

Pharmacokinetics; Pharmacodynamics; Toxicology; Drug safety; Efficacy; Adverse effects; Therapeutic agents; Case studies

Pharmacokinetics (PK) and pharmacodynamics (PD) are fundamental concepts in pharmacology that provide insights into how drugs interact with the body and produce their effects. In toxicology, these principles are pivotal for assessing drug safety and efficacy. Pharmacokinetics describes the journey of a drug through the body, including its absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion. Conversely, pharmacodynamics focuses on the drug's effects on the body, including its mechanism of action and the relationship between drug concentration and effect. Bridging these two disciplines allows for a comprehensive understanding of how drugs can be both therapeutic and toxic [1].

Absorption is the process by which a drug enters the bloodstream from its site of administration. Factors influencing absorption include the drug's chemical properties, formulation, and the route of administration. Bioavailability refers to the proportion of the drug that reaches systemic circulation in an active form. In toxicology, understanding absorption and bioavailability helps predict the potential for systemic toxicity [2].

Once absorbed, drugs are distributed throughout the body. Distribution is influenced by factors such as blood flow, tissue permeability, and protein binding. The volume of distribution ( $V_d$ ) indicates the extent to which a drug disperses into body tissues. Toxic substances with high  $V_d$  may accumulate in tissues, leading to prolonged exposure and increased risk of toxicity [3].

Metabolism transforms drugs into more water-soluble metabolites for excretion. The liver is the primary site of metabolism, involving enzymatic reactions such as oxidation, reduction, and conjugation. Phase I reactions often produce reactive metabolites that can contribute to toxicity. Phase II reactions generally render these metabolites more excretable. Understanding metabolism is crucial for identifying potential toxic metabolites and assessing the risk of drug interactions [4].

Excretion is the process by which drugs and their metabolites are eliminated from the body, primarily through the

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