# Antidepressants

often life-saving drugs

# Possible classification of antidepressants

- 1. Non-selective monoamines reuptake inhibitors (tricyclic and tetracyclic antidepressants)
- 2. Monoaminooxidases (MAO) inhibitors
- 2.1 Non-selective MAO inhibitors
- 2.2 Selective MAO A inhibitors
- 3. Selective serotonine and noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (SSNRI)
- 4. Selective serotonine reuptake inhibitors (SSRI)
- 5. Dual-serotoninergic antidepressants
- 6. Selective noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (SNRI)
- 7. Alkaline metals salts

# Amines involved in effects of antidepressants

4-[(1*R*)-2-amino-1-hydroxyethyl]benzene-1,2-diol **noradrenaline** (norepinephrine)

4-(2-aminoethyl)benzene-1,2-diol dopamine

$$HO$$
 $N$ 
 $NH_2$ 

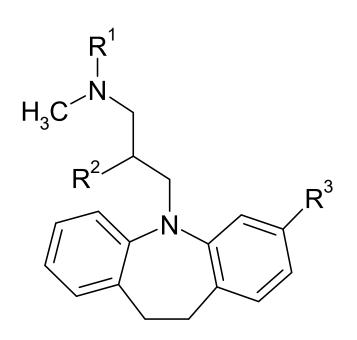
3-(2-aminoethyl)-1*H*-indol-5-ol **serotonine** 

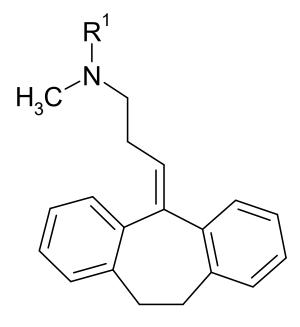
- 1. Non-selective monoamines reuptake inhibitors (tricyclic antidepressants)
- inhibit reuptake of serotonine and noradrenaline

# Genesis (derivation) of tricyclic antidepressants

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> generations of tricyclic antidepressants

- •act innhibitory also on M, H<sub>1</sub>,  $\alpha$ <sub>1</sub>,  $\alpha$ <sub>2</sub>, 5-HT<sub>2</sub> receptors
- •2<sup>nd</sup> gen. increases more amount of NA than 5-HT in synapsis, 1<sup>st</sup> gen. reversely





 $R^1 = -CH_3 R^2 = R^3 = -H$ 

**Tofranil®** 

 $R^1 = R^2 = R^3 = -H$ 

 $R^1 = R^2 = -H R^3 = -CI$ 

Anafranil®

 $R^1 = R^2 = -CH_3 R^3 = -H$ 

**Surmontil®** 

imipramine

desipramine clomipramine

trimipramine

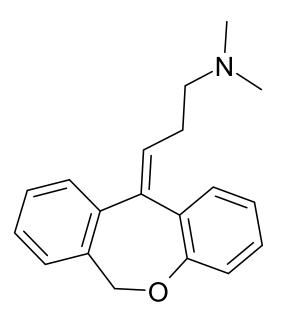
R<sup>1</sup>=-CH<sub>3</sub> amitriptyline

Elavil®, Endep®

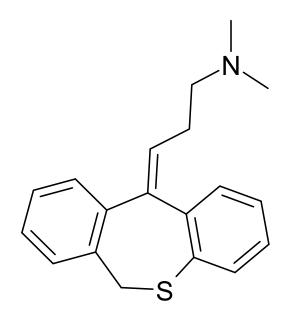
R<sup>1</sup>=-H nortriptyline

**Pamelor®** 

# 1<sup>st</sup> generation of tricyclic antidepressants



cidoxepin [INN] syn. doxepin [USAN]



dosulepin [INN] syn. dothiepin [USAN] Prothiaden ® 25

#### Mechanism of action:

- Inhibition of neurotransmitters reuptake
- Immediate effect = >↑ NA and 5-HT in synapsis.
- After longer period treatment (2 4 weeks) = >
  - $\downarrow$  of activity  $\beta$  and  $\downarrow$ 5-HT<sub>2</sub>rp.
  - ↓ of release and return of NA.
  - ↓ NA-stimulated cAMP level in the brain
  - ↑ sensitivity of 5-HT receptors
  - \* "Adaptive responses" \*
- as long as 4 weeks of treatment are needed for full activity

Unwanted effects of tricyclic antidepressants due to antagonist action on various receptors:

- •M(uscarine) rp. dry in the mouth, bad accomodation, tachycardia, problems with emiction, forgeting
- •H<sub>1</sub> rp. sedation, increase of body weight
- •5-HT<sub>2</sub>- increase of appetite and body weight
- $ullet lpha_{_{1}}$  orthostatic hypotension, reflex tachycardia

# Tetracyclic antidepressants (or "thymoleptics of 2<sup>nd</sup> generation")

# CH<sub>3</sub>

#### mianserin

### mirtazapine

•minimal activity on monoamines reuptake from synapses, quite selective antagonists of  $\alpha_{2}$ -adrenergic receptors which inhibit noradrenaline release

•inhibits also α₁-rp. ⇒
 ↓ blood pressure

Lerivon ®, Miabene ®

Esprital ® , Mirtazapin ® firm

# maprotiline

inhibits reuptake of noradrenaline mainly •moderate anicholinergic effects, significant antihistamine ones (sedative) Ludiomil ®

- 2. Monoaminooxidases (MAO) inhibitors also thymoeretics
- MAOs = enzymes oxidatively degrading catecholamines
- discovered in 1950<sup>th</sup>
- potent but less used due to their lower security (interactions, unwanted effects)
- frequent occurence of drug interactions
- most frequently used if other treatment methods failed
- AE: orthosthasis, sedation, sexual dysfunctions, body weight increase
- type A (MAO-A) decomposes mainly serotonine and less also noradrenaline
- typ B (MAO-B) decomposes various phenylethylamine including dopamine

#### 2.1 Non-selective MAO inhibitors

isonicotinic acid N'isopropylhydrazide **iproniazid** 

1-(2-phenylethyl)hydrazine **phenelzine** 

trans-24-methylisoxazole-3- phenylcyklopylamin karboxylic acid N'benzylhydrazide

isocarboxazid

•dangerous interaction with "exciting amines" in food (maturing cheeses, red wines) especially tyramine ⇒↑ blood pressure to hypertension crisis

#### 2.2 Selective MAO A inhibitors

 MAO A decomposes mainly endogenous noradrenaline (NA) and serotonine (5HT)

moclobemide N-(2-morfolinoethyl)-4chlorobenzamide

Aurorix ®

toloxatone

amiflamine

3. Serotonine and noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (SNRI) indirect central agonists of both adrenergic and 5HT receptors

1-[2-(dimethylamino)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl) ethyl]cyclohexanol

#### venlafaxine

Argofan ® , Apo-Venlafaxin ® , Velaxin ® ...

(3S)-1-methylamino-3-(1-naphtyloxy)-3-(thiophene-2-yl)propane

#### duloxetine

Cymbalta ® , Xeristar ®

# 4. Selective serotonine reuptake inhibitors (SSRI)

$$H_3C$$
 $H_3C$ 
 $N$ 

**citalopram** Citalex®

escitalopram (S)-citalopram Depresinal ® , Elicea ®

$$F \xrightarrow{F} O \longrightarrow H_3C-N$$

1-methylaminopropane fluoxetin

Deprex®, Floxet®, Fluocim®, Fluval® ...

 slightly activates, can disturb the sleep if administered in the evening, increase of tension and anxiety possible, long half time - no problems with an omission of a single dose

3-(4-trifluorophenoxy)-3-phenyl-(1S,4S)-4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1-methylamino-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphtalene sertralin

Asentra®, Serlift®, Setralex®, Zoloft® ...

# paroxetine

Arketis ®, Parolex ®

# fluvoxamine

•attenuating effects, administration in the evening, suitable for inquiet patients, inhibition of suicidal turns Fevarin ®

# 5. Dual-serotoninergic antidepressants

trazodone

nefazodone

•serotonine reuptake inhibitors and simultaneously 5-HT<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonists

•also inhibits NA reuptake

•markedly sedative Trittico AC ®

# 6. Selective noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (SNRI)

reboxetine

•*R*,*R* 

viloxazine

racemate

atomoxetine

•*R* 

Strattera ®

- effective in motivation and interest stimulation
- enhance effect of sympathomimetics
- •AE: tachycardia, tremor

#### 7. Alkaline metals salts

#### Li<sup>+</sup>

- mostly often Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>
- treatment of bipolar illness (formerly manio-depressive syndrome)
- •high toxicity, low difference between therapeutic and toxic doses, plasmatic levels monitoring necessary

#### $Rb^{\dagger}$

- •total amount in the body 400 900 mg
- potentiates noradrenergic and dopaminergic transmission of nervous impulses in CNS
- evidences of antidepressant effects