



Mechanism-based Integrated Systems for  
the Prediction of Drug-Induced Liver Injury

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# Innovative in vitro models of toxicology assessments

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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## Post-marketing withdrawal of 462 medicinal products because of adverse drug reactions: a systematic review of the world literature

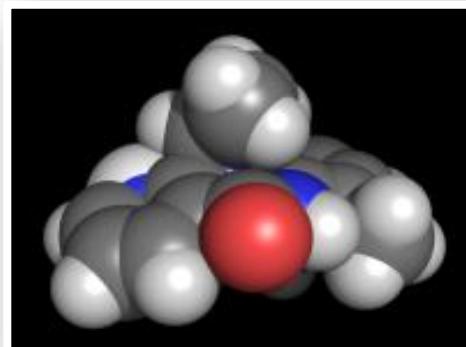
Igho J. Onakpoya\*, Carl J. Heneghan and Jeffrey K. Aronson

[BMC Med.](#) 2016 Feb 4;14:10

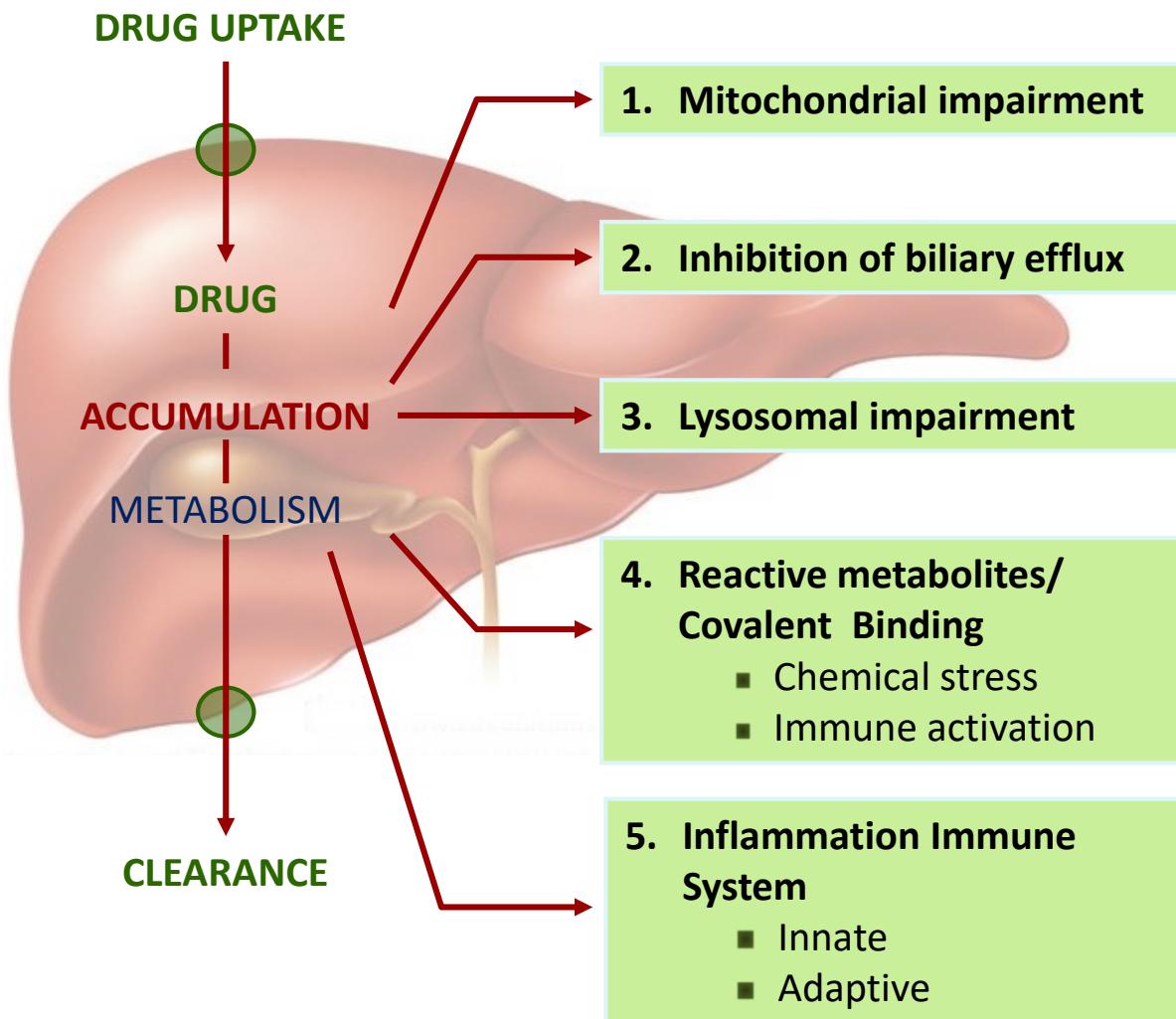
- From 1953-2013 462 drugs were withdrawn post-marketing due to ADRs.
  - ▶ Hepatotoxicity (81 cases; 18%)
  - ▶ Immune-related reactions (79 cases; 17%)
  - ▶ Cardiotoxicity (63 cases; 14%)

# Drug-Induced Liver Injury

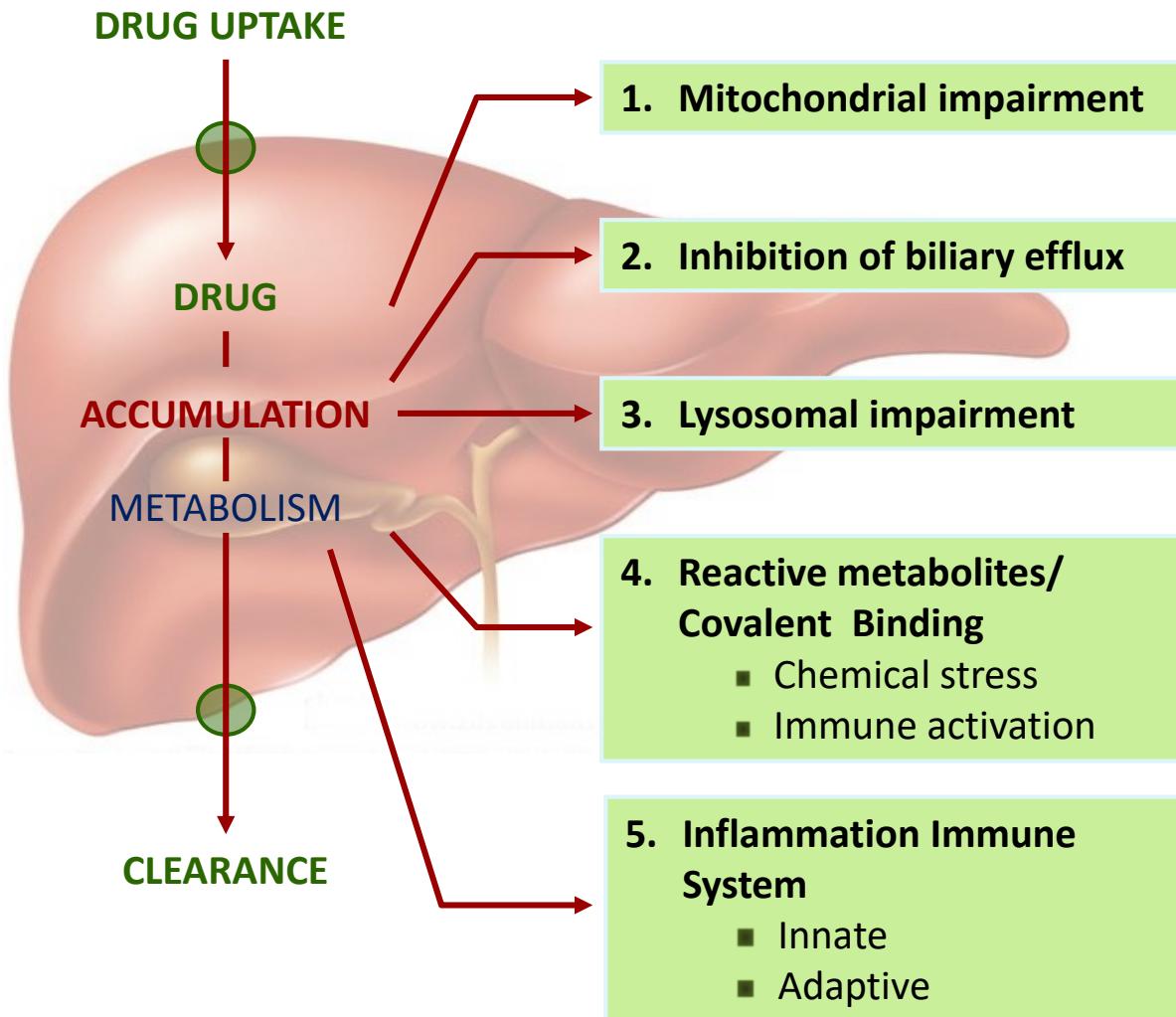
- Dose-dependent
- Species selective
- Selective individuals
- Idiosyncratic



# Chemical Insults and DILI



# Chemical Insults and DILI



## Diverse Clinical Presentations of DILI

- Acute fatty liver with lactic acidosis
- Acute hepatic necrosis
- Acute liver failure
- Acute viral hepatitis-like liver injury
- Autoimmune-like hepatitis
- Bland cholestasis
- Cholestatic hepatitis
- Cirrhosis
- Immuno-allergic hepatitis
- Nodular regeneration
- Nonalcoholic fatty liver
- Sinusoidal obstruction syndrome
- Vanishing bile duct syndrome

# Genetic Restriction and Drug Hypersensitivity: Discovery of HLA Allele Associations

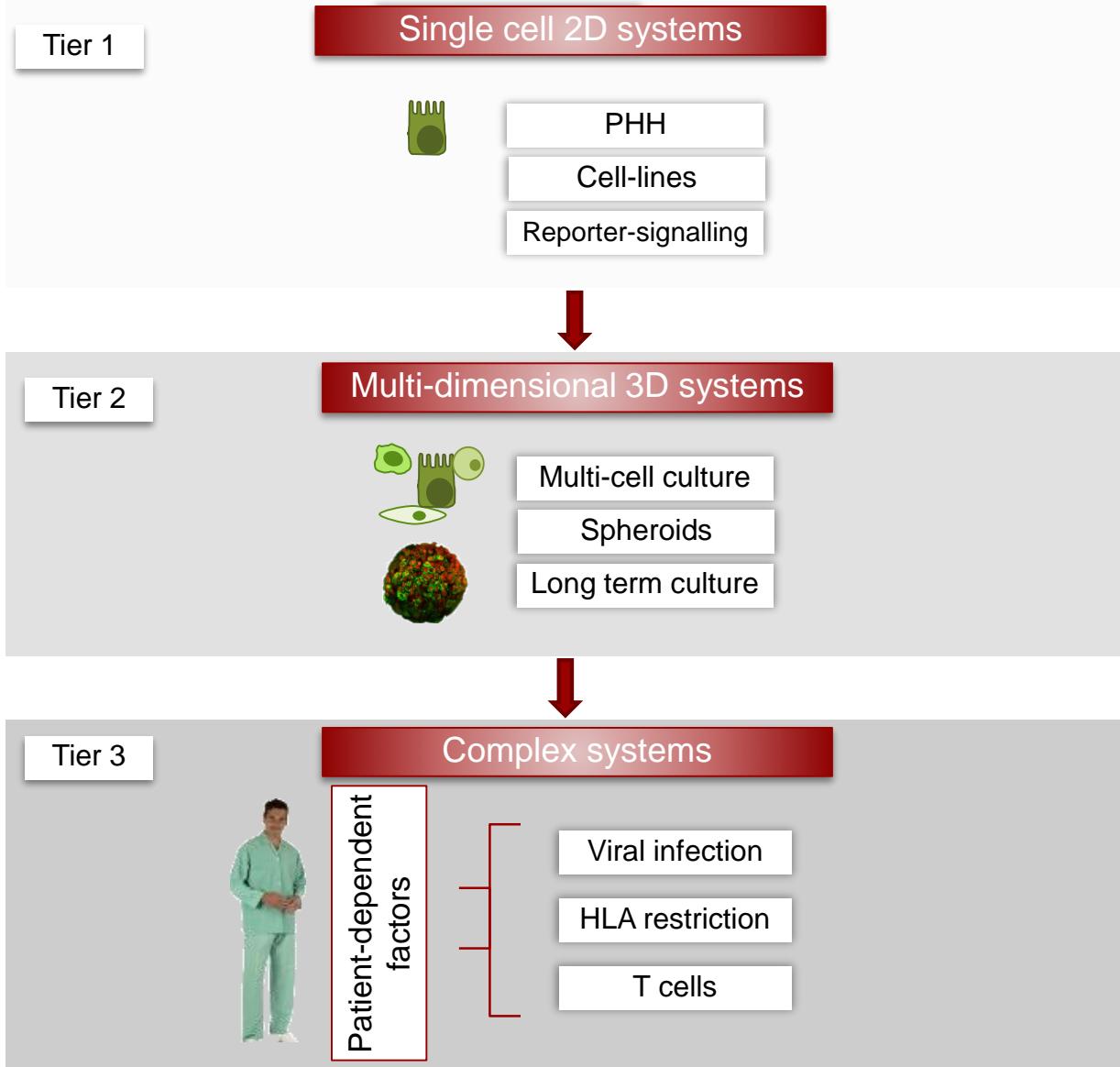
- Discovery of associations between HLA alleles and drug hypersensitivity represents an important advance
- Screening for HLA alleles during clinical practice effectively prevents reactions
  - ▶ Abacavir
  - ▶ Carbamazepine
- ***This is not the case for DILI***
- ***So we need biomarkers and models***

## *Pharmacogenetics and Clinical Syndromes*

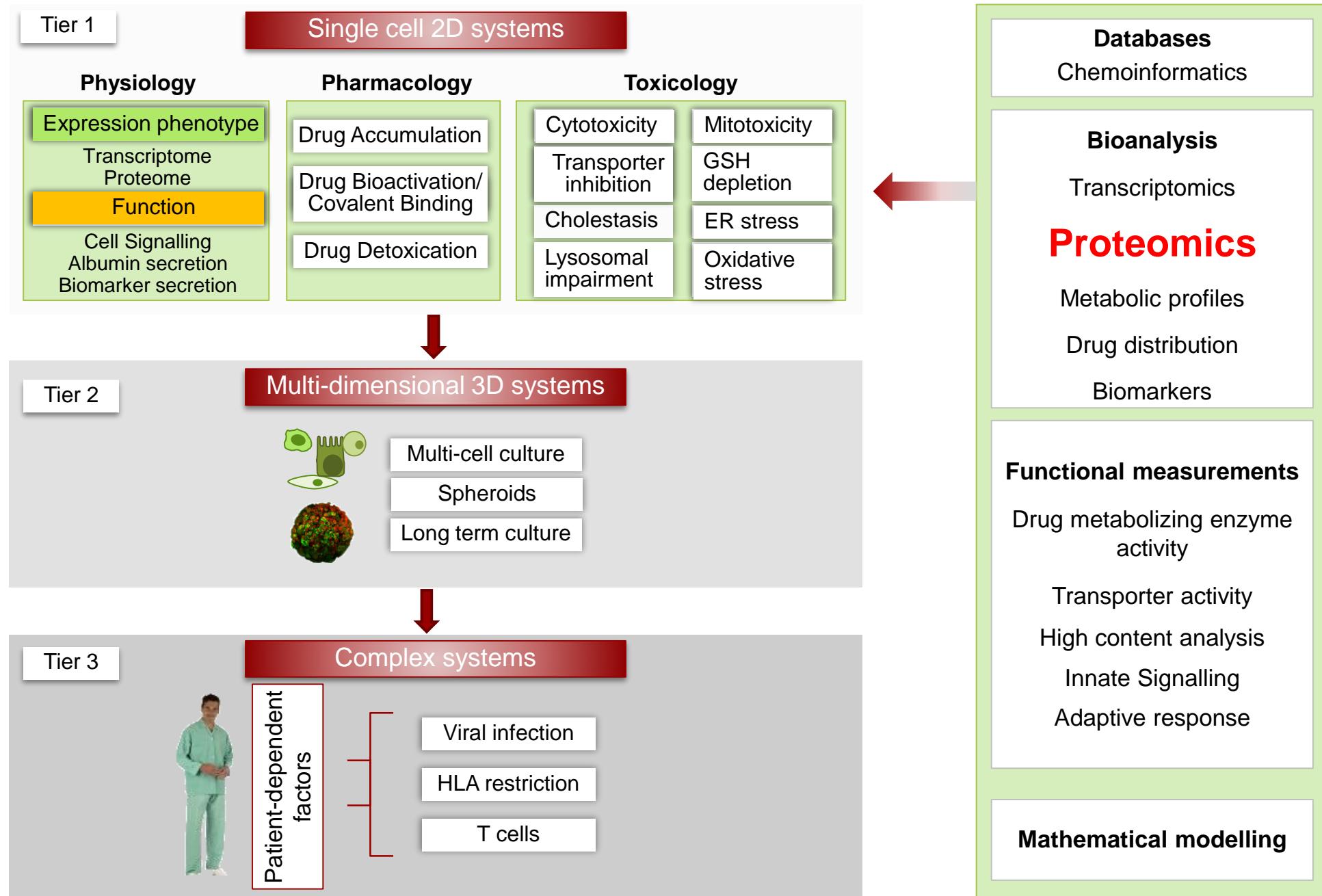
<b>Abacavir</b> hypersensitivity	HLA-B*5701	OR = 132
<b>Flucloxacillin</b> DILI	HLA-B*5701	OR = 72
<b>Carbamazepine</b> SYS/TEN	HLA-B*1502 (Chinese)	OR = 1000
<b>Carbamazepine</b> Hypersensitivity	HLA-A*3101 (Japanese)	OR = 11
<b>Carbamazepine</b> Hypersensitivity	HLA-A*3101 (Caucasians)	OR = 30
<b>Lumiracoxib</b> DILI	HLA-DRB1*1501 HLA-DQA1*0102	OR = 7
<b>Ximelagatran</b> <b>Lapatinib</b> DILI	HLA-DRB1*0701 HLA-BQA1*0201	OR = 4.4 OR = 9.0

# MIP-DILI Roadmap - Stratification of *In Vitro* systems

Physiology  $\longleftrightarrow$  Pharmacology  $\longrightarrow$  Toxicology



# MIP-DILI Roadmap - Stratification of *In Vitro* systems



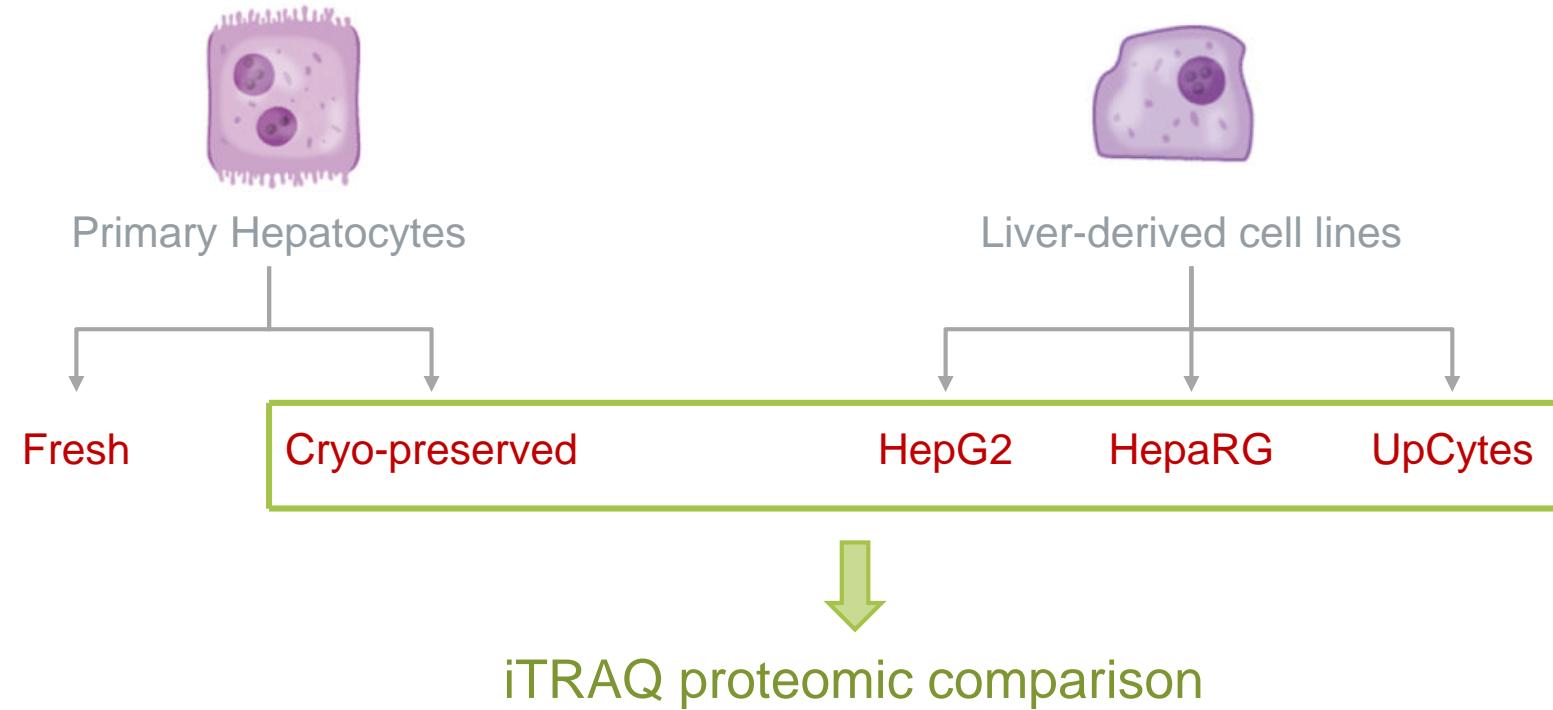
## Importance of the physiological and pharmacological phenotype for the application of a toxicological test

- Is a particular test system fit for purpose?
- What purpose is it fit for?

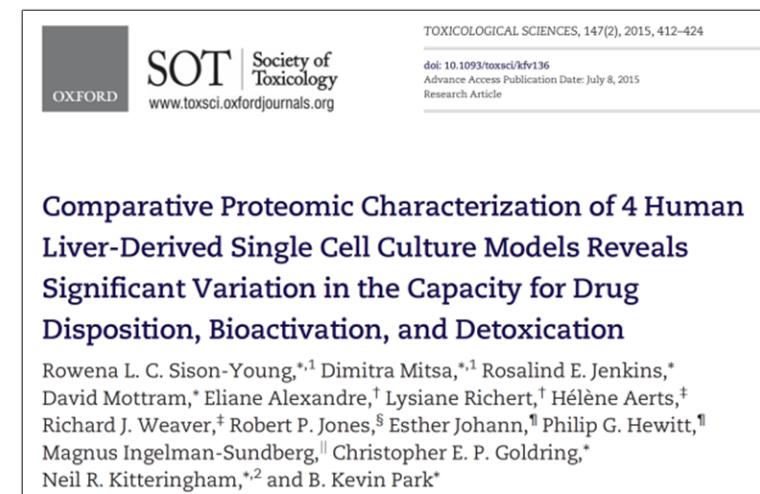
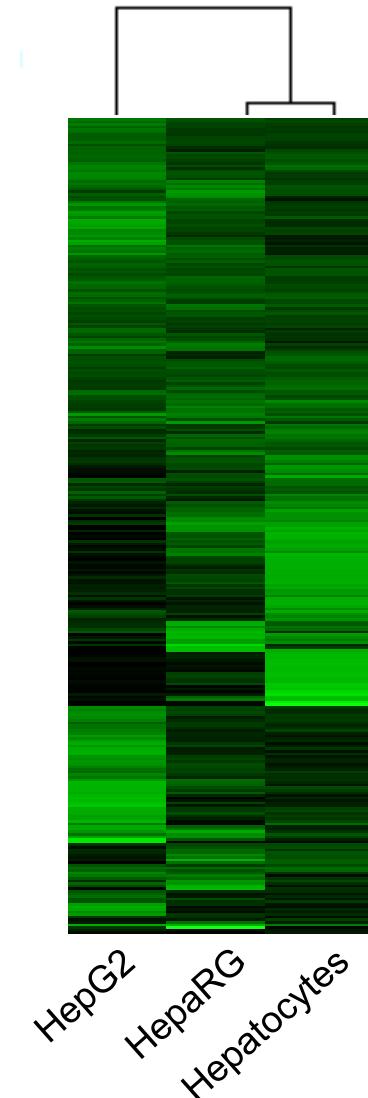
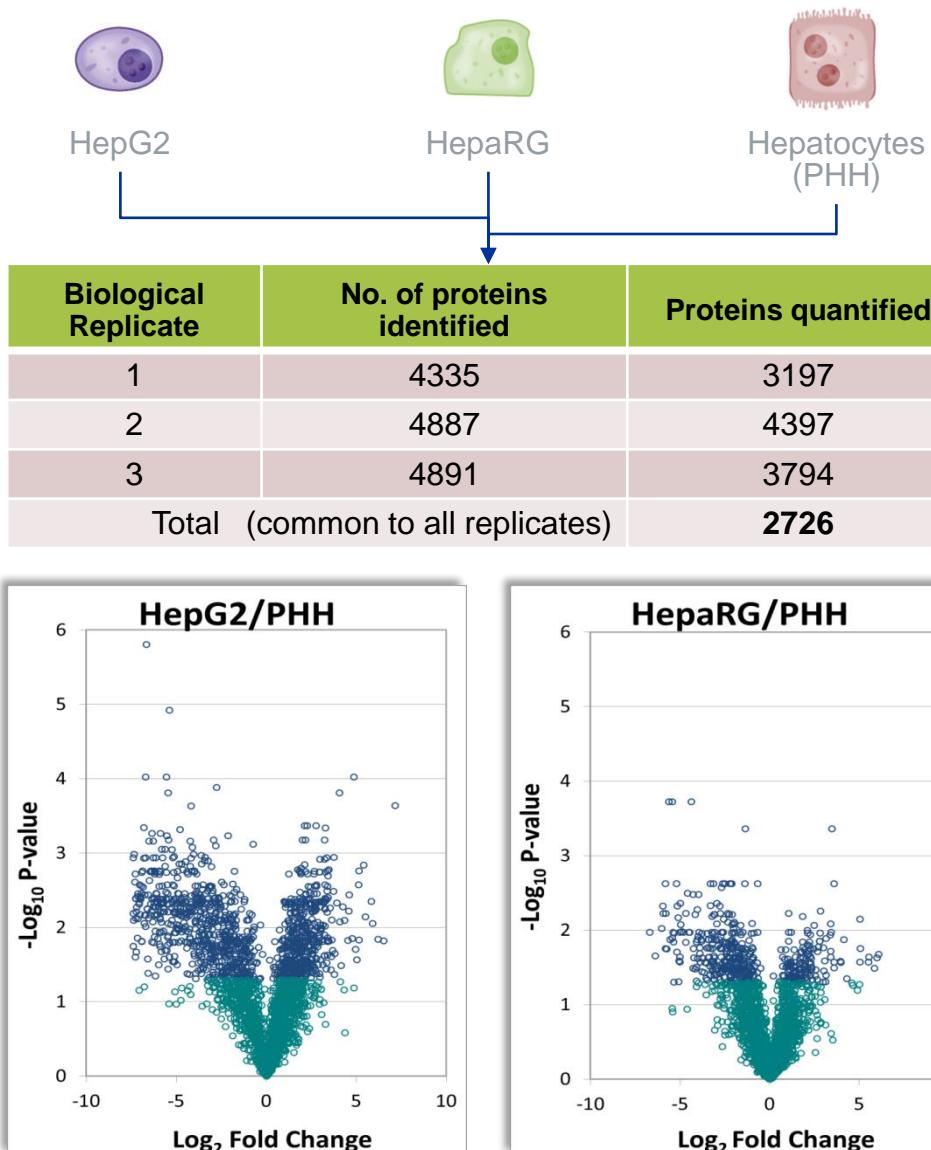
# Importance of the physiological and pharmacological phenotype for the application of a toxicological test

## TIER ONE

### Tier one cell types

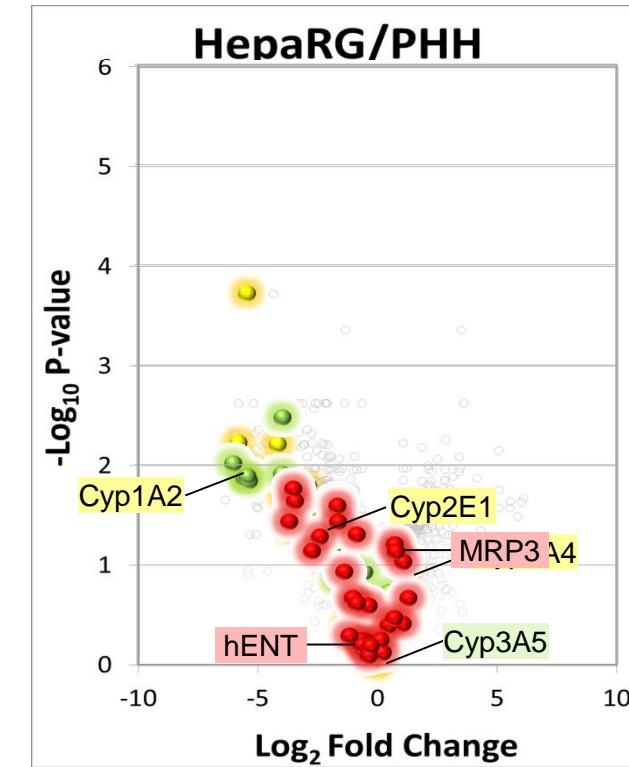
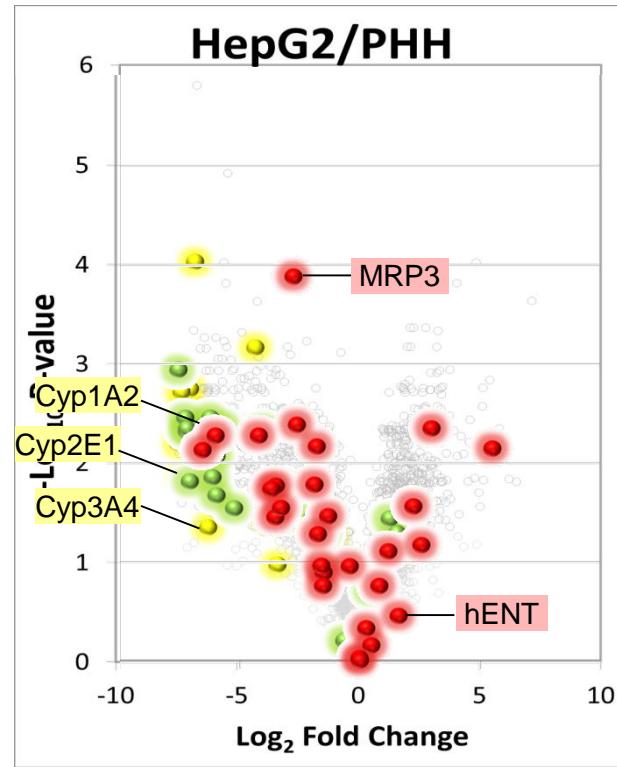


# Proteomic phenotype



Rowena Sison

# HLCs Proteomic Phenotype

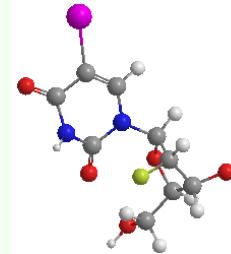
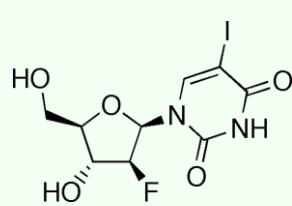


- Cytochrome P450s
- Phase II drug metabolising enzymes
- Transporters

# MIP-DILI Refined Mitotox functional analysis conforms with Literature

	Compound	Mitochondrial Liability Literature	MIP-DILI Mitotox Analysis	Reference
MIP-DILI Training compounds	Paracetamol	Yes – Inhibits ATP synthase, MPTP opener, mitochondrial ROS,	Positive	Parmar et al, 1995, Kon et al., 2004
	Amiodarone	Yes – OXPHOS uncoupler, inhibits fatty acid oxidation via CPT1 inhibition	Positive	Fromenty et al., 1990 Kennedy et al., 2006
	Nefazodone	Yes - complex I > complex IV inhibition of ETC in HepG2 and isolated rat liver	Positive	Dykens et al., 2008
	Tolcapone	Yes - OXPHOS uncoupler, interacts with ETC complex proteins, FAO, bile acid synthesis. Forms MPT pores, decreases MMP	Positive	Korlipara, Cooper and Schapira, 2004
	Entacapone	Yes – mild OXPHOS uncoupler	Negative	Korlipara et al., 2004
	Bosentan	No	Negative	Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics (2001) 69, 223–231
	Buspirone	Yes - complex I inhibition of ETC in HepG2 and isolated rat liver	Positive	Dykens et al., 2008
	Diclofenac	Yes – MPTP opener, mild OXPHOS uncoupler, inhibits ATP synthase and adenine nucleoside translocase	Positive	Moreno-Sanchez et al., 1999
	Metformin	Yes – complex I inhibitor	Positive	Carvalho et al., 2008
	Pioglitazone	Yes –complex I inhibitor	Positive	Scatena et al., 2004 Garcia-Ruiz, et al. 2013
	Ximelagatran	No	Negative	Kenne et al., 2008
	Fialuridine	Yes – impairs mtDNA replication,	Negative (chronic toxicity)	Lewis et al., 1996
	Perhexiline	Yes – Inhibits carnitine uptake via CPT1, inhibits fatty acid oxidation	Negative (mechanistic factors)	Kennedy et al., 2006
	Troglitazone	Yes –reported inhibitor of complex I, II, III, IV, V inhibitor, MPTP opener, OXPHOS uncoupler	Positive	Nadanaciva, 2008 Scatena et al., 2004

# Fialuridine – *fatal clinical trial*



- Developed as an antiviral for HIV – later considered as a treatment for hepatitis B
- Preclinical testing in mice, rats, dogs and monkeys

## Clinical Testing

Patients	Duration	Comments
HIV <sup>+</sup> /CMV <sup>+</sup> (12)	35 d	Duration prolonged to sustain antiviral (HBV <sup>+</sup> ) No signs of toxicity
HIV <sup>+</sup> /HBV <sup>+</sup> (43)	14 d	
HBV <sup>+</sup> (24)	28 d	
HBV <sup>+</sup> (15)	6 mth planned, terminated at wk 13	

## Sudden Hepatotoxicity & Pancreatitis

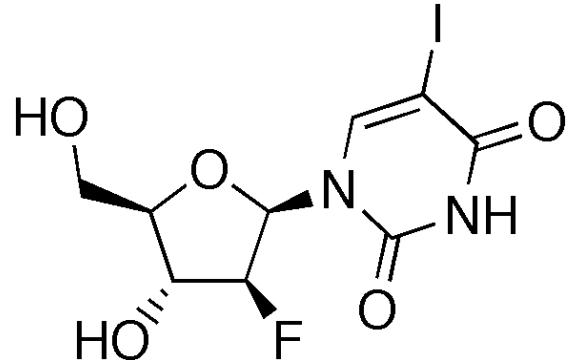
5 patients died (ALF)  
2 survived after emergency liver transplant  
3 recovered  
3 showed no adverse effects (lower doses)

## Clinical Features of Toxicity

- Delayed (from week 13)
- Lactic Acidosis
- Micro and macro vesicular hepatic steatosis
- Abnormal mitochondria

*Indicative of mitochondrial dysfunction*

# Fialuridine *in vitro* requirements



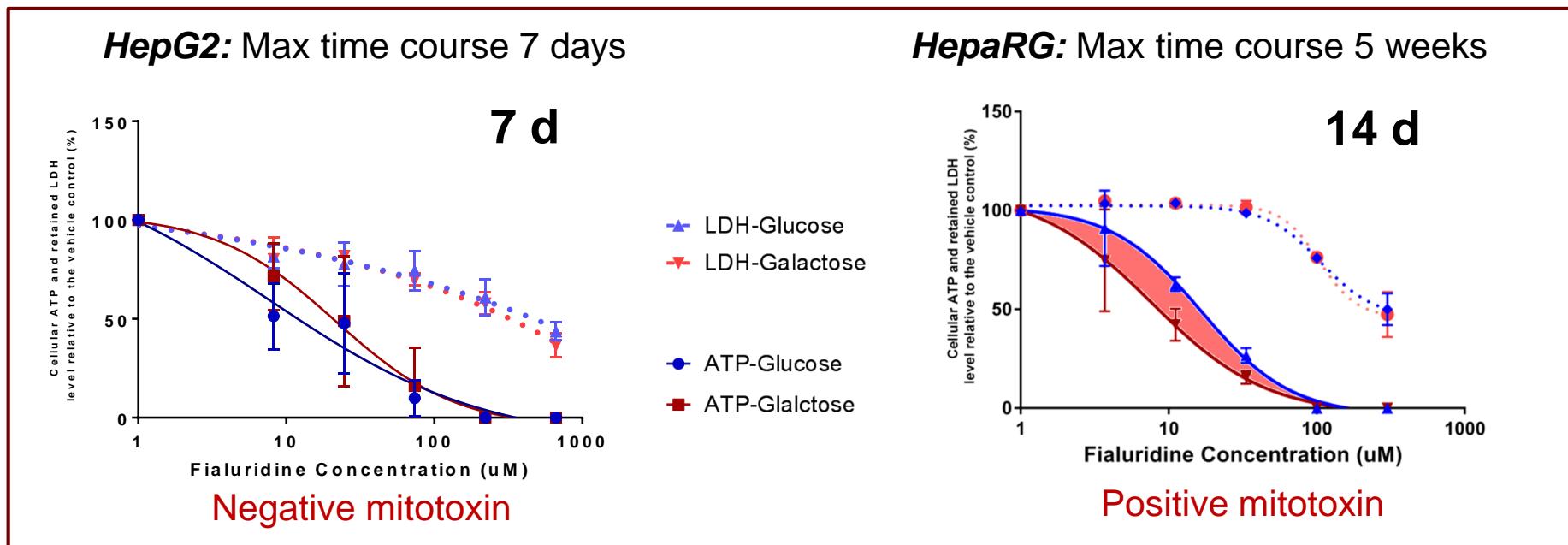
*Fialuridine*

## KEY FEATURES OF MECHANISM OF TOXICITY

- **Human specific (via hENT mitochondrial localisation)**
- **Bioactivation to triphosphate (mitochondrial thymidine kinases)**
- Delayed onset (wk 13 of clinical trial)
- Sudden and rapid acceleration of toxicity (threshold effect)
- Targets mitochondrial DNA replication
- Lactic acidosis and steatosis in humans

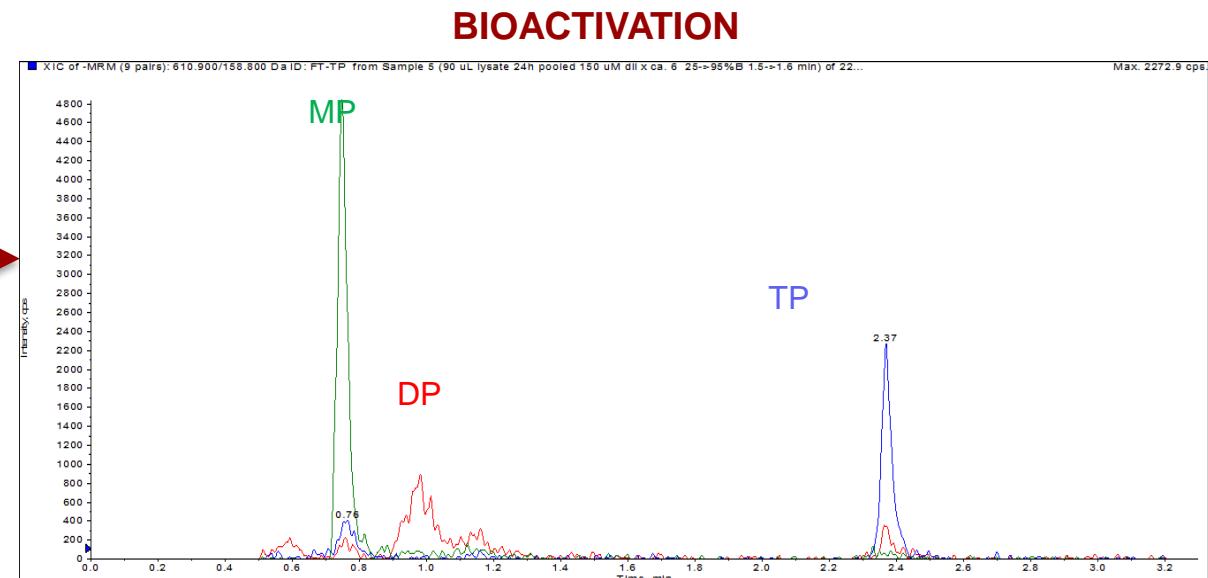
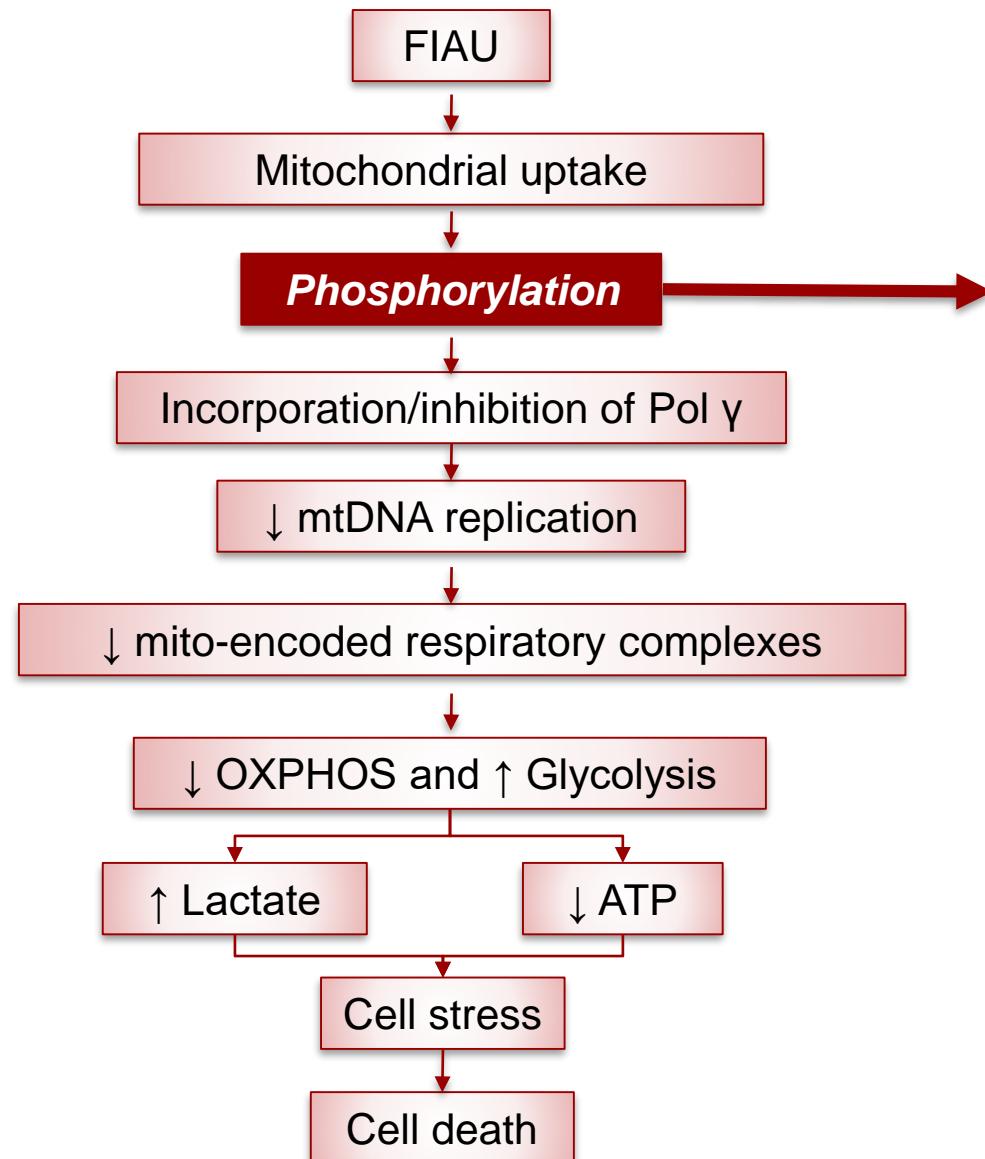
# Fialuridine *in vitro* models: HepG2 vs HepaRG

Cmax	
Healthy volunteers (5 mg dose)	0.6 $\mu$ M (measured)
Patients with DILI (0.1 – 0.25 mg/kg/day)	~ 2.0 – 2.5 $\mu$ M (estimated from volunteers)



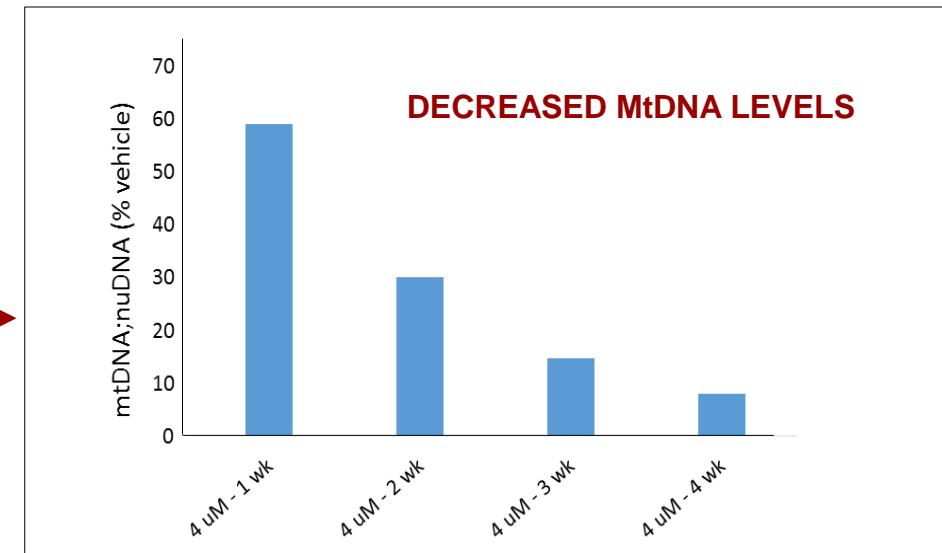
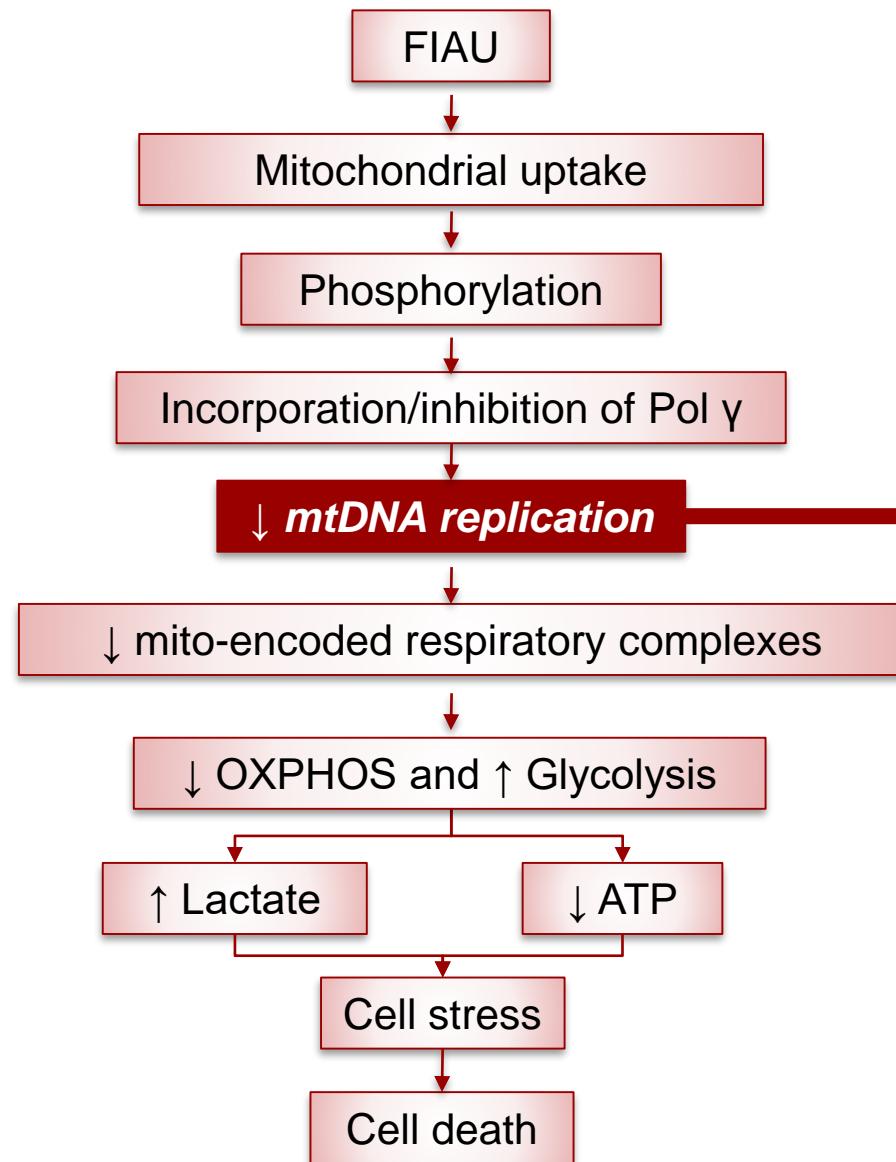
Cytotoxicity in HepG2 at high concentrations not related to the clinical mitochondrial mechanism of action  
 Extended dosing in HepaRG allows mitochondrial toxicity to develop.

# Evidence for Mitotoxicological Mechanism seen in Man



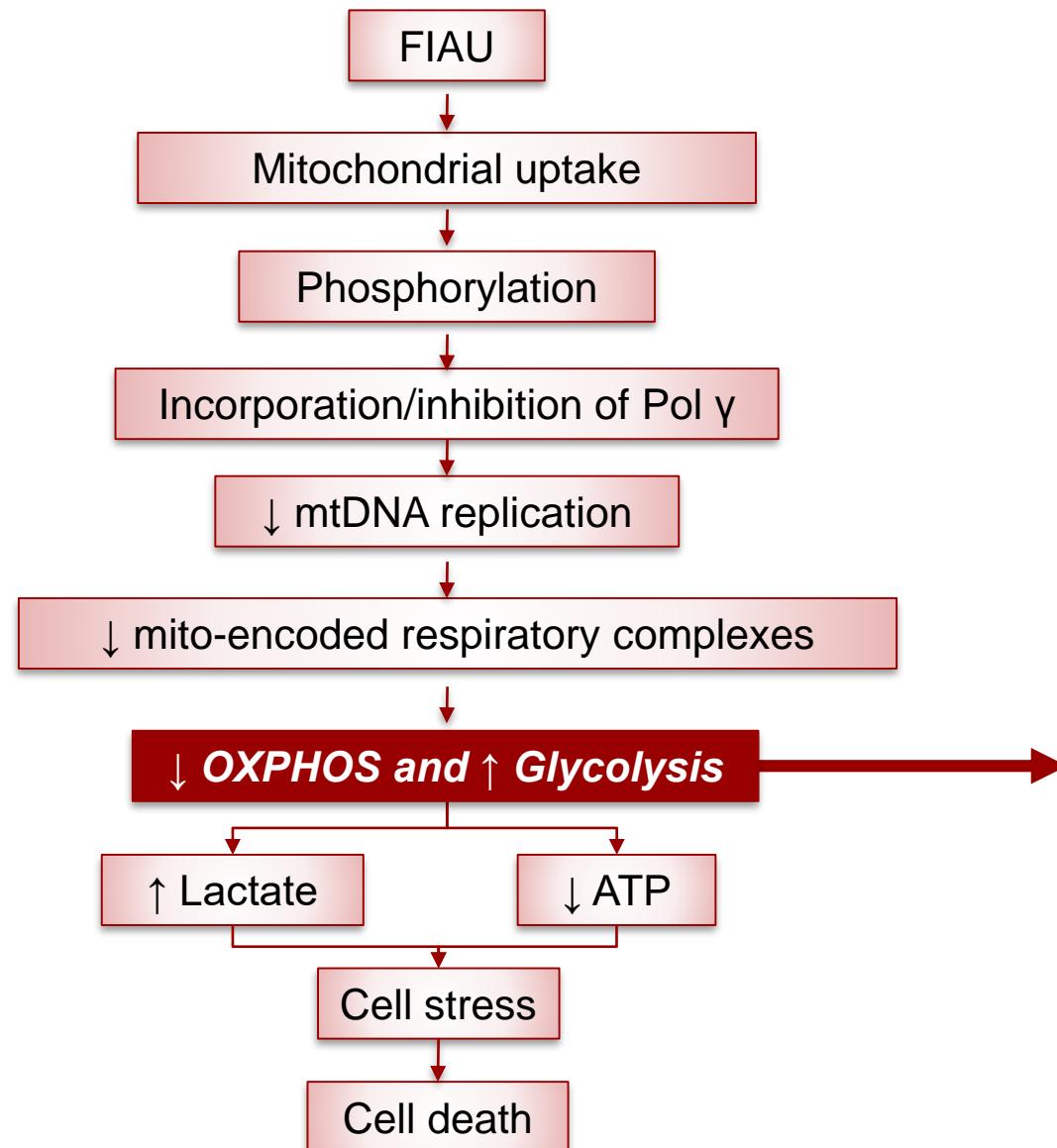
Intracellular presence of FIAU-MP, -DP and -TP (LC-MS)

# Evidence for Mitotoxicological Mechanism seen in Man



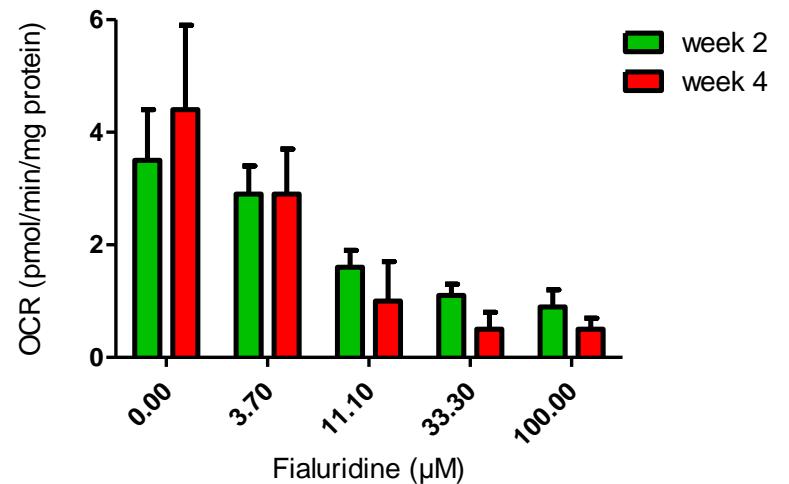
Quantified using PCR  
(mtDNA and nuDNA quantified)

# Evidence for Mitotoxicological Mechanism seen in Man



## Decreased oxidative phosphorylation

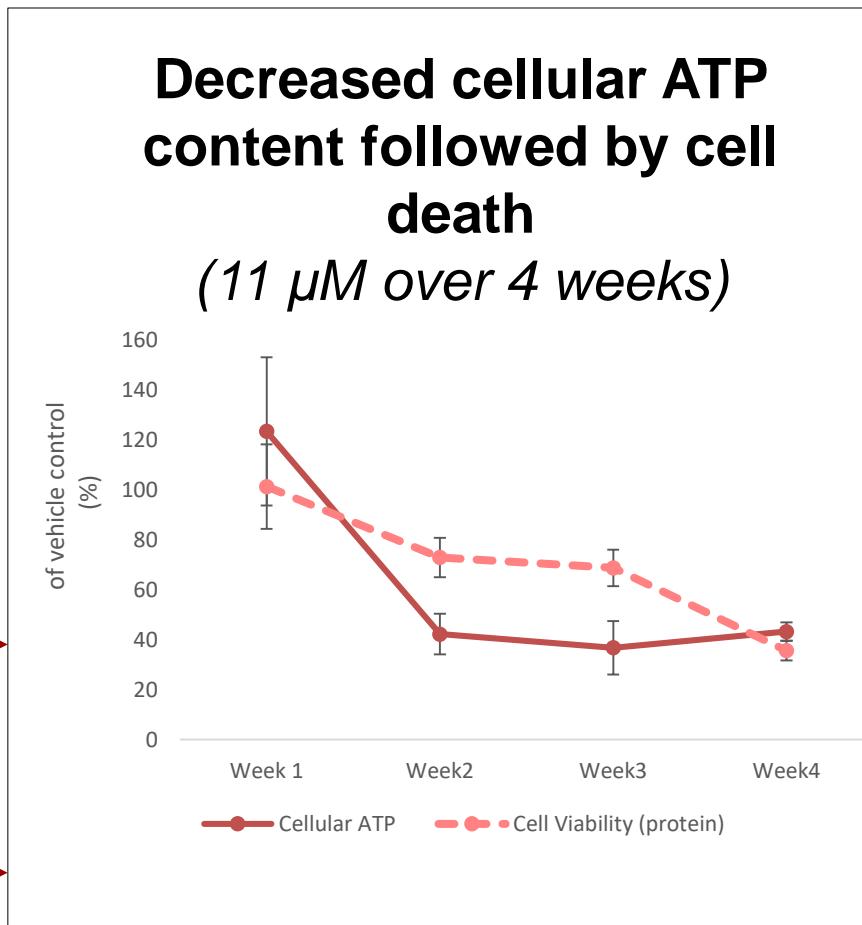
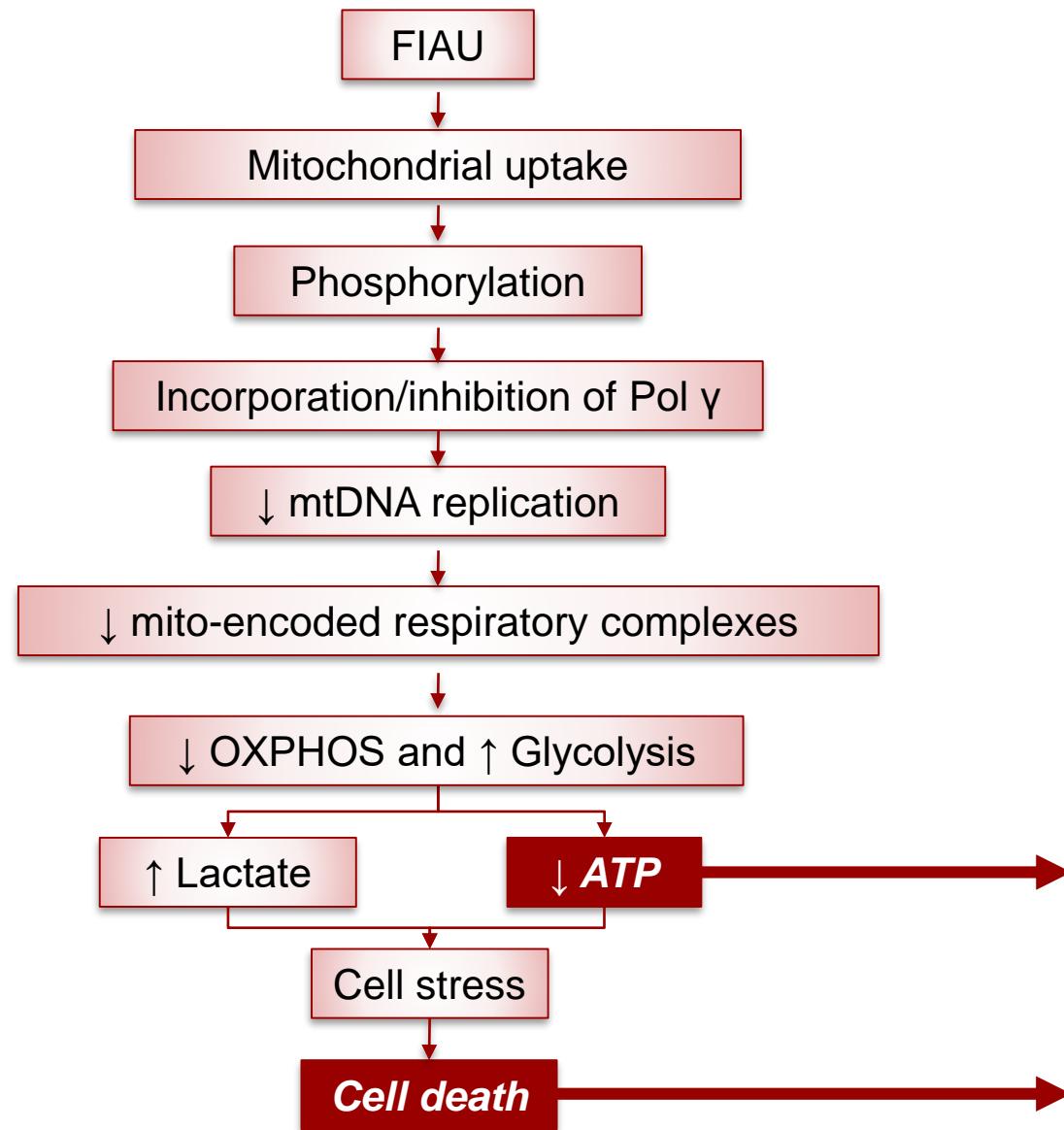
(using Seahorse Technology to measure oxygen consumption)



## ATP-linked respiration

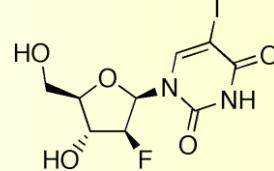
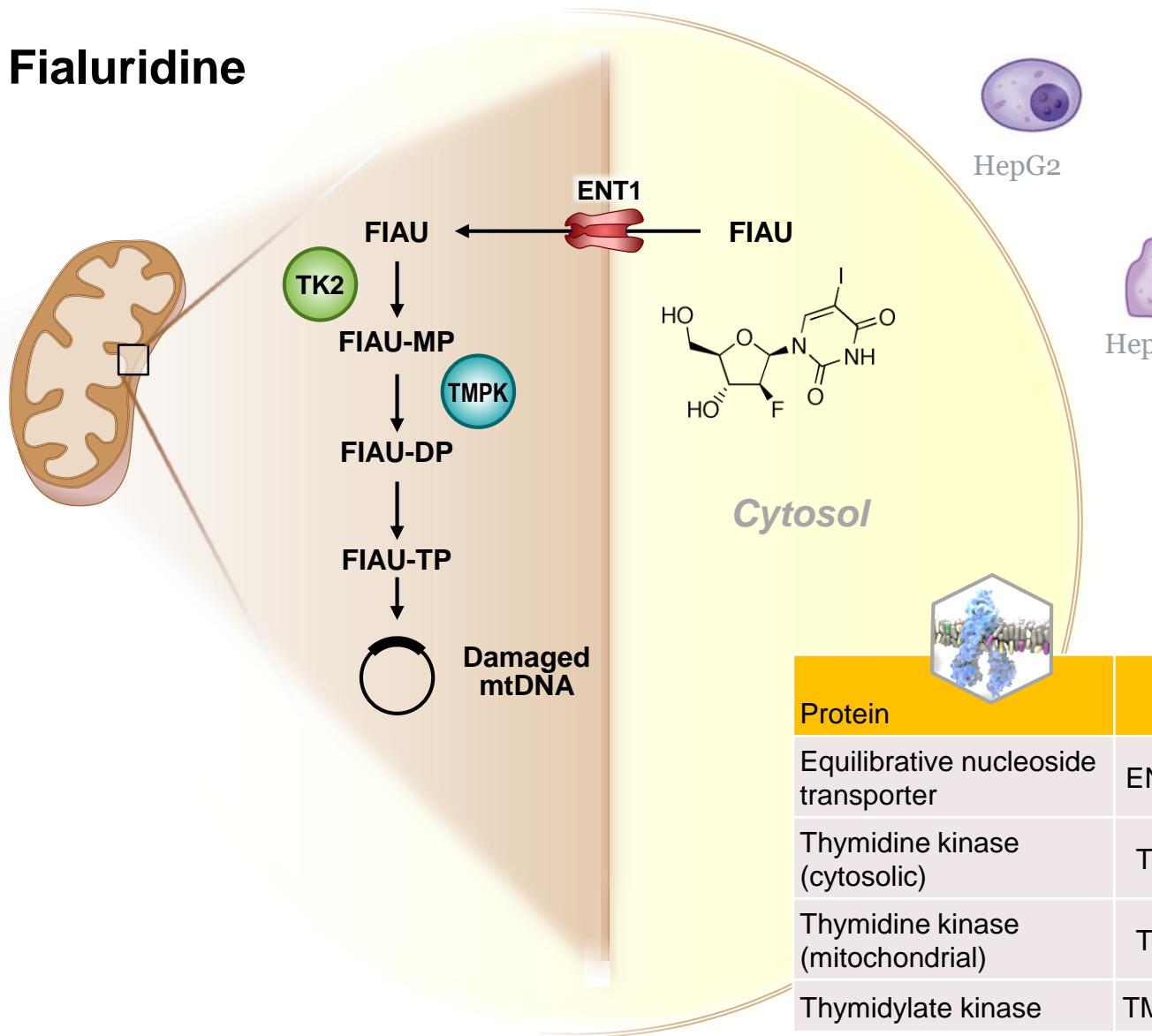
Indicates the oxygen consumption which is linked to ATP-production by OXPHOS

# Evidence for Mitotoxicological Mechanism seen in Man



# Importance of the physiological and pharmacological phenotype for the application of a toxicological test

## Fialuridine

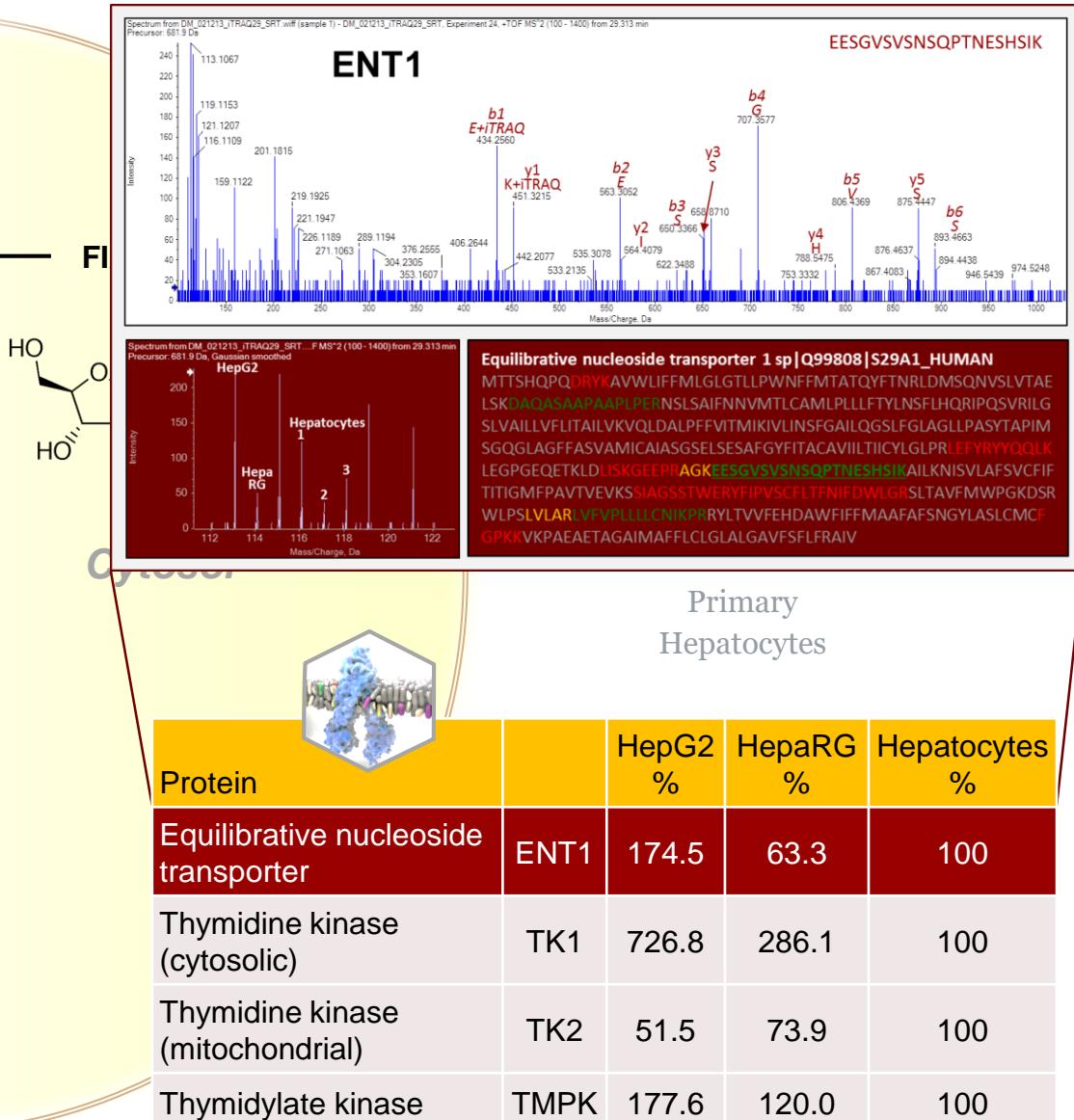
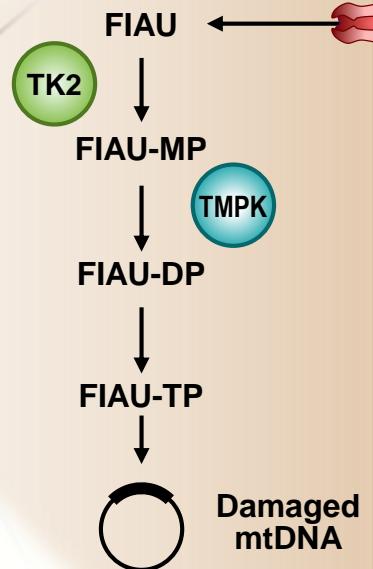
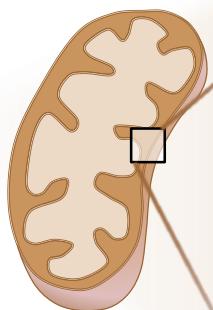


Cytosol

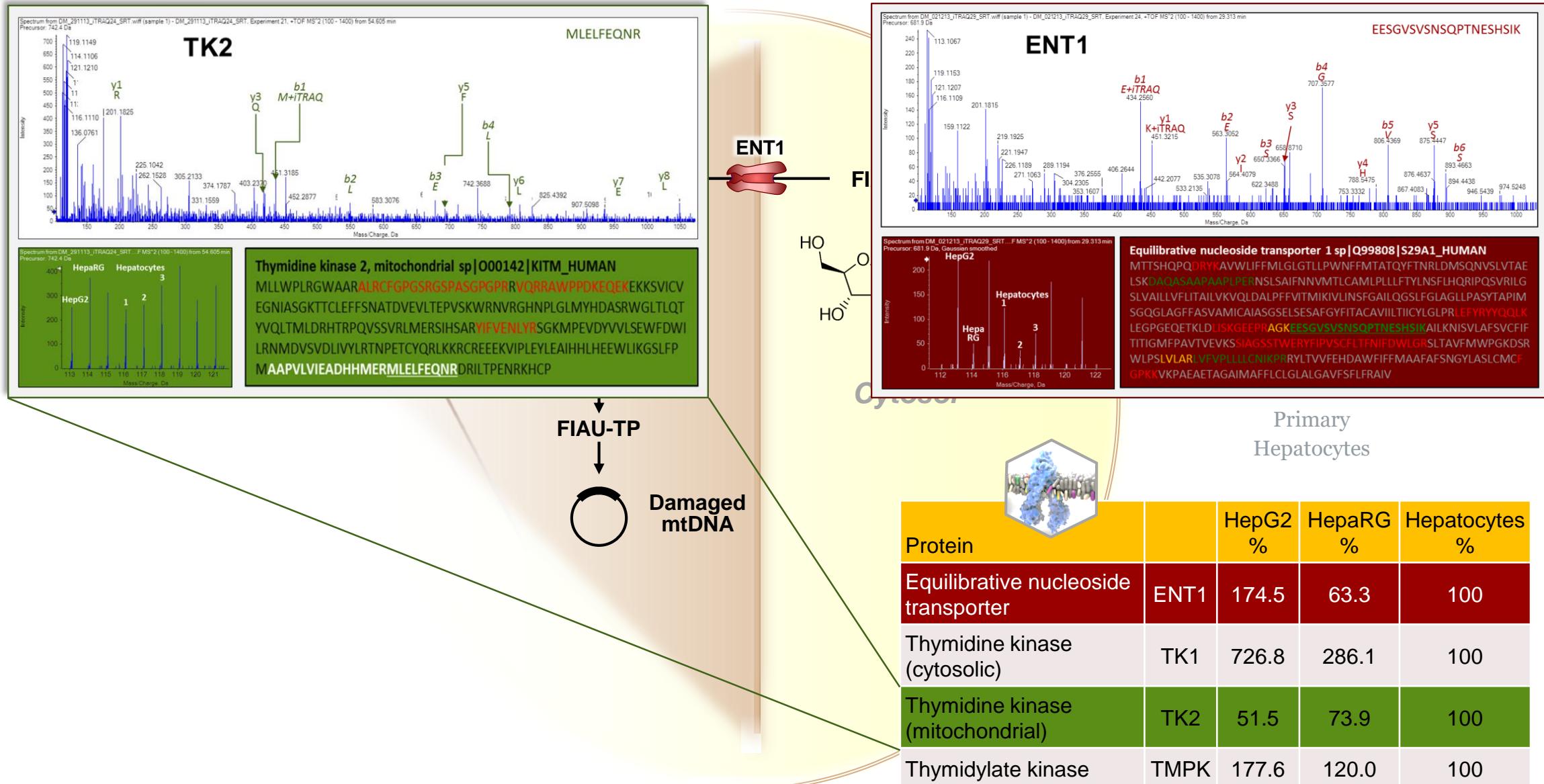
Protein		HepG2 %	HepaRG %	Hepatocytes %
Equilibrative nucleoside transporter	ENT1	174.5	63.3	100
Thymidine kinase (cytosolic)	TK1	726.8	286.1	100
Thymidine kinase (mitochondrial)	TK2	51.5	73.9	100
Thymidylate kinase	TMPK	177.6	120.0	100

# Importance of the physiological and pharmacological phenotype for the application of a toxicological test

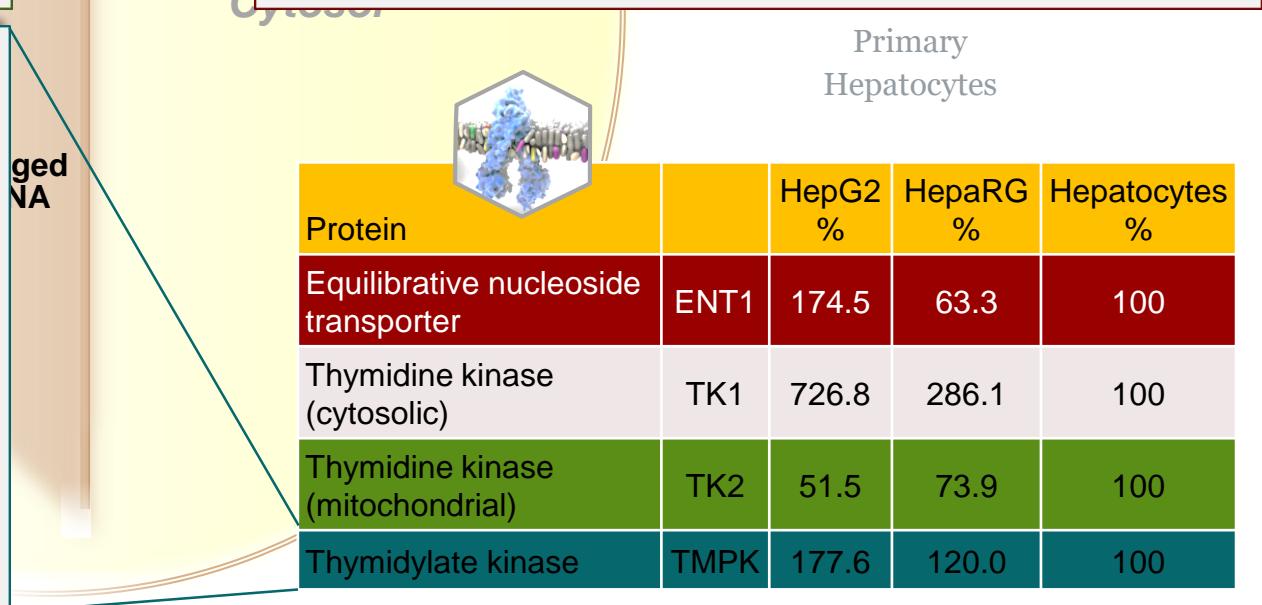
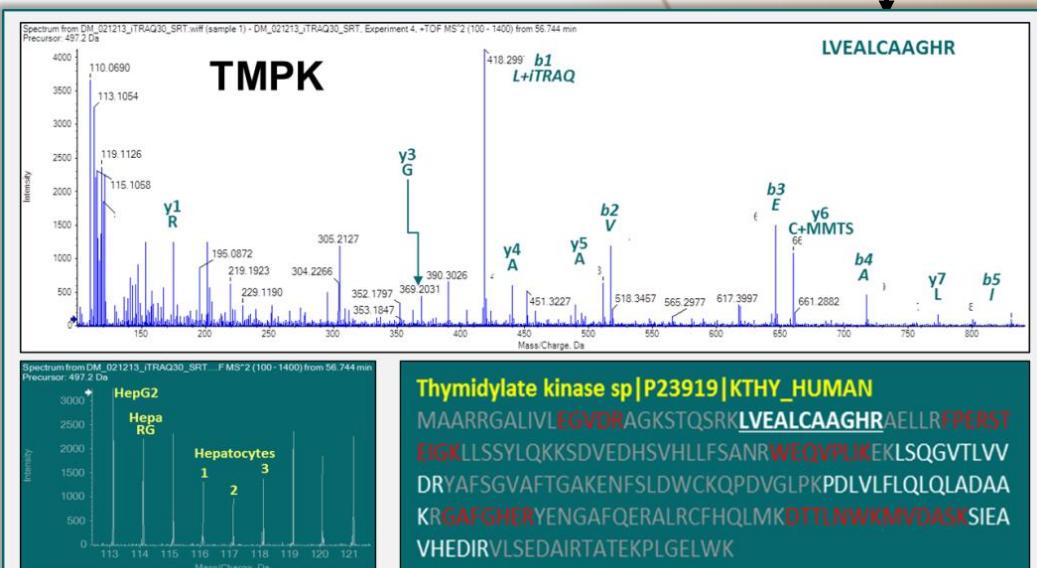
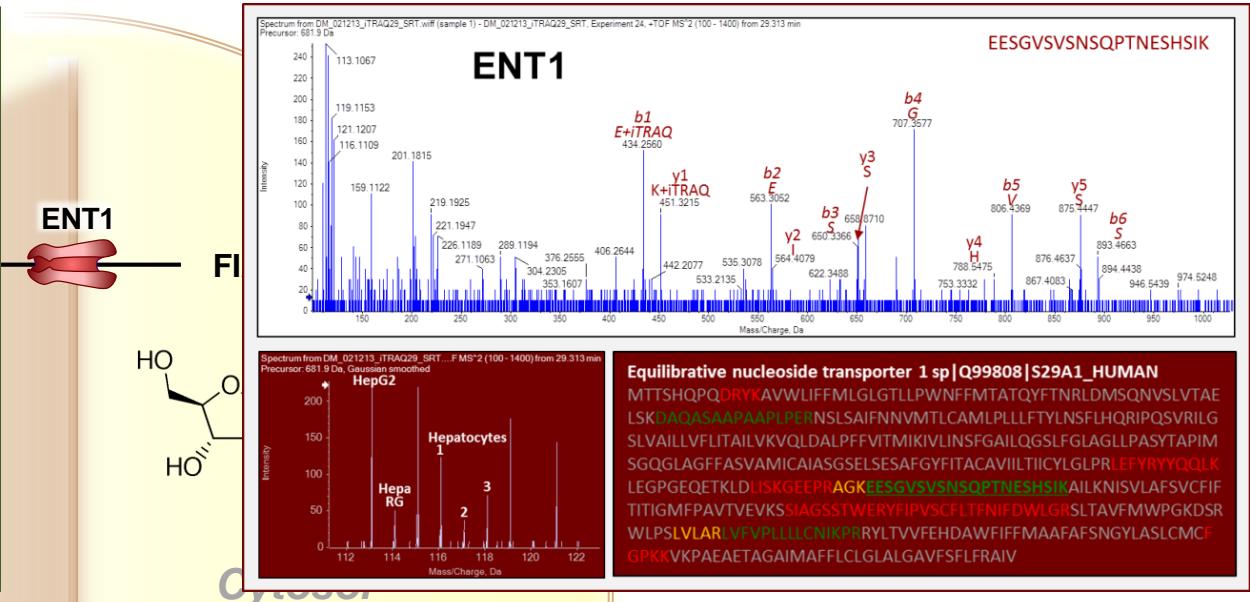
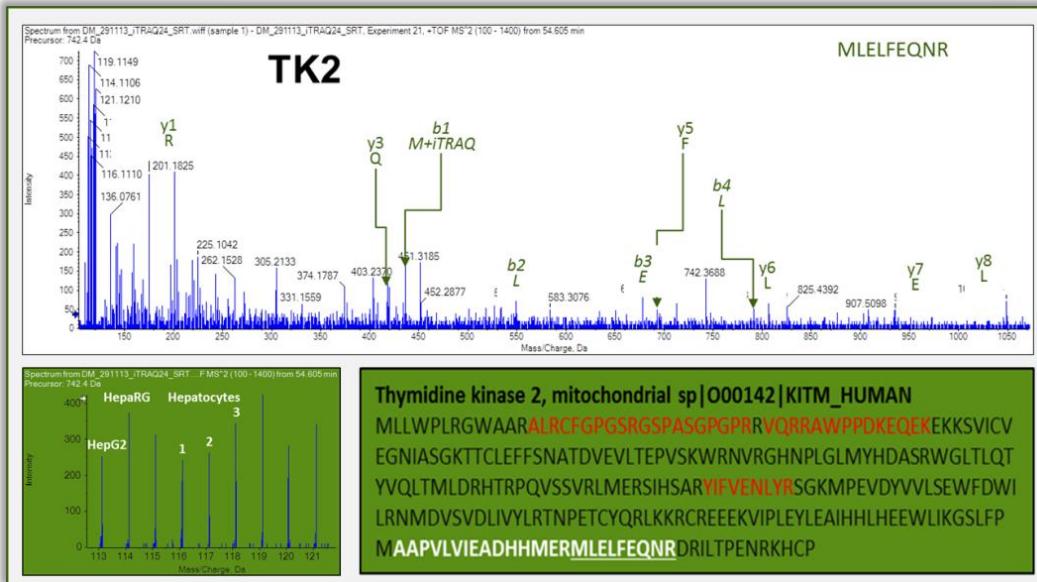
## Fialuridine



# Importance of the physiological and pharmacological phenotype for the application of a toxicological test



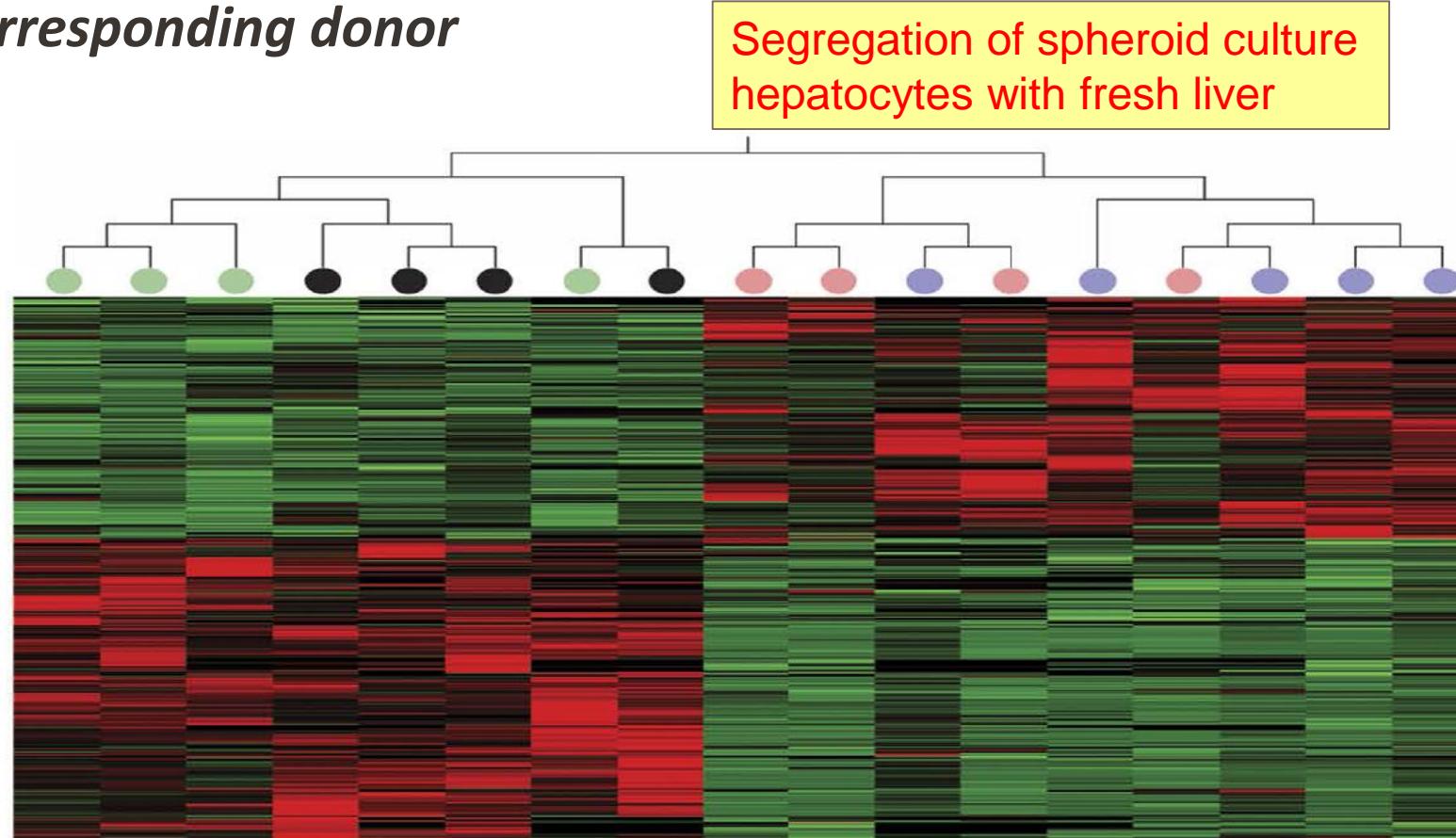
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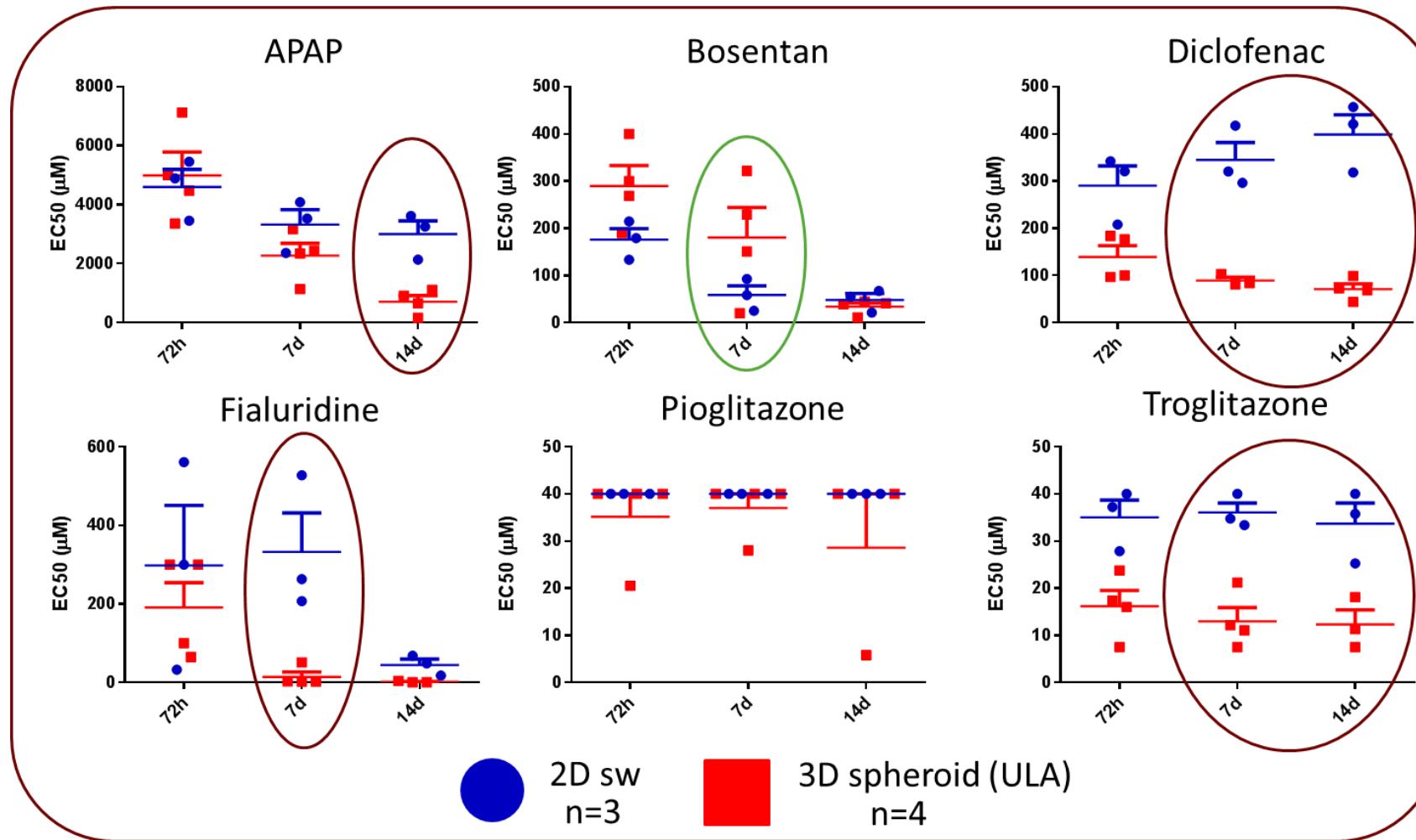




Karolinska  
Institutet

- Whole proteome: 2D, spheroid, fresh primary hepatocytes and liver from several human donors
- *Data expressed relative to freshly-isolated hepatocytes from corresponding donor*

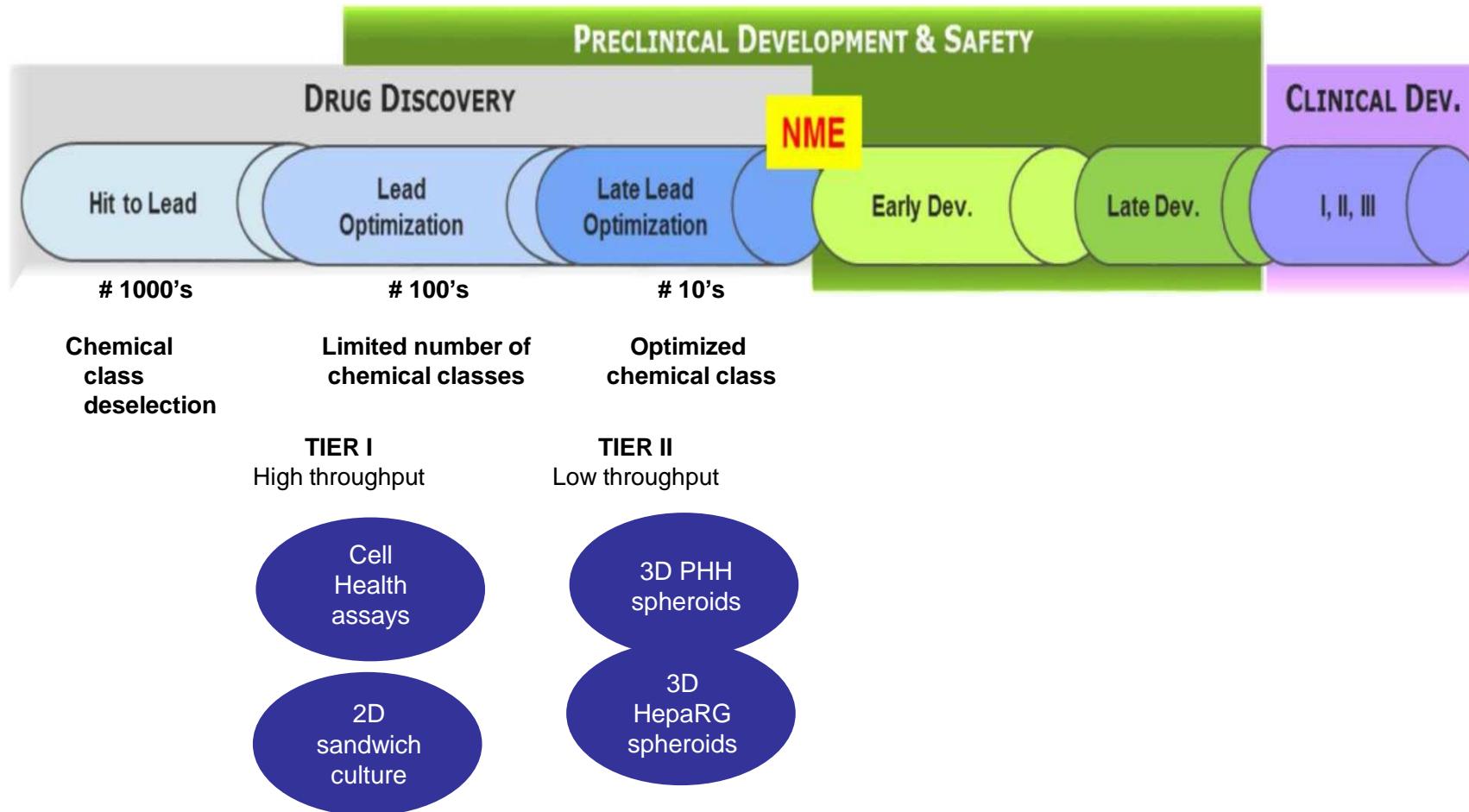




Compounds negative in a HCA analyses (n=35) were evaluated using the 3D spheroid system and overall 65% of compounds missed in the HCA screening were detected in the 3D spheroids as being hepatotoxic

# 3D spheroids within Industry

The application of 3D spheroids would be more focused towards lower compound throughput and/or mechanistic studies



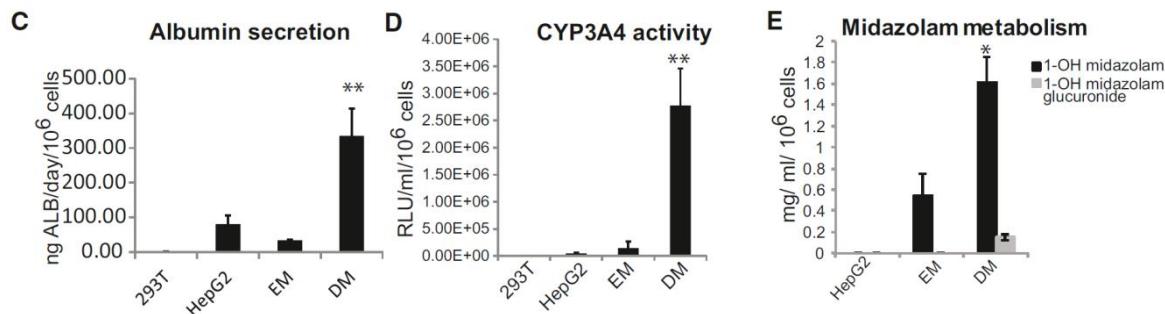
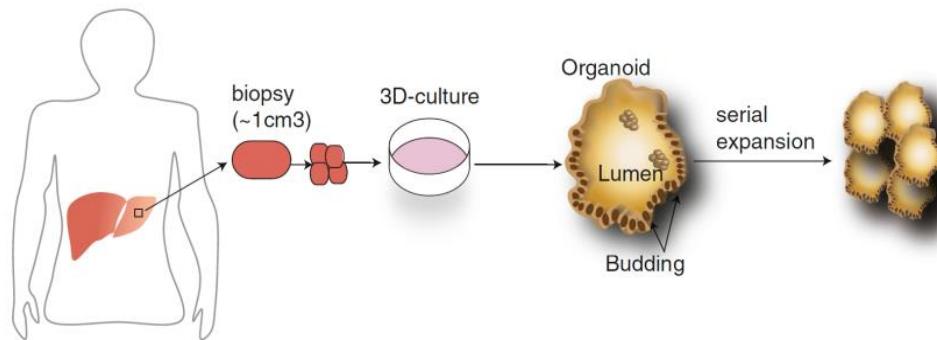
# Regeneration and homeostasis of the liver mass: Human In vitro

## Article

## Cell

### Long-Term Culture of Genome-Stable Bipotent Stem Cells from Adult Human Liver

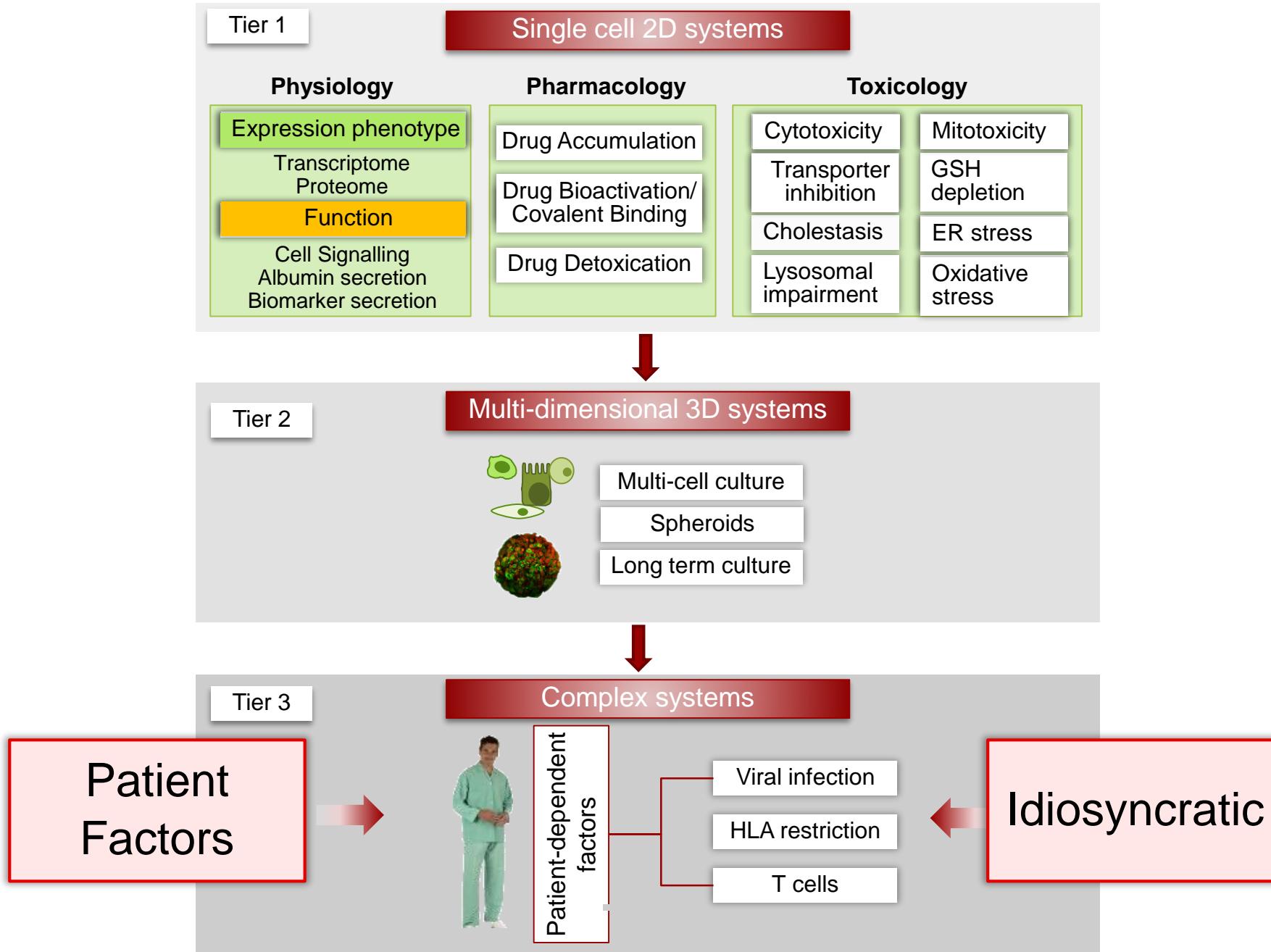
Meritxell Huch,<sup>1,9,10,\*</sup> Helmut Gehrt,<sup>1,9</sup> Ruben van Boxtel,<sup>1,9</sup> Karien Hamer,<sup>1</sup> Francis Blokzijl,<sup>1</sup> Monique M.A. Verstegen,<sup>1</sup> Ewa Ellis,<sup>7</sup> Martien van Wenum,<sup>3</sup> Sabine A. Fuchs,<sup>4</sup> Joep de Ligt,<sup>1</sup> Marc van de Wetering,<sup>1,8</sup> Nobuo Sasaki,<sup>1</sup> Susanne J. Boers,<sup>4</sup> Hans Kemperman,<sup>5</sup> Jeroen de Jonge,<sup>2</sup> Jan N.M. Ijzermans,<sup>2</sup> Edward E.S. Nieuwenhuis,<sup>4</sup> Ruurdje Hoekstra,<sup>3</sup> Stephen Strom,<sup>6</sup> Robert R.G. Vries,<sup>1,8</sup> Luc J.W. van der Laan,<sup>2</sup> Edwin Cuppen,<sup>1</sup> and Hans Clevers<sup>1</sup>



### Generation of long-lived human liver-like organoids from biliary ductal epithelial cells

- Evidence for a role for these cells in **human** liver regeneration at least in vitro
- Alternative route for generation of liver models (ie use human liver tissue bipotential stem cells)

# MIP-DILI Roadmap - Stratification of *In Vitro* systems



# Conclusions

- We can develop a battery test system based on current science which is fit for purpose - **refinement and benchmarking**.
- The implementation of novel model systems with respect to industrial application is being conducted - **EFPIA workshops**.
- Multidimensional *in vitro* systems, which have a relevant physiological and pharmacological phenotype and are therefore fit for toxicological application(s) are being progressed - **definitive qualitative and quantitative mass spectrometry**
- Current status of novel model systems for idiosyncratic DILI with respect to human relevance - **aspirational**

# Acknowledgements

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- Sabrina Moro

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