

we are honored to have dr art atkinson
course

dr atkinson founded the nih's course on
principle of clinical pharmacology

almost 0 years ago

dr atkinson received his undergraduate
degree in chemistry from harvard college
in 99 and his medical degree from

cornell university in 9

following residency at mass general
hospital he was a clinical associate in
the laboratory of clinical investigation

here at the nih's niaid

he received his postdoctoral training in
clinical pharmacology at the university
of cincinnati

in 90 he moved to northwestern
university to start the clinical
pharmacology program there
while at northwestern he and his
colleagues set up the first us hospital
laboratory devoted to general
therapeutic drug monitoring

in 99 dr atkinson joined up john as a
vice president for clinical development

and medical affairs
following the up john pharmacy a merger
he joined the center for drug
development science at georgetown
university
in 99 he returned to the nih as a
senior advisor in clinical pharmacology
to the director
of the nihs clinical center dr atkinson
has received numerous honors and awards
over the years
i know youll enjoy todays presentation
thank you dr figg
im going to begin the
twopart presentation on
pharmacokinetics
in patients requiring renal replacement
therapy
by talking about
pharmacokinetics in patients who are
undergoing hemodialysis
well you may think its strange for a
pharmacologist to be interested in
hemodialysis
but as a matter of history
hemodialysis was first studied by john

jacob abel who actually was the first
pharmacologist in the united states

and

dr abel

published this paper way back in 9
and he was he called it vivid perfusion

and he

had to build his own apparatus he then

had to

to

make a leech extract to use as an

anticoagulant

and one of the studies he did was to

study the hemodialysis of the drug

salicylic acid

so you can see that a lot of what were

going to talk about has really its roots

in the founding of the founder of

american pharmacology

and although some investigators in in

germany did some studies on hemodialysis

in the 90s

it wasnt until

near the end of the second world war

that willem kolff actually applied it

to treat a woman

who was in renal failure and so that was
hes really credited with being the
first one to successfully use
hemodialysis
in
treating patients
the from the pharmacokineticist
standpoint
the artificial kidney is the ideal
eliminating organ
you can measure blood flow
you can measure drug concentrations
going into the dialyzer drug
concentrations leaving the dialyzer you
can actually
collect the dialysis bath fluid
and see how much drug youve actually
taken out
so previously weve talked about
youve talked heard about renal
clearance of drugs
and
the observations we can make are are
somewhat more limited we can measure the
eliminated drug obviously and the
concentration in blood going to the

kidney

yeah there are ways of measuring blood

flow but its hardly ever done and the

same goes for the nonrenal or hepatic

clearance of drugs where we

really have

only routine access to the the blood

concentrations themselves and obtain uh

hepatic clearance by subtraction from

renal clearance from total clearance

so here are all the sources in the north

schematic of a

patient on hemodialysis

there are convenient ports in the line

to sample blood going into the kidney

sample blood leaving the artificial

kidney you can measure blood flow here

and recover drug

now as you know

we the total elimination clearance

represents the sum

of renal clearance and nonrenal

clearance and when we study patients on

hemodialysis we have a third elimination

clearance to calculate

dr gerhard levy

has
said that for
hemodialysis clearance or extracorporeal
clearance to be considered effective
it has to be greater than 0 percent of
the sum
of renal and nonrenal clearances
the essential point that isn't often
considered is that these clearance
estimates
must be comparable and we'll talk about
that in just a minute
but first I want to discuss a number of
ways of thinking of hemodialysis
clearance
and we've previously
mentioned
professor Eugene Renkin in the context
of the equation that he used to analyze
transcapillary exchange
he also performed studies with the
artificial kidney using the very same
equation
and his equation
neglected certain things like
ultrafiltration and boundary effects

but it did
take into consideration characteristics
like the surface area the membrane the
thickness the porosity
drug binding to plasma proteins could be
considered
solute size and diffusivity
and so if we look for example at two
compounds procainamide and that's
acetylated metabolite napa we can see
that the ratio
of the dialyzer permeability
coefficients calculated from professor
renkens equation is very close to what
we can measure in terms of the ratio of
their free water diffusion coefficients
and
renkin
published this figure in which they
looked at the relationship between
dialysis clearance
and flow through the dialyzer
what you can see is urea
which has a very high permeability has a
clearance that that is
for a while at least quite close to to

uh blood flow uh measurements as we get
up to larger and larger compounds for
example phenol red once you get above
lets say 0
mils per minute for your your flow
you reach sort of a plateau
in the dialysis clearance that can be
obtained
so in a sense this elimination is
perfusion limited and urea is more flow
limited if you will in its clearance
now one of the problems we have in in
taking published literature data and
applying it to an actual patient is that
the study on which the literature is
based
may have been done with a different
dialyzer than were do
than our patient is using
and one way of of
theoretically
transforming the data between dial
dialyzers would be to do a preliminary
study and calculate the ratio of
permeability surface coefficients
for a

particular drug and the standard

compound

and then use the ratio to estimate

what the dialyzer clearance would be for

another dialyzer but what needs to be

selected is the appropriate standard

compound maybe something like creatinine

uh would work for that

but uh

most of the kinetic studies that are

done do not use renkens equation there

are merely empirical analyses

and there are two major approaches the

first is what i will call the recovery

clearance

here were saying dialysis clearance is

equal to the product of the

dialysate bath concentration of drug

times dialysis bath volume times the

average concentration times the dialysis

divided by the dialysis time

but you can also use the area under the

the

the

curve of concentrations going to the

dialyzer during that same time period

this is the gold standard for
calculating dialysis clearance
unfortunately
whats most often used is the av
difference method which is based on the
fig equation

and here you have the av difference
divided by the arterial concentration
going to the dialyzer times flow these
terms in parentheses we call
the extraction coefficient theres also
an extraction coefficient in the renkin
equation if you will in both cases
clearance is flow times the extraction
ratio

now there are two myths id like to
disabuse you of in in the dialysis
literature one is that you need to use
blood concentrations when calculating
blood clearance

well the fact is that usually plasma
concentrations are
proportional to blood concentrations so
if youre calculating this ratio
it really doesnt matter what youre
using

the other thing that is much more
serious
is the so called need to use plasma flow
when calculating plasma clearance
now
if we compare
the recovery and fix methods for
calculating both blood clearance
and plasma clearance you can see that
theres probably no problem when were
talking about blood concentrations here
but supposing now were basing our
clearance calculations on plasma
concentrations
and thats how we calculate
most of our pharmacokinetic clearances
with renal clearance hepatic clearance
theyre usually plasma clearances that
were calculating
and so if the plasma concentration is
less than the blood concentration that
means the plasma clearance is going to
be greater than the blood concentration
well
the only way we can get the equivalent
answer for plasma clearance from the av

difference method is to use a blood flow

that is a flow term that's greater than

blood flow

okay

and so

this is the major problem

with using the av difference method

in calculating dialysis clearance

because remember according to levy

you want to j to judge dialysis efficacy

on

the

the

percentage that that dialysis clearance

has compared to the u_h renal and

nonrenal clearances so those clearances

have to be bona fide plasma clearances

and we can see here that

the correct clearance ill call the

correct flow ill call pharmacokinetic

flow in this case the measured flow is

9 ml/min the pharmacokinetic

flow is substantially larger

and we can

estimate to some extent the correct

pharmacokinetic flow by taking into

account the partitioning of the drug

into red cells

because the drug in erythrocytes is by

and large accessible to the dialyzer

kidney

well

what about the actual conduct of

pharmacokinetic studies and this is a a

a topic of i will say increasing

uh concern and interest

chapter six in the principles of

clinical pharmacology book

does cover this more recently theres

another paper

and

i would most of all direct you to the

draft guidance that the fda is preparing

on the proper conduct of

studies in patients with impaired renal

function and the draft guidance for the

first time

as recommendations for the conduct of

these studies in dialysis patients and

by the way does emphasize the importance

of calculating recovery clearance

based on the actual

drug recovered

so all these

things recover drug

concentration leaving the dialyzer

concentration entering the dialyzer and

flow

are accessible to direct measurement

and in conducting a study of this you

first of all have to start with the pre

or post dialysis

kinetics

and then you modify in this case a

fairly simple three compartment model

by adding two more compartments

first of all you have to have a

compartment

that in which the drug is collected

and this is the direct way the recovery

method for calculating dialysis

clearance

the venous concentrations the

concentrations leaving the dialyzer are

calculating calculated from this ratio

its a proportionality

and that ratio really comes it looks

complicated but it comes from a

rearrangement of the thick equation
and here you see how that rearrangement
is accomplished
lets carry
this approach where were taking all
sources of data and building them into
the pharmacokinetic model something that
is very rarely done
and
when that is done
generally speaking youll find that
during dialysis
the arterial venous concentrations fall
more than expected from the amount of
drug that you recover
similarly
after dialysis this rebound in
concentrations
is less
than you would expect
now this is what our dialysis kinetic
model looks like
and
the only thing that can account for both
discrepancies
is a reduction

in slow

intercompartmental clearance

this is something that's hardly ever

i would say almost never been observed

because nobody has ever conducted

rigorous rigorous enough studies its

not a trivial change

on the average i've found with this

particular drug there's a reduction

in that slow intercompartmental

clearance

during hemodialysis

well we'll get back to analyzing the

reasons for that but let's

now move forward and say

of what clinical significance is this

change this reduction in slow

intercompartmental clearance

and

one of the obvious

implications is it enhances the efficacy

of dialysis in treating drug toxicity

and this is an actual case report of a

year old woman who attempted suicide

by swallowing seven grams of

procainamide

and she became lethargic and confused
and hypotensive her kidneys stopped
working and she had a junctional
tachycardia with an intraventricular
conduction delay
hemodialysis was performed for four
hours
and by the end of the second hour her
blood pressure was maintained without
vasopressor therapy
and at the end of dialysis her she was
alert and oriented
even though
less than one gram of drug and
metabolite had been removed
so she swallowed seven grams we've taken
only one less than a gram away
and
and she seemed to be better
well
the procaine amide clearance was
increased by a factor of two napa almost
fourfold the metabolite
and
again the amount removed was little but
look at the

marked drop in plasma concentrations
particularly of the parent drug
we look at the pharmacokinetic
parameters that were obtained in
studying the dialysis kinetics in this
woman we see that initially she did have
greatly prolonged half elimination
half-lives of both propofol and napa
that the elimination clearance was
greatly reduced the dialysis
significantly increased those clearances
but look the distribution volume
is much less
what is going on here
well
usually when we estimate distribution
volume we give a dose of drug and we
look at how much the concentration in
the
arteries in the blood or plasma
in this case though
we used the amount of drug removed
and the change in concentration to
calculate that distribution volume
let me draw you schematic of what
we think is going on

the reduction in slow intercompartmental
clearance is essentially putting
a tourniquet
between skeletal muscle compartment out
here
and the intravascular space
okay so in fact were dialyzing a much
smaller distribution volume
than
we would if if this
intercompartmental clearance hadnt been
uh
reduced
and because the biophase where the
pharmacokinetic
effects where the pharmacologic effects
are seen
is in more rapid equilibrium with
intervascular space than say the
skeletal muscle compartment
we can have a marked clinical
improvement
even though weve
removed drug primarily only from
two of the three compartments
so yes the total extent of drug removal

is compromised by this change

but

it can accelerate

the

the

the the recovery of the patient

uh and

also

the reduction in intercompartmental

clearance persists for a while after

hemodialysis and that attenuates the

post dialysis rebound

well

what is actually going on

in terms of physiology to account for

this

and again

uh we've previously discussed in our

drug distribution lecture the renkin

equation

and so in terms of that equation we can

have a reduction in capillary blood flow

we can have a reduction in capillary

permeability coefficient surface area

product or both of them can be decreased

so in terms of our uh

capillary exchange model

uh thats what we think has to be going

on and again ill refresh your memory

here is our our three compartment model

of inulin distribution

and of urea distribution

we can use these marker compounds then

to try to investigate whats going on

and heres a study

in which the urea and inulin were given

simultaneously

and uh inulin is not dialyzable but urea

is this is the arterial and thats the

venous concentration and you can see

that the intercompartmental clearances

the above compounds decrease although

urea

dialysis intercompartmental clearance

falls much much more than the the uh

inulin does and that as weve emphasized

before is because urea

is more flow

dependent in its dialysis in its

intercompartmental clearance than inulin

so right away

theres a clue

that something has to be going on with

flow

in fact when we use the rankine
equations to see what exactly is going

on with flow

what you see here

is that

flow to the slow equilibrating
compartment has decreased by 90 percent

and that decrease persists even in the
post dialysis period

but there is relatively little change
in the permeability coefficient surface
area products for either inulin or urea

now

these are dogs that had that were

studied that had intact kidneys

so the angiotensin system is

intact

the challenge if you will physiological

challenge of hemodialysis

is that the body thinks its going into

shock

so it does activate the angiotensin and
angiotensin system you can see here

plasma levels of renin that increase

markedly during dialysis and remain

elevated for some time

now i will contrast

this situation

where the reninangiotensin system is

activated with what happens

in a study in which

arginine vasopressin

is activated

and

on the the yaxis here or the

permeability coefficient surface area

product changes

and you can see as the plasma level of

arginine vasopressin increases

the permeability coefficient surface

area product decreases

now this is markedly different from our

dog study

and and how is this accomplished

well first of all uh

one of my heroes august crowe

won the nobel prize and showed this

slide

a cross section of a

capillary

capillaries in the skeletal muscle of a

cat

and what the bottom line is that only
so many of these capillaries are open at

a given time

the solid dots are closed

open circles

are open capillaries

and so by regulating the number of open

capillaries

the the body has a way to regulate the

permeability coefficient surface area

product its the surface area obviously

thats changed when you close

increase the number of closed

or open capillaries or

or reduce them

and the way that happens physiologically

has been shown in microvessel studies

that

with angiotensin ii

youre

increasing postcapillary sphincters

more than precapillary synctus so

youre getting an increase in total

peripheral resistance

that keeps at the same time in the
capillary open
whereas with arginine vasopressin and
norepinephrine
you're closing only the precapillary
sphincter and the capillary inside
collapses
so that results in what we call
capillary derecruitment
so here is a system where you have
let's say eight open capillaries in the
skeletal muscle bed this is an animation
of the crows study
and you see if you reduce and now only
have four open capillaries
oxygen has to travel a greater distance
to get over to the tissues supplied by
that capillary
now
it's perhaps not surprising that you
decrease skeletal blood flow by 90
some people might get cramps
the paradox is not everybody gets cramps
so how do we explain that
in terms of the physiology
well

because these patients have renal
disease that's where the renin is made
so they have an impaired
renin-angiotensin system
and when that has happened they may have
a sympathetic nervous response to the
volume distress of hemodialysis that's
not modulated by the renin-angiotensin
system so they close down
capillaries
and most of the noncrappers actually
also have a defective sympathetic
nervous system so they don't close
anything down
if you put them on the tilt table their
blood pressure drops precipitously
so they have
a doubly impaired homeostasis than for
volume stress
well that's the end of my particular
section and
we'll continue to hear uh from uh
more novel
methods of extracorporeal
drug removal
that are less stressful to patients than

hemodialysis thank you