



# Mechanism-based modelling of gastric emptying and bile release in response to caloric intake

**Benjamin Guiastrenec**<sup>1</sup>, David P. Sonne<sup>2,3</sup>, Oskar Alskär<sup>1</sup>, Morten Hansen<sup>2,3</sup>,  
Jonatan I. Bagger<sup>2,3</sup>, Asger Lund<sup>2,3</sup>, Jens F. Rehfeld<sup>4</sup>, Mats O. Karlsson<sup>1</sup>,  
Tina Vilsbøll<sup>2</sup>, Filip K. Knop<sup>2,3</sup>, Martin Bergstrand<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Pharmaceutical Biosciences, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden

<sup>2</sup> Diabetes Research Division, Department of Medicine, Gentofte Hospital, Hellerup, Denmark

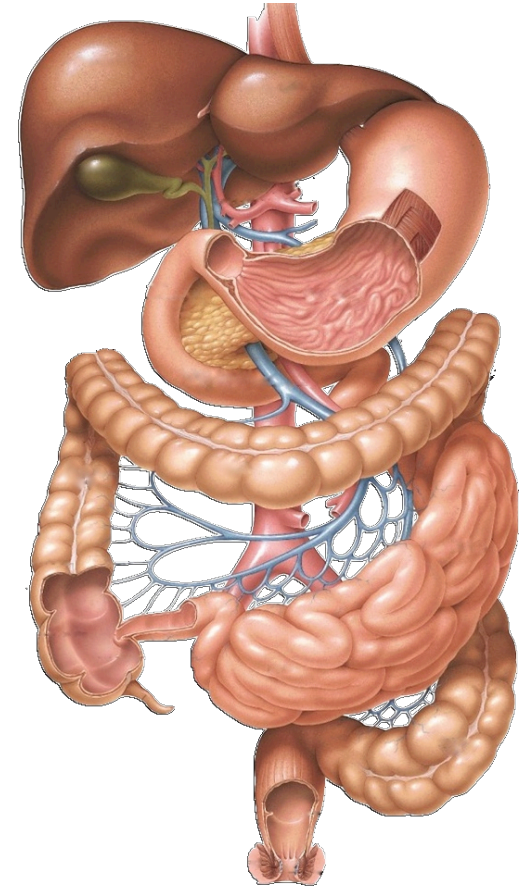
<sup>3</sup> Department of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

<sup>4</sup> Department of Clinical Biochemistry, Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark



# Background

- Majority of drugs administered orally
  - Convenient
  - Flexible
- However
  - Gastrointestinal system complex and not entirely understood
  - Increasing number of poorly soluble drugs\*
    - Increased receptor-ligand affinity (*i.e. potency*)
    - Associated with highly variable absorption profiles
    - Absorption affected by intestinal secretions (*e.g. bile*)



# Objectives

1. Establish mechanism-based models for:
  - a. Gastric emptying (*GE*)
  - b. Plasma cholecystokinin (*CCK*) levels
  - c. Bile flow patterns to the duodenum
2. Characterize the influence of caloric intake on different system components
3. Explore the effect of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (*T2DM*)

# Study design and data

*Methods*

## Total 66 subjects

### Water study<sup>[1]</sup>

10 T2DM / 10 HV

#### Water

100mL of water (0 kcal)

### Glucose study<sup>[2]</sup>

8 T2DM / 8 HV

#### OGTT 25g

25 g of glucose  
in 300mL water (97 kcal)

#### OGTT 75g

75 g of glucose  
in 300mL water (290 kcal)

#### OGTT 125g

125 g of glucose  
in 300mL water (484 kcal)

### Liquid meals study<sup>[3]</sup>

15 T2DM / 15 HV

#### OGTT 75g

75 g of glucose  
in 350mL water (290 kcal)

#### Low fat liquid meal

2.5 g fat, 13 g prot., 107 g carb.  
Volume of 350mL (500 kcal)

#### Medium fat liquid meal

10 g fat, 11 g prot., 93 g carb.  
Volume of 350mL (500 kcal)

#### High fat liquid meal

40 g fat, 3 g prot., 32 g carb.  
Volume of 350mL (500 kcal)

**+ Gastric emptying marker**  
(*dissolved paracetamol 1.5 g*)

**OGTT:** Oral Glucose Tolerance Test

**T2DM:** Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

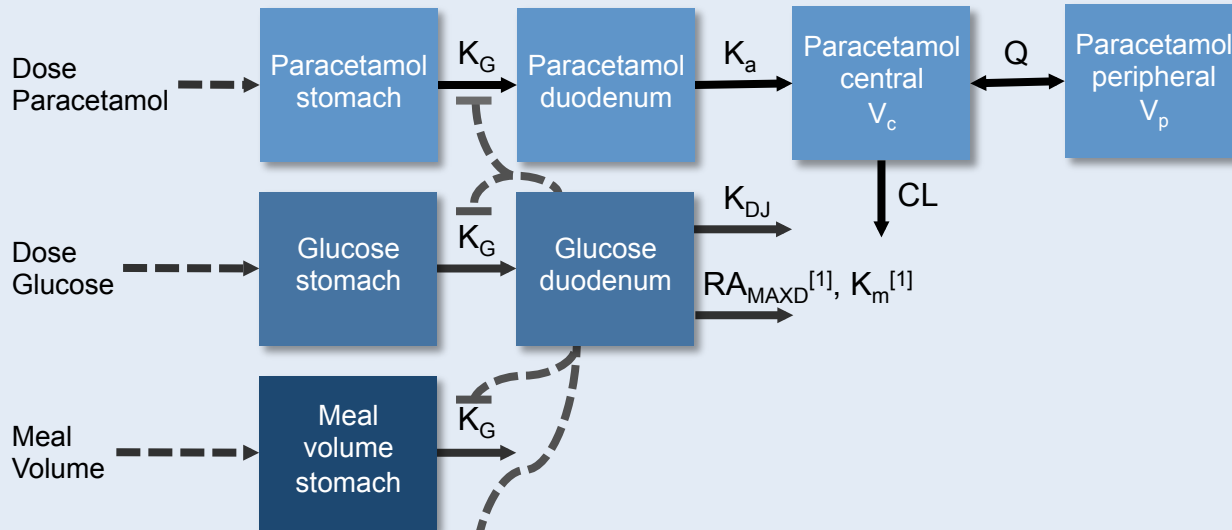
**HV:** Healthy Volunteers (*matched on BMI, gender, age*)

# System overview

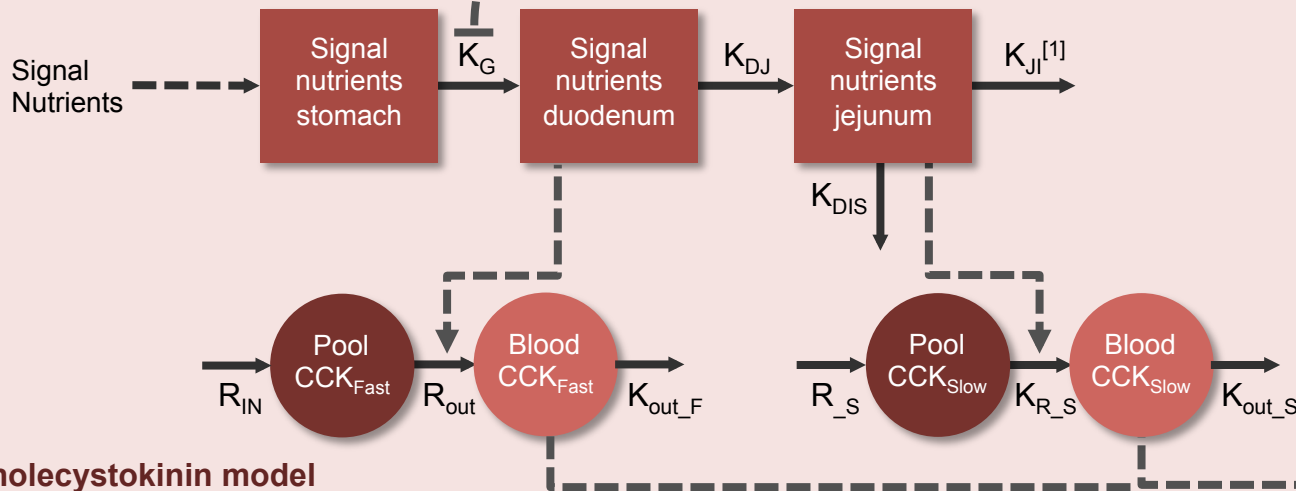
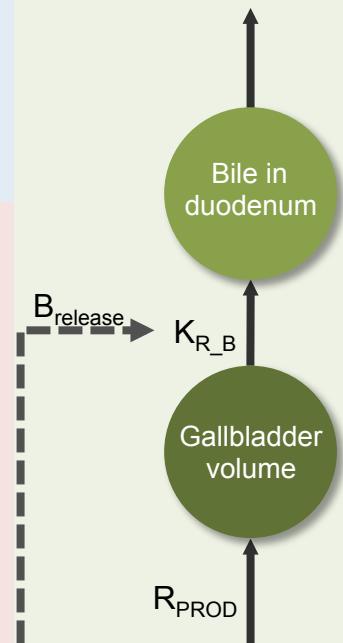
## Methods

---| Inhibition      - - - -> Stimulation

### Gastric emptying model



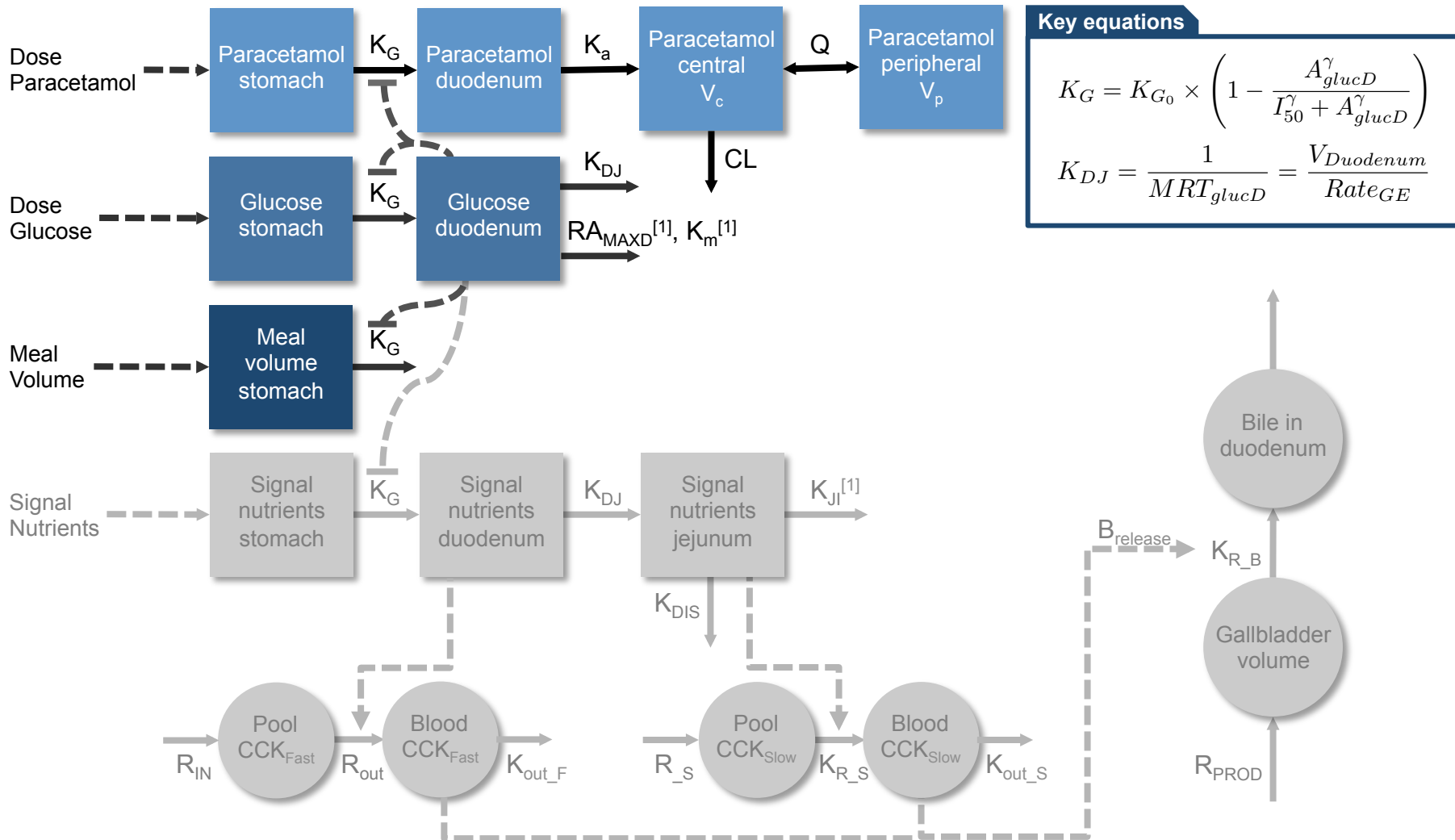
### Bile release model



### Cholecystikin model

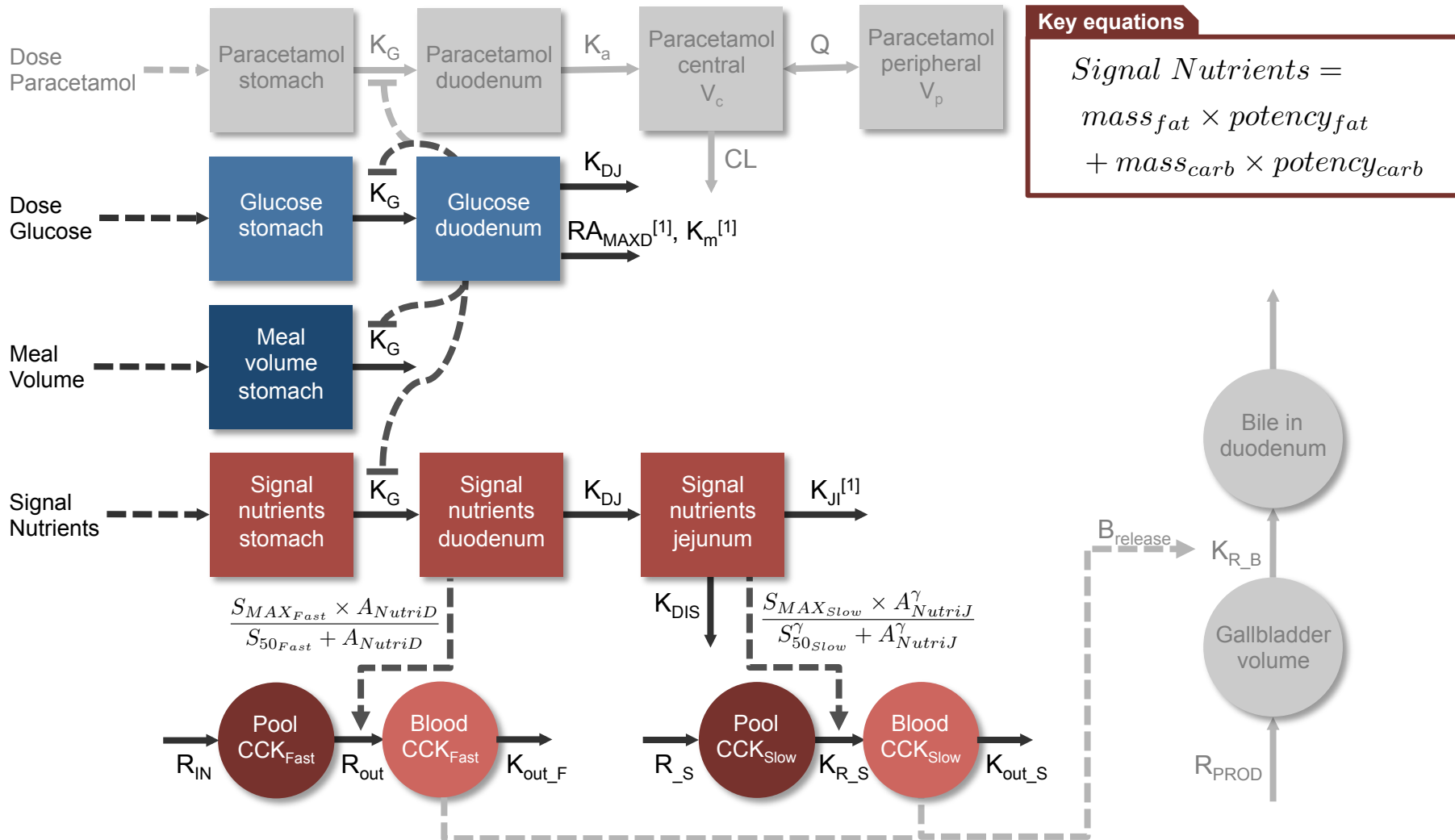
# Gastric emptying (GE) model

## Methods



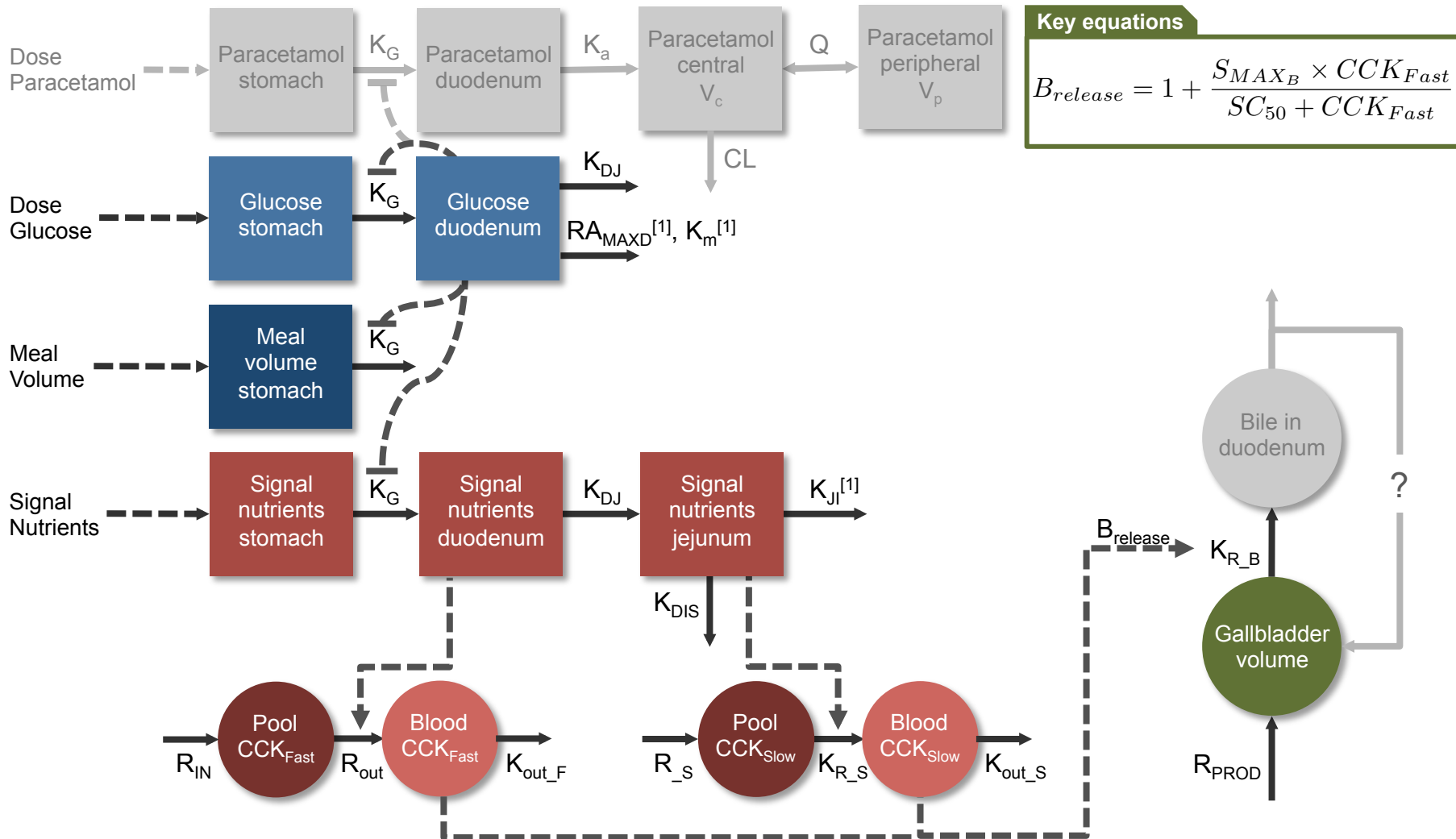
# Cholecystokinin (CCK) model

## Methods



# Bile release model

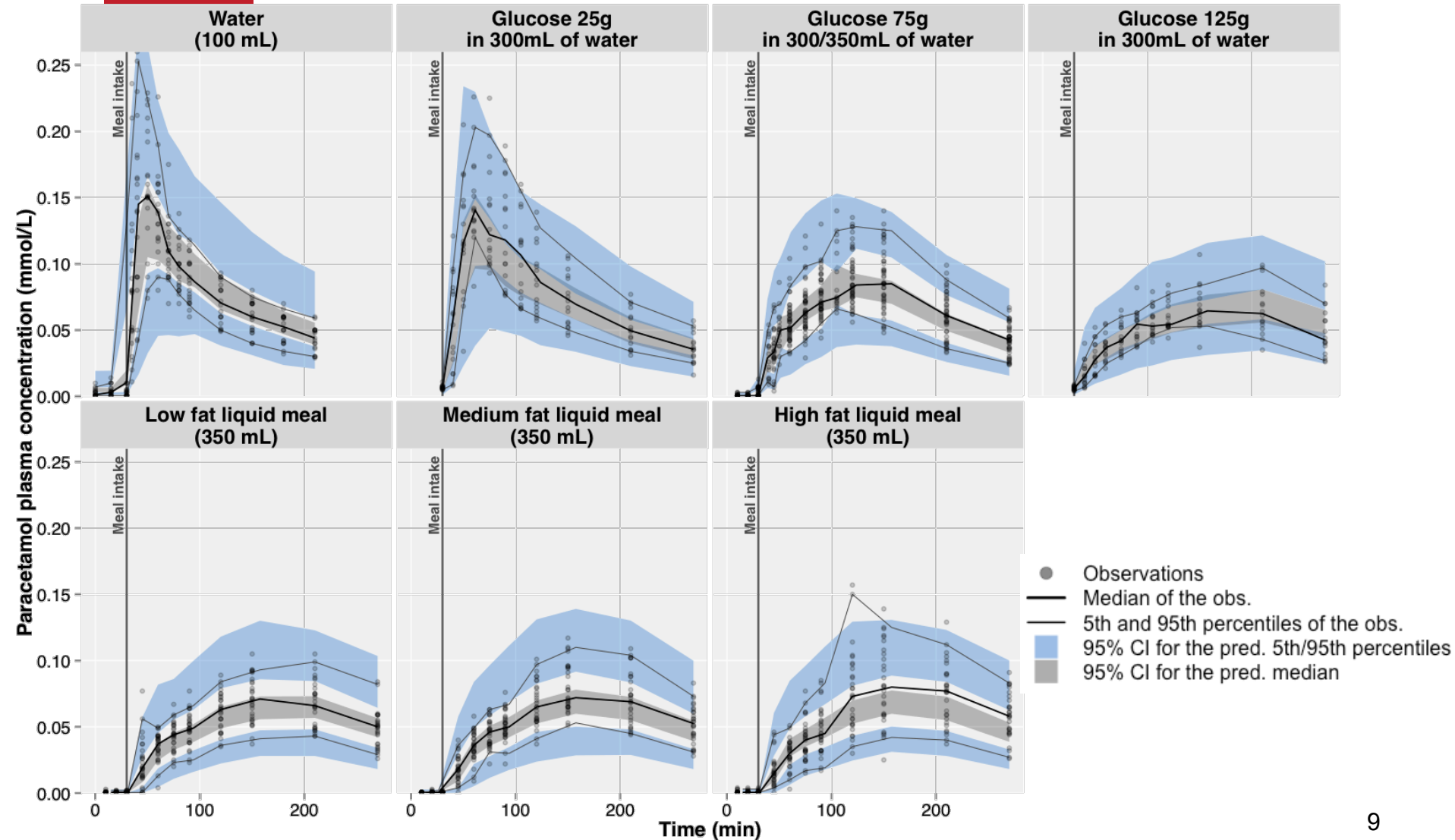
## Methods





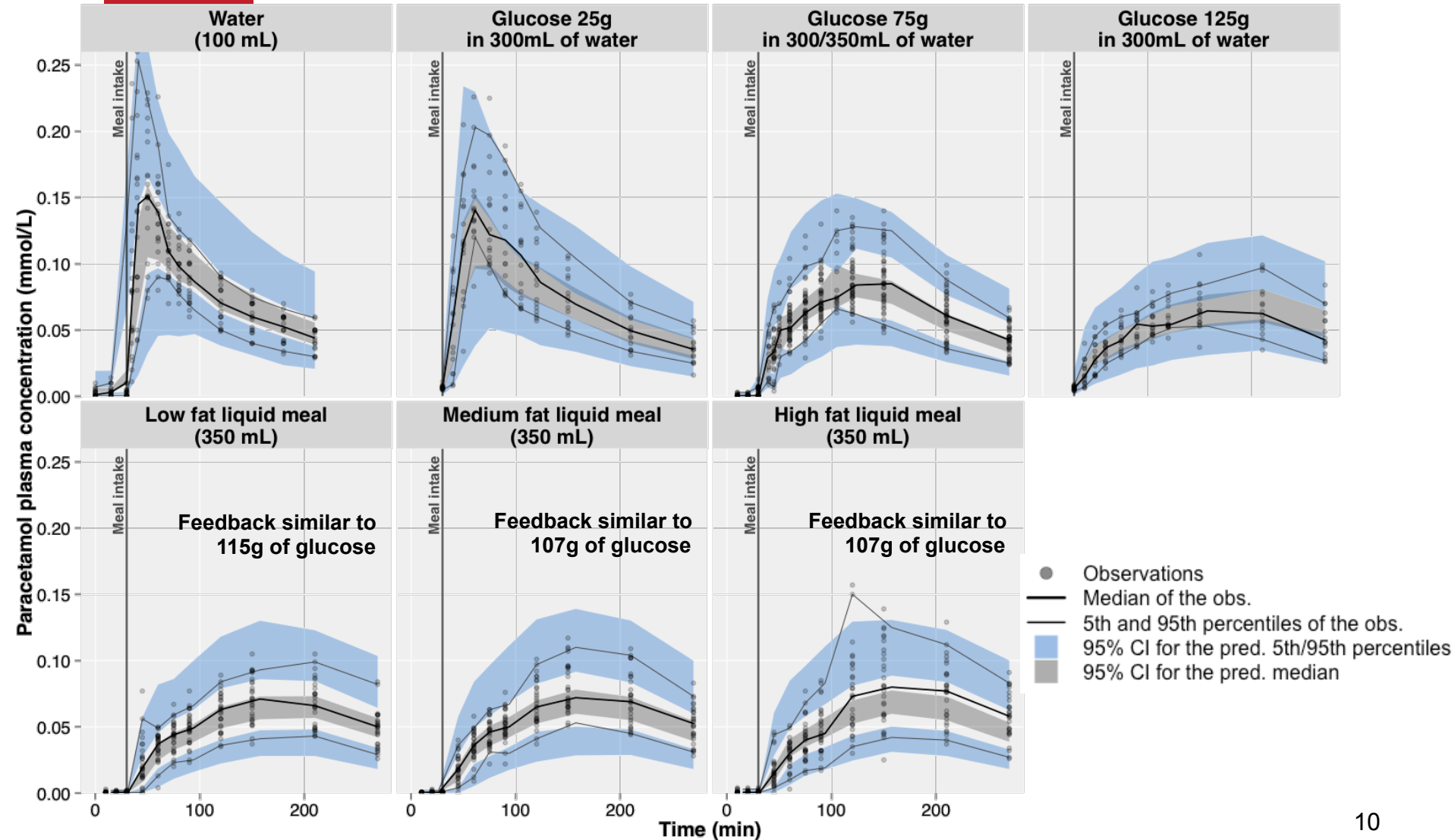
# Gastric emptying (*GE*) model VPCs

## Results



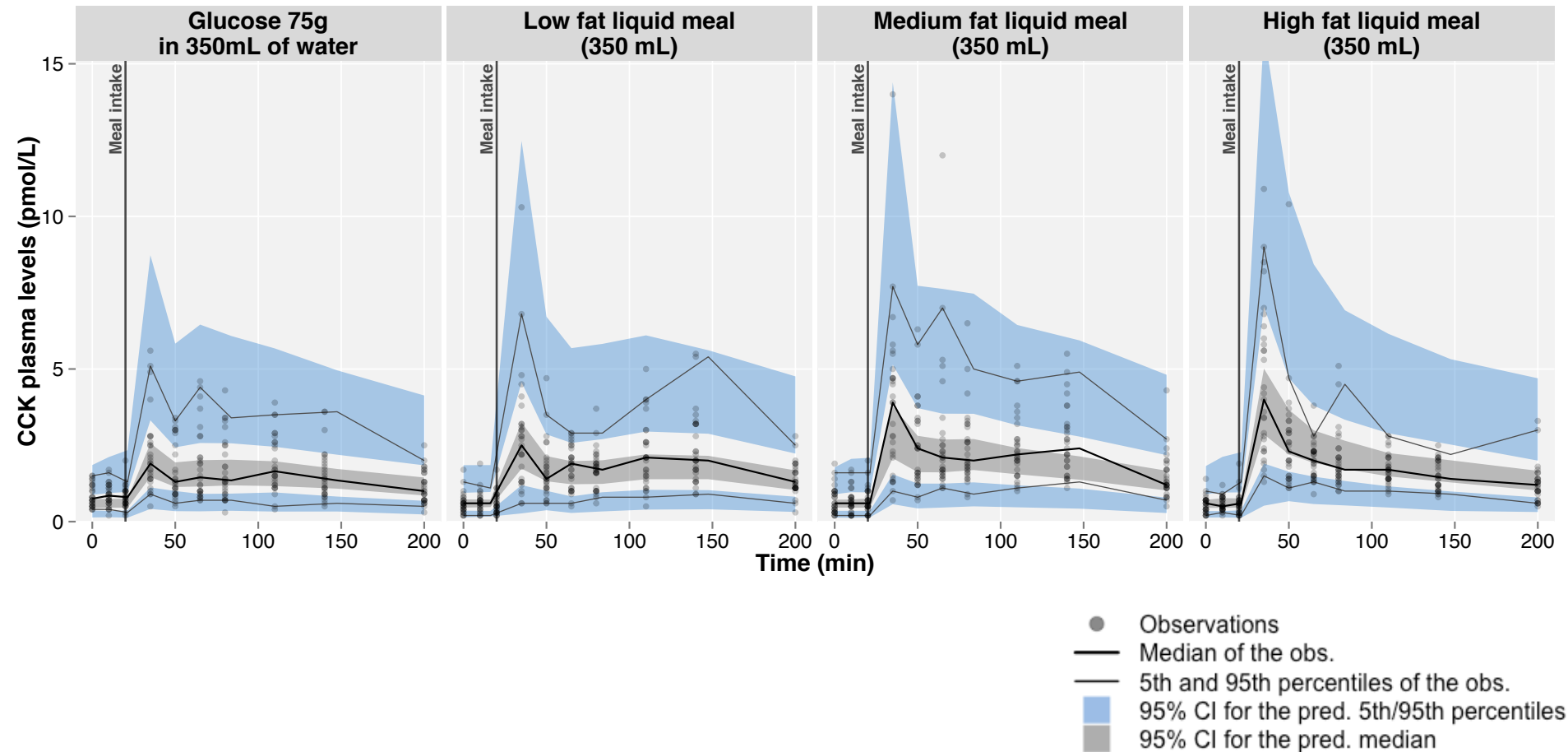
# Gastric emptying (*GE*) model VPCs

## Results



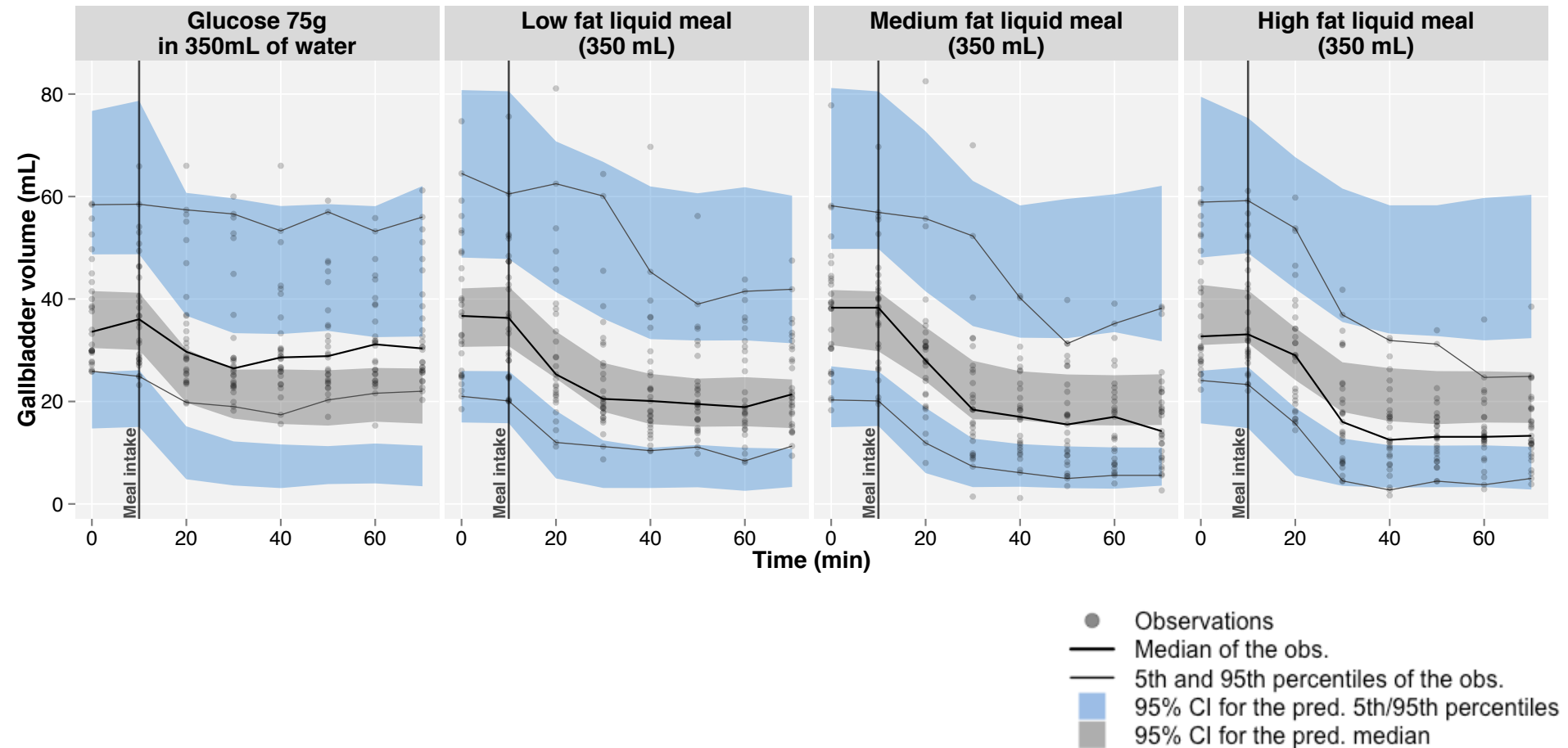
# Cholecystokinin (CCK) model VPCs

## Results



# Bile release model VPCs

## Results

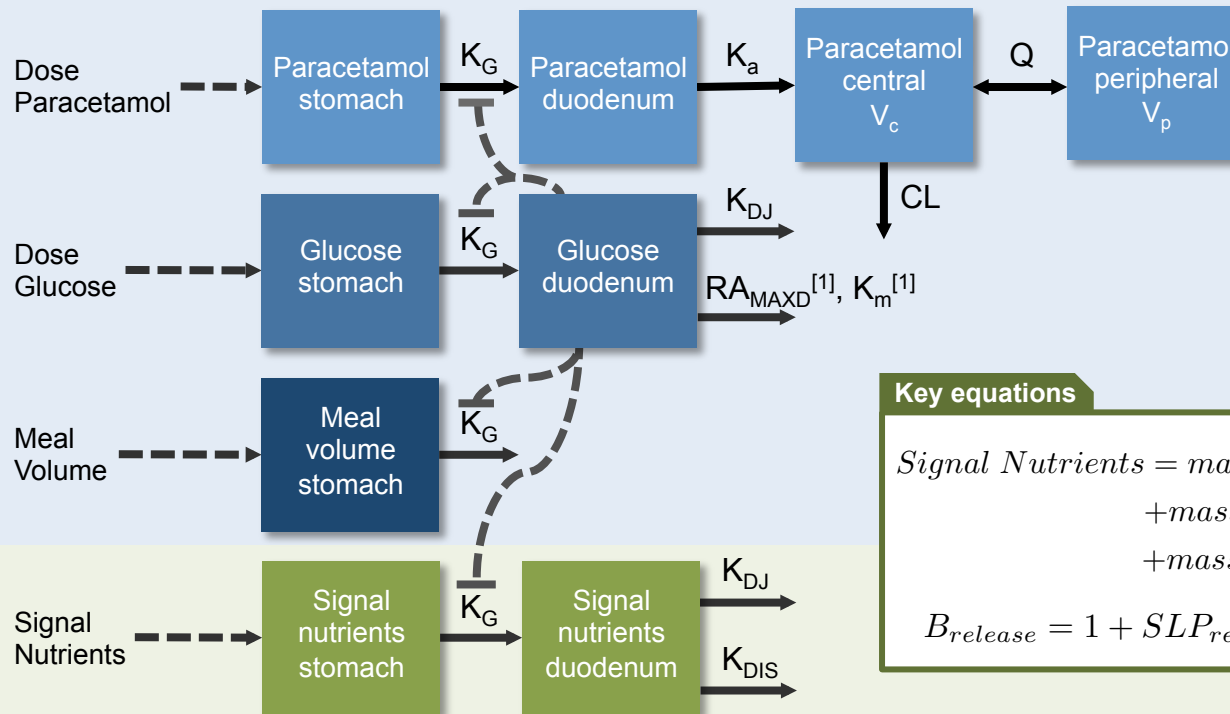


# Final bile release model

## Results

---| Inhibition      ---> Stimulation

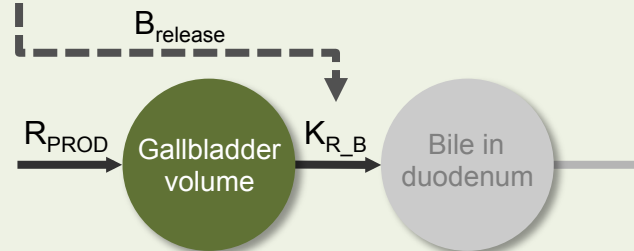
### Gastric emptying model



### Key equations

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Signal Nutrients} = & \text{mass}_{fat} \times \text{potency}_{fat} \\ & + \text{mass}_{prot} \times \text{potency}_{prot} \\ & + \text{mass}_{carb} \times \text{potency}_{carb} \end{aligned}$$

$$B_{release} = 1 + SLP_{release} \times A_{NutriD}$$

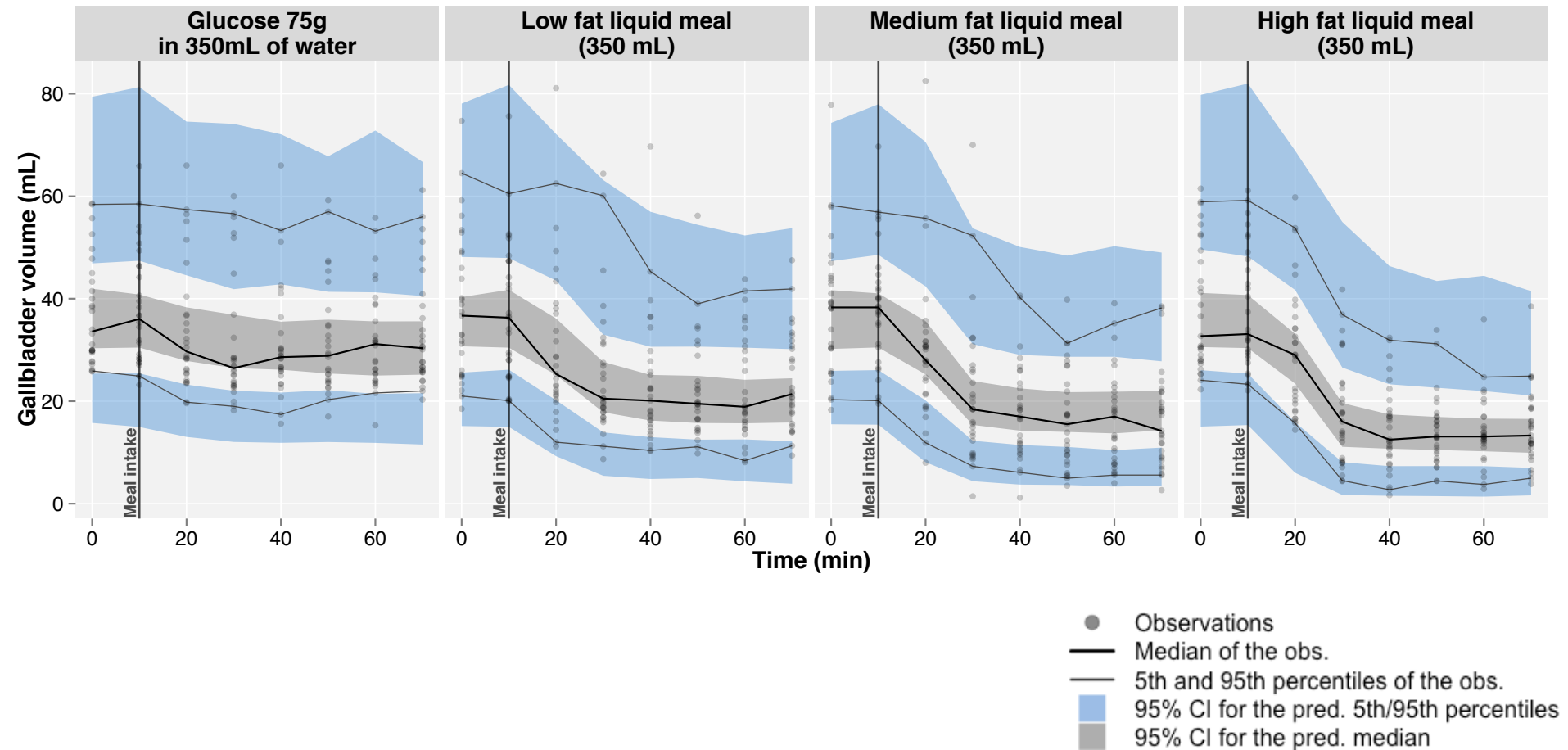


### Bile release model



# Final bile release model VPCs

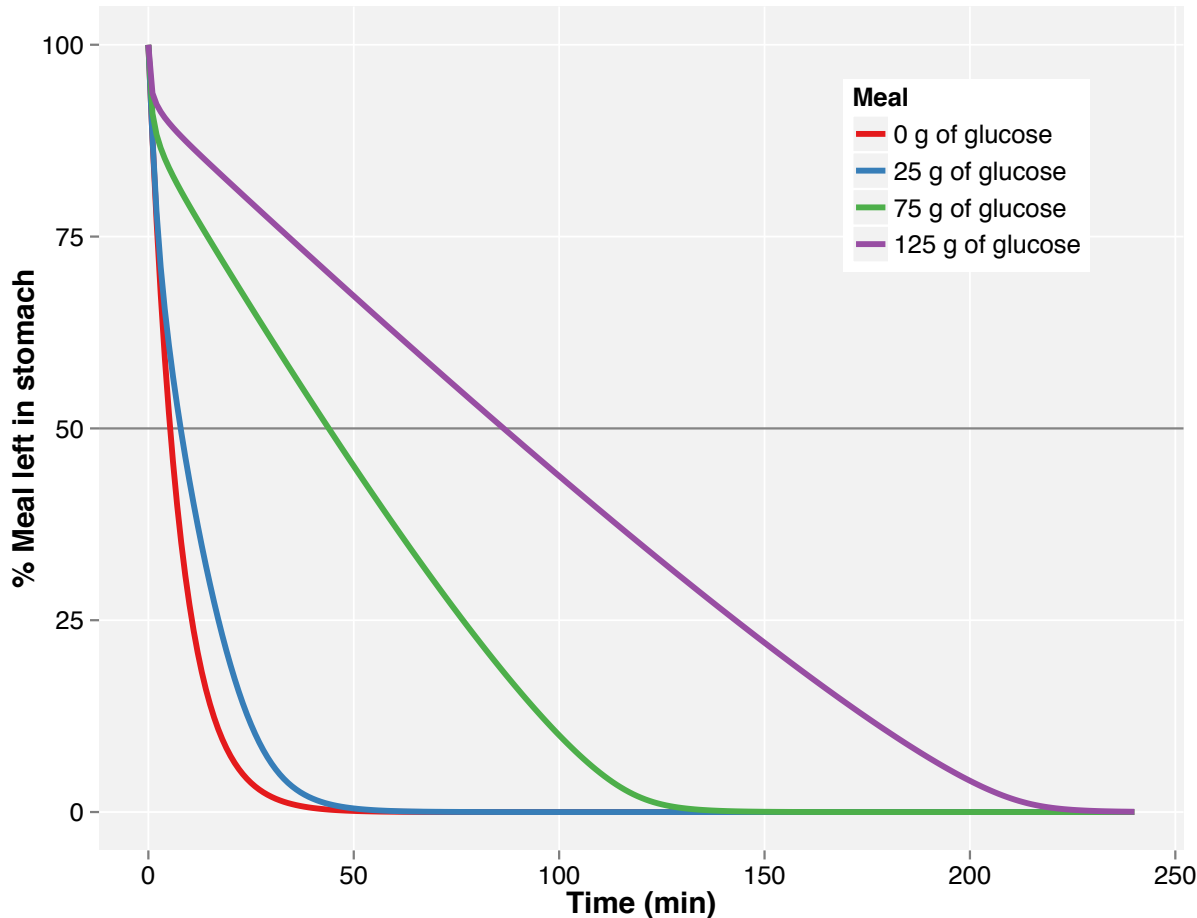
## Results



# Gastric emptying model predictions

## Results

Simulated rate of GE following different caloric intakes (typical individual)



$$K_G = K_{G_0} \times \left( 1 - \frac{A_{glucD}^\gamma}{I_{50}^\gamma + A_{glucD}^\gamma} \right)$$

with:

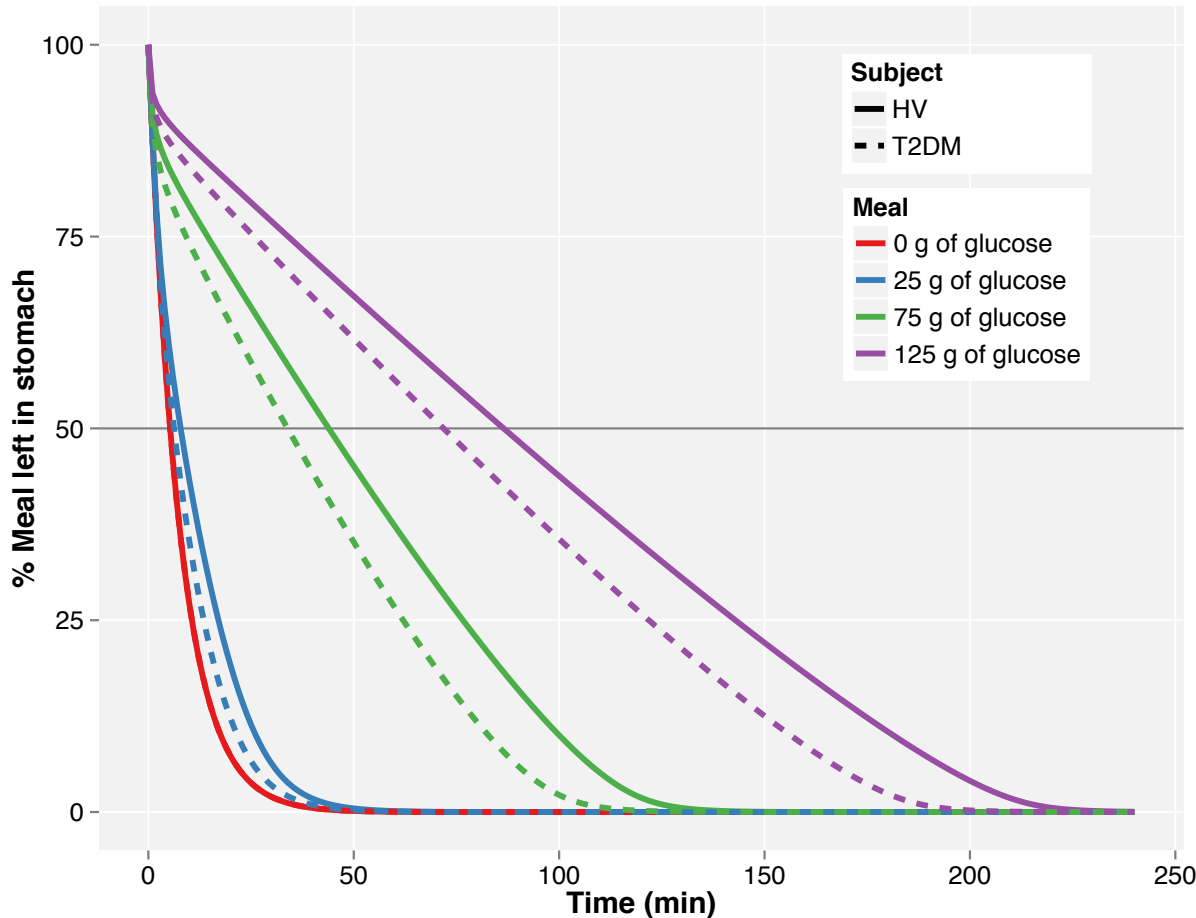
Half-life of  $K_{G_0}$  5.3 min  
 $I_{50}$  4.9 gluc. gram equivalent  
 $\gamma$  4.8

Meal (g of glucose)	Time to 50% emptying
0	5.3 min
25	8.0 min
75	44 min
125	86 min

# T2DM effects on gastric emptying

## Results

Simulated rate of GE following different caloric intakes (HV vs. T2DM)



$$K_G = K_{G_0} \times \left( 1 - \frac{A_{glucD}^\gamma}{I_{50}^\gamma + A_{glucD}^\gamma} \right)$$

with:

Half-life of  $K_{G_0}$  5.3 min

$I_{50}$  4.9 gluc. gram equivalent

$\gamma$  4.8

T2DM on  $I_{50}$  +29%

Meal (g of glucose)	Time to 50% emptying (HV)	Time difference (T2DM)
0	5.3 min	0 min
25	8.0 min	-3 min
75	44 min	-10 min
125	86 min	-14 min

T2DM: Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

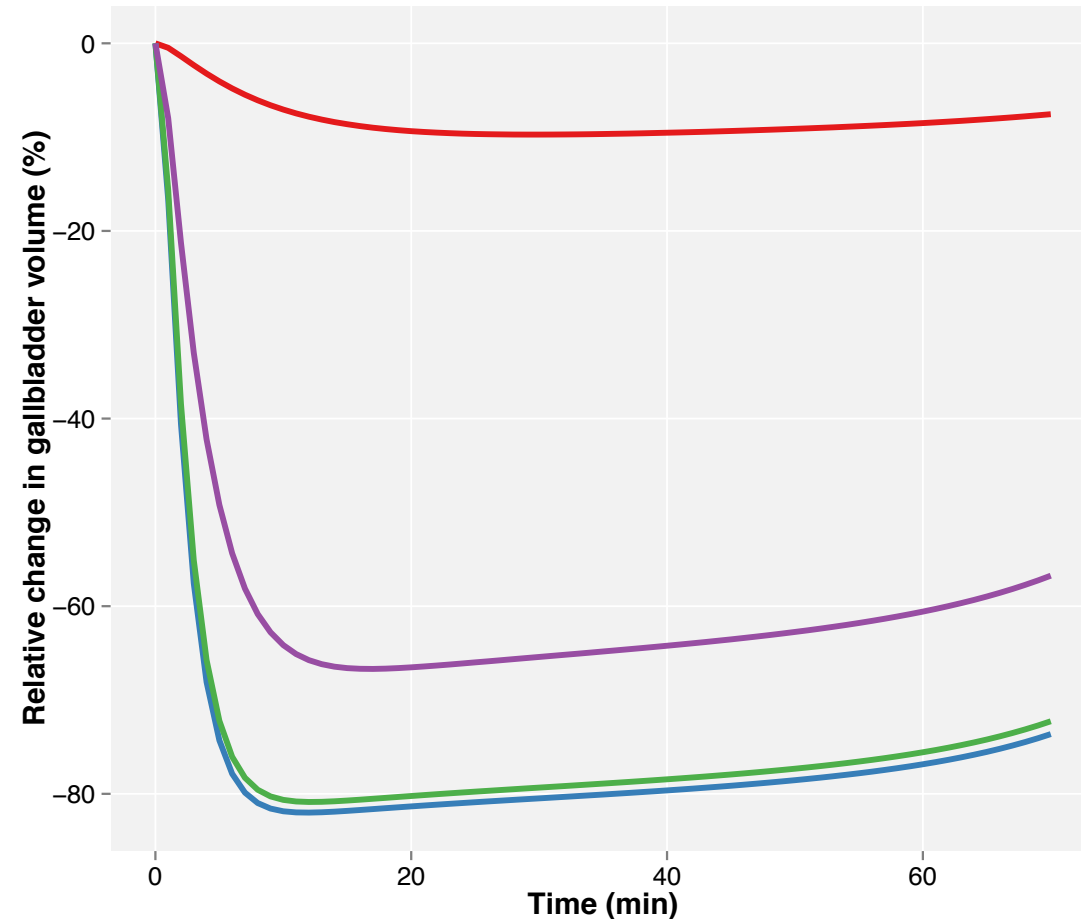
HV: Healthy Volunteers (matched on BMI, gender, age)



# Bile release model predictions

## Results

**Simulated gallbladder emptying  
following different caloric intakes (typical individual)**



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Signal Nutrients} = & \text{mass}_{fat} \times \text{potency}_{fat} \\ & + \text{mass}_{prot} \times \text{potency}_{prot} \\ & + \text{mass}_{carb} \times \text{potency}_{carb} \end{aligned}$$

**with:**

potency <sub>fat</sub>	1.0 fixed
potency <sub>prot</sub>	1.1
potency <sub>carb</sub>	0.028

**Meal**

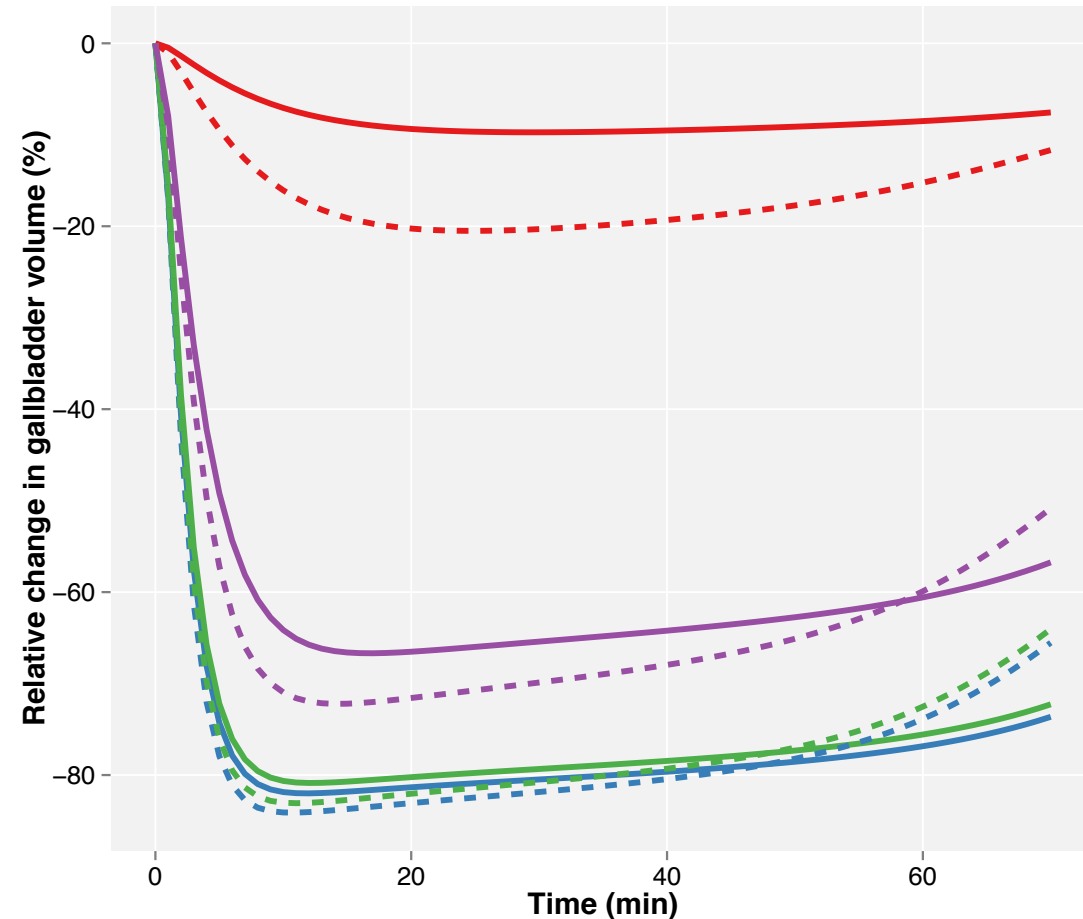
- 50 g of glucose
- 50 g of protein
- 50 g of fat
- 10 g fat/11 g prot/93 g carb

\*Assuming a meal volume of 300mL and the same gastric emptying rate

# T2DM effects on bile release

## Results

Simulated gallbladder emptying following different caloric intakes (HV vs. T2DM)



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Signal Nutrients} &= \text{mass}_{fat} \times \text{potency}_{fat} \\ &+ \text{mass}_{prot} \times \text{potency}_{prot} \\ &+ \text{mass}_{carb} \times \text{potency}_{carb} \end{aligned}$$

with:

potency <sub>fat</sub>	1.0 fixed
potency <sub>prot</sub>	1.1
potency <sub>carb</sub>	0.028
<b>T2DM on potency<sub>carb</sub></b>	<b>+12%</b>

Subject

— HV  
- - T2DM

Meal

— 50 g of glucose  
— 50 g of protein  
— 50 g of fat  
— 10 g fat/11 g prot/93 g carb

# Conclusions

- Gastric emptying was found to be controlled by a feedback mechanism of caloric content in duodenum
- CCK kinetics was not sufficient on its own to describe bile release
- An alternative approach connecting the bile release to nutrients in duodenum was preferred
- T2DM was found to affect gastric emptying and bile release through changes in sensitivity to carbohydrates
- The final model demonstrated to be predictive of gastric emptying, plasma CCK levels and bile release across a wide range of liquid meals

# Future Directions

- Use new data to correlate gallbladder volume to bile concentration in duodenum and study recirculation of bile acids
- Explore correlation between plasma biomarkers and bile acid concentration in duodenum
- Integrate findings in systems pharmacology models (*PBPK*) to improve prediction of oral absorption

# Acknowledgements

The research leading to these results has received support from the Innovative Medicines Initiative Joint Undertaking (<http://www.imi.europa.eu>) under Grant Agreement No. 115369, resources of which are composed of financial contribution from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) and EFPIA companies' in kind contribution.