



**COMPARTMENTAL ANALYSIS
OF DRUG DISTRIBUTION**

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DRUG DISTRIBUTION

**The post-absorptive transfer of drug from
one location in the body to another.**

- **Compartmental Models**
(ordinary differential equations)
- **Distributed Models**
(partial differential equations)

**Pharmacokinetic Models Using
Ordinary Differential Equations***

MODEL	NUMBER OF COMPARTMENTS	MATHEMATICAL CHARACTERISTICS
NONCOMPARTMENTAL	0	CURVE FITTING TO DATA
COMPARTMENTAL	1 - 3	MODEL PARAMETERS FIT TO DATA
"PHYSIOLOGICAL"	4 - 20	MODEL PARAMETERS FIXED <i>A PRIORI</i>

* From Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Trends Pharmacol Sci 1991;12:96-101.

Mathematical vs. Physical Models*

MATHEMATICAL MODEL:

Functions or differential equations are employed without regard to the physical characteristics of the system.

PHYSICAL MODEL:

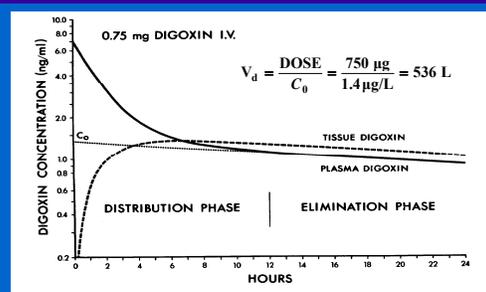
Implies certain mechanisms or entities that have physiological, biochemical or physical significance.

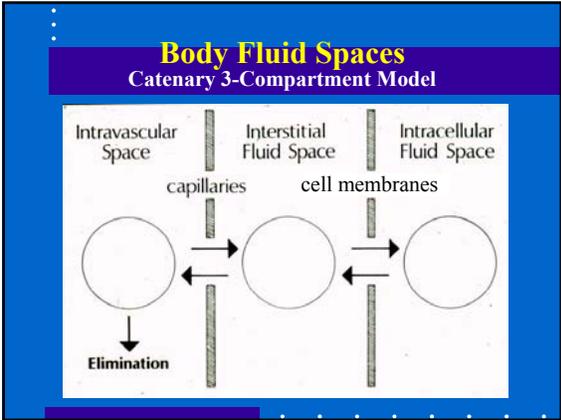
* Berman M: The formulation and testing of models. Ann NY Acad Sci 1963;108:182-94

Goals of Drug Distribution Lecture

- **Significance** of Drug Distribution Volumes
- **Physiological Basis** of Multi-Compartment Pharmacokinetic Models
- **Clinical Implications** of Drug Distribution Kinetics

DIGOXIN DISTRIBUTION VOLUME





Volume of Distribution and Physiological Fluid Spaces

Intravascular Space:
None

Extracellular Fluid Space:
Inulin
Proteins and other Macromolecules
Neuromuscular Blocking Drugs (N⁺)
Aminoglycoside Antibiotics (initially)

Volume of Distribution and Physiological Fluid Spaces

Total Body Water
Urea
Ethyl alcohol
Antipyrine (some protein binding)
Caffeine

**Factors Affecting
Volume of Distribution Estimates**

Binding to Plasma Proteins
Thyroxine
Theophylline

Tissue Binding (partitioning)
Lipophilic Compounds
Digoxin (Na⁺ - K⁺ ATPase)

**Effect of Plasma Protein Binding on
Drug Distribution**

Cell Membranes

The diagram illustrates the effect of plasma protein binding on drug distribution. It shows two compartments: ECF (Extracellular Fluid) and ICF (Intracellular Fluid), separated by cell membranes. The ECF compartment contains binding proteins. Arrows indicate the movement of drug from ECF to ICF and back. An arrow labeled 'Elimination' points downwards from the ECF compartment.

**Effect of Plasma Protein Binding on
Apparent Volume of Distribution***

$$V_d = ECF + f_u(TBW - ECF)$$

f_u is the "free fraction", the fraction of drug in plasma that is not bound to plasma proteins.

* Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Trends Pharmacol Sci 1991;12:96-101.

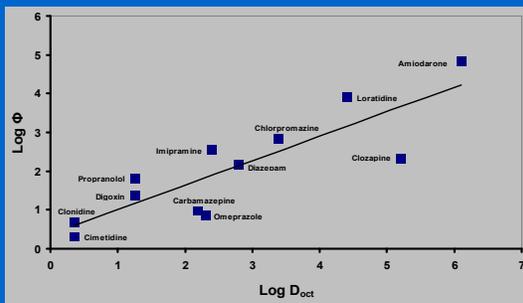
Effect of Plasma Protein and Tissue Binding on the Volume of Distribution of Most Drugs*

$$V_d = ECF + \Phi f_u (TBW - ECF)$$

Φ is the ratio of tissue/plasma drug concentration.

* Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Trends Pharmacol Sci 1991;12:96-101.

LIPID SOLUBILITY(D_{oct}) and Φ



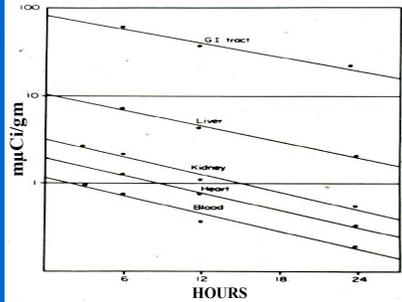
Apparent Volume of Distribution for Digoxin

$$V_d = ECF + \Phi f_u (TBW - ECF)$$

ECF = 11.2L, TBW = 45.5L, $f_u = 0.75$, $\Phi = 20.4$
 $V_d = 11.2 + (20.4)(0.75)(34.3)$ L
 $V_d = 536$ L

Φ includes binding to Na⁺-K⁺ ATPase.

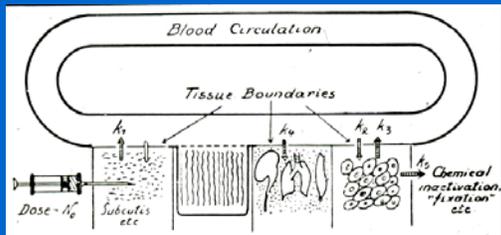
Tissue vs. Plasma Digoxin Levels



GOALS OF DRUG DISTRIBUTION LECTURE

- Significance of drug distribution volumes
- Physiologic basis of multi-compartment pharmacokinetic models
- Clinical implications of drug distribution kinetics

First Multicompartmental Analysis of Drug Distribution*



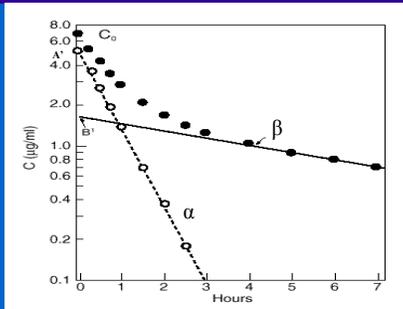
* From Teorell T. Arch Intern Pharmacodyn 1937;57:205-25.

Analysis of Experimental Data

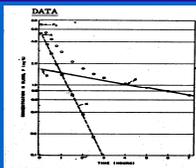
How many compartments?

Number of exponential phases in plasma level vs. time curve determines the number of compartments.

TECHNIQUE OF CURVE PEELING

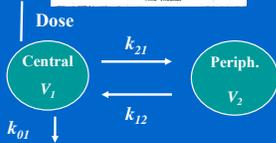


COMPARTMENTAL ANALYSIS



Data Equation:

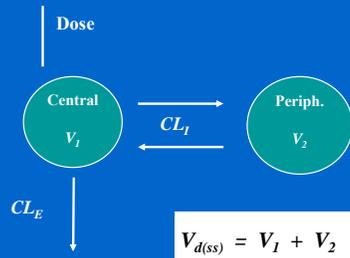
$$C = A'e^{-\alpha t} + B'e^{-\beta t}$$



Model Equation:

$$dX_1/dt = -(k_{01} + k_{21})X_1 + k_{12}X_2$$

TWO-COMPARTMENT MODEL



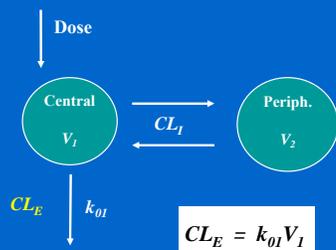
3 DISTRIBUTION VOLUMES

$$V_{d \text{ (extrap.)}} = \text{DOSE} / C_0$$

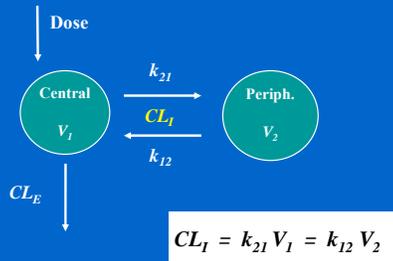
$$V_{d \text{ (area)}} = \frac{t_{1/2} \cdot CL_E}{0.693}$$

$$V_{d \text{ (ss)}} = V_1 + V_2 + \dots + V_n$$

TWO-COMPARTMENT MODEL



TWO-COMPARTMENT MODEL



INTERCOMPARTMENTAL CLEARANCE*

**Volume-Independent Parameter
Characterizing the Rate of Drug Transfer
Between Compartments of a Kinetic
Model**

* From Saperstein et al. Am J Physiol 1955;181:330-6.

Is Central Compartment Intravascular Space?

- Usually **not** identified as such **unless** drug is given **rapidly IV**.
- **NEED TO CONSIDER:**
 - If distribution is **limited to ECF**, compare the central compartment volume with **plasma** volume.
 - If distribution volume **exceeds ECF** compare central compartment with **blood** volume.*

*(account for RBC/Plasma partition if [plasma] measured)

Analysis of Procainamide and NAPA Central Compartment Volumes*

DRUG	V _c (L)	RBC/P	INTRAVASCULAR SPACE (L)	
			PREDICTED	OBSERVED
PA	6.7	1.52	5.6	5.5
NAPA	7.5	1.62	5.6	6.0

* From Stec GP, Atkinson AJ Jr. J Pharmacokinet Biopharm 1981;9:167-80.

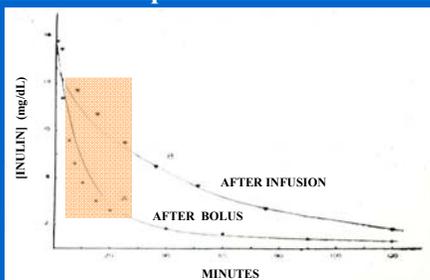
If Central Compartment Volume is Based on Plasma Concentration Measurements

$$V_{C(\text{corr.})} = V_{C(\text{meas.})} / [(1 - \text{Hct}) + \text{Hct}(\text{RBC/P})]$$

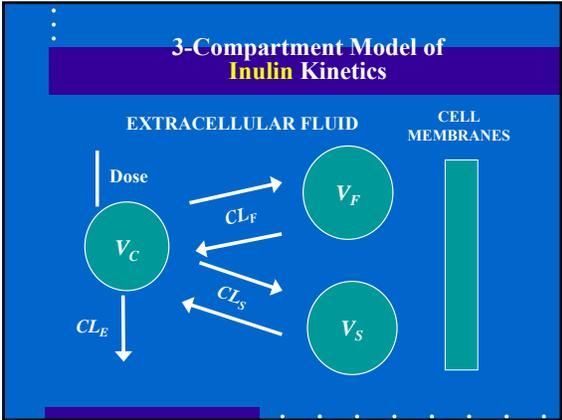
RBC/P = red cell/plasma partition ratio

Hct = hematocrit

Analysis of Inulin Kinetics with a 2-Compartment Model*

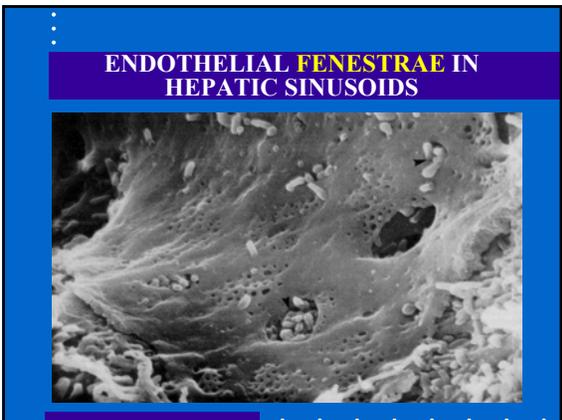


* Gaudino M. Proc Soc Exper Biol Med 1949;70:672-4.



Basis for Kinetic Heterogeneity of Interstitial Fluid Space

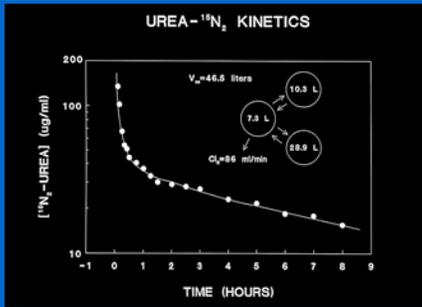
EFFECTIVE PORE SIZE	CAPILLARY STRUCTURE	PRIMARY LOCATION
LARGE	FENESTRATED	SPLANCHNIC BED
SMALL	CONTINUOUS	SOMATIC TISSUES



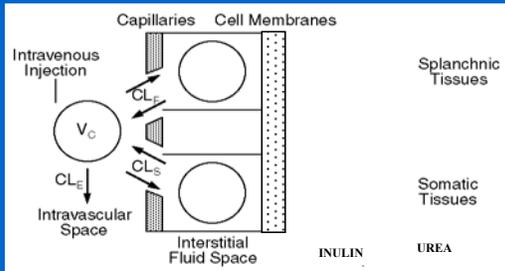
INTERENDOTHELIAL CELL JUNCTION IN CONTINUOUS CAPILLARY



UREA-¹⁵N₂ KINETICS IN A NORMAL SUBJECT



Multicompartment Model of Inulin and Urea Kinetics*



* From Atkinson AJ Jr, et al. Trends Pharmacol Sci 1991;12:96-101.

ROLE OF *TRANSCAPILLARY EXCHANGE*

The **central** compartment for both **urea** and **inulin** is the **intravascular** space.

Therefore, **transcapillary exchange** is the **rate-limiting** step in the distribution of urea and inulin to the **peripheral** compartments of the mammillary **3-compartment model**.

RENKIN EQUATION*

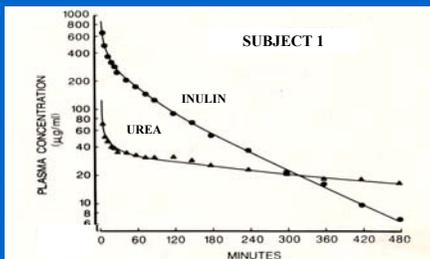
$$CI = Q(1 - e^{-P/Q})$$

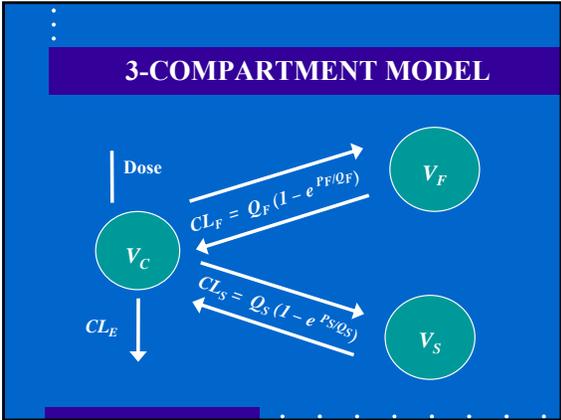
Q = capillary blood flow

P = capillary permeability coefficient-surface area product (sometimes denoted P*S).

* From Renkin EM. Am J Physiol 1953;183:125-36.

SIMULTANEOUS ANALYSIS OF INULIN AND UREA-¹⁵N₂ KINETICS





For Each Peripheral Compartment

3 UNKNOWNs: Q, P_U, P_I

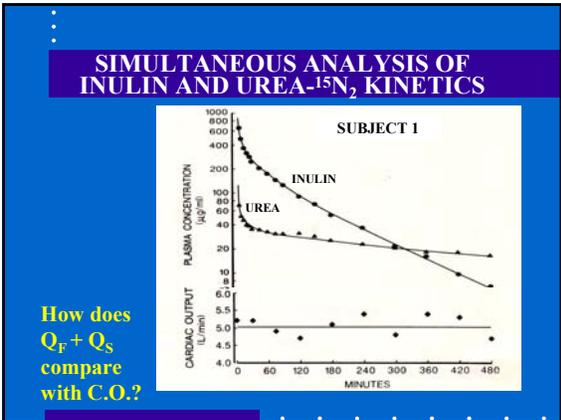
3 EQUATIONS:

$$P_U = Q \ln \left[\frac{Q}{Q - Cl_U} \right]$$

$$P_I = Q \ln \left[\frac{Q}{Q - Cl_I} \right]$$

$$P_U/P_I = D_U/D_I$$

U = urea; I = inulin
D = free water diffusion coefficient



CARDIAC OUTPUT AND COMPARTMENTAL BLOOD FLOWS*

	Q_f	Q_s	$Q_f + Q_s$	
	L/min	L/min	L/min	% CO
MEAN†	3.87	1.52	5.39	99

† MEAN OF 5 SUBJECTS

* From Odeh YK, et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1993;53:419-25.

TRANSCAPILLARY EXCHANGE Mechanisms

TRANSFER OF SMALL MOLECULES (M.W. < 6,000 Da):

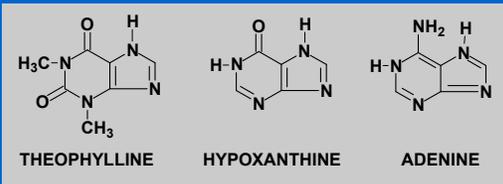
- **Transfer proportional to D**
 - Polar, uncharged (urea, inulin)
- **Transfer rate < predicted from D**
 - Highly charged (quaternary compounds)
 - Interact with pores (procainamide)
- **Transfer rate > predicted from D**
 - Lipid soluble compounds (anesthetic gases)
 - Facilitated diffusion (theophylline)

Urea and Theophylline Diffusion Coefficients*

	MOLECULAR WEIGHT (DALTONS)	CORRECTED STOKES-EINSTEIN RADIUS (Å)	D_m @ 37° C (x 10 ⁻⁵ cm ² /sec)
UREA	60	2.2	1.836
THEOPHYLLINE	180	3.4	1.098

* From Belknap SM, et al. J Pharmacol Exp Ther 1987;243:963-9.

**PRESUMED CARRIER-MEDIATED
TRANSCAPILLARY EXCHANGE**



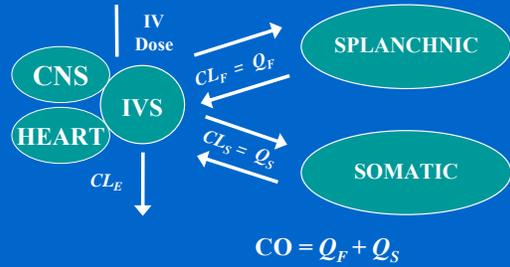
**GOALS OF DRUG DISTRIBUTION
LECTURE**

- Significance of drug distribution volumes
- Physiologic basis of multi-compartment pharmacokinetic models
- Clinical implications of drug distribution kinetics

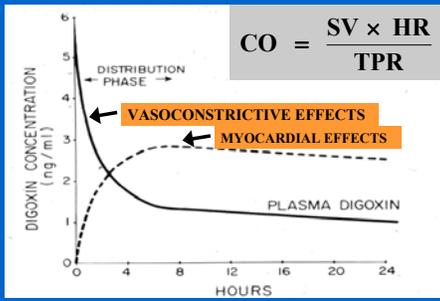
SIGNIFICANCE OF DRUG DISTRIBUTION RATE

1. Affects toxicity of IV injected drugs
Theophylline, lidocaine
2. Delays onset of drug action
Insulin, digoxin
3. Terminates action after IV bolus dose
Thiopental, lidocaine

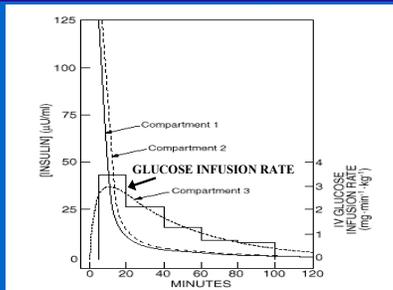
PK Model of **THEOPHYLLINE** Distribution



DIGOXIN is NOT the First Drug Given to Patients with Acute Pulmonary Edema

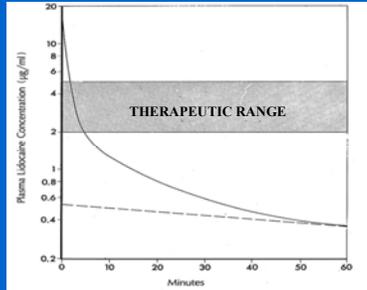


PK-PD Study of **INSULIN** Enhancement of Skeletal Muscle **Glucose Uptake***



* From Sherwin RS, et al. J Clin Invest 1974;53:1481-92.

**DISTRIBUTION TERMINATES EFFECT
BOLUS LIDOCAINE DOSE***

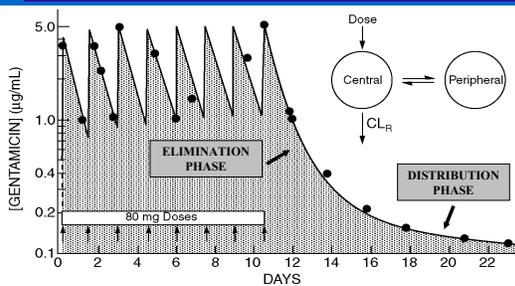


* From Atkinson AJ Jr. In: Melmon KL, ed. Drug Therapeutics: Concepts for Physicians, 1981:17-33.

**CONSEQUENCES OF VERY
SLOW DRUG DISTRIBUTION**

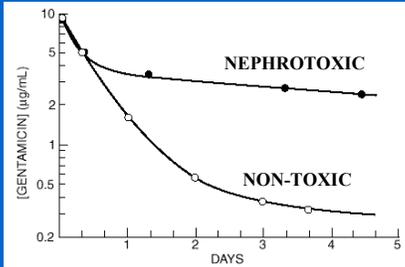
- “Flip-Flop” Kinetics
- Effective Half-Life
- Pseudo Dose Dependency

**GENTAMICIN
Elimination Phase Precedes Distribution Phase***



* From Schentag JJ, et al. JAMA 1977;238:327-9.

GENTAMICIN ELIMINATION
Nephrotoxic vs. Non-Toxic Patient*

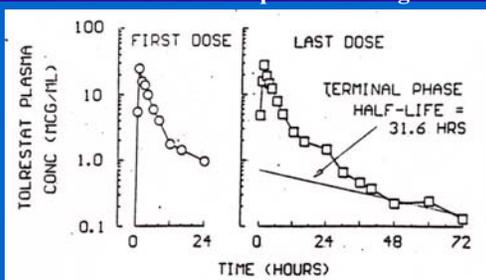


* From Coburn WA, et al. J Pharmacokinetic Biopharm 1978;6:179-86.

CONSEQUENCES OF VERY SLOW DRUG DISTRIBUTION

- “Flip-Flop” Kinetics
- Effective Half-Life
- Pseudo Dose Dependency

TOLRESTAT
Cumulation with Repeated Dosing*



*From Boxenbaum H, Battle M: J Clin Pharmacol 1995;35:763-6.

CUMULATION FACTOR

$$CF = \frac{1}{(1 - e^{-k\tau})}$$

TOLRESTAT CUMULATION

Predicted C.F. from $T_{1/2} = 31.6$ hr: 4.32

Observed C.F.: 1.29

EFFECTIVE HALF- LIFE*

$$k_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{\tau} \ln \left(\frac{CF_{\text{obs}}}{CF_{\text{obs}} - 1} \right)$$

$$t_{1/2\text{eff}} = \frac{\ln 2}{k_{\text{eff}}}$$

* From Boxenbaum H, Battle M. J Clin Pharmacol 1995;35:763-66.

EFFECTIVE HALF-LIFE OF TOLRESTAT*

Since $\tau = 12$ hr and Observed CF = 1.29:

$$k_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{12} \ln\left(\frac{1.29}{1.29-1}\right) = 0.124 \text{ hr}^{-1}$$

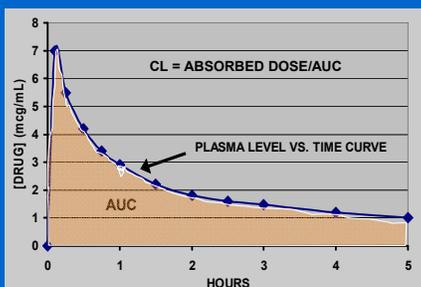
$$t_{1/2\text{eff}} = \frac{\ln 2}{0.124} = 5.6 \text{ hr}$$

* From Boxenbaum H, Battle M. J Clin Pharmacol 1995;35:763-66.

CONSEQUENCES OF VERY SLOW DRUG DISTRIBUTION

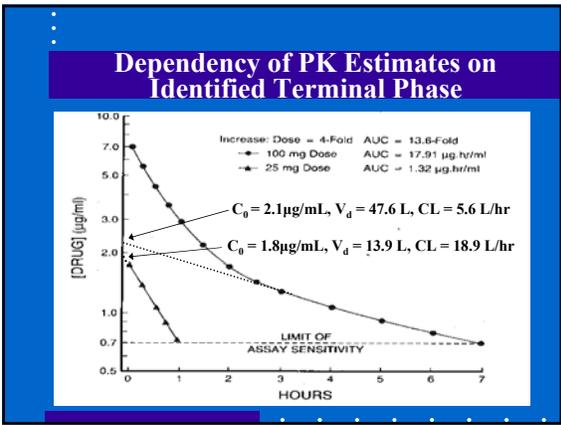
- “Flip-Flop” Kinetics
- Effective Half-Life
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AREA UNDER THE CURVE Measure of Dose Proportionality



**HYPOTHETICAL
Phase I Trial Results**

	DOSE 1	DOSE 2	INCREASE
DOSE (mg)	25	100	4 x ↑
AUC (µg·hr/mL)	1.32	17.91	13.6 x ↑



**DISTRIBUTION VOLUME
Representative Macromolecules**

MACROMOLECULE	MW (kDa)	V _i (mL/kg)	V _{d(ss)} (mL/kg)
INULIN	5.2	55	164
FACTOR IX (FIX)	57	136	271
INTERLEUKIN-2 (IL-2)	15.5	60	112
INTERLEUKIN-12 (IL-12)	53	52	59
GRANULOCYTE COLONY STIMULATING FACTOR (G-CSF)	20	44	60
RECOMBINANT TISSUE PLASMINOGEN ACTIVATOR (RT-PA)	65	59	106

CLOTTING FACTOR
PHARMACOKINETICS*

- “The $V_{d(ss)}$ always **exceeds** the actual **plasma volume**, implying that **no drug**, not even large molecular complexes as F-VIII, is **entirely confined to the plasma space**.”
- “A too **short blood sampling** protocol gives **flawed results** not only for terminal $T_{1/2}$ but also for the model independent parameters.”

* Berntorp E, Björkman S. Haemophilia 2003;9:353-9.
