PCEUT 527

Enzyme Induction: Biochemical Mechanisms 02/11,14/11

- 1. General Principles
- 2. Transcriptional Activation
- 3. Protein degradation
- 4. Protein stabilization

References

Pavek, P. and Dvorak, Z..

Xenobiotic-induced transcriptional regulation of xenobiotic metabolizing enzymes of the **cytochrome P450 superfamily in human extrahepatic tissues**.

Current Drug Metabolism 2008, 9:129-143.

Rushmore TH, Kong AN.

Pharmacogenomics, regulation and signaling pathways of phase I and II drug metabolizing enzymes.

Current Drug Metab. 2002 Oct;3(5):481-90

Why Does Induction Occur?

- An adaptive response of CYPs to xenobiotic exposure or increased levels of endogenous compounds (e.g. hormones)
- Slow regulatory process (compared to CYP inhibition which is rapid)







Oral Contraceptives + St. John's Wort = Miracle babies!

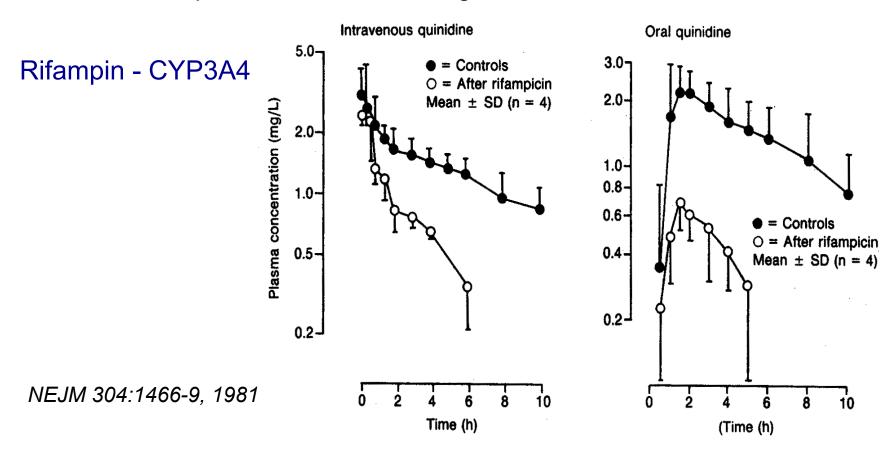
Consequences of Induction

- Change in pharmacological effect because of increased drug metabolism
 - Decreased pharmacological/toxicological effect when activity associated with parent (unchanged drug)
 - Increased pharmacological effect when activity associated with metabolite (increased conversion of prodrug to active metabolite)
- Balance between "toxication" and "detoxification"
 - Decrease in toxicity due to accelerated detoxification
 - Increase in toxicity due to formation of reactive metabolites



Consequences of Induction

- Clinical significance depends on:
 - Magnitude of change in the concentration of the active species (parent, active or toxic metabolites)
 - at the site of pharmacological action, and
 - the therapeutic index of the drug



Induction – General Principles

Definition:

 An increase in steady-state concentration of enzyme following exposure to an appropriate stimulus.

Kinetic Considerations:

 For a first-order metabolic process that follows simple Michaelis-Menten kinetics, intrinsic clearance defined as

$$Cl_{\text{int}} = \frac{V_{\text{max}}}{K_m} = \frac{E_t \cdot k_{cat}}{K_m}$$

Induction accelerates metabolism through an increase in V_{max}

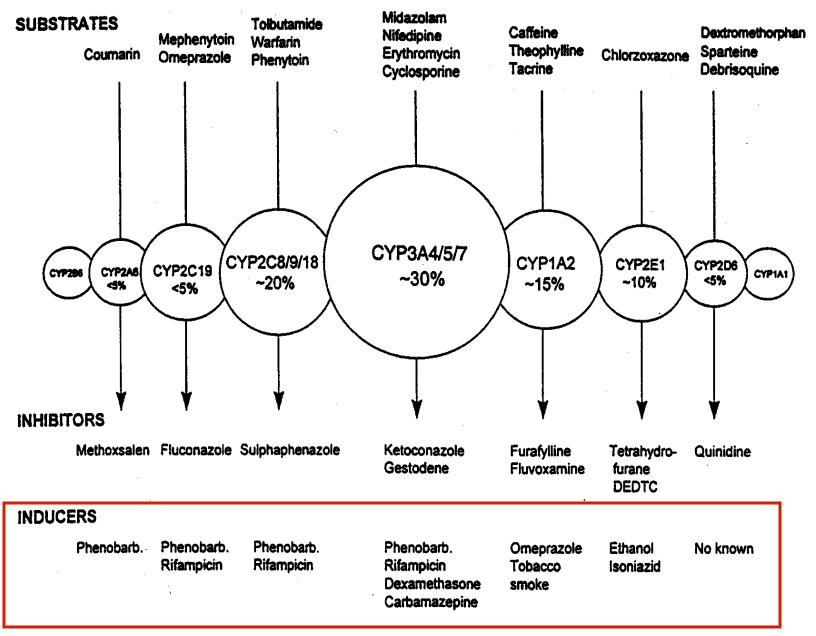
Induction – General Principles

 Enzyme induction can occur by a change in rate of enzyme synthesis or rate of enzyme degradation

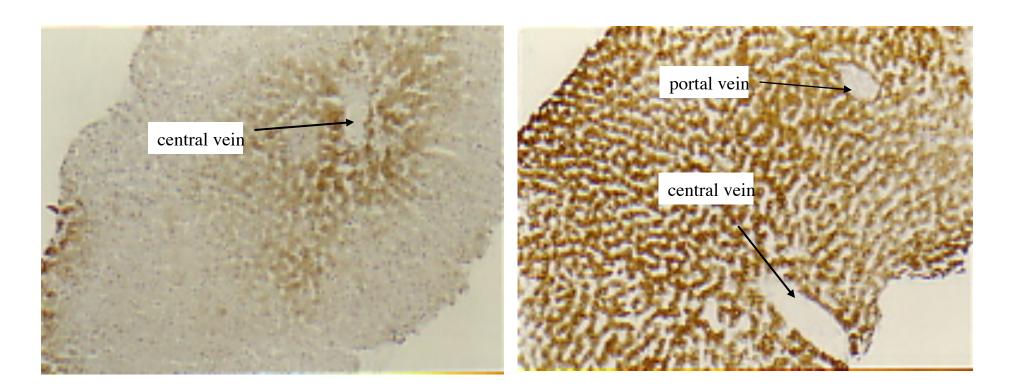
$$E_{ss} = \frac{R_o}{k_{\text{degr}}}$$

- Synthesis usually considered zero-order process
- Degradation first-order process

Inducible Human Cytochrome P450s



Induction of Hepatic CYP3A by Phenytoin

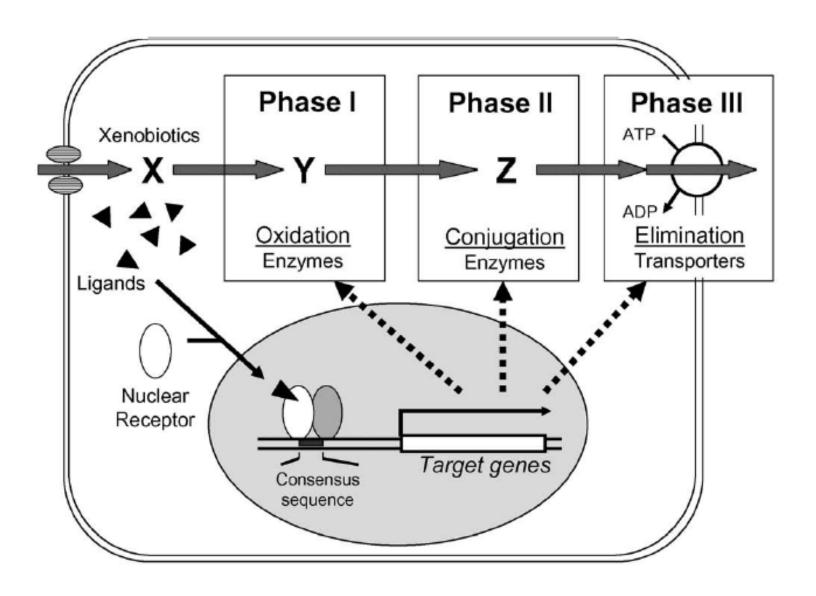


 Biopsies collected from a liver transplant patient placed on phenytoin for seizure control (presumed CsA-induced).
 Long-term treatment with phenytoin induces enzyme expression in every hepatocyte.

Important Considerations

- Inducers can often induce more than one enzyme
 - Interactions with multiple cell signaling receptors and/or receptor binding to multiple gene targets (e.g., phenobarbital and CAR/PXR and CYP3A4/CYP2C9/ CYP2B6)
- A drug can induce Phase I, Phase II and Phase III
 (transporters) simultaneously (e.g., rifampin and CYPs/UGT/P-gp)
 - Both parent and metabolite clearance and excretory routes can be affected

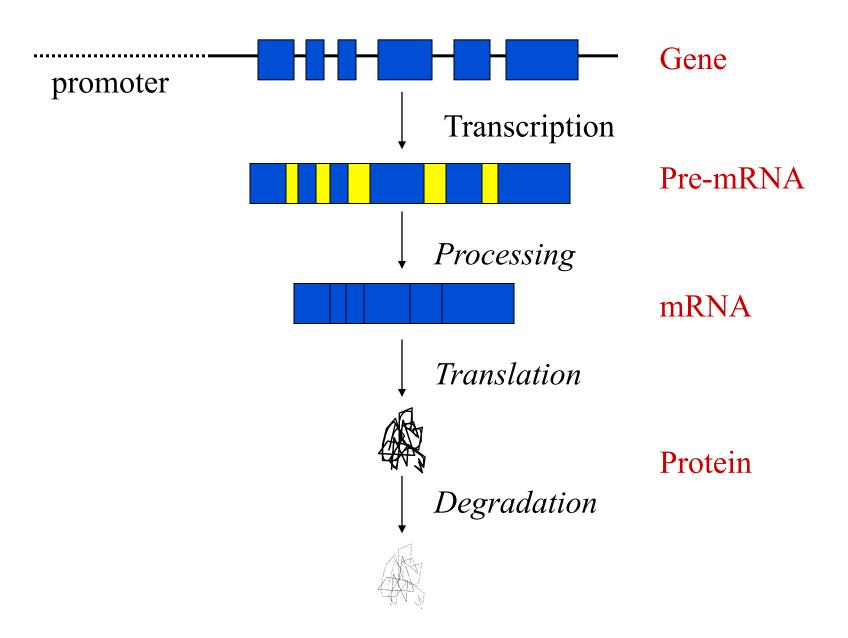
Considerations



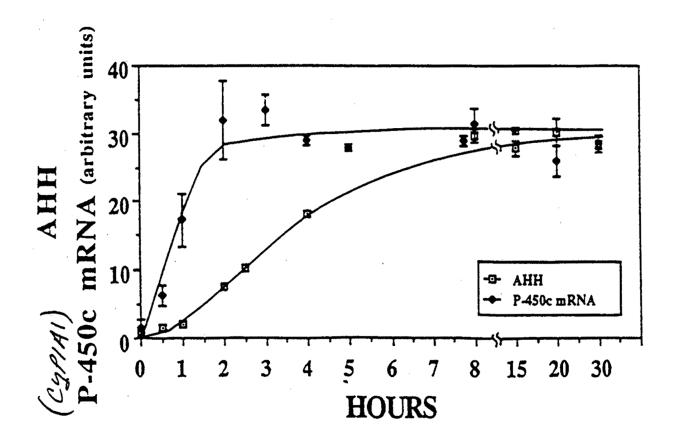
Considerations

- Some drugs induce their own metabolism ("autoinduction" e.g., carbamazepine), but others act on non-self clearance enzymes
- Induction can occur in multiple tissues, but often associated with tissue-specific receptor or coactivator/repressor expression (ex. PXR-CYP3A4)
 - contrast clearance vs. toxicological importance

From gene to protein



Time-course of CYP1A1 Induction in Rat Liver



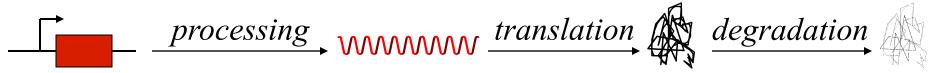
 Transcriptional activation occurs rapidly, followed by increased protein synthesis. mRNA reaches a new steadystate very rapidly (short t_{1/2}), protein/activity much later.

Possible steps in Induction

Multiple steps which can be altered in the presence of an inducer

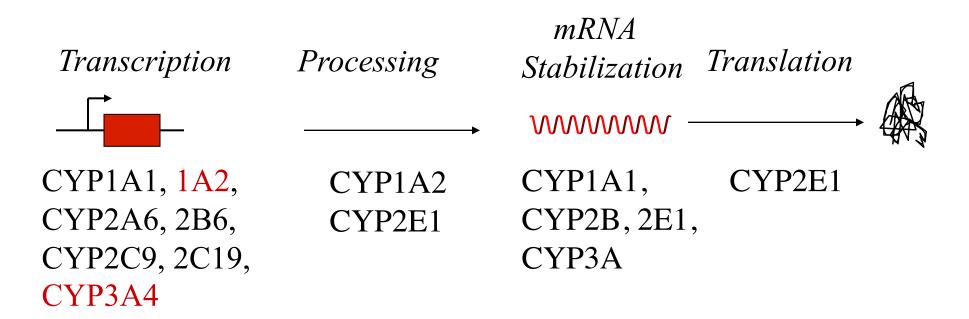
$$Amt \ Enzyme_{ss}(mol) = \frac{Synthesis \ Rate(mol / hr)}{k_{deg}(hr^{-1})}$$

transcription



Increased Protein Synthesis

- Receptor-mediated transcriptional activation ***
- Increased efficiency of mRNA processing
- Increased mRNA stabilization
- Reduced miRNA synthesis
- Enhanced mRNA translation efficiency

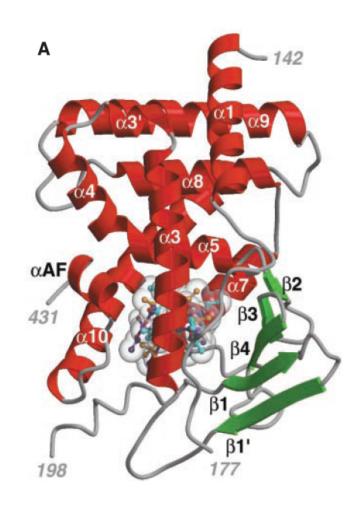


Receptor-Mediated Regulation

- Constitutive, induced and repressed expression of drug metabolizing enzymes and transporters is largely under transcriptional control
- Most common and important mechanism of induction involves <u>nuclear receptor activation</u>
 - P450s
 - UDP glycuronosyltransferases (UGT)
 - Sulfotransferases (SULT)
 - Glutathione S-transferases (GST)
 - Multidrug resistance protein 1 (MDR1)
 - Multidrug resistance-associated proteins (MRP)
 - Organic anion-transporting polypeptides (OATP)

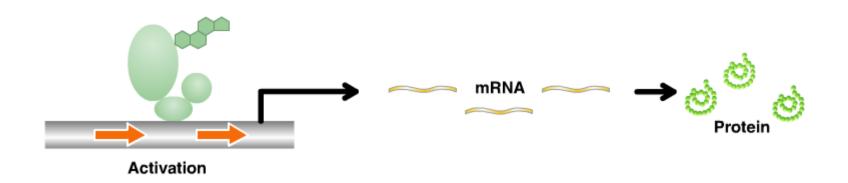
General: Nuclear Receptor Family 1 (NR1)

- N-terminal activation function (AF-1)
- Zinc finger DNA binding domain
- Hinge region
- Ligand binding domain
- C-terminal activation function (AF-2)
- Heterodimerizes with 9-cis retinoic acid receptor (RXR)



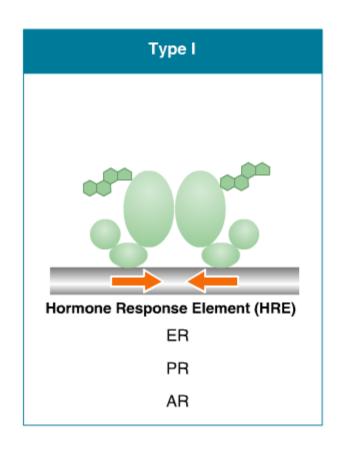
Ref: Whitlock, FASEB, 1996 Redimbo, Science, 2001

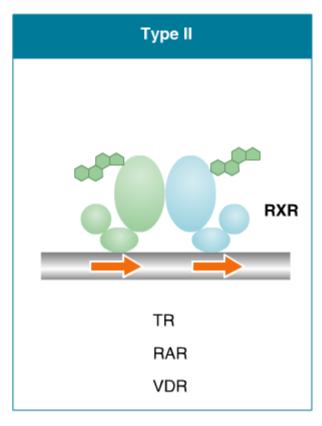
Transcriptional Activation – Simplified



 Transcription factors bind to their response elements (5' region of the gene), increase binding/function of polymerase II complex, mRNA is transcribed and translated to protein

Transcriptional Activation – Response Elements

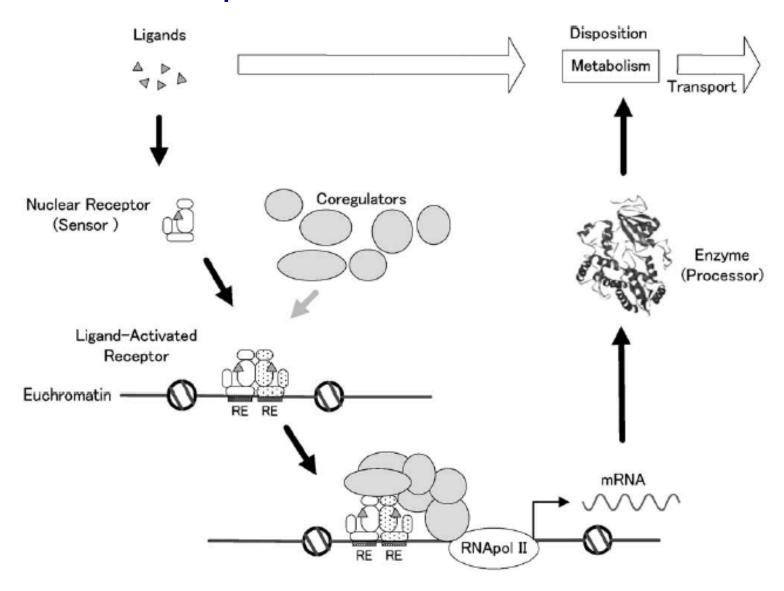




Transcriptional Activation - Details

- Nuclear receptor associated with corepressors
- Inducer binds and NR dissociates
- Translocation to nucleus (not always)
- Association of with dimerization partner
- Binding of heterodimer to response elements of the target genes
- Release of corepressor proteins
- Recruitment of coactivators and general transcription machinery

Transcriptional Activation – Details



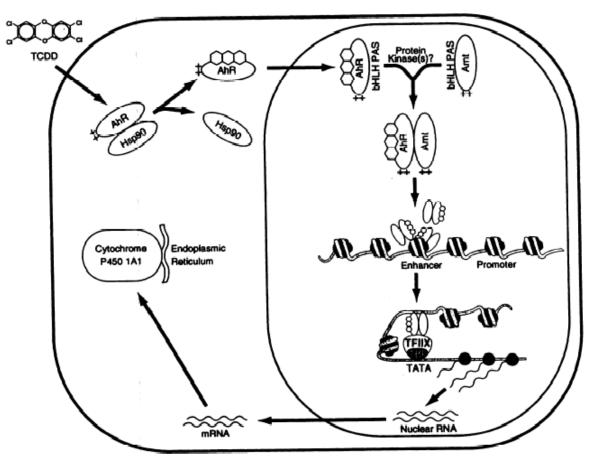
Summary of DME/DTP Nuclear Receptors

CYP Gene Target	Receptor	Inducer
CYP1A1/1A2/1B1	AhR-ARNT	Antiestrogens, PAH
CYP2B6, CYP2C9	CAR-RXRα	Androstanes, bile acids, phenobarbital
CYP3A4	PXR-RXRα	Pregnanes, bile acids, phenytoin, rifampin
CYP4A	PPAR α -RXR α	Fibrates, glitazones

AhR

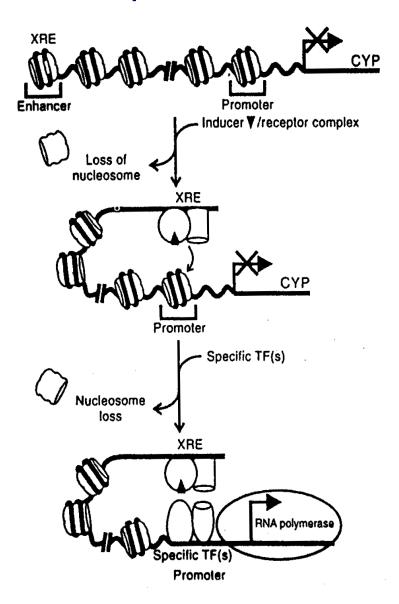
- AhR: Aryl hydrocarbon receptor
 - Response element: XRE
 - CYP1A1, 1A2, 1B1
 - UGT1A1, 1A6
- Activators: planar lipophilic molecules, polycyclic aromatic or halogenated hydrocarbons, β-naphthoflavone, antiestrogens
- Deactivators: 3,4-dimethoxyflavone

AhR



- Inducer binds
- AhR dissociates with Hsp90
- Translocation to nucleus
- Heterodimerization with Arnt
- Binding to 5'-flanking region of target gene

Transcriptional Activation: Promoter/Enhancer Effects



- Binding of receptor heterodimer disrupts chromatin structure, permitting binding interactions between promoter and enhancer regions (also requires binding of additional transcription factors, e.g., Sp1)
- The new 3-D structure facilitates the binding of the polymerase II complex and initiation of transcription

Ref: Clin Exper Pharmacol Physiol, 1998

CAR

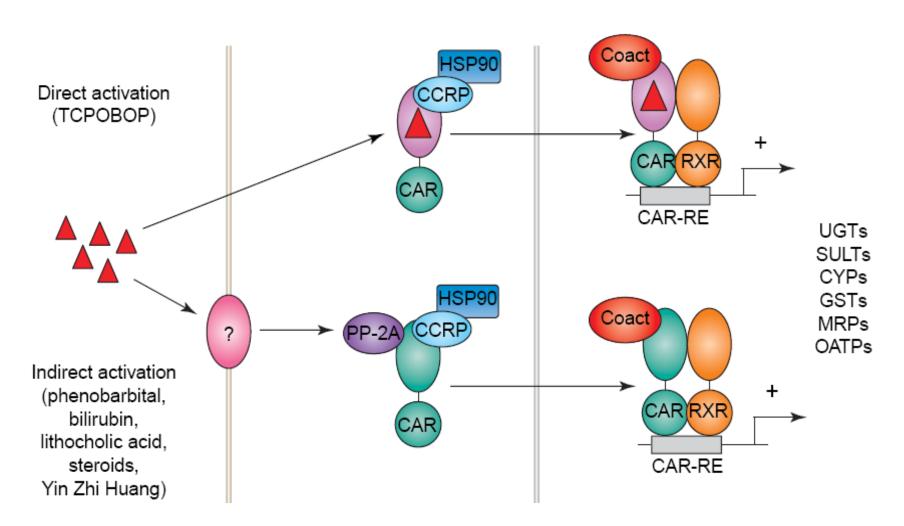
- CAR: Constitutive androstane receptor
 - Response elements: DR-3, DR-4, ER-6
 - CYP2A6, 2B1, 2B6, 2C9, 2C19, 3A4
 - UGT1A1
- Constitutively active in vitro, quiescent in cytoplasm of hepatocytes in vivo
- Treatment with ligand, CAR translocates to nucleus

CAR

- Note: phenobarbital, prototypical inducer is not a direct ligand – gene regulation may involve protein phosphorylation, coactivators, cytoplasmic CAR retention protein
- Activators: phenobarbital, TCPOBOP (mice), CITCO (human), clotrimazole, phenytoin, carbamazepine
- Deactivators: Androstanes
- Physiology: bilirubin clearance, bile acid detoxification

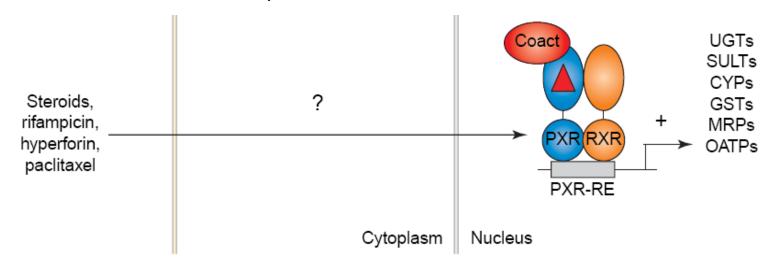
phenobarbital

CAR



PXR

- PXR: Pregnane X receptor
 - Response element: DR-3, DR-4, ER-6, ER-8
 - CYP1A2, 2B6, 2C9, 2C19, 3A4, 3A7
 - SULT2A1, UGT1A1, 1A3, 1A4, MDR1, AHR
 - Represses CYP7A1
- Treatment with ligand, PXR translocates to nucleus (or resides in nucleus)



Ref: Goodwin, Trends Pharmacol Sci, 2004

PXR

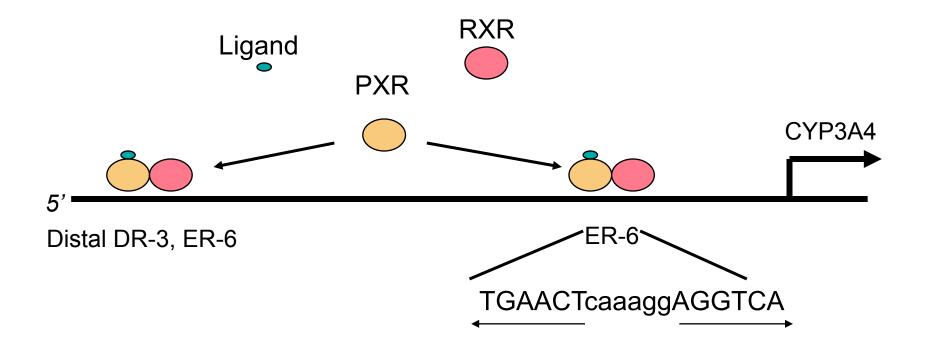
- Crystal structure solved large binding pocket, promiscuity of PXR towards xenobiotics
- Structurally diverse molecules can induce CYP3A via the same biochemical pathway

- Activators: bile acids, rifampin, paclitaxel, nifedapine, clotrimazole*, ritonavir*, glucocorticoids, efavirenz, statins
- Deactivators: ET-743, sulfurafane

* act as inhibitors

Induction of CYP3A4 via PXR

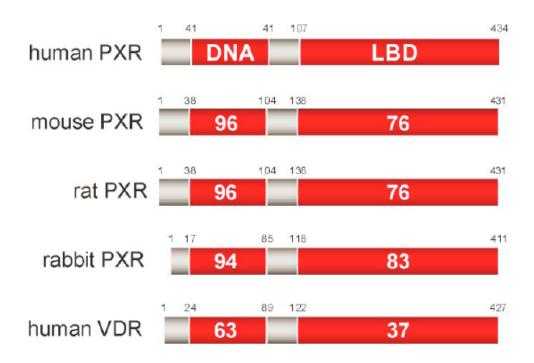
- Maximum induction of CYP3A4: binding of PXR/RXR to distal (DR-3, ER-6) and proximal (ER-6) response elements
- This feature distinguishes CYP3A4 from the non-inducible CYP3A5 (lacks distal elements)



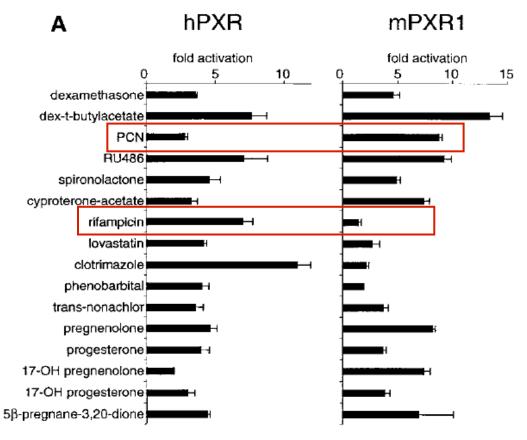
Ref: Goodwin, Mol Pharmacol, 1999

Species Differences in PXR

- Species dependency in CYP3A induction by different inducers (rifampin and PCN) – amino acid sequence difference in ligand binding domains of PXR
- Humanized mice (PXR knockout + human SXR) respond to "human" inducers



Species Differences in CYP3A Induction



 Interspecies differences in the inducibility of CYP3A by xenobiotics can be explained by the difference in binding affinity of the ligand to PXR (ligand binding domain variation).

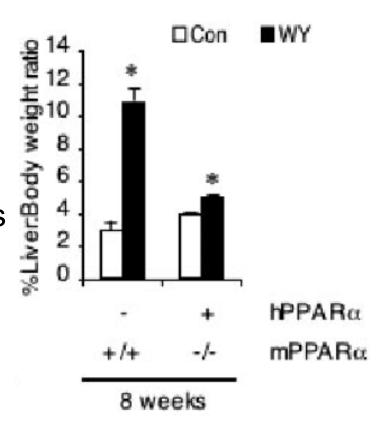
> Ref: Goodwin, Ann Rev Pharmacol Toxicol, 2002 Lehmann, J Clin Invest, 1998

PPARα

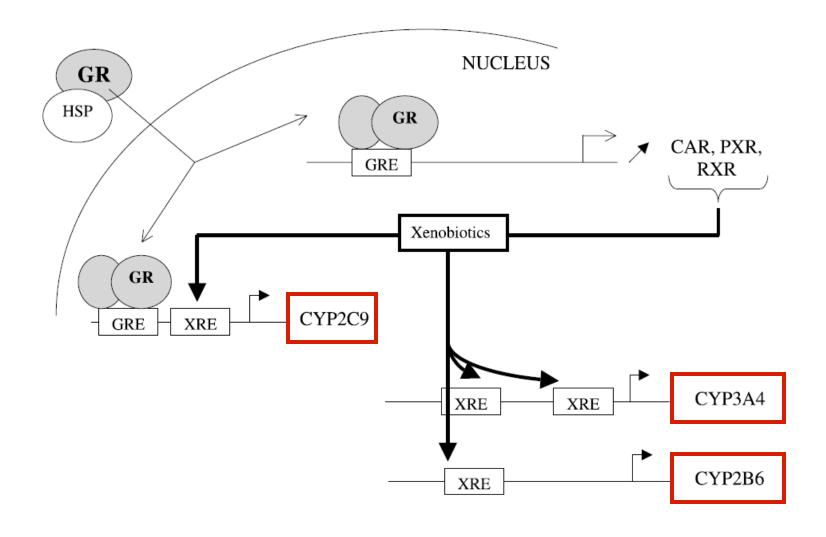
- PPARα: Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor
 - Response element: DR-1
 - CYP4A, UGT1A9, 2B4
- PPARα involved in lipid and glucose metabolism
- CYP4A induced catalyzes ω-oxidation of fatty acids (e.g., lauric acid, arachidonic acid)
- Activators: phthlate ester plasticisers, fibrates, glitazones, certain herbicides, WY-14643

$PPAR\alpha$

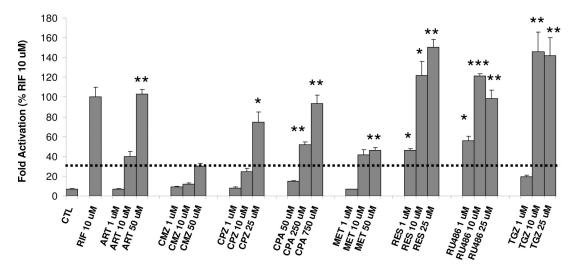
- Exposure of rodents to peroxisome proliferators leads to increased size and number of hepatic peroxisomes, hepatomegaly and carcinogenesis
- This does not seem to occur in humans



Cross-Talk Between Nuclear Receptors



Ref: Pascussi, Biochim Biophys Acta, 2003



Ligand-Selective hPXR Activation

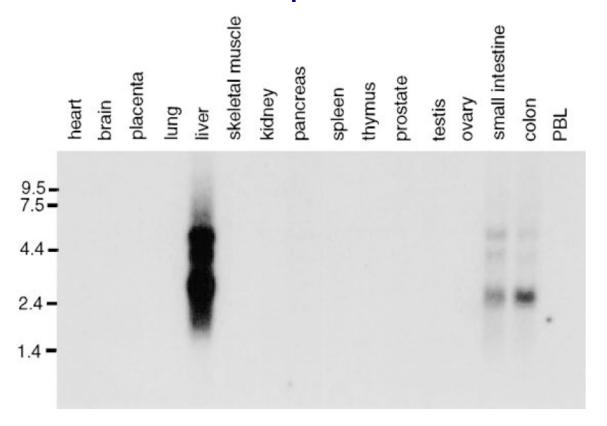
- HepG2 cells transfected with hRXR and a CYP3A4 reporter construct.
- Efavirenz, nivirapine, carbamazepine and phenytoin are poor hPXR activators, but induce CYP3A4 – mediated by CAR activation.

Faucette et al, JPET, 2006

Complications: Where do you see induction?

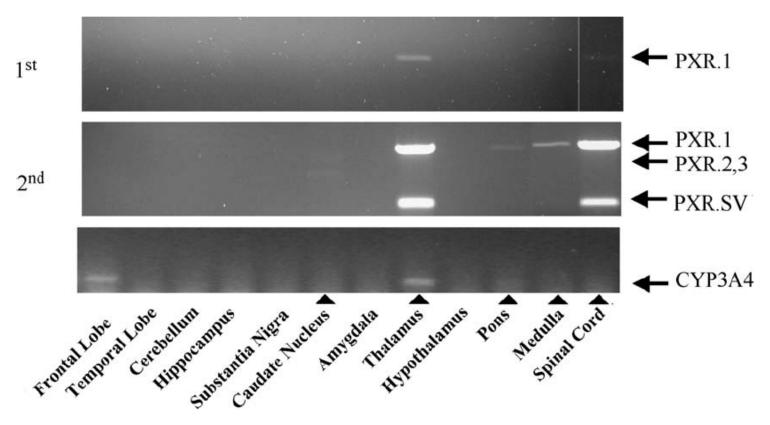
- Tissue expression of nuclear receptor (PXR)
- Nuclear receptor splice variants
- Response element of target gene inducer (PXR activation of CYP3A4 and P-gp)
- Inducer (PXR activation of CYP3A4 and P-gp)
- Tissue specific corepressors, coactivators, transcription factors

Tissue Expression of hPXR



- Northern blot of PXR hRNA in human tissues
- Major inducible organs express hPXR

Tissue Expression of hPXR



- Other tissues (such as brain) may express low levels of PXR (or alternatively spliced forms) – detectable by PCR
- Maybe important for P-glycoprotein induction

Genetic Contribution to Variable CYP3A4 Inducibility

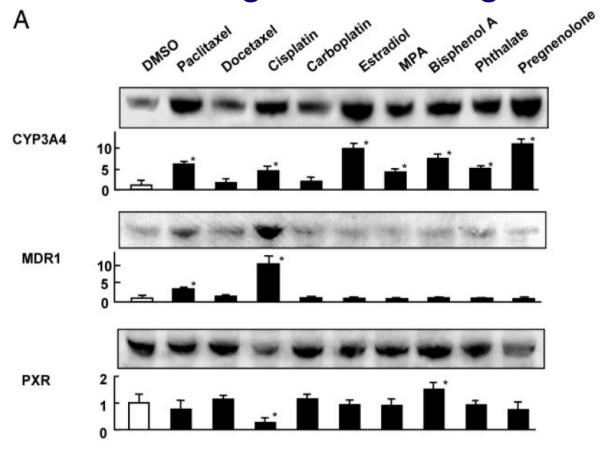
 A number of mutations in the PXR gene have been uncovered recently. Some seem to alter CYP3A4 and CYP2B6 induction response.

Possible mechanisms:

- altered PXR transcription and protein levels
- altered ligand binding to PXR
- altered interaction of heterodimer with response elements

Pharmacogenetics 11:555-72, 2001 Drug Metab Disp 29:1454-9, 2001 Drug Metab Disp 39:92-97, 2011

hPXR Activation: Ligand and Target Gene Effects



- HEC-1 cells (abundant PXR), treated with various ligands,
 CYP3A4 and P-gp detected by Western blot
- Paclitaxel and cisplatin strongly induced MDR1, whereas CYP3A4 is only weakly induced
 Ref: Masuyama, Mol Endo, 2005

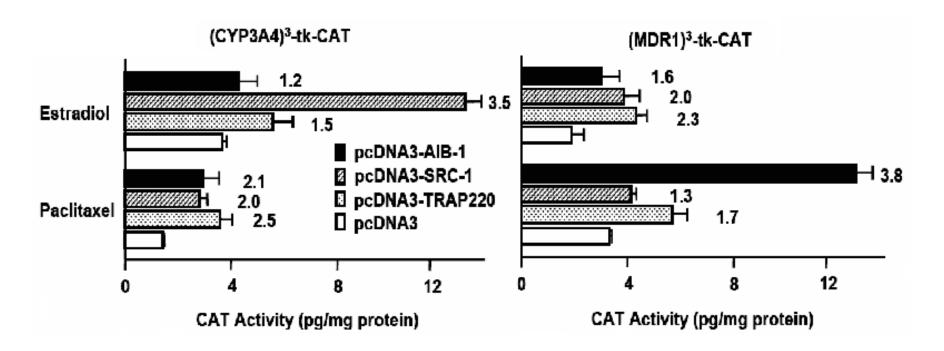
Ligand-Specific and Promoter-Specific Induction

- Although multiple genes can be activated by PXR, the magnitude of response for each gene depends on the ligand; this is the result of co-activator specific interactions.
- Note <u>differential effects of PXR ligands</u> on the DR3 and DR4 elements of MDR1 (ABCB1) and CYP3A4 when certain <u>co-activators</u> (SRC-1 and AIB-1) are present

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5'-gggtca gca agttca-3' (DR-3 motif – CYP3A4)
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5'-aggtca agtt agttca-3' (DR-4 motif – MDR1)

Coactivator-selective Effects



- Transient transfection of coactivator with PXRE–CAT reporter construct
- Note coactivator-selective effects of estradiol on DR3 activation vs paclitaxel on DR4 activation

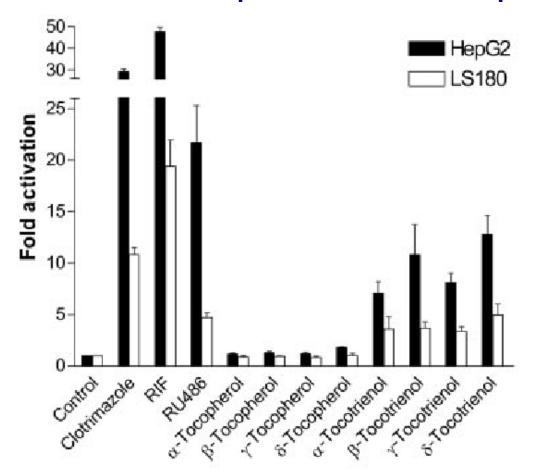
Ligand-Specific and Promoter-Specific Induction

- Ligands for a NR can exhibit both tissue- and geneselective effects as a result of:
 - Tissue-specific receptor expression
 - Different conformations of the ligand-receptor complex
 - Structural differences in the promoter (RE)
 - Tissues specific expression of nuclear coactivators and corepressors

Tissue-Specific Induction

- Potent CYP3A4 inducers (rifampin) can activate PXR and transcription in liver and intestine
- Weaker PXR ligands have liver selective effects (despite high intestinal concentrations during absorption phenytoin, efavirenz, troglitazone)
- Effect is gene specific (see MDR1 in LS-180 cells)
- Displacement of corepressor

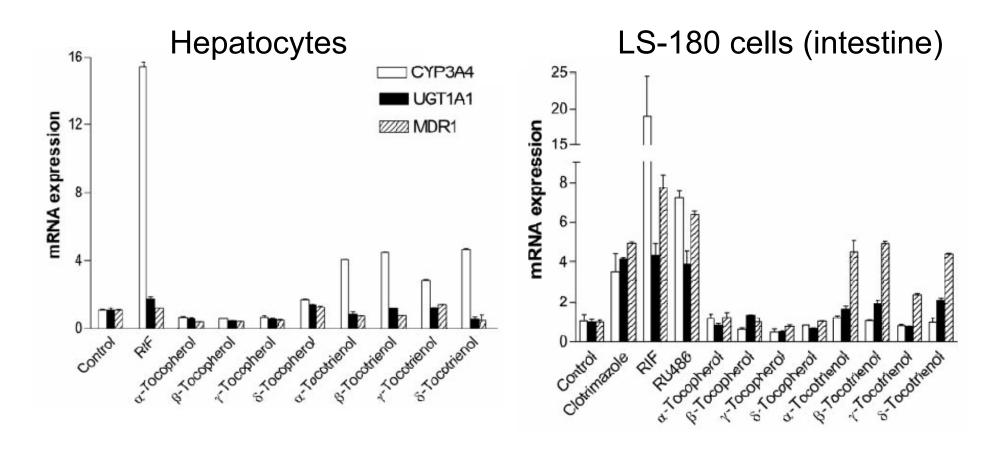
Tissue-Selective Expression: Corepressors



- Cells transfected with PXR and PXRE-reporter
- NCoR, nuclear receptor corepressor highly expressed in LS180 cells (intestine), low in hepatocytes

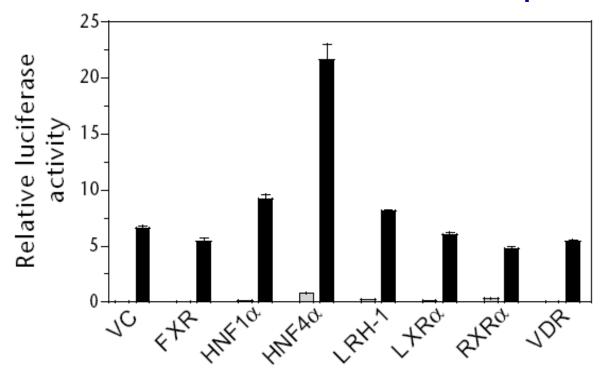
Ref: Zhou, DMD, 2004.

Tissue-, Ligand- and Gene-Specific Induction



 Tocotrienols selectively regulate gene expression depending upon tissue (and corepressor expression)

Maximum PXR Activation also Requires HNF4α



- HNF4 α stimulates transcription 4- to 10-fold above that achieved with PXR alone; (shown basal expression in the absence of exogenous inducer)
- Effect appears to be mediated presumably binding of HNF4α to a DR1 motif in the distal (-7783 and -7771) region of the CYP3A4 gene that contains PXREs (DR3 and ER6).

Ref: Tirona, Nature Medicine, 2003

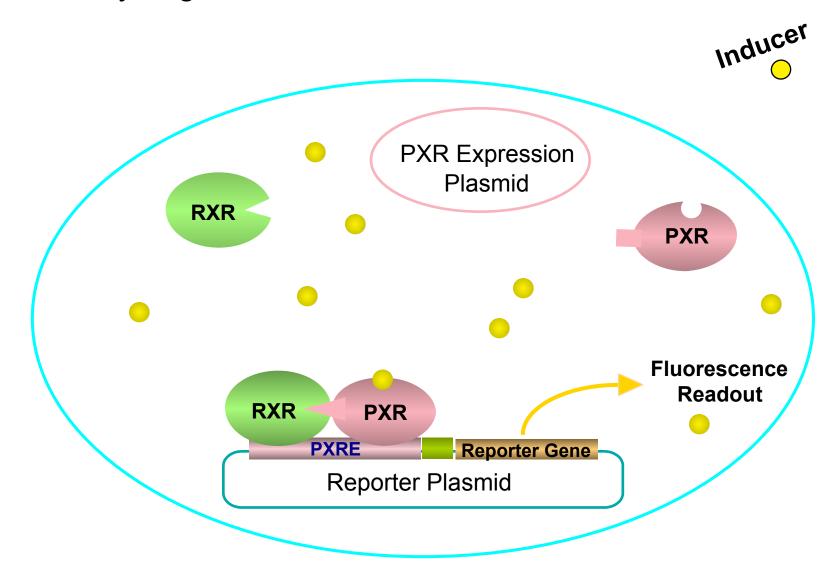
Experimental Techniques: Transcription

Method	Advantages	Limitations
Ligand-PXR Displacement	reproducible, high throughput low cost	false positives, access to technology
Co-transfection (NR & reporter gene)	reproducible, adaptable to enzyme - receptor of interest	single enzyme screen, lower throughput higher costs
Human Hepatocyte	functional kinetic data quantitative RT-PCR multi-enzyme	high variability livers, access to cells, slower turnaround
In vivo animals	accessibility, experience,	species differences* low throughput
<i>In vivo</i> humans	clinical applicability	staging in development, high cost

^{*} May be circumvented with the availability of hPXR animals

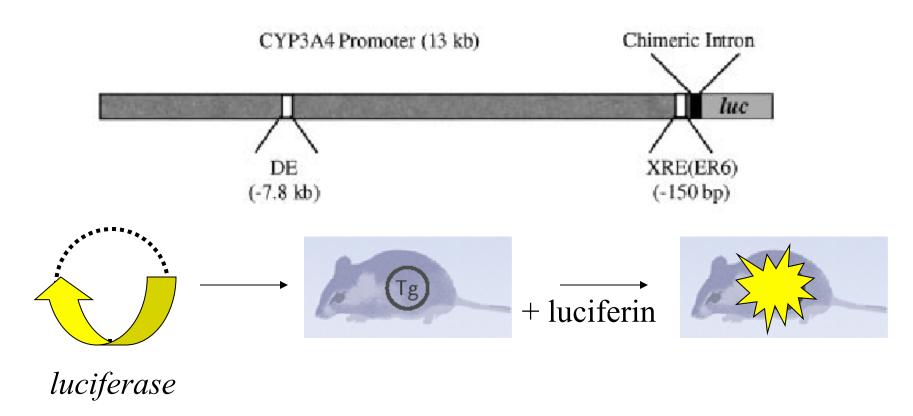
hPXR Transient Transfection in Cells

Assay of gene activation



CYP3A4 Induction in Genetically Modified Mice

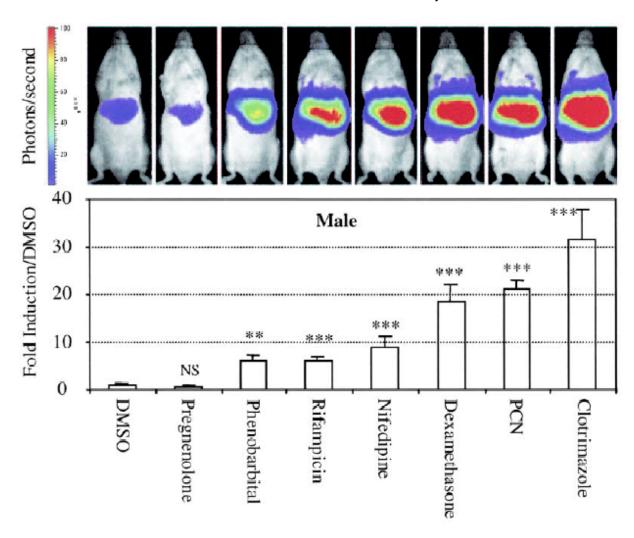
 Generation of transgenic animal expressing human CYP3A4 promoter + luciferase reporter



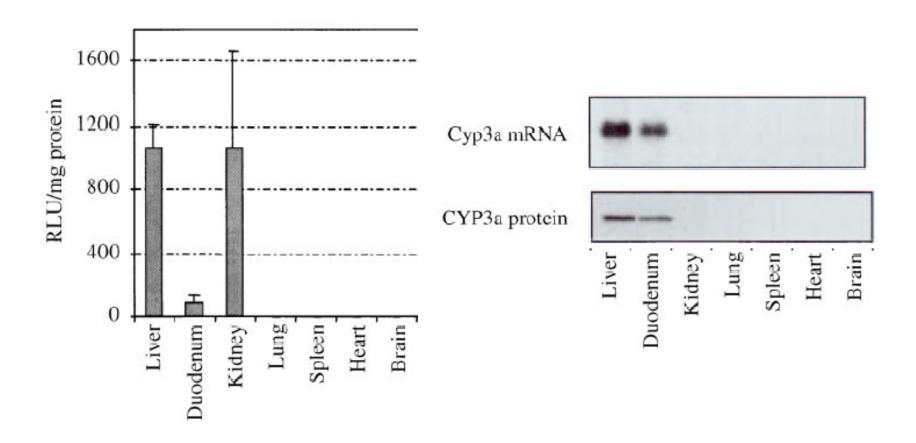
Ref: Zhang, DMD, 2003

CYP3A4 Induction in Genetically Modified Mice

 Permits in vivo inductive response (mouse PXR with human CYP3A4)

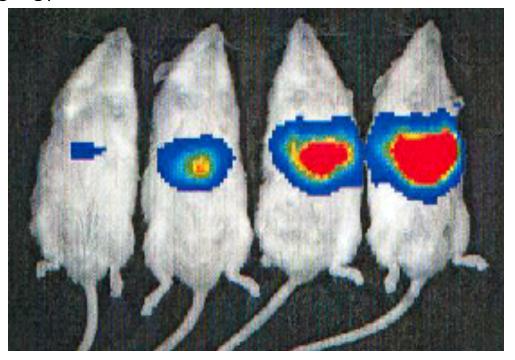


CYP3A4 Induction in Genetically Modified Mice



Hydrodynamic DNA Infusion: CYP3A/P-gp Induction

rifampin (mg/kg): 0 5 10 50



- Transient transduction of hCYP3A4-LUC in mice
- Permit rapid quantitation of inductive response in context of in vivo PK (hPXR or other nuclear receptor, hCYP3A4-LUC or other reporter)

Ref: Schuetz, Mol Pharmacol, 2002

Protein Stabilization: Changes in k_{degr}

- Protein stabilization decrease in degradation
- Degradation pathways:
 - ubiquitination
 - lysosomal degradation

CYP3A4

Protein
Stabilization

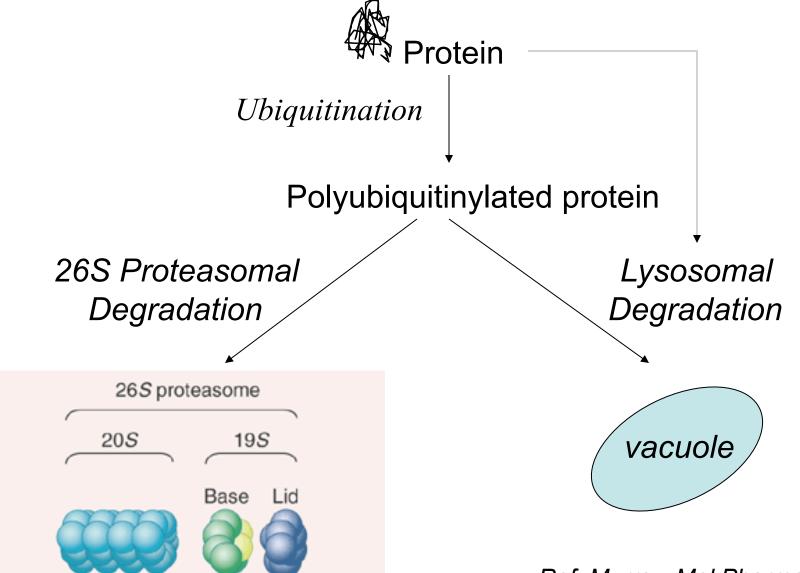
degradation

CYP2E1

Protein Degradation

- Quality control system to degrade proteins
 - Unassembled and/or misfolded proteins
 - Metabolic regulation
 - Oxidative damage
- Cytosolic ubiquitin (Ub)-dependent 26S proteasome system
 - (enzymes with short half-lives)
- Lysosomal pathway
 - Recycles membrane proteins, extracellular proteins and proteins with long half-lives

Degradation Pathways



Ref: Murray, Mol Pharmacol, 2002

Ubiquitination & Degradation

- Ubiquitin
 - 76 amino acids (8.5 kD)
 - Highly conserved (present throughout eukaryotic kingdoms)
 - 3 enzymes participate in conjugation of ubiquitin to proteins (ATP-driven)
 - Results in a polyubiquitinylated protein
- Digestion by 26S protease complex
 - ATP-driven multisubunit protease
 - Multiple rounds of ATP hydrolysis enable protease to unfold and processively digest the protein
 - Ubiquitin recycled

Ubiquitination & Degradation

- Proteolysis of ubiquitinylated proteins is a feature of many cellular processes including:
 - Chromosomal stabilization
 - Cell division
 - Apoptosis
 - Cell differentiation
 - Stress response
- Ubiquitin-tagged proteins (that do not undergo proteolysis)
 - Endocytosis
 - Localization of certain proteins in the nucleus

Degradation

- Exhibit asynchronous turnover
- "short t_{1/2}" (e.g. CYP3A4) ubiquitin-dependent 26S proteasome pathway
- "long $t_{1/2}$ " (e.g. CYP2B1 and OR: $t_{1/2} \sim 30$ hours) lysosomal degradation
 - Electron micrographs of livers cells of rats treated with leupeptin (serine protease inhibitor) show "lysosomal constipation" and consequent accumulation of CYP2B1and OR
- CYP2E1, biphasic turnover
- t1/2 ~ 7 hours: degradation by proteasomal pathway
- t1/2 ~ 37 hours: lysosomal degradation

Hepatic CYP Half-life

 Although there is no direct data for human CYP half-life in vivo, animal and hepatocyte data suggest values between 6-25 hrs; proteasomal mechanisms associated with a short t_{1/2}.

Approximate CYP Half-lives – Cell Culture

Enzyme	t1/2 (hours)	Degradation by Ubiquitination
CYP1A1	15-16	No
CYP1A2	10*	
CYP2B1	19-25	No
CYP2B2	19-25	No
CYP2E1	6-7*	Yes
	37	No
CYP3A	9-14*	Yes
CYP4A		Yes
NADPH reductase	29-35	No

Time-Course of Induction In Vivo

$$Amt Enzyme_{ss} = \frac{Synthesis Rate}{k_{deg}}$$

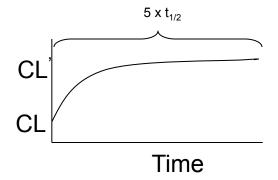
Max effect determined by change in synthesis, so long as k_{deg} is constant.

$$Cl_{\text{int}(t)} = Cl'_{\text{int}} - (Cl'_{\text{int}} - Cl_{\text{int}}) \cdot e^{-k_{\text{deg}}' \cdot t}$$

∆ effect

Cl_{int}' is the new (induced) steady-state intrinsic clearance

$$t_{1/2}(enzyme) = \frac{0.693}{k_{\text{deg}}}$$



- Assuming constant inducer concentrations (i.e., new, constant synthesis rate), the time to steady-state is controlled by the degradation half-life of the affected enzyme (~ 24-36 hrs).
- Anecdotal observations suggest maximum CYP3A4 induction occurs in 7-14 days; this will depends on the kinetics (steady-state) for the inducing agent(s).

Time Course of CYP3A Induction by Rifampin

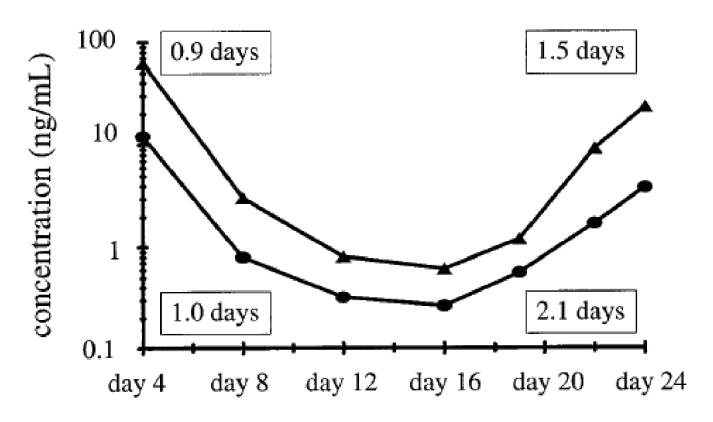
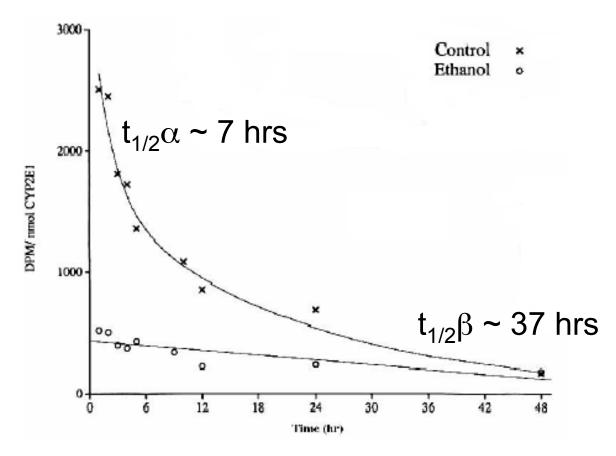


Fig. 2. Mean S-(●) and R-verapamil (▲) trough levels before (day 4), during (day 8 to day 16), and after induction (day 19 to day 24) with rifampin. Half-life of induction (day 4 to day 8) and half-life of decrease in enzyme activity (day 16 to day 24) are given for both enantiomers.

Time-course of change in daily trough concentration is inversely proportional to the change in Cl_{int}; a new steady state under "induced" conditions is achieved after several enzyme t_{1/2}; note rifampin has a short $t_{1/2}$.

Fromm et al., Hepatology, 1996

Biphasic Kinetics for CYP2E1 Elimination



- Rats injected with NaH¹⁴CO₃
- ¹⁴C-labeled CYP2E1 (Western blot scintillation counting of band)

Ref: Roberts, JBC, 1995

Increased Degradation

- Structural changes to CYP (CYP2E1 and CYP3A4) can involve heme oxidation or adduct formation, or protein modification:
 - Oxidation of labile amino acids: Met, Pro, Arg, Lys, His
 - Uncoupled oxidation generating reactive oxygen species
 - Phosphorylation of Ser129 (CYP2E1)
 - Ubiquitination
- Once modified, protein destruction occurs rapidly

Induction by Protein Stabilization

transcription

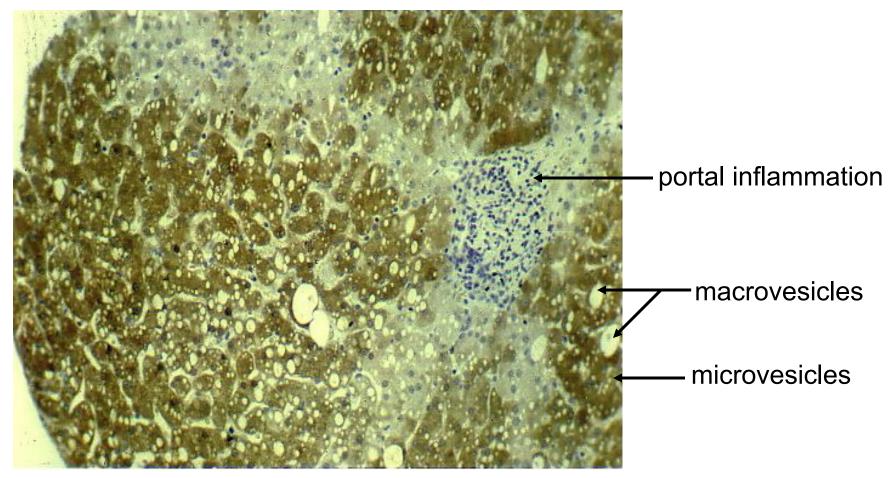


mRNA Stabilization Protein Stabilization



$$E_{ss} = \frac{R_o}{k_{\text{degr}}}$$

Induction of CYP2E1 in Steatotic Liver



- Immunohistochemistry of CYP2E1 (brown stain)
- Hepatic steatosis occurs in ~ 5-10% of the population; most commonly seen with obesity (90% with morbid obesity)

Conditions Inducing CYP2E1

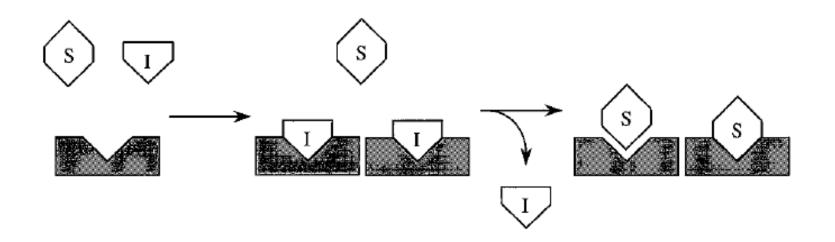
- Xenobiotics
 - Ethanol, acetone
 - Pyrazoles, pyridines, primary alcohols
- Pathophysiological Conditions
 - Chronic fasting
 - Steatosis
 - Diabetes
 - Birth

Transcriptional Activation of CYP2E1

- Most studies conducted in adults have failed to find evidence of increased mRNA synthesis following treatment with CYP2E1 inducers (ethanol, pyridine, acetone, pyrazole)
- Only birth triggers gene activation
- CYP2E1 mRNA in hamsters may be increased by ethanol and pyrazole. 2-stage induction process:
 - high BAC increased mRNA (stabilization?; miRNA suppression)
 - low BAC protein stabilization
- There is also evidence that mRNA translation efficiency may be enhanced by inducers (blocked by translation inhibitors - NaF)

Ref: BBRC 150:304-10, 1988 Eur J Pharmacol 248:7-14, 1993

Stabilization of CYP2E1 by Active Site Occupation



Enzyme: Baseline —— "Stabilization" —— Accumulation

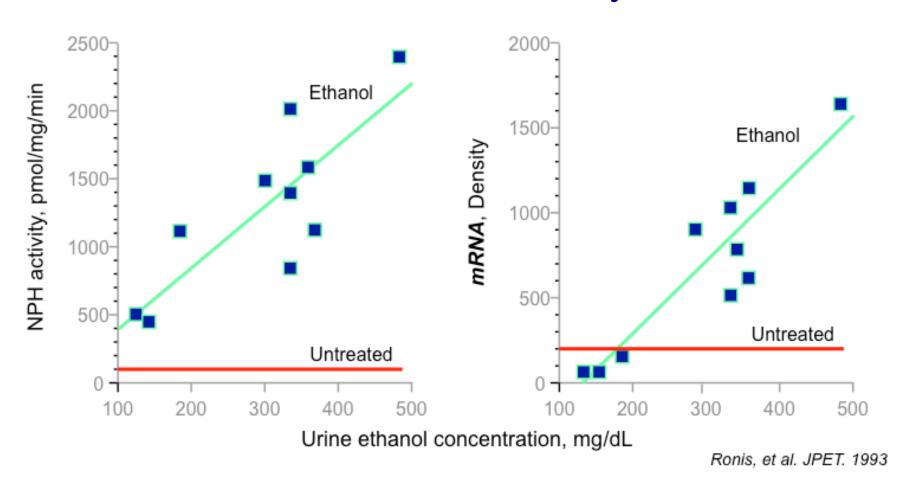
Substrate: Baseline ———— Reduced ———— Increased clearance

Ref: Chien, DMD, 1997

Induction by Stabilization of Other CYPs - 3A?

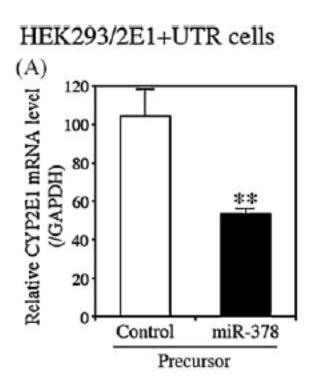
- Both ubiquitin-dependent and lysosomal degradation of CYP3A enzymes has been described
- Earlier studies described biphasic inhibition/induction of CYP3A by clotrimazole and miconazole
 - mechanism of induction may have involved, in part, protein stabilization
 - However, in vivo in humans, only inhibition has been described

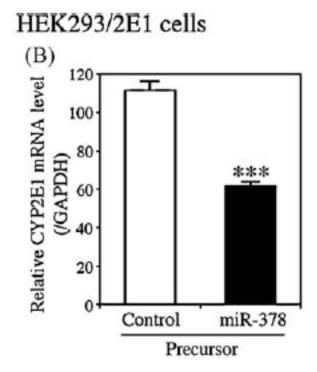
Effect of Ethanol on CYP2E1 Synthesis and Ex Vivo Activity



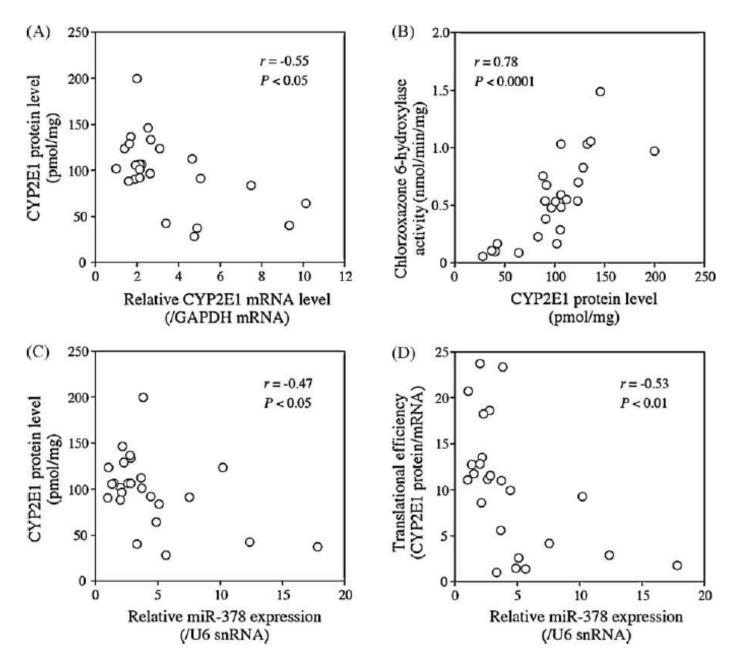
 induction of ex vivo hepatic CYP2E1 activity correlates with ethanol exposure; interestingly, there is with discontinuity in mRNA (300 mg/dL)

Regulation of CYP2E1 by miRNA





- Mohri et al (Biochem Pharmacol, 2010) provided evidence that CYP2E1 is regulated by miRNA-378
- Speculated that the effects of xenobiotics and disease (diabetes, steatosis) on CYP2E1 levels may be mediated by repression of miRNA-378



mRNA, miRNA, protein and activity analysis of human livers