



PharmGenEd™ Clinical Applications of Pharmacogenomics

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1

Therapeutic Areas

- Infectious Diseases: abacavir
- Oncology: trastuzumab
- Anticoagulation: warfarin
- Psychiatry: SSRIs
- Neurology: carbamazepine

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2

Discussion Format

- Gene/Allele of interest
- Functional Effect
- Population Prevalence
- Genomic Test
- Clinical Relevance
 - Dosing/selection
 - Efficacy
 - Toxicity
- Genomic Testing Recommendation

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3

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this program, participants will be able to

- Identify therapeutic areas in which pharmacogenomic testing can be applied in the clinical setting
- Evaluate the limitations and benefits of pharmacogenomic testing
- Summarize evidence-based recommendations for pharmacogenomic testing
- Using patient case scenarios, formulate a plan for pharmacogenomics testing based upon available scientific evidence
- Identify resources for obtaining current pharmacogenomic information

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4



Therapeutic Area: Infectious Diseases

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5

Pre-Test Question: HIV-positive patients with the *HLA-B*5701* genetic variation and taking abacavir are at increased risk for which one of the following events?

- A. Bleeding
- B. Serotonin syndrome
- C. Hypersensitivity reaction
- D. Tumor recurrence

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Patient Case

- 29-year old Caucasian male with HIV presents to clinic with fever, GI upset and skin rash on forearms and trunk
- Labs:
 - Viral load: 50,000 copies
 - CD4 count: 100/mm³
- Allergies: no known drug allergy
- Medications (x3 months): abacavir, zidovudine, efavirenz, sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim
- Questions:
 - Cause of rash?
 - Testing recommended?
 - Intervention?



Highleyman L, 2008. www.hivandhepatitis.com/recent/2008/101008_c.html
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7

Abacavir

- **A nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor with activity against HIV**
- **Gene/Allele: *HLA-B*5701***
- **Functional Effect**
 - Presence of allele confers high risk of abacavir-induced hypersensitivity reaction (HSR) (Hetherington 2002, Mallal 2002, Cutrell 2004, Nolan 2009, Adam 2011)
 - Symptoms of HSR may include fever, rash, GI and respiratory symptoms and general malaise
 - Untreated HSR can lead to significant hypotension and possibly even death
 - Interaction of drug (or its metabolite) with MHC Class I may lead to CD8⁺ T-cell mediated cell death (Chessman 2008, Nolan 2009, Yang 2009 Adam 2011)

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Abacavir

- **Population Prevalence (of *HLA-B*5701*)**
 - Among those initiating therapy with abacavir:
 - Caucasians: 5-8% (Hetherington 2001, Lucas 2007)
 - Asians: 0-2%
 - Hispanics: 1%
 - African-Americans: 0.5% (Chui 2007, Maiers 2007)
- **Genomic Test**
 - HLA typing: Positive test for *HLA-B*5701* confers ↑ risk for HSR
 - *HLA-B*5701* negative patients: <1% HSR
 - *HLA-B*5701* positive: >70% HSR (Hetherington 2002, Mallal 2002)

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9

Abacavir: Clinical Relevance

- **Dosing/Selection**
 - Dosing is not affected by pharmacogenomic testing but drug selection may be affected
- **Efficacy**
 - No literature related to how pharmacogenomics impacts drug efficacy
- **Toxicity**
 - **PREDICT-1** study showed that *HLA-B*5701* screening can accurately predict patients who may be at risk for abacavir hypersensitivity (Mallal 2008)
 - Incidence of confirmed abacavir HSR was 2.7% among unscreened patients vs. 0% among screened patients ($p < 0.001$) (Mallal 2008)

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10

Abacavir: Clinical Relevance

- **Toxicity** (Cont.)
 - **SHAPE** study showed similar trend in Whites and Blacks
 - *HLA-B*5701* screening accurately predicted 100% of abacavir HSR cases (confirmed by skin patch testing) (Saag 2008)
 - **ARIES** study investigated *HLA-B*5701* negative patients
 - <1% had clinically suspected HSR
 - none had positive skin patch tests at 30 weeks (Young 2008)

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11

Abacavir: Genomic Testing Recommendations

- Screening for *HLA-B*5701* prior to initiation of abacavir is recommended by the Department of Health and Human Services Guidelines (U.S. DHHS 2008)
- Screening for *HLA-B*5701* is included in the black box warning (Ziagen® Prescribing Information)
- Patients testing positive for the *HLA-B*5701* allele should *not* be prescribed abacavir if other options are available

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12

Post-Test Question:

HIV-positive patients with the *HLA-B*5701* genetic variation and taking abacavir are at increased risk for which one of the following events?

- A. Bleeding
- B. Serotonin syndrome
- C. Hypersensitivity reaction
- D. Tumor recurrence

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Patient Case Summary

- Patient was screened and tested positive for *HLA-B*5701*
- Symptoms were due to abacavir-induced HSR
- Abacavir was discontinued; other medications were continued
- Patient continued to be monitored for worsening hypersensitivity and other complications such as hepatomegaly, lactic acidosis, toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens-Johnson Syndrome
- Symptoms resolved with discontinuation of abacavir
- Patient was not re-challenged with abacavir

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14



Therapeutic Area: Oncology

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Trastuzumab

- **Trastuzumab is a monoclonal antibody used to treat breast cancer**
- **Gene: Human epidermal growth factor receptor (*HER2*)** (Dowsett 2009)
- **Functional Effect**
 - Overexpressed proto-oncogene in some breast cancers
 - *HER2* overexpression correlates with reduced disease-free time and overall survival (Slamon 1987)
 - Trastuzumab binds to HER2 protein on the surface of tumor cells (Herceptin® Prescribing Information)

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16

Trastuzumab

- **Population Prevalence:**
 - No evidence that *HER2* expression differs by race (Marti 2008)
 - *HER2* levels may be inversely related to body mass index among premenopausal women (Sherman 2007)
- **Genomic Tests** (Herceptin® Prescribing Information)
 - Two types of tests for *HER2* status have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
 - Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization (FISH): PathVysion®, *HER2* FISH pharmDx™
 - Immunohistochemistry: HercepTest®, Pathway™
 - Positive results indicate overexpression of *HER2*

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17

Trastuzumab: Clinical Relevance

- **Dosing/Selection**
 - Dosing is not affected by pharmacogenomic testing, but drug selection is affected
- **Efficacy**
 - Trastuzumab plus chemotherapy in patients with *HER2*-positive breast cancer are associated with
 - Increased time to disease progression
 - Longer median survival time
 - Decreased risk of death in metastatic breast cancer (Slamon 2001, Marty 2005)
 - Adjuvant trastuzumab given with paclitaxel in patients with *HER2*-positive breast cancer resulted in
 - Increased disease-free survival
 - Decreased risk of death compared to chemotherapy alone (Piccart-Gebhart 2005, Romond 2005)

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18

Trastuzumab: Clinical Relevance

- **Efficacy**
 - There is insufficient evidence to conclude benefit of continued treatment with trastuzumab monotherapy or with chemotherapy after progression of disease (Hudis 2007)
- **Toxicity**
 - Trastuzumab alone is associated with 5% risk of cardiomyopathy (Slamon 2001)
 - There is limited evidence of increased risk of cardiotoxicity from trastuzumab if one copy of the *Ile655Val* allele variant of *HER2* gene is present (Beauclair 2007)
 - Testing for *Ile655Val* allele is not standard of care

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19

Trastuzumab: Genomic Testing Recommendations

- Testing for *HER2* status is necessary prior to initiation of trastuzumab (Wolff 2007, Padzur 2011, Herceptin® Prescribing Information)
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network Task Force Report provides guidelines about IHC and FISH cutoff scores to determine *HER2* status (Carlson 2006)
- Evaluation of Genomic Applications in Practice and Prevention (EGAPP) Working Group does not yet have recommendations for the use of genomic tests for trastuzumab (<http://www.egappreviews.org/>)

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20



Therapeutic Area: Anticoagulation

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21

Pre-Test Question: Which polymorphisms will most likely influence warfarin dosing?

- A. CYP2C9 and VKORC1
- B. CYP2C19 and VKORC1
- C. CYP2D6 and VKORC9
- D. CYP2D6 and VKORC1

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22

Warfarin

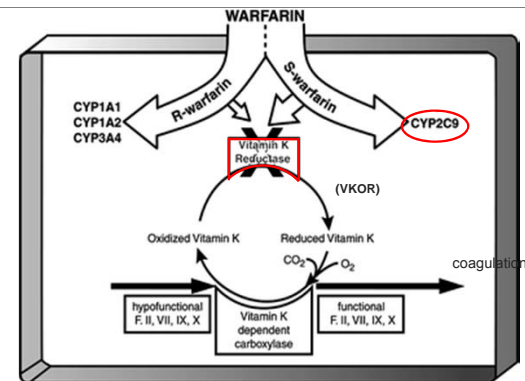
- Oral anticoagulant, widely used to prevent and treat thromboembolic disease in patients with deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, mechanical heart valves and atrial fibrillation
- Associated with significant risk of major and sometimes fatal bleeding events

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Warfarin Metabolism is Affected by CYP2C9 and VKORC1



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[The Pharmacogenomics Journal] (V.4: Issue 4, 224-225), (pg.225), (2004)

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Warfarin and CYP2C9

- **Gene/alleles: Cytochrome P450 2C9**
 - CYP2C9*1 wild type allele
 - CYP2C9*2 variant allele
 - CYP2C9*3 variant allele
- **Functional Effect**
 - CYP2C9*2 and *3 alleles result in ↓ CYP2C9 activity by 50% and 90%, respectively (Lee 2002, Schwarz 2003)
 - ↓ CYP2C9 activity results in ↑ warfarin concentrations
- **Population Prevalence**
 - Caucasians: 3-20% (Xie 2002)
 - Asians & African-Americans: 1-4% (Lee 2002, Xie 2002)

Warfarin and VKORC1

- **Gene/allele: Vitamin K epoxide reductase complex subunit 1 (VKORC1)**
 - VKORC1 1173 C>T
 - VKORC1 -1639 G>A (also known as 3673 G>A)
 - These two SNPs, along with others, combine to form several haplotypes (Rieder 2005)
- **Functional Effect** (Rieder 2005, Gage 2008)
 - Five common haplotypes are categorized into two groups, according to their impact on warfarin dose
 - Group A haplotypes (1 and 2) are associated with requiring a lower warfarin dose
 - Group B haplotypes (7, 8, and 9) are associated with requiring a higher warfarin dose

Warfarin and VKORC1

- **Population Prevalence** (Rieder 2005, Yuan 2005, Mushiroda 2006)
 - VKORC1 1173 C>T
 - Asians: 82-89%, Caucasians: 14%-41%, African-Americans: 9%
 - VKORC1 -1639 G>A (or 3673 G>A)
 - Asians: 82%, Caucasians: 14%
 - VKORC1 Haplotypes
 - Group A: Asians: 89%, Caucasians: 37%, African-Americans: 14%
 - Group B: Caucasians: 58%, African-Americans: 49%, Asians 10%
 - VKORC1 Genotypes
 - Genotype AA: Caucasians 18%
 - Genotype BB: Caucasians 35%

Warfarin: Genomic Tests

- **Systematic review found that:**
 - More analytic validity data exist for CYP2C9 than for VKORC1
 - Sensitivity and specificity for CYP2C9 genotyping >98%; unknown for VKORC1 (McClain 2008)
- Turn-around time is less than 6 hours, but may take longer depending on transport and lab specifics
- There is limited evidence on specific variants of CYP2C9/VKORC1 that should be included in the current tests, long-term performance of tests, and consistency between laboratories

Warfarin: Clinical Relevance

• Dosing/Selection

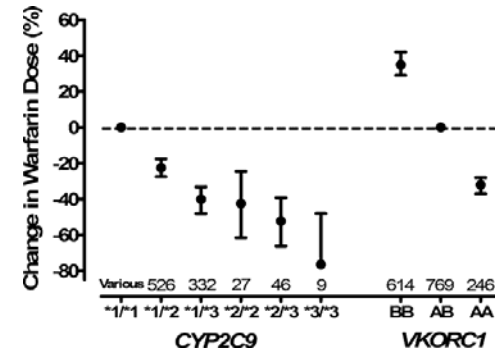
- Variability in warfarin dosing among Caucasians & Asians can be explained by *VKORC1* (23%), *CYP2C9* (17%), and other factors (60%) (McClain 2009)
- *CYP2C9* variant alleles lead to lower warfarin dose requirements
 - Gene-dose relationship exists; having 2 copies of a variant allele results in lower dose requirements than having only 1 copy of a variant allele (Higashi 2002, Takahashi 2003, Borgiani 2007)
- *VKORC1* alleles influence dosing
 - Genotype AA is associated with requiring a lower warfarin dose (2.9-3.0 mg/day)
 - Genotype BB is associated with requiring a higher warfarin dose (5.5-6.0 mg/day) (Rieder 2005)

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Clinical Relevance: *CYP2C9* & *VKORC1* Alleles Influence Warfarin Dose



Reprinted by permission of Wolters Kluwer. McClain MR et al. A Rapid-ACCE review of *CYP2C9* and *VKORC1* alleles testing to inform warfarin dosing in adults at elevated risk for thrombotic events to avoid serious bleeding. *Genet Med* 2008;10(2):89-98.

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30

Clinical Relevance: Genotype-Guided Warfarin Dosing

- A multicenter trial of 4,043 patients, requiring target International Normalized Ratios (INR) between 2-3, compared three dosing algorithms for warfarin (Int. Warfarin Pharmacogenetics Consortium 2009)
 - Pharmacogenetic algorithm
 - Fixed dose approach (35mg/week)
 - Clinical algorithm
- The pharmacogenetic algorithm combined both clinical information and genetic information to make dose recommendations

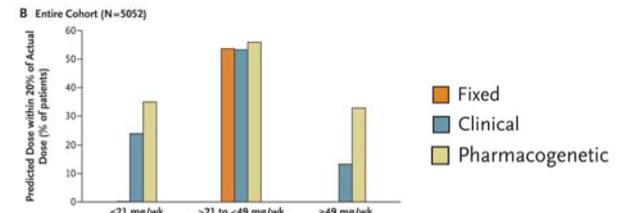
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Comparison of Pharmacogenetic, Fixed, & Clinical Algorithm Dosing

- Pharmacogenetic algorithm was the most accurate method at predicting dose for patients requiring:
 - ≤ 21 mg/week of warfarin (35% vs. 24%, $p < 0.001$)
 - ≥ 49 mg/week of warfarin (32.8% vs. 13.3%, $p < 0.001$)



Int. Warfarin Pharmacogenet. Consort. 2009. *NEJM* 2009; 360(8):753-64. Estimation of the warfarin dose with clinical and pharmacogenetic data. Copyright ©2009 Massachusetts Medical Society. All rights reserved.

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Warfarin: Clinical Relevance

• Dosing/Selection

- Genetic testing may guide initial warfarin dose, but utility may be limited once the therapeutic dose is achieved (Gage 2008)
- Genetic testing may decrease time to stabilization of dose; but long-term impact on safety is unknown
- No literature suggests that testing would affect selection of the drug

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Warfarin: Clinical Relevance

• Efficacy

- Testing may improve prediction of stable doses, resulting in smaller and fewer dosing changes (Anderson 2008)

• Toxicity

- Clinical sensitivity of *CYP2C9* testing to identify serious bleeding events is 46%
- Clinical specificity of *CYP2C9* testing is 69%
- Relative risk for serious bleeding in variant versus wild-type individuals is 1.7 (95% CI: 0.8-3.6)
- *CYP2C9* testing may ↓ risk of serious bleeding events but may ↑ risk of clotting events (Anderson 2008, McClain 2008)

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Warfarin: Genomic Testing Recommendations

- Prescribing information contains pharmacogenomic testing information relevant to warfarin dosing (Coumadin Prescribing Information)
- Pharmacogenomic testing is not required for patients currently on warfarin therapy
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will pay for pharmacogenomic testing for those who are enrolled in clinical studies, have not been previously tested and have received fewer than 5 days of warfarin (CMS 2009)

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Post-Test Question: Which polymorphisms will most likely influence warfarin dosing?

- A. *CYP2C9* and *VKORC1*
- B. *CYP2C19* and *VKORC1*
- C. *CYP2D6* and *VKORC9*
- D. *CYP2D6* and *VKORC1*

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Therapeutic Area: Psychiatry

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Patient Case

- 45-year old Asian man recently diagnosed with recurrent major depression
- The patient needs a recommendation for a new antidepressant
- Past medical history:
 - Has tried paroxetine, but has had significant nausea and diarrhea
 - Despite lowering the dose, patient still experienced adverse effects
 - No improvement in depressive symptoms
- Question:
 - Should pharmacogenomic testing be used to predict response and minimize potential SSRI toxicity?

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Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)

- **Genes for Cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzymes:**
 - *CYP2C9*, *CYP2D6*, *CYP1A2*, *CYP3A4*, and others (EGAPP Working Group 2007)
- **Functional Effect**
 - Null or ↓ CYP activity confers poor metabolizer phenotype
 - ↑ CYP activity activity confers ultra-rapid metabolizer phenotype
 - Multiple enzymes are involved in SSRI metabolism, but *CYP2D6* is the most important enzyme for this class of drugs

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SSRI: Functional Effect of *CYP2D6*

<i>CYP2D6</i> Genotypes	Phenotype (Metabolizer Status)	Expected Effects from Usual SSRI Doses
>2 copies of wild-type allele	Ultra-rapid Metabolizer (UM)	Sub-therapeutic drug concentrations → no response
2 copies of wild-type allele	Extensive Metabolizer (EM)	Expected drug concentrations and response
1 inactive and 1 reduced activity allele or 2 reduced activity alleles	Intermediate Metabolizer (IM)	Drug effects between those of EMs and PMs
2 copies of inactive alleles	Poor Metabolizer (PM)	Higher than expected drug concentrations → adverse reactions

EGAPP Working Group 2007

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SSRI: Population Prevalence

Major variant allele	Caucasians (%)	Asians (%)	African-Americans (%)
<i>CYP2C9*2</i>	8-12	<3	<3
<i>CYP2C9*3</i>	6-10	4-7	1-2
<i>CYP2D6*4</i>	12-21	1	2
<i>CYP2D6*5</i>	27	6	4
<i>CYP2D6*10</i>	1-2	51	6
<i>CYP2D6*17</i>	0	0	20-35
<i>CYP2D6*41</i>	8-10	0-2	11-14
<i>CYP3A4*1B</i>	4	0	67
<i>CYP3A5*3</i>	92-94	55-75	29-35
<i>CYP1A2*1F</i>	68	32	46

Modified from Sata 2000, Takahashi 2001, Lee 2002, Xie 2004, Ingelman-Sundberg 2005, Soyama 2005

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SSRI: Genomic Test

- Various *CYP450* genotype platforms exist that have been approved for *CYP2D6* and *CYP2C19* by the FDA
- Sensitivity and specificity of available pharmacogenomic tests for *CYP2D6*, *CYP2C9*, *CYP2C19* are high (>95%)
- Evidence for *CYP2D6* genotyping is most compelling (Matchar 2007)

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SSRI: Clinical Relevance

- **Dosing/Selection**
 - Single-dose SSRI studies in healthy volunteers showed that poor metabolizer genotype (*CYP2D6*, *CYP2C19*) correlates with ↑ SSRI concentrations and ↓ clearance (Yoon 2000, Liu 2001, Wang 2001, Yu 2003)
- **Efficacy**
 - Conflicting evidence from cross-sectional studies regarding clinical response and *CYP450* genotypes (*CYP2D6*, *CYP2C9*, *CYP2C19*) (Gerstenberg 2003, Murphy 2003, Grasmader 2004, Kawanishi 2004, Rau 2004)
 - No conclusion can be made about relationship between *CYP450* genotypes and efficacy of SSRI treatment in non-psychotic depression (Matchar 2007)

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SSRI: Clinical Relevance

- **Toxicity**
 - Conflicting evidence for *CYP2D6* polymorphisms and rates of SSRI adverse effects (mostly GI effects) (Chen 1996, Gerstenberg 2003, Murphy 2003, Rau 2004, Roberts 2004, Suzuki 2006)
 - None of the studies were prospective randomized trials
 - No conclusions may be drawn about relationship between *CYP* genotypes and adverse effects of SSRIs (Matchar 2007)

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SSRI: Genomic Testing Recommendations

- Insufficient evidence to support recommendation *for or against* testing prior to initiating treatment with SSRIs for non-psychotic depression (EGAPP Working Group 2007)
- No specific recommendations for testing CYP enzyme activity



Therapeutic Area: Neurology

Pre-Test Question: What is the current pharmacogenomic testing recommendation for carbamazepine?

- A. Test all patients prior to starting carbamazepine
- B. Test high risk patients only prior to starting carbamazepine
- C. Test patients only if they have a history of hypersensitivity reactions
- D. Test patients only if they develop a hypersensitivity reaction

Carbamazepine

- **Anticonvulsant indicated for partial and generalized seizures, trigeminal neuralgia, and bipolar disorder**
- **Gene/Allele**
 - *HLA-B*1502, HLA-A*3101, HLA-B*1511*
- **Functional Effect**
 - *HLA-B*1502* ↑ risk of carbamazepine-induced, life-threatening hypersensitivity reactions Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS) and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis (TEN) (Chung 2004, Yip 2012)
 - *HLA-A*3101* and *HLA-B*1511* ↑ risk of carbamazepine-induced, cutaneous hypersensitivity (both mild and severe) (McCormack 2011, Ozeki 2011, Niihara 2012, Yip 2012, Kaniwa N 2010)
 - Interaction between drug and MHC Class I may lead to CD8+ T-cell mediated cell death (Yang 2007, Adam 2011, Pichler 2011, Chung 2012, Ko 2012)

Carbamazepine

• Population Prevalence

- *HLA-B*1502* frequency (Chung 2010, Aihara 2011, Kim 2011, www.allelefreqencies.net, www.ihwg.org)
 - East Asians: Han Chinese 2-12%, Thai 6-8%
 - South Asians: Indians 1-6%, Singapore, Malaysians 8.4-11.6%, Thai, Filipino: 5.3-6.1%
 - North Asians: Japanese 0.1%, Koreans: 0.2-0.4%
 - Caucasians, Europeans, Hispanics 0%
 - African-Americans 0.2%
- *HLA-A*3101* frequency (Wen 2008, Schmidt 2009, Gonzalez-Galarza 2011, McCormack 2011, Ozeki 2011, Yip 2012)
 - North European: 2-5%, Han Chinese: 2-3%, Japanese: 7-12%
- *HLA-B*1511* frequency (www.allelefreqencies.net; Kim 2011)
 - Singaporeans: 2%, Koreans: 3-4%, Taiwanese: 1-2%, Caucasians and African-Americans: 0%

• Genomic Test

- *HLA* typing: Patients are positive if either one or two copies of a relevant allele is present

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49

Carbamazepine: Clinical Relevance

• Dosing/Selection

- Dosing is not affected by pharmacogenomic testing, but selection of drug is affected

• Efficacy

- *HLA* status is not known to affect clinical efficacy of carbamazepine

• Toxicity

- Incidence of SJS/TEN is <2 patients per million per year. Rate of death with these conditions (in absence of carbamazepine) range from 5% and 35% for SJS and TEN, respectively
- Carbamazepine toxicity is associated with the *HLA-B*1502* and *HLA-A*3101* alleles (Gomes 2005, Yip 2012)

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50

Carbamazepine: Clinical Relevance

• Toxicity associated with *HLA-B*1502*

- *HLA-B*1502* allele was present in 98-100% of carbamazepine-induced SJS cases in Han Chinese subjects (Chung 2004, Hung 2006, Chung 2010)
- Among Han Chinese, testing for *HLA-B*1502* provides 96% sensitivity and 88% specificity for predicting SJS/TEN (Yip 2012)
- *HLA-B*1502* status is not associated with SJS/TEN among Japanese or Caucasians (Alfirevic 2006, Lonjou 2006, Kaniwa 2008, Ikeda 2010)

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51

Carbamazepine: Clinical Relevance

• Toxicity associated with *HLA-A*3101*

- *HLA-A*3101* is associated with carbamazepine hypersensitivity different populations (Yip 2012)
- Among Japanese
 - Testing for *HLA-A*3101* provides 58% sensitivity and 87% specificity for predicting hypersensitivity (Yip 2012)
- Among Caucasians
 - The test for *HLA-A*3101* provides 26% sensitivity and 96% specificity (Yip 2012)

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52

Carbamazepine: Genomic Testing Recommendations

- **HLA-B*1502**
 - The FDA recommends testing prior to initiation of carbamazepine therapy in patients with at-risk Asian ancestry (FDA alert 2007)
 - Black box warning for carbamazepine includes this information (Tegretol® Prescribing Information)
 - Thai study suggests that *HLA-B*1502* testing may be cost-effective for prevention of carbamazepine-induced SJS/TEN (Locharernkul 2010)
- **HLA-A*3101**
 - Currently the FDA does not provide any recommendation regarding testing for *HLA-A*3101*

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53

CPIC: Carbamazepine (CBZ) Dosing Recommendations

Genotype	Implications	Recommendations	Classification
Noncarrier of <i>HLA-B*15:02</i>	Normal or reduced risk of CBZ-induced SJS/TEN	Use CBZ per standard dosing guidelines	Strong
Carrier of <i>HLA-B*15:02</i>	Increased risk of CBZ-induced SJS/TEN	Do not use CBZ if naïve	Strong
		Use with caution if previously used CBZ > 3 months without ADR	Optional

CBZ=carbamazepine, SJS/TEN=Stevens Johnson Syndrome/Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis
ADR=adverse drug reaction
Label Section: Boxed Warning, Warnings and Precautions

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Adapted from Leckband SG et al. Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics 2013;94(3):324.

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54

Post-Test Question: What is the current pharmacogenomic testing recommendation for carbamazepine?

- Test in all patients prior to starting carbamazepine
- Test in high risk patients only prior to starting carbamazepine
- Test in patients only if they have a history of hypersensitivity reactions
- Test in patients only if they develop a hypersensitivity reaction

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55

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56

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58

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References

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59



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60