

KING SAUD UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR, 3<sup>RD</sup> BLOCK

# Introduction to Antibiotics





RESPIRATORY BLOCK

#### **Definition of Antibiotics:**

Chemical substances produced by various microorganisms (bacteria, fungi,..) that have the capacity to inhibit or destroy other microorganisms.

Nowadays they are chemically synthesized.

They either:

- \*kill bacteria (bactericidal)
- \*or keep more bacteria from growing (bacteristatic).

Antibiotics will not cure infections caused by viruses.

Mechanism of action

Inhibition of cell wall synthesis: e.g. Penicillins

Inhibition of protein synthesis: e.g. Macrolides

Inhibition of nucleic acid synthesis: e.g.Quinolones.

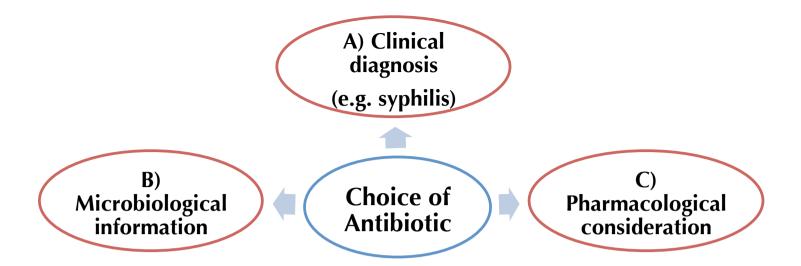
Classification of antibiotics according to

Spectrum of action

Narrow spectrum:

e.g. Penicillin G, Aminoglycosides

Broad spectrum: e.g. Ampicillin, Amoxicillin



	Advantages	Disadvantages	
	*know the exact antibiotic to be used.	*The bacteria isolated may not be the prime cause of the disease.	
B) Bacteriological informations	*Know the most effective and reject the one with little or no activity.  *Choose the least toxic.  *Choose the cheapest.	*Do not take in consideration site of infection.  *Some bacteria can't be cultivated or take time to grow (e.g. M.Leprae, M. Tuberculosis)  *Bacteriological services are not available at all hospitals.	

## 1. Site of infection

(can it cross the BBB or the Placental barrier if the infection is at these sites..)

2. Host factors

3. Drug Allergy

4. Potential Side Effects (Drug safety):

-Chloramphenicol (aplastic anaemia), -Fluoroquinolones in children & Pregnancy (tendon damage).

When there is a Deficiency of Glucouronyl-Transferase enzyme in neonates, it may result into toxicity with Chloramphenicol (Gray baby syndrome).

C)

**Pharmacological** 

consideration

(2<sup>nd</sup> phase of drugs' metabolism)

5. The cost of therapy

a) Immune system: e.g. Alcoholism, diabetes, HIV, malnutrition, advanced age

(higher than usual doses or longer courses are required ).

#### b) Genetic factors:

e.g. Patients with G-6-PD deficiency treated with Sulfonamides and Chloramphenicol

#### c) Pregnancy and Lactation:

(should avoid some drugs in these cases)

e.g. Aminoglycosides causes (hearing loss)

e.g. Tetracyclines: causes (bone deformity)

#### d) Age of the patient:

e.g. Chloramphenicol (Grey baby Syndrome)\*

#### e) Renal function:

e.g. Aminoglycosides (renal failure)

#### f)Liver function:

e.g. Erythromycin causes (hepatic failure)

#### g) Poor perfusion:

e.g. Lower limbs of diabetics have poor circulation

#### **BACTERIAL RESISTANCE:**

• One result of the widespread use of antibiotics has been the emergence of resistant pathogens that have been sensitive in the past.



• Not too brief therapy or too prolonged therapy (some exceptions, e.g. TB)
Note: Combination of antibiotics may be required to delay resistance (e.g. TB)

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF CHEMOTHERAPY: Administer drug in:



proper interval (e.g. every 8 hours..) and by the best route (do not prescribe drugs by parentral administration if taken more than once a day).

Note: continue antibiotic for about 3 days further to avoid <u>relapse</u> when apparent cure achieved.

\* Skipping doses may decrease effectiveness of antibiotic & increase the incidence of bacterial resistance.

- \* Two or more antimicrobials should not be used without good reasons, e.g.:
- Mixed bacterial (polymicrobial) infections.
- Desperately ill patient of unknown etiology "Idiopathic".
- To prevent emergence of resistance (e.g. TB) "That's why we use a multiple antibiotics in a case of TB".
- To achieve synergism "caused a significant effect when they applied in combination"

eg. Piperacillin + Gentamicin (P. aeruginosae)

## \* Disadvantages of multiple antibiotics

- Increased risk of sensitivity or toxicity.
- Increased risk of colonization with a resistant bacteria
- Possibility of antagonism
- Higher cost

- \* Note:
- In some infections bacteriological proof of cure is desirable (e.g. TB, UTI)
- Measurement of plasma conc. of antibiotics is seldom needed, <u>except</u>. Streptomycin in renal TB; I.M gentamicin.

#### **Indications for antibiotics prophylaxis**

#### Surgical prophylaxis:

- Bowel surgery.joint replacement.Some gynecological interventions to prevent postoperative.

#### Immunosuppressed Patients:

- Very old.
- Very young.- Diabetics.
- Anaemics.
- AIDS Patients.
- Cancer Patients.

#### Dental extractions:

- -Patients with total joint replacements.-Patients with cardiac
- abnormalities.

## MISUSES OF ANTIBIOTICS

**Treatment of** untreatable infections. (wrong diagnosis)

e.g. viral infections. **Improper** dosage.

Therapy of fever of unknown origin.

Presence of pus or necrotic tissues, or blood at the surgical site.

**Excessive** use of prophylactic antibiotics in travelers.

Lack of adequate bacteriological information.

## **SUMMARY**

\*Antibiotics: are chemical substances produced by various microorganisms that have the capacity to inhibit or destroy other microorganisms.

\*Antibiotics will not cure infections caused by viruses.

\*we can classify antibiotics according to:

1- Mechanism of action		2- Spectrum	
Inhibition of cell wall synthesis	e.g. Penicillin	Narrow spectrum	e.g.: penicillin G , aminoglycosides
Inhibition of protein synthesis	e.g. Macrolides	Broad spectrum ,	e.g.: ampicillin , amoxicillin
Inhibition of nucleic acid synthesis	e.g. Quinolones.		

<sup>\*</sup>To choice of antibiotics, we depend on:

- 1) Clinical diagnosis. (sometimes enough to choice antibiotics like case of Syphilis)
- 2) Microbiological information. (to choice the exact antibiotics, most effective, the least toxic and cheapest)
- 3) Pharmacological consideration.

\*Bacterial Resistance: no response to antibiotics, It happened when you use antibiotics frequently.

To prevent it: use antibiotics in absolute required, in adequate dosage for sufficient period of time.



## 1: Which one of the following acts by inhibition of nucleic acid synthesis:

A: Macrolides

**B**: Quinolones

C: Penicillins

D: A and C

## 2: Which one of the following is the Broad spectrum:

A: Ampicillin

**B**: Aminoglycosides

C: Amoxicillin

D: A and C

## 4: Which one of the following is not use to treat Pregnancy and Lactation:

A: Aminoglycosides

**B**: Sulfonamides

C: Tetracyclines

D: A and C

### 5: Which one of the following causes renal failure:

A: Erythromycin

**B**: Sulfonamides

C: Aminoglycosides

D: Penicillin

## 6: Which one of the following causes tendon damage for children Pregnancy:

A: Fluoroquinolones

**B**: Aminoglycosides

C: Tetracyclines

D: sulfonamides

## 7: Which one of the following acts by inhibition of cell wall synthesis:

A: Quinolones

**B**: Penicillins

C: Macrolides

D: A and C

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## We hope we made this lecture easier for you Contact us for any questions or comments Good Luck!

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