

2023 ACCP Annual Meeting

“Revolutionizing Clinical Pharmacology: Meeting the Challenge & Leading the Way”

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2023 ACCP Distinguished Investigator Award

David Rodrigues, PhD, FAAPS

Senior Scientific Director, Head of Drug Transporter & ADME Biomarker Sciences,
Pharmacokinetics & Drug Metabolism Medicine Design, Pfizer Inc

Dr. Rodrigues’s career spans 32 years in the pharmaceutical industry, including productive periods at various US-based pharmaceutical companies (Searle, Abbott Labs, Merck, Bristol-Myers Squibb and now Pfizer). During that time, he served within preclinical Pharmacokinetics & Drug Metabolism (PDM) organizations on both the science track and managerial ladders and supported numerous drug discovery and development programs. Throughout his career, he has shown a passion for interfacing with clinical PDM and clinical pharmacology colleagues to drive literature-grounded and hypothesis-driven PDM science. This was highlighted by the development of various *in vitro*, modeling and *in vivo* (biomarker) tools to support subject phenotyping and drug interaction assessment in clinical studies. Dr. Rodrigues is widely recognized for his sustained contributions to the field of translational PDM science. He has authored/co-authored 187 peer-reviewed manuscripts, presented at over 90 meetings and served on the editorial boards of various PDM-related journals (*Xenobiotica*, *Drug Metabolism & Disposition*, *Current Drug Metabolism*). In addition, he has edited/co-edited four PDM-related textbooks. He now serves as adjunct professor at the Univ of Rhode Island Coll of Pharmacy, is a member of the Coll of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences Industry Advisory Board (Washington State Univ) and the Int’l Transporter Consortium. Of note, Dr. Rodrigues was inducted as Fellow of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists in 2009. He was also the recipient of the 2021 Distinguished Accomplishments in Drug Discovery & Development Award bestowed by the Int’l Society for the Study of Xenobiotics.

Although originally trained as a PDM scientist with a focus on drug-metabolizing enzymes such as the cytochrome P450s (CYP), Dr. Rodrigues greatly expanded his research interests to encompass additional enzyme systems and drug transporters. The effort is a by-product of his many fruitful, multi-year research partnerships with work colleagues and numerous academic institutions such as the Univ of Nebraska, Washington State Univ, Univ of Washington, Manchester Univ, Tokyo Univ, Flinders Univ and Univ of Helsinki. At Pfizer, in addition to his portfolio and management duties, he currently leads a cross-departmental initiative focused on the development and deployment of drug transporter biomarkers and liquid biopsy. For biomarkers, the project has involved Tokyo Univ (Professor Hiroyuki Kusuhara), the Riken Inst (Professor Yuichi Sugiyama) and the Univ of Helsinki (Dr. Mikko Niemi). In partnership with Dr. Andrew Rowland at Flinders Univ, Dr. Rodrigues drove efforts to utilize plasma-derived extracellular vesicles as liquid biopsy to support subject phenotyping (e.g., CYP3A5 and CYP2D6) and drug interaction assessment (e.g., CYP3A4 induction).