



Antimicrobial use in pregnancy

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Three factors to be considered

PK change

Placental cross

Drug safety



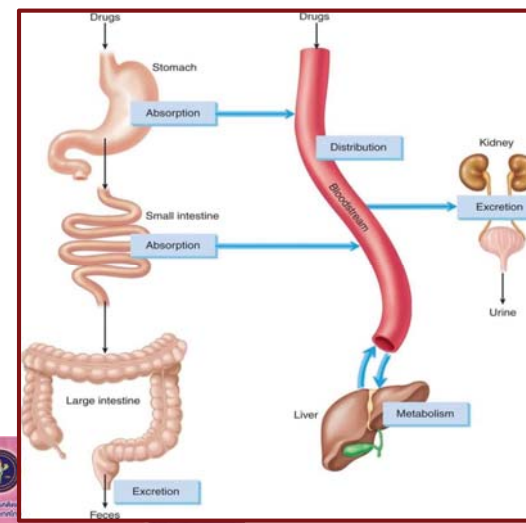
What are the antimicrobials of choice?

1 27-year-old pregnant woman without symptoms
U/A: no WBC
Urine C/S: *E. coli* >10⁵ CFU/ml X 2

2 37-year-old pregnant woman without symptoms
She is allergic to penicillin
VDRL +ve, TPHA +ve



Pharmacokinetics



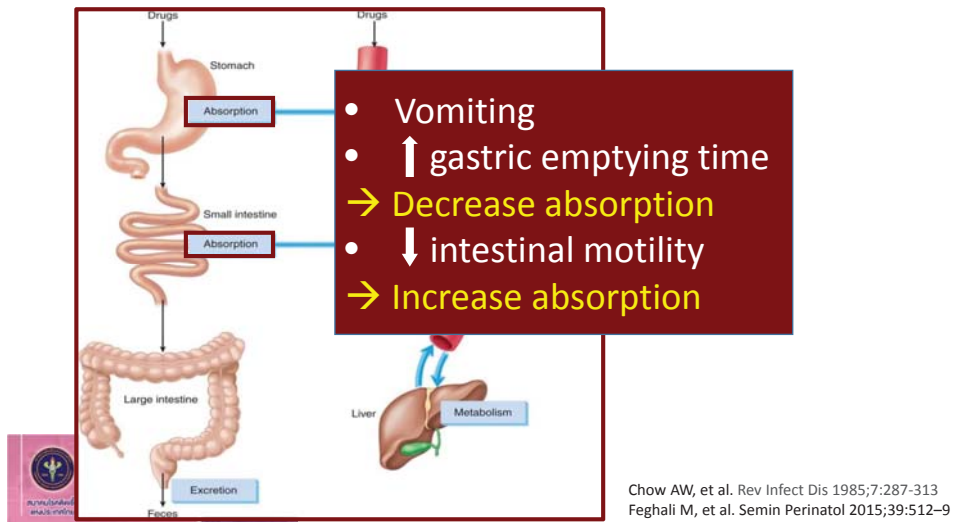
ADME

- Absorption
- Distribution
- Metabolism
- Elimination

[https://nootropix.com/
what-happens-to-drugs-inside-body](https://nootropix.com/what-happens-to-drugs-inside-body)

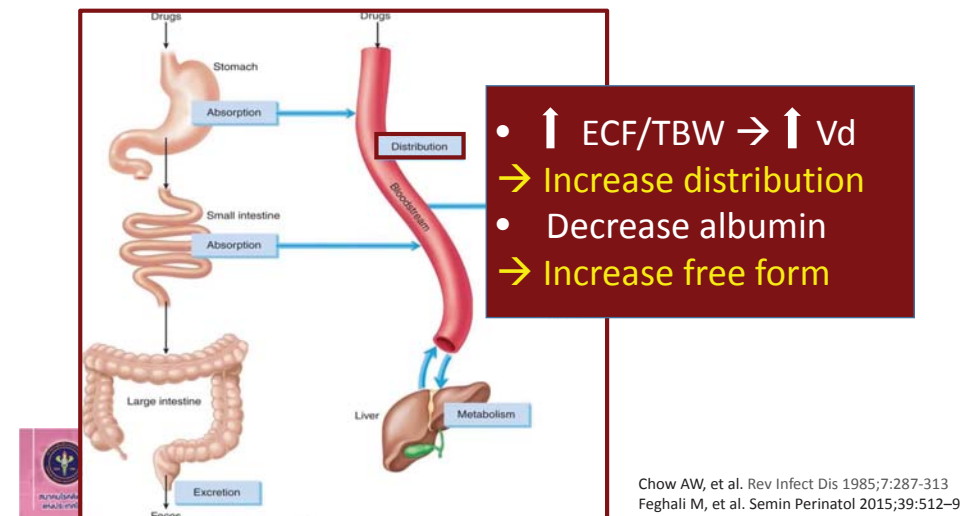
PK change in pregnancy

Absorption



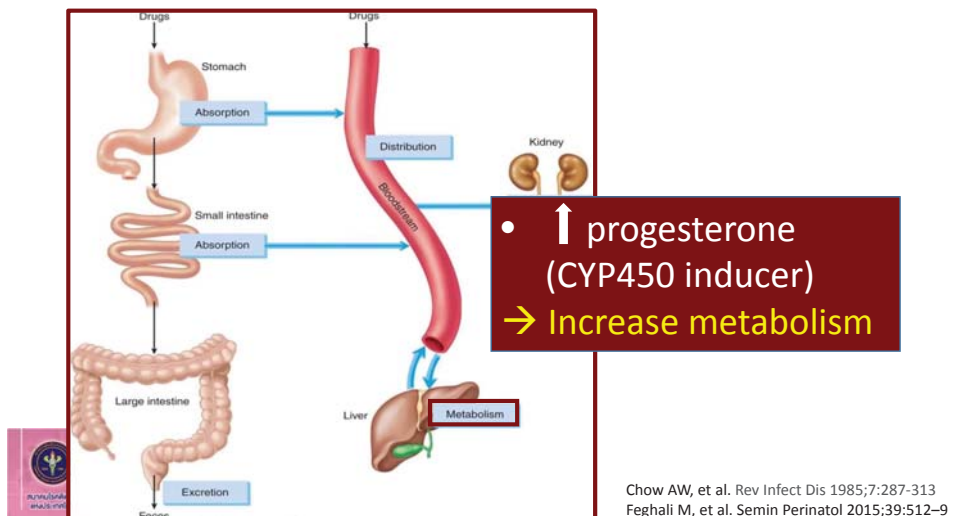
PK change in pregnancy

Distribution



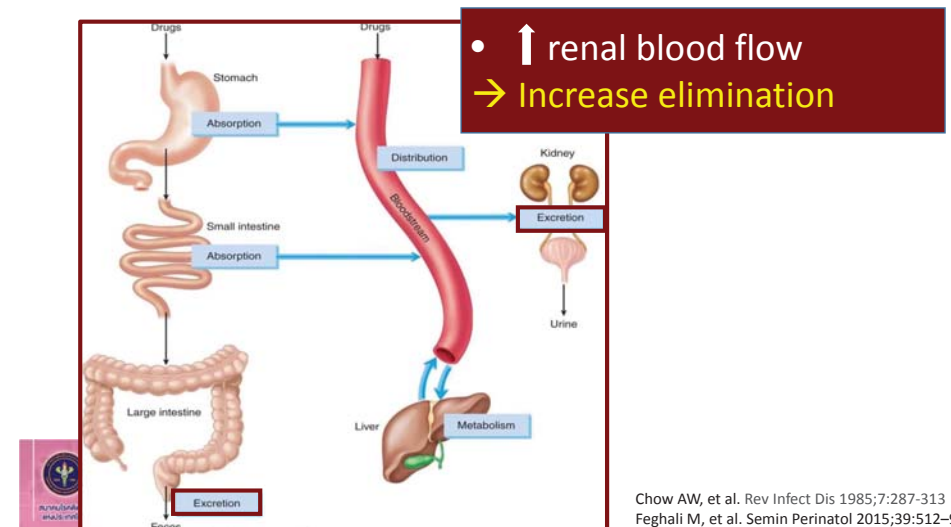
PK change in pregnancy

Metabolism



PK change in pregnancy

Elimination



PK change in pregnancy

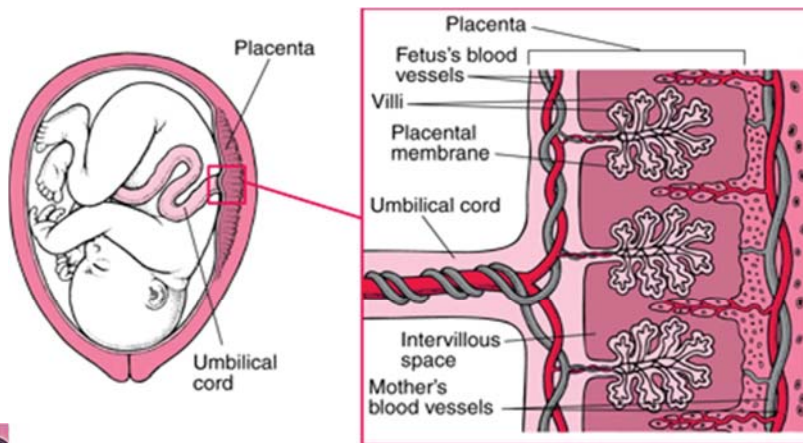
- Decrease absorption
- Increase distribution
- Increase metabolism
- Increase elimination

Require
high dosage



Placental cross

- ✓ Fat soluble
- ✓ Non-ionized
- ✓ Low MW



Three factors to be considered

PK change

Placental cross

Drug safety



Three factors to be considered

PK change

Placental cross

Drug safety



Drug safety

Pregnant woman ↔ Fetus

- Data: case control or cohort study
- Old US FDA: 5 pregnancy category

Category	Level of Evidence
A	No AEs in human pregnancy <i>Safety established using well-controlled human studies</i>
B	Presumed safety in human pregnancy <i>Limited human studies/no AE in animal studies</i>
C	Uncertain safety <i>Limited human studies/AE in animal studies</i>
D	AEs in pregnancy <i>Benefits may outweigh associated risks</i>
X	AEs in pregnancy <i>Risks outweigh possible benefit</i>

Bookstaver PB, et al. Pharmacotherapy 2015;35:1052-62

Antibacterial agents



Recommend as 1st line

Use only indicated

Avoid use in pregnancy

Antibacterial agents



Recommend as first line agents

- Penicillin (B)
- Cephalosporin (B)
- BL/BI (B)
- Macrolide (B, Clarithro:C)

AVOID erythromycin estolate
esp. in 2nd & 3rd trimester
→ hepatotoxicity

Mylonas I. Arch Gynecol Obstet 2011;283:7-18
Lewis JH. Eur J Gastroenterol Hepatol 1991;3:883-91

Antibacterial agents



AVOID use in pregnancy

- Chloramphenicol (D)
- Aminoglycoside (D)
- Tetracycline (D)
- Fluroquinolone (C)

Briggs GGFR. Drugs in pregnancy and lactation 2014
Adam MP, et al. Am J Med Genet 2011;Part C:175-82
Basim I, et al. Therapeutic principles in practice 5th ed
Lamont RF, et al. Expert Opin Drug Saf 2014;12:1569-81

Wenk RE, et al. J Reprod Med 1981;26:135-41
Whalley PJ, et al. Obstet Gynecol 1970;88:27-33
Landers DV, et al. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2004;190:1004-10
Czeizel AE, et al. Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol 2000;88:27-33



Antibacterial agents



Chloramphenicol

- Gray baby syndrome

Aminoglycoside

- Irreversible congenital deafness (1st trimester)

Streptomycin
Prefer: Gentamicin

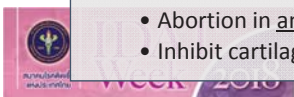
Tetracycline

- Tooth discoloration & limit long bone growth of newborn
- Fatty liver & nephropathies of pregnant woman

Fluoroquinolone

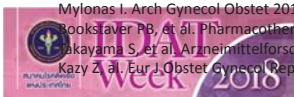
- Abortion in animal model
- Inhibit cartilage & bone growth in animal model

Oflox, levoflox
Prefer: Norflox, ciproflox



Antibacterial agents

ATBs	FDA	Caution
Cotrimoxazole	C	Teratogenicity in <u>animal model</u> (1 st trimester) Kernicterus (GA > 32 weeks)
Metronidazole	B	Carcinogenicity in <u>animal model</u> Congenital hydrocephalus (intravaginal form)
Clindamycin	B	Antibiotic associated diarrhea
Fosfomycin	B	Use in cystitis only
Nitrofurantoin	B	Use in cystitis only, avoid in G6PD def



Antibacterial agents



Recommend as alternative agents
or use only indicated

- Cotrimoxazole
- Metronidazole & Clindamycin
- Fosfomycin & Nitrofurantoin

ATB for MDR pathogens

- Vancomycin & Linezolid
- Carbapenem & Colistin

Antimycobacterial agents

- IRZE



Antibacterial agents

ATBs	FDA	Caution
Carbapenem	B C (Imipenem)	Use only indicated
Vancomycin	C	Nephrotoxicity
Linezolid	C	Limited data
Colistin	C	Nephrotoxicity



Antivirals & Antifungals

Antivirals	FDA
Acyclovir	B
Valacyclovir	C
Cidofovir	C
Oseltamivir	C
Zanamivir	C
Ribavirin	X

Antifungals	FDA
Nystatin	A
Amphotericin B	B
Echinocandins	C
Itraconazole	C
Posaconazole	C
Fluconazole	C (150 mg) D (400-800 mg)
Voriconazole	D

Vlachadis N, et al. N Engl J Med 2013;369:2061
 Kochhar DM. Toxicol Appl Pharmacol 1980;52:99-112
 Cottreau JM, et al. Pharmacotherapy 2016;36:669-78
 Plimls B, et al. J Antimicrob Chemother 2016;70:14-22
 Svensson T, et al. Pharmacopeidemiol Drug Saf 2011;20:1030-4
 Tiboni GM. Res Commun Chem Pathol Pharmacol 1993;79:381-4
 Wollenhaupt M, et al. Pharmacopeidemiol Drug Saf 2014;23:1035-42

Antimalarials & Anthelmintics

Antimalarials	FDA	Anthelmintics	FDA
Mefloquine	B	Praziquantel	B
Chloroquine	C	Albendazole	C
Quinine	C	Mebendazole	C
Artesunate*	Unclassified	Ivermectin	C
Primaquine**	Unclassified		
Doxycycline	D		

* Artesunate: Teratogenicity in animal model
 Use with caution in 1st trimester

** Primaquine: Acute hemolysis in NB with G6PD deficiency



Yakasi IA, et al. AJSC 2013;2:31-8
 Kovacs SD, et al. Drug saf 2015; 38: 165-181
 Nosten F, et al. Current Drug Safety 2006;1:1-15

Infection in pregnancy: case 1



27-year-old pregnant woman without symptoms
 U/A no WBC but urine C/S: *E. coli* >10⁵ CFU/ml X 2

I/C of ATBs: Asymptomatic bacteriuria

✓ Reduce incidence of pyelonephritis by 52-86%

Choice of ATBs

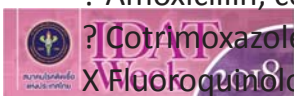
✓ Nitrofurantoin, coamoxiclav: good efficacy and safety

? Fosfomycin: limited study in pregnancy

? Amoxicillin, cephalexin : high rate of resistance

? Cotrimoxazole: high rate of resistance, caution in 1st and term

X Fluoroquinolone: avoid use in pregnancy



Infection in pregnancy: case 2



37-year-old pregnant woman without symptoms
 She is allergic to penicillin
 VDRL +ve, TPHA +ve

I/C of ATBs: Latent syphilis

✓ Reduce incidence of congenital syphilis by 68-98%

Choice of ATBs

✓ PGS: Good efficacy and adequate placental cross

→ Skin test then desensitization if positive (except SJS/TEN)

X Macrolide: Poor placental cross

X Doxycycline: Fair efficacy but contraindicated in pregnancy



Antimicrobial use in pregnancy



- Use only indicated
- Precounseling
- Use safest drug
- Use well known drug
- Prefer oral agent
- Prefer monotherapy
- Prefer high dosage
- Prefer shortest duration

