

***In Silico* Prediction of Drug Binding to Cytochrome P450 2D6: Identification
of a new Metabolite of Metoclopramide**

**Jinglei Yu¹, Mark J.I. Paine¹, Jean-Didier Maréchal, Carol A. Kemp, Clive J. Ward,
Simon Brown, Michael J. Sutcliffe, Gordon C. K. Roberts, Elaine M. Rankin and C.
Roland Wolf**

Division of Cancer Medicine (J.U., E.M.R, S.B., C.J.W) and Molecular Pharmacology Unit
(M.J.I.P., C.R.W.), Biomedical Research Centre, University of Dundee, Ninewells Hospital &
Medical School, Dundee, DD1 9SY, United Kingdom; Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre,
School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science, University of Manchester, The Mill,
PO Box 88, Manchester, M60 1QD, UK (J-D.M., M.J.S); Department of Biochemistry,
University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH, United Kingdom (G.C.K.R, C.A.K).

Running title: Metoclopramide Metabolism

Address correspondence to: Professor C.R. Wolf, Biomedical Research Centre, University of Dundee, Ninewells Hospital & Medical School, Dundee, DD1 9SY, UK, Tel: +44 (0)1382 632 621 Fax: +44 (0)1382 668278, E-mail: roland.wolf@cancer.org.uk

number of text pages: 16

number of tables: 1

number of figures: 6

number of references: 48

number of words in Abstract: 246

number of words in Introduction: 410

number of words in Discussion: 763

Abbreviations used: CYP2D6, cytochrome P450 2D6; CYPs, cytochromes P450; P450 reductase, NADPH cytochrome P450 oxidoreductase; HLMS, human liver microsomes; CID, collision induced dissociation; HPLC-TOFMS, high performance liquid chromatography-time of flight mass spectrometry.

ABSTRACT

Patients with cancer are often taking many different classes of drugs to treat the effects of their malignancy and the side effects of treatment, as well as their co-morbidities. The potential for drug-drug interactions which may affect the efficacy of anti-cancer treatment is high and a major source of such interactions is competition for the drug-metabolising enzymes cytochromes P450. We have examined a series of 20 drugs commonly prescribed for cancer patients looking for potential interactions via cytochrome P450 2D6. We used a homology model of cytochrome P450 2D6 together with molecular docking techniques to perform an *in silico* screen for binding to CYP2D6. Experimental IC₅₀ values were determined for these compounds and compared with the model predictions to reveal a correlation with a regression coefficient of $r^2 = 0.61$. Importantly, the docked conformation of the commonly prescribed anti-emetic metoclopramide predicted a new site of metabolism that was further investigated through *in vitro* analysis with recombinant CYP2D6. An aromatic *N*-hydroxy metabolite of metoclopramide – consistent with predictions from our modelling studies – was identified by high performance liquid chromatography mass spectrometry. This metabolite was found to represent a major product of metabolism in human liver microsomes and CYP2D6 was identified as the main P450 isoform responsible for catalyzing its formation. In view of the prevalence of inter-individual variation in the CYP2D6 genotype and phenotype, we suggest that those experiencing adverse reactions with metoclopramide, *e.g.* extra-pyramidal syndrome, are likely to have a particular CYP2D6 genotype/phenotype. This warrants further investigation.

INTRODUCTION

Cytochrome P450's (CYPs) are a superfamily of heme-containing enzymes that are responsible for the oxidation of a structurally diverse range of xenobiotic compounds. The human genome contains 55 CYPs, but the vast majority (~90%) of therapeutic drugs are metabolised by five CYPs: 1A2, 2C9, 2C19, 2D6 and 3A4 (Wolf et al., 2000). Inhibition and/or induction of these isoforms is probably the most common mechanism underlying drug-drug interactions *in vivo*. Patients with cancer are potentially vulnerable to significant drug-drug interactions arising from drug metabolism by CYPs since they are subject to polypharmacy. These patients are often taking drugs to relieve symptoms of their malignancy (*e.g.* analgesics, anti-convulsants for neuropathic pain), side effects of their treatment (*e.g.* anti-emetics) as well as drugs to treat co-morbidities (*e.g.* anti-hypotensives and lipid lowering agents). Adverse drug interactions involving CYP2D6 are likely to be significant since up to 30% of drugs are substrates of this enzyme, including opioids, antidepressants, neuroleptics and various cardiac medications.

Various methods have been developed to predict interactions between drugs and CYP isoforms, and these can be broadly divided into data modelling or molecular modelling approaches (van de Waterbeemd and Gifford, 2003). The former involving statistical correlations between molecular and structural descriptors are relatively fast and can provide a useful computational filter in early drug discovery (Ekins et al., 2003). We have used the latter molecular approach, combining experimental analysis of substrate binding with protein modelling, to study CYP2D6 active-site-ligand interactions. This has helped us (Kirton et al., 2002; Paine et al., 2003; Flanagan et al., 2004; Kemp et al., 2004; McLaughlin et al., 2005) and others [*e.g.* (Venhorst et al., 2003; Keizers et al., 2004; Keizers et al., 2005)] to identify residues that play a key role in metabolism, and to determine the binding orientation and affinity of ligands in the active site (Kirton et al., 2002; Kemp et al., 2004). The recently determined crystal structure of CYP2D6

(Rowland et al., 2006) has confirmed the correctness of many of the features of the active site of our model of the enzyme.

Here we have used this approach to investigate interactions of CYP2D6 with a small set of 20 drugs that are commonly used by our cancer patients. As well as showing a useful correlation between our *in silico* predictions and the corresponding experimental results, this has uncovered the correct metabolic route for metoclopramide, a drug frequently used to prevent the nausea and vomiting associated with cancer chemotherapy (Harrington et al., 1983).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Terrific Broth (TB), chloramphenicol, δ -aminolevulinic acid (ALA), dithiothreitol, glucose 6-phosphate, NADP⁺, phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), sodium dithionite, cytochrome *c*, dextromethorphan and all the co-administered drugs were purchased from Sigma (Poole, UK). Ampicillin was obtained from Beecham Research (Welwyn Garden City, UK) and isopropyl β -D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) from Melford Laboratories (Ipswich, UK). Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase (type VII) was purchased from Roche Molecular Biochemicals (Lewes, UK). Library efficient competent *E.coli* JM109 was purchased from Promega. Pooled human liver microsome was purchased from Gentest (Woburn, USA). HPLC grade solvents were purchased from Rathburn Chemicals (Walkerburn, UK), and HPLC columns from Phenomenex (Cheshire, UK). Dextrophan was purchased from Ultra Fine Chemicals (Manchester, UK). All other chemicals were from BDH (Poole, UK).

Coexpression of the P450s and P450 reductase in *E. coli*

Expression was carried out essentially as previously described (Kemp et al., 2004). Briefly, pB81 plasmid was co-transfected with pJR7 into *E. coli* JM109. Cultures were grown in TB at 30 °C until the O.D.₆₀₀ reached >0.8 whereupon the haem precursor ALA was added to a final concentration of 1mM. Induction was initiated with the addition of IPTG to a final concentration of 1mM. Cultures were grown until the appearance of P450 in the CO-reduced spectra of whole cells (usually 24 hrs), at which point cells were harvested. Sphaeroplasts were prepared, sonicated and the membrane fraction pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 100,000 g. Membranes were resuspended in TSE buffer (50 mM Tris; pH 7.6, 250 mM sucrose, 10 % glycerol) and the P450 content determined by P450 (Fe²⁺)-CO vs. P450 (Fe²⁺) difference

spectra. P450 reductase activity was estimated by NADPH-dependent cytochrome *c* reduction (Kemp et al., 2004). Membranes were stored at -70°C until required.

Analytical Assays

Fluorescence assay The fluorogenic substrate 3-[2-(N, N-diethyl-N-Methylamino)ethyl]-7-methoxy-4methylcoumarin (AMMC) was used and assays were conducted in 96 well microtitre plates using a final volume of 200 μl . IC_{50} determination requires the serial dilution of test compounds across a concentration range that optimally covers 0 to 100% inhibition of CYP2D6 activity. The compounds tested were serially diluted in 3-fold steps in a final volume of 100 μl of 2x enzyme/substrate stock solution (0.1 pmol/ μl P450 in 100 mM KPB pH 7.4 with 2 mM AMMC). A solvent control was included to correct for any solvent effects across the dilution range. Plates were then pre-incubated for 3 min at 37°C , and the enzyme reaction was initiated by the addition of a 100 μl aliquot of pre-warmed 160x NADPH generating system (1.3 mM NADP^+ , 66 mM glucose 6-phosphate, 66 mM MgCl_2 , 0.8 U/ml glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase) in 100 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.4). The reaction was maintained at 37°C , and the activities of test compound were determined by Fluoroskan Ascent FL microtitre plate reader ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 390$, $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 460$ nm). Activity was expressed as a percentage of the corresponding solvent-only control, and IC_{50} values were calculated using GraFit 5.0.4 (Erithacus Software).

HPLC-MS assay Metoclopramide (0-150 μM) was incubated in 50 μM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) with 20 pmol P450 2D6 or 0.1 mg human liver microsomes (HLM; protein concentration of 8.9 mg/ml) and an NADPH regenerating system (0.41 mM glucose 6-phosphate, 0.41 mM magnesium chloride, 0.4 U glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase and 8.2 μM NADP^+) in a total volume of 200 μl . After 3 minutes pre-incubation at 37°C , reactions

were initiated with the addition of the NADPH regenerating system, and incubated for up to 30 minutes with recombinant CYP2D6, or 60mins with HLMs before being stopped with the addition of 200 μ l ice cold methanol. All reactions were carried out in duplicate. After incubation, samples were centrifuged at $16,000 \times g$, 5 min to remove particulate material. Typically, 25 μ l of the reaction supernatant was analysed by HPLC/MS. The analytes were separated on a Hyperclone BDS C₁₈ column (5 μ m; 150 x 2.0 mm) at a flow rate of 0.15 ml/min for metabolite screening and 0.2 ml/min for enzymatic determinations. A linear gradient was applied using water (A) and acetonitrile (B), both containing 0.1% (v/v) formic acid. The gradient for metabolite screening ran from 10% to 100% B in 10 min and was held for 3min before returning to the initial conditions. The run time was 20 min. The gradient for enzyme assays ran from 15% to 100% B over 6 min before returning to the initial conditions. The total run was 10 min. HPLC/MS analyses were carried out using a Waters 2695 HPLC coupled with a Micromass Q-ToF Micro mass spectrometer (MS) (Waters, Hertsfordshire, UK). The major MS parameters were: capillary = 4.5 kV, sample cone = 15 V, extraction cone = 5.0 V, desolvation temperature = 350 °C, source temperature = 120 °C, cone and desolvation gases were nitrogen at 80 and 500 L/hr respectively. For MS/MS experiments, the collision energy was 25 eV and the collision gas was argon.

Modeling and Docking. The homology model of CYP2D6 was produced as described previously (Kirton et al., 2002), using the comparative modelling programme Modeller (Sali and Blundell, 1993) with five structural templates: P450s cam (Poulos et al., 1986), terp (Hasemann et al., 1994), eryF (Cupp-Vickery et al., 2000), BM3 (Ravichandran et al., 1993), and 2C5 (Williams et al., 2000). Docking studies of the 20 drug compounds listed in Table 1 were performed as previously described (Kemp et al., 2004), using the program GOLD v3.0 (Jones et al., 1997) – a program consistently found to perform well, e.g. (Kellenberger et al.,

2004; Kontoyianni et al., 2004) – with the ChemScore (Eldridge et al., 1997; Verdonk et al., 2003; Kirton et al., 2005) fitness function. Ten solutions were generated for each ligand and ranked according to the value of the ChemScore fitness function, and the best ranked orientation of each compound was analysed further.

RESULTS

In silico docking.

The CYP2D6 structural model (Kirton et al., 2002; Kemp et al., 2004) was used to screen *in silico* 20 drugs often taken as medication by patients with cancer undergoing chemotherapy. Each drug was docked into the CYP2D6 model, and the value of the ChemScore fitness function for the best-ranked solution is given in Table 1. All 20 drugs were screened experimentally for inhibition of AMMC demethylase activity and compared with the *in silico* data (Table 1). We obtained a good correlation between the ChemScore values and the experimental log IC₅₀ values (Figure 1), with a regression coefficient of $r^2 = 0.61$ ($q^2 = 0.59$). The three drugs predicted by *in silico* analysis to be the strongest binders (Table 2) are loperamide, domperidone, and amitriptyline, which are three of the four tightest binding compounds, with experimental IC₅₀ values of 0.7 μM, 2.2 μM, and 3.6 μM, respectively. Of the 13 drugs predicted to inhibit CYP2D6 [ChemScore values < -30 kJ/mol (Kemp et al., 2004)], 11 are found experimentally to be inhibitors with IC₅₀ < 100 μM. Of the 7 drugs predicted not to inhibit CYP2D6 [ChemScore values > -30 kJ/mol (Kemp et al., 2004)], 5 have experimental IC₅₀ values > 100 μM.

Metoclopramide Metabolism

In examining the orientations of the compounds in the active site predicted by our docking procedure, metoclopramide appeared to adopt a position in the active site that was inconsistent with the *N*-deethylation reaction previously reported (Desta et al., 2002). When docked into the active site of our CYP2D6 model, metoclopramide adopts two main orientations. In one of these (ChemScore = -30.5 kJ/mol for the most energetically favourable docking), the aromatic amino group of the drug lies in close proximity to the heme (Figure 2a). This orientation suggests

possible oxidative reactions at C₃, C₄, or the aromatic amino group (Figure 3). In most of the solutions occupying this orientation a salt bridge is observed between the basic nitrogen of metoclopramide and the sidechain carboxyl group of Glu-216 (Figure 2a). In the second docked orientation (ChemScore = -26.0 kJ/mol for the most energetically favourable docking), the basic nitrogen of metoclopramide is in close proximity to the iron and the aromatic moiety forms a good π - π interaction with the sidechain of Phe-120 (Figure 2b). This orientation is consistent with oxidation of the tertiary amine concomitant with formation of the *N*-deethylated metabolite(s) described by Desta *et al.* (Desta et al., 2002). The relatively small difference in predicted ChemScore values between these two orientations suggests that CYP2D6 can catalyse oxidation at both the basic nitrogen and the aromatic amino moieties of metoclopramide.

To investigate the possibility of hydroxylation of the aromatic amino group of metoclopramide by CYP2D6, we analysed the metabolism of metoclopramide by human liver microsomes (HLMs) and recombinant CYP2D6 using HPLC/mass spectroscopy. Extracted ion chromatograms of a test sample (metoclopramide incubated with HLMs or CYP2D6), a control sample (without NADPH regenerating system) and a test sample in the presence of quinidine, a specific CYP2D6 inhibitor, are shown in Figure 4. A metabolite peak (m/z 316) with a retention time of 8.7 min was formed following incubation with both HLMs and CYP2D6. Its appearance was dependent on the presence of NADPH and was inhibited by quinidine (5 μ M), a diagnostic inhibitor of CYP2D6. The formation of the m/z 316 metabolite followed Michaelis-Menten kinetics with a K_M value of 6.41 ± 0.42 μ M. The V_{max} could not be calculated due to the absence of a standard. This low K_M is consistent with the measured IC₅₀ value of 9.2 μ M and the K_i value of 4.7 μ M reported for the inhibition of CYP2D6-mediated dextromethorphan *O*-demethylation by metoclopramide (Desta et al., 2002).

We also located an m/z 272 ion with the same retention time as the m/z 316 ion, which is presumably the deethylated product described by Desta *et al* (Desta et al., 2002). However, the intensity of this ion was approximately six times lower than that of the m/z 316 ion. In addition, we found the formation of the m/z 272 ion was independent of NADPH, an essential cofactor for CYP2D6 catalysis (Figure 5). Importantly, we found the 316 m/z ion to be relatively unstable in comparison with the m/z 272 ion (the 316 m/z ion peak disappeared from samples left at room temperature for ~32 hours, while no significant change was found in the m/z 272 signal). Taken together these data indicate that the m/z 316 ion is the primary metabolite produced following the metabolism of metoclopramide by CYP2D6.

Identification of the m/z 316 metabolite

The 316 m/z metabolite represents a 16 mass unit increase over metoclopramide, indicative of the addition of an oxygen atom. To identify the location of the reaction, we compared the collision induced dissociation (CID) mass spectra of metoclopramide and the metabolite. The CID of metoclopramide (m/z 300) produced 4 major fragments at m/z 227.03, 212.02, 184.00 and 156.01 (Figure 6A). These correspond to the progressive loss of the following functional groups, as shown in Figure 6A: m/z 227.03 ion – loss of the diethylamino group (73 mass units); m/z 212.02 - additional loss of a methyl group (15 mass units); m/z 184.00 – additional loss of -CHNH (28 mass units), and m/z 156.01 – additional loss of carbon monoxide (28 mass units).

The CID of the m/z 316 metabolite produced four major fragments at m/z 243.02, 226.01, 199.99 and 182.97 (Figure 6B). The m/z 243.02 fragment corresponds to a 16 mass unit increase relative to the m/z 227.03 fragment seen in the CID spectrum of metoclopramide, corresponding to the addition of a hydroxyl group. The m/z 226.01 and 182.97 fragments

appear to be derived from loss of 17 mass units from the m/z 243.02 and 199.99 fragments respectively (Fig 6b), corresponding to the facile loss of OH from a hydroxylamino group. Taken together, these data point to oxidation of the aromatic amino group to a hydroxylamino group by CYP2D6, consistent with the prediction from Figure 2a.

DISCUSSION

CYP2D6 metabolises many drugs commonly taken by patients undergoing anti-cancer chemotherapy. We previously reported the validation of this CYP2D6 model by the successful prediction of relative affinities (Kemp et al., 2004) and sites of metabolism (Kirton et al., 2002; Kemp et al., 2004). Indeed the recent publication of a CYP2D6 crystal structure (Rowland et al., 2006) shows good agreement with the global structure and the positioning of key active site residues predicted by our modelling data. We have now used the same method to screen a small but diverse range of concomitant medications used by patients with cancer; we recently performed a similar study of the interaction of co-medication compounds with CYP3A4 (Marechal et al., 2006). The *in silico* screen successfully discriminated between compounds which bound to CYP2D6 and those which do not. Taking (as we have previously; (Kemp et al., 2004)) a ChemScore of -30 kJ/mol and an IC₅₀ of 100 µM as the dividing lines between ‘binders’ and ‘non-binders’, the docking calculations produced two false positives and two false negative out of the 20 compounds examined. In terms of a quantitative comparison, the experimental data for these 20 compounds correlated reasonably well with the values predicted from the model, with a regression coefficient of $r^2 = 0.61$ – this is significantly better than random.

In addition to predicting binding affinity, our modelling approach can also be used to predict the sites of metabolism of a wide range of drugs (Kirton et al., 2002; Kemp et al., 2004). In the present work, this has proved useful in predicting a novel metabolic pathway for metoclopramide, a commonly prescribed anti-emetic. The arylhydroxyamino metabolite of metoclopramide was identified from urine analysis (Maurich et al., 1994), and our study now identifies CYP2D6 as mediating the oxidative metabolism of metoclopramide to this hydroxylamino derivative rather than to the *N*-deethylated product previously reported (Desta et

al., 2002). The discrepancy may be associated with the instability of the hydroxylamino metabolite, allied to differences in sample handling prior to mass spectrometry analysis (the analysis of Desta *et al.* was based on off line mass spectrometry), which creates the potential for the degradation of the genuine metabolite.

With respect to the clinical significance of this new finding, it is unlikely that P450-mediated metabolism determines the overall clearance of metoclopramide (Teng *et al.*, 1977; Bateman *et al.*, 1980). However, minor metabolic pathways could be clinically relevant if linked to the generation of a toxic metabolite. In this respect, it is well documented that metoclopramide induces movement disorders, such as parkinsonism, dystonia, tardive dyskinesia, and akathisia (Jimenez-Jimenez *et al.*, 1997), as well as arrhythmias (Malkoff *et al.*, 1995; Baguley *et al.*, 1997), hypertension (Harrington *et al.*, 1983) and disorders involving haemoglobin oxidation (Grant *et al.*, 1994; Langford and Sheikh, 1999; Kuehl *et al.*, 2001). Thus, since toxic aromatic amines are known to be generated from related compounds such as procainamide (Radomski, 1979), further investigation into the potential toxicity of the metoclopramide metabolite is warranted. Furthermore, patients experiencing extra-pyramidal or other side effects from metoclopramide should be screened to see whether the adverse effect is related to their CYP2D6 genotype. If this is the case then there may be implications for the patients who may be particularly prone to adverse effects from other drugs using this as the major metabolic pathway.

In cancer treatment drug-drug interactions involving CYP2D6 are probably most significant with tamoxifen, an oestrogen receptor antagonist that is widely used to treat breast cancer. CYP2D6 has been shown to play an important role in the metabolism of this compound, increasing potency through conversion to the antiestrogen 4'-hydroxytamoxifen (Dehal and

Kupfer, 1997; Crewe et al., 2002), and we measured a relatively low IC_{50} for tamoxifen of 6.8 μ M. Importantly, the efficacy of tamoxifen varies widely, with recent evidence linking this to variation in CYP2D6 activity (Jin et al., 2005). Thus rationalising the molecular basis for drug-drug interactions with co-medications in relation to CYP2D6 may help shed light on the inter-individual variation associated with tamoxifen treatment.

Overall this study demonstrates that molecular modelling and docking provides a useful *in silico* tool for predicting CYP2D6 inhibition. Incorporation of experimental CYP2D6 structures will lead to further improvements in predictive power and hence in the usefulness of *in silico* screening in warning of potential drug-drug interactions in clinical practice.

Importantly, examination of the docked orientations of individual compounds provides a useful insight into the metabolism of CYP2D6 substrates, as proven here with metoclopramide where new metabolites have been predicted and confirmed to suggest that adverse reactions with metoclopramide might be linked with the CYP2D6 genotype/phenotype of an individual.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to Professor Peter Farmer for helpful discussion of the mass spectra.

REFERENCES

- Baguley WA, Hay WT, Mackie KP, Cheney FW and Cullen BF (1997) Cardiac dysrhythmias associated with the intravenous administration of ondansetron and metoclopramide. *Anesth Analg* **84**:1380-1381.
- Bateman DN, Kahn C and Davies DS (1980) The pharmacokinetics of metoclopramide in man with observations in the dog. *Br J Clin Pharmacol* **9**:371-377.
- Crewe HK, Notley LM, Wunsch RM, Lennard MS and Gillam EM (2002) Metabolism of tamoxifen by recombinant human cytochrome P450 enzymes: formation of the 4-hydroxy, 4'-hydroxy and N-desmethyl metabolites and isomerization of trans-4-hydroxytamoxifen. *Drug Metab Dispos* **30**:869-874.
- Cupp-Vickery J, Anderson R and Hatziris Z (2000) Crystal structures of ligand complexes of P450eryF exhibiting homotropic cooperativity. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* **97**:3050-3055.
- Dehal SS and Kupfer D (1997) CYP2D6 catalyzes tamoxifen 4-hydroxylation in human liver. *Cancer Res* **57**:3402-3406.
- Desta Z, Ward BA, Soukhova NV and Flockhart DA (2004) Comprehensive evaluation of tamoxifen sequential biotransformation by the human cytochrome P450 system in vitro: prominent roles for CYP3A and CYP2D6. *J Pharmacol Exp Ther* **310**:1062-1075.
- Desta Z, Wu GM, Morocho AM and Flockhart DA (2002) The gastroprokinetic and antiemetic drug metoclopramide is a substrate and inhibitor of cytochrome P450 2D6. *Drug Metab Dispos* **30**:336-343.
- Dixon CM, Colthup PV, Serabjit-Singh CJ, Kerr BM, Boehlert CC, Park GR and Tarbit MH (1995) Multiple forms of cytochrome P450 are involved in the metabolism of ondansetron in humans. *Drug Metab Dispos* **23**:1225-1230.

- Ekins S, Berbaum J and Harrison RK (2003) Generation and validation of rapid computational filters for cyp2d6 and cyp3a4. *Drug Metab Dispos* **31**:1077-1080.
- Eldridge MD, Murray CW, Auton TR, Paolini GV and Mee RP (1997) Empirical scoring functions: I. The development of a fast empirical scoring function to estimate the binding affinity of ligands in receptor complexes. *J Comput Aided Mol Des* **11**:425-445.
- Flanagan JU, Marechal JD, Ward R, Kemp CA, McLaughlin LA, Sutcliffe MJ, Roberts GC, Paine MJ and Wolf CR (2004) Phe120 contributes to the regiospecificity of cytochrome P450 2D6: mutation leads to the formation of a novel dextromethorphan metabolite. *Biochem J* **380**:353-360.
- Grant SC, Close JR and Bray CL (1994) Methaemoglobinaemia produced by metoclopramide in an adult. *Eur J Clin Pharmacol* **47**:89.
- Harrington RA, Hamilton CW, Brogden RN, Linkewich JA, Romankiewicz JA and Heel RC (1983) Metoclopramide. An updated review of its pharmacological properties and clinical use. *Drugs* **25**:451-494.
- Hasemann CA, Ravichandran KG, Peterson JA and Deisenhofer J (1994) Crystal structure and refinement of cytochrome P450terp at 2.3 Å resolution. *J Mol Biol* **236**:1169-1185.
- Jimenez-Jimenez FJ, Garcia-Ruiz PJ and Molina JA (1997) Drug-induced movement disorders. *Drug Saf* **16**:180-204.
- Jin Y, Desta Z, Stearns V, Ward B, Ho H, Lee KH, Skaar T, Storniolo AM, Li L, Araba A, Blanchard R, Nguyen A, Ullmer L, Hayden J, Lemler S, Weinshilboum RM, Rae JM, Hayes DF and Flockhart DA (2005) CYP2D6 genotype, antidepressant use, and tamoxifen metabolism during adjuvant breast cancer treatment. *J Natl Cancer Inst* **97**:30-39.
- Jones G, Willett P, Glen RC, Leach AR and Taylor R (1997) Development and validation of a genetic algorithm for flexible docking. *J Mol Biol* **267**:727-748.

- Keizers PH, de Graaf C, de Kanter FJ, Oostenbrink C, Feenstra KA, Commandeur JN and Vermeulen NP (2005) Metabolic regio- and stereoselectivity of cytochrome P450 2D6 towards 3,4-methylenedioxy-N-alkylamphetamines: in silico predictions and experimental validation. *J Med Chem* **48**:6117-6127.
- Keizers PH, Lussenburg BM, de Graaf C, Mentink LM, Vermeulen NP and Commandeur JN (2004) Influence of phenylalanine 120 on cytochrome P450 2D6 catalytic selectivity and regiospecificity: crucial role in 7-methoxy-4-(aminomethyl)-coumarin metabolism. *Biochem Pharmacol* **68**:2263-2271.
- Kellenberger E, Rodrigo J, Muller P and Rognan D (2004) Comparative evaluation of eight docking tools for docking and virtual screening accuracy. *Proteins* **57**:225-242.
- Kemp CA, Flanagan JU, van Eldik AJ, Marechal JD, Wolf CR, Roberts GC, Paine MJ and Sutcliffe MJ (2004) Validation of model of cytochrome P450 2D6: an in silico tool for predicting metabolism and inhibition. *J Med Chem* **47**:5340-5346.
- Kim KA, Chung J, Jung DH and Park JY (2004) Identification of cytochrome P450 isoforms involved in the metabolism of loperamide in human liver microsomes. *Eur J Clin Pharmacol* **60**:575-581.
- Kirton SB, Kemp CA, Tomkinson NP, St-Gallay S and Sutcliffe MJ (2002) Impact of incorporating the 2C5 crystal structure into comparative models of cytochrome P450 2D6. *Proteins* **49**:216-231.
- Kirton SB, Murray CW, Verdonk ML and Taylor RD (2005) Prediction of binding modes for ligands in the cytochromes P450 and other heme-containing proteins. *Proteins* **58**:836-844.
- Kontoyianni M, McClellan LM and Sokol GS (2004) Evaluation of docking performance: comparative data on docking algorithms. *J Med Chem* **47**:558-565.

- Kuehl P, Zhang J, Lin Y, Lamba J, Assem M, Schuetz J, Watkins PB, Daly A, Wrighton SA, Hall SD, Maurel P, Relling M, Brimer C, Yasuda K, Venkataramanan R, Strom S, Thummel K, Boguski MS and Schuetz E (2001) Sequence diversity in CYP3A promoters and characterization of the genetic basis of polymorphic CYP3A5 expression. *Nat Genet* **27**:383-391.
- Langford JS and Sheikh S (1999) An adolescent case of sulfhemoglobinemia associated with high-dose metoclopramide and N-acetylcysteine. *Ann Emerg Med* **34**:538-541.
- Malkoff MD, Ponzillo JJ, Myles GL, Gomez CR and Cruz-Flores S (1995) Sinus arrest after administration of intravenous metoclopramide. *Ann Pharmacother* **29**:381-383.
- Marechal JD, Yu J, Brown S, Kapelioukh I, Rankin EM, Wolf CR, Roberts GC, Paine MJ and Sutcliffe MJ (2006) In silico and in vitro screening for inhibition of cytochrome P450 CYP3A4 by comedications commonly used by patients with cancer. *Drug Metab Dispos* **34**:534-538.
- Margolis JM, O'Donnell JP, Mankowski DC, Ekins S and Obach RS (2000) (R)-, (S)-, and racemic fluoxetine N-demethylation by human cytochrome P450 enzymes. *Drug Metab Dispos* **28**:1187-1191.
- Maurich V, De Amici M and De Micheli C (1994) Synthesis of a metabolite of metoclopramide and its detection in human urine. *Farmaco* **49**:805-808.
- McLaughlin LA, Paine MJ, Kemp CA, Marechal JD, Flanagan JU, Ward CJ, Sutcliffe MJ, Roberts GC and Wolf CR (2005) Why is quinidine an inhibitor of cytochrome P450 2D6? The role of key active-site residues in quinidine binding. *J Biol Chem* **280**:38617-38624.
- Molden E, Asberg A and Christensen H (2000) CYP2D6 is involved in O-demethylation of diltiazem. An in vitro study with transfected human liver cells. *Eur J Clin Pharmacol* **56**:575-579.

- Olesen OV and Linnet K (1997) Metabolism of the tricyclic antidepressant amitriptyline by cDNA-expressed human cytochrome P450 enzymes. *Pharmacology* **55**:235-243.
- Paine MJ, McLaughlin LA, Flanagan JU, Kemp CA, Sutcliffe MJ, Roberts GC and Wolf CR (2003) Residues glutamate 216 and aspartate 301 are key determinants of substrate specificity and product regioselectivity in cytochrome P450 2D6. *J Biol Chem* **278**:4021-4027.
- Poulos TL, Finzel BC and Howard AJ (1986) Crystal structure of substrate-free *Pseudomonas putida* cytochrome P-450. *Biochemistry* **25**:5314-5322.
- Radomski JL (1979) The primary aromatic amines: their biological properties and structure-activity relationships. *Annu Rev Pharmacol Toxicol* **19**:129-157.
- Ravichandran KG, Boddupalli SS, Hasermann CA, Peterson JA and Deisenhofer J (1993) Crystal structure of hemoprotein domain of P450BM-3, a prototype for microsomal P450's. *Science* **261**:731-736.
- Rochat B, Amey M, Gillet M, Meyer UA and Baumann P (1997) Identification of three cytochrome P450 isozymes involved in N-demethylation of citalopram enantiomers in human liver microsomes. *Pharmacogenetics* **7**:1-10.
- Rowland P, Blaney FE, Smyth MG, Jones JJ, Leydon VR, Oxbrow AK, Lewis CJ, Tennant MG, Modi S, Eggleston DS, Chenery RJ and Bridges AM (2006) Crystal Structure of Human Cytochrome P450 2D6. *J Biol Chem* **281**:7614-7622.
- Sali A and Blundell TL (1993) Comparative protein modelling by satisfaction of spatial restraints. *J Mol Biol* **234**:779-815.
- Teng L, Bruce RB and Dunning LK (1977) Metoclopramide metabolism and determination by high-pressure liquid chromatography. *J Pharm Sci* **66**:1615-1618.
- van de Waterbeemd H and Gifford E (2003) ADMET in silico modelling: towards prediction paradise? *Nat Rev Drug Discov* **2**:192-204.

- Venhorst J, ter Laak AM, Commandeur JN, Funae Y, Hiroi T and Vermeulen NP (2003)
Homology modeling of rat and human cytochrome P450 2D (CYP2D) isoforms and
computational rationalization of experimental ligand-binding specificities. *J Med Chem*
46:74-86.
- Verdonk ML, Cole JC, Hartshorn MJ, Murray CW and Taylor RD (2003) Improved protein-
ligand docking using GOLD. *Proteins* **52**:609-623.
- Ward BA, Morocho A, Kandil A, Galinsky RE, Flockhart DA and Desta Z (2004)
Characterization of human cytochrome P450 enzymes catalyzing domperidone N-
dealkylation and hydroxylation in vitro. *Br J Clin Pharmacol* **58**:277-287.
- Williams PA, Cosme J, Sridhar V, Johnson EF and McRee DE (2000) Microsomal cytochrome
P450 2C5: comparison to microbial P450s and unique features. *J Inorg Biochem*
81:183-190.
- Wolf CR, Smith G and Smith RL (2000) Science, medicine, and the future: Pharmacogenetics.
Bmj **320**:987-990.

FOOTNOTES

This work was funded by Cancer Research UK.

¹ These authors contributed equally to this work.

FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. Correlation between the value of the ChemScore fitness function for the best ranked docked solution and the experimental log IC₅₀ value for each of the co-medication compounds listed in Table 2,

Figure 2. Models of the CYP2D6: metoclopramide complex. Docked solutions illustrating orientations consistent with (a) hydroxylation of the aromatic amino group and (b) deethylation of the tertiary amine. Ovals denote sites of reaction suggested by the dockings, and dashed lines denote salt bridges.

Figure 3. Structure of metoclopramide. The arrows depict the arylhydroxyamino and *N*-deethylated metabolites.

Figure 4. (a) Extracted chromatograms (m/z 316) of metoclopramide incubated with HLMs, a control sample (without NADPH regenerating system) and a test sample with quinidine (5 μM). **(b)** Extracted chromatograms (m/z 316) of metoclopramide incubated with CYP2D6, a control sample (without NADPH regenerating system) and a test sample with quinidine (5 μM).

Figure 5. (a) Extracted chromatograms (m/z 272) of metoclopramide incubated with HLMs and a control sample (without NADPH regenerating system). **(b)** Extracted chromatograms (m/z 272) of metoclopramide incubated with 2D6 and a control sample (without NADPH regenerating system).

Figure 6. CID mass spectra of **(a)** metoclopramide and **(b)** its m/z 316 metabolite.

Table 1. Experimental IC₅₀ and calculated ChemScore values for 20 co-administered drugs in our set of common co-medication drugs which bind most tightly to CYP2D6.

Drug name	Drug type	IC₅₀ (μM)^a	ChemScore (kJ/mol)^b
Fluoxetine ^{c,f}	Anti-depressant	0.4 ± 0.1	-38.3
Loperamide ^{c,d}	Anti-diarrhoea	0.7 ± 0.1	-41.8
Domperidone ^{c,e}	Anti-emetic	2.2 ± 0.3	-42.2
Amitriptyline ^{c,e}	Anti-depressant	3.6 ± 0.3	-44.6
Tamoxifen ^{c,d}	Anti-oestrogen	6.8 ± 0.6	-34.2
Metoclopramide ^{c,d}	Anti-emetic	9.2 ± 1.4	-30.5
Citalopram ^{c,f}	Anti-depressant	9.7 ± 0.6	-36.1
Ondansetron ^{c,f}	Anti-emetic	11.6 ± 1.3	-31.2
Lansoprazole	Anti-ulcer	13.3 ± 0.6	-31.1
Simvastatin	Anti-cholesterol	23.1 ± 3.0	-27.5
Diltiazem ^{c,d}	Anti-hypertensive	27.4 ± 1.5	-28.2
Omeprazole	Anti-ulcer	53.1 ± 2.1	-34.0
Lorazepam	Anxiolytic	94.3 ± 9.9	-30.5
Cimetidine	Anti-ulcer	164.4 ± 26.1	-22.0
Docetaxel	cytotoxic	230.1 ± 56.0	-22.6
Oxazepam	Anxiolytic	233.0 ± 56.0	-31.8
Prednisolone	Steroid	451.7 ± 59.3	-22.9
Ranitidine	Anti-ulcer	680.0 ± 28.9	-27.9
Dexamethasone	Steroid	707.8 ± 162.5	-24.9
Atenolol	Anti-hypotensive	737.4 ± 72.5	-30.2

^aFor inhibition of AMMC oxidation. Errors are goodness in fit to concentration-effect curve.

^bBest ranked of 10 docked orientations.

^cDrugs that are substrates of CYP2D6. Details of metabolites, and K_M data where available, are as follows – amitriptyline: 10-hydroxylation, K_M 5-13 μM (Olesen and Linnet, 1997); citalopram: *N*-demethylation, K_M 18-22 μM (Rochat et al., 1997); diltiazem: *O*-demethylation, K_M 5 μM (Molden et al., 2000); domperidone: 5-hydroxylation (Ward et al., 2004); fluoxetine: *N*-demethylation (Margolis et al., 2000); loperamide: *N*-demethylation (Kim et al., 2004); metoclopramide: *N*-hydroxylation, 6 μM (this study); ondansetron: 7- and 8-hydroxylation (Dixon et al., 1995); tamoxifen: 4-hydroxylation (Desta et al., 2004).

^dBest ranked docking consistent with known metabolite^c.

^eAt least one of the ten dockings consistent with known metabolite^c.

^fKnown metabolite^c not consistent with any of the ten docked orientations.

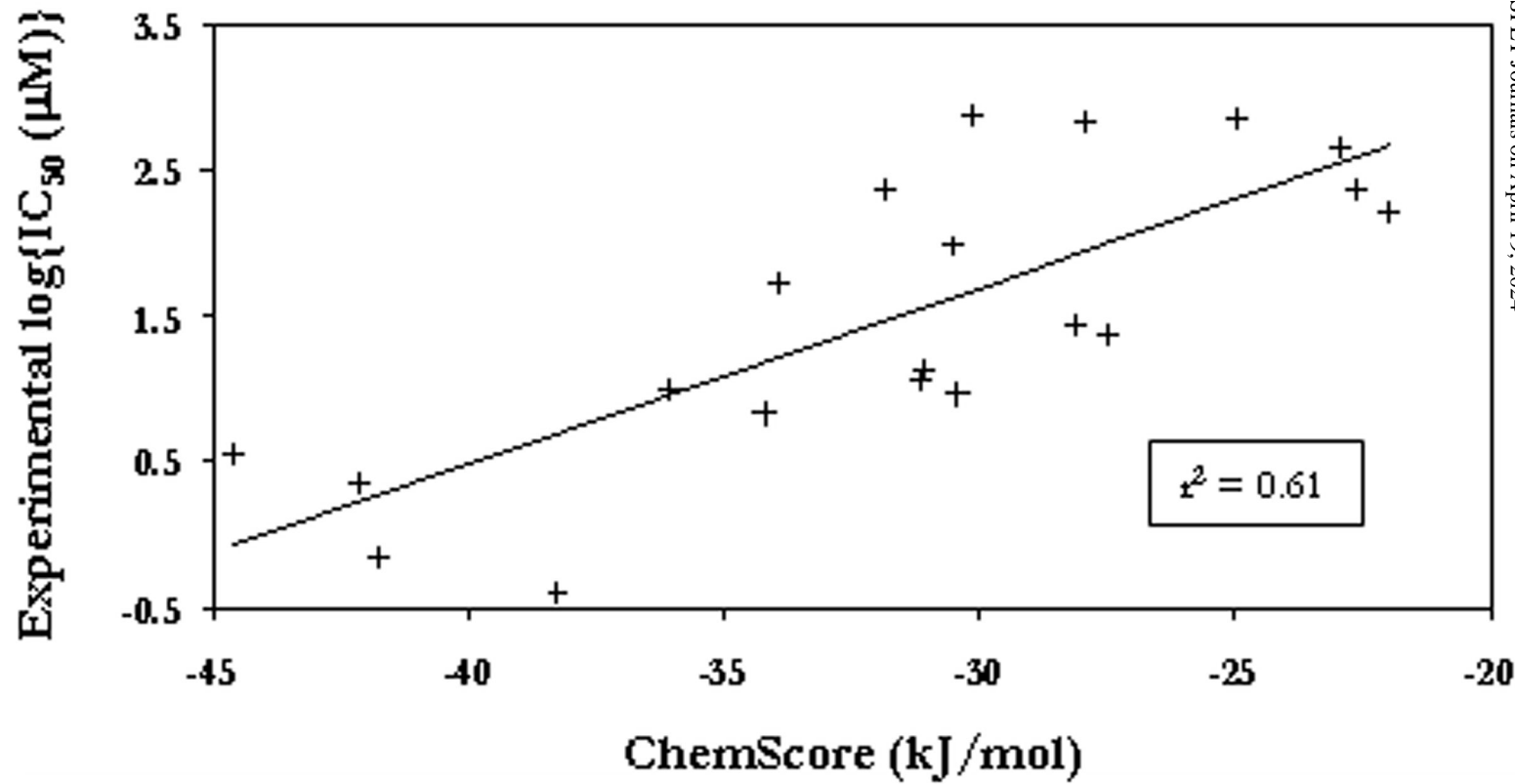


Fig 1

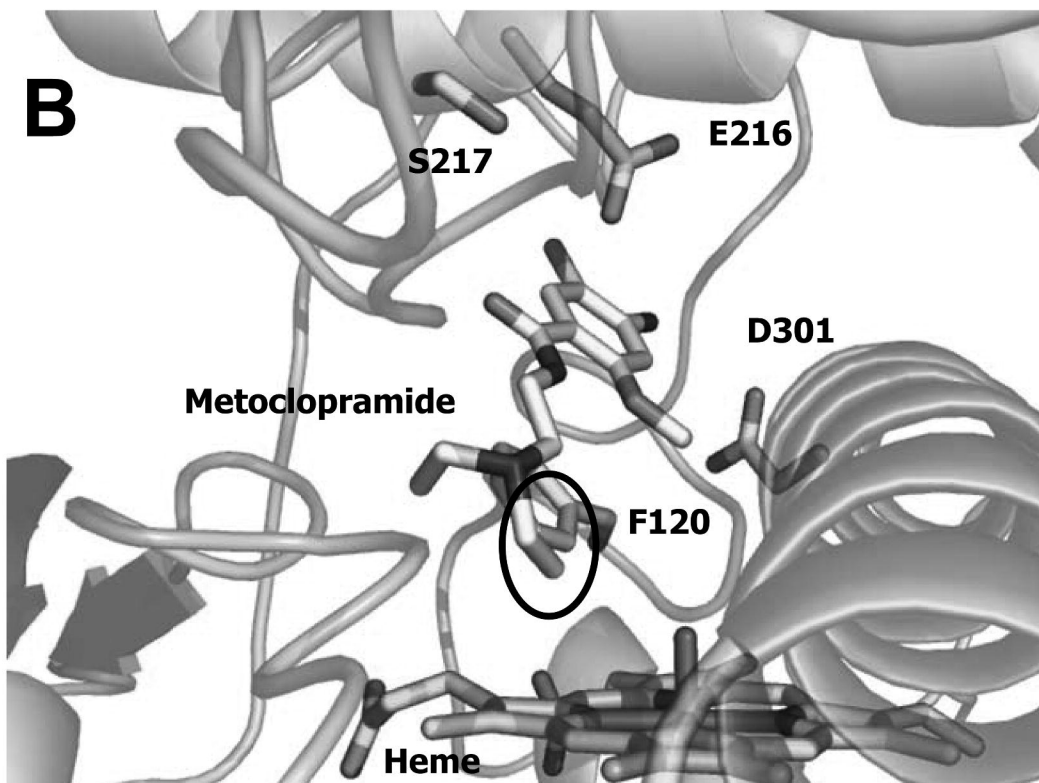
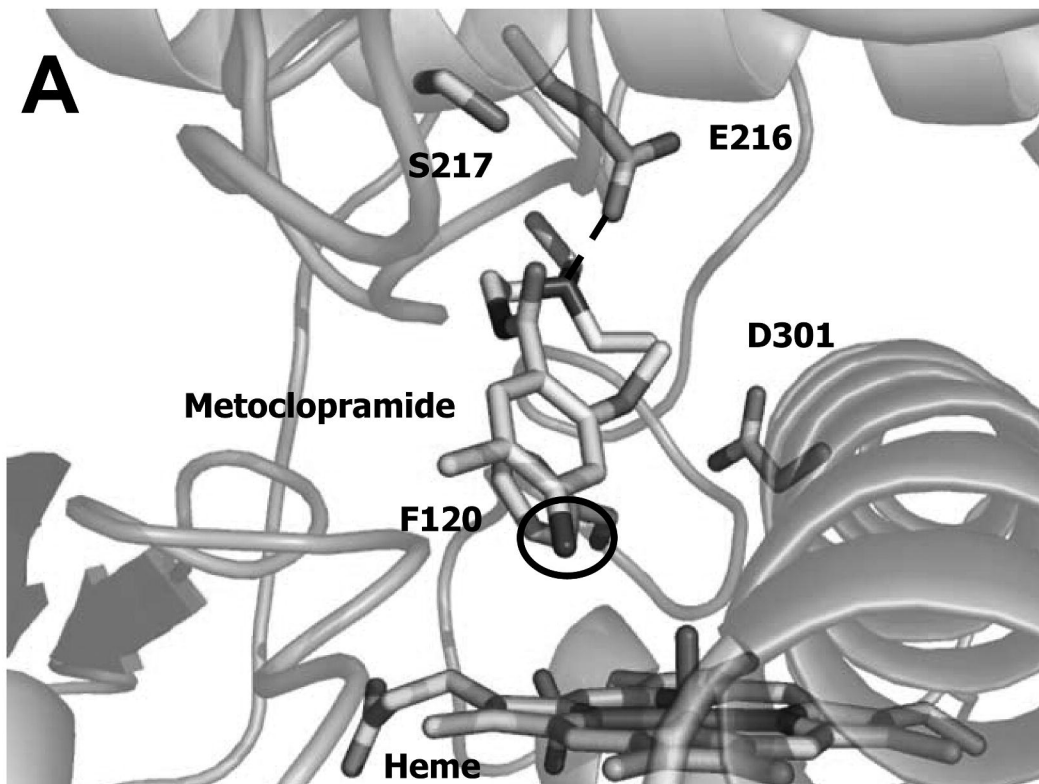


Fig. 2

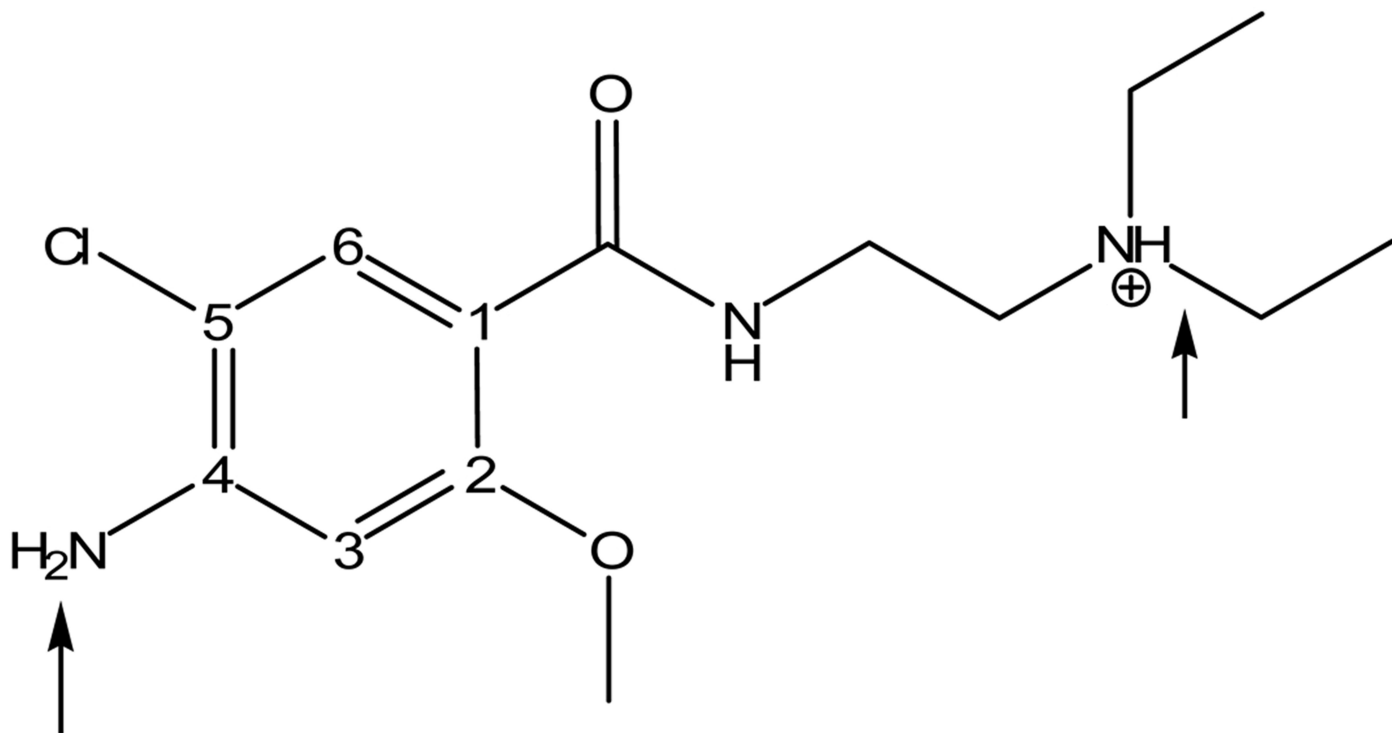


Figure 3

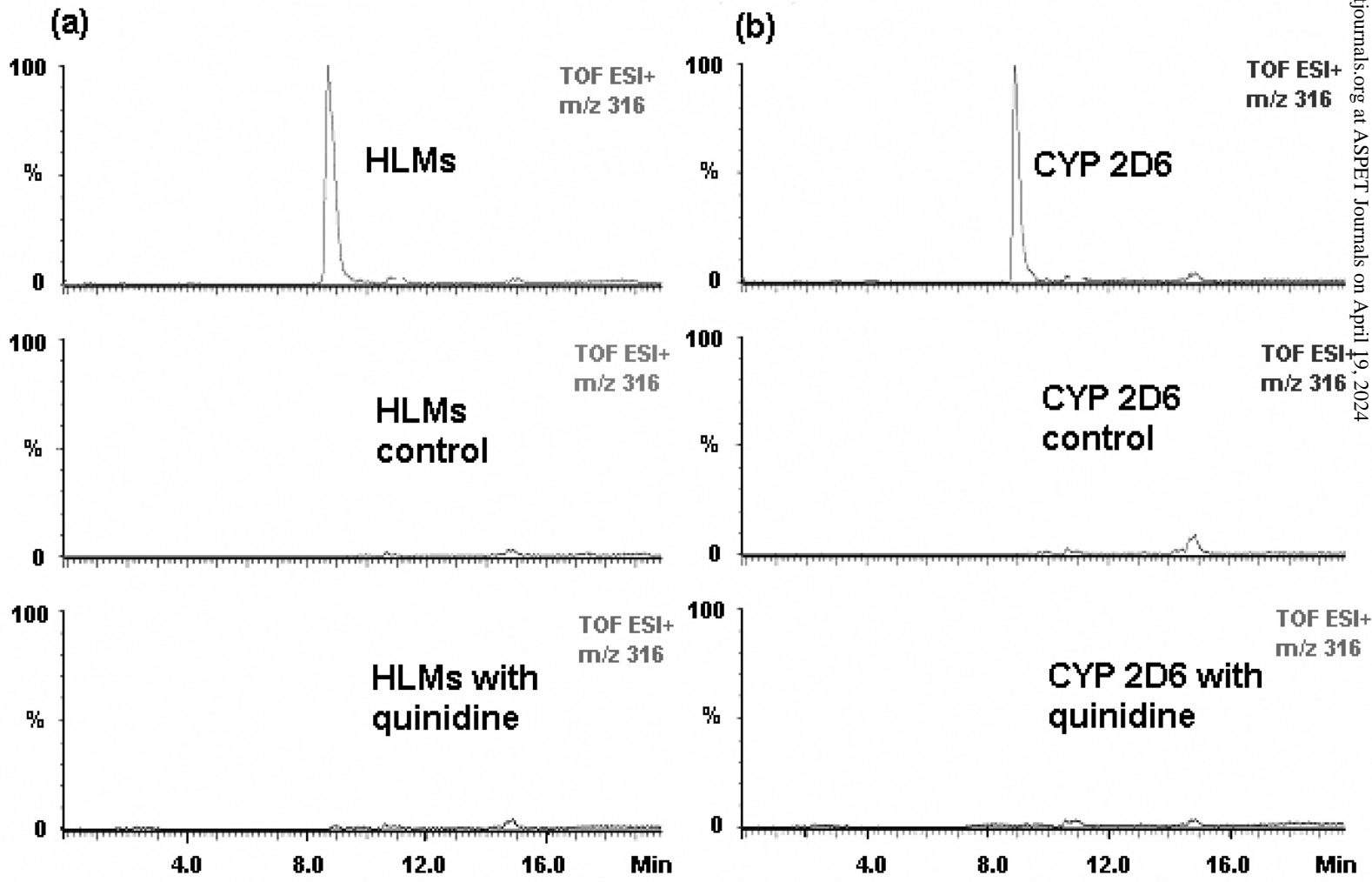


Figure 4.

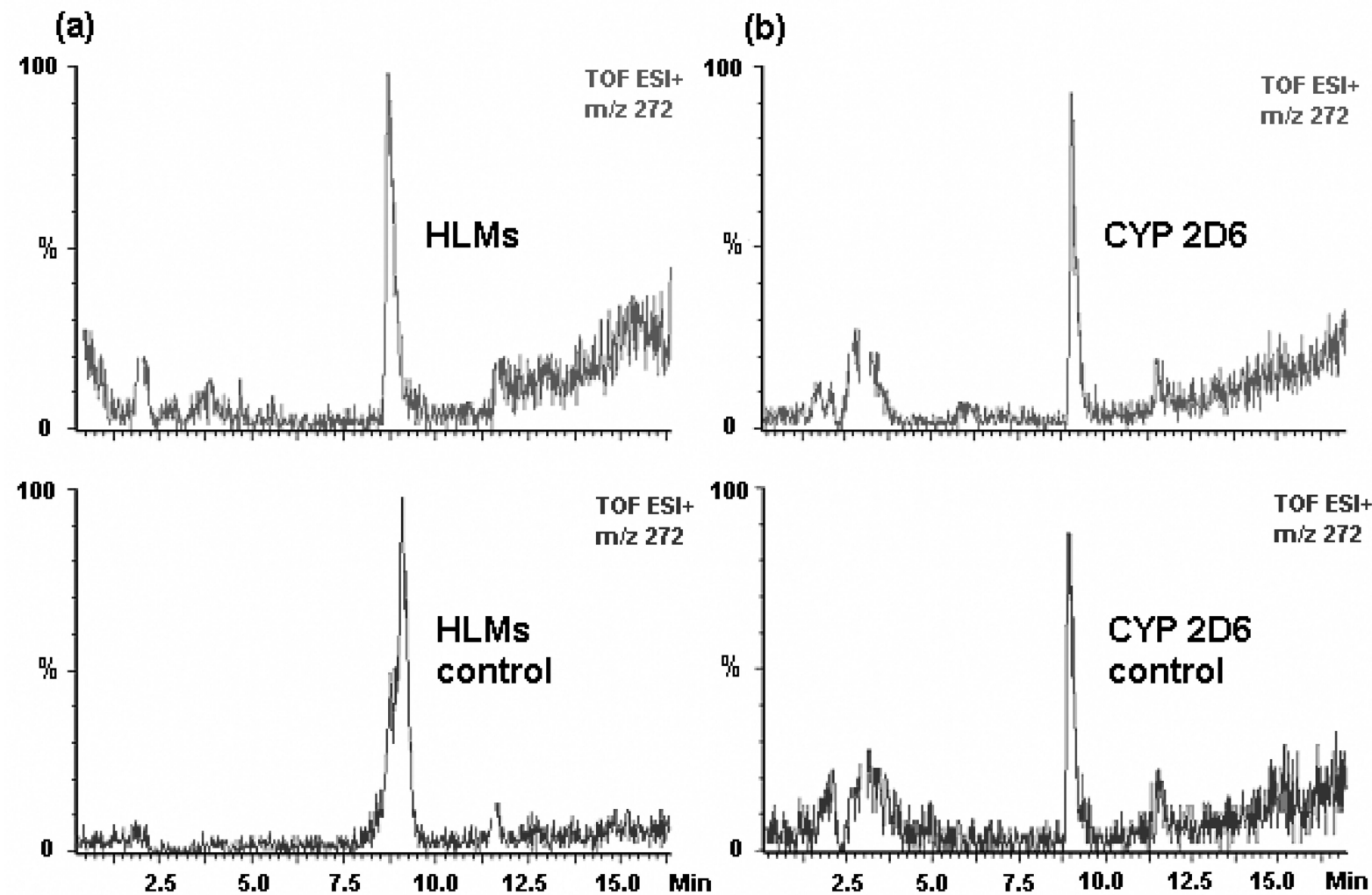


Figure 5.

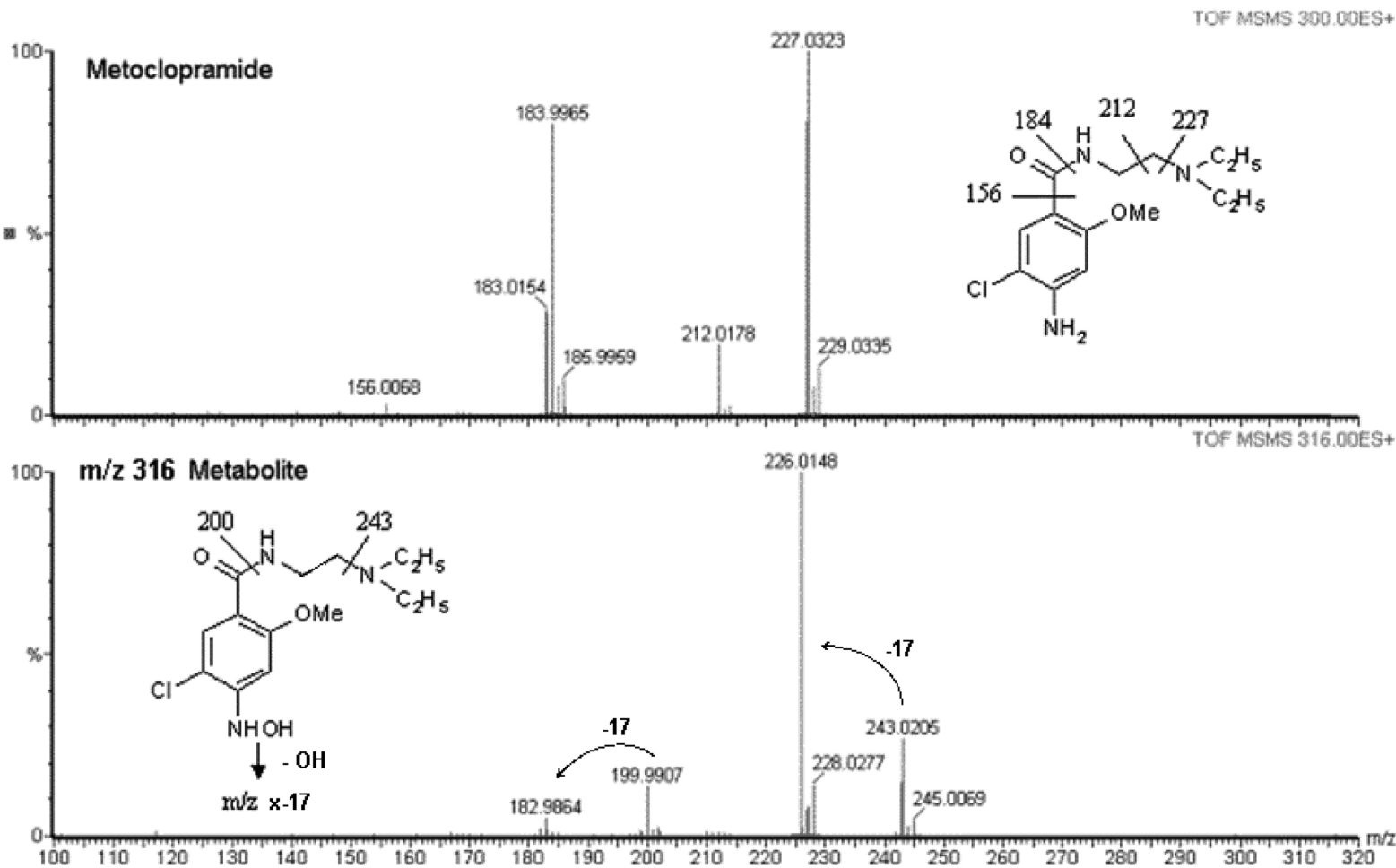


Figure 6.