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Dose-Dependent Pharmacokinetics and Drug Interactions

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (30 September 2022)

Message from the Guest Editor

Identification of pharmacokinetic characteristics of a pharmacologically active compound is a very important process in the non-clinical stage of new drug development before entering clinical trials. In particular, characterizing the dose dependency of a compound provides an important clue to predict its efficacy according to dose increase or decrease in clinical practice. The most frequent causes of dose-dependent pharmacokinetics include transporter involvement in the absorption and saturation of drug metabolism in the gastrointestinal tract and/or liver. To evaluate the saturation of drug metabolism, identification of enzymes involved in the metabolism of the compound should be performed. In particular, if either CYP3A, CYP2C or CYP2D is involved in the metabolism of a biologically active compound or a therapeutic drug, drug interaction is expected when co-administered with other drugs or herbal drugs. Moreover, the disease–drug interactions should also be evaluated, since pathophysiological conditions can cause the changes in ADME of drugs, especially changes in the expression of drug-metabolizing enzymes.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Journal Rank: JCR - Q1 (Pharmacology and Pharmacy) / CiteScore - Q1 (Pharmaceutical Science)

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