

## Receptors ①

Many drugs act by binding to specific (receptor) Protein Macromolecules on & in cell membrane.

- Regulate the function of cell by all,
- Enzyme activity
- Permeability to ions
- genetic material in the nucleus.

When a drug acts and produces an effect on tissue it is the result of an interaction b/w its molecule & some part of tissue cells.

In some cases, their interaction is { Highly specific

Hence drugs are categorized into those acting on receptors and others in which receptors are not involved.

- Which act on receptors ①
- ① Act at low concentrations
  - ② React to specific receptors
  - ③ show structure activity relationships
  - ④ Can be antagonized by specific antagonists

Eg: Acetylcholine  
adrenaline  
Histamine

- Which do not act via receptors ②
- ① Act at higher concs
  - ② do not react to specific receptors,
  - ③ Tend to not show structure activity relationship
  - ④ Do not have specific antagonists

Eg: Diethyl ether & Halothane  
Anesthetics like thiopones

Receptor: Macromolecular site on cell  
Agonist → where an agonist binds to bring about a change (response)

It has Affinity → Ability of drug to bind to a receptor  
Intrinsic activity or efficacy → is the ability of a drug to elicit a response after binding to receptor

Eg: Adrenaline agonist at  $\alpha$  &  $\beta$  adrenoceptors  
Morphine at  $\mu$  opioid receptor

Antagonist: is a substance that binds to the receptor & prevents the action of agonist on the receptor.

It has affinity but not intrinsic activity

Eg: Naloxone is an antagonist at  $\mu$  opioid receptors. It binds to receptors has no effect by itself but blocks the action of the opioid agonist like alcohol.

Tubocurarine is an antagonist at nicotinic receptors. It blocks the receptors & prevents the action of acetylcholine on receptors.

Partial Agonist: has affinity binds to receptor but has low intrinsic activity

Drug Though high in conc will not produce full response which the tissue capable of.

Eg: Pindolol → at  $\beta$  adrenergic receptors / pentazocine at  $\mu$  opioid receptors

Inverse agonist:

Some drugs after binding to receptors produce opposite actions to those produced by agonists.

Eg: Diazepam on benzodiazepine receptors produce - Sedation, anxiolysis, Mus Relaxant & control convulsions



③ While the invertebrate agonists -  $\beta$  Carbolines bind to same receptors to cause abnormal, anxiety, Tremor Muscle tone & convulsions.

Ligand: A Molecule <sup>which</sup> binds selectively to specific receptors

Site:  
Space Receptors: ① on cell membrane  
② in cytoplasm  
③ on Nucleus

Nature: Proteins

Synthesis: Synthesized by the cells  
After their life span they are degraded by cell & new receptors are synthesized.

Function of Receptor:

- Recognition & binding of the ligand
- Propagation of the message

For this functions the receptors have functional areas  
→ 1. Ligand binding site to drug molecule  
2. Effecter site → which undergoes change to propagate the message

Types of Receptors:

1. Ionotropic receptors - Ion channel
2. G-protein coupled Receptor - G-PCR
3. Enzymatic Receptor - Kinase receptor
4. Nuclear receptors → Regulate gene transcription - Ligand

- ① Ionotropic Receptors : ① present on cell surface
- ② Binding of agonist opens the channel  
↓ allowing
- ③ Ions to cross the membrane
- ④ They are called "Ligand gated ion channels"
- ⑤ Depending upon which ion flows and what voltage changes occur as a consequence depend upon the type of channel.

Thus opening up of Nicotinic

Acetylcholine receptor channel → permits  $Na^+$  ions to cross the membrane

and cause depolarisation of the membrane.

Gamma aminobutyric acid (GABA) receptor allows  $Cl^-$  to permeate

and hyperpolarisation occur.

Phenelzine & benzodiazepines act by modifying the function of receptor channels

opening of K channels allows  $K^+$  to leak out of the cell and their hyperpolarisation

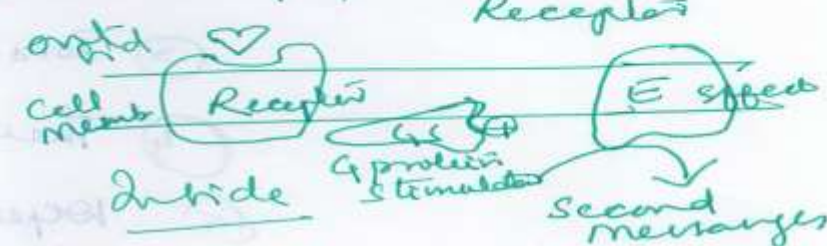
depolarising → Sulphonylurea receptor





③ G-protein → G proteins are bound to inner face of Plasma membrane Type 2 (GPCR)

② When ligand binds to G-protein receptor → gets activated



↓  
In turn activates Adenylcyclase or phospholipase C

↓  
To generate the respective 2<sup>nd</sup> messengers  
(systems are called effector pathways)

G proteins acting through 2<sup>nd</sup> messengers bring about chain of intracellular changes.

Because they interact w/ guanine nucleotides called G proteins → Guanosine diphosphate/triphosphate

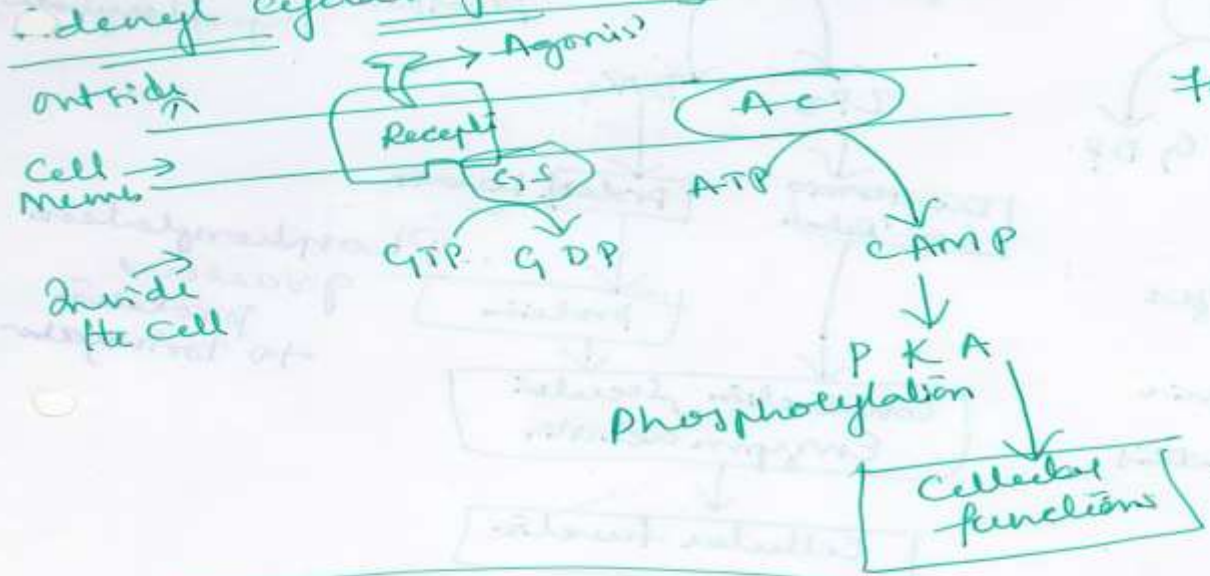
They are → G<sub>s</sub> - stimulatory } in action  
          → G<sub>i</sub> - inhibitory }

Second messengers include CAMP, cGMP, IP<sub>3</sub> → Inositol triphosphate, Ca<sup>++</sup>, DAG → Diacylglycerol

⑥ Effector pathways through which G protein coupled receptors work are

- Adenyl cyclase pathway (cAMP)
- Phospholipase C pathway (PLC) / IP3 - DAG pathway
- Ion channel regulation

Adenyl cyclase pathway



Stimulation of Adenyl cyclase  
 ↓  
 Formation & accumulation of cAMP within cell  
 ↓  
 cAMP acts through Protein Kinase which phosphorylates various proteins to regulate cell function

- Contraction
- Relaxation
- Hormone synthesis
- Lipolysis

cAMP  
 Adenosine Monophosphate  
 from ATP  
 Triphosphate

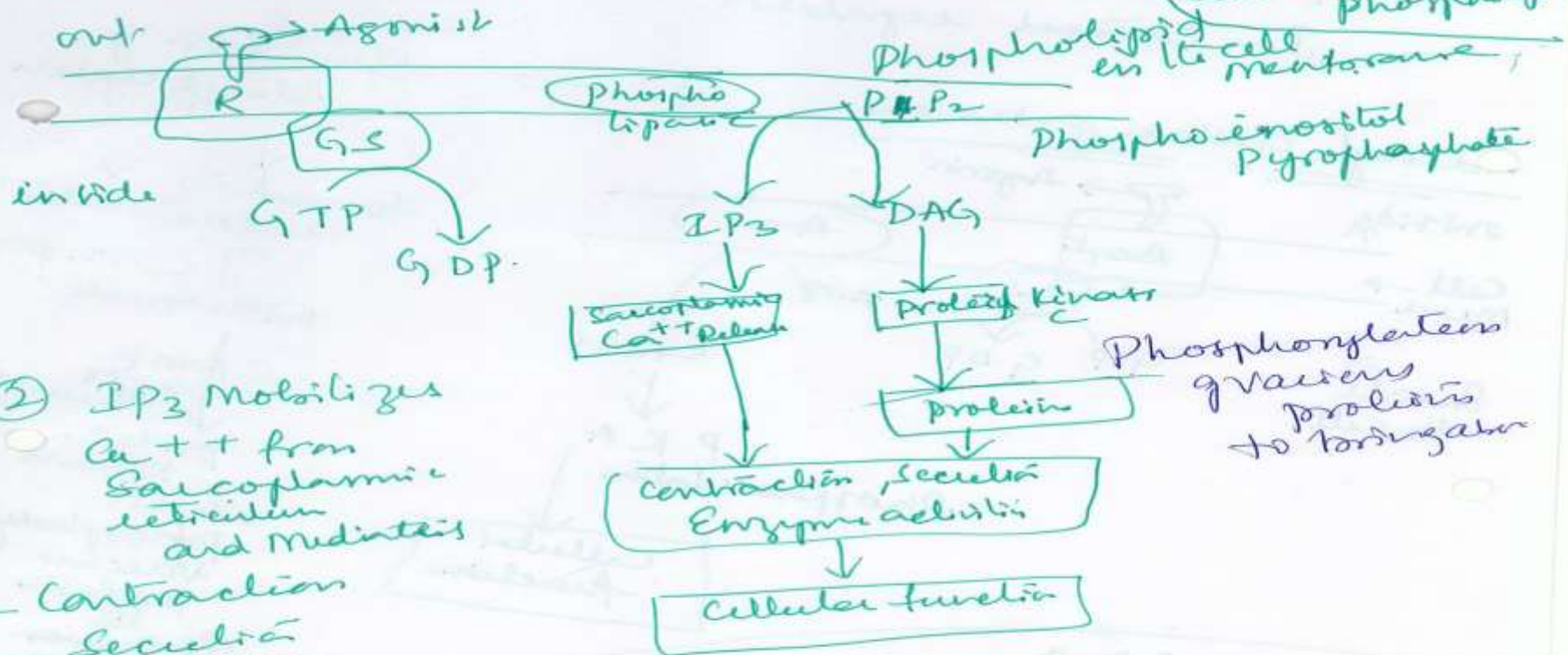


# ① Phospholipase pathway : ① Activation of Phospholipase

IP<sub>3</sub> → Inositol triphosphate  
 DAG → Diacylglycerol

2<sup>nd</sup> mess → IP<sub>3</sub> and DAG from cell membrane phospholipid

Results formation of Second Messengers



② IP<sub>3</sub> Mobilizes Ca<sup>++</sup> from Sarcoplasmic reticulum and mitochondria

- Contraction
- Secretion
- Metabolism

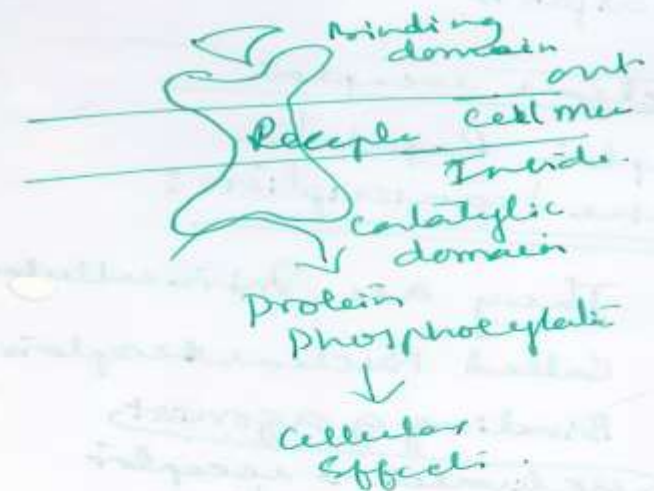
③ DAG → Activates Protein Kinase which regulates Cell function

② Ion channel regulation : Passively

without help of 2nd messengers

Activated G proteins can directly convey signals to some ion channels causing opening or closing of channels results Hyperpolarization or depolarization

③ Enzymatic Receptors :



① Are Transmembrane proteins  
 • Extracellular site for ligand binding & Intracellular site to carry out catalytic activity

② Two sites are linked by a single peptide chain, proteins known & called Kinase linked receptors.

③ Binding of agonist results auto phosphorylation of intracellular domain

④ Triggers phosphorylation of various intracellular proteins resulting characteristic response.

As second subunit of Enzyme linked receptor is JAK-STAT binding receptor



Enzyme Receptor when agonist binds Extracellularly

↓  
activates intracellular domain  
and Molecule JAK (Janus Kinase)  
molecules are activated

↓  
Intracellularly activates STAT  
Signal transducers  
activation of Transcription  
↓  
Move to Nucleus  
Regulate Transcription

Agonist  
↓  
Bind Extracellular  
↓  
Intracellular activation  
↓  
form dimers  
↓  
Activates JAK  
↓  
Activates STAT  
↓  
Move to Nucleus  
↓  
Regulate transcription

① Nuclear receptors  
Receptor Regulate gene transcription:

- ① They are Intracellular
- ② Called Nuclear receptors
- ③ Binding of agonist
- ④ activates → receptor  
↓  
agonist receptor complex  
↓  
Moves to Nucleus  
where interacts with DNA to regulate the activity of target  
Cells: E.g. Thyroid Hormone, Vit D, Retinoids

# Receptor Regulation

(10)

Type 4



- ① Denervation
- ② Constant antagonist action
- ③ Prolonged deprivation of agonist

Results in an ↑ in number & sensitivity of receptors  
↓  
Called "up regulation"

Prolonged use of  $\beta$  adrenergic antagonist like propranolol results in up regulation of  $\beta$  adrenergic receptors.

Continued stimulation of receptors causes desensitization and ↓ in number of receptors → known as "down regulation" of receptors.

↓  
prolonged use of antagonist  
↓  
desensitization of receptors  
↓  
that a few days later binding  
is not available for action.



⑪ Spare Receptors : In an Experiment  $\bar{c}$  adenohal.  
on rabbit aortic strips

↓ Shows agonist occupies  
Small percentage of receptors ~~to~~ produce  
Maximum contraction

Some other Experiment shows that high concentration  
of agonist can still produce Max response in presence  
of irreversible antagonist & this was because of  
presence of spare receptors  
Then possible to stimulate Myocardium even  
90% of its cardiac  $\beta$  adrenergic receptors are  
blocked by an irreversible  $\beta$  blocker.

Costant Receptor : When its agonist binds to receptor  
but does not produce a response  
↓  
Presence of such type of <sup>receptors as</sup> silent receptors  
Explains the phenomenon of Tolerance.

↓  
They only bind the drug & the drug  
is not available for action.

①

## SAR Structure activity relationship

That means activity of a drug

↓  
related to its chemical structure

Chemical structure of the drug is useful for

i. Synthesis of New compounds with more specific actions & a few adverse effects.

ii. Synthesis of competitive antagonists

iii. To understand the basic chemical groups for drug action.

→ Synthesis of New compounds:

Drug substitutes are designed

① To ↑ or ↓ the duration of action of original drug / to get more potent compounds.

② To restrict the drug action to particular system of the body.



3. To reduce adverse effects (reactions) and other disadvantages associated with available drugs

1.

To ↑ se / ↓ se the duration

Eg: Procaine is local anaesthetic

↓ when administered intravenously  
Reduces Cardiac scale  
↓  
Excitability

↓ but  
Rapidly Hydrolyzed

∴ its action is too transient  
Hence structurally similar compound to procaine  
but resistant to hydrolysis is procainamide

↓  
Has longer duration of action  
∴  
Used to treat cardiac arrhythmias

Another Example

Atropine when instilled into  
↓  
Eye

③

Causes Dilatation of Pupil  
(i.e Mydriasis)

→  
Paralysis of Ocular Muscles of Accommodation  
(i.e cycloplegia).

↓  
And this action persists for one week.

Its substitute Homatropine produces same effect  
but its action lasts for 24hrs.

Discussion

Regular eye checkups  
to examine retina  
Pupils are dilated &  
help of Mydriatics  
i.e Homatropine.

① ②

To restrict the drug action to particular system  
of the body.

Ex: Chlorpromazine has antipsychotic  
- anticholinergic } properties  
- Hypotensive }  
- Sedative }  
→ CVS actn  
CVS & m.

By structural modification of structure of Chlorpromazine  
Compounds are more potent antipsychotic effect



with negligible sedative & hypobaric properties  
can be manufactured.

chlorpromazine → Ex: Trifluoperazine

So that only on one  
particulate system  
CNS → it acts  
sparing CNS.

I. ③ To Reduce adverse effects  
disadvantages

Ex: Nicotinic acid → Deficiency causes  
Niacin B<sub>3</sub> vit. causes Pellagra.

↓  
it produces side effects like

- Itching
- Flushing of skin
- Bp fall

Related compound Nicotinamide has same efficacy  
against pellagra without above adverse effects.

Similarly Benzyl penicillin → given orally  
↓  
inactivated by gastric acid

Hence gastric acid resistant penicillins are  
synthesized to administer orally.

Eg: Phenoxymethyl penicillin → Penicillinase  
Resistant  
Eg, cloxacillin.

## II Synthesis of competitive antagonists

(3)

Ex: PABA Para amino benzoic acid

which is essential growth factor for microorganisms

PAS: Para amino salicylic acid competes with PABA

Hence nonavailability of PABA arrests Multiplication of bacterial growth.

Respiratory depressant action of morphine antagonised by structurally similar compound "Naloxephine"

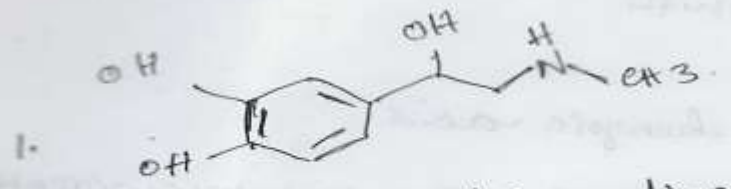
Understanding of basic chemical groups responsible

for drug action:

1. Adrenaline stimulates Both  $\alpha$  &  $\beta$  adrenergic receptors.

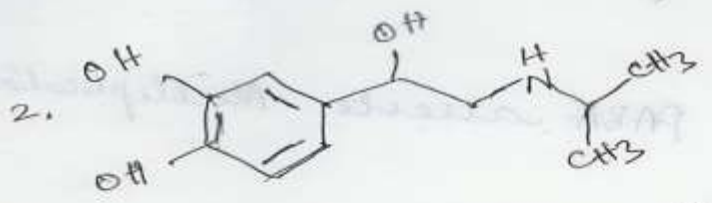


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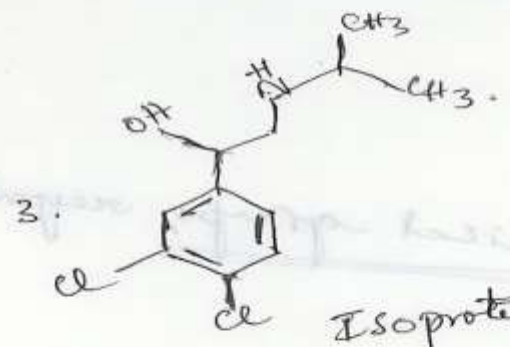


→ Stimulates  
Both  $\alpha$  &  $\beta$  adrenergic  
receptors

Adrenaline structure

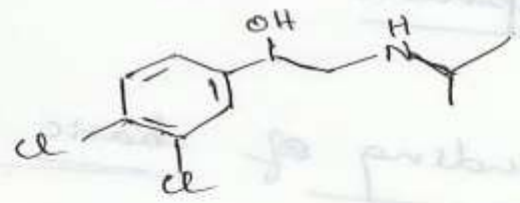


Isoprenaline → structure : Selectivity  $\beta$  adrenergic  
crystalline : stimulates only  
 $\beta$  receptors



Isoproterenol  
Dichloro Isoproterenol

Bradycardia  
&  
Heart blockers

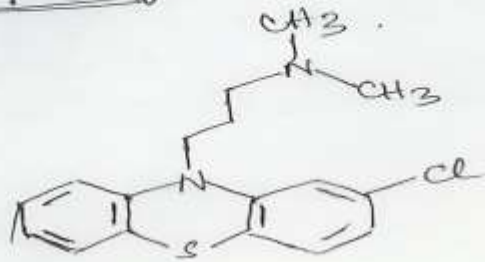


→ Blocks  $\beta$  adrenergic receptors

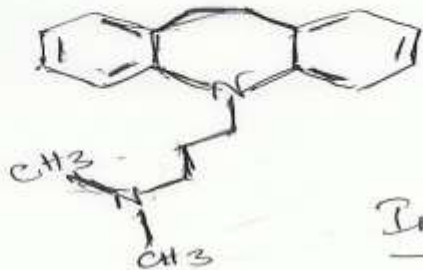
⑦

Chlorpromazine → Tranquillizer

Useful in antipsychotic  
agitation disorder



Imipramine structurally similar compound is antidepressant used in mood elevation.



Imipramine