

Structure & Distribution

They are heme-containing isoenzymes

- Highly concentrated in **hepatocytes** (smooth endoplasmic reticulum)
- Enterocytes of the **small intestine** present their principal extra-hepatic source
- Very small quantities in kidneys, lungs, & brain.

Occurs mainly in the "**METABOLIC CLEARING HOUSE**" the **liver** → the drugs are identified as foreign substances that body must get rid of → Being mostly lipophilic (having an affinity to lipids) → The liver subjects them to chemical transformation (METABOLISM) → to become inactive & easily EXCRETED (more **water soluble**).

Phase I: OXIDATION /Reduction/Hydrolysis (The "**Cytochrome P450**" will be in this phase and it is just for oxidation in C-P450)
Phase II: CONJUGATION (ADDITION)
e.g. (Glucuronidation)

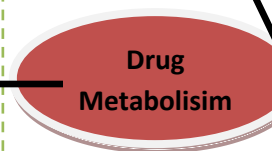
Function:

Responsible for most of the **OXIDATIVE METABOLISM** of:

- **Endogenous substances:** steroid hormones, prostaglandins, lipids, & fatty acids
- **Exogenous compounds:** diet (food & beverages) / Drugs / environmental

Cytochrome P450 "CYT 450": The Superfamily

- Is the terminal rate limiting **oxidase** of this system (**final step**)
- Its enzymes are part of a cascade → shuttles electrons from molecular oxygen to oxidize the drug.



Elimination

If it is polar (water soluble) → **renal elimination**
If non polar (lipid soluble) → **biliary elimination**

metabolism products

- Inactive product
- Active metabolite
- A product with different effect
- Toxic metabolite

Regulation:

Activation or Inactivation of the CYT P450 can be achieved either:

- **A: Directly**
- **B: Indirectly** by expression or repression of its relevant genes by (Activation or inhibition of the responsible **transcription factors**)
- Activation or Inactivation can be processed by any food, intrinsic products or extrinsic xenobiotics as drugs (usually the lipophilic) that have to be metabolized.

In relation to enzyme inducers: they decrease the EFFICACY of the drug

- ↑ Metabolism of the **inducer** + ↓ its pharmacological action. (**Decrease or absence of the response to the drug**)
- ↑ metabolism of co-administered drugs.

IN RELATION TO Enzyme INHIBITORS:

- they increase the **TOXICITY** of the drug
- ↓ or Retard (slow) metabolism & excretion of **inhibitor & co-administered drugs**.
- ↑ or prolong action of the **inhibitor & co-administered drugs**.

Molecular Basis of Drug-drug Interaction:

The orphan nuclear receptor **PXR** is a **TRANSCRIPTION FACTOR** that regulates the expression of the **CYP P450 genes**.

-If **Drug A** is **INDUCER** → it binds & activates **PXR** → which translocates in nucleus → **dimerize** with **RXR** → the heterodimer **PXR / RXR** will induce **EXPRESSION** of **CYT P450 isoenzymes** to → ↑ metabolism of **Drug B**
-If **Drug A** is an **INHIBITOR**, its binding will prevent **activation** (**PXR will not be activated**) → **REPRESSION** of **CYT P450 isoenzymes** to → ↓ metabolism of **Drug B**

Genetic Variation:

Genetic polymorphisms in CYT P450 isoenzymes have been observed and are reasons behind the **ALTERED RESPONSE** to drug therapy

CYP2D6

has the **most frequent** polymorphisms in all CYT P450

When polymorphism occurs → ↓ **metabolizing capacity of CYP2D6** i.e. those who exhibit the polymorphism become poor metabolizers:

1- Metabolism of some drugs neuroleptics, tricyclic antidepressants, antianginals agent (perhexiline), antiarrhythmics (propafenone & metoprolol) is suppressed → so side effects & toxicity develop. i.e.

Neuropathy after therapeutic doses of perhexiline

Severe brady arrhythmias → heart block on therapeutic dose of propafenone or metoprolol

2. The **pro-drugs** cannot be converted to their therapeutically active metabolite; e.g. poor analgesia with **codeine & tramadol** because they are not transformed into active forms

Summary:

- The liver subjects the drugs to chemical transformation (METABOLISM) → to become inactive & easily EXCRETED

Elimination :

- If it is polar (water soluble) → renal elimination
- If non polar (lipid soluble) → biliary elimination
- Drug metabolism in the liver usually occurs in two phases, the **CYP 450** (which is responsible for oxidation) is present in the first phase.
- CYP 450** IS the terminal rate limiting oxidase (FINAL STEP) of the cytochrome system
- CYP 450** is responsible of oxidation for endogenous substance e.g.; **steroid** and exogenous e.g **Drugs**
- Activation or Inactivation** of the CYT P450 can be achieved either **Directly** , or **Indirectly** by expression or repression of its relevant genes by activation or inhibition of the responsible transcription factors
- Indirect Activation of the CYT P450 → the drug should (dimerize) two TRANSCRIPTION FACTOR (PXR / RXR)
- Outcome Of Drug-drug Interactions Mediated By CYT P450 :**
Inducers: decrease EFFICACY by inducing its own metabolism and metabolism of the co-administered drug.
Inhibitors: ↑ TOXICITY by slowing or decreasing metabolism & excretion of inhibitor & co-administered drugs.

Substrates (THE DRUG (A) WHICH WILL BE METABOLIZED BY (CYP 3A))	Inhibitors (The drug –B- that inhibit the enzyme activity)	Inducers (The drug –B- that induce the enzyme activity)
<u>Immunosuppressants</u> : Cyclosporine <u>Azole Antifungals</u> : Fluconazole <u>Antibiotics</u> Erythromycin, Clarithromycin <u>Ca channel blockers</u> Amlodipine, Verapamil <u>Statins</u> ; Atorvastatin <u>Antiarrhythmic</u> : Amiodarone <u>Cancer Chemotherapy</u> : Cyclophosphamide, Tamoxifen <u>Non-Sedating Antihistaminics</u> : Astemizole <u>Benzodiazepines</u> : Midazolam, Clonazepam	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> Note: Immunosuppressants , Azole Antifungals, and Antibiotics also act as </div> Ritonavir (Protease Inhibitors) Cimetidine Chloramphenicol Nefazadone Grape Fruits	Rifampicin Phenytoin Carbamazepine Barbiturates Dexamethazone Progestins

- Major Contributor to Phase I Metabolism is (CYP 3A)
- CYP2D6** has the most frequent polymorphisms in all CYT P450 that will suppress the Metabolism of some drugs **neuroleptics**, **tricyclic antidepressants**, **antianginals agent (perihexiline)**, **antiarrhythmics (propafenone & metoprolol)** → toxicity develop.
- The pro-drugs cannot be converted to their therapeutically active metabolite in CYP2D6 Polymorphism; e.g poor analgesia with **codeine & tramadol** → ↓ EFFICACY