Intestinal tissue organoids to study drug transport and metabolism from infants to adults

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Background

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The **small intestine** plays a very important role in the oral bioavailability of drugs. Therefore, it is **important** to understand intestinal absorption,

Why an intestinal model?



potential regional differences, and age-related effects during drug development. **Existing** *in vitro* **models lack** the ability to recapitulate the *in vivo* intestinal physiology, neither mimic population variation. Moreover, GI toxicity studies are profoundly dependent on animal studies¹. Patient derived small intestinal organoids may overcome these limitations. **Differentiated organoids** show most types of intestinal cells present in epithelial barrier, and express drug transporters and metabolizing enzymes thereby being a promising tool for pharma- and toxicokinetic research in special populations.

Objective

To study the applicability of patient derived intestinal organoids for predicting region and population differences in drug transport and metabolism



Results in fresh tissue vs patient derived organoids

Adult regional specificity fresh tissue vs organoid monolayers

Regional specific efflux transport

	Talinolol-P-gp	
10-		

Rosuvastatin-BCRP

²⁰ Fresh tissue Organoids

Pediatric ≤1 year & adult in fresh tissue vs organoid monolayers

Similar efflux (B>A) transport in pediatric organoids

Talinolol-P-gp

Rosuvastatin-BCRP





Adult monolayer metabolism by CYP3A4

More CYP3A4 metabolism in organoid monolayers compared to Caco-2



Pediatric vs adult CYP3A4 metabolism in organoid monolayers

Higher CYP3A4 metabolism in children ±1 year old



Take home messages:

- Patient derived adult and pediatric organoids can be cultured and applied for PK research
- Intestinal organoid monolayers from adults show region specific functionality trends of MDR1 and BCRP^{2,3} and more CYP3A4 functionality compared to Caco-2 monolayers
- Pediatric intestinal organoid monolayers 8-13 months old show a possible higher CYP3A4 metabolism compared to adults
- Pediatric intestinal organoid monolayers show similar drug transport compared to adults
- More (young) donors will be included to further study population variation in intestinal drug transport and metabolism
- Organoid metabolism will be *compared with fresh tissue functionality* data and gene expression



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¹ Matsui, T., & Shinozawa, T. (2021). Human organoids for predictive toxicology research and drug development. Frontiers in Genetics, 2119.doi: 10.3389/fgene.2021.767621² Müller J, et al. Expression, regulation and function of intestinal drug transporters: an update. Biol Chem. 2017 Feb 1;398(2):175-192. doi: 10.1515/hsz-2016-0259. ³ Grangeon A, et al. Determination of CYP450 Expression Levels in the Human Small Intestine by Mass Spectrometry-Based Targeted Proteomics. Int J Mol Sci. 2021 Nov 26;22(23):12791. doi: 10.3390/ijms222312791.



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