

# **Drug Interaction Studies**

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# University of Florida Research and Academic Center in Lake Nona



*Dedicated November 30, 2012*

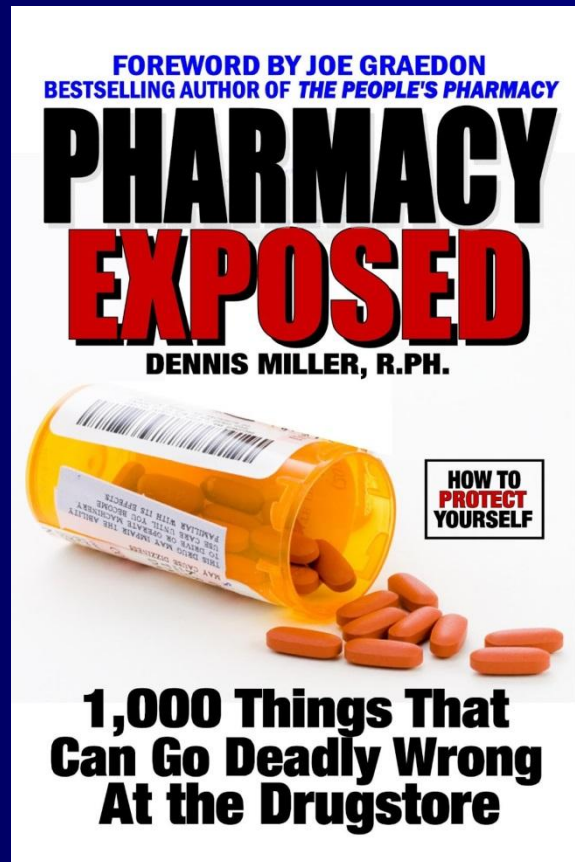
# Outline

- PART I: The Big Picture of DDIs – What Are We Trying to Accomplish and Why
- PART II: Regulatory Guidances – How Well Do They Address the Problem
- PART III: Evolving Strategies – Future Shift in the DDIs Study Paradigm

# Alternative Outline: Drugs Behaving Badly or Transporters Gone Wild



# Part I: Contrarian and Unpopular View of Drug Interactions



Polypharmacy is rampant

- 50% of citizens take 1 Rx
- 25% take 3-5 Rxs
- 10% take > 5 Rxs
- Elderly take > 28 Rxs

DDIs cause 0.05% of ER visits and 0.6% of hospital admissions. Isn't this good news?

# As Lee Corso Would Say: "Not So Fast My Friend"

|                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Stomach pain and cramps: | 11,000,000 (8.0%)     |
| Chest pains:             | 7,000,000 (4.4%)      |
| Fever:                   | 5,000,000 (3.2%)      |
| Back pain                | 4,000,000 (2.5%)      |
| Traffic accidents:       | 3,500,000 (2.2%)      |
| <b>DDIs:</b>             | <b>74,000 (0.05%)</b> |



Energy drinks: 21,000  
(More when mixed with vodka)

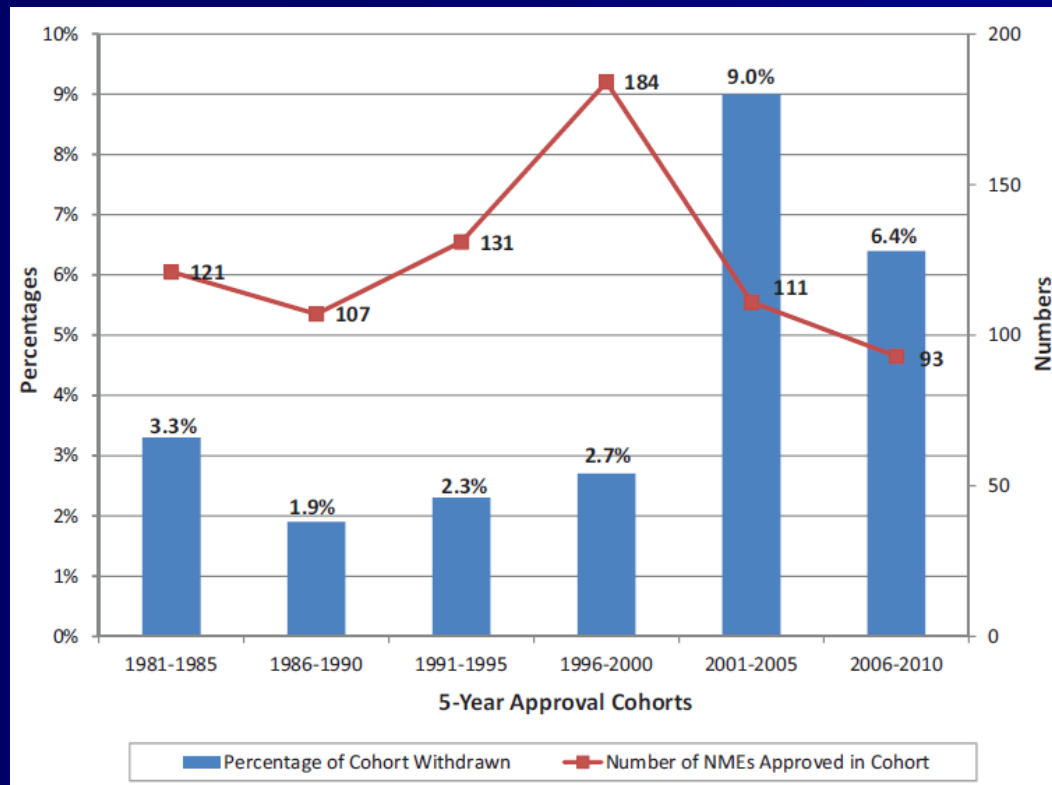
# What Do We Know About DDIs in Ambulatory Patients?

Drug claims databases with almost 3 million patients receiving more than 30 million Rxs dispensed over a 12 month period – were analyzed by clinical pharmacists.

- A total of 244,703 cases of potential DDIs were identified. The incidence of serious AEs was relatively low (less than 1%).
- The top 10 drug interaction pairs by incidence were with co-prescribed older drugs such as statins, warfarin, SSRIs, digoxin and diuretics



# But What About Market Withdrawals Because of DDIs?



Most common reasons are serious AEs underreported or not reported at all in labels.



# The Regulatory Tipping Point for DDIs Occurred 15 Years Ago

Regulatory agencies shifted emphasis to a more proactive risk management approach to DDIs partly because of withdrawal of high profile drugs such as *mibefradil (1998)*, *terfenadine (1998)*, *asetemizole (1999)*, *cisapride (2000)* and *cerivastatin (2001)*.

All but cerivastatin cause long QT Torsade's de Pointes and all involved both CYPs and transporters.

There have been 21 drugs removed from market since 2001 and none cited *dangerous DDIs* as the risk.

# So Why the Big Concern?

## Psychology of Perceived Risks

- ❖ Over-react to “intentional” actions (74,000 DDIs) and under-react to natural phenomena (5M for fever)
- ❖ People exaggerate serious AEs from DDIs – although rare – and downplay benefit of drug pairs
- ❖ People worry about a few spectacular risks (DDIs) but downplay common risks (energy drinks)
- ❖ Public scrutiny of risks renders caution (DDIs) while accepted risks (traffic accidents) hardly make news

# Part II: New Regulatory Guidances for DDI Studies

## Guidance for Industry

### Drug Interaction Studies — Study Design, Data Analysis, Implications for Dosing, and Labeling Recommendations

#### *DRAFT GUIDANCE*

This guidance document is being distributed for comment purposes only.

Comments and suggestions regarding this draft document should be submitted within 90 days of publication in the *Federal Register* of the notice announcing the availability of the draft guidance. Submit comments to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. All comments should be identified with the docket number listed in the notice of availability that publishes in the *Federal Register*.

For questions regarding this draft document contact (CDER) Shiew-Mei Huang, 301-796-1541, or Lei Zhang, 301-796-1635.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
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EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
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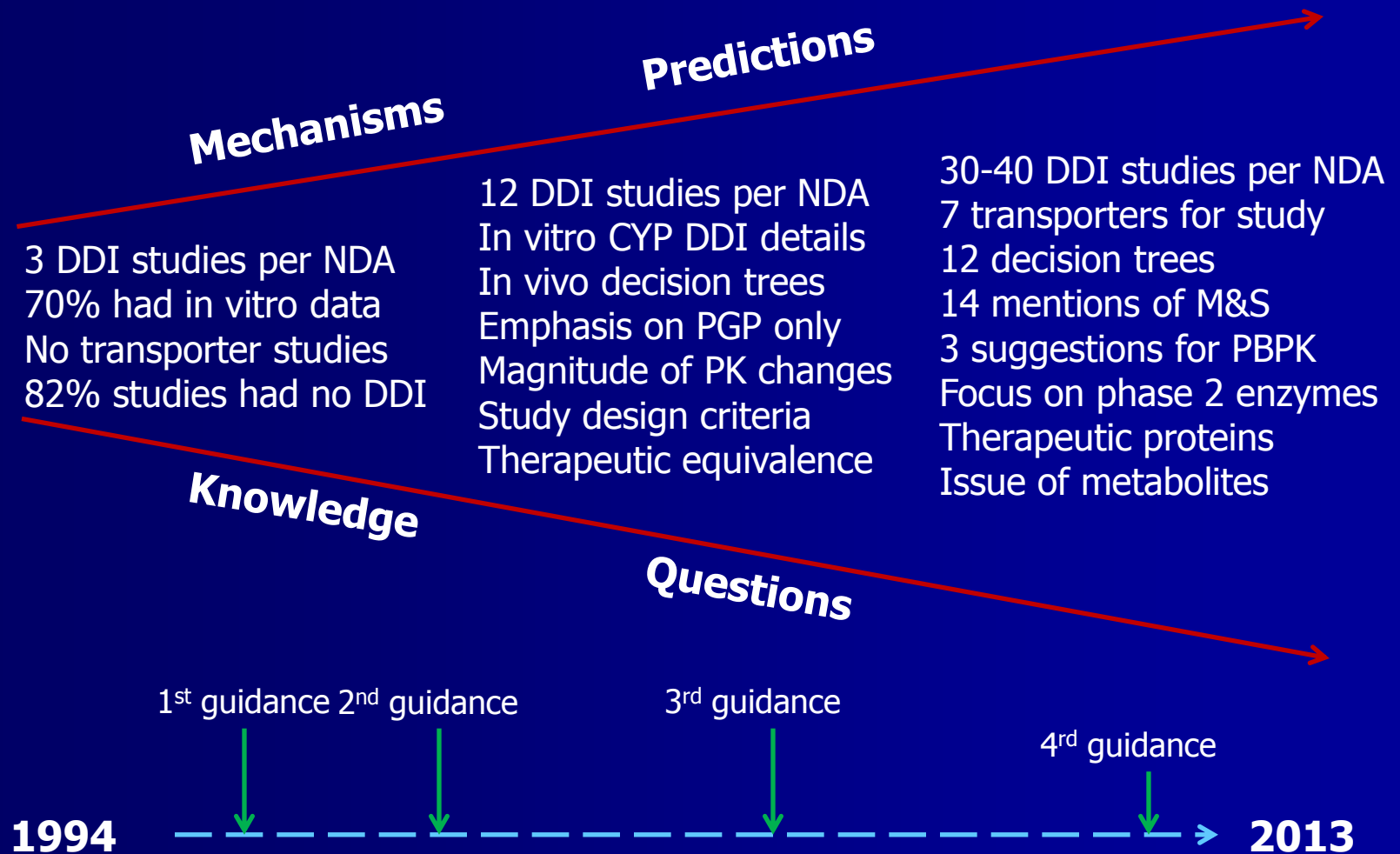
21 June 2012  
CPMP/EWP/560/95/Rev. 1  
Committee for Human Medicinal Products (CHMP)

#### Guideline on the Investigation of Drug Interactions

Final

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Discussion in the Efficacy Working Party (EWP)       | June/October 1996<br>February 1997 |
| Transmission to the CPMP                             | March 1997                         |
| Transmission to interested parties                   | March 1997                         |
| Deadline for comments                                | September 1997                     |
| Re-submission to the EWP                             | December 1997                      |
| Approval by the CPMP                                 | December 1997                      |
| Date for coming into operation                       | June 1998                          |
| Draft Rev. 1 Agreed by the EWP                       | April 2010                         |
| Adoption Rev. 1 by CHMP for release for consultation | 22 April 2010                      |
| End of consultation Rev. 1 (deadline for comments)   | 31 October 2010                    |
| Agreed by Pharmacokinetics Working Party             | February 2012                      |
| Adopted by CHMP                                      | 21 June 2012                       |
| Date for coming into effect                          | 1 January 2013                     |

# Why DDIs Are Getting Harder and Harder to Study



# Unintended Consequences for Sponsors

- Larger industry DMPK and CP groups focused on DDI programs which increase costs of development
- Lost opportunities to focus resources on more important decisions such as optimal dosing
- More clinical DDI studies have not provided higher quality information in label for clinicians
- Sorting the “wheat” (clinically significant DDIs) from the “chaff” (all DDIs) is increasingly difficult
- Things will get worse without public discussion of alternative strategies to the recent trends in DDIs

# Example – Boceprevir: Protease Inhibitor Approved for Hepatitis C

- ✓ CYP3A4 substrate and potent CYP3A4 and PGP inhibitor
- ✓ *In vitro* transporter studies on OATB1B1, OATP1B3, BCRP, MRP2 – no *in vivo* DDIs expected based in  $IC_{50}/C_{max}$ . Label silent.
- ✓ 16 *in vivo* DDIs (10 on other drugs) including ritonavir. Label had no dose adjustments.
- ✓ Contraindicated with CYP3A4 substrates and potent CYP3A4 inducers
- ✓ PMRs included 4 additional clinical DDI studies on likely co-administered drugs and digoxin

# Unanticipated Clinical Effects Show Limitations of DDI Studies

**FDA Drug Safety Communication: Important drug interactions between Victrelis (boceprevir) and ritonavir-boosted human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) protease inhibitor drugs**

Effectiveness of both drugs reduced significantly when used together (8 Feb 2012). Unanticipated decrease in exposure due to mixed inhibitor/inducer effects on CYPs and uncharacterized transporter effects

| Drug      | Dose                   | Boceprevir           | Cmax                | AUC                 | Cmin               |
|-----------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Ritonavir | 100 mg daily x 12 days | 400 mg TID x 15 days | 0.73<br>(0.57-0.93) | 0.81<br>(0.73-0.91) | 1.04<br>(0.62-175) |



# Example—Teleprevir: How Can DDI Studies Be Made More Efficient?


- ✓ 14 *in vitro* studies, CYPs and P-gp
- ✓ 15 clinical studies, effects on teleprevir
- ✓ 23 clinical studies, effects on other drugs
- ✓ 2 ongoing clinical studies at time of review

No dose adjustments recommended in label  
One CI from a study actually conducted

[http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda/index.cfm?fuseaction=Search.Label\\_ApprovalHistory#apphist](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda/index.cfm?fuseaction=Search.Label_ApprovalHistory#apphist)

# How Do They Compare?

NEW EMA DDI and Draft FDA DDI



Easy to follow guide summarising the new draft FDA DDI Guidelines and comparing to the new EMA DDI Guidelines

request your copy ▶

## Remarkably similar

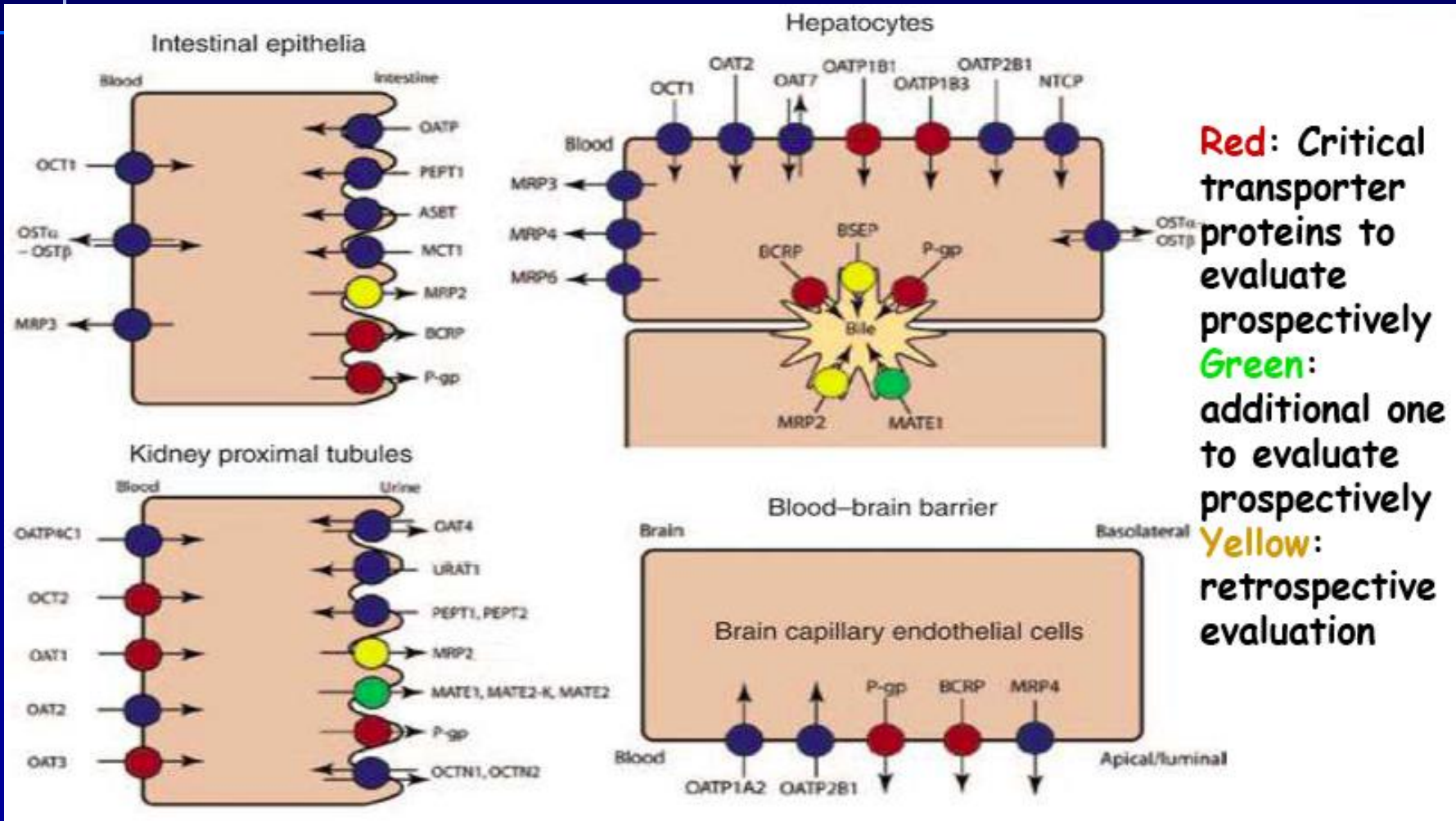
- Reaction phenotyping
- *In vitro* enzyme systems
- Enzymes of interest
- Transporter substrate ID
- Recommended transporters
- Metabolite % thresholds
- Attention to polymorphisms

# Not Surprising: FDA-EMA Cooperation Around DDI Guidance

## Between 2008-2011






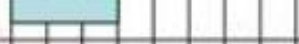

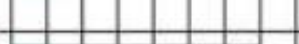


- Overall routine and *ad hoc* interactions ~ 50 per mo.
- Staff visits and exchanges on DDIs ~ 6 per yr
- Liaisons – Shiew-Mei Huang and Eva Gil Berglund
- Motivation
  - Share best practices
  - Drug development is global
  - Both agencies review same information
  - Harmonize on recommendations
  - Reduce sponsor burden

# Important Transporters In Guidances: Ready for Prime Time?



# Black Swan Events: Surprising DDIs, Unanticipated and Rationalized Afterwards

Rosuvastatin: OATP and BCRP substrate

| Group | Ethnic factor           | Fold change in exposure (AUC) |   | Initial dose | Daily dose |
|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------|------------|
| 1     | Control                 | One-fold                      |    | 10–20 mg     | 5–40 mg    |
| 2     | Hepatic impairment      | 1.1-fold (mild)               |    | 10–20 mg     | 5–40 mg    |
|       |                         | 1.2-fold (moderate)           |    | 10–20 mg     | 5–40 mg    |
| 3     | Renal impairment        | One-fold (mild)               |    | 10–20 mg     | 5–40 mg    |
|       |                         | One-fold (moderate)           |    | 10–20 mg     | 5–40 mg    |
|       |                         | Three-fold (severe)           |    | 5 mg         | 5–40 mg    |
| 4     | Race                    | Two-fold (Asians)             |    | 5 mg         | 5–20 mg    |
| 5     | Cyclosporine            | Seven-fold                    |  |              | 5 mg       |
| 6     | Gemfibrozil             | 1.9-fold                      |  |              | 10 mg      |
| 7     | Lopinavir/<br>ritonavir | Five-fold                     |  |              | 10 mg      |

*From Drugs@FDA, Rosuvastatin Label (2010)*

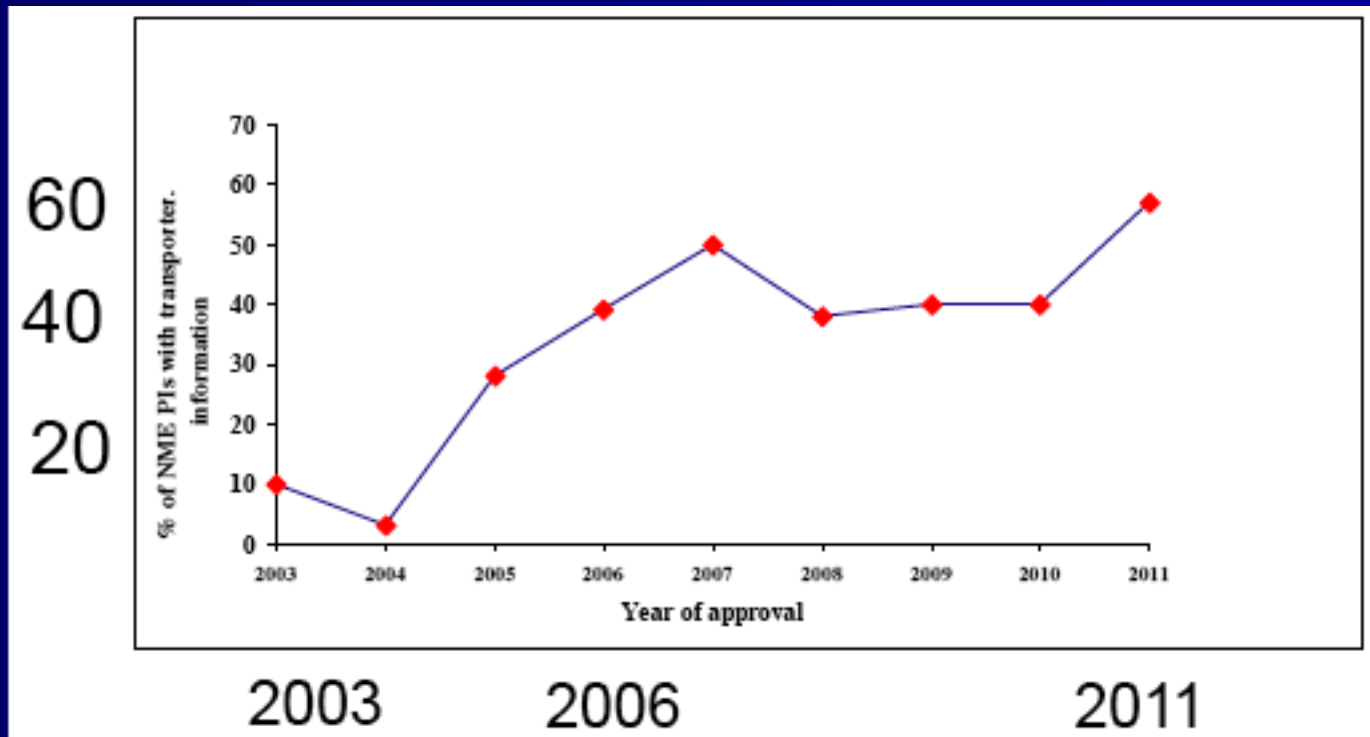
# Current Status of Transporter Studies for 73 NME NDAs – 2012-2020?

Survey covers NMEs approved between 2003 and 2011

| Transporter | NMEs with transporter information in CP review | NMEs tested as substrate <i>in vitro</i> | NMEs tested as inhibitor <i>in vitro</i> | NMEs tested both as substrate and inhibitor <i>in vitro</i> |
|-------------|--|--|--|---|
| P-gp        | 54   | 53                                       | 49                                       | 48  |
| BCRP        | 6  | 2  | 6  | 2   |
| OAT1        | 1  | 0  | 1  | 0   |
| OAT3        | 2  | 1  | 1  | 0   |
| OCT         | 2  | 2  | 1  | 1   |
| OCT2        | 4  | 2  | 3  | 1   |
| OATP1B1     | 7  | 3  | 7  | 3   |
| OATP1B3     | 4  | 2  | 4  | 2   |

- ✓ For PGP Caco-2 (55%) and MDR-1 transfected cells (36%) used; for all other transporters, transfected cells used
- ✓ *In vitro* methods used in NDAs are in agreement with FDA recommendations and decision trees in guidance

# More and More Labels With Transporter Information



Transporter information included for descriptive purposes and relatively little is actionable



# Challenge With *In Vitro*-*In Vivo* Correlations and Actionable Labels

- Drug transporters are widely appreciated as determinants of ADME – and drug transfer into CNS
- *In vitro* test systems are qualitative and do not quantitatively predict the *in vivo* situation
- Multitude of transporter DDIs resulting in PK changes are possible but don't trigger dose changes
- Clinically important (AUC > 2X) transporter DDIs are relatively few (< 10)
- Only PGP, OAT, OCT and OATP inhibition are known to have resulted in clinically important DDIs

# Important Differences Remain Where Consensus Not Reached

| Attribute  | FDA  | EMA   |
|--|--|---|
| Enzyme inhibition models that trigger clinical studies | Total conc for [I]; higher threshold                     | Unbound conc for [I]; lower threshold (liver) |
| Transporter substrate ID for NMEs                      | All drugs evaluated for PGP and BCRP; BCS Class I waiver | N/A   |
| Transporter inhibition by NME                          | All drugs evaluated for 7 transporters                   | BSEP (PD), MATE1 and MATE 2 (imatinib)        |
| Therapeutic proteins                                   | Cytokine modulators and CYP up- and down-regulation      | N/A   |
| pH-dependent solubility                                | N/A  | PPIs, antacids etc.                           |
| PD interactions  | N/A  | Additive or opposing PD                       |

## Caution: Similar Guidances, Different Decisions

FDA and EMA guidances are remarkably similar in their general (conservative) approach, non-binding and reasonably detailed.

Facts (experimental data) rendered by DDI studies (some of it complex) cannot make decisions

Reviewers make decisions based on judgment and values; differences between regulators in expectations

Regulators view benefit and risk asymmetrically and tend to focus on “worst case scenarios”

# Classification of DDI Enzyme Interactions

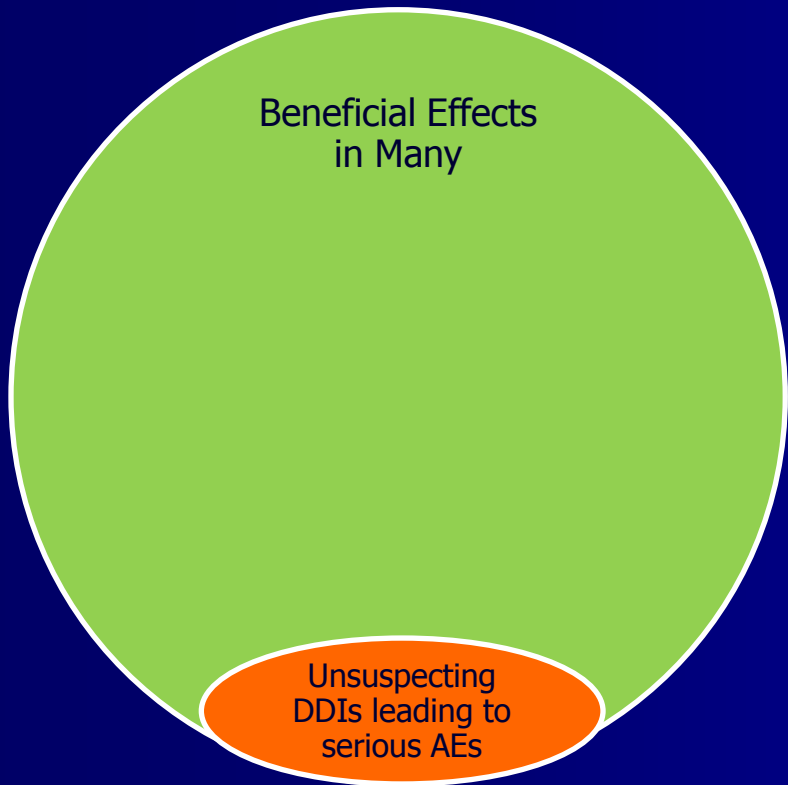
|                           |                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <b><u>CYP Enzymes</u></b> | <b>Strong Inhibitors</b>        | <b>Moderate inhibitors</b>                | <b>Weak inhibitors</b>                       |
| <b>Inhibitors</b>         | <b>≥ 5-fold increase in AUC</b> | <b>≥ 2 but &lt;5-fold increase in AUC</b> | <b>≥ 1.25 but &lt;2-fold increase in AUC</b> |
| <b><u>CYP Enzymes</u></b> | <b>Strong Inducers</b>          | <b>Moderate Inducers</b>                  | <b>Weak Inducers</b>                         |
| <b>Inducers</b>           | <b>≥ 80% decrease in AUC</b>    | <b>50- 80% decrease in AUC</b>            | <b>20-50% decrease in AUC</b>                |

<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/DevelopmentResources/DrugInteractionsLabeling/ucm080499.htm>;

# Part III: Evolving Strategies and Future Paradigm Shift

- Both FDA and EMA guidances mention “cocktail studies” more than 10 times
- Very little if any literature references on transporter cocktail studies
- Theoretically transporter and CYP enzyme cocktail studies have the same requirements
  - Analytical methods for probe drugs (metabolites)
  - Probe drugs approved for clinical use (safety)
  - Doses within approved range
  - Lack of mutual interaction between probes
  - Probes relevant to therapeutic area

# Why Are Clinically Important DDIs So Difficult to Pick Out?



1 in 25 patients are at risk for PK DDIs but only 1 in 500 of these at-risk patient require ER visits or hospitalizations

## **Problem With Current Strategy: Reductionism—Study of Single Drug-Pairs**

Scientific position which holds that a complex system is nothing more than the sum of its parts, and that an account of it can be reduced to accounts of individual constituents.

However, drug development programs do not, and cannot carry out enough clinical DDIs studies to explore the entire interaction space between drugs, enzymes and transporters



# Why Are DDIs So Difficult to Study and Predict?

- ✓ Most known ADEs involve common drugs approved over the past 50 years – warfarin
- ✓ Preapproval DDI studies are single drug pairs: results may not be generalizable
  - ✓ Healthy volunteers selected to reduce variability
  - ✓ Limit dose range and other concomitant drugs
  - ✓ Duration of treatment is comparatively short
  - ✓ Relatively small number of subjects exposed
  - ✓ PD not likely to be studied or event rates low

# Natural Human Heterogeneity Limits Translation of DDI Studies

1. Subgroups with particular genetic features are more sensitive to DDIs and AEs
2. Demographics – age, weight, sex, race – explains much of the variability in DDIs
3. Disease progression and co-morbidities – and multiple medications – increase risk of DDIs

# Regulatory Agencies Know This: Post-Marketing Surveillance

Most serious DDIs and ADEs are still discovered after approval or during phase IV clinical trials and within 2 years in the market

1. FDA adverse event reporting system (AERS)
2. FDA sentinel initiative
3. Physician reports to the manufacturer
4. Safety surveillance of institutional EMRs
5. Third party payer claims database

# PBPK Models: Applications Have Increased 4-Fold Since 2004

PBPK mentioned at least 3 times in FDA guidance, in decision trees and recommended in EMA guideline

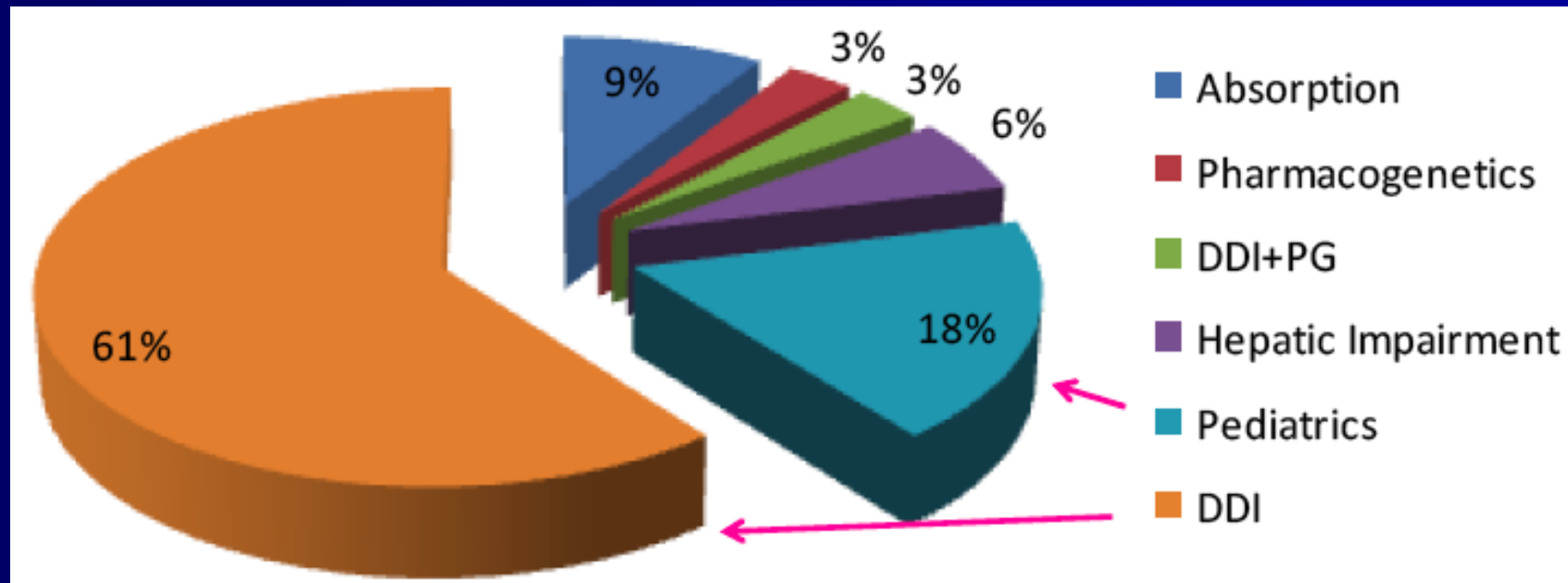
Ping Zhao, Manuela de L. T. Vieira, Joseph A. Grillo, Pengfei Song, Ta-Chen Wu, Jenny H. Zheng, Vikram Arya, Eva Gil Berglund, Arthur J. Atkinson, Jr, Yuichi Sugiyama, K. Sandy Pang, Kellie S. Reynolds, Darrell R. Abernethy, Lei Zhang, Lawrence J. Lesko, and Shiew-Mei Huang

**Evaluation of Exposure Change of Nonrenally Eliminated Drugs in Patients With Chronic Kidney Disease Using Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Modeling and Simulation**

J Clin Pharmacol January 2012 52: 91S-108S, doi:10.1177/0091270011415528

# Regulatory Submissions of PBPK to FDA From 2008-2012 (N=33)

Equal Number of IND and NDA Submissions



FDA reviewers also built 15 PBPK models as part of review work

# Other Uses of PBPK Advocated By Regulators

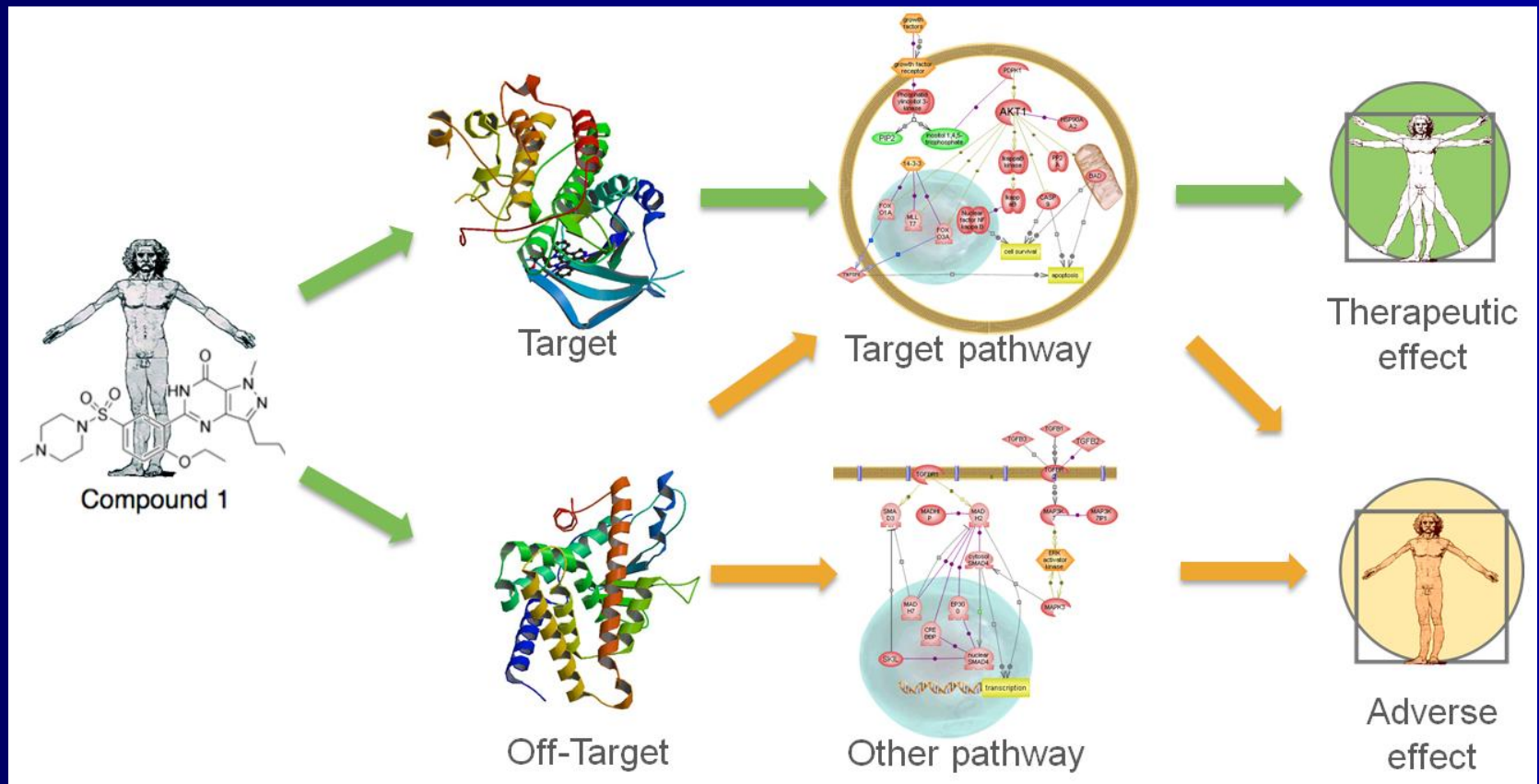
1. Inform study design – not sure what this means for regulators but industry relies heavily on PBPK for internal decision-making
2. Estimate PK changes of more complex scenarios – potential DDI and renal impairment
3. Estimate dose for pediatric exclusivity studies using adult data as alternative to allometric scaling

# Use of PBPK in Regulatory Decisions

- Few (n=2) examples of PBPK inclusion in labels; suspect findings were absence of DDIs
- Positive PBPK simulations of DDIs would trigger *in vivo* study as was done for PopPK studies
- Negative PBPK results have been used to not ask for DDIs post-approval
- Reviews of PBPK studies by EMA and FDA are quite different
- Accepting negative PBPK DDI results for label purposes and not asking for confirmatory *in vivo* studies has not been achieved



# Informatics: Molecular Causation of DDIs and Adverse Events



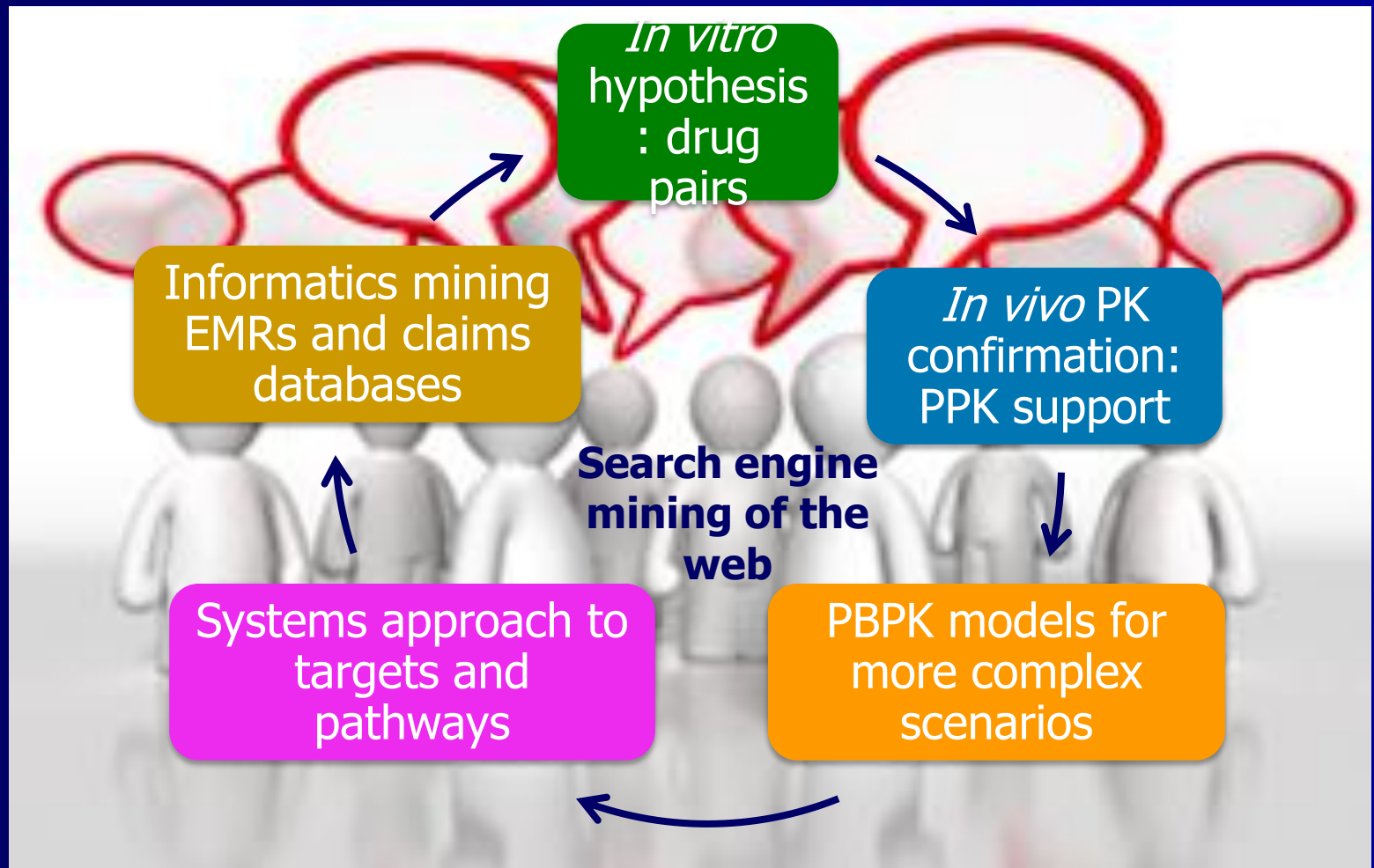
# Data Mining Using Search Engines: Example – Paroxetine-Pravastatin

- Hyperglycemia mentioned in paroxetine label as infrequent AE but not in pravastatin label
- Pravastatin label reports results of 30 DDI studies but no study with paroxetine; no PD DDI studies
- Paroxetine is a 2D6 inhibitor; pravastatin has little CYP metabolism and no 2D6 pathways
- Pravastatin ADME influenced by SLC01B and 2B family, SLC22A family, ABC family of transporters in intestine, liver and kidney (11 different transporters)
- GSK has a clinical study underway comparing drugs alone and combined; incidence of T2DM

# Crowd-Sourcing: Web-Scale Pharmacovigilance

- Complements and improves upon physician reports in the FDA AERS
- Mined large-scale web search log data for 80 million individual searches for possible DDIs
- Anonymized signals on DDIs can be used for hypothesis about known or undiscovered DDIs
- Companies like Treato<sup>R</sup> collect billions of patient-written health experiences from blogs and forums
- This can be good news (safer drugs) or bad news (false signals)

# Future DDI “Learn-Confirm-Apply” Paradigm: Rapid Learning



# Thank You



Questions – Comments

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