

## Effects of Liver Disease on Pharmacokinetics

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National Institutes of Health  
Clinical Center



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## 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

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## ADDITIVITY of Clearances

$$CL_E = CL_R + CL_{NR}$$

↑  
ESTIMATED FROM  
PLASMA LEVEL-  
VS.-TIME CURVE

↑  
ESTIMATED FROM  
RECOVERY OF  
DRUG IN URINE

↑  
ESTIMATED  
AS  $CL_E - CL_R$

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## CALCULATION OF $CL_H$

$$CL_H = CL_E - CL_R$$

ASSUMES  $CL_H = CL_{NR}$

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## FICK EQUATION

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

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

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

A = CONCENTRATION ENTERING LIVER  
V = CONCENTRATION LEAVING LIVER  
Q = HEPATIC BLOOD FLOW

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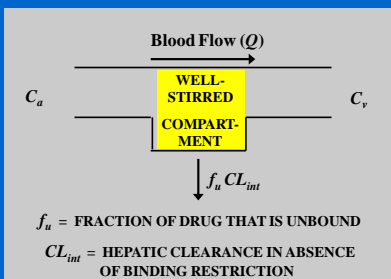
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## Derivation of ROWLAND EQUATION (I)



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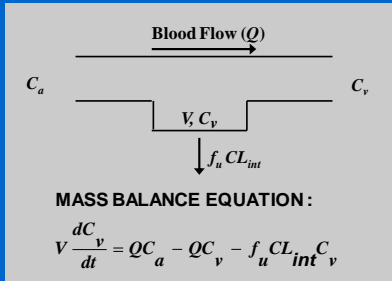
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### Derivation of ROWLAND EQUATION (II)




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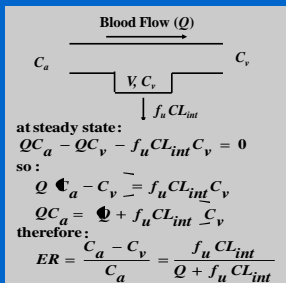
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### Derivation of ROWLAND EQUATION (III)




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### 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 ( $f_u CL_{int} \gg Q$ ):

$$CL_H = Q$$

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**RESTRICTIVELY and NON-RESTRICTIVELY Eliminated Drugs**

**RESTRICTIVELY METABOLIZED DRUGS:**

Phenytoin  
Warfarin  
Theophylline

**NON-RESTRICTIVELY METABOLIZED DRUGS:**

Lidocaine  
Propranolol  
Morphine

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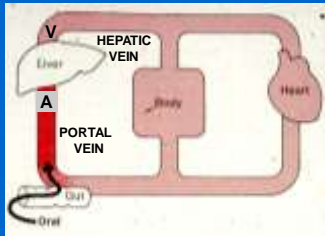
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**HEPATIC FIRST-PASS METABOLISM**

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

IF E = 1: V = 0

IF E = 0: V = A




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**NON-RESTRICTIVELY Eliminated Drugs**

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

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

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

THESE DRUGS HAVE EXTENSIVE FIRST-PASS METABOLISM

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## 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

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## 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

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## RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs: Effects of LIVER DISEASE

$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

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

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

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

FOR RESTRICTIVELY ELIMINATED DRUGS :

$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

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

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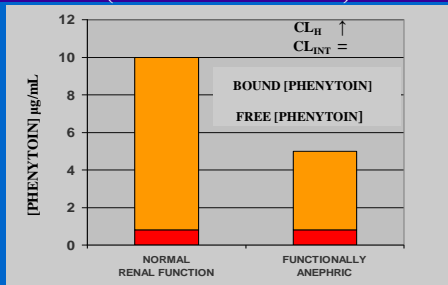
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**FREE and TOTAL PHENYTOIN Levels (DOSE = 300 MG/DAY)**




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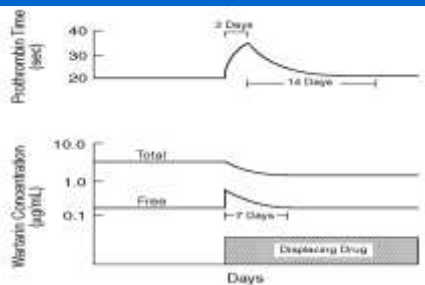
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**RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs : Effect of PROTEIN BINDING Changes**




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**RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs:**

**Effects of LIVER DISEASE**

$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

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

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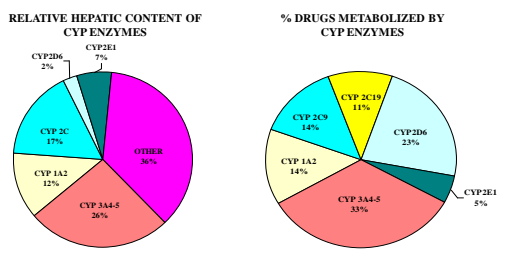
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**Role of CYP ENZYMES in Hepatic Drug Metabolism**




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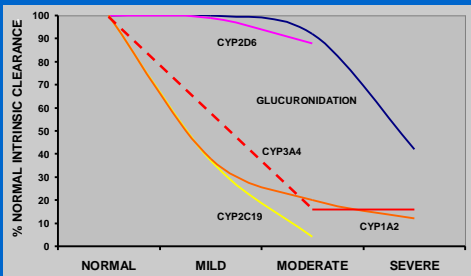
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**RESTRICTIVELY Metabolized Drugs: Effect of CIRRHOSIS on  $CL_{int}$**




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## 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

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## 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.*

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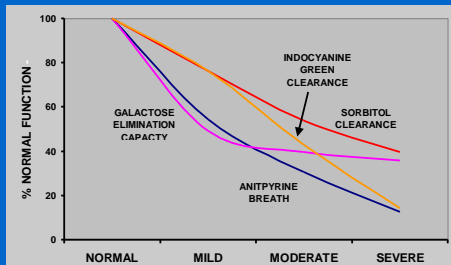
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## Correlation of SPECIAL TESTS of Liver Function with CHILD-PUGH SCORES\*



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

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**“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

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

$$CL_H = f_u CL_{int}$$

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

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**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.

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**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.

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**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 ↑

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**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  $\gg Q$

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**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	↓↓	↑↑

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**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.

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**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.

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**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)

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**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  $f_e$

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**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

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**CIRRHOSIS Affects Renal Function:  
The Hepatorenal Syndrome**

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

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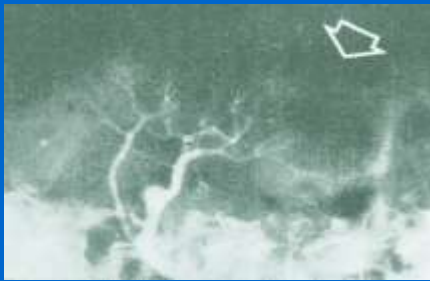
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**HEPATORENAL SYNDROME  
ANTEMORTEM Arteriogram**



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**HEPATORENAL SYNDROME  
POSTMORTEM Arteriogram**



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### CIRRHOSIS Affects Renal Function: The Hepatorenal Syndrome

- Therapy with some drugs *may precipitate* Hepatorenal Syndrome

ACE Inhibitors

NSAIDs

Furosemide (High Total Doses)

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### 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)

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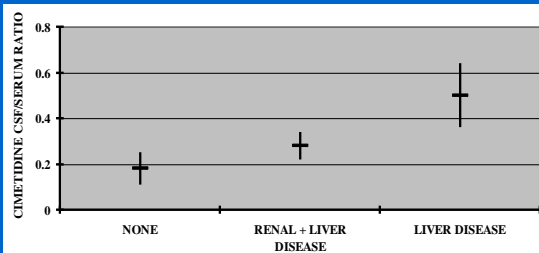
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### CIRRHOSIS Affects Drug Distribution: Increased CNS Penetration of Cimetidine\*



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

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**CIRRHOSIS** may affect *PHARMACODYNAMICS*

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

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**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.*

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

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

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

	CHANGE IN CIRRHOSIS	
	F	CL <sub>E</sub>
<b>ANALGESIC DRUGS</b>		
Morphine	↑ 213%	↓ 59%
Meperidine	↑ 94%	↓ 46%
Pentazocine	↑ 318%	↓ 50%

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

	CHANGE IN CIRRHOSIS	
	F	CL <sub>E</sub>
<b>CARDIOVASC. DRUGS</b>		
Propafenone	↑ 257%	↓ 24%
Verapamil	↑ 136%	↓ 51%
Nifedipine	↑ 78%	↓ 60%
Losartan	↑ 100%	↓ 50%

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

OTHER DRUGS	CHANGE IN CIRRHOSIS	
	F	CL <sub>E</sub>
Omeprazole	↑ 75%	↓ 89%
Tacrolimus	↑ 33%	↓ 72%

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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

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