

# Anti-Anemic Drugs

## Pharmacology Team

المذكرة عبارة عن سلايدات الدكتور بالاضافة الى نوتات التيم

**Ps:** the notes are in orange color or gray squares

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## Antianaemics:

- 1- Iron.
- 2- Vitamin B12
- 3-Folic Acid.
- 4- Erythropoietin

### Team Note:

#### Anemia :

Inability of blood to carry oxygen (tissue hypoxia )

-Low RBC -

- Low HB -

#### types :

1- iron deficiency Anemia ( small RBC)

Hypochromic or microcytic anemia

No sufficient iron which is required for good content of HB

2- Megaloblastic Anemia (large RBCs with no function )

Folic acid anemia -

vit B 12 anemia -

3- hemolytic anemia

4- aplastic anemia

## Iron:

Forms of iron

Total body iron = 4 gm distributed as

1. Hemoglobin = 2/3 amount.

2. Stored forms

- Available Forms **Ferritin & haemosiderin** in intestinal mucosal cells and in macrophages in liver, spleen & bone.

- Non available Forms: **myoglobin, cytochromes, various enzymes**

**T**eam **N**ote:

Iron in ..

Reduced form → Ferrous

Oxidized form → Ferric

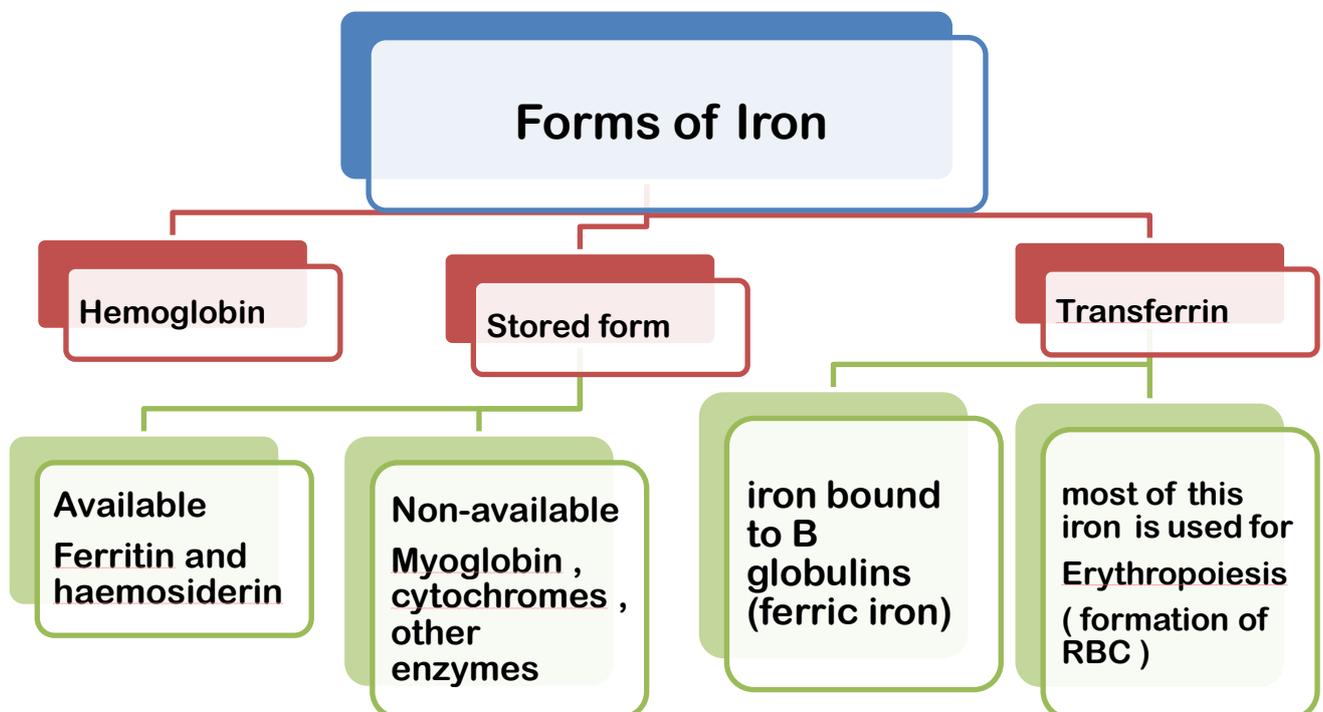
3. Transferrin: (circulating iron)

- iron bound to B globulins (ferric iron)
- most of this iron is used for erythropoiesis.

Daily requirement

- 5 mg for male.
- 15 mg for female & children.
- available in meat, grain and vegetables

**T**eam **N**ote:



## Iron absorption

Iron is absorbed from upper part of small intestine in ferrous form (active transport).

2. Vitamin C, acidic medium, amino acids & fructose ↑ absorption.
3. Antacids & tetracyclines ↓ absorption.
4. Converted to ferric in the mucosal cells

Excretion **no efficient way for excretion**

minimal lost in saliva, sweat, or by exfoliation (peeling off) of intestinal mucosal cells containing ferritin into stool.

## USES OF IRON THERAPY

1. Microcytic or hypochromic anemia.
2. Usually given orally

## Oral iron preparations

widely used in iron deficiency anemia

Ferrous sulphate    Ferrous gluconate.

Ferrous succinate    Ferrous fumarate.

## Side Effects of oral iron therapy

1. GIT disturbances: Nausea, abdominal cramps and diarrhea or constipation.
2. Black stool.
3. Teeth staining.

## Parenteral Iron therapy

Rare use

Iron dextran

Iron sucrose

Iron sodium gluconate.

## Uses

1. Non compliance of oral iron therapy.
2. Severe malabsorption syndrome.

3. Marked blood loss.

### **Adverse Effects**

1. Local pain & tissue staining ( I.M. ).
2. Hypersensitivity reactions. (Urticaria up to anaphylactic reactions I.M. , I.V).
3. Headache, fever.

### **Acute iron toxicity**

**Causes:** accidental ingestion of iron tablets by children.

### **Symptoms:**

1. Severe gastritis, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain.
2. Circulatory collapse ( shock ).
3. Metabolic acidosis, coma, death.

### **Treatment**

Gastric lavage: 1% Na HCO<sub>3</sub> → insoluble iron salts.

### **Antidotes**

Deferoxamine intramuscularly or intravenous infusion → complex with ferric iron → excreted in urine.

### **Chronic Iron Toxicity**

### **Causes.**

1. Congenital (hemochromatosis).  
*Genetic abnormality of iron absorption*
2. Repeated blood transfusion.
3. Chronic hemolytic anemia (Thalassaemia).

### **Treatment**

1. Deferoxamine
2. Intermittent phlebotomy.

## Iron

drugs	mechanism	use	Adverse effect
<p>-Oral iron preparations</p> <p>widely used in iron deficiency anemia</p> <p>Ferrous sulphate</p> <p>Ferrous gluconate.</p> <p>Ferrous succinate</p> <p>Ferrous fumarate.</p>	<p>Iron absorption</p> <p>Iron is absorbed from upper part of small intestine in ferrous form (active transport).</p> <p>2. Vitamin C, acidic medium, amino acids &amp; fructose ↑ absorption.</p>	<p>Microcytic or hypochromic anemia.</p> <p>Parenteral Iron therapy Uses</p> <p>1. Non compliance of oral iron therapy.</p> <p>2. Severe malabsorption syndrome.</p> <p>3. Marked blood loss.</p>	<p>Side Effects of oral iron therapy</p> <p>1. GIT disturbances: Nausea, abdominal cramps and diarrhea or constipation.</p> <p>2. Black stool.</p> <p>3. Teeth staining.</p>
<p>- Parenteral Iron therapy</p> <p>Rare use</p> <p>Iron dextran</p> <p>Iron sucrose</p> <p>Iron sodium gluconate.</p>	<p>3. Antacids &amp; tetracyclines ↓ absorption.</p> <p>4. Converted to ferric in the mucosal cells</p> <p>Excretion no efficient way for excretion</p> <p>minimal lost in saliva, sweat, or by exfoliation (peeling off) of intestinal mucosal cells containing ferritin into stool.</p>		<p>Parenteral Iron therapy Adverse Effects</p> <p>1. Local pain &amp; tissue staining ( I.M. ).</p> <p>2. Hypersensitivity reactions. (Urticaria up to anaphylactic reactions I.M. , I.V).</p> <p>3. Headache, fever</p>

## iron toxicity

Kind of toxicity	cause	Symptoms:	treatment
Acute iron toxicity	Causes: Accidental ingestion of iron tablets by children.	Symptoms: -Severe gastritis, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain. -Circulatory collapse ( shock ). -Metabolic acidosis, coma, death.	Gastric lavage: 1% Na HCO <sub>3</sub> → insoluble iron salts.  Antidotes  Deferoxamine intramuscularly or intravenous infusion → complex with ferric iron → excreted in urine
Chronic Iron Toxicity	Congenital (hemochromatosis).  <i>Genetic abnormality of iron absorption</i>  2. Repeated blood transfusion.  3. Chronic hemolytic anemia  (Thalassaemia).		1. Deferoxamine 2. Intermittent phlebotomy.

## Vitamin B12 (cobalamin)

- Vitamin B12 is not synthesized in human
- Should be supplied by dietary sources as eggs, dairy products & liver.
- Daily requirement 2 µg - 3 µg.
- It is absorbed from GIT in presence of intrinsic factor.
- Intrinsic factor is a protein secreted by parietal cells of the stomach.
- It may be absent in patients having pernicious anemia.
- Full absorption of vitamin B12 requires intrinsic factor (gastric mucosa)+ receptors mediated transport system in ileum. It is stored mainly in the liver (3- 5 mg).

## Preparations available

1. Cyanocobalamin.
2. Hydroxocobalamin (preferable).

Given I.M

It's a life time treatment

Hydroxocobalamin is more bound to plasma protein  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$   $t_{1/2}$  longer half life .

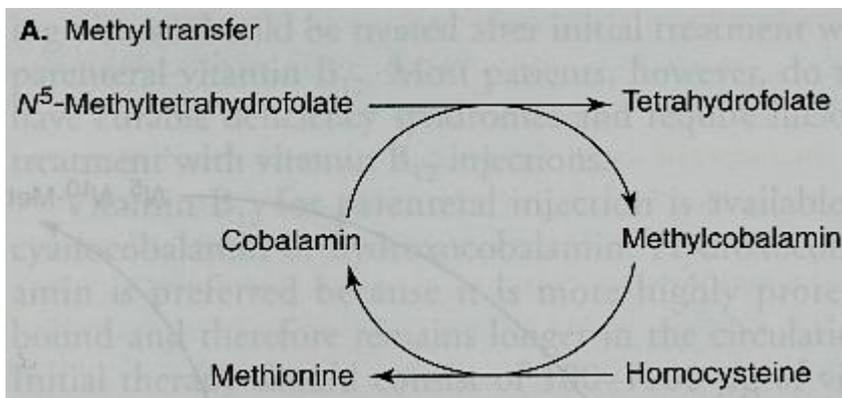
### Team Note:

Who can't synthesize the intrinsic factor  $\rightarrow$  pernicious anemia

- genetically  $\rightarrow$  congenital
- abnormality of absorption .. Rs of Vit B12 are defcted on the intestine
- operation  $\rightarrow$  gastrectomy

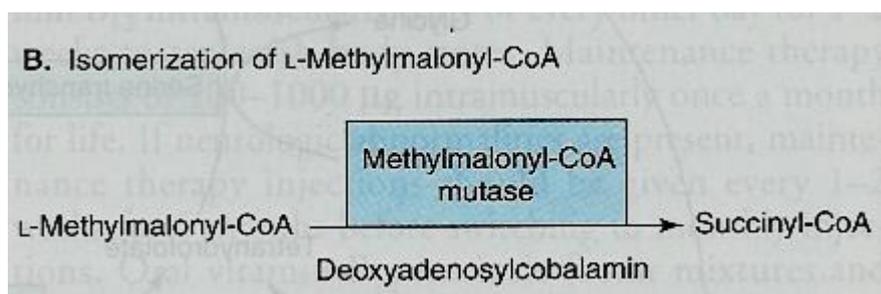
## Function of vitamin B12

1. Conversion of homocysteine into methionine this is required in folic acid metabolism and DNA synthesis (necessary for red blood cells production).



### Function of vitamin B12

2. Conversion of methylmalonyl CoA to succinyl-CoA essential for lipid metabolism & normal neuronal function of the brain.



## USES of VITAMIN B12

1. Naturally occurring pernicious anemia (life long therapy, I.M.)
2. Neurological abnormalities.
3. Gastrectomy.
4. Cyanide poisoning (hydroxocobalamin).

naturally occurring pernicious anemia occurs due to vitamin b 12 deficiency

1. Lack of intrinsic factor.
2. Diseases that interfere its absorption in the ileum as.

e.g. inflammatory bowel disease

characterized by :

1. Megaloblastic anaemia.
2. Neuropathy.

### **T**eam **N**ote:

**Megaloblastic anaemia.** → Means doesn't have DNA synthesis

**Neuropathy** → When having vit B 12 deficiency

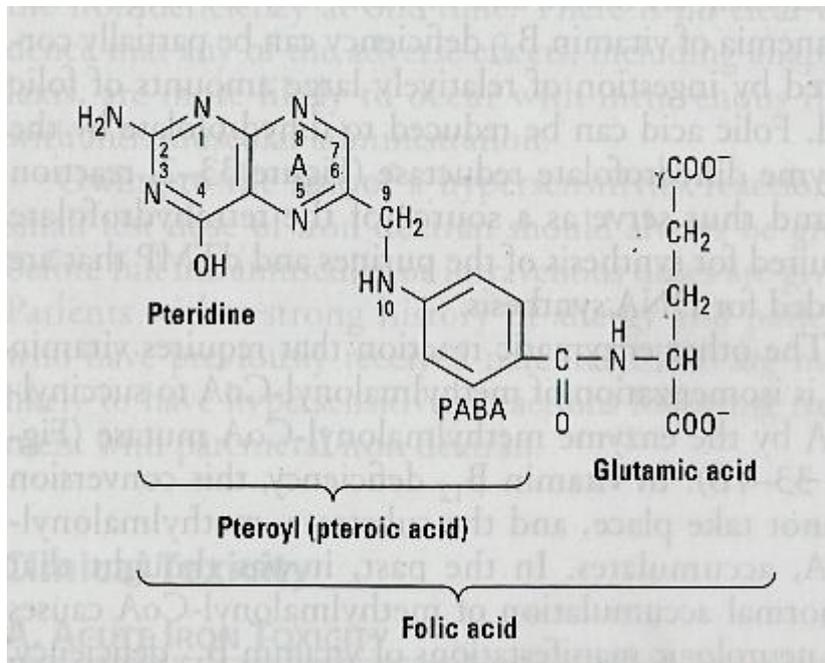
But when having the both problems he will have pernicious anemia

## Vitamin B12 (cobalamin)

Preparations available	mechanism	Function	USE
<p>1. Cyanocobalamin.</p> <p>2. Hydroxocobalamin (preferable).</p> <p>Hydroxocobalmin is more bound to plasma protein → ↑ t<sub>1/2</sub> longer half life</p>	<p>Vitamin B12 is not synthesized in human</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Should be supplied by dietary sources as eggs, dairy products &amp; liver.</li> <li>▪ Daily requirement 2 µg - 3 µg.</li> <li>▪ It is absorbed from GIT in presence of intrinsic factor. is a protein secreted by parietal cells of the stomach.</li> <li>▪ It may be absent in patients having pernicious anemia.</li> <li>▪ Full absorption of vitamin B12 requires intrinsic factor (gastric mucosa)+ receptors mediated transport system in ileum. It is stored mainly in the liver (3- 5 mg).</li> </ul>	<p>1. Conversion of homocysteine into methionine this is required in folic acid metabolism and DNA synthesis (necessary for red blood cells production).</p> <p>2. Conversion of methylmalonyl CoA to succinyl-CoA essential for lipid metabolism &amp; normal neuronal function of the brain.</p>	<p>Naturally occurring pernicious anemia occurs due to vitamin B 12 deficiency</p> <p>-Lack of intrinsic factor.</p> <p>-Diseases that interfere its absorption in the ileum as.</p> <p>e.g. inflammatory bowel disease</p> <p>characterized by :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Megaloblastic anaemia.</li> <li>2. Neuropathy.</li> </ol>

# Folic acid

## Chemistry



## Folic acid

### Sources

- Present as in green vegetables, liver, kidney & yeasts (methyl tetrahydrofolates ).
- Folic acid
- Daily requirement 100  $\mu\text{g}$ .

Kinetics  $\rightarrow$  Means how is it absorbed

#### In intestine:

- Folic acid or dietary folates are absorbed completely by active transport system.

**T**eam **N**ote:  
**Folate**  $\rightarrow$  as in food  
**Folic acid**  $\rightarrow$  as a drug

#### In cells:

Means removal

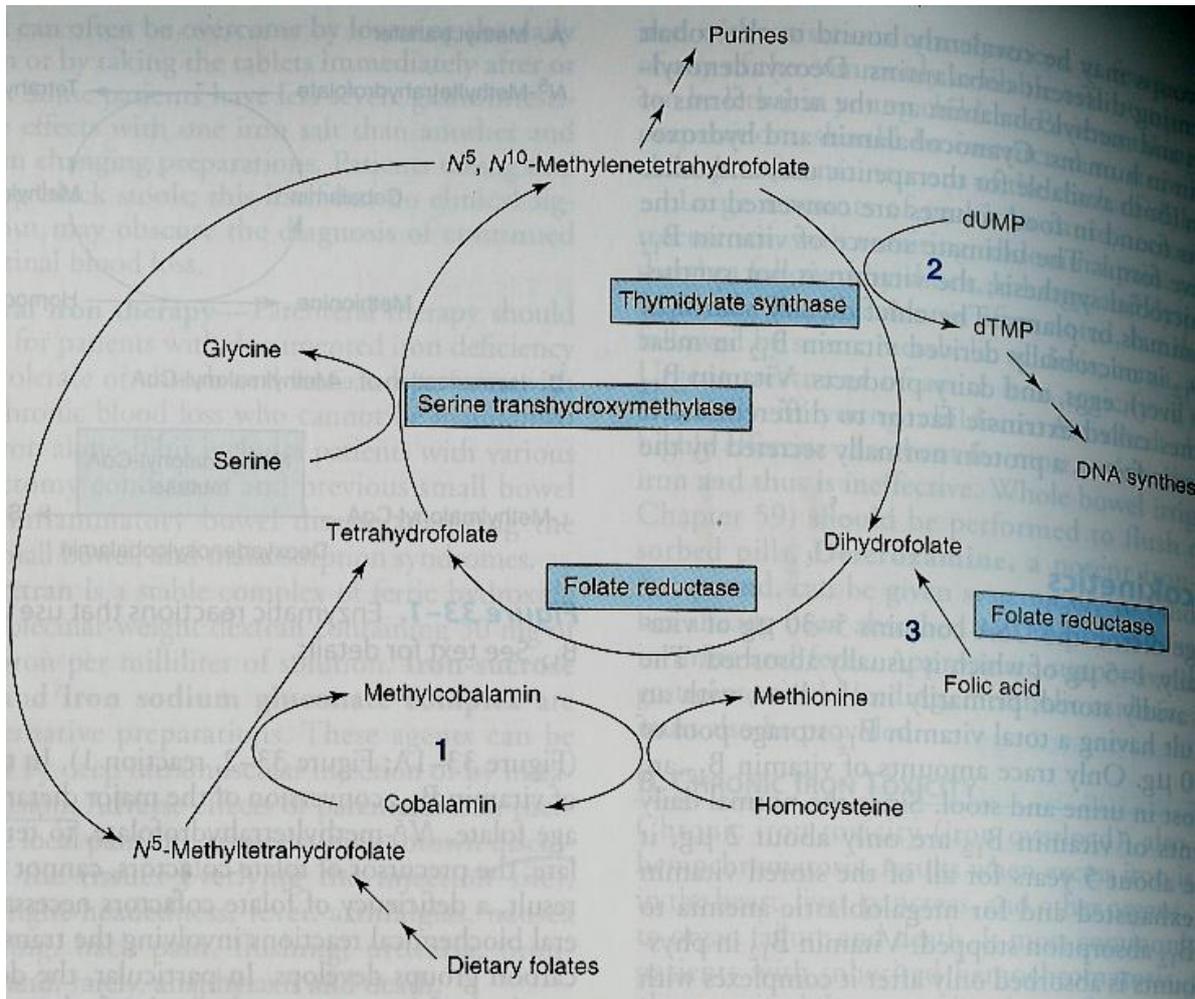
- Folic acid is reduced to dihydrofolate then tetrahydrofolate by dihydrofolate reductase enzyme.

Folic acid (drug)  $\rightarrow$  dihydrofolate  $\rightarrow$  tetrahydrofolate

Activated when combined with  
**polyglutamate**

- Folate is demethylated to tetrahydrofolate.

- Active form is *tetrahydrofolate polyglutamate*
- Vitamin B12 is required for activation of folic acid



## Functions

Folic acid is necessary for

1. Synthesis of purines & pyrimidines.
2. Amino acid metabolism

## Deficiency

### Causes

1. Poor diet (alcoholics is common).
2. Pregnancy (increases the risk of neural tube defect in the fetus).
3. Drugs (phenytoin, phenobarbitone).

4. Premature Infants.

↑ Enzyme inducer

5. Hemolytic Anaemia.

6. Folate antagonists

- Sulphonamides, methotrexate

## USES

1. Megaloblastic anaemia (folic acid deficiency).
2. Pregnancy *to avoid risk of neural tube defect in newborns*
3. During cytotoxic therapy (Methotrexate).

Preparations

Synthetic folic acid (tablets & parenteral).

Contraindications ← Can't take it instead of vit B12

Pernicious Anaemia (Vitamin B12 deficiency)

Folic acid can aggravates the neurological symptoms although blood picture may improve.

Erythropoietin (Epoetin)

### Team Note:

If the patient has renal failure & anemia we give him ERYTHROPIETIN

- A hematopoietic growth factor
- stimulate the proliferation and differentiation of erythrocyte precursors in the bone marrow.
- glycoprotein hormone released mainly from the kidney ( 90%; the remainder in the liver and other tissues ) in response to hypoxia.

### Team Note:

It's a hormone so we can't give it orally because it will be destructed by the acid in GIT

- Synthesized by (recombinant DNA technology).
- Subcutaneously (SC) or intravenously (i.v.).
- Plasma half life is 4 h.
- Given 3 times weekly

## USES

anaemia due to renal failure.

1. anaemia in HIV-infected patients.
2. anaemia in cancer patients.
3. Bone marrow depression

### Team Note:

In cancer or HIV the concentration of erythropoietin will decrease ,, so we give it to the patient as a medication

## Adverse Effects

1. hypertension.
2. Influenza-like syndrome.
3. Increased incidence of thrombosis.
4. Convulsions.
5. Allergic reactions.

## Summary

1. Microcytic hypochromic anemia

Iron orally

1. Megaloblastic anemia Folic acid orally
2. Pernicious anemia Vitamin B12 i.m.
3. Anemia due to renal failure or bone marrow failure erythropoietin s.c. or i.v.