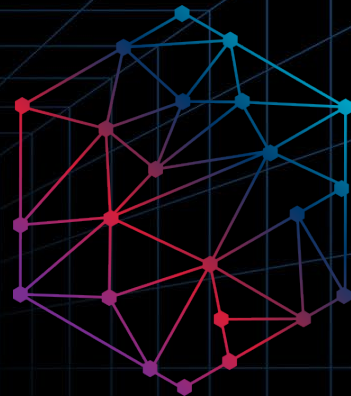


Model-Informed Drug Development

**MIDD+**

2021 Virtual Conference



Confidence in FIH PBPK models

*“To verify or not to verify, that is the question”*

Neil Miller

# To verify or not to verify, that is the question

- “To be, or not to be, that is the question” is probably the best-known line from all drama, specifically it is from William Shakespeare's play Hamlet
- A well-known debate within the PBPK community is whether preclinical verification of a PBPK model gives more confidence in a FIH PBPK prediction...



# Some comments that I have heard...

“Possibly for passive distribution, but not when transporters are involved”

“Uses all of the pieces of the jigsaw puzzle that we have available”

“Can confirm compound specific parameters”

“Helps explore mechanisms you can’t predict from in vitro data”

“Could lead and inform, but not verify”

“Animal empirical adjustments may or may not work for humans”



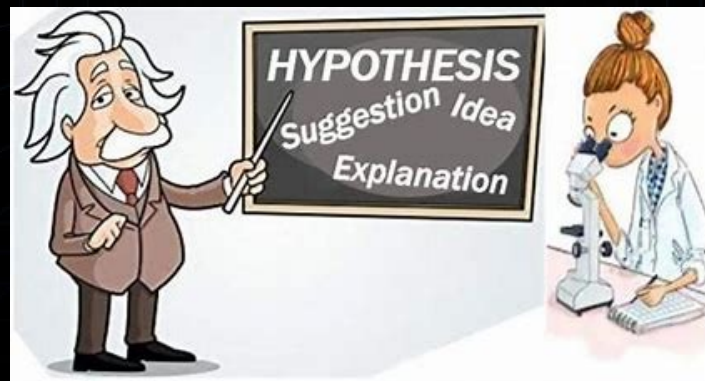
# Calling all PBPK modelers!

- We need you to be part of an industry wide experiment
- Definition of an experiment = a **scientific procedure** undertaken to make a discovery, **test a hypothesis**, or demonstrate a known fact.



# The hypothesis

- PBPK modeling, with verification of predictive performance first performed in preclinical species, is superior to empirical methods for predicting pharmacokinetics



# The scientific procedure

- Thanks to the GastroPlus™ User Group we have a PBPK model building strategy to follow...

Clinical Pharmacokinetics (2019) 58:727–746  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40262-019-00741-9>

REVIEW ARTICLE

Check for updates

**Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Modelling for First-In-Human Predictions: An Updated Model Building Strategy Illustrated with Challenging Industry Case Studies**

Neil A. Miller<sup>1</sup> · Micaela B. Reddy<sup>2</sup> · Aki T. Heikkinen<sup>3</sup> · Viera Lukacova<sup>4</sup> · Neil Parrott<sup>5</sup>

Published online: 7 February 2019  
© The Author(s) 2019



- ✓ Flow diagrams for each essential component of a FIH prediction
- ✓ Thoughts illustrated with challenging industry case studies

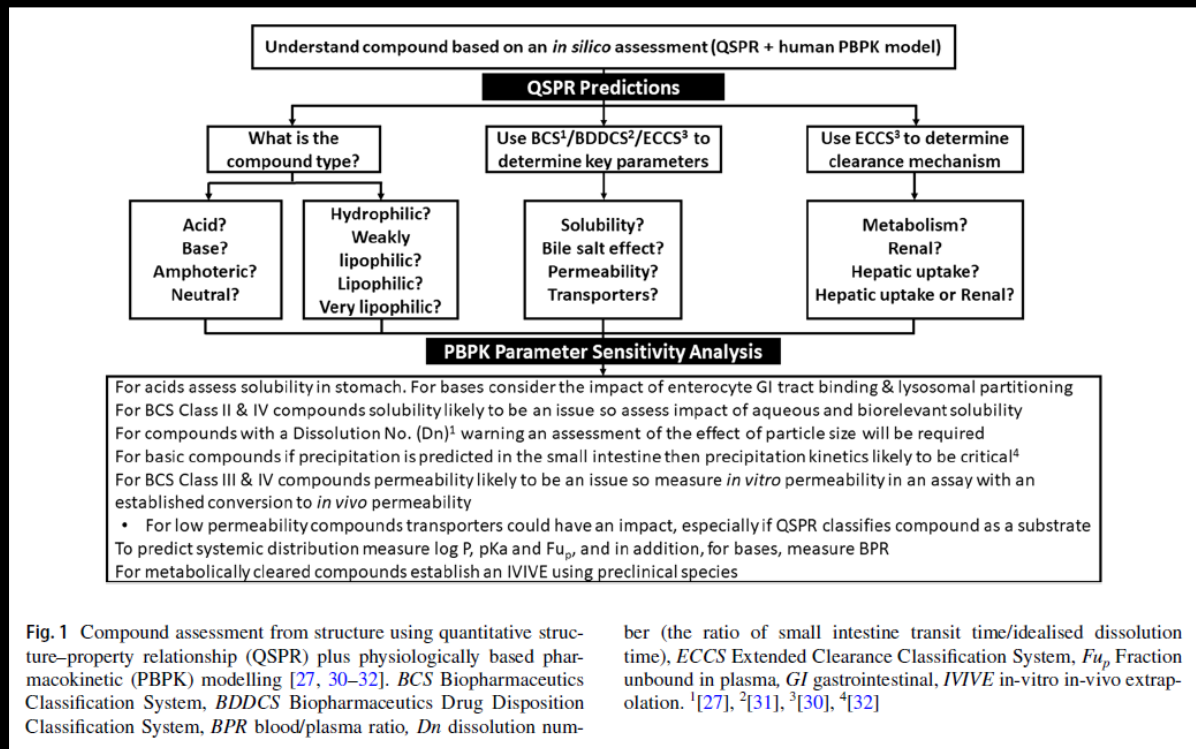


# Flow diagrams = decision trees

1. **QSPR plus PBPK assessment:** to identify the major challenges of modeling for a specific molecule
2. **Metabolism and elimination:** for quantitative understanding of the main mechanism(s) of drug clearance
3. **Distribution:** to understand the drivers of tissue distribution
4. **Oral absorption:** to decipher the multifactorial process
5. **Gut wall metabolism:** for assessing the impact on oral exposure
6. **Uncertainty and variability analyses:** as exploration of uncertainty is critical because of unknown factors before a FIH study



# 1. QSPR plus PBPK assessment



**Fig. 1** Compound assessment from structure using quantitative structure–property relationship (QSPR) plus physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modelling [27, 30–32]. *BCS* Biopharmaceutics Classification System, *BDDCS* Biopharmaceutics Drug Disposition Classification System, *BPR* blood/plasma ratio, *D<sub>n</sub>* dissolution num-

ber (the ratio of small intestine transit time/idealised dissolution time), *ECCS* Extended Clearance Classification System, *F<sub>u</sub>*, Fraction unbound in plasma, *GI* gastrointestinal, *IVIVE* in-vitro in-vivo extrapolation. <sup>1</sup>[27], <sup>2</sup>[31], <sup>3</sup>[30], <sup>4</sup>[32]





# 2. Metabolism and elimination

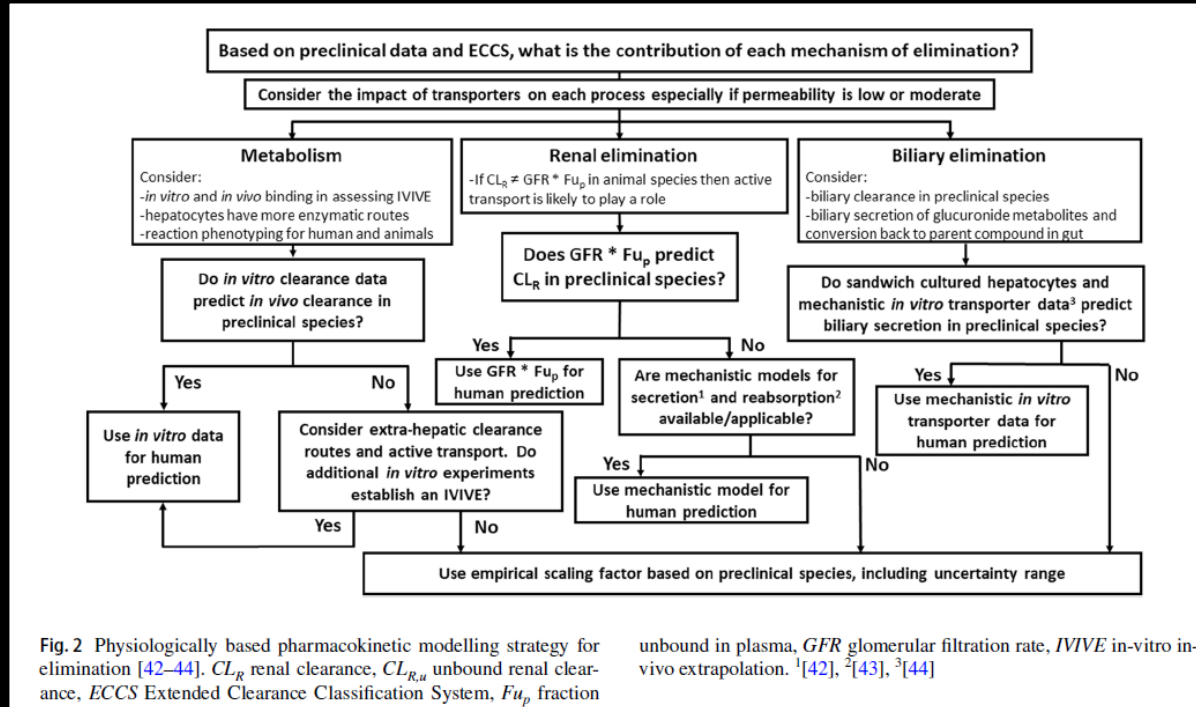


Fig. 2 Physiologically based pharmacokinetic modelling strategy for elimination [42–44].  $CL_R$  renal clearance,  $CL_{R,u}$  unbound renal clearance, ECCS Extended Clearance Classification System,  $F_{up}$  fraction

unbound in plasma,  $GFR$  glomerular filtration rate,  $IVIVE$  in-vitro in-vivo extrapolation. <sup>1</sup>[42], <sup>2</sup>[43], <sup>3</sup>[44]



# 3. Distribution

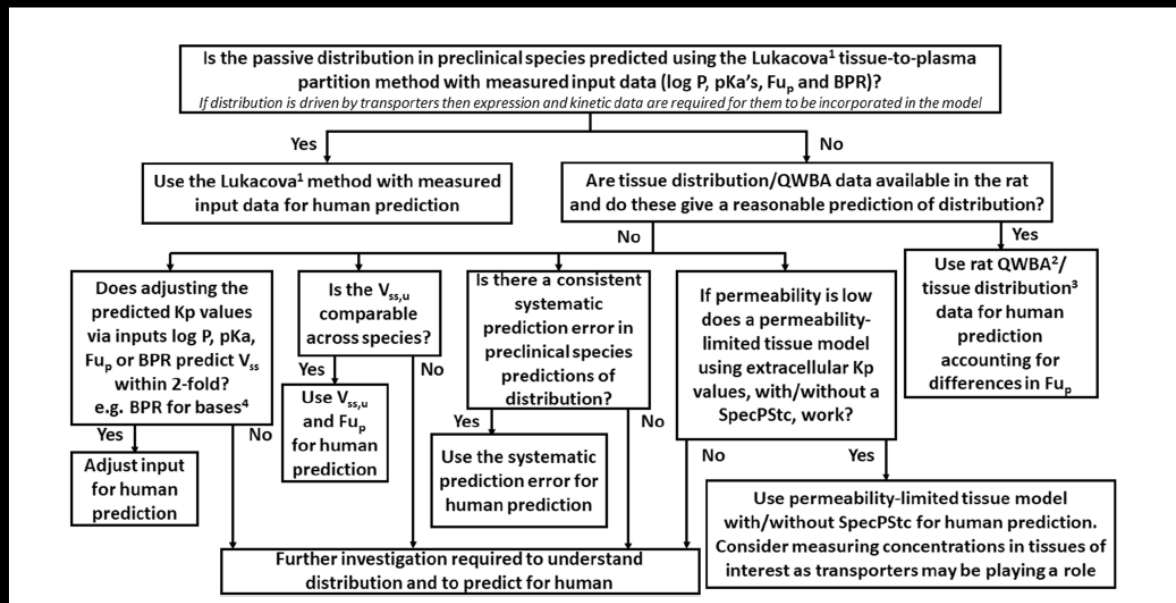


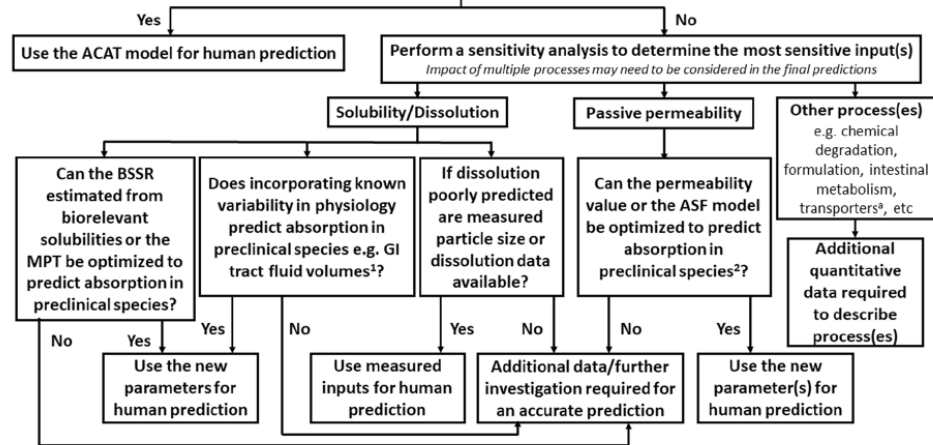
Fig. 3 Physiologically based pharmacokinetic modelling strategy for distribution [17, 50, 53, 55]. BPR blood/plasma ratio,  $Fu_p$  fraction unbound in plasma,  $K_p$  tissue-to-plasma partition coefficient,  $SpecP$ -

$Stc$  specific in-vivo diffusional clearance per millilitre of tissue cell volume. <sup>1</sup>[50], <sup>2</sup>[55], <sup>3</sup>[17], <sup>4</sup>[53]



# 4. Oral absorption

**Is absorption in preclinical species predicted using measured solubility and *in vitro* permeability data with an ACAT model?**  
*For ACAT modelling in preclinical species, IV data should be used to fit a compartmental PK model or verify the accuracy of a systemic PBPK model. Consideration must be given to the effect of formulation and food on oral absorption, and solubility data must be for the same form of the compound as was dosed. A correlation for the conversion of *in vitro* permeability to *in vivo* permeability should be established for the cell line used.*



**Fig. 4** Physiologically based pharmacokinetic modelling strategy for oral absorption [57, 58]. *ASF* absorption scale factors, *BSSR* bile salt solubilisation ratio, *MPT* mean precipitation time. <sup>2</sup> Other processes<sup>3</sup> transporters: efflux transporters can be incorporated in GastroPlus

models with a simple method (e.g. adjusting permeability based on preclinical observations or *in-vitro* data) to more complex methods (e.g. specifically incorporating effects of transporters) [60–62]. <sup>1</sup>[57], <sup>2</sup>[58]



# 5. Gut wall metabolism

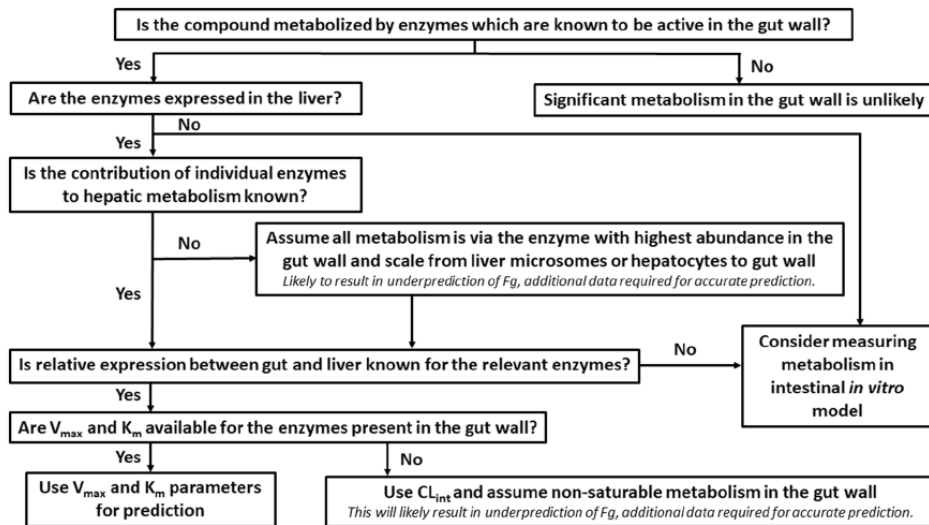


Fig. 5 Physiologically based pharmacokinetic modelling strategy for assessing gut wall metabolism [65].  $CL_{int}$  hepatic intrinsic clearance,  $F_g$  fraction of drug escaping gut wall metabolism,  $K_m$  concentration of substrate at half  $V_{max}$ ,  $V_{max}$  maximum velocity or rate of enzyme

catalyzed reaction. Note: Gut wall metabolism is often saturable, and thus if  $V_{max}$  and  $K_m$  parameters are available, evaluate saturation relative to dose



# 6. Uncertainty and variability analyses

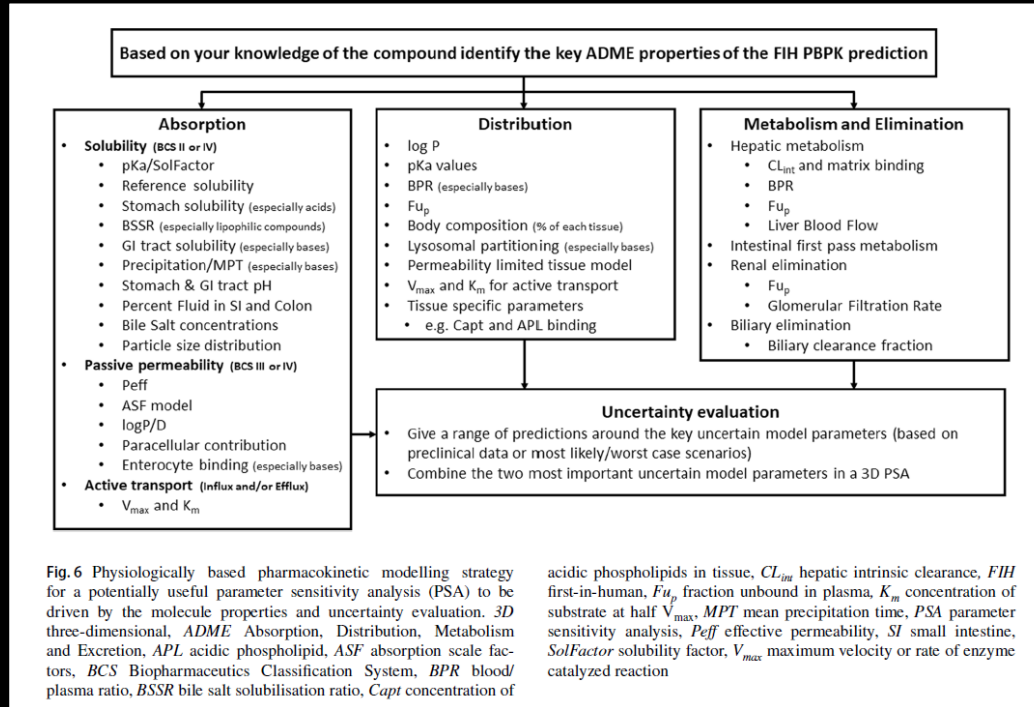


Fig.6 Physiologically based pharmacokinetic modelling strategy for a potentially useful parameter sensitivity analysis (PSA) to be driven by the molecule properties and uncertainty evaluation. 3D three-dimensional, ADME Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism and Excretion, APL acidic phospholipid, ASF absorption scale factors, BCS Biopharmaceutics Classification System, BPR blood/plasma ratio, BSSR bile salt solubilisation ratio, Capt concentration of

acidic phospholipids in tissue,  $CL_{int}$  hepatic intrinsic clearance, FIH first-in-human,  $Fu_p$  fraction unbound in plasma,  $K_m$  concentration of substrate at half  $V_{max}$ , MPT mean precipitation time, PSA parameter sensitivity analysis, Peff effective permeability, SI small intestine, SolFactor solubility factor,  $V_{max}$  maximum velocity or rate of enzyme catalyzed reaction




# Read the case studies in the publication


- Available as open access in Clinical Pharmacokinetics

Clinical Pharmacokinetics (2019) 58:727–746  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40262-019-00741-9>

REVIEW ARTICLE

 Check for updates

**Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Modelling for First-In-Human Predictions: An Updated Model Building Strategy Illustrated with Challenging Industry Case Studies**

Neil A. Miller<sup>1</sup>  · Micaela B. Reddy<sup>2</sup> · Aki T. Heikkinen<sup>3</sup> · Viera Lukacova<sup>4</sup> · Neil Parrott<sup>5</sup>

Published online: 7 February 2019  
© The Author(s) 2019

[Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Modelling for First-In-Human Predictions: An Updated Model Building Strategy Illustrated with Challenging Industry Case Studies | SpringerLink](#)



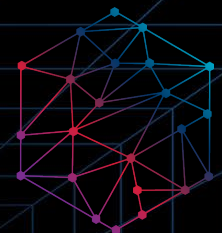
# Q & A

Questions & Answers

Model-Informed Drug Development

# MIDD+

2021 Virtual Conference



 **Learn More!** [www.simulations-plus.com](http://www.simulations-plus.com)

**S+** *SimulationsPlus*  
Cognigen | *DILIsym Services* | Lixoft