

# Plasma measurement of antivirals in the clinical setting: which role in 2021?



16<sup>th</sup> Residential Course on Clinical Pharmacology of  
Antiretrovirals, Torino, January 13-15, 2021 (virtual)

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**Radboudumc**

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# Disclosure

- DM Burger has served on an advisory board for Merck
- DM Burger has received grant funding/research support from Merck, Janssen, Gilead, ViiV
- All payments have been invoiced by the financial department of Radboud University Medical Centre Nijmegen

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# Contents

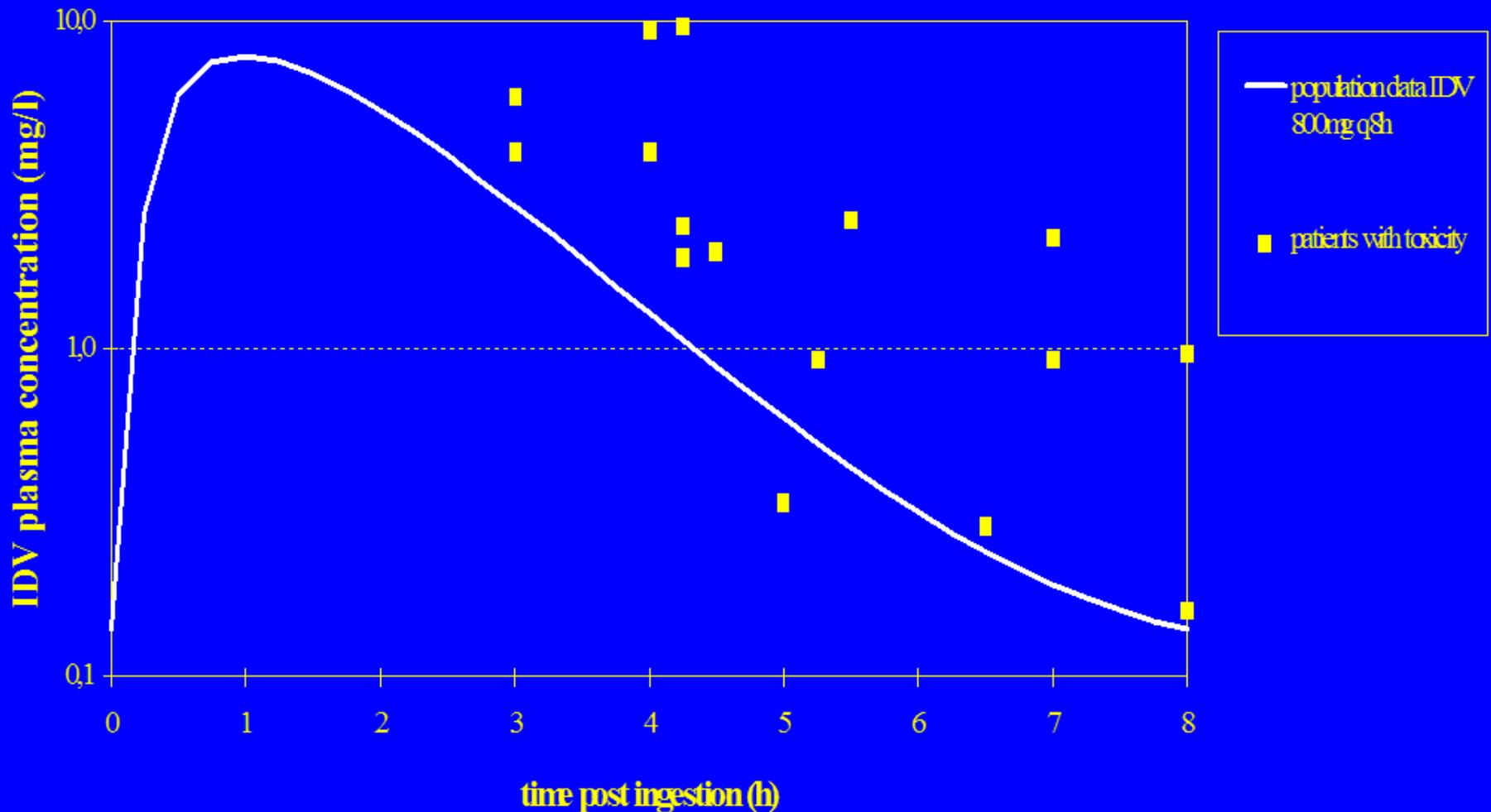
- Therapeutic Drug Monitoring: how it all started (1995 - 2010)
- Therapeutic Drug Monitoring: the dark years (2010-2020)
- Therapeutic Drug Monitoring: current state of the art (2021)
- Therapeutic Drug Monitoring: a bright future? (2021 - ?)

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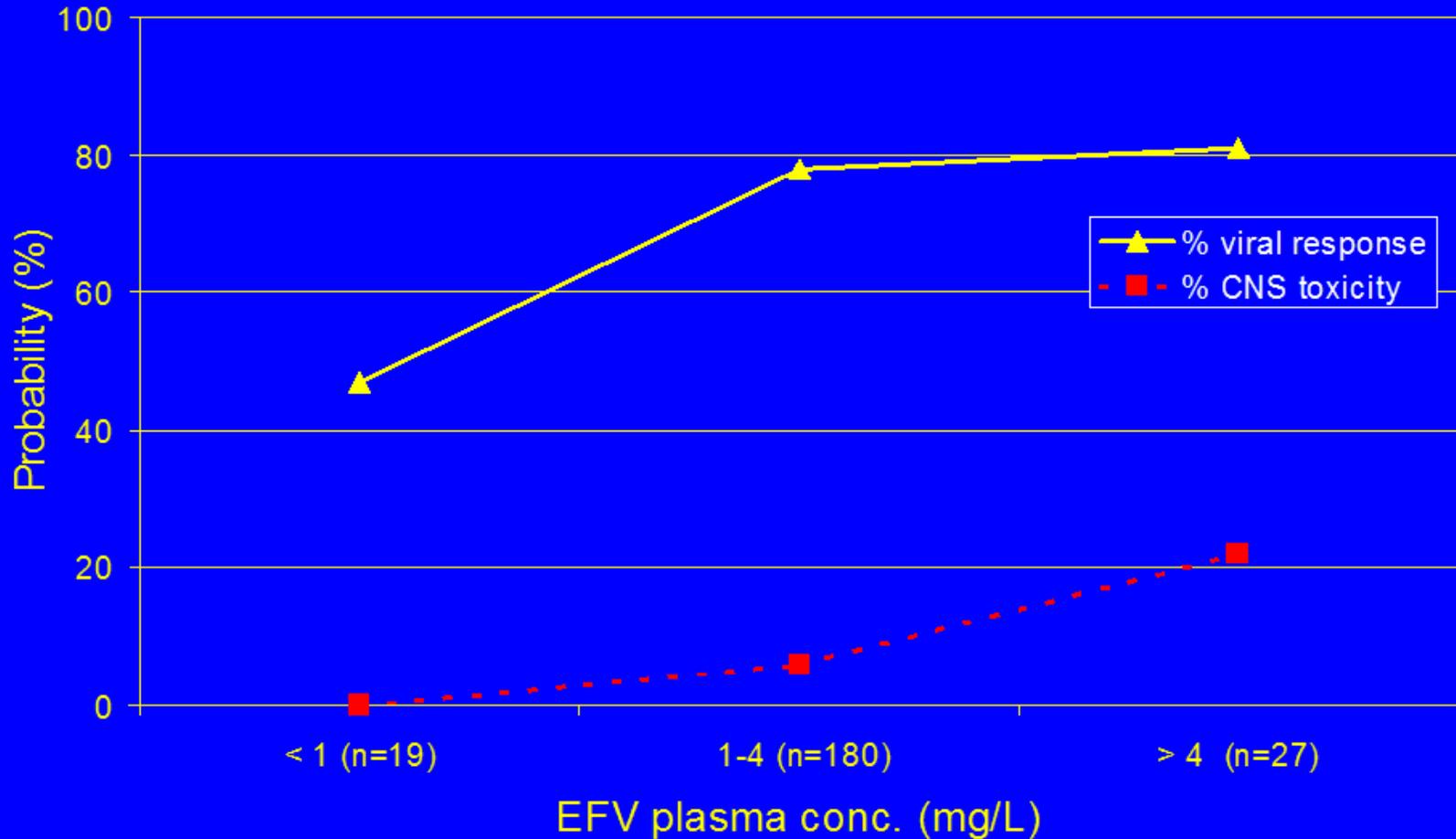
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# Nephrotoxicity and IDV concentrations

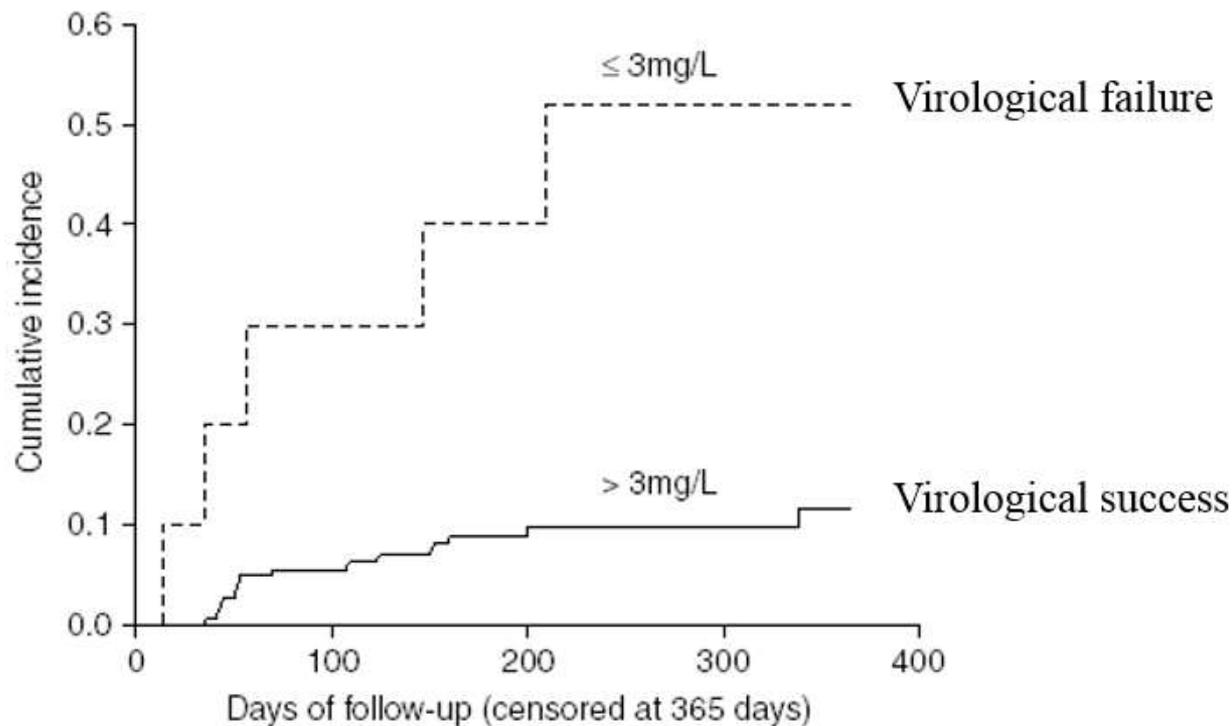


# Efavirenz PK-PD (Marzolini et al. AIDS 2001)



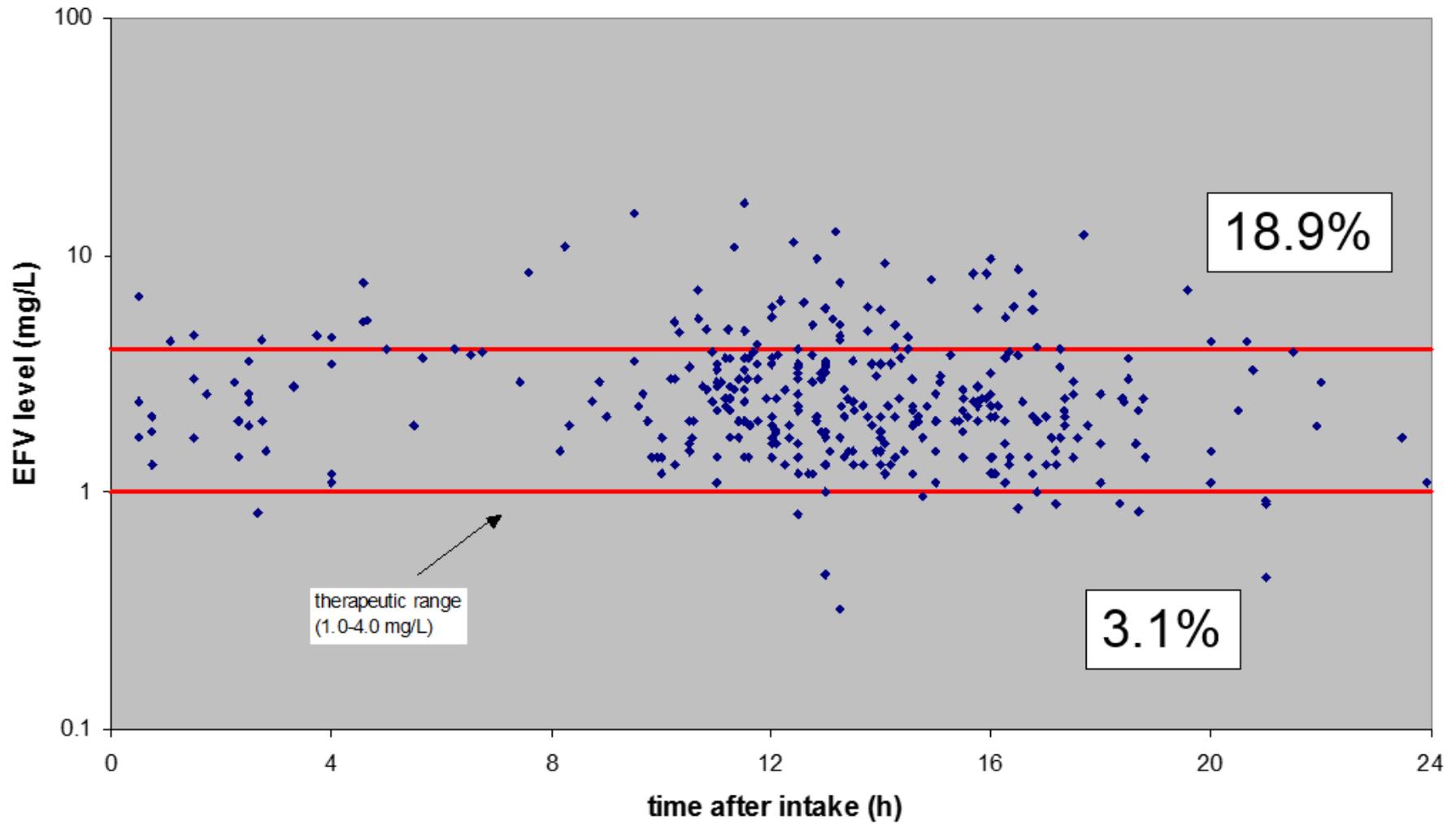
de Vries-Sluijs et al (Clin Pharmacokinetics, 2003):

Low nevirapine plasma concentrations predict virological failure in an unselected HIV-1-infected population



**Fig. 2.** Cumulative incidence of virological failure according to nevirapine plasma concentration measured at the start of follow-up.

# Interpatient variability of efavirenz



## PIs & NNRTIs fulfill all requirements for TDM

- ✓ A relationship exists between drug level and pharmacological response
- ✓ There is a wide interpatient variability in pharmacokinetics
- ✓ The drug has a narrow therapeutic window
- ✓ The pharmacological response is not directly measurable
- ✓ The drug can be measured in the desired biological matrix
- ✓ The patient is on the best drug
- ✓ A relationship exists between drug level and pharmacological response for a specific patient
- ✓ The duration of therapy is long enough for the patient to benefit from TDM
- ✓ TDM results influence the decision-making process

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# TDM became out of fashion....

- Newer ARVs had better PK profiles:
  - PI boosting
  - Long elimination half-life
  - More forgiving (missed dose less of a problem)
- Virological failure with resistance development became rare
- Newer ARVs had a better safety profile (at least we were told...)
- We had learnt how to deal with DDIs

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# TDM became out of fashion....



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# TDM had to reinvent itself (1)

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Antiviral Therapy 2014; 19:765–771 (doi: 10.3851/IMP2761)

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## Original article

### Long-term treatment with tenofovir: prevalence of kidney tubular dysfunction and its association with tenofovir plasma concentration

*Marieke Ezinga<sup>1,2</sup>, Jack FM Wetzels<sup>3</sup>, Marjolein EW Bosch<sup>4</sup>, André JAM van der Ven<sup>2,4</sup>, David M Burger<sup>1,2\*</sup>*

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# TDM had to reinvent itself (2)

MAJOR ARTICLE

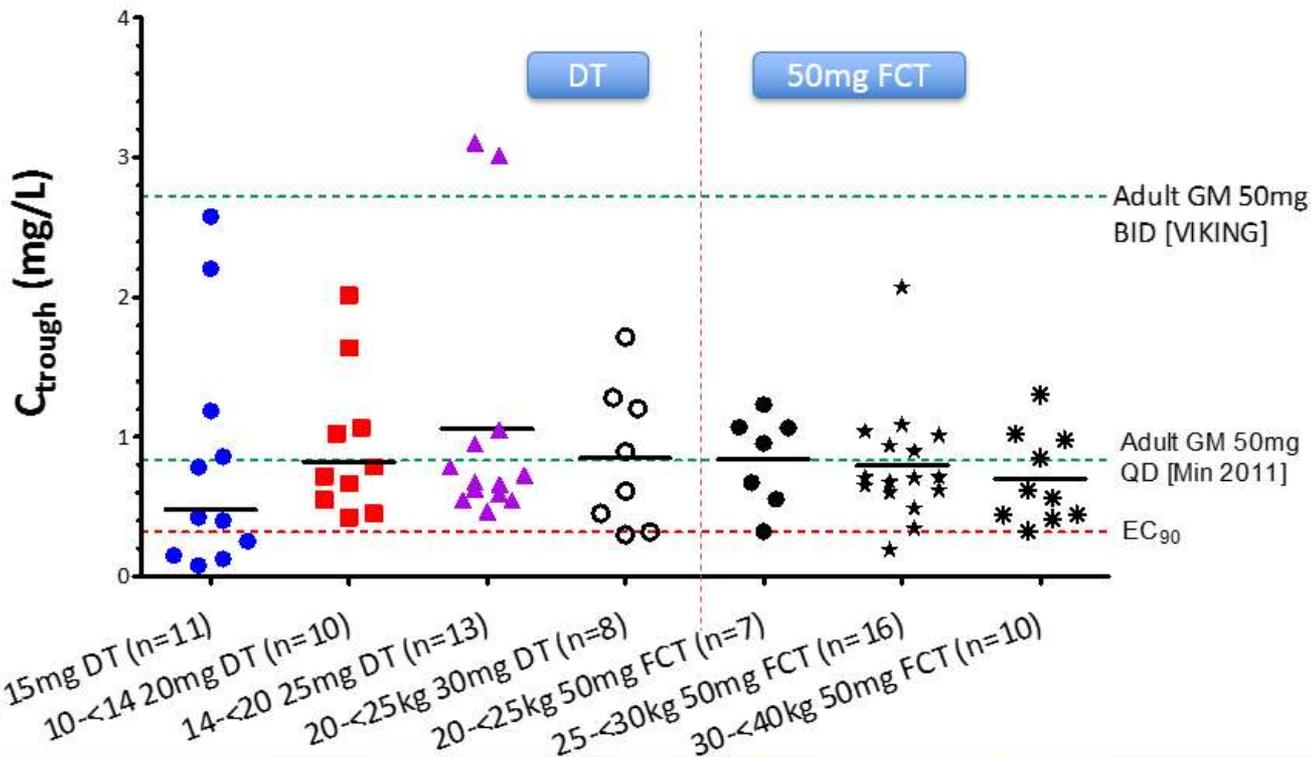
HIV/AIDS

## Raltegravir in HIV-1–Infected Pregnant Women: Pharmacokinetics, Safety, and Efficacy

Maren I. Blonk,<sup>1</sup> Angela P. H. Colbers,<sup>1</sup> Carmen Hidalgo-Tenorio,<sup>2</sup> Kabamba Kabeya,<sup>3</sup> Katharina Weizsäcker,<sup>4</sup> Annette E. Haberl,<sup>5</sup> José Moltó,<sup>6</sup> David A. Hawkins,<sup>7</sup> Marchina E. van der Ende,<sup>8</sup> Andrea Gingelmaier,<sup>9</sup> Graham P. Taylor,<sup>10</sup> Jelena Ivanovic,<sup>11</sup> Carlo Giaquinto,<sup>12</sup> and David M. Burger<sup>1</sup>; for the Pharmacokinetics of Newly Developed Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Pregnant Women (PANNA) Network

# TDM had to reinvent itself (3)

## ODYSSEY PK overview



Share your thoughts using #IAS2019  
Find this presentation on [www.ias2019.org](http://www.ias2019.org)

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# TDM of ARVs anno 2021 (1)

- Everyone agrees there is no need to do this on a routine basis
- One can think of many indications that HIV treatment is not optimal:
  - Suspicion of nonadherence
  - Undetected drug-drug interaction
  - Uncertainty of correct dose (children, pregnancy, organ dysfunction, obesity, gastric bypass, etc.)
  - Unexplained suboptimal virological response (EACS)
  - Etc.

# TDM of ARVs anno 2021 (2)

## Virological Failure

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Definition</b>                             | <b>INCOMPLETE SUPPRESSION:</b> HIV-VL > 200 copies/mL at 6 months <sup>(6)</sup> after starting therapy in PLWH not previously on ART<br><b>REBOUND:</b> confirmed HIV-VL > 50 copies/mL in PLWH with previously undetectable HIV-VL  |
| <b>General measures</b>                       | Review expected potency of the regimen<br>Evaluate adherence, tolerability, drug-drug interactions, drug-food interactions, psychosocial issues<br>Perform resistance testing on failing therapy (usually routinely available for HIV-VL levels > 200-500 copies/mL and in specialised laboratories for lower levels of viraemia) and obtain historical resistance testing for archived mutations<br>Tropism testing if considering MVC<br>Consider TDM<br>Review ART history<br>Identify treatment options, active and potentially active drugs/combinations   |
| <b>Management of virological failure (VF)</b> | <b>If HIV-VL &gt; 50 and &lt; 200 copies/mL:</b><br>Check for adherence<br>Check HIV-VL 1 to 2 months later <sup>(7)</sup><br>If genotype not possible, consider changing regimen based on past treatment and resistance history<br><b>If HIV-VL confirmed &gt; 200 copies/mL:</b><br>Change regimen as soon as possible. What to change will depend on the resistance testing results:<br>If no resistance mutations found: re-check for adherence, perform TDM<br>If resistance mutations found: switch to a suppressive regimen based on drug history; multidisciplinary expert discussion advised<br>Goal of new regimen: HIV-VL < 50 copies/mL within 6 months |



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# TDM of ARVs anno 2020 (3)

Research letters

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*J Antimicrob Chemother* 2018; **73**: 826–827

doi:10.1093/jac/dkx461

Advance Access publication 12 December 2017

## **Lower dolutegravir plasma concentrations in HIV-positive patients receiving valproic acid**

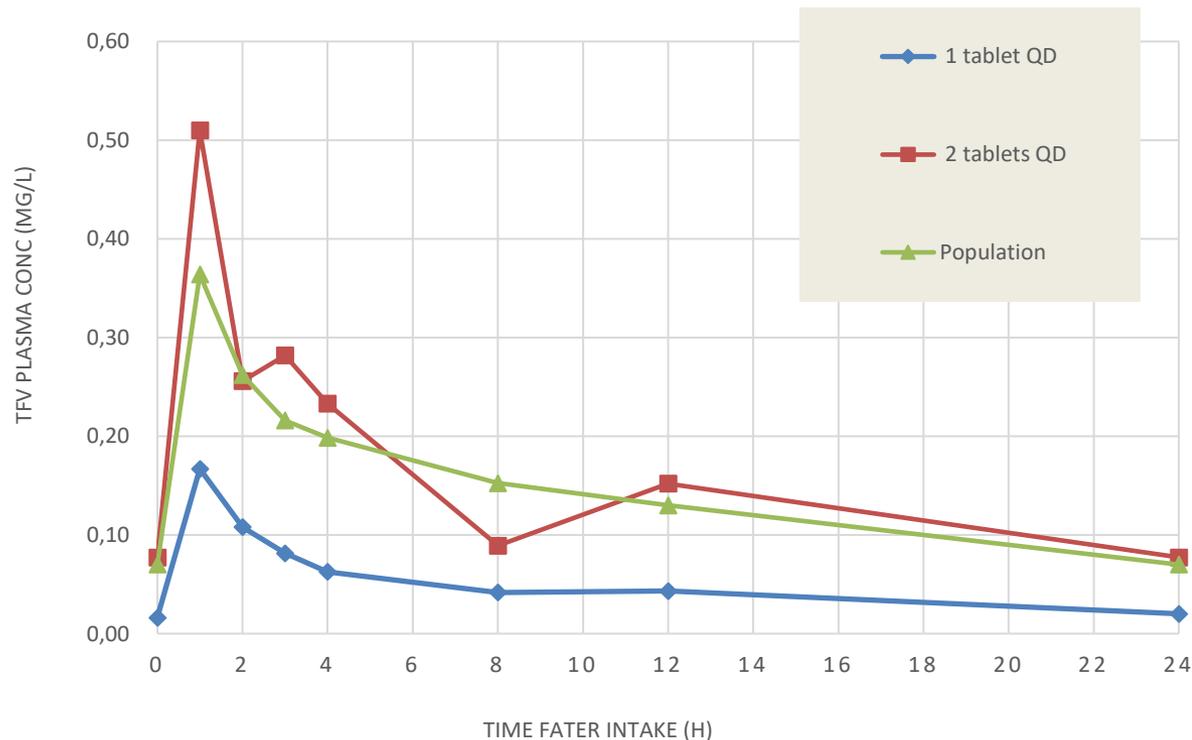
**Annagloria Palazzo\***, Mattia Trunfio,  
Veronica Pirriatore, Maurizio Milesi, Amedeo De Nicolò,  
Chiara Alcantarini, Antonio D'Avolio, Stefano Bonora,  
Giovanni Di Perri and Andrea Calcagno

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*Unit of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medical Sciences,  
University of Torino, Torino, Italy*

# TDM of ARVs anno 2020 (4)

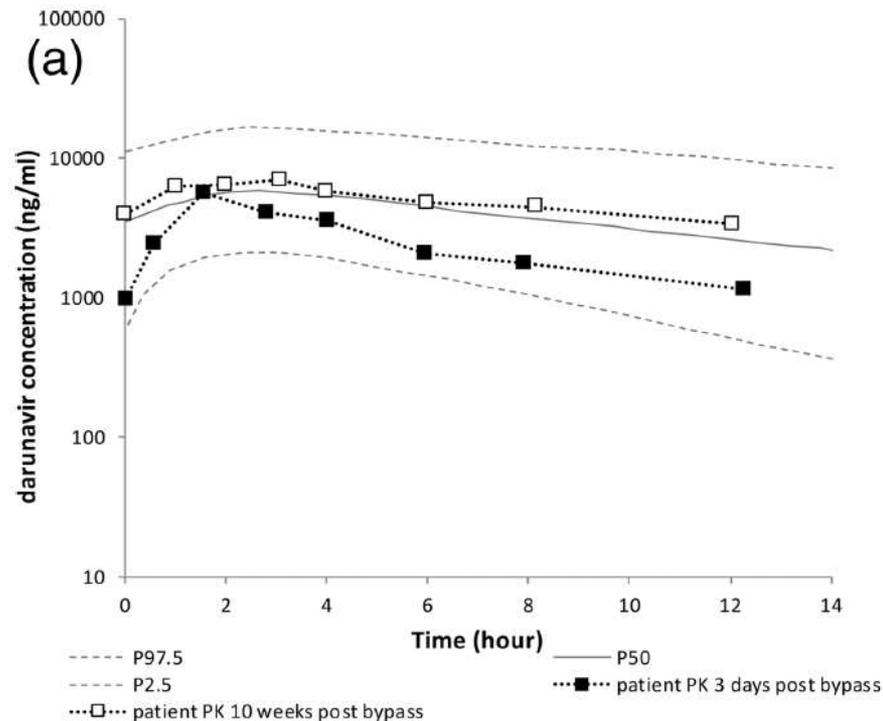
## TFV levels in a PrEP client with gastrectomy



# TDM of ARVs anno 2020 (5)

Boosted darunavir, emtricitabine and tenofovir pharmacokinetics in the early and late postgastric bypass surgery periods

Veronika Baettig<sup>a,b</sup>, Perrine Courlet<sup>c</sup>, Tarik Delko<sup>b,d</sup>,  
Manuel Battegay<sup>a,b</sup> and Catia Marzolini<sup>a,b</sup>, <sup>a</sup>Division  
of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology,



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# TDM of ARVs anno 2020 (6)

REVIEW ARTICLE

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OPEN

## Optimizing Pediatric Dosing Recommendations and Treatment Management of Antiretroviral Drugs Using Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Data in Children Living With HIV

*Hylke Waalewijn, Msc,\* Anna Turkova, PhD,†† Natella Rakhmanina, PhD,§¶||  
Tim R. Cressey, PhD,\*\*†††† Martina Penazzato, PhD,§§ Angela Colbers, PhD,\* and  
David M. Burger, PhD,\* on behalf of the Pediatric Antiretroviral Working Group (PAWG)*

*(Ther Drug Monit 2019;41:431–443)*

# TDM of ARVs anno 2020 (6)

**TABLE 1.** Current Plasma Drug Targets for TDM of ARV Drugs

| Drug               | Plasma Target  | Toxicity Considerations                               |
|--------------------|--|---|
| <b>NNRTI</b>       |  |   |
| Efavirenz (EFV)    | Mid-dose level $\geq 1$ mg/L <sup>29</sup>           | Mid-dose level $< 4$ mg/L <sup>30</sup>               |
| Nevirapine (NVP)   | $C_{\text{trough}} \geq 3.0$ mg/L <sup>41</sup>      | No relation found between PK parameters and toxicity  |
| Rilpivirine (RPV)  | $C_{\text{trough}} \geq 0.042$ mg/L <sup>52,53</sup> | $C_{\text{max}}$ : $< 0.60$ mg/L <sup>52,53</sup>     |
| <b>PIs</b>         |  |   |
| Atazanavir (ATV)   | $C_{\text{trough}} \geq 0.23$ mg/L <sup>55,56</sup>  | $C_{\text{trough}}$ : 0.50–0.76 mg/L <sup>58–60</sup> |
| Darunavir (DRV)    | $C_{\text{trough}} \geq 0.55$ mg/L <sup>73</sup>     | No relation found between PK parameters and toxicity  |
| Lopinavir (LPV)    | $C_{\text{trough}} \geq 1.0$ mg/L <sup>7,84</sup>    | No relation found between PK parameters and toxicity  |
| <b>InSTI</b>       |  |   |
| Dolutegravir (DTG) | $C_{\text{trough}} \geq 0.324$ mg/L <sup>112</sup>   | No relation found between PK parameters and toxicity  |
| Raltegravir (RTG)  | $C_{\text{trough}} \geq 0.045$ mg/L <sup>115</sup>   | No relation found between PK parameters and toxicity  |
| Elvitegravir (EVG) | $C_{\text{trough}} \geq 0.13$ <sup>121</sup>         | No relation found between PK parameters and toxicity  |

*(Ther Drug Monit 2019;41:431–443)*

# Pediatric Antiretroviral Therapeutic Drug Monitoring: A Five and a Half Year Experience from a South African Tertiary Hospital

Anton E. Engelbrecht, MBChB,<sup>1</sup> Lubbe Wiesner , PhD,<sup>2</sup>  
Jennifer Norman, MSc,<sup>2</sup> Helena Rabie, MMed Paed<sup>3\*</sup> and  
Eric H. Decloedt , PhD<sup>1\*</sup>

“LPV TDM confirmed non-adherence in 25% (4/16) of the cases where other measurements of adherence did not match with the clinical picture”

# What about antivirals beyond HIV?

## Successful HCV treatment of patients on contraindicated anti-epileptic drugs: Role of drug level monitoring

Table 1. Characteristics of the studied subjects and exposure of daclatasvir, sofosbuvir and GS-331007 in combination with anti-epileptic drugs.

| Patient            |          | AED                          | HCV      |           |             | DAA exposure<br>AUC <sub>0-24h</sub> (h * g/L) <sup>†</sup>                 |       |       |           |
|--------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------|---|-------|-------|-----------|
| Gender             | Age (yr) | Drug and daily dose          | Genotype | Cirrhosis | Pre-treated | Treatment   | DAC   | SOF   | GS-331007 |
| Ref <sup>1,2</sup> |          |                              |          |           |             |   | 14.12 | 1.01  | 7.20      |
| #1 Male            | 56       | CBZ: 400 mg                  | 1        | No        | No          | SOF: 400 mg QD<br>DAC: 60 mg BID<br>12 weeks                                | 4.75  | 0.913 | 7.60      |
| #2 Male            | 71       | CBZ: 1,000 mg                | 1b       | No        | Yes         | SOF: 400 mg QD<br>DAC: 60 mg BID<br>DAC: 60 mg TID <sup>‡</sup><br>24 weeks | 1.48  | 0.347 | 12.70     |
| #3 Male            | 45       | CBZ: 1,200 mg<br>PHB: 225 mg | 3a       | Yes       | No          | SOF: 400 mg QD<br>DAC: 60 mg TID<br>RBV: 600 mg BID<br>24 weeks             | 3.98  | -     | -         |
| #4 Male            | 53       | CBZ: 1,200 mg                | 1a       | No        | No          | SOF: 400 mg QD<br>DAC: 60 mg TID<br>12 weeks                                | 3.09  | 0.328 | 4.42      |
| #5 Female          | 70       | PHE: 225 mg                  | 1b       | Yes       | Yes         | SOF: 400 mg QD<br>DAC: 60 mg TID<br>12 weeks                                | 18.32 | -     | -         |
| #6 Female          | 47       | PHB: 100 mg                  | 1b       | No        | No          | SOF: 400 mg QD<br>DAC: 60 mg TID<br>12 weeks                                | 42.57 | 2.327 | 10.18     |

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# Crushing of DAAs: is it possible?

Treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus infection with crushed ledipasvir/sofosbuvir administered through a percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy tube in a patient with HIV coinfection

**Vanessa Huffman, PharmD,**  
Department of Pharmacy, Memorial  
Hospital West, Memorial Healthcare  
System, Pembroke Pines, FL

**Diana C. Andrade, PharmD, BCPS,  
BCIDP,** Department of Pharmacy,  
Memorial Hospital West, Memorial  
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**Elizabeth Sherman, PharmD, AAHIVP,**  
Division of Infectious Disease, Memorial  
Regional Hospital, Memorial Healthcare  
System, Hollywood, FL, and College of  
Pharmacy, Nova Southeastern University,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL

**Jianli Niu, MD, PhD,** Office of Human  
Research, Memorial Healthcare System,  
Hollywood, FL

**Paula A. Eckardt, MD, FACP, AAHIVS,**  
Division of Infectious Diseases, Memorial  
Regional Hospital, Memorial Healthcare  
System, Hollywood, FL

This case report describes our initial experience with crushable ledipasvir/sofosbuvir tablets in the treatment of an HIV/HCV coinfecting patient with high-grade soft tissue sarcoma of the throat who was unable to swallow tablets. Crushable ledipasvir/sofosbuvir tablets provide a viable option to successfully achieve SVR when PEG tube administration is the only option.

# PK of crushed LPV/r in Covid-19 patients

## Research Letter

### Crushing lopinavir/ritonavir tablets does not result in lower exposure to lopinavir/ritonavir in adult patients with Covid-19

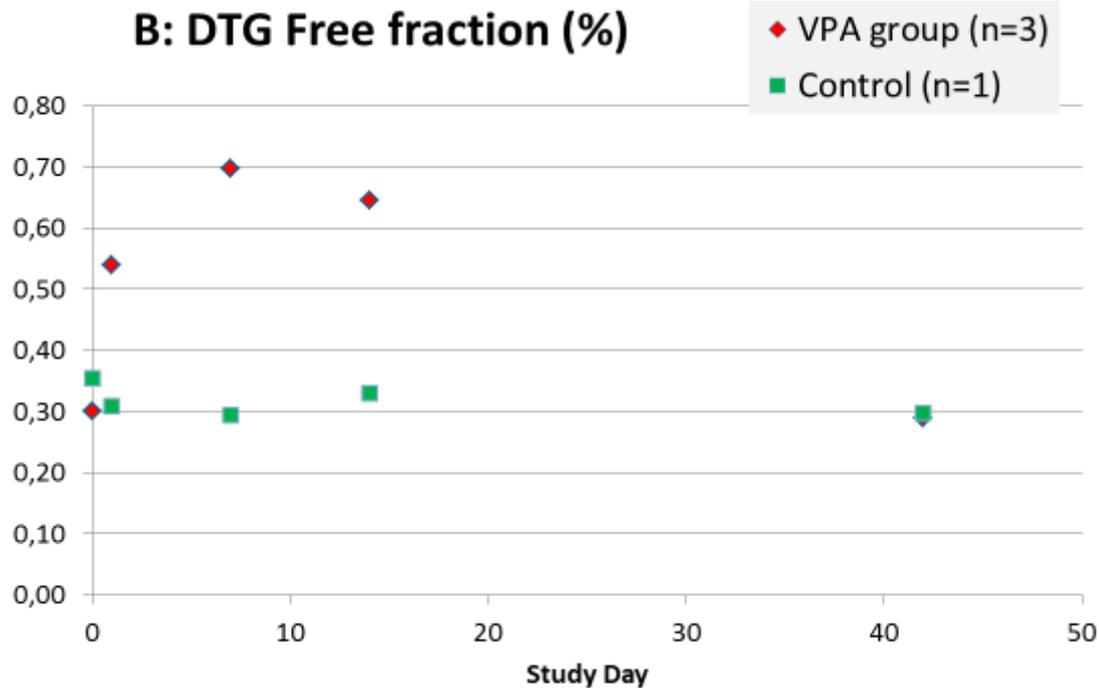
Shaghayegh Mohsenian Naghani<sup>a</sup>, Mark Jansen<sup>a</sup>, Tessa Jaspers<sup>a</sup>, Diane Bastiaans<sup>b</sup>, David Burger<sup>c</sup>

Table 1. An overview of measured plasma samples with patients characteristics, therapy duration with LPN/RTN, time between last administrated LPN/RTN dose and measured plasma concentration LPV/RTV

| Patient no. | Sample | Gender | Age (years) | Weight (kg) | Duration LPV/RTV therapy (days) | Time between last dose LPV/RTV and measurement (hours) | Plasma concentration LPV (mg/L) | Plasma concentration RTV (mg/L) | Constipation | Gastric retention |
|-------------|--------|--------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1           | 1      | M      | 57          | 85          | 5.5                             | 10   | >30                             | 0.65                            | Yes          | Yes               |
| 2           | 1*     | M      | 67          | 90          | 5.5                             | 10   | 10.8                            | 0.19                            | Yes          | Yes               |
| 2           | 2*     | M      | 67          | 90          | 7.5                             | 12.5   | 7.1                             | 0.28                            | Yes          | Yes               |
| 3           | 1      | M      | 77          | 73          | 6.5                             | 10   | 19.05                           | 0.53                            | Yes          | Yes               |
| 4           | 1      | F      | 65          | 95          | 3.5                             | 10.5   | 9.9                             | 0.20                            | Yes          | Yes               |
| 5           | 1      | M      | 52          | 99          | 4.0                             | 9.5  | 20.1                            | 0.64                            | Yes          | No                |
| 6           | 1*     | M      | 70          | 102         | 4.0                             | 9  | 29.8                            | 0.46                            | Yes          | No                |
| 6           | 2*     | M      | 70          | 102         | 6.5                             | 9.5  | 23.7                            | 0.37                            | No           | No                |
| 7           | 1      | M      | 65          | 107         | 3.0                             | 11.5   | 28.8                            | 0.53                            | Yes          | No                |
| 8           | 1      | F      | 70          | 129         | 2.5                             | 11   | 9.8                             | 0.37                            | Yes          | Yes               |
| 9           | 1      | M      | 52          | 93          | 2.0                             | 9.5  | >30                             | 1.05                            | Yes          | Yes               |
| 10          | 1*     | M      | 50          | 128         | 2.5                             | 9.5  | 28.4                            | 0.52                            | Yes          | No                |
| 10          | 2*     | M      | 50          | 128         | 4.5                             | 10.5   | >30                             | 0.44                            | Yes          | No                |
| 11          | 1      | F      | 64          | 104         | 2.0                             | 9.5  | 19.7                            | 1.92                            | Yes          | Yes               |

LPV: Lopinavir; RTV: Ritonavir; M: male; F: Female; \*samples from same patient, applies for patient no. 2, 6 and 10.

# TDM beyond total drug concentrations: The valproic acid – DTG case



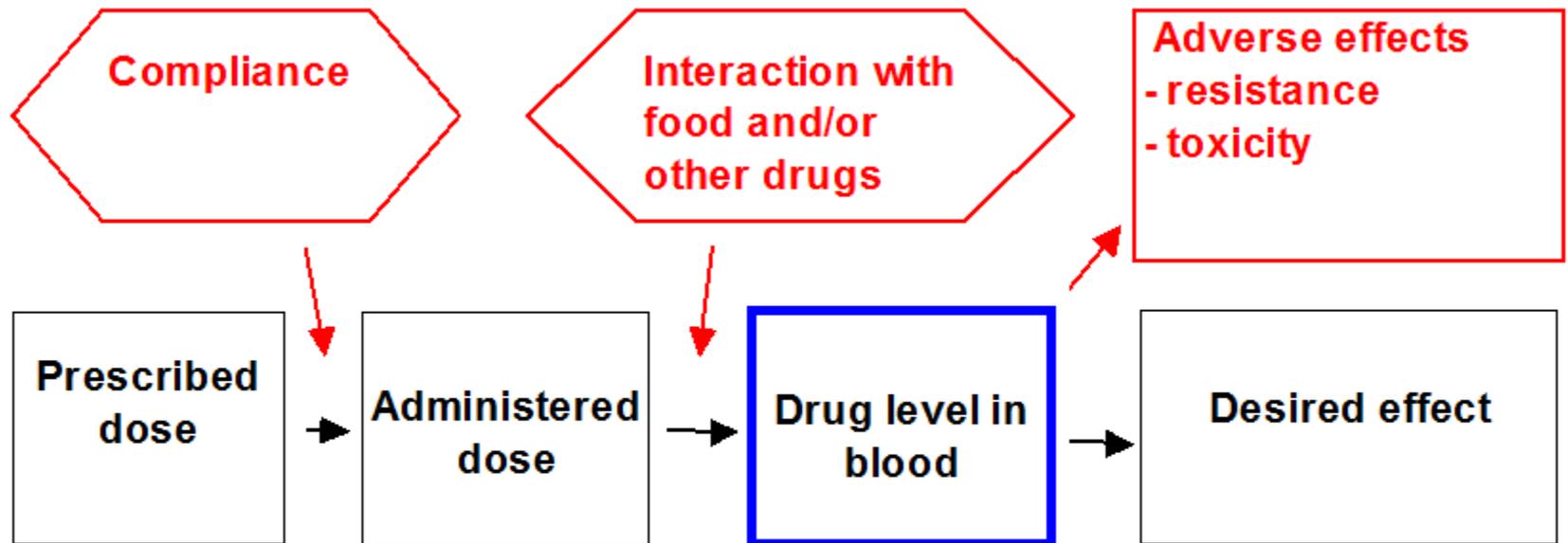
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# A bright future for TDM!



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R.E. Aarnoutse, thesis 2003

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# A bright future for TDM!

- From now and into the future: fewer TDM requests, but more interesting
- “TDM-ologists” should define the patient cases where optimal response is not a guarantee
- Think beyond borders: other antivirals, free drug concentration, etc.

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Thank you for your attention &  
and greetings from Nijmegen!



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