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Pharmacokinetics

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Synonyms

[Drug biotransformation](#)

Definition

Pharmacokinetics is a branch of pharmacology that studies the rate and processing of drugs within the body. Specifically, it monitors the drug upon entry, movement through, and then out of the body. This can be described as the time course of the drug and is monitored via the absorption, bioavailability, distribution, metabolism, and excretion of that drug. The kinetics of the drug effects determines the onset, duration, and intensity of the drug's effect. Drug pharmacokinetics

depends on patient-related factors (genetic makeup, sex, age, etc.) and the drug's chemical properties, and these factors can be used to predict the pharmacologic response of some populations.

Cross-References

- [Pharmacodynamics](#)
- [Psychopharmacology](#)

References and Readings

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