

# Monoamine Oxidase (MAO) Reaction Phenotyping

## Background Information



'In human brain the predominant form is MAO-B, expressed at highest levels in astrocytes and serotonergic neurons, while MAO-A is expressed at highest levels in catecholaminergic neurons.'

<sup>1</sup>Hotamisligil GS and Breakefield XO (1991) *Am J Hum Genet* **49(2)**; 383–392

- Monoamine oxidases (MAO) are membrane-associated enzymes located specifically on the outer mitochondrial membrane. They are the major enzymes participating in the catabolism of monoamine neurotransmitters and related exogenous amines.
- Two isoforms of MAO exist, MAO-A and MAO-B, which differ in their substrate specificity, inhibitor selectivity and tissue distribution.
- Selective MAO-A inhibitors are useful in the therapy of depression and anxiety whereas MAO-B inhibitors are often used in the treatment of Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases.
- Cyprotex's MAO reaction phenotyping assay identifies if your compound is a substrate for either MAO-A or MAO-B.

### Protocol

#### Test System

hMAO-A and hMAO-B expressed enzyme

#### Test Article Concentration

1  $\mu$ M (different concentrations available)

#### Time Points

0, 5, 15, 30, 45 min

#### Negative Control

cDNA expressed control preparation (no MAO present)

#### Positive Control

Kynuramine

#### Test Article Requirements

100  $\mu$ L of a 10 mM DMSO solution (or equivalent amount in solid)

#### Analysis Method

LC-MS/MS

#### Data Delivery

% Parent compound remaining at each time point for each isoform

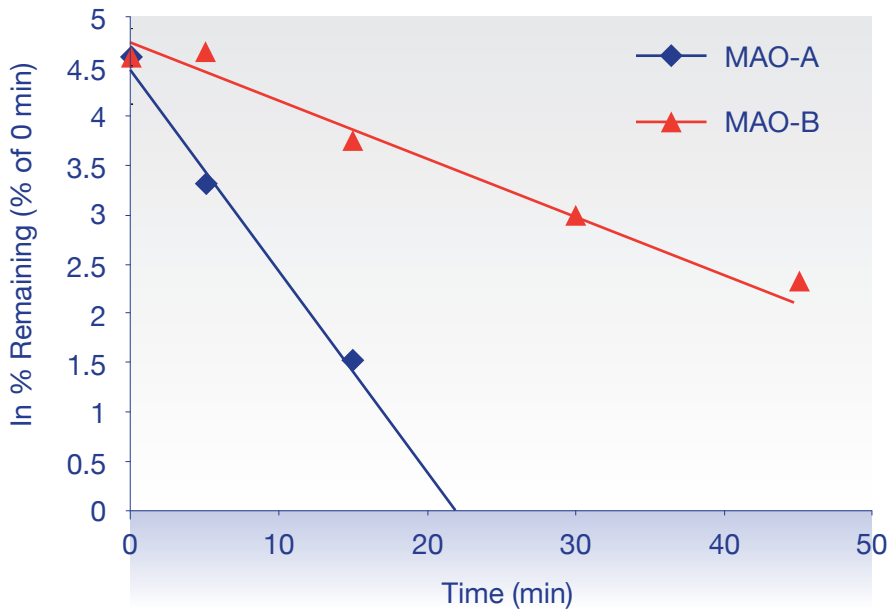
Half life

Standard error of half life

**Monoamine Oxidase (MAO)** is a critical enzyme in the degradative deamination of biogenic amines throughout the body<sup>1</sup>.

**Figure 1**

Metabolic stability of the MAO substrate kynuramine over 45 min in the presence of MAO-A and MAO-B expressed enzyme (each data point is mean of n=3).



**References**

<sup>1</sup> Hotamisligil GS and Breakefield XO (1991) Human monoamine oxidase A gene determines levels of enzyme activity. *Am J Hum Genet* **49**(2); 383-392