

# 16 Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic (PBPK) Modeling: Usefulness and Applications

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## 16.1 SUMMARY

Physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) models are increasingly being used to describe and define more meaningful parameters that relate to physiology, anatomy, and biochemistry in the prediction of pharmacokinetic (PK) profiles and tissue concentration–time profiles of the parent drug and metabolites and to provide mechanistic insight in drug dynamics. Physiological data (blood flow rates and tissue volumes), physical data (protein binding and tissue partition coefficients), and biochemical data (Michaelis–Menten parameters for transporters and enzymes,  $V_{\max}/K_m$ ) are the information required for building a PBPK model. Recently, single organ PBPK models for the intestine, liver, and kidney were applied to examine the influences of blood flow, protein binding, and activities of transporters and enzymes on the area under the curves (AUCs) and clearances of a drug and its formed metabolite. These in turn are used to build whole-body PBPK models consisting of the major drug elimination organs (i.e., intestine, liver, and kidney), together with

highly perfused, poorly perfused, and adipose tissues. The whole-body PBPK model approach is extremely useful to understand sequential metabolism, the kinetics of metabolites, and examine effects of the transporter and enzyme interplay on the blood and target organ exposures of the drug and its metabolites. The application of PBPK models allows one to make predictions of the exposure in target sites, pharmacological activity, or toxicity and the effects of age, pregnancy, disease states, and drug–drug interactions (DDIs). In this chapter, cases for the application and usefulness of PBPK models are summarized.

## 16.2 INTRODUCTION

PK models represent mathematical descriptions that relate drug concentration levels to processes of drug absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) *in vivo*. Various modeling approaches have been developed with varying degrees of complexity for applications in different situations. A popular approach is the classic PK compartmental modeling approach which describes the body as rapidly and/or poorly equilibrating compartments for the distribution of drugs/chemicals [1]. These models are the simplest and therefore the most widely used in the clinical setting to provide information on the extents of drug distribution and elimination. The major disadvantage of these models is that the plasma drug concentrations do not always reflect tissue drug concentrations that relate to drug responses and toxicological effects. Moreover, these approaches show serious limitations since the physiological processes, especially transporter function and the sequential handling of metabolites within metabolite formation organs, are not well described [2]. These limitations pave the way to the development of PBPK approaches.

PBPK models are increasingly being used to describe and define more meaningful parameters that relate to physiology, anatomy, and biochemistry. The approach is based on the assumption that compartments are homogeneous and well-stirred. The earliest description of PBPK models was introduced in the 1930s by Teorell, one of the pioneers of PK who applied mass balance equations on specific tissues and related to tissue volumes and organ perfusion rates on drug absorption, distribution, and elimination [3]. The elegant works of Bischoff and Dedrick during the 1950s–1970s then firmly established the importance of PBPK models in the prediction of drug protein binding, tissue distribution, and the disposition of thiopental and anticancer drugs in animals [4–6]. The usefulness of these models was evident, since animal data, when scaled up, were able to predict the concentration–time profiles in man [7,8]. The concepts are then used toward the description of eliminating organs [9–14].

The PBPK model consists of a number of subcompartments that represent actual tissues and organs of discrete volumes. The differential equations constructed for these models are based on three different classifications of parameters: physiological, thermodynamic/physical, and biochemical. Physiological parameters include tissue volumes ( $V$ ) and tissue blood flow rates ( $Q$ ) whose sum provides the cardiac output ( $Q_{CO}$ ). One basic premise of PBPK models lies with the assumption that there is venous equilibration: the concentration in tissue blood equals that in the emergent blood. Thermodynamic parameters include protein binding (denoted as unbound fractions in plasma, blood, or tissue:  $f_P$ ,  $f_B$ , or  $f_u$ , or  $f_T$ ), the tissue to plasma/blood partition coefficient ( $K_{P,T}$  or  $K_{P,Tu}$ ) of the drug, and the transmembrane permeability. Biochemical

parameters exist as the result of metabolic and transport processes and are described by the constants, the  $V_{\max}$  or maximum velocity and  $K_m$ , the Michaelis–Menten constant. The rate is given by the product of the substrate concentration  $[S]$  and the intrinsic clearance,  $CL_{\text{int}}$ . Under first-order conditions, the  $CL_{\text{int}}$  is given by  $V_{\max}/K_m$ . The secretory intrinsic clearance ( $CL_{\text{int,sec}}$ ) is responsible for renal, biliary, or luminal excretion. For transport, the influx ( $CL_{\text{in}}$ ) and efflux ( $CL_{\text{ef}}$ ) clearances are included to represent both the transporter-mediated and passive diffusion processes [15–18].

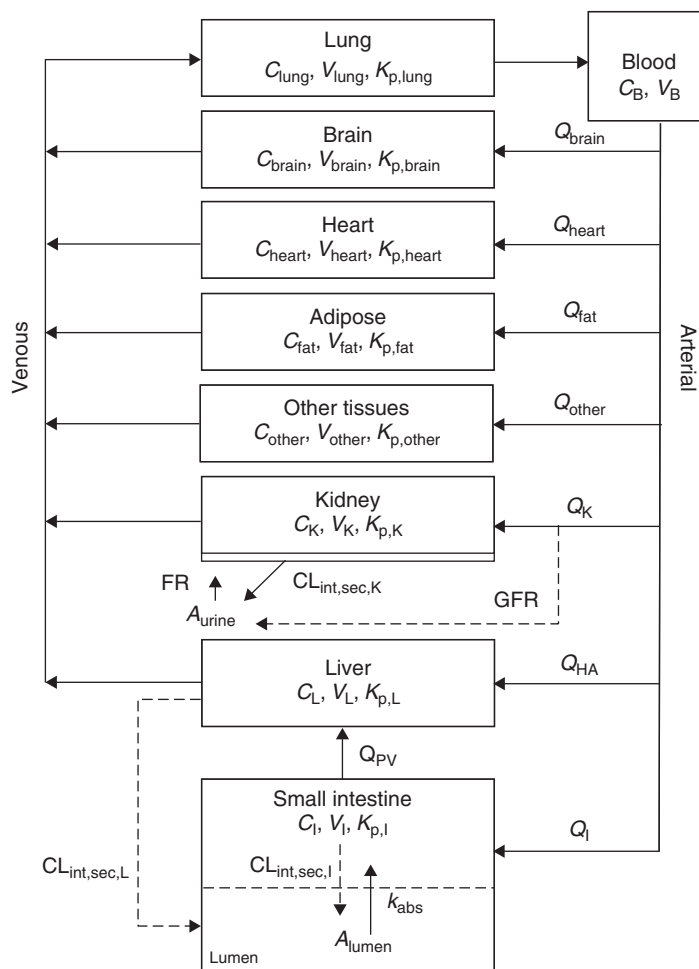
The prediction of PK profiles of new chemical entities in humans, based on *in vitro* and *in vivo* preclinical data, is an extremely useful technique that provides important information in the drug discovery and development phases to identify drug candidates with desirable, PK properties. These many useful features that appear in PBPK models are particularly pertinent in drug development [19–22] and health risk assessment [23–29]. Another feature rests on the scale-up of PBPK based on animal experiments (mouse, rat, dog, or monkey) to explain drug behaviors in humans [7,8,30–34]. Moreover, PBPK models have been routinely applied to predict tissue concentrations with respect to the route and dose of drug administration, and in the appraisal of how alteration of physiological or biochemical conditions such as in disease states [35–38] or genetic variants in transporters, enzymes, and/or protein binding would affect drug disposition [39,40].

Another area of development rests on single-organ PBPK models such as the intestine, liver, or kidney which furnish mathematical solutions comprising blood flow, protein binding, and transporter and enzymatic activity parameters for the AUC [15,16,18]. The relations among these parameters allow the examination of important determinants on organ clearances, the interplay between transporters and enzymes, and mechanisms of DDI within these frameworks [15,16,18]. These solutions pertain to the single organs and are readily used to compare the kinetics between formed and preformed metabolite.

In this chapter, we review the information needed for building a PBPK model and the general approaches used. We summarize the recently developed single-organ PBPK models for the intestine, liver, and kidney and whole-body PBPK models that are currently applied to gain a mechanistic understanding in drug disposition. The models can predict drug and metabolite concentrations in tissues at any time and provide mechanistic insight in drug dynamics. Currently, model predictions of lipophilic compounds surpass those which require transporter involvement for uptake and efflux or those that exhibit diffusion-limited transport. These PBPK models established for animals may be scaled up to man on the extrapolation of *in vitro* experimental findings to *in vivo* PK parameters.

### 16.3 BASIC CONSIDERATIONS

A general PBPK model is depicted in Fig. 16.1. The model consists of several tissue compartments that represent anatomic tissue regions in the body where the drug is distributed or metabolized/excreted. Enterohepatic circulation and renal reabsorption, processes that prolong the duration of drug and metabolite in the body, are readily incorporated. Although there is no general rule for the type of organ compartments to be included in the model, organs in which the drug exerts a pharmacologic and/or toxic response should be included. In principle, if all parameters that affect the disposition



**Figure 16.1** A physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model of the whole body. Physiological volume ( $V$ ), blood flow rate ( $Q$ ), drug concentration ( $C$ ), and tissue partition coefficient ( $K_{p,T}$ ) in the brain (“brain”), heart (“heart”), lung (“lung”), liver (“L”), kidney (“K”), intestine (“I”), adipose tissue (“fat”), and other tissue (“other”) are some of the needed parameters for modeling; the blood is represented as (“B”).  $FR$  is the fraction reabsorbed in the kidney, and  $GFR$  is the glomerular filtration rate.

of the drug are known *in vitro*, the model should be able to predict the PK of the drug *in vivo*. However, because of the complexities and differences inherent in the systems, many assumptions are needed to render a sound *in vitro*–*in vivo* extrapolation (IVIVE) before forming the proper mathematical relations to describe drug concentrations in the blood and tissues and physiological processes on transport, secretion, and metabolism within tissue compartments.

### 16.3.1 Physiological Data: Blood Flow Rates and Tissue Volumes

Blood flow rates and physiological tissue volumes are important parameters of PBPK models. Table 16.1 summarizes these flow parameters that show differences among

**TABLE 16.1 Physiological Volumes and Blood Flow Rates in the Human, Rat, and Mouse<sup>a</sup>**

Tissue	Human (70 kg)		Rat (0.25 kg)		Mouse (~0.02 kg)	
	Volume (mL)	Blood flow rate (mL/min)	Volume (mL)	Blood flow rate (mL/min)	Volume (mL)	Blood flow rate (mL/min)
Blood	5200	—	13.5	—	1.7	—
Brain capillary	1450	700	1.2	1.3	—	—
Brain capillary	—	—	—	—	0.025	0.089
Brain tissue	—	—	—	—	0.226	—
Heart	310	240	1.2	3.9	0.095	0.28
Kidney	280	1240	3.7	9.2	0.34	1.3
Liver	1690	—	19.6	—	1.3	—
Hepatic artery	—	300	—	2.0	—	0.35
Intestine	1650	1100	11.3	7.5	1.5	1.5
Lung	1170	—	2.1	—	0.1	—
Cardiac output (mL/min)	—	5600	—	14.0	—	8.0
GFR (mL/min)	—	125	—	1.31	—	0.28
Urine flow (mL/day)	—	1400	—	50.0	—	1.0

<sup>a</sup>from Refs 43 and 44

species. Blood flow is an important determinant in drug clearance in PBPK modeling. Although the pattern of blood flow, such as bulk flow, plug flow, or dispersive flow, into organs, such as the liver, affects the degree of mixing in the organ and transport and metabolic activities [10,41,42], bulk flow is usually considered. It is noteworthy that the blood flow rate to a specific organ may not reach the tissue site in its entirety. For example, part of the kidney plasma is filtered by glomerular filtration, and only the difference between the plasma flow and the GFR reaches the postglomerular tubular cells [11,12]. In the intestine, the blood flow reaching the enterocytes housing absorptive and secretory apical transporters and enzymes represents a small proportion of the entire intestinal blood flow [14].

## 16.3.2 Physical Data

**16.3.2.1 Plasma Protein Binding.** The binding of drugs to plasma protein usually retards the elimination of drugs. The pharmacological activity and toxicity of drugs are generally assumed to be correlated to the unbound drug concentration in the blood or tissue, and only the unbound drug is the species that is metabolized or excreted. Depending on whether the drug is a weak or strong acid or base, or is a neutral compound or zwitterion, it may bind to a single protein or multiple proteins (e.g., serum albumin,  $\alpha_1$ -acid-glycoprotein, or lipoproteins) in blood [10,45]. For poorly extracted drugs, increasing the extent of binding to plasma proteins would decrease the rate of excretion in the kidney and the rate of metabolism in the liver [46,47], but binding exerts less influence on highly extracted drugs, whose elimination rates are more dependent on the blood flow [10,48]. Changes in plasma protein binding from disease states or DDIs may lead to clinical outcomes that require the adjustment of

dosage regimens. Therefore, drug binding to plasma proteins is a key determinant of clearance.

The binding of a drug to plasma proteins is usually a reversible process, denoted by the on ( $k_{on}$ ) and off ( $k_{off}$ ) rate constants. The ratio of these constants yields the binding association constant,  $K_A$ , and a value of less than  $10^4/M$  suggests poor binding, whereas the one exceeding  $10^4/M$  suggests tighter binding [49]. For the latter case, dramatic changes in the extent of protein binding are evoked on small changes in drug concentration when the binding association constant is high. The unbound plasma concentration,  $C_{P,u}$ , in plasma can be expressed as follows:

$$C_{P,u} = \frac{-(1 + nK_A P_t - K_A C_P) + \sqrt{(1 + nK_A P_t - K_A C_P)^2 + 4K_A C_P}}{2K_A} \quad (16.1)$$

where  $P_t$  is the protein concentration and  $n$  represents the number of binding sites within the same class of site. The bound plasma concentration ( $C_{P,b}$ ) is expressed as the difference between the total ( $C_P$ ) and unbound ( $C_{P,u}$ ) plasma concentrations.

If the binding between a drug and plasma protein involves two classes of sites, one with low affinity and the other with higher affinity, such a binding involving two noncooperative affinities may be formulated as [50]

$$\frac{C_{P,b}}{C_{P,u}} = \frac{n_1 K_{A1} P_t}{1 + K_{A1} C_{P,u}} + \frac{n_2 K_{A2} P_t}{1 + K_{A2} C_{P,u}} \quad (16.2)$$

where  $K_{A1}$  and  $K_{A2}$  are the binding constants for class I and class II and  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are the corresponding number of noncompetitive binding sites on the protein molecule. At low drug concentration, protein binding is not saturated and only the high affinity site is involved in the binding. When excess drug is present, the low affinity sites will be further recruited for binding. In such a case, the unbound fraction  $C_{P,u}$  is a function of the binding to both the high and low affinity binding sites.

**16.3.2.2 Tissue Partition Coefficient.** The tissue partition coefficients are important drug-specific input parameters in PBPK modeling. The tissue–plasma (or plasma water) partition coefficient,  $K_{P,T}$  (or  $K_{P,Tu}$ ), is defined as the tissue ( $C_T$ ) to the tissue plasma ( $C_{T,P}$ ) (or plasma water ( $C_{T,Pu}$ ) concentration ratio of the drug. Since the drug concentration in tissue plasma, total or unbound ( $C_{T,P}$  or  $C_{T,Pu}$ ), equals that leaving the tissue ( $C_{T,P,out}$  or  $C_{T,Pu,out}$ ), the following relations hold at steady state [9,51,52]:

$$K_{P,T} = \frac{C_{T,ss}}{C_{P,ss}} \text{ or } K_{P,Tu} = \frac{C_{T,ss}}{C_{Pu,ss}} \quad (16.3)$$

One may also express this ratio relative to the blood concentration.

The partition coefficient, when multiplied to the volume of the tissue, determines the effective volume of distribution of drug in the tissue ( $V_{T,app}$ ). The sum of all the tissue volumes eventually provides the  $V_{ss}$ , or the steady-state volume of distribution, a commonly used parameter to denote the extent of drug distribution, as a plasma or blood equivalent volume [53].

There are several *in vitro* methods to determine  $K_{P,T}$  within tissues, some of which are quite time consuming [54–56]. In addition, *in vivo* approaches exist for estimating

$K_{p,T}$  from blood and tissue after constant rate infusion or injection to animals [57–59]. These experimentally determined constants would underestimate the true  $K_{p,T}$  (ratio of influx/efflux rate constants or influx/efflux intrinsic clearances) when elimination exists within the organ or tissue, since the denominator of Equation 16.3 is artificially increased due to the presence of the elimination rate constant or elimination intrinsic clearance [60].

Recent approaches have been developed for the prediction of  $K_{p,T}$  [58,61,62]. These approaches require some understanding of the physiochemical properties of the drug as well as distribution mechanisms or binding to tissue neutral lipids, phospholipids, and intracellular water. However, most of the models are suitable for small neutral molecules only and will result in significant inaccuracies when applied to compounds that are extensively ionized at physiological pH. To solve this problem, Rodgers and Rowland [63] incorporated drug ionization in both intra- and extracellular water into the approaches developed by Poulin *et al.* [62]. Under physiological condition, basic drugs ( $pK_a \geq 7$ ) such as  $\beta$ -blockers are sufficiently ionized; their electrostatic interaction with acidic phospholipids predominates and accounts for the tissue binding (Eq. 16.4) [63,64]. For acids, very weak bases, neutrals, and zwitterions, their binding to extracellular proteins contributes to the binding and the electrostatic force towards acidic phospholipids is minimal (Eq. 16.5) [63,65].

For basic compounds,  $K_{pu}$  is

$$K_{pu} = \left[ \left( \frac{1 + X \cdot f_{IW}}{1 + Y} \right) + f_{EW} + \left( \frac{K_{A,AP}[AP]_T \cdot X}{1 + Y} \right) + \left( \frac{P \cdot f_{NL} + (0.3P + 0.7)f_{NP}}{1 + Y} \right) \right] \quad (16.4)$$

For acids, very weak bases, neutrals, and zwitterions,  $K_{pu}$  is

$$K_{pu} = \left[ \left( \frac{1 + X \cdot f_{IW}}{1 + Y} \right) + f_{EW} + (K_{A,PR}[PR]_T) + \left( \frac{P \cdot f_{NL} + (0.3P + 0.7)f_{NP}}{1 + Y} \right) \right] \quad (16.5)$$

where  $P$  is the octanol:water partition coefficient or concentration ratio of the unionized compound in all tissues except the adipose tissue, whose partition coefficient is assessed as the vegetable or olive oil:water partition coefficient or concentration ratio;  $f$  is the fractional tissue volume; subscripts IW and EW represent the intracellular and extracellular tissue water, respectively; NP and NL denote the neutral phospholipids and neutral lipids, respectively;  $[AP]_T$  is the tissue concentration of acidic phospholipids; and  $[PR]_T$  is concentration of extracellular albumin (for acid and weak base) or lipoprotein (for neutral compounds). The terms,  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$ , are terms that account for the extents of drug ionization as defined in Table 16.2.

$K_{A,AP}$  in Equation 16.4 is the binding association constant for the interaction between basic drugs to acidic phospholipids, and  $K_{A,PR}$  in Equation 16.5 is the binding association constant for the interaction between acidic or neutral compounds, weak bases, or zwitterions and extracellular albumin/lipoprotein. For weak bases, the binding association constant in red blood cells (RBCs),  $K_{A,RBC}$ , may be estimated using

**TABLE 16.2** Definition of the Terms *X*, *Y*, and *Z* in Equations 16.4–16.8

	<i>X</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Z</i>
Monoprotic base	$10^{pK_a - pH_{IW}}$	$10^{pK_a - pH_p}$	$10^{pK_a - pH_{BC}}$
Diprotic base <sup>a</sup>	$10^{pK_{a2} - pH_{IW}} + 10^{pK_{a1} + pK_{a2} - 2pH_{IW}}$	$10^{pK_{a2} - pH_p} + 10^{pK_{a1} + pK_{a2} - 2pH_p}$	$10^{pK_{a2} - pH_{BC}} + 10^{pK_{a1} + pK_{a2} - 2pH_{BC}}$
Monoprotic acid	$10^{pH_{IW} - pK_a}$	$10^{pH_p - pK_a}$	NA
Diprotic acid <sup>a</sup>	$10^{pH_{IW} - pK_{a1}} + 10^{2pH_{IW} - pK_{a1} - pK_{a2}}$	$10^{pH_p - pK_{a1}} + 10^{2pH_p - pK_{a1} - pK_{a2}}$	NA
Zwitterion	$10^{pK_{a,BASE} - pH_{IW}} + 10^{pH_{IW} - pK_{a,ACID}}$	$10^{pK_{a,BASE} - pH_p} + 10^{pH_p - pK_{a,ACID}}$	$10^{pK_{a,BASE} - pH_{BC}} + 10^{pH_{BC} - pK_{a,ACID}}$
Neutral	0	0	NA

<sup>a</sup>In these expressions  $pK_{a1} < pK_{a2}$ ;  $pH_p$  is the  $pH$  of plasma  
*Abbreviation:* NA, not available.

Equation 16.6 with the known unbound fractions ( $f_{IW,RBC}$ ,  $f_{NL,RBC}$ , and  $f_{NP,RBC}$ ), the  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$  terms from Table 16.2, and  $K_{Pu,RBC}$  from Equation 16.7; the  $K_{A,RBC}$  so estimated is assumed to equal  $K_{A,AP}$ , which, in turn, may be applied to estimate  $K_{pu}$  in Equation 16.4:

$$K_{A,RBC} = \left[ K_{Pu,RBC} - \left( \frac{1+Z}{1+Y} f_{IW,RBC} \right) - \left( \frac{P \cdot f_{NL,RBC} + (0.3P + 0.7) f_{NP,RBC}}{1+Y} \right) \right] \left( \frac{1+Y}{Z[AP]_{RBC}} \right) \quad (16.6)$$

$$K_{Pu,RBC} = \frac{\text{Hct} - 1 + \left( \frac{C_B}{C_P} \right)}{f_P \text{Hct}} \quad (16.7)$$

Specifically,  $K_{Pu,RBC}$  is the ratio of drug concentration in RBCs to that unbound in plasma and represents the binding association constant of drug molecules to RBCs.  $C_B/C_P$  is the blood:plasma concentration ratio and Hct is the hematocrit;  $f_P$  is the fraction of drug unbound in plasma; and subscripts RBC and P denote the red blood cells and plasma, respectively.

For acidic, neutral, and weakly basic compounds or zwitterions, the binding association constant  $K_{A,PR}$  is given by the following equation:

$$K_{A,PR} = \left[ \frac{1}{f_P} - 1 - \left( \frac{P f_{NL,P} + (0.3P + 0.7) f_{NP,P}}{1+Y} \right) \right] \left( \frac{1}{[PR]_P} \right) \quad (16.8)$$

After obtaining the  $K_{Pu}$  values, the  $V_{ss}$  is calculated as

$$V_{ss} = V_P + f_P \sum V_{T,i} K_{Pu,T,i} \quad (16.9)$$

where  $V_P$  is the volume of plasma and  $V_{T,i}$  is the volume of the  $i$ th tissue/organ; the term  $V_{T,i} K_{Pu,T,i}$  is  $V_{T,app}$  or the apparent volume of the tissue compartment for the  $i$ th tissue/organ [63]. Equation 16.9 is a general approach to estimate the steady-state volume of distribution,  $V_{ss}$ .

However, PBPK models are very complex and the number of organ/tissue compartments can exceed 15 or more [19,66]. A strategy for simplification is to lump the compartments and reduce the complexity of the PBPK model without losing the predictive power. The underlying strategies are as follows: (i) tissues with same model specification for flow or partition (e.g., both are highly/poorly perfused or of similar  $K_p$ ) and of same position in the system structure can be lumped together; (ii) serial tissues that equilibrate with one another rapidly should be lumped; and (iii) parallel tissues that have similar rate constants may be lumped [19]. It was suggested that the preliminary estimation of  $V_{ss}$  can be based solely on  $K_{P,muscle}$  and  $K_{P,fat}$  [59,61,63] since drug distribution into muscle and fat accounts for approximately 65–84% of the total  $V_{ss}$ ; the  $K_{P,muscle}$  may be used for all lean tissues except for the lungs which are represented by the  $K_{P,fat}$  [59]. This new idea provides a time-efficient prediction of  $K_{P,T}$  for lumped compartments in developing the PBPK models.

### 16.3.3 Biochemical Data on Enzymes and Transporters

The basic tissue compartment usually represents an individual organ or a group of “lumped” organs/tissues with similar flow parameter or partition characteristics. After giving consideration to the above general concepts, there is the need to consider transporters and enzymes (see Chapters 5–7) as important biochemical parameters in building a PBPK model. Rate equations may then be used to describe the transport and enzymatic processes. For the description of rate processes, the simplest Michaelis–Menten equation is often used, wherein the rate,  $v$ , is expressed in terms of the intrinsic clearance for transport, metabolism, and/or secretion ( $CL_{in}$ ,  $CL_{ef}$ ,  $CL_{int,met}$ , or  $CL_{int,sec}$ ):

$$v = \frac{V_{max}}{K_m + [S]} [S] = CL_{int}[S] \quad (16.10)$$

The intrinsic clearance for a particular process is the maximum velocity,  $V_{max}$ , divided by the sum of the Michaelis–Menten constant,  $K_m$ , and the unbound substrate concentration,  $[S]$  or  $V_{max}/(K_m + [S])$ . For this reason, the binding of the drug to microsomes/cytosol must be examined to better define  $[S]$  [67–69]. The  $V_{max}$  and  $K_m$  values are usually obtained from *in vitro* studies, commonly estimated from the rate plot ( $v$  vs  $[S]$ ), the Lineweaver–Burk, Eadie–Hofstee, or Hanes–Wolf plot. Usually, the assumption is that elimination is first order, and  $CL_{int}$  is the ratio of  $V_{max}/K_m$ . The *in vitro* intrinsic metabolic clearance under linear conditions is given by [70]

$$CL_{int,met,in\ vitro} = \frac{V_{max}}{K_m} \quad (16.11)$$

Metabolic or enzyme functions, estimated from human liver microsomal and cytosolic incubations, supersomes or recombinant expression systems, and the appropriate scaling factors, are converted to per gram liver when the hepatocellularity (cells per gram liver), microsomal protein (mg/g liver), and the overall expression of the cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzyme (pmol/g liver) are involved in converting the *in vitro* data to provide the  $CL_{int,met}$  in human liver *in vivo* [43,71–73]. Preference of recombinant systems over human liver microsomes (HLMs) has been expressed, offering improved assay sensitivity compared with HLM for  $CL_{int,met}$  determination [74].

The transporter-mediated processes and passive diffusion into and out of the tissue compartment must be summed to yield the influx ( $CL_{in}$ ) and efflux ( $CL_{ef}$ ) clearances, respectively. Normally, transporter function may be estimated in cell expression systems, combined with human transporter uptake studies. The influx transport intrinsic clearance ( $CL_{in}$ ) is usually estimated from *in vitro* hepatic uptake studies. However, quantitative data on how much protein of each of the transporters is expressed within different tissue region is lacking to accurately define the relative proportions or abundancy of sinusoidal transporters for uptake and apical transporters for excretion. Moreover, the localization of the transporter, whether within the cytosol or nucleus or on the membrane surface would greatly affect the transport rate. In order to gain this insight, use of proteomics, with LC-MS/MS technologies to provide the absolute quantification of transporters, must be completed to provide the relative proportions of transporters in the liver, kidney, and blood–brain barrier [75,76]. In absence of these data, hepatocyte uptake information for extrapolation of *in vitro* parameters to *in vivo*,

cell number per unit tissue weight and tissue weight per unit body weight, in addition to the physiological scaling factors, have been used [39,77–79]. At a qualitative level, *in vitro* uptake and biliary excretion data using the rat and human sandwich-cultured hepatocyte systems may be used to assess whether there is species similarity and correlation to the *in vivo* plasma and biliary clearances [80] or DDI in transport; care must be included to describe differences in transporter expression in the system as well as real species differences. Indeed, *in vitro* data have identified marked species differences for the MRPs (multidrug resistance-associated proteins) and BCRP (breast cancer resistance protein) in rat and human hepatocytes; these significant species differences in efflux transporter activities could be integrated into animal data for the prediction of human transport [81]. When there is no significant interspecies difference between rat and man, the scaling factor determined in rats has been used to extrapolate human *in vitro* parameters to those *in vivo*. The transporter-mediated transport clearance should then be considered, in addition to the passive clearance, for the prediction of *in vivo* intrinsic influx and efflux clearances.

## 16.4 TYPES OF MODELS

Two tissue type models are considered: the membrane-limited model and blood flow-limited model (Fig. 16.2a and b). These PBPK models are also extended to describe the sequential metabolism or the excretion of formed metabolites (Fig. 16.2c). In any one PBPK model, a mixture of these may be used. The membrane-limited subcompartment is used for poorly permeable tissues, whereas for other tissue sites that rapidly equilibrate with blood, the flow-limited compartment may be used.

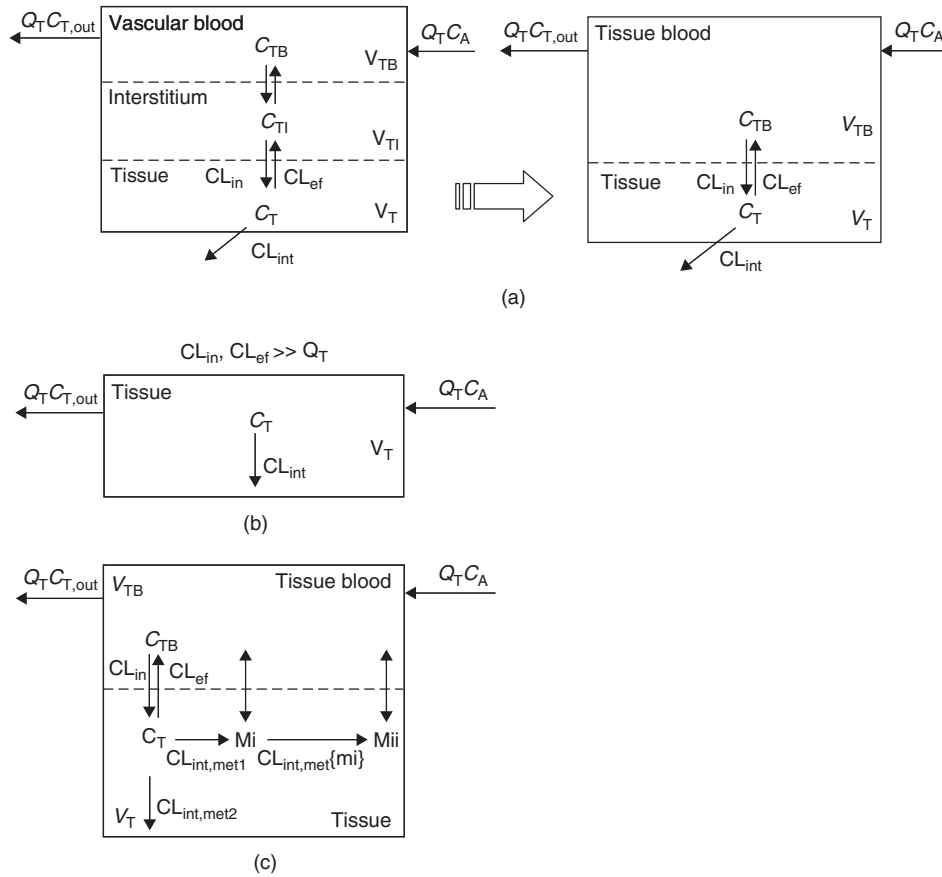
### 16.4.1 Membrane-Limited Model

Each tissue compartment basically consists of three well-mixed subcompartments: a vascular space that houses the blood that is perfusing the tissue, an interstitial space, and a cellular space (Fig. 16.2a). The drug enters with the afferent tissue blood flow ( $Q_T$ ) with arterial concentration ( $C_A$ ) into the vascular subcompartment, where there is instantaneous equilibrium with drug in the interstitium ( $C_{TI}$ ). For all intents and purposes, the interstitial space may be combined with the vascular space to yield the extracellular compartment representing the tissue blood subcompartment of concentration,  $C_{TB}$ . With venous equilibration,  $C_{TB}$  equals the efferent blood concentration ( $C_{T,out}$ ). The rate equations and the clearance terms used to describe the transport and enzymatic processes are the intrinsic clearances ( $CL_{in}$  and  $CL_{ef}$ ) for influx and efflux at the basolateral membrane, respectively, and  $CL_{int,sec}$  and  $CL_{int,met}$  for excretion at the apical membrane and metabolism within the tissue.

Within the tissue compartment, the drug may become bound to tissue proteins, metabolized by enzymes with metabolic intrinsic clearance,  $CL_{int,met}$ , or is effluxed out of the cell by transporters and/or passive diffusion ( $CL_{ef}$ ), or excreted at the apical membrane ( $CL_{int,sec}$ ). The rate equations for the tissue blood (TB) and tissue (T) compartments are

$$V_{TB} \frac{dC_{TB}}{dt} = Q_T C_A - Q_T C_{T,out} + f_T C_T CL_{ef} - f_B C_{TB} CL_{in} \quad (16.12)$$

$$V_T \frac{dC_T}{dt} = f_B C_{TB} CL_{in} - f_T C_T (CL_{ef} + CL_{int}) \quad (16.13)$$



**Figure 16.2** Typical PBPK components within an organ. There are two types of tissue models: (a) membrane limited; (b) blood flow limited; and (c) sequential metabolism of the formed primary metabolite (Mi) from parent drug (P) to the secondary metabolite (Mii) may occur within the organ of formation.

where  $f_B$  and  $f_T$  are the unbound fractions in blood and tissue, respectively, and  $CL_{int}$  is the total intrinsic clearance (sum of  $CL_{int,met}$  and  $CL_{int,sec}$ ).

### 16.4.2 Flow-Limited Model

The above relations are simplified with the assumption that the transfer across the membrane is rapid compared to the perfusion rate of the tissue ( $CL_{in}$  and  $CL_{ef} \gg Q_T$ ). This means that the vascular, interstitial, and cellular subcompartments are in rapid equilibrium. As a result, these three subcompartments are combined to form one tissue compartment (Fig. 16.2b). The tissue to blood/plasma concentration ratio ( $K_{P,T}$  or  $C_T/C_{T,out}$ ) is used in this simplification. The mass balance equation can be written as

$$V_T \frac{dC_T}{dt} = Q_T C_A - Q_T C_{T,out} - f_T C_T CL_{int} = Q_T C_A - Q_T \frac{C_T}{K_{p,T}} - f_T C_T CL_{int} \quad (16.14)$$

where  $C_T/K_{P,T}$  replaces  $C_{T,out}$ .

### 16.4.3 Model for Sequential Metabolism

The membrane-limited and flow-limited PBPK models are readily extended to describe the formation and sequential handling of the metabolite [82]. The PBPK model serves to describe sequential metabolism very well [15,82], especially when the nascently formed metabolite is immediately metabolized or excreted [83–85]. The rate equations for the tissue blood (TB) and tissue (T) compartments are expressed in Equations 16.15 and 16.16. Note that the set of parameters pertaining to the metabolite are qualified by {mi} for the concentrations, the binding constants, and the transport intrinsic clearances:

$$V_{TB} \frac{dC_{TB}\{mi\}}{dt} = Q_T C_A\{mi\} - Q_T C_{T,out}\{mi\} + f_T\{mi\} C_T\{mi\} CL_{ef}\{mi\} - f_B\{mi\} C_{TB}\{mi\} CL_{in}\{mi\} \quad (16.15)$$

Within the metabolite formation organ, the metabolite is immediately removed by intrinsic clearance,  $CL_{int,met}\{mi\}$ , and PBPK modeling considers the sequential handling of the formed metabolite [2]:

$$V_T \frac{dC_T\{mi\}}{dt} = f_T C_T CL_{int,met} + f_B\{mi\} C_{TB}\{mi\} CL_{in}\{mi\} - f_T C_T\{mi\} (CL_{ef}\{mi\} + CL_{int,met}\{mi\}) \quad (16.16)$$

PBPK metabolite modeling allows one to compare the kinetics between the formed versus preformed metabolite and brings a new perspective to differences in the kinetics of formed versus preformed metabolite. This is an interesting aspect for safety considerations of metabolites, if the information on the kinetics of the formed metabolite is predicted/gained on administration of a preformed metabolite, as in metabolite-in-safety testing (MIST) [15,86]. Use of the PBPK model will provide more accurate predictions on the kinetics of sequential metabolism for the investigation of risk assessment and toxicity associated with drug metabolite. However, there is a divergence for metabolite handling when metabolites display poor permeability across biological membranes [83,87,88]. The membrane barrier bars the metabolite from entering or leaving the tissue, thereby rendering differences in fates of the formed versus preformed metabolite kinetics.

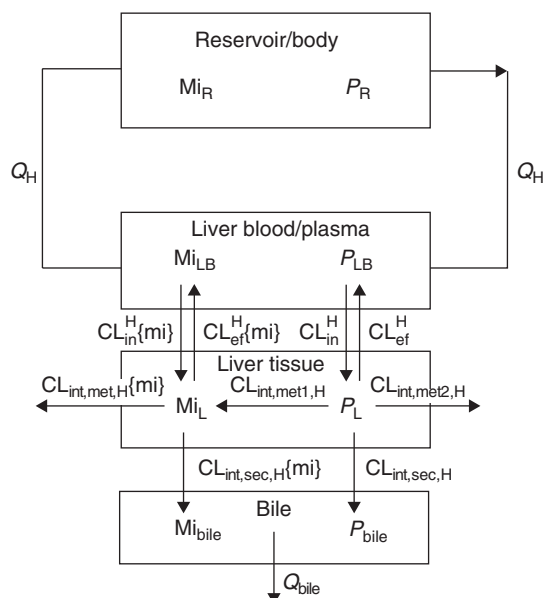
## 16.5 PBPK MODELS OF ORGANS

The development of PBPK models, especially on simple organs for drugs and metabolites, has provided solutions for the AUCs and clearances for a drug and its formed metabolite. Rate equations are written for each subcompartment, providing the essential coefficients for matrix inversion and solutions which yield the steady-state concentrations/AUCs of the drug and of the metabolite ( $AUC\{mi, P\}$ ) [15]. The method of matrix inversion, appropriate only under linear kinetic conditions, has been applied to examine whether  $AUC\{mi, P\}$  is suitable for estimation of the systemic bioavailability [18].

### 16.5.1 The Liver

A liver PBPK model that describes membrane-limited transport, with either fast or slow transmembrane transport clearances for summed diffusion-limited and transporter-mediated transport cases, denoted as  $CL_{in}$  and  $CL_{ef}$ , has been developed [89,90]. The model comprises of four compartments: the reservoir (R, or blood compartment), liver blood (LB), liver tissue (L), and bile compartment (bile) (Fig. 16.3) [15]. The hepatic flow rate and unbound fraction in blood and liver are denoted by  $Q_H$ ,  $f_B$ , and  $f_L$ , respectively. The transport processes underlying carrier-mediation and passive diffusion are denoted by the influx and efflux intrinsic clearances ( $CL_{in}^H$  and  $CL_{ef}^H$ ) representing the summed activities of basolateral transporters and passive diffusion (Fig. 16.3). In addition, biliary secretion at the apical membrane and metabolism within hepatocytes are denoted by the biliary intrinsic clearance ( $CL_{int,sec,H}$ ) and metabolic intrinsic clearance ( $CL_{int,met,H}$ ) of phase I and phase II enzymes, respectively (Fig. 16.3). The model also serves to describe hepatic sequential metabolism [2,15,82,84], in which the metabolite formed within the liver tissue is prone to sequential metabolism immediately to form other metabolites ( $CL_{int,met,H}\{mi\}$ ) or is immediately excreted ( $CL_{int,sec,H}\{mi\}$ ).

An advantage of PBPK model is that solutions relating to blood flow, protein binding, and activities of the transporters and enzymes for the elimination of the drug and metabolite may be derived by matrix inversion from the rate equations for the drug and metabolite [15,18,91]. Pang *et al.* [15] had summarized the AUC from time 0 to  $\infty$  for the drug and the metabolite for the liver PBPK model. As shown in Table 16.3, the AUC of the drug is a complex equation that relates to the flow rate ( $Q_H$ ),  $f_B$ ,  $CL_{in}^H$ , and  $CL_{ef}^H$ , and the total hepatic intrinsic clearance ( $CL_{int,H}$ ). In the case of a drug of



**Figure 16.3** Physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) liver model, with liver as the only elimination organ. See text for description of the model.

flow-limited distribution (i.e., when  $CL_{in}^H \cong CL_{ef}^H > Q_H$ ), these equations are simplified (Table 16.3). The ratio of hepatic metabolic and biliary clearances,  $CL_{H,met}/CL_{H,sec}$  equals the ratio of the intrinsic clearances,  $CL_{int,met,H}/CL_{int,sec,H}$ . From this relation, the unknown parameter,  $CL_{int,sec}$  may be obtained with the data from liver perfusion studies or *in vivo* studies [92] when  $CL_{int,met}$  is obtained from *in vitro* metabolism studies using 9000g supernatant fractions or liver microsomes. These equations shown in Table 16.3 are useful to allow inferences on mechanisms of DDIs in the liver to be made.

The AUC for the formed metabolite,  $AUC_{iv}\{mi,P\}$ , after iv dosing of the precursor drug is dependent on the formation (metabolic) intrinsic clearance from the drug,  $CL_{int,met1,H}$ , and individual components of the  $CL_{int,H}$  (or  $CL_{int,met1,H} + CL_{int,met2,H} + CL_{int,sec,H}$ ), as well as binding, transport clearances ( $CL_{in}^H\{mi\}$  and  $CL_{ef}^H\{mi\}$ ), and intrinsic clearance,  $CL_{int,H}\{mi\}$ , of the metabolite [sum of ( $CL_{int,met,H}\{mi\}$ ) and ( $CL_{int,sec,H}\{mi\}$ )]. In contrast, the AUC obtained from administration of its preformed counterpart that yielded  $AUC_{po}\{pmi\}$  and  $AUC_{iv}\{pmi\}$  is independent of drug parameters [15,86]. Indeed, solutions for the formed metabolite after oral and intravenous drug dosing ( $AUC_{po}\{mi,P\}$  and  $AUC_{iv}\{mi,P\}$ ) have revealed interesting differences from  $AUC_{po}\{pmi\}$  and  $AUC_{iv}\{pmi\}$  that result from the administration of the preformed counterpart [15,86].

Other aspects that contribute to differences between  $AUC_{po}\{mi,P\}$  and  $AUC_{iv}\{mi,P\}$  after drug dosing and  $AUC_{po}\{pmi\}$  and  $AUC_{iv}\{pmi\}$  after preformed metabolite dosing have been attributed to the heterogeneity of transporters and metabolic enzymes. As an improvement, zonal PBPK liver models consisting of three zonal regions: zones 1 (periportal zones), 2 (midzonal zones), and 3 (perivenous zones) or models similar to compartments in series have been developed [92–95]. Another factor is the presence of a basolateral membrane barrier for the metabolite, retarding entry or efflux of preformed metabolite into and out of cells but trapping the formed metabolite within the tissue [83,87,88,96]. Many successful examples of zonal PBPK modeling include enalapril [89,94], morphine [97], estrone sulfate [98], estradiol–17 $\beta$ -glucuronide [99], and digoxin [95], which were all investigated within rat liver perfusion studies. Furthermore, the role of the efflux transporter, Mrp2, which is responsible for excretion of both the parent drug, estradiol–17 $\beta$ -glucuronide and its 3-sulfate–17 $\beta$ -glucuronide metabolite on net desulfation, was elucidated comprehensively within the framework of a liver PBPK model [99,100].

Digoxin, a cardiotonic agent, is an example of a poorly cleared compound whose uptake into hepatocytes is rapid due to passive diffusion and the transporter, Oatp1a4, and whose clearance may be rate-limited by binding to RBCs and albumin [95]. Moreover, for poorly cleared substrates, heterogeneity in the metabolic activities among zones fails to affect the overall clearance when the drug concentration gradient within the sinusoid is shallow [92]. Drugs that are highly extracted exhibit a steep concentration gradient in the sinusoid, and, under this instance, removal rates are greatly modulated by enzyme/transporter heterogeneity. Sequential metabolism in liver could be affected by the zonal localization of metabolic enzymes. For example, different metabolites were observed for salicylamide versus gentisamide, hydroxylated metabolite of salicylamide, administration: due to the close proximity of hydroxylation and glucuronidation enzymes in the sequential metabolism of salicylamide, gentisamide glucuronidation predominates over sulfation; in contrast, gentisamide sulfate conjugates are more abundant when gentisamide is administered [85,101,102].

**TABLE 16.3** Equations on the Area Under the Curve (AUC) and Total Hepatic Clearance ( $CL_{H, \text{tot}}$ )

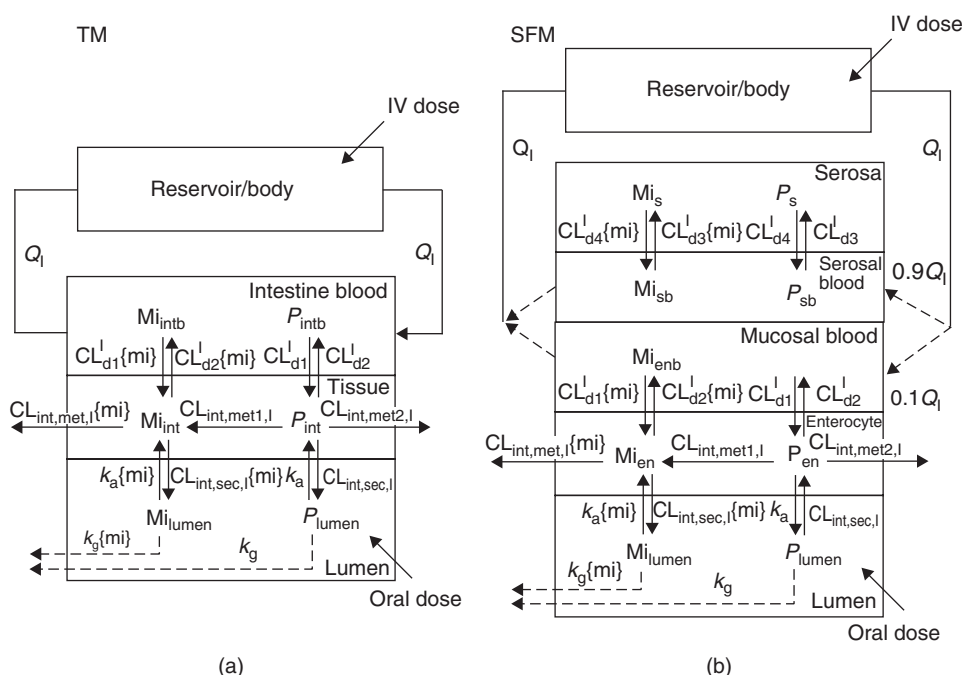
Parameters	Membrane-Limited Case	Flow-Limited Case
$AUC_{iv}$	$\frac{\text{Dose}_{iv} [Q_H (CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H}) + f_B CL_{in}^H CL_{int,H}]}{f_B CL_{in}^H Q_H CL_{int,H}}$	$\frac{\text{Dose}_{iv} [(Q_H + f_B CL_{int,H})]}{Q_H f_B CL_{int,H}}$
$AUC_{iv} \{mi,P\}$	$\frac{\text{Dose}_{iv} CL_{int,met1,H} CL_{ef}^H(mi)}{(CL_{int,met1,H} + CL_{int,met2,H} + CL_{int,sec,H}) f_B(mi) CL_{in}^H(mi) CL_{int,H}(mi)}$	$\frac{\text{Dose}_{iv} CL_{int,met1,H}}{(CL_{int,met1,H} + CL_{int,met2,H} + CL_{int,sec,H}) f_B(mi) CL_{int,H}(mi)}$
$CL_{H, \text{tot}}$ (total hepatic clearance)	$Q_H \frac{f_B CL_{int,H} CL_{in}^H}{Q_H CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H} (Q_H + f_B CL_{in}^H)}$	$\frac{Q_H f_B CL_{int,H}}{[(Q_H + f_B CL_{int,H})]}$
$CL_{H, \text{met1}}$ (formation clearance of Mi)	$Q_H \frac{f_B CL_{int,met1,H} CL_{in}^H}{Q_H CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H} (Q_H + f_B CL_{in}^H)}$	$\frac{Q_H f_B CL_{int,met1,H}}{[(Q_H + f_B CL_{int,H})]}$
$CL_{H, \text{met2}}$ (metabolic clearance for formation of other metabolites)	$Q_H \frac{f_B CL_{int,met2,H} CL_{in}^H}{Q_H CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H} (Q_H + f_B CL_{in}^H)}$	$\frac{Q_H f_B CL_{int,met2,H}}{[(Q_H + f_B CL_{int,H})]}$
$CL_{H, \text{ex}}$ (biliary clearance of drug)	$Q_H \frac{f_B CL_{int,sec,H} CL_{in}^H}{Q_H CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H} (Q_H + f_B CL_{in}^H)}$	$\frac{Q_H f_B CL_{int,sec,H}}{[(Q_H + f_B CL_{int,H})]}$

Source: From Sun and Pang [18] with permission.

### 16.5.2 The Small Intestine: Traditional Model (TM) and Segregated Flow Model (SFM)

Drugs administered orally are first absorbed, either passively or via active/facilitated transport, across the intestinal luminal membrane to reach the systemic circulation. The various intestinal transport proteins present on the apical membrane are known to participate in the uptake of drugs. Efflux by adenosine triphosphate (ATP)-binding cassette transporters delimits drug absorption in the intestine, whereas absorptive transporters mediate drug absorption [103–105]. Additionally, the intestine possesses the conjugating enzymes, UDP-glucuronosyl transferases) and GST (glutathione S-transferases) [106,107], and CYP3A, accounting for ~80% of the total immunoquantified CYPs [108–112] that play important roles in reducing oral bioavailability. Processes of intestinal absorption, metabolism, and secretion must be considered simultaneously in viewing oral drug bioavailability, and PBPK models have been developed to describe these processes [14,104,113,114].

A traditional, physiologically based model (traditional model, TM), which regards the intestine as a single homogeneous compartment with all of the intestinal blood flow perfusing the tissue, has been developed to account for oral drug bioavailability (Fig. 16.4a) [13]. This model encompasses all the variables of transport, metabolism, efflux, gastrointestinal transit, and absorption. In this model, the intestine is composed of three subcompartments: intestinal blood, tissue, and lumen. The blood or reservoir (R or blood compartment) of volume  $V_R$  and intestine compartments are interconnected



**Figure 16.4** Physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) intestine models: (a) the traditional model or TM and (b) the segregated flow model or SFM, with the intestine as the only elimination tissue. For the SFM, the intestine tissue is divided into the enterocyte (en) region and the serosal (s) region. See text for description of flows, volumes, and assumptions.

by the intestinal or portal venous blood flow,  $Q_I$  or  $Q_{PV}$ , and  $V_{intb}$ ,  $V_{int}$ , and  $V_{lumen}$  represent volumes of the various intestinal subcompartments, intestinal blood, the intestine, and the lumen, respectively. The drug is delivered under constant blood flow ( $Q_I$ ) into the intestinal blood via the superior mesenteric artery and exits the intestine into the portal vein. The influx of the drug into the intestinal tissue from the blood is characterized by the transport clearance parameter,  $CL_{d1}^I$ . Once the drug traverses the basolateral membrane to enter the tissue, it undergoes biotransformation to form metabolites (denoted by the intestinal metabolic clearance,  $CL_{int,met1,I}$  and  $CL_{int,met2,I}$ ) or excretion (denoted by intrinsic secretion clearance  $CL_{int,sec,I}$ ) or may be effluxed back to the circulation (denoted by transport clearance  $CL_{d2}^I$ ). The absorption rate constant of drug and metabolite from the intestinal lumen is denoted by  $k_a$  or  $k_a\{mi\}$ , and their transit or degradation/metabolism rate constants within the lumen, representing net loss in lumen, are denoted by  $k_g$  or  $k_g\{mi\}$ , to denote an ineffective absorption.

Owing to failure of the TM to predict route-dependent intestinal metabolism, namely little or no metabolism occurring after systemic dosing but notable metabolism following oral dosing, the segregated flow model (SFM) has been subsequently developed (Fig. 16.4b). The development was sparked by observations on morphine (M) glucuronidation to the 3-glucuronide (M3G) in the perfused rat intestine preparation: the lack of [ $^3H$ ]M3G formed after systemic [ $^3H$ ]M administration and the abundance of [ $^3H$ ]M3G (13% dose) formed after [ $^3H$ ]M administered intraduodenally support the hypothesis of route-dependent metabolism [13]. According to the SFM, a reduced blood flow rate perfuses the enterocyte layer, reducing the rate of drug delivery to intestinal enzymes or secretory sites and rendering lower values of intestinal clearance [14]. However, during oral absorption, the entire orally administered dose must traverse the enterocyte layer before the substrate enters the circulation. The differential exposure with the route of administration results in different extents of exsorption and metabolism and contributes to the observation of route-dependent metabolism. The SFM is consistent with intestinal blood patterns of about 60–70% of the intestinal flow [115] perfusing the nonabsorptive and nonmetabolizing serosal and submucosal regions, and only a low, partial flow (~18% [116], 5–7% [117,118], or 10–30% [119,120]) of the intestinal blood perfuses the absorptive and metabolizing enterocyte region where the metabolic enzymes and the transporters are located [14]. The SFM further provides a view that was adopted in commercially available programs such as Simcyp<sup>®</sup> [121]. As shown in Fig. 16.4b, the parent drug and metabolite are delivered under constant blood flow ( $0.9Q_I$ ) to the serosal tissue, which is characterized by the transport clearance parameter,  $CL_{d3}^I$  and  $CL_{d3}^I\{mi\}$ , respectively. The parent drug and metabolite can also be effluxed back into serosal blood ( $CL_{d4}^I$  or  $CL_{d4}^I\{mi\}$ ), respectively.

Utilizing these two models, Sun and Pang [18,122] solved the AUC terms for the parent drug and metabolite (Table 16.4). The solutions for  $AUC_{po}$ ,  $AUC_{po}\{mi\}$ , and  $AUC_{iv}\{mi\}$  are found to be identical for the TM and SFM, whereas for  $AUC_{iv}$ , the solution is similar except that  $Q_I$  exists in the solution for the TM and  $Q_{en}$  for the SFM. The secretory intestinal intrinsic clearance of the drug ( $CL_{int,sec,I}$ ) is found associated with the term  $(1 - F_{abs})$ , where  $F_{abs}$  is the fraction absorbed or  $k_a/(k_a + k_g)$ . When the absorbed fraction,  $F_{abs}$ , is high (~1) due to the high  $k_a$  relative to  $k_g$ , net secretion is effectively reduced to zero. Moreover,  $AUC_{po}$  and  $AUC_{iv}$  are found to be inversely related to the sum of  $(1 - F_{abs})CL_{int,sec,I}$  and  $CL_{int,met,I}$ , whereas  $AUC_{po}\{mi\}$  and  $AUC_{iv}\{mi\}$  are further related inversely to the sum of  $(1 - F_{abs}\{mi\})CL_{int,sec,I}\{mi\}$  and

**TABLE 16.4 Solutions for  $AUC_{iv}$ ,  $AUC_{po}$ ,  $AUC_{iv}\{mi\}$ , and  $AUC_{po}\{mi\}$  for the TM and SFM, with Intestine as the Only Eliminating Organ<sup>a</sup>**

AUC Terms	Solutions for the TM and SFM
$AUC_{po}^{TM\&SFM}$	$\frac{F_{abs}dose_{po}CL_{d2}^1}{CL_{d1}^1 [(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met1,I} + CL_{int,met2,I}]}$
$AUC_{po}\{mi,P\}^{TM\&SFM}$	$\frac{Dose_{po}F_{abs}CL_{int,met1,I}CL_{d2}^1\{mi\}}{[(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met1,I} + CL_{int,met2,I}] CL_{d1}^1\{mi\} [(1 - F_{abs}\{mi\}) CL_{int,sec,I}\{mi\} + CL_{int,met,I}\{mi\}]}$
$AUC_{iv}^{TM}$ or $AUC_{iv}^{SFMb}$	$\frac{Dose_{iv} [CL_{d1}^1 [(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met,I}] + Q_I [(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met,I} + CL_{d1}^1]]}{Q_I CL_{d1}^1 [(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met,I} + CL_{int,met2,I}]}$
$AUC_{iv}\{mi,P\}^{TM\&SFM}$	$\frac{Dose_{iv} CL_{int,met1,I} CL_{d2}^1\{mi\}}{[(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met1,I} + CL_{int,met2,I}] CL_{d1}^1\{mi\} [(1 - F_{abs}\{mi\}) CL_{int,sec,I}\{mi\} + CL_{int,met,I}\{mi\}]}$
$CL_{iv}^{TM}$ or $CL_{iv}^{SFMb}$	$\frac{Q_I CL_{d1}^1 [(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met,I} + CL_{int,met2,I}]}{CL_{d1}^1 [(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met,I}] + Q_I [(1 - F_{abs}) CL_{int,sec,I} + CL_{int,met,I} + CL_{d1}^1]}$

<sup>a</sup>For the SFM,  $Q_I$  is  $Q_{en}$ .

<sup>b</sup>The flow rate term is  $Q_{en}$  for the SFM.

Source: From Sun and Pang [18] with permission.

$CL_{int,met,I}\{mi\}$ . Owing to the effective modulation of absorption on  $CL_{int,sec,I}$  by  $F_{abs}$ , changes in  $CL_{int,met,I}$  would exert a greater effect on drug bioavailability compared to  $CL_{int,sec,I}$  [122]. The difference in flow between models imparts a substantial influence on the intestinal clearance of flow-limited substrates. The SFM predicts a markedly higher extent of intestinal metabolism for oral compared to intravenous dosing, and the TM predicts a higher intestinal metabolism compared to that for the SFM.

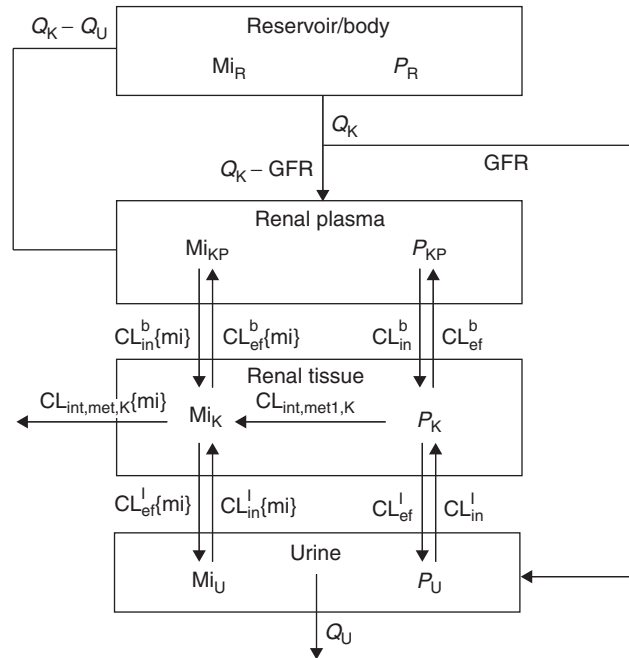
Owing to the varying segmental distributions of absorptive and secretory transporters and metabolic enzymes along the small intestine, the single intestinal compartments of the TM and SFM have been expanded into three equal segmental compartments, segmental, TM and the segmental, SFM [123]. These advanced PBPK models have been applied to predict the impact of metabolic and transporter activities in different segments of the intestine on the intestinal drug clearance and oral drug availability [123].

### 16.5.3 The Kidney

The kidney is one of the major excretory organs of drugs and metabolite and exhibits a significant capacity to metabolize drugs [12,124,125]. The isolated kidney perfusion is one technique that allows metabolic and excretory events to be examined simultaneously under controlled conditions and described by PBPK modeling. In the PBPK kidney model, the drug is delivered into renal tubular cells by the slightly reduced renal flow ( $Q_K - GFR$ ) due to removal of plasma water by glomerular filtration (of rate,  $GFR$ ), and, on the reabsorption of water, the returning flow to the reservoir ( $Q_K - Q_U$ ) is the difference between the renal blood/plasma flow and urinary flow,  $Q_U$  (Fig. 16.5). Drug influx and efflux clearances by transporters at the basolateral membrane are described as  $CL_{in}^b$  and  $CL_{ef}^b$ , respectively. The drug that is reabsorbed or secreted in the urine compartment by transporters at the apical or luminal membrane with influx and efflux clearances denoted by  $CL_{in}^l$  and  $CL_{ef}^l$ , respectively. The drug enters the renal cell either at the basolateral membrane with influx clearance,  $CL_{in}^b$ , or by reabsorption at the apical membrane (with reabsorptive clearance,  $CL_{in}^l$ ). In the renal tissue, the drug may undergo metabolism denoted by  $CL_{int,met,K}$  to form the primary metabolite,  $Mi$ , which may undergo transport at the basolateral and apical membranes or further metabolism, denoted by  $CL_{in}^b\{mi\}$ ,  $CL_{ef}^b\{mi\}$ ,  $CL_{in}^l\{mi\}$ ,  $CL_{ef}^l\{mi\}$ , and  $CL_{int,met,K}\{mi\}$ , respectively.

The kidney PBPK model has been utilized to explain levels of drugs that undergo glomerular filtration, saturable secretion, and/or reabsorption and effects of inhibitors such as probenecid at the basolateral membrane [126–130]. The change in drug reabsorption due to changes in pH was also applied in this model [128]. PBPK models are used to describe renal metabolite formation and immediate excretion and the existence of a nonconstant renal metabolite clearance denoting the kidney as a metabolite formation organ [12,84].

One advantage of using the PBPK kidney modeling approach is the ability to examine the effects of renal transporters and enzymes on renal clearance,  $CL_R$ , of a drug. Table 16.5 shows the AUC and  $CL_R$  for the kidney with possible alternate pathways for the drug and its metabolite. The basolateral ( $CL_{in}^b$  and  $CL_{ef}^b$ ) and luminal ( $CL_{in}^l$  and  $CL_{ef}^l$ ) transporters, the  $GFR$ ,  $Q_K$ , and  $Q_U$  all do influence the AUC and  $CL_R$  of the drug. The ratio of  $CL_R$  and  $f_P GFR$ , or fractional excretion (FE) or excretion ratio (ER), denotes whether reabsorption, net filtration, or secretion takes place by deviation of the ratio from below unity to unity or to above unity. When metabolism is relevant,



**Figure 16.5** Physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) kidney model, with kidney as the only elimination organ. See text for description of the model.

$CL_{int,met,K}$  is present in the AUC and  $CL_R$  solutions, and the solutions become more complicated (Table 16.5). Indeed, the presence of metabolism as the alternate pathway will affect excretory clearance and further change the FE or ER ratio [91].

Renal PBPK modeling approaches have exploited the concept of drug transport and metabolism to examine the kinetics of a drug and its metabolite(s) in the kidney. In a single-pass kidney perfusion study, the extraction ratio ( $E\{mi,P\} = 0.39$ ) of hippurate (metabolite formed from its precursor drug, benzoate) was found to differ from the extraction ratio when hippurate ( $E\{pmi\} = 0.24$ ) was administered [131]. The lower extraction ratio of the administered hippurate was explained by the renal PBPK model, which described a rapid hippurate formation within the renal cells and a high secretion activity of hippurate at the apical membrane; in contrast, the preformed hippurate would first undergo filtration before reaching the peritubular cells and partially evade the high secretory sites.

A renal PBPK model has been applied to examine the metabolism and excretion of enalapril, an ACE inhibitor. In both single-pass and recirculating isolated rat kidney perfusion, a higher extraction ratio of enalaprilat, the dicarboxylic acid metabolite, was observed when the precursor, enalapril, was administered compared to that when preformed enalaprilat was administered. The major reason is the presence of a membrane barrier that retards enalaprilat entry into the kidney and back efflux to blood [12,84,89,125,132]. As a result, preformed enalaprilat was mainly eliminated by GFR. For the metabolite enalaprilat that was formed within the kidney, a much higher and time-dependent renal clearance was observed. The time-dependent excretion clearance

**TABLE 16.5 Solutions for  $AUC_{iv}$  and  $CL_R$  with and without Renal Metabolism in the Kidney Only**

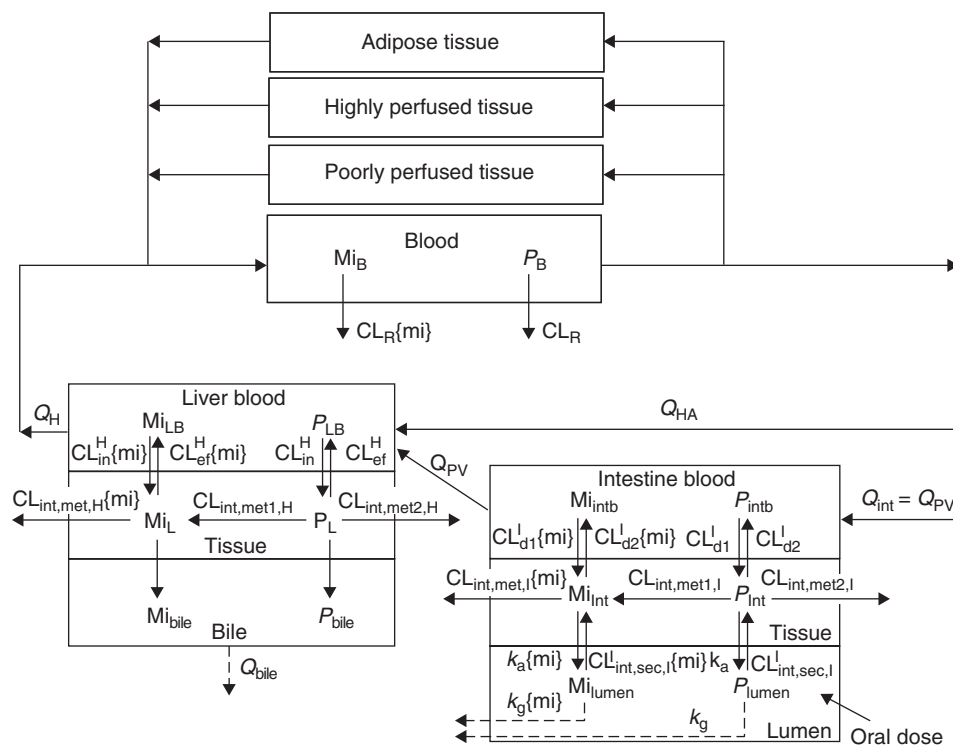
AUC and $CL_R$ Terms	Solutions
$AUC_{iv}$ (no metabolism)	$AUC_{iv} = Dose_{iv} \frac{\{(Q_K - Q_U) [CL_{in}^1 CL_{ef}^b + Q_U (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{ef}^1)] + Q_U f_B CL_{in}^b CL_{ef}^1\}}{Q_U f_B [Q_K CL_{in}^b CL_{ef}^1 + GFR (Q_K - Q_U) (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{ef}^1)]}$
$CL_R$ (no metabolism)	$CL_R = \frac{Q_U f_B [Q_K CL_{in}^b CL_{ef}^1 + GFR (Q_K - Q_U) (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{ef}^1)]}{(Q_K - Q_U) [CL_{in}^1 CL_{ef}^b + Q_U (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{ef}^1)] + Q_U f_B CL_{in}^b CL_{ef}^1}$
$AUC_{iv}$ (with metabolism)	$AUC_{iv} = \frac{Dose_{iv} \{ (Q_K - Q_U) [CL_{in}^1 (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{int,met,K}) + Q_U (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{ef}^1 + CL_{int,met,K})] + f_B CL_{in}^b [Q_U CL_{ef}^1 + CL_{int,met,K} (CL_{in}^1 + Q_U)] \}}{GFR f_B (Q_K - Q_U) [CL_{int,met,K} (CL_{in}^1 + Q_U) + Q_U (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{ef}^1)] + Q_K f_B CL_{in}^b [Q_U CL_{ef}^1 + CL_{int,met,K} (CL_{in}^1 + Q_U)]}$
$CL_R$ (with metabolism)	$CL_R = \frac{GFR f_B (Q_K - Q_U) [CL_{int,met,K} (CL_{in}^1 + Q_U) + Q_U (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{ef}^1)] + Q_K f_B CL_{in}^b [Q_U CL_{ef}^1 + CL_{int,met,K} (CL_{in}^1 + Q_U)]}{(Q_K - Q_U) [CL_{in}^1 (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{int,met,K}) + Q_U (CL_{ef}^b + CL_{ef}^1 + CL_{int,met,K})] + f_B CL_{in}^b [Q_U CL_{ef}^1 + CL_{int,met,K} (CL_{in}^1 + Q_U)]}$

*Source:* Taken from Pang [86] with permission.

of formed enalaprilat was partially due to the immediate excretion of the enalaprilat that was formed *in situ* in the kidney (the time-dependent component that is dependent on drug concentration in the kidney) and partially due to filtration of the recirculating metabolite (component reflected by preformed metabolite); the sum contributes to the observed renal clearance of the formed metabolite [12,84,125]. This clearance differs from the conventional estimate of the clearance of the preformed metabolite [12].

16.6 WHOLE-BODY PBPK

Whole-body PBPK models provide an understanding of the behaviors of drugs and metabolites based on physiological parameters. Usually, when the intestine, liver, and kidney, major drug eliminating organs/tissues, are included together with highly perfused, poorly perfused, and adipose tissues (Fig. 16.6), mechanisms governing removal and the rate-limiting step (e.g., metabolism by enzymes, influx by transporters, and secretion via apical transporters) are revealed. In this occasion, the renal clearance may be embedded in the blood compartment to describe the parallel loss of drug from



**Figure 16.6** Whole-body, physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model, with drug and metabolite being excreted by the kidneys with  $CL_R$  and  $CL_R\{mi\}$ , and metabolized either in the intestine or the liver. Sequential metabolism/excretion of the formed metabolite occurs with the organ of formation, and the drug may be further metabolized to other metabolites. Only the intestinal TM is presented here, but the SFM is also considered (Table 16.6). See text for description of the model.

the kidney. The PBPK models provide an account of how the processes of transport and metabolism modulate the kinetics of the drug and its metabolites, and how drug behavior further affects the kinetics of the metabolites (Table 16.6).

The analytical solutions for the AUC and  $AUC_{\{mi,P\}}$  solved for the drug and the formed metabolite divulge how the variables affect the exposure and fates of the drug and the formed metabolite within metabolite formation organs and in blood/plasma (Table 16.6). The solutions reveal that the effect of intestinal secretion is nullified when avid absorption takes place (Table 16.6). It may be further discerned that the ratio of  $AUC_{po\{mi,P\}}/AUC_{iv\{mi,P\}}$  pursuant to drug oral and intravenous administration, corrected for dose, yields the fraction of dose absorbed,  $F_{abs}$ , into the portal circulation when either the intestine or the liver is the only drug metabolizing organ, and the dose-corrected  $AUC_{po}/AUC_{iv}$  yields the systemic availability,  $F_{sys}$ . On division of  $AUC_{po}/AUC_{iv}$  by  $AUC_{po\{mi,P\}}/AUC_{iv\{mi,P\}}$ , one obtains the intestinal or hepatic availability (Table 16.6) [18].

### 16.6.1 Sequential Metabolism and Metabolite Behavior

The PBPK model is particularly pertinent to describe the sequential elimination of the formed metabolite, asserting that the metabolite, formed *in situ* within the formation organ, is subject to immediate excretion or sequential metabolism to form secondary or tertiary metabolites. The reason that estimation of the AUC of the metabolite,  $AUC_{\{mi,P\}}$ , is important because the metabolite may possess active or toxic therapeutics effects [86]. Furthermore, one can take advantage of AUC solutions of the parent drug and the formed metabolites and compare the AUC ratio between intravenous and oral administration to estimate the variables important for drug absorption. Some examples on sequential metabolism are listed in Table 16.7.

The whole-body PBPK model approach clearly explains the influence of transporters and enzymes on the AUCs of the parent drug and its formed metabolites in a route-dependent fashion and that the  $AUC_{\{pmi\}}$  differs from the  $AUC_{\{mi,P\}}$ . Pathways of sequential metabolism of the formed primary metabolite (Mi) can exist either within its organ of formation or in additional eliminating organs. Under this situation, the AUCs and clearances of formed (denoted by subscript, mi) and preformed primary metabolite (denoted by subscript, pmi) differ when there is low permeability of the metabolite, resulting in the delay in the kinetics due to the formation step of the formed metabolite and/or competition for the drug in the same or other organs. These differences have been demonstrated both experimentally and theoretically [15,18,102,122,142–144]. The discrepancy is also caused by differences in enzyme/transporter heterogeneity within the organ involved in formation or further metabolism of Mi [15,18,86,122]. These differences must be borne in mind when the kinetics of the preformed metabolite is used to predict the kinetics of the formed metabolite, especially for MIST.

### 16.6.2 Examination of Transporter and Enzyme Interplay

Generalized whole-body PBPK models have been developed to describe the impact of transporters and enzymes on the PK of the parent drug and the disposition of formed metabolites. Not until recently, these models lack the appropriate subcompartments within the organs to describe the influence of different transporters and enzymes on the parent drug and metabolites. Sun and Pang [18] described a whole-body PBPK model

**TABLE 16.6 Solutions in the Whole-Body PBPK Model**

AUC Solutions

*For Intestinal Metabolism and Renal Excretion Only*

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{AUC}_{\text{iv}} &= \text{Dose}_{\text{iv}} \frac{Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}} + (Q_{\text{PV}} + \text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}}) [\text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}} + \text{CL}_{\text{int,met2,I}} + (1 - F_{\text{abs}}) \text{CL}_{\text{int,sec,I}}]}{\text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}} + [\text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}} + \text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}} (\text{CL}_{\text{R}} + Q_{\text{PV}})] [\text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}} + \text{CL}_{\text{int,met2,I}} + (1 - F_{\text{abs}}) \text{CL}_{\text{int,sec,I}}]} \\
 \text{AUC}_{\text{iv}}\{\text{mi,P}\} &= \text{Dose}_{\text{iv}} \frac{\text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}} Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}}}{\text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}} + [\text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}} + \text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}} (\text{CL}_{\text{R}} + Q_{\text{PV}})] [\text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}} + \text{CL}_{\text{int,met2,I}} + (1 - F_{\text{abs}}) \text{CL}_{\text{int,sec,I}}]} \times \\
 &\quad \frac{Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}}\{\text{mi}\}}{\text{CL}_{\text{R}}\{\text{mi}\} Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}}\{\text{mi}\} + [\text{CL}_{\text{R}}\{\text{mi}\} Q_{\text{PV}} + \text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}}\{\text{mi}\} (\text{CL}_{\text{R}}\{\text{mi}\} + Q_{\text{PV}})] [\text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}}\{\text{mi}\} + (1 - F_{\text{abs}}\{\text{mi}\}) \text{CL}_{\text{int,sec,I}}\{\text{mi}\}]} \\
 \text{AUC}_{\text{po}} &= \text{Dose}_{\text{po}} \frac{F_{\text{abs}} Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}}}{\text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}} + [\text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}} + \text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}} (\text{CL}_{\text{R}} + Q_{\text{PV}})] [\text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}} + \text{CL}_{\text{int,met2,I}} + (1 - F_{\text{abs}}) \text{CL}_{\text{int,sec,I}}]} \\
 \text{AUC}_{\text{po}}\{\text{mi,P}\} &= \text{Dose}_{\text{po}} \frac{F_{\text{abs}} \text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}} [\text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}} (\text{CL}_{\text{R}} + Q_{\text{PV}}) + \text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}}]}{\text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}} + [\text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}} (\text{CL}_{\text{R}} + Q_{\text{PV}}) + \text{CL}_{\text{R}} Q_{\text{PV}}] [\text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}} + \text{CL}_{\text{int,met2,I}} + (1 - F_{\text{abs}}) \text{CL}_{\text{int,sec,I}}]} \times \\
 &\quad \frac{Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}}\{\text{mi}\}}{\text{CL}_{\text{R}}\{\text{mi}\} Q_{\text{PV}} \text{CL}_{\text{d}2}^{\text{I}}\{\text{mi}\} + [\text{CL}_{\text{R}}\{\text{mi}\} Q_{\text{PV}} + \text{CL}_{\text{d}1}^{\text{I}}\{\text{mi}\} (\text{CL}_{\text{R}}\{\text{mi}\} + Q_{\text{PV}})] [\text{CL}_{\text{int,met1,I}}\{\text{mi}\} + (1 - F_{\text{abs}}\{\text{mi}\}) \text{CL}_{\text{int,sec,I}}\{\text{mi}\}]}
 \end{aligned}$$

*(continued overleaf)*

**TABLE 16.6 (Continued)**

AUC Solutions

*For Hepatic Metabolism ( $Q_H = Q_{PV} + Q_{HA}$ ) and Renal Excretion Only*

AUC <sub>iv</sub>	$AUC_{iv} = Dose_{iv} \frac{[Q_H(CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H}) + CL_{in}^H CL_{int,H}]}{CL_R Q_H (CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H}) + CL_{in}^H CL_{int,H} (CL_R + Q_H)}$
AUC <sub>iv</sub> {mi,P}	$AUC_{iv}\{mi,P\} = Dose_{iv} \frac{Q_H CL_{in}^H CL_{int,met1,H}}{CL_R Q_H (CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H}) + CL_{in}^H CL_{int,H} (CL_R + Q_H)} \times$ $\frac{Q_H CL_{ef}^H\{mi\}}{CL_R\{mi\} Q_H (CL_{ef}^H\{mi\} + CL_{int,H}\{mi\}) + CL_{in}^H\{mi\} CL_{int,H}\{mi\} (CL_R\{mi\} + Q_H)}$
AUC <sub>po</sub>	$AUC_{po} = Dose_{po} \frac{F_{abs} Q_H (CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H})}{CL_R Q_H (CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H}) + CL_{in}^H CL_{int,H} (CL_R + Q_H)}$
AUC <sub>po</sub> {mi,P}	$AUC_{po}\{mi,P\} = Dose_{po} \frac{F_{abs} Q_H CL_{in}^H CL_{int,met1,H} (CL_R + Q_H)}{CL_R Q_H (CL_{ef}^H + CL_{int,H}) + CL_{in}^H CL_{int,H} (CL_R + Q_H)} \times$ $\frac{CL_{ef}^H\{mi\}}{CL_R\{mi\} Q_H (CL_{d2}^H\{mi\} + CL_{int,H}\{mi\}) + CL_{in}^H\{mi\} CL_{int,H}\{mi\} (CL_R\{mi\} + Q_H)}$

*Source: From Sun and Pang [18] with permission.*

**TABLE 16.7 Examples of PBPK Modeling for Sequential Metabolism**

Chemicals and Major Metabolic Pathway of Interest	Applications and Features	References
Nicotine → cotinine → polar metabolites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Studied nicotine disposition in SD rats</li><li>• Described tissue and plasma kinetics of cotinine, a biomarker for exposure to tobacco smoke</li><li>• Used <i>in vivo</i> rat nicotine PK study to validate the predictive power of the PBPK model</li></ul>	134
Butadiene → butadiene monoxide → butadiene monoxide glutathione conjugate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Examined potential carcinogen effect of butadiene, an environmental air pollutant</li><li>• Validated PBPK model against published observations on butadiene and butadiene monoxide and liver glutathione kinetics in rats and mice <i>in vivo</i></li><li>• PBPK model was used to explain species difference in cancer response between mice and rats exposed to butadiene</li></ul>	135,136
Styrene → styrene → styrene-7,8-oxide → styrene-7,8-oxide glutathione conjugate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Illustrated the carcinogenic potential of styrene due to its active metabolite styrene-7,8-oxide in risk assessment</li><li>• Included cosubstrate, glutathione, to describe conjugation of styrene-7,8-oxide to its conjugate by glutathione-S-transferase</li></ul>	137
Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane (D <sub>4</sub> ) → short-chain linear siloxanes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PBPK of inhalation kinetics of D<sub>4</sub>, a silicon fluid, in humans during rest and exercise</li></ul>	138
Uracil → dihydrouracil → β-ureidopropionate → β-alanine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Described <sup>13</sup>CO<sub>2</sub> exhalation after orally administered [2-<sup>13</sup>C]uracil</li><li>• Reported dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase as the key enzyme of cytotoxicity of 5-FU</li><li>• Used [2-<sup>13</sup>C]uracil in identifying patients at risk of 5-FU toxicity</li></ul>	139
Atrazine → chlorotriazines → diaminochlorotriazine → glutathione conjugates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Described oral absorption and oxidative metabolism of atrazine on the blood time course curves of individual chlorotriazines in rat, and the toxic neuroendocrine effects associated with chlorotriazines exposure but not of the nonchlorinated metabolites</li></ul>	140
Dichloromethane (DCM) → formyl chloride → CO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evaluated two different metabolic hypotheses for DCM toxicity using PBPK modeling for <i>in vivo</i> inhalation gas uptake data exposure in female B6C3F1 mice</li></ul>	141

Source: Adapted from Fan *et al.* 133.

approach that includes both transporters and enzymes and their impact on the AUC and PK of the parent drug and the formed metabolites. This whole-body PBPK model approach clearly explains the influence of transporters and enzymes on the AUCs of the parent drug and its formed metabolites in a route- and time-dependent fashion (Table 16.6).

There are an increasing number of studies with PBPK modeling that examine effects of the interplay of transporters and enzymes on the blood and target organ exposures of the drug and its metabolites [78]. Watanabe *et al.* [79] reported that changes in pravastatin hepatic uptake greatly altered the plasma concentration but had minimal effect on the concentration in liver, whereas alteration of hepatic efflux transporters would greatly affect liver concentration but not plasma concentration. In another study, Rowland Yeo *et al.* [145] found that enzyme inhibition of triazolam by diltiazem and its metabolite, *N*-desmethyldiltiazem, plays a role in affecting the AUC of triazolam.

## 16.7 APPLICATIONS OF PBPK MODELS

### 16.7.1 Prediction of Exposure in Tissue Sites

In principle, PBPK models permit the prediction of the concentration of the parent drug and metabolites in any tissue or target organ. Examples are tumor tissue [146], the fetus [147], the testes [28], or other various tissues [4,134,148,149] within the body, providing additional physiological information and mechanistic answers. In addition, PBPK models are superior over traditional PK models in that they can be used to explain the nonlinear uptake of parent drugs from skin into tissue sites [150], membrane-limited uptake of drugs [151], or the disposition of both the parent drug and its metabolite in tissue sites [152]. Table 16.8 lists examples investigating drug exposure at tissue sites which were described by PBPK models.

### 16.7.2 Prediction of Pharmacological Activity or Toxicity

PBPK/PD models are also useful for predicting the relationship between drug exposure and pharmacological and/or toxicological effects in target organs to explain pharmacological [154,155] and toxicological outcomes [146,156,157]. By providing a link between tissue concentration and pharmacological and/or toxicological effects, PBPK models can be expanded to form mechanistic PK/PD models [158]. When combined with a mechanistic or empirical PD model (PBPK/PD), the therapeutic outcome or adverse events within a certain population could be predicted before clinical studies. The PBPK/PD model is created when the PBPK model is linked to a pharmacodynamic (PD) model by an equation that reflects the researcher's hypothesis of how the drug participates in the initiation of cellular changes leading to measurable outcomes. The temporal change in the dose metric simulated by the PBPK model is linked with mathematical descriptions of the response process associated with the drug.

Table 16.9 summarizes applications of PBPK/PD model to quantify the relationship between the drug and the pharmacologic effect. A semimechanistic PK–PD model, with incorporation of saturable hepatic elimination on the first-pass extraction as well as a

**TABLE 16.8 Examples of Whole-Body PBPK Models that Emphasize Drug Exposure at Tissue Sites**

Chemicals	Species	Model	References
5-Flourouracil (5-FU)	Mouse	Flow-limited model to predict accumulation of 5-FU in human tumor tissues	146
Barbiturates	Rat	Flow-limited compartments for lung, liver, kidney, stomach, pancreas, spleen, gut, muscle, adipose, skin, bone, and heart and membrane-limited compartments in brain and testis barbiturates disposition in different tissues	149
Chlordecone	Rat	Flow-limited model to evaluate the effect of age and dosage on percutaneous absorption and tissue disposition of chlordecone	153
Digoxin	Rat	Flow-limited model to predict the concentrations of digoxin in the heart, liver, skeletal muscle, and plasma	148
Everolimus	Rat	Flow-limited model to predict nonlinear binding of everolimus to red blood cells and tissues, and the highest tissue binding in thymus, skin, and muscle	150
Moxalactam	Rat, dog, and human	Membrane-limited model to explain moxalactam epimerization on the warfarin-binding site of serum albumin	151
Nicotine	Rat	Flow-limited model to predict the nonlinear nicotine elimination in the brain, heart, and lung, suggesting that saturable nicotinic binding sites may be important in nicotine disposition	134
<i>p</i> -Phenylbenzoic acid	Rat	Flow-limited model to predict <i>p</i> -phenylbenzoic acid concentration–time profiles in different tissues of the mother and placenta of the fetuses	147
Thiopental	Dog	Flow-limited model to predict thiopental concentrations in blood, viscera, lean tissue, and adipose tissue	4
Tretinoin	Rat, monkey, and human	Flow-limited model to predict tretinoin pharmacokinetics in plasma and different tissues and to extrapolate across species and routes of administration	152

**TABLE 16.9 Examples of Whole-Body PBPK/PD Models**

Applications and Features		References
<i>Quantified Relationship Between Drug and Effect</i>		
Diisopropylfluorophosphate (DFP)	Effect of DFP on acetylcholinesterase activity	160
Glycyrrhetic acid	Inhibition of 11 $\beta$ -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase activity	157
Chlorpyrifos	Evaluated the chlorpyrifos toxicity, pharmacokinetics, and tissue cholinesterase inhibition in neonatal and adult rats	161
Carbofuran	Characterized AChE inhibition from carbofuran exposure	162
<i>Predicted Toxicologic Interactions</i>		
Trichloroethylene and 1,1-dichloroethylene	Predicted the toxicologic interactions and define the interaction threshold	163
Kepon and carbon tetrachloride	Predicted the toxicologic interactions and define the interaction threshold	164
<i>Linked Drug Dosimetry with Biological Response</i>		
Trichloroethylene	Evaluated the organ toxicity from oral exposure and inhalation	165
Chlorpyrifos and diazinon	Determined dosimetry and cholinesterase inhibition	161
Diazinon and its metabolites	Determined dosimetry and cholinesterase inhibition	166
Carbaryl and its metabolites	Predicted the carbaryl-induced inhibition of cholinesterase activity	167
<i>Evaluated Organ Toxicity Resulting from Metabolites</i>		
Trichloroethylene	Evaluated the organ toxicity resulting from metabolites	165
<i>Performed Various Forms of Extrapolation</i>		
Acrylamide	Extrapolated data from rodent to human	168,169
Brivaracetam	Extrapolated data from rodent to human	170

higher intrinsic clearance in female patients, resulted in the best fit to the time course of salivary artemisinin concentrations after repeated dosing and the number of parasites in patients treated with the drug [159]. The effect of diisopropylfluorophosphate (DFP) on acetylcholinesterase (AChE) activity in mouse and rat was studied using a PBPK/PD model, which accurately predicted the AChE activity similar to those found *in vivo* based on the blood concentration of DFP [160].

The PBPK/PD model may also be used to evaluate organ toxicity developed from trichloroethylene (TCE) metabolites [165]. To date, there are over 250 scientific research papers (searched via PubMed, PBPK + toxicity) using similar PBPK modeling approaches to predict and explain the toxicity of drugs, environmental chemicals, or its metabolites in animal or human models [171–173]. Table 16.10 lists examples of PBPK models that were used to predict chemical exposure and toxicity *in vivo*. Doerge *et al.* [168] used a PBPK/PD model to translate the findings from rodent neurotoxicity and cancer risks into estimates of risks in human acrylamide exposure through diet. PBPK/PD models are also useful tools for linking drug dosimetry with biological response and for evaluating the risk associated with a given drug exposure. Barton and Clewell [165] used a PBPK/PD model to evaluate eye malformation, liver effects, immunotoxicity, and kidney toxicity from oral exposure and neurological, liver, and kidney effects by inhalation with dose metrics for TCE.

Other studies had estimated toxicological exposures of chemicals and drugs that ranged from phthalate esters found in drinking water to acetonylacetone (a neurotoxic industrial solvent), trace metals such as iodine and chromium, and therapeutic drugs such as digoxin [28,171] in target organs. Using the appropriate physiological parameters, Sweeney *et al.* [180] were able to relate the incidence of liver adenomas and carcinomas to the liver exposure (AUC) of trichloroacetic acid, the toxic metabolite of perchloroethylene (a solvent used in dry cleaning), in a mouse PBPK model. In another toxicological study, a generalized rat whole-body PBPK model, focusing primarily on the liver, examined the involvement of transporters such as Mrp2 on the liver exposure of pentachlorobipenyl, a carcinogenic environmental pollutant and a substrate of Mrp2, and liver carcinogenicity [179]. Toxicologic interactions have been predicted with PBPK/PD modeling that defined the interaction threshold between TCE and 1,1-dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE) [163] and between kepone and carbon tetrachloride (CCl<sub>4</sub>) [164].

### 16.7.3 Effects of Disease States, Pregnancy, Age, and Polymorphism

PBPK modeling approaches in toxicological studies not only focus on exposure of toxicants to healthy adults but also apply to pregnant women [182], children [183], the elderly [184], and the study of genetic polymorphism [185]. PBPK models enable us to evaluate the drug concentration–time profile for any dose and administration route under various physiological conditions: disease state, pregnancy, age, and polymorphism.

There have only been a few studies that relate to PK of drugs in disease states with PBPK modeling. For instance, a PBPK model describing drug kinetics in interstitial fluid in patients with hemorrhagic shock followed by fluid resuscitation was used to evaluate amoxicillin and clavulanate PK [38]. The predictions fit the data well in most instances and were consistent with observed clinical data. A PBPK model adequately described altered midazolam kinetics in elderly patients undergoing

**TABLE 16.10 Examples of Whole-Body PBPK Models that Emphasized Drug Toxicity**

Chemicals	Species	Model	References
1,1,1,3,3-Pentafluoropropane	Human	Flow-limited model to explain that exposure of 1,1,1,3,3-pentafluoropropane did not result in detection of the metabolite TFPA in urine, suggesting little or no metabolism	174
Arsenic	Mouse	Flow-limited model to explain lack of change in the apparent volume of distribution and tissue-plasma concentration ratios of dimethylarsonic acid after acute and chronic exposure to arsenic	175
Chloroethane	Rat, mouse, human	Flow-limited model to describe different rates of metabolism of chloroethane by glutathione-S-transferase in different species, consistent with observations on uterine tumors	25
Dibromoacetic acid	Rat	Membrane-limited model for aggregated tissue, kidney, and liver and liver metabolism of dibromoacetic acid in the toxicity or carcinogenicity in liver	176
Doxorubicin	Dog	Flow-limited model to explain increase in doxorubicin exposure in ABCB1 (null) dog that may lead to GI toxicosis	177
Molinate	Rat, human	Flow-limited model to predict molinate concentrations of the rat blood and testes compartment and testicular toxicity	178
Pentachlorobipenyl (PCB126)	Rat	Flow-limited model to relate AUC of PCB126 in liver and incidence of liver toxicity	179
Phthalic acid diesters	Rat	Flow-limited model to predict that plasma monobutyl phthalate kinetics are sensitive to glucuronidation and enterohepatic recirculation	28
Trichloroacetic acid	Mouse	Flow-limited model to assess at trichloroacetic acid liver (AUC) exposure to risk of liver adenomas and carcinomas	180
Trichloroethylene	Mouse	Flow-limited model to relate extents of metabolites formed from trichloroethylene in liver to cause hepatomegaly	181

orthopedic surgery due to increased  $f_p$  values and changes in volume of distribution and clearance as a result of blood loss and significant reduction in albumin concentration when compared to normal patients [37]. When PBPK modeling was applied to predict the outcomes of liver cirrhosis, a disease characterized by a decrease in functional hepatocytes, lowered circulating plasma proteins, and altered hepatic blood flow patterns due to the development of portacaval shunts, some success was found [186].

There have also been attempts to apply a PBPK model to describe the effect of renal failure on drug disposition. Tsuji *et al.* [36] developed a PBPK model to predict elevation of plasma and tissue levels of cefalozin, a  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic, in rabbits with renal failure, and obtained good correlation between predicted and observed tissue concentrations. A PBPK model proposed by Harrison and Gibaldi [35] was used to assess digoxin PK in the dog with renal failure, and a scale-up with the dog model to human was partially successful in predicting digoxin kinetics in patients with renal failure. In renal disease state, a concomitant reduction in hepatic drug metabolizing activities is often found [187,188]. Moreover, changes in transporters [189,190] were found associated with renal [187] and other diseases: inflammatory bowel diseases and inflammation and infection wherein cytokines are elevated [190,191]. These accompanying changes in transporter/enzyme function further add complexities to the quantitative prediction with regard to disease-related factors that may limit use of PBPK models, unless the changes are readily identified [192].

Since drug distribution could be altered in pregnancy [193], PBPK models for pregnancy have been used to predict the concentrations of drugs in maternal tissues, the placenta, and/or the fetus [193–198] (Table 16.11). Gabrielsson and colleagues, in particular, had reported on the effects of pregnancy on methadone [197], theophylline [196], pethidine (meperidine) [198], and morphine [195] kinetics in the rat with a PBPK model. Additional reports of PBPK models on pregnancy are listed in Table 16.11.

The prediction of drug exposure in special populations (different age groups including neonates, infants, children, and adult) is often made with PBPK modeling [199–201]. A general PBPK model has been used for the prediction of the PK of model substrates, such as theophylline for CYP1A2 and CYP2E1 and midazolam for CYP3A4, in neonates to young adults by considering the age-related changes in unbound intrinsic hepatic clearances [199], with predictions that were in good agreement with literature data. Furthermore, Edginton *et al.* [200] and Johnson *et al.* [201] had applied PBPK models to assess the age-related physiological changes in younger children for 5 (paracetamol, alfentanil, morphine, theophylline, and levofloxacin) and 11 drugs (midazolam, caffeine, carbamazepam, cisapride, theophylline, diclofenac, omeprazole, *S*-warfarin, phenytoin, gentamycin, and vancomycin), respectively. The predictions were also in good agreement with observed data and showed that the PBPK models are superior to the method of allometric scaling. Thompson *et al.* [202] further reviewed a physiological database useful for PBPK modeling of the healthy and impaired elderly population.

In addition to the above conditions, PBPK models have also been used to simulate effects of genetic variations [79] and enzyme/transporter heterogeneity [92,95] on drug disposition in eliminating organs and the consequences on pharmacological and toxicological effects [39]. Differences in metabolism due to enzyme abundance (e.g., in the case of CYP2D6 poor metabolizers) or differences in intrinsic enzyme activities (e.g., CYP2C9 variants) could be included in PBPK modeling. Inoue *et al.* [203] had found

**TABLE 16.11**    Examples for Whole-Body PBPK Model for Pregnancy

Drug	Model	Species	References
Morphine	Flow limited for all tissue; membrane limited (fetus)	Rat	196
Methadone	Flow limited for all tissue; membrane-limited compartments for maternal brain/fetus	Rat, human	197
Pethidine (meperidine)	Flow limited for all tissue; membrane limited for fetus	Rat, human	198
<i>p</i> -Phenylbenzoic acid	Flow limited for some tissue; membrane limited for placenta, brain, gut, spleen, muscle, fat, and skin	Rat	147
Tetracycline	Flow limited for all tissues	Rat	194
Theophylline	Flow limited for all tissue; membrane-limited compartments for maternal brain/fetus	Rat	195

ethnic differences in the *in vivo* clearances of alprazolam, caffeine, chlorzoxazone, cyclosporine, midazolam, omeprazole, sildenafil, tolbutamide, triazolam, *S*-warfarin, and zolpidem with the virtual clinical simulator, Simcyp<sup>®</sup>, which contains background information on the abundance of various P450s and different population distributions of their alleles to account for genetic and ethnic differences in metabolism. The interesting phenomenon is well described by Dickinson *et al.* [204] using the Simcyp<sup>®</sup> simulator to predict the impact of genetic polymorphism of CYP2C9 on the PK and PD of *S*-warfarin. Recently, a study on genetic polymorphism of the anionic transporter organic anion transporting polypeptide 1B1 (OATP1B1) examined pravastatin plasma concentrations with PBPK modeling and showed sensitivity of systemic exposure of pravastatin to hepatic uptake [39].

#### 16.7.4 Drug–Drug Interactions

The accurate prediction of potential risks for DDIs is important because DDIs are responsible for reduced efficacy or increased adverse events. DDIs usually result from the induction or inhibition of metabolic enzymes, mostly P450s, or transporters, or from a change in protein binding. Inhibition may involve either simple competitive or time-dependent (mechanism-based) inhibitory kinetics, the latter of which involves destruction of the enzyme/transporter that leads to a reduction in metabolism/transport [17]. Induction of the enzyme/transporter usually involves transcriptional and translational changes that lead to new protein synthesis. Alternately, changes in endogenous substrates, for example, cytokines, or ligands of nuclear receptors can also affect enzyme and transporter levels [190].

A general equation exists for the AUC ratio in the presence of the interactant (or perpetrator) and under control conditions ( $AUC_{(I)}/AUC_{(C)}$ ) to reflect inhibition or

induction of a victim drug:

$$\frac{AUC_{(I)}}{AUC_{(C)}} = \frac{1}{\left( \frac{f_m f_{m,CYP}}{\left( \frac{CL_{int(C)}}{CL_{int(I)}} \right)} \right) + (1 - f_m \cdot f_{m,CYP})} \quad (16.17)$$

where  $f_m$ ,  $f_{m,cyp}$ ,  $CL_{int(C)}$ , and  $CL_{int(I)}$  are the fraction of the dose metabolized by all P450 isoforms, the fraction of the dose metabolized by each specific P450 enzyme, and the intrinsic clearances under control and inhibited conditions, respectively [205–207].

For reversible metabolism, the ratio of  $CL_{int(C)}/CL_{int(I)}$  equals

$$\frac{CL_{int(C)}}{CL_{int(I)}} = 1 + \frac{[I]}{K_I} \quad (16.18)$$

where  $[I]$  is the inhibitor concentration and  $K_I$  is the inhibition constant.

For time-dependent (mechanism-based) inhibition, the ratio of  $CL_{int(C)}/CL_{int(I)}$  equals

$$\frac{CL_{int(C)}}{CL_{int(I)}} = 1 + \frac{k_{inact}}{K_I} \frac{[I]}{k_{deg}} \quad (16.19)$$

where  $k_{inact}$  and  $k_{deg}$  are the rate constants for inactivation and degradation of the enzyme, respectively [208,209].

For induction, the ratio of  $CL_{int(C)}/CL_{int(I)}$  equals

$$\frac{CL_{int(C)}}{CL_{int(I)}} = 1 + \frac{E_{max}[I]}{EC_{50} + [I]} \quad (16.20)$$

where  $E_{max}$  and  $EC_{50}$  are the maximum induction activity and the concentration of inducer associated with half maximum induction, respectively [210]

These types of static AUC comparisons, however, have been criticized since the inhibitor concentration or  $[I]$ , taken as  $C_{max}$  or unbound  $C_{max}$  [211], does not reflect the concentrations of drug and interactant at the site of interaction of the enzyme/transporter. Furthermore, the interaction may lead to changes in protein levels of the enzymes/transporters or consequences on the synthesis and degradation rate. Under the same circumstances, the concentration of the interactant may also be changed.

DDI predictions with the use of PBPK modeling on reversible inhibition afford more accurate predictive ability than conventional methods (Eq. 16.18) that fail to describe the  $[I]/K_I$  ratio, given that  $[I]$ , or the concentration of the inhibitor at the enzyme site, is not static but changes with time and mutual inhibition. Some studies included PBPK models for simulating the changes in drug kinetics with reversible DDIs [211–213]. Furthermore, a whole-body PBPK approach based on a gut compartmental absorption and transit (CAT) model showed improved predictions on DDIs of midazolam, the CYP3A4 substrate, which was coadministered with ketoconazole or verapamil [214]. In comparison, the conventional, static approach with the use of  $[I]/K_I$  overpredicted levels of midazolam, whereas predictions by the PBPK model were superior (within

**TABLE 16.12** Use of Whole-Body PBPK Models for DDIs

Drug	Combination Drug (Inhibitor)	Species	References
2',3'-Dideoxyinosine	Pentamide	Rat and human	212
Ethoxybenzamide	Salicylamide	Rabbit	215
Midazolam	Clarithromycin	Human	216
Midazolam	Ketoconazole or verapamil	Human	214
Ritonavir, amprenavir, saquinavir, nelfinavir, and indinavir in multiple therapy	Ritonavir, amprenavir, saquinavir, nelfinavir, and indinavir	Rat	217
Tolbutamide	Sulfaphenazole, sulfadimethoxine, and sulfamethoxazole	Rat	40
Triazolam	Erythromycin	Human	211
Warfarin	Bromosulfophthalein	Rat	218

twofold for AUC and  $C_{max}$ ), regardless of administration route, dosage, and/or coadministration with an inhibitor [214]. These examples are summarized in Table 16.12.

PBPK models that entail dynamic changes in concentration of the perpetrator and victim drug have also been proposed [145,216,217,219]. For example, a simplified PBPK model incorporating two elimination pathways for intestinal and hepatic metabolism of HIV protease inhibitors, including ritonavir, amprenavir, saquinavir, nelfinavir, and indinavir, was constructed to describe multiple HIV therapy and, subsequently, the interaction due to multitherapy with the protease inhibitors [217]. The observed and predicted AUCs according to the PBPK model were in good agreement after oral administration in rats. Zhang *et al.* [219] described changes in intestinal and hepatic P450 protein levels together with changes in activity toward midazolam metabolism due to the mechanism-based inhibition by diltiazem and its major metabolite and predicted the transient and dynamic changes. Quinney *et al.* [216] developed a simple PBPK model, incorporating hepatic and intestinal metabolism by CYP3A and non-CYP3A4 mechanisms, to predict the mechanism-based inhibition of clarithromycin on midazolam metabolism and explained the nonlinear PK of clarithromycin. In another study, Rowland Yeo *et al.* [145] found that the simultaneous competitive and time-dependent enzyme inhibition of triazolam by diltiazem and its metabolite, *N*-desmethyldiltiazem, played a significant role in altering triazolam blood AUC. Clearly, the impact of transporters and enzymes on the exposure of drugs and its metabolite in plasma and target organs are avidly being examined by whole-body PBPK models. Their inclusion, especially under conditions of prolonged inhibition [220], needs to be further investigated.

## 16.8 CONCLUSIONS

PBPK models are comprehensive models that consider the physiology, anatomy, and biochemistry of the body as well as physicochemical properties of the drug and metabolite. The understanding of absorptive, distribution, metabolic, and excretory

processes through fitting and simulation of concentration–time profiles of plasma and target tissues in generic PBPK models, as discussed in this chapter, allows one to make predictions in target sites and allows proper projection of the effects of age, pregnancy, disease states, and DDIs. Currently, there is an impetus for pharmaceutical industry and FDA to utilize PBPK modeling and commercialized software in drug development and for the prediction of DDIs, genetic polymorphism, and disease states, with animal and *in vitro* studies for the scale-up of transporter and enzyme function to predict transport and metabolic activities in man *in vivo*. These activities have greatly facilitated an understanding of processes affecting the concentration time course, AUC, and clearance of drugs and their metabolites. The increasing use of PBPK modeling in drug development, clinical pharmacology, and risk assessment is a clear testament of the great utility of PBPK modeling in pharmaceutical research.

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