



Potential New Method to Improve Bioequivalence (BE)  
of Modified Release (MR) Drug Products  
by in vivo Dissolution Studies In Human GI tract

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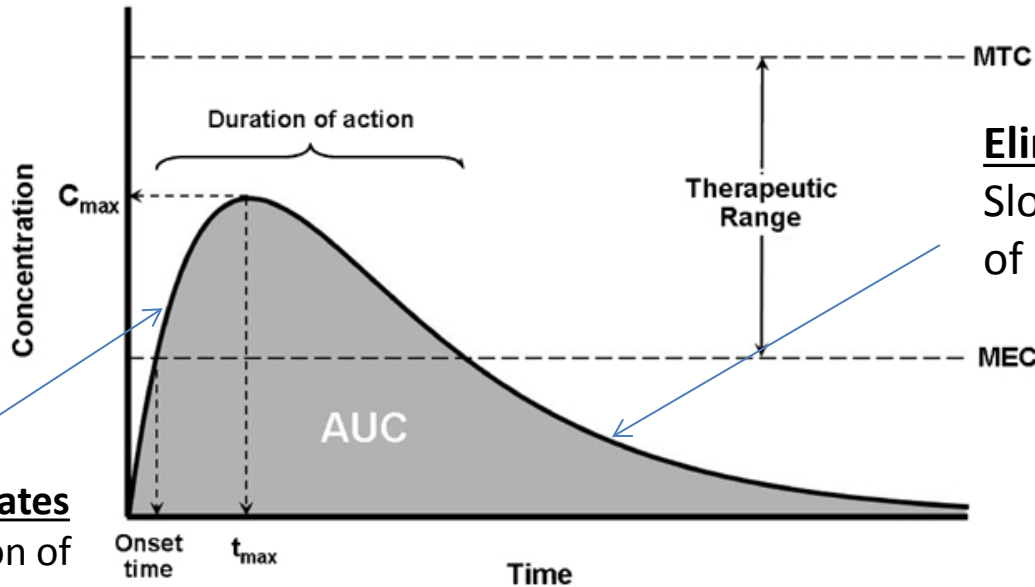
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# Questions for Bioequivalence (BE) Standard for Generic Drug Products

- Current standard for BE of immediate release (IR) drug products
  - AUC and Cmax comparison when release and dissolution is rapid (works fine)
- Current standard for BE of modified release (MR) and locally acting drug products
  - AUC and Cmax comparison when release and dissolution is slow (not working well)
  - Partial AUC --- improved
  - Need additional methods
- Composite Appearance Rate (CAR) and Plasma AUC/Cmax
  - CAR includes drug release, dissolution, absorption, precipitation, transit
  - CAR changes over time
    - Characterize MR and locally acting drug products
  - How to estimate --- individual deconvolution in comparison with oral solution
  - How to validate --- in vivo intubation to directly measure dissolution in GI tract
  - How to compare --- statistical comparison

# Plasma AUC/Cmax in Current BE

**C<sub>max</sub>**  
Highest concentration in systemic circulation



## Elimination Dominates

Slope give indication of rate of elimination

<https://www.sciencebasedmedicine.org/generic-drugs-are-they-equivalent/>

## Absorption Dominates

Slope give indication of rate of absorption

### Area Under the Curve (AUC):

the systemic exposure of drug over time.

$$C = \frac{FDk_a}{V(k_a - k)} (e^{-kt} - e^{-k_a t})$$

ka to represent a complex release, dissolution, and absorption process?

These assumptions work for:

Oral solution --- OK

IR drug products --- OK for some BCS class compounds

MR and locally acting --- not OK

# Composite Appearance Rate (CAR):

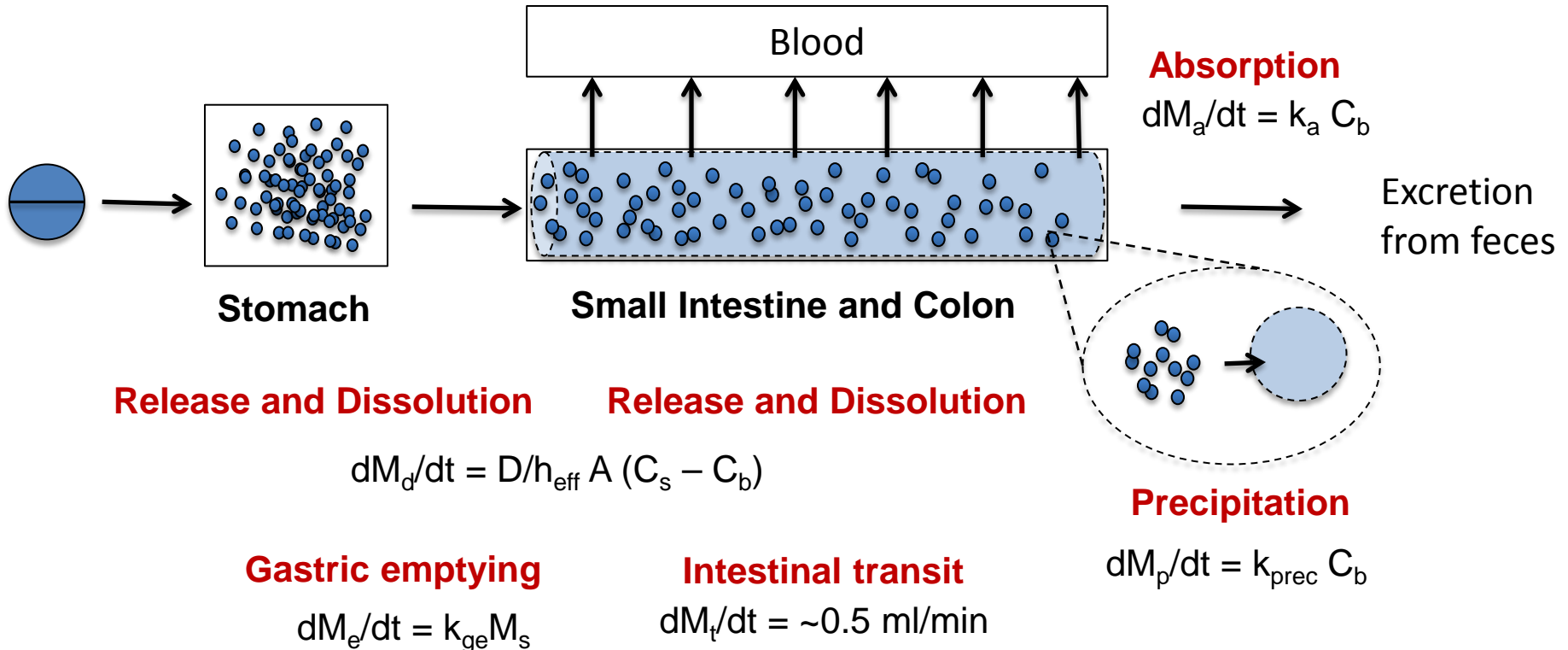
Drug Release, Dissolution, Precipitation, Absorption, and Transit in GI Tract

CAR is the net appearance of drug into systemic circulation  
-useful for MR and locally acting drug products

## Composite Appearance Rate (CAR)

$$dM_p/dt$$

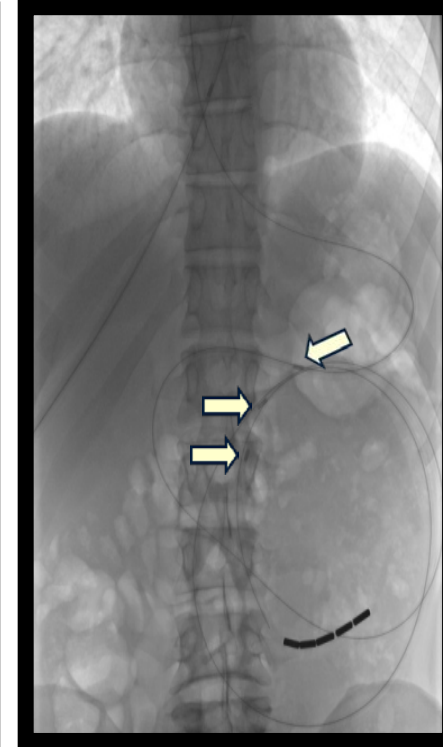
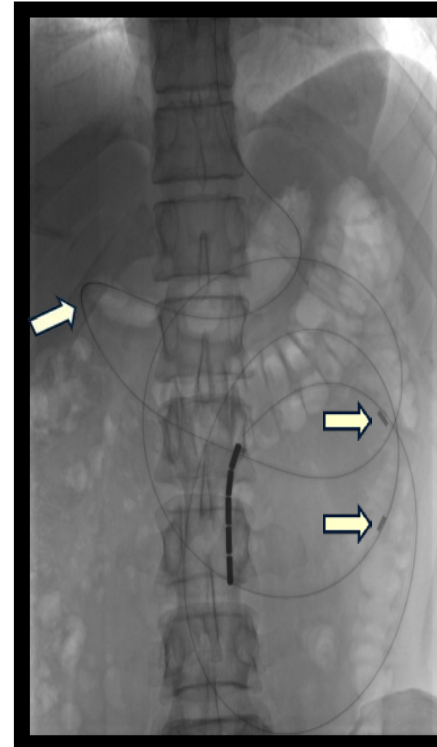
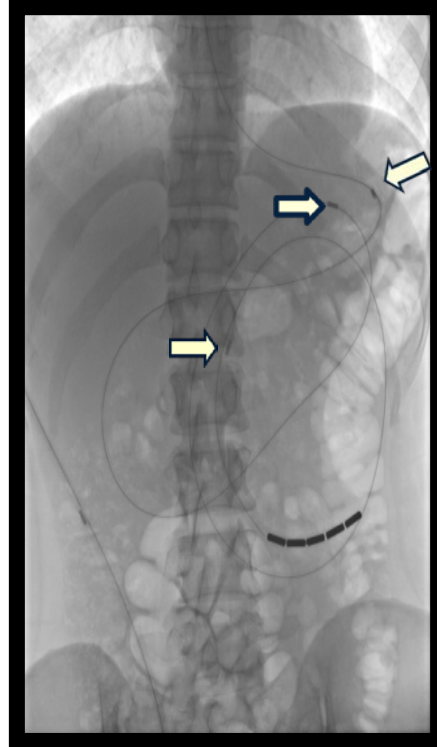
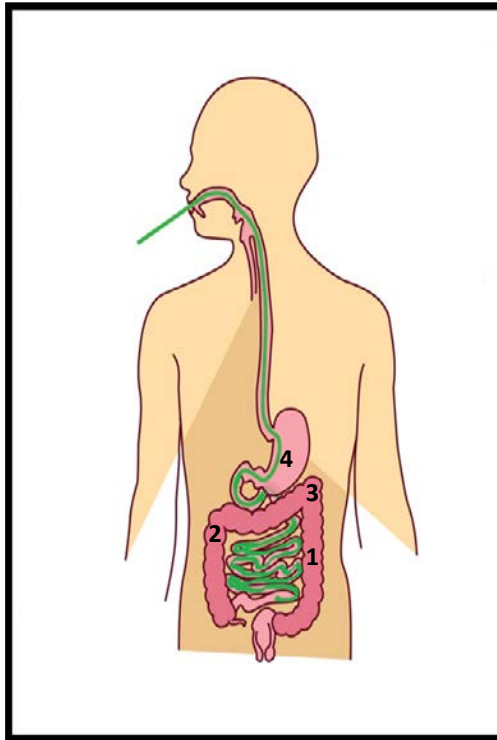
How to estimate?  
How to validate?  
How to compare?



# Need to Do:

- *In vivo* drug dissolution in human GI tract
  - Modified release (MR) drug products in comparison with oral solution (need)
  - Locally acting drug products in comparison with solution (done)
  - IR drug products (on going)
- Deconvolution and validation of composite appearance rate (CAR) based on plasma profile of MR drug products in comparison with oral solution
- Statistical comparison of composite appearance rate (CAR) for BE study

# Directly Measure Drug Dissolution of Locally Acting and IR Drug Products in Human GI tract



## Port Locations:

1. Distal Jejunum/  
Proximal Ileum
2. Proximal Jejunum
3. Duodenum
4. Stomach

## Fluoroscopic photo of GI tube placement.

Shown are 3 aspiration ports located in the stomach, proximal jejunum, and distal jejunum.

# Proposed Future Studies

- Directly measure in vivo dissolution in human GI tract for Modified Release (MR) drug product in comparison with oral solution
  - MR drug product (e.g. Metoprolol, propose to do)
  - IR drug product (Ibuprofen, ongoing)
  - Locally acting drug product (Mesalamine, done)
- Estimate and validate Composite Appearance Rate (CAR) using deconvolution
  - In comparison with oral solution
  - Validate with in vivo dissolution data in human GI tract
- Statistical comparison of Composite Appearance Rate (CAR) for BE study
- Validate in vitro predictive dissolution device (iPD) –**details in Dr. Amidon's presentation**
- Develop software for bioperformance of oral drug products –**details in Dr. Amidon's presentation**
- Cross validate MRI study for transit of oral drug products-**details in Dr. Amidon's presentation**