

## Formulation strategies for improving delivery of peptides and proteins by mucosal routes

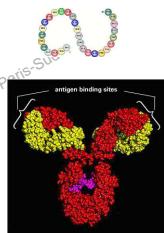
Gilles Ponchel



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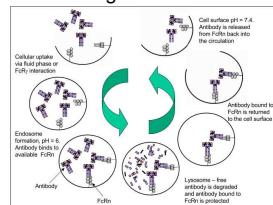
### Therapeutic peptides and proteins

- Highly specific, highly potent drugs
- Narrow therapeutic index
- Similarities and differences:
  - Physico-chemical properties
    - Molecular weight (1000 Da to >150 000 Da)
    - Polarity
    - Electrically charged
    - Tendency to aggregation, adsorption
    - Loss of tertiary structure
  - Pharmacokinetics (ADME)
    - Elimination half-lives ranging from minutes (peptides) to days or weeks (e.g. albumin, Mabs,...)
    - Multiple degradation/denaturation mechanisms

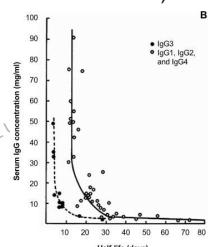


### Comparative PK for peptides and proteins

e.g. PK of daclizumab (autoimmune diseases)



Mabs are recycled by recognizing the neonatal fragment Fc receptor (FcRn)



Parameter (unit)	Indication		
	Treatment of GvHD	Prevention of GvHD	Renal transplant
Clearance (l/h)	0.042	0.0314	0.015
Vd <sub>ss</sub> (l)	5.81	6.91	5.9 <sup>a</sup>
Half-life (h)	79 to 94	165.4	480

### The parable of the Good Samaritan

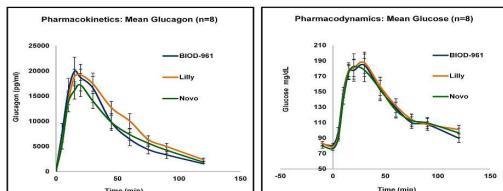


Vincent Van Gogh, 1890, Rijksmuseum, Pays-Bas

### Comparative PK for peptides and proteins

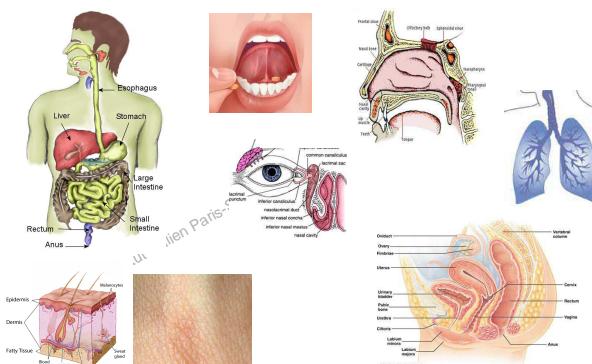
e.g. glucagon (mw 3485 Da)

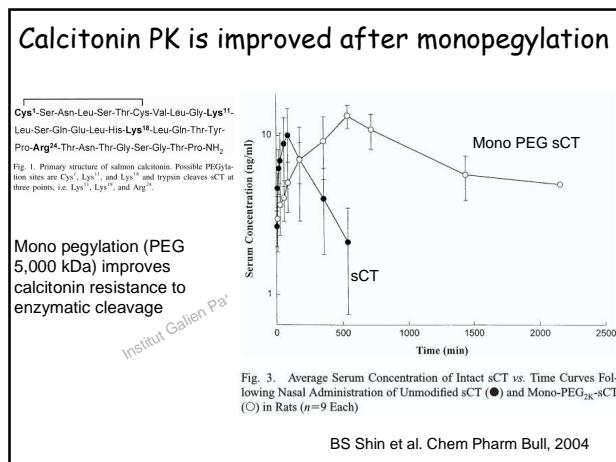
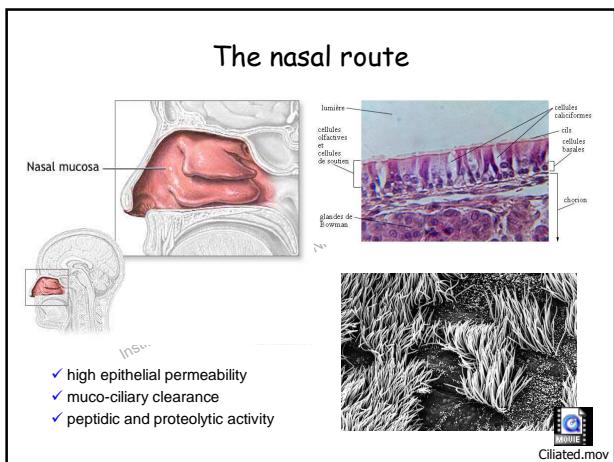
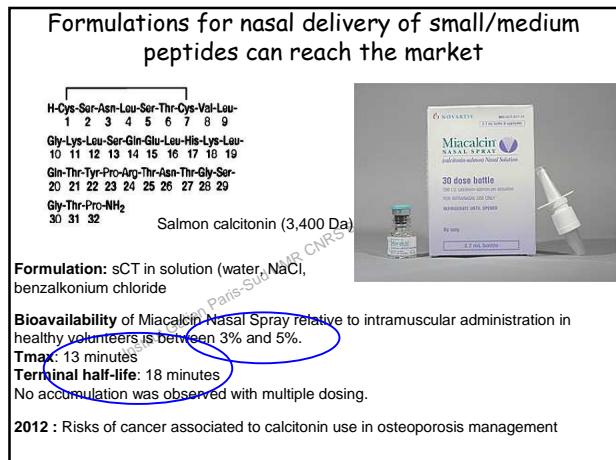
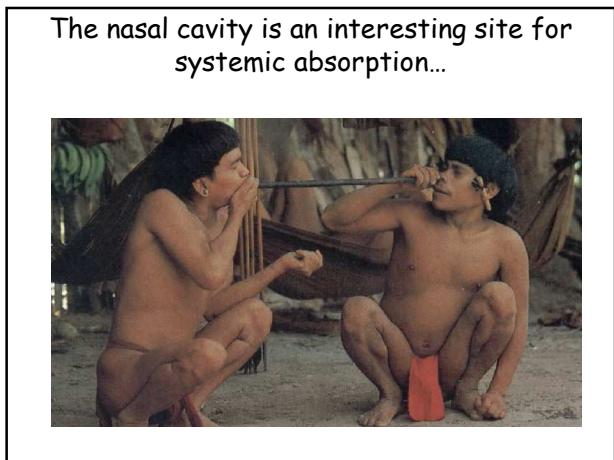
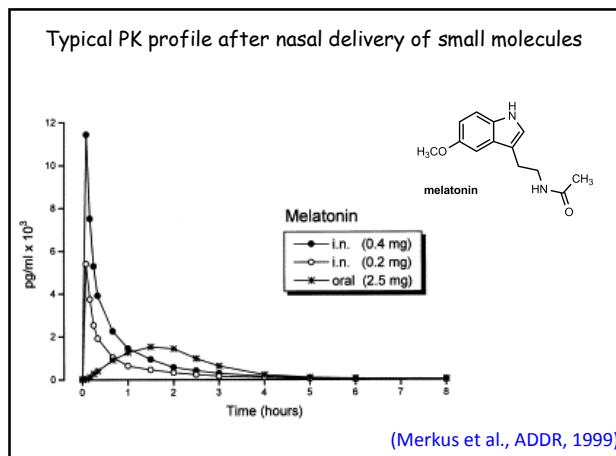
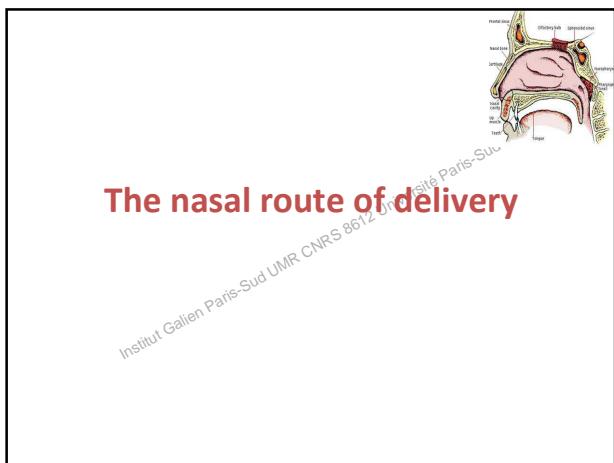
Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamic Profiles in Dogs of BIOD-961\* Vs. Lilly and Novo Glucagon Rescue Products



- ✓ short elimination half-lives (minutes)
- ✓ strong need for sustained-release formulations!

### Peptides and proteins, parenteral for ever? Alternative routes of delivery by crossing epithelial barriers





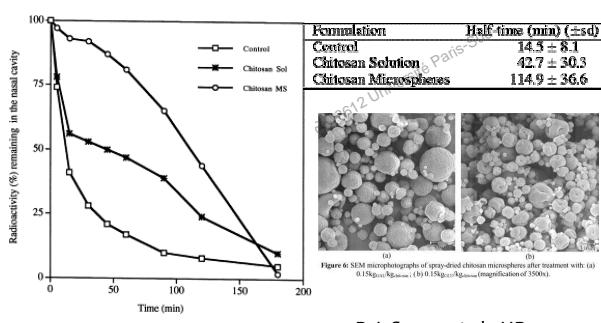
## Pro and cons of formulation strategies aiming to improve nasal absorption

- Absorption enhancers
  - Efficient increase in apparent permeability but moco-ciliary toxicity concerns
- Enzyme inhibitors
  - Poor efficiency alone
- Co-delivery with vasodilators
  - Increase in the absorption gradient but safety concerns
- Mucoadhesive formulations
  - Decreased clearance from the nasal cavity, prolonged absorption, possibility to combine to other strategies

## The pulmonary route of delivery



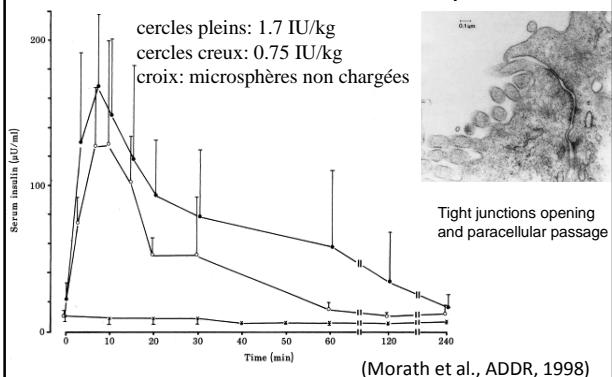
### Mucociliary clearance of swelling microspheres is reduced by a «roll and adhere» mucoadhesion mechanism



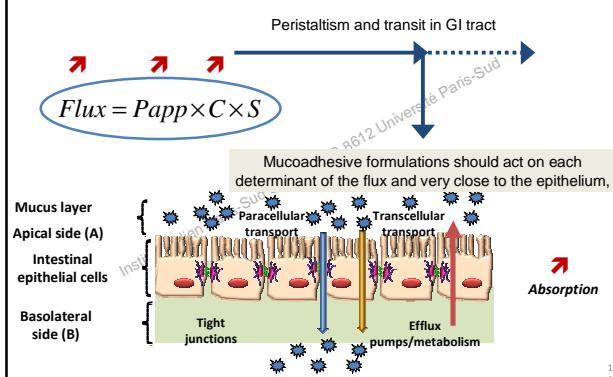
## The oral route of delivery ....or the holy grail!



### Absorption of insulin following nasal delivery of cross-linked starch microspheres



### Mucoadhesive dosage forms for improving the transport of active molecules through epithelia



### Mucoadhesive polymers

**Polymères hydrophiles**

Gonfient en présence d'eau

**Adhesive**

**Substrate**

N. Peppas et al. JCR 1987

**Force**

F<sub>max</sub>

W<sub>t</sub>

Elongation

W<sub>t</sub> = W<sub>0</sub> • Ψ(R, T)      F. Lejoyeux et al., 1989

### Functionalized PIBCA/thiolated chitosan NPs

**Thiolated chitosan:**

- Hydrophilic drug
- Poly(isobutylcyanoacrylate)

**Thiolated chitosan:**

- Mucoadhesive properties
- Opening the tight junctions
- Divalent ions chelation
- Antipeptidase activity

Mannitol flux (paracellular) is increased x2 or x3 by chitosan-TBA-coated (PIBCA) np

**BIOADHESION**

(100.000 g/mol Papp = 7,3 ± 0,6 × 10⁻⁶ cm/s)

I. Bravo et al. Biomaterials 2007  
Mazzaferrro S et al. J Drug Del Sci Tech. 2011, 21(5), 385-393.

**Carboxypeptidase A**

hypopyrul-L-phe → phe

### Improvement of intestinal transport of active drugs

**Intestinal micropatches**

Teutonico D & Ponchel., Drug Discov Today, 2011  
Teutonico D et al., Int J Pharm, 2011  
Teutonico D et al., Expert Opin Drug Delivery, 2012

**Polymethacrylic acid-polyethylene glycol-chitosan based microgels**

Sajeesh S, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology, India

Sajeesh S et al., J Control Release, 2010  
Sajeesh S et al., Eur J Pharm Biopharm, 2010

**Polyanhydride/CDs NPs (Gantrez)**

Collaboration Université de Navarre, Espagne. Pr. Juan-Manuel Irache

Agüeros M et al., Eur J Pharm Biopharm, 2009  
Zabaleta V et al., Eur J Pharm Biopharm, 2012

**Functionalized PIBCA/chitosan NPs**

Petit B et al., Pharm Res, 2012  
Mazzaferrro S et al., Int J Pharm, 2011  
Mazzaferrro S et al., Drug Discov Today, 2012

### Typical hypoglycemic effect after oral delivery of mucoadhesive insulin loaded nanoparticles

SC (open circles), 350 nm (filled squares), 120 nm (crosses), 1000 nm (open squares), Control (filled diamonds).

Whatever the systems, bioavailabilities are low

Pan Y et al. Acta Pharm Sin. 2001

### Nanoparticles for oral delivery

**1. Nanoparticles have an ideal size for diffusion and retention into the mucus layer**

**General structure of a mucus nanodisk**

**2. Nanoparticles properties can be modulated, e.g.:**

- Mucoadhesion (NPs surface/corona)
- Preventing local drug recrystallization
- Opening tight junctions
- Localizing the activity of efflux pumps/metabolism inhibitors, antipeptidase activity, etc

C. Dürer et al.

### Ongoing projects aiming to oral delivery of peptides

Company	Details	Technology	Reports/Claims	Phase
Access	Oral receptor-mediated uptake	CobOral®	Insulin, hGH	Pre
Argis	Buccal, oral	Intraoral®	AlfPep, Octreotide	Pre
AntiGen	Buccal, oral	AriGrown	Exendin, hPTH, Insulin	Pre
Biolet	Sublingual film tablet	ViTab	Insulin	PI
Proxima Concepts	Oral, enteric-coated capsule	Avess™	Calcitonin, NPTH	PII
Chiasma	Oral, oily suspension of enhancers	TPE Technology	Otoreotide	PIII
Emisphere	Oral, passive transcellular uptake	Eigen®	Calcitonin, insulin, GLP-1, PYY	PI-PIII
Meron	Oral, enteric coated tablet	GIFET®	Insulin, GIP-1, GRH Analog	PI
Mitatchi/Monosol	Buccal film, nanoparticles	PharmFilm	Insulin	PI
Nanotekia Medical	Oral, nanoparticles		Insulin	Pre
NOD Pharmaceuticals	Oral, nanoparticles	NOD	Insulin	PI
Oramed	Oral, enteric coated tablet	Insulin, Exenatide	PI	
Unigene	Oral, enteric coated tablet	Peptelligence®	Calcitonin, hPTH, CRIS45	PI-PIII

Final dosage form is a capsule, a tablet, etc

R. Lax et al. Innov. Pharm. Tech,

