

# MARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT HALLE-WITTENBERG

## Formulations with phospholipids for the oral application

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# Outline

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- **Introduction: Challenges of oral administration**
- Phospholipids (PL):
  - Chemical structures and behavior in water
  - Biofate after oral ingestion
- How to design a PL-DDS for oral administration
- Examples
- Summary and outlook

# Peroral administration

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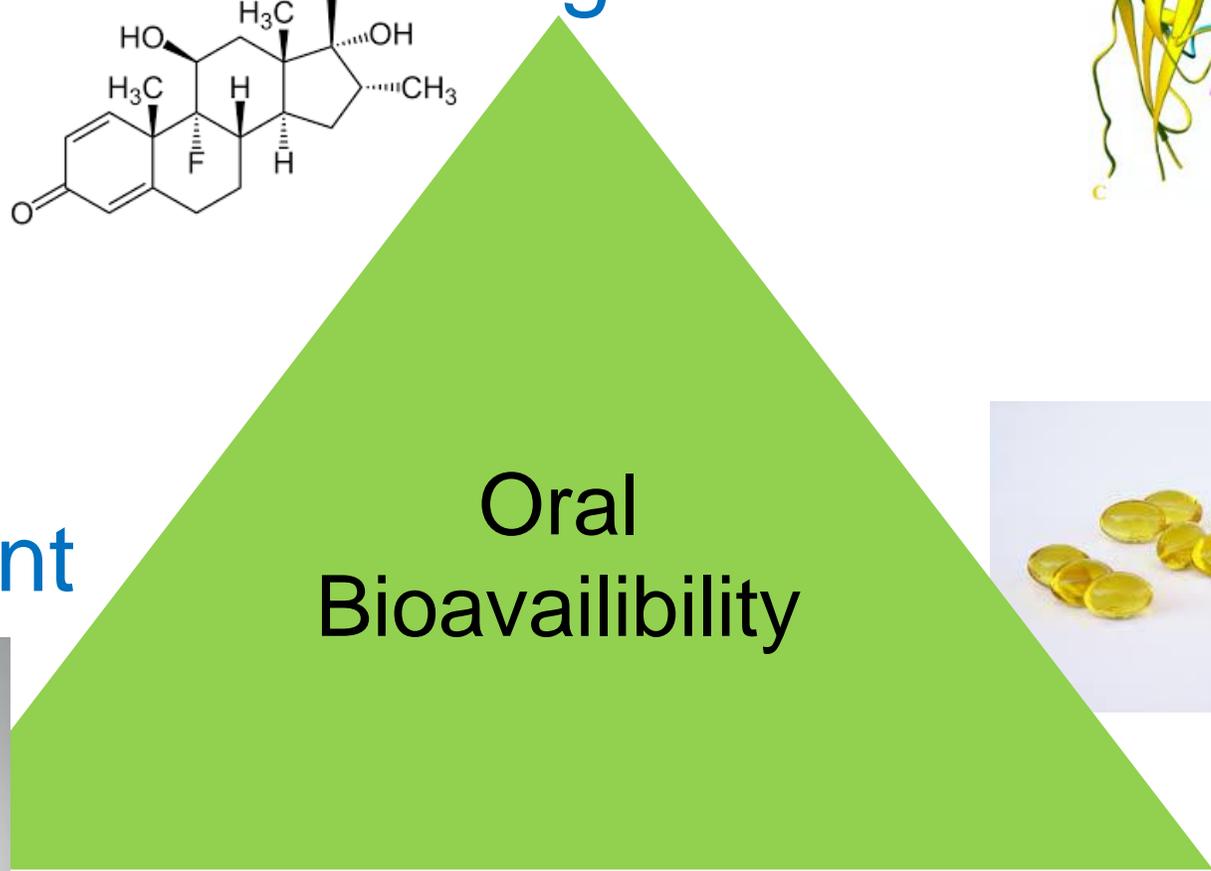
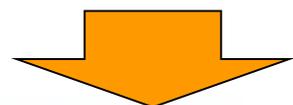
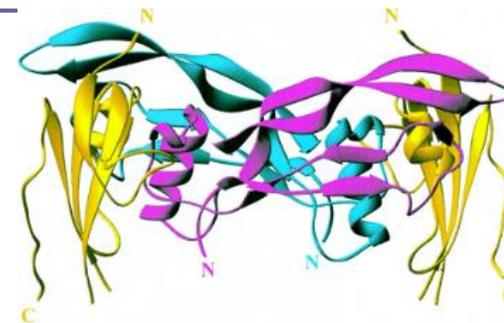
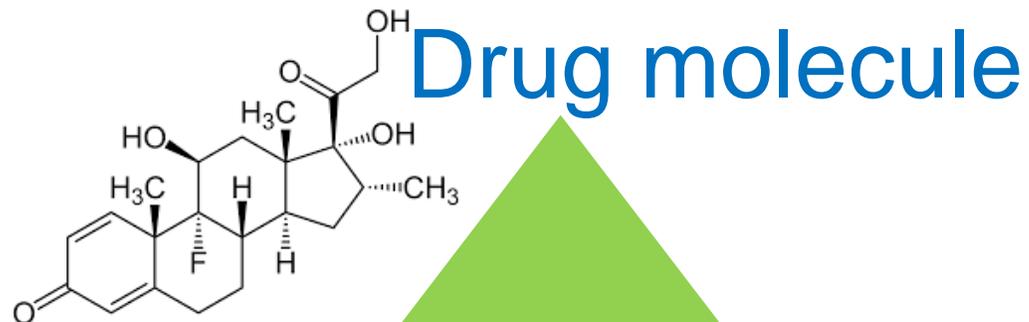
- Most commonly used
- Simple
- No pain
- Cost effective

## Target:

- 1 x daily
- Constant blood level
- Low variability



# Oral Bioavailability depends on



Formulation

# Common problems of oral administrations

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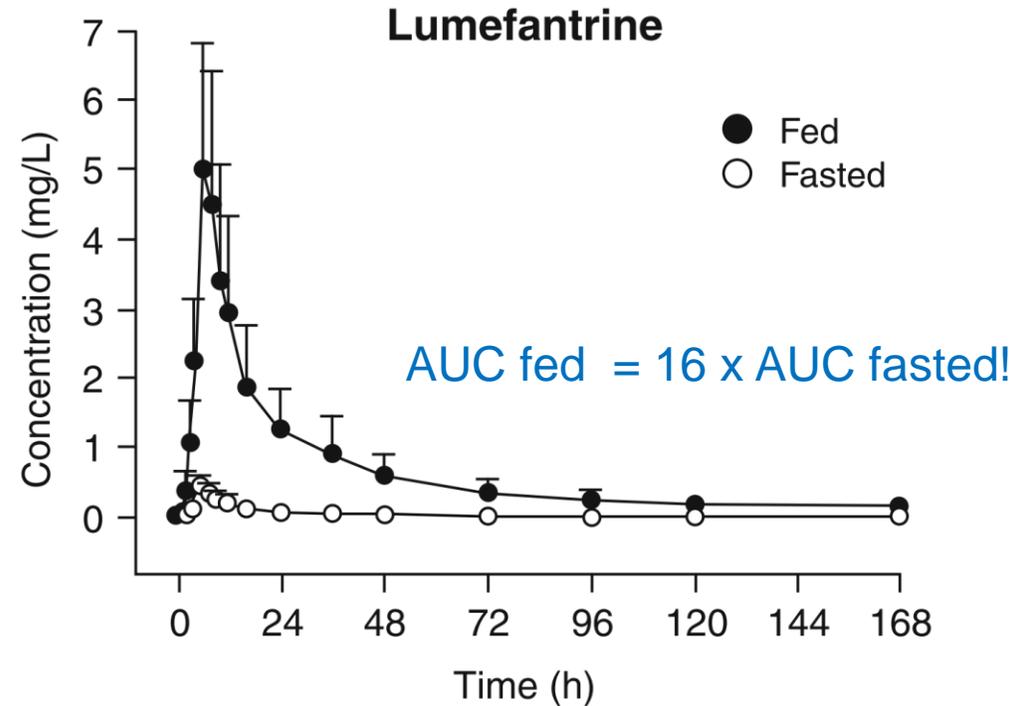
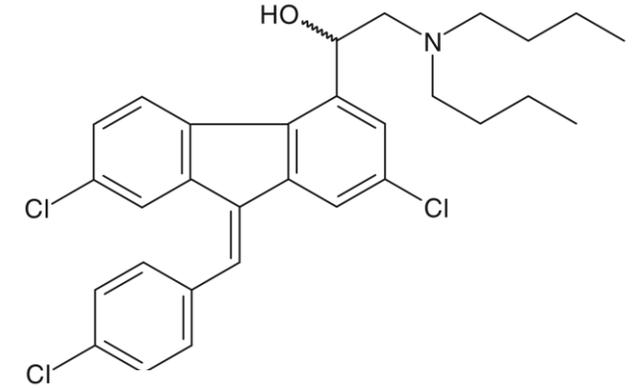
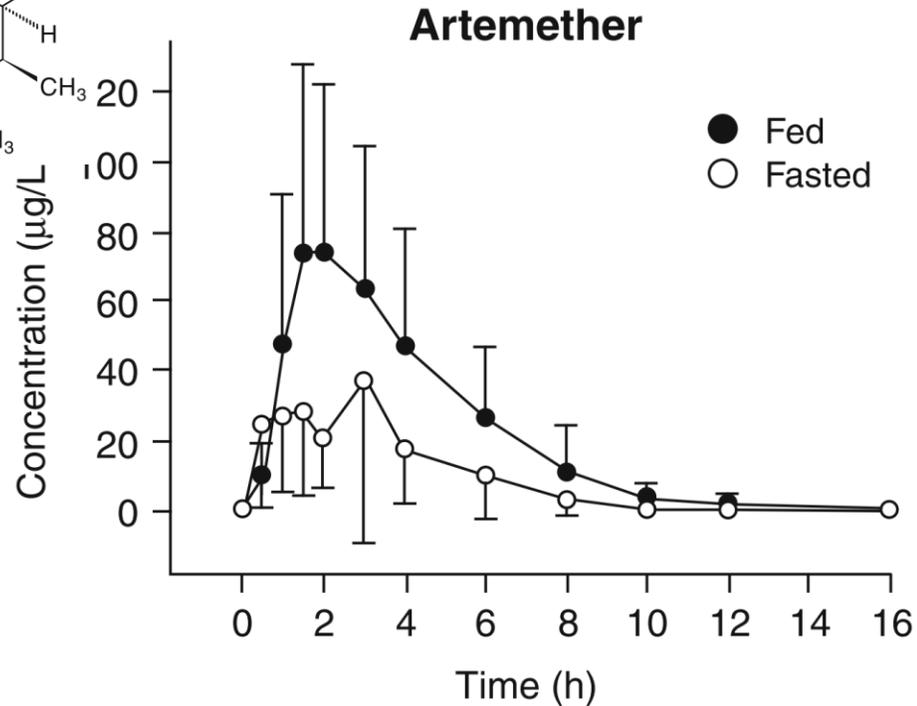
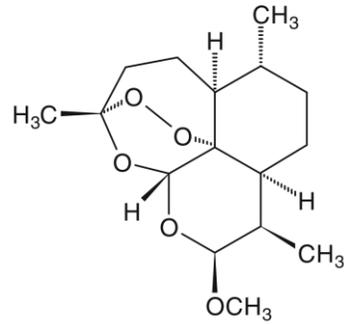
## □ Low bioavailability

- Poor permeability (e.g. BCS III drugs)
- **Poor dissolution (e.g. BCS II drugs)**
- Active processes (metabolism, excretion)

## □ Food dependent variability

## □ Short half-life

# Example of food effect



**Fig. 3.** Effect of food on plasma concentrations of artemether and lumefantrine in 16 healthy Chinese participants following a single oral administration of co-artemether (80/480mg) [mean  $\pm$  SD].

- „Die Ergebnisse der Nahrungsinteraktionsstudien deuten darauf hin, dass die Resorption von Lumefantrin ohne gleichzeitige Nahrungsaufnahme sehr gering ist. Unter der Annahme einer 100%igen Aufnahme nach einer fettreichen Mahlzeit würden unter Nüchtern-Bedingungen < 10 % der Dosis aufgenommen. Die Patienten sollten daher aufgefordert werden, die Medikation zusammen mit einer Mahlzeit einzunehmen, sobald Nahrung toleriert wird.“
- "The results of the food interaction studies suggest that the **absorption of lumefantrine is very low without concomitant food intake. Assuming a 100% intake after a high-fat meal, < 10% of the dose would be absorbed under fasting conditions.** Patients should therefore be encouraged to **take the medication with a meal as soon as food is tolerated.**"

# Biofate of DDS after oral administration

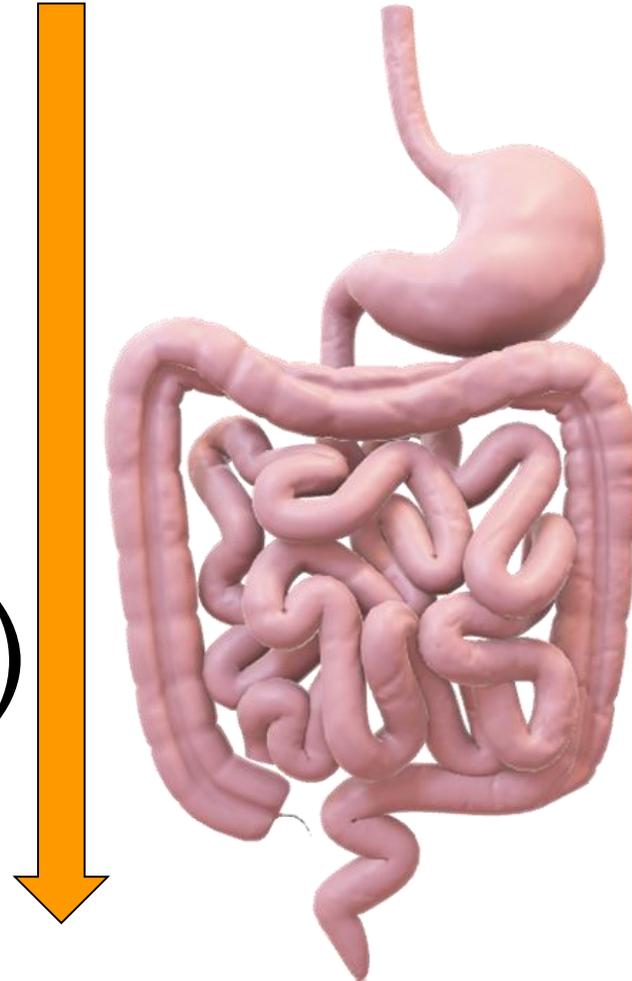
Mouth (short)

Esophagus (short)

Stomach (min – hours)

**small  
intestine (3 h)**

Colon (12-24 h)

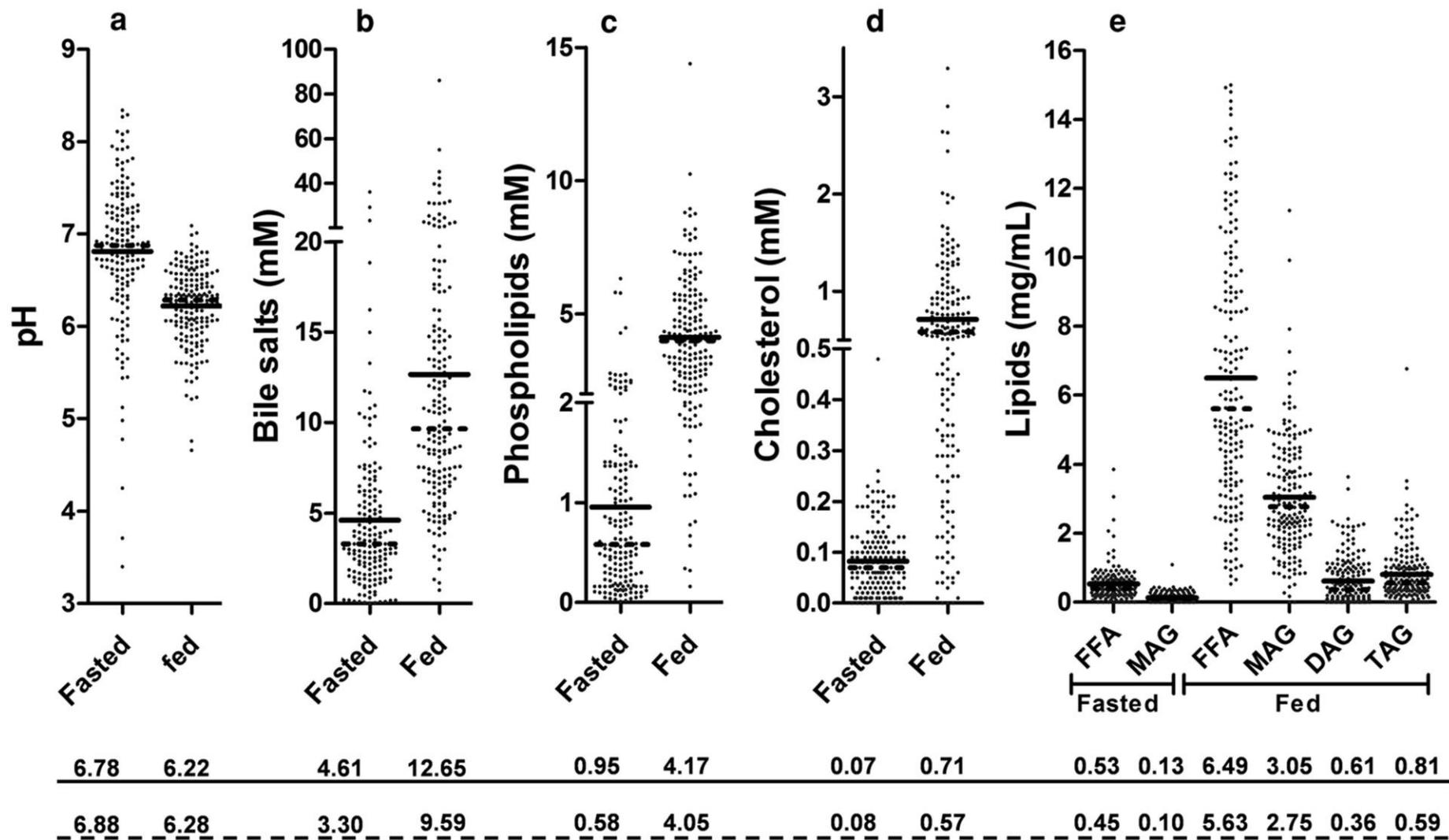


- ↑ ↑ **Bioavailability** ↑ ↑
- ↑ Amount of **solubilized drug**
- ↑ **Drug permeability**
- ↑ Resorption area
- ↑ Residence time

## **Important processes**

- Solubilisation
- Dilution
- Digestion

# Composition of duodenal fluids

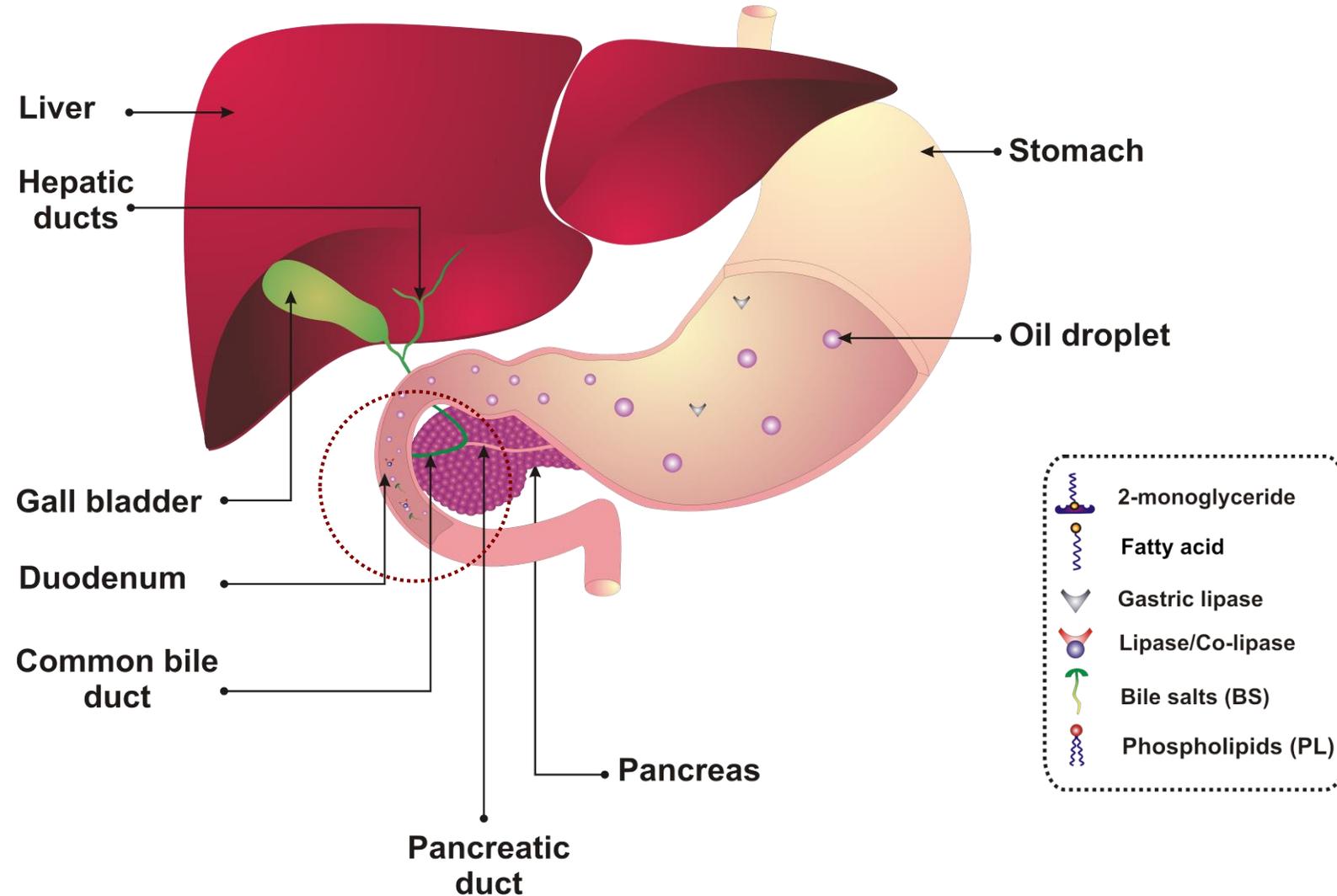


*Characterization of Human Duodenal Fluids in Fasted and Fed State Conditions*

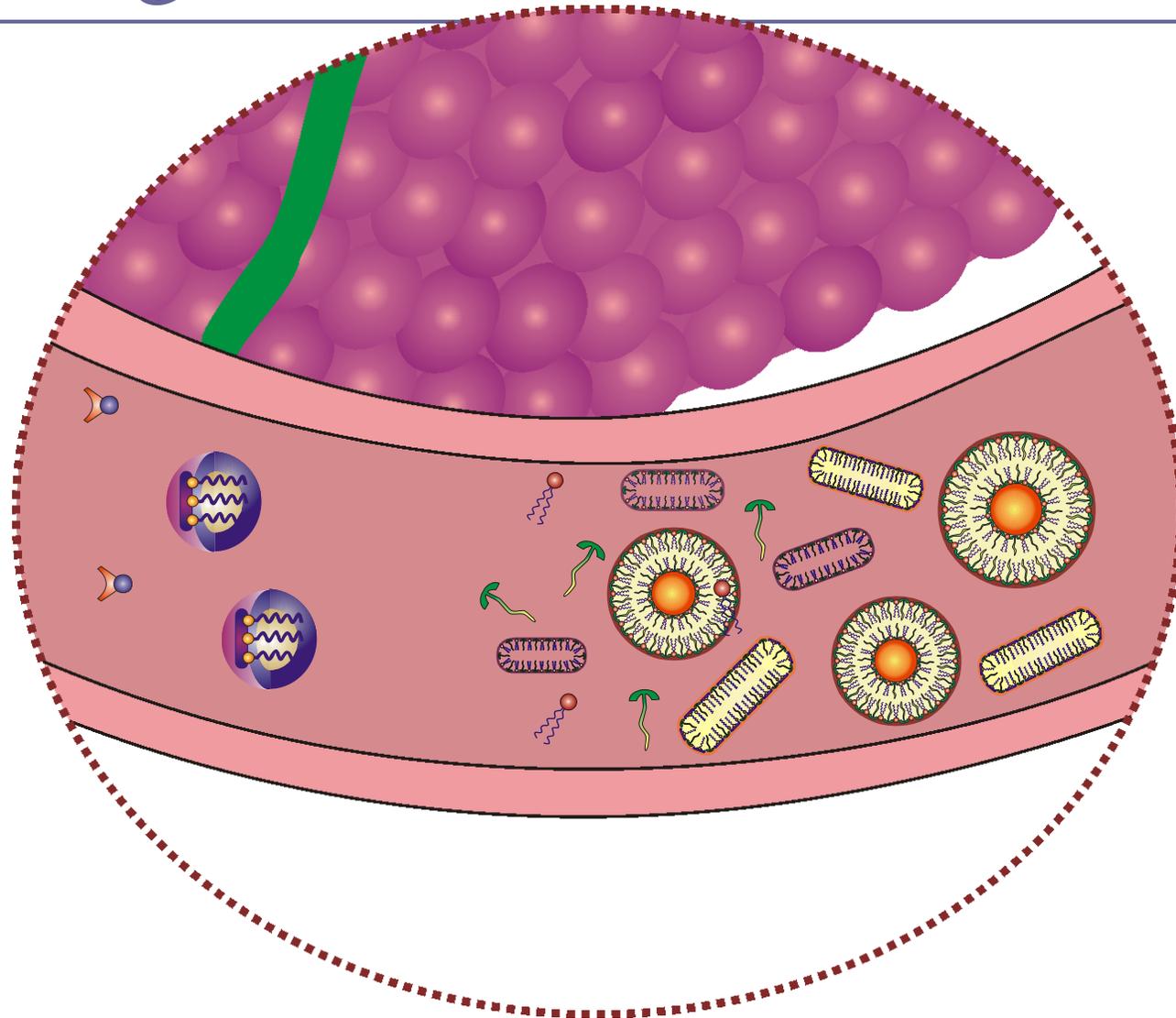
*Danny Riethorst, Raf Mols, Guus Duchateau, Jan Tack, Joachim Brouwers, Patrick Augustijns*

*JPharmSci*  
Volume 105 Issue 2 Pages 673-681

# Digestion of lipids (triacylglycerides)

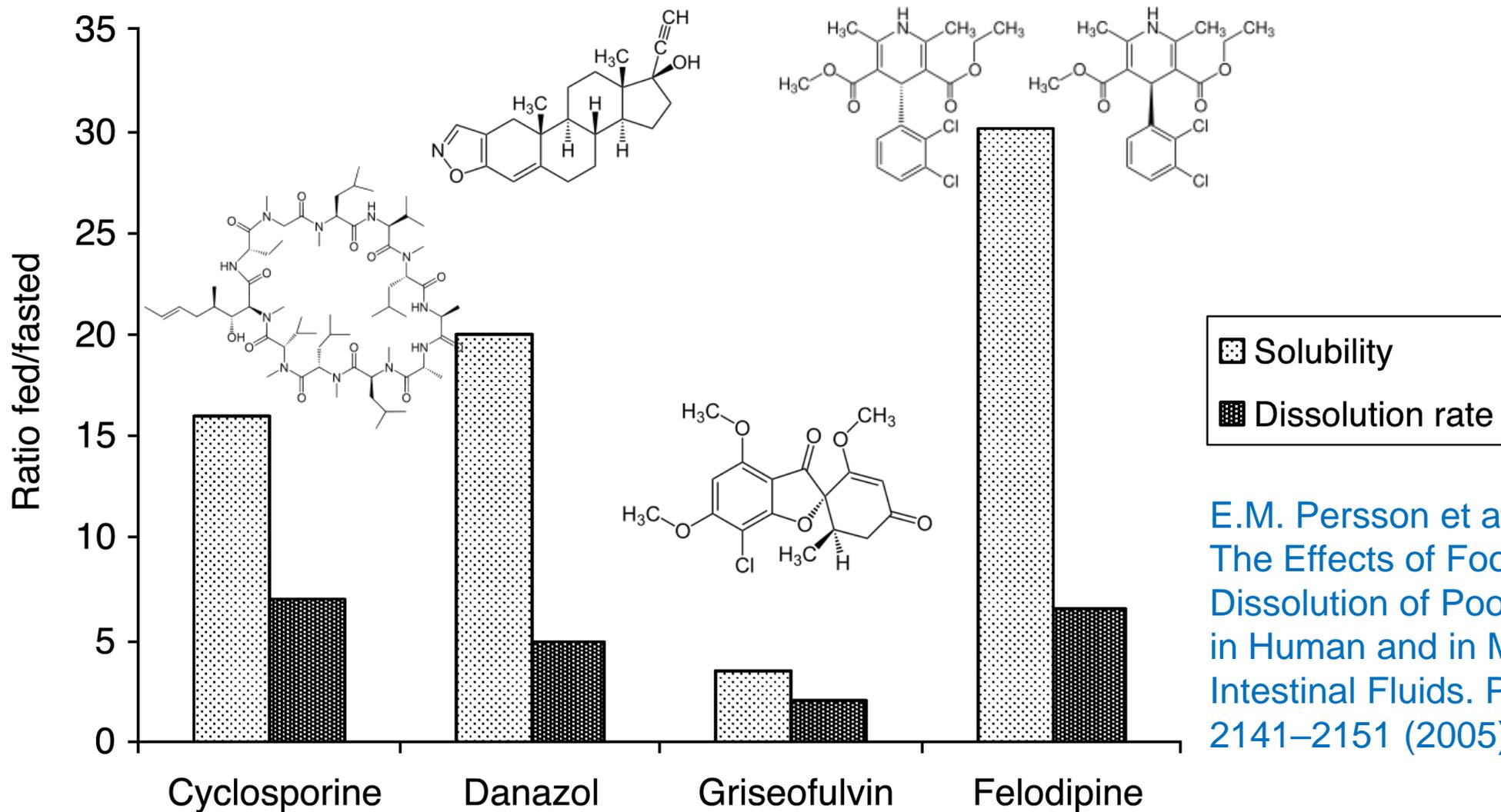


# Lipid digestion



- 2-monoglyceride
- Fatty acid
- Gastric lipase
- Lipase/Co-lipase
- Bile salts (BS)
- Phospholipids (PL)

# Food intake increases solubility and dissolution kinetics of poorly soluble drugs in intestinal fluids



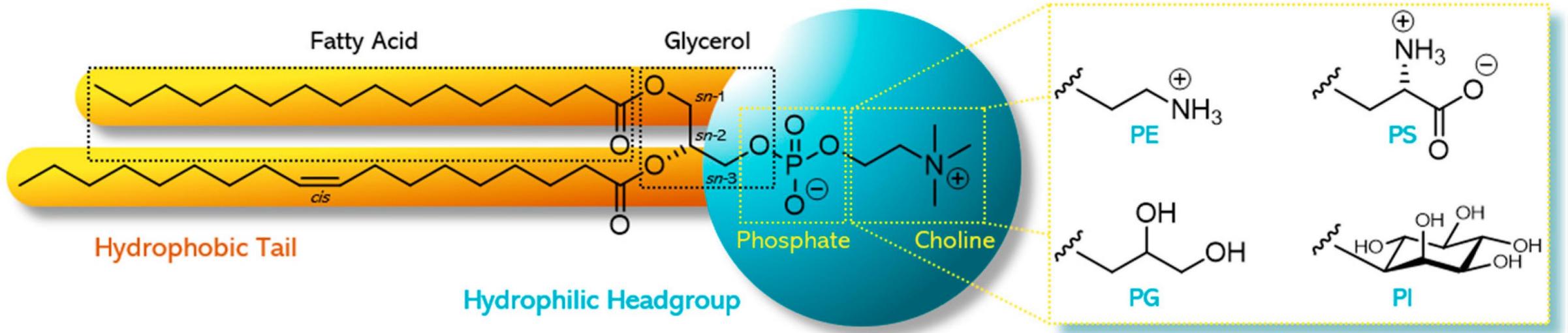
E.M. Persson et al.  
The Effects of Food on the  
Dissolution of Poorly Soluble Drugs  
in Human and in Model Small  
Intestinal Fluids. *Pharm Res* 22,  
2141–2151 (2005).

# Outline

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- Introduction: Challenges of oral administration
- **Phospholipids (PL):**
  - **Chemical structures and behavior in water**
  - **Biofate after oral ingestion**
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- Examples
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# Structure of Phospholipids

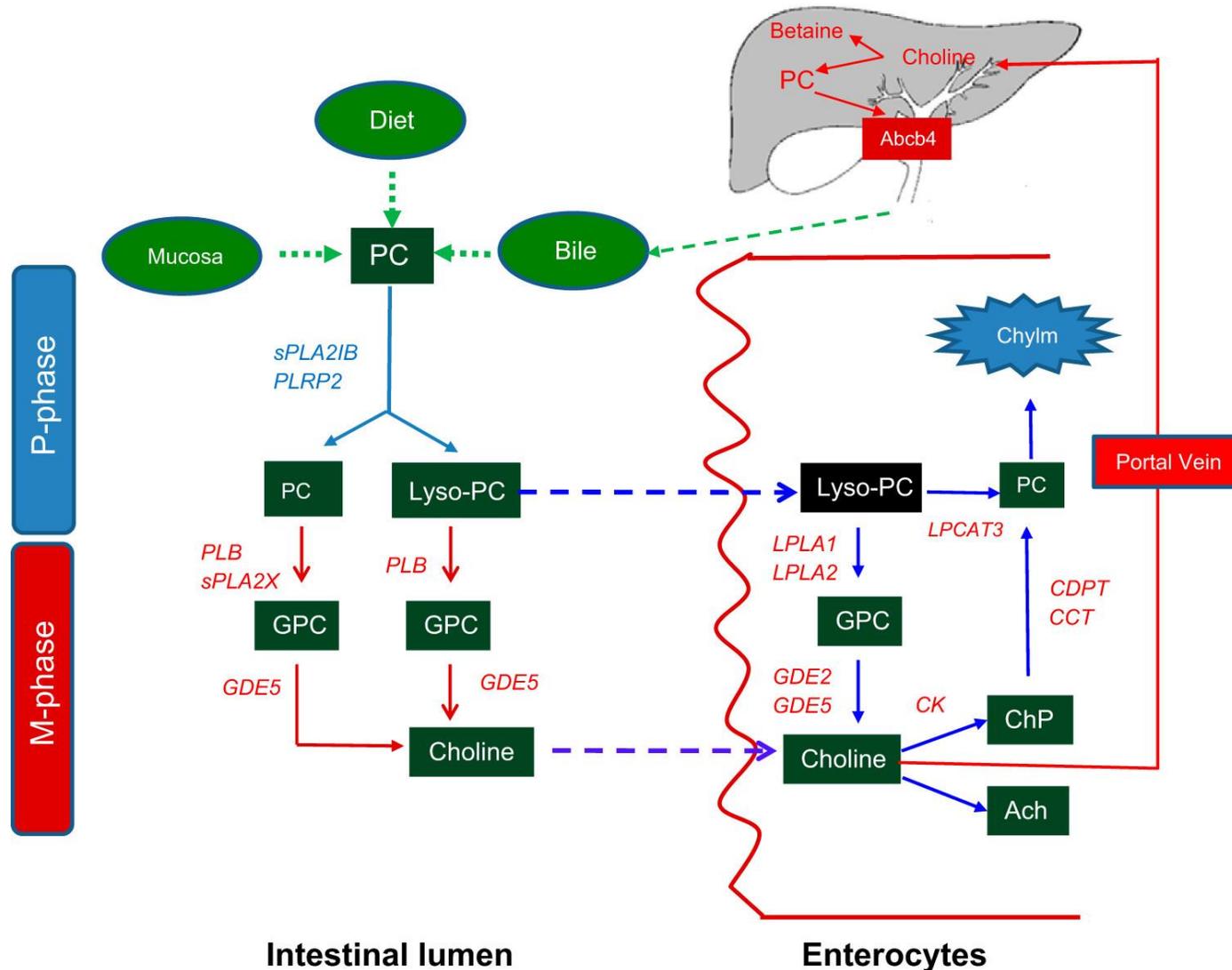


**Neutral: PC, PE**

**Negatively charged: PG, PS, PI**

S. Drescher and P. van Hoogevest, *Pharmaceutics*, **12**, 1–36, 2020

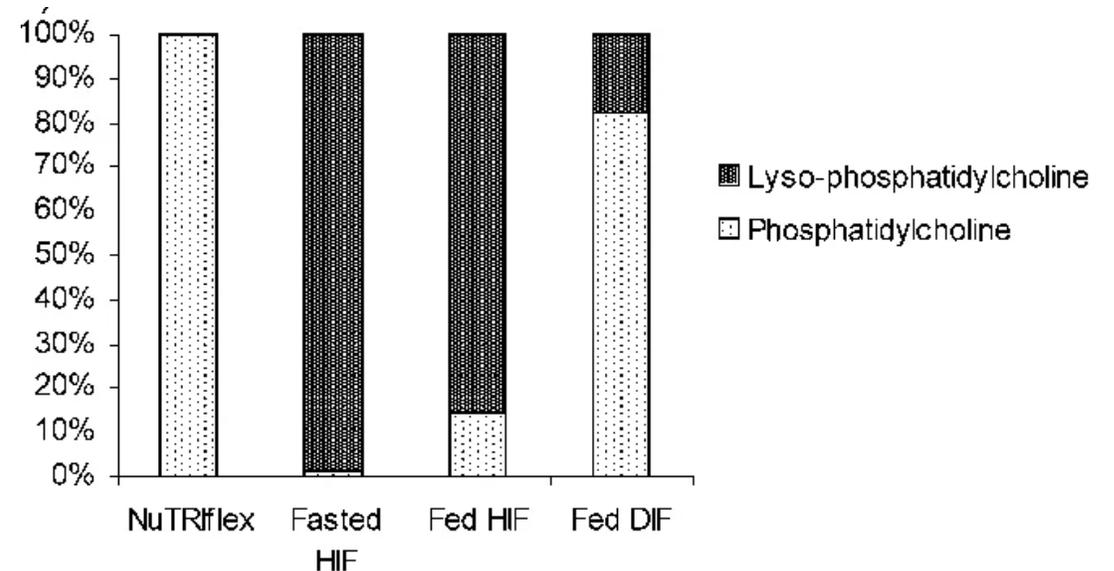
# Sources and biofate of Phospholipids



Nilsson A, Duan RD.  
Pancreatic and mucosal enzymes in  
choline phospholipid digestion.  
*Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver  
Physiol.* (2019) 316:G425–45.

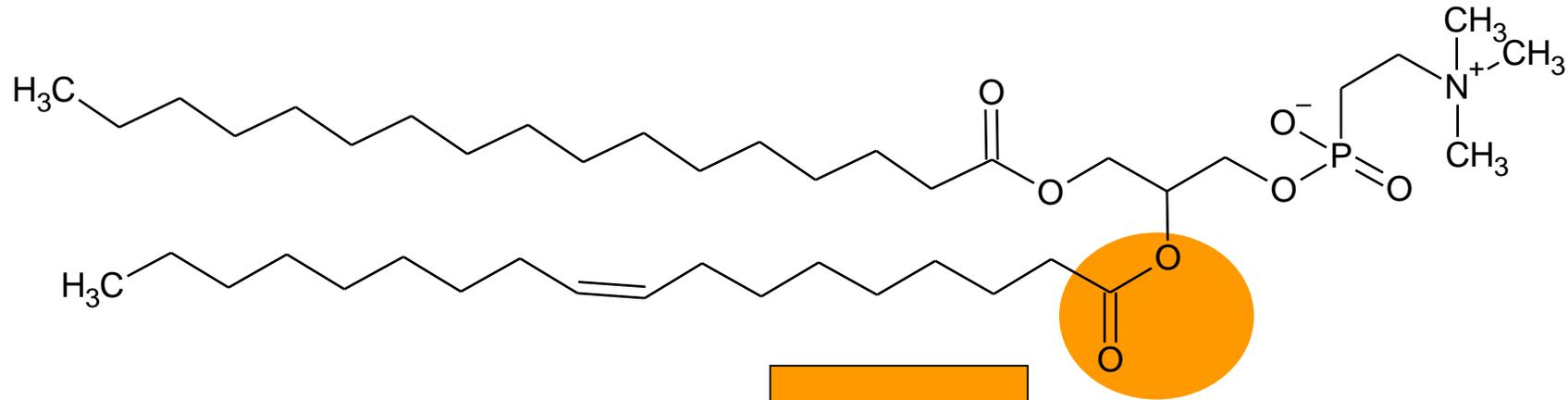
# Biofate of Phospholipids (example PC)

- Enzymatic hydrolysis by sPLA2: formation of
  - Lyso-PC
  - Fatty acid
- Absorption > 90%
- Resynthesis of PC in enterocytes

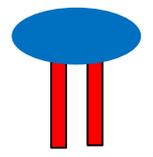


E.M. Persson et al.  
The Effects of Food on the Dissolution of Poorly Soluble Drugs in Human and in Model Small Intestinal Fluids. *Pharm Res* 22, 2141–2151 (2005).

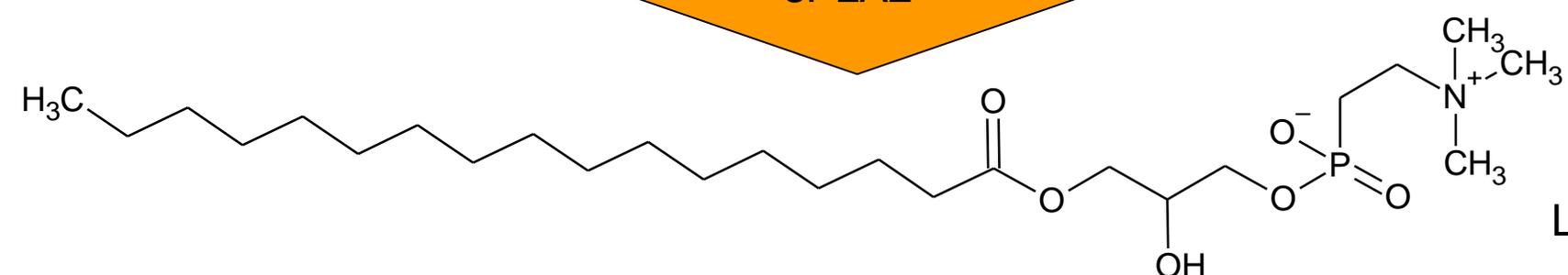
# Intestinal digestion of PC by sPLA2IB



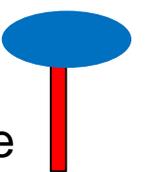
**PC**



phosphatidylcholine

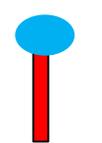


**L-PC**



Lysophosphatidylcholine

**FA**



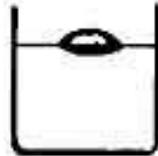
Fatty acid

# Lipid classification after Prof. Small

## CLASS

## SURFACE & BULK INTERACTIONS WITH WATER

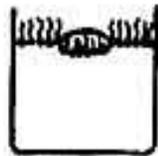
NON-POLAR LIPIDS



WILL NOT SPREAD TO FORM A MONOLAYER  
INSOLUBLE IN BULK

POLAR LIPIDS

I. Insoluble non-swelling amphiphiles



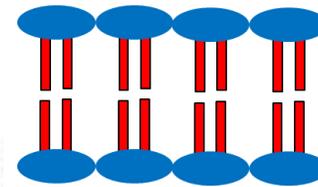
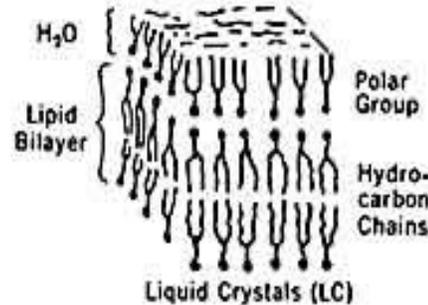
FORMS A STABLE MONOLAYER  
INSOLUBLE IN BULK

PC

II. Insoluble swelling amphiphiles



FORMS A STABLE MONOLAYER  
BULK PHASE : pure liquid crystals in pure H<sub>2</sub>O



PC

Not dissolving,  
Swelling,  
Lamellar phase

L-PC

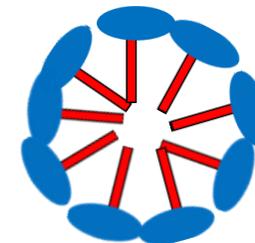
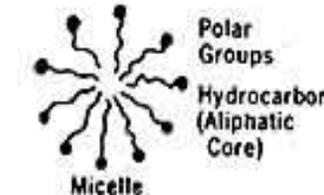
III. Soluble amphiphiles

A) with lyotropic mesomorphism

○ → L.C. → micelle



FORMS AN UNSTABLE MONOLAYER  
BULK PHASE - a micellar solution above CMC



L-PC

Dissolving  
Micelle formation

BA

B) without lyotropic mesomorphism

○ → micelle



FORMS AN UNSTABLE MONOLAYER  
BULK PHASE - a micellar solution above CMC

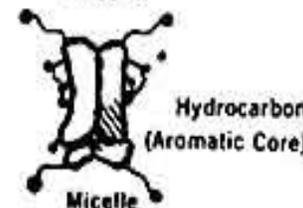
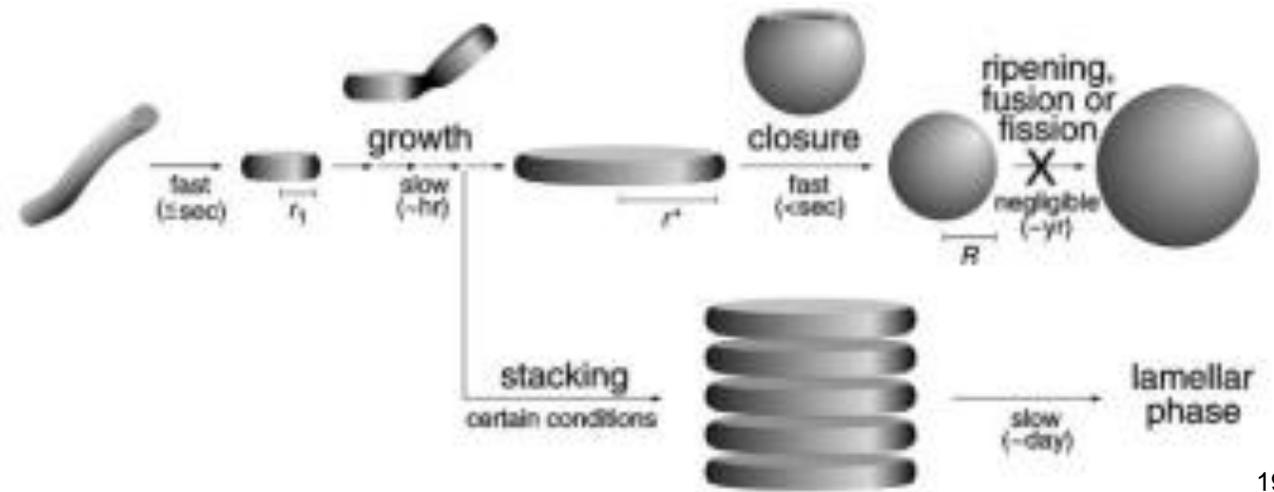
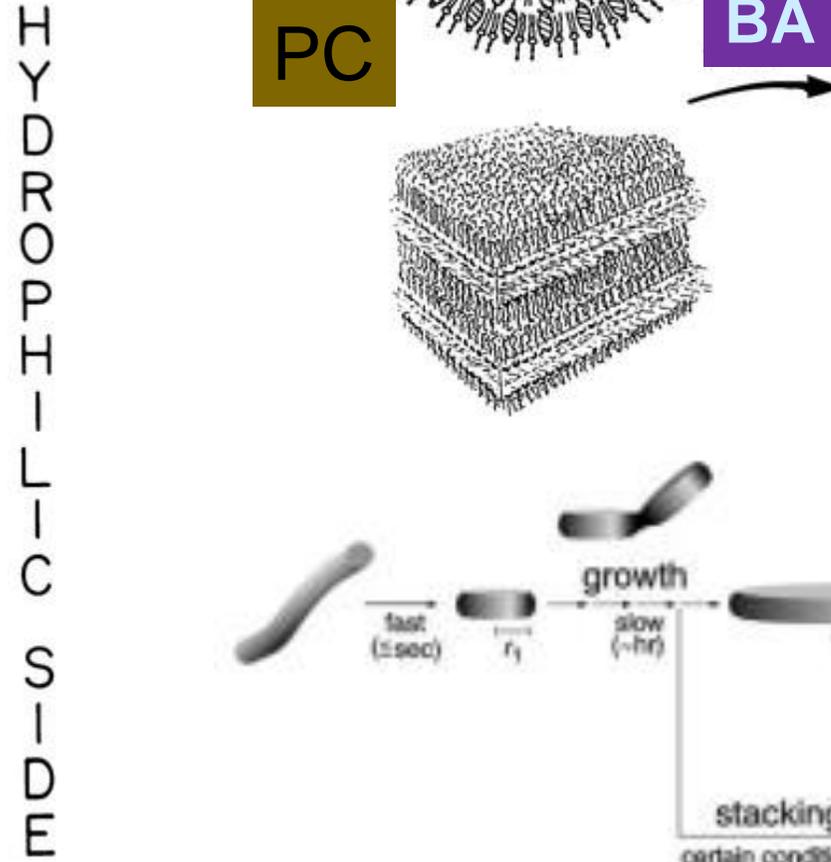
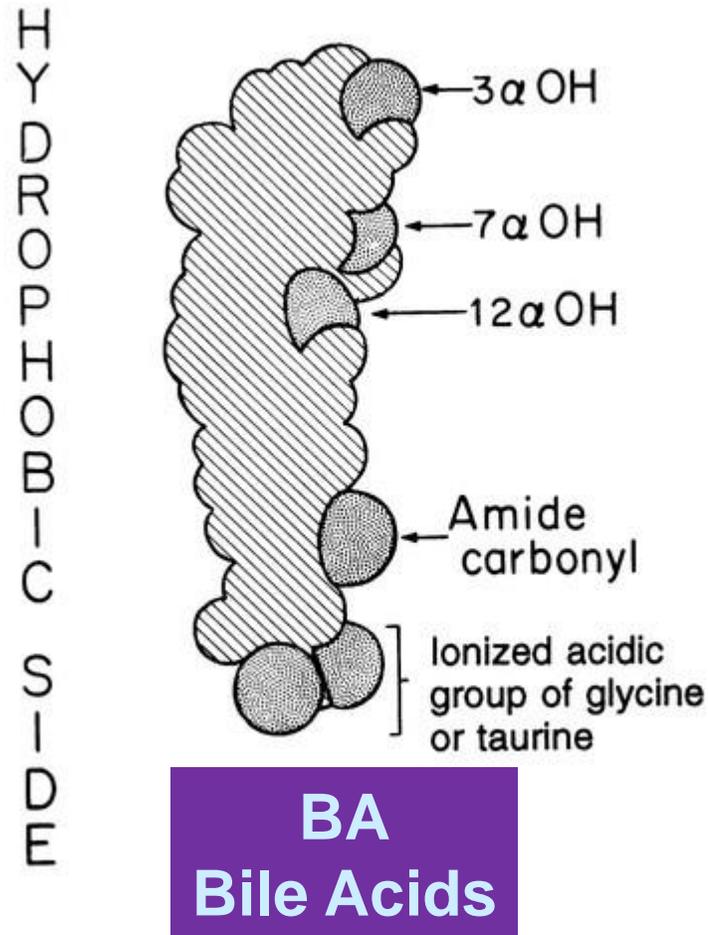


Figure from Small. Handbook of lipids

# Bile acids, PC

Hofmann AF. Bile Acids: News Physiol Sci. 1999 14:24-29.



Leng J, Egelhaaf SU, Cates ME. Biophys J. 2003;85(3):1624-1646.

# Outline

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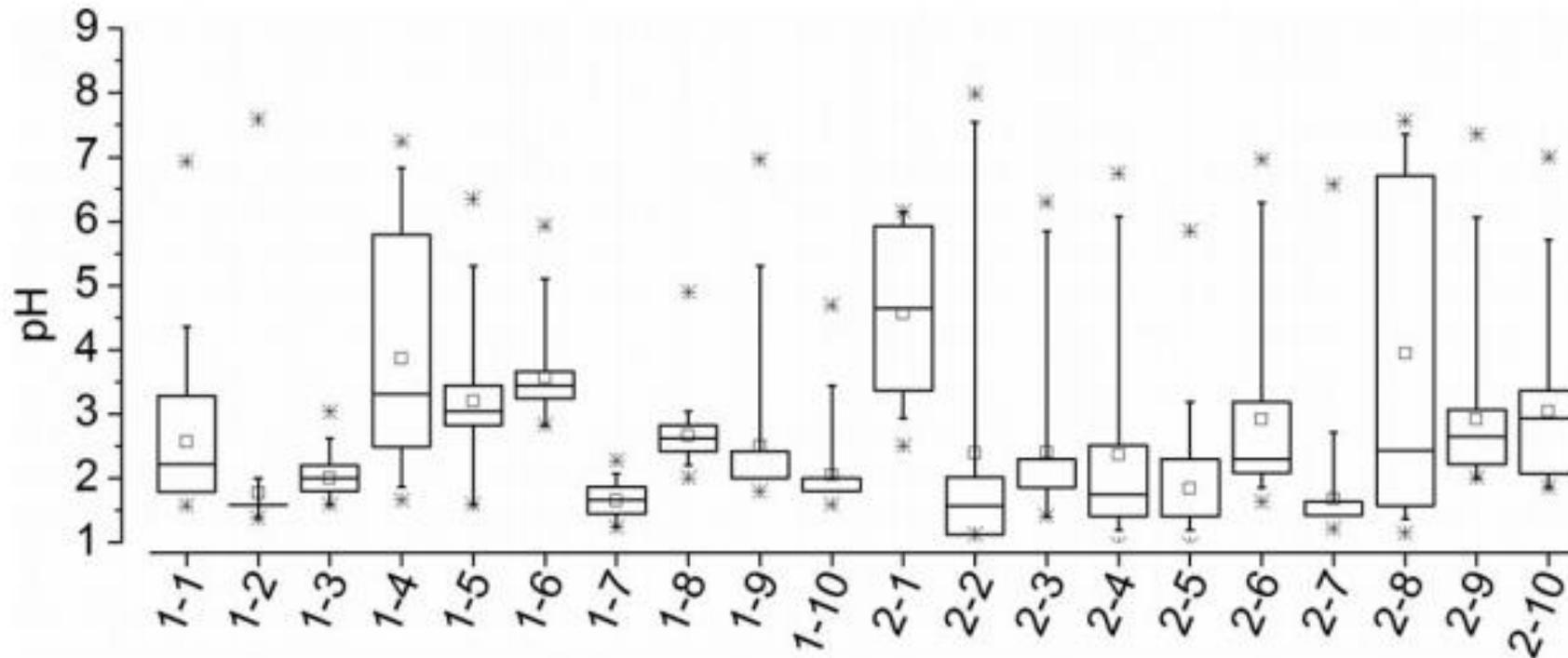
- Introduction: Challenges of oral administration
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# How to design a PL-DDS for oral administration?

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- Clear definition of goal
  - Increase of dissolution speed and solubility
  - Increase of permeability
  - Prolonged release
- Development of formulation strategy
- Selection of excipients and processes
- Relevant in vitro tests (dilution in relevant media, digestion assay)
- Preclinical in vivo studies
- Clinical studies

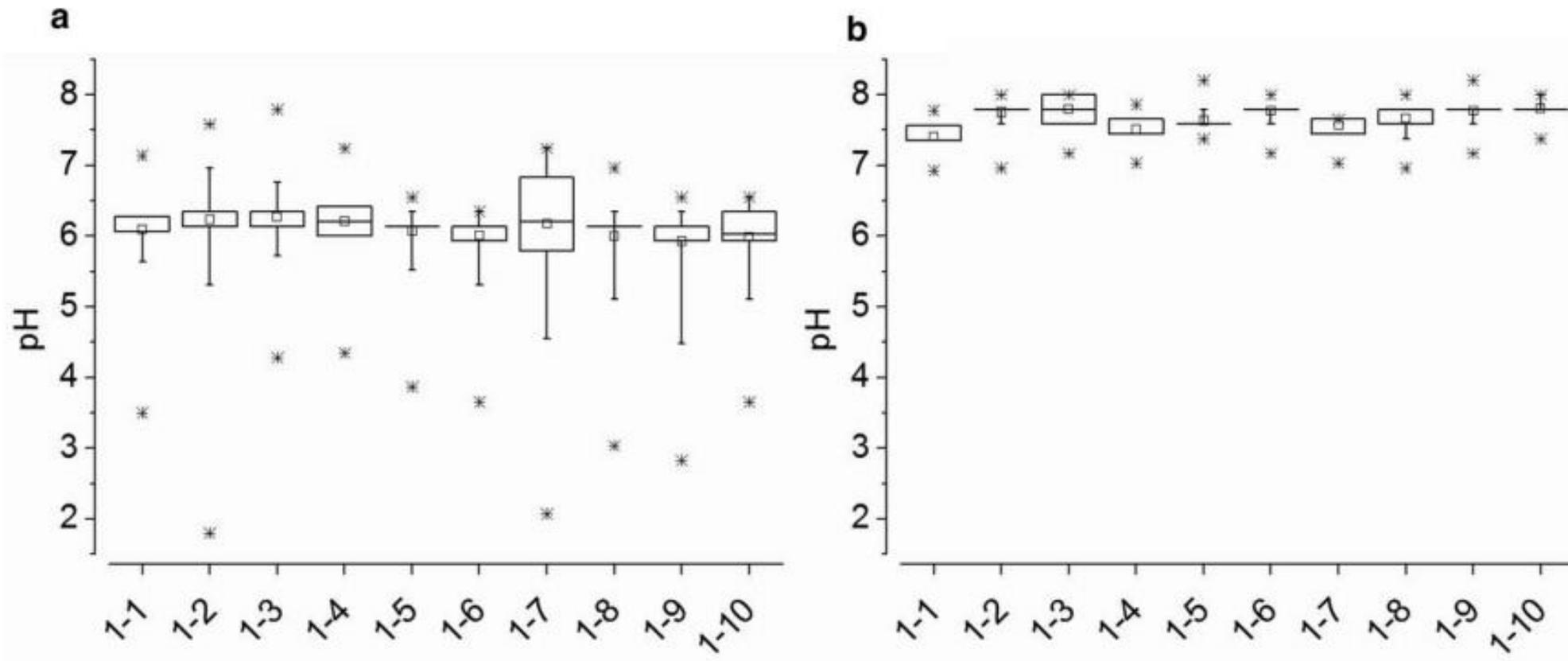
# Consider variability of pH-values: stomach



**Gastric  
pH values  
(fasted state)**

**Figure 3.** Box plots (box: 50%, whisker: 5%–95%, square: mean, asterisks max/min) of gastric pH values for both studies.

# Consider variability of pH-values: intestine



Comparison of pH ranges in proximal (a) and distal (b) small intestine (box: 50%, whisker: 5%–95%, square: mean, asterisks max/min) ( $n = 10$ ).

# Examples of physiological dissolution media

Fasted State Simulated Intestinal Fluid (FaSSIF)	Fed State Simulated Intestinal Fluid (FeSSIF)	Simulated Gastric Fluid (SGF)	Simulated Intestinal Fluid
Sodium taurocholate <b>3 mM</b> Phosphatidylcholine <b>0,75 mM</b> Sodium hydrogen-phosphate 28.66 mM Sodium chloride 106 mM Sodium hydroxide q.s. pH: 6.5	Sodium taurocholate <b>15 mM</b> Phosphatidylcholine <b>3,75 mM</b> Acetic acid 144 mM Sodium chloride 173 mM Sodium hydroxide q.s. pH: 5.0	NaCl 34.2 mM HCl 82.2 mM Pepsin (800-2500 u/mg) 3.2 g Water ad 1000ml pH: 1.2	Monobasic potassium phosphate 39 mM Sodium hydroxide 15.4 mM Pancreatin 10 g Water ad 1000 ml pH: 6.8

BA

PC

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# Phospholipids as drug products



## Fachinformation



## Essentiale® Kapsel 300 mg

### 1. Bezeichnung des Arzneimittels

**Essentiale® Kapsel 300 mg**

Hartkapsel

### 2. Qualitative und quantitative Zusammensetzung

Wirkstoff:

1 Hartkapsel enthält:

300 mg entölte angereicherte Phospholipide aus Sojabohnen. Die Phospholipide sind quantifiziert auf 73–79 % Phosphatidylcholin, enthalten bis zu 7 % Phosphatidylethanolamin und weniger als 0,5 % Phosphatidylinositol.

Alter bzw. (Körpergewicht)	Einzel-dosis	Tagesgesamt-dosis
Jugendliche (ca. 43 kg) und Erwachsene	2 Hartkapseln (600 mg Phospholipide aus Sojabohnen)	3 mal täglich 2 Hartkapseln (1800 mg Phospholipide aus Sojabohnen)

Zunahme der Beschwerden sowie bei Auftreten anderer unklarer Beschwerden sollte ein Arzt aufgesucht werden.“

#### Kinder

Zur Anwendung von Essentiale Kapsel 300 mg bei Kindern liegen keine ausreichen-

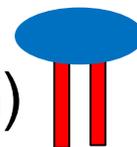
*Erkrankungen des Gastrointestinaltrakts*  
Häufigkeit nicht bekannt: gastrointestinale Beschwerden in Form von Magenbeschwerden, weichem Stuhl und/oder Diarrhoe.

*Erkrankungen der Haut und des Unterhautzellgewebes*

# PLs as solubilizers: organic solutions

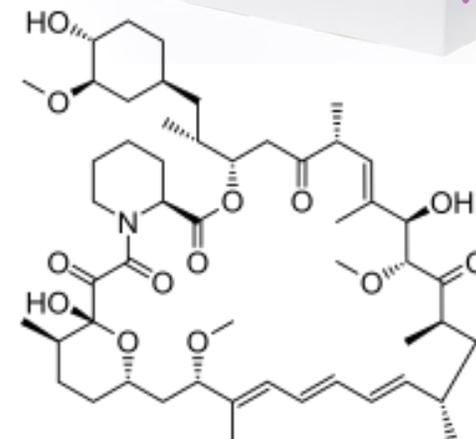
## Rapamune 1mg/ml Oral Solution

- Polysorbate 80
- Phosal 50 PG:
  - ((3-sn-Phosphatidyl)choline (soy) (= lecithin))
  - Propylene glycol
  - Glycerolmono/dialkanoate
  - Ethanol
  - Soy derived fatty acids
  - Palmitoylascorbic acid



Phosal = brand of

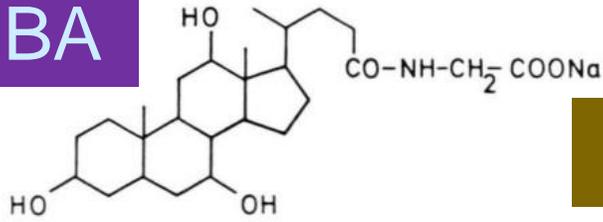
 **Lipoid**



1 mL contains: < 25 mg Ethanol, around 350 mg PG, 20 mg soy oil

# History of MM

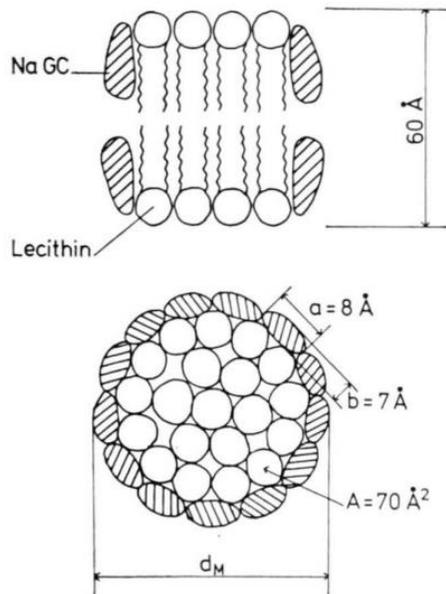
BA



Na Glycocholate

PL

Egg Lecithin



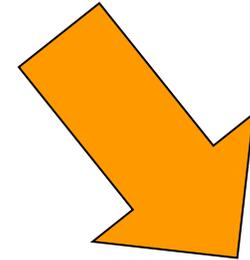
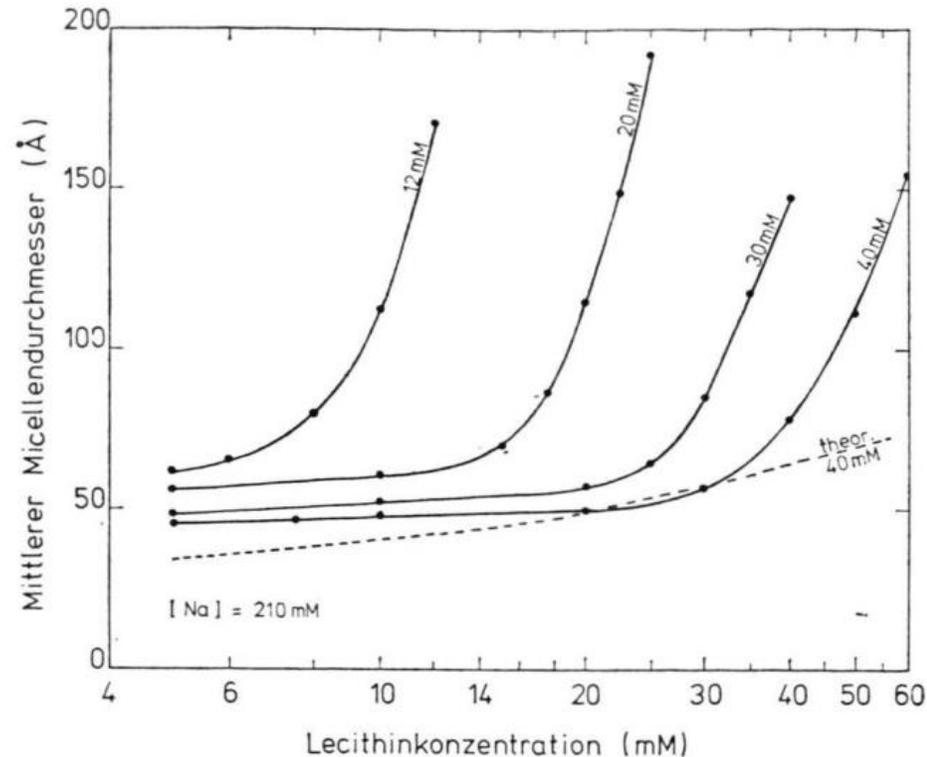
## Untersuchungen über die Größe, Struktur und Dynamik von Gallensäure/Lecithin-Mischmicellen

Size, Structure, and Dynamics of Bile Salt/Lecithin Mixed Micelles

Ch. Gähwiler, C. von Planta, D. Schmidt und H. Steffen

Zentrale Forschungseinheiten F. Hoffman-La Roche A.G. Basel

(Z. Naturforsch. **32 c**, 748–755 [1977]; eingegangen am 8. Juni 1977)



Diazepam MM  
Konaktion MM

# Phospholipids as solubilizers: MM for oral/ i.m. / i.v



Since 2018  
Cheplapharm  
Arzneimittel

## Fachinformation



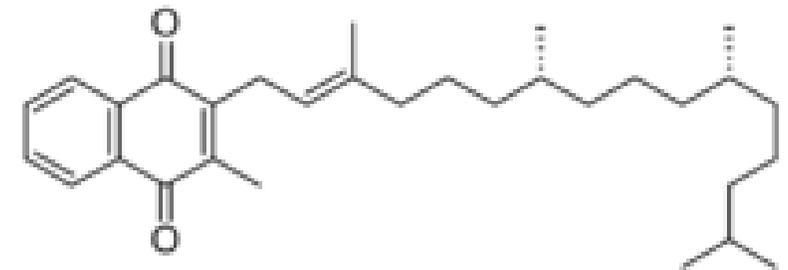
# Konaktion® MM 10 mg

### 1. BEZEICHNUNG DES ARZNEIMITTELS

Konaktion® MM 10 mg

Dosierungsempfehlungen zur Vitamin-K<sub>1</sub>-Therapie bei Patienten mit asymptomatisch hohem INR mit oder ohne leichte Blutungen

- Glycocholic acid
- (3-sn-Phosphatidyl)cholin (soy)
- NaOH, HCl, water for injection



Learning from nature!  
MM as solvent  
Long history (Diazepam MM)  
Thermodynamic stable system  
No organic solvents

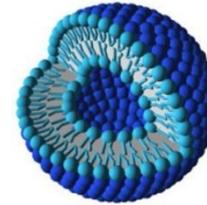
# Example antiinflammatory PLs

Dr. Miriam Klein

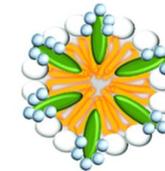


- PS and PG have anti-inflammatory properties

Liposomes



vs.



Mixed micelle

Mixed micelles

- What is the best DDS?

- Production
- Stability
- Activity



ELSEVIER

European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences

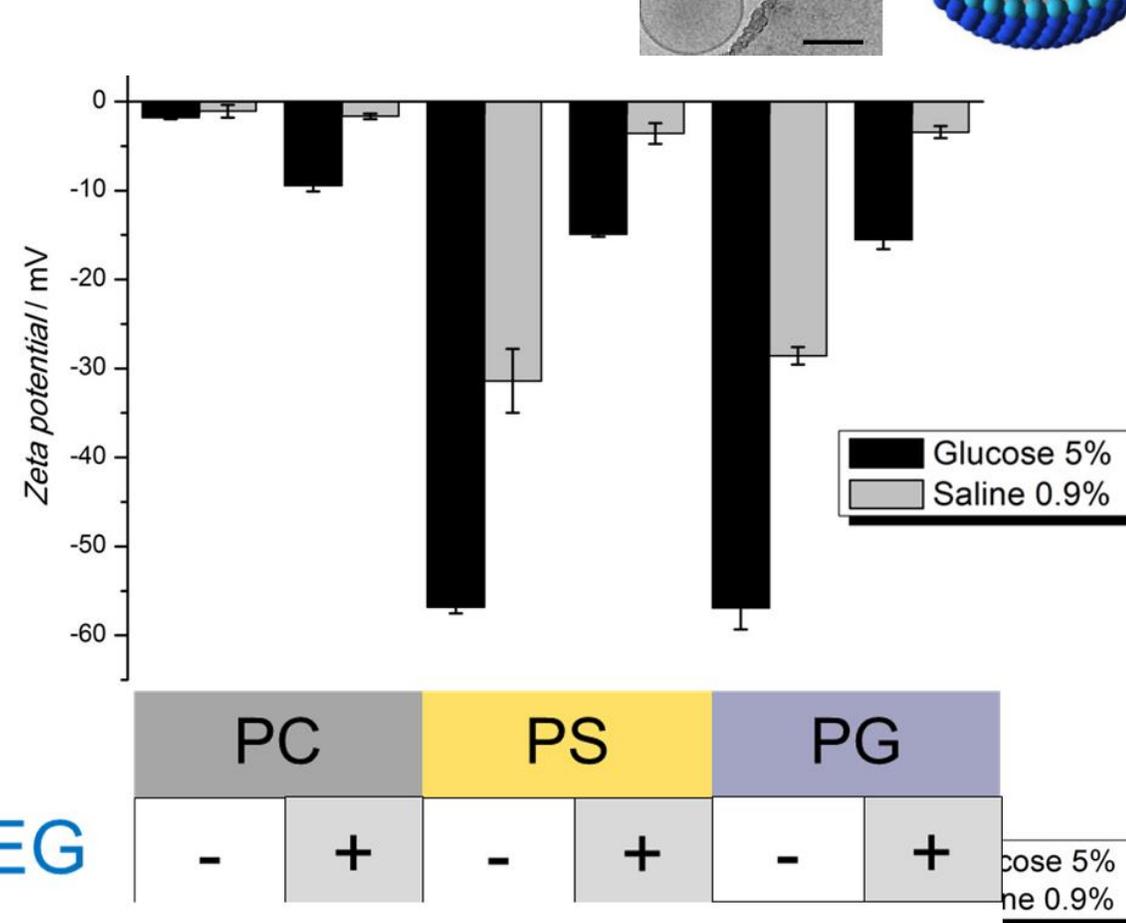
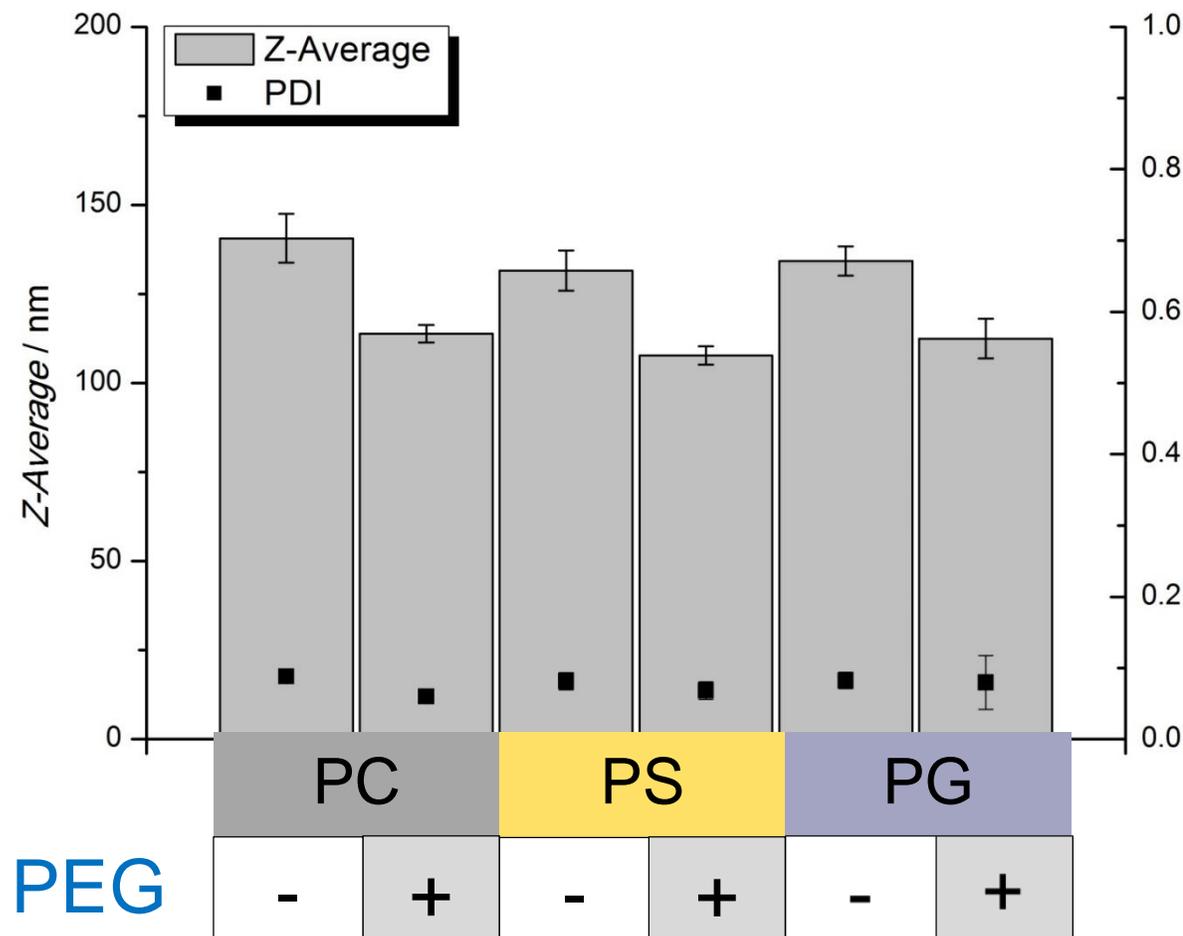
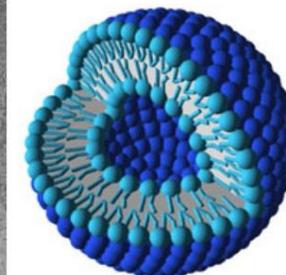
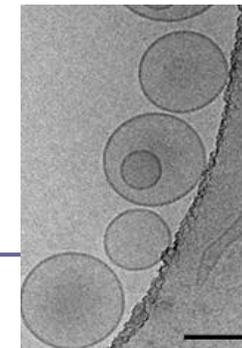
Volume 152, 1 September 2020, 105451



Phosphatidylserine (PS) and phosphatidylglycerol (PG) enriched mixed micelles (MM): A new nano-drug delivery system with anti-inflammatory potential?

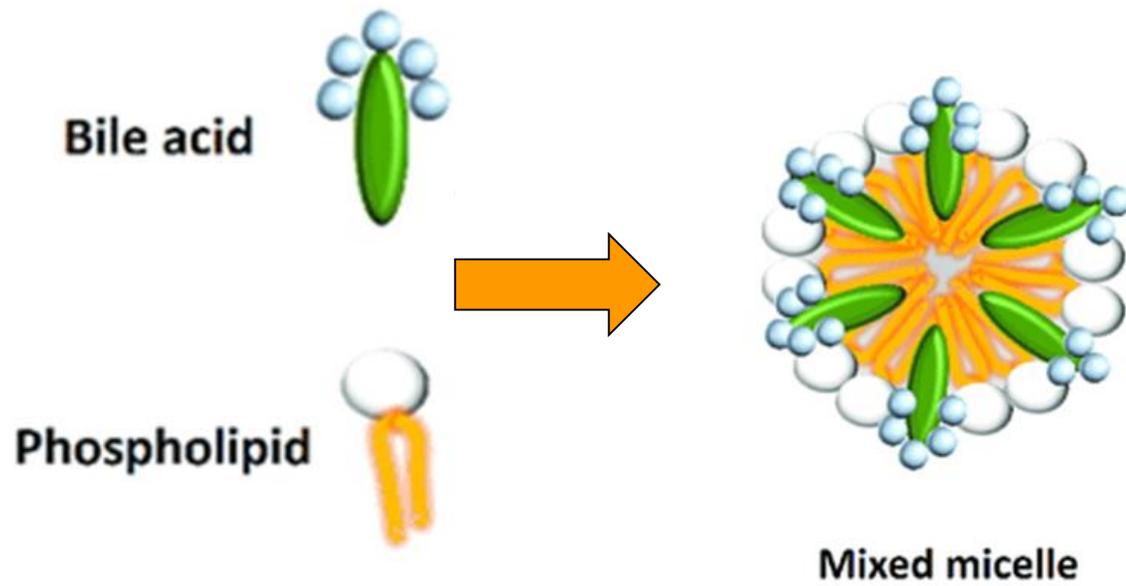
Miriam Elisabeth Klein <sup>a</sup>, Max Rieckmann <sup>b</sup>, Henrike Lucas <sup>a</sup>, Annette Meister <sup>c</sup>, Harald Loppnow <sup>b</sup>, Karsten Mäder <sup>a</sup>

# Liposome particle size / zeta potential



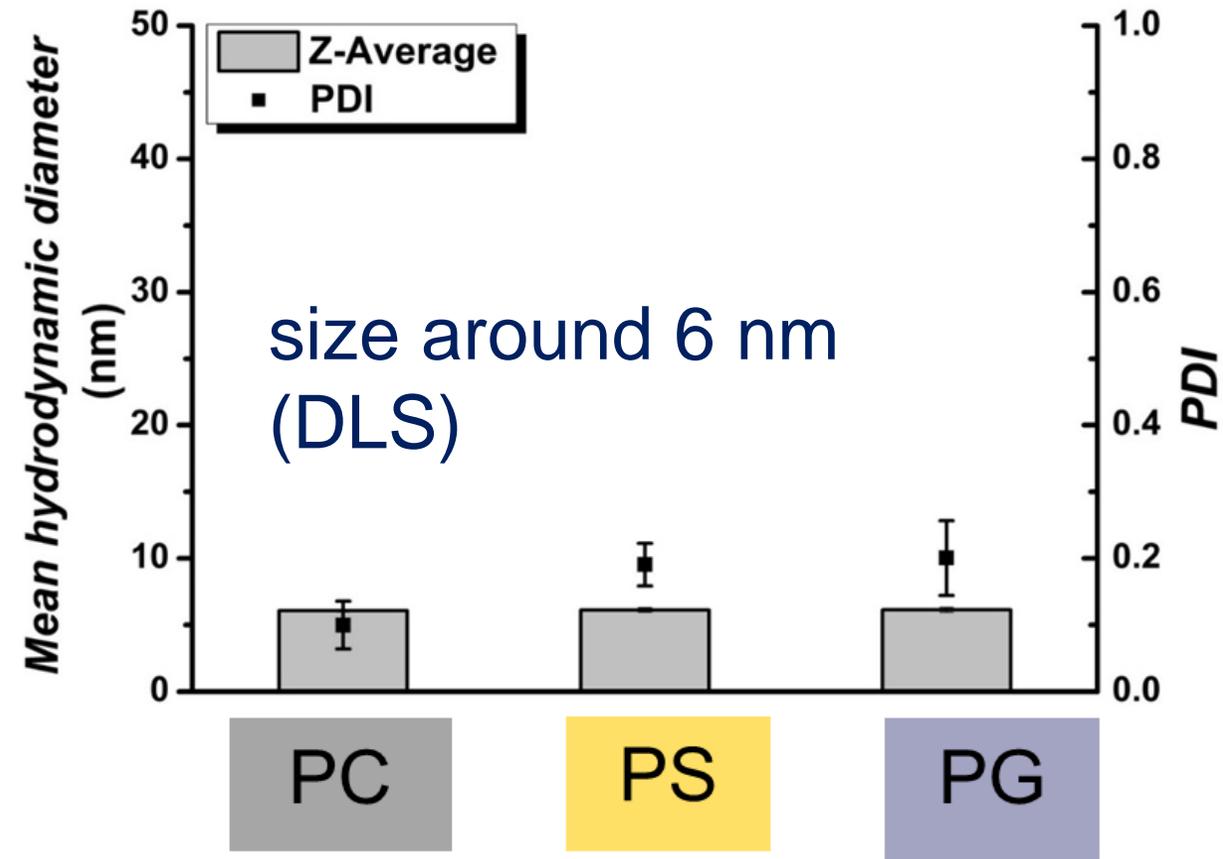
PEG

PEG



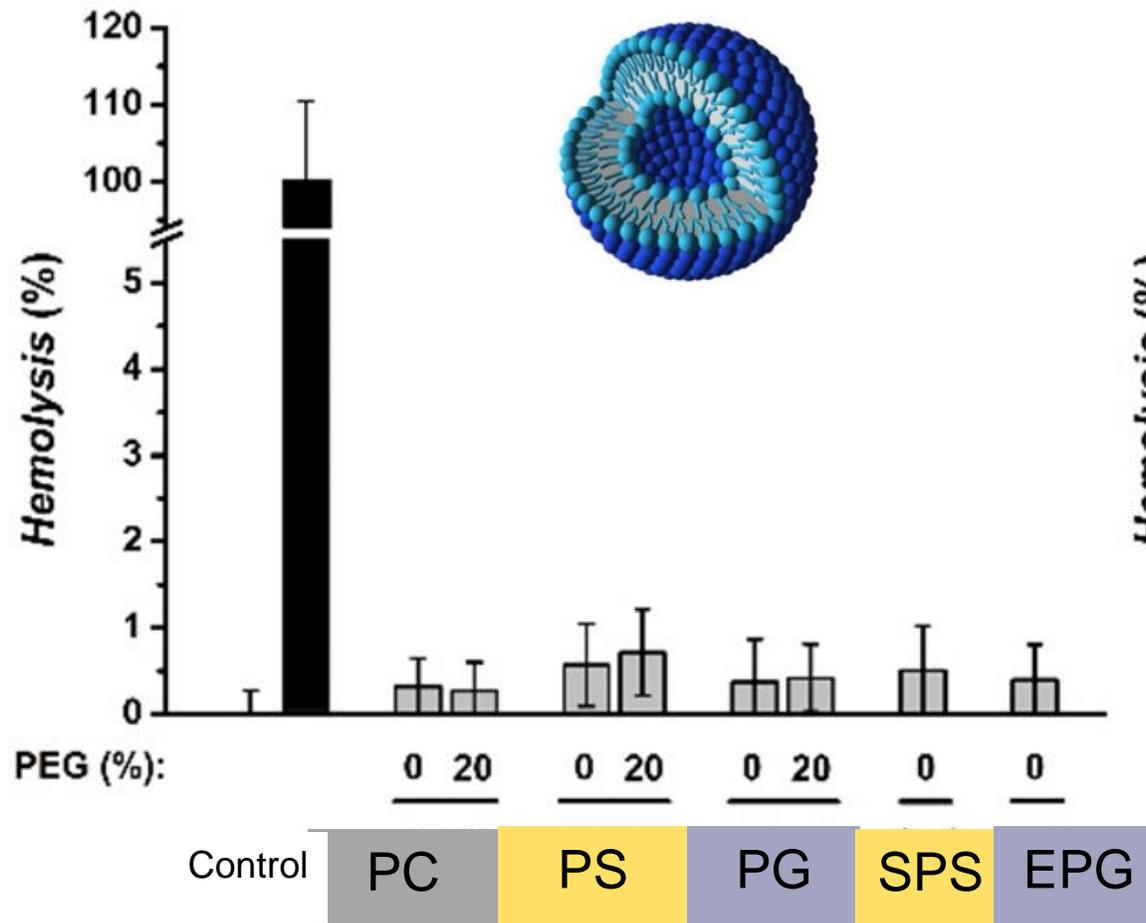
# Mixed Micelles

- Phospholipid – Na- Cholates  
1:1 (w/w)
- Phospholipid:
  - Main component: PC
  - 0 – 30 % PS
  - 0 – 30 % PG

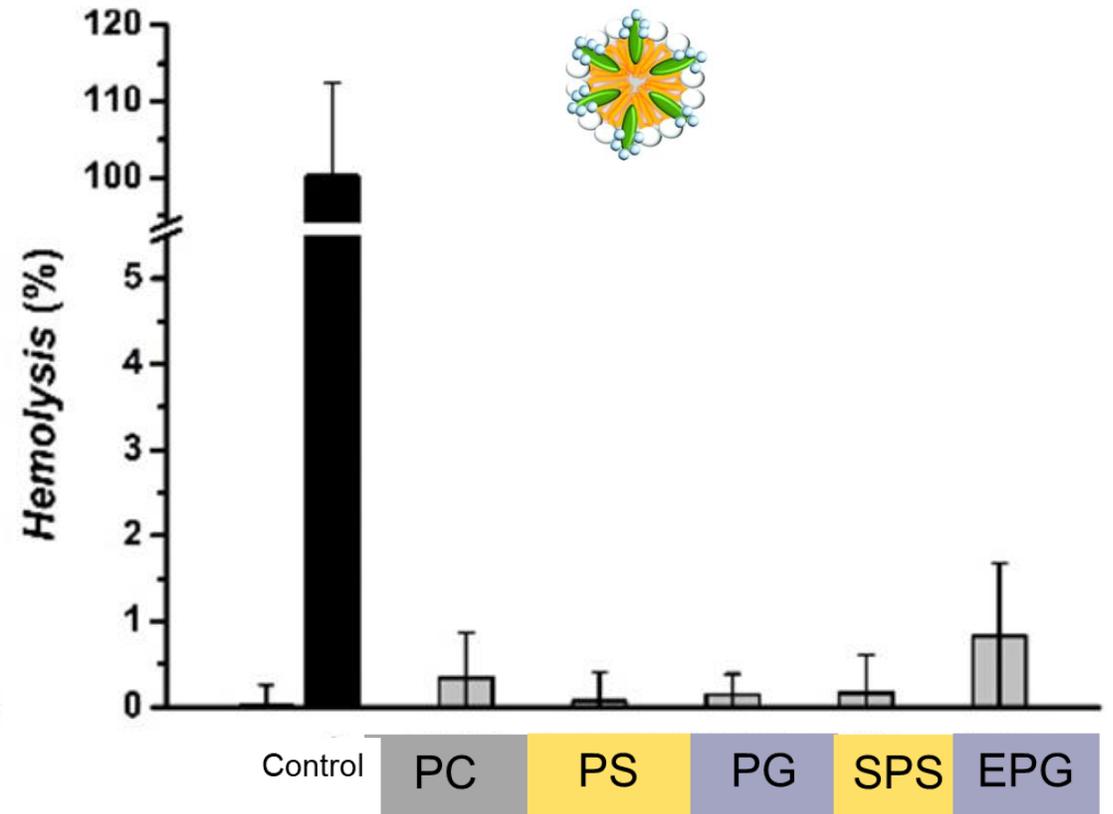


# No Hemolytic activity and cell toxicity of both

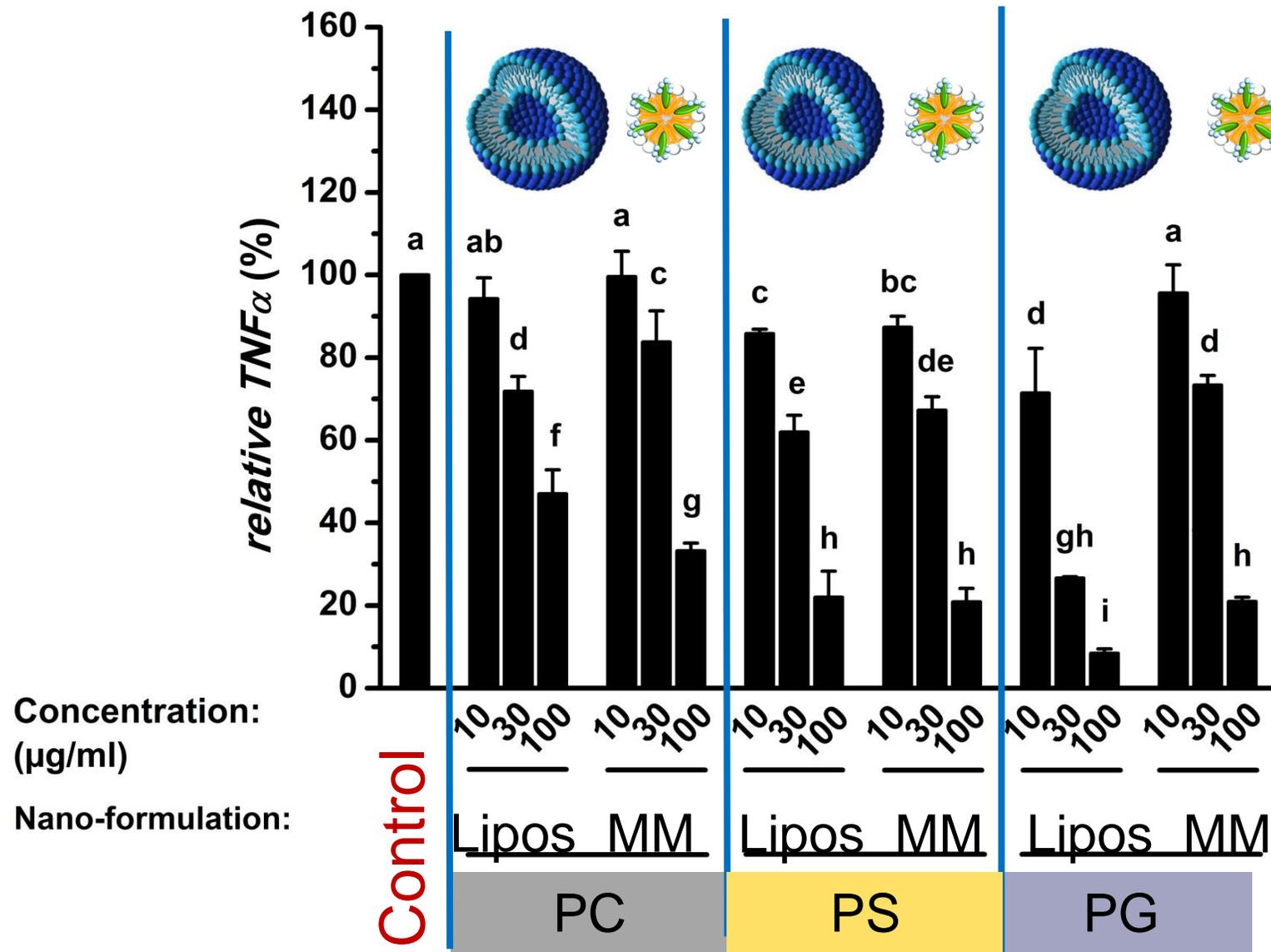
## Liposomes



## Mixed micelles



# Bioactivity: liposomes vs. mixed micelles



similar anti-inflammatory activities of liposomes and MM

Advantages MM oral administration

- ✓ Easier to make
- ✓ Thermodynamic stable
- ✓ Easier to transform into a solid dosage form

# Concepts for solid dosage forms of liposomes

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## □ Problems:

- Sticky and hygroscopic properties of many PLs
- Liposomes do (in most cases) not form spontaneously.

## □ Possible solutions:

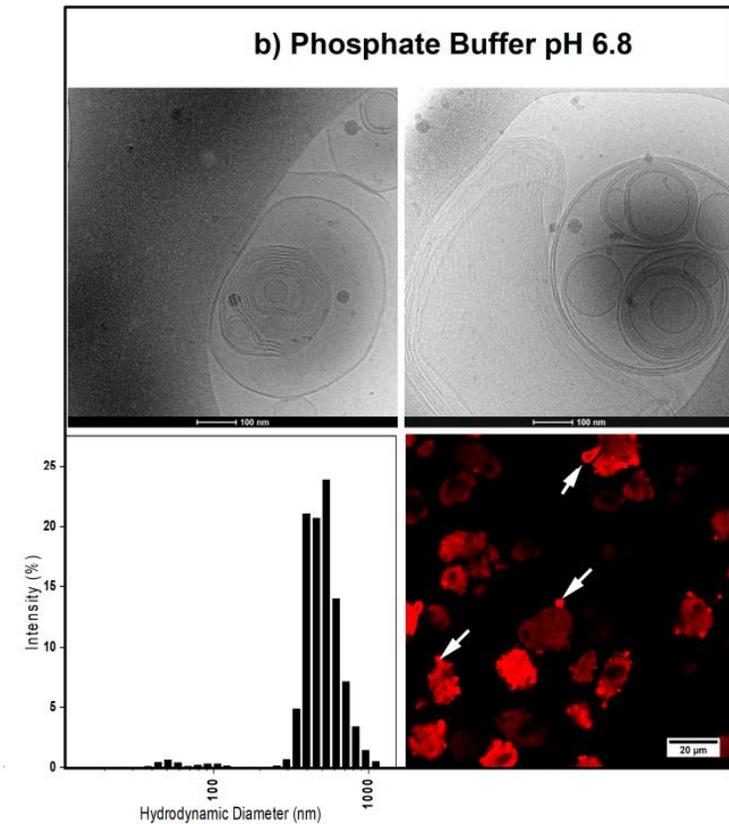
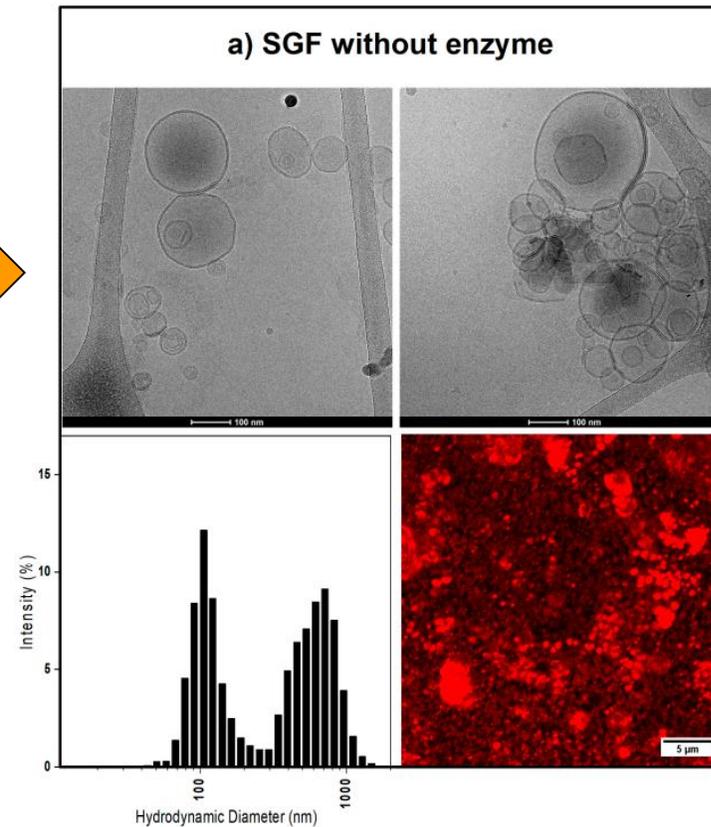
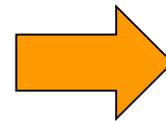
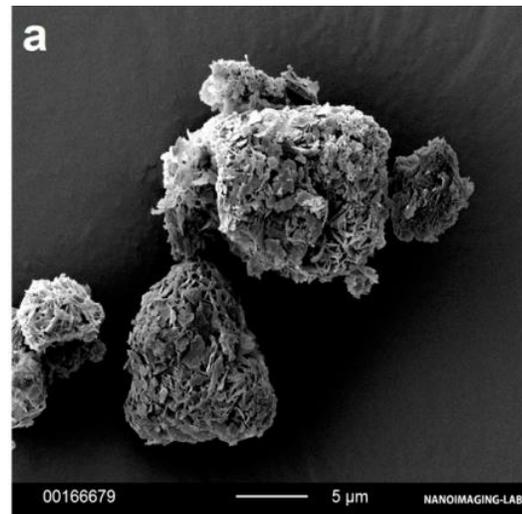
- Encapsulation / embedding in solid materials (amphiphilic starches, maltodextrin)
- Adsorption in porous carriers (phosphates, carbonates, silicates)

# Adsorption porous $\text{CaCO}_3$

Article

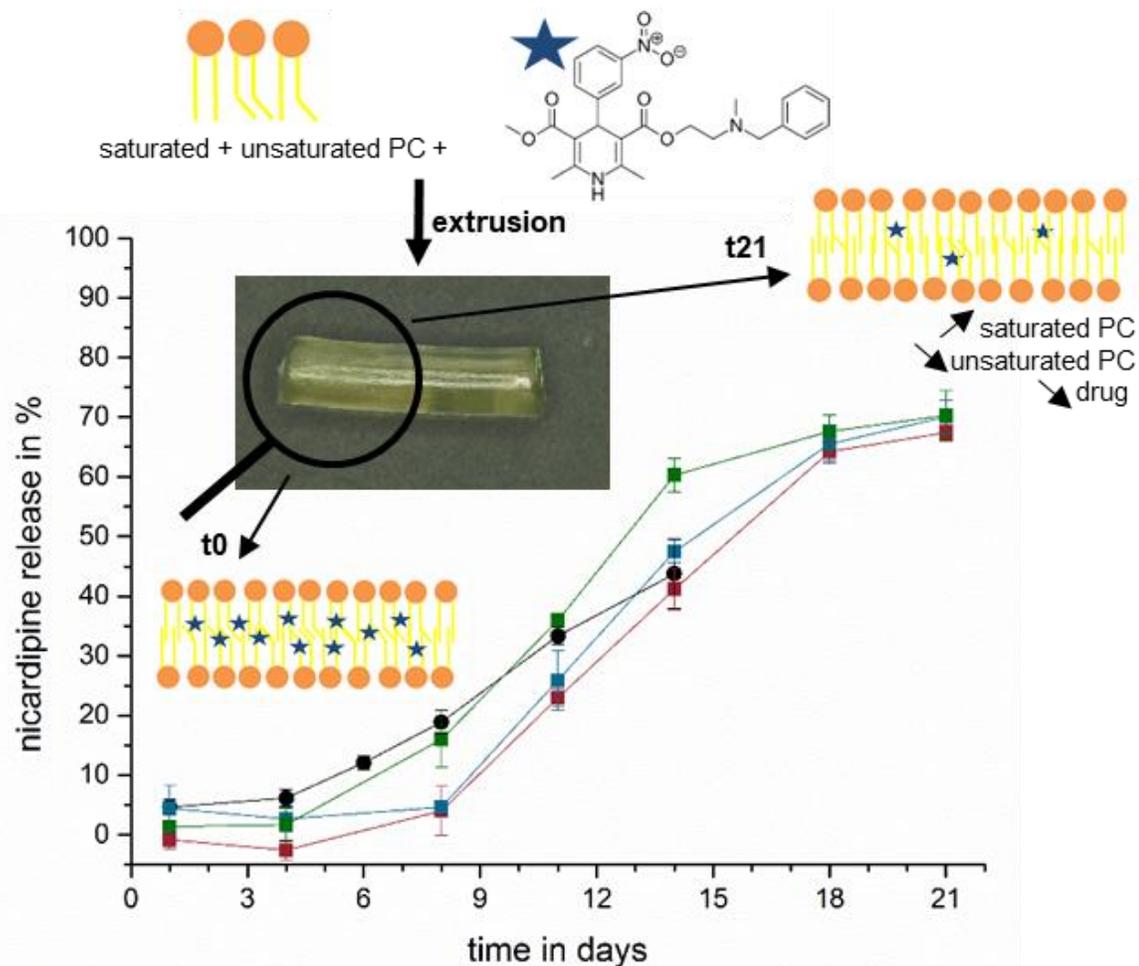
## Spontaneous In Situ Formation of Liposomes from Inert Porous Microparticles for Oral Drug Delivery

Maryam Farzan <sup>1</sup>, Gabriela Québatte <sup>1</sup>, Katrin Strittmatter <sup>1</sup>, Florentine Marianne Hilty <sup>2</sup>, Joachim Schoelkopf <sup>2</sup>, Jörg Huwlyer <sup>1</sup> and Maxim Puchkov <sup>1,\*</sup>

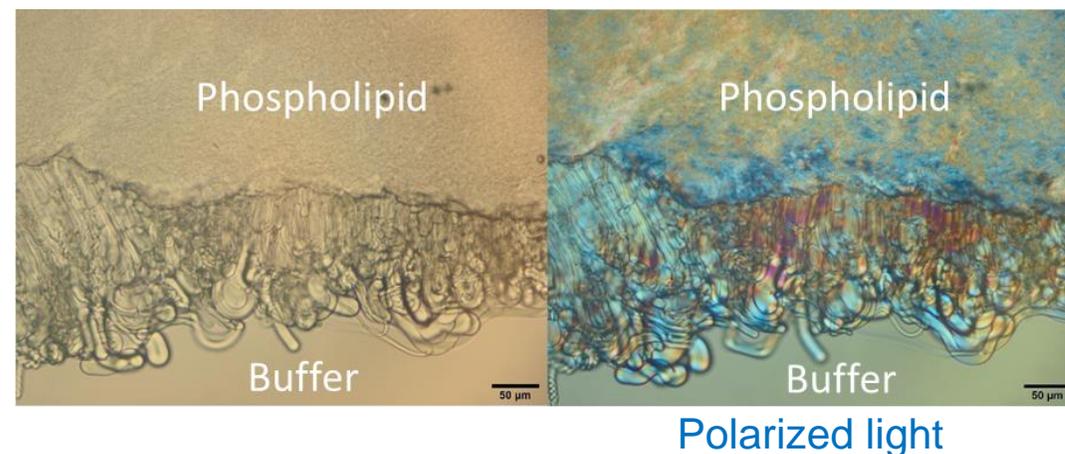


# Example: Phospholipid extrudates

C. Zlomke, J. Albrecht, K. Mäder:  
*Pharmaceutics* **2020**, *12*, 817.



- Goal here: local brain delivery, but oral applications possible
- Easy to extrudate at temp. < 100°C
- Ratio saturated / unsat. PC determines extrusion temp. and mechanical properties



Vesicle formation at the Interface

# Example: Phospholipid extrudates oral

AAPS PharmSciTech (2019) 20: 159  
DOI: 10.1208/s12249-019-1366-3



## Research Article

Theme: Lipid-Based Drug Delivery Strategies for Oral Drug Delivery  
Guest Editor: Sanyog Jain

### Evaluation of Hydrogenated Soybean Phosphatidylcholine Matrices Prepared by Hot Melt Extrusion for Oral Controlled Delivery of Water-Soluble Drugs

Marina Kolbina,<sup>1</sup> Adrian Schulte,<sup>2</sup> Peter van Hoogevest,<sup>3</sup> Martin Körber,<sup>4,5</sup> and Roland Bodmeier<sup>1</sup>

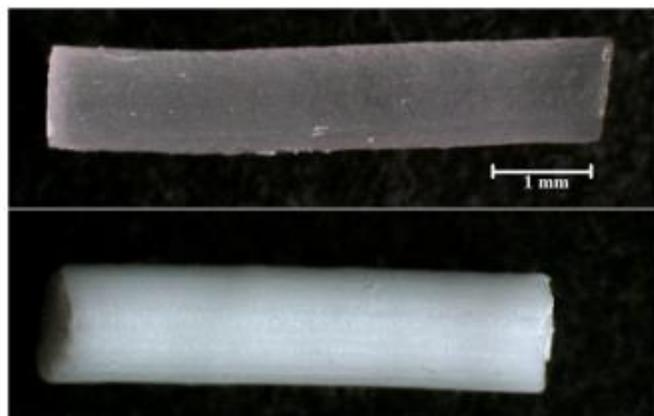
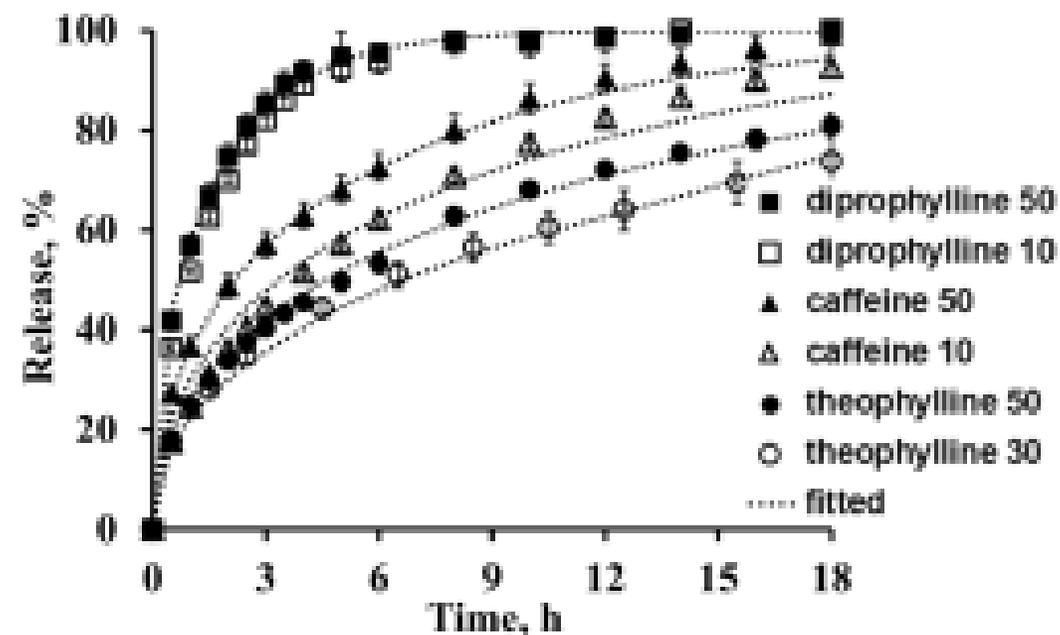


Fig. 2. Macroscopic pictures of extrudates: (upper) drug-free HSPC and (lower) 50% theophylline-loaded extrudate



# Overcoming poor permeability with PLs

International Journal of Nanomedicine

Dovepress

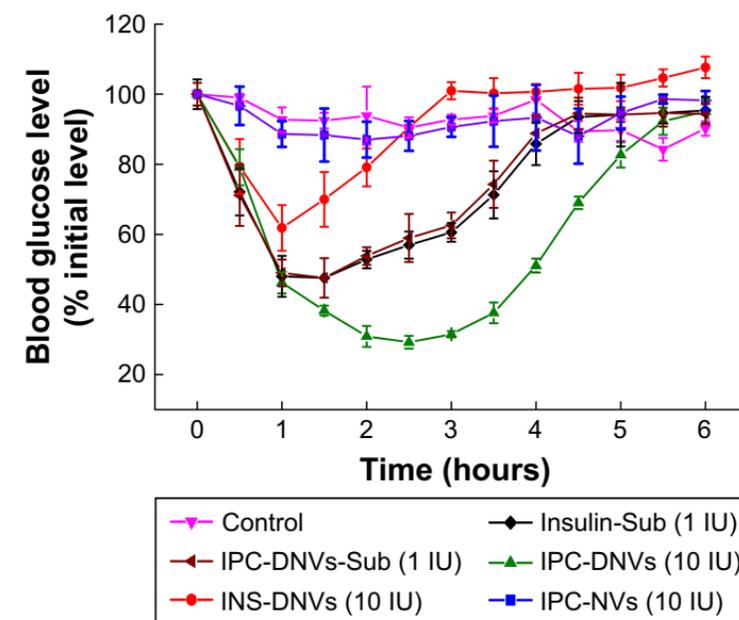
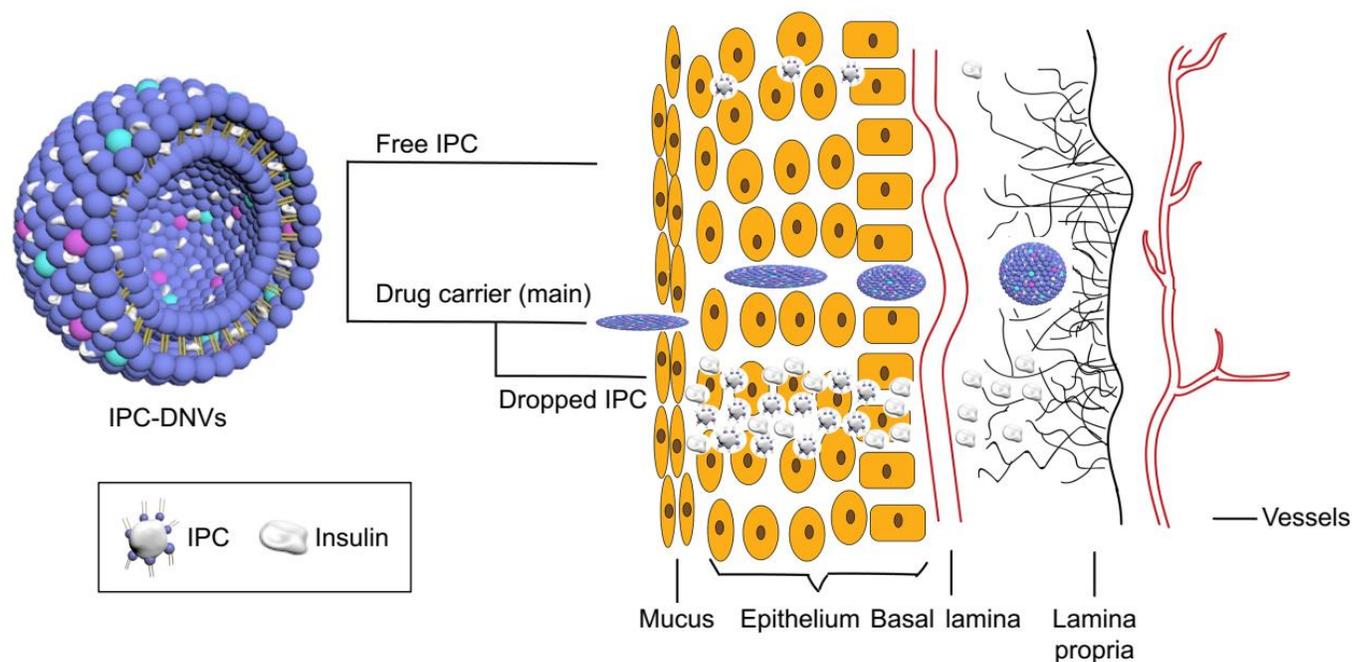
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ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Mechanisms of deformable nanovesicles based on insulin-phospholipid complex for enhancing buccal delivery of insulin

You Xu<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Xing Zhang<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Yun Zhang<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Jun Ye<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Hong-Liang Wang<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Xuejun Xia<sup>1,2</sup>  
 Yuling Liu<sup>1,2</sup>



**Figure 9** Mechanisms of IPC-DNV transport in mucosal permeation.  
**Abbreviations:** DNVs, deformable nanovesicles; IPC, insulin-phospholipid complex.

# Overcoming Efflux pumps by PLs?

European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 108 (2017) 13–22



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejps](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejps)



The application of P-gp inhibiting phospholipids as novel oral bioavailability enhancers – An *in vitro* and *in vivo* comparison



Manuel Weinheimer <sup>a,\*</sup>, Gert Fricker <sup>b</sup>, Jürgen Burhenne <sup>c</sup>, Patricia Mylius <sup>a</sup>, Rolf Schubert <sup>a</sup>

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<sup>b</sup> Institute of Pharmacy and Molecular Biotechnology, University of Heidelberg, Im Neuheimer Feld 329, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>c</sup> Department of Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacoepidemiology, Heidelberg University Hospital, Im Neuenheimer Feld 410, D-69120, Heidelberg, Germany

# Increased lymphatic uptake by PLs?

Journal of Controlled Release 341 (2022) 676–701

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Controlled Release

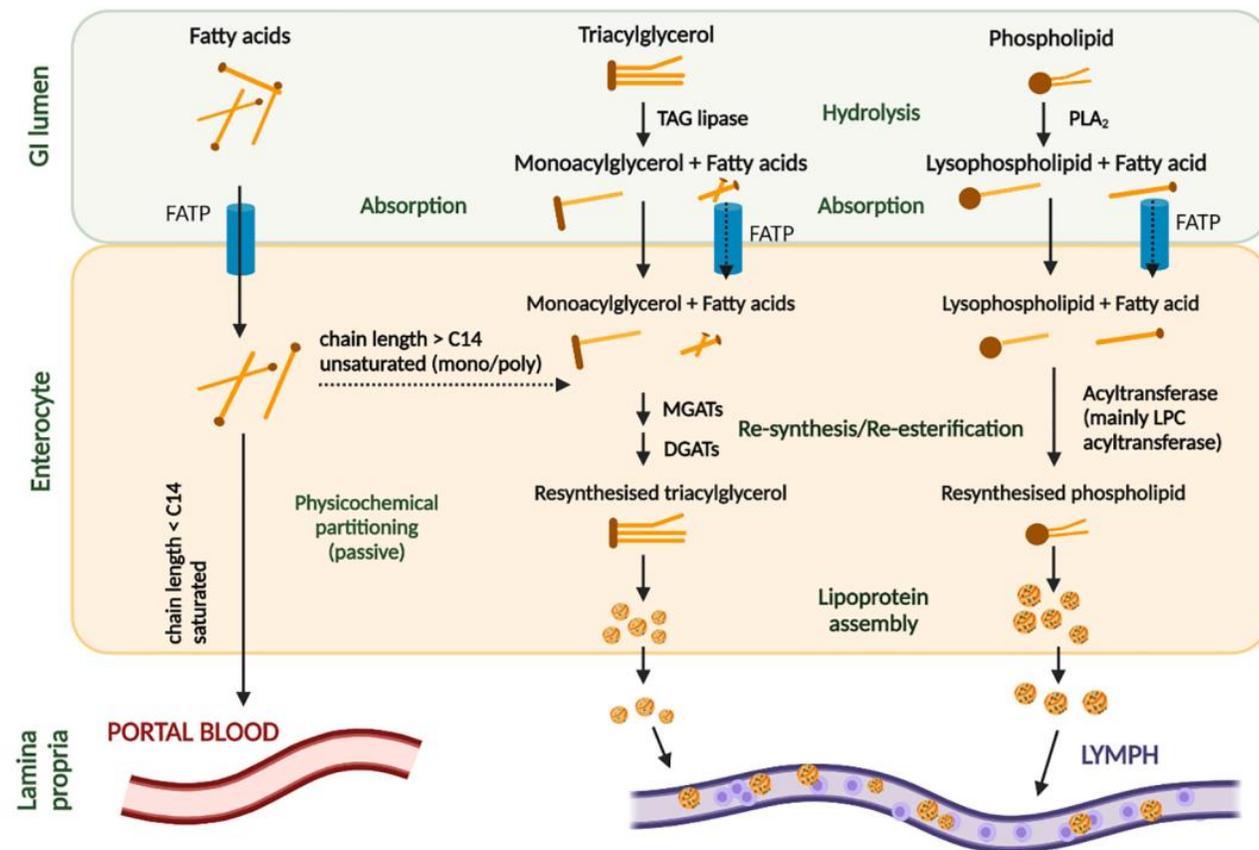
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel)



Review article

Smart design approaches for orally administered lipophilic prodrugs to promote lymphatic transport

Aurelia S. Elz<sup>a</sup>, Natalie L. Trevaskis<sup>b</sup>, Christopher J.H. Porter<sup>b</sup>, Joanne M. Bowen<sup>c</sup>, Clive A. Prestidge<sup>a,\*</sup>



# Outline

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- Introduction: Challenges of oral administration
- Phospholipids (PL):
  - Chemical structures and behavior in water
  - Biofate after oral ingestion
- How to design a PL-DDS for oral administration
- Examples
- **Summary and outlook**

# PLs can contribute to solve these problems of oral administration:

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- Poor permeability (e.g. BCS III drugs)
  - Enhance permeability drug **specific**
- Poor dissolution (e.g. BCS II drugs)
  - Increase dissolution kinetics
  - Increase solubility
- Food dependent variability
  - Develop formulations which are less food dependent
- Short half live
  - Develop formulation for oral controlled release – (requires absorption in colon)

# Examples of projects

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P

**Phospholipid**

Forschungszentrum / Research Center  
Heidelberg

- ❑ Liposomes as oral delivery systems for poorly soluble compounds: behavior during digestion and absorption processes
- ❑ Phospholipids as excipients in Amorphous Solid Dispersions – an attempt to establish hot-melt-extrusion for oral formulations of poorly soluble drugs
- ❑ Bioactive liposomes for the treatment of Non-Alcoholic SteatoHepatitis (NASH)
- ❑ Co-amorphous drug-lecithin systems – bridging the gap between amorphous solid disperions and lipid based drug delivery
- ❑ Enabling oral delivery of peptides by designing phospholipid complexes for self-emulsifying drug delivery systems
- ❑ Oral mixed micelle formulations – a novel phospholipid-based platform for safe and effective pediatric drug delivery

# Benefits and problems of phospholipids

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## Benefits

- Natural source
- Structure very common in nature, including the human body
- Biodegradable
- Excellent safety profile
- Decades of research, very good knowledge and database

## Problems

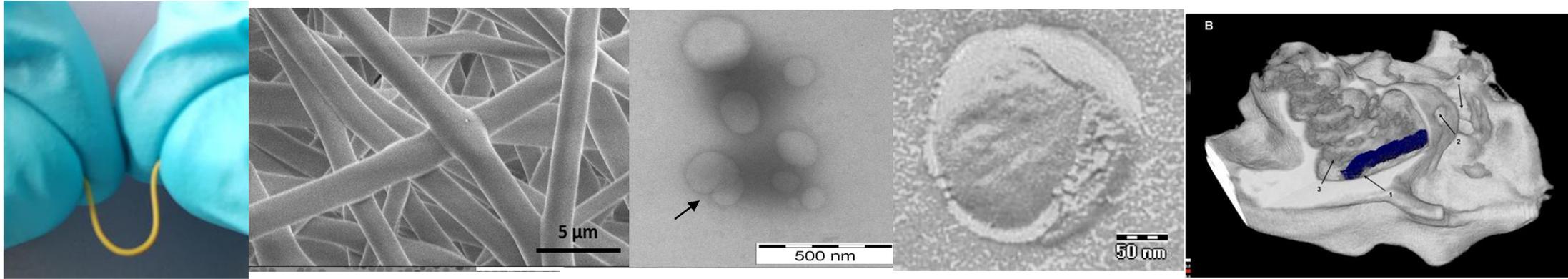
- Supplier dependent quality
- Often hygroscopic, sticky material
- Chemical degradation by oxidation and hydrolysis
- Precipitation by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  or  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$

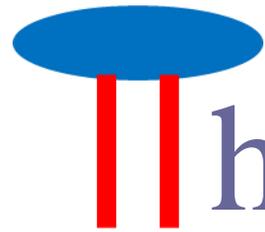
# The future...

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- ↑ Importance of PLs
  - Oral
  - Parenteral
  - Pulmonal
- ↑ ↑ Mixed Micelles
- ↑ ↑ ↑ Monoacyl-PLs





 Thank you!

[karsten.maeder@pharmazie.uni-halle.de](mailto:karsten.maeder@pharmazie.uni-halle.de)

