clearance

in toxicology

1. Volume of blood or plasma or mass of an organ effectively cleared of a substance by elimination (metabolism and excretion) divided by time of elimination.
   Note:
   Total clearance is the sum of the clearances of each eliminating organ or tissue for a given substance.

2. (in pulmonary toxicology) Volume or mass of lung cleared divided by time of elimination; used qualitatively to describe removal of any inhaled substance which deposits on the lining surface of the lung.

3. (in renal toxicology) Quantification of the removal of a substance by the kidneys by the processes of filtration and secretion; clearance is calculated by relating the rate of renal excretion to the plasma concentration.

See also: clearance, $\Delta v/\Delta t$

Source:
PAC, 2004, 76, 1033 (Glossary of terms used in toxicokinetics (IUPAC Recommendations 2003)) on page 1045