



# REFERENCING GUIDLINE

BY

MAHMOOD SALIH

# Referencing Importance

- ▶ Reliable
- ▶ Credible
- ▶ Robustness of Research

# Referencing styles

- ▶ MLA (Modern Language Association)
- ▶ APA (American Psychology Association)
- ▶ Chicago
- ▶ Harvard
- ▶ Vancouver

# In text citation

- ▶ Human exposure to different types of substance, some of these substances are cytotoxic like antineoplastic medication in which cytotoxicity is a major pharmacological action against cancerous cells[1]
- ▶ Metronidazole is antiprotozoal medication. It used to treat many pathological conditions like endocarditis, bacterial vaginosis, giardiasis, trichomoniasis, and amebiasis[7,8]

# Reference List (Bibliography)

- ▶ Article with 1 to 6 authors
- ▶ □ Author AA, Author BB, Author CC, Author DD. Title of article. Abbreviated title of journal. Date of
- ▶ publication YYYY Mon DD; volume number(issue number):page numbers.
- ▶ Example:

Petitti DB, Crooks VC, Buckwalter JG, Chiu V. Blood pressure levels before dementia. Arch Neurol. 2005 Jan;62(1):112-6.

# Reference list (Bibliography)

- ▶ Article with more than 6 authors (list 6 authors only and use et al for the remaining):
- ▶ □ Author AA, Author BB, Author CC, Author DD, Author EE, Author FF, et al. Title of article.
- ▶ Abbreviated title of journal. Date of publication YYYY Mon DD;volume number(issue number):page numbers.
- ▶ Example:

Hallal AH, Amortegui JD, Jeroukhimov IM, Casillas J, Schulman CI, Manning RJ, et al. Magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography accurately detects common bile duct stones in resolving gallstone pancreatitis. J Am Coll Surg. 2005 Jun;200(6):869-75.

# Reference list (Bibliography)

- ▶ Electronic journal article:

- ▶ □ Author AA, Author BB. Title of article. Abbreviated title of Journal [Internet]. Date of publication YYYY MM [cited YYYY Mon DD];volume number(issue number):page numbers. Available from: URL

- ▶ Example:

Stockhausen L, Turale S. An explorative study of Australian nursing scholars and contemporary scholarship. J Nurs Scholarsh [Internet]. 2011 Mar [cited 2013 Feb 19]; 43(1):89-96. Available from: <http://search.proquest.com.ezproxy.lib.monash.edu.au/docview/858241255?accountid=12528>

# Reference List (Bibliography)

- ▶ Print book:
- ▶ Author AA. Title of book. # edition [if not first]. Place of Publication: Publisher; Year of publication. Pagination.
- ▶ Example:

Carlson BM. Human embryology and developmental biology. 4th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2009. 541 p.



# Reference List (Bibliography)

- ▶ Chapter in a book:
- ▶ Author AA, Author BB. Title of book. # edition. Place of Publication: Publisher; Year of publication. Chapter number, Chapter title; p. [page numbers of chapter].

- ▶ Example:

Speroff L, Fritz MA. Clinical gynecologic endocrinology and infertility. 7th ed. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; c2005. Chapter 29, Endometriosis; p. 1103-33.

# Reference List (Bibliography)

- ▶ Electronic book:
- ▶ Author AA. Title of web page [Internet]. Place of Publication: Sponsor of Website/Publisher; Year published [cited YYYY Mon DD]. Number of pages. Available from: URL DOI: (if available).
- ▶ Example:  
Shreeve DF. Reactive attachment disorder: a case-based approach [Internet]. New York: Springer; 2012 [cited 2012 Nov 2]. 85 p. Available from: <http://ezproxy.lib.monash.edu.au/login?url=http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4614-1647-0>

# Reference List (Bibliography)

- ▶ Edited Book:

- ▶ Editor AA, Editor BB, editors. Title of book. # edition [if not first]. Place of Publication: Publisher; Year. Pagination.

- ▶ Example:

O'Campo P, Dunn JR, editors. Rethinking social epidemiology: towards a science of change. Dordrecht: Springer; 2012. 348 p.

# Reference List (Bibliography)

- ▶ Website (trusted)
- ▶ Website name, name of topic[format] year [cited date] available online from URL.
- ▶ Example

World Health Organization. Drinking water [Internet]. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2015 Jun [cited 2015 Jul 20]. Available from: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs391/en/>

# Further information

- ▶ Trusted references
- ▶ <https://guides.library.uwa.edu.au/vancouver>



Any questions

Thanks for Listening

# Analgesics

## Acetaminophen & Salicylates

Hasan Alhaddad, MSc

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

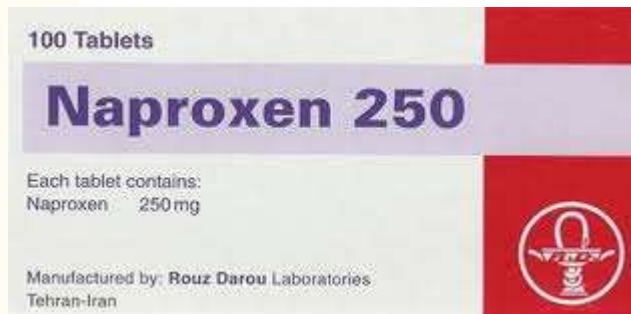
College of Pharmacy/ University of Baghdad

2014



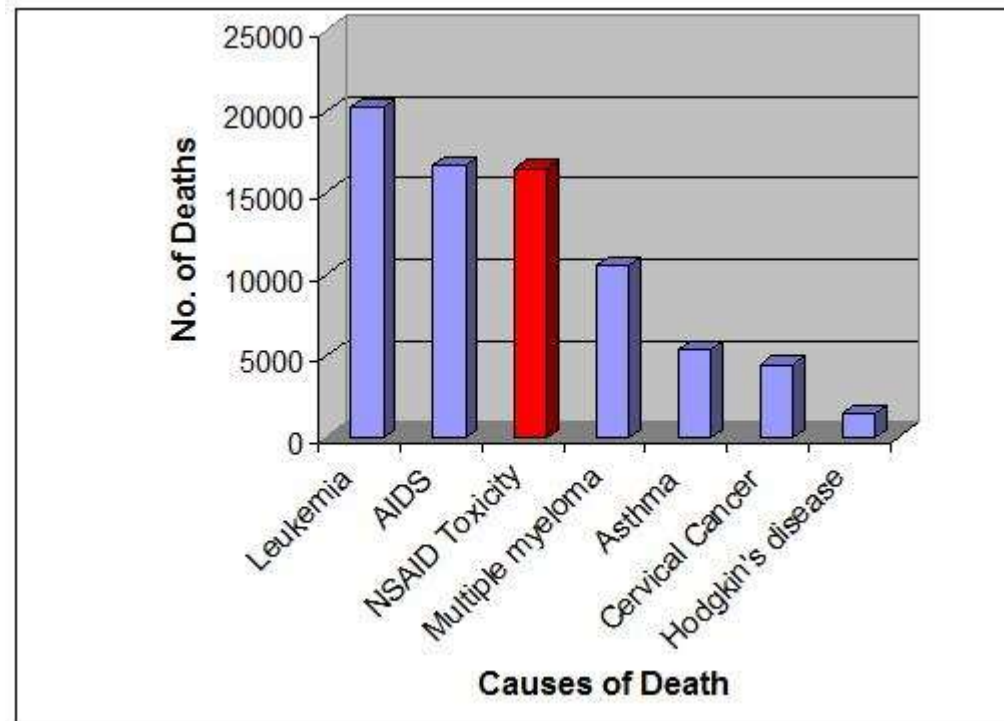
# Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)

- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
  - Analgesic, anti-inflammatory, and antipyretic
  - OTC drugs
  - The most widely used of all drugs
  - Used to relieve mild to moderate pain
- Gastrointestinal toxicity including bleeding ulcer
- Risk of cardiovascular events
- Kidney damage

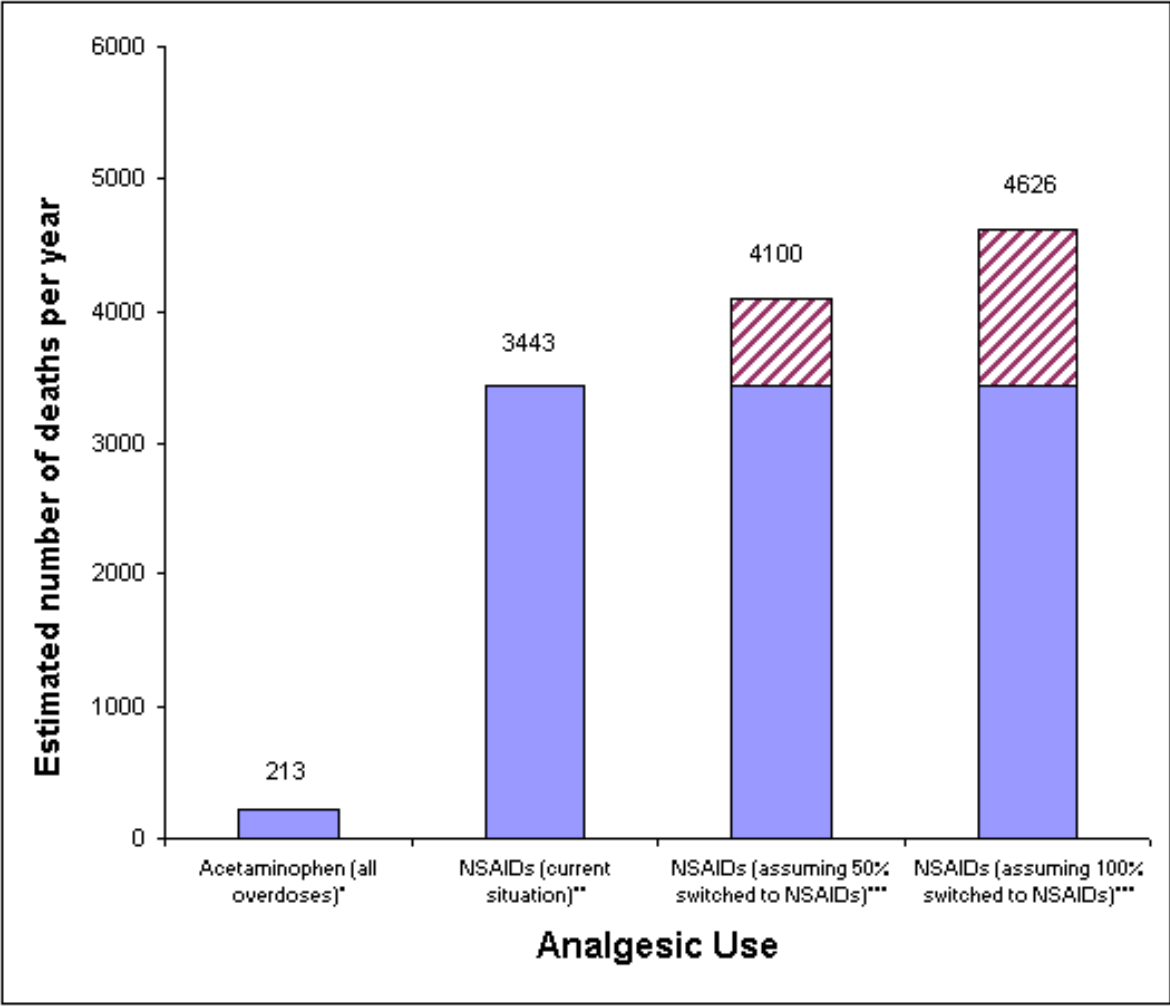


# NSAID overdose

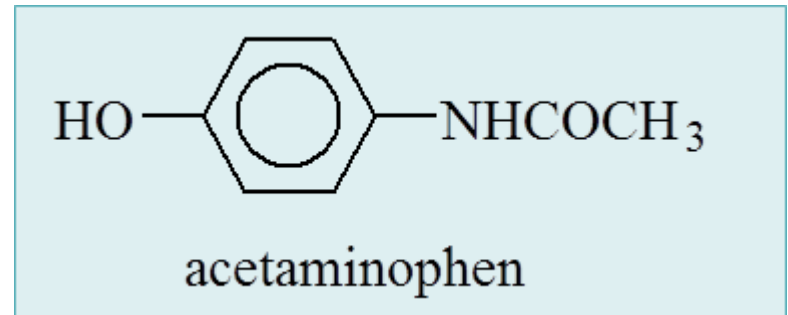
- Symptoms of NSAID overdose are usually mild
  - Gastrointestinal upset, abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhea
  - 5% to 10% of patients experience convulsions. Metabolic acidosis is uncommon
  - Rarely, coma, prolonged seizures, apnea, bradycardia, renal failure and death may occur



# NSAID overdose



# Acetaminophen



- Acetaminophen (paracetamol) is not a NSAID, but a distinct analgesic and fever reducing drug with a similarly broad usage
- Most commonly used OTC analgesic & also most common over dose leading to hospital
  - Overdose is the leading cause of acute liver failure in the developed world
  - 56,000 emergency room visits, 26,000 hospitalizations, and 458 deaths due to acute liver failure
  - Kidney toxicity

FDA: combination prescription pain relievers that contain more than 325 mg of acetaminophen per tablet, capsule, or other dosage unit should no longer be prescribed because of a risk of liver damage

# Acetaminophen

## Toxicokinetics

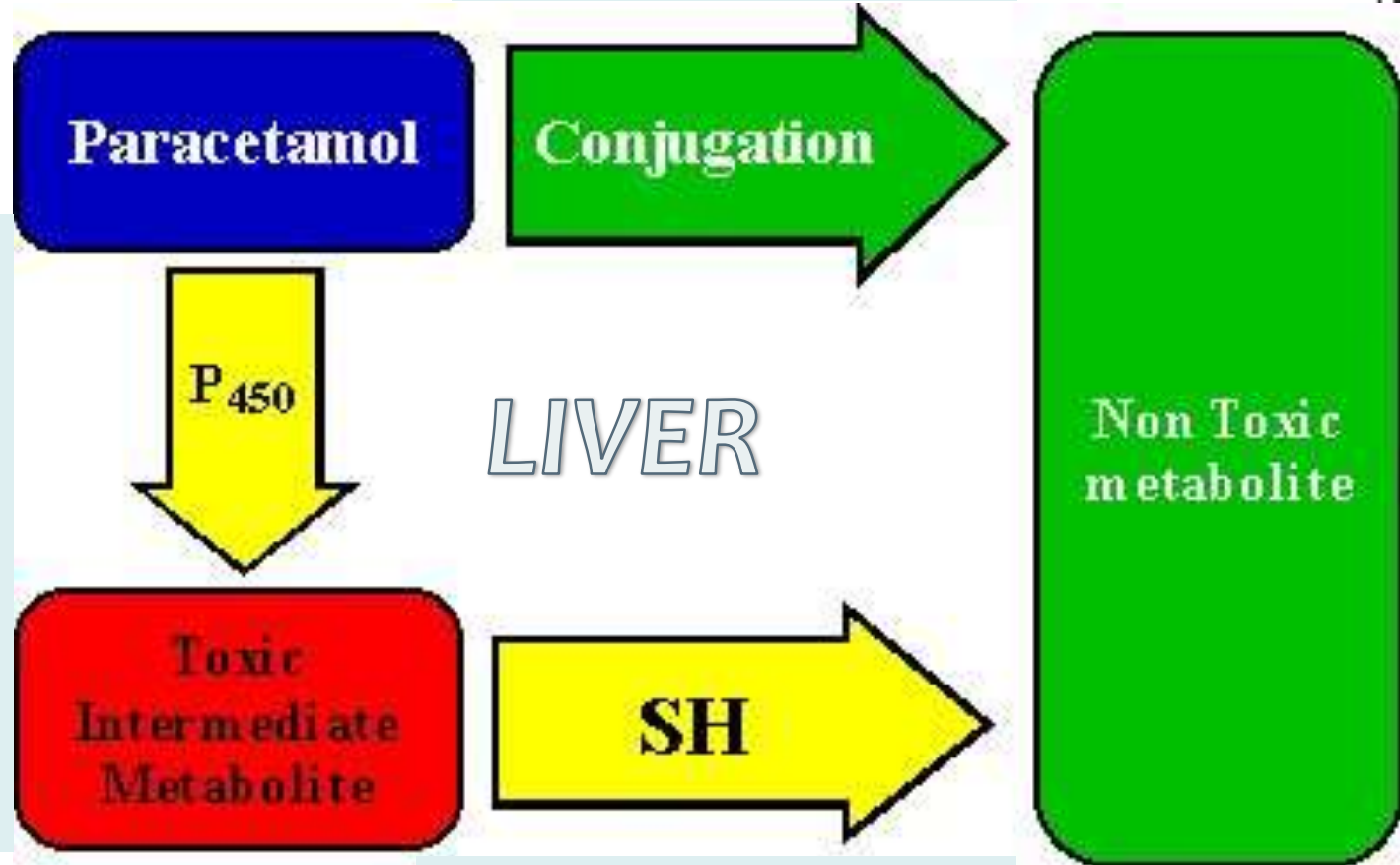
- Relatively safe
- Rapid oral abs with peak levels at 1-2hrs for tablets (30mins for elixir)
- 20% is metabolized by gut wall, rest by the liver
- Elimination  $T_{1/2}$  = ~2hrs,  $\geq 4$ hrs in over dose where
- LETHAL DOSE 15-25g
- Liver damage severe with  $>10$ g doses; Children: 150 mg/kg

# Acetaminophen

## Metabolism

60% glucuronide conjugates  
30% to sulfate conjugates

4% is metabolized by the cytochrome P450 mixed-function oxidase system (3A4 at low doses; 2E1 predominantly at high doses) to the potentially toxic reactive intermediate N-acetyl-p-benzoquinoneimine (**NAPQI**).



conjugated with glutathione to form nontoxic cysteine and mercapturic acid conjugates

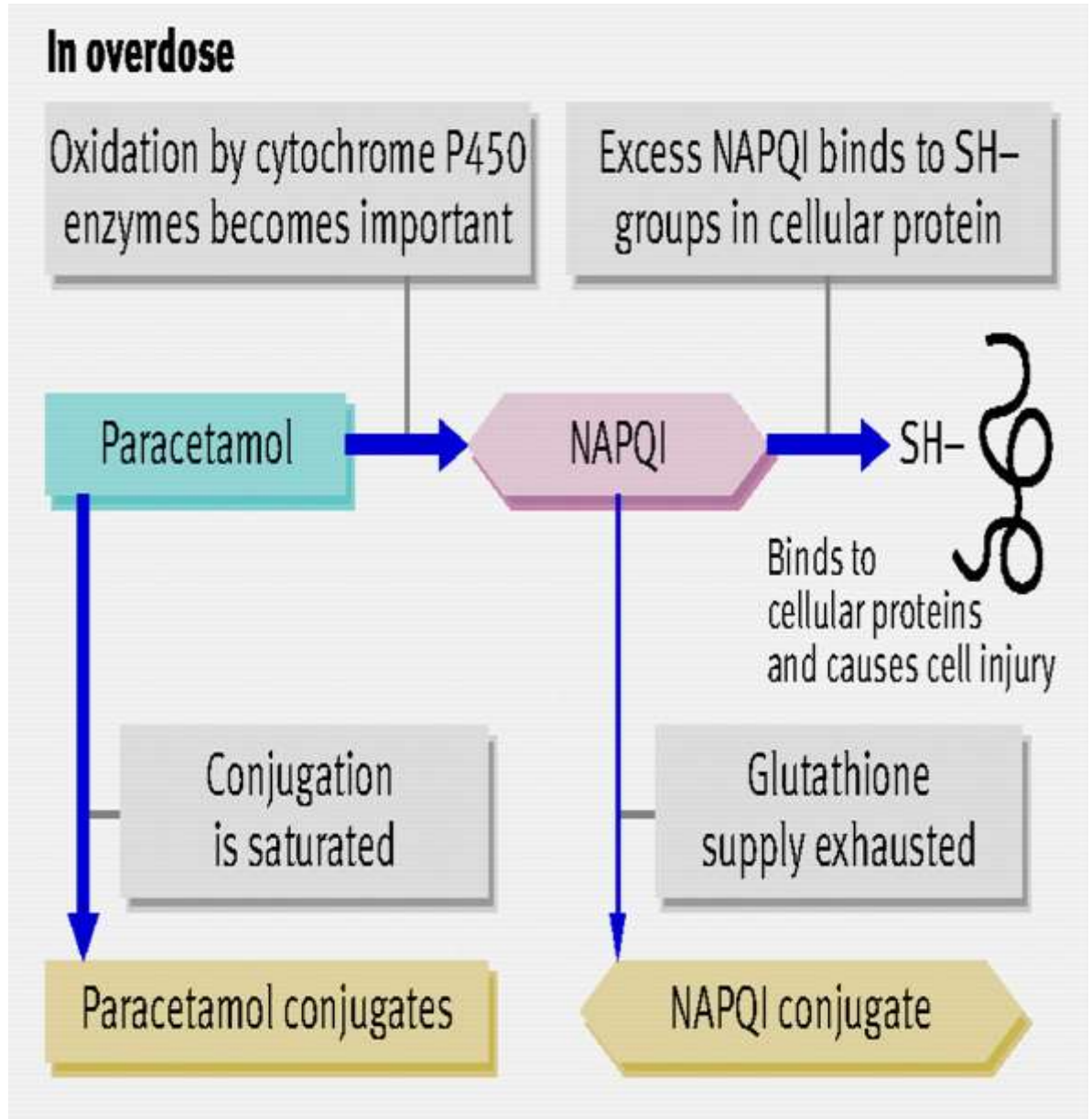
# Acetaminophen

## Toxicity

NAPQI induces oxidation of enzymes which alter normal cell functions and impairs cell defenses against endogenous reactive oxygen species

Hepatic toxicity becomes evident only when hepatic GSH falls to 30% of baseline

Therapeutic Dose: 10 to 15mg/kg  
Toxic Dose: 150 mg/kg





# Acetaminophen

Factors that may predispose patients to hepatotoxicity

- Increased frequency and duration of acetaminophen dosing
- Increased capacity for CYP2E1 activation to NAPQI
- Decreased GSH availability
- Decreased capacity for glucuronidation and sulfation
- Alcohol

Acetaminophen Level	Result Interpretation
10-20 mcg/mL	Therapeutic levels
Less than 150 mcg/mL 4 hours after ingestion	Low risk of liver damage
Greater than 200 mcg/mL 4 hours after ingestion Or Greater than 50 mcg/mL 12 hours after ingestion	Associated with toxicity and liver damage



# Clinical Manifestations

## Stage I toxicity

With in 24 hours, No hepatic injury, asymptomatic, N/V/abdominal pain



## Stage II toxicity

24 to 72hours, right upper quadrant abdominal pain, anorexia, N/V, Tachycardia and hypotension , Raised liver function test



## Stage III toxicity

72 to 96 hours, N/V/abdominal pain, Maximal liver injury (jaundice, coagulopathy, hypoglycemia, and hepatic encephalopathy), Acute renal failure, Death from multiorgan failure



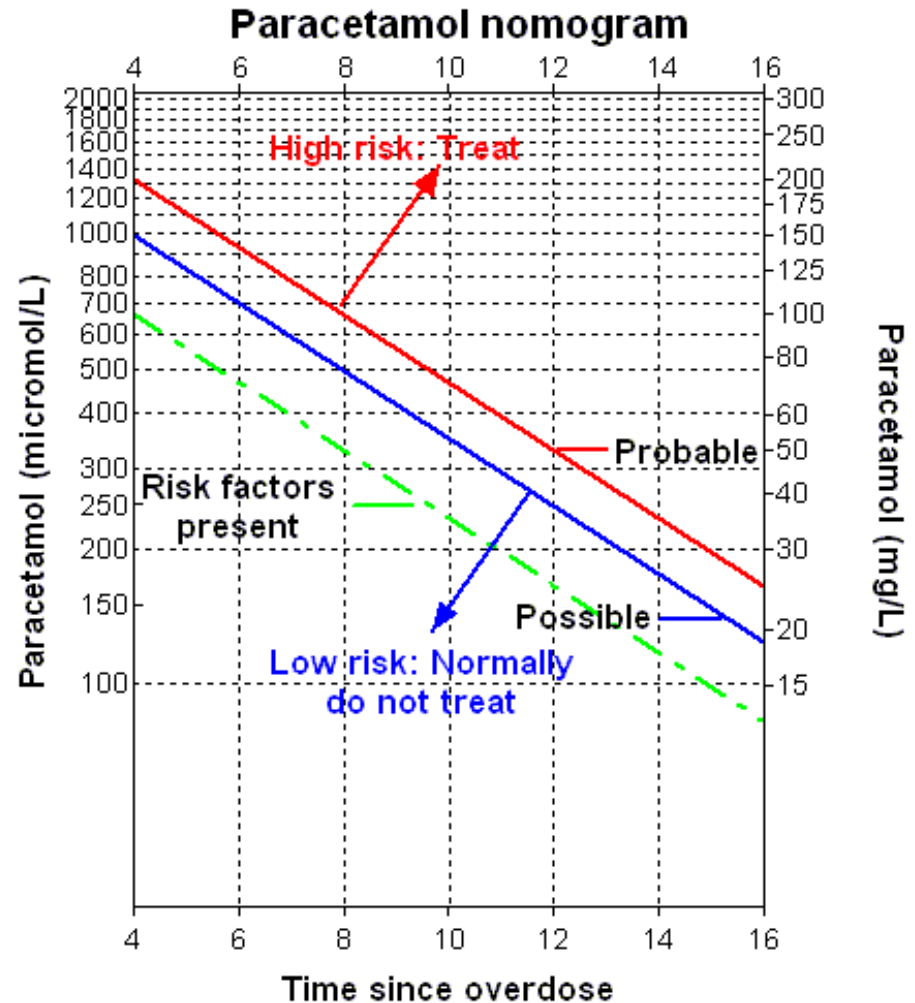
## Stage IV toxicity

The recovery phase, Patients who survive stage III

# Monitoring and Testing

## Laboratory tests

- **Serum acetaminophen levels**
  - Management is dependent on the serum acetaminophen level and the time of ingestion
  - Rumack/Matthew nomogram
  - Paracetamol concentrations taken between 4 and 24 hours after ingestion



# Monitoring and Testing

## Laboratory tests

- Liver function tests
  - alanine aminotransferase [ALT]
  - aspartate aminotransferase [AST]
  - bilirubin [total and fractionated]
  - alkaline phosphatase
- Prothrombin time (PT) with international normalized ratio (INR)
- Glucose
- Renal function studies (electrolytes, BUN, creatinine)
- ECG
- Lipase and amylase (in patients with abdominal pain)
- Other tests to consider
  - Serum salicylate level: in unconscious patients or those in whom there is a suspicion of co-ingestion of salicylates
  - Urine drug screen: may be used in patients who are unconscious to determine if other substances have been taken

# Monitoring and Testing

## Special clinical considerations

- Glutathione deficiency
  - people with acute or chronic starvation
  - Eating disorders (e.g., anorexia or bulimia)
  - Patients with chronic debilitating illnesses (e.g., cystic fibrosis, AIDS, alcoholism, or hepatitis C)
- Prior medications
  - Long-term treatment with CYP 450 inducers (e.g., carbamazepine, rifampicin)
  - Long standing alcohol
- Children

# Treatment of Acetaminophen Overdose

## Out of hospital treatment

- Activated charcoal, with in the first hour after overdose
- Ipecac and Lavage might be used with in 2 hours of ingestion (not common)
- Antiemetics are used to relieve nausea and vomiting, which can result from both acetaminophen toxicity and from Activated charcoal and oral N-acetylcysteine administration

# Treatment of Acetaminophen Overdose

## N-acetylcysteine

- The mainstay of treatment for paracetamol toxicity
- Antidote for paracetamol
- As early as possible
- Is a sulfhydryl donor, replenishes glutathione stores
- Loading dose of 140 mg/kg then 70 mg/kg given every 4 hours
- Total treatment duration of 72 hours
- Should be given even if the history is unclear but a potentially toxic acetaminophen ingestion is suspected. NAC should be administered while awaiting a serum Acetaminophen level if the patient presents close to or later than 8 hours after an acute ingestion

# Treatment of Acetaminophen Overdose

- N-acetylcysteine
  - Sulphurous compound:
    - Causes vomiting when given by mouth or nausea when given intravenously
    - Asthma, family history of drug allergy, and women
    - Treated by interrupting the acetylcysteine infusion and providing symptomatic relief with an antihistamine such as chlorpheniramine and nebulized salbutamol
- Liver transplantation, patients with severe hepatotoxicity and potential to progress to hepatic failure
  - Metabolic acidosis
  - Renal failure
  - Coagulopathy
  - Encephalopathy

# ACETAMINOPHEN

## Case study

A **21-year-old woman** was brought to the emergency department (ED) by her friend when he learned that she ingested approximately **30 (325-mg) acetaminophen tablets** in an attempted suicide. He was unaware of any previous significant medical or psychiatric illness but reported that she was seen in another ED several days earlier for **persistent headaches**. He said that she did **not abuse alcohol** or any other drugs.

The patient was able to provide a history and admitted to taking approximately 30 tablets approximately **3 hours before** coming to the hospital because she wanted to kill herself. Shortly after taking the tablets she developed **a bad stomach ache, felt extremely nauseated, and vomited** once. She denied taking any other medications or alcohol in the suicide attempt.



# SALICYLATES

- Salicylate-containing medications have been widely used in the world
  - Aspirin
  - Topical products containing salicylates, such as Ben-Gay, salicylic acid, and oil of wintergreen or methyl salicylate
- Continues to be responsible for a significant number of cases of morbidity and mortality every year
- Salicylism, acute or chronic poisoning

## OTC Analgesic Exposures

64% acetaminophen  
19% ibuprofen  
17% aspirin

## OTC Analgesic Fatalities

62% aspirin  
34% acetaminophen  
04% ibuprofen

# SALICYLATES

## Toxic dose

- Less than 150 mg/kg - no toxicity to mild toxicity
- 150-300 mg/kg – Mild to moderate toxicity
- 301-500 mg/kg - Serious toxicity
- Greater than 500 mg/kg - Potentially lethal toxicity

## Toxicokinetics

- Aspirin is a weak acid ( $pK_a = 3.5$ )
- Rapidly absorbed (peak ~1hr or 4-6 if enteric coated)
- ~5-10% is excreted unchanged as salicylic acid
- ~90% oxidation, glycine conjugation, and glucuronide conjugation
- Therapeutic  $T_{1/2} = 2-4.5$ hr, but in over dose  $T_{1/2} \sim 18-36$ hr

# SALICYLATES

## Toxic mechanisms

Acid-base, fluid, and electrolyte abnormalities

### Phase 1

hyperventilation  
resulting from direct  
respiratory center  
stimulation, respiratory  
alkalosis and  
compensatory alkaluria  
last as long as 12 hours

### phase 2

Metabolic acidosis,  
interrupts aerobic  
respiration, Krebs  
cycle and lactate  
accumulation  
last 12-24 hours

### Phase 3

Dehydration,  
hypokalemia, and  
fever  
4-6 hours after  
ingestion in a young  
infant or 24 hours or  
more in adults

### Metabolic acidosis

Affect TCA ( $\uparrow$ glucose utilization,  $\uparrow$ lactic acid) & Urea  
( $\uparrow$ ammonia) Cycles

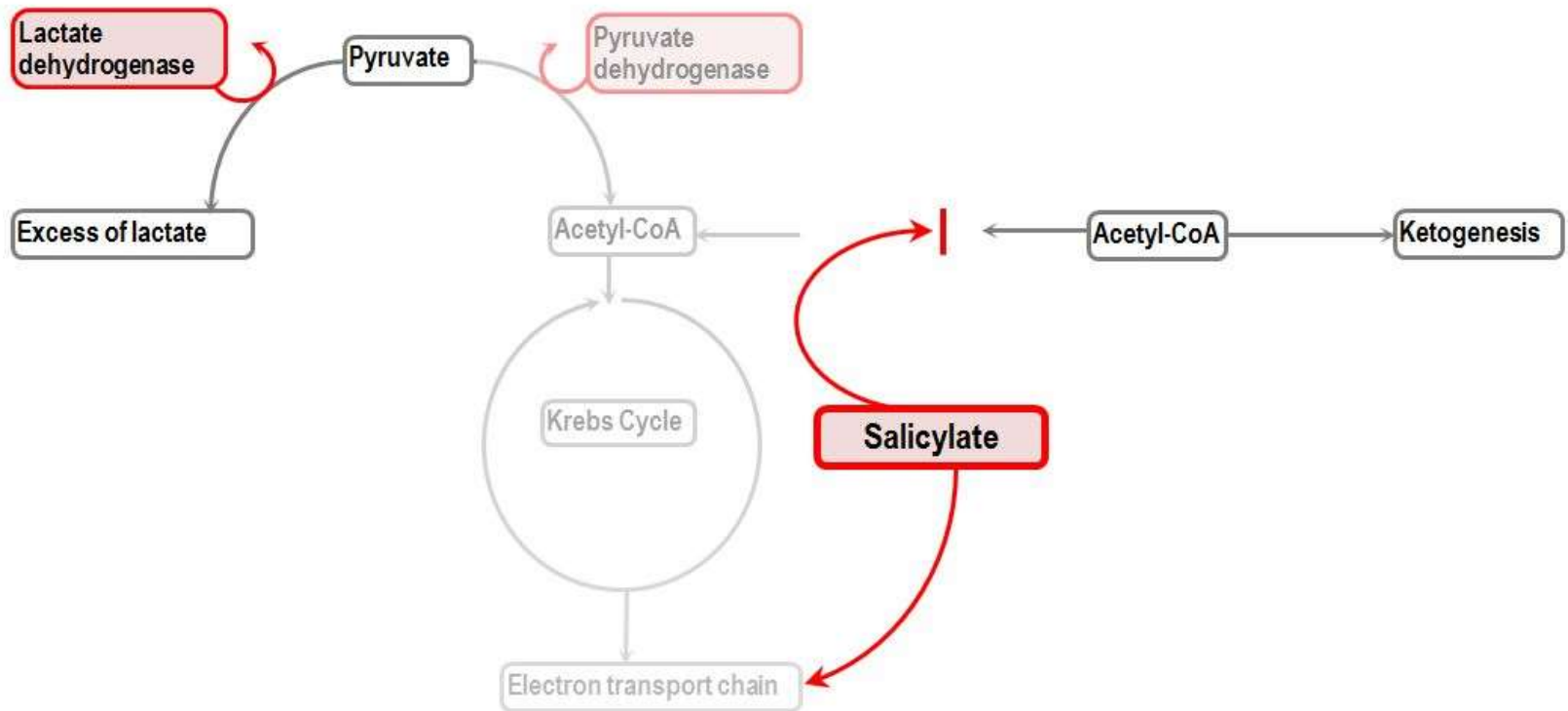
### Glucose metabolism

Hypoglycemia,  $\uparrow$ tissue glycolysis,  $\downarrow$ glucose synthesis

### Other effects

Inhibit Vit K dependent factors II, VII, IX & X  $\rightarrow$   $\uparrow$ INR

# Toxic mechanisms



# SALICYLATES

## Clinical features

- Hyperthermia is an indication of severe toxicity
- **Acute intoxication**
  - Gastric effects: N & V, Gastritis
  - CNS effects: N & V, tinnitus, confusion, hallucinations, seizures
  - Metabolic effects: Hyperventilation, Acid-base disturbance (respiratory alkalosis, metabolic acidosis), dehydration, electrolyte disturbances, fever
- **Chronic intoxication**
  - More common in elderly
  - Lower GI symptoms & higher non-specific neuro symptoms
  - Confusion, delirium, dehydration, metabolic acidosis, cerebral oedema

# SALICYLATES

## *Lab tests*

- **Salicylate level**
  - If enteric coated preparations, serial salicylate levels (2 hourly)
  - 15-30 mg/dL: therapeutic level
  - Higher than 40-50 mg/dL: symptomatic
  - Above 100 mg/dL: life-threatening toxicity
- **Arterial blood gas (ABG)**
  - Respiratory alkalosis
  - Metabolic acidosis
- **Electrolytes, BUN/creatinine, glucose**
  - Anion-gap metabolic acidosis
  - Hypokalemia
  - Baseline renal function
- **Imaging studies**
  - Abdominal radiograph
  - Computed tomography (CT) scanning of the abdomen
  - Endoscopy

# SALICYLATES

## *Management*

- **Asymptomatic**
  - Charcoal 1g/kg
  - I.V. bicarbonate infusion 1mmol/kg/hr to correct any acidosis (pH <7.3)
- **Symptomatic**
  - Charcoal 1g/kg unless altered conscious state
  - Whole-bowel irrigation, hemodialysis
  - I.V. fluid resuscitation to correct dehydration (use N. Saline)
  - I.V. bicarbonate infusion 1mmol/kg/hr, after initial slow bolus of 2mmol/kg, (Alkalization, urine pH >7.5)
  - Potassium replacement (20–40 mEq KCl per liter)
  - Respiratory support ± haemodialysis in case of convulsion and coma
  - STABILIZATION THERAPY

# SALICYLATES

## Case study

A **22-years-old woman** came to the emergency department complaining of **abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting**. She had a history of **depression** but stated that she currently was not being treated by a psychiatrist or taking any psychiatric medications. Upon further questioning, the patient said that **6 hours earlier** she had been severely depressed and had ingested **at least half a bottle of aspirin tablets** in a suicide attempt, after which she **vomited once**. She **denied tinnitus** but said that she was **short of breath**. She denied significant past medical or surgical problems.



A large, bold, blue serif letter 'M' is centered within a light blue square background. The letter has a slight gradient and a drop shadow effect.

*Med*scape®



# ***Digitalis toxicity***

**Hasan Alhaddad, MSc**

**Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology**

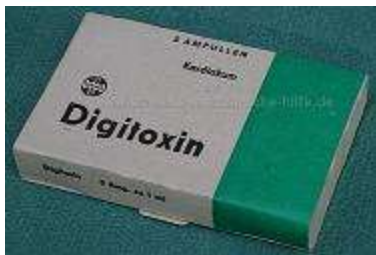
**College of Pharmacy/ University of Baghdad**

**2014**

---

# Cardiac glycosides

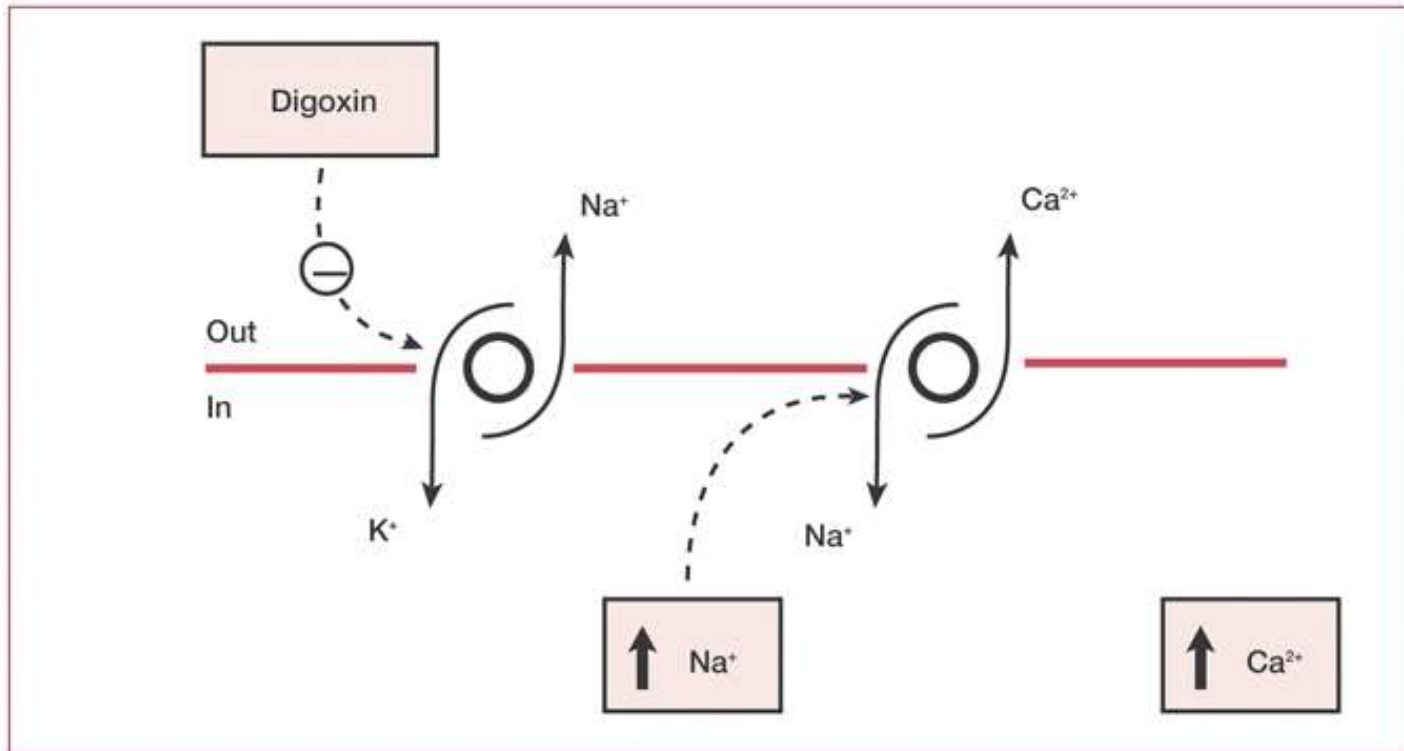
- Digitalis is the oldest compound in cardiovascular medicine
- Cardiac glycosides include digoxin, digitoxin, digitalis and ouabain
- +ve inotropic, -ve chronotropic
- Heart failure, Atrial fibrillation, Atrial flutter
- Low TI



# Mechanism Of Pharmacological Action

- Potent inhibitors of cellular  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+-\text{ATPase}$ 
  - This ion transport system moves 3 sodium ions out of the cell and brings 2 potassium ions into the cell
  - Necessary for cell survival
  - Subsequent inhibit the  $\text{Na}^+-\text{Ca}^{++}$  exchanger
    - Three sodium ions are exchanged for each calcium
    - An increase in intracellular sodium concentration competes for calcium through this exchange mechanism leading to an increase in intracellular calcium concentration, leading to **increases contractility (inotropy)**
- Increase vagal efferent activity to the heart, reduces sinoatrial firing rate (decreases heart rate; **negative chronotropy**) and reduces conduction velocity of electrical impulses through the atrioventricular node (**negative dromotropy**)

# Mechanism Of Pharmacological Action



# Kinetics

## Volume of Distribution

5-7 L/kg

## Protein Binding

25%

## Half Life

Age, Renal, and cardiac function dependent

Approximately 38 Hours (parent drug)

## Time to peak (serum)

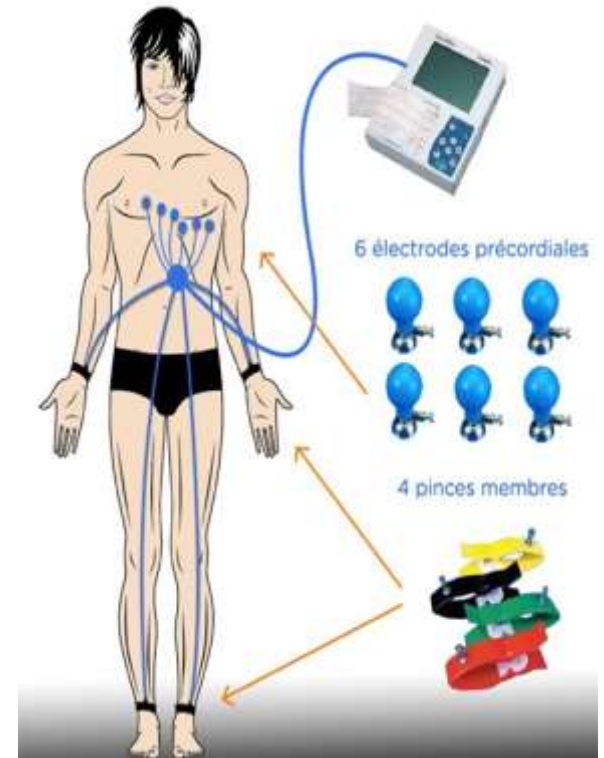
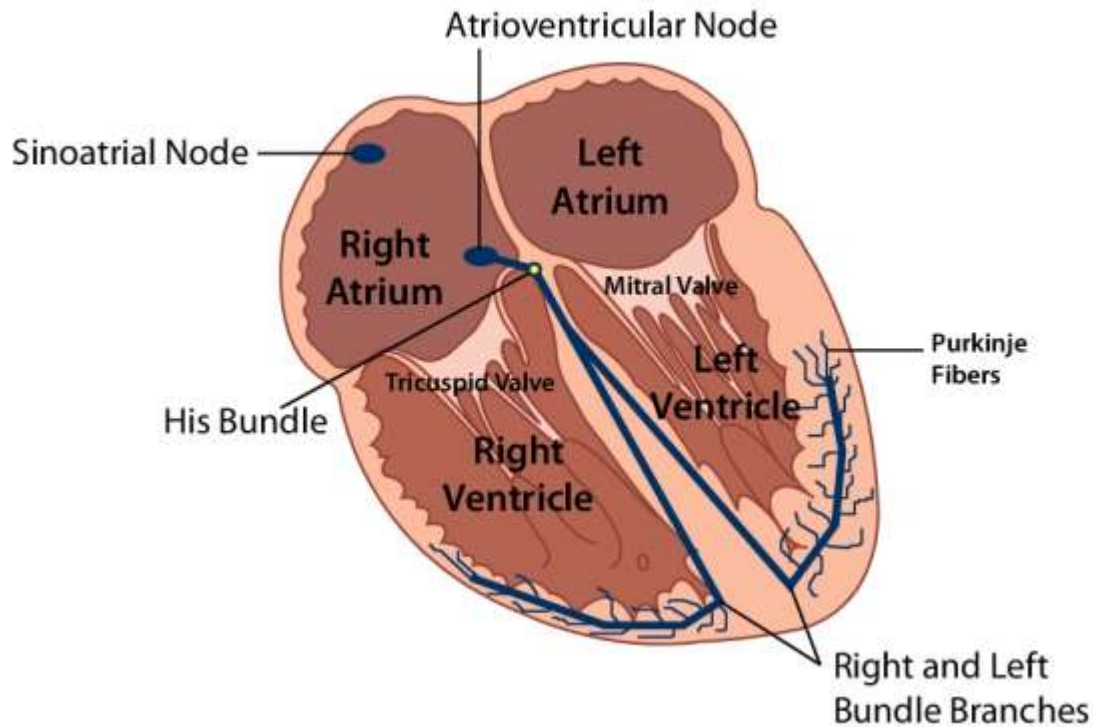
Oral: 1-3 hours

Distribution phase: 6-8 hours

Steady state: 7-10 Days

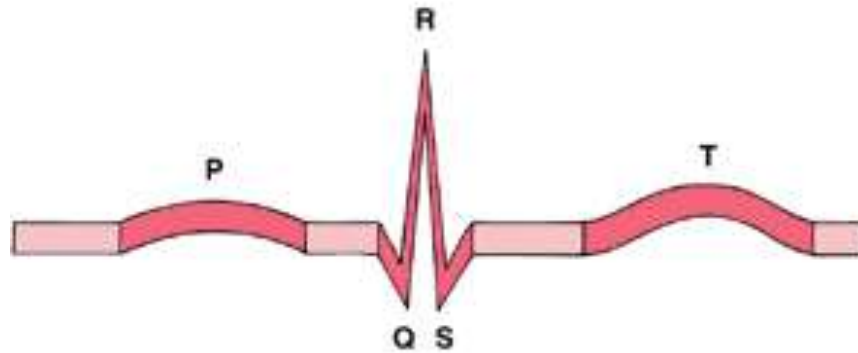
# Electrocardiography (ECG)

## Structures of the Heart

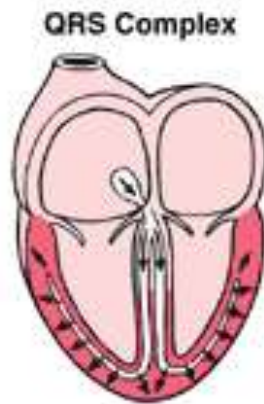




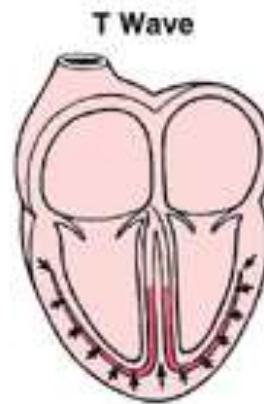
# ECG



Activation of the atria

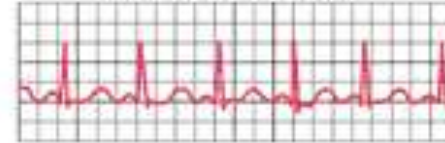


Activation of the ventricles

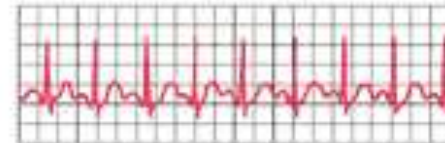


Recovery wave

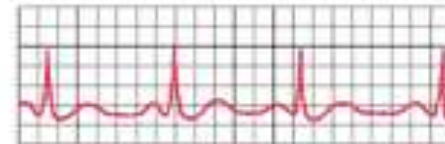
**Normal Heartbeat**



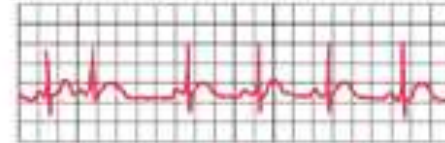
**Fast Heartbeat**



**Slow Heartbeat**



**Irregular Heartbeat**



# Digitalis toxicity

- life-threatening condition, 1,500/year
- In 2011, there were 2,513 cases involving cardiac glycosides reported to U.S. poison control centers. Of these, 90 experienced major effects (i.e, life threatening resulting in prolonged hospitalization) and 26 died
- Low TI
  - Therapeutic levels are 0.6 to 2 ng/mL
  - levels of toxicity between therapeutic and toxic ranges
- Acute toxicity
  - cardiac effects
  - nausea and vomiting
- Chronic toxicity
  - cardiac effects
  - nonspecific symptoms include fatigue, malaise, and visual disturbances

# Digitalis toxicity

## ○ Causes

- High levels of digitalis in the body (over dose)
- Accumulation during chronic treatment
- Decreased tolerance to the drug, have normal levels of digitalis in blood

## ○ Risk factors

- Electrolyte Imbalance
  - Potassium loss (thiazide)
  - Low levels of magnesium
  - Hypercalcemia
- Quinidine, flecainide, verapamil, amiodarone.
- Kidney failure and dehydration

# Signs/symptoms of acute toxicity

## Gastrointestinal

nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain

## Neurological

weakness, confusion, Photophobia

## Electrolyte

Hyperkalemia  
( $> 5.5$  mEq/L is a poor prognostic sign)

## Cardiac

Palpitations, bradycardia, heart block, several types of arrhythmias, and Shortness of breath

# Signs/symptoms of chronic toxicity

## Gastrointestinal

Less than that of acute digoxin toxicity (nausea, anorexia)

## Neurological

confusion, drowsiness, headache, hallucinations

## Visual

sensitivity to light, yellow halos around lights, blurred vision

# Diagnosis

- Serum digoxin level
- Electrolytes
- Renal function studies
- ECG

# Diagnosis

- Serum digoxin level
  - Toxicity begins  $>2.0$  ng/mL
  - May be misleading in the acutely poisoned patient
  - False-negative assay results may occur with acute ingestion of non-digoxin cardiac glycosides (eg, foxglove or oleander)
  - Digoxin's long distribution phase results in high serum levels for 6-10 hours prior to completed tissue distribution

# Diagnosis

- Electrolytes
  - Hyperkalemia
  - Chronic toxicity: hypokalemia and hypomagnesemia
- Kidney function tests
  - BUN
  - Creatinine

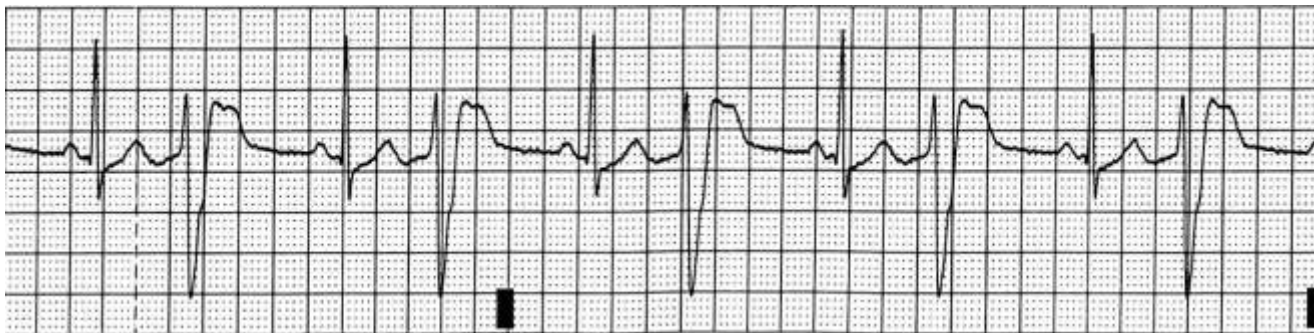


# Diagnosis

- ECG
  - May cause almost any dysrhythmia
    - atrial tachycardia with a 2:1 conduction
    - bidirectional ventricular tachycardia
    - atrial fibrillation with a slow ventricular response



**atrial tachycardia  
with block**



**Sinus rhythm with  
frequent PVCs in a  
pattern of ventricular  
bigeminy**

# Treatments

## Decontamination/enhanced elimination

For acute overdose:  
Activated charcoal,  
multiple dose activated  
charcoal, gastric lavage

Enhanced elimination  
(dialysis, hemoperfusion)  
does not effectively  
remove digoxin due to  
large volume of  
distribution and relatively  
high protein binding

# Treatments

## Digoxin immune Fab (ovine)

- Antidote, highly effective in treating life-threatening signs of digoxin toxicity such as hyperkalemia, hemodynamic instability, and arrhythmias
- Primary treatment of digoxin toxicity
- Indications:
  - Ingestion of 10 mg of digitalis (in children, 4 mg)
  - Serum digoxin level greater than 8 ng/mL in adults at steady state
  - Hyperkalemia (greater than 5 mEq/L)
  - Altered mental status
  - Rapidly progressive signs and symptoms of toxicity



# Treatments

- DigiFab (40 mg of Fab), binds 0.5 mg digoxin
- 30 minute slow IV infusion
- Acute ingestion of unknown amounts and serum concentration of digoxin:
  - 20 vials of Digoxin immune fab (ovine)
  - Can split dose into 10 vials followed by another 10 vials to avoid a febrile reaction
- Chronic ingestion unknown serum digoxin concentration
  - 6 Vials of Digoxin immune fab (ovine) in adults and Children > 20 Kg
  - 1 Vial of Digoxin immune fab (ovine) in infants and Children < 20 Kg

# Treatments

For known amounts of digoxin

$$\text{Dose In Vials} = \text{Digoxin ingested (mg)} \times 1.6$$

Round up to the nearest vial

# Treatments

For known digoxin serum concentration

$$\text{Dose In Vials} = \frac{(\text{Serum Digoxin ng/mL}) \times \text{Weight (kg)}}{100}$$

Round up to the nearest vial

# Treatments

## Digoxin immune Fab

- Adverse Effects
  - Digitalis withdrawal: exacerbation of HF, rapid ventricular response and postural hypotension
  - Hypokalemia
  - Phlebitis
  - Fever, May occur with doses above 10 vials
- Warning
  - Patients who require digoxin's inotropic action may deteriorate secondary to the withdrawal of digoxin
  - Additional inotropic support may be required for these patients (e.g, dopamine, dobutamine or vasodilators)

# Treatments

## Electrolyte imbalance

- Hyperkalemia, use insulin plus glucose, and sodium bicarbonate if the patient is acidotic
- Hemodialysis may be necessary for uncontrolled hyperkalemia
- Correct hypokalemia (usually in chronic intoxication)
- Concomitant hypomagnesemia may result in refractory hypokalemia

## Dysrhythmias

- Short-acting beta blockers (eg, esmolol) may be helpful for supraventricular tachyarrhythmias with rapid ventricular rates, but may precipitate advanced or complete AV block
- Phenytoin and lidocaine are useful for ventricular tachycardia
- Phenytoin can suppress digitalis-induced tachydysrhythmias
- Atropine has proved helpful in reversing severe sinus bradycardia
- Magnesium sulfate may terminate dysrhythmias



# Digoxin Toxicity: Case Study

76 year old woman with history of atrial fibrillation, hypertension, renal impairment, breast cancer, osteoarthritis. Stroke 1 month prior to admission.

Medications: digoxin 250 mcg once daily, amlodipine, lisinopril, indapamide SR, simvastatin, clopidogrel, bisoprolol, omeprazole, erythromycin

Presents with nausea, vomiting, change in vision, lethargy

VS: BP "normal"; HR 35-38 bpm

## Labs

Digoxin levels: prior to admission: 3.4 ng/mL (0.8-2 ng/mL normal range for this lab)

On admission: 2.9 ng/mL

Increased digoxin dose from 125 mcg/day to 250 mcg/day 28 days ago

# Digoxin Toxicity: Case Study

Summary: elderly patient with renal impairment, signs/symptoms of (chronic) digoxin poisoning with elevated digoxin level

Potential drug interactions:

Amlodipine

(Ca<sup>2+</sup> channel blocker)  
can increase digoxin level and enhance digoxin AV blocking effect

Bisoprolol

( $\beta$  blocker)  
can enhance digoxin's bradycardic effect

Erythromycin

(macrolide antibiotic) can increase digoxin level

# Digoxin Toxicity: Case Study

Received digoxin-specific antibody fragments (Fab)

Weight 108 kg

Digoxin level: 2.9  
ng/mL

Fab Dose In Vials =

**(Serum Digoxin ng/mL) x (Weight in kg)**

**100**

3 vials administered

# Digoxin Toxicity: Case Study

6 hours post digoxin Fab infusion: digoxin 1.9 ng/mL

At discharge (91 hours post digoxin Fab infusion): digoxin 1 ng/mL, HR 65 bpm, digoxin toxicity signs/symptoms resolved

## Monitoring

HR: improved (35-38 bpm to 65 bpm at discharge)

BP: remained stable

EKG: unchanged from baseline (atrial fibrillation)

K<sup>+</sup> not provided in this report (although this was a chronic toxicity not acute)

# Digoxin Toxicity: Case Study



Approaches to digoxin poisoning in the chronically poisoned patient will depend on the status of the patient (signs/symptoms, age, renal function, cardiac status)

This was an elderly patient with impaired renal function who clearly had digoxin toxicity and an elevated level.

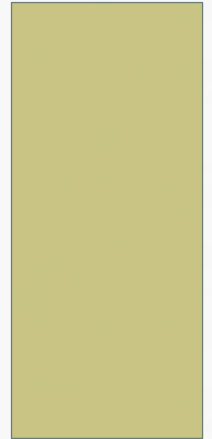
The clinical decision was made to treat promptly with digoxin Fab rather than prolong her clinical course.



Thank  
You!

# **TOXICITIES FROM DRUGS OF ABUSE**

Hasan Alhaddad, MSC  
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology  
College of Pharmacy/ University of Baghdad, 2014



# DRUGS OF ABUSE

- People abuse (misuse) substances such as drugs, alcohol, and tobacco for varied and complicated reasons
- Many first try drugs out of curiosity, to have a good time, because friends are doing it, or in an effort to improve athletic performance or ease another problem, such as stress, anxiety, or depression
- Society pays a significant cost
  - Direct damage to health by substance abuse and its link to physical trauma
  - Strong connection between crime and drug dependence and abuse
- Many street drugs have no therapeutic benefits. Any use of these drugs is a form of drug abuse



# DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Types of Abused Drugs

- **Depressants:** depress functions of central nervous system, cause calm and bring about sleep (alcohol, barbituates). Tranquilizers are depressants
- **Stimulants:** increase alertness and activity (cocaine, amphetamines)
- **Steroids:** promote muscle growth (androgen, testosterone, anabolic steroids)

# DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Alcohol

Beer, Liquor, gin  
Calming and drowsy effects  
High potential for abuse and addiction

## Nicotine

Cigarettes, Cigars, Snuff  
Addictive substance of tobacco  
Stimulant or sedative  
30% of total cancers, CVD, Chronic bronchitis



# DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Heroin

Smack, Junk, Black tar  
Most widely abused opiate,  
extremely addictive  
No medical use  
Rush of pleasure followed  
by drowsiness and N/V

## Cocaine

Coke, Crack  
Powerful stimulant,  
Increase energy and  
decrease appetite  
Heart disturbances,  
strokes, and respiratory  
failure



# DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Marijuana

Weed, Hash, Pot  
Cannabis Sativa

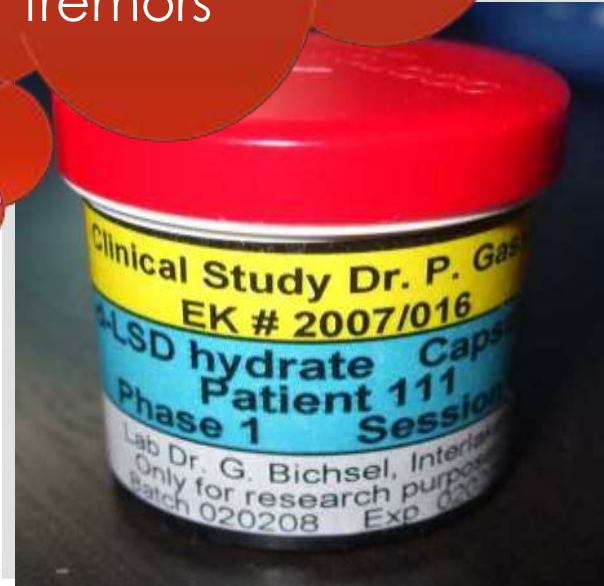
Most common drug used  
Euphoria then depression  
Impairs memory and  
attention, and slows  
reaction time

## Hallucinogens

Mescaline

LSD (Lysergic Acid  
Diethylamide)

Hallucination: distortion  
of perception of reality  
and time  
Mydriases, fever, and  
tremors





# Methamphetamine

Speed, Ice

Strong stimulant, very addictive  
Brain toxicity, fever, and convulsion  
Chronically: violent behavior,  
insomnia, and anxiety

## DRUGS OF ABUSE



**10 Years of Meth Use**



# DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Date Rape Drugs

Colorless and tasteless, victims are unable to resist assault and recall what happened next day

**GHB:** depressant has relaxing effect (party goers) and muscle growth (body builders), it cause coma and death at high dose

**Rohypnol** (flunitrazepam):  
depressant drug



## MDMA

Ecstasy, Love drug  
Methylenedioxymethamoh  
etamine

Stimulant and hallucinogen  
Chills and muscle crumping  
Overdose: unconsciousness  
and convulsions



# DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Inhalants

Glue, Sniff  
Household products  
Feeling high  
Permanent brain  
damage and death

## Anabolic steroids

Steroids, Jym candies  
Male sex hormones  
analogues  
Strokes, hair loss and acne  
Psychological  
dependence



Dissociative drugs  
Ketamine, Detromethorphan,  
and PCP



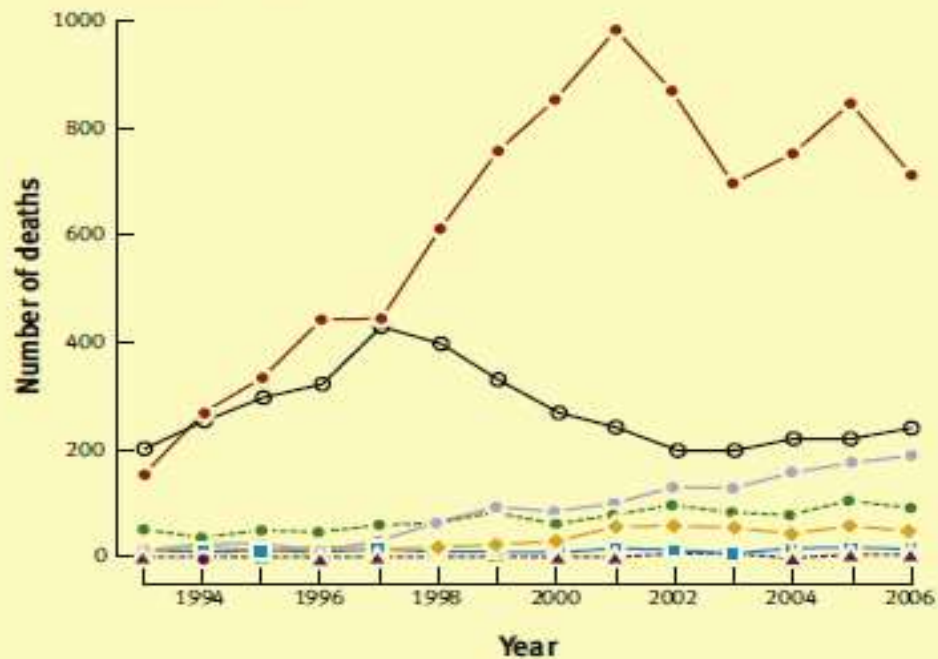
# TOXICITIES FROM DRUGS OF ABUSE

- Toxicity caused by drugs of abuse is a frequent reason for presentation to hospital
- Associated with toxic effects on almost every system of the organism
- Stimulants produce excitement, increased heart rate, and rapid breathing, while depressants do the opposite
- Drug overdose symptoms vary widely depending on the specific drug used, but may include:
  - Abnormal pupil size
  - Agitation
  - Convulsions
  - Death
  - Hallucinations
  - Nausea and vomiting
  - Unconsciousness (coma)



# TOXICITIES FROM DRUGS OF ABUSE

Numbers of deaths where selected substances were mentioned on the death certificate, England and Wales, 1993–2006



- Heroin and morphine
- Methadone
- Cocaine
- All amphetamines
- MDMA/ecstasy
- Cannabis
- ▲ Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB)

# TOXICITIES FROM DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Common clinical features of toxicity with selected drugs of abuse

Drug group	Features of acute toxicity
Sympathomimetic stimulants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tachycardia, hypertension, mydriasis, sweating</li><li>• Euphoria, agitation, confusion</li><li>• Anorexia</li><li>• Trismus<sup>a</sup></li><li>• Arrhythmias<sup>b</sup></li><li>• Myocardial ischaemia/infarction<sup>b</sup></li><li>• Circulatory collapse, pulmonary oedema<sup>b</sup></li><li>• Hyponatraemia<sup>a</sup></li><li>• Seizures<sup>b</sup></li><li>• Intracerebral haemorrhage or cerebral infarction<sup>b,c</sup></li><li>• Metabolic acidosis<sup>b</sup></li><li>• Hyperthermia, rhabdomyolysis, malignant encephalopathy<sup>b</sup></li><li>• DIC, multi-organ failure<sup>a</sup></li></ul>
GHB and precursors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drowsiness, confusion, amnesia, coma</li><li>• Nausea, vomiting</li><li>• Myoclonus, hypotonia,</li><li>• Hypothermia</li><li>• Seizures</li><li>• Bradyarrhythmia, hypotension</li><li>• Respiratory depression or arrest</li><li>• Metabolic acidosis, hypokalaemia, hyperglycaemia, hypernatraemia</li></ul>
Ketamine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nausea, vomiting</li><li>• Blurred vision</li><li>• Ataxia</li><li>• Agitation, paranoid psychosis, perceived loss of control</li><li>• Hypertension, tachycardia</li><li>• Hyperpyrexia</li><li>• Reduced consciousness, seizures and respiratory impairment</li></ul>

DIC, disseminated intravascular coagulation

<sup>a</sup> Especially MDMA

<sup>b</sup> Especially cocaine

<sup>c</sup> Especially amphetamines

# TOXICITIES FROM DRUGS OF ABUSE

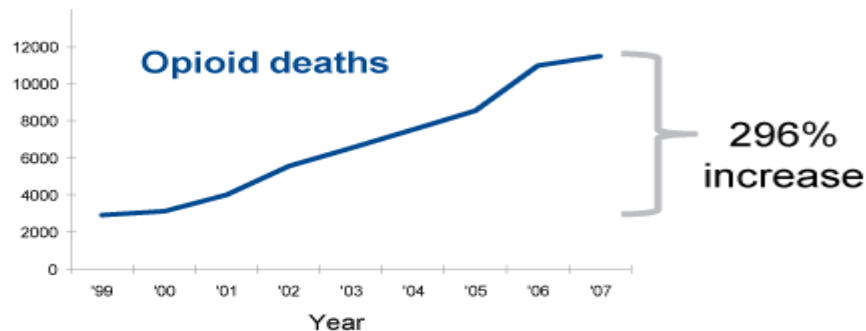
## Opioids

- Heroin use remains a substantial public health problem and deaths from respiratory depression and cardiovascular collapse following overdose
- Naloxone is still the mainstay of therapy for severe opiate toxicity
- Substitution therapy with methadone or buprenorphine
- The morbidity and mortality associated with cocaine use is high: in the USA, 40% of emergency department visits due to illicit drugs involve cocaine
- Acute coronary insufficiency and arrhythmias are common toxicities

### Overdose deaths

▶ **2,901 in 1999**

▶ **11,499 in 2007**



# TOXICITIES FROM DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Cannabis

- Cannabis ( marijuana, hashish) is the most widely used recreational agent
- Although not often associated with acute toxicity requiring hospital admission, there is increasing recognition of its cardiovascular, respiratory and central effects
- Respiratory effects, tachycardia and hypotension or hypertension, and psychosis



# TOXICITIES FROM DRUGS OF ABUSE

## Ecstasy

- Acute effects are attributable to hyper-stimulation of the nervous systems via increased release and inhibited re-uptake of serotonin, norepinephrine and dopamine
- Hyperpyrexia, altered consciousness, disseminated intravascular coagulation, multi-organ failure and death

## Inhalants

- Inhale the toxic chemicals of common products, the concentration of the fumes can be thousand times greater than the maximum permitted in industrial settings
- Experimentation, Cost effectiveness, and Easy availability
- Hallucinations, loss of self-control, violent behavior, nausea, unconsciousness or even death



# TOXICITIES FROM DRUGS OF ABUSE



**Elvis Presley died of a cardiac arrhythmia; legend has it that he was seated on the toilet at the time. His death was linked to many different drugs. One report, found fourteen different drugs in Elvis' system, ten in significant quantity**



**Michael Jackson died of acute propofol and benzodiazepine intoxication after suffering cardiac arrest at his home**

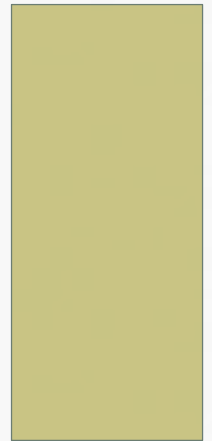
comments

welcome



# TOXICITIES FROM ANTIDEPRESSANTS

Hasan Alhaddad, MSc  
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology  
College of Pharmacy/ University of Baghdad, 2014

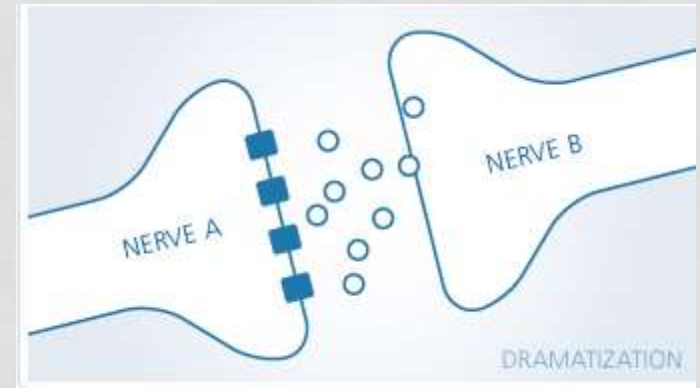
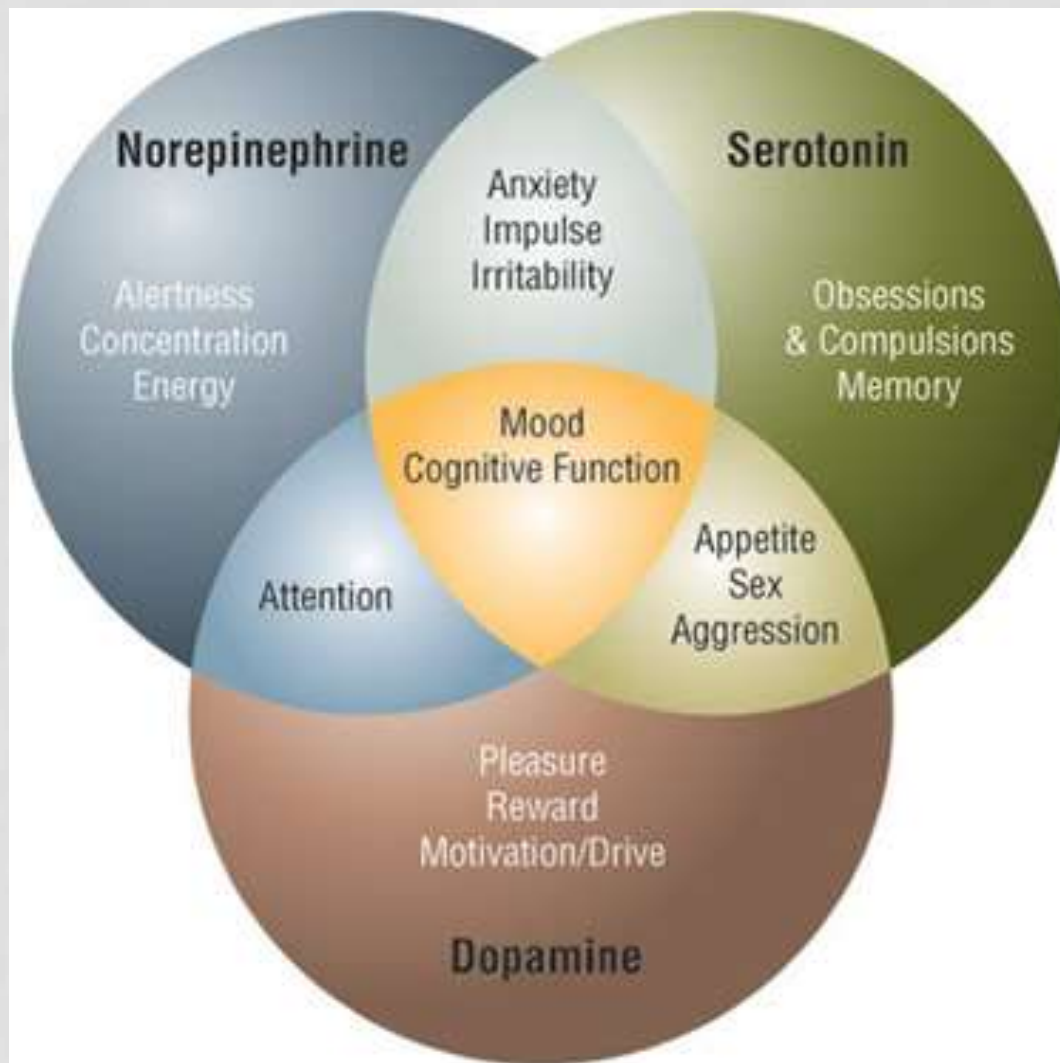




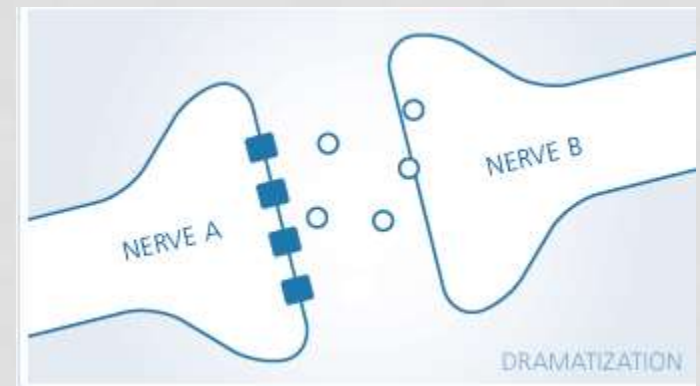
# ANTI-DEPRESSANT DRUGS

- Drugs used for the treatment of:
  - Major depressive disorder
  - Dysthymia
  - Anxiety disorders
  - Obsessive compulsive disorder
  - Eating disorders, chronic pain, neuropathic pain and, in some cases, dysmenorrhoea, snoring, migraines, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), substance abuse and sleep disorders
- The pathophysiology of depression is complex and not completely understood
  - Monoamine hypothesis

# ANTI-DEPRESSANT DRUGS



Normal



Depression

# ANTI-DEPRESSANT DRUGS

- Depression knows no age boundaries
  - 10% to 15% of children and adolescents have some symptoms of depression
  - Major depression strikes about 1 in 12 adolescents
  - Among them, 1 in 14 will commit suicide as a young adult
- Depression is the most frequent psychiatric disorder in people dying by suicide
  - Self-poisoning is a common method of suicide, especially in women
  - Antidepressants are frequently used for self-poisoning

# ANTI-DEPRESSANT DRUGS



- Antidepressant Drugs and the Food and Drug Administration Black Box Warning, 2004

**PROZAC<sup>®</sup>**  
**FLUOXETINE CAPSULES, USP**  
**FLUOXETINE ORAL SOLUTION, USP**  
**FLUOXETINE DELAYED-RELEASE CAPSULES, USP**

**WARNING**

**Suicidality and Antidepressant Drugs** — Antidepressants increased the risk compared to placebo of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in children, adolescents, and young adults in short-term studies of major depressive disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders. Anyone considering the use of Prozac or any other antidepressant in a child, adolescent, or young adult must balance this risk with the clinical need. Short-term studies did not show an increase in the risk of suicidality with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults beyond age 24; there was a reduction in risk with antidepressants compared to placebo in adults aged 65 and older. Depression and certain other psychiatric disorders are themselves associated with increases in the risk of suicide. Patients of all ages who are started on antidepressant therapy should be monitored appropriately and observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, or unusual changes in behavior. Families and caregivers should be advised of the need for close observation and communication with the prescriber. Prozac is approved for use in pediatric patients with MDD and obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD). (See WARNINGS, Clinical Worsening and Suicide Risk, PRECAUTIONS, Information for Patients, and PRECAUTIONS, Pediatric Use.)

# ANTI-DEPRESSANT DRUGS

- 4 major classes of antidepressant drugs

## **Monoamine oxidase inhibitors**

Used only to treat depression which is resistant to the other classes of antidepressants because of their serious toxicity

Phenelzine, Tranylcypromine, and Isocarboxazid

## **Cyclic Antidepressants**

Neuralgic pain, migraines, enuresis, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder  
NE and serotonin reuptake inhibition, anti-muscarinic activity

Imipramine, amitriptyline, maprotiline and amoxapine

## **Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors SSRI**

obsessive-compulsive disorders, panic disorder, alcoholism, obesity, migraine headache, and chronic pain syndromes

Citalopram, and Fluoxetine  
Less side effects

## **Atypical Antidepressants**

Serotonin reuptake inhibition with other neurotransmitter activity

Venlafaxine, Duloxetine, and Bupropion

# MAO INHIBITORS TOXICITY

- The clinical toxicity of MAOIs falls into 3 clinical syndromes

## **Acute toxicity from overdose**

- Symptoms may be delayed 6 to 24 hours
- Sympathetic hyperactivity which is followed by cardiovascular collapse
- Hyperthermia, seizures, and hypertension
- Renal failure and dehydration

## **Serotonin syndrome**

- Life threatening complication of antidepressant
- Altered mental status, increased neuromuscular tone, and autonomic excitation
- Prolonged duration of risk for the development of the syndrome after the discontinuation of the drug due to long duration of action
- “washout” period of at least 2 weeks

## **Hypertensive crises**

- Food-drug and drug-drug interactions
- Pharmacologically active dietary amines (eg, tyramine) are ingested by Patients
- Indirectly acting sympathomimetic agents (eg, cocaine, amphetamine)
- Hypertension and tachycardia, headache, and altered mental status
- Usually last only several hours compared to MAOI overdoses in which symptoms can last several days

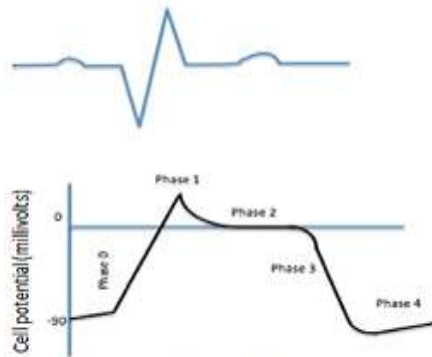


# CYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS TOXICITY

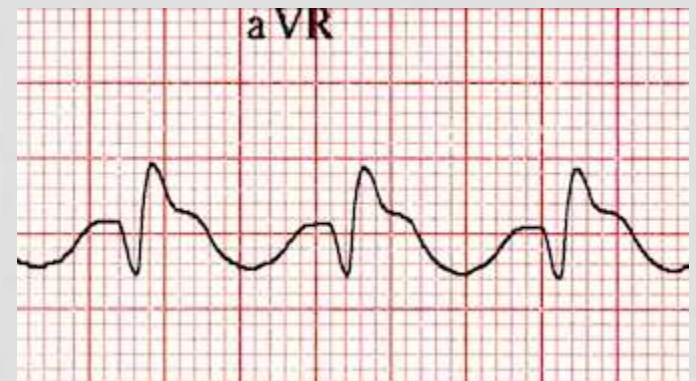
- Acute cardiovascular toxicity is primarily responsible for the morbidity and mortality
- Sinus tachycardia is the most common dysrhythmia
- Refractory hypotension is probably the most common cause of death from CA overdose (Na channel blockade)
- Seizures and altered mental status are the primary manifestations of CNS toxicity
- Anticholinergic effects
  - Dilated Pupils, dry mouth, dry flushed skin, hyperthermia, urinary retention



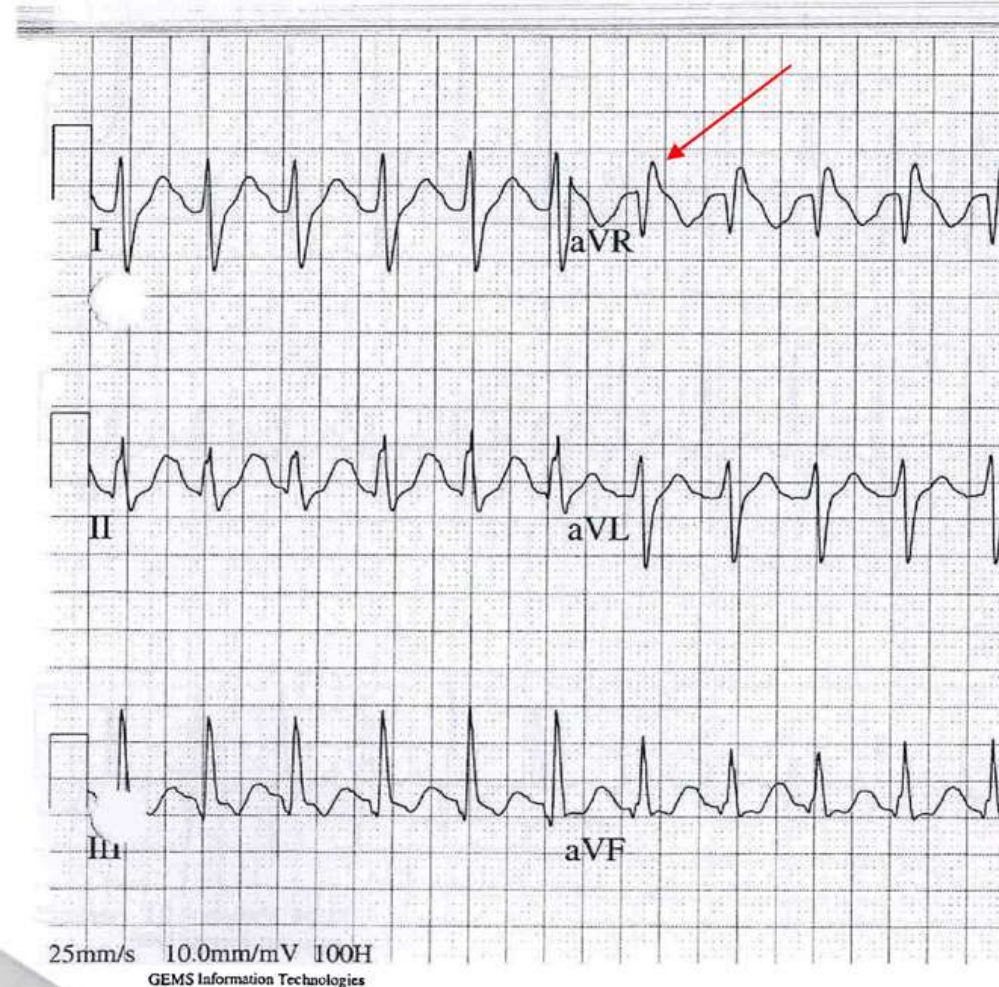
Cardiac action potential and EKG tracing



Cardiac action potential and EKG tracing with Na<sup>+</sup> channel blockade



# CYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS TOXICITY

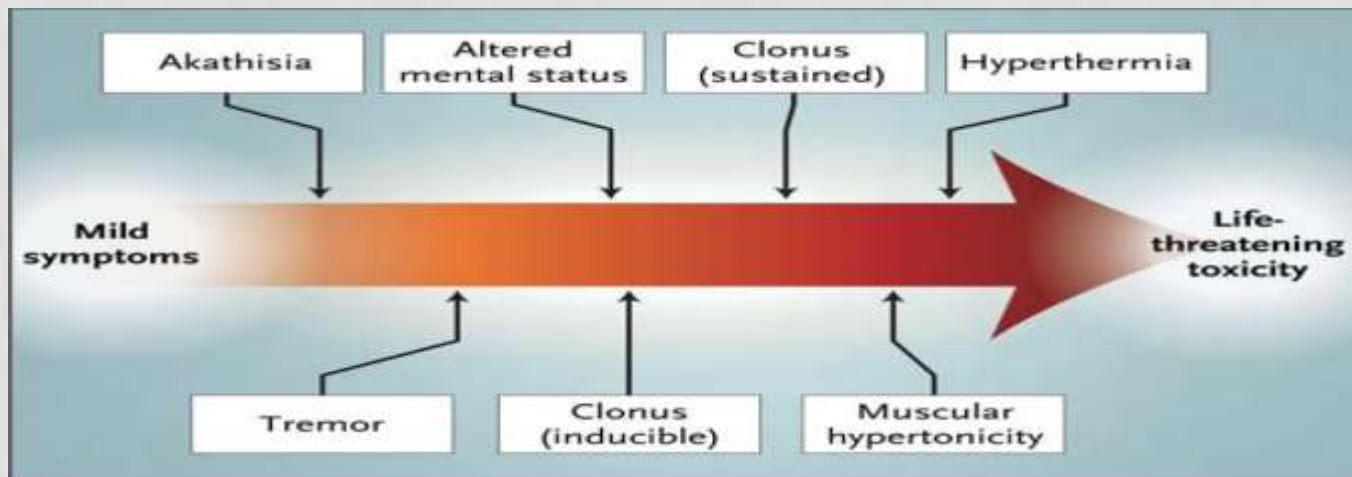


Electrocardiogram of patient with tricyclic antidepressant toxicity. QRS interval, 130 milliseconds; R wave in lead aVR, 4 mm (arrow)



# SSRI TOXICITY

- Wide therapeutic index
- Mild or no symptoms after an overdose
- Acute signs and symptoms include nausea, vomiting, dizziness, blurred vision, tachycardia, and CNS depression
- Serotonin Syndrome “serotonin toxicity”
  - Uncommon
  - Clinical manifestations may range from mild confusion, tachycardia, and tremor to coma, hyperthermia, and muscular rigidity
  - Combination of serotonergic agents



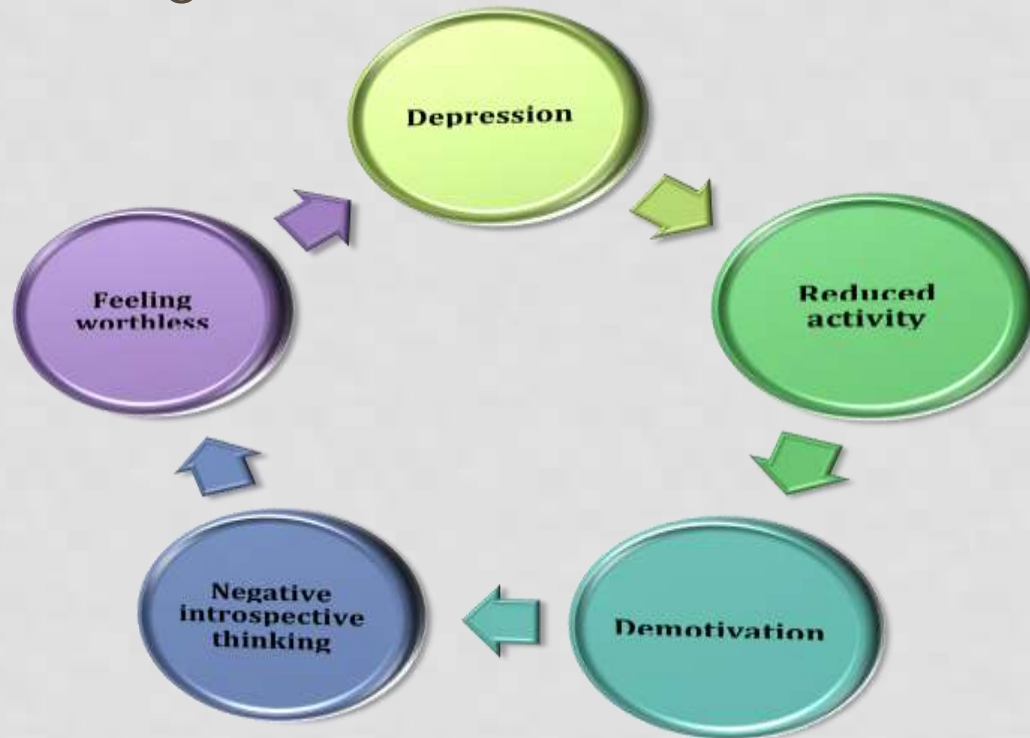
# ATYPICAL ANTIDEPRESSANTS TOXICITY

- Each present unique toxicities in overdose

Class	Mechanism	Toxicity
Duloxetine (Cymbalta, Eli Lilly Indianapolis, IN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>NE reuptake inhibitor</i></li> <li>• <i>Serotonin reuptake inhibitor</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited information, expected to be the same as venlafaxine</li> </ul>
Nefazodone (Serzone, Bristol-Myers Squib, Princeton, NJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Serotonin reuptake inhibitor</i></li> <li>• <i>Serotonin antagonism</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dizziness</li> <li>• Dry mouth</li> <li>• Mild sedation</li> </ul>
Trazodone (Desyrel Apothecon, Princeton, NJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Serotonin reuptake inhibitor</i></li> <li>• <i>Serotonin antagonism</i></li> <li>• <i><math>\alpha 1</math> adrenergic blockade</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNS depression</li> <li>• Orthostatic hypotension</li> <li>• Priapism</li> <li>• SIADH</li> <li>• Seizures</li> </ul>
Mirtazapine (Remeron, Organon, West Roseland, NJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i><math>\alpha 2</math> adrenergic blockade</i></li> <li>• <i>Serotonin reuptake inhibitor</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sedation, altered mental status</li> <li>• QTc prolongation</li> <li>• Agranulocytosis</li> </ul>
Bupropion (Wellbutrin, Zyban, GlaxoSmithKline, Research Triangle Park, NC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Dopamine reuptake inhibitor</i></li> <li>• <i>NE and serotonin reuptake inhibitor</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anticholinergic toxicity</li> <li>• Wide-complex tachycardia</li> <li>• QTc interval prolongation</li> <li>• Seizures</li> <li>• Symptoms may be delayed up to 12-18 h if extended release</li> </ul>
Venlafaxine (Effexor, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Madison, NJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>NE reuptake inhibitor</i></li> <li>• <i>Serotonin reuptake inhibitor</i></li> <li>• <i>Dopamine reuptake inhibitor</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNS depression, seizures</li> <li>• Hyperthermia</li> <li>• QTc and QRS prolongation, ventricular tachycardia, ventricular fibrillation</li> <li>• Hypotension</li> </ul>

# DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

- There are no specific diagnostic tests
- Electrocardiogram (ECG), specially for CAs
- Antidepressant serum concentrations are not available immediately in most hospital settings



# TREATMENTS

- Airway, ventilation, and circulation should be assessed and managed
- Activated charcoal
- Seizures
  - Benzodiazepines
  - Phenobarbital
- Hypertension associated with MAOI toxicity
  - Nitroprusside continuous infusion
  - Phentolamine mesylate
  - $\beta$ -adrenergic antagonists C/I: (potent interaction with MAOIs, leading to a greater than expected drop in blood pressure and dizziness).
  - $\alpha$ -methyldopa are C/I: (aromatic L-amino acid decarboxylase, which converts L-DOPA into dopamine. Dopamine is a precursor for norepinephrine (noradrenaline) and subsequently epinephrine (adrenaline))

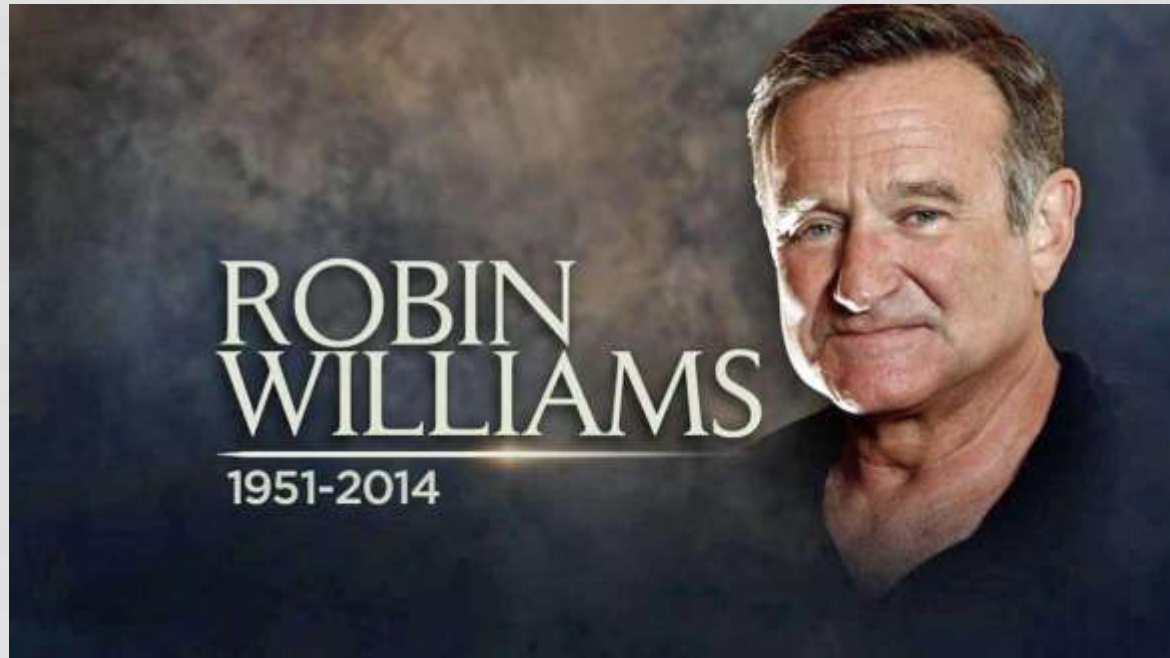
# TREATMENTS CONT.

- Neuromuscular rigidity (MAOI toxicity, serotonin syndrome)
  - Benzodiazepines (Lorazepam and Diazepam)
  - Cyproheptadine
- Wide-complex dysrhythmias
  - NaHCO<sub>3</sub> boluses
    - \*\*\*proposed mechanisms of action of sodium bicarbonate include: (1) treatment of drug overdoses whereby the offending agent has sodium channel blocking properties; (2) urinary and serum alkalinization to enhance the elimination of drugs by "ion trapping" and minimize drug distribution, respectively; (3) promoting the solubility of drugs or toxins that may otherwise precipitate in the kidney resulting in renal failure; and (4) neutralization of toxins that produce severe acidemia.
  - Lidocaine
  - Magnesium sulfate



**Dorothy Dandridge, 1965**  
**Imipramine overdose**

The first African-American to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actress, the 42-year-old Dandridge was found dead by her manager from what was diagnosed as “acute drug intoxication.” Her death was ruled to be due to an accidental overdose of Tofranil, an antidepressant that she took for what today might be diagnosed as bipolar disorder



Oscar-winning actor and comedian Robin Williams was found hanged. Williams had reportedly been battling depression, according to a statement from his press representative.





# **FOOD POISONING**

Hasan Alhaddad, MSc  
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology  
College of Pharmacy/ University of Baghdad  
2014



# FOOD POISONING

- Food poisoning (foodborne illness)
  - Illness caused by eating contaminated food
  - Infectious organisms (bacteria, viruses and parasites) or their toxins are the most common causes of food poisoning
  - Contamination of food may occur at any point of processing or production, or at home if food is incorrectly handled or cooked
  - Cross-contamination is often the cause
- Most often, food poisoning is mild and resolves without treatment, however, some people need to go to the hospital
- It is more commonly occurred after eating at picnics, school cafeterias, large social functions, or restaurants

# FOOD POISONING

- Food poisoning is a common, costly -yet preventable- public health problem
- WHO estimates that food and waterborne diarrheal diseases kill about 2.2 million people annually, 1.9 million of them are children
- In USA
  - Each year roughly 1 in 6 Americans (or 48 million people) get sick,
  - 128,000 are hospitalized
  - 3,000 die of foodborne diseases
  - Yearly loss of up to \$17 billion
- In UK
  - Foodborne diseases affect around a million people annually
  - 20,000 people receive hospital treatment
  - 500 deaths
  - Cost nearly £1.5 billion

# FOOD POISONING

- ◉ In Iraq, although Food Poisoning outbreaks occurred frequently, they are rarely notified, investigated or documented
- ◉ A mass outbreak of organo-mercury poisoning due to consumption of treated grain by farmers and their families occurred in Iraq in 1971-72, leading to admission of 6,530 cases, and 459 deaths
- ◉ In 2013, an outbreak of Food Poisoning involving more than 100 persons attending a restaurant in Tikrit. One of them was dead
  - *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Salmonella typhimurium* were the responsible pathogens
  - Contaminated food stuff and un-hygenic food-handlers practices were the source

# CAUSES OF FOOD POISONING

- Many bacterial, viral or parasitic agents, and chemicals cause food poisoning

Contaminant	Onset	Foods affected and means of transmission
Campylobacter	2 to 5 days	Meat and poultry, Contamination during processing - feces contact meat surfaces. Milk and water
Clostridium botulinum	12 to 72 hours	Improperly canned commercial foods, smoked or salted fish, potatoes baked in aluminum foil
Clostridium perfringens	8 to 16 hours	Meats, stews and gravies
Escherichia coli O157:H7	1 to 8 days	Beef contaminated with feces during slaughter. Milk and contaminated water
Staphylococcus aureus	1 to 6 hours	Meats and prepared salads. Spread by hand contact, coughing and sneezing
Hepatitis A	28 days	Raw, ready-to-eat produce. Spread by an infected food handler
Listeria	9 to 48 hours	Hot dogs, luncheon meats, unpasteurized milk and cheeses. Spread through contaminated soil and water

# CAUSES OF FOOD POISONING

- Other causative agents:
  - Giardia lamblia
  - Noroviruses (Norwalk-like viruses)
  - Rotavirus
  - Salmonella
  - Shigella
  - Vibrio vulnificus
- Norovirus is a contagious virus responsible for more than half of food poisoning cases
- Salmonella is the most common pathogens that caused hospitalizations
- Escherichia Coli found in the intestines of all humans and animals. Certain strains can cause illness when ingested. The bacteria may contaminate meat during processing. It can also seep into foods that are not prepared safely

# CAUSES OF FOOD POISONING

## Toxins

- There are many toxins that can cause food poisoning. Some are produced by bacteria on or in food and others are produced by plants and animals/fish or other organisms that are ingested. There are many plants and animals/fish that can be poisonous under certain conditions but they are encountered infrequently or under special conditions

### **Bacteria**

enterotoxins  
exotoxins  
cytotoxins  
Neurotoxins

### **Plants**

Mushroom toxins  
Belladonna  
Ricin  
Hemlock

### **Animals/fish/other**

Scombroid toxin  
Ciguatera toxin  
Sasitoxin  
Tetrodotoxin

# CAUSES OF FOOD POISONING

## Chemicals

- ◉ Certain chemicals are considered toxins that can cause food poisoning
- ◉ Mercury, found in drinking water and in fish such as tuna and marlin
- ◉ Other examples of chemicals that can be toxic if enough contaminates food and water are pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls, and lead

## Food allergy

- ◉ Is an abnormal response to a food triggered by body's immune system
- ◉ Some foods, such as nuts, milk, eggs, or seafood, can cause allergic reactions in people with food allergies
- ◉ Treatments ??

# SYMPTOMS OF FOOD POISONING

- Start within hours after eating the contaminated food, or they may begin days or even weeks later
- Sickness caused by food poisoning generally lasts from a few hours to several days
- Common signs and symptoms
  - Nausea, Vomiting, Watery diarrhea, Abdominal pain and cramps, Fever
- Specific bacteria may cause these signs and symptoms
  - Clostridium botulinum: weakness, blurred vision, difficulty speaking and swallowing, respiratory failure and death
  - Salmonella spp., Shigella spp., and Campylobacter: fever, chills and bloody diarrhea
  - Escherichia coli (E. coli): hemorrhagic colitis (diarrhea with very little stool and large amounts of blood), occurring up to 3 days after eating contaminated food
  - Mushroom poisoning: stomach upset, delirium (confusion), vision difficulties, heart muscle problems, kidney failure, death of liver tissue, and death if left untreated



# RISK FACTORS FOR FOOD POISONING

- ⦿ Older adults
  - Immune system may not respond as quickly and as effectively to infectious organisms compared to younger
- ⦿ Pregnant women
  - Changes in metabolism and circulation may increase the risk of food poisoning
- ⦿ Infants and young children
  - Immune systems have not fully developed
- ⦿ People with chronic disease
  - Reduces the immune response
  - Diabetes, liver disease, AIDS, and chemotherapy or radiation therapy for cancer

# DIAGNOSIS OF FOOD POISONING

- History
  - Duration, Symptoms , Kind of food
- Physical exam
  - Signs of dehydration
- Diagnostic tests, to identify the infectious organism
  - Blood test
  - Stool culture
  
- It is necessary that large numbers of the organisms be present in a food for it to be hazardous
  - The laboratory reports the number of organisms present per gram of food
- For *Staphylococcus aureus*, the current method is to screen for enterotoxin first, culturing for the organism will occur only if necessary
- Other bacteria, any number of organisms present in a ready-to-eat food may be significant
  - For these kinds of agents, the laboratory reports their presence or absence. Their presence in a ready-to-eat food should be considered significant

# TREATMENTS OF FOOD POISONING

- Treatment for food poisoning typically depends on the source of the illness, if known, and the severity of symptoms
- Lavage and activated charcoal
- Control nausea and vomiting
- Replacing fluids and electrolytes (such as sodium, potassium, magnesium, and chloride)
  - Diarrhea
  - Persistent diarrhea or vomiting may need hospitalization
- Antibiotics
  - Not commonly indicated
  - and/or the symIndicated when the kind of bacteria is determined ptoms are severe
  - The sooner treatment begins, the better

# TREATMENTS OF FOOD POISONING

## Other Drug Therapies

- ◉ Antitoxin to neutralize toxins from *C. botulinum* (only given within the first 72 hours)
- ◉ Amitriptyline to control the numbness and tingling from ciguatera poisoning
- ◉ Apomorphine or ipecac syrup to cause vomiting and help rid the body of toxins
- ◉ Atropine for mushroom poisoning **H.W.**
- ◉ Diphenhydramine and cimetidine for fish poisoning **H.W.**
- ◉ Mannitol for nerve-related symptoms of ciguatera poisoning **H.W.**

# PREVENTION

Encourage your people to:

- ◉ Wash hands, utensils and food surfaces often
- ◉ Keep raw foods separate from ready-to-eat foods
- ◉ Cook foods to a safe temperature
- ◉ Refrigerate or freeze perishable foods promptly
- ◉ Defrost food safely
- ◉ Throw it out when in doubt







**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
Avoid Food  
Poisoning**