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CEE 697K ENVIRONMENTAL REACTION KINETICS

Lecture #8

Special Topics: Pharmaceuticals in Water I
Primary Literature (e.g., Westerhoff et al., 2005)

Introduction

Boston Globe

March 10, 2008; page 2

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2 **U.S. scientists warn of growing urgency about climate change even within groups that once dismissed assertions of an overheating planet as a liberal ruse.** The president of the Southern Baptist Convention was among the signers. (AP)

MICHIGAN Paper ties mayor's friend to contracts

DETROIT — Campaign headed by a friend of Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick won millions of dollars in city contracts while the friend secretly consulted with the mayor's chief of staff about bidding strategies, the Detroit Free Press reported yesterday. The paper said Bobby Ferguson and companies he partnered collected at least \$45 million. Ferguson, the city and a lawyer for former chief of staff Christine Beatty denied wrongdoing. (AP)

FLORIDA Shuttle cleared for launch with new lab

CAPE CANAVERAL — NASA cleared the space shuttle Endeavour yesterday for launch early tomorrow to begin attaching a Japanese laboratory to the International Space Station and install Canadian-built robot arm. Liftoff from the Kennedy Space Center is scheduled for 2:29 a.m. Meteorologists predicted a 90 percent chance that weather conditions would be suitable for the rare night launch. (Reuters)

Bus, pickup collide, killing woman

FORT LAUDERDALE — A tour

Trace quantities could endanger wildlife, humans

By Jeff Donn
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — An array of pharmaceuticals — including antibiotics, anticonvulsants, mood stabilizers, and sex hormones — have been found in the drinking water supplies of at least 41 million Americans, an Associated Press investigation found.

The concentrations of these pharmaceuticals are tiny, measured in quantities of parts per billion or trillion, far below the levels of a medical dose. And utilities insist that their water is safe.

But the presence of so many prescription drugs — and over-the-counter medicines like acetaminophen and ibuprofen — in so much of our drinking water is heightening worries among scientists of long-term consequences to human health.

In the course of a five-month inquiry, the AP discovered that drugs have been detected in the drinking water supplies of 24 major metropolitan areas — from southern California to northern



EPA ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

'We recognize it is a growing concern, and we're taking it very seriously,' said Benjamin Grumbles, assistant administrator for water at the federal EPA.

New Jersey, from Detroit to Louisville, Ky.

Water providers rarely disclose results of pharmaceutical screenings, unless pressed, the Associated Press found.

For example, the head of a group representing major California suppliers said the public "doesn't know how to interpret the information" and might be unduly alarmed.

When people take pills, their bodies absorb some of the medication, but the rest of it passes through and is flushed down the toilet. The wastewater is treated before it is discharged into reservoirs, rivers, or lakes.

Then, some of the water is cleaned again at drinking water treatment plants and piped to consumers. But most treatments do not remove all drug residue.

While researchers do not yet understand the exact risks from decades of persistent exposure to

random combinations of low levels of pharmaceuticals, recent studies, which have gone virtually unnoticed by the public, have found alarming effects on human cells and wildlife.

"We recognize it is a growing concern, and we're taking it very seriously," said Benjamin H. Grumbles, assistant administrator for water at the US Environmental Protection Agency.

The Associated Press reviewed hundreds of scientific reports, analyzed federal drinking water databases, visited environmental study sites, and treatment plants and interviewed more than 200 officials, academics, and scientists.

They also surveyed the nation's 50 largest cities and a dozen other major water providers, as well as smaller community water providers in all 50 states.

Here are some of the key test results:

■ Officials in Philadelphia said testing discovered 56 pharmaceu-

ticals or byproducts in treated drinking water, including medicines for pain, infection, high cholesterol, asthma, epilepsy, mental illness, and heart problems. Sixty-three pharmaceuticals or byproducts were found in the city's watersheds.

■ Antiepileptic and antiarrhythmic medications were detected in a portion of the treated drinking water for 18.5 million people in southern California.

■ Researchers at the US Geological Survey analyzed a Passaic Valley Water Commission drinking water treatment plant, which serves 850,000 people in northern New Jersey, and found a metabolized angina medicine and the mood-stabilizing carbamazepine in drinking water.

■ A sex hormone was detected in San Francisco's drinking water.

■ The drinking water for Washington, D.C., and surrounding areas tested positive for six pharmaceuticals.

The federal government doesn't require any testing and hasn't set safety limits for drugs in water. Some providers screen only for one or two pharmaceuticals, leaving open the possibility that others are present.

Of the 62 major water providers contacted, the drinking water for 28 was tested. Boston is among the 14 that haven't been tested, along with Baltimore, Chicago, Houston, Miami, New York, and Phoenix.

The investigation also indicates that watersheds, the natural sources of most of the nation's water supply, also are contaminated. Tests were conducted in the watersheds of 35 of the 62 major providers surveyed by the Associated Press and pharmaceuticals were detected in 28.

Yet officials in six of those 28 metropolitan areas said they did not go on to test their drinking water. Fairfax, Va.; Montgomery County in Maryland; Omaha; Oklahoma City; Santa Clara, Calif.; and New York City.

Of the 28 major metropolitan areas where tests were performed on drinking water supplies, only Albuquerque, Austin, Texas, and Virginia Beach, Va., said tests were negative.

Calif. dunes lure off-road enthusiasts, smugglers

By Richard Marosi
LOS ANGELES TIMES

of fortifications that they hope will cut down on incursions.

the Department of Homeland Security seems willing to flex its

EDCs and PPCPs

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- Why study these?
 - Direct impacts on human health
 - Maybe not the most important?
 - Public perception
 - Becoming a very sensitive issue
 - Direct impacts on ecological health
 - Well documented: feminization of fish, etc.
 - Tracers of wastewater contamination
 - Indicators & promoters of antibiotic resistance
 - Precursors to more Hazardous DBPs

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WW Tracers

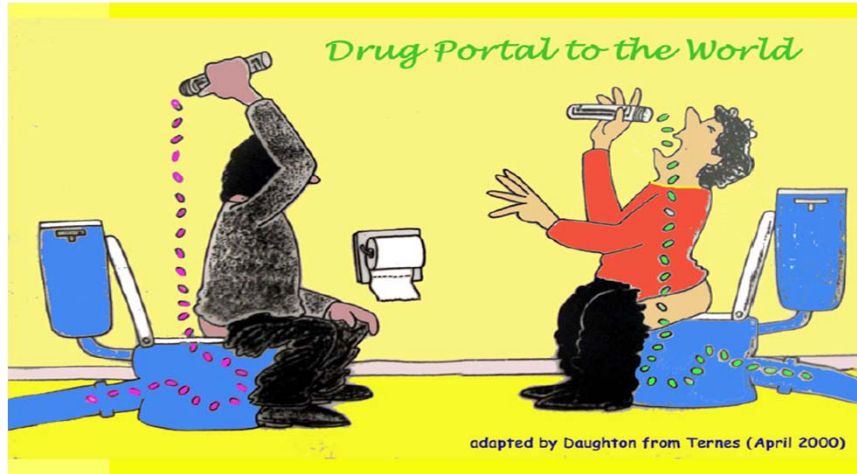
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- WW contributions: Near conservative PPCP tracers
 - Primidone
 - Others? Carbamazepine, caffeine, etc.
- Raw vs Treated: Chiral PPCPs
 - Racemic mixtures that undergo enantioselective biodegradation
 - Analysis of enantiomeric fractions may permit discrimination between raw and treated WW contributions
 - Propranolol example: Fono & Sedlak, 2005 [ES&T]

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Sources (2)

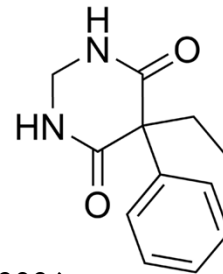
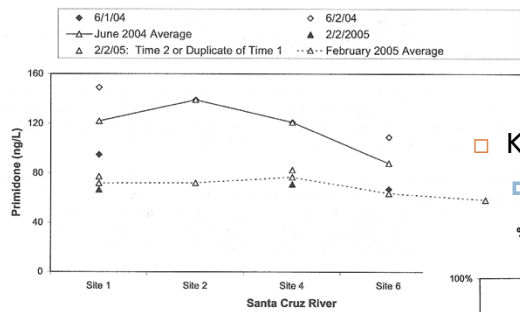
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Primidone

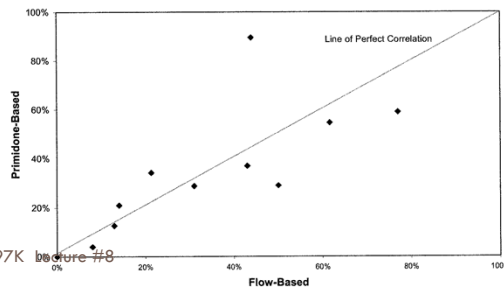
Variability in Primidone Over Time and Space at Nogales WWTP (Site 1) and in Santa Cruz River (Sites 2-10): 2 Sample Events



Krasner et al., 2006

WQTC

% of South Platte River Flow Due to Treated Wastewater:
Flow-Based versus Primidone-Based



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Antibiotic Resistance

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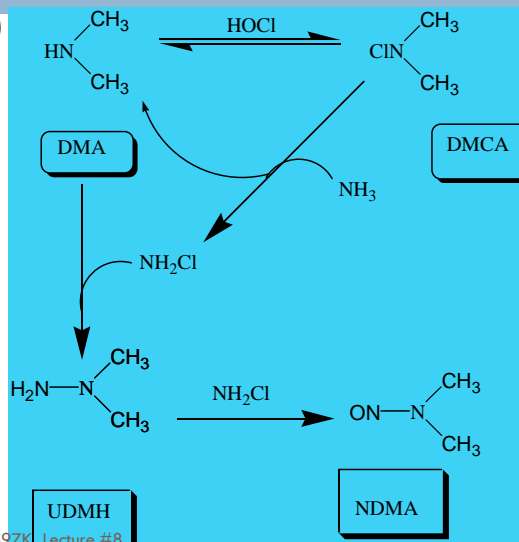
- One of the most critical human health challenges of the 21st century (WHO report)
 - >1,000,000 Americans infected each year
 - 14,000 deaths annually
- Cause: antibiotics are everywhere
 - Up to 95% of antibiotics in US are excreted in an unaltered state
 - Over prescription in humans
 - Heavy use in agriculture
- Result: Antibiotic resistant genes (ARGs) are ubiquitous in the aquatic environment
 - e.g., Pruden et al., 2006 [ES&T]

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Precursors to NDMA??

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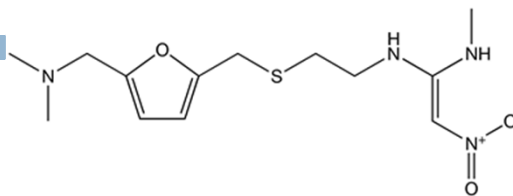
- NDMA (nitrosodimethylamine) is a very potent probable human carcinogen
- Formation of NDMA from chloramination of dimethylamine (DMA)
 - Not enough DMA to account for anything much
- NDMA formation is **much** higher in municipal WW than in pristine natural waters
- Major precursor is not natural???



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The Unnatural Precursor?

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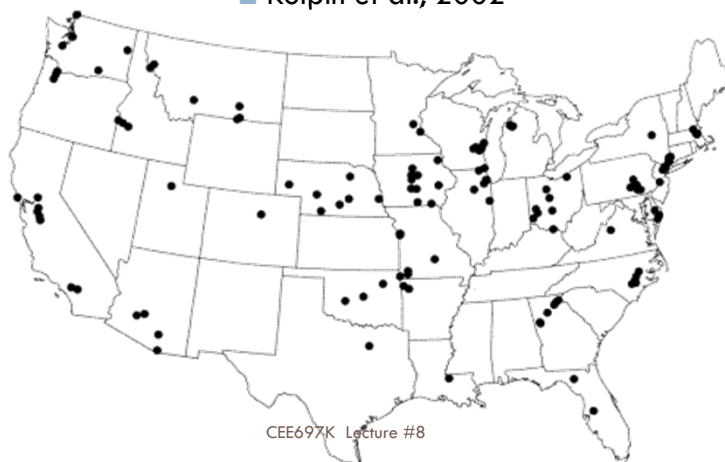
- Ranitidine (Zantac)
 - ▣ 63% conversion to NDMA
 - Schmidt et al., 2006 [WQTC]
 - ▣ Introduced in 1981, largest selling prescription drug by 1988
 - Stomach ulcers and esophageal reflux
 - ▣ Mean concentration of 3000 ng/L estimated for raw municipal WW (national average)
 - Sedlak 2005 AWWARF report
 - ▣ 450 ng/L formation in raw WW expected
 - ▣ Unknowns: how much does this persist in treatment and in the environment?

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USGS Survey

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- 138 stream sampling sites
 - ▣ Kolpin et al., 2002



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Selected Compounds

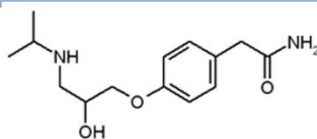
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EDC	PhAC	WW associated
17 β -estradiol	Atorvastatin or Gemfibrozil	Nitrosodimethylamine
Estriol	Naproxen	
Estrone	Sulfamethoxazole	
17 α -ethinylestradiol	Trimethoprim	
Perchlorate	Atenolol	
	Ranitidine	
	Primidone?	

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Beta-Blockers: Atenolol

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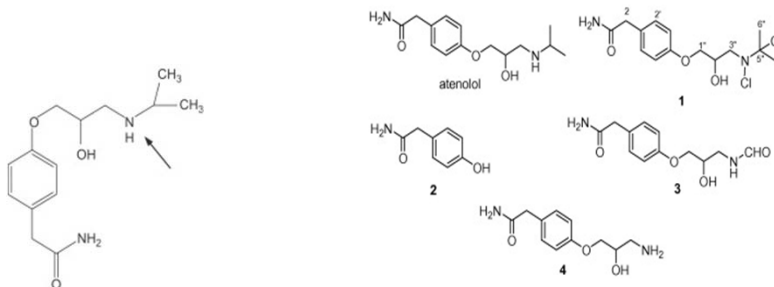


- Atenolol is a representative of the group of Beta-blockers, for treating cardiovascular disease.
- This particular drug has been in use since 1976.
- Sedlak and co-workers (2005) estimate a nationwide average raw municipal wastewater concentration of about 1500 ng/L.
- This compound is rather unreactive with free chlorine, as it lacks activated aromatic structures as well as reactive nitrogen sites.
- It does not appear to have been tested for reaction with ozone
- May be used as an indicator of treated vs raw WW as propranolol was by Fono & Sedlak

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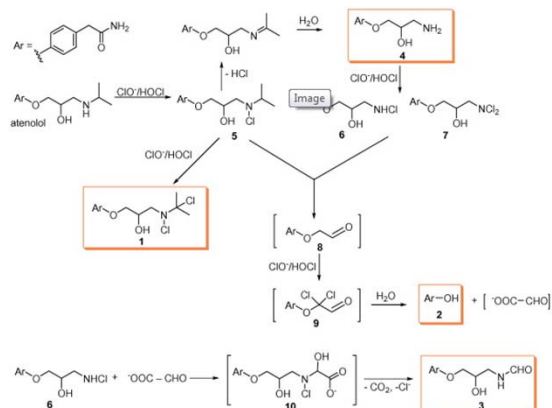
- Site of proposed attack on Atenolol by Chlorine and some Degradation Products (from DellaGreca et al., 2009)



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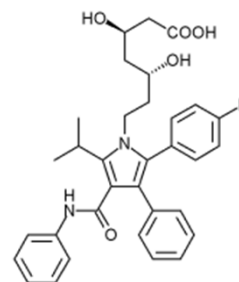
- Proposed reaction pathway for atenolol and hypochlorite. Boxed structures represent isolated products. Bracketed structures represent proposed reaction intermediates. (from DellaGreca et al., 2009)



Statins: Atorvastatin

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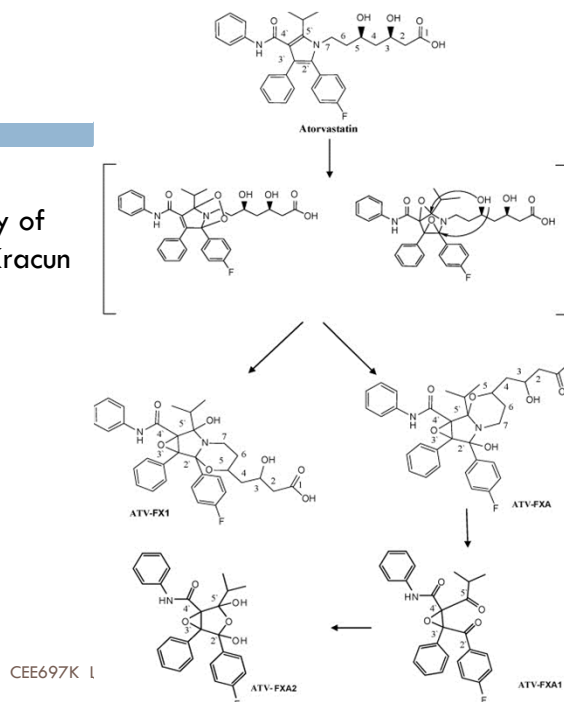
- This compound is more commonly known as Lipitor, and it is representative of a larger group of cholesterol-reducing drugs called statins.
- It does not appear to have been tested for removal by coagulation or reaction with either chlorine or ozone.
- Based on its structure, we would expect it to be slightly reactive with ozone, but little affected by the other treatments



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- Presumed oxidative degradation pathway of atorvastatin; From: Kracun et al., 2009.



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□ To next lecture

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