

**Predicting and Preventing Adverse Drug Reactions and Interactions**

Malcolm Tingle

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

1

**"Those who don't know history are destined to repeat it"**

Edmund Burke (1729-1797)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

2

**Definitions**

1. Adverse Event (or Adverse Experience)  
*Any untoward medical occurrence in a patient or clinical investigation subject administered a pharmaceutical product and which does not necessarily have to have a causal relationship with this treatment*
2. Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR)  
*In the pre-approval clinical experience with a new medicinal product or its new usages, particularly as the therapeutic dose(s) may not be established: all noxious and unintended responses to a medicinal product related to any dose should be considered adverse drug reactions*
  - Unexpected Adverse Drug Reaction  
*An adverse reaction, the nature or severity of which is not consistent with the applicable product information (e.g., Investigator's Brochure for an unapproved investigational medicinal product).*

ICH Topic E 2 A Clinical Safety Data Management: Definitions and Standards for Expedited Reporting

---

---

---

---

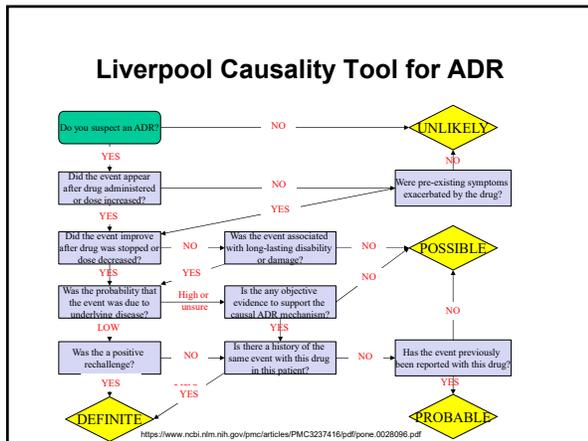
---

---

---

---

3



4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Severe vs. Serious

- The term "severe" is often used to describe the intensity (severity) of a specific event (as in mild, moderate, or severe myocardial infarction); the event itself, however, may be of relatively minor medical significance (such as severe headache).
- This is not the same as "serious," which is based on patient/event outcome or action criteria usually associated with events that pose a threat to a patient's life or functioning.

ICH Topic E 2 A Clinical Safety Data Management: Definitions and Standards for Expedited Reporting

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Serious ADR

- A *serious adverse event (experience) or reaction is any untoward medical occurrence that at any dose:*
  - results in death
  - is life-threatening
  - requires inpatient hospitalisation or results in prolongation of existing hospitalisation
  - \* results in persistent or significant disability/incapacity
  - is a congenital anomaly/birth defect
  - \* is a medically important event or reaction.

ICH Topic E 2 A Clinical Safety Data Management: Definitions and Standards for Expedited Reporting

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



### ADR –Dependent Hospital Admissions in the UK

- **Design** Prospective observational study.
- **Setting** Two large general hospitals in Merseyside, England.
- **Participants** 18 820 patients aged > 16 years admitted over six months and assessed for cause of admission.
- **Main outcome measures** Prevalence of admissions due to an ADR, length of stay, avoidability and outcome.

Pirmohamed M, James S, Meakin S, Green C, Scott AK, Walley TJ, et al. Adverse drug reactions as cause of admission to hospital: prospective analysis of 18 820 patients. *BMJ* 2004;329:15-9

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### ADR –Dependent Hospital Admissions in the UK

- **Results** There were 1225 admissions related to an ADR, giving a prevalence of 6.5%,
  - ADR directly leading to the admission in 80% of cases.
  - The median bed stay was eight days, accounting for 4% of the hospital bed capacity
  - The projected annual cost of such admissions to the NHS is £466m (€706m, \$847m).
- The overall fatality was 0.15%.
- Most reactions were either definitely or possibly avoidable.
- Drugs most commonly implicated in causing these admissions included low dose aspirin, diuretics, warfarin, and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs other than aspirin, the most common reaction being gastrointestinal bleeding.

Pirmohamed M, James S, Meakin S, Green C, Scott AK, Walley TJ, et al. Adverse drug reactions as cause of admission to hospital: prospective analysis of 18 820 patients. *BMJ* 2004;329:15-9

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Drug-Related Deaths in Europe

- A systematic review of drug-related deaths in patients requiring hospitalisation or whilst hospitalised suggest an overall rate of 7.3%
- During hospitalisation, acquired DRD represented 2.7% of deaths and occurred in 0.05% of hospitalised patients.
  - Doesn't sound much but = 1 in 2000

Montané, E, Castells, X. Epidemiology of drug-related deaths in European hospitals: A systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies. *Brit J Clin Pharm*. 2021; 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bcp.15176>

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





## ADR Mechanisms

The mechanisms involved may vary widely, but involves:

- interaction with receptor or enzymes (pharmacological?)
  - **Type I or A:** Predictable, dose-dependent based on the known pharmacology of the drug **LAWSUIT**
- alteration of structural proteins, DNA or Lipids (chemical)
  - **Type II or B:** Not predictable, no clear dose-dependency and not due to the known pharmacology of the drug **PUBLICATION**

19

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

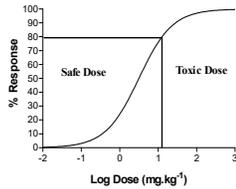
---

---

---

## Safe versus Toxic Dose

- Reactions are due to the known pharmacology of the drug and are therefore dose-dependent and predictable



- Take too much drug (wrong dose/frequency/duration)
- Take 2 or more drugs with overlapping pharmacology
- Take 2 drugs or more that have metabolic interaction

20

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Medication-related patient harm in NZ hospitals: 2013-2015

Table 8: Medication implicated in patient harm by harm severity.

Medicine classes	E	F	G	H	I	Total	%
Opioids (includes tramadol)	250	33		9		292	31.64%
Anticoagulants/antiplatelet agents	25	52		6	1	84	9.10%
Antibiotics	40	30		1		71	7.69%
Beta-blockers, nitrates, calcium channel blockers and other antianginal agents	33	27		1		61	6.61%
Diuretics	14	23				37	4.01%
Other cardiovascular medicines (ACE inhibitors, ARBs, centrally acting agents, lipid lowering agents)	18	15	1	2		36	3.9%
Not recorded/name queried	70	56	4		1	131	14.19%
Other (groups of medicines with less than 30 harms recorded)	112	88	8	3		211	22.9%
Total	562	324	13	22	2	923	100.00%

NZMJ 11 August 2017, Vol 130 No 1460 www.nzma.org.nz/journal

21

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Drug death: Nurse stood down

By Amelia Wade  
5:30 AM Friday May 13, 2011

A North Shore Hospital nurse with an "unblemished record" has been stood down after a 60-year-old grandmother died when she was given 10 times too much heart medication.

Shirley Curtis, who had earlier had a triple bypass operation, was admitted to North Shore Hospital with breathing problems and swollen feet just before Easter.

She was treated for five days and was due to be discharged.

But she received 10 times the prescribed dose of metoprolol, a beta blocker which slows the heart.

"Things were going off and red lights were flashing and they said they can't get a pulse and I just burst into tears," niece Donna Stanton told One News.

"We were told that the doctor had prescribed 12.5ml and the nurse had given her 125ml, which caused severe heart failure and then multiple organ failure."



North Shore Hospital. Photo / Paul Eastcourt

22

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Medication-related patient harm in NZ hospitals: 2013-2015

Table 8: Medication implicated in patient harm by harm severity.

Medicine classes	E	F	G	H	I	Total	%
Opioids (includes tramadol)	250	33			9	292	31.64%
Anticoagulants/antiplatelet agents	25	52		6	1	84	9.10%
Antibiotics	40	30		1		71	7.69%
Beta-blockers, nitrates, calcium channel blockers and other antianginal agents	33	27		1		61	6.61%
Diuretics	14	23				37	4.01%
Other cardiovascular medicines (ACE inhibitors, ARBs, centrally acting agents, lipid lowering agents)	18	15	1	2		36	3.9%
Not recorded/name queried	70	56	4		1	131	14.19%
Other (groups of medicines with less than 30 harms recorded)	112	88	8	3		211	22.9%
Total	562	324	13	22	2	923	100.00%

NZMJ 11 August 2017, Vol 130 No 1460 www.nzma.org.nz/journal

23

---

---

---

---

---

---

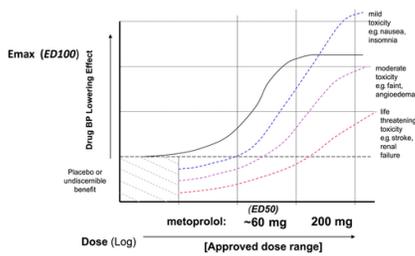
---

---

---

---

Efficacy and toxicity of antihypertensive pharmacotherapy relative to effective dose 50



British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, First published: 20 June 2015, DOI: 10.1111/bcp.14033

24

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Preventability of Adverse Drug Reactions: Schumock & Thornton

- Was the drug involved in the ADR *not* considered appropriate for the patient's clinical condition?
- Was the dose, route, and frequency of administration *not* appropriate for the patient's age, weight and disease state?
- Was the require therapeutic drug monitoring or other laboratory test *not* performed?
- Was there a history of allergy or previous reactions to the drug?
- Was a drug interaction involved in the reaction?
- Was a toxic serum drug level documented?
- Was poor compliance involved in the reaction?

Schumock, G.T. & Thornton, J.P. Focusing on the Preventability of Adverse Drug Reactions July 1992 Hospital pharmacy 27(6):538

25

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Preventing ADR

'Safety Pharmacology'

26

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

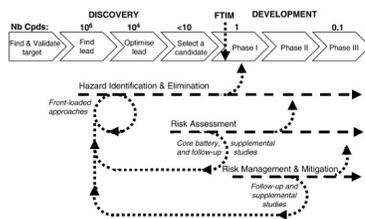


Fig. 1 Objectives of safety pharmacology studies and their alignment to the drug discovery and development process. Abbreviation: Nb cpds, approximate number of compounds evaluated for each discovery/development phase; FTIM, First Time In Man.

Jean-Pierre Valentin, Russell Bialecki, Lorna Ewart, Tim Hammond, Derek Leishmann, Silvana Lindgren, Vicente...

A framework to assess the translation of safety pharmacology data to humans

Journal of Pharmacological and Toxicological Methods, Volume 60, Issue 2, 2009, 152 - 158

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.yascn.2009.05.011>

27

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Limitations of Animal Testing

- There are many limitations to evaluation of drug toxicity in animals including;
  - Limited choice of species for various tests
  - Species switching between tests
  - Interspecies variability in metabolism
  - Interspecies variability in response
  - Lack of subjective ADR
  - Lack of suitable models for many human ADRs (e.g. hypersensitivity reactions)

28

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH): Efficacy Guidelines

- CLINICAL SAFETY
  - E1 The Extent of Population Exposure to Assess Clinical Safety for Drugs Intended for Long-Term Treatment of Non-Life-Threatening Conditions
  - E2A Clinical Safety Data Management: Definitions and Standards for Expedited Reporting
  - E2B(R2) Clinical Safety Data Management: Data Elements for Transmission of Individual Case Safety Reports
  - E2C(R1) Clinical Safety Data Management: Periodic Safety Update Reports for Marketed Drugs
  - E2D Post-Approval Safety Data Management: Definitions and Standards for Expedited Reporting
  - E2E Pharmacovigilance Planning
  - E2F Development Safety Update Report
- CLINICAL STUDY REPORTS
  - E3 Structure and Content of Clinical Study Reports
- DOSE-RESPONSE STUDIES
  - E4 Dose-Response Information to Support Drug Registration
- ETHNIC FACTORS
  - E5(R1) Ethnic Factors in the Acceptability of Foreign Clinical Data
- GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE
  - E6(R1) Good Clinical Practice: Consolidated Guideline

<http://www.ich.org>

29

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH): Efficacy Guidelines

- CLINICAL TRIALS
  - E7 Studies in Support of Special Populations: Geriatrics
  - E8 General Considerations for Clinical Trials
  - E9 Statistical Principles for Clinical Trials
  - E10 Choice of Control Group and Related Issues in Clinical Trials
  - E11 Clinical Investigation of Medicinal Products in the Pediatric Population
- PRINCIPLES FOR CLINICAL EVALUATION BY THERAPEUTIC CATEGORY
  - E12 Principles for Clinical Evaluation of New Antihypertensive Drugs
- CLINICAL EVALUATION
  - E14 The Clinical Evaluation of QT/QTc Interval Prolongation and Proarrhythmic Potential for Non-Antiarrhythmic Drugs
- PHARMACOGENOMICS
  - E15 Definitions for Genomic Biomarkers, Pharmacogenomics, Pharmacogenetics,
  - Genomic Data and Sample Coding Categories
  - E16 Genomic Biomarkers Related to Drug Response: Context, Structure and Format of Qualification Submissions

<http://www.ich.org>

30

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



*Transfer to Critical care*

All 6 symptomatic subjects were transferred to the Critical Care Unit at Northwick Park hospital between 12 and 16 hours after dosing in view of the continued deterioration in clinical status.

On transfer to critical care unit, the following were the predominant and common features: dyspnoea and tachypnoea in 5 of the 6, respiratory fatigue in 4 of the 6, bilateral radiological pulmonary infiltrates in all, increased blood urea, significant base deficit, and features consistent with disseminated intravascular coagulation [elevated fibrin degradation products (FDP), low fibrinogen and altered prothrombin time]. There was general lymphopenia (values ranging from 0.04 to 0.07 x10<sup>9</sup>/L in the ITU) compared to pre-dose (baseline 1.47 to 2.59 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L) and this persisted for several days.

*Treatment in Critical care*

- Ventilation:  
All subjects (patients) needed assisted ventilation: 4 of the 6 non-intubated patients received continuous positive pressure ventilation (CPAP) for durations of 4 -82 hours. Intermittent positive pressure ventilation (IPPV) was utilised in two subjects (12 -18 hours post dose). These two subjects needed IPPV.

[http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130107105354/http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/eng/documents/digitalassets/@dh\\_073165.pdf](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130107105354/http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/eng/documents/digitalassets/@dh_073165.pdf)

34

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Cytokine table

	PREDOSE	1 HOUR	4 HOURS	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6
Mean TNFalpha	<2.8	1943	> 5000	836	107	136	<2.8	<2.8	3.00
Mean IFN-g	<7.1	99	> 5000	4730	1366	270	89	43	27
Mean-IL-10	<2.8	76	2158	1771	272	69	19	10	8
Mean-IL-6	< 3.0	29	1330	1204	96	475	466	95	43
Mean-IL4	<2.6	9	1205	13	24	3	3	3	3
Mean-IL2	4.70	57	3317	137	14	9	4	3	4

The table only shows mean values rounded to the closest integer. This is only to provide a schematic representation of changes in Cytokine values. The symbols (<) and (>) indicates values below and above the assay limits and hence are not exact values.

All cytokines increased significantly on days 1 and 2. Very large increases (>500-1000 fold) were seen in TNF and Interferon gamma and especially at 4 hours and day 2. Interestingly, TNF rose sharply in all subjects within 1 hour of TGN 1412 administration. A downward trend was seen in all cytokines by day 3 after administration.

**Conclusions**

The investigation indicated that the adverse incident did not involve errors in the manufacture of TGN1412 or in its formulation, dilution or administration to trial participants. It was therefore concluded that an unpredicted biological action of the drug in humans was the most likely cause of the adverse reactions in the trial participants.

[http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130107105354/http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/eng/documents/digitalassets/@dh\\_073165.pdf](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130107105354/http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/eng/documents/digitalassets/@dh_073165.pdf)

35

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**The report made 22 recommendations**

- "Special consideration should be given to new agents for which the primary pharmacological action, for the proposed therapeutic effect, cannot be demonstrated in an animal model"
- "When it is likely that pre-clinical information, for any reason, may be a poor guide to human responses *in vivo*, the starting doses in first-in-man trials should be calculated to err on the side of caution"
- "New agents in first-in-man trials should be administered sequentially to subjects with an appropriate period of observation between dosing of individual subjects"

[http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130107105354/http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/eng/documents/digitalassets/@dh\\_073165.pdf](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130107105354/http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/eng/documents/digitalassets/@dh_073165.pdf)

36

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Why Humans?

- TGN 1412 interacts with 15 amino acids on the receptor
- Differences of up to 4% (9 of 220 amino acids) between rhesus and human CD28 have been found
  - Two variable positions in the rhesus CD28 sequence — amino acid 65 (glutamic acid or glycine) and 104 (asparagine or tyrosine) — are located on the edge of the contact region between human CD28 and TGN1412.
  - they are likely to substantially affect the strength of antibody–antigen interaction
  - Monkeys only had swollen lymph nodes

Villinger F, Bosak P, Mayne A, King CL, Gemain CP, Weiss WR, et al. Cloning, sequencing, and homology analysis of nonhuman primate Fas-Fas-ligand and co-stimulatory molecules. *Immunogenetics* 2001;53:315-28

37

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Or...

- Mast cells also have CD28
- Activation of mast cells causes release of histamine and 5-HT
  - Mediators in anaphylaxis causing rapid increased vascular permeability, bronchoconstriction and nausea
- Also get release of TNF $\alpha$  and cytokines (e.g. IL-2, IL-4)
  - Responsible for "late-phase" reactions including vascular permeability and leukocyte infiltration
- There are species- inter-individual- and tissue-differences in responsiveness of mast cells that limit extrapolation of animal & in vitro data to the clinic

Tachino M, Kawakami Y, Abe R, Han W, Hata D, Sugie K, et al. Increased secretion of TNF-alpha by costimulation of mast cells via CD28 and Fc epsilon R1. *J Immunol* 1997;158:2382-9

Forsythe P, Ennis M. Clinical consequences of mast cell heterogeneity. *Inflammation Research* 2000;49:147-54

38

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

BJCP British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology

DOI:10.1111/bcp.12655

### Editorial

## The return of the prodigal son and the extraordinary development route of antibody TGN1412 - lessons for drug development and clinical pharmacology

Marcel J. H. Kenter<sup>1\*</sup> & Adam F. Cohen<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMw) and <sup>2</sup>Centre for Human Drug Research, Leiden, the Netherlands

\*The author's views do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of his employer.

The Russian researchers are conducting a follow-up study in which TGN1412/TAB08 is being administered to patients with rheumatoid arthritis [ClinicalTrials.gov registration number: NCT01990157] [13]. The company's ultimate goal is to develop the antibody into a drug that will down-regulate the inflammatory response in rheumatoid arthritis by selectively activating regulatory T cells. So 8 years after its dramatic and troubled start, the TGN1412 antibody is back in the clinic and may be developed into an innovative drug for treating autoimmune diseases.

39

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

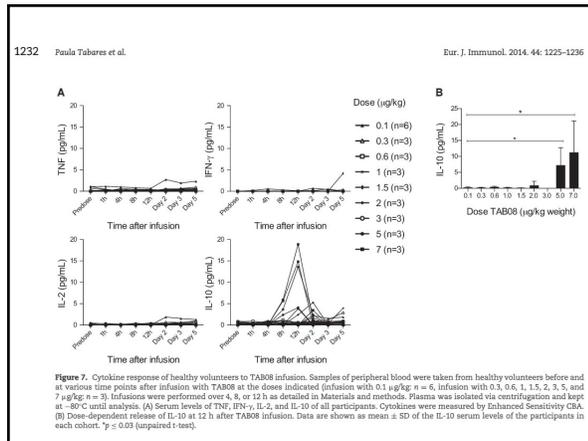
---

---

### Systemic release of IL-10, but not pro-inflammatory cytokines, by TAB08 in healthy volunteers

In the ill-fated FIH trial of TGN1412 in 2006, healthy volunteers (HVs) received a bolus injection of 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  body weight, which led to a systemic release of pro-inflammatory cytokines, most notably TNF, IFN- $\gamma$ , and IL-2, but also of IL-10, suggesting that both CD4<sup>+</sup>EM and Treg cells had been activated [19]. In a new study, much lower doses of TAB08 were therefore applied under close clinical surveillance, starting with 0.1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  (1000-fold less than applied in the London trial), followed by several intermediate doses and a maximal dose of 7  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ . The

40



41

### Probability of Detecting an Adverse Event during Clinical Trials

Table 5. Probability of Observing at Least 1 AE by Assumed True Event Rates With Different Sample Sizes

Assumed True Event Rate of an AE	N=12	N=45	N=180	N=1000	N=3000	N=6000	N=9000	N=15000	
Very Rare	0.01%	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.10	0.26	0.45	0.59	0.78
	0.02%	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.18	0.45	0.70	0.83	0.95
	0.04%	0.00	0.02	0.07	0.33	0.70	0.91	0.97	>0.99
Rare	0.06%	0.01	0.03	0.10	0.45	0.83	0.97	0.99	>0.99
	0.08%	0.01	0.04	0.13	0.55	0.91	0.99	0.99	>0.99
	0.10%	0.01	0.04	0.16	0.63	0.95	0.99	0.99	>0.99
	0.15%	0.02	0.07	0.24	0.78	0.99	0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	0.20%	0.02	0.09	0.30	0.86	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	0.25%	0.03	0.11	0.36	0.92	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
Uncommon	0.30%	0.04	0.13	0.42	0.95	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	0.35%	0.04	0.15	0.47	0.97	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	0.50%	0.06	0.20	0.59	0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	1.00%	0.11	0.36	0.81	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	2.00%	0.22	0.60	0.97	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
Common	3.00%	0.31	0.75	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	5.00%	0.46	0.90	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	7.00%	0.58	0.96	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
	10.00%	0.72	0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99

42





### Inter-individual Variability in Drug Metabolism

- **Lack of metabolism:** enhanced plasma concentrations and exaggerated pharmacological responses.
- **Lack of a metabolic pathway in certain individuals:** compound is bioactivated by a different enzyme.
- Enhanced toxicity due the **lack of a detoxification pathway.**
- **Lack of a bioactivation pathway:** poor metabolisers at less risk
- **Increased protein expression or catalytic activity,** with subsequent increase in the formation of toxic metabolites.

---

---

---

---

---

---

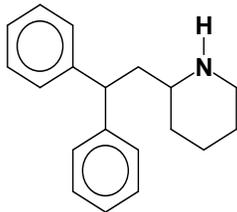
---

---

49

### Lack of detoxication resulting in secondary effects: Perhexiline

- Perhexiline is an anti-angina drug that has cationic, amphiphilic properties.
- If it is not metabolised (by CYP2D6), perhexiline accumulates in lysosomes resulting in hepatotoxicity and neuropathy



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

50

### Perhexiline

- In UK, a total of 543 reports of ADR, with 20 fatal
- Withdrawn from most of the world but....
- In NZ:

#### Monitoring of Plasma Levels

Plasma perhexiline concentrations should be maintained between 0.15 and 0.60mcg/ml. Because of perhexiline's slow and variable clearance, the marked inter-subject variability in metabolism of the medicine and the potential for serious toxicity, regular monitoring of plasma levels of perhexiline is essential commencing at the end of the first week of use. Dosage should not be increased unless the plasma concentrations are sub-therapeutic and at least two to four weeks have elapsed since commencement, or last increase in dose, of perhexiline. **If facilities for determining plasma levels are not available, PEXSIG should not be prescribed.**

<http://www.medsafe.govt.nz/prof/da/datasheet/p/pexsigtab.pdf>

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

51

**FDA Drug Safety Communication: Codeine use in certain children after tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy may lead to rare, but life-threatening adverse events or death**

Safety Announcement  
 Additional Information for Parents and Caregivers  
 Additional Information for Health Care Professionals  
 Data Summary  
 Table 1. Prevalence of Ultra-rapid Metabolizers in Different Populations  
 References

**Safety Announcement**

(8-15-2013) The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is reviewing reports of children who developed serious adverse effects or died after taking codeine for pain relief after tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy for obstructive sleep apnea syndrome. Recently, three pediatric deaths and one non-fatal but life-threatening case of respiratory depression were documented in the medical literature\* (see Data Summary below). These children (ages two to five) had evidence of an inherited (genetic) ability to convert codeine into life-threatening or fatal amounts of morphine in the body; all children had received doses of codeine that were within the typical dose range.

**MINUTES OF THE 152<sup>nd</sup> MEDICINES ADVERSE REACTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Recommendation 1**  
 The Committee recommended that a Prescriber Update article be published advising prescribers and healthcare professionals of the variation in metabolism of codeine between individuals and the possibility of adverse effects in ultra-rapid metabolizers. They also recommended that this information be communicated directly to paediatric ENT surgeons and anaesthetists.

**Recommendation 2**  
 The Committee recommended that the use of codeine in children under one year of age be contraindicated in New Zealand due to a lack of evidence to support the safe use in this age group.

**Recommendation 3**  
 The Committee recommended that the warning section in the New Zealand codeine data sheet be expanded to include the estimated prevalence of ultra-rapid metabolizers in the population, symptoms of morphine toxicity or adverse effects that could potentially occur in this population, and what the patient or caregiver should do if symptoms occur.

**Recommendation 4**  
 The Committee recommended that the warning section in the data sheet regarding the use in children be updated with a similar warning to that regarding the use of codeine in breast-feeding mothers, advising of the risk of codeine toxicity in this population, particularly post-tonsillectomy and throat surgery.

**Recommendation 5**  
 The Committee recommended that Medsafe undertake a review of the use of codeine as a cough suppressant in children, and the results of this review be reported back to the MARC.

52

**MedSafe**  
 Welcome to the Medsafe Website  
 This site provides information on the regulation of medicines and medical devices in New Zealand.

**Prescriber Update Articles**  
**Codeine and Ultra-Rapid Metabolizers**  
 Web site: March 2013  
 Prescriber Update 2013.34(1):3-4

**Key Messages**  
 Patients may respond differently to codeine and some patients may be at increased risk of serious adverse effects. Symptoms of codeine toxicity or overdose may include somnolence, difficulty waking, confusion, shallow breathing, nausea and vomiting. Treatment of codeine toxicity is most commonly with the opioid antagonist, naloxone. Prescribers are reminded that patients may respond differently to codeine treatment and are encouraged to educate parents and caregivers of young patients about possible adverse effects associated with codeine use. Codeine is a widely used opioid analgesic and is sometimes given post-operatively for pain relief in children. Codeine has a very low affinity for opioid receptors and is partially metabolised to morphine in the liver via the cytochrome P450 enzyme 2D6 (CYP2D6). Genetic differences in the expression of the CYP2D6 enzyme results in differences in the extent to which codeine is metabolised. Patients deficient in or lacking this enzyme cannot convert codeine to morphine and therefore may not obtain adequate analgesic pain relief. Conversely, patients who metabolise codeine very rapidly (ultra-rapid metabolizers) are at increased risk of developing adverse effects of opioid toxicity, even at low doses. Estimates suggest that up to 10% of the Caucasian population may be poor metabolizers and up to 10% may be ultra-rapid metabolizers. The prevalence in Maori and Pacific people is not known. Genetic testing to identify ultra-rapid metabolizers prior to prescribing codeine is not currently available in New Zealand. Recently, cases of respiratory depression and death following the use of codeine for post-surgery analgesia have been reported in the medical literature. These incidents occurred in children who had evidence of being ultra-rapid metabolizers of codeine. Post-operative codeine use after surgeries such as tonsillectomy or adenoidectomy may increase the risk of breathing difficulties in susceptible children. Symptoms of codeine toxicity or overdose may include nausea, vomiting, constipation, lack of appetite, somnolence, extreme sleepiness, difficulty waking, confusion, shallow breathing and coma. Caregivers and patients should be advised to immediately discontinue codeine and seek medical attention if these symptoms occur. Effects can be reversed with naloxone, a narcotic antagonist. Naloxone acts by competing for the same receptor sites as opioids.

**References**  
 de Leon J, Armstrong SC, Cozza KL. 2006. Clinical guidelines for psychiatrists for the use of pharmacogenetic testing for CYP450 2D6 and CYP450 2C19. *Psychosomatics* 47(1): 75-85.  
 Kelly LE, Rieder M, van den Anker J, et al. 2012. More codeine fatalities after tonsillectomy in North American children. *Pediatrics* 129(5): e1343-1347.

53

0899-9556(01)2984-580-585(3).00  
 DMSI, MIFAKOJAM AND DROPTON  
 Copyright © 2001 by The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics  
 DMD 29:580-585, 2001

Vol. 29, No. 4, Part 2  
 290123596492  
 Printed in U.S.A.

**MOVING TOWARD GENETIC PROFILING IN PATIENT CARE: THE SCOPE AND RATIONALE OF PHARMACOGENETIC/COGENETIC INVESTIGATION**

G. ALVAN, L. BERTILSSON, M.-L. DAHL, M. INGELMAN-SUNDBERG, AND F. SJÖQVIST

Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Department of Medical Laboratory Science and Technology, Huddinge University Hospital, S-141 86 Huddinge, Sweden (G.A., L.B., M.-L.D., F.S.); and Division of Molecular Toxicology, Department of Environmental Medicine, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden (M.I.-S.)

This paper is available online at <http://dmd.aspetjournals.org>

54

### HLA-B\*5701 genotype in DILI due to flucloxacillin

- ~1 in 500 - 1,000 individuals with this genotype will develop DILI when treated with flucloxacillin.
  - No use as a 'predictor'
  - Clinically, HLA-B\*5701 genotyping of suspected cases of flucloxacillin DILI may prove to be a useful diagnostic test
  - If a prompt test is available, substituting flucloxacillin with alternative anti-staphylococcal agents such as cloxacillin and dicloxacillin in these suspected cases should be feasible

Daly AK, Donaldson PT, Bhattacharjee P, Shen Y, Peter I, Floratos A, et al. HLA-B\*5701 genotype is a major determinant of drug-induced liver injury due to flucloxacillin. *Nature Genetics* 2009;41:1316-9

55

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

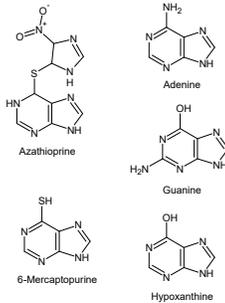
---

---

---

### Azathioprine & 6-Mercaptopurine

- Azathioprine is used as an immunosuppressant in Crohn's disease and organ transplantation
- Its metabolite, 6-MP, is used for acute lymphoblastic leukaemia & acute myelogenous leukaemia
- 6-MP works by
  - blockade of protein -SH groups by alkylation.
  - inhibition of nucleic acid biosynthesis, hence proliferation and immune responses
  - Direct damage to DNA by incorporation of purine thio analogues



56

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Azathioprine & 6-Mercaptopurine

- Treatment with 6-MP may cause bone marrow suppression, leading to leucopenia, thrombocytopenia and, less frequently, anaemia
  - Pharmacokinetic interaction with xanthine oxidase inhibitors (e.g. allopurinol)
  - Patients deficient in Thiopurine Methyl Transferase (TPMT)

57

---

---

---

---

---

---

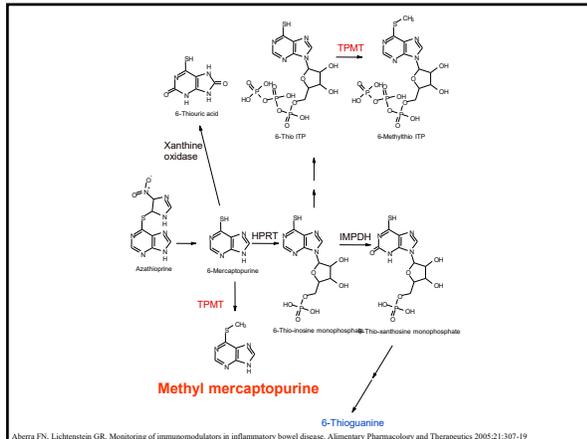
---

---

---

---





61

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### PHENOTYPE *versus* GENOTYPE

- Possible to determine TPMT enzyme activity
  - now routine in New Zealand: used to predict severe leucopenia in 1:200 cases of deficiency
- 6-TGN & 6-MMP determination in RBC
  - becoming routine in New Zealand
  - 6-TGN range 235 – 450 pmol/8x10<sup>8</sup> RBC
  - 6-MMP <5700 pmol/8x10<sup>8</sup> RBC
- Very poor correlation between AZA dose and 6-TGN concentration ( $r^2 = 0.002$ ):
  - Need to monitor 6-TGN concentrations instead of relying on dose per kg body weight to individualize therapy.

Gearty RB, Barclay ML, Roberts RL, Haraway J, Zhang M, Pike LS, et al. Thiopurine methyltransferase and 6-thioguanine nucleotide measurement: early experience of use in clinical practice. *Internal Medicine Journal* 2005;35:550-5

62

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Warfarin

- Warfarin is used in the prophylaxis and treatment of venous thrombosis & pulmonary embolism
  - it inhibits the synthesis of vitamin K dependent coagulation factors
  - This results in a sequential depression of Factors II, VII, IX and X activities
- In overdose or poisoning:
  - Appearance of blood in stools or urine, haematuria, excessive menstrual bleeding, excessive bruising or persistent oozing from superficial injuries (early signs)
  - Necrosis and/or gangrene of skin and other tissues, which may require amputation
  - Death: It is also used as a rodenticide!

63

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Warfarin Mode of Action

- Warfarin inhibits the vitamin K epoxide reductase multi-protein complex (VKOR)
- The Vitamin K Epoxide Reductase Complex, Subunit 1 gene (*VKORC1*) encodes a small transmembrane protein of the endoplasmic reticulum
  - Missense mutations of *VKORC1* lead to warfarin resistance
  - Patients with the mutation require a higher dose

Rost S, Fregin A, Ivashkevich V, Conzelmann E, Hornigal K, Petr H-J, et al. Mutations in *VKORC1* cause warfarin resistance and multiple coagulation factor deficiency type 2. *Nature* 2004;427:537-41

64

---

---

---

---

---

---

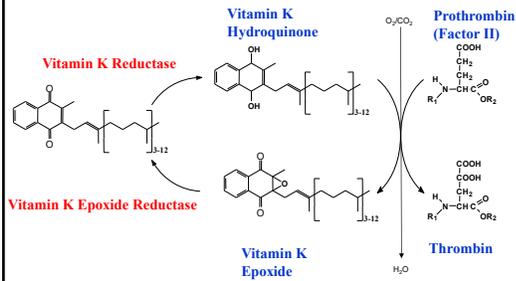
---

---

---

---

## Vitamin K Cycle



65

---

---

---

---

---

---

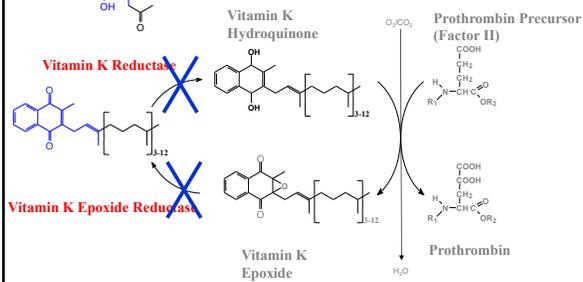
---

---

---

---

## Vitamin K Cycle



66

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Warfarin Metabolism

- Warfarin is racemic:
  - the *S*-isomer is 3-5 times more potent than the *R*-isomer.
- *S*-Warfarin is metabolised by CYP2C9 to the 7-hydroxy metabolite
  - *R*-warfarin inhibits this metabolic clearance
- Allelic variants CYP2C9\*2 and CYP2C9\*3 differ from CYP2C9\*1 by single amino acid substitutions
  - The allelic variants are associated with impaired hydroxylation of *S*-warfarin
  - There is a strong association between CYP2C9 variant alleles and low warfarin dose requirement.
  - “CYP2C9 genotyping may identify a subgroup of patients who have difficulty at induction of warfarin therapy and are potentially at a higher risk of bleeding complications”

Aithal GP, Day CP, Kesteven PJL, Daly AK. Association of polymorphisms in the cytochrome P450 CYP2C9 with warfarin dose requirement and risk of bleeding complications. The Lancet 1999; 353: 717-9

67

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Warfarin Pharmacogenomics

- In a study, combining the CYP2C9\*2, CYP2C9\*3, and VKORC1 1173C>T genotype results, as much as **56%** of the inter-individual variability of the warfarin pharmacodynamic response
- Large inter-ethnic variability in allele frequencies

Ethnic Group	CYP2C9*2	CYP2C9*3	VKORC1 1173C>T
Caucasian	0.9 -20%	0- 14.5%	37%
African	0.8-7%	0.4-3%	14%
Asian	0%	0-8.2%	89%

Wadelius M et al. Common VKORC1 and GGCX polymorphisms associated with warfarin dose. Pharmacogenomics Journal 2005; 5: 262-70

68

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**On September 17<sup>th</sup> 2007, the FDA cleared for marketing a genetic test manufactured by Nanosphere Inc.**

“The Nanosphere test is not designed to be a stand-alone tool to determine optimum drug dosing, but should be used along with clinical evaluation and other tools, including INR [*International Normalized Ratio*] to determine the best treatment for patients”

69

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## GWAS and genetic determinants of warfarin dose

- GWAS has confirmed role for *CYP2C9* & *VKORC1* but also revealed that *CYP4F2* also helps to predict dose variance
- *CYP4F2* is a vitamin K oxidase
  - Mutation in *CYP4F2*
  - => ↓ oxidation of vitamin K1
  - => ↑ hepatic levels of vitamin K1
  - => ↑ warfarin dose to achieve anticoagulation

70

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**“Large clinical trials have been unable to demonstrate any real advantage of using genotype data for predicting doses and achieving target concentrations so I usually try to downplay the genotype side of warfarin clinical pharmacology.”**

Genotype does not completely predict phenotype

71

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

23andMe Genetic Health Risk Reports: What you should know

**Genetic Health Risk reports** tell you about genetic variants associated with increased risk for certain health conditions. Not all genetic variants that may affect your risk are included.

**Having a risk variant** does not mean you will definitely develop a health condition. Many people with an increased risk never develop the condition.

**Other factors like lifestyle and environment** can affect whether a person develops the condition. Our reports cannot tell you about your overall risk and they do not diagnose any health conditions.

**Genetic counseling** can help you understand your results and options. It is recommended before testing, and if you have a risk variant.

<https://www.23andme.com/test-info/>

72

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



“Guangda Ma and I have reported that NextDose with its theory based model performs better than TCIworks with its empirical model using the same evaluation data set used by the Otago group <https://www.page-meeting.org/default.asp?abstract=8562>.  
 Guangda did this work as part of his Masters Dissertation last year.  
 Guangda's PhD proposal is to undertake a clinical trial with NextDose to see if it can be shown to improve outcome compared to standard of care.”



76

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Warfarin and NextDose

- Theory-based modelling of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of *S*- and *R*-warfarin on INR included *CYP2C9*, *VKORC1* and *CYP4F2* as well as age, sex body mass and height
  - Fat-free mass was the best predictor of body size influencing CL and V
  - Nick Holford has incorporated this into NextDose (<https://www.nextdose.org/>), a Bayesian dose forecaster

Xue L, Holford N, Ding X-L, Shen Z-y, Huang C-r, Zhang H, et al. Theory-based pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of *S*- and *R*-warfarin and effects on international normalized ratio: influence of body size, composition and genotype in cardiac surgery patients. *Br J Clin Pharmacol*. 2017;83(4):823-35

77

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

“Anybody beginning a course of warfarin medicine is advised to keep the vitamin K content of their diet constant. If the warfarin dose is established with a constant level of vitamin K intake the INR will not be affected. Problems may arise when vitamin K intakes are varied. If a patient suddenly lowers their vitamin K intake, the INR will increase, and if a patient increases their vitamin K intake the INR will decrease.”

<http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz/consumers/food-safety-topics/chemicals-in-food/vitamin-k/index.htm>

78

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Warfarin Activity and Diet

- Food sources of vitamin K include:
  - green and/or leafy vegetables, e.g. broccoli, spinach, Brussels sprouts, cabbage & lettuce
  - soybean and canola oil, spirulina, green tea, wheatgerm, alfalfa
  - Beef liver
- Dietary supplements may also contain vitamin K
  - E.g. multivitamins and bone health supplements
  - some milk and health drinks fortified with vitamin K

<http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz/consumers/food-safety-topics/chemicals-in-food/vitamin-k/index.htm>

79

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Penicillins

- The most common reactions to oral penicillin are nausea, vomiting, epigastric distress, diarrhoea, and black, hairy tongue.
- Hemolytic anemia, leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, neuropathy, and nephropathy are infrequent reactions and are usually associated with high doses of parenteral penicillin.
- Hypersensitivity reactions include:
  - skin eruptions (ranging from maculopapular to exfoliative dermatitis);
  - urticaria;
  - reactions resembling serum sickness, including chills, fever, edema, arthralgia, and prostration;
  - laryngeal edema
  - anaphylaxis.

80

---

---

---

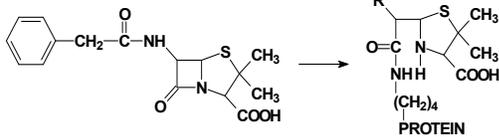
---

---

---

---

---



We understand the chemistry, but not inter-individual susceptibility!

81

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## (Hyper)Polypharmacy

- Polypharmacy coined as a term to refer to taking several medicines at the same time
  - Generally refers to 4 or 5+ medicines per day
  - Associated with increased risks of adverse drug reactions, adverse drug events, inappropriate prescribing, inappropriate drug use, falls, hospitalization, institutionalization, mortality, and other important negative outcomes in studies of older adults
- Hyperpolypharmacy coined more recently refers to 10 or more medicines
- Has given rise to the concept of deprescribing
  - Rational withdrawal of medications may be the appropriate clinical decision and may result in significant clinical and functional benefits

82

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Polypharmacy

**Table 1**  
Percentage of patients on different numbers of regular medications

Percentage of patients on different numbers of regular medications	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	≥10
All patients	53.3	25.2	11.0	5.9	4.6
Gender					
Female	46.6	29.5	12.1	6.6	5.2
Male	60.3	20.8	9.8	5.2	3.9
Age (years)					
20-39	77.1	19.7	2.3	0.6	0.3
40-59	60.0	27.2	7.5	3.1	2.1
60-79	24.9	30.2	22.2	12.7	10.1
≥80	8.4	21.2	29.9	22.0	18.6
Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation quintile					
1, least deprived	59.1	25.0	9.3	4.0	2.5
2	35.0	25.6	10.5	5.1	3.8
3	51.8	26.2	11.2	6.1	4.7
4	51.0	24.8	11.8	6.9	5.5
5, most deprived	50.5	24.1	11.9	7.3	6.2
Number of clinical conditions					
None	88.8	10.7	0.4	0.05	0.02
1	54.5	37.2	6.8	1.2	0.3
2	30.8	43.1	18.5	5.8	1.9
3	16.5	36.8	27.6	13.4	5.7
4 or 5	6.1	23.1	31.1	22.9	16.8
≥6	1.3	7.7	19.0	27.5	44.5

Payne et al. Is polypharmacy always hazardous? A retrospective cohort analysis using linked electronic health records from primary and secondary care. *Br J Clin Pharmacol* 2014;77:1073-82

83

---

---

---

---

---

---

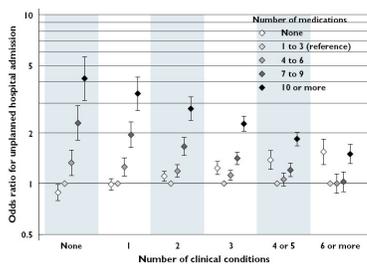
---

---

---

---

## Polypharmacy and hospitalization BJCP



**Figure 1**

Adjusted odds ratios showing the association between admission and number of regular medications (relative to 1-3 regular medications), for different degrees of multimorbidity. For each number of clinical conditions, the clusters represent different numbers of medications, from none (white), through one to three, four to six, seven to nine, and 10 or more medications (black). Error bars are 95% confidence intervals. The point estimates shown in the figure can be calculated from the adjusted odds ratios reported in Appendix 2.

Payne et al. Is polypharmacy always hazardous? A retrospective cohort analysis using linked electronic health records from primary and secondary care. *Br J Clin Pharmacol* 2014;77:1073-82

84

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Pharmacokinetic Interactions

- Inhibition
  - results in higher than expected plasma concentrations so pharmacology is exaggerated
  - Inhibition of one pathway results in a greater clearance through the bioactivation pathway
  - Inhibition of detoxification pathways or repair mechanisms
- Induction
  - Enhanced bioactivation may increase incidence of ADR
  - Enhanced metabolic clearance: decreased clinical effectiveness

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

85

### Pharmacodynamic Interactions

- Adverse drug reactions may be due to a pharmacodynamic interaction between 2 or more drugs, so that the pharmacological effect is too great
- **Ethanol** has many pharmacological effects, including acting at **GABA<sub>A</sub>** receptors
- Drinking **alcohol** with sedatives, **hypnotics** and some **antihistamines** can result in additive or synergistic effects
- Outcome is too much sedation or **coma** and **death**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

86

### Anna Nicole Smith: A Pharmacology Basket Case

- Chloral hydrate
  - Hypnotic used for short-term treatment of insomnia or sedative before minor surgery
  - Has activity at GABA<sub>A</sub>
- Diphenylhydramine
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Generation antihistamine with sedative & anti-tussive effects
  - Central H<sub>1</sub> effects causes drowsiness but also antagonist at muscarinic receptors and it is a serotonin reuptake inhibitor
- Clonazepam/diazepam/nordiazepam/temazepam/oxazepam/lorazepam
  - Anxiolytics/hypnotics working through GABA<sub>A</sub>
- Topiramate
  - Anticonvulsant but also has some GABA<sub>A</sub> activity

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

87