

1 **N-acetyltransferase 2 genotypes amongst Zulu Speaking South Africans and isoniazid / N-**
2 **acetyl-isoniazid pharmacokinetics during anti-tuberculosis treatment**

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28

29 **Abstract**

30 Background: Distribution of *N-acetyltransferase2* (*NAT2*) polymorphisms varies considerably
31 among different ethnic groups. Information on *NAT2* single-nucleotide polymorphisms in South
32 African population is limited. We investigated *NAT2* polymorphisms and their effect on
33 isoniazid pharmacokinetics in Zulu black HIV-infected South Africans in Durban, South Africa.

34 Methods: HIV-infected participants with culture-confirmed pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) were
35 enrolled from two unrelated studies. Culture-confirmed participants were genotyped for *NAT2*
36 polymorphisms 282C>T, 341T>C, 481C>T, 857G>A, 590G>A and 803A>G using Life Technologies
37 pre-validated Taqman assays (Life Technologies, Paisley, UK). Participants underwent sampling
38 for determination of plasma isoniazid and *N*-acetylisoniazid concentrations.

39 Results: Amongst the 120 patients, 63/120 (52.5%) were slow metabolisers (*NAT2**5/*5),
40 43/120 (35.8%) had intermediate (*NAT2**5/12), and 12/120 (11.7%) had rapid genotype
41 (*NAT2**4/*11, *NAT2**11/12 and *NAT2**12/12). *NAT2* alleles in this study were *4, *5C, *5D, *5E,
42 *5J, *5K, *5KA, *5T, *11A, *12A/12C and *12M. *NAT2**5 was the most frequent allele (70.4%)
43 followed by *NAT2**12 (27.9%). 34/40 had both PK results and *NAT2* genotyping results. The
44 median area under the concentration-time-curve to infinity ($AUC_{0-\infty}$) interquartile range (IQR)
45 was 7.81 (5.87 – 16.83) $\mu\text{g/ml/hr}$ and maximum concentration (C_{max}) 3.14 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ (2.42 – 4.36)
46 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. Individual polymorphisms were not equally distributed, with some represented in small
47 numbers. Genotype did not correlate with phenotype, rapid genotype showing higher $AUC_{0-\infty}$
48 than slow but not significant, $p=0.43$.

49 Conclusion: There was high prevalence of slow followed by intermediate then rapid acetylator
50 genotypes. The poor concordance between genotype and phenotype suggests that other
51 factors or genetic loci influence INH metabolism, and warrants further investigation in this
52 population.

53

54 **Introduction:**

55 Tuberculosis (TB) remains a leading cause of global morbidity and mortality, with approximately
56 10 million cases and 1.5 million deaths in 2018 (1). South Africa is a high TB burden country
57 with an estimated 301,000 cases in 2018. The so-called ‘short-course’ treatment regimen
58 recommended in international guidelines; consisting of 6 months of rifampicin and isoniazid,
59 supplemented by pyrazinamide and ethambutol in the first 2 months, has remained largely
60 unchanged for several decades. Whilst this regimen can achieve high relapse-free cure rates, a
61 range of host and mycobacterial factors can influence treatment outcomes. There is increasing
62 evidence that inter-individual variability in the pharmacokinetics (PK) of drugs within this
63 regimen lead to heterogeneity in clinical outcomes(2, 3).

64

65 Pharmacogenomics describes one cause of PK variability due to polymorphisms in drug
66 metabolising enzymes and transporters. During TB treatment, isoniazid is the paradigmatic
67 case. Isoniazid is acetylated to its major metabolite, *N*-acetyl-isoniazid (AcINH), by the action of
68 hepatic *N*-acetyltransferase 2 (*NAT2*). AcINH is subsequently rapidly hydrolysed to acetyl-
69 hydrazine, which is also acetylated, to diacetyl-hydrazine, by the action of *NAT2*(4).
70 Accumulated acetyl-hydrazine can be oxidised to form other, potentially hepatotoxic
71 metabolites(4-6). Moreover, accumulated isoniazid can be metabolised by an alternative
72 pathway where it is first hydrolysed to hydrazine, which has also been implicated in liver injury,
73 before acetylation to acetyl-hydrazine, again by *NAT2*(4, 7). Hence, the activity of *NAT2* both
74 dictates metabolism of isoniazid, and determines the availability of potentially hepatotoxic
75 hydrazine and acetyl-hydrazine metabolites. Within the 870-base pair *NAT2* gene, a number of
76 low-activity single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) have been characterised. The *NAT2*
77 genotype has been shown to determine the rate of acetylation by *NAT2* in several
78 populations(8). Individuals homozygous for the wild-type alleles are characterised as ‘rapid’
79 acetylators (RAs), those homozygous for low-activity SNPs as ‘slow’ acetylators (SAs) and
80 heterozygotes as ‘intermediate’ acetylators (IAs)(9-13). SAs have a higher incidence of side-
81 effects, particularly drug-induced hepatitis, during TB therapy, presumably due to higher levels
82 of hepatotoxic metabolites (14-20). Amongst the first-line TB drugs isoniazid has the greatest

83 early bactericidal activity (EBA) and isoniazid PK parameters have been associated with rates of
84 cure, sterilisation and acquired drug resistance(3, 21-27). A link between rapid acetylation and
85 increased risk of poor treatment outcomes has been reported (28, 29).

86

87 *NAT2* genotype is known to differ amongst ethnic groups; with approximately 40-70% of
88 Caucasians, Indians and African Americans characterised as SAs, versus only around 10% of
89 Asian populations(30-42). *NAT2* genotype is not well characterised in the communities where
90 TB is most prevalent, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. South Africa has several black ethnic
91 groups and few have been studied(43-45). Bach *et al* characterised 40% of a Zulu population as
92 phenotypically slow acetylators but these findings have not been replicated, or informed by
93 genotypic analysis(44). Moreover, South Africa has a high HIV prevalence and discordant
94 relationships between *NAT2* genotype and isoniazid acetylator phenotype have been described
95 amongst individuals living with HIV in other settings(46, 47).

96

97 We therefore characterised the relationship between *NAT2* genotype, isoniazid and AcINH PK
98 and hepatotoxicity in a cohort of TB-HIV coinfecting individuals in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South
99 Africa.

100

101

102 **Methods:**

103 **Participants, study treatment and sample collection**

104 Participants from two unrelated PK studies were included(48, 49). Both studies recruited black,
105 Zulu-speaking adults living with HIV from KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, between March 2007
106 and April 2010. Study 1 entitled “Bioavailability of the fixed dose formulation Rifafour
107 containing isoniazid, rifampicin pyrazinamide, ethambutol and the WHO recommended first
108 line anti-retroviral drugs zidovudine, lamivudine, efavirenz administered to new TB patients at
109 different levels of immunosuppression.”. The results of this study have been previously
110 reported (49). As shown in Table 2, for the purposes of this analysis, we used samples collected
111 on day 1 of the study after an overnight fast, at pre-dose, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 12 hours post

112 dose, with samples analysed for INH and AcINH for 60 participants with microbiologically
113 proven pulmonary TB (positive sputum culture or smear) who received a standard first line TB
114 regimen consisting of a FDC as described above . The INH dose was 150 mg, 225 mg, 300 mg
115 and 375 mg per day for participants with weight 30 -37 kg, 38– 54 kg, 55 – 70 kg, and 70 kg and
116 above, respectively, as per WHO guidelines(50). Each participant had blood collected on a
117 paxgene tube for NAT2 genotyping. In addition, genotyping was performed on a further 20
118 participants without TB who were recruited to this study (49).

119

120 Study 2, entitled “Pharmacokinetics of Rifabutin Combined with Antiretroviral Therapy in the
121 Treatment of Tuberculosis Patients with HIV Infection in South Africa”, was a randomised
122 controlled trial of two different rifabutin doses co-administered with lopinavir/ritonavir-based
123 antiretroviral therapy (51, 52). Participants initially received 6 weeks of standard intensive
124 phase treatment, followed by 2 weeks with rifabutin 300mg daily replacing rifampicin. After 2
125 weeks of the continuation phase during which participants received only isoniazid and rifabutin
126 (both 300mg daily) PK sampling was carried out. Individuals were fasted overnight, and a
127 standard hospital breakfast served 2 hours after drug ingestion. Sampling was conducted pre-
128 dose and at 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 12 and 24 hours after drug intake, with samples analysed for
129 isoniazid and AcINH for 40 participants. NAT2 genotyping was performed on 40 participants
130 with 34 participants having both PK sampling and genotyping.

131

132 All participants receiving anti-TB treatment in both studies were given pyridoxine for peripheral
133 neuropathy prophylaxis and patients with CD4 counts below 200 cells/mm³ received
134 cotrimoxazole. No participants were on antiretrovirals at the time of PK sampling. Both studies
135 were approved by the South African Medicines Control Council (SAMCC), Biomedical Research
136 Ethics Committee (BREC) of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (Study 1- E294/05; Study 2-
137 BFC011/07) and the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) ethics committee. Study
138 one was also approved by the WHO Ethics Research Ethics Committee. Written informed
139 consent was obtained from all participants.

140

141 **NAT2 genotype procedures**

142 Total Genomic DNA was isolated from whole blood using the QIAamp DNA mini kit (Qiagen,
143 Crawly, UK) according to manufacturer's instructions. Participants were genotyped, using the
144 DNA Engine Chromo4 system (Bio-Rad Laboratories, Hercules, CA) and Opticon Monitor v.3.1
145 software (Bio-Rad Laboratories), for 6 NAT2 SNPs; 282C>T, 341T>C, 481C>T, 857G>A, 590G>A
146 and 803A>G using Life Technologies pre-validated probe-based Taqman assays as per
147 manufactures instructions (Life Technologies, Paisley, UK). Each participant sample was
148 analysed in duplicate.

149

150 **Haplotype assignment and acetylator genotype inference**

151 Haplotype assignment from probe-based SNP data is poorly described in African populations.
152 We elected to employ an unbiased PHASE analysis, which takes the dataset as a whole to assign
153 the most likely haplotype for each individual, alongside a probability for this assignment (53,
154 54). Haplotype for each individual and acetylator genotype for each haplotype were defined as
155 per the NAT gene nomenclature committee (55). Individuals with two rapid alleles were defined
156 as RAs, those with two slow alleles as SAs and those with one fast and one slow allele as IAs.

157

158 **Isoniazid and *N*-acetyl-isoniazid PK and phenotype inference**

159 Blood samples were collected and placed on ice immediately, before centrifugation within 60
160 minutes, immediate separation and storage of plasma at -70°C until analysis. Concentrations of
161 isoniazid, AcINH and a 6-aminonicotinic acid internal control were quantified using validated
162 high-performance liquid chromatography and tandem mass spectrometry (HPLC-MS/MS).
163 Sample preparation included a protein precipitation with acetonitrile and subsequent dilution
164 with water. Analytes were chromatographically separated using a Waters Exterra C18, 3.5µm,
165 50mm x 2.1mm column and detected using the AB Sciex 5500 Q-Trap mass spectrometer. All
166 analytes were analysed isocratically with an acetonitrile/water/0.1% formic acid mobile phase.
167 Isoniazid, AcINH and the internal standard were analysed at mass transitions of the precursor
168 ions (m/z) 137.9, 180.1 and 138.7 to the product ions (m/z) 66.0, 78.6 and 50.9, respectively.
169 Chromatographic data acquisition, peak integration and quantification of analytes was

170 performed using Analyst® software version 1.5.2. We constructed time-concentration curves in
171 the *PK* package in *R* for windows (version 3.5.1). We characterised the isoniazid and AcINH PK
172 parameters maximum concentration (C_{\max}), time to maximum concentration (T_{\max}), area under
173 the concentration curve from zero to infinity ($AUC_{0-\infty}$), apparent oral clearance (CL) and
174 elimination half-life and compared C_{\max} to published efficacy targets (56). $AUC_{0-\infty}$ was calculated
175 using the trapezoid rule, apparent oral clearance estimated by dose / $AUC_{0-\infty}$ and elimination
176 half-life by regression analysis of \log_{10} concentrations of the terminal exponent of elimination.
177 We analysed the ratio of \log_{10} AcINH to \log_{10} isoniazid at two and four hours to assess
178 acetylation phenotype.

179

180 Sample processing and HPLC-MS was initially conducted in 2010 for Study 1. Samples remained
181 in storage and were later moved to a new storage facility before they were shipped to a
182 different laboratory for determination of isoniazid and AcINH concentrations as above (having
183 previously only had isoniazid concentrations determined). To confirm the Integrity of these
184 samples we compared the isoniazid $AUC_{0-\infty}$ of the current analysis with that previously reported
185 on the same samples analysed in 2010.

186

187 **Statistical methods**

188 All data were entered in Epidata and transferred to either Stata (version 14) or *R* for windows
189 (version 3.5.1) for statistical analysis. Demographic characteristics were presented as
190 frequencies and percentages for categorical variables, and as means with standard deviations
191 for continuous variables. Descriptive PK data was described as median and inter-quartile
192 ranges. C_{\max} and $AUC_{0-\infty}$ were log-transformed prior to comparison between genotypes. PK
193 parameters were compared, by genotype, using the Wilcoxon rank-sum test or Kruskal–Wallis
194 test.

195

196 **Hepatic adverse events**

197 Hepatic adverse events were defined as elevated alanine transaminase (ALT) and
198 aspartate transaminase (AST), elevated alkaline phosphatase and elevated total bilirubin,

199 graded as per Division of AIDS toxicity table for grading severity of HIV-positive adult adverse
200 events.

201

202 **Results:**

203 **Participant characteristics**

204 One hundred and twenty-two individuals living with HIV participating in two PK studies were
205 included in the study. Eighty participants in study 1 were included in the *NAT2* genotyping
206 analysis and 60 in the PK analysis (with 58 individuals having both PK and genotype data), while
207 40 participants in study 2 were included in the PK analysis and 40 participants included in *NAT2*
208 genotyping analysis (with 34 individuals having both PK and genotype data). Key characteristics
209 are outlined in table 1. Participants in study 1 included 60 with pulmonary TB and HIV co-
210 infection; 40 with CD4 count >200 cells/mm³ and, 20 with CD4 count <200 cells/mm³ as well as
211 20 participants living with HIV and without TB (who contributed only genotype data). All 40
212 participants in study 2 had TB and HIV coinfection, with a CD4 count of 200 cells/mm³ or below.
213 In the combined studies, 66.7% of participants had CD4 counts <200 cells/mm³ and 33.3% had
214 CD4 count >200 cells/mm³. The Median age was 33.1 years (IQR 18-53). Only 15 (12.5%) of
215 patients had a BMI < 18.86 kg/m².

216

217 ***NAT2* genotype and deduced phenotype**

218 One hundred and twenty participants (80 from study 1 and 40 from study 2) were genotyped.
219 Allele and haplotype frequencies and deduced phenotypes are outlined in tables 2-5. We
220 identified 12 different alleles in the population. The most common allelic group was *NAT2*5*
221 (70.4%) followed by *NAT2*12* (27.9%). From the *NAT2*5* group *NAT2*5C* (21.3%), *NAT2*5J*
222 (17.5%), *NAT2*5D* (14.6%) and *NAT2*5K* (10.4%) were the most common. The *NAT2*12* group
223 was predominantly *NAT2*12C*. The deduced phenotype was 11.7% rapid, 35.8% intermediate
224 and 52.5% slow.

225

226 **Isoniazid and *N-acetyl*-isoniazid PK**

227 As above, to assess sample integrity for Study 1 we compared the $AUC_{0-\infty}$ of the current analysis
228 with that previously reported on the same samples analysed in 2010. The median (IQR) $AUC_{0-\infty}$
229 was 5.53 (3.63 – 9.12), processed at University of Cape Town (UCT) in 2009 and 5.70 (3.85 –
230 7.94), processed at Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI) laboratory in 2014, suggesting that
231 the integrity of the samples was maintained for isoniazid, but cannot be confirmed for AcINH.

232
233 Study 1 showed rapid absorption, with a median (IQR) isoniazid T_{max} of 1 hr(1 -2). Isoniazid
234 exposure was variable amongst individuals with median (IQR) C_{max} 1.47 (1.14 – 1.85) $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ and
235 $AUC_{0-\infty}$ 5.53 (3.63 – 9.12) $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{h}/\text{ml}$. Median (IQR) elimination half-life was relatively slow at 2.27
236 (1.69 – 3.56) h. We compared these isoniazid PK measures to published targets; 98.28% (57/58)
237 failed to attain the minimum 2-hour plasma concentration target of 3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ (56). PK
238 parameters by genotype are shown in table 8(A), unexpectedly median half-life was slowest,
239 apparent oral clearance lowest and $AUC_{0-\infty}$ highest amongst genotypically rapid acetylators,
240 with the reverse true for genotypically slow acetylators, although none of these differences was
241 statistically significant. Similarly, there were no statistically significant differences by genotype
242 for AcINH C_{max} , elimination half-life or $AUC_{0-\infty}$. Median isoniazid and AcINH time-concentration
243 curves are given in Figure 1(A).

244
245 Absorption was rapid in Study 2, with a median INH T_{max} of 2 hrs. INH exposure was also
246 variable amongst individuals with median (IQR) C_{max} 3.14 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ (2.39 – 4.34) and $AUC_{0-\infty}$ 10.76
247 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{hr}/\text{ml}$ (8.24 – 28.96 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$). Median elimination half-life was 2.62hr (2.26 – 4.07). Again, we
248 compared these INH PK measures to published PK targets; 47.5% (19/40) failed to attain the
249 minimum 2-hour plasma concentration target of 3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$. PK parameters by genotype are
250 shown in table 8(B). For both isoniazid and AcINH and across the PK parameters; C_{max} , $AUC_{0-\infty}$
251 and elimination half-life, variability (both range and IQR) were increased amongst those
252 genotyped as SAs. Again however, there were no statistically significant differences between
253 these PK parameters by genotype. Median isoniazid and AcINH time-concentration curves are
254 given in Figure 1(B).

255

256 For both studies we calculated the \log_{10} AcINH: \log_{10} isoniazid ratio, as a measure of
257 acetylation, at two and four hours post-dose and analysed this ratio by genotype (figure2 & 3).
258 In both studies we saw no statistically significant difference in ratios between genotypes at
259 either two or four hours. In Study 2 we again saw increased variability in this metric amongst
260 those genotyped as SAs.

261

262 **Hepatic adverse events**

263 There were no grade 3 and 4 hepatic adverse events in Study 1 and only 1 grade 4 hepatic
264 event was reported from the only participant with rapid genotype in Study 2. Although there
265 were more grade 1 hepatic adverse events among the slow genotype participants, as shown in
266 table 9, the difference was not statistically significant between genotypes; $p=0.203$ in Study 1,
267 and 0.276 in Study 2.

268

269 **Discussion:**

270 We investigated the *NAT2* genotype, isoniazid and AcINH PK of black Zulu South Africans living
271 with HIV from Durban and surrounding areas. We found that most individuals were of SA
272 (52.5%) or IA (35.8%) genotype, with only a small number of RA genotype (11.7%). The
273 proportions of the deduced acetylator phenotypes in our population was broadly similar to
274 other African and Caucasian populations (36, 43, 57, 58) but differed from those previously
275 reported from within other black ethnic groups within Southern Africa. For example, Werely *et*
276 *al* found that IA genotypes dominated in the Xhosa cohort, with SAs only 30% (45). Our results
277 were comparable to a recent Study by Naidoo et al. in patients from the same geographic area
278 reported 34% SA, 43% IA and 18% RA (59).

279

280 There was a high prevalence of the *NAT2*5* allelic group in our population, accounting for the
281 slow acetylator genotype. In well studied Caucasian and Asian populations, four variants;
282 *NAT2*4* (wild type, rapid), *NAT2*5B*, *NAT2*6A*, and *NAT2*7B* (all slow), account for most *NAT2*
283 alleles. In Asian populations there are generally a higher proportion of wild type *NAT2*4* alleles
284 and few *NAT2*5B* alleles, and this difference largely accounts for the much lower prevalence of

285 RAs in non-Asian populations. Consistent with other studies in Sub-Saharan African populations,
286 the wild-type *NAT*4* allele was far less prevalent and variant alleles were far more diverse in
287 our Study. In our population, the *NAT2*5B* allele was relatively rare in comparison to two
288 studies in the black population from Western Cape and North West Province. (45, 60).
289 However, in contrast to these populations, there were a diversity of other *NAT2*5* alleles,
290 including a much higher prevalence of the rare *NAT2*5J* allele (17.5%) and the poorly
291 characterised *NAT2*5K* allele (10.4%). The *NAT2*6A* and *NAT2*7B* alleles, common in
292 Caucasian and Asian populations, were not seen in our cohort. In Caucasian and Asian
293 populations, rapid *NAT2*12* alleles are rarely seen, where as in populations in sub-Saharan
294 Africa the *NAT2*12A* allele is reported at much higher frequencies(35). In our Study the
295 *NAT2*12A* allele did indeed comprise 5.8% of alleles seen but we saw a much higher frequency
296 of the *NAT2*12C* allele (21.2%), in contrast to other Southern African cohorts(10, 45, 60, 61).

297

298 Isoniazid C_{max} and $AUC_{0-\infty}$ demonstrated considerable variability between individuals in both
299 studies and almost all participants in Study 1 and almost half of the participants in Study 2 had a
300 C_{max} below the lower limit of the target range(56). Low isoniazid concentrations during TB
301 treatment are concerning because it is postulated they may lead to poorer treatment
302 outcomes, or the generation of isoniazid resistance, the likely first step in the evolution of
303 multi-drug resistant TB (MDR TB). However, the evidence for either of these concerns is mixed
304 and in this setting the prevalence of INH mono-resistance is relatively low.

305

306 There was a marked difference in PK measures between the two studies analysed, with Study 1
307 having much lower measures than Study 2. There are several reasons that could have
308 contributed to this difference. The difference in isoniazid dosing could explain the lower PK
309 measures, where Study 1 used the FDC dosing as per WHO recommended weight bands,
310 leading to almost half the participants receiving doses <300 mg, as previously reported(49). All
311 participants in Study 2 received 300 mg doses of isoniazid irrespective of weight. Although the
312 samples of Study 1 did not appear to deteriorate during the 5 years between first analysis and
313 subsequent analyses for this study, differences in processing and storage between the studies

314 cannot be excluded. Figure 3 shows the INH and AcINH at different time points. Based on this,
315 the phenotype of the study participants is generally more intermediate/rapid than what the
316 predominant slow genotype suggests, which is in contrast to other studies reporting HIV
317 patients having a tendency towards slow phenotype (62).

318

319 We identified no statistically significant difference by *NAT2* genotype in a variety of PK
320 measures, hence in this cohort we found poor correlation between *NAT2* genotype and
321 phenotypic acetylation of isoniazid. Previous studies in other populations have shown good
322 correlation between *NAT2* genotype and isoniazid PK, suggesting that *NAT2* genotyping could
323 be used as a parsimonious way to risk-stratify patients and personalise dosing of isoniazid in an
324 attempt to maximise efficacy whilst minimising toxicity. There are significant practical
325 difficulties to implementing these approaches in this setting, but our data suggest that in this
326 population *NAT2* genotyping will not be helpful in guiding TB therapy. A lack of concordance
327 between genotypic and phenotypic measures of INH acetylation has been reported previously
328 in HIV positive cohorts (63) (64). It is likely that in this cohort, as in others, other non-genetic
329 factors are more or equally important than *NAT2* genotype. Jones et al found that infection
330 with HIV or stage of HIV infection may alter Phase I and II drug metabolising enzyme (DME)
331 activity in their study on 17 HIV infected participants at different levels of immunosuppression
332 (65). They found that HIV infection was related to an increase in variability of these DMEs.
333 Whilst additional pathways, aside from *NAT2* genotype, have been implicated in hepatotoxicity
334 of isoniazid-containing TB treatment regimens, it is not clear that these pathways alter isoniazid
335 PK and thus could account for the lack of genotypic and phenotypic concordance in this study.

336

337 Although there were more hepatic adverse events among the SA, there was no statistical
338 association between genotype and hepatotoxicity in the two studies, with only 1 patient who
339 was a RA having a grade 4 hepatic adverse event and 2 others who were IA having grade 3
340 hepatic adverse events.

341

342 In our study, participants received pyridoxine and cotrimoxazole with the ATT in Study 2, but
343 not in Study 1 as we used the samples collected on day 1 for this analysis when only ATT was
344 given. As both INH and sulfamethoxazole are inhibitors of CYP2C9, this could be one of the
345 reasons for the variations noted. INH also inhibits CYP3A4, which is induced by rifampicin, this
346 interaction has not proven significant except when it relates to hepatotoxicity (66, 67). That the
347 combination of INH and rifampicin leads to an increased risk of hepatotoxicity, has been
348 reported in other studies. In our Study 2, isoniazid was given with Rifabutin which is a less
349 potent hepatic enzyme inducer, which therefore should have less interaction with INH (68).
350 Considering the limited effect on hepatotoxicity, the effect of CYP2E1 was not evident in our
351 study. We cannot confirm or exclude the effect of these CYP450 enzymes on INH metabolism in
352 these participants.

353

354 In our study samples were stored at -80° Celsius and loss of compound due to storage would
355 have been minimal (69), although studies have not reported on plasma samples stored longer
356 than 5 weeks, nor sample integrity for the metabolite, AcINH.

357

358 **Conclusion**

359 Amongst black Zulu TB-HIV coinfecting South African patients, most had slow or intermediate
360 *NAT2* genotype. There was a diversity of specific *NAT2* alleles of a pattern differing from
361 previously studied cohorts in other settings. Despite the rarity of rapid acetylator genotypes,
362 INH PK was variable and a substantial proportion of individuals failed to attain minimum
363 efficacy targets. Importantly *NAT2* genotype did not explain PK variability in this cohort or the
364 low C_{max} , which suggests that other factors could be influencing isoniazid bioavailability and
365 metabolism, which require further elucidation.

366

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378

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389

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391

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395

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405 n=58. Shaded area: IQR.

406

407 **Figure 1(A):** Study 2 median isoniazid (INH) and N-acetyl-INH (AcINH) concentrations over time,
408 n=34. Shaded area: IQR.

409

410

411 **Figure 2:** Boxplots for study 1

412

413 **Figure 3:** Box plots for study 2

414

415

Table 1: Demographic characteristics			
	Study 1 (n=80)	Study 2 (n=40)	Overall (n=120)
Demographics			
Median age (range)	33 (18-48)	33.6 (24-53)	33.1 (18-53)
Male sex (%)	36 (45%)	24 (60.0%)	60 (50%)
Zulu ethnicity (%)	80 (100%)	40 (100%)	120 (100%)
Mean weight (SD)	58.7 (11.9)	58.9 (9.7)	58.7 (11.2)
Mean BMI (SD)	23.0 (5.2)	23.1 (3.9)	23.1 (4.8)
BMI <18.5 (%)	13 (16.3%)	2 (5.0%)	15 (12.5%)
Median CD4 (range)	210.5 (10-500)	128 (61 – 199)	161 (10-500)
CD4 < 200 (%)	40 (50%)	40 (100%)	80 (66.7%)

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419 **Table 2 PK time points and dosing**
 420 **Table 2 Pharmacokinetic time points and dosing**
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Study	Schedule of pharmacokinetic sampling (day of TB treatment)	Treatment												
Study 1	Days 1; with sampling pre-dose and at 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12 hours after the dose.	4 drug FDC formulation (EMB/ RMP/ INH/ PZA 275/150/75/400 mg) dosed daily by weight band: <table border="1" data-bbox="824 499 1511 674"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="824 499 1511 552">Weight in kilograms</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="824 552 1008 611">30-37</th> <th data-bbox="1008 552 1192 611">38-54</th> <th data-bbox="1192 552 1375 611">55-70</th> <th data-bbox="1375 552 1511 611">> 70</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="824 611 1008 674">2 tablets</td> <td data-bbox="1008 611 1192 674">3 tablets</td> <td data-bbox="1192 611 1375 674">4 tablets</td> <td data-bbox="1375 611 1511 674">5 tablets</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Weight in kilograms				30-37	38-54	55-70	> 70	2 tablets	3 tablets	4 tablets	5 tablets
Weight in kilograms														
30-37	38-54	55-70	> 70											
2 tablets	3 tablets	4 tablets	5 tablets											
Study 2	Day 63 (after 2 weeks on continuation phase RBN+INH) with sampling pre-dose and 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12 and 24 hours after the dose.	Enrolment – week 6: standard weight band based treatment with RMP, INH, PZA and EMB (as in study 1) Week 6 & 7: RMP replaced with RFB 300 mg daily week 8 & 9: RFB 300 mg/INH 300 mg												

422 PK= pharmacokinetics; RMP=rifampicin; PZA=pyrazinamide; EMB=ethambutol;
 423 FDC=fixed dose combination

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Table 3. NAT2 diplotypes and genotypes and deduced phenotype in the study group.

Observed Diplotypes†	n	Genotype	Phenotype
-20000	1	5D/5K	SLOW
000020	1	12A/12A	RAPID
001000	1	4/11A	RAPID
001020	6	12A/12C	RAPID
002010	2	11A/12C	RAPID
002020	4	12C/12C	RAPID
01-020	1	5C/12C	INTERMEDIATE
010010	1	5D/12A	INTERMEDIATE
010020	2	5C/12A	INTERMEDIATE
010110	2	5E/12A	INTERMEDIATE
011010	3	5D/12C	INTERMEDIATE
011020	15	5C/12C	INTERMEDIATE
011110	3	5E/12C	INTERMEDIATE
0200-0	1	5C/5D	SLOW
020000	1	5D/5D	SLOW
020010	10	5C/5D	SLOW
020020	3	5C/5C	SLOW
020100	3	5D/5E	SLOW
020110	1	5C/5E	SLOW
110010	1	5K/12A	INTERMEDIATE
110110	1	5K/12C	INTERMEDIATE
111010	5	5K/12C	INTERMEDIATE
111020	1	5T/12C	INTERMEDIATE
111110	6	5J/12C	INTERMEDIATE
120000	7	5D/5K	SLOW
120010	5	5C/5K	SLOW
120011	1	5C/5KA	SLOW
120020	1	5C/5T	SLOW
120100	7	5D/5J	SLOW
120110	8	5C/5J	SLOW
120200	1	5E/5J	SLOW
211020	1	5T/12M	INTERMEDIATE
211110	1	5J/12M	INTERMEDIATE
220001	1	5K/5KA	SLOW
220100	4	5J/5K	SLOW
220110	1	5J/5T	SLOW
2202-0	1	5J/5J	SLOW
220200	6	5J/5J	SLOW

†Observed diplotypes are shown as the number of mutations identified in each individual for each SNP. 0 = wild type, 1 = heterozygous, 2 = homozygous, - = blank. The SNP order is 282, 341, 481, 590, 803, 857.

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Table 4. Frequency of NAT2 alleles in the study group.		
Allele designation	n	%
NAT2*4	1	0.4
NAT2*5	169	70.4
NAT2*11	3	1.3
NAT2*12	67	27.9
Total	240	100

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Table 5. Frequency of NAT2 alleles.		
Allele	n	%
NAT2*4	1	0.4
NAT2*5C	51	21.3
NAT2*5D	35	14.6
NAT2*5E	10	4.2
NAT2*5J	42	17.5
NAT2*5K	25	10.4
NAT2*5KA	2	0.8
NAT2*5T	4	1.7
NAT2*11A	3	1.3
NAT2*12A	14	5.8
NAT2*12C	51	21.2
NAT2*12M	2	0.8
Total	240	100

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Table 6: Frequency distribution of NAT2 genotypes and deduced phenotype in the study group.			
Genotype	n	%	Acetylator status
NAT2*4/*11	1	0.8	
NAT2*12/*12	11	9.2	RAPID
Nat2*11/*12	2	1.7	
NAT2*5/*12	43	35.8	INTERMEDIATE
NAT2*5/*5	63	52.5	SLOW
Total	120	100	

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436 **Table 7: Overall isoniazid and N-acetyl-isoniazid PK**

	Study 1		Study 2	
	Isoniazid	N-acetylisoniazid	Isoniazid	N-acetylisoniazid
AUC _{0-∞} (µg/mL/hr)	5.53 (3.63 – 9.12)	5.49 (3.18 – 9.26)	10.76 (8.24 – 28.96)	27.67 (23.20 -34.67)
C _{max} (µg/mL)	1.47 (1.14 – 1.89)	0.90 (0.46 – 1.398)	3.14 (2.39 – 4.34)	2.91 (1.73 – 3.70)
T _{max} (hr)	1 (1 – 2)	4 (2 – 6)	2 (2 - 2)	3 (3 – 4)
CL/F (L/hr)	47.64 (35.36 – 74.11)	NA	27.34 (10.83 – 32.00)	NA
t _{1/2} (hr)	4.61 (3.64 – 8.32)	10.64 (6.62 – 17.07)	6.02 (5.37 – 8.66)	8.03 (6.18 – 12.86)
All values medians (inter-quartile ranges) AUC _{0-∞} = Area under the time – concentration curve C _{max} = Maximum concentration CL/F = Clearance t _{1/2} = Elimination half life NA = not applicable				

437

438 **Table 8 (A): Study 1 PK parameters by genotype**

	Isoniazid			N-acetyl-Isoniazid		
	Slow	Intermediate	Rapid	Slow	Intermediate	Rapid
AUC _{0-∞} (µg/mL/hr)	5.34 (3.44 – 7.93)	6.04 (4.27 – 7.53)	7.56 (5.99 -9.60)	5.71 (4.19 – 11.01)	7.34 (3.15 – 10.9)	2.81 (0.55 – 5.06)
C _{max} (µg/mL)	1.47 (0.97 – 1.89)	1.54 (1.25 – 1.76)	1.42 (1.20 -2.05)	0.94 (0.63 – 1.68)	1.07 (0.49 – 1.70)	0.38 (0.90 – 0.90)
T _{max} (hr)	1 (1 -2)	1 (1 – 2)	2 (2 – 2)	4 (2 – 4)	4 (4 – 7)	6 (4 -6)
CL/F (L/hr)	57.05 (37.84 – 103.56)	43.53 (32.05 – 64.33)	37.75 (31.27 – 47.92)	NA	NA	NA
t _{1/2} (hr)	4.67 (3.64 – 8.32)	4.00 (3.35 – 5.19)	8.56 (5.69 – 14.44)	9.42 (5.75 – 17.07)	6.55 (6.68 – 10.93)	14.78 (10.65 – 22.41)
All values medians (inter-quartile ranges) AUC _{0-∞} = Area under the time – concentration curve C _{max} = Maximum concentration CL/F = Clearance t _{1/2} = Elimination half life NA = not applicable						

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440 **Table 8 (B): Study 2 PK parameters by genotype**

	Isoniazid			N-acetyl-Isoniazid		
	Slow	Intermediate	Rapid	Slow	Intermediate	Rapid
AUC _{0-∞} (µg/mL/hr)	10.76 (9.73 -31.21)	9.09 (7.3 -18.75)	26.99	26.04 (22.99 -32.76)	6.28 (5.25 -10.01)	28.53
C _{max} (µg/mL)	3.47 (2.49 - 4.49)	2.96 (2.33 - 4.02)	3.94	2.85 (1.52 - 3.68)	3.28 (2.53 - 4.01)	1.91
T _{max} (hr)	2 (2 - 2)	2 (2 - 2)	2	3 (3-4)	3 (3 - 3)	4
CL/F (L/hr)	27.87 (9.66 -30.83)	33.33 (16.01 - 41.17)	11.12	NA	NA	NA
t _{1/2} (hr)	4.61 (3.9 -5.34)	4.46 (3.9 - 7.88)	8.28	5.81 (4.9 - 7.25)	6.28 (5.25 -10.01)	10.97

All values medians (inter-quartile ranges)

AUC_{0-∞} = Area under the time – concentration curve

C_{max} = Maximum concentration

CL/F = Clearance

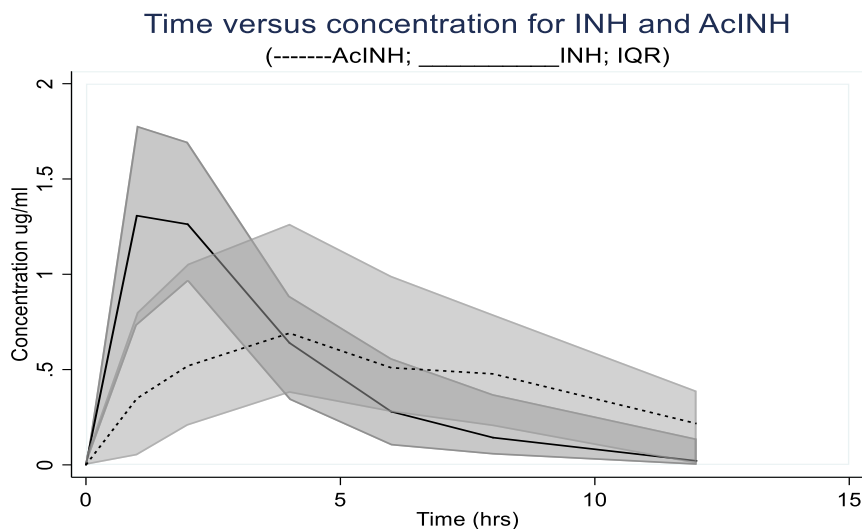
t_{1/2} = Elimination half life

NA = not applicable

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445 Figure 1A: Study 1 median INH and AcINH concentration over time for INH and AcINH for 58
446 patients. Shaded area; IQR.

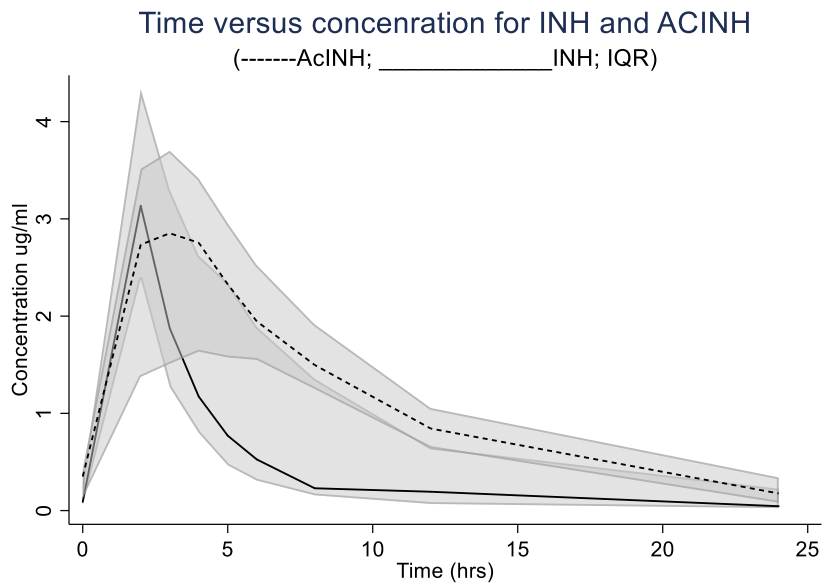
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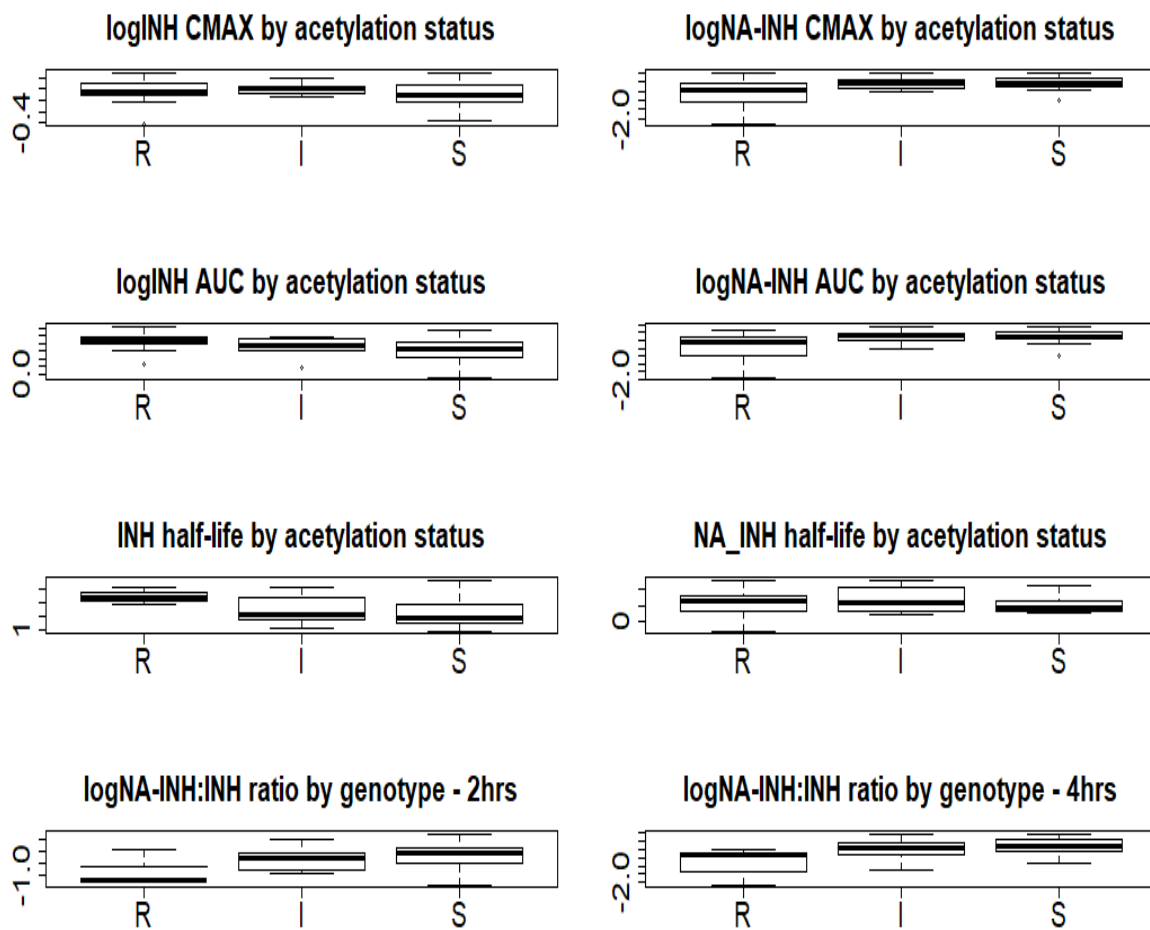


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454 Figure 1B: Study 2 median INH and AcINH concentration over time for INH and NA-INH for 34
455 patients. Shaded area: IQR.

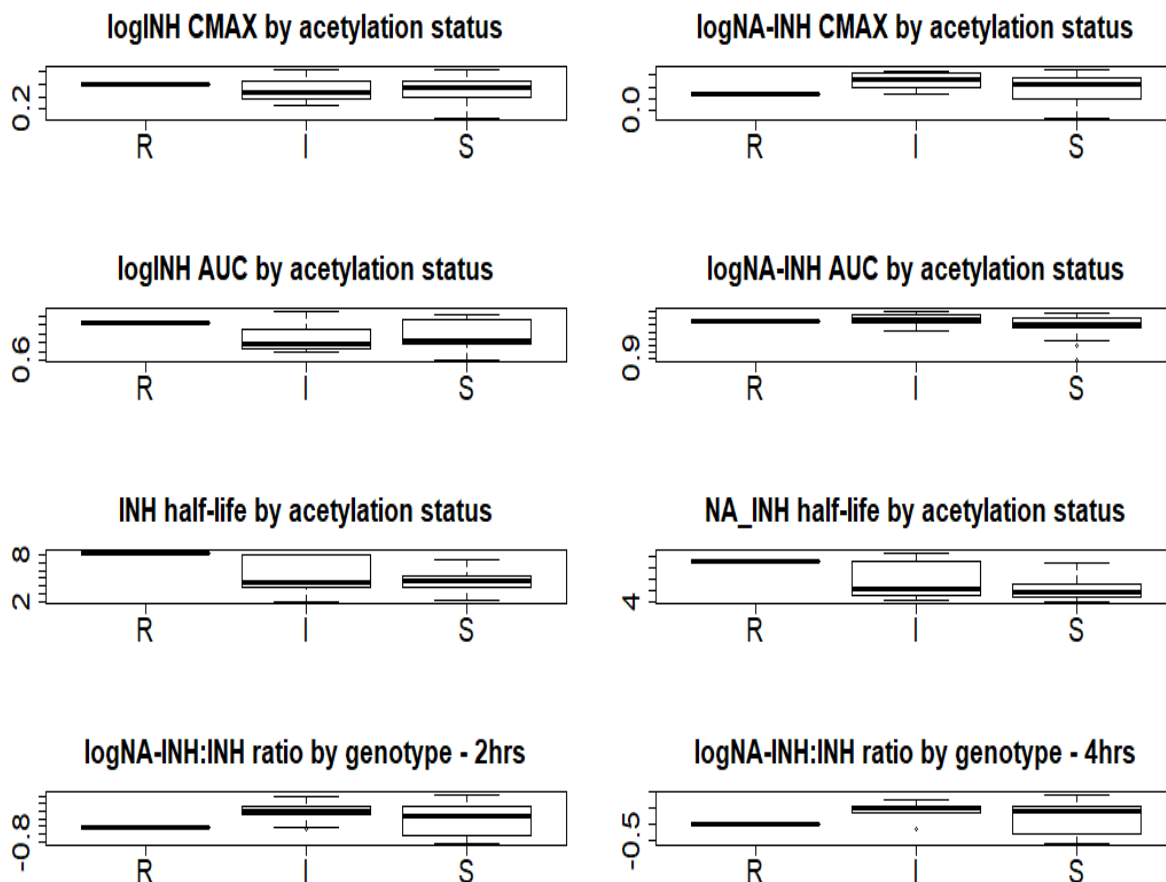
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Figure 2: Box plots for study 1: representing median (solid line), interquartile range (box) and range (whiskers) for the pharmacokinetic parameters; log₁₀ maximum concentration (C_{max}), log₁₀ area under the time-concentration curve (AUC_{0-∞}), of isoniazid (INH) and *N*-acetyl-INH (AcINH) stratified by acetylator status and logAcINH to logINH ratio at 2 and 4 hours stratified by acetylator genotype.



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471 Figure 3: Box plots for study 2: representing median (solid line), interquartile range (box)
472 and range (whiskers) for the pharmacokinetic parameters; \log_{10} maximum concentration
473 (C_{max}), \log_{10} area under the time-concentration curve ($AUC_{0-\infty}$), of isoniazid (INH) and *N*-
474 acetyl-INH (AcINH) stratified by acetylator status and \log AcINH to \log INH ratio at 2 and 4
475 hours stratified by acetylator genotype.

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477 Table 9: Participants with any hepatic adverse events

AE Grade	Study 1			Total N(%)	Study 2			Total N(%)
	Rapid N(%)	Intermediate N(%)	Slow N(%)		Rapid N(%)	Intermediate N(%)	Slow N(%)	
Grade 1	7	9	25	41	0	5	10	15
Grade 2	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	2
Grade 3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
Grade 4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	9 (20.9)	9 (20.9)	25 (61)	43 (100)	1(4.8)	8(30.1)	12(57.1)	21(100)

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Hepatic adverse events from the two studies include a combination of elevated Aspartate Aminotransferase (AST), Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT), Alkaline Phosphatase (ALP), Gamma-Glutamyl Transferase and total bilirubin.

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