



Innovative Medicines Initiative



# orbito

Innovative Tools for Oral Biopharmaceutics

FDA Public Workshop on Oral Absorption Modelling and Simulation  
Filippos Kesisoglou - 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016

# Overview

- Programme vision, mission and objectives
- Members of the OrBiTo consortium
- OrBiTo Work Packages
  - Aims and deliverables
  - Highlights of progress to date
- Integration of dissolution in PBPK models

# OrBiTo Vision Statement

*“ Transform our ability to accurately predict the in vivo performance of oral drug products across all stages of drug development ”*

# OrBiTo Mission Statement

“Through partnership, collaboration and data sharing, we will develop, validate and implement a suite of biopharmaceutics tools applicable throughout the drug development process. By developing our fundamental knowledge of the gastrointestinal environment, we will deliver innovative tools to accurately predict product performance over a range of clinically relevant conditions. The integration of *in vitro* and *in silico* approaches will provide a biopharmaceutics toolkit, validated using clinical data, to accelerate drug development.”

# Programme objectives

- Define the critical physicochemical, formulation and physiological factors that determine oral drug product performance.
- Develop both experimental and theoretical models which can be used to robustly predict the in vivo performance of formulated drug products.
- Fully leverage industrial knowledge and experience through pooling existing physicochemical, in vitro characterisation, preclinical and clinical data to assess the reliability of currently available prediction methods and to underpin the development of new modelling and simulation tools.

# IMI OrBiTo project – innovative tools for oral biopharmaceutics

- IMI funding for the project is €24million over a 5 year period, commencing on October 1st 2012
- OrBiTo consortium comprises 13 EFPIA companies with 14 academic centres and SME companies
  - Managing entity: Uppsala Univ (Hans Lennernäs/Krister Halldin).
  - Scientific coordinators: Astrazeneca (Bertil Abrahamsson) & Pfizer (Mark McAllister)



# Project Governance

## Steering Committee – All Consortium participants

For annual reviews, approval/removal of participants, approval of resource changes across work packages/project participants

Regulatory Stakeholder Group

## Executive Committee – 14 participants

For operational project leadership, continuous project review, issue resolution, proposal of changes within projects

Ethics Advisory Board

## Work Package 5

*Management and Dissemination (Leaders: UU & AstraZeneca)*

### Work Package 1

*Physico-chemical tools*

**Leaders:**

Public: UCopen  
EFPIA: LUB

### Work Package 2

*In vitro tools*

**Leaders:**

Public: KU Leuven  
EFPIA: GSK

### Work Package 3

*In vivo tools*

**Leaders:**

Public: UMainz  
EFPIA: JPNV

### Work Package 4

*In silico models & integration*

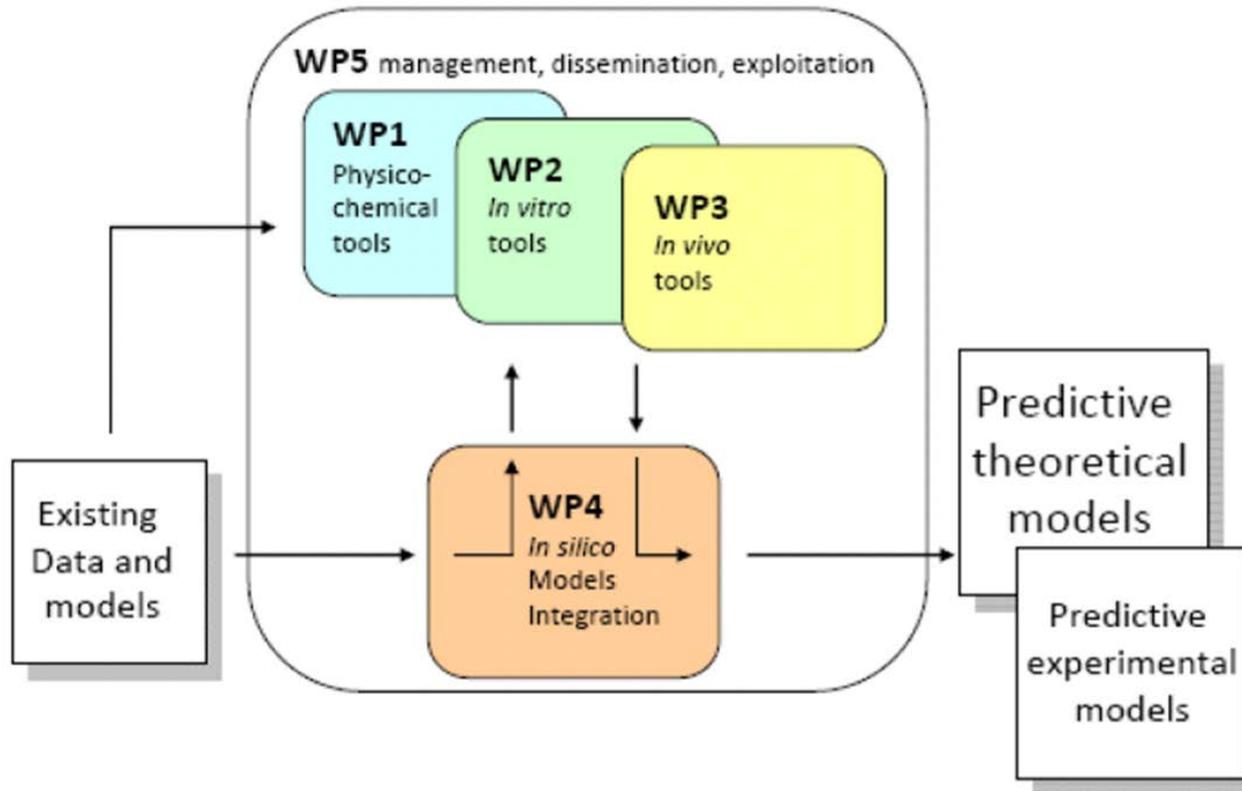
**Leaders:**

Public: UNIMan  
EFPIA: SARD

# OrBiTo Regulatory Stakeholder Board

- Anna Nordmark, MPA, Sweden
- Erika Fredriksson, MPA, Sweden
- Anders Lindahl, MPA, Sweden
- Susan Cole, MHRA, UK
- Henrike Potthast, BfArM, Germany
- Alfredo Garcia, AEMPS, Spain
- Arzu Selen, FDA, US
- Mehul Mehta, FDA, US
- Marilyn Martinez, FDA, US
- Kumiko Sakai-Kato, NIHS, Japan
- Ken-ichi Izutsu, NIHS, Japan

# Work packages overview



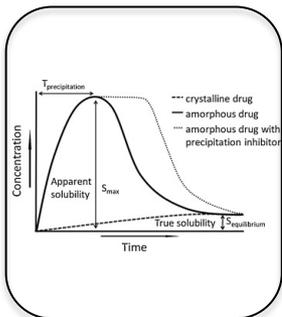
# Work Package 1

## Physicochemical tools – Understanding the API

### Objectives:

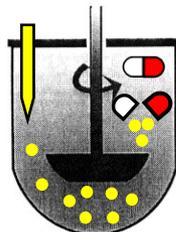
1. Provide a range of in vitro physico-chemical tools and in silico models that can assess the API's key molecular properties important for in vivo performance, including excipient interactions
2. Provide the information gained by use of tools, defined in objective 1, for a subset of the OrBiTo database to establish a Drug Development Decision Tree, expanding the DCS and facilitating drug formulation selection and optimising the dosage form design process
3. Integrate knowledge and results obtained from physico-chemical studies and models in WP1 with “In vitro tools – understanding the formulation” (WP2).
4. Serve as physico-chemical parameter input for integrated modelling and predictive tools developed in WP4 (PBPK modelling).

## WP1



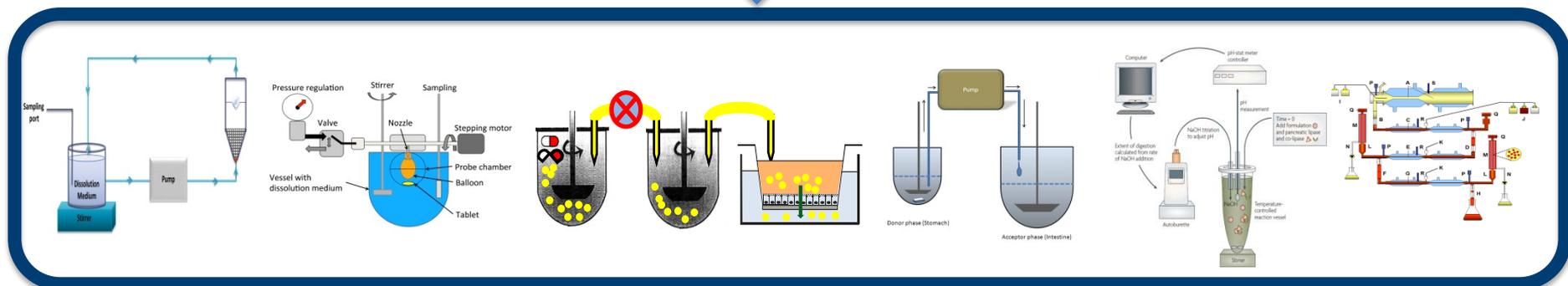
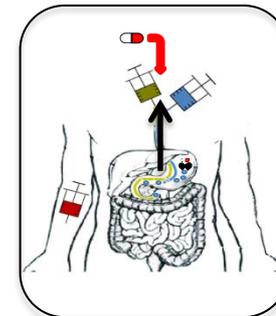
- Log P value
- Log D value
- pKa
- Solubilities
- Hydrogen bonding
- Molecular weight
- Supersaturation
- ...

Simple, one-compartmental models

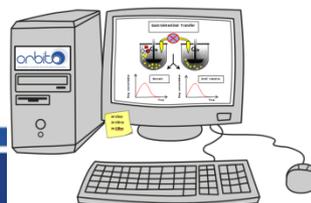


- Optimizing models by applying knowledge of the gastrointestinal environment:
- Hydrodynamics
  - Gastric/ intestinal fluids
  - Gastrointestinal transit
  - Drug absorption
  - ...

## WP3



## WP4





# Workpackage 2: In vitro tools

KULeuven, UoA, U-Goethe, UCPH, EMUAG, Umainz, TNO, EFPIA contributors



## GOALS:

1. Optimize/develop *in-vitro* tools for formulation evaluation with maximum ability for prediction of oral absorption in humans (by integrating knowledge on *in-vivo* drug and formulation behaviour)
2. Develop a decision tree to select most appropriate *in-vitro* tool(s)
3. Provide relevant input data on formulation behaviour for PBPK modelling (WP4)

**Task 2.1 - Analysing the current status, gaps and requirements for in-vivo predictive in-vitro evaluation of orally administered dosage forms**



European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 57 (2014) 342–366

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

 **European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences**  
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejps](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejps)

Review

*In vitro* models for the prediction of *in vivo* performance of oral dosage forms 

Edmund S. Kostewicz<sup>a</sup>, Bertil Abrahamsson<sup>b</sup>, Marcus Brewster<sup>c</sup>, Joachim Brouwers<sup>d</sup>, James Butler<sup>e</sup>, Sara Carlert<sup>b</sup>, Paul A. Dickinson<sup>f</sup>, Jennifer Dressman<sup>a</sup>, René Holm<sup>g</sup>, Sandra Klein<sup>h</sup>, James Mann<sup>i</sup>, Mark McAllister<sup>j</sup>, Mans Minekus<sup>k</sup>, Uwe Muenster<sup>l</sup>, Anette Müllertz<sup>m</sup>, Miriam Verwei<sup>n</sup>, Maria Vertzoni<sup>n</sup>, Werner Weitschies<sup>o</sup>, Patrick Augustijns<sup>d,e</sup>

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<sup>d</sup>Drug Delivery and Disposition, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium  
<sup>e</sup>Product Development, GlaxoSmithKline R&D, Harlow, United Kingdom  
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# WP3 In Vivo Tools: Scope, Vision and Mission

- 1. Providing approaches and data to better understand the in vivo systems and systems biology impacting drug formulation behaviour and drug absorption.**
- 2. Improving mechanistic in vivo tools for better in vivo animal-in vivo human translation and in vitro –in vivo relationships.**
- 3. Assessing drug dissolution and drug supersaturation and precipitation in vivo.**
- 4. Aid in altering and validating in silico and in vitro methodologies to increase bio relevance.**

# WP3 In Vivo Tools: Scope, Vision and Mission

*Understanding and leveraging knowledge and data for validation of drug substances and formulations in vitro (WP 1 and 2) and in silico (WP 4)*

## ❖ *The Gastrointestinal System*

- ❖ the pattern of fluid availability and distribution
- ❖ the influence of hydrodynamic and mechanical stresses on dosage form behaviour

## ❖ *Intestinal fluid composition and dissolution media:*

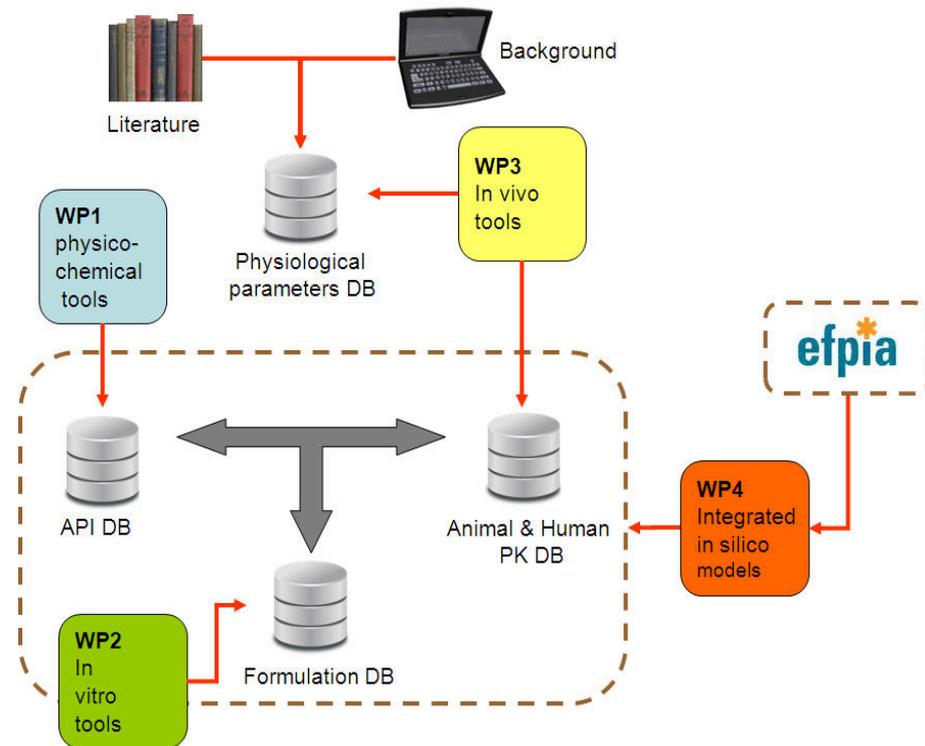
- ❖ the composition and properties of GI fluids from animals and man under a variety of states including nutritional state, age and collection method.
- ❖ GI fluid architecture using non-invasive techniques visualizing the formulation in vivo including g-scintigraphy, magnetic marker monitoring (MMM), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

## ❖ *In Vivo Dosage Form Behaviour in animals and human* to better understand in vivo dissolution, absorption and transit properties of drug substances and dosage forms on several fronts including:

- ❖ dosing of suspensions and deconvolution of the resulting plasma level
- ❖ dosing drug product and assessing gastric aspirates for dissolved drug
- ❖ assessing API and drug product for their tendency to generate supersaturated drug solution in vivo
- ❖ imaging of in vivo disintegration (camera-in-pill, MRI)
- ❖ imaging intestinal dosage form transit

# Work Package 4: In-silico tools

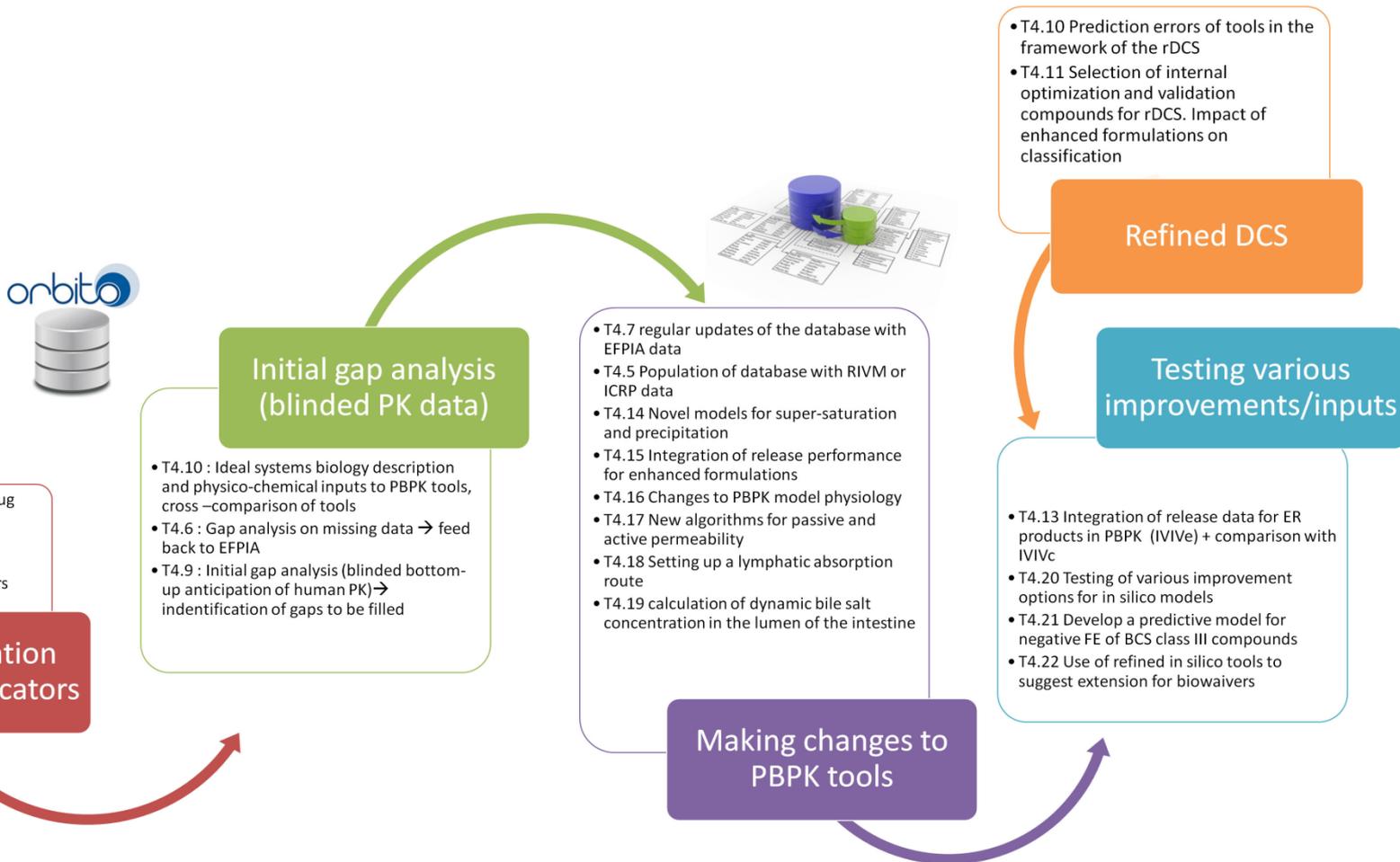
- Refinement of integrative *in silico* tools (enhanced physiological database, new model algorithms and new *in vitro* inputs in connection with WPs 1-3
- Development of framework for API formulation type selection and identification of biowaiver (in vitro BE) opportunities based on predictive models
- Dissemination and propagation of information related to model based drug development concerning oral absorption





# Workpackage 4: In silico tools

Abbvie, AstraZeneca, Bayer, BMS, GSK, Janssen, MPA, MSD, OP, Pfizer, SARD, Sim, SPlus, UGoethe, UMainz, UNIMAN, UU



# Highlights of progress to date

- Reviews summarising state of the art for API characterization approaches, *in vitro* and *in vivo* oral bioavailability tools and systems biology, a gap analysis of in-silico commercial biomodelling software have been completed and accepted for publication in an OrBiTo themed special issue of European Journal for Pharmaceutical Sciences (doi: 10.1016/j.ejps.2013.10.012)
- Database established compiling physicochemical and preclinical and clinical ADME/PK data
  - 90 EFPIA compounds, 594 formulations, 492 PK studies, 1580 study arms, 25764 datapoints !

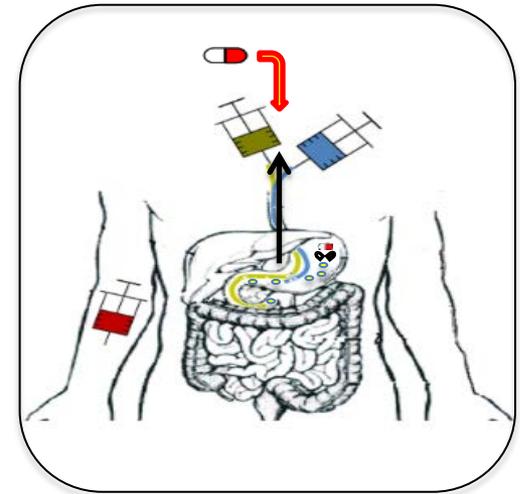
# Highlights of progress to date

- Developed a standardized protocol for sampling and analyzing human gastric and intestinal fluids (both upper and lower intestine)
- Identified composition and major components of human intestinal fluid, based on literature review and data from OrBiTo partners. This dataset was used to develop a set of simulated gastric and intestinal fasted state media using a DoE approach.
- Completed a human clinical study of a non-absorbable compound (Gabrorol®) with or without various co-medications (Imodium® and Motilium®), in fed or fasted conditions to allow for the assessment of transit using in vivo gastrointestinal sampling techniques
- Developed and validated a novel MRI method for assessing GI water content based on volumetry rather than water signal determination
- Development of a predictive mathematical model for the negative food effect of BCS class III compounds in solid drug formulations

# Integrating dissolution profiles into PBPK models



*In vitro*



*In vivo*

## Challenges:

- *in vitro* conditions differ from *in vivo*
- *in vivo* dissolution/release profiles are challenging to determine.

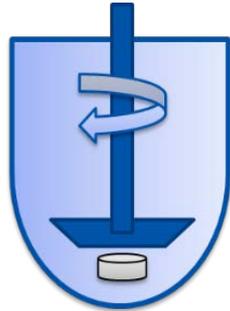
# Why Are We Interested in Incorporating Dissolution in PBPK?

- For the majority of the formulated products (not API powder), dissolution modeling based on API properties does not agree with observed dissolution data
- Allow for more mechanistic modeling of dissolution regardless of dissolution media
  - Eg. account for differences in pH, volumes, surfactants (bile salts, etc).
- Facilitate development of “biopredictive” dissolution method

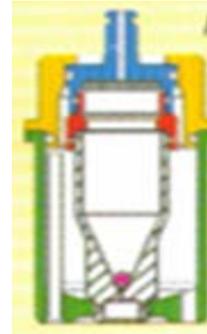
# Various Solubility/Dissolution Experiments/Apparatuses



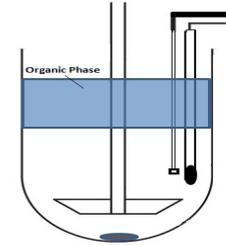
Solubility



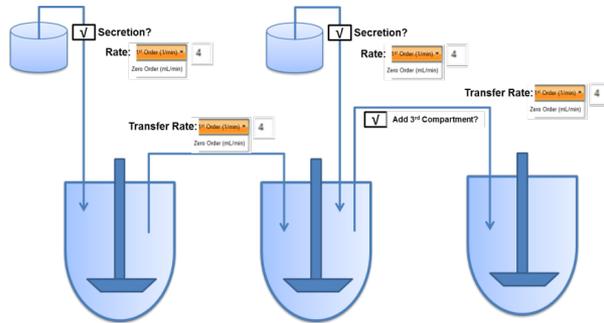
USP II



USP IV?



2-Phase/Serial Dilution



Transfer Experiments



Sirius T3



Pion μDISS Profiler

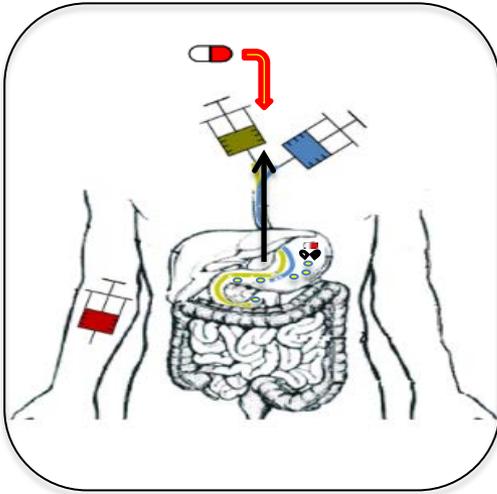
# Mechanistic Dissolution Modeling



“Deconvolute” *in vitro* data

$$DR(t) = S * N \frac{D_{eff}}{h_{eff}(t)} 4\pi a(t) (a(t) + h_{eff}(t)) (C_{surface} - C_{bulk}(t))$$

To separate *in vitro* **system data** (e.g. rpm, buffer, pH, [BS], *etc*) from **API/formulation data** (e.g.  $S_0$ , pKa, PSD, SR, PRC, *etc*)



“Re-convolute” *in vivo* system data and API/formulation data using PBPK modelling

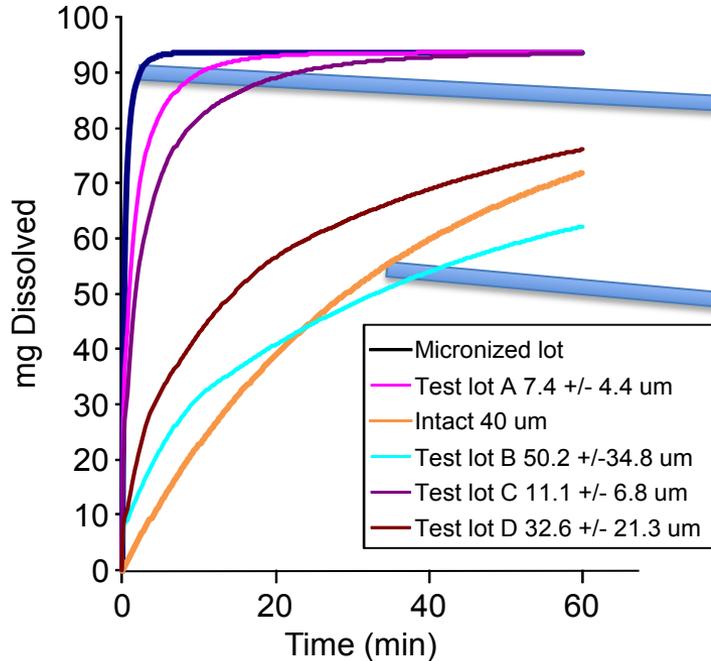
Predict – Learn – Confirm

# Case Study – Dissolution Simulation of API

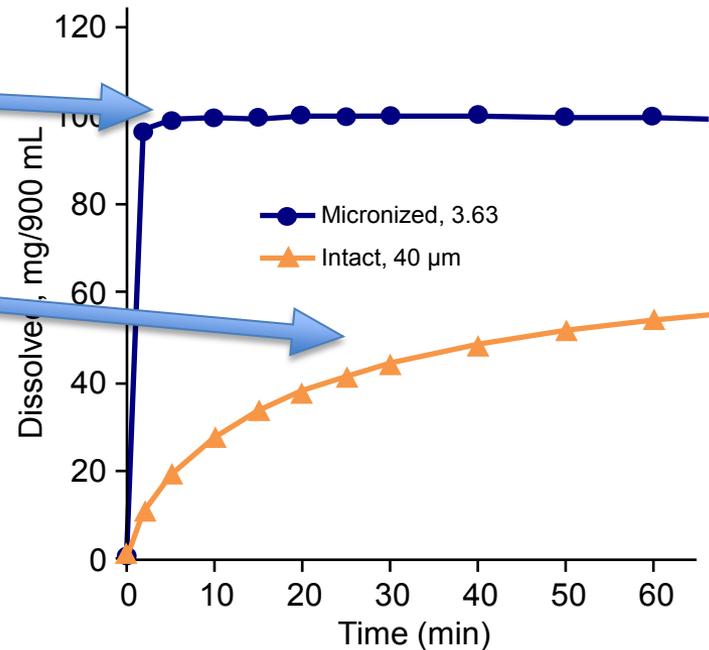
Nernst-Brunner/Noyes-Whitney equation

Input: Solubility, PSD, dissolution volume

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = \frac{3 \cdot D \cdot X_0^{1/3} X_s^{2/3}}{h \rho r_0} \left( C_s - \frac{Xd}{V} \right)$$



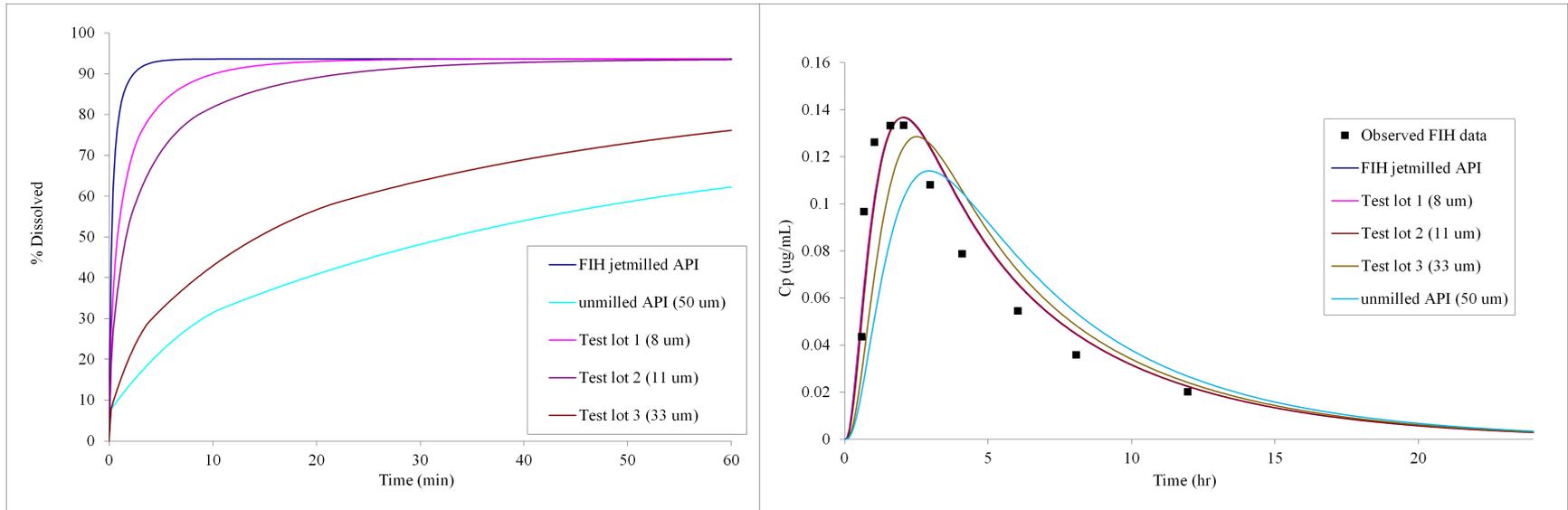
In silico predicted dissolution profiles based on API PSD



Observed dissolution profiles for dispersed API powder

Good agreement between in silico and experimental dissolution profiles  
(generally expected for dissolution of API powder)

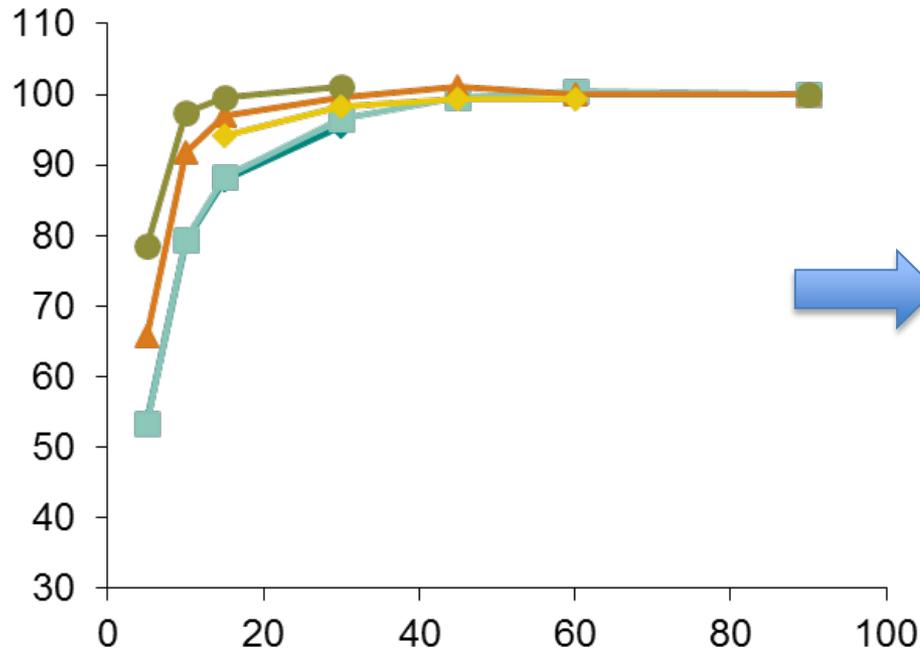
# Case Study – API PSD simulation in PBPK model



Conclusion based on API PSD based modeling: Unmilled API potentially lower Cmax and slightly lower AUC

# Case Study – Formulation Dissolution in PBPK model

Observed Dissolution Profiles for Formulated API



No significant PK impact expected



“Relaxed” requirements on API PSD

# Increasing Impact: Towards a “Biopredictive” method

There is an increased emphasis on development of “clinically relevant specifications”. Incorporation of Dissolution in PBPK models may further facilitate the connection of dissolution and Clinical performance.

Biorelevant Dissolution Data

Release Method Dissolution Data

“deconvolute”  
in vitro data

“deconvolute”  
in vitro data

“Inherent” formulation behavior (dissolution method independent)

PBPK  
modeling  
IVIVC

Translate back to  
dissolution  
specifications

Clinical Performance

# Acknowledgements

- Xavier Pepin, AstraZeneca
- Mark McAllister, Pfizer
- Masoud Jamei, Simcyp
- Many OrBiTo contributors!



***The research leading to these results has received support from the Innovative Medicines Initiative Joint Undertaking under grant agreement 115369-2, resources of which are composed of financial contribution from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) and EFPIA companies' in kind contribution.***

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**Innovative Medicines Initiative**