

Looking Back to Go Forward in Toxicology and Chemical Risk Assessment



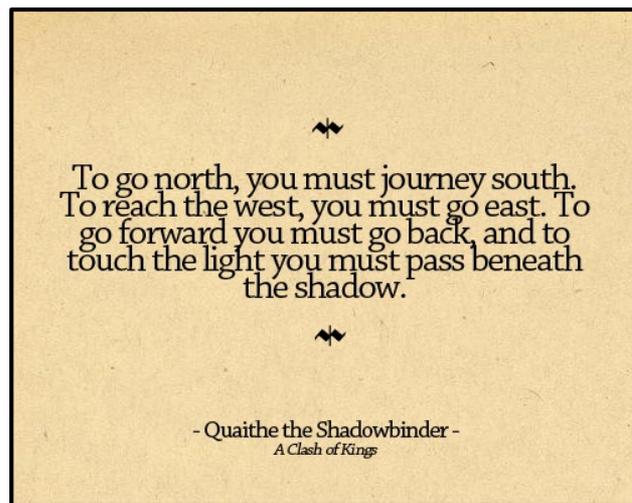
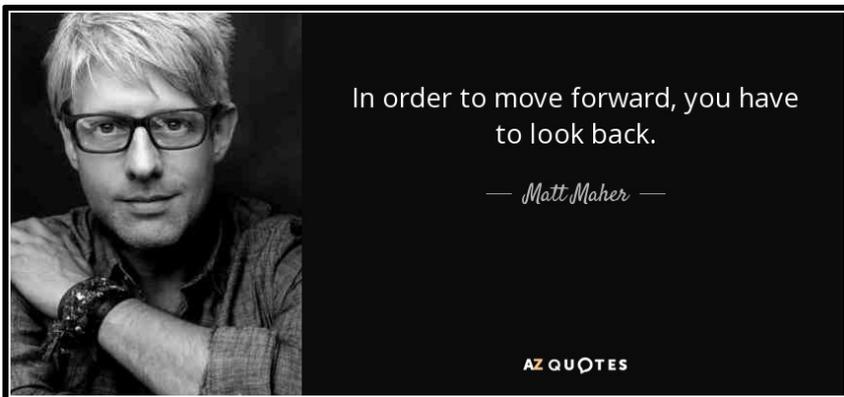
ICCR Meeting

July 11, 2019

**Rusty Thomas
Director**

National Center for Computational Toxicology

Many Philosophers Lay Claim to These or Similar Words...



But, Let's Explore the Approach in the Context of Tox Testing and NAMs...



Do Traditional Animal Models Predict Human Toxicity?

...data compiled from 150 compounds with 221 human toxicity events reported. The results showed the true positive human toxicity concordance rate of 71% for rodent and non-rodent species, with non-rodents alone being predictive for 63% of human toxicity and rodents alone for 43%.

Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology 32, 56–67 (2000)
doi:10.1006/rtp.2000.1399, available online at <http://www.idealibrary.com> on IDEAL[®]

Concordance of the Toxicity of Pharmaceuticals in Humans and in Animals

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Received January 22, 2000

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of a multinational pharmaceutical company survey and the outcome of an International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) Workshop (April 1999), which served to better understand concordance of the toxicity of pharmaceuticals observed in humans with that observed in experimental animals. The Workshop included representatives from academia, the multinational pharmaceutical industry, and international regulatory scientists. The main aim of this project was to examine the strengths and weaknesses of animal studies to predict human toxicity (HT). The database was developed from a survey which covered only those compounds where HTs were identified during clinical development of new pharmaceuticals, determining whether animal toxicity studies identified concordant target organ toxicities in humans. Data collected included codified compounds, therapeutic category, the HT organ system affected, and the species and duration of studies in which the corresponding HT was either first identified or not observed. This survey includes input from 12 pharmaceutical companies with data compiled from 150 compounds with 221 HT events reported. Multiple HTs were reported in 47 cases. The results showed the true positive HT concordance rate of 71% for rodent and nonrodent species, with nonrodents alone being predictive for 63% of HTs and rodents alone for 43%. The highest incidence of overall concordance was seen in hematological, gastrointestinal, and cardiovascular HTs, and the least was seen in cutaneous HT. Where animal models, in one or more species, identified concordant HT, 94% were first observed in studies of 1 month or less in duration. These survey results support the value of *in vivo* toxicology studies to predict for many significant HTs associated with pharmaceuticals and have helped to identify HT categories that may benefit from improved methods. © 2000 Academic Press

A vitally important theme in toxicology is the search for and the assessment of *in vitro* and *in vivo* models that are predictive for adverse effects in humans exposed to chemicals. The conduct of toxicology studies in laboratory animals is driven by experience, historical precedence, and governmental requirements, and the results of these studies usually, and reasonably, lead to restrictions on the use, or method of use, of the chemicals concerned. Such a process must be based on the assumption that the current choice of animal models and the design of the studies are truly predictive of human hazard. The reliability of this assumption has far-reaching repercussions in terms of the potential for inappropriate use of animals and the unnecessary deprivation of, or restrictions in the use of, valuable chemicals including pharmaceuticals. Identification of any weaknesses in the assumption could lead to revisions of existing regulations and stimulate the search for better methods for the safety evaluation of chemicals in the future.

There have been relatively few attempts to methodically assess the correlation between the toxicity caused by chemicals in animals and in humans. This is not surprising, given that the toxicity of many chemicals observed in humans is after accidental exposure, the quantitative details of which in terms of duration and intensity are often not known. Chemicals, which are components of the diet, either macro- or micro-, are more susceptible to evaluation of their toxicity in animals and in humans, provided that the means to carry out epidemiological studies are available. However, a rich source of relevant information is pharmaceutical chemicals. For these, the human exposure is controlled and measured accurately. In addition, clinical studies of drugs employ systematic clinical examinations and

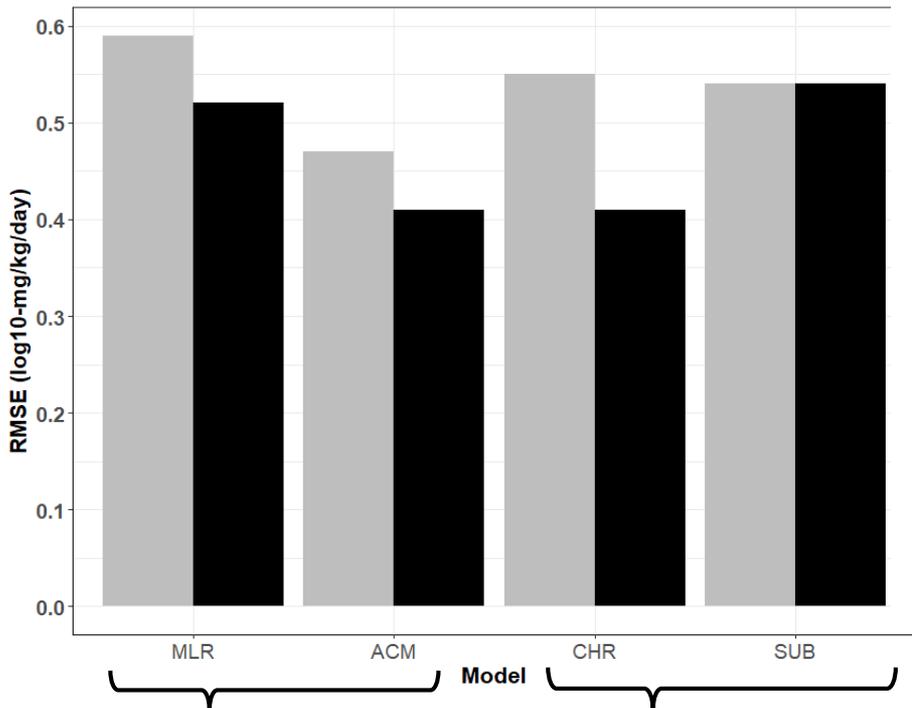
What is the Qualitative Reproducibility of Traditional Toxicity Studies?

Reproducibility in Target Organ Effects in Repeat Dose Toxicity Studies

Organ	Species	Repeated negative	Mixed effects	Repeated positive	% Concordance
Liver	dog	20	56% concordance across species		71.7
	mouse	30			71.2
	rat	42			71.0
Kidney	dog	49	39% concordance across species		64.1
	mouse	61			63.3
	rat	60			57.1
Spleen	dog	64	21	7	77.2
	mouse	93	31	15	77.7
	rat	132	84	29	65.7
Testes	dog	65	20	7	78.3
	mouse	110	20	9	85.6
	rat	135	87	23	64.5
Adrenal gland	dog	76	12	4	87.0
	mouse	109	23	7	83.5
	rat	142	83	20	66.1

What is the Quantitative Reproducibility in Traditional Toxicity Studies?

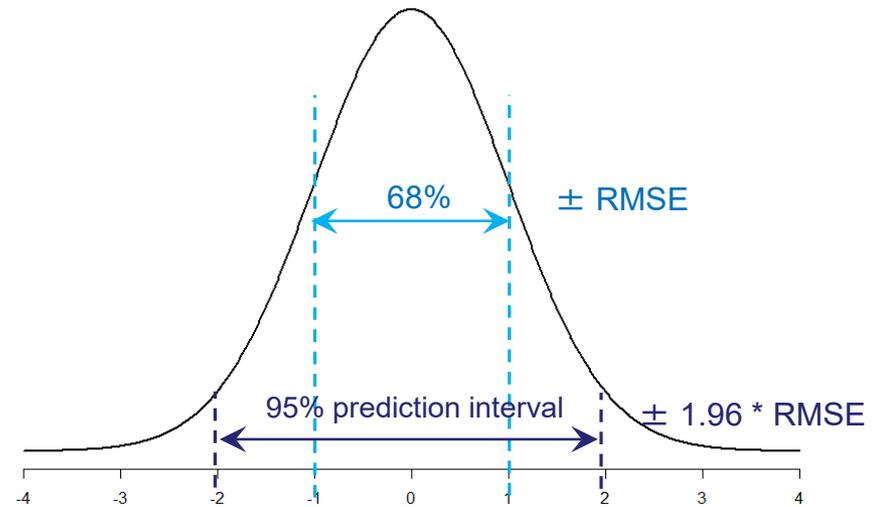
Variability in Quantitative Effect Levels from *In Vivo* Repeat Dose Toxicity Studies



Two ways to statistically model the data across multiple study types

Variability within a specific study type

RMSE ranged from 0.41 to 0.59 log₁₀-mg/kg/day, depending on model and dataset



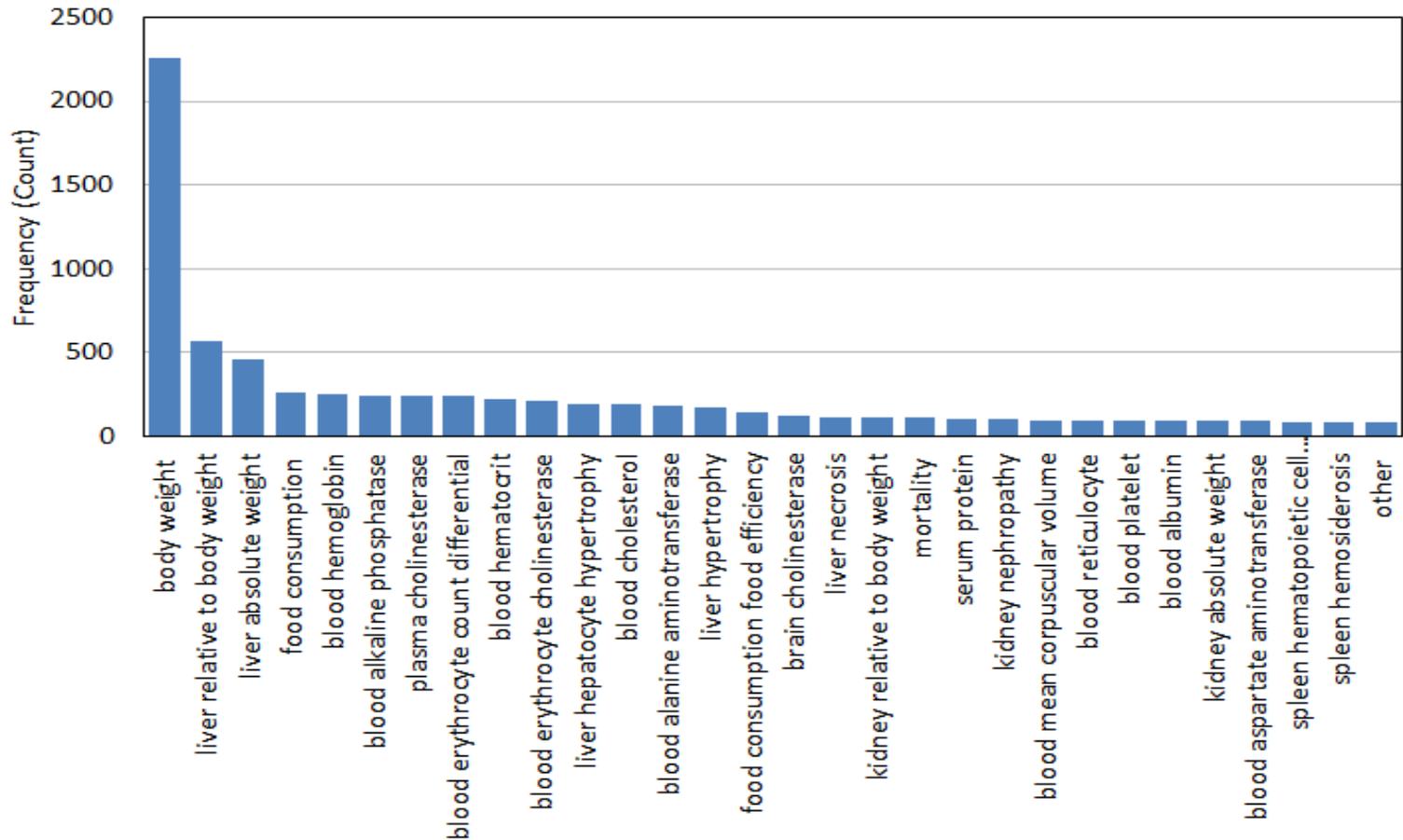
Using an RMSE=0.59, the 95% CI of an LEL/LOAEL is:

1 mg/kg/day → 0.07 – 14 mg/kg/day.

10 mg/kg/day → 0.7 – 143 mg/kg/day.

This confidence interval spans the difference between GHS STOT Category 1 (<10 mg/kg/d) and Category 2 (<100 mg/kg/d)

What are the Most Common Critical Effects Used in Regulatory Decisions?



Critical Effect Endpoints in Repeat Dose Tox Studies

We've Largely Overcome the Challenges By Being Protective...When We Can't Be Predictive

Chemicals with Unknown MOA

EPA/630/P-02/002F
December 2002
Final Report

A REVIEW OF THE REFERENCE DOSE AND REFERENCE CONCENTRATION PROCESSES

Prepared for the
Risk Assessment Forum
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Table 2-2. Uncertainty/safety factors for various reference values

Reference value	UF ^a				FQPA ^b
	U _A	U _H	U _L	U _D	
ARE	1, 3, 10	1, 3, 10	1, 3, 10	ND	NA
AEGL	1, 3, 10	1, 3, 10	3 ^c	ND ^d	NA
OPP acute and intermediate RfDs	10	10	3, 10	ND ^e	10±
OW HAs	1, 3, 10	1, 3, 10	1, 3, 10	case-specific	NA
ATSDR MRLs	1, 3, 10	1, 3, 10	1, 3, 10	ND ^d	NA

^a Uncertainty factors: U_A = animal-to-human; U_H = within-human variability;
U_L = LOAEL-to-NOAEL; U_D = database deficiency.
^b Additional safety factor required under FQPA.
^c Endpoint = lethality, not really a LOAEL-to-NOAEL adjustment in this case.
^d Database deficiencies considered, and a factor may be included for intermediate RfDs if, for example, there is no reproduction and fertility study.
^e Overlaps with the FQPA safety factor (see U.S. EPA, 2002b)

ND = not done
NA = not applicable

Bob
Gary
Lee
Carol
Gary
Susan
Deit

Chemicals with MOA

Guidance on Cumulative Risk Assessment of Pesticide Chemicals That Have a Common Mechanism of Toxicity



Office of Pesticide Programs
Science Policy on
The Use of Data on Cholinesterase Inhibition Risk Assessments for Organophosphorous and Carbamate Pesticides

August 18, 2000
Office of Pesticide Programs
Environmental Protection Agency
Washington DC 20460

Figure 1-1. Flow chart for early-life risk assessment using mode of action framework.

Can We Apply NAMs Under a Similar Framework?

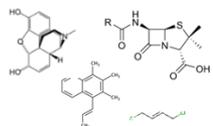


Key Mile Markers in the Future of Toxicity Testing



- Define predictive vs protective domains based on chemical promiscuity
- Incorporate technological advances to evaluate large numbers of chemicals across toxicological space
- Put results into a dose and exposure context
- Systematically address limitations of *in vitro* test systems
- Evaluate bioactivity across a diverse battery of *in vitro* assays as a quantitative estimate of potential adverse *in vivo* effect levels
- Case studies on uncertainty and variability in NAM-based toxicity values

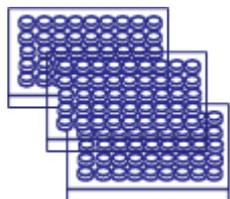
Application of High-Throughput Assays to Test Thousands of Chemicals



Thousands of
Chemicals



Concentration
Response
Screening



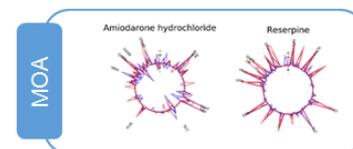
ToxCast Assays

Transcription Factors
Transporter
Cytokines
Kinases
Nuclear Receptors
CYP450 / ADME
Cholinesterase
Phosphatases
Proteases
XME metabolism
GPCRs
Ion channels

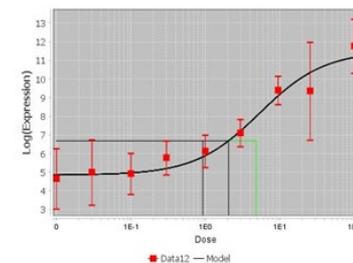
~700 Assay Endpoints



Mode-of-Action
Identification

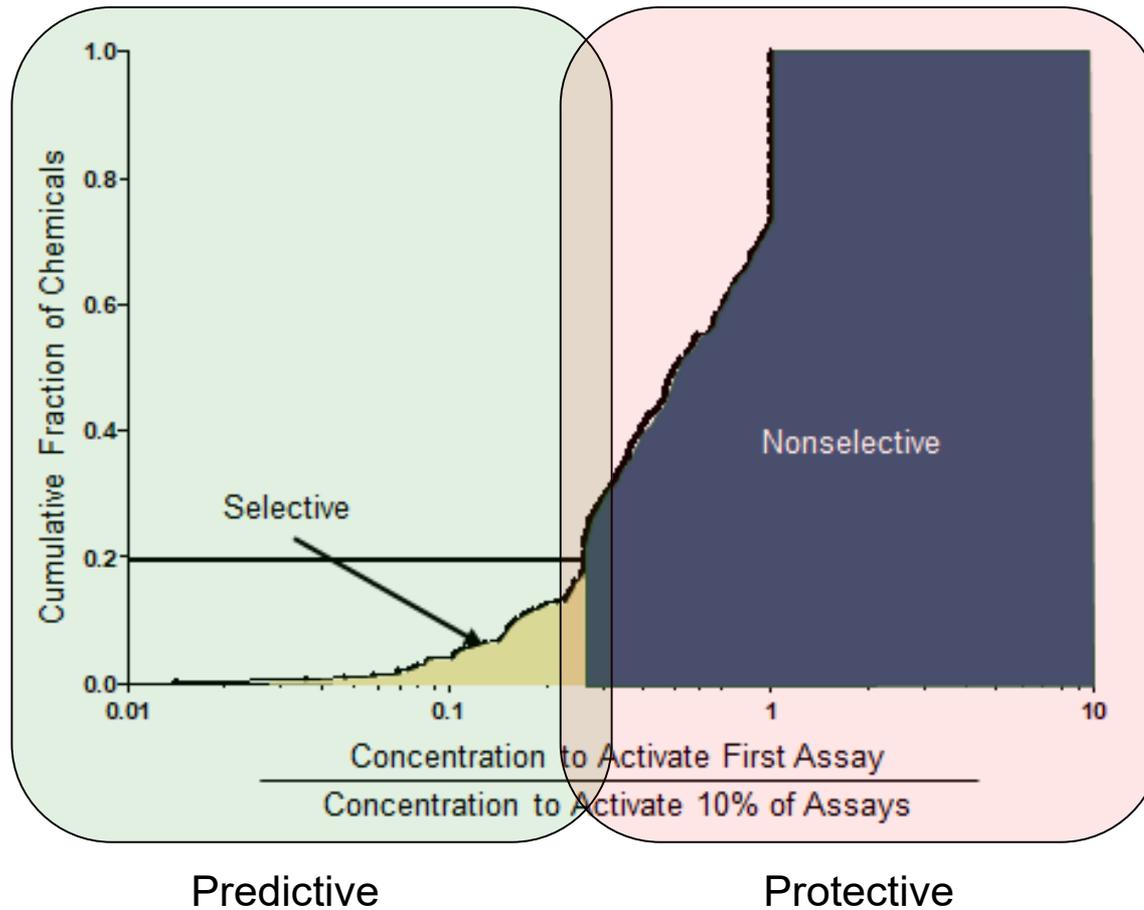


Concentration Response
Modeling

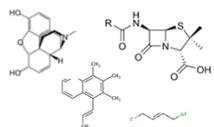


- 96, 384, and 1536-well format
- Coverage of molecular and phenotypic responses
- Multiple assay vendors/labs

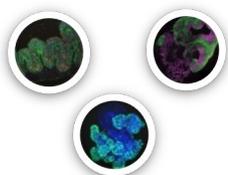
Defining Predictive vs Protective Domains Using Mechanistic Promiscuity



Incorporating High-Content Technologies to Increase Biological Coverage

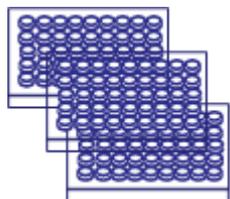


Thousands of
Chemicals

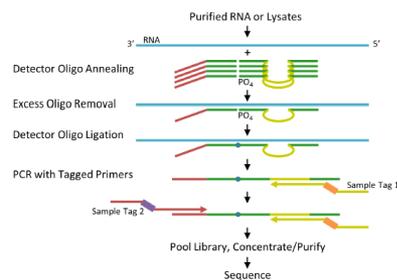


Multiple Cell
Types

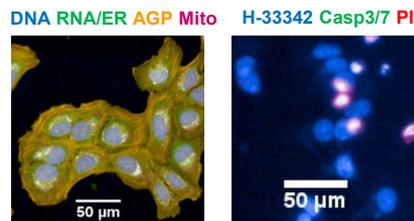
Concentration
Response
Screening



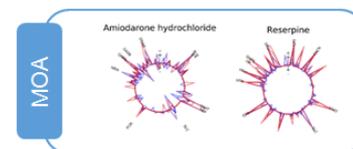
Whole Genome
Transcriptomics



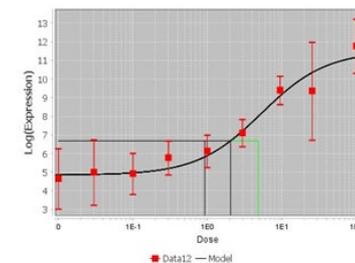
Multi-Parameter Cellular
Phenotypic Profiling



Mode-of-Action
Identification

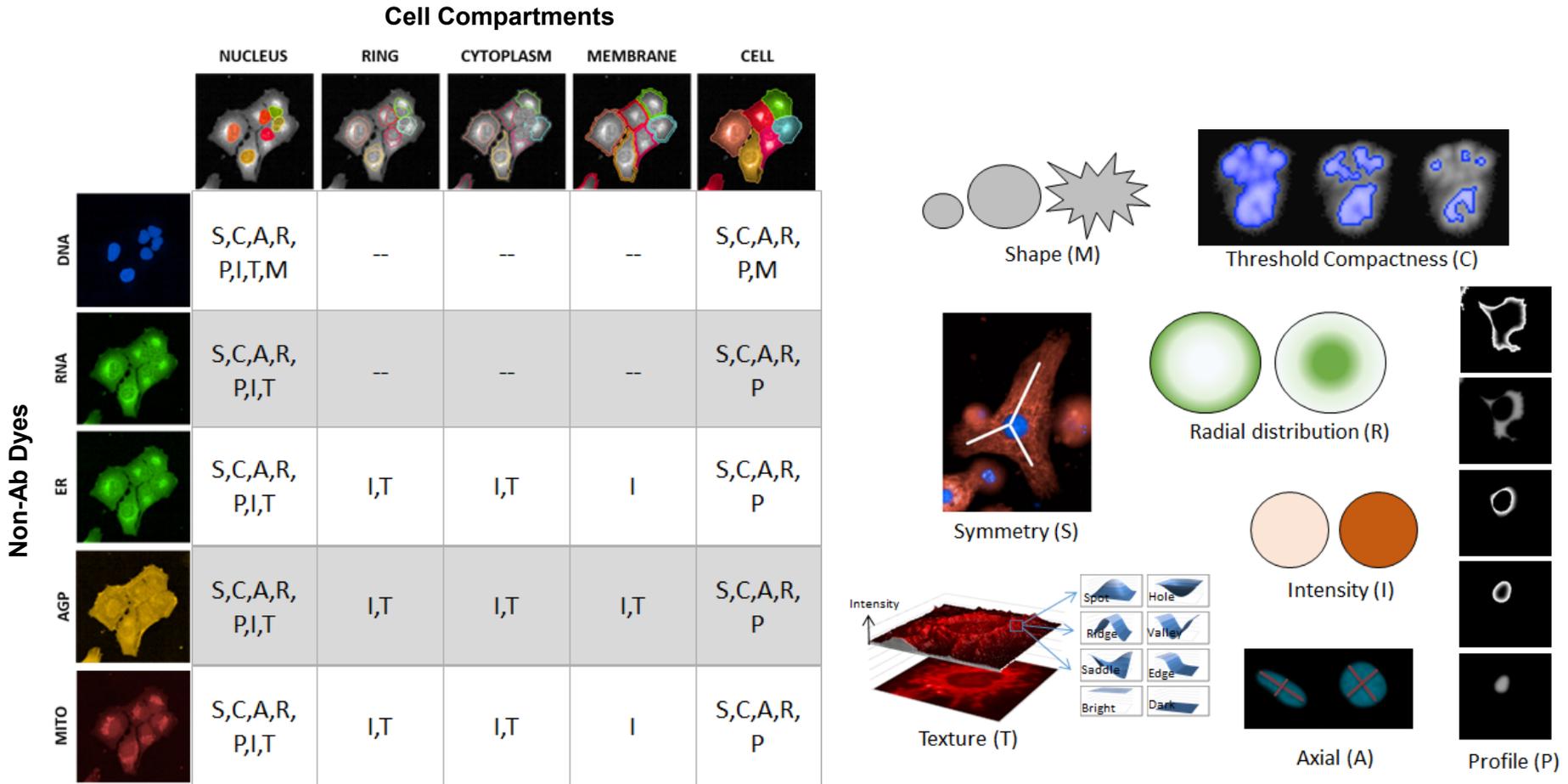


Concentration Response
Modeling



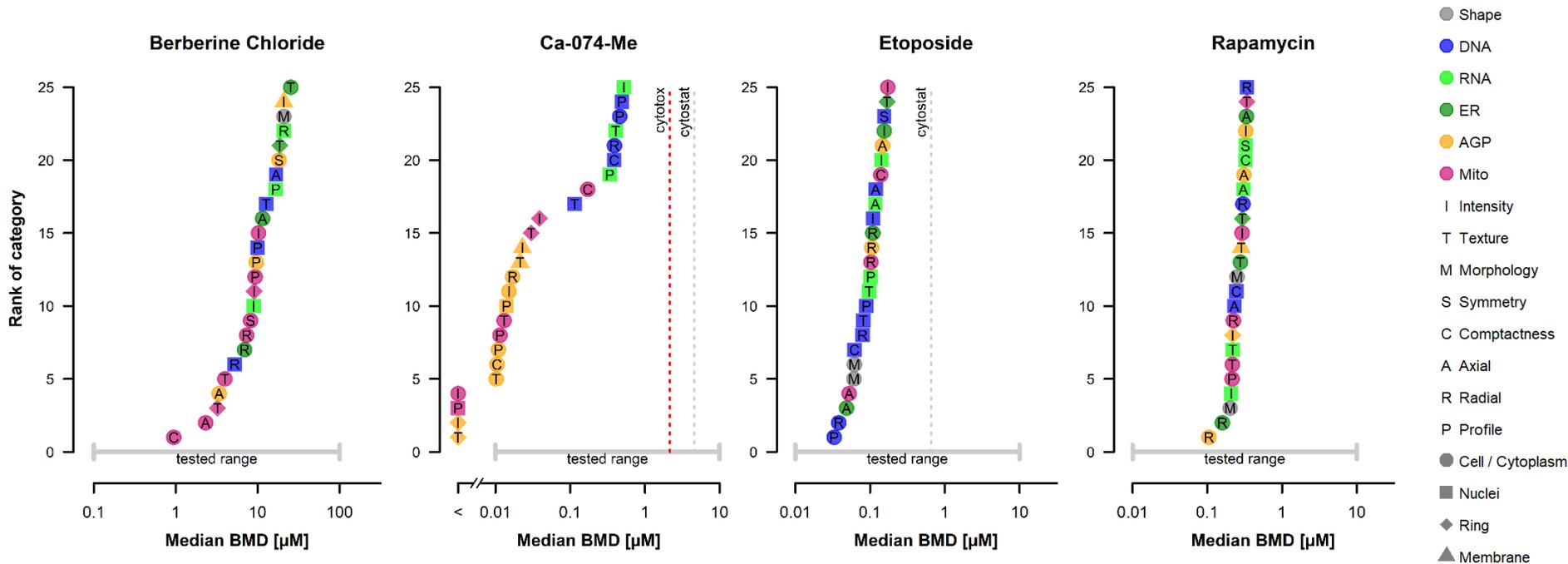
- 384-well, laboratory automation compatible
- Relatively inexpensive (\$2.50 - \$1,500 per chemical)
- Broad complementary coverage of molecular and phenotypic responses
- Integration of reference materials and controls for performance standards
- Increased portability

High-Throughput Phenotypic Profiling as a Measure of 'Cellular Pathology'



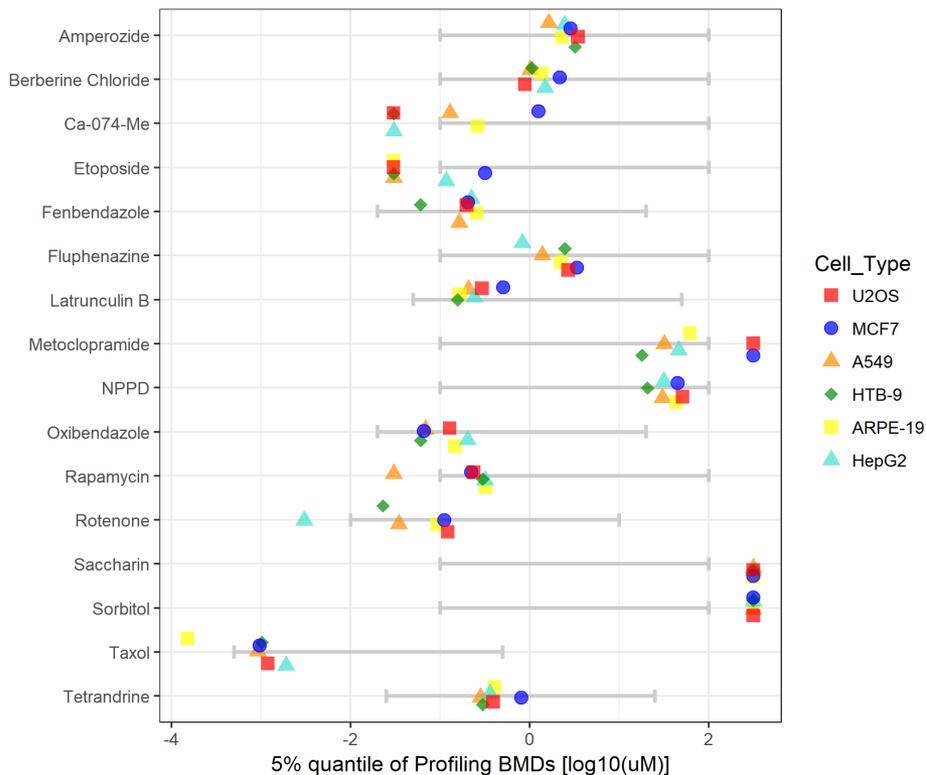
~1,300 total phenotypic endpoints

Unique Phenotypic Responses Associated with Different MOAs

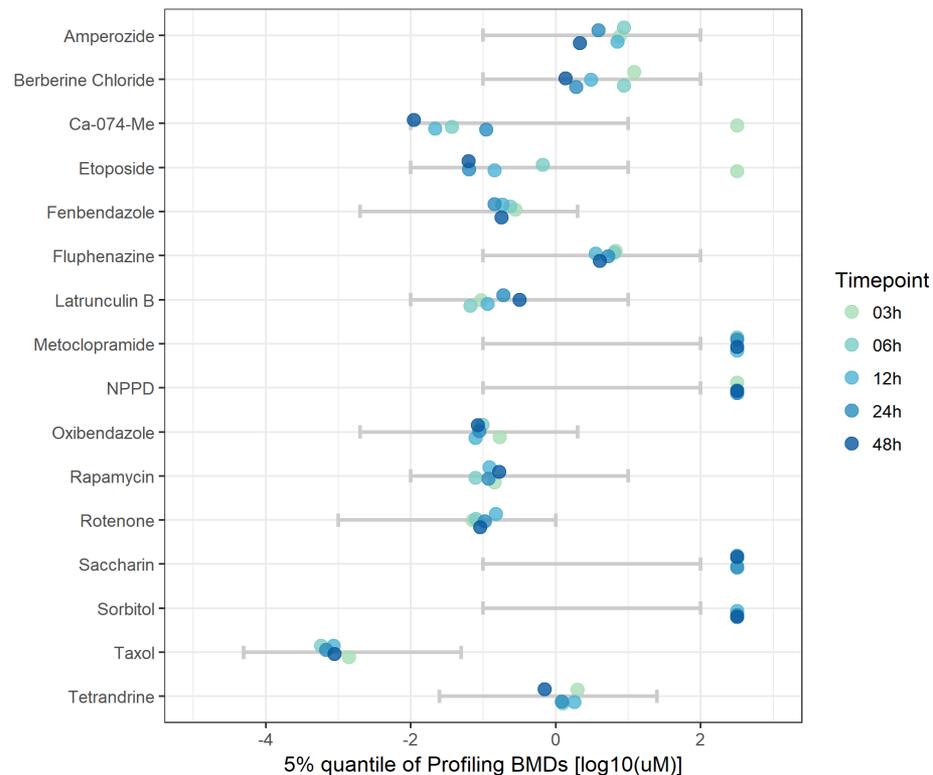


Variation in Phenotypic Potencies Across Cell Type and Time

Cell Type Differences (48 hr)

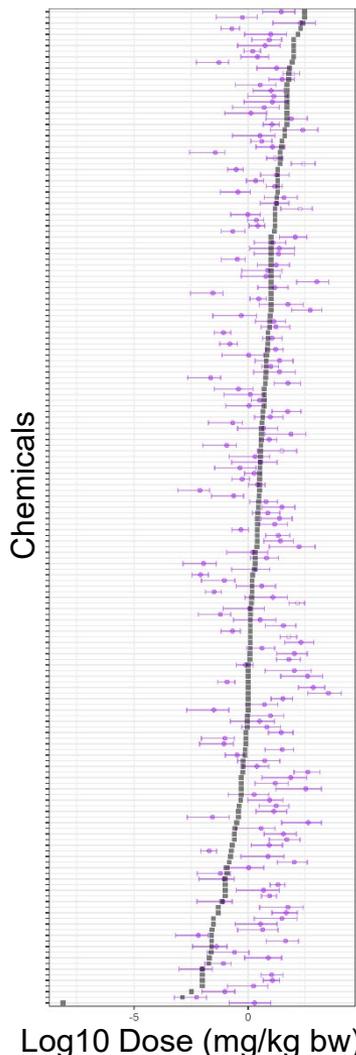


Time Point Differences (U2OS cells)



*Data points represent 5th percentile of phenotypic BMDs

Comparing 'Cellular Pathology' with *In Vivo* Effects

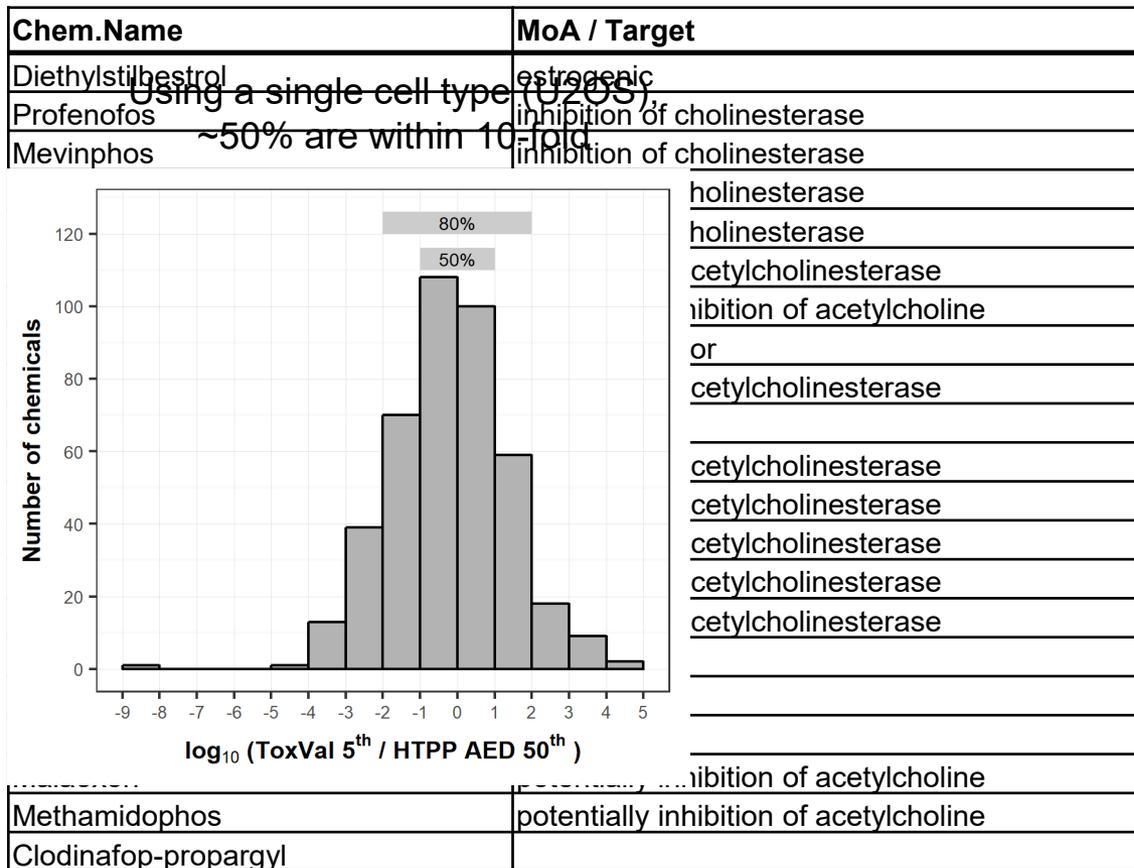


■ In Vivo
POD

● Profiling
POD

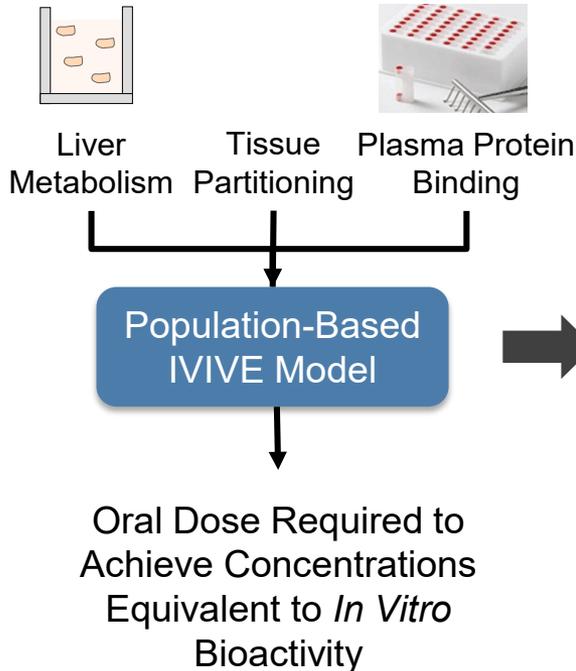
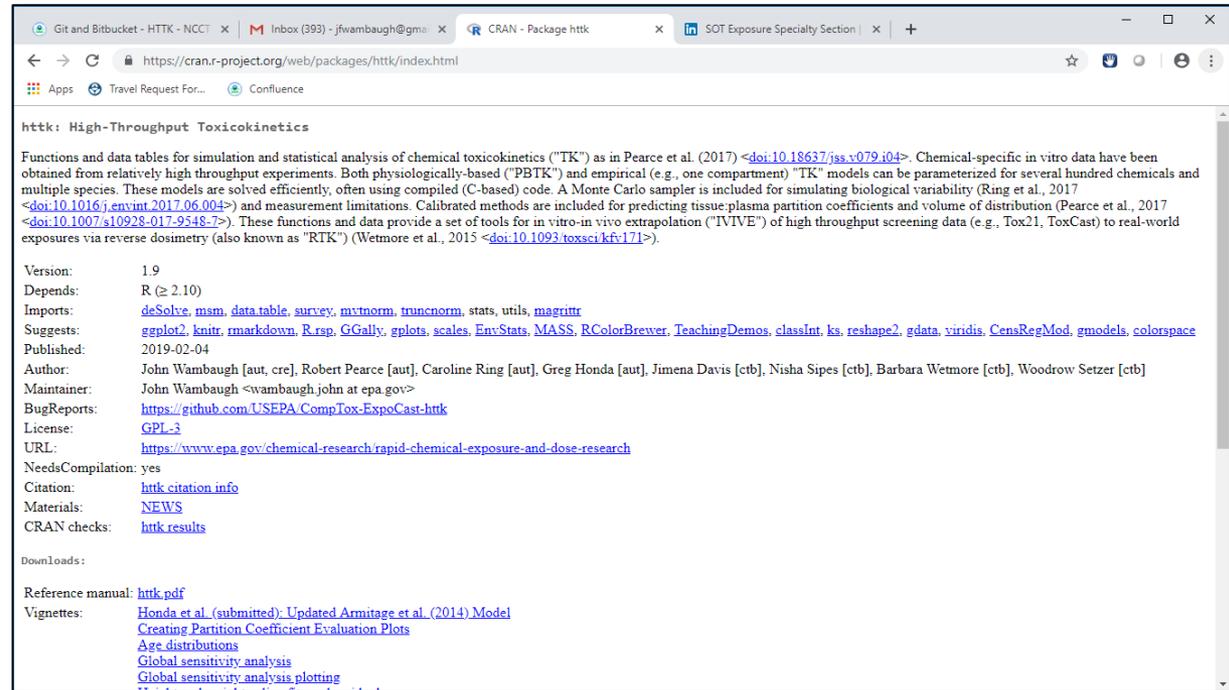


Chemicals Where Cellular Effects are Not Protective



*Results from a single cell type

Putting Alternative Test Results in a Dose and Exposure Context

<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/httk/index.html>

httk: High-Throughput Toxicokinetics

Functions and data tables for simulation and statistical analysis of chemical toxicokinetics ("TK") as in Pearce et al. (2017) <[doi:10.18637/jss.v079.i04](https://doi.org/10.18637/jss.v079.i04)>. Chemical-specific *in vitro* data have been obtained from relatively high throughput experiments. Both physiologically-based ("PBTK") and empirical (e.g., one compartment) "TK" models can be parameterized for several hundred chemicals and multiple species. These models are solved efficiently, often using compiled (C-based) code. A Monte Carlo sampler is included for simulating biological variability (Ring et al., 2017 <[doi:10.1016/j.envint.2017.06.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envint.2017.06.004)>) and measurement limitations. Calibrated methods are included for predicting tissue-plasma partition coefficients and volume of distribution (Pearce et al., 2017 <[doi:10.1007/s10928-017-9548-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10928-017-9548-7)>). These functions and data provide a set of tools for *in vitro-in vivo* extrapolation ("IVIVE") of high throughput screening data (e.g., Tox21, ToxCast) to real-world exposures via reverse dosimetry (also known as "RTK") (Wetmore et al., 2015 <[doi:10.1093/toxsci/kfv171](https://doi.org/10.1093/toxsci/kfv171)>).

Version: 1.9
 Depends: R (≥ 2.10)
 Imports: [deSolve](#), [msm](#), [data.table](#), [survey](#), [mytnorm](#), [truncnorm](#), stats, utils, [magrittr](#)
 Suggests: [ggplot2](#), [knitr](#), [rmarkdown](#), [R.rsp](#), [GGally](#), [gplots](#), [scales](#), [EnvStats](#), [MASS](#), [RColorBrewer](#), [TeachingDemos](#), [classInt](#), [ks](#), [reshape2](#), [gdata](#), [viridis](#), [CensRegMod](#), [gmodels](#), [colorspace](#)
 Published: 2019-02-04
 Author: John Wambaugh [aut, cre], Robert Pearce [aut], Caroline Ring [aut], Greg Honda [aut], Jimena Davis [ctb], Nisha Sipes [ctb], Barbara Wetmore [ctb], Woodrow Setzler [ctb]
 Maintainer: John Wambaugh <wambaugh.john@epa.gov>
 BugReports: <https://github.com/USEPA/CompTox-ExpoCast-httk>
 License: [GPL-3](#)
 URL: <https://www.epa.gov/chemical-research/rapid-chemical-exposure-and-dose-research>
 NeedsCompilation: yes
 Citation: [httk citation info](#)
 Materials: [NEWS](#)
 CRAN checks: [httk results](#)

Downloads:

Reference manual: [httk.pdf](#)
 Vignettes: [Honda et al. \(submitted\): Updated Armitage et al. \(2014\) Model](#)
[Creating Partition Coefficient Evaluation Plots](#)
[Age distributions](#)
[Global sensitivity analysis](#)
[Global sensitivity analysis plotting](#)

R package "httk"

- Open source, transparent, and peer-reviewed tools and data for **high throughput toxicokinetics (httk)**
- Allows *in vitro-in vivo* extrapolation (IVIVE) and physiologically-based toxicokinetics (PBTK)
- v1.10 features **942 total chemicals**
- Now allows propagation of uncertainty

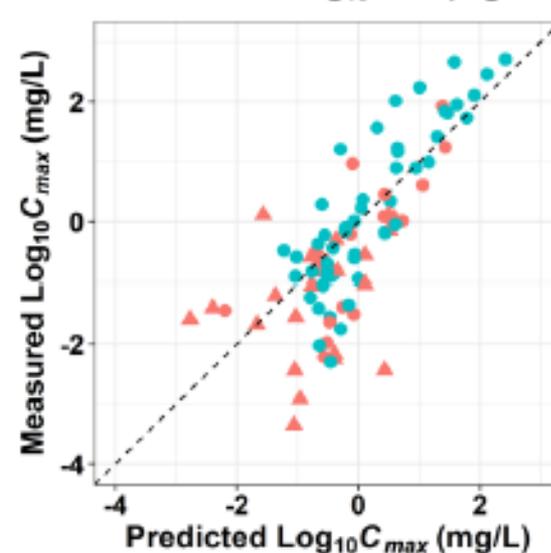
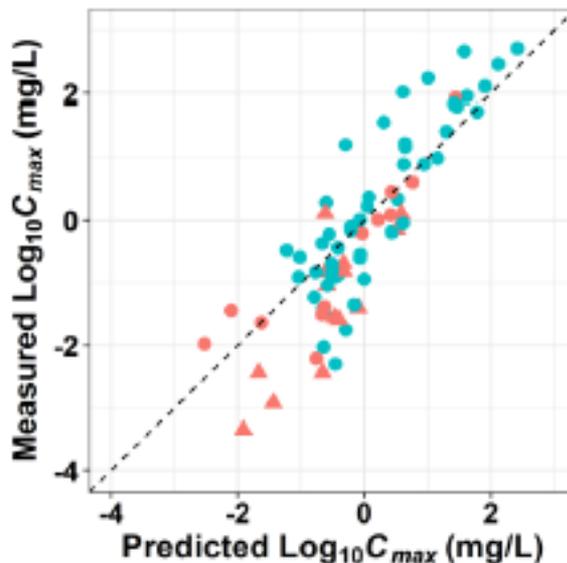
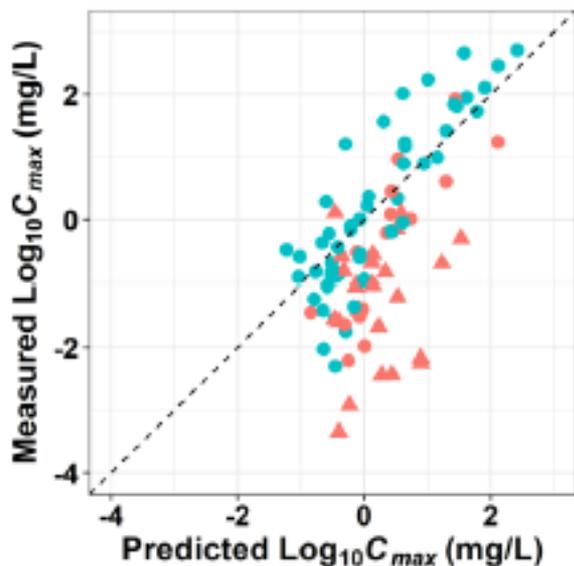
Rotroff *et al.*, *Tox Sci.*, 2010
 Wetmore *et al.*, *Tox Sci.*, 2012
 Wetmore *et al.*, *Tox Sci.*, 2015

Incorporating Measurements and Predictions of Bioavailability

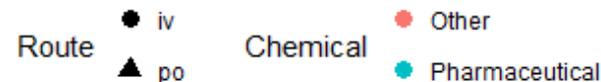
Assume 100%
Bioavailability

Using CaCo2
Bioavailability

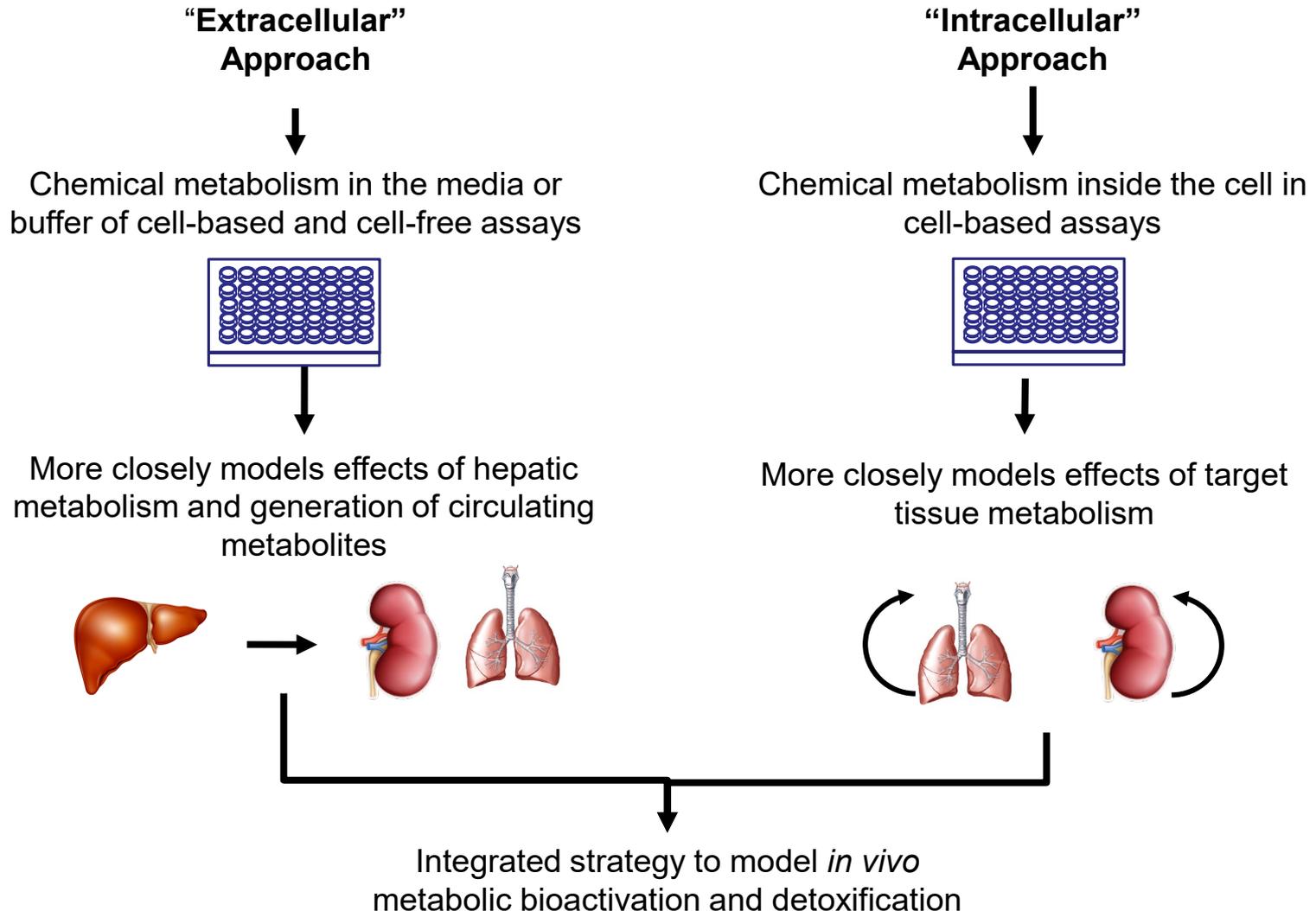
Using New QSAR
Model



Value	Route	Stat.	$F_{bio} = 1$	Meas. F_{bio}	Meas. P_{AB}	QSAR P_{AB}
AUC	All	RMSE	0.96	0.98	0.99	1.05
		COR	0.75	0.86	0.86	0.79
C_{max}	All	RMSE	1.14	0.76	0.76	0.90
		COR	0.66	0.86	0.83	0.76

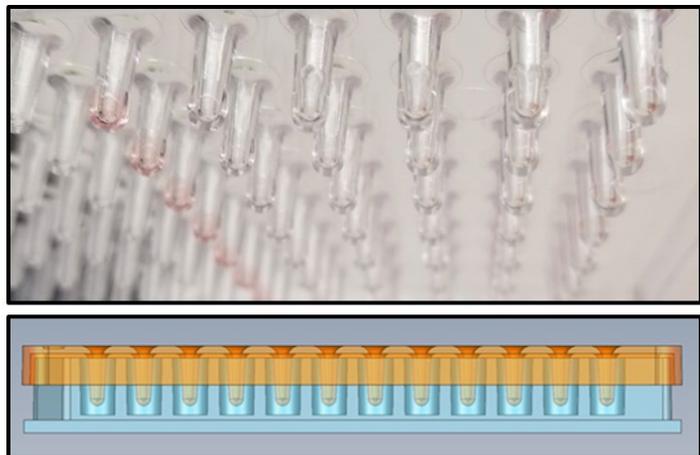


Incorporating Xenobiotic Metabolism in *In Vitro* Test Systems



Application of Extracellular Strategy to Identify Estrogenic Metabolites

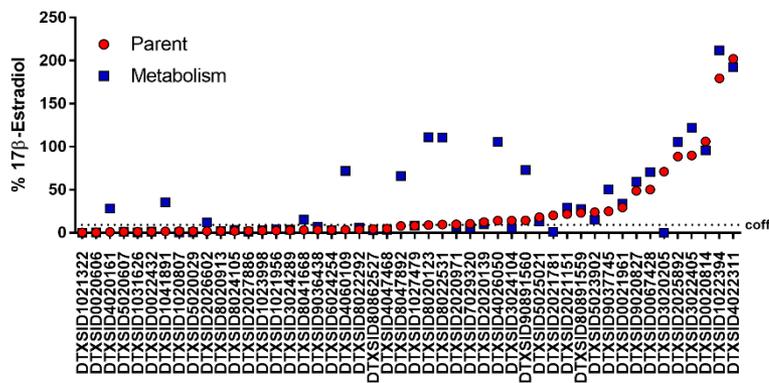
AIME Method: S9 Fraction Immobilization in Alginate Microspheres on 96- or 384-well peg



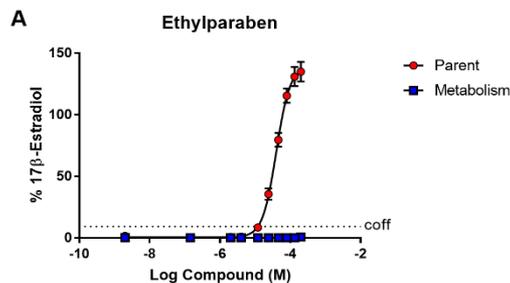
Screening Window of VM7 (formerly BG1) ER Transactivation Assay

		Metabolism	
		Neg	Pos
NRS	Neg	0.91	0.89
	Pos	0.91	0.71
		Z'	

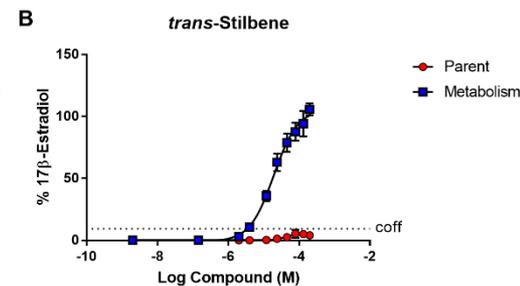
Pilot Screening Results of Pinto et al., 2016 Library



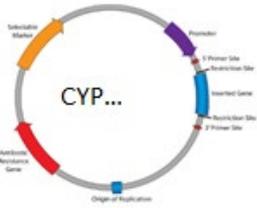
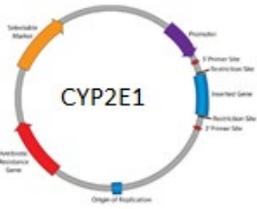
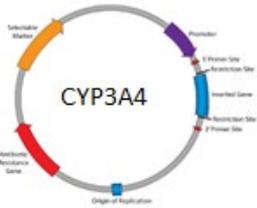
Example Detoxification



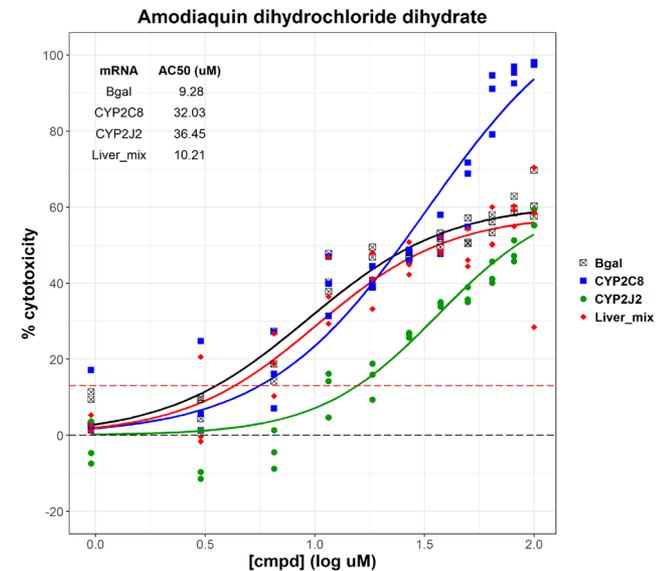
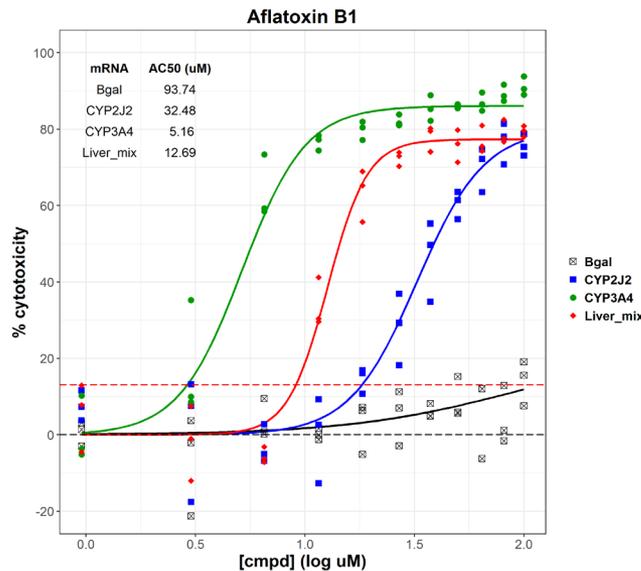
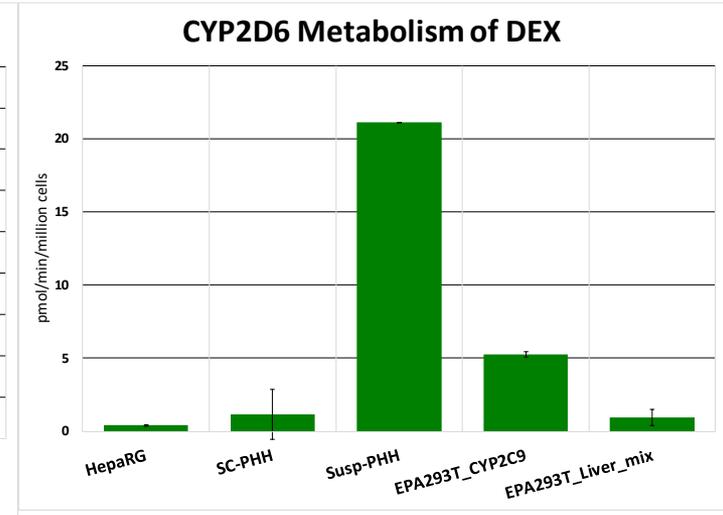
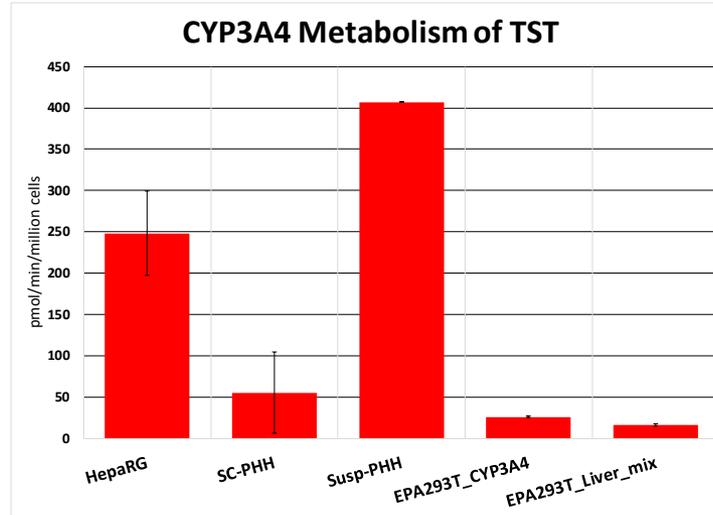
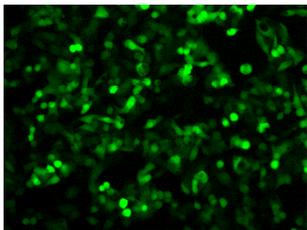
Example Bioactivation



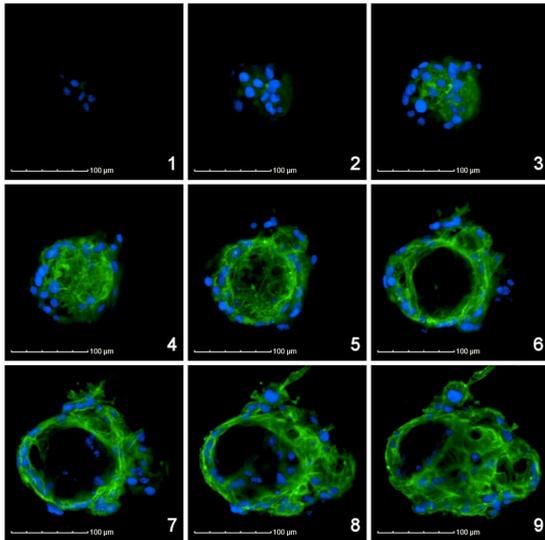
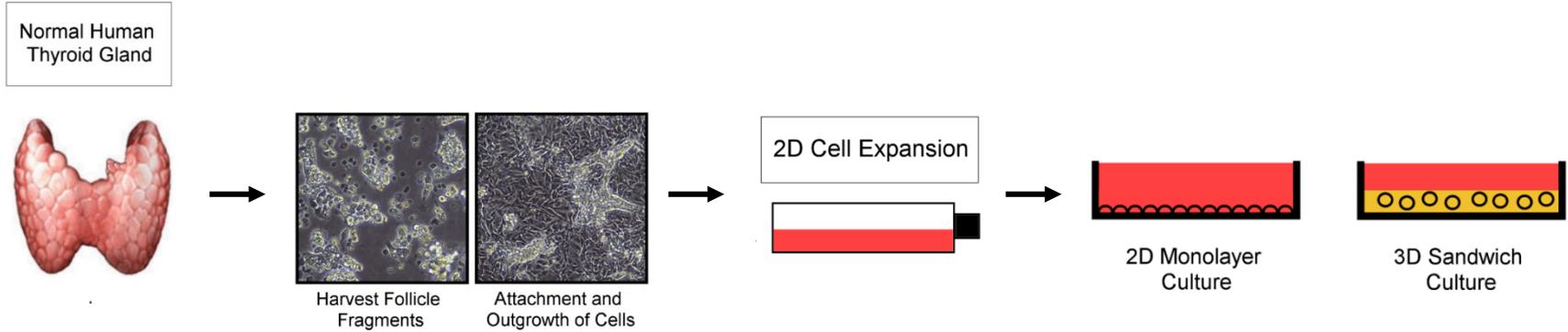
Application of Intracellular Strategy to Identify Cytotoxic Metabolites



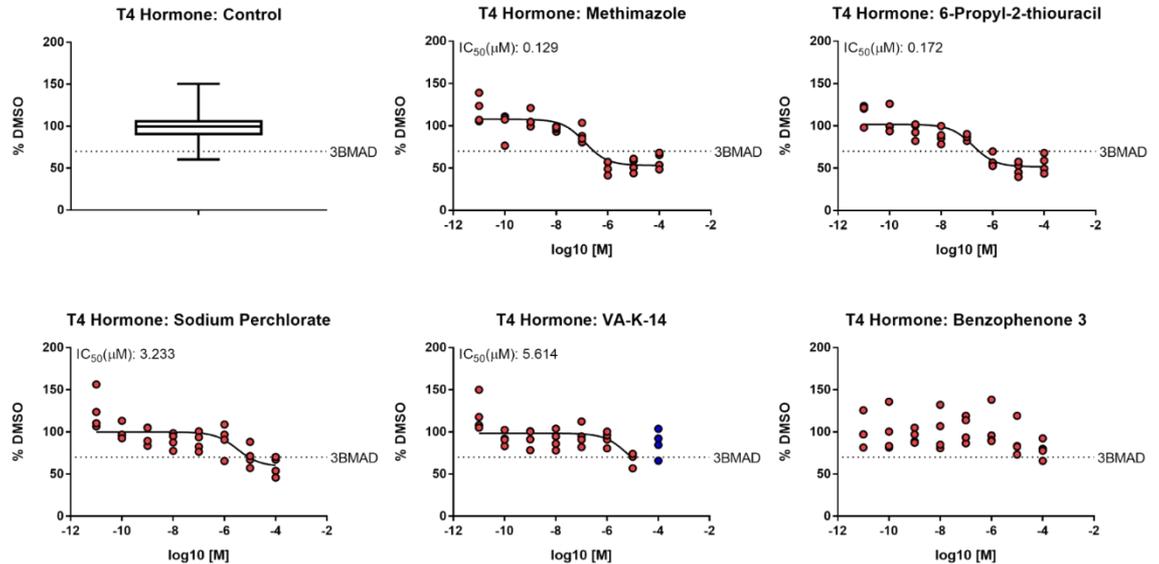
↓ mRNA



Developing Organotypic Culture Models to Identify Tissue/Organ Effects



Blue, Hoechst 33342 /DNA
Green, Phalloidin/Actin



Regulatory Focused Case Study on Bioactivity as a Point-of-Departure

- Multiple international case studies stemming from 2016 inter-governmental workshop
- Example: *In Vitro* Bioactivity as a Conservative Point of Departure
- Participants include EPA, Health Canada, ECHA, EFSA, JRC, and A*STAR
- Goal: Determine whether *in vitro* bioactivity from broad high-throughput screening studies (e.g., ToxCast) can be used as a conservative point-of-departure and when compared with exposure estimates serve to prioritize chemicals for future study or as lower tier risk assessment.

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Practitioner Insights: Bringing New Methods for Chemical Safety into the Regulatory Toolbox; It is Time to Get Serious

Chemicals

The recently amended toxics law requires the EPA to take significant strides towards using non-animal safety tests for chemicals. EPA's Dr. Robert Kavlock explores this challenge and reports on a recent international workshop the agency convened that lays the groundwork for tests that can reduce reliance on animals, costs and in many cases provide better information.

Chemical Research in Toxicology

Accelerating the Pace of Chemical Risk Assessment

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ABSTRACT: Change in chemical regulations worldwide have increased the demand for new data on chemical safety. New approach methodologies (NAM) are defined broadly here as including *in silico* approaches and *in vitro* assays, as well as the inclusion of information from the exposure of chemicals in the context of hazard [European Chemical Agency "New Approach Methodologies in Regulatory Science", 2016]. NAMs for toxicity testing, including alternatives to animal testing approaches, have shown promise to provide a large amount of data to fill information gaps in both hazard and exposure. In order to increase experience with the new data and to advance the applications of NAM data to evaluate the safety of data-poor chemicals, demonstration case studies have to be developed to build confidence in their usability. Case studies can be used to explore the domains of applicability of the NAM data and identify areas that would benefit from further research, development, and application. To ensure that the science evolves with direct input from and engagement by risk managers and regulatory decision makers, a workshop was convened among senior leaders from international regulatory agencies to identify common barriers to identify common barriers to propose next steps to address them. Central to the workshop were a series of collaborative case studies designed to explore areas where the benefits of NAM data could be demonstrated. These included use of *in vitro* bioactivity data in combination with exposure estimates to derive a quantitative assessment of risk, use of NAMs for updating chemical categorizations, and use of NAMs to increase understanding of exposure and human health toxicity of exposure chemicals. The case study approach proved effective in building collaborations and engagement with regulatory decision makers and to promote the importance of data and knowledge sharing among international regulatory agencies. The case studies will be continued to explore new ways of describing hazard (i.e., pathway perturbations as a measure of adversity) and new ways of describing risk (i.e., using NAMs to identify protective levels without necessarily being predictive of a specific hazard). Importantly, the case studies also highlighted the need for increased training and communication across the various communities including the risk assessors, regulators, stakeholders (e.g., industry, non-governmental organizations) and the general public. The development and application of NAMs will play an increasing role in filling important data gaps on the safety of chemicals, but confidence in NAMs will only come with learning by doing and sharing in the experience.

CONTENTS

1. Overview
2. Next Steps
3. Conclusion

Alpha Information
 OCID
 Notes
 Biographies
 References

1. OVERVIEW

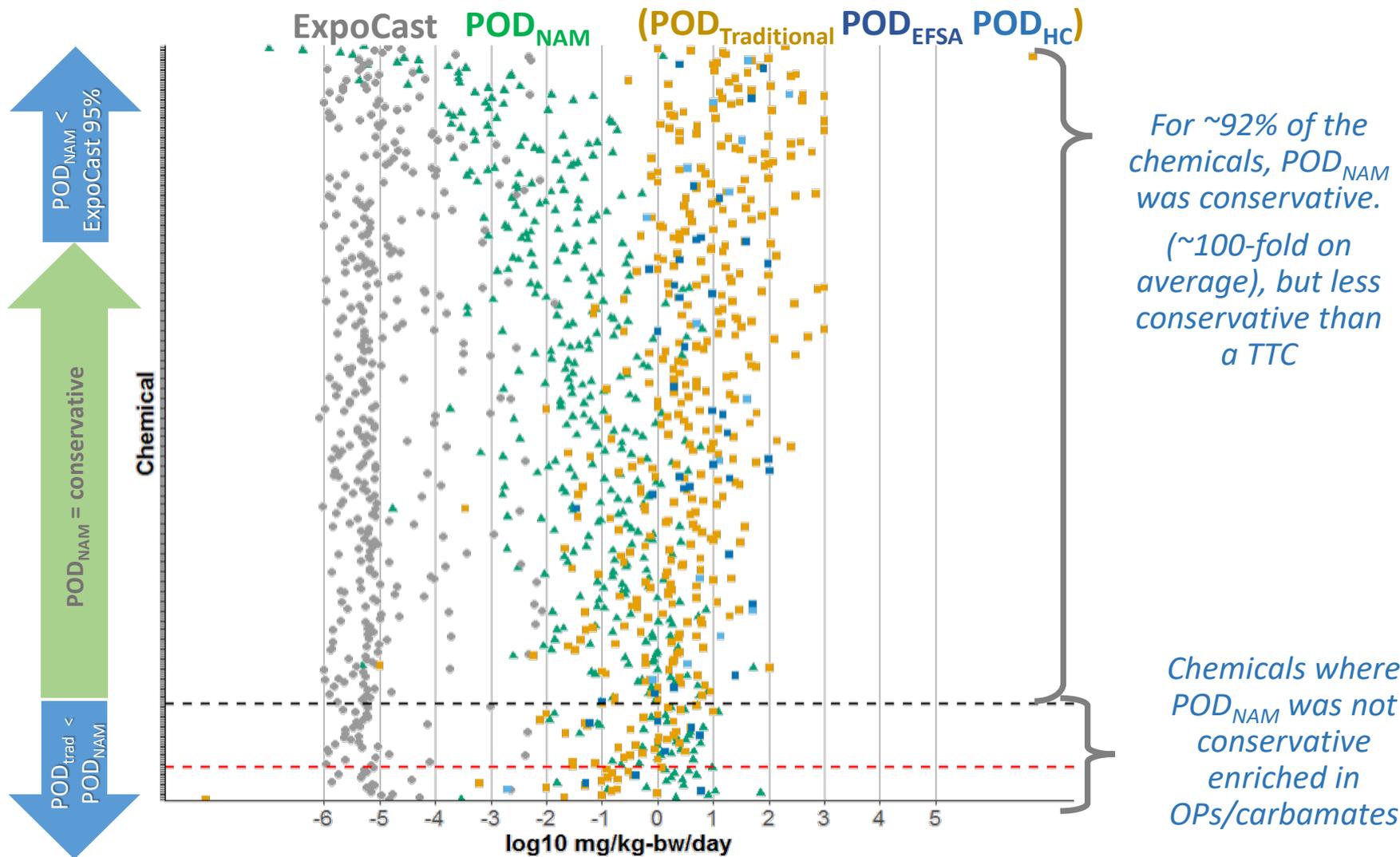
The modernization of the U.S. Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), the implementation of European Union's Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), the next phase of the Canadian Chemicals Management Plan (CMP), and many international chemical management policies and laws have exceeded the demand for data on the safety of chemicals. To meet this demand, a variety of new data streams—in hazard, exposure, and dose evaluation—are being considered to support traditional toxicology data which has mostly relied on animal models. The new data are diverse and include data from high-throughput toxicity and toxicokinetic testing, molecular epidemiology, toxicogenomics, exposure science, computational chemistry, and new animal models, among others.

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Results from the Bioactivity as a Point-of-Departure Case Study



International case study with EPA, ASTAR, ECHA, Health Canada, and EFSA

On-Going Case Study Comparing Traditional and NAM-Based Toxicity Values



UF_A
(0, 3, 10)

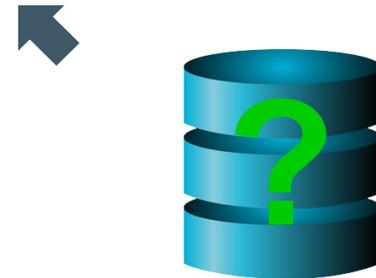


UF_H
(0, 3, 10)

$$RfD_{NAM} \text{ (mg/kg/d)} = \frac{\text{Bioactivity 5}^{\text{th}} \text{ Percentile} + \text{HTTK (variability)}}{UF_H (3) + UF_D (?)*}$$

LOAEL-~~+~~-NOAEL
✓

UF_L
(0, 3, 10)



UF_D
(0, 3, 10)

Preliminary Results Comparing Traditional and NAM-Based Toxicity Values

Chemical	CASRN	POD (mg/kg-day) ^a	Composite UF	RfD (mg/kg-day) ^b	AED ₉₅ (mg/kg-day)	RfD _{NAM} (mg/kg-day) ^c
Bisphenol A	80-05-7	50 (L)	1000	5.00E-02 (I)	0.02897	9.66E-03
Butylate	2008-41-5	5 (N)	100	5.00E-02 (I)	0.028281	9.43E-03
Caprolactam	105-60-2	50 (N)	100	5.00E-01 (I)	0.010422	3.47E-03
4-Chloro-2-methylaniline	95-69-2	3.69 (N)	1000	3.00E-03 (P)	0.000728	2.43E-04
4-Chloroaniline	106-47-8	12.5 (L)	3000	4.00E-03 (I)	0.011983	3.99E-03
o-Cresol	95-48-7	50 (N)	1000	5.00E-02 (I)	0.230287	7.68E-02
p-Cresol	106-44-5	13.94 (B)	100	1.00E-01 (A)	5.082245	1.69E+00
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) Hexanedioate	103-23-1	170 (N)	300	6.00E-01 (I)	0.11635	3.88E-02
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	106-46-7	7 (N)	100	7.00E-02 (A)	0.034121	1.14E-02
Diisopropyl methylphosphonate	1445-75-6	75 (N)	1000	8.00E-02 (I)	0.115161	3.84E-02
2-Methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol	534-52-1	0.8 (L)	10000	8.00E-05 (P, Appendix)	0.000542	1.81E-04
2,4-Dinitrophenol	51-28-5	2 (L)	1000	2.00E-03 (I)	0.006405	2.14E-03
^a 2-Mercapto-benzothiazole	149-30-4	3.56 (B)	1000	4.00E-03 (P)	0.261347	8.71E-02

^a Point-of-departure (POD): (B)= BMDL; (N)= NOAEL; (L)= LOAEL

^b RfDs (or MRLs) derived from multiple sources: (A)= ATSDR; (I)= IRIS; (P)= PPRTV; (O)= OPP

^c RfD_{NAM} = AED₉₅ / UF_{NAM} of 3

Preliminary Results Comparing Traditional and NAM-Based Toxicity Values

Chemical	CASRN	RfD _{IRIS} (mg/kg)	POD (mg/kg) ^a	Composite UF	Basis	AED ₉₅ (mg/kg)	RfD _{NAM} (mg/kg)
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)hexanedioate	103-23-1	0.6	170 (N)	300	Parental body weight, liver weight; Fetus reduced ossification, dilated ureters, litter size and weight	0.29	0.1
4-Chloroaniline	106-47-8	0.004	12.5 (L)	3000	Lesions of the splenic capsule	0.097	0.03
Phenol	108-95-2	0.3	93 (B)	300	Maternal weight	0.81	0.27
Anthracene	120-12-7	0.3	1000 (N)	3000	No effects observed	0.013	0.004
2,4-Dinitrotoluene	121-14-2	0.002	0.2 (N)	100	Neurotox, Heinz bodies, billiary hyperplasia	0.01	0.004
Pyrene	129-00-0	0.03	75 (N)	3000	Kidney effects	0.07	0.02
Diisopropyl methylphosphonate	1445-75-6	0.08	75 (N)	1000	No effects observed	0.32	0.11
Fluoranthene	206-44-0	0.04	125 (N)	3000	Nephropathy, liver weight, hematological alterations, clinical effects	0.1	0.03

^aValues in parentheses = N, NOAEL; L, LOAEL; B, BMD

Take Home Messages

- A deeper look back at toxicology and risk assessment is an important part of moving forward to a new future
- Toxicity testing and risk assessment approaches should be tailored to the relative biological specificity of the chemical
- Biological activity across a diverse battery of *in vitro* assays provides a conservative, quantitative estimate of potential adverse *in vivo* effect levels
- NAM-based risk assessments will require addressing technical limitations in current test systems and utilizing new technologies that comprehensively cover toxicological space

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