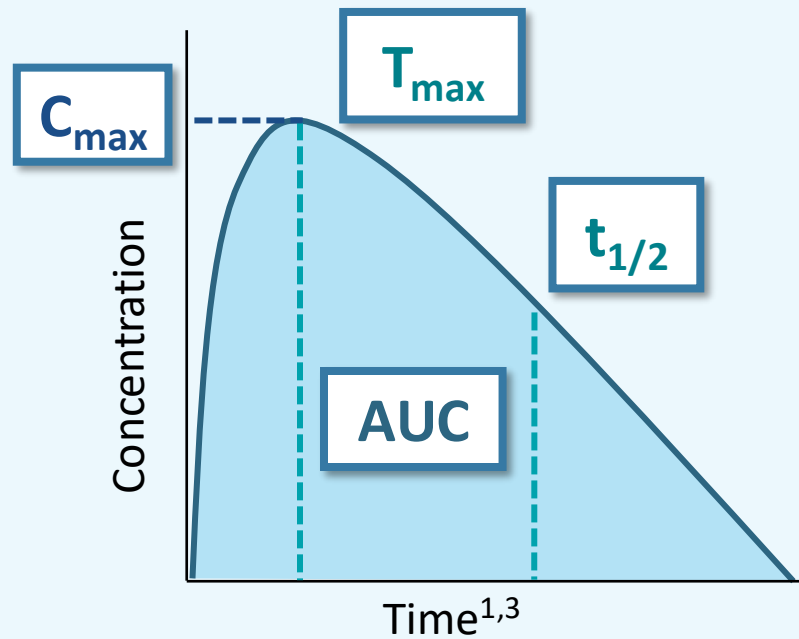


Click each term on the graphs below to learn more



$C_{max}$  is the peak plasma concentration that the medication reaches after dosing<sup>1</sup>

$T_{max}$  is the length of time to reach peak plasma concentration ( $C_{max}$ ) of the medication during the dosing period (peak time).<sup>1,2</sup>  $T_{max}$  is dependent on absorption rate into the bloodstream<sup>3</sup>

$t_{1/2}$  is the terminal half-life of a drug and describes the decay of drug concentration in the body over time. It is an estimate of the amount of time for a drug to reach half of its maximal concentration<sup>1</sup>

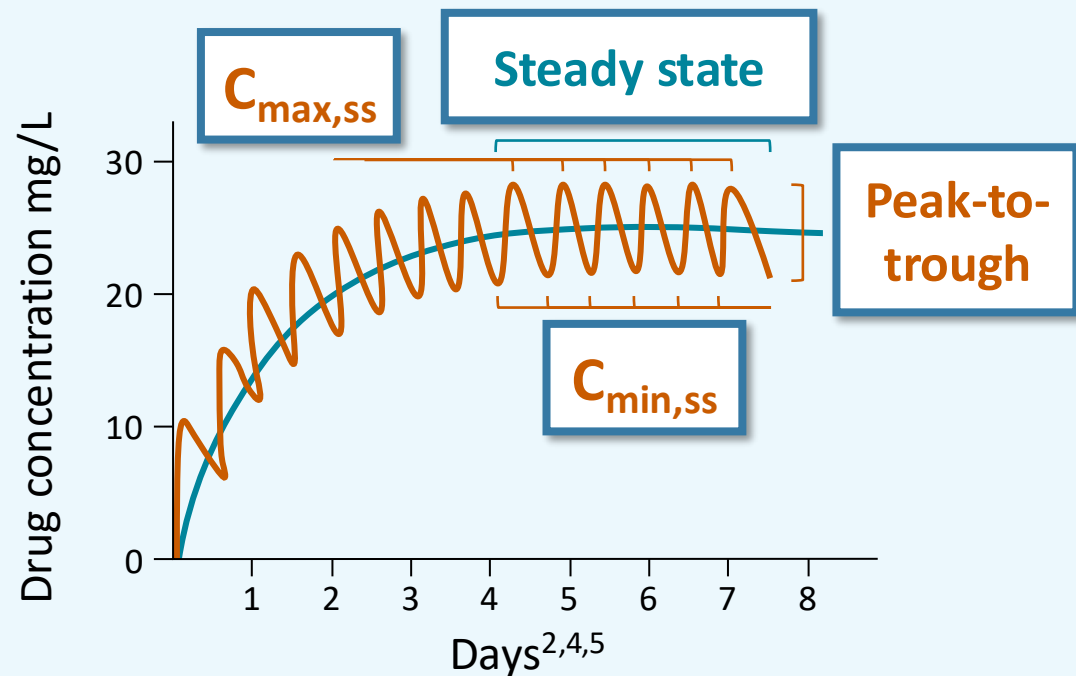
**Area under the curve (AUC)** is used as an index of the body's exposure to the drug when referring to the plasma drug concentration. It is dependent on the amount of drug that enters the circulation and the body's ability to clear it<sup>1</sup>

**Steady state** is reached when the quantity of drug eliminated in the unit of time equals the quantity of the drug that reaches the systemic circulation in the unit of time<sup>4</sup>

$C_{max,ss}$  is the peak concentration of the medication at steady state during the dosing period<sup>1,2</sup>

$C_{min,ss}$  is the trough concentration of the medication at steady state during the dosing period<sup>2</sup>

**Peak-to-trough ratio** is the fluctuation of plasma concentration ( $C_p$ ) within the dosing interval<sup>2</sup>



\*No one parameter is sufficient to fully understand a medication.<sup>1</sup> MSL, medical science liaison.

1. Urso R, et al. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci*. 2002;6(2-3):33-44. 2. Sheehan JJ, et al. *Innov Clin Neurosci*. 2012;9(7-8):17-23. 3. Correll CU, et al. *CNS Drugs*. 2021;35(1):39-59. 4. Wadhwa RR, et al. StatPearls Publishing; 2024. Updated March 6, 2023. Accessed April 10, 2026. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK553132> 5. Satoskar RS, et al. 26<sup>th</sup> Ed. Elsevier India; 2020.

Click to learn more about how PK parameters determine dosing intervals



More questions? Click here to contact an MSL

