Penetration Assessment of Dietary Supplements and Drugs through the Blood-Brain Barrier for Potential Treatment of Parkinson’s disease

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Abstract
Parkinson’s disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder, affecting 2% of the population over the age of 60. To date, there is no disease modifying drugs to prevent dopaminergic neuron loss and abnormal protein deposition in the brains. There is a strong demand for neuroprotective therapies to prevent or slow down dopaminergic neuron degeneration. An essential prerequisite for a compound designed to affect the central nervous system (CNS) is a satisfactory transport through the blood brain barrier (BBB). Numerous posts on the net suggest that both repositioned drug molecules and active molecules present in dietary supplements may slow down PD’s progression. The logBB is an index of BBB permeability. Starting from quantitative and qualitative permeability data, this study tries to predict logBB values from various physicochemical properties of molecules, including, among others, molecular size, polar surface area (PSA) and logP values. Quantitative logBB models were implemented using MLP (multiple linear regression), PLS (Partial Least Square), AAKR (Auto Associative Kernel Regression) and ECM (Evolving Cluster Method). Qualitative models were carried out with SVM (Support Vector Method).
The paper estimates the BBB permeability of 39 molecules potentially able to slow down PD’s progression and compares the performances of qualitative and quantitative machine learning method used. For information, the current study also gives a short overview of the state of the art on the potential impact of dietary supplements on PD.

Introduction
Parkinson’s disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder, affecting 2% of the population over the age of 60 [5]. PD patients display a loss of dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra and the presence of Lewybodies in their brains [5]. The current pharmacotherapy for PD patients is limited to symptomatic treatment, which only temporarily reduces motor symptoms but does not prevent neurodegeneration. To date there is no disease modifying drugs to prevent dopaminergic neuron loss and abnormal protein deposition in the brains. There is a strong demand for neuroprotective therapies to prevent or attenuate dopaminergic neuron degeneration.
An essential prerequisite for a pharmaceutical compound designed to affect the central nervous system (CNS) is satisfactory transport through the blood–brain barrier (BBB). The combination of physical (complex tight junctions) and biochemical barriers (metabolic enzyme systems and efflux transporters) make BBB a formidable barrier to candidate CNS drugs and it has been estimated to prevent the brain uptake of more than 98% of potential neurotherapeutics.
In the peculiar case of Parkinson’s disease, a blog managed by Simon Stott [4], aims at bridging the gap between the media headlines and the actual science. It explains the science and research that is currently being conducted on Parkinson’s disease in plain English that even a non scientist will understand. Many posts suggest that numerous molecules absorbed in every day life may slow down Parkinson's disease. Examples of potential active molecules are present in green tea, coffee, cauliflower, wine etc and can be purchased as dietary supplements (resveratrol, theanine, sulforaphane etc.) An other track refers to applying an existing compound (either an approved drug or a clinical candidate in testing) for one indication to another indication and offers several advantages over traditional drug discovery: reduced cost, risk and time to market. As an example, several clinical trials based on repositioned drugs (ambroxol, isradipin, simvastatin etc) are launched in the case of Parkinson’s. All these tests bring a lot of hope among Parkinson’s community as this condition is considered to be incurable. Consequently as it can be perceived on social networks, patients do not hesitate to take dietary supplements or marketed drugs to slow down PD without knowing if these molecules can cross BBB. The present study relies on several published data and papers aiming to assess the influence of the drugs’ physicochemical properties on the entry of Parkinson’s potential dietary supplements and repositioned drugs into the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF).
Abbreviations

- ADMET, absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, toxicity;
- BBB, blood-brain barrier;
- CNS, central nervous system;
- CSF, cerebrospinal fluid;
- DB, Drugbank database;
- PC, PubChem database;
- PD, Parkinson’s disease;
- PSA, polar surface area.

BBB permeability

Before marketing authorization of a candidate CNS drug, systematic validations are essential throughout the whole development process. They consist of simulations and computer-aided engineering resources for in silico testing, rapid prototypes with increasing level of detail for in vitro trials and, (only when working principles and safety have been verified), in vivo trials with animal models [19].

The in silico prediction methods have acquired popularity in the last few decades in the BBB research thanks to their speed, flexibility, low cost and less time-consuming efforts in comparison to in vitro and in vivo approaches. The first pertinent rule of thumb was defined by Lipinski who states that, in general, an orally active drug has no more than one violation of the following criteria:

- No more than 5 hydrogen bond donors (the total number of nitrogen–hydrogen and oxygen–hydrogen bonds)
- No more than 10 hydrogen bond acceptors (all nitrogen or oxygen atoms)
- A molecular mass less than 500 daltons
- An octanol-water partition coefficient log $P$ not greater than 5

Lipinski’s criteria have been completed with Veber’s rules which therefore suggest additional filters (rotatable bonds <12 and PSA <140) for drug-likeness:

The rule is applied only to permeation by passive diffusion of orally active drugs through cell membranes. It is a metric that can predict the similarity between two drugs. Thanks to their simplicity, the rules became an efficient tool in the design process.

Drugs that are actively transported through cell membranes by transporter proteins are exceptions to this rule.

Aside from the Lipinski’s rule, a more global approach was elaborated to predict the ability of substances to permeate the BBB successfully. It is the case of logBB, building on experimental data for various drugs like molecules. LogBB is the ratio of the steady-state concentration of the drug molecule in the brain to the concentration in the blood. Predicted logBB parameter was mainly derived from the notion of molecular polar surface area descriptor and octanol-water partition coefficient (logP) to assess compound hydrophobicity and Hbonding capacity (desolvation rate). These two last descriptors were vigorously discussed throughout the literature. For instance, they were implemented in the regression models through many mathematical formulas, such as Clark and Rishton equations:

\[
\log\text{BB} = 0.152\log P - 0.0148\text{PSA} + 0.139 \\
\log\text{BB} = 0.155\log P - 0.01\text{PSA} + 0.164
\]

Unfortunately, experiments to measure logBB are time consuming, laborious and expensive in vitro and even more in vivo. So it is therefore not surprising that the number of published experimental values is limited. Experimental methods aim at assessing:

- In vitro BBB permeability range from artificial membranes (PAMPA) and complex cell culture systems
- In vivo brain uptake index and bolus carotid intravenous.

More generally several mathematical and computational models have been successfully developed to simulate and predict the interaction of compounds with the BBB interface. Two permeability indices, log [brain]/[blood] (logBB) and log permeability-surface area (log PS), are usually retrieved from experimental data of either in vitro or in vivo studies. Thus, modeling algorithms have evolved to quantitatively describe the brain penetration, and to be more precise than the qualitative approach, based on a limited compound classification as either BBB + (a compound that crosses the BBB and attain central nervous system) or BBB − (a compound that does not cross the BBB and does not attain central nervous system). ...
Data and Methods

Construction of the dataset for training and validation

To built our case study, we have analyzed a large number of published papers and identified three free main datasets ([1] [2] [3])

1 - A list of compounds [1] for which logBB values had been measured in vivo, for the most part in rats. This list includes the compounds and the associated descriptors and was collected by (Markus Muehlbacher). As some compounds are not identified both in PubChem and Drug Bank data bases, our list is a subset of list used by [1].

As a reminder, the dataset includes compounds for which the partition had been measured from blood to brain, from plasma to brain and from serum to brain.

This set excludes actively transported compounds since their mechanism of passing the BBB is different to those passively entering CNS such as known substrates of P-Gp (bunitrolol, cimetidine, digoxin, domperidone, etoposide, fexofenadine, flunitrazepam, levodopa, loperamide, methotrexate, morphine, nevirapine, phenytoin, quinidine, risperidone, triflupromazine, vincristine, yamatetan).

2- A table [2] listing FDA-approved drugs (1691) and 3 columns:

- generic name: Generic name from DrugBank
- cns drug: TRUE/FALSE, based on whether any of 5 insurance plans checked had the drug listed under “Central Nervous System agents” or similar
- smiles: isomeric SMILES from DrugBank. When this field is empty it’s usually because the drug is a large biomolecule.

Example:

Acetaminophen TRUE CC(=O)NC1=CC=C(O)C=C1
Acetazolamide FALSE CC(=O)NC1=NN=C(S1)S(N)(=O)=O
Acetic acid FALSE CC([O-])=O

This input is described in the web post http://www.Minikel.org/2013/10/04/properties-of-cns-drugs-vs-all-fda-approved-drugs/. It has been collected and analyzed in 2013 by EV Minikel who is on a lifelong quest to develop a treatment or cure for human prion diseases.

3 – Two data bases [3] were used in the study. Data are available on the web: https://github.com/bioinformatics-gao/CASE-BBB-prediction Data Contact: rxx@case.edu Supplementary information. It was the basic data used by the associated paper publish in 2016. Datasets are given in the Supplementary Tables S1 and S2.

They consists on :

- Drug dataset based on brain/blood concentration ratio (table S1). 213 drugs in total are based on the splitting criteria of Li and coworkers (Li et al., 2005), drugs were divided into BBB+(139 drugs) and BBB- (74 drugs) groups according to whether the brain to blood concentration ratio was greater than 0.1 or less than 0.1 respectively (i.e. logBB> -1 or < -1)

- Drug dataset based on activities in CNS (table S2). Doniger and coworkers composed a drug dataset of 179 BBB+ 145 BBB- compounds according to their activities in CNS (Doniger et al., 2002). The compounds which exist in the SIDER database (76 BBB+ and 85 BBB- (given in the Supplementary Table S2: Drug Dataset Based on CNS Activities) were used in the framework of our paper as independent test dataset for training and cross validation.

Construction of the dataset for prediction

As the present study aims at identifying dietary supplements and repositioned drugs which may slow down evolution of PD’s, three lists of molecules has been collected for analysis (see annex 1):

- Supplements evoke in the posts described in Simon Stott’s blog [4] completed with information available on the net.
- Repositioned drugs identified in PD’s blog.
- Representative CNS drugs aimed at treating brain disorders (depression, Parkinson to decrease symptoms, anxiety etc). This list is built from Vidal website and tries to cover the application of CNS marketed drugs.
Statistical methods

Predicting BBB permeability via statistical modeling has evolved over the past few years, from simple linear regressions to machine learning techniques. Nevertheless, principles of all learning techniques are the same.

1 - First of all, an empirical model between drug descriptors and drug BBB permeability (either LogBB value for quantitative model or LogBB True or False for a qualitative model) needs to be tuned during the training phase.
2 - A second dataset is then used to validate the training model by comparing expected and calculated LogBB.
3 - Finally, the resulting training model is applied on a third dataset object of the study for the estimation of LogBB. An example is presented in table 3.

Methods used depend on the type of model either qualitative or quantitative. Quantitative models were estimated using MLP (multiple linear regression), PLS (Partial Least Square), AAKR (AutoAssociative Kernel Regression) ([7] [8]) and ECM (Evolving Cluster Method) ([6]). Qualitative models were built by a SVM (Support Vector Method).

MPL, PLS and SDM used are MATLAB algorithms. AAKR and ECM are specific software developed with MATLAB.

Results and Discussion

Descriptors

Before starting the study, it is important to identify which physicochemical properties of molecules can explain logBB value. Cross correlation of input data gives a first overview of the explanatory input properties. Two data bases (PubChem and Drug Bank) were exploited to carry out the study. As a consequence, the list of descriptors depends on the properties of the drugs available in the data base.

| Drug       | MM | LogP | H bond | PSA | AUC or LogBB |
|------------|----|------|--------|-----|--------------|
| Tanninamide| 585| 2.0  | 8      | 371 | 0.31         |
| Clorexol  | 426| 2.4  | 9      | 136 | 0.01         |
| Cetanolamin| 397| -3.1 | 5      | 295 | 0.01         |
| Cefuroxime| 295| -1.3 | 17     | 202 | 0.01         |
| Cefadroxile| 247| 0.4  | 15     | 249 | 0.06         |
| Nifedipine| 475| -4.5 | 10     | 266 | 0.24         |
| Ofloxacine| 162| -0.4 | 9      | 75.3| 0.62         |
| Levofloxacin| 351| -0.4 | 9      | 73.3| 0.71         |
| Diclofenac| 444| -0.7 | 15     | 182 | 0.2          |
| Pentoxifil| 130| -1.4 | 6      | 70.1| 0.18         |
| Lomefloxine| 357| 0.7  | 7      | 71.1| 0.9          |
| Rifampicin| 823| 4.0  | 21     | 277 | 0.22         |
| Azithromycine| 324| -1.6 | 7      | 115 | 0.31         |
| Vancomycine| 324| -0.5 | 9      | 147 | 0.19         |
| Abacavir| 296| 0.0  | 9      | 102 | ?            |
| Zidovudine| 270| 0.8  | 8      | 93.2| ?            |
| Indinavir| 516| 2.6  | 11     | 116 | ?            |
| Lopinavir| 620| 5.9  | 9      | 130 | ?            |
| Atazanavir| 365| 2.5  | 6      | 92.3| ?            |
| Pretazobart| 312| 2.9  | 2      | 41.6| ?            |

Table 1: The three steps of a learning technique process

| Drug       | MM | LogP | H bond | PSA | AUC or LogBB |
|------------|----|------|--------|-----|--------------|
| Tanninamide| 585| 2.0  | 8      | 371 | 0.31         |
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| Abacavir| 296| 0.0  | 9      | 102 | ?            |
| Zidovudine| 270| 0.8  | 8      | 93.2| ?            |
| Indinavir| 516| 2.6  | 11     | 116 | ?            |
| Lopinavir| 620| 5.9  | 9      | 130 | ?            |
| Atazanavir| 365| 2.5  | 6      | 92.3| ?            |
| Pretazobart| 312| 2.9  | 2      | 41.6| ?            |

Table 2: Main PubChem representative correlation factors with logBB
The only quantitative dataset is the first [1]. 160 drugs out of 371 that are described both in PubChem (13 properties) and Drug Bank (19 properties). The comparison between the two databases shows that two properties (logS and Physiological Charge), are not available in DrugBank. In order to have a better image of the performance of the two databases, 80 compounds were randomly selected for training and the rest for validation with two configurations (all properties or MW, logP, Donor, Acceptor, Rotatable, PSA).

### Table 3: Main DrugBank representative correlation factors with logBB

| Properties                  | logBB |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| PSA                         | -0.6  |
| DB_DONOR_COUNT              | -0.5  |
| DB_ACCEPTOR                 | -0.4  |
| LOGS                        | -0.2  |
| BIOAVAILABILITY             | 0.2   |
| BASICITY                    | 0.3   |
| LOGP                        | 0.4   |
| PHYSIOLOGICAL_CHARGE        | 0.5   |

As one can notice, results are very similar for data coming from PC or DB and very good if we think in terms of number of correct predictions.

### Analysis based on Muehlbacher dataset

In brief, our first dataset [1] includes 371 compounds described by 13 descriptors included LogBB, which varies between -2 and 1.64. To generate qualitative models we chose logBB limit as > or <= -0.3 between BBB permeable and non-permeable.

Four data analysis methods were applied to benefit from the fact that logBB is discrete value.

The 371 compounds dataset was split between two data sets of the same dimension for training and validation.

### Table 4: RMSE for training and validation assessed with PC and DB

| RMSE (PLS) | PC All 13 | PC 6 pp | DB All 19 | DB 6 pp |
|------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Training mean | 0.57 | 0.6 | 0.46 | 0.59 |
| Validation mean | 0.70 | 0.63 | 0.61 | 0.65 |
| Training std | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.03 | 0.04 |
| Validation std | 0.15 | 0.05 | 0.04 | 0.08 |

### Table 5: Number of correct logBB predictions with PC and DB

| Number of correct logBB predictions | PC All 13 | PC 6 pp | DB All 19 | DB 6 pp |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Training mean | 64/80 | 62/80 | 67/80 | 62/80 |
| Validation mean | 60/80 | 61/80 | 63/80 | 59/80 |
| Training std | 2.5 | 3.2 | 2.4 | 3 |
| Validation std | 2.5 | 3 | 3 | 3 |

### Table 6: RMSE for training and validation files calculated with MLR, PLS, AAKR and ECM

| RMSE | LR | PLS (6) | PLS (12) | AAKR h=1 (2 :8) | AAKR h=0.5 (2 :8) | AAKR h=0.1 (2 :8) | ECM R=0.04 (2 :8) | ECM R=0.02 (2 :8) |
|------|----|---------|----------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Training mean | 0.457 | 0.458 | 0.438 | 0.23 | 0.06 | 0.01 | 0.11 | 0.04 |
| Validation mean | 0.481 | 0.480 | 0.569 | 0.30 | 0.24 | 0.27 | 0.287 | 0.27 |
| Training std | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.005 | 0.002 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Validation std | 0.020 | 0.020 | 0.15 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.025 | 0.027 |
Seven PC descriptors were selected to estimate logBB: complexity, molecular weight, xlogP, donor, acceptor, rotatable bond, TPSA. RMSE was calculated for both training and validation data. H corresponds to the bandwidth coefficient for AAKR and R the maximum radius of the cluster for ECM. The number of Latent Parameters (PLS) is given. It has to be noted that local estimation methods (validation RMSE mean around 0.27) are twice more performing than linear methods such as MPL and PLS (RMSE around 0.5).

A quantitative model was created from the 371 compound data set (Y is logBB $> -0.3$ and N if logBB $\leq -0.3$). SVM method was applied to estimate logBB status. This model has been created to be able to compare performance of dataset [1] with other datasets ([2] [3]).

|                  | Number of correct prediction | Mean | Std |
|------------------|------------------------------|------|-----|
| All properties (18) | 150 /185                      | 81%  | 3.9 |
| MW, logP, Don, Accep, Rotat, PSA | 153/185                     | 83%  | 4.1 |

**Table 7: Mean and standard deviation of the number of exactly predicted compounds [1]**

Additionally we have compared our coefficients of logBB linear regression with the ones of Clark and Rishton equations [9] [10].

- Clark: logBB = 0.152logP - 0.0148PSA + 0.139
- Rishton: logBB = 0.155logP - 0.01PSA + 0.164

For the complete dataset 371 drugs logBB = 0.127 +0.149logP-0.008PSA and for a more concentrated dataset (274) logBB = 0.1+0.157logP-0.008PSA. Results are consistent with Clark and Rishton findings.

**Analysis applied on Minikel dataset**

A table listing FDA-approved drugs (1691) provided by EV Minikel ([2]) which gives a indication of CNS activities based on whether any of 5 insurance plans checked had the drug listed under “Central Nervous System agents”. As the model is quantitative we used SVM as algorithm. DB was scanned and drugs where numerous properties were excluded. The result consists of 1344 compounds from DB. 672 compounds were randomly selected for training and the rest for validation. The number of correct predictions is of the order than for study [1] and standard deviation is far better.

|                  | Number of correct prediction | Mean | Std |
|------------------|------------------------------|------|-----|
| All properties (18) | 438 /672                     | 65%  | 33  |
| MW, logP, Don, Accep, Rotat, PSA | 394/672                    | 59%  | 46  |

**Table 8: Mean and standard deviation of the number of exactly predicted compounds [2]**

Although all the available properties were selected, the ration number of success/ total number of validation compounds is not really satisfying.

**Analysis based on Gao datasets**

Two quantitative models were used for this dataset [3]:

- brain/blood concentration ratio (table S1 in [3])
- activities in CNS (table S2 in [3]).

Performance of two datasets (S1 and S2) was assessed with the same approach. Each dataset was split randomly between training and validation file of the same size. For both CNS and concentration datasets, the rate of correct prediction is rather high and it has to be noted that the performances as of the same level for PC properties and Gao’s properties.
| Type of data | Mean of the correct prediction number | Std of the correct prediction number |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| CNS 160 compounds all PC properties (6 to 23) | 58.6/80 | 73% | 3.7 |
| CNS 160 compounds (PC properties: MW, logP, Donor bonds, Acceptor bonds, Rotatable bonds, PSA, complexity) | 57.2/80 | 72% | 3.3 |
| AUC (214 compounds) - (PC properties 6 to 23) | 74.6/107 | 70% | 4 |
| AUC (214 compounds) (MW, logP, Donor bonds, Acceptor bonds, Rotatable bonds, PSA, complexity) | 76.5/107 | 71% | 3.7 |
| CNS Properties selected by Gao [S2] (MW, Volume, surface area, %hydrophilic surf, logP, hydrophilic-lipophilic balance, H-bond donors, H-bond acceptors, 3D H-bonding) | 58/80 | 73% | 3.9 |

Table 9: Percentage of exactly predicted compounds for datasets (Gao S1 and S2)

Robustness of all training models and logBB predictions

First of all, numbers of correct predictions during the validation phase are the largest with datasets [1] and [3 concentration].

| Correct logBB predictions in % (validation dataset) | PC Dataset Muehlbaker (1) | DB Minikel (2) | PC Gao (3 CNS) | PC Gao (3 Conc.) |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Validation 6 parameters                               | 81 %                      | 65 %           | 57 %           | 77 %            |
| Validation all parameters                             | 83 %                      | 59 %           | 59 %           | 75 %            |

Table 10: Number of correct logBB predictions for all training datasets

All the training models have been applied on dietary supplements, repositioned drugs and CNS marketed drugs for validation of the scope of training datasets. Results are gathered in annex 1. Column 2 presents the average logBB for all modeling methods used (AAKR, ECM, PLS and MLR). As LogBB is the ratio of the steady-state concentration of the drug molecule in the brain to the concentration in the blood, we have defined three prediction zones:
- Ratio <20% LogBB<0.7 – Red zone - No permeability
- Ratio >=20% and <50% LogBB>=-0.7 and <-0.30 – Yellow zone - Possible permeability
- Ratio >= 50% - Green zone - High probability of permeability.

Columns 3, 4 and 5 (annex 1) show results on quantitative models and last column gives the number of No among the processed model..

| Supplements           | Data [1] AAKR, ECM, MLR, PLS | Score (number of NO) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Acetylcysteine (NAC)  | -0.38                        | 0                    |
| Cholecalciferol (vitamin D3) | 0.75                   | 0                    |
| Coenzyme-q10          | 1.16                         | 2                    |
| Curcumin              | 0.05                         | 2                    |
| Niacin (vitamin B3)   | -0.17                        | 0                    |
| Pyridoxine (vitamin B6) | -0.46                | 0                    |
| Resveratrol           | -0.05                        | 0                    |
| Sulfuraphane          | -0.20                        | 0                    |
| Thiamine (vitamin B1) | -0.30                        | 2                    |
| Uric_acid             | -0.69                        | 2                    |
Table 11: Permeability of selected molecules for PD

Analysis of results suggests the following conclusions:
- Qualitative models [2] [3] are less precise than quantitative model [1];
- Qualitative models seem to be more conservative (several drugs tagged as BBB- are in training files);
- List of molecules tagged as permeable is shorter for annex 1 column 3 than for annex 1 column 2.
- All the CNS marketed drugs are identified as permeable both by column 2 and 3 except sulpiride because of low lipid solubility, identified on the net to poorly penetrate the blood-brain barrier.
Conclusions

The BBB remains a challenge when designing CNS therapeutics, balancing pharmacodynamics with pharmacokinetics, with an approach to be improved. Diverse in silico, in vitro and in vivo methods for the estimation of molecules transferred across the BBB have been devised for pharmaceutical research by industry and academia in the last few decades. Because of the ease of implementation, in silico prediction methods have acquired popularity in the BBB research. Numerous dietary supplements and repositioned drugs have been identified to potentially have an influence on PD evolution. The present study aims at assessing the ability of these molecules to cross the BBB. Using three databases, we defined two type of models for the prediction of logBB value. These models based on logBB prediction are either qualitative or quantitative.

To feed our logBB models, we extracted physicochemical properties of molecules from PubChem and DrugBank databases. SVM was privileged to process qualitative model and we used PLS, MLR, AAKR and ECM methods to run quantitative models. From the analysis of results, it has to be noticed that:

- Quantitative models are more precise than qualitative models and furthermore the main problem is that we don't know the exact meaning of BBB+ and BBB-.
- Models limited to the use of MW, logP, PSA and bonds (donor, acceptance, rotatable) has to be privileged as they appear to be more robust.
- Local estimation (Comparison with nearest neighbors already tagged like ECM, AAKR) is more efficient than interpolation on the overall domain as it can take into account several underlying physicochemical principles such as non linearity.

The list of dietary supplements which are predicted by quantitative and qualitative models and therefore likely to cross the BB are NAC N-acetyl-cysteine, cholecalciferol, niacin, resveratrol and sulforaphane. Repositioned drugs responding to the same criteria are acid acetyl salicylic acid, deferiprone, ibuprofen, simvastatin and trazodone. However, the list will be completed if only one criteria is chosen.

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22. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/ PubMed Central® (PMC) is a free full-text archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature at the U.S. National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine (NIH/NLM).
23. https://www.drugbank.ca/about The DrugBank database is a comprehensive, freely accessible, online database containing information on drugs and drug targets
24. http://www.freefullpdf.com/#gsc.tab=0&gsc.q=brain%20blood%20barrier&gsc.sort=
25. https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/
26. https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/chemistry-and-biology
### Annex 1: Comparison between qualitative and quantitative prediction methods

| Drug             | Qualitative model | Quantitative model | Score of the qualitative models (number of NO) |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
|                  | Data [1] AAKR, ECM, MLR, PLS | Data [2] SVM | Data [3-conc] SVM | Predicted ADMET features (Drug Bank) |                                |
| Acetylcysteine   | -0.38 Y           | Y                 | Y                             | not available | 0                                      |
| Cholecalciferol  | 0.75 Y            | Y                 | Y                             | BBB+ 0.96     | 0                                      |
| Coenzyme-q10     | -1.16 N           | N                 | N                             | not available | 2                                      |
| Curcumin         | 0.05 N            | N                 | N                             | not available | 2                                      |
| Egcg             | -1.16 N           | N                 | N                             | not available | 2                                      |
| Glutathione      | -1.57 N           | N                 | N                             | BBB+ 0.65     | 3                                      |
| Inosine          | -1.00 N           | Y                 | Y                             | BBB+ 0.80     | 2                                      |
| Mannitol         | -1.48 N           | Y                 | Y                             | BBB- 0.60     | 2                                      |
| Niacin           | -0.17 Y           | Y                 | Y                             | BBB+ 0.96     | 0                                      |
| Pyridoxine       | -0.46 Y           | Y                 | Y                             | BBB+ 0.69     | 0                                      |
| Resveratrol      | -0.05 Y           | Y                 | Y                             | BBB+ 0.59     | 0                                      |
| Sulforaphane     | -0.20 Y           | Y                 | Y                             | not available | 0                                      |
| Theanine         | -1.00 N           | N                 | N                             | not available | 3                                      |
| Thiamine         | -0.30 N           | N                 | N                             | BBB+ 0.93     | 2                                      |
| Uric_acid        | -0.69 N           | N                 | N                             | not available | 2                                      |
| Uridine          | -0.96 N           | Y                 | Y                             | BBB+ 0.77     | 2                                      |
| Drug                  | Qualitative model | Predicted ADMET features (Drug Bank) | Score of the qualitative models (number of NO) |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Acetyl_salicylic_acid | -0.02 Y Y BBBo.94 | 0                                    |                                                |
| Ambroxol              | -0.14 N not available | 1                                    |                                                |
| Amiodipine            | -0.14 N N BBB-0.77 | 3                                    |                                                |
| Bumetanide            | -0.36 N N BBB-0.66 | 3                                    |                                                |
| Deferiprone           | -0.14 Y Y BBBo.94 | 0                                    |                                                |
| Doxycycline           | -1.26 N N BBB-0.99 | 4                                    |                                                |
| Eliglustat            | 0.19 N N not available | 2                                    |                                                |
| Ibuprofen             | 0.26 Y Y BBBo.96 | 0                                    |                                                |
| Isradipine            | 0.14 N N BBB-0.84 | 3                                    |                                                |
| Leucovorin            | -1.43 N N BBB-0.76 | 4                                    |                                                |
| Miglustat             | -0.57 N Y BBB-0.90 | 2                                    |                                                |
| Nifedipine            | -0.29 N N BBB-0.95 | 3                                    |                                                |
| Nilotinib             | 0.29 N N BBBo.90 | 2                                    |                                                |
| Nimodipine            | -0.01 N N BBB-0.93 | 3                                    |                                                |
| Nitazoxanide          | -0.49 N Y BBB-0.72 | 1                                    |                                                |
| Pioglitazone          | 0.08 Y N BBBo.88 | 1                                    |                                                |
| Pravastatin           | -0.63 N Y not available | 1                                    |                                                |
| Salbutamol            | -0.50 N N BBB-0.96 | 3                                    |                                                |
| Simvastatin           | -0.29 Y Y BBBo.94 | 0                                    |                                                |
| Squalamine            | -0.68 N N not available | 2                                    |                                                |
| Trazodone             | 0.29 Y Y BBBo.98 | 0                                    |                                                |
| Trehalose             | -1.64 N Y not available | 2                                    |                                                |
| Ursodeoxycholicacid   | 0.22 N Y BBBo.93 | 1                                    |                                                |
| Drug            | Qualitative model | Quantitative model |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|                 | Data [1] AAKR, ECM, MLR, PLS | Data [2] SVM | Data [3-conc] SVM | Predicted ADMET features (Drug Bank) | Score of the qualitative models (number of NO) |
| Agomelatine     | 0.16              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.99                             | 0                                               |
| Alprazolam      | 0.15              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Amantadine      | 0.16              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Amoxapine       | 0.11              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Aripiprazole    | 0.38              | Y                  | N                  | BBB+ 0.99                             | 1                                               |
| Citalopram      | 0.41              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.97                             | 0                                               |
| Clomipramine    | 0.75              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Diazepam        | 0.28              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.99                             | 0                                               |
| Doxepin         | 0.61              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.94                             | 0                                               |
| Droperidol      | 0.25              | Y                  | N                  | BBB+ 0.96                             | 1                                               |
| Duloxetine      | 0.35              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Fluoxetine      | 0.65              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Isoniazid       | -0.42             | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.99                             | 0                                               |
| Loxapine        | 0.32              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Nortriptyline   | 0.51              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.95                             | 0                                               |
| Pimozide        | 0.54              | Y                  | N                  | BBB+ 0.97                             | 1                                               |
| Rasagline (PD)  | 0.21              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Rotigotine (PD) | 0.42              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Selegiline (PD) | 0.43              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.98                             | 0                                               |
| Sertraline      | 0.65              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.97                             | 0                                               |
| Sulpiride       | -0.52             | N                  | N                  | BBB+ 0.94                             | 2                                               |
| Zolpidem        | 0.04              | Y                  | Y                  | BBB+ 0.94                             | 0                                               |
## Annex 2: Potential impact of dietary supplements on PD

| Drug                | Potential impact on PD                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Clinical trials | Reference                                                                 |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Acetylcysteine      | The results of this preliminary study demonstrate for the first time a potential direct effect of NAC on the dopamine system in PD patients, and this observation may be associated with positive clinical effects | Yes             | July 6, 2017 Glutathione – Getting the k’NAC’k of Parkinson’s disease         |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 | September 10, 2017 O’mouse an’ men – gang aft agley                        |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 | Monti DA (2016) N-Acetyl Cysteine May Support Dopamine Neurons in Parkinson's Disease: Preliminary Clinical and Cell Line Data |
| Cholecalciferol (vitamin D) | «these results demonstrate that vitamin D exhibits substantial neuroprotective effects in this PD animal model, by attenuating pro-inflammatory and up-regulating anti-inflammatory processes » | Yes             | Calvello (2017) Vitamin D Treatment Attenuates Neuroinflammation and Dopaminergic Neurodegeneration in an Animal Model of PD |
| Coenzyme-q10        | Coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub> appears to slow the progressive deterioration of function in PD, but these results need to be confirmed in a larger study.                                                                 | Yes             | CW Shults (2002) Effects of coenzyme Q10 in early Parkinson disease: evidence of slowing of the functional decline |
| Curcumin            | The ability of curcumin and naringenin to exhibit neuroprotection in the 6-OHDA model of PD may be related to their antioxidant capabilities and their capability to penetrate into the brain. | No              | Virginia Zbarsky (2009) Neuroprotective properties of the natural phenolic antioxidants curcumin and naringenin but not quercetin and fisetin in a 6-OHDA model of Parkinson’s disease |
| Egcg                | EGCG has the ability to not only block the formation of of alpha synuclein fibrils and stabilize monomers of alpha synuclein, but it can also bind to alpha synuclein fibrils and restructure them into the safe form of aggregated monomers. | Yes             | November 29, 2016 Get more EGCG. Drink green tea                        |
|                     | “This case report demonstrates both subjective and objective symptom improvement of a conventionally-treated patient suffering from PD when adjunctive intravenous glutathione was administered” | Yes             | Bieschke JR (2010) EGCG remolds mature alpha-synuclein and amyloid-beta fibrils and reduces cellular toxicity |
| Glutathione         | Epidemiological studies have repeatedly reported that increased serum urate level is associated with a slower progress of Parkinson’s disease (PD).                                                                     | Yes             | July 6, 2017 Glutathione – Getting the k’NAC’k of Parkinson’s disease       |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 | Lisa D (2017) Therapeutics Repeated: Dose Oral N’Acetylcysteine in Parkinson’s Disease: Pharmacokinetics and Effect on Brain Glutathione and Oxidative Stress |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 | Madalyn O (2017) The Use of Intravenous Glutathione for Symptom Management of Parkinson’s Disease: A Case Report. |
| Inosine             | Epidemiological studies have repeatedly reported that increased serum urate level is associated with a slower progress of Parkinson’s disease (PD).                                                                     | Yes             | Hirotaka Iwaki (2017) One year safety and efficacy of inosine to increase the serum urate level for patients with Parkinson’s disease in Japan |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                 |                                                                          |
| Nutrient   | Description                                                                                                                                  | Source                                                                 | Date          |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Mannitol   | When the mutant flies fed on the media containing Mannitol showed significant reduction in the loss of locomotion and as well as cell death. | May 30, 2018 The Mannitol results Sanketh Dhumal (2015) Neuroprotective effects of Mannitol in a Drosophila model for Parkinson’s disease. |               |
| Niacin (vit B3) | Experimenting on fruit flies, the researchers found that a niacin-rich diet could rescue the mitochondrial problems in the flies, and also protect neurons from degeneration. « Evidence that a form of vitamin B3, called Nicotinamide Riboside, may have beneficial effects for Parkinson’s. » | December 31, 2017 2017 – Year in Review: A good vintage May 27, 2018 To B3 or not to B3, that is the question |               |
| Pyridoxine (vit B6) | Dietary intake of vitamin B6 exhibited preventive effect of developing PD based on the available data. | Liang Shen (2015) Associations between B Vitamins and Parkinson’s Disease |               |
| Resveratrol | Resveratrol improves health and survival of mice on a high-calorie diet.                                                                   | October 20, 2017 Resveratrol’s neglected siblings March 16, 2017 Resveratrol: From the folks who brought you Nilotinib |               |
| Sulforaphane | sulforaphane “may potentially be effective in slowing down the progression of idiopathic Parkinson’s disease by the modulation of oxidative stress and apoptotic machinery” | September 30, 2017 We need a clinical trial of broccoli. Seriously! Han JM (2007) Protective effect of sulforaphane against dopaminergic cell death |               |
| Theanine   | Theanine shows neuroprotective efficacy against Parkinson’s disease (PD)- and Alzheimer’s disease (AD)-related neurotoxin damages. It decreases DNA fragmentation as well as nerve cell (SH-SY5Y) apoptosis induced | YR Liang (2015) Health benefits of theanine in green tea: A review |               |
| Thiamine   | Administration of parenteral high-dose thiamine was effective in reversing PD motor and nonmotor symptoms.                                       | Costantini A (2015) Long-Term Treatment with High-Dose Thiamine in Parkinson Disease: An Open-Label Pilot Study |               |
| Uric acid  | «researchers to conclude that men, but not women, with higher urate concentrations had a lower future risk of developing Parkinson’s » | January 23, 2016 New research – Urate and Parkinson’s Gao X (2016) Prospective study of plasma urate and risk of Parkinson disease in men and women |               |
| Uridine    | “we showed that uridine and DHA prevented the induction of motor deficits as well as the development of GI dysfunctions in rotenone models of PD » | RJ Wurtman (2017) Uridine effects on dopamine release - US Patent 2017 Pardo PP (2017) Promising Effects of Neurorestorative Diets on Motor, Cognitive, and Gastrointestinal Dysfunction after Symptom Development in a Mouse PD Model |               |
| Vitamin E  | «a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial indicated that co-supplementation of omega-3 fatty acids and vitamin E led to improvements in motor features (as determined by UPDRS) and some metabolic profiles » | December 31, 2017 2017 – Year in Review: A good vintage |               |
Annex 3: List of descriptors from PubChem and DrugBank databases

The overall list of descriptors for PubChem is:

| Descriptor                  | Value                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| CACTVS_COMPLEXITY           | TOTAL_CHARGE           |
| CACTVS_HBOND_ACCEPTOR       | HEAVY_ATOM_COUNT       |
| CACTVS_HBOND_DONOR          | ATOM_DEF_STEREO_COUNT  |
| CACTVS_ROTATABLE_BOND       | ATOM_UDEF_STEREO_COUNT |
| XLOGP3                      |                        |
| EXACT_MASS                  |                        |
| MOLECULAR_WEIGHT            |                        |
| CACTVS_TPSA                 |                        |
| MONOISOTOPIC_WEIGHT         |                        |

And for Drug Bank

| Descriptor                  | Value                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| MOLECULAR_WEIGHT            | JCHEM_MDDR_LIKE_RULE   |
| EXACT_MASS                  | JCHEM_NUMBER_OF_RINGS  |
| JCHEM_ACCEPTOR_COUNT        | JCHEM_PHYSIOLOGICAL_CHARGE |
| JCHEM_ATOM_COUNT            | JCHEM_PKA              |
| JCHEM_AVERAGE_POLARIZABILITY| JCHEM_PKA_STRONGEST_ACIDIC |
| JCHEM_BIOAVAILABILITY       | JCHEM_PKA_STRONGEST_BASIC |
| JCHEM_DONOR_COUNT           | JCHEM_POLAR_SURFACE_AREA |
| JCHEM_FORMAL_CHARGE         | JCHEM_REFRACTIVITY     |
| JCHEM_GHOSE_FILTER          | JCHEM_ROTATABLE_BOND_COUNT |
| ALOGPS_LOGP                 | JCHEM_RULE_OF_FIVE     |
| JCHEM_LOGP                  | ALOGPS_SOLUBILITY      |
| ALOGPS_LOGS                 | JCHEM_VEBER_RULE       |