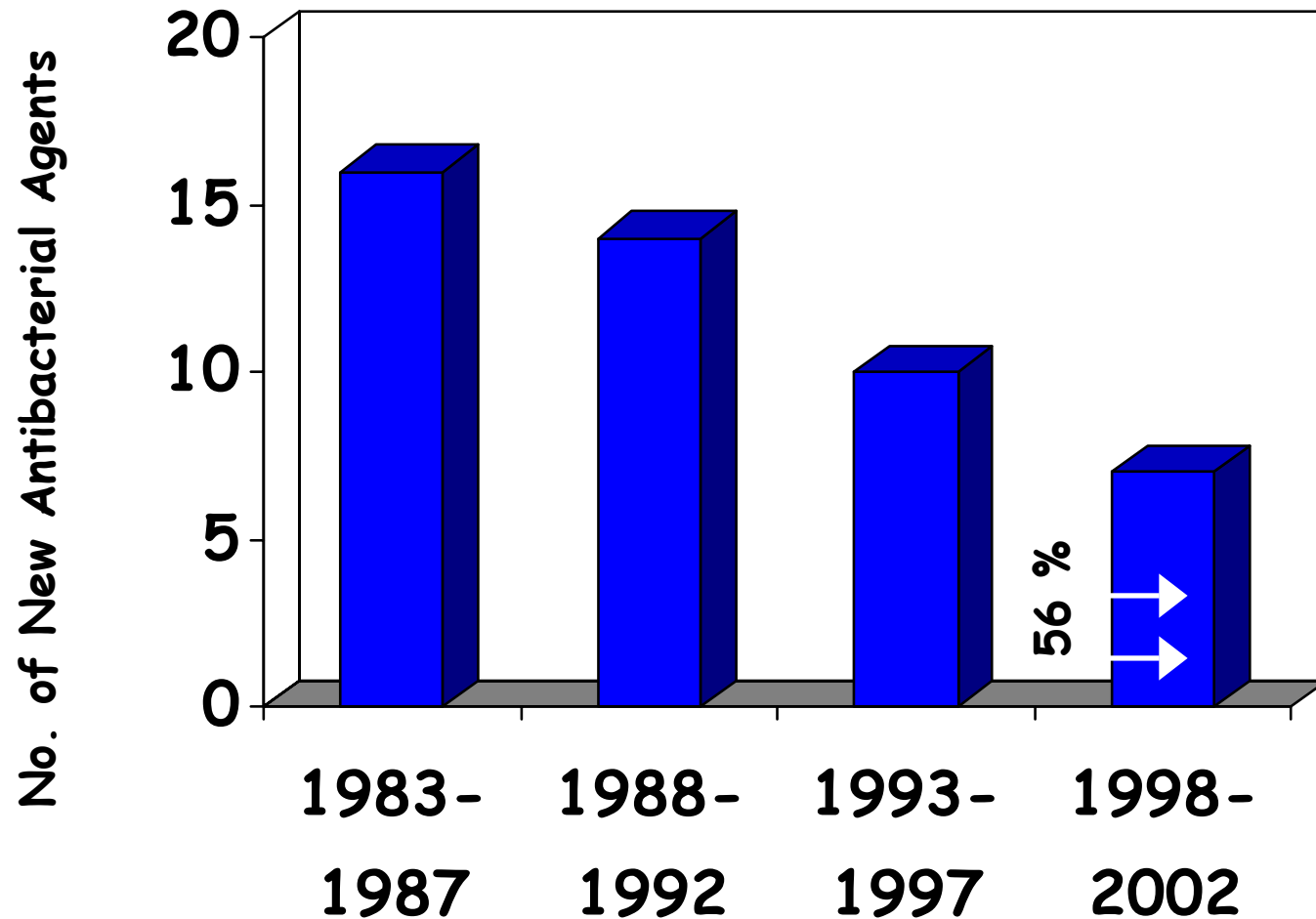


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# Challenges in Antimicrobial Clinical Development

*Axel Dalhoff & Heino Staß  
Institut für Klinische Pharmakologie  
Bayer AG, Wuppertal, D*

# New antibacterial agents approved in the United States 1983 - 2002



# Challenges for Antibiotic R & D in Pharma Research

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High failure rate in Research

Lack of pipeline compounds

Difficulty to discover new agents even for experienced people  
- if not shifted to different research targets

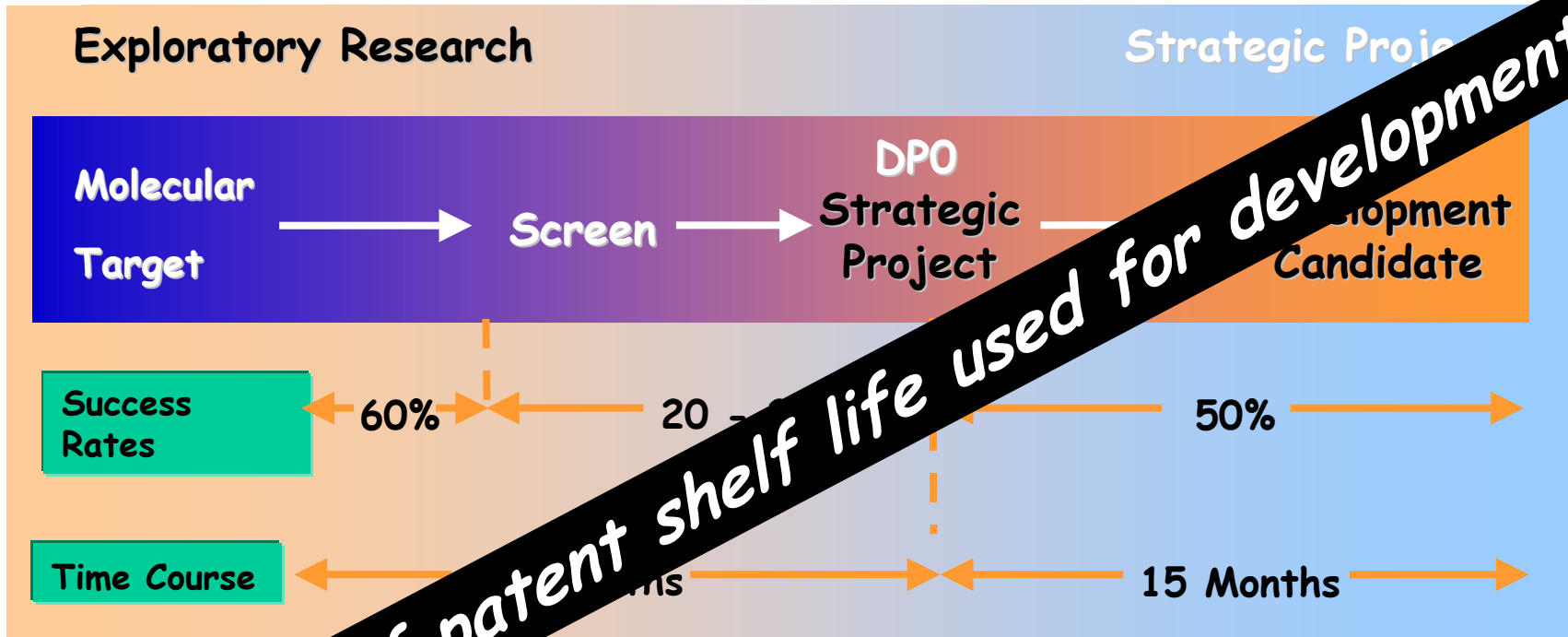
Highly promising approach to genomic based new agents has failed to date

Research focus in favour of chronic treatments  
e.g. chronic viral diseases as HIV, HCV vs. acute treatments

Based on cumulated experience in animal models, high safety margins have to be achieved preclinically

# From Target to Drug / Patent life time

## I) Research Phase



## II) Development Phase

From DP1 to Market: 6 Years, 800 mio Euro

DPO= decision point 0: Decision about novel strategic project

DP1= decision point 1: Decision about start of development

# Challenges in the Development of Anti-infectives

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## Regulatory

Pharmacokinetics and  
Pharmacodynamics in the development  
of antibacterial medicinal products  
CPMP/EWP/2655/99

## Strategic

*„Superiority Claims“*  
*„Time to Market“*  
in a very  
competitive environment

## R&D

*Discovery of and  
proof of concept for  
„Improved Candidates“*  
*„Patents“*

# Role of Clinical Pharmacology in tackling the Challenges in the Development of Antimicrobials

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- Classical safety and PK (frequent and less frequent AEs)
- PK/PD Defining the dose for clinical studies  
-> 'mechanistic' PK/PD approaches
- Sources and of PK variability (e.g. interactions) and their impact on antimicrobial activity  
-> population ('probabilistic') PK/PD approaches
- Justify the dosing regimen for the patient population based on PK/PD -> population PK/PD approaches
- Dosing recommendations for clinically relevant *drug drug interactions* and *patients at risk*

# General Strategy to Define and Validate the Clinical Dose by PK/PD

Scientific knowledge

regulatory guidelines

Development  
Candidate



Proof of  
Concept



Approvable  
Drug



~ 3 years

## „Mechanistic‘ approach

PK:

non-compartmental  
compartmental

Physiology Based PK (PBPK)

PK/PD:

In vitro/ in vivo/in silico  
based on lead organisms

## „Probabilistic‘ approach

PK:

Population methods in patients  
Modeling and Simulation

PK/PD:

statitistical tools based on  
epidemiological data,  
e.g. Monte Carlo Simulations

# PK/PD Tools I

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## Mechanistic:

Physiology Based PK

Interspecies scaling of PK  
Target tissue concentrations

Tests of antibacterial effects:

static in vitro models -> MIC

Determination of the dominant  
PK/PD index driving the effect:

animal models, dynamic in vitro  
models (-> time to kill; change  
in viable counts; maximum re-  
duction in viable counts;  $I_E$ ;  
AUBC, AABC  
AUC/MIC,  $C_{max}/MIC$ ,  $t > MIC$ ,  
 $AUBKC_{norm}$

Determination of the magnitude  
of the PK/PD Index

-> PK/PD cut off points,

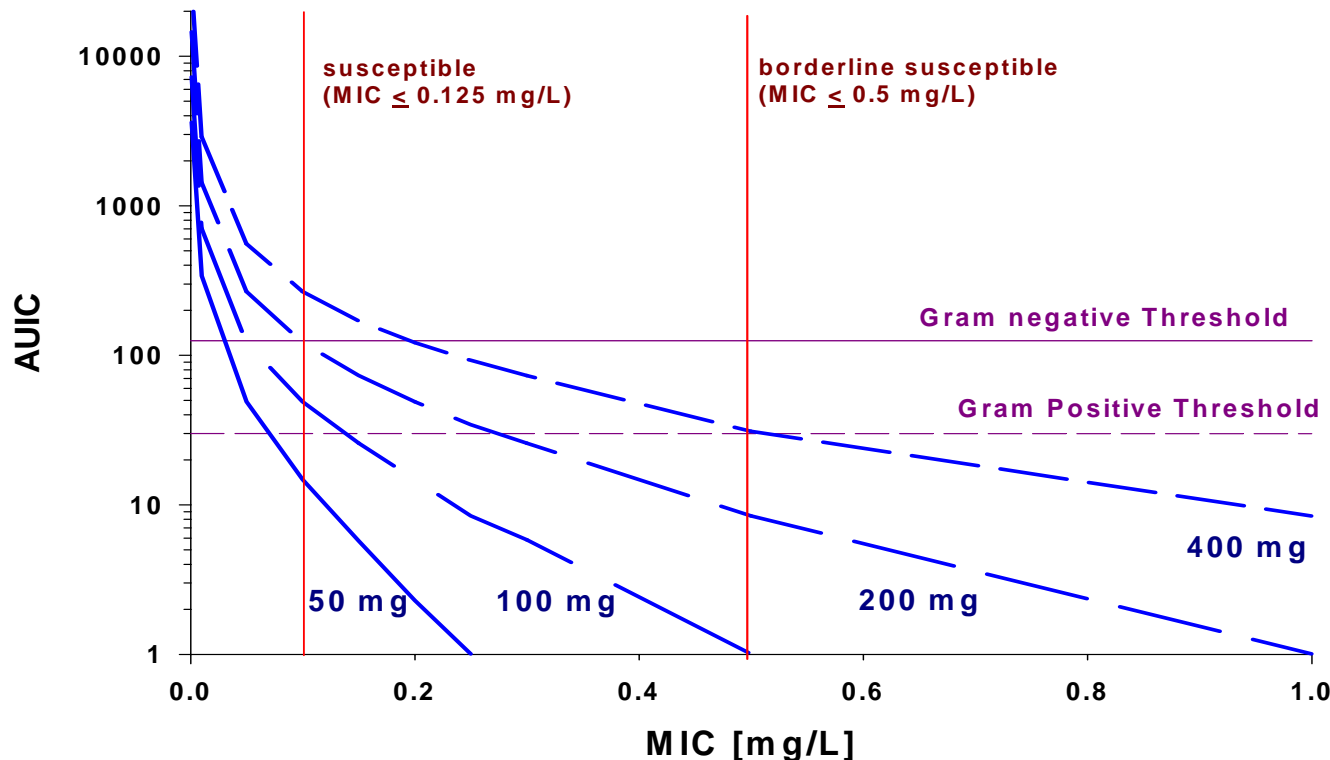


# Target Concentration Strategy / Phase I-II

## Deterministic PK/PD in early Phase I

Decision on target dose for MFX based on PK/PD from single dose escalation

Moxifloxacin / AUIC as a function of MIC for a OD dose regimen

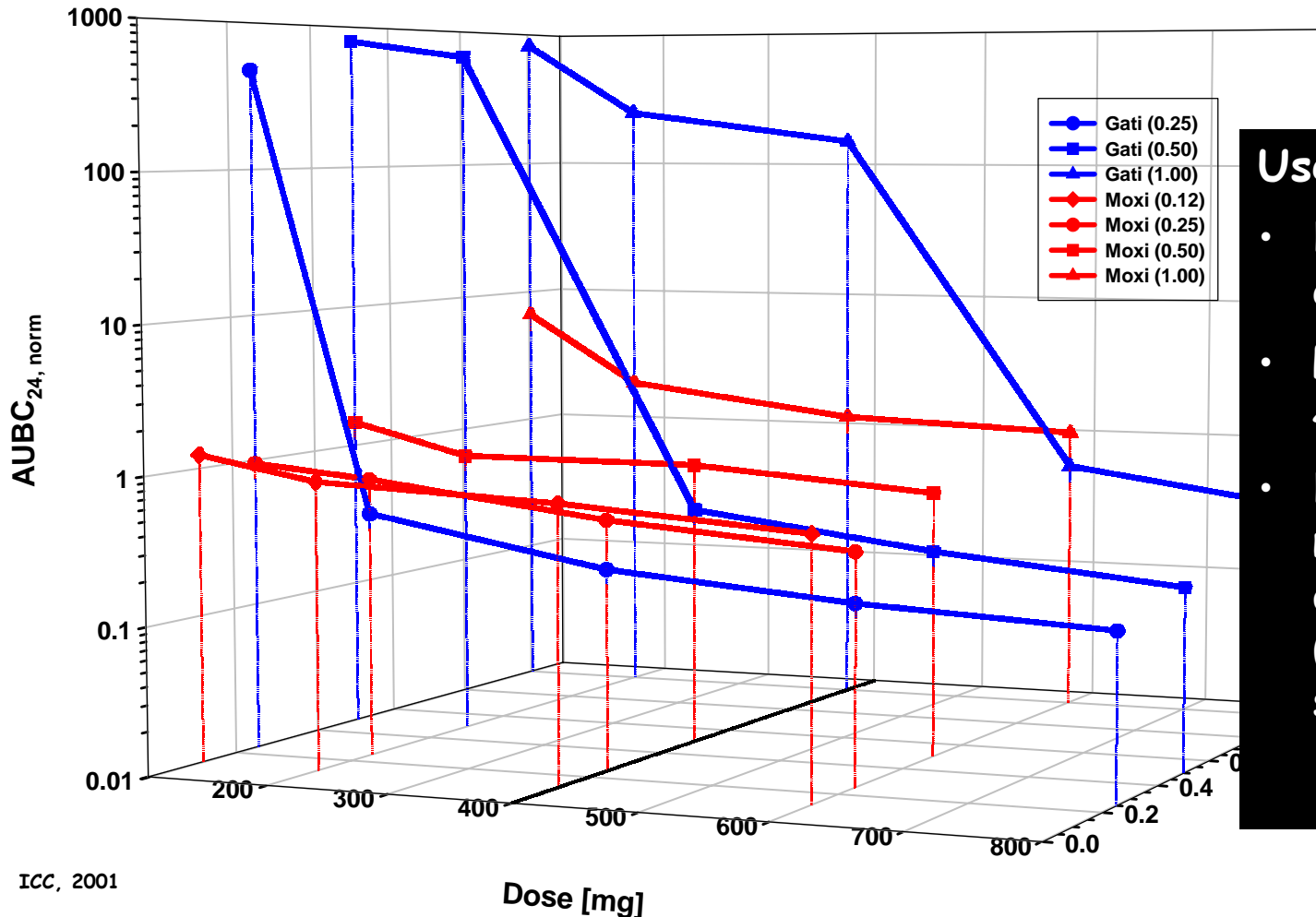


Use:

- Early dose estimation based on good knowledge of PK and PD properties of MFX
- Predicted dose: 400 mg once daily

# Target Concentration Strategy / Phase II - III

Deterministic PK/PD mapping to characterize the effect of PK variability on the bactericidal effect of MFX



- Use:**
- Decision on clinical dose
  - Predicted dose: 400 mg once daily
  - Decision on necessity of dose adjustments (interactions, special populations)

# PK/PD Tools II

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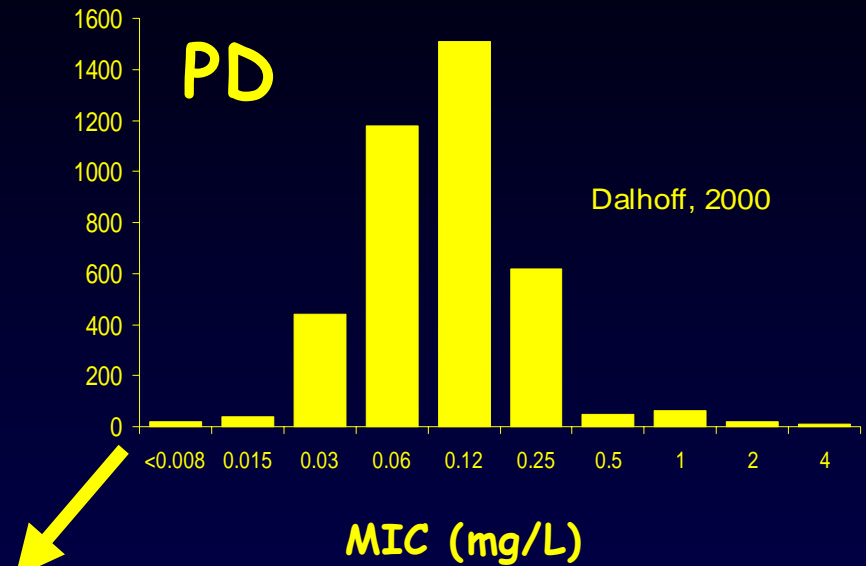
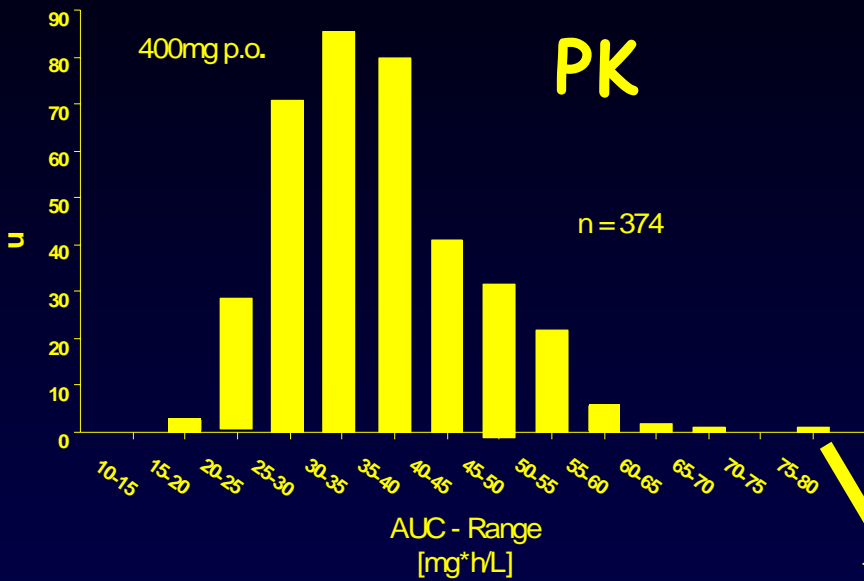
## Probabilistic PK/PD methods

**Principle:** Determination of the likelihood of clinical success by implementing information on PK variability and PD variability into PK/PD analysis

**Requirements:** Models describing the pharmacokinetic variability in the target population using population PK methods

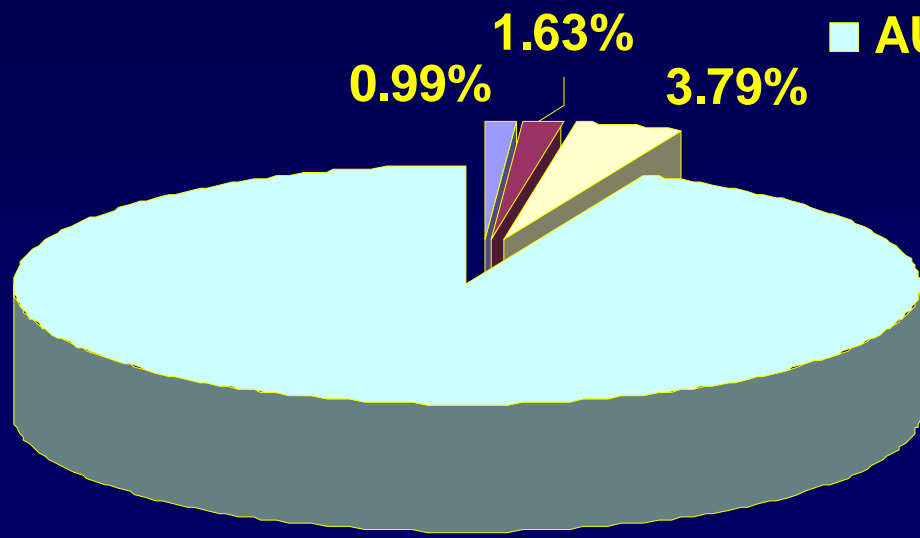
Epidemiological distribution pattern of the target pathogens

PK/PD indices identified and quantified by mechanistic methods based on epidemiologic data on the targeted microorganisms  
e.g. AUIC cut off, microbiological breakpoint



**Monte Carlo Simulation**

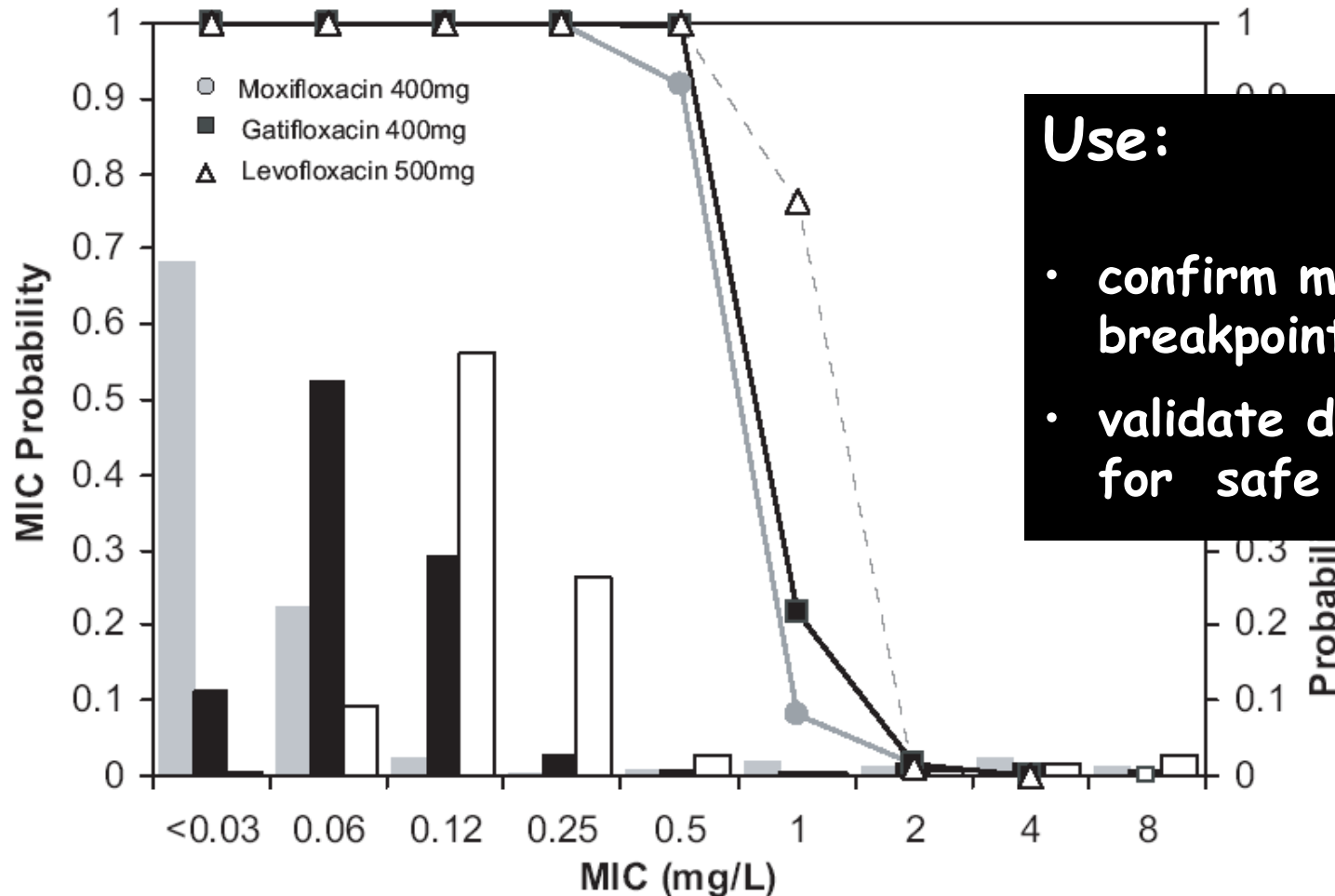
- PD-Index**
- AUIC < 30
  - 70 > AUIC > 30
  - 125 > AUIC > 70
  - AUIC > 125



**PK/PD**

# Probabilistic PK/PD Approaches in Phase III

Target hit rates based for 3 FQs based on unbound concentrations for 5000 simulated patients with *S. aureus* infection

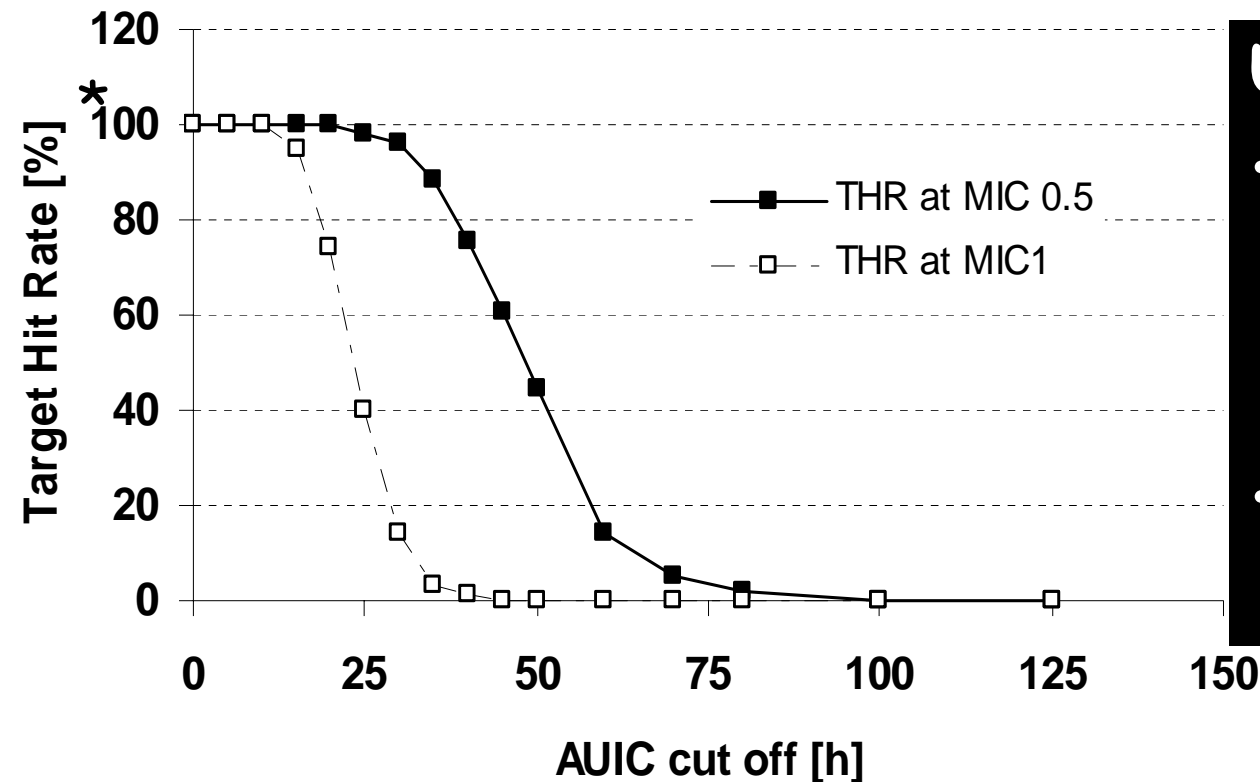


**Use:**

- confirm microbiological breakpoints
- validate dose regimen for safe clinical use

# Probabilistic PK/PD Approaches in Phase I

Sensitivity analysis of target hit rates for a drug candidate using population PK/PD methods for a given PK, dose regimen and PD distribution



## Use:

- translate preclinical PK/PD results into clinical dosing regimen
- plan and optimize study designs

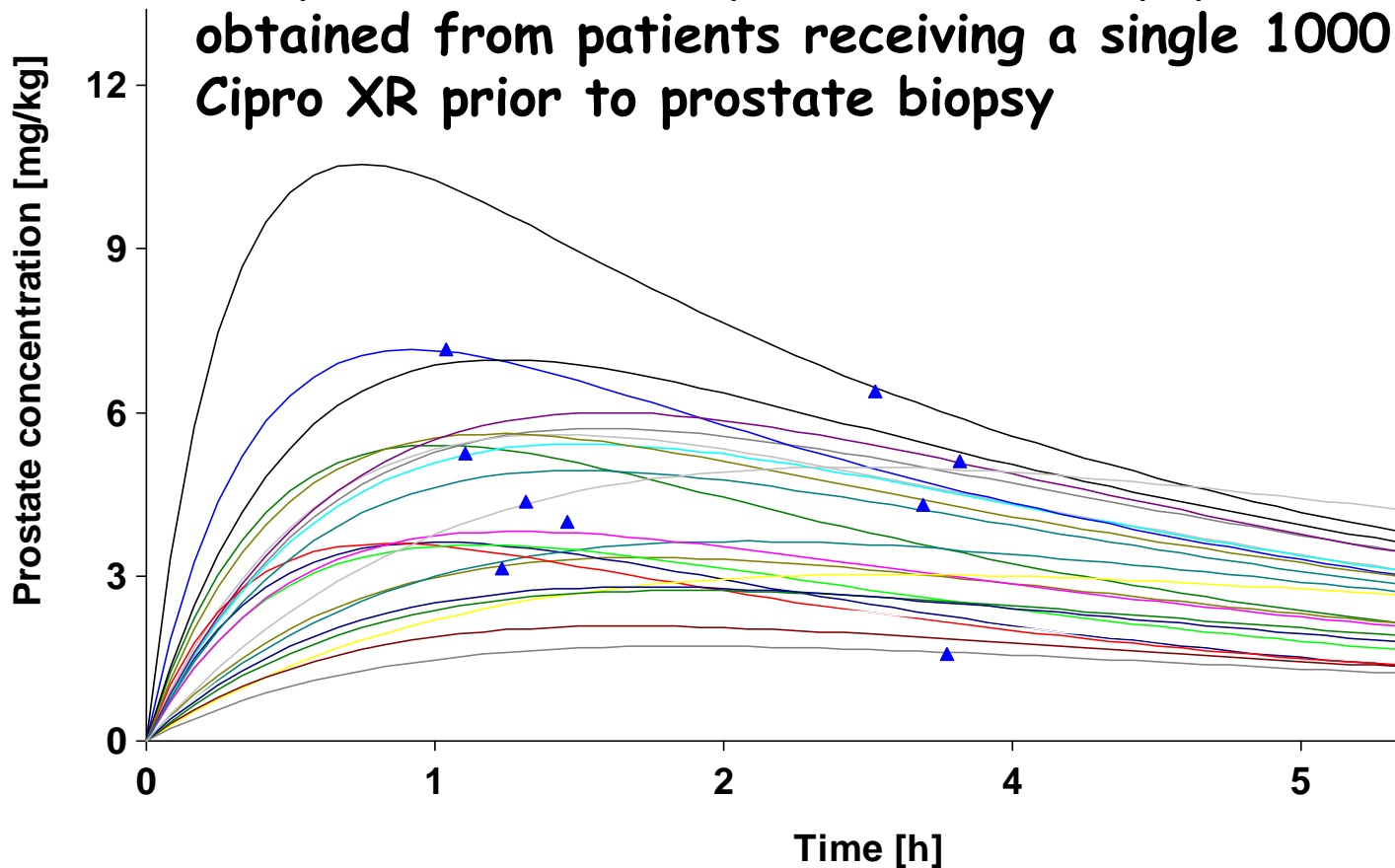
\* each THR was obtained from a Monte Carlo simulation

# Probabilistic PBPK/PD Approaches in Phase I

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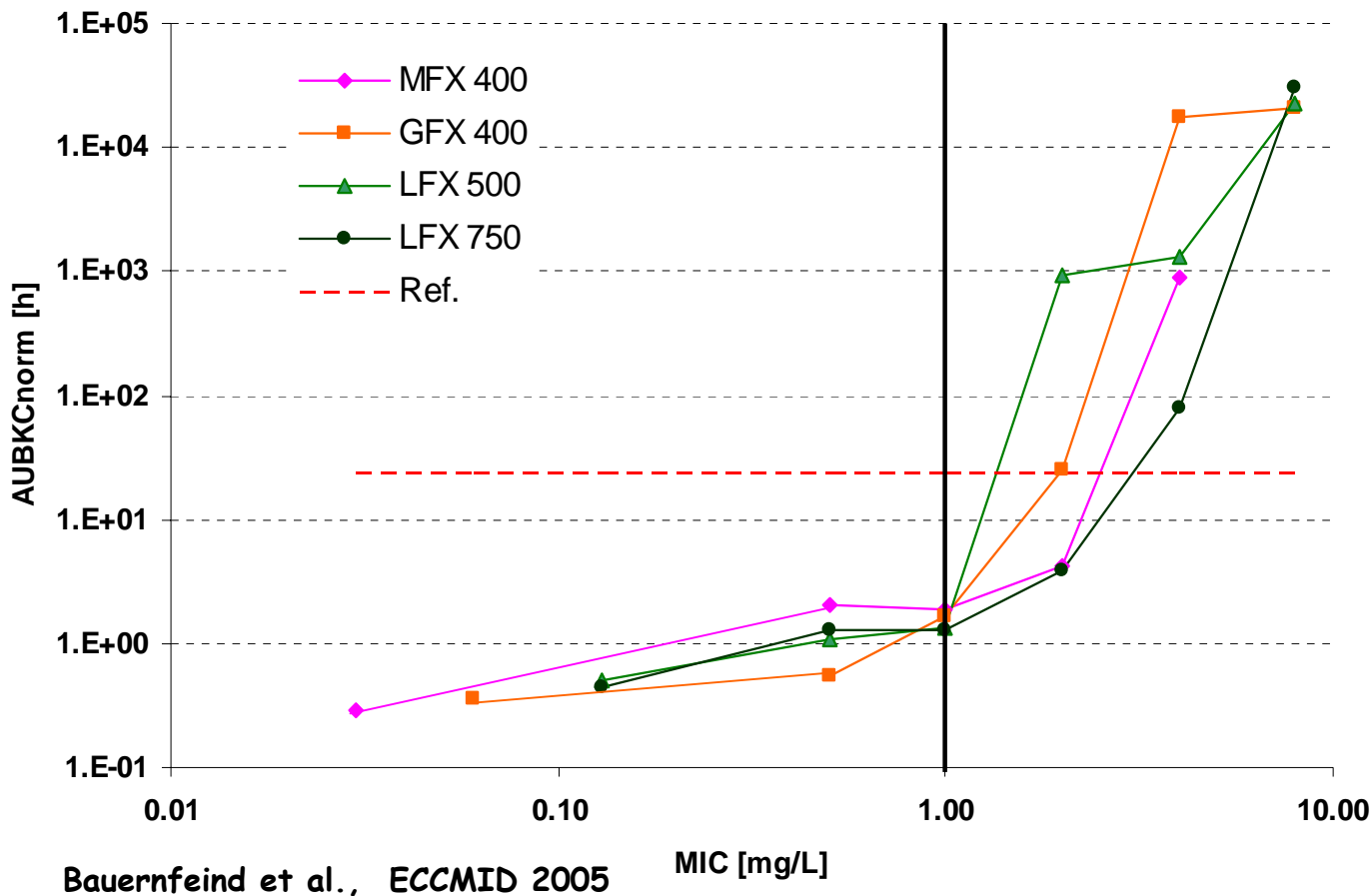
Planning of study designs using Modelling & Simulation based on literature data

Comparison between predictions and population PK results obtained from patients receiving a single 1000 mg dose of Cipro XR prior to prostate biopsy



# PK/PD - where are we?

PK/PD methodology is a very powerful instrument to plan development and validate clinical findings and beyond ...



In vitro PK/PD experiments suggest that compounds from one class (FQs) behave similar (vs *S. aureus*),

but...



# PK/PD - where are we?

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AUIC cut off	FQ	Indication	Ref.
> 125	Cipro	Gram - severe RTI, elderly patients	Schentag et al.
> 75	Grepa	Gram+ community acquired RTI, elderly patients	Pickerill et al.
> 30	Gati	Gram+ community acquired RTI, elderly patients	Ambrose et al.
> 12*	Levo	Gram+ community acquired RTI, cSSSI, Gram - UTI	Preston et al.

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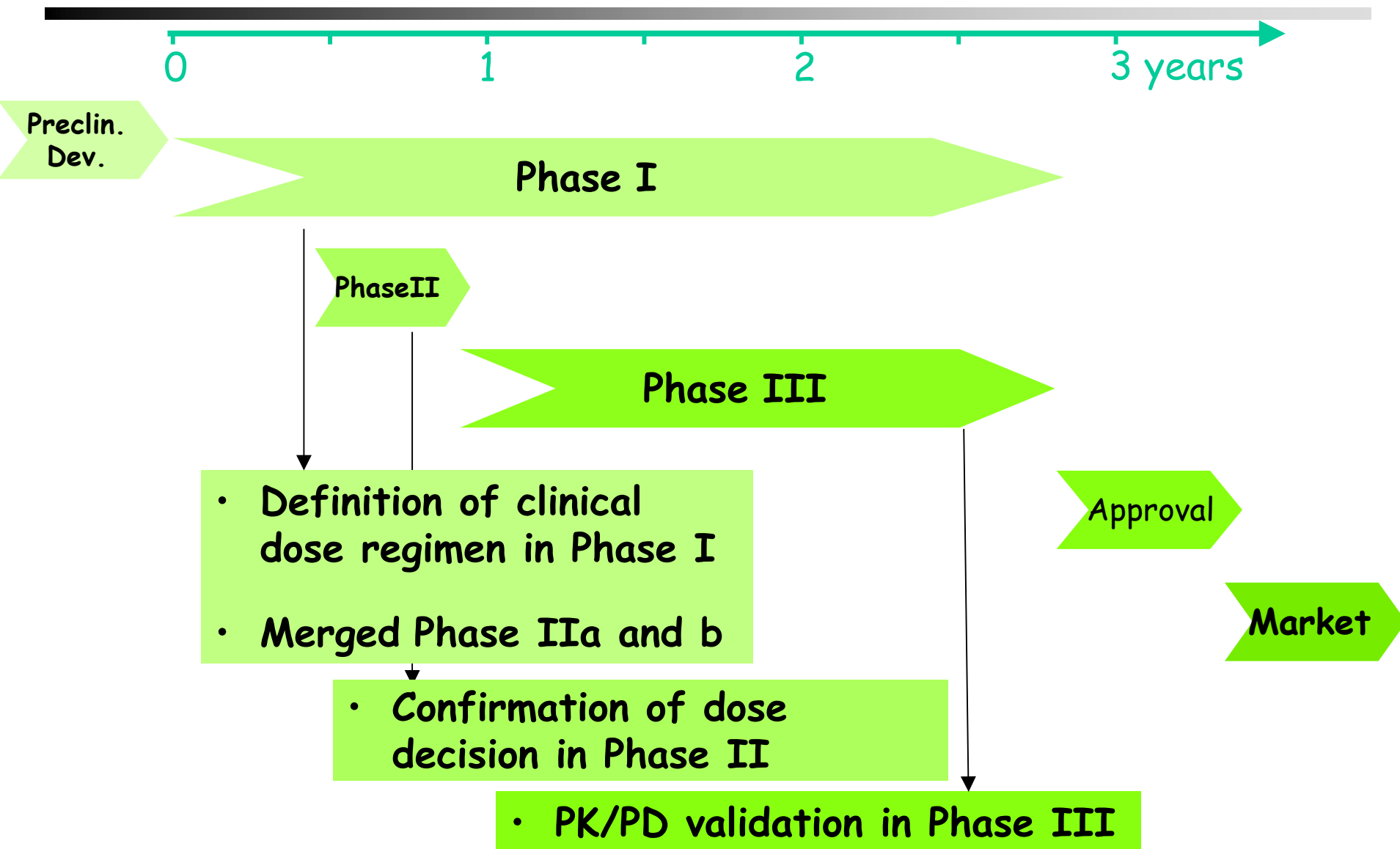
\* peak/MIC cut off, (AUIC~100)

# PK/PD - where are we?

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- Open questions remain
  - individual PK/PD indices or per compound class/disease/patient population.... ?
  - applicability to various patient groups given ?
  - plasma or target tissue concentrations ?
  - ...
- for polymicrobial infections no clinically useful models exist to date
- However, wealth of different PK/PD methods available
- PK/PD indispensable to achieve 'lean' and smart development -> ...

# PK/PD in Clinical Development of Moxifloxacin



# PK/PD in Clinical Development of Moxifloxacin

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## Case study Moxifloxacin: development cost benefit

Consequences for development:	Cost [T€]
Phase I: 2 Phase I MD bracketing studies saved	-250
Phase II: Condensed program (without separate 2B)	-300
Phase III: Population PK/PD evaluations	+ 50
<b>Total:</b>	<b>-500 (&lt; 1%*)</b>

\*compared to total development cost

### Advantages

- a) direct cost savings, but marginal compared to total development costs
- b) expenses for development are postponed to later phases
- c) -> financial risk reduction

# PK/PD in Clinical Development of Moxifloxacin

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## Case study Moxifloxacin: strategic benefit

Consequences for development:	Time savings
Phase I: 2 Phase I MD bracketing studies saved	3 months
Phase II: Condensed program (without separate 2B)	9-12 months
Phase III: Population PK/PD evaluations _____	+ 0

Overall, development time reduced by ~ 1 year

# PK/PD in Clinical Development of Moxifloxacin

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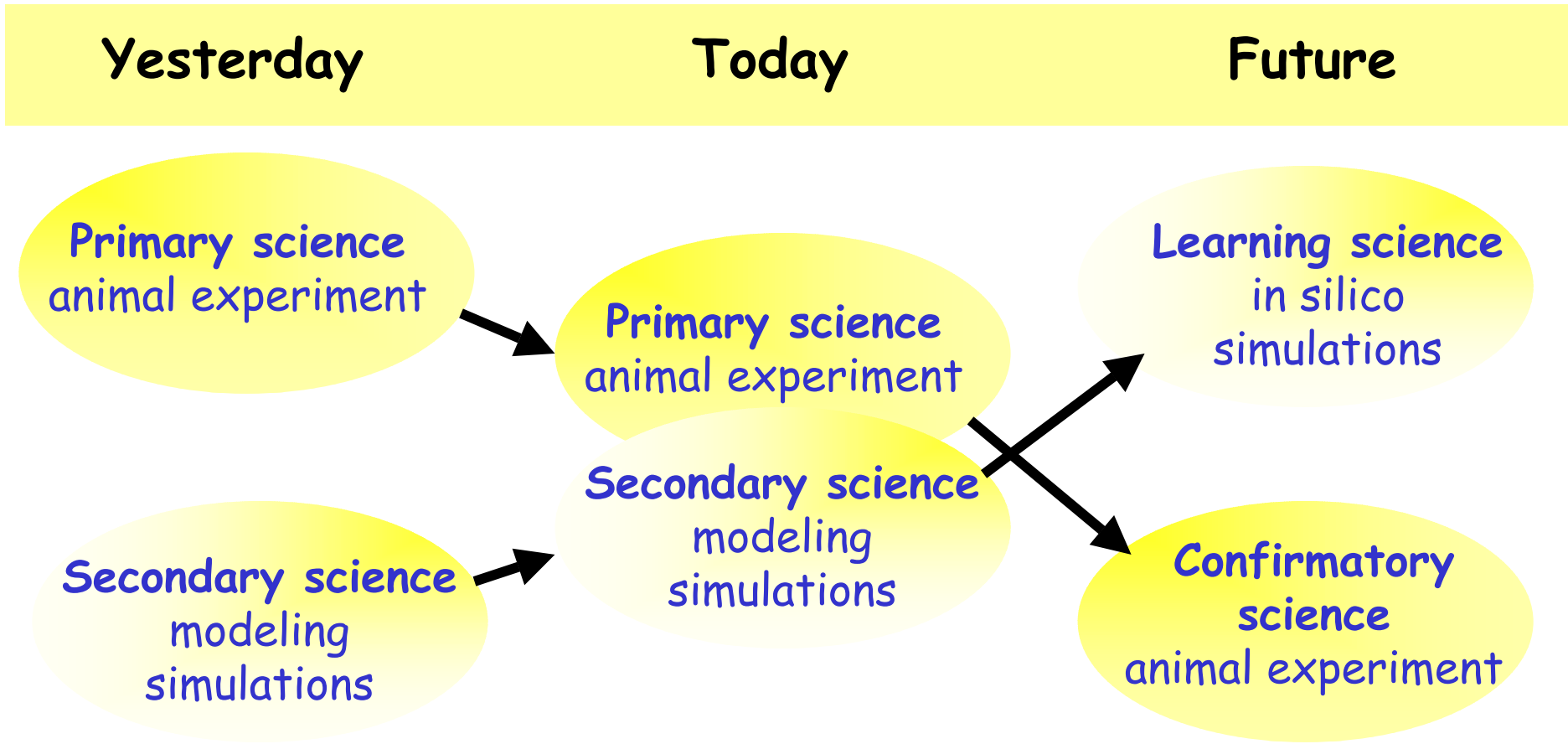
## Case study Moxifloxacin: economic benefit

### Advantages

- a) Market entry approximately 12 - 15 months earlier
- b) Total savings of 10-50 Mio € (after discounting and risk adjustment)
- c) Launch ahead of (potential) competitors, thus stronger competitive positioning
- d) One additional year of patent exclusivity -> additional sales at peak sales level

# Change of paradigms in drug development

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# Conclusion

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## Clinical Development of Antiinfectives is a challenging business, but ...

- In a competitive climate for clinical development modern PK/PD methods have evolved as a versatile tool to steer clinical development and to cope with these challenges
- While direct cost savings by use of PK/PD concepts are small in view of the total development costs, ...
- ... the strategic advances make the PK/PD tools a *mandatory* instrument of clinical development
- Scientifically, application of PK/PD concepts remains a fascinating field of research and development
- Few areas remain where application of PK/PD concepts is less supportive