

# Anti-parkinsons drugs

Classification → 1. Drug affecting dopaminergic system (↑ activity)

(a) Precursor of dopamine → L-dopamine (L-dopa)

(b) Peripheral de carboxylase Inhibitor → Carbidopa, Benzerzide

(c) Dopamine Agonist → Bromocriptine, Pergolyte  
Pitavall, Lisuride  
Ropinirole, Pramipexole

(d) MAO<sub>B</sub> inhibitor → Selegiline, Rasagiline

(e) COMT inhibitor → Tolcapone, Entacapone

(f) Dopamine facilitator → Amantadine

(2.) Drug affecting cholinergic brain system →

(a) C.N.S anticholine → Thi-thenylphenol  
(Benz-hexolol)  
Procyclidine, Biperiden

(b) Anti-Histaminic OR anticholinergic → atropine, promethazine



Liv-dopa  $\rightarrow$  Pro-drug of dopamine.

MAO Liv-dopa  $\rightarrow$  it is metabolic precursor of dopamine  
it crosses the B.B.B by an active process  
mediated by a carrier of aromatic amino acid.  
This process may be inhibited by protein rich diet.

$\rightarrow$  dopamine itself doesn't cross B.B.B and hence is ineffective. Brains of parkinsonism patient treated with L-dopa till death had dopamine level higher than those not so treated. Further those patient who has responded well had higher dopamine level.

Pharmacokinetics  $\rightarrow$  it is well absorbed from the small intestine by active transport but much of it is inactivated by MAO in the wall of intestine, about 90% of absorbed drug is converted to dopamine in peripheral tissue where dopa decarboxylase is abundant. Less than 1% of administered dose enters the brain where it is converted to dopamine.

Anti parki effect of L-dopa depends on dopamine formation in the brain and hence its ability to enter brain.

$\Delta$  Peripheral dopamine is not effective

Carbidopa  $\rightarrow$  it is peripheral dopa-decarboxylase inhibitor. It can not enter brain

thus carbidopa minimizes 'peripheral conversion of L-dopa to dopamine' and maximize the availability of L-dopa for transport to the brain.



Adverse effect -  $\rightarrow$  the two main unwanted effect- of L-dopa

a. involuntarily choreiform movement- (occurs in most patient- within 2 years)

b. unpredictable on of effect- loss of parkin. syn. as hypokinesia, rigidity some other unwanted effect- are nausea & Anorexia and hypotension.

Psychological effect- such as schizophrenia with delusion, hallucination.

(due to  $\uparrow$  in dopamine activity, occurrence of confusion, disorientation, insomnia, nightmares) thus L-dopa causes hypotension (not hypertension).

excitotoxicity of park. is cause of parkinosis  $\rightarrow$

1. Dementia is one the result of excitotoxicity is result- in neurodegeneration and condition like dementia (Alzheimer's also), ischemic brain damage (stroke) and parkinson also.  
The excitotoxic due to  $\rightarrow$

(a) Activation of NMDA rec. and other types of excitatory amino acids rec.

(b) Sustained rise in intra. cellular  $Ca^{++}$  concentration  $Ca$ -overload.

(c) Pathological condition (cerebral ischemia) in which excessive glutamate release occurs.

(d) Chemical such as Kainic acid injunctant- chemical. all these region causes cell death. by various mechanism is activation of protease formation of free



radical.

→ lipid peroxidation, formation of NO and arachidonic acid

Metabolism of L-dopa → A high protein content of a meal interferes with the absorption of L-dopa. The drug is best taken half an hour before or 1 hr after meal. It is metabolized by both MAO and COMT. Its principle metabolite is Homovanillic acid.

Some of the drug is converted (HVA) to nor-adrenaline since the urinary excretion of vanillyl mandelic acid (VMA), and 3, Methoxy, 4-hydroxy-phenylethanol (MHPA).

Drug interaction → MAO inh; may precipitate severe hypertension.

→ pyridoxin accelerates the peripheral de-carboxylation of L-dopa.

→ Reserpine and Phenothiazine block the effect of dopamine.

or Methyl-dopa intensifies the adverse effect of L-dopa.

→ Sympathomimetic and Isoprenaline should be avoided in patient on L-dopa.

→ because L-dopa ↑ the C.V. toxicity of heparin

→ Anticholinergic ↑ the stay of L-dopa in the stomach and ↑ its degradation. They should be taken if needed 2 hrs before L-dopa.



COMT Inhibitor → Tolcapone :- MAO :- Inhibits COMT, this delay to the central and peripheral metabolic degradation of L-dopa and prolongs its  $t_{1/2}$ .

Adverse effects → orthostatic hypotension, dyskinesia, diatheses, induction of hallucinations due to ↑ in the serum level of L-dopa produced. Serious hepatotoxicity.

Entacapone → less hepatotoxic than tolcapone.



Dopamine agonist →

Bromocriptin → it is an weak alkaloid  
dopamine receptor agonist  
partially antagonist for  $\alpha$ -receptor.

Action of bromocriptin is  
similar to L-dopa, but it have more  
side effects.

Bromocriptin also activate, dopamine  
receptor in the Tubero infundibular  
dopaminergic system in pituitary  
gland resulting in the secretion  
of prolactin inhibitory factor  
from hypothalamus. secretion  
of PIF. suppress the release of  
prolactin from anterior pituitary.



⇒ other dopaminergic receptors are  $\alpha_1$  adrenergic,  $\beta_1$  adrenergic,  $\beta_2$  adrenergic,  $\alpha_2$  adrenergic,  $\text{D}_1$ ,  $\text{D}_2$ ,  $\text{D}_3$ ,  $\text{D}_4$ ,  $\text{D}_5$ .

(Dopamine Releasing agent)

Amantadine → Amantadine is an antiviral agent, used for the treatment of influenza. It also possesses antiparkinsonian activity.

⇒ The mechanism of action of amantadine is not clear but it has been suggested that it might alter dopamine release.

⇒ Amantadine is less potent than L-dopa. Adverse effects of amantadine are depression, insomnia, agitation, confusion. Overdose may produce an acute psychosis.

MAO Inhibitor →

Sertraline → Two types of MAO enzymes have been distinguished. MAO<sub>(A)</sub> is responsible for metabolism of epinephrine and nor epinephrine whereas MAO<sub>(B)</sub> is responsible for metabolism of dopamine.

Sertraline is the selective MAO<sub>(B)</sub> inhibitor.



Result by inhibiting MAO<sup>(b)</sup> enz,  
 Selegiline enhancing and prolongs the  
 antiparkinsonism effect of dopamine  
 and L-dopa. Therefore it is used as  
 adjunctive therapy means should be  
 (सहायक) given with L-dopa.

⇒ It should not be given to those patient  
 who are taking TCA (Tri cyclic Antidepressant)  
 or serotonin reuptake inhibitor  
 because of the risk of toxic interaction.

⇒ Selegiline has only minor therapeutic effect  
 on parkinson when given alone.

(E) Anticholinergic drug → Antic. drug were already  
 (Antimuscarinic drug) used for the treatment  
 of Par. dis. before the  
 discovery of L-dopa.

Several antimuscarinic agent  
 which are used for parkinson also have  
 been identified such as, Biperiden, Procyclidin,  
 Benztropin.

Anticholinergic drug should be avoided  
 in patient with, Glaucoma, (close angle)  
 GIT disease.

Adverse effect of Antic. drug are Tachycardia,  
 Midriasis, dryness of mouth, drowsiness,  
 constipation, urinary retention,