

Progestins: Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics.
Is there a biological rationale behind the 1st-4th generation classification
Régine Sitruk-Ware, USA

The risks and benefits of progestins used in contraception depend upon their molecular structure, the type and dose of associated estrogen, and the delivery route. New progestins with high specificity have been designed to avoid interaction with other receptors and prevent androgenic, estrogenic or glucocorticoid related side-effects. The classification of progestins should be based on their structure and receptor interaction and not on so-called "generation" defined by the time of its synthesis.