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Sex differences in pharmacokinetics predict adverse drug reactions in women

Biology of Sex Differences Volume 11, Article number: 32 (2020)

https://bsd.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13293-020-00308-5

It has long been known that women experience adverse drug reactions at much higher rates than men. Some have speculated that this is due to lack of testing in women or sex differences in pharmacokinetics (i.e., peak blood concentrations, elimination time, etc...) but data have been lacking. Zucker and Prendergast perform a meta-analysis based on thousands of relevant articles and make a compelling case that sex differences in pharmacokinetics are good predictors of sex differences in adverse drug reactions. Their findings challenge the current norm, in which nearly all drugs are prescribed at the same dose to men and women.