

# Drugs Affecting the CNS

①

I - Anxiolytics = Anxiety

Hypnotics = Insomnia

II. Analgesics = pain → opioids  
NSAI

III. Antiepileptics = Epilepsy

IV. CNS Stimulants = depression

V. Antidepressants =

VI. Neuroleptics =

VII. Anaesthetics

VIII. Neurodegenerative diseases

- Anti-parkinson Drugs
- Anti-Alzheimer Drugs

Sedatives = منوية

Hypnotics = منوية

Anxiolytics = القلق

Insomnia = منوية  
Sleep inducing drugs  
منوية

= minor tranquilizers:

Anxiety = Acute  
Chronic

\* mental disorder

- 1 Signs & symptoms of some metabolic diseases
- e.g.: thyrotoxicosis = proper diagnosis.
- 2 unknown source

3 Known cause.

4 Associated with other mental disease = depression

Signs & symptoms:

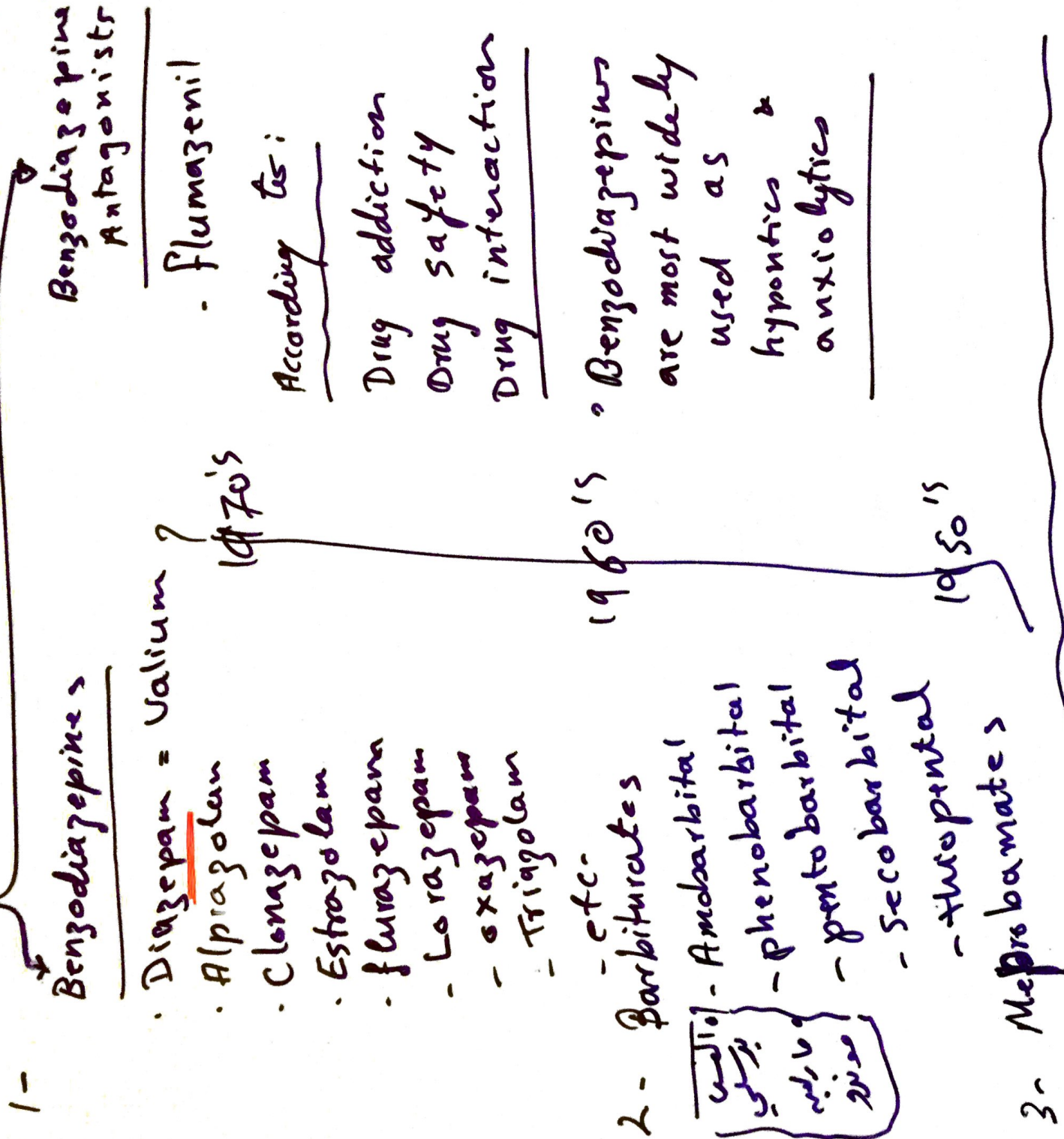
- fear
  - tachycardia
  - sweating
  - trembling
  - palpitation
- } sympathetic activation  
(Adrenalin, noradrenalin, etc.)

eff = minor = acute = No treatment  
minor "

sever = good diagnosis  
- psychotherapy =  
- psychiatrist  
- social assistance.

# Drugs:

(2)



## Benzodiazepines

- Diazepam = Valium
- Alprazolam
- Clonazepam
- Estazolam
- flurazepam
- Lorazepam
- Oxazepam
- Triazolam

- etc.

## 2- Barbiturates

- Amobarbital
- phenobarbital
- pentobarbital
- secobarbital
- thiopental

## 3- Meprobamate

## 4- other anxiolytic drugs =

- Buspirene
- Hydroxyzine
- anti-depressants = particularly associated with depression

## 5- other hypnotic agents = side effects"

- Antihistaminics
- chloralhydrate
- ethanol
- etc.

## Benzodiazepines

(4)

Safe drugs: wide therapeutic range

the lethal dose is over 1000-fold greater than the therapeutic dose.

? therapeutic index =  $\frac{\text{lethal dose}}{\text{Effective dose}}$

?(in animals)

Very safe drug except when combined with

other CNS depressants e.g: alcohol

Don't mix CNS depressants & opioids

دواء المهدئ + الأفيون

## Mechanism of action

- GABA Receptors =  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid receptors.

= Inhibitory neurotransmitter in the CNS

- Composed of three subunits -  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  subunits  
"postsynaptic membrane"

- pharmacological effects depends on:-

- binding of benzodiazepine to specific GABA subunits = binding sites to benzodiazepine
- location = CNS of these receptors.

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## Mechanism of benzodiazepine action

1- Empty GABA Receptors = associated with chloride ions channels.

- empty receptors are inactive receptors
- chloride ions channels are closed
- chloride ions are outside membranes

2- Binding of GABA "neurotransmitter" to its receptors

• opening of chloride ion channel

- increase in chloride conduction
- hyperpolarization of the cell membrane
- hyperpolarization of membrane of cells → more difficult to depolarize

• more difficult of to excite (↓ neuronal excitability)

3- Binding of benzodiazepine receptor adjacent to GABA receptors

increases their effect → greater entry of chloride ions → more hyperpolarization → more reduction of neuronal excitability

(benzodiazepine modulate the effect of GABA)

## Benzodiazepines action

1- No analgesic actions: الموظات :

e.g. Renal colics → الوظ

« يسقى »

2- No antipsychotic action.

3- No effect on ANS.

الجهاز الحوفي

1- Anxiolytic = limbic system

$\alpha_2$  - Receptors subunit

2- Sedative → hypnotic

$1/3 \rightarrow$  high dose

dose

$\alpha_1$  GABA receptors subunit.

$\alpha_1$  GABA receptors:  $\alpha_1$ -GABA subunit.

3- Anterograde amnesia:  $\alpha_1$  - temporary

- temporary

- impairs ability to learn.

- " " to form new memories.

4- Antiepileptic = anticonvulsant =  $\alpha_1$  subunit.

e.g. status epilepticus

. seizure disorders

5- Muscle Relaxant: skeletal Ms. =  $\alpha_2$  - subunit

= spinal cord = sciatica = sciatic nerve disc -

## Therapeutic uses: indications

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1- Anxiety disorders. → All types.

→ ~~Not~~ Not every day life stress.

2- Muscular disorders: Skeletal Ms.

- Ms. strain

- degenerative disorders (MS)

- cerebral palsy.

3- Amnesia: unpleasant procedures

- endoscope

- bronchoscopy

- dental procedures

- angioplasty

- induction of anaesthesia → IV.

4- Seizures: Clonazepam, diazepam, lorazepam.

- grandmal epilepsy

- Status epilepticus.

5- Sleep disorders = Insomnia.

= Sleep induction - flurazepam

→ All through

= frequent waking - Temazepam

= ~~flurazepam~~ = sleep induction.





## pharmacokinetics

(9)

lipophilic = well absorbed from GIT.  
: widely distributed in body

- fat -  
- brain

- etc.

• pass placenta → Newborn.

• milk of lactating is drug acting.

• short, intermediate, long-acting.

Duration of action :

• determine therapeutic uses.

fate - (1) = hepatic microsomal system. Cyt p450'

(2) = active & non-active metabolites.

(3) drug interaction

(4) Distribution & redistribution

(5) Newborn - milk.



## Benzodiazepine antagonists = Flumazenil

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- GABA - Receptor antagonist
- IV administration only.
- Reverse the effect of benzodiazepines.
- Rapid onset
- Short duration =  $T_{1/2} = 1$  hour.
- ppt withdrawal reaction in case of dependence  $\rightarrow$  seizures.

side effects:

- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Agitation

# Barbiturates

- 1- long-acting = 1-2 days
  - phenobarbital - anti-convulsants
- 2- short-acting = 3-8 hours
  - pentobarbital } - sedative, hypnotics
  - secobarbital } Not anaesthetics
  - Amobarbital }
- 3- Ultra-short-acting = 20 minutes
  - theopental } intra venous anaesthesia.

## Mechanism of action:

All of its action is inhibitory effect.

- ↓ neuronal activity.
  - I - a GABA Neurotransmitters. → ↑ GABA
  - interaction with GABA-receptors
- Sedatives } inhibitory effect.
- hypnotics } • their receptors are different from benzodiazepine receptors
- ↑ GABA effect on chloride ion transport.
- through chloride channels
- II - block excitatory glutamate receptors
- III - Anaesthetic effect:-
  - block - high frequency sodium channels

## pharmacological actions

### I Depression of CNS

CNS depression ↓  
I - low doses → sedation = calming + ↓ excitement  
II - high doses → hypnosis  
III - anaesthesia → loss of feeling → loss of consciousness  
IV → Coma → death.

Note = barbiturates are not analgesic drugs  
→ may exacerbate pain →  $\bar{a}i\bar{b}\bar{e}$   
② long use → tolerance.

### II - Depression of R.C.

- ① ↓ Chemoreceptor response to  $CO_2$ .
- ② chynostock breathing (Respiratory depression)
- ③ death.

### III Drug - Drug interaction: → Metabolic tolerance

- ① induction of Cyt P450 system enzymes in hepatocytes, chromosomal enzymes.
- ② chronic administration
- ③ . ~~from~~ enhance metabolism of its own & to other drugs, auto-induction, hetero-induction  
e.g. ~~strong~~ phenytoin, barbitophyllin, warfarin etc.

## propenik uses:

(13)

- 1- Anaesthesia:
  - Ultra-short acting = thiopental
  - intravenous administration
  - distribution & redistribution.
  - e.g. induction of anaesthesia.  
short-acting - phenobarbital

- 2- Anti-convulsants: long-acting - phenobarbital
  - tonic-clonic seizures
  - status epilepticus
  - eclampsia.
  - drug of choice = febrile seizures  
young children

3- anxiety = mild-sedation } replaced by benzodiazepines.  
= hypnosis

## pharmacokinetics:

- rapidly absorbed
- widely distributed all through the body
- cross placenta
- metabolism: Cyt P450 enzymes
  - liver
  - enzyme induction
  - autoinduction
  - heteroinduction



## other agents

### Buspirone:

- used in long-term  $\uparrow$  of chronic anxiety + irritability & hostility
- Does not potentiate the CNS depression of ethanol
- lower potential of addiction.

Notes - slower onset of action than benzodiazepine

- No skeletal MS relaxation
- No antiepileptic effect.

Eszopiclone: effective up to six months.

### Zaleplon + Zolpidem

- No anticonvulsant effect.
- No effect of skeletal MS.
- Minimal withdrawal actia.
- Minimal rebound insomnia.
- No tolerance with chronic use.

### Ramelteon = Ramelteon

- No abuse
- No dependence
- No withdrawal reaction
- long use