# Human-on-a-Chip combined with PBPK modeling for *in vitro/in vivo* PK/PD extrapolation Part II: PBPK model

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# **Compartmental HoaC Model**





# What is defined in a PBPK Model?





- Each compartment represents a tissue:
  - Specific volume(s) \*
  - Blood perfusion rate \*
  - Enzyme/transporter expression levels \*
  - Volume fractions of lipids & proteins \*
  - Tissue: plasma partition coefficient (Kp)
    - Estimated from drug properties:
      - logD vs. pH
      - pKa(s)
      - Plasma protein binding
      - Blood: plasma concentration ratio



# **Perfusion-Limited Tissues**

$$V_T \frac{dC_T}{dt} = Q_T \left( Cb_i - \frac{C_T R_{bp}}{K_p} \right) - CL_{\text{int},u} \frac{C_T f_{up}}{K_p} - v_{metab} (C_{Tu})$$

- $V_T$ : Tissue volume
- $C_T$ : Drug concentration in tissue
- $Q_T$ : Tissue blood perfusion rate
- $R_{bp}$ : Blood to plasma concentration ratio
- $K_p$ : Tissue to plasma partition coefficient
- $CL_{int,u}$ : Unbound intrinsic clearance in tissue
- $v_{metab}$ : Metabolism rate in tissue based on unbound intracell conc
- $f_{up}$ : Fraction unbound in plasma





# **Permeability-Limited Tissues**

$$\left(V_{ect} + V_{vasc} \frac{R_{bp}}{K_p}\right) \frac{dC_{ect}}{dt} = Q_T \left(Cb_i - \frac{C_{ect}R_{bp}}{K_p}\right) - perm$$

 $perm = PS_{TC}(C_{ect,u} - C_{ict,u}) + v_{influx}(C_{ect,u}) - v_{efflux}(C_{ict,u})$ dC

$$V_{ict} \frac{dC_{ict}}{dt} = perm - v_{metab}(C_{ict,u}) - CL_{int,u}C_{ict,u}$$

 $V_T$ : Tissue Volume

- $C_{ect}$ : Drug Concentration in extracellular space
- $C_{ict}$ : Drug Concentration in intracellular space
- $Cb_i$ : Drug Concentration in entering blood
- $Q_T$ : Tissue Perfusion
- $R_{bp}$ : Blood to Plasma Ratio
- $K_p$ : Tissue to Plasma Partition Coefficient
- *CL*<sub>int</sub> : Intrinsic Clearance in Tissue
- $v_{metab}$ : Metabolism Rate in Tissue based on unbound concentration
- $v_{trans}$ : Transport Rate based on unbound concentration
- $PS_{TC}$ : Permeability-Surface Area Product





# Mechanistic HoaC Model





$$Vt \frac{dCt}{dt} = \left(Q \times Cbi - \frac{Q \times Ct \times R_{bp}}{Kp} - CL_{\text{int},u}\left(\frac{Ct \times fu_p}{Kp}\right)\right)$$

- Each compartment represents a tissue:
  - Specific volume(s)
  - Media Flow rate
  - Enzyme/transporter expression levels
     (same as in vivo needs verification with standard substrate)
  - Volume fractions of lipids & proteins (same as in vivo – needs verification by predicting distribution of known compound)
  - Tissue: media partition coefficient (Kp<sub>media</sub>)
    - Dependent on drug properties:
      - logD vs. pH
      - pKa(s)
      - Plasma protein binding
      - Blood: plasma concentration ratio



# Mechanistic HoaC vs. PBPK Model

- Possible differences in flow of media vs. plasma flow (depends on the HoaC setup)
- Tissue distribution and metabolism mechanisms expected to be similar
- Possible binding to materials in HoaC system need to be considered







# Translating parameters from in vitro to in vivo

- Kps account for differences between plasma in vivo and media in vitro
- $PS_{TC}$  initial assumption of constant Specific  $PS_{TC}$  ( $PS_{TC}$  per mL of tissue volume) needs to be verified against test compounds
- Metabolism and/or carrier-mediated influx/efflux initial assumption of *in vitro* expression = *in vivo* expression - needs to be verified against standard compounds

$$\begin{split} Kpu &= V_{ew} + \frac{1/X_{[D],iw}}{1/X_{[D],p}} V_{iw} + \left( \frac{P \cdot V_{nlt} + (0.3 \cdot P + 0.7) \cdot V_{pht}}{1/X_{[D],p}} \right) + \\ & \left( Fn + Fa \right) \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{fup} - 1 - \left( \frac{P \cdot V_{nlp} + (0.3 \cdot P + 0.7) \cdot V_{php}}{1/X_{[D],p}} \right) \right] \cdot RAtp + \\ & \left( Fc \right) \cdot \left( \frac{Ka \cdot [AP]_T \left( (1/X_{[D],IW}) - 1 \right)}{(1/X_{[D],P})} \right) \end{split}$$

 $PassiveDiffusion = PS_{TC} \left( C_{ect,u} - C_{ict,u} \right)$ 



# Mechanistic HoaC Model

(approximate results – preliminary model)



#### Fitted parameters:

- Distribution to Heart tissue
  - Fitted Pstc for permeability-limited tissue
- Non-specific binding

- Distribution to Liver tissue
  - Fitted Kp
- Elimination by CYP3A4
  - Km predicted by ADMET Predictor<sup>®</sup>, Vmax fitted



Observed data: McAleer – Sci Reports 2019, 9:9619

# **PD** Modeling

(approximate results – preliminary model)



# Simulate PK/PD in vivo

2.055

2.0545

2.054

2.053

2.0525

2.0515

2.051

2.0505

2.05

2.0495 2.049 2.0485

2 048

2.095

·2.085 ·2.08 ·2.075 공

2.07

2.06

2.05

2.045

2.065

35 40









- Kps estimated based on *in vitro* Kp fitted for Liver compartment
  - The in vitro Kp,u was scaled to in vivo Kp
  - Found the method that most closely predicted the *in vivo* liver Kp
- Distribution into the Heart scaled from *in vitro* distribution (PStc) fitted for Heart compartment
  - Assumed Pstc per mL tissue is constant
- Fraction unbound in enterocytes predicted in MembranePlus<sup>™</sup>
- Remaining properties predicted by ADMET Predictor<sup>®</sup>
- Clearance had to be scaled the results are shown with in vivo Vmax increased 100x from the fitted in vitro Vmax
  - Enzyme activity different than in vivo?
  - Different rate limiting process in vitro?
  - Impact of significant binding to plates?
  - Caused by approximate media flow?



# Summary

- A mechanistic simulation of HoaC system has a potential for full PK/PD extrapolation with a PBPK model.
- The use of a PBPK model allows linking the PD effect to the specific tissue concentration.
- The preliminary simulations showed potential for adequate prediction of tissue distribution.
- A mechanistic model for HoaC system could be linked with other *in vitro* assays (i.e. HLM clearance measurements) to identify and predict impact of individual processes.



# **Questions?**



For further information visit:

https://hesperosinc.com/

https://www.simulations-plus.com/



### **Hesperos Overview**

- Over 20 US patents have been licensed by Hesperos thereby documenting the innovation and novelty of this platform. This also provides full freedom to operate in this space & a strong defendable IP position.
- Winner of the 2015 London-based Lush Prize for creating an alternative to animal testing for industry.
- Have won multiple SBIR grants including a \$2M
   Phase II and recently a \$4M phase IIB award to
   Bridge the "valley of death".



- Established R&D contracts with multiple national and international Pharma companies.
- Moved into a new 14,100 sq. ft. state of the art facility in August 2019.
- Have recruited excellent staff for company, 32 at present.
- No products will be offered at this time, only services based on compounds sent to our Orlando facility.

### **Clinically Relevant Functional Readouts**

- Mechanical or electrical readouts of cellular functions such as:
  - muscle contraction
  - electrical activity from neurons and cardiac cells
  - motoneuron  $\rightarrow$  muscle: *NMJ physiology* and other combinations
  - barrier integrity (TEER) and active transport for barrier tissues
- Allows *functional* analysis of cellular health non-invasively for acute, but more importantly, for *chronic* monitoring of human-on-a-chip systems
- **Reduces substantially**, if not eliminates, the need for measuring **biomarkers** in these systems for certain organ mimics. Normally need to measure multiple biomarkers by molecular techniques and put them together **to extrapolate functional** activity, with these systems can **measure directly**.
- Allows *mechanistic* determination of toxicity and for target identification.
- Facilitates *physiological* determination of drug efficacy and safety

### Human-on-a-Chip Systems for Disease Modeling





Castellanos M, et al., Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 101(17):6681-6 (2004)

Sweeney LM, et al., Toxicol In Vitro. 9(3):307-16 (1995)

a rocking platform



Medium recirculation with gravity-induced flow. Tilting of the device causes liquid to flow between the wells. In a timed manner, the rocking platform changes the angle and medium flows in the opposite direction. [1]

#### A. Patterned MEA for electrical

#### **B.** Cantilever-based force measurement



Morphology and Immunocytochemistry of Patterned and Non-Patterned Cardiomyocytes in serum-free medium



# Electrophysiology – cardiomyocytes on MCS MEA Conduction velocity measurement



### Sample Data Evaluation of Cardiac System

|                | Drugs  |  |  | Mechanism  |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|
|                | Sotalol  |  | Antiarrhythmic Class III: K+ channel blocker<br>Beta-blocker |  |
|                | Verapamil  |  | <u>Antiarrhythmic C</u>                                      | Class IV: Ca2+ channel blocker   |
|                | Norepinephrine   |  | α-ac   | drenergic agonist  |
|                | Frequency  |  | QT interval  | Force  |
| Amplitude (uV) | 80 - Control<br>60   | (An) 50  | Control<br>Sotalol 300uM<br>QT<br>0,1 0,2 0,3                | B 600<br>9 400<br>9 200<br>0 1 2 1 3 4 5<br>Time (s)<br>Sotalol  |
| Amplitude (uV) | $\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \\ 40 \\ 20 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 20 \\ 0 \\ 20 \\ 0 \\ 20 \\ 0 \\ $ | 0,3 ·<br>Uterval<br>0,2 ·<br>Uterval<br>0,0 ·<br>0,0 · | T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T                        | C $(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\mathbf{u}}^{400})$ $(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\mathbf{u}}^{$ |

#### Morphology of Primary Human Hepatocytes in Serum-free Medium at 7 and 28 Days in Culture



#### Basal and Induced CYP Activity Levels of 2D and 3D hepatocyte cultures up to 28 days in serum-free medium



Hepatocytes in Serum-free medium at 28 DIV possess reasonable CYP activity levels which are inducible

C. Oleaga,etal., "A functional long-term serum-free human hepatic in vitro system for drug evaluation," *Biotechnol Prog*, Online first: DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/btpr.3069 (2020)

### **HEART-LIVER**

Cardiac and liver co-culture in a pumpless microfluidic system



# Simulation-Assisted System Design

Combination of microfluidic computational fludic dynamics (CFD) modeling and electrical-like simulation



#### Heart-Liver Systems with Recirculating Serum-Free Medium



Heart + liver system derived from 4-organ system with similar flow characteristics



Terfenadine Addition Results in Elongation of QT Interval in the Absence of a Liver Component



Terfenadine Addition Reduces Conduction Velocity in the Absence of a Liver Component

> $IC_{50} = 33 \ \mu M$  (Heart)  $IC_{50} = NA$  (Heart + Liver)

Without liver, terfenadine slightly reduces cardiac viability at 10 µM terfenadine

Administered Dose [µM]

0.01

0.1

**Cardiac Viability** 

Heart

Heart + Liver

10

120%

100%

80%

60%

40%

20%

0%

0

0.001

 $IC_{50,1} > 10 \ \mu M$  (Heart)  $IC_{50} > 10 \ \mu M$  (Heart + Liver)

### *Lipophilic Compound Concentration in Systems* 5 min to 24 hours



# Chronic 4 Organ System: HPLC-MS

0.2 uM Daily Addition of Terfenadine



f = 0.3, X = 0.8

The measured concentrations of terfenadine and fexofenadine in housing systems with chronic addition of drug leveled to a steady state concentration, **as predicted by modeling** 

Equilibrium between removal from feeding and addition + metabolism

### **PK-PD Relationship Approach**

- Previous data from Terfenadine (Scientific Reports paper) showed a time between medium concentration and the FPD elongation
  - Similar to monkey data in vivo
- Multi-compartment model incorporating PDMS adsorption, medium, and the tissues was implemented
- A PK model was implemented in that study to obtain the relationship between medium concentration and bioaccumulation in the in vitro systems (K<sub>C1</sub>, K<sub>C2</sub>)



### Correlation of In Vitro PKPD Model with In Vivo Animal PKPD Models



Since in vivo animal data has been correlated with clinical data we should be able to correlate our in vitro models with clinical data as well both retrospectively and prospectively

McAleer et al., Nature Scientific Reports, 9:9619, (2019)



#### Cancer, Cardiac and Liver System for Efficacy and Tox



**Five chamber reconfigurable multi-organ system.** Scale bar is 2 cm. B) Schematic representation of the MPS assembly and design used in the system 2 study of tamoxifen. Chamber 1 houses hepatocytes on coverslips Chambers 2 and 4 are cardiac cantilevers and MEAs respectively. Chambers 3 and 5 are for cancer cells SW962 and MCF7. Drugs were applied to Medium Access Port A and initially pass over the liver to mimic aspects of first pass metabolism. Electrodes are embedded for the option of using broadfield stimulation to elicit contraction.

# Tamoxifen, with and without metabolism, and the effect on cancer viability



В



Error bars are represented as SEM. \*p < 0.02.

### Sentinel Monitoring of Cardiac Function Cardiac, Cancer, Liver Systems



Error bars are represented as SEM. \*p < 0.02

### Liver Function in Housings Cancer, Cardiac, Liver System



4-Hydroxytamoxifen inside the systems did not affect albumin or urea production after a 24 hour treatment



McAleer et al., Sci. Transl. Med. 11, (2019)

# Neuromuscular Junction (NMJ) Platform





- PDMS molded chambers bonded to glass coverslips
- Two chambers separated by micro-tunnels
- Motoneurons send axons through tunnels and form NMJs
- Electrical stimulation and drugs partitioned by barrier



### Monophasic Dose-Response for BOTOX at 0.33 Hz



Santhanam et al, *Biomaterials*, 166:64-78 (2018)

#### A Human-Based Functional NMJ System for Personalized ALS Modeling and Drug Testing



### **Parameters Analyzed**

- Number of functional NMJs/chamber (before and after extensive stimulation)
- NMJ stability (post-NMJ/pre-NMJ)
- NMJ function under different stimulation frequencies (0.33 Hz, 0.5 Hz, 1 Hz, 2 Hz)
   --- NMJ fidelity (number of muscle contractions induced by MN stimulation/total number of stimulations)



#### Compromised NMJ fidelity in ALS-NMJs







#### Increased NMJ fatigue index in ALS-NMJs



#### Rescue of NMJ fidelity by DP



#### Rescue of NMJ fatigue by DP









■ w/o DP ■ w/ DP

X. Guo,etal., "A human-based functional NMJ system for personalized ALS modeling and drug testing," *Adv. Therapuetics* In Press, Online First: DOI: 10.1002/adtp.202000133, 2020)

### In Vitro CNS Model

Efficacy and Toxicity utilizing the fundamental unit of learning and memory: long term potentiation

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### Fundamental unit of long-term potentiation



### Patterned Neural Networks on MEAs - Long Term Potentiation (LTP)







- High magnification phase images indicating longterm pattern conformity and network formation
- 5 network pairs per MEA
- 45 days in vitro
- Spontaneous action potentials recorded on electrodes from paired neural circuits

#### Effects of AB<sub>1-42</sub> on Cortical Neuron Spontaneous Firing Frequency



- LTP can efficiently be induced in cortical neurons grown on MEAs
- Dosing MEAs for one hour with  $A\beta_{1-42}$  after LTP induction abolishes the LTP effects compared to  $A\beta_{scrambled}$  treated MEAs

N=4, nested replicates

#### Effects of Tau Aggregate on Cortical Neuron Spontaneous Firing Frequency



• Dosing MEAs for one hour with tau aggregates after LTP induction abolishes the LTP effects compared to tau buffer control MEAs

N=4, nested replicates

J. Caneus, etal., "A Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Cortical Neuron Human-on-a chip System to Study Aβ42 and Tau-induced Pathophysiological Effects on Long-Term Potentiation," *Alzheimer's & Dementia: Translational Research & Clinical Interventions*, Online First: May 28: (2020) DOI: 10.1002/trc2.12029.

#### **Functional Measurements in 4-Organ Systems**



Oleaga et al. 2016. *Nature Scientific Reports* "Multi-Organ toxicity demonstration in a functional human *in vitro* system composed of four organs" Oeaga, et al. 2019. *Advanced Functional Materials* "Long-Term Electrical and Mechanical Function Monitoring of a Human-on-a-Chip System"

### Liver Module







The cardiac module maintained its contractile properties during the 28 days. (A) Example of spontaneous contractile activity output and (B) stable contractile activity indicates stable force generation for cardiomyocytes throughout the 28 day period.





CARDIOMYOCYTES



The muscle module maintained its morphological characteristics for the entire 28 days under flow. (A) Example of muscle contractile recordings, (B) stable contractile force and (C) time to peak indicates stable function of the myotubes throughout the 28 day period.







MOTONEURONS

### **Iterative Data: Drug Concentration**



Upper and Lower limit follow "Carburization" like curve – exponential with time constant of  $t_c = \pi(1-f)(1-X)$ 

# Chronic Low-Dose Doxorubicin



 $0.5\;\mu M$  Doxorubicin repeated dose started at day 5 and continues to day 14

Function starts to decrease between 2 and 4 days of treatment (Day 5 - 7) Viability starts to decrease around 4 to 6 days of treatment (Day 9 - 11) **Changes in function precede changes in viability** 



**Steady decrease in Conduction velocity** 

Weakening of contractile force

Steady loss of contractile functionality

### Develop an opioid overdose (OD) model using a multi-organ human-on-a-chip system



- Evaluate the acute and chronic effects of OD and OD treatments such as naloxone
- Evaluate treatment efficacy and toxicity for cardiac, liver, skeletal muscle, and kidney
- Evaluate opioid OD and OD treatments in the presence of recirculating monocytes
- Evaluate opioid OD and OD treatments in the presence of disease comorbidities including cardiomyopathy and acute infection

![](_page_55_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_8.jpeg)

#### Expression of stage markers correspondent to Pre-BotC differentiation

![](_page_56_Figure_1.jpeg)

Differentiation of pre-BotC neurons from hiPSC characterized bv immunocytochemistry. A) HiPSCs stained positive to pluripotent markers Nanog and SOX2. Scale bar: 100 μm. **B)** Cells at early stage of differentiation expressed the set of rohmbomeric genes correspondent to the derivative region for preBotC complex during development: positive to HoxA1, HoxB1 and HoxD1 but negative to HoxC1. Scale bar: 100 μm. **C)** Differentiated neurons plated at low density were stained positive for the typical preBotC markers NK1R and MOR. Scale bar: 50 µm.

→ Successfully differentiated Pre-BotC neurons from human iPSC

### Patch clamp recordings from iPSC-Pre-Botc neurons: <u>ATP, Substance P (Sub P) and Somastatin (SST)</u>

![](_page_57_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Patch clamp analysis of iPSC-pre-BotC neurons. A)** Under gapfree condition, dosing of ATP (100 μM) induced depolarization and burst of action potential. **B)** Treatment with Substance P (Sub P) increases iPSC-Pre-BotC neuronal activity. **C)** Treatment with Somatostatin (SST) inhibits iPSC-Pre-BotC neuronal activity

### *iPSC-PreBotc neurons demonstrated reduction of neuroactivity in response to* <u>DAMGO</u>

![](_page_58_Figure_1.jpeg)

**iPSC-pre-BotC neuronal response to DAMGO. A)** Patch clamp analysis showed decrease iPSC-Pre-BotC neuronal activity after DAMGO treatment **B)** DAMGO dose-response curve for iPSC-Pre-BotC neurons

DAMGO's effect:

Decrease Pre-BotC neuronal activity

#### Our Multi-Organ MPS Device Supports Recirculating Immune System Cells

![](_page_59_Figure_1.jpeg)

T. Sasserath etal., "Differential Monocyte Actuation in a Three-Organ Functional Innate Immune System-on-a-Chip," Advanced Science, (2020)

### **Barrier Tissue Organ Systems**

![](_page_60_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Picture_2.jpeg)

keleta

muscle

neuron/

#### Proximal Tubule System

![](_page_60_Picture_4.jpeg)

Human proximal tubule cells grown on membranes under continuous flow maintain conformal monolayer
Cells stain for kidney cell marker Gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase (GGT)

#### Human Blood-Brain Barrier System

![](_page_60_Figure_7.jpeg)

#### **Gastrointestinal Tract Barrier System**

Primary Human Colon Epithelial Cells, by knock-in of telomerase reverse transcriptase (TERT), cocultured with myofibroblasts and 5 nM GSK-3beta inhibitor

![](_page_60_Figure_10.jpeg)

#### Compound Permeability Comparison

![](_page_60_Figure_12.jpeg)

# What COULD efficacy mean in terms of regulatory evaluations?

- Allow pre-clinical results to steer and/or limit clinical trial construction
- Reduce the number of people necessary for clinical trials, especially for Phase III, by creating human variants to represent uncommon genome profiles
- Allow in vitro clinical trials for rare diseases
- Better evaluations for children
- Better evaluation for aged individuals
- The ultimate precision medicine → individualized disease chips for each human

![](_page_62_Picture_0.jpeg)