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|   | I - Time: The Fourth Dimension in Drug Discovery  |                                       | A Q C          | Chemistry for Life*                                  |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| January 28                              | The Importance of Drug-Target Kinetics in Drug Design<br>Robert Copeland - Epileyme, Inc<br>Dan Erlanson - Carmot Therapeutics  |                                       | •              | -  |
| February<br>25                          | Long-Acting Injectable Medications: Strategies and<br>Mechanistic Considerations<br>Julis Remenar - Alkermes<br>Annette Bak-Merck   | Meet the Organizers Nicholas Meanwell | Co-Produced By |  |
| March 31                                | Modified Release Formulations for Solubility Starved<br>Compounds<br>Mengwei Hu - Merck<br>John Mortrison - BMS   | BMS                                   |                | Medicinal  |
| April 28                                | The Medicinal Chemist of Tomorrow (Special Topic)<br>Joel Barrish - Achillon<br>Rawi Karguno - Merck<br>Molly Schmid - Tech Coast Angels  | John Morrison<br>BMS                  |                | S 🥜 Chemistry  |
| II - Beyond Traditional Small Molecules |   |                                       | 9              | aans   |
| May 19                                  | Design of Deliverable Macrocycles<br>Scott Lokey - UC Santa Cruz<br>Nicholas Meanwell - BMS   |                                       |                | American Association of<br>Pharmaceutical Scientists |
| June 23                                 | Dreaming Big and Thinking Small: Applying Medicinal<br>Chemistry Strategy to Antibody-Drug-Conjugates<br>L. Natinan Tumoy - Pitzer<br>Peter Senter - Seattle Genetics   |                                       |                |  |
| July 28                                 | Nucleic Acids Therapeutics: Making Sense of Antisense<br>Oligonucleotides   | Content Advisors                      |                |  |
|   | Punt Seth - Johis<br>Richard Olson - BMS  | Richard Connell<br>Pfizer             |                | Annette Bak<br>Merck Research                        |
| August 18                               | Crystallography as a Drug Design and Delivery Tool (Special<br>Topic)<br>Robert Wenslow - Crystal Pharmatech<br>Vincent Stoll - Abbvie<br>Andrew Brusskii - Merck   |                                       |                | Laboratories   |
| III - Pharmacology Revisited            |   | Dan Erlanson                          |                | Mark Tichenor  |
| September<br>29                         | Dealing with Reactive Drug Metabolites in Drug Discovery: Can<br>We Predict Toxicities of Drug Candidates that form Reactive<br>Metabolites?<br>Deepak Dalvie - Pfuer<br>Frederick Peter Guergerich - Vanderbilt University | Carmot Therapeutics                   |                | Janssen Research and<br>Development                  |
| October<br>27                           | Rational Design of Small Molecules Targeting RNA<br>Matt Disney - Scripps RI Florida<br>Amanda Gamer - University of Michiean   |                                       |                |  |

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## Thursday, October 6, 2016

Treating Cancer with Nanoparticles Powered by the Sound of Light

Justin Harris, Lead Research Scientist, NanoHybrids Mark Jones, Executive External Strategy and Communications Fellow, Dow Chemical



#### Thursday, October 13, 2016

Failure: Why Science Is So Successful Stuart Firestein, Author and Professor of Neuroscience, Columbia University Darren Griffin, Professor of Genetics, University of Kent

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9/28/2016

## Dealing with Reactive Metabolites in Drug Discovery:

Can we Predict Toxicities of Drug Candidates that form Reactive Metabolites?

Deepak Dalvie Pharmacokinetics, Dynamics and Metabolism Department Pfizer

Addressing Reactive Metabolites in drug discovery has become regular routine



## Circumstantial evidence links reactive metabolites to adverse drug reactions



## **Predicting Toxicity of Reactive Metabolites can be Challenging**





Which of these groups are considered to be "structural alerts" in medicinal chemistry?



- A
- B
- Both
- Neither

## Agenda

#### **★**Background

- Idiosyncratic Adverse Drug Reactions (IADRs)
- Reactive metabolites
- Reactive Metabolite Assays

# ★ Discuss why predicting toxicity of RM-positive compounds can be challenging?

#### ★ Approaches to deal with reactive metabolites from a DM-PK perspective



## **Adverse Drug Reactions**

A Leading Cause of Candidate Attrition and Drug Recalls

#### Idiosyncratic Drug Reactions (IADRs) A Major Problem

- ★ Unpredictable
- ★ Not easy to study
- $\star$  The underlying mechanism is not clear
- ★ Believed to be immune mediated!

### **Reactive Metabolites A Major Risk Factor in Toxicity**





#### Reactive Metabolites & Idiosyncratic Adverse Drug Reactions (IADR)



**\*** Basic Premise:

Molecules <u>that do not produce</u> Reactive Metabolites will <u>not</u> cause IADRs



#### Basic Tactic Used By Pharma Industry "Avoid Reactive Metabolites"

- ★ Two approaches frequently adopted:
- Exclude chemical functionalities undergoing metabolic activation
   So called "Structural Alerts" or known toxicophores
- \* Screen for <u>Reactive Metabolite Formation</u> (RM Assays)



#### **Drugs that Possess a Structural Alert can be Toxic!**





## Absence of Structural Alerts Improves Safety Profile of Drugs

## Not that Straightforward





#### All Molecules with Structural Alerts Are Not Bioactivated!

Introduction of methyl group dramatically alters the metabolic profile

Obach et.al. CRT 2008 21:1890

## **Tolcapone versus Entacapone**



## Some Molecules Contain A Structural Alert <u>BUT</u> the Clearance Mechanism is Different

-N HN

Ranitidine SA - Furan



Pramipexole SA - Aminothiazole

Both drugs are renally excreted!



## Some Molecules Devoid of SA Are Toxic





#### Felbamate and Abacavir – No Typical SA But Bioactivated!

Relying on structural alert database alone may not be the right thing!

As new motifs are introduced - new structural alerts may surface





### Some Compounds Need Bioactivation to Exert Action

### What About Reactive Metabolite Assays?

Data Generated By Obach and his Colleagues



Overlap observed between hepatotoxins and non-hepatotoxins

Bauman Chem. Res. Toxicol. 2009, 22, 332-340 Obach Chem. Res. Toxicol. 2008, 21, 1814-1822

Covalent Binding or GSH adduct formation only suggests the presence of an electrophilic intermediate!

★ Lack of Covalent Binding or GSH Adduct formation does not guarantee safety



## What Does This Tell Us?

★ Avoiding SA and eliminating RM formation- makes sense

Avoids Risks

#### ★ Reactive Metabolite formation does not predict toxicity

- > No guarantee that elimination of reactive metabolites will make a safe drug
- > Presence of a structural alert will not make the molecule toxic!

#### **★** Several widely prescribed drugs form reactive metabolites

□ Stefan, A. et. al. 2011 Chem. Res. Toxicol. 24:1345-1410

Even a #1 Blockbuster drug contains SA and can form potential RMs



## Bottomline

## NO ASSAY OR KNOWLEDGE BASED SYSTEMS CAN PREDICT THE POTENTIAL OF A DRUG TO CAUSE IADR !

More to it than just bioactivation!



#### Why is there a Disconnect?

- ★ Several factors influence toxicity
  - Bioactivation is a part of it

#### ★ Some other factors that may result in IADRs

- Direct association with Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA)
  - Examples:
    - 💠 Abacavir
    - Allopurinol
    - Carbamazepine
    - Flucloxacillin

#### Transporters – Inhibition of the Bile Salt Export Pump (BSEP)

Examples

- Bosentan
- 💠 Imitanib

#### >It is multi-factorial most of the times

Troglitazone



### What is the Path Forward?

**★** Body Burden of a Reactive Metabolite can influence IADR

 $\star$  One Strategy - Reduce the body burden of the electrophilic intermediate





### Impact of DOSE – Now a Well Known Concept!

#### ★ Low dose reduces the risk of IADRs



Uetrecht, J. 1999 Chem. Res. Toxicol. 12:387-95 Lammert, C. et. al. 2008, Hepatology 47:2003-2009 Stefan, A. et. al. 2011 Chem. Res. Toxicol. 24:1345-1410



## **Other Driver of RM Body Burden – Metabolic Fate**

#### ★ Amount of a Reactive Metabolite Formed depends on:

- Contribution of competing metabolic routes
- > Contribution of pathways that detoxify the reactive metabolite



#### More the pathways ⇒ lesser the amount of RM



## **Raloxifene & Paroxetine**





Paroxetine

# Two cases that illustrate influence of metabolic pathways on RM body burden



## **The Raloxifene Case**

- \* Raloxifene A selective estrogen receptor modulator (SERM)
- ★ Bioactivated by CYP3A4 to quinoid intermediates
- \* A mechanism-based inhibitor of CYP3A4 covalently binds to Cys residue in CYP3A4 (CRT 2007)
- ★ No IADRs or DDIs reported



#### Why is Raloxifene is Devoid of any IADRs or DDI?

- **★** Primary route of raloxifene metabolism Glucuronidation
- ★ Highly efficient glucuronidation pathway competes with oxidation



## **Competing Pathways Make A Difference**

+ Glucuronidation limits the amount of raloxifene undergoing bioactivation



+ Dose may also influence (Dose of raloxifene - 60 mg QD)



#### **Paroxetine Case**

- ★ Paroxetine a widely used antidepressant
- ★ Undergoes metabolic activation
- ★ But Paroxetine is not a hepatotoxin!







# Detoxification of Reactive Metabolite and its Precursor Influences its Body Burden



★ Methylation limits the amount of catechol being oxidized

#### ★ Dose may contribute:

- Paroxetine Low daily dose (20 mg QD)
- > Reactive metabolite burden is readily handled by endogenous glutathione pool



## What did we learn from this ?

★ It is all about Body Burden!

#### **★** RM Body Burden is dependent on



#### **★** Knowledge of the complete metabolite profile is important

- Important to use integrated tissue systems
- Liver S9 w co-factors or hepatocytes rather than liver microsomes



### Take Home Message!

#### ★ Predicting toxicity of RM-Positive compounds is challenging

#### ★ Good to avoid Structural Alerts

- Replace if a bioisotere is available
   If there is no loss of pharmacological activity
- Avoids unnecessary risk assessment

#### ★ If the Structural Alert is necessary for activity

Demonstrate if the SA is prone to RM using met ID

#### ★ RM Assays are good "Gate Keepers"

- A "flag" to trigger additional studies
- GSH adducts provide a mechanistic understanding of bioactivation
- Results need to be put in right context



#### Take Home Message!

#### ★ Keeping the dose low is important

> Exposure to RM is tolerated

#### **★** Estimation of RM Body Burden could be useful

A more positive step towards prediction of IADR Risks

B.K. Park et. al. Nature Drug Discovery 10, 292-309 (2011) - A seminal paper!







## What other factors can you not forget when thinking about level of risk? (multiple correct answers)

- Indication
- Route of Administration
- Target Population
- pH
- Medical need

## **Never Forget Other Factors!**

- ★ Level of Risk also depends on factors such as
  - Indication
  - Medical need
  - > Target population ...



## $\star$ These factors will influence the avoidance strategy



## Acknowledgements





Amit Kalgutkar – Cambridge SiteScott Obach – Groton SiteKalgutkar AS. and Dalvie DK. Annu. Rev. Pharmacol. Toxicol. 2015. 55:35–54Dalvie D, Kalgutkar AS. and Chen W. Drug Metab Rev. 2015. 47:56-70.



Kalgutkar, A.S., Dalvie, D.K., Obach R.S., Smith D.A.







**2016 Drug Design and Delivery Symposium** "Dealing with Reactive Drug Metabolites in Drug Discovery"



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Quote in reference to: http://bit.ly/DDDSCrystallography

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