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# In-silico study of the effect of Ritonavir on Human Ventricle Cells

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Table of Contents

[In-silico study of the effect of Ritonavir on Human Ventricle Cells 1](#_Toc134745295)

[Introduction 2](#_Toc134745296)

[Dataset 2](#_Toc134745297)

[Ritonavir 3](#_Toc134745298)

[Methods 4](#_Toc134745299)

[APD90 4](#_Toc134745300)

[First condition 5](#_Toc134745301)

[Second condition 5](#_Toc134745302)

[Third condition 5](#_Toc134745303)

[Results 5](#_Toc134745304)

[Discussion 7](#_Toc134745305)

## Introduction

The evaluation of cardiotoxicity is a crucial aspect of drug development. Current regulatory guidelines for drug safety require the measurement of IKr channel block in vitro and QT interval prolongation in vivo to assess the arrhythmic risk of a drug. However, it has become evident that these markers alone are insufficient to predict cardiotoxic behavior accurately. A new paradigm has been proposed, which combines in vitro studies that measure the drug's effect on different ionic channels and in-silico models of cardiac myocyte electrophysiology. This report evaluates the cardiotoxicity of Ritonavir using the MATLAB program provided.

The findings of this study will contribute to the existing knowledge on the pharmacodynamics of the drug under investigation and enhance our understanding of its impact on cardiac electrophysiology. Ultimately, this information can aid in the development of safer and more effective drug therapies, as well as guide regulatory decision-making regarding drug dosage and usage.

## Dataset

The effect of Ritonavir on the different ionic channels was modeled using a pore block model, which reduces the channel conductance based on the available half-maximal inhibitor concentration, IC50, and Hill coefficient, n, using the formula:

where FB is the fraction of channel block.

To evaluate the cardiotoxic effect, the electrophysiological variability inherent in the cardiac tissue was considered by using a population of models approach. The file mask.mat contains channel conductance multiplying factors corresponding to ten different models of ventricular myocytes. Each column of the file corresponds to an ionic channel in the O'Hara model.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gna | Hill Coeff. | 1 |
| IC50 (μM) | 27.96163 |
| GNaL | Hill Coeff. | 0.7 |
| IC50 (μM) | 7.175 |
| Gto | Hill Coeff. | 1 |
| IC50 (μM) | ∞ |
| GKr | Hill Coeff. | 1 |
| IC50 (μM) | 5.157 |
| GKs | Hill Coeff. | 1 |
| IC50 (μM) | ∞ |
| GK1 | Hill Coeff. | 1 |
| IC50 (μM) | ∞ |
| GNaCX | Hill Coeff. | 1 |
| IC50 (μM) | ∞ |
| GNaK | Hill Coeff. | 1 |
| IC50 (μM) | ∞ |
| GCaL | Hill Coeff. | 1.3 |
| IC50 (μM) | 8.228 |
| EFTPCmax (μM) | | 0.4369 |

For each of the ten models, the effect of Ritonavir was evaluated for four different concentrations: 1x, 2x, 10x, and 100x [EFTCP] (a total of 40 simulations). The stimulation protocol consisted of stimulating with a current 1.5x the stimulation threshold 500 times with a BCL=800ms and analyzing the last three beats. A pro-arrhythmic behavior was considered if:

* alternans in the APD90 were observed
* abnormal repolarizations appeared
* APD prolongation of more than 25% (with respect to control)

### Ritonavir

## Methods

### APD90

The APD90 is the interval of time between the point of maximum variation of the transmembrane potential and the 90% repolarization point.

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Figure 1: Example of the three APD90 intervals, and their fiducial points.

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| 1. Mean and standard deviation of ADP90 |

### First condition

### Second condition

### Third condition

## Results

By plotting the average APD90 as a function of the drug concentration, we will observe the overall trend and ascertain whether there is a concentration-dependent effect on cardiac repolarization. Additionally, incorporating the standard deviation in the plot will provide insights into the data dispersion, highlighting the variability across the drug concentrations.

For calculation the arrhythmic risk as the probability of observing arrhythmic behavior for each concentration over the ten models we made the following steps:

* **Observation of alternans in the APD90**

For each concentration, if the absolute values of last three consecutive differences between of ADP90 of each subject was more than 10, then the subject would show pro-arrhythmic behavior.

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| 1. Observation of alternans in the ADP90 |

**Results:**

Pro-arrhythmic behavior probabilty - dose 100 is: 0.00%,

Pro-arrhythmic behavior probabilty - dose 10 is: 0.00%,

Pro-arrhythmic behavior probabilty - dose 1 is: 0.00%,

Pro-arrhythmic behavior probabilty - dose 2 is: 0.00%,

* **APD prolongation of more than 25% (with respect to control)**

For each concentration, if the absolute value of difference between last(third) ADP90 of each subject was more than 25% of the normal value, then the subject would show pro-arrhythmic behavior.

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| 1. Observation of APD90 prolongation |

**Results:**

Pro-arrhythmic behavior probabilty - dose 100 is: 90.00%,

Pro-arrhythmic behavior probabilty - dose 10 is: 40.00%,

Pro-arrhythmic behavior probabilty - dose 1 is: 0.00%,

Pro-arrhythmic behavior probabilty - dose 2 is: 0.00%,

* **Abnormal repolarizations appeared**

For observing abnormal repolarizations, we plotted the last three ADP90 for each subject at each concentration.

|  |
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| 1. Observation of abnormal repolarization |

According to the plots, we had no abnormal repolarization within subjects at different concentrations.

## Discussion