

Supplement to:

Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium Guideline for *NAT2* Genotype and Hydralazine Therapy

Michael T. Eadon¹, David W. Hein², Michael A. Andersen³, Arlene B. Chapman⁴, Rhonda M. Cooper-DeHoff⁵, Zeruesenay Desta¹, Julio D. Duarte⁵, Amanda L. Elchynski⁶, Andrea Gaedigk⁷, Seth E. Karol⁸, Nita A. Limdi⁹, Christelle Lteif⁵, Laura Sosinski¹⁰, Pablo Zubiaur¹¹, Michelle Whirl-Carrillo¹², Teri E. Klein¹², Kelly E. Caudle¹³, Roseann S. Donnelly^{13,14}, José A.G. Agúndez¹⁵

¹Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

²Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville, Kentucky, USA

³Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Copenhagen University Hospital – Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg, Copenhagen, Denmark

⁴Department of Medicine, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA

⁵Department of Pharmacotherapy and Translational Research and Center for Pharmacogenomics and Precision Medicine, University of Florida College of Pharmacy, Gainesville, Florida, USA

⁶Department of Pharmacy, Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA

⁷Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Toxicology & Therapeutic Innovation, Children's Mercy Research Institute and School of Medicine, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri, USA

⁸Department of Oncology, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, USA

⁹Department of Neurology, Heersink School of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama, USA

¹⁰Department of Pharmacy Practice, Butler University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

¹¹Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Hospital Universitario de la Princesa, Instituto Teófilo Hernando, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria La Princesa (IP), Madrid, Spain

¹²Department of Biomedical Data Science, Stanford University, Stanford, California, USA

¹³Department of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, USA

¹⁴Department of Pharmacy Practice, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

¹⁵Institute of Molecular Pathology Biomarkers, Universidad de Extremadura, Cáceres, Spain

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GUIDELINE UPDATES	2
LITERATURE REVIEW	3
GENETIC TEST INTERPRETATION	3
AVAILABLE GENETIC TEST OPTIONS	4
LEVELS OF EVIDENCE LINKING GENOTYPE TO PHENOTYPE	4
STRENGTH OF RECOMMENDATIONS	5
RESOURCES TO INCORPORATE PHARMACOGENOMICS INTO AN ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD WITH CLINICAL DECISION SUPPORT	6
TABLE S1. EVIDENCE LINKING NAT2 TO HYDRALAZINE PHENOTYPE	9
FIGURE S1. HEPATIC METABOLISM OF HYDRALAZINE	14
REFERENCES	15

GUIDELINE UPDATES

The Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium (CPIC) guideline for *NAT2* and hydralazine therapy is published in full on the CPIC website (1). Relevant information will be reviewed periodically, and updated guidelines published online (1).

LITERATURE REVIEW

The PubMed® database (1966 to January 2024) was searched for the following keywords: hydralazine AND (NAT2 OR n-acetyltransferase OR acetylator). The search was limited to studies conducted in humans and written in the English language, and review articles were excluded. Using these search terms, 126 publications were identified for review. Study inclusion criteria included publications that incorporated analyses for the association between *NAT2* genotype or phenotype and hydralazine pharmacokinetic parameters or hydralazine-related clinical outcomes in patients. Following the application of these criteria, 50 publications were reviewed and included in the evidence tables (**Table S1**). Two additional studies identified in the reference list of a recent review article (2) but not found in the PubMed search described above were also included. This review article also included an assessment of *NAT2* genotype to phenotype concordance using 29 additional studies, which were included as part of the original evidence table.

GENETIC TEST INTERPRETATION

Haplotypes, or star (*) alleles, are determined by a specific single nucleotide variation (SNV) or a combination of SNVs that are interrogated in the genotyping analysis. The genotypes that constitute the haplotypes, or star (*) alleles for *NAT2*, and the rsIDs for each of the specific nucleotide alterations that define the alleles, are as defined on the PharmVar *NAT* gene page (<https://www.pharmvar.org/gene/NAT2>) from which the ***NAT2* Allele Definition Table** online is sourced (1, 3). The genotype results are generally reported as a diplotype, which includes one maternal and one paternal allele (e.g., *NAT2**4/*5). The clinical functional assignments of *NAT2* alleles are summarized in the ***NAT2* Allele Functionality Table** online (1, 3).

Star allele-based *NAT2* nomenclature was transitioned to PharmVar in March 2024 during which numerous changes have been made. We refer the reader to the PharmVar GeneFocus on *NAT2* for details (in preparation), as well as documentation available on the PharmVar *NAT2* gene page (www.pharmvar.org/gene/NAT2) including the Read Me and Change Log documents and the Look-Up table which crosswalks between the ‘old’ and the ‘new’ PharmVar nomenclature.

AVAILABLE GENETIC TEST OPTIONS

Commercially available genetic testing options change over time. The Genetic Testing Registry provides a central location for voluntary submission of genetic test information by providers and is available at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gtr>. Desirable characteristics of pharmacogenomic tests, including naming of alleles and test report contents, have been extensively reviewed by an international group, including CPIC members (4). CPIC recommends that clinical laboratories adhere to these test reporting standards. CPIC gene-specific tables adhere to these allele nomenclature standards. Moreover, these tables (e.g., ***NAT2* Allele Definition Table**, ***NAT2* Allele Functionality Table**) may be used to assemble lists of known functional and actionable genetic variants (1, 3).

LEVELS OF EVIDENCE LINKING GENOTYPE TO PHENOTYPE

The evidence summarized in **Table S1** is graded on a scale of high, moderate, and weak based upon the level of evidence:

- **High:** Evidence includes consistent results from well-designed, well-conducted studies. High confidence that the available evidence reflects the true magnitude and direction of

the net effect and further research is very unlikely to change the magnitude or direction of this net effect.

- **Moderate:** Evidence is sufficient to determine effects, but the strength of the evidence is limited by the number, quality, or consistency of the individual studies; generalizability to routine practice; or indirect nature of the evidence. Further research is unlikely to alter the direction of the net effect, however it might alter the magnitude of the net effect.
- **Weak:** Evidence is insufficient to assess the effects on health outcomes because of limited number or power of studies, important flaws in their design or conduct, gaps in the chain of evidence, or lack of information. Further research may change the magnitude and/or direction of the net effect.

STRENGTH OF RECOMMENDATIONS

CPIC's therapeutic recommendations are based on weighing the evidence from a combination of preclinical functional and clinical data, as well as on some existing disease-specific consensus guidelines. Some of the factors that are taken into account in evaluating the evidence supporting therapeutic recommendations may include *in vivo* pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic data, *in vitro* enzyme activity of tissues expressing wild-type/reference or variant-containing enzyme, *in vitro* enzyme activity from tissues isolated from individuals of known genotypes, and *in vivo* pre-clinical and clinical pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic studies.

Overall, the therapeutic recommendations are simplified to allow rapid interpretation by clinicians. CPIC uses a slight modification of a transparent and simple system for recommendations adopted from the rating scale for evidence-based guidelines on the use of antiretroviral agents (5):

- **Strong** recommendation for the statement: The evidence is high quality and the desirable effects clearly outweigh the undesirable effects.
- **Moderate** recommendation for the statement: There is a close or uncertain balance as to whether the evidence is high quality and the desirable effects clearly outweigh the undesirable effects.
- **Optional** recommendation for the statement: The desirable effects are closely balanced with undesirable effects, or the evidence is weak or based on extrapolations. There is room for differences in opinion as to the need for the recommended course of action.
- **No recommendation:** There is insufficient evidence, confidence, or agreement to provide a recommendation to guide clinical practice at this time.

RESOURCES TO INCORPORATE PHARMACOGENOMICS INTO AN ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD WITH CLINICAL DECISION SUPPORT

Clinical decision support (CDS) tools integrated within electronic health records (EHRs) can help guide clinical pharmacogenomics at the point of care (6-8). See <https://cpicpgx.org/guidelines/cpic-guideline-for-hydralazine-and-nat2/> for resources to support the adoption of CPIC guidelines within an EHR (1). Based on the capabilities of various EHRs and local preferences, we recognize that approaches may vary across organizations. Our intent is to synthesize foundational knowledge that provides a common starting point for incorporating *NAT2* genotype results in an EHR to guide hydralazine therapy.

Effective incorporation of pharmacogenomic information into an EHR to optimize drug therapy should have some key attributes. Pharmacogenomic test results, an interpreted phenotype, and a concise interpretation or summary of the result must be documented in the EHR. To incorporate a phenotype in the EHR in a standardized manner, genotype test results

provided by the laboratory must be consistently translated into an interpreted drug metabolism phenotype (**Table 1, main manuscript; NAT2 Diplotype to Phenotype Table (1, 3)**). Because clinicians must be able to easily find the information, the interpreted phenotype may be documented as a problem list entry or in a patient's summary section; these phenotypes are best stored in the EHR at the "person level" rather than at the date-centric "encounter level".

Additionally, results should be entered as standardized and discrete terms to facilitate using them to provide point-of-care CDS (see **Hydralazine Pre- and Post-Test Alerts and Flow Chart** for example CDS alerts; <https://cpicpgx.org/guidelines/cpic-guideline-for-hydralazine-and-nat2/>)

(1). Point-of-care CDS should be designed to effectively notify clinicians of prescribing implications at any time after the test result is entered into the EHR. For this guideline, each NAT2 phenotype (rapid metabolizer [RM], intermediate metabolizer [IM], poor metabolizer [PM]) is considered an actionable ("priority/high risk") result, depending on the hydralazine dose prescribed. For RMs and IMs, a post-test alert is recommended when a total daily dose of hydralazine ≤ 50 mg is prescribed. For PMs, a post-test alert is recommended when a total daily dose of hydralazine ≥ 200 mg is prescribed. CPIC's informatics resources are meant to be used as a starting point, and each institution is encouraged to customize their approach (e.g., what type of alerts to deploy, what wording to use) based on their unique needs.

Because pharmacogenomic test results have lifetime implications and clinical significance, results should be placed into a section of the EHR that is accessible independent of the test result date to allow clinicians to quickly find the result at any time after it is initially placed in the EHR. To facilitate this process, CPIC is providing gene-specific information figures and tables that include complete diplotype to phenotype translation tables, diagram(s) that illustrate how NAT2 pharmacogenomic test results could be entered into an EHR, example

EHR consultation/genetic test interpretation language and widely used nomenclature systems for relevant drugs (see <https://cpicpgx.org/guidelines/cpic-guideline-for-hydralazine-and-nat2/>) (1).

TABLE S1. EVIDENCE LINKING NAT2 TO HYDRALAZINE PHENOTYPE

Type of Experimental Model (<i>in vitro</i> , <i>in vivo</i> , preclinical, or clinical)	Major Findings	References	Level of Evidence ^a
<i>In vitro</i>	In human hepatocytes, MTP production from hydralazine metabolism was higher in NAT2 rapid versus intermediate versus poor metabolizers at different hydralazine concentrations.	Allen, <i>et al.</i> (2017) (9)	High
Clinical	The overall concordance of <i>NAT2</i> genotype to NAT2 enzymatic activity phenotype is greater than 90%.	Deguchi, <i>et al.</i> (1990) (10) Hickman, <i>et al.</i> (1991) (11) Graf, <i>et al.</i> (1992) (12) Bell, <i>et al.</i> (1993) (13) Cascorbi, <i>et al.</i> (1995) (14) Le Marchand, <i>et al.</i> (1996) (15) Kaufmann, <i>et al.</i> (1996) (16) O'Neil, <i>et al.</i> (1997) (17) Parkin, <i>et al.</i> (1997) (18) Smith, <i>et al.</i> (1997) (19) Woolhouse, <i>et al.</i> (1997) (20) Cascorbi, <i>et al.</i> (1999) (21) Gross, <i>et al.</i> (1999) (22) Wolkenstein, <i>et al.</i> (2000) (23) Zhao, <i>et al.</i> (2000) (24) Bolt, <i>et al.</i> (2005) (25) Skretkiewicz, <i>et al.</i> (2005) (26) Goldenkova-Pavlova, <i>et al.</i> (2006) (27) Rychlik-Sych, <i>et al.</i> (2006) (28) Straka, <i>et al.</i> (2006) (29) Rihs, <i>et al.</i> (2007) (30) Díaz-Molina, <i>et al.</i> (2008) (31)	High

		Kuhn, <i>et al.</i> (2010) (32) Hein, <i>et al.</i> (2012) (33) Rana, <i>et al.</i> (2012) (34) Ruiz, <i>et al.</i> (2012) (35) Al-Ahmad, <i>et al.</i> (2017) (36) Aklilu, <i>et al.</i> (2018) (37) Birch, <i>et al.</i> (2018) (38) Akhter, <i>et al.</i> (2019) (39)	
Clinical	NAT2 poor metabolizers (slow acetylators) have higher hydralazine exposure compared to NAT2 rapid and intermediate metabolizers (rapid acetylators).	Zacest, <i>et al.</i> (1972) (40) Jounela, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (41) Talseth, <i>et al.</i> (1977) (42) Timbrell, <i>et al.</i> (1979) (43) Hawksworth, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (44) Reece, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (45) Shen, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (46) Shepherd, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (47) Timbrell, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (48) Facchini, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (49) Ludden, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (50) Timbrell, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (51) Ludden, <i>et al.</i> (1983) (52) Timbrell, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (53) Blair, <i>et al.</i> (1985) (54) Dubois, <i>et al.</i> (1987) (55) Rashid, <i>et al.</i> (1992) (56) Gonzalez-Fierro, <i>et al.</i> (2011) (57) Han, <i>et al.</i> (2019) (58)	High
Clinical	Hydralazine dosed at 182 mg in NAT2 rapid and intermediate metabolizers (rapid acetylators) and 83 mg in NAT2 poor metabolizers (slow acetylators) resulted in similar hydralazine exposure.	Arce, <i>et al.</i> (2006) (59) Candelaria, <i>et al.</i> (2007) (60) Coronel, <i>et al.</i> (2011) (61) Gonzalez-Fierro, <i>et al.</i> (2011) (57) Garcés-Eisele, <i>et al.</i> (2014) (62)	High

Clinical	Hydralazine is a more effective antihypertensive in NAT2 poor metabolizers (slow acetylators) compared to NAT2 rapid and intermediate metabolizers (rapid acetylators) at the same dose.	Hunyor, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (63) Jounela, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (41) Kalowski, <i>et al.</i> (1979) (64) Vidrio, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (65) Wulff, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (66) Shepherd, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (67) Shepherd, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (68) Silas, <i>et al.</i> (1982) (69) Vandenburg, <i>et al.</i> (1982) (70) Danielson, <i>et al.</i> (1983) (71) Koopmans, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (72) Ramsay, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (73) Rowell, <i>et al.</i> (1990) (74) Spinasse, <i>et al.</i> (2014) (75)	Moderate
Clinical	A higher dose of hydralazine is required in NAT2 rapid and intermediate metabolizers (rapid acetylators) to achieve antihypertensive efficacy equivalent to NAT2 poor metabolizers (slow acetylators).	Zacest, <i>et al.</i> (1972) (40) Hunyor, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (63) Jounela, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (41) Litwin, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (76) Silas, <i>et al.</i> (1982) (69) Vandenburg, <i>et al.</i> (1982) (70) Koopmans, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (72) Ramsay, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (73) Graves, <i>et al.</i> (1990) (77)	Moderate
Clinical	Hydralazine is a more effective antihypertensive in NAT2 poor metabolizers (slow acetylators) compared to NAT2 rapid and intermediate metabolizers (rapid acetylators).	Zacest, <i>et al.</i> (1972) (40) Hunyor, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (63) Jounela, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (41) Kalowski, <i>et al.</i> (1979) (64) Wulff, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (66) Litwin, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (76) Shepherd, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (67) Shepherd, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (68) Silas, <i>et al.</i> (1982) (69) Vandenburg, <i>et al.</i> (1982) (70) Danielson, <i>et al.</i> (1983) (71) Koopmans, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (72)	Moderate

		Ramsay, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (73) Graves, <i>et al.</i> (1990) (77) Rowell, <i>et al.</i> (1990) (74) Spinasse, <i>et al.</i> (2014) (75)	
Clinical	NAT2 poor metabolizers (slow acetylators) have a higher risk of non-lupus adverse effects with hydralazine compared to NAT2 rapid and intermediate metabolizers (rapid acetylators).	Kalowski, <i>et al.</i> (1979) (64) Wulff, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (66) Tsujimoto, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (78) Vandenburg, <i>et al.</i> (1982) (70) Dahlqvist, <i>et al.</i> (1983) (79) Danielson, <i>et al.</i> (1983) (71) Ramsay, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (73) Björck, <i>et al.</i> (1985) (80) Gonzalez-Fierro, <i>et al.</i> (2011) (57) Spinasse, <i>et al.</i> (2014) (75)	Moderate
Clinical	NAT2 poor metabolizers (slow acetylators) have a higher risk of developing hydralazine-induced systemic lupus erythematosus compared to NAT2 rapid and intermediate metabolizers (rapid acetylators).	Hunyor, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (63) Strandberg, <i>et al.</i> (1976) (81) Batchelor, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (82) Litwin, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (76) Cameron, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (83) Ihle, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (84) Ramsay, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (73) Timbrell, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (53) Asherson, <i>et al.</i> (1986) (85) Russell, <i>et al.</i> (1986) (86) Pålsson, <i>et al.</i> (1989) (87) Schattner, <i>et al.</i> (1994) (88) Spinasse, <i>et al.</i> (2014) (75) Holman, <i>et al.</i> (2017) (89)	Moderate
Clinical	NAT2 poor metabolizers (slow acetylators) have a higher risk of adverse effects with hydralazine compared to NAT2 rapid and intermediate metabolizers (rapid acetylators).	Hunyor, <i>et al.</i> (1975) (63) Strandberg, <i>et al.</i> (1976) (81) Kalowski, <i>et al.</i> (1979) (64) Batchelor, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (82) Wulff, <i>et al.</i> (1980) (66) Litwin, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (76) Tsujimoto, <i>et al.</i> (1981) (78)	Moderate

		Vandenburg, <i>et al.</i> (1982) (70) Dahlqvist, <i>et al.</i> (1983) (79) Danielson, <i>et al.</i> (1983) (71) Cameron, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (83) Ihle, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (84) Ramsay, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (73) Timbrell, <i>et al.</i> (1984) (53) Björck, <i>et al.</i> (1985) (80) Asherson, <i>et al.</i> (1986) (85) Russell, <i>et al.</i> (1987) (86) Pålsson, <i>et al.</i> (1989) (87) Schattner, <i>et al.</i> (1994) (88) Gonzalez-Fierro, <i>et al.</i> (2011) (57) Spinasse, <i>et al.</i> (2014) (75) Holman, <i>et al.</i> (2017) (89)	
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^aRating scheme described in the **Supplemental Material**

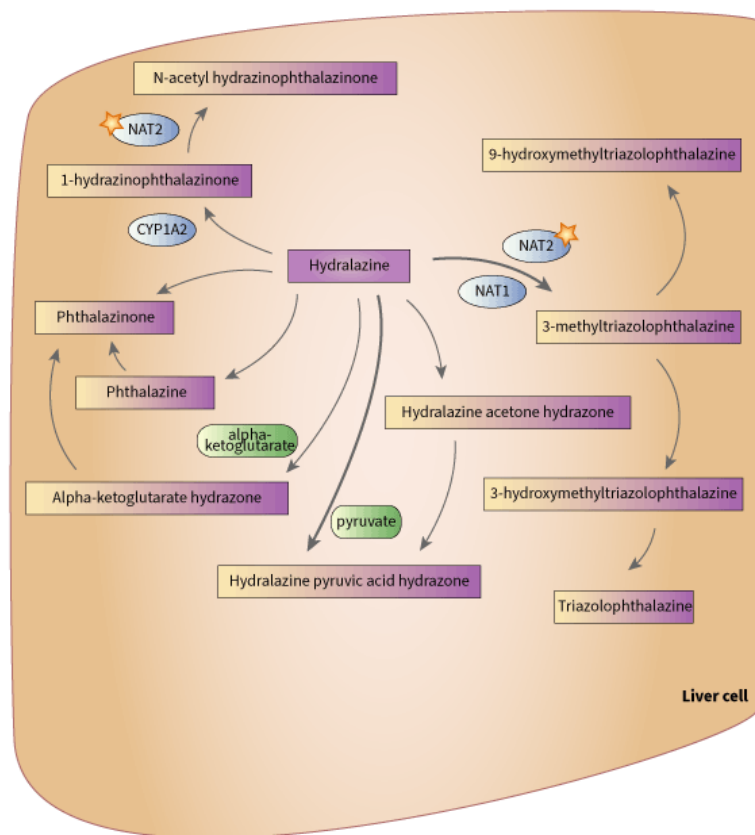


FIGURE S1. HEPATIC METABOLISM OF HYDRALAZINE

For a detailed and updated description, please see: <https://www.pharmgkb.org/pathway/PA166271241>. Image is available under a Creative Commons BY-SA 4.0 license (90).

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