

**2024 ACMT**  
**Board Review Course**  
**Interactive Cram Session #4**  
**July 26, 2024**



**ACMT**

American College  
of Medical Toxicology

# Interactive Cram Session

Today's goal is to be **interactive**, **engaging**, and **educational**:

Introductions

5-min “Key Takeaways”

Q&A with Speakers

Pop Quiz

Today's session is being recorded and will be accessible on-demand.

# DISCLAIMER

According to ABEM policy, the planning committee and faculty for this course are not allowed to have intimate knowledge of the exam or write exam questions. The content of this course is based on the expertise of ACMT members, who are specialists in Medical Toxicology.

We do not have direct knowledge of the exam content. ABEM test question writers are prohibited from participating in any board review or preparatory course. The study materials, including the Quiz Bank and pop quiz questions, are based on years of collective experience from the Board Review Course committee, but we do not guarantee that these questions fully represent the exam content.

# CRAM SESSION TOPICS | FRI. JULY 26, 2024

Classic Toxicology

Antipsychotics

Psychotropics

Endocrine

Herbals, Vitamins & Supplements



# POP QUIZ

**10 Qs randomly selected from Quiz Bank**

**Take 2 minutes to answer all the questions.  
Give it your best guess and then we'll  
discuss the answers!**

# Question 1

**A 17-year-old female presents in status epilepticus after an acute isoniazid overdose. What is the antidote's mechanism of action?**

- A. Blockage of sodium channels
- B. Facilitating the removal of the offending agent from hemoglobin
- C. Removal of the toxin from acetylcholinesterase
- D. Replenishment of the cofactor for glutamic acid decarboxylase
- E. Stimulation of a Gs protein that will cause the phosphorylation of Protein kinase A

# Question 1 - Answer

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- C. Removal of the toxin from acetylcholinesterase
- D. **Replenishment of the cofactor for glutamic acid decarboxylase**
- E. Stimulation of a Gs protein that will cause the phosphorylation of Protein kinase A

**EXPLANATION:** Isoniazid (INH) creates a functional deficiency of pyridoxine. Hydrazines such as INH inhibit pyridoxine phosphokinase and increases renal excretion of pyridoxine. This leads to inhibition of glutamic acid decarboxylase, the enzyme which converts glutamic acid to GABA. Without endogenous GABA, benzodiazepines will be ineffective in terminating convulsions; therefore, these patients should be treated with pyridoxine. Glucagon stimulates a Gs protein activating PKA and increases cardiac myocyte calcium influx and release from the sarcoplasmic reticulum. Hydroxocobalamin removes cyanide from hemoglobin to make cyanocobalamin (vitamin B12). Pralidoxime removes organophosphates that have not yet been hydrolyzed from acetylcholinesterase. Phenytoin blocks sodium channels and is effective in treating seizures due to 4-aminopyridine (Avitrol).

## Question 2

**Patient presents after an acute ingestion of phenibut and is comatose upon arrival to the ED. What is the mechanism of action for this medication?**

- A. GABA<sub>A</sub> agonist
- B. GABA<sub>B</sub> agonist
- C. Glycine agonist
- D. NDMA antagonist

## Question 2 - Answer

**Patient presents after an acute ingestion of phenibut and is comatose upon arrival to the ED. What is the mechanism of action for this medication?**

- A. GABA<sub>A</sub> agonist
- B. GABA<sub>B</sub> agonist**
- C. Glycine agonist
- D. NDMA antagonist

**EXPLANATION:** Similar to GBH and baclofen, phenibut is a GABA<sub>B</sub> agonist and can present similar to the others with this mechanism of action. Phenibut was developed in the Soviet Union in the 1960s, and used there as a pharmaceutical drug to treat post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, insomnia, alcoholism, stuttering, and vestibular disorders, and other conditions. In the rest of the world, phenibut is not approved for clinical use, and is instead sold as a nutritional supplement. Withdrawal from this product can be severe and life threatening after chronic use.



# Question 3

**Which of the following antipsychotics is the most cardiotoxic in an overdose?**

- A. Fluphenazine
- B. Haloperidol
- C. Loxapine
- D. Thioridazine
- E. Thiothixine

# Question 3 - Answer

**Which of the following antipsychotics is the most cardiotoxic in an overdose?**

- A. Fluphenazine
- B. Haloperidol
- C. Loxapine
- D. Thioridazine**
- E. Thiothixine

**EXPLANATION:** Thioridazine is the most cardiotoxic. It has a higher association with QT prolongation than most of the other antipsychotics. Loxapine is most likely to result in seizures.

# Question 4

**What is the most commonly described ECG abnormality in patients on chronic lithium therapy?**

- A. Bidirectional VT pattern
- B. Inverted T wave pattern
- C. Peaked T wave pattern
- D. Prolonged QTc interval
- E. Widened QRS complex

# Question 4 - Answer

**What is the most commonly described ECG abnormality in patients on chronic lithium therapy?**

A. Bidirectional VT pattern

**B. Inverted T wave pattern**

C. Peaked T wave pattern

D. Prolonged QTc interval

E. Widened QRS complex

**EXPLANATION:** Patients chronically on lithium will often have inverted T waves. The most common agents on the toxicology differential for a widened QRS complex would be TCAs, class IA antiarrhythmics, diphenhydramine, chloroquine, older phenothiazines such as thioridazine, cocaine and propoxyphene. A prolonged QTc interval can be seen with cisapride, amiodarone, terfenadine, arsenic, and the antipsychotics. Peaked T waves suggest hyperkalemia and bidirectional VT can be seen in cardiac glycoside poisoning.

# Question 5

**Acute overdoses of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) antidepressant medications happen most often in which of the following?**

- A. Cardiac dysrhythmias
- B. CNS depression and tachycardia
- C. Hallucinations and delirium
- D. Profound hyperthermia and rigidity
- E. Seizures



# Question 5 - Answer

**Acute overdoses of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) antidepressant medications happen most often in which of the following?**

A. Cardiac dysrhythmias

**B. CNS depression and tachycardia**

C. Hallucinations and delirium

D. Profound hyperthermia and rigidity

E. Seizures

**EXPLANATION:** Patients with acute exposures to SSRI medications typically do well with CNS depression and tachycardia being the most common symptoms encountered. Cardiac dysrhythmias, seizures, and hallucinations and delirium are not routinely seen in acute overdose. Hyperthermia and rigidity may be seen as a part of the serotonin syndrome but true serotonin syndrome is seen in ~15% of isolated SSRI overdoses.

# Question 6 - Answer

**A 2-year-old presents to the ED with a dystonic reaction. GCMS was performed. Which of the following medications is most likely responsible?**

- A. Carbamazepine
- B. Dextromethorphan
- C. Lamotrigine
- D. Phenytoin
- E. Valproic acid

# Question 6 - Answer

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**A. Carbamazepine**

B. Dextromethorphan

C. Lamotrigine

D. Phenytoin

E. Valproic acid

**EXPLANATION:** Carbamazepine is structurally similar to TCAs and, in the pediatric population, has a higher incidence of choreoathetosis, seizures, and dystonias.

# Question 7 - Answer

**Which antidiabetic medication was withdrawn by the manufacturer secondary to hepatic toxicity in the US in 2000?**

- A. Miglitol
- B. Repaglinide
- C. Sitagliptin
- D. Troglitazone

# Question 7 - Answer

**Which antidiabetic medication was withdrawn by the manufacturer secondary to hepatic toxicity in the US in 2000?**

- A. Miglitol
- B. Repaglinide
- C. Sitagliptin
- D. **Troglitazone**

**EXPLANATION:** The FDA directed the manufacturer of Troglitazone to withdraw the drug in 2000 because of associated liver toxicity.



# Question 8

**Which of the following agents will most likely result in euglycemia after an overdose?**

- A. Glipizide
- B. Glyburide
- C. Metformin
- D. Repaglinide
- E. Unripe *Bilghia sapida*

# Question 8 - Answer

**Which of the following agents will most likely result in euglycemia after an overdose?**

- A. Glipizide
- B. Glyburide
- C. Metformin**
- D. Repaglinide
- E. Unripe Bilghia sapida

**EXPLANATION:** Glipizide and glyburide (in addition to insulin) are considered “hypoglycemic agents” and regularly result in hypoglycemia after overdose. Sulfonylureas act to promote insulin release from pancreatic beta cells. Unripe Bilghia sapida (Ackee fruit) causes hypoglycemia via “Hypoglycin A” which inhibits gluconeogenesis. It is also the agent responsible for Jamaican Vomiting Sickness. Repaglinide (Prandin) is considered a Meglitinide which binds to its own receptor on beta cells and promote insulin secretion. Metformin (glucophage) is a Biguanide agent that does not regularly result in hypoglycemia in overdose. It is considered an “antihyperglycemic” agent that may result in severe acidemia and elevated lactate levels in poisoning.

# Question 9

**Kava (*Piper methysticum*) hepatotoxicity is best described as:**

- A. Idiosyncratic
- B. Ito cell necrosis with Vitamin A deficiency
- C. Kava is associated with renal disease, liver disease is not reported
- D. Portal vein thrombosis
- E. Veno-occlusive disease

# Question 9 - Answer

**Kava (*Piper methysticum*) hepatotoxicity is best described as:**

**A. Idiosyncratic** —————→

B. Ito cell necrosis with Vitamin A deficiency

C. Kava is associated with renal disease, liver disease is not reported

D. Portal vein thrombosis

E. Veno-occlusive disease

**EXPLANATION:** Kava hepatic toxicity is rare and idiosyncratic. It does not appear to be dose-related but overdose, prolonged treatment, and comedication with synthetic drugs and dietary supplements have been associated. (Kava hepatotoxicity--a clinical review Ann Hepatol. 2010 Jul-Sep;9(3):251-65). Both hepatocellular necrosis and cholestatic hepatic injury have been described.

# Question 10

**Vitamin K1 is the antidote for which of the following group of plants:**

- A. *Aesculus* spp (horse chestnut)
- B. *Angelica polymorpha* (Dong quai)
- C. *Echinacea purpurea* (Coneflower)
- D. *Lathyrus sativus* (grass pea)
- E. *Nepeta cataria* (catwort)



# Question 10 - Answer

**Vitamin K1 is the antidote for which of the following group of plants:**

A. Aesculus spp (horse chestnut)

B. **Angelica polymorpha (Dong quai)** —————→

C. Echinacea purpurea (Coneflower)

D. Lathyrus sativus (grass pea)

E. Nepeta cataria (catwort)

**EXPLANATION:** Dong Quai, Angelica polymorpha, has anticoagulant effects and is used as a blood purifier and to improve circulation as well as for menstrual disorders.

# FEEDBACK SURVEY

Before you leave, please fill out the feedback survey.

**This survey should appear in your browser when the meeting ends.**

Let us know how we can improve the next interactive cram session!

# COMING UP!

**Interactive Cram Session #5**  
**August 9, 2024**



# ACMT

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# CRAM SESSION TOPICS | FRI. AUG 9, 2024

Inhalational Toxins & Asphyxiants

Carcinogenesis

Reproductive & Developmental Toxicology

Epidemiology & Population Health

Statistical Measures

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# ACMT BOARD REVIEW COURSE

## Antipsychotics / Psychotropics Cram Session

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Professor of Psychiatry & Emergency Medicine

Dalhousie University, University of Minnesota & Penn State College of Medicine

Consultation - Liaison Psychiatry, Addiction Medicine, & Medical Toxicology

Mental Health & Addictions Co-Occurring Disorders Program Lead, Nova Scotia Health

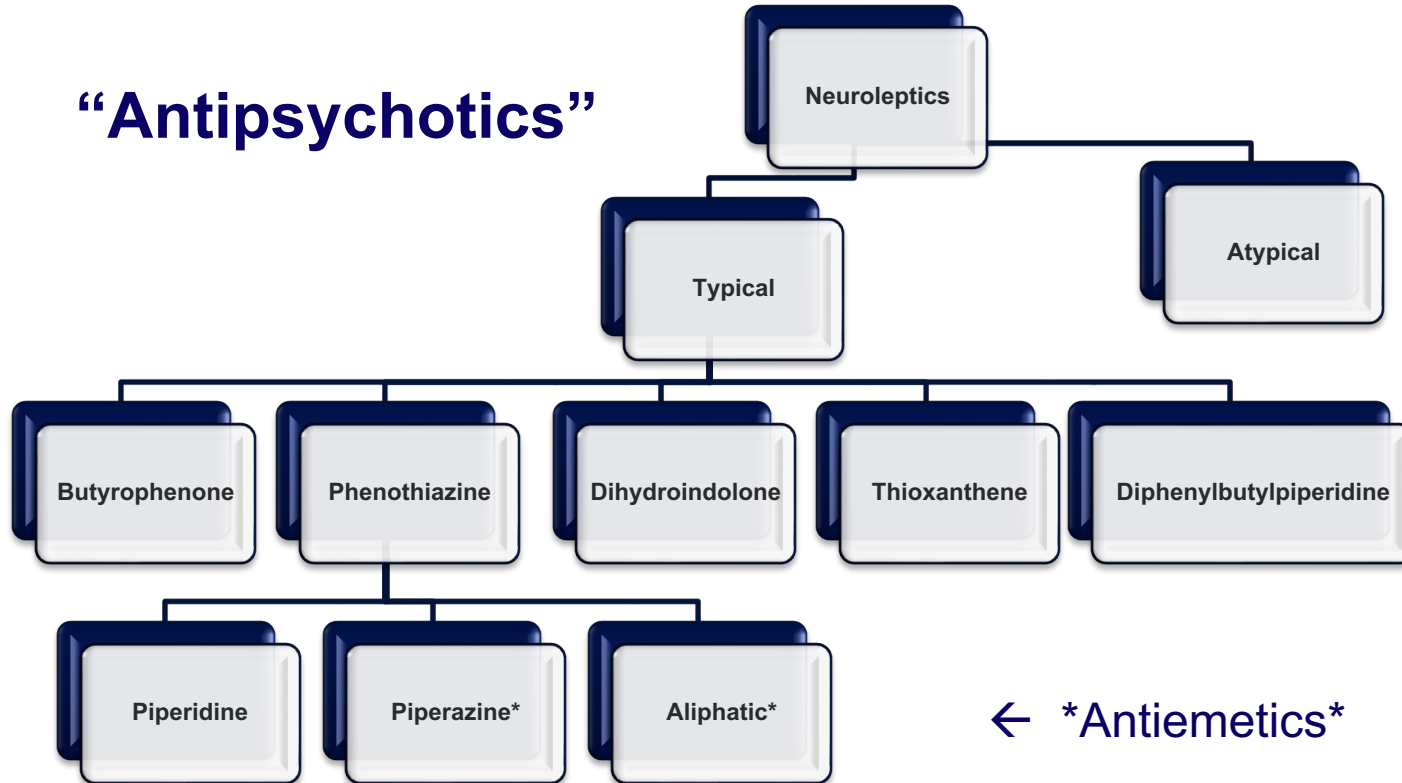


# ANTIPSYCHOTICS

- Typical antipsychotics (FGAs)
  - D<sub>2</sub> antagonists
  - Alpha antagonists
- Atypical antipsychotics (SGAs)
  - Preferential binding to 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> over D<sub>2</sub> → less EPS
  - Mixed DA receptor affinities (D<sub>1</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>4</sub> etc.)
  - Perhaps more selective for limbic vs. EP sites
  - Mixed affinity for DA, 5-HT,  $\alpha$ ,...

# DOPAMINE ANTAGONISTS

“Antipsychotics”



← \*Antiemetics\*



# D<sub>2</sub> Antagonism

```
graph TD; A[D2 Antagonism] --> B[Meso Limbic]; A --> C[Nigro Striatal]; A --> D[Area Postrema CTZ]; A --> E[Tubero Infundibular]; A --> F[Anterior Hypo Thalamus]; B --> G["Sedation*  
Anti Psychosis"]; C --> H[EPS]; D --> I[Anti Emesis]; E --> J["Hyper Prolactinemia  
Sexual Dysfunction"]; F --> K[Temperature Dysregulation];
```

Meso  
Limbic

Sedation\*  
Anti  
Psychosis

Nigro  
Striatal

EPS

Area  
Postrema  
(CTZ)

Anti  
Emesis

Tubero  
Infundibular

Hyper  
Prolactinemia  
Sexual  
Dysfunction

Anterior  
Hypo  
Thalamus

Temperature  
Dysregulation

# Manifestations of Toxicity

- Peak effects typically evident within **2 to 6 hours**
- Most common clinical manifestations:
  - Dopamine (and histamine) blockade: slurred speech, ataxia, cognitive impairment, lethargy, sedation, and **coma**
  - $\alpha$  Adrenergic blockade: tachycardia and **hypotension**
  - Muscarinic blockade: tachycardia, **delirial agitation**, hallucinations, blurry vision, retention, and sicca
  - Potassium Channel Antagonism: **arrhythmias**

EPS may be the only presenting manifestation especially in children (rigidity, bradykinesia, tremors and/or akathisia).

# TYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTIC PEARLS

- Thioridazine (Mellaril)
  - Peak serum level can be delayed 120 hours
  - QTc but not QRS correlates closely with peak concentration
  - Most lethal in overdose (mesoridazine close behind) – Na<sup>+</sup> channel blockade
- Loxapine (Loxitane, Adasuve)
  - Seizures in overdose, new inhaled preparation for acute agitation
- Chlorpromazine (Thorazine)
  - Cholestatic jaundice, Agranulocytosis
- Chlorprothixene (Taractan)
  - Acute reversible oliguria
- Haloperidol (Haldol)
  - Most common cause of NMS (> 90% of reported cases)

# Second Generation Agents

Clozapine (Clozaril)

Olanzapine (Zyprexa)

Quetiapine (Seroquel)

Risperidone (Risperdal)

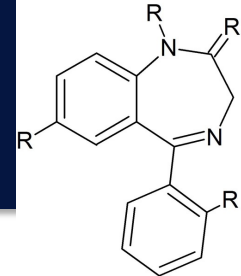
Paliperidone (Invega)

Ziprasidone (Geodon)

Aripiprazole (Abilify)

Cariprazine (Vraylar)

# BENZODIAZEPINES



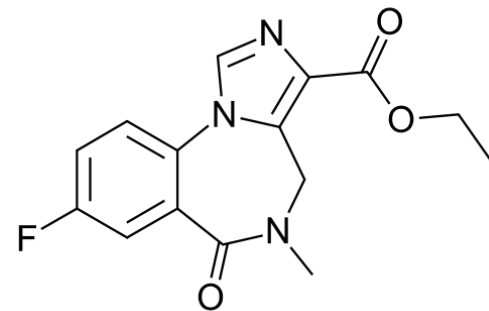
- Over 50,000 benzodiazepine OD cases reported annually
- 65% intentional
- Few deaths
  - Essentially "never" in mono-ingestion
  - Problematic in combination exposures, but also potentially protective (CNS, Cardiac)
  - Mixed sedative OG or IV exposure increases morbidity

# BENZODIAZEPINES

- All are indirect agonists at post-synaptic GABA-A receptors
  - BZD<sub>1</sub> (arousal) and BZD<sub>2</sub> (memory/cognition) receptors in the brain
  - Increase **frequency** of chloride channel opening
  - Channel will not open without GABA present
- BZD<sub>2</sub> agonism in spinal cord effects muscle relaxation
- All produce tolerance with cross-reactivity
- Predispose to physical dependence (BZD<sub>2</sub> mediated)
  - Withdrawal is generally worse for short half-life agents; alprazolam being the exception – redistribution & two-phase elimination kinetics

# BENZODIAZEPINE PEARLS

- Antidote for CNS effects – Flumazenil
  - BZD Receptor antagonist, inverse agonist at high doses
  - Patient selection guided by physical exam renders seizures rare
- Propylene glycol: Lorazepam
- Clonazepam: Anticonvulsant and “Mood stabilizer”
- Flunitrazepam (RoHypnol): “Date Rape”
- EMIT: Oxazepam -- false negatives (ALP, LRZ, TMZ...)



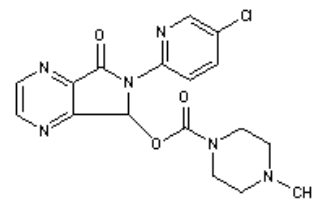
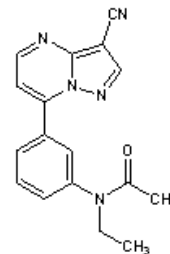
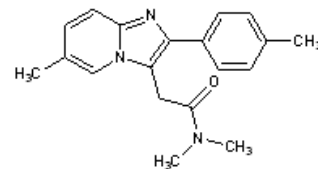
# 'Z' DRUGS: Nonbenzodiazepine sedatives

- Zolpidem (Ambien, Stilnox) – imidazopyridine
- Zaleplon (Sonata) – pyrazolopyrimidine
- Zopiclone (Imovane) – cyclopyrrolone
- Eszopiclone (Lunesta, Estorra)

Selective for GABA-A BZD<sub>1</sub> receptors

Less physical dependence than BZDs

**Flumazenil is antidotal**

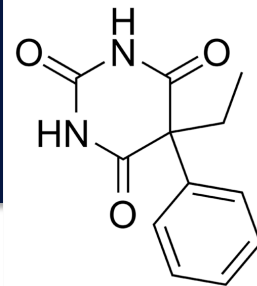




# BARBITURATES

- GABA-A receptor agonists
  - Direct increase in ***duration*** of chloride channel opening
  - GABA **not** needed for pharmacologic function
- 4 Categories
  - Ultrashort: methohexital, thiopental
  - Short: pentobarbital, secobarbital
  - Intermediate: butalbital
  - Long-acting: phenobarbital
- Cytochrome enzyme induction → drug interactions

# PHENOBARBITAL (PHB)



- Long-acting barbiturate, chemically a weak acid
- Steady-state therapeutic range 15-40 mg/L
- CNS tolerance does not usually yield respiratory tolerance
- Levels > 80 mg/L typically result in coma
- Death is uncommon with good supportive care
  - Urine alkalinization, MDAC enhance elimination
- Primidone
  - Metabolized to PEMA and PHB

# TCA MECHANISMS OF ACTION

- Inhibition of serotonin reuptake
- Inhibition of norepinephrine reuptake
- Antihistamine (central and peripheral)
- Antimuscarinic – CNS M<sub>1</sub> antagonism, in particular
- Sodium channel blockade
- Potassium channel blockade
- Peripheral alpha-adrenergic ( $\alpha_1$ ) antagonists
- Interferes with GABA complex – effective antagonism
- Alters function of beta-adrenergic receptors

# TCA TOXICITY

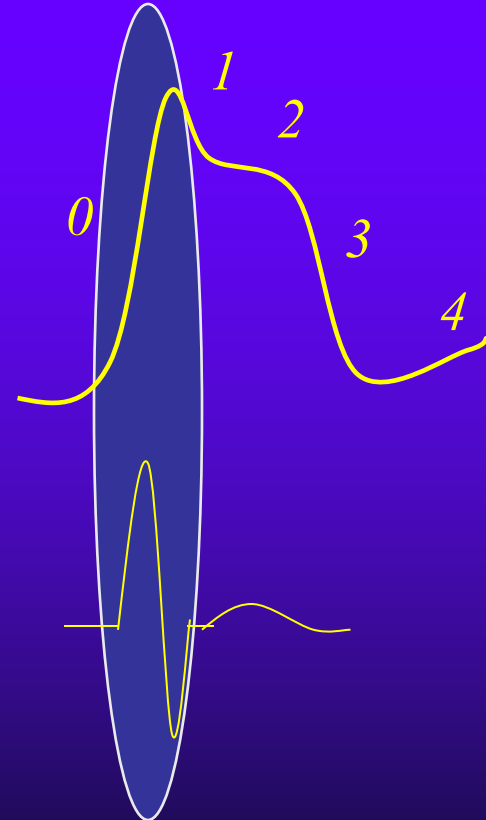
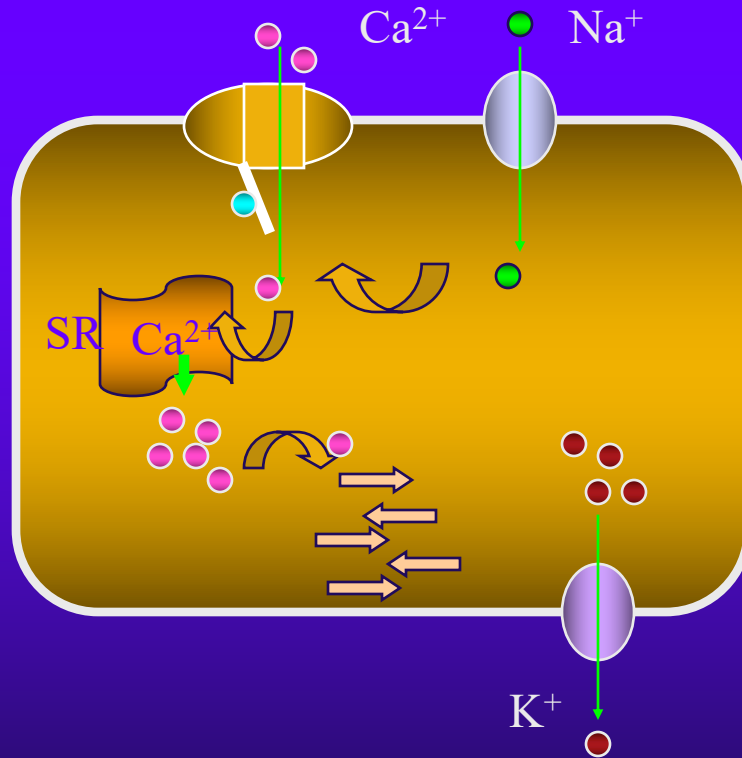
- Rapid onset of symptoms
- Early sedation → coma
- Early antimuscarinic symptoms → delirium
- Seizures next
- Cardiovascular next
  - Decreased inotropy
  - Hypotension
  - Dysrhythmias

**“T” = Tremor (seizures)**

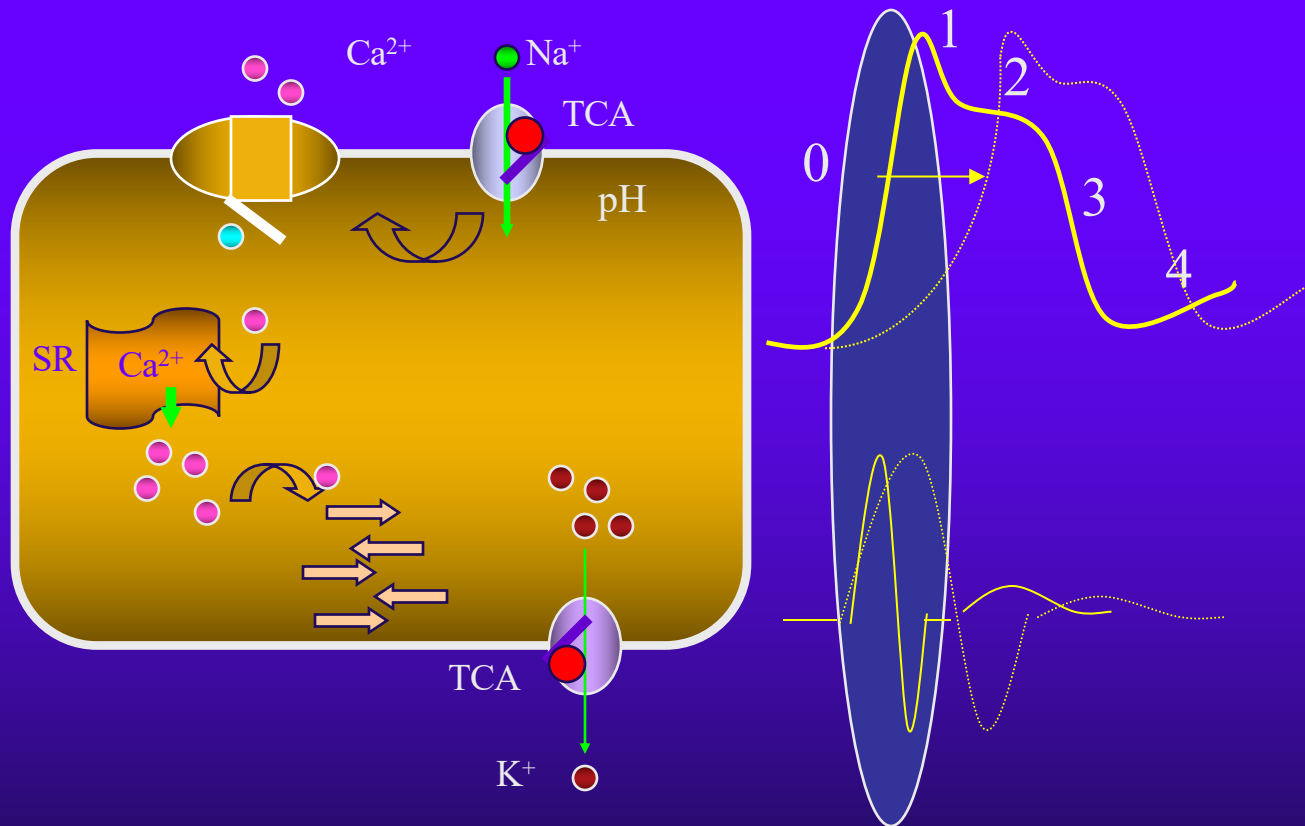
**“C” = Cardiovascular**

**“A” = Antimuscarinic**

# Myocardial Cell Electrophysiology

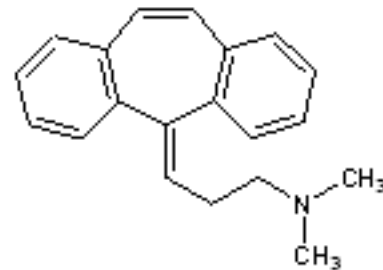


## A large, dark metal key with a circular bow and a notched bit, resting on a textured, reddish-brown surface.



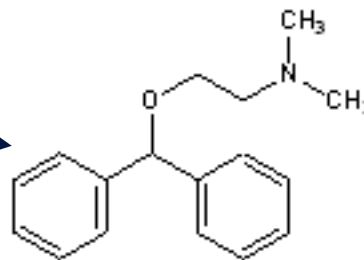
# TCA SCREEN CROSS REACTIVITY

- Cyclobenza**prine** (Flexeril) →



- Carbamazep**ine** (Tegretol)

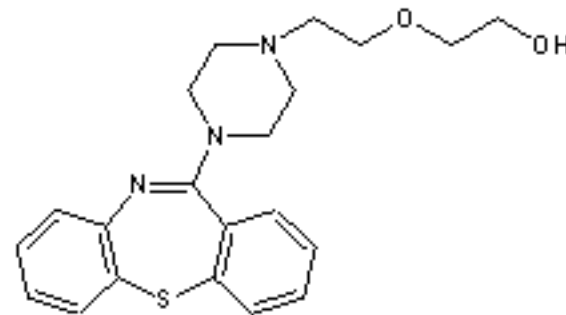
- Diphenhydr**amine** (Benadryl) →



- Thioridaz**ine** (Mellaril)

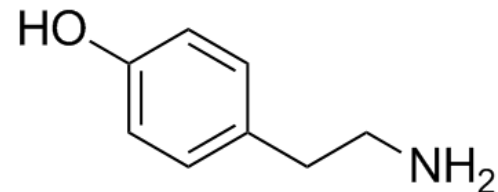
- Olanzap**ine** (Zyprexa)

- Quetiap**ine** (Seroquel) →



# MAOI - TYRAMINE REACTION

- Not typically an overdose scenario
- Onset within 2 hours after eating
- Ingested tyramine normally inactivated by gut MAO-A
- Inhibition of gut MAO-A
  - Absorption of dietary tyramine and byproducts
  - Tyramine releases NE formed by inhibition of neuronal MAO-A
- Hyperadrenergic state
- Treat symptomatically





# SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS (MAOI OVERDOSE)

## Phase I

- Latent period: 6-12 hours in patients already on medication
- 24-36 hours in “naïve” patients

## Phase II

- Excitatory phase
  - Hyperadrenergic
  - “Ping-pong” nystagmus, hippus
  - Hyperreflexive with rigidity
  - Writhing, opisthotonos, facial grimacing
- Progression
  - CNS depression
  - Fever, diaphoresis, salivation
  - Rigidity, myoclonus, carpopedal spasm
  - Myocardial ischemia, ICH, seizures

# SEROTONIN REUPTAKE INHIBITORS

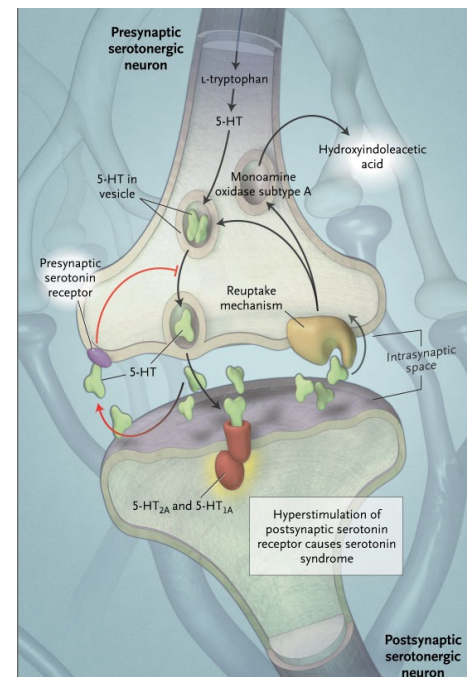
- Paroxetine (Paxil)
- Fluoxetine (Prozac, Sarafem)
- Citalopram (Celexa)
- Escitalopram (Lexapro, Cipralex)
- Sertraline (Zoloft)
- Fluvoxamine (Luvox)
- Fluoxetine + olanzapine (Symbyax)

# PEARLS

- Citalopram and escitalopram: reports of seizures and widened QT interval (CIT > ESC)
- Fluvoxamine inhibits CYP1A and CYP2C
- Paroxetine, fluoxetine, and their metabolites are strong inhibitors of CYP2D6
- SSRIs in overdose: CNS depression and tachycardia most common findings (**not SS**)

# SEROTONIN SYNDROME

- Stimulation of post-synaptic 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> and certain 5-HT<sub>2</sub> receptors ***within the CNS***
- Mechanism
  - Two or more serotonergic agents
    - SSRI + agent with serotonergic properties
    - In one acute toxicology study, SSRI + an abused stimulant accounted for 1/3 of cases
  - One agent with multiple 5-HT mechanisms (DXM)
  - Change in dose of one or more agents
  - Metabolic inhibition



# Serotonin Syndrome vs NMS

		Serotonin Syndrome	Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome
<b>Precipitated by</b>		Serotonergic agents	Dopamine antagonists
<b>Onset</b>		Variable, usually < 24 hours	Variable
<b>Similar features</b>	Vital signs	HTN, tachycardia, tachypnea, hyperthermia (>40°C)	
	Mucosa	Sialorrhea	
<b>Overlapping features</b>	Skin	Diaphoresis	Diaphoresis, pallor
	Mental status	Variable: agitated state, coma	Variable: stupor, coma, alertiveness, delirium
	Muscles	Increased tone, particularly in lower extremities	"Lead pipe" rigidity in all muscle groups
<b>Differentiating features</b>	Reflexes	Hyperreflexia, clonus	Hyporeflexia
	Pupils	Mydriasis	Normal
	Bowel sounds	Hyperactive	Normal- decreased

# Serotonin vs Anticholinergic Syndromes

	Serotonin Syndrome	Anticholinergic Toxicity
Inciting Agents	5-HT agonists	Anticholinergics <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Atropine-like drugs</li><li>• Anti-histamines</li><li>• Parkinson's meds</li><li>• Many others</li></ul>
Onset	<24 hrs	<24 hrs
Symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hyperreflexia</li><li>• Rigidity</li><li><del>• Hyperthermia</del></li><li><del>• Increased bowel sounds</del></li><li><del>• Diaphoretic</del></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><del>• Normal reflexes</del></li><li>• Normal muscle tone</li><li><del>• Decreased bowel sounds</del></li><li><del>• Dry skin</del></li></ul>

# OTHER REUPTAKE INHIBITORS

- SNRIs – Nausea, HTN...Seizures, QRS prolongation
  - Venlafaxine (Effexor), Desvenlafaxine (Pristiq): 5-HT > NE
  - Duloxetine (Cymbalta): 5-HT ~ NE
  - Milnacipran (Savella), Levomilnacipran (Fetzima): 5-HT < NE
- Bupropion (Wellbutrin, Zyban, Aplenzin, Forfivo, Budeprion)
  - “NDRI”
  - Meet SS Criteria, Seizures, QRS and severe QT prolongation
  - XL products may warrant enhanced elimination

# OTHER ANTIDEPRESSANTS

- Vilazodone (Viibryd)
  - SRI and 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> Partial agonist (think SSRI plus buspirone)
  - Serotonin toxicity risk potentially greater (mono-ingestion)
- Vortioxetine (Brintellix / Trintellix)
  - Antagonist of 5-HT<sub>3</sub>, 5-HT<sub>7</sub>, and 5-HT<sub>1D</sub> receptors
  - Partial agonist activity of 5-HT<sub>1B</sub> receptors
  - Agonist of 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> receptor
  - Some inhibition of the 5-HT transporter (SRI)
  - Serotonin toxicity risk potentially greater (mono-ingestion)

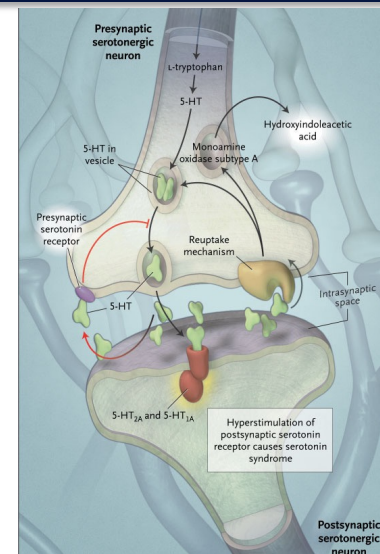


# OTHER ANTIDEPRESSANTS

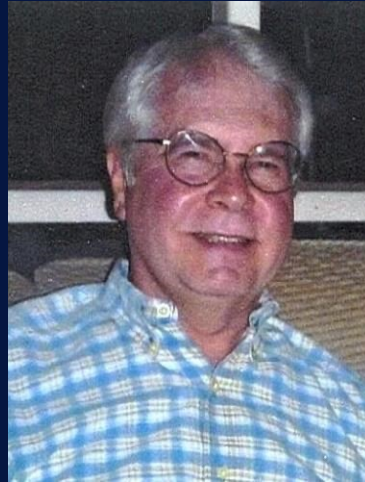
- Mirtazapine (Remeron):  $H_1$ ,  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  antagonist
  - Sedation, Some anticholinergic effects, Mild symptoms in overdose
- Trazodone (Desyrel): SRI,  $\alpha_1$  antagonist,  $\alpha_2$  agonist (?)
  - Prolonged QT, orthostatic hypotension, priapism
- Nefazodone (Serzone): SRI,  $\alpha_1$  antagonist,  $5-HT_2$  antagonist
  - Prolonged QT, orthostatic hypotension, priapism
  - Boxed warning based on risk of hepatotoxicity
- Reboxetine (Edronax)
  - NRI – Hypertension and seizures might be expected

# LUMATEPERONE (Caplyta)

- Serotonin Transporter Inhibitor
  - Serotonin signs → SS ?
- 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> antagonist
  - Fatigue, dizziness, hypotension
- Partial D<sub>2</sub> agonist / antagonist
  - Sedation, movement side effects ?
- Indirect glutamatergic modulator (NMDA and AMPA)
- **Possible adrenal damage (animal models) via aniline lumateperone metabolite deposition – Rx quercetin ?**



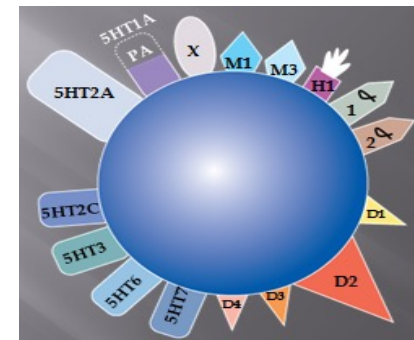
# Acknowledgment to: J. Ward Donovan, M.D.



## Questions?

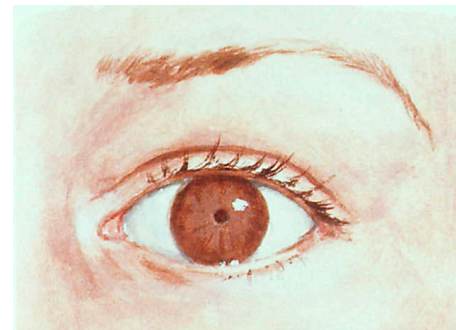
# ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTICS (1)

- Clozapine (Clozaril, Fazaclo)
  - Highly variable metabolism (CYP1A2)
  - Agranulocytosis / aplastic anemia (REMS)
  - Myocarditis, Sz (5-10%), Drooling, DM / Metabolic effects
  - Low D<sub>2</sub> affinity, high M<sub>1</sub> affinity → used to manage EPS
- Olanzapine (Zyprexa)
  - Highest incidence of NMS of SGAs
  - High antimuscarinic activity, DM / Metabolic effects
- Quetiapine (Seroquel)
  - High  $\alpha$ -adrenergic blockade
  - Most sedating of class – antihistaminic / antimuscarinic activity
  - Short t  $\frac{1}{2}$  that increases to ~22 hours in overdose



# ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTICS (2)

- Risperidone (Risperdal)
  - Highest rate of dystonia in SGAs
  - Potent alpha blockade, no antimuscarinic activity
  - Seizures, unusual dysrhythmias for class (a-flutter, heart blocks)
- Paliperidone (Invega): active CYP2D6 metabolite of risperidone
- Ziprasidone (Geodon)
  - Highest rate of increased QT (~20 msec in outpatients)
- Lurasidone (Latuda)
  - Hypotension, leukopenia
- Iloperidone (Fanapt)
  - Hypotension, QT prolongation



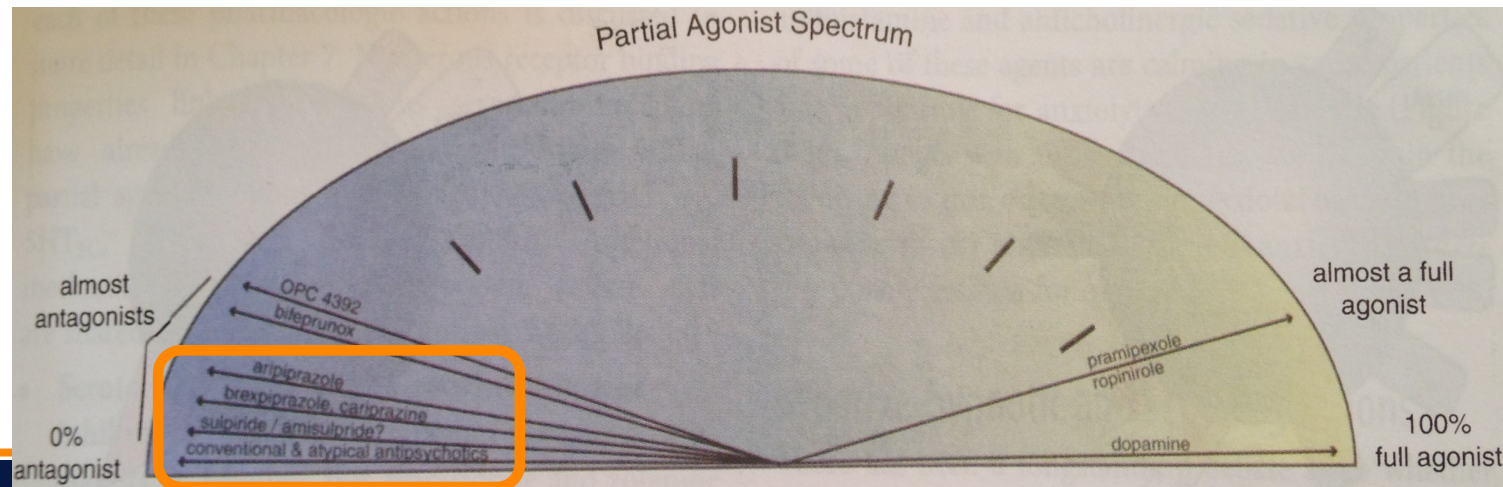
# ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTICS (3a)

Int J Clin Pract,  
November 2015,  
69(11):1211-20.

Stahl, S. M. (2013).  
Stahl's essential  
psychopharmacology:  
Neuroscientific basis  
and practical  
applications.

- Phenylpiperazines
  - Partial agonists at  $D_2$  and  $5-HT_{1A}$  receptors
    - Extremely high affinities for those receptors
    - Active metabolites, very long half lives (longer in OD)

Aripiprazole (Abilify), Brexpiprazole (Rexulti), Cariprazine (Vraylar)

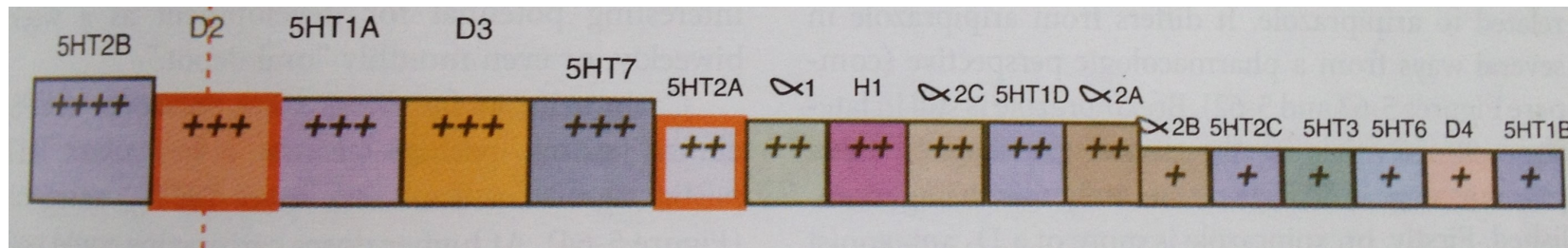




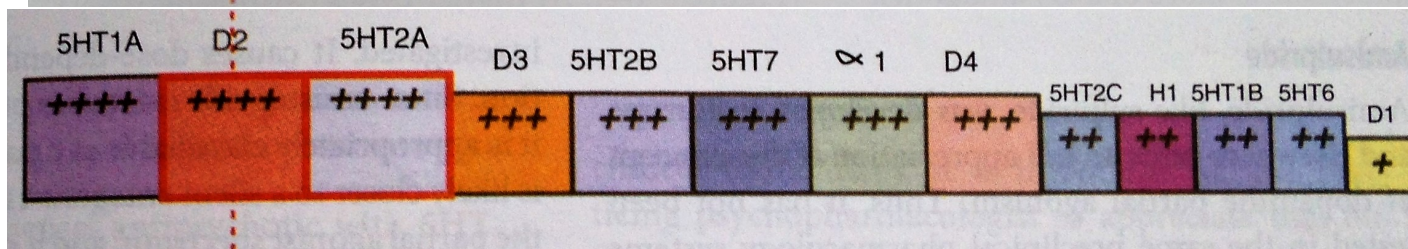
# ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTICS (3b)

- Phenylpiperazines all cause more akathisia, less QT prolongation

A  
r  
i



B  
r  
e  
x



**Orthostasis**  
↑ **SS risk**

C  
a  
r

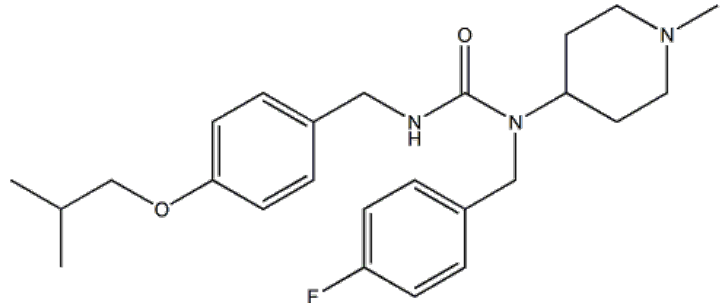


**Greatest akathisia risk, least sedating**

**D<sub>3</sub> partial agonism role unclear – improved cognition ?**

**Lower 5-HT<sub>7</sub> activity may account for lack of efficacy in depression**

# ANTIPSYCHOTIC ?



- Pimavanserin (Nuplazid)
  - Rx Psychosis associated with Parkinson Disease
  - Works around the tradeoff between movement and perceptions
- Inverse agonist and antagonist at 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> receptors
  - 30-fold greater selectivity for 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> over other serotonin receptors
  - No appreciable affinity for dopaminergic, adrenergic, histaminergic or muscarinic receptors
- CYP3A4/5 substrate with active metabolite
  - Long t<sub>1/2</sub> of 57 hours, 200 for N-desmethypimavanserin
- QT prolongation 7.3 msec above placebo at therapeutic dose
- Nausea, ataxia, peripheral edema
- No overdose data

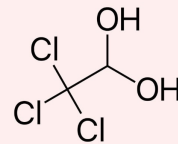
Cruz MP. P T.  
2017;42(6):368-371.



# SEDATIVE - HYPNOTICS

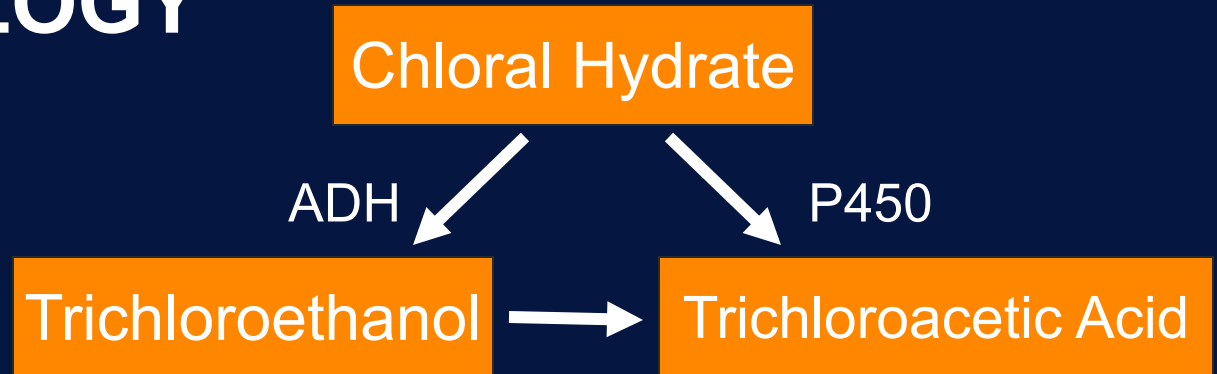
- Ramelteon (Rozerem)
  - MT<sub>1</sub> and MT<sub>2</sub> agonist; may alter testosterone, prolactin levels
- Chloral hydrate (Noctec, Felsules)
- Meprobamate (Miltown, Equanil, Meprospan)
- Methaqualone (Quaalude, Sopor)
- Glutethimide (Doriden)
- Ethchlorvynol (Placidyl)

# CHLORAL HYDRATE



- Common use by alcoholics in late 19th century → sleep
  - Solutions EtOH and chloral hydrate often called “knockout drops”
  - Slip a “Mickey Finn” = covertly adding chloral hydrate to a drink
- Minimal respiratory depression or hypotension
- Used recreationally only by a small number of people
  - Historical users: Nietzsche, William James, Oliver Sacks
- Still clinical uses in sedating children / intellectually disabled
  - Mostly dentistry

# PHARMACOLOGY



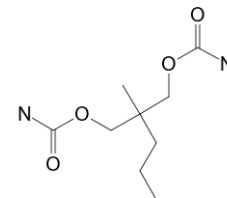
- Trichloroacetic acid
  - Highly protein bound
  - May displace acidic drugs from plasma proteins
- 2,2,2-Trichloroethanol exerts barbiturate-like effects on the GABA-A receptor channel
- 2,2,2-Trichloroethanol inhibits ethanol metabolism

# CLINICAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Hemorrhagic gastritis
- Cardiac arrhythmias
  - Attributed largely to trichloroethanol
  - Myocardium sensitized to circulating catecholamines
- Radio-opaque

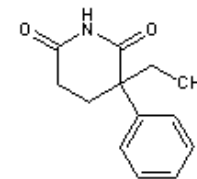
# SEDATIVE - HYPNOTIC PEARLS

- Meprobamate



- Concretions/bezoars in overdose
- Has benzodiazepine-like activity (flumazenil is antidotal)
- Active metabolite of carisoprodol (antimuscarinic muscle relaxant)

- Glutethimide



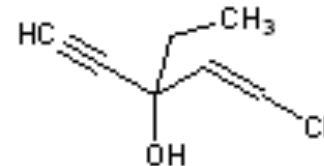
- 2D6 inducer – enhances codeine abuse
- “Doors and Fours” with Tylenol#4 (APAP & Codeine)

# SEDATIVE - HYPNOTIC PEARLS



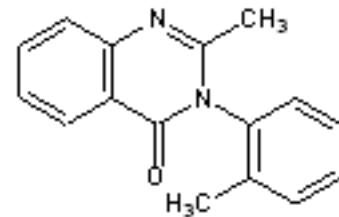
- Ethchlorvynol – “Jelly-bellies”

- Oversedation is followed by withdrawal restlessness
- Used by William Rehnquist



- Methaqualone – “Ludes”

- Originally synthesized as an antimalarial agent
- Recent abuse in South Africa
- Can see hypertonia, hyperreflexia, clonus in overdose
- Residual paresthesias and polyneuropathies after overdose
- Mandrax: a combination product with diphenhydramine (“Mandrakes”)



# ANTIDEPRESSANTS

- (Tri)cyclic antidepressants (TCAs)
- Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs)
- Selective Serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)
- Dual reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs)
- Miscellaneous

Mirtazapine

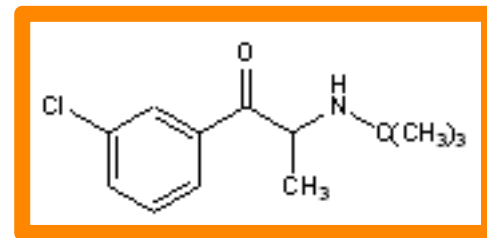
Trazodone

Nefazodone

Reboxetine

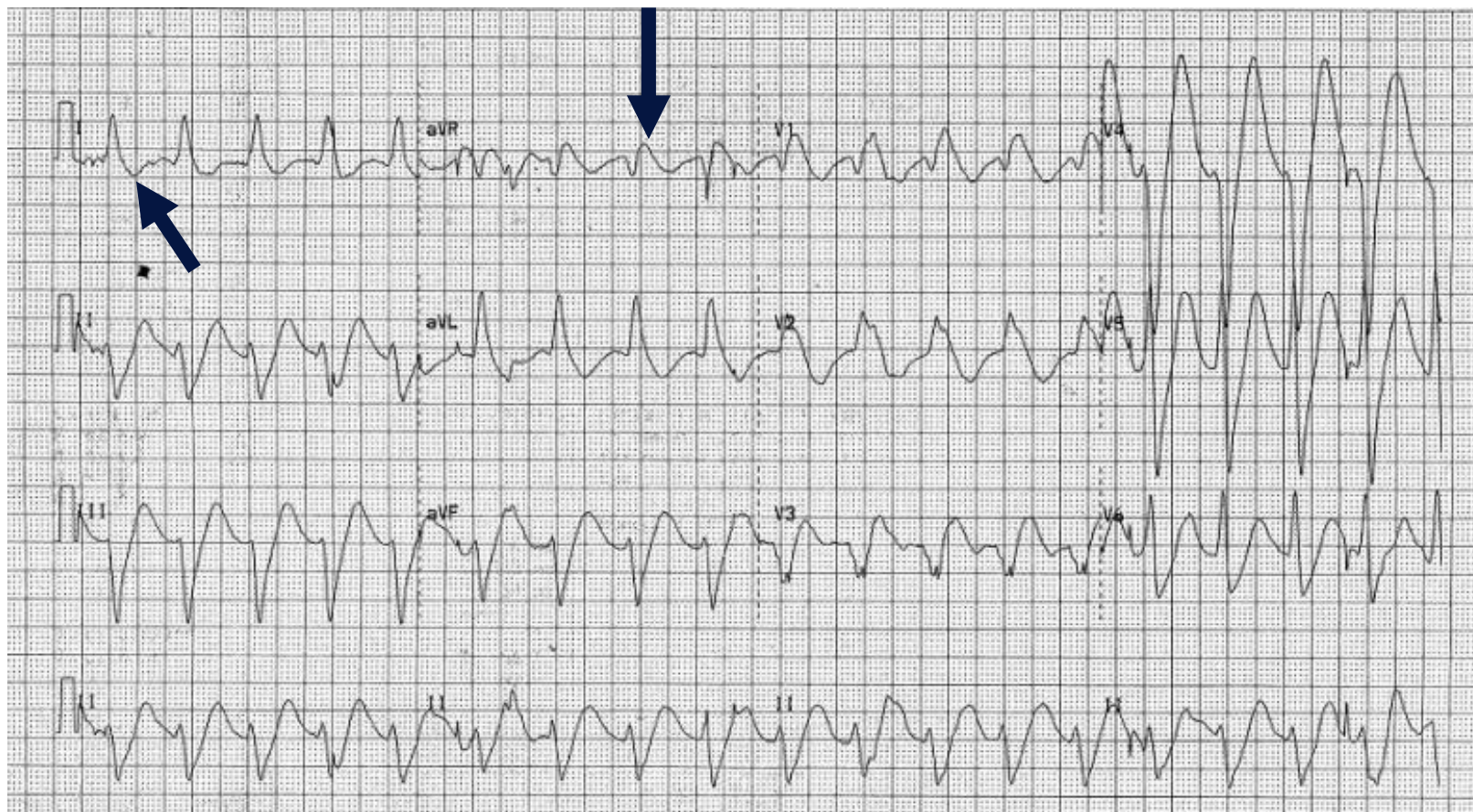
Vortioxetine

Vilazodone



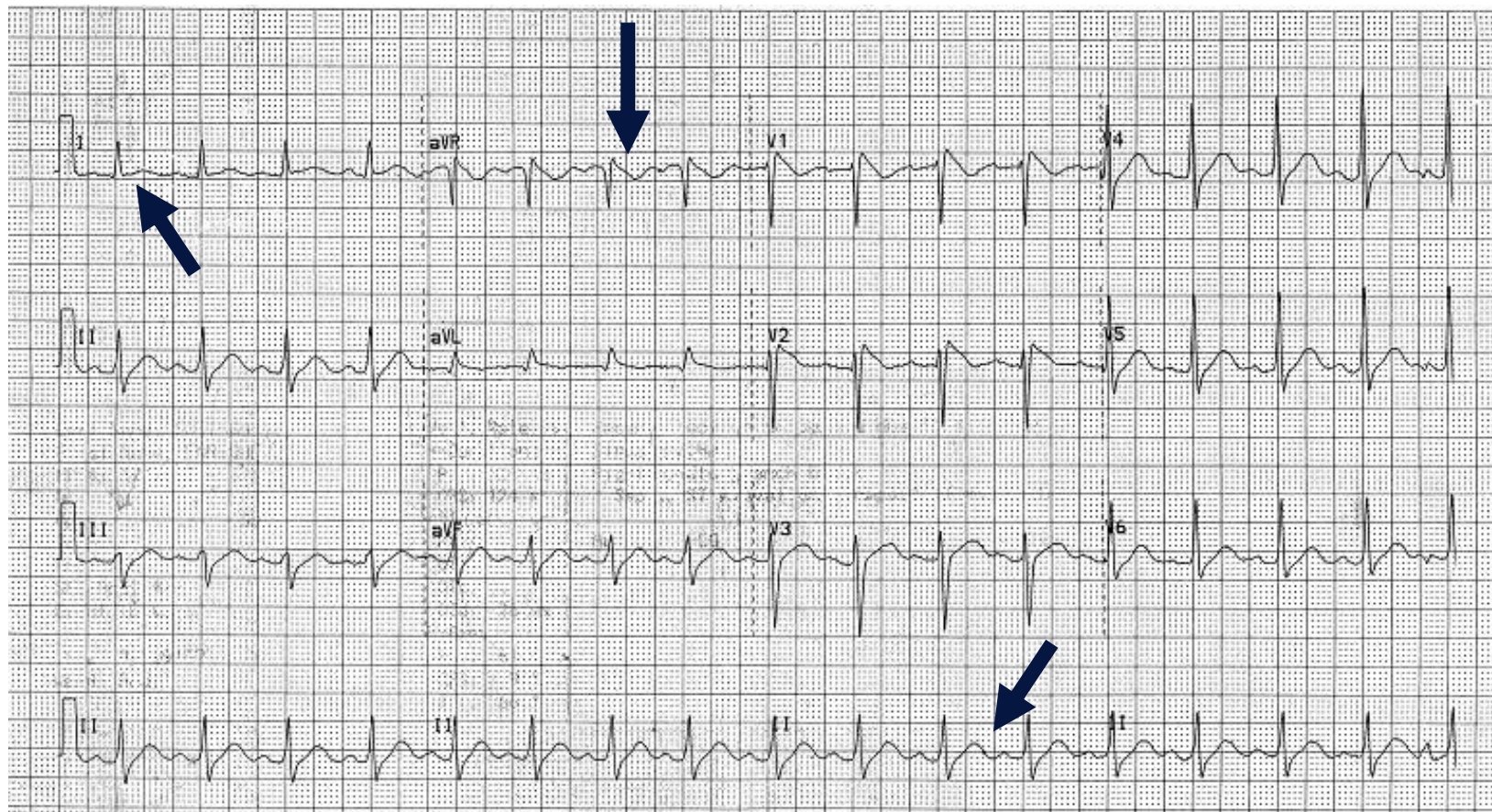
Bupropion

# TCA TOXIC EKG





# Rx Sodium Bicarbonate



# MAOI PHARMACOLOGY

- Monoamine oxidase (MAO)
- Intracellular enzyme found on mitochondrial membranes
- Degrades biogenic amines
  - MAO-A: DA, NE, Tyramine, and 5-HT
  - MAO-B: DA
- Inhibition increases CNS neurotransmitter activity
  - Down-regulates post-synaptic 5-HT & adrenergic receptors
  - Post-synaptic DA receptor populations unaffected

# MAOI PHARMACOLOGY

## Irreversible binding

- Phenelzine
- Tranylcypromine
- Isocarboxazid
- Selegiline
- Pargyline
- Rasagiline

## Reversible binding

- Moclobemide
- Brofaromine
- Cimorexatone
- Toloxatone
- Harmaline

# MAOI PHARMACOLOGY

## Selective

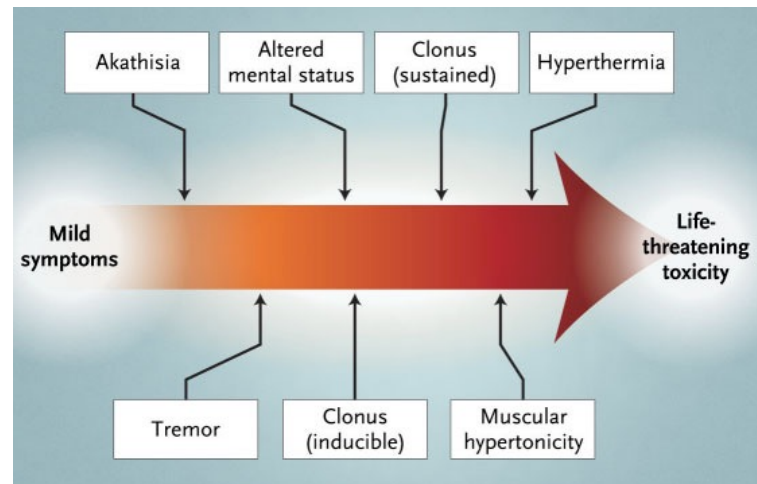
- Moclobemide (A)
- Toloxatone (A)
- Harmaline (A)
- Selegiline (B > A)
- Pargyline (B)
- Rasagiline (B)

## Nonselective

- Tranylcypromine
- Phenelzine
- Isocarboxazid

# SEROTONIN SYNDROME

- Modified Sternbach criteria (all 3 must be met)
  - Syndrome occurs after addition of known serotonergic agent
  - List of symptoms AND other causes ruled out
  - No neuroleptic involved
- NEJM Boyer & Shannon article
  - Emphasizes spectrum of presentation
  - Hyperthermia
  - Autonomic instability
  - Delirium
  - CLONUS – the ankle, mostly



# NEONATAL SRI WITHDRAWAL

- Fetus exposed to an SRI late in the third trimester
  - Paroxetine & Venlafaxine most common (shortest t  $\frac{1}{2}$ )
- Symptoms
  - Tremors, jitteriness, irritability
  - Respiratory distress, cyanosis, apnea
  - Feeding difficulties, vomiting
  - Hypoglycemia
- Onset hours to days after delivery, which resolved in days or weeks
- Prolonged hospitalization, respiratory support, and tube feeding
  - Consider clonidine or SRI replacement and taper

# ACMT BOARD REVIEW COURSE

## **Herbals, Vitamins & Supplements CRAM SESSION**

Nima Majlesi, DO  
Director of Medical Toxicology  
Staten Island University Hospital, Northwell Health



# VITAMINS

## Fat-soluble

- A
- D
- E
- K<sub>1</sub>

## Water-soluble

- B<sub>1</sub>
- B<sub>3</sub>
- B<sub>6</sub>
- B<sub>12</sub>
- C



# Differentiating Vit A and D

Both cause hypercalcemia and bone pain

**Vit A: hepatotoxicity and alopecia**

**Vit D: soft tissue calcifications**

# THIAMINE Deficiency

- Congestive heart failure (“wet beriberi”)
- Wernicke-Korsakoff (“dry beriberi”) syndrome
  - Ataxia, altered mental status and ophthalmoplegia
  - Korsakoff psychosis- amnesia and confabulation preceded by the signs of Wernicke encephalopathy
  - Metabolic acidosis, elevated lactate, hyporeflexia, hypothermia also seen

# VITAMIN B<sub>6</sub> (PYRIDOXINE)

- Pyridoxal phosphate is the active form
- Required in the synthesis of GABA
- Antidote for INH, hydrazine (*Gyromitra esculenta*) toxicity, or intractable seizures
- Deficiency: cheilosis, stomatitis, glossitis, blepharitis, seborrheic dermatitis, **peripheral neuropathy**, and is associated with seizures

# VITAMIN B<sub>6</sub> (PYRIDOXINE) Toxicity

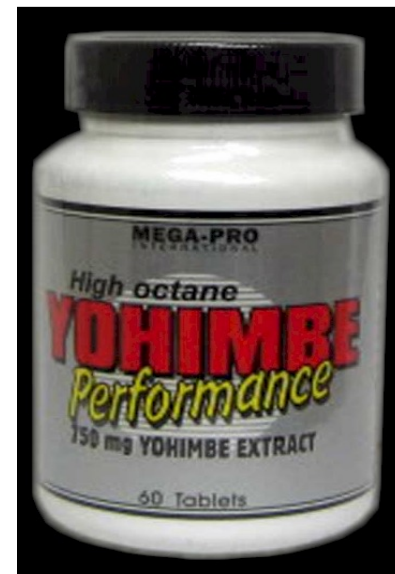
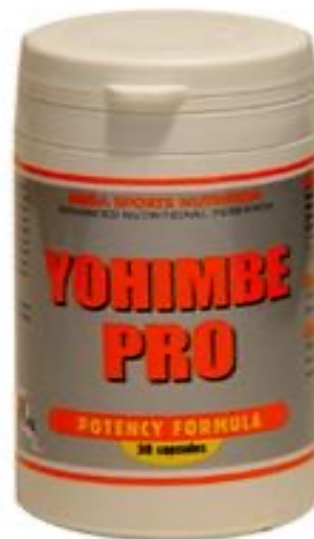
- Chronic excessive dosing
  - Although reports of acute massive iatrogenic IV overdoses are in the literature-- 2-3g/kg
- **Peripheral neurotoxicity affecting dorsal root ganglia**
  - Producing sensory ataxia
  - Impairment of proprioception
  - Impaired vibratory sensation

# VITAMIN B<sub>12</sub> (CYANOCOBALAMIN)

- Essential for DNA and myelin synthesis
- Transfers a methyl group from methyl-tetrahydrofolate to homocysteine to form methionine
- Functional deficiency from N<sub>2</sub>O abuse
  - Resulting in bone marrow depression and **dorsal column degeneration** and **sensory polyneuropathy**
  - Check homocysteine and methylmalonic acid levels

# YOHIMBE (*PAUSINYSTALIA YOHIMBE*)

- Uses - Bodybuilding, hallucinogen, aphrodisiac
- Alkaloid
  - Yohimbine (alkaloid) from bark
- Alpha-2 antagonists (presynaptic)
- Adverse Events
  - Hypertension
  - Weakness/paralysis
  - Abdominal pain



# ST. JOHN'S WORT (*Hypericum perforatum*)

- Leaves, stems, and flowers are used
- Uses:
  - Depression
  - Infections
  - Healing wounds
  - Anxiety
  - Headaches
- Hypericin and hyperforin
  - inhibit reuptake of 5-HT, NE, DA, GABA, glutamate and acts as weak MAO-I



# ST. JOHN'S WORT

## Side effects:

- Photosensitivity; can be severe
- Dizziness
- Confusion
- GI upset

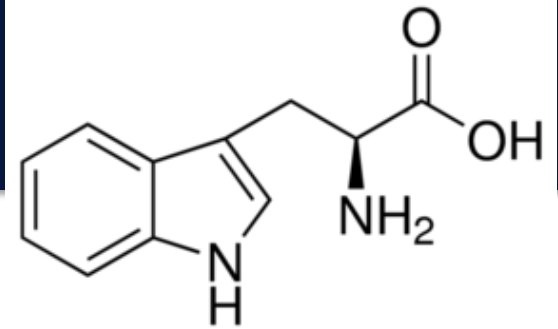
**CYP 3A4 Inducer**

## Interactions:

- **SSRI's – serotonin syndrome**
- Cyclosporin – reduced levels
- Digoxin – reduced levels
- Some narcotics – increased effects
- Oral contraceptives – decreased effectiveness
- Protease inhibitors – decreased effectiveness
- Warfarin – decreased INR



# L-TRYPTOPHAN



- Amino acid precursor to 5HT used as a sleep aid
- Eosinophilia myalgia syndrome
  - myalgias, eosinophilia, edema, dyspnea, arthralgias, skin changes, neuropathy, and weight loss
- In 1989 >1500 people who used a supplement
- Outbreak traced to a single manufacturer likely due to a contaminant

# GINGKO (*Gingko biloba*)

- Leaves and bark
- Uses:
  - Dementia, memory
  - Claudication
  - Arthritis
  - Sexual dysfunction
  - Acute mountain sickness
- Side effects:
  - Headaches, palpitations, diarrhea, dermatitis
- Interactions:
  - Potentiates anticoagulants



# *Ginkgo biloba*

- Contains Ginkgolide B has antioxidant properties, **inhibits platelet activating factor**, increased bleeding times
  - Bleeding diatheses assoc. with post-op bleeding, SAH, hyphema, cerebral and retrobulbar hemorrhage
- Exploratory ingestions in children resulted in coma and szs
- Raw seeds contain 4-methoxypyridoxine a competitive antagonist of PLP with resultant inhibition of glutamate decarboxylase and impaired GABA synthesis

# GINSENG (*Panax quinquefolia*)

- Root

- Uses:

- Stimulant
- Memory improvement
- Treat menopause symptoms
- Erectile dysfunction

- Interactions:

- Decrease INR in warfarin users



# GINSENG (*Panax ginseng*)

- Active ingredient: ginsenosides (panaxin, panax acid, panaquilin, sapogenin, ginsenin)
- Associated with hirsutism in females in utero
- Ginseng abuse syndrome: diarrhea, anxiety, insomnia, depression, dermatitis, amenorrhea and HTN in those taking >3 g/d (transient and self-limited)

# BLACK COHOSH (*Cimicifuga racemosa*)

- Used as an abortifacient and for menstrual irregularity
- Contains triterpene glycosides
- Appears largely safe
- Excessive dosing may cause nausea, vomiting, headache, and dizziness



# BLUE COHOSH (*Caulophyllum thalictoides*)

- Used as an abortifacient and for dysmenorrhea
- N-methylcytisine a nicotinic alkaloid
- Causes N/V, diaphoresis, mydriasis, weakness, and fasciculations



# ARISTOLOCHIC ACID

- Birthwort, heartwort, fangii
  - (Aristolochia spp)
- Ingredient in Chinese herbal products
- Use: Uterine stimulant
- Aristolochic acid
  - Nephrotoxicity (renal fibrosis)
  - Carcinogen (urothelial cancer)
- FDA warning April 2001. Banned in 7 European countries and Egypt, Japan, and Venezuela.



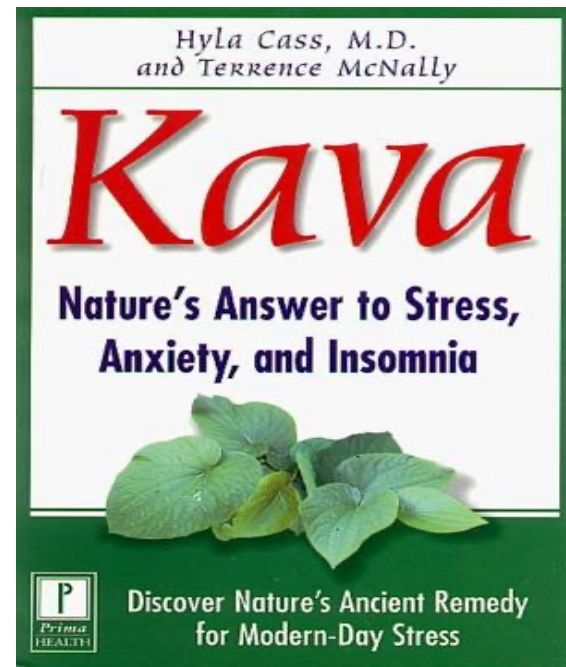


# PYRROLIZIDINE ALKALOIDS

- Includes:
  - Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*)
  - Heliotrope (*Crotalaria specatabulis*)
  - Gordolobo yerba
  - Most dangerous class is retronecine type PA's
- Liver Venooocclusive disease
  - (Sinusoidal hypertrophy & venous occlusion)
- Association with hepatic CA
- Treatment: supportive, transplant

## KAVA (*PIPER METHYSTICUM*)

- GABA-agonism, NE/5-HT reuptake blockade, Na<sup>+</sup> channel blockade, MAOI-B inhibition
- Uses:  
Sleeping aid, stress reliever, muscle relaxant, arthralgias, headache, asthma, dysuria



# KAVA

- CNS depression
- Kava dermopathy or Kavaism
  - Chronic, high-dose
  - Flaky, dry, and yellowing of the skin, hair loss
  - Ataxia, hearing loss, decreased appetite
- Hepatotoxicity
  - 2002 - 70 cases, including 4 deaths → FDA issued advisory warning
  - Sales restricted in many countries.



# EPHEDRA

- Side effects:
  - Sudden death
  - Coronary vasospasm/ MI
  - CVA
  - Arrhythmias
  - Agitation
- Attempted ban in 1997
- Banned by FDA Feb 6, 2004



EphedraOutlet

# WHY AREN'T THEY REGULATED?

- Dietary Substance Health Education Act 1994
  - Congress defines herbs as “dietary supplements” not drugs
  - No FDA regulation
  - Safety and efficacy tests **NOT** required
  - No adverse event reporting system
  - Indication claims are acceptable, but not treatment claims
  - FDA can stop sale of an herb if it is determined to be unsafe

# ADVERSE REACTIONS

- Hepatotoxicity – comfrey, kava-kava, chaparral, germander
- CVA: ma huang, guarana, yohimbine, bitter orange
- Carcinogen - aristolochic acid, androstenedione, aflatoxin
- Nephrotoxicity - aristolochic acid

Thank you

# ACMT BOARD REVIEW COURSE

## Endocrine – Rapid Fire

**Christopher W. Meaden, MD, MS**  
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School  
Newark, NJ





# DISCLOSURES

I am a substitute presenter

# ANTIDIABETIC AGENTS

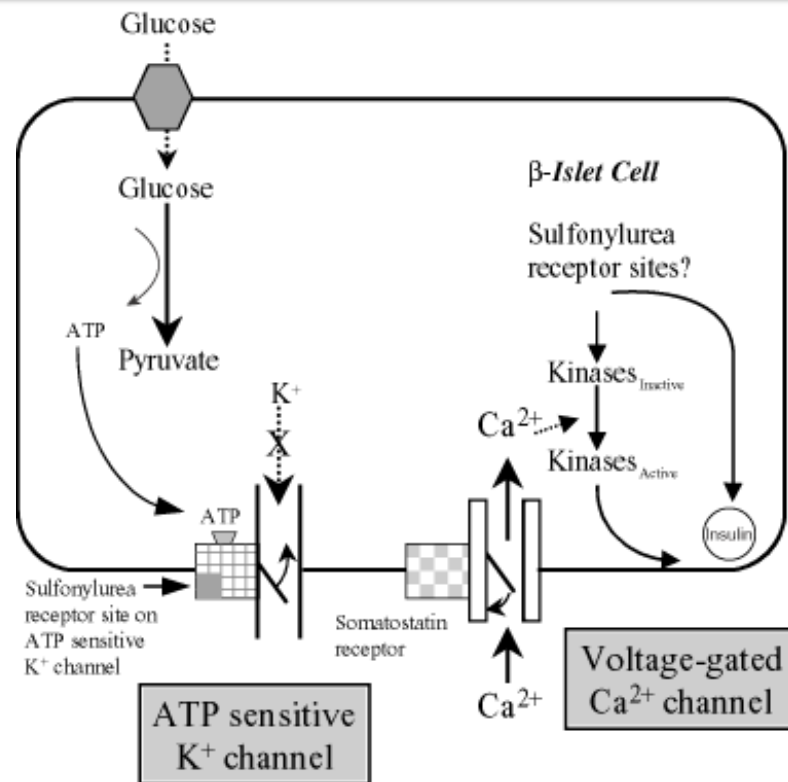
- Know your agents—and their MOA
- **Hypoglycemic**
  - Insulin – peaks/timing
  - Meglitinides
  - Sulfonylureas
- **Antihyperglycemic**
  - Biguanides--MALA
  - $\alpha$  glucosidase inhibitors
  - Thiazolidinediones
  - GLP 1 analogs
  - Gliptins
  - SGL2 -- Euglycemic DKA

# Oral Agents

Xenobiotic	Duration of Action	Active Hepatic Metabolite	Active Urinary Excretory Product	Likelihood of Hypoglycemia in Overdose
<b>Sulfonylureas</b>				
<i>First-generation</i>				
Acetohexamide	12–18 h	(++)	(++)	H
	24–72 h	(+)	(++)	H
Chlorpropamide	10–24 h	(++)	(++)	H
	6–12 h	(+)	(++)	H
<i>Second-generation</i>				
Glimepiride	24 h	(++)	(++)	H
Glipizide	16–24 h	(–)	(+)	H
Glyburide	18–24 h	(++)	(++)	H
<b>Meglitinides</b>				
Nateglinide	4–6 h	(++)	(+)	H
Repaglinide	1–3 h	(–)	(–)	H
<b>Low Risk: GLP-1 Analogs, SGLT-2 Inhibitors, Amylin Analogs, DPP-4 inhibitors, <math>\alpha</math>-Glucosidase Inhibitors, Biguanides</b>				

# SULFONYLUREAS

- Stimulate pancreatic insulin release
- Bind to receptors that result in closure of the  $K^+ATP$  channels



# BIGUANIDES

- MALA
  - Primary toxicity is type B lactic acidosis
- Inhibits pyruvate carboxylase
  - Pyruvate accumulates → lactic acid
- ARF Patients. → Poss. Need for HD

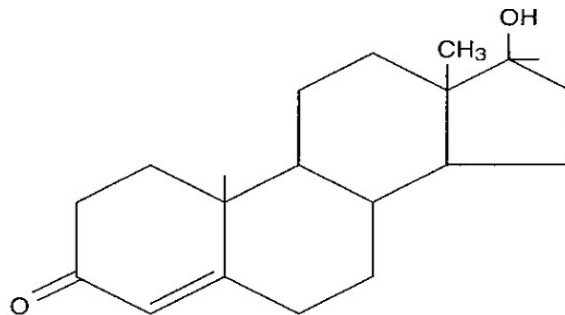
# ANABOLIC STEROIDS

- 1990 Anabolic Steroid Control Act
  - Amended the Substance Control Act
  - Made AAS schedule III
- 2004 Anabolic Steroid Control Act
  - Added certain precursors (like androstenedione) to the list of substances

# ILLICIT STEROID CHEMISTRY 101

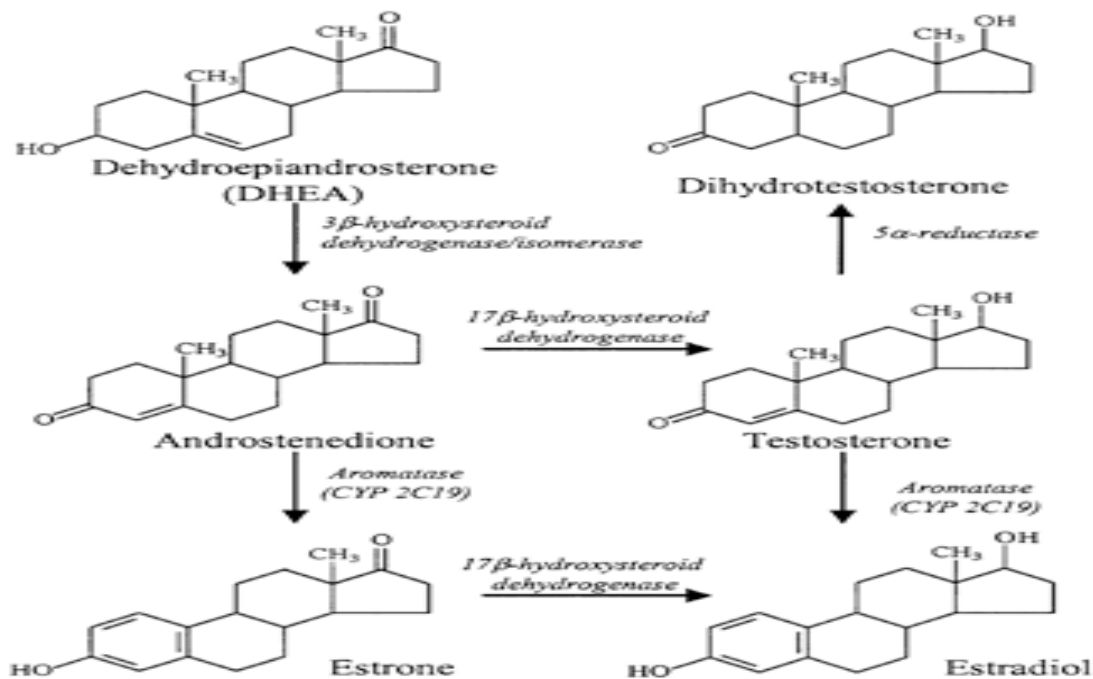
Testosterone is rapidly degraded in the liver

Esterify 17-hydroxy position → oil that can be injected IM for depot release



Alkylate 17-hydroxy position → compounds resistant to hepatic metabolism and suitable for PO administration

# DHEA



**Figure 44-1.** Metabolic pathways of dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA).



# TESTING

- Chromatography/MS
- Urinary ratio of testosterone to its endogenous epimer, epitestosterone: Normally, the ratio is less than 6 to 1.
- Athletes taking exogenous testosterone (suppresses the production of both testosterone and epitestosterone) have higher ratios

# THYROID EXPOSURE

## Acute

- 7-10 day delay
- Most remain asymptomatic or only mildly symptomatic
- Treatment: Supportive care, beta-blockers

## Chronic

- Thyrotoxicosis factitia (healthcare workers)
- Meat from neck of animals
- Manifestations
  - Accelerated osteoporosis
  - Dysrhythmias (a. flut/fib, tachy, CHF)
  - Tachycardia disproportionate to fever
  - Neurologic = anxiety, agitation, seizure
  - Death in up to 20% with thyroid storm

# IODIDES

- Iodide salts were used before Thioamides were available
- Inhibit T3/T4 release
- **Block thyroid uptake of radioactive iodine**

# IODISM

- Rare occurrence with iodides
  - Prolonged treatment
  - High doses
- Rash, laryngitis, bronchitis, esophagitis, conjunctivitis, drug fever, metallic taste, ↑ salivation, headache, bleeding diathesis