Volume 55, Issue 5,  
1946, Pages 445-447

# THE ABSORPTION OF ENTERIC-COATED AMMONIUM CHLORIDE

By Frances L. Selye, M.D.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. In a small percentage of cases enteric-coated ammonium chloride tablets pass unchanged through the gastro-intestinal tract.

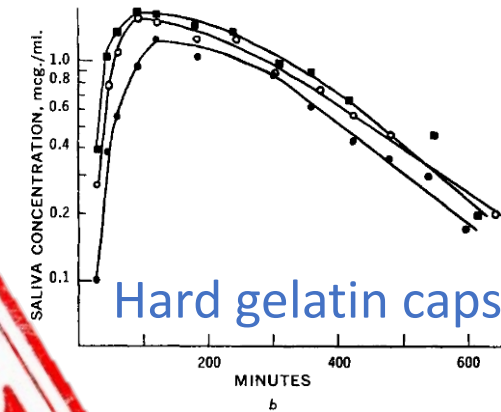
2. In a larger percentage of cases, and in both healthy young adults tested, prolonged administration of such tablets results in no acidosis although the tablets are destroyed before excretion, presumably at a level too low in the intestinal tract to allow effective absorption.

3. Ammonium chloride when administered in a gelatin-coated tablet is invariably absorbed and only rarely not well tolerated.



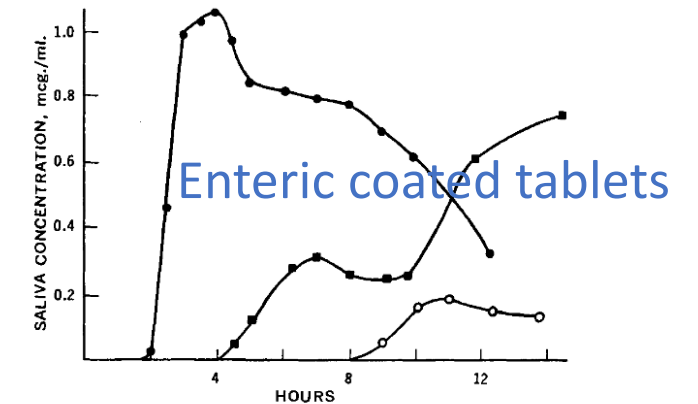
1972

## Concentration of salicylic acid in saliva



Hard gelatin capsules

Concentrations of salicylic acid in saliva following the administration of 650 mg. aspirin in hard gelatin capsules on three different occasions. Blood samples were also taken in one experiment (●). Key: a, Subject 1; and b, Subject 2.



Enteric coated tablets

Figure 4—Concentrations of salicylic acid in saliva of three subjects following the administration of 650 mg. aspirin in enteric-coated tablets.



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejpb](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejpb)

Research paper

## Mechanistic analysis and experimental verification of bicarbonate-controlled enteric coat dissolution: Potential *in vivo* implications

J. Al-Gousous<sup>a,\*,1</sup>, H. Ruan<sup>a,b,1</sup>, J.A. Blechar<sup>c</sup>, K.X. Sun<sup>a</sup>, N. Salehi<sup>d</sup>, P. Langguth<sup>c</sup>, N.M. Job<sup>a</sup>, E. Lipka<sup>e</sup>, R. Loebenberg<sup>f</sup>, M. Bermejo<sup>g</sup>, G.E. Amidon<sup>a</sup>, G.L. Amidon<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> College of Pharmacy, University of Michigan, 428 Church Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA

<sup>b</sup> Department of Chemical Drug, Zhejiang Institute for Food and Drug Control, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310052, China

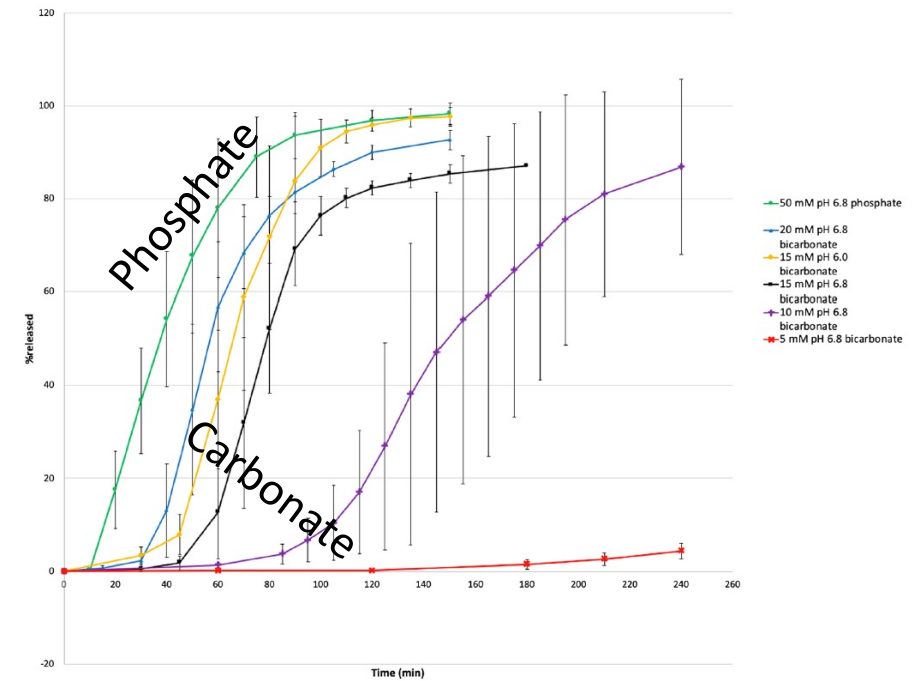
<sup>c</sup> Institute of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Staudingerweg 5, 55128 Mainz, Germany

<sup>d</sup> Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Michigan, 300 Hayward St, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA

<sup>e</sup> TSRL Inc., 540 Avis Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA

<sup>f</sup> Faculty of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H7, Canada

<sup>g</sup> Department of Engineering, Pharmacy Section, Miguel Hernandez University, San Juan de Alicante, 03550 Alicante, Spain



These results demonstrate the importance of thoroughly investigating the intestinal bicarbonate concentrations and using bicarbonate buffers or properly designed surrogates (if possible) when evaluating enteric drug products during product development and quality control.

rapid to reach equilibrium in the diffusion layer surrounding a dissolving ionizable solid. This results in the effective pKa of bicarbonate in the diffusion layer being lower than that determined potentiometrically at



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Controlled Release

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel)

Table 4

USP tolerance specification for drug release in the buffer stage and percent released in PB and BCB.

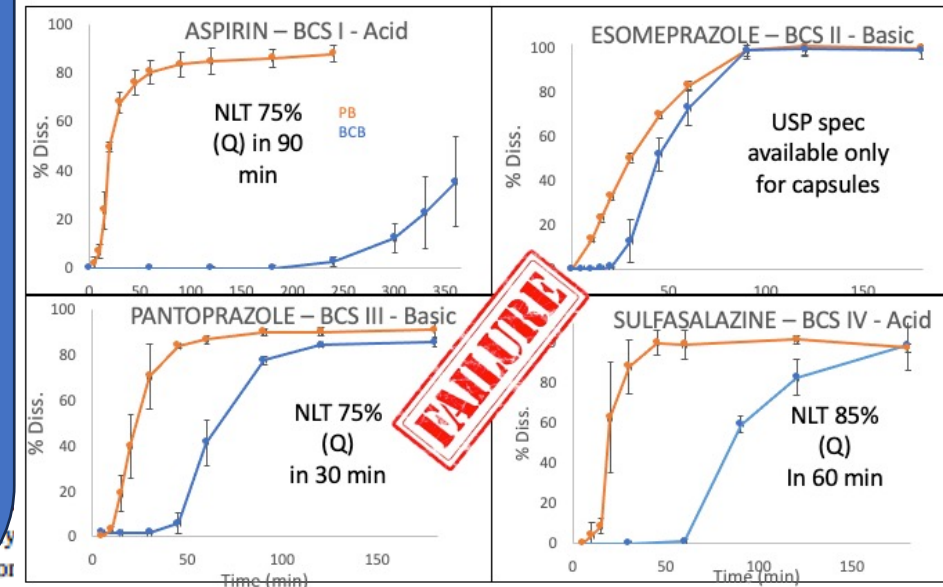
Drug	USP tolerance specification	Q (%) at the specified time	
		PB	BCB
Aspirin	NLT 75% in 90 minutes	83.4%	0.0%
Pantoprazole sodium	NLT 75% in 30 minutes	78.6%	1.80%
Sulfasalazine	NLT 85% in 60 minutes	99.3%	1.10%
Diclofenac sodium	NLT 75% in 45 minutes	90.4%	0.40%
Esomeprazole magnesium*	N/A	N/A	N/A

## Mechanistic understanding of underperforming enteric coated products: Opportunities to add clinical relevance to the dissolution test

All formulations displayed a fast release in phosphate buffer and complied with the compendial performance specifications. On the other hand, they all had a much slower drug release in bicarbonate buffer and failed the USP acceptance criteria. Also, the nature of the drug (acid vs base) impacted the dissolution behavior in BCB.

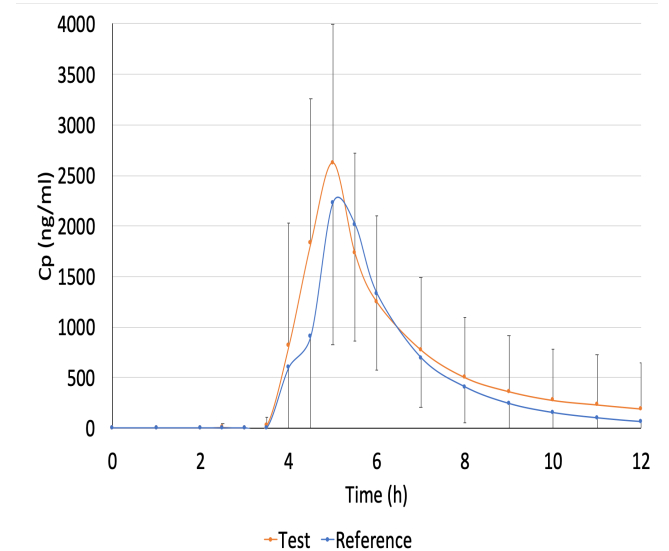
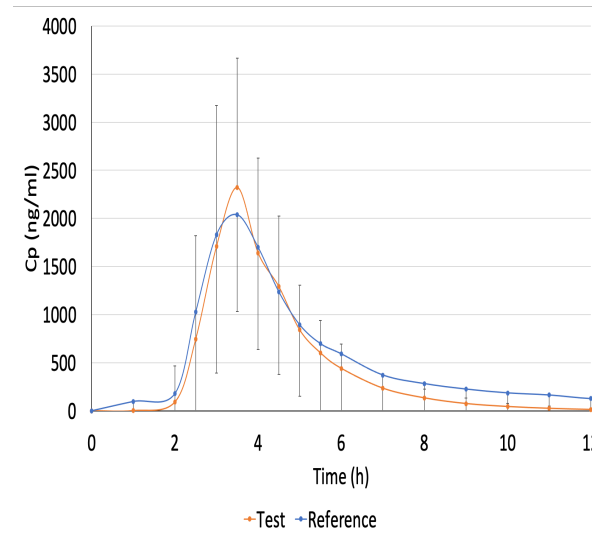
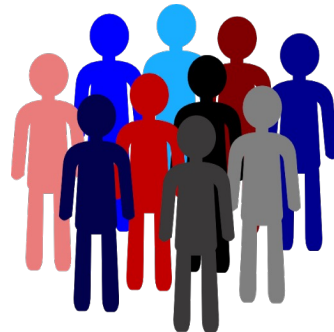
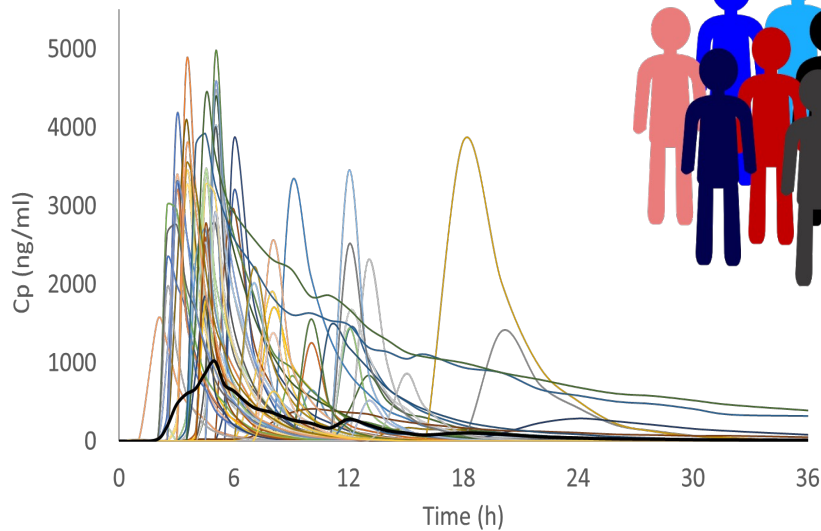
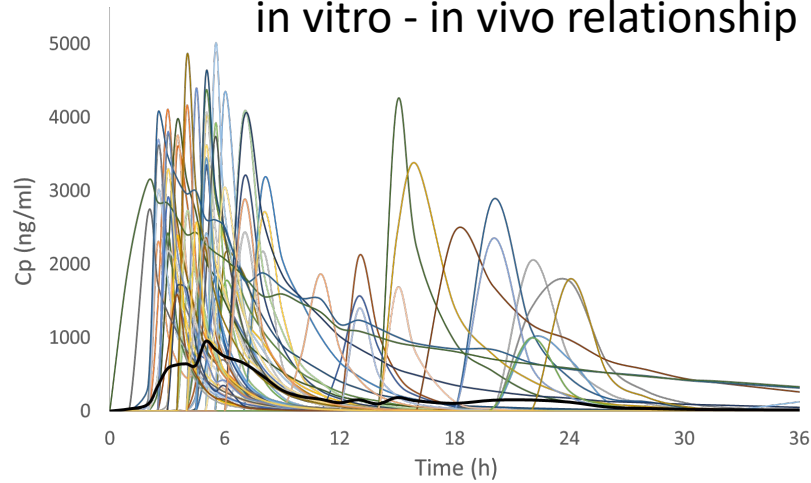
This pilot study indicates that **compendial dissolution test for enteric coated tablets lacks physiological relevance** and it needs to be re-evaluated.

Thus, an in vivo relevant performance method for EC products is needed.



# Analysis of a failed in vivo BE study of Pantoprazole

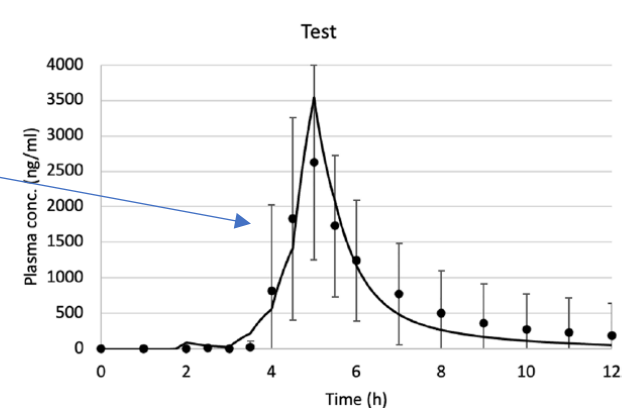
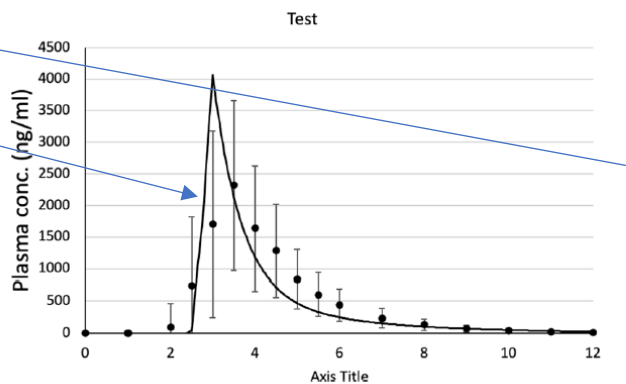
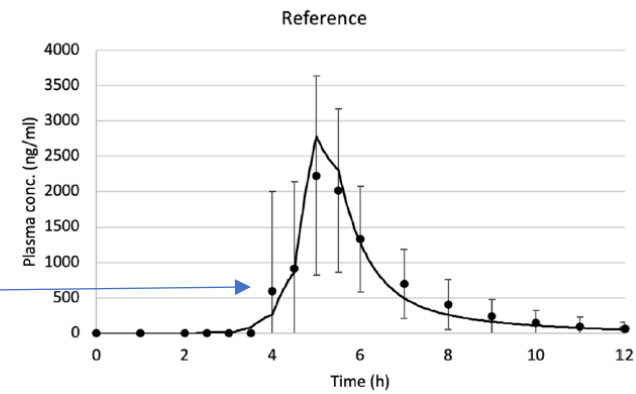
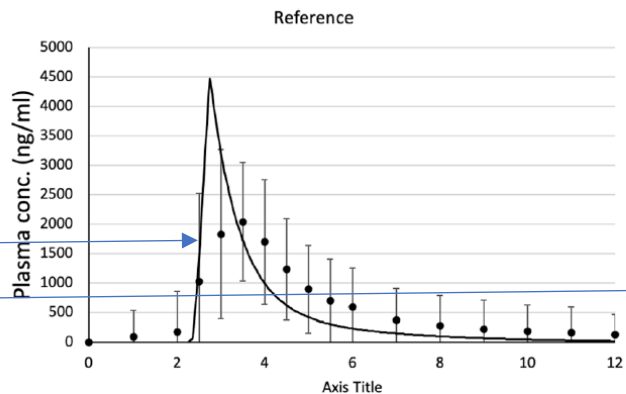
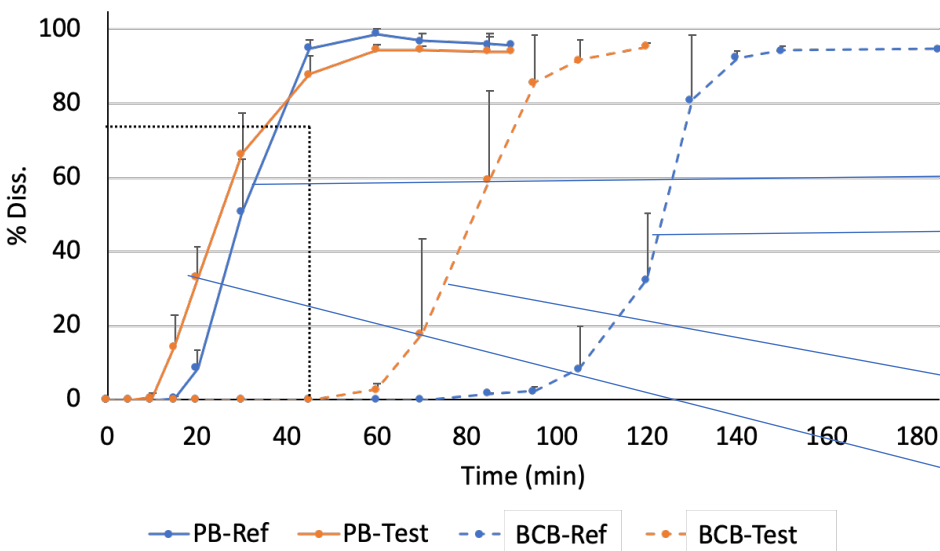
In this study we investigated the use of in vitro biopredictive dissolution conditions together with alternative in vitro - in vivo relationship (IVIVR) approaches to support the development of EC formulations.



Number of subjects per Tmax cohort for test and reference fo

Tmax cohort	Number of subjects	
	Reference	Test
<b>Cohort 1 (2.0-3.5h)</b>	21	17
<b>Cohort 2 (4.0-5.5h)</b>	22	22
<b>Cohort 3 (After 6.0)</b>	27	31
<b>Total</b>	70	70

# Analysis of a failed in vivo BE study of Pantoprazole



Convolution validation statistics for Test and Reference.

	Cmax (ng/mL)		% Pred error	AUC (ng/mL*h)		% Pred error	Rsqr	SEP	MAE	AIC
	Obs.	Pred.		Obs.	Pred.					
Reference Cohort 1 (PB)	2037	4472	119.5	6668	5165	22.5	0.766	467.8	341	259.2
Test Cohort 1 (PB)	2321	4064	75.1	5388	4900	9.05	0.723	636.2	314.2	269.7
Reference Cohort 2 (BCB)	2227	2774	24.5	5435	5176	4.7	0.952	183.6	109.9	227.4
Test Cohort 2 (BCB)	2624	3538	34.8	6546	5940	9.2	0.909	294.1	204.8	243.4

BCB: Bicarbonate buffer; PB: Phosphate buffer.





ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## International Journal of Pharmaceutics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpharm)



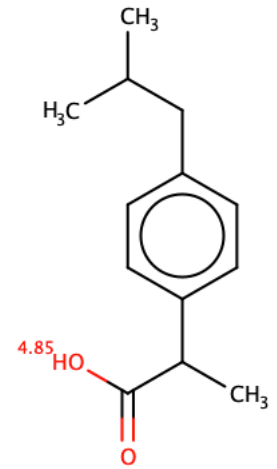
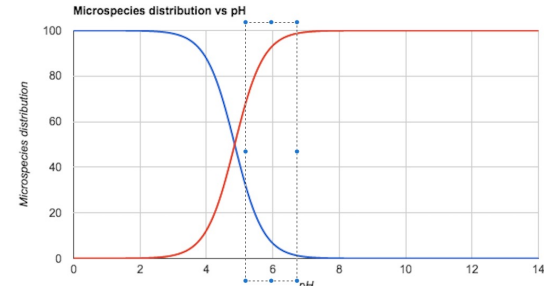
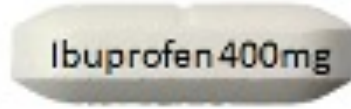
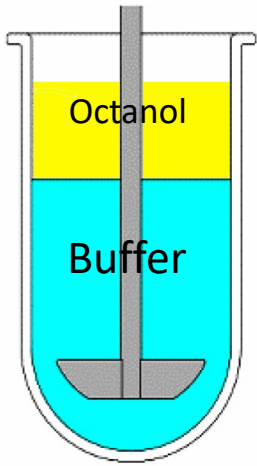
Physiologically relevant dissolution conditions towards improved in vitro - in vivo relationship – A case study with enteric coated pantoprazole tablets

Daniela Amaral Silva <sup>a,1</sup>, Marcelo Gomes Davanço <sup>b,1</sup>, Neal M. Davies <sup>a</sup>, Johannes Krämer <sup>c</sup>,  
Patricia de Oliveira Carvalho <sup>b</sup>, Raimar Löbenberg <sup>a,\*</sup>



**Incorporating physiological aspects into the in vitro dissolution method can give a better mechanistic understanding of a formulation's in vivo performance.** Using physiologically relevant in vitro data in combination with compendial results might be a powerful approach to develop a formulation that can have an optimized performance in different population groups, increasing the likelihood for a successful BE study and for a robust formulation development process.

# BIPHASIC – Dissolution Ibuprofen

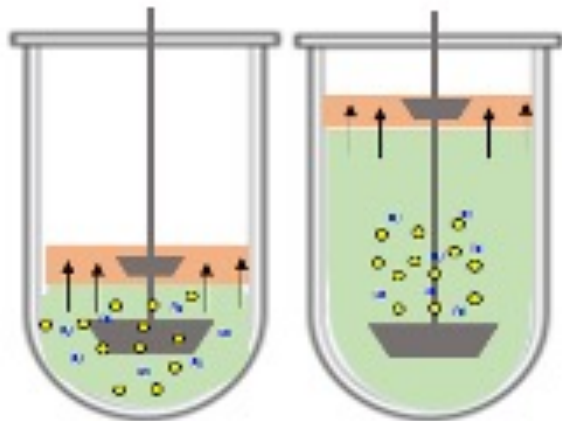


Wet granulation

Direct compression

MCC Dextrose CaHPO<sub>4</sub> CaSO<sub>4</sub>

MCC Dextrose CaHPO<sub>4</sub> CaSO<sub>4</sub>

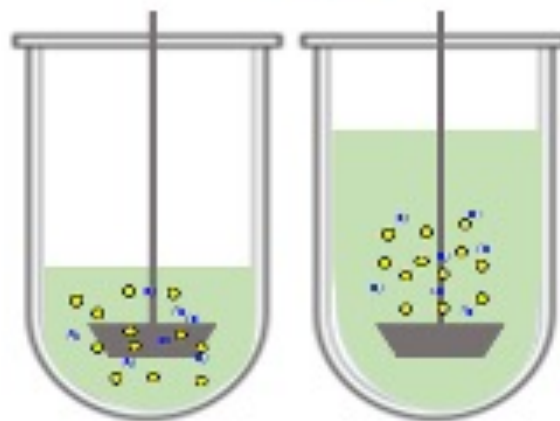


200mL

900mL

**BIPHASIC DISSOLUTION**

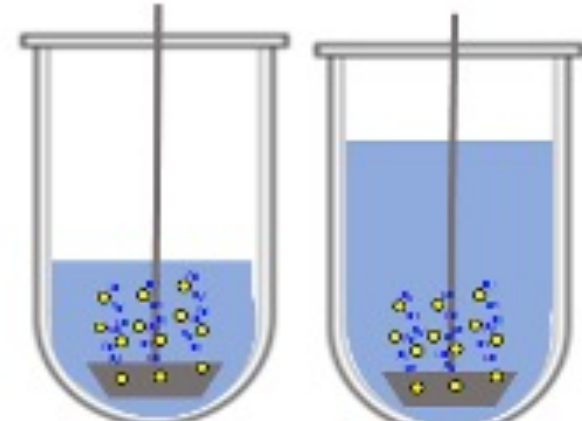
Phosphate buffer 5mM + Octanol



200mL

900mL

Phosphate buffer 5mM

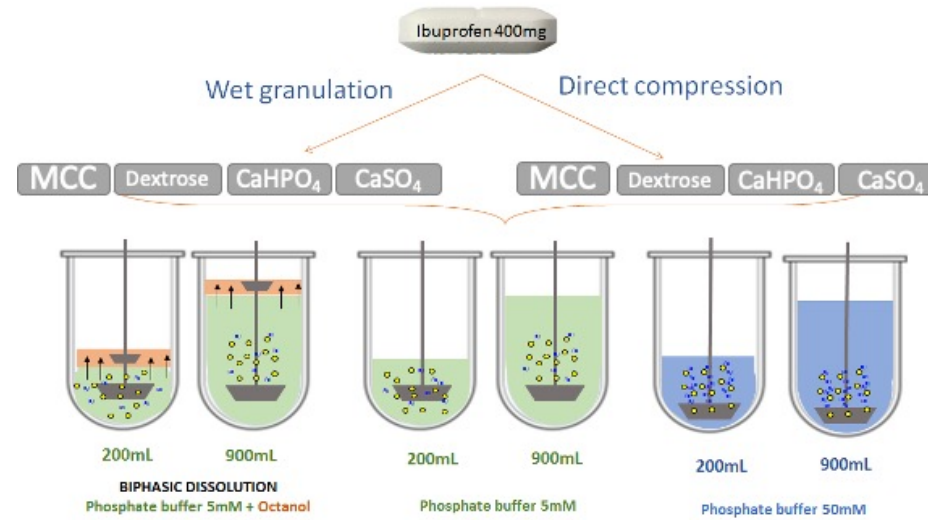


200mL

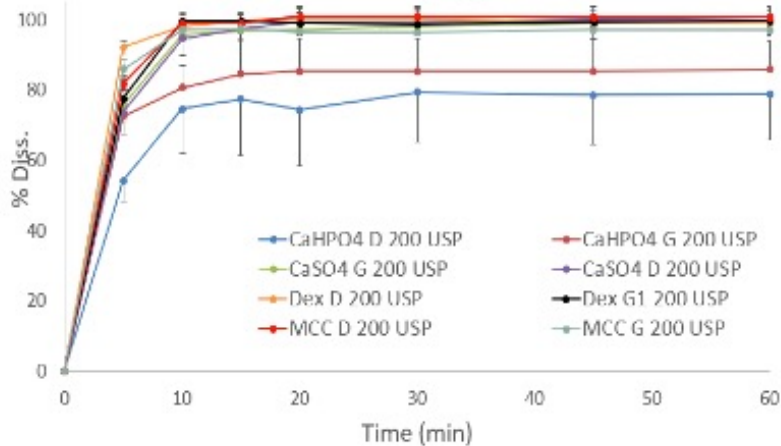
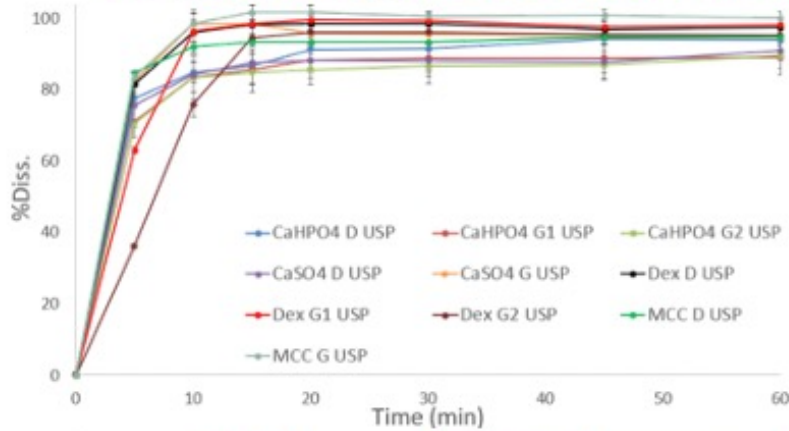
900mL

Phosphate buffer 50mM

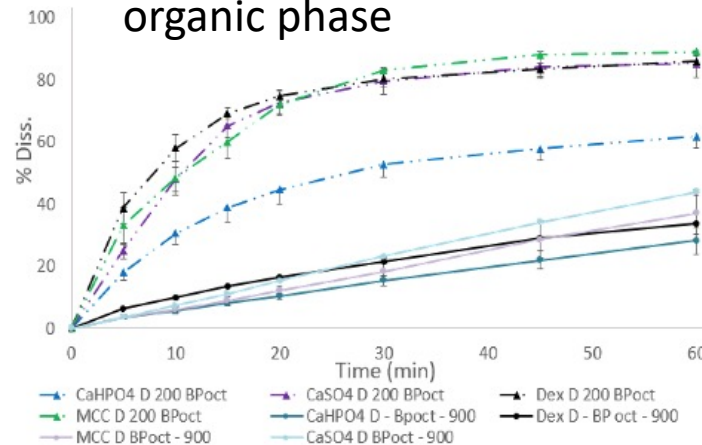
# BIPHASIC – Dissolution Ibuprofen



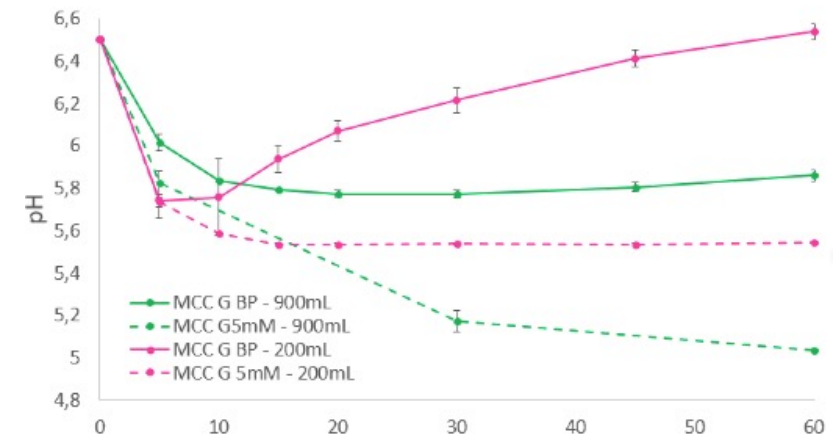
## Compendial buffer - 900mL vs. 200mL



Effect of volume: 200 / 900 ml  
on the uptake into the  
organic phase



Effect of volume: 200 / 900 ml  
on the uptake into the pH



Article

# Biphasic Dissolution as an Exploratory Method During Early Drug Product Development

Daniela Amaral Silva <sup>1</sup>, Jozef Al-Gousous <sup>2</sup>, Neal M. Davies <sup>1</sup>, Nadia Bou Chacra <sup>3</sup>, Gregory K. Webster <sup>4</sup>, Elke Lipka <sup>5</sup>, Gordon L. Amidon <sup>2</sup> and Raimar Löbenberg <sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2E1, Canada; amaralsi@ualberta.ca (D.A.S.); ndavies@ualberta.ca (N.M.D.)

<sup>2</sup> College of Pharmacy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA; jalgouso@umich.edu (J.A.-G.); glamidon@med.umich.edu (G.L.A.)

<sup>3</sup> Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, 05508-000, Brazil; lbou@usp.br

This study revisited the rationale of using **lower buffer capacity media to increase the physiological relevance of in vitro testing**. This system was demonstrated to have a superior discriminatory power regarding the manufacturing method and excipient effects. The use of an absorptive phase added a sink to the low buffer capacity media, which **decreased pH shifts** while the test was performed.

power, whereas low buffer capacity media discriminated between manufacturing methods. The use

# Lipid Dissolution

**Certain oral drugs** (lymphotropics,  $\log P > 5$ , triglyceride solubility  $> 50$  mg/ml) follow the same path and packaged into “chylomicrons” within intestinal cells before being **transported through the lymphatic system instead of the portal pathway**.<sup>[2]</sup>

**Standard dissolution tests do not provide any information on the drug's absorption pathway, whether it is through the portal or lymphatic circulation.**

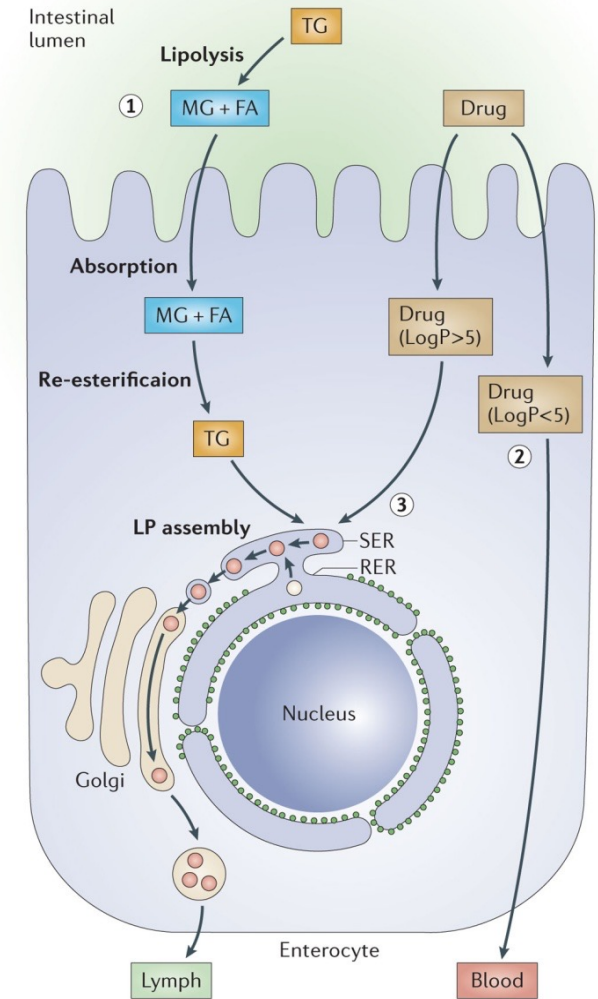


Fig 5. Pathways of drug absorption from the intestinal cells\*

\*Used under OA license from Nature Reviews Drug Discovery. 2015; 14: 781–803.

# Simulated Lymphatic Fluid for In-Vitro Assessment in Pharmaceutical Development

Malaz Yousef<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Chulhun Park<sup>1</sup>, Tyson S. Le<sup>1</sup>, Nadia Bou Chacra<sup>3</sup>, Neal M. Davies<sup>1</sup>, and Raimar Löbenberg<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada.

<sup>2</sup>Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Khartoum, Khartoum, Sudan.

<sup>3</sup>Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

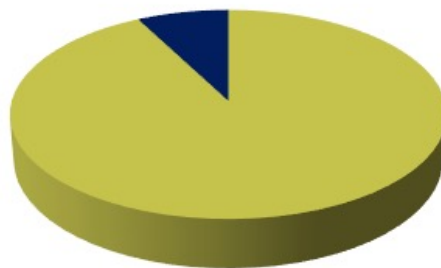
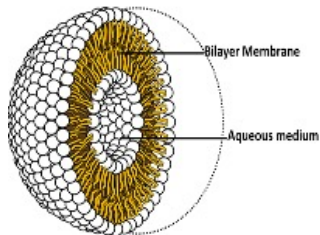
e-mail: malaz@ualberta.ca

## ABSTRACT

In addition to removing excess extracellular fluid and mobilizing immune cells through fluid provides a means for drug transport. Lymphatic drug delivery can impart higher efficiency especially following oral administration. Currently, there is no standardized composition for simulated lymphatic fluid. Standardization of a simulated lymphatic fluid media would be an important and novel contribution.

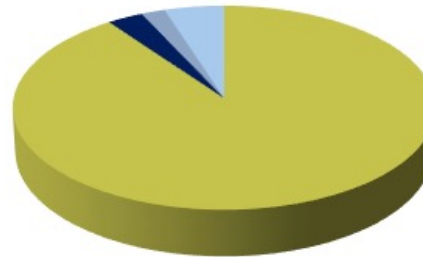
Reagent	CAS number	Amount for 1 L of Simulated Lymphatic Fluid
Sodium chloride	7647-14-5	8.035 g
Sodium bicarbonate	144-55-8	0.355 g
Potassium chloride	7447-40-7	0.225 g
Potassium phosphate dibasic	7758-11-4	0.231 g
Magnesium chloride hexahydrate	7791-18-6	0.311 g
1 M Hydrochloric acid	7647-01-0	39 mL
Calcium chloride dihydrate	10035-04-8	0.292 g
Sodium sulfate	7757-82-6	0.072 g
Tri(hydroxymethyl) aminomethane	7283-04-7	6.118 g
Protein (human serum albumin)	70024-90-7	40 g
Intralipids	68890-65-3	100 mL

## Intralipid®\*

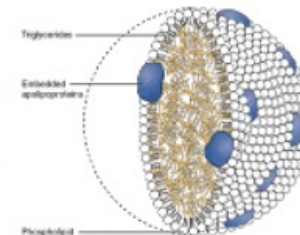


- Triglycerides (84%)
- Phospholipids (7%)

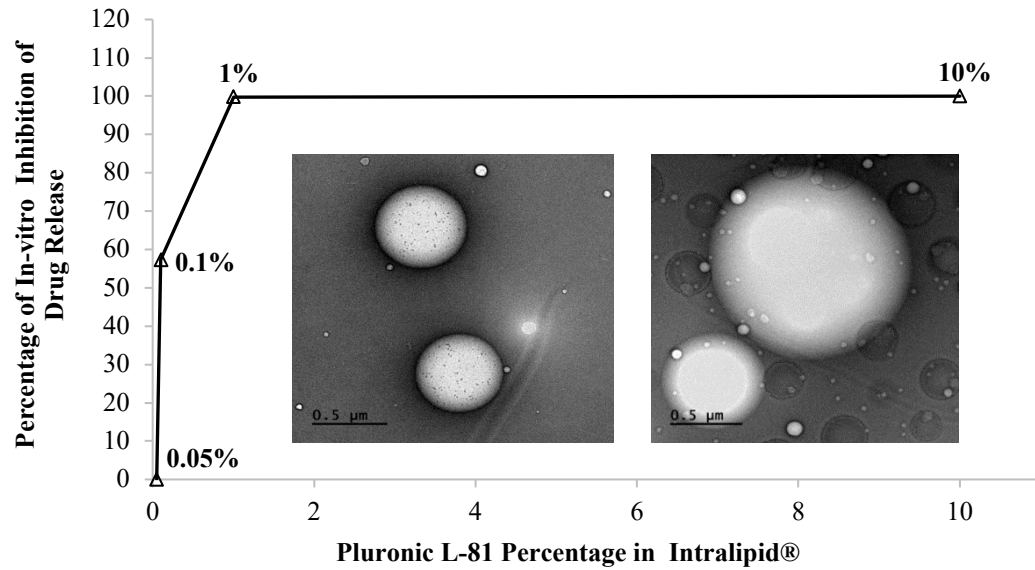
## Chylomicrons\*\*



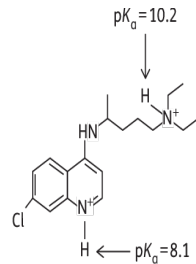
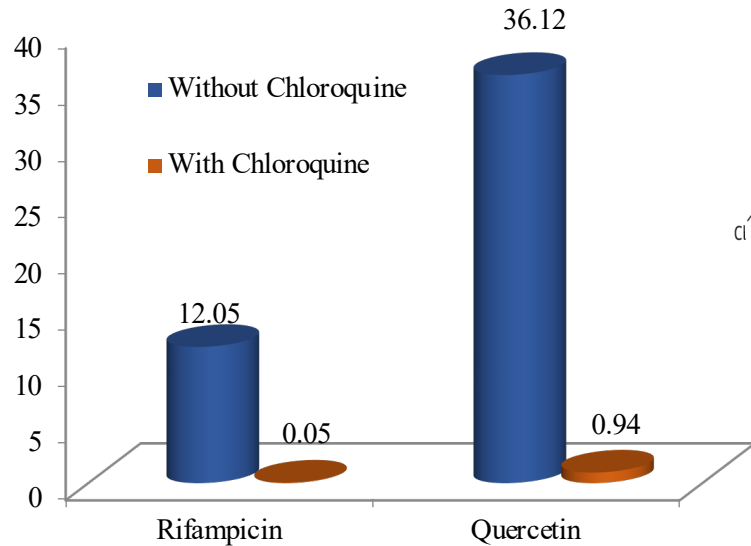
- Triglycerides (90%)
- Phospholipids (3%)
- Protein (2%)
- Cholesterol and Cholesteryl Esters (5%)



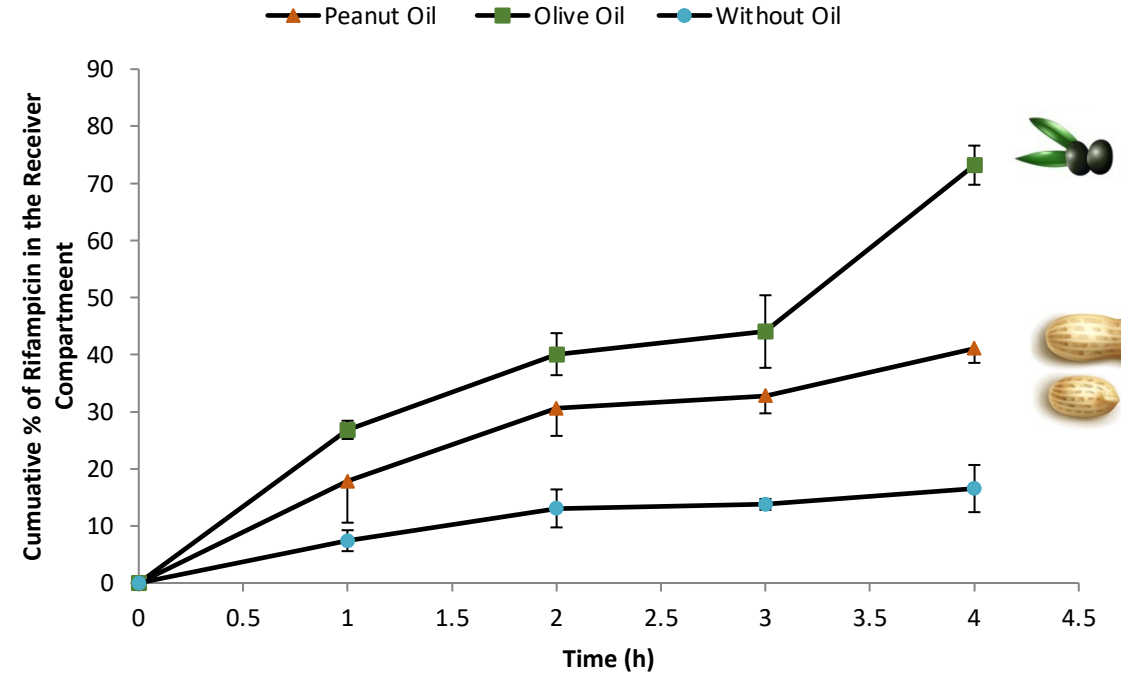
# Uptake Inhibition



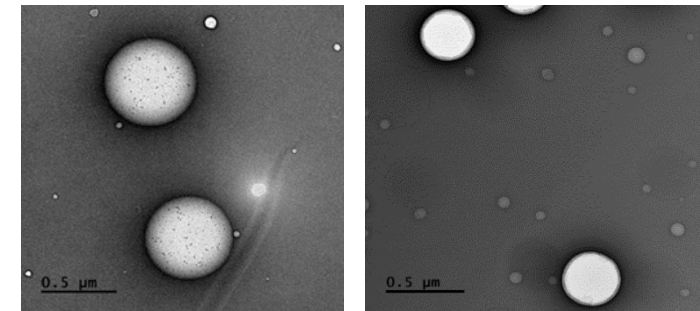
## Highest Cumulative Percentage of Drugs in the Receiver Compartment



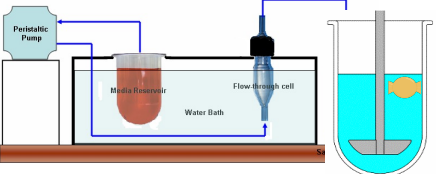
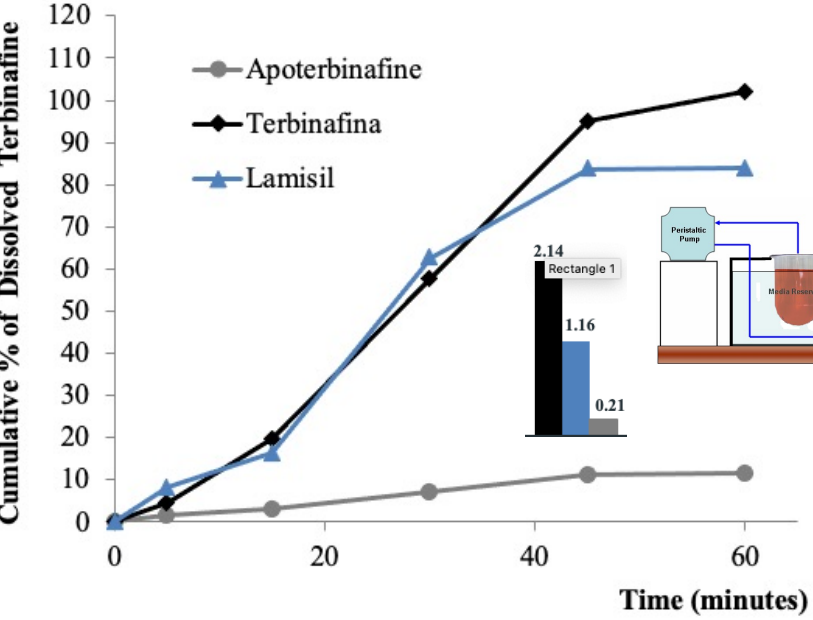
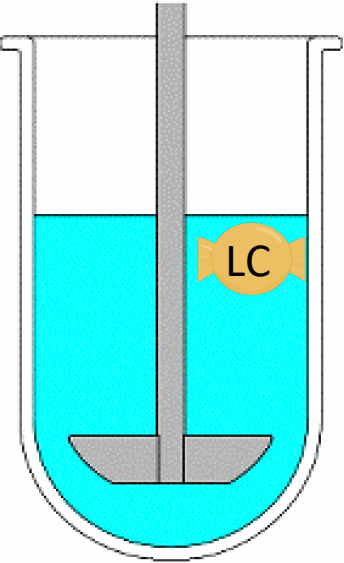
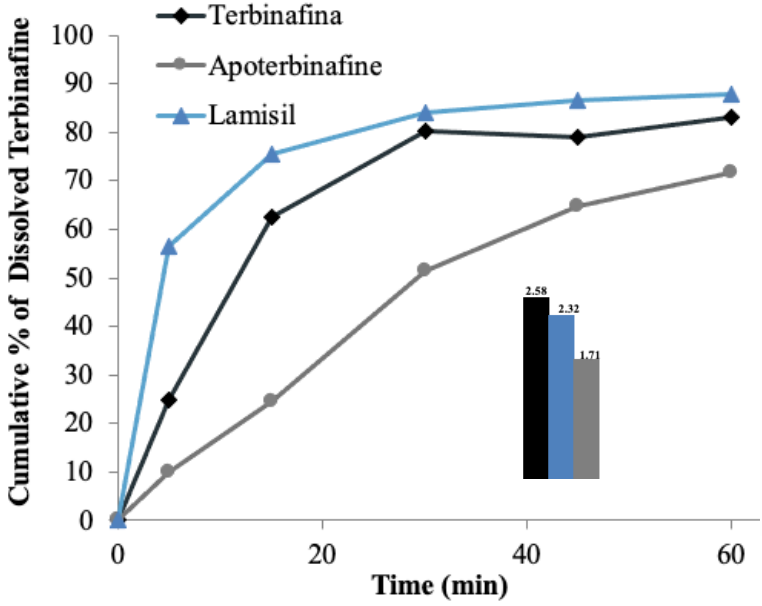
# Uptake Enhancement



Fatty Acid	Olive Oil	Peanut Oil
Palmitic Acid	7.5-20	11-14
Stearic Acid	0.5-5	
Oleic Acid	55-83	45-53
Linoleic Acid	3.5-21	27-32



# Lipid Dissolution



Terbinafina*	Lamisil**	Apo-Terbinafine***
Hydroxypropylcellulose	Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose	Methylcellulose
Microcrystalline cellulose	Microcrystalline cellulose	Colloidal anhydrous silica
Colloidal silicon dioxide	Colloidal silicon dioxide	Croscarmellose sodium
Sodium starch glycolate	Sodium starch glycolate	Magnesium stearate
Magnesium stearate	Magnesium stearate	

The first lymphatic-focused dissolution model was developed.

The model can be useful for formulation and manufacturing assessment and contribute to *in-vitro* bioequivalence guidelines of lymphotropic formulations



# CONCLUSION

- Flow-through cells and transfer-models are useful for dynamic dissolution protocols.
- Small volumes and low buffer concentrations should be considered to mimic the physiologic environments in the GI-tract.
- The dosage form impact ends at the gut lumen / enterocyte interface.
- Enteric coated formulations should be developed using carbonate buffers or surrogate buffers.
- Biphasic dissolution is an important tool to mimic the GI-environment with dissolution and absorption occurring in parallel.
- Lipid dissolution is a promising approach to assess excipient effects for lymphotropic drugs.