

# **ANALGESICS – OPIOIDS**

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# Pharmacological control of pain

Analgesics – opioids

Analgesics – NSAIDs

Local anaesthetics

General anaesthetics

Adjuvant therapy (antidepressants, antiepileptics -  
anticonvulsants, antimigranics, corticoids,  
caffein...)

# Analgesics

Analgesics – decrease pain sensation (increase of pain perception threshold) selective without influencing other sensations

Analgesics – opioids

Non-opioid analgesics

# Analgesics - opioids

Block pain signal transduction between neurons in CNS  
(brain, cord),  
the same as endogenous opioids:

**Opiates**

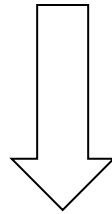
**Opioids**

# Opioid receptors - $\mu$ $\kappa$ $\delta$ ( $\sigma$ )

metabotropic G protein coupled, inh. of adenylate cyclase, facilitation of  $K^+$  channels opening postsynaptically, inhibit presynaptic  $Ca^{2+}$  channels opening

- $\mu$
- $\kappa$
- $\delta$
- ( $\sigma$ )

# Opioidní receptory - $\mu$ $\kappa$ $\delta$ ( $\sigma$ )



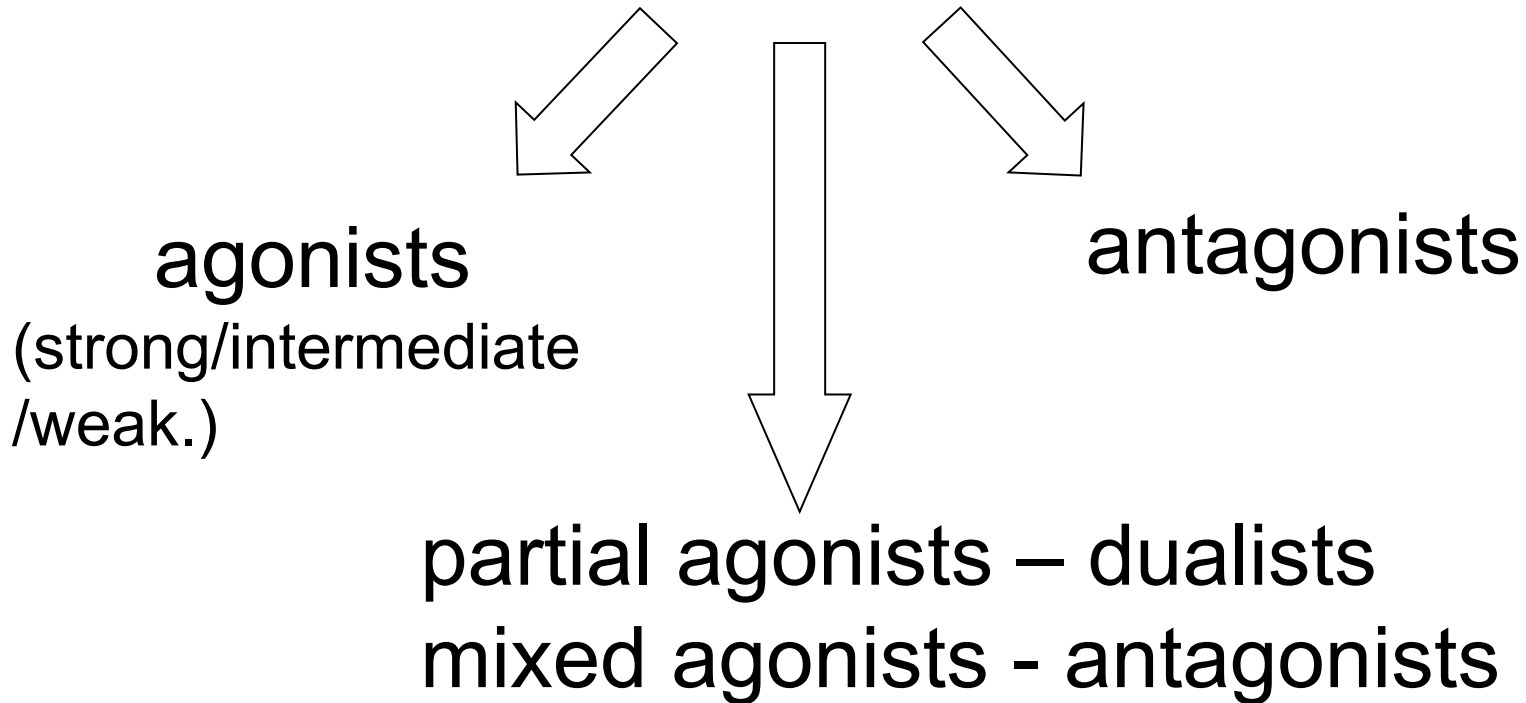
**PRO ANALGÉZII JE DŮLEŽITÁ PŘEDEVŠÍM  
AKTIVACE RECEPTORŮ:**



$\mu$  - supraspinální analgesie

$\kappa$  – spinální + periferní analgezie

# Opioid receptors pharmacology



Atypical opioids

# Pharmacological effects of opioids

Central:



# Pharmacological effects of opioids

Peripheral:

# Pharmacological effects of opioids

**TOLERANCE !!!**

**ADDICTION !!!**

# Pharmacological effects of opioids

ABSORPTION

DISTRIBUTION

# Analgesics – opioids

## Pharmacokinetics

BIOTRANSFORMATION

EXCRETION

# Opioids

selective  $\mu$  agonists

**morphine** app 10 % of opium content together with codein, thebain and other phenathren alkaloids

strong affinity to  $\mu$  receptors

# Opioid agonists

## **morphine**

- p.o. (slow release too),  
parent. (i.v., i.m., s.c., epidural, intrathek.),
- rectal administration
- **indications:**

## Other strong opioids

pethidine

methadon

piritramide

fentanyl, sufentanil, remifentanil,...

(heroin – diacetylmorphine)

# Intermediate and weak agonists

codeine

dihydrocodeine



# Partial agonists + agonists - antagonists

lower affinity to  $\mu$  receptors, strong affinity to  $\kappa$  rcp.

lower addiction potential

lower analgesic efficacy, better safety profile

Partial agonists,

agonists-antagonists

Partial agonists + agonists - antagonists

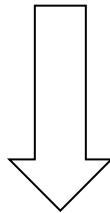
Ex.: buprenorphine

Partial agonists,  
agonists-antagonists

Partial agonists + agonists - antagonists

Other drugs (used as analgesics):

mixed agonist-antagonist



nalbuphine, butorphanol, pentazocine

Partial agonists,  
agonists-antagonists

Atypical opioids

tramadol

Atypical opioids

# Opioid analgesics antagonists

naloxone, naltrexone

Use:

# Opioids unwanted effects

- **respiratory depression**
- **nausea and vomiting**
- **sedation, decreased cognition**
- **constipation**
- **seizures, spasms**
- **addiction**

# Intoxication with opioid agonists

nausea, flush, tinnitus

apathy, sedation, somnolence, miosis

superficial breathing

cyanotic, cold skin, tachycardia

asphyxia

**COMA, RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION, MIOSIS**

Therapy

naloxone 2-3 min. intervals/ infusions

ventilation, vital functions,

unconsciousness – fluids parenterally

# Pain treatment

## WHO analgesics 3 grade ladder

