



An exemplar of a systems pharmacology approach for a detailed investigation of an adverse drug event as a result of drug-drug interactions

Poster #: PT-012

ASCPT Annual Meeting 2017
Washington, DC

Sarah Kim¹, Gezim Lahu², Lawrence J. Lesko¹, Mirjam N. Trame^{1,*}

¹ Center for Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology, Department of Pharmaceutics,
University of Florida, Orlando, FL

² Takeda Pharmaceuticals International GmbH, Zurich, Switzerland

*Corresponding author: mtrame@cop.ufl.edu



Systems Approach to Drug Safety utilizing Adverse Event Databanks



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FAERS

- Post-market surveillance **databank of ADR** by the **FDA**
- Rich source of ADR information submitted voluntarily by drug manufacturers, healthcare professionals and consumers
- ADR reports evaluated by clinical reviewers at the CDER or CBER



Evidex™
Advera Health

- Maps FAERS to AE and outcome costs
- Provides **RxCosts®** to determine direct costs of adverse events, **RxSignal®** for predictive notification of pending regulatory action, and **RxScore®** - a drug safety scorecard

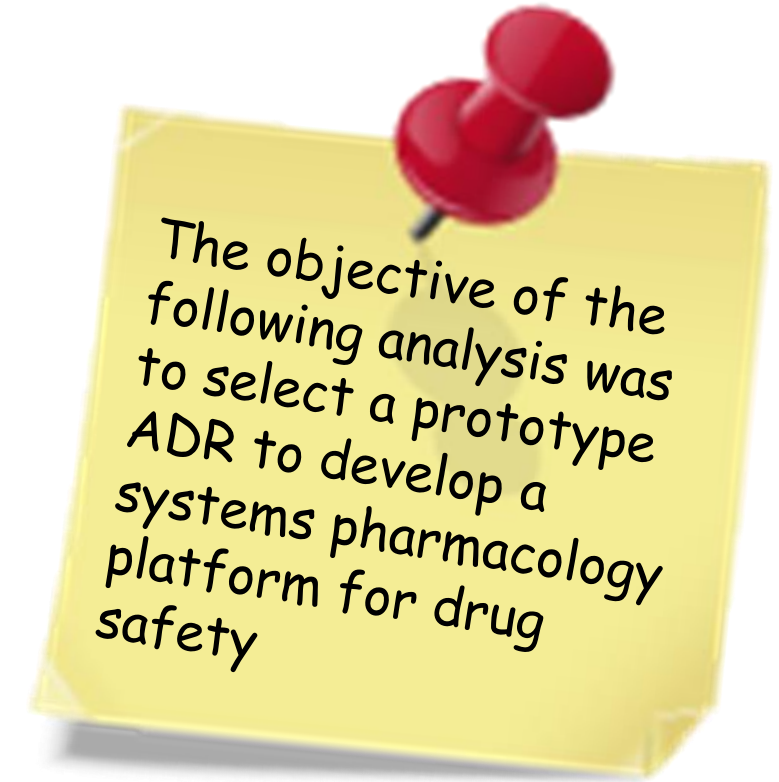
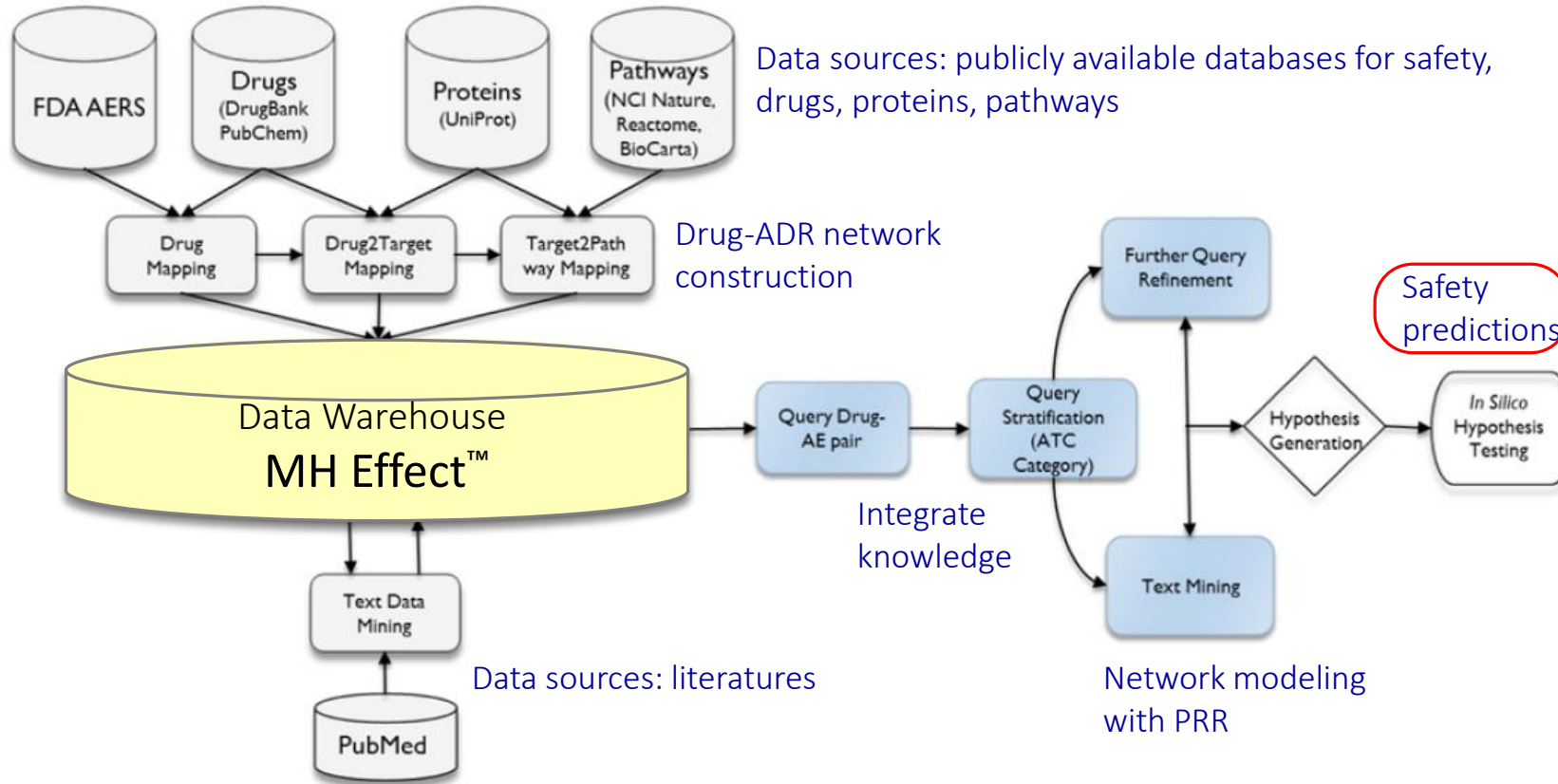


MH Effect™
Molecular Health

- Maps FAERS to chemical and biological sources to **integrate knowledge** for **hypothesis generation** towards the **underlying molecular pathways and targets of the ADR**



Systems Approach to Drug Safety utilizing Adverse Event Databanks



Systems Approach to Analyze Drug-ADR

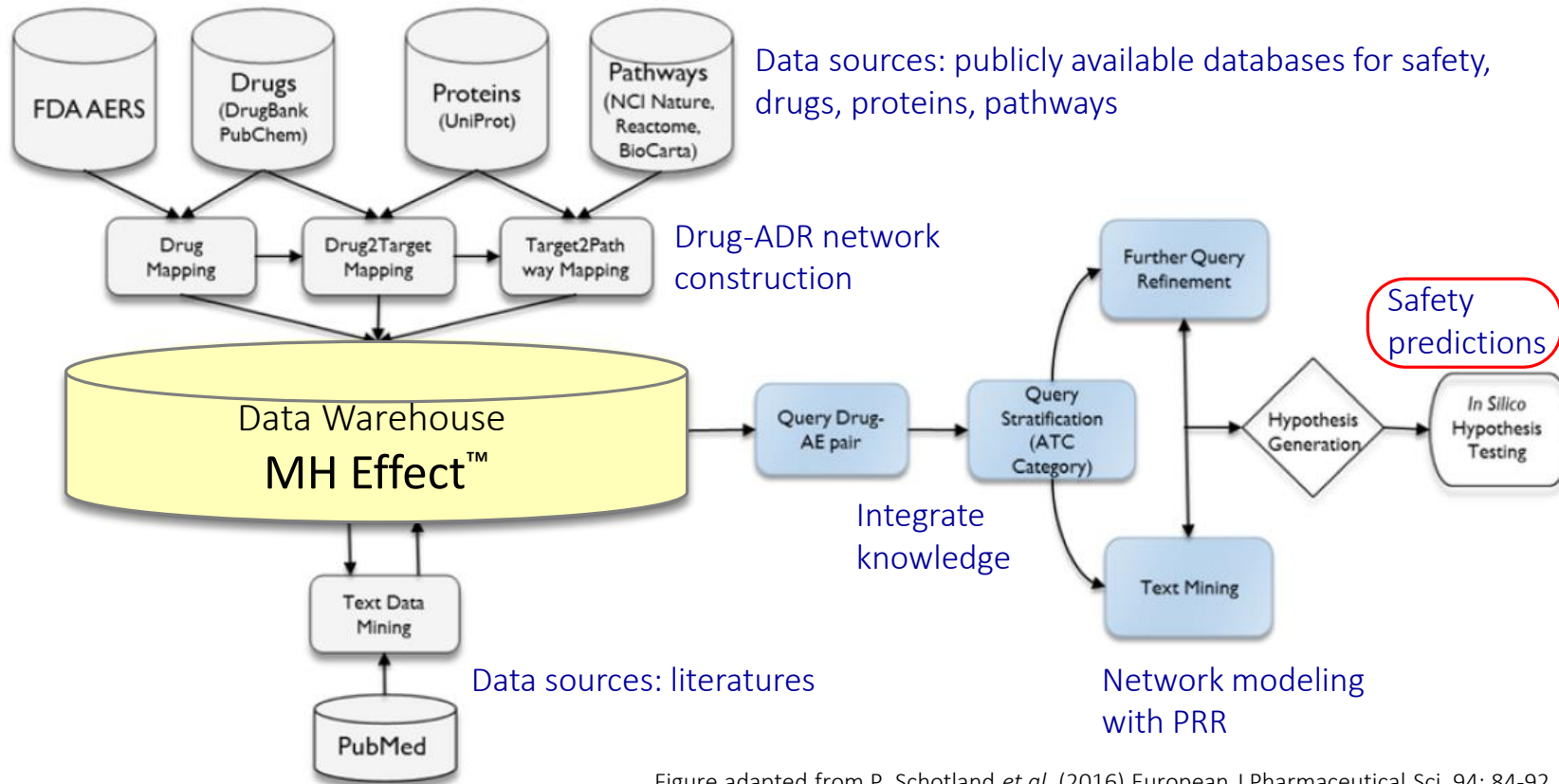


Figure adapted from P. Schotland *et al.* (2016) *European J Pharmaceutical Sci*, 94: 84-92.

Mapping **FAERS** to chemical and biological sources integrates knowledge for **hypothesis generation** towards the **underlying molecular pathways and targets of the ADR** for safety predictions.

Proportional Reporting Ratio (PRR): a statistical method used to assess **statistical associations** between drugs and events of interest using **number of case reports**

	N w/ event of interest	N w/o event of interest
N w/ drug of interest	a	b
N w/o drug of interest	c	d

N = number of case reports.

$$PRR = \frac{a/(a + b)}{c/(c + d)}$$

Reference: S.J. Evans *et al.* (2001) *Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety*, 10(6): 483-486.

- 1/3 of new FDA drug approvals are in oncology since 2014 with several of these being categorized as targeted therapy drugs (TTDs)
- **Clinical response of cancer patients to TTDs depends on:**
 - 1) **Efficacy** (benefit) variables → **on-target effects**
 - Influenced by sensitivity of tumor cells, molecular properties of tumors, and tumor microenvironment
 - 2) **Safety** (risk) variables → **off-target effects**
 - Influenced by sensitivity of the host, including intrinsic factors such as genetic metabolic polymorphisms and renal function, and extrinsic factors such as drug-drug interactions

Reference: T. Force *et al.* (2007) Nat Rev Cancer, 7(5): 332-344.



Efficacy of TTDs compromised by one additional host factor

- 96% of cancer patients are concomitantly given 1-6 additional medications
→ **serious drug-drug interactions**

Reference: M.H. Hanigan *et al.* (2008) J Oncol Pharm Practice, 14: 123-130.

Case Study

- Starting with a case study of a typical breast cancer patient receiving the following prescriptions:

- **Trastuzumab** (Herceptin[®]) TTD (Target: HER2/neu)
- **Doxorubicin** (Doxil[®] and Adriamycin[®]) Chemotherapy, Anthracycline
- **Tamoxifen** (Nolvadex[®] and Soltamox[®]) Hormonal therapy
- **Paroxetine** (Paxil[®], Pexeva[®], and Brisdelle[®]) Antidepressant
- **Lapatinib** (Tykerb[®]) TTD (Target: HER2/neu, EGFR)

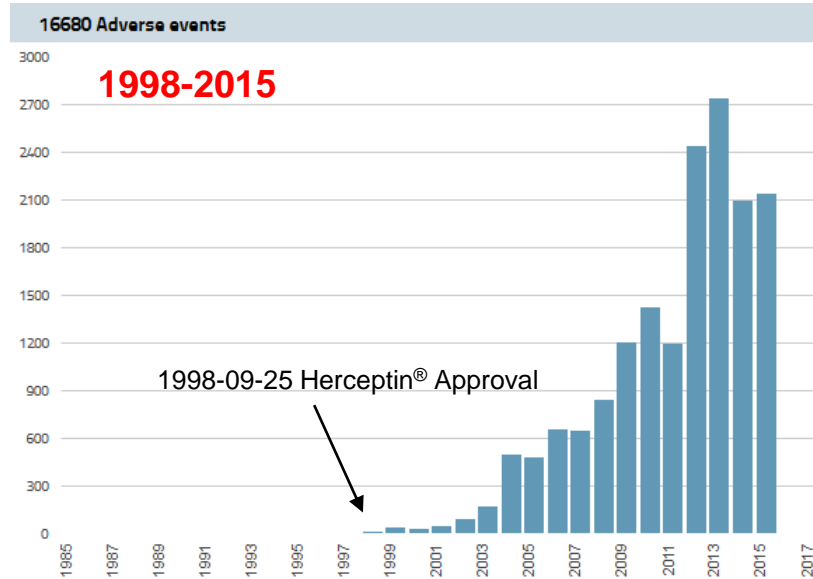
Cardiotoxicity → Heart Failure 

Safety Assessment Overview

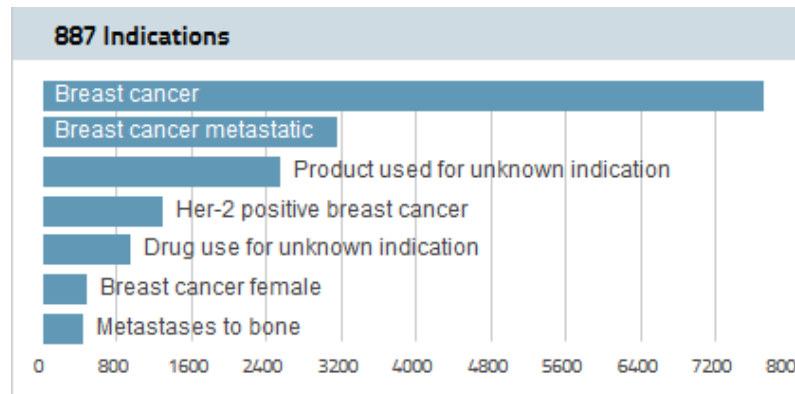
Cohort Search Term:
Trastuzumab (#1)



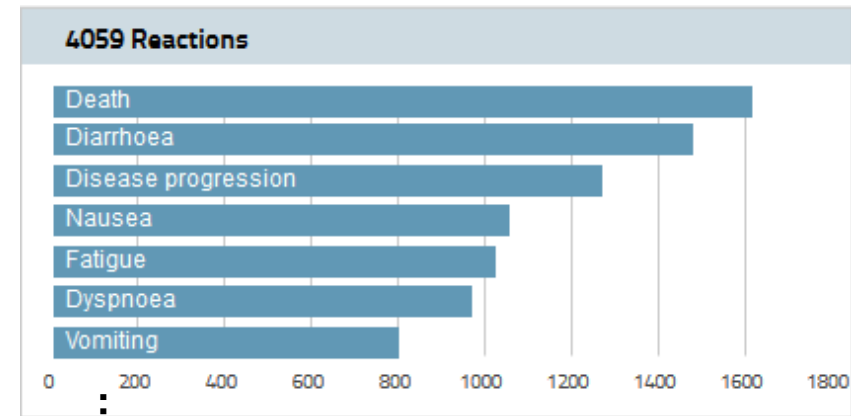
- Number of AEs per year



- Top 7 Indications for which Trastuzumab is prescribed

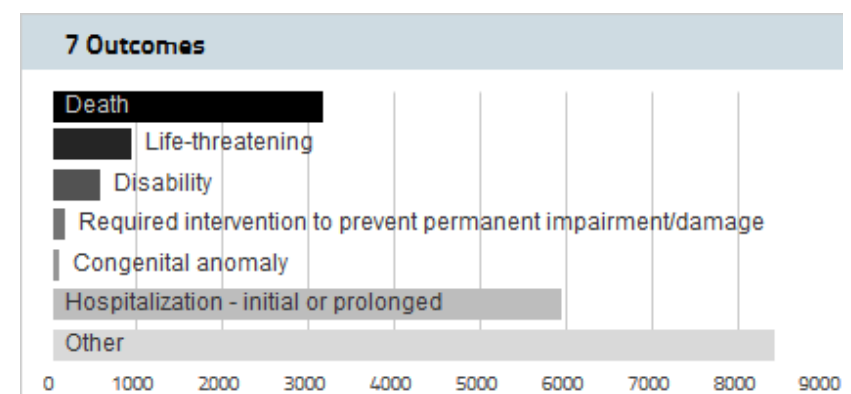


- Top AEs (ranked by the number of cases (N))



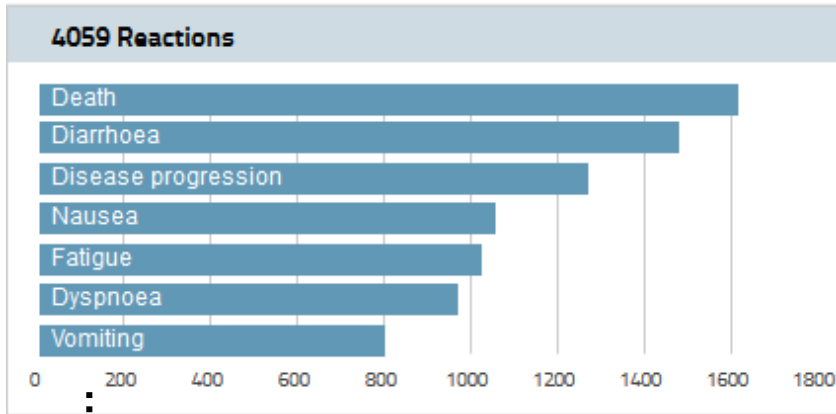
Cardiotoxicity: N = 196 (Ranking 69),
PRR = 47.06 (Ranking 2 among the top 69)

- Final patient outcome due to AEs



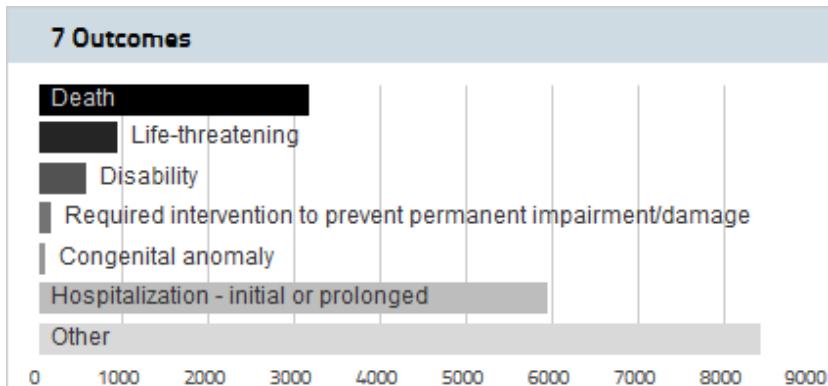
Safety Assessment Overview

- Top AEs (ranked by the number of cases (N))**



Cardiotoxicity: N = 196 (Ranking 69),
PRR = 47.06 (Ranking 2 among the top 69)

- Final patient outcome due to AEs**



Cohort	Total N of all AEs	N of Cardiotoxicity	PRR with Cardiotoxicity	95% CI PRR with Cardiotoxicity
Trastuzumab	16680	196	47.06	40.59 - 54.56
Doxorubicin	35850	263	30.63	26.87 - 34.91
Com. T+D	1157	36	113.12	81.73 - 156.57

N = number of case reports, AE = adverse event, PRR = Proportional Reporting Ratio, CI = confidence interval.

Major Molecular Mechanisms of Trastuzumab-induced Cardiotoxicity

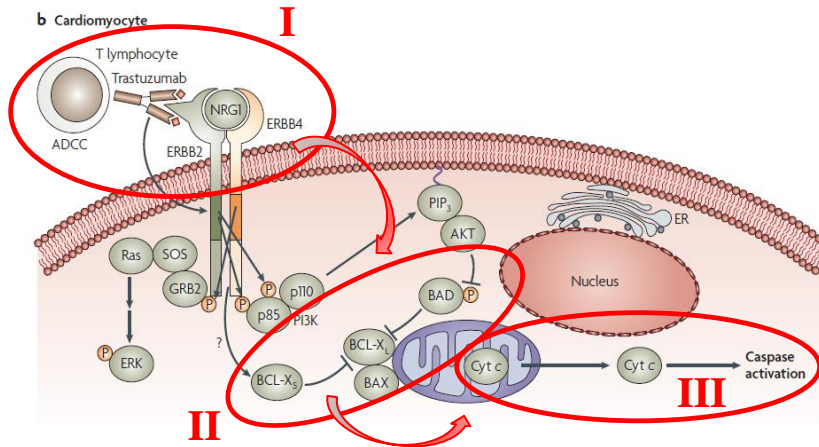


Figure from T. Force *et al.* (2007) *Nat Rev Cancer*, 7(5): 332-344.

Ranking	Molecular Mechanism	PRR (95% CI)
1	Signaling by ERBB2 (HER2)	141.63 (140.31 – 142.96)
4	Signaling by ERBB4	64.04 (63.64 – 64.44)
9	ERBB receptor signaling network	62.40 (62.01 – 62.78)
29	ERBB4 signaling events	25.42 (25.32 – 25.52)
cont'd...		
34	Bh3-only proteins associate with and inactivate anti-apoptotic BCL-2 members	18.84 (16.42 – 21.61)
cont'd...		
37	Activation of BAD and translocation to mitochondria	18.71 (16.31 – 21.46)
cont'd...		
40	Role of mitochondria in apoptotic signaling	18.10 (15.78 – 20.76)

PRR = Proportional Reporting Ratio, CI = confidence interval

- ∃ **Total 549** molecular mechanisms
- **Ranked by PRR**

Combination Therapy: Trastuzumab and Doxorubicin

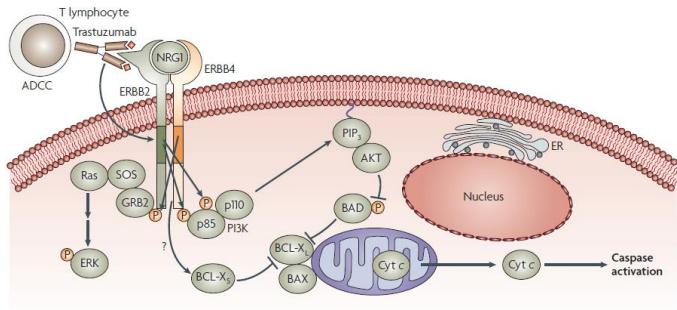


Figure from T. Force *et al.*, Nat Rev Cancer (2007) 7(5): 332-344.

Loss of **mitochondrial membrane potential** through **BCL-2 family**

Loss of **PGC-1 α** and **PGC-1 β** proteins which are critical for **mitochondrial biogenesis and function**

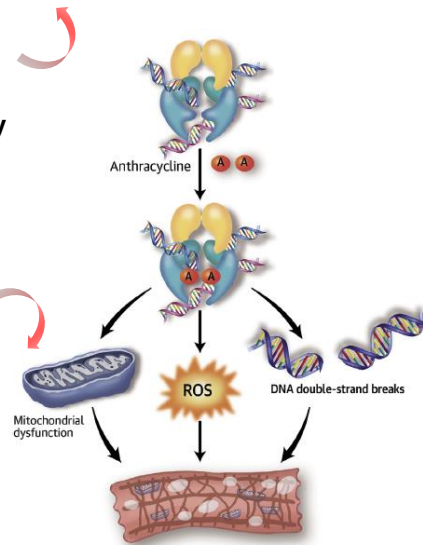


Figure from P. Vejpongsa and E.T.H. Yeh J American College Cardiol (2014) 64(9): 938-945.

Cohort	Molecular Mechanism	N	PRR	95% CI PRR
Trastuzumab	BH3-only proteins associated with and inactivate anti-apoptotic BCL-2 members	100	18.84	16.42 – 21.61
Doxorubicin		42	5.89	4.47 – 7.78
Com. T+D		24	24.60	▲ 19.53 – 31.0
Trastuzumab	Activation of BAD and translocation to mitochondria	100	18.71	16.31 – 21.46
Doxorubicin		42	5.85	4.44 – 7.72
Com. T+D		24	24.43	▲ 19.39 – 30.78
Trastuzumab	PPARα activates gene expression	35	0.58	0.43 – 0.78
Doxorubicin		94	1.15	0.98 – 1.35
Com. T+D		4	0.36	▼ 0.14 – 0.90
Trastuzumab	Role of mitochondria in apoptotic signalling	100	18.10	15.78 – 20.76
Doxorubicin		42	5.66	4.29 – 7.47
Com. T+D		24	23.64	▲ 18.76 – 29.79

N = number of case reports, PRR = Proportional Reporting Ratio, CI = confidence interval, ▲ = higher than Cohort-Trastuzumab, ▼ = lower than Cohort-Trastuzumab, orange = harmful effect, green = protective effect.

Discussion and Conclusions

Hypothesis: The **combination** therapy of trastuzumab and doxorubicin may **induce** a synergistic effect of **mitochondrial dysfunction in cardiomyocytes** through different molecular pathways of the BCL-2 family, PPAR α and PPAR β proteins, leading to an **increased risk of developing cardiotoxicity**.

What did this Systems-based approach provide versus a non-mechanistic approach?

- This **systems-based approach** provides a process to better map the mechanism of **drug-drug interactions** to targets and pathways

 **Inform Drug Development Pipelines**



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Acknowledgement



**Thank you very much
for your attention!**

Dr. Mirjam N. Trame
Dr. Lawrence J. Lesko
Dr. Sonja Hartmann

Dr. Gezim Lahu
Dr. Majid Vakilynejad