

hello everyone my name is Ben myum from
Science Center and I will uh provide you
some uh insights on the pharmacokinetics
and pharmacodynamics of therapeutic
proteins now part three
the goals of this section are to
recognize the effect of major
elimination processes on the disposition
of therapeutic
proteins to understand the concept of
Target mediated direct disposition and
its impact on the pkpd of many
therapeutic
proteins and to appreciate the impact of
renal and hepatic impairment on the
disposition of therapeutic
proteins therapeutic proteins undergo the
same catabolic Pathways as endogenous or
dietetic proteins and that means that
they are degraded to amino acids as
their building blocks that are
reutilized in the endogenous amino acid
pool this proteolytic degradation occurs
in a variety of different organs and
tissues major sites of protein

degradation are

the gastrointestinal tract the skin the

muscle and the reticular endothelial

system the main contributors are indial

cells of that facil that um use the

process of

endocytosis to take up vesicles with

theraputic proteins and then

subsequently process those vesicles and

degrade the proteins within them andal

cells obviously line uh blood vessels

throughout the body uh and the overall

surface area towards uh the blood

vessels is more than a th000 square

meters in adult human so even though the

endocytosis process itself is relatively

slow and

inefficient this is offset by the large

surface area thats available to

facilitate that

process that means that those organs and

tissues that have large capillary bands

with many endothal cells are major

contributors to the

overall degradation of the apic proteins

and these are the skin the intestine and

muscle

tissues in addition to that the
reticular endothelial system so
mononuclear phagocytic cells like macrophages
monocytes keratinocytes Langerhans cells and
others are a major contributor to
protein degradation by taking up
therapeutic proteins again uh through
vesicles into their
uh in these cells and ultimately the
processing of these vesicles to degrade
the therapeutic products that included in
them my minor sites of degradation are
also the liver the kidneys the spleen
and the lungs but for specific
therapeutic proteins some of these
organs may be a major
contributor the main prerequisite for
protein degradation is intracellular
uptake there are a variety of processes
how this can be
facilitated the most basic one is called
pinocytosis which is a fluid phase
endocytosis and the main process that
endothelial cells use to take up their
products there are also receptor

mediated endocytotic processes either by
unspecific or by Target receptors
unspecific receptors or promiscuous
membrane receptors like the LDL receptor
or sugar recognizing receptors like the
Manos or the fucos receptor that can
recognize certain structure features in
therapeutic proteins uh and by that
facilitate the endocytotic
uptake of uh those
molecules Target mediate endocytosis is
then The Binding to the pharmacologic
Target receptor for example a membrane
standing receptor that can then be
internalized with the theraputic protein
uh receptor complex and this complex can
then
internalized and further processed in
the cell and ultimately lead to the
degradation of the theraputic
prod Target mediated drug disposition is
one feature that many therapeutic
proteins
exhibit and that is basically the
interaction with the target receptor
that then also contributes an

elimination process so this is
symbolized here in this little graphic
where a pharmacokinetic two compartment
model is shown where you have protic
degradation from either of those
compartments you can also have renal
metabolism well talk about that in a
second and in either of these
compartments the uh therapeutic parin
can now interact with its Target
receptor and of course Target receptors
also have a a turnover kinetics have a
specific synthesis and degradation rate
that ultimately uh influence and Define
the Dynamics of this whole process now
once the therapeutic protein and the
receptor interact you get the uh
receptor uh protein complex that
ultimately drives the effect this is
usually defined by binding kinetics
within K_{on} and a k_{off}
process all this is similar to what we
are familiar with for small molecule
drugs the major difference now is that
this drug receptor complex or
therapeutic protein receptor complex can

be internalized in the Target cell
and can
undergo local degradation and by that
you not only have a receptor interaction
that's reversible but now you also have
a
unidirectional elimination
process so receptor interaction
contributes substantially in this case
to the overall clearance and by that the
disposition of the therapeutic protein
and since usually the target receptor is
only available in a finite number on the
molecular
level you can easily saturate that
elimination process and the consequence
of that is a nonlinear pharmacokinetic
Behavior
so Target receptors are usually High
Affinity low capacity binding sites they
saturate at low molar ratios between
the protein and the receptor and that as
I mentioned leads to dose dependent
nonlinear pharmacokinetic Behavior an
example for that is a macrolide colony
stimulating factor which is eliminated

by two parallel elimination processes one is a linear renal metabolism process and the second one is a receptor mediated uptake into macrophages so microphases Express the pharmacologic target receptor for mcsf mcsf binds to that the target receptor mcsf complex is internalized and under goes uh then loss of degradation since there is only a finite number of receptors on macrophases available you basically get with increasing uh Doses and increasing level of saturation of that elimination process and that's shown in the graphic on the right side for three dose levels 0 one and 0 milligram per kilogram you see at the lowest dose level a very rapid decline in the concentration since both elimination Pathways the linear metabolism as well as the receptor mediate process are fully active so this is below the saturation level of the receptor mediated process when you go to higher doses you

start to saturate to overwhelm the
available
receptors uh so the receptor mediated
process gets to a saturation level the
extreme is shown here at the highest
dose level where you have now a much
flatter curve a much uh
less uh or much slower decline in the
concentrations as now the process is
largely only U mediated by the renal
elimination Pro renal elimination
process so the Met metabolism of of mcsf
but not by the receptor mediated process
once you get to concentrations that are
low enough to get out of that
concentration range now the
secondary parallel receptor mediated
elimination process kicks in and you
have the rapid decline in the
concentrations so this is a typical
behavior that many therapeutic proteins
exhibit in a slightly different fashion
uh this dose dependent clearance is now
shown here in this graphic on the y AIS
the clearance of the therapeutic protein
on the xaxis the concentration in a

logarithmic scale

now again I use a

simple two compartment pharmacokinetic

model with two parallel elimination

Pathways one through unspecific

proteolytic degradation that's non-

specific or what I call it catabolic

clearance and then a second one that's

receptor mediated and the receptor

mediated process can be

conceptualized in a variety of

different different ways uh one

simplified way is shown here where it is

simply expressed as a Michaelis-Menten

type kinetics as a saturable clearance

pathway with a K_m value that uh

indicates the concentration at

1/2 of the maximum elimination and V_{max}

the maximum elimination

speed and then the expression is shown

here where the total clearance

is the sum of the non-specific catabolic

clearance and the specific target mediated

elimination

passway conceptualized here as V_{max}

divided by the sum of K_m and the

concentration of the drug so now in the graphic you see the contribution to the overall clearance the overall clearance is shown in in blue um this has two components the cabol clearance in purple the purple dash line which is independent of the concentration but is at a low level so remains at this level and then the second pathway the receptor immediate one a high clearance level at very low concentrations once you get into a value around K_m with the concentration of the drug you get into the saturation range and ultimately you can completely saturate that uh clearance process in the sum of that is then uh the blue curve as shown here so a high concentration dependence of the clearance process depending on what kind of dose you give and what kind of drug concentration is still remaining in the body thats a typical behavior that we experience with a lot of therapeutic proteins and that is shown in a graphic here for typical nonlinear fic kinetic

behavior for monoclonal antibody that is given every two weeks so you see the concentration time profiles that result from administration of either 0.01 mg/kg and 0.01 mg/kg every two weeks when you get to concentration levels that are much higher than the K_m value or much higher than the saturation level for the Target mediated elimination process you have nearly linear pharmacokinetic Behavior that's shown here for the three highest doses once you get to concentrations at the lower doses where you get out of the saturation range for the Target mediated process you get very rapid elimination at lower concentrations and that is shown here in the drop especially of the light green curve uh at the end of each dosing interval so pharmacokinetic Behavior due to Target mediated drug disposition now the kidneys uh can also contribute to the elimination of immunotherapeutic proteins but not as for small molecules by excretion but rather

than by metabolism so therapeutic proteins are usually not excreted in unchanged form in urine and if that occurs this is usually a pathologic condition

so uh the kidneys however can be a major site of protein metabolism for smaller proteins that undergo glomerular filtration now glomerular filtration is a rate limiting step and there's a size selective cut off of approximately 9 kilodalton although the effective molecular radius based on molecular weight and Confirmation is probably more important and the limiting factor rather than the real molecular weight uh for the molecule

so glomerular filtration is most efficient if molecular weights are below 0 kilon it reaches for very very low molecular weights the GFR the GFR filtration rate uh but at higher concentrations the filtration rate uh sharply falls off and has then this absolute cut off of around uh 9 kilol there's also a certain charge selectivity in addition to the

size selectivity that may play a role
the consequence of that is that
therapeutic proteins that are small
enough to under GL GL filtration into
the primary urine so the proximal
tubulus in the filtrate and now they can
undergo either in luminal
metabolism through peptidases in the
brush border
membrane uh and then the resulting amino
acids and and small uh peptide fragments
can be taken up by peptide Transporters
to especially pepti or lesser degree
pepti and can be reutilized in the
endogenous amino acid
pool
for
larger peptides and proteins that are
still small enough to underg go glom
filtration like interin interin
gross hormone or insulin they basically
have are filtered into the proximal
tubular tub
and are then taken up in these proximal
tubular cells by
endocytosis and undergo losal

degradation again bleeding to amino acids that can be reutilized in the endogenous pool there's also a third process that had been described peritubular extraction so direct uptake from the blood vessel either by receptor nonreceptor mediated uh uh processes uh which uh can contribute to the elimination to the metabolism of therapeutic proteins like Ron and Insulin but usually it's only a minor elimination pathway so what does this then mean clinically with regard to patients that have renal impairment for protein drugs with a molecular weight of uh below the cut off of 0 to 9 kilodalton right here 0 I've had 9 on the previous slide there obviously as I mentioned before not an absolute cut off in in weight but basically uh the uh hydrodynamic radius is more important uh for regulatory purposes the Food and Drug Administration usually uses the molecular weight of albumin with 9

kilodalton as albumin is known to be not
filtered by glomerula
filtration so for therapeutic proteins
that are smaller than this cut off they
are expected to be affected by renal
impairment there are examples out there
that show this very nicely one is
shown here that's Recombinant human
interleukin-2 which has a molecular weight of
kilodalton so it's below the cut off is
filtered and what you see here are
concentration time profiles of
interleukin-2 in patients with
decreasing renal function measured as
creatinine clearance so either normal
renal function or greater than 0 m
per minute per square meter and then
then with successively reduced renal
function you see with reduced renal
function you get an reduced clearance
and increased systemic exposure in an
increased half-life of these therapeutic
products so what happens then on the
Other Extreme which therapeutic proteins
which have a molecular weight that's
larger than the cut off of 0 or 9 kD

kilodalton they are expected to be unaffected by renal impairment uh monoclonal antibiotics for example with a molecular weight of 0 kilon are not filtered and by that are not expected to be affected by renal impairment an example is shown here with Lusa map that has been uh investigated in patients with normal renal function uh shown here has a solid line compared to individuals with either severe renal impairment with a CR clearance below 0 Millers per minute or with in patients with endstage renal disease and as you can see the systemic exposure is very similar in those three groups there were no uh relevant differences in AU and cmax between these groups and by that no effect on renal impairment on anybody disposition uh was uh observed Obed in this specific publication now when we since we talk about uh organ impairment uh we probably should also mention hepatic impairment so uh hepatic impairment similar to uh renal impairment for uh those compounds that are larger than 9 kilodalton atic

impairment also has no impact for most therapeutic proteins the liver is a major site of of protein metabolism for some larger proteins as I mentioned before can be an important contributor in in some specific cases studies in hepatic impairment patients are however rarely performed in drug development for therapeutic protein since hepatic metabolism is for most of them not the major elimination pathway and no regulatory guidance by FDA is uh available Beyond General recommendations however uh the colleagues at FDA uh put together uh a nice publication in 00 where they collected data for uh therapeutic proteins from their databases mostly monoclonal antibodies and they could show that in of them there was no effect of M to moderate hepatic impairment on the pharmacokinetic that would require those adjustments however there were a few exceptions and three of them there was actually a reduction in the uh system exposure the a see by

to 0 so its basically the opposite of
what you usually expect for small
molecular drugs where peretic impairment
of it oftentimes results in an increase
in the systemic exposure in this case it
was a decrease in the systemic exposure
its potentially related to concurrent
hyper globulinemia in atic impairment
via saturation of the socalled FC uh RN
or neonatal FC receptor uh process that
well talk about in uh the next
section theres also case report that I
think makes the point very well for Pine
tumor map which has been used
specifically uh for the treatment of a
patient with metastatic coloral cancer
that had
um hepatic impairment uh child food
Class B due to liver metastasis and
while small molecule drugs in this
specific scenario could not be used
anymore due to this hepatic impairment
it was specifically this patient was
specifically mve to a therapy with pen
Tumo map as a cross
wal um anti or a a anti egfr drug for

cross wild type metastatic colorectal cancer the drug was well tolerated and the concentration time profile observed in this specific case report was very comparable to what historic data showed in healthy individuals this concludes the elimination processes for therapeutic proteins in summary unspecific proteolytic degradation is the major elimination pathway for most therapeutic proteins and is facilitated by endothelial cells and the reticuloendothelial system Targeted degradation may be a major contributor to the elimination of the proteins at low molar concentrations relative to their target abundance and often results in nonlinear pharmacokinetic behavior proteolytic elimination organs for small molecule drugs like liver and kidneys are only minor contributors to the elimination of most therapeutic proteins and renal metabolism may contribute to the elimination of proteins with a molecular weight below 9 kilodalton that undergo glomerular

filtration and renal impairment may
reduce the clearance of these
proteins again there are two self
assessment questions for this
section