

# Nanosystems as biomimetic interfaces: a new strategy to predict drug candidate biophysical profile

**EDUARDA BARBOSA FERNANDES**

MSc in Biophysics and Bionanosystems

Cofinanciado por:

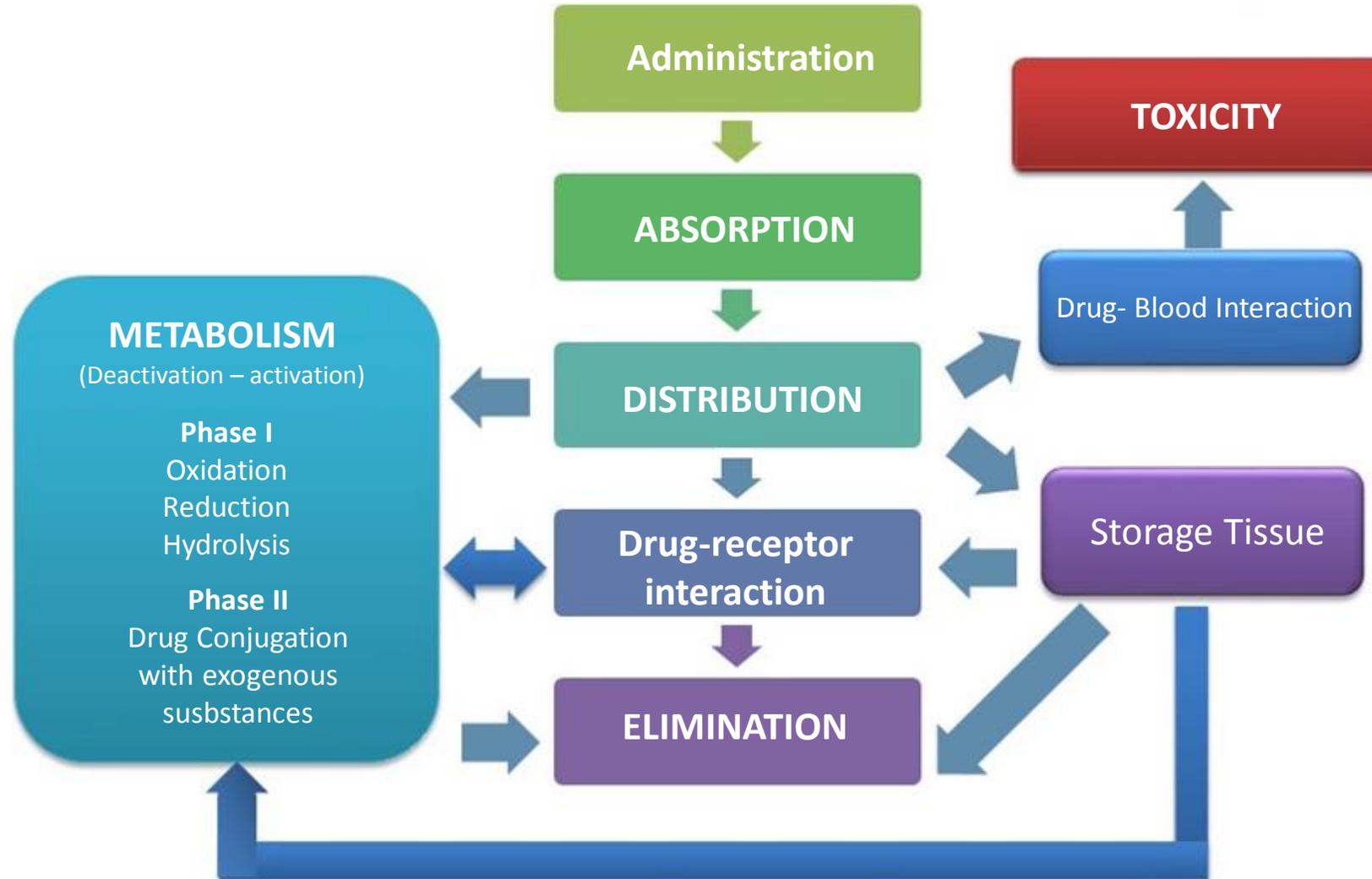


UNIÃO EUROPEIA  
Fundo Europeu  
de Desenvolvimento Regional

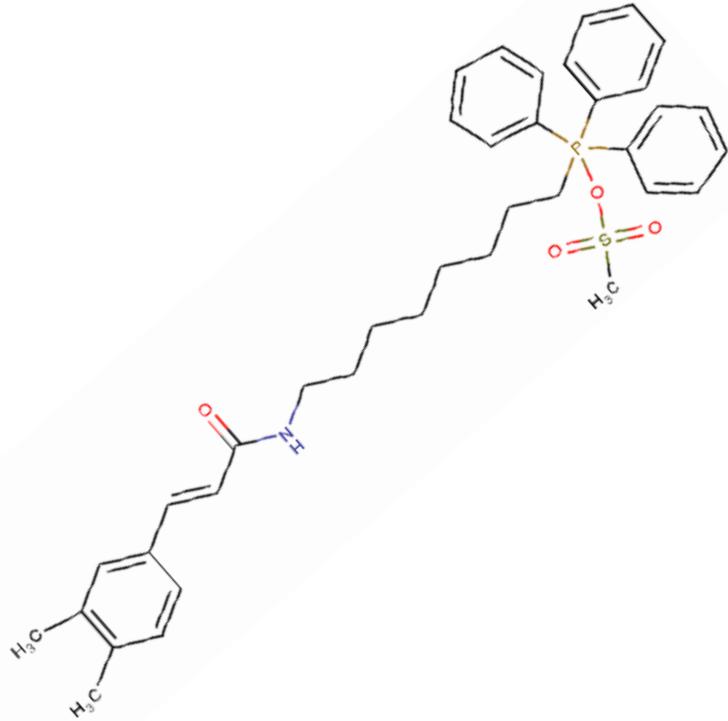


**IAPMEI**  
Parcerias para o Crescimento

# PHARMACOKINETIC DRUG-PROFILING



# MITOCIN-3 PROFILE

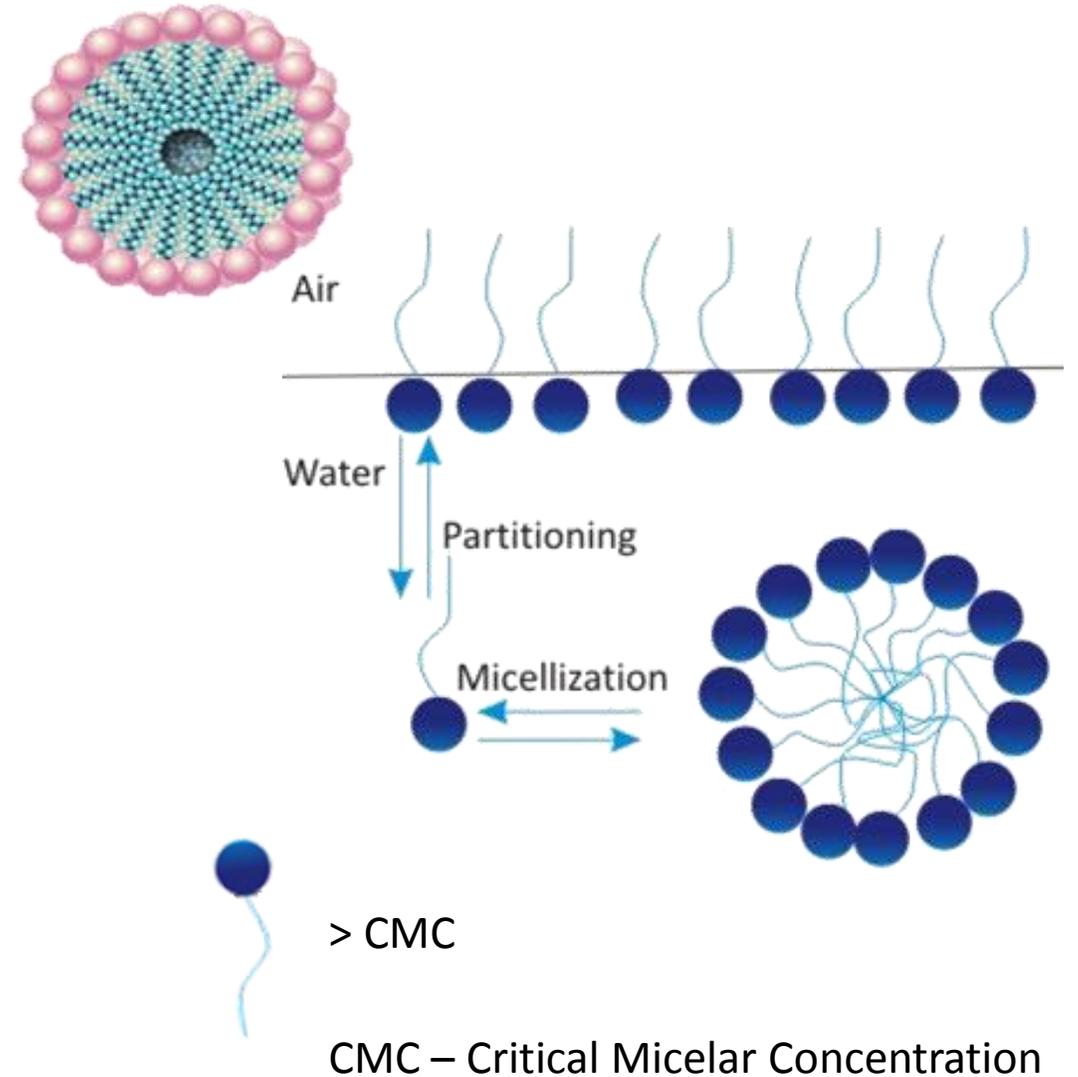
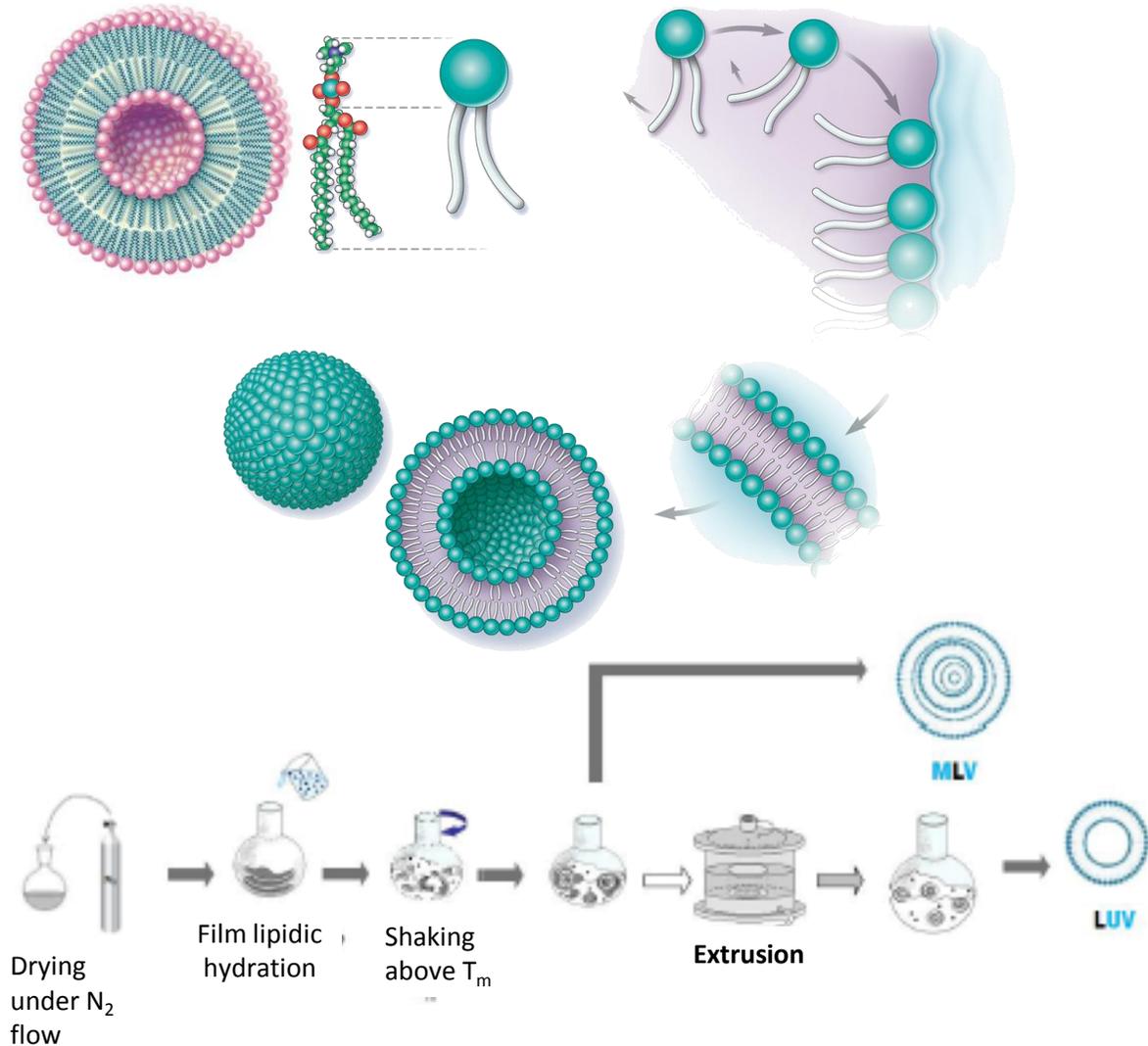


Oral Administration

Blood Brain Barrier Penetration

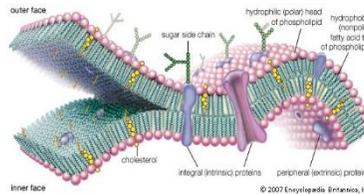
Non-toxic to mitochondrial membranes

# LIPID-BASED NANOSYSTEMS



# CELL MEMBRANE

## What happens *in vivo*?



### Composition:

PL (40-70%; inner: PS, PE; outer: PC, SM)

CHOL (0-50 %)

GL (0-26%)

RAFTS:PC:SM:CHOL (1:1:1)

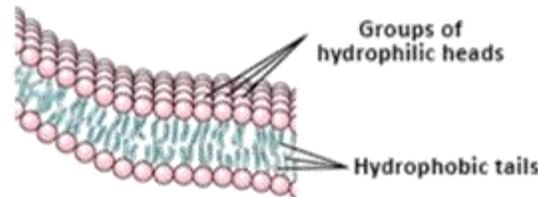
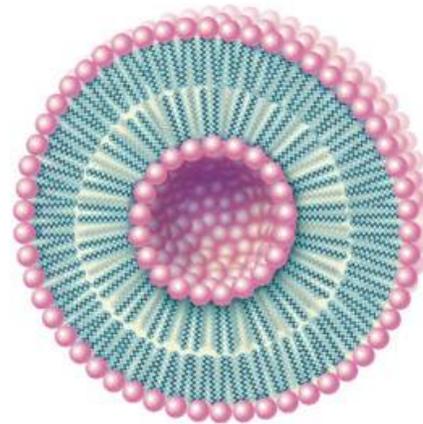
### Lipid phase:

$L_\alpha$  :  $L_d$  phase +  $L_o$  ( $\approx L_\beta$  phase in rafts)

$L_\beta$  phase in oxidized membranes

pH = 7,4

## How we mimic it?



LUVs made of DMPC

## What we measure?

ABSORPTION

Lipophilicity

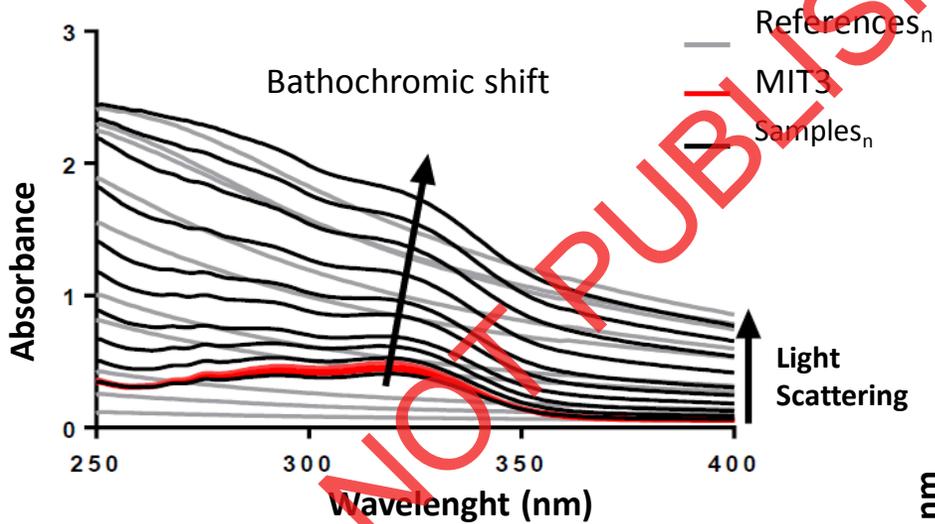
Membrane Permeability

## How we measure?

Derivative Spectroscopy

$$D = D_w + \frac{(D_m - D_w)Kp[L]V\phi}{1 + Kp[L]V\phi}$$

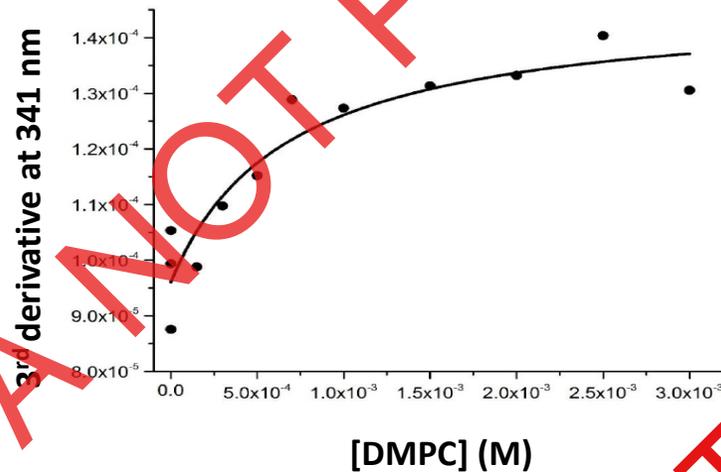
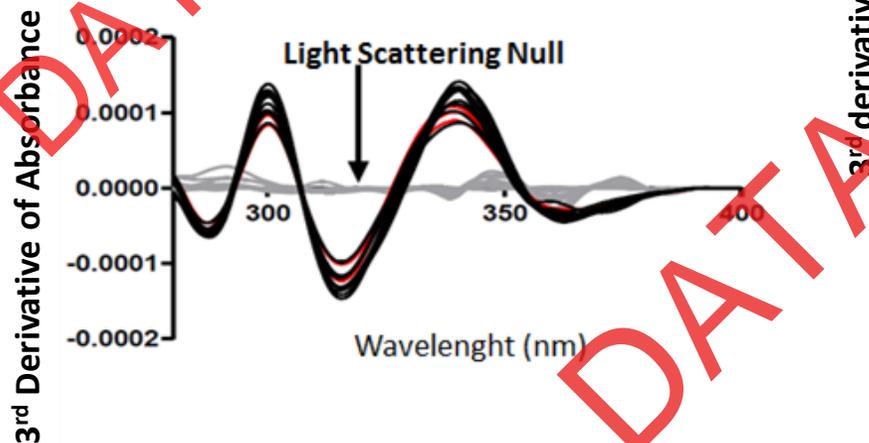
# PARTITION COEFFICIENT IN CELL MEMBRANE MODEL



$$\text{Log } K_p = 3.34 \pm 0.02$$

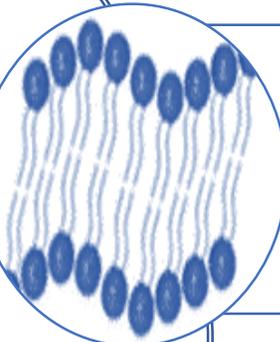
$$D = D_w + \frac{(D_m - D_w)K_p[L]V\phi}{1 + K_p[L]V\phi}$$

Moderate to high lipophilicity  
Good balance between solubility and permeability



Good oral absorption  
Absorption by transcellular route  
Greater distribution in peripheral tissues than in liver

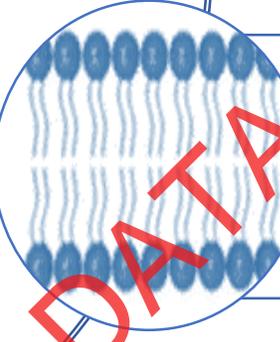
# THERMODYNAMIC PARAMETERS OF PARTITION



$$\Delta H = -14.9 \text{ KJmol}^{-1}$$

$$T\Delta S_{\text{average}} = 3.68 \text{ KJmol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{average}} = -19.72 \text{ KJmol}^{-1}$$

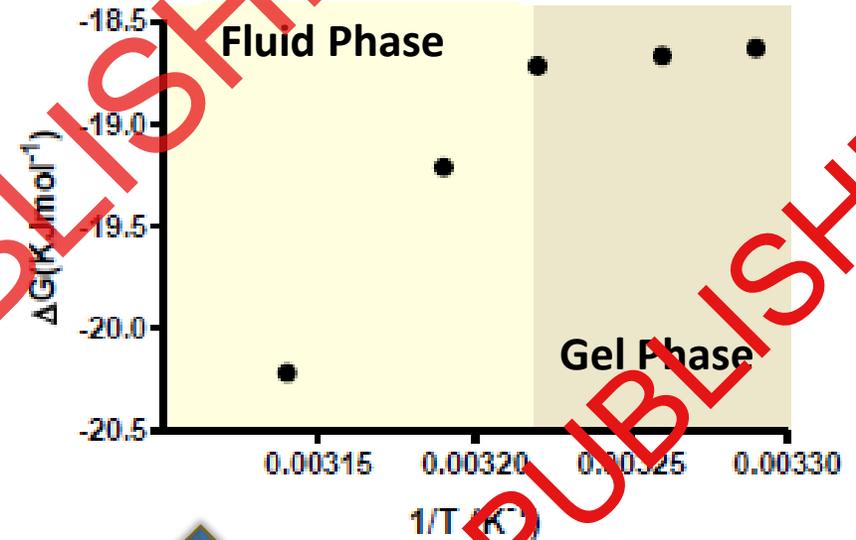


$$\Delta H = 43.9 \text{ KJmol}^{-1}$$

$$T\Delta S_{\text{average}} = 63.1 \text{ KJmol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{average}} = -18.67 \text{ KJmol}^{-1}$$

$$\ln(Kp) = -\frac{\Delta H}{RT} + \frac{\Delta S}{R}$$



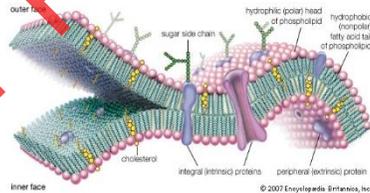
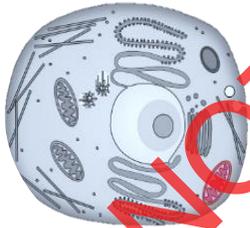
↑ Temperature  
Greater drug penetration

↑ ΔS, ΔG, ΔH

Van der Waals interactions  
Spontaneous process

# CELL MEMBRANE

What happens *in vivo*?



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CHOL (0-50 %)

GL (0-26%)

RAFTS:PC:SM:CHOL (1:1:1)

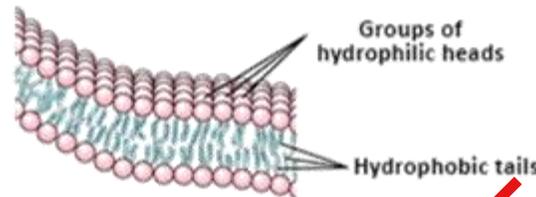
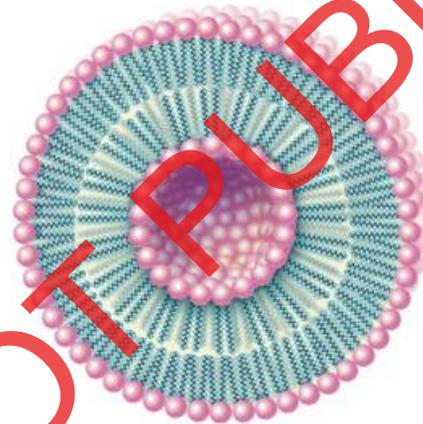
## Lipid phase:

$L_{\alpha}$  :  $L_d$  phase +  $L_o$  ( $\approx L_{\beta}$  phase in rafts)

$L_{\beta}$  phase in oxidized membranes

pH = 7,4

How we mimic it?



LUVs made of DMPC  
(labelled with *n*-AS probes)

What we measure?

DISTRIBUTION

Membrane Location

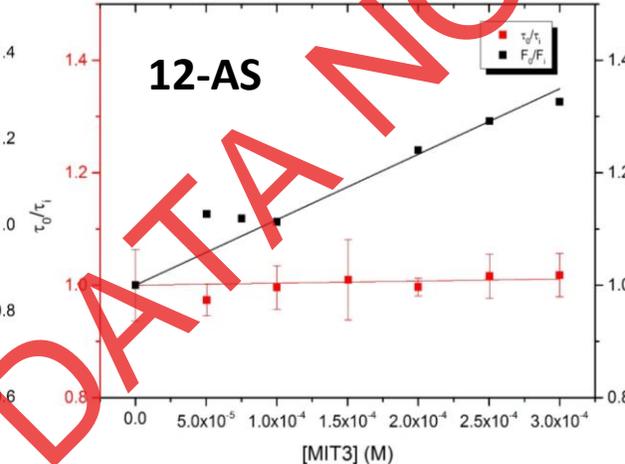
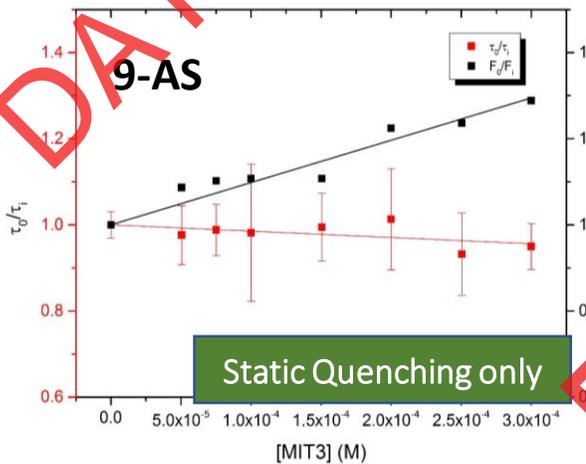
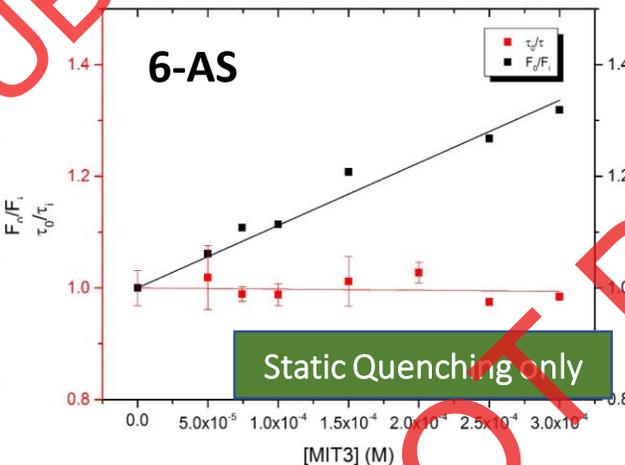
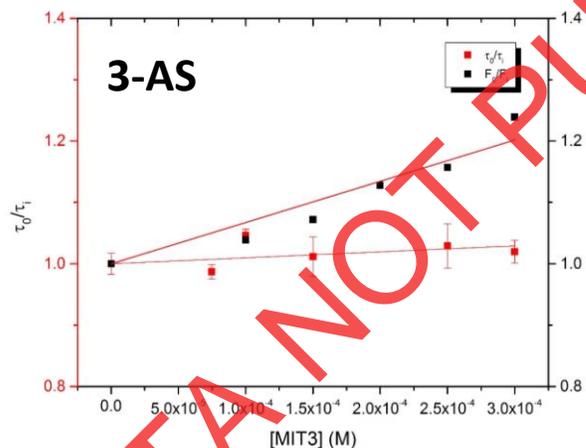
How we measure?

Time resolved fluorescence (TCSPC)

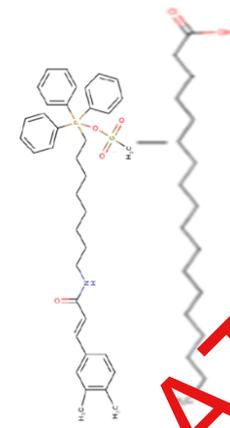
Steady state fluorescence

# MEMBRANE LOCATION

$$\frac{F_0}{F} = 1 + k_q \tau_0 [MIT3] = 1 + k_D [MIT3]$$



Constant Probe	$K_D$ (M <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_S$ (M <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_q$ (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
3 - AS	97,48	575,1	1,03x10 <sup>11</sup>
6 - AS	0	1120,4	42x10 <sup>11</sup>
9 - AS	0	983,1	1,28x10 <sup>11</sup>
12 - AS	37,00	1127,4	1,17x10 <sup>11</sup>

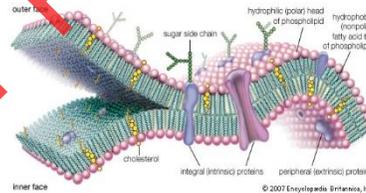
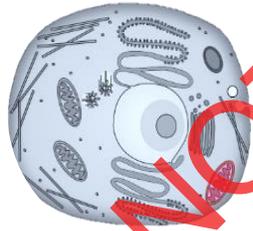


$K_q > 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  for all probes  
Greater quenching in C6

Ubiquitous location in the lipid bilayer  
Deactivating groups near C6

# CELL MEMBRANE

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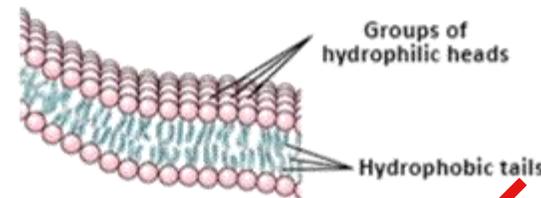
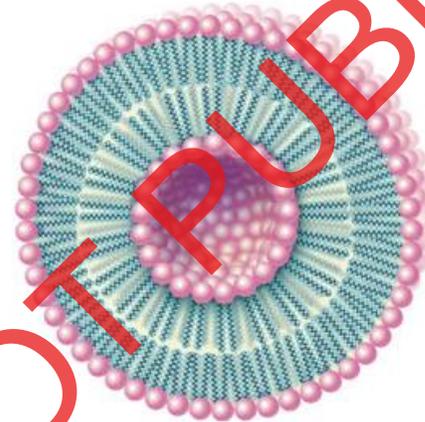
## Lipid phase:

$L_{\alpha}$  :  $L_d$  phase +  $L_o$  ( $\approx L_{\beta}$  phase in rafts)

$L_{\beta}$  phase in oxidized membranes

pH = 7,4

How we mimic it?



LUVs made of DPPC

What we measure?

Toxicity

Biophysical Changes in Biomembranes

How we measure?

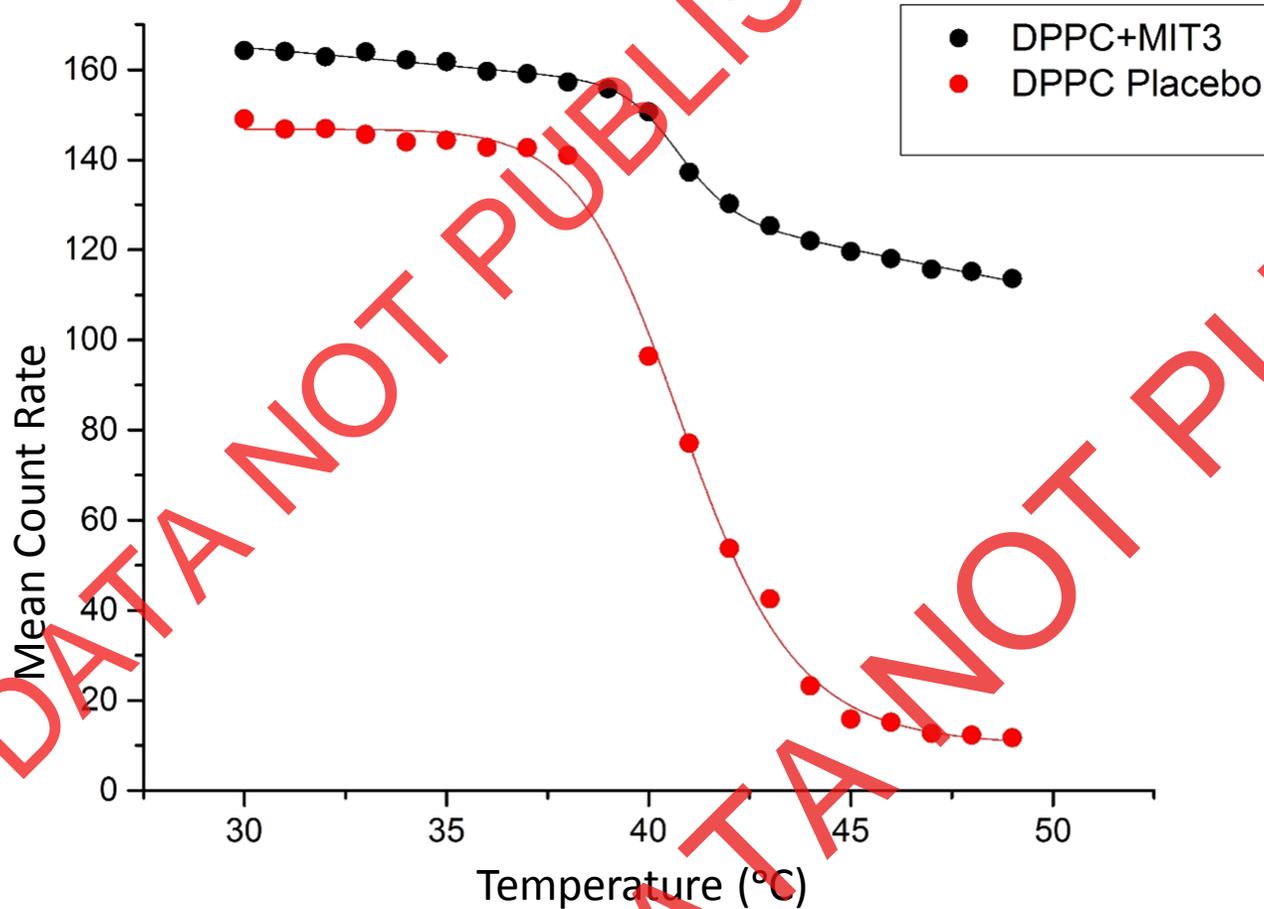
Differential Scanning Calorimetry

Small-angle X-Ray Scattering

Wide-angle X-Ray Scattering

Dynamic Light Scattering

# BIOPHYSICAL CHANGES IN BIOMEMBRANES



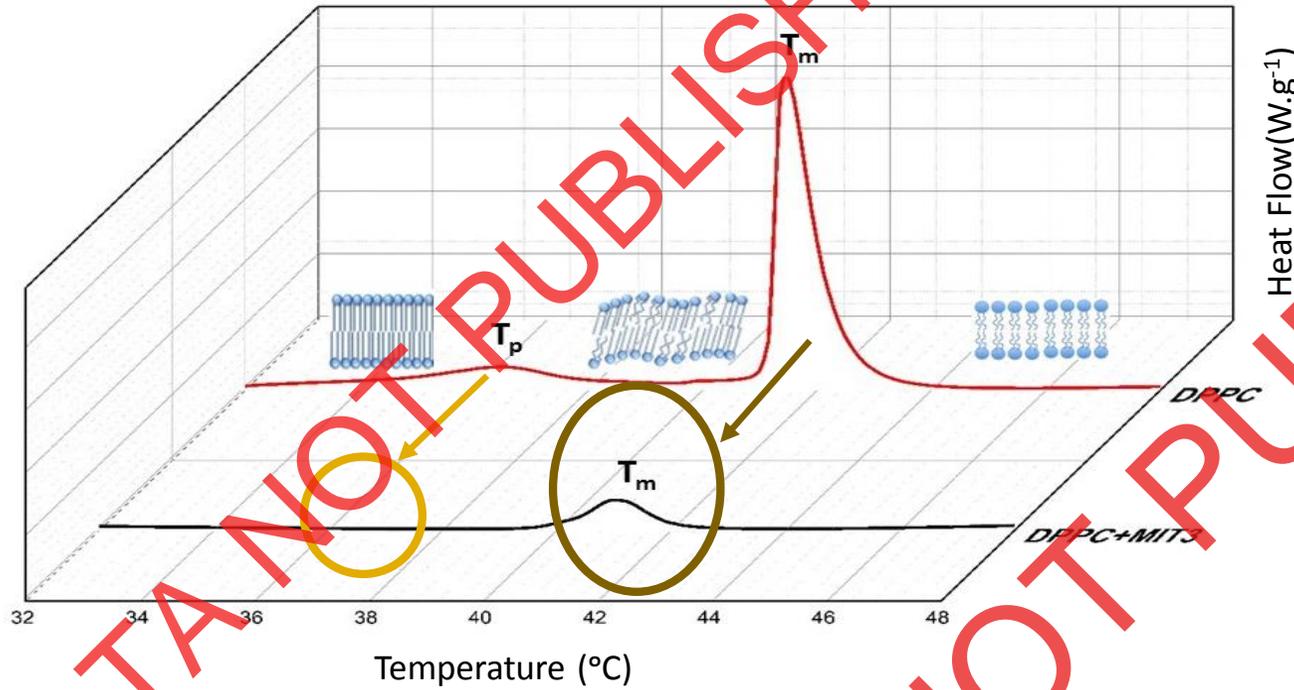
$$MCR = r_{s1} + p_1 T + \frac{r_{s2} - r_{s1} + p_2 T - p_1 T}{1 + 10^{\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_m}}}$$

System	Cooperativity	$T_m$ (°C)
DPPC placebo	855.82	41.28
DPPC+MIT3	661.52	41.12

$\Delta T \approx K$   
 ↓ Cooperativity

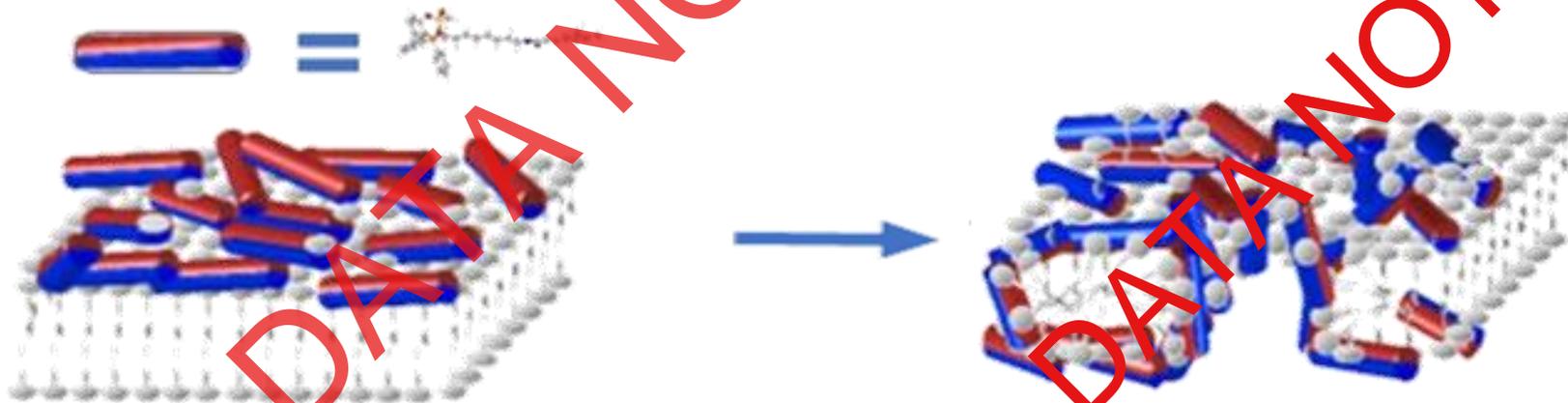
**No membrane disruption at low concentrations**

# DIFFERENTIAL SCANNING CALORIMETRY STUDIES (DSC)

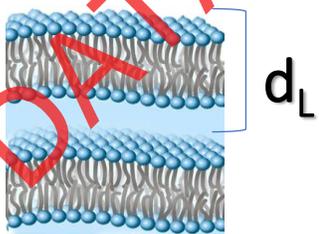
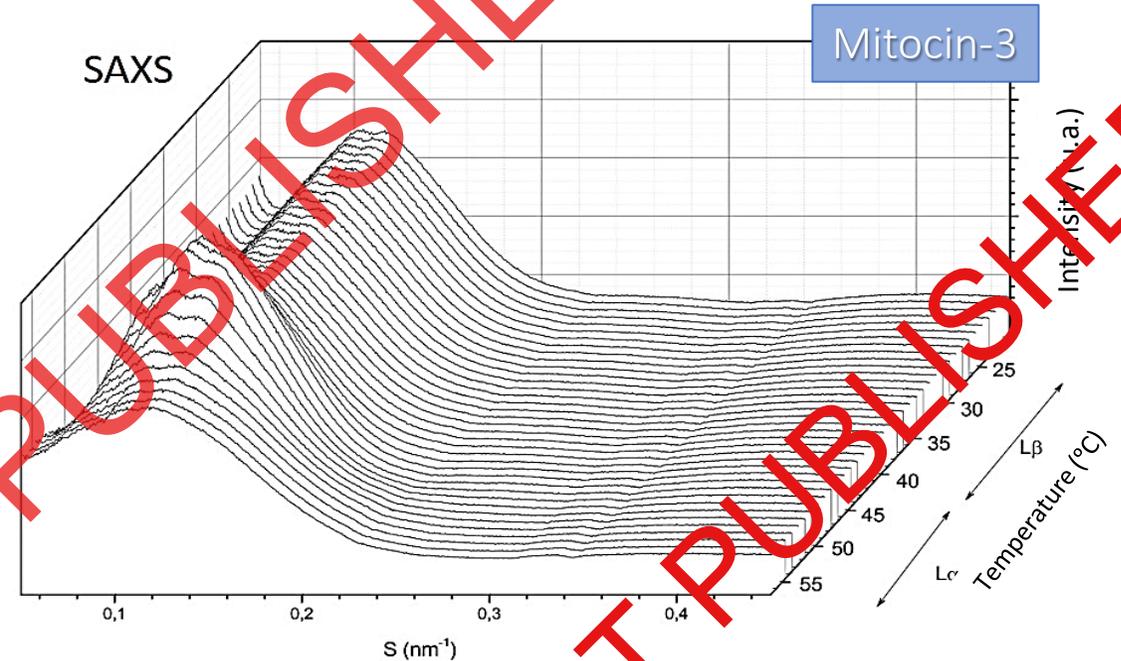
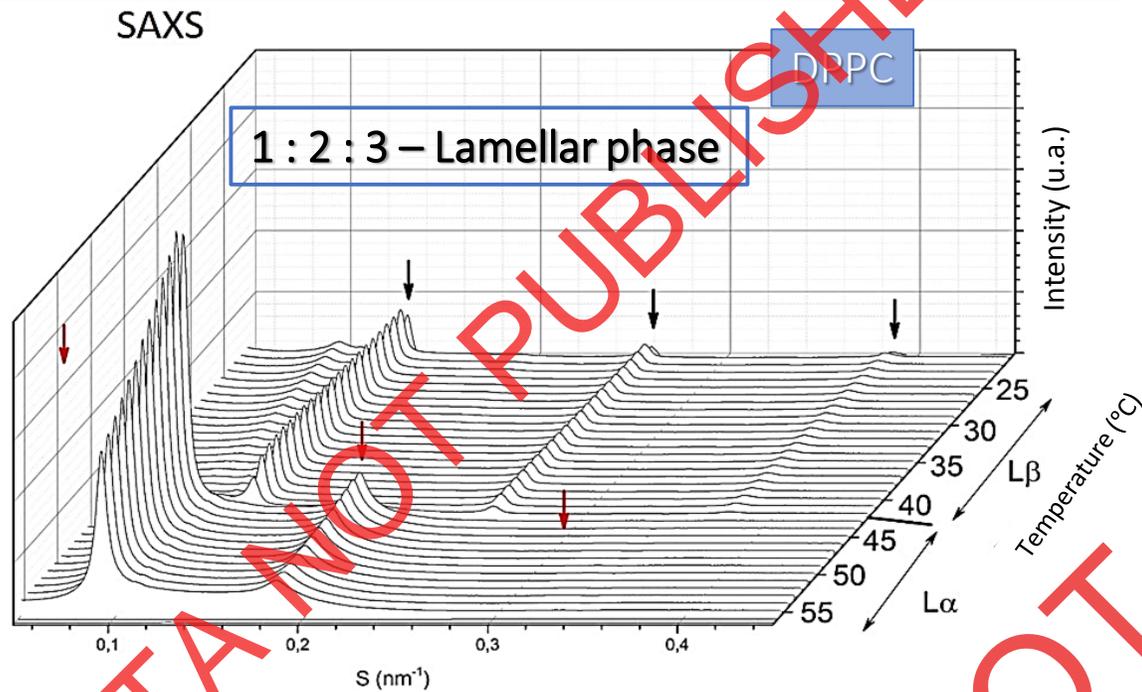


$T_m \approx K$   
 $\downarrow$  Cooperativity  
 $\downarrow \Delta H$

Influence at headgroup region (C1 to C8)  
Major perturbations of biophysical parameters  
Hydrophobic Interactions



# SMALL-ANGLE X-RAY SCATTERING (SAXS)

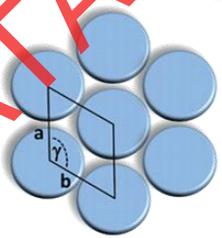
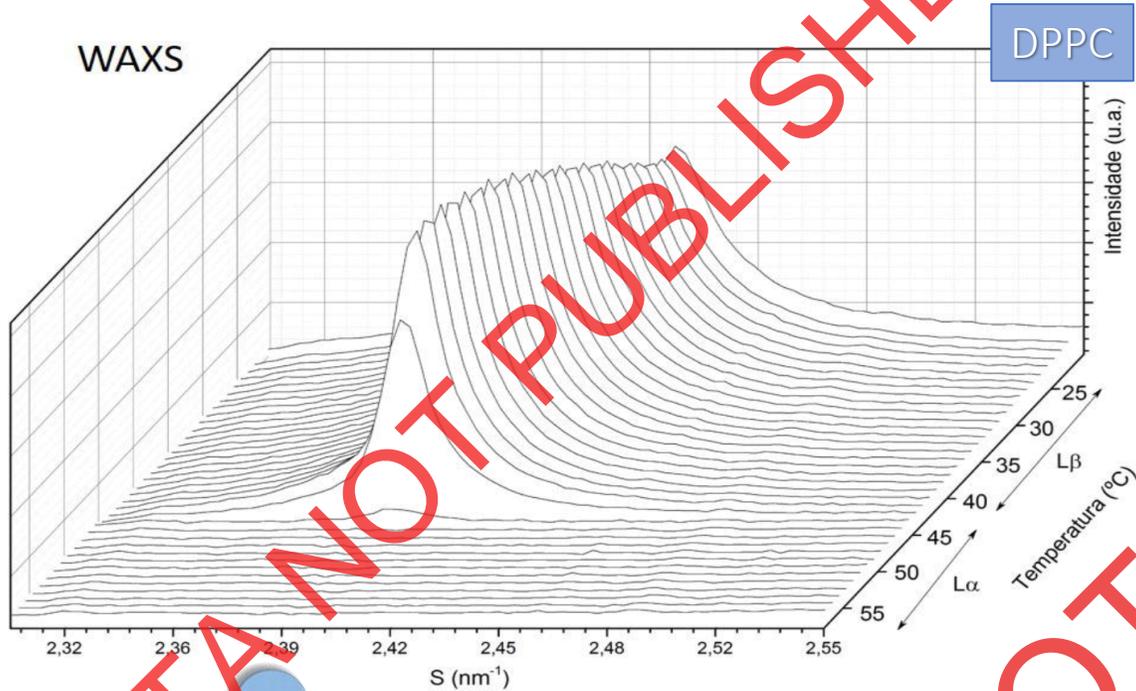


	DPPC PLACEBO		DPPC+MIT3	
	$d_L$ (Å)	$\xi$ (Å)	$d_L$ (Å)	$\xi$ (Å)
GEL PHASE	76.52	10971	90.24	249
FLUID PHASE	77.60	11170	91.24	449

$\uparrow d_L, \downarrow \xi$

Increased hydration layer

# WIDE-ANGLE X-RAY SCATTERING (WAXS)



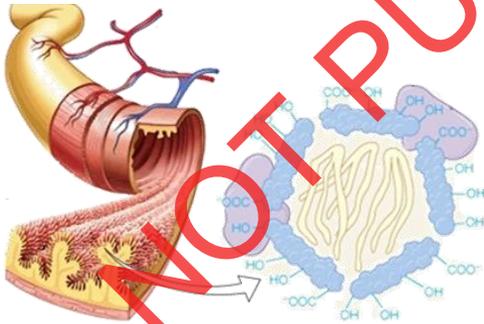
	DPPC PLACEBO		DPPC+MIT3		
	$d_c$ (Å)		$d_c$ (Å)		
GEL PHASE	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.1	Pseudo-hexagonal Packing
FLUID PHASE			4.2		Hexagonal Packing

$$d_c \approx K$$

No disruption of lipid packing

# BILIAR SALTS

What happens *in vivo*?



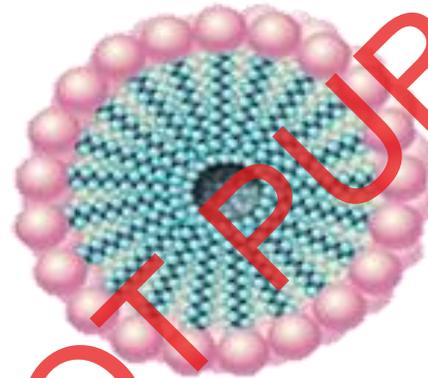
**Composition:**

Bile salts (glycholate, deoxycholate)

Lipase

Tryglicerides

How we mimic it?



What we measure?

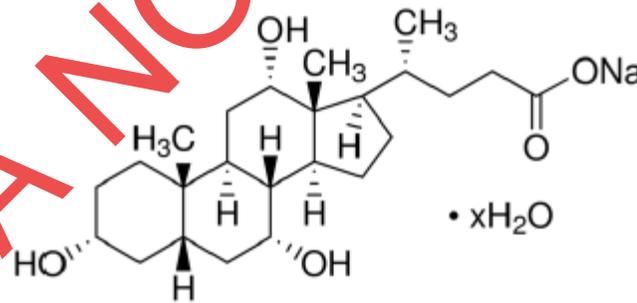
Absorption

Lipophilicity

Intestinal Permeability

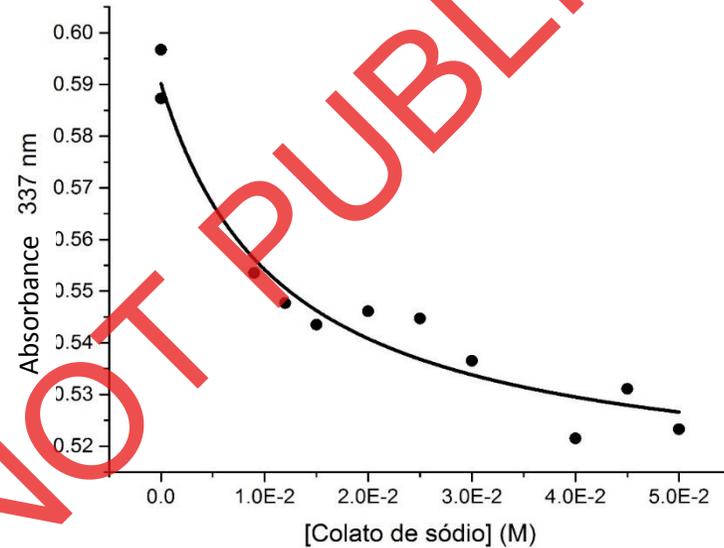
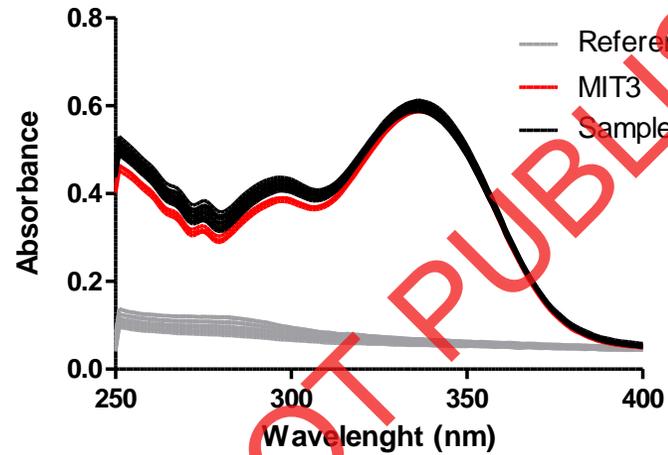
How we measure?

Spectrophotometry



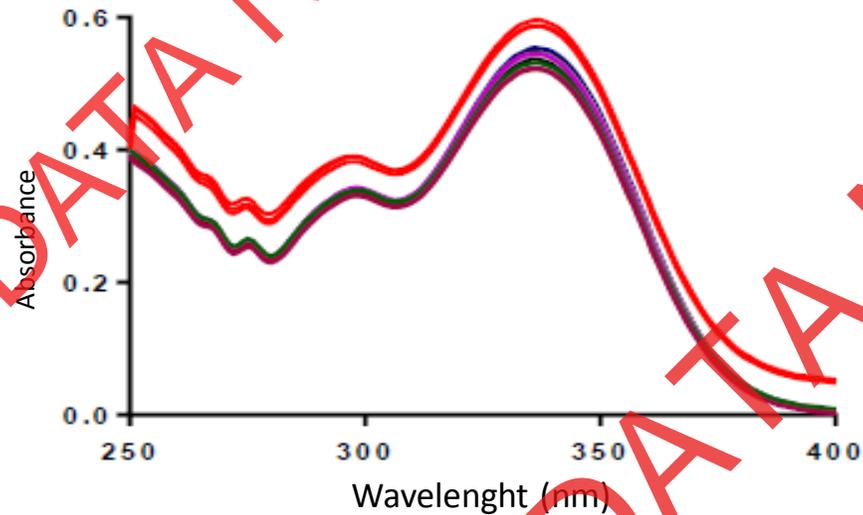
Micelles made by sodium cholate

# PARTITION COEFFICIENT IN BILIAR SALTS MICELLES



$$\text{Log}K_p = 2.31 \pm 0.08$$

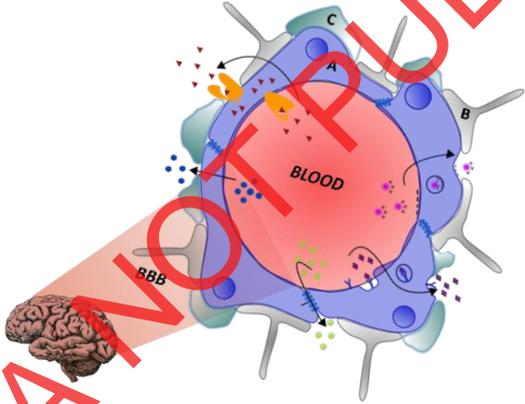
Log P > 0  
Permeation by transcytosis



Tendency for **good intestinal absorption** of the compound

# BLOOD-BRAIN BARRIER

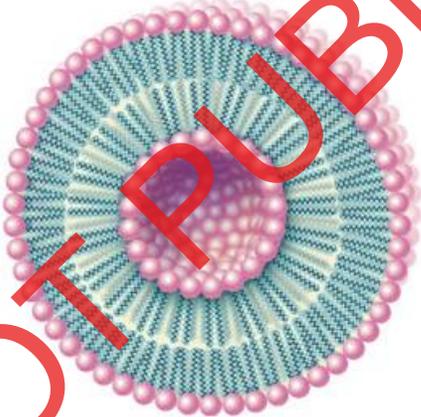
What happens *in vivo*?



**Composition:**

- PI (4,8 – 5,5%)
- PE 22,8 – (25,2%)
- PC 28,7 – (33,2%)
- PS (6,8 – 10,7 %)
- SM (33,4%)
- CHOL (20,8%)

How we mimic it?



LUVs made by Porcine Brain Extract

What we measure?

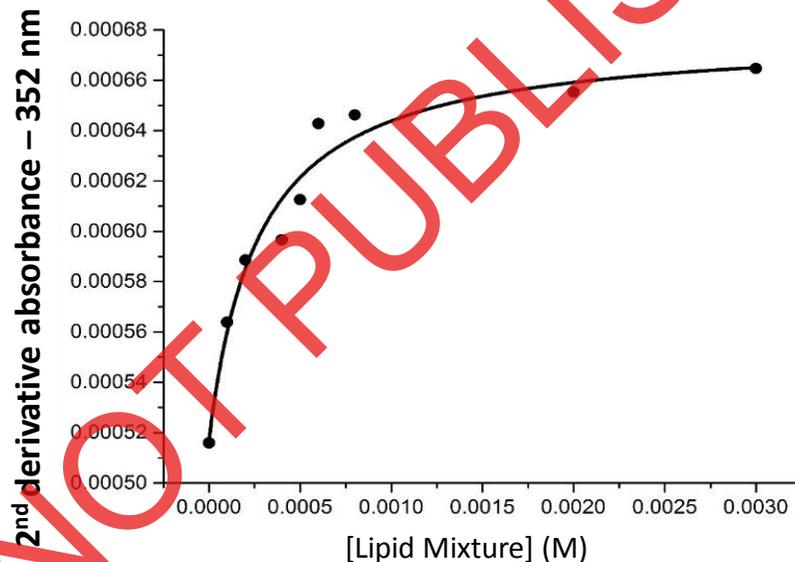
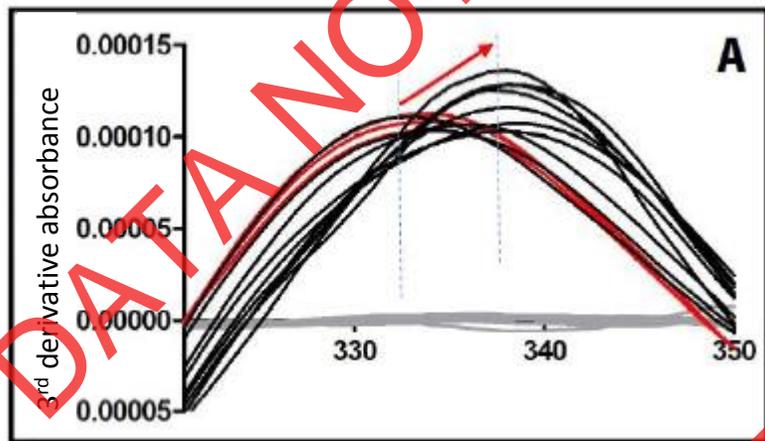
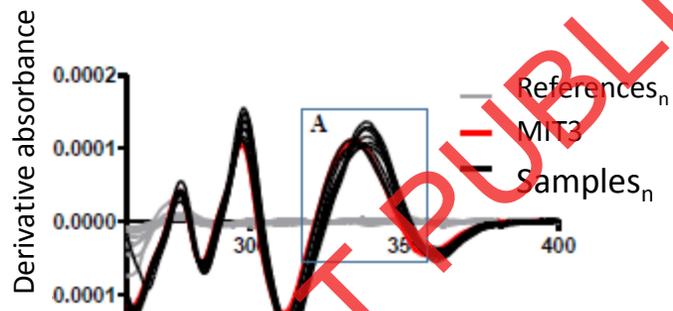
Distribution

BBB Permeability

How we measure?

Derivative Spectroscopy

# BBB PERMEABILITY



$$\text{Log } K_p = 3.64 \pm 0,25$$

$$\text{Log } BB = \log \left( \frac{C_{brain}}{C_{blood}} \right)$$

$$\text{Log } BB = 2.77$$

Good penetration through BBB

# PLASMA PROTEIN BINDING

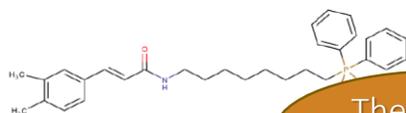
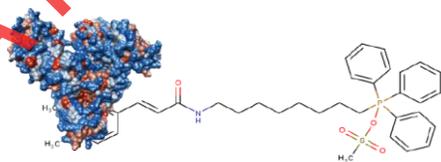
What happens *in vivo*?



**Composition:**

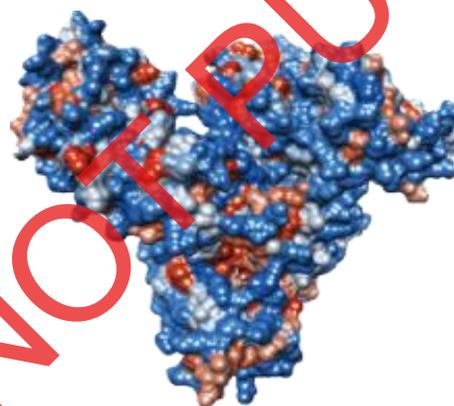
Human Plasma 55%

- 7% proteins (HSA - 60%)



Therapeutic effect

How we mimic it?



What we measure?

Distribution/Excretion

Plasma Protein Binding

How we measure?

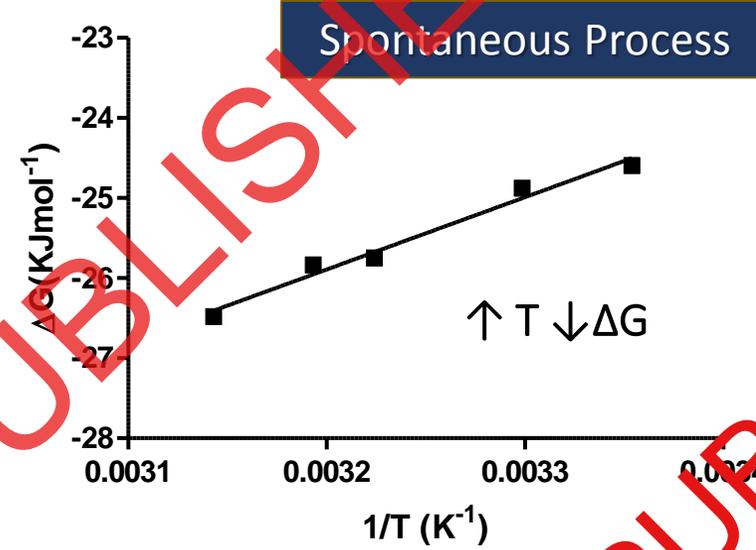
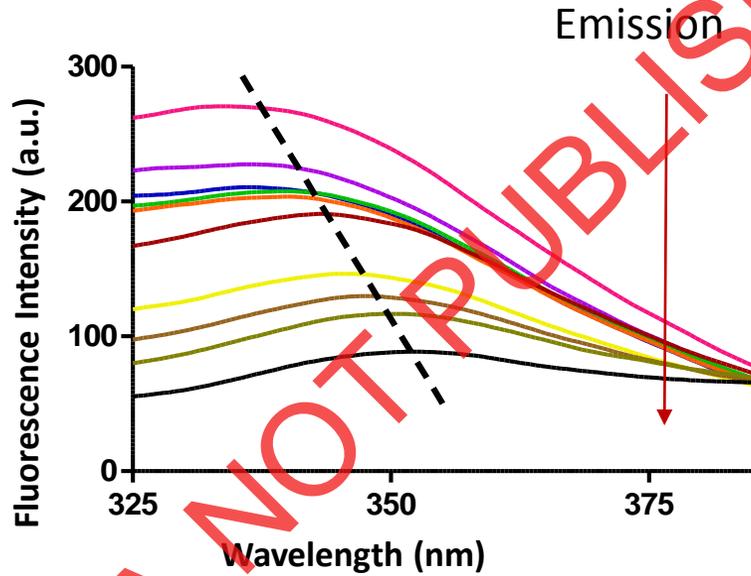
Fluorescence

Synchronous Fluorescence

DLS

ELS

# FLUORESCENCE QUENCHING



T (°C)	n	$K_D$ (M)
25	1	$4.91 \times 10^{-5}$
30		$5.17 \times 10^{-5}$
37		$4.61 \times 10^{-5}$
40		$4.90 \times 10^{-5}$
45		$4.49 \times 10^{-5}$

$K_D < 100 \mu\text{M}$

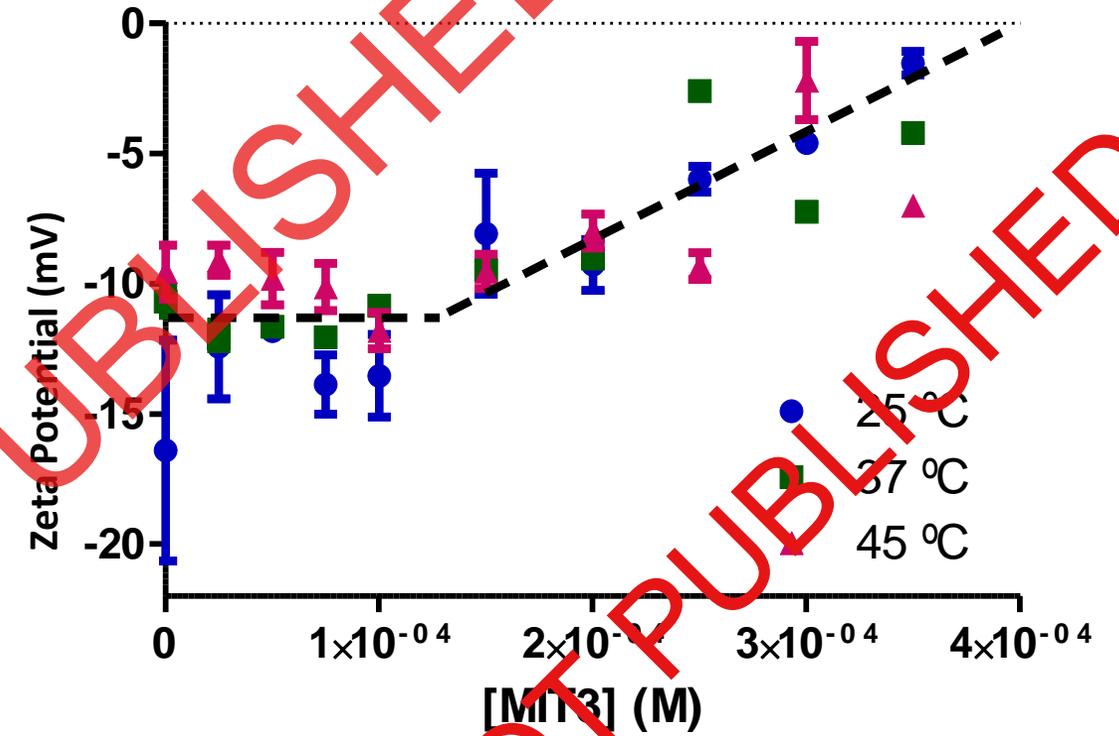
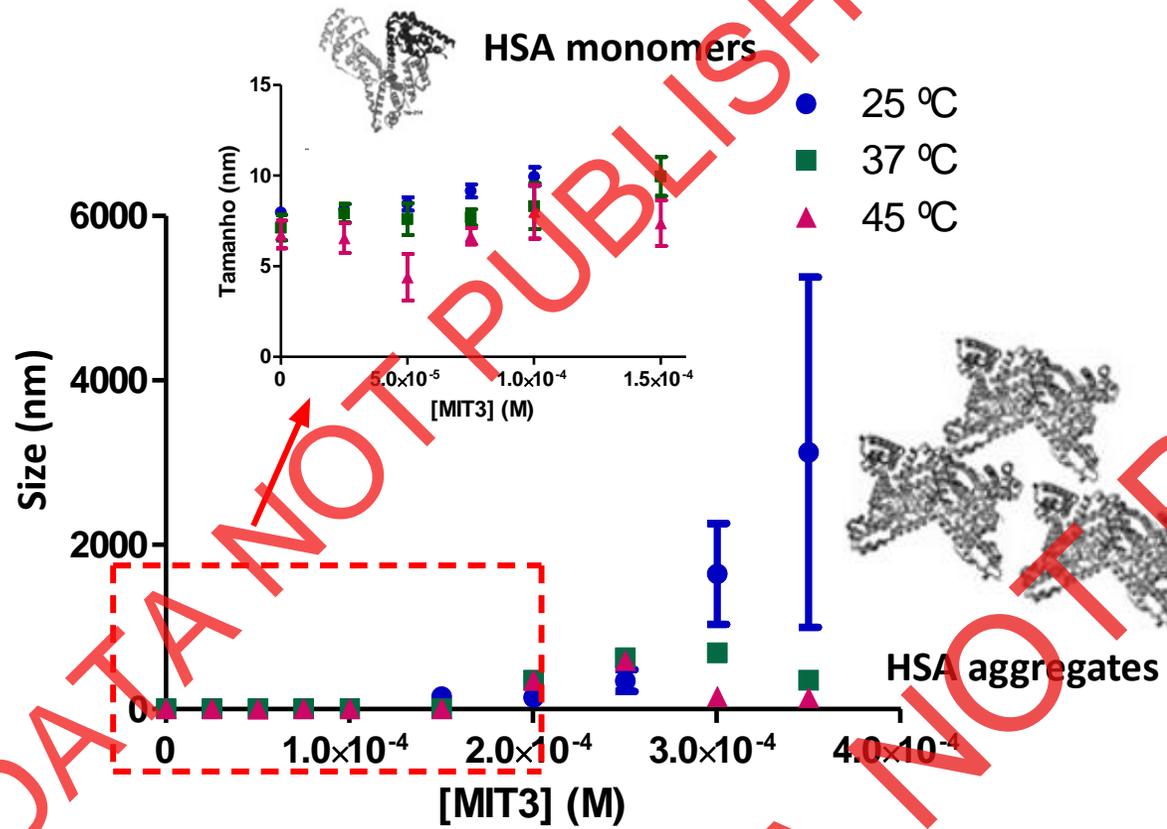
$\Delta H > 0$   
 $\Delta S > 0$

$\Delta G < 0$   
 $K_D < 100 \mu\text{M}$

Hydrophobic Interaction

Spontaneous and Stronger interaction

# DLS E ELS



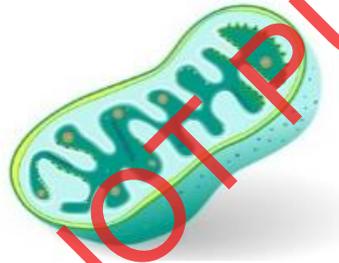
Saturation at HSA  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  M

Formation of aggregates and neutralization of surface charge

Interaction confirmed

# INNER MITOCHONDRIAL MEMBRANE

What happens *in vivo*?



Composition of i.m.m.

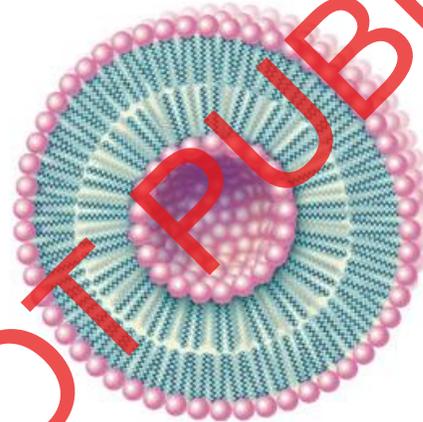
PC:PE:CL (1:1:1)

Lipid phase:

$L_{\alpha} + H_{II}$

pH = 7,4

How we mimic it?



MLVs made by mixture:

DSPC:DOPE:CL

What we measure?

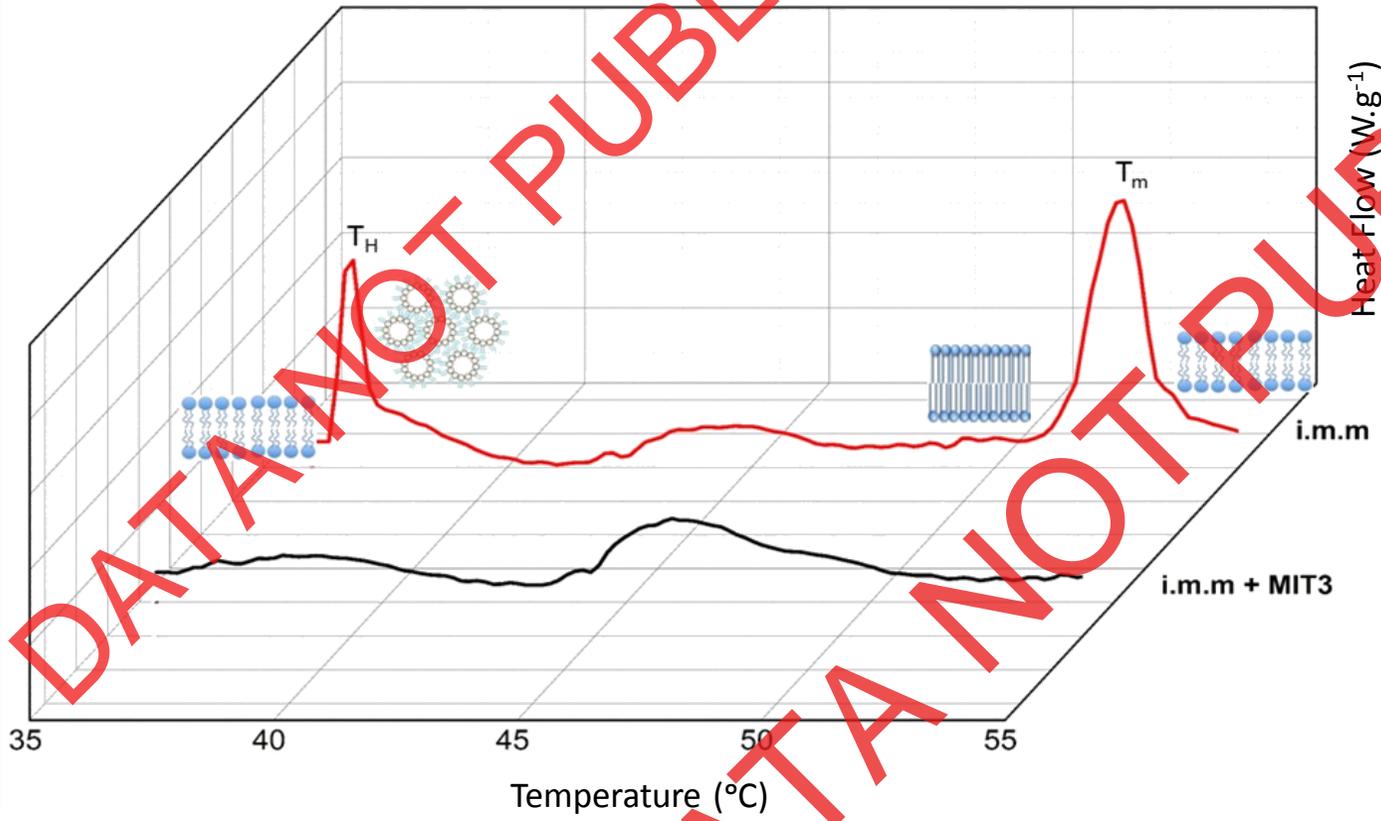
Toxicity

Biophysical Changes in  
Biomembranes

How we measure?

DSC

# DIFFERENTIAL SCANNING CALORIMETRY STUDIES (DSC)

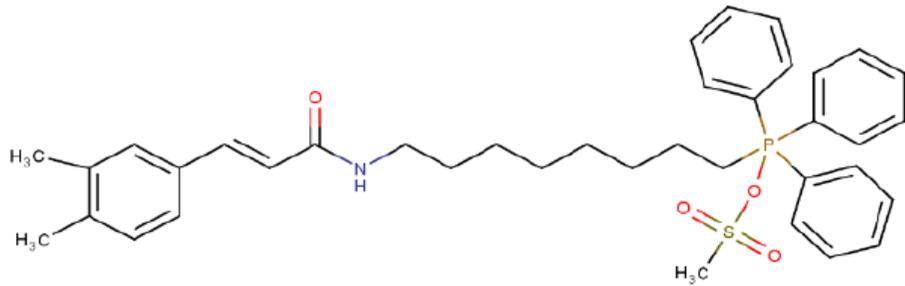


Single Endotherm  
No thermodynamic changes

Homogenization of lipid components

Not correlated with i.m.m toxicity

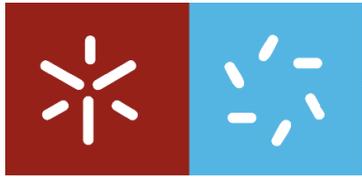
# CONCLUSIONS



MITOCIN-3

- GOOD MEMBRANE PERMEABILITY
- OFF-TARGET DISTRIBUTION
- MEMBRANE TOXICITY IN HIGH CONCENTRATIONS
- GOOD INTESTINAL ABSORPTION
- BIOACCUMULATION
- GOOD PENETRATION AND DISTRIBUTION AT THE TARGET

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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**Eduarda Fernandes**  
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**Marlene Lúcio**  
CFUM – University of Minho



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CIQUP – University of Porto

**Fernando Cagide**  
CIQUP – University of Porto

**Fernanda Borges**  
CIQUP – University of Porto

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**Thank you for your attention!**

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