

Biokinetic considerations in the use of in vitro systems for estimating acute (systemic) toxicity

Bas J. Blaauboer

Emeritus, Doerenkamp-Zbinden Chair
Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences (IRAS)
Utrecht University, the Netherlands

The new paradigm in toxicology

toxicity is determined by:

the critical concentration and time of exposure (dose metric)

to

*the critical compound
(metabolite?)*

at

the critical site of action

use of in vitro cytotoxicity data in estimating in vivo acute toxicity

- **Assumptions:**
- basal cytotoxicity (EC50) is a good predictor for acute toxicity in vivo
- cytotoxic concentrations in vitro mirror blood plasma concentrations
- blood plasma concentrations mirror target tissue concentrations

- **but....**there are complicating factors



Local vs systemic effects

- If a compound would **quickly** act on each and every cell type, then the effects would be the most obvious on the place of application (skin, lungs, gi tract: oesophagus, stomach): local effects.
- Systemic toxicity will appear if the process of toxicity is less fast or if other cell types are more sensitive/less well protected.

reasons for deviations

- **quality of in vivo and/or in vitro data**
- **cytotoxic concentration is irrelevant for in vivo target tissue concentration**

relevance of in vitro concentrations (1)

- **specific organ or tissue toxicity**

main organs relevant for acute toxicity: brain, liver, kidney, lung (local ?)

relevance of in vitro concentrations (2)

- ***biokinetic*** behaviour of the compound in organism:
- 1. **absorption**: if limited: in vitro concentrations will be higher than in vivo plasma concentrations: **overestimation** of toxicity

relevance of in vitro concentrations (3)

- ***biokinetic*** behaviour of the compound in organism:
- **2. distribution of compound leads to higher or lower concentrations on target site**
- **example: fat tissue, CNS**

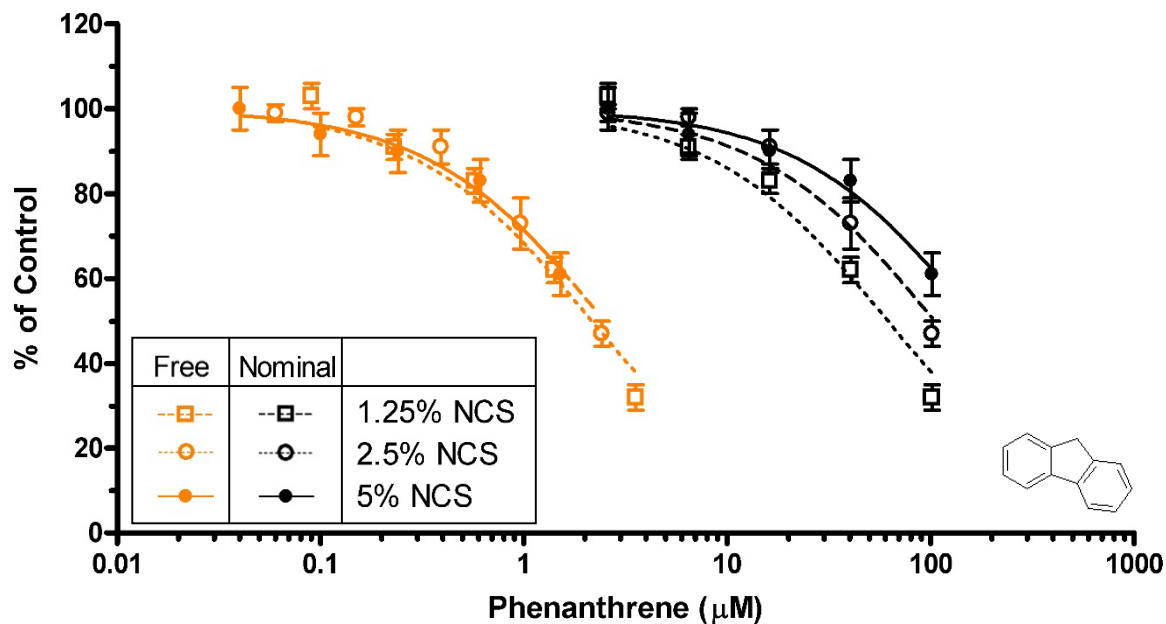
relevance of in vitro concentrations (4)

- ***biokinetic*** behaviour of the compound in organism:
- **3. elimination:**
- **fast excretion/exhalation**
- **fast metabolism:**
 - **fast elimination or formation of toxic metabolite**

relevance of in vitro concentrations (5)

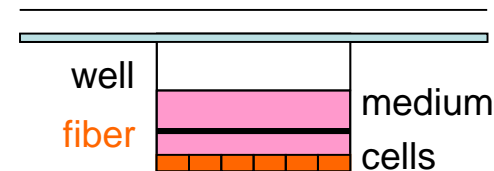
- **quality of in vitro data:**
- **“biokinetics in vitro”**
- **protein binding, medium vs cells, binding to plastic, evaporation**
- **nominal vs real free concentration**

Cytotoxicity vs Serum Level



NCS (%)	1.25	2.5	5			
Log EC ₅₀	1.79 ± 0.06	0.33	2.02 ± 0.04	0.40	2.22 ± 0.03	0.40
EC ₅₀ (µM)	61.3	2.15	104.1	2.49	165.5	2.48

sealer

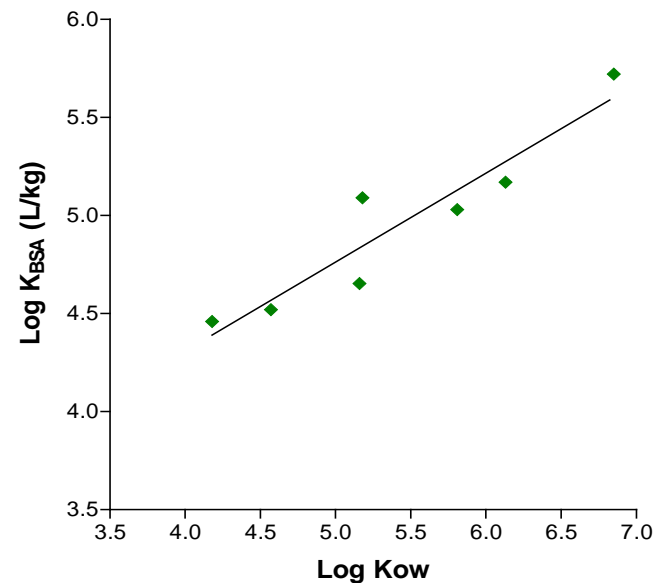
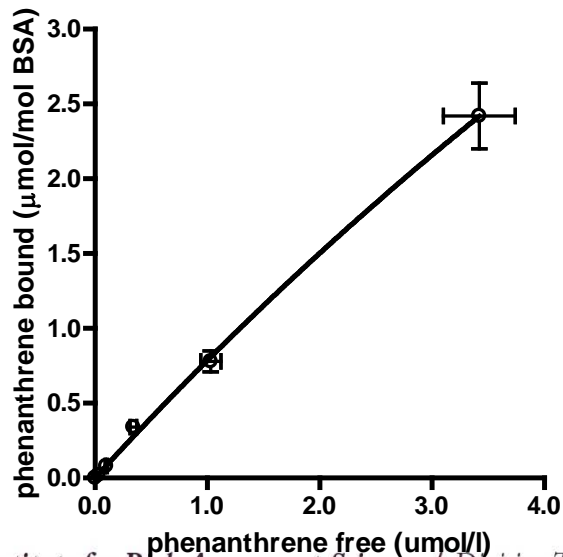


% NCS	% Free	
	Measured	
1.25	6.85 ± 0.75	
2.5	4.55 ± 1.01	
5	2.70 ± 0.20	

Modeling Free Concentration

$$F = \frac{1}{1 + K_s[S] + K_p[P] + K_c[C] + K_a \cdot \frac{V_a}{V_m}}$$

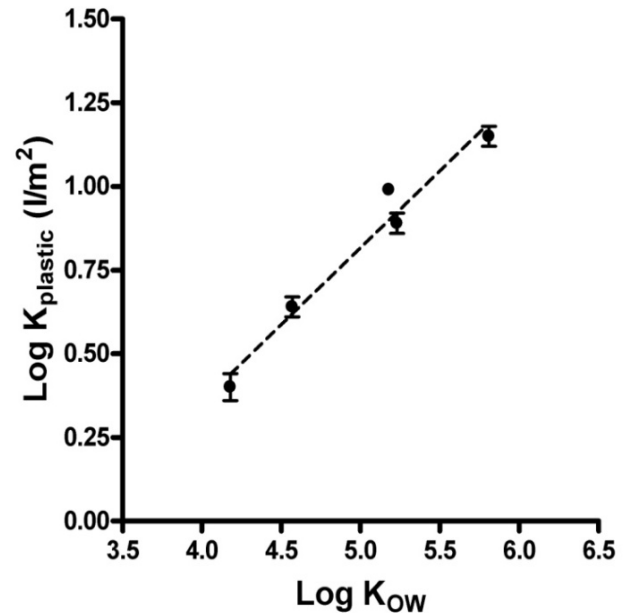
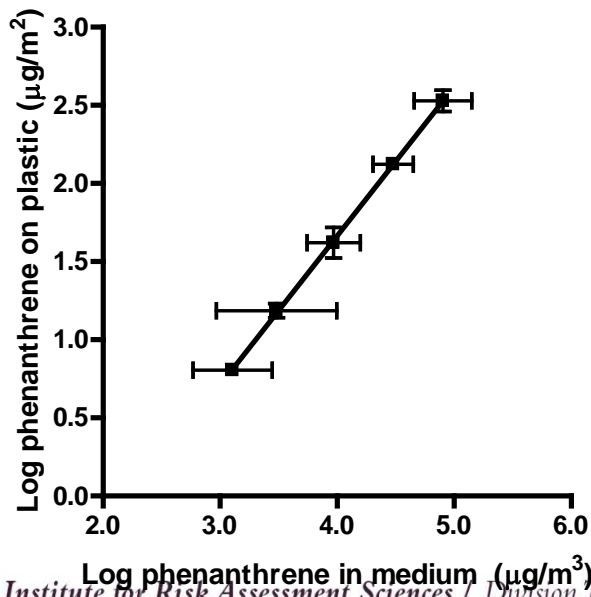
- Serum protein binding



Modeling Free Concentration

$$F = \frac{1}{1 + K_s [S] + K_p [P] + K_c [C] + K_a \cdot \frac{V_a}{V_m}}$$

- Plastic binding

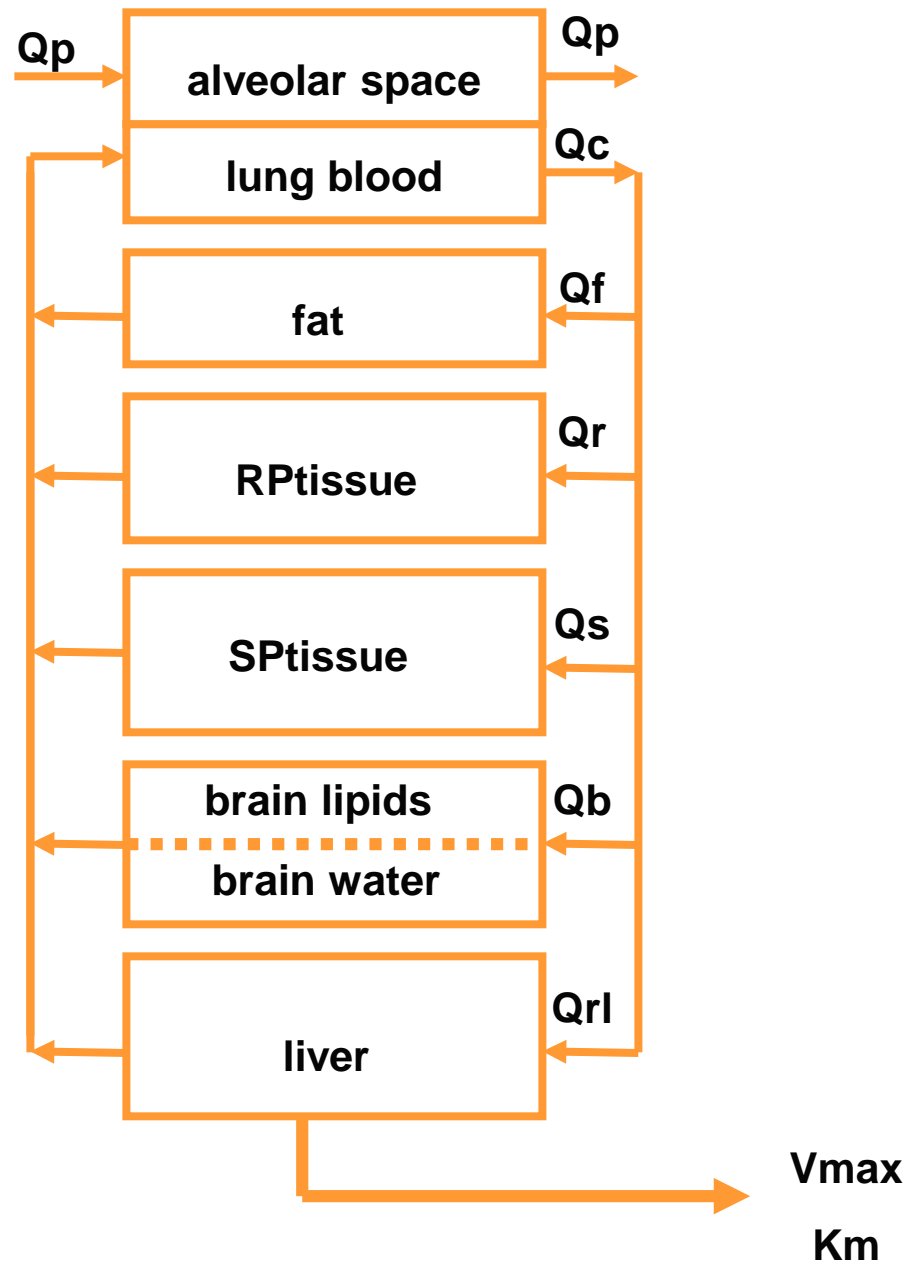


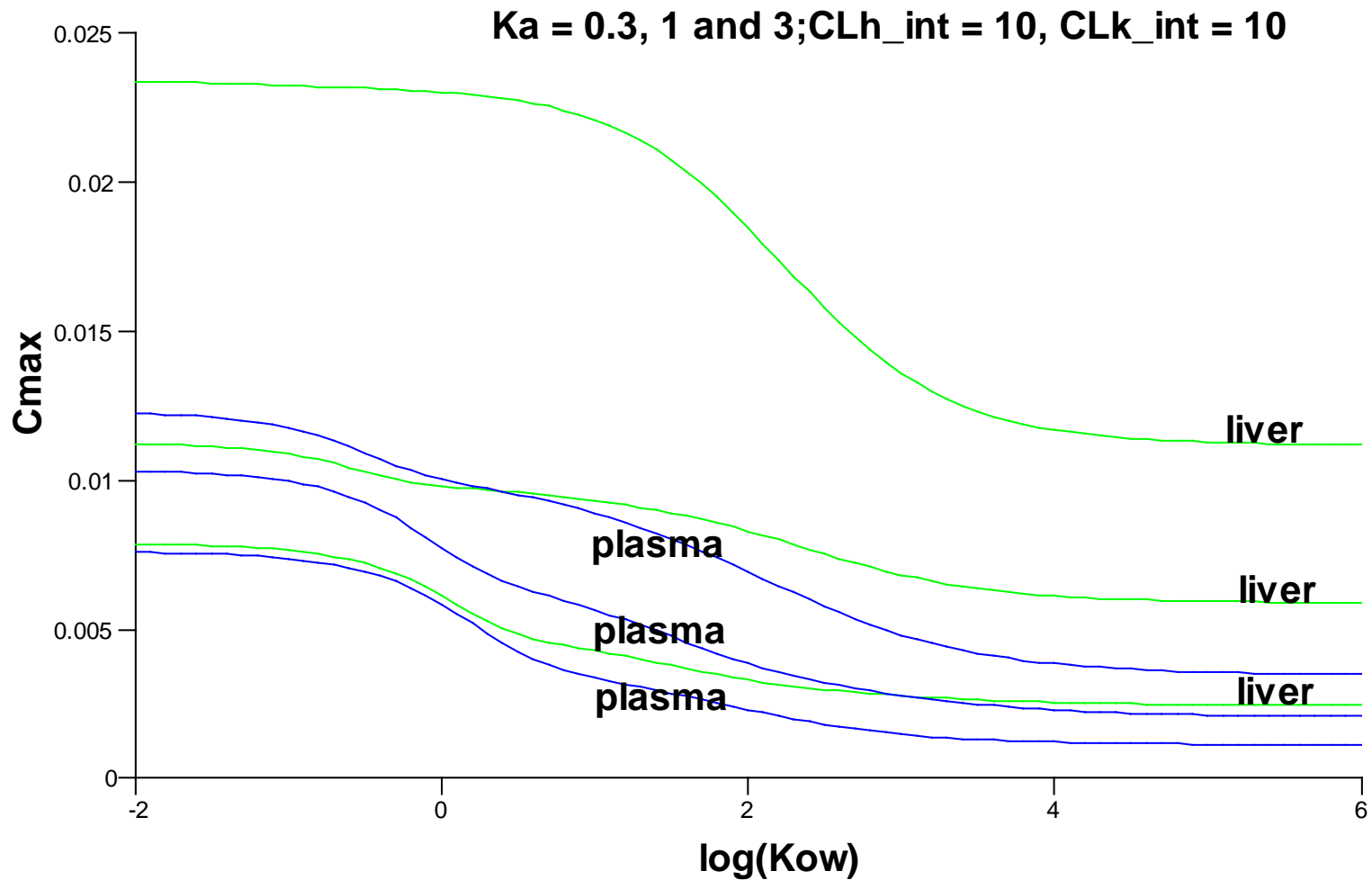
biokinetics in ACuteTox

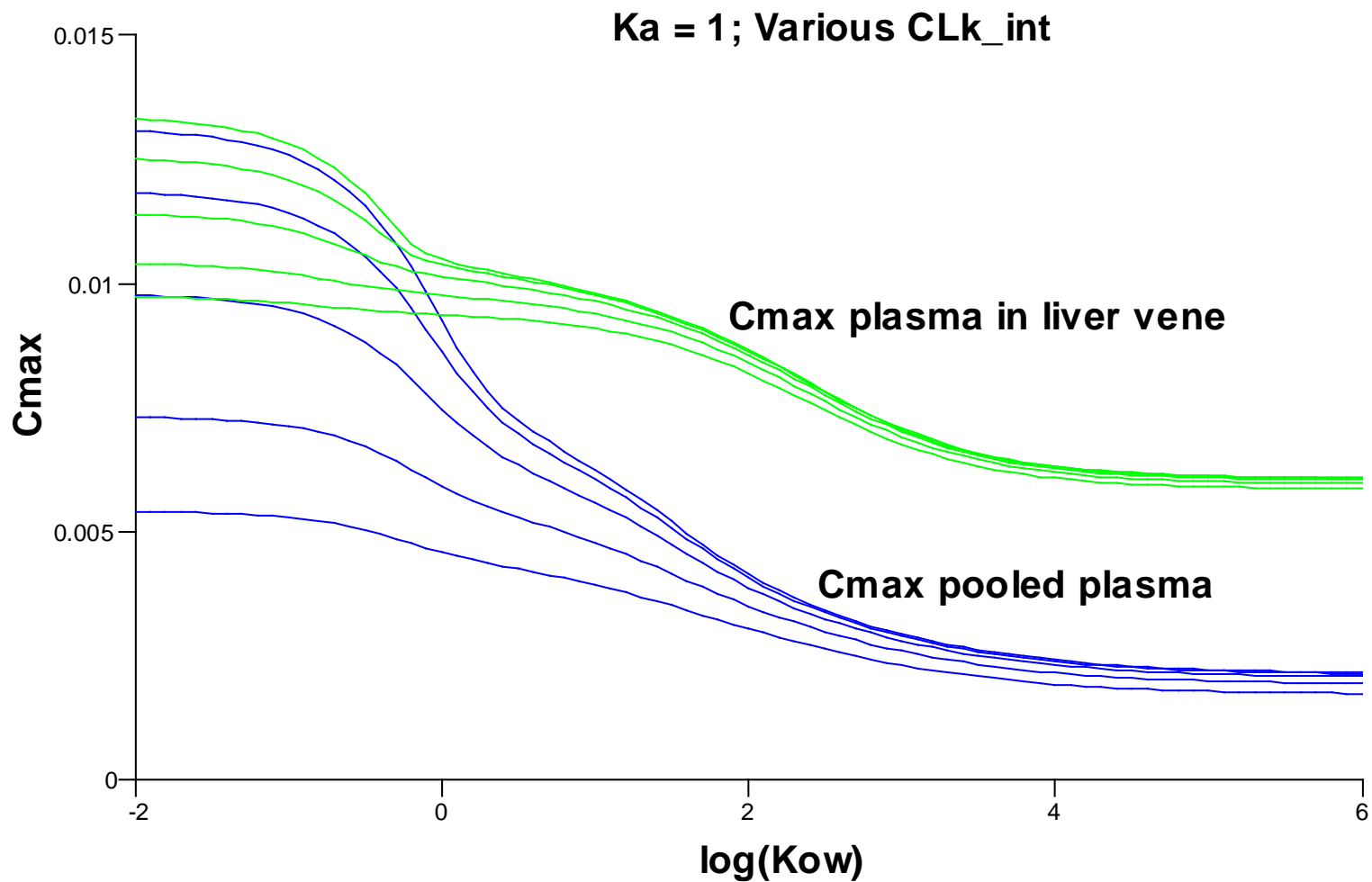
- prediction of biokinetics from PhysChem
- in vitro absorption
- in vitro blood-brain barrier
- PBBK modelling
- collect data for **prediction** of alerts and correctors

biokinetics in ACuteTox

- find **alerts** and **correctors** for improving interpretation of basal cytotoxicity data
- incorporate these in logical and transparent strategy









NOW: how to make this practical

Toolboxes

1. Pre-existing data
2. Physico-chemical properties (theoretical)
3. Simple test battery using cell lines
4. PBPK modelling
5. Target-specific toxicity
6. Verify acute toxicity

First step:

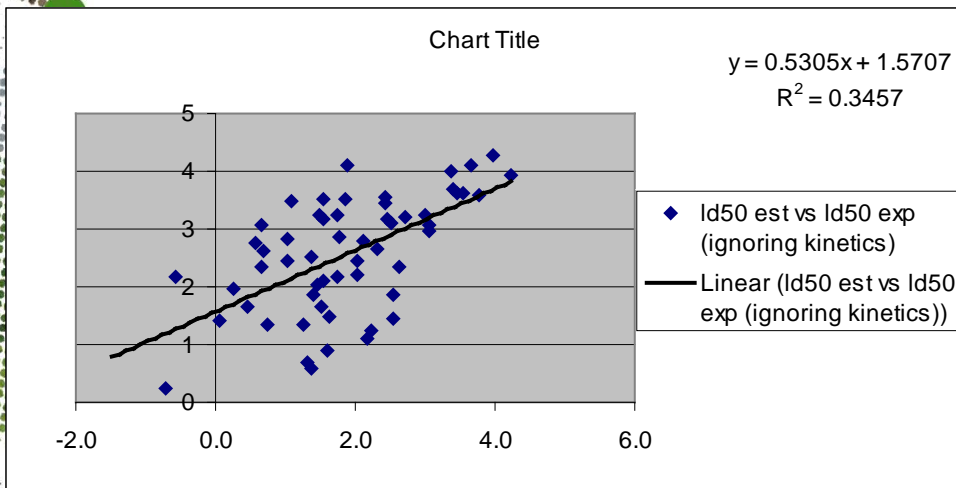
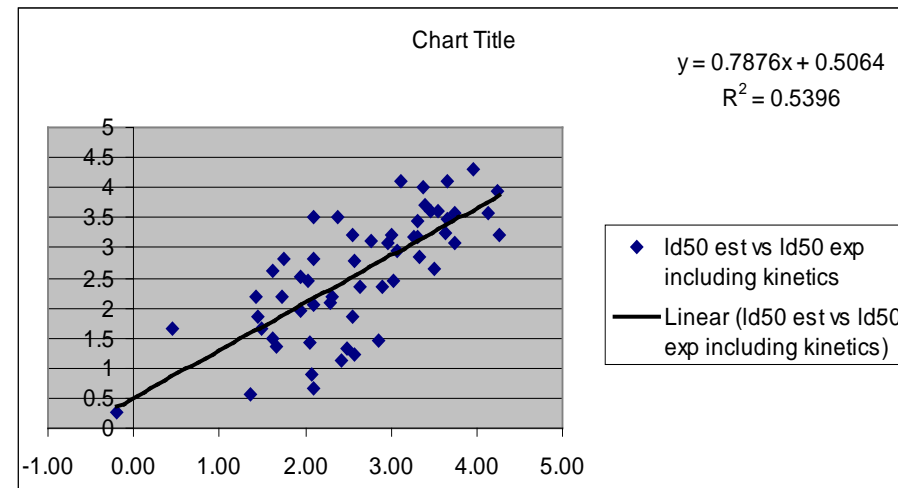
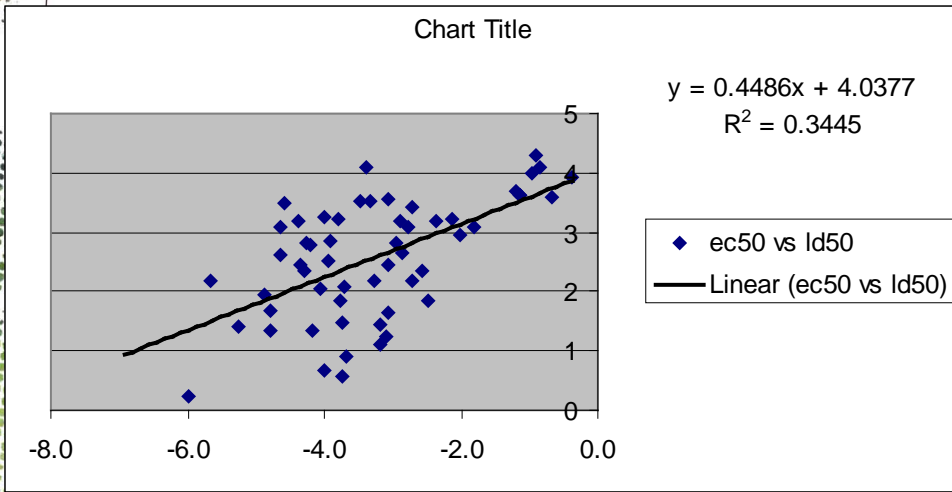
- When is basal cytotoxicity sufficient:
- When the compound is rapidly absorbed;
- When no aberrant distribution pattern is encountered
- When no fast (metabolic) clearance occurs
- When acute tox is not the result of something else than basal cytotox: specific target tox.
- When in vitro freely available concentrations do not deviate much from nominal concentrations

Next step:

- When do we decide that the criteria for inclusion in the “ideal” algorithm are NOT fulfilled?
- i.e. when does absorption become a reason for deviation?
- Can we decide on the basis of
 - phys-chem properties
 - in vitro data

Same exercise for:

- Distribution
- Metabolism
- Excretion
- Neurotox
- Hepatotox
- Nephrotox
- Hematotox
- In vitro biokinetics



r^2 :

EC50 vs LD50: **0.3445**

estLD50 ign kinetics vs LD50:
0.3457

estLD50 incl kinetics vs LD50:
0.5396

Conclusion

1. Need to take in **vitro biokinetics** into consideration: will improve quality of in vitro toxicity data
2. Use kinetic parameters to correlate in vitro effective concentrations to a dose in vitro: QIVIVE.
3. Use approach in improving the applicability of in vitro data in risk assessment

Acknowledgement

- IRAS: Nynke Kramer, Joop Hermens
- RIVM: Jan van Eijkeren
- Partners in Acutetox WP5.