

# Characterization and regulation of the expression of drug transporters in human skin

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Meet the Experts Transporter meeting  
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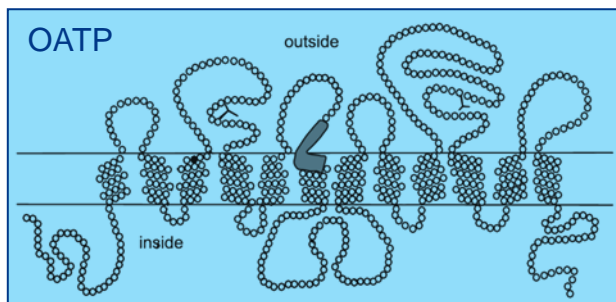
# Outline

- General overview of drug transporters
  - ABC and SLC transporters
- Regulatory perspectives
- Characterization of drug transporters in human skin
  - Expression of ABC and SLC transporters
    - Comparison between skin, liver and kidney
  - Regulation of the expression by Rifampicin and UV irradiation
  - Subcellular localisation of MRP1 in human skin
  - Role of MRP1 transporter in drug uptake in human skin
- Conclusion

# Drug transporters

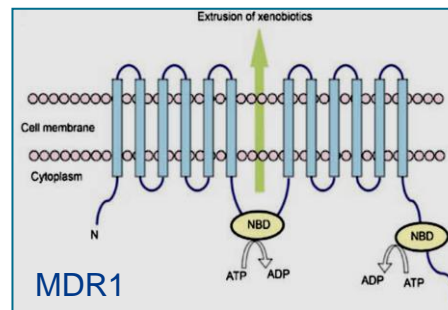
- Most identified drug transporters belong to 2 superfamilies:
  - ATP-Binding Cassette (ABC)  Drug Efflux (Out)
  - Solute Carrier (SLC)  Drug Uptake (In)
- Transmembrane proteins

SLC

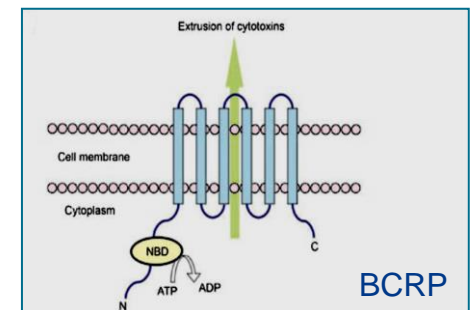


OATPs, S. Leuthold et al; Am J Physiol (2009)

ABC

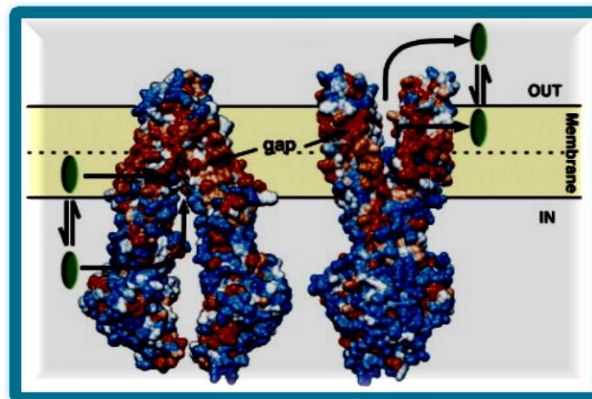


T. Lin et al; Cell Research (2006)



# ABC transporter Superfamily

- Use energy of ATP hydrolysis to transport various substrates.



EFFLUX

D. AP. Gutmann et al; Trend in Biochemical Sciences (2010).

- 49 human ABC genes grouped into seven subfamilies:
  - ABCA, ABCB (MDR), ABCC (MRP)....., ABCG (BCRP)
- First mammalian ABC transporter cloned in 1986: P-glycoprotein (ABCB1)
- ABC transporters with multidrug transporter function:
  - ABCB1 / MDR1 (Multi-drug resistance)
  - ABCC1 & 2 / MRP1 & 2 (Multidrug resistance-associated protein)
  - ABCG2/ BCRP (Breast cancer resistance protein)

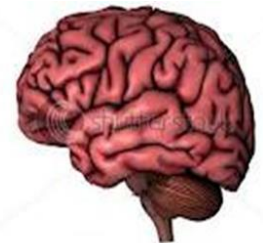
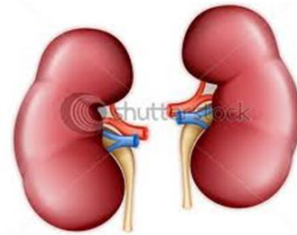
# ABC transporters and genetic diseases

- In humans, 15 severe genetic diseases are caused by the dysfunction of ABC transporters:
  - ABCA1 : Tangier disease
  - ABCA12 : Harlequin-type ichthyosis, Lamellar ichthyosis
  - ABCB4 : Progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis
  - ABCC2 : Dubin–Johnson syndrome
  - ABCC6 : Pseudoxanthoma elasticum
  - ABCC7 : Cystic fibrosis
- Genetic polymorphisms (SNP, haplotypes) identified, but their clinically relevance in drug pharmacokinetics not clearly demonstrated

# ABC transporters – Localisation/tissue distribution

- All multidrug transporters are localized predominantly in the plasma membrane providing a cellular defense mechanism throughout the organism.
- ABCB1: tissues involved in the absorption and secretion and with pharmacological barrier function (blood-brain barrier)

- ABCC1: all tissues



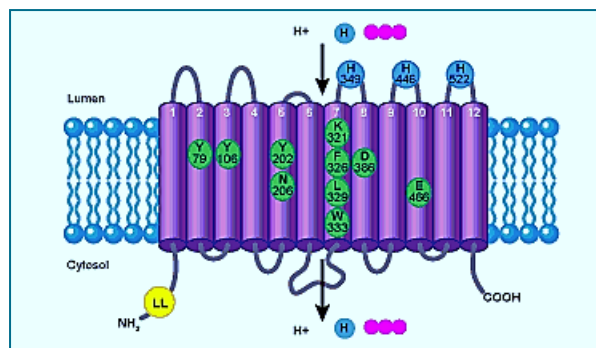
- ABCG2: placenta, liver, intestine.

# ABC transporters - Role

- Physiological role : Lipid transport and endogenous compounds
  - Cholesterol, phospholipids, interleukins, ...
- Multidrug resistance – Cancer drug resistance:
  - Overexpression of MDR1, MRP1 and BCRP
- Protection against xenobiotics,
  - Limit the absorption of many drugs from the intestine
  - Pump drugs from the liver and kidney cells as a means of removing foreign substances from the body
  - Passage of drugs through cellular and tissue barrier
- Drug disposition
  - Significantly modulate the absorption, distribution and elimination
  - Efficacy and toxicity of pharmacological agents
- Drug-drug interactions (DDI)

# SLC transporter Superfamily

- 386 SLC human genes
  - grouped into 52 families



Mutagenetix Labarchives

- SLC transporters include families of :
  - SLCO: Organic anion transporting polypeptide
  - SLC22: Organic anion/cation/zwitterion transporter
  - SLC47: Multidrug and toxin extrusion (MATE)

Drug uptake into intestine, liver, and kidney,

Drug efflux into bile and urine

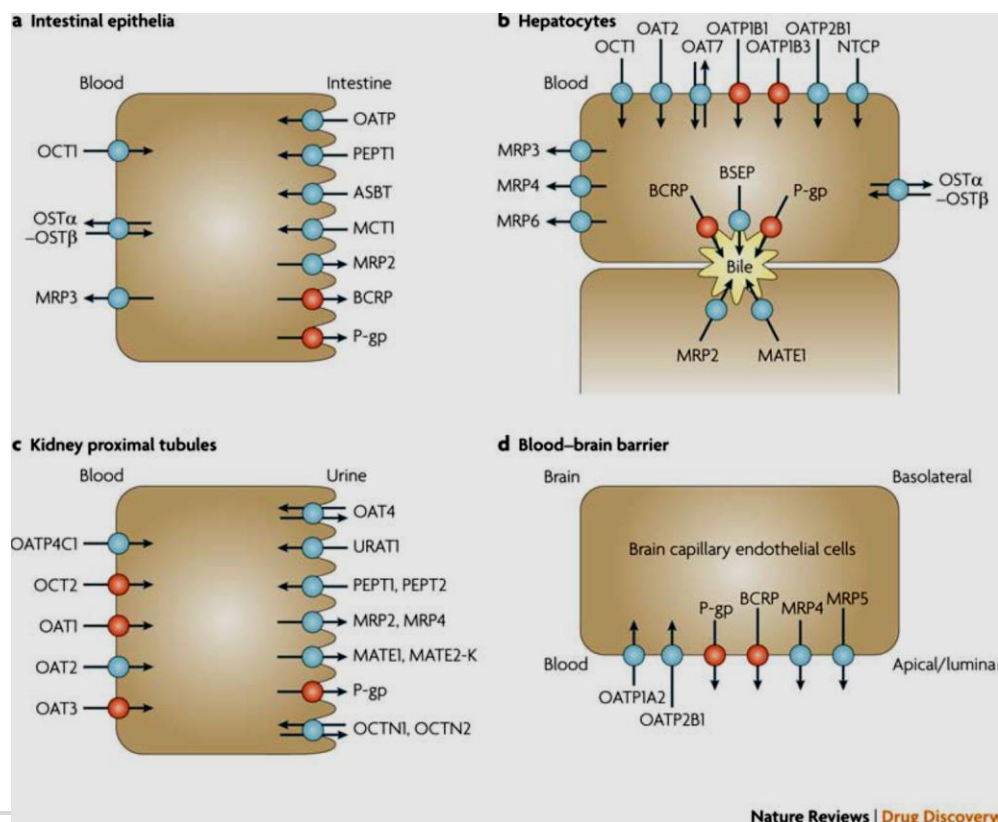


# SLC transporters

- Tissue Distribution:
  - Highly abundant in the intestine, liver, kidney,
- Physiological role:
  - Transport of steroid conjugates, thyroid hormones, bile salts,
- Regulate drug Pharmacokinetics:
  - absorption, distribution, and excretion of drugs
- Mediate drug-drug interactions
- Genetic variation in SLC genes showed to contribute to interindividual pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic variability
  - Example of Statins ( Pravastatin / SLCO1B1)

# Co-localization of SLC and ABC transporters

- Co-localization of ABC and SLC transporters (and CYP enzymes) in many key tissues
  - Very complex orchestra for body protection that impact drug disposition




Nature Reviews | Drug Discovery

# Regulatory perspectives

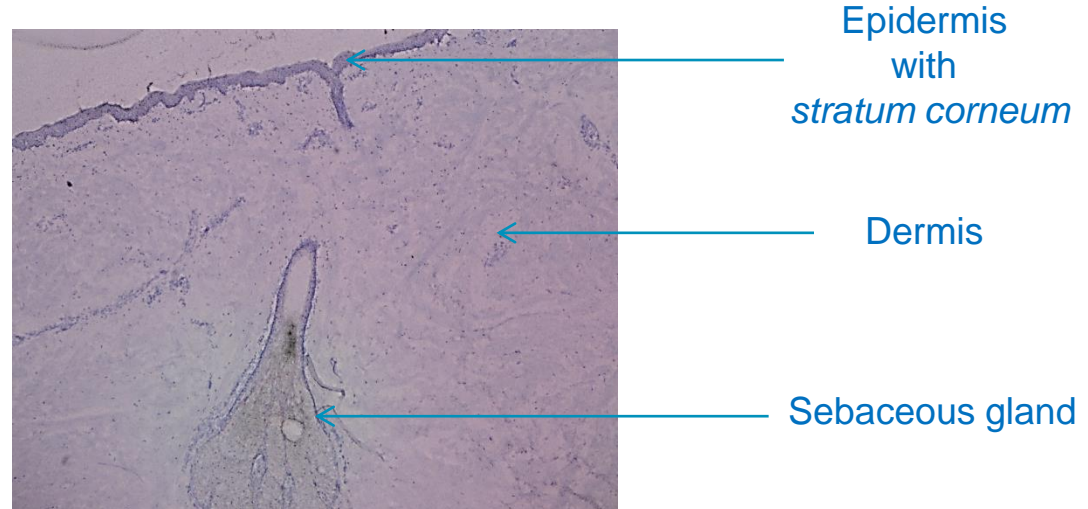
- Due to contribution of drug transporters to drug-drug interactions, European and US regulatory agencies require evaluation of drug transporters for the substrate and inhibition potential of drug candidates.
- FDA (Guidance 2012):
  - 7 key transporters: P-gp, BCRP, OATP1B1, OATP1B3, OAT1, OAT3, and OCT2
- EMA (Guidance 2013)
  - 9 key transporters: P-gp, BCRP, OATP1B1, OATP1B3, OAT1, OAT3, OCT2 and OCT1 (and BSEP)
- Very recently, evaluation of MATE transporters is required by the regulatory agencies.

# Regulatory perspectives

- ABC and SLC transporters are well characterized in liver, kidney and intestine but little is known about skin.
  - Objective of this work was the characterization of drug transporters in human skin :
    - Expression
    - Regulation
    - Localization
    - Role in drug disposition
- 
- In order to meet regulatory agencies requirement for topically applied drugs.

# Drug transporters in Human skin

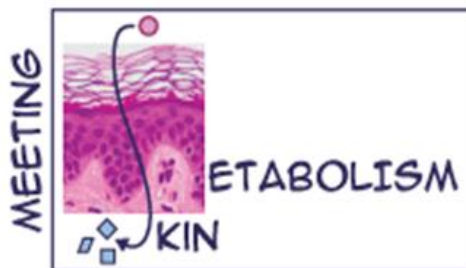
- Skin is the largest organ of the body:
  - 2 m<sup>2</sup> surface area,
  - 0.5 – 4 mm thickness
  - 16% body weight



- Skin plays a crucial role in body protection from:
  - damage, infection and drying out.

# Human skin

- Skin is not only a physical barrier but also a biochemical barrier
- Expression of drug metabolizing enzymes in the skin is well documented



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Skin Metabolism Meeting** Valbonne, France, 10 - 11 October 2013

- Expression and role of drug transporters in human skin are poorly understood.

# Expression of ABC and SLC transporters in human skin

- Human skin biopsies in organ-culture for 3 days



Skin biopsy

- 4 skin biopsies (6 mm diameter) per well of 6-well plates.
- Culture medium: Long term skin culture medium (Biopredic, France).
- RNA extraction followed by quantitative real time RT-PCR (TaqMan technology).
- GAPDH gene used as housekeeping gene

# Expression of ABC and SLC transporters in human skin

- 11 SLC and 4 ABC transporters genes were evaluated
- Expression levels measured in human skin, and compared with human liver and kidney.



## SLC transporter genes

Gene	Transporter
SLCO1B1	OATP1B1
SLCO1B3	OATP1B3
SLCO2B1	OATPB
SLCO3A1	OATPD
SLCO4A1	OATPE
SLC22A1	OCT1
SLC22A2	OCT2
SLC22A6	OAT1
SLC22A8	OAT3
SLC47A1	MATE1
SLC47A2	MATE2

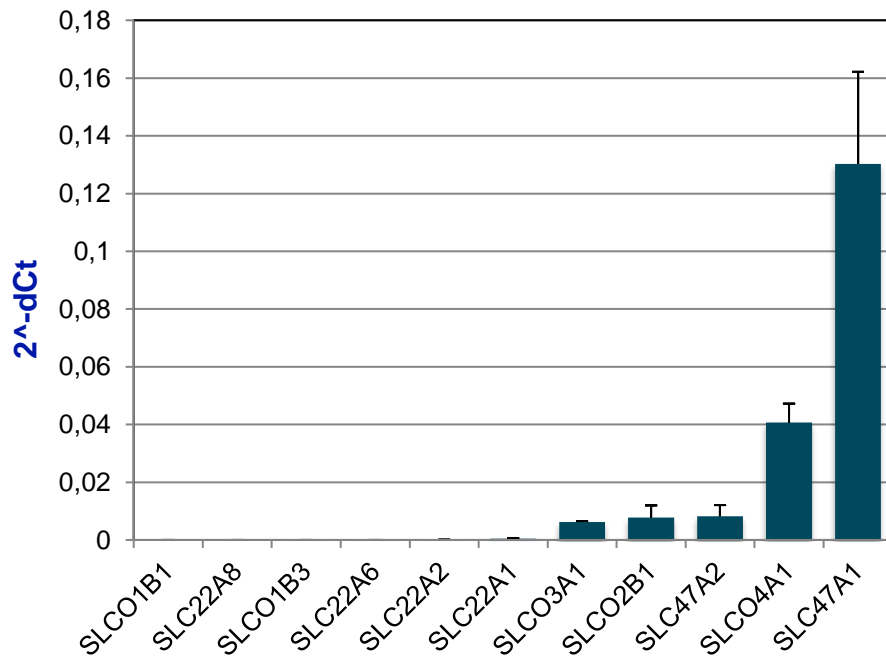
## ABC transporter genes

Gene	Transporter
ABCB1	MDR1
ABCB1	MRP1
ABCC2	MRP2
ABCG2	BCRP

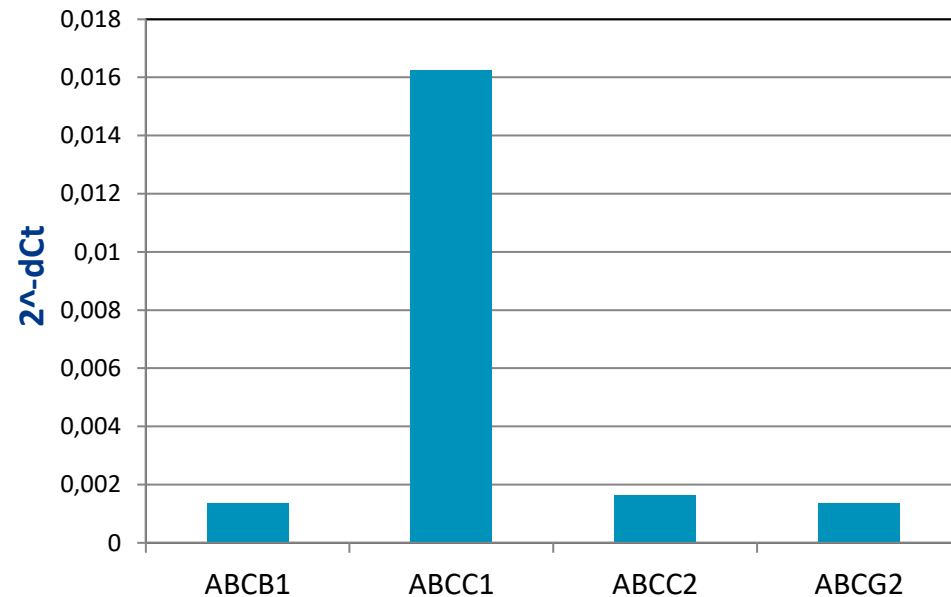


# Expression of ABC and SLC transporters in human skin

SLC transporters  
in human skin  
(N = 3 donors)



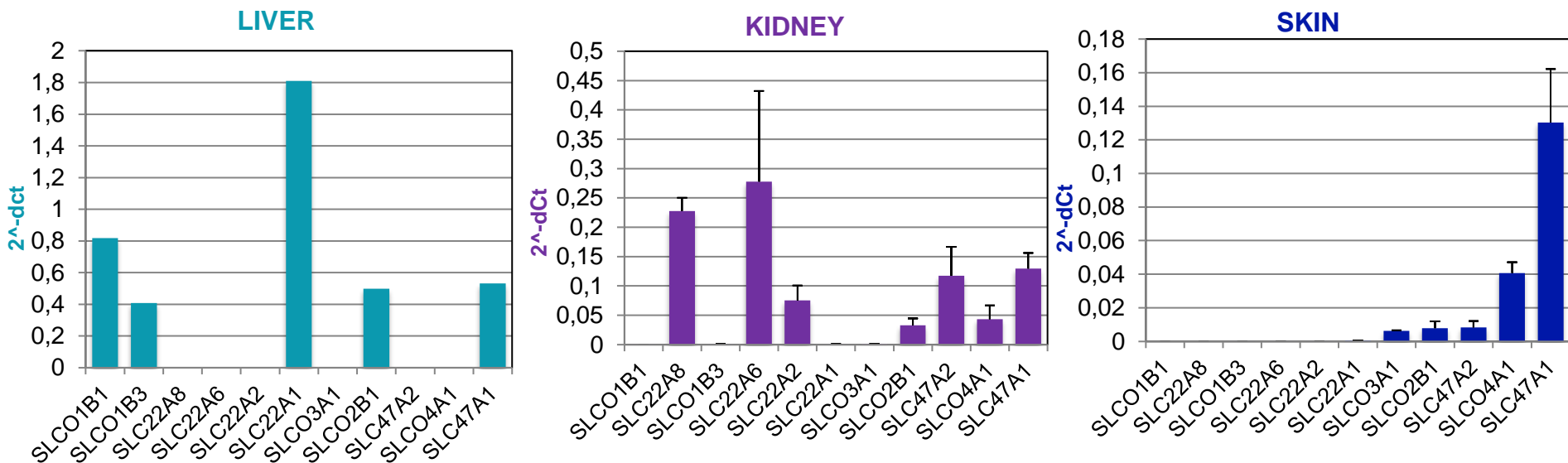
ABC transporters  
in human skin  
(N = 8 donors)



- 5 SLC transporters over 11 are expressed in human skin, MATE1 (SLC471) is the most abundant.
- All the 4 ABC transporters are expressed in human skin with MRP1 (ABCC1) is the most expressed.

# Expression of ABC and SLC transporters in human skin

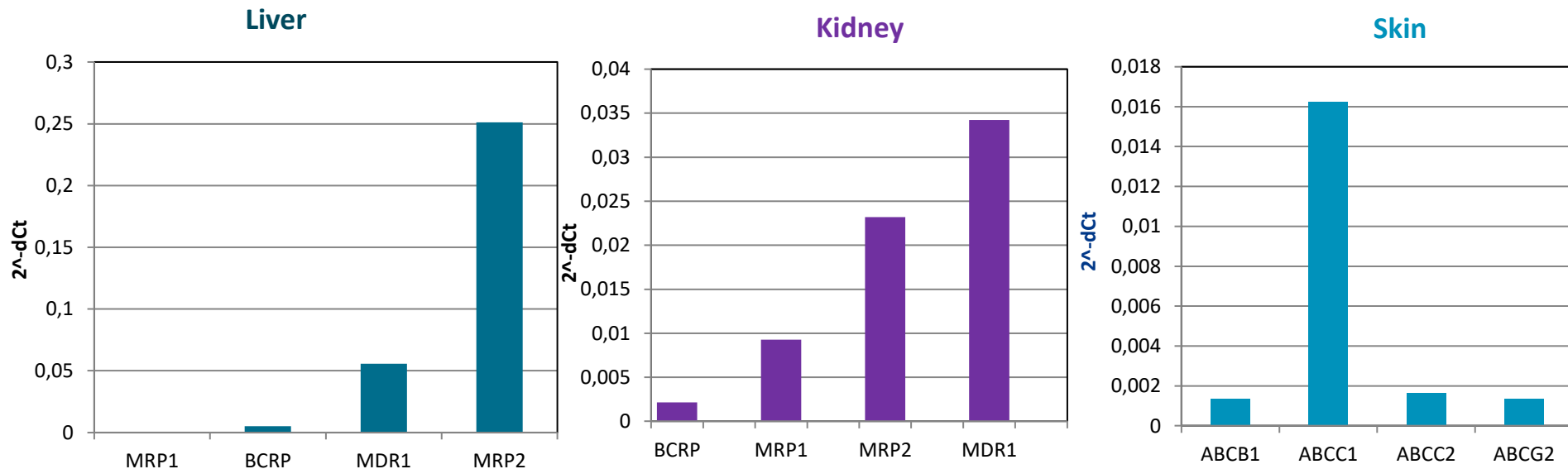
## Comparison of SLC transporters in Skin, Liver and kidney



- Expression profile very different according to tissue
  - SLC47A1 (MATE1) most expressed in skin
  - SLC22A1 (OCT1) most expressed in liver
  - SLC22A6 (OAT1) most expressed in kidney

# Expression of ABC and SLC transporters in human skin

## Comparison of ABC transporters in Skin, Liver and kidney



- Expression profile of ABC transporters very different according to tissue
  - ABCC1 (MRP1) most expressed in skin
  - ABCC2 (MRP2) most expressed in liver
  - ABCB1 (MDR1) most expressed in kidney

# Regulation of ABC and SLC transporters in human skin

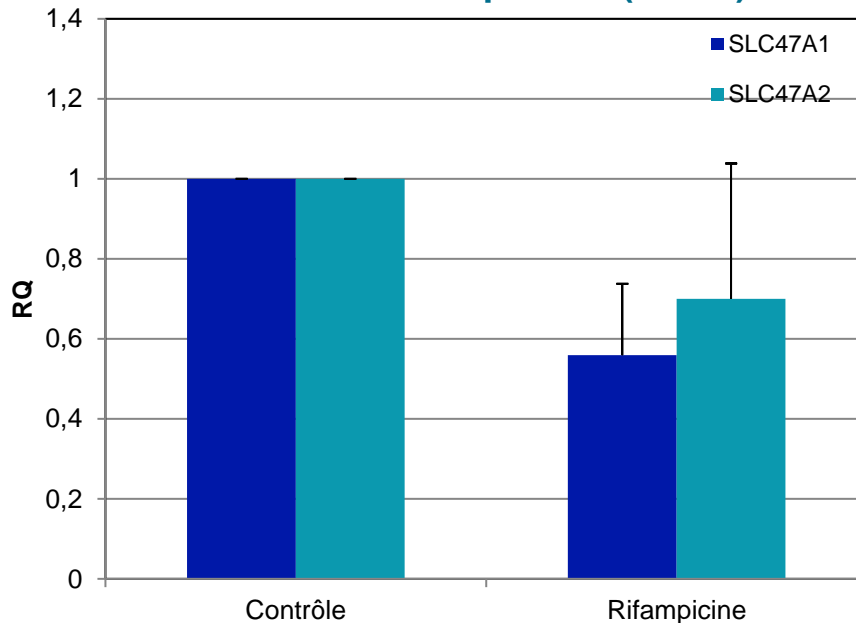
## Effect of Rifampicin on ABC and SLC transporters in Skin

Rifampicin: 50  $\mu$ M during 72 h

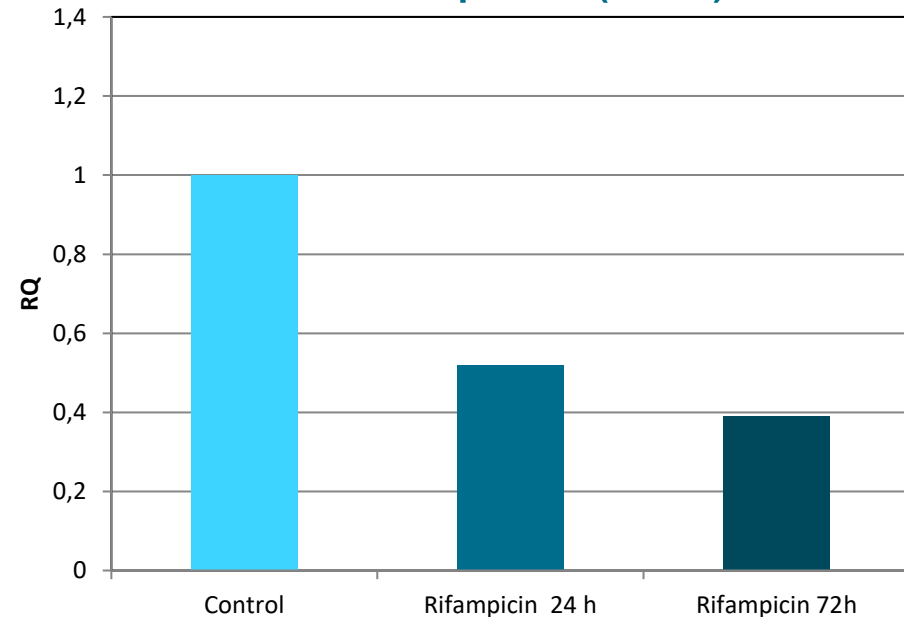
Human skin biopsies in organ-culture

N = 2 or 3 donors

### SLC transporters (MATE)



### ABC transporters (MRP1)



- Rifampicin markedly decreases expression of MATE and MRP1 transporters in human skin.

# Regulation of ABC and SLC transporters in human skin

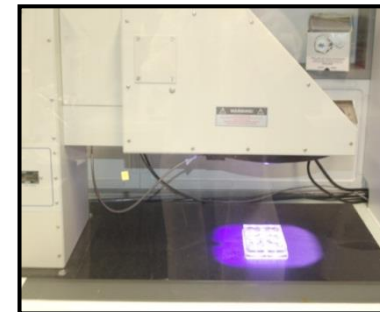
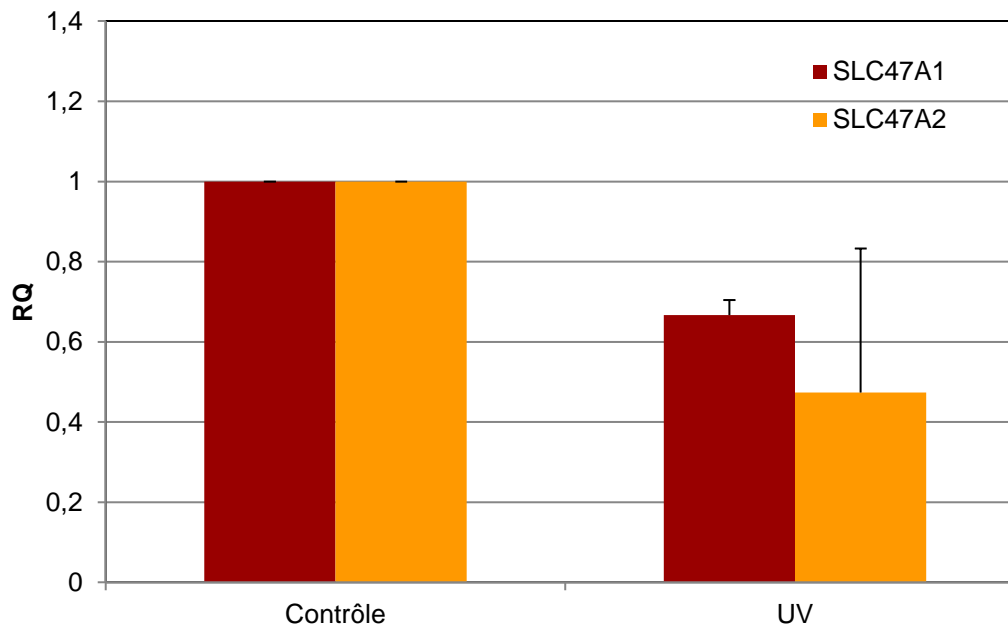
## Effect of UV irradiation on MATE transporters

Human skin biopsies in organoculture

N = 2 donors

Solar simulator

Irradiation during 1 hour per day for 3 days.

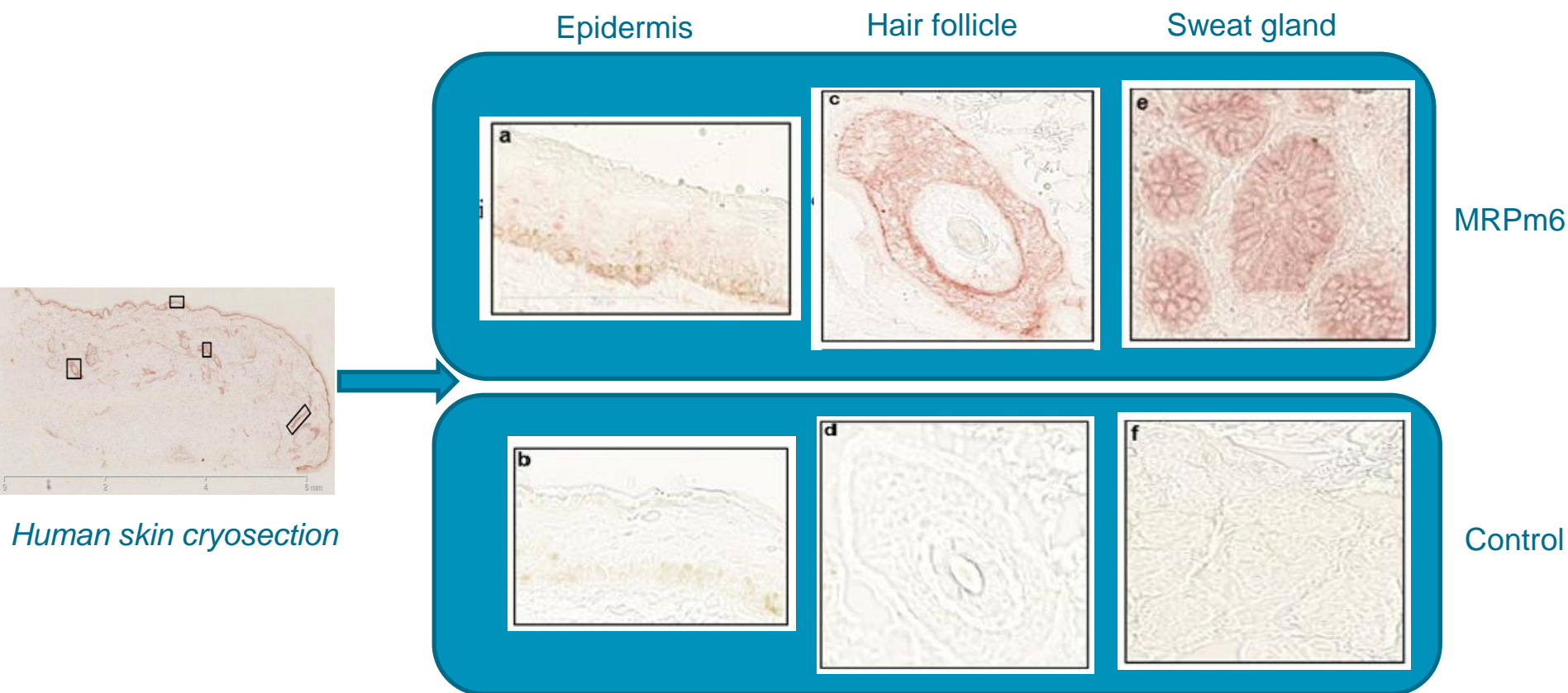


Solar simulator  
(830W ; 47.8A;  
UVA 110W/m<sup>2</sup>  
UVB: 20W/m<sup>2</sup>)

- UV irradiation markedly decreases expression of MATE1 and MATE2 transporters in human skin.

# Localization of MRP1 in human skin

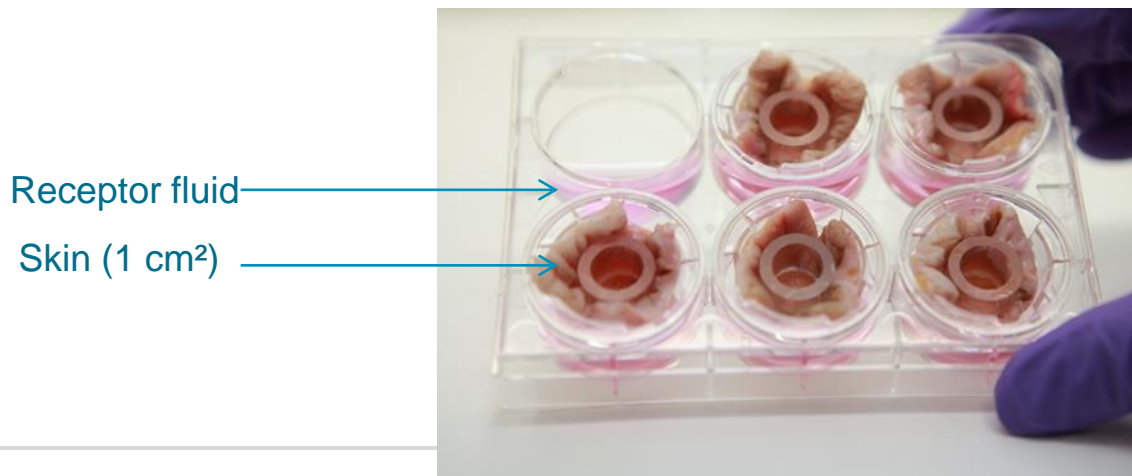
- Immunohistochemical analysis of MRP1 in human skin
- Cryosection of skin, and MRPm6 monoclonal antibody.



- MRP1 is mainly localized in the hair follicle and sweat gland in the dermis

# Role of MRP1 transporter in drug absorption in the skin

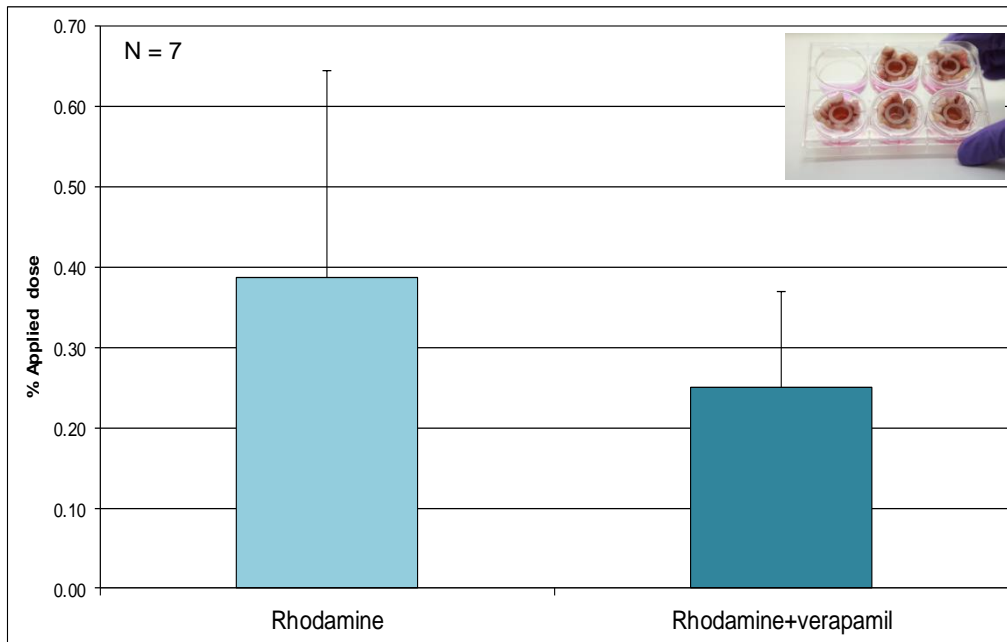
- Skin absorption and distribution of 3 couples of MRP1 substrates and inhibitors were evaluated:
  - Rhodamine 123 / Verapamil
  - [<sup>3</sup>H]-Vinblastine / Verapamil
  - [<sup>3</sup>H]-LTC<sub>4</sub> / MK571
- *In vitro* model for skin absorption
  - Donor compartment (skin) on Transwell porous membrane
  - Receptor compartment (culture medium)



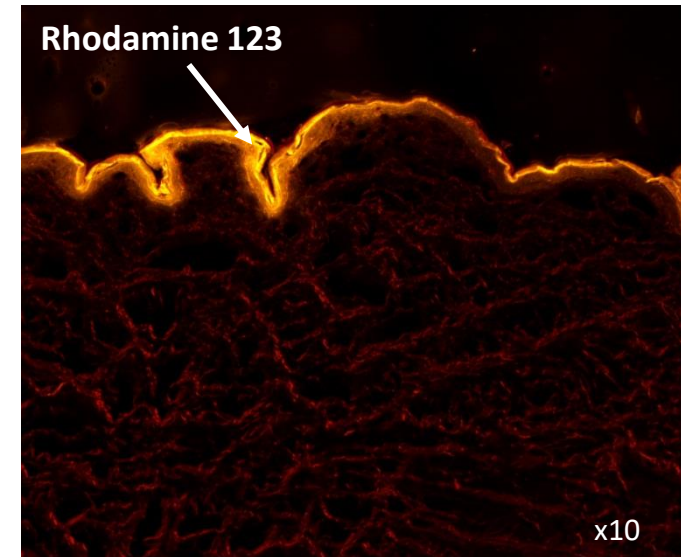
*In vitro* skin absorption model

# Skin absorption of Rhodamine 123

## Skin absorption



## Skin distribution (Epifluorescent microscopy)

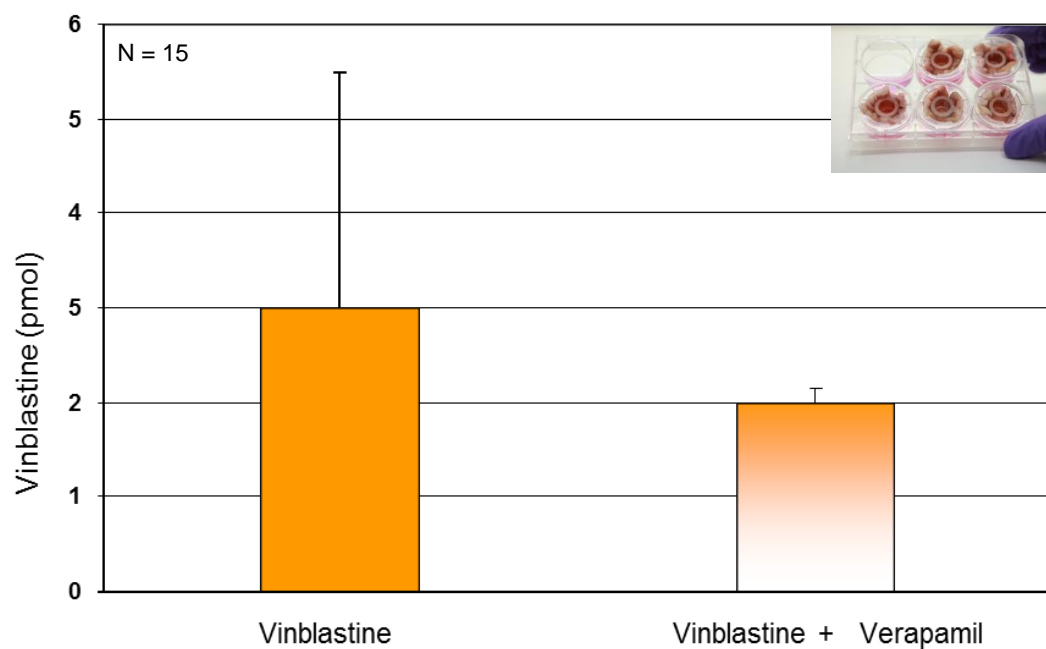


- Inhibition of MRP1 by verapamil significantly decreases skin absorption of Rhodamine 123.
- Rhodamine 123 mainly distributed in the epidermis.

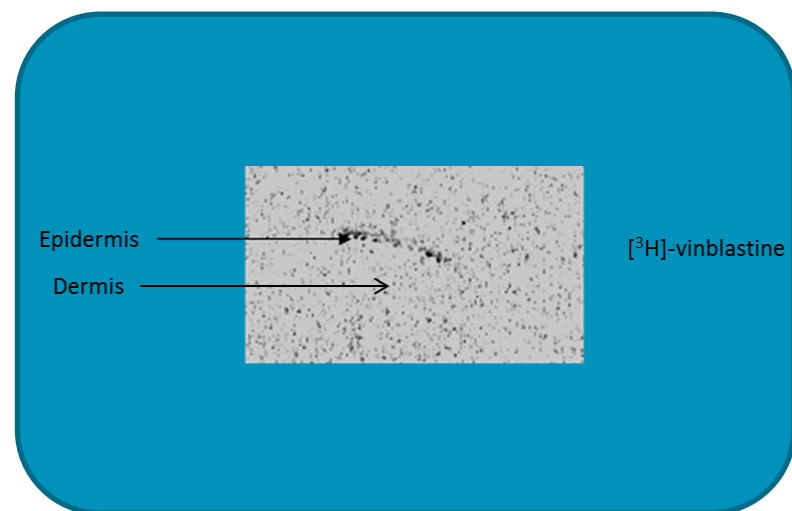


# Skin absorption of Vinblastine

## Skin absorption



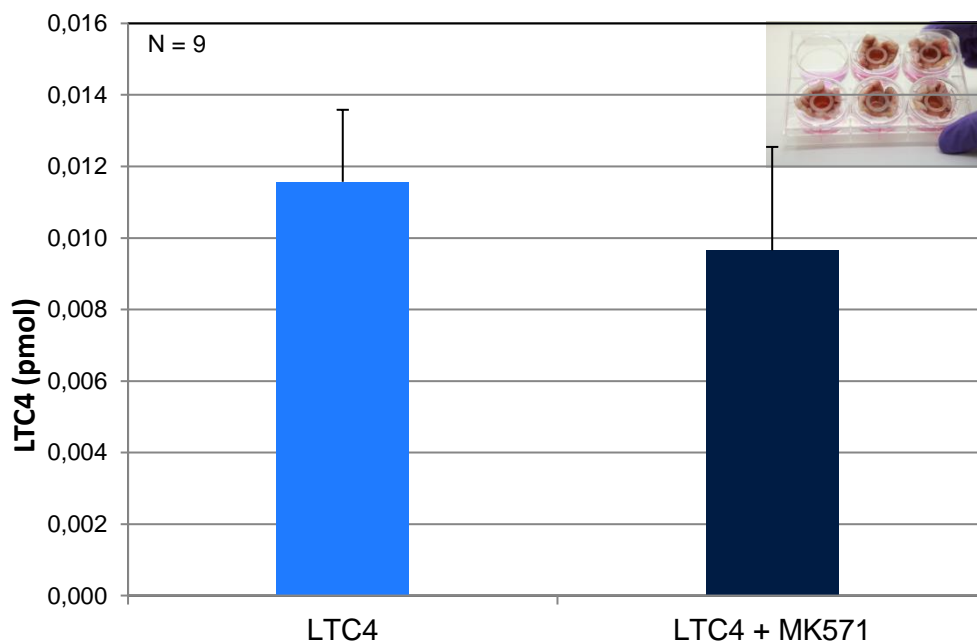
## Skin distribution (Autoradiography)



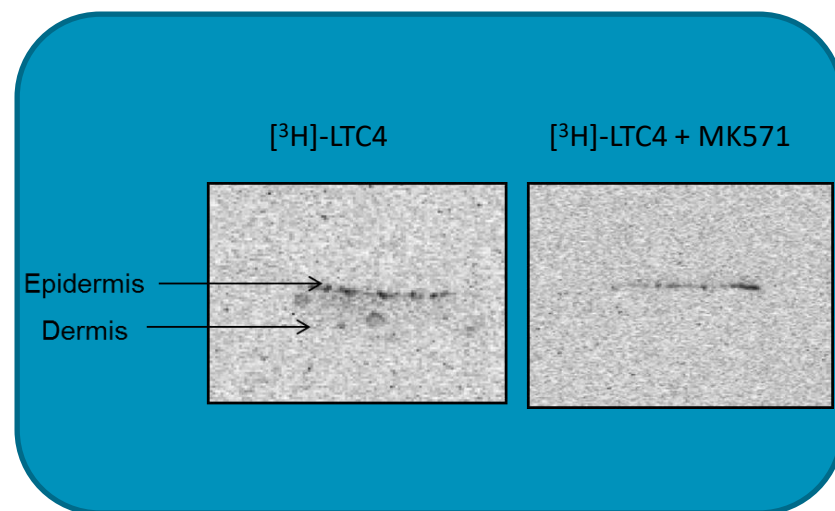
- Inhibition of MRP1 by verapamil significantly decreases skin absorption of vinblastine.
- Vinblastine mainly distributed in the epidermis

# Skin absorption of LTC4

## Skin absorption



## Skin distribution (Autoradiography)



- Inhibition of MRP1 by MK571 significantly decreases skin absorption of LTC4.
- Vinblastine distributed in the epidermis and the dermis.

# Conclusions

- Expression and regulation of drug transporters were shown in human skin
  - Expression profile different in skin, liver and kidney
- MRP1 is mainly localized in the dermis (hair follicle, sweat gland), and play a key role in drug uptake in human skin
- Further studies needed to clarify the role of drug transporters in clinical drug-drug interactions with topically applied drugs.

*H. Osman-Ponchet et al., 2014, Drug Metabolism and drug interactions*

*M. Alriquet et al., 2015, ADMET & DMPK*

Thank you

# Thank to my team

- Anaïs Boulai
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