



DNDi 2016

Innovation & Access - Partners' Meeting

RIO DE JANEIRO • 6-8 JUNE

Chemical Matter - the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

**Luiz Carlos Dias
Instituto de Química - UNICAMP
Campinas - SP, BRASIL**

Medicinal Chemistry and Organic Synthesis play a very important role in modern drug discovery

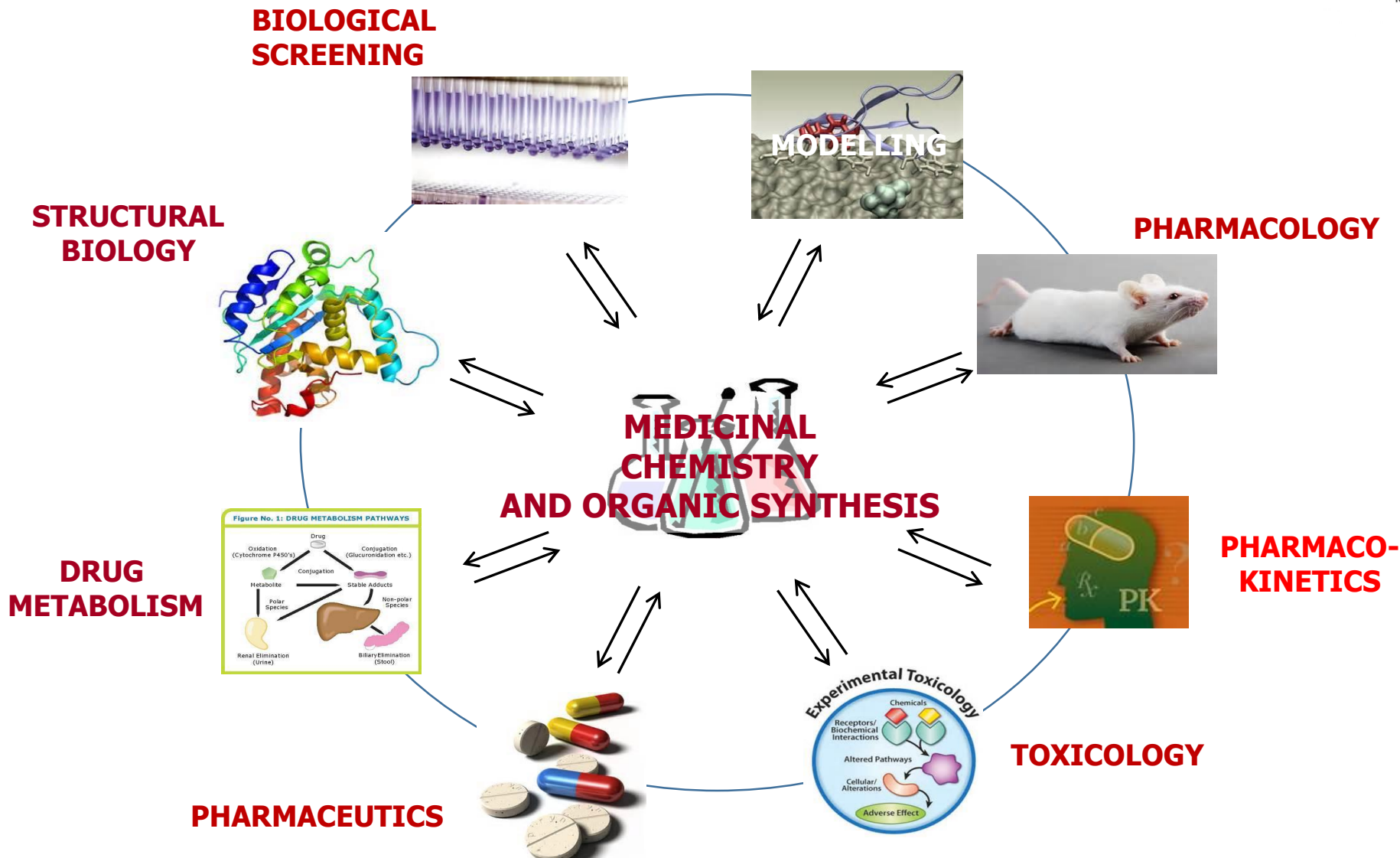
What is Medicinal Chemistry?

What is Organic Synthesis?

A Medicinal Chemist is not the same as a Synthetic Chemist

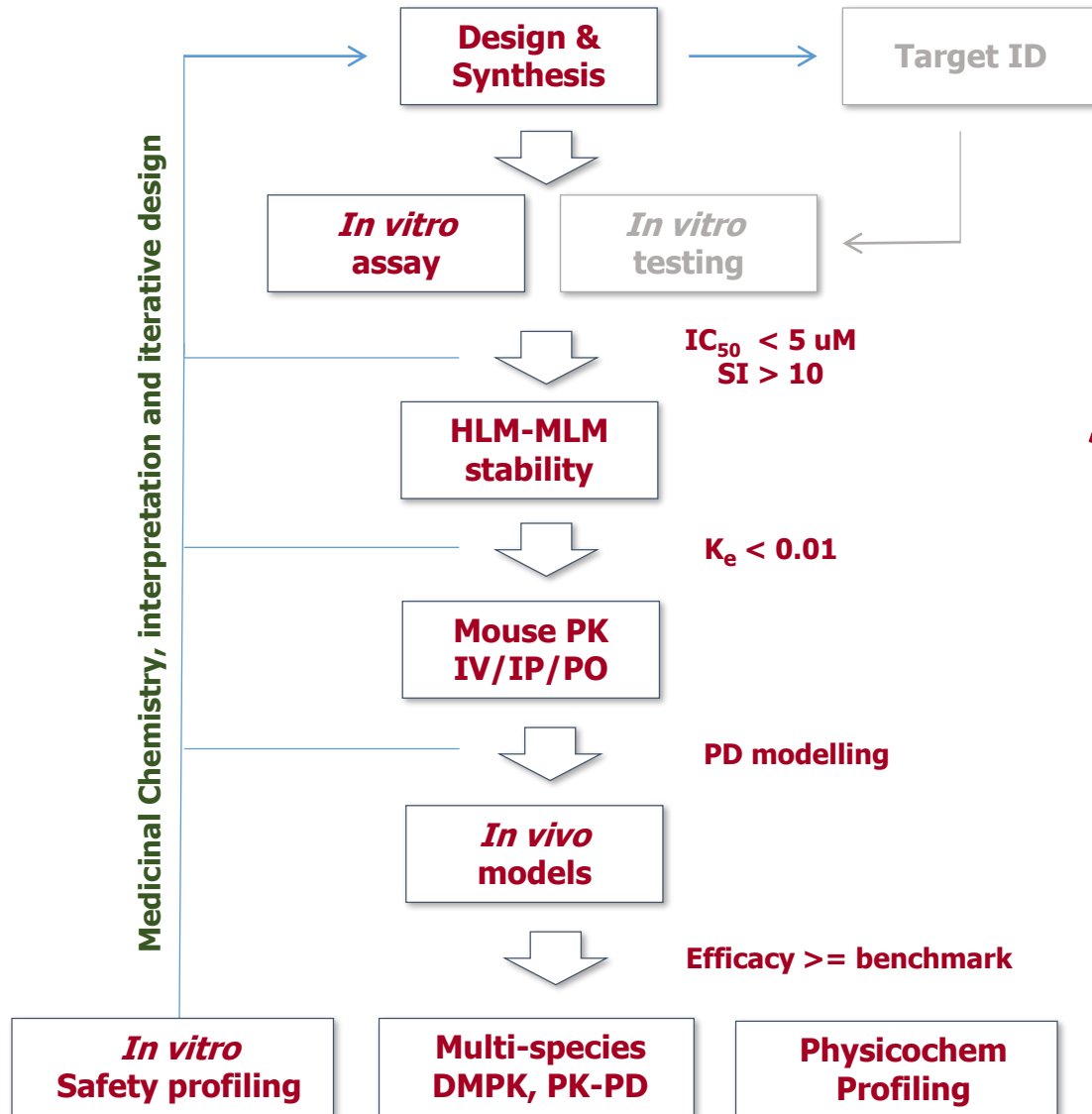
- For a medicinal chemist, synthesis is a tool, not a goal
- A medicinal chemist integrates data from a variety of sources, and uses this information to design new generations of compounds
- Knowledge of synthetic chemistry comes in choosing these new targets, in designing and implementing the syntheses

Many disciplines play critical roles...



... but chemistry is central

The role of the medicinal chemist is unique in the drug discovery process...

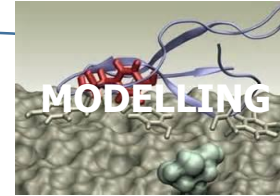
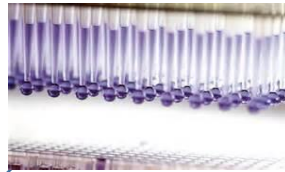


... because everything starts with the molecule; and with the iterative design process that optimizes the properties of the molecule

Your Partners Provide Key Data

BIOLOGICAL SCREENING

Do my molecules interact with the desired targets?



Hypothesis generation, selection/triage of new targets

PHARMACOLOGY

Do my molecules work in disease models?

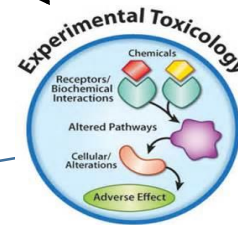


What properties are impeding the ability of my drug to get where it needs to go, and to do its job once it's there?

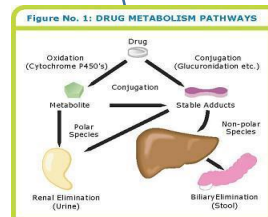
PHARMACO KINETICS

TOXICOLOGY

What are the adverse interactions I need to avoid?



MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY AND ORGANIC SYNTHESIS

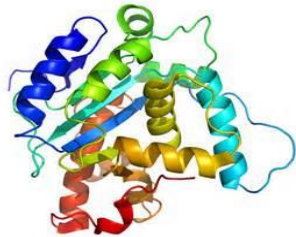


PHARMACEUTICS

Are my molecules stable? soluble? crystalline?

DRUG METABOLISM

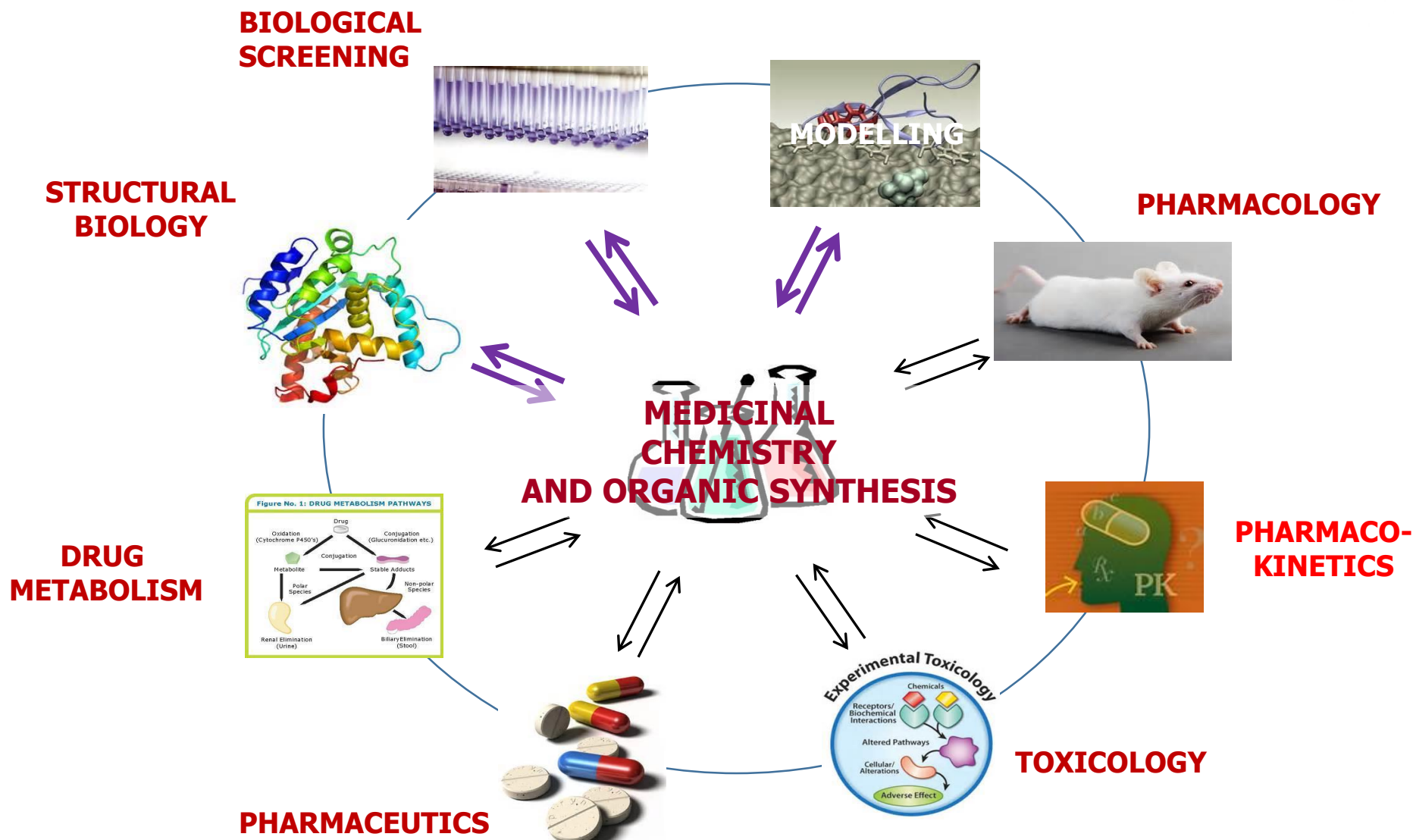
What removes my compound from the body?



STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY

Identification of binding modes

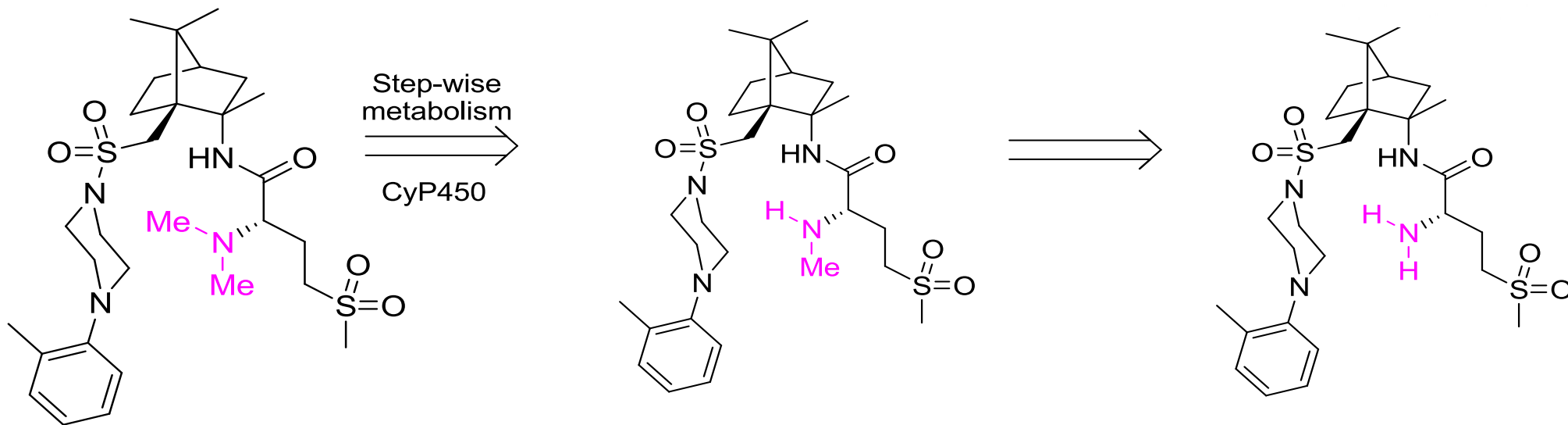
Responding to Structural Information



Responding to metabolism data



Responding to metabolism data



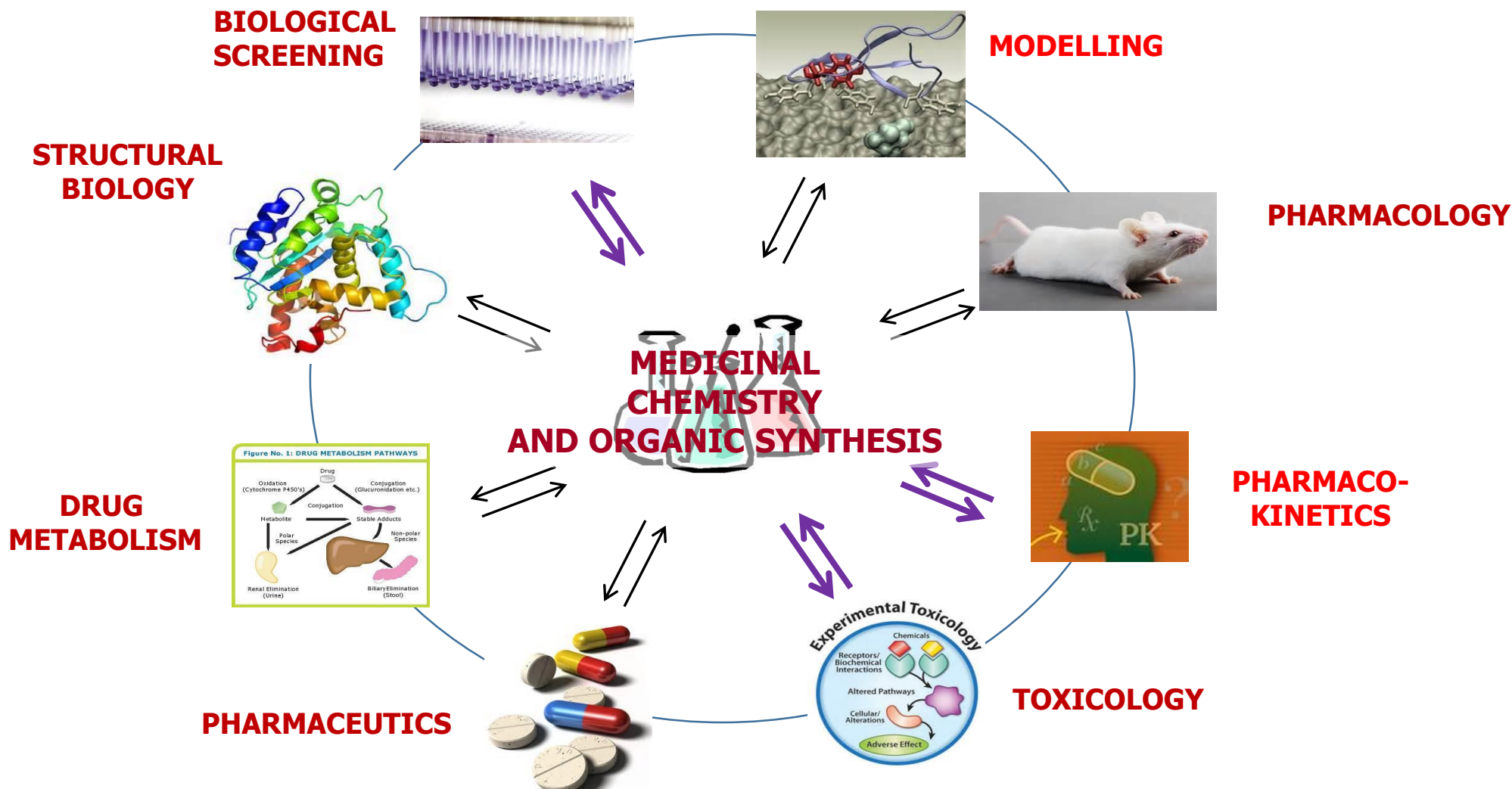
Active OT receptor antagonist
Rapidly metabolized
Low bioavailability

Both metabolites are active OT antagonists; the N-Me is also metabolized rapidly, but the -NH₂ analog is stable, with improved bioavailability

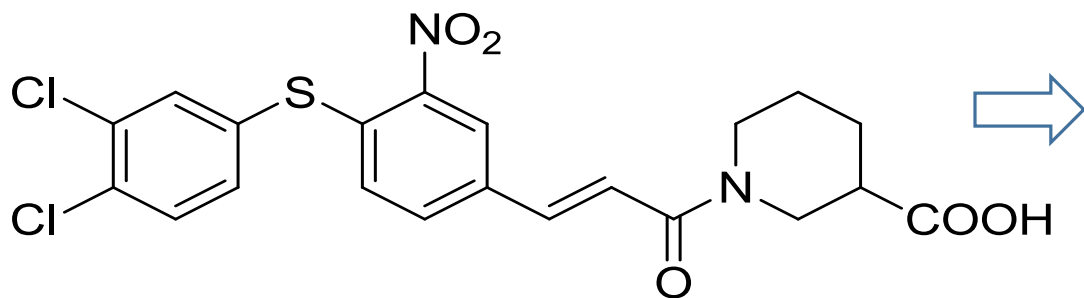
2000

Plasma drug, ng/mL

Responding to safety data



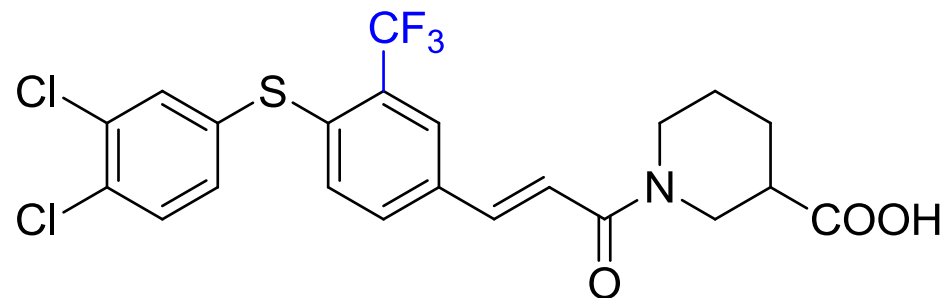
Responding to safety data



Inhibitor of cell adhesion

Potent, good PK profile
Ames positive

From DEREK analysis :
Aryl-NO₂ can be genotoxic



Potent, good PK profile
Ames negative

The Ames test is a widely employed method that uses bacteria to test whether a given chemical can cause mutations in the DNA of the test organism.

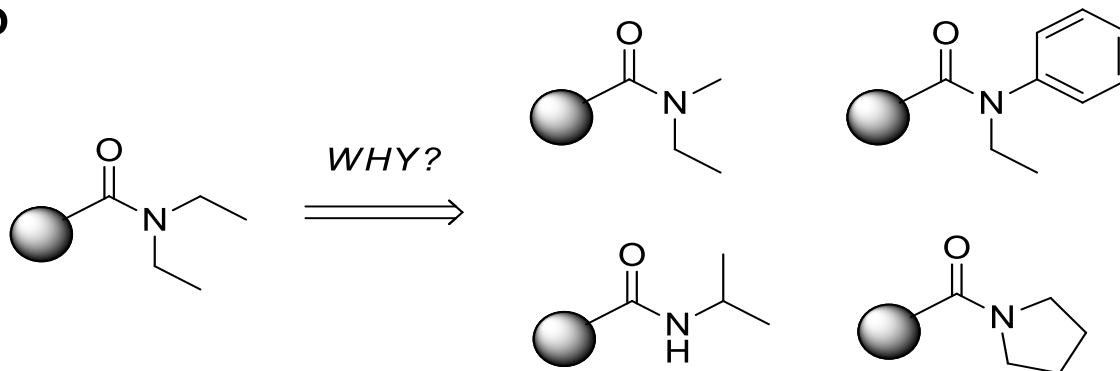
Is is a biological assay to assess the mutagenic potential of chemical compounds

The Complex Reality

- If you want to make a drug, you have to solve all of these challenges simultaneously, in one molecule
- It isn't sufficient to take them on one at a time; it doesn't help to make 500 analogs of a lead structure...
 - if they all have the same metabolism problem...
 - or the same safety issue...
 - or they are all highly bound to plasma proteins...
 - or none of them can cross membranes to get to the target
- You (with your partners) need to identify critical issues ASAP, and focus your attention on addressing these
 - Your testing strategy needs to adjust so that you can get rapid feedback on key challenges
 - *Be aware, that solutions to one problem, can introduce another!*

Designing New Targets

- It's not enough to make new compounds because they look like your current leads
- At the *beginning* of a program, you need to be thinking about the *end* of the program
 - What is the target profile (TPP) for your ideal compound?
 - How does your current lead fall short of this target?
 - What hypotheses do you have, for how to address these shortcomings?
 - What compounds can you design (and make) to test these hypotheses?



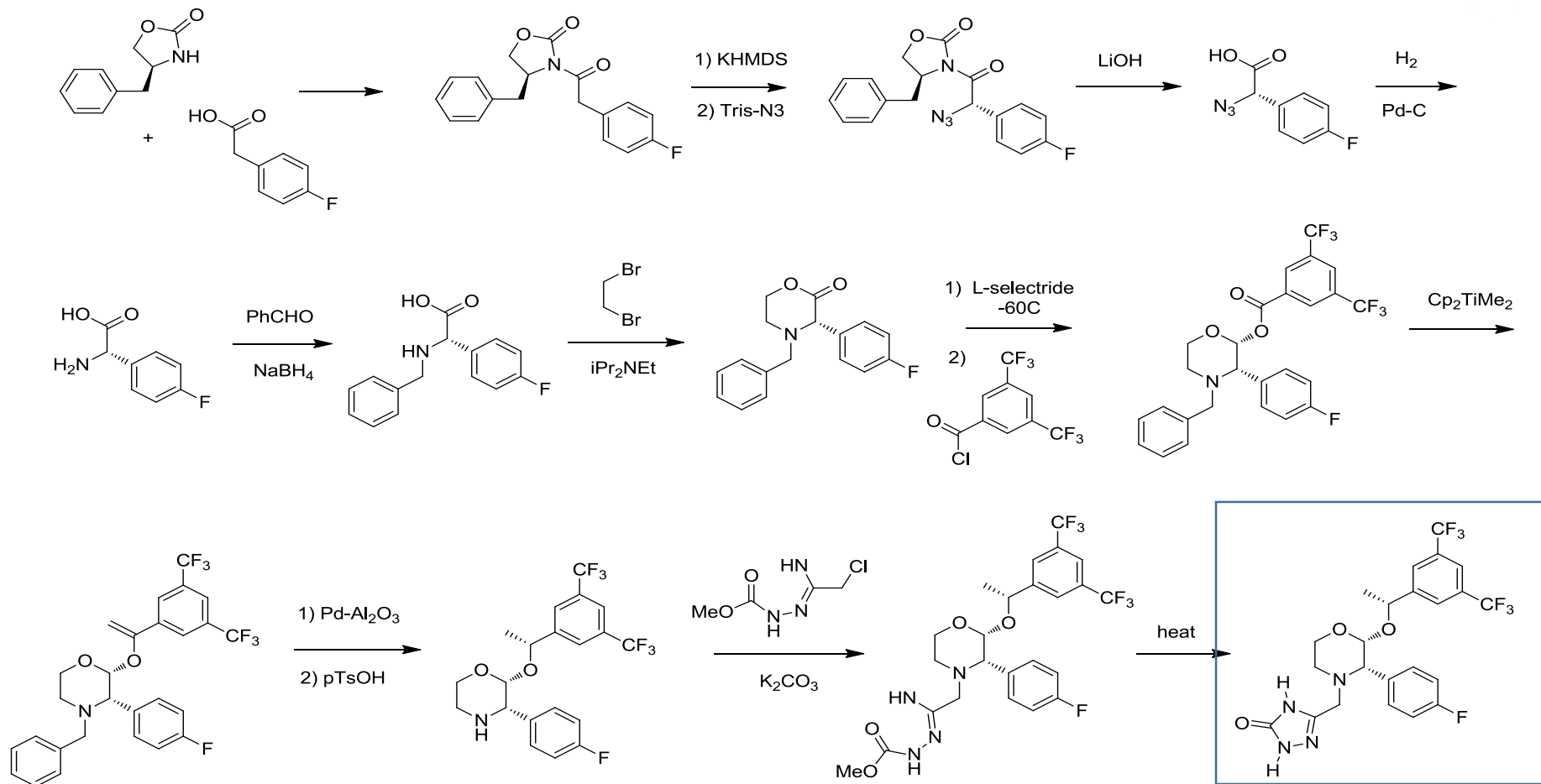
An Evolving Role

- Medicinal chemists have a role in
 - Hit-To-Lead (HTL) Evaluation
 - Structure alerts
 - Toxicity “flags”
 - False hits, PAINS
 - Homology searching to probe SAR
 - Lead Optimization (LO)
 - Multi-property optimization through SAR studies
 - Candidate selection
 - “Tight SAR” for final optimization of properties
 - Early scale-up to support advanced characterization

...but...I'm a *REAL* chemist...

- there's a very important role for a Chemist in pharma
...in process research
- In process chemistry, you have a single synthetic target
(the drug candidate)
 - Scale up (mg -> g -> kg and beyond)
 - Synthetic efficiency
 - Minimizing waste
 - Co\$t

How med-chemists make Emend®



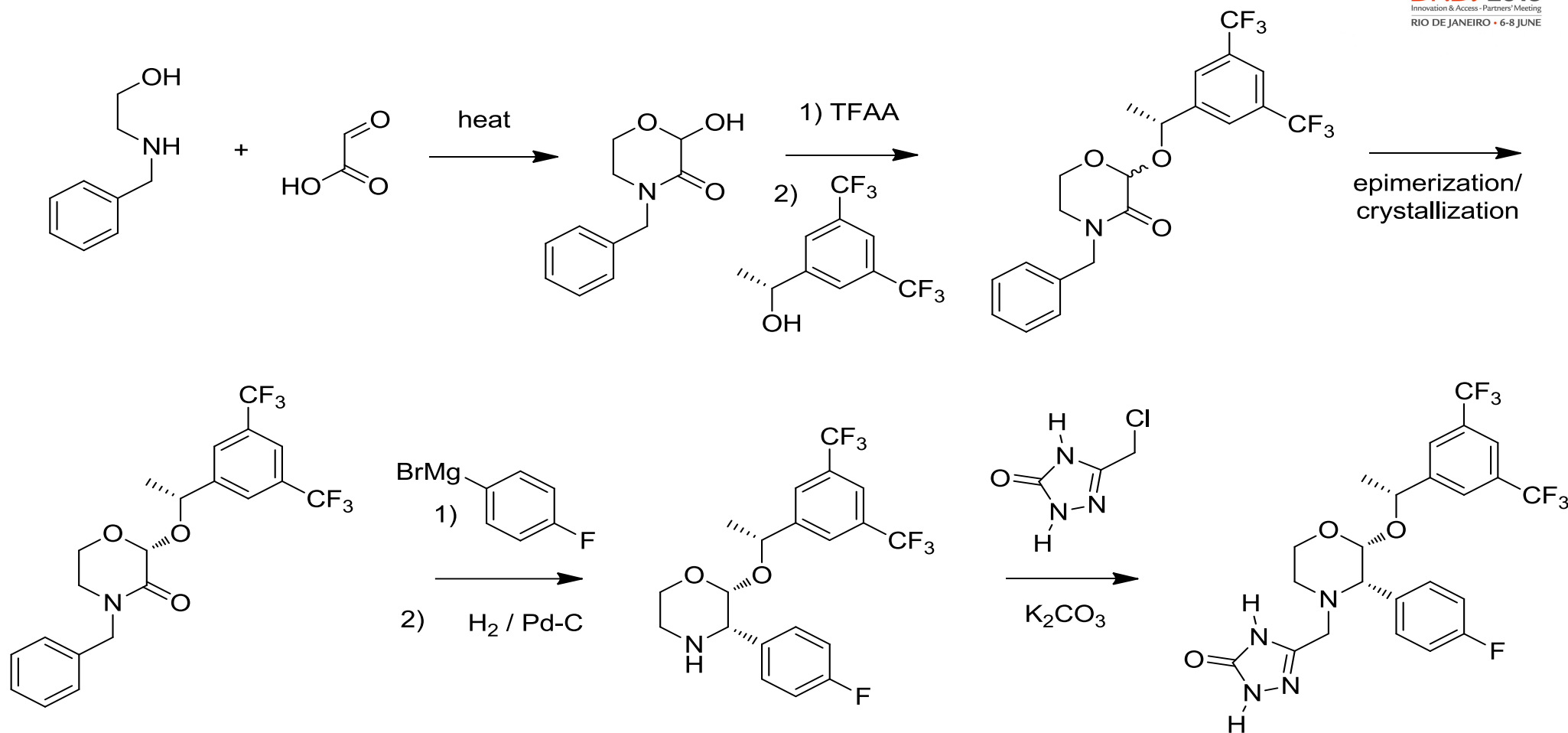
11 steps, < 20% overall yield

Toxic/reactive reagents

Low temperatures/inert atmosphere

**Anti-emetic
Merck**

The commercial process



- **6 STEPS, 55% OVERALL YIELD**
- **Total production waste reduced by 85%**

The Top Pharmaceuticals That Changed The World

Chemical and Engineering News Vol. 83, Issue 25 (6/20/2005)



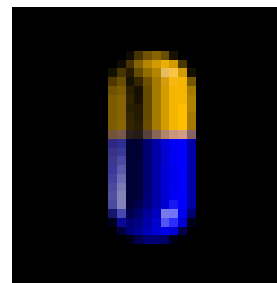
Photo Courtesy of the FDA History Office

C&EN Special Issue

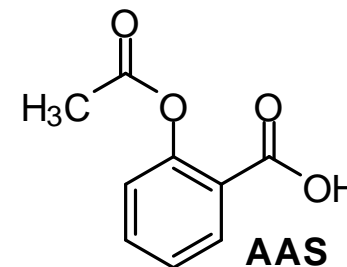
Top Pharmaceuticals
A Look At Drugs That Changed Our World



***Chemical & Engineering News** looks
at 46 drugs that have had a major
impact on human health and society*



Félix Hoffmann (1898)



ALPHABETICAL INDEX

- Allegra
- **Aspirin**
- **AZT**
- Botox
- Cisplatin
- Crixivan
- Cyclosporine
- Digoxin
- Erythropoietin
- Ether
- Fentanyl
- Fluoride
- Fosamax
- Hydrocortisone
- **Insulin**
- Isonizid

- Ivermectin
- Librium
- Lovastatin
- Medical marijuana
- 6-Mercaptopurine
- Methadone
- **Morphine**
- **Oral contraceptives**
- Oxytocin
- **Penicillin**
- Phenobarbital
- Premarin
- Prontosil
- **Prozac**

- Quinine
- Ritalin
- Rituxan
- RU-486
- Salbutamol
- Salvarsan
- Tagamet
- **Taxol**
- Thalidomide
- Thorazine
- Thyroxine
- **Vaccines**
- **Viagra**
- Vioxx
- Vitamins



Sir Simon Campbell

~80% synthetic compounds!!!

Source of new drugs

Until the beginning of twentieth century, the substances used for the treatment of diseases were obtained from natural sources.

Natural sources include plants, animals, and minerals.

Among the natural sources, plants were mainly used.

Sometimes minerals and occasionally animals were used for the same purpose.

Nowadays most of the drugs are manufactured in the laboratory, i.e. synthetic drugs.

Microorganisms also serve as a source of a large number of drugs.

Natural Products as Sources of New Drugs from 1981 to 2014

[David J. Newman^{*†}](#) and [Gordon M. Cragg[‡]](#)

J. Nat. Prod., **2016**, *79* (3), pp 629–661

DOI: 10.1021/acs.jnatprod.5b01055



The major categories used are as follows:

“B” Biological; usually a large (>45 residues) peptide or protein either isolated from an organism/cell line or produced by biotechnological means in a surrogate host.

“N” Natural product.

“NB” Natural product “Botanical” (in general these have been recently approved).

“ND” Derived from a natural product and is usually a semi-synthetic modification.

“S” Totally synthetic drug, often found by random screening/modification of an existing agent.

“S*” Made by total synthesis, but the pharmacophore is/was from a natural product.

“V” Vaccine.

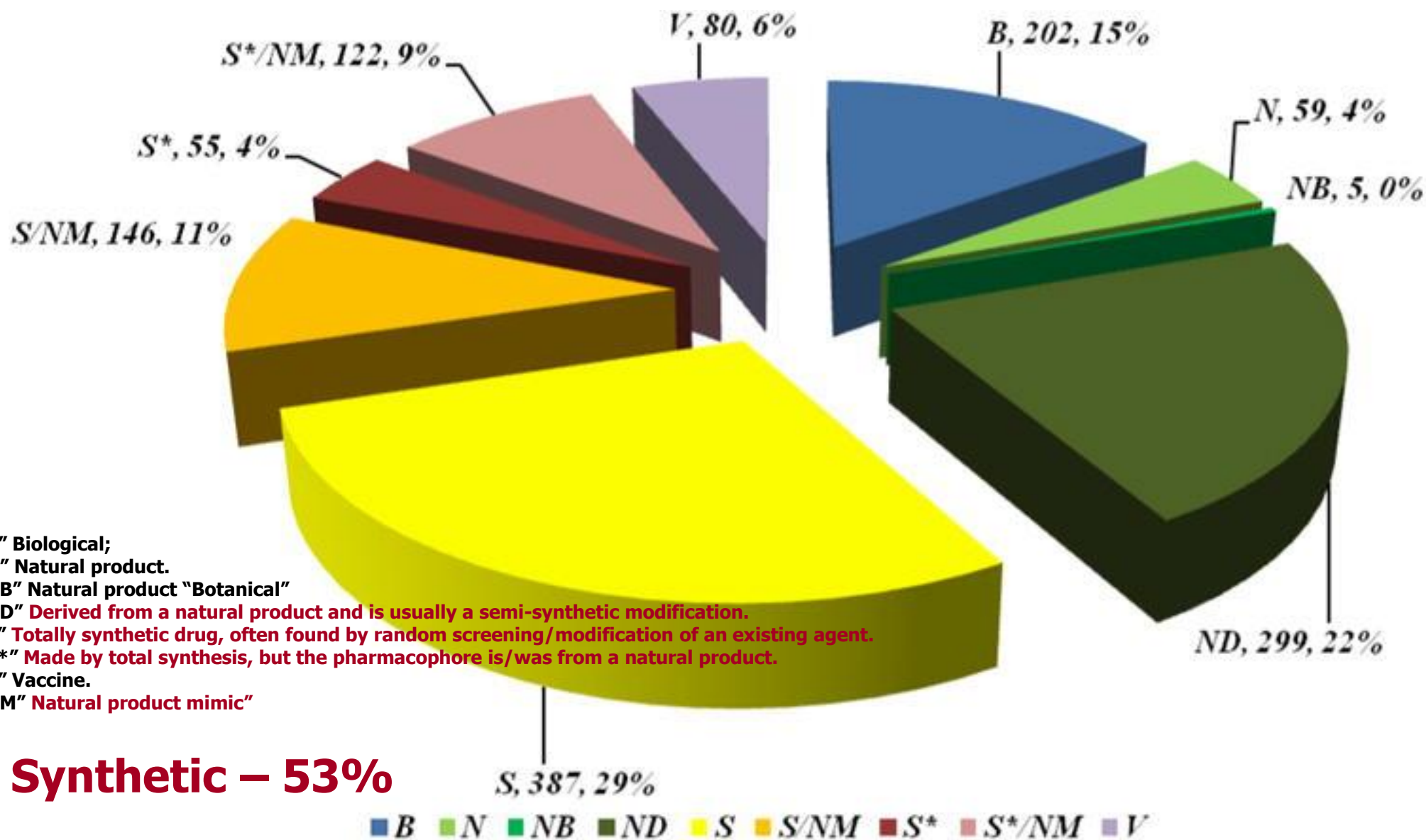
Natural Products as Sources of New Drugs from 1981 to 2014

David J. Newman*[†] and Gordon M. Cragg[‡]

J. Nat. Prod., **2016**, *79* (3), pp 629–661

DOI: 10.1021/acs.jnatprod.5b01055

All New Approved Drugs; n = 1355



"B" Biological;

"N" Natural product.

"NB" Natural product "Botanical"

"ND" Derived from a natural product and is usually a semi-synthetic modification.

"S" Totally synthetic drug, often found by random screening/modification of an existing agent.

"S*" Made by total synthesis, but the pharmacophore is/was from a natural product.

"V" Vaccine.

"NM" Natural product mimic"

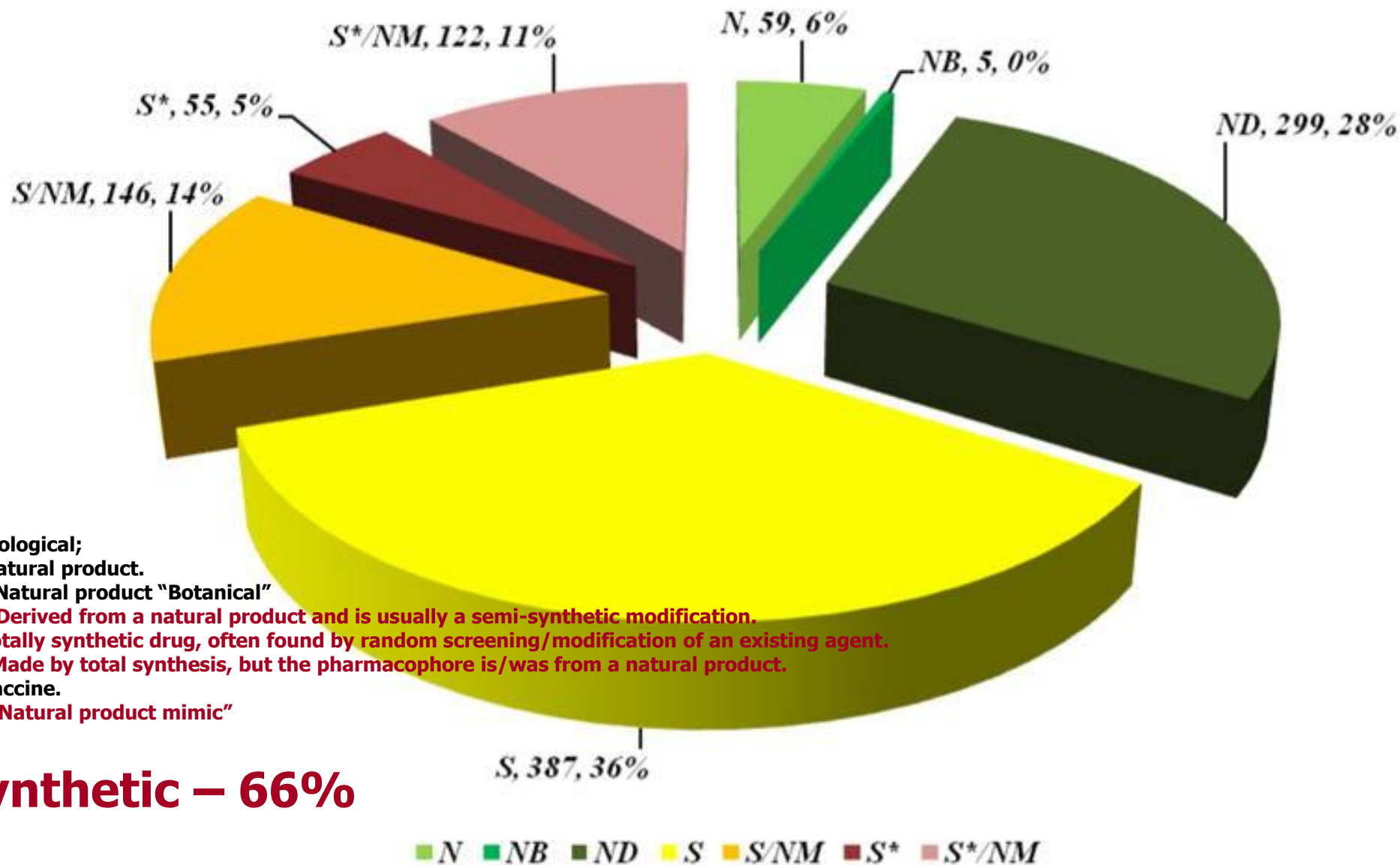
Natural Products as Sources of New Drugs from 1981 to 2014

David J. Newman^{*†} and Gordon M. Cragg[‡]

J. Nat. Prod., **2016**, 79 (3), pp 629–661

DOI: 10.1021/acs.jnatprod.5b01055

Source of Small Molecule Approved Drugs; n = 1073



William C. Campbell, Satoshi Ōmura and Youyou Tu Win 2015 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine

Awards: Researchers' work led to drugs against roundworm diseases and malaria

Cell

Leading Edge

BenchMarks



Artemisinin: Discovery from the Chinese Herbal Garden

Louis H. Miller^{1,*} and Xinzhan Su¹

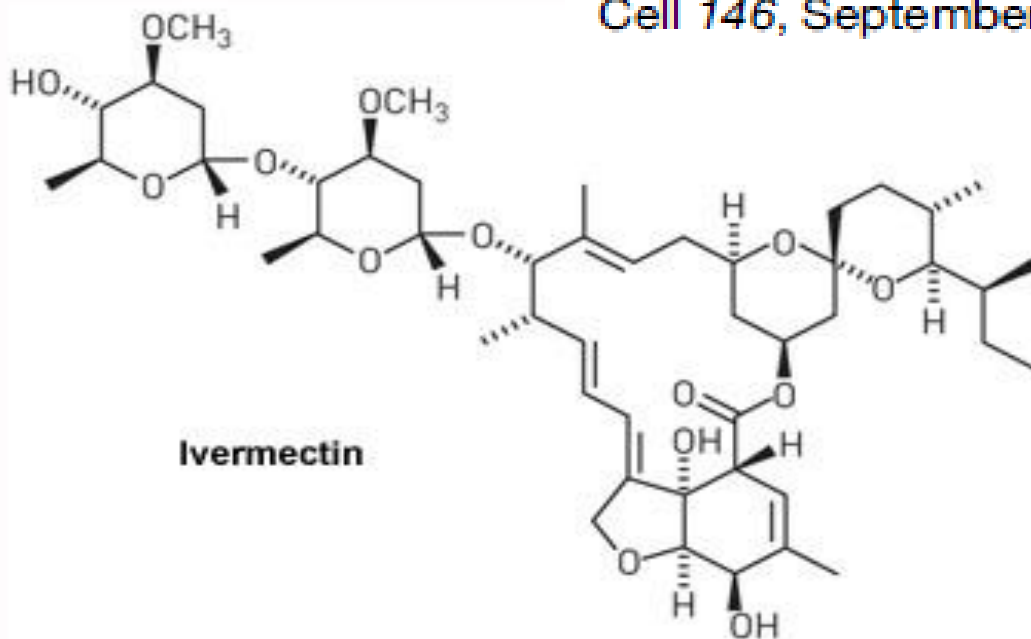
¹Laboratory of Malaria and Vector Research, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Rockville, MD 20852, USA

*Correspondence: lsmiller@niaid.nih.gov

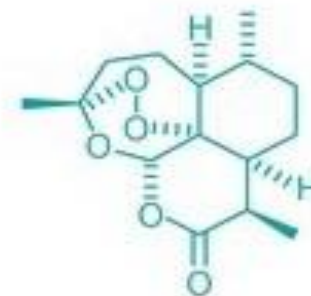
DOI 10.1016/j.cell.2011.08.024

This year's Lasker DeBakey Clinical Research Award goes to Youyou Tu for the discovery of artemisinin and its use in the treatment of malaria—a medical advance that has saved millions of lives across the globe, especially in the developing world.

Cell 146, September 16, 2011 ©2011 Elsevier Inc. 855



Ivermectin



(+)-Artemisinin

[Ivermectin: C&EN's Top Pharmaceuticals That Changed the World:](http://pubs.acs.org/cen/coverstory/83/8325/8325ivermectin.html)
<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/coverstory/83/8325/8325ivermectin.html>



DNDi 2016

Innovation & Access - Partners' Meeting

RIO DE JANEIRO • 6-8 JUNE



The *Lead Optimization Latin America (LOLA)* consortium: collaborative drug discovery for Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

Luiz Carlos Dias¹, Marco A. Dessoy¹, Brian W. Slafer¹, Adriano Andricopulo², Glaucius Oliva², Dale Kempf³, Brian Brown³, Mira Hinman³, Yvonne C. Martin³, Charles E. Mowbray⁴, Simon F. Campbell⁵

¹Instituto de Química – UNICAMP, Campinas, Brazil

²Laboratório de Química Medicinal e Computacional, Centro de Biotecnologia Molecular Estrutural– USP, São Paulo, Brazil

³AbbVie Inc., Chicago, USA

⁴Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi), Geneva, Switzerland

⁵Independent consultant

DNDi

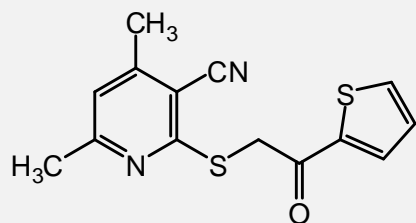
Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*

Lead Optimization Latin America (LOLA)

Origins of leads against *T. cruzi*

Early leads for new drugs for Chagas disease

□ Monocyclic series

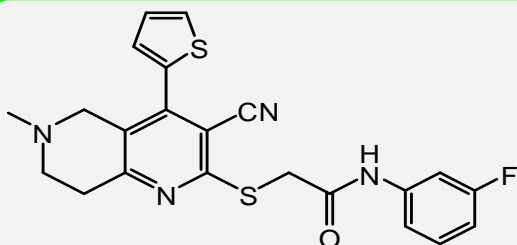


TDR30139

$IC_{50} = 0.34 \mu\text{M}$ (*in vitro*)

- TDR screening campaign
- TDR optimisation project

□ Bicyclic series



LOLA4

$IC_{50} = 0.03 \mu\text{M}$ (*in vitro*)

- NIH funded screen of the Broad Institute compound collection



Medicinal Chemistry Centre for Chagas Disease in Brazil

World Health Organization

New Medicinal Chemistry Centers to Join Drug Discovery Networks
T24/181/136 ID No. A80141

The Special Program for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases
TDR/UNICEF/UNDP/WB/WHO

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS



ADRIANO D. ANDRICOPULO
University of Sao Paulo

MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY
AND DRUG DESIGN



GLAUCIUS OLIVA
University of Sao Paulo

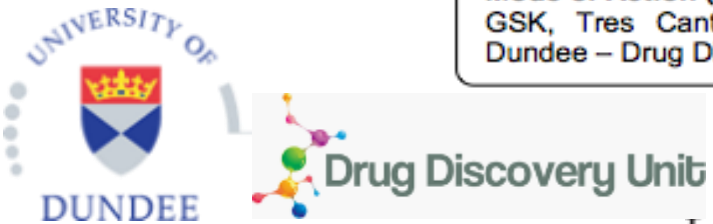
STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY
AND STRATEGIC PLANNING



LUIZ CARLOS DIAS
UNICAMP

ORGANIC SYNTHESIS

Early screening cascade & partners



Design and analysis of new targets
 Collaborative effort by UNICAMP, USP Sao Carlos, AbbVie, Sir Simon Campbell & DNDi



Color coding:
 Every compound
 Few per series
 Later stages

Synthesis
 UNICAMP



Chagas, toxicity, and mode of action related testing

DMPK

Primary Parasitology
 USP Sao Carlos and LMPH, Antwerp

in vitro ADME (LogD, Clint, Sol., Perm.)
 AbbVie, Chicago

Secondary Parasitology
 Swiss Tropical Institute

ADME predictions
 AbbVie, Chicago

Mode of Action (CYP51) screen
 GSK, Tres Cantos and University of Dundee – Drug Discovery Unit

Metabolism (Met ID)
 AbbVie, Chicago

Formulation – *in vivo* PK
 Wuxi AppTech, Shanghai

Mouse model of Chagas Disease
 LSHTM, London, USP-São Carlos



abbvie

abbvie

abbvie



DNDi project collaborators in alphabetical order and their contributions

DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*

Antwerp University, Laboratory of Microbiology, Parasitology and Hygiene (LMPH, Belgium)



The LMPH (Laboratory of Microbiology, Parasitology and Hygiene) conduct *in vitro* testing of new compounds against *T. cruzi*, *L. infantum*, *T. brucei*, *T.b. rhodesiense* and parallel assessments of cytotoxicity against MRC-5 (human fibroblast) cells and PMMs (primary mouse macrophages). The same lab can test any active compounds in mouse and hamster animal models of VL.

GSK, Tres Cantos (Spain)



Test compounds for CYP51 inhibition to rule out this mode of action.

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)



World leading centre for research and education in public and global health.

Providing testing for compounds in an acute mouse model of Chagas disease as a proof of concept.

Sandexis LLP (UK)



Provide expert medicinal and computational chemistry support to DNDi, and have been supporting the optimization of the new series from the Pfizer collection.

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Switzerland)



Public organization which runs *in vitro* drug action studies in *T. cruzi* on 2 leading compounds from the cyanopyridine series.

Unicamp (Campinas, Brazil)



Prof. L.C. Dias lab runs the project at UNICAMP. Selection of targets provided by DNDi. Planning and synthesis of derivatives. Data evaluation and decision on course of the series.

University of Dundee – Drug Discovery Unit (UK)



Compounds tested in a CYP51 assay to evaluate the primary mechanism of action of the cyanopyridines against *T. cruzi*.

University of Sao Paulo at Sao Carlos, Centre for Research and Innovation in Biodiversity and New Drugs-CIBFar, IFSC-USP



The LQMC (Laboratory of Medicinal and Computational Chemistry) conduct medicinal chemistry studies including *in vitro* testing of new compounds against *T. cruzi* and *L. donovani*, and parallel assessments of cytotoxicity against MRC-5 (human fibroblast) cells and PMMs (primary mouse macrophages). The same lab is establishing validated assays to test promising active compounds in animal models of VL and *T. cruzi*.

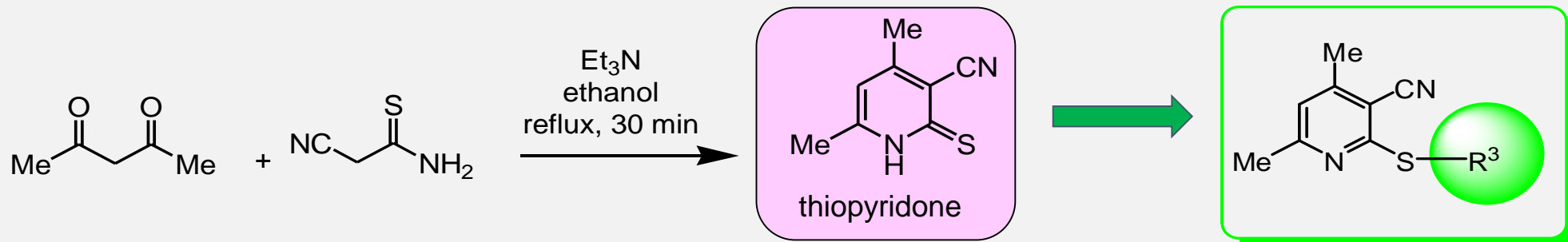
Wuxi AppTec (China)



CRO based in Shanghai, China, providing DMPK services to the project. This will mainly be *in vivo* rodent (mouse, hamster & rat) study to provide PK results for novel compounds. These results will be used to set appropriate dosing regimens for testing in subsequent animal models of Chagas and/or VL, and to understand general DMPK properties for further optimization.

General Synthesis

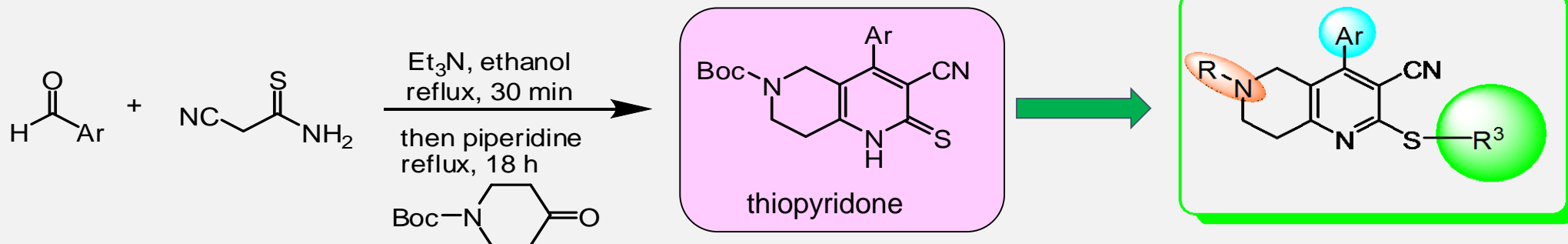
monocyclic cyanopyridines



Schmidt, U.; Kubitzek, H. *Chem. Ber.* **1960**, 93, 1559-1565.

TDR30139
analogues

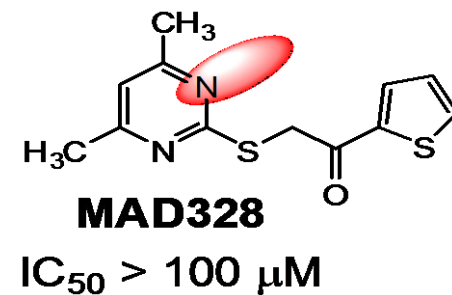
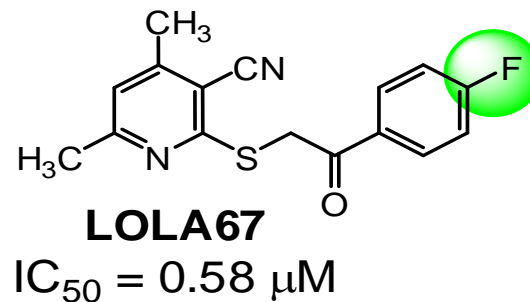
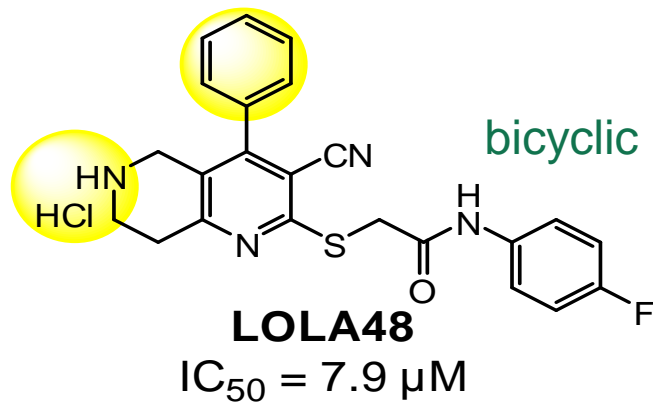
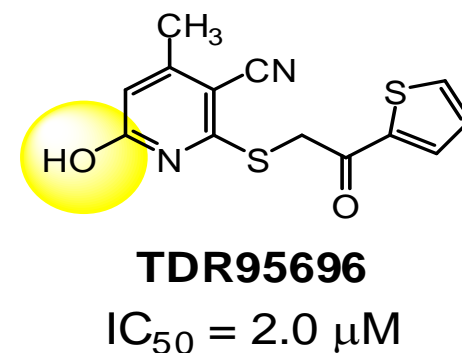
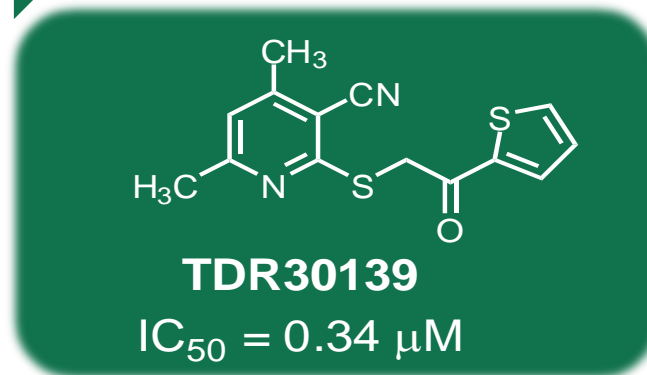
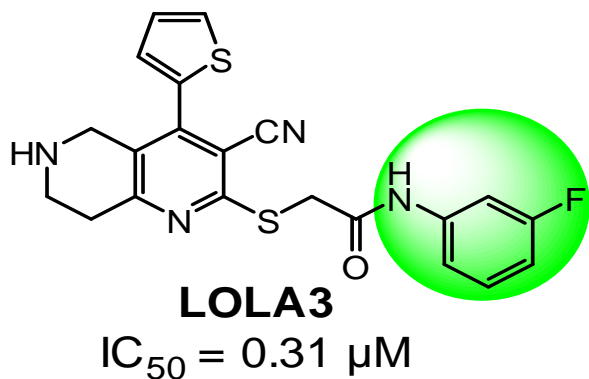
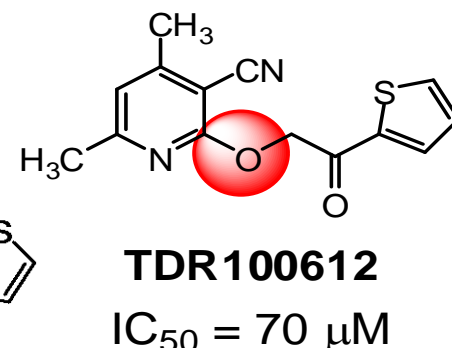
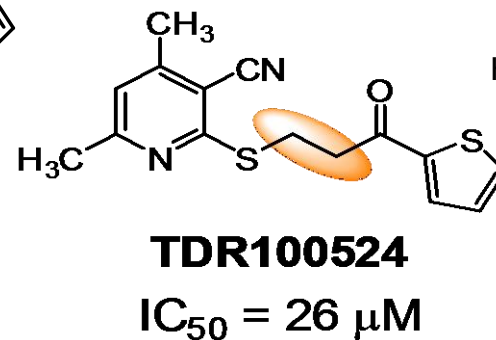
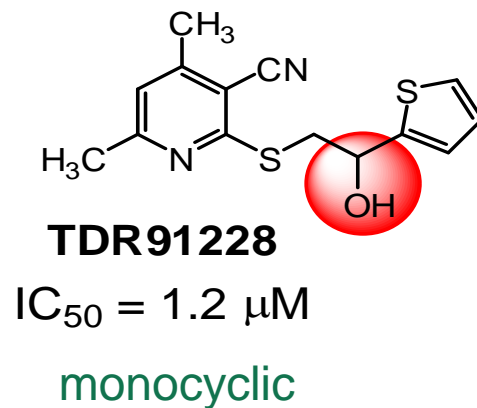
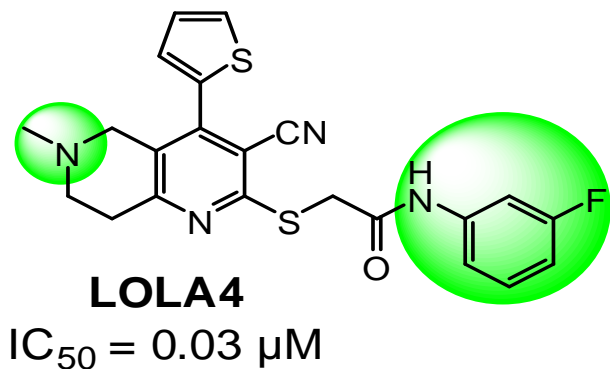
bicyclic cyanopyridines



Abdel-Wadood, F. K.; Abdel-Monem, M. I.; Fahmy, A. M.; Geies, A. A. *J. Chem. Res.* **2008**, 89-94.

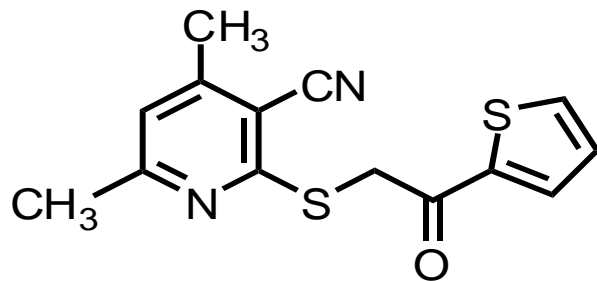
NIH lead
analogues

Synthesis of TDR30139 derivatives



MOA is not CYP51 inhibition

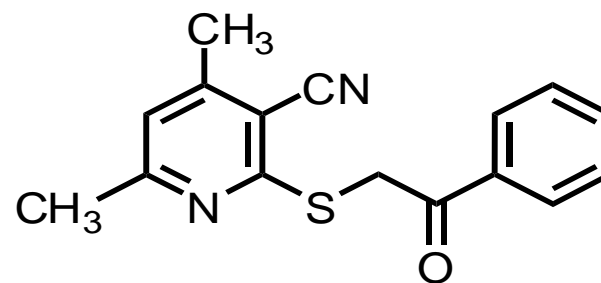
- **TDR30139 & TDR91219** have promising *in vitro* activity against *T. cruzi*
- Hit to lead chemistry in progress at University of Campinas
- Check for CYP51 inhibition before investing too much effort:



TDR30139

T. cruzi IC₅₀ = 0.34 μM

CYP51 IC₅₀ > 10 μM



TDR91219

T. cruzi IC₅₀ = 0.7 μM

CYP51 IC₅₀ > 10 μM

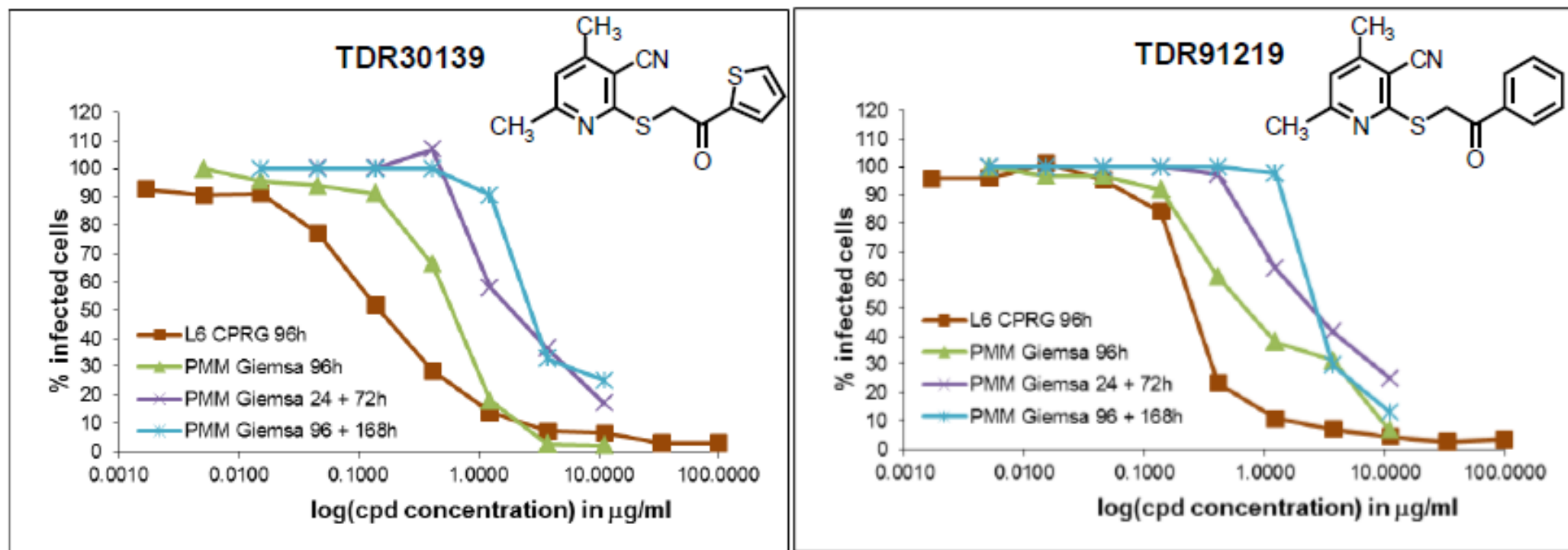
- Experiment kindly carried out by collaborators at GSK, Tres Cantos, and Dundee Drug Discovery Unit



do more
feel better
live longer



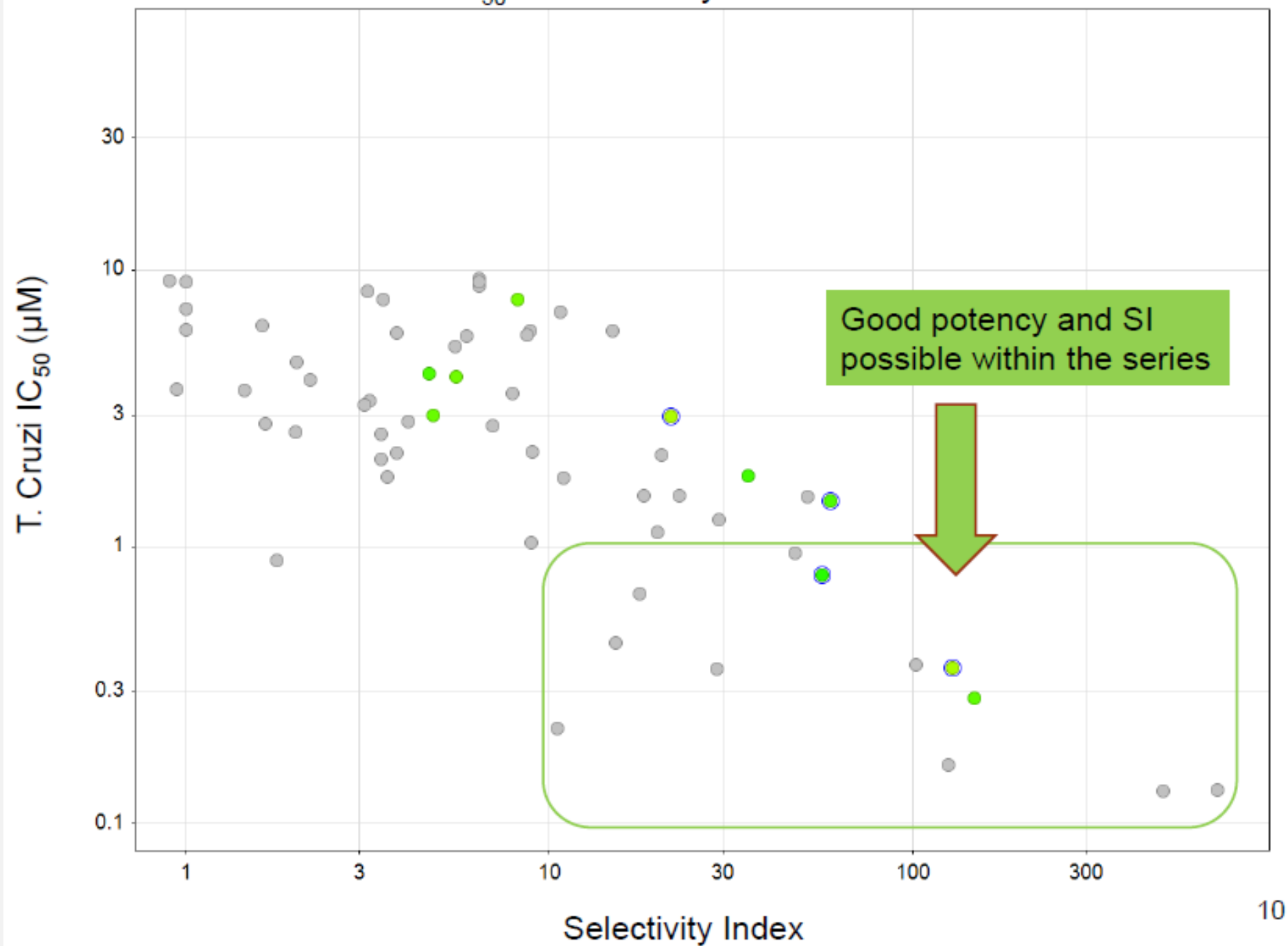
Recovery of *T. cruzi* amastigotes: Standard assay vs. wash-out



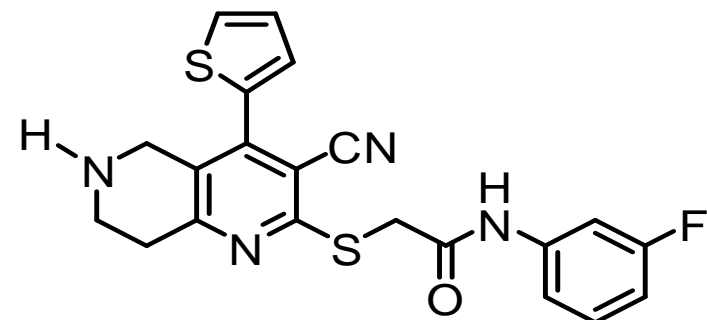
| in µg/ml | L6 96h CPRG | | PMM 96h Giemsa | | PMM 24h + 72h Giemsa | | PMM 96h + 168h Giemsa | |
|----------|-------------|------|----------------|------|----------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| | IC50 | IC90 | IC50 | IC90 | IC50 | IC90 | IC50 | IC90 |
| TDR91219 | 0.166 | 3.23 | 0.536 | 1.97 | 1.66 | na | 2.40 | na |
| TDR30139 | 0.263 | 2.65 | 0.624 | 8.61 | 2.21 | na | 2.40 | na |

- Further confirmation of good *in vitro* activity
- Aim to test relevance of residual parasites in an *in vivo* assay

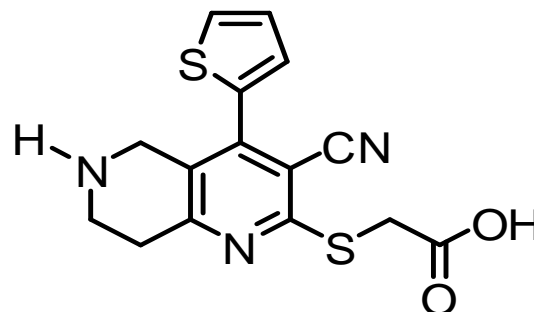
T. Cruzi IC₅₀ vs. Selectivity Index on MRC5 cells



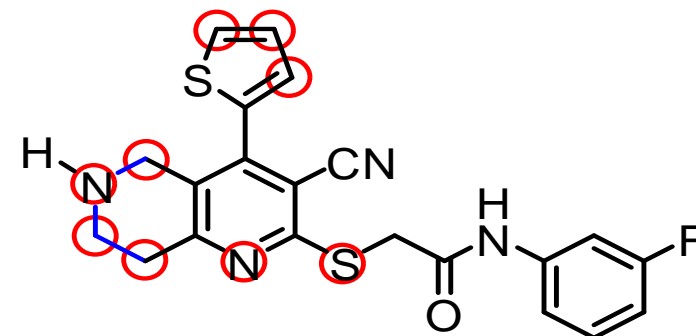
Metabolic Stability



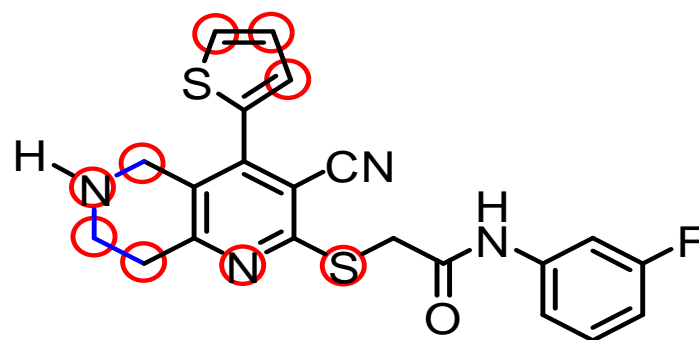
LOLA3 (parent M = 425)
human - 96.31%
rat - 94.30%



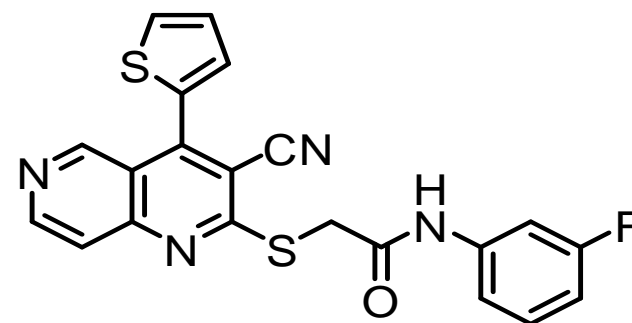
(M - 93)
rat - 5.35%



○ = -OH / = //
(M + 14)
human - 1.65%



○ = -OH / = 2x //
(M + 12)
human - 0.35%
rat - 1.05%



(M - 4)
human - 0.99%

❖ Incubation in human and rat liver microsomes (60 min, 10 μM) (AbbVie).

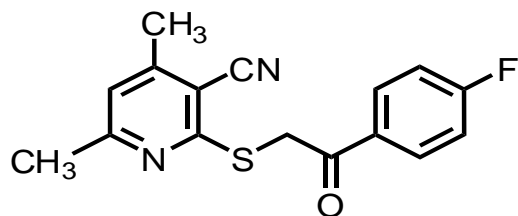
➤ However, 0% remaining in female mouse plasma at rt after 0.5 h (Wuxi).

➤ Amide likely unstable.

abbvie

WuXi AppTec

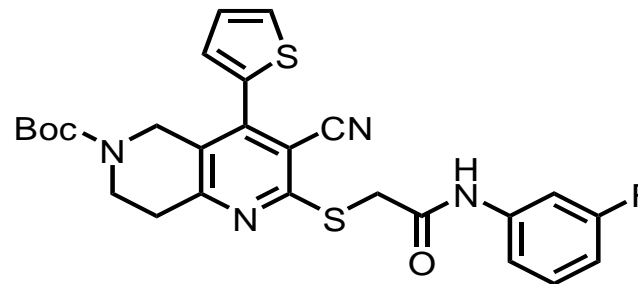
Kinetic Solubility Results



LOLA67

K.S. (pH 2.0) < 1 μ M

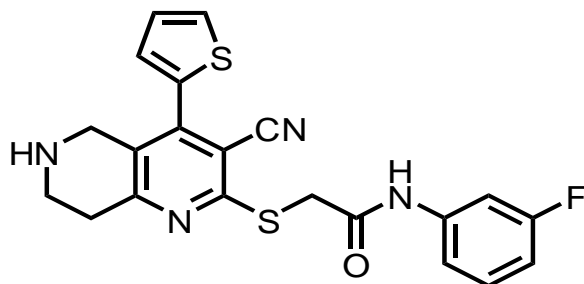
K.S. (pH 7.4) < 1 μ M



LOLA2

K.S. (pH 2.0) < 1 μ M

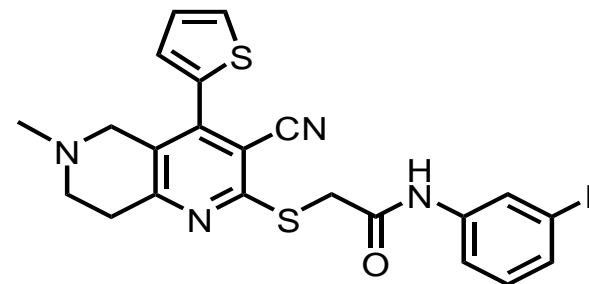
K.S. (pH 7.4) < 1 μ M



LOLA3

K.S. (pH 2.0) > 200 μ M

K.S. (pH 7.4) = 2.65 μ M



LOLA4

K.S. (pH 2.0) > 200 μ M

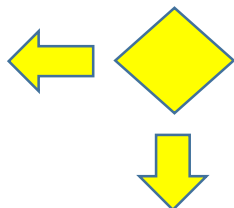
K.S. (pH 7.4) < 1 μ M



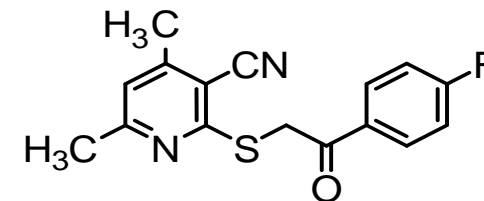
Theoretical concentration: 200 μ M
K.S. Buffer: 50 μ M phosphate buffer, pH 2.0 and 7.4

Formulation studies on LOLA67

In vivo (mouse) PK studies



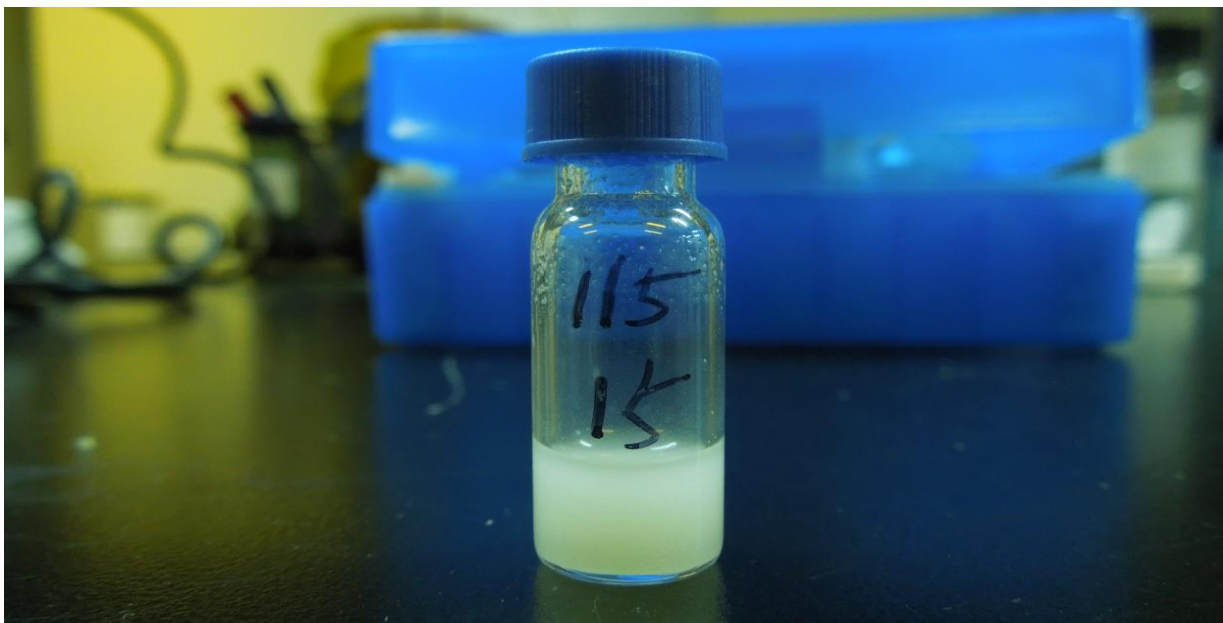
Acute mouse model of Chagas Disease



LOLA67
(MAD431)

$IC_{50} = 0.58 \mu M$

$cLogP = 3.74 \pm 0.53$



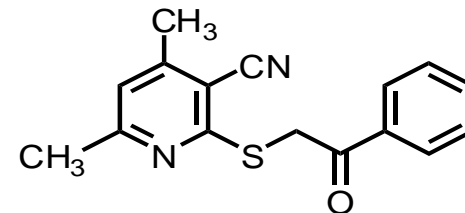
Poor plasma solubility



10 mg/mL

10% DMSO,
10% Cremophor EL,
40% PEG400,
40% Water; step by step

3-cyanopyridines

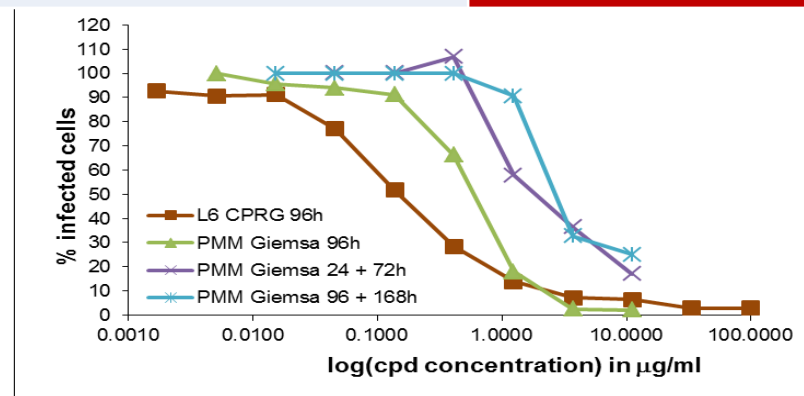


- Monocyclic and bicyclic subseries
- > 200 analogues synthesized for LOLA
- Sub- μM against *T. Cruzi* (*in vitro*)
- Potency not driven by CYP51 inhibition
- No cytotoxicity issues
- Good stability in human and rat liver microsomes
- Low clearance in human and rat
- *T. Cruzi* amastigote recovery <100% inhibition (limited by solubility)
- CN, C=O, Pyr, side chain, Me groups aryl ring very important
- **Increase solubility**

IV - Solution in 60% PEG400, 50 mM sodium citrate, pH 4.5.

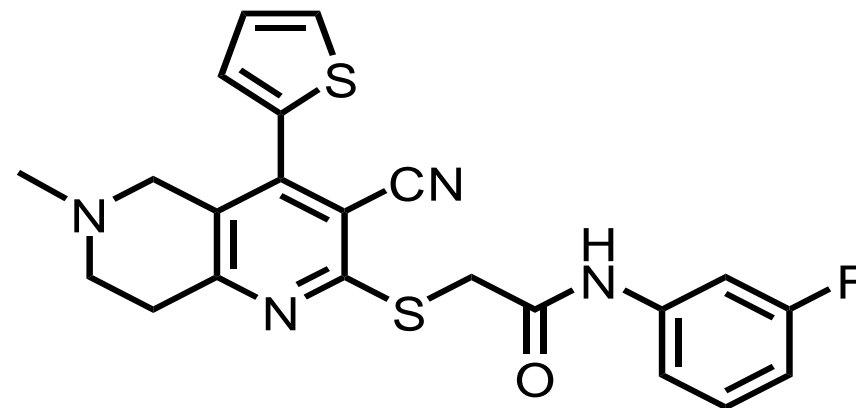
PO- Solution in 25% hydroxypropyl- β -cyclodextrin, 50 mM sodium citrate, pH 3.3.

| Property | Value |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>T. Cruzi</i> | IC ₅₀ = 0.7 μM |
| CYP51 | IC ₅₀ > 10 μM |
| Cytotox MRC-5 cells | IC ₅₀ > 64 μM |
| Cytotox PMM | IC ₅₀ > 64 μM |
| Cl _{int} (human mic.) | 11.8 L/hr/kg |
| Cl _{int} (human hep.) | 16 L/hr/kg |
| Cl _{int} (rat mic.) | 42 L/hr/kg |
| Cl _{int} (rat hep.) | 45.7 L/hr/kg |
| E _{max} | < 100% inhibition |
| solubility | poor |



Bicyclic series - Issues

- > 40 analogues synthesized for LOLA
- Very variable *in vitro* results
- Low oral bioavailability from mouse PK
- Amides unstable in plasma
- More soluble analogues less active
- Challenging to achieve *in vivo* POC



| Property | IC ₅₀ (μM) |
|------------------------|--|
| <i>T. Cruzi</i> (LMPH) | 54.86, 0.03, 0.03 >64 retest >64, 26.9 new batch |
| <i>T. Cruzi</i> (LMQC) | 2.01 ± 0.37 |
| Cytotox MRC-5 cells | >64, 52.9, 30 25.4, >64 retest >64, 34.3 new batch |

Acknowledgements



Glaucius Oliva, Adriano Andricopulo, Marco Dessoy, Pablo Martinez and Celso Oliveira (+ Paul Koovits – 02-2016)



Prof. Louis Maes
An Matheussen, Margot Desmet



Brian Brown, Mira Hinman,
Yvonne C. Martin, and Dale Kempf



Alan Brown

Swiss TPH



Marcel Kaiser

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute
Schweizerisches Tropen- und Public Health-Institu
Institut Tropical et de Santé Publique Suisse



Manu De Rycker



James Mills

DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*



Wen Hua

Charlie Mowbray and Simon Campbell



Pró-Reitoria de Extensão e Assuntos Comunitários



Prof. Dr. João Frederico da Costa Azevedo Meyer
Vice-President for Extension and Outreach



Innovation Agency

