

Size Does Matter But Swinging Both Ways (Amphiphilic) Boosts Systemic Uptake of Instilled Drugs



Abstract
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Introduction

- To seek localized action, drugs are routinely instilled in urinary bladder, but a fraction of instilled dose (F) is bound to reach the systemic circulation (ref.1-7, Table 1)
- Here, we delved into wide the variability of F by testing whether physicochemical properties of drugs are deterministic in their systemic uptake?
- Size- molecular weight (MW) ranging from 23-66500 Daltons and the solubility ratio in 1-octanol/water for drugs/probes (Log P): ²⁴Na⁺, ¹⁴C-urea, lidocaine and ¹²⁵I-Albumin, etc... can determine the entry of F into extracellular and intracellular spaces (Volume of distribution-Vd) as well as concurrent renal or non-renal clearance
- It is plausible that "one size fits all" blood sampling time points underestimates the true F of instilled small MW drugs: 1-4% formalin, 50% dimethyl sulphoxide (DMSO) and lidocaine....

Methods

- Here, we studied the physicochemical properties of 23 drugs and probes that have been instilled into human bladder or mammalian bladder
- A first-order multiple regression model was constructed for the dependent variable of reported systemic uptake and physicochemical properties as independent variables (determinants): MW in Daltons, hydrodynamic diameter= 2x of Stokes-Einstein radius in Ångstrom, partition coefficient (P), polar surface area in Ångstrom² and ionization constant pKa.
- Wide range and skewed distribution of properties required their log-transformation for computing a predictive equation for systemic uptake
- Significance of the linear-log model was assessed by the F test and the 95% confidence interval (CI) and whether least-squares line slope was different from 0 was determined by Student's t-test.

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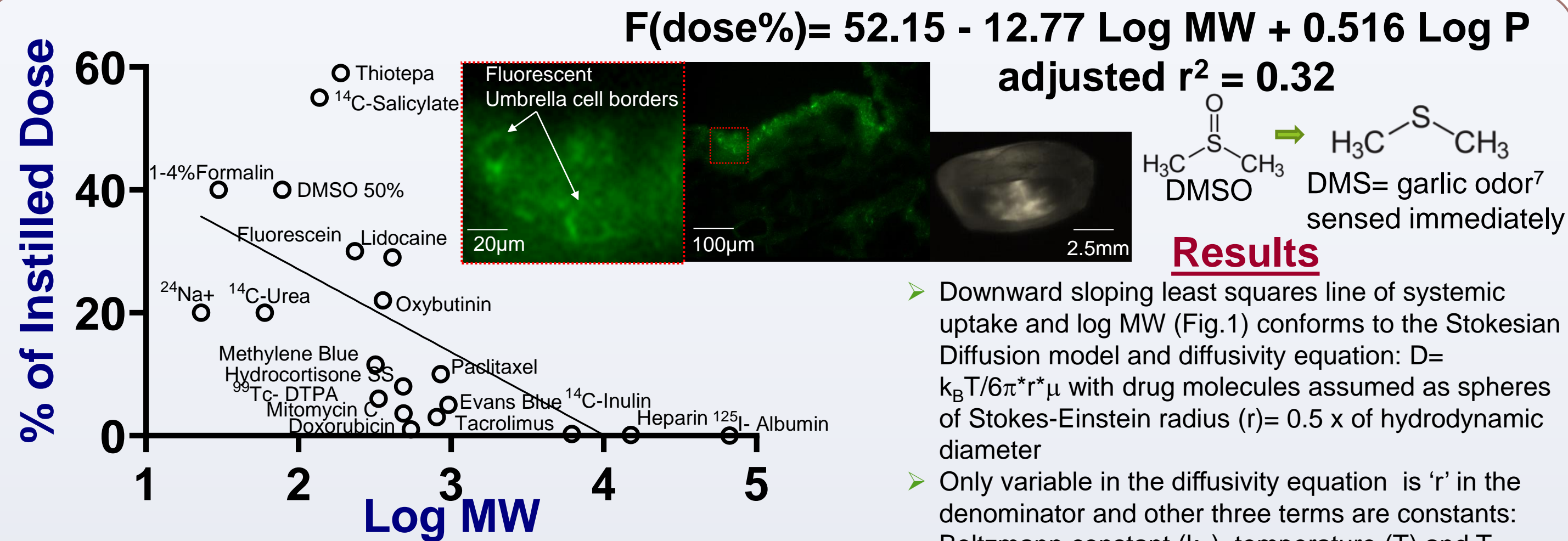


Figure 1. Downward sloping least squares line with slope different from 0 ($p < 0.05$) displays the inverse relationship of log MW and F. First-order linear-log model predicts that a unit rise of Log MW decreases F by $12.77 \pm 9.29\%$ (95% CI), resisted by the amphiphilic nature of oxybutynin to raise F >3 fold over mitomycin C (Log P 4.2 vs -0.38; 357 vs 334.3 Daltons). Exclusive paracellular diffusion of instilled fluorescein is evinced by green hexagonal borders and dark apical surface of mammalian umbrella cells^{1,2}.

| Probe | Molecular Mass (Daltons) | Hydrodynamic Diameter Ångstrom | Diffusion rate or Absorbed Dose Fraction | References |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| H ⁺ | 1 | 0.529 | 29.6 ± 18.6 mm/s | ⁴ Negrete et al 1996 |
| ³ H ₂ O | 18 | 2.75 | 4.35 ± 0.65 µm/s | ⁴ Negrete et al 1996 |
| Ammonia | 17 | 3.26 | 5 ± 0.48 µm/s | ⁴ Negrete et al 1996 |
| ¹⁴ C-Urea | 60 | 2.3 | 0.0435 ± 0.0065 µm/s ; 25% dose in blood | ⁴ Negrete et al 1996 ¹ Eldrup et al. 1983 |
| ²⁴ Na ⁺ | 24 | 2.6 | 20% in blood | ¹ Eldrup et al. 1983 |
| Fluorescein | 412.3 | 7 | 29% in blood | ² Sonn et al 2009, Eichel et al 2001 |
| ^{99m} Tc- DTPA | 487 | 11 | 3.6% in blood | Chelsky et al 1994 |
| Gadobutrol | 604.7 | 8 | 10% in bladder | ⁵ Singh et al 2020 |
| ¹²⁵ I-Albumin | 66500 | 35.5 | 0.01% in blood | ¹ Eldrup et al. 1983 |
| Colloidal Gold | 197.6 | 100 | Transmission EM probe | ⁶ Rajaganapathy et al 2015. |

- Downward sloping least squares line of systemic uptake and log MW (Fig.1) conforms to the Stokesian Diffusion model and diffusivity equation: $D = k_B T / 6\pi \eta r$ with drug molecules assumed as spheres of Stokes-Einstein radius ($r = 0.5 \times$ of hydrodynamic diameter)
- Only variable in the diffusivity equation is 'r' in the denominator and other three terms are constants: Boltzmann constant (k_B), temperature (T) and T dependent viscosity (η) at 37°C for *in vivo*.
- Dark grains of colloidal gold (10nm) in TEM illustrates how larger size slows down paracellular diffusion of large MW drugs
- Amphiphilicity of drugs is indexed by Log P or solubility ratio between water and 1-octanol mixture, with hydrophilic, ionized fraction partitioning into water layer and hydrophobic, unionized drug fraction partitioning into 1-octanol layer, enters cell.
- Our parsimonious regression model passed the Kolmogorov-Smirnov log normality test and global F test for significance ($p < 0.05$) after we excluded correlated variables- problem of multicollinearity- highlighted by the correlation coefficient, $r = 0.37$ between log P and polar surface area.
- While simple regression of systemic uptake and log MW is defined by coefficient of determination ($r^2 = 0.39$), adjusted $r^2 = 0.32$ for multiple regression implies that log P attenuates the negative impact of log MW on the systemic uptake of instilled drugs.



1-Octanol = Log P Water

Figure 2. Unlike Log MW, Log P exerts a positive impact and amphiphilic nature boosts systemic uptake.

Table 1. The MW or hydrodynamic diameter of drugs/probes exerts an inverse relationship on published rate of diffusion and instilled dose fraction reaching bladder^{5,6} or blood (systemic circulation).

Discussion

- Size matters- is manifested by the inverse relationship of log MW and F (Fig.1). Larger MW raises the hydrodynamic diameter, a determinant for the passive paracellular diffusion across tight junctions as evinced by instilled fluorescein in rat (Fig.1) and in human bladder (ref.2)
- Most instilled xenobiotics (Table 1) are absorbed paracellularly as energy-dependent transcellular absorption is typically reserved for electrolytes ²⁴Na⁺ and ¹⁴C-urea¹.
- Our predictive equation conforms to the dilation of tight junctions by inflammatory cytokines preceding the higher F of instilled lidocaine and radiolabeled probes by IC/BPS patients and >50% F of salicylate (137 Daltons) and thiopepa (189.23 Daltons) by patients (ref. 1,2,3,5).
- Amphiphilicity (Log P) lends heteroscedasticity (unequal variances) to linear-log model by bestowing >3 fold higher F of oxybutynin over mitomycin C
- First blood sample drawn >15min post-instillation of small MW drugs: formalin, DMSO⁷ and lidocaine grossly undercounts the true F owing to rapid distribution half-life of <2min and hepatic clearance of instilled drugs
- Instilled lidocaine affords local anesthesia and affects the blood pressure of SCI patients, and IC/BPS patients begin to emanate garlic odor of dimethyl sulfide (DMS), a DMSO metabolite representing 3% of the absorbed dose (~40% F)⁷.

Conclusions

- While size (Log MW) reduces but higher Log P boosts the systemic uptake of instilled drugs
- Delayed blood sampling underestimates the F, outcome of a kinetic process dependent on paracellular diffusion from urothelium, rapid distribution in large Vd and rapid clearance of DMSO, formalin, lidocaine and other small MW drugs.

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