

# Sedative- Hypnotics Drugs Pharmacology

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# Sedative- Hypnotics

## **Sedatives:**

- ❶ Drugs which reduce the excitement, anxiety and calm the patient without inducing the sleep and it may produce drowsiness. (Reduce the CNS activity)
- ❷ At large dose it may produce hypnotics
- ❸ Mainly act on limbic system which regulate the thought and mental functions

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## **Hypnotics:**

- ❶ Drugs which induce and maintain the normal sleep
- ❷ At high dose it may induce General Anesthesia
- ❸ Mainly act on Mid brain and Reticular Activating System which maintain the wakefulness.

# Sedative- Hypnotics Classii=

## Classification

### 1. Barbiturates

- 🔔 **Long Acting:** Phenobarbitone
- 🔔 **Short Acting:** Butobarbitone, Pentobarbitone
- 🔔 **Ultra Short Acting:** Thiopentone, Methohexitone

### 2. Benzodiazepines:

- 🔔 **Hypnotics:** Diazepam, Flurazepam, Nitrazepam, Alprazolam, Temazepam, Triazolam
- 🔔 **Antianxiety:** Diazepam, Chlordiazepoxide, Oxazepam, Lorazepam, Alprazolam
- 🔔 **Ant convulsion:** Diazepam, Lorazepam, Clonazepam, Clobazam

### 3. Newer nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics:

- 🔔 Zopiclone, Zolpidem, Zaleplon

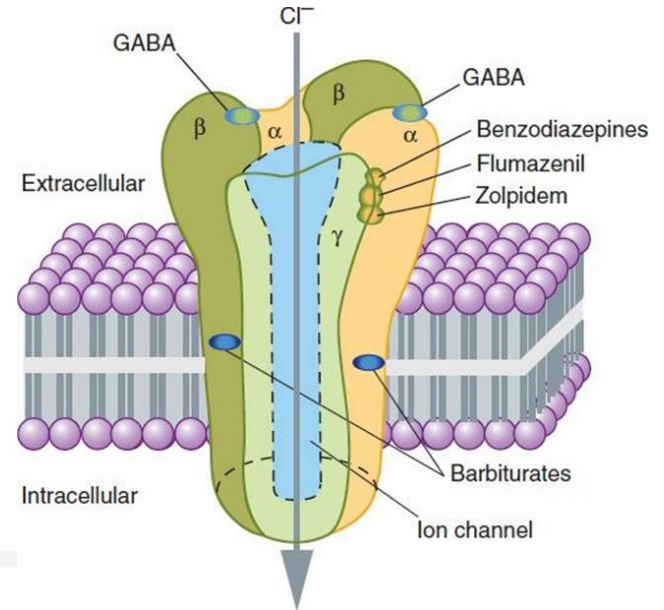
# Sedative- Hypnotics

## Barbiturates

- Gaba Mimetic action
- More neurological depression
- Low margin of safety
- respiratory and cardiovascular depression
- Suppression of REM sleep

## BDZs

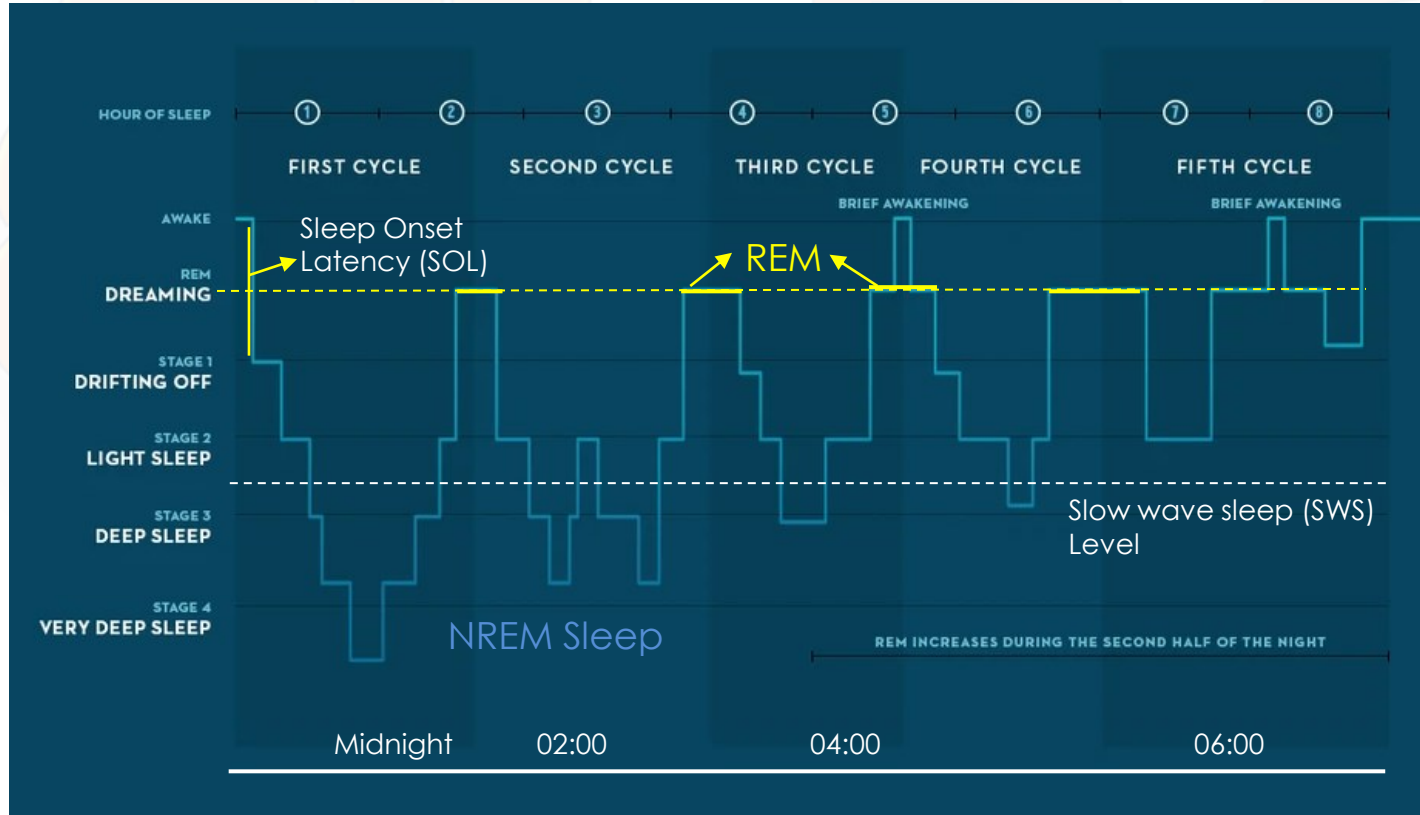
- Gaba Facilitatory action
- Less neurological depression
- High Margin of safety
- No respiratory and cardiovascular effects on hypnotic dose
- No effect on REM Sleep



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# Sedative- Hypnotics

## Hypnogram



# Sedative- Hypnotics

## Stage 1 (Dozing)

- Lightest (1-7 min), 3-6% sleep time
- HR, Breath, eye movement slowdown
- Muscle relaxed or occasionally twitch
- EEG begin to slowdown

## Stage 2 (Unequivocal Sleep)

- Light (10-25 min), 40-50 % sleep time
- HR, Breath slowdown, Muscle relaxed
- eye movement stop, Body temp drops
- Brain wave activity slow

## Stage 3 (Deep Sleep)

- 20-40 min (Stage 3 & 4), 5-8% sleep time
- HR, Breath at low, Muscle relaxed
- Brain wave slowdown even more

## Stage 4 (Cerebral Sleep)

- Deepest sleep, mostly in 1<sup>st</sup> cycle, 10-20%
- 20-40 min, 5-8% sleep time
- HR, Breath at low, Muscle relaxed
- Brain wave slowdown even more

## Stage 5 (REM)

- Rapid eye movemets
- Breathing, HR, BP increased
- Dreaming/nightmares

# Sedative- Hypnotics

	REM (Paradoxical Sleep)	NREM (Slow Wave Sleep)
<b>Eye Movement</b>	Rapid	Non Rapid (Slow)
<b>Electroencephalograph (EEG)</b>	Similar to alert or awake person	Slow wave, V-wave, K-complexes
<b>Vital function</b>	Irregular	Normal, Stable
<b>Body Function</b>	Muscle Twitches	Muscle Relaxation
<b>Dreaming</b>	Common	Rare
<b>Arousal</b>	Hard to arouse but wake up spontaneously	Easily awakened
<b>% Sleep (Adult)</b>	20%	80%
<b>Other</b>		4 stages, must pass through this type of sleep first

# Sedative- Hypnotics

Sleep Stages (R&K)

EEG Signal

Wake



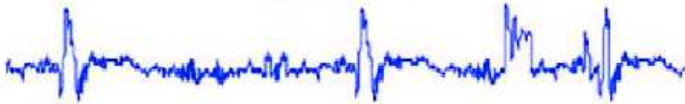
Wake (Alpha 8-12 Hz)

Stage 1: N-REM



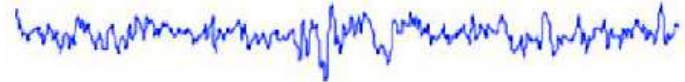
N-REM S1 (Theta 4-7 Hz)

Stage 2: N-REM



N-REM S2 (Sleep Spindles, K-complex)  
(12-14 Hz)

Stage 3: N-REM



N-REM S3 (Delta 0-3 Hz)

Stage 4: N-REM



N-REM S4 (Delta 0-3 Hz)

Stage 5: REM



REM (Alpha, Beta, Theta)

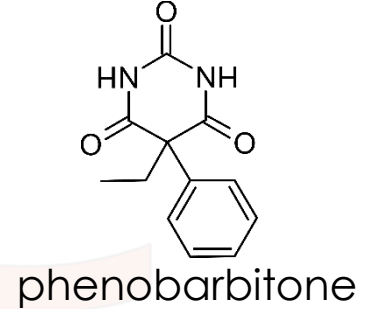
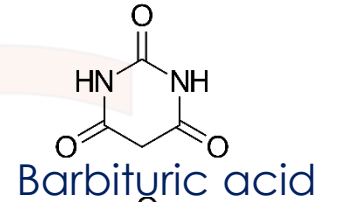


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# Barbiturates

- Barbiturates are the Barbituric acid Derivatives.
- Barbituric acid as such is not a CNS depressant but its alkyl/aryl substituted at C-5 like phenobarbitone, pentobarbitone shows hypnotic effects.
- Barbiturates have been popular hypnotics and sedatives of the last century upto 1960s, but are not used now to promote sleep or to calm patients.
- However, they are described first because they are the prototype of CNS depressants.



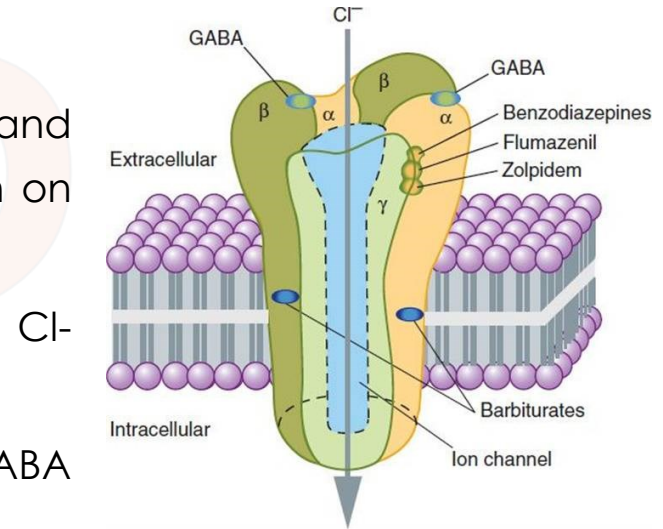
## Barbiturates

- Long Acting:** Phenobarbitone
- Short Acting:** Butobarbitone, Pentobarbitone
- Ultra Short Acting:** Thiopentone, Methohexitone

# Barbiturates

## Mode of Action

- Barbiturates bind with its particular site at GABA-A and potentiate the GABA-A mediated inhibitory action on CNS by increasing Cl<sup>-</sup> ion channel opening time.
- Barbiturates → GABA-A → increase conduction → hyperpolarization
- At high conc. It can directly open the channel (GABA mimetic action)
- Barbiturates also inhibit the cation conduction and inhibit the NMDA-mediated excitatory action



# Barbiturates

## Pharmacological Action

### 1. CNS:

- Dose dependent CNS depressant effects
- sedation → sleep → anaesthesia → coma.
- Barbiturates depress all areas of the CNS, but reticular activating system is the most sensitive; its depression is primarily responsible for inability to maintain wakefulness
- **At hypnotic dose-**
  - induce the sleep and duration
  - REM and stage 3, 4 sleep are decreased; REM-NREM sleep cycle is disrupted
  - rebound increase in REM sleep and nightmares
  - Hangover (dizziness, distortions of mood, irritability and lethargy) may occur in the morning after a nightly dose

# Barbiturates

## Pharmacological Action

### 1. CNS:

#### • **At Sedative dose-**

- Smaller dose at daytime can produce drowsiness, reduction in anxiety and excitability.
- Barbiturates can impair learning, short term memory and judgement.
- They have no analgesic action; small doses may even cause hyperalgesia.
- Euphoria may be experienced by addicts.

# Barbiturates

## Pharmacological Action

- 2. Respiratory-** depressed
- 3. CVS-** Depressed
- 4. Skeletal muscles-** relaxed at anesthetic dose
- 5. Smooth Muscles-** tone and motility decreased
- 6. Kidney-** Barbiturates tend to reduce urine flow by decreasing BP and increasing ADH release. Oliguria attends barbiturate intoxication

# Barbiturates

## Pharmacokinetics

- Barbiturates are well absorbed from the g.i. tract. They are widely distributed in the body. The rate of entry into CNS is dependent on lipid solubility (Highly lipid soluble can easily and rapidly enters to the brain)
- They can cross the placenta and secrete in milk
- Plasma protein binding varies with the compound, e.g. thiopentone 75%, phenobarbitone 20%
- Redistribution occurs
- Primarily metabolized in liver by oxidation, dealkylation and conjugation. Their plasma  $t_{1/2}$  ranges from 12–40 hours and excreted through urine
- Low lipid soluble (Long acting) drugs excreted unchanged in urine

# Barbiturates

## Side Effects

- ❖ Idiosyncrasy
- ❖ Hypersensitivity Rashes, swelling of eyelids, lips
- ❖ Tolerance and dependence
- ❖ **Acute barbiturate poisoning** Mostly suicidal, sometimes accidental- Highly CNS depressant, CVS depressed, Respiratory Depressed
  - ❖ Treatment: Gastric lavage (Activated Charcoal)
  - ❖ Supportive measures
  - ❖ **Alkaline diuresis:** with sodium bicarbonate 1 mEq/kg i.v. with or without mannitol is helpful only in the case of long acting barbiturates which are eliminated primarily by renal excretion.
  - ❖ Haemodialysis and haemoperfusion (through a column of activated charcoal or other adsorbants) is highly effective in removing long-acting as well as short-acting barbiturates

# Barbiturates

## Drug Interaction

- ❖ Barbiturates are the metabolic enzyme inducer – induce the metabolism of warfarin, steroids (including contraceptives), tolbutamide, griseofulvin, chloramphenicol, theophylline
- ❖ Additive action with other CNS depressants —alcohol, antihistamines, opioids, etc.
- ❖ Sodium valproate increases plasma concentration of phenobarbitone.
- ❖ Phenobarbitone decreases absorption of griseofulvin from the g.i.t

## Uses

- ❖ Phenobarbitone in epilepsy
- ❖ Thiopentone- General Anaesthesia



# Benzodiazepines

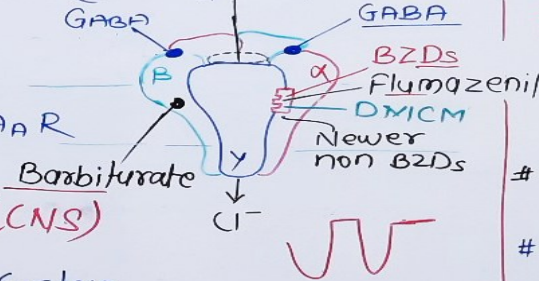
## BENZODIAZEPINES (BZDs) PHARMACOLOGY

↳ BZDs → CNS Depressant → Sedative, Anxiolytics, Facilitate Sleep, Antiepileptics, & Reduction in muscle tone

Site of Action: - Midbrain (RAS), Limbic System, Medullary Site, & Cerebellum

MOA: → BZDs → BZD site (GABA<sub>A</sub> Receptor)

- ✓ # GABA Facilitatory
- ✓ # ↑ Frequency of opening of Cl<sup>-</sup> channel
- ✓ # ↑ GABA binding to GABA<sub>A</sub> R



## PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTION (CNS)

- # Sedation
- # Anti-Anxiety → Limbic System
- # Hypnotic (Sleep) → Quick Sleep, ↑ Sleep duration, Time spent in Stage-2 ↑ but ↓ Stage 3 & 4, ↓ REM Time but ↑ frequency (\*Except Nitrazepam)
- # Centrally Acting muscle relaxant → Diazepam and clonazepam have marked action
- # Anti-Convulsant - Reduce the Excessive neuronal firing (Diazepam, clonazepam, Nitrazepam, Lorazepam, etc)

## PHARMACOKINETIC PROFILE

- # Oral Active, Abs & Lipid Solubility
- # Protein binding → Lorazepam - 10%  
Diazepam - 99%
- # Widely distributed in body
- # Metabolized by Liver (CYP3A4 & CYP2C19) → Dealkylation & Hydroxylation

ADR = Safer than Barbiturates

- # At hypnotic dose → Dizziness, vertigo, Ataxia, disturbed in psychomotor skill
- # Mild withdrawal symptoms - Anxiety, restlessness, insomnia, etc
- # Teratogenic toxicity

## INTERACTION

- + Alcohol → ↑↑ CNS Depression
- + Sod Valproate → Psychotic Action
- + Metabolic Inhibitors (ketoconazole, etc) → ↓ Metabolism of BZDs



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