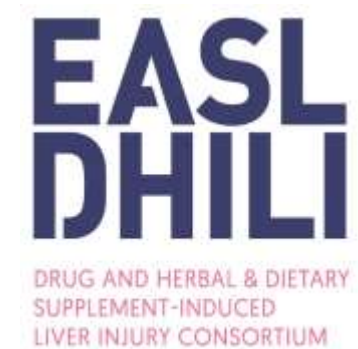


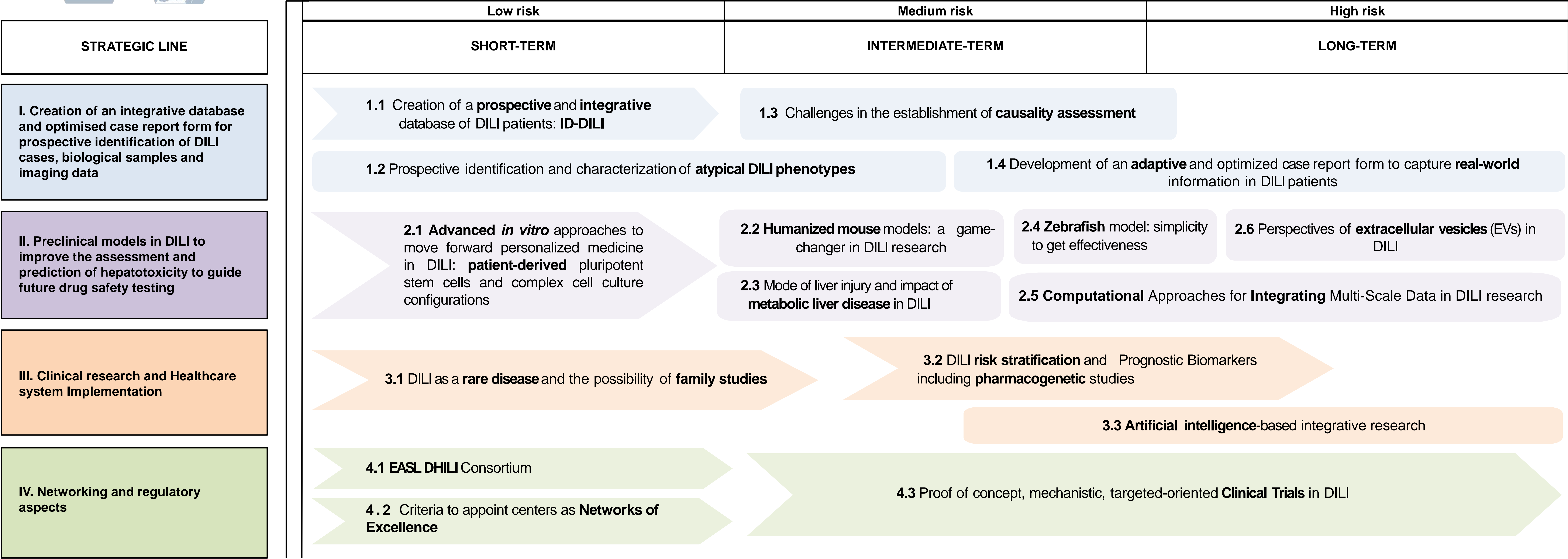
# Hepatitis tóxica (DILI): una hoja de ruta para investigar en Europa

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# ROADMAP TO DILI RESEARCH IN EUROPE





# I. Creation of an integrative database and optimised case report form for prospective identification of DILI cases, biological samples and imaging data

## Creation of a prospective and integrative database of DILI patients



- Prospective registries are the most valuable source of data for idiosyncratic DILI research.
- Comparability between registries is to some extent limited due to differences in data collection, case definition, or causality assessment.
- Thus, the creation of a prospective and integrative database has great interest.





# I. Creation of an integrative database and optimised case report form for prospective identification of DILI cases, biological samples and imaging data

## Challenges in the establishment of causality assessment

### CIOMS/RUCAM

Criteria	Score
1. TIME TO ONSET OF THE REACTION	
Highly suggestive	+ 3
Suggestive	+ 2
Compatible	+ 1
Inconclusive	0
If incompatible, then case "unrelated"	
If information not available, then case "insufficiently documented"	
2. COURSE OF THE REACTION	
Highly suggestive	+ 3
Suggestive	+ 2
Compatible	+ 1
Against the role of the drug	- 2
Inconclusive or not available	0
3. RISK FACTOR(S) FOR DRUG REACTION	
Presence	+ 1 to + 2*
Absence	0
4. CONCOMITANT DRUG(S) <sup>c</sup>	
Time to onset Incompatible	0
Time to onset compatible but unknown reaction	- 1
Time to onset compatible and known reaction	- 2
Role proved in this case	- 3
None or information not available	0
5. NON DRUG-RELATED CAUSES <sup>c</sup>	
Ruled out	+ 2
Possible or Not investigated <sup>a</sup>	+ 1 to - 2
Probable	- 3
6. PREVIOUS INFORMATION ON THE DRUG	
. Reaction unknown	0
. Reaction published but unlabelled	+ 1
. Reaction labelled in the product's characteristics	+ 2
7. RESPONSE TO READMINISTRATION	
Positive	+ 3
Compatible	+ 1
Negative	- 2
Not available or Not interpretable	0
or PLASMA CONCENTRATION of the drug known as toxic	+ 3
or VALIDATED LABORATORY TEST with high specificity, sensitivity and predictive values	
Positive	+ 3
Negative	- 3
Not interpretable or not available	0

Danan G & Benichou C. J Clin Epidemiol. 1993

### RECAM

#### DILI-RECAM

##### TERMS of DILI RECAM USE

The RECAM is a scoring algorithm to aid in the diagnosis of idiosyncratic drug-induced liver injury (DILI). It is an evidence-based update of the RUCAM. Like the RUCAM, the RECAM is designed to give the user a framework for how to assess DILI and provide an estimate of DILI likelihood.

The RECAM estimate is based on iterative testing of cases from the US Drug-Induced Liver Injury Network (DILIN) and the Spanish DILI Registry. Both registries use expert opinion to assign DILI likelihood, and the RECAM was designed to best fit those expert opinion assessments.

There are significant differences between the RUCAM and RECAM, but also several similarities. It continues to apply points for clinical data and literature regarding DILI risk of a particular medication. These points are grouped into five domains as opposed to the seven RUCAM criteria. The sum of the 5 Domain scores are grouped into categories of DILI likelihood similar to RUCAM, but the range of scores is wider.

RECAM minimizes subjective input and need for calculation by the user to increase inter-rater reliability. We designed each website page to have clear data entry fields with drop down menus and calendars wherever possible. Domain 4 in particular uses drop down choices for tests results that assess the most common competing diagnoses.

While the ability to approximate expert opinion at various diagnostic likelihood cut-offs is quite good with AUCs in the 0.85 to 0.95 range, the RECAM should never be used as a standalone diagnostic. It is not a substitute for good clinical judgement. The heterogeneity of DILI and individual patient idiosyncrasies does not allow for a single, diagnostic scoring algorithm that fits all cases.

Agree to Terms

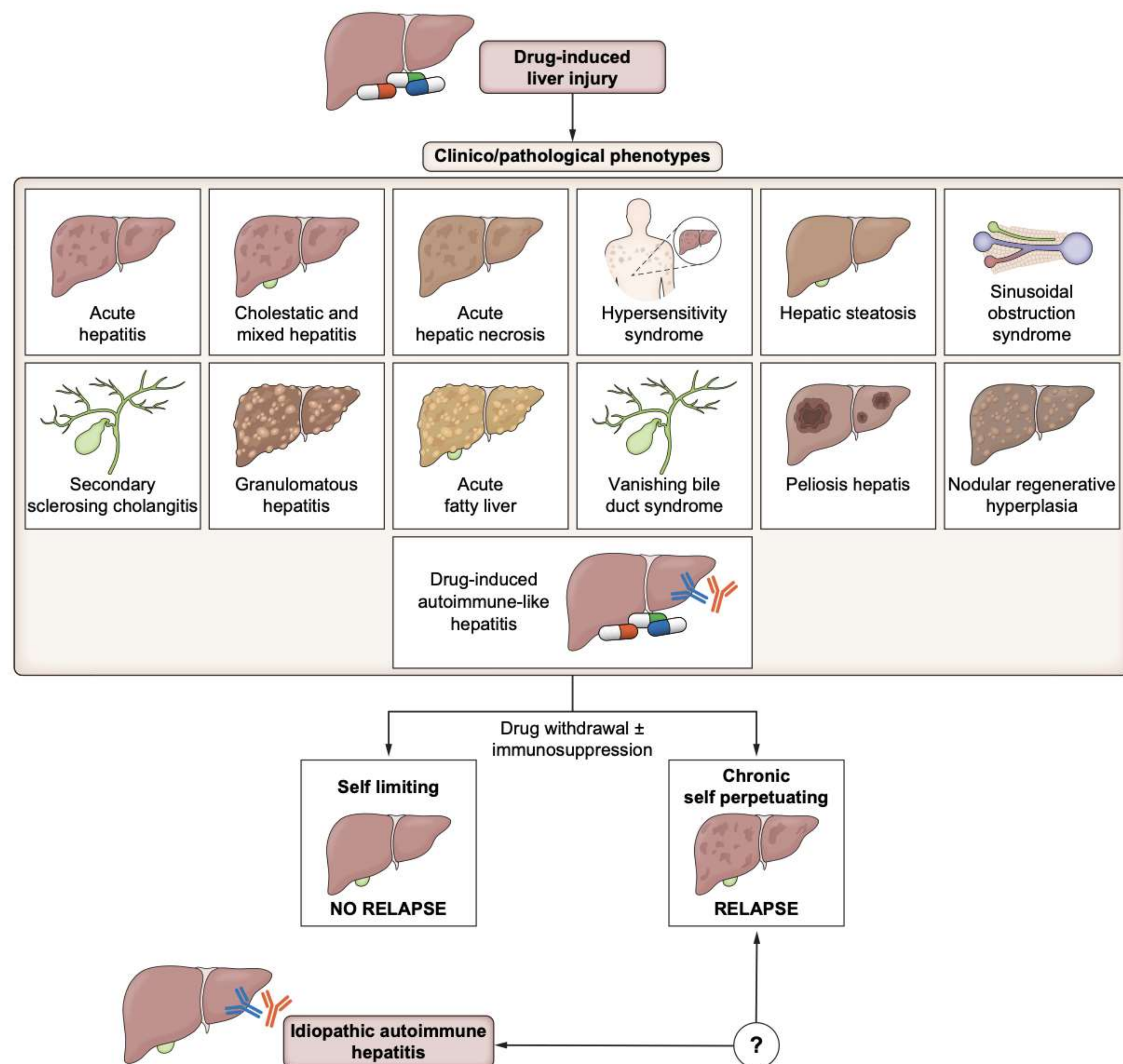
Hayashi P, Lucena Mi, et al. Hepatology. 2022

- Should the CIOMS/RUCAM be replaced? Is still the expert opinion model the chosen causality assessment method in the future in clinical drug development?



# I. Creation of an integrative database and optimised case report form for prospective identification of DILI cases, biological samples and imaging data

## Prospective identification and characterization of atypical DILI phenotypes

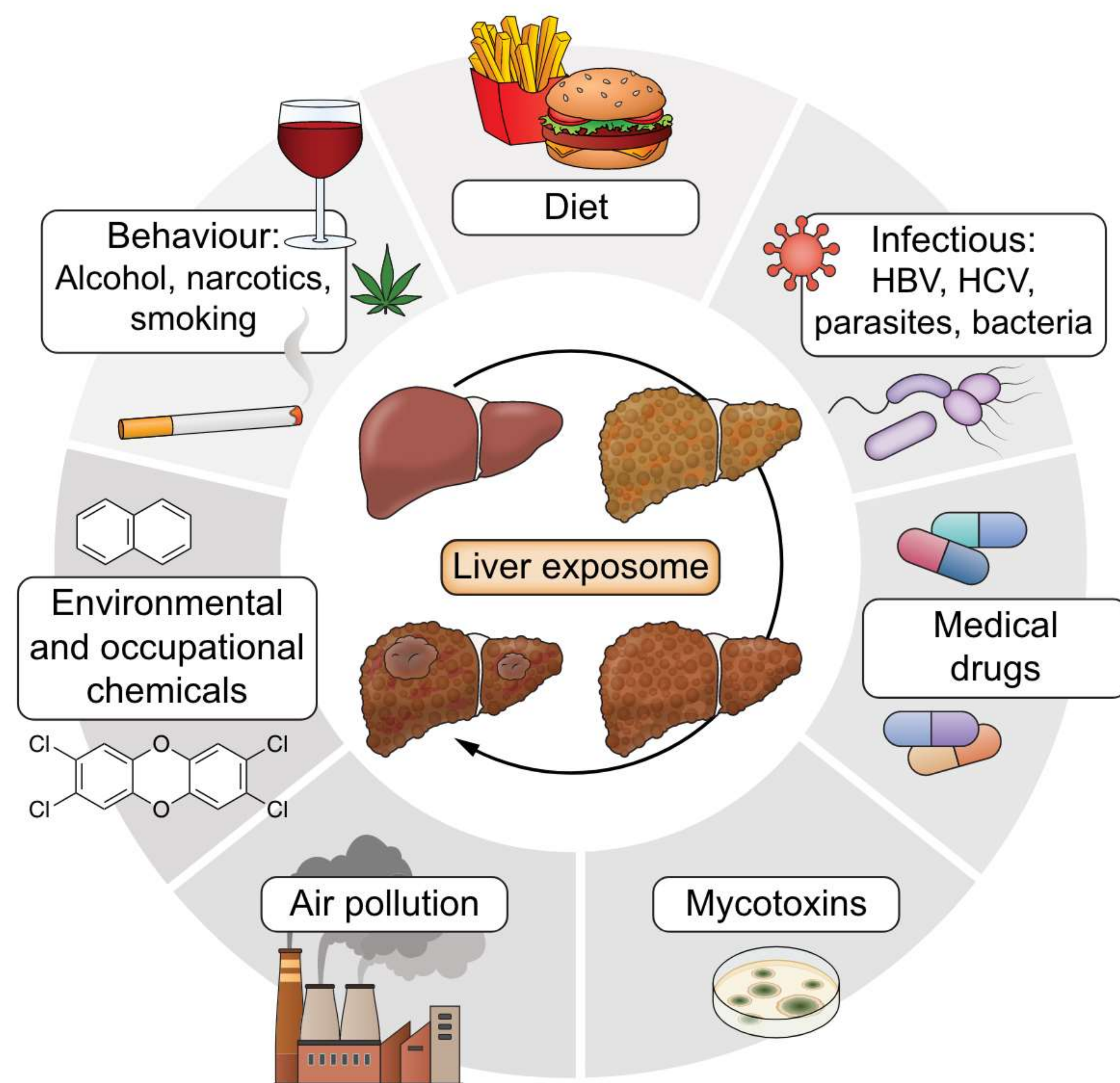


- DILI due to immune checkpoints inhibitors.
- Drug-induced autoimmune hepatitis (DI-ALH).
- DILI in pediatrics.
- DILI due to herbal and dietary supplements.
- **Collection of biological samples collection will aid in the study of the pathophysiology of these phenotypes.**



# I. Creation of an integrative database and optimised case report form for prospective identification of DILI cases, biological samples and imaging data

## Development of an adaptive and optimized case report form to capture real-world information in DILI patients

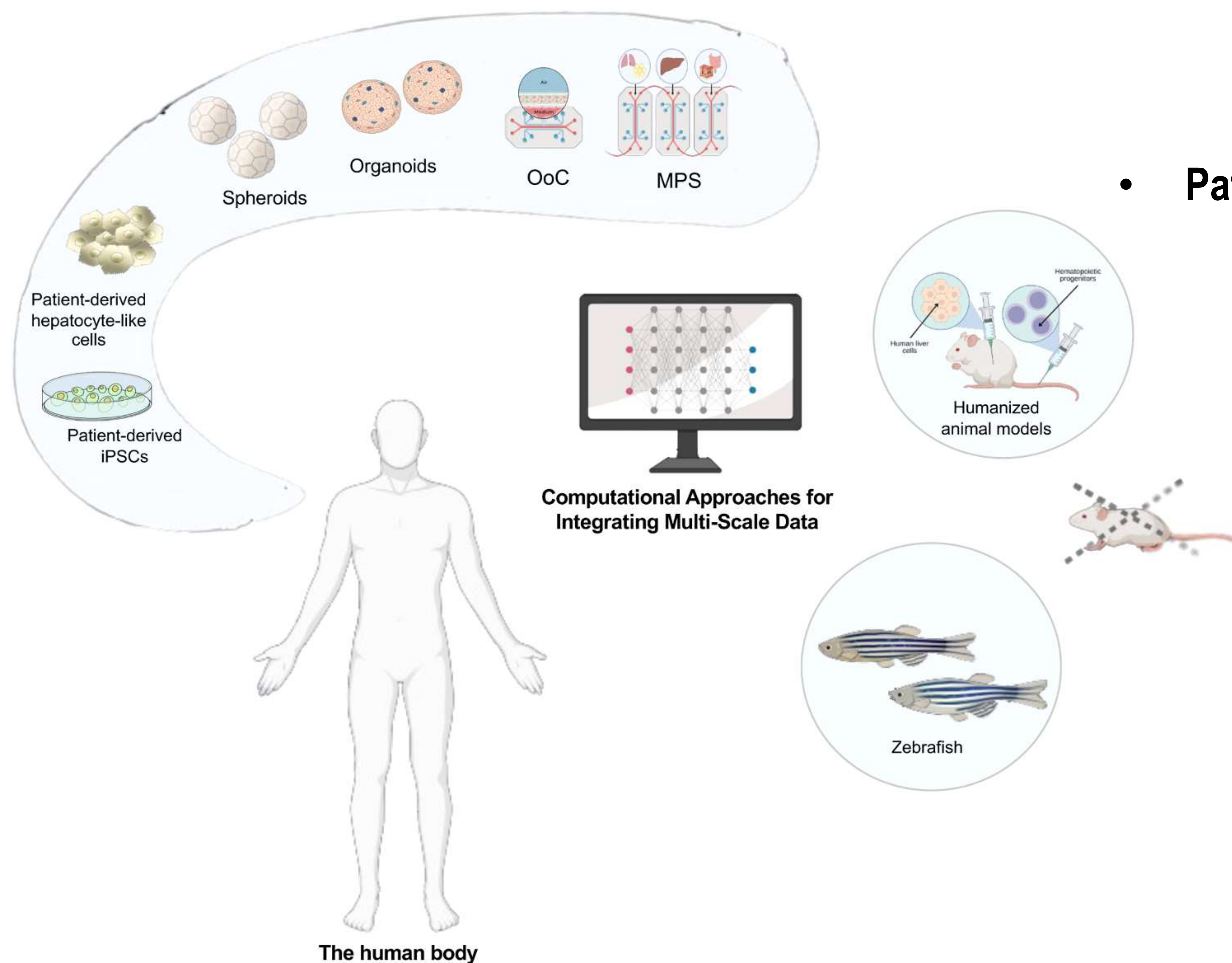


- The **exposome** provides novel, additional insights into innovative study designs to test novel mechanistic hypotheses in DILI.
- Newly designed case report forms should include **patient liver histology data for prospective registries.**
- Use of tools such as digitized liver biopsies and the development of text-processing machine learning models to extract structured information from narrative descriptions will aid in the analysis.



## II. Preclinical models in DILI to improve the assessment and prediction of hepatotoxicity to guide future drug safety testing

### Mechanisms of idiosyncratic DILI are still unknown



1. Multidisciplinary approach:

- **Patient-derived preclinical models + non-invasive imaging + integrative multi-omics analyses**

...complemented with

- **Emerging 3D–4D multicellular *in vitro* platforms + humanized animal models**

2. New preclinical tools

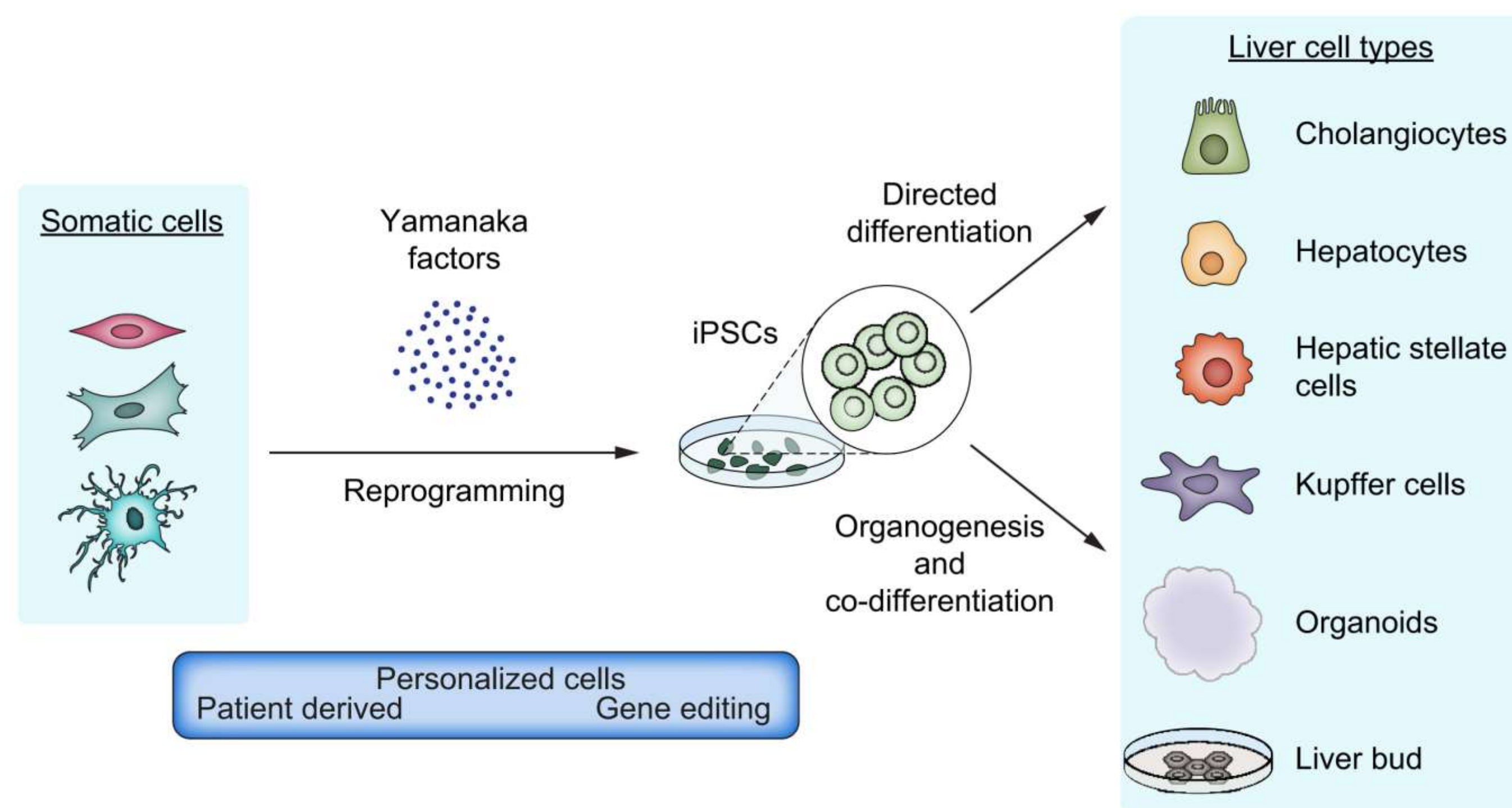
- **Hepatic extracellular vesicles (EVs)**



## II. Preclinical models in DILI to improve the assessment and prediction of hepatotoxicity to guide future drug safety testing

### ➤ Advanced *in vitro* approaches to move forward personalized medicine in DILI

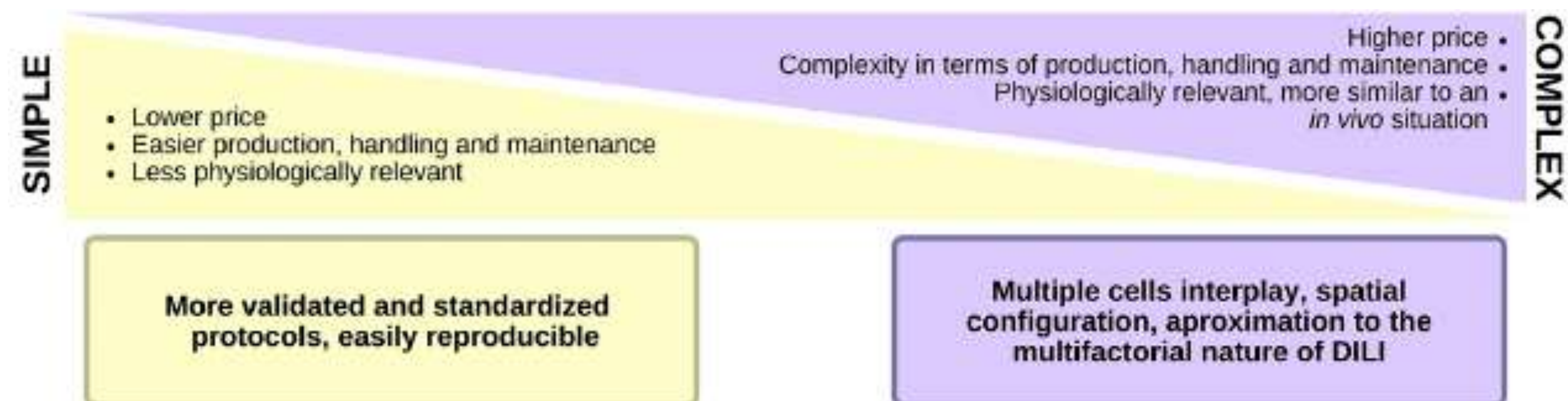
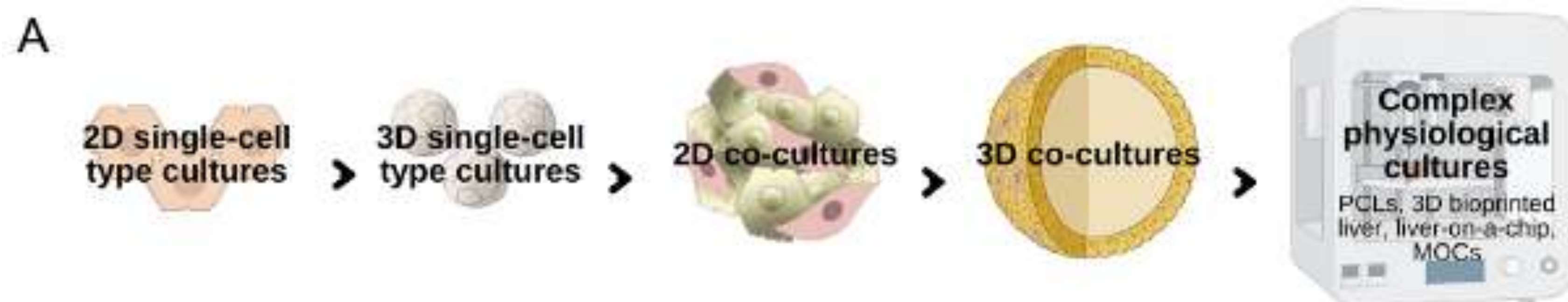
#### ○ Patient-derived pluripotent stem cells



- Extensive proliferation
- Genetic stability
- Patient genetic background----personalized medicine
- Susceptible to genetic modifications
- Capacity to differentiate into different liver cell types
- Multicellular system with the same genetic background

Fernández-Checa JC et al. J Hep. 2021

#### ○ Complex cell culture configurations

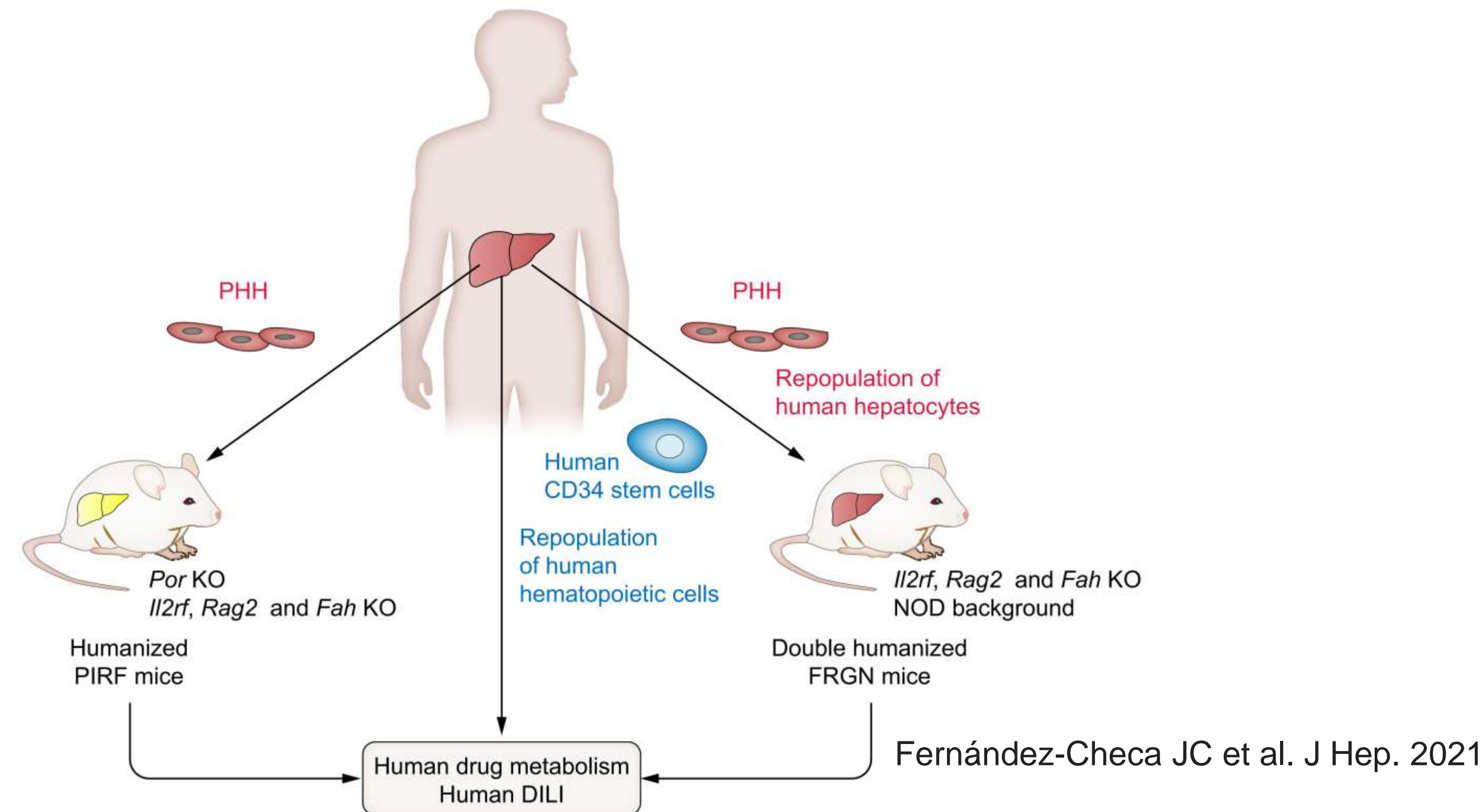


Segovia-Zafra A. et al. Acta Pharm Sin B. 2021



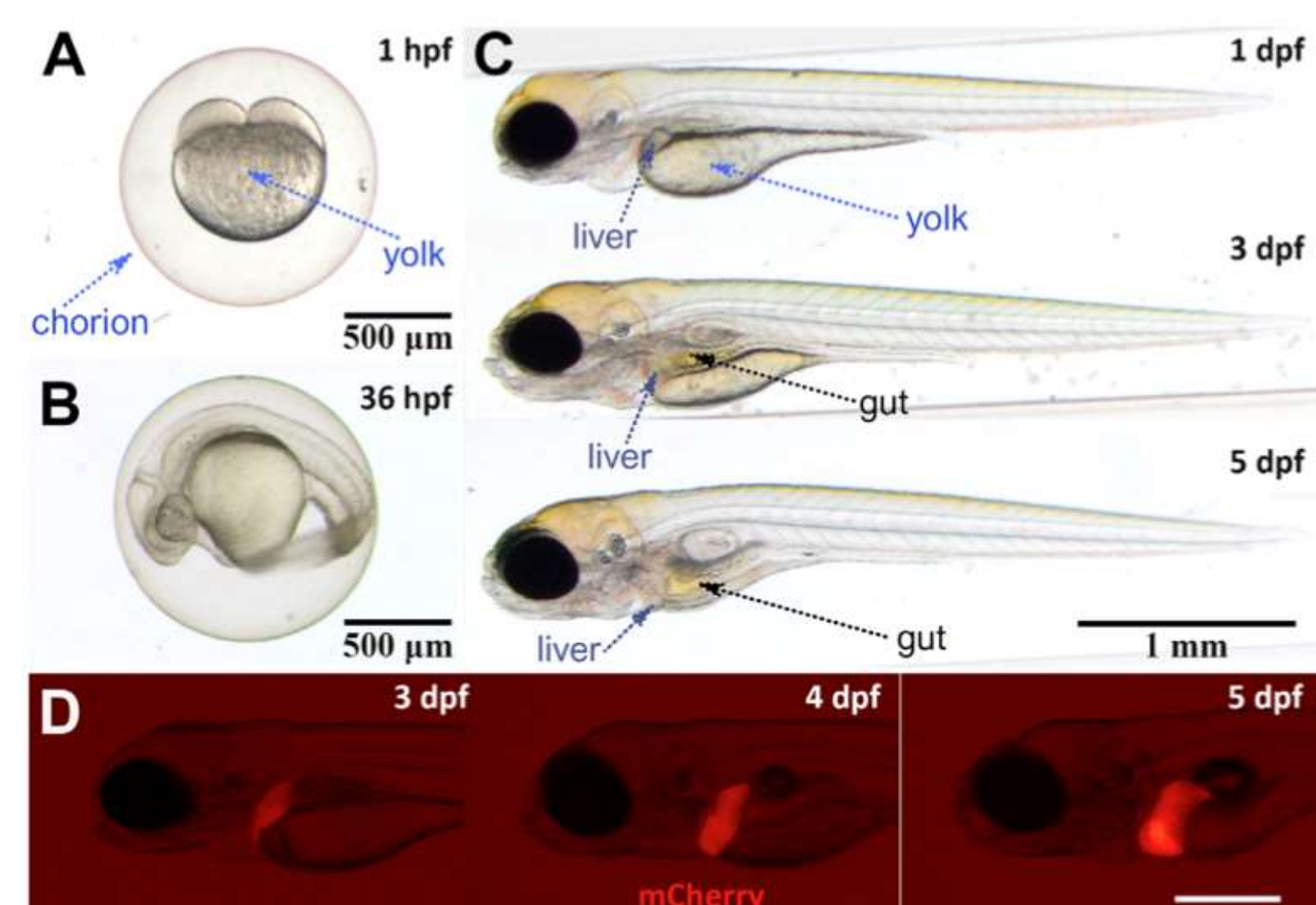
## II. Preclinical models in DILI to improve the assessment and prediction of hepatotoxicity to guide future drug safety testing

### ➤ Humanized mouse models: a game-changer in DILI research



- Mouse lines with humanized liver
- Immunosuppressive environment
- Possibility to generate double chimeras with humanized adult hepatocytes and hematopoietic cells
- Genetic modifications to study specific pathways.
- Example: FRGN mice model: triple (*Il2rg*<sup>-/-</sup>/*Rag2*<sup>-/-</sup>/*Fah*<sup>-/-</sup>) knockout line in the NOD background.

### ➤ Zebrafish model: simplicity to get effectiveness



Cakan-Akdogan G, et al. Explor Dig Dis. 2023.

Specific metabolic drug reactions reported in zebrafish compared with humans

Compound	Drug metabolism in zebrafish Reaction observed in zebrafish	Similar to human	Human P450 isotype	Ref.
Ibuprofen	Hydroxylation	Yes	CYP2C8/9	[33]
Paracetamol	Hydroxylation	Yes	CYP3A4	[37]
Testosterone	Hydroxylation	Yes	CYP3A4	[37]
Cisapride	Sulfate conjugation	No	CYP3A4	[38]
Verapamil	N-Dealkylation and hydroxylation	Yes	CYP3A4, CYP2C8/9, CYP1A2	[38]
Chlorpromazine	Hydroxylation, oxidation, N-demethylation, glucuronidation and sulfation	Yes	CYP1A2, CYP2D6	[38]
Phenacetin	De-ethylation	Yes	CYP1A2	[38]
Dextromethorphan	Demethylation	Yes	CYP2D6	[38]
Bupropion	Hydroxylation	Yes	CYP2B6	[38]



## II. Preclinical models in DILI to improve the assessment and prediction of hepatotoxicity to guide future drug safety testing

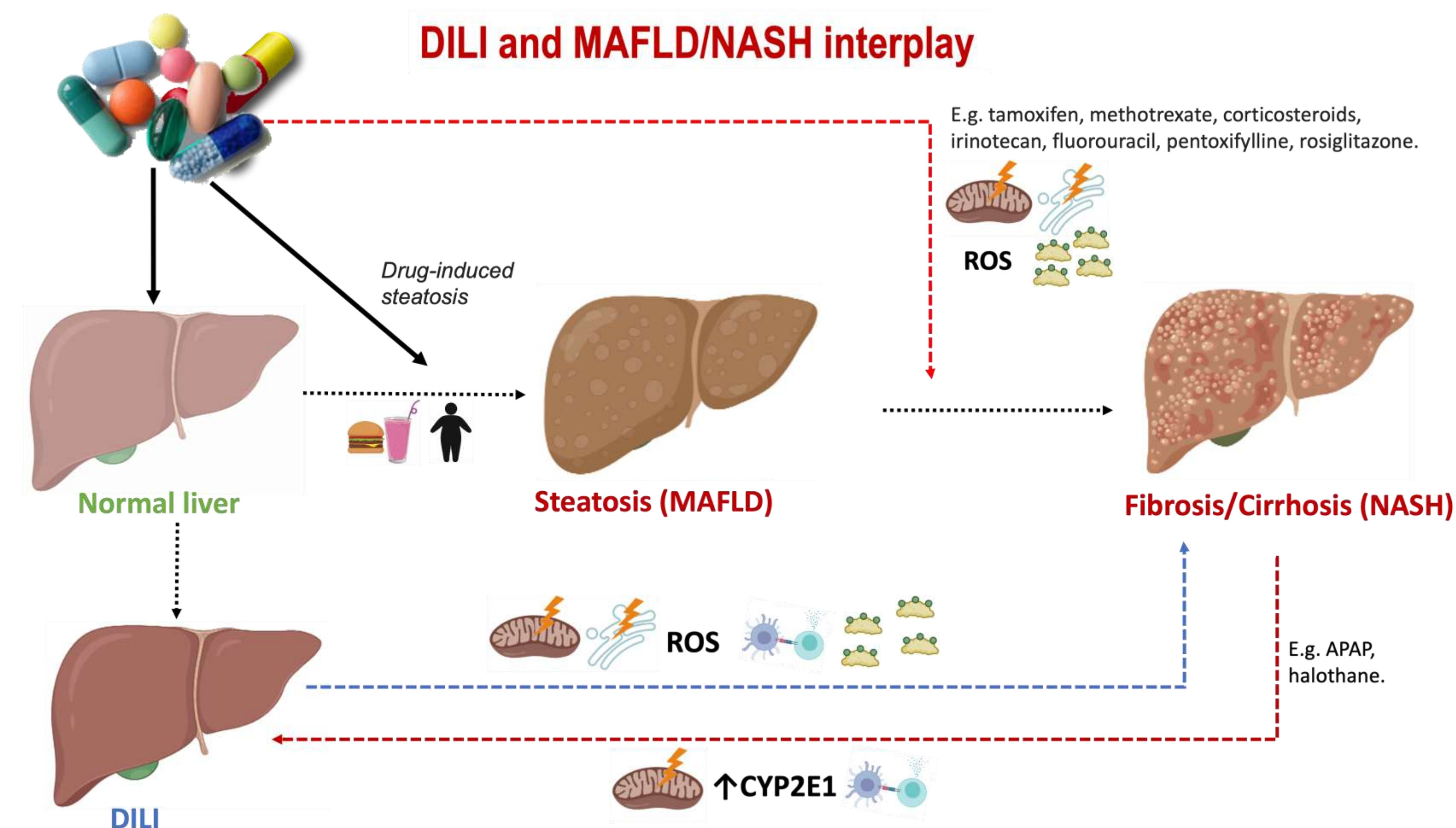
### ➤ Mode of liver injury and impact of metabolic liver disease on DILI

Table 2 | Case definitions and phenotypes of DILI

Case definition	Drugs associated with phenotypes
<b>Hepatocellular pattern of DILI</b>	
ALT (or AST) alone is increased $\geq 5$ -fold above ULN or a ratio of $\geq 5$	Acetaminophen, diclofenac, disulfiram, efavirenz, fenofibrate, isoniazid, lamotrigine, minocycline, nevirapine, nitrofurantoin, pyrazinamide, rifampicin and sulfonamide
<b>Cholestatic pattern of DILI</b>	
ALP alone is increased $\geq 2$ -fold above ULN or ratio $\leq 2$	Amoxicillin–clavulanate, androgens, cephalosporins, chlorpromazine, erythromycin, flucloxacillin, oral contraceptives, penicillins, sulfonamide and terbinafine
<b>Mixed pattern of DILI</b>	
Ratio of $>2$ to $<5$	Carbamazepine, lamotrigine, phenytoin and sulfonamides

Andrade, R. J., et al. Nat Rev Dis Primers, 2019.

Liver damage in response to drugs reflects a hepatocellular/cholestatic/mixed injury, which exhibits different biochemical and morphological characteristics underlying distinct modes of cell death

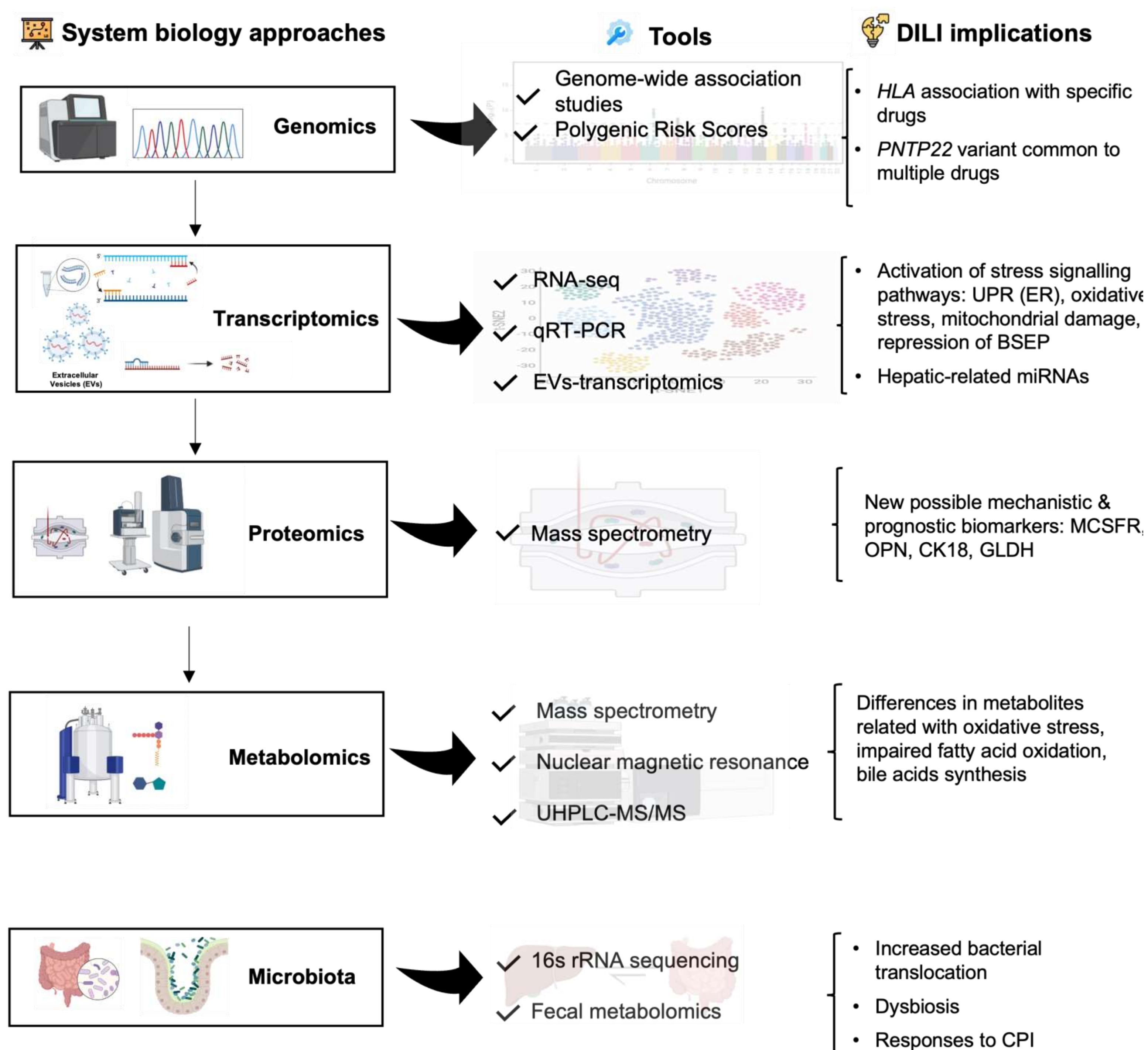


Source: own preparation



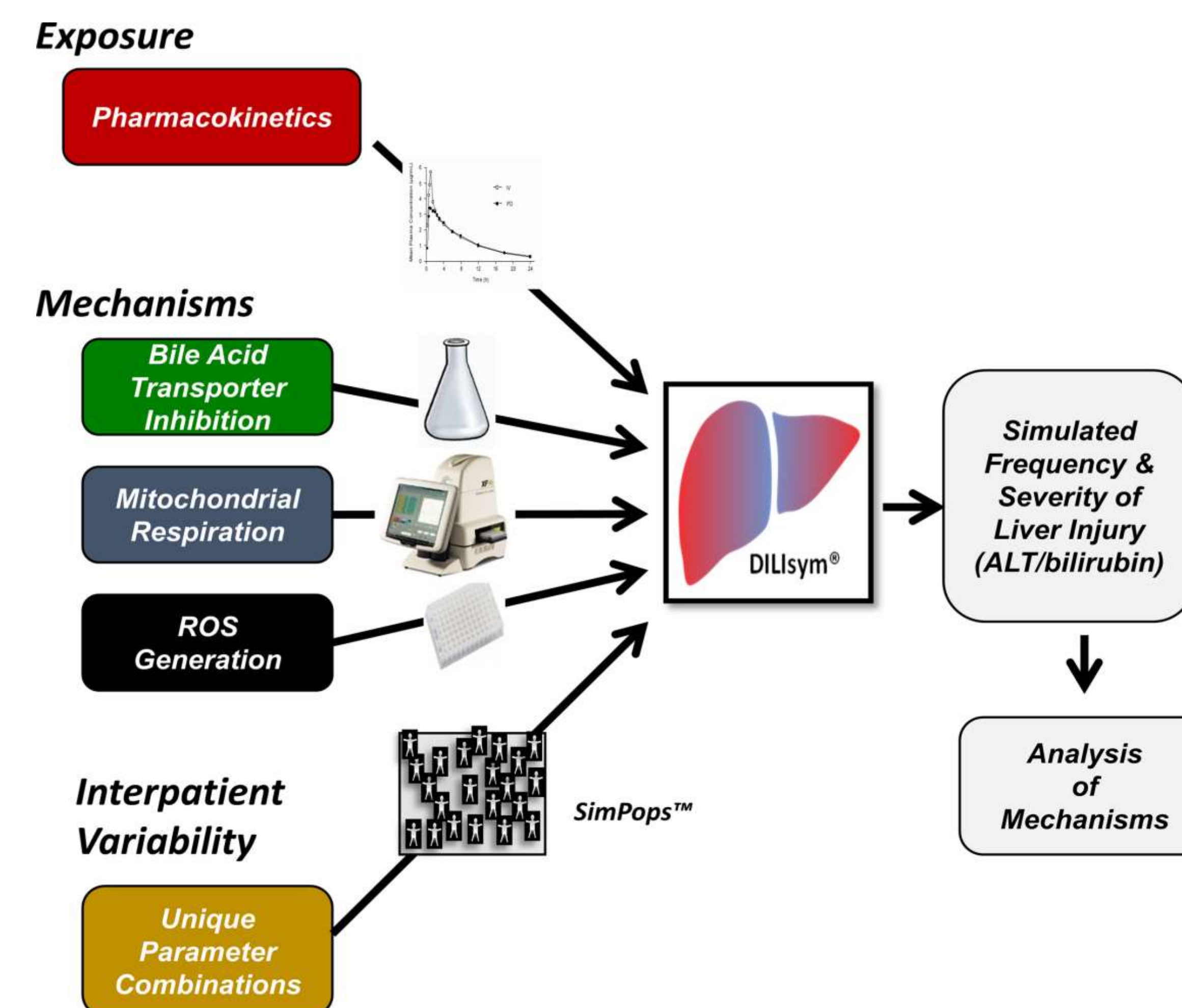
## II. Preclinical models in DILI to improve the assessment and prediction of hepatotoxicity to guide future drug safety testing

### ➤ Computational approaches for integrating multi-scale data in DILI research



Data integration, AI, *in silico* models

**DILIsym**

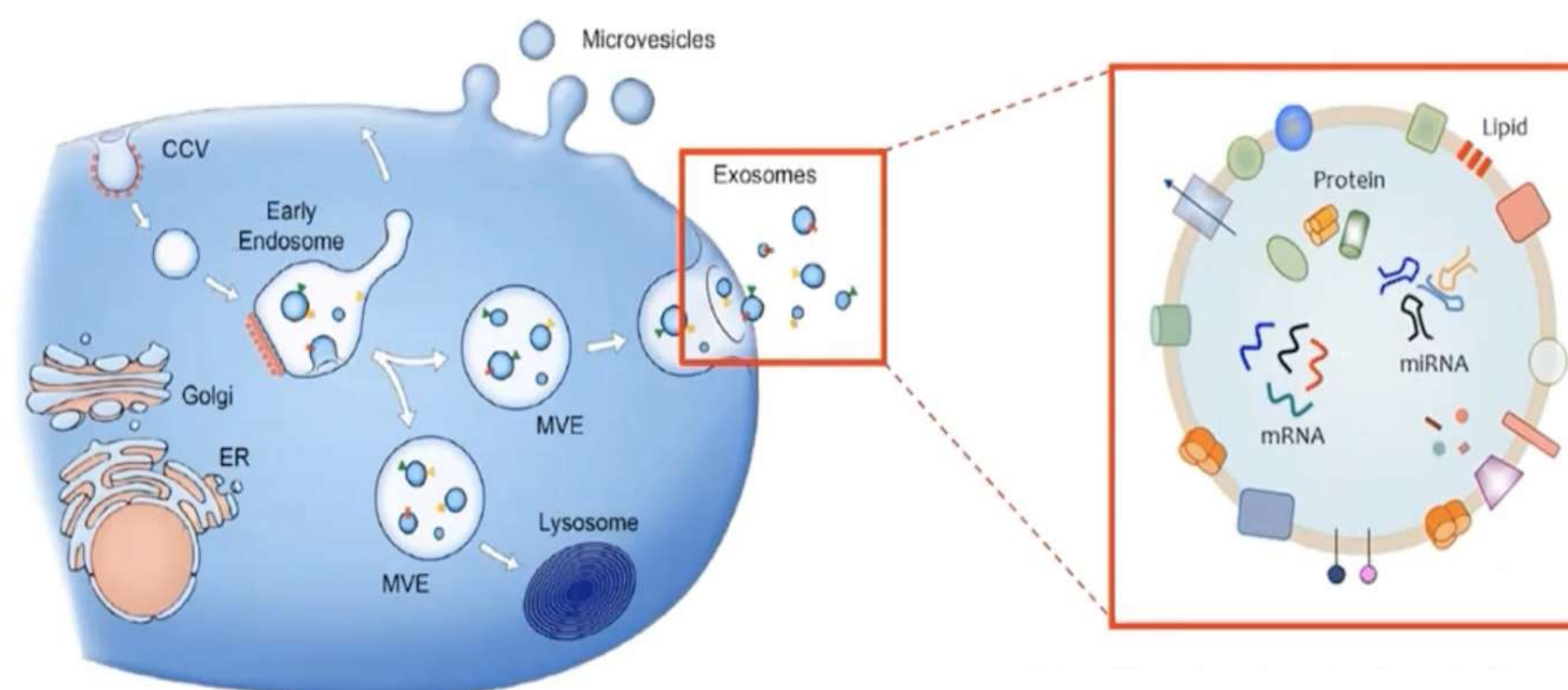




## II. Preclinical models in DILI to improve the assessment and prediction of hepatotoxicity to guide future drug safety testing

### ➤ Perspectives of extracellular vesicles (EVs) in DILI

Liver injury signals come in the form of hepatic cell-derived extracellular vesicles (EVs)



Raposo, G. *et al.* J Cell Biol. 2013 Feb;200(4):373-83.

- Hepatotoxic drugs can alter EVs cargo (mRNA, miRNA, proteins...).
- EVs possess the capability to activate naïve T cells.
- EVs in plasma may serve as putative biomarkers for DILI.



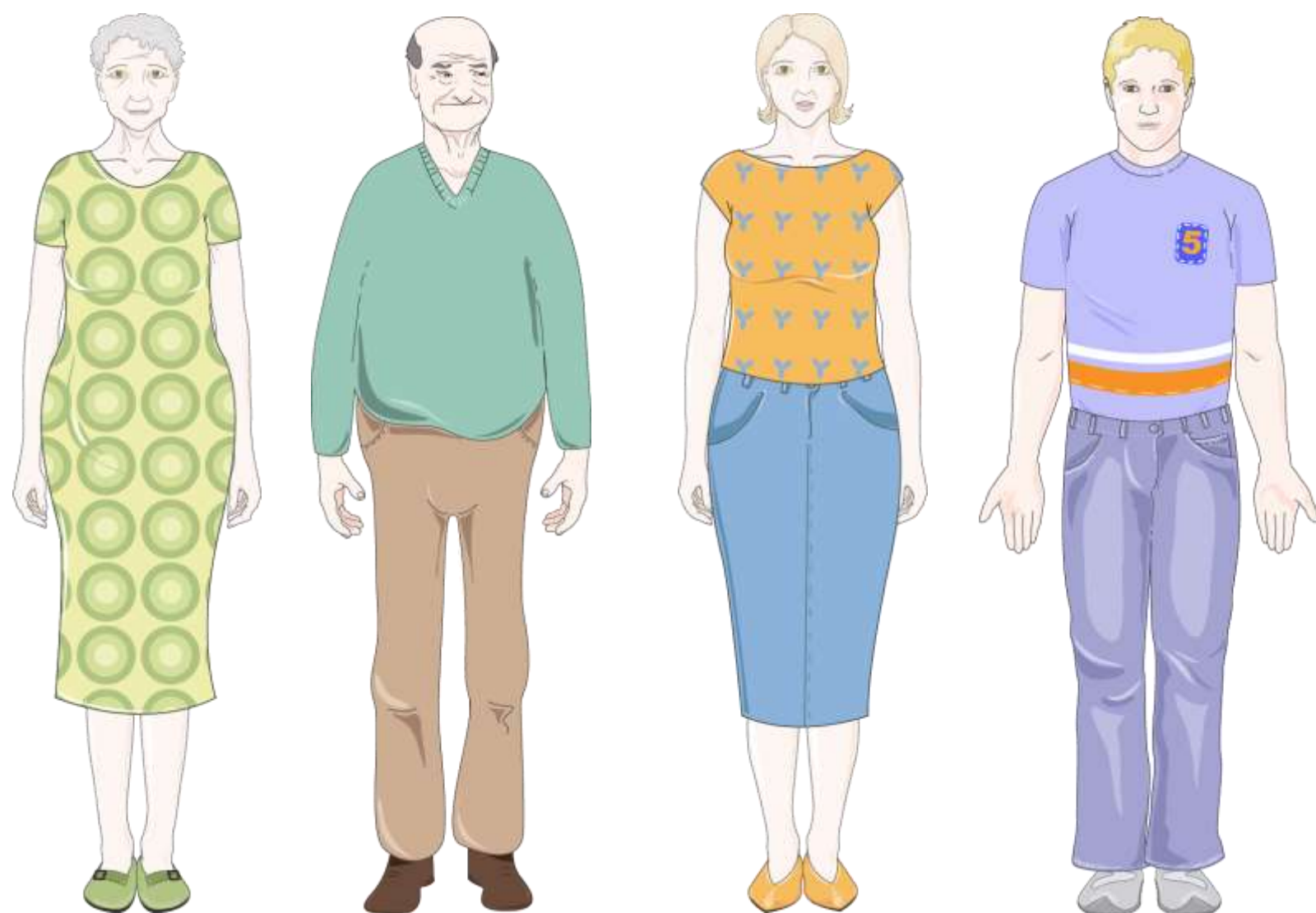
### III. Clinical research and healthcare system implementation

## DILI as a rare disease and possibility of family studies

- In terms of frequency, DILI is **neither a rare disease nor common disease.**

Causative drug	Frequency in those exposed to the drug	Reference
Amoxicillin-clavulanate	1 in 2,350	Björnsson et al., 2013
Amoxicillin-clavulanate	1 in 641	Suzuki et al., 2023
Azathioprine	1 in 133	Björnsson et al., 2013
Diclofenac	1 in 9,148	Björnsson et al., 2013
Flucoxacillin	1 in 7,065	Wing et al, 2017
Isoniazid	1 in 19	Jiang et al, 2021
Isoniazid	1 in 71	Björnsson et al., 2013
Infliximab	1 in 148	Björnsson et al., 2013
Nitrofurantoin	1 in 1,369	Björnsson et al., 2013

**Incidence of selected forms of DILI reported in the literature.**



- Family studies as an alternative to case-control studies involving unrelated individuals might be a useful means of obtaining new insights into genetic risk factors.
- Genome sequencing studies on families with more than one affected member could be helpful in confirming data collected from case-control studies.**

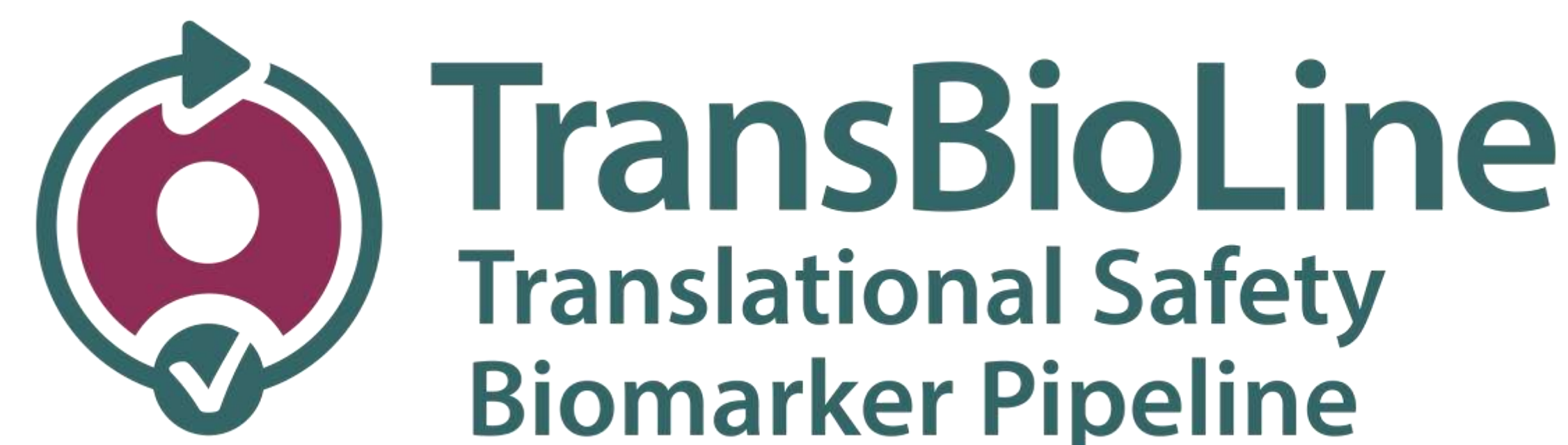


### III. Clinical research and healthcare system implementation

## DILI risk stratification and prognostic biomarkers including pharmacogenetic studies

Category	Biomarker	AUC	95% CI
Traditional	ALT	0.990	0.984 – 0.996
Traditional	AST	0.975	0.963 – 0.987
Traditional	ALP	0.902	0.873 – 0.930
Traditional	TBIL	0.857	0.821 – 0.892
Candidate	K18	0.947	0.928 – 0.966
Candidate	FABP1	0.916	0.890 – 0.941
Candidate	ccK18	0.911	0.887 – 0.935
Candidate	GLDH	0.907	0.870 – 0.945
Candidate	MCSFR**	0.854	0.822 – 0.887
Candidate	miR-122	0.831	0.779 – 0.883
Candidate	AFP	0.826	0.793 – 0.859
Candidate	GSTα	0.827	0.792 – 0.862
Candidate	SDH	0.819	0.763 – 0.876
Candidate	OPN	0.758	0.718 – 0.799
Candidate	CDH5	0.658	0.614 – 0.701
Candidate	PON1	0.612	0.542 – 0.682
Candidate	ARG1	0.564	0.519 – 0.609
Candidate	LECT2	0.519	0.450 – 0.588

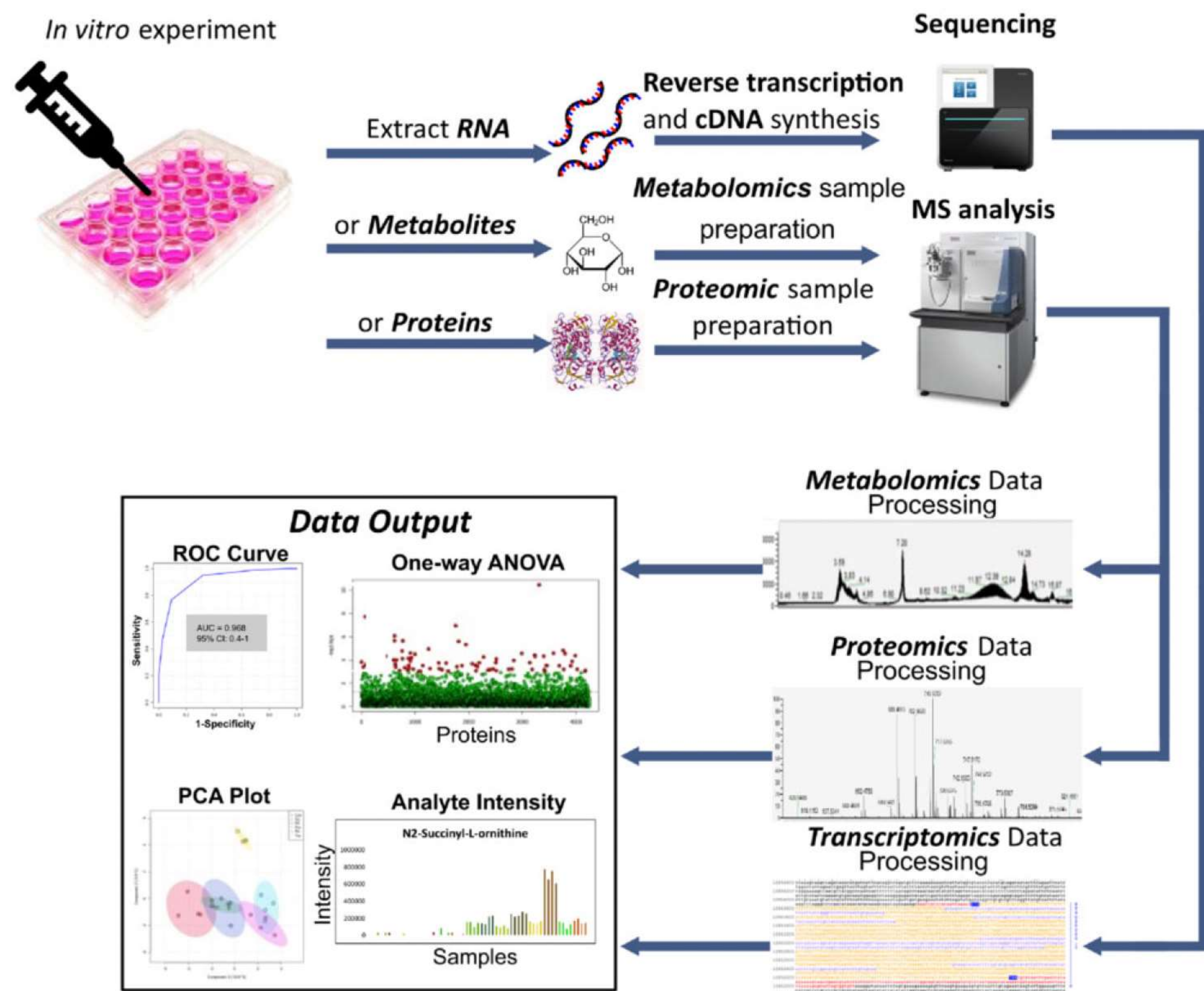
- **Larger genetic studies on DILI generally, and on specific drug causes of DILI, are needed.**
- Biomarkers are urgently required for DILI detection during drug development, monitoring during clinical trials, early diagnosis in clinical practice and stratification of individuals whose disease will progress to acute liver failure or chronic liver disease.
- **TransBioLine, a large study on biomarker identification and qualification for DILI, is currently in progress.**





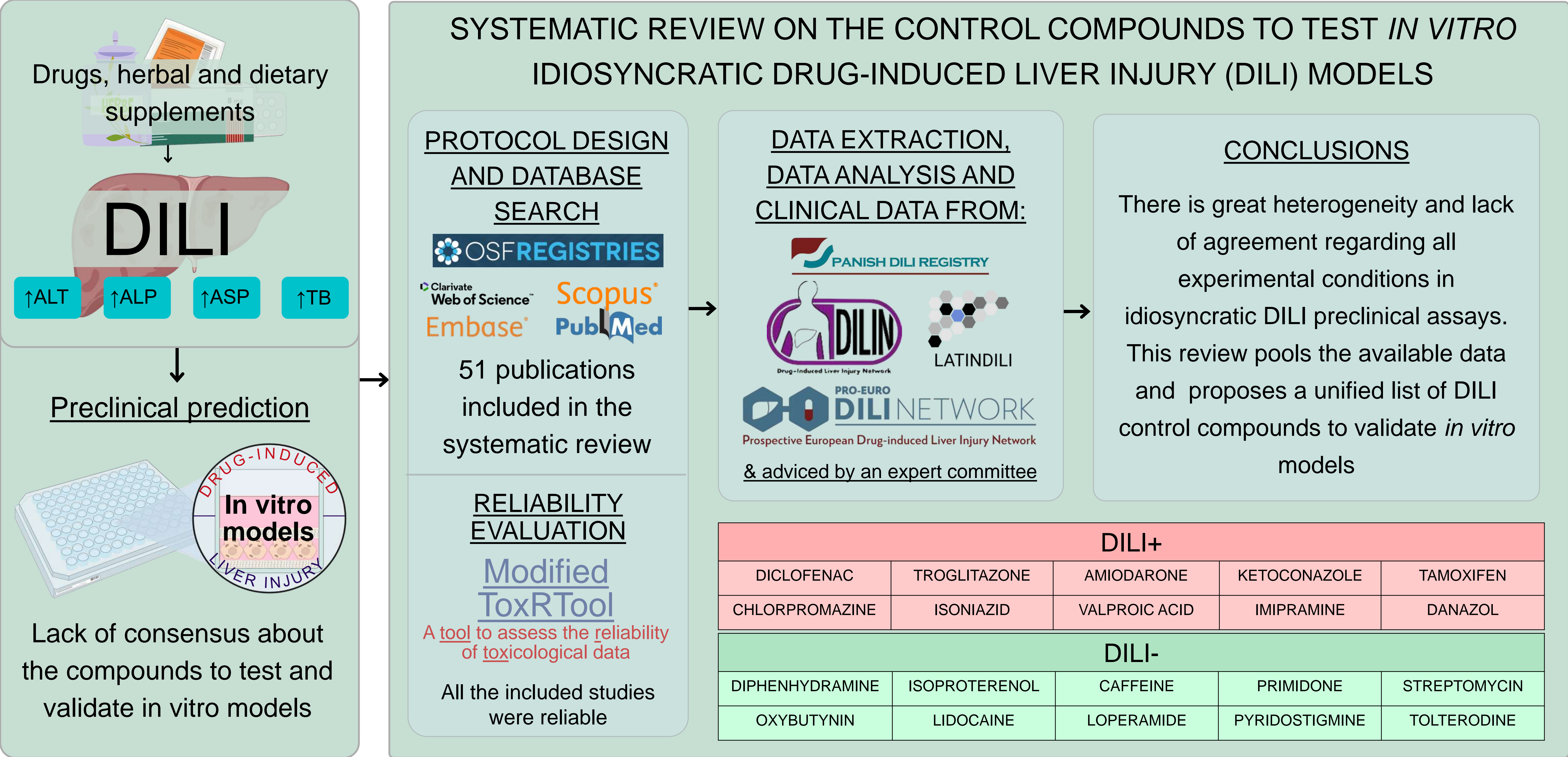
# III. Clinical research and healthcare system implementation

## Artificial intelligence-based integrative research



- AI modelling is founded on the design of algorithms that need to be *fed* with data.
- The rapid advances in the field of omics have contributed to foster the development of analytical big data methodologies aimed to unveil new mechanistic pathways of the disease.

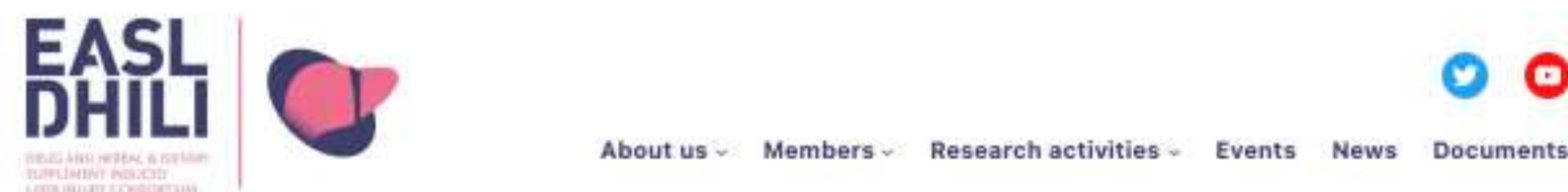






## IV. Networking and regulatory aspects

### ➤ EASL DHILI Consortium

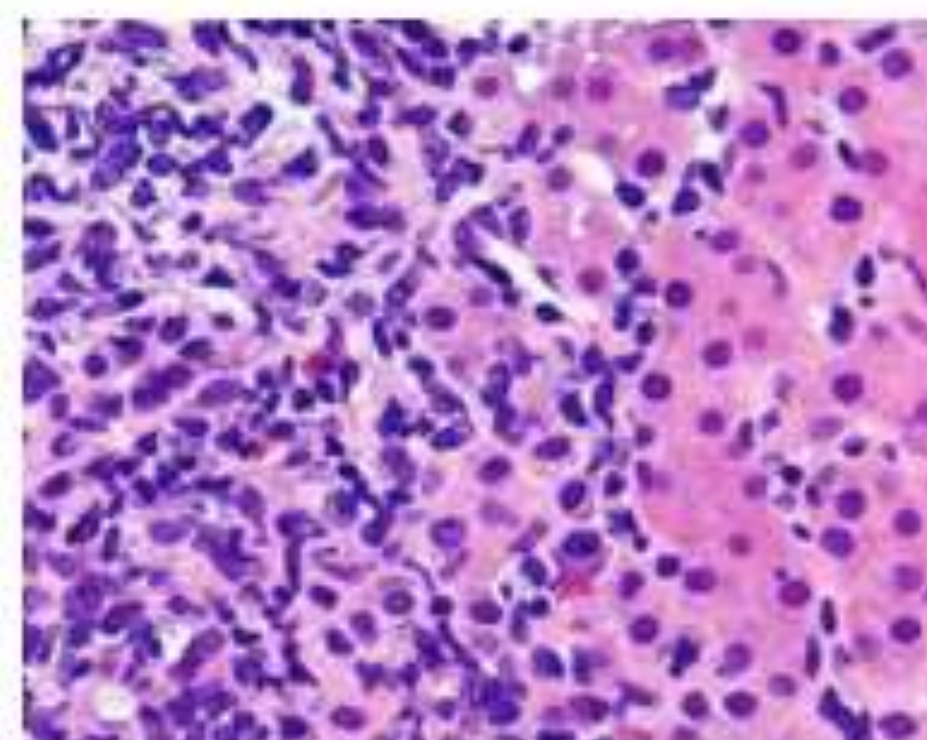


#### About us



#### Aims & Background

The EASL DHILI Consortium is a multidisciplinary network of clinicians, scientists, patients, industry partners, and regulators, all with an interest in the study of Drug and Herbal & Dietary Supplement-induced Liver Injury. The aim of the network is to create a collaboration of diverse group experts encompassing clinical investigators, patients, basic scientists, industry partners, and regulators.



#### What is DHILI?

Drug-induced liver injury (DILI) is an uncommon and potentially severe adverse drug reaction following an exposure to medications, herbal products or dietary supplements. Idiosyncratic DILI is attributable to medicinal products taken in a therapeutic dose and has been described in association with over 650 drugs used in clinical practice.



#### Statutes

Members participate in EASL DHILI Consortium activities according to their scientific interests. They are asked to act in a collaborative fashion, to contribute, by this way, to the scopes of the network. It is mandatory for members to respect an ethical code of conduct in respect of the rules acknowledged by the international scientific community.

- Proposing best practice on issues encompassing DILI.
- Harmonization of terminology for DILI in general and for liver injury attributed to HDS.
- Properly characterizing DI-AILH cases that occur during clinical development.
- Developing strategies to involve patients.
- Identifying gaps in clinical service relevant to DILI subjects and improve public awareness.



## IV. Networking and regulatory aspects

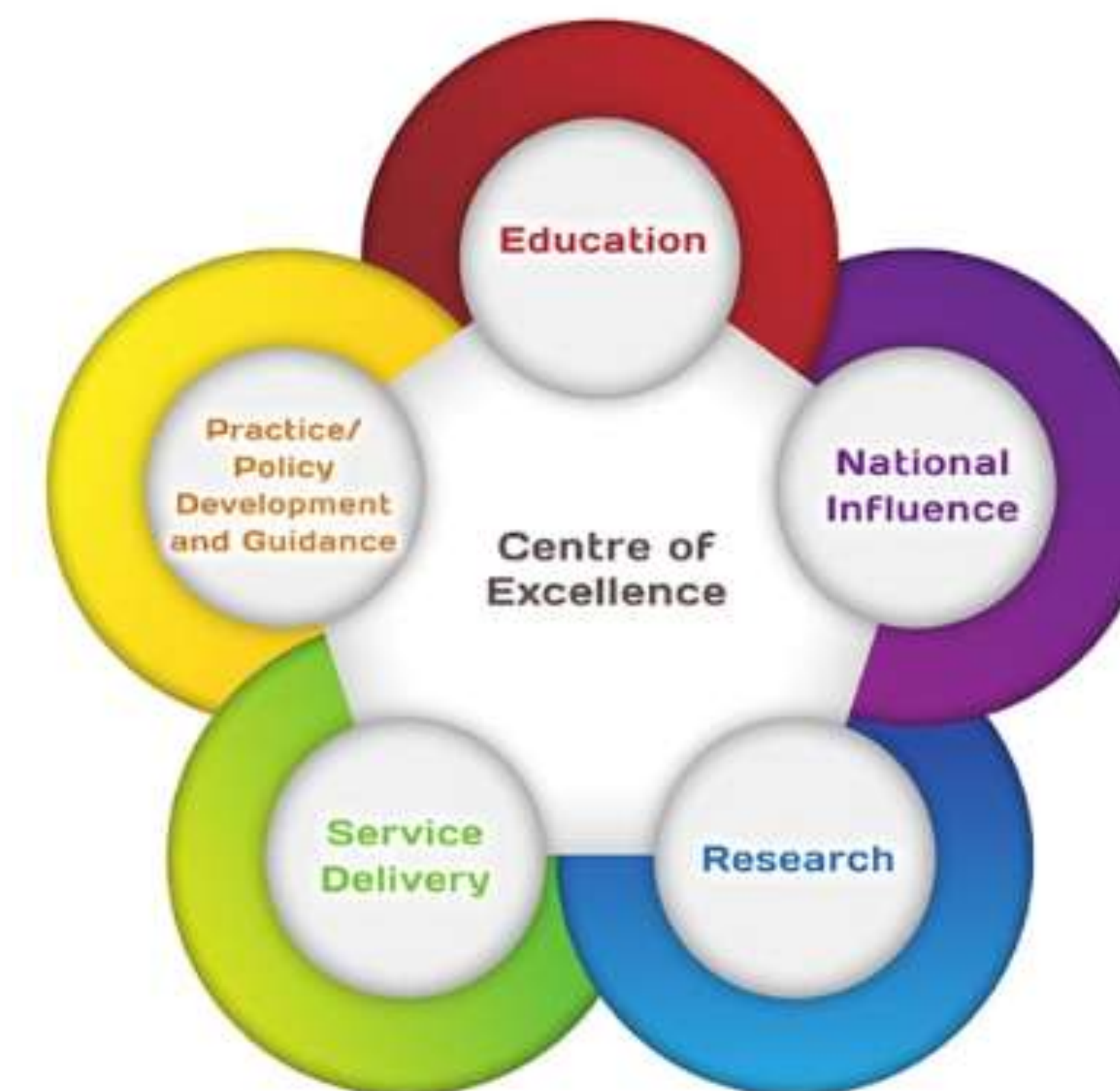
### ➤ Criteria to appoint centers as networks of excellence

#### Clinical Centres of Excellence in DHILI

Centers should provide hepatobiliary services, including:  
Pathway for Acute Liver/ Biliary Injury  
Pathway for Jaundice and regular clinical pathology conferences.

It should also have access to the investigations necessary to assess suspected DHILI, research interests, projects, and publications in the field of DHILI, and teaching and training programs in hepatobiliary medicine.

Finally, these centres would contribute to substantial influence on professional societies, regulatory agencies, and policy makers.





## IV. Networking and regulatory aspects

### ➤ Proof of concept, mechanistic, targeted-oriented Clinical Trials in DILI

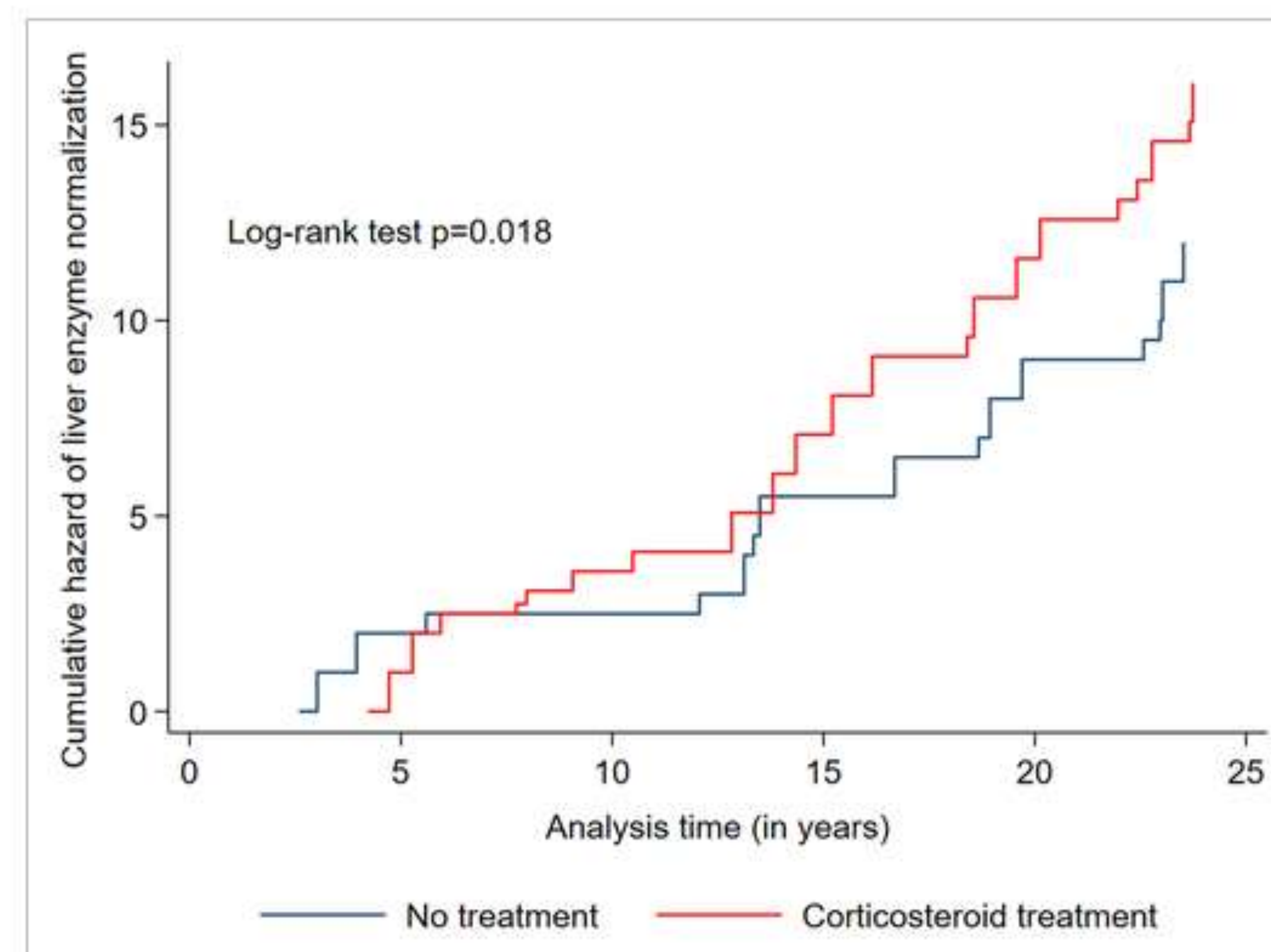
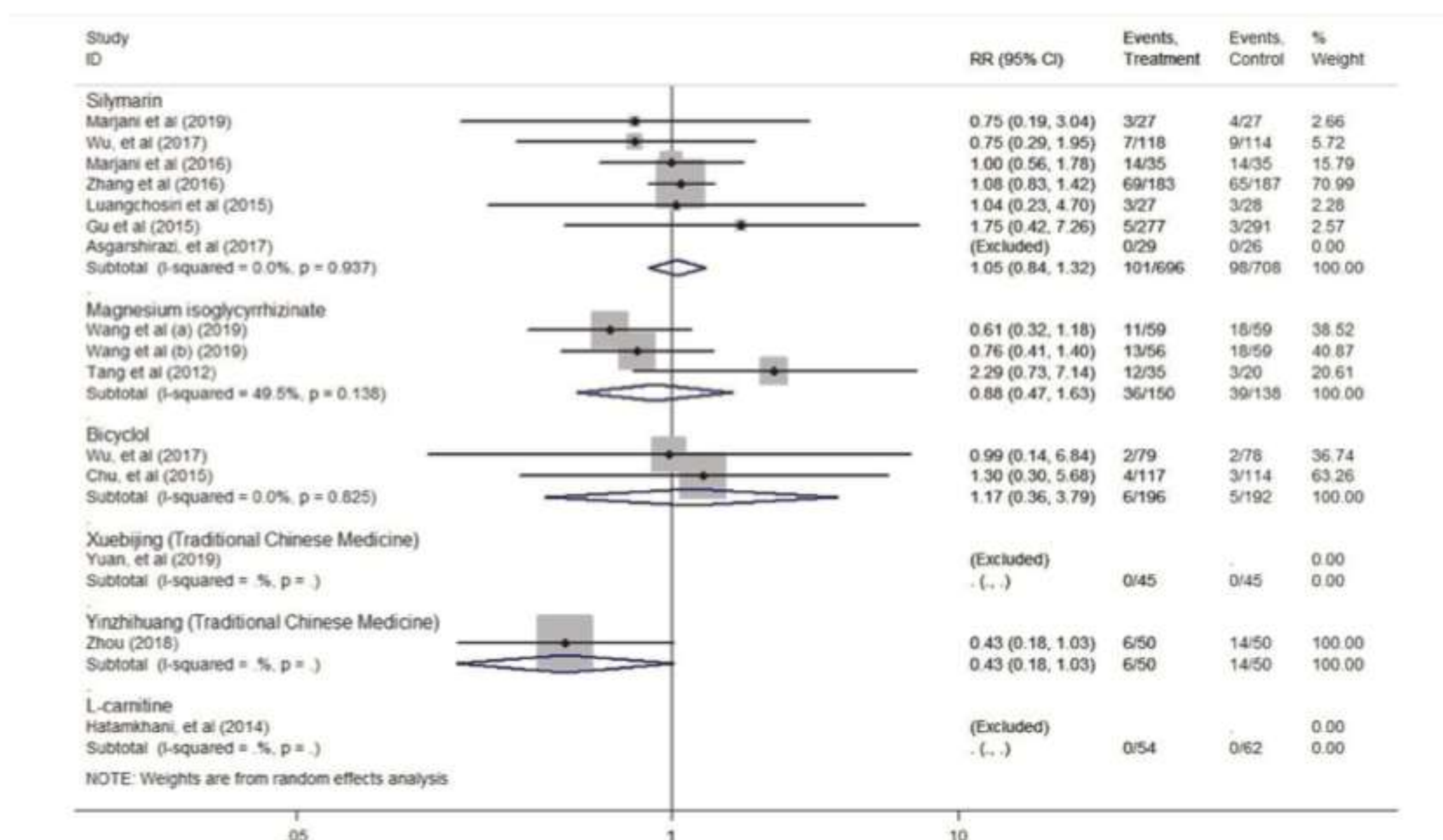


Fig. 6. Pooled effects of adverse events of pharmacological/herbal agents tested in randomised clinical trials in drug-induced liver injury prevention/management.

H Niu et al. Pharmacological Research, 2021

H Niu et al. Aliment Pharmacol Ther, 2023

- There is no available treatment with demonstrated efficacy other than withdrawing the suspected offending chemical agent and providing supportive care.
- Robust rationale for further investigating the use of corticosteroids in DILI.
- Urgent need to establish relevant endpoints to assess the efficacy of novel interventions.



# TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- Operational framework for the advancement of DILI research
- A paradigm shift towards a more holistic approach that integrates basic, applied, translational and clinical research into the disease:
  1. Creation of a database encompassing optimised case report form for prospectively identified DILI cases with well-characterised controls with competing diagnoses, biological samples, and imaging data.
  2. Establishing of preclinical models to improve the assessment and prediction of hepatotoxicity in humans to guide future drug safety testing.
  3. Emphasis on implementation science.
  4. Enhanced collaboration between drug developers, clinicians and regulatory scientists.





# Gracias por la atención

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