

# MHRA perspective on pregnancy PBPK models

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# Disclaimer

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the speaker and are not necessarily those of MHRA.

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# Overview

Use of medicines during pregnancy

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Regulatory case study

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Pregnancy PBPK MHRA/BMGF project

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# Use of medicines in pregnant women

## Self-reported medicine use in Europe, the Americas, and Australia

- >80% women used at least one medicinal product during pregnancy
- 67% of women used non-prescription or OTC medicinal products
- 17% of women used medicine for chronic conditions

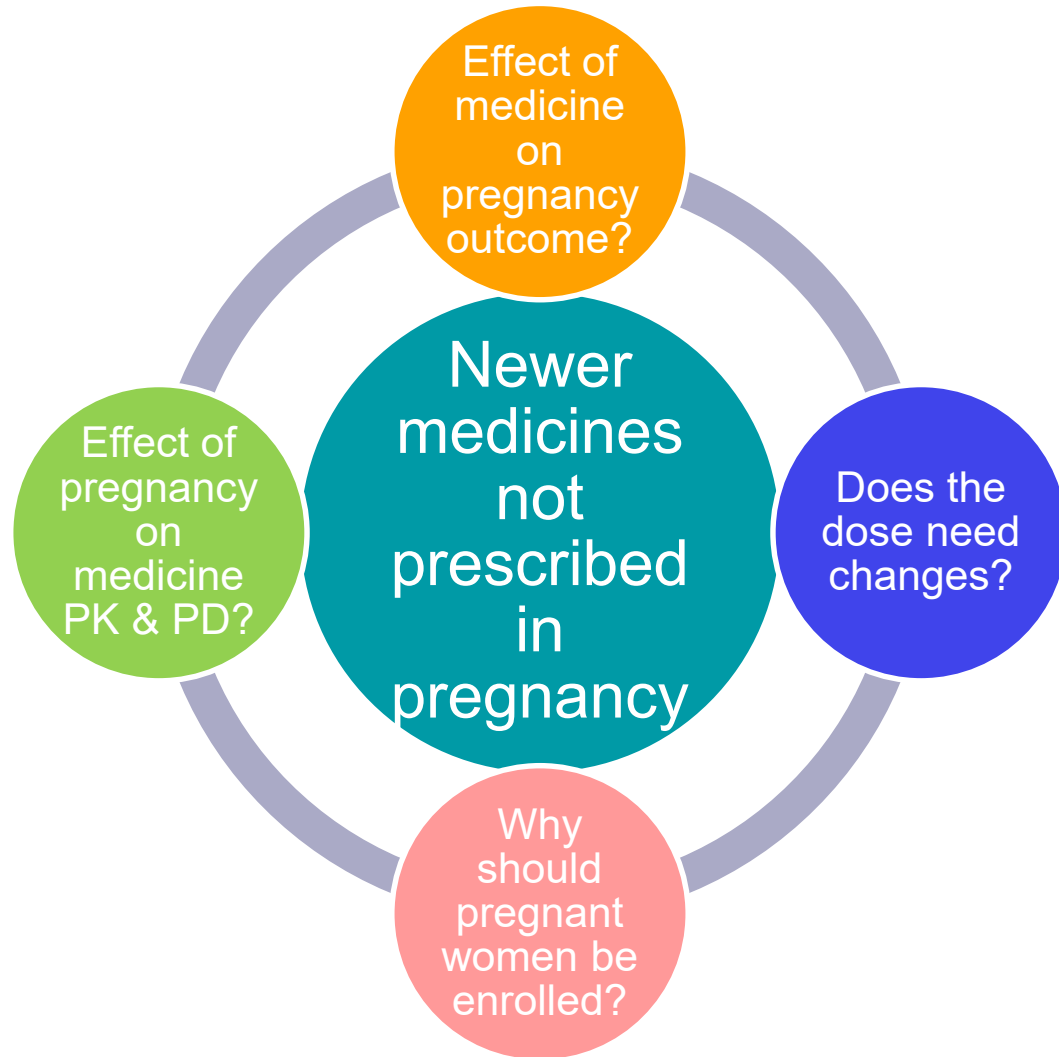
## 5 prescription medicines licensed in the UK for non-obstetric use in pregnancy

(amoxicillin, labetalol, diazoxidine injection, doxylamine succinate/pyridoxine hydrochloride, sodium ferredetate)

Lupattelli et al. *BMJ Open*. 2014 Feb 17;4(2):e004365. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2013-004365

Cole S et al. *CPT Pharmacometrics Syst. Pharmacol*. 2020. 9: 547-549. doi.org/10.1002/psp4.12551

# Pregnancy PK knowledge



## **Guidance for Industry**

**Pharmacokinetics in Pregnancy —  
Study Design, Data Analysis,  
and Impact on Dosing and Labeling**

*DRAFT GUIDANCE*

**Pregnant Women:  
Scientific and Ethical  
Considerations for  
Inclusion in Clinical Trials  
Guidance for Industry**

*DRAFT GUIDANCE*

London, 14 November 2005  
EMA/CHMP/313666/2005

COMMITTEE FOR MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE  
(CHMP)

**GUIDELINE ON  
THE EXPOSURE TO MEDICINAL PRODUCTS DURING PREGNANCY:  
NEED FOR POST-AUTHORISATION DATA**

# PBPK in pregnancy: Regulatory case study

Active substance X

Regulatory Application	PK	Pregnancy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Support SmPC changes (sections 4.6, 5.2)</li><li>•</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Cytochrome P450 substrate</li><li>•No pregnancy PK data</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Expected increase in systemic exposure</li><li>•Pregnancy PBPK to predict exposure</li></ul>

- Increased exposure predicted in pregnancy
- Model validated in nonpregnant subjects only
- Clinical data needed to validate and qualify the pregnancy model

# MHRA/BMGMF

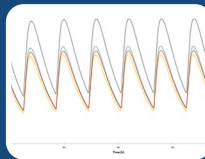
*PBPK Project: Evaluating PBPK modelling and simulation to inform drug dosing in pregnant women*

## Aim

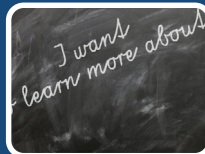
*To improve the knowledge of medicines used during pregnancy, based on changes in systemic exposure, and to evaluate existing PBPK models for their potential to support dosing in pregnant women*



Data collection



Pregnancy PBPK evaluation



Training

# Collection of pregnancy PK data

## Main list

- ~ 200 medicines
- 16 therapeutic areas

## Priority list

- 20 medicines
- e.g. Epilepsy, Antiemetics, Pain, Antidepressants, Antibiotics, Antivirals, Antimalarials, Antipsychotics

- Based on MHRA Medical Assessors' experience

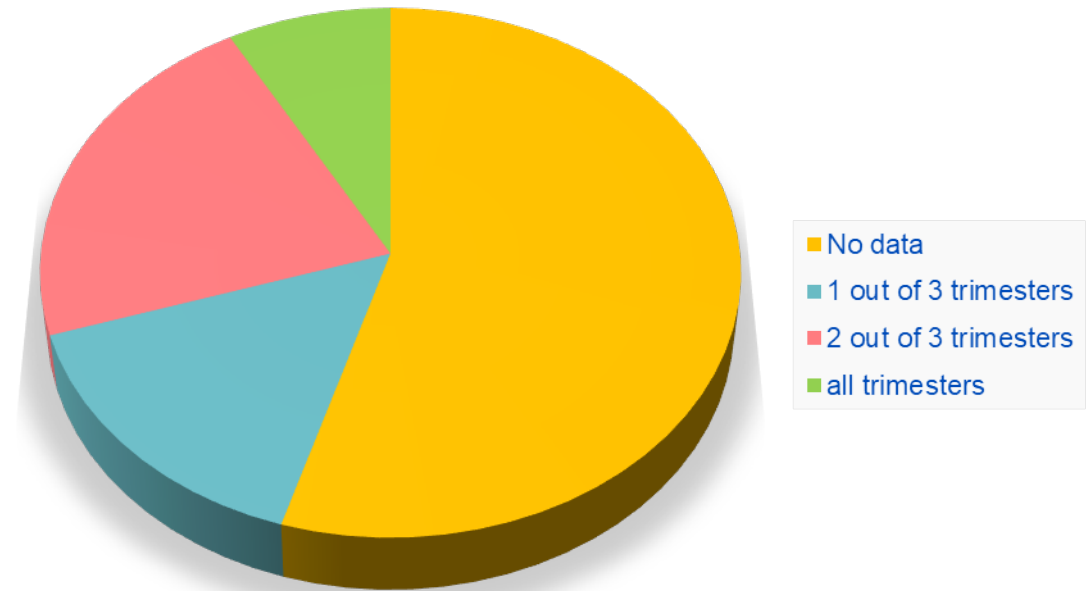
- Endorsed by the CHM, EAGs and UK experts



# Collection of pregnancy PK data

- Pregnancy PK data available < 50 % of identified medicines
- Data in all trimesters only for 19 medicines
- Nonpregnant/postpartum not always available
- Unbound exposure not investigated
- Often limited number of subjects
- Only sparse data in some cases
- PopPK and PBPK used in several cases

Pharamcokinetics data in pregnancy (up to 2019)



**Data will be published on MHRA website and peer reviewed journals**

# Pregnancy PBPK model qualification

Medicines used for model qualification	
Main clearance pathway	Number of medicines
CYP3A4	3
CYP3A4 + UGT	1
CYP2D6	2 (+1 priority)
Multiple CYPs	2
Multiple CYPs + UGTs	2
Renal (passive transport)	1
Renal (active transport e.g. OCTs, OATs)	4
Biliary	1

# Pregnancy PBPK model

PBPK development/evaluation in nonpregnant subjects (in vitro + clinical PK data)

Model verification (data in nonpregnant subjects)

Does the model adequately account for drug ADME properties?

YES

Evaluation of pregnancy PBPK model - Does the model account for pregnancy changes which may impact ADME?

YES

PBPK may be used to predict PK exposure in pregnancy

NO

**NO:** *Can the pregnancy system model be improved?*

The model was then applied to some of the priority medicines

# General considerations

## PBPK model evaluation

- Very few compounds with rich literature sets across all trimesters and nonpregnant/postpartum controls (some contradictory)
- Knowledge on the impact of pregnancy on PK needs to be improved
- Available data are insufficient for qualification of high impact regulatory decision
- Promising simulation results for medicines renally excreted (passive transport)

# General considerations

## PBPK model evaluation

- It may be difficult to build model from scratch
- Model of compounds with complex elimination pathways and/or distribution might be challenging
- Modelling for prodrug may be complex
- CYP2D6 substrates showed biggest changes in exposure during pregnancy, but data are limited
- Data are not available for all relevant pregnancy-related physiological changes, but PBPK providers are working on this

# PBPK – Regulatory impact

- High-impact application requiring robust model evaluation
- Dosing based on exposure only is an extrapolation
- Framework could be useful to bridge knowledge gaps to support exposure/E–R investigation - could be informed by PBPK

## Requirement for regulatory high impact application

- Use of several compounds with ADME similar to investigational drug (e.g. similar clearance pathway)
- PK data of drugs used to inform PBPK model for all gestational trimesters (age-related pregnancy changes)
- Distribution and elimination should be captured
- If multiple enzymes or transporters are involved, larger qualification data set may be required

# MHRA/BMGF Trainings

- Training held on January 2020:
  - Importance to collect PK data in pregnancy and postpartum
  - Introduction on the use of modelling to support PK evaluation in pregnancy
  - Introduction on the MHRA/BMGF project
  
- Next training planned on 2022



# MHRA/BMGMF - Project results publication

- Publication on the MHRA perspective on the use of pregnancy PBPK model:
  - Cole S, Coppola P, Kerwash E et al. Pharmacokinetic Characterization to Enable Medicine Use in Pregnancy, the Potential Role of Physiologically-Based Pharmacokinetic Modeling: A Regulatory Perspective. CPT: PSP. 2020, 1–3; doi:10.1002/psp4.12551
  - Coppola P, Kerwash E, Cole S. Physiologically based pharmacokinetics model in pregnancy. Application to clinical practice, a regulatory perspective. Front. Pediatr. 9:687978. doi: 10.3389/fped.2021.687978
- Results of data collection and PBPK modelling will be published on MHRA website and peer reviewed journals
- Trainings and events will be advertised on MHRA MedRegs  
<https://medregs.blog.gov.uk/category/medicines-in-pregnancy/>



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Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

*Thank You*



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