

# Pros and Cons of aminoglycosides

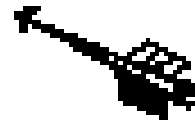
```
graph TD; Title[Pros and Cons of aminoglycosides] --> Pros[Pros]; Title --> Cons[Cons];
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- High potency
- Concentration-dependent killing
- Synergy with  $\beta$ -lactams
- Cheap

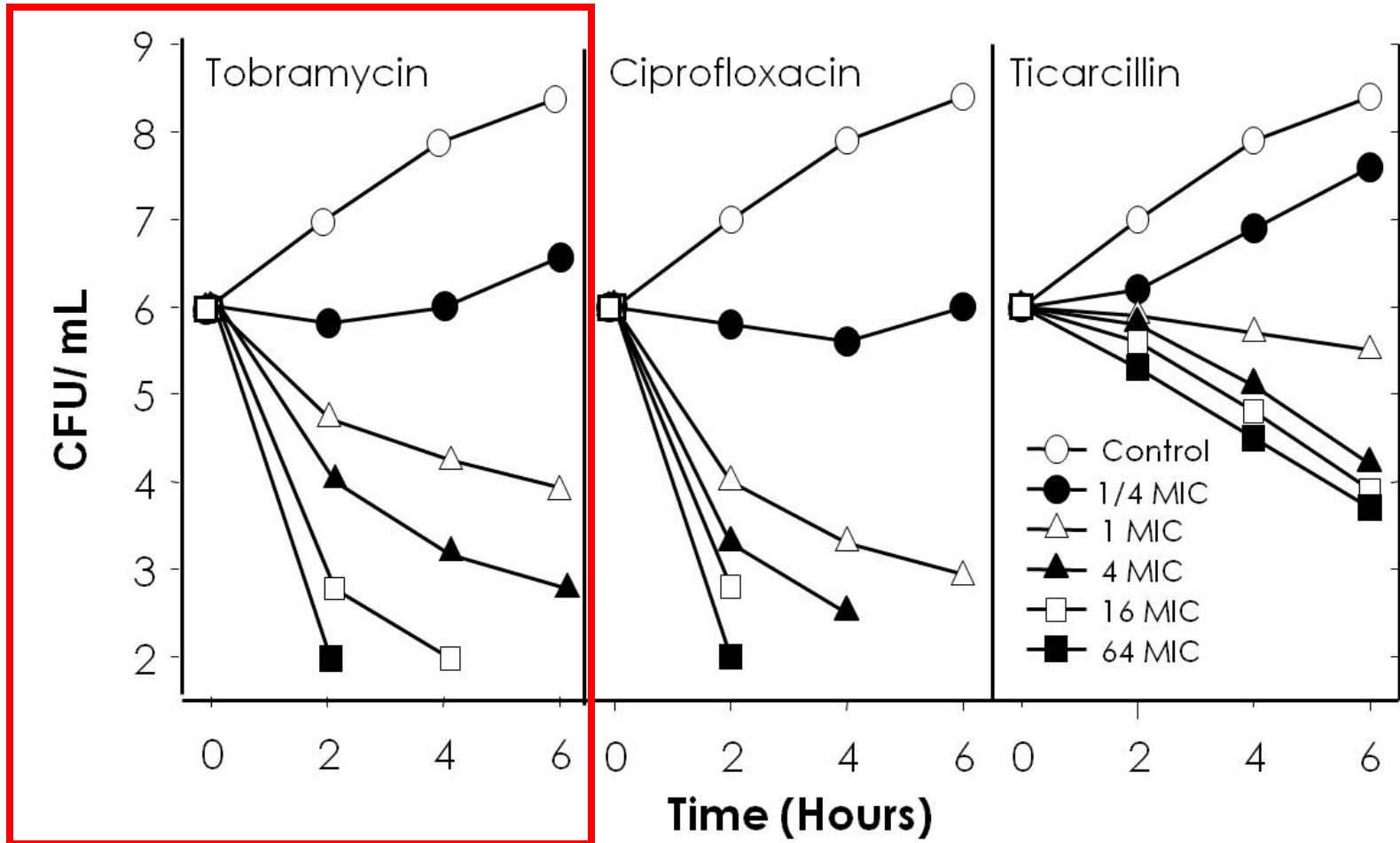
- Perception of poor efficacy in some circumstances
- Nephrotoxicity
- Ototoxicity

Both efficacy and safety can be improved by appropriate dosing !

# 1. optimizing efficacy based on PK-PD



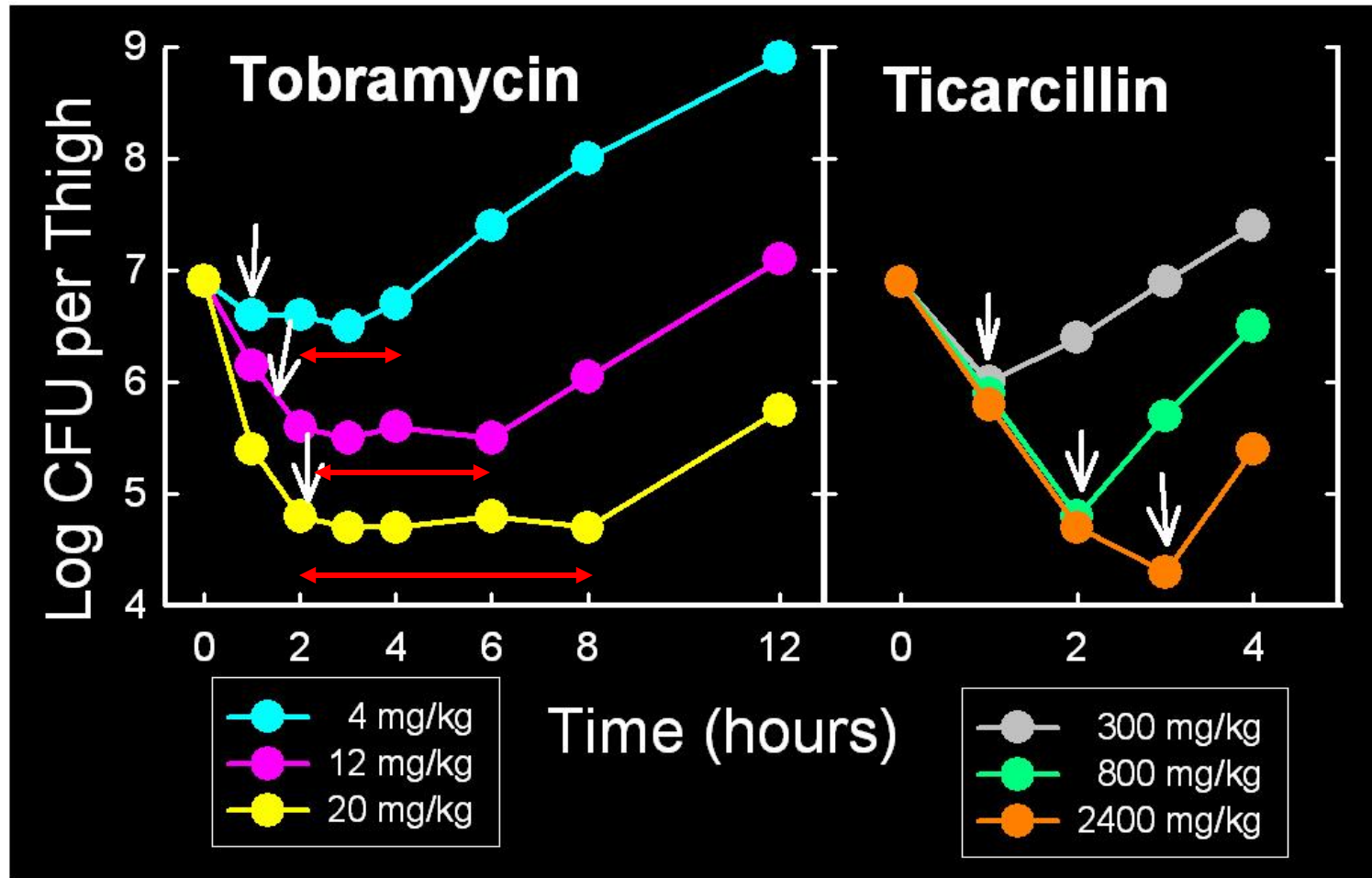
# In vitro time-kill curves



**Time and conc. – dependent killing**

Craig WA, Ebert SC.. *Scand J Infect Dis Suppl* 1990; 74:63–70.

# In vitro post-antibiotic effect

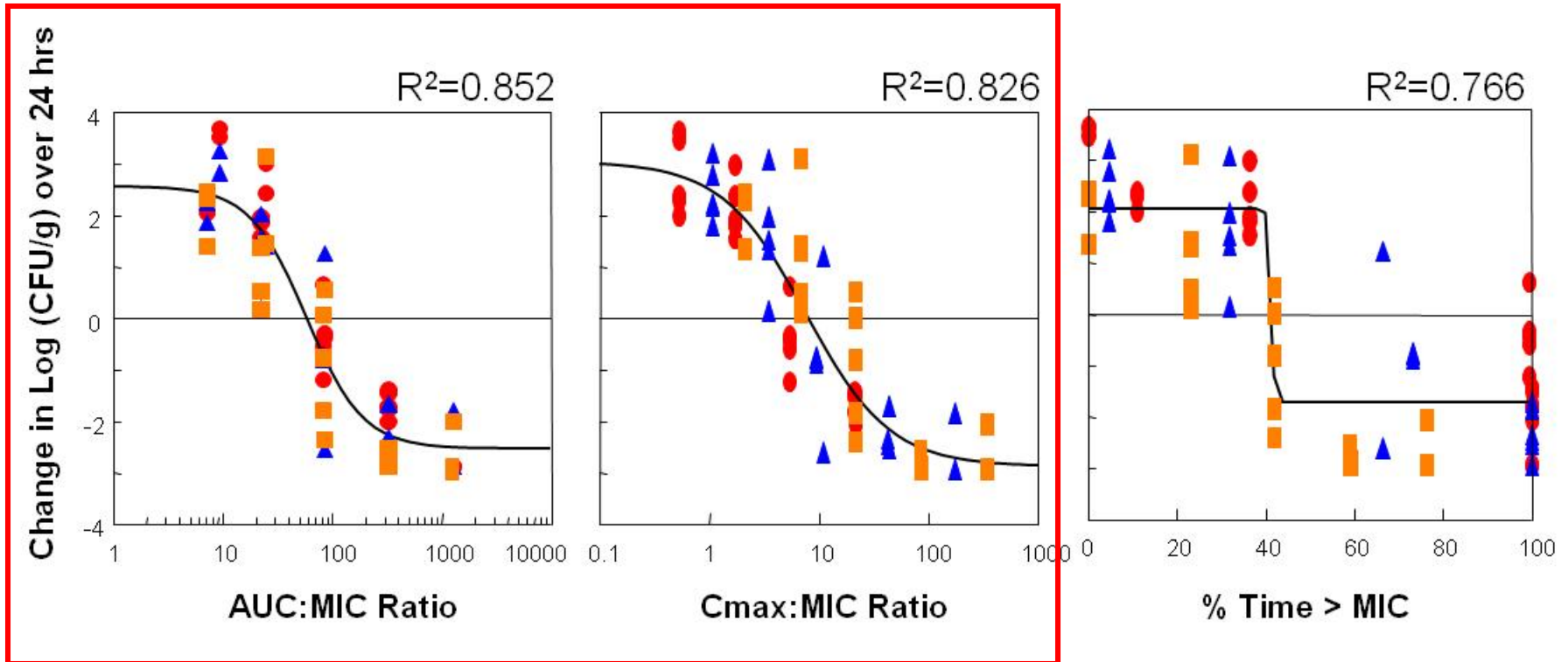


delay before regrowth

Vogelman et al. *J Infect Dis.* 1988 157:287–298

# Animal PD model

## Amikacin versus Gram-Negative Bacilli: efficacy



**both AUC24h:MIC and Cmax:MIC dependent killing !**

Neutropenic mice were inoculated with  $10^6$  CFU/thigh of either *P. aeruginosa* (MIC = 4 mg/L) or *S. marcescens* (MIC = 8 mg/L)

Craig et al. IDSA, 2006.

# Animal PD model

## Amikacin versus Gram-Negative Bacilli: PK-PD attainment rate

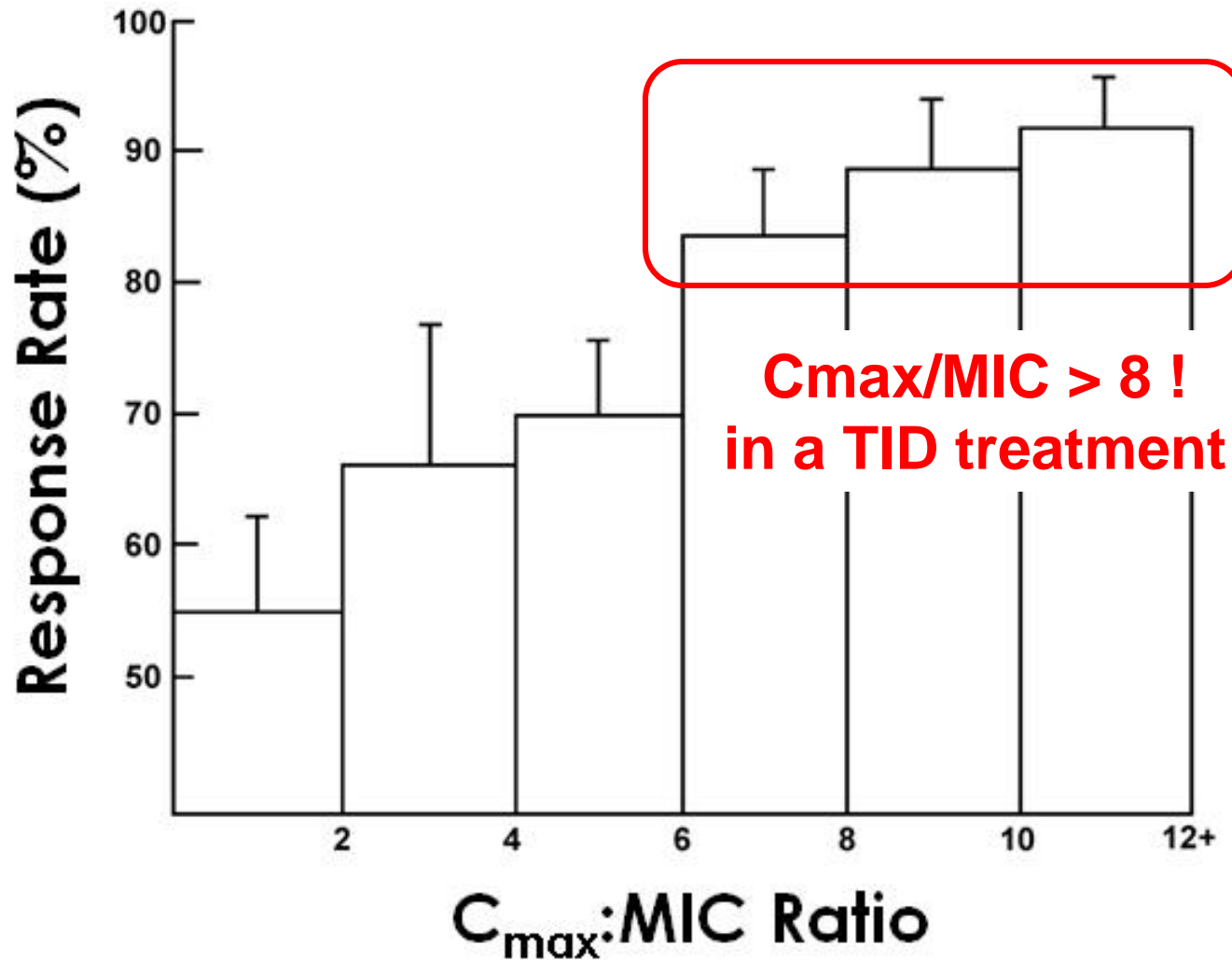
MIC (mg/L)	Dosing Regimen			
	15 mg/kg/day		30 mg/kg/day	
	PK-PD Target <sup>1</sup>			
	AUC:MIC = 59	AUC:MIC = 96	AUC:MIC = 59	AUC:MIC = 96
0.5	100	100	100	100
1	99.9	94.8	100	100
2	85.7	42.8	99.8	94.6
4	23.7	2.5	85.6	42.4
8	0.72	0	23.8	2.13
16	0	0	0	0
32	0	0	0	0

↓  
stasis and a 1 log CFU reduction

↓  
stasis and a 1 log CFU reduction

*Craig et al. IDSA, 2006.*

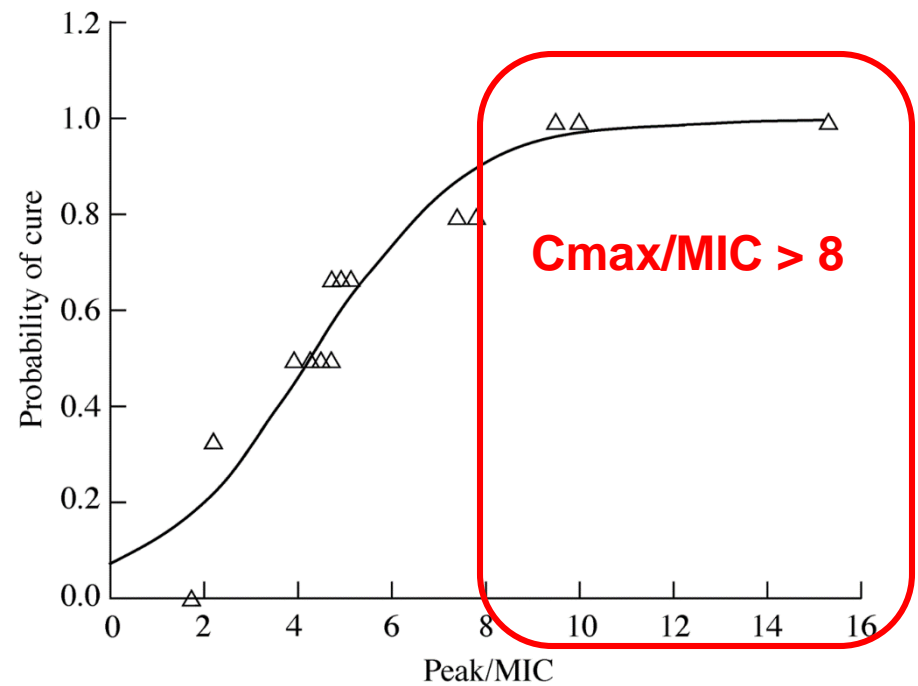
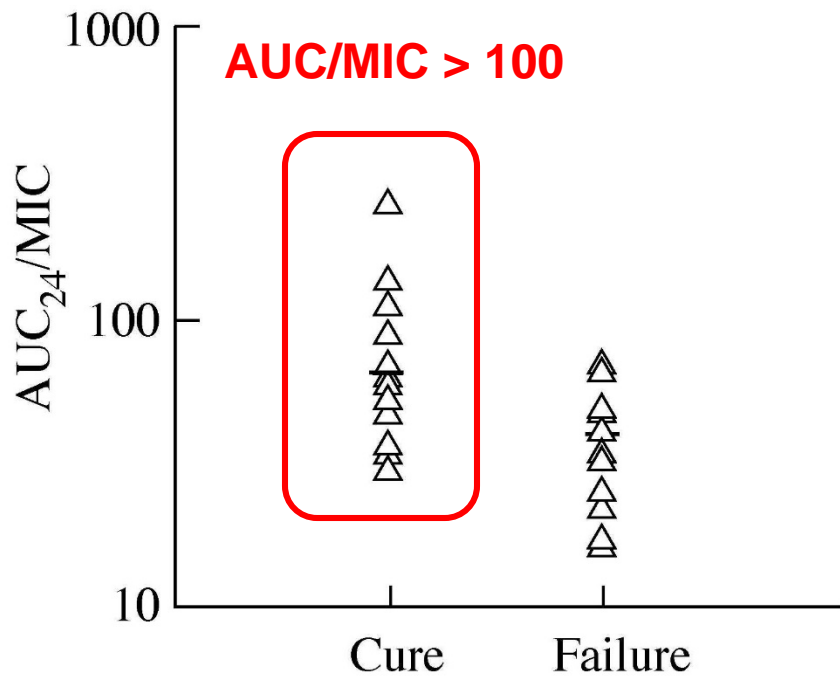
# Concentration is important in patients also ...



Moore RD, Lietman PS, Smith CR. *JID* 1987;155:93-99.

# Concentration is important in patients also ...

Gentamicin and *Pseudomonas* bacteriemia

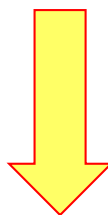


Zelenitsky et al. JAC 2003; 52:668-674



# What have we learned from models ?

- Aminoglycosides have a concentration-dependent pattern of bactericidal activity and prolonged persistent effects both *in vitro* and *in vivo*
- **PK-PD Goal** of dosing : **Maximize Concentrations!**



Optimize peak (and AUC)

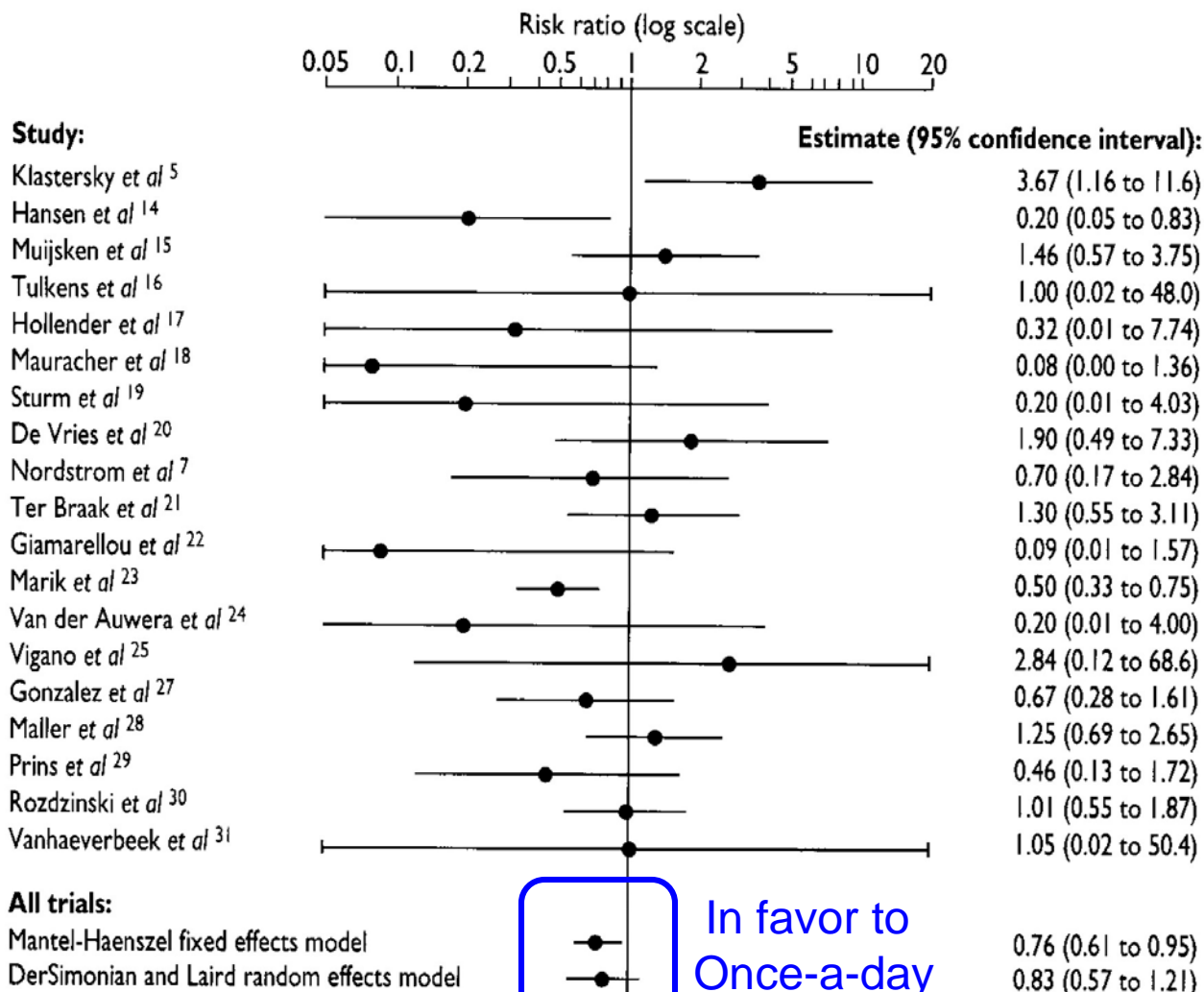


**Once-a-day  
administration !**



# Meta-analysis : Once-daily dosing has a lower risk of clinical failure

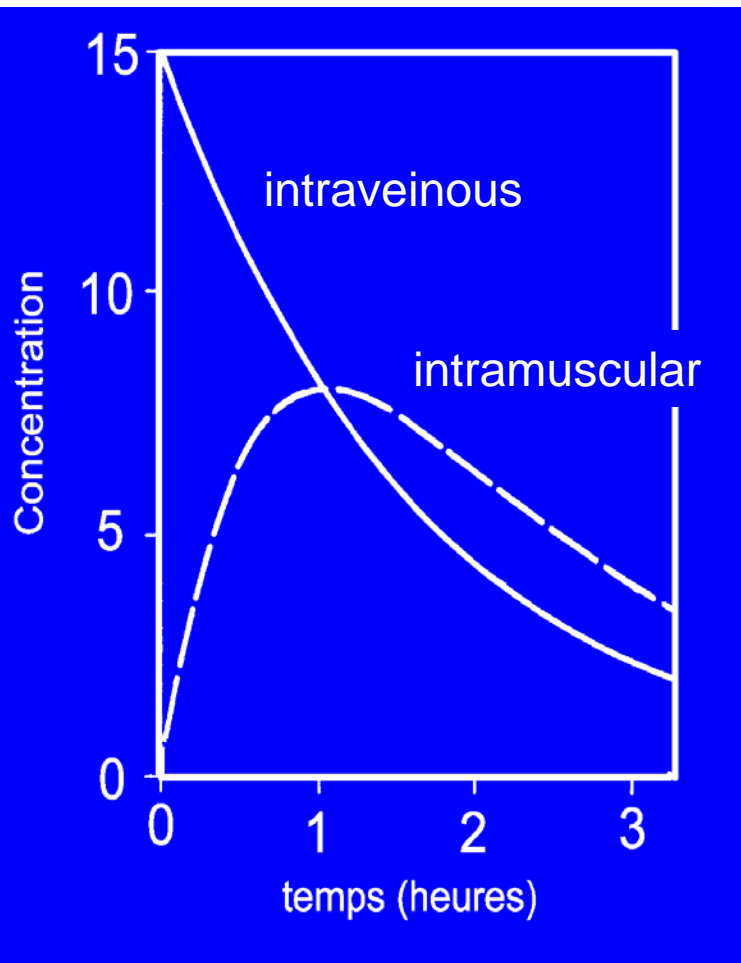
Favors once-a-day      Favors multiple dose



Barza *et al*, *BMJ* 1996; 312:338-344

# Dosing once-a-day in practice

**Peak/MIC > 8**



**1. adequate mode of administration**

➔ **i.v. administration**

**2. calculate the peak you need**

➔ **minimal peak = MIC x 8**

**3. calculate the dose you need**

$$\text{peak} = \text{dose} / V_d$$

➔ **dose = peak x  $V_d$**

# Finding the appropriate dose ...

increase the unit dose to get the appropriate peak !

$$\text{MIC} = 1 \text{ mg/L} \Rightarrow C_{\text{max}} = 8 \text{ mg/L} \Rightarrow 3 \text{ mg/kg}$$

$$\text{MIC} = 2 \text{ mg/L} \Rightarrow C_{\text{max}} = 16 \text{ mg/L} \Rightarrow 6 \text{ mg/kg} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{limit of G, T,} \\ \text{N ??} \end{array}$$

$$\text{MIC} = 4 \text{ mg/L} \Rightarrow C_{\text{max}} = 32 \text{ mg/L} \Rightarrow 15 \text{ mg/kg} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{limit of A, I} \\ \text{??} \end{array}$$

# Setting up the limits of efficacy

## Aminoglycosides 1st two rules of thumb...



anything with an MIC  $< 1 \mu\text{g/ml}$  will be treatable if in the indications...



efficacy may become a problem for MIC's

- $> 2 \mu\text{g/ml}$  for G, T, N ( up to 6 mg/kg )
- $> 4 \mu\text{g/ml}$  for A, I ( up to 15 mg/kg )

### PK / PD “safe” breakpoints for AG

- G, N, T :  $2 \mu\text{g / ml}$
- A / I :  $4 \mu\text{g / ml}$

# Setting up the limits of efficacy

## Aminoglycosides EUCAST breakpoints

### Enterobacteriaceae EUCAST Clinical Breakpoint Table v. 1.3 2011-01-05

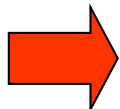
Aminoglycosides <sup>1</sup>	MIC breakpoint (mg/L)		Disk content (µg)	Zone diameter breakpoint (mm)	
	S ≤	R >		S ≥	R <
Amikacin	8	16	30	16	13
Gentamicin	2	4	10	17	14
Netilmicin	2	4	10	15	12
Tobramycin	2	4	10	16	13

#### Notes

Numbers for comments on MIC breakpoints

Letters for comments on disk diffusion

1. Aminoglycoside breakpoints are based on once-daily administration of high aminoglycoside dosages. Most often aminoglycosides are given in combination with beta-lactam agents.



# Setting up the limits of efficacy

## Aminoglycosides EUCAST breakpoints

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Netilmicin	2	4 •	10	15	12
Tobramycin	2	4 •	10	16	13

#### Notes

Numbers for comments on MIC breakpoints

Letters for comments on disk diffusion

1. Aminoglycoside breakpoints are based on once-daily administration of 15 mg/kg. Aminoglycosides are given in combination with beta-lactam agents.

amikacin may be given  
at very high doses  
reasonably safely

# Setting up the limits of efficacy

## Aminoglycosides EUCAST breakpoints

*Pseudomonas* spp.

Aminoglycosides <sup>1</sup>	MIC breakpoint (mg/L)		Disk content (µg)	Zone diameter breakpoint (mm)	
	S ≤	R >		S ≥	R <
Amikacin	8	16	30	18	15
Gentamicin	4	4	10	15	15
Netilmicin	4	4	10	12	12
Tobramycin	4	4	10	16	16

### Notes

Numbers for comments on MIC breakpoints

Letters for comments on disk diffusion

1. Aminoglycoside breakpoints are based on once-daily administration of aminoglycosides are given in combination with beta-lactam agents.

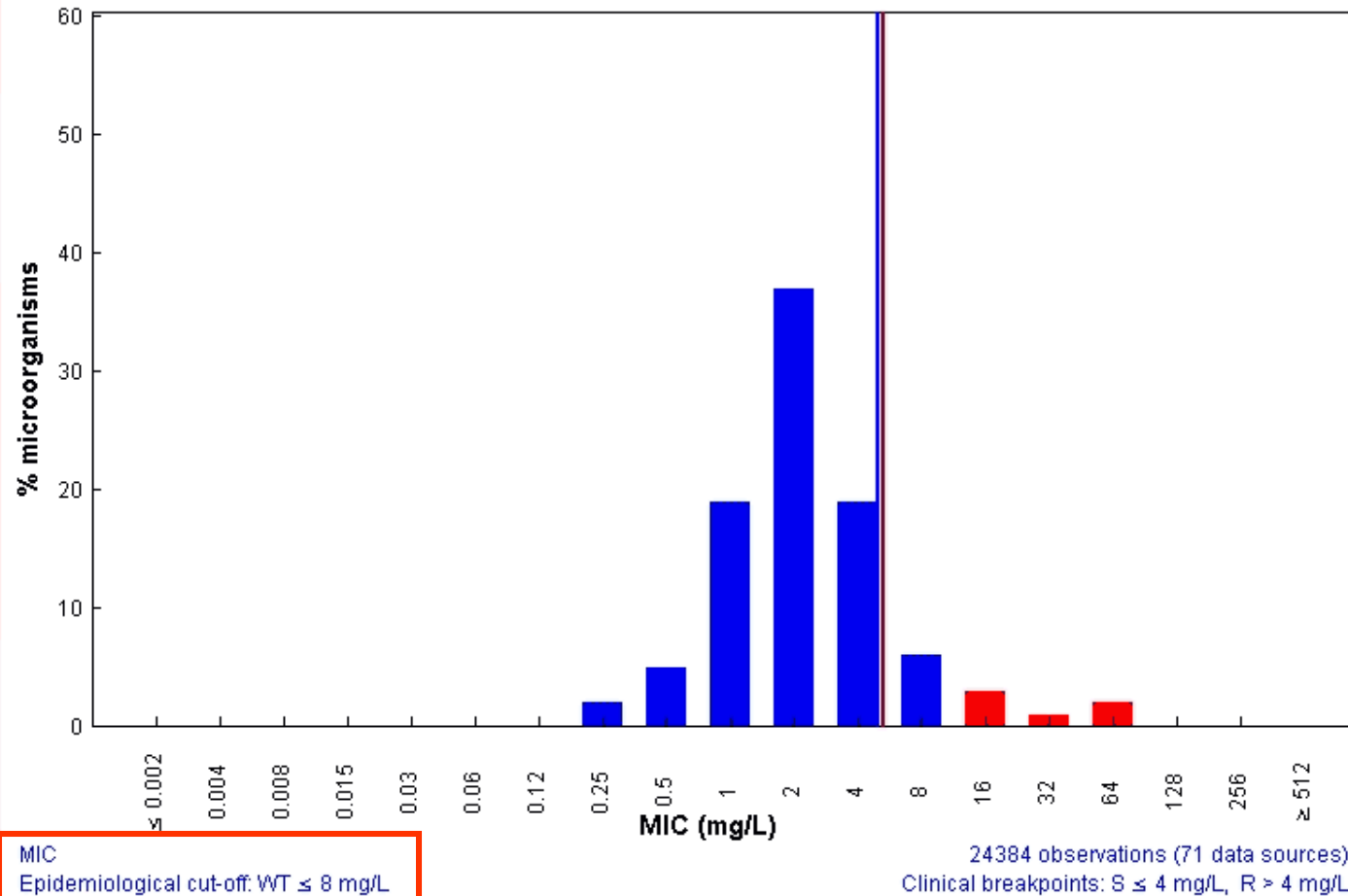
This is to avoid splitting the wild type population in two



# EUCAST MIC distributions

## Gentamicin / *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* EUCAST MIC Distribution - Reference Database 2011-10-03

MIC distributions include collated data from multiple sources, geographical areas and time periods and can never be used to infer rates of resistance





## 2. Reducing toxicity based on PK-PD

# The basis of the once-a-day schedule

- gentamicin enters proximal tubular cells by megalin- and acid phospholipids mediated pinocytosis and ends up in lysosomes
- a minor part escapes lysosomes either by membrane destabilization (our hypothesis) or by retrograde transport (Molitoris' hypothesis) to reach the cytosol and the mitochondria ... where it induces apoptosis and other toxic disturbances...
- you could prevent toxicity either
  - by impairing the pinocytic uptake of aminoglycosides, or making an aminoglycoside that does not bind to megalin...
    - ➔ block or avoid step one ...
  - developing an that does not destabilize lysosomes and/or does not cause apoptosis ...
    - ➔ block step 2 and/or its consequences...

# Making use of this knowledge to protect patients ...

1008 MINIREVIEWS

ANTIMICROB. AGENTS CHEMOTHER.

TABLE 2. Main approaches toward reduction of aminoglycoside nephrotoxicity<sup>a</sup>

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Mechanism

Compound

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Mingeot & Tulkens, Antimicrob. Agents Chemother. 43:1003-1012, 1999

TABLE 2. Main approaches toward reduction of aminoglycoside nephrotoxicity<sup>a</sup>

Mechanism	Compound
<b>I. Decrease or prevention of drug accumulation by kidneys</b>	
Intracellular complexation of aminoglycosides	
Polyanionic compounds	Dextran sulfate (59) Inositol hexasulfate (67)
Acidic drugs	Piperacillin (44) Latamoxef-moxalactam (68) Fosfomycin (33, 54) Pyridoxal-5'-phosphate (114)
Competition with or decrease in aminoglycoside binding to brush border membrane	
Raising the urine pH	Bicarbonate (19, 29)
Competitors	Ca <sup>2+</sup> (diet supplementation [51] or vitamin D-induced hypercalcaemia [21]) Lysine (81) Aminoglycosides (as their own competitors) (39)
Increase in exocytosis	Floxacin (9)
<b>II. Prevention or decrease of lysosomal phospholipase inhibition</b>	
Derivatives with lesser intrinsic binding <sup>b</sup>	
N substitution	Amikacin (75), isepamicin (133), arbekacin, <sup>c</sup> 1-N- and 6-N-peptidic and aminoacid derivative of kanamycin A and neilmicin (72)
Other substitution	6'-substituted kanamycin B (88)
Fluorinated derivatives <sup>c</sup>	5, 3'' or 3' fluoro derivatives of tobramycin, dibekacin, arbekacin, or kanamycin <sup>c</sup>
Disaccharidic aminoglycosides	Astromicin (fortimicin) (73) Dactimicin (2-N'-formidoyl-astromicin) (53, 73)
Coadministration of agent preventing intralysosomal phospholipidosis	
Intralysosomal sequestration of aminoglycosides	Polyaspartic acid (55, 62)
Increase of membrane negative charge	Daptomycin (41)
Other	Tortafylline (32)
<b>III. Protection against necrosis and other gross cellular alterations</b>	
Antioxidants	
	Deferrosamine (11) Methimazole (24) Sairei-to (94) Vitamin E + selenium, vitamin C (1, 57) Lower copper feeding (58)
Antioxidant and multifactorial factors	Lipoic acid (107)
<b>IV. Protection against vascular and glomerular effects</b>	
Suppression of renin-angiotensin activation	Dexycortisone and saline drinking (45)
Protection against Ca <sup>2+</sup> influx	Ca <sup>2+</sup> channel blockers (80)
Undefined mechanism	Platelet activation antagonists (104)
<b>V. Increase in kidney regeneration capabilities</b>	
Unspecific mitogenic effect	Ulinastatin (92)
Growth factors	Fibroblast growth factor 2 (78) Heparin-binding epidermal growth factor (106)

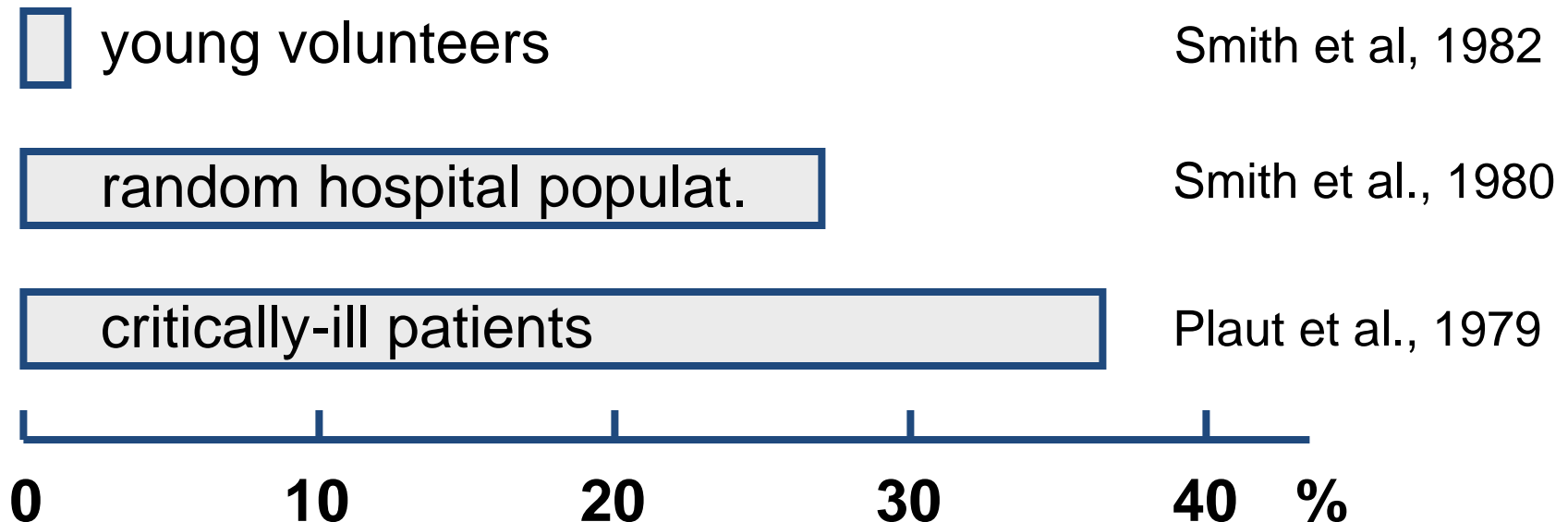
<sup>a</sup> References refer to publications dealing with the proposed mechanism; see text for further details on the extent and characterization of the protection.<sup>b</sup> See reference 83 for structures.<sup>c</sup> Mechanism is assumed on the basis of the substitution made (see reference 83 for a discussion and references to original papers), but it has not actually examined.

# A long list...

Mingeot & Tulkens,  
Antimicrob. Agents  
Chemother. 43:1003-  
1012, 1999

# Aminoglycosides nephrotoxicity incidence is highly variable among patient populations

Patients with nephrotoxic reaction after treatment with gentamicin



# High doses in animals cause renal necrosis, tubular dysfunction, and renal failure associated with regeneration

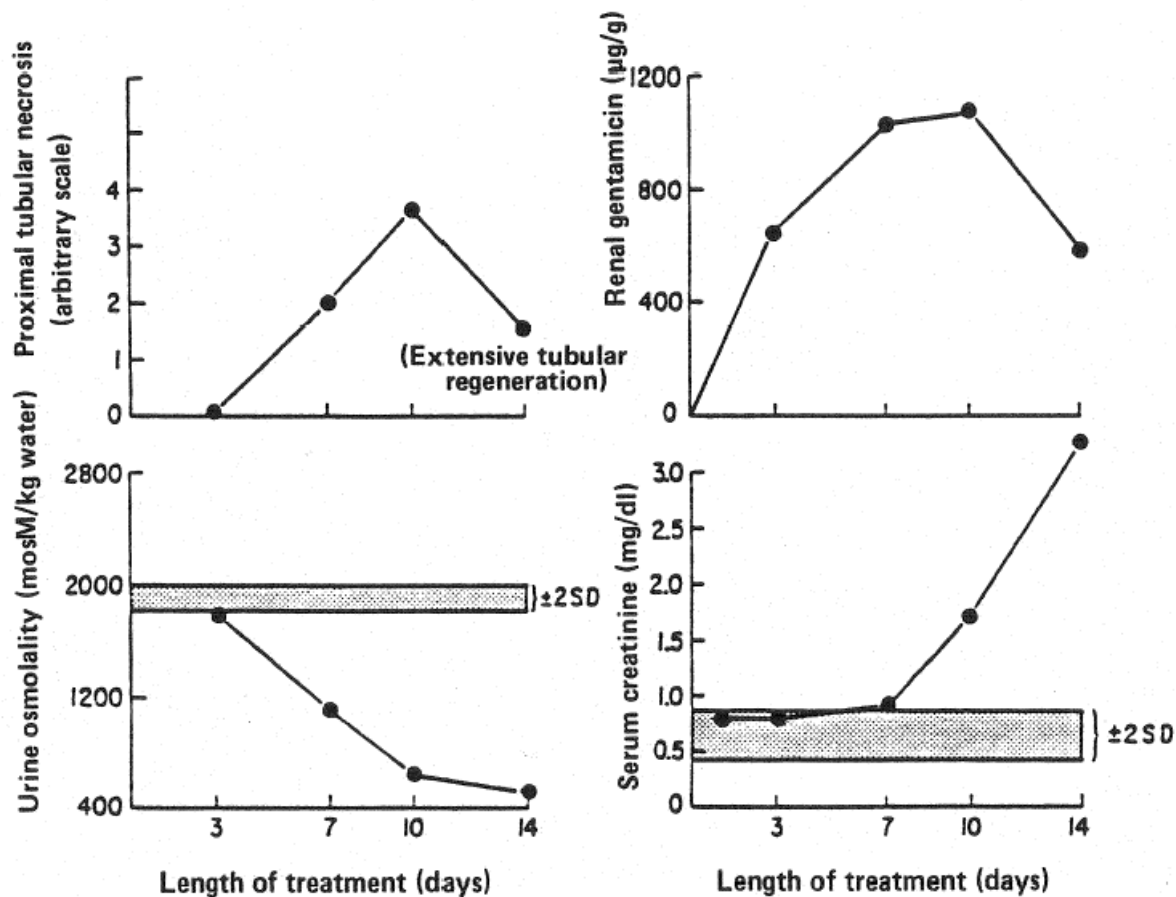
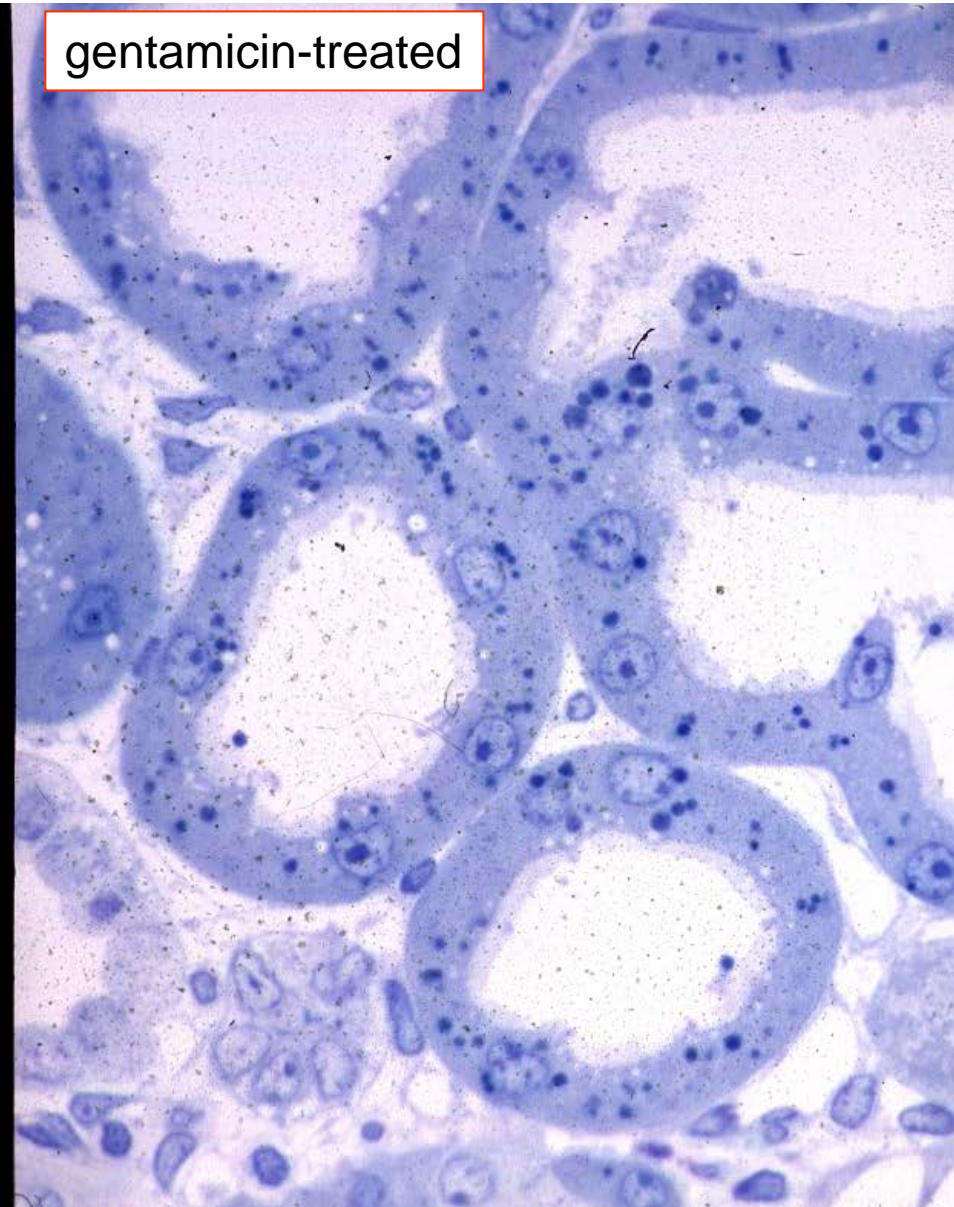
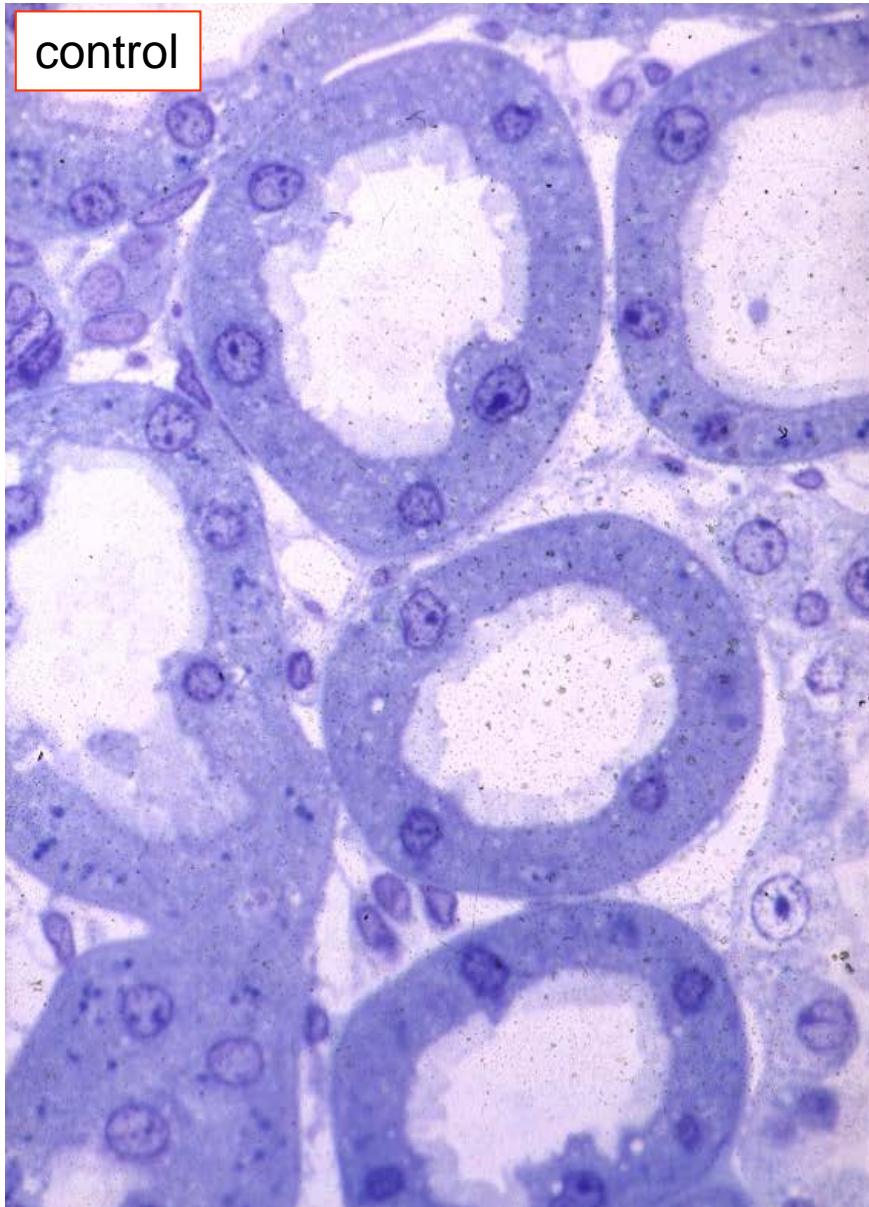


Fig. 1. Renal changes in Fischer 344 rats after gentamicin (40 mg/kg per day in two injections per day).

From Ref. 13.

13 Parker, R.A., Bennett, W.H. and Porter, G.A. (1982) Animal models in the study of aminoglycoside nephrotoxicity. In: A. Whelton and H.C. Neu (Eds.), *The Aminoglycosides: Microbiology, Clinical Use and Toxicology*. Marcel Dekker, New York, pp. 235-267.

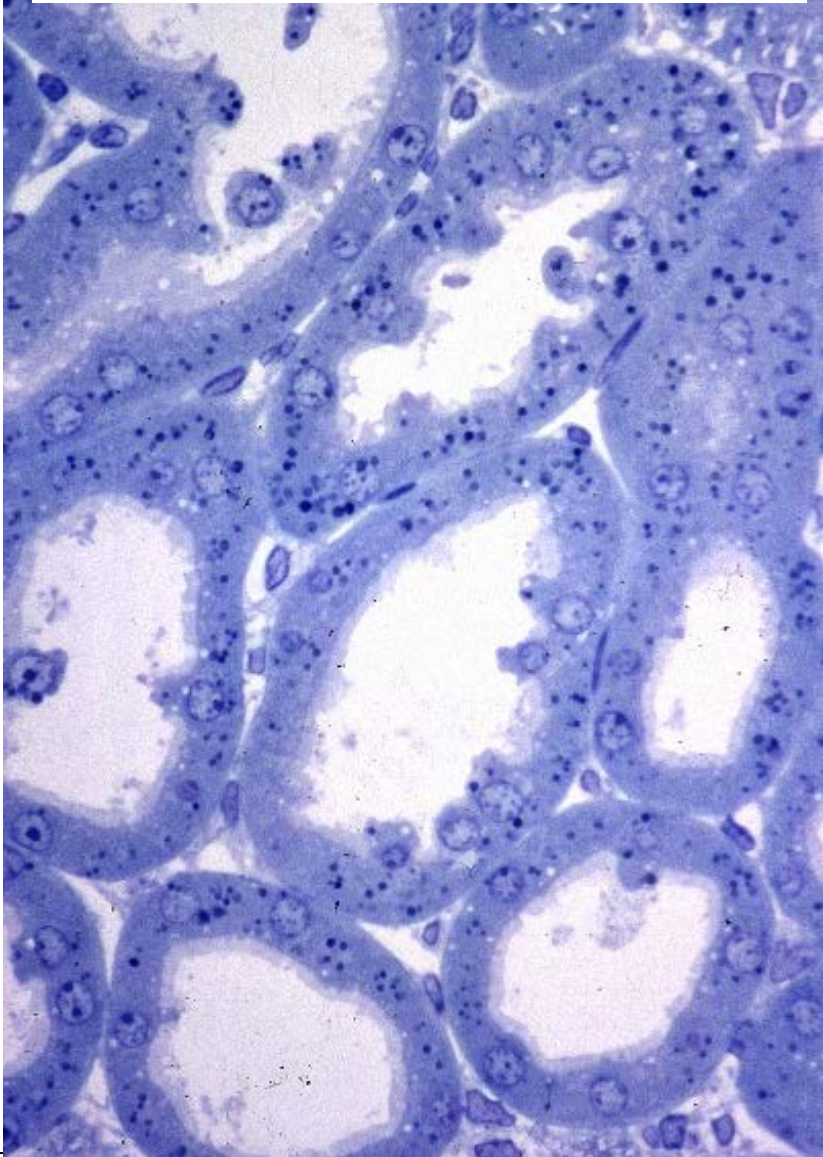
# Looking at the kidney with "plastic sections"



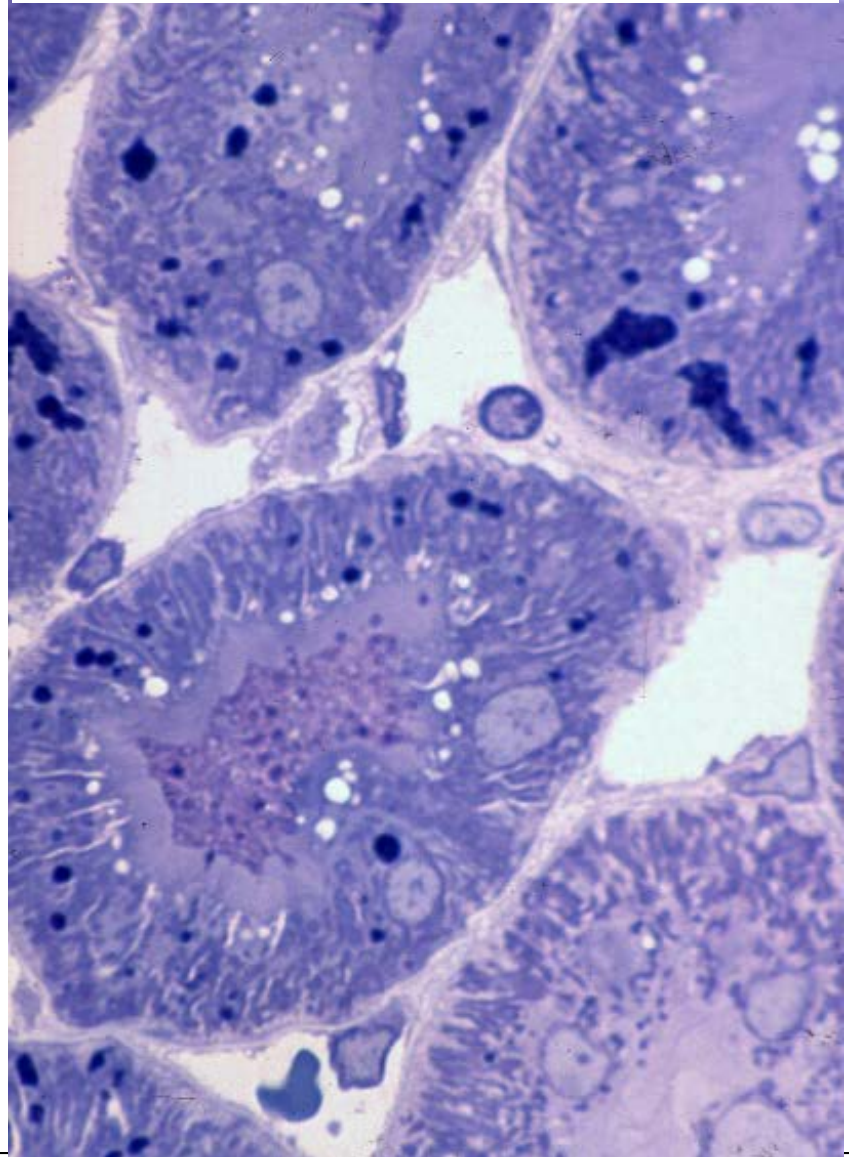


# What does happen in the kidney proximal tubules ?

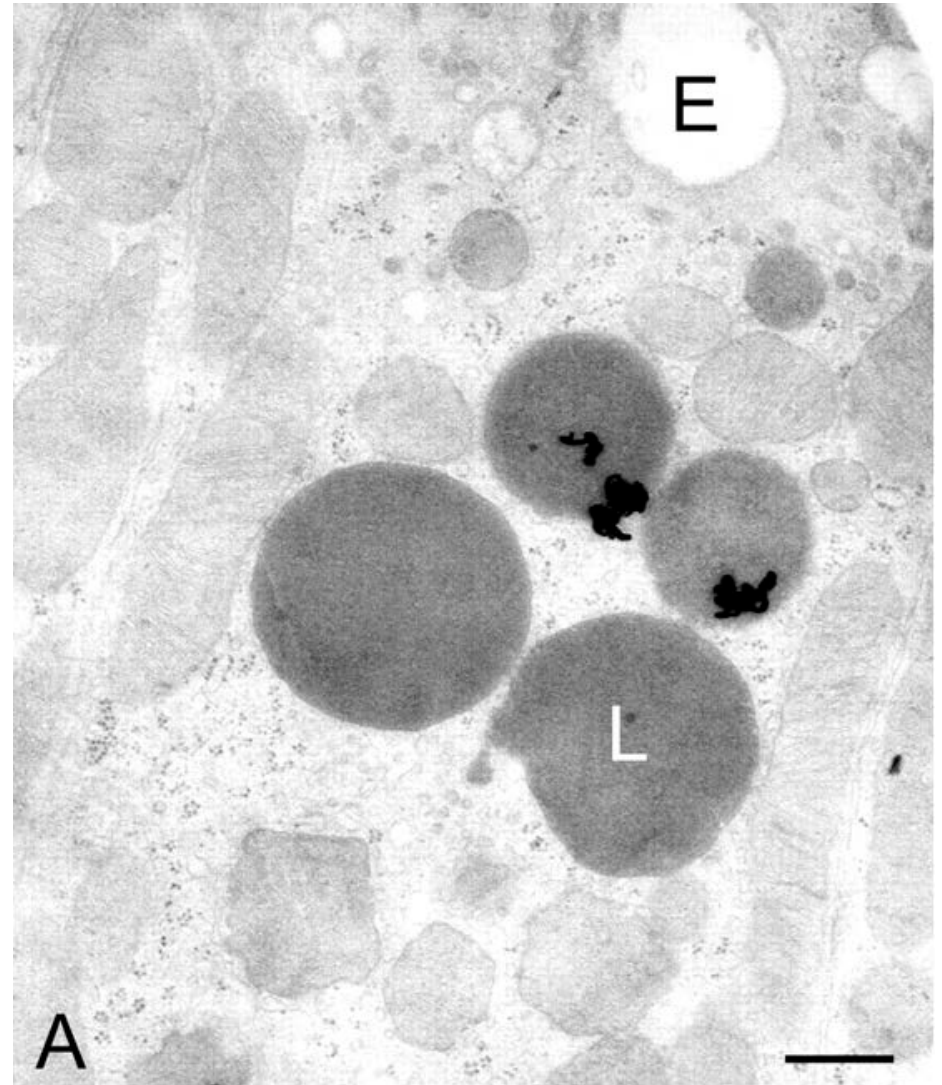
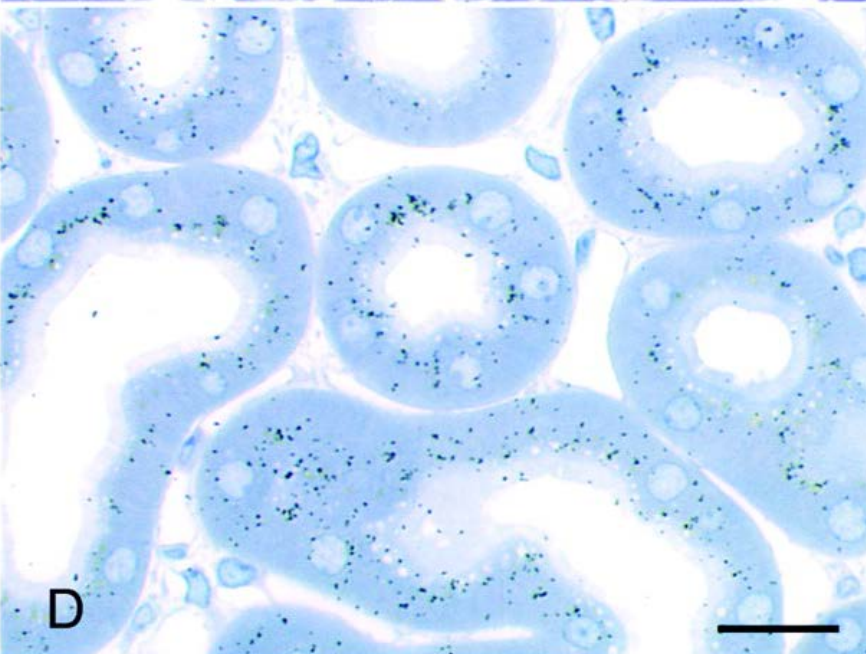
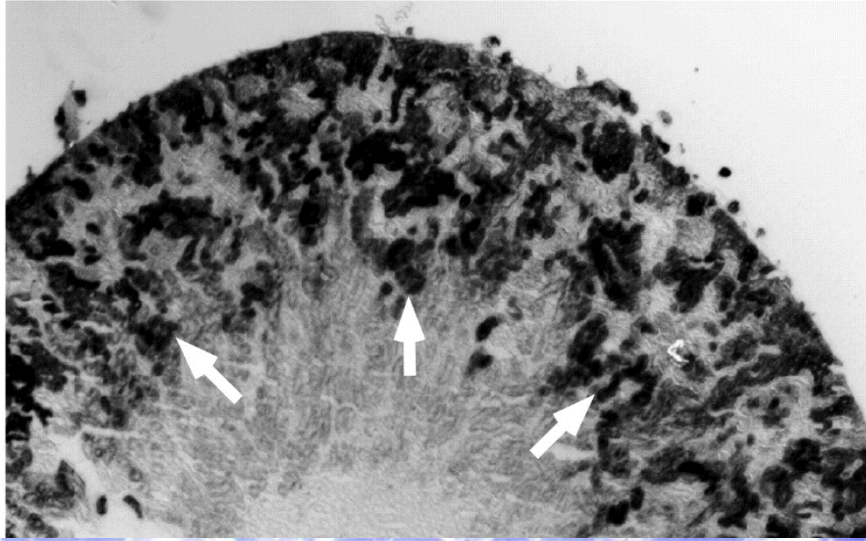
gentamicin-treated: perfused kidney



gentamicin-treated: unperfused kidney

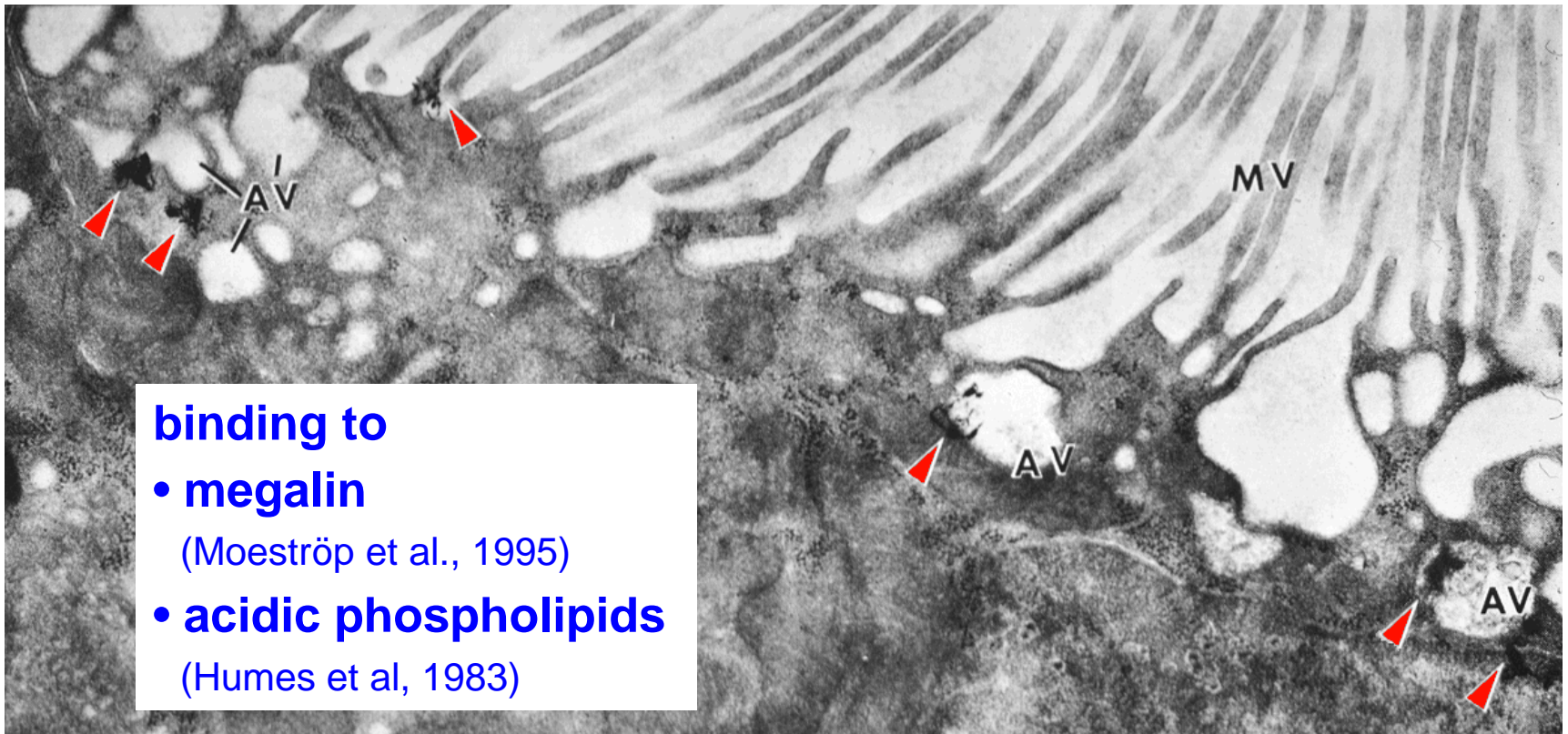


# Gentamicin accumulates in lysosomes of proximal tubular cells



Schmitz et al., J. Biol. Chem. 277:618-622, 2002

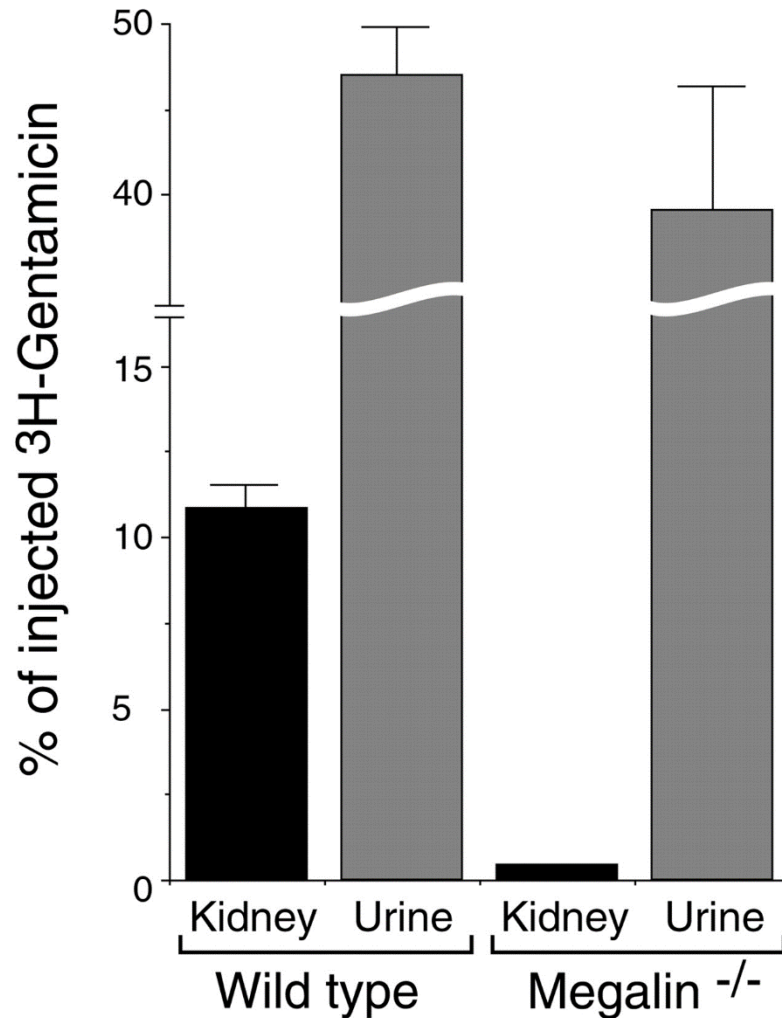
# Aminoglycoside entry in proximal tubular cells is via brush border binding...



Just *et al*, Naunym Schmied. Arch. Pharmacol, 1977

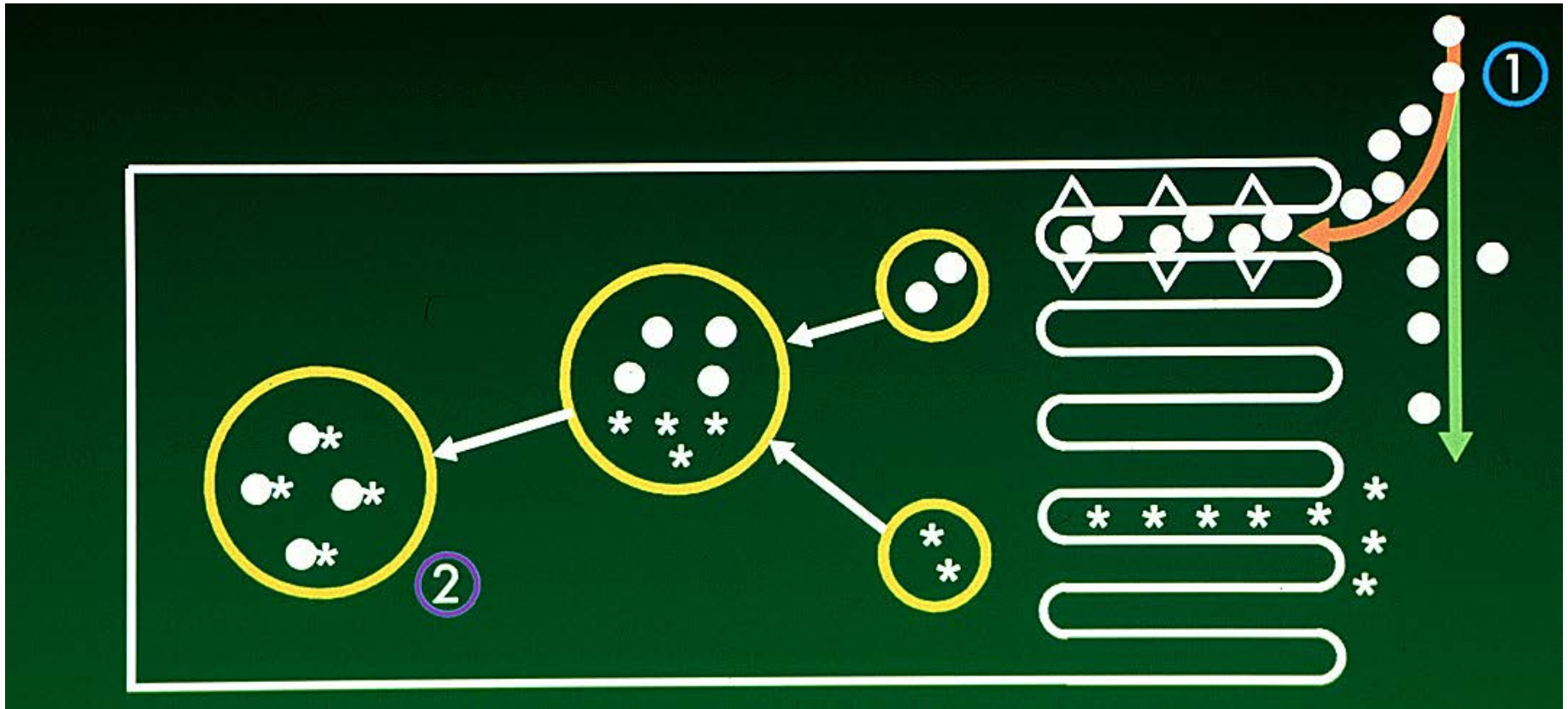
Silverblatt & Kuehen, Kidney Intern., 1979

# Mice deficient in megalin do not accumulate gentamicin in kidney



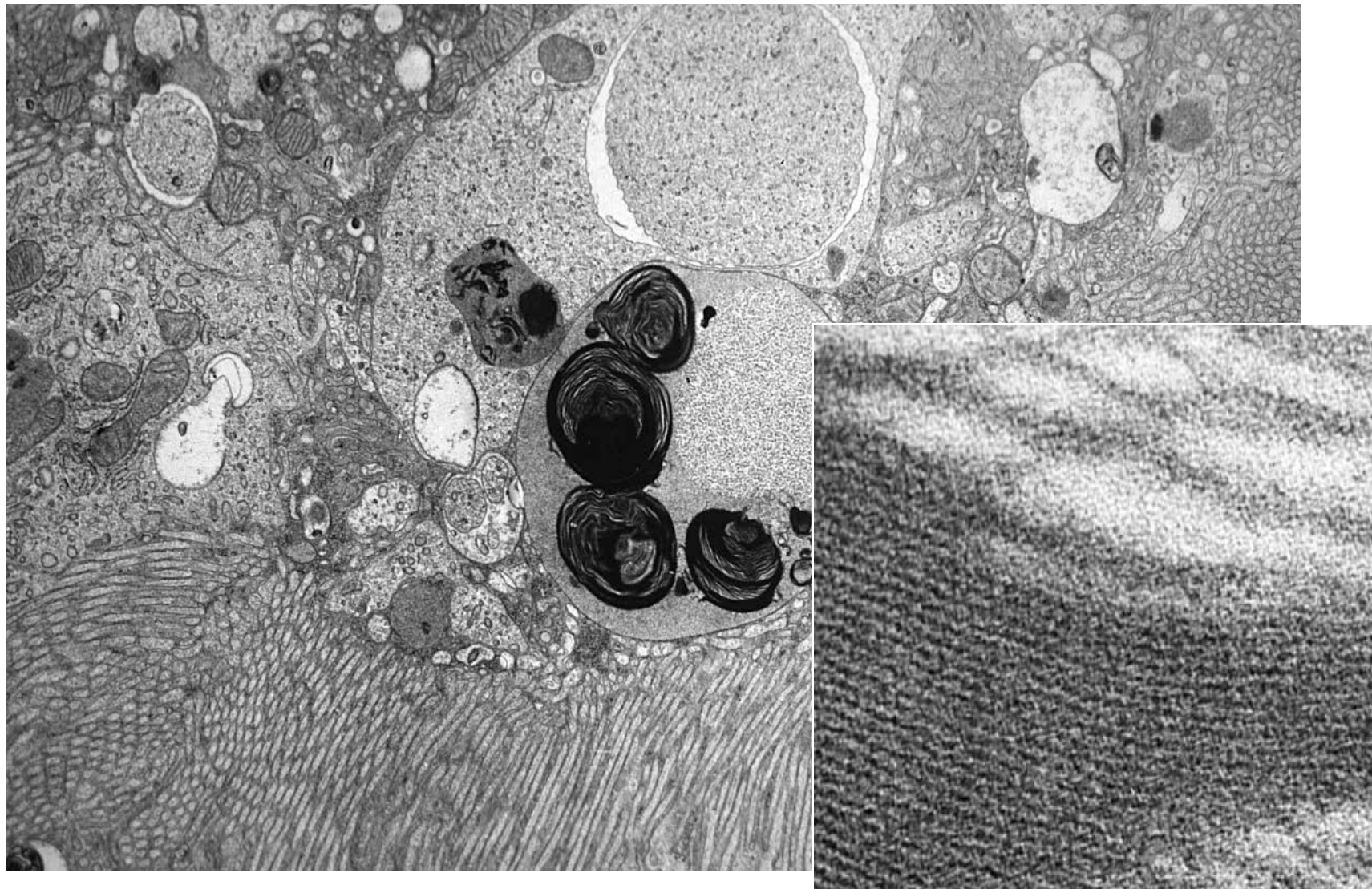
Schmitz et al., J. Biol. Chem.  
277:618-622, 2002

# Mechanism of uptake



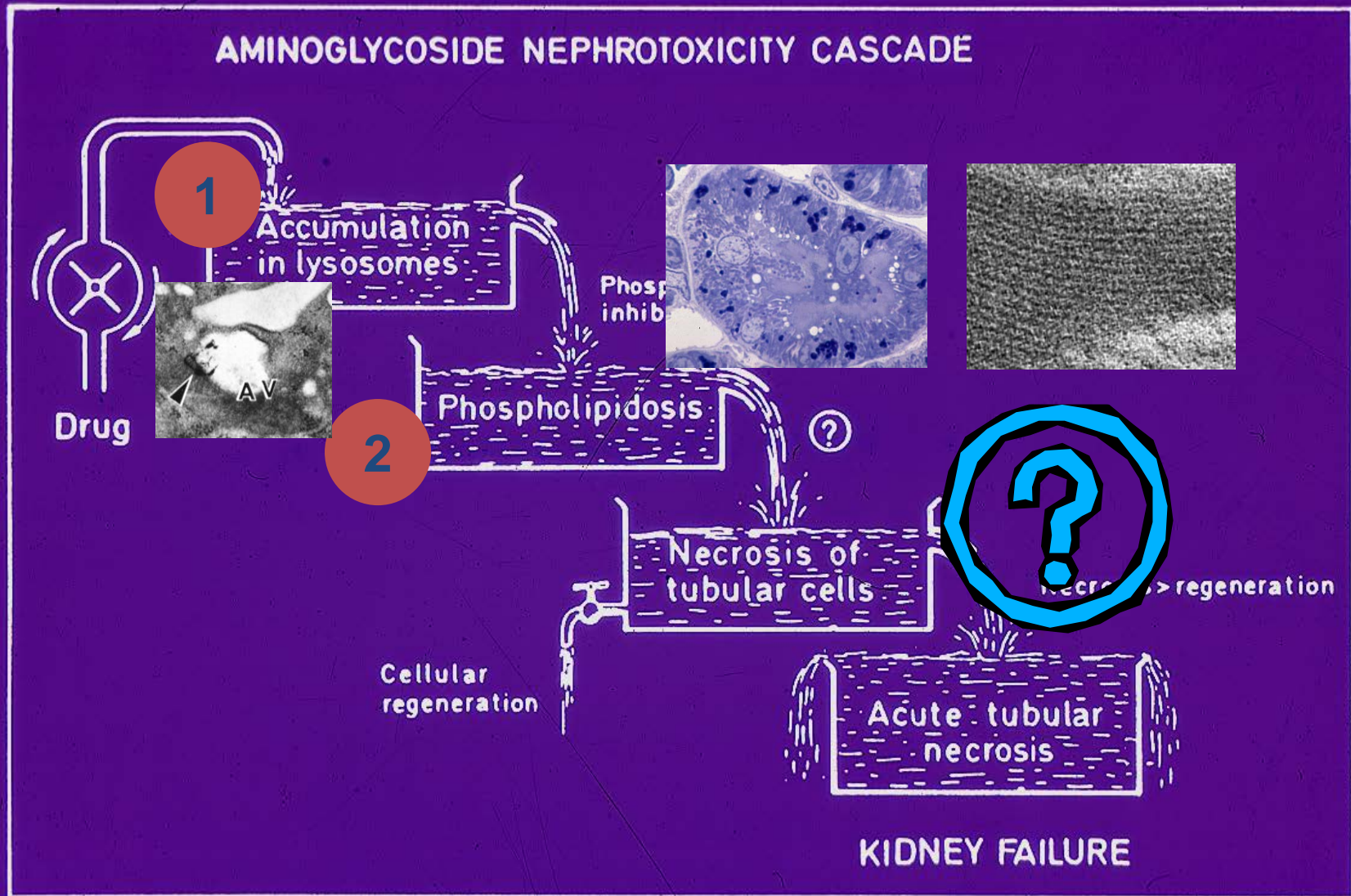
1. binding to brush border
2. accumulation in lysosomes

# Intralysosomal gentamicin binds to phospholipids and causes phospholipidosis



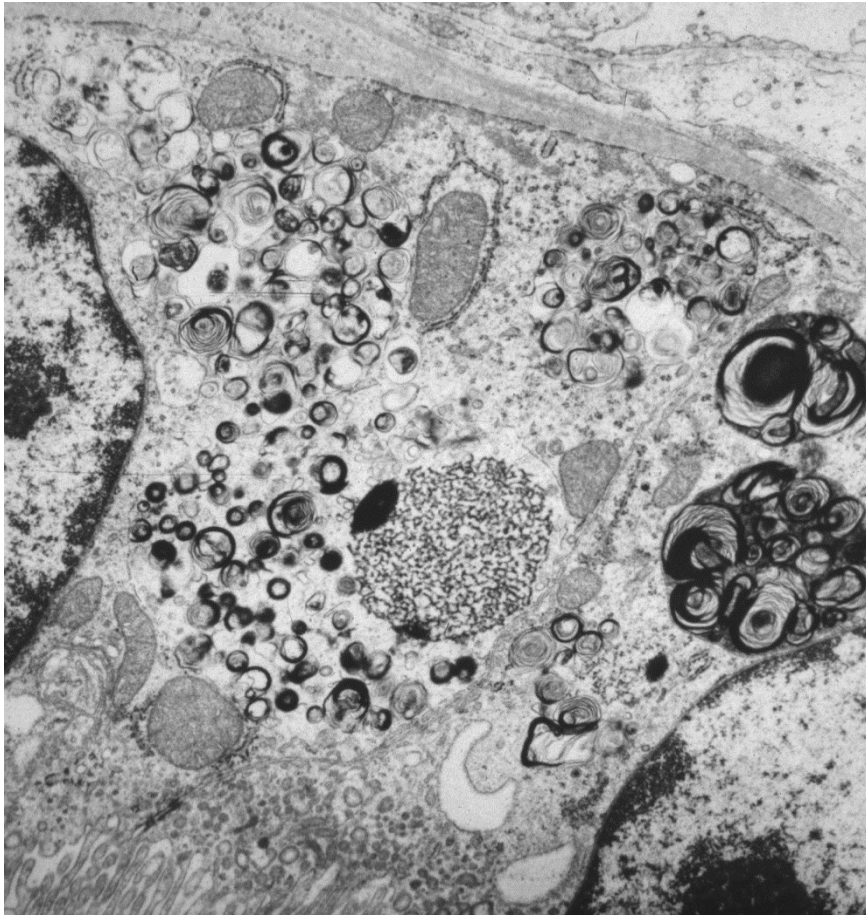
Tulkens, Am. J. Med. 80:105-114, 1986

# A first global hypothesis ?...

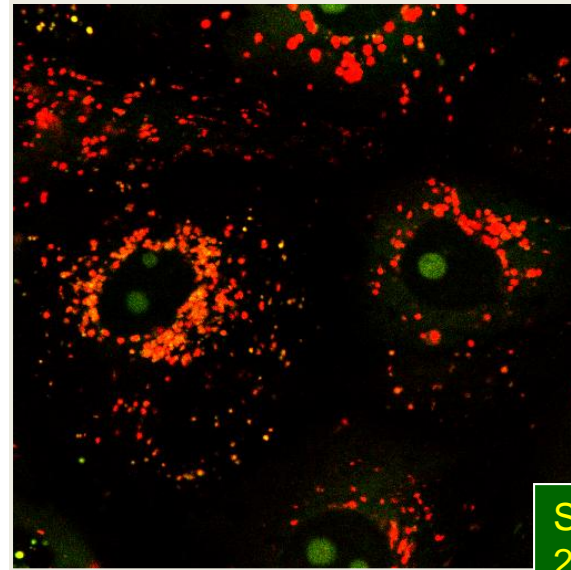


From: Tulkens, 1986 Amer. J Med. 80(Suppl 6B);105-114

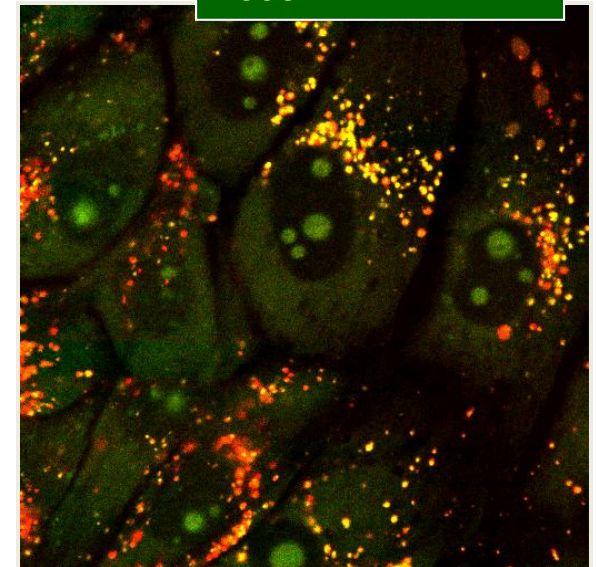
# Could lysosomal rupture cause apoptosis and necrosis ?



Maldague et al., 1983



Servais et al., 2006





## The current hypothesis...

- gentamicin enters proximal tubular cells by megalin- and acid phospholipids mediated pinocytosis and ends up in lysosomes
- a minor part escapes lysosomes either by membrane destabilization (our hypothesis) or by retrograde transport (Molitoris' hypothesis) to reach the cytosol and the mitochondria ... where it induces apoptosis and other toxic disturbances...

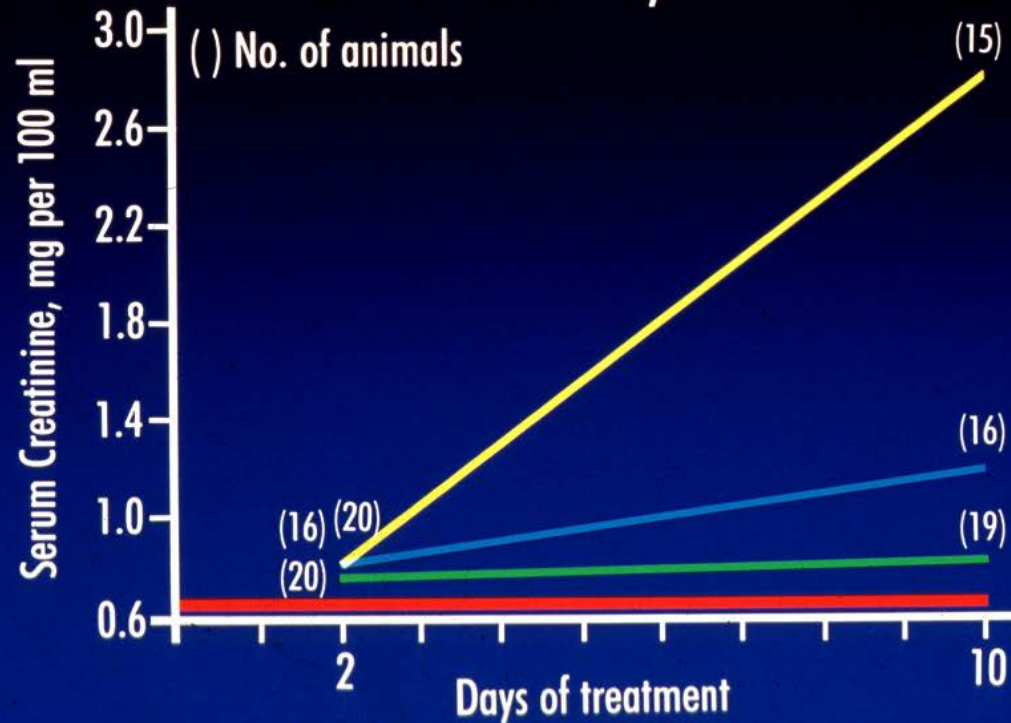
Reducing uptake by the kidney would result in reduced toxicity !



**Once-a-day administration**

# Aminoglycoside toxicity is not linked to peak ...

Serum concentration of creatinine (mean  $\pm$  SE) in rats after administration of 40 mg of gentamicin/kg per day in one, two, or three doses for two and 10 days.

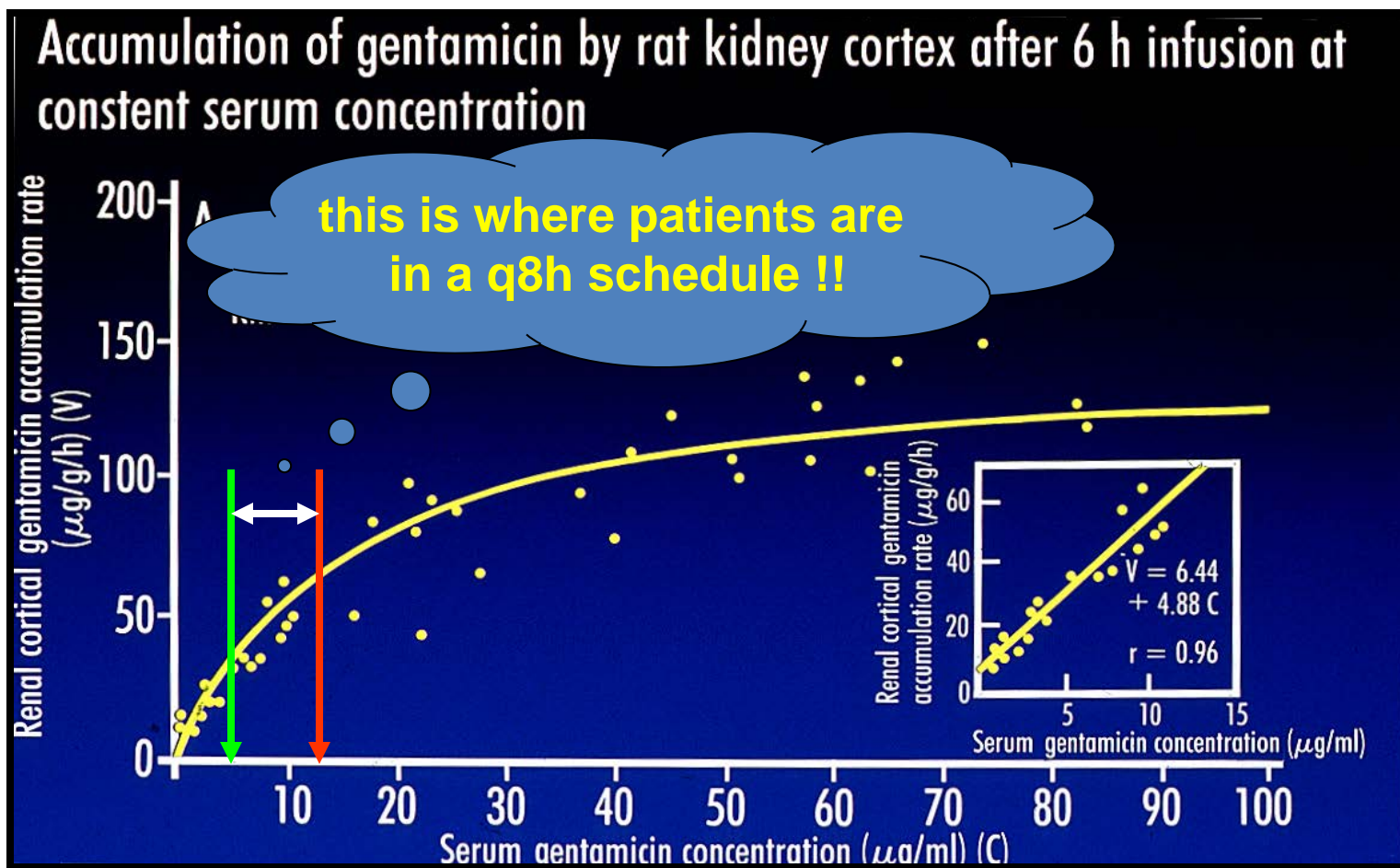


From Bennett et al, J. Infect. Dis., 1979

**daily dose  
divided in :**

- Three doses/day
- Two doses/day
- One dose/day
- Serum Creatinine  
Mean  $\pm$  2 SE for  
77 Control Rats

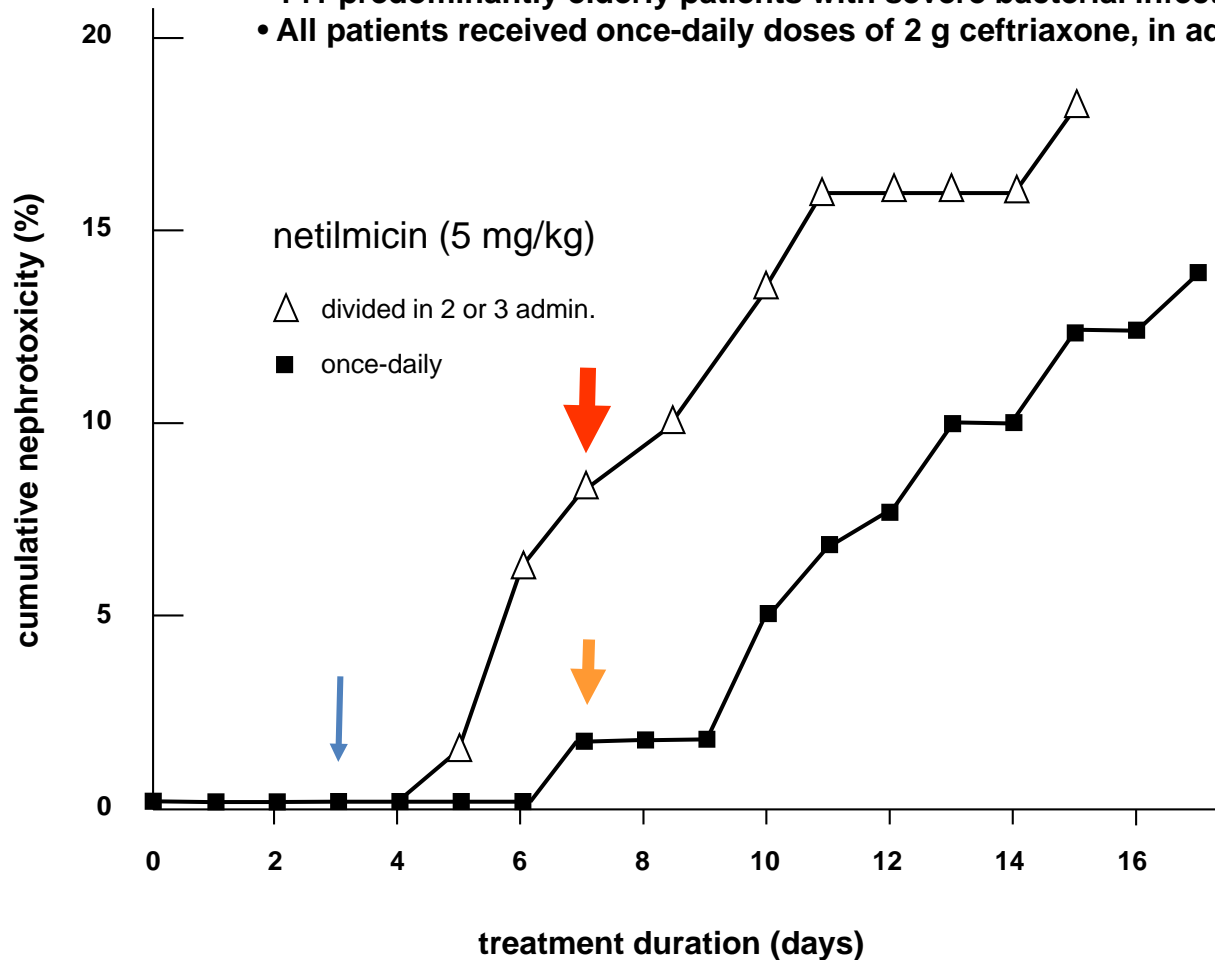
# Aminoglycoside accumulation in kidney is saturable at clinically meaningful concentrations ...



Giuliano *et al.*, J. Pharm. Exp. Ther., 1986

# Nephrotoxicity and schedule of administration ... the first large scale clinical trial

- 141 predominantly elderly patients with severe bacterial infections.
- All patients received once-daily doses of 2 g ceftriaxone, in addition to netilmicin.



"Netilmicin-induced toxicity may be reduced by using once-daily dosing regimens and limiting the duration of treatment."

ter Braak et al., Am J Med. 1990 Jul;89(1):58-66.

# And auditory alterations ...



no. of patients [over 20 in each group] with lesions\* and total no. of frequencies affected

low tone (0.25-8 kHz)

high tone (10-18 kHz)

amikacin

- q24h
- q12h

1 (1)

0

3 (4)

6 (6)

netilmicin

- q24h
- q8h

0

2 (3)

3 (7)

8 (9)

this is where most of the toxicity is ...

\* loss of 15dB or more over baseline(max. loss recorded: 30 dB)

Tulkens *et al.*, 1989

## Avoiding (or reducing) the toxicity

### Aminoglycosides 3d rule of thumb...



**give them once-a-day to reduce toxicity**

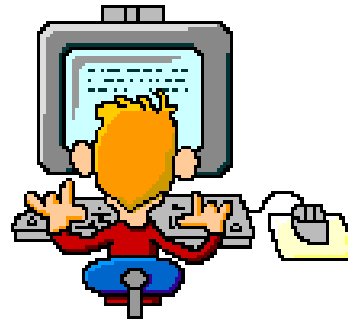
- **1h peaks of 12-18  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  for G, T, N**
- **1h peaks of 20-30  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  for A, I**

**Increase interval (  $\rightarrow$  36h,  $\rightarrow$  48h)  
in case of renal failure  
before reducing the unit dose...**

**Once-daily dosing of  
aminoglycoside antibiotics**

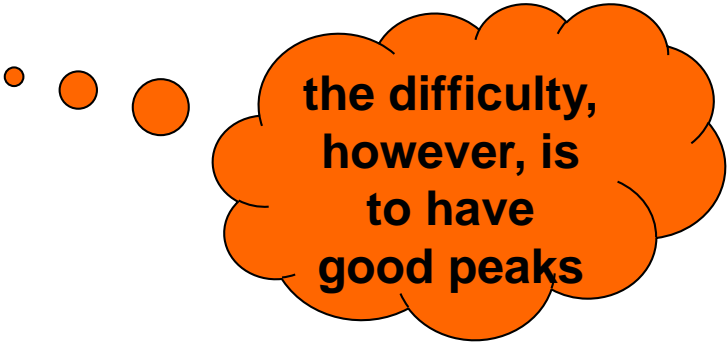
Fisman, DN; Beth Israel Deaconess  
Med Ctr; Div Infect Dis; Harvard  
Univ, Sch Publ Hlth, INFECTIOUS-  
DISEASE-CLINICS-OF-NORTH-  
AMERICA. JUN 2000

# 3. Monitoring



# Monitoring recommendations for the once-a-day...: peak and trough values...

- peak (1h post infusion)
  - G, T, N : 18 - 24 mg/l
  - A, I : 25 - 50 mg/L
- trough (before next dose)
  - G, T, N : < 1 mg/ L
  - A, I : < 2 mg/L



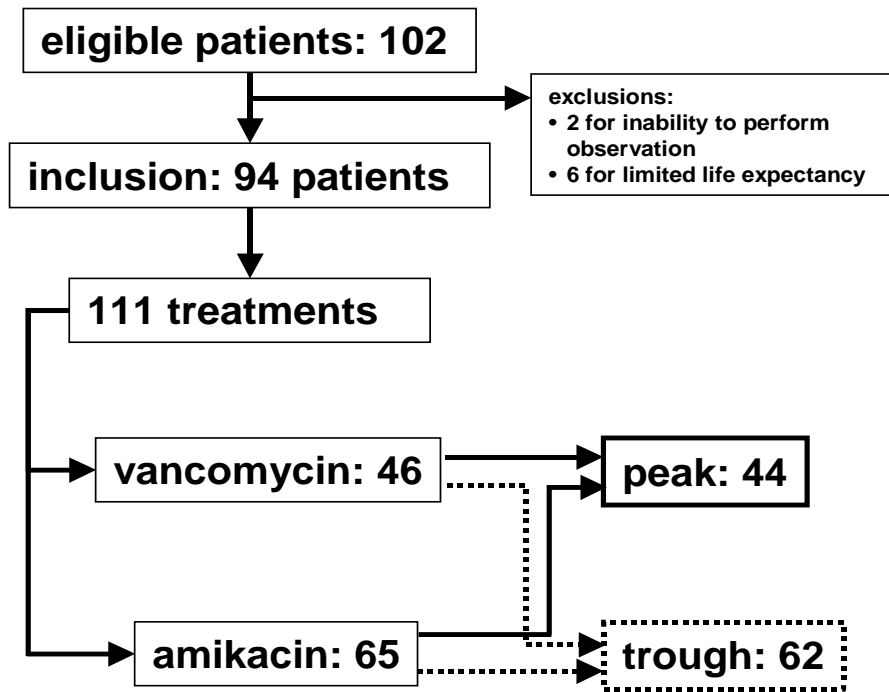
the difficulty, however, is to have good peaks

Monitoring is probably unnecessary for short duration therapies... except for efficacy...



# Do not minimize the difficulties of a "good peak"

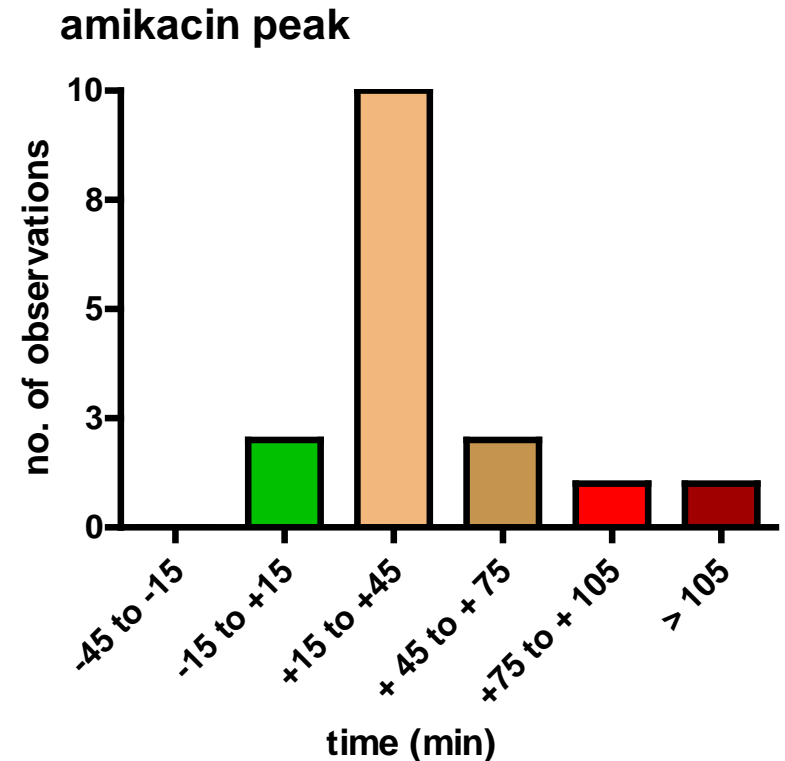
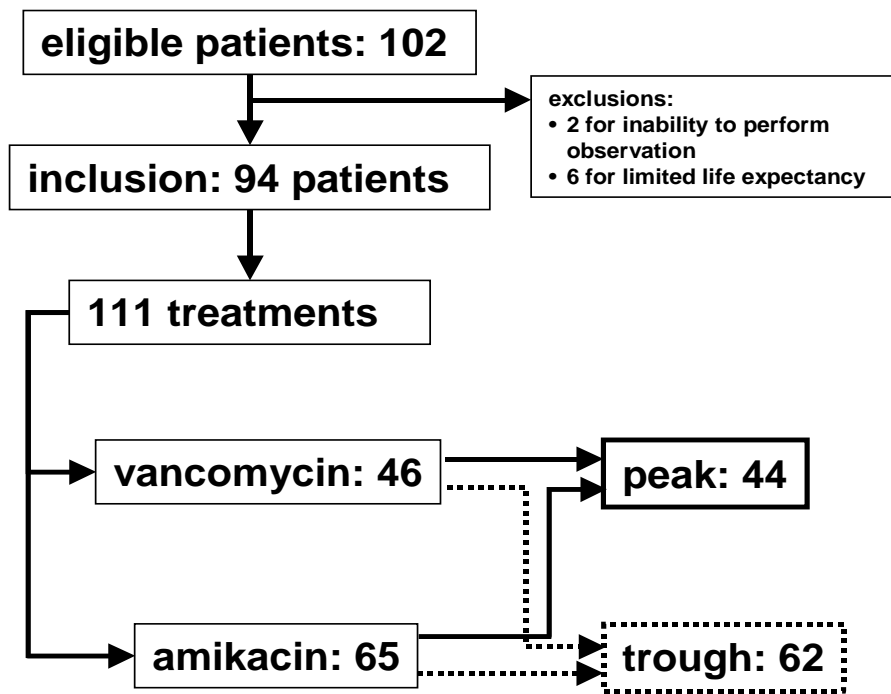
A "Clinical Pharmacy" study about the peak and trough levels of alikacin in a Belgian University Hospital



Ampe *et al.*, in preparation

# Do not minimize the difficulties of a "good peak"

A "Clinical Pharmacy" study about the peak and trough levels of amikacin in a Belgian University Hospital



Ampe *et al.*, in preparation

# Points to consider for a "good peak"

1. the "time" of the real peak is highly dependent of your rate of infusion

## Data for amikacin:

$D = 15 \text{ mg/kg}$

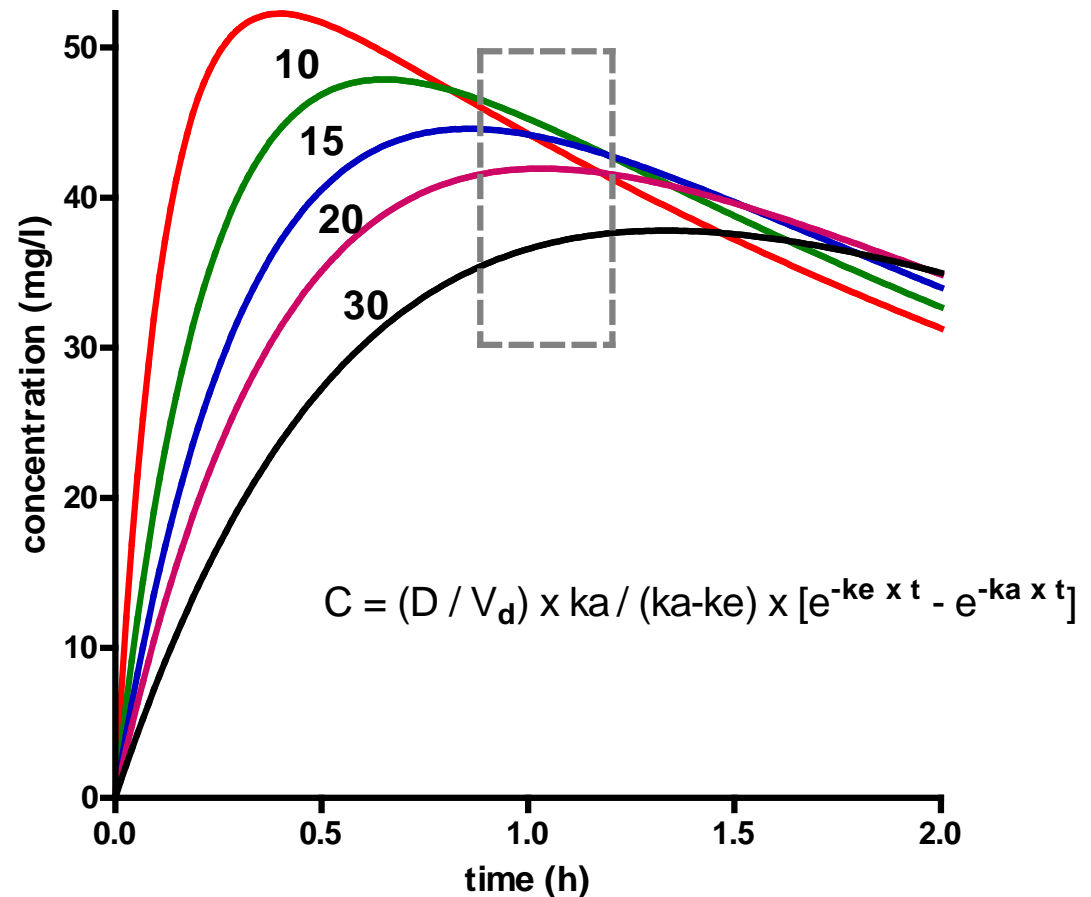
$V_d = 0.25 \text{ L/kg}$

$k_a = \text{variable}$

$k_e = 0.346 \text{ h}^{-1}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 2\text{h}$ )

aminoglycoside:  
influence of rate of administration on the "1h peak"

$T_{1/2}$  in min = 5



# Points to consider for a "good peak"

2. and the timing of the sample is even more critical

## Data for amikacin:

$D = 15 \text{ mg/kg}$

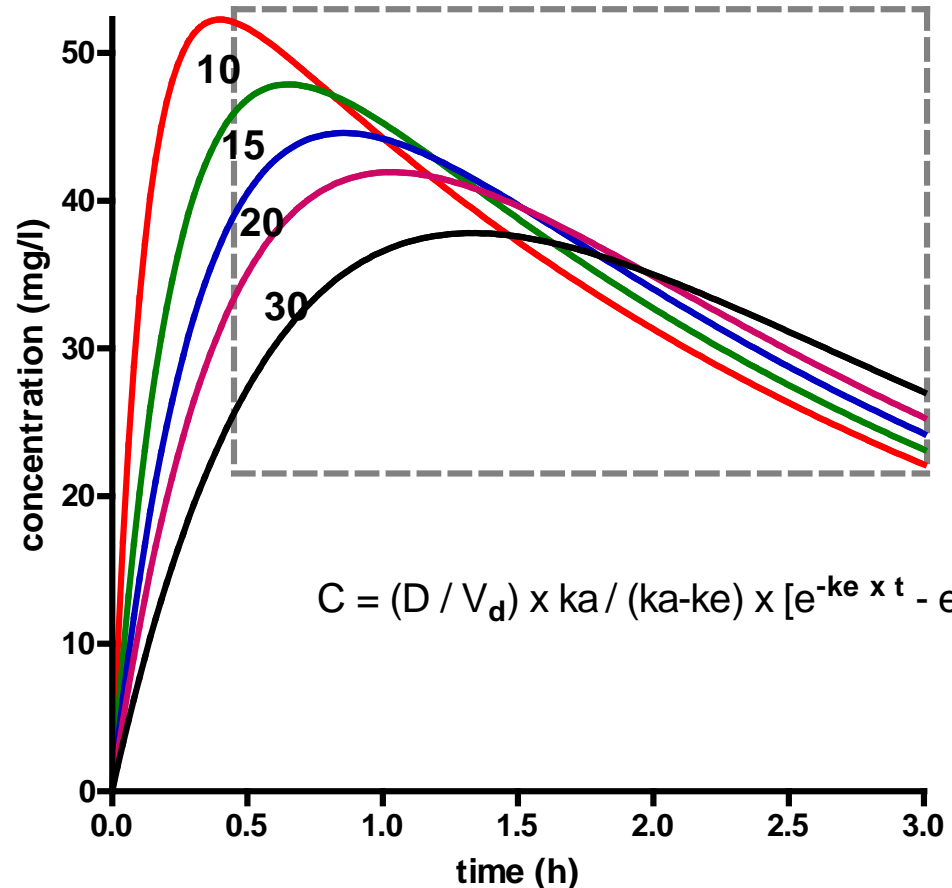
$V_d = 0.25 \text{ L/kg}$

$k_a = \text{variable}$

$k_e = 0.346 \text{ h}^{-1}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 2\text{h}$ )

aminoglycoside:  
influence of actual timing of sample on the "1h peak"

$T_{1/2}$  in min = 5



# The American Approach: Look for 8 h ...

All that is less  
variable at 8 h !

aminoglycoside:  
impact of infusion rate at 8h

$T_{1/2}$  in min = 5 to 30 min

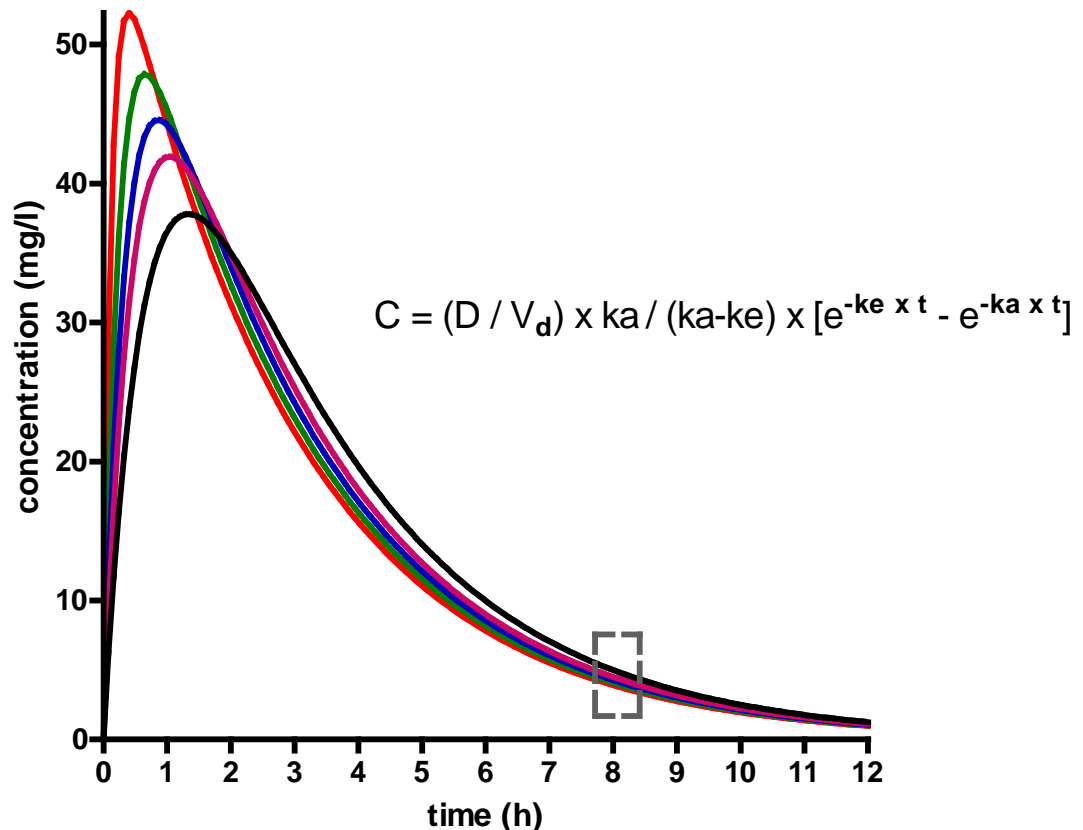
Data for amikacin:

$D = 15 \text{ mg/kg}$

$V_d = 0.25 \text{ L/kg}$

$ka = \text{variable}$

$ke = 0.346 \text{ h}^{-1}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 2\text{h}$ )



# The American Approach: Look for 8 h

aminoglycoside:  
impact of infusion rate at 8h

Still some variation  
but will less influence  
the calculation....

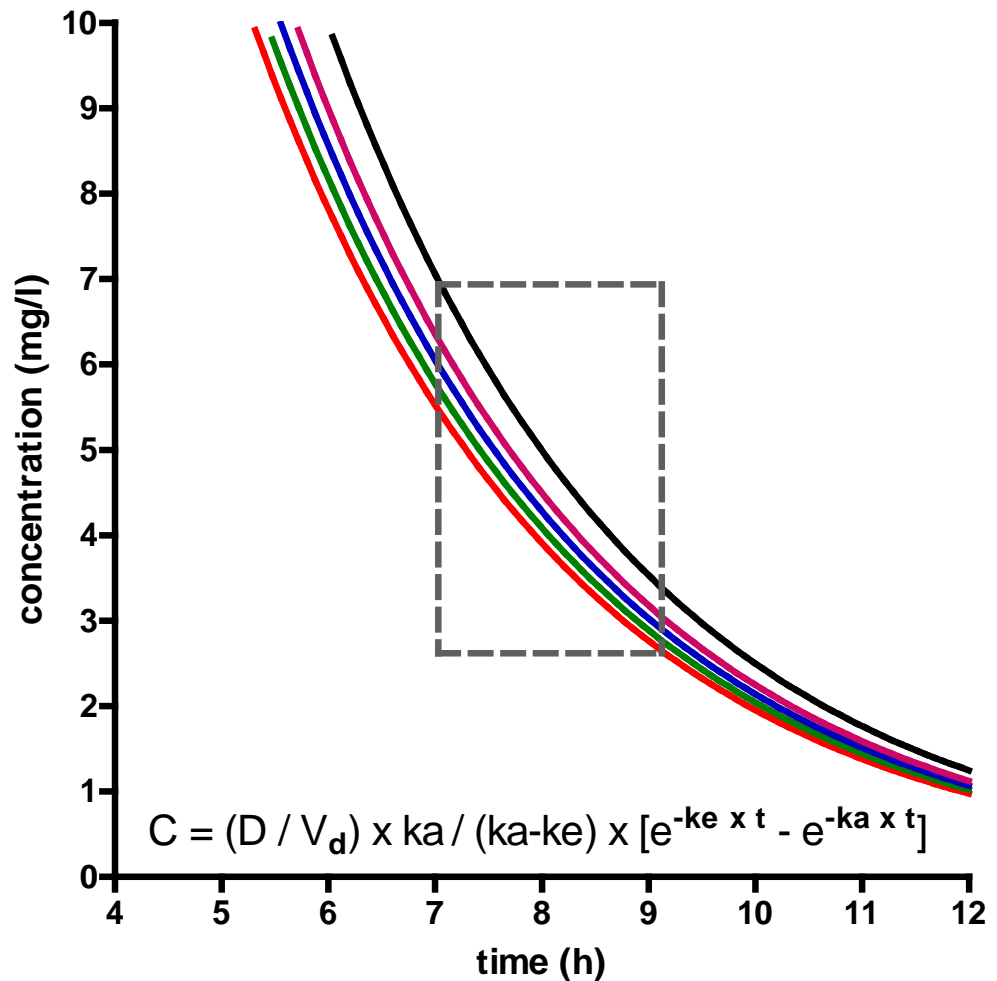
Data for amikacin:

$D = 15 \text{ mg/kg}$

$V_d = 0.25 \text{ L/kg}$

$ka = \text{variable}$

$ke = 0.346 \text{ h}^{-1}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 2\text{h}$ )



# The American Approach: Look for 8 h

Now, the important point is to detect patients with highly abnormal  $V_d$  and/or highly abnormal  $K_e$  (elimination)

Let us first see  $V_d$

**Data for amikacin:**

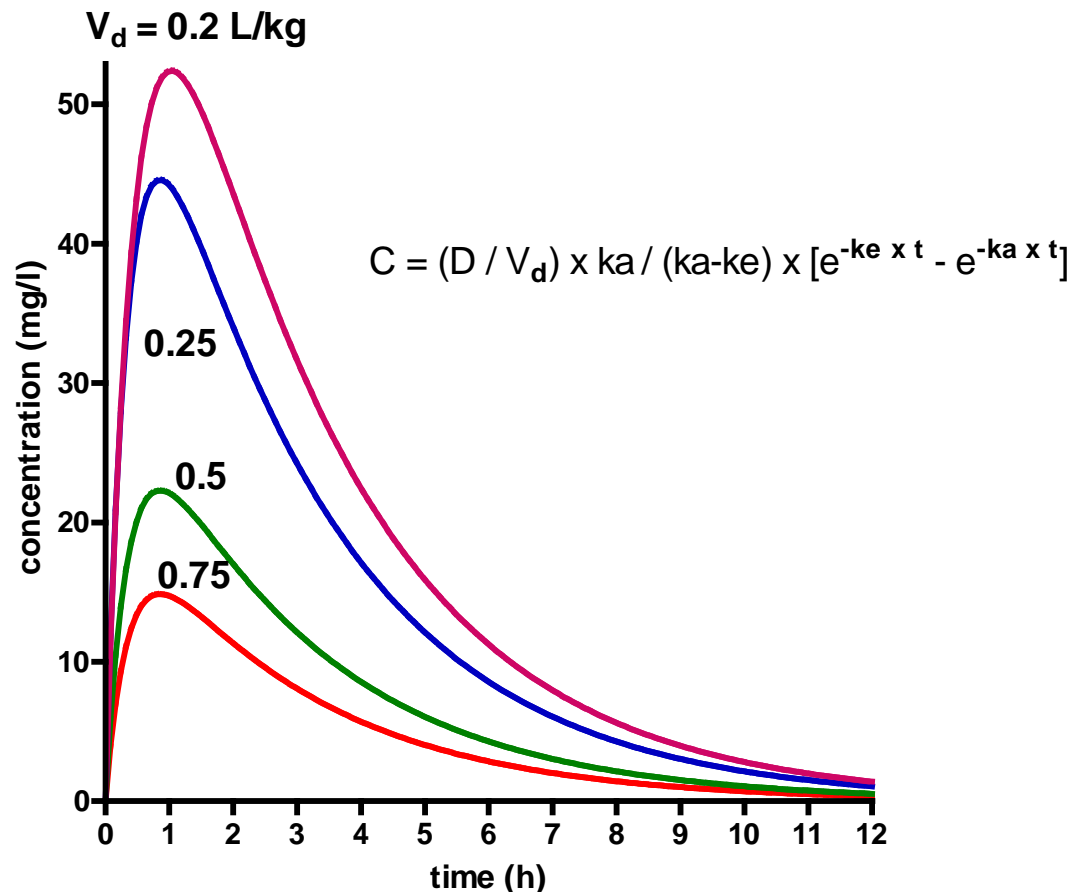
**$D = 15 \text{ mg/kg}$**

**$V_d = \text{variable}$**

**$k_a = 2.772 \text{ h}^{-1}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 15 \text{ min}$ )**

**$k_e = 0.346 \text{ h}^{-1}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 2\text{h}$ )**

**aminoglycoside:  
influence of  $V_d$  on the 0-12h levels**



# The American Approach: Look for 8 h

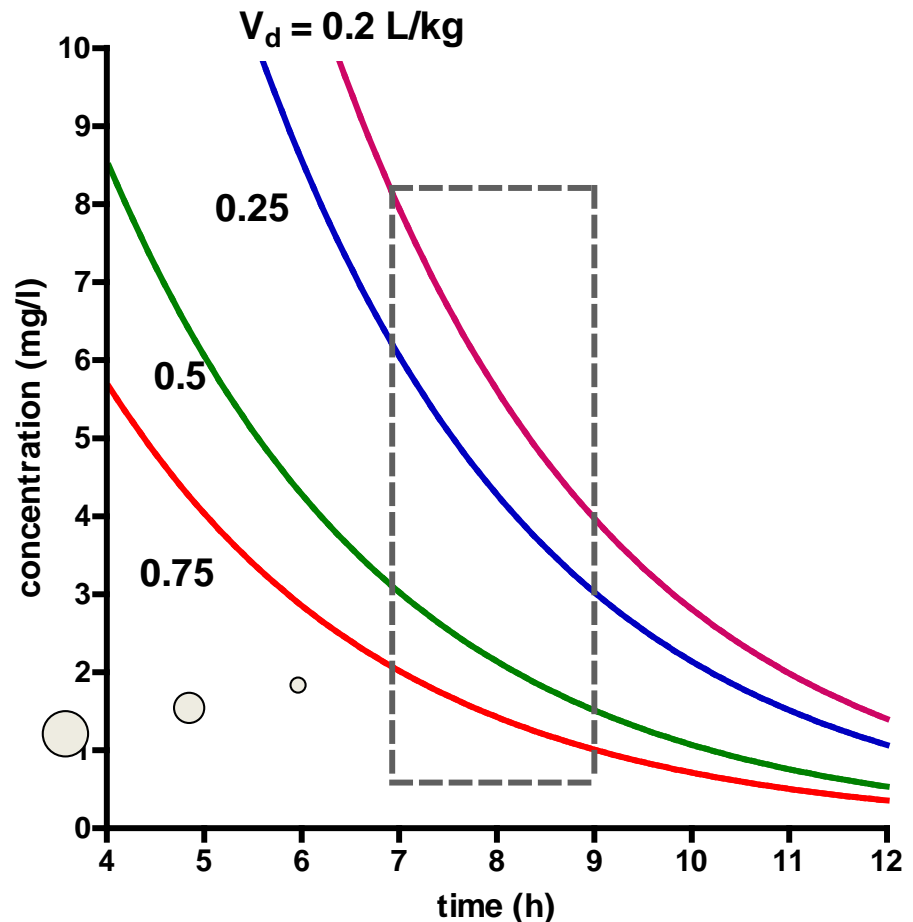
Now, the important point is to detect patients with highly abnormal  $V_d$  and/or highly abnormal  $K_e$  (elimination)

Let us first see  $V_d$

and zoom at 8h ...

you will detect easily an abnormal  $V_d$

aminoglycoside:  
influence of rate of administration on the "1h peak"





# The American Approach: Look for 8 h

Now, the important point is to detect patients with highly abnormal  $V_d$  and/or highly abnormal  $K_e$  (elimination)

Let now see the elimination ( $K_e$ )

**Data for amikacin:**

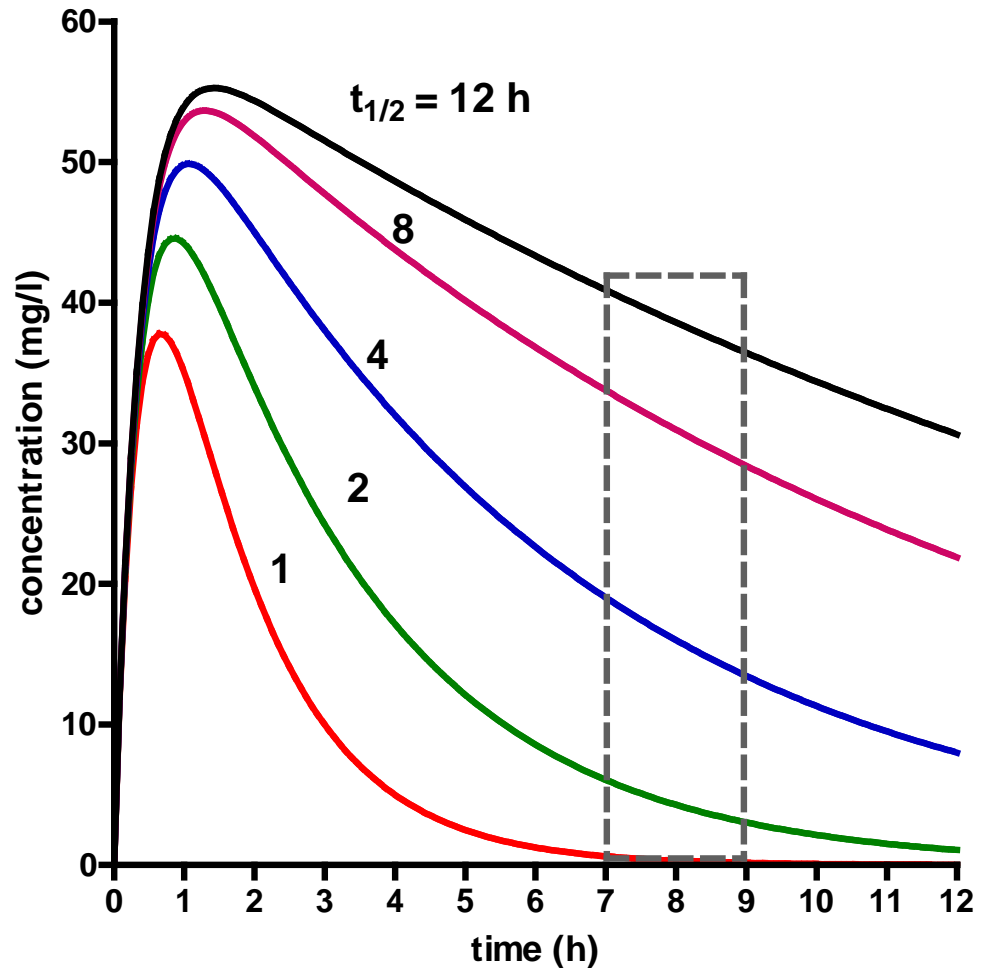
$D = 15 \text{ mg/kg}$

$V_d = 0.25 \text{ L/kg}$

$k_a = 2.772 \text{ h}^{-1}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 15 \text{ min}$ )

**$k_e = \text{variable}$**

**aminoglycoside:  
influence of  $T_{1/2}$  on the 0-12h levels**



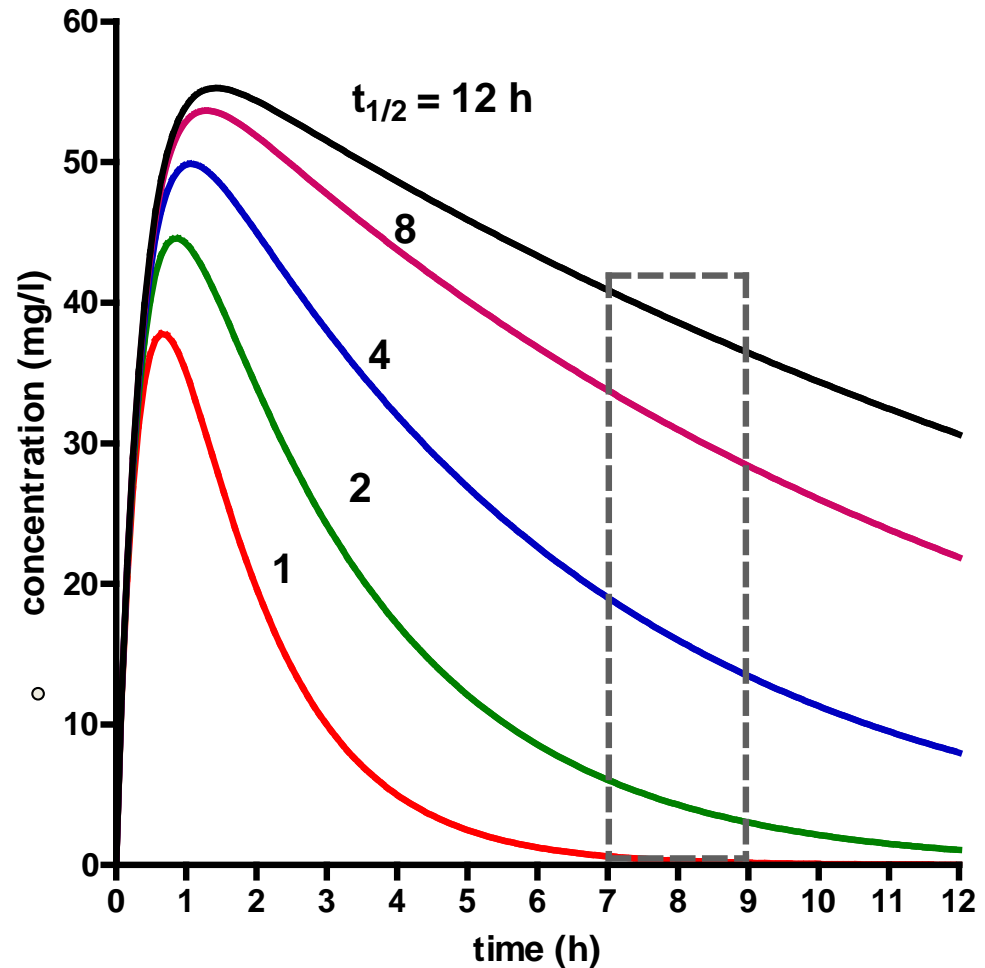
# The American Approach: Look for 8 h

Now, the important point is to detect patients with highly abnormal  $V_d$  and/or highly abnormal  $K_e$  (elimination)

Let now see the elimination ( $K_e$ )

you do not even need to zoom !

aminoglycoside:  
influence of  $T_{1/2}$  on the 0-12h levels



# The Hartford study (gentamicin)

**Nicolau et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 1995  
Mar;39(3):650-5. PubMed PMID: 7793867; PMC162599.**

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0066-4804/95/\$04.00+0  
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Vol. 39, No. 3

## Experience with a Once-Daily Aminoglycoside Program Administered to 2,184 Adult Patients

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Received 11 April 1994/Returned for modification 2 October 1994/Accepted 8 January 1994

# The Hartford study (gentamicin)

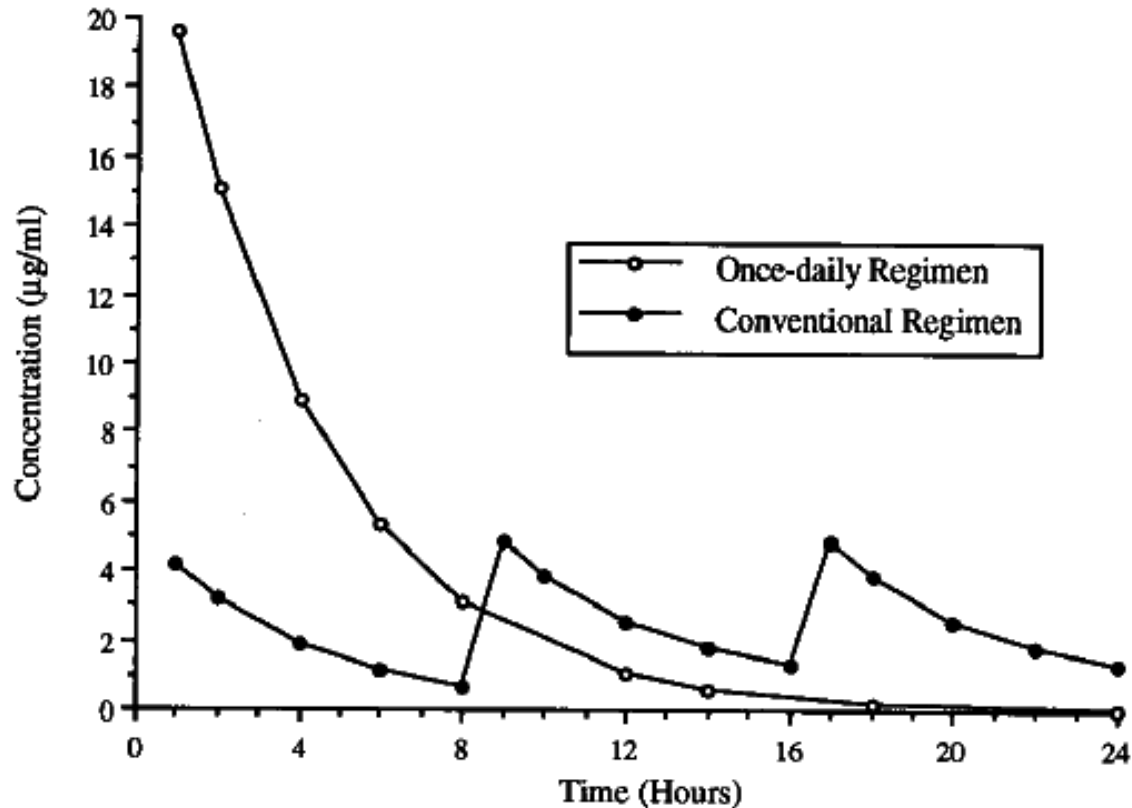
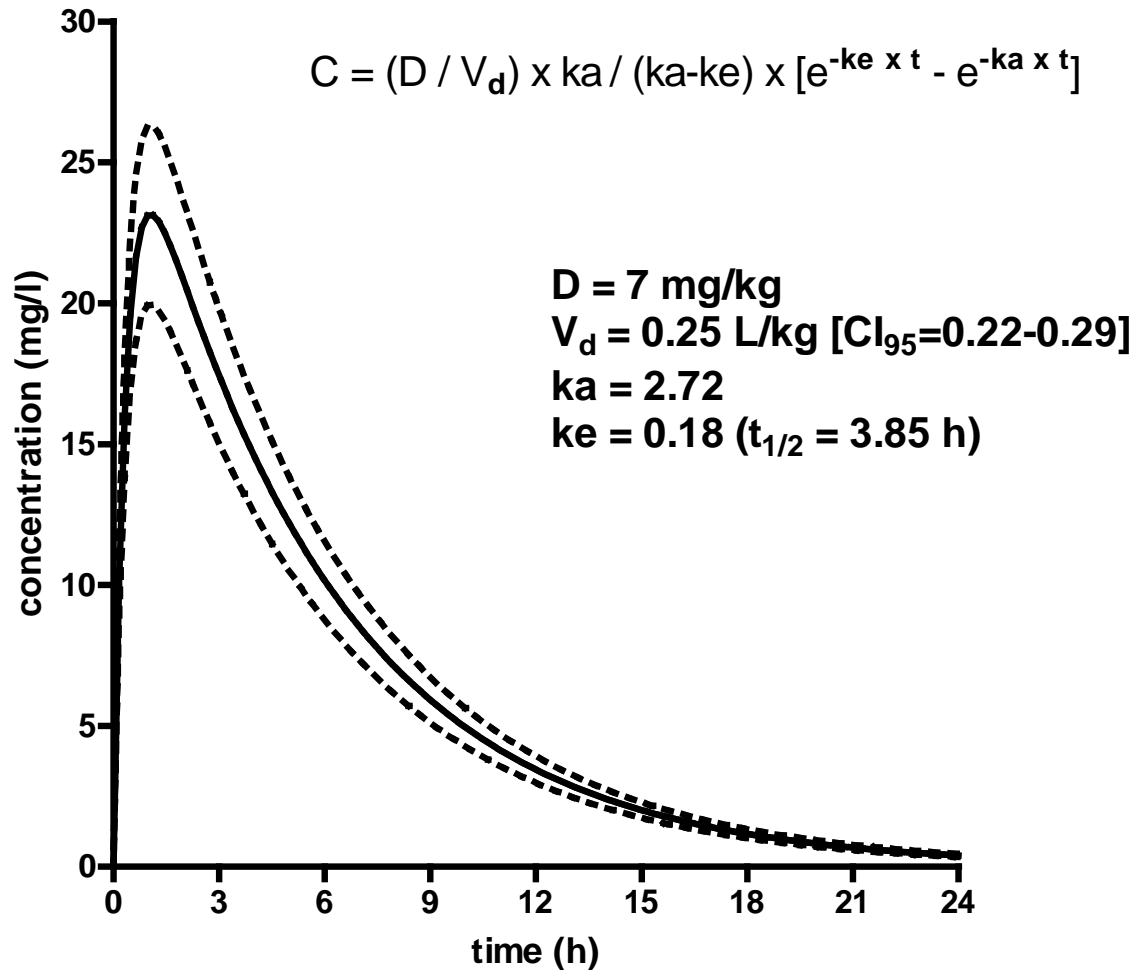


FIG. 2. Simulated concentration-versus-time profile of once-daily (7 mg/kg q24h) and conventional (1.5 mg/kg q8h) regimens for patients with normal renal function.

Nicolau et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 1995 Mar;39(3):650-5. PubMed PMID: 7793867; PMC162599.

# The Hartford study (gentamicin): recalculated for you ...

gentamicin  
model of Nicolau et al. (1995)



# The Hartford study (gentamicin)

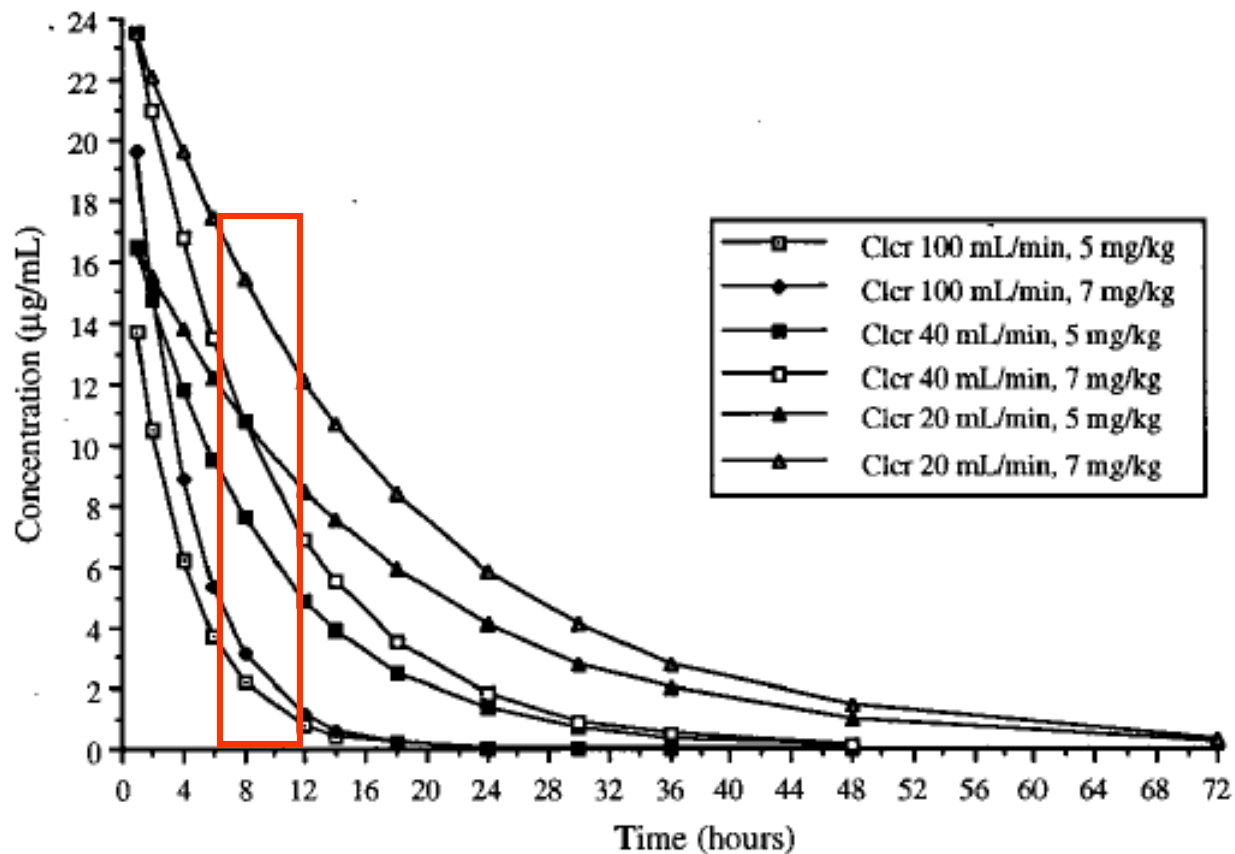
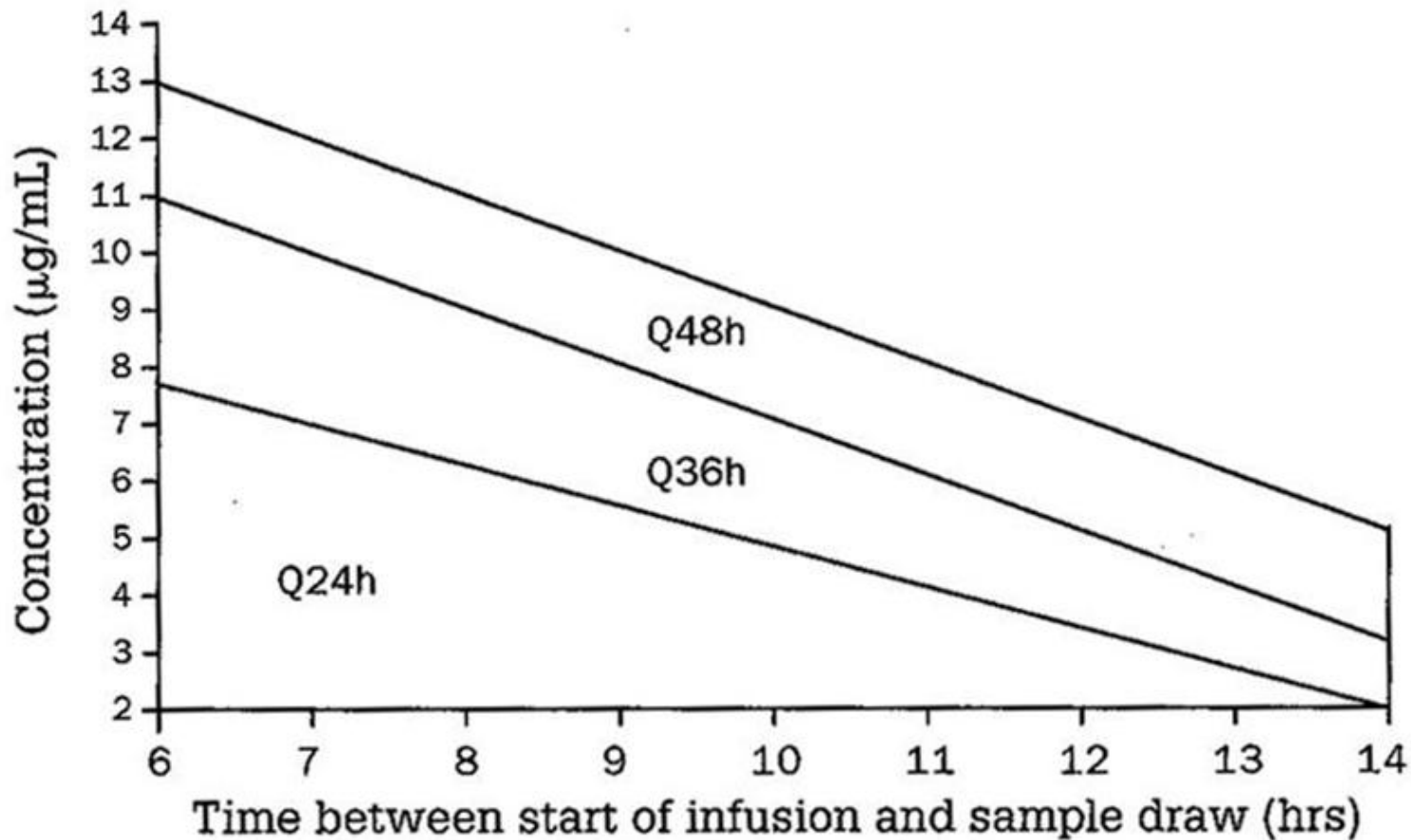


FIG. 3. Simulated concentration-versus-time profile of once-daily 7- and 5-mg/kg regimens for patients with various  $CL_{CRS}$ .

Nicolau et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 1995 Mar;39(3):650-5. PubMed PMID: 7793867; PMC162599.

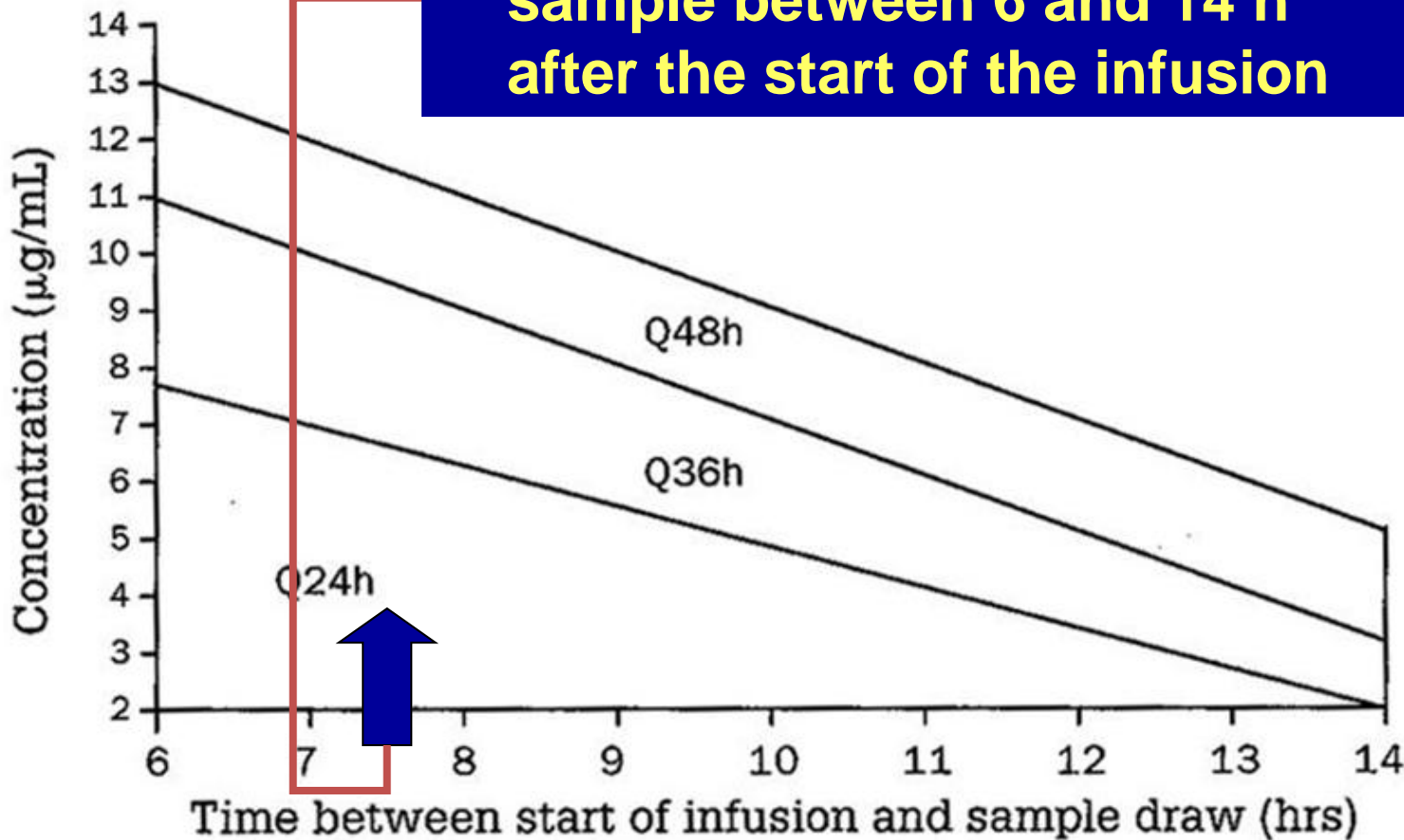
# Take it easy : Hartford method (Nicolau's nomogram for gentamicin)

Nicolau et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 1995  
Mar;39(3):650-5. PubMed PMID: 7793867; PMC162599.



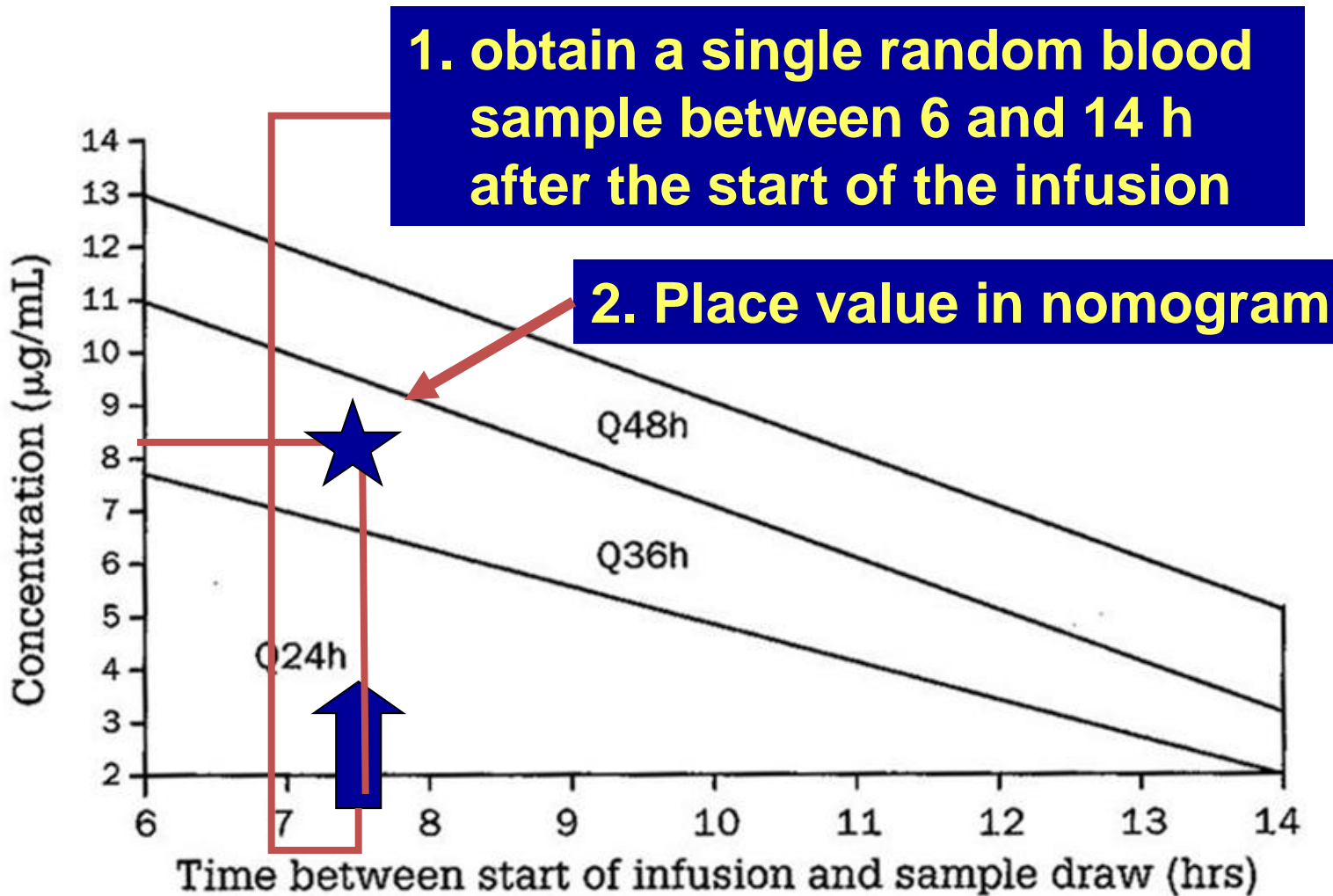
# Take it easy : Hartford method (Nicolau's nomogram for gentamicin)

**1. obtain a single random blood sample between 6 and 14 h after the start of the infusion**

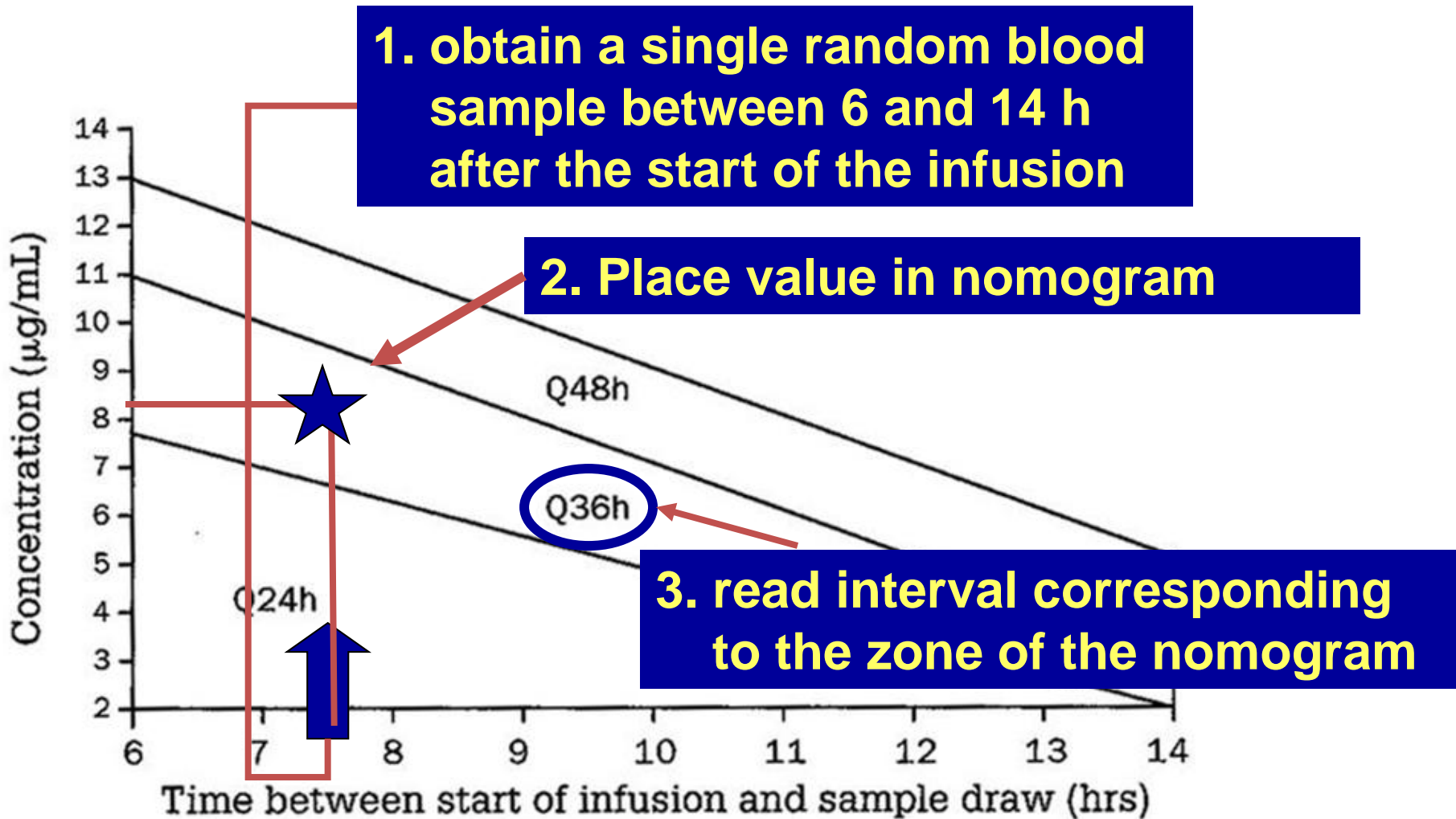




# Take it easy : Hartford method (Nicolau's nomogram for gentamicin)



# Take it easy : Hartford method (Nicolau's nomogram for gentamicin)



# Take home message

- Maximize peak to increase efficacy and reduce toxicity
- Administer once-a-day
- Measure MIC and calculate the dose that is needed
- Reduce treatment duration as much as possible
- Do monitoring if
  - treatment > 5 days
  - special populations
  - risk factors
  - co-administration of other nephrotoxic drugs