



Assay Development of High Content Metabolic Stability and Aldehyde Oxidase Benchmarking Tool for Drug Discovery

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Abstract:

Understanding the metabolism of new chemical entities at an early stage has become common practice in the pharmaceutical industry. An automated, high throughput, *in vitro* assay for evaluation of the intrinsic clearance in liver microsomes, Cytochrome P450 (CYP) contribution, and metabolic soft spot identification, was developed. This assay utilizes a combination of technologies and methods including automated liquid handling, acoustic sampling, *in silico* prediction, and hybrid quadrupole-orbitrap mass spectrometry, to efficiently generate and deliver data both in a high throughput manner, and in a reasonable time frame early in the drug discovery process.

Aldehyde oxidase (AO) has become an important clearance pathway in recent years. Due to the subcellular location of this enzyme, first tier discovery metabolic stability assays using human liver microsomes fail to identify the contribution of AO-mediated metabolism in new chemical entities. An automated, high throughput, *in vitro* assay was developed as a benchmarking tool for

an *in vitro* - *in vivo* correlation of intrinsic clearance using commercial drugs known to be metabolized by AO using *in vitro* systems (human liver cytosol, liver S-9 fractions and human hepatocytes). This work provides a relative scale that can be used for an *in vitro* - *in vivo* correlation of AO clearance and can provide acceptance criteria as to when a potential new drug candidate that is metabolized by AO will have acceptable human clearance. This assay allows for quick structure activity relationships to guide further structural modifications for new chemical entities predicted to have AO mediated metabolism.

Biography

Marina Slavsky has completed her M.S. from Moscow State University of Fine Chemical Technologies, Russia. She is the senior scientist in AstraZeneca DMPK group. Marina has extensive experience in high throughput assay development, automation, validation, and implementation for drug discovery and development.