

# Bridging Physiology-Based Dissolution Testing to QC testing using Physiologically Based Biopharmaceutics Modeling

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**Current State and Future Expectations of Translational Modeling Strategies to Support  
Drug Product Development, Manufacturing Changes and Controls**

September 23 – 25, 2019  
Maryland, US

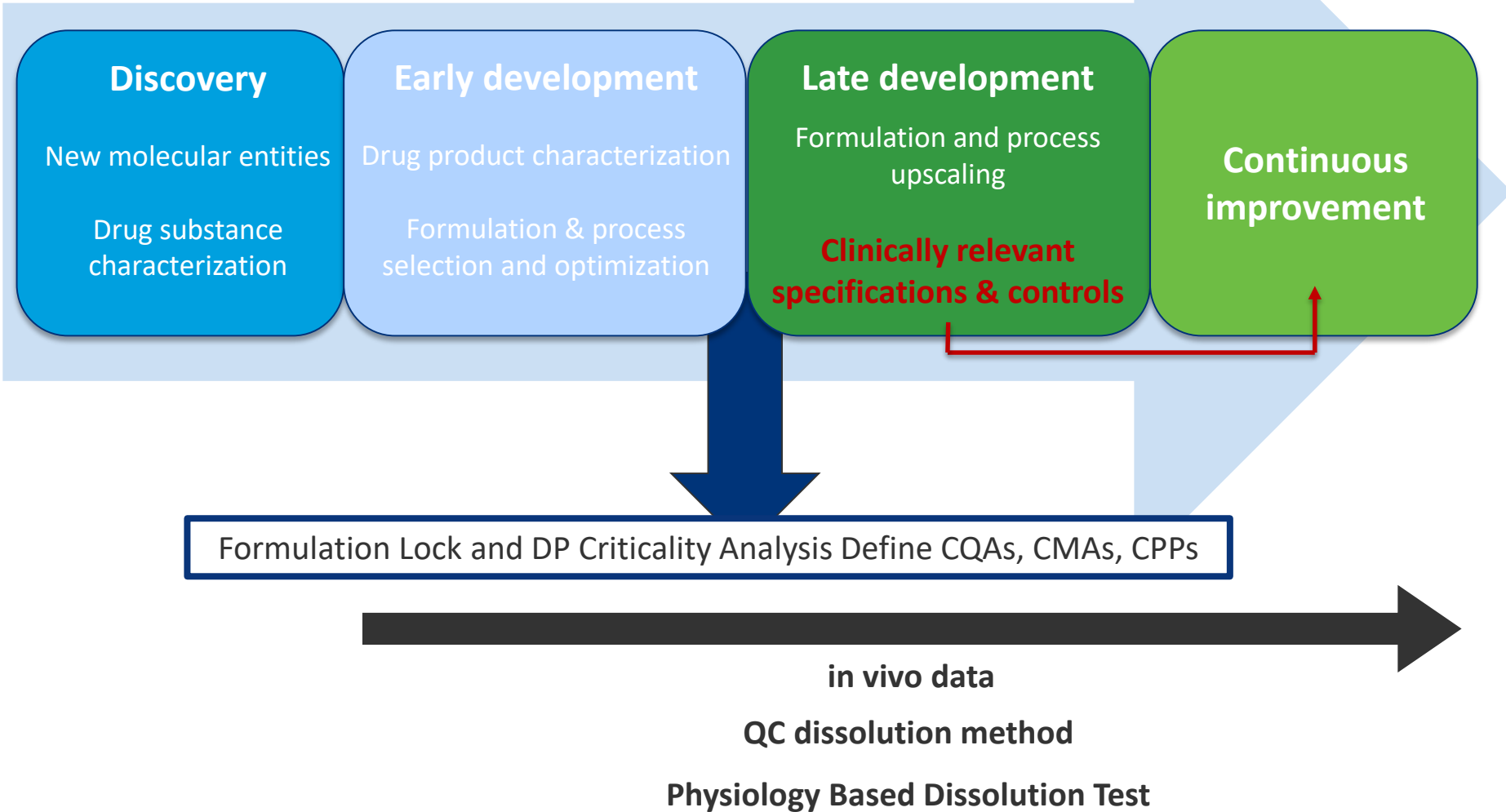
Donna Williams, *Cheerful*  
Donna Williams, an autistic artist, author  
and renowned autism advocate, was  
diagnosed with breast cancer in 2011.



# Outline

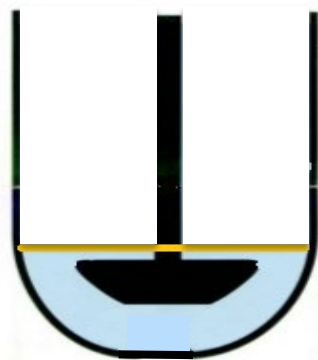
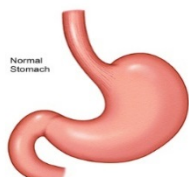
- **Setting the scene**
- **Physiology Based Dissolution Testing**
  - What is?
  - PBDT vs QC?
  - Bridging?
- **Case study I**
  - Clinically Relevant Specifications in late development
- **Case study II**
  - Clinically Relevant Specifications during continuous improvement
- **Closing remarks**

# Biopharmaceutics in drug product development



# Physiology Based Dissolution Test

## Gastric Phase



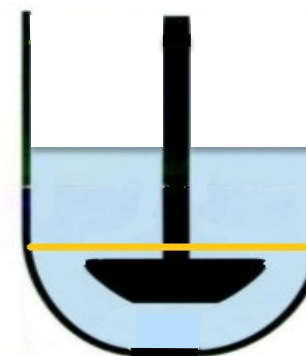
250 mL

250 mL FaSGF (pH 1.6)  
30 min

75 rpm  
37°C

+ 250 mL  
cFaSSIFv1

## Intestinal Phase



500 mL

500 mL FaSSIF (pH 6.5)  
120 min

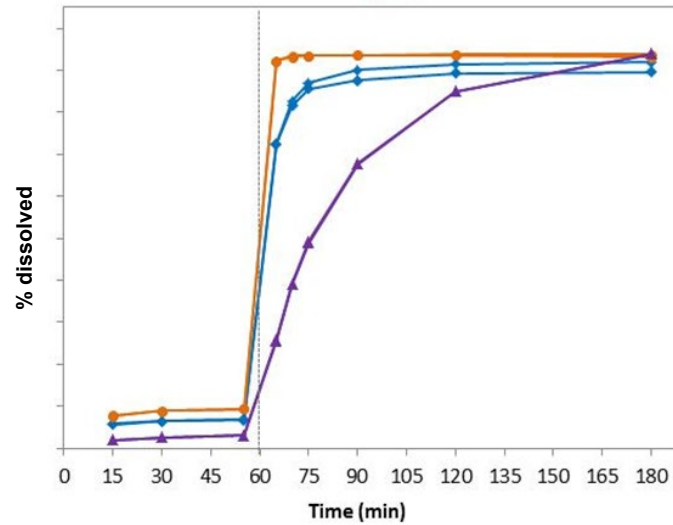
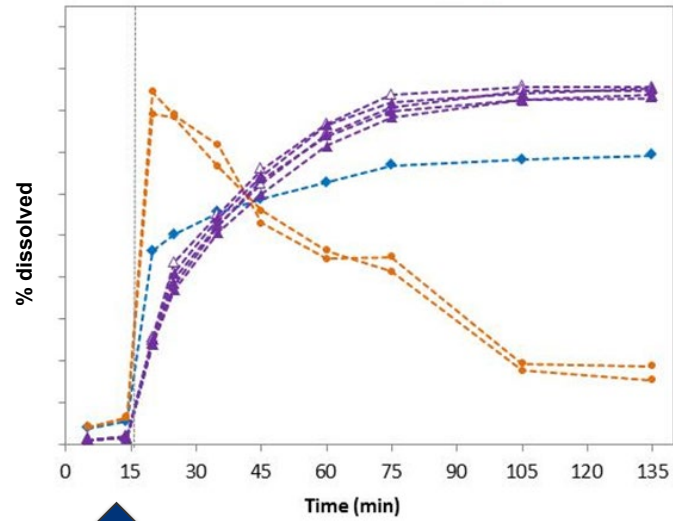
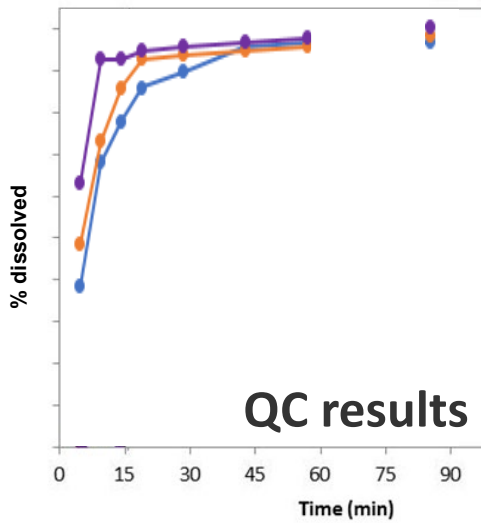
## PBDT method

- **Fixed conditions** (simulating the human physiology) – No MD needed
- No RA guidelines (acceptance?)
- Reproducibility & validation?
- Complex media
- No sink conditions
- Natural source surfactants as in bile
- Used for formulation screening and selection

## QC method

- Conditions are tailor-made for each DP
- According to the **RA guidelines**
- Discriminating in order to reject batches that are “different”
- **Reproducible, Robust, Validated**
- Sink conditions
- **Simple set-up & media**
- Used for stability and release testing

# Bridging?

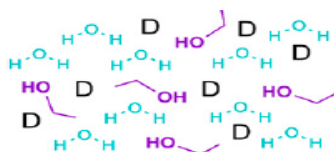


?



# Focus on BCS II / IV compounds

cosolvents



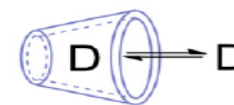
salts



surfactants



cyclodextrins

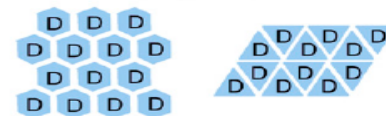


particle size reduction

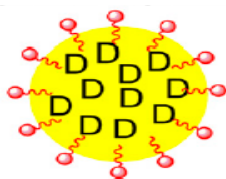


## Common strategies to address low drug solubility

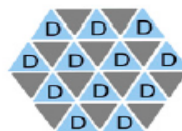
polymorphs



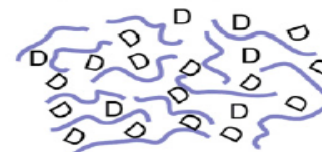
lipid-based systems



co-crystals



amorphous solid dispersions



case studies

# QC dissolution test for ASDs

- **For BCS class 2/4 drugs, HAs expect a discriminative dissolution method** (not having fast dissolution profiles)
- **However**
  - Amorphous DS dissolves very fast (by design)
  - Surfactant is added to reach sink conditions to reach 100% dissolution and avoid precipitation
  - The surfactant (SLS, Tween20, Brij, CTAB, ...) is stronger than biosalts
- **Selected to obtain the most discriminating method for formulation variations in CQAs**
  - Mostly over-discriminating towards in vivo
  - Try to correlate with in vivo data



# PBDT for ASDs

- **Reflective for its performance in vivo**
  - Spring-parachute can be characterized
  - Mimics human GI fluids
  - QC dissolution method is more limited
- **PBDT can be used as input for PBPK modelling**
  - PBDT: dissolution rate (formulation)
  - PBDT: ADME (API)
  - PBPK can be used to model the PBDT profiles that lead to a similar in vivo exposure (clinically relevant specifications)

# Case study 1

BCS class II compound

Neutral species in physiological pH range

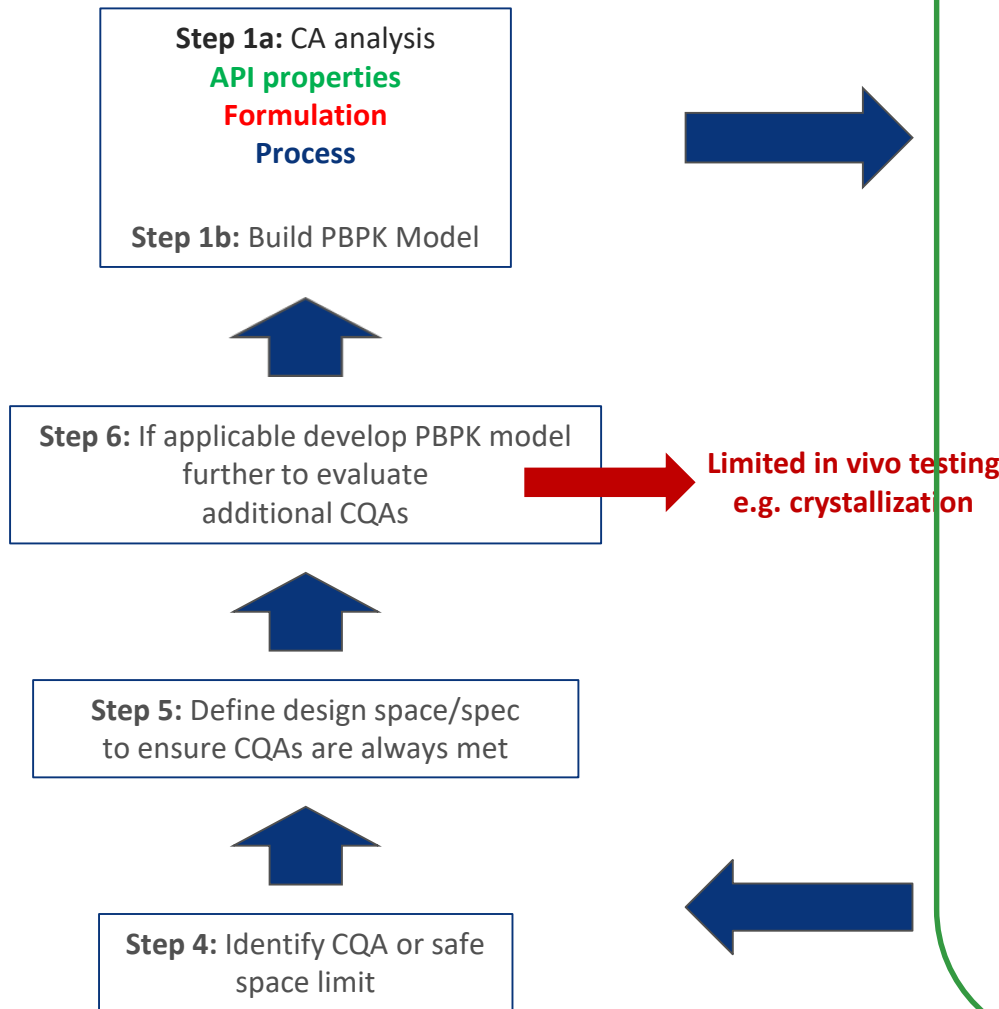
Oral solid development

Crystalline drug substance has low  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  solubility in biorelevant media

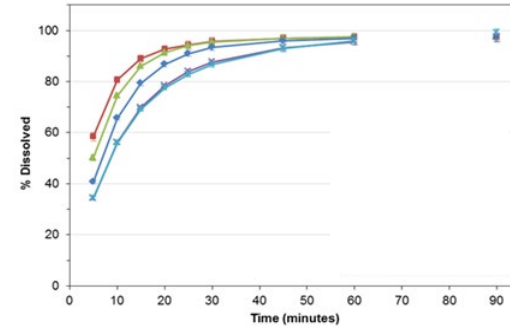
## Biopharmaceutics assessment

- Facilitate choice of enabling platform
- Guide formulation concept selection and development
- **Establish clinically relevant specifications**

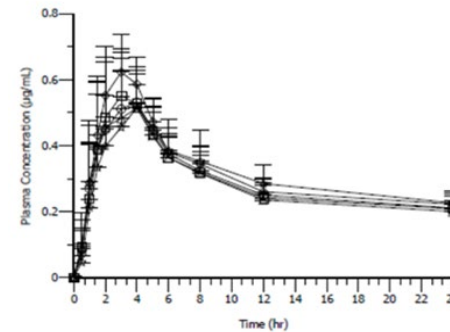
# CRC strategy workflow



**Step 2:** Develop CQA Dissolution Test(s) using tablets with highest risk CQA identified in step 1

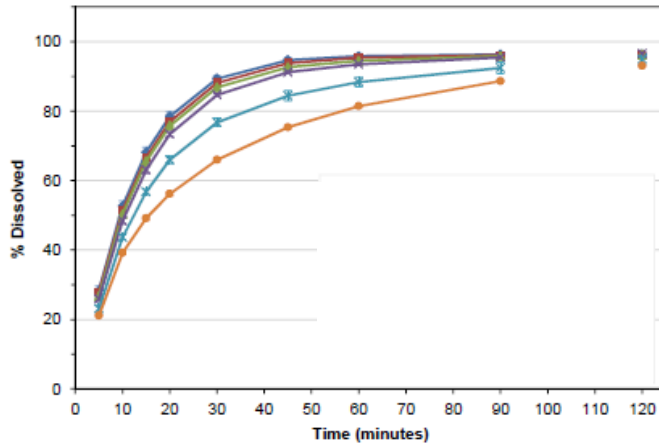


**Step 3:** understand significance *in silico* and *in vivo*, further validate PBPK model with clinical data



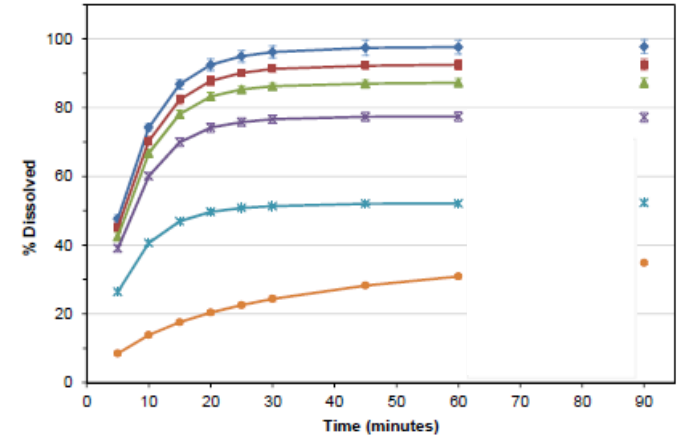
# QC method development

## Method A

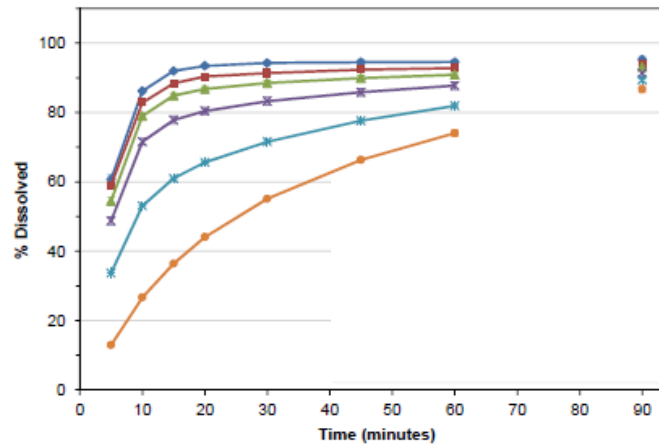


?  
**Clinical  
relevance**  
?

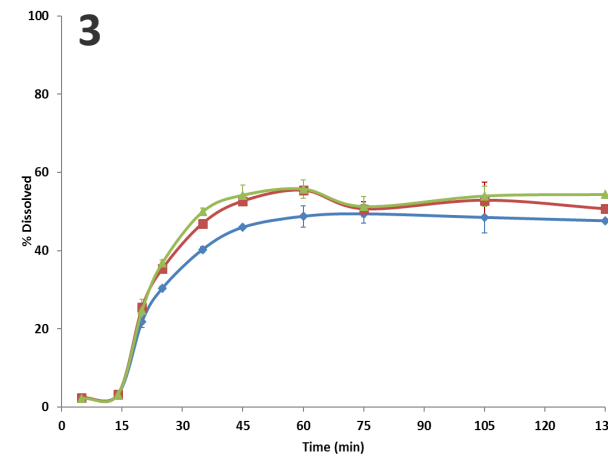
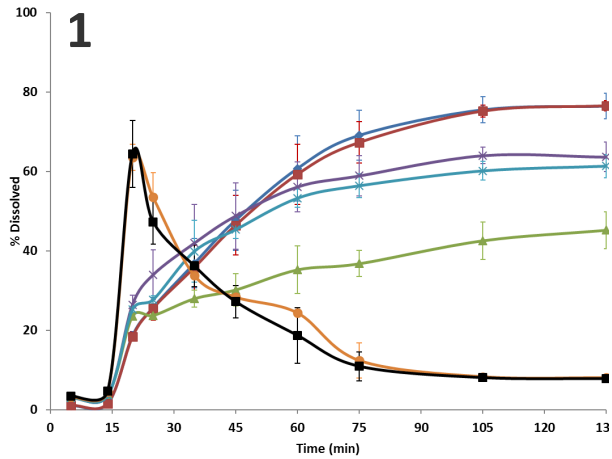
## Method B



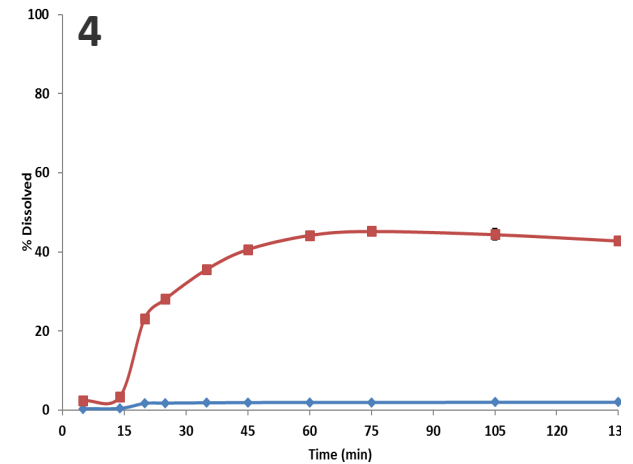
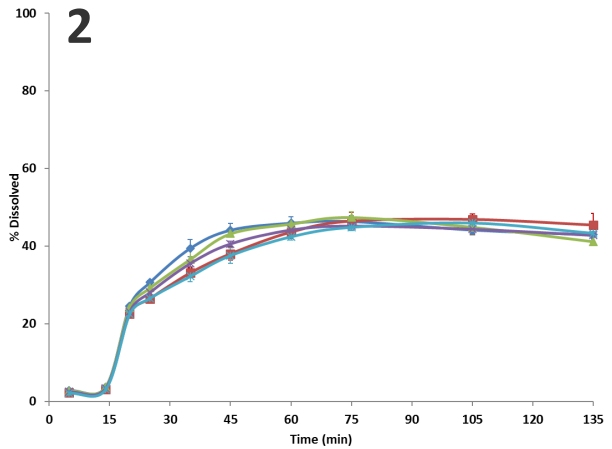
## Method C



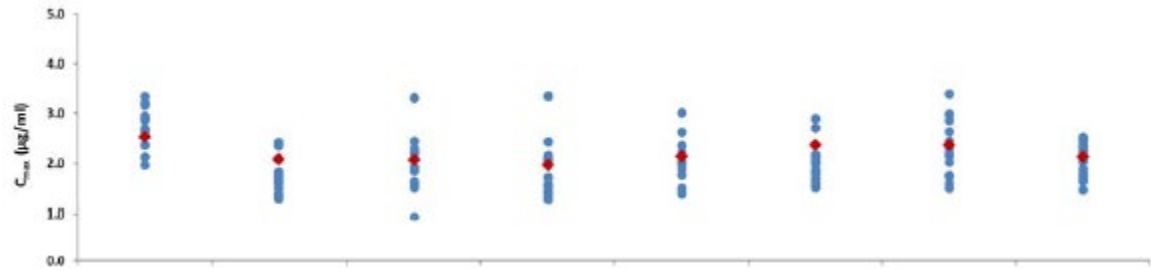
# PBDT profiles



Formulation Lock and DP Criticality Analysis Define CQAs, CMAs, CPPs



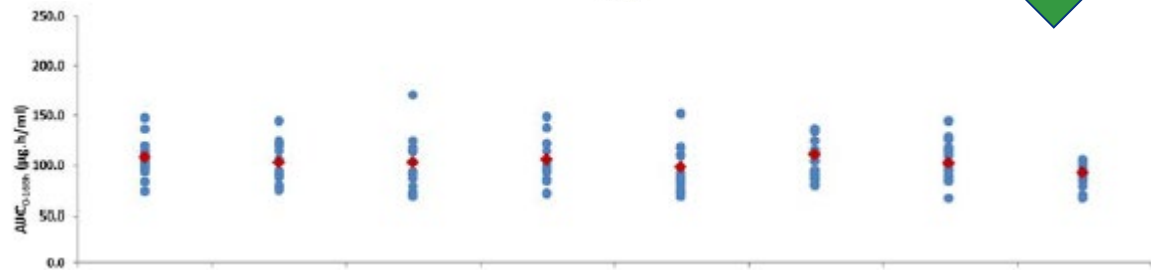
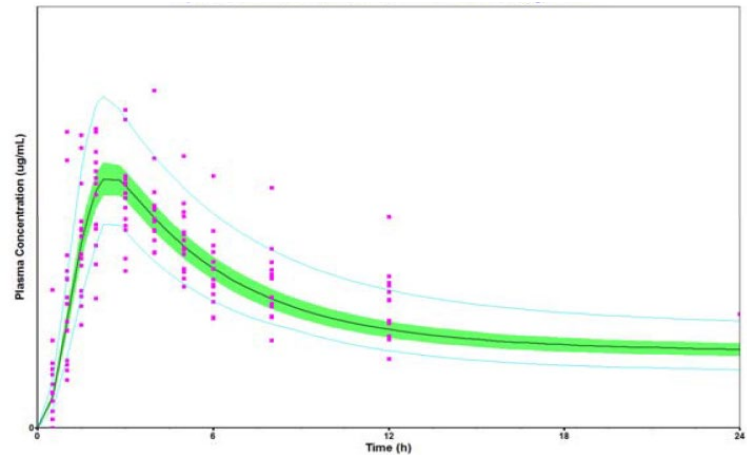
# In vivo data – Simulate by PBBM



PBDT profiles as input for PBBM

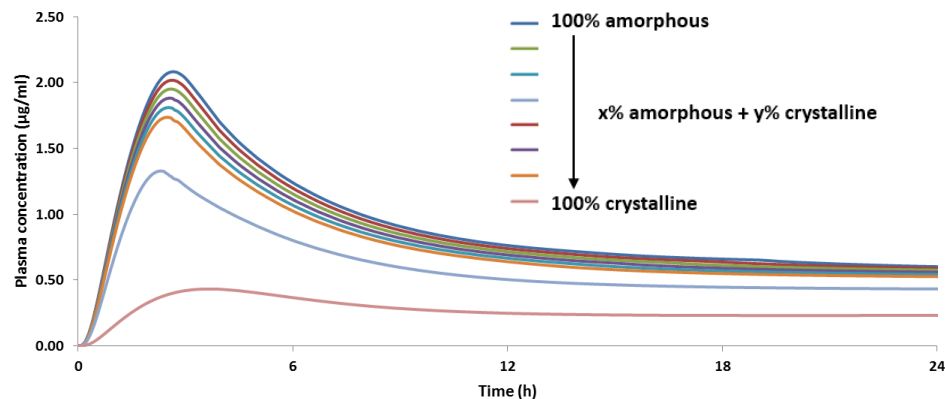
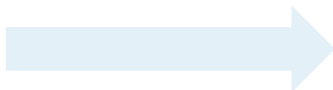


Can we simulate the in vivo results?



# No in vivo data – Predict by PBBM

Mean simulations

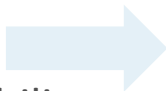


Population simulations

Include variability and uncertainty

Cross-over design

Multiple trials



Include intra-subject variability

Statistics



Virtual bioequivalence trials																
Virtual Trial Number	w% crystallinity				x% crystallinity				y% crystallinity				z% crystallinity			
	C <sub>max</sub>		AUC <sub>0-168h</sub>		C <sub>max</sub>		AUC <sub>0-168h</sub>		C <sub>max</sub>		AUC <sub>0-168h</sub>		C <sub>max</sub>		AUC <sub>0-168h</sub>	
	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI	90% CI
	LL	UL	LL	UL	LL	UL	LL	UL	LL	UL	LL	UL	LL	UL	LL	UL
1	84.90	94.66	93.17	99.29	86.87	96.85	92.41	98.47	82.94	92.47	87.82	93.59	80.05	89.25	87.05	92.76
2	89.30	98.31	91.44	94.65	83.36	91.77	92.89	96.15	83.78	92.24	87.32	90.39	77.01	84.78	87.38	90.45
3	88.92	97.69	92.95	97.81	86.04	94.53	89.36	94.03	85.54	93.98	87.18	91.73	79.47	87.31	84.32	88.72
4	92.12	102.28	93.60	97.80	88.14	97.85	91.23	95.32	83.10	92.25	88.76	92.74	81.51	90.49	86.00	89.86
5	82.95	93.92	93.45	97.58	84.24	95.38	91.07	95.10	80.11	90.71	87.49	91.36	77.78	88.07	85.76	89.54
6	89.65	100.59	91.64	95.68	81.94	91.94	91.03	95.04	81.75	91.72	89.42	93.36	75.72	84.96	85.87	89.66
7	86.92	95.32	93.56	97.62	86.15	94.47	90.34	94.26	83.78	91.88	86.89	90.66	79.43	87.11	85.20	88.90
8	85.04	97.65	94.02	98.22	84.04	96.50	90.38	94.42	83.46	95.83	88.32	92.27	77.65	89.16	85.14	88.95
9	89.99	100.13	92.61	97.81	88.61	98.60	90.58	95.66	81.95	91.18	88.47	93.43	81.74	90.95	85.39	90.18
10	86.58	97.90	92.31	96.20	80.18	90.66	89.06	92.82	83.10	93.96	88.84	92.59	74.06	83.73	83.93	87.47

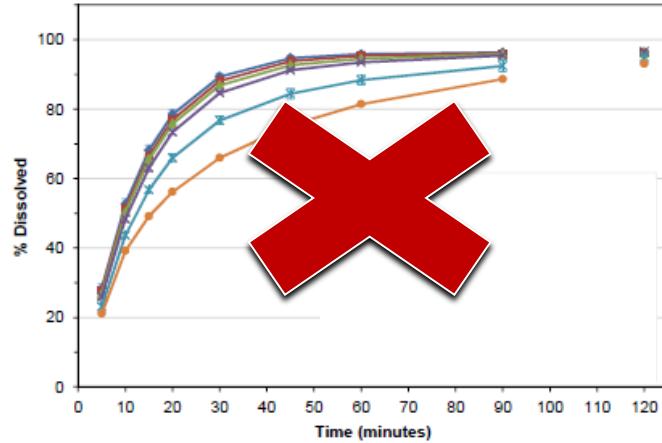
Safe space approach



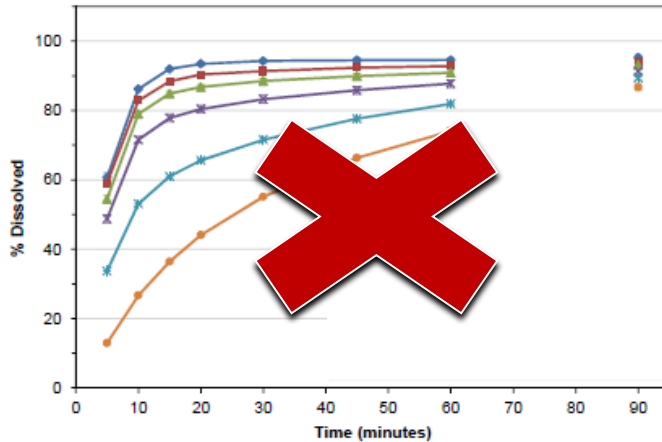


# QC method selection

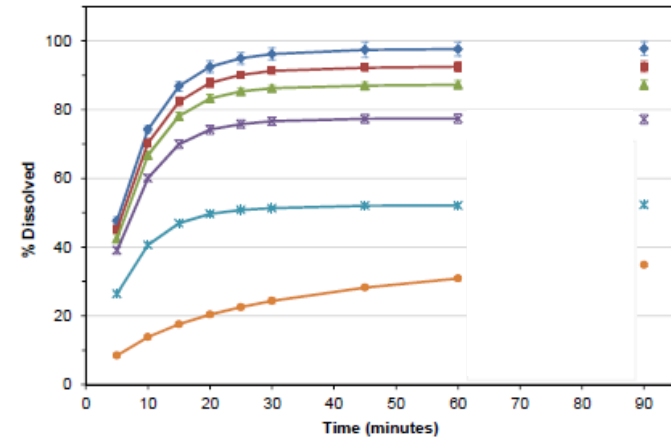
## Method A



## Method C



Stack ranking  
discriminative properties  
Similar to PBDT

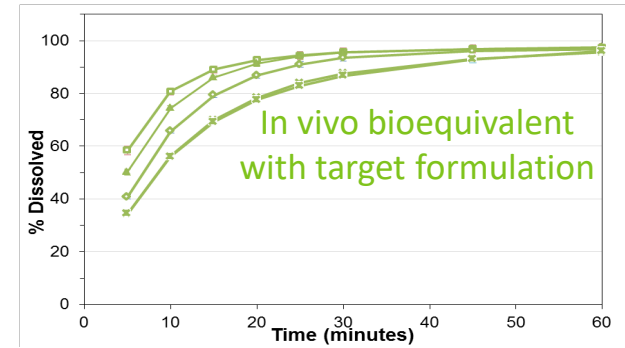
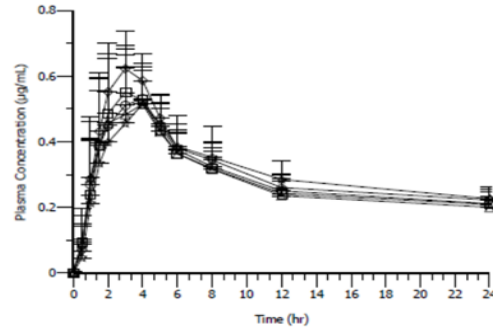


## Method B

# CRC workflow in practice

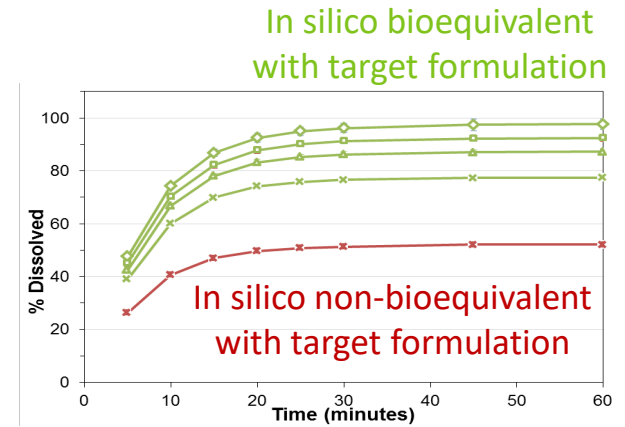
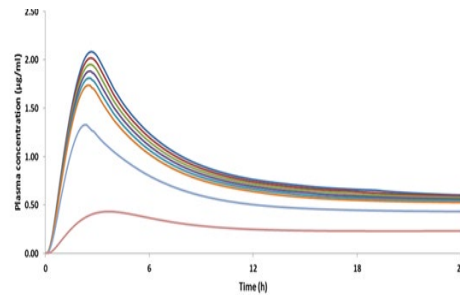
Critical Quality Attribute 1

Human BA  
Trial



Polymorphic purity

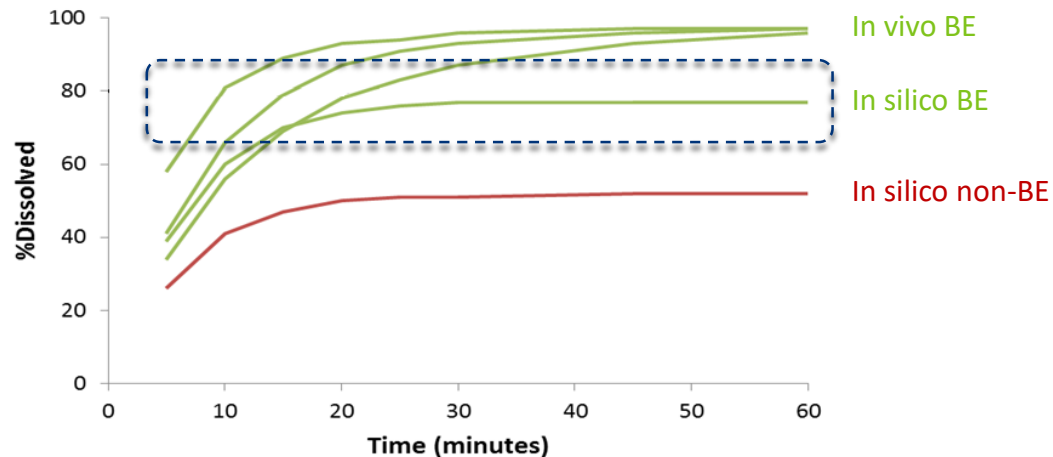
Validated  
PBPK  
Model



# CRC workflow in practice

## Proposed Clinically Relevant Specification

Time point and Q value where  
non-BE batches are below Q-value  
(most) BE-batches are above Q-value



**Scope of clinically relevant specifications not limited to QC dissolution**  
**clinically relevant acceptance criteria for polymorphic purity**  
(opposed to acceptance criteria based on LOD/LOQ of analytical techniques)

## Case study 2

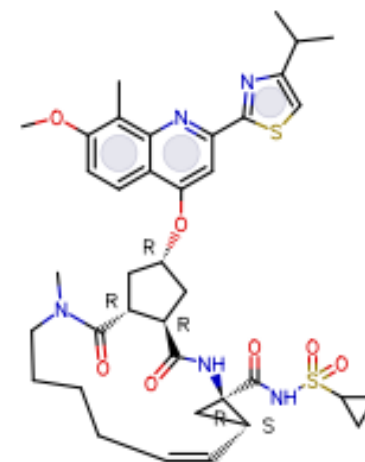
BCS class IV compound

pKa = 2.85 (base) and 5.24 (acid)

LogD (pH 4) > 5

Formulated as amorphous sodium salt

- Solubility crystalline API in FeSSIF = 0.001 mg/ml
- Solubility amorphous salt in FeSSIF = 0.140 mg/ml



simeprevir

### Biopharmaceutics assessment

- Low QC dissolution results during site stability testing
- Determine main drivers in absorption proces
- Clinical relevance of the current spec / support spec broadening?

# Complex PK

## Non-linear pharmacokinetics

- liver metabolism
- Gut metabolism
- Hepatic transporters
- Active intestinal efflux transporters

## Supportive information

- IV dosing
- Mass balance
- Metabolic profiling
- Different dose levels
- Interaction studies



## PBPK model

PK elucidation and DDI evaluation

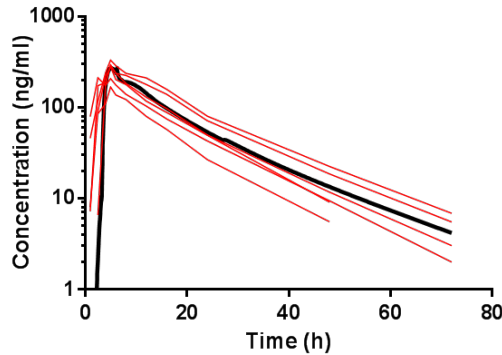


**Include dissolution based  
mechanistic absorption model**

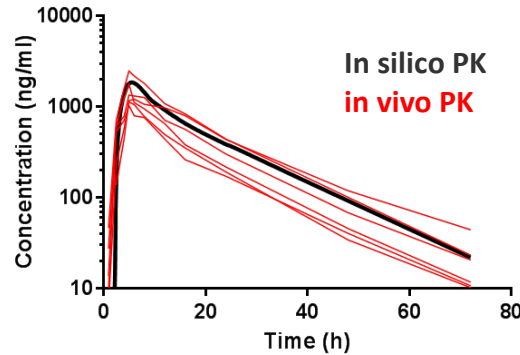
# Oral dose predictions

## Plasma concentration-time profiles

50 mg



150 mg

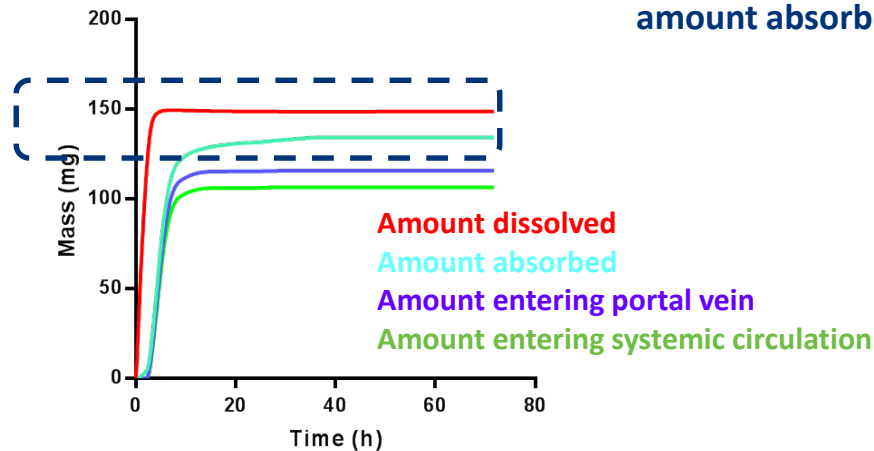
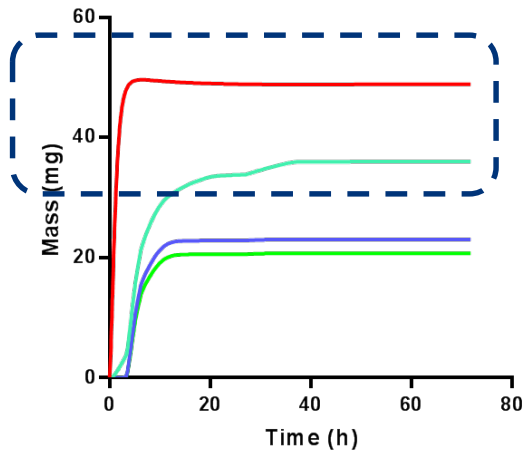


Relative importance  
of permeation rate



Amount of drug dissolved in function of time  
versus  
amount absorbed in function of time

## Absorption and dissolution curves



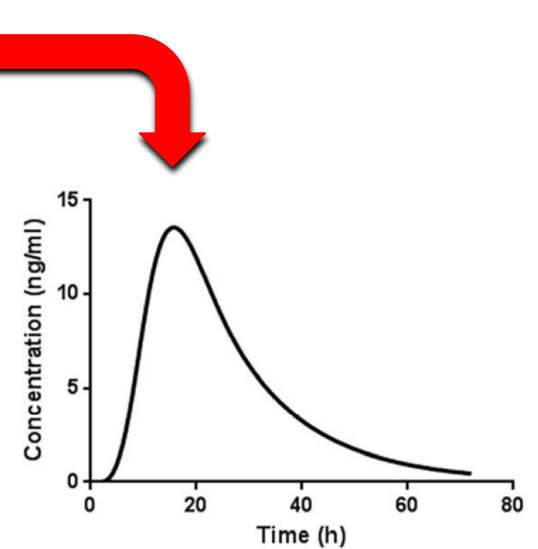
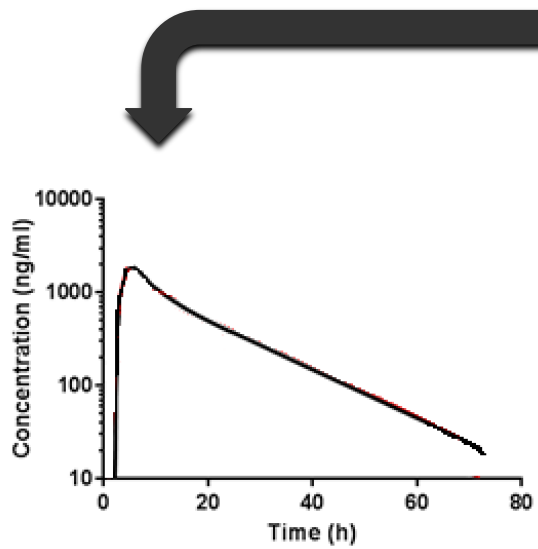
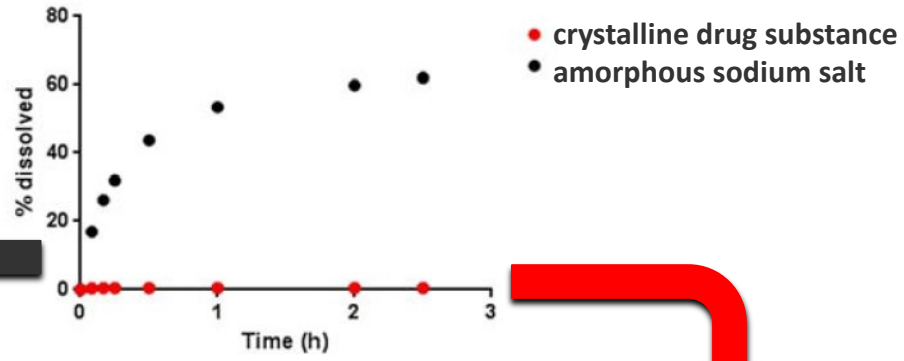
Amount dissolved  
Amount absorbed  
Amount entering portal vein  
Amount entering systemic circulation

<https://doi.org/10.1208/s12248-019-0292-3>

# Validation

Can the model differentiate between a bioequivalent and non-bioequivalent formulation?

150mg biorelevant dissolution profiles

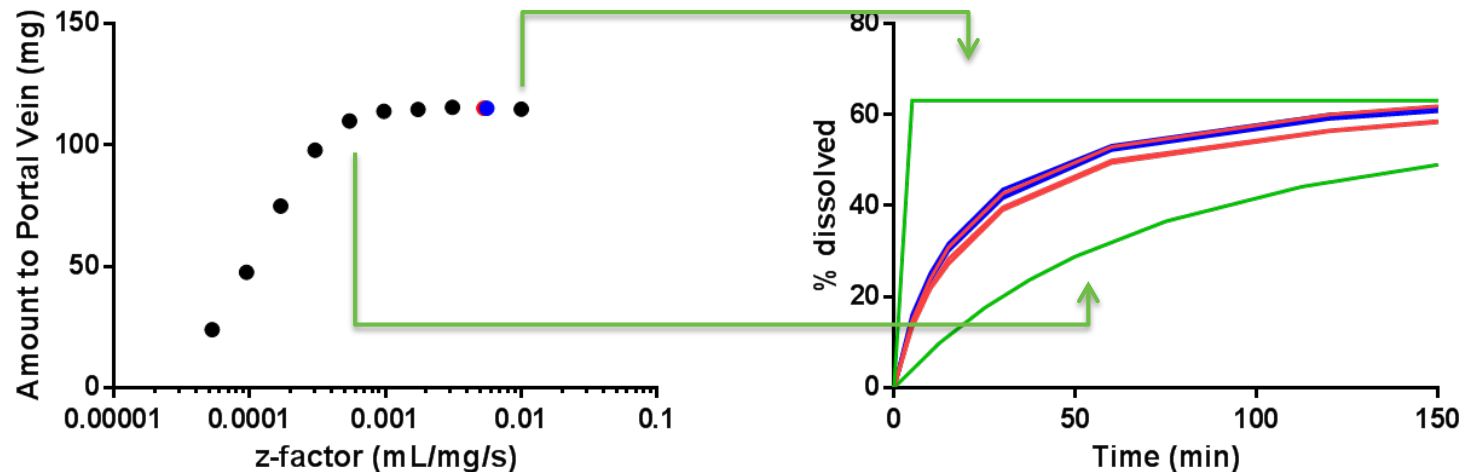




# Parameter sensitivity analysis

PSA on the dissolution rate of biorelevant dissolution profiles from:

- Reference formulations (---)
- Formulations demonstrating slower QC dissolution profiles (---)



Large toleration window for dissolution rate towards changes in bioavailability

All observed profiles well within the acceptable range

Overdiscriminative QC dissolution method



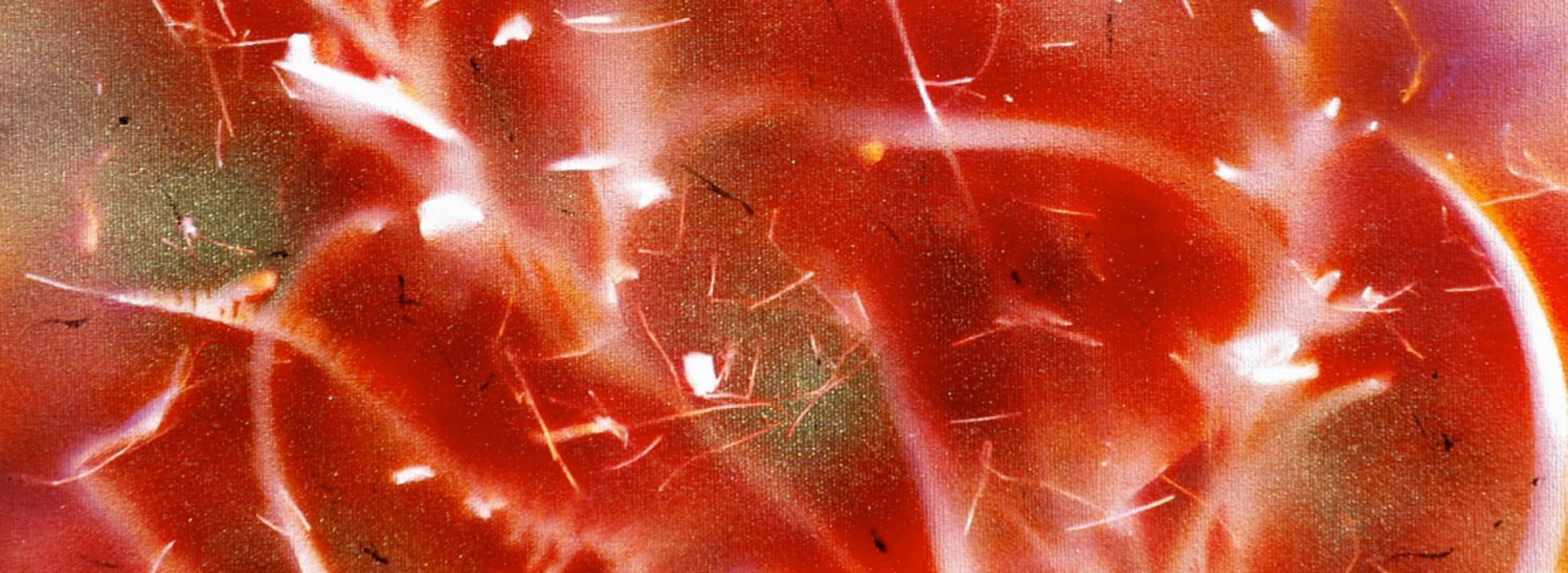
Supportive information for  
QC dissolution spec change

# Closing remarks

- **There is added value for biorelevant dissolution testing besides traditional QC testing.**
  
- **However!**
  - Time consuming
  - Resource intensive
  - When to start?
  
- **Two cases studies for bridging PBDT and QC using PBBM**
  - QC method selection and clinically relevant specifications
  - CRC during continuous improvement

# Acknowledgements





# Thank you

**More info?**

**Contact @ [ctistaer@its.jnj.com](mailto:ctistaer@its.jnj.com)**

Donna Williams, *Cheerful*  
Donna Williams, an autistic artist, author  
and renowned autism advocate, was  
diagnosed with breast cancer in 2011.

janssen

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES OF

*Johnson & Johnson*

