

Slides on the meta-analysis of prophylaxis are deleted, because the data were too preliminary

# Nitrofurantoin

What do we know?

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# History

- Developed in the 1940s
- Approved in 1953 by the FDA
- Traditional uses:
  - Gram-negative cystitis/catheter-associated bacteriuria
  - Asymptomatic bacteriuria (in pregnancy)
  - Enterococcal cystitis



Wikimedia.org

# The use over time



*From presentation of A. Huttner, AIDA meeting 2012*

- Used from 1953
- Decreased use due to toxicity issues in the 1970s
- Increase use due to resistance problems to the alternative antibiotics

# Recent warning in the French guidelines

- Warning on toxicity for prophylaxis

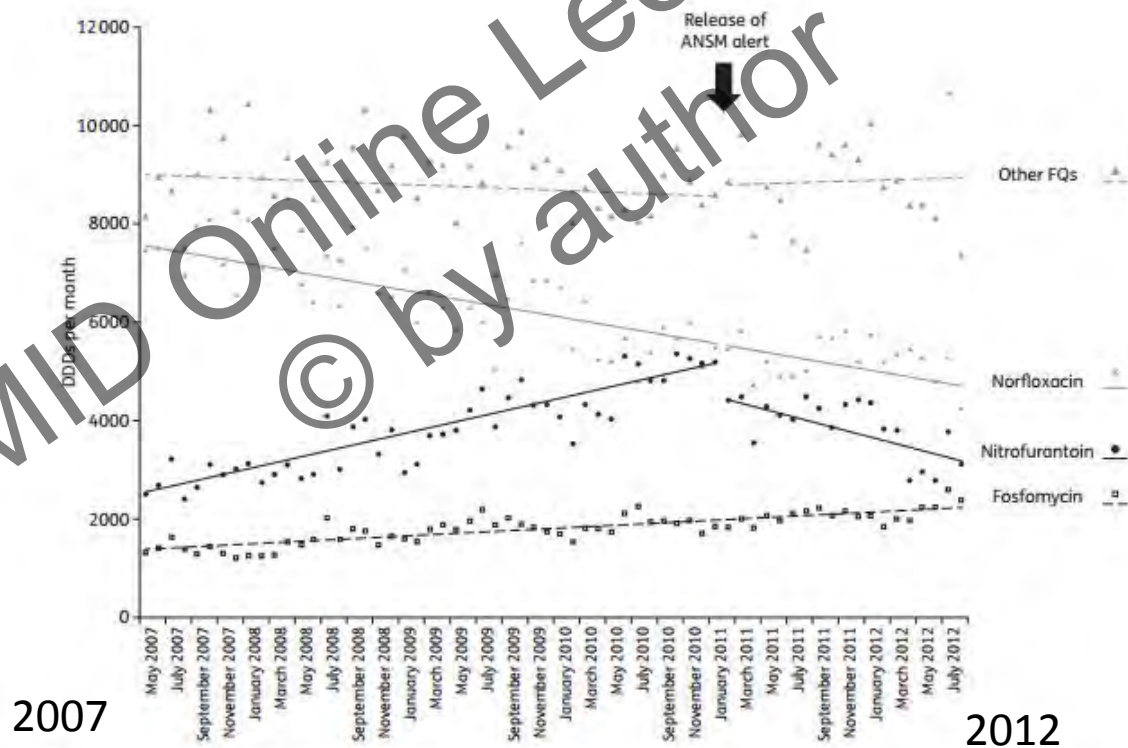


Figure 1. Graphical representation of the segmented regression modification of antibiotic use before and after the release of the ANSM alert. FQs, fluoroquinolones.

C. Slekovec, J. Leroy, A. Huttner et al. JAC, p282,2014

# Different Dosages used

- treatment
  - 4 times daily 50mg
  - 2 times daily 100mg
  - 4 times daily 100mg
- prophylaxis
  - 4 times daily 50mg (short-term)
  - Once daily 50mg
  - Once daily 75mg
  - Once daily 100mg

# Current medical knowledge

- Pharmacokinetics
- Pharmacodynamics
- Clinical studies

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# Pharmacokinetics

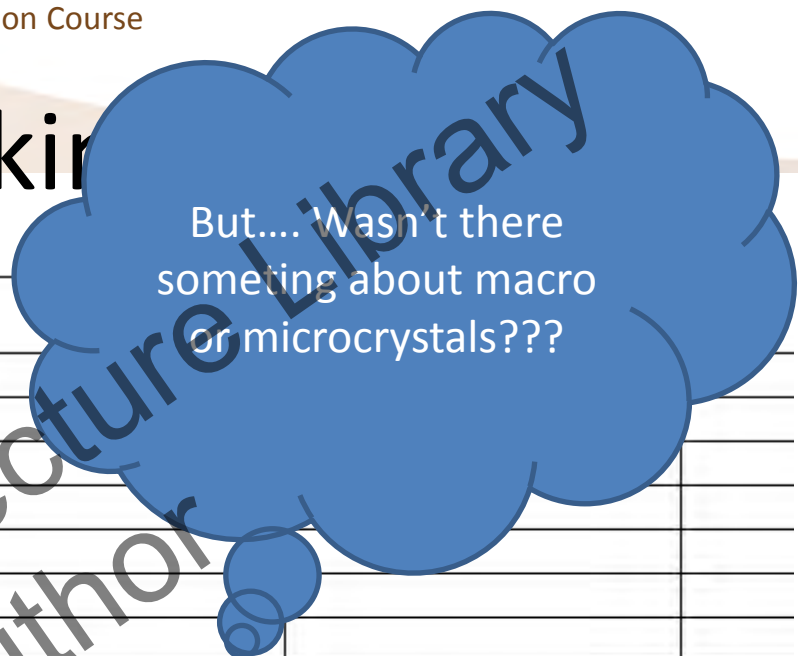
4. Pharmacokinetics			
Dosage (mg)	100 mg		
C <sub>max</sub> (mg/L)	<2 after 1-4 h		
C <sub>min</sub> (mg/L)			
Total body clearance (L/h)			
T <sub>1/2</sub> (h), mean (range)	0.5-1		
AUC <sub>24h</sub> (mg.h/L)			
Fraction unbound (%)	25-50		
Volume of distribution (L/kg)	0.6		
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two values are given where references differ. Cells are left empty when data are not readily available.</li> <li>• Oral absorption &gt;95 %</li> <li>• Concentration in urine &gt;100 mg/L</li> </ul>		
References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mazzei et al Int J Ant Agents 2006; 28 suppl 1: 35-46.</li> <li>• Finch R. In Antibiotic and Chemotherapy 1997. Churchill-Livingstone; 396-8.</li> </ul>		

- Oral administration



*Nitrofurantoin: Rationale for the EUCAST clinical breakpoints, version 1.0*

# Pharmacokinetics



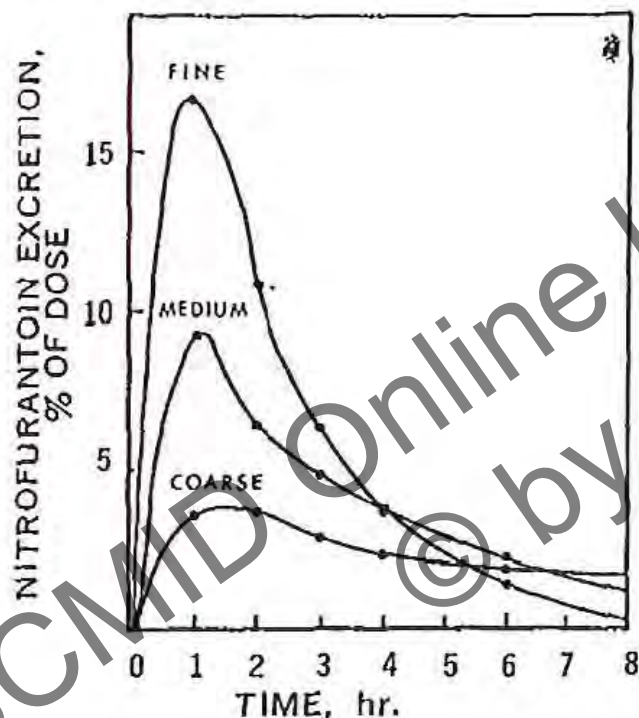
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- Oral administration

*Nitrofurantoin: Rationale for the EUCAST clinical breakpoints, version 1.0,2010*



# Does the size of the crystals matter?



*Fig. 1—Effect of crystal size of orally administered nitrofurantoin on urinary recovery rate in the rat. Key: coarse, 50–80 mesh (300–180  $\mu$ ); medium, 80–200 mesh (180–75  $\mu$ ); fine, 200 mesh to micronized (75–10  $\mu$  or less).*

- Study in rats
- The smaller the size of the crystals, more nitrofurantoin is excreted in the urine.

Paul 1967 J Pharm Sc 56(7); p882-5

# humans

TABLE II—SUMMARY OF CRITERIA MEASURED IN HUMAN VOLUNTEERS RECEIVING VARIOUS SIZES OF NITROFURANTOIN CRYSTALS<sup>a</sup>

Crystal Size <sup>b</sup> of Nitrofurantoin	(1) Max. % Excreted in Any 2-hr. Period	(2) Av. Time of Max. % Excretion, hr.	(3) Max. Urinary Concn. Attained, mg./L.	(4) Av. Time Max. Urinary Concn. Attained, hr.	(5) Total % of Initial Dose Excreted
50-60 mesh	8.8	4.9	83	5.5	19.6
80-120 mesh	12.9	4.6	124	5.0	29.8
140-200 mesh	16.6	3.8	159	4.1	32.3
200-400 mesh <small>small</small>	17.8	3.6	156	3.4	35.4
Marketed nitrofurantoin tablets (Provide fine crystals in the 10 $\mu$ range)	20.0	3.6	151	3.0	36.1

<sup>a</sup> Each value based on 15 complete individual studies—no pooling of samples. Exceptions: 10 individuals only were available from same population for 200-400 mesh and 14 for tablets. <sup>b</sup> Size checked by microscopic measurement.

# Mean cumulative excretion

## Fasting vs nonfasting

macrocrystal

microcrystal

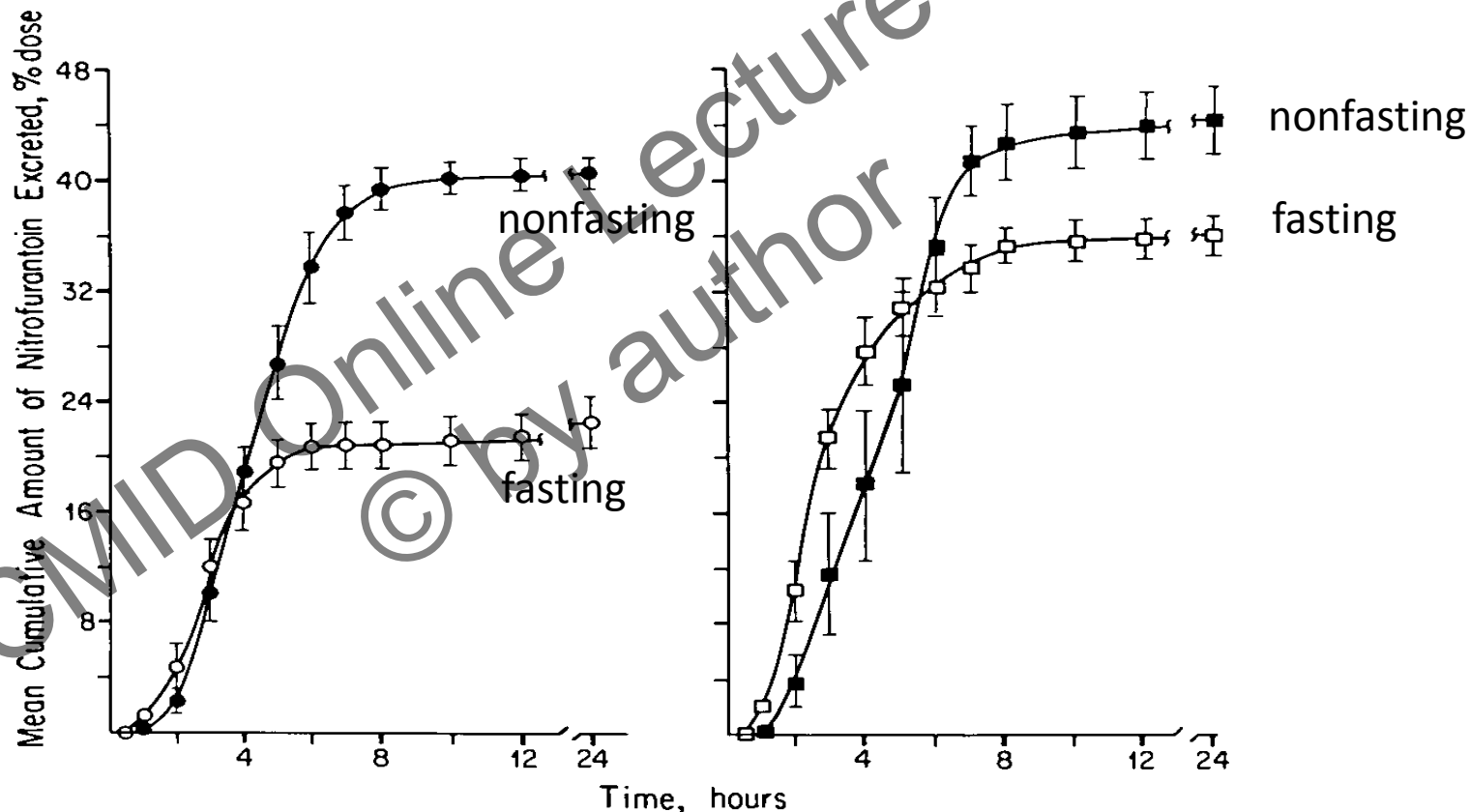


Fig. 1. Mean cumulative urinary excretion of nitrofurantoin after oral administration of a 100 mg macrocrystalline capsule to fasting (○) and nonfasting (●) subjects, and a 100 mg microcrystalline tablet to fasting (□) and nonfasting (■) subjects. N = 4; Vertical bars represent standard errors of the mean.

# Summary of pharmacokinetics

- Well absorbed (primarily small intestine)
- Absorption enhanced by food
- Macrocrystalline dissolves more slowly (“slow release”)
- Drug accumulates in urine
- Low serum concentrations
- Excretion by kidney and inactivated in body
- Differences between the formulations

# Next step

- To discuss the results of the pharmacokinetics we need some pharmacodynamics



Figure obtained from: <http://ydy.org/media/funny-pictures/conversation-between-friends/>

# Pharmacodynamics



## 5. Pharmacodynamics

fAUC/MIC for bacteriostasis				
fAUC/MIC for 2 log reduction				
fAUC/MIC from clinical data				
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pharmacodynamic parameters for nitrofurantoin have not been determined.</li> <li>Cells are left empty when data are not readily available.</li> </ul>			
References				

*Nitrofurantoin: Rationale for the EUCAST clinical breakpoints, version 1.0, 2010*

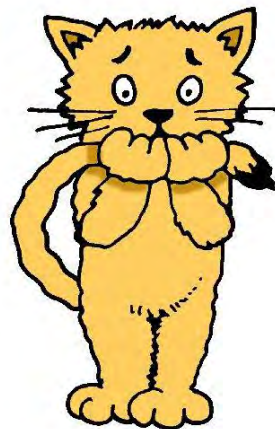
# Pharmacodynamics in literature

- Currently one in vitro-trial available
- 2015 JAC Lindgren et al., p1076
  - PD against common uropathogens
  - Used  $t_{1/2}$  of hour in plasma, but value in urine is unknown
  - Time kill curves in MH broth
  - Highly effective against E coli and S saprophyticus
  - Slower killing against E faecium
  - E coli:  $T > MIC$  best correlation with efficacy
  - BUT: Only one dose used. Therefore, no definitive conclusions can be drawn
- Further studies on the PD are currently being performed

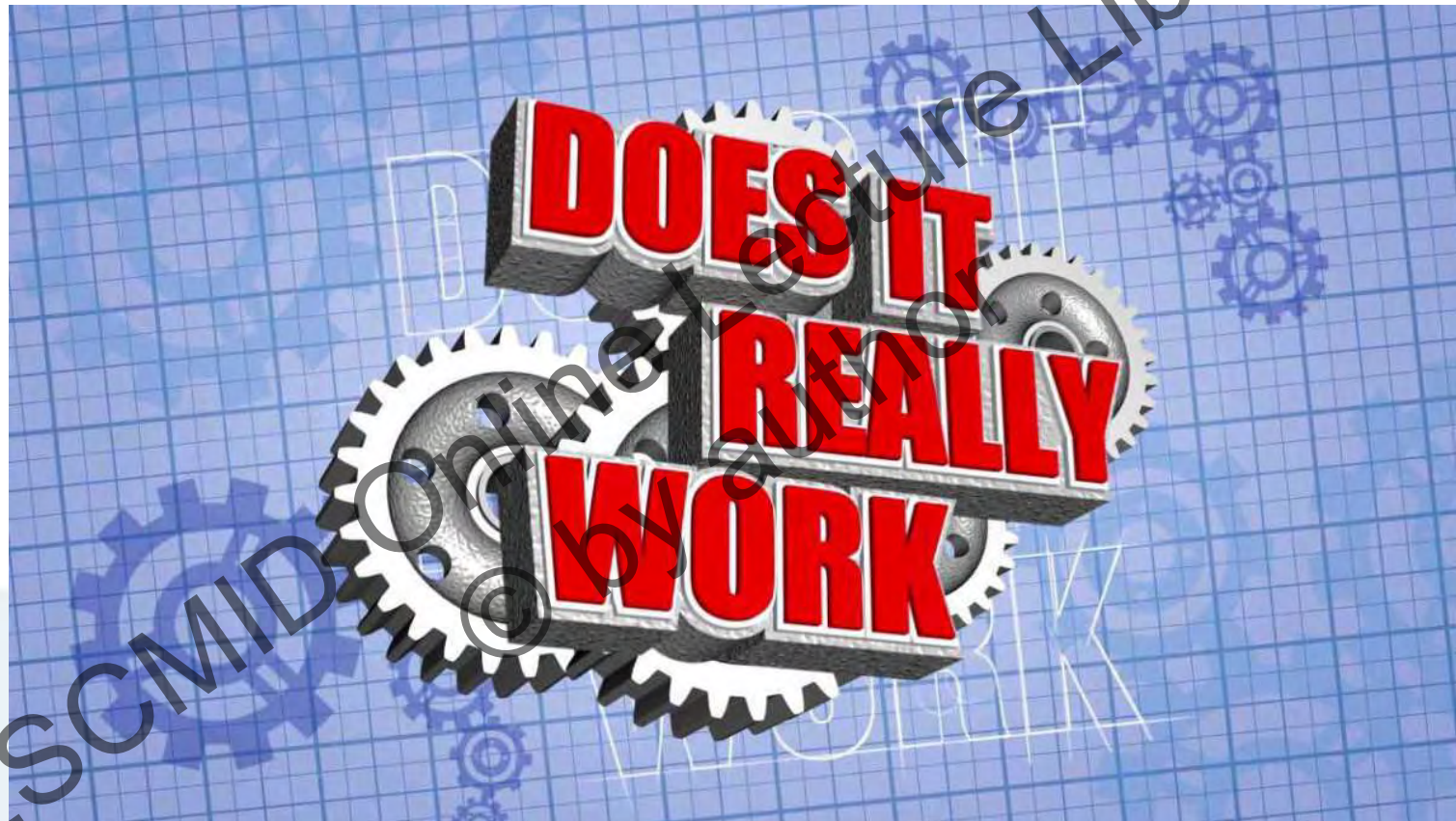
So, no consensus on the PK/PD index, yet.

# Gaps

- Detailed PK information on different formulations
- Pharmacokinetics of nitrofurantoin in the elderly
- Consensus on the PK/PD-target
- So actually, we need the correct or optimal dose







# Clinical trials in the literature



**UNDER  
REVIEW**

# Meta-analysis

- Treatment for UTI
- Prophylaxis for UTI



But a year later they reported conflicting results....



Figure: Medical humour on Pinterest | Medical, Co

# Treatment of UTI

## Nitrofurantoin revisited: a systematic review and meta-analysis of controlled trials

Angela Huttner<sup>1\*</sup>, Els M. Verhaegh<sup>2</sup>, Stephan Harbarth<sup>1</sup>, Anouk E. Muller<sup>3</sup>, Ursula Theuretzbacher<sup>4</sup> and Johan W. Mouton<sup>5,6</sup>

**Table 1.** Inclusion criteria for studies considered for the review of nitrofurantoin's efficacy and toxicity for therapy of lower UTI

### Study design

Included:

- controlled clinical trials

Excluded:

- uncontrolled trials

### Participants

Included:

- human patients of all ages and both genders in all settings

Excluded:

- animal studies
- *in vitro* studies

### Interventions

Included:

- oral nitrofurantoin at any dose  $\leq 14$  days for treatment of UTI<sup>a</sup>

Excluded:

- nitrofurantoin combined with another antibacterial targeting uropathogens
- nitrofurantoin for prostatitis
- nitrofurantoin for prophylactic purposes
- nitrofurantoin for treatment of conditions outside the urinary tract

### Comparators

Included:

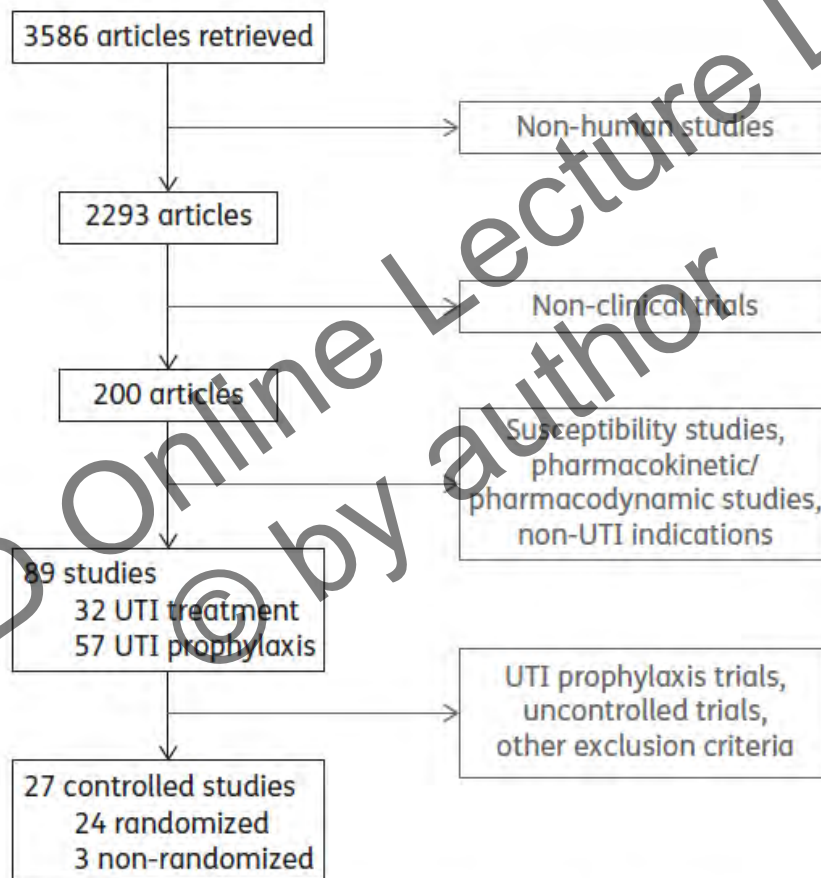
- placebo
- no treatment
- a different drug
- nitrofurantoin at a different dose, frequency or duration

Excluded:

- nitrofurantoin with another antibacterial targeting uropathogens

<sup>a</sup>In literature published before 1990, asymptomatic bacteriuria was often considered sufficient for a diagnosis of UTI.

# search

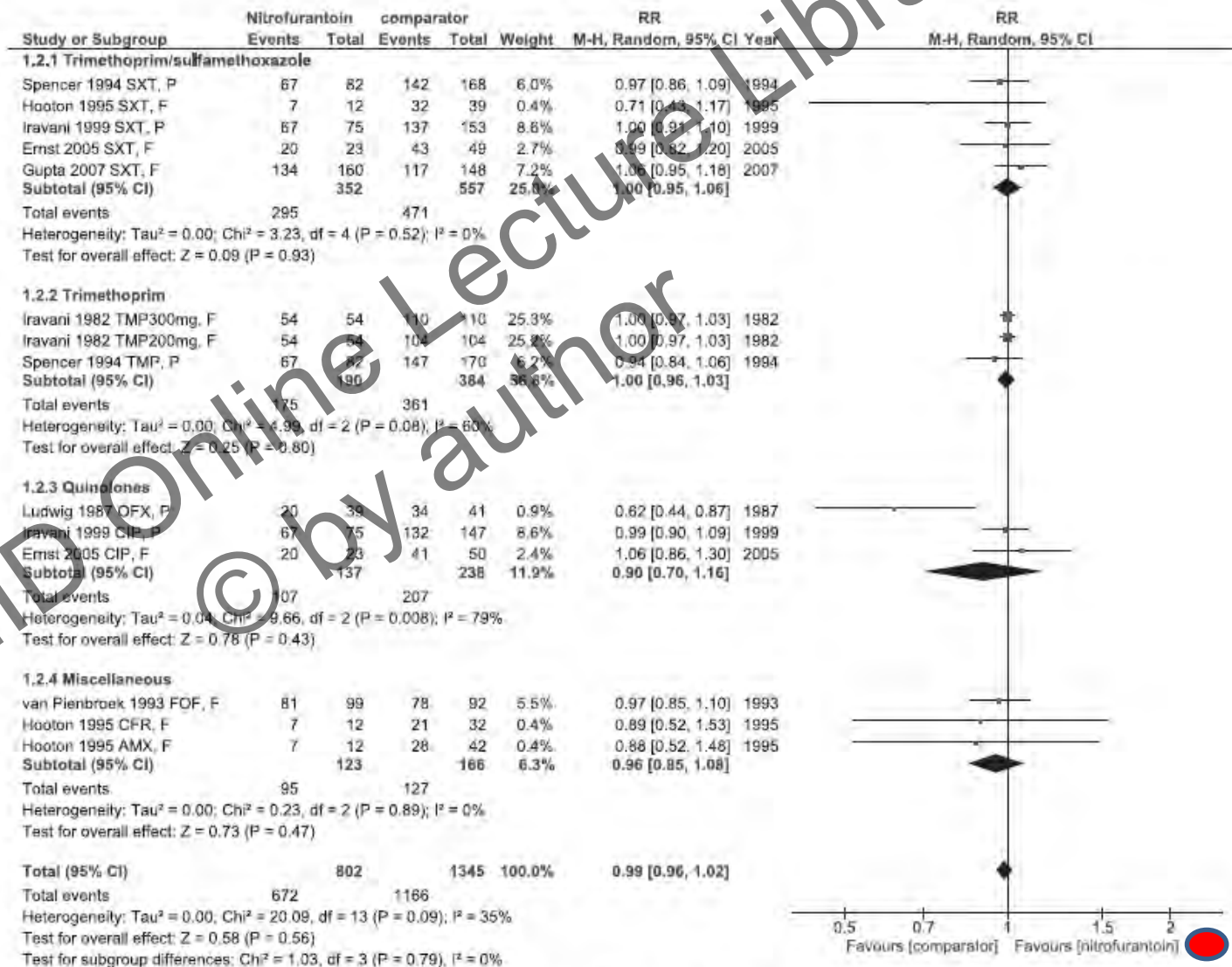


**Figure 2.** Flow chart for the retrieval of studies evaluated in the review of nitrofurantoin's efficacy and toxicity.

# Clinical efficacy in treatment of UTI

Not significant for one of the subgroups

Test for overall effect P=0.56



**Figure 3.** Results of the meta-analysis for clinical efficacy. F, fair; P, poor (no studies were deemed to be of high or excellent quality); AMX, amoxicillin; CFR, cefadroxil; CIP, ciprofloxacin; FOF, fosfomycin; NAL, nalidixic acid; OFX, ofloxacin; PMA, piperidic acid; TMP, trimethoprim; SXT, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole.

# Microbiologic cure of treatment UTI

Only subgroup  
 Quinolones  
 significant different

Quinolones are  
 better compared to  
 nitrofurantoin  
 P=0.02

Test for overall  
 effect:  
 Significant in favour  
 of comparator  
 (p=0.002)

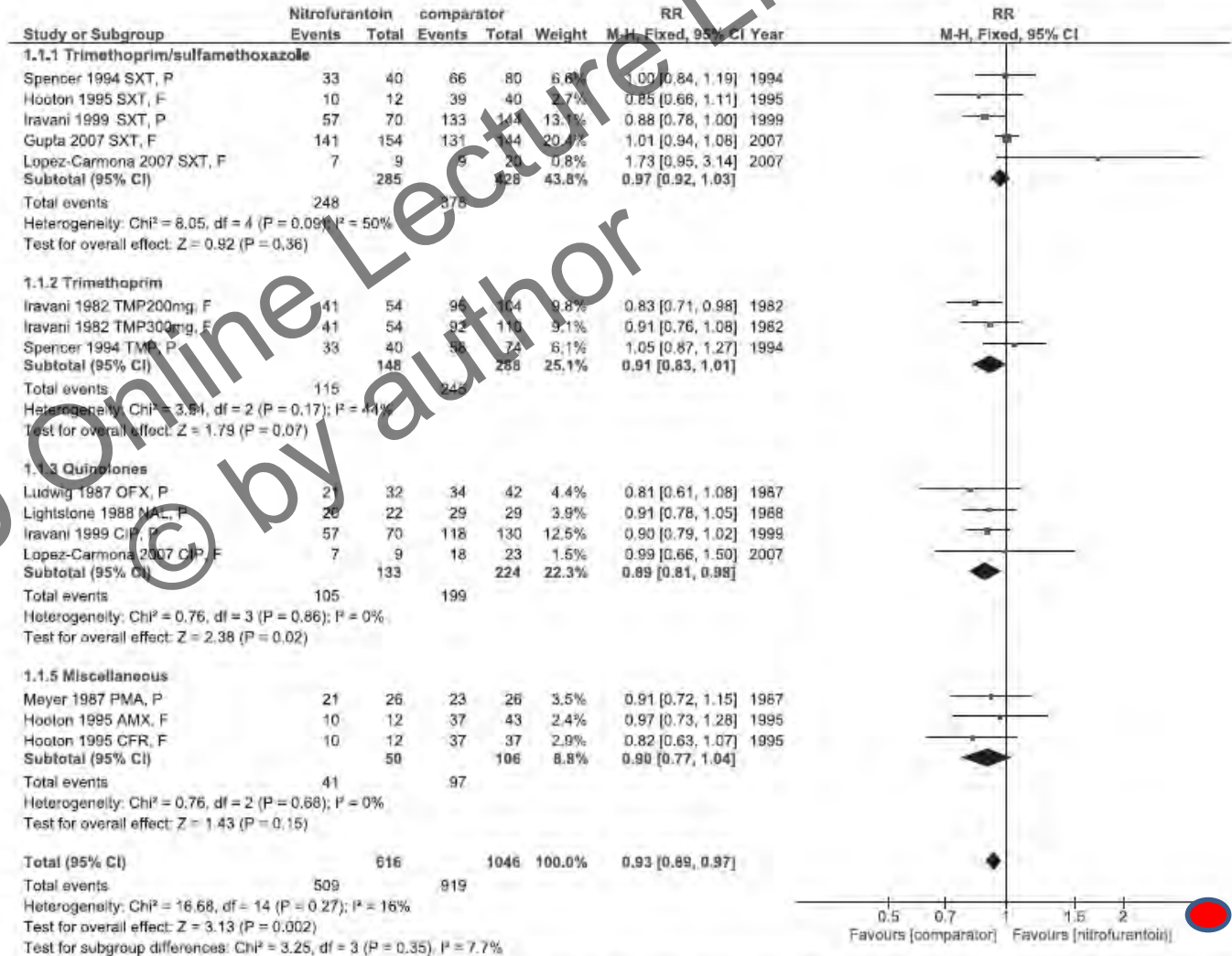


Figure 4. Results of the meta-analysis for microbiological cure. F, fair; P, poor; AMX, amoxicillin; CFR, cefadroxil; CIP, ciprofloxacin; FOF, fosfomycin; NAL, nalidixic acid; OFX, ofloxacin; PMA, piperidic acid; TMP, trimethoprim; SXT, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole.

# Treatment of UTI

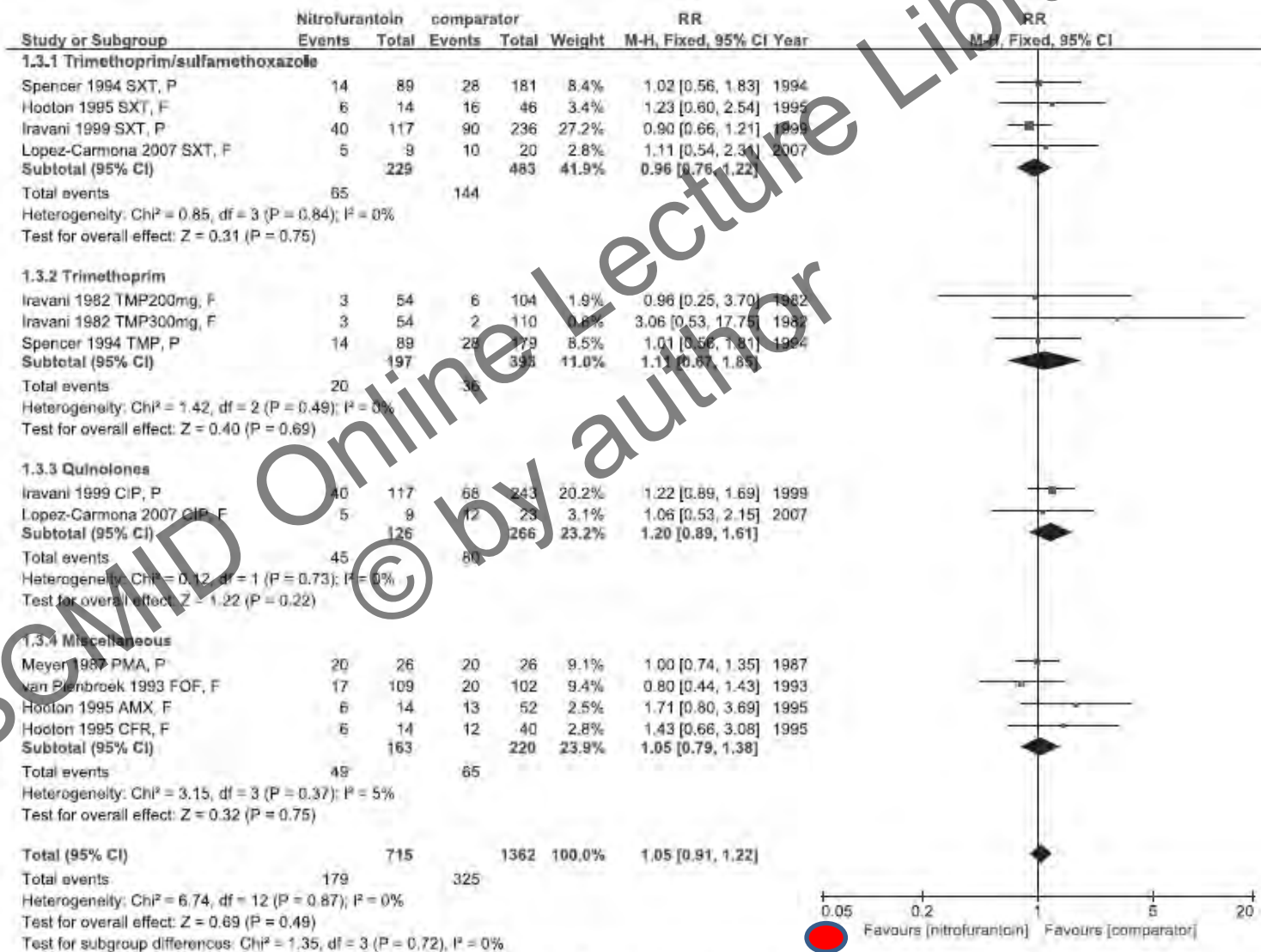
- Clinical cure rates comparable to the other drugs: between 50-100%
- Microbiological effect: 40-90%: inferior to the comparators
- Placebo: ~40% cure both clinical and microbiological for the treatment of UTI



# toxicity

- Short term use:
  - nausea, abdominal discomfort and headaches
  - fatigue
  - 5-16% of patients (one study 49%)
- Long term use:
  - Same as for short-term use
  - Taking nitrofurantoin for months or years
  - pulmonary fibrosis and hepatotoxicity
  - Fatalities have been described

# Adverse effect nitrofurantoin treatment



**Figure 5.** Results of the meta-analysis for adverse effects. F, fair; P, poor; AMX, amoxicillin; CFR, cefadroxil; CIP, ciprofloxacin; FOF, fosfomycin; NAL, nalidixic acid; OFX, ofloxacin; PMA, pipemidic acid; TMP, trimethoprim; SXT, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole.

No placebo's

P=0.49

# Conclusion

- PK:
  - many data are lacking
  - Optimal dose unknown
- PD: no consensus on the PK/PD index
- Clinical trials:
  - Nitrofurantoin is effective
  - Both in treatment and prophylaxis
  - Be careful for side-effects in long-term prophylaxis

# acknowledgment

- FP7 project AIDA
- Angela Huttner
- Els Verhaegh

