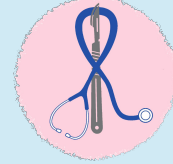




Revised & Reviewed
by
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MED441
KING SAUD UNIVERSITY

Mechanisms of Drug Action

Important

Main Text

Male slides

female slides

Extra information

Doctors notes

For any future corrections [Editing File](#)

If you didn't understand any part from this lecture [Click here](#)

Objectives

1

Identify different targets of drug action.

2

Differentiate between their patterns of action; agonism versus antagonism.

3

Elaborate on drug binding to receptors.





Pharmacodynamics:

Study of biochemical and physiological effects of drugs and their mechanism of action.

Drugs can produce their actions by the following mechanisms
(Pharmacodynamics)

Receptor-mediated mechanism

Receptors= Biomolecules
=Target
Target are protein in nature

Target

Carrier molecules - ion channel - Enzymes-
physiological receptors- structural proteins

Non
Receptor-mediated
mechanism

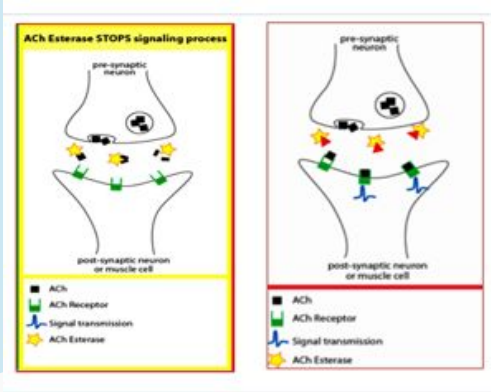
Physio-chemical properties
of drugs.

By Chemical action
E.g, Neutralization
of gastric acidity by
antacids.

By Physical action
E.g.
-Osmotic diuretics.
-Purgative effect of
MgSO₄ (treatment of
constipation)

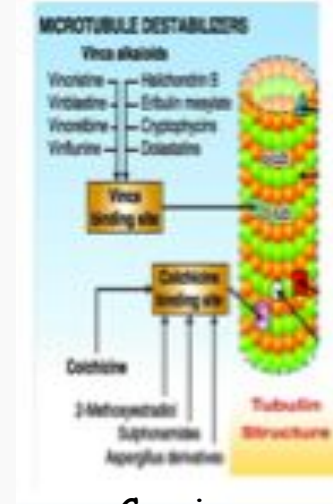
Protein	Structural	Tubulin is the target for drugs as anticancer drugs and antigout drugs and it is required for microtubules formation (cytoskeleton)	Target for	Vincristine : Anticancer drug that kills cancerous cells by Inhibiting microtubule formation and cell division. Colchicine : used in treatment of gout, it binds to tubulin and inhibits microtubule formation, preventing neutrophil motility and decreasing inflammation
	Regulatory	Receptor Is a special target macromolecule that binds the drug and mediates its pharmacological actions	located in	Cell membrane - Cytoplasm - Nucleus
Enzymes The drug competes with the natural endogenous substrate for the enzyme. E.g. Anticholinesterases inhibit acetylcholinesterase thus producing cholinomimetic action.		Reversibly	Neostigmine reversibly compete with ACH for acetylcholinesterase enzymes at motor end plate (neuromuscular junction)	
Ion Channels -Responsible for influx or outflux of ions through cell membranes -They are activated by alteration in action potential. -Drugs bind to alter channel function (opening or blockade).		Local anesthetics	Act by blocking (Na ⁺) influx through Na channels in nerve fibers (Na Channel Blockers)	
		Sulfonylurea drugs (Antidiabetic drugs)	Block potassium outflux via the K channel in pancreatic beta cells resulting in depolarization and opening of calcium channels and insulin secretion.	
Carrier Molecules -Responsible for transport of ions and small organic molecules between intracellular compartments, through cell membranes or in extracellular fluids. -Drugs bind to such molecules to alter their transport ability.		Digoxin	Blocks efflux of Na ⁺ via Na⁺/K⁺ pump (Na ⁺ / K ⁺ -ATPase) used in the treatment of heart failure more Na⁺ in the cytosol less export of Ca²⁺ stronger heart muscle contraction	
	Cocaine	-Blocks transport of reuptake of catecholamines mainly dopamine at synaptic cleft. -The dopamine transporter can't perform its reuptake function therefore dopamine accumulates in the synaptic cleft producing Euphoria		

Enzymes

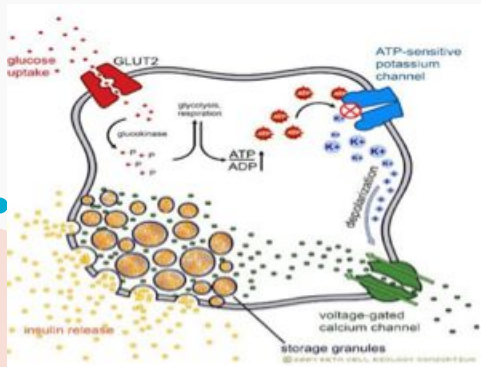


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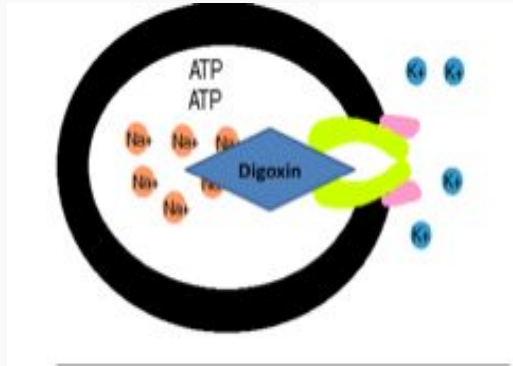
Structural proteins



Ion Channels

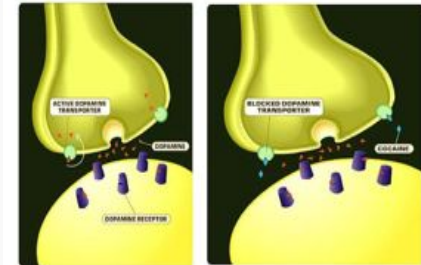


Carrier Molecules(Digoxin)



Carrier Molecules(Digoxin)

Effect of cocaine





binding Forces between drugs and receptors

Ionic bond - Van-Dar-Waal - Hydrogen bond
- Covalent bond (**the strongest**)

Antagonist

Is a drug that combines with the receptor without producing a response
(It blocks the action of agonist).

[e.g. Atropine]

Atropine block the action of Ach on muscarinic receptors.

It has a similar chemical structure to the Agonist

It has Affinity but No Efficacy or zero efficacy. (Blocks receptor)



Agonist

Definition: Is a drug that binds with a receptor and elicit a response.

It has Affinity and Efficacy

Ability of a drug to combine with the receptor.
[D + R → D-R complex → Effect]
[D= Drug , R= Receptor]

- Capacity of drug receptor complex to produce an action
- Is the maximal response produced by a drug (**E-Max**).

There are Two types:
01 Full Agonist

A drug that combines with its specific receptor to produce maximal effect by increasing its concentration (Affinity & High Efficacy).

e.g. Acetylcholine (ACH) acts upon muscarinic receptors

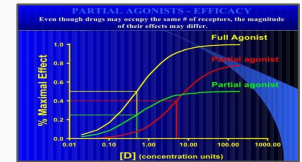


01

02 Partial Agonist

Combines with its receptor & evokes a response as a full agonist but produces submaximal effect regardless of concentration (Affinity & Partial efficacy). [e.g. Pindolol]

A beta blocker which is a partial agonist, produces less decrease in heart rate than pure antagonists such as propranolol. .
Even though the drugs may combine with the same number of receptors, the magnitude they can produce may differ



[Click Here for better understanding](#)
(Youtube video)

Found Only in Female Slides-

Affinity

Is the capacity of drug to form a complex with receptor (D-R complex)
[D= Drug , R= Reseptor]

Efficacy

(Intrinsic activity) The ability of the drug once bound to the receptor to trigger response

Full Agonist

Having a full affinity to the receptor and a maximal intrinsic activity (=1) [e.g. Acetylcholine]

Partial Agonist

Having a full affinity to the receptor but with low intrinsic activity (<1)
[e.g. Pindolol]

Antagonist

Having full affinity to the receptor but no intrinsic activity (0)
[e.g. Atropine]

The Value of intrinsic activity range from 0 to 1

Summary:

Drug

Mechanism of Action

Antacids

Neutralization of gastric acidity

Neostigmine (reversible
cholinesterase inhibitor)

competes with ACh for acetylcholinesterase enzyme
at motor end plate (neuromuscular junction).

Sulphonylurea (anti diabetic)

block K^+ efflux via the K channels in pancreatic
beta cells resulting in opening of calcium channels
and insulin secretion.

Digoxine (drug of heart failure)

blocks Na efflux via Na/K pump

Cocaine

blocks transport or reuptake of catecholamines
(dopamine) at synaptic cleft
causing euphoria

Vincristine

Anticancer agent

Colchicine

Drug for gout treatment

Pindolol (Beta blocker)

a partial agonist, produces less decrease in heart
rate than pure antagonists

Quiz

1. Efficacy = 1 when the drug is?

- A. Full agonist
- B. Antagonist
- C. Partial Agonist
- D. None

3. Tublin is good target for?

- A. anticancer drug
- B. antiseptic drug
- C. antigout drug
- D. both A&C

2. Receptors are?

- A. macromolecules
- B. micromolecules
- C. both
- D. none

4. Ability of a drug to combine with the receptor is?

- A. Affinity
- B. Efficacy
- C. Agonist

4 A

3 D

2 A

1 A

Thank you

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