- When a drug is administered extravascularly (e.g., orally, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, transdermally, etc.), absorption into the systemic vascular system must take place.
- If serum concentrations decrease in a straight line when plotted on semilogarithmic axes after drug absorption is complete, a one compartment model extravascular equation can be used to describe the serum concentration/time curve

$$C = \{ (Fk_a D) / [V(k_a - k_e)] \} (e^{-k_e t} - e^{-k_a t})$$

t: time after the extravascular dose was given

(t = 0 at the time the dose was administered)

- C: concentration at time = t
- F: bioavailability fraction
- k_a: absorption rate constant

D: dose

- V: volume of distribution
- k_e: elimination rate constant.



Serum concentration/time curves for extravascular drug administration for agents following a **one-compartment pharmacokinetics**. The absorption rate constant (k_a) controls how quickly the drug enters the body. A large absorption rate constant allows drug to enter the body quickly while a small absorption rate constant permits drug to enter the body more slowly.

- An example of the use of this equation would be a patient that is administered 500 mg of oral procainamide as a capsule.
- It is known from prior clinic visits that the patient has $t_{1/2}$ = 4 hours $k_e = 0.173 h^{-1} V = 175 L$ Ka = 2 h⁻¹,
- F = 0.85

• The procainamide serum concentration 4 hours after a single dose would be equal to:

$$C = \frac{FK_{a}D}{V(k_{a} - k_{e})} \quad (e^{-k_{e}t} - e^{-k_{a}t})$$

$$C = \frac{(0.85)(2 h^{-1})(500mg)}{(175 L)(2h^{-1} - 0.173h^{-1})} \quad (e^{-(0.173h^{-1})(4h)} - e^{-(2h^{-1})(4h)})$$

= 1.3 mg/L

- If the serum concentration/time curve displays a distribution phase, it is still possible to use one compartment model equations after an extravascular dose is administered.
- In order to do this, serum concentrations are obtained only in the postdistribution phase.
- Since the absorption rate constant is also hard to measure in patients, it is also desirable to avoid drawing drug serum concentrations during the absorption phase in clinical situations.

 When only postabsorption, postdistribution serum concentrations are obtained for a drug that is administered extravascularly, the equation simplifies to:

 $C = [(FD)/V]e^{-ket}$

• This approach works very well when the extravascular dose is rapidly absorbed and not a sustained- or extended-release dosage form.

- Pharmacokinetic constants can also be calculated and used in these equations.
- If two or more postabsorption, postdistribution serum concentrations are obtained after an extravascular dose, the Vd, Ke, and $t_{1/2}$ can be computed.

 For example, a patient is given an oral dose of valproic acid 750 mg as capsules. Six and twenty-four hours after the dose, the valproic acid serum concentrations are 51.9 mg/L and 21.3 mg/L, respectively.



Half-life $(t_{1/2})$ is determined by measuring the time needed for serum concentrations to decline by 1/2 (from 51.9mg/L to 26mg/L), and is converted to the elimination rate constant (ke = $0.693/t_{1/2} = 0.693/14$ h = 0.0495 h⁻¹). The concentration/ time line can be extrapolated to the concentration axis to derive the concentration at time zero ($C_0 = 70$ mg/L) and used to compute the hybrid constant volume of distribution/bioavailability fraction V/F=D/C₀ = 750mg/(70mg/L) = 10.7L.

Alternatively,

ke = - $(lnC_1 - lnC_2)/(t_1 - t_2)$

ke = - [ln (51.9 mg/L) - ln (21.3 mg/L)] /(6 h - 24 h) = 0.0495 h^{-1}

 $t_{1/2} = 0.693/ke = 0.693/0.0495 h^{-1} = 14 h$

 $C_0 = C/e^{-ket}$

= $(21.3 \text{ mg/L}) / e^{-(0.0495 \text{ h}^{-1})(24\text{h})} = 70 \text{ mg/L}$

V/F=D/C₀ = 750mg/(70 mg/L) = 10.7L

- In most cases, medications are administered to patients as multiple doses, and drug serum concentrations for therapeutic drug monitoring are not obtained until steady state is achieved.
- For these reasons, multiple dose equations that reflect steady-state conditions are usually more useful in clinical settings than single dose equations.
- Fortunately, it is simple to convert single dose compartment model equations to their multiple dose and steady-state counterparts.

 In order to change a single dose equation to the multiple dose version, it is necessary to multiply *each exponential term* in the equation by the multiple dosing factor:

 $(1 - e^{-nk_i T})/(1 - e^{-k_i T})$

- n: number of doses administered
- K_i: the rate constant found in the exponential of the single dose equation
- T: dosage interval

- At steady state, the number of doses (n) is large, the exponential term in the numerator of the multiple dosing factor (-nk_i t) becomes a large negative number, and the exponent approaches zero.
- Therefore, the steady-state version of the multiple dosing factor becomes the following:

1/(1 - e^{-ki}^T)

K_i: the rate constant found in the exponential of the single dose equation

T: dosage interval. Equations.docx

Examples

- *IV bolus.* a patient with tonic-clonic seizures is given phenobarbital 100 mg intravenously daily until steady-state occurs. ke = 0.116 d⁻¹, V = 75 L.
- The steady-state concentration 23 hours [(23 h) / (24 h / d) = 0.96 d] after the last dose equals:
- $C = (D/V)[e^{-ket}/(1 e^{-ket})]$
 - = $(100 \text{ mg}/75 \text{ L})[e^{-(0.116 \text{ d}^{-1})(0.96 \text{ d})}/(1 e^{-(0.116 \text{ d}^{-1})(1 \text{ d})})]$
 - = 10.9 mg/L

 Intermittent intravenous infusion. A patient with gramnegative pneumonia is administered tobramycin 140 mg every 8 hours until steady state is achieved. V = 16 L, k e = 0.30 h⁻¹. The steady-state concentration immediately after a 1 hour infusion equal:

$$C = [k_0 / (k_e V)][(1 - e^{-ke t'}) / (1 - e^{-ke t})]$$

 $= [(140 \text{ mg/h}) / (0.30 \text{ h}^{-1} \cdot 16 \text{ L})][(1 - e^{(-0.30 \text{ h}^{-1} \cdot 1 \text{ h})})/(1 - e^{(-0.30 \text{ h}^{-1} \cdot 8 \text{ h})})]$

= 8.3 mg/L

- The main difference between single-dose and multiple-dose calculations is in the computation of the volume of distribution.
- When a single dose of medication is given, the predose concentration is assumed to be *zero*.
- However, when multiple doses are given, the predose concentration is *not usually zero*.

 A patient receiving theophylline 300 mg intravenously (bolus) every 6 hours has a predose concentration equal to 2.5 mg/L and postdose concentrations of 9.2 mg/L one hour and 4.5 mg/L five hours after the second dose is given.

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k_e = - (ln C_1 - ln C_2)/(t_1 - t_2)
= - [(ln 9.2 mg/L) - (ln 4.5 mg/L)] / (1 h - 5 h)
= 0.179 h<sup>-1</sup>
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- $V = D/[C_0 C_{predose}]$
- C₀ = C/e-^{ke t} = (9.2 mg/L) /e^{(-0.179 h-1)(1 h)} = 11.0 mg/L
- V = D/[C₀ C_{predose}] =(300 mg) / (11.0 mg/L - 2.5 mg/L) = 35.3 L

• A very useful and easy equation can be used to compute the average steady-state concentration (Css) of a drug:

Css = [F(D/Ţ)]/Cl

- F: bioavailability fraction
- D: dose,
- T: dosage interval
- Cl: drug clearance

- The steady-state concentration computed by this equation is the concentration that would have occurred if the dose, adjusted for bioavailability, was given as a continuous intravenous infusion.
- For example, 600 mg of theophylline tablets given orally every 12 hours (F = 1.0) would be equivalent to a 50 mg/h (600 mg/12 h = 50 mg/h) continuous intravenous infusion of theophylline.

- The average steady-state concentration equation is very useful when
- 1. The half-life of the drug is long compared to the dosage interval.
- 2. If a sustained-release dosage form is used.

Example

A patient is administered 250 μ g of digoxin tablets daily for heart failure until steady state. F = 0.7, Cl = 120 L/d.

Css = [F(D/T)]/Cl

- = $[0.7(250 \ \mu g \ /d)] \ / \ (120 \ L/d)$
- = $1.5 \, \mu g/L$.

• Example, a patient receiving 600 mg of sustained-release theophylline every 12 hours has a steady-state concentration equal to 11.2 mg/L.

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CI/F = (D/ Ţ) / Css
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- = (600 mg/12 h) / 11.2 mg/L
- = 4.5 L/h

Any Question ??