



*April 16, 2024*

## Agenda

- Title: *Vancomycin – AUC monitoring*

# Objectives

- Vancomycin trough/AUC refresher
- Cases
  - When would be most important to use AUC over trough-based monitoring
  - Threshold for dose adjustments
  - Utilizing transposition of vancomycin levels



# Disclaimer

- Vancomycin dosing is subjective, recommendations may vary depending on pharmacist discretion.



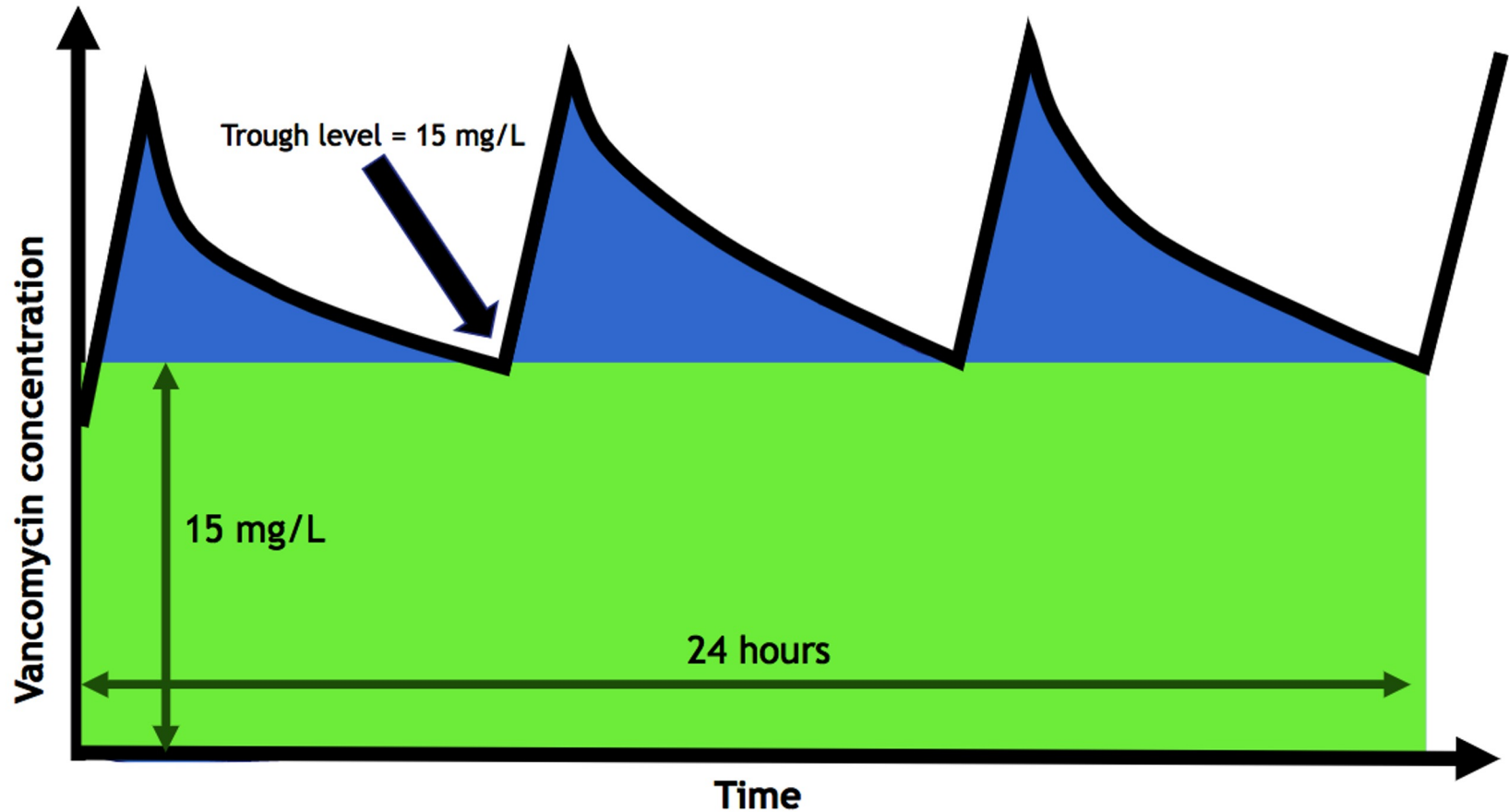
# Poll

How do you monitor vancomycin at your institution (not including SSTIs or UTIs)?

- a. AUC for all patients on vancomycin
- b. Vanco troughs 10-20 mcg/mL
- c. Vanco troughs 15-20 mcg/mL
- d. A mix of AUC and trough-based monitoring
- e. Unsure/something else



# Trough is used as a surrogate for AUC



# A trough can be easily manipulated

| Dose            | Trough (mcg/mL) | Peak (mcg/mL) | 24h AUC |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|
| 750 mg IV Q6H   | 20              | 25            | 500     |
| 1000 mg IV Q8H  | 15              | 30            | 500     |
| 1500 mg IV Q12H | 10              | 35            | 500     |
| 3000 mg IV Q24H | <0.5            | 40            | 500     |



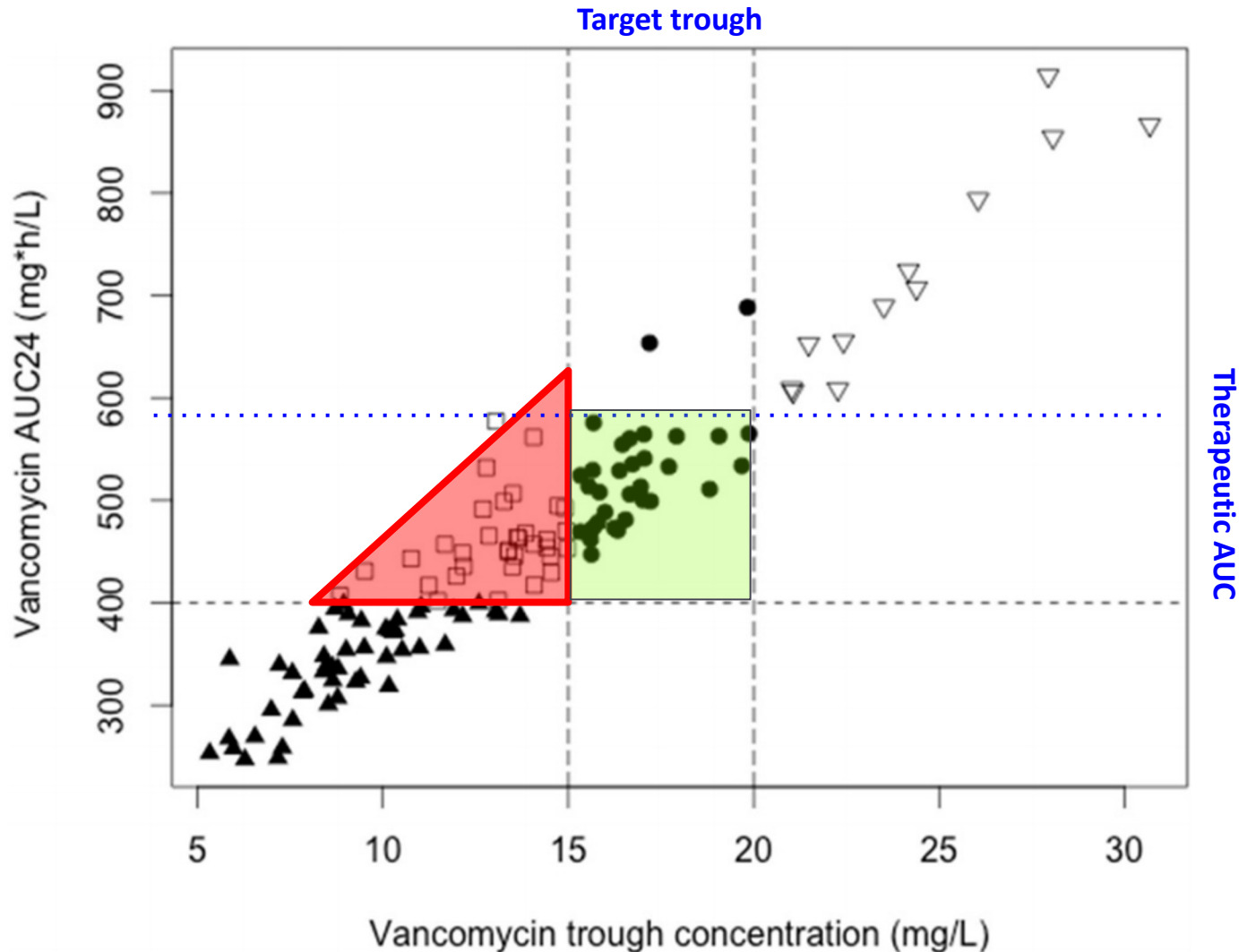
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$$\text{AUC} = \frac{\text{Dose}}{\text{Ke} \times \text{Vd}} \times \frac{24}{T} = \frac{\text{Total daily dose}}{\text{Clearance}}$$



# Vanco trough >15 mcg/mL is a poor surrogate for AUC 400-600



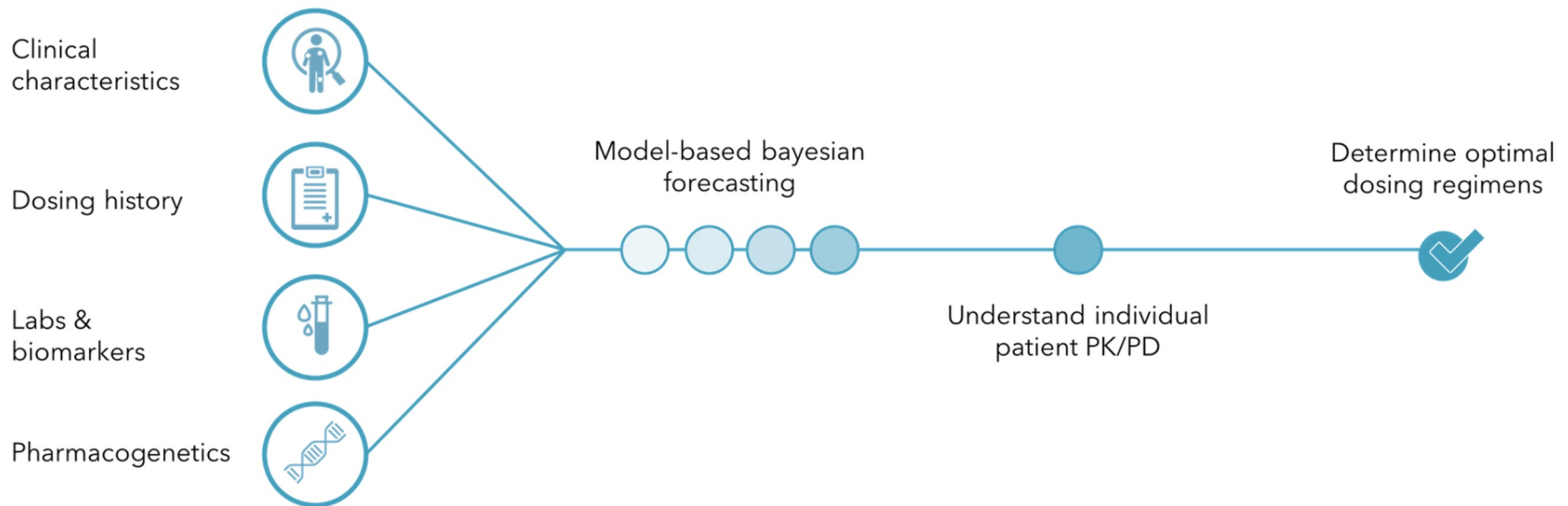
# The Emperor's New Clothes: PRospective Observational Evaluation of the Association Between Initial Vancomycin Exposure and Failure Rates Among ADult HospitalizEd Patients With Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Bloodstream Infections (PROVIDE)

- Higher AUC **was not** correlated with lower treatment failure.
- Higher AUC **was** associated with increased nephrotoxicity.
- AUC monitoring **was not** correlated with improved clinical outcomes.

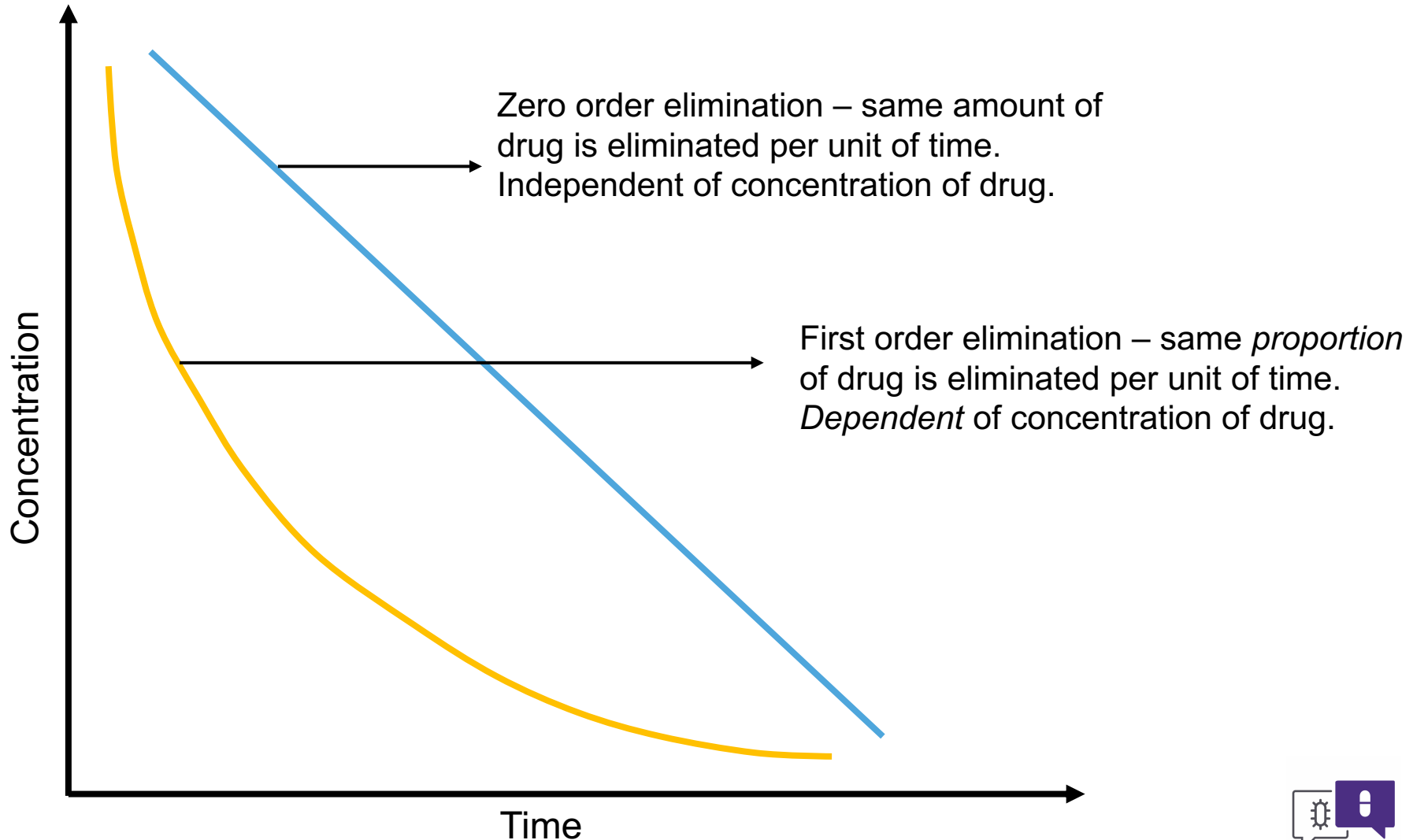


# Bayesian approach

- Bayes' Theorem – Calculates the probability of an outcome occurring based on different patient conditions.
- Uses richly sampled PK data from studies to estimate an individual's pharmacokinetic parameters.

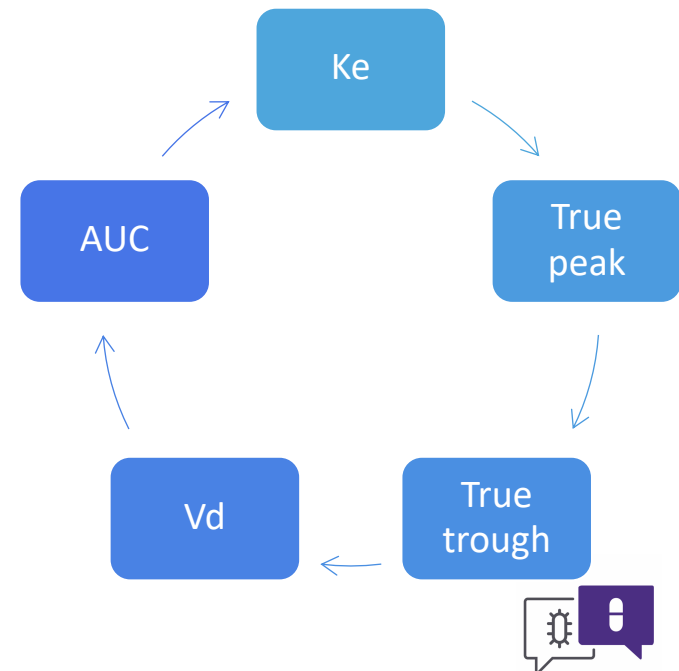
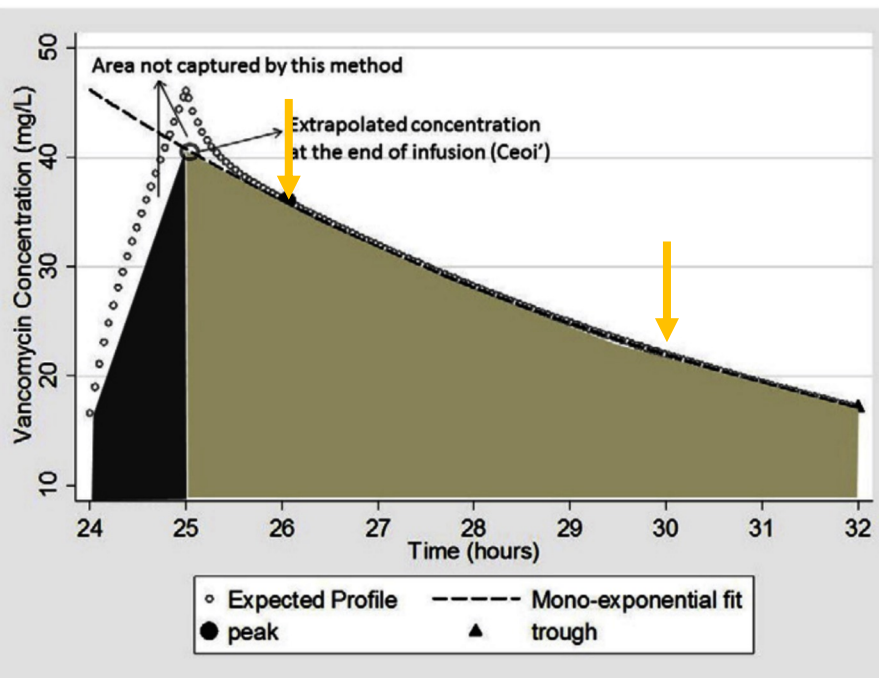


# Equation based approach



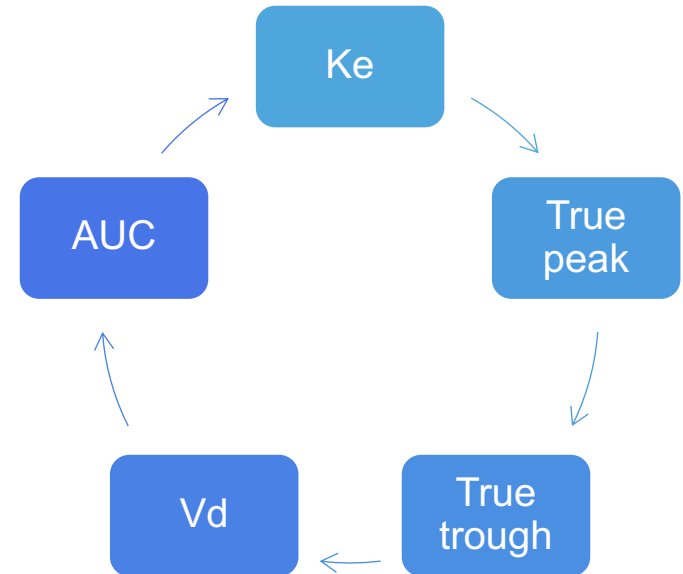
# Equation based approach

- Two level sampling: post-distributional peak and trough concentration.
- First-order kinetic formulas used to estimate exposure.



# Equation based approach: Timing of levels matters

- First level drawn at least an hour after infusion.
- Levels should be drawn with  $\geq 1$  half-lives between each level (a minimum of 4 hours).
- If drawn too close together, likely downstream calculation errors due to inaccurate  $K_e$ .



# AUC calculators

- Homemade: excel
- Stanford Guide
- ClinCalc:  
<https://clincalc.com/Vancomycin/>

| VANCOMYCIN AUC CALCULATOR                                   |                     |                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dose                                                        | 1500                | mg                                                                                  |
| Dosing interval                                             | 12                  | hours                                                                               |
| Concentration <sub>1</sub> (C <sub>max</sub> )              | 40.0                | mg/l                                                                                |
| Concentration <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>min</sub> )              | 18.0                | mg/l                                                                                |
| Date/time of dose preceding C1 and C2 (m/d/yyyy h:mm AM/PM) | 12/22/2022 12:00 AM | Typing military time (hh:mm) will display correctly                                 |
| Date/time Concentration 1                                   | 12/22/2022 3:00 AM  |                                                                                     |
| Date/time Concentration 2                                   | 12/22/2022 11:00 AM |                                                                                     |
| Infusion time                                               | 1.5                 | hours                                                                               |
| Calculated fields                                           |                     |                                                                                     |
| ke                                                          | 0.10                | hours <sup>-1</sup>                                                                 |
| Estimated half-life                                         | 6.94                | hours                                                                               |
| C <sub>max</sub>                                            | 46.46               | mg/l                                                                                |
| C <sub>min</sub>                                            | 16.29               | mg/l                                                                                |
| Vd                                                          | 42.95               | L                                                                                   |
| 24-hour AUC                                                 | 699                 | Goal 24h AUC = 400 (350 - 650) mg/l                                                 |
| If AUC within goal: Pt specific trough (lower limit)        |                     | mg/l                                                                                |
| If AUC within goal: Pt specific trough (upper limit)        |                     | mg/l                                                                                |
| Use this section to revise a regimen based on AUC above     |                     |                                                                                     |
| Suggested maintenance dose                                  | 1500                | mg                                                                                  |
| Suggested dosing interval                                   | 24                  | hours                                                                               |
| Dose change                                                 | 1250                | [new total daily dose = current total daily dose * (AUC desired/AUC calculated)] mg |
| Interval change                                             | 12                  | hours                                                                               |
| New infusion time                                           | 1.5                 | hours                                                                               |
| New C <sub>max</sub>                                        | 38.72               | mg/l                                                                                |
| New C <sub>min</sub>                                        | 13.58               | mg/l                                                                                |
| New AUC                                                     | 582                 |                                                                                     |
| Pt specific trough (lower limit)                            | 6                   | mg/l                                                                                |
| Pt specific trough (upper limit)                            | 9                   | mg/l                                                                                |

Fill in these areas, the rest with auto populate

24-hour AUC will turn red if supratherapeutic

Patient specific trough goal will be automatically calculated if 24-hour AUC is within goal. If dosing needs to be adjusted, refer to patient specific trough goal under revised regimen

# Excellent review



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/addr](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/addr)



### Innovative approaches to optimizing the delivery of vancomycin in individual patients<sup>☆</sup>

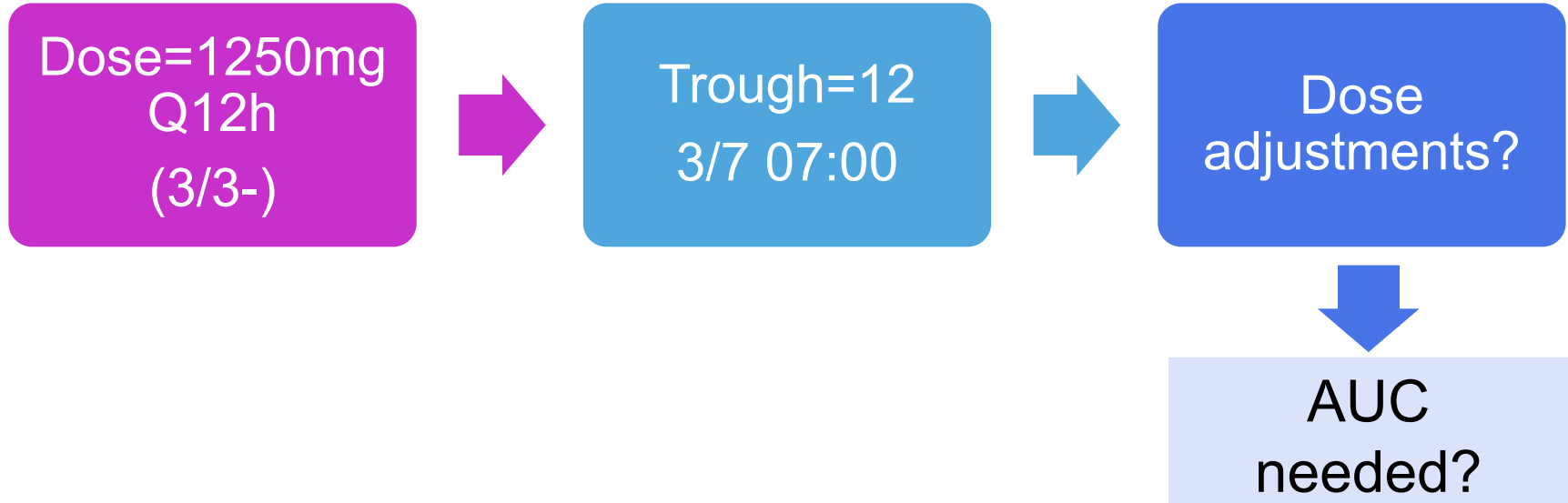


Manjunath P. Pai<sup>a</sup>, Michael Neely<sup>b,c</sup>, Keith A. Rodvold<sup>d</sup>, Thomas P. Lodise<sup>a,\*</sup>



# Case 1: MRSA SSTI

58 yo M on vancomycin 1250mg Q12h for SSTI with abscesses s/p I&D growing MRSA.  
Clinically stable.



# Poll

Dose adjustments and/or AUC needed?

- a. Increase dose, no AUC
- b. No change in dose, no AUC
- c. No change in dose, obtain AUC
- d. Unsure



# Poll

Dose adjustments and/or AUC needed?

- a. Increase dose, no AUC
- b. No change in dose, no AUC
- c. No change in dose, obtain AUC
- d. Unsure



# MRSA/Vancomycin guidelines: then and now

- 2011: “For most patients with **SSTI** who have normal renal function and are not obese, traditional doses of 1gm Q12h are adequate, and **trough monitoring is not required** (B-II)”.
- 2020: “In patients with suspected or definitive **serious MRSA infections\***, an individualized target of the **AUC/MIC ratio of 400 to 600** should be advocated to achieve clinical efficacy while improving patient safety (A-II)”.

\*Serious invasive MRSA infections exclude nonbacteremic SSTI and UTIs.

# Patient populations who may benefit from AUC

## AUC

Serious MRSA infections

Prolonged courses of therapy

Total daily needs  
>4gm/day

## No AUC

RRT (ex. HD, PD)

Labile renal function

Courses <7 days

MRSA UTI/SSTI



# Case 1: MRSA SSTI

58 yo M on vancomycin 1250mg Q12h for SSTI with abscesses s/p I&D growing MRSA. Clinically stable.

Dose=1250mg  
Q12h  
(3/3-)



Trough=12  
3/7 07:00



No dose  
adjustments.  
Labs Q48-72h



AUC not needed.  
Hold additional  
troughs

# Takeaways

- For nonserious infections – no levels needed, but troughs of 10-15 may be aimed for safety.
- Trough goals of 15-20 are no longer commonly recommended.
- Reserve AUC for serious MRSA infections.
- Consider lab stewardship – vanc levels and lab frequency and timing.



# Case 2: MRSA bacteremia

28 yo F on vancomycin 2gm x1, 1000mg Q8h for MRSA bacteremia. Repeat blood cultures clear. Clinically stable.

Dose=1000mg  
Q8h  
(3/4-)



Trough=9.7  
3/5 18:00



Dose  
adjustments?



AUC  
needed?



# Poll

Dose adjustments and/or AUC needed?

- a. Increase dose, no AUC
- b. No change in dose, no AUC
- c. No change in dose, obtain AUC
- d. Unsure



# Poll

Dose adjustments and/or AUC needed?

- a. Increase dose, no AUC
- b. No change in dose, no AUC
- c. No change in dose, obtain AUC
- d. Unsure



# Trough level adjustments

| Trough Level :                                      | <8                                                     | 8 to 9.9              | 10 to 15              | >15 to 20             | >20                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b><i>MRSA Infection</i></b>                        | ↑<br>consider<br>AUC*                                  | ↔<br>consider<br>AUC* | ↔<br>consider<br>AUC* | ↔<br>consider<br>AUC* | ↓<br>consider<br>AUC* |
| <b><i>CoNS or<br/>Enterococcus</i></b>              | ↑                                                      | ↔                     | ↔                     | ↓                     | ↓                     |
| <b><i>CNS Infection</i></b>                         | ↑                                                      | Consider<br>increase  | Consider<br>increase  | ↔                     | ↓                     |
| <b><i>SSTI, UTI, and<br/>Wound</i></b>              | ↔                                                      | ↔                     | ↔                     | ↓                     | ↓                     |
| <b><i>Empiric</i></b>                               | ↑                                                      | ↔                     | ↔                     | ↓                     | ↓                     |
| <b>AUC Derived<br/>Trough Range<br/>Established</b> | See patient specific trough range in previous EMR note |                       |                       |                       |                       |

# Case 2: MRSA bacteremia

28 yo F on vancomycin 2gm x1, 1000mg Q8h for MRSA bacteremia. Repeat blood cultures clear. Clinically stable.

Dose=1000mg  
Q8h  
(3/4-)



Trough=9.7  
3/5 18:00



No dose  
adjustments



Plan for AUC  
in upcoming  
days

# Case 2: MRSA bacteremia

28 yo F on vancomycin 2gm x1, 1000mg Q8h for MRSA bacteremia. Repeat blood cultures clear. Clinically stable.

Dose=1000mg  
Q8h  
(3/4-)



Trough=9.7  
3/5 18:00



Increased to  
1250mg Q8h



AUC 590



# Poll

Dose adjustments?

- a. Increase dose
- b. Decrease dose
- c. No change
- d. Unsure



# Poll

## Dose adjustments?

- a. Increase dose
- b. Decrease dose
- c. No change
- d. Unsure



# Case 2: MRSA bacteremia

- AUC therapeutic but upper end of goal – decrease back down to 1000mg Q8h.
- If stable clearance, dose changes less than 25% typically do not need repeat AUC.
- Patient specific trough goal ~8-12.



# Takeaways

- Trough/AUC levels can fluctuate.
- Do not chase trough values. Adjust if reasonably below trough goals.
- Patient-specific trough goals  $<10$  with a therapeutic are ok to use.
- Narrow trough goal windows can be difficult to target, consider trough goals with a 5-point range.



# Case 3: MRSA bacteremia #3

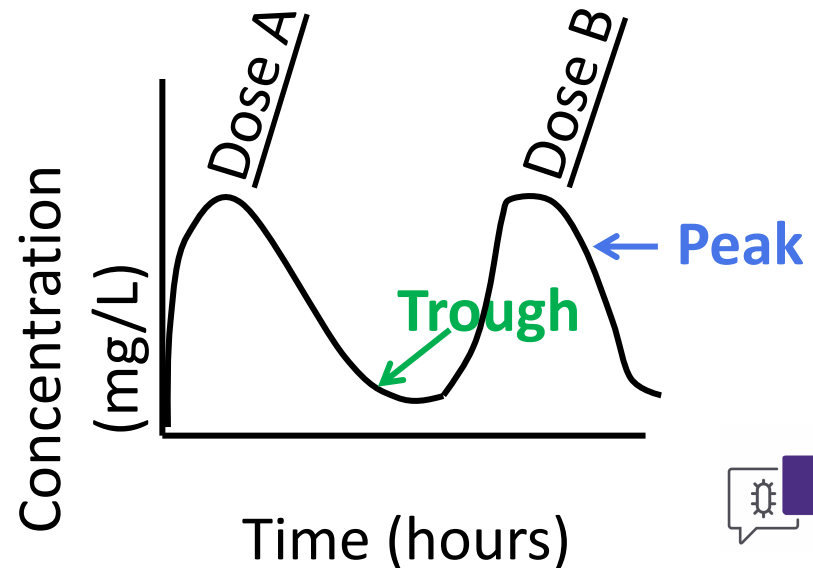
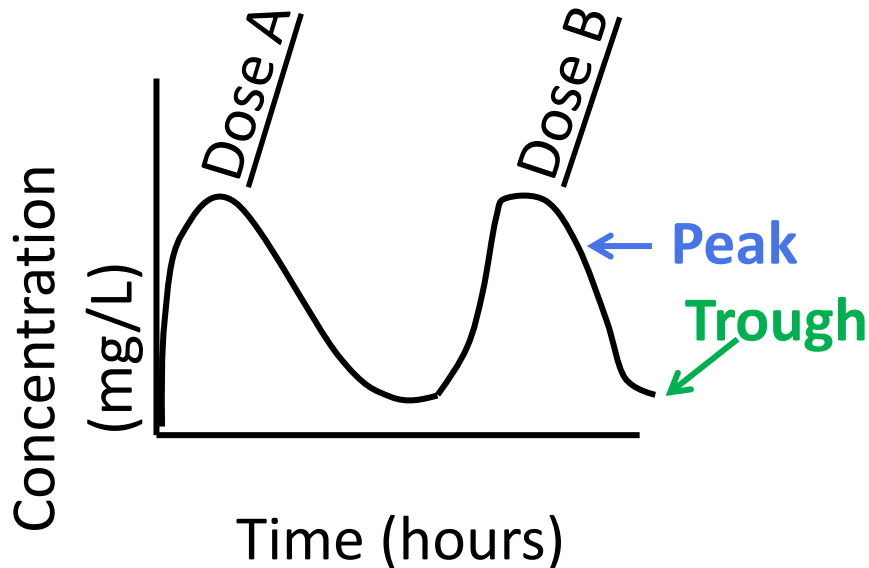
64 yo M on vancomycin 2gm x1, 1500mg Q12h for MRSA bacteremia. Clinically stable. Discharging soon.

- Has been monitored with troughs thus far, within goal (Troughs 10-20).
- Has not had AUC calculated.
- Planned 4 weeks of therapy.



# Transposing levels

- Challenging lab draws/missed levels
- Cluster levels/labs that need to be drawn with prolonged dosing intervals (ie. Q12-24h)
- Facilitate discharge needs with AUC recommendations



# Takeaways

- Consider transposing levels if time is a barrier.
- If no time, keep vanc trough goal 10-20. Safety is priority in clinically stable patients.



# Summary

- Troughs 15-20 are now outdated for most vancomycin indications.
- Troughs and AUC monitoring is primarily for safety rather than efficacy.
- Monitoring clinical stability should be prioritize over correcting a subtherapeutic level.

