



Effects of Liver Disease on Pharmacokinetics

Juan J.L. Lertora, M.D., Ph.D.

Director

Clinical Pharmacology Program

November 4, 2010



National Institutes of Health
Clinical Center



GOALS of **Liver Disease** Effects Lecture

- Estimation of **Hepatic Clearance**
- Effect of **Liver Disease** on Elimination:
 - *RESTRICTIVELY* Eliminated Drugs
 - *NON-RESTRICTIVELY* Eliminated Drugs
- **Other Effects** of Liver Disease:
 - Renal Function
 - Drug Distribution
 - Drug Response
- **Modification of Drug Therapy** in Patients with Liver Disease

ADDITIVITY of Clearances

$$\mathbf{CL}_E = \mathbf{CL}_R + \mathbf{CL}_{NR}$$

↑
ESTIMATED FROM
PLASMA LEVEL-
VS.-TIME CURVE

↑
ESTIMATED FROM
RECOVERY OF
DRUG IN URINE

↑
ESTIMATED
AS $CL_E - CL_R$

...

CALCULATION OF CL_H

$$CL_H = CL_E - CL_R$$

ASSUMES $CL_H = CL_{NR}$

...

FICK EQUATION

$$CI = Q \left[\frac{A - V}{A} \right]$$

$$E = \left[\frac{A - V}{A} \right]$$

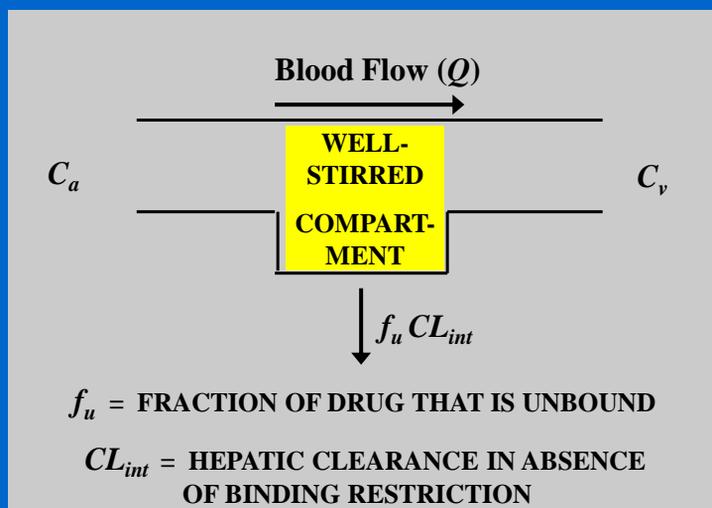
$$\text{So } CI = Q \bullet E$$

A = CONCENTRATION ENTERING LIVER

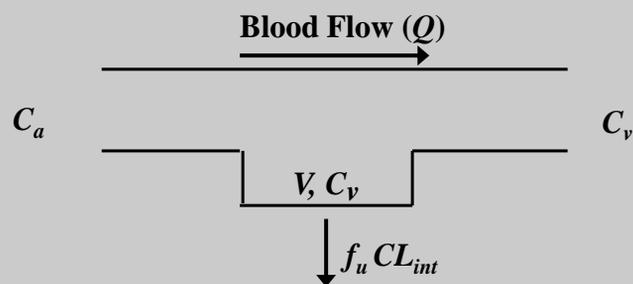
V = CONCENTRATION LEAVING LIVER

Q = HEPATIC BLOOD FLOW

Derivation of *ROWLAND EQUATION (I)*



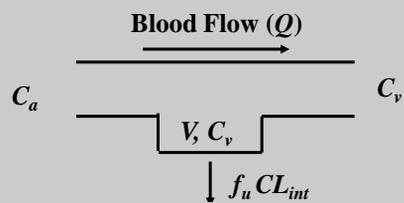
Derivation of *ROWLAND EQUATION (II)*



MASS BALANCE EQUATION :

$$V \frac{dC_v}{dt} = QC_a - QC_v - f_u CL_{int} C_v$$

Derivation of ROWLAND EQUATION (III)



at steady state:

$$QC_a - QC_v - f_u CL_{int} C_v = 0$$

so:

$$Q(C_a - C_v) = f_u CL_{int} C_v$$

$$QC_a = Q + f_u CL_{int} C_v$$

therefore:

$$ER = \frac{C_a - C_v}{C_a} = \frac{f_u CL_{int}}{Q + f_u CL_{int}}$$

ROWLAND EQUATION WELL-STIRRED COMPARTMENT

$$CL_H = Q \cdot E = Q \cdot \left[\frac{f_u CL_{int}}{Q + f_u CL_{int}} \right]$$

TWO LIMITING CASES:

RESTRICTIVELY METABOLIZED DRUGS ($Q \gg f_u CL_{int}$):

$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

NON-RESTRICTIVELY METABOLIZED DRUGS ($f_u CL_{int} \gg Q$):

$$CL_H = Q$$

•
•
•

***RESTRICTIVELY and NON-RESTRICTIVELY
Eliminated Drugs***

RESTRICTIVELY METABOLIZED DRUGS:

Phenytoin
Warfarin
Theophylline

NON-RESTRICTIVELY METABOLIZED DRUGS:

Lidocaine
Propranolol
Morphine

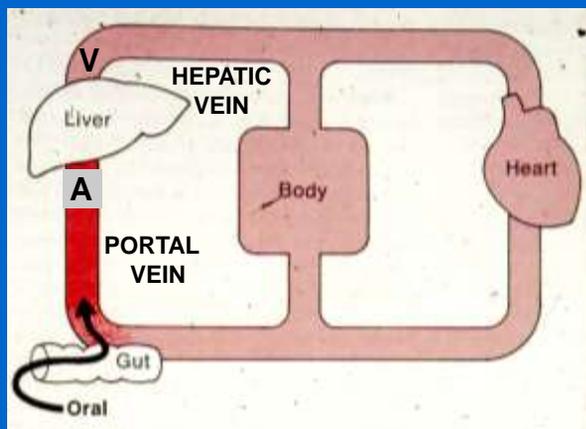
• • • • • • •

HEPATIC *FIRST-PASS* METABOLISM

$$E = \frac{A - V}{A}$$

IF $E = 1$: $V = 0$

IF $E = 0$: $V = A$



***NON-RESTRICTIVELY* Eliminated Drugs**

$$Cl_H = Q = Q \cdot ER$$

$$\text{FOR : } ER = \left[\frac{A - V}{A} \right] \Rightarrow 1, V \Rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{BUT : } F = 1 - ER, \text{ So } F \Rightarrow 0$$

THESE DRUGS HAVE EXTENSIVE FIRST-PASS METABOLISM

ACUTE VIRAL HEPATITIS

- Acute inflammatory condition
- Mild and *transient changes* related to extent of disease in most cases. Infrequently severe and fulminant
- *May become chronic* and severe
- Changes in drug disposition less than in chronic disease
- *Hepatic elimination returns to normal* as disease resolves

CHRONIC LIVER DISEASE

- Usually related to **chronic alcohol use** or **viral hepatitis**
- *Irreversible* hepatocyte damage
 - Decrease in *SERUM ALBUMIN* concentration
 - Decrease in *INTRINSIC CLEARANCE* of drugs
 - Intrahepatic and extrahepatic *shunting* of blood from functioning hepatocytes
 - *FIBROSIS* disrupts normal hepatic architecture
 - *NODULES* of regenerated hepatocytes form

RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs:
Effects of **LIVER DISEASE**

$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

	CL_H	FREE CONC.
↓ ALBUMIN	↑	NO CHANGE
↓ CL_{int}	↓	↑
PORTOSYSTEMIC SHUNTING	↓	↑

**RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs: Effect of
PROTEIN BINDING Changes**

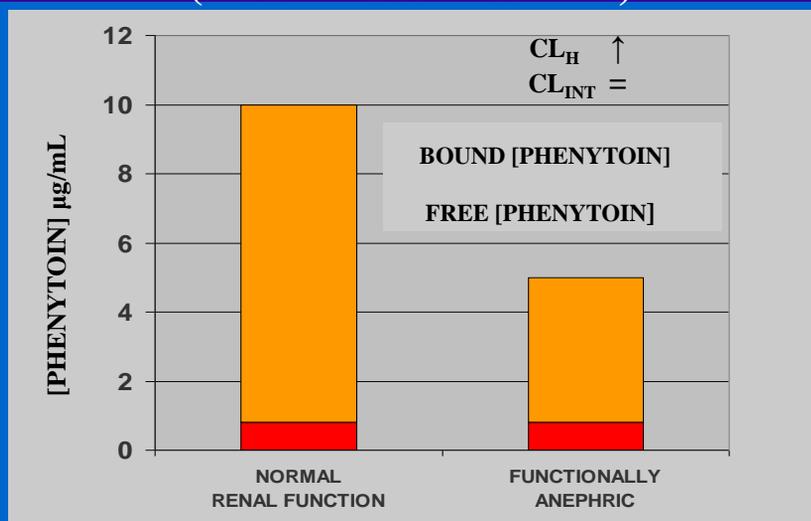
$$\bar{C}_{ss} = \frac{\text{DOSE} / \tau}{CL_H}$$

FOR RESTRICTIVELY ELIMINATED DRUGS :

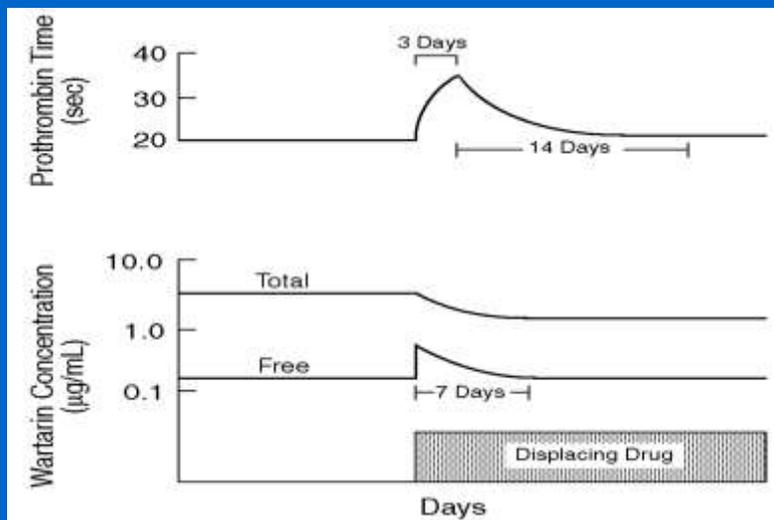
$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

$$\text{FREE CONC.} = \bar{C}_{ss} \cdot f_u = \frac{f_u \text{DOSE} / \tau}{f_u CL_{int}}$$

FREE and TOTAL PHENYTOIN Levels (DOSE = 300 MG/DAY)



**RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs : Effect of
PROTEIN BINDING Changes**



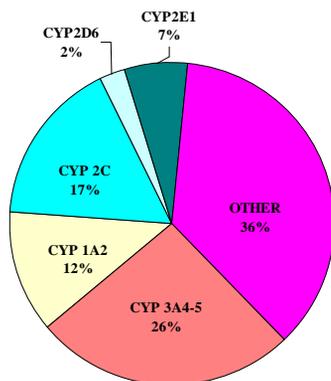
RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs:
Effects of **LIVER DISEASE**

$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

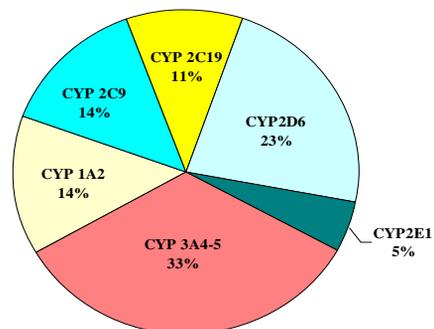
	CL_H	FREE CONC.
↓ ALBUMIN	↑	NO CHANGE
↓ CL_{int}	↓	↑
PORTOSYSTEMIC SHUNTING	↓	↑

Role of *CYP ENZYMES* in Hepatic Drug Metabolism

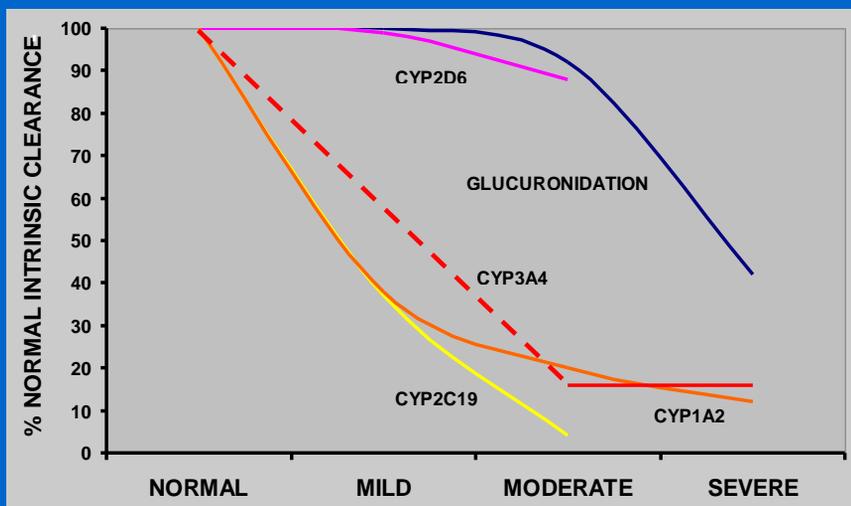
RELATIVE HEPATIC CONTENT OF
CYP ENZYMES



% DRUGS METABOLIZED BY
CYP ENZYMES



RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs: Effect of CIRRHOISIS on CL_{int}



PUGH-CHILD CLASSIFICATION Of Liver Disease Severity

ASSESSMENT PARAMETERS	ASSIGNED SCORE		
	1 POINT	2 POINTS	3 POINTS
ENCEPHALOPATHY GRADE	0	1 or 2	3 or 4
ASCITES	ABSENT	SLIGHT	MODERATE
BILIRUBIN (mg/dL)	1 – 2	2 – 3	> 3
ALBUMIN (gm/dL)	> 3.5	2.8 – 3.5	< 2.8
PROTHROMBIN TIME (seconds > control)	1 – 4	4 – 10	> 10
CLASSIFICATION OF CLINICAL SEVERITY			
CLINICAL SEVERITY	MILD	MODERATE	SEVERE
TOTAL POINTS	5 – 6	7 – 9	> 9

•
•

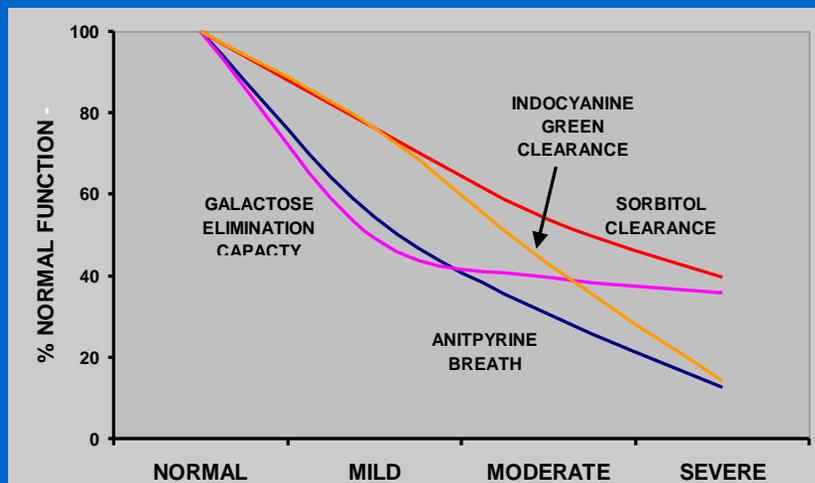
Correlation of Lab Test Results with Impaired CYP Enzyme Function

The Central Problem:

*There is **no laboratory test of liver function** that is as useful for guiding drug dose adjustment in patients with liver disease as is the estimation of creatinine clearance in patients with impaired renal function.*

• • • • • • • •

Correlation of *SPECIAL TESTS* of Liver Function with *CHILD-PUGH SCORES**



* Data from Herold C, et al. Liver 2001;21:260-5.

“PITTSBURGH COCKTAIL” Approach*

DRUG	ENZYME
CAFFEINE	CYP 1A2
CHLORZOXAZONE	CYP 2E1
DAPSONE	CYP 3A + NAT2
DEBRISOQUIN	CYP 2D6
MEPHENYTOIN	CYP 2C19

* From: Frye RF, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1997;62:365-76

RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs:
Effects of **Liver Disease**

$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

	CL_H	FREE CONC.
↓ ALBUMIN	↑	NO CHANGE
↓ CL_{int}	↓	↑
PORTOSYSTEMIC SHUNTING	↓	↑

Effects of **HEPATIC SHUNTING** on ROWLAND EQUATION*

$$CL_H = \left(\frac{Q_P}{Q_T} \right) \left(\frac{Q_T f_u CL_{int}}{Q_T + f_u CL_{int}} \right)$$

Q_T = TOTAL BLOOD FLOW TO LIVER

Q_P = BLOOD FLOW PERFUSING LIVER

$Q_T - Q_P$ = SHUNT BLOOD FLOW

* From: McLean A, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1979;25:161-6.

RESTRICTIVELY* Metabolized Drugs: Effects of Hepatic Shunting

SEVERITY	Q_T (mL/min)	Q_P (mL/min)	Q_P/Q_T (%)	ANTIPYRINE CL_H (mL/min)
MODERATE	1.26	0.92	73	27.1
SEVERE	0.72	0.20	28	10.3
SEVERE/ MODERATE	0.57	0.22	0.38	0.38

* From: McLean A, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1979;25:161-6.

**NON-RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs:
Effects of Liver Disease**

$$CL_H = Q$$

	CL_H	F
↓ ALBUMIN	NO CHANGE*	NO CHANGE
↓ CL_{int}	"NO CHANGE"	"NO CHANGE"
↓ HEPATIC PERFUSION	↓↓	↑↑

*** HOWEVER, NOTE THAT FREE CONCENTRATION IS ↑**

•
•
•

**NON-RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs:
Effects of Liver Disease**

$$CL_H = Q$$

	CL_H	F
↓ ALBUMIN	NO CHANGE*	NO CHANGE
↓ CL_{int}	“NO CHANGE”	“NO CHANGE”
↓ HEPATIC PERFUSION	↓↓	↑↑

HOWEVER, $f_u CL_{int}$ MAY NO LONGER BE $\gg Q$

• • • • • • • •

**NON-RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs:
Effects of Liver Disease**

$$CL_H = Q$$

	CL_H	F
↓ ALBUMIN	NO CHANGE*	NO CHANGE
↓ CL_{int}	"NO CHANGE"	"NO CHANGE"
↓ HEPATIC PERFUSION	↓↓	↑↑

•
•
•

Effects of **Hepatic Shunting** on Rowland Equation*

$$CL_H = \left(\frac{Q_P}{Q_T} \right) \left(\frac{Q_T f_u CL_{int}}{Q_T + f_u CL_{int}} \right)$$

Q_T = TOTAL BLOOD FLOW TO LIVER

Q_P = BLOOD FLOW PERFUSING LIVER

$Q_T - Q_P$ = SHUNT BLOOD FLOW

* From: McLean A, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1979;25:161-6.

• • • • • • • •

**NON-RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs:
Effects of Decreased Liver Perfusion***

SEVERITY	Q_T (mL/min)	Q_P (mL/min)	Q_P/Q_T (%)	ICG CL_H (mL/min)
MODERATE	1.26	0.92	73	766
SEVERE	0.72	0.20	28	182
SEVERE/ MODERATE	0.57	0.22	0.38	0.24

* From: McLean A, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1979;25:161-6.

•
•
•

**Influence of *PORTOSYSTEMIC SHUNTING*
on **Oral Bioavailability** (F)**

RESTRICTIVELY Eliminated Drugs:

Little change

NON-RESTRICTIVELY Eliminated Drugs:

***SHUNTING* may markedly increase extent
of drug absorption (F)**

• • • • • • • •

CIRRHOSIS Affects Exposure to Some
NON-RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs

	ABSOLUTE BIOAVAILABILITY		RELATIVE EXPOSURE CIRRHOTICS/CONTROL	
	CONTROLS (%)	CIRRHOTICS (%)	IV	ORAL
MEPERIDINE	48	87	1.6	3.1
PENTAZOCINE	18	68	2.0	8.3
PROPRANOLOL	38	54	1.5*	2.0*

* THIS ALSO INCORPORATES 55% INCREASE IN PROPRANOLOL f_u

•
•
•

CIRRHOSIS Affects Renal Function: The Hepatorenal Syndrome

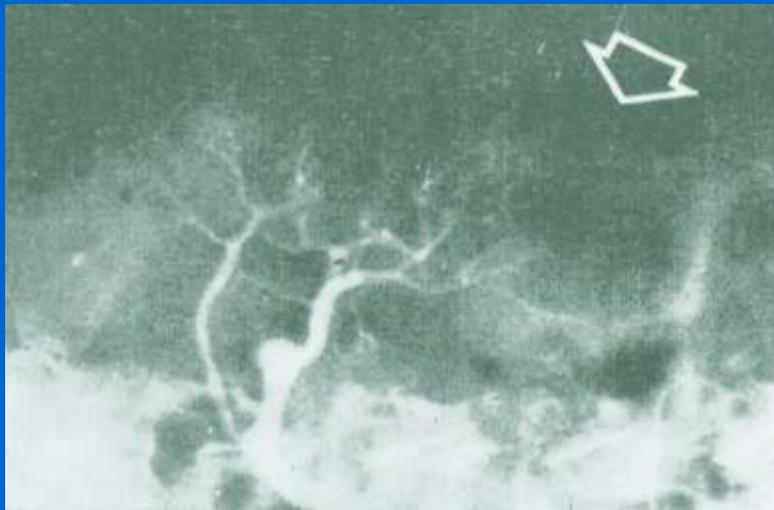
- *Risk* in Patients with Cirrhosis, Ascitis, and GFR > 50 mL/min:
 - 18% within 1 year
 - 39% within 5 years
 - *Predictors* of Risk:
 - Small liver
 - Low serum albumin
 - High plasma renin
 - Cockcroft and Gault Equation may *overestimate* renal function
- • • • • • • •

•
•
•

CIRRHOSIS Affects Renal Function: The Hepatorenal Syndrome

- The Syndrome has a *FUNCTIONAL* rather than an Anatomical Basis.
- •
•
•
•
•
•

HEPATORENAL SYNDROME
ANTEMORTEM Arteriogram



HEPATORENAL SYNDROME
POSTMORTEM Arteriogram



•
•
•

CIRRHOSIS Affects Renal Function: The Hepatorenal Syndrome

- Therapy with some drugs *may precipitate*
Hepatorenal Syndrome

ACE Inhibitors

NSAIDs

Furosemide (High Total Doses)

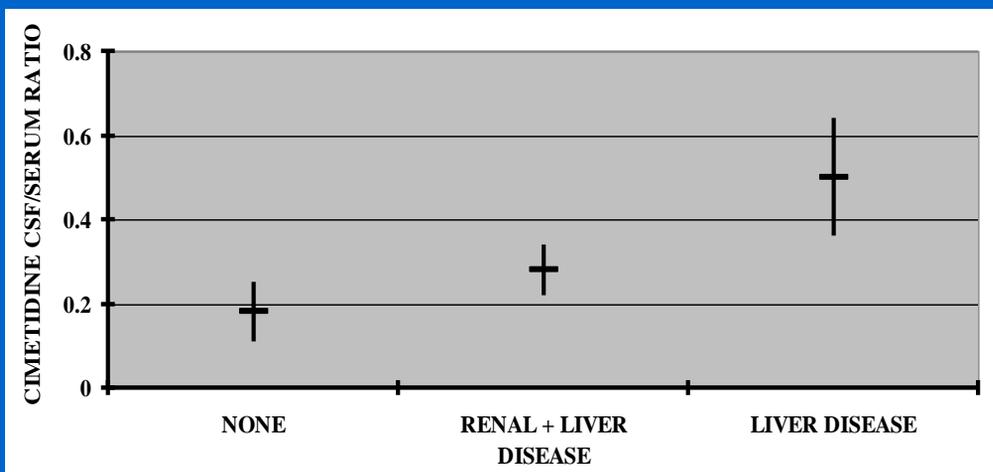
• • • • • • •

•
•
•

CIRRHOSIS May Affect *Drug Distribution*

- **Increased *Free Concentration*** of
NON-RESTRICTIVELY Eliminated Drugs
(e.g. PROPRANOLOL)
 - **Increased *Permeability*** of *Blood:CNS Barrier*
(e.g. CIMETIDINE)
- • • • • • • •

**CIRRHOSIS Affects Drug Distribution:
Increased CNS Penetration of Cimetidine***



* From Schentag JJ, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1981;29:737-43



CIRRHOSIS may affect *PHARMACODYNAMICS*

- Sedative response to *BENZODIAZEPINES* is exaggerated
- Response to *LOOP DIURETICS* is reduced



•
•

Drug Dosing in Patients with **LIVER DISEASE**

The Central Problem:

*There is **no laboratory test of liver function** that is as useful for guiding drug dose adjustment in patients with liver disease as is the estimation of creatinine clearance in patients with impaired renal function.*

• • • • • • • •

PUGH-CHILD CLASSIFICATION of Liver Disease Severity

ASSESSMENT PARAMETERS	ASSIGNED SCORE		
	1 POINT	2 POINTS	3 POINTS
ENCEPHALOPATHY GRADE	0	1 or 2	3 or 4
ASCITES	ABSENT	SLIGHT	MODERATE
BILIRUBIN (mg/dL)	1 – 2	2 – 3	> 3
ALBUMIN (gm/dL)	> 3.5	2.8 – 3.5	< 2.8
PROTHROMBIN TIME (seconds > control)	1 – 4	4 – 10	> 10
CLASSIFICATION OF CLINICAL SEVERITY			
CLINICAL SEVERITY	MILD	MODERATE	SEVERE
TOTAL POINTS	5 – 6	7 – 9	> 9

⋮

Drugs **CONTRAINDICATED** in Patients with **Severe Liver Disease**

- *May precipitate renal failure:*
 - NSAIDs
 - ACE Inhibitors
- *Predispose to bleeding:*
 - β -LACTAMS with *N*-Methylthiotetrazole Side Chain
(e.g. CEFOTETAN)

•
•
•

Drug Requiring $\geq 50\%$ Dose Reduction in Patients with MODERATE CIRRHOSIS

	CHANGE IN CIRRHOSIS	
	F	CL _E
ANALGESIC DRUGS		
Morphine	↑ 213%	↓ 59%
Meperidine	↑ 94%	↓ 46%
Pentazocine	↑ 318%	↓ 50%

• • • • • • • •

Drugs Requiring $\geq 50\%$ *Dose Reduction* in Patients with **MODERATE CIRRHOSIS**

	CHANGE IN CIRRHOSIS	
	F	CL _E
CARDIOVASC. DRUGS		
Propafenone	↑ 257%	↓ 24%
Verapamil	↑ 136%	↓ 51%
Nifedipine	↑ 78%	↓ 60%
Losartan	↑ 100%	↓ 50%

•
•
•

Drugs Requiring $\geq 50\%$ Dose Reduction in Patients with MODERATE CIRRHOSIS

	CHANGE IN CIRRHOSIS	
	F	CL _E
OTHER DRUGS		
Omeprazole	↑ 75%	↓ 89%
Tacrolimus	↑ 33%	↓ 72%

• • • • • • • •

•
•
•
**Recommended Evaluation of Pharmacokinetics
in Liver Disease Patients***

REDUCED Study Design:

- Study Control Patients and Patients with **Child-Pugh Moderate Impairment**
- Findings in Moderate Category **Applied to Mild** Category; **Dosing Prohibited in Severe** Category

FULL Study Design:

- Study Control Patients and Patients in **All Child-Pugh Categories**
- Population PK Approach

* FDA Clinical Pharmacology Guidance, May 2003

• • • • • • • •