

Evaluating Topical Bioavailability In-Vivo: ... Dermal Open Flow Microperfusion and Equivalence Testing by IVRT

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What dOFM Adds to Pharmacokinetics-Based BA Approaches

Predictive Bioavailability

The Big Picture

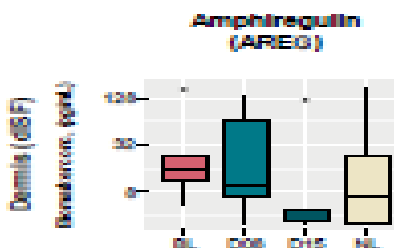
2

In-Vivo



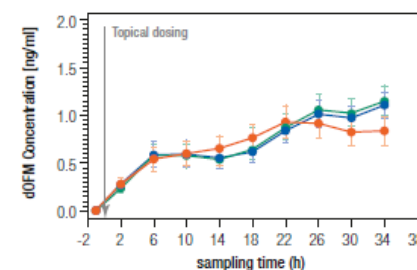
Endpoint Study

In-Vivo



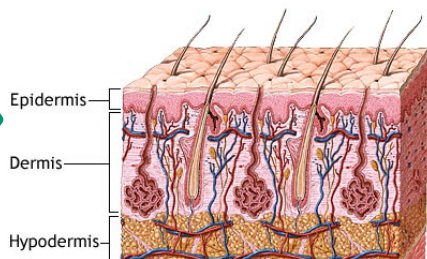
Biomarker Study

In-Vivo



PK Healthy Subjects

Ex-Vivo



Healthy Human Skin

In-Vitro



e.g. IVRT, IVPT

Physico-chem. Prop.

Q1 Q3

Q2

Predictive Bioavailability *The Big Picture*

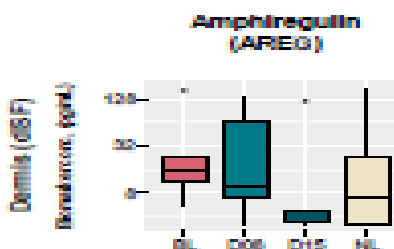
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In-Vivo



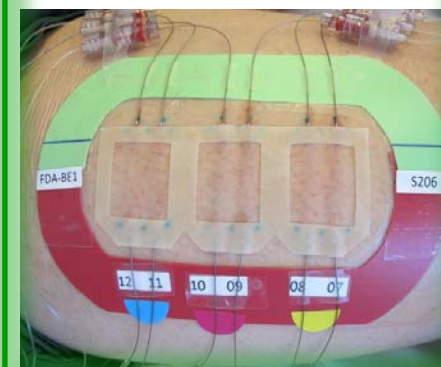
Endpoint Study

In-Vivo

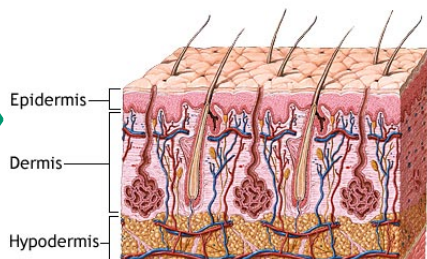


Biomarker Study

In-Vivo



Ex-Vivo



Healthy Human Skin

In-Vitro



e.g. IVRT, IVPT

Physico-chem. Prop.

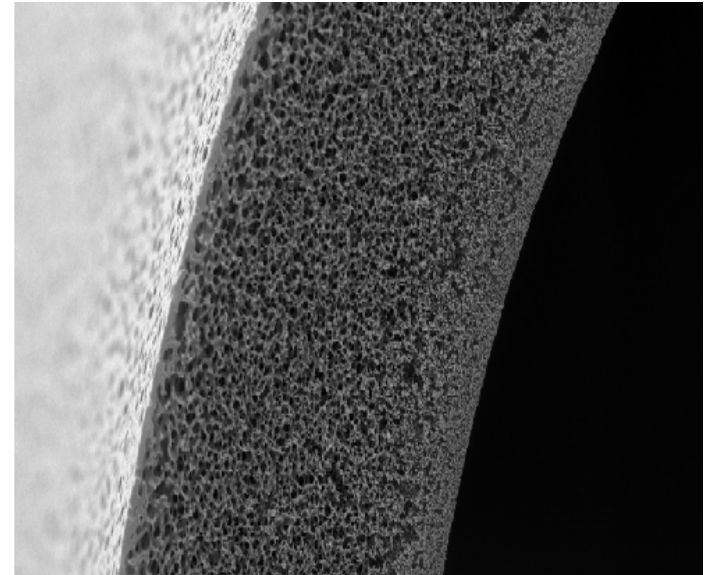
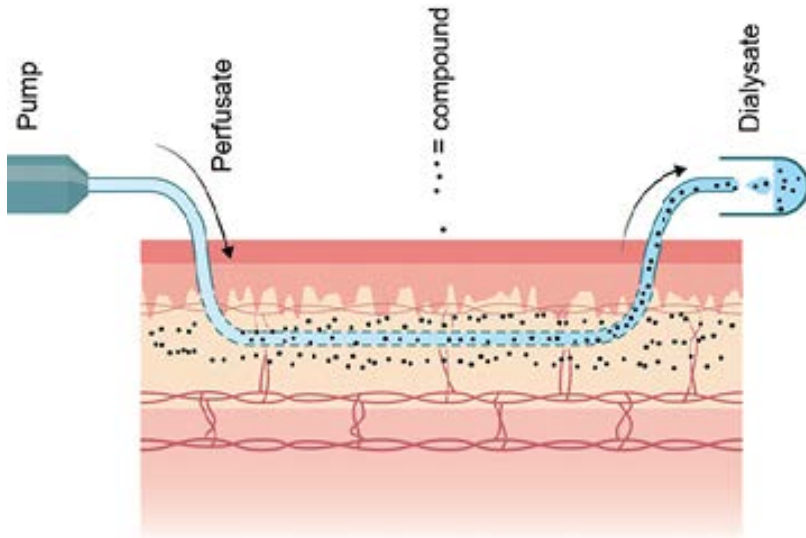
Q1 Q3
Q2

Pharmacokinetics-Based BA Approaches

Dermal Microdialysis (dermal MD)

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✓ MD samples represent diluted and filtered interstitial fluid



dMD has been used for topical BA:

Benfeldt *JID* 2007 (Lidocaine, 5 h)

Tettey-Amlalo *EurJPharmSci* 2009 (Ketoprofen, 5 h)

Incecayir *PharmRes* 2011 (Oxytetracycline, 4 h)

García Ortiz *SkinPharmPhysiol.* 2011 (Metronidazole, 5 h)

Why is dermal MD not accepted by FDA today?

Strengths

1. Provides a direct in-vivo measurement of the rate and extent of the active moiety at or near the site of action in the skin.
2. Evidence indicates that dermal MD has the potential to differentiate pharmacokinetic profiles by their magnitude.

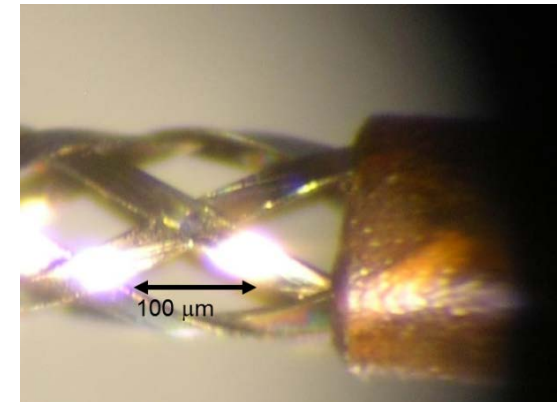
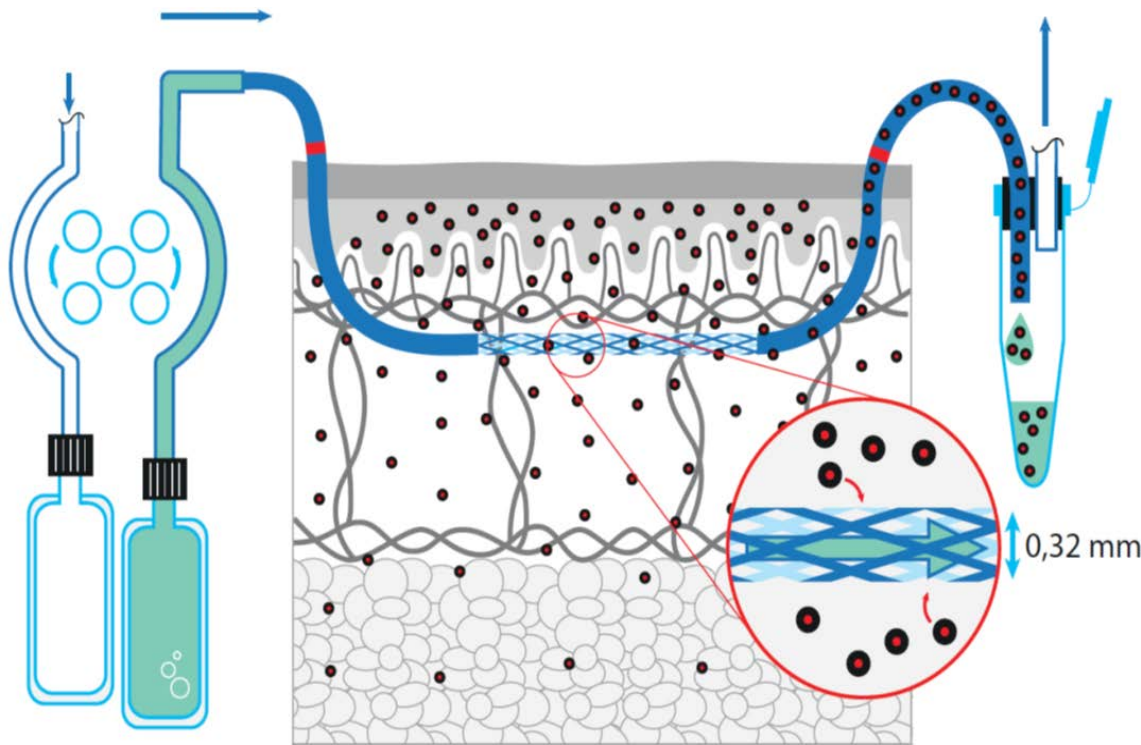
Limitations

1. Limitations linked to membrane, e.g. pore size and adsorption
2. Limited sampling time, often < 8 hours
3. Various factors contribute to data variability

Open Flow Microperfusion

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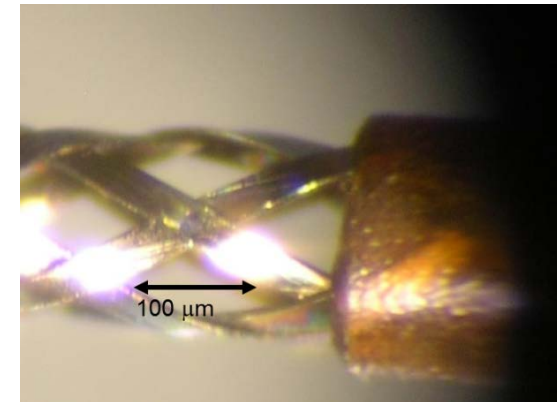
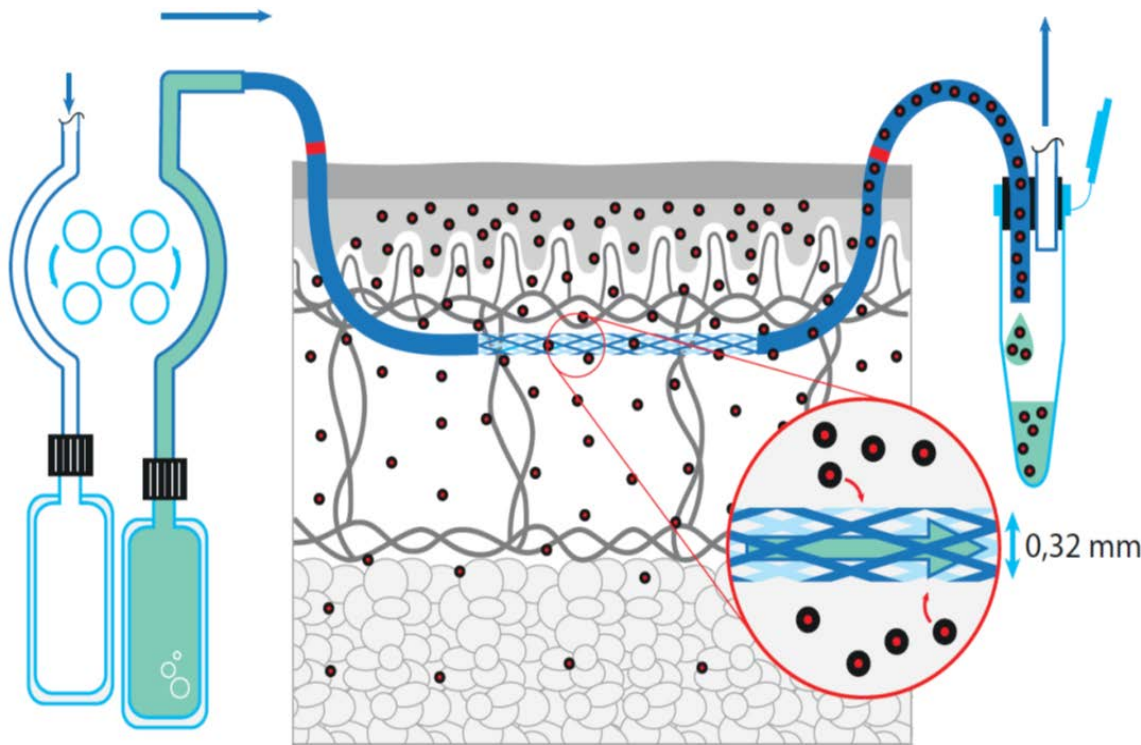
✓ OFM samples represent diluted but unfiltered interstitial fluid



CE-certified for clinical use

Open Flow Microperfusion

✓ **Limitation 1 solved: all drugs are accessible in-vivo in the dermis**

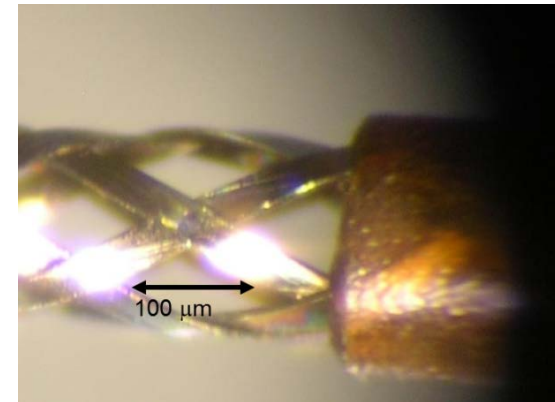
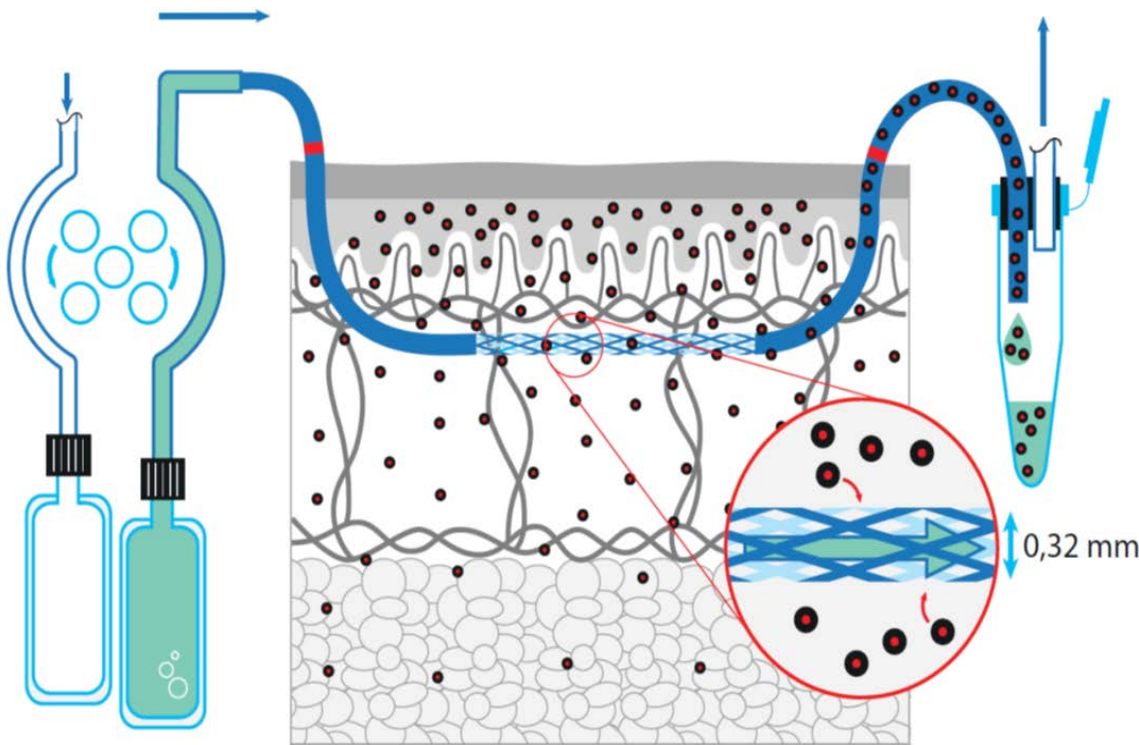


CE-certified for clinical use

Open Flow Microperfusion

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✓ **Limitation 2 solved: In-vivo sampling in the dermis up to 48 hours**



dOFM used for PK-PD in skin:

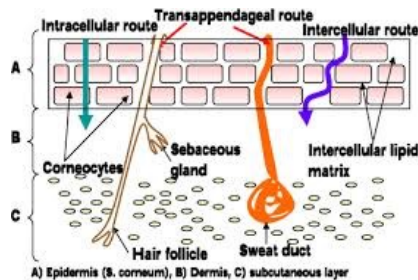
Acyclovir (topical)	– 36 h clinical
Corticoid (topical)	– 26 h clinical
Antibody (SC)	– 17 h clinical
Acyclovir (topical)	– 36h ex-vivo human skin
NCE (topical)	– 24 h ex-vivo human skin

Continuous dermal ISF sampling

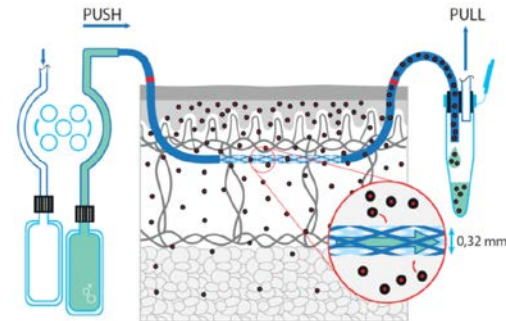
Sources of Variability

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variability due to sampling site



variability due to methods



- Differences in skin structure
 - Between subjects
 - Parts of the body
- Hairiness
- Sweat ducts
- Day/night rhythm of local blood flow
- Hair shaving
- Skin care products use
- Skin condition (e.g. solarium)

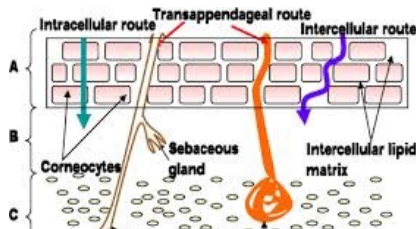
- Trauma formation (OFM/MD)
- Dosage application
- Probe depth (OFM/MD)
- Flow rate (OFM/MD)
- Local blood flow (OFM/MD)
- Lateral diffusion
- Systemic diffusion
- Room temperature and humidity

Continuous dermal ISF sampling

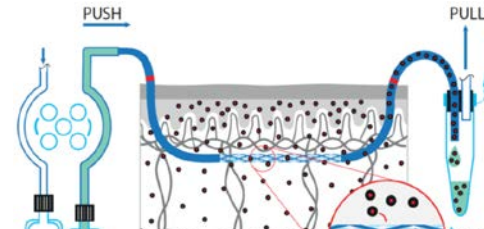
Sources of Data Variability

10

variability due to sampling site



variability due to methods



- ➔ control all significantly contributing factors that add to data variability
- ➔ factors that cannot be controlled are monitored

Between subjects

- Parts of the body
- Hairiness
- Sweat duct
- Day/night rhythm of local blood flow
- Hair shaving
- Skin care products use
- Skin condition (e.g. solarium)

Probe application

- Probe depth (dOFM)
- Flow rate (dOFM)
- Local blood flow
- Lateral diffusion
- Systemic diffusion
- Room temperature and humidity

dOFM

(1) Apparatus Qualification

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New dOFM probe

- 0.5 x 15 mm sampling mesh
- patent granted
- use of up to 48 hours

dOFM pump

- portable
- 0.1 – 10 $\mu\text{l}/\text{min}$
- Sterile fluidic kit
- operates 3 OFM probes

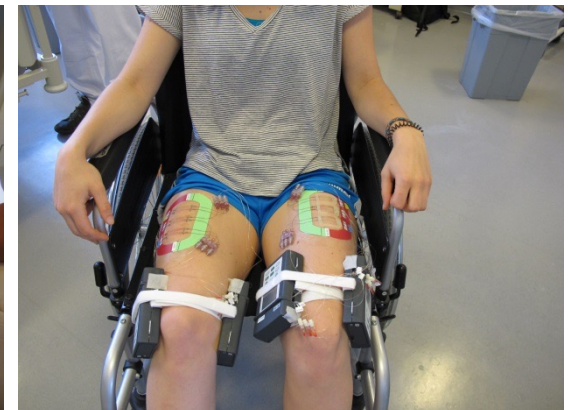
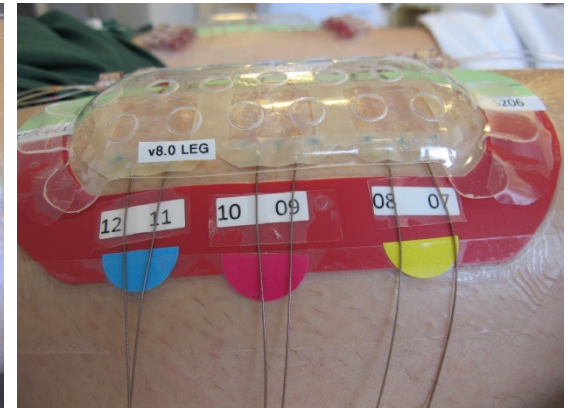
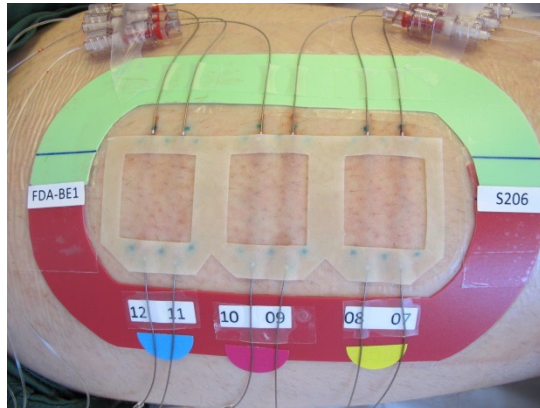
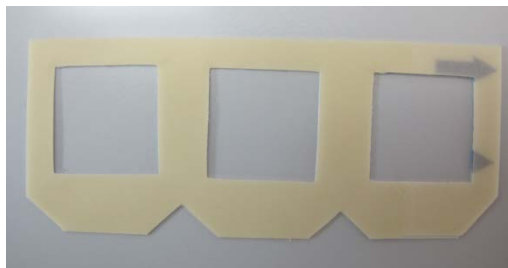
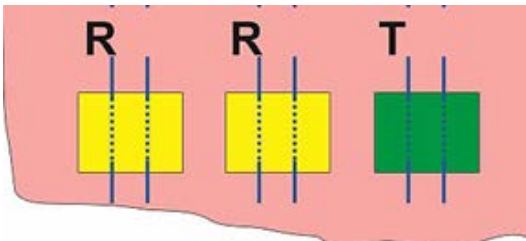
**CE certified for clinical use**

dOFM

(2) Performance Optimization

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✓ All dOFM procedures are highly standardized



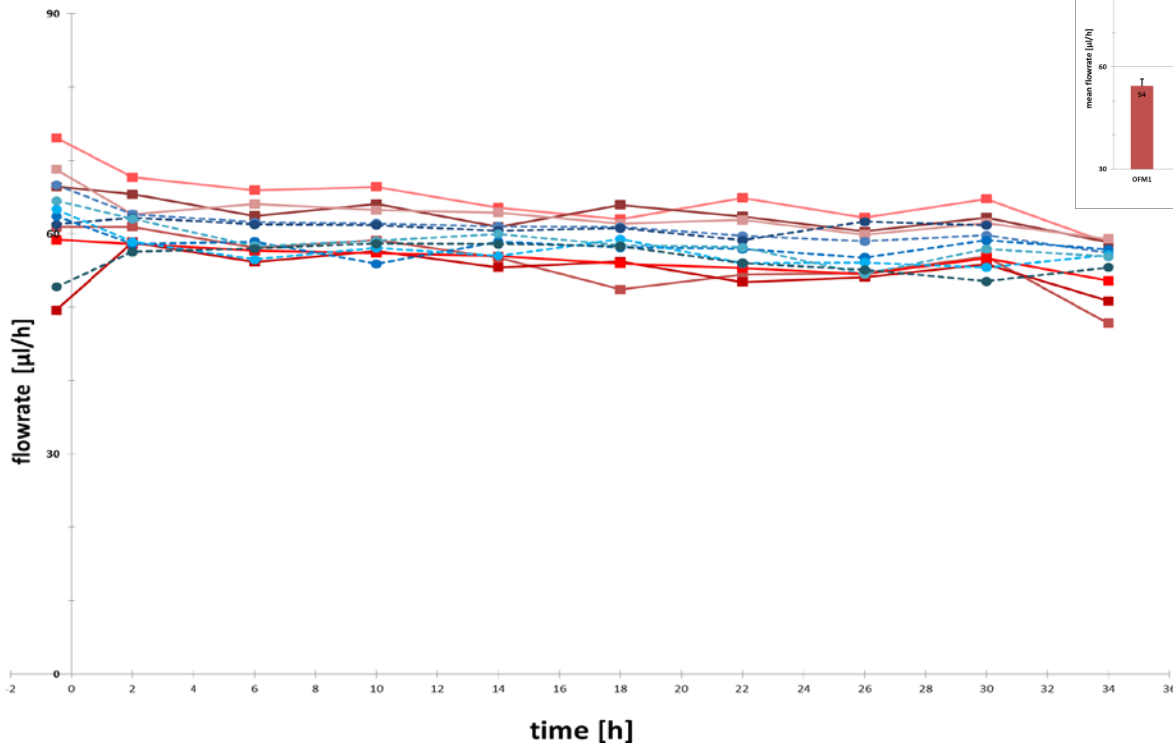
dOFM

(3) Performance Verification

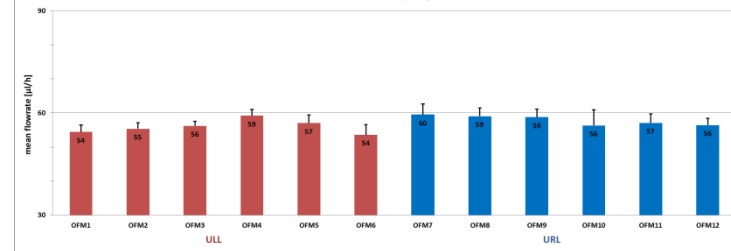
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✓ dOFM provides a stable flow rate for 36 hours

Flowrates S302



flowrates S304 all sampling intervals



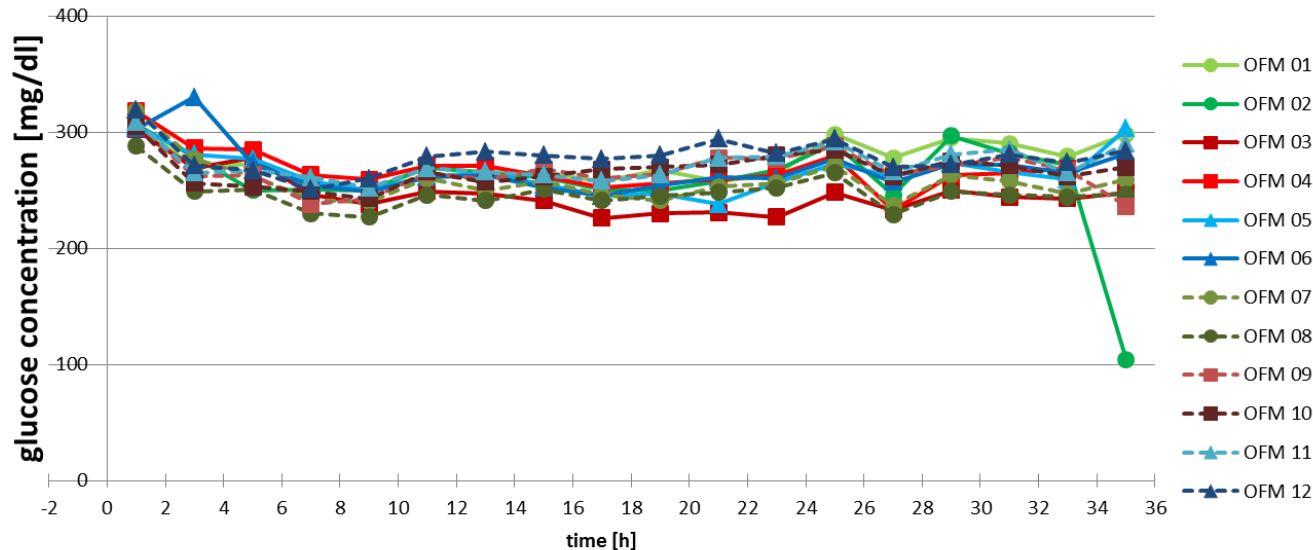
dOFM

(3) Performance Verification

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✓ dOFM is used to sample analytes for 36 hours

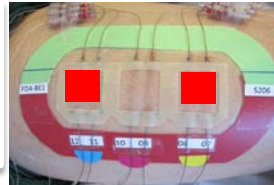
single probes glucose S206



Method Validation for Acyclovir Test for Systemic Exposure

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- ✓ **No systemic exposure**
- ✓ **No influence on PK at dOFM site**



50 mg/cm² US Zovirax

$$R = \frac{\#Blood\ Samples > LLOD}{\#Total\ Blood\ Samples}$$

- no systemic exposure if $R < 0.05$

Results

	min	median	P90	P95	P99	max
R	0	0.013	0.256	0.039	0.051	0.064

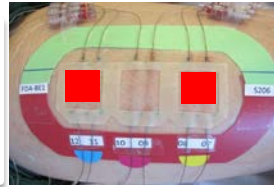
Methodology

- 6 subjects
- 10,000 bootstrap estimates
- Confidence interval created for true population value of test statistic R
- One-sided 95% confidence interval

Method Validation for Acyclovir Test for Lateral Diffusion

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- ✓ Negligible lateral diffusion in a few cases after 24 h
- ✓ No significant influence on PK at adjacent dOFM sites



50 mg/cm² US Zovirax

- $R = \frac{\#dOFM\ BLANC\ Sites > LLOD}{\#dOFM\ Samples\ ZOVIRAX\ US\ Sites > LLOD}$
- no lateral diffusion if $R < 0.05$

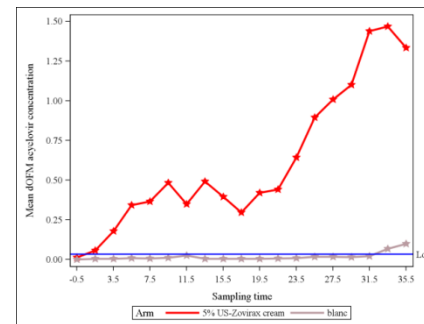
Results

	min	median	P90	P95	P99	max
R	0.008	0.076	0.109	0.118	0.135	0.183

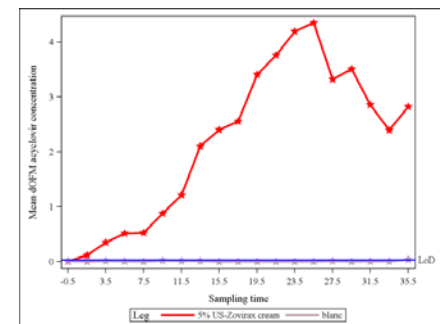
Methodology

- 6 subjects
- 10,000 bootstrap estimates
- Confidence interval created for true population value of test statistic R
- One-sided 95% confidence interval

PK profile arms (n=6)



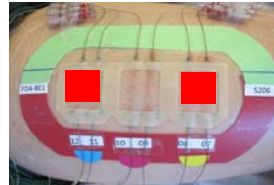
PK profile legs (n=6)



Method Validation for Acyclovir dOFM Probe Depth

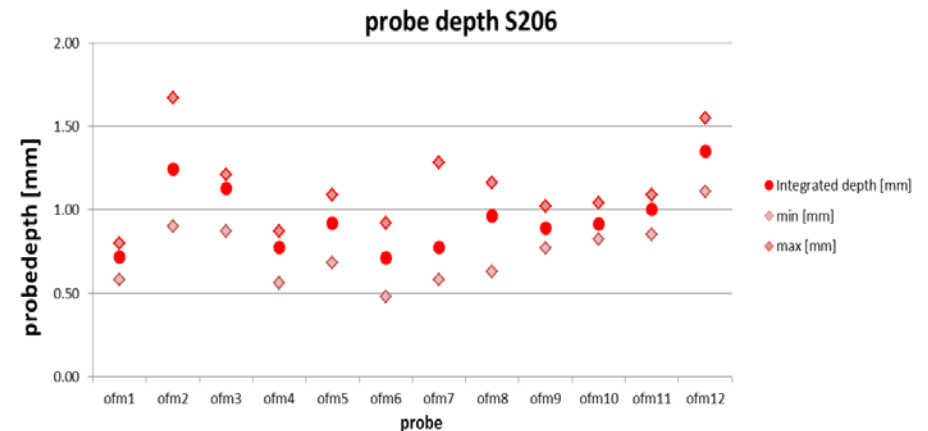
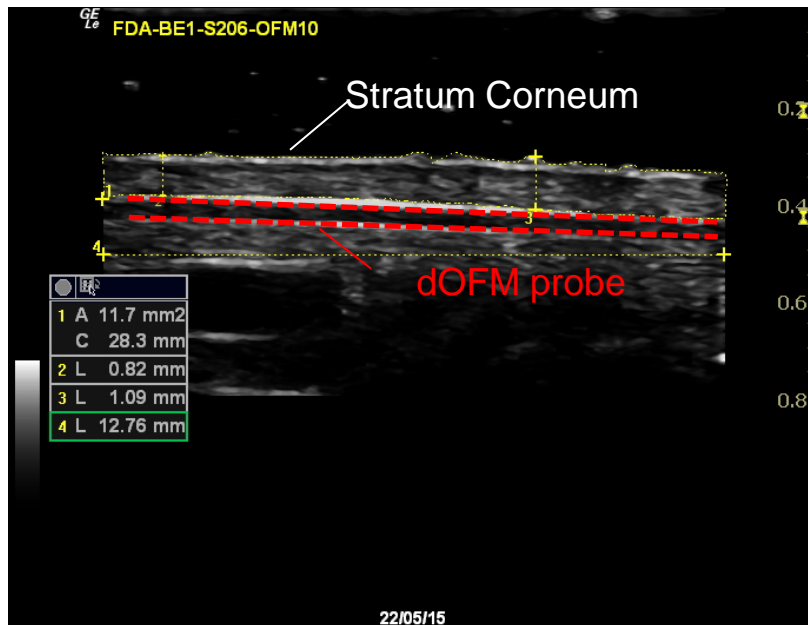
17

✓ **Uniform probe depth**



50 mg/cm² US Zovirax

Monitoring of probe depth along the whole exchange area

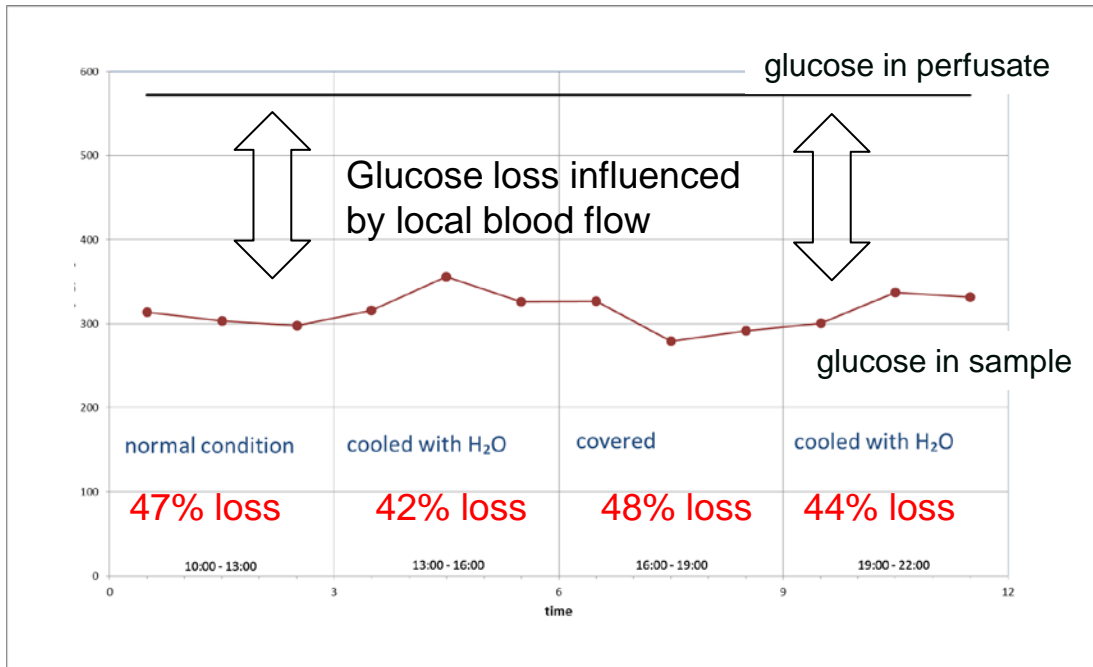


dOFM Method Validation

Local Blood Flow

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✓ Local blood flow monitoring



Glucose was used as an internal standard in OFM perfusate

Cooling was used to

- reduce local blood flow
- lower glucose loss from perfusate

6 dOFM probes in one subject

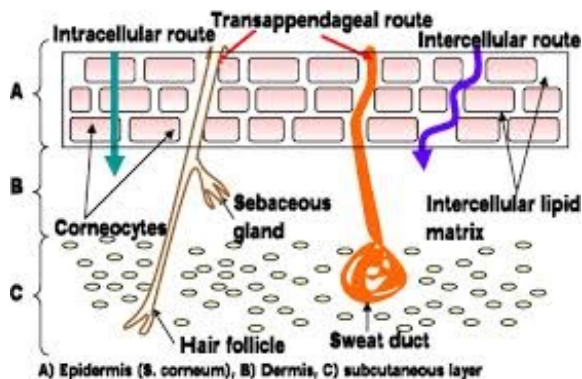
dOFM

Controlled and Monitored Factors

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variability due to sampling site

- Hairiness → not controlled
- Hair shaving → subjects are shaved 5 days before dOFM visit
- Sweat ducts → not controlled
- Skin permeation behaviour → monitored by TEWL and impedance
- Skin products use → not allowed 5 days before dOFM visit
- Skin condition (e.g. Solarium) → visual check at screening visit



dOFM

Controlled and Monitored Factors

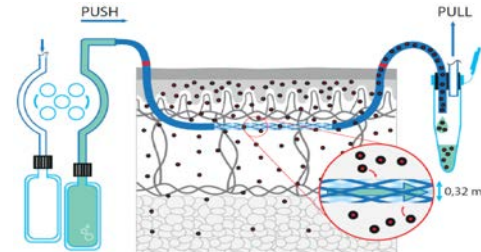
20

✓ **Limitation 3 solved: In-vivo variation significantly reduced**

variability due to methods

Controlled by cooling
Controlled by application template
Controlled by standardization
Monitored by ultrasound
Monitored by sample weight
Monitored by glucose marker
Negligible
No systemic exposure
Controlled $22 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ & 40 - 60% RH

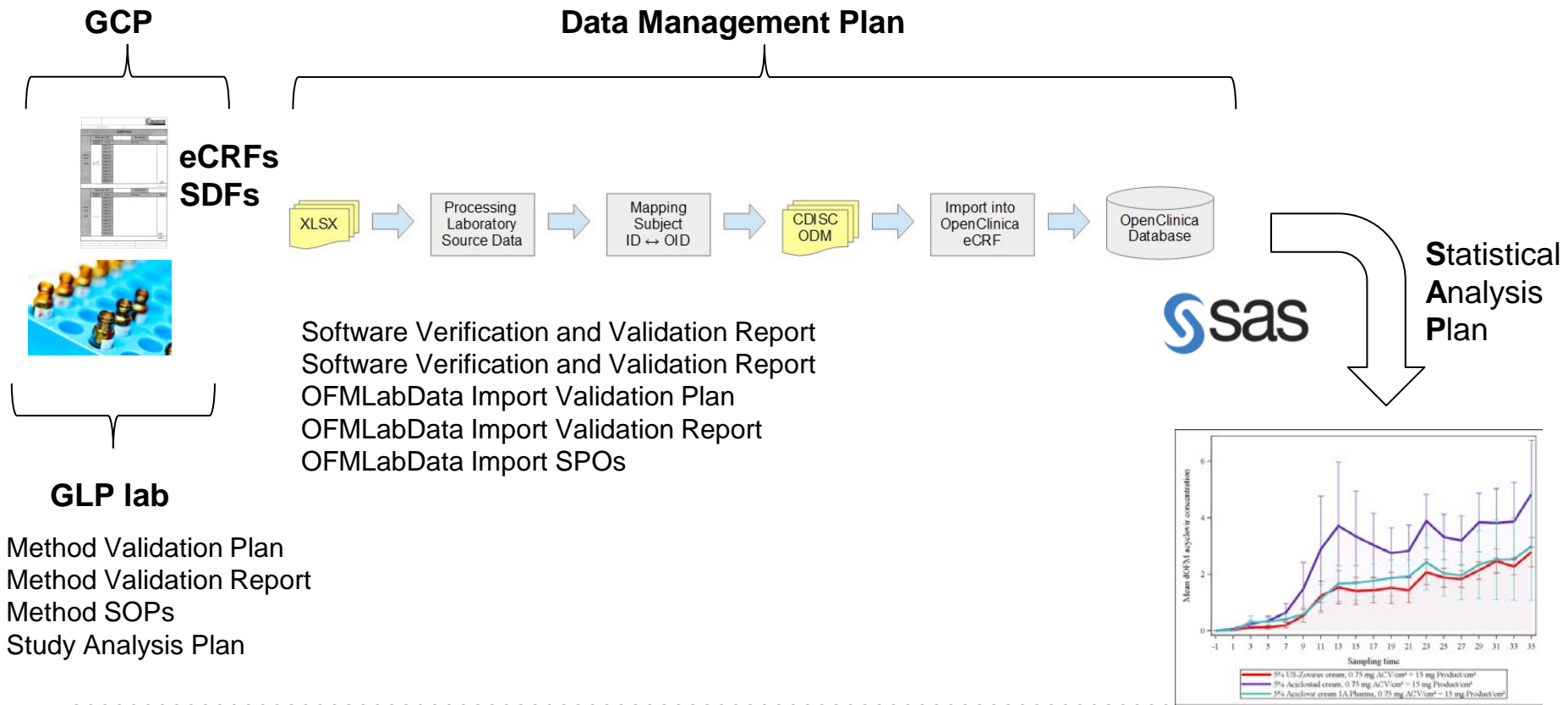
- ← Trauma formation (OFM/MD)
- ← Application site
- ← Dosage application
- ← Probe depth (OFM/MD)
- ← Flow rate (OFM/MD)
- ← Local blood flow (OFM/MD)
- ← Lateral diffusion
- ← Systemic diffusion
- ← Room temperature & relative humidity



dOFM Quality Controlled Workflow

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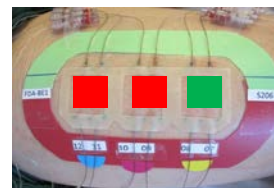
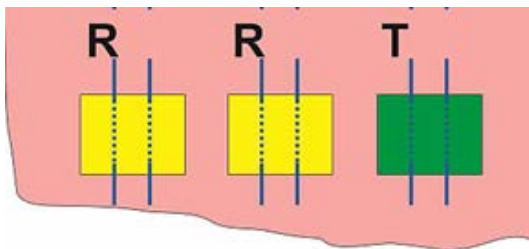
✓ All dOFM procedures are highly standardized



Clinical Bioavailability *dOFM Study Approach*

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- Clinical study in healthy subjects (n=20)
- **Reference:** Zovirax cream 5% (US)
- **Test:** Aciclovir 1A Pharma Cream 5% (Austria)
- Aims:
 - Investigate BA for *R* vs *R* for 36 h post-dose
 - Investigate BA for *T* vs *R* for 36 h post-dose

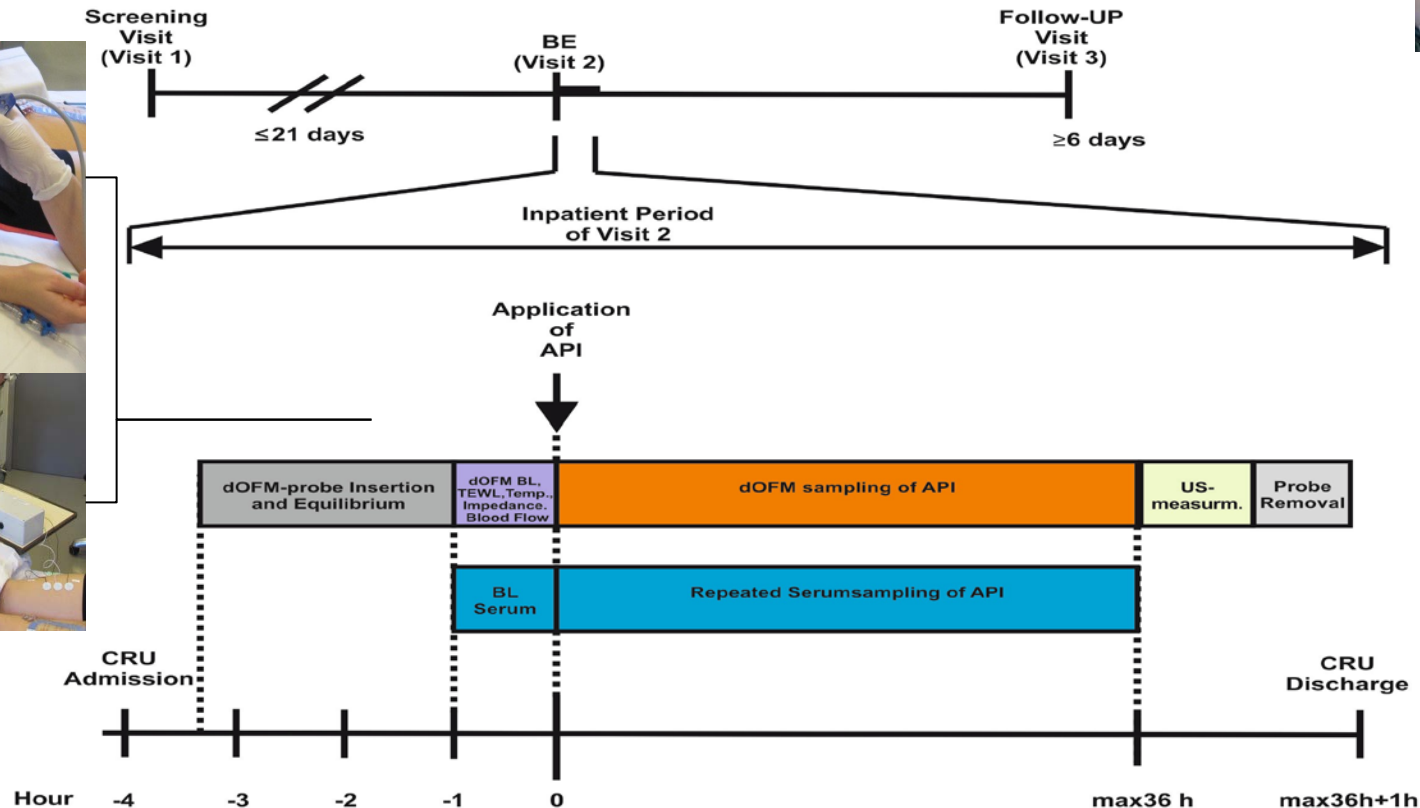
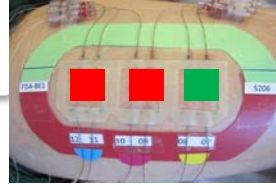


Clinical Bioavailability

Clinical BA Set-Up

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✓ SOP controlled clinical BA protocol



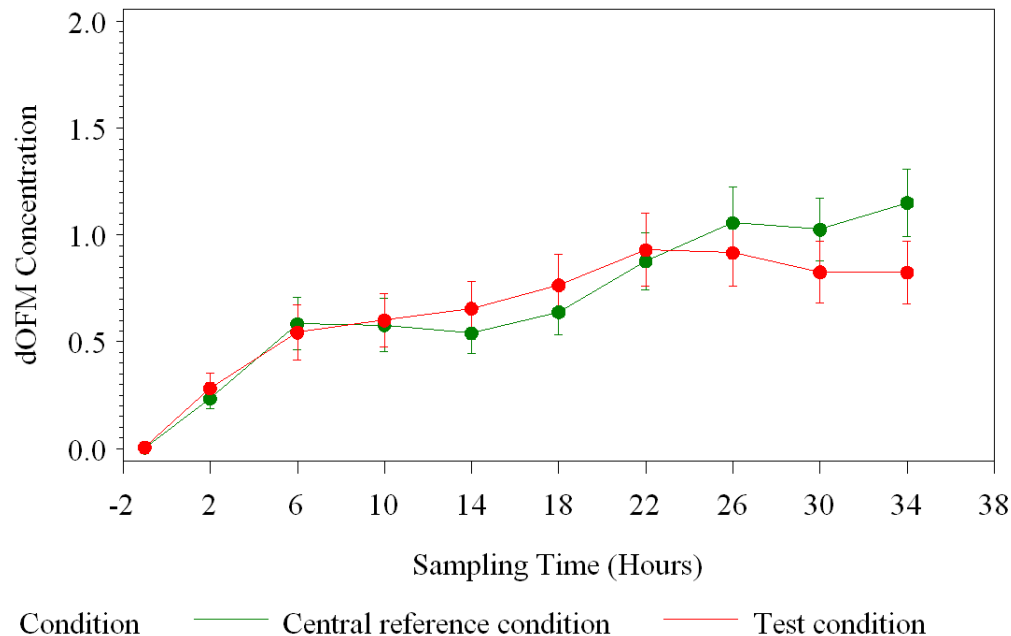
Clinical Bioavailability

Test versus Reference

24

✓ **Bioavailability: AUC and T_{\max} of Aciclovir A1 are highly reproducible**
AUC and T_{\max} of Zovirax US are highly reproducible

dOFM acyclovir concentrations as a function of time
Mean \pm SE (across all limbs)



Clinical Bioavailability

Test versus Reference

25

- ✓ **Bioavailability: BA is different for Aciclovir A1 vs Zovirax US based on AUC**
BA is different for Aciclovir A1 vs Zovirax US based on C_{max}

Outcome variable	$CI_{90\%}$	BE-limits	$CI_{90\%}$ within BE-limits
log(AUC _{0-36h})	[-0.369 ; 0.050] or [69.1 % ; 105.2 %]	[-0.223 ; 0.223]	x Failed
log(C_{max})	[-0.498 ; 0.022] or [60.8 % ; 102.2 %]	[80% ; 125%]	x Failed

BA is tested for the difference of the log-transformed outcome variables (AUC, C_{max}) between test and reference condition

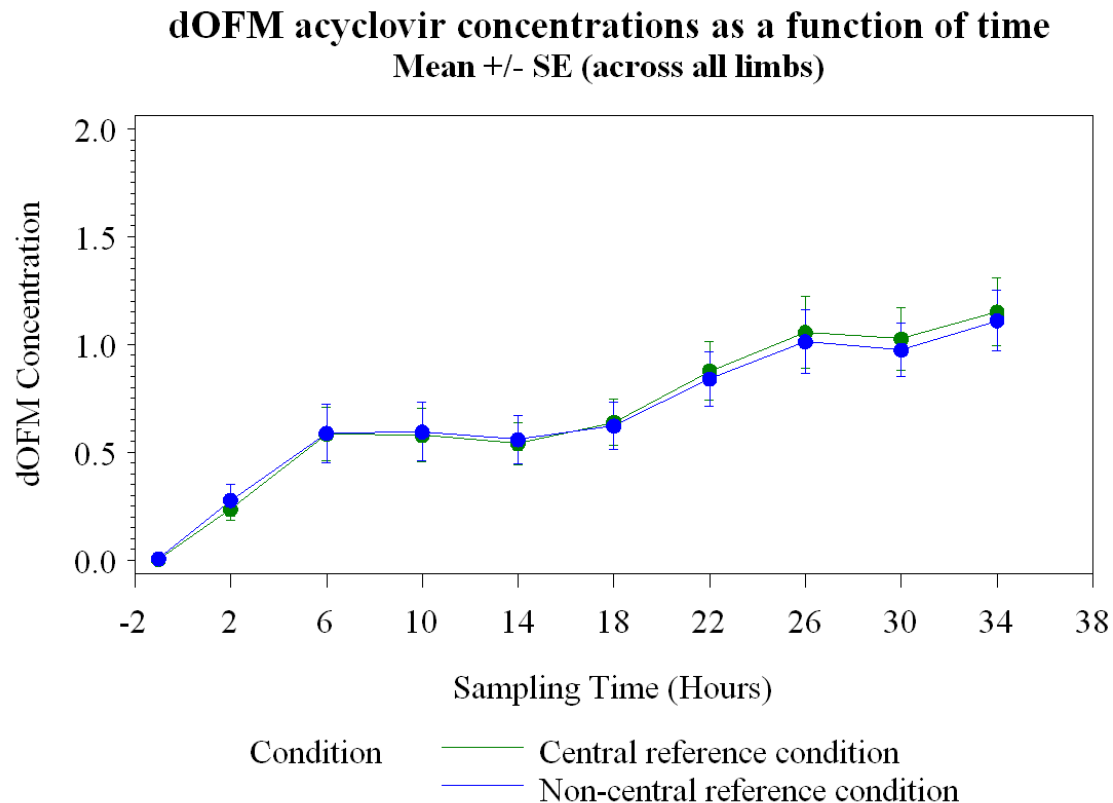
BA is established if $CI_{90\%}$ falls within the limits of $\log(0.8)=-0.223$ and $\log(1.25)=0.223$ (cf. FDA Guidance For Industry)

Clinical Bioavailability

Reference versus Reference

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✓ **Bioavailability: AUC and C_{\max} of Zoriox US are highly reproducible**



Clinical Bioavailability

Reference versus Reference

27

- ✓ **Bioavailability: Same BA for Zovirax US vs Zovirax US based on AUC**
Same BA for Zovirax US vs Zovirax US based on C_{\max}

Outcome variable	CI _{90%}	BE-limits	CI _{90%} within BE-limits
log(AUC _{0-36h})	[-0.148 ; 0.162] or [86.2 % ; 117.5 %]	[-0.223 ; 0.223] or [80% ; 125%]	passed
log(C_{\max})	[-0.155 ; 0.190] or [85.7 % ; 120.9%]		passed

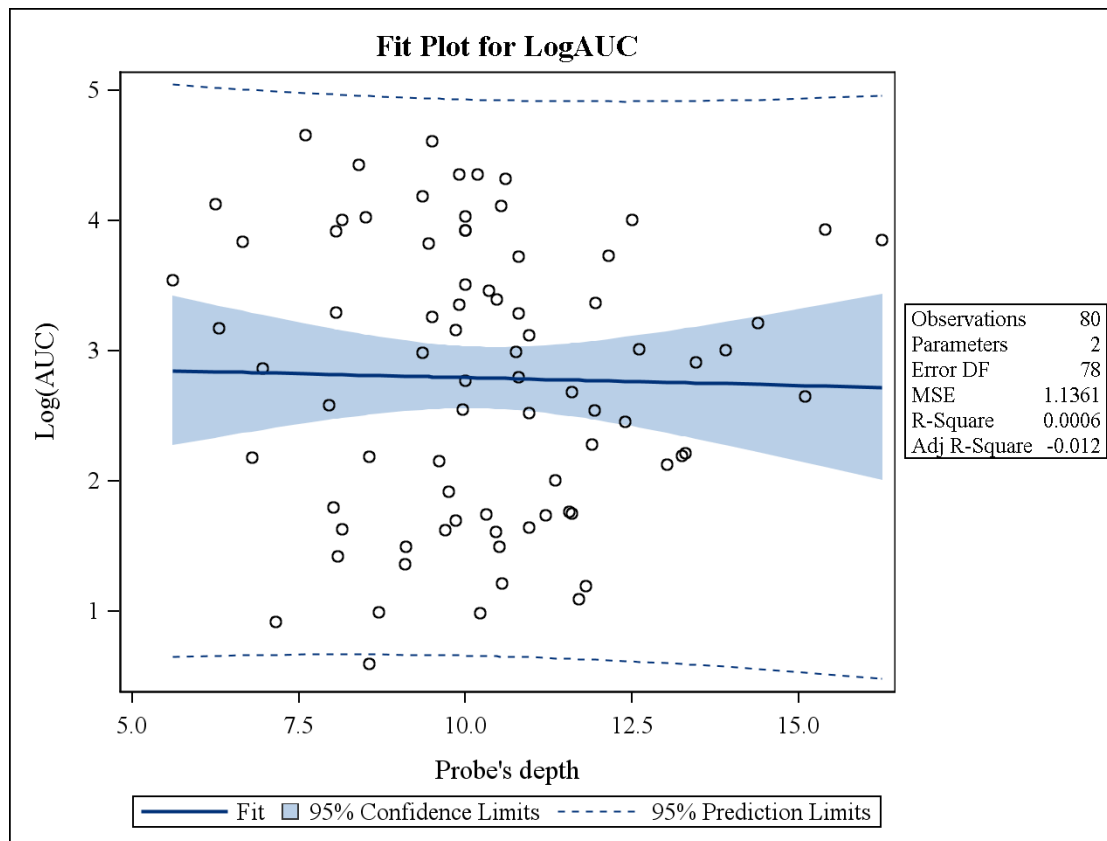
BA is tested for the difference of the log-transformed outcome variables (AUC, C_{\max}) between the two reference conditions

BA is established if CI_{90%} falls within the limits of $\log(0.8)=-0.223$ and $\log(1.25)=0.223$ (cf. FDA Guidance For Industry)

Clinical Bioavailability

Influence of Probe Depth on AUC of Acyclovir

✓ dOFM acyclovir concentration does not correlate with probe depth

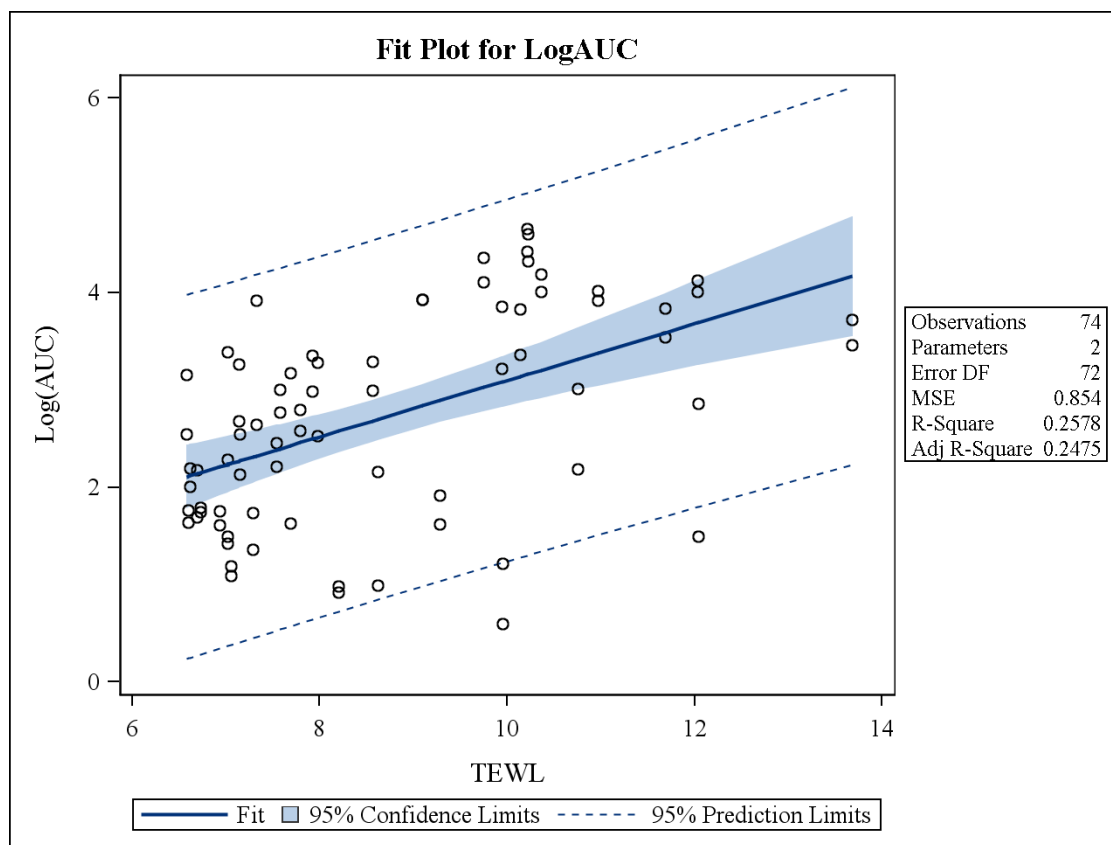


Clinical Bioavailability

Correlation of TEWL with AUC of Acyclovir

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✓ dOFM acyclovir concentration correlates with TEWL

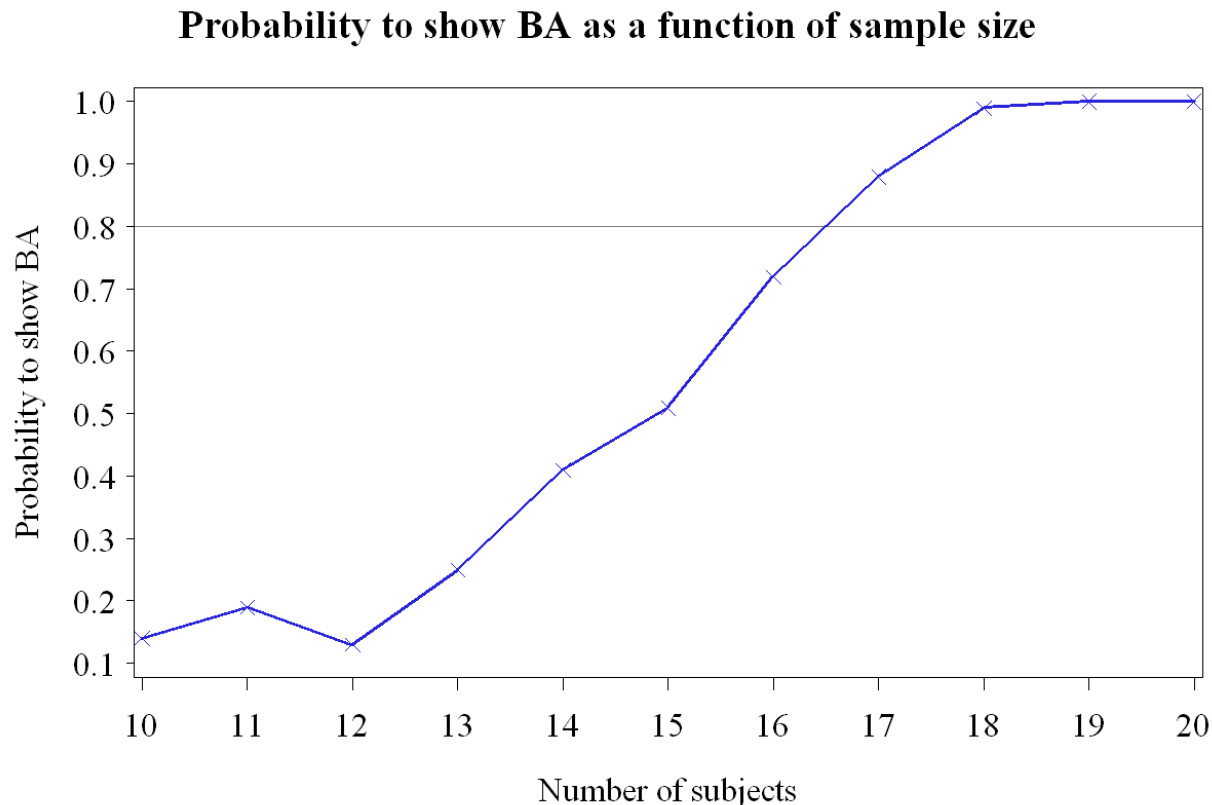


Clinical Bioavailability

Power Calculation to Show BA

30

✓ 17 subjects are sufficient to show BA for acyclovir when using dOFM



Predictive Bioavailability *The Big Picture*

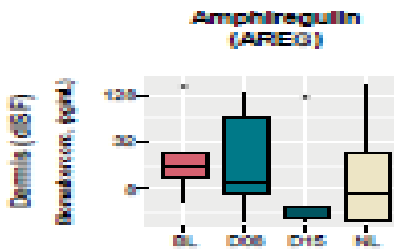
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In-Vivo



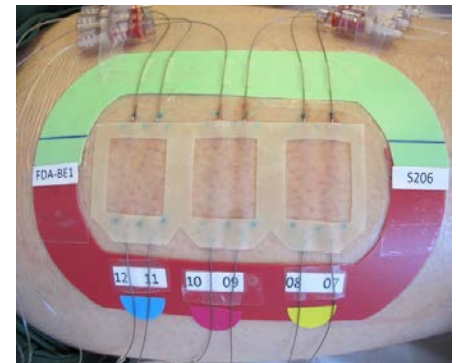
Endpoint Study

In-Vivo

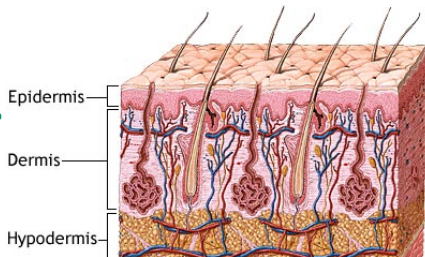


Biomarker Study

In-Vivo



Ex-Vivo



Healthy Human Skin

In-Vitro



e.g. IVRT, IVPT

Physico-chem. Prop.

Q1 Q3
Q2

IVRT

Method Description

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- Apparatus: Hanson vertical diffusion cells (VDC, volume: 12 mL, orifice: 15 mm)
- Receptor medium: 0.9% saline solution (degassed)
- Sampling: 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 hours after dosing
- Membrane: Tuffryn® membrane (25 mm, 0.45 µm)
- Stirring speed: 600 rpm
- Temperature: 32°C



IVRT

(1) Apparatus Qualification

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✓ Successful qualification of laboratory and IVRT apparatus

Results

Test	Pass
P1: Environmental conditions	✓
P2: Capacity of the cells	✗
P3: Diameter of the orifice of the cell	✓
P4: Temperature of the receptor medium	✓
P5: Speed of the magnetic stirrer	✓
P6: Dispensed sampling volume	✓

9.77 mL instead of 12 mL

Methodology

Test of VDC apparatus for consistent operation within established limits and tolerances.



IVRT

(2) *Performance Verification*

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✓ Successful performance verification

Methodology

- IVRT study was conducted according to the USP general chapter <1724>
- 1% hydrocortisone cream (BP 1% w/w; Lycor™ 1%, Micro Labs Limited, Bangalore, India)

Results

- ✓ **Perfect sink conditions:** Acyclovir solubility > 10 times maximum receptor medium conc. observed during the IVRT study
- ✓ R^2 values range were [0.95 - 1] for all calculated **release rates** >0.9
- ✓ Blank samples before start from each cell showed **no** acyclovir **carry over**
- ✓ The **inter-run CV** (12.7%) and **intra-run CV** (6.8-10.2%) < 15%
- ✓ $x_8 = 1.04$ and $x_{29} = 1.32$ **meet** the 75% - 133.33% limits of the **USP general chapter <1724>**

IVRT

(3) Method Validation for Acyclovir

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- ✓ **IVRT was successfully validated for acyclovir**
- ✓ **Tests for selectivity, sensitivity and specificity are ongoing**

Results

- ✓ **Membrane inertness:** Recovery of 105.5%
- ✓ **Receptor solubility test:** Solubility > 10 times maximum receptor medium conc. observed
- ✓ **Linearity:** Lowest R² value was 0.97, no outlier
- ✓ **Precision:** Inter-run variability 5.8 %; intra-run variability 4.4 %
- ✓ **Recovery:** < 10%, i.e. no excessive acyclovir depletion
- ✓ **Robustness:** Release rate for temperature and stirring speed variation deviate < 15%
- ✗ **Sensitivity, specificity and selectivity:** ongoing

Methodology

- IVRT study was conducted according to the USP general chapter <1724> and HPLC-UV method validation according to ICH Q2
- Validation of the IVRT method for acyclovir (Zovirax cream 5% - GSK, AT)

IVRT Comparative Study

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- ✓ **All test products were non-bioequivalent relative to Zovirax US**
- ✓ **Zovirax US was bioequivalent to itself**

Results

■ Reference <i>versus</i> Zovirax ointment 5% (US)	Non-BE
■ Reference <i>versus</i> Zovirax cream 5% (Austria)	Non-BE
■ Reference <i>versus</i> Zovirax cold sore cream 5% (GSK, UK)	Non-BE
■ Reference <i>versus</i> Aciclostad cream 5% (Austria)	Non-BE
■ Reference <i>versus</i> Aciclovir 1A Pharma cream 5% (Austria)	Non-BE
■ Reference <i>versus</i> Antiviral cold sore cream 5% (Boots, UK)	Non-BE
■ Reference <i>versus</i> Zovirax cream 5% (US)	BE

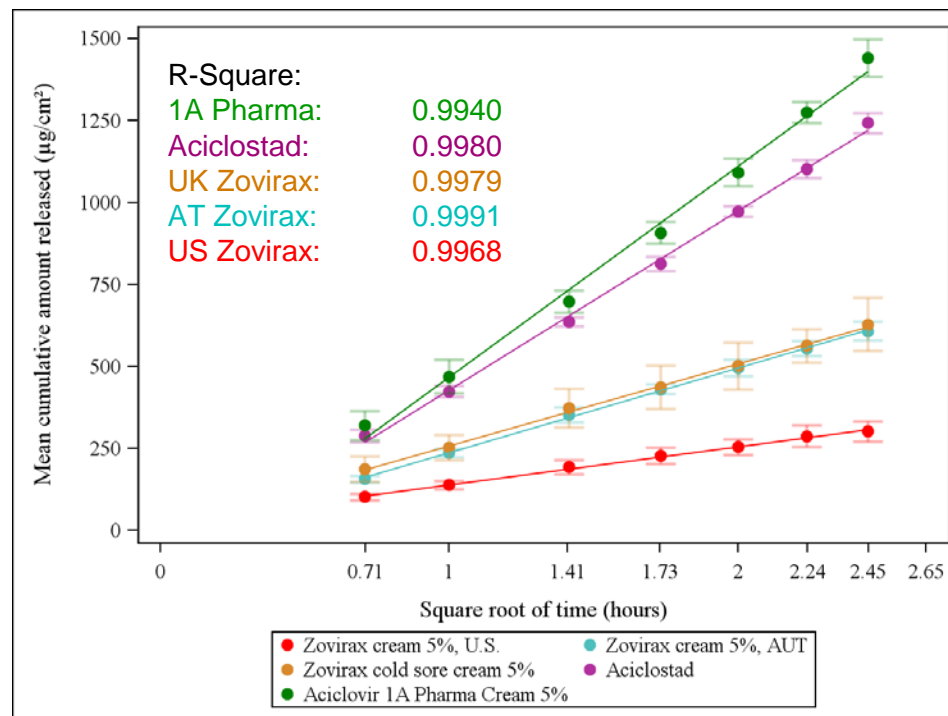
Methodology

- IVRT study was conducted according to the USP general chapter <1724>
- Pairwise comparison tests **Reference versus Test**

IVRT Comparative Study

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- ✓ **Non-Zovirax Group (Aciclostad, Aciclovir A1)** shows similar behavior
- ✓ **Zovirax Group (Zovirax AT and UK)** shows similar behavior
- ✓ **Non-Zovirax Group shows higher release rates than Zovirax group**



Bars indicate standard deviation (SD)

IVRT - in-vitro release testing

In-Vitro In-Vivo Correlation *Summary*

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In-Vivo

- ✓ dOFM PK profiles of all products are quantifiable for 36 hours
- ✓ Similar rate and extent of bioavailability: Zovirax US vs Zovirax US
- ✓ Different rate and extent of bioavailability: Aciclovir A1vs Zovirax US

IVRT

- ✓ Acyclovir A1 Pharma, Aciclostad > Zovirax UK, AT > Zovirax US
- ✓ Similar release rate : Zovirax US vs Zovirax US
- ✓ Different release rate: Zovirax US versus all other products

Predictive Bioavailability *The Big Picture*

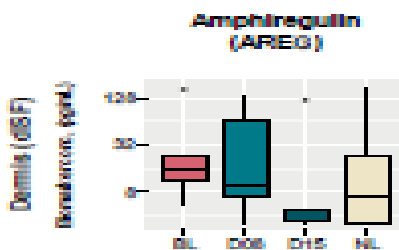
39

In-Vivo



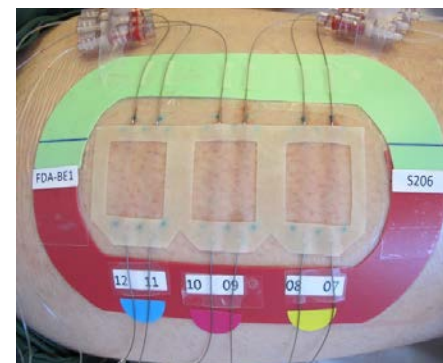
Endpoint Study

In-Vivo



Biomarker Study

In-Vivo



Ex-Vivo



Healthy Human Skin

In-Vitro



e.g. IVRT, IVPT

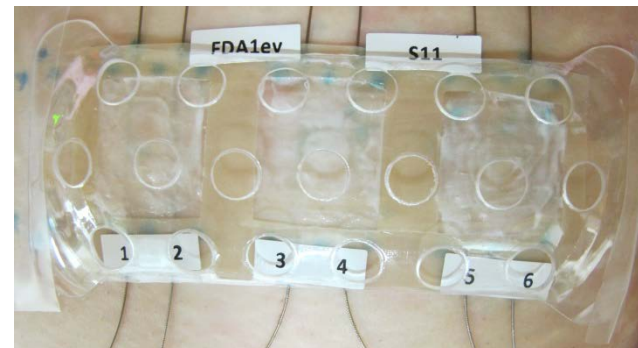
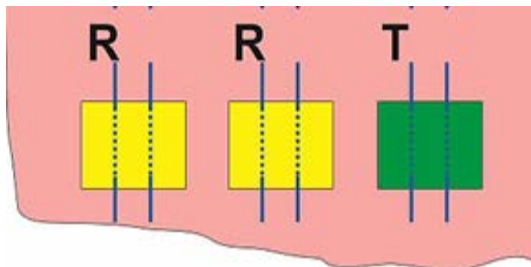
Physico-chem. Prop.

Q1 Q3
Q2

Ex-Vivo *dOFM Study Approach*

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- Ex-vivo study in excised skin from healthy subjects (n=40)
- *Reference*: Zovirax cream 5% (US)
- *Test*: Aciclovir 1A Pharma Cream 5% (Austria)
- Aims:
 - Investigate BA for *R* vs *R* for 36 h post-dose
 - Investigate BA for *T* vs *R* for 36 h post-dose



dOFM

Conclusion

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dOFM

- is highly standardized and reflects the in-vivo skin PK profile
- is able to sample lipophilic and large molecules (up to antibodies) up to 36 hours

dOFM

- showed usability to reflect in-vivo PK differences of topical acyclovir drugs
- proved usability to investigate rate and extent of bioavailability

dOFM may add...

- to In-Vitro In-Vivo Correlation (IVIVC)
- strong support to skin penetration modeling
- the possibility to determine BA in-vivo

....to Pharmacokinetics-Based BA Approaches

A big Thanks to...

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IVRT and dOFM ex-vivo



Manfred Bodenlenz
Clinical dOFM BE Study



Reingard Raml
Analytics



Thomas Pieber
Clinical PI



Isadore Kanfer
BE Expert



Sam G. Raney
FDA Project Officer



Bernd Tschapeller
Data Management



Thomas Augsutin
Statistics



More than 20 other persons

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Dr. Frank Sinner
JOANNEUM RESEARCH
Forschungsgesellschaft mbH
HEALTH – Institute for Biomedicine
and Health Sciences
Neue Stiftingtalstrasse 2, 8010 Graz, Austria
+43 316 876-4000
frank.sinner@joanneum.at
www.joanneum.at/health



dOFM

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There is a Method Available to Assess In-Vivo PK in Dermis

In-Vivo



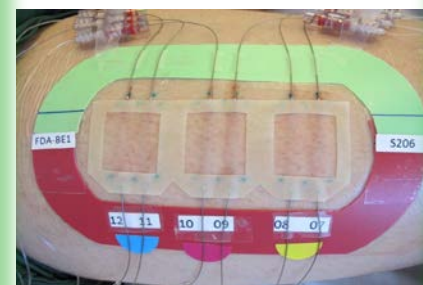
Endpoint Study

In-Vivo



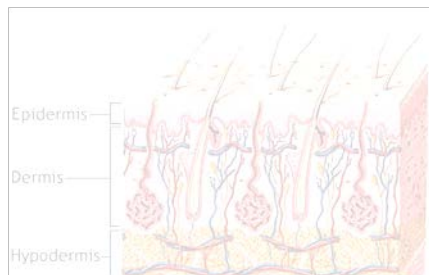
Biomarker Study

In-Vivo



PK Healthy Subjects

Ex-Vivo



Healthy Human Skin

In-Vitro



e.g. IVRT, IVPT

Physico-chem. Prop.

Q1 Q3
Q2