

16th Residential Course on Clinical Pharmacology of Antiretrovirals



MANAGEMENT OF POLYPHARMACY AND DDIs

Clinical experiences

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In the age of polypharmacy...

- In DAAs era, DDIs remain a concern in the clinical scenario.
- Nowadays, one of the few “difficult-to-treat” populations are HCV+ subjects administered with anticonvulsants.
- Due to a substantial lack of PK and clinical data, these patients have to be managed on case-by-case basis.

- 61 yo Caucasian female born in 1959
- History of previous IVDA
- Heavy smoker (28 Pack-years)
- History of epilepsy since 1989
 - oxcarbazepine 150 mg x 2 + phenobarbital 100 mg + pregabalin 150 mg x 2
- Depression and anxiety disorders treated with venlafaxine
- Periodic use of PPIs
- HIV/HCV+ since 1990

HIV history

- Followed by another Unit until 2013
HIV-RNA: 113536 cp/ml, CD4+: 181 cell/ μ l ,16%, ratio 0.2
- Resistance test: No mutations for NNRTI, PI, NRTI, INSTI
- HLA-B5701: negative but allergy to abacavir
- Previous ARV regimen: AZT+3TC → AZT/3TC/ABC

HAART:

- 2014: **ATV 300 mg /RTV 100 mg + TDF/FTC**
- Jun 2019: **RAL 400 mg BID + TDF/FTC**
- Oct 2019: **DTG 50 mg BID + TDF/FTC**
- Aug 2020: **DTG 50 mg BID + TAF/FTC**

HIV-RNA:
undetectable

HIV-RNA: <20 cp/ml

CD4+: 871 cell/ μ l, 36.7% and ratio 0.7

HCV:

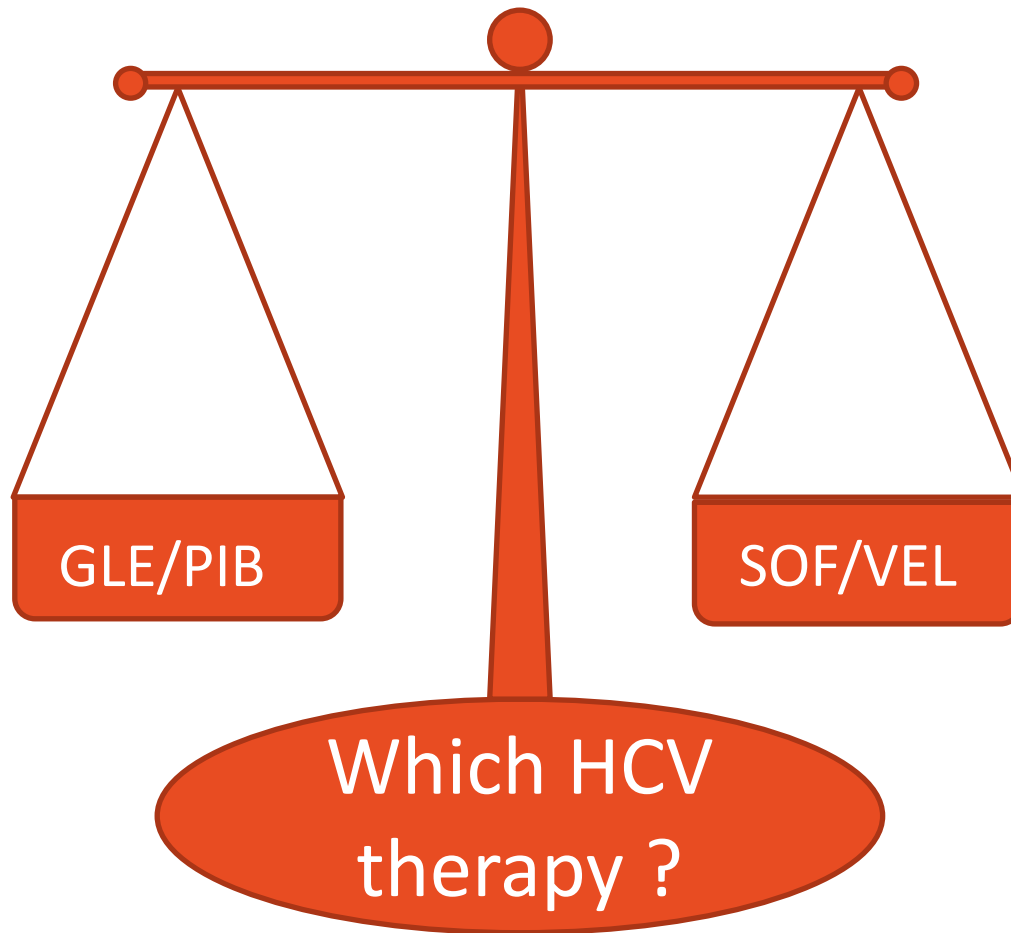
- Aug 2020: HCV-RNA:21200000 UI/ml
genotype 3a
- Wild type for NS3, NS5B, NS5A sequences
- Treatment naïve
- Transient elastography (FibroScan):
Stiffness: 6.5 KPa CAP 208 dB/m
- Fibrosis F1 (Metavir)

Which HCV
therapy ?

HCV:

Clinical case

R. D.



Which HCV therapy ?

Clinical case

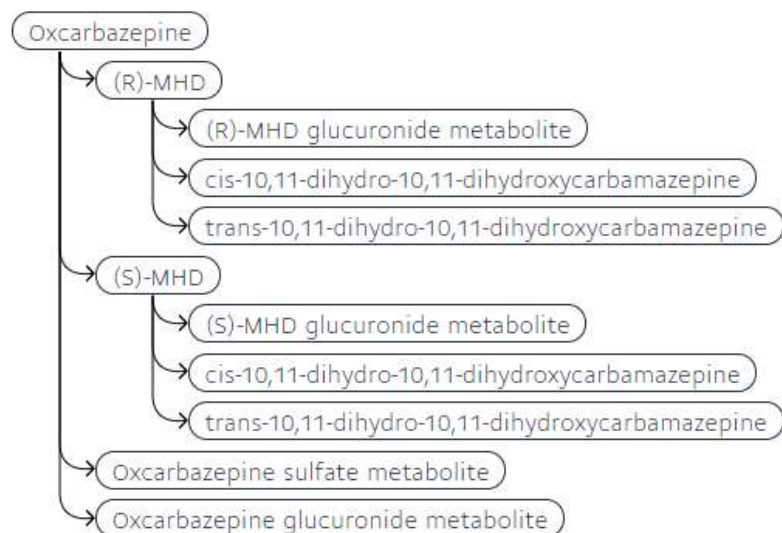
R. D.

Some concerns:

1. DDIs with oxcarbazepine/phenobarbital and DAAs
2. Fixed duration and association of HCV drugs
3. HCV Genotype 3
4. SARS-CoV-2 pandemic

1. DDIs with oxcarbazepine

- Oxcarbazepine is a structural derivative of carbamazepine and exerts a majority of its activity via a pharmacologically active metabolite, MHD (monohydroxy derivative).
- Oxcarbazepine is a substrate of P-gp but its induction is not demonstrated (unlike carbamazepine).



Compared to other anti-epileptic drugs, which are generally metabolized via the cytochrome P450 system, oxcarbazepine has a reduced propensity for involvement in drug-drug interactions owing to its primarily reductive metabolism.

1. DDIs with oxcarbazepine

- The interaction potential of oxcarbazepine is relatively low and dose- dependent.

Phenytoin, phenobarbital or carbamazepine can reduce slightly the concentrations of MHD.

Verapamil may moderately decrease MHD without clinical relevance.

- The influence of oxcarbazepine on other antiepileptic drugs is not clinically relevant in most cases.

However, oxcarbazepine appears to **increase concentrations of phenytoin** (by inhibition of CYP2C19) and to **decrease** trough concentrations of **lamotrigine** and **topiramate**.

Oxcarbazepine lowers concentrations of ethinylestradiol and levonorgestrel (by induction of P450 CYP3A4 e CYP3A5), and women treated with oxcarbazepine should consider additional contraceptive measures.

Drug-Drug Interactions Between Antiretrovirals and Carbamazepine/Oxcarbazepine: A Real-Life Investigation

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- 11 HIV+ patients prescribed carbamazepine (n=7) or oxcarbazepine (n=4).
- HIV-infected patients not treated with antiepileptic drugs were controls.
- TDM results of DRV were comparable in both groups.
- **ATV and DTG C trough were significantly low** when compared with values of HIV-infected pts not treated with antiepileptic drugs (190 ± 91 vs 546 ± 380 ng/mL; -65%, $P < 0.001$; 191 ± 78 vs 1096 ± 510 ng/mL; -83%, $P < 0.001$, respectively)

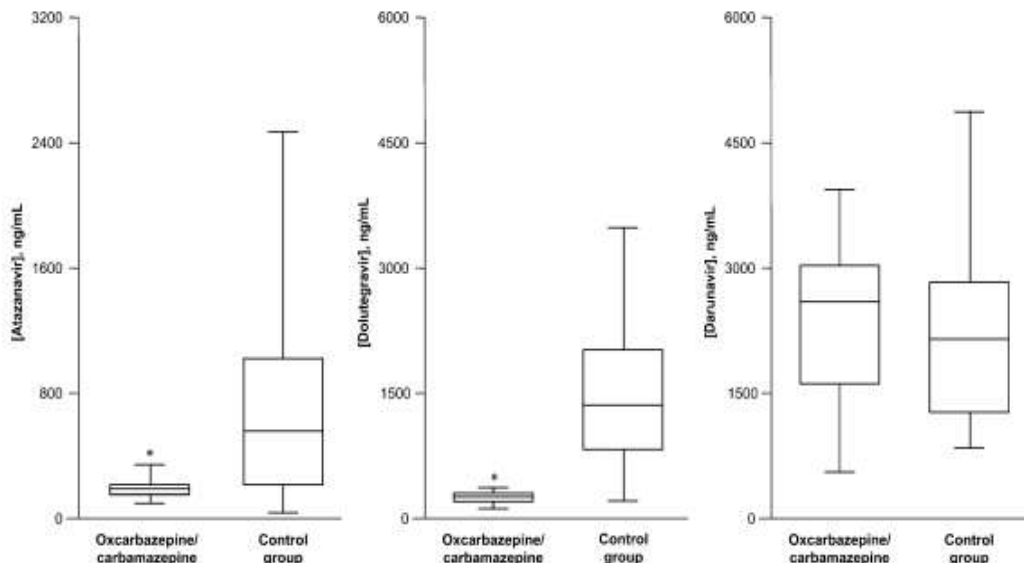
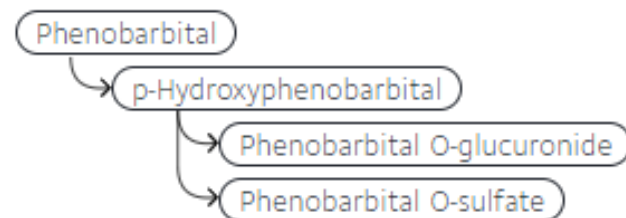


FIGURE 1. Box-plot of atazanavir, dolutegravir and darunavir trough concentrations measured in HIV-infected patients treated with carbamazepine/oxcarbazepine versus controls. * $P < 0.001$ versus controls.

- **Co-administration of carbamazepine or oxcarbazepine with ATV or DTG should be avoided** owing to the potential risk of virological failure; the adoption of TDM is strongly advisable, eventually combining with increased antiretroviral doses.

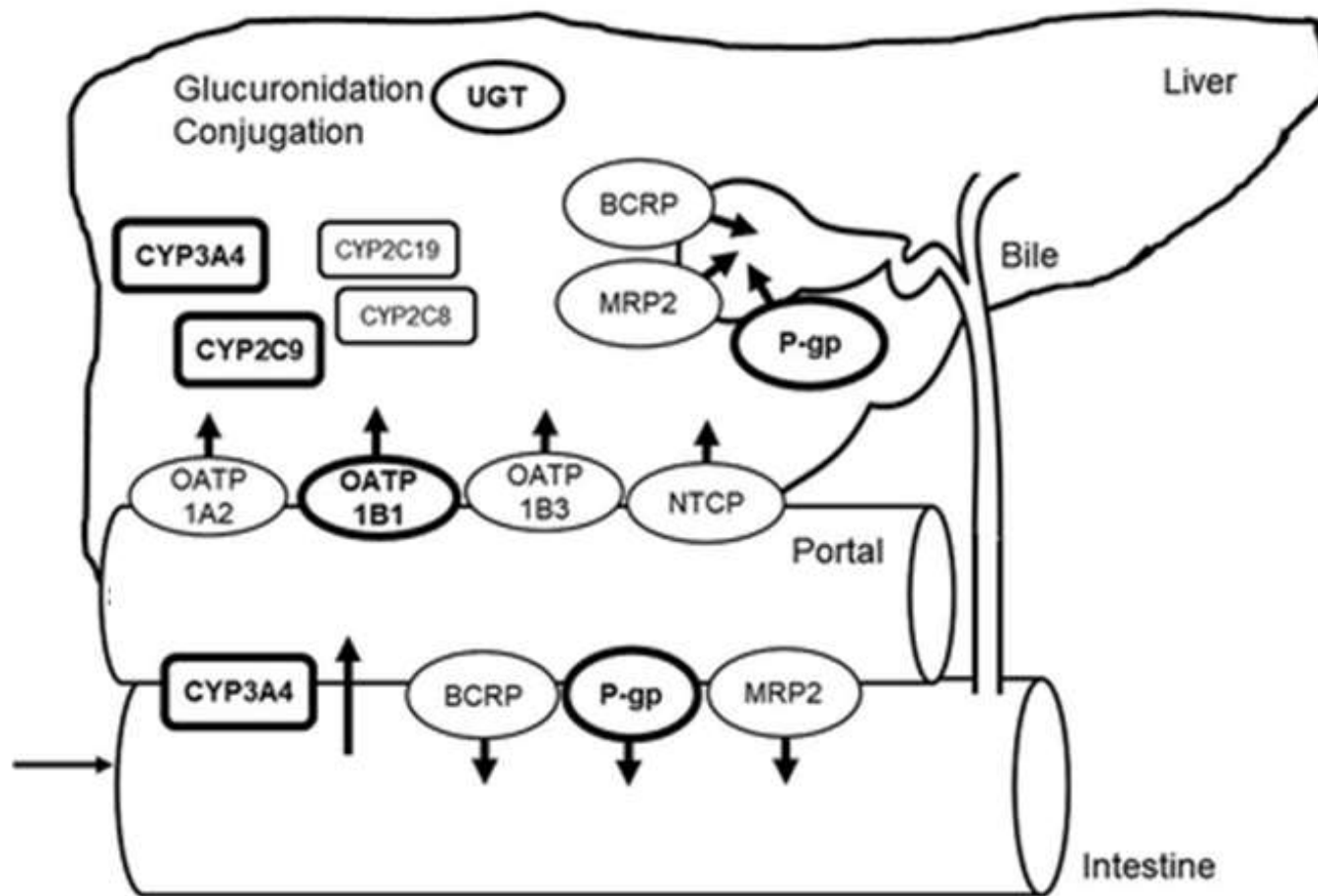
1. DDIs with phenobarbital

- Phenobarbital is an anti epileptic drug with a oral bioavailability of about 90%. C_{max} are reached 8 to 12 hours after oral administration.
- It is one of the longest-acting barbiturates available : half-life of 2 to 7 days and has very low protein binding (20 to 45%).
- Phenobarbital is metabolized by the liver, mainly through hydroxylation and glucuronidation, and induces many isozymes of the cytochrome P450 system: 2B6, 2C19, 2C9, 2E1, 2B6, 2C8, 3A4, 1A2, 3A5, 1A1, 2C18, 3A7, 4B1, 2A6
- It induces UDPGT 1-1 and 2B7.
- It is a substrate and inducer of P-gp, it induces OATP 1 and 2, bile salt export pump, multidrug resistance-associated protein 1, SLCO2A1.



Transporters of DAAs:

orienteering map for clinicians



● Do Not Coadminister
■ Potential Interaction
▲ Potential Weak Interaction
◆ No Interaction Expected

Results Key

	G/P	SOF/VEL
Oxcarbazepine	●	●
Phenobarbital	●	●

Oxcarbazepine + G/P → reduced G/P plasma concentrations due to moderate induction of CYP3A4

Oxcarbazepine + SOF/VEL → reduced SOF/VEL plasma concentrations due to moderate induction of CYPs 2B6, 2C8 and 3A4

Phenobarbital + G/P → reduced G/P plasma concentrations due to alteration of drug absorption, metabolism and biliary excretion mediated by strong induction of CYP3A, P-gp and OATP

Phenobarbital + SOF/VEL → reduced SOF/VEL plasma concentrations due to strong induction of CYPs 2B6, 2C8 and 3A4 and P-gp .



RISK OF VIROLOGICAL FAILURE !



	DCV	ELB GZR	G/P	LED/ SOF	OBV/ PTV/r	OBV/ PTV/r +DSV	SMV	SOF	SOF/ VEL	SOF/ VEL/ VOX	RBV
Anticonvulsants											
Carbamazepine	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◆
Clonazepam	◆	◆	◆	◆	■	■	■	◆	◆	◆	◆
Eslicarbazepine	●	●	●	◆	●	●	●	◆	●	●	◆
Ethosuximide	◆	◆	◆	◆	■	■	■	◆	◆	◆	◆
Gabapentin	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Lacosamide	◆	◆	◆	◆	■	■	■	◆	◆	◆	◆
Lamotrigine	◆	◆	◆	◆	■	■	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Levetiracetam	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Oxcarbazepine	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◆
Perampanel	▲	◆	◆	◆	■	■	■	◆	◆	◆	◆
Phenobarbital	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◆
Phenytoin	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◆
Pregabalin	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Primidone	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	◆
Retigabine	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Rufinamide	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	◆
Sultiame	◆	◆	◆	◆	■	■	■	◆	◆	◆	◆
Tiagabine	◆	◆	◆	◆	■	■	■	◆	◆	◆	◆
Topiramate	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Valproate (Divalproex)	◆	◆	◆	◆	■	■	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Vigabatrin	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Zonisamide	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆



1. DDIs with oxcarbazepine/phenobarbital

- We consult the neurologist for a possible switch from oxcarbazepine and phenobarbital to another agent:

It's not safe!

The patient has a severe and resistant form of epilepsy, the only drug that can be discontinued is oxcarbazepine with a gradual tapering of dosage

We stop oxcarbazepine,
maintaining phenobarbital...

Clinical case
R. D.



Treatment recommendations for TN or TE patients with CHC without cirrhosis

Criterio 3,4,7,8,9



Genotipo	Regimi Pangenotipici		Regimi Genotipo dipendenti
	SOF/VEL	GLE/PIB	GZR/EBR
Genotipo 1a	12 settimane	8 settimane	12 settimane se HCV RNA <800.000 IU/MI e no RAS significative in NS5a
Genotipo 1b	12 settimane	8 settimane	12 settimane
Genotipo 2	12 settimane	8 settimane	No
Genotipo 3	12 settimane	8-16 settimane	No
Genotipo 4	12 settimane	8 settimane	12 settimane se HCV RNA <800.000 IU/MI
Genotipo 5	12 settimane	8 settimane	No
Genotipo 6	12 settimane	8 settimane	No

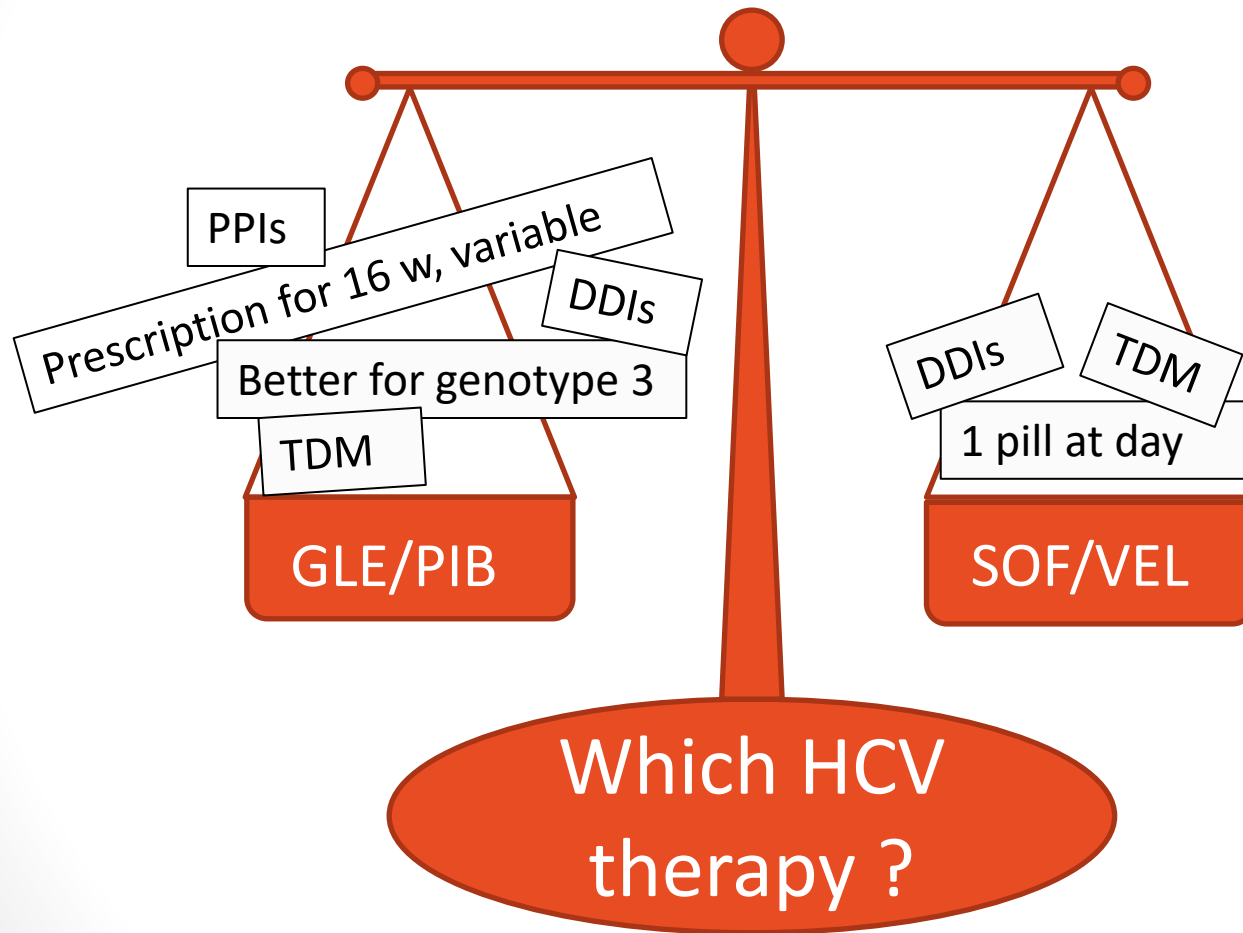
<http://www.webaisf.org/pubblicazioni/documento-aisf-hcv-2018.aspx>

8 weeks for Treatment Naïve, 16 weeks for Treatment Experienced

HCV:

Clinical case

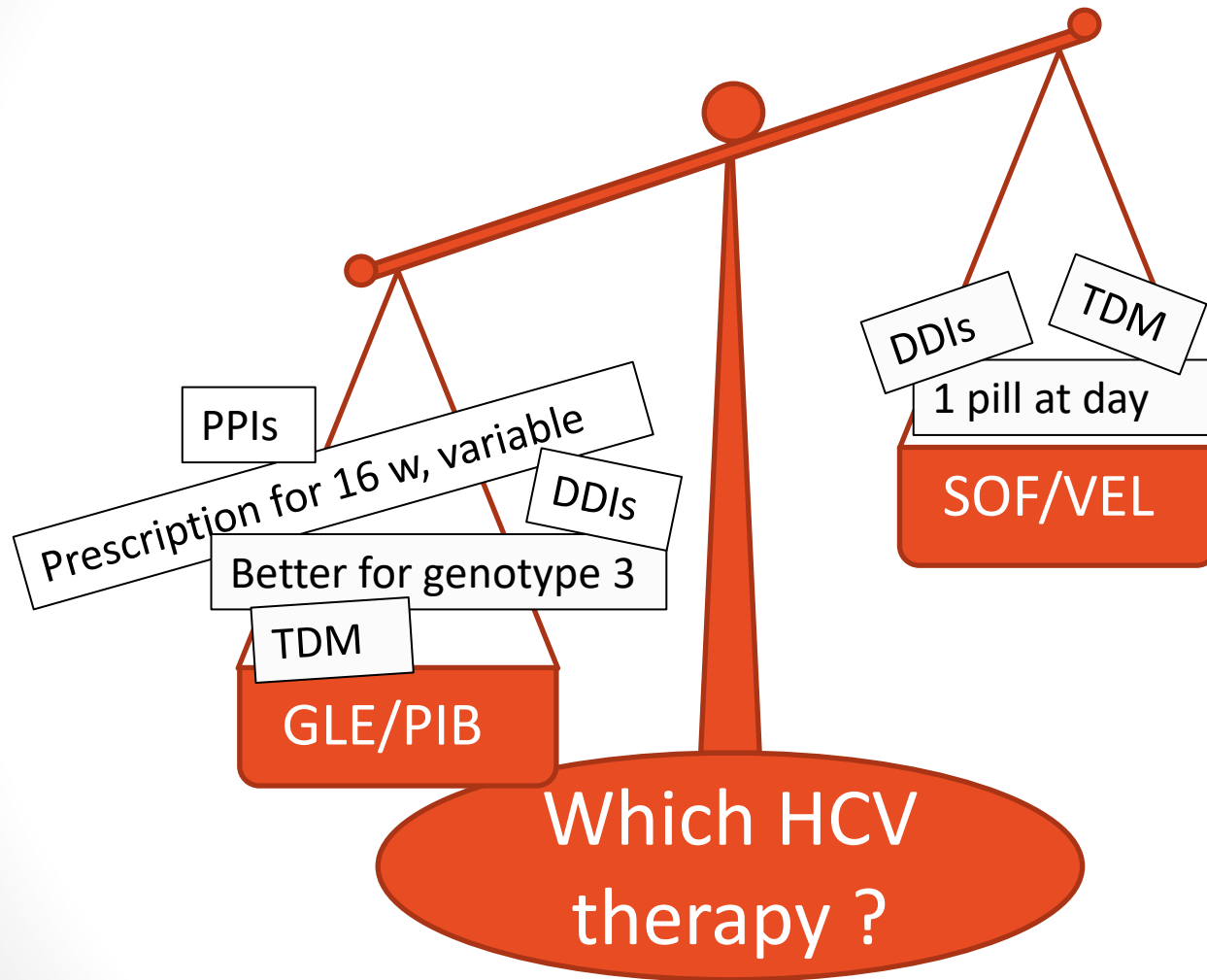
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HCV:

Clinical case

R. D.



A possible solution:

Clinical case

R. D.

Prescription of glecaprevir /
pibrentasvir for 16 weeks monitoring
G/P concentrations and HCV-RNA in
order to modulate the duration of
HCV therapy according to the
virological response and TDM



22 Sep 2020: she started GLE/PIB

Clinical case

R. D.

	BL	W2	W4	W8
	22 Sep	6 Oct	20 Oct	17 Nov
HCV-RNA	21200000	38	NEG	NEG
AST	49	29	26	16
ALT	49	25	22	12
GGT	73	72	57	53
Tot Bil	0,24	0,21	0,31	0,32
HIV-RNA	<20	neg	<20	<20

TDM W2

GLE C_{trough}:60 ng/ml

PIB C_{trough}: 36 ng/ml

TDM W4

GLE C₂₀:200 ng/ml

PIB C₂₀ : 33 ng/ml

Unexpected high drug concentrations !

Glecaprevir PK Fact Sheet

Summary of Key Pharmacokinetic Parameters

<i>C_{max}</i>	597 (114) ng/mL (geometric mean, %CV), in non-cirrhotic HCV-infected subjects
<i>C₂₄</i>	3.07 (54), 5.50 (46), 3.72 (71) ng/mL (geometric mean, %CV), in healthy White, Han Chinese and Japanese adults, respectively ²
<i>AUC</i>	4800 (122) ng·h/mL (geometric mean, %CV), in non-cirrhotic HCV-infected subjects

Pibrentasvir PK Fact Sheet

Summary of Key Pharmacokinetic Parameters

<i>C_{max}</i>	110 (49) ng/mL (geometric mean, %CV), in non-cirrhotic HCV-infected subjects
<i>C₂₄</i>	9.94 (75), 5.33 (48), 6.68 (60) ng/mL (geometric mean, %CV), in healthy White, Han Chinese and Japanese adults, respectively ²
<i>AUC</i>	1430 (57) ng·h/mL (geometric mean, %CV), in non-cirrhotic HCV-infected subjects

TDM W2

GLE *C_{trough}*: 60 ng/mL

PIB *C_{trough}*: 36 ng/mL

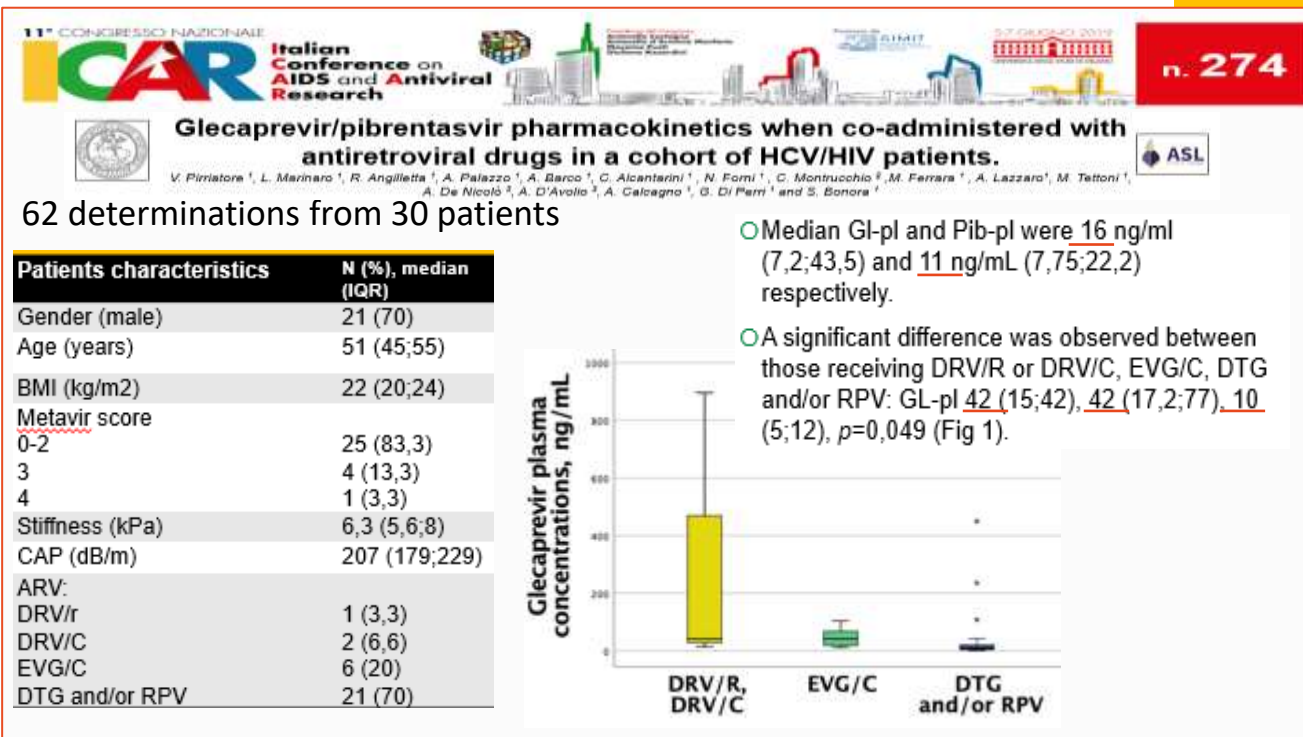
TDM W4

GLE *C₂₀*: 200 ng/mL

PIB *C₂₀*: 33 ng/mL

High drug concentrations !

Unable to perform AUC due to COVID-19 pandemic and problems with patient



Factors that could explain high G/P concentrations



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Assessment Report 2017

Table 11 Impact of covariates on GLE and PIB pharmacokinetic exposures


DAA	Covariate	Covariate Effect on AUC _{24,ss}
GLE	Bodyweight, BMI and BSA:	No significant impact.
	Age:	32% higher exposures for 10-year increase in age (65 years versus 55 years).
	Sex:	39% higher exposures in females.
	Race:	No significant impact.
	Cirrhosis status:	2.2-fold exposure in subjects with cirrhosis.
	Renal function:	55% higher exposure in moderate or severe renal impairment, and 86% higher exposure in end stage renal disease. Dialysis has no impact on GLE pharmacokinetics.
	Co-mediations:	5% lower exposure in subjects who took high dose PPIs (omeprazole 40 mg QD equivalent or higher). 16% higher exposure in subjects who took opioid medications.
PIB	Bodyweight, BMI and BSA:	3% decreased exposures for 10-kg increase in bodyweight (90 kg versus 80 kg).
	Age:	13% higher exposures for 10-year increase in age (65 years versus 55 years).
	Sex:	37% higher exposures in females.
	Race:	26% higher exposures in Asians.
	Cirrhosis status:	7% higher exposure in subjects with cirrhosis.
	Renal function:	13% higher exposure with moderate or severe renal impairment, and 54% higher exposure with end stage renal disease. Dialysis has no impact on PIB pharmacokinetics.
	Co-mediations:	27% higher exposure in subjects who took BCRP inhibitors.

CYP450 polymorphism? Poor/ Intermediate metabolizer?

- Perfect adherence
- Very rapid HCV viral load decay
- High G/P concentrations

STOP G/P at 12 weeks

Clinical case
R. D.



	BL	W2	W4	W8	W12
	22 Sep	6 Oct	20 Oct	17 Nov	15 Dec
HCV-RNA	21200000	38	NEG	NEG	NEG
AST	49	29	26	16	18
ALT	49	25	22	12	14
GGT	73	72	57	53	55
Tot Bil	0,24	0,21	0,31	0,32	0,34
HIV-RNA	<20	neg	<20	<20	neg

09/March: we are waiting for SVR 12

Conclusions

- DDIs between anticonvulsants and DAAs are one of the most difficult scenario to manage in HCV treatment, due to the lack of clinical data.
- In our case, despite transient de-escalation of a complex anticonvulsant regimen according to neurologist's guidance, potential DDI of unknown clinical significance between phenobarbital and DAAs remained as a concern.
- EOT virological response to 12 weeks of GLE/PIB without safety and tolerability issues was observed.
- TDM showed unexpected high exposure to GLE/PIB, supporting the treatment choice and underscoring the unpredictability of DDIs in the clinical setting.

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