

# WHAT ONCOLOGY DRUG DEVELOPERS SHOULD EXPECT FROM THE FDA'S PROJECT OPTIMUS

Historically, the dosing strategy for oncology drugs has focused on the maximum tolerated dose.



## CHALLENGES OF THE MTD PARADIGM

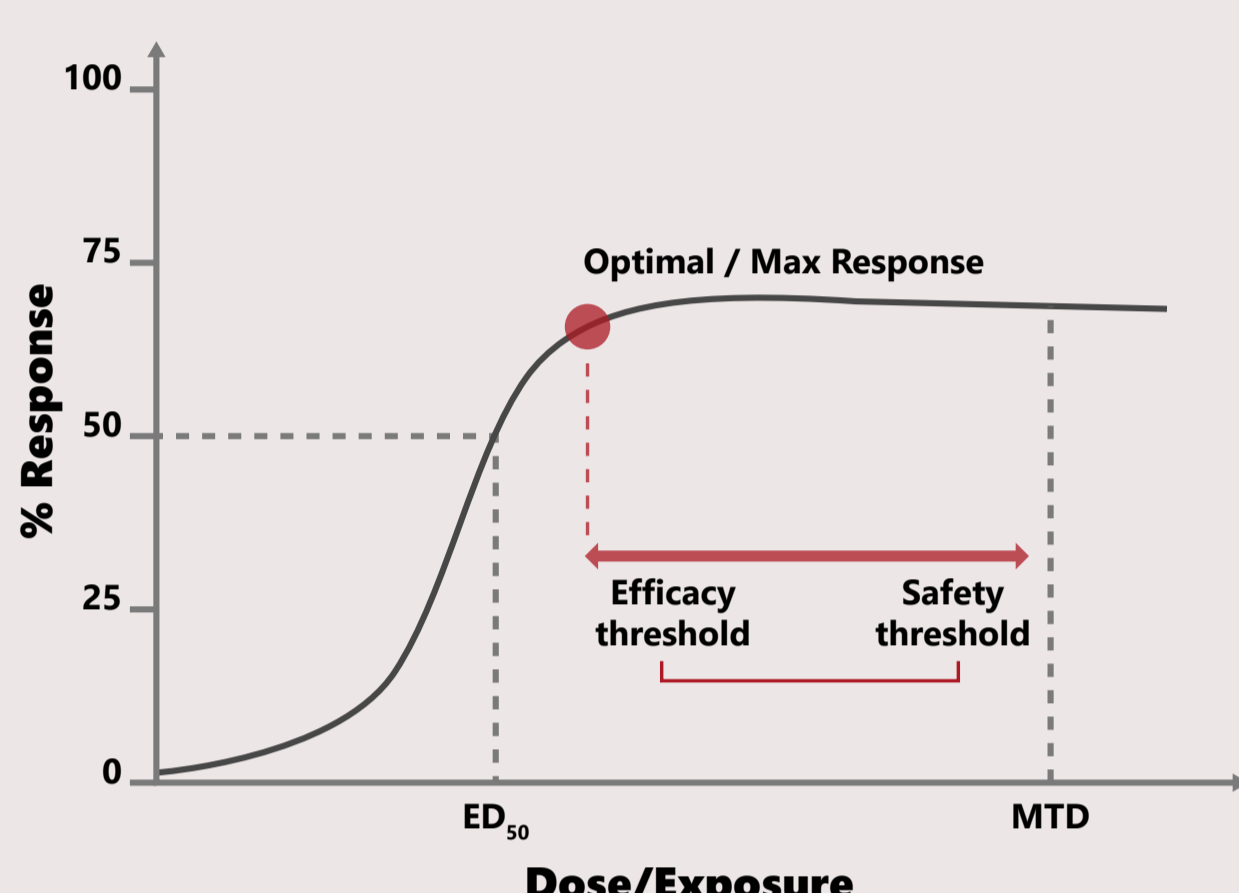
This paradigm has resulted in drugs' pharmacokinetic (PK) profiles, pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic (PK/PD) relationships, and clinical target inhibition largely being ignored.

Thus, cancer patients often struggle to tolerate their medication doses long-term, requiring dose modifications including dose reductions and holidays. What's more, for many oncology drugs, their dosing or schedules have been modified to address safety or tolerability issues after regulatory approval.

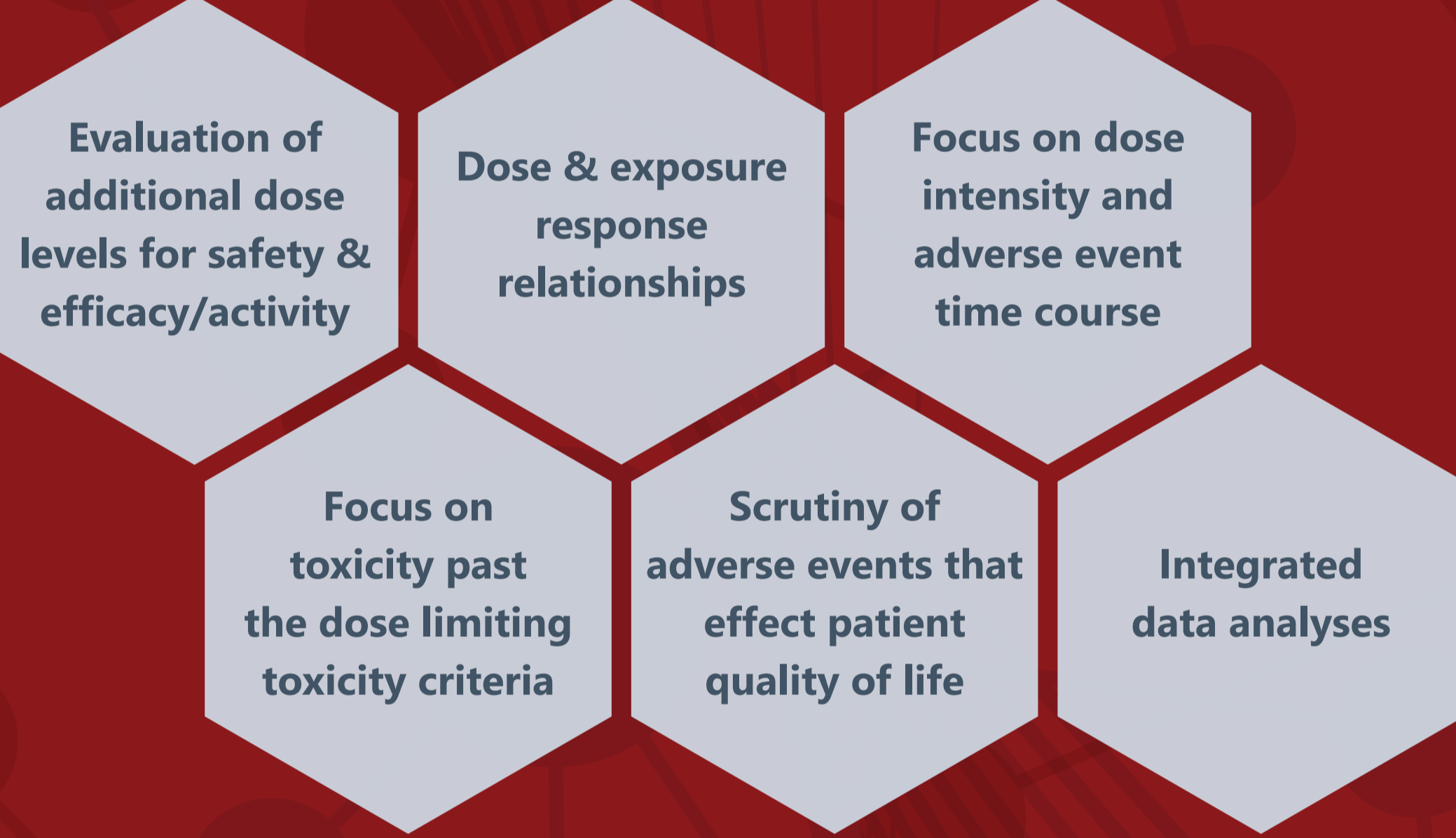


## WHAT'S THE IMPETUS FOR PROJECT OPTIMUS?

These challenges spurred the FDA's Oncology Center of Excellence to develop a new guidance called "Project Optimus" to address issues relating to dose optimization in clinical trials assessing the safety and efficacy of oncology drugs.



## WHAT IS PROJECT OPTIMUS?



## WHAT DO DRUG DEVELOPERS\* THINK WILL BE THE MAJOR IMPACT OF PROJECT OPTIMUS ON ONCOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS?

- INCREASED TIMELINE** ..... **38%**
- MORE STREAMLINED DEVELOPMENT** ..... **28%**
- INCREASED DEVELOPMENT COST** ..... **19%**
- APPROVAL DELAY** ..... **9%**
- HIGHER FAILURE RATE** ..... **6%**

\*Number of respondents = 576

## WHAT STEPS SHOULD YOU TAKE TO BE PREPARED FOR PROJECT OPTIMUS?

Focus on improving tolerability

Meet with the FDA as early as Pre-IND to discuss your dosing strategy



Perform dose-finding studies in a pre-market setting



Plan for interim analyses and allow for intra-patient dose escalation



## CERTARA CAN HELP YOU GET YOUR DOSE RIGHT THE FIRST TIME!

With deep experience in model-informed oncology drug development, dosing and regulatory strategy and submission, we've helped advance hundreds of oncology programs. Our proven, integrated approach using quantitative methods can help you to navigate this regulatory change.

### Non-clinical Profiling

Toxicology & Toxicokinetics  
In Vitro Pharmacology  
In Vivo Pharmacology

### Predict Human Exposure

Allometric Scaling  
IVIVE  
PBPk

### Predict Human Effect

PK/PD  
Systems Pharmacology

### Mitigate Risk

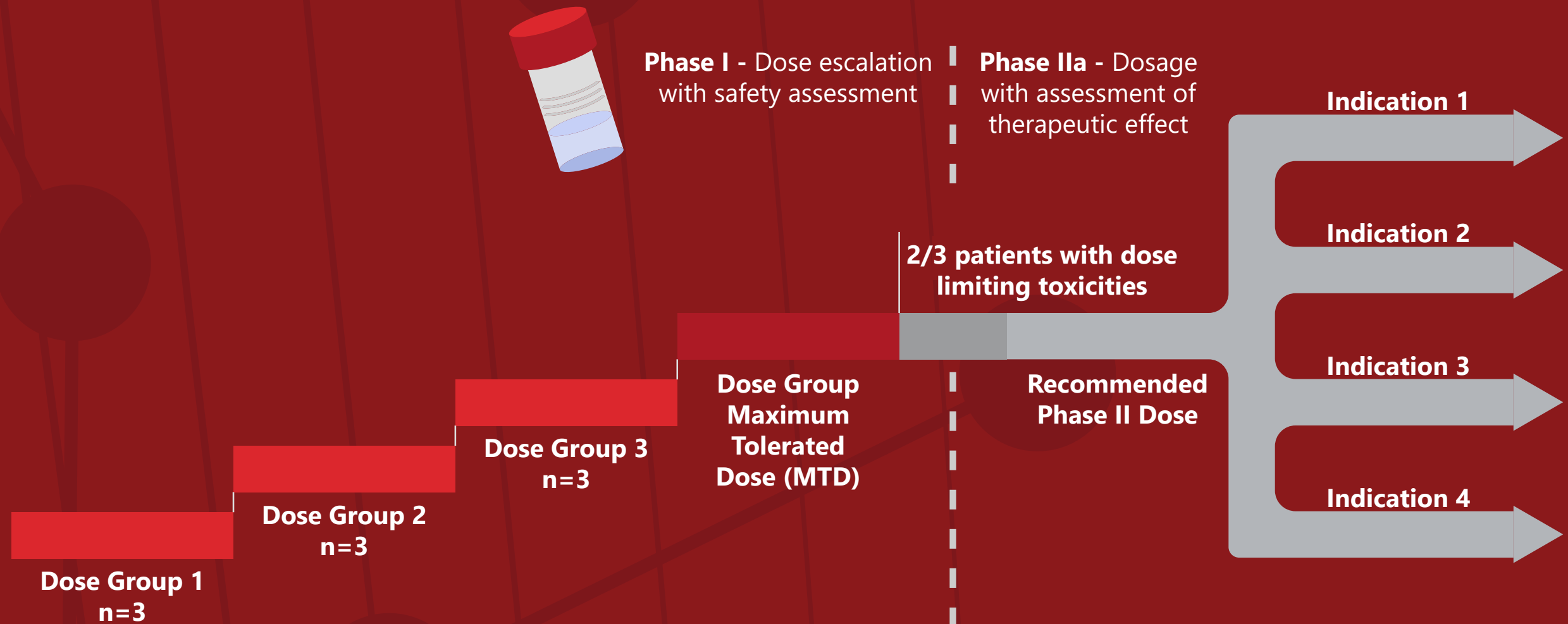
Risk Assessment  
Safety Factor  
Monte Carlo Simulation

**HUMAN STARTING DOSE**

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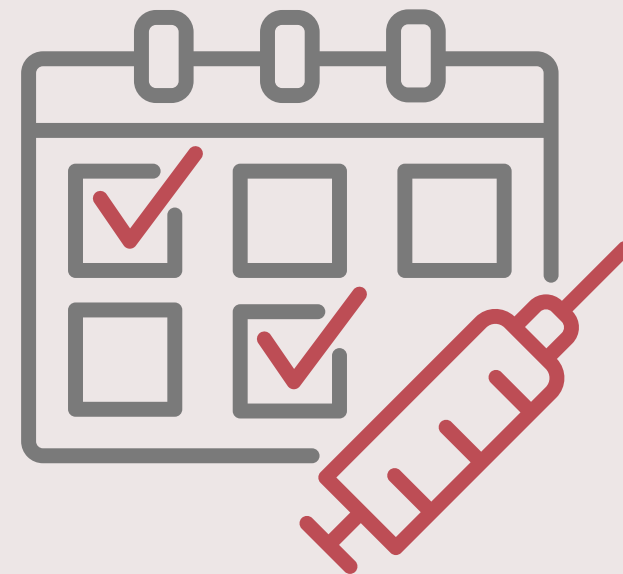


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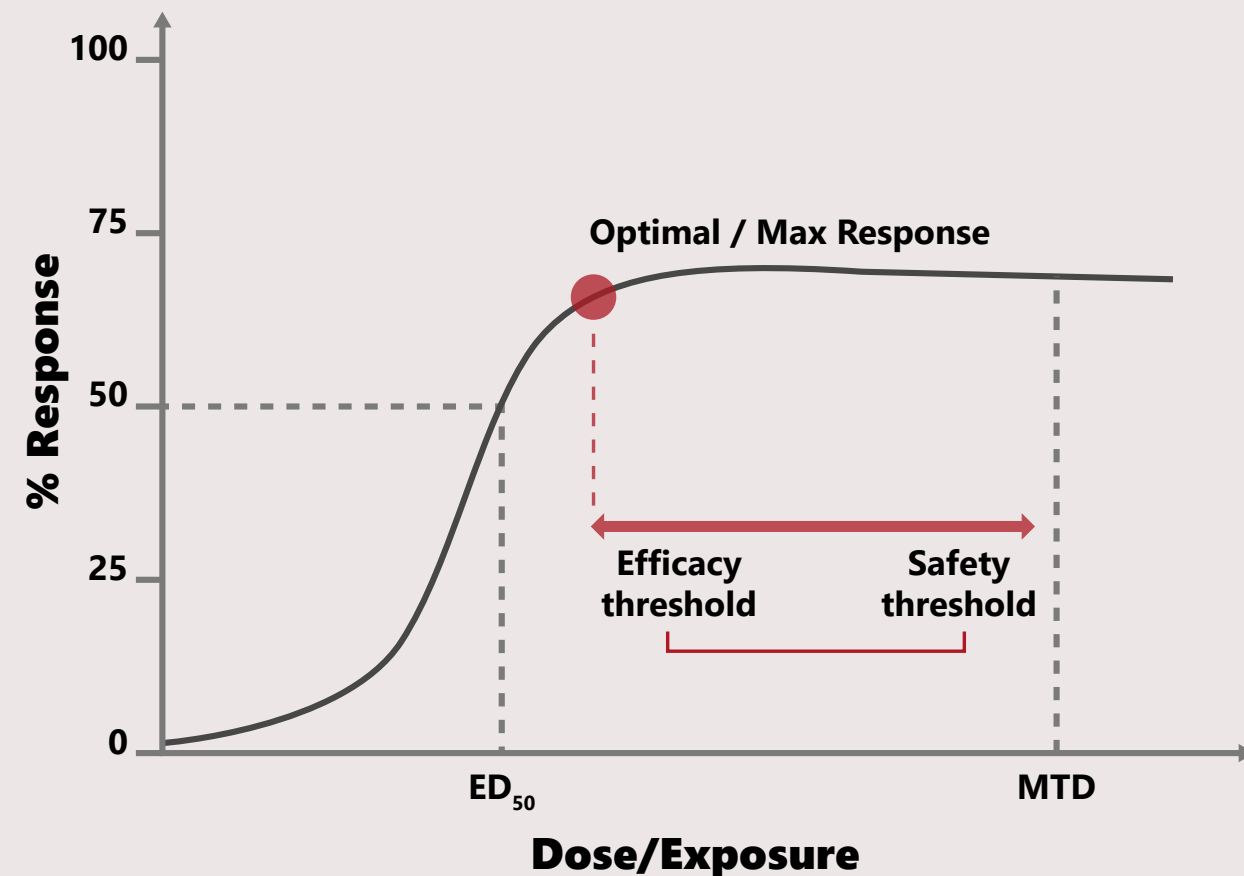
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# ***WHAT IS PROJECT OPTIMUS?***

**Evaluation of additional dose levels for safety & efficacy/activity**

**Dose & exposure response relationships**

**Focus on dose intensity and adverse event time course**

**Focus on toxicity past the dose limiting toxicity criteria**

**Scrutiny of adverse events that effect patient quality of life**

**Integrated data analyses**

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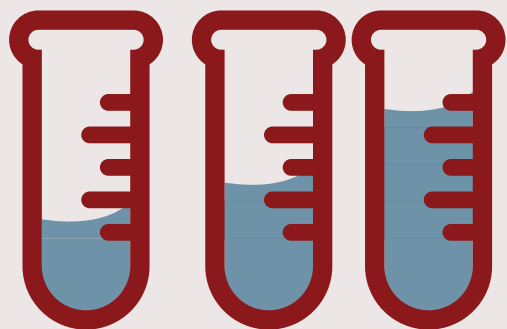


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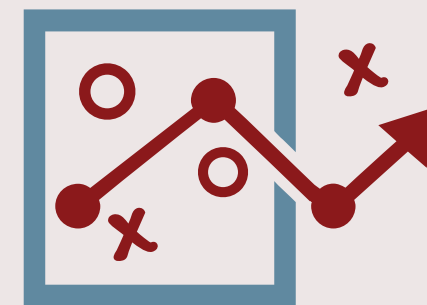
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