



Session 4: HIV Prevention and Cure

Clinical Case: Potential Challenges of Drug Interactions of Long-Acting Agents

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Clinical case:

Potential challenges of drug interactions of long-acting agents

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University Hospital & University of Basel
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Case presentation

- Adrian 29 year-old MSM
- Multiple male sexual partners per month, condom use inconsistent
- BMI: 28 kg/m²
- Currently on PrEP with TDF/FTC
- Last control: HIV antigen/antibody negative, HBsAg negative,
- eGFR 90 mL/min/1.73 m²
- Chemsex (ecstasy, methamphetamine)
- Medications: occasionally antacids, St John's Wort (mild depression)

Case presentation

- Adrian heard that Cabotegravir is more efficient than TDF/FTC to prevent HIV infection
- Would Cabotegravir PrEP be suitable for Adrian?

Press release on May 2020

Global HIV Prevention Study Ends
Early After Injectable Cabotegravir
Shows High Efficacy



Study population: MSM and transgender women at high risk for HIV acquisition (n = 4570).

Randomized, double-blind study comparing:

- cabotegravir **600 mg** im every 8 weeks
- TDF/FTC 245/300 mg oral once daily

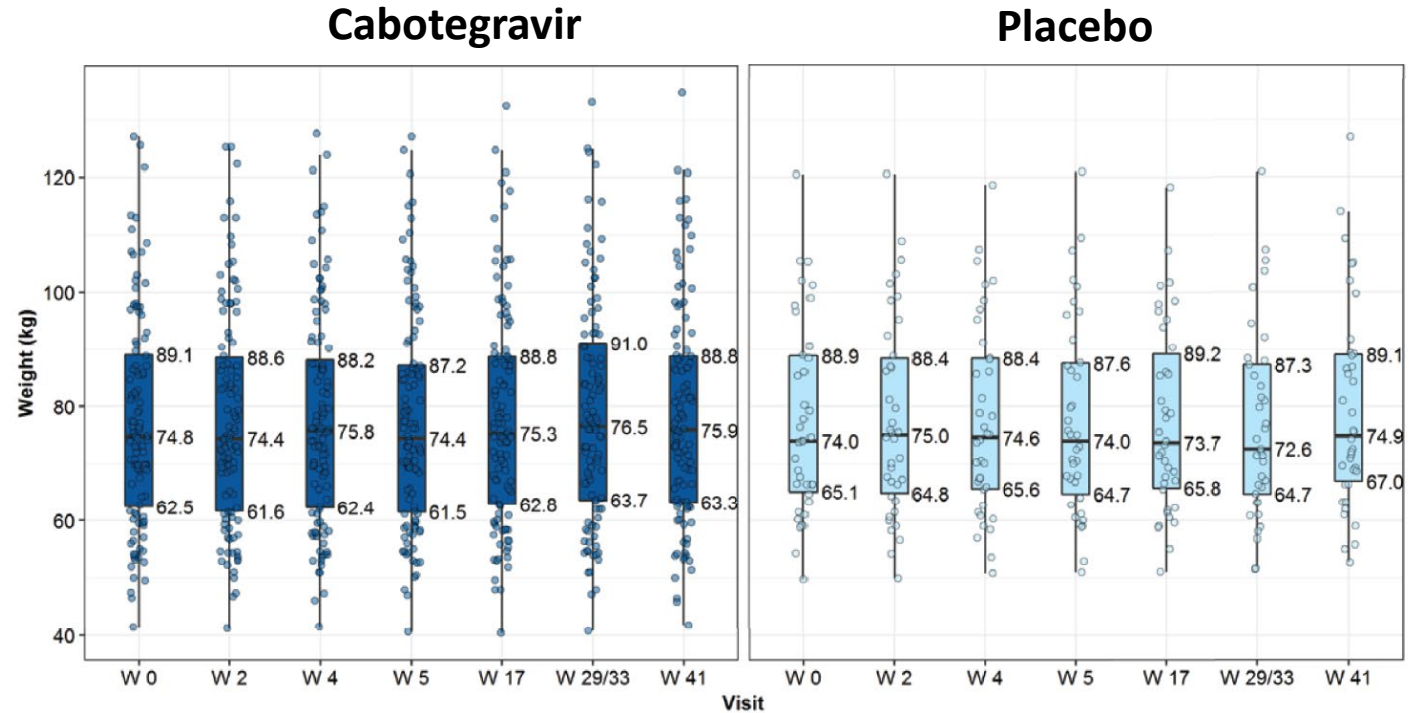
Results:

- overall 50 incident HIV infections (incidence 0.79%)
- 38 infections with TDF/FTC (incidence **1.21%**)
- 12 infections with cabotegravir (incidence **0.38%**)

Cabotegravir and weight gain

Evaluation of weight gain in HPTN077

Population (n = 177): median age: 31.5 years; 66% female; median BMI: 26.6 kg/m² (IQR: 23.4-32.7)



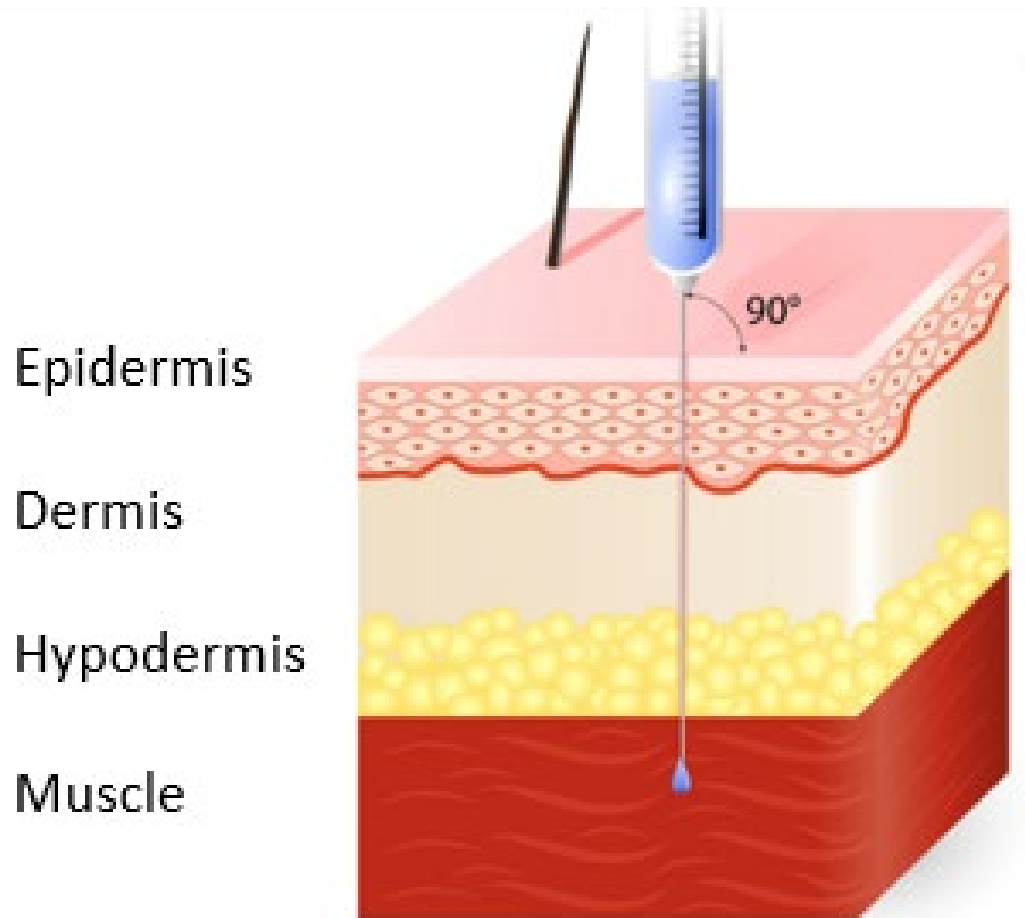
from W0 to W41: + 1.1 kg

from W0 to W41: + 1.0 kg

No differences in weight gain between cabotegravir and placebo arms.

No differences among ethnic groups or sex.

Obesity and drug delivery in the muscle



- Cabotegravir injection performed in gluteal muscle.
- Muscle has rich vascular supply favoring drug absorption.
- Subcutaneous adipose tissue has less vascular supply which may result in less drug absorption.
- Injection technique is critical to ensure drug is not deposited in subcutaneous adipose tissue.
- Cabenuva label indicates that longer needle lengths may be required for patients with higher BMI to ensure that drug is delivered im.

Cabotegravir and rilpivirine plasma levels

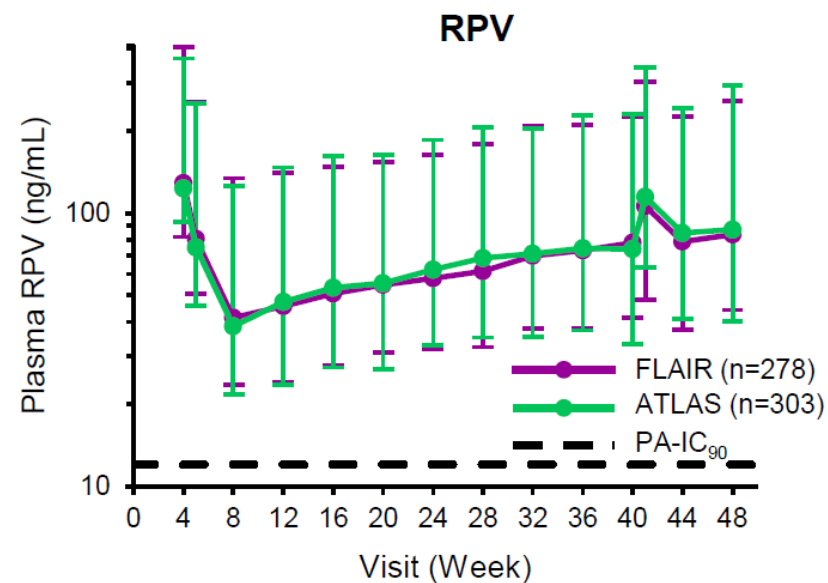
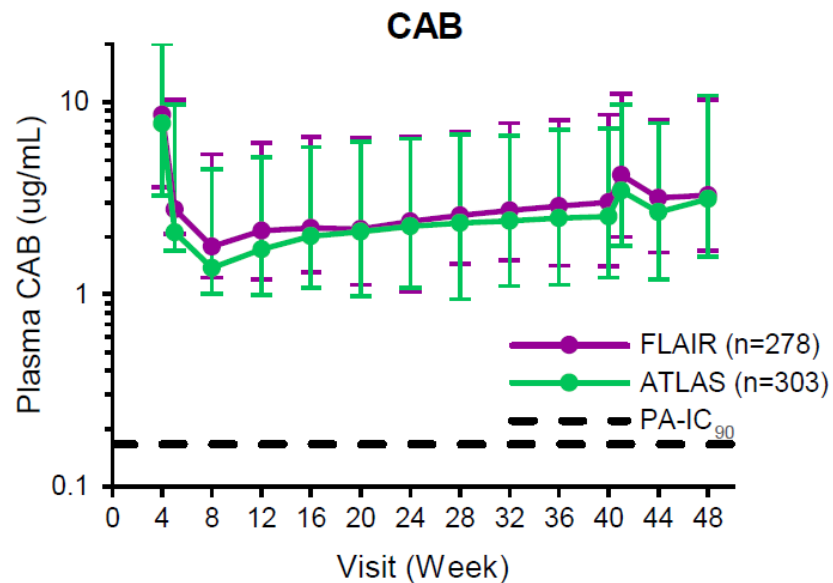
Median (5th and 95th percentile) plasma CAB and RPV trough levels over time

Oral lead-in: CAB/RPV 30/25 mg QD for 4 weeks

Initial im dose: CAB/RPV **600/900** mg im at week 4

Maintenance im dose: CAB/RPV 400/600 mg im from week 8 and every 4 weeks thereafter

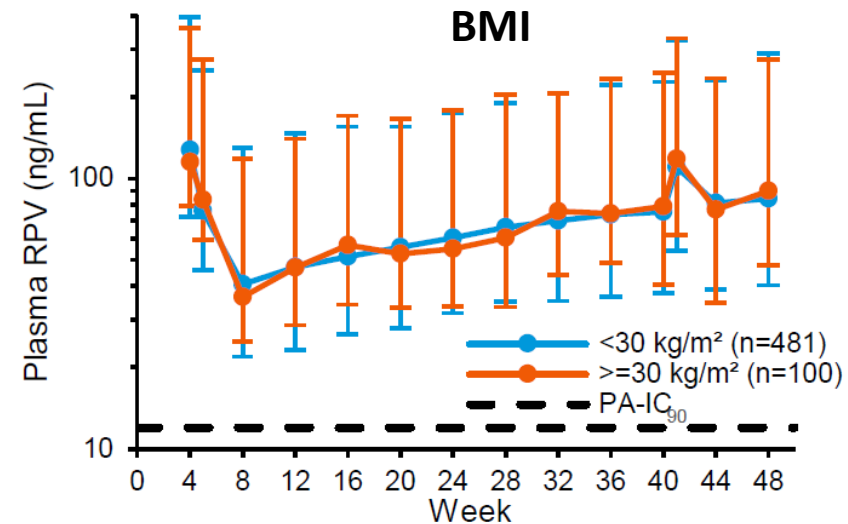
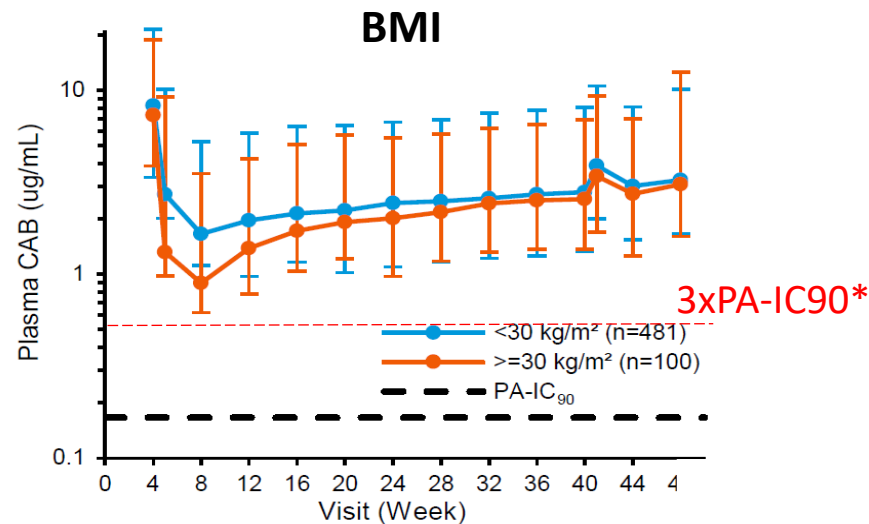
| | FLAIR | ATLAS |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Median BMI: | 24.1 (17.3-44.9) | 25.5 (15.3-50.9) |
| Proportion female: | 22% | 33% |



Cabotegravir and rilpivirine plasma levels in obese vs non-obese

Median (5th and 95th percentile) plasma CAB and RPV trough levels over time

In FLAIR and ATLAS: 17% participants had BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²
13% were male with BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²
27% were female with BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²

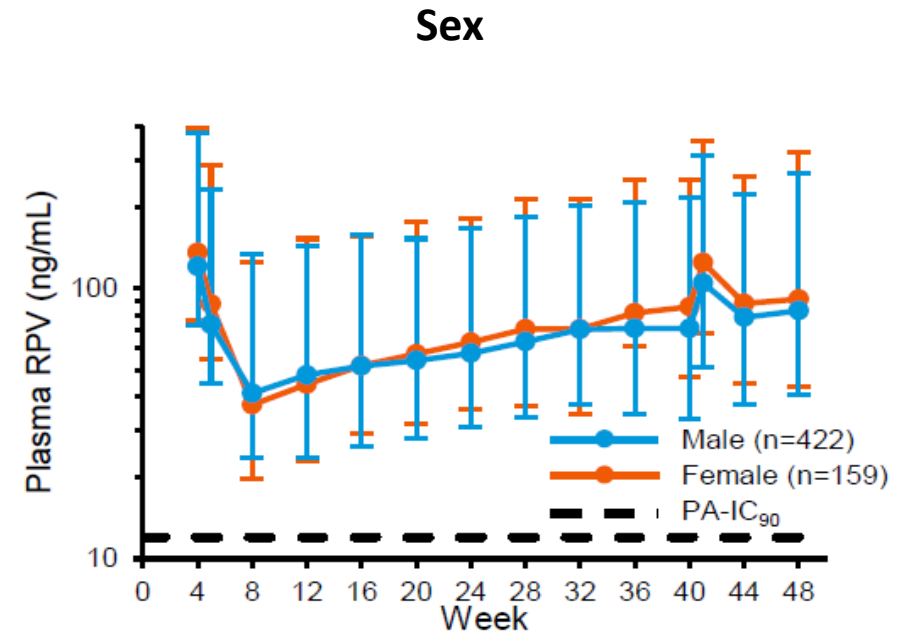
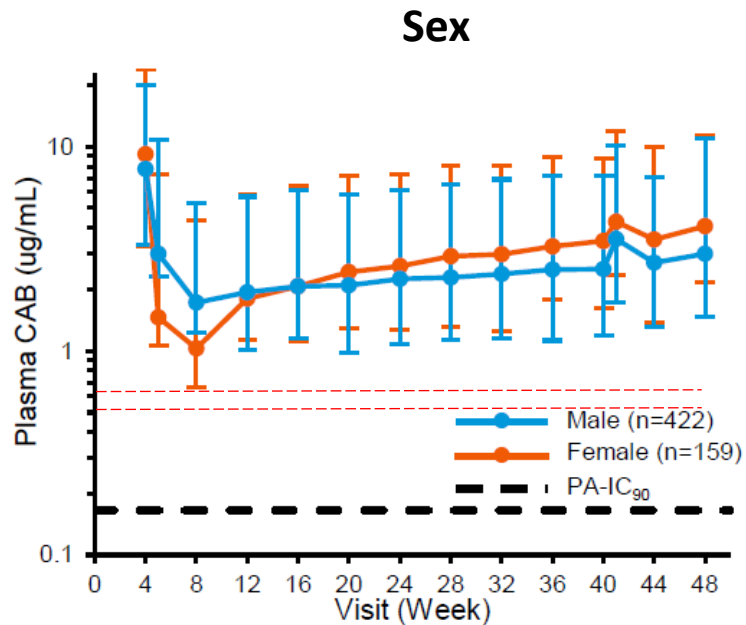


- 4 weeks following the first injection, median cabotegravir levels were 46% lower in obese vs non-obese => slower absorption resulting in initial lower trough that increases over time with no difference at week 32
- RPV is not affected by BMI

* in a low dose rectal challenge model, plasma CAB concentrations > 3x PA-IC₉₀ provided 100% protective efficacy, 1-3 x PA-IC₉₀ provided 97% protective efficacy

Cabotegravir and rilpivirine plasma levels in female vs men

Median (5th and 95th percentile) plasma CAB and RPV trough levels over time

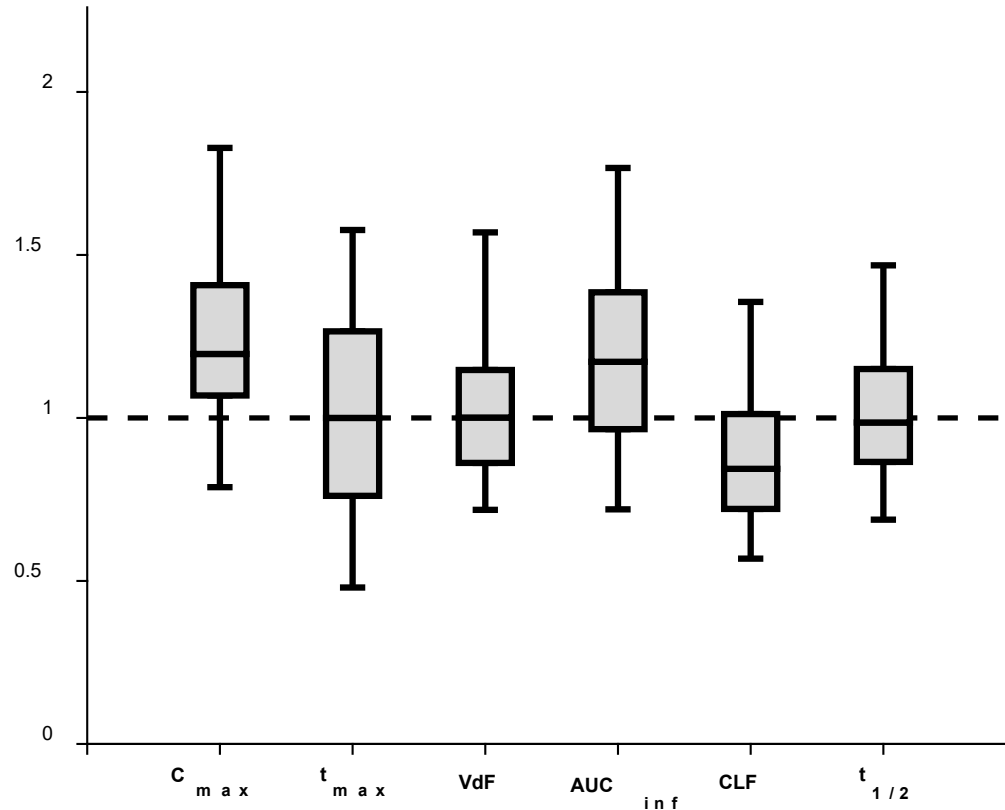


- 4 weeks following the first injection, median cabotegravir levels were 40% lower in female vs male
- RPV is not affected by sex
- in a low dose rectal challenge model, plasma CAB concentrations > 3x PA-IC₉₀ provided 100% protective efficacy, 1-3 x PA-IC₉₀ provided 97% protective efficacy
- In a vaginal challenge model, plasma CAB concentrations > 4x PA-IC₉₀ provided 87% protective efficacy

Gender effect on the pharmacokinetics of oral and iv drugs

Meta analysis of existing studies (n = 64) comparing gender PK

Data represent ratio women/men



| Parameter | Difference |
|-------------|------------|
| C_{max} | ↑ 20% |
| t_{max} | 0% |
| AUC_{inf} | ↑ 17% |
| CLF | ↓ 11% |
| VdF | 0% |
| $t_{1/2}$ | -1% |

Explained by differences in body weight and metabolism resulting in reduced first pass effect and hepatic metabolism.

Case presentation

- Adrian 29 year-old MSM
- Multiple male sexual partners per month, condom use inconsistent
- BMI: 28 kg/m²
- Currently on PrEP with TDF/FTC
- Last control: HIV antigen/antibody negative, HBsAg negative,
- eGFR 90 mL/min/1.73 m²
- Chemsex (ecstasy, methamphetamine)
- Medications: occasionally antacids, St John's Wort (mild depression)

Cabotegravir metabolism

| | Cabotegravir | Effect of Cabotegravir on UGTs, CYPs, transporters |
|------------------|--|--|
| Metabolism | UGT1A1 (minor UGT1A9) | No inhibitory or inducing effects on: CYPs UGTs |
| Transport | P-gp, BCRP High intestinal permeability (inhibitors unlikely to impact CAB absorption) OATP1B1/3, OAT3, MRP2, MRP3, MRP4 | No clinically significant inhibitory effects on: P-gp, BCRP, MRP4, MRP2, OATP1B1/3, OCT1/2, BSEP, MATE1, MATE2K, OAT1/3 |
| T _{1/2} | oral: 41 hours im: 5.6-11.5 weeks | |

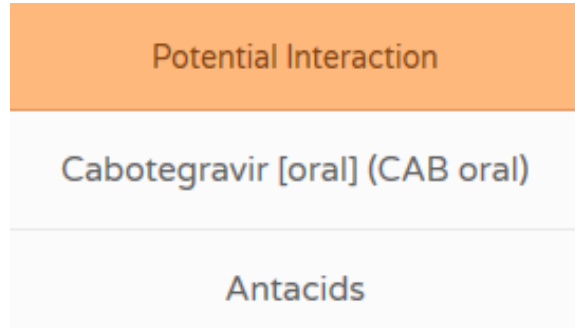
Drug-drug interactions with Chemsex

Cabotegravir does not interact with Chemsex

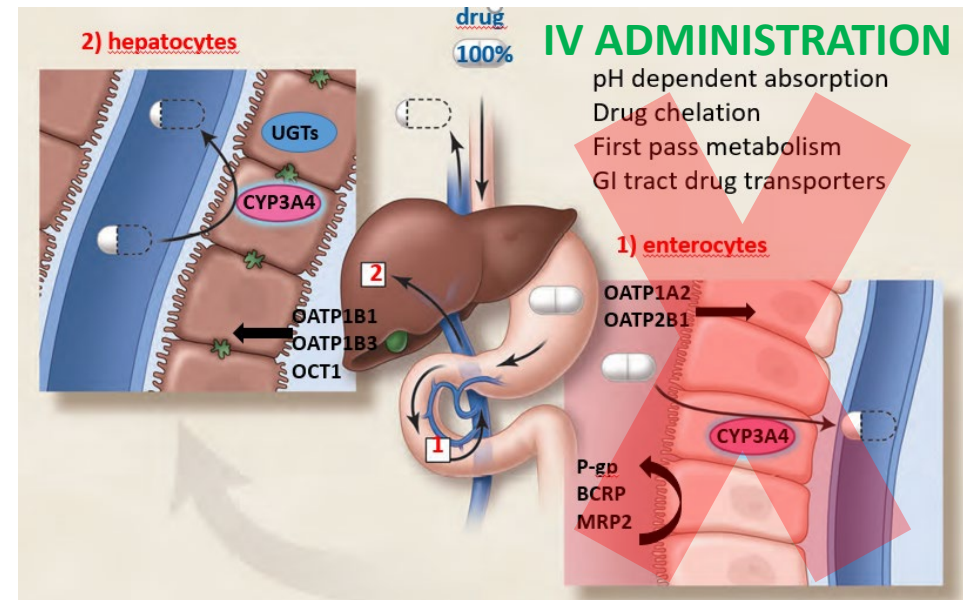
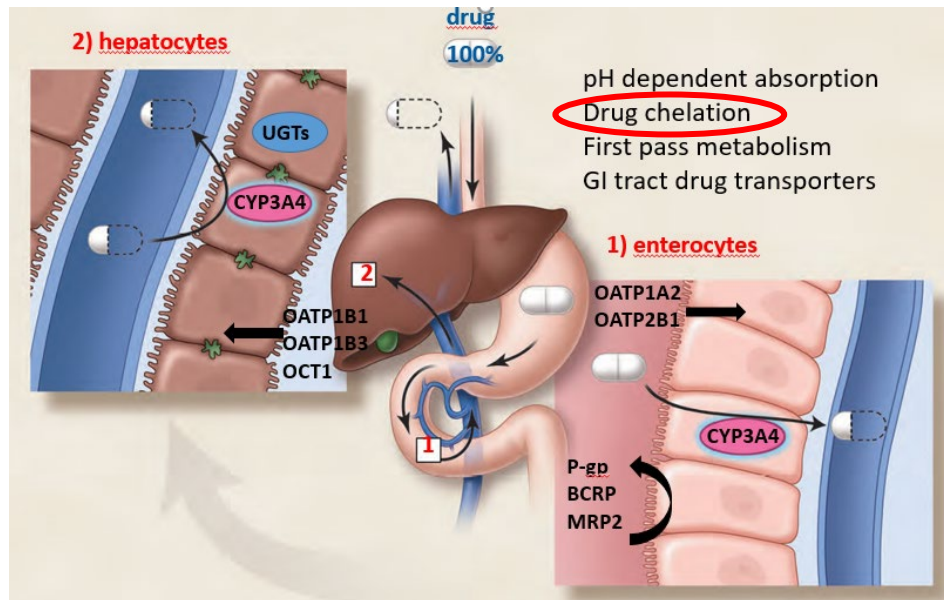
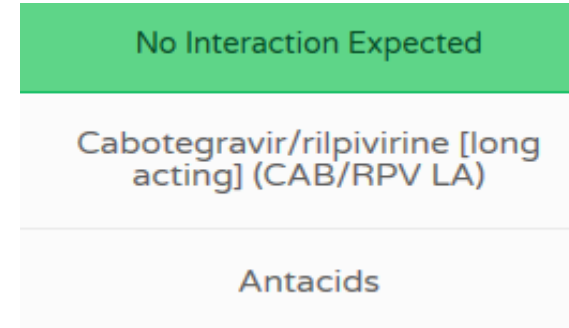
| Drug | Metabolism | Interaction Potential | |
|--|---------------------------|--|---|
| | | <i>Cobicistat Ritonavir</i> | <i>BIC, CAB, DOR, DTG, RAL, MVC, RPV, NRTIs</i> |
| Benzodiazepines: <i>Midazolam, Triazolam</i> | CYP3A4 | High | Low |
| Benzodiazepines: <i>Others</i> | CYP3A4 | High | Low |
| Cocaine | CYP3A4 (minor) | Low-moderate | Low |
| Ecstasy (MDMA) | CYP2D6 | Limited CYP2D6 inhibition, but small PK changes could be significant due to non-linear PK. | Low |
| GHB | GHB dehydrogenase CYP? | Unknown. Caution due to GHB narrow therapeutic index | Low |
| Ketamine | CYP3A4 | High | Low |
| Mephedrone | CYP2D6 | Limited CYP2D6 inhibition | Low |
| Methamphetamine | CYP2D6 | Limited CYP2D6 inhibition, but small PK changes could be significant due to non-linear PK. | Low |

Drug-drug interactions with antacids

oral lead-in



im injection

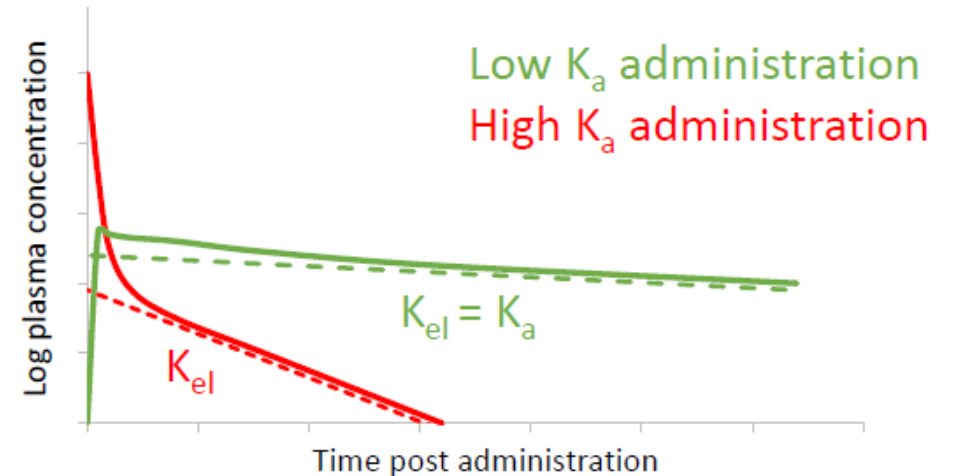
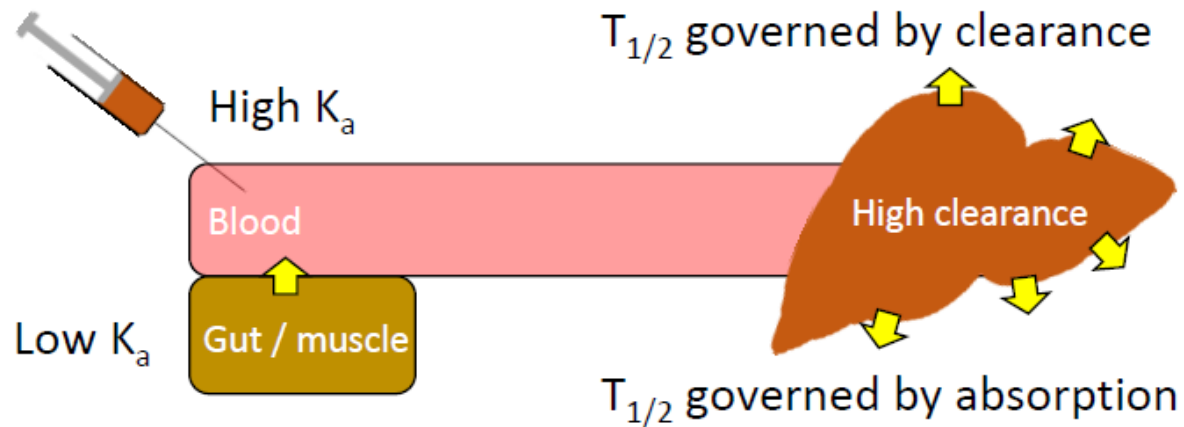


Administer antacids 2 h before or 4 h after oral cabotegravir

No chelation with im administration

Intramuscular administration characterized by flip-flop pharmacokinetics

In case of flip-flop pharmacokinetics, the rate of absorption is slower than rate of elimination ($K_{el} > K_a$)



In presence of strong inducers, AUC is decreased as elimination rate increases but $t_{1/2}$ remains constant as it is controlled by absorption rate.

Drug-drug interactions with strong inducers

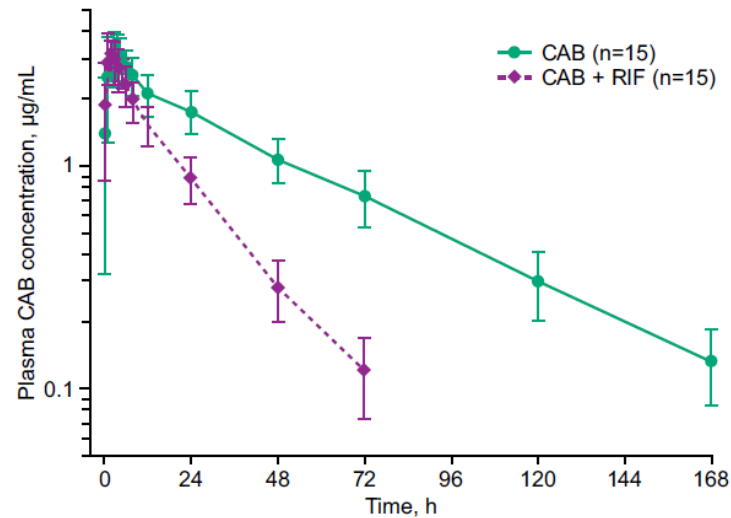
| |
|---|
| No Interaction Expected |
| Emtricitabine/Tenofovir-DF (FTC/TDF, PrEP) |
| St John's Wort |

| |
|--------------------------------|
| Do Not Coadminister |
| Cabotegravir [oral] (CAB oral) |
| St John's Wort |

| |
|---|
| Do Not Coadminister |
| Cabotegravir/rilpivirine [long acting] (CAB/RPV LA) |
| St John's Wort |

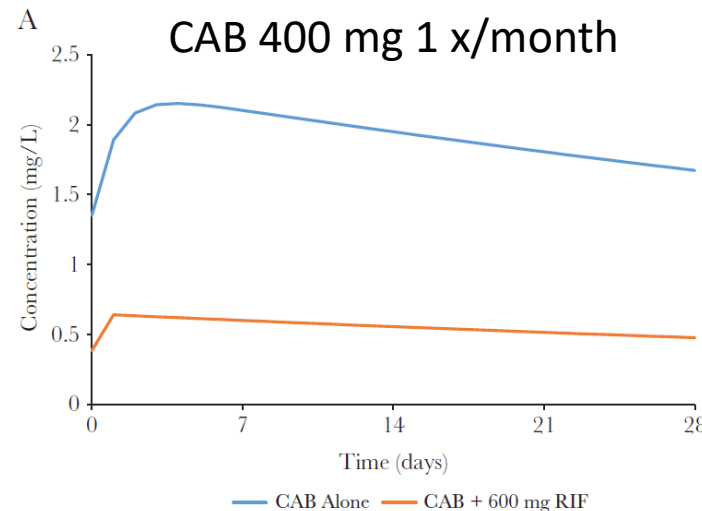
Oral cabotegravir + rifampicin

CAB AUC ↓ by 59%; $t_{1/2}$ ↓ by 57%

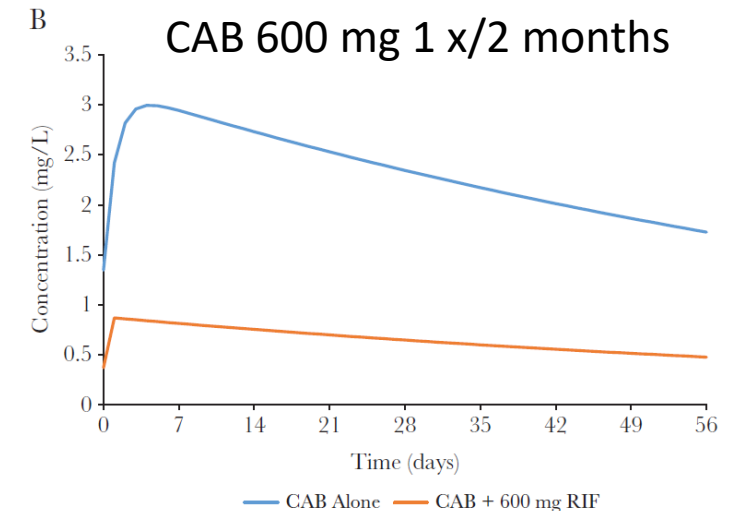


Cabotegravir im + rifampicin

CAB AUC ↓ by 41%; $t_{1/2}$ ↔



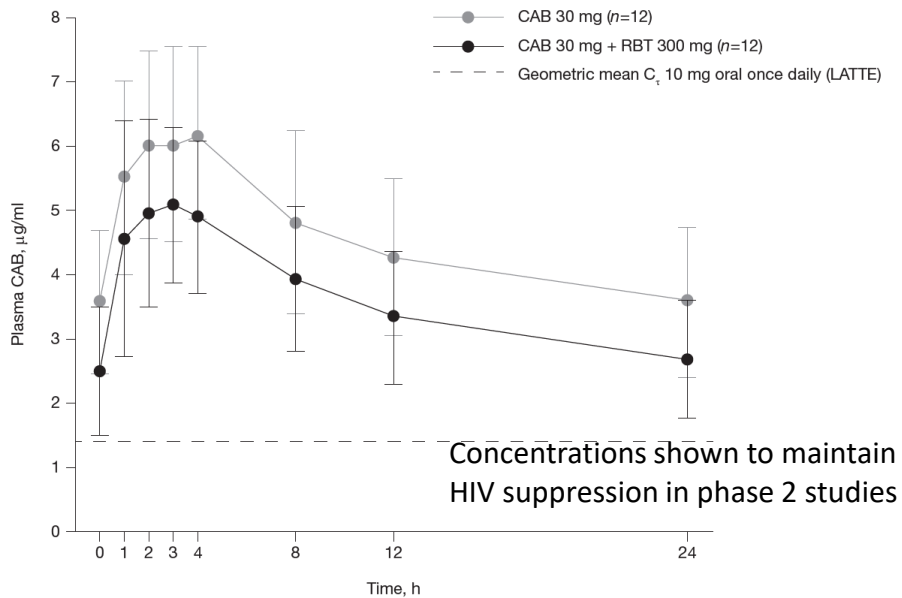
CAB AUC ↓ by 46%; $t_{1/2}$ ↔



What about moderate inducers

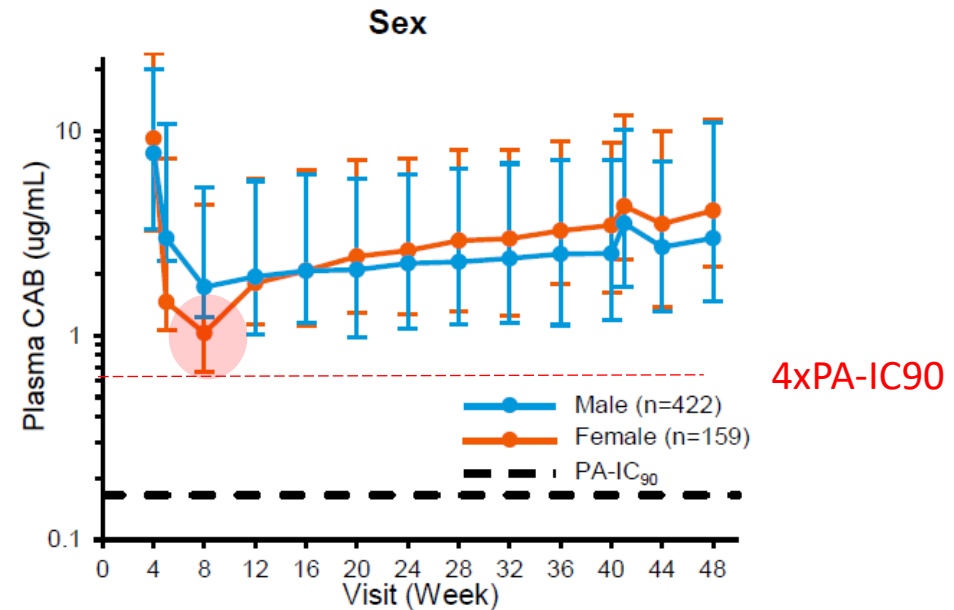
Oral cabotegravir + rifabutin

CAB AUC ↓ by 21%; C_{trough} ↓ by 26%



| |
|--------------------------------|
| No Interaction Expected |
| Cabotegravir [oral] (CAB oral) |
| Rifabutin |

Current gap: DDI in special populations



Could DDI with moderate inducers become relevant in an obese woman in the early phase of cabotegravir injection?



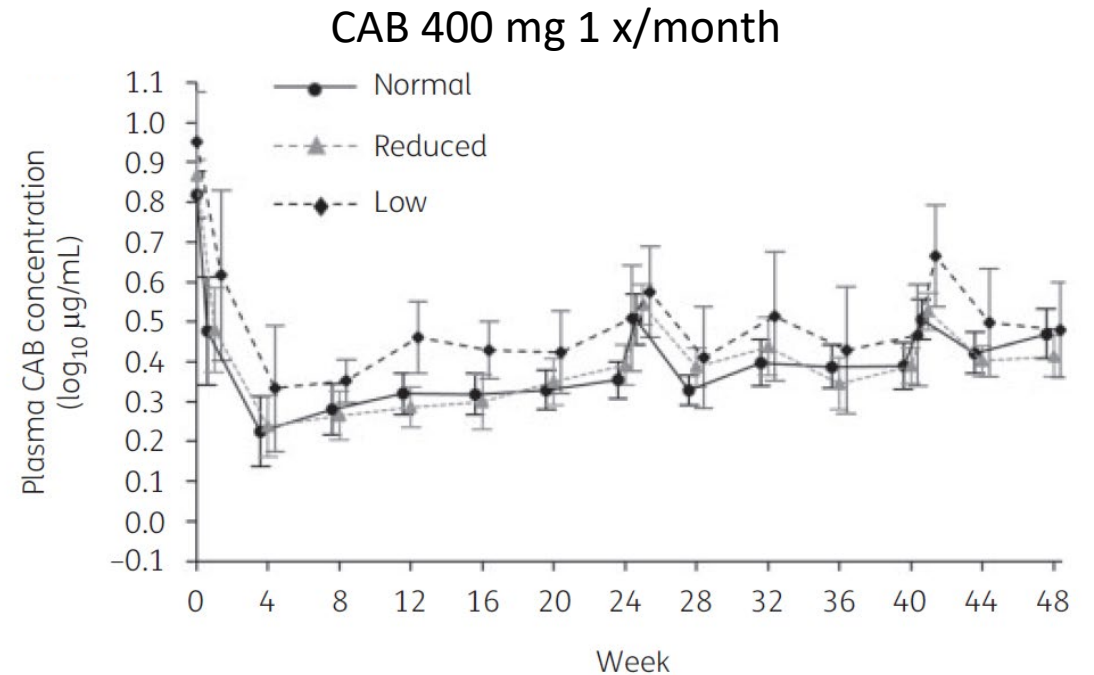
Ongoing phase III study evaluating efficacy and safety of CAB LA compared to oral PrEP in women

What about strong inhibitors of UGT1A1

DDI predictions using PBPK modelling

| Substrate – Inhibitor/Inducer | CAB AUC Ratio* Geometric Mean (5th-95 th percentile) | CAB Cmax Ratio* Geometric Mean (5th-95 th percentile) |
|---|--|---|
| DDI Enzyme | Predicted | Predicted |
| Cabotegravir – Atazanavir UGT1A1 Inhibition | 1.11 (1.04, 1.20) | 1.02 (1.01, 1.04) |
| Cabotegravir – Mefenamic Acid UGT1A9 Inhibition | 1.10 (1.04, 1.18) | 1.02 (1.01, 1.03) |

Effect of UGT1A1*6 and UGT1A1*28 (reduced function) on CAB pharmacokinetics



Genetic variations resulted in modest elevations of oral cabotegravir exposure (28-50% increase) and im cabotegravir exposure (16-24%).

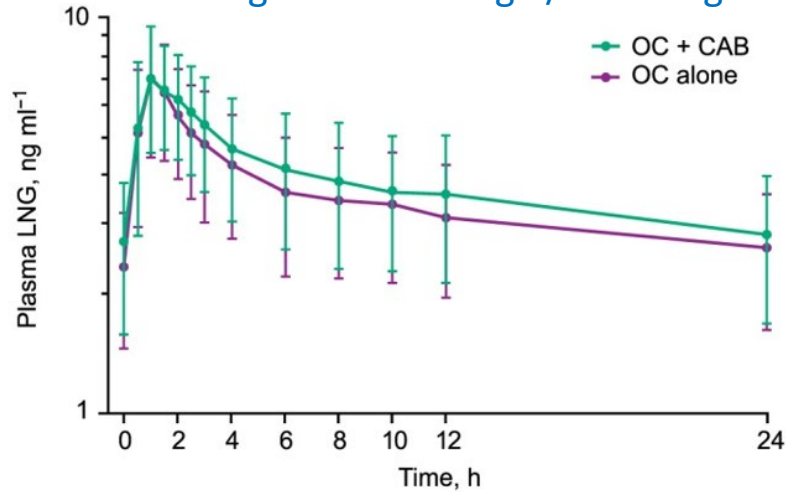
Case presentation

- Adrian is considering undergoing gender reassignment and wonder whether cabotegravir does interact with hormones

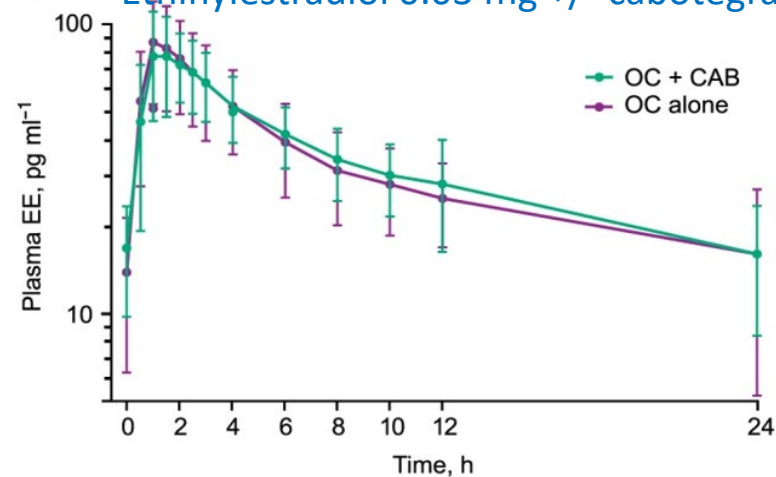
Drug-drug interactions with hormonal contraception

CAB oral

Levonorgestrel 0.15 mg +/- cabotegravir 30 mg



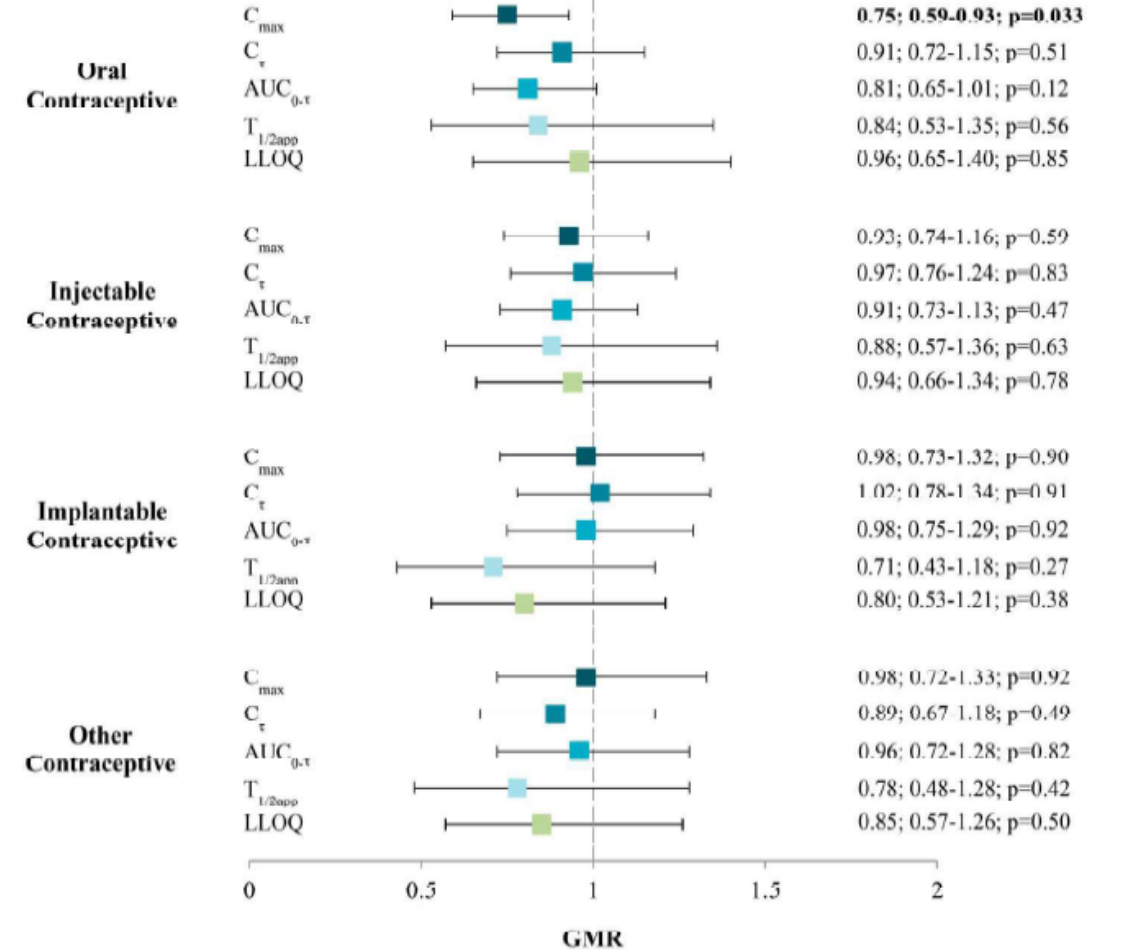
Ethinylestradiol 0.03 mg +/- cabotegravir 30 mg



- No significant effect

Trezza C et al. Br J Clin Pharmacol 2017

CAB LA



- Oral contraceptive associated with lower CAB LA peak but no significant effect on other PK parameters
- Other contraceptives caused no changes in CAB-LA PK

Blair CS et al. JAIDS 2020

Drug-drug interactions with hormone therapy for gender affirming

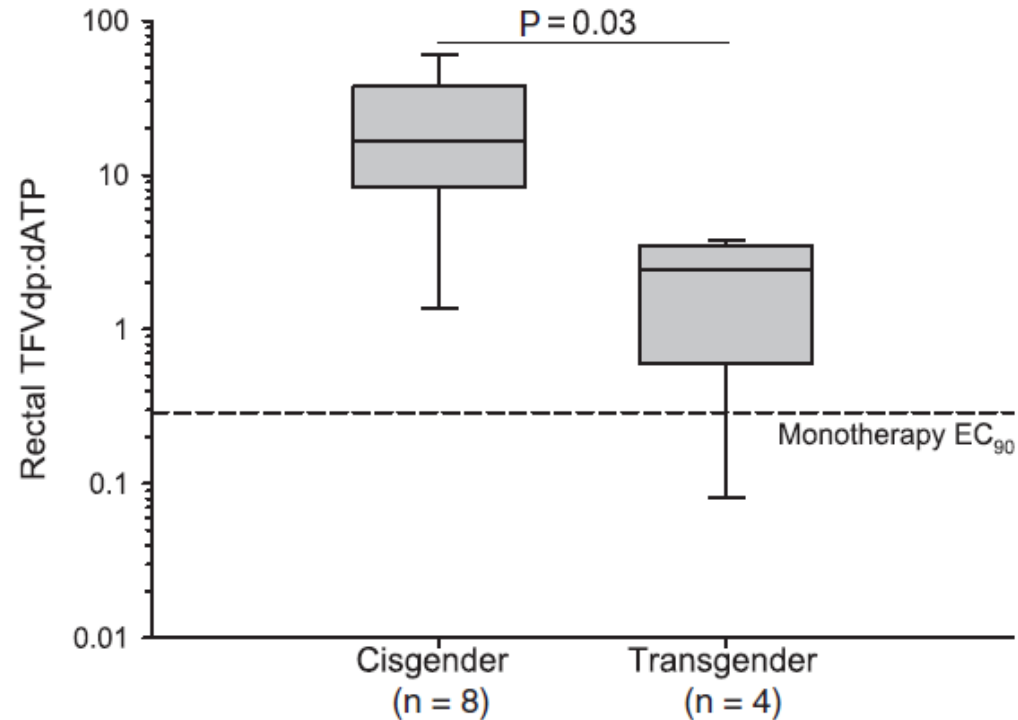
No significant pharmacokinetic interactions expected with cabotegravir

Estrogen and anti-androgen preparations for use in male to female gender reassignment therapy

| | | HIV drugs with no predicted effect | HIV drugs predicted to inhibit metabolism | HIV drugs predicted to induce metabolism |
|--|---------------|---|--|---|
| Estrogens | | CAB, DOR, RPV, MVC, BIC, DTG, RAL ABC, ddi, FTC, 3TC, d4T, TAF, TDF, ZDV | ATV alone, ATV/cobi, DRV/cobi, EVG/cobi | ATV/r, DRV/r, FPV/r, IDV/r, LPV/r, SQV/r, TPV/r, EFV, ETV, NVP |
| Estradiol oral | Starting dose | 2 mg/day | 1 mg/day | Increase estradiol dosage as needed based on clinical effects and monitored hormone levels. |
| | Average dose | 4 mg/day | 2 mg/day | |
| | Maximum dose | 8 mg/day | 4 mg/day | |
| Estradiol gel (preferred for >40 y and/or smokers) | Starting dose | 0.75 mg twice daily | 0.5 mg twice daily | Increase estradiol dosage as needed based on clinical effects and monitored hormone levels. |
| | Average dose | 0.75 mg three times daily | 0.5 mg three times daily | |
| | Maximum dose | 1.5 mg three times daily | 1 mg three times daily | |
| Estradiol patch (preferred for >40 y and/or smokers) | Starting dose | 25 µg/day | 25 µg/day* | Increase estradiol dosage as needed based on clinical effects and monitored hormone levels. |
| | Average dose | 50-100 µg/day | 37.5-75 µg/day | |
| | Maximum dose | 150 µg/day | 100 µg/day | |
| Conjugated estrogen† | Starting dose | 1.25-2.5 mg/day | 0.625-1.25 mg/day | Increase estradiol dosage as needed based on clinical effects and monitored hormone levels. |
| | Average dose | 5 mg/day | 2.5 mg/day | |
| | Maximum dose | 10 mg/day | 5 mg/day | |
| Ethinylestradiol | Starting dose | No interaction expected, but not recommended due to thrombotic risks | Not recommended | Not recommended |
| | Average dose | | | |
| | Maximum dose | | | |
| Androgen Blockers | | CAB, DOR, RPV, MVC, BIC, DTG, RAL ABC, ddi, FTC, 3TC, d4T, TAF, TDF, ZDV | ATV alone, ATV/cobi, ATV/r, DRV/cobi, DRV/r, EVG/cobi, FPV/r, IDV/r, LPV/r, SQV/r, TPV/r | EFV, ETV, NVP |
| Spironolactone | Starting dose | 50 mg/day | No interaction expected. No dose adjustment required. | No interaction expected. No dose adjustment required. |
| | Average dose | 150 mg/day | | |
| | Maximum dose | 400 mg/day | | |
| Finasteride | Starting dose | 2.5 mg/day | Finasteride has a large safety margin. No dose adjustment required. | Increase finasteride dosage as needed based on clinical effects and monitored hormone levels. |
| | Average dose | 2.5 mg/day | | |
| | Maximum dose | 5 mg/day | | |
| Cyproterone acetate | Starting dose | 50 mg/day | 25 mg/day | Increase cyproterone dosage as needed based on clinical effects and monitored hormone levels. |
| | Average dose | 150 mg/day | 75 mg/day | |
| | Maximum dose | 150 mg/day | 75 mg/day | |
| Goserelin | Starting dose | 3.6 mg/month | No interaction expected. No dose adjustment required. | No interaction expected. No dose adjustment required. |
| | Average dose | 3.6 mg/month | | |
| | Maximum dose | 3.6 mg/month | | |
| Leuprorelin acetate | Starting dose | 3.75 mg/month | No interaction expected. No dose adjustment required. | No interaction expected. No dose adjustment required. |
| | Average dose | 3.75 mg/month | | |
| | Maximum dose | 3.75 mg/month | | |
| Triptorelin | Starting dose | 3.75 mg/month | No interaction expected. No dose adjustment required. | No interaction expected. No dose adjustment required. |
| | Average dose | 3.75 mg/month | | |
| | Maximum dose | 3.75 mg/month | | |

Feminizing hormone therapy and lower rectal tissue tenofovir diphosphate

Tenofovir-DP and endogenous nucleotide ratio in rectal tissue



- median TFVdp:dATP was **7-fold lower** in rectal tissue (but not PBMC) in transgender women taking feminizing hormones
- no differences in FTCtp:dCTP in blood or rectal tissue
- no increase in rectal HIV RNA or DNA was observed
- additional studies are needed to determine the clinical implication

Cottrell ML et al. Clin Infect Dis 2019

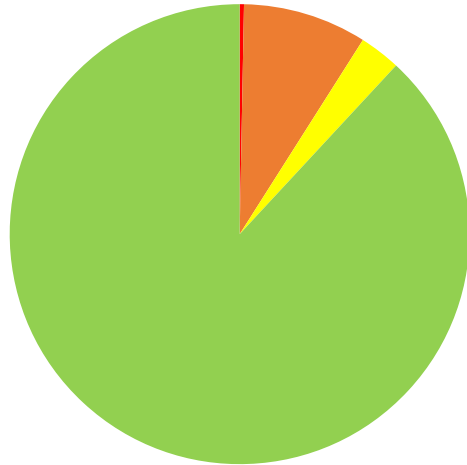
PK study in transgender women using PrEP showed modestly lower plasma FTV exposure however FTVdp levels were not reduced in PBMC. The authors mention that there is no need to adjust PrEP.

Cirincione LR et al. J Antimicrob Chemother 2020

Drug-drug interactions profiles of PrEP

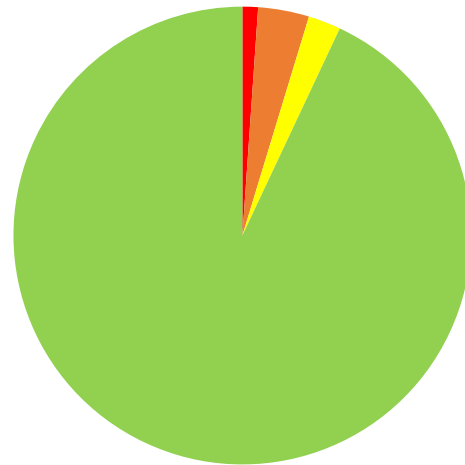
n = 724 comedications

TDF/FTC



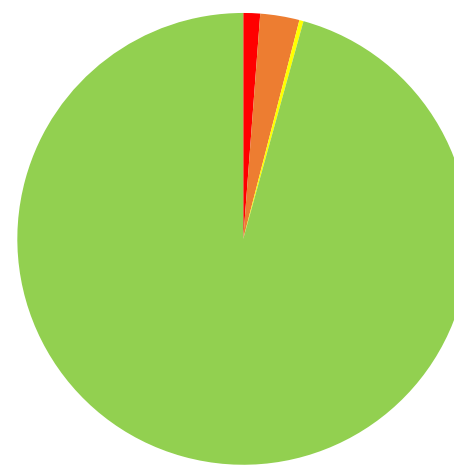
- Nephrotoxic agents
- Inhibitor intestinal transporters
- Inhibitor renal transporters

TAF/FTC



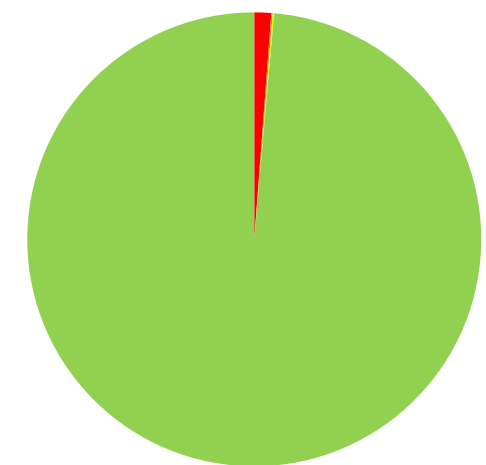
- Strong inducers
- Inhibitor intestinal transporters

CAB oral



- Strong inducers
- Divalent cations

CAB LA



- Strong inducers

■ no interaction
■ interaction of clinical relevance

■ Interaction of weak clinical relevance
■ deleterious interaction

Would cabotegravir PrEP be suitable for Adrian

- No interaction with Chemsex
- No interactions with antacids (separate intake oral CAB from antacids)
- Major interaction with SJW => change antidepressant
- No interaction with gender transitioning drugs

Conclusions

- Cabotegravir LA and oral PrEP have a low risk for drug-drug interactions.
- Better understanding is needed with regard to cabotegravir exposure-response relationship for prevention in both men and female.
- Better understanding of cabotegravir PK is needed in special populations.

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