

Use of a mathematical model of drug-induced liver injury to interpret safety biomarker data from early clinical trials for Entolimod, a treatment for life threatening radiation poisoning

Diane M. Longo, Ph.D.
DILI-sim Consultant

The Hamner-UNC Institute for Drug Safety Sciences
Research Triangle Park, NC

The DILI-sim Initiative Is a Partnership between the Hamner Institutes and Pharmaceutical Companies to Minimize DILI



- Overall Goals
 - Improve patient safety
 - Reduce the need for animal testing
 - Reduce the costs and time necessary to develop new drugs
- History
 - Officially started in 2011
 - 14 major pharmaceutical companies have participated
 - Members have provided compounds, data, and conducted experiments to support effort
 - Over \$4 million total invested in project

Goals and Intended Applications of Developing DILIsym[®] for the DILI-sim Initiative

Near term goals:

- Develop DILIsym[®] software to better inform safety decisions within drug development
 - *In vitro* to *in vivo*
 - Preclinical to first-in-human
 - **Biomarker interpretation**

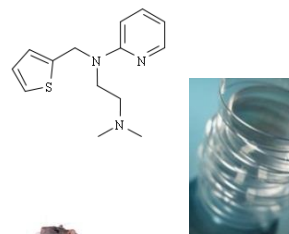
Long term goal:

- Use DILIsym[®] to increase understanding of idiosyncratic DILI

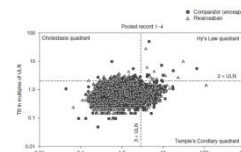
Intended application:

- Simulations of hepatotoxicity for humans and rodents
- *In vitro*, *in vivo*, and/or clinical data as inputs

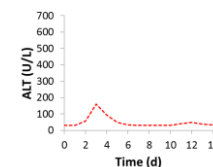
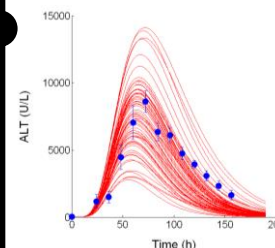
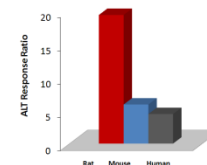
Preclinical



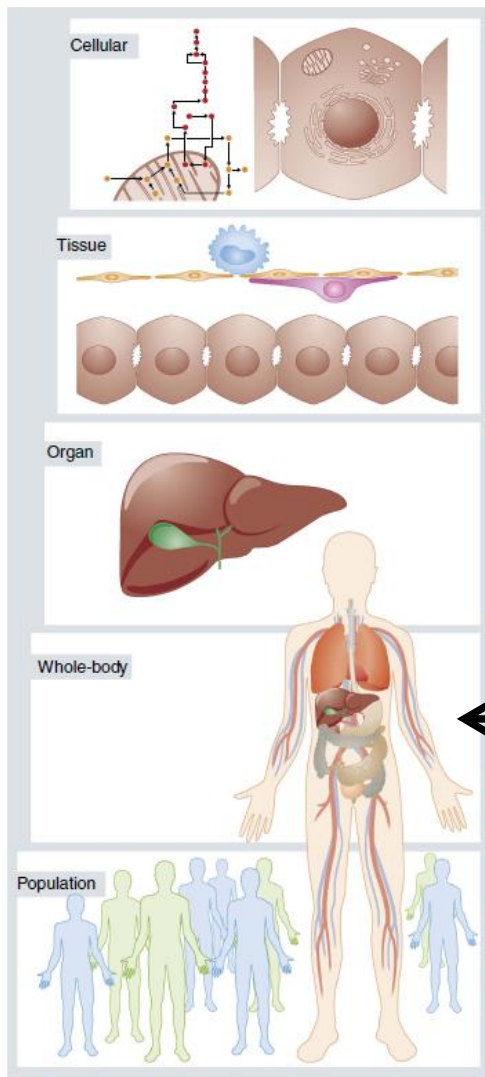
First in Human Clinical Trials



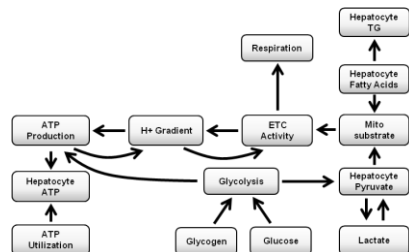
Phase II/III Clinical Trials and Post-Market Surveillance



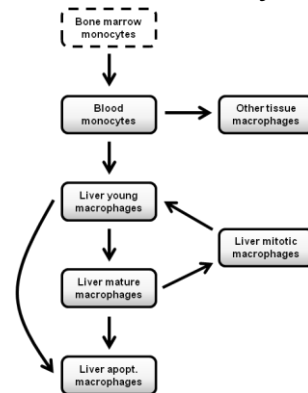
DILIsym[®]: 'Middle Out' and Multi-Scale



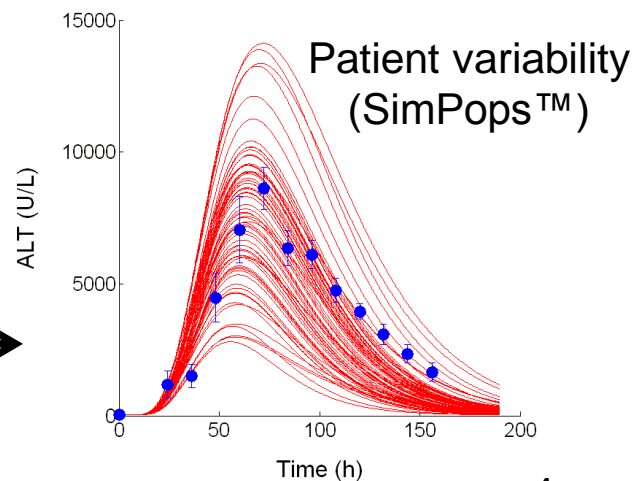
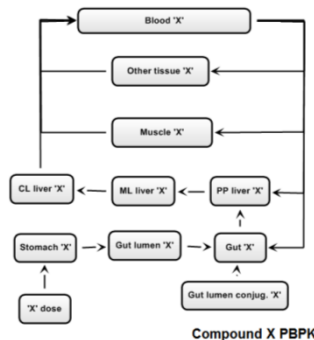
Mitochondrial dysfunction



Cellular life-cycle



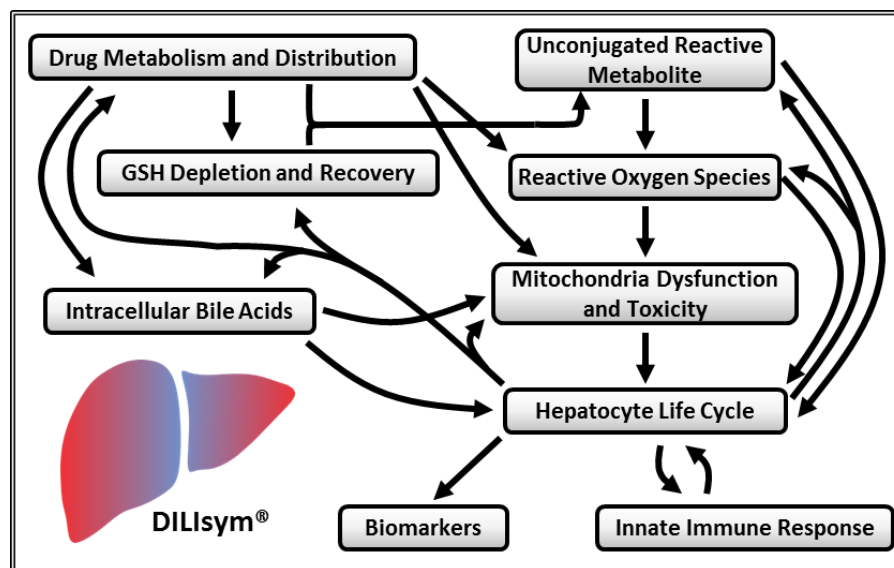
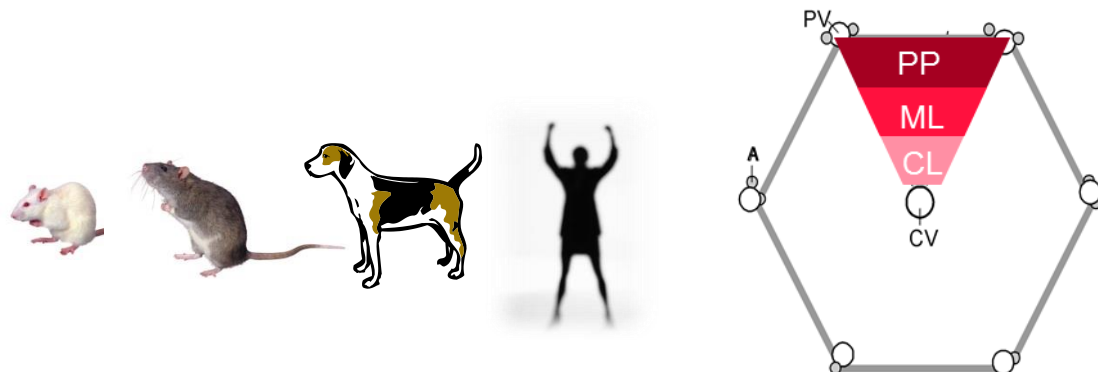
Drug distribution & metabolism



Kuefer 2010, Molecular Systems Biology

DILIsym[®] Overview

- **Multiple species: human, rat, mouse, and dog**
 - Population variability
- **The three primary acinar zones of liver represented**
- **Essential processes represented to multiple scales in interacting sub-models**



Biomarkers of Hepatocellular Death Are Outputs of DILIsym[®]

- Biomarkers are outputs of model
 - Used for validation of DILIsym[®] model
 - Used for comparison with clinical and preclinical data
- More biomarkers being added as data are becoming available
 - SDH, miR-122 latest examples
- Additional DILIsym[®] model outputs include:
 - Fraction of viable hepatocytes
 - Liver ATP
 - Liver glutathione
 - Circulating, liver, and excreted drug and metabolites

Marker	Category
Alanine aminotransferase (ALT) ^{1,2,3,4,5}	Necrosis
Bilirubin (direct/conjugated) ^{1,5}	Function/Cholestasis
Bilirubin (total) ^{1,2,5}	Function/Cholestasis
Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) ^{1,2,3,4,5}	Necrosis
Prothrombin time ^{1,2}	Function
HMGB1 ^{1,10}	Necrosis
Full length cytokeratin-18 ¹	Necrosis
Cleaved cytokeratin-18 ¹	Apoptosis
Sorbitol dehydrogenase (SDH) ^{1,6}	Necrosis
Arginase-1 ⁹	Necrosis
Liver derived mRNA ⁷ and miRNA ⁸	Necrosis

¹Antoine *Xenobiotica* 2009; ²Giannini *CMAJ* 2005; ³Horn *Am J Clin Pathol* 1999; ⁴Ozer *J Toxicology* 2008; ⁵Hy's Law: Temple R *Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf* 2006; ⁶Ozer *Toxicology* 2008; ⁷Wetmore *Hepatology* 2010, ⁹Murayama *Clin Chimica Acta* 2008, ⁸Yang *Tox Sci* 2012, ¹⁰Harrill *Clin Pharmacol Ther* 2011

Examples of DILIsym[®] Applications

IVIVE

J Pharmacokinet Phar 39(5):
527-541. 2012.

Rank compounds by risk

Toxicol Lett 226(2):
163-172. 2014.

Preclinical biomarker study design

Preclinical

in vitro

in vivo

Single
Ascending
Dose

Phase II/III/IV

Clinical

DILI Dose Response Estimation

Clinical biomarker analysis

Predicting variability in response

J Pharmacol Exp Ther
342(2): 529-540. 2012.

Clin Pharmacol Ther
96(5):589-98. 2014

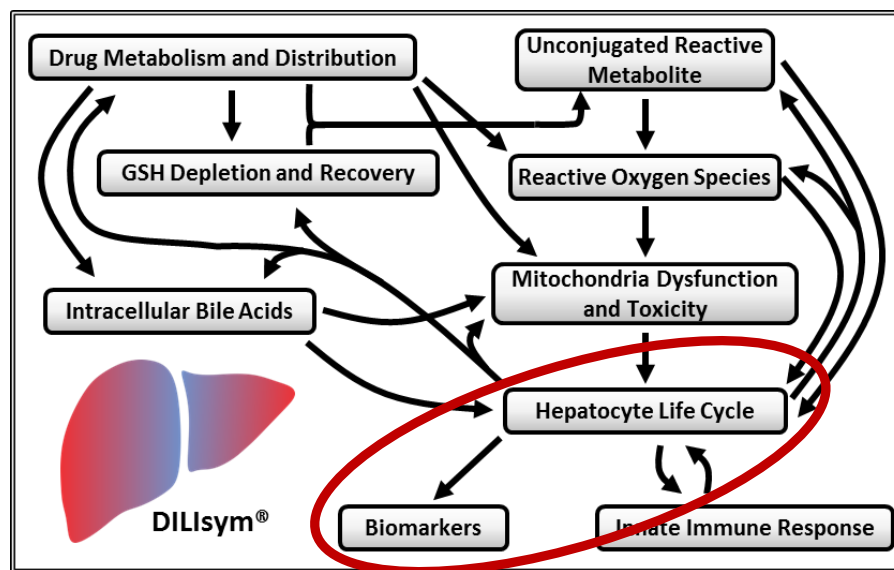
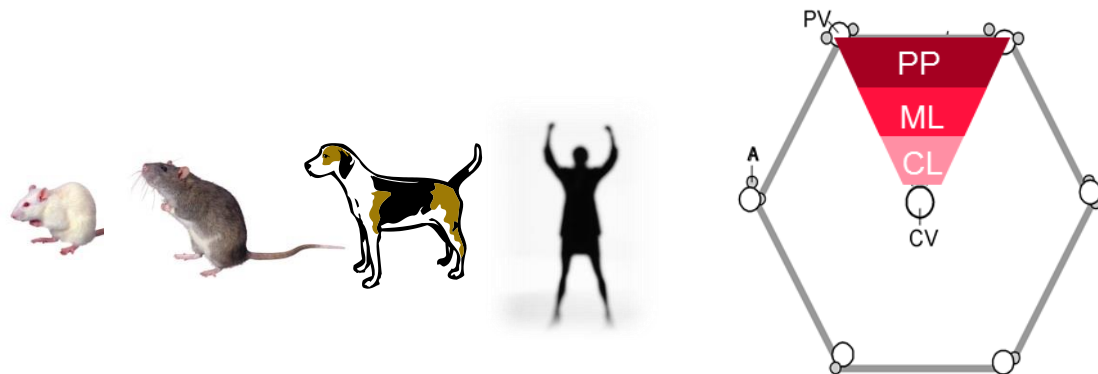
Entolimod (Cleveland BioLabs) Project Objectives

- Entolimod (single dose) reduces radiation mortality by 40%
 - Satisfies FDA's animal rule for efficacy
- Clinical Concern
 - ALT/AST elevations observed in human safety study
 - Continued development threatened
- Primary Objective
 - Use DILIsym[®] to infer the amount of hepatocyte necrosis necessary to achieve the ALT profiles observed after Entolimod

Howell, B. A., et al. (2014). A Mechanistic Model of Drug-Induced Liver Injury Aids the Interpretation of Elevated Liver Transaminase Levels in a Phase I Clinical Trial. CPT Pharmacometrics Syst Pharmacol 3: e98.

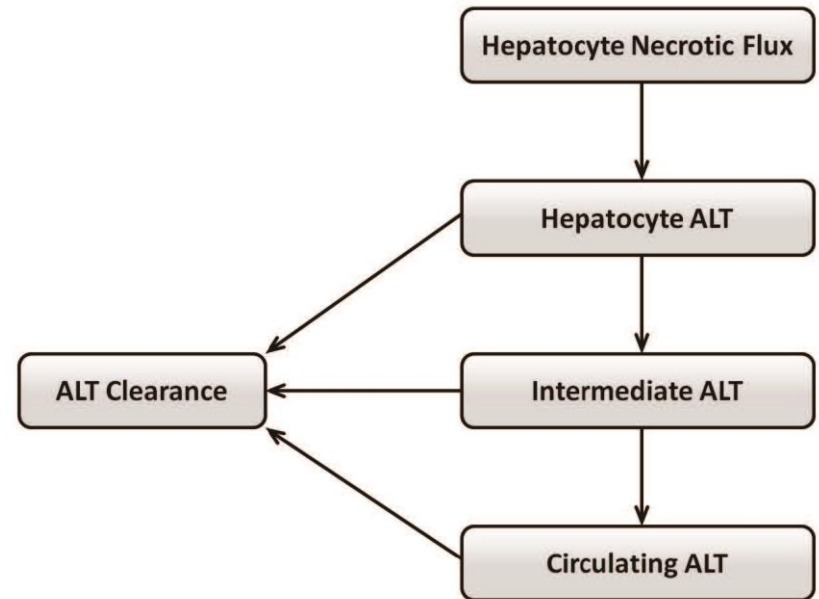
DILIsym[®] Overview

- **Multiple species: human, rat, mouse, and dog**
 - Population variability
- **The three primary acinar zones of liver represented**
- **Essential processes represented to multiple scales in interacting sub-models**
 - Hepatocyte life cycle
 - Biomarkers



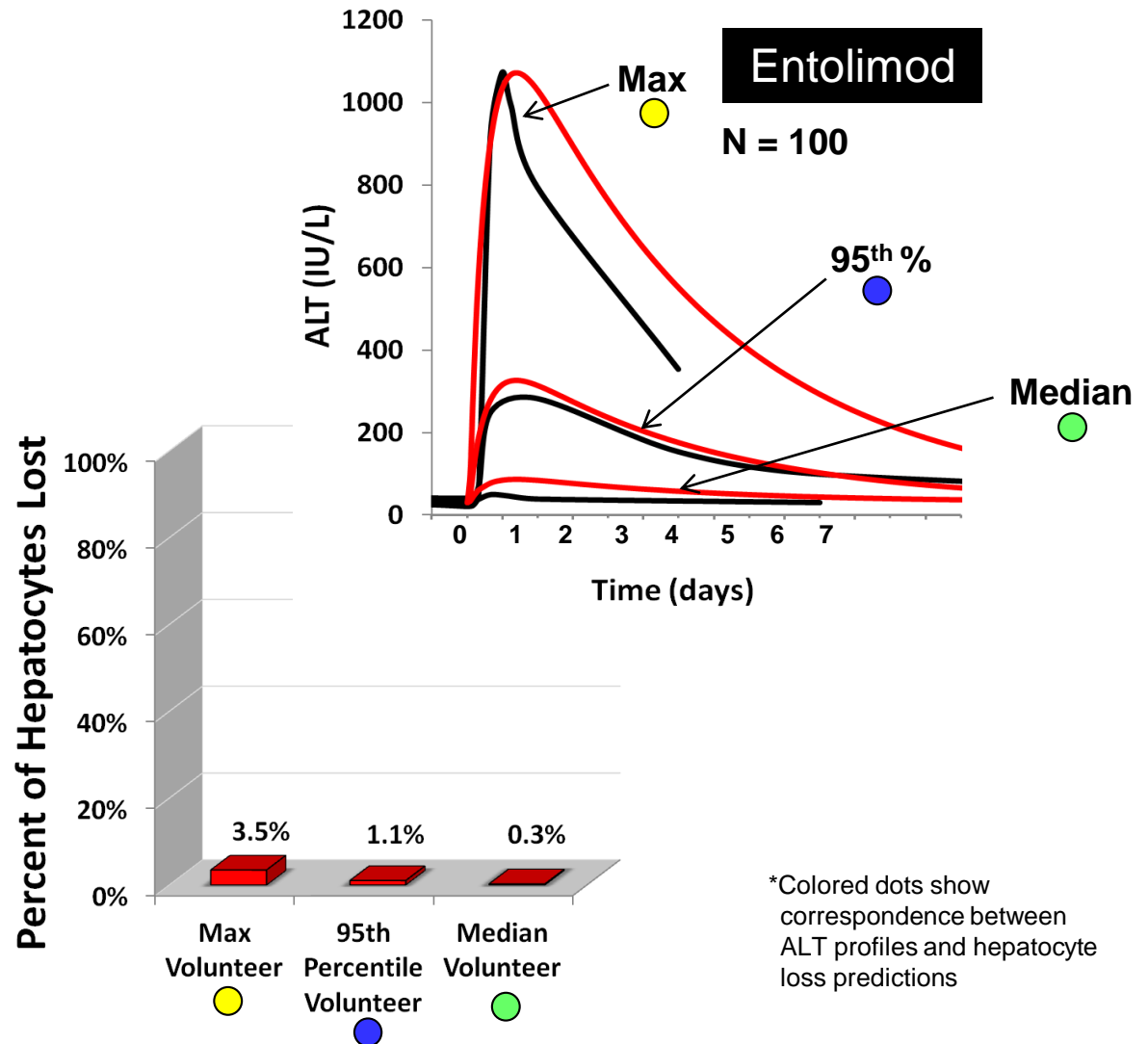
Approach for Using Simulations to Analyze Entolimod Clinical Data

- Approach: use ALT dynamics to infer hepatocyte loss
 - ALT content per cell based on cellular measurements
 - *Boyd 1983, Remien 2012, Lindblom 2007*
 - ALT release occurs upon hepatocyte necrosis
 - ALT elimination half-life based on clinical data
 - *Nicoll 1997*
- Initial simulations in DILIsym[®] baseline normal healthy volunteer (NHV)



Baseline Human Simulations Indicate Minimal Hepatocyte Loss with Entolimod

- ALT clinical data
 - Mostly minor elevations
 - Few higher elevations
- Focused on max, 95th percentile, and median ALT levels
- Simulations agree with ALT clinical data by design
- Minimal hepatocyte inferred from ALT profiles



Clinical Data and
Simulation Results



Approach for Introducing Population Variability into Simulations

- Varying parameters associated with ALT dynamics in accordance with variance described in literature
 - *Remien 2012, Nicoll 1997, Portmann 1975, Prescott 1979*
- Compared simulated humans ($N \approx 300$) with clinical data from Prescott 1979 and Portmann 1975
 - Indirect link between ALT and necrosis
- Simulated humans used to simulate Entolimod trial protocol

Variables Used to Construct Population Sample for Entolimod Application

Hepatocellular ALT content

ALT $t_{1/2}$

ALT transport rate

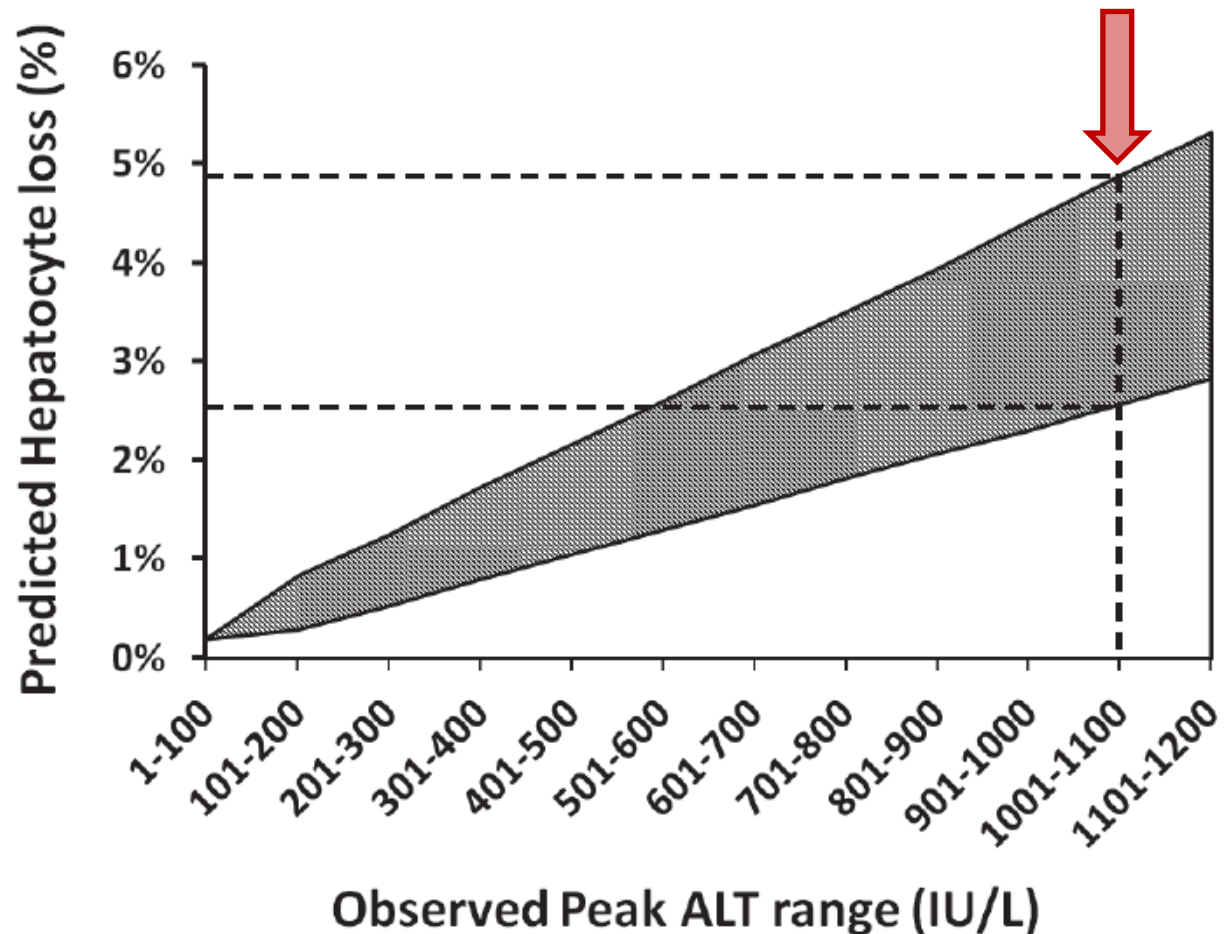
Hepatocyte proliferation rate



Clinical Data

Minimal Range of Hepatocyte Loss Predicted for Entolimod Using Population Sample

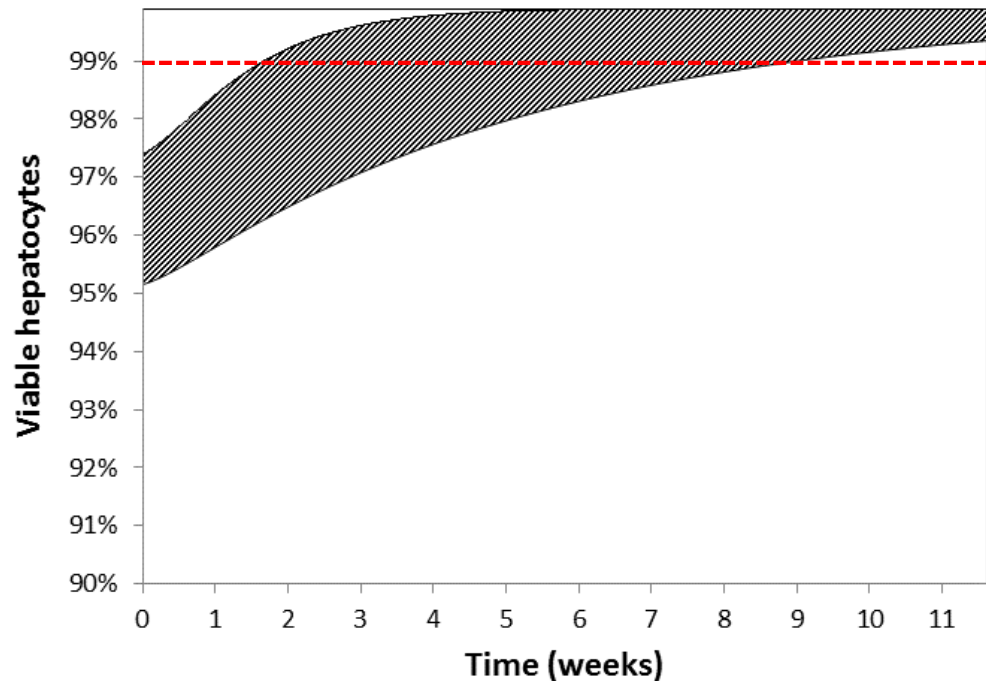
- Various levels of necrosis simulated for population sample
- Max observed ALT (1001-1100 U/L) corresponds with 2.6-4.6% predicted hepatocyte loss



*Predictions only valid for time courses similar to those observed with Entolimod

Regenerative Hepatocyte Proliferation Predicted to be Complete 2-9 Weeks after Entolimod Dosing

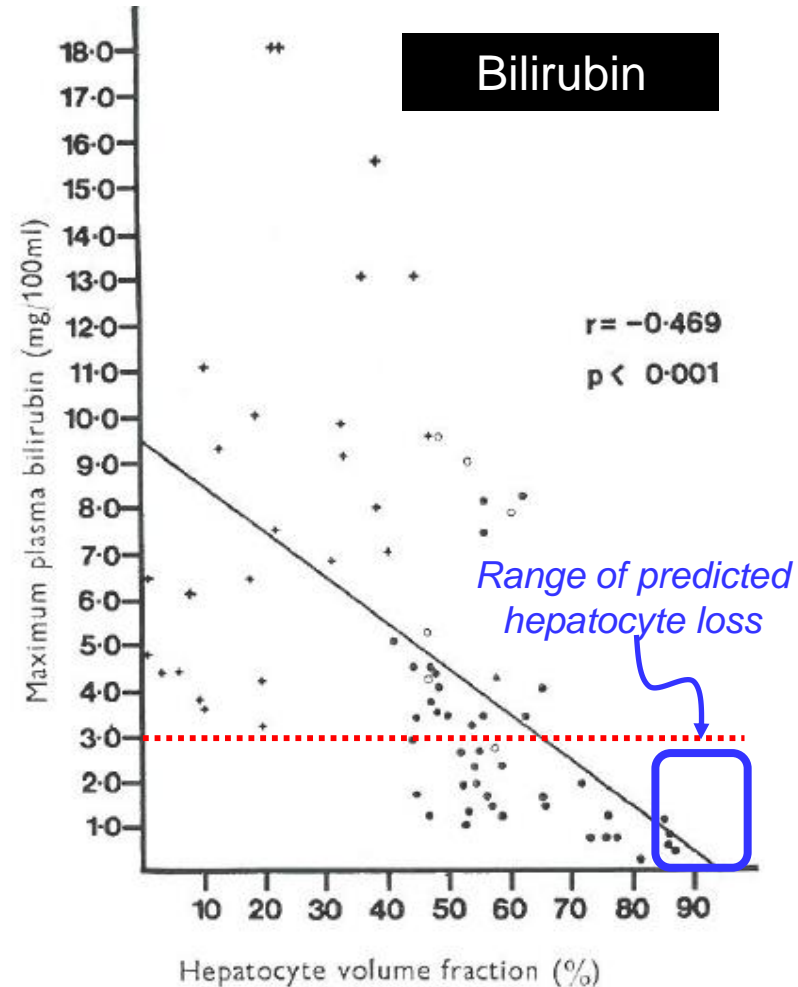
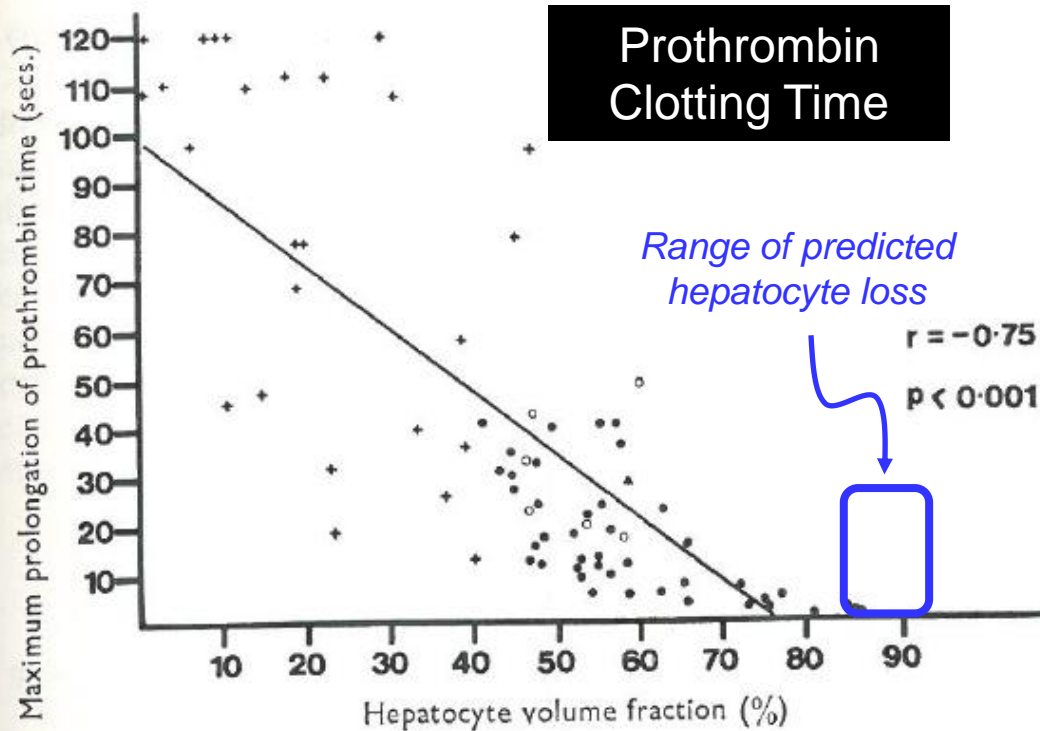
- Population sample included variability in hepatocyte proliferation
- Hepatocyte restoration complete within ~2-9 weeks after onset of injury (median human prediction - 3 weeks)



Evidence from Literature to Support Safety of Minimal Hepatocyte Loss with Entolimod

- Excision of up to 60% of liver volume in living human donors commonly performed for autologous transplantation
 - (*Florman 2006, Lee 2010*)
- Clinical data from literature indicate that approximately <25% loss of hepatocytes has no detectable effect on liver function

Minimal Symptom Presentation Likely with $\leq 25\%$ Hepatocyte Loss: Portmann 1975 Clinical Data



- Entolimod safety study confirms lack of significant bilirubin elevations
- Risk of jaundice and bruising/bleeding likely to be low in range of predicted hepatocyte loss (Portmann 1975)

Evidence from Literature to Support Safety of Minimal Hepatocyte Loss with Entolimod

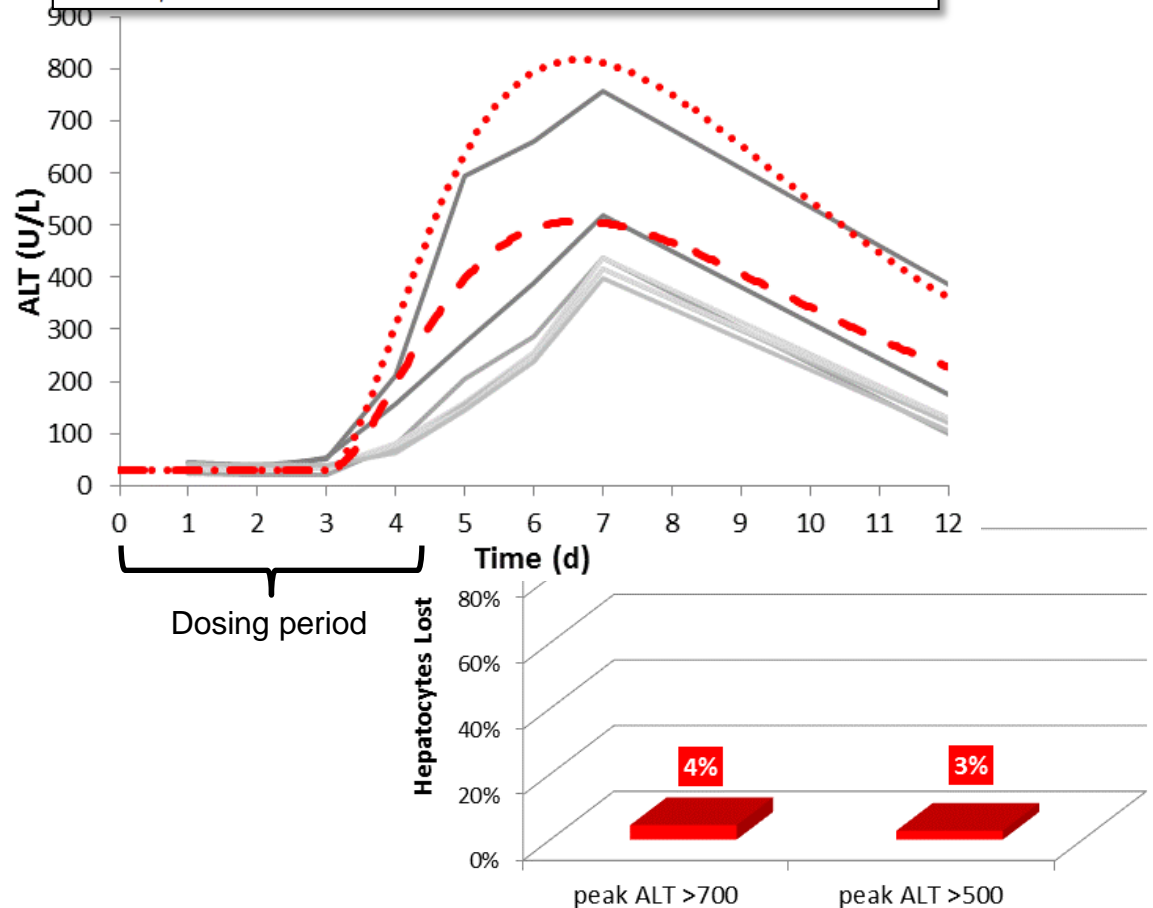
- Excision of up to 60% of liver volume in living human donors commonly performed for autologous transplantation
 - (*Florman 2006, Lee 2010*)
- Clinical data from literature indicate that approximately <25% loss of hepatocytes has no detectable effect on liver function
- Heparins are safe despite causing hepatocyte necrosis

Simulations Predict Minimal Hepatocyte Loss with Heparin Treatment

- Transient, benign ALT increases observed with heparin treatment in NHV
 - Additional biomarkers indicated necrosis
- Simulations performed with DILIsym® NHV
 - Focused on highest responders
- Similar hepatocyte loss predicted from observed ALT profiles as Entolimod

The Effects of Heparins on the Liver: Application of Mechanistic Serum Biomarkers in a Randomized Study in Healthy Volunteers

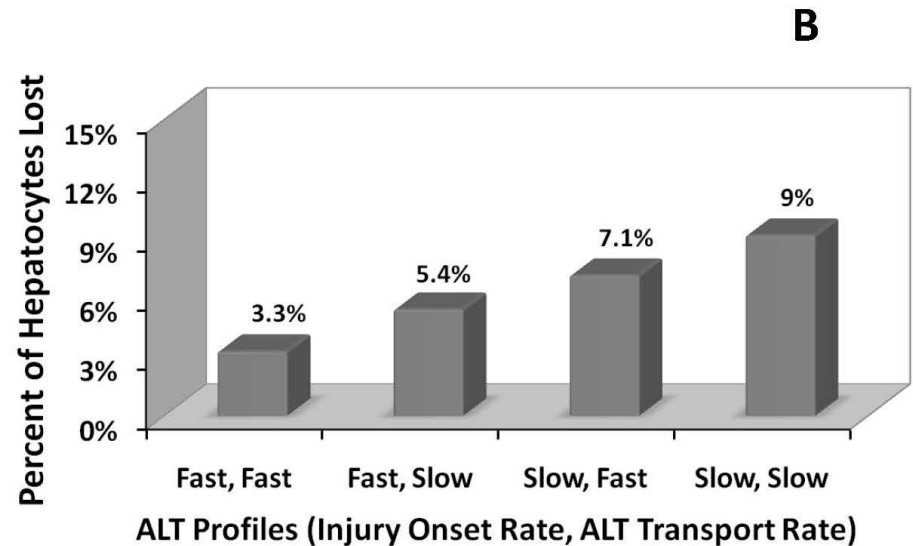
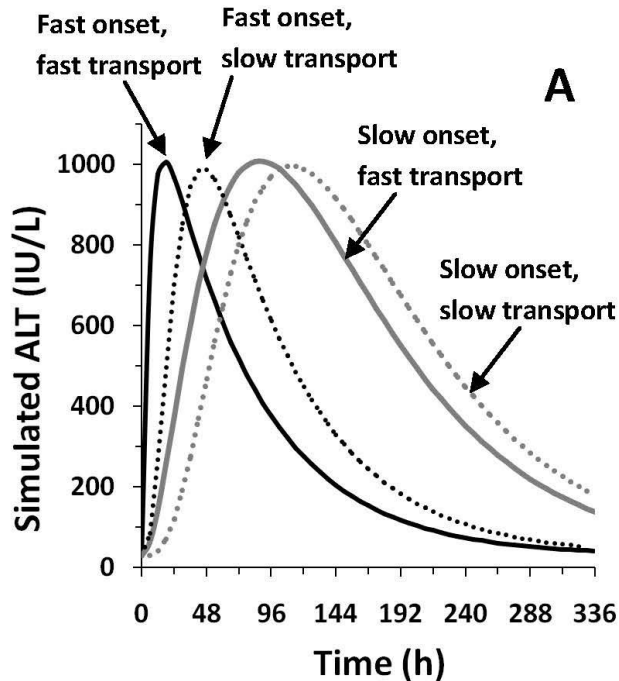
AH Harrill^{1,2}, J Roach³, I Fier³, JS Eaddy¹, CL Kurtz¹, DJ Antoine⁴, DM Spencer^{5,6}, TK Kishimoto³, DS Pisetsky^{5,6}, BK Park⁴ and PB Watkins^{1,2,7}



Clinical Data and
Simulation Results



The Kinetics of Liver Enzyme Profiles are Critical for Assessment of Injury



- Various ALT profiles shown with different kinetics, same peak
- Rapid rises and early peaks in ALT lead to less predicted hepatocyte loss
- The detailed time course of liver enzymes is important

Howell *et al.* 2014 - CPTSP

Project Summary

- Analyses indicate that volunteers with ALT elevations following Entolimod administration likely incurred hepatocyte losses of $\leq 5\%$
- The liver should have completely recovered in 2-9 weeks
- Literature review and modeling heparin-induced ALT profiles support the conclusion that the potential hepatocyte loss occurring in the Entolimod clinical trial did not represent a serious health threat
- DILIsym[®] simulation results were submitted to the FDA in support of the safety of Entolimod

The DILI-sim Team and the SAB



Mark Avigan



Neil Kaplowitz



George Michalopoulos



Lisl Shoda



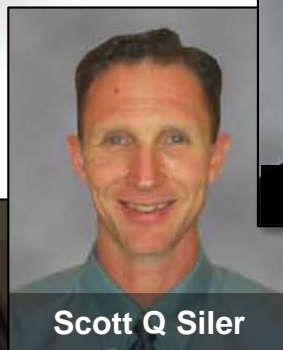
Yuching Yang



Diane Longo



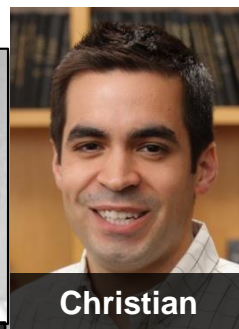
Paul Watkins



Scott Q Siler



Gerry Kenna



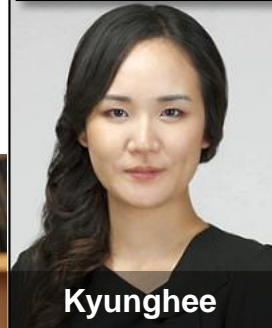
Christian Moyer



Brett Howell



Jeffrey Woodhead



Kyunghee Yang



Kevin Park



David Pisetsky



Bob Roth



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- Cleveland BioLabs
 - Sponsored work on Entolimod
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