BR BIOACTIVE RESEARCH



## Liver Function

We have *in vitro* and *in vivo* procedures for assessing the effects of test preparations on hepatic function and metabolism including

| ***In vitro*** | ***In vivo*** |
|---|---|
| Hepatocyte cultures | Liver function |
| Liver metabolism | Fibrosis & Sclerosis |
| | Liver metabolism |
| | Toxicology |

Livers can be isolated from rodents that are either healthy or have induced health or medical conditions. Pure hepatocyte cultures are prepared from these. Most commonly these cells have been used for testing prototype preparations and products for their effects on the metabolism of these cells. Studies can cover a diverse range of aspects including investigations of the fat uptake and storage and the sugar uptake and storage by these cells and the response of these cells to toxins including fibrosis, sclerosis and cirrhosis.

*In vivo* tests for the hepatic activity of test products use rodents. These may be either in a good state of health or have developed disease or health conditions. The study can include measurement of a wide range of liver function parameters including serum markers. Livers can be excised from the animal at appropriate time points and the cells isolated for further investigation or samples of the liver further analyzed using physiological or histological procedures. Additionally a diverse range of liver functions can be monitored.

Some more detailed studies are described in other sections of the website such as for metabolic syndrome and diabetes.