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**COURSE: BIOCHEMISTRY(xenobiotics)**

***DRUG METABOLISM***

 Drug metabolism is simply the metabolic breakdown of drugs by all living organisms usually through specialised enzymatic systems.

Drug metabolism can be divided into 3 different phases:

* In phase 1, enzymes such as cytochrome p450 oxidases introduce reactive or polar groups into the xenobiotics.
* In phase 2, the modified compounds are conjugated into polar compounds. These reactions are catalyzed by transferase enzymes such as glutathione S trasnferases.
* Finally in phase 3, the conjugated xenobiotics may be further processed before being recognized by efflux transporters and pumped out of the cells.









