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Drug Absorption and Bioavailability

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Clinical Pharmacology Program

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**Office of Clinical Research Training and Medical
Education**

National Institutes of Health

Clinical Center

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GOALS of Drug Absorption and Bioavailability Lecture

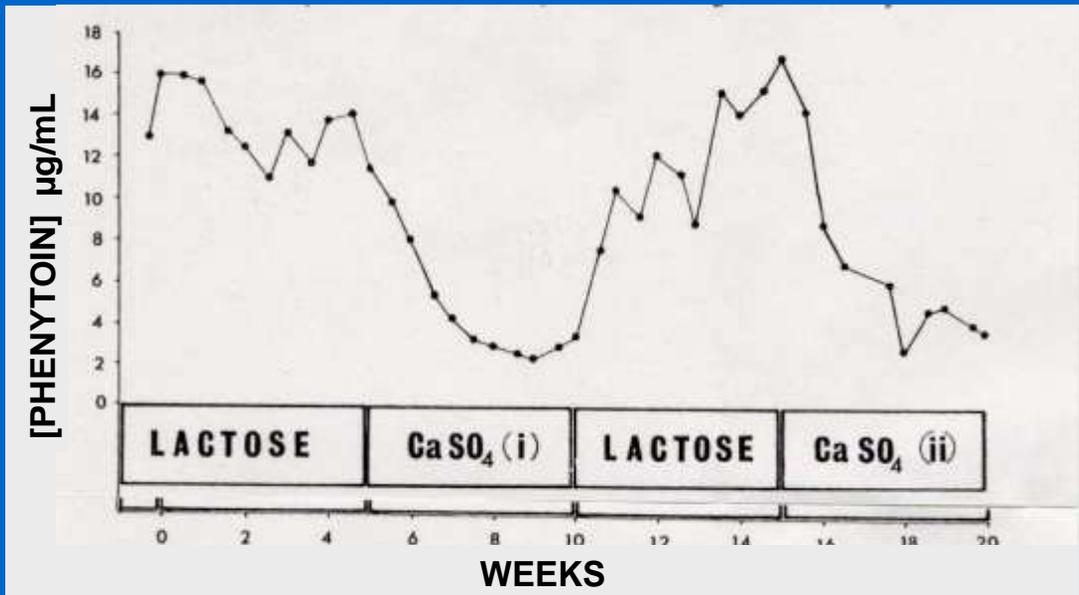
- *Factors Affecting Drug Absorption*
 - *Estimation of Bioavailability*
 - *Clinical Significance of Differences in Bioavailability*
 - *Prediction of Bioavailability in High-Throughput Drug Candidate Screening*
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Factors Affecting DRUG ABSORPTION

- **Biopharmaceutic Factors**
 - Tablet compression
 - Coating and Matrix
 - Excipients
 - **Interactions**
 - Food
 - Other Drugs
 - Bacteria
 - **Physiological Factors**
- 

Change in PHENYTOIN *Excipients* Results in Epidemic Toxicity*



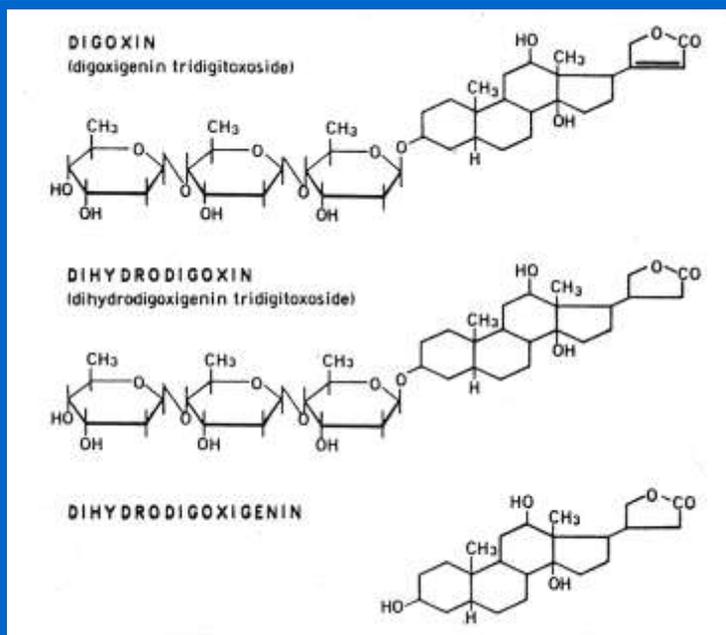
* Bochner F, et al. Proc Aust Assoc Neurol 1973;9:165-70

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Factors Affecting DRUG ABSORPTION

- Biopharmaceutic Factors
 - **INTERACTIONS**
 - **Food**
 - **Other Drugs**
 - **Bacteria**
 - Physiologic Factors
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ENTERIC METABOLISM OF DIGOXIN*



* Lindenbaum J, et al. N Engl J Med 1981;305:789-94.



Factors Affecting DRUG ABSORPTION

- Biopharmaceutic Factors
- Interactions
- **PHYSIOLOGICAL FACTORS**





Drug Absorption

Passive Non-Ionic Diffusion:
**Primary mechanism for
most drugs.**



⋮

Drug Absorption

- Specialized Transport Mechanisms

**Large Neutral Amino Acid
Transporter:**

L-Dopa, Methyldopa, Baclofen

⋮

⋮

Drug Absorption

- Specialized Transport Mechanisms

Oligopeptide Transporter

(PEPT-1):

Amino-beta-lactams

ACE Inhibitors

⋮

⋮

Drug Absorption

- Specialized Transport Mechanisms

Monocarboxylic Acid Transporter:

Salicylic acid

Pravastatin

⋮

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FALLACIES Concerning Gastric Drug Absorption

- **Acidic Drugs absorbed in the stomach**
- **Basic Drugs absorbed in the small intestine**
- **Gastric pH is always acidic**

**In Fact, most drug absorption occurs in the
SMALL INTESTINE**

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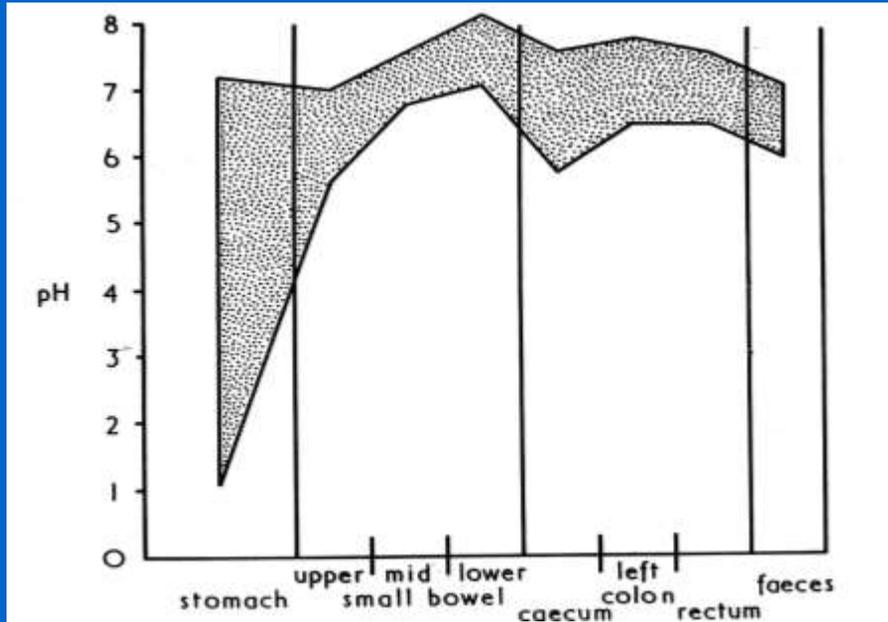
ASPIRIN ABSORPTION FROM *STOMACH AND SMALL INTESTINE**

**TABLE 1: ASPIRIN (ASA) ABSORPTION FROM SIMULTANEOUSLY
PERFUSED STOMACH AND SMALL INTESTINE (3)**

pH	ASA ABSORPTION (micromol/100 mg protein/hr)		ASA SERUM LEVEL (mg/100 ml)
	STOMACH	SMALL BOWEL	
3.5	346	469	20.6
6.5	0	424	19.7

* From: Hollander D, et al. J Lab Clin Med 1981;98:591-8

Variation in Gastric and Intestinal pH*



* Meldrum SJ, et al. Br Med J 1972;2:104-6.

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PHYSIOLOGICAL FACTORS Affecting Drug Absorption

- **Rate of gastric emptying** is a major determinant of *initial delay* in drug absorption.
 - **Intestinal motility** is a determinant of the *extent* of drug absorption.
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PATTERNS OF GASTRIC MOTOR ACTIVITY

FASTING (Cyclical Pattern < 2 HR)

Phase 1 - Quiescence

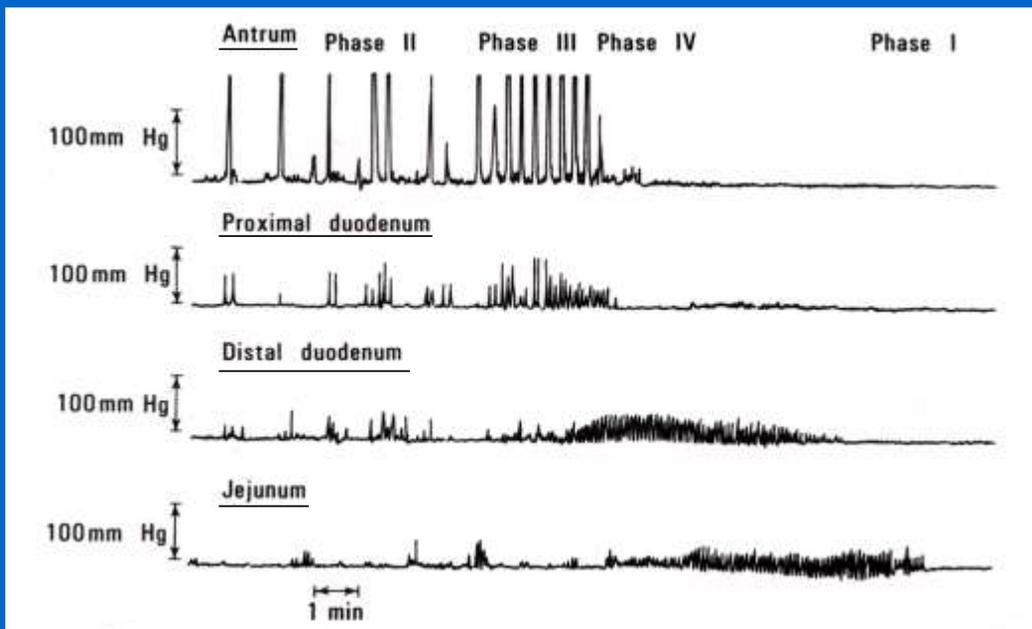
Phase 2 - Irregular Contractions

Phase 3 - Major Motor Complex Burst

Phase 4 - Transition Period



Interdigestive Intestinal Motor Activity in Humans*



*From: Rees WDW, et al. Dig Dis Sci 1982;27:321-9.

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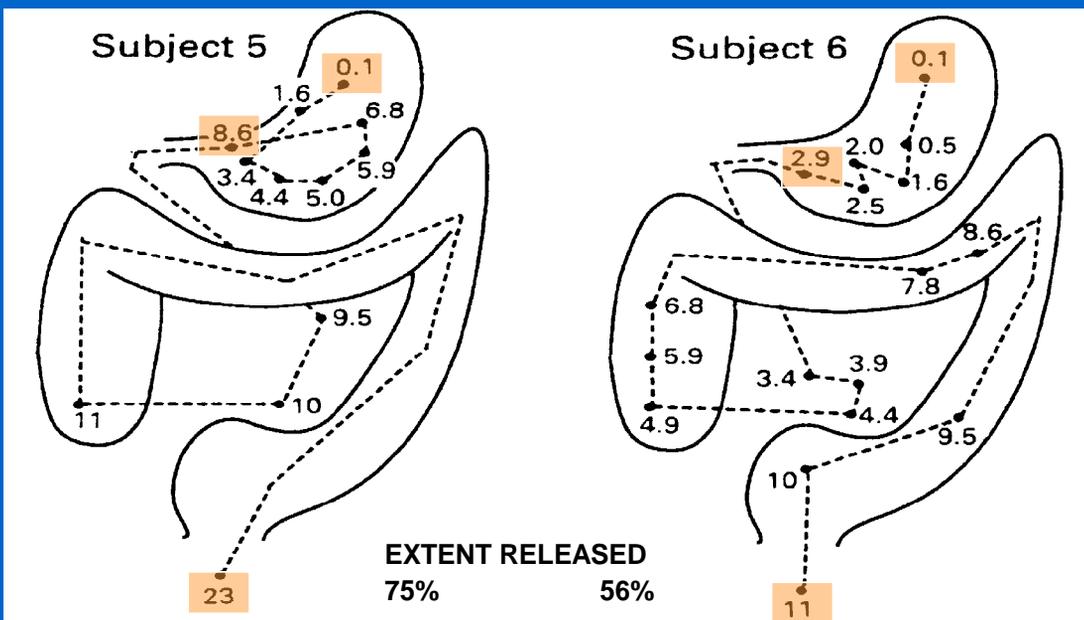
PATTERNS OF GASTRIC MOTOR ACTIVITY

POST PRANDIAL (*Up to 10 hr delay*)

- Pylorus constricted
- Antral contractions reduce particle size

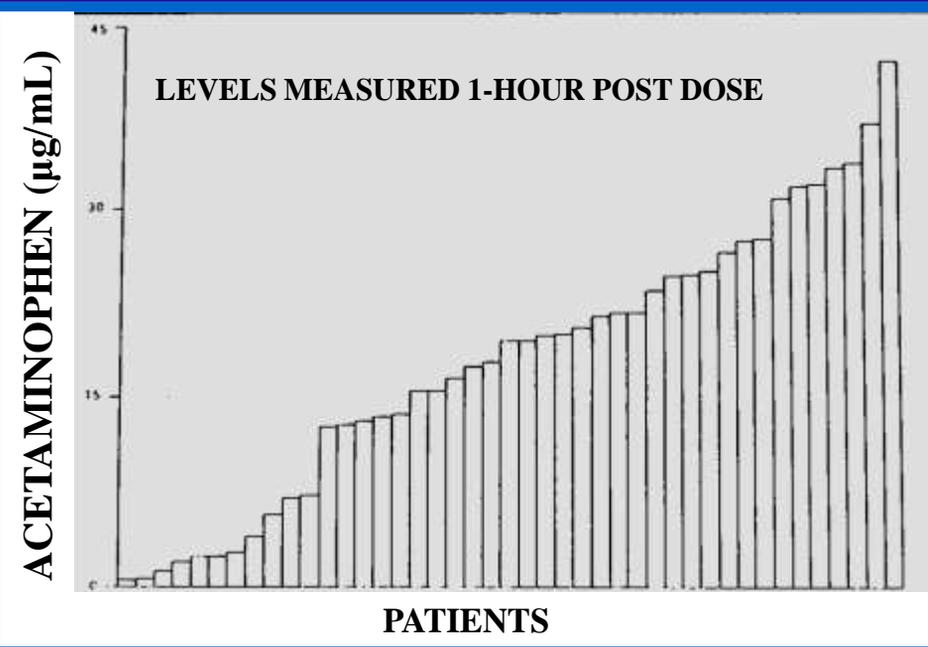


GI TRANSIT - SUSTAINED-RELEASE CARBAMAZEPINE FORMULATION*



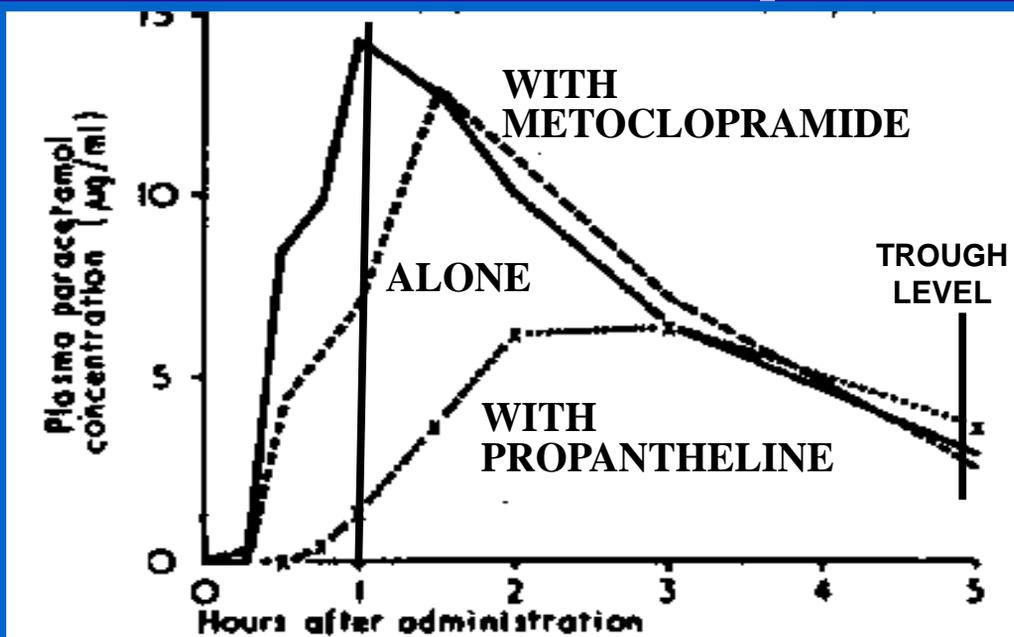
*From: Wilding IR, et al. Br J Clin Pharmacol 1991;32:573-9.

Variation in "Peak" Levels ACETAMINOPHEN*



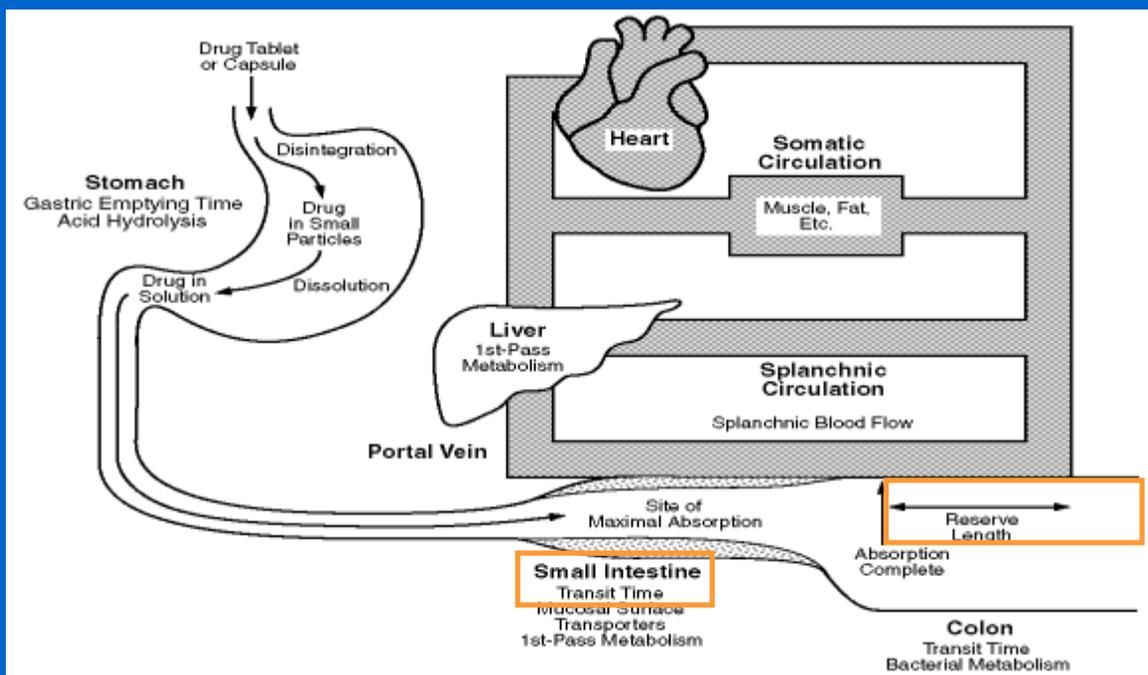
* Prescott LF. Med Clin N Am 1974;42:907-16.

Gastric Emptying Rate Affects ACETAMINOPHEN Absorption*



*From: Nimmo J, et al. Br Med J 1973;1:587-9.

Factors Affecting **RATE** and **EXTENT** of Drug Absorption



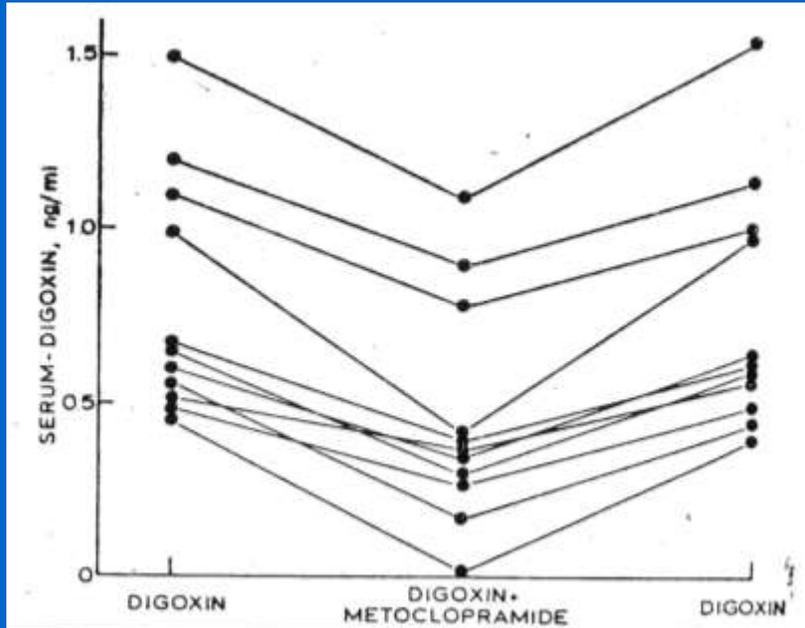
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RESERVE LENGTH

RESERVE LENGTH is the anatomical length over which absorption of a drug *can* occur *MINUS* the length at which absorption is complete.

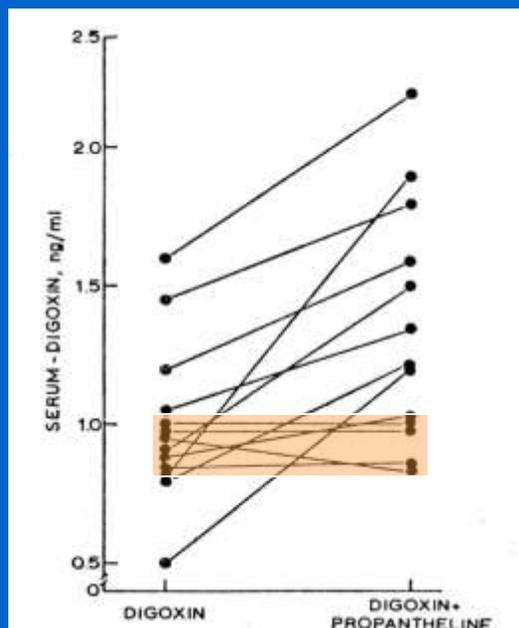
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Effect of METOCLOPRAMIDE on Digoxin Absorption*



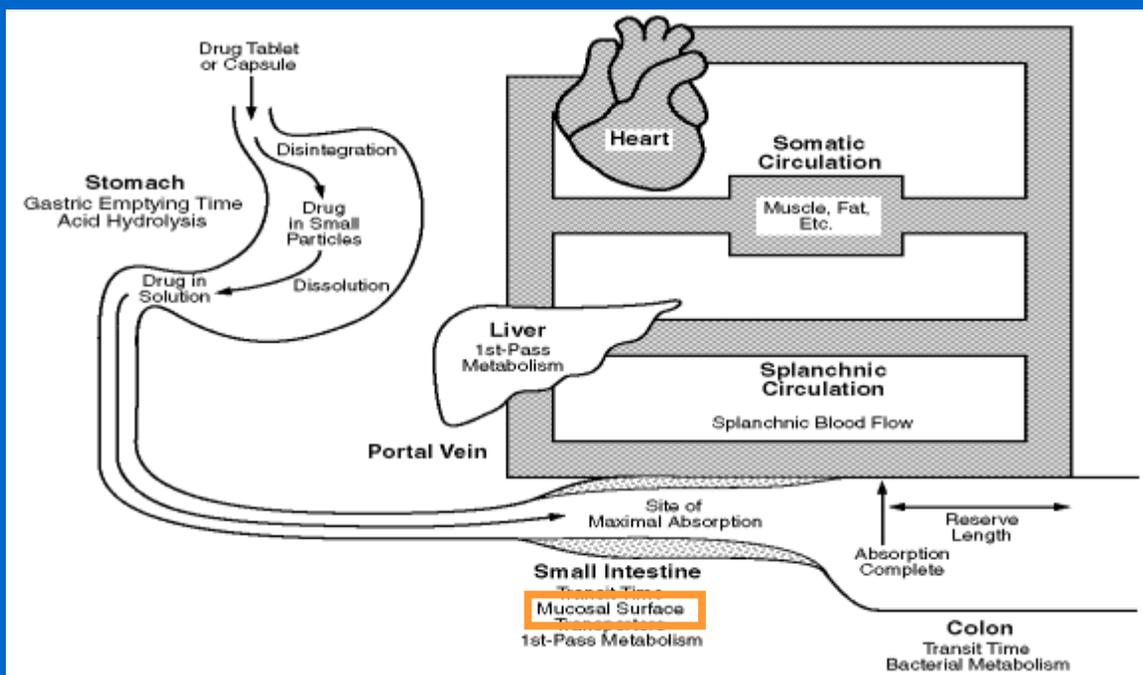
*From: Manninen V, et al. Lancet 1973;1:398-99.

Effect of PROPANTHELINE on Digoxin Absorption*



*From: Manninen V, et al. Lancet 1973;1:398-99.

Factors Affecting **RATE** and **EXTENT** of Drug Absorption

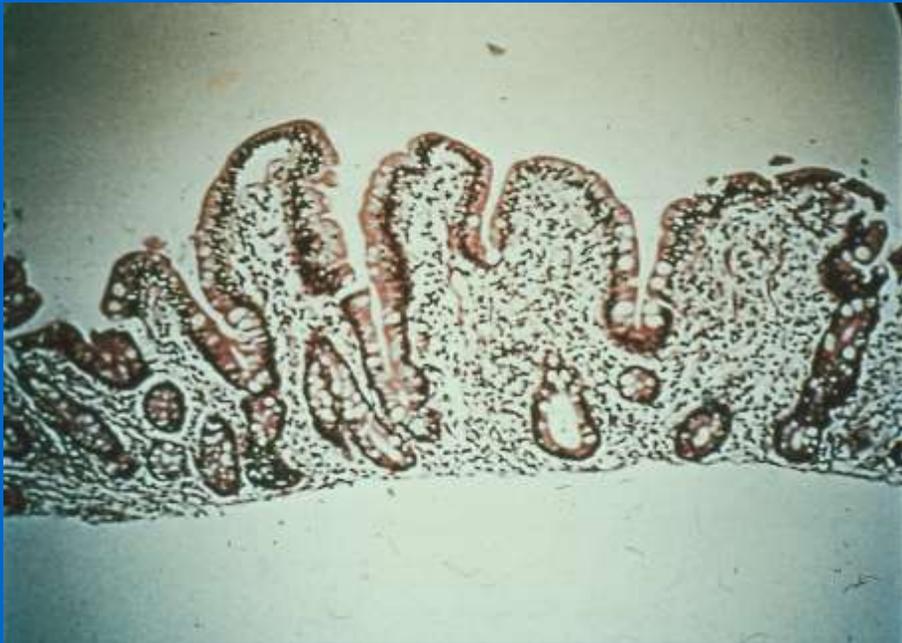


Normal Intestinal Villi



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Broad Intestinal Villi in a Patient with **SPRUE**



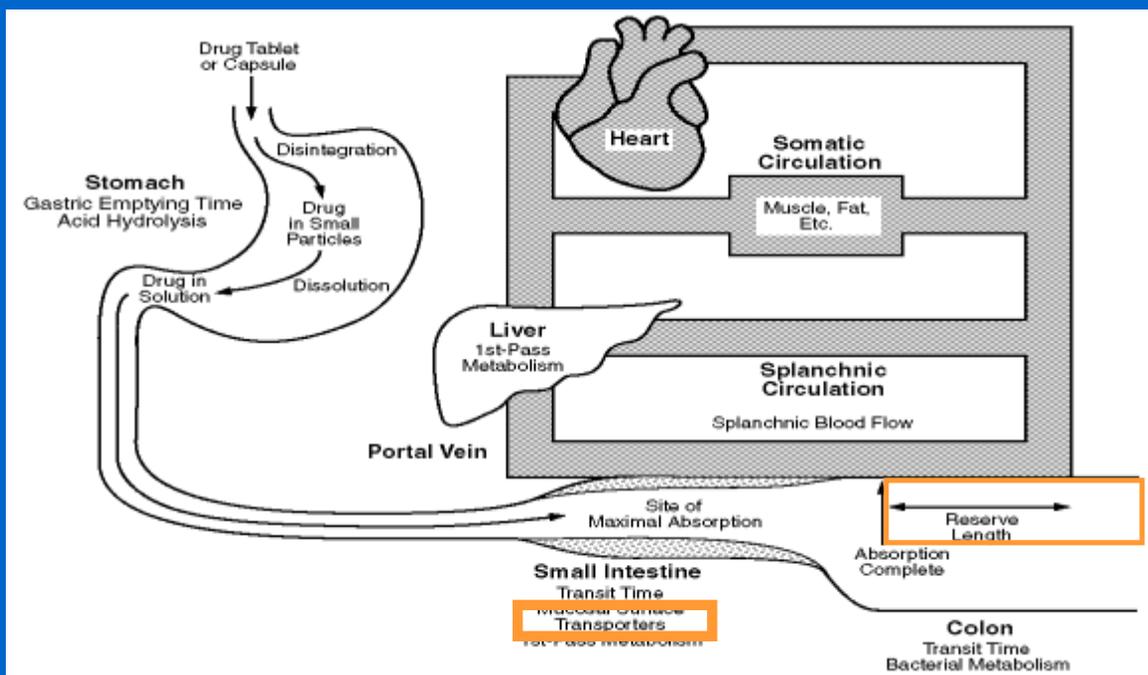
Digoxin Levels in Patients with INTESTINAL MALABSORPTION*

DOSE FOR BOTH GROUPS = 0.25 mg/day.	CONTROLS	MALABSORPTION
[DIGOXIN] (ng/mL)	1.3 ± 0.3	0.4 ± 0.3
URINE D-XYLOSE EXCRETION (gm/5 hr)	$5 - 8^{\dagger}$	$1.1 - 4.1$

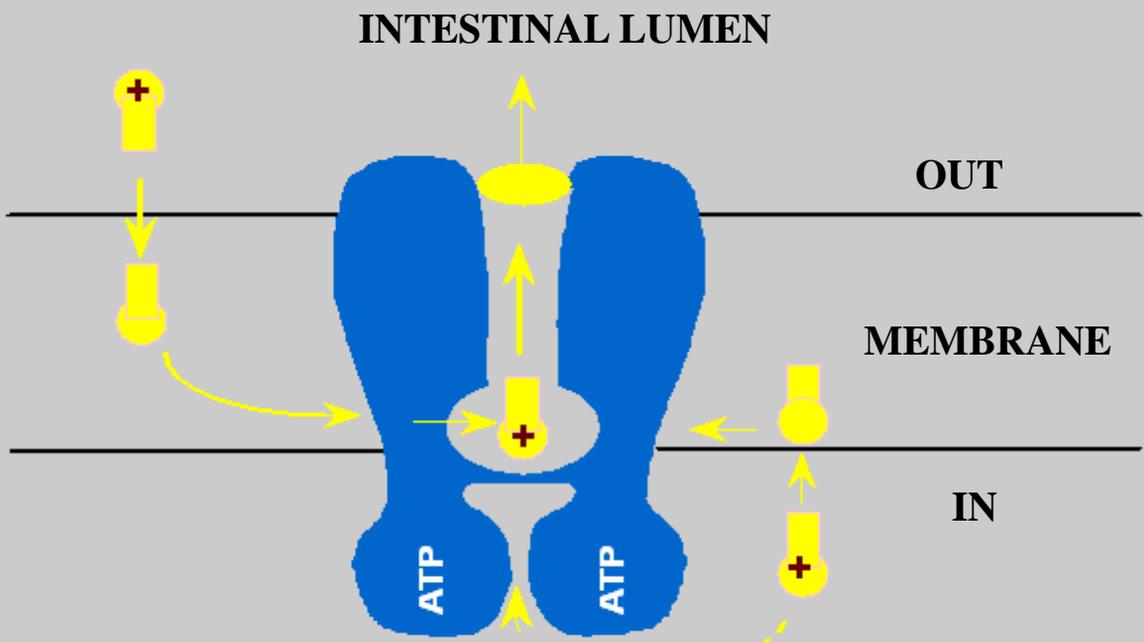
[†] NORMAL RANGE

* From: Heizer WD, et al. N Engl J Med 1971;285:257-9.

Factors Affecting **RATE** and **EXTENT** of Drug Absorption



P-GLYCOPROTEIN EFFLUX PUMP

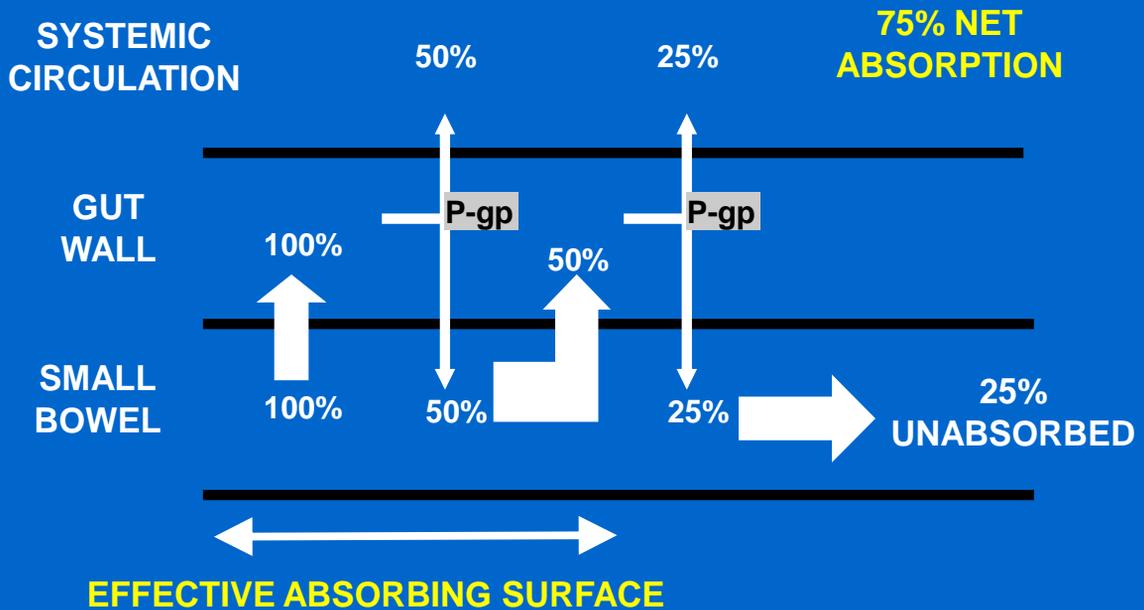


SLIDE COURTESY OF M. GOTTESMAN

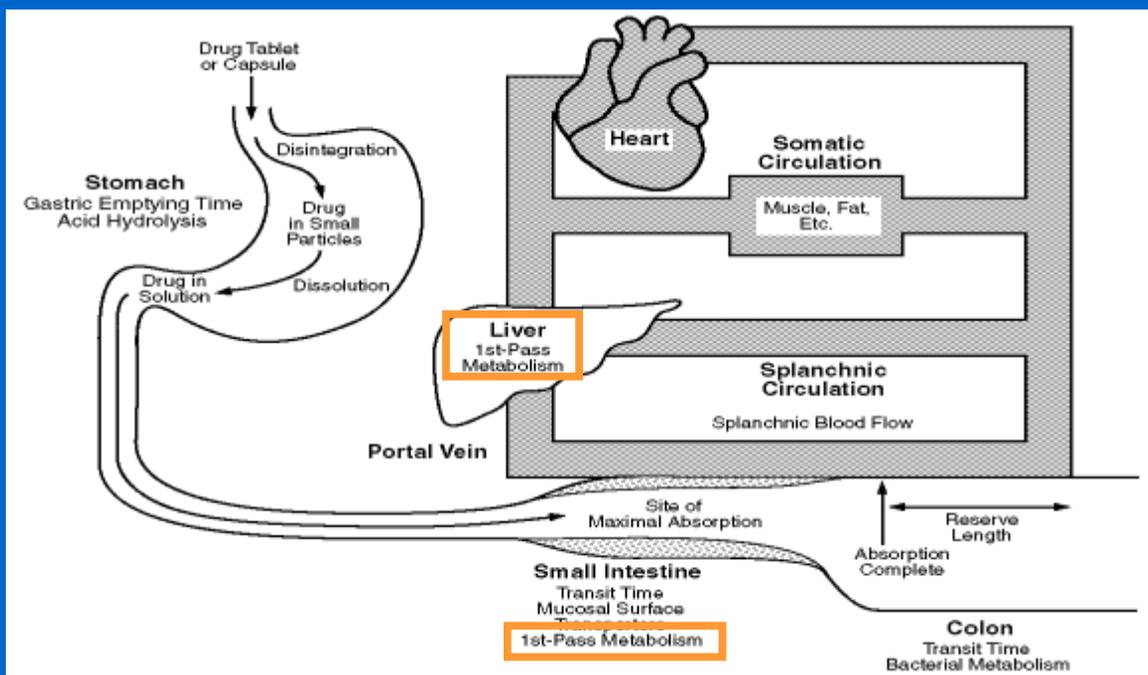
BIOAVAILABILITY OF SOME *P*-GLYCOPROTEIN SUBSTRATES

> 70% ABSORPTION		30% - 70% ABSORPTION		< 30% ABSORPTION	
DRUG	F %	DRUG	F %	DRUG	F %
PHENOBARBITAL	100	DIGOXIN	70	CYCLOSPORINE	28
LEVOFLOXACIN	99	INDINAVIR	65	TACROLIMUS	25
METHADONE	92	CIMETIDINE	60	MORPHINE	24
PHENYTOIN	90	CLARITHROMYCIN	55	VERAPAMIL	22
METHYLPREDNISOLONE	82	ITRACONAZOLE	55	NICARDIPINE	18
TETRACYCLINE	77	AMITRIPTYLINE	48	SIROLIMUS	15
		DILTIAZEM	38	SAQUINAVIR	13
		ERYTHROMYCIN	35	ATORVASTATIN	12
		CHLORPROMAZINE	32	DOXORUBICIN	5

> **70% BIOAVAILABILITY OF SOME P-GLYCOPROTEIN SUBSTRATES**



FACTORS AFFECTING RATE AND EXTENT OF DRUG ABSORPTION



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Sites of **FIRST-PASS** Elimination

- **INTESTINAL MUCOSA**

CYP Enzymes

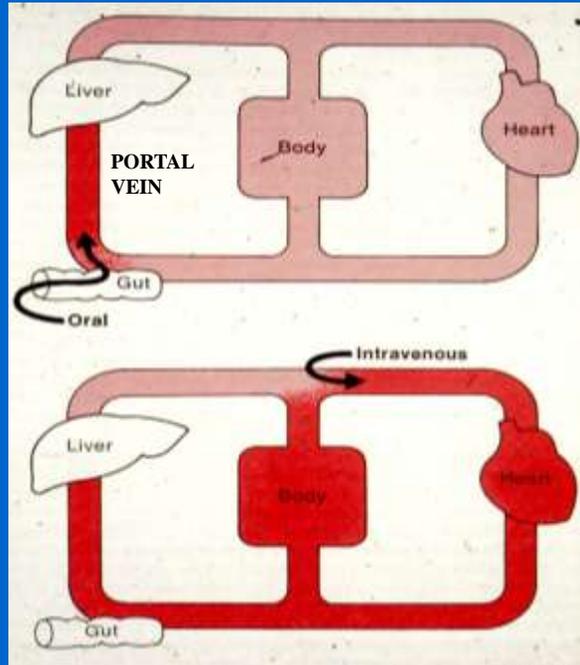
P-Glycoprotein

- **LIVER**

CYP Enzymes

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FIRST-PASS METABOLISM



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First-Pass Metabolism P-Glycoprotein Transport

ALDOSTERONE

MORPHINE*

CYCLOSPORINE*

NORTRIPTYLINE

ISOPROTERENOL

ORGANIC NITRATES

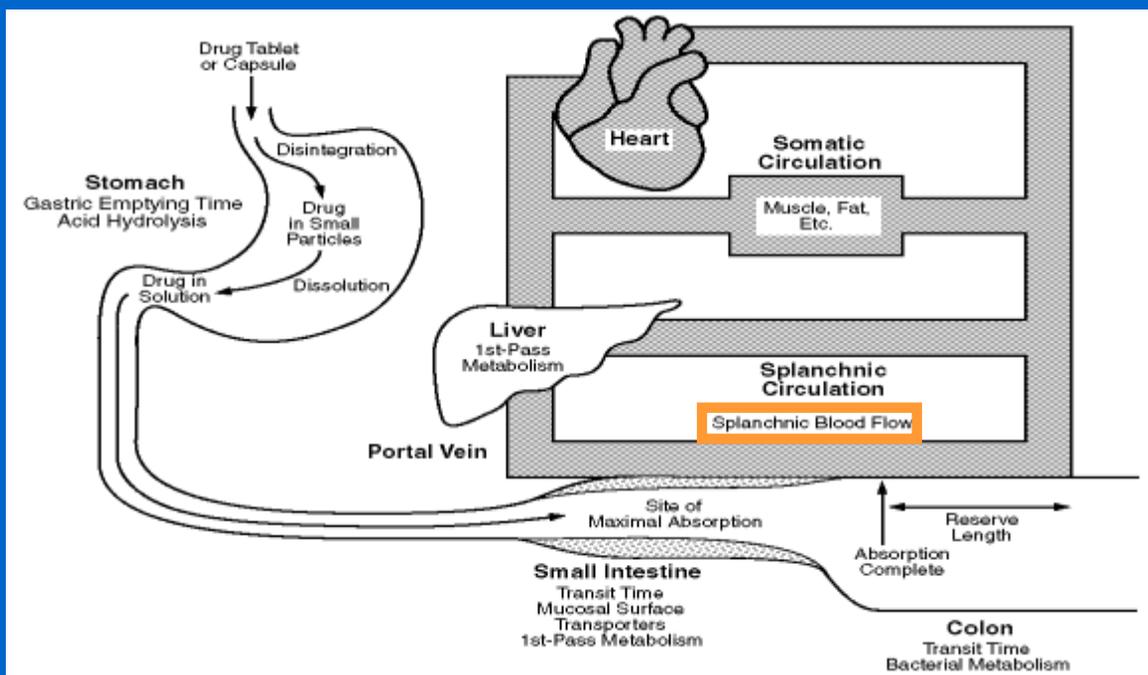
LIDOCAINE

PROPRANOLOL

*** Known P-Glycoprotein Substrates**

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Factors Affecting **RATE** and **EXTENT** of Drug Absorption



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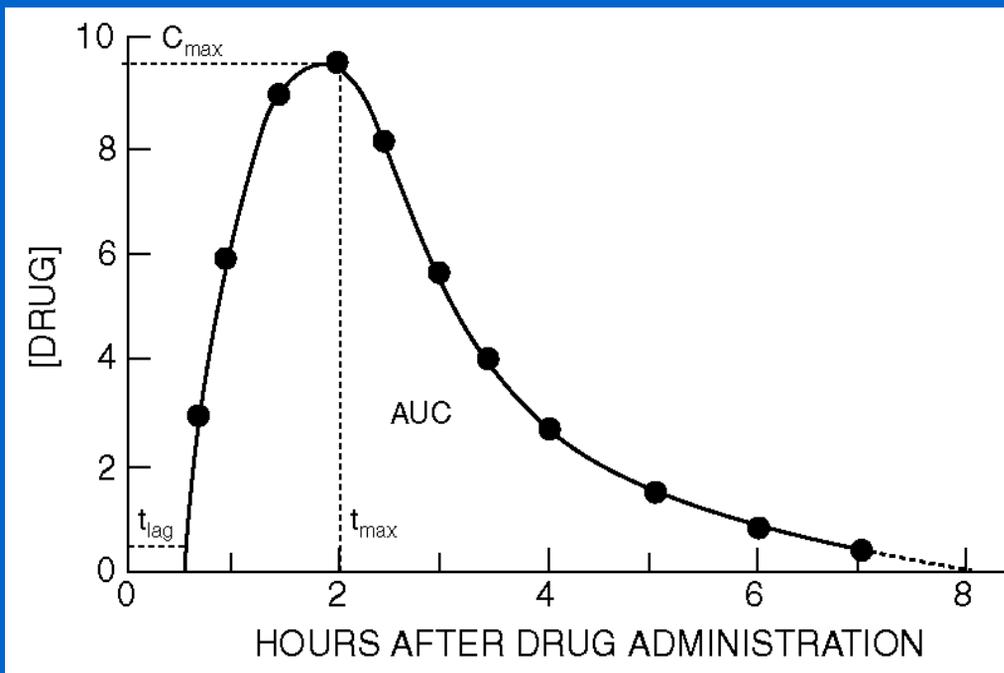
GOALS of Drug Absorption and Bioavailability Lecture

- Factors Affecting Drug Absorption
 - **ESTIMATION OF BIOAVAILABILITY**
 - Clinical Significance of Differences in Bioavailability
 - Prediction of Bioavailability
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BIOAVAILABILITY

BIOAVAILABILITY is the *RELATIVE AMOUNT* (F) of a drug dose that reaches the systemic circulation **unchanged** and the *RATE* at which this occurs.

Serum Concentration-Time Curve after a **Single Oral Dose**



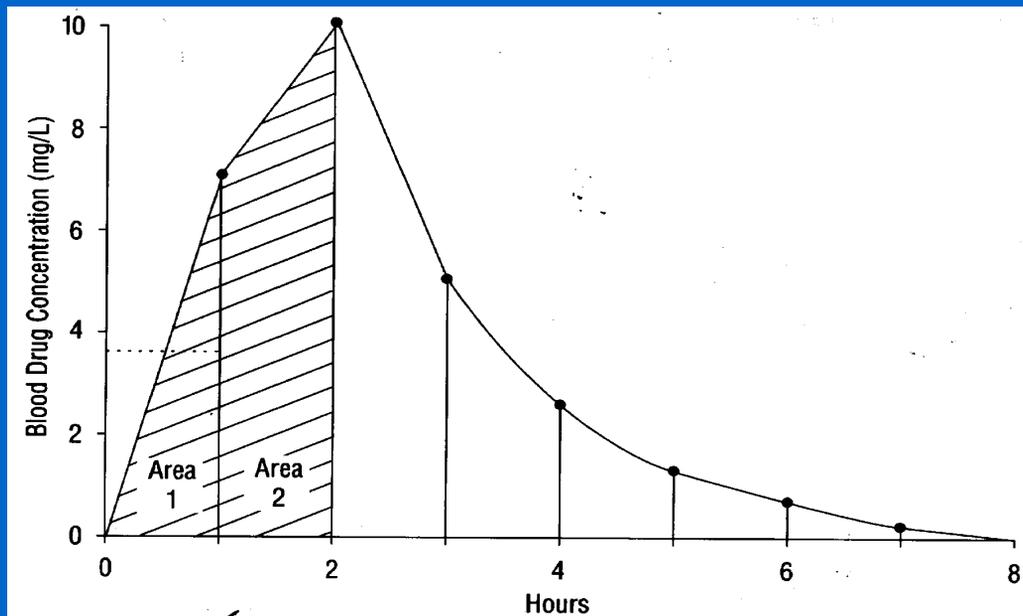
Significance of AUC

$$dE = CL_E \cdot C dt$$

$$E = CL_E \int_0^{\infty} C dt$$

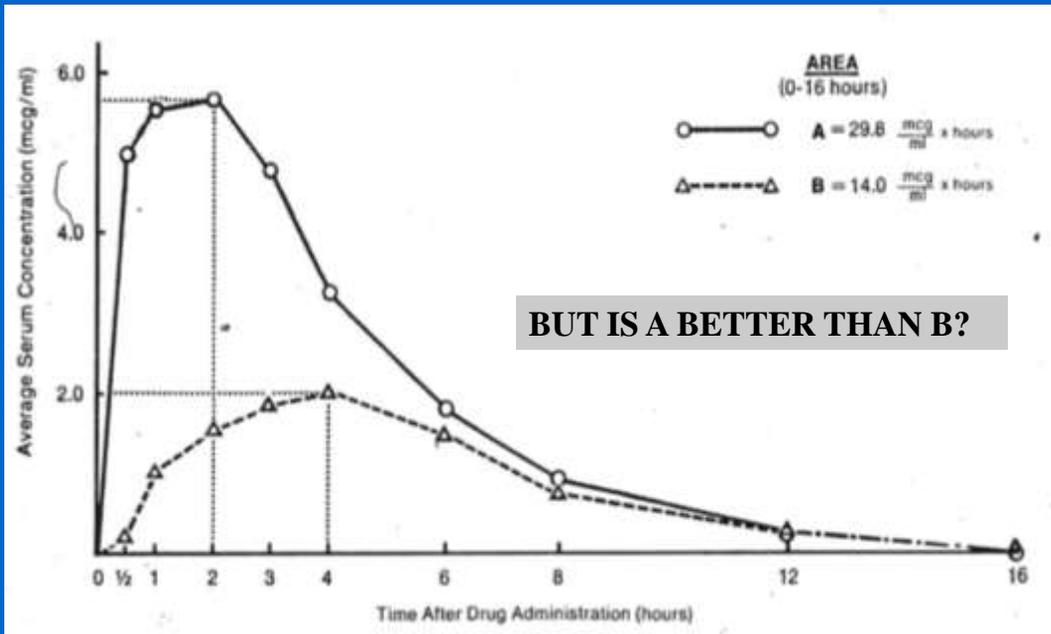
$$D \cdot F = CL_E \cdot AUC$$

Calculation of AUC Trapezoidal Rule



From: Rowland M, Tozer TN. Clinical Pharmacokinetics. p 470.

AUC A > B



***ABSOLUTE* Bioavailability**

$$\% \text{ Absorption} = \frac{D_{\text{IV}} \cdot \text{AUC}_{\text{oral}}}{D_{\text{oral}} \cdot \text{AUC}_{\text{IV}}} \times 100$$

**Comparison here is between an ORAL and
an IV Formulation**

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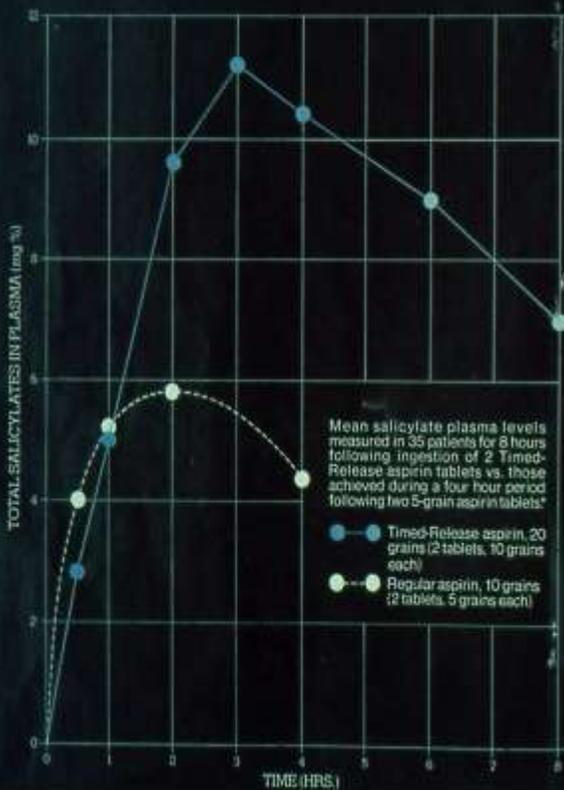
***RELATIVE* Bioavailability**

$$\% \text{ Relative B.A.} = \frac{D_{\text{Ref.}} \bullet \text{AUC}_{\text{Test}}}{D_{\text{Test}} \bullet \text{AUC}_{\text{Ref.}}} \times 100$$

**Comparison here is between
2 ORAL Formulations**

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How to keep salicylate blood levels up



...even when your arthritis patient isn't.

A fifth of patients from Bayer's *Timed-Release Aspirin* have reported an increased serum salicylate level to maintain the level of arthritic inflammation and pain without the need to awaken sleep.

Formulated especially for use in arthritis, this exclusive 8-hour dosage form provides 10 grains (650 mg.) of microencapsulated aspirin each 4 hours. While patients sleep, aspirin is released systematically into the bloodstream. Salicylate levels and anti-inflammatory activity are prolonged and patients should expect less nighttime awakening due to pain and less fear of discontinuing morning arthritis.

So during the day, when arthritis patients are up to take medication on schedule, recommend Bayer 5-grain Aspirin. But during the sleeping hours, for extended relief and anti-inflammatory activity, recommend Bayer *Timed-Release Aspirin*. 2 tablets, 10 grains each, at the advantages of aspirin...throughout the night.

The right "shift" in arthritis therapy.

Bayer
Timed-Release
Aspirin

The Bayer Company
New York, N.Y. 10017
© 1978 Bayer Company, New York, N.Y. 10017
All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

RELATIVE Bioavailability

$$\% \text{ Relative B.A.} = \frac{D_{\text{Ref.}} \bullet \text{AUC}_{\text{Test}}}{D_{\text{Test}} \bullet \text{AUC}_{\text{Ref.}}} \times 100$$

AUC Values have to be
Normalized for Dose

ASSESSMENT of Bioavailability

- AUC Estimates can be used to estimate Extent of Drug Absorption
- **Recovery of Parent Drug in Urine can be used to estimate Extent of Drug Absorption**
- How is ABSORPTION RATE assessed?
 - T_{MAX}
 - **Integrated Pharmacokinetic Analysis of Absolute Bioavailability.**

Extent of Absorption from Renal Excretion of Unchanged Drug

$$\text{Since : } F \cdot D = E \quad \text{and} \quad E = \left(\frac{CL_E}{CL_R} \right) E_R$$

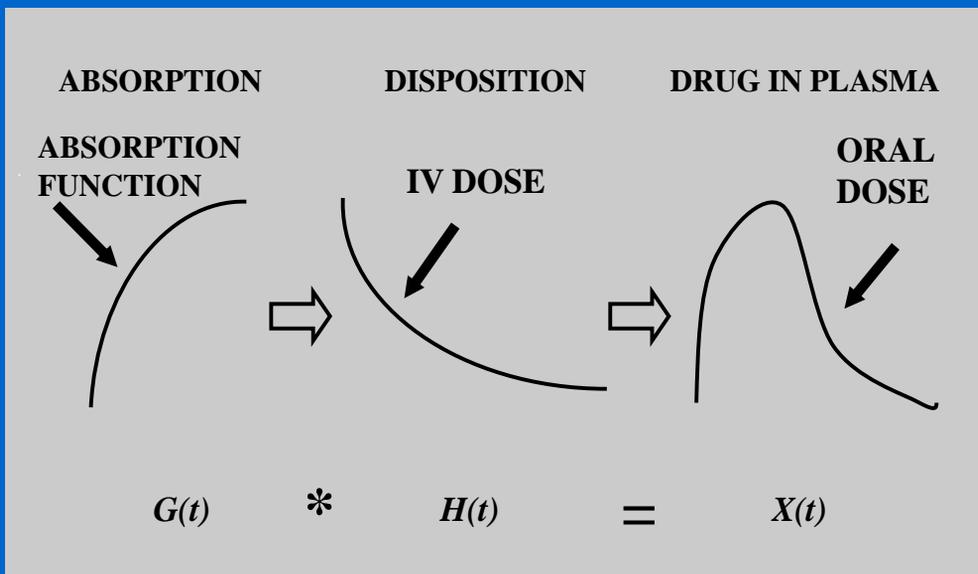
$$F \cdot D_{\text{oral}} = \left(\frac{CL_E}{CL_R} \right) E_{R(\text{oral})} \quad \text{and} \quad D_{\text{IV}} = \left(\frac{CL_E}{CL_R} \right) E_{R(\text{IV})}$$

$$\text{So : \% Absorption} = \frac{D_{\text{IV}} \cdot E_{R(\text{oral})}}{D_{\text{oral}} \cdot E_{R(\text{IV})}} \times 100$$

ASSESSMENT OF Bioavailability

- AUC Estimates Can Be Used to Estimate Extent of Drug Absorption.
- Recovery of Parent Drug in Urine Can Be Used to Estimate Extent of Drug Absorption.
- **HOW IS ABSORPTION RATE ASSESSED?**
 - T_{MAX}
 - **Integrated Pharmacokinetic Analysis of Absolute Bioavailability.**

INTERACTION OF DRUG ABSORPTION AND DISPOSITION PROCESSES



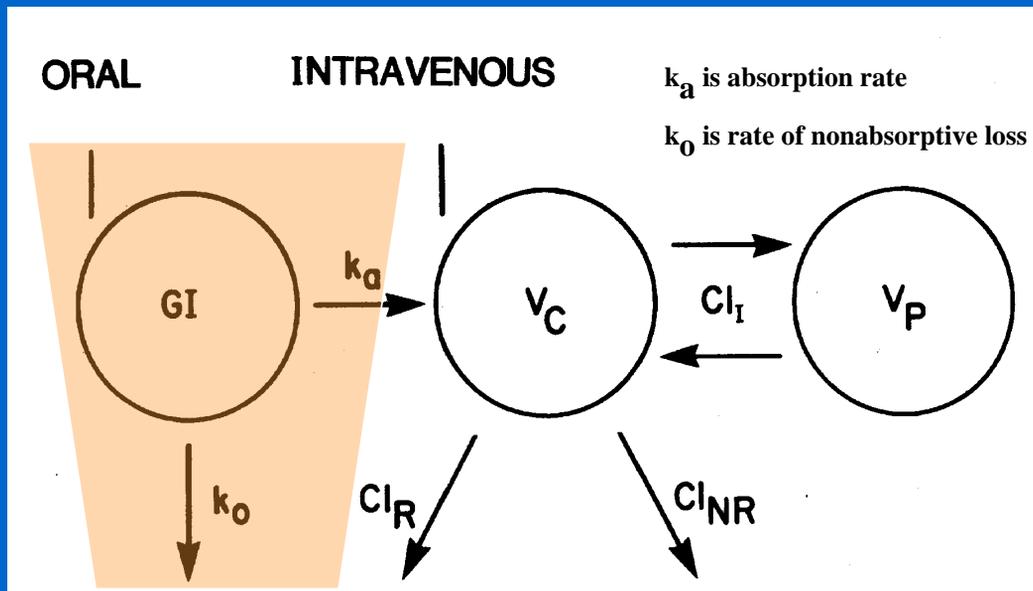
THE OPERATION OF CONVOLUTION

INTEGRAL FORM : $X(t) = \int_0^t G(\tau) \bullet H(t-\tau) d\tau$

TIME DOMAIN : $X(t) = G(t) * H(t)$

SUBSIDIARY EQUATION : $x(s) = g(s) \bullet h(s)$

MODEL Used to Analyze Kinetics of Drug Absorption



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Calculation of **Bioavailability** from First-Order Absorption Model

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{\mathbf{k}_a}{\mathbf{k}_a + \mathbf{k}_o}$$

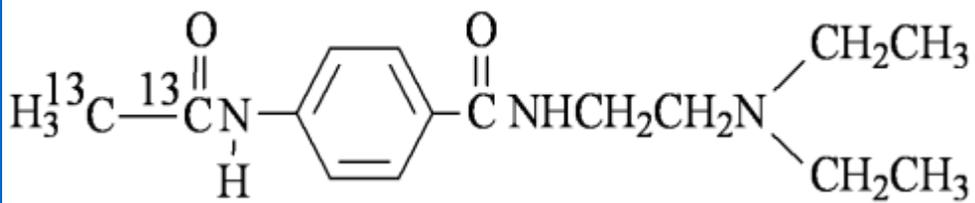
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Methods for Assessment of ***ABSOLUTE BIOAVAILABILITY***

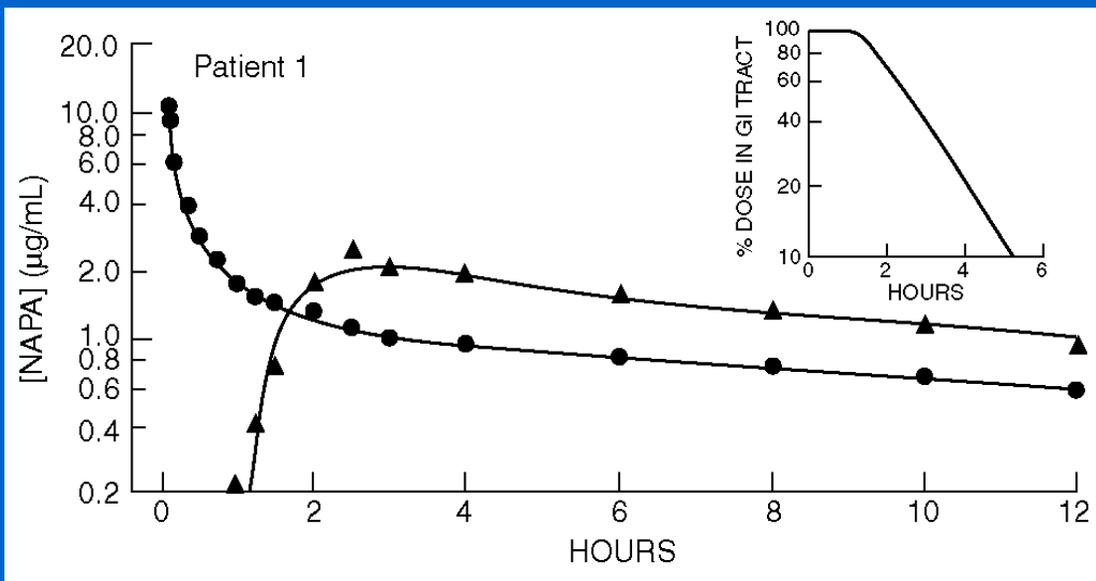
- **CONVENTIONAL:**
IV and ORAL doses given on **two separate occasions.**
 - Requires two study sessions
 - Requires two sets of blood samples
 - **Assumes no change in disposition** parameters between studies
 - **STABLE ISOTOPE:**
 - **One** study and set of blood samples
 - Special **synthesis** requirements
 - **Mass Spectrometer Assay** required
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NAPA-¹³C₂



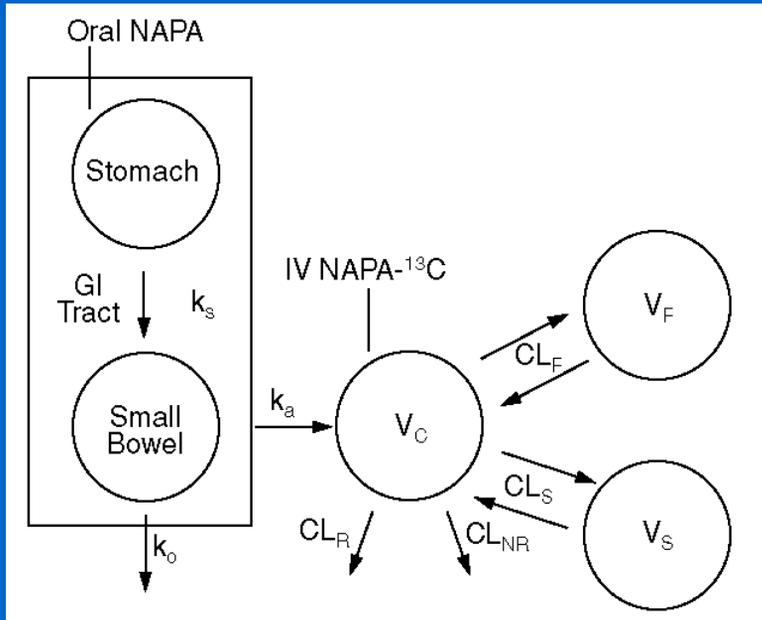
N-ACETYLPROCAINAMIDE (NAPA -¹³C₂)

Simultaneous Administration of Oral NAPA and IV NAPA-C¹³*



* From Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1989;46:182-9.

MODEL Used to Analyze Oral NAPA and IV NAPA-C¹³ Kinetics*



* From Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1989;46:182-9.

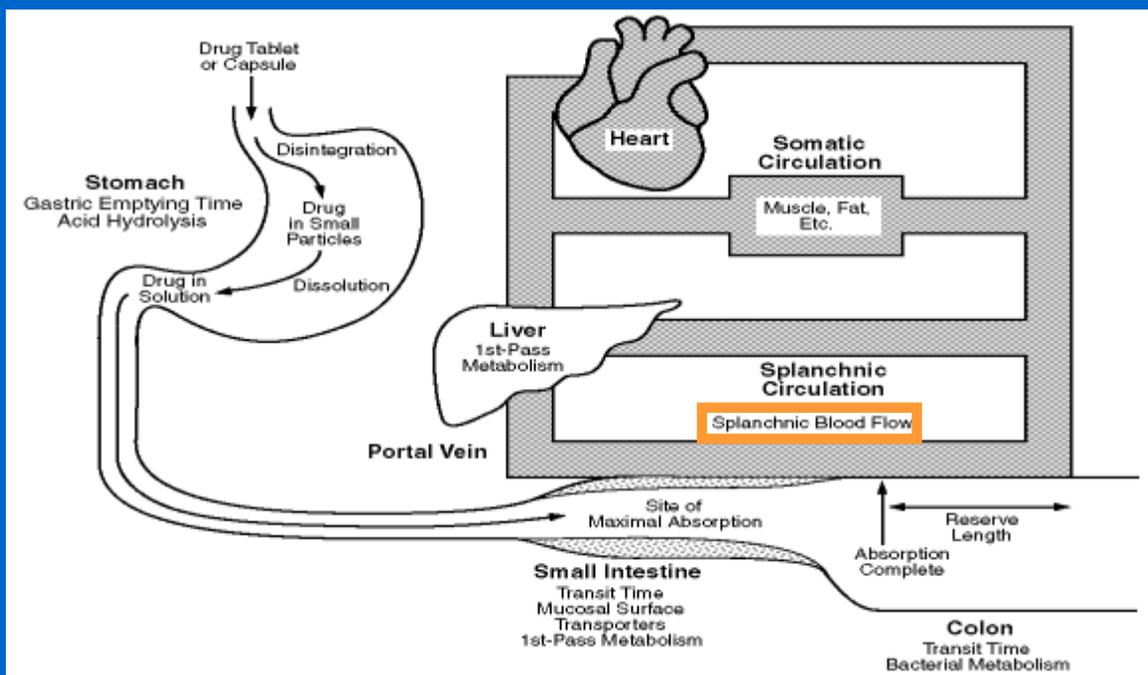
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BIOAVAILABILITY Estimates From Kinetic Analysis and URINE RECOVERY

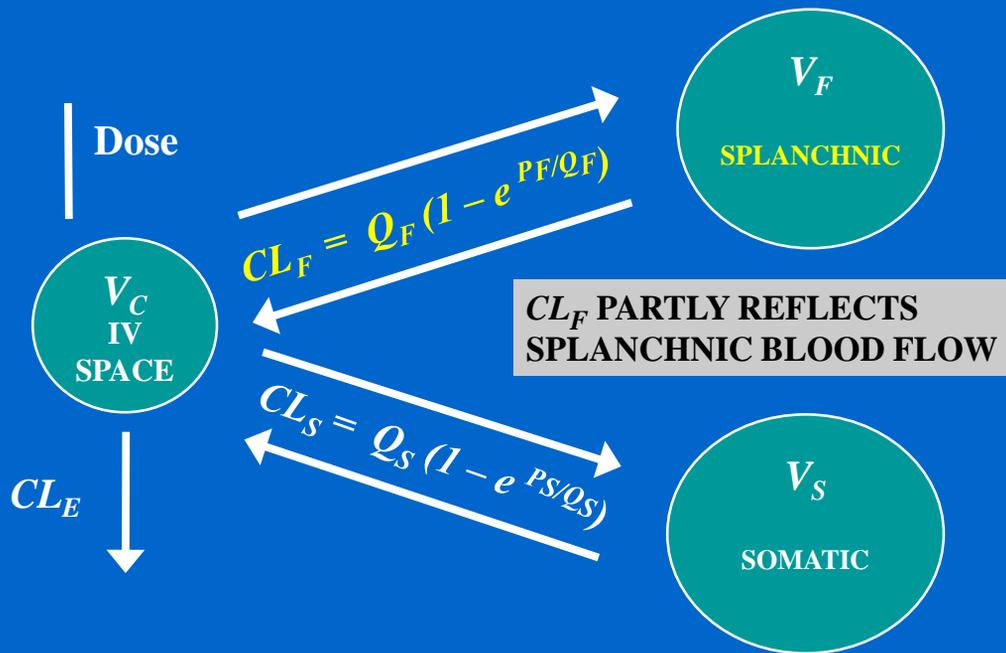
PATIENT NUMBER	KINETIC ANALYSIS (%)	NAPA RECOVERY IN URINE* (%)
1	66.1	65.9
2	92.1	92.1
3	68.1	69.9
4	88.2	73.1
5	75.7	75.6

* Corrected for absorption lag time.

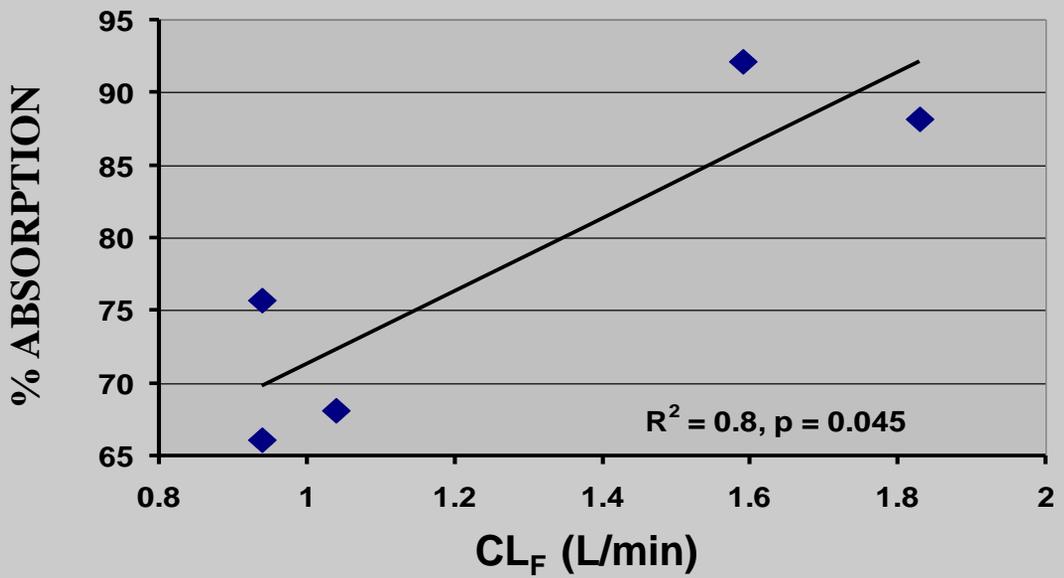
Factors Affecting **RATE** and **EXTENT** of Drug Absorption



NAPA PK Model After IV Dose



Relationship Between CL_F and Extent of NAPA Absorption*



* From Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1989;46:182-9.

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THOUGHTS About Absolute Bioavailability Studies

- Absolute Bioavailability is usually studied in **Healthy Subjects**, *NOT* in the *Patient Population* for whom the drug is intended.
 - The **Stable Isotope Method** is ideally suited for studies in *Special Populations* (e.g. *Pediatrics, Pregnant Women, other*)
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GOALS of Drug Absorption and Bioavailability Lecture

- Factors Affecting Drug Absorption
 - Estimation of Bioavailability
 - **Clinical Significance of Differences in Bioavailability**
 - Prediction of Bioavailability
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***RELATIVE* Bioavailability Terms**

Bioequivalence: AUC and Cmax within 80% - 125% of reference compound.

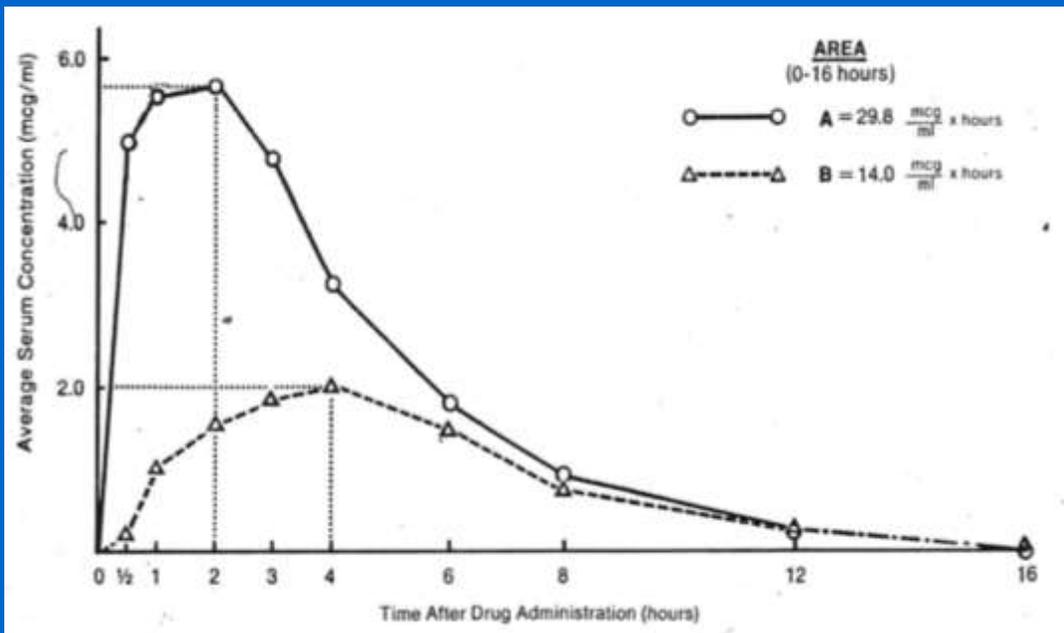
Bioinequivalence: Greater difference in bioavailability.

Therapeutic Equivalence: Similar clinical effectiveness and safety.

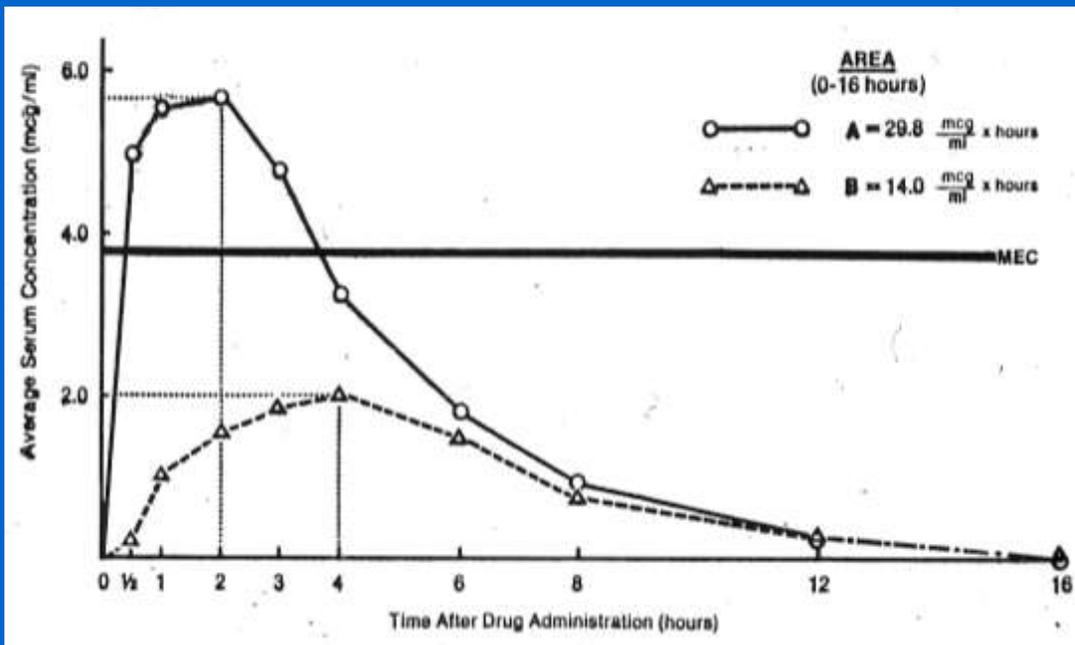
Therapeutic Inequivalence: Important clinical difference in bioavailability.

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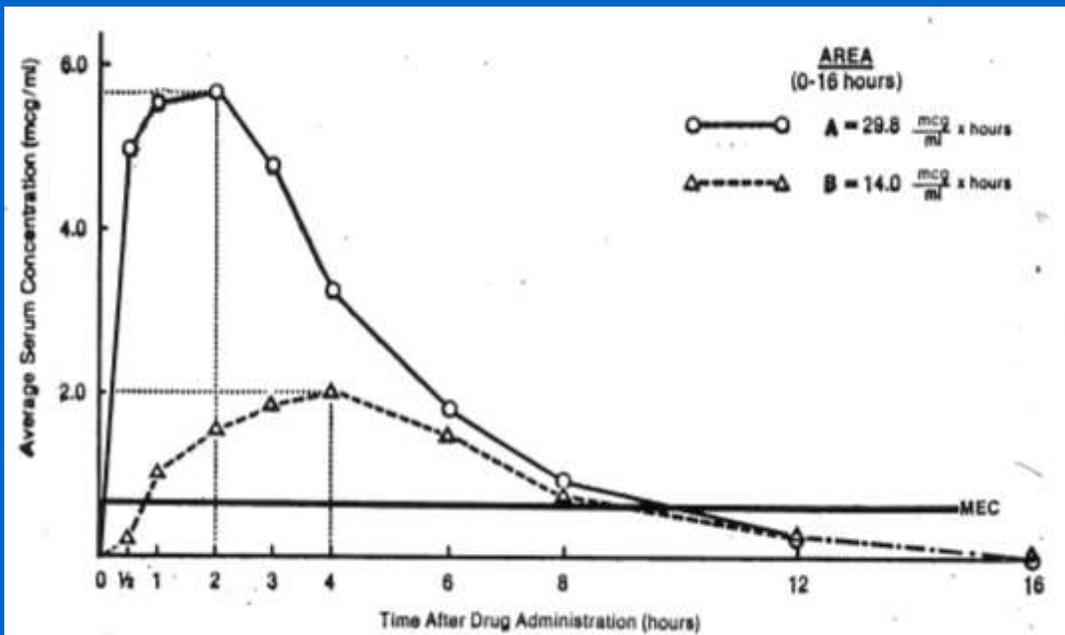
AUC A > B: Therapeutic Significance?



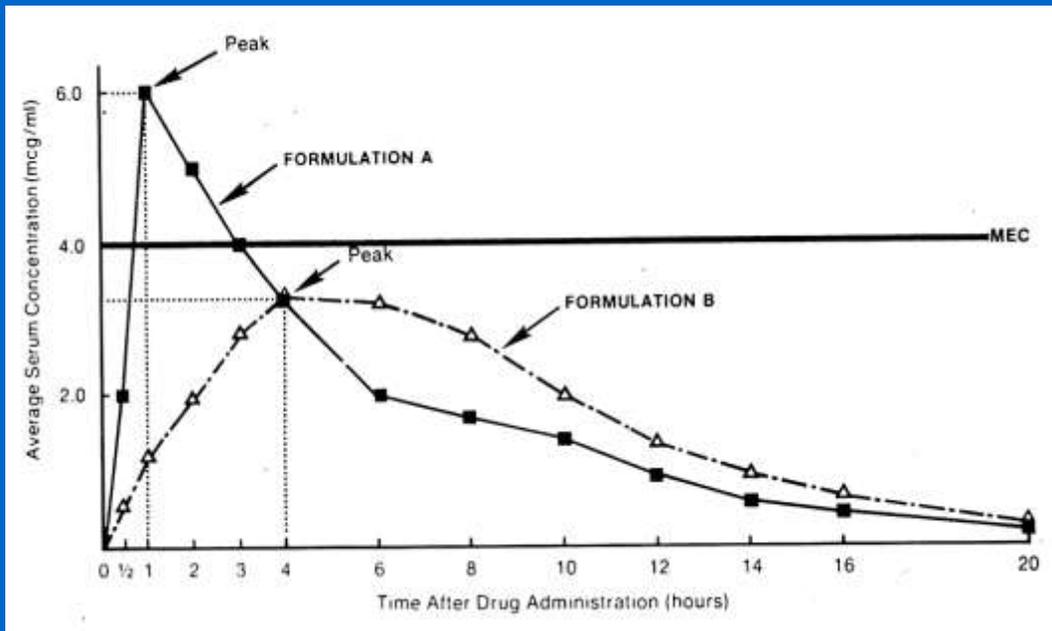
AUC A > B: B Ineffective



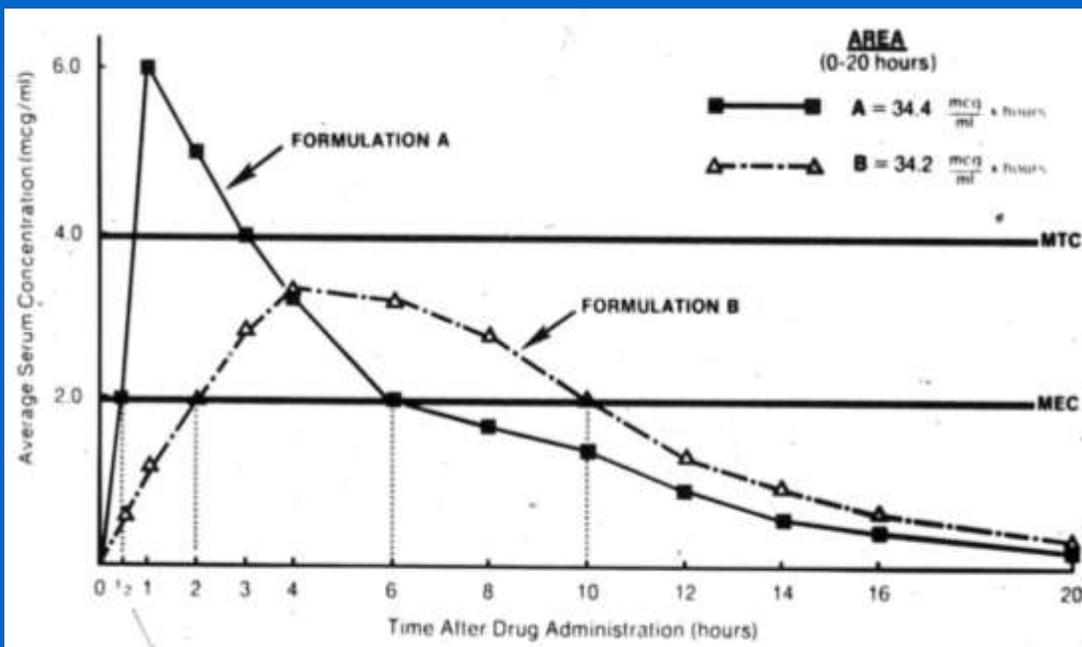
AUC A > B:
A and B Equally Effective



Equal AUC but Different K_a : B is Ineffective



Equal AUC but Different K_a : A is Toxic



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RELATIVE BIOAVAILABILITY **CONCLUSIONS**

- **BIOEQUIVALENCE =**
THERAPEUTIC EQUIVALENCE
 - **BIOINEQUIVALENCE *NOT NECESSARILY* =**
THERAPEUTIC INEQUIVALENCE
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GOALS of Drug Absorption and Bioavailability Lecture

- Factors Affecting Drug Absorption
 - Estimation of Bioavailability
 - Clinical Significance
 - **PREDICTION of Bioavailability** as part of *High-Throughput* Drug Candidate **Screening**
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WHY DRUG DEVELOPMENT FAILS

- Unsuitable **Biopharmaceutical** Properties *
- Unsuitable **Clinical Pharmacokinetics**
- Pharmacology (PD) **Doesn't Work in Humans**
- **Unexpected Toxicity** is Encountered

* Ronald E. White, Bristol-Myers Squibb (From Good Ligands to Good Drugs, AAPS-NIGMS Symposium, February 19-21, 1998)





***BIOPHARMACEUTIC* DRUG CLASSIFICATION ***

CLASS I:

High Solubility-High Permeability

CLASS II:

Low Solubility-High Permeability

CLASS III:

High Solubility-Low Permeability

CLASS IV:

Low Solubility-Low Permeability

* From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20



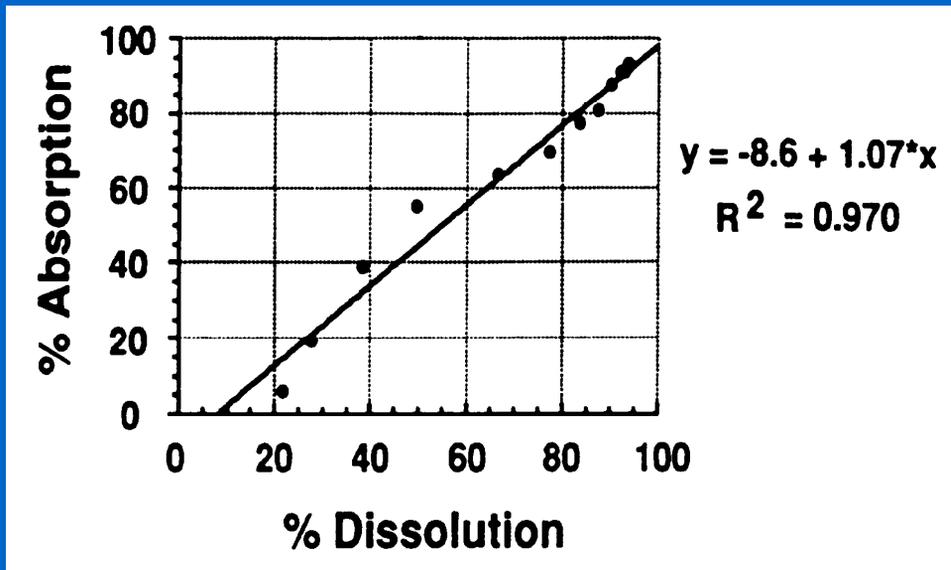
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Three CRITICAL Biopharmaceutical Properties

- Drug **Solubility** *Relative* to Dose
GOOD = Highest Dose in 250 mL H₂O, pH 1.0-7.5
 - **Dissolution Rate** of Formulation
GOOD = 85% Dissolution in 15 min
 - Intestinal **Permeability** of Drugs
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CORRELATION of Rates of Drug ***DISSOLUTION*** and Oral ***ABSORPTION***



* From Rackley RJ. In Young D, Devane JG, Butler J, eds.
In vitro-in vivo correlations. p. 1-15.

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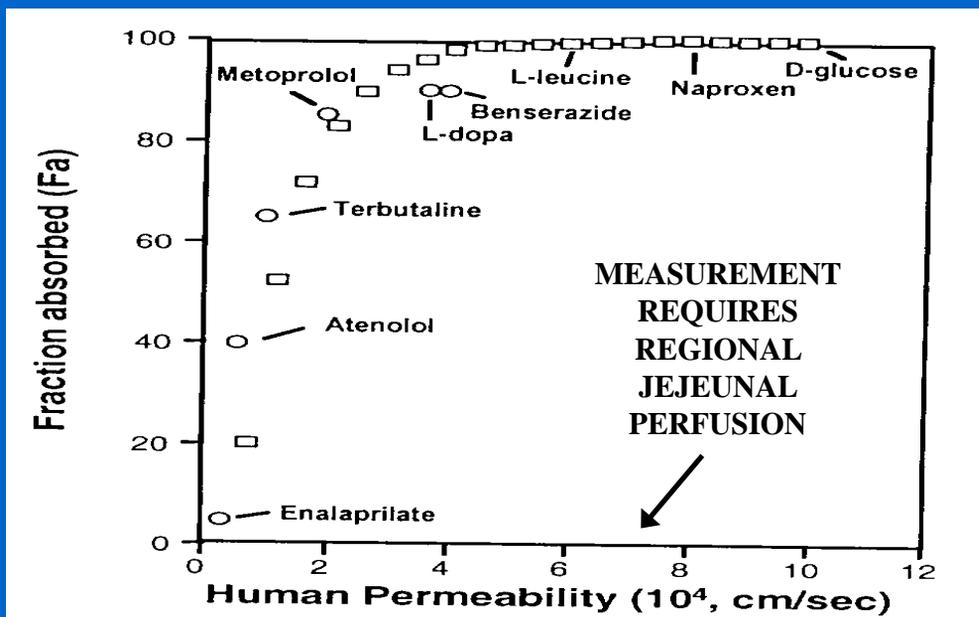
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Three CRITICAL **Biopharmaceutical Properties**

- **Drug Solubility *Relative* to Dose**
- **Dissolution Rate of Formulation**
- ***INTESTINAL PERMEABILITY* of Drug**

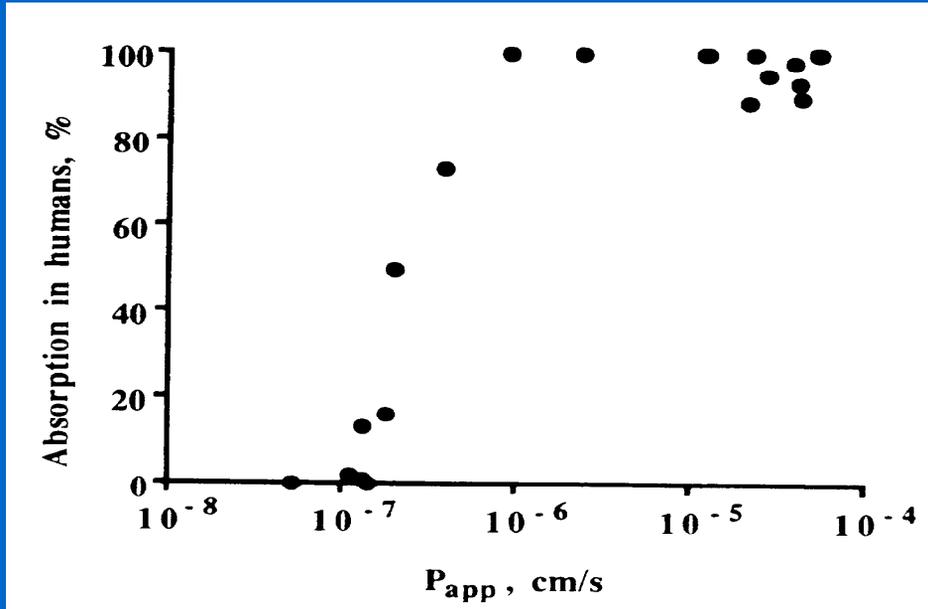
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Bioavailability vs. *Jejeunal Permeability**



* From Amidon GL et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20.

Bioavailability vs. *Caco-2* Cell Permeability P_{app}^*



* From Arturson P, Karlsson J. Biochem Biophys Res Commun 1991;175:880-5.

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Evaluation of **Caco-2 Cell Model**

- **ADVANTAGES**

- *In Vitro* Method
- Suitable for High-Throughput

- **DISADVANTAGES**

- ↓ Paracellular Permeability
 - ↓ Drug Metabolizing Enzymes and Transporters
 - No Hepatic First-Pass Metabolism
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BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION *

CLASS I:

HIGH SOLUBILITY-HIGH PERMEABILITY

- *in vitro* – *in vivo* correlation generally good
- *but* no way to account for 1st pass metabolism

* From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20

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BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION *

CLASS II:

LOW SOLUBILITY-HIGH PERMEABILITY

- rate of absorption limited by dissolution rate
- *in vitro* – *in vivo* correlation tenuous since many factors may affect dissolution

* From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20

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BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION *

CLASS III:

HIGH SOLUBILITY-LOW PERMEABILITY

- Intestinal reserve length is marginal.
- If dissolution is rapid, bioavailability will reflect intestinal permeability and transit time.

* From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20

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BIOPHARMACEUTIC DRUG CLASSIFICATION *

CLASS IV:

LOW SOLUBILITY-LOW PERMEABILITY

- *in vitro* – *in vivo* correlation poor
- good bioavailability not expected

* From: Amidon GL, et al. Pharm Res 1995;12:413-20

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THE BOTTOM LINE

CLASS I DRUGS:

HIGH SOLUBILITY-HIGH PERMEABILITY

- ***Preferred as development candidates***
- ***FDA may waive repeat *in vivo* testing if initial formulation has good bioavailability*.***

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Waiver of In Vivo Bioavailability and Bioequivalence Studies for Immediate-Release Solid Oral Dosage Forms Based on a Biopharmaceutics Classification System, CDER Guidance for Industry, August 2000.