Pharmacotherapy in children – small populations of human subjects who are not just small adults

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Children?





'...no adequate scientific basis info for 80% of prescription medicines.'



Tan et al. MJA 2003

Brief history of drugs in children

- Disasters:
 - 1937 Sulphanylamide
 - 1956 Sulphisoxazole
 - 1959 Chloramphenicol
 - 1982 Benzyl alcohol
- Legislation to stimulate drug research in children
 - 1997 FDA Modernization Act
 - 2002 Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act
 - 2007 European Paediatric Regulation

Drug and human body (1)

- 'drug': active ingredient + excipient
- Route of administration:
 - Oral: capsule, tablet, fluid, ...
 - sublingual
 - Intravenous
 - Rectal

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– Intramuscular

Drug and human body (2)

- Absorption
- Distribution
- Metabolism
- Excretion

Pharmacokinetics, PK

 Relation between concentration and effect: Pharmacodynamics, PD

PK models



Changes during development

- Absorption
- Distribution
- Metabolism
- Excretion
- PD

- Gastric pH, intestinal function
- Body composition, availability of binding proteins, permeability of membranes
- Expression of enzymes in the liver
- Renal function
- Availability of receptors, drug-receptor interaction

Kearns et al. NEJM 2003



Kearns et al. NEJM 2003

PK/PD studies

- Adults:
- 12 blood samples taken in 24 hours
 (Data-rich approach)

- Children:
- Population approach



De Cock et al. Eur J Clin Pharmacol 2011

What is the right dose?

- Not useful:
 - Calculate based on weight or BSA
 - 80% of the adult dose
- Recent developments:
 - Extrapolation
 - Modelling and simulation



Extrapolation ...

'use of data (in vitro, in silico, PK, PD, safety, efficacy) acquired in one population and/or experimental setting to make inference about another population of interest.'

- Dose
- Efficacy
- Safety
- Assumptions for sample size calculations

FDA decision tree





1 April 2016 1 2 EMA/199678/2016

- Reflection paper on extrapolation of efficacy and safety in paediatric medicine development 3
- 4
- 5 Draft

6

Draft agreed by Biostatistics Working Party	March 2016
Draft agreed by Modelling and simulation group	March 2016
Draft agreed by PKWP	March 2016
Draft agreed by Scientific Advice Working Party	March 2016
Draft Adopted by PRAC	17 th March 2016
Draft Adopted by PDCO	31 st March 2016
Draft Adopted by CHMP	31 st March 2016

Keywords Paediatrics, extrapolation, medicine development, biostatistics, modelling and simulation

Table 1: Extrapolation framework table

			Pharmacology Drug disposition & effect	Disease manifestation & progression	Clinical response to treatment Efficacy & safety	
SOURCE POULATION Adults	Extrapolation concept	Mechanisms	Age-related differences in ADME mode of action PD effects (E-R) toxicity	Age-related differences in - aetiology - pathophysiology - manifestation - progression - indicators	Age-related - differences, - applicability, - validation of efficacy & safety endpoints	
		e evidence	PB-PK/PD models Pop-PK/PD models	Quantitative synthesis of natural disease data Disease progression models Covariates:	Quantitative synthesis or meta-analysis of treatment data Disease response models Covariates:	
		Quantitative evidence	Covariates: - age, maturation, etc - disease, comorbidity,	- age - disease types, severity - comorbidity	- age - disease types, severity - comorbidity	
			 existing data progressive input of emerging data 			
TARGET POPULATION Children, different paediatric age groups		Prediction	Predict doses to achieve - similar exposure, or - similar PD effect, and - acceptable safety per age group	Describe/predict differences in natural course of disease progression by age group	Given similar drug exposure or PD response, predict degree of differences in - efficacy - safety - benefit-risk balance by age group	
			refine predictions using emerging data			
	Extrapolatio	n plan	PK studies or PK/PD studies needed for confirmation of doses in target population	Epidemiological data - natural disease course - SOC treatment in target population	 Design of clinical studies Sample size(s) required in target population to conclude on benefit- risk balance 	
	Validation & Extrapolation		Validate - modelling approaches - modelling assumptions - confirm predicted differences in PK and PD	Confirm predicted differences in disease progression Conclude on disease	Confirm predicted differences in clinical response Conclude on positive	
			Establish appropriate doses in the target population	progression in target population	benefit-risk in target population	
			> alternatively, adapt extrapolation concept and plan			
	Further	validation	PK/PD data from - phase III trials - post MA studies	Epidemiological data Other drug developments	Post MA studies Prospective meta- analyses Pharmacoepidemiological data Other drug developments	

EMA review



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REVIEW ARTICLE

Role of modeling and simulation in pediatric investigation plans

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Summary

Ethical and practical constraints encourage the optimal use of resources in pediatric drug development. Modeling and simulation has emerged as a promising methodology acknowledged by industry, academia, and regulators. We previously proposed a paradigm in pediatric drug development, whereby modeling and simulation is used as a decision tool, for study optimization and/or as a data analysis tool. Three and a half years since the Paediatric Regulation came into force in 2007, the European Medicines Agency has gained substantial experience in the use of modeling and simulation in pediatric drug development. In this review, we present examples on

Way forward

- Empirical data are always needed
- Make use of available data
- Stimulate paediatricians to improve the quality of their (clinical) data
- Don't just do 'what we always do', but develop new methods

Thank you!

