Table 2 *Comparison of key biochemical properties of the guanosine analogues aciclovir and penciclovir which are produced in vivo by their respective prodrugs, valaciclovir and famciclovir*

	Famciclovir	Valaciclovir
Oral absorption and blood pharmacokinetics parental compounds and production of PCV and ACV are similar		
	Penciclovir	**Aciclovir**
HSV1 thymidine kinase	High affinity (K_i = 1.5 μ m)	Low affinity (K_i = 173 μ m)
HSV1 DNApol	Low affinity (K_i = 8.5 μ m)	High affinity (K_i = 0.07 μ m)
Stability of triphosphate	Long ($t_{1/2}$ = 10 h)	Short ($t_{1/2}$ = 0.7 h)
DNA chain terminating	Rapid	Obligate