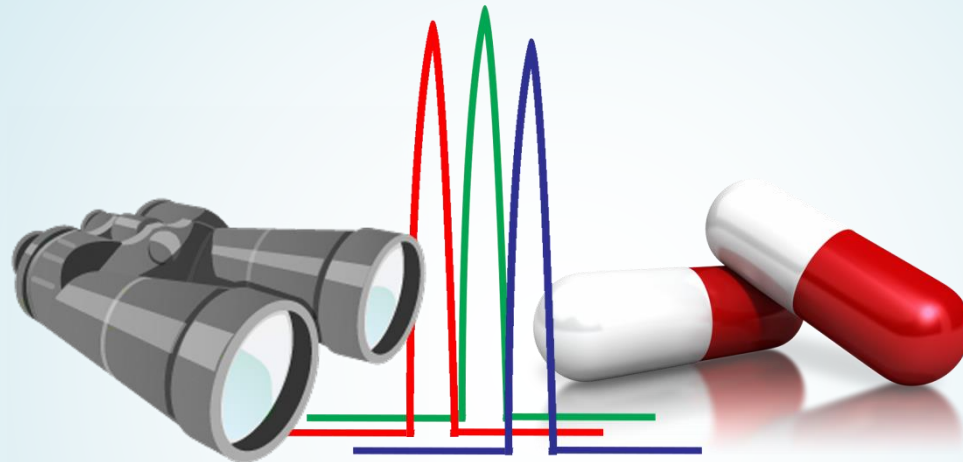


# Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM) in the Era of Personalized Therapy



**TDM**

Theodoros Karampelas,  
Division of Pharmacology-Pharmacotechnology, BRFAA

# Presentation Outline

1. TDM Background
2. TDM in Cancer
3. Examples of TDM applications in our lab
4. Future plans

# Guide to Personalized Therapy

Patient's  
Molecular Profile



Selection of right drug

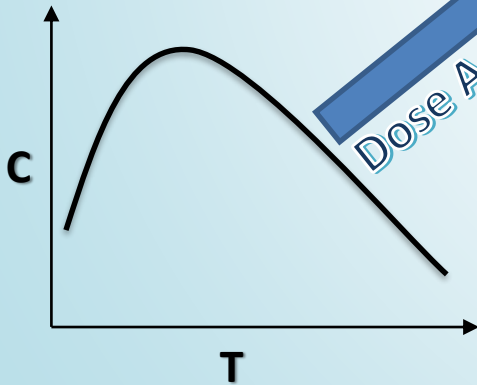
Dose Adjustment



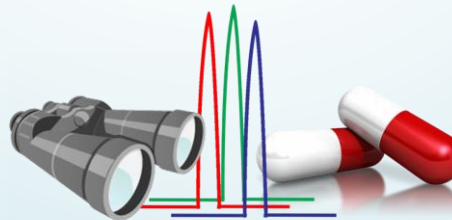
Targeted  
agent



Personalized  
Therapy



Drug Exposure



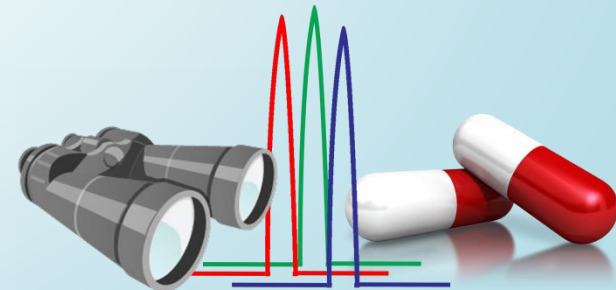
TDM

# 1. TDM Background

## Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Definition

The measurement of the levels of a drug in a biological fluid, in order to evaluate its potential **efficacious or toxic effects** and use this information in order to optimize the drug dosage scheme and overall clinical outcome of the patient

- One of the earliest forms of personalized medicine
- Established more than 50 years ago
- Not widely implemented

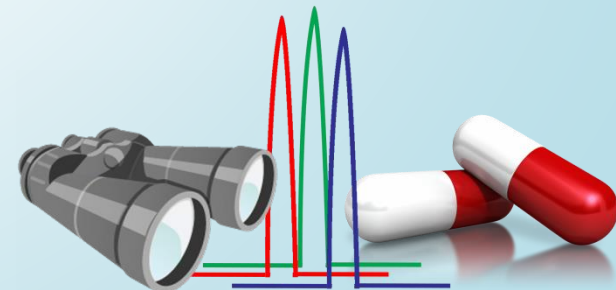


# 1. TDM Background

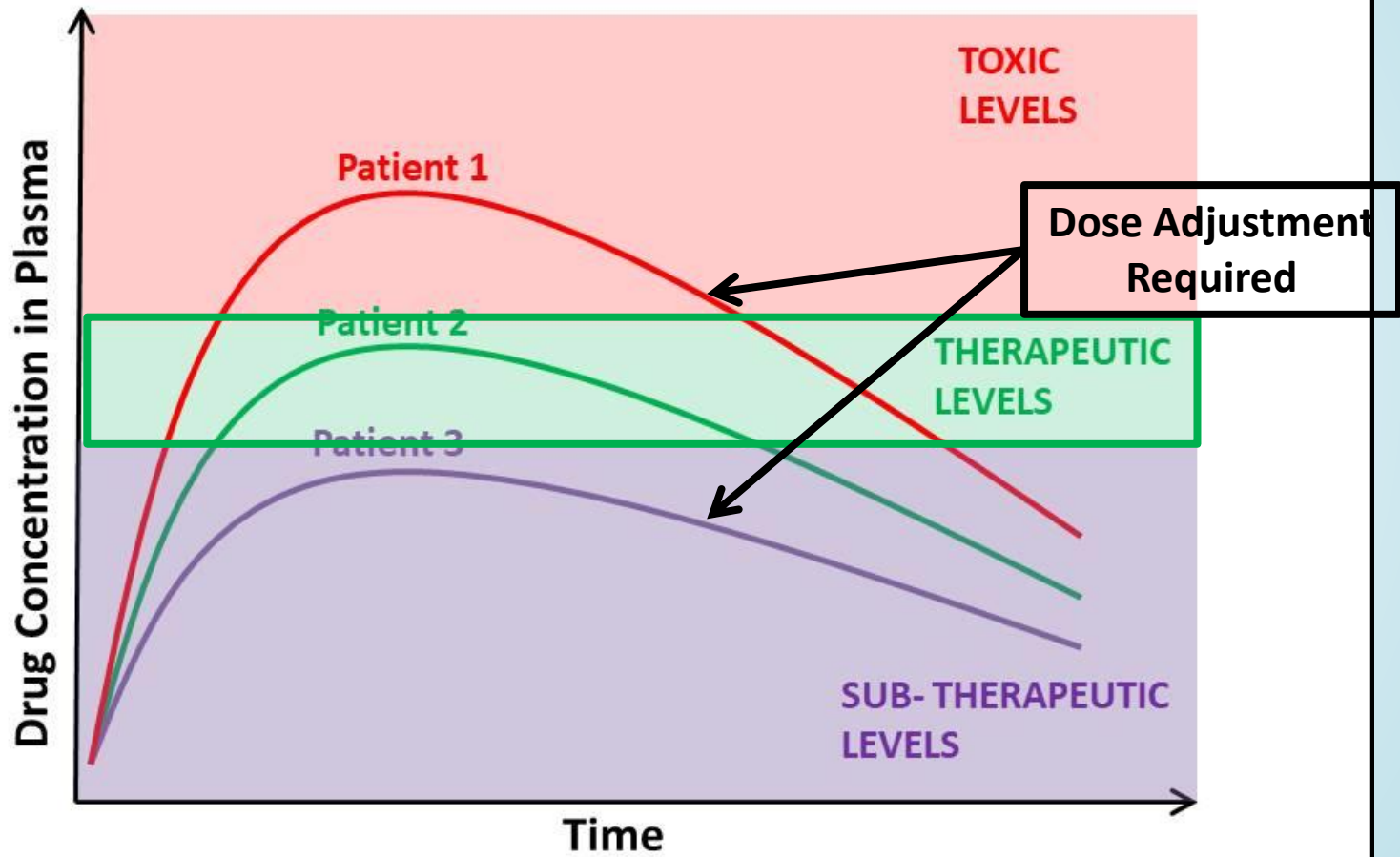
Main prerequisites of TDM:

1. A narrow therapeutic index and a wide inter-individual variability
2. A well-defined relationship between circulating levels and effect

Gao, B., Yeap, S., Clements, A., Balakrishnar, B., Wong, M., and Gurney, H. (2012). **Evidence for Therapeutic Drug Monitoring of Targeted Anticancer Therapies.** *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 30, 4017–4025



# 1. TDM Background



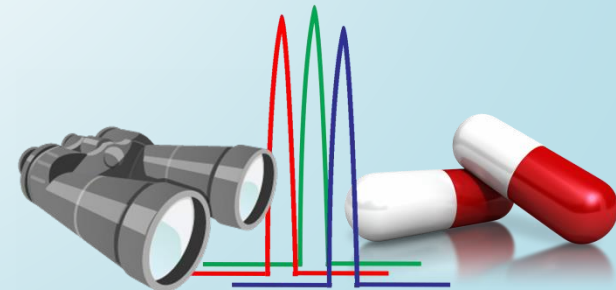


# 1. TDM Background

Main prerequisites of TDM:

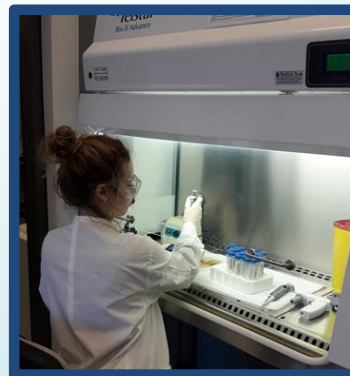
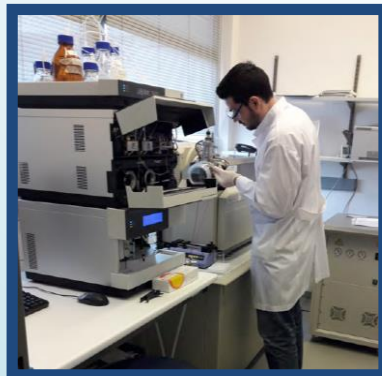
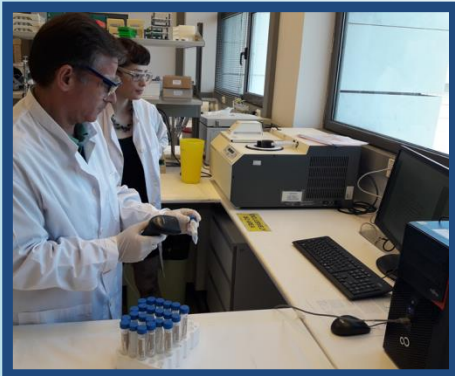
1. A narrow therapeutic index and a wide inter-individual variability
2. A well-defined relationship between circulating levels and effect
3. Availability of reliable and clinically feasible assays

Gao, B., Yeap, S., Clements, A., Balakrishnar, B., Wong, M., and Gurney, H. (2012). **Evidence for Therapeutic Drug Monitoring of Targeted Anticancer Therapies.** *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 30, 4017–4025



# BRFAA PHARMACOLOGY

- LC-MS/MS Quantification of drugs and/or biomarkers in biological fluids (e.g. plasma, serum) derived from clinical samples
- Applicable for various types of clinical studies (Clinical studies Phase I-IV, Bioequivalence studies)
- The laboratory follows ISO17025 and GLP based procedures





## CLINIC



**A**

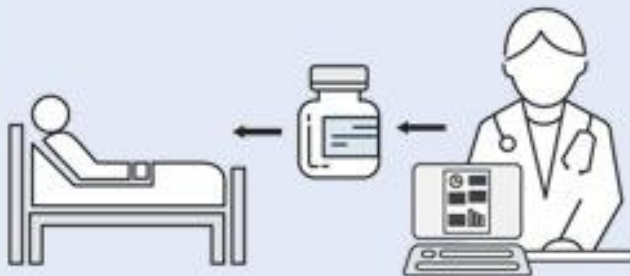
Biological sample collected in the clinic

## LABORATORY



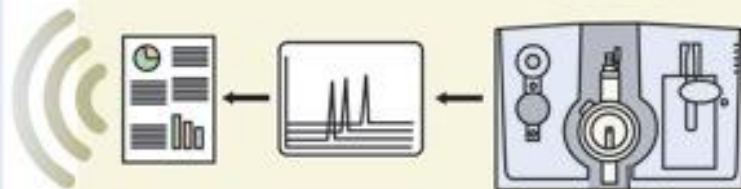
**B**

Biological sample extracted before analysis



**D**

The clinician evaluates the information and treatment is optimized



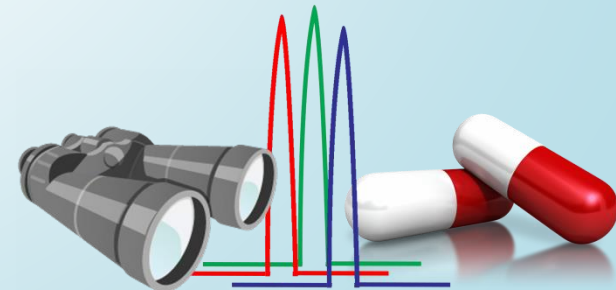
**C**

Analysis is performed using LC-MS/MS, data analysis follows and report is generated

## 2. TDM in Cancer

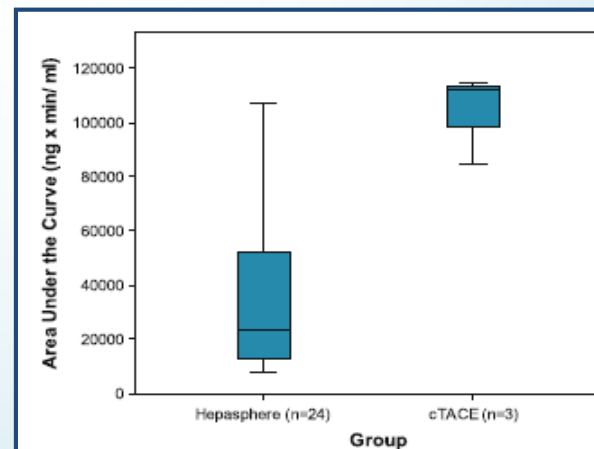
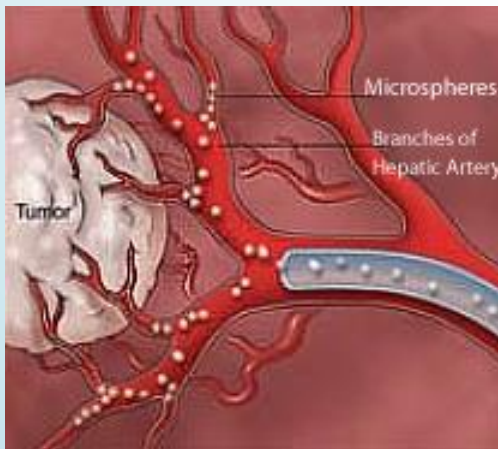
### Implementation Impediments for TDM in Oncology Practice

- Lack of established therapeutic ranges and concentration-effect relationships
- Frequent use of multidrug combinations with overlapping therapeutic and toxic effects
- Use of prodrugs or drugs with active metabolites
- Drugs with short elimination half-life and given by intermittent intravenous infusions



# Representative Examples of TDM

**Example 1:** A Phase III Clinical Study for the evaluation of a new embolic material applied to patients with hepatocellular carcinoma



# Example 1: Evaluation of the Pharmacokinetics of a new embolic material

Cardiovasc Intervent Radiol  
DOI 10.1007/s00270-013-0777-x

## CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

### Chemoembolization of Hepatocellular Carcinoma with Hepasphere 30–60 $\mu\text{m}$ . Safety and Efficacy Study

Katerina Malagari · Maria Pomoni · Hippokratris Moschouris · Alexios Kelekis · Angelos Charokopakis · Evanthia Bouma · Themistoklis Spyridopoulos · Achilles Chatziioannou · Vlasios Sotirchos · Theodoros Karampelas · Constantin Tamvakopoulos · Dimitrios Filippiadis · Enangelos Karagiannis · Athanasios Marinis · John Koskinas · Dimitrios A. Kelekis

## Comparison of two doxorubicin TACE administrations in HCC patients:

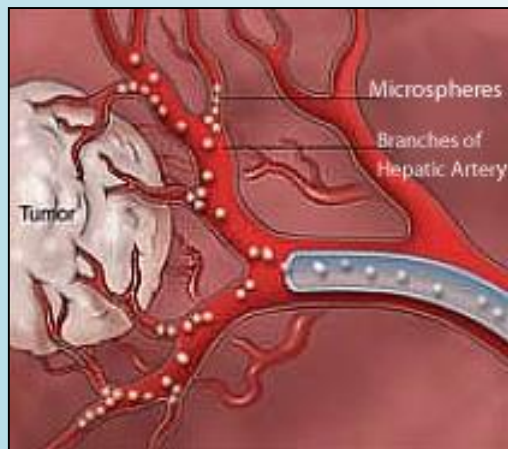
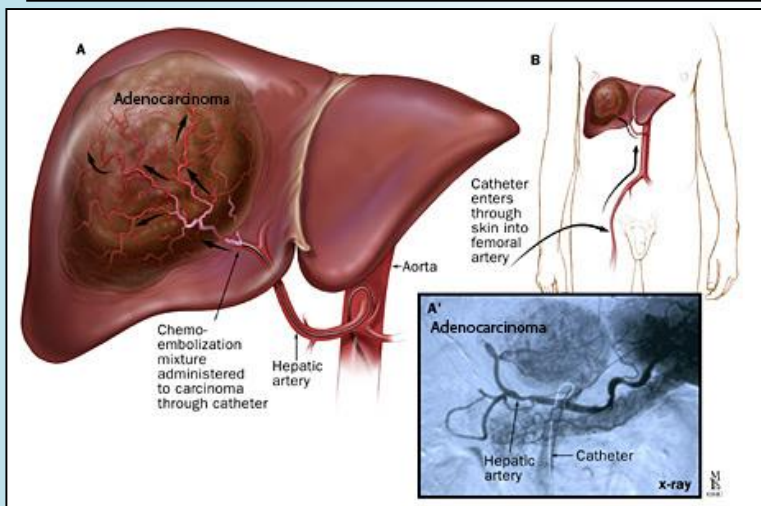
1. Conventional TACE
2. HepaSphere microspheres TACE

### TACE

- TACE: Transcatheter Arterial ChemoEmbolization
- Administration of chemotherapy directly to the liver tumor via a catheter
- Embolization cuts off the blood supply to the tumors

### TACE with microspheres

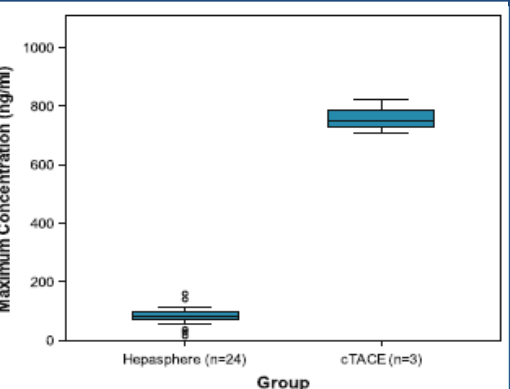
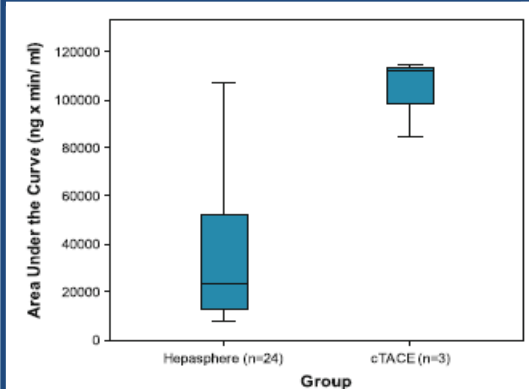
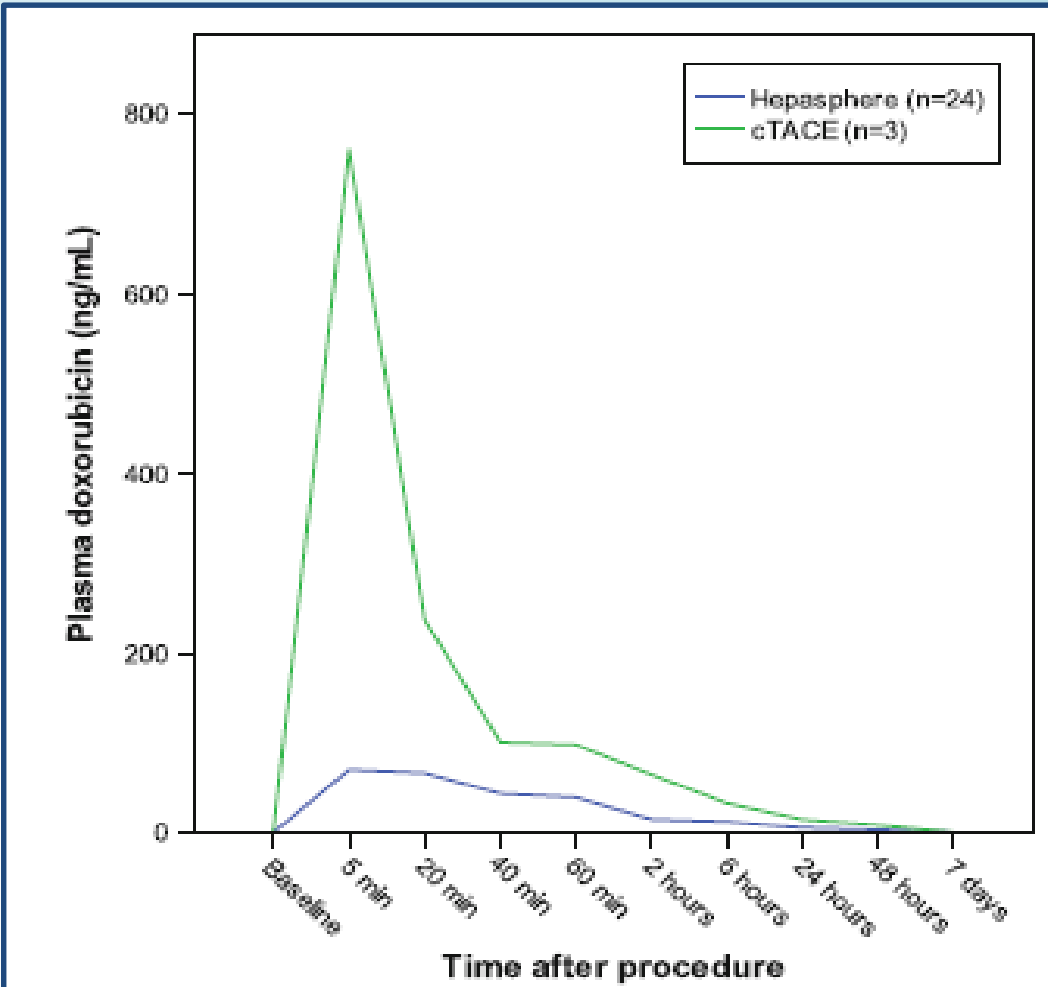
- Microspheres are biocompatible, non-resorbent and soaked in a chemotherapy agent
- Keep the chemotherapy drug in the tumor by blocking the flow to other areas
- Higher dose of the drug can be used, because less drug is able to circulate



# Example 1: Evaluation of the Pharmacokinetics of a new embolic material

Doxorubicin was administered in HCC patients either with conventional or Hepasphere TACE  
→ Doxorubicin: Anthracycline antibiotic  
→ Intercalates in DNA  
→ Used in the treatment of many cancer types (Hematological, sarcomas, carcinomas)

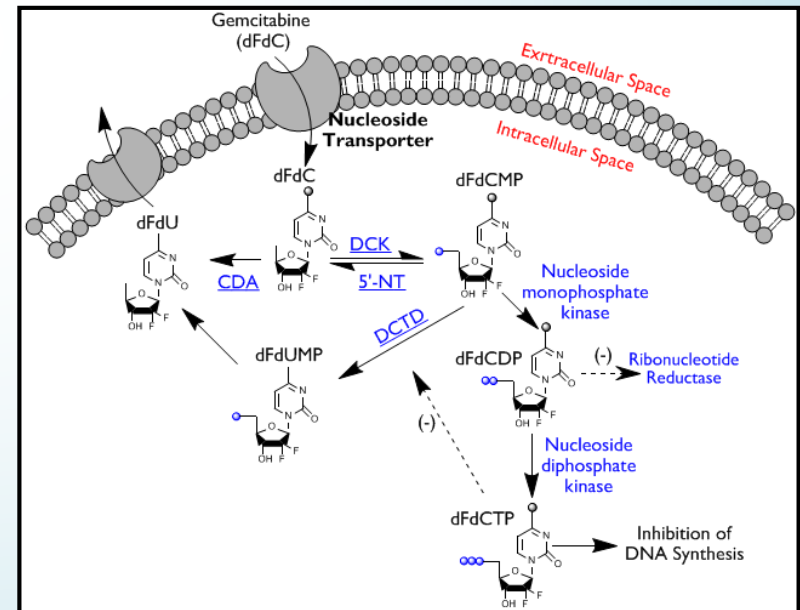
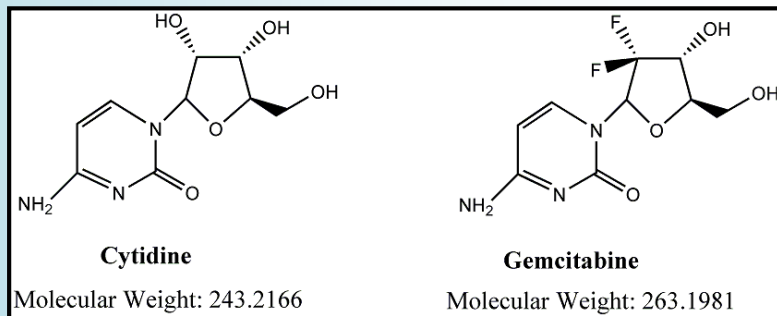
→ **HepaSphere 30–60 μm TACE** showed a favorable pharmacokinetic profile against conventional TACE  
→ **Future Plan: Assess potential inverse correlation of plasma levels with efficacy**





# Representative Examples of TDM

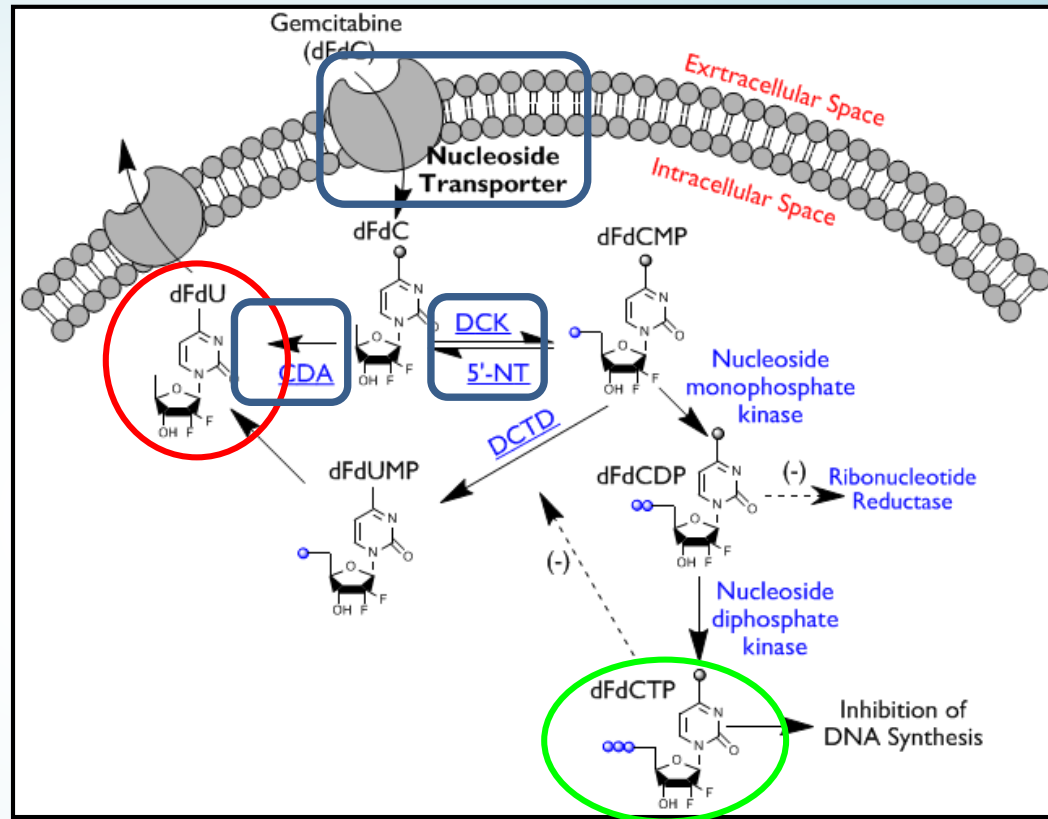
**Example 2:** A preclinical approach to assess the metabolic balance of gemcitabine





# Gemcitabine

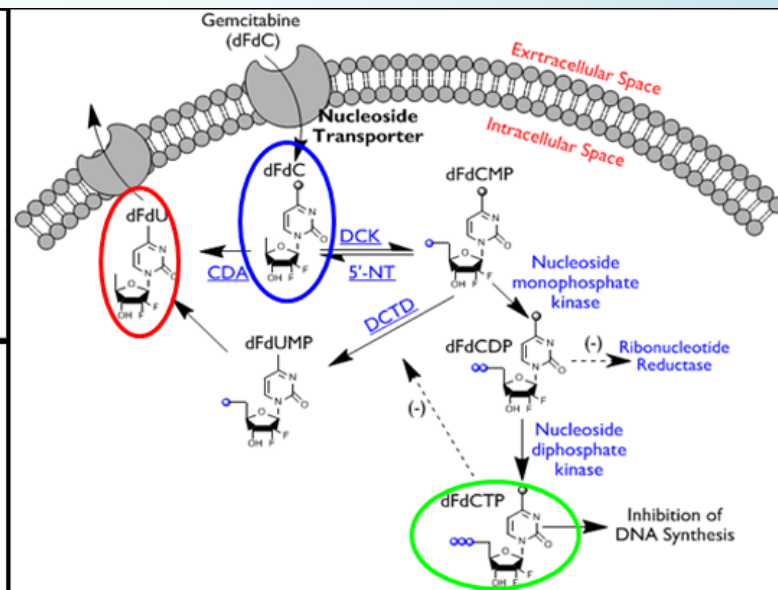
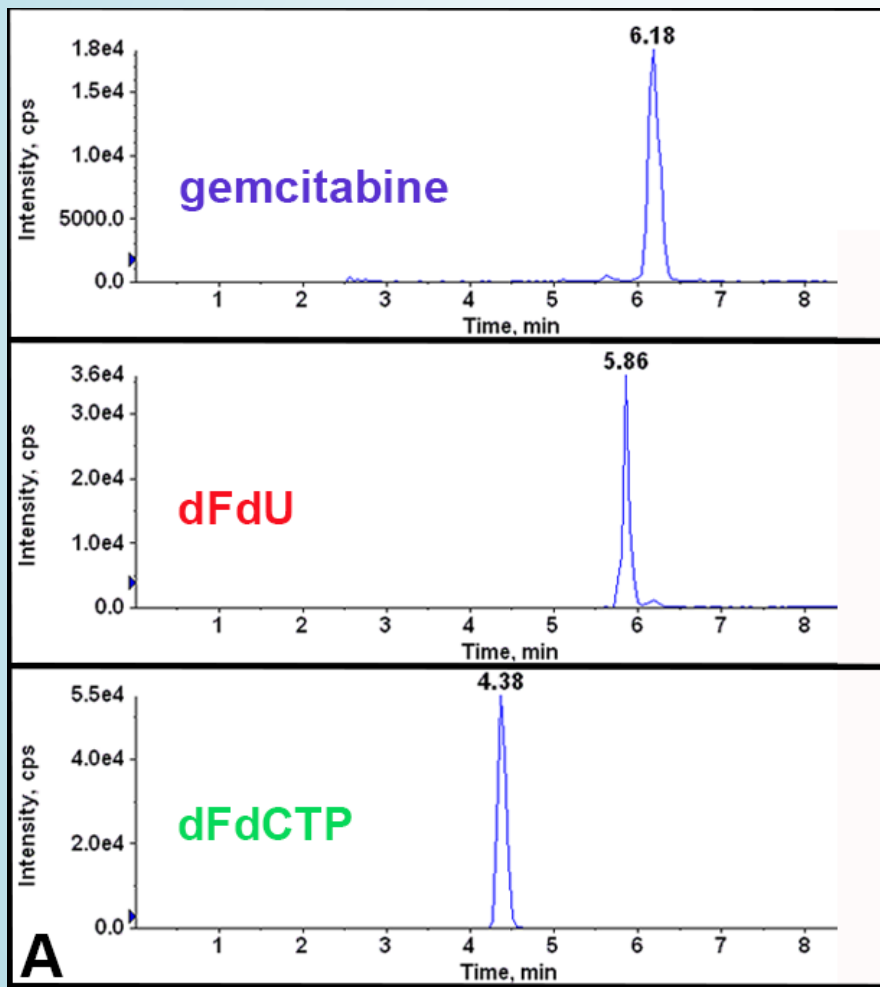
- Potent antimetabolite anticancer agent used for the treatment of several solid tumors such as colon, lung, pancreatic cancer
- Transferred into the cell by nucleoside transporters, undergoes phosphorylation and blocks DNA synthesis
- Main limitation: Rapid metabolic inactivation through deamination and formation of dFdU



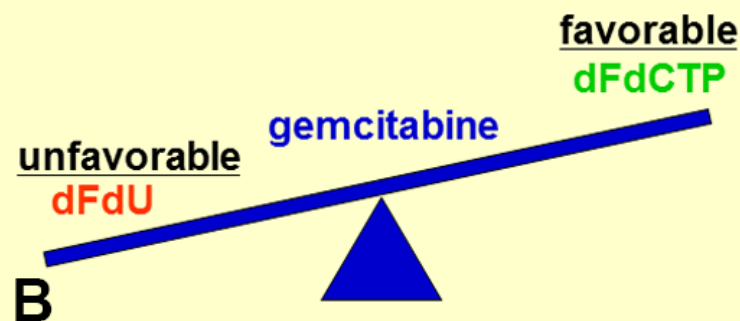
→ **Polymorphisms or mutations that are associated with induced resistance of gemcitabine metabolism enzymes could affect its efficacy**

# Can MS based tools allow us to further understand/improve gemcitabine based therapies?

→ A bioanalytical methodology was developed for the identification and quantification of gemcitabine, its active (dFdCTP) and inactive metabolite

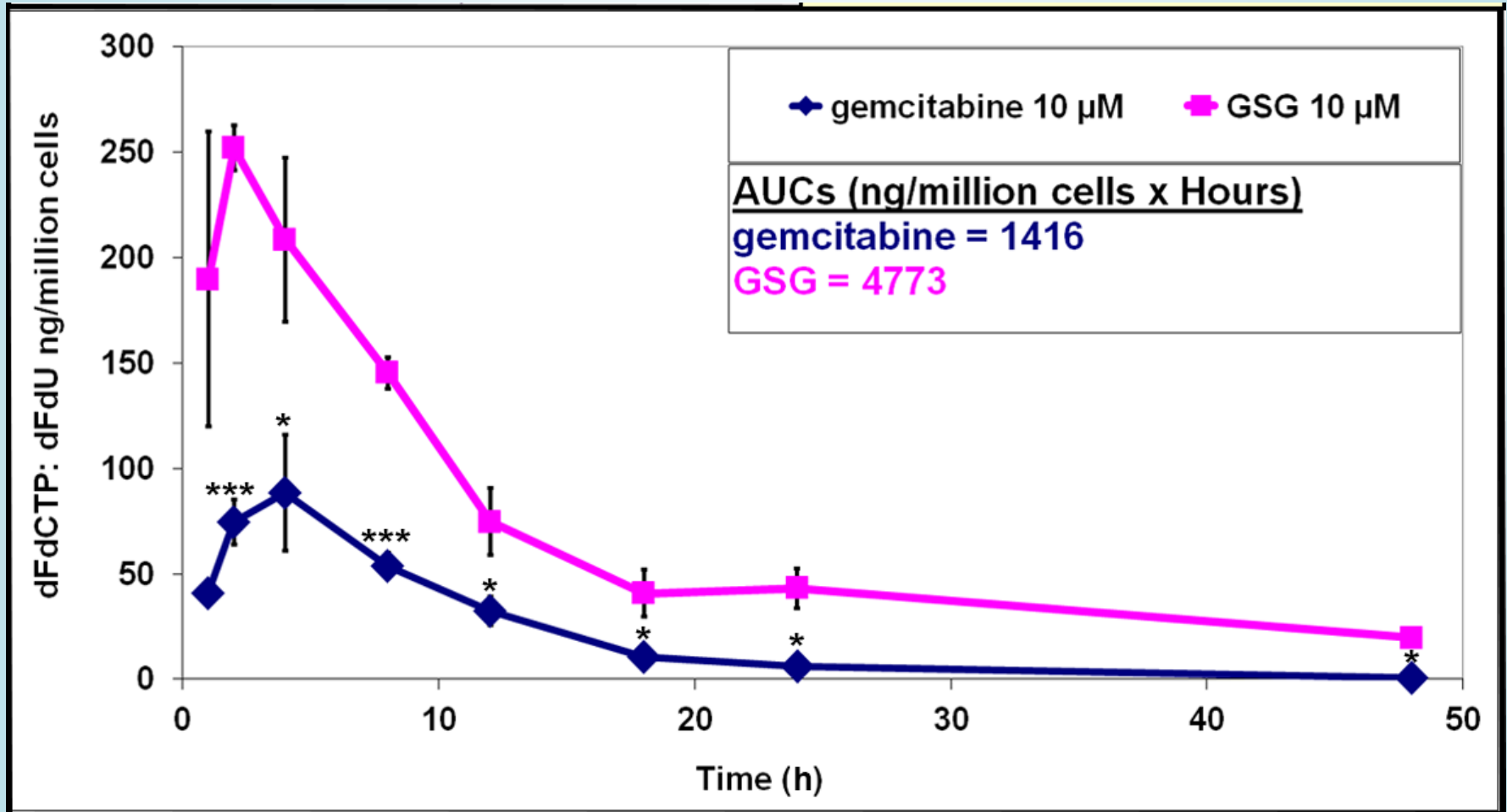


## The balance of gemcitabine metabolism



# Application of the Developed Methodology on a Cell Based Assay

## Evaluation of intracellular gemcitabine metabolite balance



- Future plan: Evaluate the developed approach in clinical samples aiming to correlate gemcitabine metabolic balance with efficacy

# Future plans

- A consortium of experts on the individual specialties of TDM has been formed
- Focus on TDM in various types of cancer and cancer treatments

## Clinical Protocol Preparation

(Creative Pharma Services)

## Clinical Trials

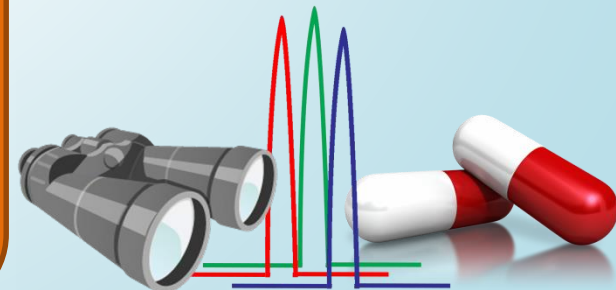
(Sotiria, "Agia Sofia" Children's Hospital, Evgenidion)

## Sample Analysis

(BRFAA Pharmacology, BRFAA Proteomics)

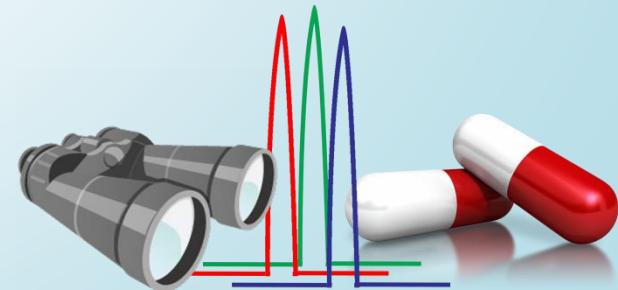
## Development of an Algorithm for Dose Adjustment

(Creative Pharma Services, BRFAA, Sotiria)



# Future plans

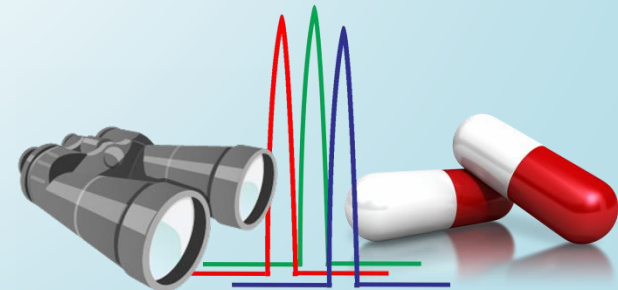
- Collaboration with ELPIDA Hospital for TDM in pediatric brain tumors
- Focus on TDM in CSF that has not been assessed in the past and might be more relevant
  - Correlation of drug levels in CSF in comparison with circulating levels
  - How radiation therapy affects the blood brain barrier (**BBB**) with respect to drug uptake
- CSF collection will not be highly interventional as patients will be carrying an Ommaya reservoir



# TDM in Pediatric Brain Tumors

## Molecules to be monitored in CSF

Name	Associated Disease	Matrix used from existing methodologies
temozolomide	pediatric gliomas	Plasma
methotrexate	CNS tumors	Plasma
valproic acid	CNS tumors	Plasma, Blood
carboplatin	CNS tumors	Plasma
trametinib	low grade glioma	Plasma
selumetinib	low grade glioma	Plasma, Urine





# Acknowledgements

## BRFAA Pharmacology

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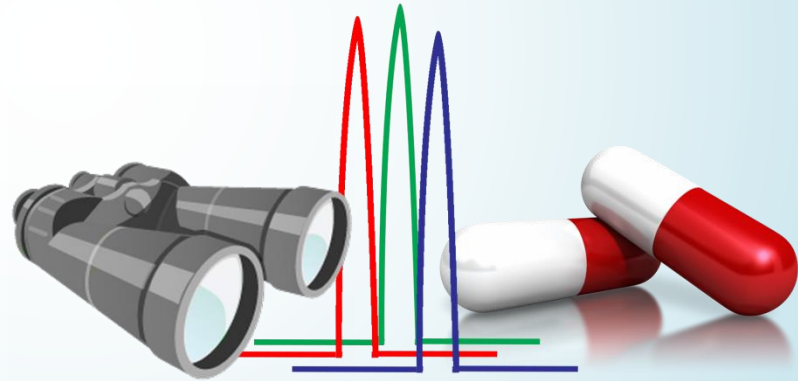
M. Orfanou

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# THANK YOU!!!



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K. Malagari

# TDM