**Learning unit: Laxatives, antidiarrheal drugs**

**Impact of the learning unit:**

Diarrhoea or constipation are very common disorders of gastrointestinal tract. Beside rehydration and prevention of ion dysballance, there is presently available effective pharmacological treatment of these pathologies, which is summarized in this learning unit

**Important terms**

laxatives

bulk-forming

roughage (psyllium)

osmotic

lactulose

macrogol

sulphates

emmolients

docusate

glycerol

stimulant

bisacodyl

picosulphate

senna and anthraquinones

laxatives for specific indications

naloxone

tolerance and dependence on laxatives

antidiarrheal drugs

adsorbents

diosmectite

activated charcoal

antimotility agents

loperamide

diphenoxylate

intestinal antiseptic drugs

chloroxine

other

racecadotril

antibiotics

rifaximin

nifuroxazide

probiocs

prebiocs

combination of antidiarrheal drugs

**Learning outcomes**

Student knows basic pharmacological profile (mechanism of action, adverse effects, indications, contraindications) of the particular groups of laxatives.

Student knows basic pharmacological profile (mechanism of action, adverse effects, indications, contraindications) of the particular groups of antidiarrheal drugs.

Student knows therapeutic process and substances used for treatment of infectious diarrhoea.

**Recommended study materials**

Rang & Dale's Pharmacology E - Book, Humphrey Rang 8th edition, 2016, chapter 30 (pp. 375 – 378).

Study materials of the course aVLFA0822c and aVLFA0822p.

**Exam questions**

*Special pharmacology:* 55. Laxatives, antidiarrhoics, drugs of infectious diarrhoeas

*“Essential” drugs:* 119. lactulose, 120. aprepitant, 122. loperamide