

INTEGRATIVE BIOANALYTICAL STRATEGIES FOR OPTIMISING PHARMACOTHERAPY IN KIDNEY DISORDERS: PRECISION DRUG MONITORING AND THERAPEUTIC RESPONSE EVALUATION IN NEPHROLOGY PRACTICE

Dr. Ankur Singh^{1*}, Dr. Udgeeth Thaker², Satwik Chatterjee³, Shaffi Tangri⁴, Dr. Sankarshaan S⁵, Dr. Paromita Mukherjee⁶, Dr. Smriti Tiwari⁷

^{1*}Associate Professor, Sahu Onkar Saran School of Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy, IFTM University, Moradabad, UP-244102, Email Id: ankursingh108@gmail.com, Orcid Id: 0009-0004-4594-7318

²Assistant Professor, Critical Care and Internal Medicine, Department of General Medicine, Parul Institute of Medical Sciences and Research and Parul Sewashram Hospital, Parul University, Vadodara-391760, India, Email Id: udgeeththaker@gmail.com , Orcid Id: 0009-0008-3024-3245

³Postgraduate Student, School of Basic & Applied Sciences, Department of Forensic Science, Adamas University, Kolkata-700126, West Bengal, India, Email Id: drsatwik356@gmail.com, Orcid Id:0009-0009-8064-6648

⁴Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutics, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Shri Guru Ram Rai University, Dehradun-248001, Uttarakhand, India, Email Id: shaffitangri@sgru.ac.in , Orcid Id: 0000-0002-2698-9676

⁵Tutor, Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Department of Pharmacology, Sree Balaji Medical College and Hospital, Bharath Institute of Higher Education and Research, Chennai-600044, India, Email Id: sankarshaan001@gmail.com , Orcid Id: 0009-0000-6462-1007

⁶Assistant Professor, Synbiotics Functional Food Product Development, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, Swami Vivekananda University, Kolkata-700108, India, Email Id: paromitamukherjee@gmail.com , Orcid Id 0009 0009 0953944

⁷Lecturer, Department of Pharmacy practice, Teerthanker Mahaveer college of Pharmacy, TMU University, Moradabad, Pin code : 244001, India, Email Id: tsmriti734@gmail.com , Orcid Id- 0009-0008-1818-0560,

Abstract

Kidney diseases (AKI, CKD, ESRD and transplantation) have significant changes in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, which make the exposure and toxicity even more variable. The traditional renal-based dosing and trough-guided monitoring is not always adequate, particularly in patients who are critically ill and patients under renal replacement therapies. To summarise the role of integrative bioanalytical approaches to enhance pharmacotherapy in nephrology, including precision drug monitoring and evaluation of therapeutic response. The review is a synthesis of evidence that backs exposure-based surveillance (especially AUC-guided vancomycin dosing), sophisticated treatment systems like LC-MS/MS, and frameworks of model-informed precision dosing of individualised therapy. It puts the fluctuating nature of renal replacement therapy in the limelight, as well as the modifying effect of obesity and other comorbid conditions on drug absorption, and the significance of validated analyses and standard workflows. Therapeutic response assessment is also extended to measure clinical outcome, pharmacodynamic target and evolving biomarkers of kidney injury to allow toxicity to be detected sooner and dose-adjustment to be made more safely, including in transplantation, where the detection of immunosuppressant needs high analytical sensitivity. An end-to-end, all-encompassing approach to safer, more effective, and more personalised pharmacotherapy in nephrology practice incorporates the concept of integrative bioanalysis, which incorporates accurate drug quantification, pharmacometric modelling, and biomarker-inspired response assessment. The practical implication of integrative bioanalysis has relevance in antimicrobials and immunosuppressants.

Keywords: Kidney disorders; Precision pharmacotherapy; Therapeutic drug monitoring; Model-informed precision dosing; Pharmacokinetics; Bioanalytical platforms; Biomarkers

1. Introduction

Kidney diseases such as acute kidney injury (AKI), chronic kidney disease (CKD), end-stage renal disease (ESRD), and kidney transplantation have become one of the most problematic areas of pharmacotherapy as they imply a radical change in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. Patients with compromised renal functions often have altered drug clearance, volume of distribution and protein binding that result in unpredictable systemic exposure and increased susceptibility to adverse drug reactions. The given issues are especially pronounced amongst hospitalised and critically ill patients, during which cases renal dysfunction is frequently accompanied by severe infections and multi-organ failure, which require complicated antimicrobial and supportive drug regimens that need to be carefully tailored on an individual basis [1]. Traditional dosing principles in nephrology practice have traditionally been based on population-derived recommendations and dose modifications that are based on estimated glomerular filtration rate or serum creatinine. Nevertheless, these methods are poor representations of the dynamic aspects of renal dysfunction and do not account for inter-individual variations of drug handling. Filippone emphasised that the use of conventional dosing paradigms may

lead to either underdosage or overdose, especially when the agent has a tiny therapeutic index, and as such, effectiveness and safety are impaired [2].

Vancomycin is one of the most widely researched examples of the shortcomings of the conventional therapeutic approaches to drug monitoring (TDM) in kidney disease. The focus of earlier practice has been on trough concentration monitoring, although there is an increasing body of evidence that trough levels are a weak surrogate endpoint of overall exposure to drugs and are linked with a higher risk of acute kidney injury. A meta-analysis showed that there was an obvious correlation between high vancomycin area under the concentration time curve (AUC) and nephrotoxicity, and it supported the shift to AUC-based dosing plans [3]. New clinical practice guidelines have also served to support the need for personalised pharmacotherapy of kidney disorders. Precision dosing, interdisciplinary collaboration, and pharmacist-led medication optimisation have been highlighted by the KDIGO 2024 guideline as the key elements in patients with CKD. The recommendations underscore the increased awareness of the fact that individualised drug surveillance and dose optimisation are key elements of quality nephrology care, especially where there is a complex patient group with unstable renal function [4].

The development of bioanalytical technologies has been instrumental in ensuring that drug monitoring is done with precision. LC liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) has become the standard of measuring therapeutic drugs because of its increased sensitivity, specificity, and concomitant measurement of two or more analytes. Shipkova and Svinarov pointed out that LC-MS/MS-based assays have a great advantage over the traditional immunoassays, especially in patients with renal disease, where cross-reactivity and analytical interference can result in inaccurate measurement [5]. Precision monitoring has a clinical implication, especially where nephrotoxicity has been induced by drugs. KIDI is one of the most significant issues in nephrology and the practice of infectious diseases associated with vancomycin. In a general literature review, Bamgbola identified the mechanistic basis of renal toxicity induced by vancomycin, which includes oxidative stress, tubular epithelial damage, and mitochondrial dysfunction. These results also support the need to incorporate precise bioanalytical determinations with clinical risk evaluation to decrease nephrotoxicity, yet without reducing therapeutic effect [6].

The results of these observations indicate the weaknesses of traditional pharmacotherapy in kidney disorders and emphasise the significance of integrative bioanalytical approaches enabling the achievement of accurate drug monitoring and therapeutic response assessment. In this way, by matching high-quality analytical platforms with the principles of clinical pharmacology, the nephrology practice would be shifted towards more individualised, safer, and effective pharmacotherapeutic interventions.

2. Altered Drug Disposition in Kidney Disorders

This is because in patients with kidney disorders, the whole process of drug disposition is significantly distorted by the tangled and interconnected physiological changes in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. The most obvious effect of kidney impairment is reduced renal clearance, but non-renal aspects, including a change in drug distribution, metabolism, and protein binding, also play significant roles in the inter-individual drug exposure variability. Such changes are specifically acute in patients with critical illnesses, in which acute changes in renal activity and systemic inflammation contribute to the further problem of dose optimisation. Clinical evidence has continued to indicate that the regular dosing schedules often do not reach the therapeutic goal in this patient group, which implies the necessity to use personalised dosing schedules [7].

The instability in drug disposition is one of the greatest pharmacokinetic issues in kidney disease. Drug elimination even between patients with comparable estimated glomerular filtration rates may be heterogeneous because of the variation in tubular secretion, reabsorption, and non-renal metabolic routes. According to Bradley and Ng, there was a significant change in the exposure of vancomycin in real-life clinical practice, with a significant percentage of patients not reaching the recommended therapeutic drug monitoring outcomes despite guideline-concordant changes in dosing [8]. Such variability highlights the weaknesses of dose adjustment by renal function-only and advocates the necessity of direct drug exposure measurement.

Pharmacotherapy has one more complication with renal replacement therapies (RRTs). In comparison to continuous renal replacement therapy, intermittent haemodialysis and prolonged intermittent renal replacement therapy are substantially different in regard to solute clearance, as well as the nature of the membrane as well and the duration of treatment. All these influence the drug elimination and result in untenable pharmacokinetics (Figure 1). The dosing requirements of vancomycin differ considerably during the application in different RRT modalities, and model-based solutions prove to be more effective than the traditional dosing algorithms in forecasting the proper maintenance doses [9].

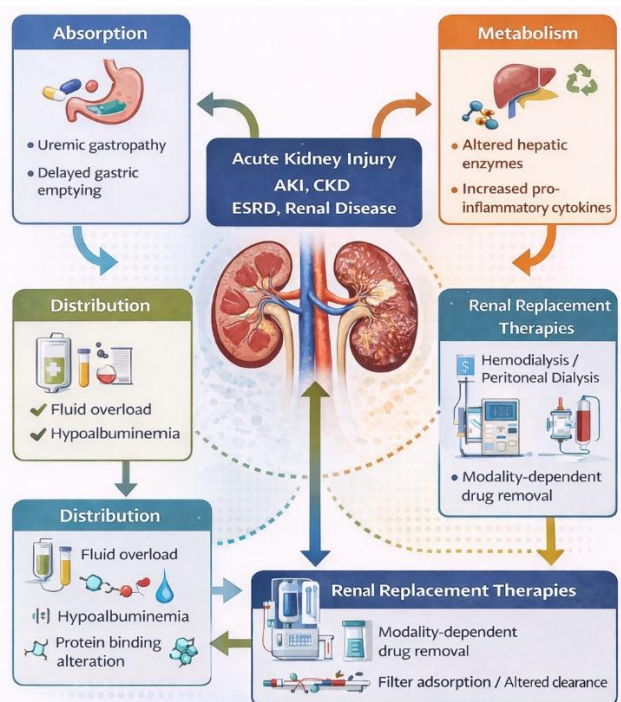


Figure 1. Pathophysiological Impact of Kidney Disorders on Drug Disposition

The population pharmacokinetic research has given interesting perspectives on the drug behaviour of patients undergoing renal replacement therapy. The study examined the pharmacokinetics of vancomycin in critically ill patients undergoing prolonged intermittent renal replacement therapy and found significant inter-patient pharmacokinetic variability in the clearance and volume of distribution. The results of their investigations showed that conventional dosing guidelines often lead to subtherapeutic or excessive concentrations, thereby supporting the rationale of therapeutic drug surveillance and dose individualisation in this group of patients [10].

In addition to the renal replacement therapy, drug disposition in kidney disease is complicated by comorbid conditions and individual patient factors. Such changes as obesity, which change drug distribution and clearance by changing body composition and renal hemodynamics. The systematic review indicated that the challenges of optimal dosing of vancomycin were even more apparent in obese patients and that traditional weight-based dosing forms could not achieve the required therapy goals and had the potential of causing nephrotoxicity when used without individualised monitoring [11]. The results are especially important to the practice of nephrology, where kidney disease is often accompanied by obesity.

Beta-lactam antibiotics also have very unpredictable pharmacokinetics in patients with kidney dysfunction, besides vancomycin. Significant deviations of expected drug exposure can be caused by renal impairment, increased renal clearance, and critical illness. Nix and colleagues indicated that the vancomycin trough concentrations bear little relationship with the 24-hour AUC values, which also reflects the insufficiency of surrogate markers to indicate the drug exposure [12]. This can be applied to other antimicrobials also cleared by the kidneys, in which the more simplified dosing indices can be used to cover up clinically meaningful variation.

In kidney disorders, the clinical guidelines have become more aware of the weaknesses of conventional dosing methods. The contrasted guideline advice and actual vancomycin dosing practices in the real world showed significant differences between the recommended and actual therapeutic targets. Their results showed that with the use of guidelines, patients with compromised renal functioning often undergo a delay in achieving the target or over-sensitisation, and ongoing re-evaluation and adjustive dosing methods are vital [13].

Together, these investigations indicate that the phenomenon of drug disposition changes in kidney diseases is multidimensional and very individual. The combination of renal dysfunction, kidney replacement therapies, body composition, and acute disease results in a pharmacokinetic landscape that cannot be sufficiently treated using a traditional dosing formula. The use of therapeutic drug monitoring, which is aided by population pharmacokinetic modelling and real-time bioanalytical data, is an important instrument to negotiate this complexity and also to streamline pharmacotherapy in the practice of nephrology (Table 1).

Table 1. Pharmacokinetic Alterations in Kidney Disorders and Their Clinical Implications

Pharmacokinetic Parameter	Change in Kidney Disorders	Clinical Implication	Key References
Renal clearance	Decreased or highly variable	Drug accumulation, toxicity risk	[1,2,6]

Volume of distribution	Increased (fluid overload, inflammation)	Subtherapeutic concentrations	[7, 8]
Protein binding	Reduced (hypoalbuminemia, uremia)	Increased free drug fraction	[2,11]
Non-renal metabolism	Altered hepatic and intestinal pathways	Unpredictable exposure	[1,12]
Renal replacement therapy	Drug removal varies by modality	Need for individualized dosing	[9,10]

3. Bioanalytical Platforms in Nephrology Pharmacotherapy

Measurement of drug concentrations in patients with kidney disorders requires accurate and timely measurements, which are the basis of optimising pharmacotherapy. Although of value, traditional bioanalytical methods may not have sufficient levels of accuracy to support drugs with narrow therapy indices within populations that may have a significant degree of pharmacokinetic disparities. Poor bioanalytical support in support of critically ill patients with renal dysfunction may cause underexposure, treatment failure, or excessive exposure with associated toxicity. The study showed that dose optimisation of the combination of piperacillin/tazobactam by means of therapeutic dose monitoring (TDM) was noted to yield a greater change in the outcomes of organ dysfunction in patients with sepsis, which suggests the clinical relevance of strong bioanalytical approaches in complex renal patients [14].

The model-informed precision dosing (MIPD) has come to be a potent framework integrating bioanalytical information with pharmacokinetic modelling to assist in personalised therapy (Figure 2). The researchers demonstrated that the MIPD-based vancomycin dosing proved to be more effective in patients with gram-positive infections, and precise measurements of the drug concentration as inputs to Bayesian forecasting tools are crucial [15]. These results demonstrate the extent to of bioanalytical platforms to go beyond mere measuring, as the foundation of active, patient-responsive dose adjustment in the practice of nephrology.

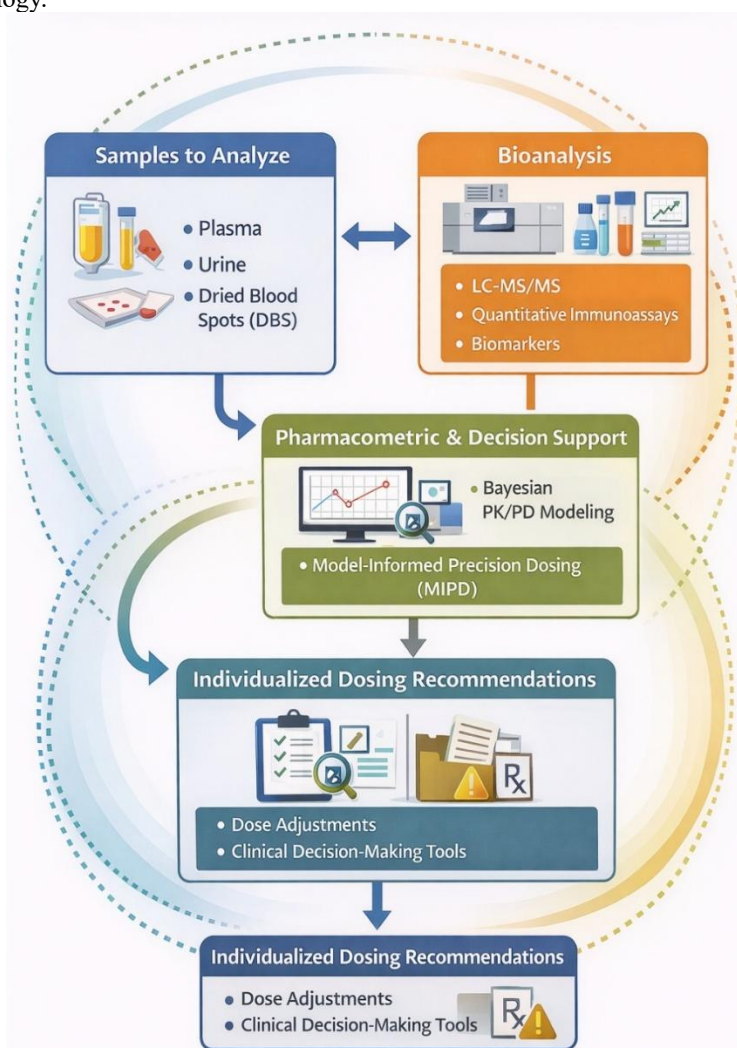


Figure 2. Integrative Bioanalytical Platforms Supporting Precision Pharmacotherapy

Bioanalytical accuracy is especially important in kidney transplantation because the pharmacological indexes of immunosuppressive agents are very low. Hoffert et al. introduced a systematic review of population pharmacokinetics models of tacrolimus and benchmarked software tools available, showing that variability in assay work and model choice can have a significant effect on dose recommendations [16]. They focus on their work on the necessity of harmonised analytical procedures and validated models that can be applied to assure consistency and reliability of therapeutic drug monitoring in transplant recipients.

The subgroup-specific modelling approaches have also been emphasised by the progress in pharmacometric methodology. The authors of the study by Laas et al. demonstrated that in heterogeneous patients who may be renal-impaired or undergoing renal replacement therapy, subgroup-based model selection offered a better prediction of vancomycin concentrations than generalised models [17]. The findings endorse the incorporation of the patient stratification plans in the bioanalytical procedures to improve predictive accuracy and clinical usefulness.

Bioanalytical methods are now also being applied to the measurement of biomarkers of therapeutic response and organ damage, and not just in the quantification of drugs. Liu et al. investigated population pharmacokinetic models-based model-informed cyclosporine precision dosing in adult renal transplantation, which showed that multi-model strategies in combination with population pharmacokinetic models can enhance the prediction of exposure and improve the use of immunosuppressive therapy in individuals [18]. These methods represent the point of interaction of bioanalysis, modelling, and clinical pharmacology in the contemporary practice of nephrology.

The combination of molecular and biochemical biomarkers widens the sphere of bioanalytical platforms in the management of kidney diseases. Lu et al. noted that the clinical usefulness of new biomarkers in kidney disease diagnosis and monitoring is highlighted [19] and suggested that they can be used to detect drug-induced nephrotoxicity or evaluate drug therapy. The biomarkers offer additional data to complement the information on the drug concentration, which will allow a more holistic evaluation of the effectiveness and safety of a treatment process.

The relevance of standardised and model-based bioanalytical approaches in clinical practice has been increasingly recognised in clinical practice guidelines. Matsumoto et al. released consensus criteria of therapeutic drug monitoring of vancomycin in a model-informed precision dosing system in which validated analytical assays, Bayesian estimation, and interdisciplinary teamwork are essential in streamlining treatment of patients with renal dysfunction [20]. These recommendations are an important move towards the systematic application of advanced bioanalytical approaches in nephrology.

Collectively, these studies reveal that the current bioanalytical platforms in nephrology pharmacotherapy go way beyond the traditional drug tests. Through a combination of superior analytical measurements and pharmacometric modelling, and biomarker evaluation, clinicians will be able to traverse the complexity of drug therapy in kidney disorders and achieve more accurate and patient-centred treatment outcomes. The biomarker and clinical use of Table 2 are common bioanalytical platforms, and their clinical usage in nephrology pharmacotherapy.

Table 2. Bioanalytical Platforms Used in Nephrology Pharmacotherapy

Bioanalytical Method	Advantages	Limitations	Clinical Application	Key References
Immunoassays	Rapid, widely available	Cross-reactivity, lower specificity	Routine TDM	[5,32]
LC-MS/MS	High specificity and sensitivity	Cost, technical expertise	Gold standard TDM	[5,20]
Bayesian PK software	Individualised dose prediction	Requires validated models	Precision dosing	[15,16]
Biomarker assays (NGAL, KIM-1)	Early injury detection	Limited standardization	Nephrotoxicity monitoring	[19,28]

4. Precision Drug Monitoring Approaches in Nephrology

Accurate monitoring of drugs has now turned out to be a foundation of the optimization of pharmacotherapy in kidney disorder patients, specifically those where the therapeutic index is narrow and inter-individual pharmacokinetic differences are extensive. Conventional therapy drug monitoring systems that use constant concentration goals are usually ineffective in reflecting the dynamic alterations in drug disposition related to renal impairment. The progress in the pharmacometric methods and the clinical implementation analyses has shown that precision monitoring strategies are capable of enhancing target achievement and minimising toxicity. Stoessel et al. demonstrated that the AUC-based vancomycin surveillance primarily guided by pharmacists led to more suitable dose modifications in complex cases of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infections, and they determined the clinical potential of exposure-based surveillance models [21].

Still, new international consensus regulations have strengthened the transition to precision drug monitoring. The new vancomycin dose surveillance guideline by Rybak and colleagues officially supported AUC-based dosing instead of trough-based monitoring of severe cases of MRSA infections. These guidelines were based on solid pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic research that AUC-based approaches are more accurate predictors of success and nephrotoxicity,

especially in patients with compromised kidney clearance or variable clearance [22]. Such guideline-based methods are an important step towards standardising precision pharmacotherapy in the field of nephrology.

Studies have been conducted in the real world on the implementation of precision drug monitoring to give a valuable understanding of the feasibility and implications for clinical practice. McClure et al. compared the incidence of acute kidney injury under traditional trough-based vancomycin dosing and AUC/MIC-based monitoring in a rural community hospital and found that the incidence of acute kidney injury reduced without interfering with therapeutic effect. Their results show that precision strategies of monitoring can be done at a tertiary care centre and also implemented effectively in various health care environments [23].

The key efforts in the field of precision drug monitoring are population pharmacokinetic modelling, which allows the consideration of individual doses depending on patient-specific features and measured drug levels. Oda and colleagues used model-informed precision dosing of vancomycin in adult patients undergoing haemodialysis and showed better prediction of optimal maintenance doses as compared to conventional dosing methods. They have emphasised in their work that Bayesian forecasting tools are useful in the management of extremely changeable drug exposure in patients who require dialysis [24]. There is also emerging evidence in favour of the consideration of machine learning and algorithm-based solutions to precision dosing models. Clinical-oriented tacrolimus dosing algorithms, as proposed by Min et al., were generated in genetic algorithms and the deep forest models of kidney transplant recipients, and they have better accuracy in dose prediction than the traditional ones. These sophisticated computing methodologies constitute a significant development of accuracy in drug monitoring, especially in populations of nephrology with complicated pharmacogenetic and physiological fluctuation [25]. Taken together, these studies help depict that the concept of precision drug monitoring in nephrology is becoming a non-reactive intervention and a proactive and model-driven approach. Through exposure-based objectives, pharmacometric modelling, and high-order computing, clinicians can attain greater levels of consistency of therapeutic outcomes and reduce the occurrence of drug-induced kidney injury. Table 3 outlines the major precision drug monitoring strategies that are applied in nephrology.

Table 3. Precision Drug Monitoring Strategies in Nephrology

Strategy	Drug Class	Key Outcome	Clinical Benefit	References
AUC-guided monitoring	Vancomycin	Reduced AKI risk	Improved safety	[3,21,23]
Model-informed precision dosing	Vancomycin, cefepime	Target attainment	Optimized exposure	[15,24,30]
Pharmacogenetic dosing	Tacrolimus	Stable trough levels	Reduced rejection/toxicity	[25,31]
Continuous infusion with TDM	Beta-lactams	PK target achievement	Improved outcomes	[14,26]

5. Therapeutic Response Evaluation Beyond Drug Concentrations

Although the classic approach to precision drug monitoring has been to achieve target therapeutic drug concentrations, there is growing evidence that the optimal pharmacotherapy in kidney diseases involves a more extensive assessment of a therapeutic response that incorporates both clinical and biomarkers of efficacy and toxicity. The interaction between pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and organ-specific susceptibility of renal dysfunction patients is not entirely comprehensively captured through drug exposure alone. The monitoring of therapeutic drugs was proven to be a significant advancement in achieving pharmacokinetic targets with the continuous infusion of piperacillin/tazobactam in critically ill patients, although exposure measures should be combined with clinical response to make meaningful therapeutic decisions [26]. The evaluation based on clinical outcomes has become dominant in antimicrobial therapy of nephrology patients, in which underexposure and excessive exposure are both potentially fatal. In a systematic review and meta-analysis, Pai Mangalore et al. demonstrated that beta-lactam therapeutic drug monitoring was linked to increased target achievement and a tendency of clinical outcomes in critically ill patients. They indicate that assessment of therapeutic response should include microbiological elimination, eradication of infection, and prevention of toxicity, especially in patients with compromised renal function [27].

In addition to antimicrobial activity, determination of nephrotoxicity is also an essential element of therapeutic response monitoring. Pais et al. performed a comparative study of urinary biomarkers of vancomycin-induced kidney injury and showed that new biomarkers included kidney injury molecule-1 (KIM-1) and neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin (NGAL) that could identify renal injury earlier than serum creatinine. This presentation highlights the significance of incorporating the use of biomarkers in the toxicity monitoring system into the framework of precision pharmacotherapy [28]. The importance of pharmacodynamic response markers has also been mentioned in research conducted to assess dose optimisation strategies. Al-Shaer et al. explored the population pharmacokinetics and target achievement of cefepime in critically ill patients and gave recommendations for initial dosing on the basis of pharmacodynamic targets instead of predetermined concentration limits. Their article explains how the correlation of drug exposure with indices of bacterial killing can be used to increase therapeutic response assessment, especially in patients whose renal clearance varies [29]. The real-life clinical trials also support the significance of total evaluation of response. An et al. conducted population pharmacodynamic and target attainment studies to identify empirical dosing schedules that were rationally based on cefepime and showed that the attainment of the pharmacodynamic target was closely linked with clinical improvements.

They conclude their results by recommending the incorporation of exposure-response relationships in the daily use of therapeutic drugs instead of concentration-based measurements [30].

These studies all emphasise the importance of going beyond the levels of drugs in nephrology when measuring therapeutic response, to include clinical outcomes, pharmacodynamic indices, and kidney injury biomarkers. A combination of these components with an accurate drug monitoring will allow a more comprehensive evaluation of the treatment efficiency and safety, and eventually facilitate personalised pharmacotherapy of patients with kidney disorders. Table 4 summarises the key domains and indicators to be used in response evaluation outside the concentrations.

Table 4. Therapeutic Response Evaluation Beyond Drug Concentrations

Evaluation Domain	Indicator	Clinical Relevance	Representative Studies
Clinical outcomes	Infection resolution, graft survival	Measures effectiveness	[14,15,27]
Pharmacodynamic targets	AUC/MIC, %Ft>MIC	Exposure response link	[22,29,30]
Kidney injury biomarkers	NGAL, KIM-1, cystatin C	Early toxicity detection	[19,28]
Real-world implementation	AKI incidence, workflow feasibility	Translational impact	[23,35,37]

6. Drug-Specific Applications in Nephrology Practice

Nephrology Precision pharmacotherapy has been specifically and specially used in drug classes with a narrow therapeutic index and wide inter-patients variability, including immunosuppressive agents and antimicrobials. In patients who have received a kidney transplant, optimal immunosuppressive exposure is a vital undertaking to ensure that graft rejection is avoided with minimal nephrotoxicity and systemic adverse effects being minimised. Raval et al. proved that using the CYP3A5 genetic variants in dose-predictive algorithms of tacrolimus led to significantly better dose interpretability and individualised exposure prediction, supporting the importance of pharmacogenetically-driven therapeutic drug monitoring in renal transplantation [31].

The research of sophisticated computational and modelling techniques has also enhanced the immunosuppressive doses. A comparative assessment of tacrolimus assays conducted on transplant recipients by SahBandar and others identified differences in the performance of the assays that can cause the clinically meaningful differences in dosing decisions. They conclude that assay choice and standardization are crucial in obtaining the desired results of consistency and reliability in the therapeutic drug monitoring of nephrology practice [32]. The above drug-specific precision pharmacotherapy applications are presented in Figure 3.

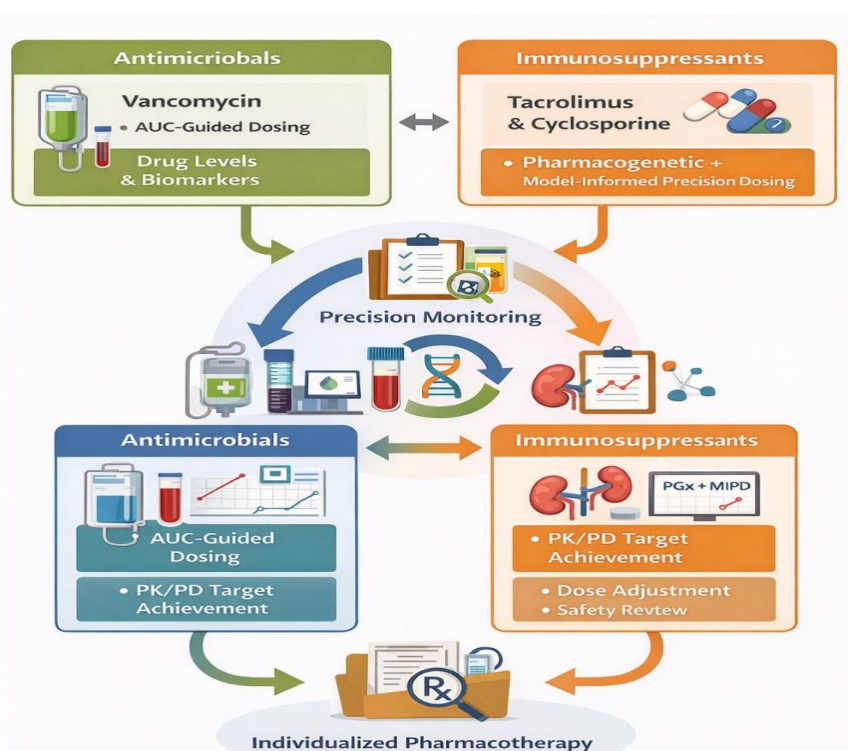


Figure 3. Drug-Specific Precision Pharmacotherapy in Nephrology Practice

Precision dosing principles are not limited to immunosuppressive therapy but also in antimicrobial therapy of patients with kidney disease. Scharf et al. assessed the actual application of therapeutic drug monitoring to meropenem and piperacillin in critically ill patients and found that better pharmacokinetic target achievement was achieved when TDM routine became a part of clinical processes. These findings highlight the clinical and feasibility of precision surveillance of beta-lactam antibiotics in renal groups [33].

Likewise, Schoenenberger-Arnaiz et al. have shown the utility of therapeutic drug monitoring of piperacillin and meropenem in clinical practice, finding that both individual dose adjustment and pharmacodynamic target achievement were better in critically ill patients with the use of measured concentrations. Their potential cohort study augments the daily use of TDM of renal clearance of antimicrobials used in nephrology and intensive care units [34]. The international attitude towards monitoring of therapeutic drugs also emphasises differences in access, implementation and use of therapeutic drugs between the healthcare systems. Williams et al. surveyed the practices of antimicrobial TDM across nations and found that the major obstacles are the lack of laboratory infrastructure and skilled workforce, as well as poor turnaround times. These results highlight that the clinical utility of precise pharmacotherapy has already been proven, but to achieve success in the implementation of the idea in practice, the work of nephrology institutions needs to be coordinated, and resource distribution planned [35]. Taken together, these applications of the specific drugs indicate that accurate drug monitoring is not only possible but also effective in various treatment fields of nephrology. Through a combination of pharmacogenetics, innovative bioanalytical assays, and clinical workflow, personalised pharmacotherapy can be realised and increase safety and treatment response in patients with kidney disorders.

7. Clinical Implementation of Integrative Bioanalytical Strategies in Nephrology Practice

The clinical feasibility, scalability, and capacity of integrative bioanalytical strategies to lead to better patient outcomes would make the successful translation of these measures to routine nephrology practice. Clinical use of model-informed and bioanalytically guided pharmacotherapy has demonstrated increasing clinical utility especially among patients with complicated diseases, including kidney diseases. Administration of a vancomycin loading dose under pharmacokinetic principles showed that the administration made early target AUC values, which is a significant enhancement of achieving a target AUC value, but indicates how analytically informed dosing decisions can be implemented in standard clinical practice, with no greater risk of toxicity [36]. Therapeutic drug monitoring is further supported by future and observational studies when implemented in a clinical process. This was done by Dogan and coworkers, who performed a real-world, single-centre observational study in assessing the practice of vancomycin therapeutic drug monitoring and indicated that dose individualisation and target achievement improved when structured monitoring protocols were implemented. Their conclusions are used to demonstrate how standardised bioanalytical strategies can successfully be implemented in daily nephrology and infectious disease practice [37]. An implementation system of these integrative bioanalytical approaches in a clinical setting is illustrated in Figure 4.

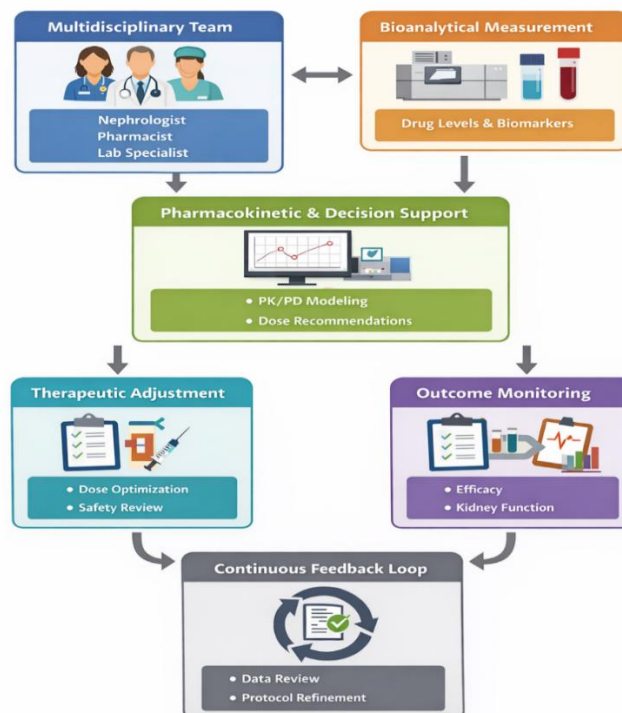


Figure 4. Clinical Implementation Framework for Integrative Bioanalytical Strategies

It is also possible that precision pharmacotherapy is improving with the use of machine learning and algorithm-based dosing tools. With the help of genetic algorithm and deep forest modelling techniques, Min et al. were able to construct clinical-oriented tacrolimus dose algorithms that demonstrated high accuracy of dose prediction as opposed to traditional methods. These data show that bioanalytical models with artificial intelligence can be used to improve the accuracy of therapy in patients with kidney transplantation [38].

In addition to the accuracy of dosing, integrative bioanalytical approaches are significant in measuring the therapeutic response and averting the negative results. Laas et al. demonstrated that subgroup model selection enhanced the prediction of vancomycin concentration in heterogeneous groups of patients who might be renal impaired. He or she focuses on the fact that the use of custom analytical and modelling strategies can increase the safety and effectiveness both in the theoretical and practical settings of nephrology [39].

International measures of access and use are another point that favours the implementation of integrative bioanalytical strategies. Williams et al. presented a global overview of the practices of antimicrobial therapeutic drug monitoring, and this study also established institutional, logistical, and educational challenges that determine the uptake. In their work, it is stressed that although analytical tools and pharmacometric tools become more and more accessible, the institutional commitment, multidisciplinary collaboration, and the alignment of laboratory and clinical infrastructure are necessary to successfully implement them in the practice of nephrology [40].

These studies combined indicate that integrative bioanalytical approaches are ceasing to be restricted to research settings and are, in fact, becoming more and more influential on actual nephrology practice. Through accurate drug monitoring, new modelling approaches, and managed clinical implementation, nephrology groups may provide patients with kidney disorders with more customised, safer, and efficient pharmacotherapy.

8. Future Directions and Research Gaps

Although there has been a great breakthrough in bioanalytical techniques and accuracy in the monitoring of drugs, there are still a number of gaps that restrict the complete achievement of individualised pharmacotherapy in kidney diseases. The unfinished incorporation of bioanalytical data into the normal clinical decision-making process is one of the most obvious problems. Although therapeutic drug monitoring and model-informed precision dose-finding technologies have become more accessible, their adoption is inconsistent in different institutions because of a weak infrastructure, the absence of standardised practice, and poor health care professional training. This is necessary to overcome these barriers so that precision pharmacotherapy can be provided to nephrology practice on an equal basis.

The other important research gap is the fact that there is a low number of high-quality prospective studies that assess clinical outcomes related to integrative bioanalytical approaches. A good part of the available evidence is based on either observational studies or retrospective analyses, or surrogate pharmacokinetic endpoints. Multicentred randomised controlled trials, on a large scale, are required to prove conclusive correlations between accurate drug monitoring, better patient-centred outcomes, and renal safety in long-term studies of diverse nephrology patients, with variable renal functioning and multimorbidity.

The use of biomarkers in assessing therapeutic responses also deserves more research. In spite of promising results, due to limited validation, absence of standardised thresholds and uncertainty on how the emerging biomarkers of kidney injury and drug toxicity are incorporated with pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic models, their clinical potential is limited. The next step in research ought to be determining the validity of multimodal biomarker panels and the methods of integrating drug exposure measures with biomarkers to implement real-time therapeutic decisions.

Another application of pharmacogenomics in nephrology pharmacotherapy is also underexplored. Although genetic variability of drug-metabolising enzymes and transporters has been reported to affect drug exposure, the practice of genotype-guided dosing has yet to be put into routine. It is hoped that the research will focus on elucidating the cost-saving aspect, clinical implications, and ethical implications of adding the pharmacogenomic information to precision drug monitoring models, especially in resource-constrained conditions.

The blistering development of artificial intelligence and machine learning presents both new opportunities for improving precision pharmacotherapy, but also new challenges. Numerous dosing algorithms do not provide transparency, outward validation, and regulation. The prospective work needs to focus on the creation of models that can be applied safely to electronic health records, are interpretable, and whose validity in clinical use is proven. The quality of data, interoperability, and privacy of patients will be a requirement to ensure these technologies develop.

Lastly, pharmacokinetic and bioanalytical studies have not been represented in the special populations in the nephrology setting, such as pediatric patients, elderly patients, pregnant patients, and patients with rare kidney diseases. Specific research on these groups is needed to prevent extrapolation of results on adult or general populations, and to ensure that accurate pharmacotherapy will be advantageous to all kidney-diseased patients.

Summarising, although integrative bioanalytical strategies have altered the future of pharmacotherapy in kidney diseases, there are still fine gaps in research and application. It will be imperative to tackle these concerns using multidisciplinary studies, which employ standard clinical paradigms to achieve progress in precision medicine in the field of nephrology.

9. Conclusion

The optimisation of pharmacotherapy in kidney disorders has been a significant clinical dilemma since the altered drug disposition, high inter-individual variability, and predisposition to drug-induced toxicity. These complications are

commonly not well managed by conventional dosing techniques and conventional therapies, and therapeutic drug monitoring, especially in patients with advanced kidney disease or patients who have undergone renal replacement therapies. The integrative bioanalytical approaches offer a credible platform to surmount these constraints to allow precision-directed, patient-specific pharmacotherapy. Recent improvements in bioanalytical systems and drug measurement methods with great precision have increased the confidence of therapeutic drug monitoring, enabling clinicians to cease the use of fixed concentration goals in favour of exposure-based dosage systems. These measures, together with model-informed dosing precision, aid in the optimization of the dose to each patient, better therapeutic target achievement, and lower chances of nephrotoxicity. Notably, a therapeutic response measurement involving the combination of clinical outcome and renal injury biomarkers provides a more extensive measurement of treatment efficacy and safety. Clinical application of integrative bioanalytical strategies has been shown to have real enhancements in the nephrology practice, such as antimicrobial therapy and immunosuppressive treatment in kidney transplantation. These strategies will support safer and more effective use of pharmacotherapy by integrating advanced analytics and clinical decision-making. Since nephrology is going to adopt precision medicine, the integrative bioanalytical strategies are bound to be instrumental in enhancing personalised care and improving the outcomes of patients with kidney disorders.

References

1. Abdul-Aziz MH, Alffenaar JW, Bassetti M, Bracht H, Dimopoulos G, Marriott D, Neely MN, Paiva JA, Pea F, Sjovall F, Timsit JF. Antimicrobial therapeutic drug monitoring in critically ill adult patients: a position paper. *Intensive care medicine*. 2020 May 7;46(6):1127.
2. Aljefri DM, Avedissian SN, Rhodes NJ, Postelnick MJ, Nguyen K, Scheetz MH. Vancomycin area under the curve and acute kidney injury: a meta-analysis. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 2019 Nov 13;69(11):1881-7.
3. Al-Shaer MH, Neely MN, Liu J, Cherabuddi K, Venugopalan V, Rhodes NJ, Klinker K, Scheetz MH, Peloquin CA. Population pharmacokinetics and target attainment of cefepime in critically ill patients and guidance for initial dosing. *Antimicrobial agents and chemotherapy*. 2020 Aug 20;64(9):10-128.
4. An G, Creech CB, Wu N, Nation RL, Gu K, Nalbant D, Jimenez-Truque N, Fissell W, Patel PC, Fishbane N, Watanabe A. Population pharmacokinetics and target attainment analyses to identify a rational empirical dosing strategy for cefepime in critically ill patients. *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*. 2023 Jun;78(6):1460-70.
5. Awdishu L, Maxson R, Gratt C, Rubenzik T, Battistella M. KDIGO 2024 clinical practice guideline on evaluation and management of chronic kidney disease: A primer on what pharmacists need to know. *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*. 2025 Jun 15;82(12):660-71.
6. Bamgbola O. Review of vancomycin-induced renal toxicity: an update. *Therapeutic advances in endocrinology and metabolism*. 2016 Jun;7(3):136-47.
7. Bilal M, Zoller M, Fuhr U, Jaehde U, Ullah S, Liebchen U, Büsker S, Zander J, Babouee Flury B, Taubert M. Cefepime population pharmacokinetics, antibacterial target attainment, and estimated probability of neurotoxicity in critically ill patients. *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*. 2023 Jul 18;67(7):e00309-23.
8. Bradley N, Ng K. Evaluation of real-world vancomycin dosing and attainment of therapeutic drug monitoring targets. *Pharmacy*. 2023 Jun 6;11(3):95.
9. Claisse G, Zufferey PJ, Trone JC, Maillard N, Delavenne X, Laporte S, Ollier E. Predicting the dose of vancomycin in ICU patients receiving different types of RRT therapy: a model-based meta-analytic approach. *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*. 2019 Jun;85(6):1215-26.
10. Dogan CZ, Kara E, Pinar A, Demirkan K, Metan G. Therapeutic drug monitoring in patients treated with vancomycin: a single center, prospective, observational, real-world study. *European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases*. 2025 Jun 13:1-7.
11. Economou CJ, Kielstein JT, Czoek D, Xie J, Field J, Richards B, Tallott M, Visser A, Koenig C, Hafer C, Schmidt JJ. Population pharmacokinetics of vancomycin in critically ill patients receiving prolonged intermittent renal replacement therapy. *International journal of antimicrobial agents*. 2018 Aug 1;52(2):151-7.
12. Elrggal ME, Haseeb A, AlGethamy M, Ahsan U, Saleem Z, Althaqafi AS, Alshuail SS, Alsiddiqi ZA, Iqbal MS, Alzahrani AF, AlQarni A. Dose optimization of vancomycin in obese patients: A systematic review. *Frontiers in Pharmacology*. 2023 Mar 24;14:965284.
13. Filippone EJ, Kraft WK, Farber JL. The nephrotoxicity of vancomycin. *Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics*. 2017 Sep;102(3):459-69.
14. Hagel S, Bach F, Brenner T, Bracht H, Brinkmann A, Annecke T, Hohn A, Weigand M, Michels G, Kluge S, Nierhaus A. Effect of therapeutic drug monitoring-based dose optimization of piperacillin/tazobactam on sepsis-related organ dysfunction in patients with sepsis: a randomized controlled trial. *Intensive care medicine*. 2022 Mar;48(3):311-21.
15. Hall NM, Brown ML, Edwards WS, Oster RA, Cordell W, Stripling J. Model-informed precision dosing improves outcomes in patients receiving vancomycin for gram-positive infections. In *Open Forum Infectious Diseases* 2024 Jan (Vol. 11, No. 1, p. ofae002). US: Oxford University Press.
16. Hoffert Y, Dia N, Vanuytsel T, Vos R, Kuypers D, Van Cleemput J, Verbeek J, Dreesen E. Model-informed precision dosing of tacrolimus: a systematic review of population pharmacokinetic models and a benchmark study of software tools. *Clinical Pharmacokinetics*. 2024 Oct;63(10):1407-21.

17. Laas HK, Metsvaht T, Tamme K, Karjagin J, Naber K, Afanasjev A, Tiivel C, Lutsar I, Soeorg H. Subgroup-based model selection to improve the prediction of vancomycin concentrations. *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*. 2025 Sep 3;69(9):e00174-25.
18. Liu F, Mao J, Cheng Z, Xu L, Huang S. Towards model-informed precision dosing of cyclosporine in adult renal transplantation: Assessing population pharmacokinetic models and multi-model strategies. *European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*. 2025 Nov 1;214:107241.
19. Lu Z, Ni W, Wu Y, Zhai B, Zhao Q, Zheng T, Liu Q, Ding D. Application of biomarkers in the diagnosis of kidney disease. *Frontiers in Medicine*. 2025 Apr 30;12:1560222.
20. Matsumoto K, Oda K, Shoji K, Hanai Y, Takahashi Y, Fujii S, Hamada Y, Kimura T, Mayumi T, Ueda T, Nakajima K. Clinical practice guidelines for therapeutic drug monitoring of vancomycin in the framework of model-informed precision dosing: a consensus review by the Japanese Society of Chemotherapy and the Japanese Society of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring. *Pharmaceutics*. 2022 Feb 23;14(3):489.
21. McClure S, McElroy L, Gugkaeva Z. Implementation of vancomycin AUC/MIC dosing vs traditional trough dosing and incidence of acute kidney injury at a rural community hospital. *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*. 2024 Jun 1;81(11):e283-8.
22. Min J, Li Q, Lai W, Chen G. Clinical-oriented tacrolimus dosing algorithms in kidney transplant based on genetic algorithm and deep forest. *Frontiers in Pharmacology*. 2025 Aug 29;16:1656197.
23. Nix DE, Davis LE, Matthias KR. The relationship of vancomycin 24-hour AUC and trough concentration. *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*. 2022 Apr 1;79(7):534-9.
24. Oda K, Jono H, Saito H. Model-informed precision dosing of vancomycin in adult patients undergoing hemodialysis. *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*. 2023 Jun 15;67(6):e00089-23.
25. Pai Mangalore R, Ashok A, Lee SJ, Romero L, Peel TN, Udy AA, Peleg AY. Beta-lactam antibiotic therapeutic drug monitoring in critically ill patients: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 2022 Nov 15;75(10):1848-60.
26. Pais GM, Avedissian SN, O'Donnell JN, Rhodes NJ, Lodise TP, Prozialeck WC, Lamar PC, Cluff C, Gulati A, Fitzgerald JC, Downes KJ. Comparative performance of urinary biomarkers for vancomycin-induced kidney injury according to timeline of injury. *Antimicrobial agents and chemotherapy*. 2019 Jul;63(7):10-128.
27. Raval CU, Makwana A, Patel S, Hemani R, Pandey SN. Optimizing tacrolimus dosage in post-renal transplantation using DoseOptimal framework: profiling CYP3A5 genetic variants for interpretability. *International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy*. 2025 Mar 21:1-1.
28. Richter DC, Frey O, Röhr A, Roberts JA, Köberer A, Fuchs T, Papadimas N, Heinzel-Gutenbrunner M, Brenner T, Lichtenstern C, Weigand MA. Therapeutic drug monitoring-guided continuous infusion of piperacillin/tazobactam significantly improves pharmacokinetic target attainment in critically ill patients: a retrospective analysis of four years of clinical experience. *Infection*. 2019 Dec;47(6):1001-11.
29. Rybak MJ, Le J, Lodise TP, Levine DP, Bradley JS, Liu C, Mueller BA, Pai MP, Wong-Beringer A, Rotschafer JC, Rodvold KA. Therapeutic monitoring of vancomycin for serious methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infections: a revised consensus guideline and review by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, and the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists. *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*. 2020 Jun 1;77(11):835-64.
30. SahBandar IN, Zhao Z, Racine-Brzostek SE, Rai AJ, Cid M, Cushing MM, Lindeman N, Muthukumar T, Yang HS. Comparative evaluation of five tacrolimus assays in transplant recipients: implications for optimizing therapeutic drug monitoring. *Frontiers in Transplantation*. 2025 Dec 1;4:1716789.
31. Scharf C, Paal M, Schroeder I, Vogeser M, Draenert R, Irlbeck M, Zoller M, Liebchen U. Therapeutic drug monitoring of meropenem and piperacillin in critical illness—experience and recommendations from one year in routine clinical practice. *Antibiotics*. 2020 Mar 21;9(3):131.
32. Schoenenberger-Arnaiz JA, Ahmad-Diaz F, Miralbes-Torner M, Aragonés-Eroles A, Cano-Marrón M, Palomar-Martínez M. Usefulness of therapeutic drug monitoring of piperacillin and meropenem in routine clinical practice: a prospective cohort study in critically ill patients. *European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*. 2020 Mar 1;27(e1):e30-5.
33. Shipkova M, Svinarov D. LC-MS/MS as a tool for TDM services: where are we?. *Clinical biochemistry*. 2016 Sep 1;49(13-14):1009-23.
34. Stoessel AM, Hale CM, Seabury RW, Miller CD, Steele JM. The impact of AUC-based monitoring on pharmacist-directed vancomycin dose adjustments in complicated methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* infection. *Journal of pharmacy practice*. 2019 Aug;32(4):442-6.
35. Tongsai S, Koomanachai P. The safety and efficacy of high versus low vancomycin trough levels in the treatment of patients with infections caused by methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*: a meta-analysis. *BMC research notes*. 2016 Sep 29;9(1):455.
36. Van Der Heggen T, Buyle FM, Claus B, Somers A, Schelstraete P, De Paepe P, Vanhaesebrouck S, De Cock PA. Vancomycin dosing and therapeutic drug monitoring practices: guidelines versus real-life. *International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy*. 2021 Oct;43(5):1394-403.
37. Veiga RP, Paiva JA. Pharmacokinetics–pharmacodynamics issues relevant for the clinical use of beta-lactam antibiotics in critically ill patients. *Critical Care*. 2018 Sep 24;22(1):233.

38. Williams P, Cotta MO, Tabah A, Sandaradura I, Kanji S, Scheetz MH, Imani S, Elhadi M, Pardos SL, Schellack N, Sanches C. Antimicrobial therapeutic drug monitoring in critically ill adult patients—An international perspective on access, utilisation, and barriers. *International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents*. 2024 Aug 1;64(2):107192.
39. Yang S, Antonello A, Smoke S. Impact of a 20 mg/kg vancomycin loading dose on early AUC target attainment. *Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease*. 2024 Aug 1;109(4):116355.
40. Zwart TC, Guchelaar HJ, van der Boog PJ, Swen JJ, van Gelder T, de Fijter JW, Moes DJ. Model-informed precision dosing to optimise immunosuppressive therapy in renal transplantation. *Drug discovery today*. 2021 Nov 1;26(11):2527-46.