Supporting Information

Fate and Uptake of Pharmaceuticals in Soil-

Earthworm Systems

-
- 5 Laura J. Carter¹, Catherine D. Garman¹, James Ryan², Adam Dowle³, Ed Bergström⁴, Jane Thomas-
- 6 Oates⁴, Alistair B.A. Boxall^{1*}
- 1 Environment Department, University of York, Heslington, York, UK, YO10 5DD
- 2 EHS Technical CoE, GlaxoSmithKline, Ware, UK, SG12 0DP
- 3 Department of Biology, Bioscience Technology Facility and Centre of Excellence in Mass
- Spectrometry, University of York, York, UK YO10 5DD
- 4 Department of Chemistry, and Centre of Excellence in Mass Spectrometry, University of York,
- York, UK YO10 5DD
-
-
-
- Number of tables: 5
- Number of figures: 2
- Additional text: Sorption of study compounds to soil, *E. fetida* toxicity experiment,
- preparation of samples for analysis and detailed methods of metabolism study.

- 22 **Table SI 1:** Test soil characteristics († Analysis completed at The French National Institute
- 23 for Agricultural Research (INRA) (Arras, France) *Analysis completed onsite at The Food
- 24 and Environment Research Agency (FERA) (York, U.K.)).

25

26

27

28 **Table SI 2:** LC-MS/MS parameters used for the analysis of the compounds

- 29 **Table SI 3:** Analyte detection in earthworm samples from LC-MS/MS analysis. BSAF is the
- 30 biota-soil accumulation factor.

31

32 The BSAF was estimated by dividing the maximum earthworm tissue concentration by the

33 measured soil concentration in the radiolabelled studies. By dividing the BSAF by the

34 nominal soil concentration in the un-labelled experiments we therefore calculated an

35 expected earthworm tissue concentration which would allow for comparison to the measured

36 earthworm concentration in the unlabelled experiments.

37 **Table SI 4:** FOCUS modelling results from dissipation of pharmaceuticals in soil

38

- 40 **Table SI 5**: Known diclofenac metabolites and transformation products detected in various
- 41 matrices for comparison against data obtained in this study using LC-FTMS analysis

42

Figure SI 1: Measured soil concentration data from uptake phase for carbamazepine (A), fluoxetine (B) and orlistat (C) fitted with a single first order model. Diclofenac could not be modelled.

52 **Figure SI 2:** Comparison between measured pore water concentrations obtained from the

- 53 uptake and depuration experiment and estimated pore water concentrations (PEC_{pw}) for each
- 54 pharmaceutical for A) carbamazepine, B) diclofenac, C) fluoxetine, D) orlistat. The closed
- 55 and open diamonds represent measured concentrations and estimated concentrations
- 56 respectfully.
- 57 The predicted environmental concentration in pore water (PEC_{pw}) (Technical Guidance
- 58 Document (TGD) on Risk Assessment Part II, 2003) was calculated based on measured soil 59 data using the following equation: $PEC_{pw} = (C_{soil} * RHO_{soil})/(K_d * 1000)$
- 60 Where C_{solid} is the measured concentration in the soil (this can be predicted soil concentration

61 (PEC_{soil}) if measured data are unavailable – see TGD for equation), RHO_{soil} is bulk density of

62 the soil (kg m⁻³) K_d is the soil sorption distribution coefficient for each pharmaceutical in the 63 test soil.

Sorption of study compounds to test soil.

The sorption behaviour of the study APIs in the test soil was assessed using a batch equilibrium method based on OECD guideline 106. Study pharmaceuticals were applied to a mixture of soil and a 0.1 M CaCl2 solution contained in PTFE centrifuge tubes in triplicate. The soil solution ratios, selected based on preliminary investigations, were 1:5, 1:20, 1:30 and 1:30 for diclofenac, carbamazepine, fluoxetine and orlistat respectively. The resulting 70 soil/solution mixtures were shaken in the dark (250 oscillations/min) at a temperature of 4 $^{\circ}$ C on a side-to-side shaker for 48 h, as preliminary studies showed that this was sufficient time for the test APIs to reach equilibrium between the soil and liquid phase. The samples were then removed and centrifuged at 3500 rpm for 10 minutes using a Heremle Z 513K Bench Top Centrifuge. A 1 mL aliquot of supernatant was then taken and mixed with 10 mL of Ecoscint A scintillation cocktail (National Diagnostics, Atlanta, Georgia) and the levels of radiation remaining in solution was determined by liquid scintillation counting (LSC) using a 77 Beckman LS 6500 (Beckman Coulter Inc., Fullerton, USA). Soil sorption coefficients (K_d) values were then determined based on the amount of pharmaceutical applied and the amount remaining in the supernatant at equilibrium (Table 2).

Toxicity of study compounds to *Eisenia fetida***.**

Methods:

Toxicity experiments were performed to ensure that the test concentrations used in the uptake studies were not toxic to the *E. fetida.* Earthworms were exposed in replicates of six to soil containing ten times and a hundred times the proposed test concentration for the main uptake 86 study. The test vessel consisted of a 120 mL glass jar to which 50 ± 1 g of soil (dry weight) was added. One earthworm per vessel was added and beakers were incubated under similar conditions to the main experiment for the period of the exposure. Burrowing behaviour, potential weight change and mortality were compared to that observed in solvent controls and blank controls, to see if the pharmaceuticals had measurable effects on these variables.

Results and Discussion:

No mortality was observed in any of the toxicity experiments. There were no significant differences in the burrowing times of *E. fetida* after exposure to each of the pharmaceutical 94 compounds (x 10 and x 100) in comparison to the blank and solvent controls (F<0.709, d.f. = 95 3, $p > 0.05$), with more than 90 % of earthworms burrowing beneath the soil within 10 minutes of being placed on the soil surface. Over the test period, the masses of *E. fetida* increased; however there was no significant difference in the growth rate of *E. fetida* exposed to pharmaceutical treated soils or to control soils (for carbamazepine and fluoxetine 99 [F<2.323, d.f. = 3, p>0.05]) (for diclofenac and orlistat [H<4.610, d.f. = 3, p>0.05]). No unusual earthworm behaviour (e.g. coming to the soil surface, stiffening) or physiological differences (e.g. surface lesions) was noted for any of pharmaceutical-exposed worms. It was therefore concluded that as no visible effect on the earthworm behaviour was seen at 10 x and 100 x the proposed test concentrations for the main uptake and depuration experiments, uptake and depuration would unlikely be affected by pharmaceutical toxic effects.

In terms of pharmaceutical toxicity to earthworms, there is relatively little research. Previous studies have observed no *E. fetida* mortality after exposure to tetracyclines at environmentally relevant concentrations (Qu et al., 2005), similar to the results from this study. However, exposure to chlorotetracycline and tetracycline has induced changes in biochemical markers, including serious DNA damage to coelomocytes and enzyme activities in earthworms (Dong et al., 2012). As pharmaceutical toxicity was not evaluated on a biochemical scale in this study, further research is needed to establish if similar effects are observed with human pharmaceuticals comparable to what has been observed with tetracyclines.

Preparation of soil, pore water and earthworm samples for analysis.

116 To extract pore water, soil $(25 \pm 2 \text{ g})$ was placed in a disposable syringe with a layer of 3 cm of glass wool inserted into the bottom. The syringe was centrifuged for 40 minutes (2 x 20 minute runs) at 3000 RPM after which the pore water was collected from the bottom of the tube and transferred to a 2 mL plastic microfuge tube. The microfuge tubes containing the sampled pore water were then further centrifuged at 12000 RCF for 4 min to sediment loose particles. A 500 µL sample of pore water was then added to 10 mL of EcoScint A scintillation cocktail for analysis.

123 Soil samples were extracted by liquid extraction. For the carbamazepine study, 5 ± 0.5 g of 124 soil was extracted twice for 45 min on a side to side shaker (250 oscillations min⁻¹) with 2 x 10 mL of methanol. A similar method was used in the fluoxetine and orlistat studies except 126 that for fluoxetine a mixture of acetonitrile and water (7:3 v/v) was used as the solvent and for orlistat, acetonitrile was used. For the diclofenac study, 10 g samples of soil were extracted three times for 45 min each time with 20 mL ethyl acetate. Samples (1 mL) of extracts were then added to 10 mL of EcoScint A for analysis of the radioactivity present.

Even with the high extraction recoveries for diclofenac, after solvent extraction, the concentration at the start of the experiment was significantly lower than expected. A large amount of dissipation of radioactivity from the orlistat test beakers was also observed, which unlike the other test compounds, could not be explained by uptake into *E. fetida*. It was 134 theorised that due to orlistat's particularly hydrophobic nature and high K_d value it would have a strong sorption capacity to the soil, to such an extent that a fraction of the compound may have become irreversibly bound to the soil. Combustion analysis of the diclofenac and orlistat soils was therefore performed to determine if there was radioactivity remaining in the soil which may account for the discrepancies. Combustion analysis was performed on a Perkin Elmer 307 Sample Oxidiser. After solvent extraction to determine the total extractable residues, the dried soils were homogenised into a fine powder. Each soil sample was prepared 141 in triplicate in combusto-cones in which 300 ± 25 mg of soil was mixed with equal amounts 142 of cellulose powder. After combustion consisting of a 1.5 min burn per sample, the ^{14}C carbon dioxide was trapped by a vapour phase reaction with CarboSorb E forming carbamate 144 which was mixed with PermaFluor $E + a$ scintialltion cocktail ready for counting the radioactivity present on the Liquid Scintillation Counter (LSC). Regular checks were performed throughout the analysis to ensure the recovery of the samples remained above 95 $\frac{9}{6}$.

E. fetida were extracted by liquid extraction using the same solvents as for the soil extractions. Prior to extraction, *E. fetida* were defrosted, solvent (5 mL) was then added to the defrosted samples and the worm/solvent mix was homogenised for 5 min using a LabGen Series 7 homogeniser. The suspension was transferred from the beaker to a glass test tube and the beaker was then rinsed with an additional 3 mL of solvent which was combined with the suspension to give a total extract volume of 8 mL. The extracts were centrifuged at 415 g for 30 min (CHRIST Rotational Vacuum-Concentrator RVC 2-33 CD) and a 1 mL sample of the resulting supernatant was then added to 10 mL of EcoScint A.

Potential metabolism in earthworms

Methods:

To ascertain whether the radioactivity we were measuring in our earthworm samples was that of the parent compound or metabolite/transformation products, additional studies were performed using unlabelled compounds. Studies were performed at 20 times the soil concentration used in the radiolabelling studies to ensure that compounds were detectable in the worm matrix.

E. fetida were exposed to unlabelled carbamazepine, diclofenac and fluoxetine for 21 days (six replicates per compound) under similar conditions to the original studies, after which 166 they were allowed to purge their guts for 24 h and subsequently frozen $(-20 °C)$ ready for analysis. *E. fetida* were then injected with a a known amount of stable isotope-labelled standard (carbamazepine d-10, diclofenac d-4 and fluoxetine d-5) and extracted using methods outlined above. The supernatant from these extractions was taken to dryness under a N_2 stream and reconstituted in 200 μ L of methanol:water (50:50 v:v). This was further centrifuged at 12000 RPM to sediment loose particles and the resulting extracts were transferred to HPLC vials for analysis. Calibration (six concentrations, three replicates) and quality control samples (three concentrations, six replicates at intermediary concentrations across the calibration range) were also prepared in worm matrix for each of the respective compounds. The calibration range was 0 - 1500 ng/mL; 0 - 800 ng/mL and 0 - 1375 ng/mL for carbamazepine, diclofenac and fluoxetine respectively.

Analytical methods:

LC-MS/MS analysis

Extracts were analysed for the pharmaceuticals by LC-MS/MS using a Dionex Ultimate 3000 and Applied Biosystems API 3000. HPLC separation was performed with a Symmetry C18 3.5 µm, 4.6 x 75 mm column and Symmetry C18 3.5 mm, 2.1 x 10 mm guard column (Waters) with a mobile phase flow rate of 1 mL/min. The mobile phase composition was 186 aqueous 1 % formic acid (v:v) (mobile phase A) and 1 % formic acid (v:v) in acetonitrile (mobile phase B) using a gradient program over 5 min for carbamazepine and fluoxetine and 7.5 min for diclofenac. For carbamazepine and fluoxetine the gradient was 0.0-2.5 min 43 % B, 2.5-2.6 min 43-95 % B, 2.6-3.6 min 95 % B, 3.6-3.7 min 95-43 % B, 3.7-5.0 min 43 % B. For diclofenac the relative flow of mobile phase B was 0.0-1.5 min 43 % B, 1.5-4.0 min 43- 80 % B, 4.0-4.2 min 80-95 % B, 4.2-5.5 min 95 % B, 5.5-5.7 min 95-43 % B, 5.7-7.5 min 43 % B. MS/MS analysis was undertaken using electrospray ionisation (ESI) in positive ionisation mode, using the turbo ion-spray interface. Spray voltage was 5000 V, with the ESI 194 capillary line maintained at 550° C and collision gas (N₂) pressure set at 6. Fragmentation parameters are detailed in Table SI 2.

Qualitative and quantitative analysis of compounds was based on multiple reaction monitoring (MRM); measuring the relative peak areas of the product ion from analyte and internal standard.

199 For the calibration range of 0 - 1500 ng/mL, 0 - 800 ng/mL and 0 - 1375 ng/mL the R^2 of calibration fits are 0.92, 0.98, 0.99 for carbamazepine, diclofenac, fluoxetine respectively. 201 The mean accuracy for the QC's ranged between $88.6 - 108.5\%$, $95.8 - 97.6\%$ and $82.1 -$ 202 96.3% and the mean standard deviation for QC's ranged between $5.3 - 9.1$, $5.6 - 9.7$ and 3.3 – 8.2 for carbamazepine, diclofenac and fluoxetine respectively. Lower limits of quantification (LLOQs) were 375 ng/mL, 12.5 ng/mL and 150 ng/mL for carbamazepine, diclofenac and fluoxetine respectively.

LC-FTMS

- HPLC separation was performed with a Jupiter 4u Proteo 90A, 1.0 x 150 mm column with a
- mobile phase flow rate of 0.1 mL/min. The mobile phase composition was aqueous 1 %
- 209 formic acid (v:v) (mobile phase A) and 1 % formic acid (v:v) in acetonitrile (mobile phase B)
- using a gradient program 0.0-20.0 min 10-90% B, 20.0-21.0 min 90% B, 21.0-21.5 min 90-
- 10% B, 21.5-26.5 min 10% B. MS analysis was undertaken using positive mode electrospray
- 212 ionisation (ESI). Spray voltage: 4500 V, 6 L/min dry gas (N₂) at 250 °C and 3 bar nebuliser
- gas. Acquisition range *m/z* 100-2000, with transient time 0.367 s giving an estimated
- resolution of 66000 at *m/z* 400.

Results – Determination of parent compound in earthworm tissue samples:

Based on previous results, a biota-soil accumulation factor (BSAF) was calculated. Using spiked soil concentrations, expected concentration of the pharmaceuticals in the worm tissue was estimated (see Table SI 3).

- Both carbamazepine and fluoxetine were detected in the worm tissue at concentrations
- slightly greater than expected. Diclofenac was not detected. Diclofenac worm extracts were
- subsequently analysed using LC-FTMS to look for known diclofenac metabolites and
- transformation products using a Dionex Ultimate 3000 HPLC and solariX 9.4 T (Bruker) FT-
- ICR mass spectrometer (known metabolites are provided in Table SI 5).
-

References

S16

- 249 *Environmental Risk Assessment*. (European Commission Joint Research Centre, 2003). at
- 250 <http://ihcp.jrc.ec.europa.eu/our_activities/public-
- 251 health/risk_assessment_of_Biocides/doc/tgd/tgdpart2_2ed.pdf>