

# Blood to Plasma Ratio

## Background Information



'RBC partitioning of a compound may be concentration-dependent if the partitioning involves not only passive diffusion, but also protein binding or active transporters.'

<sup>1</sup>Yu S, Li S, Yang H, Lee F, Wu J-T and Qian MG (2005) *Rapid Commun in Mass Spectrom* **19**; 250-254

- Pharmacokinetic parameters are usually determined by analysis of drug concentrations in plasma rather than whole blood.
- Parameters determined using plasma data may be misleading if concentrations of drug differ between plasma and red blood cells as a consequence of differential binding to a specific component in the blood.
- The blood to plasma ratio determines the concentration of the drug in whole blood compared to plasma and provides an indication of drug binding to erythrocytes.
- At blood to plasma ratios of greater than 1 (usually as a consequence of the drug distributing into the erythrocyte), the plasma clearance significantly overestimates blood clearance and could exceed hepatic blood flow.
- Blood to plasma ratio is an important parameter, in conjunction with other ADME and physicochemical properties, for predicting whole body pharmacokinetics.

### Protocol

#### Typical Test Article Concentration

500 nM (additional concentrations available)

#### Test Article Requirements

50  $\mu$ L of 10 mM DMSO solution

#### Positive Controls

Methazolamide (human)  
Chlorthalidone (rat and mouse)  
Chloroquine (dog)

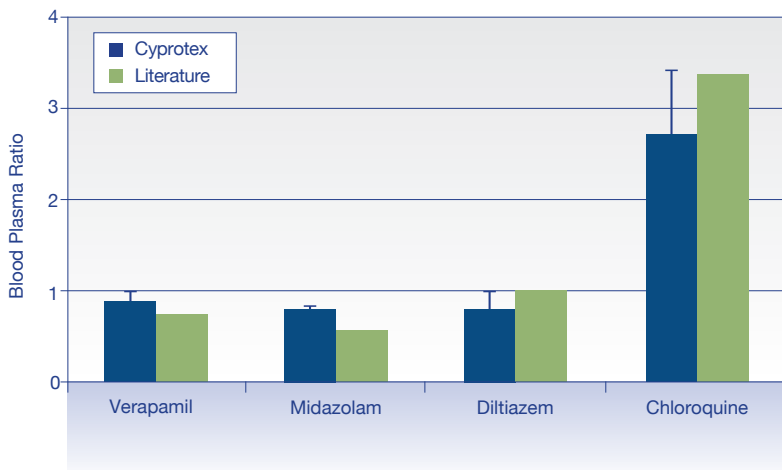
#### Analysis Method

LC-MS/MS

#### Data Delivery

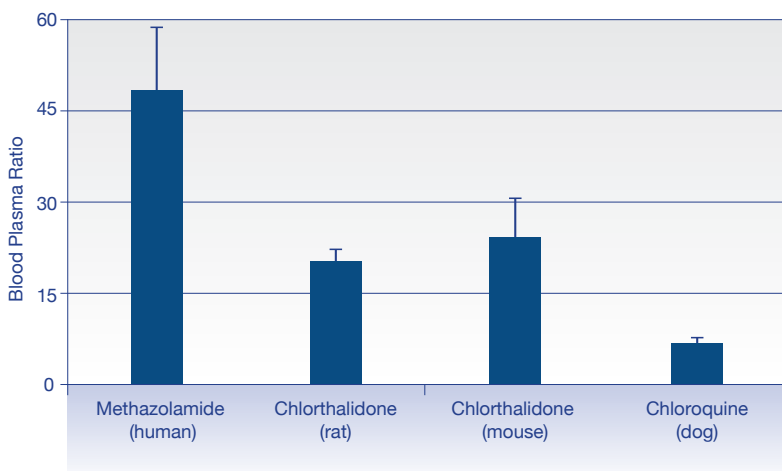
Mean blood to plasma ratio  
Standard deviation of blood to plasma ratio

**Blood to plasma ratio** assists in determining the relevance of the plasma clearance and can also be used to predict or understand haemotoxicity.



**Figure 1**

Comparison of Cyprotex's blood to plasma ratio values (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation; n=3) with literature values<sup>2,3</sup>.



**Figure 2**

Graph illustrating the intra-assay reproducibility of the blood to plasma ratio values for the species-specific positive control compounds (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation; n=3 replicates).

#### References

- 1 Yu S et al., (2005) *Rapid Commun in Mass Spectrom* **19**; 250-254.
- 2 Hinderling PH (1997) *Pharmacol Rev* **49**(3); 279-295
- 3 Obach RS (1999) *Drug Metab Dispos* **27**(11); 1350-1359.