

Introduction to Diuretics

- Diuretics are drugs that increase urine volume by promoting the excretion of water and electrolytes from the body, primarily through their action on various segments of the renal tubule.

➤ Renal Tubule Transport Mechanisms

- The **nephron** is divided into **segments**: proximal convoluted tubule (PCT), loop of Henle, distal convoluted tubule (DCT), and collecting duct.
- Each segment has specialized transporters for sodium, potassium, chloride, and other ions, which are targeted by different classes of diuretics.

1. Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors (CAIs)

- Examples:* **Acetazolamide**, **Dichlorophenamide**, **Methazolamide**
- Mechanism:* Inhibit **carbonic anhydrase** in the **PCT**(proximal convoluted tubules), reducing sodium bicarbonate reabsorption (up to **85%** inhibition).
- Pharmacological Actions:* Cause alkaline diuresis وزيادة حموضة الدم, **reduce** formation of aqueous humor (lowering intraocular pressure), **decrease** cerebrospinal fluid production مفيد لارتفاع ضغط الدماغ ICP, and **induce** metabolic acidosis (raising seizure threshold).
- Adverse Effects:* **Hyperchloremic metabolic acidosis**, **calcium phosphate renal stones**, **renal potassium loss**, **hypersensitivity reactions**, and **hyperammonemia** (risk of ¹hepatic encephalopathy in **cirrhosis**).
- Therapeutic Uses:* **Rarely as diuretics**; mainly for glaucoma لتقليل ضغط العين (common), urinary alkalinization اختلال في حموضة الدم لارتفاع التسمم ك حالات التسمم, metabolic alkalosis انخفاض الأكسجين AMS), and as adjuncts in epilepsy.
 داء المرتفعات الحاد، عندما يكون الصعود لارتفاع عالي بشكل سريع، ما يُعيق تأقلم الجسم، انخفاض الأكسجين AMS—> واعراض الدوخة، الغثيان، التقيؤ، غيبوبة...
 ✓ AMS—> واعراض الدوخة، الغثيان، التقيؤ، غيبوبة...

2. Loop Diuretics "الأقوى" غالباً لحالات احتباس السوائل المرتبطة بمرضى الكلى والقلب

- Examples:* **Furosemide**, **Bumetanide**, **Torsemide** (sulfonamides); **Ethacrynic acid** (phenoxyacetic acid)—> ليس من مشتقات السلفوناميد! مناسب للي عندهم حساسية منها ك بديل
- Mechanism:* **Inhibit Na⁺/K⁺/2Cl⁻** co-transporter إعادة امتصاصها فيمنع in the **thick ascending limb of Henle**, abolishing the lumen-positive potential and increasing excretion [↑] of **Na⁺**, **K⁺**, **Cl⁻**, **Mg²⁺**, and **Ca²⁺**.
- Pharmacological Actions:* Most efficacious diuretics; **increase renal prostaglandin synthesis** [↑] (blocked by NSAIDs); reduce pulmonary congestion and left ventricular filling pressure; some also inhibit carbonic anhydrase.

- Pharmacokinetics: Rapid absorption, high protein binding, eliminated by secretion and filtration; some are metabolized.
- Adverse Effects: Hypokalemic metabolic alkalosis, ototoxicity (hearing loss أو خاصة عن بالوريد جرعات عالية أو عن بالوريد), hypomagnesemia, hyperuricemia (gout risk النقرس), allergic reactions خاصه dehydration, hyponatremia, possible hypocalcemia, hyperglycemia.
- Therapeutic Uses: Acute pulmonary edema, heart failure, hypercalcemia, hyperkalemia, acute renal failure, forced diuresis for toxin elimination.

3. Thiazide Diuretics

- Examples: Hydrochlorothiazide, Chlorthiazide, Chlorthalidone, Indapamide, Metolazone- في حالات الفشل الكلوي هو الأنسب لأنه لا يُخرج كلياً عن طريق الكلى >
 - ✓ All have unsubstituted sulfonamide group.
 - Mechanism: Inhibit NaCl reabsorption in the DCT (distal convoluted tubules) via the Na⁺/Cl⁻ co-transporter; enhance Ca²⁺ reabsorption.
- Pharmacological Actions: Cause volume depletion, significant carbonic anhydrase inhibition, and depend partially on prostaglandin synthesis.
- Pharmacokinetics: Oral use; differences in metabolism and excretion (some via biliary system); compete with uric acid for secretion.
- Adverse Effects: Hypokalemic metabolic alkalosis, hyperuricemia (النقرس), hyperglycemia, hyperlipidemia, weakness, impotence, hyponatremia, allergic reactions, photosensitivity حساسية ضد الضوء.
- Therapeutic Uses: Hypertension, edema (heart failure, hepatic/renal insufficiency), nephrolithiasis تكون الحصى خاصه عند ارتفاع الكالسيوم بالبول (due to hypercalciuria), nephrogenic diabetes insipidus.

4. Potassium-Sparing Diuretics المحافظ على البوتاسيوم

❖ Aldosterone Antagonists: Spironolactone, Eplerenone

- Mechanism: Block aldosterone receptors (التي توسع الأوعية) in the collecting tubule, reducing sodium reabsorption and potassium excretion.
- Adverse Effects: Hyperkalemia, metabolic acidosis, gynecomastia تضخم حجم الثدي لدى الذكور (not with eplerenone), GI upset.
- Therapeutic Uses: Mineralocorticoid excess-لما يزيد الالدوستيرون, adjunct to other diuretics to prevent hypokalemia.

❖ Sodium Channel Blockers: Amiloride, Triamterene

- Mechanism: Block epithelial sodium channels (ENaC) in the collecting tubule, sparing potassium.
- Adverse Effects: Hyperkalemia ارتفاع البوتاسيوم بالدم, nausea, metabolic acidosis, leg cramps تقلصات عضلية (خاصة مع triamterene), nephrolithiasis, interstitial nephritis.
- Therapeutic Uses: Same as above; also for hypokalemia.

5. Osmotic Diuretics

- Examples: Mannitol, Urea, Glycerin, Isosorbide
- Mechanism: Filtered but not reabsorbed; act in **PCT** and **descending limb of Henle**, increasing urine volume by attracting water into the lumen; oppose ADH in the collecting tubule.
- Pharmacokinetics: Not orally absorbed ⚡, not metabolized, excreted via glomerular filtration.
- Adverse Effects: Extracellular volume expansion, hyponatremia, pulmonary edema, headache, dehydration, hypernatremia, hyperkalemia.
- Therapeutic Uses: Prevent acute renal failure, reduce intracranial and intraocular pressure, increase water excretion when sodium retention limits response to other diuretics.
 - The nonreabsorbable osmotic diuretic prevents the normal absorption of water, thus reducing Na⁺ as well as water reabsorption.
 - The resulting natriuresis is of lesser magnitude than the water diuresis, leading eventually to excessive water loss and hypernatremia.

6. Antidiuretic Hormone (ADH) Antagonists

- Examples: 1 Conivaptan (nonpeptide), 2 Nonselective agents: demeclocycline "tetracycline", lithium (not commonly used)
- Mechanism: Block ADH receptors in the collecting tubule, reducing cAMP formation and water reabsorption.
- Pharmacokinetics: Conivaptan used **IV**, with a half-life of 5–10 hours.
- Adverse Effects: Nephrogenic diabetes insipidus ⚡, severe hypernatremia, dry mouth, thirst, hypotension.
- Therapeutic Uses: Syndrome of Inappropriate ADH Secretion (SIADH) and other causes of elevated ADH.

Summary ¶

Class	Main Site of Action	Key Examples	Main Adverse Effects	Main Uses
Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors	Proximal tubule	Acetazolamide	Metabolic acidosis, renal stones	Glaucoma, alkalization, mountain sickness
Loop Diuretics	Thick ascending limb	Furosemide, Bumetanide	Hypokalemia, ototoxicity, dehydration	Edema, heart failure, hypercalcemia
Thiazide Diuretics	Distal convoluted tubule	Hydrochlorothiazide, Chlorthalidone	Hypokalemia, hyperuricemia, hyponatremia	Hypertension, nephrolithiasis
Potassium-Sparing Diuretics	Collecting tubule	Spironolactone, Amiloride	Hyperkalemia, gynecomastia (spironolactone)	Mineralocorticoid excess, adjunct
Osmotic Diuretics	PCT, loop of Henle	Mannitol	Volume expansion, hyponatremia	Intracranial/intraocular pressure
ADH Antagonists	Collecting duct	Conivaptan, demeclocycline	Hypernatremia, nephrogenic DI	SIADH

Pharma2 Fungal Infections

Superficial Infections:

- **Dermatomycosis** (caused by **Trichophyton**, **Microsporum**, **Epidermophyton**; affects skin, nails, hair)

- **Candidiasis** (affects skin, mucous membranes)

Systemic Infections:

- Affect deeper tissues/organs
- Incidence/severity increased *due to* **broad-spectrum antibiotics**, **immunosuppression** (AIDS, drugs, chemotherapy), aging, **diabetes**, and **advanced surgery**.

➤ Amphotericin B

General Properties

- **Polyene macrolide antibiotic**, broad-spectrum **fungicidal** agent.
- Binds **ergosterol** in fungal membranes, forming **pores or transmembrane ion channels** by the hydrophilic core of the molecule. → **cell death**.

✓ Binding is relatively specific to fungi and the protozoan parasite **Leishmania spp.**

Resistance

- Caused by modifications to **sterol target**, reducing drug affinity.

Pharmacokinetics

- Poor oral absorption; **used orally for GI infections**, **IV** for systemic use (**complexed with deoxycholate** (لتحسين الذائبة)).
- **Liposomal formulations** reduce toxicity, allow higher dosing. **آمنة**
- Highly protein-bound 90%, **poor BBB penetration** unless **meninges inflamed** ¶; long half-life (~15 days (يعتبر طويل جدا)).

Adverse Effects

Infusion-related(IV): Fever, chills, muscle spasm, vomiting, headache, hypotension (mitigated by **slow infusion** قبله مضاد هستامين أو ببطء). (نخف الأعراض بإعطاؤه ببطء أو مضاد هستامين قبله).

Cumulative toxicity:

- **Nephrotoxicity “common 80%”** (reversible prerenal failure, **irreversible tubular damage** ¶ with prolonged use على المدى الطويل, electrolyte wasting, elevated urea/creatinine بالدم).
- **Anemia** (↓ **erythropoietin**), **hepatic dysfunction**, **thrombocytopenia** قلة الصفائح, anaphylaxis فرط التحسس, **seizures**, chemical **arachnoiditis** (intrathecal use بالشوكي (عند إعطاؤه بالسائل الشوكي)).

Antifungal Activity ->

- Broad spectrum: yeasts (Candida, Cryptococcus), endemic mycoses (Histoplasma, Blastomyces, Coccidioides), molds (Aspergillus, Mucor).

➤ Nystatin

- Similar to amphotericin B -> polyene, but **more toxic** لذلك يستخدم موضعياً.
- Used **topically** for skin/mucous membrane infections (creams, ointments, suppositories).

➤ Flucytosine

- **Pyrimidine analog**, oral/IV use, narrow spectrum (yeasts: candida, cryptococcus).
- Synergistic with **amphotericin B** for cryptococcal meningitis.

Mechanism

- Taken up by fungal **cytosine permease**, converted to **5-fluorouracil** سامة للفطر then to 5-FdUMP and FUTP in fungal cells, → inhibits DNA/RNA synthesis respectively.
- Resistance develops rapidly with monotherapy إذا استخدم لوحده، لذلك غالباً ما يترافق مع أدوية أخرى.

Pharmacokinetics

- Well absorbed orally >90%, distributes widely (including CNS لالتهاب السحايا), 90% excreted unchanged by kidneys, short half-life (3–4 hours).

Adverse Effects

- **Narrow** therapeutic window: **toxicity** at high levels, resistance at low levels.
- Side Effects: GIT disturbances, bone marrow suppression (anemia, neutropenia ↓ WBCs, thrombocytopenia), alopecia تساقط الشعر.

➤ Azole Antifungals

Classification

- **Imidazoles**: Ketoconazole, Miconazole, Clotrimazole موضعياً غالباً.
- **Triazoles**: Itraconazole, Fluconazole, Voriconazole فموي وريدي.

Spectrum

- Broad: Candida, Cryptococcus (yeasts), endemic mycoses, dermatophytes.

-> Itraconazole/voriconazole cover Aspergillus, Pseudallescheria هذه الفطريات لا تستجيب لأي دواء عادةً.

دواء عادةً

Mechanism

- Inhibit **fungal cytochrome P450** (ergosterol synthesis), altering membrane fluidity and inhibiting growth.
- **Imidazoles** also **inhibit human P450** (more drug interactions/adverse effects).

Fluconazole

- High oral/IV bioavailability, penetrates CSF/ocular fluid.
- Drug of choice for fungal meningitis (cryptococcal التهاب السحايا الفطري, coccidioidal), candidemia, mucocutaneous candidiasis.
- **No** activity against Aspergillus/filamentous fungi.
- **Prophylactic use** in immunosuppressed (risk of resistance لكن يزيد خير المقاومة).

- Excreted unchanged in urine.
- Adverse Effects: Nausea, headache, abdominal pain, Exfoliative skin lesions (Steven-Johnson syndrome) have been seen in AIDS patients, hepatitis; fewer drug interactions than ketoconazole.

Itraconazole

- Extensive first-pass metabolism بقل تركيزه بالدم; **absorption increased by food/low pH**.
- IV/ lipid-soluble forms available; reduced bioavailability with rifamycins.

الريفاميسينات تُحفز إنزيمات الكبد التي تُسرّع استقلاب itraconazole، هذا يؤدي إلى تقليل تركيز الدواء في الدم، مما يُضعف فعاليته

- **Does not cross BBB.**
- Uses: **Dimorphic fungi** (Histoplasma, Blastomyces, Sporothrix), **dermatophytosis**, onychomycosis, **aspergillosis**.. وينتشر الرئة يستهدف (now replaced by **voriconazole**).
- Adverse Effects: GIT, headache, hepatitis, **hypokalemia**, Interacts with P450s (but less than ketoconazole): Impotence, and sexual dysfunction, allergic reactions.

Voriconazole

- Broad spectrum, oral/IV, well absorbed, hepatic metabolism, low P450 inhibition.
- Adverse Effects: **Transient visual disturbances, common** (30% of patients, resolve in 30 min).
- Uses: Candida, fluconazole-resistant fungi, dimorphic fungi, invasive aspergillosis هو الخيار الأول (as or more effective than amphotericin B).

Topical Azoles

- **Clotrimazole, Miconazole, Econazole**: Vulvovaginal candidiasis, oral thrush, dermatophyte infections (creams for tinea جلدية), **ketoconazole** for seborrheic dermatitis طفح الشعر/pityriasis.

➤ Terbinafine

- Synthetic **allylamine**, oral/topical, accumulates in skin/nails/adipose. فهو فعال بالفطريات بهذه الأماكن
- Inhibits **squalene epoxidase** (ergosterol synthesis يصنعه)، causing toxic squalene accumulation. نقص الأرجوستيروول بالخلية الفطرية يؤدي لتراكم مادة سكوالين السامة وموتها
- Uses: Onychomycosis بالأظافر, tinea cruris/corporis (**naftifine similar** له دواء مشابه له, topical only).
- Adverse Effects: GIT, rash, headache, joint/muscle pain, hepatitis نادرا.

➤ Echinocandins

- **Newest class: Caspofungin, Micafungin, Anidulafungin.**
- **Large cyclic peptides, IV only (slow)**, water soluble, protein bound, require loading doses لتسريع فعاليته الدواء بوقت أقصر
- ✓ $t_{1/2}$: caspofungin ~ 10 hours, micafungin ~ 13 hours, anidulafungin ~ 36 hours.

- Mechanism: Inhibit $\beta(1,3)$ -glucan synthesis (cell wall الفطر لجدار)، causing lysis/death.

•Uses: Candidiasis (mucocutaneous, septicemia), esophageal candidiasis, **empiric therapy in (febrile حرارة neutropenia)**, **salvage for invasive aspergillosis** **عندما تفشل الأدوية الأخرى**.

•Adverse Effects: Generally well tolerated; GIT irritation, **liver enzyme elevation** (esp. with **cyclosporine** **بعد زراعته عضو أو لأمراض مناعية**), drug interactions (micafungin), histamine release (anidulafungin) **thrombophlebitis / التهاب الوريد مكان الحقن**, fever, headache, phlebitis **حكة وطفح مؤقت**.

Drug/Class	Mechanism	Spectrum	Route(s)	Key Points / Adverse Effects
Amphotericin B	Binds ergosterol → pore formation	Broad: Candida, Cryptococcus, molds	IV, oral (GI only)	Nephrotoxicity, infusion reactions; liposomal form less toxic
Nystatin	Similar to Amphotericin B	Candida (superficial)	Topical, oral	Too toxic systemically; used topically
Flucytosine	Inhibits DNA/RNA synthesis	Yeasts (Candida, Cryptococcus)	Oral, IV	Bone marrow suppression, resistance with monotherapy
Azoles	Inhibit fungal cytochrome P450	Broad: Candida, Cryptococcus, molds	Oral, IV, topical	Drug interactions; hepatotoxicity; varies by agent
– Fluconazole	Good CNS penetration	Candida, Cryptococcus	Oral, IV	Used for cryptococcal meningitis; fewer interactions
– Itraconazole	Poor CNS penetration	Dimorphic fungi, dermatophytes	Oral, IV	Hepatitis, GI side effects
– Voriconazole	Broad, including Aspergillus	Candida, Aspergillus, molds	Oral, IV	Visual disturbances, hepatotoxicity
Terbinafine	Inhibits squalene epoxidase	Dermatophytes	Oral, topical	Used for onychomycosis; hepatotoxicity
Echinocandins	Inhibit β-(1,3)-D-glucan synthase	Candida, Aspergillus	IV only	Well tolerated; liver enzyme elevation, histamine reactions

Pharma3. “Drugs Used in Urinary Tract Infections”

Drugs used in UTIs include **penicillins**, 2nd and 3rd generation **cephalosporins** (e.g., cefuroxime, ceftriaxone), **ampicillin + gentamicin** **حالات معقدة**, **ampicillin-sulbactam**, and **amoxicillin/clavulanate** **عند المقاومة**.

➤ **Trimethoprim and Co-trimoxazole (Trimethoprim - Sulfamethoxazole)**

•Mechanism of Action: Trimethoprim **inhibits bacterial dihydrofolate reductase**, **blocking folic acid synthesis** required for DNA production. **When combined with sulfamethoxazole**, it blocks sequential steps in folate synthesis, resulting in a **bactericidal effect** ⚡.

•Resistance Mechanisms: **Reduced cell permeability**, **overproduction of the target enzyme**, and **altered enzyme with low drug binding** ⚡ **مهم عمليا**.

•Pharmacokinetics: Well absorbed **orally**, can be given **IV** with **sulfamethoxazole**, widely distributed, excreted in urine, **dose reduction needed in renal failure**, **concentrates in prostatic and vaginal fluids**. **لذا يعالج التهاب بهذه المناطق**.

•Therapeutic Uses: **Acute UTI** (**oral**, alone or in combination), **prostatitis**, **salmonellosis**, **shigellosis**, **Pneumocystis jiroveci infections** (most common in AIDS patients) **-(IV)**.

•Adverse Effects: **Megaloblastic anemia**, **leukopenia** ⚡, **granulocytopenia** ⚡, **sulfonamide-related side effects** **كالطفح الجلدي، حساسية**, **high frequency of adverse reactions in AIDS**.

patients], **hyperkalemia**, and **hyponatremia** (by blocking amiloride-sensitive sodium channels in the cortical collecting duct)]

➤ **Fluoroquinolones**

- Mechanism of Action: **Inhibit bacterial DNA synthesis by blocking DNA gyrase** (topoisomerase II) and **topoisomerase IV**, preventing DNA replication and cell division **قتل للبكتيريا**.
- Resistance Mechanisms: **Point mutations in target enzymes** or **altered cell permeability** **يمنع وصول الدواء للبكتيريا**.

✓ (Point Mutations): هي تغيرات صغيرة جدًا في الشيفرة الوراثية (DNA) للبكتيريا. تحديدًا، يُستبدل حرف واحد فقط (نيوكليوتيد واحد) في سلسلة الـ DNA بآخر، فتنتج إنزيمًا معدّلًا في تركيبه، هذا التغيير يجعل الإنزيم لا يرتبط جيدًا بالدواء

Antibacterial Spectrum:

- **Norfloxacin**: **Least active**.
- **Ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin, ofloxacin**: **Excellent gram-negative coverage** (Enterobacteriaceae, Pseudomonas, Neisseria, Haemophilus, Campylobacter), **moderate gram-positive**, some activity against **staphylococci** (not MRSA), **less active against streptococci and enterococci**.
- **Gemifloxacin, moxifloxacin**: **Improved gram-positive activity**, **moxifloxacin also covers anaerobes**.
- **Pharmacokinetics**: Well absorbed orally, impaired by **divalent cations** and **dairy** **الامتصاص**, widely distributed, **mostly renal elimination** (except **moxifloxacin**), **dose reduction in renal failure except for moxifloxacin**.

Therapeutic Uses:

- **UTI** (except **moxifloxacin**) by **multidrug-resistant gram-negatives**.
- Bacterial diarrhea, soft tissue, bone/joint, intra-abdominal, respiratory infections (except **norfloxacin**), anthrax prophylaxis/treatment, gonococcal infections, tuberculosis (**second-line**), meningococcal eradication, neutropenic prophylaxis **الوقاية عند نقص المناعة**, upper/lower respiratory tract infections.
- **Adverse Effects**: **Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, dizziness, insomnia, rash, liver enzyme elevation** (↑), **photosensitivity**, **QTc prolongation** **عالبط**, **hyperglycemia** (especially **gatifloxacin**), **cartilage damage** (**contraindicated in <18 years**), **tendonitis/rupture**, **contraindicated in pregnancy**.

➤ **Nitrofurantoin**

- Mechanism of Action: **Prodrug** (يُفعّل داخل الجسم تحديدا داخل البكتيريا) activated to **metabolites** that **damage bacterial DNA; bacteriostatic**.
- **Spectrum**: Active against **E. coli** and **enterococci** (Gram-positive bacteria); **not effective against Pseudomonas, Proteus, Enterobacter, Klebsiella** → (These are more resistant Gram-negative pathogens that often cause complicated UTIs.)

• **Clinical Use:** **Only** for lower UTIs; **not** for pyelonephritis or patients with impaired renal function or infants <1 month. ¶

• **Adverse Effects:** Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, hypersensitivity, acute pneumonitis التهاب
التهاب **hemolysis in G6PD deficiency**, عند الاستخدام المزمن **interstitial pulmonary fibrosis** قد يتحول إلى >—رئوي حاد
deficiency, megaloblastic anemia, polyneuropathies, **brown urine discoloration** ¶.

Key Clinical Considerations

- Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole: **First-line if local resistance <20%**; avoid in sulfa allergy.
- Nitrofurantoin: Preferred for uncomplicated lower UTIs, contraindicated in renal failure and for upper UTI.
- Fluoroquinolones: Reserved for complicated or resistant infections due to safety concerns and resistance; avoid in pregnancy and children.
- ✓ General: Dose adjustments required in renal impairment for most agents. لتفادي السمية.

Drug/Class	Mechanism	Spectrum	Key Uses	Major Adverse Effects	Contraindications
Trimethoprim/SMX	Folate synthesis block	Broad (esp. E. coli)	UTI, prostatitis	Hematologic, hypersensitivity, hyperkalemia	Sulfa allergy, renal failure
Fluoroquinolones	DNA gyrase/topoisomerase	Broad (esp. gram-negatives)	UTI, GI, RTI, etc.	GI, CNS, QTc, tendinopathy, cartilage damage	Pregnancy, children <18 y
Nitrofurantoin	DNA damage (prodrug)	E. coli, enterococci	Lower UTI	GI, pulmonary, hemolysis, neuropathy, brown urine	Renal failure, infants <1 mo

Pharma4

Metronidazole & Tinidazole (Nitroimidazoles)

Mechanism of Action

- Both drugs are activated in **anaerobic bacteria** and **sensitive protozoa** via **reduction of their nitro group**, producing reactive products responsible for antimicrobial activity.

Pharmacokinetics

- Rapid oral absorption and wide tissue distribution, including equal concentrations in plasma and intracellular compartments ¶.
- Peak plasma levels in 1–3 hours.fast
- Half-life: Metronidazole (7.5 hrs), Tinidazole (12–14 hrs).
- Can be administered orally, rectally, topically, or intravenously. ¶
- Mainly excreted in urine.
- Dose reduction required in **hepatic impairment** ¶; adjustments may also be needed in renal impairment.

Therapeutic Uses

- **Bacterial vaginosis** (caused by **anaerobic bacteria** replacing normal lactobacilli)
- **Trichomoniasis** (sexually transmitted; both partners should be treated)
- **Invasive amebiasis** (kills trophozoites, **not cysts**)
- **Giardiasis**
- **Anaerobic bacterial infections** (e.g., Bacteroides fragilis, Clostridium spp.), intra-abdominal infections, antibiotic-associated enterocolitis, brain abscess

Adverse Effects

- **Metallic/bitter taste** ⚠, nausea, dry mouth, vomiting, diarrhea
- Mucous membrane irritation, dysuria, **dark urine**
- Rash, neutropenia ⚠, **pancreatitis**
- **Disulfiram-like reaction with alcohol** ⚠ (inhibits **acetaldehyde dehydrogenase**)

فعند شرب أي نوع من الكحول (بعض غسولات الفم والأدوية) يسبب تراكم لل acetaldehyde وتسبب هذه الأعراض

- **CNS effects:** dizziness, insomnia, neuropathy, seizures (**especially with IV**)
 - **Teratogenic** ⚠; **avoid in pregnancy and lactation** ⚠
- ✓ Dose adjustment needed in severe hepatic/renal disease

Drug Interactions

- Potentiates ⚠ **warfarin's anticoagulant effect** خطر النزيف
- Elimination increased by **phenobarbital/phenytoin**, decreased by **cimetidine**
- May increase **lithium** toxicity due to **decreased excretion**

Clindamycin

Mechanism of Action

- **Inhibits protein synthesis** by **binding to the 50S ribosomal subunit** ⚠, interfering with **initiation and translocation** يعيق بداية تصنيع البروتين ونقله (similar to **macrolides**).

Mechanisms of Resistance

- **Mutation in ribosomal receptor site** تمنع الدواء يرتبط
- **Methylase-mediated modification** of the receptor تمنعه يرتبط
- **Enzymatic inactivation** تفرز البكتيريا إنزيمات تثبط الدواء
- **Gram-positive aerobes** are often resistant due to **poor permeability** ⚠
- Resistance can be **acquired** or **constitutive** دائمة موجودة بتركيب البكتيريا

Antibacterial Spectrum

- Effective against **anaerobic bacteria** (both Gram-positive and Gram-negative), including those **causing bacterial vaginosis**
- Many **Gram-positive cocci** (streptococci, staphylococci, pneumococci), **but not first-line for Staphylococcus**
- Not effective against enterococci, aerobic Gram-negatives, some Group B Streptococci, and some Bacteroides fragilis strains

Pharmacokinetics

- Widely distributed, including bone (**osteomyelitis** ⚠), placenta, breast milk, and abscesses (not brain/CSF) لذلك لا يستخدم مثلا للالتهاب السحايا
- **Concentrated in phagocytic cells** ⚠ للالتهابات
- **Highly protein-bound** (~90%)
- Metabolized in liver, **excreted in bile and urine**
- Half-life: **~2.5 hrs** (normal), **~6 hrs** (anuria); **no renal dose adjustment required** ⚠ but **accumulates in severe liver dysfunction**

Therapeutic Uses

- Female genital tract infections (bacterial vaginosis, septic abortion, pelvic abscess)
- Anaerobic infections
- Osteomyelitis (previously drug of choice كان استخدامه شائع)
- Lung abscess
- Infections from fecal spillage (GI surgery, trauma) تسريب العدوى من الأمعاء للبطن
- Aspiration pneumonia (used with **aminoglycosides/cephalosporins** for mixed

infections)

Adverse Effects

- GI irritation: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Superinfection عدوى ثانوية: pseudomembranous colitis (Clostridium difficile), which

can be severe/fatal

✓ عند استخدام Clindamycin لا يقتل فقط البكتيريا الضارة بل قد يقتل البكتيريا النافعة في الأمعاء، فيسمح لنوع خطير من البكتيريا Clostridium difficile بالتكاثر ويسبب التهاب القولون.

- Thrombophlebitis التهاب بالأوردة, thrombocytopenia نقص الصفائح, neutropenia, allergic reactions

Antih herpes Agents (Acyclovir)

General Information

- Used for **herpes simplex virus** (HSV-1(oral cold sores), HSV-2(genital herpes)) and **varicella-zoster virus** (VZV)

- Acyclovir is an **acyclic guanosine derivative**, ~**10x** more potent against **HSV** than **VZV**

Mechanism of Action

- Requires three phosphorylation steps: first by **viral thymidine kinase**, then by **host cell enzymes**

- Selectively activated in infected cells
- Acyclovir triphosphate **inhibits** viral DNA synthesis **by**:
 1. Competing with **deoxy-GTP** for viral DNA polymerase
 2. Causing **chain termination** after incorporation into viral DNA

1. التنافس مع deoxy-GTP (وهو جزء طبيعي من الـ DNA) للارتباط بإنزيم DNA polymerase الفيروسي.
2. إيقاف بناء الحمض النووي للفيروس بعد دمج في سلسلة DNA، مما يؤدي إلى انقطاع السلسلة وعدم استكمال تكاثر الفيروس

- ✓ This selective activation means it only works in infected cells, reducing damage to healthy cells

Mechanism of Resistance

- Alterations in viral thymidine kinase or **DNA polymerase**

Pharmacokinetics

- **Low oral bioavailability** (15–20%), unaffected by food; available orally, IV, topically
- Cleared by glomerular filtration and tubular secretion
- Half-life: ~**3 hrs** (normal), ~**20 hrs** (anuria)

- Widely distributed in tissues/fluids

Therapeutic Uses

- Genital herpes (mainly HSV-2)
- Herpes labialis -lip(cold sores)
- Herpes zoster (shingles)
- Herpes encephalitis
- Neonatal herpes (from infected mothers)

Adverse Effects

- Nausea, diarrhea, headache (can be distressing and affect daily activities)
- IV administration may be associated with reversible crystalline nephropathy (drug precipitation in kidney tissues as crystals, leading to crystalluria) or interstitial nephritis (allergy in kidney); or neurologic toxicity (tremors, delirium, seizures). These are uncommon with adequate hydration and avoidance of rapid infusion rates.
- ✓ **Very important.**! So, in patients with low blood volume or dehydration, intravenous fluids should be administered before initiating acyclovir therapy. This preventive approach is also commonly applied with several chemotherapeutic agents, where adequate hydration is essential to minimize toxicities.

Drug Interactions:

Probenecid and cimetidine decrease acyclovir clearance and increase exposure, by inhibiting renal tubular secretion, which is one of the main pathways for acyclovir clearance. As a result, co-administration of these drugs can reduce acyclovir elimination and lead to its accumulation in the body.

Pharma5 “The Gonadal Hormones & Inhibitors”

Estrogens

- *Types and Sources:*

The **main estrogens in women** are **estradiol** (the primary ovarian product), **estrone**, and **estriol**. Estrone and estriol are mainly formed from estradiol in the **liver** or from **androgens in peripheral tissues**.

- *Synthetic Estrogens:*

These include **steroidal** (**ethinyl estradiol**, **mestranol**) and **nonsteroidal** compounds, which are orally effective.

- *Pharmacokinetics:*

Estradiol binds to **sex hormone-binding globulin (SHBG)** and **albumin** in circulation. Estrogen metabolites are excreted in bile, reabsorbed in the gut, and present in small amounts in breast milk.

Therapeutic Uses:

- **Primary hypogonadism:** Replacement therapy in young girls to **induce secondary sex characteristics**, menses, growth, and prevent osteoporosis.

- **Postmenopausal hormone therapy (HRT):** Benefits lipids يحسن مستوى الدهون بالدم but increases breast cancer risk and does not reduce cardiovascular events. Routine HRT is **not** recommended except possibly in young women with premature menopause.
- **Osteoporosis prevention:** **Estrogen** with **calcium** may help, **but increases endometrial carcinoma risk unless progestin is added**.
- **Other uses:** Combined with **progestins** to suppress ovulation (dysmenorrhea عسر الطمث), ovarian function (hirsutism شعر زائد, amenorrhea انقطاع الطمث).
- **Hirsutism**—>Cause: Often due to **excess androgens** (male hormones) produced by the ovaries.
 ✓ Estrogens (with progestins) reduce ovarian androgen production.

How is the therapy given? Usually as combined oral contraceptives (COCs), which contain both estrogen and progestin.

- **Adverse Effects:**
- Uterine bleeding, breast/endometrial cancer, infertility, ectopic pregnancy, breast tenderness, hyperpigmentation(Estrogen stimulates melanocytes (pigment-producing cells) to make more melanin), migraine(severe headache), cholestasis(Estrogen may impair the liver's ability to excrete bile, which can cause:

Itching (pruritus), especially at night,Jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes), gallbladder disease, hypertension.

- **Contraindications:**⚡
Estrogen-dependent tumors, undiagnosed vaginal bleeding, liver disease, thromboembolic جلطات disorders, heavy smokers خاصة بعمر فوق ٣٥.

Progestins

Types:

- **Natural:** **Progesterone**
- **Derivatives:** **Hydroxyprogesterone caproate, medroxyprogesterone acetate, megestrol acetate**
- **Synthetic:** **17-ethinyl testosterone derivatives** (dimethisterone), **19-nortestosterone derivatives** (desogestrel, norethynodrel, norethindrone, L-norgestrel)

- **Pharmacokinetics:**

Rapid absorption, extensive first-pass metabolism, short plasma half-life (~5 min), excreted in urine. Some have no androgenic activity”do not produce male hormone-like effects”(progesterone, dimethisterone, desogestrel, norgestimate, gestodene, norethynodrel).⚡

- **Therapeutic Uses:**

Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT)”Used along with estrogen to reduce the risk of endometrial cancer”, contraception”combined oral pills or progestin-only pills”, long-term ovarian suppression (treating dysmenorrhea, endometriosis, bleeding disorders when estrogens are contraindicated).

- **Adverse Effects:**

Elevated blood pressure, **reduced HDL**(especially with androgenic progestins), **increased breast cancer risk in postmenopausal women.**

TABLE 40-2 Properties of some progestational agents.

	Route	Duration of Action	Activities ¹				
			Estrogenic	Androgenic	Antiestrogenic	Antiandrogenic	Anabolic
Progesterone and derivatives							
Progesterone	IM	1 day	—	—	+	—	—
Hydroxyprogesterone caproate	IM	8–14 days	sl	sl	—	—	—
Medroxyprogesterone acetate	IM, PO	Tab: 1–3 days; injection: 4–12 weeks	—	+	+	—	—
Megestrol acetate	PO	1–3 days	—	++	—	+	—
17-Ethynyl testosterone derivatives							
Dimethisterone	PO	1–3 days	—	—	sl	—	—
19-Nortestosterone derivatives							
Desogestrel	PO	1–3 days	—	—	—	—	—
Norethynodrel ²	PO	1–3 days	+	—	—	—	—
Lynestrenol ³	PO	1–3 days	+	++	—	—	+
Norethindrone ³	PO	1–3 days	sl	+	+	—	+
Norethindrone acetate ³	PO	1–3 days	sl	+	+	—	+
Ethinodiol diacetate ²	PO	1–3 days	sl	+	+	—	+
l-Norgestrel ²	PO	1–3 days	—	++	+	—	+

¹Interpretation: + = active; — = inactive; sl = slightly active. Activities have been reported in various species using various end points and may not apply to humans.

Estrogen and Progesterone Inhibitors & Antagonists

Tamoxifen & Related Drugs:

- **Tamoxifen:** SERM” Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulator”, **partial agonist/antagonist** at estrogen receptors, used for breast cancer in postmenopausal women, prevents bone loss and lipid changes but **increases endometrial cancer risk**⚠. Adverse effects include **hot flashes** and nausea.

- **Toremifene:** Similar to tamoxifen.

- **Raloxifene:** SERM, affects bone/lipids but not endometrium/breast, used for osteoporosis prevention.

✓ A **SERM** is a drug that binds to estrogen receptors (ERs) and acts differently in different tissues: It can act as an agonist (activator) in some tissues like **bone**. And as an antagonist (blocker) in others like the **breast or uterus**.

Mifepristone:

Progesterone receptor blocker, emergency contraceptive, also **blocks glucocorticoid receptors**. **Used for** endometriosis, Cushing’s syndrome, some **tumors**. **Adverse effects:** prolonged bleeding, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting.

Danazol:

Weak progestational, androgenic, glucocorticoid activities. Suppresses ovarian function, **used for** endometriosis and fibrocystic breast disease. **Adverse effects:** weight gain, edema, acne, hirsutism, voice deepening, hot flashes, libido changes. **Contraindicated in pregnancy/breastfeeding**⚠

Aromatase Inhibitors:

(Anastrozole, Fadrozole) Used in breast cancer resistant to tamoxifen, precocious puberty بلوغ مبكر, excessive aromatase syndrome.

Fulvestrant:

Pure estrogen receptor antagonist, used in tamoxifen-resistant breast cancer.

Ovulation-Inducing Agents (Clomiphene)

Pharmacology:

Partial estrogen agonist, increases gonadotropin secretion by blocking estradiol's negative feedback, stimulating ovulation in women with ovulatory dysfunction.

✓ يعمل عن طريق منع تأثير (Estradiol) على (hypothalamus) والغدة النخامية (pituitary). هذا يؤدي إلى: منع (Negative feedback) التي يمنع بها الإستروجين إفراز الهرمونات المحفزة للتبويض، فينتج عن ذلك زيادة إفراز LH و FSH → مما يُحفّز الإباضة لدى النساء اللاتي لديهن خلل في التبويض

Therapeutic Uses:

Treats ovulatory dysfunction in women desiring pregnancy. Ineffective in ovarian or pituitary failure. ⚠

Adverse Effects:

Hot flushes (most common) ⚠, visual disturbances, headache, constipation, allergy, hair loss, ovarian enlargement, multiple pregnancies (10%), nausea, vomiting, mood changes, breast soreness, weight gain, urinary frequency, heavy menses.

Contraindications/Cautions:

Use small doses in women with enlarged ovaries; caution with visual symptoms. ⚠

Pharma6 Gonadotropins

The main gonadotropins are: مجموعة من الهرمونات التي تُفرز من الغدة النخامية أو تُعطى دوائياً لتحفيز نشاط الغدد التناسلية (المبيضين في الإناث والخصيتين في الذكور).

- Follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH)
- Luteinizing hormone (LH)
- Human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG)
- Human menopausal gonadotropins (hMG)

Feature	GnRH (Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone)	Gonadotropins
Full Name	Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone	Gonadotropins
Source	Hypothalamus	Anterior Pituitary gland (or placenta for hCG)
Main Function	Stimulates the pituitary to release gonadotropins	Stimulate the gonads (ovaries/testes) to produce sex hormones or gametes
Hormone Type	Regulatory hormone (Releasing hormone)	Effector hormones
Examples	GnRH	FSH, LH, hCG, hMG
Therapeutic Use	Used to either stimulate or suppress the reproductive axis (depending on dosing)	Used directly to induce ovulation or spermatogenesis

- ✓ Hypothalamus → **GnRH** → Pituitary → FSH & LH (**Gonadotropins**) → Gonads → Sex hormones (Estrogen, Testosterone...)

Gonadotropins Available for Clinical Use

- **Urofollitropin (uFSH)**: Extracted from urine of postmenopausal women.
- **Recombinant FSH (rFSH)**, known as **follitropin**.
- **Recombinant human LH (rLH)**, or Lutropin.
- **Choriogonadotropin alfa: Recombinant hCG** (rhCG), a combination of FSH and LH.

Therapeutic Uses of Gonadotropins

- Induction of ovulation (requires **progesterone** support for luteal phase).
- Treatment of male infertility علاج العقم, **especially in hypogonadal men.**¶

Adverse Effects of Gonadotropins ¶

- **Ovarian hyper-stimulation syndrome(OHSS)**: Can include ovarian enlargement, ascites, hydrothorax, hypovolemia, shock, hemoperitoneum, fever, and arterial thromboembolism.
 - Increased risk of multiple pregnancies (15–20% vs. 1% baseline).
 - Headache, depression, edema.
 - Antibody production against hCG.
- **Gynecomastia** in males.” enlargement of male breast tissue”
 - Possible association with ovarian cancer.

Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone (GnRH) & Analogs

- Secreted by hypothalamic neurons; **pulsatile** secretion stimulates FSH and LH release.
- Sustained, **nonpulsatile** administration inhibits FSH and LH, **causing hypogonadism**.
- Synthetic analogs: **Gonadorelin**, **Goserelin**, **Leuprolide**.
- ✓ Lower pulse frequencies favor FSH secretion, while higher pulse frequencies favor LH secretion.¶

Pharmacologic Use

- Pulsatile **IV** administration stimulates FSH and LH.
- Continuous administration causes a **biphasic response**:
 - Initial “flare” (7–10 days): **↑** Increased gonadal hormones. زيادة مؤقتة
 - Subsequent inhibition: **↓** Decreased gonadotropins and gonadal steroids **due to receptor downregulation and changes in the signaling pathway**
- ✓ Gonadal hormones: Hormones produced by the ovaries or testes, including both steroid and non-steroid types.
- ✓ Gonadotropins: Hormones from the pituitary (like FSH and LH) or placenta (like hCG) that stimulate the gonads.

- ✓ **Gonadal steroids:** Steroid hormones (derived from cholesterol) produced by the gonads — such as estrogen, progesterone, and testosterone.

Term	Source	Includes	Main Function
Gonadal hormones	Gonads (ovaries or testes)	All hormones secreted by the gonads	Regulate reproductive and sexual functions
Gonadotropins	Pituitary gland or placenta	FSH, LH, hCG, hMG	Stimulate the gonads to produce hormones or gametes
Gonadal steroids	Gonads	Estrogens, progesterone, and androgens	Control puberty, menstrual cycle, pregnancy, spermatogenesis

Therapeutic Uses of GnRH & Analogs

Stimulation:

- **Infertility** in men and women (less common than gonadotropins)-> Gonadotropins (FSH & LH directly) are more commonly used in fertility treatments.
- **LH responsiveness test** for **delayed puberty**. البلوغ المتأخر.

Suppression:

- Controlled **ovarian hyperstimulation** (assisted reproduction).
- **Endometriosis** (reduces pain by suppressing cyclical hormone changes).
- **Uterine leiomyomata (fibroids)**.
- **Central (pituitary or hypothalamic) precocious puberty**. البلوغ المبكر (onset of secondary sex characteristics before 8 years in girls and 9 years in boys).

Adverse Effects of GnRH & Analogs

- **Headache, light-headedness, nausea, flushing.**
- **Local injection site reactions.**
- **Hypersensitivity (bronchospasm, anaphylaxis).** خطيرة
- **Menopausal symptoms in women**-> Hot flashes, mood swings, vaginal dryness due to reduced estrogen.
- **Ovarian cysts.**
- **Sudden pituitary apoplexy.**-> Rare but life-threatening event, especially in patients with undiagnosed pituitary tumors. leading to abrupt onset of **severe headache, neck stiffness, visual disturbances, and oculomotor palsies.**
- **Reduced bone density, osteoporosis.** نتيجة الانخفاض طويل الأمد للأنستروجين أو التستوستيرون

✓ مثال عملي للفهم: امرأة عمرها 38 سنة، تعاني من نزيف رحمي غزير وألم في الحوض، (ultrasound) أظهرت وجود ورم ليفي في الرحم uterine fibroid بدأ الطبيب بإعطاء (GnRH agonist) Leuprolide، الهدف: إيقاف تحفيز المبيض لإنتاج الإستروجين، تقليل مستويات الإستروجين → لأن الورم الليفي يعتمد على الإستروجين في نموه، بالتالي: ينكمش الورم الليفي و يتحسن النزيف، اليه عمله: في أول أسبوع يحصل "flare effect" (زيادة مؤقتة في الهرمونات، بعد ذلك ينخفض FSH و LH بسبب توقف حساسية المستقبلات في الغدة النخامية، هذا يؤدي إلى حالة مؤقتة تشبه سن اليأس ، وبالتالي نقص في الإستروجين.

GnRH Receptor **Antagonists**

- Examples: **Ganirelix, Cetrorelix, Degarelix**

Mechanism of Action:

- Directly block GnRH receptors in the pituitary → suppress FSH & LH release in a **dose-dependent way**.
- **No** initial “flare” effect like GnRH agonists. **تأثير فوري وسريع.**
-

Therapeutic Uses

- Prevention of LH surge during controlled **ovarian hyperstimulation** (IVF).
- **Advanced prostate cancer** (Degarelix): Rapidly reduces gonadotropins and androgens, avoiding testosterone surge.
- ✓ Adherence to treatment regimen is more critical because effect reverses quickly after discontinuation.

❖ Advantages Over GnRH Agonists ¶

- Immediate action, shorter administration. **جرعة أقل وفترة علاج أقصر "تأثير فوري"**
- Can be started later in **IVF cycle** (day 6–8). **IVF** = In Vitro Fertilization = الجسم التلقيح الصناعي خارج

❖ Disadvantages ¶

- Requires strict adherence; effects reverse quickly after discontinuation.
 - More complete suppression of gonadotropins.
 - May impair follicular development when used with FSH.
 - **Lower pregnancy rates in IVF compared to GnRH agonists.**
- ✓ حالة للفهم: امرأة عمرها 33 عامًا، تعاني من عقم غير مفسر منذ 3 سنوات. قرر الطبيب إجراء IVF لها. بدأ الطبيب تحفيز المبيض باستخدام FSH لتحفيز نمو أكثر من بويضة، في اليوم السادس من التنشيط، قرر البدء باستخدام GnRH antagonist (مثل Cetorelix)، الهدف؟ منع حدوث اندفاع مفاجئ لهرمون LH الذي قد يؤدي إلى إباضة قبل أن يستطيع الطبيب سحب البويضات، بعد 2–3 أيام، يقوم الطبيب بمتابعة النمو ثم يحدد موعد سحب البويضات. تُخصب البويضات في المختبر وتعاد إلى الرحم لاحقًا.

Adverse Effects

- Nausea, headache.
- Injection-site reactions, **increased liver enzymes** (in prostate cancer treatment).
- Signs of androgen deprivation **↓** (hot flushes, weight gain).

Prolactin

- **198 amino acid** peptide, structurally similar to **growth hormone** ¶.
- **Main hormone for lactation.** ¶ It is secreted by the anterior pituitary gland.
- **Hyperprolactinemia** causes amenorrhea, galactorrhea, infertility in women; **loss of libido and infertility in men** (due to GnRH inhibition).

- ✓ Amenorrhea (absence of menstruation), Galactorrhea (milk discharge without pregnancy or breastfeeding), Infertility (because high prolactin inhibits GnRH → reduced FSH and LH)

Regulation

- Inhibited by **dopamine** (prolactin-inhibiting hormone), It is released from the **hypothalamus** and binds to D2 receptors on pituitary cells.
- Dopamine agonists treat hyperprolactinemia ¶.
- Prolactin-secreting adenomas remain sensitive to dopamine.

✓ على الرغم من أن الورم يُفرز البرولاكتين بشكل مفرط، إلا أن خلاياه ما زالت تحتوي على مستقبلات للدوبامين (D2 receptors)، وما زالت تستجيب لتأثير الدوبامين أو الأدوية التي تنشط مستقبله.

العلاج Dopamine Agonists لتقليل إفراز البرولاكتين

D2 receptor agonists:

- **Ergot derivatives:** Bromocriptine, cabergoline (most effective, fewer side effects), pergolide.
- **Nonergot:** Quinagolide.

Pharmacodynamics

- Suppress prolactin release (hyperprolactinemia).
- Suppress **GH** in acromegaly.
- Improve motor function in Parkinsonism.

Therapeutic Uses

- **Hyperprolactinemia:** Shrink tumors, lower prolactin, restore ovulation in many women.
- Restore ovulation in ~ **70%** of women with microadenomas and ~ **30%** of those with macroadenomas.
- Acromegaly.
- Parkinsonism.

Adverse Effects

- Nausea, vomiting, headache, fatigue, lightheadedness.
- Orthostatic hypotension [انخفاض الضغط عند الوقوف].
- Psychiatric symptoms.
- Erythromelalgia. ألم واحمرار بالأطراف
- Ergot derivatives: Cold-induced vasospasm تشنج الأوعية عند البرد, pulmonary infiltrates with high doses.
- Rare: Stroke or coronary thrombosis in postpartum women taking bromocriptine for lactation suppression.

Pharma7

Regulation of Male Hormones

- **FSH (Follicle-Stimulating Hormone):** Controls gametogenesis, requiring high local testosterone ليعمل بكفاءة. Stimulated by activin, inhibited by inhibin, testosterone, and dihydrotestosterone.
- **LH (Luteinizing Hormone):** Stimulates Leydig cells to produce testosterone.
- **Sertoli Cells:** Secrete inhibin (inhibits FSH) and activin (stimulates FSH).

Androgens and Anabolic Steroids

Testosterone and Dihydrotestosterone (DHT)

- Binding: **65%** bound to SHBG, most of the rest to albumin, **only ~2% is free** (biologically active).
- SHBG (Sex Hormone-Binding Globulin): Increased \uparrow by estrogen, thyroid hormone, and liver cirrhosis; \downarrow decreased by androgens, growth hormone, and obesity.
- **Conversion:** In target tissues (not testis), testosterone is converted to DHT by 5 α -reductase \downarrow . **DHT is the major active androgen in peripheral tissues.** \downarrow
- Metabolism: Excreted as glucuronide and sulfate conjugates in urine.

Other Androgens

- **Androstenedione, DHEA** Dehydroepiandrosterone, **DHEAS** Dehydroepiandrosterone Sulfate: Produced mainly in adrenal glands, contribute to maturation, well-being, and **inhibit atherosclerosis**.
- **DHEA** in **SLE** Systemic Lupus Erythematosus : Immunomodulatory, shifts balance toward anti-inflammatory interleukins.-> such as Interleukin-6 and upregulates the anti-inflammatory interleukin, interleukin-2

Physiological and Metabolic Effects

- Secondary Sex Characteristics: Responsible for puberty changes in males. **physiological**

Metabolic Effects:

1. Reduces sex hormone-binding proteins. (بالتالي زيادة الهرمونات الحرة بالدم) (الفعالة)
2. Increases liver synthesis of clotting factors, triglyceride lipase, α 1-antitrypsin حماية الأنسجة, haptoglobin يربط الهيموغلوبين الحر, sialic acid.
3. Increases renal **erythropoietin** secretion (previously used to treat anemia).
4. \downarrow Reduces HDL High-Density Lipoprotein (**risk for atherosclerosis**).

Synthetic Androgenic and Anabolic Steroids

- **Testosterone:** Low oral bioavailability, given parenterally.
- **17-Alkylated Derivatives:** Methyltestosterone, fluoxymesterone (**orally active**).
- **Other Synthetics:** Oxymetholone, oxandrolone, nandrolone decanoate (varying anabolic:androgenic ratios, **higher anabolic activity**, **commonly misused by athletes**).

Anabolic Steroid Misuse

- **Abuse in Sports:** **Doses 10-200x normal**; adverse effects outweigh benefits.
- **Actions:** Increased muscle mass/strength, bone growth, Growth and mineralization of bone, improved performance (**notably in women** \downarrow).
- **Long Term Adverse Effects:** **Cardiovascular issues**, liver disease, **reproductive toxicity**, mood swings, aggressiveness.

- **Synthetic Androgens & Anabolic Activity** Androgens have anabolic effects, which help build muscle mass and strength. They are often misused by athletes (both men and women) for performance enhancement.

✓ **Activity Ratio = Androgenic : Anabolic** \downarrow

- Testosterone = 1:1 (equal masculinizing and muscle-building effects)
- Fluoxymesterone = 1:2 (more anabolic)

TABLE 40-5 Androgens: Preparations available and relative androgenic:anabolic activity in animals.

Drug	Androgenic Activity	Anabolic Activity
Testosterone	1:1	
Testosterone cypionate	1:1	
Testosterone enanthate	1:1	
Methyltestosterone	1:1	
Fluoxymesterone	1:2	
Oxymetholone	1:3	
Oxandrolone	1:3-1:13	
Nandrolone decanoate	10	1:2.5-1:4

✓ Drugs with higher anabolic effect (commonly misused):

Oxymetholone. 1:3
 Oxandrolone 1:3 to 1:13
 Nandrolone decanoate 1:2.5 to 1:4

Therapeutic Uses

1. **Androgen Replacement:** For **hypogonadal men** (various administration routes) Can be used orally, sublingually, IM, TD, and topical gel.

- ✓ In the presence of **pituitary deficiency**, **androgens** are used rather than gonadotropins except when normal spermatogenesis is to be achieved. In this case, the goal is not only to correct hypogonadal dysfunction but also to achieve normal spermatogenesis, which requires FSH (gonadotropin). However, if spermatogenesis is not desired, androgen therapy is given

2. **Protein Loss Reversal:** After trauma, surgery, immobilization, or debilitating diseases.

3. **Refractory Anemias:** or any anemia that's associated with bone marrow suppression,

Now largely replaced by **recombinant erythropoietin**.

Adverse Effects

- **Women:** **Masculinization** ظهور صفات ذكورية (hirsutism, acne, amenorrhea, clitoral enlargement, deep voice).
- **Progestational Activity:** Withdrawal endometrial bleeding.
- **Atherosclerosis:** Increased risk in women. ↓ HDL
- **Pregnancy:** Can cause **genital malformations in fetuses** → Masculinization or undermasculinization of the external genitalia of the female and male fetuses, respectively, if given during pregnancy.
- Sodium retention and edema are **not common**.
- **CNS Effects:** Early-life administration can **affect sexual development centers**.
- **Hepatic Dysfunction:** Especially with **17-alkyl-substituted steroids** (cholestatic jaundice, hepatomas, carcinomas).

- **Prostatic Hyperplasia, Lipid Changes:** Increased LDL, decreased HDL.
- Other: Acne, sleep apnea توقف النفس, erythrocytosis ↑ RBCs, gynecomastia, azoospermia ↓ sperms, testicular atrophy, psychological dependence (not physical, nor physiological), hepatocellular carcinoma.

Contraindications and Cautions

- **Pregnancy, Prostate/Breast Cancer in Males, Children** (growth concerns نمو العظام), **Patients with Renal/Cardiac Disease** (edema risk).
 ✓ Infants and young children: special caution is required in giving them To produce a growth spurt (However, somatotropin is more appropriate). If they have a short stature and are predicted not to grow further, it's better to give them somatotropins rather than androgenic and anabolic steroids.

Antiandrogens تعارض تأثير الهرمونات الذكر

علاج: تضخم البروستاتا (BPH)، سرطان البروستاتا، الشعرانية (لدى النساء)، الصلع الذكري المبكر...

5α-Reductase Inhibitors

They inhibit the conversion of testosterone to DHT, which is active in tissues, stimulates the prostate.

- **Finasteride:** Reduces DHT, treats BPH, hirsutism in women, early male pattern baldness.
- **Dutasteride:** Similar, **longer half-life**, **mainly for BPH**, **Not** approved to be used against hirsutism in women or male-pattern baldness in men.

Androgen Receptor Blockers

1. **Cyproterone/Acetate:** Inhibits androgen action, "**acetate**" has progestational effect, treats hirsutism, reduces sexual drive in men.
2. **Flutamide:** Nonsteroidal, potent, treats prostatic carcinoma, can cause gynecomastia and hepatic toxicity, also used in **women for excess androgen**.
3. **Bicalutamide, Enzalutamide, Nilutamide:** Potent, orally active, **used for metastatic prostate cancer**, **often with GnRH analogs to reduce tumor flare**.
4. **Spirolactone:** Potassium-sparing diuretic, blocks androgen receptors can cause gynecomastia in males, **inhibits 17α-hydroxylase** يقلل تصنيع الادرجين, used for hirsutism in women

Pharma8 "Drugs Used in Neoplasms of the Urogenital System"

Drugs for Breast Cancer

Cyclophosphamide

- Alkylating agent, prodrug activated in the liver, It is inactive and needs activation by microsomal enzymes to 4-hydroxycyclophosphamide and aldophosphamide.
- Used for breast, ovarian, Wilm's tumor عند الأطفال, and other cancers.
- Adverse effects: **dose-related toxicity in rapidly dividing tissues** كالشعر, nausea, vomiting, tissue damage at injection site, **hemorrhagic cystitis** (preventable by hydration), **carcinogenicity especially acute myelogenous leukaemia**, **bone marrow depression**, **alopecia** تساقط الشعر.

Methotrexate (MTX)

- **Folic acid analog**; **inhibits dihydrofolate reductase**, blocking DNA/RNA synthesis.
- Intracellular formation of polyglutamate metabolites by folylpolyglutamate synthase, with the addition of up to 5-7 glutamate residues, is needed for the therapeutic action of MTX.
- MTX polyglutamates are selectively retained within cancer cells.
- **Resistance mechanisms**: decreased drug transport, reduced polyglutamate formation, increased(through gene amplification) /altered DHFR , activation of drug efflux pumps إخراج للدواء. Activation of the multidrug resistance transporter P170-glycoprotein.
- Administered orally, IV, or intrathecally; **renal elimination (dose adjust in renal dysfunction)**, Its renal excretion is inhibited by aspirin, other NSAIDs, penicillins, and cephalosporins.
- **Leucovorin** "5- formyltetrahydrofolate"(folinic acid) rescue reverses toxicity. لحماية الخلايا الطبيعية
- Used for breast, bladder cancer, choriocarcinoma, others.
- **Toxicity**: mucositis, diarrhea, hepatotoxicity, myelosuppression, neurotoxicity, pulmonary toxicity, renal dysfunction.

Doxorubicin (Anthracyclines)

- **Inhibits topoisomerase II**, intercalates DNA, generates free radicals (**cardiotoxicity**!).
- Alters membrane fluidity and ion transport.
- IV administration, hepatic metabolism, biliary excretion 50% (**dose adjust in liver dysfunction**).
- Used for breast, endometrial, ovarian, testicular, bladder cancers.

Paclitaxel (Taxanes)

- Derived from yew trees صنوبريات; **inhibits mitosis by stabilizing microtubules**.
- Metabolized by CYPs, 80% fecal excretion (**dose adjust in hepatic dysfunction**).
- Used for ovarian, advanced breast, prostate, bladder cancers.
- Adverse effects: nausea, vomiting, hypotension, arrhythmias, myelosuppression, neuropathy, hypersensitivity 5% (**premedication required with dexamethasone**, **diphenhydramine** (H1-blocker) and an H2-blocker), albumin-bound formulation has milder side effects.

Ixabepilone

- **Microtubule inhibitor** (**not a taxane**!): Paclitaxel, Docetaxel).
- Used for **metastatic breast cancer**!

- Adverse effects: hypersensitivity, myelosuppression, neurotoxicity.

Bevacizumab

- Monoclonal antibody targeting **VEGF-A**, inhibits tumor angiogenesis.
- ✓ Bevacizumab is a recombinant humanized monoclonal antibody that targets all forms of VEGFs particularly VEGF-A.
- Toxicity: hypertension, arterial thromboembolism, impaired wound healing, GI perforations, proteinuria.

Trastuzumab

- Monoclonal antibody against HER-2/neu receptor. على سطح الخلايا السرطانية.
- Used in **HER-2 positive metastatic breast cancer**.
- **Cardiotoxicity** (reduced ejection fraction) is a key adverse effect.

Drug	Mechanism of Action	Main Use	Key Side Effect
Cyclophosphamide	DNA alkylation	Breast cancer + others	Hemorrhagic cystitis, myelosuppression
Methotrexate	Inhibits DHFR (folate analog)	Breast cancer, choriocarcinoma	Hepato- and nephrotoxicity
Doxorubicin	Free radicals, Topoisomerase II inhibition	Breast, ovarian cancer	Cardiotoxicity (heart failure)
Paclitaxel	Microtubule stabilization	Breast, ovarian, prostate	Neuropathy, hypersensitivity
Ixabepilone	Microtubule inhibitor (not a taxane)	Metastatic breast cancer	Neurotoxicity, myelosuppression
Bevacizumab	Anti-VEGF-A (angiogenesis inhibitor)	Advanced breast cancer	Hypertension, GI perforation, proteinuria
Trastuzumab	HER2 receptor blocker	HER2+ breast cancer	Cardiotoxicity (↓ejection fraction)

Drugs for Prostate Cancer

Hormonal Therapy

Mainstay is elimination of testosterone (surgical or pharmacological castration).

Mitoxantrone

- Anthracycline antibiotic, intercalates DNA, inhibits topoisomerase II. يشبه ال doxorubicin
- Used for advanced, hormone-refractory prostate cancer.
- Toxicity: myelosuppression (dose-limiting), thrombocytopenia, nausea, alopecia, mucositis, blue discoloration of nails, sclera, urine.

Drugs for Ovarian Cancer

Common Agents

Cisplatin, Carboplatin, Cyclophosphamide, Paclitaxel, Topotecan, Doxorubicin, Altretamine.

Platinum Analogs (Cisplatin, Carboplatin)

- Act like alkylating agents, bind DNA, inhibit synthesis/function, active in all cell cycle stages.
- Used for breast, testicular, ovarian, bladder cancers.
- **Cisplatin**: nephrotoxicity, neuropathy, ototoxicity, nausea; dose adjust in renal dysfunction.
- **Carboplatin**: less nephrotoxic, main issue is myelosuppression.

Camptothecins (Topotecan)

- **Inhibit topoisomerase I**, causing DNA damage.
- Used as **second-line** for **advanced ovarian cancer**. ⚡ following platinum-based chemotherapy. – (Cisplatin, Carboplatin)
- Toxicity: nausea, vomiting, myelosuppression; dose adjust in renal dysfunction.

Altretamine

- Alkylating agent, **forms DNA cross-links**.
- Toxicity: nausea, myelosuppression, neuropathy, **flu-like syndrome** ⚡ كالانفلونزا.

Drugs for Testicular Cancer

Common Agents

Cisplatin, Etoposide, Bleomycin, Ifosfamide (similar to **cyclophosphamide**).

Etoposide

- **Semisynthetic podophyllotoxin derivative**, **inhibits topoisomerase II**.
- **Teniposide** is a related drug.
 - **IV** and **oral** forms; **dose adjust in renal dysfunction**.
 - Toxicity: nausea, hypotension, **myelosuppression**, alopecia.

Bleomycin

- Anticancer antibiotic, **binds DNA, causes strand breaks via free radicals**, **inhibits DNA synthesis**.
 - **Cell cycle-specific** (**G2** phase). ⚡
 - Used for **testicular**, **cervical**, **vulvar** ⚡ cancers; dose adjust in renal dysfunction.
 - **Dose-limiting toxicity: pulmonary (pneumonitis, fibrosis)** ⚡; **risk higher with age > 70**, **high dose > 400 units**, **prior lung disease**, or **chest radiation**.
 - Other toxicities: allergic reactions, fever, hypotension, **dermatotoxicity**, alopecia, mucositis التهاب وتقرحات فموية.

Pharma9 Oral Contraceptives

Hormonal Contraception:

Combined Estrogen-Progestin Forms:

- **Monophasic**: Constant dosage of both hormones throughout the cycle.
- **Biphasic**: Dosage of one or both hormones **changes once** during the cycle.
- **Triphasic**: Dosage **changes twice** during the cycle.

Progestin-Only Therapy:

Continuous progestin without estrogen, administered **orally** or via **subcutaneous implants**.

Common Hormonal Agents:

- Estrogens: **Ethinyl estradiol**, **mestranol**.

- Progestins: *L-Norgestrel*, drospirenone, *norethindrone*, norgestimate, ethynodiol diacetate.

Mechanism of Action

- Inhibit ovulation by suppressing pituitary function.
- Alter cervical mucus, endometrium, and uterine tube motility to reduce conception and implantation likelihood.

Pharmacologic Effects

- **Ovary:** Chronic use depresses ovarian function and reduces size (reversible).
- **Uterus:** May cause cervical hypertrophy and polyp formation.
- **Cervical Mucus:** Becomes thicker and less abundant.
- **Endometrium:** Effects depend on hormonal content.
- **Breast:** Enlargement, lactation suppression, small hormone transfer to breast milk.
- **CNS:** Minimal mood/behavior changes; *estrogens may help premenstrual/postpartum/climacteric depression*; *progestins have thermogenic effects* رفع الحرارة
- **Endocrine:** *Estrogens increase corticosteroid-binding globulin* يقلل الهرمونات الحرة, renin activity, aldosterone, *thyroxine-binding globulin*, and SHBG (reducing free androgens).
- **Blood:** Increased clotting factors, VII, VIII, IX, and X and decrease antithrombin III. *risk of thromboembolism, higher serum iron* ↑, possible folic acid deficiency *anemia*. ↓
- **Liver:** Reduced serum haptoglobins, risk of cholestasis and gallstones.
- **Lipid Metabolism:** *Estrogens raise triglycerides, phospholipids, HDL (lower LDL size)*; *progestins*, especially androgenic types, may counteract these benefits.
- **Carbohydrate Metabolism:** Reduced absorption, *increased basal insulin*, possible decrease in tolerance with potent progestins.
- **Cardiovascular:** *Increased blood pressure*, heart rate, and cardiac output.
- **Skin:** Increased pigmentation, *acne risk with androgenic progestins*, but *sequential agents/estrogens may reduce sebum and acne*.

Therapeutic Uses

- Primary: Oral contraception *فعاليته عاليه* (failure rate ~0.5–1 per 100 women-years).
- Other: *Endometriosis* treatment.

Adverse Effects

- **Mild:** Nausea, breast tenderness, *breakthrough bleeding* الطمث خارج وقت الطمث, edema, ↑ increased **ESR** "Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate" *due to increased fibrinogen*, *headaches* (may worsen migraines), *failure of withdrawal bleeding* خلل بالرجوع للوضع الطبيعي.
- **Moderate** (may require discontinuation): *Frequent breakthrough bleeding* (common 25%) (*especially with progestin-only*), *weight gain* (androgenic progestins), *Increased skin pigmentation* exacerbated by vitamin B12 and folic acid deficiency "It is slowly reversible", *acne*, *hirsutism* "may be aggravated by 19-nortestosterone derivatives", ureteral dilation, *more*

frequent/difficult vaginal infections(more common)¶, amenorrhea (sometimes with galactorrhea, possible prolactinoma).

•**Severe** (Contraindications¶): Venous thromboembolism, myocardial infarction, cerebrovascular/ischemic bowel disease, cholestatic jaundice”17-alkyl substituted agents”, cholecystitis, cholangitis, hepatic adenomas, depression6%, increased risk of cervical cancer (with HPV Human Papilloma Virus).

Special Considerations

- **Cardiovascular Risk:** Increased risk is mainly due to thromboembolic events, not atherosclerosis. Women with controlled dyslipidemia may use low-dose CHCs with monitoring; those with **uncontrolled** dyslipidemia or additional risk factors should avoid CHCs.¶
- **Diabetes:** Non-smoking women under 35 with diabetes but no vascular disease can use CHCs; those with vascular complications or long-standing diabetes should not.¶

Progestin-Only Contraception

Suitable for those who cannot take estrogens.

Depot Medroxyprogesterone Acetate (DMPA): Injected every 3 months, suppresses ovulation for 14 weeks, common side effects include irregular bleeding and amenorrhea.

- Not ideal for women planning pregnancy soon, as ovulation may be suppressed for up to 18 months after last dose.
- All users experience episodes of spotting and bleeding.
- Amenorrhea is common¶.
- **Long-term DMPA** reduces menstrual blood loss and lowers endometrial cancer risk, but may decrease bone density and adversely affect lipids.

Progestin Implants: Subcutaneous, effective up to 6 years, cause irregular bleeding. Other adverse effects: headache, dizziness, bloating, weight gain, reversible reduction in glucose tolerance, possible intracranial hypertension and papilledemaتورم العصب البصري¶.



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