

# Advancing current PBPK model applications to support internal development and regulatory decisions

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**EUFEMED**

Workshop 1: Modeling and simulations, including PBPK to improve the clinical development

May 15<sup>th</sup> 2019

## Take home messages:

- Number of applications received by the U.S. FDA including PBPK models is exponentially rising since 2008
- The U.S. FDA is an advocate of the PBPK approach to waive some clinical trials
- The U.S. FDA is investing time and money to improve the confidence level for PBPK model

# Outline:

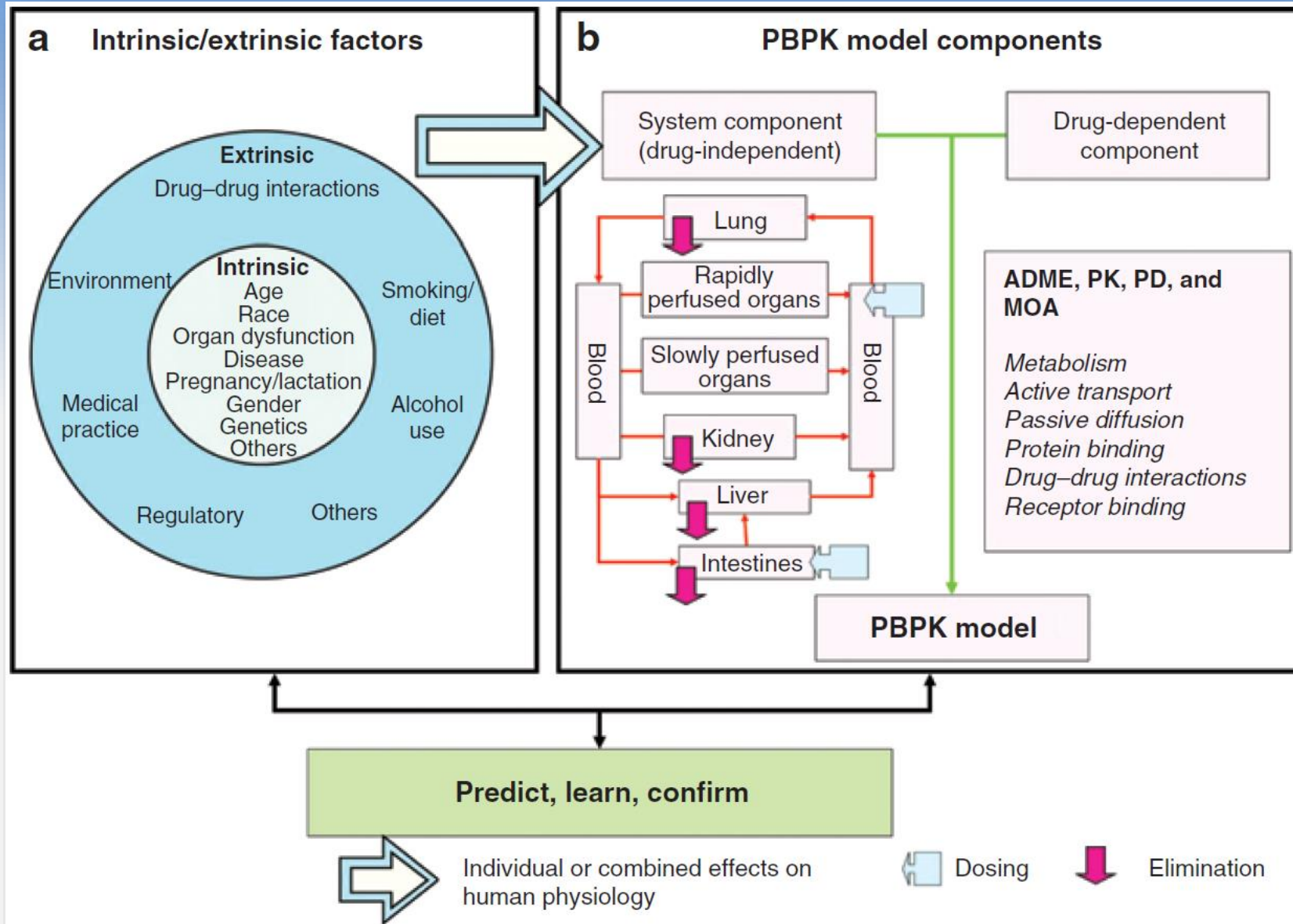
- U.S. FDA's definition of PBPK
- PBPK and the U.S. FDA, a few numbers...
- U.S. FDA's efforts to improve the science supporting PBPK models development
- Case study: *How can PBPK modeling be used to accelerate the development of ophthalmic generic drugs?*

## PBPK model: The U.S. FDA's definition

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA) describes a Physiologically-Based Pharmacokinetic (PBPK) analysis such as models and simulations that **combine physiology, population, and drug characteristics to mechanistically describe the PK and/or pharmacodynamic (PD) behaviors of a drug.**

Throughout a drug's life cycle, PBPK model predictions can be used to support decisions on whether, when, and how to conduct certain clinical pharmacology studies, and to support dosing recommendations in product labeling (U.S. FDA, PBPK analysis, Guidance for industry).

# PBPK model: The U.S. FDA's definition



The degree of complexity of the PBPK model can vary according to the need.

Adapted from: Zhao 2011 **SimulationsPlus**  
 SCIENCE + SOFTWARE = SUCCESS

# PBPK and the U.S. FDA, a few numbers... guidelines

nature publishing group

*Clin Pharmacol Ther*, 2012

### Best Practice in the Use of Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Modeling and Simulation to Address Clinical Pharmacology Regulatory Questions

P Zhao<sup>1</sup>, M Rowland<sup>2,3</sup> and S-M Huang<sup>1</sup>

Physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) models are increasingly used by drug developers to evaluate the effect of patient factors on drug exposure. Between June 2008 and December 2011, the Office of Clinical Pharmacology at the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) received 25 submissions containing PBPK analyses. This report summarizes the essential content of a PBPK analysis needed in a regulatory submission for the purpose of addressing clinical pharmacology questions.

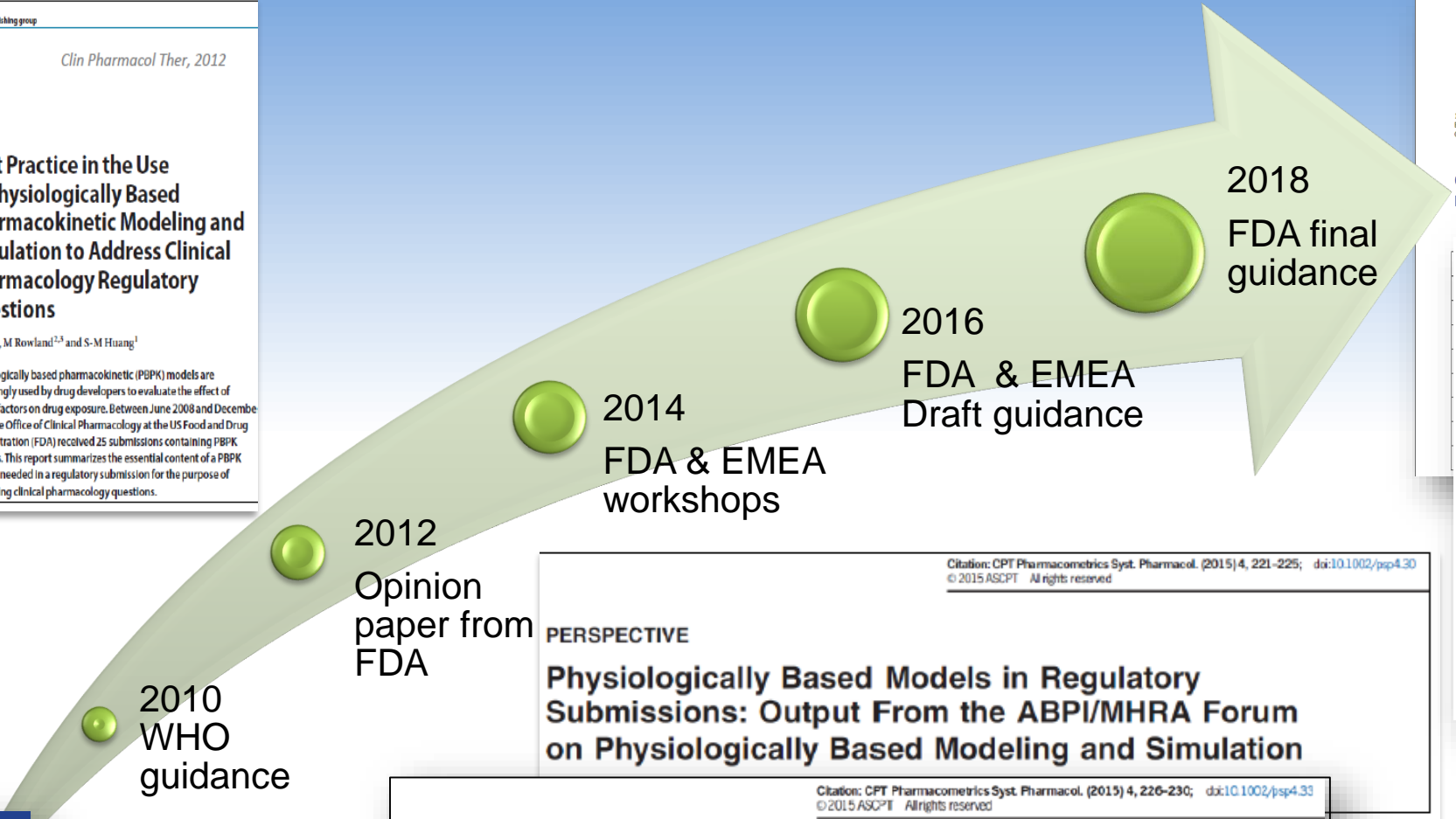
EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

13 December 2018  
EMA/CHMP/163101/2018  
Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP)

Guideline on the reporting of physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modelling and simulation

### Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Analyses — Format and Content Guidance for Industry

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)  
August 2018  
Clinical Pharmacology



2010 WHO guidance

2012 Opinion paper from FDA

2014 FDA & EMEA workshops

2016 FDA & EMEA Draft guidance

2018 FDA final guidance

Citation: CPT Pharmacometrics Syst. Pharmacol. (2015) 4, 221-225; doi:10.1002/psp4.30  
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PERSPECTIVE

### Physiologically Based Models in Regulatory Submissions: Output From the ABPI/MHRA Forum on Physiologically Based Modeling and Simulation

Citation: CPT Pharmacometrics Syst. Pharmacol. (2015) 4, 226-230; doi:10.1002/psp4.33  
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PERSPECTIVE

### Application of Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic (PBPK) Modeling to Support Dose Selection: Report of an FDA Public Workshop on PBPK

C Wagner<sup>1</sup>, P Zhao<sup>1\*</sup>, Y Pan<sup>2</sup>, V Hsu<sup>1</sup>, J Grillo<sup>1</sup>, SM Huang<sup>1</sup> and V Sinha<sup>1\*</sup>

IPCS

Characterization and Application of Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Models in Risk Assessment

IOMC  
World Health Organization

To be continued...

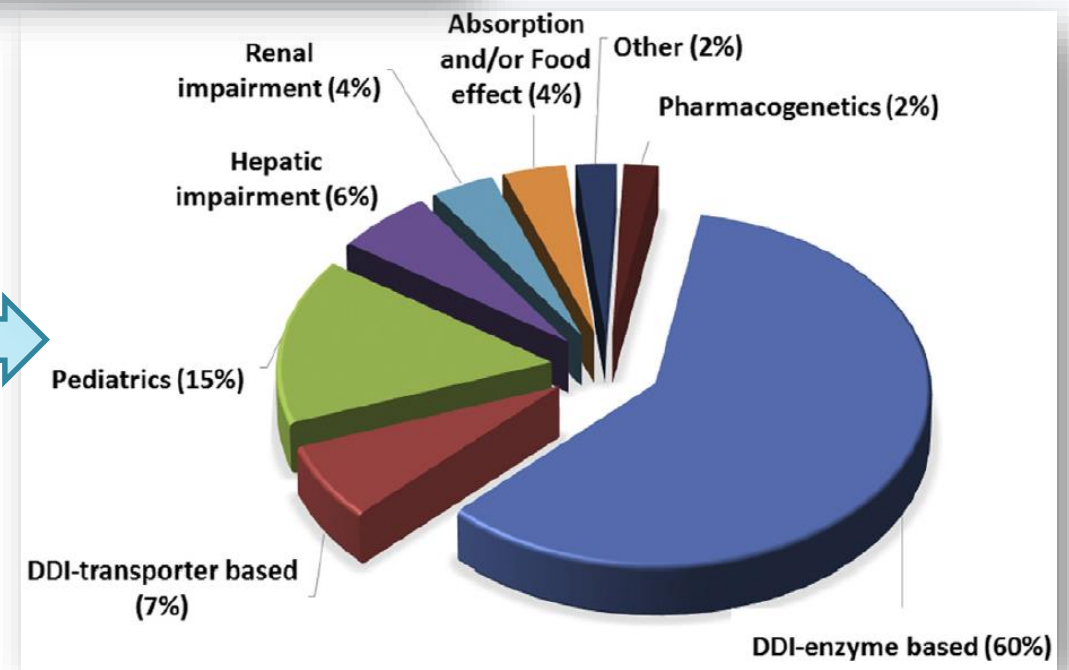
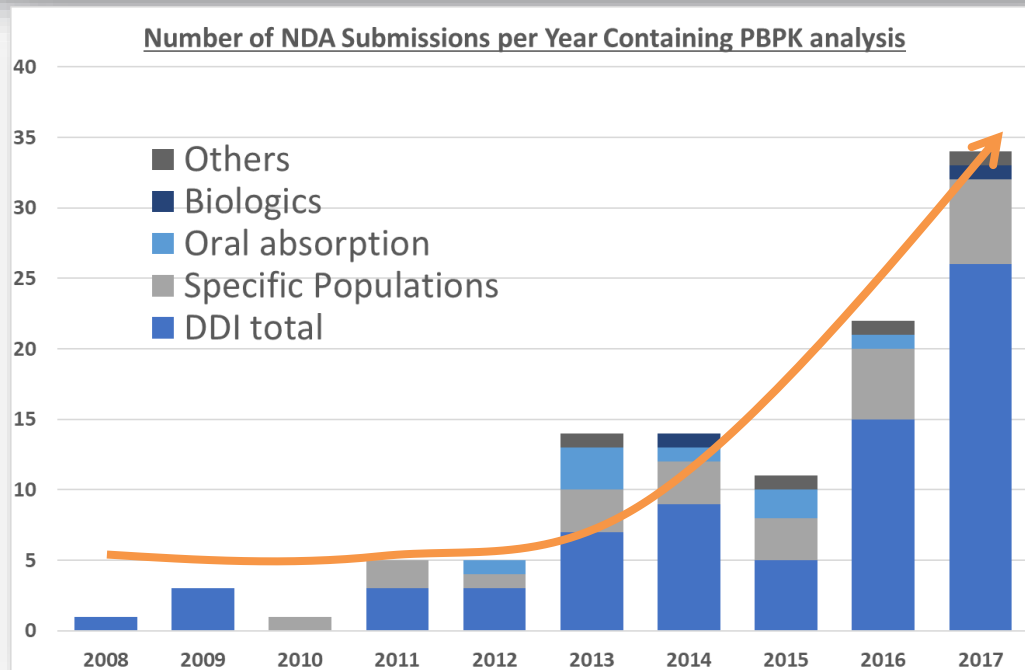
S+ SimulationsPlus  
SCIENCE + SOFTWARE = SUCCESS

# PBPK and the U.S. FDA, a few numbers... new drug application

## Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Modeling in Regulatory Science: An Update From the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Office of Clinical Pharmacology

Manuela Grimstein, Yuching Yang\*, Xinyuan Zhang\*, Joseph Grillo, Shiew-Mei Huang, Issam Zineh, Yaning Wang

Office of Clinical Pharmacology, Office of Translational Sciences, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, Maryland 20993



# PBPK and the U.S. FDA, a few numbers...generic drugs

Data from 2016:

Type	No.	Examples
ANDA Reviews & Citizen petitions	22	❖ Implement clinical relevant PK metrics for BE assessment
Pre-ANDA interactions (including CC)	26	❖ Development of BE criteria for analgesics ❖ Assessment of BE standards for GI locally acting products ❖ Simulation of in vivo alcohol dose dumping studies
BE Guidances	31	❖ Simulations for the development of BE criteria for HVDs and NTI drugs
Regulatory Research Studies	30	❖ Pharmacokinetic(PK)/Pharmacodynamic (PD) modeling and simulation to determine the appropriate study design and evaluate clinical endpoint sensitivity for BE assessment

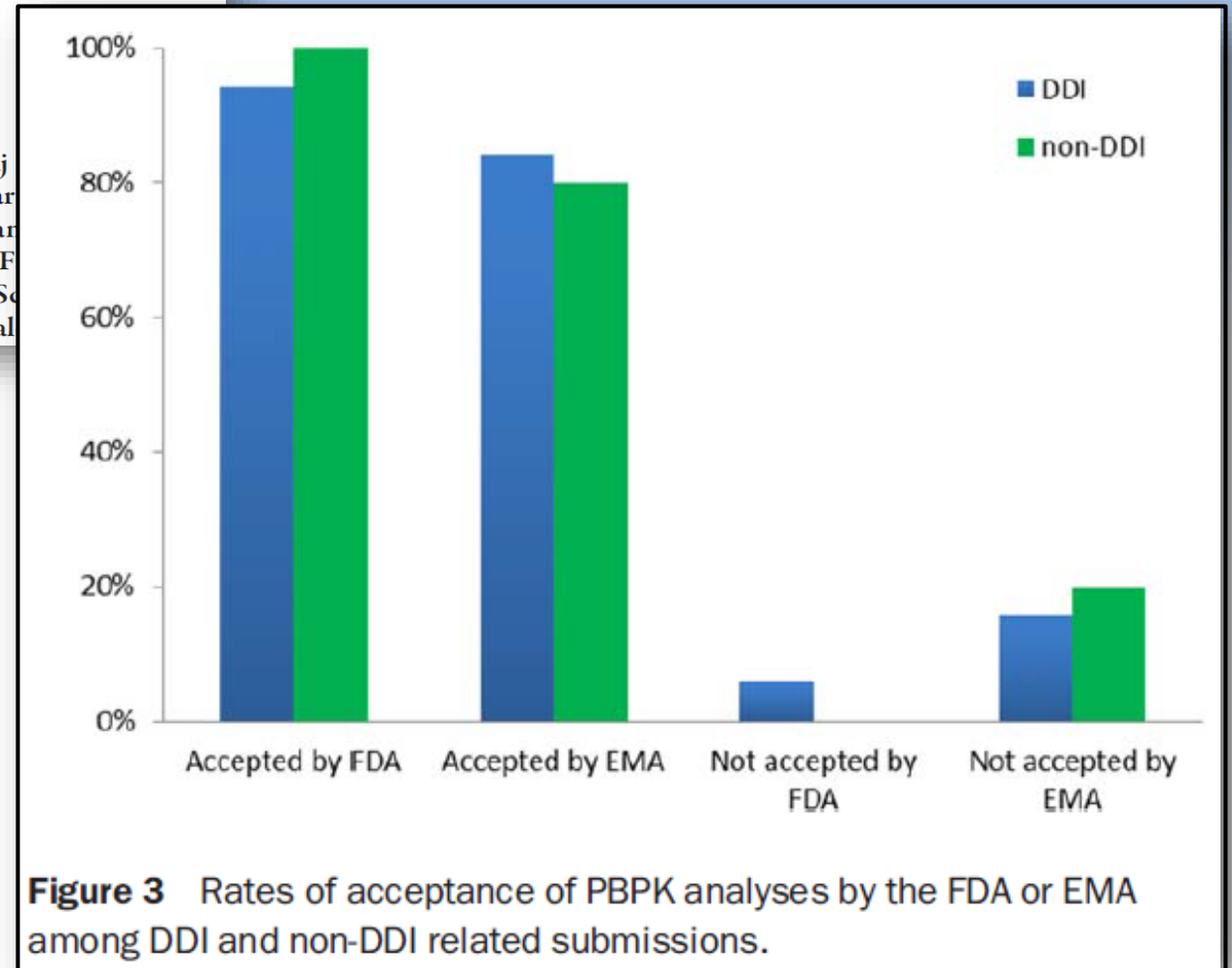
ANDA: abbreviated new drug application; BE: bioequivalence; CP: citizen petition; CC: controlled correspondence; GI: gastrointestinal; HVD: highly variable drugs; NTI: narrow therapeutic index.



# PBPK and the U.S. FDA, a few numbers...acceptance

## Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Model Qualification and Reporting Procedures for Regulatory Submissions: A Consortium Perspective

Mohamad Shebley<sup>1</sup>, Punam Sandhu<sup>2</sup>, Arian Emami Riedmaier<sup>1</sup>, Masoud Jamei<sup>3</sup>, Rangaraj Aarti Patel<sup>5</sup>, Sheila Annie Peters<sup>6</sup>, Venkatesh Pilla Reddy<sup>7</sup>, Ming Zheng<sup>8</sup>, Loeckie de Zwart<sup>9</sup>, Maud Beneton<sup>10</sup>, Francois Bouzom<sup>11</sup>, Jun Chen<sup>12</sup>, Yuan Chen<sup>13</sup>, Yumi Cleary<sup>14</sup>, Christian Gemma L. Dickinson<sup>16</sup>, Nassim Djebli<sup>12</sup>, Heidi J. Einolf<sup>17</sup>, Iain Gardner<sup>3</sup>, Felix Huth<sup>18</sup>, Feras Khalil<sup>19</sup>, Jing Lin<sup>20</sup>, Aleksandrs Odinecs<sup>21</sup>, Chirag Patel<sup>22</sup>, Haojing Rong<sup>23</sup>, Edgar S. Pradeep Sharma<sup>7</sup>, Shu-Pei Wu<sup>25</sup>, Yang Xu<sup>26</sup>, Shinji Yamazaki<sup>27</sup>, Kenta Yoshida<sup>13</sup> and Mal

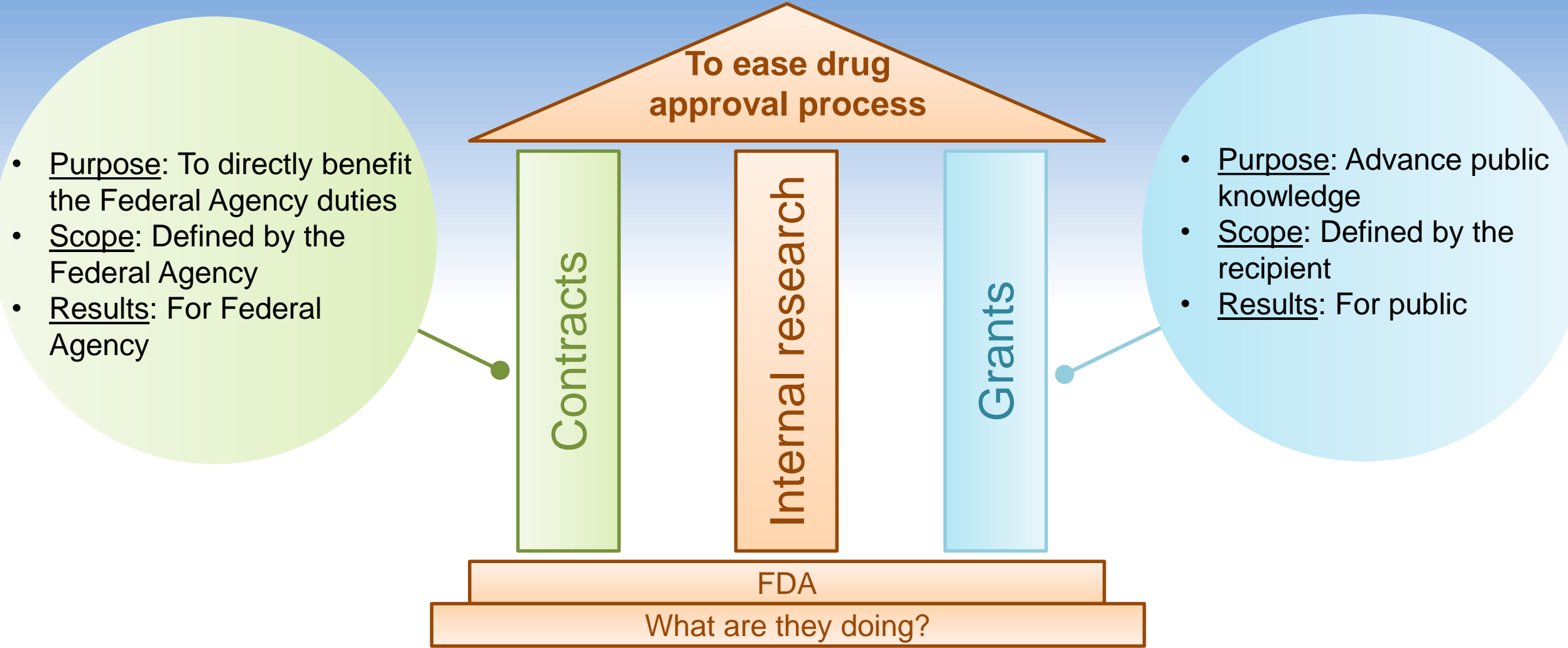


# PBPK and the U.S. FDA, a few numbers...acceptance

	Applications	Status	High	Light
<b>Drug-drug Interactions</b>	<i>Drug as enzyme substrate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substrate/inhibitor models verified with key clinical data can be used to simulate untested scenarios and support labeling</li> </ul>		
	<i>Drug as enzyme perpetrator</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use to confirm the lack of enzyme inhibition</li> <li>Additional evidence needed to confirm predictive performance for positive interactions</li> </ul>		
	<i>Transporter-based</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In vitro-in vivo extrapolation not mature</li> <li>Complicated by transporter-enzyme interplay</li> <li>Predictive performance yet to be demonstrated</li> </ul>		
<b>Specific populations</b>	<i>Organ impairments (hepatic and renal)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Predictive performance yet to be improved</li> <li>System component needs an update</li> </ul>		
	<i>Pediatrics</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allometry is reasonable for PK down to 2 years old</li> <li>Less than 2 years old ontogeny and maturation need to be considered</li> </ul>		
<b>Others with limited experience</b>	<i>Pregnancy, ethnicity, geriatrics, obesity, disease states</i> <i>Food effect, formulation change, PH effect (including DDIs on gastric PH)</i> <i>Tissue concentration, drug delivery for locally-acting products</i>		Low	Heavy

Updated from Wagner, CPT-PSP, 2015

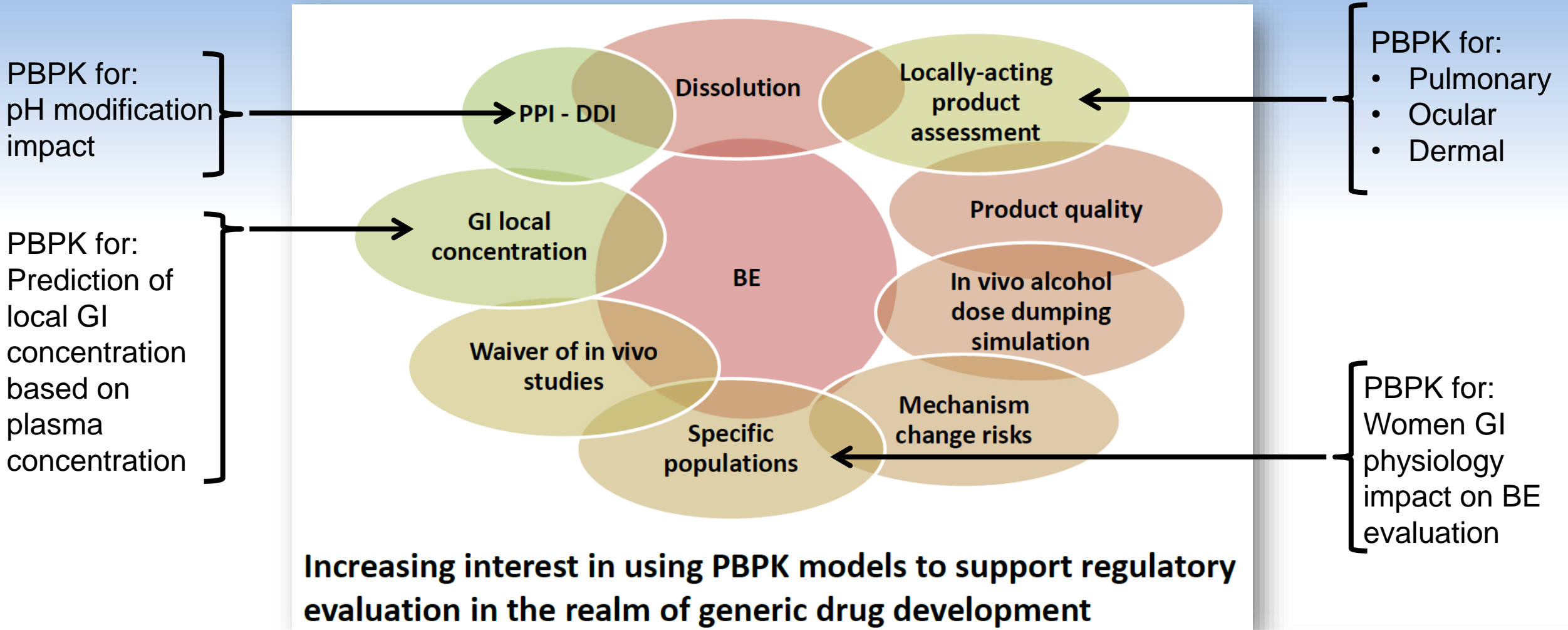
# U.S. FDA's efforts



# U.S. FDA's efforts

→ fill the knowledge gaps: science “black boxes”

→ Invest where the private sector will not



# Case study: How can PBPK modeling be used to accelerate the development of ophthalmic generic drugs?

## Challenges:

- *Almost all* ophthalmic drug products (if not a solution,) have no generic available in the US market
- Prices of these drugs are very high in the US → It is a necessity for the FDA to approve generic drugs to reduce the cost for the US population and improve the number of patient being cured.
- However, bioequivalence (BE) clinical trials are extremely expensive for these kind of products due to the difficulty to sample in the BioPhase (aqueous humor).
- Therefore, these clinical trials usually have:
  - Number of subjects: usually above 1000
  - Parallel design
  - High variability
  - A significant chance to fail?
- New approach for BE evaluation is necessary → Model-informed drug development: PBPK
- In 2014, Simulations Plus was selected by the FDA to develop a PBPK model able to describe the PK of a drug following ocular administration
- FDA also performed internal research generating some in-house pre-clinical data to support model development

# Case study: How can PBPK modeling be used to accelerate the development of ophthalmic generic drugs?

**A sensitive UPLC-APCI-MS/MS method for determination of dexamethasone and its application in an ocular tissue distribution study in rabbits following topical administration**

**Protocol for evaluation of topical ophthalmic drug products in different compartments of fresh eye tissues in a rabbit model**

Murali K Matta,  
Ashok Chockalingam

Ashok Chockalingam<sup>1</sup>, Lin Xu<sup>1</sup>, Sharron Stewart<sup>1</sup>, Maxime LeMerdy<sup>2</sup>, Eleftheria Tsakalozou<sup>2</sup>  
Jianghong Fan<sup>2</sup>, Vikram Patel<sup>1</sup> and Rodney Rouse<sup>1\*</sup>

U.S. Food and  
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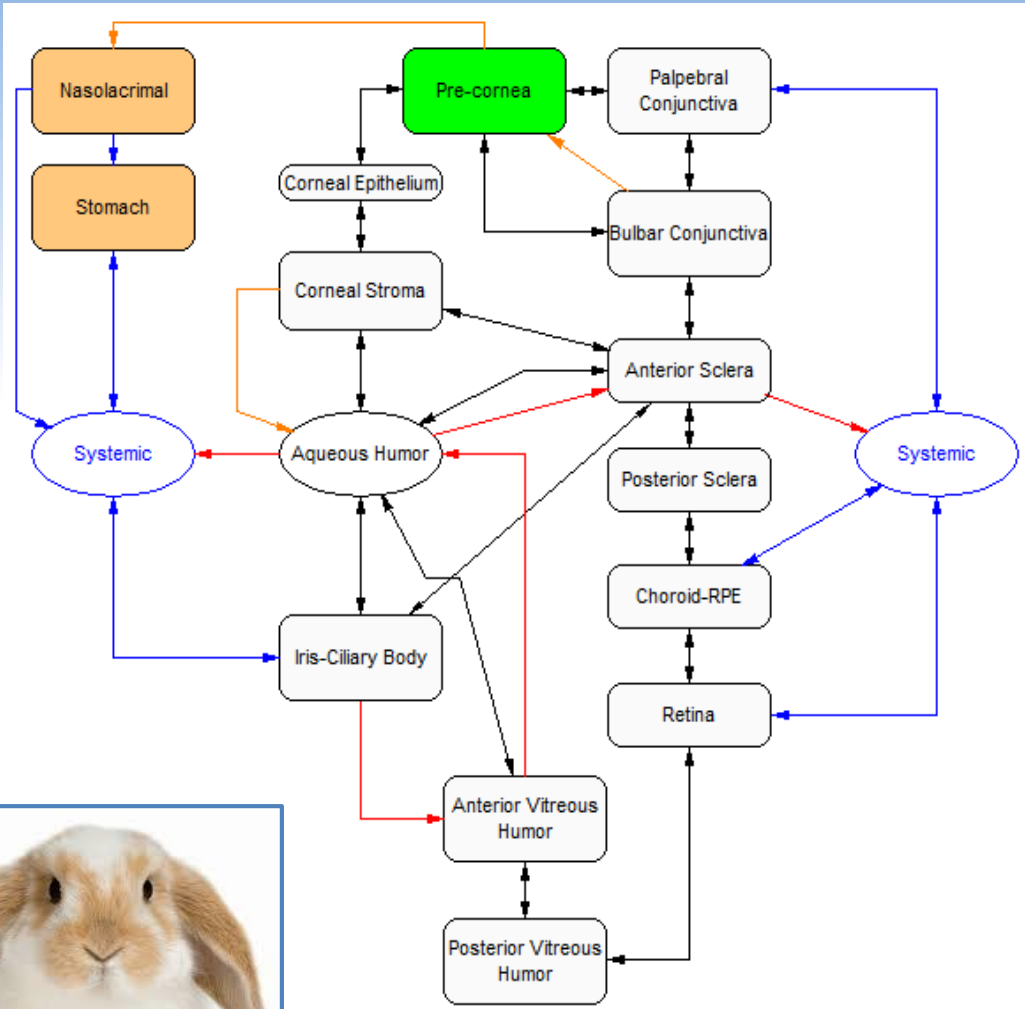
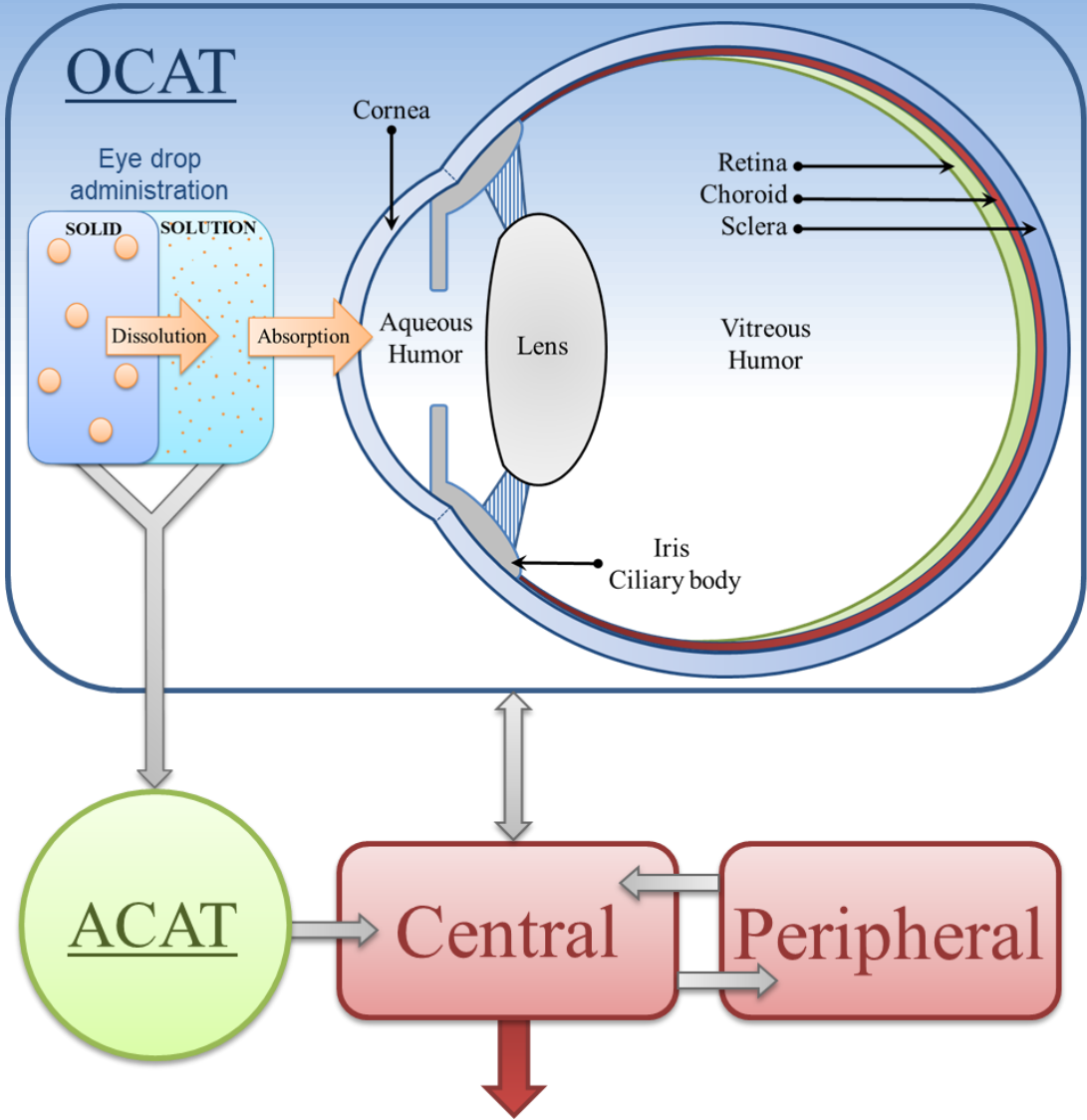
**Application of Mechanistic Ocular Absorption Modeling and Simulation to Understand the Impact of Formulation Properties on Ophthalmic Bioavailability in Rabbits: a Case Study Using Dexamethasone Suspension**

<sup>1</sup>Office of  
Science

<sup>2</sup>Office of

Maxime Le Merdy,<sup>1</sup> Jianghong Fan,<sup>1,6</sup> Michael B. Bolger,<sup>2</sup> Viera Lukacova,<sup>2</sup> Jessica Spires,<sup>2</sup> Eleftheria Tsakalozou,<sup>1</sup> Vikram Patel,<sup>3</sup> Lin Xu,<sup>3</sup> Sharron Stewart,<sup>3</sup> Ashok Chockalingam,<sup>3</sup> Suresh Narayanasamy,<sup>3</sup> Rodney Rouse,<sup>3</sup> Murali Matta,<sup>3</sup> Andrew Babiskin,<sup>1</sup> Darby Kozak,<sup>4</sup> Stephanie Choi,<sup>5</sup> Lei Zhang,<sup>5</sup> Robert Lionberger,<sup>5</sup> and Liang Zhao<sup>1</sup>

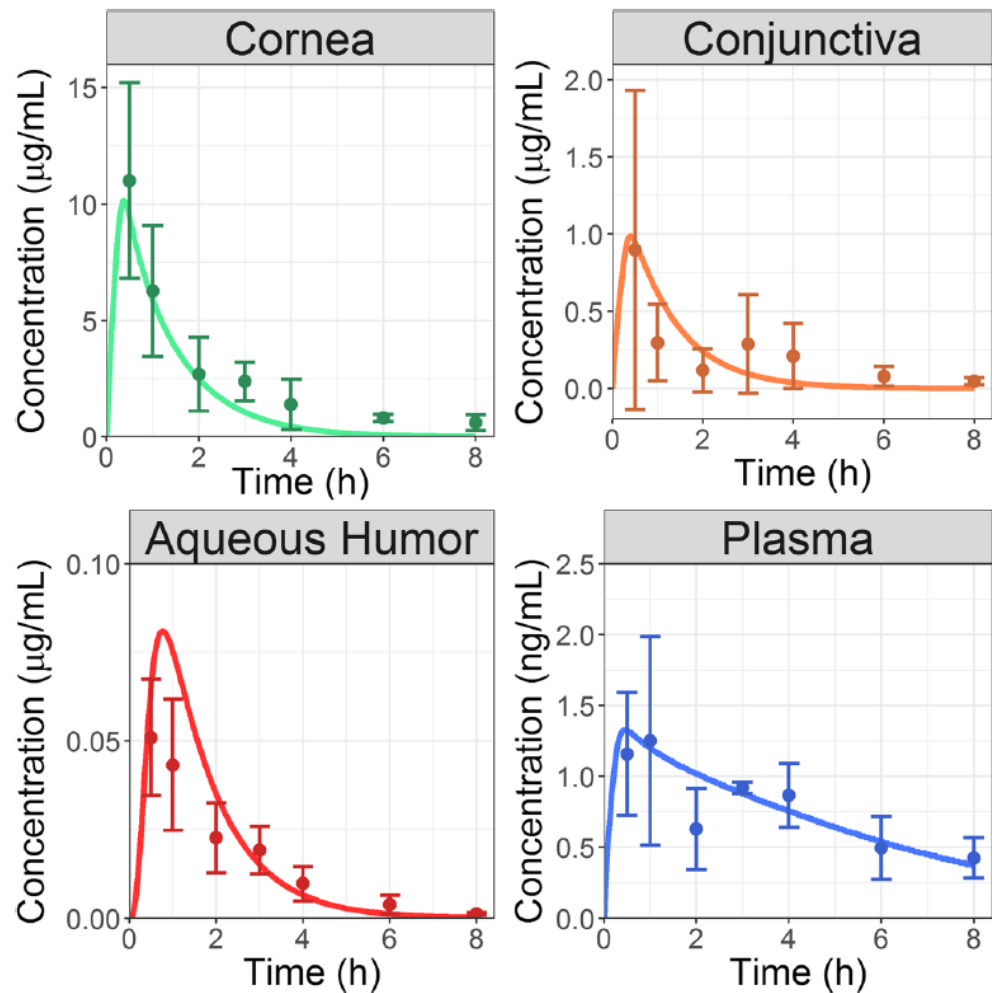
# Case study: How can PBPK modeling be used to accelerate the development of ophthalmic generic drugs?



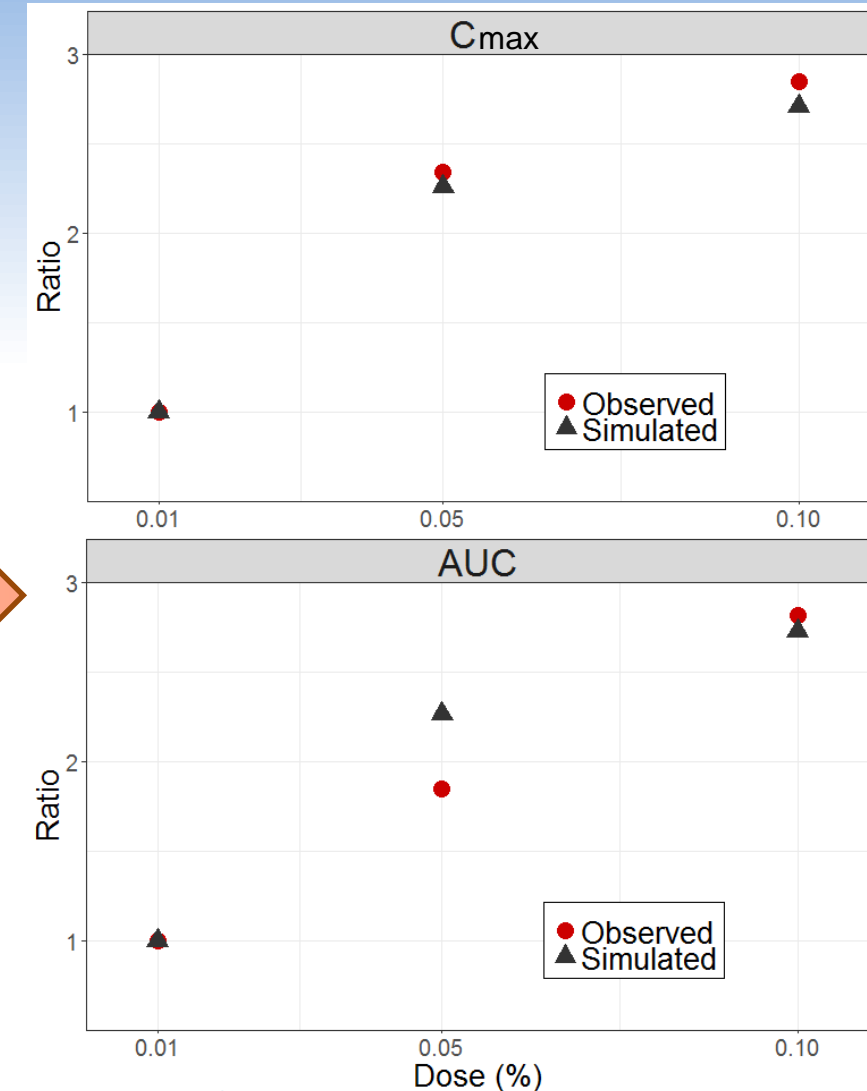
# Case study: How can PBPK modeling be used to accelerate the development of ophthalmic generic drugs?

During model development, it was verified against data from literature following the administration of multiple drugs as ophthalmic solution and suspension.

Model development for dexamethasone 0,05%:



Validation 1: Dose



Le Merdy, 2019

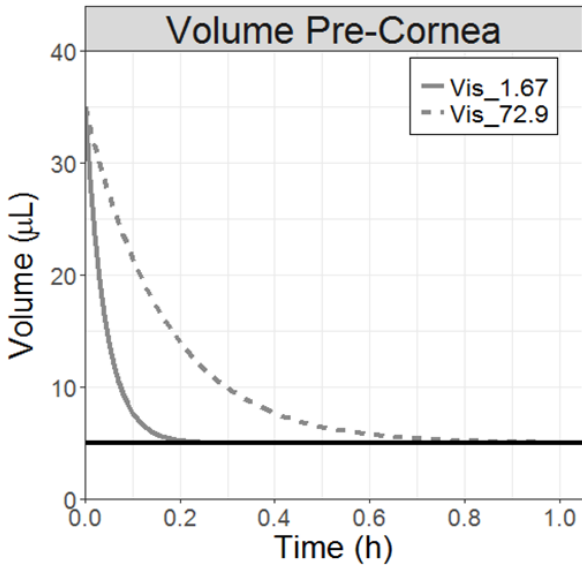


# Case study: How can PBPK modeling be used to accelerate the development of ophthalmic generic drugs?

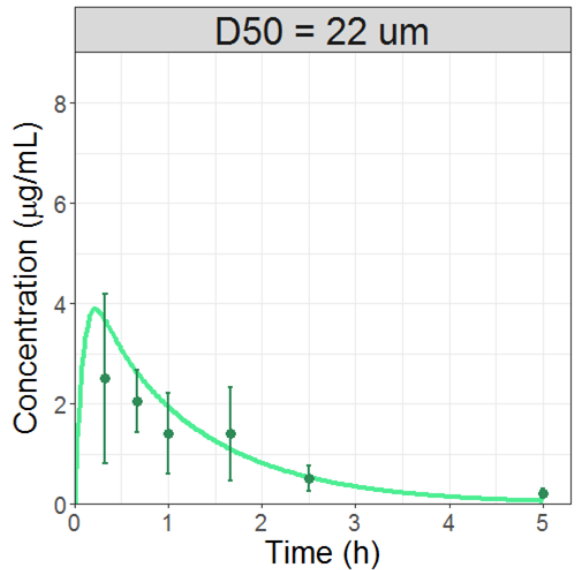
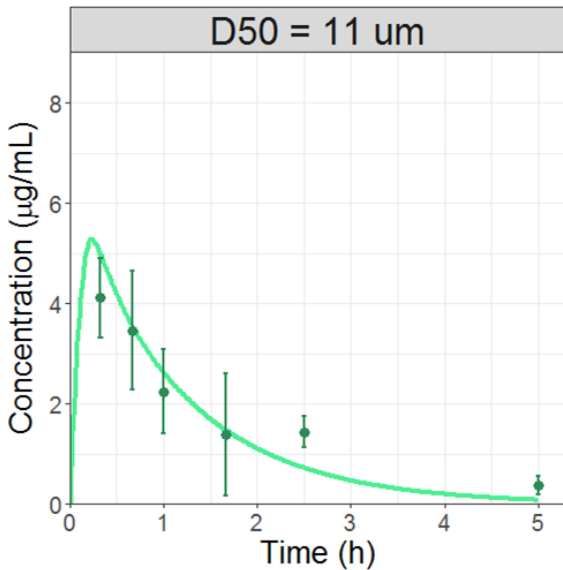
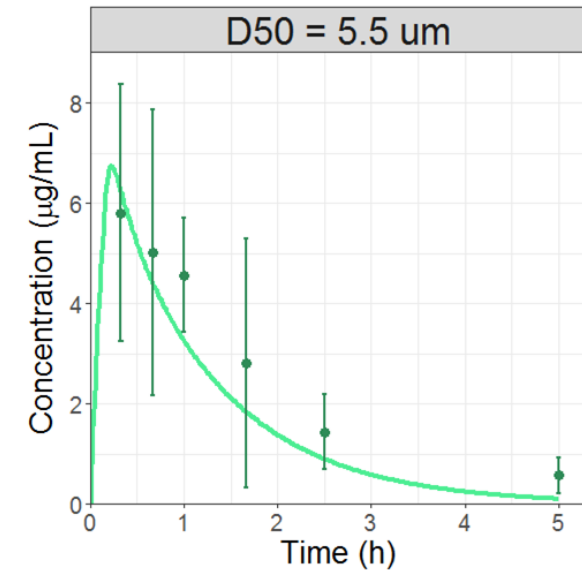
Validation 2: Viscosity



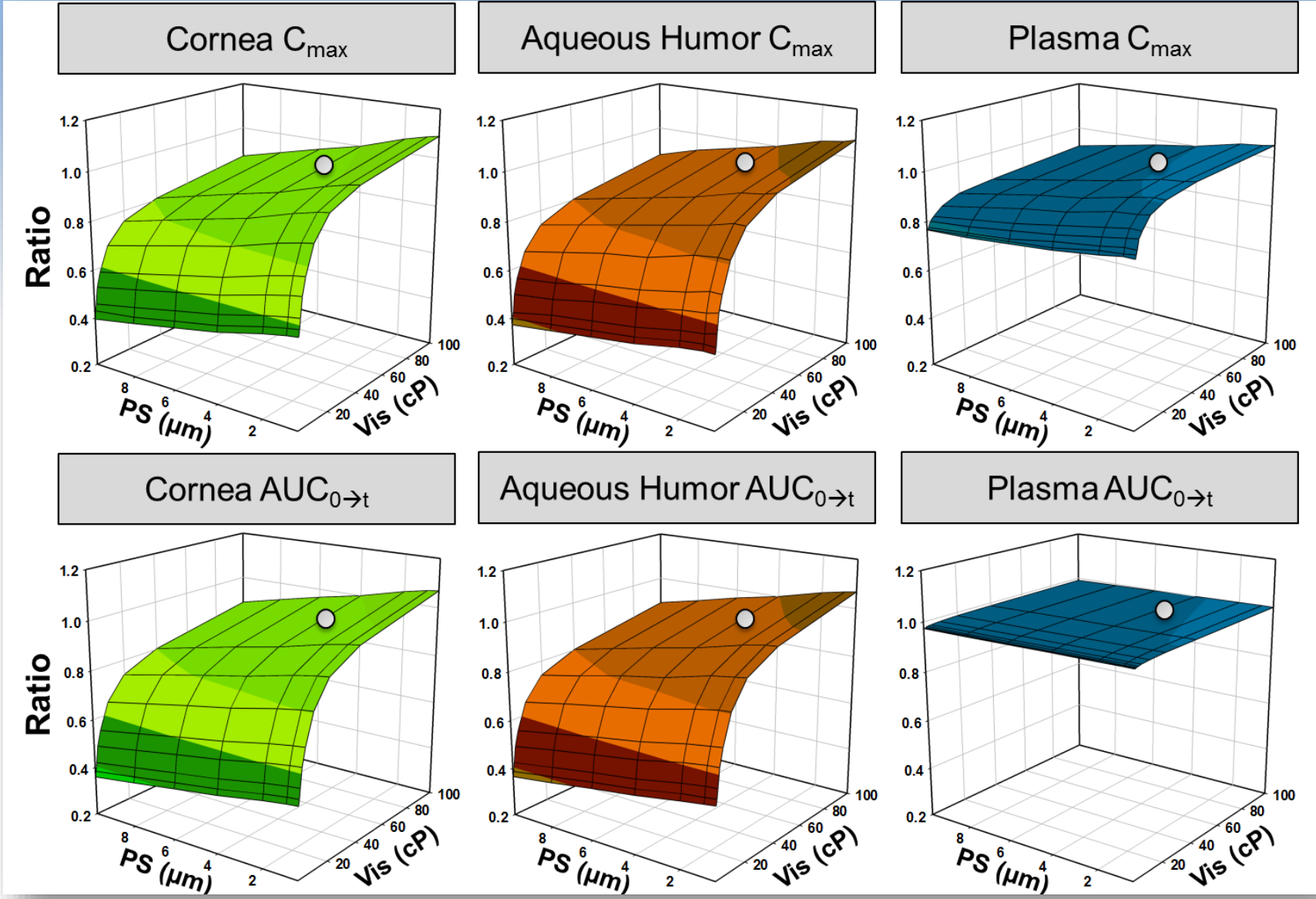
Validation 3: PS



	$C_{max}$ ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )		$AUC_{0 \rightarrow 3}$ ( $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{h/mL}$ )	
	Observed	Simulated	Observed	Simulated
TOBRADEX ST <sup>®</sup> 0.05%	$0.106 \pm 0.019$	0.081	$0.191 \pm 0.01$	0.13
TOBRADEX <sup>®</sup> 0.1%	$0.069 \pm 0.022$	0.06	$0.118 \pm 0.006$	0.095



# Case study: How can PBPK modeling be used to accelerate the development of ophthalmic generic drugs?



**Maxime Le Merdy\*, Jianghong Fan, Andrew Babiskin, Liang Zhao** CONTACT INFORMATION: Andrew.Babiskin@fda.hhs.gov

Division of Quantitative Methods and Modeling, Office of Research and Standards, Office of Generic Drugs, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD, USA

**OBJECTIVES**

To use a rabbit ocular physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model to compare a suspension to a solution for ophthalmic products

**BACKGROUND**

- Development of new therapeutics or generic drugs for ocular disease is a challenging task due to the complexity of the ocular system.
- To optimize the therapeutic drug level reaching the biophase, multiple formulation strategies have been used to prolong the tear residence time of topical ophthalmic drug products by increasing the viscosity or enhancing the amount reaching the target site by dosage modification<sup>1</sup>.
- For most ophthalmic suspension products, we calculate that 90% or more of the active ingredient remains undissolved.
- Previously, a dexamethasone (Dex) ocular PBPK model (OCAT module in GastroPlus™ V9.6, Simulations Plus, Inc.) was developed and verified in rabbit for Dex suspension formulations with differences in particle size, strength, and viscosity (manuscript submitted<sup>2</sup>).

**METHODS**

- Using the verified OCAT-PBPK model, the following simulations (S1-S11) were performed:

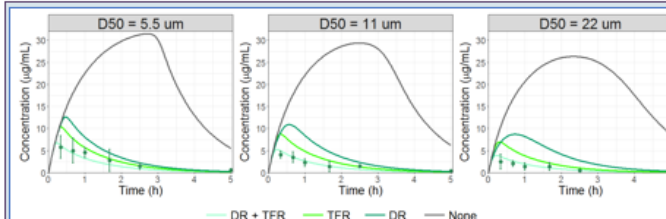
Suspension Dose (%)	Solution amount (µg)	Solid amount (µg)	Particle clearance mechanism	DR (min <sup>-1</sup> )	
<i>Suspended particles: clearance process from the ocular surface</i>					
S1	0.1	2.67	27.33	DR + TFR	1
S2	0.1	2.67	27.33	DR	1
S3	0.1	2.67	27.33	TFR	1
S4	0.1	2.67	27.33	-	1
<i>Suspension advantages: compare to a saturated solution</i>					
S5	0.05	2.67	12.33	DR + TFR	0.1
S6	*	2.67	-	-	0.1
<i>Dose increase for ophthalmic suspensions</i>					
S7	0.01	2.67	0.33	DR + TFR	0.1
S8	0.05	2.67	12.33	DR + TFR	0.1
S9	0.1	2.67	27.33	DR + TFR	0.1
<i>Dose-viscosity relationship</i>					
S10	0.1	2.67	27.33	DR + TFR	0.4
S11	0.1	2.67	27.33	DR + TFR	0.1



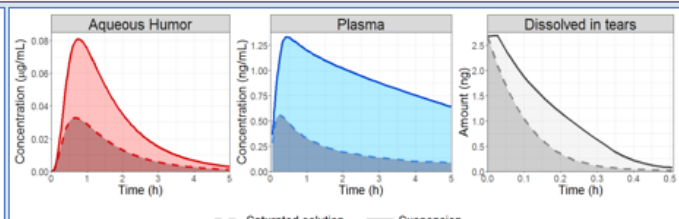
**Table 1:** List of simulations performed in GastroPlus™ for rabbit to understand (1) the suspended particles clearance process from the ocular surface; (2) the advantages of suspension as compared to a saturated solution; (3) the impact of dose increase for ophthalmic suspensions; and (4) the relationship between dose and viscosity for ophthalmic suspensions.

DR = drainage rate  
TFR = tear flow rate

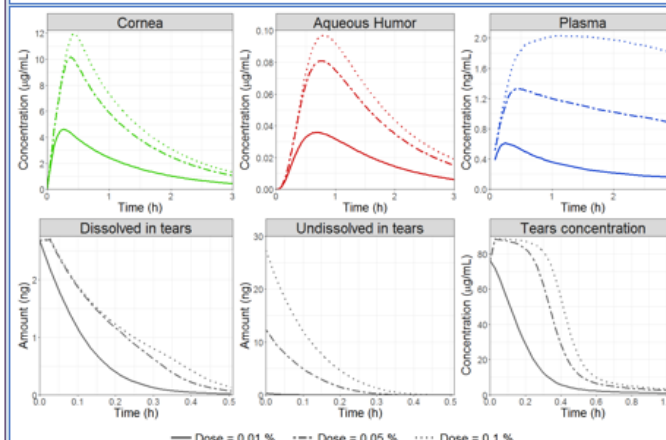
- Viscosity of formulations are controlled by adjusting the DR



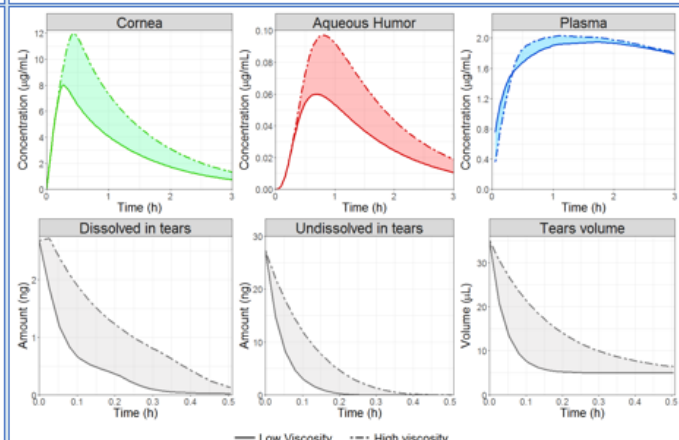
**Figure 1:** Observed Dex cornea concentrations following the administration of three formulations of Dex ophthalmic suspensions 1% to rabbit eye<sup>3</sup>. The formulations differ in median particle size (D50; 5.5, 11 and 22 µm) (green dots). Lines represent simulations for different elimination mechanisms from ocular surface.



**Figure 2:** Dex concentration in aqueous humor and plasma and dissolved amount in tears following the administration of Dex suspension 0.05% (solid lines) or saturated solution (dashed lines).



**Figure 3:** Dex cornea, aqueous humor, plasma and tears concentrations following the administration of 3 different strengths of Dex suspension: 0.01, 0.05, 0.1%. Dissolved and undissolved amount of Dex tears are also presented



**Figure 4:** Dex cornea, aqueous humor and plasma concentrations, tears volumes, and dissolved and undissolved amounts of Dex in tears following the administration of Dex 0.1% suspensions with high or low viscosity (Table 1).

**RESULTS/CONCLUSIONS**

- Both DR and TFR are critical to adequate corneal predictions.
- Dex suspension 0.05% has a 2.5- and 5-fold higher aqueous humor and plasma AUC, respectively, compared to saturated solution.
- Strength increase by 5- or 10-fold induces a respective 2.2- or 3.3-fold increase in aqueous humor and 4.4- or 8.6-fold increase in plasma Cmax and AUC
- Increasing formulation viscosity (from 1.6 to 75 cP) causes an overall increase in Dex available for absorption in the cornea resulting in a higher ocular Cmax and AUC with no significant impact on systemic exposure.
- A model able to correlate formulation changes to both ocular and plasma exposure is a necessary tool to support ocular product development taking into consideration the pharmacodynamic and toxicology aspects.

**REFERENCES & FUNDING**

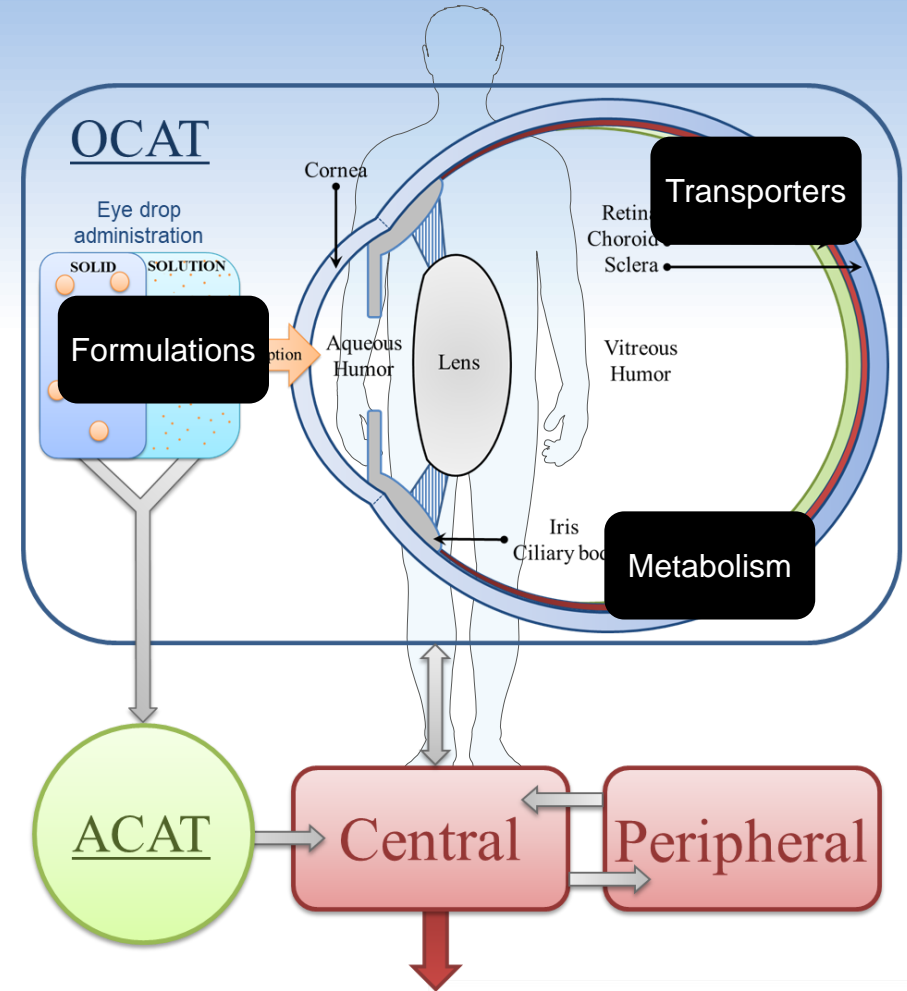
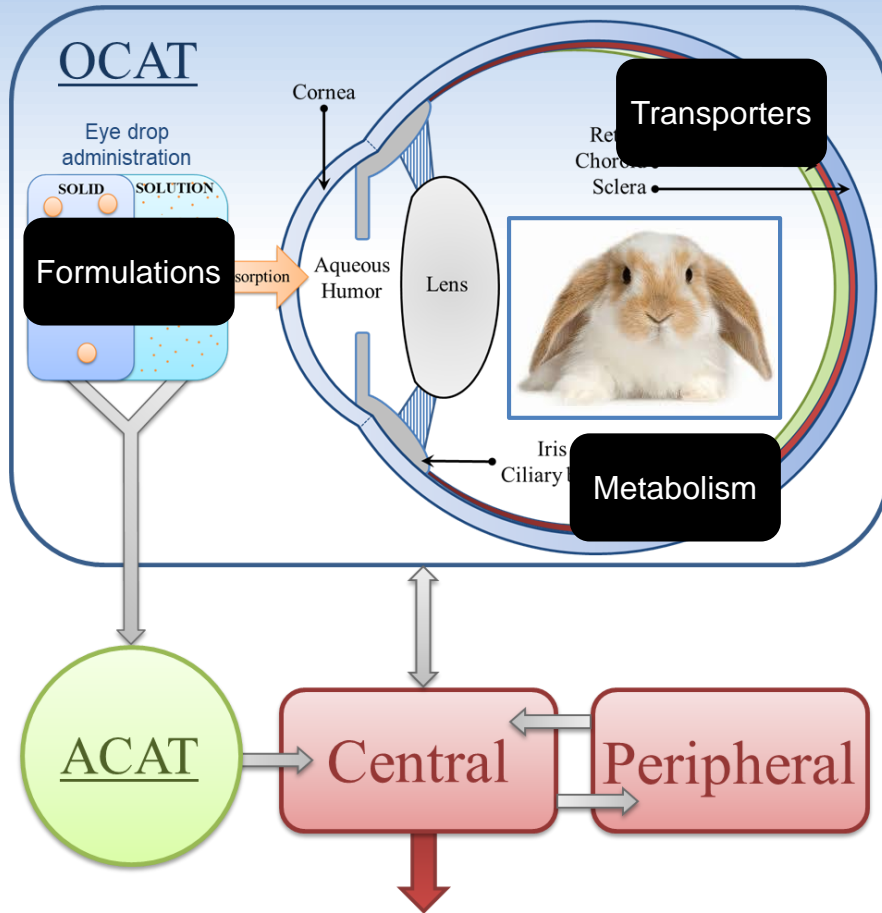
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- Schoenwald RD, Stewart P. Effect of particle size on ophthalmic bioavailability of dexamethasone suspensions in rabbits. J Pharm Sci. 1980;69(4):391-4.

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**Disclaimer:** This poster reflects the views of the authors and should not be construed to represent the FDA's views or policies.

# Next steps:

Extrapolation



Since 2018:

- Contract with Simulation Plus
- 5 year plan, including *in vitro*, pre-clinical, and clinical studies to support model development & verification

## Conclusions and discussion

- Numbers of applications (NDA, ANDA) supported by PBPK modeling has increased significantly since 2008
- The FDA is investing time & money to improve the science supporting PBPK model development
- Multiple on-going projects and new conclusions should reach the public in the near future
- **As we are learning, the FDA is learning too**

# Conclusions and discussion

## PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMS

### PBPK MODELING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF LOCALLY ACTING DRUG PRODUCTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019 | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

#### 9:20 AM - 9:40 AM

*Impact of Orally Inhaled and Nasal Drug Product PBPK Models on Product Development and Regulatory Decision Making*

SPEAKER

*Ross Walenga, PhD*

US Food and Drug Administration,  
Silver Spring, MD

#### 11:20 AM - 11:40 AM

*PBPK Modeling for the Development of Dermatological Drug Products and its Regulatory Impact*

SPEAKER

*Eleftheria Tsakalozou, PhD*

US Food and Drug Administration,  
Silver Spring, MD

#### 8:20 AM - 8:40 AM

*Using PBPK to Link Systemic PK to Local Delivery in the Lung*

SPEAKER

*Guenther Hochhaus, PhD*

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

#### 1:50 PM - 2:10 PM

*Developing PBPK for Ocular Delivery*

SPEAKER

*Michael B. Bolger, PhD*

Simulations Plus, Lancaster, CA

#### 3:30 PM - 3:50 PM

*Challenges in Using PBPK Models for Locally Acting Drug Products to Inform Regulatory Decision Makings*

SPEAKER

*Liang Zhao, PhD*

US Food and Drug Administration,  
Silver Spring, MD

#### 2:10 PM - 2:30 PM

*Use of PBPK Model to Evaluate Impact of Ophthalmic Drug Product's Critical Quality Attributes on BA/BE Assessment*

SPEAKER

*Andrew Babiskin, PhD*

US Food and Drug Administration,  
Silver Spring, MD

# Questions?