

Sedatives & hypnotics

Sedatives = „calmative“ compounds

Hypnotics = compounds causing a condition less or more similar to the physiologic sleep

- often the same; the difference in their action is only in a dose

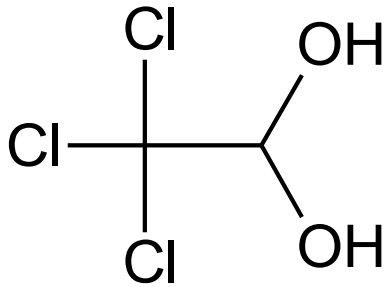
The sleep in accordance to EEG and other methods:

non-REM (non-rapid eye movement) sleep – 70 - 75%

REM – the rest; deep sleep which is needed to the organism regeneration

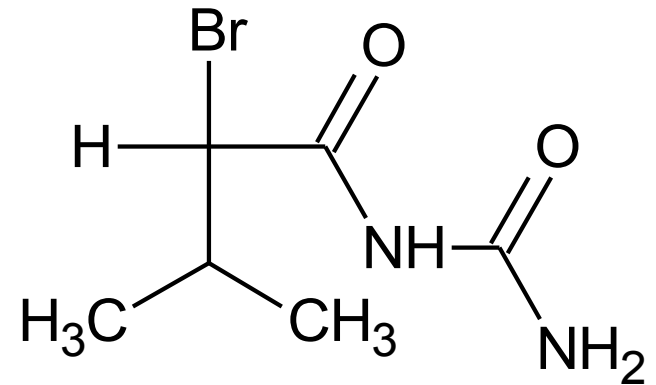
(Pre)history

- ethanol
- bromides (KBr, NaBr)



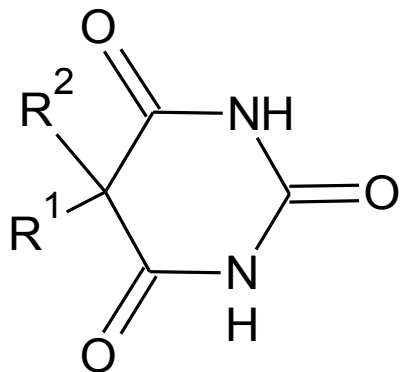
chloral hydrate

- used as a mild sedative and hypnotic in children up to now (suppositories)

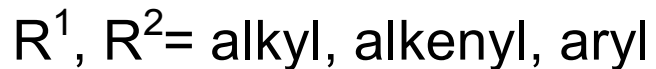


bromisoval

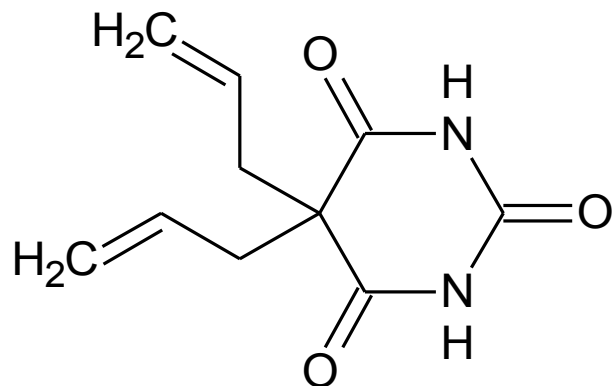
History Barbiturates



barbituric acid

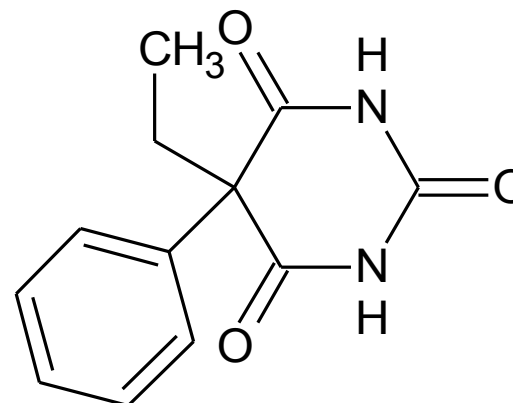


barbiturates



symetric

- slow action onset
- mild activity (sedatives)
- dlouhé odeznívání long decay of action
- usage in analgesic mixtures (irrational, addiction)

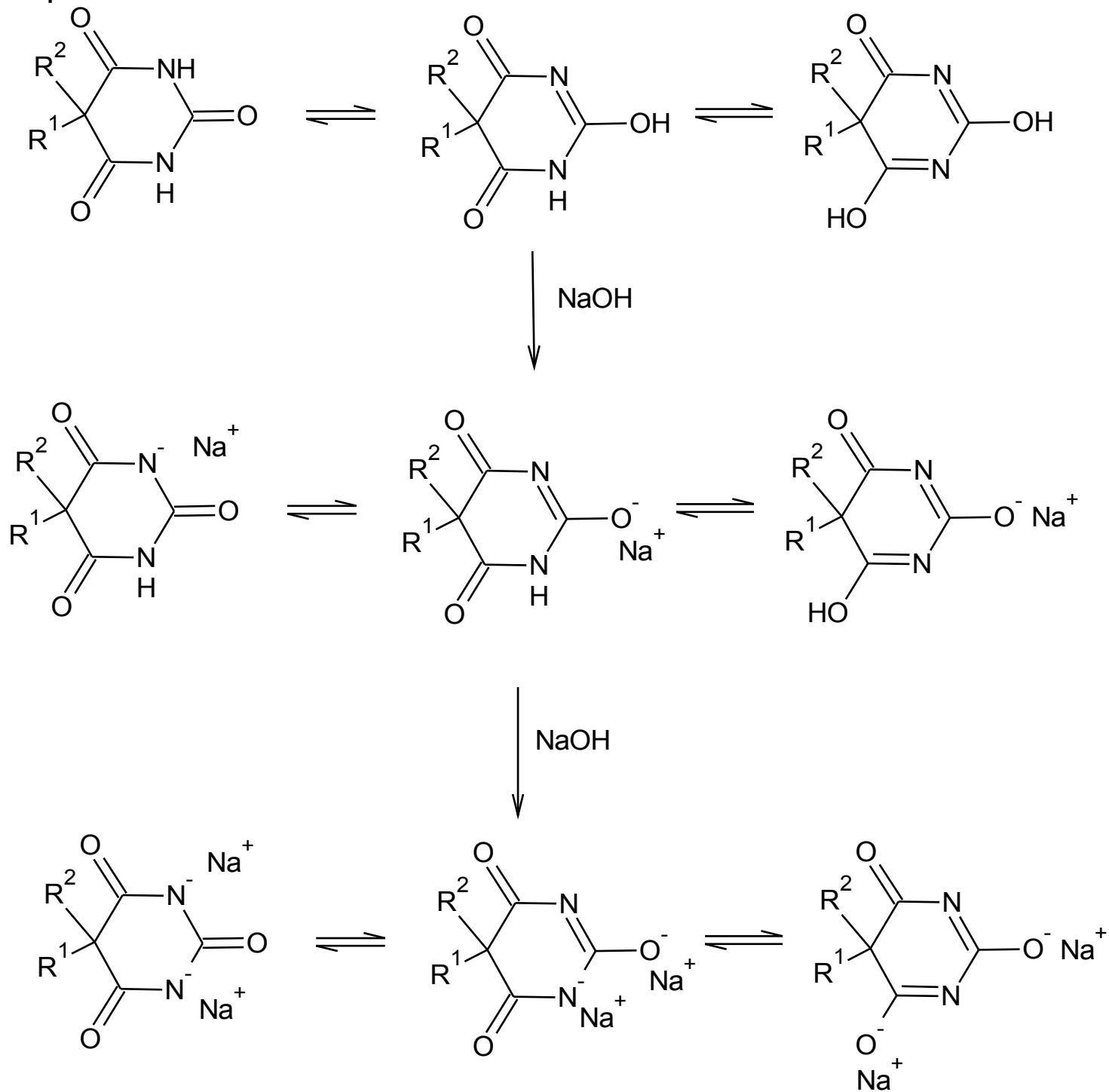


asymmetric

- usually more lipophilic
- more efficient, faster onset of action (hypnotics)
- treatment of hyperbilirubinemia and kernicterus in neonates till today (probably irrational)

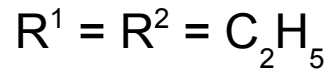
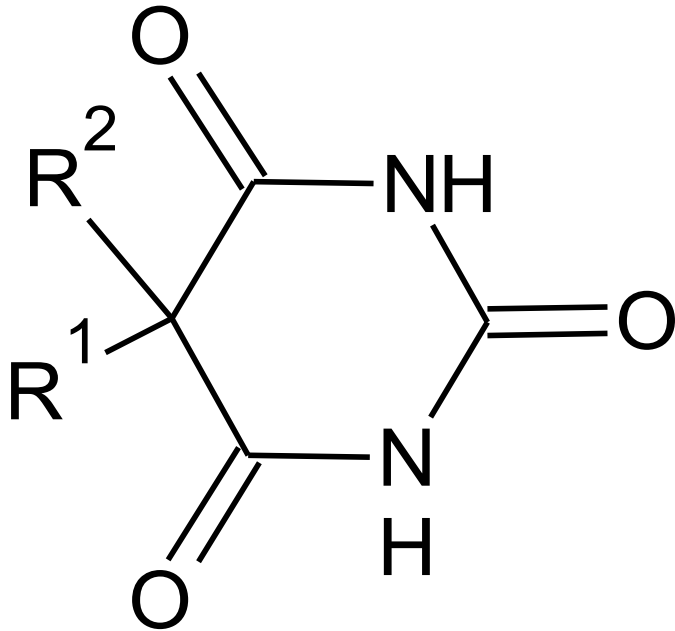
- used on a mass scale approx. 1912 – 1955
- classification according to duration of action
- up to 50 derivatives
- supress REM-sleep \Rightarrow the patient is not relaxed

Chemical properties of barbiturates: lactam-lactim tautomerism and salts formed by tautomers



- lactam-lactim tautomerism
- dibasic acids
- significant difference of both pK_a values \Rightarrow possibility of monosodium etc. salts well soluble in water

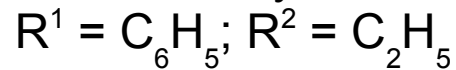
Examples of barbiturates



barbital



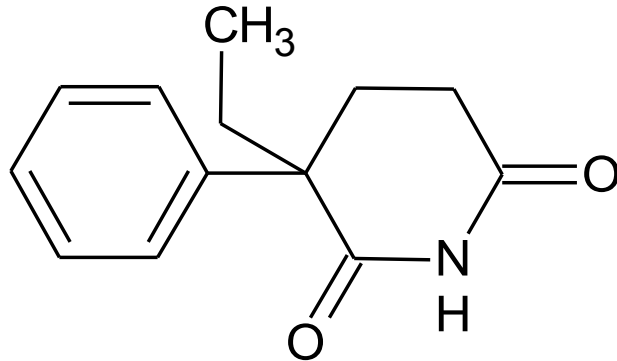
allobarbital



phenobarbital, syn. luminal

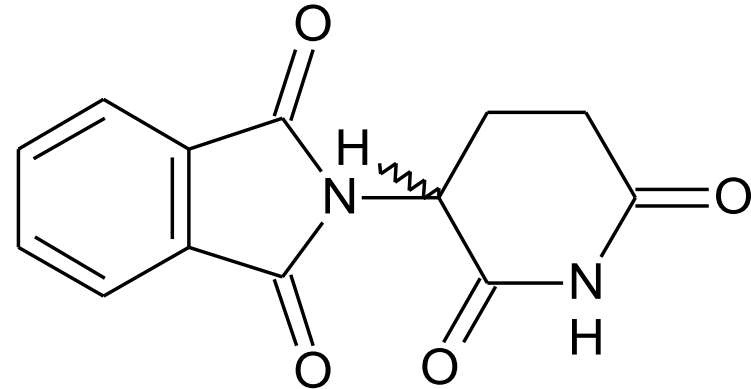
- also antiepileptic, treatment of febrile convulsions in babies, till now in neonates yellow-gum (probably irrational; may be connected with enzyme induction)
- GABA_A receptor agonists
- also in mixtures (Bellaspone[®])

Piperidine-2,6-dione (glutarimide) derivatives



glutethimide

- derived from phenobarbital
- obsolete sedative and hypnotic



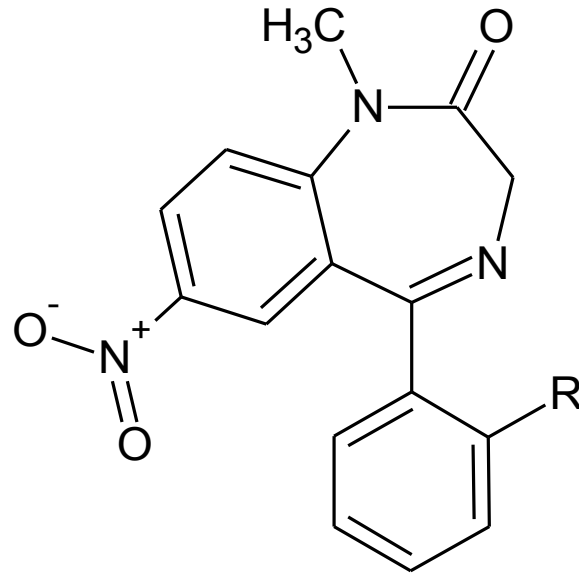
thalidomide

Contergan[®]

- originally a hypnotic
- withdrawn in 1970th due to teratogenicity of its S-enantiomer; enantiomers however racemize rapidly; the need of its withdrawal initiated the INN nomenclature introduction
- after 2000 used again: immunosuppressant, antineoplastic, angiogenesis inhibitor; the lead compound of a novel group of anticancer drugs

Benzodiazepins

1,4-benzodiazepins



R = H **nitrazepam** – rather sedative

R = F **flunitrazepam** - hypnotic

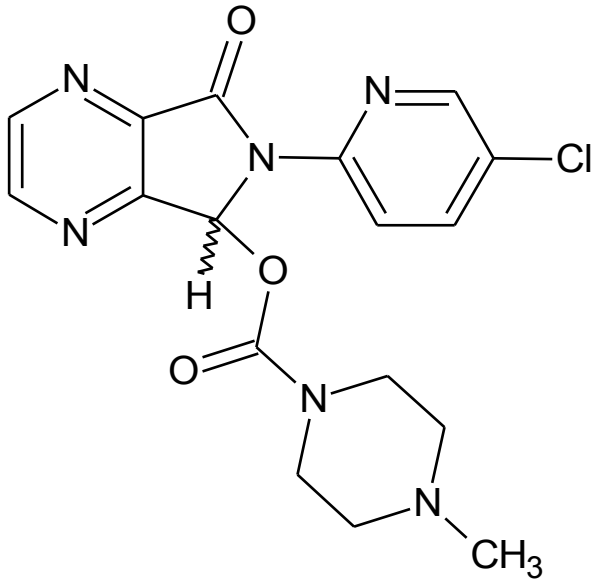
(Rohypnol[®])

- only minor effect on the REM sleep

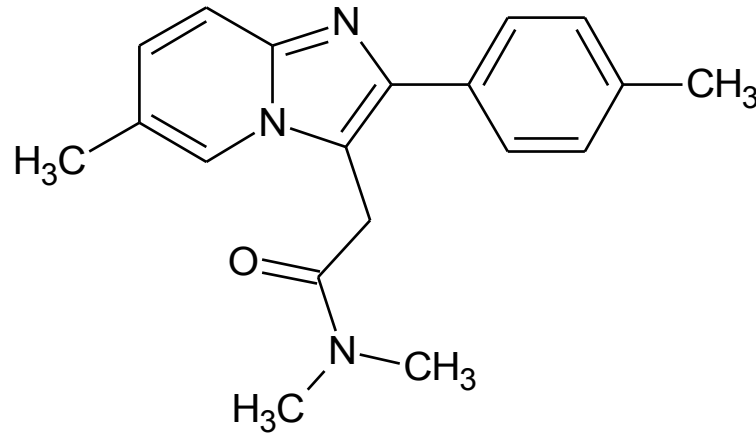
AE: amnesia, respiration and circulation attenuation

- tolerance

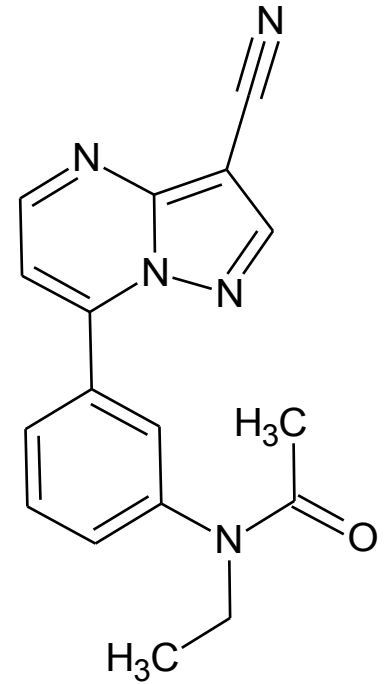
„Z-compounds“



(±)-(5R,S): **zopiclon**
Zopitin[®]
(+)-(5S): **eszopiclon**



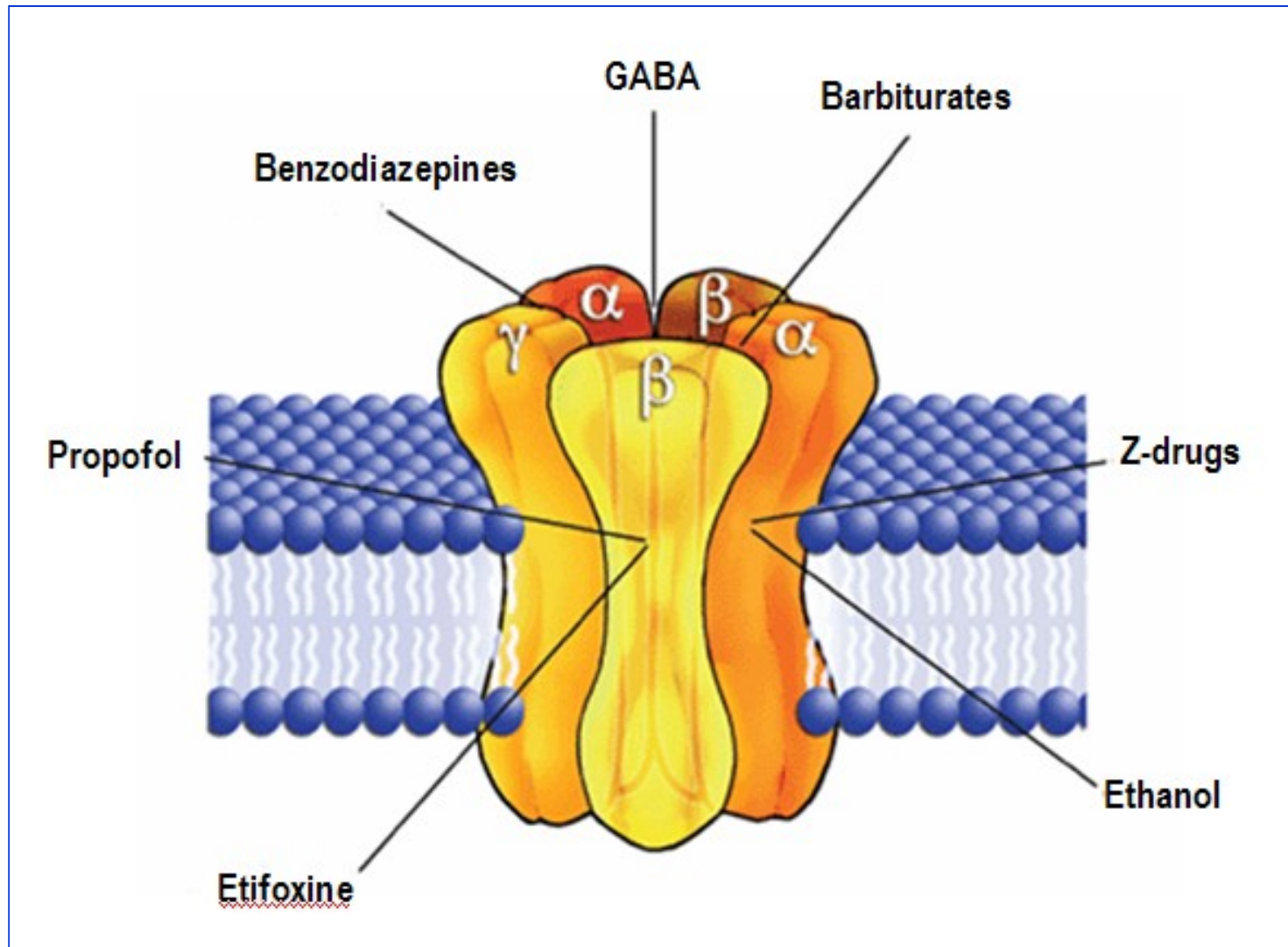
zolpidem
Eanox[®], Hypnogen[®]



zaleplon
•also anticonvulsant activity
Sonata[®], Zerene[®] ...

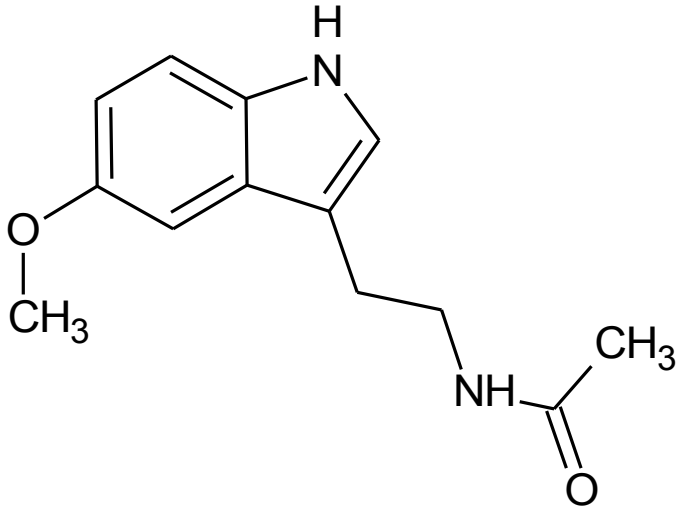
GABA_A-receptor – Cl⁻ channel: the target structure for most sedatives and hypnotics and many antiepileptics

- alosteric receptor agonists



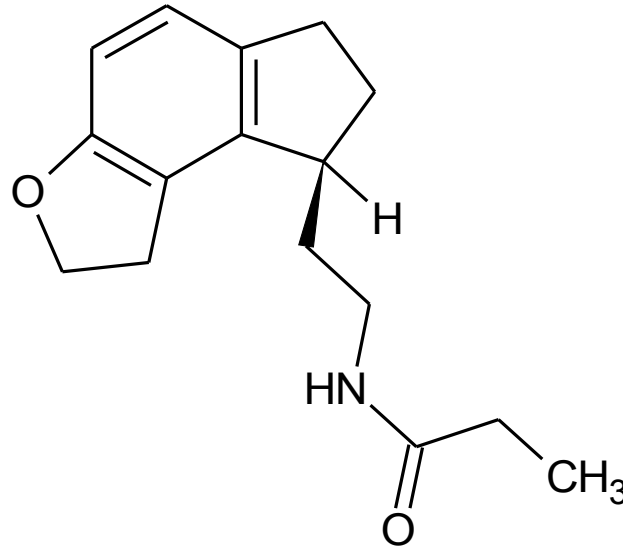
Melatonin receptor agonists („melatonergic“ drugs)

- melatonin is responsible for skin colouring (pigmentation) but also for **circadian rhythm**
- agonists produce the sleep and „reset circadian pacemaker“ (=“Zeitgeber“) to enable it



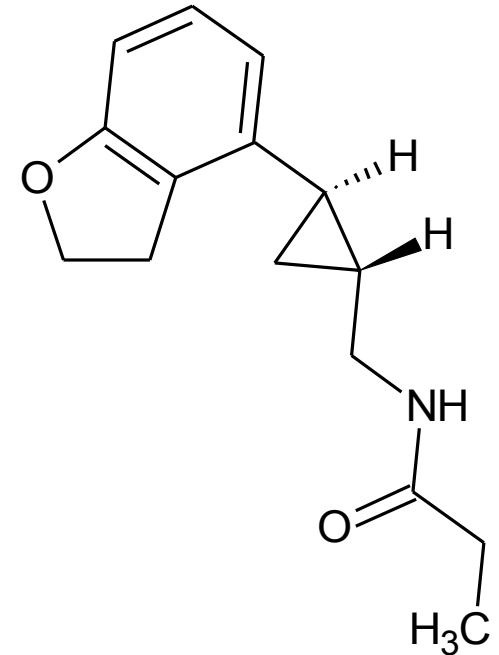
melatonin

- administration in the evening
⇒ „re-synchronisation“
- $T_{1/2}$ too short



ramelteon

- melatonin receptors MT₁
and MT₂ agonist



tasimelteon

syn. BMS-214778

Melatonin receptors

- MT_1 and MT_2
- present in various parts of the brain, important namely in suprachiasmatic nucleus („circadian pacemaker = Zeitgeber“-SCN)
- G-protein-coupled receptors
- binding of melatonin to $MT_2 \Rightarrow$ „clock resetting“
- binding to $MT_1 \Rightarrow$ suppressing of neuronal firing
- MT_1 mediated effect of melatonin causes the sleep mainly by means of the „hypothalamic sleep switch“ which under influence of melatonin suppresses neuronal paths connected with keeping awake and stimulates those connected with the sleep
- thalamus is also of some importance for sleeping effect of melatonin; MT receptors are present here also, **spindles** which are characterized by non-REM sleep are formed by influence of 5-aminoindole
- there are also other binding structures or sites for melatonin: quinoreductase 2, nuclear receptors which belong into retinoic acid receptors superfamily, Ca^{2+} binding proteins: calmoduline, calreticuline and its analogues in nucleus etc.

Antiepileptics

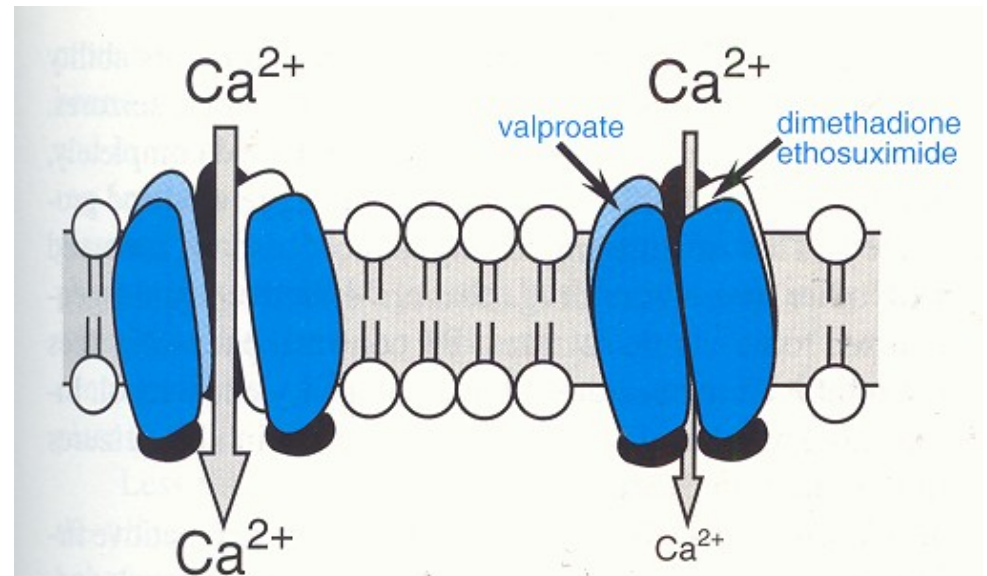
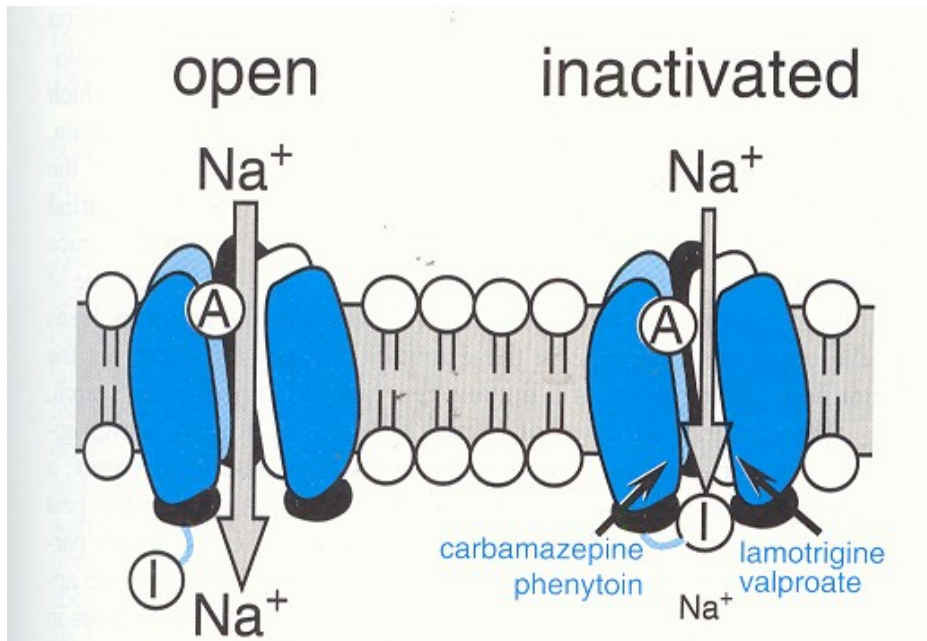
- compounds selectively suppressing CNS used for treatment of epilepsy

Anticonvulsants

- compounds protecting from convulsions used most frequently (but not only) in epilepsy
- many antiepileptics act as anticonvulsants and vice versa but not all

Modes of action of antiepileptics and some of their target structures

•GABA_A-receptor

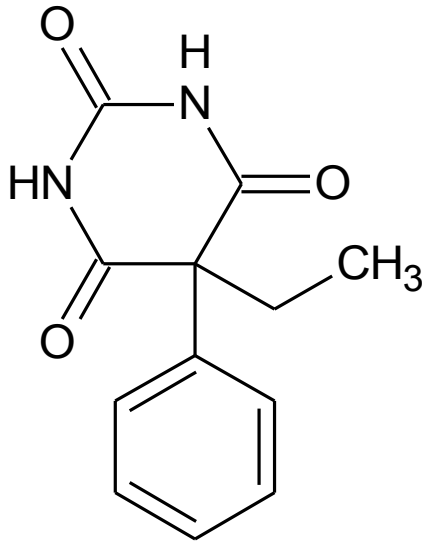


- voltage gated Na⁺ channels: extending of inactivation decreases the ability of neurons to spread and impulse on higher frequencies
- low threshold Ca²⁺ channels: decrease of the flux of Ca²⁺ through T type channels leads to decrease of the current of the pacemaker which conditions the thalamic rhythm in peaks and waves which is seen in generalized seizures

Synaptic vesicular protein 2A (SV2A)

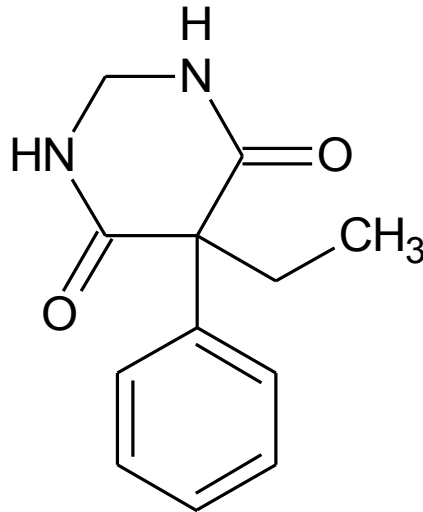
- widely spread in whole CNS; its participation in exocytosis of synaptic vesicles and release of neurotransmitters is assumed
- affinity of levetiracetam and its analogues to SV2A closely correlates with their ability to protect against convulsions induced experimentally in animal models

Phenobarbital and its analogues



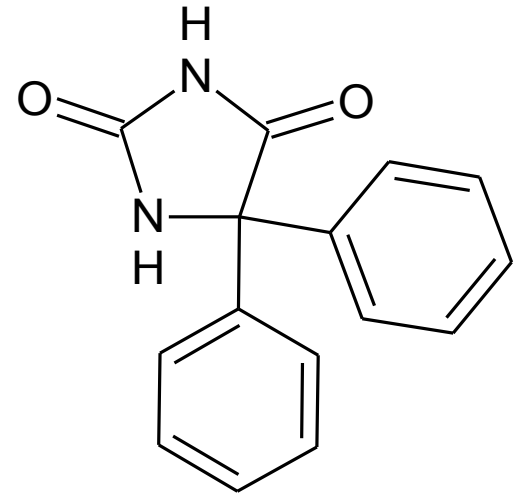
phenobarbital

Luminal[®] inj.,
Pheneamal 0.1[®],
Phenaemaletten[®]
•drug of the 2nd choice:
teratogenic, induction
of hepatic enzymes,
sedation, depression,
irritation in children
and the elderly



primidone

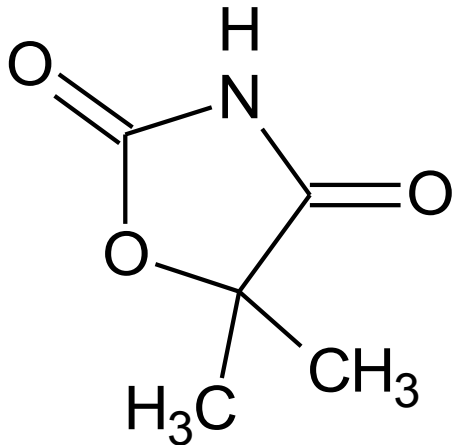
Liskantin[®] tbl.
•metabolized to phenobarbital
•drug of the 2nd choice:
sedation, ataxia, attenuated
libido



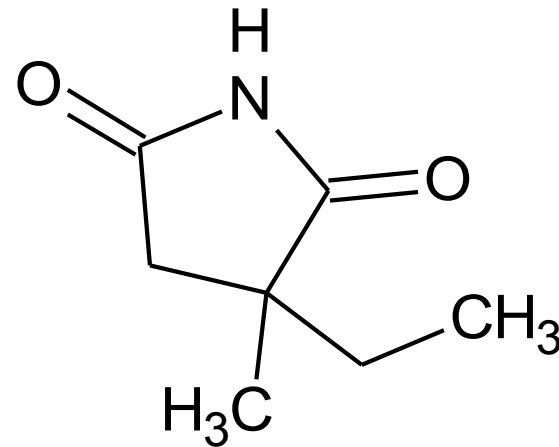
phenytoin

5,5-diphenylhydantoin
•since 1938
•compared with
phenobarbital nearly „non-
sedative“
•acts on Na⁺ channel;
prolongs its opened period
Epilan D Gerot[®] tbl.,
Epanutin[®] inj.
•in fact monobasic acid;
Na⁺ salt also used

Isosteric analogues of hydantoins – oxazolidine-2,4-diones and succinimides



dimethadione



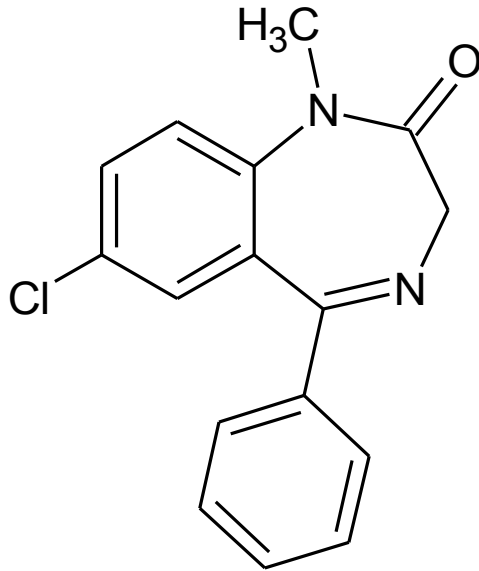
ethosuximide

Pethinimid[®] cps.

- effective in patients with absences but not in generalized and tonic-clonic seizures
- does not interact with other drugs
- AE: nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, headache, allergic rash ...

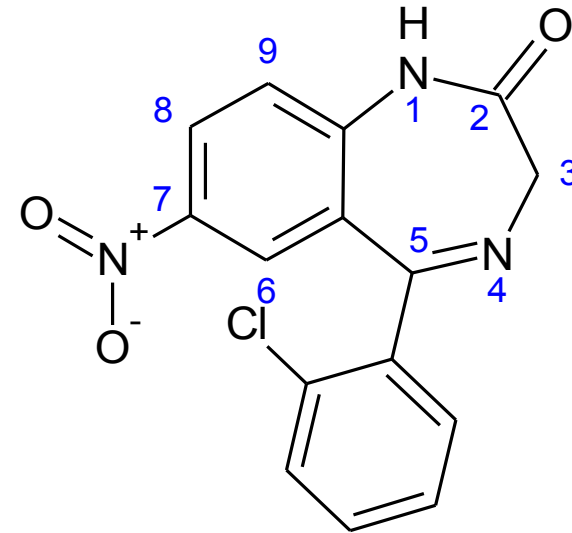
- block Ca²⁺ type T channels in thalamic neurons

Benzodiazepins
1,4-benzodiazepins



diazepam

- also prevention of febrile convulsions in babies
- Diazepam Desitin[®] Rectal Tube

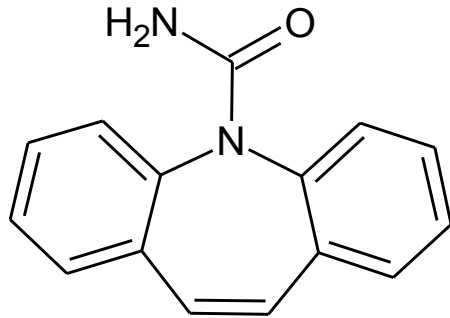


clonazepam

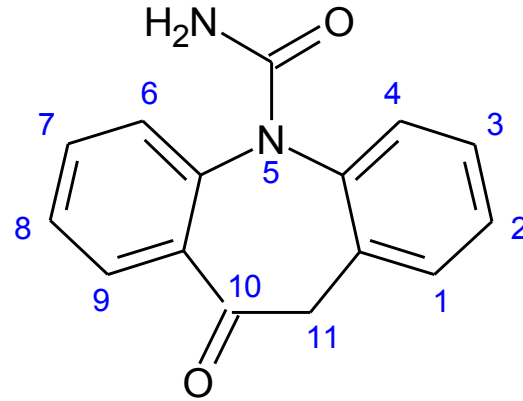
Rivotril[®]tbl., gtt.

•GABA_A-receptor

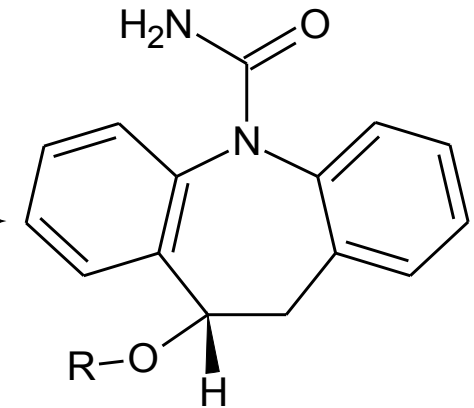
Dibenzo[*b,f*]azepins



5*H*-dibenzo[*b,f*]azepine-5-carboxamide



(prodrug)



R = H-
eslicarbazepine

R = CH₃CO-

**eslicarbazepine
acetate**

Exalief[®] tbl., Zebinix[®] tbl.

•also modulate currents mediated by Ca²⁺ a K⁺

carbamazepine

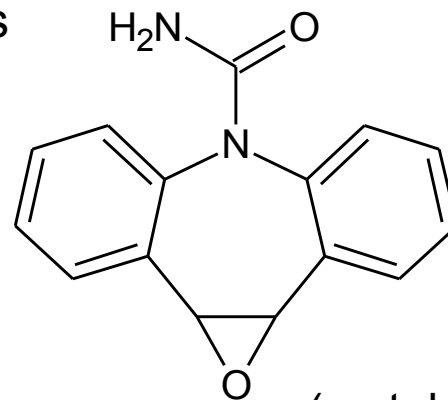
Carbamazepinum PhEur

Biston[®], Neurotop[®], Tegretol[®] CR ...

•blocks voltage gated Na⁺ channels and thus hinders uncontrolled impulses spreading

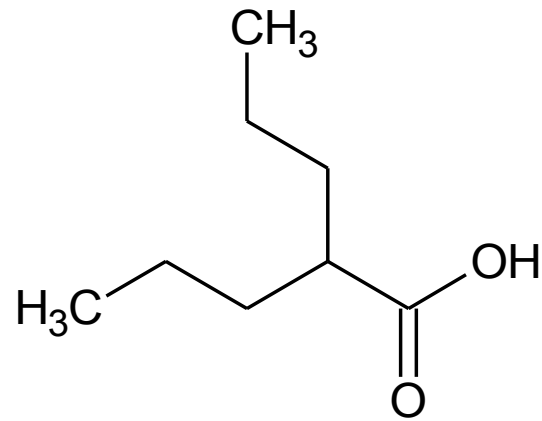
oxcarbazepine

Oxkarbazepin Merck[®], ... Mylan[®]; Trileptal[®]



(metabolite)

carbamazepine-epoxide



valproic acid

Acidum valproicum PhEur

• **sodium valproate** more frequently used

Natrii valproas PhEur

• blocks voltage gated Na⁺ channels

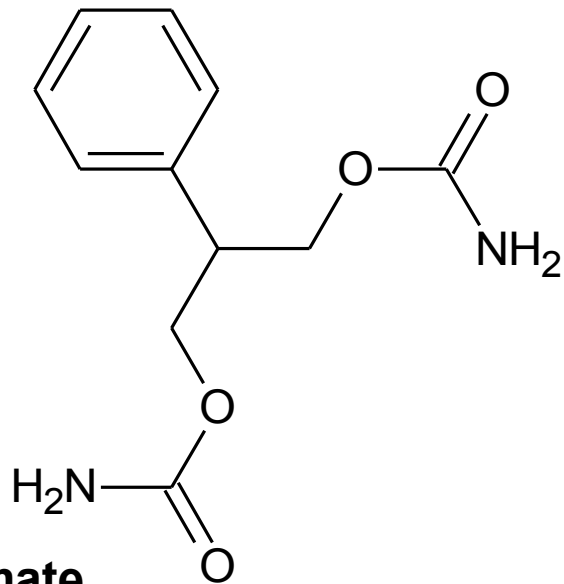
• amplifies inhibition effect of GABA

• lowers currents through voltage gated low threshold Ca²⁺-T-channels

• all types of seizures

• teratogenic

Absenor ® , Convulex ® (valproic acid), Depakine ® , Orfiril ® ... (sodium valproate)



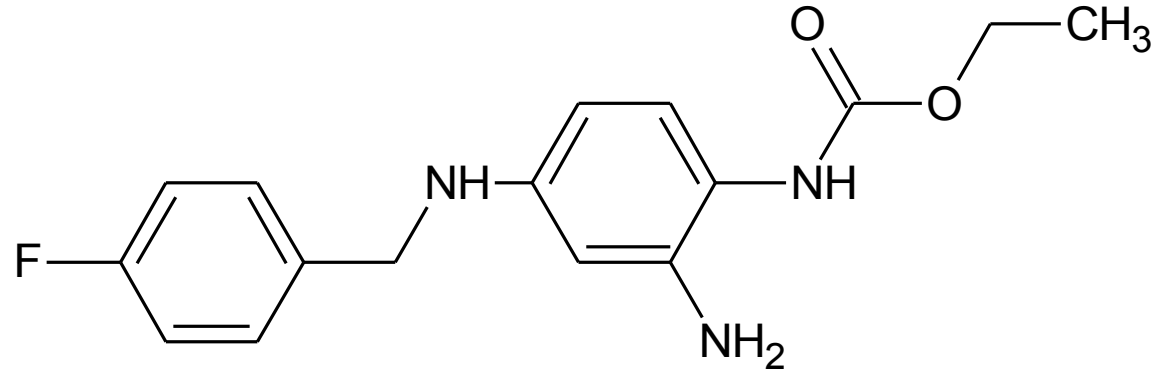
felbamate

- an analogue of meprobamate and carisoprodole

Modes of action:

- potentiates GABA mediated inhibition
- blocks voltage gated Na⁺ channels
- blocks ion channels of N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptors
- treatment of generalized seizures including Lennox–Gastaut syndrome (= a difficult-to-treat form of childhood-onset epilepsy characterized by frequent seizures of various types and often accompanied by mental retardation)
- high risk of fatal hepatitis and aplastic anaemia

Carbamates

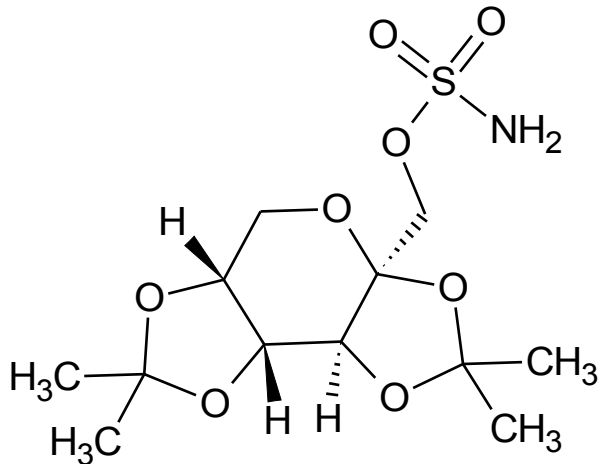


retigabin

syn. D 23129

- developed from the analgesic flupirtine
 - Modes of action: activates K⁺ channels of Kv7 type + potentiates GABA-induced currents in cortical neurones
 - adjunctive treatment of partial onset seizures with or without secondary generalisation in adults aged 18 years and above
 - risk of QT-interval prolongation and psychiatric problems
- Trobal® authorized by EMA 28th March 2011

Compounds with a sulphonamide eventually a sulphamic acid fragment

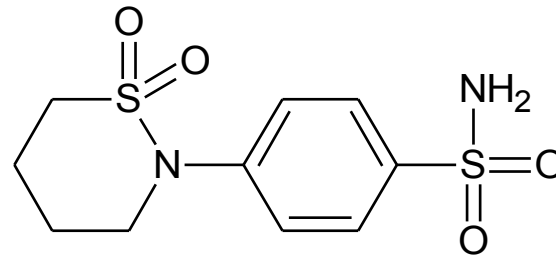


topiramate

2,3:4,5-Di-O-isopropylidene-β-D-fructopyranose sulfamate

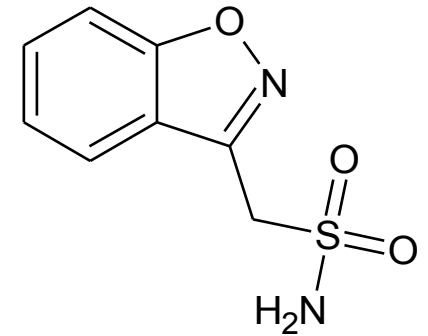
Topilept[®] tbl., Topilex[®] tbl., Topiragis[®] tbl....

- many structural changes proceeded but analogues inactive
- blocks Na⁺ channels and high voltage gated Ca²⁺ channels, attenuates effects of excitation transmitters and amplifies GABA effect; impact of carboanhydrase inhibition on its action is not clear



sulthiame

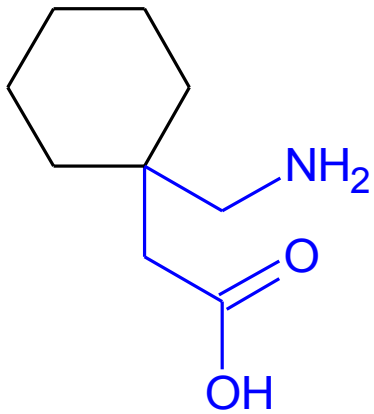
- a sulphanilamide derivative
 - introduced 1961
 - carboanhydrase inhibitor
- Ospolot[®] tbl.



zonisamide

- blocks voltage gated Na⁺ channels & Ca²⁺ channels of T type
 - inhibits carboanhydrase
- Zonegran[®] tbl.

Substitution derivatives of γ -amino butyric acid (GABA)



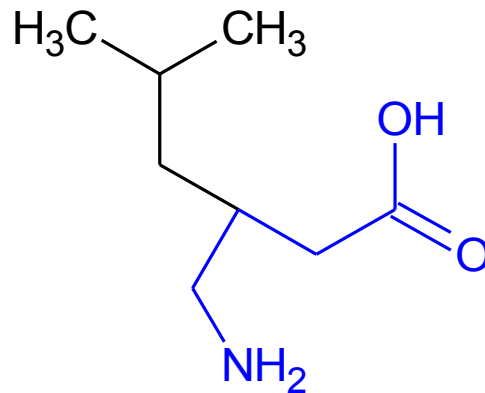
[1-(aminomethyl)cyclohexyl]acetic acid

gabapentin

Gabagamma[®]tbl., Gabanox[®]tbl.

...

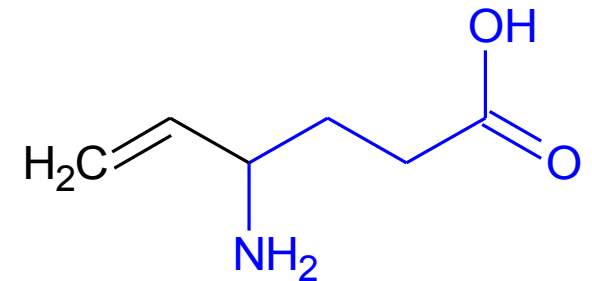
- AE: weight increase



pregabalin

Lyrica[®]

- 6 – 8x more effective than gabapentin
- also for neuropathic pain and generalized anxious disorder



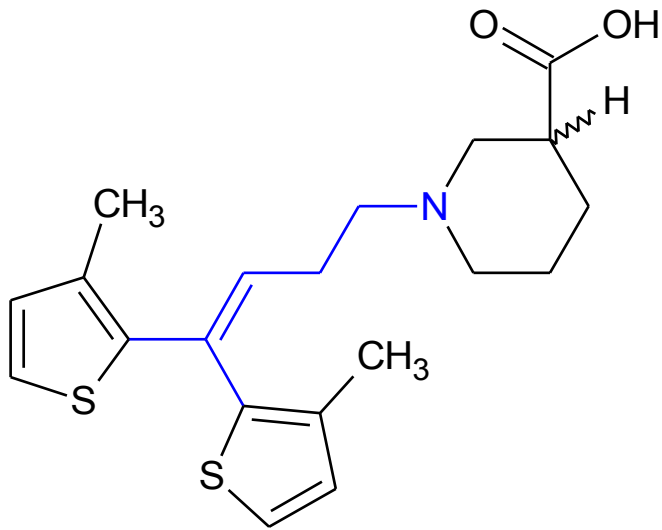
vigabatrin

Sabril[®]tbl.

- GABA-aminotransferase inhibitor

- bind to $\alpha 2\delta$ subunit of neuronal voltage gated Ca^{2+} channel and inhibit stream of Ca^{2+}
- excreted by urine, do not interfere with metabolism of other drugs

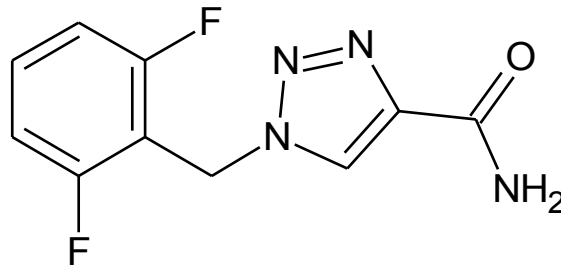
Some „newer“ antiepileptics with heterocyclic fragments



tiagabine

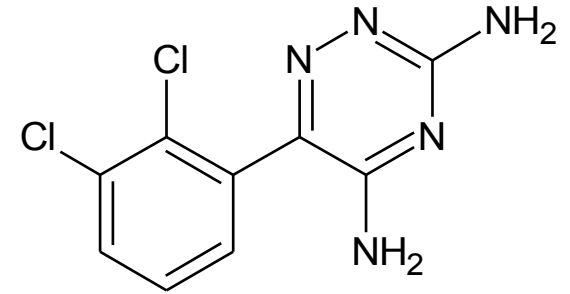
Gabitril®tbl.

- inhibits GABA reuptake in neurones and glia \Rightarrow \uparrow availability of GABA for inhibition of postsynaptic neurones



rufinamide

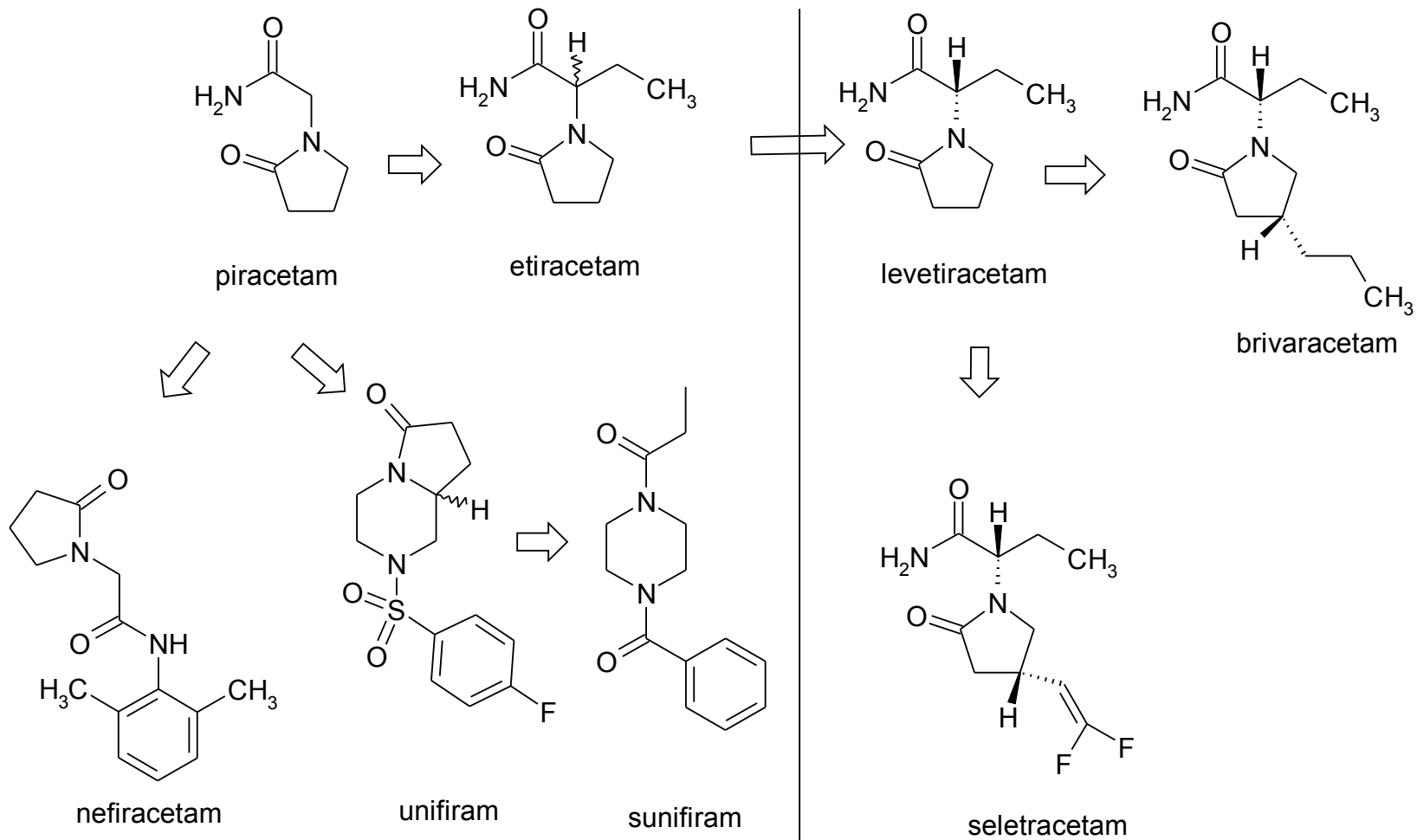
- modulation of Na^+ channels – keeps their inactive state
 - AE heart: shortening of QT interval
- Inovelon®tbl.



lamotrigine

- Epimil®tbl., Lamictal®tbl. ...
- Na^+ channels blocker
 - can also trigger myoclonic seizures
 - embryotoxicity: \uparrow risk of cleft of lip and palate

„Genealogy“ of racetams



klasická nootropika, posilovače kognitivních funkcí

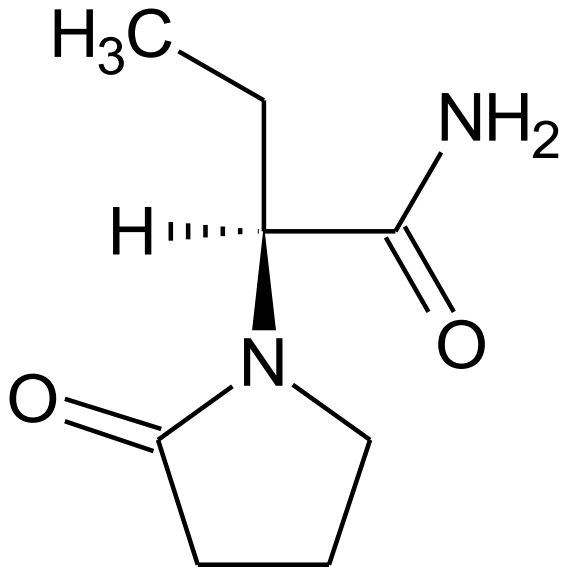
classical nootropics, cognitive functions enhancers

"neklasická" antiepileptika, agonisté synaptického vezikulového proteinu 2A (SV2A)

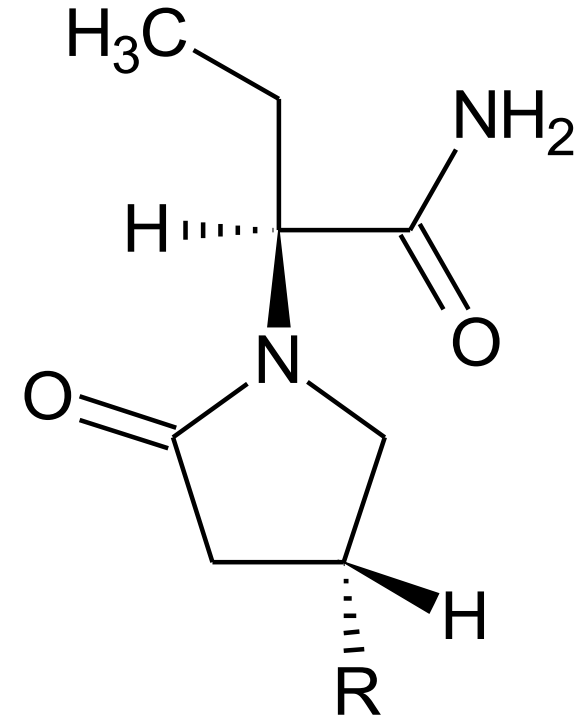
„non-classical antiepileptics, synaptic vesicular protein 2A (SV2A) antagonists

Antiepileptic **racetams**

- interact with SV2A
- probably also inhibit high voltage activated (HVA) Ca^{2+} channels (like topiramate)



levetiracetam
Keppra®



(2S), (4R)

- 10x higher affinity to SV2A than levetiracetam

R = C₃H₇ **brivaracetam**

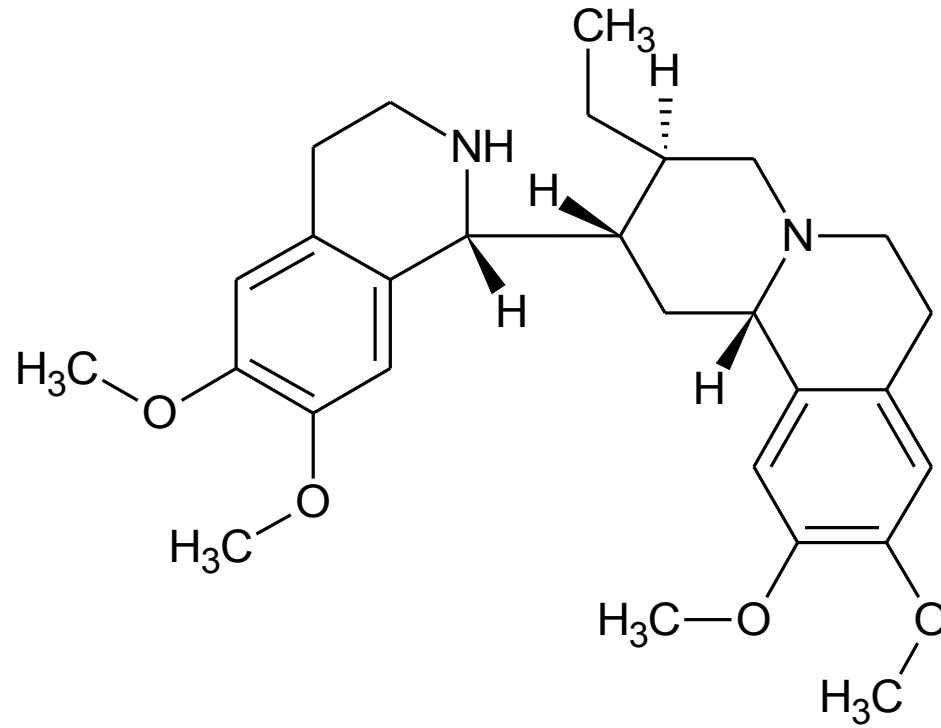
- EMA has authorized clinical studies for treatment of epilepsy in children and febrile convulsions in neonates

- inhibits also Na⁺ channels

R = CH=CF₂ **seletracetam**

Vomitics

- induce vomiting e.g. in intoxications
- an obsolete group



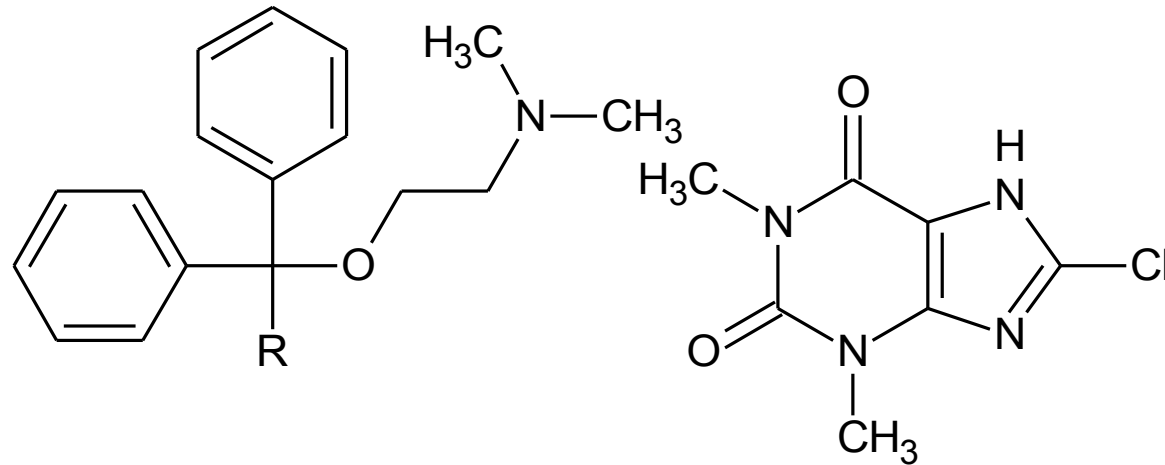
emetine

- alkaloid from the roots of *Cephaelis ipecacuanha*, *Rubiaceae*
- emetic (central: *medulla oblongata*), antiprotozoal, anthelmintic effects
- formerly also used as „cough modulator“ - combined with codeine – Kodynol[®] (50 mg codeine + 5 mg emetine)

Antivomitics (= antiemetics), antikinetics

- parasympatolytics: tropane alkaloids
- H₁-antihistamines**
- antipsychotics: phenothiazine derivatives
- compounds enhancing intestinal perislalsis
- setrons**
- NK-1 antagonists**

H₁-antihistamines used as antiemetics and antikinetics



R = H **moxastine theoclate**

syn. mephenhydrinate

Kinedryl[®]

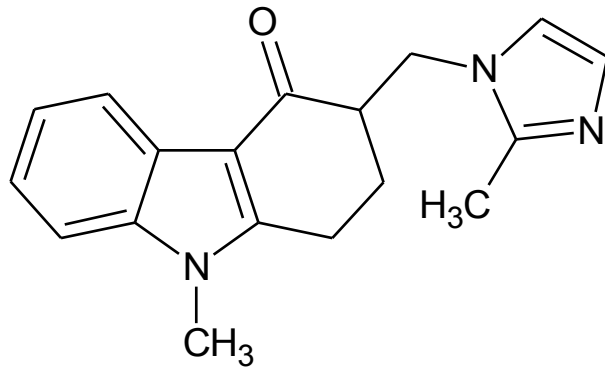
R = CH₃ **dimenhydrinat**

= diphenhydramine + 8-chlorotheophylline

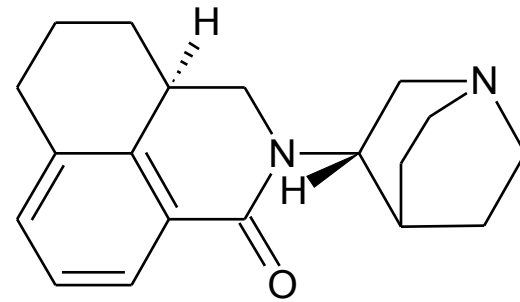
- molecular complexes
- motion sicknesses, gravidity nausea
- AE: sedation

Setrons

- suppress nausea and vomiting by inhibition of serotonin 5-HT₃ receptors on periphery
- treatment of serious nausea accompanying cancer chemotherapy
- also in general anaesthesia

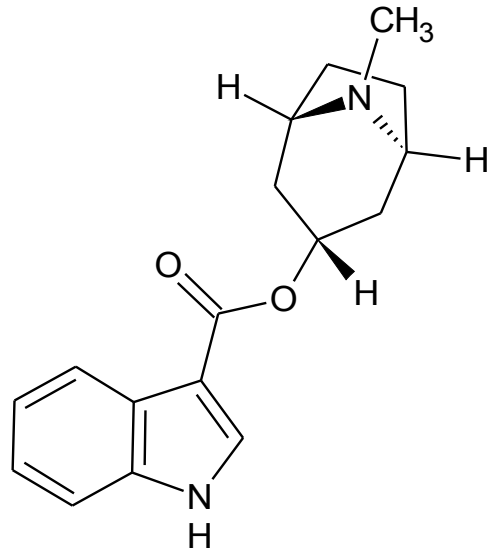


ondansetron
Emeset[®], Zofran[®] ...



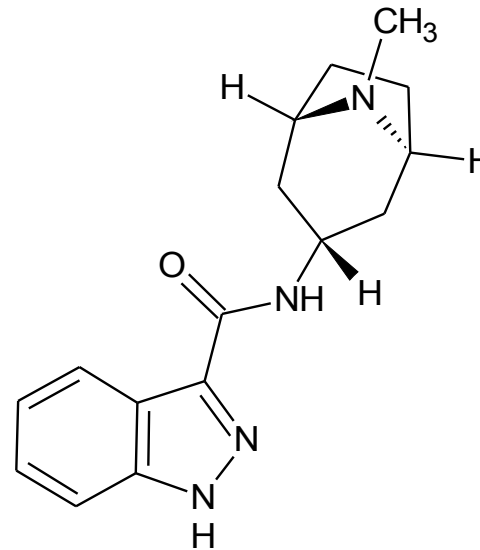
palonosetron
• the most modern
Aloxi[®] inj.

Setrons – derivatives of indole and isosteric heterocycles



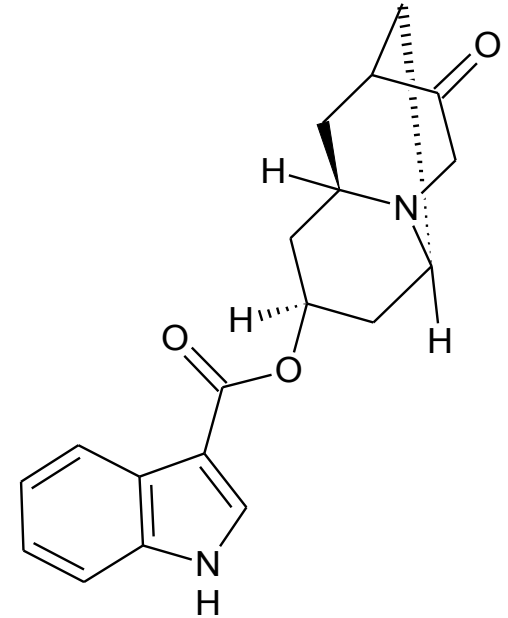
tropisetron

- effective for 24 hours
- fully metabolized in liver



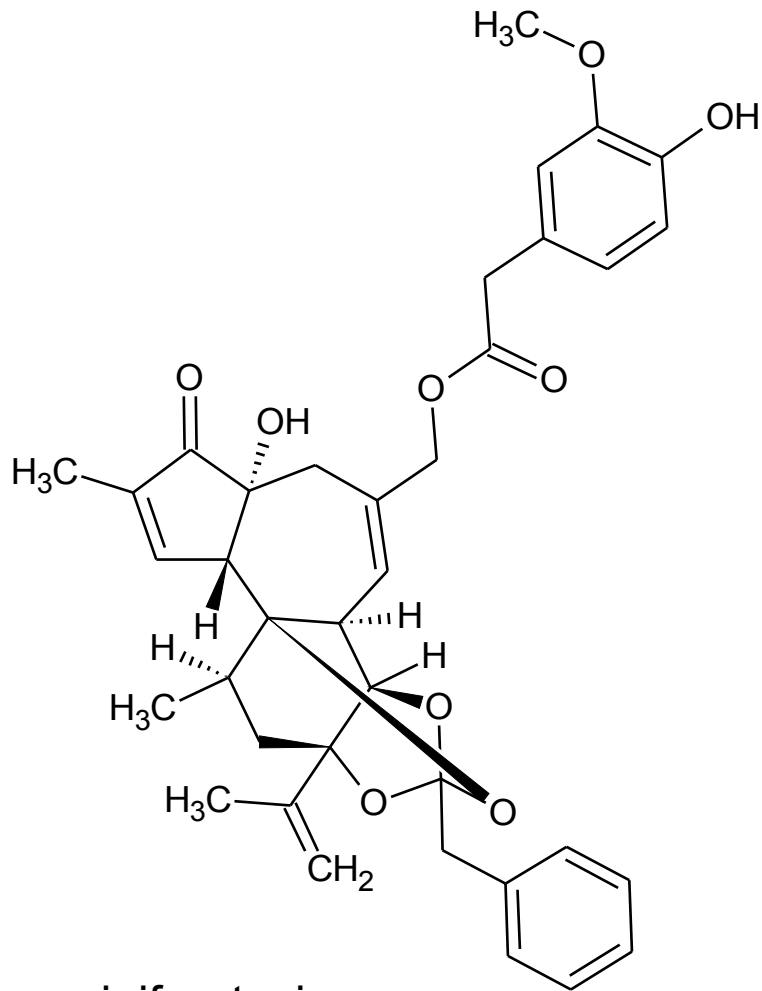
granisetron

- isosteric
- Emegar, Granegis ...



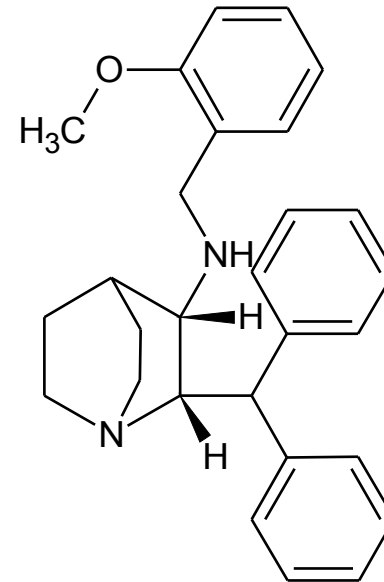
dolasetron

Neurokinine receptor 1 (NK₁) antagonists



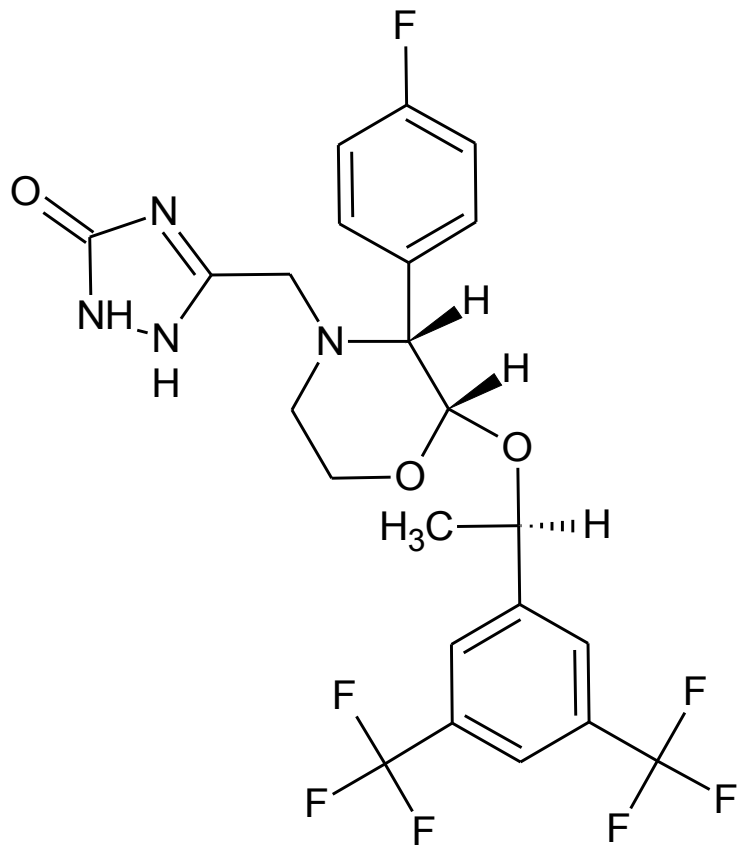
resiniferatoxin

- a terpene from latex of *Euphorbia* genus (*E. poisonii*, *E. resinifera*)
- also vaniloid (capsaicine) receptors agonist
- emetic/antiemetic in dependence on the mode of application



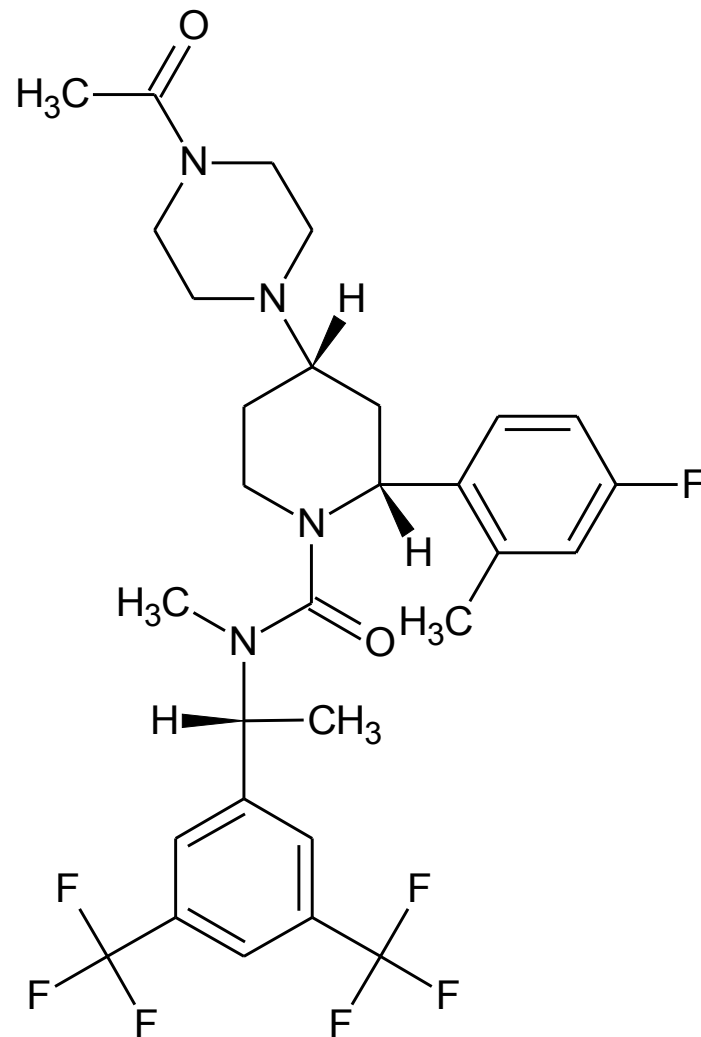
CP-96,345

Neurokinine receptor 1 (NK₁) antagonists



aprepitant

•1st NK₁ antagonist available in clinic
Emend[®] cps., Ivemend[®] plv. inf.



casopitant

syn. GW679769
•phase 3 of clinical evaluation has been finished