

## Adrenergic drugs

# PharmPill team

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باقي الاعضاء:

ابويسرا

Blue eye

Dr.Cool



## Adrenergic drugs

### sympathetic nervous system

#### Outline :

- ⊖ origin : throacolumber
- ⊖ transmitter : norepinerphine
- ⊖ receptor : adrenergic
- ⊖ sympathomemtic drug
- ⊖ sympathetic antagonists

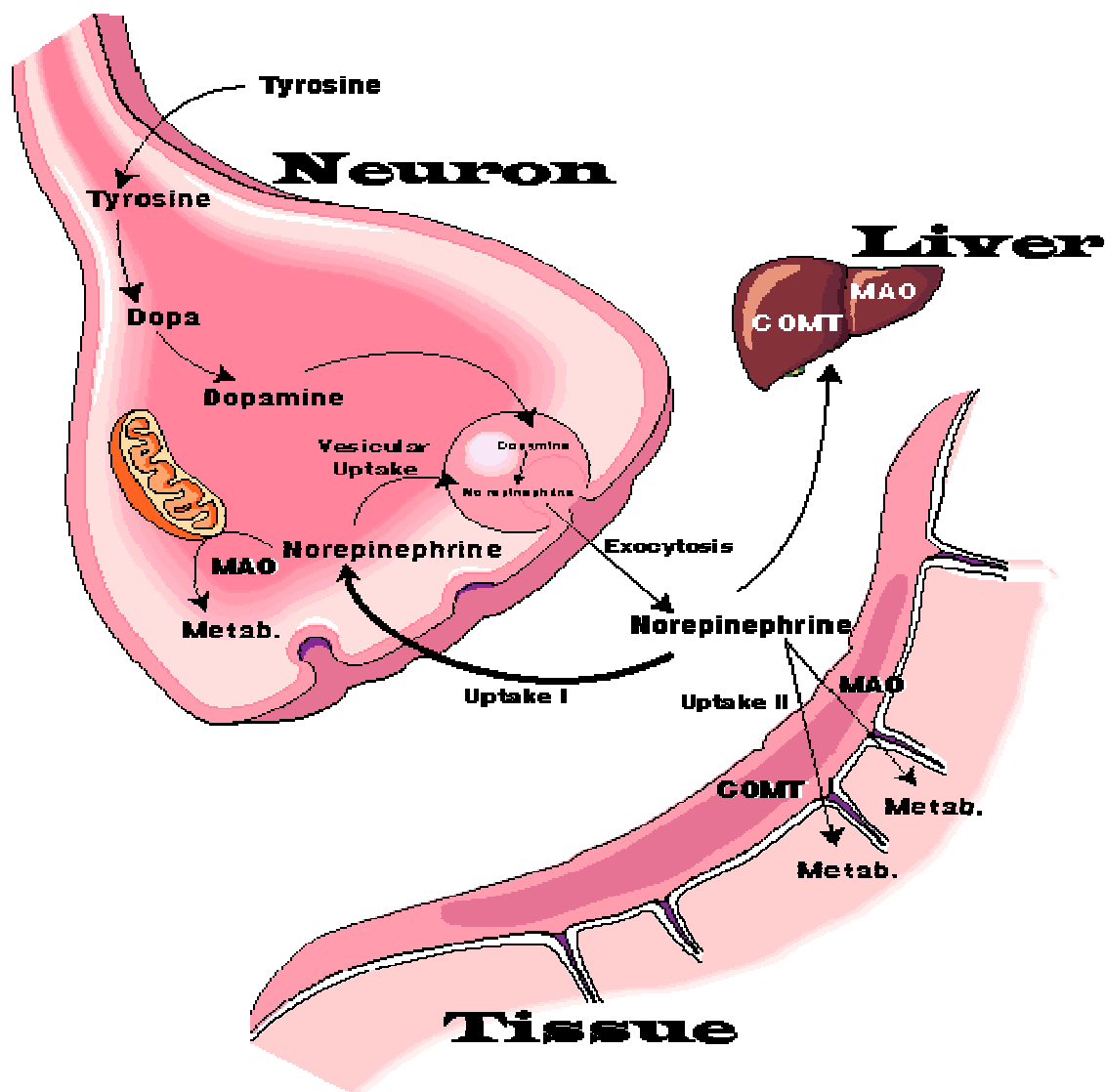
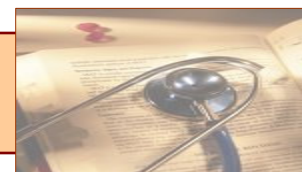
- The origin is from thoracolumbar segments “all thoracic + lumbers L1, L2, L3 and L4 ” .
- They have short preganglionic fibers, and it relays in sympathetic chain ganglia & release Ach in these ganglia .
- They have long postganglionic fibers that innervate their body organs & release Norepinephrine as a neurotransmitter there .

#### synthesis and release of neurotransmitter :

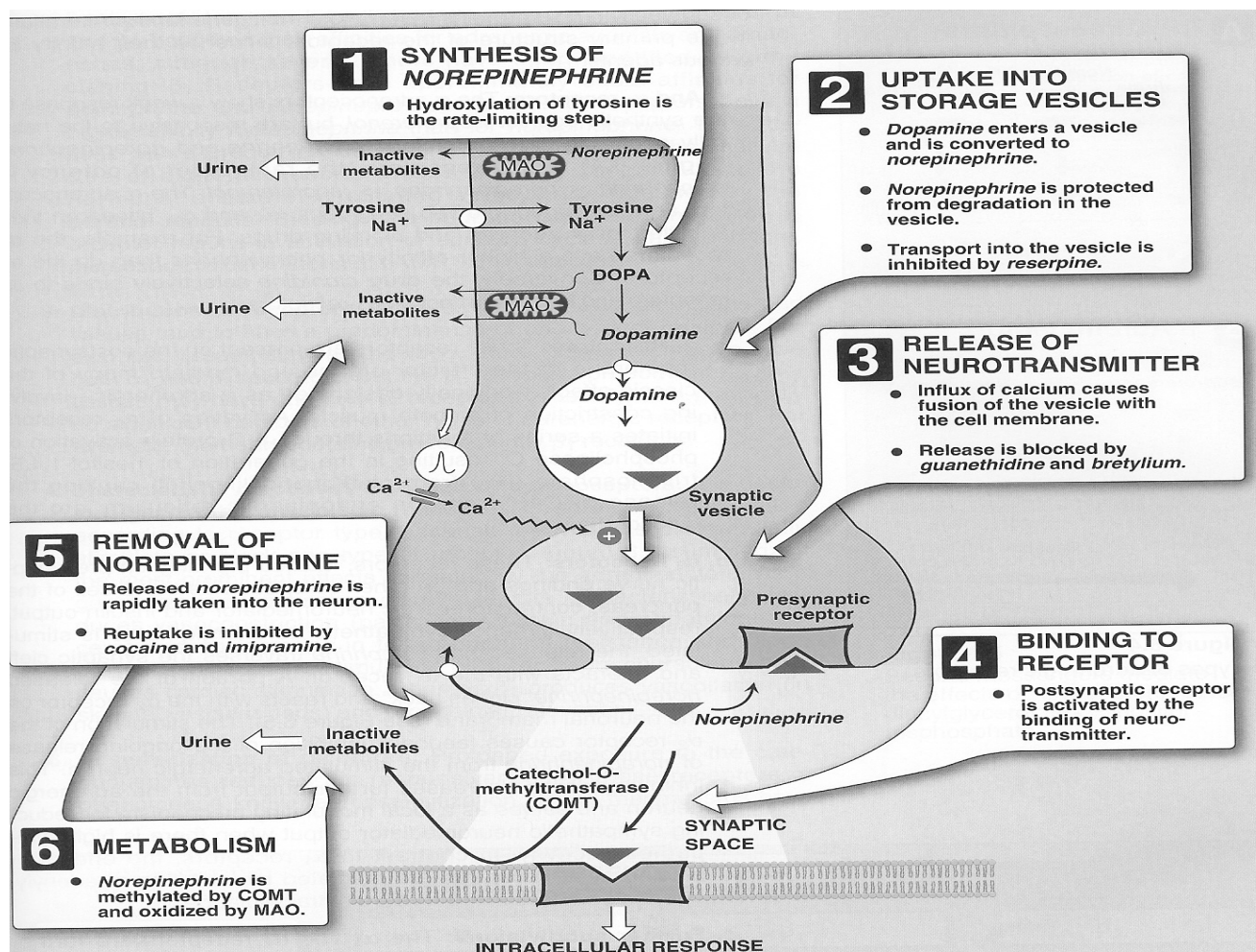
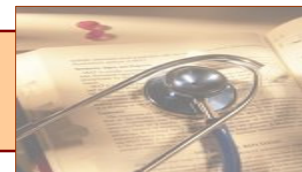
- Synthesis of NE .
- Storage of DA and NE in vesicles .
- Release of NE .
- Metabolism (COMT 20% + MAO 80%) .
- Binding to receptors .
- Uptake mechanism .

#### **Additional information about neurotransmitter at adrenergic neurons :**

- NE and E have more half-life than does the Ach Because the Ach Has more toxic effects on the body.
- Also, NE is protected from MAO in a transport vesicles to protect it from the intra-cellular degradation by MAO.
- Ach. Is never uptaken by the cells while NE may be uptaken.
- The idea behind epinephrin/ NE uptaking inhibitors ( e.g. imipramine ) is to maintain as much concentration Of NE/ E as possible in the nerve terminals casuing their hyper-activation and the subsequent alleviation of depression that is caused by decrease neurotransmitter.



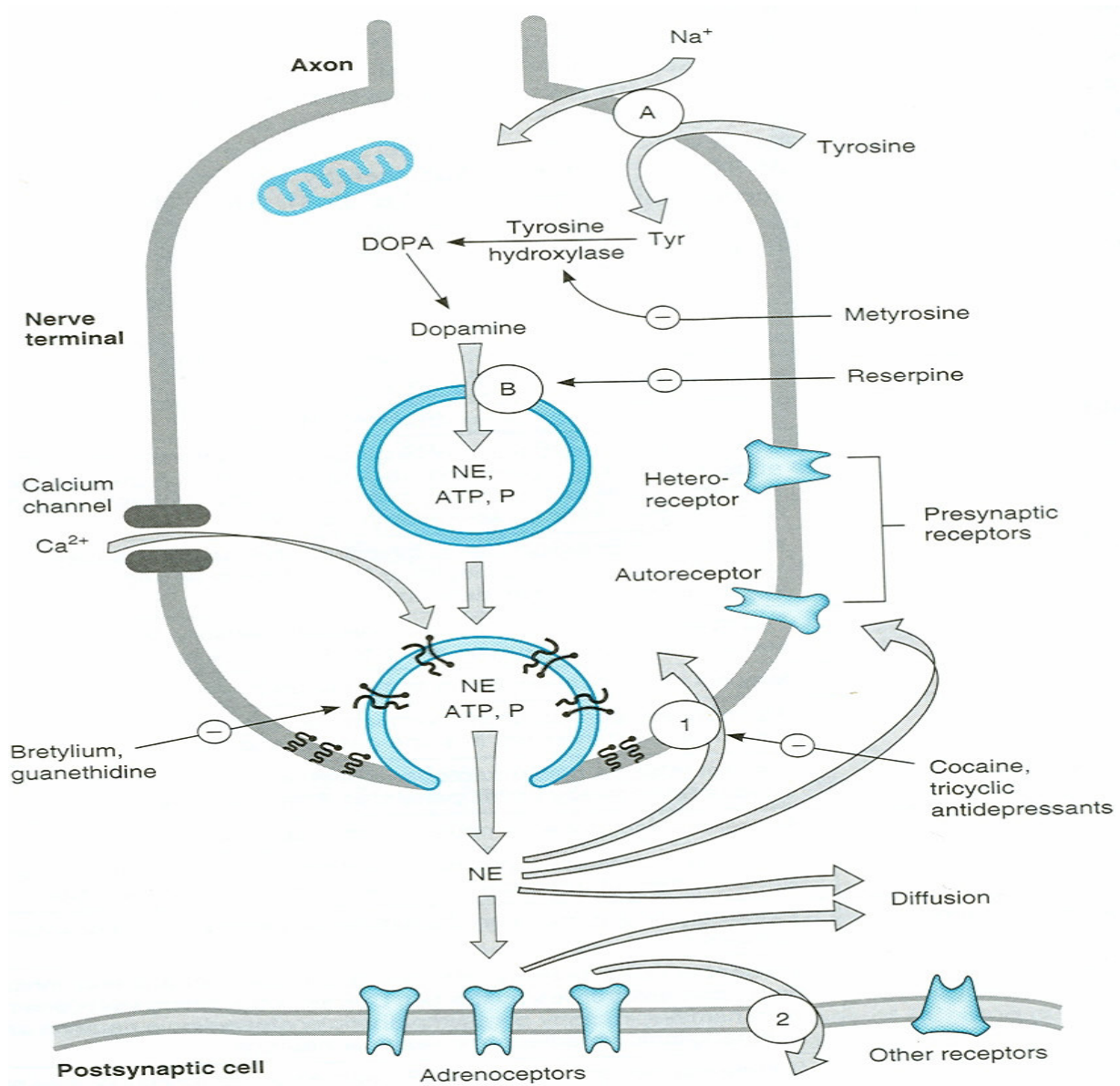
this figure I add it myself (0.o) . it will be benefit at the end of this chapter



■ **Note :**

» tyrosine enters the nerve accompanied by Na<sup>+</sup>. Inside the nerve, it is hydroxylated by tyrosine hydroxylase to become DOPA. We get the dopamine which is an intermediate product. By decarboxylation of DOPA, dopamine will enter the vesicles. If there is a stimulation → Ca<sup>2+</sup> ↑ and it will make exocytosis for the vesicles.

» for the fate of the norepinephrine: it will be inactivated or broken down by COMT and MAO, so if we want to treat a depressed person, we give them MAO inhibitors.



after these three pictures of adrenergic synthesis, I believed u will never forget it :p



## classification of adrenoceptors :

### • $\alpha$ -adrenoceptors

- subtype  $\rightarrow \alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$
- $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are further subdivided into A , B, C , and D
- important in treatment of disease ,e.g., tamsulosine is a selective  $\alpha_1A$  antagonist is used to treat benign prostate hypertrophy

#### ■ Note :

that  $\alpha_1$  work on most postsynaptic receptor ( on the effector organ ) ,whereas  $\alpha_2$  work mainly on presynaptic receptor , e.g.,  $\beta$  cell of langerhans

### • $\beta$ adrenoceptors

- subtype  $\rightarrow \beta_1, 2$  , and 3

#### ■ Note :

- $\beta_1 \rightarrow$  work mainly on the heart
- $\beta_2 \rightarrow$  work mainly on the non-vascular smooth muscle
- $\beta_3 \rightarrow$  work mainly on adipose tissue

*all adrenoceptors are G-protein coupled and work through second messengers*

- $\alpha_1$  adrenoceptors activate phospholipase C producing IP3 and DAG
- $\alpha_2$  adrenoceptor inhibit adenylate cyclase  $\rightarrow \downarrow$  cAMP
- $\beta$  adrenoceptor stimulate adenylate cyclase  $\rightarrow \uparrow$  intracellular cAMP

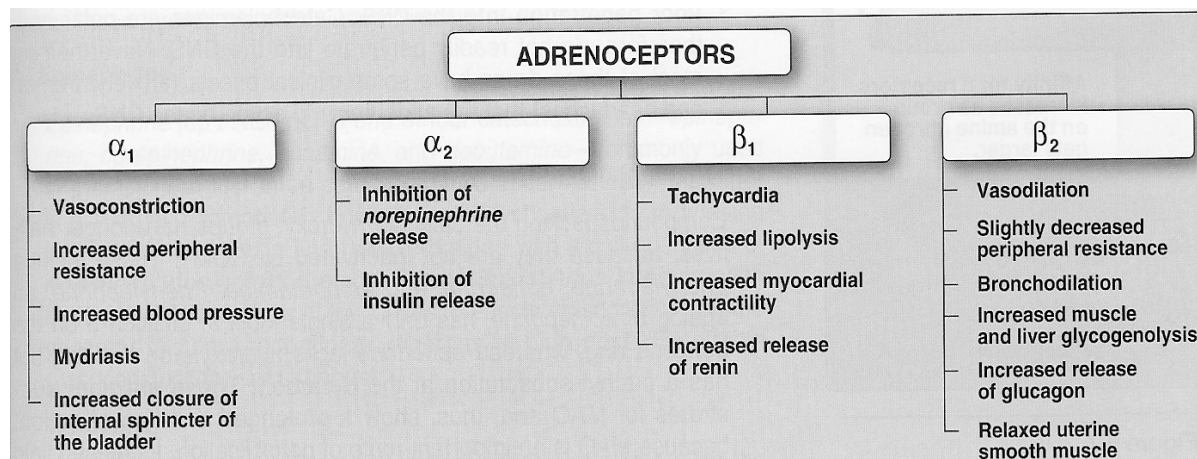
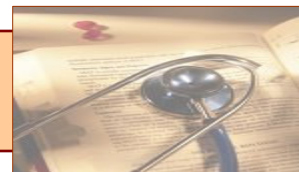
#### ■ Note :

- $\alpha_1$  ( the only one that activates Gq not Gi or Gs molecules )
- $\alpha_2$  ( only pre-synaptic receptor )
- $\beta_1$  ( has equal affinity for epinephrine & norepinephrine )
- $\beta_2$  ( has higher affinity for epinephrine than for nor epinephrine )

#### 🚦 Note :

- **Gs** : the stimulatory G protien of adenylyl cyclase .
- **Gi** : the inhibitory G protien of adenylyl cyclase .
- **Gq** : the protein coupling  $\alpha$  receptors to phospholipase C .





## distribution of adrenoceptor

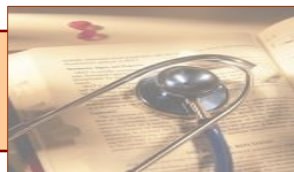
<u>TYPE</u>	<u>TISSUE</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
$\alpha_1$	Most vascular smooth muscle (innervated)	Contraction
	Pupillary dilator muscle	Contraction (dilates pupil)
	Pilomotor smooth muscle	Erect hair
	Prostate	Contraction
	Heart	Increase force of contraction
$\alpha_2$	Postsynaptic CNS adrenoceptor	Probably multiple
	Platelets	Aggregation
	Adrenergic & cholinergic nerve terminals	Inhibition of transmitter release
	Some vascular smooth muscle	Contraction
	Fat cells	Inhibition of lipolysis
$\beta_1$	Heart	Increase force & rate of contraction
$\beta_2$	Respiratory , uterine & vascular smooth muscle	Promotes smooth muscle relaxation
	Skeleton muscle	Promotes potassium uptake
	Human liver	Activates glycogenolysis
$\beta_3$	Fat cells	Activates lipolysis
$D_1$	Smooth muscle	Dilates renal blood vessels
$D_2$	Nerve ending	Modulates transmitter release



**Table 6–3.** Characteristics of some important adrenoceptors in the ANS.

Receptor	Location	G Protein	Second Messenger	Major Functions
$\alpha_1$	Effector tissues: smooth muscle, glands	$G_q$	$\uparrow IP_3$ , DAG	$\uparrow Ca^{2+}$ , causes contraction, secretion
$\alpha_2$	Nerve endings, some smooth muscle	$G_i$	$\downarrow cAMP$	$\downarrow$ Transmitter release, causes contraction
$\beta_1$	Cardiac muscle, juxtaglomerular apparatus	$G_s$	$\uparrow cAMP$	$\uparrow$ Heart rate, $\uparrow$ force; $\uparrow$ renin release
$\beta_2$	Smooth muscle, cardiac muscle	$G_s$	$\uparrow cAMP$	Relax smooth muscle; $\uparrow$ glycogenolysis; $\uparrow$ heart rate, force
$\beta_3$	Adipose cells	$G_s$	$\uparrow cAMP$	$\uparrow$ Lipolysis
$D_1$	Smooth muscle	$G_s$	$\uparrow cAMP$	Relax renal vascular smooth muscle





## Desensitization of Receptors:

- Prolong exposure to catecholamines reduces the responsiveness of these receptor.
- mechanisms :
  - 1- **sequestration** of the receptors ( so, unavailable for interaction with transmitter ).
  - 2- **Down regulation** of the receptors (disappearance of the receptor either by destruction or decrease synthesis).
  - 3- Inability to couple G-protein (because the receptors have been **phosphorylated** on the cytoplasmic side by either protein kinase or  $\beta$ -adrenoceptor kinase ).

## Classification of Adrenergic Agonist:

### ⊖ according to the chemical structure :

#### A -Catecholamines:

- ❖ Contain 3,4 dihydroxybenzene group (catechol ring) . Such as:  
Epinephrine, norepinephrine, isoproterenol, dopamine.

#### Its properties :

- i- high potency on  $\alpha$  , and  $\beta$  receptor
- ii- rapid inactivation not only by COMT postsynaptic and by MAO intraneuronal, but also **inactivated within other tissue as in liver and gut wall .**
- iii- brief period of action
- iv- poor penetration into CNS

#### ■ **Note :**

#### *These compounds share the following properties:*

- 1- High potency drugs .
- 2- rapid in onset and have short duration of action because they are degraded by COMT and MAO
- 3- not effective orally because they are degraded by COMT in the gut.
- 4- Poor penetration in the CNS as they are polar.



## *B-Non-catecholamine:*

- ❖ more specific, include: phenylephrine, epinephrine, amphetamine.
- ❖ They are compound lacking OH group.
- ❖ Have longer  $t_{1/2}$  ( half-life) , so given orally .
- ❖ Not inactivated by COMT and poor substrate for MAO.
- ❖ Lipophilic drug so better cross BBB.

## ⊕ according to the mechanism of action :

### *1- Direct acting: -MCQ-*

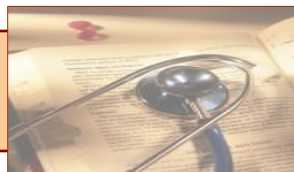
- e.g.: epinephrine, nor-epinephrine, isoproterenol, phenylephrine.
- Acts direct on  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  receptors.

### *2- Indirect acting agonists:*

- e.g.: amphetamine + tyramine.
- They are taken up into presynaptic neuron and cause release of norepinephrine from the cytoplasmic pools or vesicles of adrenergic neuron.

### *3- mixed action agonists:*

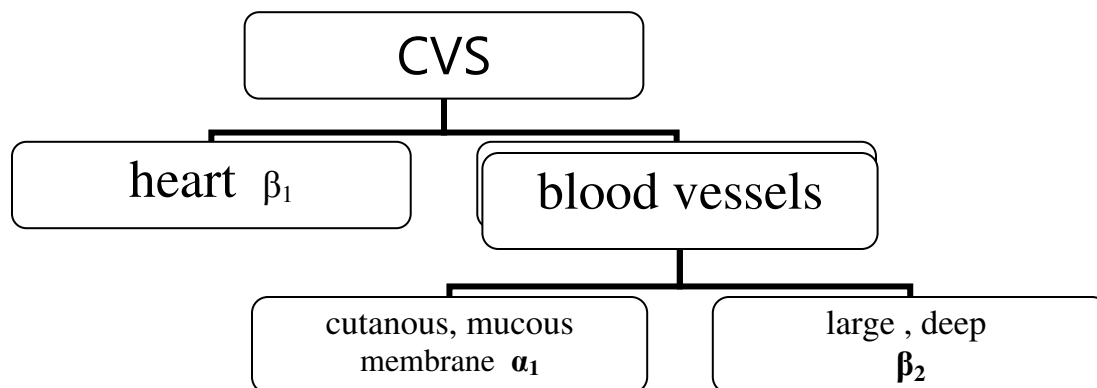
- e.g.: ephedrine, metaraminol.
- Have capacity of both:
  - 1- direct acting.
  - 2- Indirect acting.



## pharmacological actions of sympathomimetic drugs in general :

### ♣ On CVS :

we divided the cardiovascular system into : heart , and blood vessels



- $\beta_1$  ( heart) : positive inotropic (  $\uparrow$  myocardium contraction ),  
positive chronotropic (  $\uparrow$  heart rate ),  
 $\uparrow$  cardiac output,  
 $\uparrow$   $O_2$  demands ( needs) on the myocardium.
- $\beta_2$  : vasodilation on blood vessels in liver and skeletal muscle  
 $\downarrow$  in renal blood flow  
 $\uparrow$  diastolic pressure
- $\alpha_1$  : vasoconstriction of blood vessels in the skin and mucous membrane  
 $\uparrow$  in systolic blood pressure,  
with slight  $\downarrow$  in diastolic pressure

▣ **Note :** There are little or no parasympathetics innervating the vasculature

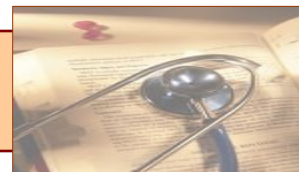
### ♣ On eye :

- $\alpha_1$ -adrenoceptors activate radial papillary muscle  $\rightarrow$  mydriasis
- in open angle glaucoma  $\downarrow$  production of aqueous humor by vasoconstriction of the ciliary body blood vessels (  $\beta$  antagonist ) and  $\alpha$  agonist will  $\uparrow$  the outflow of aqueous humor from the eye.

#### ▣ **Note :**

$\alpha$  stimulant ( agonist )  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$  outflow of the aqueous humor  
 $\beta$  antagonist  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  production of aqueous humor

to treat open angle  
glaucoma, not narrow  
angle glaucoma



## Refresh your memory :

- ❖ Ach. Activates circular muscles of ciliary muscle and causes miosis ( constriction of the pupil and flattening of the lens ) and opening the canal of schlem, therefore stimulating the flow of Aqueous humor through the channel and decreasing the intra-ocular pressure.
- ❖ Sympathetic effects through  $\alpha_1$  receptors is exactly the opposite to the previous statements.

## ♣ On respiratory tract :

- $\beta_2$  receptor potent bronchodilator
- $\alpha_1$  receptor ( remember we said before that  $\alpha_1$  works on the effector organs; postsynaptic tissue ) causes vasoconstriction of blood vessels of the upper respiratory tract.
- mucosa → decongestion

### ■ Note :

» nasal congestion due to vasodilation of mucosal blood vessels which causes oedema and will close the nose .so if we give the patient **Decongestants** like sympathomimetics, which exert their effect by vasoconstriction of the mucosal blood vessels. Thus reducing the oedema of the nasal mucosa.

» put in your mind that some sympathomimetics can rebound the congestion.

- $\alpha_1$  – adrenoreceptor are the most determine of arteriolar tone. When their stimulated no others receptors have an affects on BP. So, hypertension may be treated by blocking  $\alpha_1$  .
- Vasoconstriction in the nasal blood vessels cause relief congestion
- So agonists to  $\alpha_1$  receptors may decongest the nose but will have the hypertension as a side effect.





### ♣ On GIT :

relaxation of GIT smooth muscle through  $\alpha_2$  and  $\beta_2$  stimulant agents ( remember we said before that  $\beta_2$  works on non-vascular smooth muscles ).

### ♣ On exocrine glands :

regulate secretion of amylase and  $H_2O$  from salivary gland, and  $\uparrow$  sweat production from sweat glands

### ♣ On metabolic processes :

mainly on  $\alpha_2$  and  $\beta_2$

hyperglycemia due to  $\uparrow$  glycogenolysis in the liver and muscle ( $\beta_2$ )

$\uparrow$  release of glucagons ( $\beta_2$  effect)

$\downarrow$  insulin ( $\alpha_2$  effect )

lipolysis ( $\beta_2$  receptor of adipose tissue )

$\uparrow$  free fatty acid and glycerol in the blood

inhibit the production of leptin by adipose tissue through  $\beta_3$  (important in treatment of obesity )

$\beta_2$  enhance up take of potassium  $K^+$  into cells  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  extracellular potassium (protect against rise in potassium level during stress or exercise ).

### ♣ On uterine smooth muscle :

delay premature labour through relaxing uterine smooth muscles ( $\beta_2$ )



## ♣ On genitourinary system :

$\alpha_1$  receptor stimulate smooth muscles proliferation in various tissue ,e.g., blood vessels, and prostate.

### ■ Note :

if we over stimulate  $\alpha_1A$ , which is an adrenoceptor found in prostate . it will cause prostatic tumor ( hypertrophy ). the tumor will close the urethra cause urinary retention .

- So  $\alpha_1$  antagonists may be used to treat the urinary incontinence.

renin secretion is stimulated by  $\beta_1$  and inhibited by  $\alpha_2$  receptors.

### ■ Note :

remember that renin causes hypertension by vasoconstriction of blood vessels . So, if we want to treat the hypertension we give the patient  $\beta$  blockers.

## ♣ In the seminal vesicles: (with $\alpha_2$ )

$\alpha$  stimulation cause ejaculation. Thus, all  $\alpha$  blockers inhibit ejaculation  
That's why depressed people ( low sympathetic activity) will have low sex drive.

## ♣ skeletal muscle :

improve rate and force of contraction

clenbuteral is an anabolic drug used by sport's men to improve their performance ( $\beta_2$  agonist )



### ♣ CNS :

indirect catecholamines have a prominent effect :

alerting, improved attention, insomnia, euphoria, anxiety, tremors, anorexia.

**Insomnia**, is a sleeping disorder characterized by the inability to fall asleep and/or the inability to remain asleep for a reasonable amount of time.

**Euphoria** (emotion), a state of very intense happiness and feelings of well-being.

**Anorexia**, an eating disorder in which people do not eat correctly due to the obsessive fear of weight gain

**Anxiety**, is a normal reaction to stress. It helps one deal with a tense situation in the office, study harder for an exam, keep focused on an important speech

that was as general pharmacological actions of sympathomimetic drugs

**to be continued →**