

1 **Drug interaction guideline for drug development and labeling recommendations** 2 **(draft for public comment)**

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99 1. Introduction

100 1.1. Background and objectives

101 It is common in clinical practice for several drugs to be administered concurrently to achieve a
102 therapeutic goal, and under such circumstances, particular attention must be paid to possible
103 interactions among the drugs. Although drug interactions of clinical concern are rare, the adverse
104 effects may be severe in some cases and pose a serious problem in drug therapy. Therefore, in the
105 evaluation and clinical application of drugs, it is necessary to appropriately predict the characteristics
106 and severities of possible drug interactions, and to deal with such interactions so as to prevent any
107 patient risk.

108 Evaluation of drug interactions during the drug development process requires stepwise
109 accumulation of basic study data and accurate judgment depending on the situation. Thus, planned and
110 systematic investigations are important. The purpose of this guideline is to provide general methods,
111 criteria for judgment, and a general guide for interpretation of the study results and provision of
112 information concerning nonclinical studies aimed at predicting drug interaction potentials and judging
113 the need for implementation of clinical studies, and also information concerning clinical studies aimed
114 at confirming the presence or absence and degree of drug interactions in human. If the possibility of
115 drug interactions that may become major clinical problems is judged early development phase based on
116 these guidelines, more efficient development of drugs is expected to become possible. In addition,
117 adequate provision of information obtained during the drug development process to clinical practice
118 may avoid the occurrence of harmful drug interactions and/or decrease in the efficacy of drug therapy.
119 These actions may be expected to lead to an optimized risk-benefit balance of drugs, eventually
120 promoting the proper use of drugs.

121 This guideline presents general procedures that are considered to be scientifically valid at the
122 present moment. However, because the physical and chemical properties, pharmacological actions,
123 pharmacokinetics, and clinical usage vary among individual drugs, the methods of evaluation of drug
124 interactions also vary among investigational drugs. Therefore, while implementing drug interaction
125 studies, it is necessary to select the appropriate methods of study according to the properties of the drug
126 in question, based on the principles described in these guidelines. In case of need, new methods of
127 study and means of providing information derived from advances in academic studies and scientific
128 technologies may also be evaluated and adopted proactively.

129

130 1.2. Scope

131 This guideline presents the principles and methods for appropriate provision of information on
132 drug interaction studies and their results during the development of new drugs. This guideline applies

133 to *in vitro* studies that are carried out in the early phase of drug development using human tissue-
134 derived specimen and expression systems to predict drug interactions in humans and to judge the need
135 to implement clinical studies. This guideline also applies to clinical drug interaction studies that are
136 conducted as needed during drug development, drug interaction studies carried out as necessary after
137 marketing, and provision of information about the results of such studies in the package inserts.

138 Drug interactions can occur in any route of administration. Although these guidelines mainly
139 provide an outline of drug interactions following oral administration, other routes of administration are
140 also dealt with as appropriate. Drug interactions associated with routes of administration other than the
141 oral route should be studied with reference to this guideline, bearing in mind the fact that the degree of
142 drug interactions would vary among different routes of administration.

143 This guideline defines drug interactions as interactions among the drugs administered
144 concomitantly that may affect the beneficial effects, adverse effects, or pharmacokinetics of the drugs
145 (including, biotechnological and biological products) and between the drug under study and foods,
146 beverages, or nonessential grocery items (e.g., tobacco, alcohol, nutritional supplements).

147 Drug interactions are broadly classified into pharmacokinetic drug interactions and
148 pharmacodynamic drug interactions, according to the mechanism of occurrence. The pharmacokinetic
149 drug interactions are caused by changes in the blood concentrations or tissue distribution of the drugs
150 or their active metabolites resulting from interactions occurring in the process of their absorption,
151 distribution, metabolism, or excretion. The pharmacodynamic drug interactions result from overlapping
152 or cancellation of pharmacological actions, or changes in the drug sensitivity due to concomitantly
153 administered drugs. It is difficult for the present guideline to provide general procedures relevant to
154 pharmacodynamic drug interactions. It is necessary to appropriately determine whether studies of
155 pharmacodynamic drug interactions must be implemented according to the pharmacological actions of
156 drugs and anticipated clinical indications. In this guideline, descriptions are focused on
157 pharmacokinetic drug interactions mediated by general drug metabolizing enzymes or transporters.
158 However, it should also be borne in mind that some drugs strongly inhibit enzymes other than the
159 general drug metabolizing enzymes shown in this guideline, as in the case of harmful effects caused by
160 concomitant use of sorivudine and 5-fluorouracil, exerting inhibitory influences on the metabolic
161 disposition of concomitantly used drugs that are metabolized by the enzymes other than general drug
162 metabolizing enzymes, resulting in pharmacokinetic drug interactions. Since it is difficult to conclude
163 necessity of studies of drug interactions during the drug development process because of the currently
164 limited knowledge, this guideline only introduces the possibilities for pharmaceutical interactions and
165 drug effects on the clinical biochemical test.

166

167 1.3. Principles of drug interaction studies

168 Drug interactions between a drug under development (investigational drug) and approved drugs
169 that may be used with the investigational drug should be studied from the two aspects, i.e., the case
170 where the investigational drug is affected by concomitant drugs and the case where the investigational
171 drug affects concomitant drugs. In regard to drugs that are commonly used or likely to be used
172 concomitantly with the investigational drug in the clinical setting, it is necessary to investigate the
173 basic factors contributing to drug interactions by nonclinical studies, prior to the implementation of
174 clinical drug interaction studies. In general, to predict and evaluate the clinical influences of drug
175 interactions, it is necessary to quantitatively determine to what degree the pathway associated with the
176 drug interactions is contributed in the major clearance pathway of the investigational drug. Towards
177 this objective, *in vitro* studies using human tissue-derived specimen and expression systems should be
178 conducted to investigate the possibility of drug interactions occurring in the clinical setting, and
179 clinical studies should be chosen as necessary based on the results of such *in vitro* studies. Clinical
180 drug interaction studies should be performed to confirm drug interactions that should be avoided or that
181 require special attention during drug therapy. It is important that the effects on the therapeutic effects
182 of the drug are considered sufficiently in this manner. The information thus obtained should be
183 appropriately provided to healthcare professionals.

184 Drug interaction studies are planned and implemented on the basis of the mechanism of drug
185 interactions expected from preliminarily obtained physiological, chemical, pharmacological and
186 pharmacokinetic properties of the investigational drugs. The results of *in vitro* studies and clinical drug
187 interaction studies using strong inhibitors, etc., of drug metabolizing enzymes or transporters are useful
188 for predicting interactions with other drugs that may be used concomitantly. The possibility of drug
189 interactions with the metabolites of the investigational drug should also be studied if necessary, when
190 the blood concentration of the unchanged drug is low, in contrast to high concentrations of metabolites,
191 or when metabolites that may be harmful are produced. When the investigational drug is developed for
192 the purpose of using concomitantly with other drugs, as in the case of development related to
193 combination products or combination therapy, clinical drug interaction studies should be conducted
194 among the drugs in question.

195 Drug interaction studies in the drug development process should be carried out in a stepwise
196 manner based on the phase of development. *In vitro* studies to evaluate the effects of concomitant
197 drugs on the pharmacokinetics of the investigational drug (when the investigational drug is affected by
198 concomitant drugs) and the effects of the investigational drug on the pharmacokinetics of concomitant
199 drugs (when the investigational drug affects concomitant drugs) should be carried out before the
200 implementation of studies in a large number of patients or on long-term administration (usually before

201 the initiation of phase III studies),. Usually, *in vitro* metabolism studies are carried out before the
202 initiation of phase I studies, in order to investigate the major metabolites produced and the plasma
203 protein binding ratio. In addition, it is desirable that the results of mass balance studies be obtained
204 before the initiation of phase III studies. Information obtained stepwise from *in vitro* or clinical drug
205 interaction studies according to the aforementioned development policies should be provided
206 appropriately at the time of implementing later clinical studies by providing appropriate descriptions in
207 investigational brochures.

208 At each stage of drug development, studies using models and simulations such as the
209 physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model may be useful for predicting the possibility of
210 drug interactions and obtaining the information required for the implementation of clinical studies and
211 their designs. In modeling and simulation, a full understanding of the model used and the simulation
212 applied and verification of the reliability of modeling and simulation results are necessary according to
213 the study purpose. In the case of New Drug Application (NDA), it is necessary to provide the
214 assumption concerning the setting of the model and information about the process of model building,
215 and to show the validity of the models and the simulation results from the physiological, medical and
216 pharmaceutical viewpoints, as well as from the statistical viewpoint.

217 When the mechanism of the major drug interactions observed between the investigational drug
218 and concomitant drugs in the clinical setting is inconclusive, it is recommended to elucidate the
219 mechanism that produces such drug interactions by implementing additional studies.

220 When implementing clinical drug interaction studies, Good Clinical Practice (Standards for the
221 Conduct of Clinical Trials of Medical Products) (GCP) should be observed, and pharmacokinetic drug
222 interactions should be studied in accordance with “Clinical Pharmacokinetic Studies on
223 Pharmaceuticals (2001).”

224

225 2. Drug interactions in absorption

226 Drug interactions of concern involving the process of absorption from the gastrointestinal (GI)
227 tract are mainly associated with investigational drugs that are administered orally. However, drug
228 interactions of the same type should also be considered for drugs administered by inhalation, nasal, or
229 oral transmucosal route, etc., that may be absorbed from the GI tract after drug administration.

230 Not only concomitant drugs, but also components of food and beverage may exert significant
231 influences on the process of drug absorption. Many of these influences can be predicted qualitatively
232 based on full understanding of physical and chemical properties and pharmacological actions of the
233 drugs and formulations. The applicability of the following items 2.1-2.2 should be primarily considered.
234 In case of pharmacokinetics changes not predictable from these items are observed, the causes of the

235 changes should be investigated, including the possibility of drug interactions with drug metabolizing
236 enzymes or transporters mentioned below, if necessary.

237 The influences of food on the drug absorption process should be examined using the final
238 formulation of the drug, because the influences vary among different formulations. For the definition
239 of the final formulation, “Clinical Pharmacokinetic Studies of pharmaceuticals (2001)” should be
240 consulted.

241

242 2.1. Effects on gastrointestinal pH, complex/chelate formation, and solubility

243 2.1.1. Effects of concomitant drugs on the investigational drug

244 As for drugs or formulations whose solubility is pH-dependent, the need for clinical drug
245 interaction studies with concomitant drugs that cause changes in the gastric pH (proton pump inhibitors,
246 H₂ receptor antagonists, antacids, etc.) on the GI absorption should be considered.

247 In addition, because formation of complexes, chelates, micelles may occur as a result of the
248 influence of concomitant drugs and components of food and beverage (e.g., calcium) that decrease or
249 increase the GI absorption of the investigational drug, the possibility of complex formation should be
250 evaluated *in vitro* if necessary, based on the physical and chemical properties of the drug. If the
251 possibility that of the formation of complexes becoming a clinical concern is suggested by the physical
252 and chemical properties and *in vitro* data, the need for clinical drug interaction studies with foods
253 or/and beverages should be considered. In the case of pediatric drugs, the characteristics of the foods,
254 such as ingestion of milk in neonates, should also be taken into consideration.

255 It is recommended that influence of meals is examined under the conditions that are most
256 susceptible to foods. Drugs that are highly lipid-soluble and low solubility in the GI tract may show
257 increased gastrointestinal absorption due to enhanced solubility in the GI tract caused by increased bile
258 secretion after high-fat meal.

259

260 2.1.2. Effects of the investigational drug on concomitant drugs

261 If the investigational drug changes in gastric pH, the need for clinical drug interaction studies
262 should be considered after predicting the influences on the GI absorption of other drugs that have pH
263 dependency. According to the chemical structure of the investigational drug, the possibility of other
264 mechanisms, such as inhibition of absorption with complex formation, should also be considered.

265

266 2.2. Effects on gastrointestinal motility

267 2.2.1. Effects of concomitant drugs on the investigational drug

268 Concomitant drugs that influence the gastric emptying rate (proprantheline, metoclopramide, etc.)
269 change the rate of absorption of the investigational drug from the GI tract by affecting the dissolution
270 rate of drug formulation and passive into the small intestine. In addition, ingestion of food and
271 beverage often delays absorption due to a delay in the gastric emptying rate. Among these, if
272 pharmacokinetic changes associated with AUC change will be observed, attention should be paid to the
273 possible influences of concomitant drugs on the metabolism and absorption process of the
274 investigational drug.

275
276 2.2.2. Effects of the investigational drug on concomitant drugs

277 The investigational drug that influence on gastric emptying or intestinal motility could also
278 affect the pharmacokinetics of other concomitant drugs. In this case, the possibility of occurrence of
279 drug interactions of clinical concern should be considered, and if necessary, clinical drug interaction
280 studies should be conducted using the appropriate marker drugs (e.g., acetaminophen as an index of the
281 effect on gastric emptying). In many cases it should be borne in mind that such influences of
282 investigational drug on gastric emptying or intestinal motility can result in the systemic effects of
283 investigational drugs administered by the parenteral route. Absorption of drugs may also be influenced
284 by activity of transporters in GI tract as well. See sections 2.3 and 5.6.2. for evaluation of effects of the
285 investigational drug (or affect the investigational drug) on the active transport of other drugs.

286
287 2.3. Involvement of transporters in the absorption process

288 Some drugs that are absorbed by transporters expressed on the cell membrane on the luminal
289 side of the GI tract epithelial cells may interact with other drugs or diet components that are subject to
290 absorption by the same transporters, resulting in decreased absorption. Efflux transporters are
291 expressed on the cell membrane on the luminal side of the GI tract epithelial cells, and some drugs
292 taken up by epithelial cells from the luminal side are sometimes pushed back to the luminal side of the
293 GI tract by efflux transporters before being reached to the basal side (portal side). It has been reported
294 that certain drug interactions cause increased absorption through inhibition of these efflux process in
295 the GI tract^{1,2)} (see Table 6-1). In addition, some drugs are reported to induce the expression of efflux
296 transporters (P-glycoprotein (P-gp)) in the GI tract, and decrease the absorption of other drugs^{3,4)} (see
297 Table 6-2).

298 It has been demonstrated that both breast cancer resistance protein (BCRP) and P-glycoprotein
299 (P-gp) expressed on the luminal side of the GI tract epithelial cells function as efflux transporters that
300 decrease the GI absorption of substrate drugs (see Table 6-1). Therefore, the contribution of P-gp or
301 BCRP to the GI absorption of the investigational drug should be evaluated in *in vitro* studies.

302 Recommended *in vitro* studies are bidirectional trans-cellular transport studies using Caco-2 cells or
303 transporter-expressing cell lines. If the results of the experiments are positive, the need of clinical drug
304 interaction studies is recommended to be considered (see section 6.2 and Figure 6-2 for consideration
305 procedures). If the results suggest that transporters other than P-gp or BCRP exert large effects on the
306 absorption or efflux processes in the GI tract, it may be considered that the contributing transporters are
307 identified, and the degree of their contribution is determined using Caco-2 cells or transporter-
308 expressing cell lines. Implementation of clinical drug interaction studies may also be considered
309 according to the need.

310 If the investigational drug inhibits P-gp and BCRP, the inhibitory effects of the investigational
311 drug on P-gp and BCRP should also be evaluated in *in vitro* studies, because absorption of the substrate
312 drugs may be enhanced in the presence of concomitant substrate drugs for these transporters. Based on
313 the results of such studies, the need to implement clinical drug interaction studies may be considered
314 (see section 6.2 and Fig. 6-3 for consideration procedures). In addition, if there is a suggestion that the
315 inhibitory effect of the investigational drug on transporters other than P-gp or BCRP might affect the
316 absorption of concomitant drugs, it may be considered that the degree of this effect is determined by *in*
317 *vitro* studies, and the implementation of clinical drug interaction studies may be considered according
318 to the need.

319 As for interactions with diet components and nutritional supplements, induction of P-gp by St.
320 John's Wort and inhibition of uptake transporters by grapefruit juice, orange juice, and apple juice were
321 reported^{5,6}.

322

323 2.4. Drug interactions related to drug metabolizing enzymes in gastrointestinal tract

324 CYP3A is frequently expressed in the GI tract, particularly in the mucosa of the small intestine.
325 In case of the investigational drug shows markedly decreased bioavailability due to first-pass
326 metabolism by CYP3A in the small intestine, it may be caused unexpected adverse event with
327 concomitant drugs that inhibit CYP3A by increasing the bioavailability of the investigational drug. On
328 the other hand, in case of CYP3A in the small intestine as well as in the liver is induced by
329 concomitant drugs that induce CYP3A, the blood concentration of the investigational drug may
330 decrease. As a result, the blood concentration of the investigational drug may not reach the therapeutic
331 range and the desired efficacy may not be achieved. Therefore, it is preferable to evaluate drug
332 interactions in the small intestine if necessary, taking into account the degree of decrease in the
333 bioavailability due to first-pass metabolism of the investigational drug. On the other hand, in case of
334 the investigational drug inhibits CYP3A, *in vitro* studies should be carried out from the perspective of

335 metabolic inhibition in the small intestine, and the need to conduct clinical drug interaction studies
336 should be considered (see sections 4.1-2 and Figs. 4-1-3).

337 Influences of food and beverage components that inhibit CYP3A should also be taken into
338 consideration. For example, grapefruit juice contains a substance that strongly inhibits CYP3A. It has
339 been reported that the bioavailability of oral drugs that are metabolized mainly by CYP3A were
340 increased when they were taken with grapefruit juice⁷⁾.

341 Because the substrates of CYP3A are often also the substrates of P-gp, it is currently difficult to
342 evaluate the separate contribution of CYP3A and P-gp to drug interactions. Therefore, drug
343 interactions should be evaluated bearing in mind the risk of interactions due to inhibition or induction
344 of both.

345

346 3. Drug interactions related to tissue distribution

347 Many drugs bind to plasma proteins, and bind to proteins and/or other components in tissues.
348 Since unbound form drugs is available for transport between the plasma and tissue, changes in the
349 unbind fraction due to displacement may lead to drug interactions. For the case of some drugs,
350 transporters are involved in their distribution in tissues.

351

352 3.1. Plasma protein binding

353 Although the major protein to which drugs bind in the plasma is albumin, some drugs also bind
354 to α_1 -acid glycoprotein, lipoprotein and other proteins. If the investigational drug shows high binding
355 ratios to plasma proteins *in vitro*, it is necessary to determine the type of binding proteins and the
356 degree of binding ratio.

357 The most common cause of changed distribution of the investigational drug due to drug
358 interactions is displacement of the drug bound to plasma protein. In the presence of concomitant drugs
359 that strongly bind to plasma protein, the investigational drug becomes detached from the binding
360 protein, resulting in an increased plasma concentration of the unbound form of the investigational drug.
361 Although, displacement of the investigational drug does not cause clinically significant changes, in the
362 case of the investigational drug which have a plasma protein binding ratio of about 90% or higher, a
363 narrow therapeutic range and fulfill any one of the following conditions, it should be considered that
364 significant drug interactions may occur between the investigational drug and concomitant drugs that
365 strongly bind to plasma proteins.

366 1) The investigational drug shows a small distribution volume. In this case, the clearance rate of the
367 drug and route of administration of the investigational drug are irrelevant.

368 2) The investigational drug eliminates mainly via the liver. In particular, the investigational drug is a
369 high liver clearance and is administered intravenously.

370 3) The investigational drug eliminate mainly via the kidney, and its renal clearance is high. In this case,
371 the route of administration is irrelevant.

372 On the other hand, it is limited that the drug that changes pharmacokinetics of concomitant
373 drugs through displacement of protein binding is at least same level of plasma concentration compared
374 to binding protein concentration. And because the occurrence of adverse events and changes in drug
375 efficacy that are clinically significant depend on the concentration of the unbound form of the drug, it
376 should be considered that the concentration of the unbound form of the drug is measured in clinical
377 drug interaction studies. In the case of the investigational drug for which the volume of
378 distribution in humans is large and hepatic clearance is low, displacement of plasma protein binding
379 reduces the total plasma concentration of the drug in plasma, but no clinically significant consequences
380 occurs, since the unbound concentration does not change appreciably. As an example of this case, it
381 has been reported that phenytoin in the steady state which is administered with valproic acid shows no
382 changes the unbound plasma concentration whereas the total plasma concentration decreases⁸⁾.

383

384 3.2. Tissue distribution

385 In addition to drug interactions due to variations in binding to specific tissue components, we
386 should bear in mind the possibility that the tissue distribution of the investigational drug might vary in
387 response to variations in the functions of uptake or efflux transporters expressed in each tissue.

388

389 3.2.1. Binding to specific tissue components

390 Some drugs specifically bind to receptors, proteins, lipid, etc., in tissues, and may be associated
391 with drug interactions due to changes in the tissue concentration of the unbound form of the drug as a
392 result of competition in binding.

393

394 3.2.1. Binding to specific tissue components

395 Some drugs specifically bind to receptors, proteins, lipid, etc., in tissues. The concentration
396 unbound drug in tissue may change as a result of competition for binding, which may result in a drug
397 interaction.

398

399 3.2.2. Involvement of transporters in the process of tissue uptake and excretion

400 Transporters are expressed in the liver, kidney and barrier tissue in the brain, placenta, retina,
401 etc. and are involved in the distribution (uptake/efflux) of the drug in each tissue. When drug

402 interactions involving the active transport process via transporters take place, the unbound
403 concentration of the drug in the tissue in question may be affected (the concentration is decreased by
404 inhibition of uptake, and increased by inhibition of efflux), resulting in some changes in the
405 pharmacological/adverse effects in the tissues. *note⁽¹⁾

406 Drug interactions involving tissue distribution are not necessarily reflected in changes in the
407 plasma concentrations of the drugs. In particular, when such drug interactions are found only in the
408 tissues with a small distribution volume relative to the distribution volume of the whole body,
409 variations in the drug concentration in the tissue in question are not reflected in changes in the plasma
410 concentrations of the drugs, necessitating careful attention to be paid. On the other hand, when drug
411 interactions occur in major distribution and elimination organs such as the liver and kidney, they may
412 affect the distribution volume and systemic clearance of the drug, causing variations in the plasma
413 concentrations of the drugs (See 5.1 and 5.2).

414

415 4. Drug interactions in drug metabolism

416 In drug interaction studies involving drug metabolism, it is important to identify the metabolic
417 pathway associated with the interactions, and to quantitatively determine the importance of the
418 metabolic pathway in the overall elimination pathway when the investigational drug is the “affected
419 drug” (or victim drug, the investigational drug is affected by other drugs) or evaluate the effects on the
420 activity of the metabolic pathway according to the mechanism of the interactions such as inhibition and
421 induction when the investigational drug is the “interacting drug” (or perpetrator drug, the
422 investigational drug affects other drugs). In drug metabolism, a single enzyme is frequently involved in
423 the elimination of many drugs. In particular, the most important drug metabolizing enzyme,
424 cytochrome P450 3A (CYP3A), has a wide substrate specificity and is associated with drug
425 interactions of a number of drugs, and therefore, it is difficult to carry out numerous clinical studies.
426 Use of modeling and simulation based on the results of a relatively limited number of clinical drug
427 interaction studies, with due consideration of the reliability, may be helpful.

428 Many of the drug interactions involving drug metabolism are related to oxidative metabolism,
429 particularly that related to cytochrome P450 (P450). Non-P450 enzymes such as UDP glucuronosyl
430 transferase (UGT) are also known to be involved in drug interactions⁹⁾. This section mainly addresses
431 studies of the possibility of drug interactions mainly involving P450. Practical methods are described in
432 the following sections: section 4.1 deals with identification of the major elimination pathway and
433 evaluation of the degree of contribution of its pathway to drug interactions, and section 4.2 deals with
434 investigation of the possibility of drug interactions with P450 and other drug metabolizing enzymes
435 separately. In addition, representative examples of *in vitro* P450 marker enzyme reactions, inhibitors

436 and inducers, and those of *in vivo* P450 inhibitors, inducers and substrates are shown (see Table 4-1 to
437 4-3 and 7-1 to 7-3).

438

439 4.1. Evaluation of the major elimination pathway of the investigational drug and the *in vivo*
440 contribution ratio

441 To investigate the possibility of the effects of an orally administered investigational drug being
442 affected by other drugs, and to quantitatively evaluate the degree of contribution of drug interactions,
443 an important factor is the *in vivo* contribution ratio (CR) of the pathway involved in the drug
444 interactions to the clearance (CL/F) of the investigational drug after oral administration¹⁰⁾. If the major
445 elimination pathway of the investigational drug is metabolism, drug metabolizing enzymes
446 contributing highly should be identified according to the investigation procedures shown in sections
447 4.1.1. and 4.1.2., and the degree of the contribution should be clarified as much as possible (see Fig. 4-
448 1). In general, when estimating the CR from *in vitro* metabolism studies, the fraction metabolized (f_m)
449 by the drug metabolizing enzyme in question in human liver microsomes, etc., should be used in
450 substitution.*note (2) When the CR of the elimination pathway controlled by a certain drug metabolizing
451 enzyme to the overall elimination of the investigational drug is estimated to be 25% or more from the
452 results of *in vitro* metabolism studies and clinical pharmacokinetic studies, implementation of clinical
453 drug interaction studies using drugs that affect the enzyme in question (inhibitors, inducers: see Tables
454 7-1 and 7-2) should be considered. Even in the case of orally administered drug in the clinical
455 indication, intravenous administration study of the investigational drug would be useful since the
456 contribution of renal excretion to the total clearance of the drug becomes clear.

457 When the investigational drug is a pro-drug, and the main action is exerted by the active
458 metabolite, when pharmacologically active metabolite is produced and the *in vivo* pharmacologic effect
459 of the metabolite estimated from the *in vitro* activity and the AUC of the unbound form of the
460 investigational drug accounts for at least 50% of the entire pharmacologic effect, or when it is
461 suspected that adverse effects may be induced by the metabolite, the drug metabolizing enzyme
462 involved in the major production pathway and elimination pathway of the metabolite in question
463 should be identified, and studied in the same manner.

464

465 4.1.1. Identification of enzymes involved in the major elimination pathway by *in vitro* metabolism
466 studies

467 For implementation of *in vitro* studies, the experimental method, study system, appropriate
468 substrate/interacting drugs and their concentrations should be chosen to reflect the *in vivo* metabolic
469 profile of the investigational drug. Usually, human liver and small intestine microsomes, S9 fraction,

470 human hepatocytes, microsomal fraction of the expression system (recombinant cells) of human
471 enzymes, etc., are chosen according to the type of the enzyme. P450 and UGT are present in all of the
472 aforementioned systems (recombinant cells usually expresses only one species of enzyme in high level).
473 Enzymes present in the soluble fraction, such as sulfotransferase, glutathione transferase, aldehyde
474 dehydrogenase and alcohol dehydrogenase are contained in the S9 fraction and hepatocytes.
475 Transporters are also expressed in the hepatocytes. Interpretation of the study results requires adequate
476 consideration of the characteristic features of the *in vitro* study system used.

477 *In vitro* metabolism studies, in general, should be carried out using therapeutically relevant
478 concentrations of the investigational drug, if possible, under linear conditions. In a multi-enzyme
479 system, it is possible to evaluate the contribution of each enzyme to the metabolism of the
480 investigational drug by adding enzyme-specific inhibitors (see Table 4-2). If the specificity of the
481 inhibitor is not high enough, use of *in vitro* study systems expressing only a specific drug metabolizing
482 enzyme is recommended. If an antibody for which specificity has been sufficiently corroborated is
483 available, it can be used as a substitute for inhibitors. In addition, use of positive control (marker
484 substrate) for enzymatic activity in the study is recommended. To identify the major enzymes involved
485 in metabolism under *in vitro* conditions, evaluation of the investigational drug in multiple *in vitro* study
486 systems and verification of the results by comparison are recommended.*note (3)

487 Metabolic rate is evaluated as the elimination rate of the investigational drug or the formation
488 rate of its metabolites. When evaluating the activity of the enzyme that catalyzes a specific metabolic
489 pathway, investigation of the formation of metabolites rather than decreases of the investigational drug
490 or marker substrate drug is recommended. On the other hand, for the purpose of determining the
491 contribution of the metabolic pathway in question to the overall elimination pathway of the
492 investigational drug, it is very important to evaluate decreases of the investigational drug in question.

493
494 4.1.2. Identification and quantitative evaluation of the major elimination pathway by mass balance
495 studies

496 Human mass balance studies are studies that determine the mass balance of drugs in the human
497 body; they provide information on the pharmacokinetics of the unchanged drug and metabolites and
498 useful information for presuming the major elimination pathway. Combining the data obtained from
499 mass balance studies with the results of *in vitro* studies, we can determine the *in vivo* major elimination
500 pathway of the investigational drug and estimate the CR of the enzymes involved in the elimination
501 pathway. However, mass balance studies are particularly useful for identification of the major
502 elimination pathway when the metabolism is relatively slow and when the metabolic pathway is simple.
503 On the other hand, when multistep metabolism occurs in a vigorous fashion, interpretation of the

504 results requires caution. When the recovery of the unchanged form of the investigational drug and its
505 known metabolites is high and when there are few unknown metabolites of the investigational drug,
506 use of a radiolabeled material is not necessary in mass balance studies.

507 In mass balance studies, the investigational drug should be radiolabeled at a metabolically
508 stable position usually. After administration, the AUC of the total radioactivity, AUC of the unchanged
509 drug and metabolites, and the urinary and fecal excretions are determined. It is desirable to identify as
510 many drug-related substances as possible. In general, it is recommended to identify the structure of
511 metabolites whose AUC exceed 10% of the total of AUCs of the drug-related substances.

512 Estimation of the *in vivo* major elimination pathway of the investigational drug and the CR of
513 the enzymes involved in the elimination pathway, based on the information obtained from mass
514 balance studies and the results of *in vitro* studies, should be carried out by the following procedures.
515 Based on the metabolic reactions expected from the chemical structure of the investigational drug and
516 the metabolites determined in mass balance studies, the metabolic pathways are presumed. Then, based
517 on the amount of drug-related substances excreted as primary and secondary metabolites in a specific
518 pathway, the quantitative CR of each metabolic pathway to elimination is estimated. The estimated CR
519 of the major pathway to the total elimination (including first pass) of the investigational drug is
520 calculated by dividing the total amount of all metabolites derived from a major pathway by the dose of
521 the investigational drug or the total amount of drug-related substances found in the excreta. When a
522 considerable amount of unchanged drug is found in the feces and when this is not confirmed to be
523 derived from biliary excretion (or GI tract wall secretion), the denominator of the calculation formula
524 should be the value obtained by subtracting the amount of the unchanged drug found in the feces from
525 the amount of drug-related substances found in the excreta. By these procedures, the *in vivo* CR
526 (maximum estimate) of each (major) elimination pathway is calculated.

527

528 4.2. Evaluation of the need of clinical drug interaction studies based on *in vitro* studies

529 *In vitro* enzyme inhibition studies use human liver microsomes, human hepatocytes,
530 microsomal fraction of the expression system (recombinant cells) of the target enzymes, etc. If the
531 investigational drug is metabolized extensively in the reaction mixture, a marker substrate drug with a
532 sufficiently high metabolic rate should be used to minimize reduction in the concentration of the
533 investigational drug, and the K_i (inhibition constant: dissociation constant of the inhibitor from the
534 enzyme-inhibitor complex) should be evaluated. Positive control studies should be carried out using a
535 known selective inhibitor (see Table 4-2), and the results should be compared with K_i values
536 previously evaluated in the same manner and reported in the literature.

537 It is desirable to use hepatocytes in primary culture (fresh or cryopreserved) in *in vitro* enzyme
538 induction/down-regulation studies. At present, data obtained from other *in vitro* study systems, such as
539 human hepatic tumor-derived cell lines (e.g., HepaRG), nuclear receptor-binding assay, and reporter
540 gene assay, are positioned as auxiliary data to support the data obtained from the primary culture
541 hepatocyte system. In general, the results obtained by the use of hepatocytes in primary culture show
542 large variations among different individuals and lots. Therefore, evaluation should be carried out using
543 hepatocytes derived from 3 or more donors and include appropriate vehicle control and positive control
544 to guarantee the validity of the study system^{*note (4)} (see Table 4-3). Use of changes in the mRNA
545 expression level of the target gene as an evaluation item is recommended in order to avoid overlooking
546 the enzyme induction effect because of enzyme inhibition by the investigational drug. However, if it is
547 apparent that the investigational drug is devoid of enzyme inhibition (especially time-dependent
548 inhibition, see section 4.2.1.3), it would be possible to use the enzyme activity as an evaluation item. If
549 concentration-dependent changes in the enzyme activity is observed, the need for clinical drug
550 interaction studies should be judged by the similar criteria as for changes in the mRNA expression
551 level (see section 4.2.1.6).

552

553 4.2.1. Methods of drug interaction studies related to cytochrome P450 (P450)

554 Although it is known that cytochrome P450 (P450) has a large number of isozymes, the major
555 isozymes are CYP1A2, 2B6, 2C8, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, and 3A (including CYP3A4 and CYP3A5). If the
556 investigational drug undergoes metabolism by these P450 isozymes, their contribution to clearance
557 should be estimated by *in vitro* metabolism studies and clinical pharmacokinetic studies. When *in vitro*
558 studies suggest the possibility of inhibition or induction of the metabolism of the investigational drug,
559 clinical drug interaction studies should be implemented (see Figs. 4-1-3). If major P450 isozymes are
560 not involved in the metabolism of the investigational drug, the possibility for the investigational drug
561 to serve as the substrate of other P450 (e.g., CYP2A6, 2E1, 2J2, 4F2) or phase I enzymes other than
562 P450 should be investigated.

563

564 4.2.1.1. *In vitro* studies to examine the possibility for effects of concomitant drugs on the 565 investigational drug

566 For estimation of the CR of the P450 isozyme, study systems using human liver microsomes
567 are generally adopted. The validity of the study system is usually confirmed by evaluating the reaction
568 time dependency and microsomal protein content dependency in terms of the rate of formation of
569 metabolites as an index. Because the fm of P450 isozymes may vary according to the study conditions,

570 such as the concentration of the investigational drug used, it is necessary to use a study system that
571 reflects the *in vivo* physiological conditions¹¹⁻¹³.

572

573 4.2.1.2. Need for clinical studies to examine the possibility for effects of concomitant drugs on the
574 investigational drug

575 When the contribution of a certain P450 metabolic pathway accounts for 25% or more of the
576 overall elimination pathway of the investigational drug as determined by the results of *in vitro*
577 metabolism studies, mass balance studies, etc.,*note (5) it is necessary to implement clinical drug
578 interaction studies using appropriate drug metabolizing enzyme inhibitors/inducers (see Tables 7-1, 7-
579 2) because the investigational drug may be a drug affected by the interaction in which P450 is involved
580 (see Fig. 4-1). In such studies, a strong inhibitor (see section 7.7 and Table 7-1) should be used first as
581 much as possible to evaluate the degree of changes in the pharmacokinetics of the investigational drug.
582 When the study results are judged to be negative (see section 7.3 and Fig. 4-1) or when interactions are
583 minimal, the contribution of the enzyme in question to the overall elimination of the investigational
584 drug is likely to be small, and thus there is no need to implement additional clinical drug interaction
585 studies. On the other hand, when the results of interaction studies using strong inhibitors have
586 suggested that the investigational drug is affected by drug interactions that may require dose
587 adjustment, the effects of other inhibitors in the same metabolic pathway should be evaluated in
588 clinical drug interaction studies according to need, taking into consideration the possibility that they are
589 used concomitantly in clinical practice. Interactions with other inhibitors can be investigated on the
590 basis of data on cases of concomitant use in usual clinical studies, or by simulations using an
591 appropriate PBPK model. Clinical drug interaction studies with inducers are required when the risk of
592 clinically significant drug interactions is inferred by simulations or other procedures based on the
593 results of clinical drug interaction studies with inhibitors. Because St. John's Wort, a supplement,
594 contains substances that strongly induce CYP3A, caution is necessary in use with investigational drugs
595 that are mainly metabolized by CYP3A.

596

597 4.2.1.3. *In vitro* studies to examine the possibility for effects of the investigational drug on concomitant
598 drugs (inhibition of P450)

599 *In vitro* studies should be carried out to determine whether the investigational drug exerts an
600 inhibitory effect on P450 (see Fig. 4-2). Usually, inhibitory effects on major P450 isozymes such as
601 CYP1A2, 2B6, 2C8, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, and 3A are investigated. Table 4-1 shows the representative
602 marker reactions of P450 isozymes used in the *in vitro* studies. Literature should be referred to for the
603 concentrations of the marker substrates to be used in *in vitro* studies. Inhibition of CYP3A should be

604 evaluated using multiple marker substrates which differ in the substrate binding site on the enzyme,
605 such as midazolam and testosterone¹⁴⁾.

606 The inhibitory effects of the investigational drug should be evaluated within a certain range of
607 concentrations to determine the K_i value for the marker reaction of the P450 isozyme in question. The
608 range of concentrations of the investigational drug should be set to include a sufficiently high
609 concentration to allow appropriate evaluation of clinically possible inhibition. The set range of
610 investigational drug concentrations may vary according to the expected site of enzyme inhibition (liver,
611 small intestine), method of administration, dosage form, and pharmacokinetic parameters (C_{max} or
612 AUC). However, the concentration range is usually set to include 10-fold or higher values of the C_{max}
613 (bound + unbound forms), and the K_i value is calculated for cases of 50% or higher inhibition. For
614 calculating the K_i value in the *in vitro* study system, the estimated or measured value of the
615 concentration of the unbound drug in the reaction mixture is used if the concentration of the unbound
616 form of the investigational drug in the reaction mixture is expected to be markedly lower than the total
617 concentration of the investigational drug¹⁵⁾. This applies to cases where the investigational drug is
618 likely to be prominently adsorbed to the test tube wall.

619 It is desirable to investigate the enzyme inhibition effects of major metabolites in addition to
620 those of the unchanged drug. The target metabolites should be chosen according to the following
621 criterion: any phase I metabolite whose AUC accounts for at least 25% of the unchanged drug and at
622 least 10% of the total AUC of drug-related substances. Inhibitory effects of other metabolites should
623 also be investigated if there is some reason for suspecting strong enzyme inhibition. When it has been
624 shown that the drug interactions observed in *in vivo* studies are attributable to a specific metabolite,
625 implementation of *in vitro* enzyme inhibition studies using the metabolite would be helpful for
626 designing clinical drug interaction studies and interpreting their results. Determination of the blood
627 concentrations of metabolites that are possibly related to the drug interactions are also recommended in
628 clinical drug interaction studies.

629 When investigating the inhibitory effect of a metabolite, the concentration should be set in a
630 range containing 10-fold or higher of the C_{max} (bound + unbound forms) of the metabolite, similarly as
631 the case for the unchanged drug. When calculation of the K_i value is necessary, the binding ratio in
632 microsomes, etc., should be estimated or measured to achieve correction for the concentration of the
633 unbound form.

634 When the inhibitory effect is enhanced by pre-incubation in *in vitro* studies, it should be judged
635 that there is time-dependent inhibition (TDI). When there is TDI, the k_{inact} value (maximum
636 inactivation kinetic constant) and the K_I value (the concentration of the inhibitor that yields a 50% rate
637 of the maximum inactivation) should be estimated¹⁶⁾. The TDI should be evaluated taking due account

638 of the possibility that the conditions of the *in vitro* studies (e.g., evaluation of nonspecific binding is
639 necessary when the concentration of protein in the reaction mixture is high, so that the concentration of
640 the unbound form of the investigational drug is expected to be markedly low) may affect the results.

641

642 4.2.1.4. Need for clinical studies to examine the possibility for effects of the investigational drug on
643 other concomitant drugs (inhibition of P450)

644 Whether to implement clinical drug interaction studies to evaluate the possibility of the
645 investigational drug serving as an inhibitor should be determined according to the following cutoff
646 criteria based on *in vitro* data, etc. (see Fig. 4-2). In addition to evaluation by the cutoff criteria,
647 investigation using study models are available, such as the mechanism-based static pharmacokinetic
648 (MSPK) model and the dynamic physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model (see section
649 4.3.). For evaluation by the cutoff criteria, the ratio of the intrinsic clearance value of the substrate for a
650 specific enzyme marker reaction (R value) in the presence and absence of the investigational drug
651 should be calculated. The presence/absence of the need to implement clinical drug interaction studies
652 should be judged based on the estimated R value. If a value in excess of this criterion is observed in the
653 evaluation of the investigational drug, the risk should be investigated in clinical drug interaction studies
654 using a substrate drug that is susceptible to pharmacokinetic drug interactions (see section 7.9 and
655 Table 7-3).

656 In investigations using models, 90% confidential interval for AUC ratios (AUCR) of 0.8-1.25
657 used in the evaluation of bioequivalence can be used as the initial criteria. More specifically, if the
658 AUCR estimated from models falls outside the range of 0.8-1.25, clinical drug interaction studies will
659 be required. In addition, because there is only limited experience with the use of models in the
660 quantitative evaluation of drug interactions caused by bidirectional actions of inhibition (reversible or
661 TDI) and induction, conservative judgments for the need to implement clinical drug interaction studies
662 should be made at present, based on separate evaluation of inhibition and induction¹⁷⁾.

663

664 1-1) Reversible inhibition

665 The R value is determined from the *in vitro* inhibition constant (K_i) and the maximum
666 concentration [I] of the inhibitor (investigational drug or metabolite) achieved *in vivo*, according to the
667 following formula.

668

669 Formula 1

$$670 \quad R = 1 + [I]/K_i$$

671 [I]: C_{\max} (concentration of the bound form + concentration of the unbound form), or $[I]_g$: dose/250 mL

672 K_i : inhibition constant measured *in vitro*

673 In place of the K_i value, the 50% inhibitory concentration (IC_{50}) may be used. However, when
674 the IC_{50} is used, its scientific basis should be shown. For example, it is possible to consider $K_i=IC_{50}/2$
675 assuming competitive inhibition when the substrate concentration is close to its K_m value, or to
676 consider $K_i=IC_{50}$ under the linear condition where the substrate concentration is much lower than its
677 K_m value.

678 Usually, the maximum systemic blood concentration (C_{max}) of the inhibitor (concentration of
679 the bound form + unbound form of the drug) should be used as the conservative $[I]$, and a cutoff
680 criterion of 1.1 should be used for the R value^{17, 18)}. In the case of orally administered drugs, the
681 possibility of inhibition of P450 (example: CYP3A) that is highly expressed in the GI tract should be
682 borne in mind. The use of dose (molar dose)/250 mL as the maximum concentration in the GI tract, $[I]_g$,
683 may reflect the maximum concentration of the inhibitor more appropriately than the systemic blood
684 concentration. If $[I]_g$ is used, a cutoff criterion of 11 should be used for the alternate R value ($R = 1 +$
685 $[I]_g / K_i$). If the R value is less than 1.1 or 11 (alternate R value), implementation of clinical drug
686 interaction studies is not required. If these criteria are exceeded, clinical drug interaction studies using
687 substrate drugs susceptible to pharmacokinetic drug interactions (section 7.9, Table 7-3) should be
688 carried out for the P450 with the greatest R value, taking into consideration the results obtained from
689 investigation using the models described in section 4.3. If the results of such clinical drug interaction
690 studies are judged to be negative, implementation of clinical drug interaction studies involving other
691 P450 isozymes are not required.

692

693 1-2) Time-dependent inhibition (TDI) *note (6)

694 Although most drug interactions that cause inhibition of P450 are reversible, TDI may be
695 observed when the inhibitory effect increases over time and is not completely reversible. TDI seems to
696 be attributable to irreversible covalent binding or semi-irreversible and strong non-covalent binding of
697 the produced intermediate to the enzyme that mainly catalyzes the formation of the highly chemically
698 reactive metabolic intermediate.

699 The standard *in vitro* method of TDI evaluation involves pre-incubation of the investigational
700 drug in the study system before adding the substrate. If the formation rate of the metabolite of the
701 substrate decreases in a time-dependent manner, TDI is suggested, warranting calculation of the
702 parameters (k_{inact} and K_i) of TDI in *in vitro* studies¹⁶⁾. In general, evaluation is based on the assumption
703 that the level of the inhibited enzyme has reached another steady state in the presence of the inhibitor,
704 and that the inhibitor does not affect de novo synthesis of the enzyme. Unlike reversible inhibition, the

705 R value of TDI is dependent on the degradation rate constant (k_{deg}) of the inhibited enzyme, as well as
706 on the exposure of the inhibitor and the parameters of TDI (k_{inact} and KI) (Formula 2).

707

708 Formula 2

709 $R = (k_{obs} + k_{deg}) / k_{deg}$, provided that $k_{obs} = k_{inact} \times [I] / (K_I + [I])$

710 [I]: C_{max} (concentration of the bound form + unbound form of the drug), or $[I]_g$: dose/250 mL

711 KI: concentration of the inhibitor that yields 50% of the maximum inactivation rate

712 k_{deg} : degradation rate constant of the enzyme

713 k_{inact} : maximum inactivation rate constant

714 When the possibility of TDI is suggested by the results of *in vitro* studies (for instance, $R > 1/1$
715 in the liver, or $R > 11$ in the small intestine), clinical drug interaction studies using substrate drugs
716 (Table 7-3) susceptible to pharmacokinetic drug interactions should be implemented, taking into
717 consideration the results obtained from investigation using the models described in section 4.3,
718 similarly as in the case of reversible inhibition.

719

720 4.2.1.5. *In vitro* studies to examine the possibility for effects of the investigational drug on concomitant
721 drugs (induction and down-regulation of P450)

722 The possibility that the investigational drug causes induction or down-regulation*^{note (7)} of the
723 drug metabolizing enzyme mediated by influences on the nuclear receptors or other regulation
724 pathways of P450 expression, resulting in drug interactions, should be investigated (see Fig. 4-3).
725 Although, in general, the need for clinical drug interaction studies is examined based on the results of
726 *in vitro* studies, induction may be evaluated directly by *in vivo* studies in some cases.

727 The enzyme induction effect is usually investigated in *in vitro* studies, focusing on CYP1A2,
728 2B6, and 3A. CYP3A and CYP2C are co-induced by activation of pregnane X receptor (PXR), which
729 is a nuclear receptor. Therefore, when the results of *in vitro* studies to evaluate induction of CYP3A are
730 negative, there is no need to conduct further clinical drug interactions studies for CYP3A or *in*
731 *vitro*/clinical induction studies for CYP2C. When the results of the CYP3A induction studies are
732 positive, induction of CYP2C should be further investigated in either *in vitro* or clinical studies.
733 Because CYP1A2 and CYP2B6 are induced by nuclear receptors (AhR and CAR) other than PXR, the
734 possibility of induction of CYP1A2 and CYP2B6 by the investigational drug should be investigated
735 regardless of the results of the studies on CYP3A.

736 The concentration range of the investigational drug in the *in vitro* induction study varies
737 according to their *in vivo* pharmacokinetics and should be set to include more than three levels of
738 concentrations, including the maximum concentration predicted for hepatocytes *in vivo*, to determine

739 induction parameters such as the EC_{50} and E_{max} . Usually, in the case of drugs that exert influences on
740 hepatic enzymes, the concentration range should be set to include a level at least 10-fold that of C_{max}
741 (bound + unbound forms) obtained in the steady state after administration of the maximum therapeutic
742 dose. In general, the mRNA level is compared with that of the control (vehicle), and enzyme induction
743 in *in vitro* studies is regarded as positive when increases in the mRNA level after treatment with the
744 investigational drug at the aforementioned concentrations are concentration-dependent, showing an
745 over 100% increase. When the observed concentration-dependent increases in mRNA expression are
746 less than 100%, the results can be regarded as negative as long as the increase corresponds to less than
747 20% of that in the reaction with a positive control.

748

749 4.2.1.6. Need for clinical studies to examine the possibility for effects of the investigational drug on
750 concomitant drugs (induction and down-regulation of P450)

751 The R value is calculated to be compared with a cutoff criterion according to the following
752 Formula 3, using the EC_{50} and E_{max} obtained from *in vitro* studies.*note (8) In addition to evaluation by
753 the cutoff criteria, the MSPK model and PBPK model are also available for evaluation (see section 4.3).

754

755 Formula 3

756
$$R = 1/(1+d \cdot E_{max} \cdot [I]/(EC_{50}+[I]))$$

757 [I]: C_{max} (concentration of the bound form + unbound form of the drug)

758 EC_{50} : concentration that yields 50% of the maximum effect, E_{max} : maximum induction effect, d:
759 conversion factor

760 For evaluation based on the cutoff criteria, $d = 1$ is used. If R is less than 0.9 ($R < 0.9$), the
761 investigational drug in question is regarded as the enzyme-inducing drug.

762

763 4.2.2. Methods of drug interactions studies related to other drug metabolizing enzymes*note (9)

764 Phase I enzymes (enzymes involved in oxidation, reduction, hydrolysis, ring closure and ring-
765 cleavage reactions) other than P450 that are involved in drug metabolism include monoamine oxidase,
766 flavin monooxygenase, xanthine oxidase, aldehyde oxidase, alcohol dehydrogenase, and aldehyde
767 dehydrogenase. When the investigational drug is the substrate of these phase I enzymes other than
768 P450, identification of the enzymes/isozymes involved and determination of the degree of contribution,
769 if their contribution to clearance is large, are also recommended. The possibility of the investigational
770 drug serving as the substrate for these enzymes may be evaluable based on the previous findings
771 available for the same therapeutic category drugs in some cases.

772 As for phase II enzymes, if the investigational drug is a substrate of UGT, the degree of
773 contribution of UGT1A1, 1A3, 1A4, 1A6, 1A9, 2B7, 2B15, etc., in the elimination pathway should be
774 investigated. In this case, examination of the inhibitory effect of the investigational drug is
775 recommended not only on the UGT isozyme mainly involved in its metabolism but also on the UGT
776 isozymes known to be involved in metabolism of a relatively large number of medical products (e.g.,
777 UGT1A1 and UGT2B7).

778 If the investigational drug or co-administered drug is mainly metabolized by enzymes other
779 than those mentioned above, it is desirable to evaluate its inhibitory effect on such enzymes. Bearing in
780 mind the examples of serious adverse effects observed in the concomitant use of sorivudine and 5-
781 fluorouracil, if the degree of contribution of the enzymes other than P450 and UGT to the major
782 elimination pathways of the drugs that are co-administered with the investigational drug is large, the
783 inhibitory effects of the investigational drug and its metabolites on the corresponding enzymes should
784 be examined. Evaluation of the need to implement clinical drug interaction studies based on the results
785 of the above studies is in accordance with the case for P450.

786

787 4.3. Cutoff criteria and model analysis of metabolism-based drug interactions

788 To judge the need for clinical drug interaction studies, cutoff criteria should be employed in
789 principle. However, cutoff criteria do not consider the characteristics of concomitant drugs, and the
790 model-based analysis may provide additional values when clinical studies are planned*^{note (10)} (see Figs.
791 4-2, 3). For such studies, the mechanism-based static pharmacokinetic (MSPK) model, and
792 physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model, etc., are utilizable.

793

794 4.3.1. Cutoff criteria

795 Cutoff criteria are threshold values basically obtained from *in vitro* data, that are used for
796 judging the risk of drug interactions during the clinical use of the investigational drug. Cutoff criteria
797 are being set in a conservative manner to avoid false-negative cases and to not miss the possibility of
798 drug interactions occurring in the clinical setting. Cutoff criteria indicate the intrinsic risk of
799 interactions as an inhibitor or inducer, independent of the characteristics of a particular substrate drug
800 that are used concomitantly.

801

802 4.3.2. Mechanism-based static pharmacokinetic model (MSPK model)*^{note (11)}

803 The MSPK model considers the mechanisms of interactions, based on the CR of the metabolic
804 pathway in, and separates the small intestine and liver as the sites of interactions. The MSPK model
805 does not count changes in the drug concentrations over time for the sake of simplification, and easier

806 analysis is an advantage over the PBPK model. Examples of analysis of inducing interactions using the
807 MSPK model have been reported¹⁹⁾.

808 On the other hand, for analysis using the MSPK model, the prediction may tend to be excessive
809 because changes in the concentration over time are not taken into consideration. Since reversible
810 inhibition, TDI, and the enzyme-inducing effect are all incorporated in the formula of MSPK model
811 superficially, the model seemingly allows easy simultaneous assessment of multiple drug interaction
812 processes. Actually, the consequences of interactions involving multiple factors are complicated, and a
813 care should be taken for its application (refer to 4.2.1.4).

814
815 Formula 4

$$AUCR = \left(\frac{1}{[A_h \times B_h \times C_h] \times f_m + (1 - f_m)} \right) \times \left(\frac{1}{[A_g \times B_g \times C_g] \times (1 - F_g) + F_g} \right)$$

816
817 A, B, and C in the formula denote TDI, induction, and reversible inhibition, respectively, as described
818 in the following supplemental table. F_g is the fraction of the investigational drug reaching the portal
819 blood after absorption via the intestinal enterocytes, which is decreased when the investigational drug
820 is metabolized there. Also, f_m denotes the fraction of intrinsic P-450 dependent metabolic clearance of
821 the substrate particular to the inhibition (or induction) relative to the whole metabolic clearance of the
822 liver.

823 Formula 4 (Supplemental table)

Time-dependent inhibition	$A_h = \frac{k_{deg,h}}{k_{deg,h} + \frac{[I]_h \times k_{inact}}{[I]_h + K_i}}$	$A_g = \frac{k_{deg,g}}{k_{deg,g} + \frac{[I]_g \times k_{inact}}{[I]_g + K_i}}$
Induction	$B_h = 1 + \frac{d \cdot E_{max} \cdot [I]_h}{[I]_h + EC_{50}}$	$B_g = 1 + \frac{d \cdot E_{max} \cdot [I]_g}{[I]_g + EC_{50}}$
Reversible inhibition	$C_h = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[I]_h}{K_i}}$	$C_g = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[I]_g}{K_i}}$

824
825 The subscripts “h” and “g” denote the liver and gastrointestinal tract, respectively, while $[I]_h$ and $[I]_g$
826 denote the concentration of the investigational drug in the liver hepatocytes and intestinal enterocytes,
827 respectively. In addition, “d” is the conversion factor obtained from the linear regression to the control
828 data set.

829
830 4.3.3. Dynamic physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model*^{note (12)}

831 The PBPK model can explain changes in the drug concentrations over time in contrast to the
832 MSPK model. With the PBPK model, evaluation of complicated interactions, including contributions
833 of transporters and metabolites have been reported to be theoretically possible. In addition, the
834 evaluation of the effects of the interacting drug on the overall pharmacokinetic profiles of the
835 interacted drug is shown (see Fig. 4-2, 3). Parameters based on the physiological functions of humans
836 and parameters peculiar to each drug are incorporated in the PBPK model.

837 When using the PBPK model for the prediction of interactions, it is necessary for the changes in
838 the blood concentrations of the investigational drugs (particularly for an interacting drug) to be
839 appropriately described from the parameters of the model. In general, it is difficult to accurately predict
840 changes in the blood concentrations from *in vitro* data alone. Therefore, it should be noted that analysis
841 of interactions using the PBPK model cannot provide sufficient accuracy until data on the
842 pharmacokinetics of the affecting drugs are obtained from the clinical studies.

843 The accuracy of prediction based on the PBPK model should be checked after the clinical drug
844 interaction studies were carried out. If there is marked discrepancy between the prediction and the
845 results of clinical drug interaction studies, the obtained data should be carefully examined and reflected
846 in the plans of subsequent *in vitro* and clinical drug interaction studies, as necessary. If the validity of
847 the PBPK model analysis is confirmed, and the results of clinical drug interaction studies can be
848 explained without contradictions, interactions with other drugs having the same mechanism may also
849 be analyzed with modeling and simulations to consider necessity of clinical alerts.

850

851 4.4. Drug interactions with biotechnological/biological products (Therapeutic proteins)

852 In general, biological products are eliminated through internalization and degradation in
853 lysosomes of the target cells, after binding with specific receptors on the cell surface. Because the
854 elimination pathway of biological products does not involve metabolism by P450 or other enzymes or
855 transport by drug transporters, the possibility of interactions between the investigational drug and
856 biological products is considered to be limited. If the investigational drug is related to cases for which
857 interactions have been reported previously in the same class of drugs, or if the possibility of
858 interactions is suggested in *in vitro* or other clinical studies, implementation of clinical drug interaction
859 studies of the biological products and concomitant drugs should be considered.

860 If the investigational drug is a cytokine or a cytokine modifier, implementation of *in vitro* or
861 clinical drug interaction studies to evaluate the effects of the investigational drug on P450 or
862 transporter expressions should be considered if necessary, from the viewpoint of the efficacy and safety
863 of the investigational drug and concomitant drugs.^{note (13)} When the mechanisms of pharmacokinetic or
864 pharmacodynamic interactions have been clarified for same class of drugs, with drug interactions

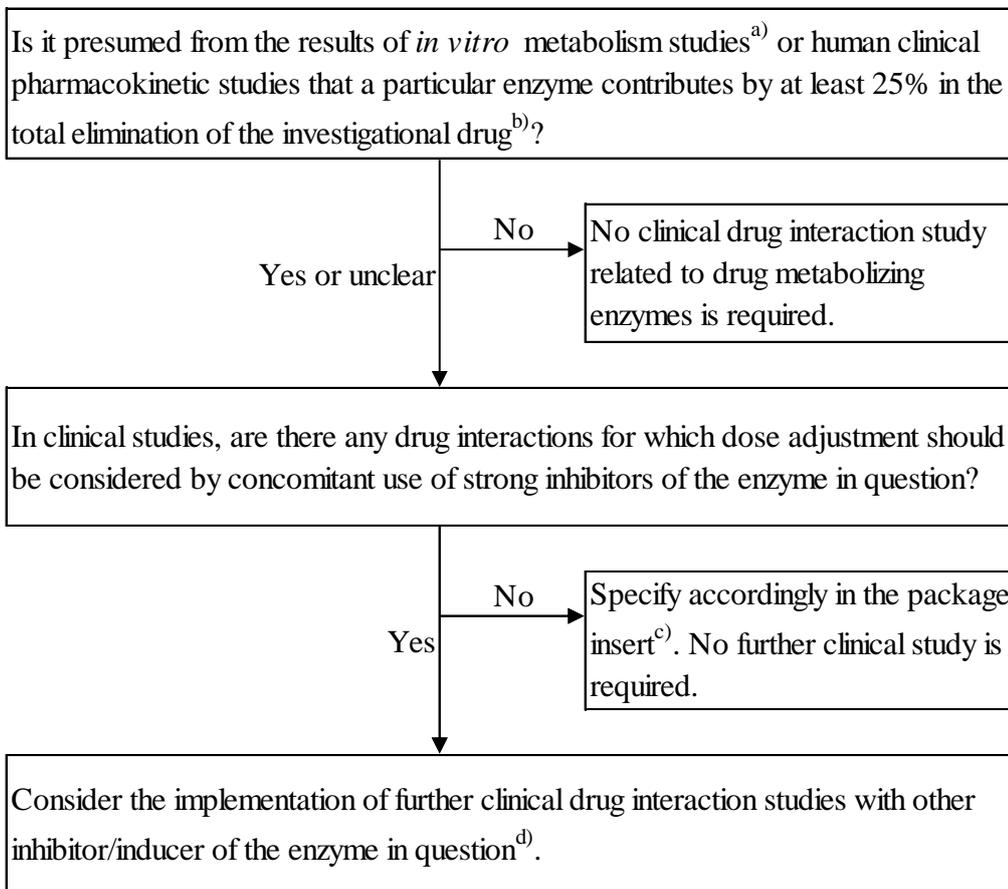
865 having been reported in clinical studies, appropriate *in vitro* studies or clinical drug interaction studies
866 should be carried out to examine the possibility of the drug interactions in question. With regard to
867 combination therapy prescribed by the dosage and administration, etc., biological products that are to
868 be used concomitantly with other drugs (low-molecular-weight medical products or biological
869 products) should be evaluated in clinical studies, if necessary, for the possibility of interactions
870 between the concomitantly used drugs, and not only pharmacokinetic (PK) effects, but also
871 pharmacodynamic (PD) effects should be evaluated, if necessary.

872

873

874 Figure 4-1

875 **Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug as an affected drug (Identification of the**
 876 **enzymes involved in the metabolism of the investigational drug)**



877
878

a) Targeted enzymes: CYP1A2, 2B6, 2C8, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, 3A; UGT1A1, 1A3, 1A4, 1A6, 1A9, 2B7, 2B15; others

*When drug metabolizing enzymes other than P450 are mainly contributory, the feasibility of clinical drug interaction studies should be judged by the presence/absence of known inhibitors and inducers.

b) Major active metabolites of the investigational drug should also be evaluated in the same manner.

*Active metabolites: When the investigational drug is a pro-drug, or when the *in vivo* pharmacologic activity of metabolites accounts for 50% or more of the entire activity.

c) Information from clinical drug interaction studies, which is considered to be clinically useful, should be provided as appropriate in the package insert etc., regardless of the presence/absence of drug interactions.

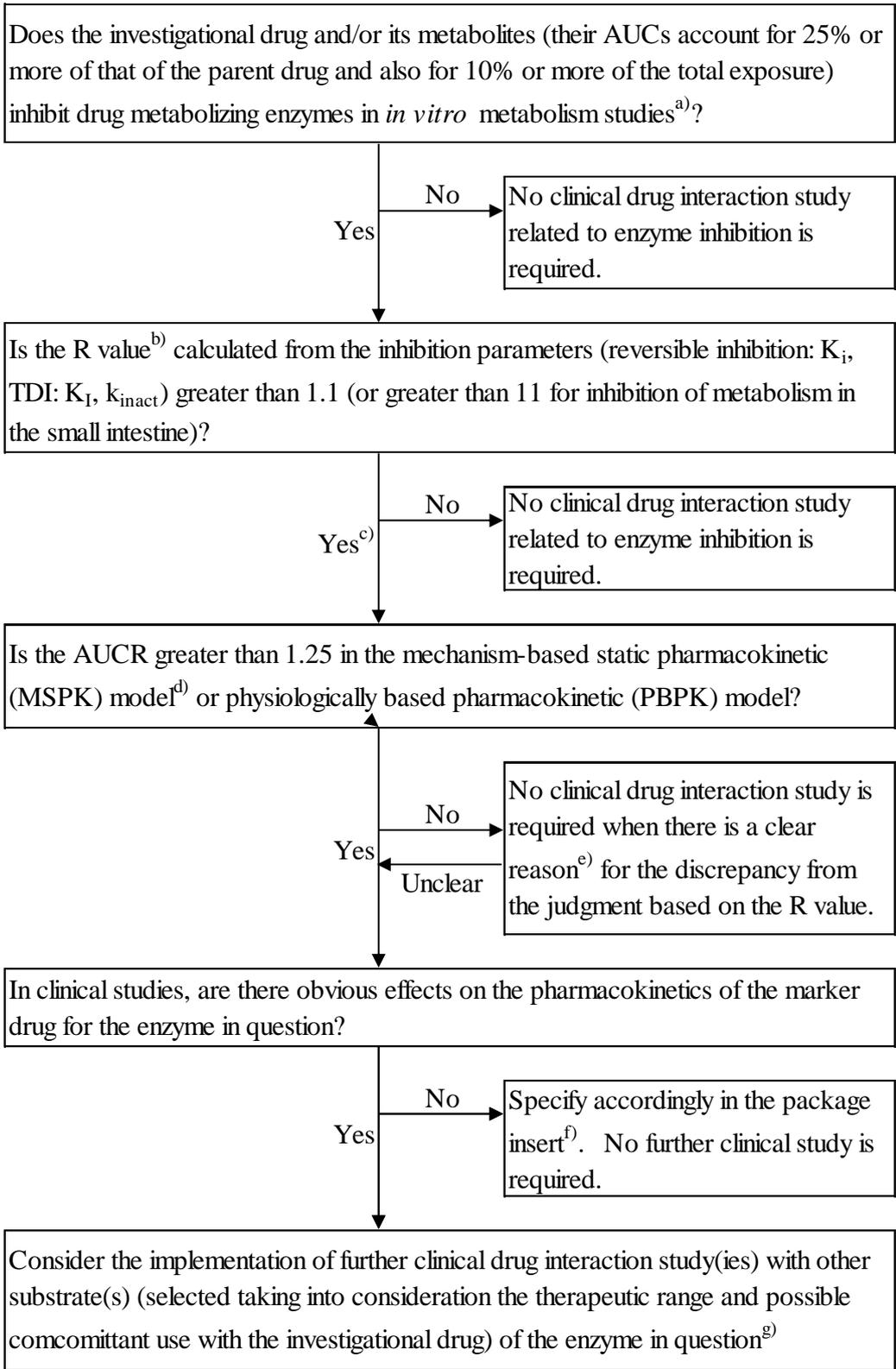
d) Inhibitor(s)/inducer(s) should be selected taking into consideration possible concomitant use with the investigational drug. A PBPK model can be used for evaluation if the validity of the model is confirmed and the results of clinical studies can be explained without contradiction. Clinical DI studies with inducer(s) are required when the risk of clinically significant drug interactions is inferred by simulations or other procedures based on clinical DI studies with inhibitor(s). In such cases, strong inducer(s) should be used in the study in principle.

879

880

881 **Figure 4-2**

882 **Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug inhibiting drug metabolizing enzymes**



883

a) Targeted enzymes: CYP1A2, 2B6, 2C8, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6, 3A; UGT1A1, 2B7; others

*Enzymes other than P450 are examined if they are involved in the major elimination pathway of the investigational drug.

*Concentration setting should include concentrations 10-fold higher than the C_{\max} (bound + unbound forms).

* The effect of pre-incubation with the investigational drug should also be considered.

b) Reversible inhibition: $R=1+[I]/K_i$

$$\text{TDI: } R=(k_{\text{obs}}+k_{\text{deg}})/k_{\text{deg}}, k_{\text{obs}}=k_{\text{inact}}\times[I]/(K_i+[I])$$

[I]: C_{\max} (bound + unbound forms), or Dose/250 mL (intestine)

c) May directly proceed to the clinical DI studies if the accuracy of the predictions is considered insufficient.

d) See Formula 4 (Section 4.3.2)

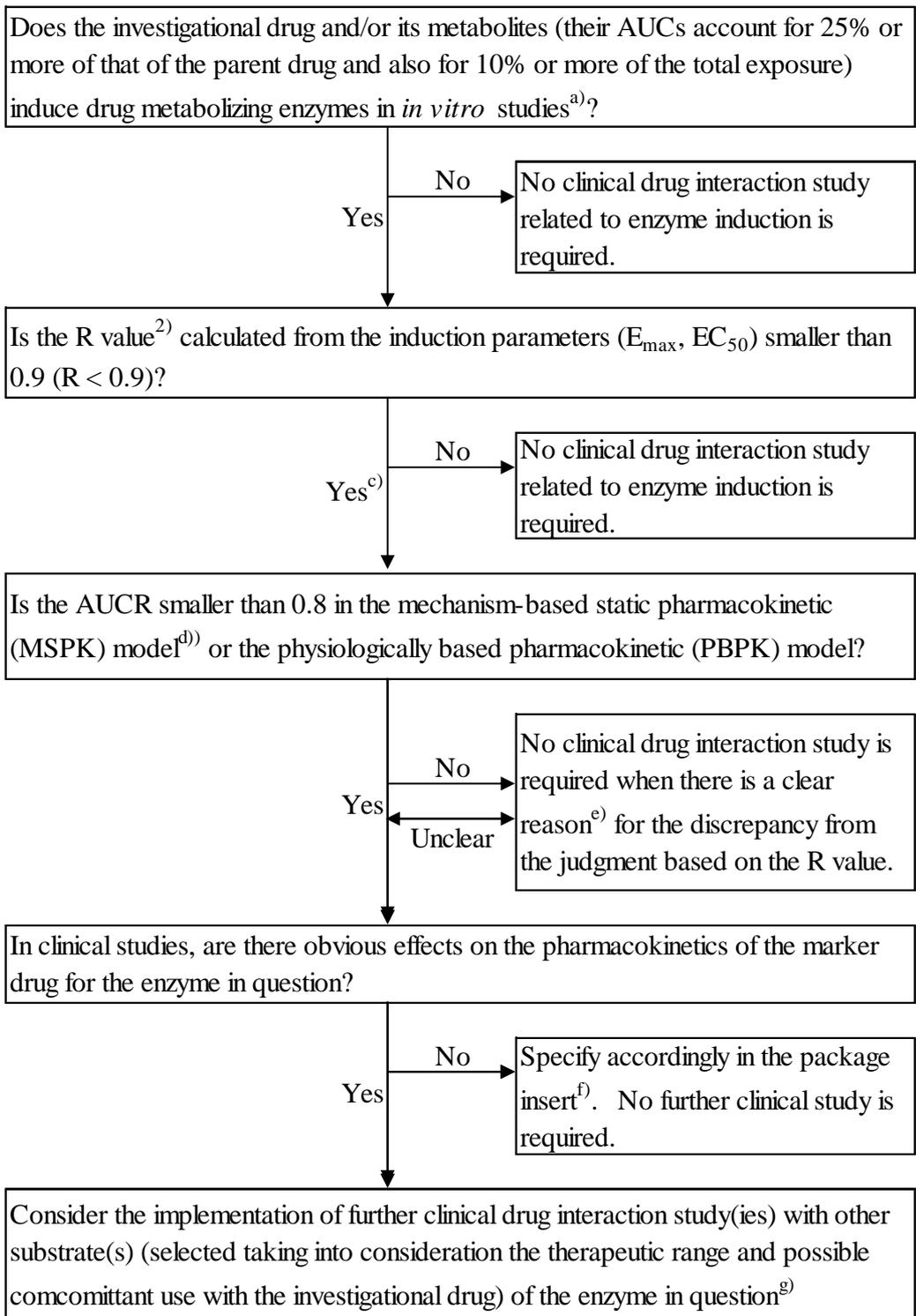
e) Clinical DI study is necessary in case of concurrent inhibition and induction.

f) Information from clinical DI studies, which is considered to be clinically useful, should be provided as appropriate in the package insert etc., regardless of the presence/absence of drug interactions.

g) A PBPK model can be used for evaluation if the validity of the model is confirmed and the results of clinical studies can be explained without contradiction.

885 **Figure 4-3**

886 **Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug inducing drug metabolizing enzymes**



887

a) Targeted enzymes: CYP1A2, 2B6, 3A4

*Add CYP2C9 etc. if necessary.

*Under the concentration setting including concentrations 10-fold higher than the C_{max} (bound + unbound forms), the mRNA expression increases by at least

100% or by at least 20% of the value of the positive control.

b) $R=1/(1+d \times E_{\max} \times [I]/(EC_{50}+[I]))$, defined as $d=1$

[I] : C_{\max} (bound + unbound forms)

c) May directly proceed to the clinical DI studies if the accuracy of the predictions is considered insufficient.

d) See Formula 4 (Section 4.3.2)

e) Clinical DI study is necessary in case of concurrent inhibition and induction.

f) Information from clinical DI studies, which is considered to be clinically useful, should be provided as appropriate in the package insert etc., regardless of the presence/absence of drug interactions.

g) A PBPK model can be used for evaluation if the validity of the model is confirmed and the results of clinical studies can be explained without contradiction.

888

889

890 **Table 4-1 Representative examples of *in vitro* P450 enzyme marker reactions^{14, 20-22)}**

Enzyme	Marker reaction
CYP1A2	Phenacetin O-deethylation, 7-Ethoxyresorufin-O-deethylation
CYP2B6	Efavirenz hydroxylation, Bupropion hydroxylation
CYP2C8	Paclitaxel 6 α -hydroxylation, Amodiaquine N-deethylation
CYP2C9	S-Warfarin 7-hydroxylation, Diclofenac 4'-hydroxylation
CYP2C19	S-Mephenytoin 4'-hydroxylation
CYP2D6	Bufuralol 1'-hydroxylation, Dextromethorphan O-demethylation
CYP3A4*	Midazolam 1'-hydroxylation, Testosterone 6 β -hydroxylation

891 *Both marker reactions should be used for the evaluation of CYP3A inhibition.

892

893 **Table 4-2 Representative examples of *in vitro* P450 inhibitors^{16, 20, 21, 23-25)}**

Enzyme	Inhibitor
CYP1A2	Furafylline, α -Naphthoflavone
CYP2B6*	Ticlopidine, Thiotepa, Sertraline, Phencyclidine
CYP2C8	Montelukast, Quercetin, Phenelzine
CYP2C9	Sulfaphenazole, Tienilic acid
CYP2C19*	S-(+)-N-3-benzyl-nirvanol, Nootkatone, Ticlopidine
CYP2D6	Quinidine, Paroxetine
CYP3A4	Ketoconazole, Itraconazole, Troleandomycin, Verapamil, Azamulin

894 *At present, there is no known selective inhibitor that can be used *in vitro*. Although the inhibitors
895 cited here are not selective, they can be used with other information or in a single enzyme system.

896

897 **Table 4-3 Representative examples of *in vitro* P450 inducers²⁶⁻²⁹⁾**

Enzyme	Inducer *
CYP1A2	Omeprazole, Lansoprazole
CYP2B6	Phenobarbital
CYP2C8	Rifampicin
CYP2C9	Rifampicin
CYP2C19	Rifampicin
CYP3A4	Rifampicin

898 *This table only provides examples, and does not provide an exhaustive list.

899

900 5. Drug interactions in transport and excretion

901 5.1. Drug interactions in urinary excretion

902 Many drugs are filtered by the renal glomeruli, and reabsorbed passively in the renal tubules.
903 However, highly polar drugs tend not to be reabsorbed, but to be excreted in urine. Drugs highly
904 reabsorbed (weakly acidic or weakly basic drugs) may exhibit drug interactions due to variations in the
905 urinary excretion when administered with drugs that alter the urinary pH. Many of the highly polar
906 drugs are actively secreted into the renal tubules via transporters, and may be reabsorbed actively from
907 the tubules. Drug interactions may occur during this process, and thus caution is necessary. In patients
908 with decreased urinary excretory function due to renal disease or aging, drugs mainly excreted into
909 urine often show high blood concentrations. Therefore, particular caution is necessary to watch for
910 enhancement of the drug efficacy or the occurrence of adverse effects associated with further increase
911 in the blood concentrations resulting from interactions during the urinary excretion process.

912 Organic anion transporter (OAT) 1 and OAT3 are transporters expressed on the blood side of
913 the proximal tubular epithelial cells and transport drugs from the blood into the proximal tubular
914 epithelial cells, and P-gp, multidrug and toxin extrusion (MATE) 1, MATE-2K, and BCRP are
915 transporters expressed on the ureteral side of the proximal tubular epithelial cells that mediate
916 excretion of drugs from the proximal tubular epithelial cells into the urine. Blood concentrations of
917 concomitant drugs are known to be elevated if these transporters are inhibited (see Table 6-1). In
918 addition, if P-gp, MATEs and BCRP are inhibited, the concentrations of drugs in the proximal tubular
919 epithelial cells may be increased. If OCT2 that transports drugs from the blood into the proximal
920 tubular cells is inhibited, the blood concentrations of concomitant drugs may be increased. It should be
921 judged whether the investigational drug serves as the substrate or inhibitor of these transporters, and
922 whether clinical drug interaction studies are necessary (see Figs. 6-6, 6-7). As for other transporters
923 that may contribute to urinary excretion, multidrug resistance-associated protein (MRP) 2 and MRP4
924 mediate excretion of drugs from the proximal tubular epithelial cells into the urine. Furthermore, in the
925 case of MATEs involved in the renal excretion of endogenous substances, it is possible that their
926 inhibition by drugs increases the blood and tissue concentration of endogenous substances such as
927 creatinine*note (14). For evaluation of drug interactions mediated by transporters contributing to the
928 renal excretion, findings reported for drugs that are similar in chemical structure to the investigational
929 drug may be of help. Because metabolites may cause interactions with concomitant drugs, evaluation
930 of drug interactions between major metabolites and these transporters may also be considered, with
931 reference to the description in section 4.1.

932

933 5.2. Drug interactions in biliary excretion

934 Many drugs are excreted in the form of conjugates, and some in the unchanged form, into bile.
935 Because biliary excretion is usually mediated by transporters, drug interactions may occur in the
936 presence of concomitant drugs. Blood concentrations of drugs are known to increase if organic anion
937 transporting polypeptide (OATP) 1B1 and OATP1B3, which are transporters expressed on the blood
938 side of the hepatocytes and take up drugs from the blood into the hepatocytes, are inhibited (see Table
939 6-1). It should be judged whether the investigational drug serves as the substrate or inhibitor of these
940 transporters, and whether clinical drug interaction studies are needed (see Fig. 6-4, 5). In addition, As
941 for transporters that mediate hepatic uptake and biliary excretion, organic cation transporter (OCT) 1 is
942 expressed on the blood side of the hepatocytes and transports drugs from the blood into the hepatocytes
943 and MRP2 is expressed on the apical side of the hepatocytes and mediates excretion of drugs from the
944 hepatocytes into bile. Furthermore, in the case of OATPs, MRP2 and bile salt export pump (BSEP)
945 involved in the biliary excretion of endogenous substances such as bile acids and bilirubin, it is
946 possible that their inhibition by drugs increases the blood and tissue concentration of endogenous
947 substances*^{note (14)}. For evaluation of drug interactions mediated by transporters contributing to the
948 hepatic uptake and biliary excretion, findings reported for drugs that are similar in chemical structure
949 to the investigational drug may be of help. Conjugates such as glucuronic acid conjugate are often
950 excreted into the bile, deconjugated by enteric bacteria, and then reabsorbed (enterohepatic circulation).
951 Drug interactions occurring during biliary excretion of conjugates may affect the residence time and
952 AUC of the unchanged drug in the plasma.

953

954 6. Methods of drug interaction studies related to transporters

955 6.1. General considerations in *in vitro* studies

956 For evaluation of transport using *in vitro* test systems for transporters, assessments with the use of
957 typical substrates and typical inhibitors (See Table 6-5) should also be carried out and it is necessary to
958 conduct the evaluation of an investigational drug with a test system that would allow sufficient
959 observation of the function of the subject transporter.

960 In the case of a study carried out to explore the possibility of an investigational drug serving as a
961 substrate for a particular transporter, the study should be designed and conducted under conditions
962 where the investigational drug is used at sufficiently low concentrations relative to the estimated K_m
963 value, to avoid saturation of the transporter. When the exact K_m value is not known, for instance, and if
964 a proportional relationship between investigational drug concentration and velocity of transport is
965 ascertained by a test conducted using two or more different concentrations estimated to be sufficiently
966 lower than the K_m value, saturation of the transporter in the test concentration range can be ruled out.

967 In the case of a study performed to explore the possibility of an investigational drug serving as an
968 inhibitor of a particular transporter, on the other hand, the effects of different concentrations of the
969 investigational drug on the transport of a typical substrate should be assessed, and the K_i value should
970 be calculated, in principle. When a drug with a known K_m value is used as the substrate, $IC_{50}=K_i$ can be
971 assumed when using the substrate at concentrations sufficiently lower than the K_m value. When use of
972 a drug with an unknown K_m value is unavoidable as the substrate, it is acceptable to assume $IC_{50}=K_i$ if
973 a proportional relationship between the substrate concentration and velocity of transport is ascertained
974 by a test conducted using two or more different, sufficiently low substrate concentrations. For studies
975 of efflux transporters such as P-gp, BCRP, MATE1, and MATE2-K in a cellular test system, it is
976 feasible to use the apparent IC_{50} value based on the concentration in the assay medium in order to
977 evaluate the inhibition potency of transporters. In such studies, sufficiently low substrate
978 concentrations should be used comparing with the K_m value.

979

980 6.2. *In vitro* studies to examine drug interactions related to transporters involved in absorption

981 Both P-gp and BCRP are important transporters that are expressed in the GI tract and may
982 affect variations in the oral bioavailability. Because they are also expressed in the liver, kidney and
983 brain, they can affect the elimination and brain distribution of drugs. Because of this, the possibility of
984 serving as the substrate of P-gp or BCRP should be evaluated for all investigational drugs by *in vitro*
985 studies (see Figs. 6-1 and 6-2).

986 For *in vitro* evaluation, it is desirable to conduct bidirectional transcellular transport studies
987 using Caco-2 cells or other cell lines overexpressing particular transporters. Although several types of
988 transporters such as P-gp, BCRP and MRP2 are expressed in Caco-2 cells, involvement of each
989 transporter can be evaluated if selective inhibitors for the respective transporters can be used. If the use
990 of selective inhibitors is not feasible, cell lines overexpressing particular transporter genes can be used.

991 When investigating the involvement of efflux transporters such as P-gp and BCRP,
992 permeability of the investigational drug from the apical side (A) to the basal side (B) should be
993 compared with the permeability of the drug in the opposite direction, i.e., from B to A. If Caco-2 cells
994 are used, the flux ratio (=B to A/A to B ratio) should be calculated from the ratio of the permeability
995 from B to A to that from A to B. If transporter-expressing cell lines are used, correction using the flux
996 ratio of non-expressing cells should be applied to calculate the net flux ratio [= (flux ratio of expressing
997 cells)/(flux ratio of non-expressing cells)]. When the net flux ratio (or the flux ratio in the case of Caco-
998 2 cells) exceeds 2, typical inhibitors of efflux transporters should be used concomitantly, and a
999 significant decrease in the net flux ratio (or the flux ratio in the case of Caco-2 cells) should be
1000 confirmed.

1001 If inhibition of P-gp and BCRP by the investigational drug is evaluated, evaluable
1002 concentrations should be set considering that the expected maximum concentration (maximum single
1003 dose/250 mL) of the investigational drug in the lumen side of the GI tract is at least 10-fold higher than
1004 the expected IC_{50} value. If the solubility of the investigational drug is low, evaluable concentrations
1005 should be set based on the maximum concentration achievable within the range of the pH in the GI
1006 tract. When the IC_{50} value is higher than $0.1 \times \text{dose}/250 \text{ mL}$, i.e., when the $\text{dose}/250 \text{ mL}/IC_{50}$ is less
1007 than 10 ($\text{dose}/250 \text{ mL}/IC_{50} < 10$), inhibition of transporters in the GI tract in the *in vivo* situation can be
1008 excluded (Fig. 6-3). In the calculation of the IC_{50} value, analysis should use the net flux ratio (or the
1009 flux ratio in the case of Caco-2 cells) as an index.

1010 In examining the possibility of an investigational drug serving as a substrate for P-gp or BCRP,
1011 use of the investigational drug at an excessively high concentration may possibly saturate a high-
1012 affinity transporter; eventually, setting of the testing concentrations is important. Therefore, the
1013 investigational drug as a substrate should be used at concentrations sufficiently lower than the K_m value.
1014 If the K_m value of the investigational drug is unknown, the investigational drug concentration should be
1015 set at least taking into account the transporter expression site and the drug concentration at that site. In
1016 the case of a transporter involved in efflux transport in the intestine, kidneys, liver and blood-brain
1017 barrier, like P-gp, the assessment should be made using the investigational drug in a concentration
1018 range that would be physiologically meaningful to the respective organs.

1019 If bidirectional transcellular transport studies are carried out, setting of the pH value of both
1020 solutions on the acceptor side and on the donor side at 7.4 is recommended. In order to ensure that the
1021 study is valid, determination of the recovery rates of the added drugs on the acceptor side and on the
1022 donor side is also recommended.

1023 If these bidirectional transcellular transport studies are employed for evaluation of the P-gp and
1024 BCRP, typical substrates (see Table 6-5) should be used for the evaluation to ensure the validity of the
1025 study system. With regard to typical substrates, it should be confirmed that the net flux ratio (or the
1026 flux ratio in the case of Caco-2 cells) exceeds 2, and that the net flux ratio (or the flux ratio in the case
1027 of Caco-2 cells) is significantly decreased by the addition of a typical inhibitor to a degree that allows
1028 theoretical estimation from the concentration of the added inhibitor and the IC_{50} value. As for typical
1029 inhibitors, it should be confirmed that the net flux ratio is decreased to a degree that allows theoretical
1030 estimation from the concentration of the inhibitor used and the IC_{50} value of the inhibitor.

1032 6.3. *In vitro* studies to examine drug interactions related to transporters in the liver

1033 Investigational drugs which are mainly eliminated via hepatic metabolism or biliary excretion (i.e.,
1034 clearance via either route accounting for not less than 25% of the total clearance) should be assessed

1035 for the possibility of their serving as substrates for the hepatic uptake transporters OATP1B1 and 1B3
1036 (Fig. 6-1). However, there may be instances where the need for *in vitro* studies can be judged based
1037 upon examination of the distribution to the liver, e.g., based on the results of animal experiments on
1038 tissue distribution (Fig. 6-4).

1039 Test systems consisting of OATP1B1- and OATP1B3-expressing cell lines or human hepatocytes
1040 may be used for studies conducted to explore the possibility of an investigational drug serving as a
1041 substrate or an inhibitor of OATP1B1 and/or OATP1B3. In studies conducted using OATP1B1- and
1042 OATP1B3-expressing cell lines or human hepatocytes, an experiment using a typical substrate (see
1043 Table 6-5) should be also performed to ascertain that the transporter function of OATP1B1 and
1044 OATP1B3 is adequately manifested in the test system. The uptake ratio of typical substrates (uptake
1045 ratio of transporter-expressing cells to non-transporter-expressing cells) of acceptable OATP1B1- and
1046 OATP1B3-expressing cell lines is usually more than 2, and it should be verified that the uptake is
1047 significantly reduced by a typical inhibitor to a degree that would allow theoretical estimation from the
1048 K_i value and concentration of the added inhibitor. In studies carried out using human hepatocytes, it
1049 should be ascertained that the uptake ratio of typical substrates is usually more than 2, and that the
1050 uptake is significantly reduced by a typical inhibitor to a degree that would allow theoretical estimation
1051 from the K_i value and the concentration of the added inhibitor.

1052 In exploring the possibility of an investigational drug serving as a substrate for OATP1B1 and
1053 OATP1B3 using a test system consisting of OATP1B1- and OATP1B3-expressing cell lines, the
1054 investigational drug is judged to serve as a substrate for OATP1B1 and OATP1B3, if its uptake into the
1055 transporter-expressing cells exceeds 2-fold of the uptake into the non-transporter-expressing cells and
1056 also if it is verified that the uptake is significantly inhibited by a typical inhibitor of a known target
1057 transporter to a degree that would allow theoretical estimation from the K_i value and the concentration
1058 of the added inhibitor (see Fig. 6-4). In the case where the investigational drug uptake into the
1059 transporter-expressing cells is significantly greater, but less than 2-fold as compared to the uptake into
1060 the non-transporter-expressing cells due to investigational drug adsorption or any other reason, the
1061 investigational drug can be judged to serve as a substrate by separately setting a threshold value of
1062 uptake ratio if it is verified that the uptake is significantly inhibited by a typical inhibitor to a degree
1063 that would allow theoretical estimation from the K_i value and the concentration of the added inhibitor.
1064 It is also feasible, furthermore, to examine the involvement of OATP1B1 or OATP1B3 in advance by
1065 using typical substrates of OATP1B1 and OATP1B3 in an uptake study using human hepatocytes with
1066 proven sufficient retention of transporter function. If investigational drug uptake into human
1067 hepatocytes is evident, the investigational drug is judged to serve as a substrate of OATP1B1 or
1068 OATP1B3 insofar as it is verified that the uptake is significantly inhibited by a typical inhibitor to a

1069 degree that would allow theoretical estimation from the K_i value and the concentration of the added
1070 inhibitor.

1071 For studies carried out to assess inhibition of OATP1B1 and OATP1B3 by an investigational drug,
1072 it is recommended that substrates for OATP1B1 and OATP1B3 be selected taking into account drugs
1073 that are concomitantly administered in the clinical situation. If such selection entails difficulty, typical
1074 substrates of OATP1B1 and OATP1B3 (Table 6-5) may be utilized. Such selection is carried out using
1075 the substrates at concentrations sufficiently lower than the K_m value. In addition, it should be
1076 ascertained by a separate experiment that the test system fully manifests the functions of OATP1B1 and
1077 OATP1B3 by transporting typical substrates (Table 6-5) and by verifying that the uptake of the typical
1078 substrate is significantly reduced by a typical inhibitor to a degree that would allow theoretical
1079 estimation from the K_i value and the concentration of the added inhibitor (Table 6-5). As for setting of
1080 concentrations in the inhibition test, it should be ensured that the concentration range allowing
1081 judgment of whether or not the K_i value of the investigational drug is ≥ 4 -fold the maximum blood
1082 unbound concentration of the drug at the inlet to the liver ($[I]_{u, \text{inlet}, \text{max}}$) at the estimated clinical dose is
1083 covered. *In vivo* transporter inhibition in the liver can be excluded if the K_i value is greater than $4 \times ([I]_{u, \text{inlet}, \text{max}})$
1084 ($[I]_{u, \text{inlet}, \text{max}}/K_i < 0.25$) (Fig. 6-5). Additional points to consider for inhibition experiments on
1085 OATP1B1 and OATP1B3 are stated elsewhere ^{*note (14)}.

1086 1087 6.4. *In vitro* studies to examine interactions related to transporters in the kidney

1088 For investigational drugs whose major route of elimination is active renal secretion (renal secretion
1089 clearance accounting for 25% or more of the total clearance), the possibility of the drug serving as a
1090 substrate for OAT1, OAT3, OCT2, MATE1 or MATE2-K should be explored *in vitro* (Fig. 6-1).

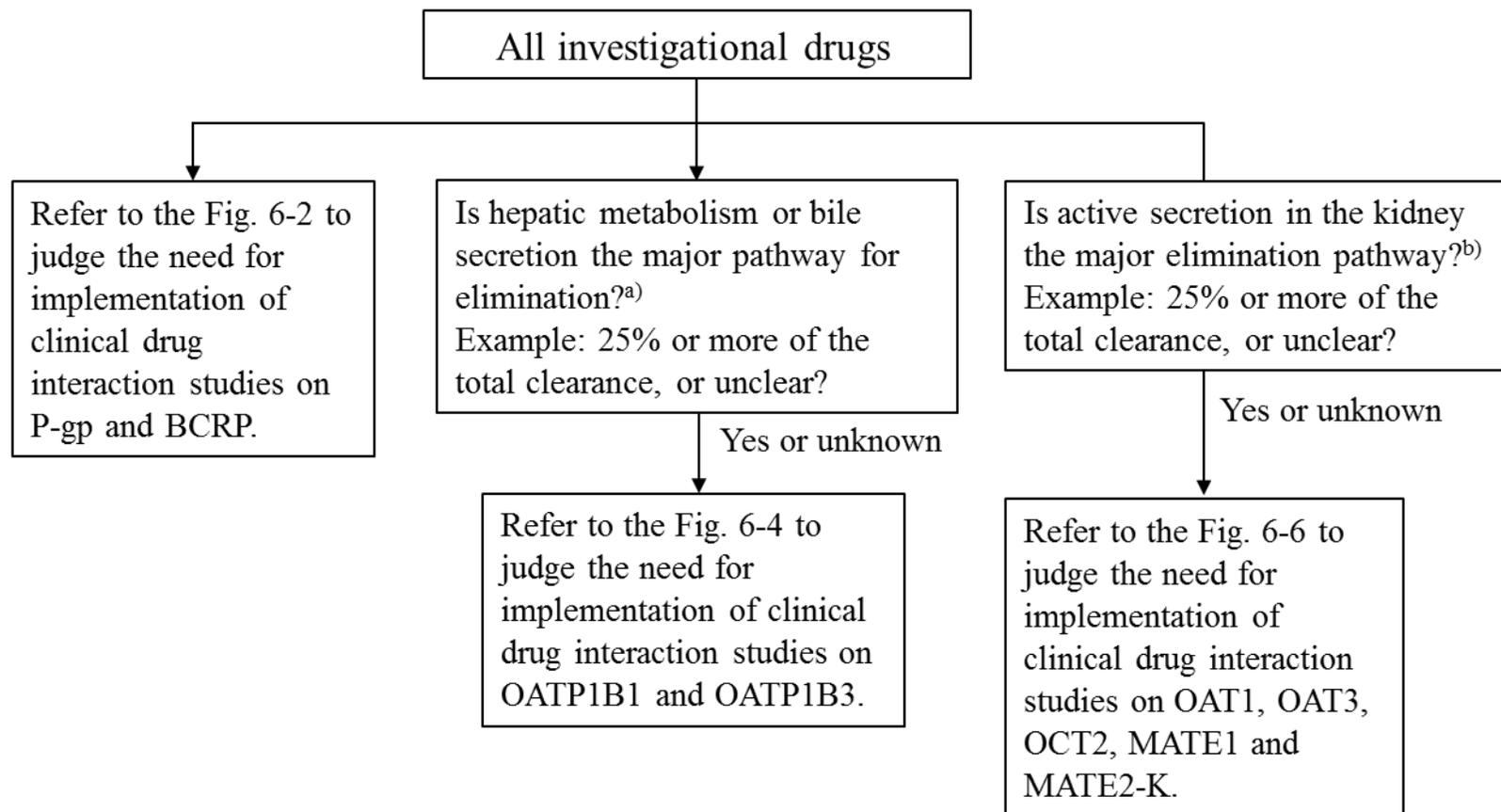
1091 When the test is performed using a cell line expressing OAT1, OAT3, OCT2, MATE1 or MATE2-K,
1092 a parallel test should also be carried out with a typical substrate (see Table 5-5) to confirm that the test
1093 system adequately manifests the functions of these transporters. The intracellular uptake ratio of typical
1094 substrates (uptake ratio of transporter-expressing cells to non-expressing cells) of cell lines expressing
1095 OAT1, OAT3, OCT2, MATE1, or MATE2-K is usually more than 2. It should be verified that the
1096 uptake is significantly reduced by a typical inhibitor to a degree that would allow theoretical estimation
1097 from the K_i value (or the IC_{50} value in the case of MATE1 and MATE2-K only) and the concentration
1098 of the added inhibitor. Meanwhile, since the driving force is the proton gradient, hence reverse in
1099 direction, in the cases of MATE1 and MATE2-K, it is practicable to measure the transport activity
1100 based on the intracellular uptake after acidifying the intracellular milieu (e.g., preincubating MATE-
1101 expressing cells with ammonium chloride, or alkalifying the extracellular pH to approx. 8.4 in the
1102 uptake experiment)³⁰). It is also practicable to use membrane vesicles prepared from MATE1- or

1103 MATE2-K-expressing cells instead of MATE1- or MATE2-K-expressing cell lines³¹⁾. In such instances,
1104 likewise, acidification of the intra-membrane vesicular milieu is necessary to gain transport-driving
1105 force.

1106 In assessing the possibility of an investigational drug serving as a substrate of a transporter, the
1107 investigational drug is judged to be a substrate of the subject transporter if the investigational drug
1108 uptake into the transporter-expressing cells is ≥ 2 -fold that into the non-transporter-expressing cells, and
1109 also if the uptake of a typical substrate is significantly inhibited by a typical inhibitor of a known target
1110 transporter to a degree that would allow theoretical estimation from the K_i value and the concentration
1111 of the added inhibitor (see Fig. 6-6). In case where the investigational drug uptake into the transporter-
1112 expressing cells is significantly greater but less than 2-fold as compared to that into the non-
1113 transporter-expressing cells due to investigational drug adsorption or any other reason, the
1114 investigational drug can be judged to serve as a substrate by separately setting a threshold value of
1115 uptake ratio if it is verified that the uptake is significantly reduced by a typical inhibitor to a degree that
1116 would allow theoretical estimation from the K_i value and the concentration of the added inhibitor.

1117 For studies conducted to examine the inhibition of OAT1, OAT3, OCT2, MATE1, or MATE2-K by
1118 an investigational drug, it is recommended that a substrate for the transporter to be used in the study be
1119 selected taking into account the drugs that are concomitantly administered in the clinical situation. If
1120 the selection entails difficulty, a typical substrate for the transporter (Table 6-5) may be utilized. Such
1121 selection is carried out using the substrate at concentrations which are considered to be sufficiently
1122 lower than the K_m value. In addition, it should be ascertained that the test system adequately manifests
1123 the function of the transporter via performance of the test using a typical substrate (Table 6-5) and also
1124 by verifying that the uptake is significantly reduced by a typical inhibitor (Table 6-5) to a degree that
1125 would allow theoretical estimation from the K_i value and the concentration of the added inhibitor. As
1126 for setting of concentrations in the test for inhibition of OAT1, OAT3, OCT2, MATE1, or MATE2-K, it
1127 should be ensured that the concentration range allowing judgment of whether or not the K_i value of the
1128 investigational drug is ≥ 4 -fold the unbound C_{max} of the drug at the estimated clinical dose is covered.
1129 *In vivo* transporter inhibition in the kidney can be excluded if the K_i value is greater than $4 \times$ unbound
1130 C_{max} of the drug (Fig. 6-7).

1131 **Figure 6-1** : Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug serving as a substrate for P-gp, BCRP, OATP1B1, OATP1B3, OAT1, OAT3,
1132 OCT2, MATE1, or MATE2-K
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1136 a) When an investigational drug for which the hepatic pathway is important (example: hepatic metabolism or biliary excretion accounts for 25%
1137 or more of the total clearance) is concerned, it should be examined whether the drug serves as a substrate of the hepatic uptake transporters

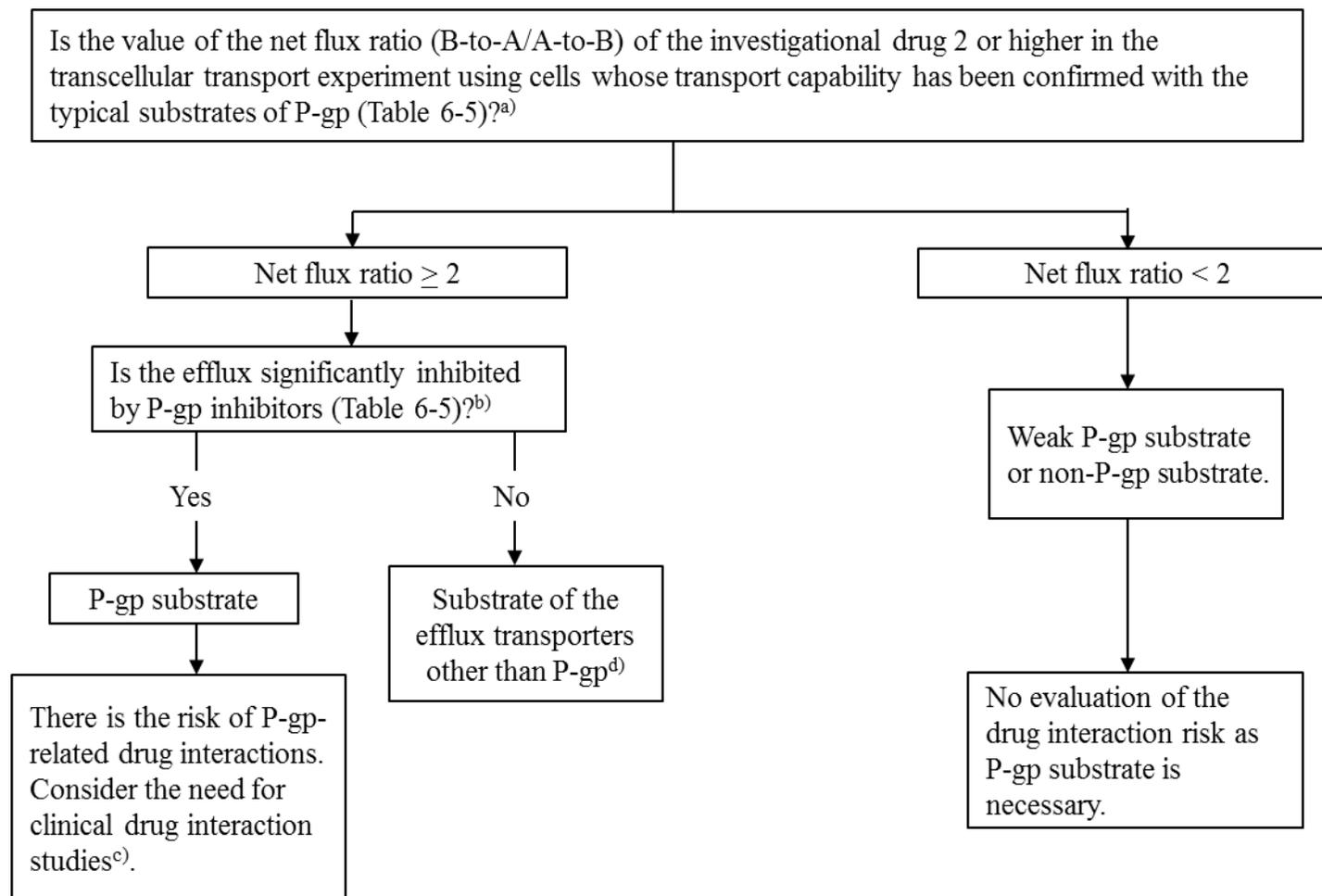
1138 OATP1B1 and/or OATP1B3. Biliary excretion can be estimated from the preclinical data (*in vitro* hepatocytes uptake data or *in vivo* ADME
1139 study data with radiolabeled compounds) and non-renal clearance data.

1140 b) When an investigational drug for which renal tubular secretion is important (secretion clearance accounts for 25% or more of the total
1141 clearance), it should be examined whether the drug is a substrate of OAT1, OAT3, OCT2, MATE1, and MATE2-K. The fraction of secretion
1142 clearance (%) should be estimated using the formula $(CL_r - f_u * GFR) / CL_{total}$, where f_u is the drug protein-unbound fraction in plasma.

1143

1144 **Figure 6-2** : Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug serving as a substrate of P-gp or BCRP

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1148 a) Transport capability should be confirmed with the net flux ratio of typical substrates (Table 6-5) in Caco-2 cells or an MDR1-expressing cell
1149 line as the index. If a net flux ratio of 2 does not seem to provide clear results based on previous experience with the cell lines used, a net flux
1150 ratio of more than 2 may be used as the cutoff value, or the relative ratio to the positive control may be used.

1151 b) The net flux ratio decreases significantly, or approaches 1-fold.

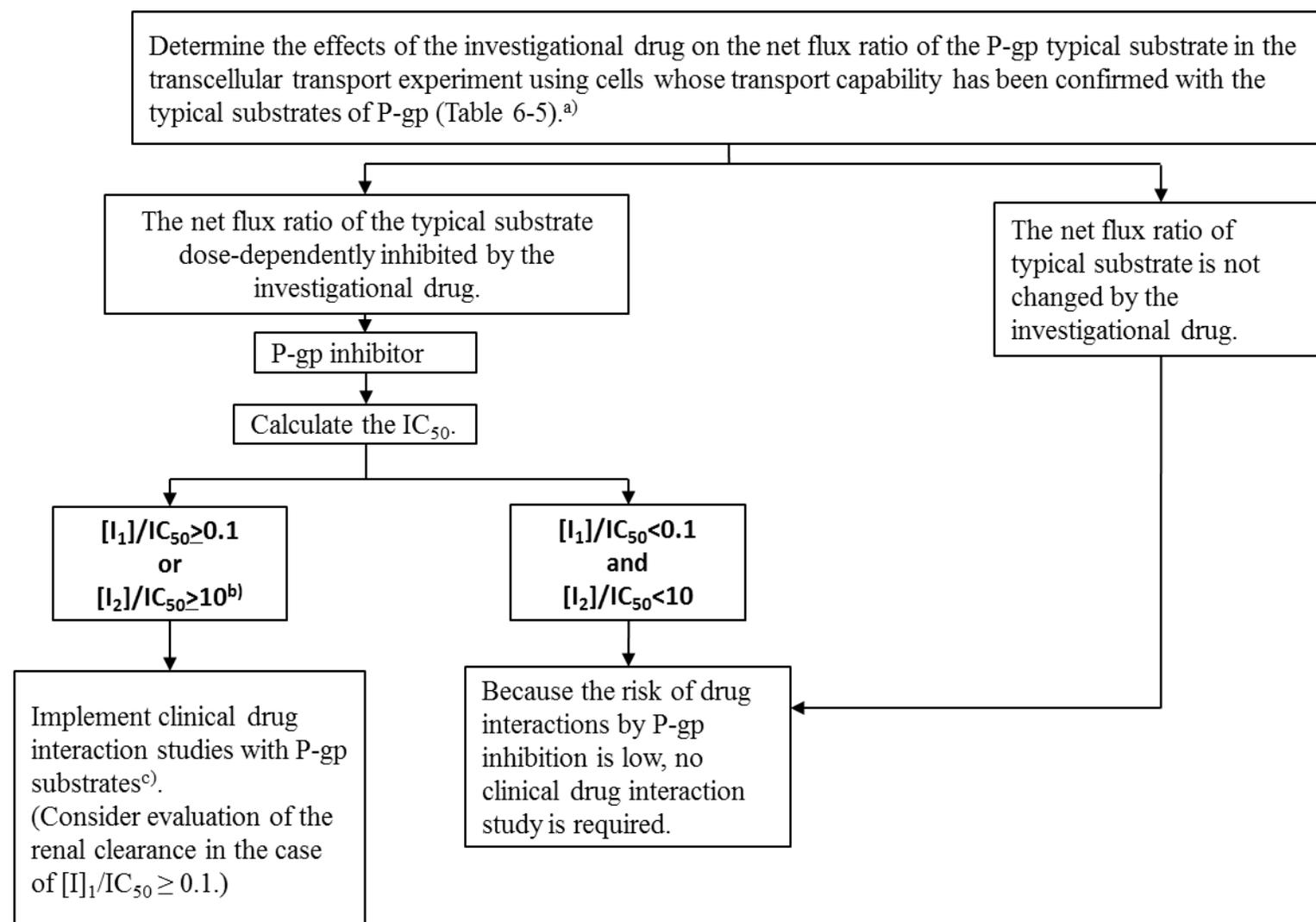
1152 c) Because P-gp is involved in GI absorption, renal tubular secretion and brain distribution, the need for drug interaction studies should be judged
1153 taking into consideration intestinal availability (F_aF_g), presence/absence of renal tubular secretion, and the risk of CNS toxicity. If the F_aF_g is
1154 more than 80%, it is presumed that 1.25-fold or higher exposure will not take place only by the P-gp inhibition in the GI tract. In the case of
1155 BCRP substrates, because genetic polymorphism in BCRP whose allele frequency is relatively high in Japanese population has been reported to
1156 decrease its function *in vivo*, which may cause individual variability in their pharmacokinetics, examination of whether the drug serves as a
1157 substrate of BCRP *in vitro* using this decision tree is recommended. The experimental method should be in accordance with that of P-gp substrate
1158 studies. Typical substrates and inhibitors are shown in Table 6-5. If the investigational drug is a BCRP substrate, it is currently difficult to design
1159 clinical drug interaction studies using *in vivo*-usable typical inhibitors (Table 6-4). Therefore, in this case, only a description that the drug is a
1160 BCRP substrate should be provided at the moment.

1161 d) If the presence of large effects of transporters other than P-gp or BCRP on the absorption or efflux process in the GI tract is suggested by the
1162 known findings on the therapeutic class to which the investigational drug belongs, it may be considered that the transporters involved are
1163 identified, and the degree of their involvement is determined using Caco-2 cells or transporter-expressing cell lines. If necessary, implementation
1164 of clinical drug interaction studies may also be considered.

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Figure 6-3 : Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug being a P-gp or BCRP inhibitor

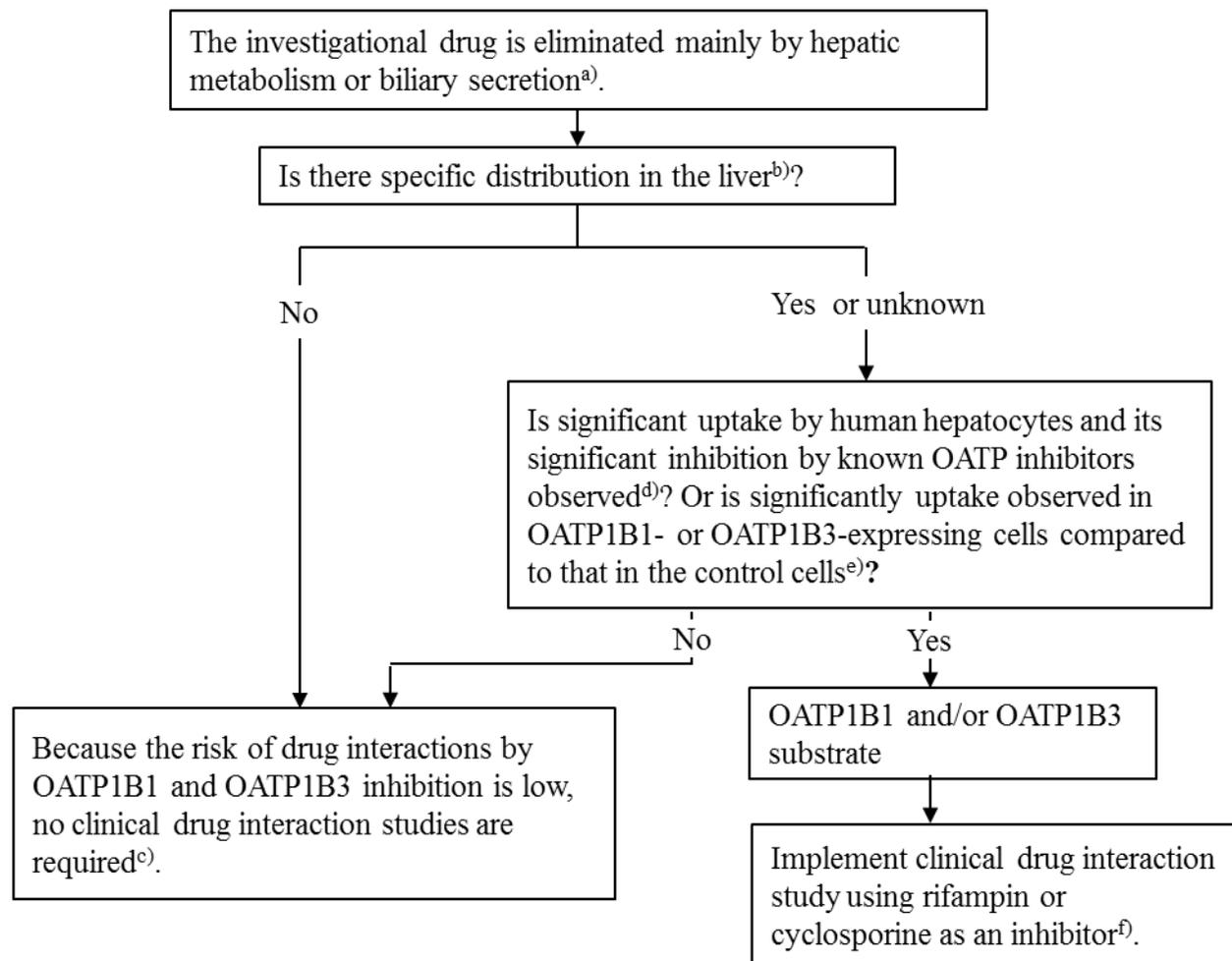


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- 1170 a) Transport capability should be confirmed with the net flux ratio of typical substrates (Table 6-5) (or the flux ratio in the case of Caco-2 cells) in
1171 Caco-2 cells or an MDR1-expressing cell line as an index. In addition, in the presence of an inhibitor, it should be confirmed that the net flux
1172 ratio (or the flux ratio in the case of Caco-2 cells) decreases significantly to the extent that can be theoretically estimated by the concentration of
1173 the added inhibitor and the K_i value. The concentration of the substrate drug should be sufficiently lower than its K_m value. If such setting is
1174 difficult, the concentration of the substrate drug should not be excessively high taking into consideration its concentration exposed to the P-gp
1175 (See text 6.2).
- 1176 b) $[I]_1$ denotes the mean value of the total C_{max} (total concentration of the protein-unbound and protein-bound drug) in the steady state after the
1177 planned maximum clinical dose. $[I]_2 = \text{dose of the inhibitor}/250 \text{ mL}$. In this case, the concentration of the typical substrate should be set a value
1178 sufficiently lower than the K_m value (Table 6-5).
- 1179 c) The typical substrate to be used *in vivo* should be selected in reference to Table 6-4.
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1181 **Figure 6-4 :** Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug serving as a substrate of OATP1B1 or OATP1B3

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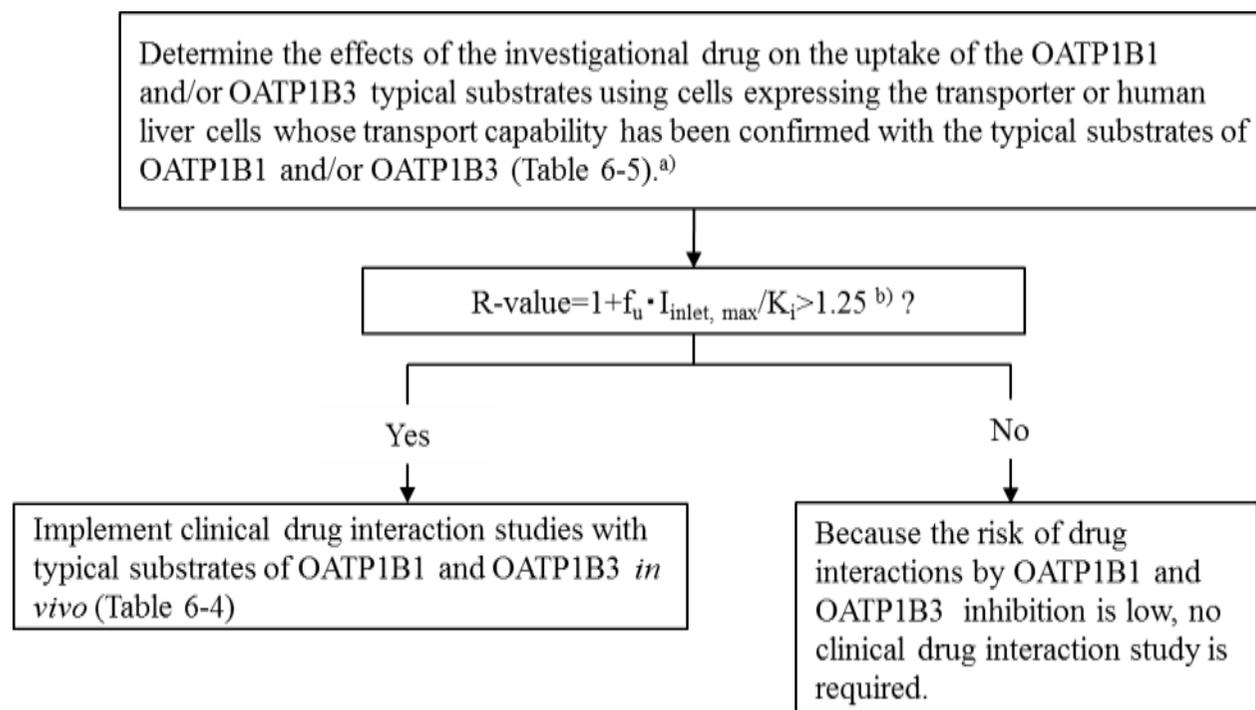
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1185 a) See Fig. 6-1.

- 1186 b) Judge from the results of tissue distribution studies in animals (autoradiography, etc.). Note that compounds that have a negative charge under
1187 physiological conditions or have low membrane permeability often serve as substrates of OATP transporters, although there are some exceptions.
1188 It is also possible that transporters are involved in the process of hepatic uptake of compounds that can be mainly eliminated by hepatic
1189 metabolism.
- 1190 c) Cases where the involvement of passive diffusion is high, leading to masked transport by OATP1B1 and/or OATP1B3, are included.
- 1191 d) Human hepatocytes whose OATP1B1 and/or OATP1B3 transport capability has been confirmed should be used. It should be confirmed that
1192 there is uptake of the typical substrates (Table 6-5) and significant inhibition by typical inhibitors (Table 6-5) to the extent that can be
1193 theoretically estimated by the concentration of the added inhibitor and the K_i value.
- 1194 e) If an OATP1B1- or OATP1B3-expressing cell line is used, it should be confirmed that the uptake of the typical substrates (Table 6-5) is at
1195 least double that in the control cells, and that there is a significant inhibition by typical inhibitors (Table 6-5) to the extent that can be theoretically
1196 estimated by the concentration of the added inhibitor and the K_i value. However, if previous experience with the cell lines used suggest that an
1197 uptake ratio of 2 (ratio of uptake by the transporter-expressing cells to that by non-transporter-expressing cells) does not provide clear results,
1198 another threshold value of the uptake ratio may be used. In the case of highly lipophilic compounds, it should be borne in mind that the uptake
1199 may be difficult to detect in the cells expressing the transporter.
- 1200 f) Since rifampin exerts the inducible effect after its repetitive administration, single administration of rifampin should be performed for the
1201 inhibition of OATPs.
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1203 **Figure 6-5 :** Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug being an OATP1B1 or OATP1B3 substrate

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1208 a) If hepatocytes are used, it should be confirmed that there is uptake of the typical substrates (Table 6-5) and that there is significant inhibition
 1209 by typical inhibitors (Table 6-5) to the extent that can be theoretically estimated by the concentration of the added inhibitor and K_i value. If an
 1210 OATP1B1- or OATP1B3-expressing cell line is used, it should be confirmed that the uptake of the typical substrates (Table 6-5) is at least double
 1211 that in the control cells, and that there is a significant inhibition by typical inhibitors (Table 6-5) to the extent that can be theoretically estimated
 1212 by the concentration of the added inhibitor and the K_i value. For the determination of K_i value of the investigational drug, typical substrates can
 1213 be selected from Table 6-5 and their recommended concentration should be sufficiently lower than their K_m value (see Table 6-5). The

1214 concentration range of the investigational drug for the inhibition study should be set taking into consideration its clinical concentration exposed to
1215 the OATP1B1 and OATP1B3 (blood concentration at the portal vein).

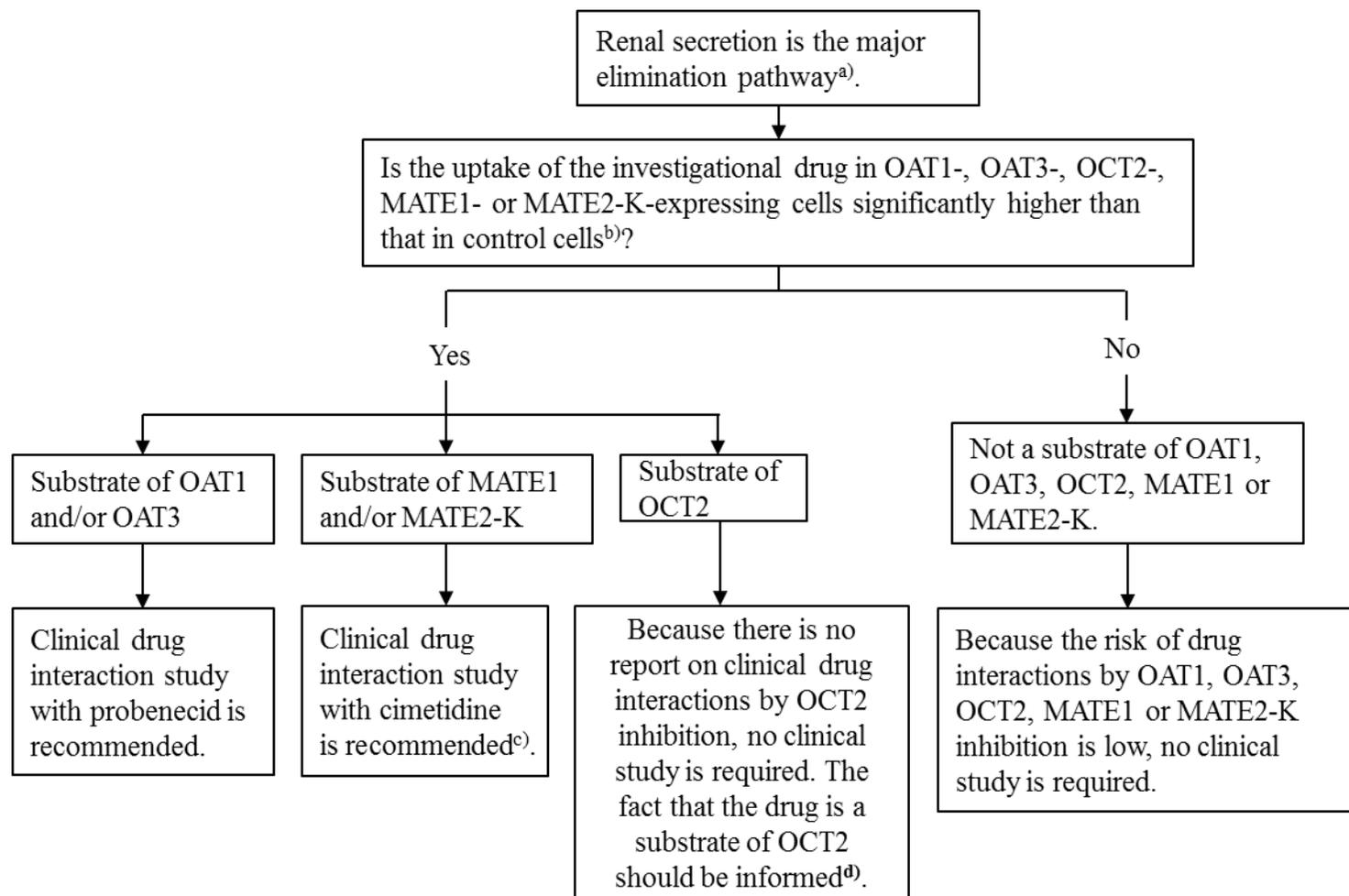
1216 b) R value = $1 + (f_u \times I_{in,max}/K_i)$. In this formula, the $I_{in,max}$ is the estimated maximum concentration of the inhibitor at the inlet to the liver, and is
1217 equal to the $C_{max} + (k_a \times \text{dose} \times F_a F_g / Q_h)$. C_{max} is the maximum systemic plasma concentration of the inhibitor, dose is the dose of the inhibitor,
1218 $F_a F_g$ is the intestinal availability of the inhibitor, k_a is the absorption rate constant of the inhibitor, and Q_h is the hepatic blood flow rate (example:
1219 97 L/hr). If the $F_a F_g$ and k_a values are unknown, 1 and 0.1 min^{-1} can be used as the values for the $F_a F_g$ and k_a , respectively, because prediction of
1220 false-positive results can be avoided by the use of theoretical maximum values³²). In the case of drugs whose f_u values are less than 0.01 or
1221 fractions bound to blood proteins are very high, resulting in inaccurate determination of the f_u value, it should be assumed that the f_u equals 0.01
1222 to avoid false-negative results.

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1224 **Figure 6-6:** Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug serving as a substrate for OAT1, OAT3, OCT2, MATE1, or MATE2-K

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1229 a) See Fig. 6-1.

1230 b) The uptake of the investigational drug should be determined using cells in which the ratio of the uptake in the typical substrate (Table 6-5) by
1231 transporter-expressing cell line to that by a non-expressing cell line (uptake ratio) has been confirmed to be not less than 2-fold, and there is
1232 significant inhibition by known inhibitors (Table 6-5) to the extent that can be theoretically estimated by the concentration of the added inhibitor
1233 and the K_i value.

1234 If a transporter-expressing cell line is used, it should be confirmed that the uptake of the typical substrates (Table 6-5) is at least double that in
1235 the control cells, and that there is a significant inhibition by typical inhibitors (Table 6-5) to the extent that can be theoretically estimated by the
1236 concentration of the added inhibitor and the K_i value. However, if previous experience with the cell lines used suggest that an uptake ratio of 2
1237 (ratio of uptake by the transporter-expressing cells to that by non-transporter-expressing cells) does not provide clear results, another threshold
1238 value of the uptake ratio may be used. In the case of highly lipophilic compounds, it should be borne in mind that the uptake may be difficult to
1239 detect in the cells expressing the transporter.

1240 c) Since MATE1 and MATE2-K are involved in the renal excretion of drugs, it should be borne in mind that the kidney concentration may be
1241 increased even if the blood concentration remains unchanged.

1242 d) If the investigational drug is an OCT2 substrate, it is currently difficult to design clinical drug interaction studies using *in vivo*-usable typical
1243 inhibitors (Table 6-4). Therefore, in this case, only a description that the drug is an OCT2 substrate should be provided at the moment.

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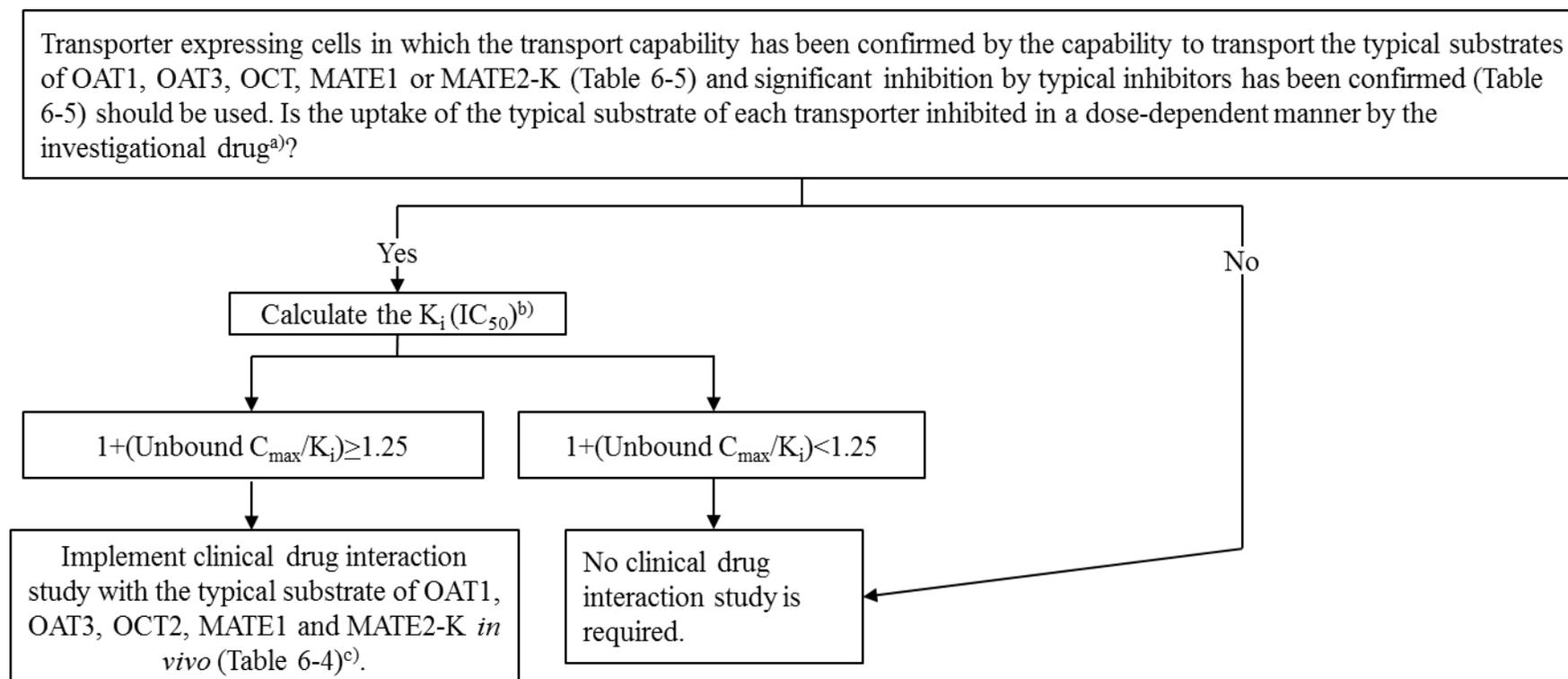
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1248 **Figure 6-7:** Evaluation of the possibility of the investigational drug being an inhibitor of OAT1, OAT3, OCT2, MATE1 or MATE2-K

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1252 a) The uptake of the investigational drug should be determined using cells in which the ratio of the uptake in the typical substrate (Table 6-5) by
 1253 transporter-expressing cell line to that by a non-expressing cell line (uptake ratio) has been confirmed to be not less than 2-fold, and there is
 1254 significant inhibition by known inhibitors (Table 6-5) to the extent that can be theoretically estimated by the concentration of the added inhibitor
 1255 and the K_i value. For the determination of K_i (or IC_{50}) value of the investigational drug, typical substrates can be selected from Table 6-5 and
 1256 their recommended concentration should be sufficiently lower than their K_m value (see Table 6-5). The concentration range of the investigational

1257 drug for the inhibition study should be set taking into consideration its clinical concentration exposed to the target transporters (unbound
1258 concentration in plasma).

1259

1260 b) Use IC_{50} based on the medium concentration instead of K_m may be used in the inhibition study of MATE1 and MATE2-K using cell system.

1261 c) Inhibition of MATE1 and/or MATE2-K may cause an increase in the kidney concentration while causing no changes in the blood
1262 concentration.

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1264 **Table 6-1 Examples of *in vivo* inhibitors that transporter-mediated drug interactions were**
 1265 **clinically observed**

Transporter	Gene	Inhibitor
P-gp	<i>ABCB1</i>	Lapatinib Dronedarone ^{a)} Cyclosporine Lopinavir/Ritonavir Quinidine Amiodarone Azithromycin Itraconazole Carvedilol Clarithromycin Quercetin ^{b)} Ranolazine ^{a)} Verapamil Diltiazem Darunavir/Ritonavir
BCRP	<i>ABCG2</i>	Curcumin ^{b)} Elacridar (GF120918) ^{a), c)} Elrombopag
OATP1B1, OATP1B3	<i>SLCO1B1</i> , <i>SLCO1B3</i>	Cyclosporin Rifampicin ^{d)} Atazanavir/Ritonavir Lopinavir/Ritonavir Clarithromycin Gemfibrozil ^{a)} Darunavir/Ritonavir
OAT1	<i>SLC22A6</i>	Probenecid
OAT3	<i>SLC22A8</i>	Probenecid
MATE1, MATE-2K	<i>SLC47A1</i> , <i>SLC47A2</i>	Cimetidine Pyrimethamine ^{a)}

a) Unapproved in Japan. ~~Dual inhibitors of P-gp and BCRP~~

b) Dietary supplements

c) Dual inhibitors of P-gp and BCRP

- d) It should be noted that continuous administration enhances the inducing effect, leading to different consequences.

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1268 **Table 6-2 Examples of *in vivo* inducers that transporter-mediated drug interactions were**
 1269 **clinically observed**

Transporter	Gene	Inducer
P-gp	<i>ABCB1</i>	Carbamazepine Phenytoin Rifampicin St. John's Wort ^{a)} Tipranavir/Ritonavir ^{b,c)}
OATP1B1, OATP1B3	<i>SLCO1B1</i> , <i>SLCO1B3</i>	Efavirenz Rifampicin

a) Dietary supplements

b) Unapproved in Japan

c) Note that the results of *in vitro* experiments indicate that ritonavir exerts inhibitory effect on P-gp, while tipranavir exerts both a weak inhibitory effect as well as strong inducing effect on P-gp. It should be noted that the apparent effects of these drugs arise from a combination of the inducing and inhibitory effects.

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1272 **Table 6-3 Examples of *in vivo* substrates that transporter-mediated drug interactions**
 1273 **clinically were observed**

Transporter	Gene	Substrates
P-gp	<i>ABCB1</i>	Aliskiren Ambrisentan ^{a)} Colchicine Dabigatran etexilate Digoxin Everolimus ^{a)} Fexofenadine Imatinib ^{a)} Lapatinib ^{a)} Maraviroc ^{a)} Nilotinib Ranolazine ^{a,b)} Saxagliptin ^{a)} Sirolimus ^{a)} Sitagliptin ^{a)} Talinolol ^{b)} Tolvaptan ^{a)} Topotecan ^{c)}
BCRP	<i>ABCG2</i>	Imatinib Rosuvastatin Sulfasalazine Diflomotecan ^{b)}

OATP1B1, OATP1B3	<i>SLCO1B1</i> , <i>SLCO1B3</i>	Atrasentan ^{b)} Atorvastatin Bosentan Ezetimibe Fluvastatin Fexofenadine Glibenclamide Nateglinide SN-38 (active metabolite of irinotecan) Rosuvastatin ^{d)} Simvastatin acid Pitavastatin ^{d)} Pravastatin Repaglinide Telmisartan ^{e)} Toremide Valsartan Olmesartan
OCT2	<i>SLC22A2</i>	Metformin
MATE1, MATE2-K	<i>SLC47A1</i> , <i>SLC47A2</i>	Metformin Cisplatin Cephalexin
OAT1, OAT3	<i>SLC22A6</i> , <i>SLC22A8</i>	Adefovir ^{d)} Bumetanide ^{g)} Cefaclor Cidofovir ^{b,f)} Ciprofloxacin ^{g)} Famotidine ^{h)} Fexofenadine Furosemide Ganciclovir ^{d)} Methotrexate ^{g)} Penicillin G ^{g)} Zalcitabine ^{b)} Zidovudine

- a) It should be noted that the apparent effects may be derived from inhibition of P-gp as well as inhibition of CYP3A4, because the compound is also a CYP3A4 substrate.
- b) Unapproved in Japan
- c) It should be noted that the apparent effects may be derived from inhibition of P-gp as well as inhibition of BCRP, because the compound is also a BCRP substrate.
- d) The results of *in vitro* studies indicate that the contribution of OATP1B1 on the hepatic uptake is high.
- e) The results of *in vitro* studies suggest that it is a selective substrate of OATP1B3 (vs. OATP1B1).
- f) The results of *in vitro* studies suggest that it is a selective substrate of OAT1 (vs. OAT3).
- g) The results of *in vitro* studies suggest that it is a selective substrate of OAT3 (vs. OAT1).
- h) This is also a substrate of OCT2.

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Table 6-4 Examples of typical substrates and inhibitors of transporters *in vivo*Typical *in vivo* substrates

Transporter	Gene	Substrate
P-gp	<i>ABCB1</i>	Digoxin Fexofenadine ^{a)} Dabigatran etexilate
BCRP	<i>ABCG2</i>	Sulfasalazine Rosuvastatin ^{b)}
OATP1B1	<i>SLCO1B1</i>	Pitavastatin ^{c)} Pravastatin ^{d)} Rosuvastatin ^{b)}
OATP1B3	<i>SLCO1B3</i>	Telmisartan ^{e)}
OAT1	<i>SLC22A6</i>	Acyclovir Adefovir Ganciclovir Cidofovir ^{f)}
OAT3	<i>SLC22A8</i>	Benzylpenicillin Sitagliptin Ciprofloxacin Pravastatin ^{g)} Rosuvastatin ^{g)}
MATE1, MATE-2K, OCT2	<i>SLC47A1</i> , <i>SLC47A2</i> , <i>SLC22A2</i>	Metformin N-methylnicotinamide (NMN) ^{f, h)}

a) It is reported that OATP1B1, OATP1B3, MRP2, and MRP3 participate to hepatic clearance and OAT3, MATE1, and MATE2-K to renal clearance of fexofenadine.

b) It is reported that BCRP participates to intestinal absorption, OATP1B1, OATP1B3, and NTCP to hepatic uptake, and OAT3 to renal clearance, respectively. These drugs are also substrates for P-gp and MRP2 in *in vitro*.

c) Pitavastatin is also substrates of P-gp, MRP2, and BCRP in *in vitro*.

- d) MRP2 and OAT3 are reported to participate to biliary²⁷⁷ and renal excretion, respectively.
- e) Telmisartan is known to be conjugated by UGTs in intestine and liver.
- f) Unapproved in Japan
- g) Contribution of OAT3 is possible to estimate by elimination of the influence of renal clearance.
- h) Because of the influence of endogenous substrates, foods, and timing of sampling, it is necessary to evaluate the role of transporter as a renal clearance.

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Typical inhibitors *in vivo*

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Transporter	Gene	Inhibitor	1280
P-gp	<i>ABCB1</i>	Quinidine Cyclosporin ^{a)} Ranolazine ^{b)} Amiodarone Itraconazole Clarithromycin ^{a)} Verapamil	
BCRP	<i>ABCG2</i>	Curcumin b) Eltrombopag	
OATP1B1, OATP1B3	<i>SLCO1B1</i> , <i>SLCO1B3</i>	Cyclosporin A ^{c)} Rifampicin ^{d)}	
OAT1, OAT3	<i>SLC22A6</i> , <i>SLC22A8</i>	Probenecid	
MATE1, MATE2-K	<i>SLC47A1</i> , <i>SLC47A2</i>	Cimetidine Pyrimethamine ^{b, e)}	

a) It is reported that these drugs also inhibit OATP1B1 and OATP1B3 by clinical blood concentration.

b) Unapproved in Japan.

c) It is reported that the drug also inhibits intestinal P-gp by clinical blood concentration.

d) Single dose study are necessary to eliminate the influence of induction of the transporter by repeated administration.

e) Pyrimethamine is accepted to sale only as a combination drug with sulfadoxine in Japan.

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Table 6-5 Examples of typical substrates and inhibitors *in vitro*Typical *in vitro* substrates

Transporter	Gene	Substrate	K _m value*
P-gp	<i>ABCB1</i>	Digoxin ^{a)}	73-177 μM
		Loperamide	(1.8-5.5 μM)
		Quinidine	1.69 μM
		Vinblastine ^{b)}	19-253 μM
		Talinolol ^{b)}	(72 μM)
		Fexofenadine ^{c)}	150 μM
BCRP	<i>ABCG2</i>	Estrone-3-sulfate ^{d)}	2.3-13 μM
		Dantrolene	
		Daidzein	
		Genistein	
		Coumestrol	
OATP1B1, OATP1B3	<i>SLCO1B1</i> , <i>SLCO1B3</i>	Estradiol-17β-glucuronide ^{e)}	2.5-8.3 μM (1B1), 15.8-24.6 μM (1B3)
		Estrone-3-sulfate ^{f)}	0.23-12.5 μM (1B1)
		Cholecystokinin octapeptide(CCK-8) ^{g)}	3.8-16.5 μM (1B3)
		Telmisartan ^{h)}	0.81 μM (1B3)
OAT1	<i>SLC22A6</i>	<i>p</i> -aminohippurate	4-20 μM
		Adefovir	23.8-30 μM
		Cidofovir	30-58 μM
OAT3	<i>SLC22A8</i>	Benzylpenicillin ⁱ⁾	52 μM
		Estrone-3-sulfate ^{j)}	2.2-75 μM
		Pravastatin ⁱ⁾	27.2 μM
MATE1, MATE-2K	<i>SLC47A1</i> , <i>SLC47A2</i>	Tetraethylammonium (TEA) ^{k)}	220-380 μM (MATE1), 760-830 μM (MATE-2K)
		Metformin ^{k)}	202-780 μM (MATE1), 1050-1980 μM (MATE- 2K)
		1-methyl-4-phenylpyridinium (MPP+) ^{k)}	100 μM (MATE1), 110 μM (MATE-2K)
OCT2	<i>SLC22A2</i>	Tetraethylammonium (TEA) ^{k)}	33.8-76 μM

	Metformin ^{k)}	680-3356 μ M
	1-methyl-4-phenylpyridinium (MPP ⁺) ^{k)}	1.2-22.2 μ M

* Figures in parentheses represent the K_i or IC_{50} values.

- a) Substrates of OATP1B3.
- b) Substrates of MRP2.
- c) Substrates of OATPs, MRP2, and MRP3.
- d) Substrates of OATPs, and NTCP.
- e) Inhibition study indicates smaller K_i value. This substance has an appropriate characteristics of a marker drug.
- f) Selective substrate of OATP1B1 (vs. OATP1B3) It is reported that inhibition study tends to indicates larger K_i value.
- g) Selective substrate of OATP1B3 (vs. OATP1B1)
- h) Selective substrate of OATP1B3 (vs. OATP1B1). Consider addition of albumin into test system to decrease the effects of nonspecific absorption.
- i) Substrates of OATPs and MRP2.j) Substrate of OATP1B1 and BCRP.
- k) Substrates of OCTs and MATEs.

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Typical *in vitro* inhibitors

Transporter	Gene	Substrate	K_i or IC_{50} value*
P-gp	<i>ABCB1</i>	Cyclosporin A ^{a)}	0.5-2.2 μ M
		Ketoconazole ^{b)}	1.2-6.3 μ M
		Zosuquidar (LY335979)	0.024-0.07 μ M
		Quinidine ^{c)}	3.2-51.7 μ M
		Ritonavir ^{d)}	3.8-28 μ M
		Tacrolimus ^{d)}	0.74 μ M
		Valspodar (PSC833) ^{e)}	0.11 μ M
		Verapamil ^{e)}	2.1-33.5 μ M
		Elacridar (GF120918) ^{f)}	0.027-0.44 μ M
		Reserpine ^{e)}	1.4-11.5 μ M
BCRP	<i>ABCG2</i>	Sulfasalazine	0.73 μ M
		Elacridar (GF120918) ^{g)}	0.31 μ M
		Fumitremorgin C	0.25-0.55 μ M
		Ko143	0.01 μ M

		Ko134	0.07 μ M
		noboviocin	0.063 - 0.095 μ M
OATP1B1, OATP1B3	<i>SLCO1B1</i> , <i>SLCO1B3</i>	Estradiol-17 β -glucuronide ^{e,d}	2.5-8.3 μ M (1B1), 15.8-24.6 μ M (1B3)
		Estrone-3-sulfate ^{b,f}	0.2-0.79 μ M (1B1), 97.1 μ M (1B3)
		Rifampicin	0.48-17 μ M (1B1), 0.8-5 μ M (1B3)
		Rifamycin SV	0.17-2 μ M (1B1), 3 μ M (1B3)
		Cyclosporin A ^{b, e, g}	0.24-3.5 μ M (1B1), 0.06-0.8 μ M (1B3)
OAT1, OAT3	<i>SLC22A6</i> , <i>SLC22A8</i>	Probenecid ^d	3.9-26 μ M (OAT1), 1.3-9 μ M (OAT3)
		Benzylpenicillin	1700 μ M (OAT1), 52 μ M (OAT3)
MATE1, MATE-2K	<i>SLC47A1</i> , <i>SLC47A2</i>	Pyrimethamine	77 nM (MATE1), 46 nM (MATE-2K)
		Cimetidine ^c	1.1-3.8 μ M (MATE1), 2.1-7.3 μ M (MATE-2K)
OCT2	<i>SLC22A2</i>	Tetraethylammonium (TEA) ^h	144 μ M
		1-methyl-4-phenylpyridinium (MPP ⁺) ^h	(1.2-22.2 μ M)

* Figures in parentheses represent the K_m values.

a) Substrates of MRP2, BCRP, NTCP, and OATPs.

b) Substrates of NTCP.

c) Substrates of OCTs and MATEs.

d) Substrates of OATPs.

e) Substrates of MRP2.

f) Substrates of BCRP.

g) P-gp inhibitor.

h) MATEs inhibitor.

The above table was prepared based on the reference³³⁾ and values obtained from relevant databases.

TP-search (<http://www.TP-Search.jp/>)

UCSF-FDA Transportal (<http://bts.ucsf.edu/fdatransportal/>)

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1284 7. Evaluation of drug interactions by clinical studies

1285 7.1. Need for clinical studies

1286 Clinical drug interaction studies should be carried out ethically and scientifically. It is important
1287 to obtain sufficient information from *in vitro* studies using human tissue-derived specimens and
1288 expression systems, and to secure the safety of subjects, before clinical drug interaction studies. For
1289 predicting the drug interactions in humans based on the results of *in vitro* studies and etc., it would be
1290 useful to refer to the modeling analyses and simulation techniques which were applied for drugs of the
1291 Pharmacologically similar drugs having the same mechanism of drug interactions. For clinical drug
1292 interaction studies, it is necessary to prepare the study plan considering the safety of the subjects
1293 primarily, bearing in mind the adverse effects which are caused by the drug interactions.

1295 7.2. Timing of clinical studies

1296 It is recommended that, in principle, clinical drug interaction study(s) is conducted mainly in
1297 healthy volunteers, prior to phase III studies in principle, with the clinical dose of investigational drug
1298 (or marker drug, inducer drug, inhibitor drug if appropriate), when possibility of drug interactions has
1299 been suggested for the investigational drug. If significant drug interaction is observed, the drug
1300 interaction(s) with other drugs frequently co-administered with the investigational drug should be
1301 investigated as needed considering their characteristics and significance of the drug interaction. If the
1302 investigational drug is developed for the objective of being used concomitantly with other drugs, as in
1303 the cases of development of combination products, and development related to indications for
1304 combination therapy, etc., clinical drug interaction studies between the drugs in question should be
1305 carried out in principle.

1306 The results of clinical drug interaction studies are utilized for the protocols of later clinical
1307 studies for considering acceptable concomitant drugs based on the observed drug interaction. In some
1308 cases, information obtained from PBPK model analysis and simulations helpful. If *in vitro* drug
1309 interaction studies suggest the possibility of clinically significant interactions with a concomitant drug,
1310 use of the concomitant drug in question should be contraindicated, until its safety is demonstrated by a
1311 clinical drug interaction study.

1312 When the influences of drug interactions are to be examined in phase II or III studies, it is
1313 useful to obtain information on interactions with concomitantly used drugs through population
1314 pharmacokinetic analysis, for prediction of the pharmacokinetics taking into account inter-individual
1315 variations and evaluating the pharmacokinetics, efficacy, and safety of the investigational drug. If an
1316 occurrence of drug interactions is reported after the drug approval, post-approval clinical drug
1317 interaction studies should be considered as needed.

1318

1319 7.3. Relevant indices of drug interactions and judgment of the results

1320 To consider the mechanisms of drug interactions and evaluate the interactions quantitatively,
1321 pharmacokinetic parameters appropriate as indices of drug interactions should be selected.
1322 Pharmacokinetic parameters of the investigational drug and concomitant drugs, such as the AUC, C_{\max} ,
1323 trough concentration, time to reach C_{\max} (t_{\max}), clearance, distribution volume and half-life, may be
1324 used according to need. Evaluation of the drug efficacy and adverse effects provide useful indices for
1325 drug interactions, depending on combination with the concomitant drugs.

1326 The presence/absence of drug interactions should be judged based on the results of clinical drug
1327 interaction studies, in terms of the 90% confidence interval of the geometric mean ratio of
1328 pharmacokinetic parameters obtained with and without the concomitant use of affecting drugs. The use
1329 of 90% confidence interval allows us to estimate distribution of the ratios for the pharmacokinetic
1330 parameters with and without concomitant drugs, and thereby to judge the intensity of the influences of
1331 drug interactions. When the 90% confidence interval of the geometric mean ratio falls in the range of
1332 80-125%, it is generally judged that there are no pharmacokinetic interactions between the drugs in
1333 question. It should be noted that there may be no clinically important drug interactions even when the
1334 90% confidence interval of the geometric mean ratio is outside the above range. On the contrary, there
1335 may be clinically significant drug interactions even when the 90% confidence interval of the geometric
1336 mean ratio is within the above range. Judgments based on the statistical test alone is not necessarily
1337 appropriate because the drug interaction may not be clinically important even if statistically significant
1338 difference ($p < 0.05$) was observed.

1339 If there is the possibility of clinically important drug interactions, it is appropriate to make a
1340 judgment of information and alerts on drug interactions taking into consideration the safety margin and
1341 the efficacious range of the investigational drug or concomitant drugs, considering their plasma drug
1342 concentration-response relationships.

1343

1344 7.4. Design of clinical studies

1345 Clinical drug interaction studies are carried out using study designs of randomized cross-over,
1346 add-on, parallel-group designs, and etc. The parallel-group design is not recommended usually because
1347 inter-individual differences become confounding factors, and it is acceptable only when the cross-over
1348 design and the add-on design are not feasible. Comparison with a control group in the separate study
1349 (historical controls) is unjustifiable in principle.

1350 Drug interaction studies can be conducted in an open-label manner, except in cases where it is
1351 important to evaluate pharmacodynamic endpoints, including adverse events that are susceptible to
1352 biases, such as in evaluation by blood pressure or observation of symptoms.

1353 Subjects who have ingested ethical drugs, over-the-counter drugs, supplements, health food
1354 products, tobacco, or alcohol prior to the registration should be considered to be excluded from the
1355 clinical drug interaction studies because these substances may alter the activities of drug metabolizing
1356 enzymes and transporters.

1357 If the clearance of the investigational drug is considered to be strongly influenced by drug
1358 metabolizing enzymes or transporters whose activities are altered by genetic polymorphisms (CYP2D6,
1359 CYP2C9, CYP2C19, OATP1B1, etc.), the degree of drug interactions may vary according to the gene
1360 polymorphism. In this case, a study design using stratification by genotype may be useful (see section
1361 6.10.5.1.).

1362 1363 7.5. Dose and route of administration

1364 The doses of inhibitors or inducers used in the study should be those that maximize the
1365 possibility of drug interactions, the planned or approved maximum doses and minimum intervals of
1366 administration should be used. For substrate drugs, any dose in the linear range can be used. If the
1367 substrate drug has dose-dependent pharmacokinetics, the dose used should be determined with
1368 consideration of the therapeutic dose. A reduced dose of the substrate drug(s) may need to be
1369 considered for safety concerns, and influences of alterations in the dosage and administration on the
1370 evaluation of drug interactions, e.g. with the object of detection sensitivity of analysis method, should
1371 be discussed and described in the clinical study protocol and the clinical study report.

1372 The route of administration chosen for a metabolic drug-drug interaction study is important. For
1373 an investigational agent, the route of administration generally should be the one planned for clinical
1374 use. When multiple routes are being developed, it should be considered whether the need for metabolic
1375 drug-drug interaction studies by each route depends on the expected mechanisms of interaction and the
1376 degree of changes in the AUC of the investigational drug and metabolites. If only oral dosage forms
1377 will be marketed, studies with an intravenous formulation are not usually recommended,

1378 1379 7.6. Duration and timing of administration

1380 In metabolic drug-drug interaction studies, it is desirable to examine drug interactions in the
1381 steady state at multiple dose for the investigational drug, if the investigational drug is the interacting
1382 drug, in consideration of the possibility of mutual effects from unknown metabolites. In particular, a
1383 loading dose could be used at least several days for drugs that may cause enzyme induction or have

1384 shown TDI in *in vitro* studies. In this case, it is considered that the dose and dosing interval may be
1385 adjusted and target steady state concentrations could be reached earlier. It is recommended that a
1386 possibility of recovery for CYP enzyme activity is evaluated, e.g., when substrate drug is administered
1387 continuously the day after administration of investigational drug. However, when the interacting drug
1388 neither shows the possibility of TDI nor enzyme induction, etc., or when the investigational drug is
1389 expected to be used in a single-dose therapy in clinical practice, implementation of single-dose studies
1390 is a possible option. In general, drug interaction studies using a single dose design can be applied to
1391 investigational drugs that are substrate drugs. If the expected drug interactions may cause prolonged
1392 variations the enzyme activities due to TDI or induction, etc., it is recommended to set a third cross-
1393 over period in which the interacting drug is removed to evaluate enzyme activity to be returned to
1394 normal. If the absorption of the interacting drug is influenced by other factors (e.g., intragastric pH), it
1395 is useful to identify the cause of the interactions by, for instance, confirming interactions that occur
1396 under suppressed gastric acid secretion.

1397 Attention should also be paid to the influences of the timing of administration of the substrate
1398 and the interacting drug on interactions between these drugs. In clinical drug interaction studies, the
1399 administration interval between the two drugs should be defined in advance, and usually, the two drugs
1400 should be administered simultaneously. If the drug interactions occur for the most part during the first
1401 pass, the strength of drug interactions may be decreased by allowing an interval between the
1402 administrations of the two drugs. However, it is also possible that distinct drug interactions occur when
1403 the two drugs are administered at different time points.*note (15)

1405 7. 7. Selection of inhibitors for drug metabolizing enzymes and transporters

1406 7.7.1. Studies using inhibitors of P450

1407 For evaluation of the possibility that an pharmacokinetics of investigational drug is affected by
1408 P450 inhibition, a clinical drug interaction study is conducted with inhibitors of the enzymes involved
1409 in the metabolic pathway of the investigational drug, selected on the basis of the results of *in vitro*
1410 studies and clinical pharmacology studies. In case of oral coadministration of interacting drug and
1411 substrate in clinical drug interaction study, strength of inhibition is considered following; a interacting
1412 drug is considered a *strong inhibitors* if a interacting drug increase the AUC of sensitive substrates by
1413 5-fold or higher (or decrease the CL/F to less than 1/5), a interacting drug is considered *moderate*
1414 *inhibitors* if a interacting drug increase the AUC of sensitive substrates by 2-fold or higher but less
1415 than 5-fold (or decrease the CL/F to less than 1/2 but more than 1/5), and a interacting drug is
1416 considered *weak inhibitors* if a interacting drug increase the AUC of sensitive substrates by 1.25-fold
1417 or higher but less than 2-fold (or decrease the CL/F to less than 1/1.25 but more than 1/2). (see Table 7-

1 and section 7.9 for sensitive substrates). In selecting inhibitors to be used in clinical drug interaction studies, it should be used strong inhibitors of enzymes involved in the elimination of the investigational drug, however safety of the subject should be considered as much as possible (see Section 4.2.1.2. and Table 7-1). In the event that it is difficult from the safety concern to conduct clinical interaction studies using strong inhibitors, such as when such drugs may be contraindicated for coadministration with other drugs in the clinical practice, the effects of moderate or weak inhibitors should be evaluated through clinical drug interaction studies while paying attention to the safety of the subjects. When the necessity for consideration of dose adjustment is suggested from results of interaction studies using strong inhibitors, in consideration of the possibility of coadministration in clinical practice, the effects of other inhibitors on the same drug metabolizing enzyme should also be evaluated in clinical study. Inhibitors other than those which have been evaluated in clinical drug interaction studies may be evaluated, as required, via phase II or phase III clinical trials or via model analysis.

For major drug metabolizing enzymes of the investigational drug not listed in Table 7-1, the inhibitory effects on the specific enzyme would be examined using drugs that are used concomitantly in the clinical practice, while considering the safety at blood concentrations of the investigational drug over the therapeutic dose and the contribution of the specific metabolic pathway to the overall elimination of the investigational drug.

7.7.2. Studies using inhibitors of drug metabolizing enzymes and other than P450 and transporters

If there is the risk that the investigational drug is metabolized by enzymes other than P450 or is transported by transporters and causes drug interactions by inhibition in clinical practice, it is recommended to consider the feasibility of clinical drug interaction studies, considering whether known inhibitors are presence of the specific enzymes or specific transporters. When clinical drug interaction studies are conducted, the interactions should be evaluated according to the same procedures as those for the drugs metabolized by P450.

7. 8. Selection of inducers for drug metabolizing enzymes

In investigating the effects of P450 inducers on the pharmacokinetics of an investigational drug, inducers for P450s involved in the metabolic pathways of the investigational drug should be selected. When interacting drug effects on the AUC of oral sensitive substrates, strength of induction is considered following; a interacting drug is considered a *strong inducers* if a interacting drug decrease the AUC of sensitive substrates to 1/5 or less (or increase the CL/F by higher than 5-fold), a interacting drug is considered *moderate inducers* if a interacting drug decrease the AUC of sensitive substrates to 1/2 or less but more than 1/5 (or increase the CL/F by ≥ 2 - to < 5 -fold), and a interacting drug is

1452 considered *weak inducers* if a interacting drug decrease the AUC of sensitive substrates to 1/1.25 or
1453 less but more than 1/2 (or increase the CL/F by ≥ 1.25 - to < 2 -fold). (see Table 7-2). When inducers to
1454 be used in clinical drug interaction studies is selected, it is desirable that strong inducers of P450
1455 involved in the elimination of the investigational drug be used, however safety of the subject should be
1456 considered as much as possible. (see Section 4.2.1.2. and Table 7-2). In the case of an investigational
1457 drug whose elimination proceeds mainly via metabolism by CYP3A, it is assumed that the likelihood
1458 of drug interactions with strong inducers such as rifampicin is extremely high, so that coadministration
1459 with these strong inducers will eventually be contraindicated. Therefore, the effects of such
1460 investigational drugs should be assessed through clinical drug interaction studies using moderate or
1461 weak inducers. In the case of an investigational drug which may have to be used concomitantly with a
1462 specific enzyme inducer from the viewpoints of indications and dosage, it is recommended that a
1463 clinical drug interaction study with the specific inducer be conducted with consideration for safety of
1464 subject as much as possible, in order to determine an appropriate treatment method (see Section
1465 4.2.1.2.).

1466 1467 7. 9. Selection of substrates for drug metabolizing enzymes and transporters

1468 Generally, in the case of interacting drugs and affected drugs to be coadministered orally, the
1469 contribution ratio (CR) of a specific P450 enzyme to elimination of an investigational drug whose
1470 AUC increases by 5-fold or higher (or a decrease in the CL/F ratio to $< 1/5$) when coadministered with
1471 a “*strong inhibitor*” of the specific P450 enzyme is considered to be roughly $\geq 80\%$, and it is considered
1472 a *sensitive substrate* of the enzyme (see Table 7-3). The CR of a specific P450 enzyme to elimination
1473 of investigational drug whose AUC increases by ≥ 2 - to < 5 -fold (or a decrease in the CL/F ratio to $\geq 1/5$
1474 but $< 1/2$) is considered to be roughly between 50% and $< 80\%$, and it is considered a *moderate*
1475 *sensitive substrate* of the enzyme (see Table 7-3). For assessing by clinical studies whether an
1476 investigational drug inhibits or induces a drug metabolizing enzyme (or a transporter) or not, a drug
1477 interaction study should be performed using a marker drug (or a typical substrate drug for transporters,
1478 Table 6-4) which a substantive drug metabolizing enzyme (or transporter) contribution to total
1479 elimination is high (sensitive substrate) and whose pharmacokinetics are markedly altered by the co-
1480 administration of known specific pathway of the enzyme system. Examples of *in vivo* marker drugs,
1481 the following may be mentioned: (1) midazolam for CYP3A; (2) theophylline for CYP1A2; (3)
1482 bupropione and efavirenz for CYP2B6; (4) repaglinide for CYP2C8; (5) S-warfarin and tolbutamide
1483 for CYP2C9; (6) omeprazole for CYP2C19; and (7) metoprolol for CYP2D6 (see Table 7-3). In case of
1484 that it has been demonstrated in clinical drug interaction studies that an investigational drug inhibits or
1485 induces metabolism of a marker drug or sensitive substrate, it should be considered whether additional

1486 clinical drug interaction studies is added using a substrate drug for the specific enzyme which is very
1487 likely to be coadministered post-marketing (see Figs. 4-2 and -3, and Sections 4.2.1.4. and 4.2.1.6.)^{* note}
1488 (16).

1489 7.10. Other considerations for evaluation by clinical studies

1491 7.10.1. Drugs metabolized by a single enzyme and multiple enzymes

1492 The concentrations of drugs in the body that are metabolized by a single enzyme (drugs with a
1493 single metabolizing enzyme) become markedly high if the enzyme involved is inhibited. On the other
1494 hand, for drugs that are metabolized by multiple enzymes (drugs with multiple metabolizing enzymes),
1495 the elevation of concentrations in the body would be less, because the investigational drug is
1496 metabolized by other enzymes (alternate enzymes) even if the principal enzyme is inhibited. Likewise
1497 in the case of enzyme induction, concentrations in the body are lowered markedly if the investigational
1498 drug is metabolized by the induced enzyme, although the decrease in concentrations of the
1499 investigational drug would be relatively slight if there are other enzymes that are involved in the
1500 metabolism of the investigational drug. For predicting the degree of these interactions, the
1501 investigations with modeling and simulation to the analyzed results of appropriately designed drug
1502 interaction studies are considered to be useful.

1504 7.10.2. Drug interactions involving both drug metabolizing enzymes and transporters

1505 Multiple mechanisms may be involved in drug interactions due to overlapping of the substrate
1506 specificities for drug metabolizing enzyme and transporter (complex drug-drug interactions)³⁴⁾.
1507 Overlapping of the substrate specificities for CYP3A and P-gp is a representative example. These drug
1508 interactions can be evaluated with the use of inhibitors that exert a strong inhibitory action against both
1509 P-gp and CYP3A such as itraconazole. However, caution is necessary in the interpretation of the study
1510 results, because it is impossible to identify the mechanism responsible for the change in AUC even if
1511 the interaction is evident.

1512 It is also possible that the investigational drug causes interactions by inhibiting (or inducing)
1513 multiple enzymes and transporters, or by inhibiting a certain enzyme (or transporter) and inducing
1514 another enzyme or transporter simultaneously. In addition, if both metabolizing enzymes and
1515 transporters are inhibited by concomitant use of multiple drugs, the resultant influences may be even
1516 more complex and serious.^{*note (17)}

1518 7.10.3. Cocktail studies

1519 Cocktail studies can be used for evaluating the actions of the investigational drug on several
1520 different enzymes and transporters in a single clinical drug interaction study³⁴⁾. If designed
1521 appropriately, cocktail studies allow examination of both inhibition (competitive inhibition and TDI)
1522 and induction. When the results of appropriately implemented cocktail studies are negative, there is no
1523 need to carry out further evaluation of the enzymes or transporters in question. However, if the results
1524 are positive, further clinical drug interaction studies with a sensitive substrates (marker or typical
1525 substrates, see Tables 7-3, 6-4) are necessary. The substrates used in cocktail studies should consist of
1526 sensitive substrates susceptible to interactions for each target enzyme (and transporter).*note (18) The
1527 effects of the investigational drug on the CL/F or AUC should be obtained for each marker or substrate
1528 drug used.

1530 7.10.4. Evaluation by population pharmacokinetic analysis

1531 Drug interactions that have not been evaluated in independent drug interaction studies may be
1532 investigated if the study plan is such as to allow evaluation of drug interactions in population
1533 pharmacokinetic analyses in phase II or III studies by collecting the information of concomitant drugs.
1534 On the other hand, it may not be possible to evaluate interactions of the investigational drug to other
1535 drugs because the blood concentrations of concomitant drugs are generally not measured in phase II or
1536 III studies. Handling of assay samples, timing of collection, and etc., should be determined
1537 appropriately for the evaluation of drug interactions.

1539 7.10.5. Considerations for special populations

1540 7.10.5.1. Evaluation of drug interactions related to genetic polymorphisms

1541 The degree of drug interactions (inhibition or induction) of the investigational drug on a certain
1542 target enzyme or transporter may vary according to the genotype of the subject. In subjects in whom
1543 the major elimination pathway (drug metabolizing enzymes or transporters) is lacking or functioning
1544 poorly, the drug concentrations are generally high. If the alternative pathway of metabolism or
1545 excretion of the investigational drug for these subjects is inhibited by concomitant use of an inhibitor,
1546 the drug concentrations rise further, possibly causing safety issues.

1547 Molecular species of metabolizing enzymes and transporters with pharmacokinetics that is
1548 greatly affected by the genetic polymorphism include CYP2D6, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, and OATP1B1
1549 (SLCO1B1)³⁶⁾. For drugs whose major elimination pathway is mediated by these metabolizing
1550 enzymes or transporters, the study design using stratification by genotypes may be useful in clinical
1551 drug interaction studies.

1552 It is also necessary to give consideration to racial or ethnic differences in the type and
1553 frequency of genetic polymorphisms. In particular, ethnic differences should be borne in mind when
1554 implementing clinical studies of investigational drugs whose major elimination pathway is mediated by
1555 CYP2C19 and CYP2D6; genetic polymorphisms that cause the defective activity of the former enzyme
1556 and marked reduction of the activity of the latter enzyme are frequent among East Asians.*^{note (19)}

1557 1558 7.10.5.2. Investigational drugs mainly applied to special populations or patient populations with 1559 specific diseases

1560 If the investigational drug is mainly administered to pediatrics, geriatrics or patient populations
1561 with renal dysfunction or hepatic impairment, drug interactions of the investigational drug can be
1562 evaluated also by population pharmacokinetic analyses appropriately designed, or by using PBPK
1563 models. To predict drug interactions in the clinical setting, it is important to make an appropriate
1564 prediction of the relative CR of the enzyme to the overall elimination, and attention should be paid not
1565 to miss clinically significant drug interactions in these populations, e.g., by conducting examinations
1566 under the assumption of the worst case scenario in model prediction.

1567 1568 7.10.5.3. Studies in patients

1569 Clinical drug interaction studies are usually carried out in healthy volunteers, and drug
1570 interactions are often extrapolated to patient populations based on the results of studies in healthy
1571 volunteers. For some drugs such as anticancer drugs, because of safety issues, studies are implemented
1572 in patient populations in which these drugs are indicated, and these studies may have limitations of the
1573 study design in terms of the study duration, doses, and schedule of blood collection. When
1574 investigating drug interactions in these populations, it may be useful to supplement information
1575 accordingly by applying modeling and simulation, as well as giving adequate consideration to inter-
1576 individual variability in patient populations.

1577 **Table 7-1** Examples of the *in vivo* inhibitors of P450

CYP molecular species	Strong inhibitors ≥5-fold increase in the AUC (decrease in the CL/F ratio to less than 1/5)	Moderate inhibitors ≥2- to 5-fold increase in the AUC (decrease in the CL/F ratio to less than 1/2 but more than 1/5)	Weak inhibitors ≥1.25- to <2-fold increase in the AUC (decrease in the CL/F to less than 1/1.25 but more than 1/2) †
CYP3A	<u>5~10 fold (less than 1/10):</u> itraconazole, voriconazole, ritonavir, telaprevir, indinavir, cobicistat <u>10 fold or highr (1/10 or higher) :</u> clarithromycin, grapefruit juice, erythromycin, nelfinavir, saquinavir <u>Unapproved, 5~10 fold (less than 1/10) :</u> ketoconazole, posaconazole, troleandomycin, conivaptan <u>Unapproved, 10 fold (1/10 or higher) :</u> boceprevir, nefazodone	diltiazem, verapamil, fluconazole, miconazole, aprepitant, imatinib, crizotinib, ciprofloxacin, tofisopam, atazanavir, fosamprenavir, cyclosporine, istradefylline, amprenavir <u>Unapproved:</u> casopitant, almorexant, dronedarone, schisandra sphenanthera extract	<u>1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5) :</u> fluvoxamine, cimetidine, ranitidine, chlorzoxazone, cilostazol, tacrolimus, fosaprepitant, goldenseal (hydrastis canadensis) <u>1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher) :</u> bicalutamide, nilotinib, pazopanib, azithromycin, berberine, cranberry juice, everolimus, propiverine, roxithromycin, amlodipine, gemfibrozil, linagliptin, valsartan, oral contraceptives, isoniazid, tolvaptan <u>Unapproved, 1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5) :</u> clotrimazole, ivacaftor, tabimorelin, almorexant, lomitapide, ranolazine, ticagrelor <u>Unapproved, 1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher) :</u> lurasidone ,fluoxetine, zileuton, lacidipine,
CYP2D6	<u>5~10 fold (less than 1/10) :</u> quinidine, cinacalcet <u>10 fold (1/10 or higher) :</u> paroxetine, terbinafine <u>Unapproved, 5~10 fold (less than 1/10) :</u> bupropion, fluoxetine <u>Unapproved,10 fold (1/10 or higher) :</u> dacomitinib	duloxetine, mirabegron, celecoxib, escitalopram <u>Unapproved :</u> moclobemide	<u>1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5) :</u> cimetidine, sertraline, clobazam, ritonavir, labetalol, amiodarone <u>1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher) :</u> echinacea (herb) <u>Unapproved, 1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5) :</u> desvenlafaxine, cobicistat, deramciclane, abiraterone, lorcaserin <u>Unapproved,1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher) :</u> vemurafenib
CYP2C9	fluorouracil derivatives (TS-1, UFT, tegafur, fluorouracil, doxifluridine, capecitabine), miconazole <u>Unapproved:</u> sulfaphenazole, carmofur	amiodarone, fluconazole, miconazole, cyclosporine, bucorol <u>Unapproved:</u> tienilic acid	<u>1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5):</u> voriconazole <u>1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher) :</u> fluvastatin, fluvoxamine, cimetidine, disulfiram <u>Unapproved,1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5):</u> diosmin

CYP2C19	<u>10 fold (1/10 or higher)</u> : fluconazole, fluvoxamine, ticlopidine, voriconazole	clarithromycin <u>Unapproved</u> : fluoxetine, moclobemide, ketoconazole	<u>1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5)</u> : allicin, etravirine, ticlopidine, clarithromycin, omeprazole, ritonavir <u>1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher)</u> : oral contraceptives, clopidogrel, roxithromycin, Unapproved: 1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5): ketoconazole, troleandomycin <u>Unapproved: 1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher)</u> : armodafinil, grapefruit juice	1578 1579 1580 1581 1582
CYP2C8	<u>Unapproved: 10 fold (1/10 or higher)</u> : gemfibrozil	cyclosporine, deferasirox <u>Unapproved</u> : gemfibrozil, teriflunomide	<u>1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5)</u> : trimethoprim <u>1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher)</u> : clarithromycin, itraconazole <u>Unapproved: 1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5)</u> : gemfibrozil, telithromycin	1583 1584 1585
CYP1A2	<u>10 fold (1/10 or higher)</u> : ciprofloxacin, fluvoxamine, zafirlukast, rofecoxib	methoxsalen, oral contraceptives, mexiletine <u>Unapproved</u> : enoxacin, cinafloxacin, etintidine, idrocilamide	<u>1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5)</u> : cimetidine, ciprofloxacin, mexiletine <u>1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher)</u> : acyclovir, allopurinol, fluvoxamine, peginterferon alpha-2a (sc) <u>Unapproved: 1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5)</u> : zileuton, enoxacin, grepafloxacin, piperine, pefloxacin, rofecoxib, pipemidic acid <u>Unapproved: 1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher)</u> : antofloxacin, viloxazine, daidzein,	1586 1587 1588 1589 1590 1591
CYP2B6	-	-	<u>1.25~1.5 fold (less than 1/1.5)</u> : ticlopidine, tenofovir <u>1.5~2 fold (1/1.5 or higher)</u> : clopidogrel, voriconazole	1592 1593

*Refer to Table 7-3 and section 7.9 (Selection of substrates for drug metabolizing enzymes)

- 1594 This table was prepared based on the package insert, literature and other published documents, information from the drug interaction database of the University of Washington, etc, and will be
1595 updated based on new information.
- 1596 Drugs for external use and combination drugs are not included.
- 1597 Fosamprenavir (potassium hydrate), which is a prodrug of amprenavir, a moderate inhibitor of CYP3A, has been approved.

1598 **Table 7-2 Examples of *in vivo* inducers of P450**

CYP molecular species	Strong inducers decrease in the AUC to 1/5th or less (increase of the CL/F ratio by ≥ 5 -fold)	Moderate inducers decrease in the AUC to 1/2 or less but more than 1/5 (increase in the CL/F ratio by ≥ 2 - to < 5 -fold)	Weak inducers decrease in the AUC to 1/1.25 or less but more than 1/2 (increase in the CL/F ratio by ≥ 1.25 - to < 2 -fold-)
CYP3A	rifampicin, rifabutin, phenobarbital, phenytoin, carbamazepine	etravirine, efavirenz, St. John's wort, modafinil, bosentan	rufinamide, <u>Unapproved</u> : armodafinil
CYP2C9	-	rifampicin, phenobarbital, carbamazepine, aprepitant	-
CYP2C19	rifampicin, ritonavir	rifabutin	-
CYP2C8	-	rifampicin	-
CYP1A2	-	phenytoin, smoking	Montelukast <u>Unapproved</u> : moricizine
CYP2B6	-	efavirenz	rifampicin, nevirapine

1599

*Refer to Table 7-3 and section 7.9 (Selection of substrates for drug metabolizing enzymes)

1600 This table was prepared based on the package insert, literature and other published documents, information from the drug interaction database of the University of Washington, etc. and will be
1601 updated based on new information.

1602 **Table 7-3 Examples of substrate drugs susceptible to pharmacokinetic drug interactions by P450 inhibition or induction**

CYP molecular species	Sensitive substrates susceptible to pharmacokinetic drug interactions AUC increases by ≥ 5 -fold (or a decrease in the CL/F ratio to $< 1/5$) when coadministered with a strong inhibitor of P450	Moderate sensitive substrates susceptible to pharmacokinetic drug interactions SAUC increases by ≥ 2 - to < 5 -fold (or a decrease in the CL/F ratio to $\geq 1/5$ but $< 1/2$) when coadministered with a strong inhibitor of P450
CYP3A	alprazolam, aprepitant, azelnidipine, blonanserin, budesonide, buspirone, elepriptan, eplerenone, colchicine, conivaptan, darifenacin, darunavir, dasatinib, evelolimus, felodipine, fluticasone, indinavir, lopinavir, lovastatin, maraviroc, midazolam, nisoldipine, quetiapine, rosuvastatin, saquinavir, sildenafil, simvastatin, sirolimus, tadalafil, tolvaptan, triazolam, vardenafil Unapproved: alfentanil, dronedarone, lurasidone, tipranavir, ticagrelor	atorvastatin, pimoziide, rilpivirine, rivaroxaban, tacrolimus
CYP2D6	atomoxetine, desipramine, dextromethorphan, nortriptyline, maprotiline, metoprolol, paroxetine, perphenazine, propafenone, tamoxifen, tolterodine, tramadol, trimipramine, tropisetron, venlafaxine Unapproved: doxepin, encainide, nebivolol	amitriptyline, clomipramine, flecainide, imipramine, timolol, propranolol
CYP2C9	celecoxib, diclofenac, glimepiride, tolbutamide, warfarin	glibenclamide, nateglinide, phenytoin, ibuprofen, fluvastatin
CYP2C19	clobazam, omeprazole *, lansoprazole, S-mephenytoin, voriconazole	clopidogrel, diazepam, escitalopram, esomeprazole, etizolam, rabeprazole, sertraline,
CYP2C8	montelukast, repaglinide *	pioglitazone
CYP1A2	caffeine, duloxetine, pirfenidone, ramelteon, tizanidine Unapproved: alosetron, melatonin, tacrine	clozapine, olanzapine, ropinirole, ramosetron, theophylline
CYP2B6	efavirenz Unapproved: bupropion	

1603 Refer to section 7.9 for marker drug recommended to clinical drug interaction studies

1604 This table was prepared based on the package insert, literature and other published documents, information from the drug interaction database of the University of Washington, etc. and will be
1605 updated based on new information.

1606 This table is prepared to provide examples of drugs that are associated with great involvement of P450 enzymes in the metabolism, and is not based on an exhaustive survey.

1607 It should be noted that the degree of pharmacokinetic drug interaction is often inconsistent with significance of the clinical actions need to be taken for such interaction

1608 *Refer to note(16)

1609

1610 8. Labeling recommendations

1611 Information obtained from drug interaction studies during the drug development
1612 process appears to be valuable for proper use of drugs, when provided appropriately to
1613 professionals involved in patient care in actual medical practice through descriptions in
1614 package inserts, etc.

1615 The basic ideas for reflection of information on pharmacokinetic drug interactions in
1616 package inserts are as follows. When judging the contents of the information and alerts,
1617 attention should be focused on whether or not pharmacokinetic changes might affect the
1618 therapeutic efficacy or adverse drug reactions.

1619

1620 8.1. Description in precautions for use

1621 When concomitant use of other drugs may cause enhancement or attenuation of the
1622 pharmacological actions, known adverse drug reactions, occurrence of new adverse drug
1623 reactions of the investigational drug or of the concomitant drugs, or aggravation of the
1624 primary disease, and if clinical precautions are necessary for these cases, it should be
1625 determined whether the warning should be “Contraindication (Do not use concomitantly)” or
1626 “Precaution (Be careful about concomitant use)” according to the degree of reduction in the
1627 efficacy resulting from the drug interactions, type and grade of the adverse drug reactions, and
1628 the degree of variations in the pharmacokinetic parameters (AUC and C_{max}). When the serious
1629 adverse drug reactions are anticipated realistically, and the consequence would be more
1630 clinically important than expected therapeutic effects, regardless of pharmacokinetic changes,
1631 the combination should be contraindicated in principle. When the therapeutic effect is
1632 clinically important, however, the predicted exposure of the investigational drug may exceeds
1633 the exposure expected for approval dosage and administrations due to pharmacokinetic
1634 changes, and in situations when a management would be required to avoid serious clinical
1635 risk and concerns of patients, the combination should be precaution or contraindication in
1636 accord with the seriousness of the risk.

1637 In the section of “Drug Interactions,” at the beginning of the section, pharmacokinetic
1638 properties of the investigational drug related to drug interactions, such as enzyme molecular
1639 species involved in the metabolism, approximate CR of the enzyme, inhibition and induction
1640 potentials, and mechanisms of drug transport in absorption, distribution and excretion, should
1641 be described briefly based in principle on the clinical pharmacokinetic information. If an

1642 investigational drug affects the pharmacokinetics of other drugs via P450 (inhibitors or
1643 inducers: interacting drugs), the potency of interaction should also be stated (see Sections 7.8
1644 to 9, Tables 7-1 and -2). When an alert is raised for concomitant use with other drugs, the
1645 caution should be expressed in an easily understandable manner using tables, etc. The names
1646 of the concomitant drugs and the details of the drug interactions (clinical symptoms, treatment,
1647 mechanisms, risk factors, etc.) should be provided with appropriate classifications based on
1648 the type of interactions (mechanism, etc.). In the case of pharmacodynamic interactions, the
1649 therapeutic class should be given in the drug name column in addition to the names of the
1650 drugs. All contraindicated drugs should be identified by both non-proprietary names and
1651 representative brand names. Contraindicated drugs should also be described briefly in the
1652 section of “Contraindications.”

1653 Precautions to avoid the influences of drug interactions should be described under
1654 “Clinical Symptoms and Treatment”. Further, the mechanisms underlying drug interactions
1655 and risk factors that may potentially raise a safety concern due to concomitantly administered
1656 medication should be described in the “Mechanisms and Risk Factors”. If the mechanisms
1657 underlying interactions are unclear, the mechanisms should be stated as unknown.

1658 If adjustment of the dosage regimen of the investigational drug is necessary to compensate
1659 the drug interactions, the adjustment should be described comprehensively in the “Precautions
1660 for Dosage and Administration” based on the quantitative information secured from
1661 conducted clinical interaction studies, etc. If the precaution is critical from the viewpoint of
1662 risk management, it should be described in the “Important Basic Precautions” section.

1663 If the investigational drug interactions with drugs used for diagnostic (testing)
1664 purposes, and the consequence is apparent variations in clinical laboratory test which does not
1665 related to the clinical symptoms or functional disorders, cautions should be described under
1666 “Influences on Clinical Laboratory Test Results.” Drug incompatibilities should be described
1667 under “Precautions for Application” or “Precautions for Handling.” Important interactions
1668 with biotechnical and biological products or foods and beverages should also be described in
1669 the same manner.

1670 When a clinically significant adverse drug reaction had been caused unambiguously
1671 by pharmacokinetics drug interactions in pharmacologically similar drugs, and similar degree
1672 of pharmacokinetic interactions of the same mechanism are suggested for the investigational
1673 drug appropriately by simulations or by a model analysis, alerts should be described in the

1674 labeling considering possibility of the concomitant use in clinical practice. Although the alerts
1675 is determined based on pharmacokinetic changes as index in this case, the grade and contents
1676 of the alerts should be described in consideration of the clinical significance including
1677 changes in the efficacy and safety, and how the drug interaction should be managed. In the
1678 description of alerts, the use of model analysis and simulations should be clearly specified.

1679

1680 8.2. Description in the pharmacokinetics section

1681 In regard to the descriptions provided in the “Pharmacokinetics” section, matters related
1682 to the mechanisms of interactions (descriptions of quantitative information on the major
1683 elimination pathway, enzymes involved in that pathway, and the degree of their contribution,
1684 inhibition and induction of drug metabolizing enzymes, mechanisms of drug transport in
1685 absorption, distribution and excretion, and corroborating *in vivo* or *in vitro* study results)
1686 should be described in the pertinent sections on metabolism, excretion, etc. When providing
1687 information concerning data, it should be specified whether the data were derived from *in*
1688 *vitro* studies or clinical drug interaction studies, whether they were obtained by actual
1689 measurement or represent estimates obtained from simulation, etc., in a clear distinctive
1690 manner. Regardless of whether the interactions are significant or not, information from the
1691 clinical drug interaction studies, which is considered to be clinically useful, should be
1692 provided in the “Pharmacokinetics” section appropriately. If the pharmacokinetic change(s)
1693 may exert influence upon the therapeutic responses or risk of occurrence of adverse drug
1694 reactions, the observed pharmacokinetic changes, as well as the dosage and administration,
1695 etc., used in the studies should be provided. Study results should be illustrated as a
1696 quantitative, simple outline of the changes in the AUC, C_{max} , etc., using narrative text, tables
1697 and/or figures (e.g., forest plot). Further information on the detailed study design and data
1698 should be provided using materials other than the package inserts. In any such instance of
1699 provision of information in the package insert, the evidences should be clearly stated, e.g., by
1700 citing the literature.

1701

1702 8.2.1. Drugs whose pharmacokinetics are affected by other drugs (substrates: affected drug)

1703 For drugs whose pharmacokinetics are affected by other drugs, the pharmacokinetic
1704 mechanisms underlying the interactions and the magnitude of the influence should be exerted,
1705 and the information should be provided quantitatively. Information on this issue can be

1706 obtained usually by the clinical drug interaction studies using selective and strong inhibitors
1707 of the pathway in question (see Sections 7-7, -8 and Tables 7-1 and -2 for inhibitor and
1708 inducer drugs). On the other hand, if a particular clearance pathway is not the major
1709 elimination pathway for the investigational drug, it is sufficient merely to provide supporting
1710 information obtained from *in vitro* studies.

1711

1712 8.2.2. Drugs that affect pharmacokinetics of other drugs (inhibitors, inducers: interacting
1713 drugs)

1714 Investigational drugs that affect pharmacokinetics of other drugs should be described by
1715 providing the pharmacokinetic mechanisms underlying the interactions and the magnitude of
1716 the influence exerted quantitatively. This information is generally obtained from clinical drug
1717 interaction studies carried out with a sensitive substrate drug to the pathway involved in the
1718 interaction (see Section 7.9. and Table 7-3). If the elimination pathway in which substrate
1719 drugs are affected by concomitant use of the investigational drug is metabolism, the
1720 generalized inhibitory or inductive potency of inhibitors or inducers should be described as
1721 needed (see Sections 7.8 to 9, Tables 7-1 and -2). As for transporters, the observed degree of
1722 inhibitory or inductive effect exerted on a typical substrate drug(s) (see Table 6-4) should be
1723 described, because it is currently not possible to define these generalized criteria.

1724

1725 8.3. Description of affected drugs and interacting drugs

1726 All drugs contraindicated for coadministration, whether interacting drugs or interacted
1727 drugs, should be described by both non-proprietary names and representative brand names.

1728 For calling attention to “Precautions of Concomitant Use”, drugs in this category should
1729 be described by the non-proprietary names. It is impracticable, nevertheless, to describe drug
1730 interactions involving CYP3A for all combinations of the drug in question with concomitant
1731 drugs in package inserts, inasmuch as there are a large number of drugs requiring caution in
1732 concomitant use and as the degree of caution required varies not only with the efficacy, but
1733 also with the pharmacokinetic characteristics of the concomitantly administered drugs

1734 In regard to drug interactions involving CYP3A, a number of “strong” or “moderate”
1735 CYP3A inhibitors and inducers that are very likely to cause drug interactions that would
1736 substantially affect the efficacy and safety, and should be alerted in the "Precaution of
1737 Concomitant Use". Therefore, descriptions of names of individual CYP3A substrate drugs,

1738 inhibitors, and inducers in the precautions for coadministration column in the “Drug
1739 Interactions” section may be condensed as follows; in the case of CYP3A inhibitors and
1740 inducers, by stating that the package inserts of concomitant drugs need to be checked, and by
1741 identifying classification of the strength of interaction, and in the case of CYP3A substrate
1742 drugs, by stating the drug is metabolized mainly by CYP3A at the outset in the “Drug
1743 Interactions” section. Even in such instances, names of approximately three representative
1744 concomitant drugs should be listed taking into account the frequency of coadministration in
1745 the clinical setting.

1746 In alerts of drug interactions with CYP molecular species other than CYP3A, with drug
1747 metabolizing enzymes other than CYP, or with transporters, the individual names of
1748 concomitant drugs should be stated by the non-proprietary names as described above.

1749

1750 9. Relevant guidelines and documents

1751 This guideline shows general principles of investigational methods of study and alerting
1752 (labeling recommendations?) related to drug interactions. Although previously issued
1753 guidelines, guiding principles, etc., include descriptions of studies of drug interactions, the
1754 present guideline provides the integrated contents of such guidelines in which current new
1755 findings and concepts have been incorporated. It is desirable to refer to information described
1756 in other relevant guidelines, guidances and other regulatory documents when considering
1757 individual investigational drugs.

1758 1) Clinical Safety Data Management: Definitions and Standards for Expedited Reporting
1759 (ICH E2A Guideline), Notification No. 227 of the Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB,
1760 dated March 20, 1995.

1761 2) Post-approval Safety Data Management: Definitions and Standards for Expedited
1762 Reporting (ICH E2D Guideline), Notification No. 0328007 of the Safety Division, PFSB,
1763 dated March 28, 2005.

1764 3) Pharmacovigilance Planning (ICH E2E Guideline), Notification No. 0916001 of the
1765 Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated September 16, 2005.

1766 4) Structure and Content of Clinical Study Reports (ICH E3 Guideline), Notification No. 335
1767 of the Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated May 1, 1996. Questions & Answers
1768 (R1), Office Memo, dated October 18, 2012.

1769 5) Dose-Response Information to Support Drug Registration (ICH E4 Guideline), Notification
1770 No. 494 of the Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated July 25, 1994.

1771 6) Ethnic Factors in the Acceptability of Foreign Clinical Data (ICH E5 Guideline),
1772 Notification No. 672 of the Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated August 11, 1998.
1773 Questions and Answers, Office Memo, February 25, 2004 and October 5, 2006.

1774 7) Guideline for Good Clinical Practices (GCP) (ICH E6 Guideline), March 27, 1997.

1775 8) Studies in Support of Special Populations: Geriatrics (ICH E7 Guideline), Notification No.
1776 104 of the New Drugs Division, PAB dated December 2, 1993. Questions & Answers, Office
1777 Memo, dated September 17, 2010.

1778 9) General Considerations for Clinical Trials (ICH E8 Guideline), Notification No. 380 of the
1779 Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated April 21, 1998.

- 1780 10) Clinical Investigation of Medicinal Products in the Pediatric Population (ICH E11
1781 Guideline), Notification No. 1334 of the Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated
1782 December 15, 2000. Questions & Answers, Office Memo, dated June 22, 2001.
- 1783 11) Definitions for Genomic Biomarkers, Pharmacogenomics, Pharmacogenetics, Genomic
1784 Data and Sample Coding Categories (ICH E15 Guideline), Notification No. 0109013 of the
1785 Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, Notification No. 0109002 of the Safety Division,
1786 PFSB, dated January 9, 2008.
- 1787 12) Biomarkers Related to Drug or Biotechnology Product Development: Context, Structure
1788 and Format of Qualification Submissions (ICH E16 Guideline), Notification No. 0120-(1) of
1789 the Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, Notification No. 0120-(1) of the Safety
1790 Division, PFSB, dated January 20, 2011.
- 1791 13) Guidance on Nonclinical Safety Studies for the Conduct of Human Clinical Trials and
1792 Marketing Authorization for Pharmaceuticals (ICH M3 (R2) Guideline), Notification No.
1793 0219-(4) of the Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated February 19, 2010.
1794 Questions & Answers, Office Memo, dated August 16, 2012.
- 1795 14) Guidelines for the Design and Evaluation of Oral Prolonged Release Dosage Forms,
1796 Notification No. 5 of the First Evaluation and Registration Division, PAB, dated March 11,
1797 1988.
- 1798 15) Guidelines on Nonclinical Pharmacokinetic Studies, Notification No. 496 of the
1799 Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated June 26, 1998.
- 1800 16) Clinical Pharmacokinetic Studies on Pharmaceuticals, Notification No. 796 of the
1801 Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated June 1, 2001.
- 1802 17) Partial revision of Guidelines for Bioequivalence Studies of Generic Products,
1803 Notification No. 0229-(10) of the Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated February
1804 29, 2012. Questions & Answers, Office Memo, dated February 29, 2012.
- 1805 18) Guidance for Conducting Microdose Clinical Studies, Notification No. 0603001 of the
1806 Evaluation and Licensing Division, PMSB, dated June 3, 2008.
- 1807 19) Studies utilizing Pharmacogenomics, Notification No. 0930007 of the Evaluation and
1808 Licensing Division, PMSB, dated September 30, 2008.
- 1809 20) Joint MHLW/EMA Reflection Paper on the Development of Block Copolymer Micelle
1810 Medicinal Products, Notification No. 0110-1 of the Evaluation and Licensing division, PNSB,
1811 dated January 10,2014.

1812 21) Revision of Ethical Guidelines for Human Genome and Genetic Sequencing Research,
1813 Notification No. 24-593 of the Research Promotion Bureau, MEXT, Notification No. 0208-
1814 (1) of the Health Sciences Division, MHLW, Notification No. 20130206-(1) of the
1815 Manufacturing Industries Bureau, METI, dated February 8, 2013

1816 <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/2r9852000002uz1d.html>

1817 22) Guidelines for Package Inserts for Prescription Drugs, Notification No. 606 of the PAB,
1818 Notification No. 59 of the Safety Division, PAB, dated April 25, 1997.

1819 23) Guidelines for Precautions for Prescription Drugs, Notification No. 607 of the PAB, dated
1820 April 25, 1997. Questions & Answers, Office Memo, dated April 25, 1997. Writing
1821 Precautions for Prescription Drugs, Office Memo, dated December 25, 2000.

1822

1823 The following overseas guidelines and domestic instruction manuals can be used as references.

1824 1) FDA: Guidance for Industry Drug Interaction Studies - Study Design, Data Analysis,
1825 Implications for Dosing, and Labeling Recommendations DRAFT GUIDANCE (2012,2)

1826 2) EMA: Guideline on the investigation of drug interactions (2013,1)

1827 3) FDA: Guidance for Industry Clinical Pharmacogenomics: Premarket Evaluation in Early-
1828 Phase Clinical Studies and Recommendations for Labeling (2013,1)

1829 4) EMA: Guideline on the use of pharmacogenetic methodologies in the pharmacokinetic
1830 evaluation of medicinal products (2012,8)

1831 5) Commentary on “Population Pharmacokinetic Studies”

1832

1833

1834 10. Notes

1835 (1) Example of drug interaction via P-gp inhibition at blood-brain barrier

1836 In blood-brain barrier, several transporters such as P-gp and BCRP are expressed on
1837 the blood side and limit transport of drugs into brain. Therefore, inhibition of these
1838 transporters may increase the transport of affected drugs into the brain. Although reports on
1839 interactions with transporters in the brain distribution of drugs are currently limited, a
1840 reported example is that transfer of the P-gp substrate verapamil into the brain is increased by
1841 combined use of the P-gp inhibitor cyclosporine³⁷.

1842

1843 (2) Calculation of the contribution ratio (CR) by means of metabolic activity

1844 In general, CR can be evaluated directly from the value of fraction metabolized (fm)
1845 measured using human hepatic microsomes when the drug in question is an oral drug
1846 metabolized mainly by P450 in liver and contributions of the intestinal metabolism and other
1847 excretion clearances, such as biliary and urinary excretions are minor. In addition, precisely
1848 speaking, this is restricted to cases where the degree of drug interactions can be calculated
1849 simply by the phase I metabolic reaction. If there are also changes in transport such as hepatic
1850 uptake, more advanced methods using a PBPK model, etc., are necessary. When the
1851 investigational drug in question is an intravenous drug (injection drug), the CR to total
1852 clearance (CL_{total}) rather than the CL/F has to be evaluated.

1853 If the investigational drug is metabolized by enzymes that show genetic polymorphism
1854 (e.g., CYP2D6, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, or UGT1A1), changes in the CL in subjects who
1855 genetically lack activity (poor metabolizers, PM) may be assumed to be equivalent to that in
1856 the case of concomitant use of inhibitors that inhibit the enzymes almost completely.
1857 Therefore, a comparison of the CL in PM and subjects with the wild-type enzyme (extensive
1858 metabolizer, EM) may allow us to estimate the CRs of the enzymes in question to the overall
1859 elimination of the investigational drug. Likewise, importance of particular transporter in the
1860 clearance pathways of the drug can be evaluated by comparing pharmacokinetics between
1861 subjects having different genotype of the transporter in question (ex. OATP1B1(SLC01B1)
1862 c.521 T>C).

1863

1864 (3) Precautions for identification of drug metabolizing enzymes in *in vitro* metabolic studies

1865 If using correlation studies comparing the particular enzymatic activity (metabolism of
1866 the marker substrate) and the metabolism of the investigational drug using liver microsomes
1867 prepared from multiple individuals to identify enzymes with a large contribution to
1868 metabolism, it should be borne in mind that the activities of various enzymes may be
1869 correlated with one another in each individual. If correlation studies are carried out by
1870 necessity, e.g., in cases where no highly selective enzyme inhibitor is available, other
1871 procedures should be combined to make a proper judgment. Another method available is the
1872 relative activity factor (RAF) method by which the metabolic activity of the microsomal
1873 fraction prepared from recombinant cells of various P450 enzymes is corrected by the content
1874 of respective P450 enzymes in the liver to evaluate their contribution. However, in general,
1875 because sufficient verification is required to confirm the propriety of using the RAF method,
1876 judgment may still require a combination of other procedures.

1877 It should also be noted that the enzymes by which a drug is metabolized as a substrate
1878 are not necessarily consistent with the enzymes that the drug inhibits. For instance, quinidine
1879 is metabolized mainly by CYP3A, but strongly inhibits CYP2D6^{38, 39}). In addition, when
1880 metabolites are confirmed *in vivo* despite no or hardly observable metabolism *in vitro*, an
1881 attempt to find an *in vitro* study system that would allow us to identify the contributory
1882 enzyme should be made, through use of the chemical structure and previously reported data.

1883

1884 (4) Confirmation of the propriety of enzyme induction studies using hepatocytes

1885 Because cultured human hepatocytes show large variations among different
1886 individuals and interlot variations, it is desirable to use hepatocytes derived from at least 3
1887 donors. In addition, when the cellular viability rate is lower than 80% at the beginning of the
1888 culture, or when the cellular viability rate is markedly decreased at the end of culture,
1889 hepatocytes derived from other donors should be used. In this type of studies, cells are
1890 exposed continuously to the investigational drug, usually by changing the culture medium
1891 containing the investigational drug once daily. Although the culture period is typically 2 to 3
1892 days, an appropriate period should be adopted by reference to literature reports, etc. It is
1893 necessary to confirm that the induction response has not been affected by cytotoxicity by
1894 appropriately evaluating the cell morphology and cell viability before and at the end of culture.
1895 When toxicity or decreased cell viability has been found, their influences on the study results
1896 should be considered carefully. If a marked decrease in the concentration of the

1897 investigational drug due to metabolism or degradation of the investigational drug or protein
1898 binding in the medium is expected under the culture conditions, determination of the actual
1899 drug concentrations by measuring the concentration and the protein binding of the
1900 investigational drug in the medium at several time points, including the last day of culture, is
1901 recommended.

1902

1903 (5) Precaution about the genetic polymorphism of P450

1904 When P450 enzymes that lack activity because of genetic polymorphism (e.g.,
1905 CYP2C19 and CYP2D6) are closely involved in the metabolic pathway of the investigational
1906 drug, important elimination pathways should be judged taking into account that the CR of the
1907 enzymes may vary greatly in particular populations, such as persons with defective activity.
1908 See also Notes (2) and (19).

1909

1910 (6) Examples of time-dependent inhibition (TDI) and its evaluation

1911 Representative examples include TDI of CYP3A by the HIV protease inhibitors
1912 ritonavir and saquinavir, macrolide antibiotics erythromycin and clarithromycin, and the
1913 calcium channel blockers verapamil and diltiazem. In the case of diltiazem, both unchanged
1914 diltiazem and its major metabolite N-desmethyldiltiazem inhibit CYP3A in a time-dependent
1915 manner⁴⁰. An example of TDI of CYP2D6 is that caused by paroxetine⁴¹. The TDI is
1916 maximized when the enzyme subjected to the action reaches a new steady state, similar to the
1917 case for enzyme induction. Although this situation depends on the degradation rate constant
1918 (k_{deg}) and the inactivation rate constant (k_{inact}) of the enzyme, repeated administration of the
1919 inhibitor may cause enhancement of the inhibition over time, often resulting in inhibition
1920 persisting for a prolonged period of time after discontinuation of inhibitor treatment. For
1921 example, inhibition of CYP3A activity in humans reached a maximum after 4 days of
1922 repeated administration of erythromycin at a daily dose of 800 mg (the AUC determined at 2,
1923 4, and 7 days of oral administration of midazolam, an marker substrate of CYP3A, was
1924 increased by 2.3-fold, 3.4-fold and 3.4-fold, respectively)⁴². Reference values of the
1925 respective P450 degradation rate constants can be obtained from the scientific literature based
1926 on *in vitro* and *in vivo* data⁴³. In addition, it should be noted that enzymes that are present in
1927 both the intestine and the liver, like CYP3A, have different degradation rate constants
1928 depending on the tissue⁴⁴. However, because there are variations in these values, it is

1929 recommended to carry out sensitivity analysis to clarify the influences of the variability of k_{deg}
1930 on the estimated results.

1931

1932 (7) Evaluation of down-regulation of drug metabolizing enzymes

1933 Although an algorithm of evaluation using *in vitro* data and several approaches for
1934 quantification have been proposed in regard to enzyme induction^{19, 45-48)}, down-regulation has
1935 not been verified as yet. As an example of drug-induced down-regulation, decreased clearance
1936 of phenytoin and warfarin, presumably due to decreased activity of CYP2C9 caused by
1937 fluorinated pyrimidines has been reported, although the detailed mechanism still remains
1938 unclear⁴⁹⁾. Thus, reports of drug-induced down-regulation and the mechanism of such down-
1939 regulation are currently very limited. Therefore, implementation of clinical drug interaction
1940 studies is recommended when concentration-dependent down-regulation has been observed in
1941 an *in vitro* environment.

1942

1943 (8) Determination based on the cutoff criteria in enzyme induction studies

1944 Although it is possible to set arbitrary cutoff criteria to determine the need of clinical
1945 studies for evaluating enzyme induction, the criteria should be set on the basis of experience
1946 with inducing drugs and non-inducing drugs supported by sufficient clinical evidence⁴⁸⁾.
1947 When the results of evaluation using hepatocytes derived from one or more donors exceed the
1948 predefined criteria, the investigational drug in question is regarded as an inducing drug, thus
1949 requiring additional evaluation. If the concentration of the investigational drug in *in vitro*
1950 studies cannot be set at a high level because of solubility, cytotoxicity, etc., of the
1951 investigational drug, it may become impossible to draw a conclusion in these evaluation
1952 studies because of the difficulty in calculating the EC_{50} and E_{max} . In such cases, the
1953 determination of enzyme induction should be examined by clinical drug interaction studies.

1954

1955 (9) Need for drug interaction studies related to drug metabolizing enzymes other than P450

1956 Case examples of drug interactions based on inhibition or induction of enzymes other
1957 than P450 are limited, and it is usually difficult to predict such drug interactions. Reports of
1958 clinically significant drug interactions are also limited with regard to UGT, the second major
1959 drug metabolizing enzyme following P450. The most prominent example is increased
1960 metabolic clearance of glucuronidation of valproic acid in the case of combined use of

1961 carbapenem. The mechanism of this phenomenon is inhibition of an enzyme that catalyzes the
1962 backward reaction of glucuronide to valproic acid⁵⁰).

1963 When the major drug metabolizing enzymes are those usually not included in
1964 screening for enzyme inhibition of the investigational drug, there is hardly any information
1965 about strong or moderate inhibitors of the enzyme in question. In this case, drugs that are used
1966 concomitantly at high frequencies should also be surveyed, or conducted *in vitro* inhibition
1967 studies, for the determination of inhibitory actions, in addition to evaluation of the intensity of
1968 inhibition of the enzyme in question by the investigational drug itself as appropriate. The
1969 need for such studies varies according to the safety of the investigational drug at exposure
1970 doses exceeding the therapeutic range and the degree of involvement of the catalytic pathway
1971 in drug elimination.

1972

1973 (10) Points to remember in model analysis

1974 When model analysis is carried out, explanation of the structure of the model,
1975 rationale for setting system-based parameters and parameters peculiar to the investigational
1976 drug, type of error model, output of the model, and sensitivity analysis taking into
1977 consideration the confidence interval should be included in the application materials. Model
1978 analysis has to be reproducible in an objective manner. Disclosure or provision in electronic
1979 media of the final model equation and the parameters used should be considered. When
1980 models predetermined by commercially available software (structural model and error model)
1981 are used, the version of the software and modifications from the predetermined model in the
1982 analysis of the investigational drug should be specified clearly.

1983

1984 (11) Formula of mechanism-based static pharmacokinetic (MSPK) model and precautions

1985 In the MSPK model, the prediction results vary widely according to the
1986 pharmacokinetic properties of the concomitant drugs. Therefore, in the above Formula 4, f_m
1987 should be set as 1 when the maximum interaction on a particular drug metabolizing enzyme is
1988 estimated for the investigational drug that affects other drugs. If there is extrahepatic
1989 clearance of concomitant drugs, such as urinary excretion, calculation of the AUCR should
1990 take into consideration such clearance. However, in Formula 4, it is assumed that there is no
1991 contribution of such clearance to estimate the maximum interaction. On the other hand, if
1992 influences on particular medical products are to be estimated, parameters particular to each

1993 drug require corroboration by scientific literature. In the formula, the induction part (B_h and
1994 B_g) can be used after evaluation of the eligibility of the lot of hepatocytes used. In the
1995 evaluation of eligibility, the EC_{50} and E_{max} of multiple control inducers with different levels of
1996 induction potency should be measured for hepatocytes of the particular lot used in the *in vitro*
1997 study system, and the *in vivo* inductive action of control inducers for the marker substrate
1998 drug (e.g., midazolam) should be predicted using *in vitro* induction parameters for the control
1999 inducers. The d value is calculated from a comparison of the predicted inductive action and
2000 the inductive action imposed on the marker substrate drug in the clinical setting. The AUCR
2001 should be calculated from the d value and is used to measure the EC_{50} and E_{max} values of the
2002 investigational drug. At this point, it is recommended that the parameters to be input be
2003 selected in a conservative manner. In the case of irreversible inhibition and induction in the
2004 small intestine, it should be noted that experience of analysis using the MSPK model is
2005 limited.

2006

2007 (ii) Concentrations of the investigational drug in the liver cells and intestinal cells

2008 For the concentrations of the investigational drug in the pharmacokinetic models such
2009 as the MSPK model, the concentration of the unbound form in the portal blood and the
2010 maximum concentration in the intestinal wall should be used as the concentrations of the
2011 investigational drug at sites where enzymes that are inhibited or induced are mainly localized
2012 (in the hepatocytes and enterocytes). $[I]_h$ is the maximum concentration of the unbound
2013 inhibitor/inducer in portal blood ($[I]_{u,inlet,max}$), and can be estimated by a conservative method
2014 using the equation $[I]_h = f_{u,b} \times ([I]_{max,b} + F_a \times F_g \times k_a \times Dose/Q_H)^{51}$, where F_a is the ratio of
2015 absorption from the GI tract (more specifically, the fraction of the drug transported from the
2016 lumen of the GI tract into the GI tract wall cell), K_a is the absorption ratio constant, Q_H is the
2017 total hepatic blood flow (97 L/h)⁵², $f_{u,b}$ is the unbound ratio in blood, and $[I]_{max,b}$ is the
2018 maximum total blood concentration (unbound + bound forms) of the inhibitor in the steady
2019 state. When the protein binding ratio in blood is high (99% or higher), making measurement
2020 difficult, $f_{u,b} = 0.01$ should be used. $[I]_g$ may also be estimated with the equation $[I]_g = F_a \times k_a$
2021 $\times Dose/Q_{en}$, using the hypothetical blood flow volume into the intestinal cells (Q_{en} , 18 L/h)⁵³,
2022 ⁵⁴. Although it is desirable to actually measure the k_a , the k_a value may be set at 0.1/min as
2023 the maximum estimated value. The propriety of the methods used for estimation of the k_a and

2024 F_g should be demonstrated. If there is uncertainty about their propriety, sensitivity analysis
2025 should be implemented.

2026

2027 (12) Precautions in the use of the physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) model

2028 Although the use of the PBPK model is recommended, it should be noted that, at
2029 present, the degree of improvement over the MSPK model is not necessarily clear in the risk
2030 assessment of clinical drug interactions. The PBPK model is complex. Particularly in the case
2031 of drug interactions due to inhibition of drug metabolizing enzymes, it is important to predict
2032 changes in intrinsic clearance from *in vitro* data. Other factors such as protein binding and
2033 changes in blood flow volume often have no influence on the degree of drug interactions.
2034 Although it is theoretically possible for the PBPK model to predict variations in the PK of a
2035 particular subject population, it should be considered carefully whether *in vitro* experimental
2036 data can be extrapolated to *in vivo* situations, because a number of factors can cause variations
2037 of *in vitro* experimental data.

2038

2039 (13) Cases of interactions with biotechnological/biological products (Therapeutic proteins)

2040 The following cases have been reported as cases of interactions between chemical
2041 drugs and biotechnological/biological products.

2042 - Modified metabolism of P450 substrates due to changes in the expression levels of P450
2043 proteins: Cytokines such as IL-6 and IFN α -2b cause decreases in the transcription levels of
2044 various P450 isoforms, leading to decrease in their enzymatic activities. This causes elevation
2045 of the blood concentration of the substrate drug metabolized by these P450 molecular
2046 species⁵⁵).

2047 - “Normalization” of the P450 activity by inhibition of cytokine-mediated decreases of the
2048 enzymatic activities of P450 isoforms: Tocilizumab administration in patients with
2049 rheumatism causes a decrease in the AUC of simvastatin⁵⁶).

2050 - Mechanism other than regulation of transporters or P450 expressions: The
2051 immunosuppressive action of methotrexate causes the decreased clearance of concomitant
2052 drugs (therapeutic proteins) by reduced anti-drug antibody formation^{57, 58}).

2053

2054 (14) Points of concern in the evaluation of transporter-mediated drug interactions

2055 (i) Special cases in inhibition of OATPs

2056 Time-dependent inhibition may occur with organic anion transporting polypeptide
2057 (OATP) transporters. In the case of such inhibition, if an inhibitor is preincubated for a certain
2058 period with cells expressing transporters (expression system, human hepatocytes, etc.) before
2059 inhibition experiments, the apparent K_i value may be estimated at a lower level than the K_i
2060 value obtained by the usual inhibition experiments without preincubation^{59,60}. It should be
2061 noted that this apparent K_i value may sometimes more accurately reflect the intensity of *in*
2062 *vivo* drug interactions. In addition, because it has been reported that the K_i value of an
2063 inhibitor varies according to the substrate⁶¹, it is useful to use drugs that are expected to be
2064 used concomitantly in the clinical setting as substrate drugs for the inhibition experiments.
2065 Furthermore, there are reports of some cases in which the inhibition potency cannot be
2066 explained unless inhibition by the drug of the protein-bound form is taken into account,
2067 sometimes necessitating consideration based on the total drug concentration, including the
2068 concentration of the protein-bound form of the drug⁶².

2069

2070 (ii) Variations in the level of endogenous substances relating to the transporter function

2071 Some transporters are involved in the transport of endogenous substances. Such
2072 transporters include sodium-taurocholate cotransporting polypeptide (NTCP) and BSEP that
2073 contribute to hepatic transport of bile acids, OATPs and MRP2 that contribute to hepatic
2074 transport of bilirubin or its glucuronide, and MATEs that partially contribute to renal
2075 secretion of creatinine and N-methylnicotinamide. Inhibition of these transporters may cause
2076 increases in the blood concentrations of endogenous substances or their accumulation in the
2077 tissues. When there are variations in the laboratory test results for endogenous substances, it
2078 should be noted that not only hepatotoxicity and nephrotoxicity, but also inhibition of
2079 transporters can cause such variations. On the other hand, a recent report has called attention
2080 to the trend of a high risk in the manifestation of hepatotoxicity in the clinical setting when
2081 medical products causing strong inhibition of BSEP are used⁶³.

2082

2083 (15) Importance of the duration and timing of administration

2084 As represented by ritonavir, which is an inhibitor of CYP3A and also an inducer of
2085 CYP2C9, drugs that serve as both inhibitors and inducers of drug metabolizing enzymes may
2086 be associated with different apparent interaction potencies according to the timing of use in
2087 combination^{64, 65}. In this case, it is recommended to set a sufficient duration of administration

2088 that would allow the level of expression of drug metabolizing enzymes to reach another
2089 steady state. It is also recommended to implement clinical drug interaction studies with
2090 varying timings of administration of the investigational drug and concomitant drugs and to
2091 interpret their influences in a cautious manner.

2092 Rifampicin is known as a strong inducer of CYP3A and other drug metabolizing
2093 enzymes, but it is also an inhibitor of transporters such as OATP1B1^{66, 67}). Therefore, when
2094 combined administration studies are carried out for the purpose of investigating the inhibitory
2095 effect of rifampicin on transporters, it is optimal that sampling for determining the
2096 concentration of the investigational drug should be conducted just after a single
2097 administration of rifampicin. On the other hand, in studies aimed at estimation of the
2098 potencies of other inducers by clarifying the effects of rifampicin as a strong enzyme inducer,
2099 the enzyme induction activity may be underestimated because of OATP1B1 inhibition by
2100 rifampicin. Therefore, it is optimal to conduct sampling of the investigational drug one day
2101 after the final administration of rifampicin.

2102

2103 (16) Choice of the substrate drugs of drug metabolizing enzymes

2104 Some marker substrates used in clinical drug interaction studies may be substrates of 2
2105 or more kinds of P450 species or transporters. Thus, it should be borne in mind that they are
2106 not specific substrates. For instance, omeprazole is a substrate of CYP2C19, but is also
2107 metabolized by CYP3A. When using omeprazole as a substrate for evaluating CYP2C19
2108 inhibition (induction), measurement of both the unchanged form of the drug and metabolites
2109 (CYP2C19-mediated hydroxy omeprazole and CYP3A-mediated omeprazole sulfone) is
2110 recommended⁶⁸).

2111 Particular caution is necessary when drugs used concomitantly with the investigational
2112 drug include substrates with a narrow therapeutic range. It has been suggested that substrates
2113 with a narrow therapeutic range may cause effects of serious safety concern (e.g., torsade de
2114 pointes) when the exposure dose is increased even only slightly by concomitant use of P450
2115 inhibitors. Typical examples of substrates with a narrow therapeutic range include warfarin
2116 (even a slight increase in its concentration may cause significant bleeding), drugs that are
2117 likely to induce torsade de pointes, almost all cytotoxic antineoplastic drugs, and
2118 aminoglycoside antibiotics, and so on. When combined use of these substrates with a narrow
2119 therapeutic range is expected, the need for clinical drug interaction studies and the dose and

2120 duration of the substrate drugs should be investigated from the consideration of safety
2121 concern.

2122

2123 (17) Cases of drug interactions involving both drug metabolizing enzymes and transporters

2124 Itraconazole, which inhibits both CYP3A and P-gp, and rifampicin, which induces
2125 these two proteins are cited as examples of drugs that cause inhibition or induction of multiple
2126 enzymes/transporters simultaneously. In these cases, the inhibitory and inductive potencies
2127 are not necessarily equivalent. In fact, the strong CYP3A inhibitor voriconazole also inhibits
2128 P-gp, so that the exposure doses of P-gp substrates such as digoxin and fexofenadine are not
2129 significantly increased. In addition, some relatively strong P-gp inhibitors such as amiodarone
2130 and quinidine (that cause 1.5-fold or greater changes in the AUC of digoxin and
2131 fexofenadine) are weak CYP3A inhibitors. When choosing inhibitors for drug interaction
2132 studies of an investigational drugs that serve as substrates of CYP3A, P-gp, or both CYP3A
2133 and P-gp, the difference in the potency of inhibition between CYP3A and P-gp should be
2134 taken into consideration³⁴⁾. It should also be noted that rifampicin is a known inducer of
2135 multiple P450 enzymes and transporters, and is an inhibitor of the uptake transporter
2136 OATP1B1 [see “note (11)”].

2137 As an example of the complex effects of inhibition of both drug metabolizing enzymes
2138 and transporters during concomitant use of several drugs, the substantial change in the AUC
2139 of repaglinide after simultaneous administration of itraconazole and gemfibrozil has been
2140 reported. This seems to be attributable to the overall effects of the inhibitory action of
2141 itraconazole on CYP3A4 (enzyme) and the inhibitory action of gemfibrozil and its
2142 metabolites on the OATP1B1 (transporter) and CYP2C8 (enzyme)⁶⁹⁾.

2143

2144 (18) Use of cocktail substrate studies

2145 Similar to general clinical drug interaction studies, cocktail studies are usually
2146 conducted to verify the actions of an investigational drug demonstrated in *in vitro* studies.
2147 Cocktail studies, however, may be carried out instead of *in vitro* studies in order to evaluate
2148 the inhibitory and inductive potency of various metabolites for enzymes (and transporters).

2149 It is necessary for the specificity of substrates to be used in cocktail studies to have
2150 been demonstrated in drug interaction studies or pharmacogenetic studies that use selective
2151 inhibitors against particular enzymes (and transporters). Although it is desirable for the

2152 propriety of the used doses to be shown by clinical evidence of the lack of interactions among
2153 substrates, it can be assumed that there are no interactions among substrates when the K_m
2154 values of target enzymes (and transporters) are sufficiently low in comparison with the C_{max}
2155 and the estimated concentrations in the GI tract.

2156

2157 (19) Evaluation of drug interactions in consideration of genetic polymorphism

2158 Defective CYP2C19 activity is frequent among East Asians. Although defective
2159 CYP2D6 activity is rare, the frequency of *CYP2D6*10*, the genetic polymorphism that causes
2160 substantially decreased enzymatic activity, is high in this population³⁶). When the results of
2161 studies in East Asians are compared with those in subjects other than East Asians in regard to
2162 investigational drugs for which these P450 isoforms mediate the major pathways for its
2163 clearance, particular attention to genetic polymorphism is required. In particular, the degree of
2164 drug interactions may be expected to be greater in the subjects with defective CYP2C19
2165 activity. If there is a possibility of clinical important effects, it is useful to add clinical studies
2166 aimed at investigation of drug interactions taking genetic polymorphism into account. When
2167 implementing clinical studies with genetic polymorphism taken into account, maximum
2168 consideration should be given to the safety of the subjects, because the blood concentrations
2169 in persons with defective activity are expected to become high. It is also useful to
2170 preliminarily examine the possibility of influences on drug interactions by means of model
2171 analyses and simulations.

2172 The following are examples of drug interactions that require consideration of genetic
2173 polymorphisms.

2174 Systemic exposure of voriconazole, which is mainly metabolized by CYP2C19, is
2175 markedly increased in subjects with defective CYP2C19 activity when an inhibitor for the
2176 alternative metabolic pathway by CYP3A is used concomitantly⁷⁰). Systemic exposure to
2177 tolterodine, which is mainly metabolized by CYP2D6, is markedly increased in subjects with
2178 defective CYP2D6 activity when an inhibitor for the alternative metabolic pathway by
2179 CYP3A is used concomitantly⁷¹).

2180 It is known that clearance is influenced by the genetic polymorphisms of some drug
2181 metabolizing enzymes and transporters such as CYP3A5, UGT1A1, P-gp, and BCRP^{36, 72, 73}).
2182 In Japanese, attention should be paid for reduced activity alleles *UGT1A1*6* and *UGT1A1*28*,
2183 decreased transporting activity allele BCRP (*ABCG2*) c.421C>A, because their frequencies

2184 are high. *CYP3A5*3* is a common polymorphism of CYP3A5, and is known to cause deficit
2185 enzyme expression. Although CYP3A5 generally resembles CYP3A4 in its substrate
2186 recognition capability, some inhibitors are reported to exhibit different inhibition constants
2187 between CYP3A4 and CYP3A5. Therefore, it should be borne in mind that clearance of
2188 CYP3A substrates is markedly reduced in the subjects with *CYP3A5*3*, in the case when a
2189 concomitant drug is a strong inhibitor for CYP3A4 but weak for CYP3A5..

2190

2191

2192 10. Glossary

- 2193 1) Substrate: In this guideline, a drug that is subject to metabolism or transport by transporters.
- 2194 2) Concomitant drug: When two or more drugs are used, each drug is called a concomitant
2195 drug, in a broad sense. In the narrow sense, a concomitant drug is a drug that is added to
2196 the basic drug treatment.
- 2197 3) Interacting drug (perpetrator drug): A drug that affects the *in vivo* pharmacokinetics of
2198 other drugs when administered concomitantly. For instance, in the case of metabolism, the
2199 affecting drug may inhibit or induce drug metabolizing enzymes.
- 2200 4) Affected drug (victim drug): A drug whose *in vivo* pharmacokinetics is affected by a
2201 concomitant drug. For instance, in the case of metabolism, the metabolism of an affected
2202 drug may be decreased by inhibition of the drug metabolizing enzymes or increased by
2203 induction of the drug metabolizing enzymes by the affecting drug.
- 2204 5) Investigational drug: In this guideline, a medicinal product or a drug under development
2205 that is investigated as to its potential to act as an affecting drug or an affected drug.
- 2206 6) Marker drug: A drug that has been demonstrated in plural clinical studies to have a high
2207 specificity for enzymes, transporters or plasma proteins that are involved in the
2208 pharmacokinetics serves as an index of pharmacokinetic variations. Marker drugs need to
2209 be easy to quantify, and to be shown in their high safety if they are to be used in clinical
2210 studies.
- 2211 7) Drug metabolized by a single enzyme: A drug metabolized mainly by a single drug
2212 metabolizing enzyme. The total metabolic clearance of this drug is markedly influenced by
2213 the activity change of the drug metabolizing enzyme by drug interaction, and thus drug
2214 interactions are likely to occur.
- 2215 8) Drug metabolized by multiple enzymes: A drug metabolized by multiple drug metabolizing
2216 enzymes. The total metabolic clearance of this drug is less susceptible to the activity
2217 changes of drug metabolizing enzymes caused by drug interactions, and therefore this kind
2218 of drug shows lower risk compared to the drug metabolized by a single enzyme.
- 2219 9) Transporter: A carrier that transports drugs across biological membranes (i.e., into and out
2220 of cells).
- 2221 10) Selective inhibitor, selective substrate: A drug that inhibit relatively selective to specific
2222 drug metabolizing enzyme or transporter. A drug that is metabolized or transported by a
2223 relatively specific drug metabolizing enzyme or transporter.

- 2224 11) Typical inhibitor, typical substrate (Table 6-4, Table 6-5): A drug that is frequently used
2225 for inhibition of a specific transporter, but inhibits other drug metabolizing enzymes and/or
2226 transporters and thus is not a selective inhibitor. A drug that is frequently used as a
2227 substrate for a specific transporter, but is metabolized and/or transported by other enzymes
2228 and/or transporters thus is not a selective substrate.
- 2229 12) Strong inhibitor, moderate inhibitor, weak inhibitor: When a drug which increases the
2230 AUC of “a substrate drug susceptible to drug interactions” by ≥ 5 -fold (or reduces the CL/F
2231 ratio to less than 1/5), the drug is termed as a “strong inhibitor”. Likewise, a drug that
2232 causes an increase in the AUC by ≥ 2 -fold but < 5 -fold (or a decrease in the CL/F to $< 1/2$
2233 but $\geq 1/5$) is termed as a “moderate inhibitor”, and a drug that causes an increase in the
2234 AUC by ≥ 1.25 -fold but < 2 -fold (or a decrease in the CL/F to $< 1/1.25$ but $\geq 1/2$) is termed
2235 as a “weak inhibitor” (see description in Section 7.7.).
- 2236 13) Strong inducer, moderate inducer, weak inducer: A drug that reduces the AUC of “a
2237 substrate drug susceptible to drug interactions” to $\leq 1/5$ (or increases the CL/F ratio by ≥ 5 -
2238 fold) is termed as a “strong inducer”. Likewise, a drug that causes a decrease in the AUC
2239 to $\leq 1/2$ but $> 1/5$ (or an increase of the CL/F by ≥ 2 -fold but < 5 -fold) is termed as a
2240 “moderate inducer”, and a drug that reduces the AUC to $\leq 1/1.25$ but $> 1/2$ (or increases the
2241 CL/F by ≥ 1.25 -fold but < 2 -fold) is termed as a “weak inducer” (see description in Section
2242 7.8.).
- 2243 14) Substrate drug susceptible to drug interactions, substrate drug moderately susceptible to
2244 drug interactions: A substrate drug whose AUC increases by ≥ 5 -fold (or whose CL/F ratio
2245 decreases to $< 1/5$) when co-administered with a “strong inhibitor”. Likewise, a substrate
2246 drug whose AUC increases by ≥ 2 -fold but < 5 -fold (or whose CL/F decreases to $< 1/2$ but
2247 $\geq 1/5$) when co-administered with a “strong inhibitor”. (see description in Section 7.9.).
2248
2249

2250 12. References

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