

Congratulations to Dr Flora Musuamba Tshinanu!



Dr Flora Musuamba Tshinanu publicly defended her PhD on the 6th September 2010. Her thesis was entitled: "A PHARMACOKINETIC/STATISTICAL MODELLING APPROACH TO IMPROVE DOSAGE INDIVIDUALISATION OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE DRUGS AFTER RENAL TRANSPLANTATION". Her research was done under the supervision of Professors Pierre Wallemacq and Roger Verbeek at Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium.

The aim of her thesis was to characterize the variability in the pharmacokinetics (PK) of mycophenolic acid (MPA) and tacrolimus (TAC) with the ultimate objective to contribute to a safer and more efficient use of these drugs. To achieve the objectives, two approaches were used: Population PK (POP PK) analysis and limited sampling strategies (LSS). Her thesis included the results of the validation of a UPLC analytical method for simultaneous quantification of MPA and its metabolites in human plasma. Reports of 3 clinical trials in kidney allograft transplantation were also included: a POP PK modelling study on TAC in patients on the kidney transplant waiting list, a POP PK modelling and Bayesian estimation study on MPA long term after transplantation and a study on day 15 after transplantation in which MPA and TAC levels were simultaneously monitored. From these studies POP PK models and bayesian estimators were developed and validated for MPA and TAC TDM early and long term after renal transplantation.