

FEXINIDAZOLE FOR HAT

DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*
Iniciativa "Medicamentos para Doenças Negligenciadas"

ICTMM RIO Sept 2012

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Fexinidazole for HAT

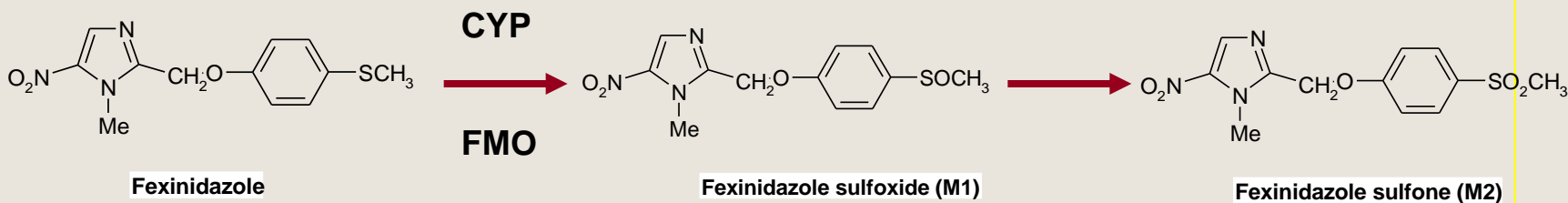
- Preclinical results
- Multiple ascending dose in fasted conditions
- Food interaction
- Therapeutic dose regimen assessment

Fexinidazole preclinical results

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Fexinidazole

- Discovery : 1970 HOE 239, discontinued 1980
- Chemical Name: 1H-imidazole,1-methyl-2-[[4-methylthio) phenoxy] methyl] **5-nitro-imidazole**
- Metabolism



- PM FEXI = 279 g/mol
- PM M1 = 295 g/mol
- PM M2 = 311 g/mol

- pKa-value = very weak base
- $\log D_{\text{pH } 7.4} = 2.8$

In vitro activity of fexinidazole

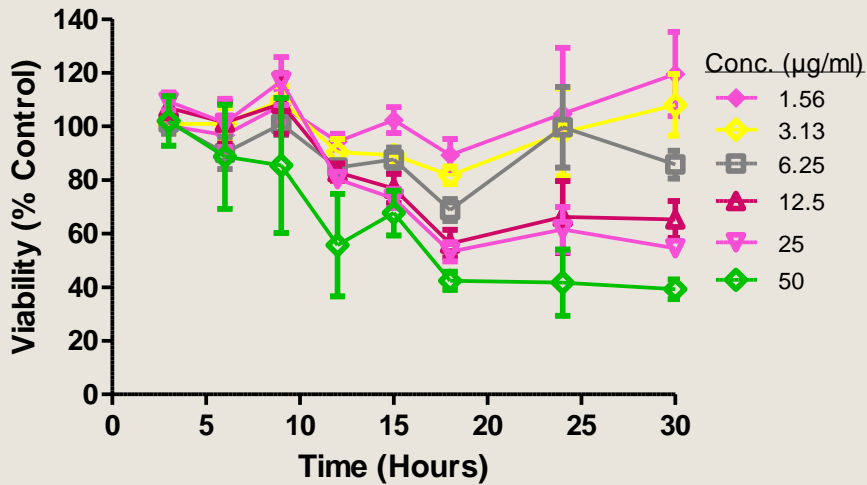
Compound Tested	<i>T.b. rhodesiense</i>* (IC₅₀ µg/ml)	<i>T. b. brucei</i>** (IC₅₀ µg/ml)	<i>T. b. brucei</i>** (IC₉₀ µg/ml)
Fexinidazole (Batch 1)	1.265	2.86	5.00
Fexinidazole (Batch 2)	0.719	ND	ND
Fexinidazole sulfoxide	0.487	1.96	4.74
Fexinidazole sulfone	0.354	0.89	2.20

*Data from STI

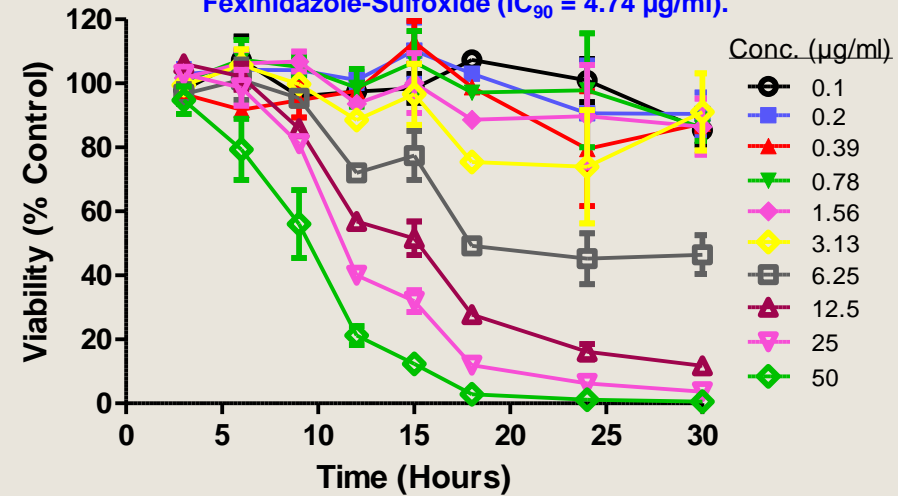
**Data from SCYNEXIS

Time to Kill Assays - Fexinidazole and Metabolites

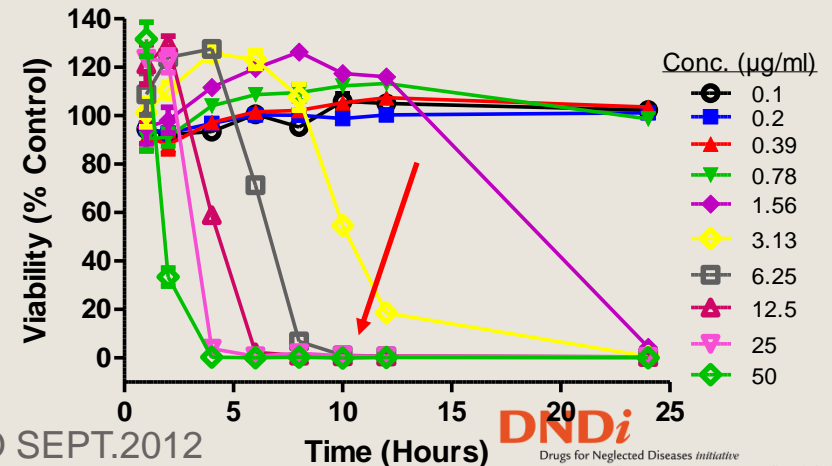
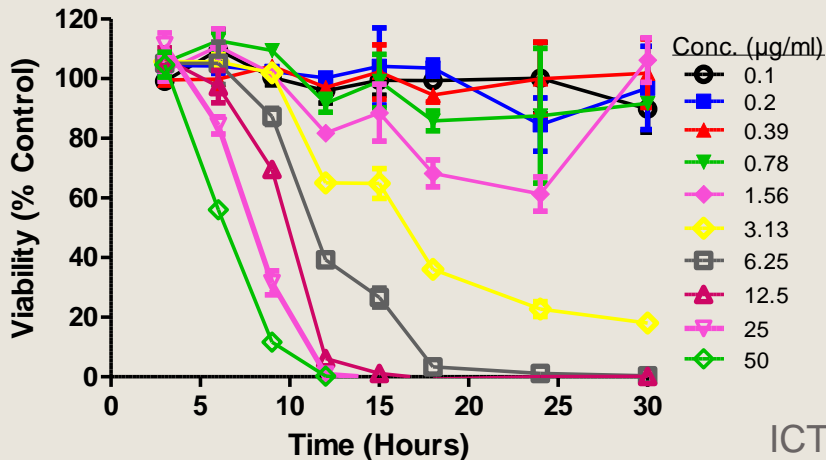
Fexinidazole (IC₉₀ = 5.00 µg/ml)



Fexinidazole-Sulfoxide (IC₉₀ = 4.74 µg/ml).

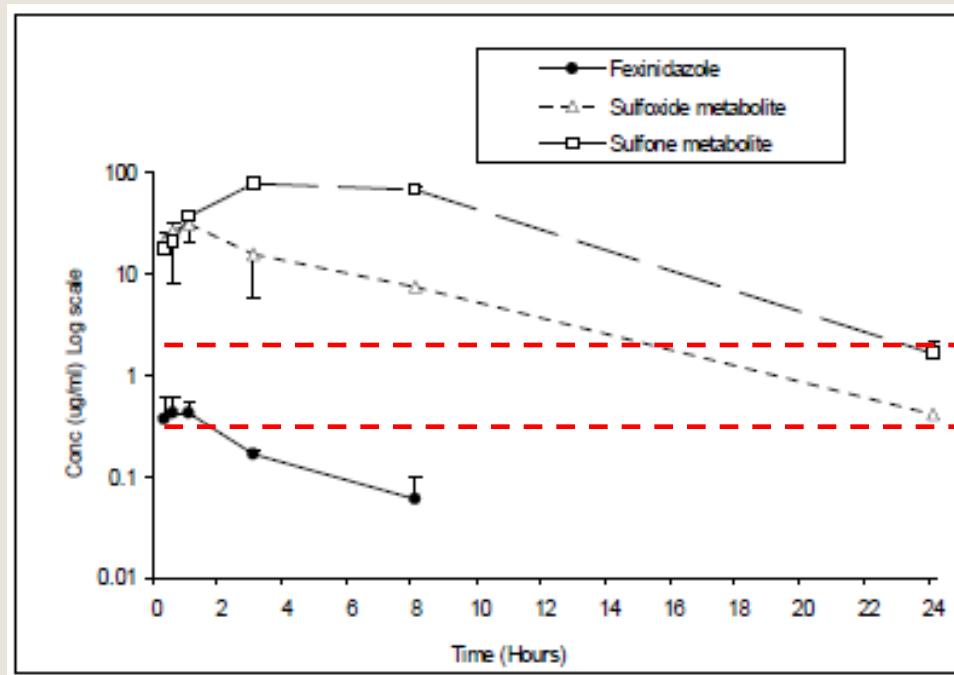


Fexinidazole sulfone (IC₉₀ = 2.20 µg/ml)



Fexinidazole mice PK profile at 200 mg/kg)

- Mice PK profile (at the efficacious dose of 200 mg/kg)



IC₉₉ Fexi-sulfone

IC₅₀ Fexi-sulfone

- Concentration of Fexi-sulfone is above IC₉₀ for 22 hrs

Key preclinical Data (1)

- The most active metabolite is M2: Fexinidazole sulfone
- No drug interaction expected as several CYP P450 involved
- IC₉₀ of M2 is 2.200 ng/mL
- Killing curve test:
 - Time dependent: 24h if concentration \geq 3X MIC
 - Killing rate (irreversibility) 12h if concentration \geq 3X MIC

Key preclinical Data (2)

- Chronic Infection Mice model for HAT
 - Dose 200mg/kg for 5 days 7/8 mice cured
 - plasma concentration ~8-10.000 ng/mL (mice data)
- No toxicological target organ
 - NOAEL = 200 mg/kg
 - ADME Rat brain concentration:

Met ID	Collection time	
	8 h	24 h
fexinidazole	3.3 %	nd
M1	36.1 %	12.3 %
M2	56.1 %	76.2 %

Fexinidazole Clinical Studies

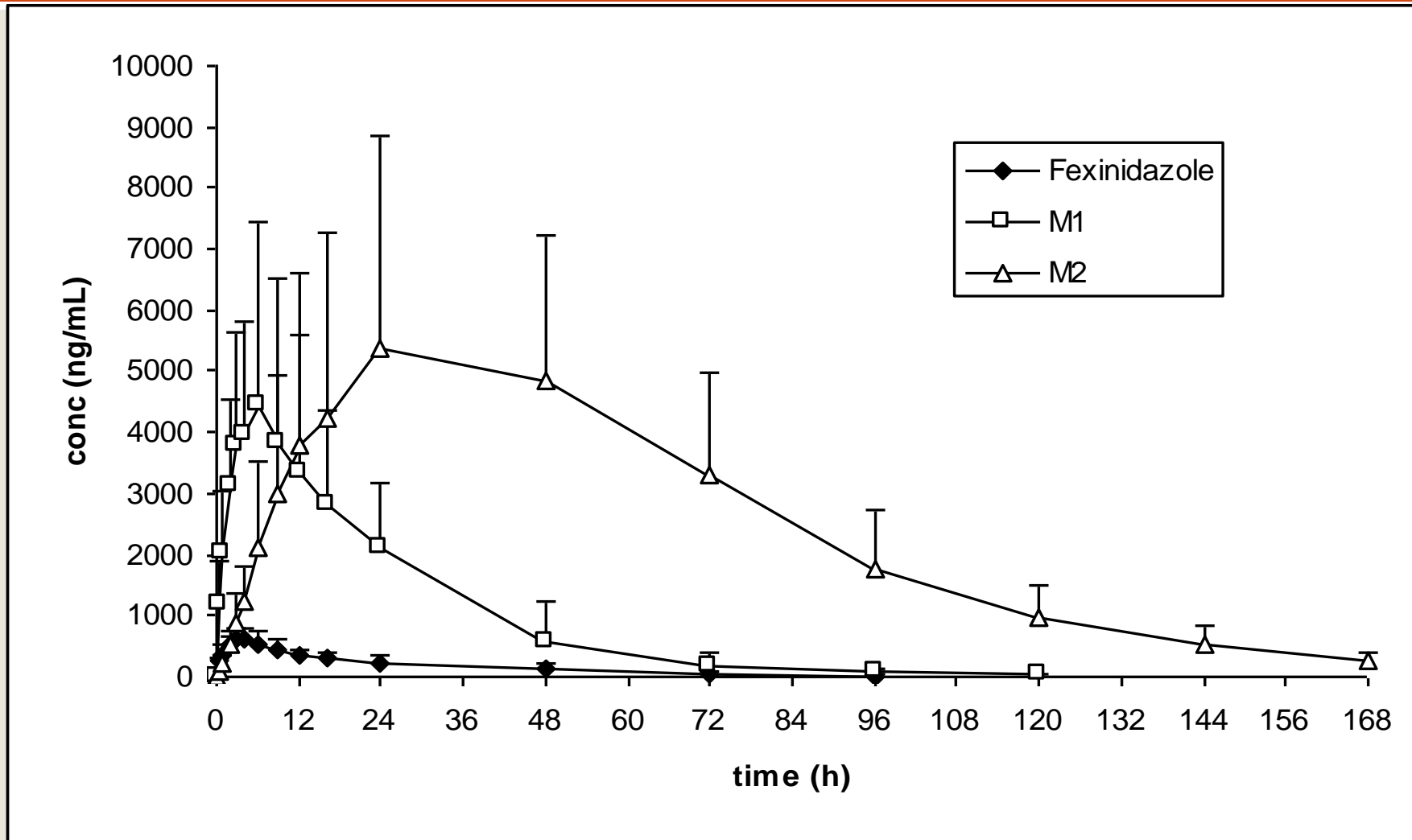
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Phase I studies

118 /154 subjects have been exposed to Fexinidazole

- **Tolerability study**
 - Part 1 (SAD) Study Design
 - oral suspension escalation from 100 up to 3600 mg
 - Part 2 Cross-over bioequivalence and food effect Study
 - 1200 mg single dose
 - Part 3 (MAD) Study Design
 - Three cohorts of 8 subjects (6 active, 2 placebo)
 - Oral tablet (600 mg) once a day for 14 days 1200mg,2400mg &3600mg
- **Field food interaction study (3way cross-over study ,12 subjects)**
- **Multiple dose in fed condition**
 - Randomized , double- blind versus placebo
 - Two cohorts of 18 subjects (12 active, 6 placebo/ cohort)
- **POP PK analysis**

Mean (+SD) plasma concentration of fexinidazole, (M1) (M2) vs. time profiles - 3600 mg fexinidazole



PK Results SAD

- Bioavailability
 - Fexinidazole: median T_{mx} : 3 – 4 H; mean $T_{1/2}$: 9-15H
 - M1 : median T_{mx} : 2-5 H; mean $T_{1/2}$: 18-20H
 - M2 : median T_{mx} : 18-24 H; mean $T_{1/2}$: 18-25H
- Exposure increased linearly, but not proportional to dose administered
- No saturation of the metabolism
- Steady state : D4 for fexi and M1, D9 for M2

Multiple ascending dose fasting

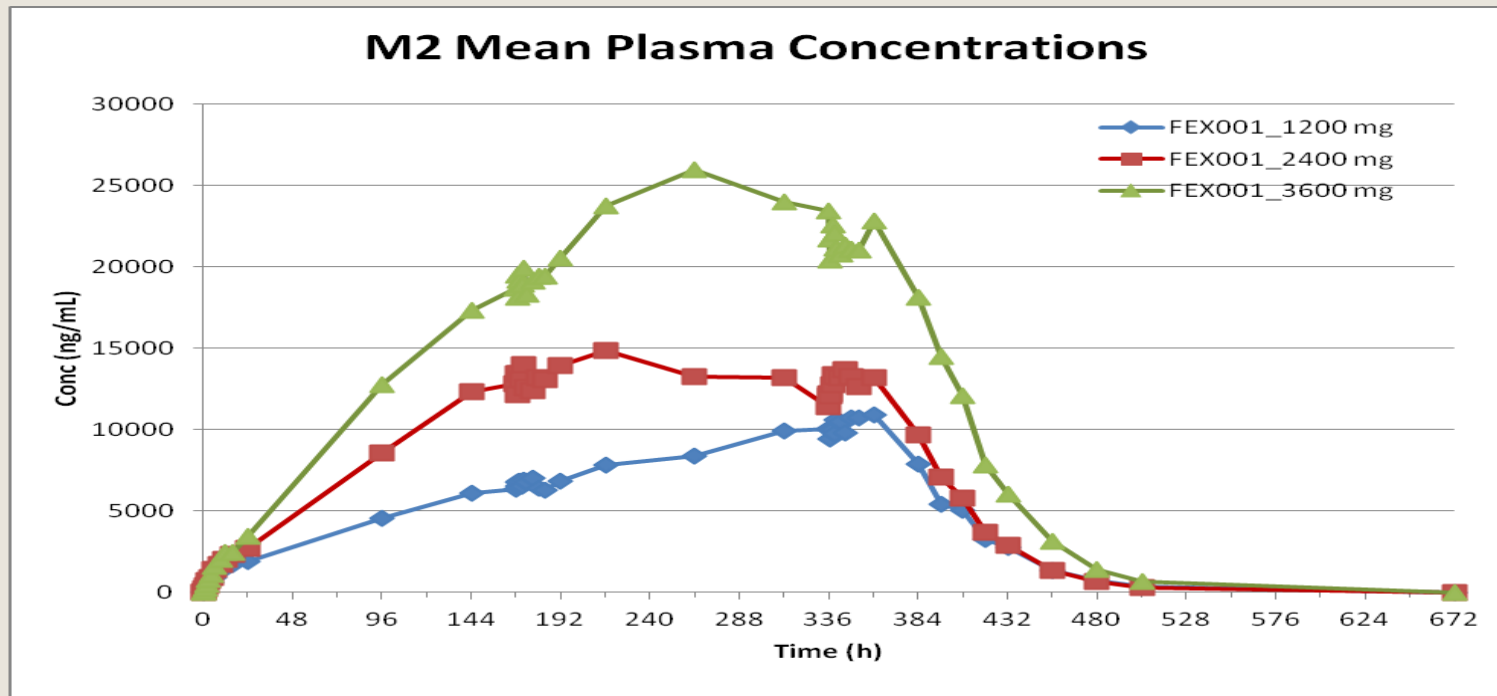
- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled design
- cohorts of 8 subjects (6 A, 2 P) sub-Saharan origin
- Oral fasting tablets of 600g - once daily for 14 days
- Ascending dose levels: 1200mg ; 2400mg ; 3600mg.

Multiple ascending dose fasting

- Subjects hospitalized from D-2 through D16
- Ambulatory visit D17- D21 morning (EOS)
- Standard safety lab, ECGs, AEs, PK
- 24h ECG holter
- Validation DBS method for PK

Multiple dose – Fasting - M2 PK Summary

Fexinidazole was administered once daily for 14 d



Frequency of ALT/AST increases/FEX001

ALAT	cohort 1	cohort 2	cohort 3
dose	1200 mg	2400 mg	3600 mg/
nb volunteers	9	9	9
≤1N	4	6	7
1N<x≤2N	4	1	
2N<x≤3N	1	1	1
3N<x≤30N		1	
30N<x≤40N			1

ASAT	cohort 1	cohort 2	cohort 3
dose	1200 mg	2400 mg	3600 mg
nb volunteers	9	9	9
≤1N	7	6	7
1N<x≤2N	1	2	1
2N<x≤5N			
5N<x≤6N		1	
6N<x≤9N			
9N<x≤10N	1		
10N<x≤30N			
30N<x≤40N			1

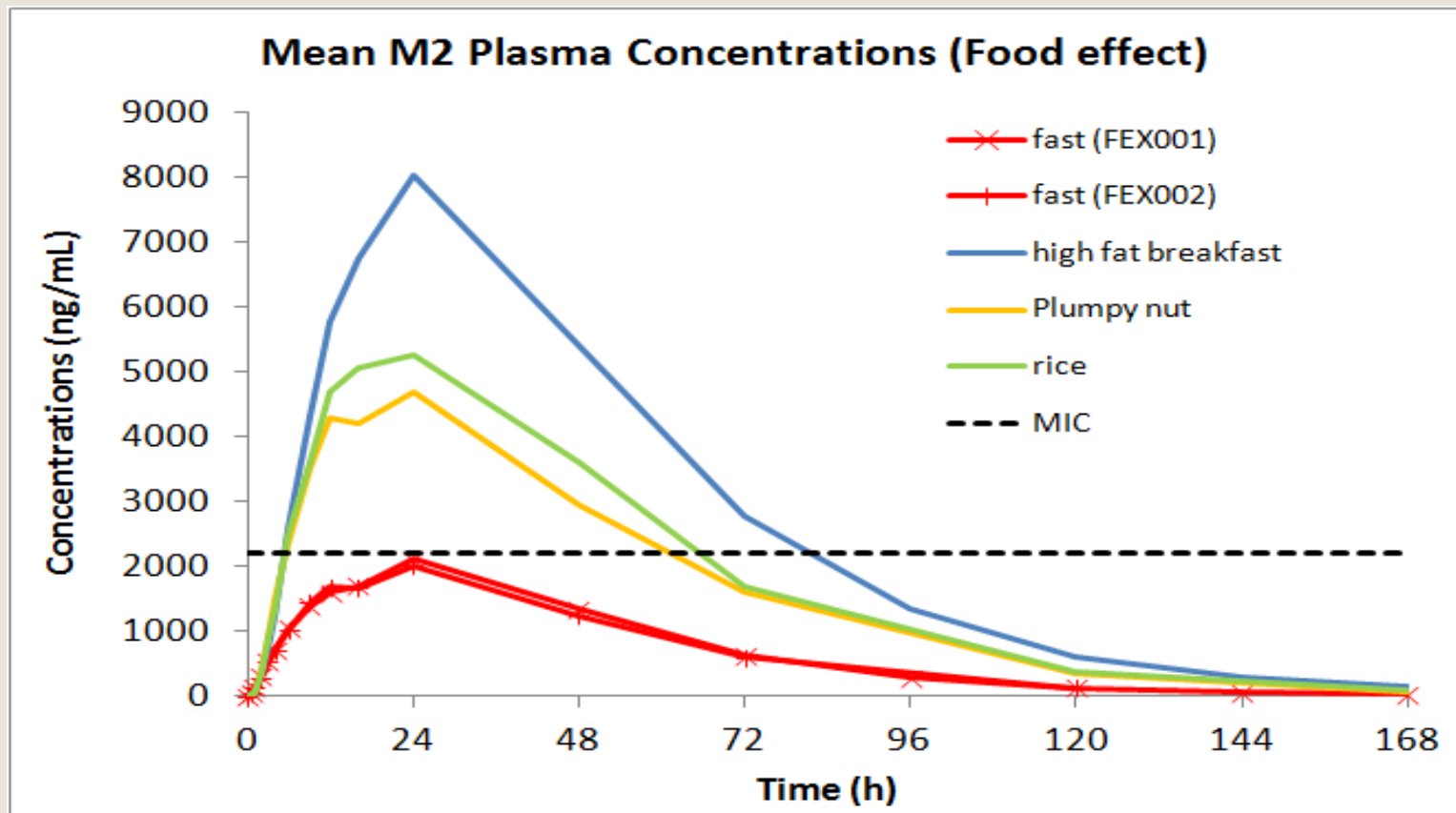
Food interaction studies

- 2 studies : open, 3 way cross-over design
 - 1200mg (2X600mg tablets) single dose
- **1st study : high fat rich breakfast**
 - relative bioavailability C_{max} and AUC_{0-t}:
 - 4 fold increase of absorption of fexinidazole
 - M1 & M2 increased proportionally
 - intra-individual variability
 - C_{max} and AUC_{0-t} markedly reduced (10 – 15%)

Food interaction studies

- **2nd study : Plumpy Nuts®(Fed1), rice and beans(Fed2)**
 - 3 way cross-over: fasted / fed 1/ fed2
 - Determination of free fraction
- Relative bioavailability Cmax and AUC_{0-t}:
 - 2.5 – 3 fold increase in of absorption of fexinidazole
 - M1 & M2 increased proportionally
- intra-individual variability
 - Cmax and AUC0-t markedly reduced (10 – 15%)
- Free fraction
 - Fexi:3%, M1:59%, M2: 43%

M2 fed : Mean Plasma levels



Key Pharmacokinetic Data

➤ Human Clinical Pharmacology data

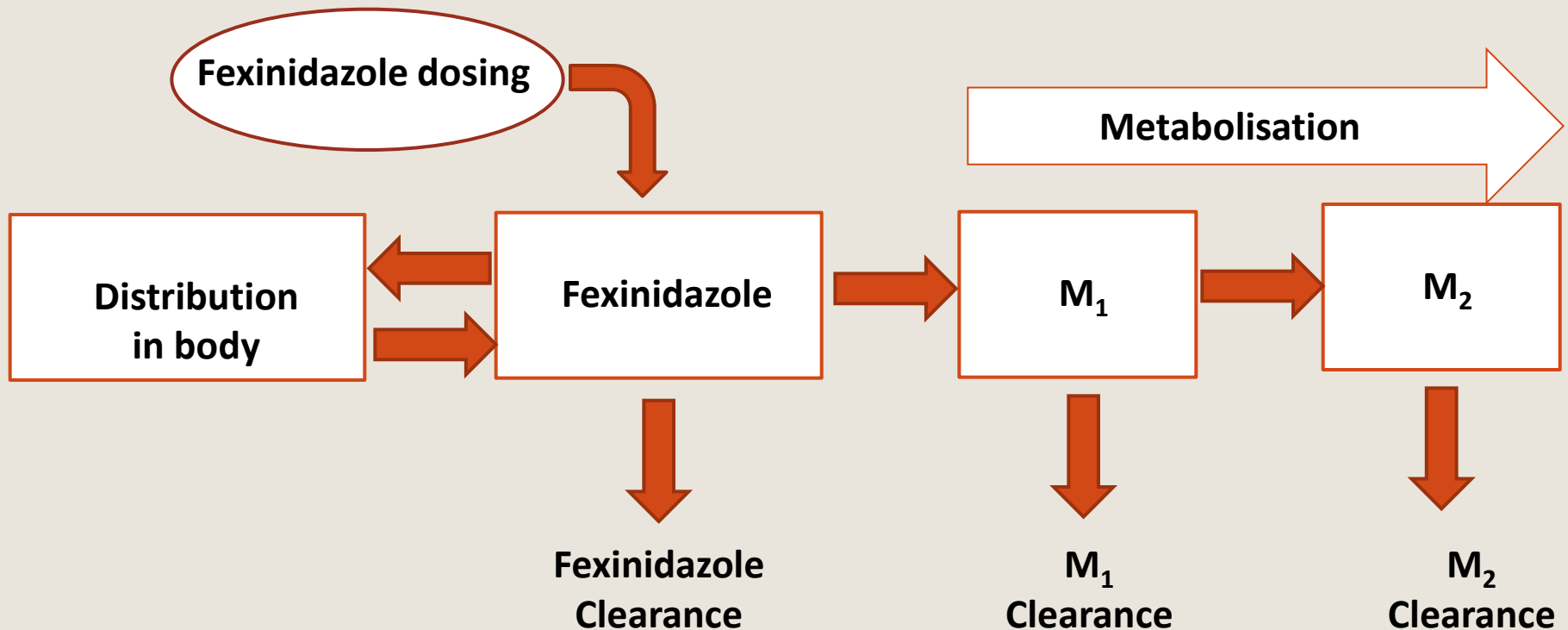
- Long Lag time to reach steady state of M2 in fasting dosing
- Food effect: 2-3 X increase in plasma concentration / fasting
- M2 $T_{1/2} \geq 24\text{h}$
- Free fraction of M1= 59% M2= 43%: prediction of high body diffusion
- Best Treatment duration should be less than 14 days

Rationale for population PK simulation

Targets:

- Simulate M2 plasma levels after multiple dosing over 10 days under fed conditions
- M2 concentrations 2-3 times > the IC_{90} (2200ng/mL)
- M2 plasma levels around 10.000 ng/mL for at least 72H (mice data)
- M2 plasma level should be reached within 2-3 days
- M2 C^2_{max} plasma levels \leq 20.000-25.000 ng/mL

Population PK model used for the simulations of several dosing regimens in patients



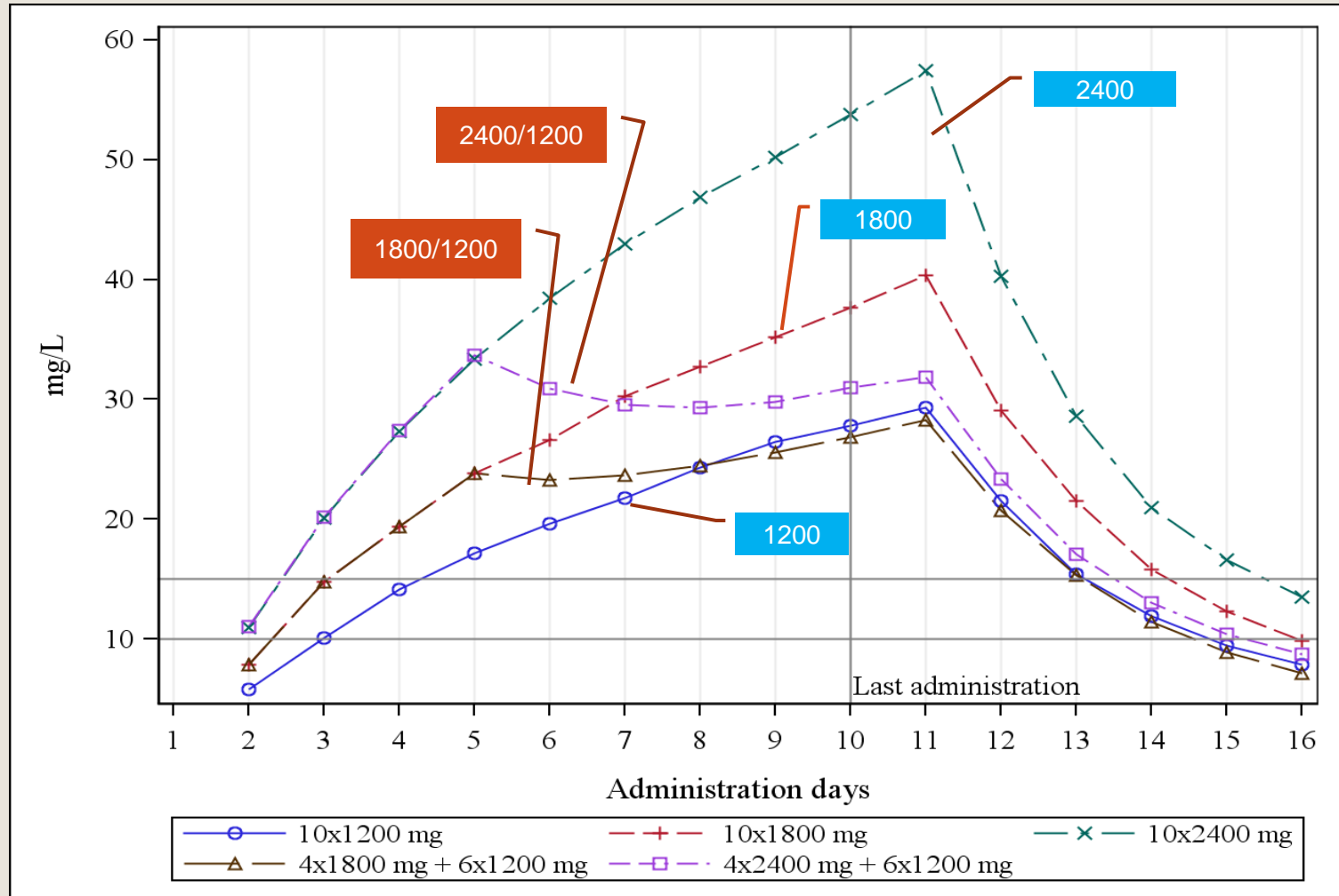
Winkelmann E, Raether W (1980). New chemotherapeutically active nitroimidazoles. *Curr Chemother Infect Dis, Proc 11th Int Congr Chemother* 2: 969-970.

Population PK scenarii tested

Tested 5 Scenarii

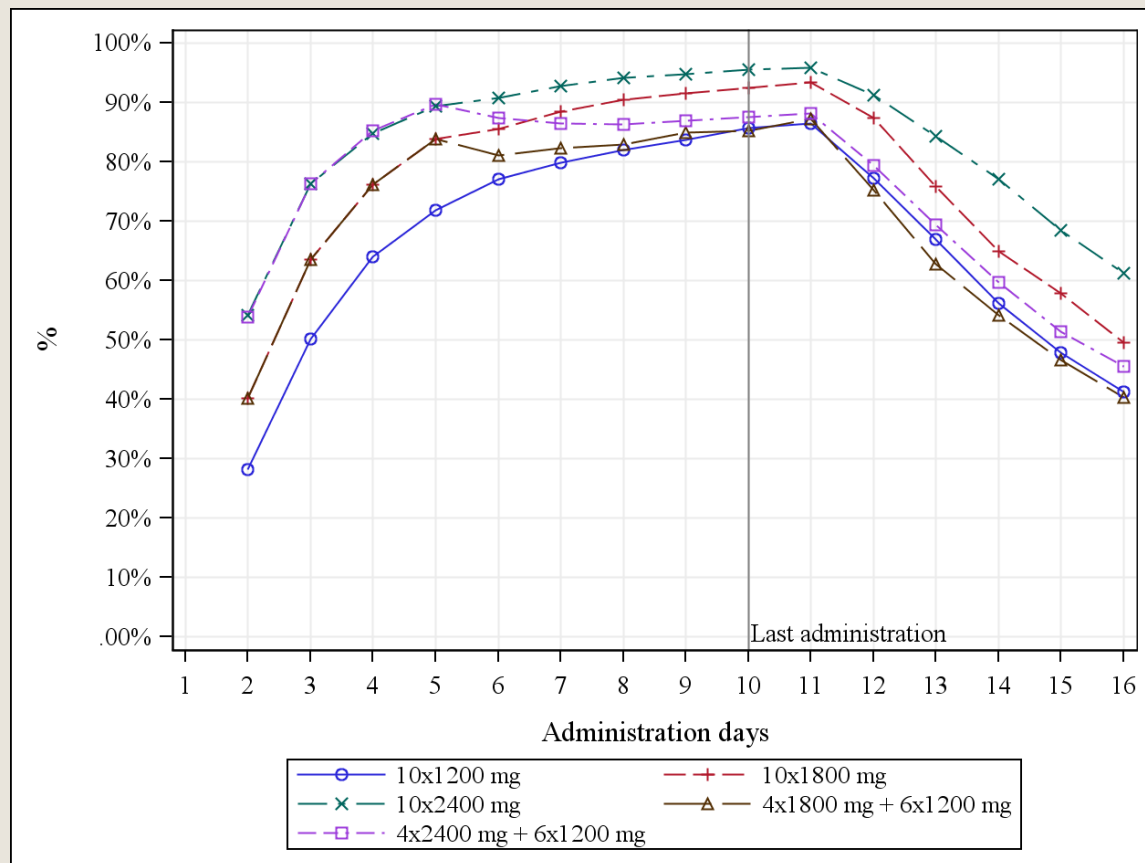
- **1200** mg once daily for 10 days with food
- **1800** mg once daily for 10 days with food
- **2400** mg once daily for 10 days with food
- **1800** mg for 4 days followed by **1200** mg for 6 days once daily with food
- **2400** mg for 4 days followed by **1200** mg for 6 days once daily with food

POP PK : Median of M2 simulation predose concentrations as function of dosing



Population PK probability calculations

% of subjects with M2 simulated predose concentrations >10 mg/L



Dose regimens tested

- Based on the results, the 2 mixed dosing regimens were selected to be tested in healthy volunteers in ascending order
 - 1800 mg 4d, followed by 1200 mg 6d
 - 2400 mg 4d, followed by 1200 mg 6d

MAD in fed condition design selection of therapeutic dose

- Design: 10 Days MD, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo controlled

- N= 18 subjects/ cohort (12 A + 6 PI)
 - ▣ 1800 mg loading dose from D1 – D4 + 1200 mg D5 –D10,
 - ▣ 2400 mg loading dose from D1 – D4 + 1200 mg D5 –D10,

- Evaluations
 - ▣ PK + Holter ECG at baseline D4; D7; D10
 - ▣ PK at D1; D4; D7; D10 + through levels D2, D5, D8, D9, D11 - D18
 - ▣ Safety LFT : D4; D7; D10 + follow up for 7 days

MAD in fed condition

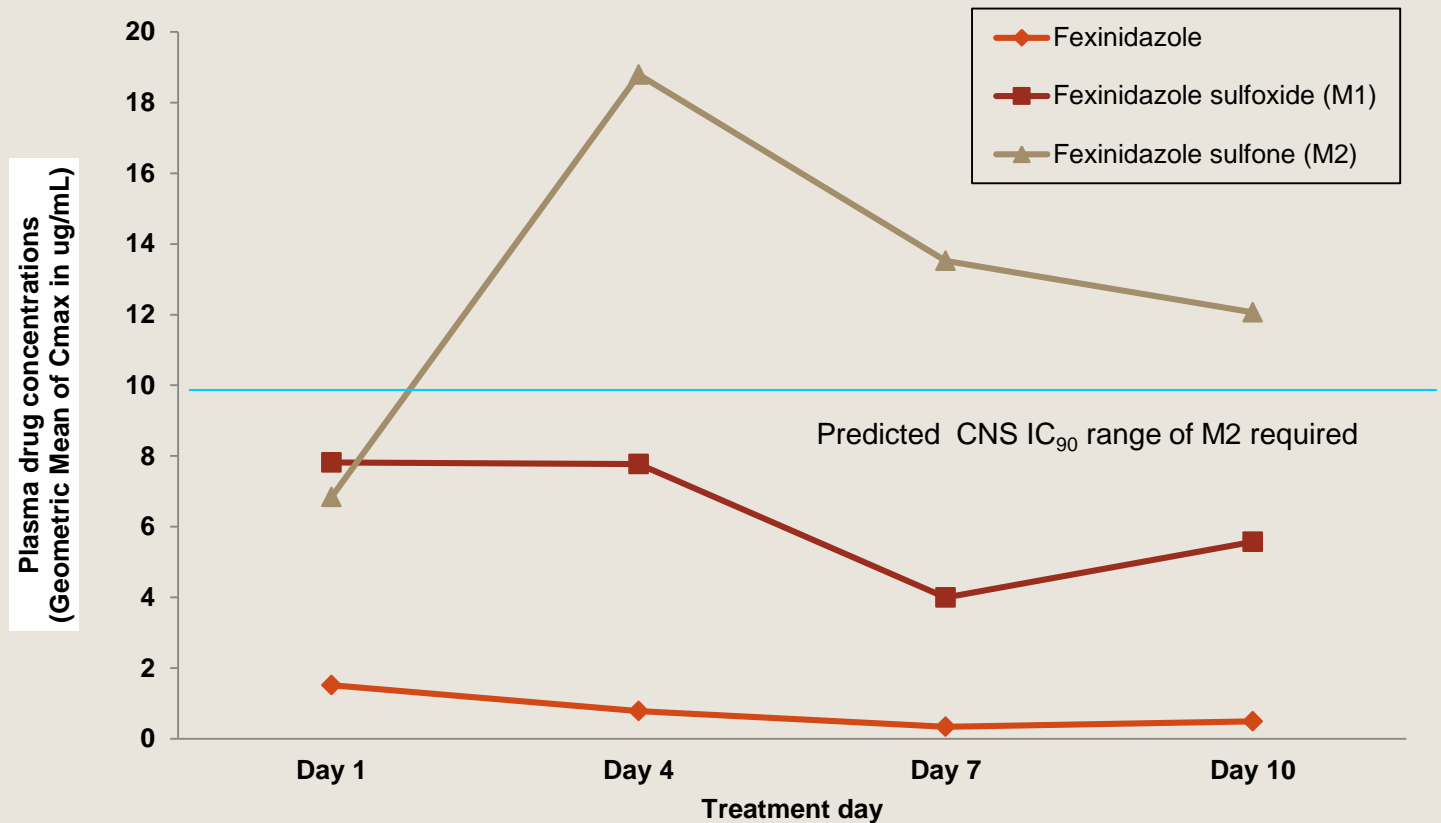
Results

Overall results

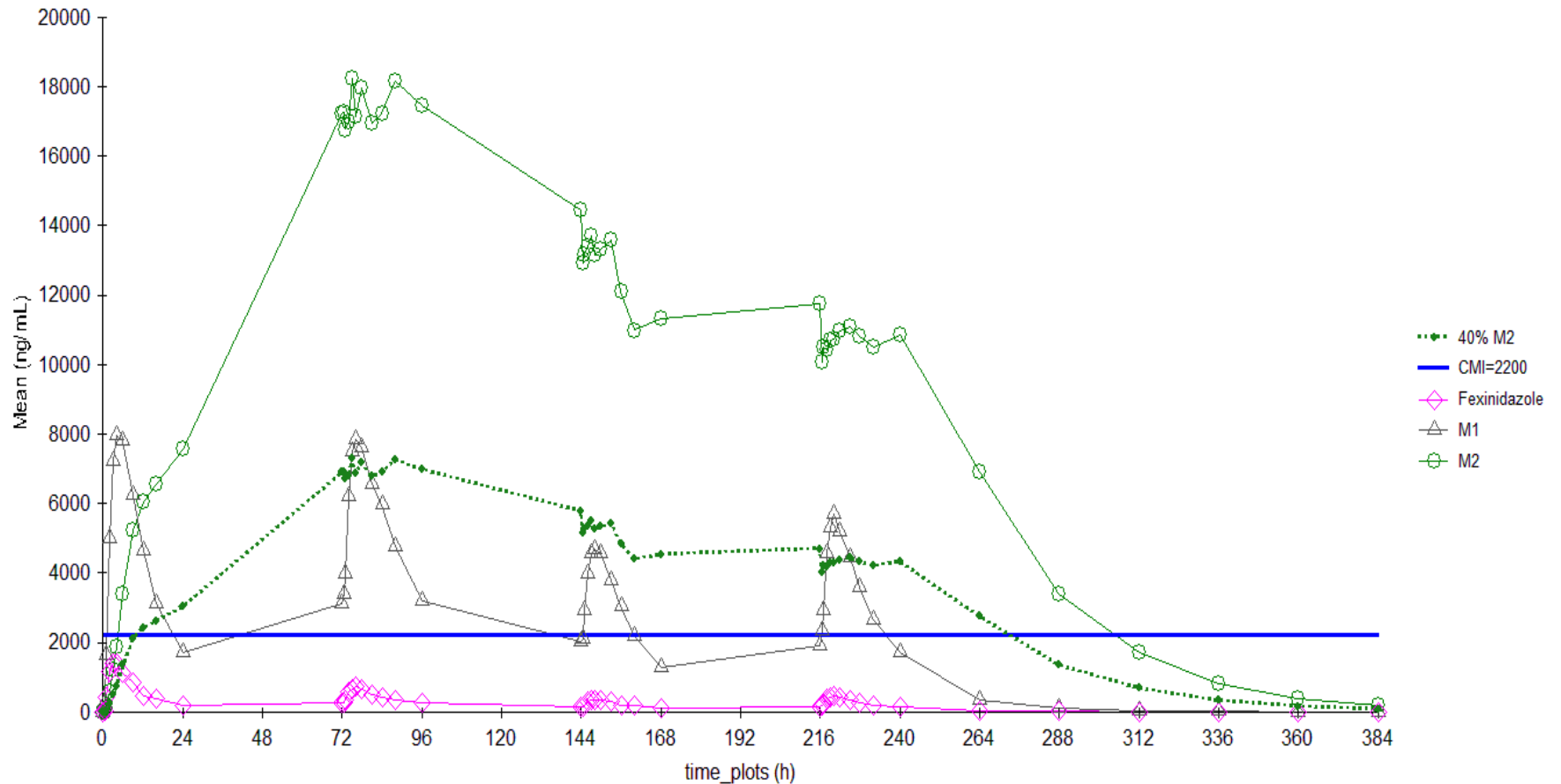
- **1800mg D1-D4 + 1200mg D6 - D10 completed**
 - Detection of a safety group effect in 1st sub-cohort of 9 subjects
 - All subjects were replaced
 - dosed in sub-groups of 3 no drop out
 - Total subjects N= 24 (n= 18 active + 6 placebo)
 - No biological safety concern
 - Major AEs: Headache nausea vomiting at loading dose
- **2400mg D1-D4 + 1200mg D6 - D10**
 - 2 sub-groups of 3 subjects dosed
 - 1 subject withdrawn in each dose for anxiety and episode of panic attack
 - Dosing stopped for safety reason

pK result

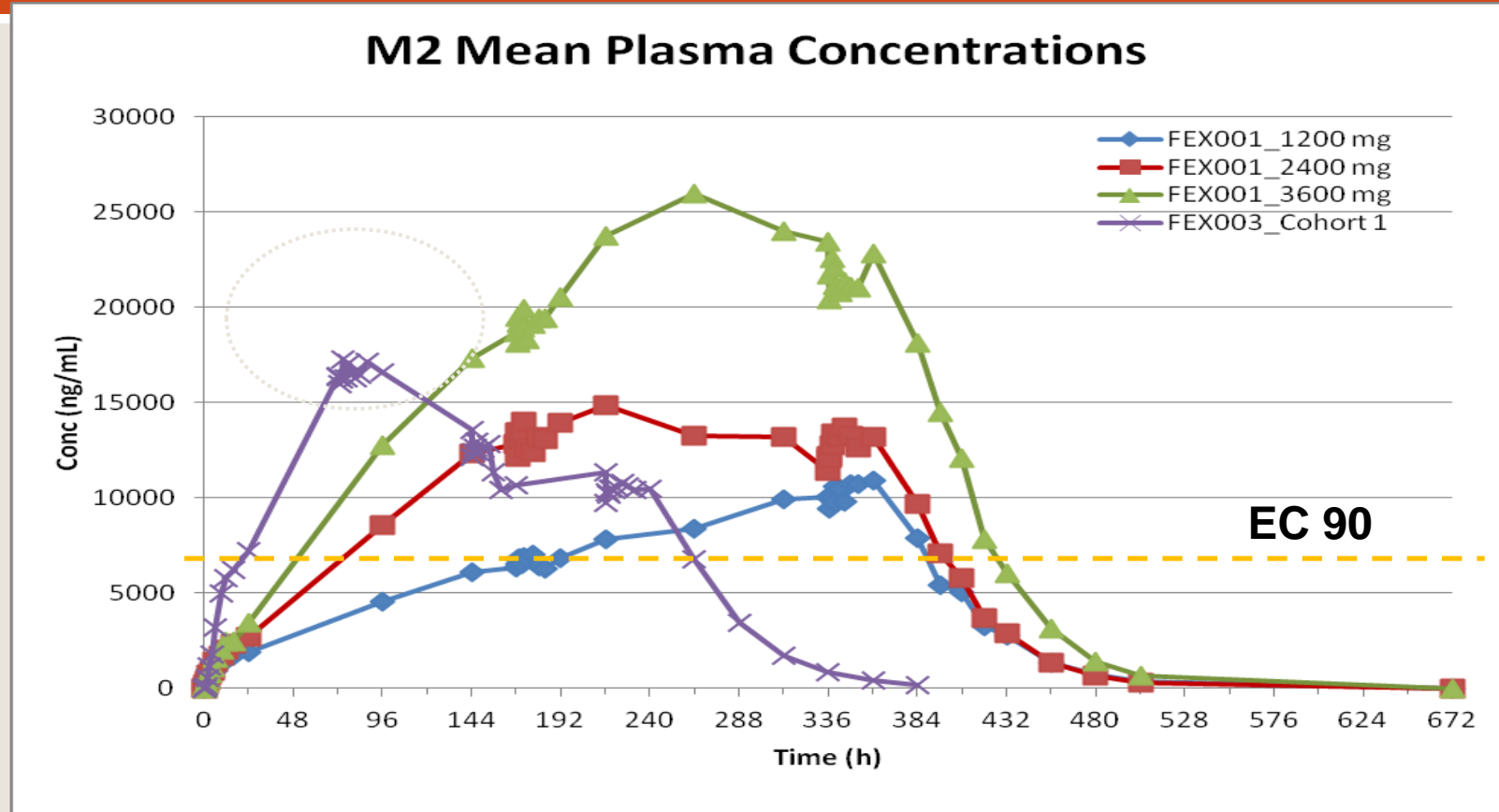
Geomatic means of Cmax at D1,D4,D7,D10



M2 Mean Plasma levels 1800/1200 mg



PK results : 1800/1200mg



Active metabolite M2 plasma concentration was reached rapidly and maintained for 3 to 4 days in all cases and more than 80% of the subjects had pre-dose plasma levels above 10 mg/L.

Fexinidazole Safety results

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Safety Biology / FEXI003

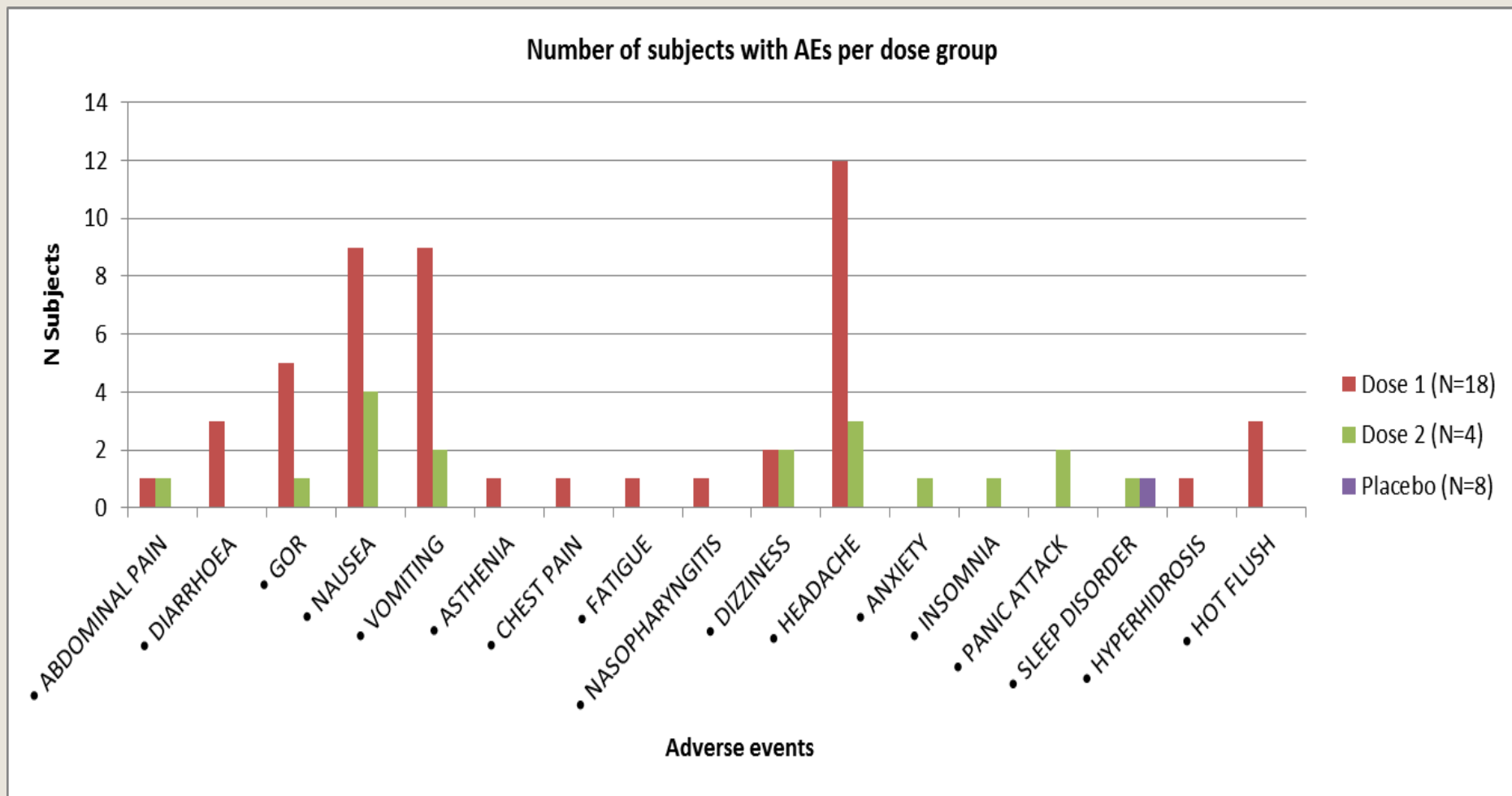
Parameter	Placebo (N=8)			Dose 1 (N=18)			Dose 2 (N=4)		
	1N<x≤2N	2N<x≤3N	>3xN	1N<x≤2N	2N<x≤3N	>3xN	1N<x≤2N	2N<x≤3N	>3xN
	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
ALAT	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
ASAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alkaline phosphatase	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gamma-GT	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total bilirubin	0	0	0	6	1	2	1	0	0
Creatinine	0	0	0	11	0	0	3	0	0

Total bilirubin: abnormalities were present at screening and don't increased under treatment

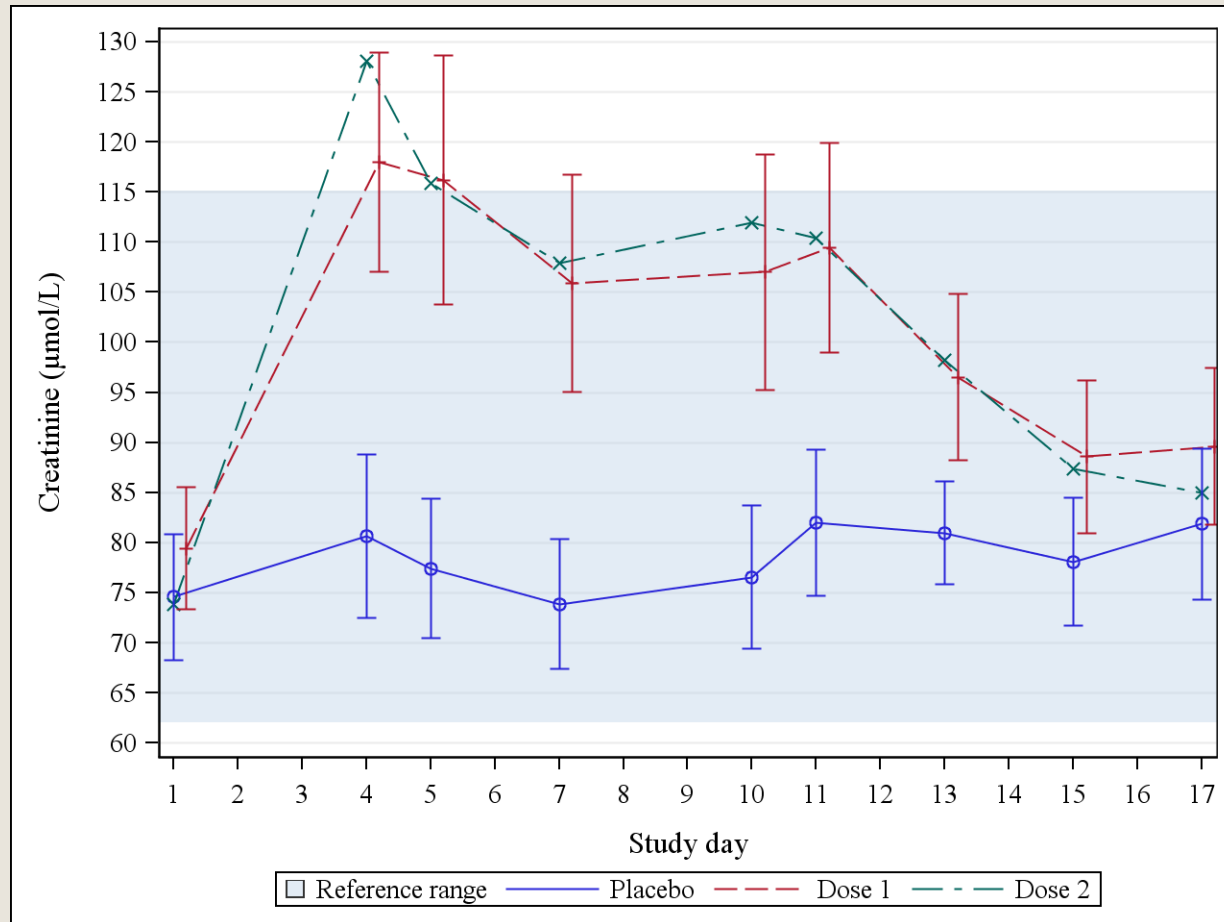
liver function test: No abnormal values in liver function test

plasma creatinine: variation related to class abnormalities.

Adverse events /FEXI003



Creatinine Results FEX003



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Conclusion

- Fexinidazole and its metabolites are active against *T brucei gambiense and rhodesiense*
- The most active metabolite is M2: Fexinidazole sulfone
- No drug interaction expected as several CYP P450 involved
- fexinidazole should be taken in fed conditions at once a day dosing
- The best regimen is 1800mg for 4 days followed by 1200mg for 6 days

THANK YOU

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