

# BIOTRANSFORMATION

Dr.Sidrah Ghafoor  
M.Phil Scholar Pharmacology,  
PGMED, KGMC.

# Objectives

- At the end of presentation one should be able
- To Define biotransformation
- Highlight Consequences of metabolism
- Highlight Drug metabolizing enzymes
- types of biotransformation reactions
- Enzyme Induction/Inhibition
- First Pass Metabolism



# INTRODUCTION

**Xenobiotics**- Substances foreign to body.

Examples: Drugs, Food additives, Food colours, Environmental pollutants, Agrochemicals, Phytoalexins (dietary plant toxins).

***Biotransformation** needed for detoxification & protecting the body from ingested toxins.*



# Definition

- Chemical alteration of drug in the body.
- ***Non polar lipid soluble*** compounds are made ***polar lipid insoluble***, so that they are easily excreted.
- Drugs which do not undergo biotransformation – Streptomycin, neostigmine....(highly polar drugs)
- **SITES**

Primary site – **Liver**

Others – Kidney, Intestine, Lungs, Plasma...



Intravenous Administration

Oral Administration

Biotransformation

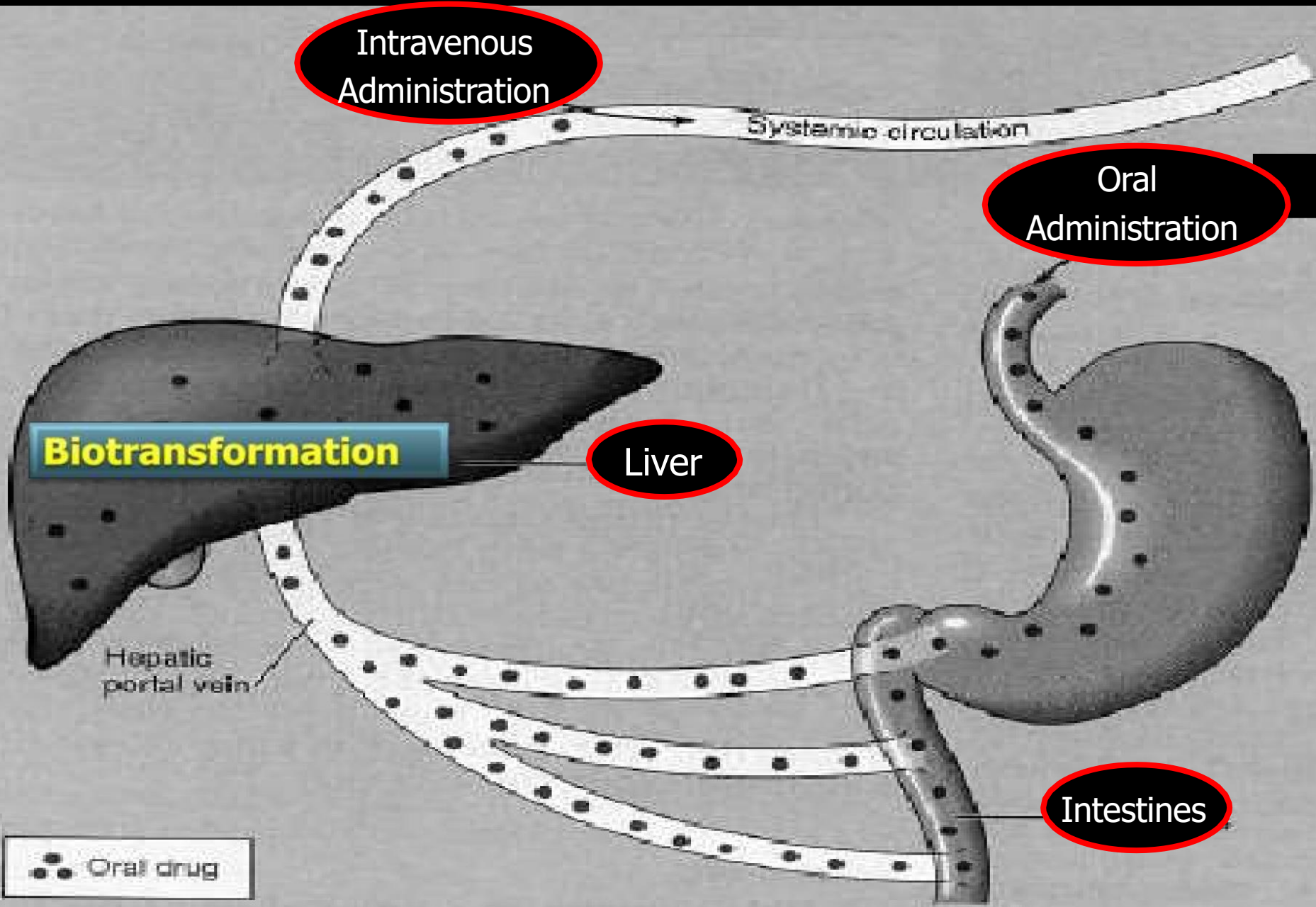
Liver

Intestines

Systemic circulation

Hepatic portal vein

Oral drug



## Drug Biotransformation –

Converting lipophilic / hydrophobic **drug** (to enter cells) to hydrophilic metabolites.

### Advantages

- Termination of drug action - (↓ toxicity)
- Reduced lipophilicity.
- Renal / biliary excretion ↑ - (↓renal reabsorption)



# Consequences Of Metabolism

**Drug metabolism != Drug inactivation**

- The metabolite may have...

- **No or reduced activity (inactivation)**

- Most drugs and their active metabolite are rendered inactive.

e.g-            Phenobarbitone            morphine  
                  Chloramphenicol        propranolol

**Phenobarbitone**



**Hydroxyphenobarbitone  
(inactive)**

# Consequences Of Metabolism

The metabolite may have...

- **Equal activity to the drug**

Many drugs have been found to be partially converted to active metabolite.

e.g





# Consequences Of Metabolism

The metabolite may have...

➤ Increased activity (Prodrug)

**Prodrugs** refers to precursor drug that in itself has little or no biological activity and is metabolised to pharmacologically active metabolite.

Features:

- Toxic properties not seen with the parent drug
- Stable drug
- Better PK profile and bioavailability.



## □ C) Inactive drug (Prodrug) → Active drug

Levodopa	➤	Dopamine
Enalapril	➤	Enalaprilat
$\alpha$ Methyl dopa	➤	$\alpha$ Methyl Norepinephrine
Dipivefrine	➤	Epinephrine
<i>Prednisone</i>	➤	Prednisolone
<i>Bacampicillin</i>	➤	Ampicillin
<i>Sulfasalazine</i>	➤	5amino salicylic acid
<i>Cyclophosphamide</i>	➤	Aldophosphamide



# Drug Metabolising enzymes

- Microsomal
- Non-microsomal
- Non –enzymatic biotransformation



## Microsomal Enzymes

- Microsomal cytochrome P450, monooxygenase family of enzymes, which oxidize drugs.
- Location-smooth endoplasmic reticulum in Liver, Kidney, intestinal mucosa, and lungs.
- They catalyze:
  - Oxidation, reduction, hydrolysis (phase I reactions)
  - Glucuronide conjugation (phase II reactions)

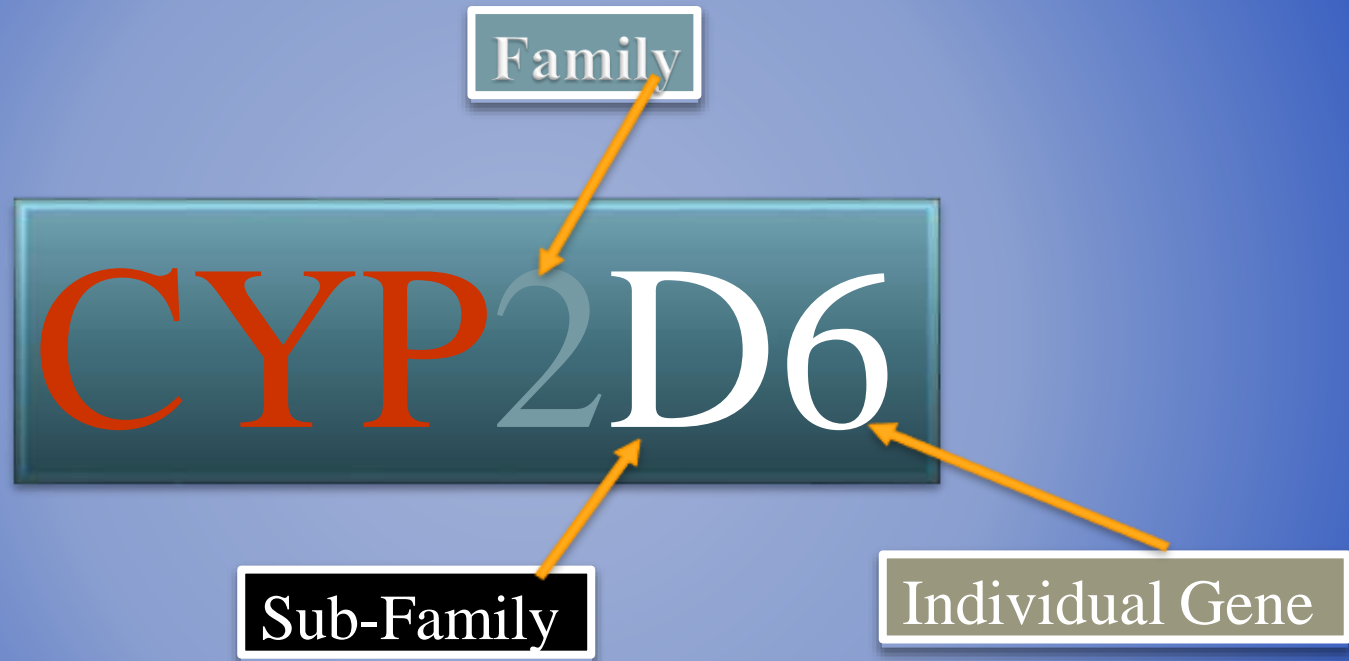


# Cytochrome P450 expression

- Specific forms of CYP 450 are classified into
  - Families designated by numbers...
  - Subfamilies designated by letters... based on amino acid sequences
  - Genes by another number
- At least 15 P450 enzymes identified in human liver microsomes



# CYP450 Nomenclature



# Cytochrome P450 expression

- Variation in levels, activity due to:
  - Genetic polymorphism
  - Environmental factors
  - Inducers, inhibitors, disease
  - Multiple P450's can catalyze same reaction
  - A single P450 can catalyze multiple pathways



# Non-microsomal Enzymes

- **Location :**
  - Cytoplasm, mitochondria of hepatic cells.
- **Examples :**
  - Monoamine oxidases (MAO), Esterases, Amidases, Transferases, Conjugases
- Reaction catalysed are all Phase II reactions
- These are noninducible
- May show genetic variations





- **Hoffman's Elimination**
- Example:
  - some drugs like atracurium (skeletal muscle relaxant) are metabolized in plasma through molecular rearrangement without involvement of enzyme action.

**Non –enzymatic  
bio-  
transformation**



# BIOTRANSFORMATION REACTIONS

## Nonsynthetic / Phase I:

Metabolite may be active or inactive.

## Synthetic / Phase II:

Metabolite is mostly inactive (conjugation)



# TYPES

## BIOTRANSFORMATION REACTIONS - 2 TYPES

- **Phase I / Non synthetic / Functionalization**
  - A functional group is generated
  - Metabolite – active or inactive
  
- **Phase II / Synthetic / Conjugation**
  - An endogenous radical is conjugated
  - Metabolite is usually inactive



# Comparing Phase I & Phase II

Enzyme	Phase I	Phase II
Types of reactions	Oxidation Reduction Hydrolysis	Conjugations
Increase in hydrophilicity	Small	Large
General mechanism	Exposes functional group	Polar compound added to functional group
Consequences	May result in metabolic activation	Inactivates & Facilitates excretion

# Phase I reactions: Oxidation

Addition of oxygen (-ve charged radical) or removal hydrogen (+ve ).

## Reactions

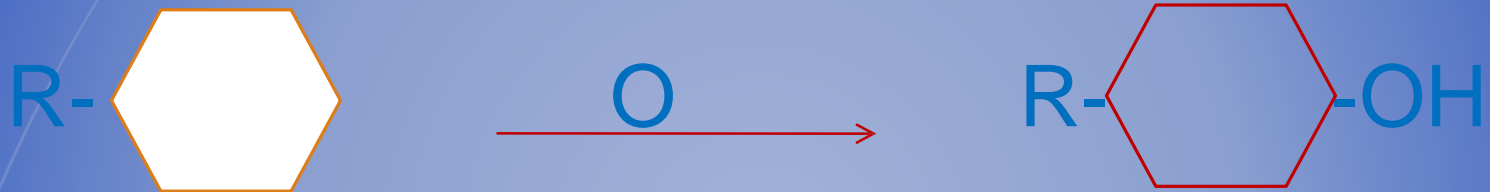
### Microsomal oxidation

- Hydroxylation  
(Phenobarbitone to hydroxyphenobarbitone)
- Oxygenation
- Deamination
- Dealkylation

### Non Microsomal oxidation

- Mitochondrial oxidation  
(Epinephrine by MAO)
- Cytoplasmic oxidation  
(alcohol by alcohol dehydrogenase)
- Oxidative deamination  
(Histamine)

# 4.AROMATIC HYDROXYLATION



- Phenytoin
- Phenobarbitone
- Propranolol

## 5. DEALKYLATION AT OXYGEN ATOM



- Phenacetin to Paracetamol

## 6. DEALKYLATION AT NITROGEN ATOM



- Amitriptyline to Nortriptyline



## 7. DEALKYLATION AT SULPHUR ATOM



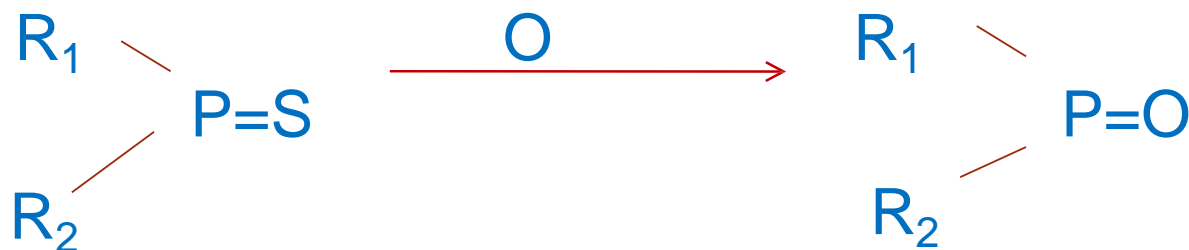
- 6Methyl thiopurine to Mercaptopurine

## 8. OXIDATIVE DEAMINATION



- Amphetamine

## 9. DESULFURATION



- Parathion to Paraoxon

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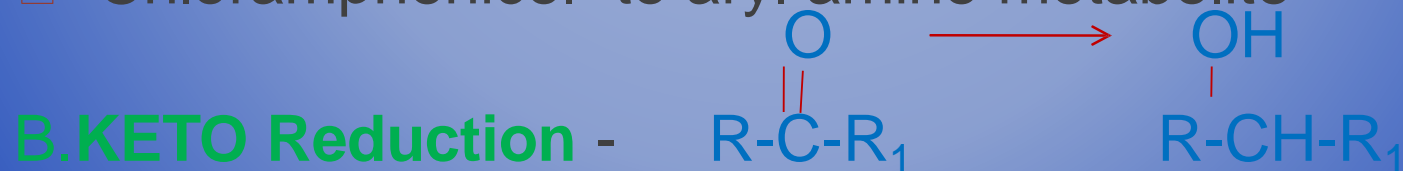
# b) Phase I Reduction

- Addition of Hydrogen (positively charged radical) or removal of Oxygen (negatively charged radical)

MICROSOMAL REDUCTION by Monooxygenases need NADPH & cytochrome c reductase.



- Chloramphenicol to aryl amine metabolite



- Cortisone to Hydrocortisone,



## C. AZO Reduction

- Prontosil to Sulfanilamide

## NON MICROSOMAL REDUCTION

- Chloral hydrate to Trichloro ethanol,



## c) Phase I Hydrolysis

- Drug is split combining with water

Ester + water Esterases → Alcohol & Acid

- A. Microsomal hydrolysis

Pethidine to meperidinic acid

- B. Non microsomal hydrolysis –  
Esterases, Amidases & Peptidases

Atropine to Tropic acid



# Phase II: Conjugations

## MICROSOMAL

- ✓ Glucuronide conjugation

## NON-MICROSOMAL

- ✓ N acetyl conjugation
- ✓ Sulfate conjugation
- ✓ Methyl conjugation
- ✓ Glutathione conjugation



# PHASE II REACTIONS CONJUGATION

- Drug / phase I metabolite combines with endogenous substance derived from carbohydrates/ proteins.
- covalent bond formation between functional group of drug & endogenous substrate
- Endogenous-Glucuronic acid, Amino acids, Sulfates, Acetates, Glutathione
- Represent terminal inactivation – True detoxification reactions.



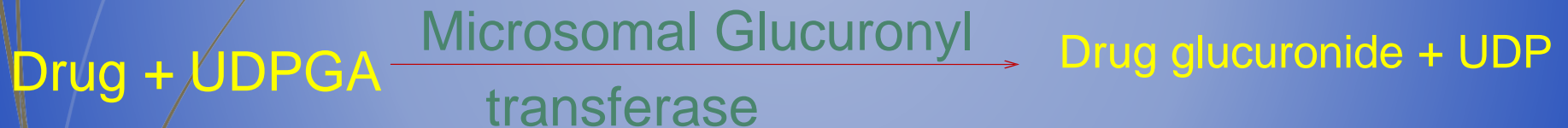
## □ PHASE II REACTION Conjugation

- ionized,
  - hydrophilic,
  - ↑mol.weight,
  - inactive
- 
- Excreted in urine/ bile/ faeces.
  - Phase II- need energy
  - 7 types of reactions



# 1. CONJUGATION WITH GLUCURONIC ACID

- UDP glucuronyl transferases
- Conjugates with OH & COOH are conjugated with glucuronic acid derived from glucose



- Drugs - Aspirin, Paracetamol, PABA, Metronidazole, Morphine, Diazepam

- ↑ Mol.weight – favours biliary excretion
- Drug glucuronides excreted in bile are hydrolyzed by intestinal microfloral enzymes - parent drug released - reabsorbed into systemic circulation -  
↓ excretion ↑ duration of action
  - Oral contraceptives, Phenolphthalein
- Endogenous substrates - Steroid, Thyroxine, Bilirubin





# Phase II Non-Microsomal Conjugation

Conjugation Reaction	Enzyme	Examples
<b>2.N acetyl conjugation</b>	N-acetyltransferase	Dapsone, Sulphonamides, Histamine
<b>3.Sulfate conjugation</b>	Sulfotransferase	Methyl dopa, Steroids, Chloramphenicol, Warfarin, Paracetamol, Corticosteroids
<b>4. Methyl conjugation (minor Pathway)</b>	Transmethylase	Catecholamines, Histamine, Nicotinic acid, Dopamine, Captopril

## 5. CONJUGATION WITH GLYCINE

- Drug group – Carboxylic acid
- Salicylic acid , Benzoic acid

## 6. CONJUGATION WITH GLUTATHIONE

- Drug groups-Epoxyde, Quinone
- Toxic metabolites of Paracetamol, Ethacrynic acid
- Cytoplasmic Enzyme - Glutathione S- Transferase



## 7. RIBONUCLEOTIDE /RIBONUCLEOSIDE SYNTHESIS

- Action of Purine & Pyrimidine antimetabolites
- 6 Mercaptopurine



# INHIBITION OF DRUG METABOLISM

- ▶  One drug can inhibit the metabolism of another drug
- ▶  ↑ in circulating levels of slowly metabolised drug
- ▶  Prolongation or potentiation of its effects

## ▶ Consequences

- Precipitate toxicity of the drug. can be therapeutically beneficial.  
e.g: Aversion of alcohol with disulfiram.



# Pharmacokinetic drug interaction

# Enzyme inhibitors

- Valproate**
- Ketoconazole**
- Cimetidine**
- Ciprofloxacin**
- Erythromycin**
- INH**



# MICROSOMAL ENZYME INDUCTION

- Drugs induce the synthesis of microsomal enzyme proteins
- Accelerated metabolism and reduced pharmacological response
- Consequences
- Drug- drug interactions



- ❑ Therapeutic benefit. e.g: To treat neonatal jaundice
- ❑ Decreased duration of action. e.g: OCP failure
- ❑ **G**riseofulvin
- ❑ **P**henytoin
- ❑ **R**ifampicin
- ❑ **S**moking
- ❑ **C**arbamazepine
- ❑ **P**henobarbitone





# Enzyme Induction

Enzyme inducers	Enzymes induced	substrates
Phenobarbitone Phenytoin carbamazepine	CYP3A4	Midazolam Macrolides Calcium channel blockers
Rifampicin Phenobarbitone	CYP3A4 & CYP2C9	Oral contraceptives Warrfarin



# First Pass Metabolism/ pharmacokinetic drug interaction at level of gi

- Presystemic metabolism/ First pass effect
- *Metabolism of a drug during its passage from the site of absorption into the systemic circulation.*
- ↓ bioavailability
- ↓ therapeutic response
- **SITES**
  - Gut wall
  - Gut lumen (cyp4503A4)
  - Liver (major site)
  - Lungs
  - Skin



# THANK YOU



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