

Pharmacological treatment of psychosis and depression

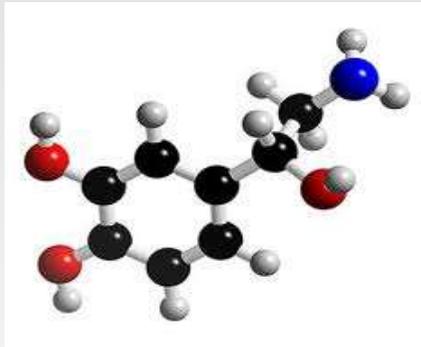
Timár Júlia

PPKE, Molekuláris Bionika BSC
Farmakológai Kurzus

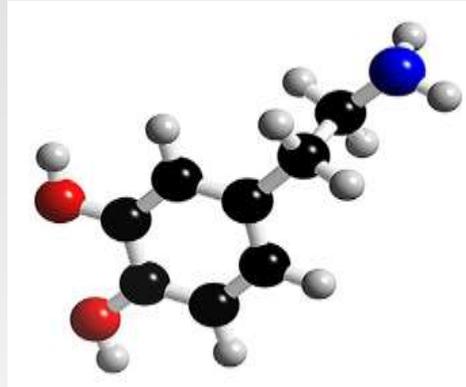
2019. 11. 08

NEUROTRANSMITTERS in the central nervous system I

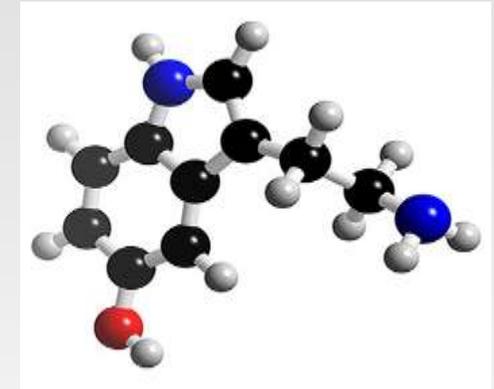
Monoamines



noradrenalin/adrenalin



dopamine

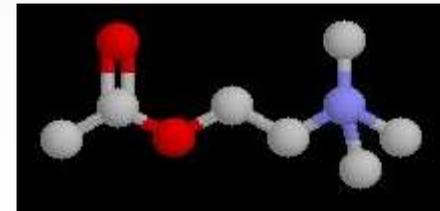


serotonin



histamine

Acetylcholine



NEUROTRANSMITTERS in the central nervous system II

Amino acid transmitters

Neutral amino acids
(inhibitory)

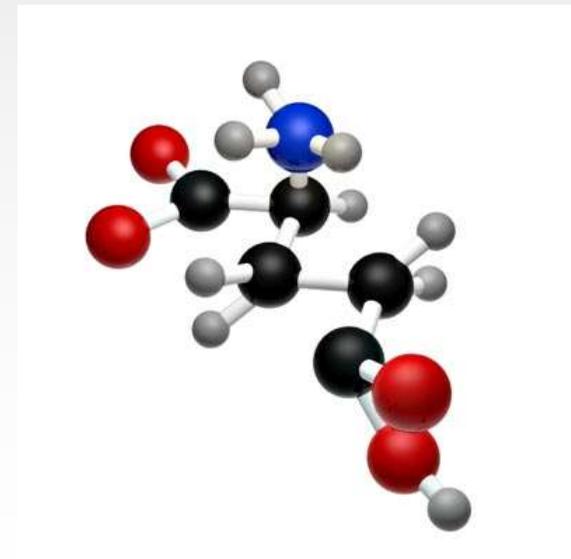
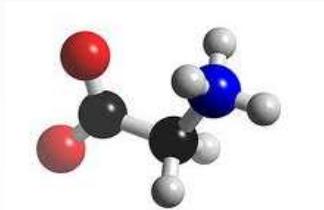
Acidic amino acids
(excitatory)

GABA gamma butyric acid

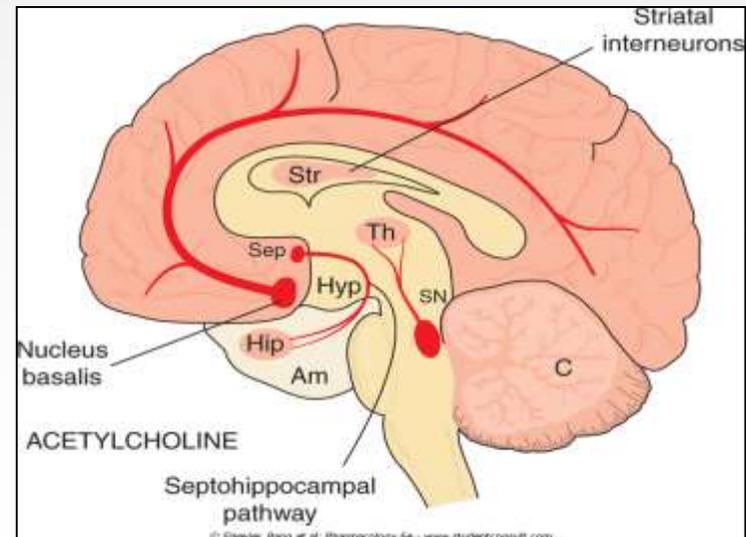
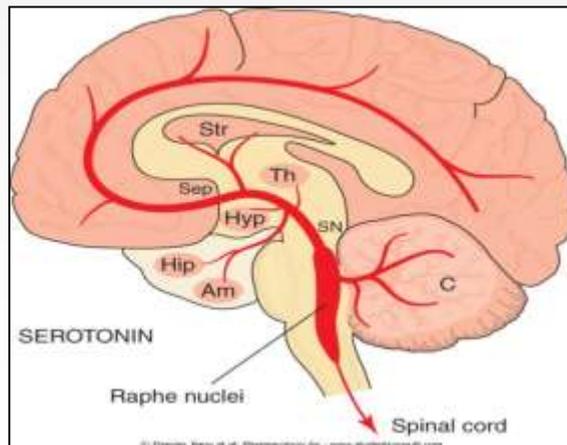
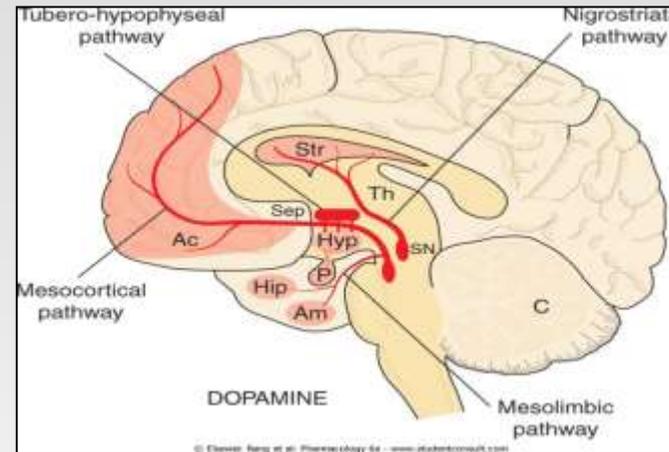
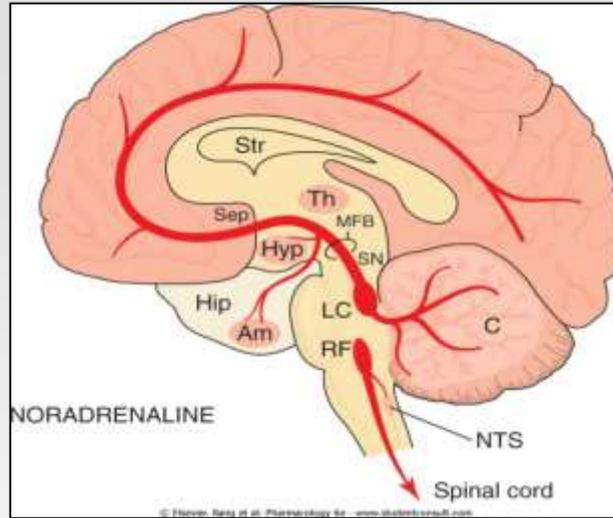
glutamate



glycine

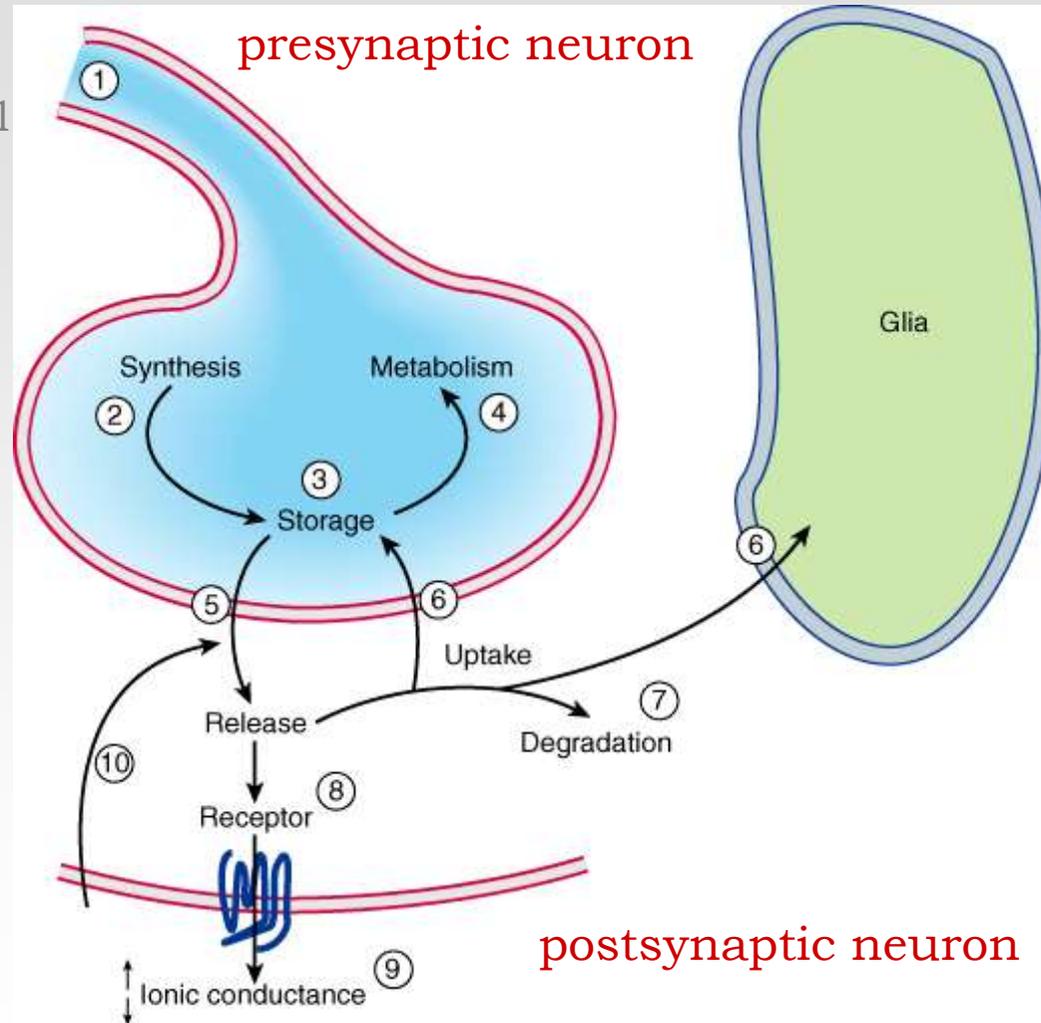


Diffuse neuronal systems



Sites of drug action in the CNS

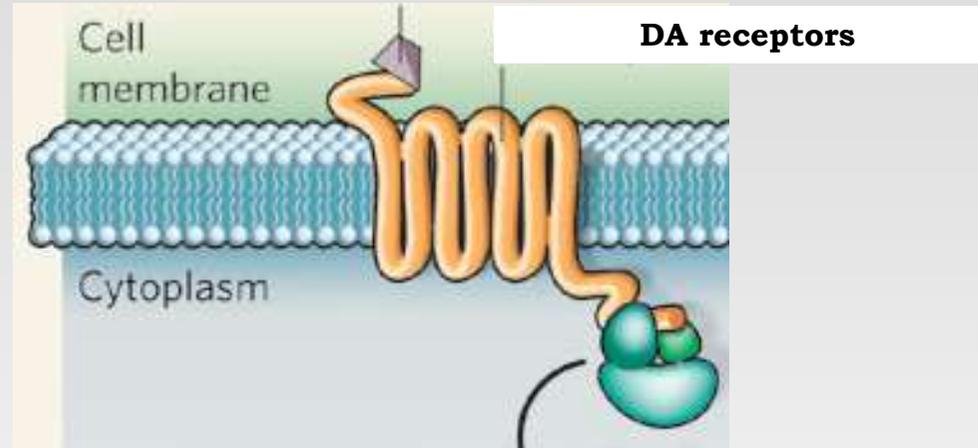
action potential



Source: Katzung BG, Masters SB, Trevor AJ: *Basic & Clinical Pharmacology*, 11th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

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DOPAMINE RECEPTORS



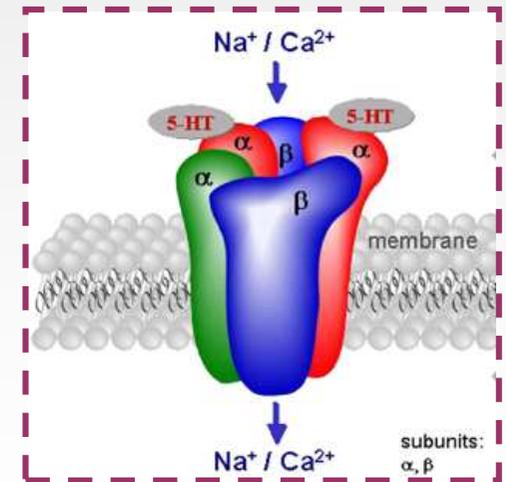
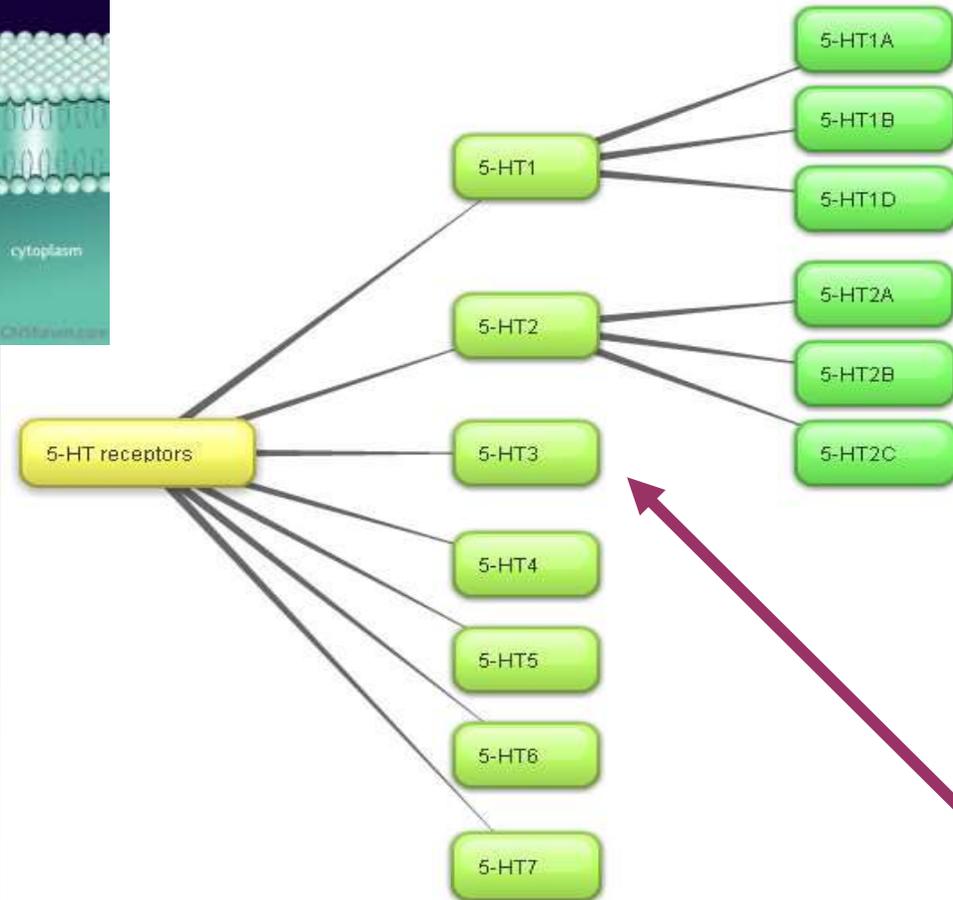
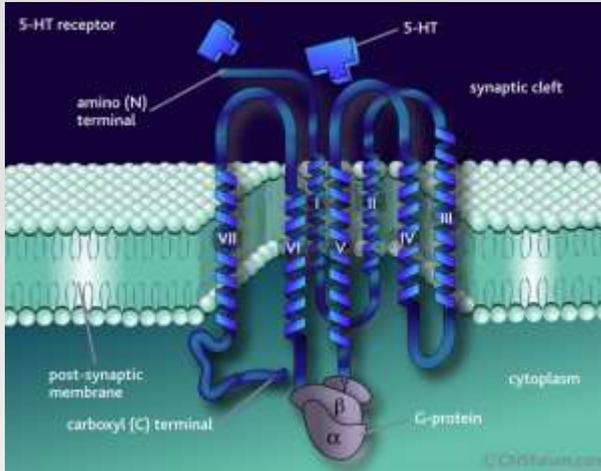
D_1 receptor family – D_1, D_5 – G_s -coupled - cAMP \uparrow

localization - postsynaptic

D_2 receptor család – D_2, D_3, D_4 – G_i -coupled - cAMP \downarrow

localization - pre (D_2, D_3) - and postsynaptic

Serotonin receptors



Pharmacological treatment of psychosis

SCHISOPHRENIA

A schizophrenia a neurodevelopmental, genetic disorder with high, but incomplete heritability, with a 1% prevalence. Neurodevelopmental disorder?

Positive symptoms

hallucination (acoustic), delusions (false belief), paranoia (systematized delusions)
agitation, psychomotor excitation
conceptual disorganization,
verbal and physical aggressiveness



Negative symptoms

anhedonia; apathy, social and emotional withdrawal,
reduced capacity

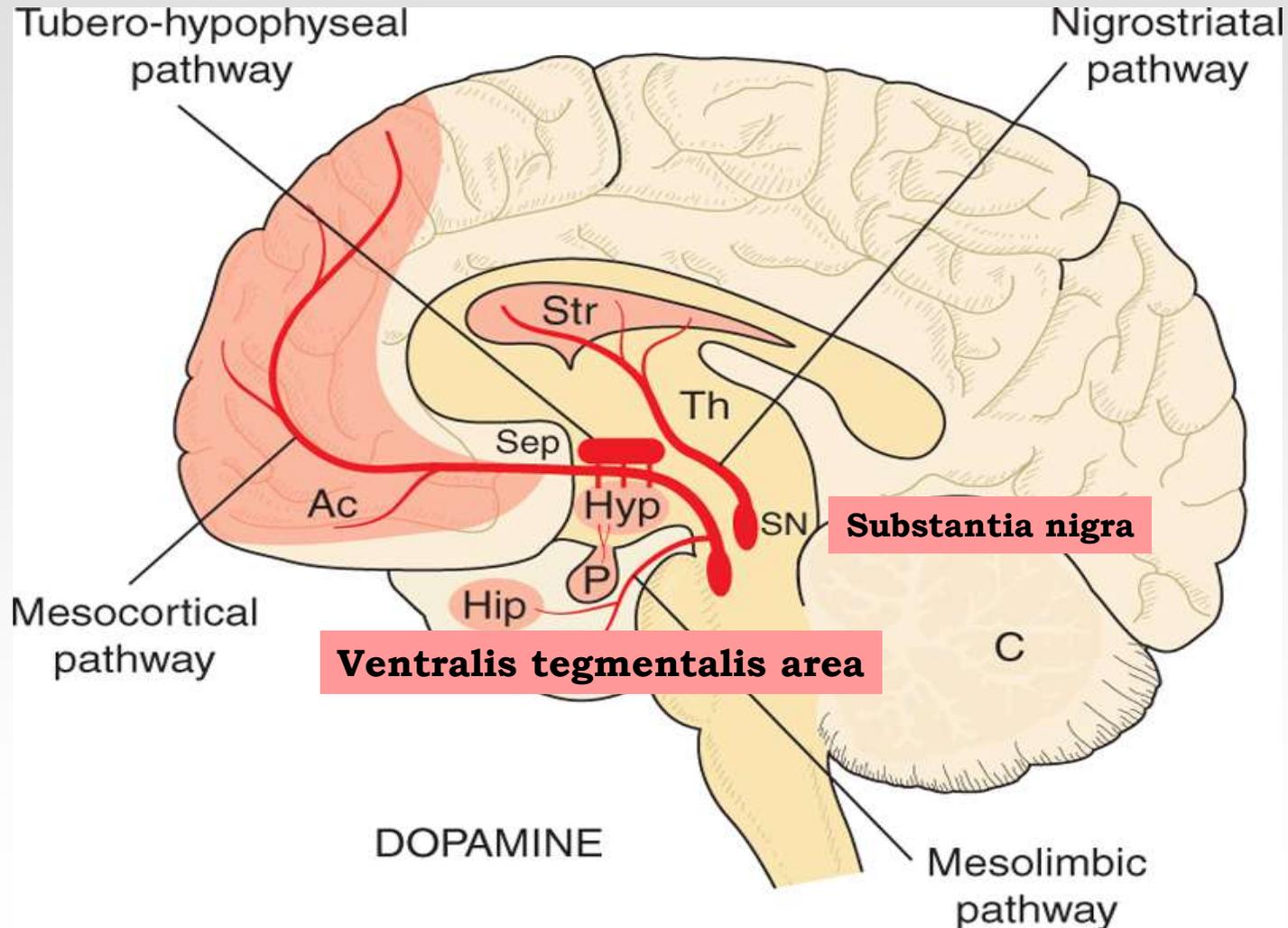


Cognitive deficit

impairment of memory and attention,
reduced ability to abstract,
reduced vigilance

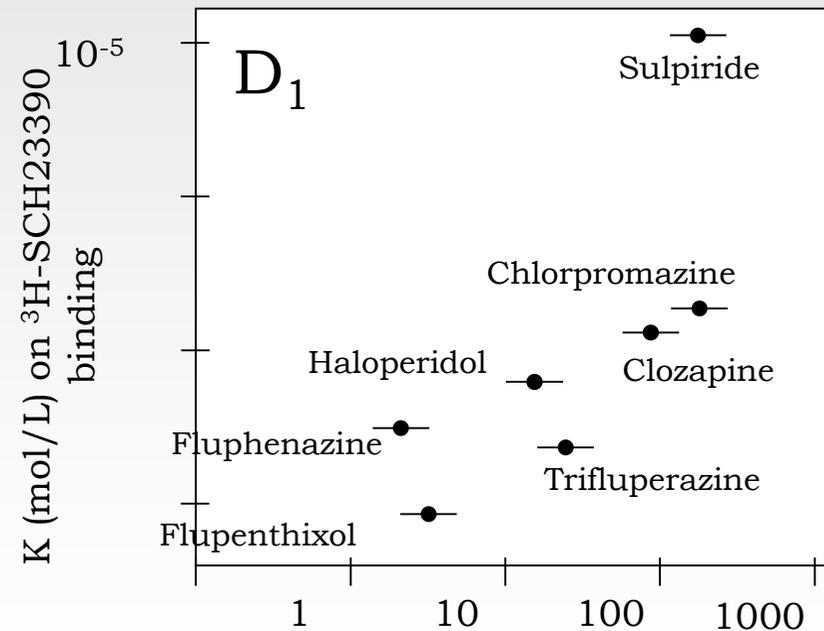
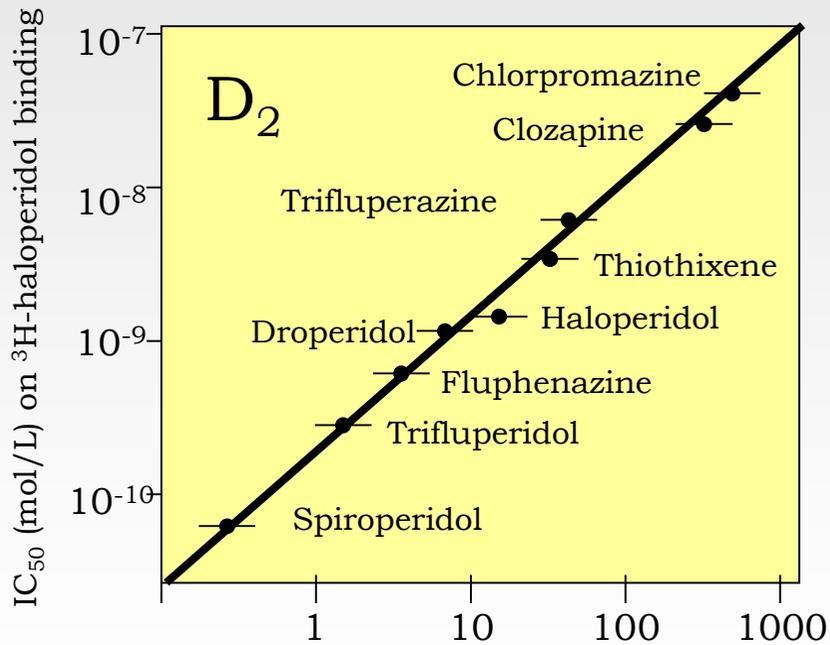
MOLECULAR BACKGROUND of SCHIZOPHRENIA I

DA – „hypothesis”



Arguments for the dopamine hypothesis:

- most (all) of the antipsychotic drugs used until now block postsynaptic D_2 receptor

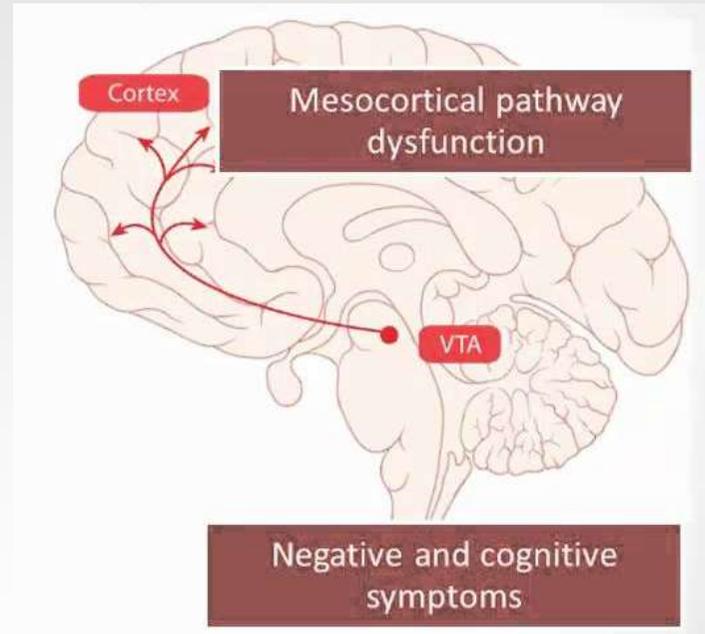
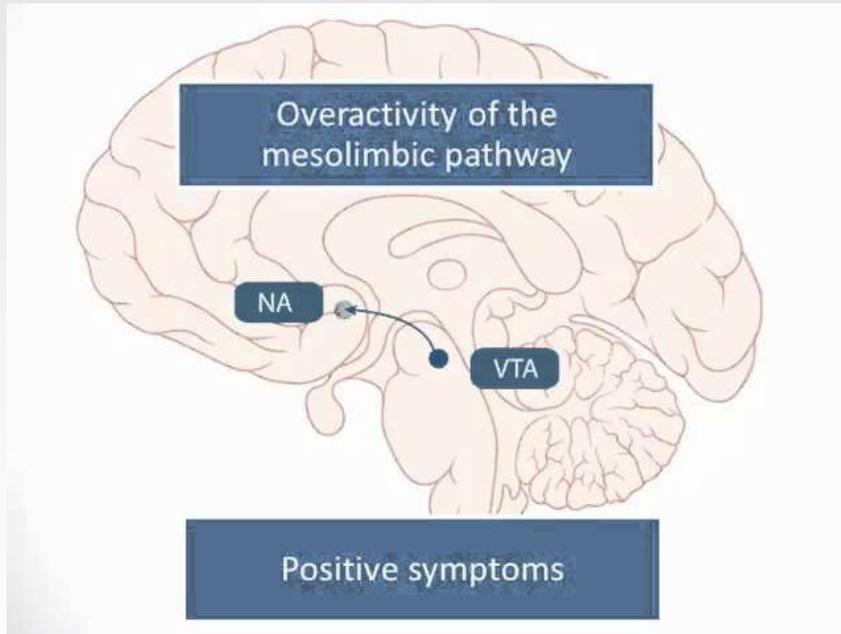


Average clinical dose (mg)

Arguments for the dopamine hypothesis:

- most (all) of the antipsychotic drugs used until now block postsynaptic D₂ receptor
- drugs that increase dopaminergic activity (like amphetamine) aggravate schizophrenia
- density of dopamine receptors has been found to be increased in the brain of schizophrenic patients
- A lot of contraversion in relation to DA hypothesis

Dopamine Pathways Relevant to Schizophrenia Symptoms

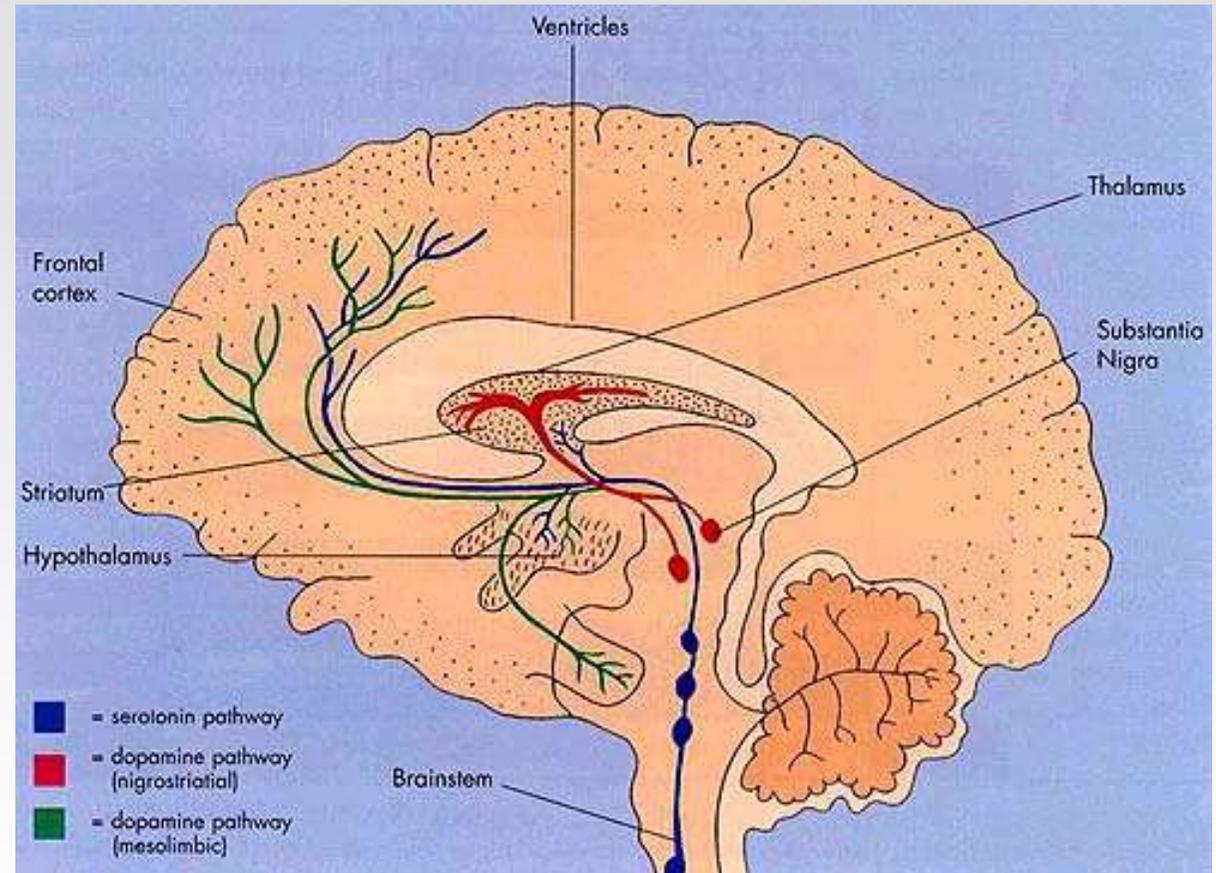


MOLECULAR BACKGROUND of SCHIZOPHRENIA II

„disturbance in regulation” hypothesis

❖ 5-HT system

5-HT-erg fibers starting from the dorsal raphe ending in the striatum, in the limbic system or in the cortex modulate the DA (and also NA, GABA, glutamate, acetylcholine) tone



MOLECULAR BACKGROUND of SCHIZOPHRENIA II

„disturbance in regulation” hypothesis

❖ 5-HT system

Arguments for serotonin hypothesis

- Hallucinogenic abused drugs (eg. LSD) acting via the system may provoke psychotic symptoms
- Majority of the new (2. generation) drugs are inverse agonists on the 5-HT₂ (mainly 5-HT_{2A} and 5-HT_{2C}) receptors

MOLECULAR BACKGROUND of SCHIZOPHRENIA III

„disturbance in regulation” hypothesis

❖ Glutamate system

Glutamate system

Ionotrop receptors

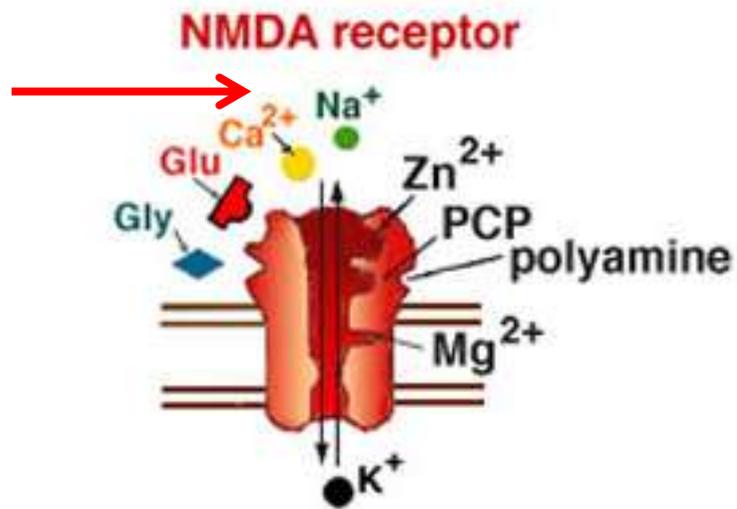


Fig. 6b. NMDA receptors are structurally complex, with separate binding sites for glutamate, glycine, Mg^{2+} , Zn^{2+} and polyamines. NMDA-gated channels are more permeable to Ca^{2+} than Na^+ ions (from Kandel et al., 1991).

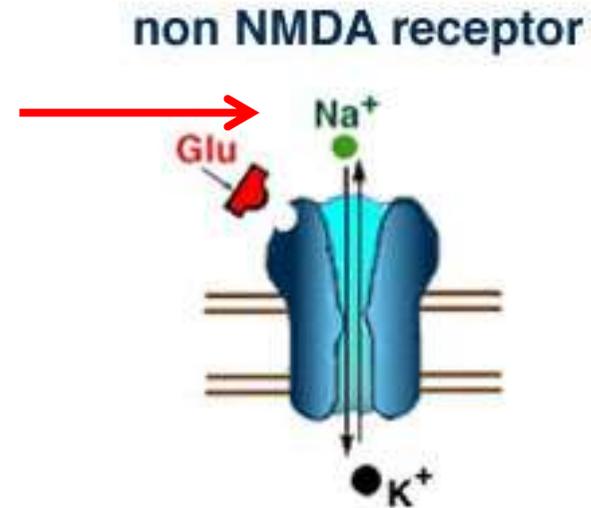
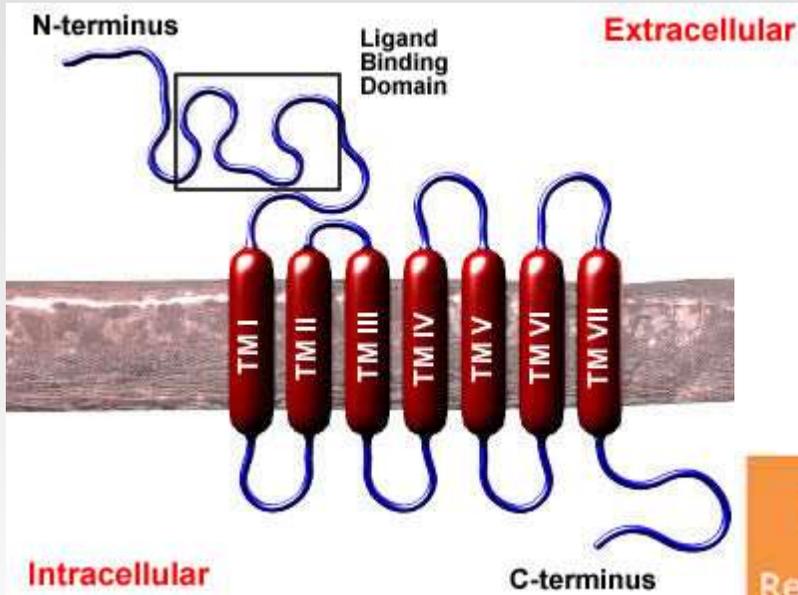


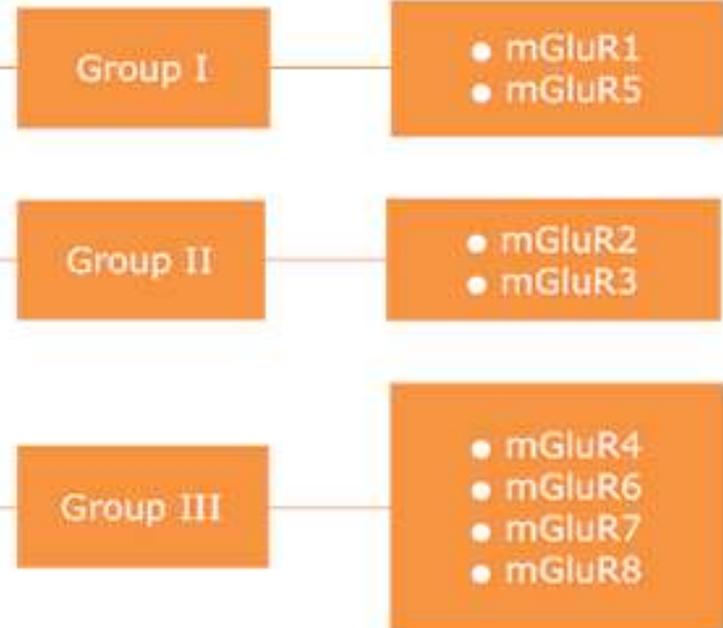
Fig. 6a. Non-NMDA receptors are selectively agonized by kainate, AMPA and quisqualate. The associated ion channels are more permeable to Na^+ and K^+ ions than Ca^{2+} (from Kandel et al., 1991).

Glutamate system

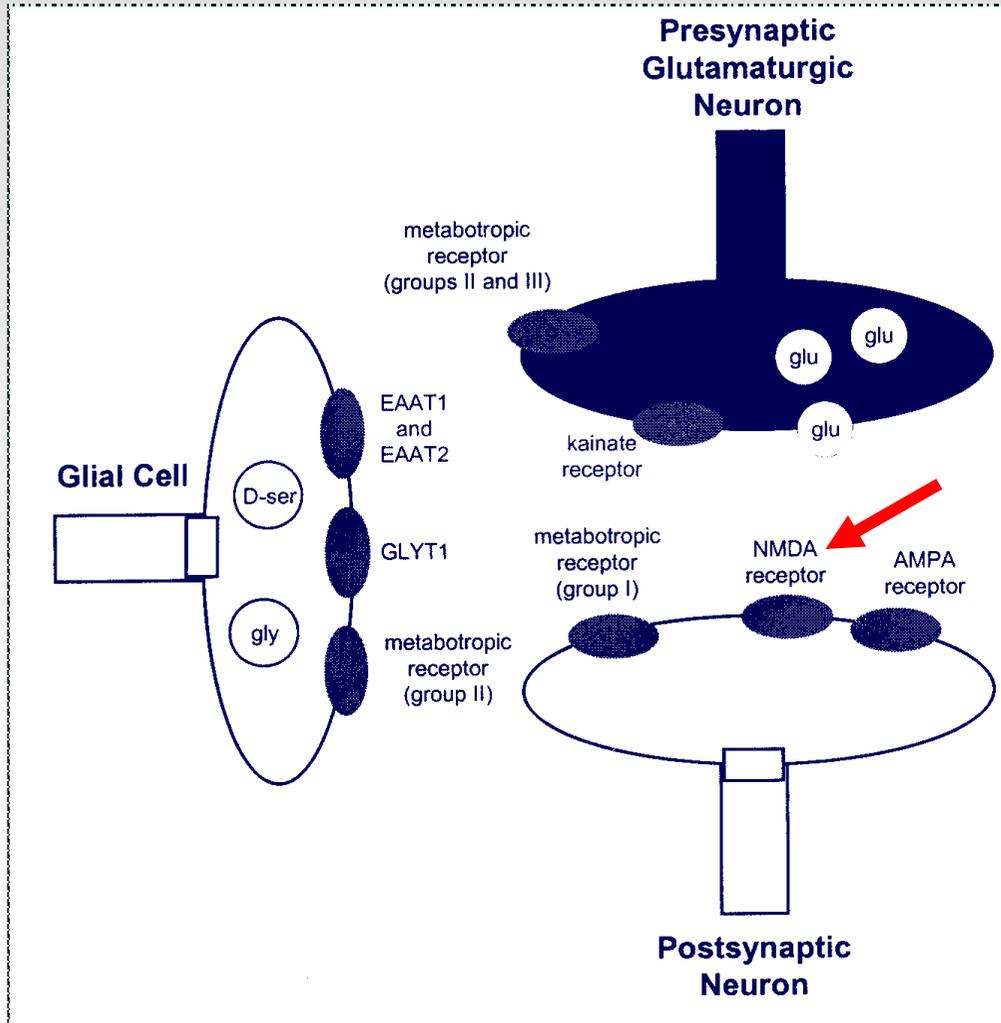
Metabotropic glutamate receptors



Metabotropic
Glutamate
Receptors (mGluR)



Glutamate system



**NMDA
hipofunction**

MOLECULAR BACKGROUND of SCHIZOPHRENIA III

„disturbance in regulation” hypothesis

❖ Glutamate system

Arguments for the glutamate hypothesis

- The NMDA antagonist PCP may provoke psychotic symptoms
- 3. generation pharmacocons ?

Glutamate system's role in the cognitive deficit ?

CLASSIFICATION

FROM CLINICAL POINT OF VIEW

1st generation (typical, traditional)
antipsychotics / neuroleptics

2nd generation (atypical, new)
antipsychotics

1st GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS

EPS (extrapyramidal symptoms)

Early symptoms

acute dystonia, acathisia (uncontrollable restlessness),
Parkinson's syndrome

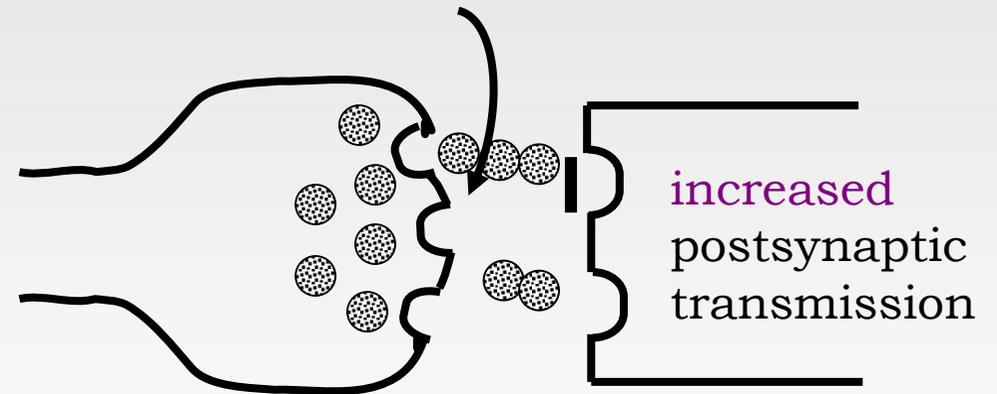
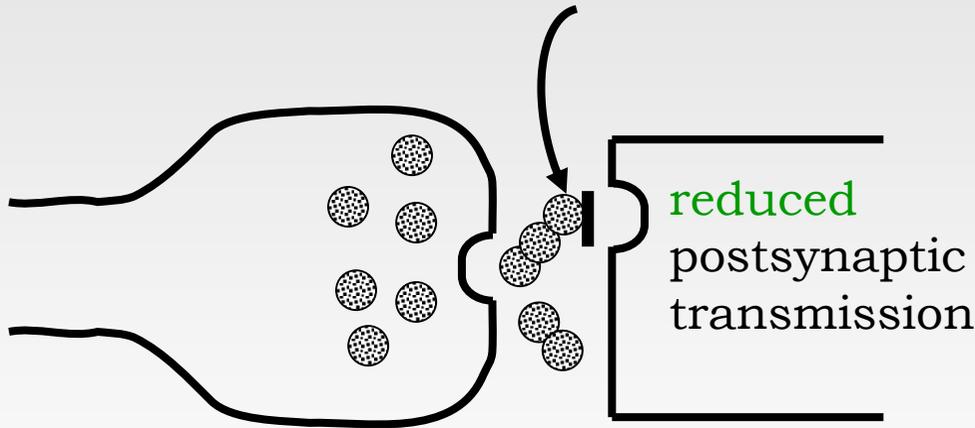
Late symptoms

perioral tremor, responds to anticholinergic drugs
tardive dyskinesia

EXTRAPYRAMIDAL SYMPTOMS (EPS)

parkinsonian symptoms

tardive dyskinesia
(decrease of parkinsonian syndrome)



blockade of DA receptor

Supersensitivity ?

withdrawal of antipsychotic

alleviates

exacerbates

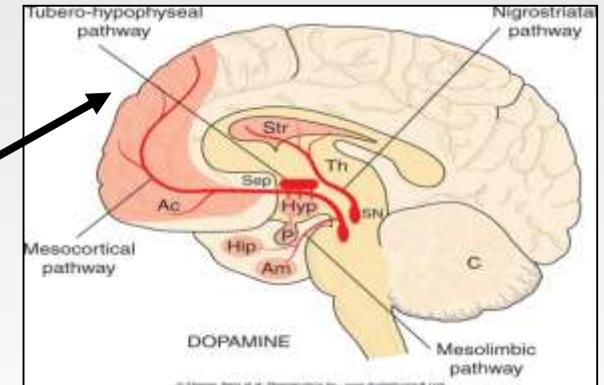
2nd GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS



clinical definition

➤ smaller risk (or lack) of EPS symptoms

➤ smaller effect on the prolactin level



➤ better action against the negative symptoms

➤ action in the non-responders

clozapine

1st GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS

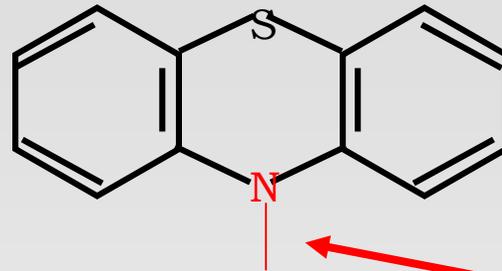
Phenothiazines

Aliphatic side chain

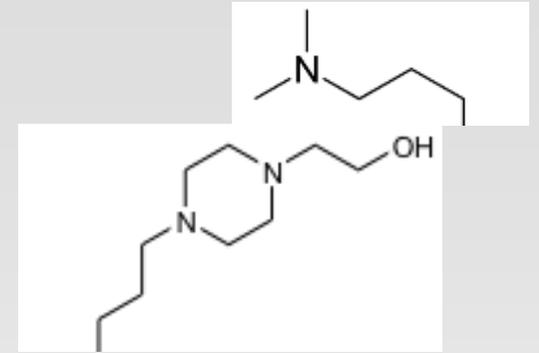
Chlorpromazine

Piperazine side chain

Fluphenazine



Substituting C for N in the nucleus



Aliphatic (dimethylamine) derivatives - H_1 , α_1 and M receptor inhibition

CLINICAL CONSEQUENCES of the PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS

H₁ antagonism

sedation, dizziness, confusion,
weight gain

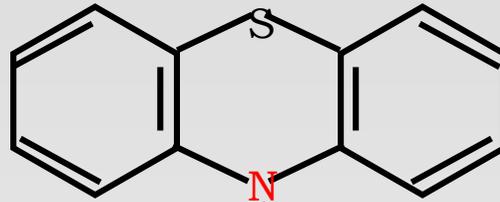
α₁ blockade

dizziness, hypotension, reflex
tachycardia

anticholinergic
effects

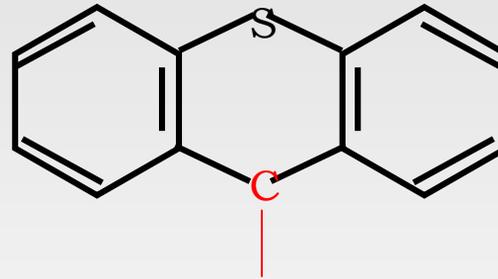
peripheral parasympatholytic symptoms
(dry mouth, constipation, urinary hesitation)
delirium
memory impairment

1st GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS



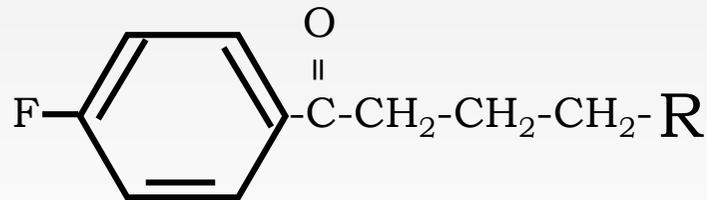
Thioxanthenes

Thiothixene, Flupenthixol
Zuclopenthixol



Butyrophenones

Haloperidol
Droperidol



Droperidol is used mainly as antiemetic iv. (QT-time prolongation)

2nd GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS

- Mixed antagonists (D_2 antagonist / 5-HT_{2A/(C)} inverse agonist)

partial agonists

D_2 partial agonist, 5-HT₂ antagonist

D_3 / D_2 partial agonist

- Selective antagonists

D_2 / D_3 antagonists

2nd GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS I

Mixed ($DA_2/5-HT_{2A/C}$) antagonists

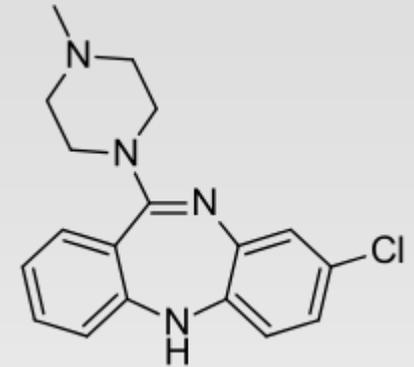
Tricyclic compounds (dibenzepines)

Clozapine - weak D_2 - stronger D_4 affinity

Olanzapine - good affinity to $D_2/5-HT_{2AC}$ receptors

Quetiapine - good affinity to $D_2/5-HT_{2AC}$ receptors

H_1 , α_1 and M receptor blockade

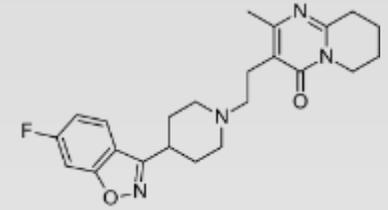


clozapine

2nd GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS II

Mixed (DA₂/5-HT_{2A}) antagonists

Other heterocyclic compounds



risperidone

Risperidone – good affinity to 5-HT₂ and D₂ receptors

Paliperidone – 9-OH-risperidone metabolit

Ziprasidone – relatively higher affinity to 5-HT₂ than D₂ receptors

Iloperidone

Lurasidone – new, D₂, 5-HT₂ and ₇ antagonist

(Sertindole) – (rarely used because of cardiotoxicity)

Smaller anticholinergic effect

risperidone, paliperidone – marked, ziprasidone, lurasidone, iloperidone **smaller H₁ binding**

risperidone, paliperidone, iloperidone – marked, lurasidone **smaller α₁ binding**

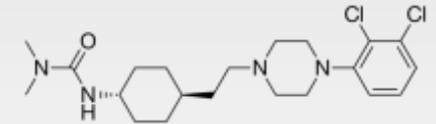
ziprasidone, paliperidone, lurasidone – **binds to the 5-HT_{1A} receptors**
(partial agonists?)

2nd GENERATION ANTIPSYCHOTICS II

Partial agonists on DA receptor

Dichlorophenylpiperazines

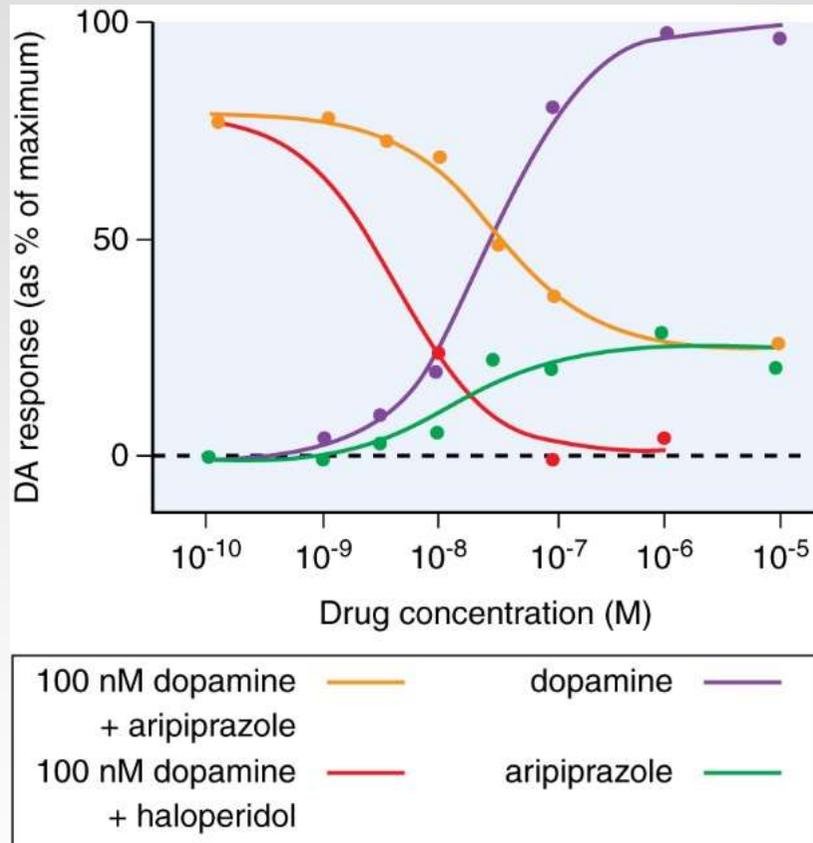
Aripiprazole - D₂ partial agonist, 5-HT_{2A} antagonist, 5-HT_{2c} and 5-HT_{1A} partial agonist



Cariprazine - D₃/D₂ partial agonist –with higher affinity to D₃
5-HT_{1A} partial agonist

Both compounds can be characterized with lower anticholinergic effect, medium strong H₁ and lower α₁ binding

Effect of the partial agonist aripiprazole on the D₂ receptor in presence of DA



Aripiprazole may act as an antipsychotic by:

- Lowering dopaminergic neurotransmission in the mesolimbic pathway
- Enhancing dopaminergic activity in the mesocortical pathway
- It has a lower risk of EPS and hyperprolactinemia than other antipsychotics.

Receptor activity was measured as inhibition of forskolin-induced cAMP accumulation in CHO cells transfected with human D_{2L} DNA.

(Adapted from Burris et al., 2002.)

2. GENERÁCIÓS ANTIPSZICHOTIKUMOK II

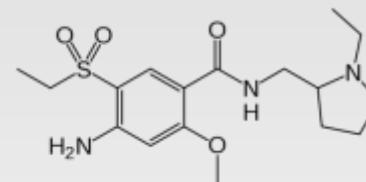
Szelektív D₂/D₃ antagonisták

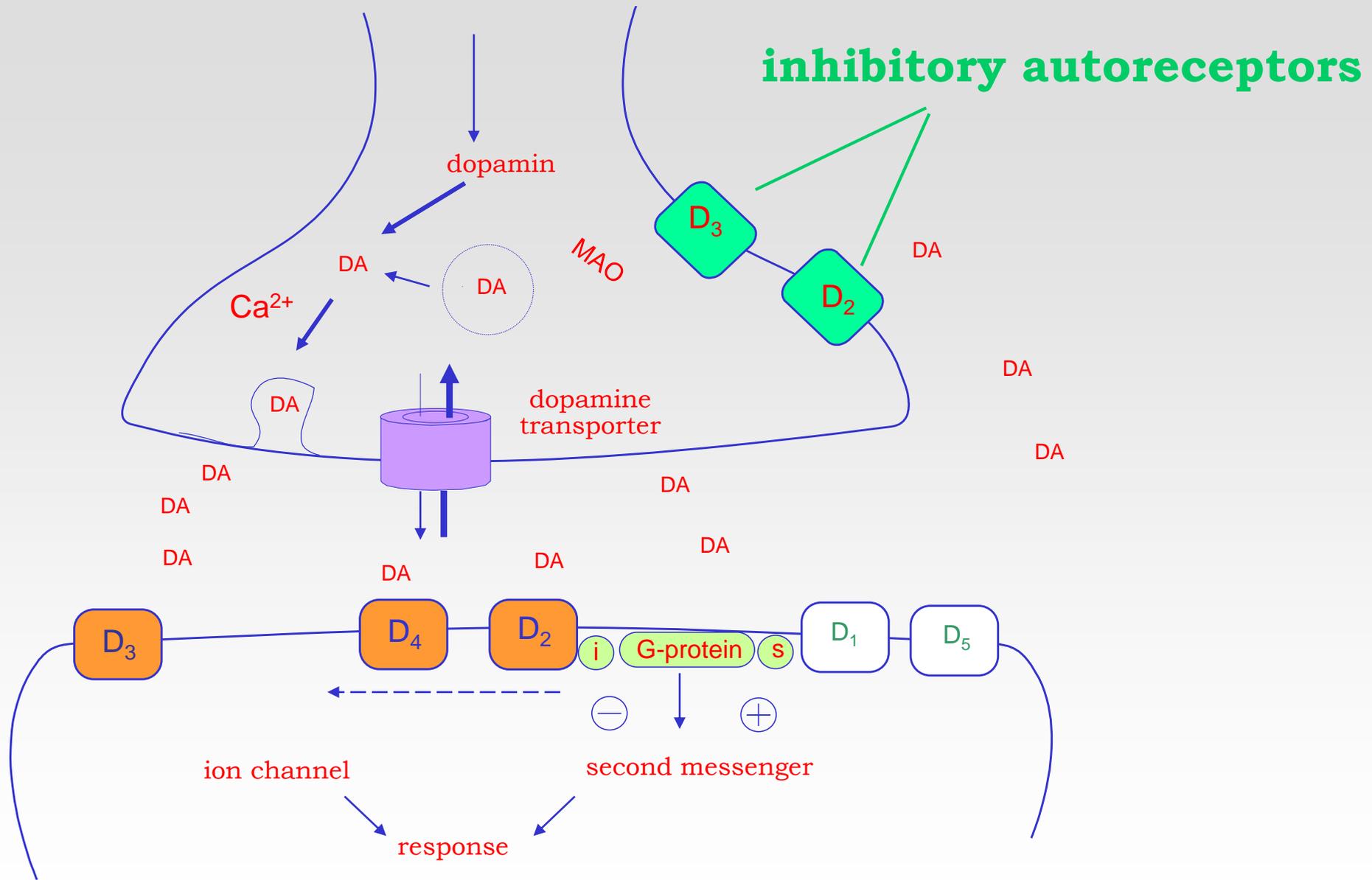
Benzamidok

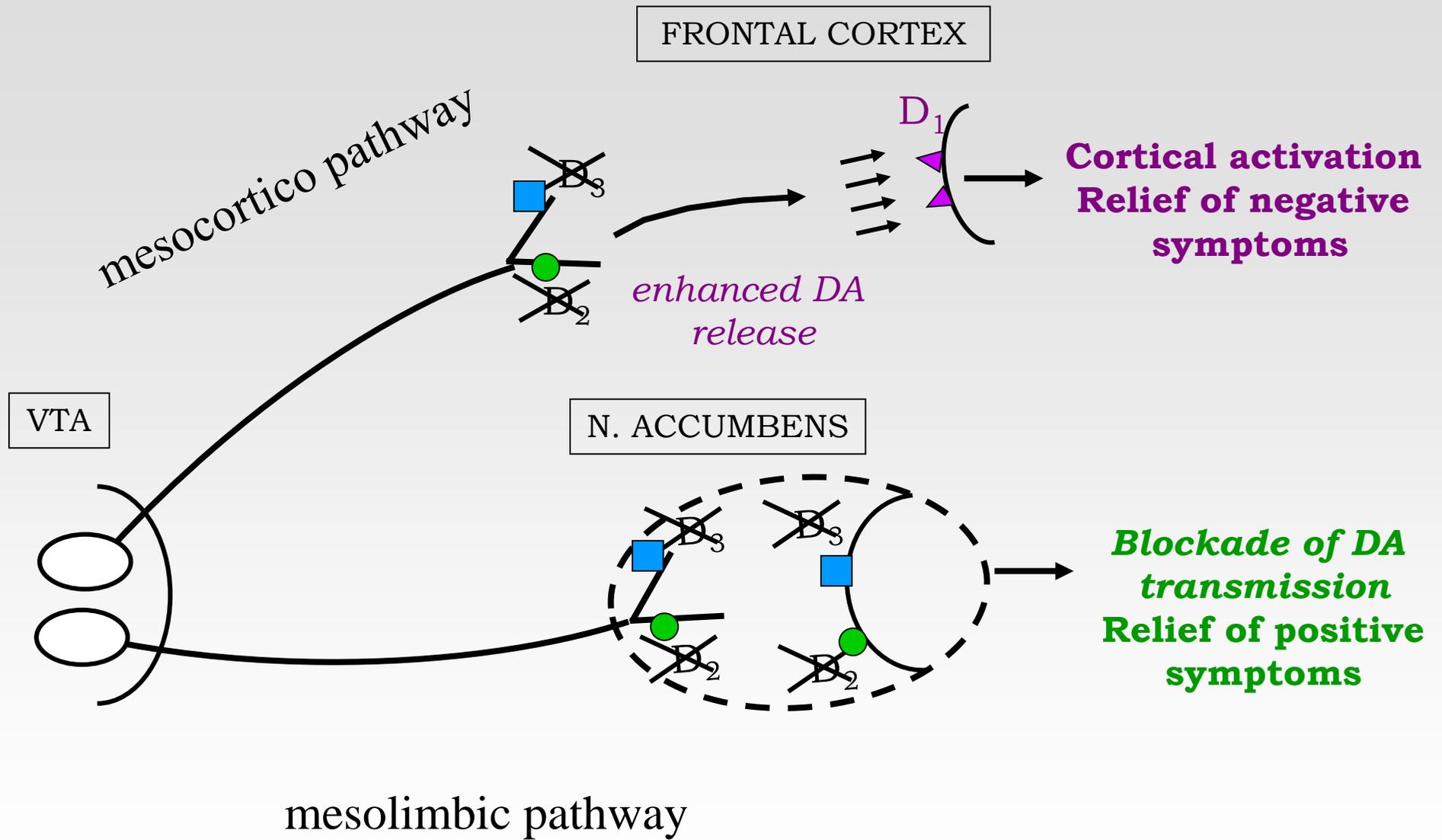
Sulpirid

Tiaprid

Amisulprid







OTHER ADVERSE EFFECTS of 2nd GENERATION APs

➤ *hyperprolactinemia*

amenorrhea-galactorrhea, infertility, impotence

➤ *obesity (H_1 and 5-HT_{2C}) – diabetes, hyperlipidemia, etc.*

Weight gain after 10 weeks treatment



Sussman N. J. Clin Psychiatry, 62, 2001

Role of 5HT_{2C}

Consequences of obesity

➤ **diabetes**

➤ **hypertension**

➤ **heart failure**

➤ **rheumatic diseases**

OTHER ADVERSE EFFECTS

➤ *neuroleptic syndrome*

symptoms: hyperthermia, muscle rigidity, cardiovascular lability, creatine-fosfokinase enhancement, tachikardia, tachipnoé, diaphoresis, leukocitózis, delirium
recovers may last even for 2 weeks

➤ *hypothermia*

CLINICAL INDICATIONS

- *as ANTIPSYCHOTIC*
- manic phase in bipolar affective disorder (some of the 2nd generation even for prophylaxis)

Neuroleptics (1st generation) additional usage

- antiemetic (centrally and on CTZ) – even in terminal states
- control of intractable hiccough
- preoperative treatment (potentiation of the effect of general anesthetics)
- facilitation of induction of surgical hypothermia (chlorpromazine prevents the shivering and induces vasodilation)

Animal models for psychosis

Inhibition of shuttle-box learning

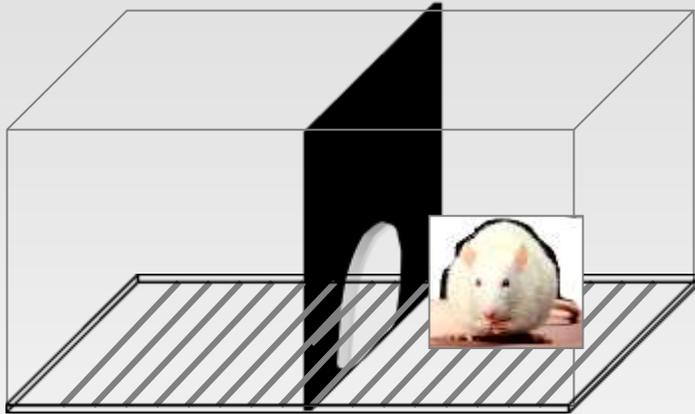


SHUTTLE-BOX

two-way active avoidance test



Trial 1

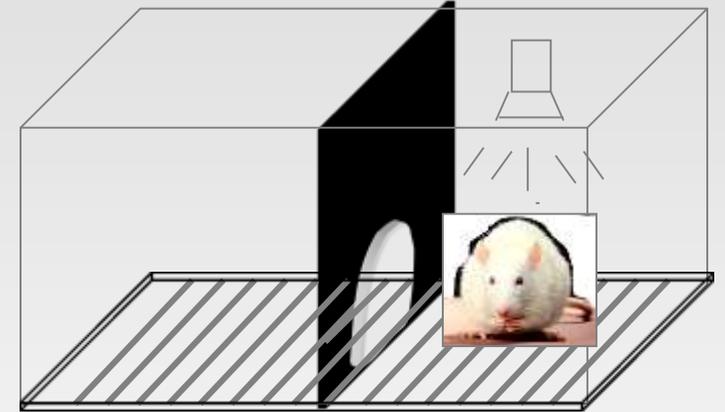
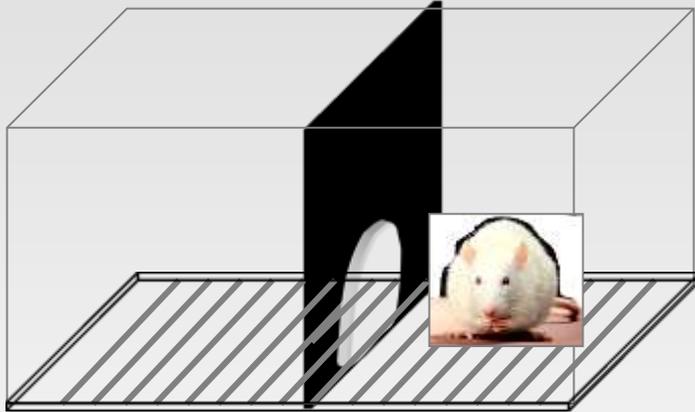


intertrial crossing
IC

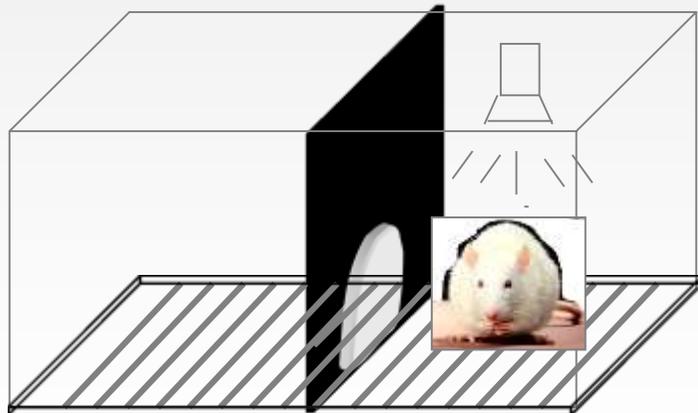
SHUTTLE-BOX

two-way active avoidance test

Trial 1

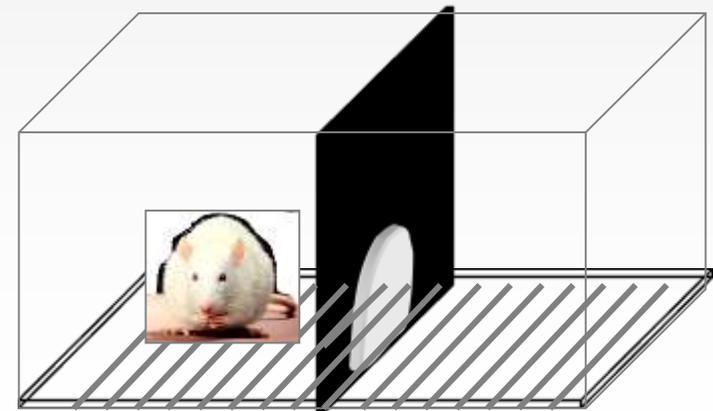


CS 10 sec



CS+US (0.8mA, 5 sec)

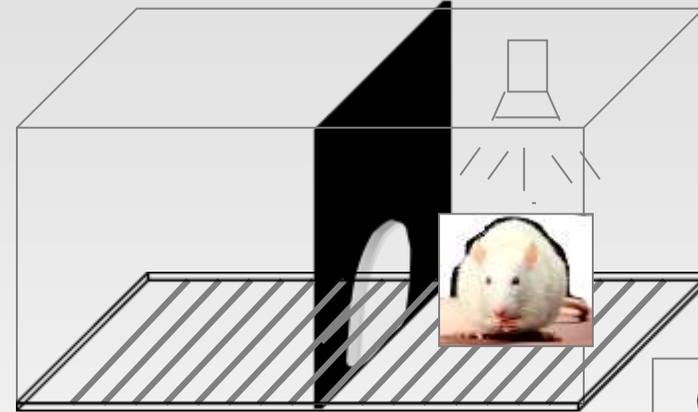
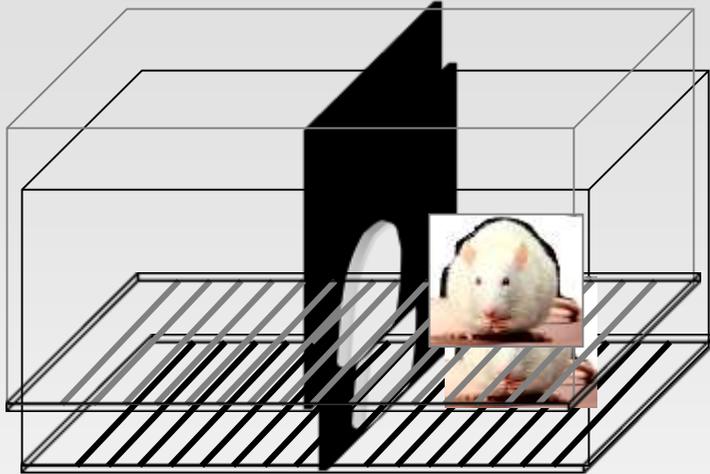
Trial 2



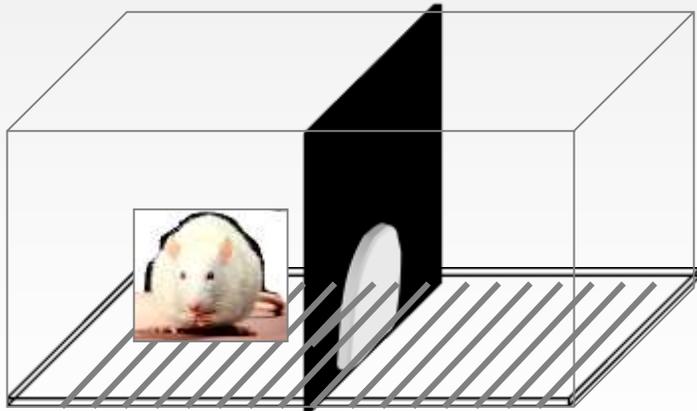
SHUTTLE-BOX

two-way active avoidance test

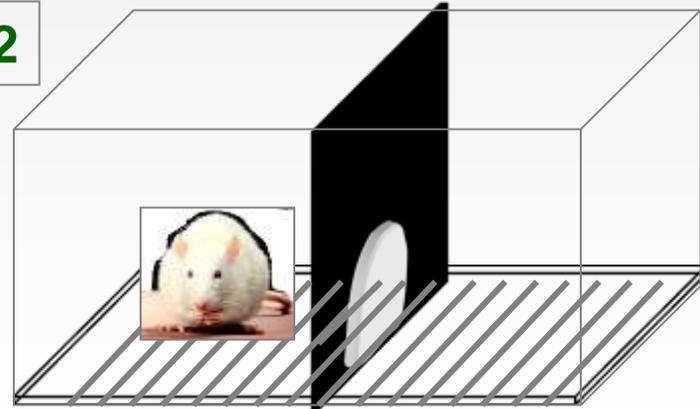
Trial 1



CS 10 sec



Trial 2

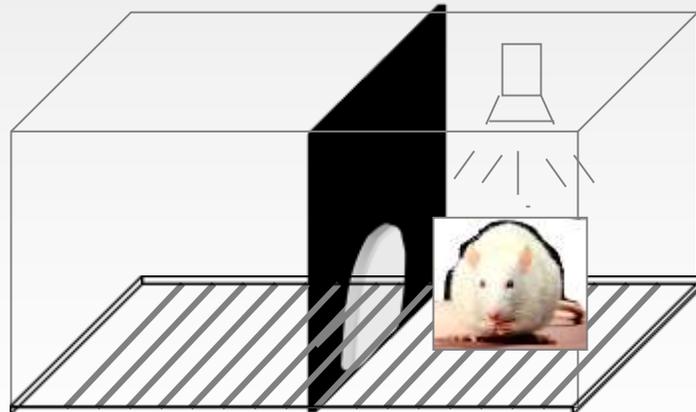
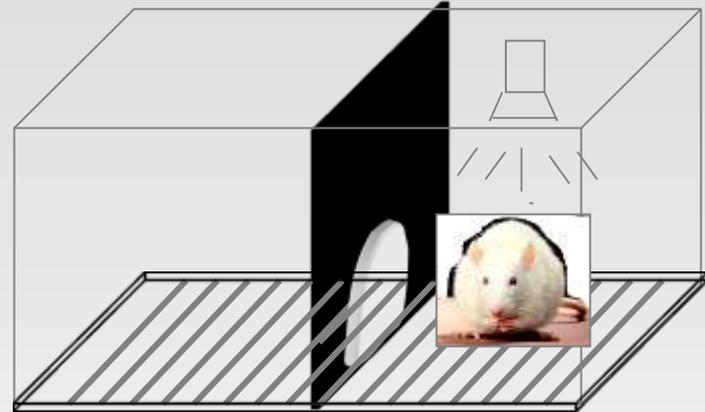
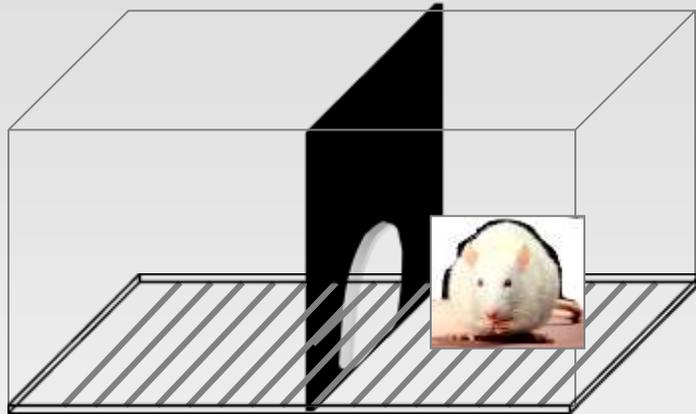


conditioned avoidance response - CAR

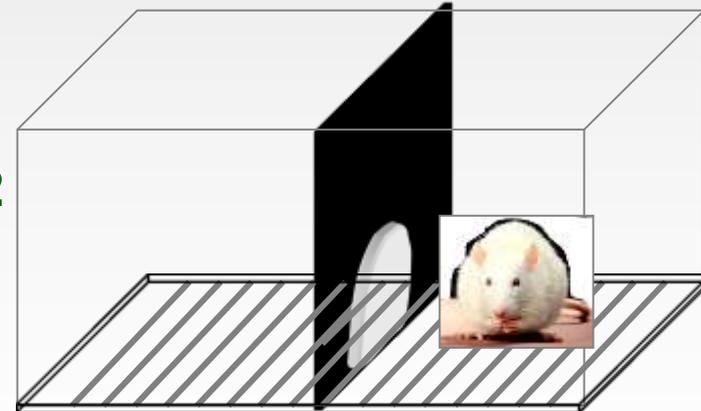
SHUTTLE-BOX

two-way active avoidance test

Trial 1



Trial 2



CS+US (0.8mA, 5 sec)

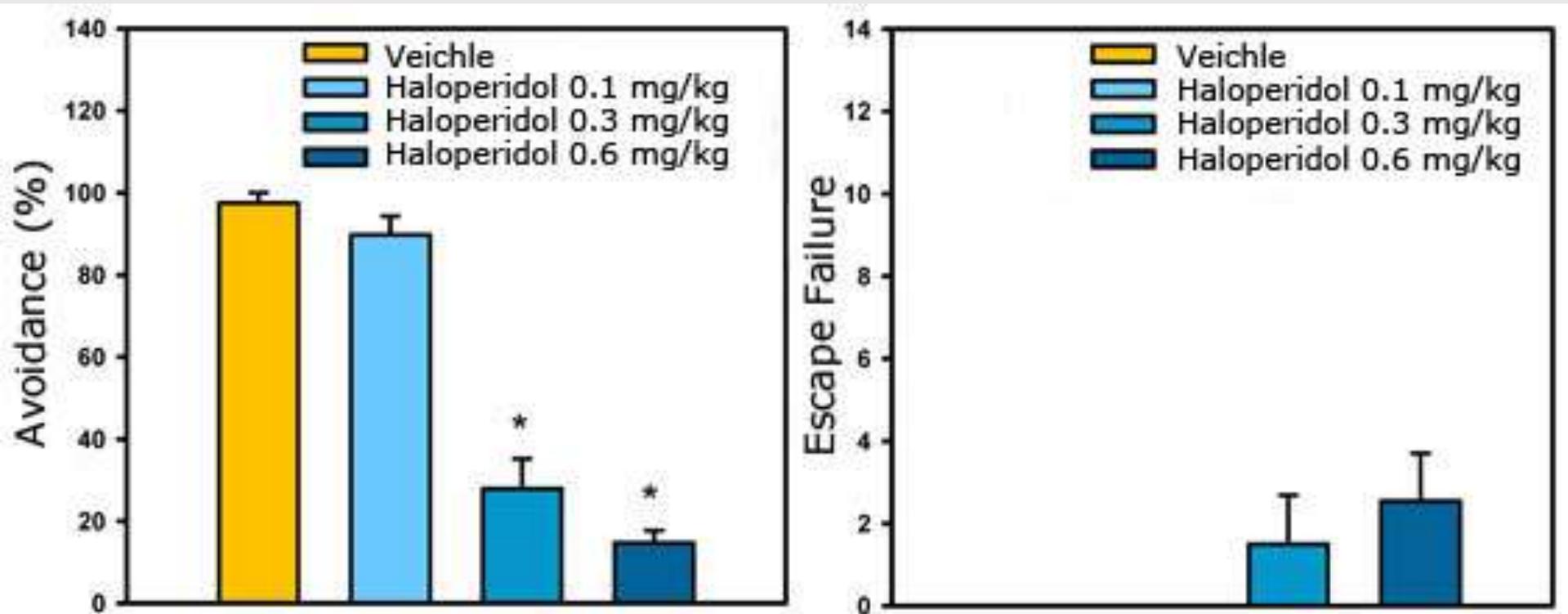
Escape failure – EF

PARAMETERS MEASURED

- ❖ **IC** (intertrial crossing)
crossing recorded during the resting phase
- ❖ **CAR** (conditioned avoidance response)
response to the conditioned stimuli
- ❖ **EF** (escape failure)
no response to the unconditioned stimuli

Models for psychosis I

- Inhibition of the Shuttle-box learning



Models for psychosis II

- Inhibition of the Shuttle-box learning
- Actions on the **DA agonist** (apomorphine, amphetamine) induced behavior

DA-INDUCED STEROTYPED BEHAVIOR

rearing, sniffing



licking, biting



starting time of the observation: immediately after treatment

observation intervals: 10 min

Scores:

0 – rest; 1 - rearing, sometimes sniffing

2 – permanent sniffing; 3 – permanent sniffing,
sometimes kicking/biting

4 – permanent licking/biting

Models for psychosis III

- Inhibition of the Shuttle-box learning
- Actions on the **DA agonist** (apomorphine, amphetamine) induced behavior
- Actions on the **5-HT agonist** (fenfluramine) induced behavior

5-HT SYNDROME

- forepaw treading
- hind limb abduction
- Straub tail



starting time of the observation: 15 min after treatment

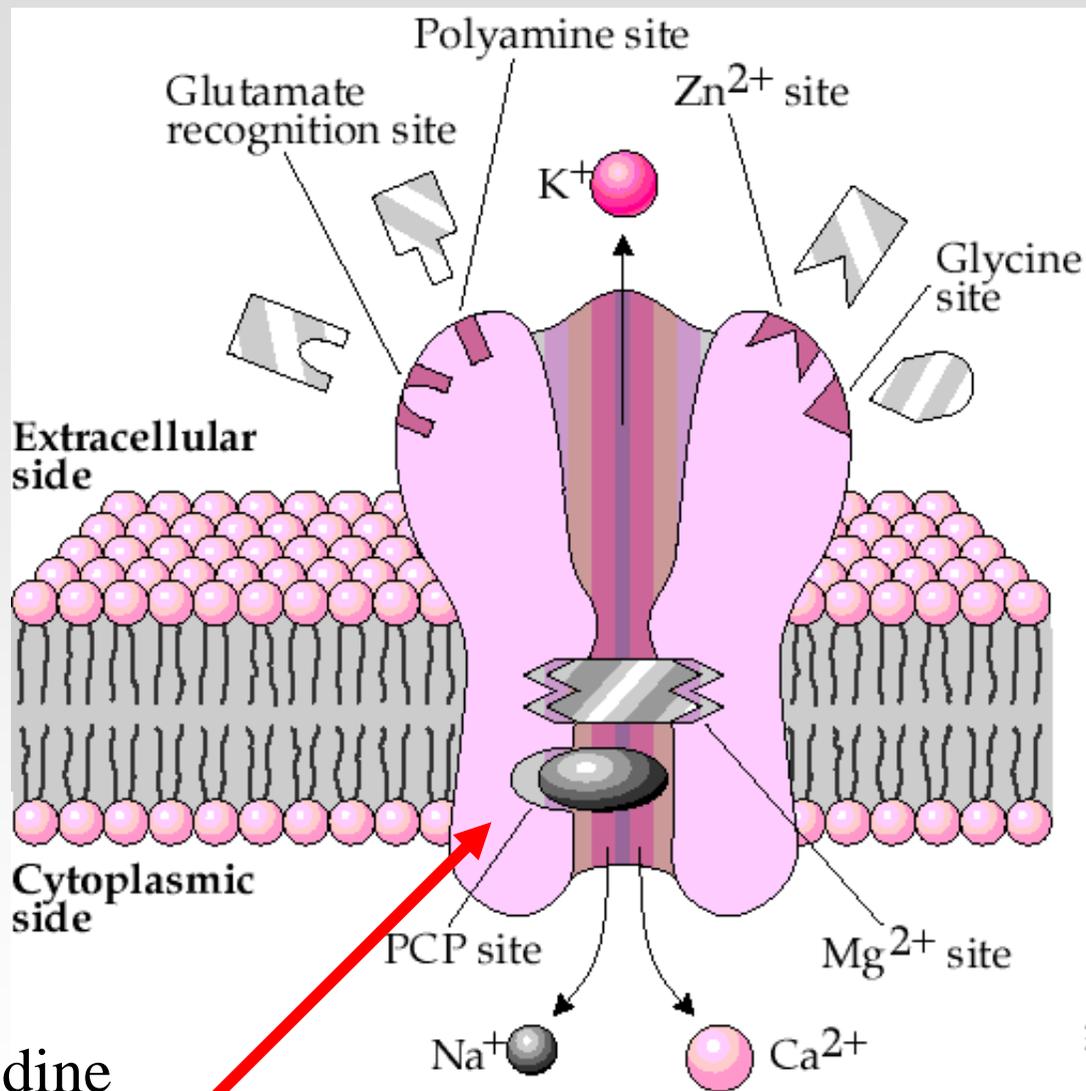
observation intervals: 5 min

Scores: 0-4/observation/parameter

max: 36

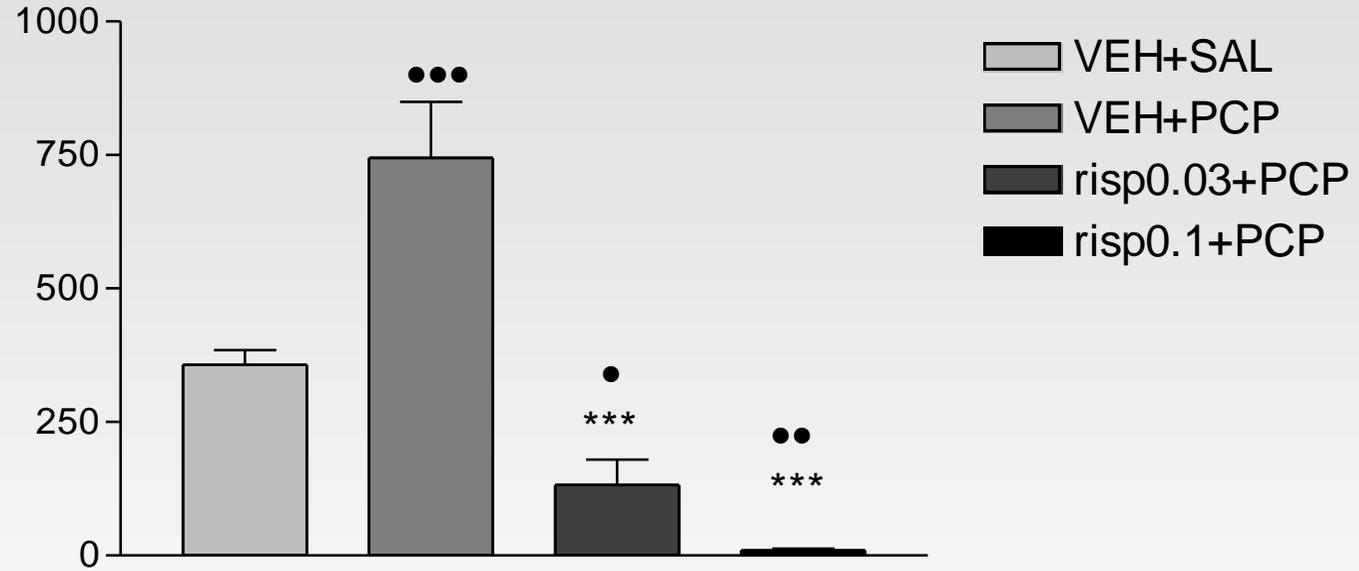
Models for psychosis IV

- Inhibition of the Shuttle-box learning
- Actions on the **DA agonist** (apomorphine, amphetamine) **induced** behavior
- Actions on the **5-HT agonist** (fenfluramine) **induced** behavior
- Actions on the **glutamate antagonist** (phencyclidine) **induced** behavior



PCP - phencyclidine

ENHANCED LOCOMOTOR ACTIVITY



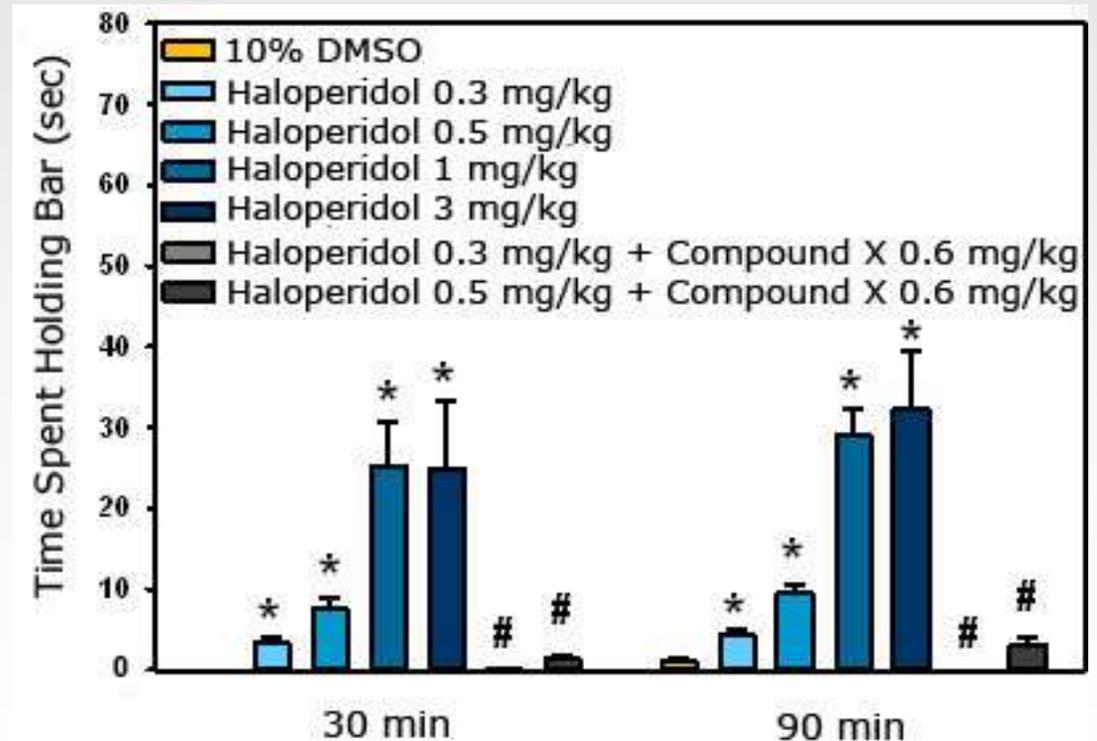
One way ANOVA ($F(3,32)=28,04$ *** $p<0.001$)

NK post hoc *** $p<0.001$ versus PCP

• $p<0.05$; •• $p<0.01$; ••• $p<0.001$ versus VEH

Models for psychosis V

Catalepsy - a state of behavioral immobility characterized by muscle rigidity and failure to correct an externally imposed posture for a prolonged period of time, **providing a measure of the extrapyramidal side-effects of antipsychotics**



Pharmacological treatment of depression

AFFECTIVE DISORDERS

(mood disorders)

- **depression (unipolar depression,
major depression)**
- **bipolar disorder**
- **anxiety disorder**

MOOD VARIATIONS

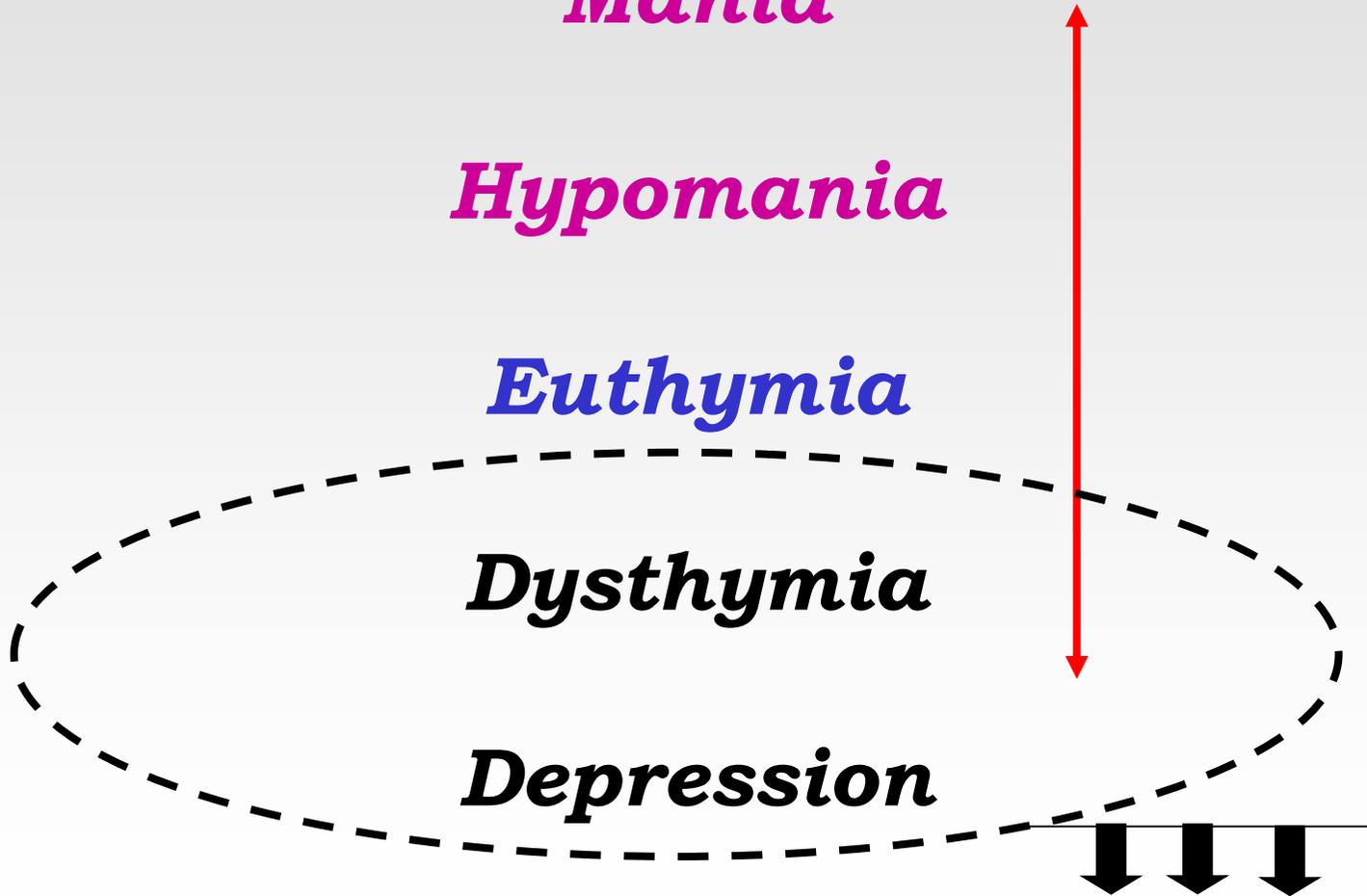
Mania

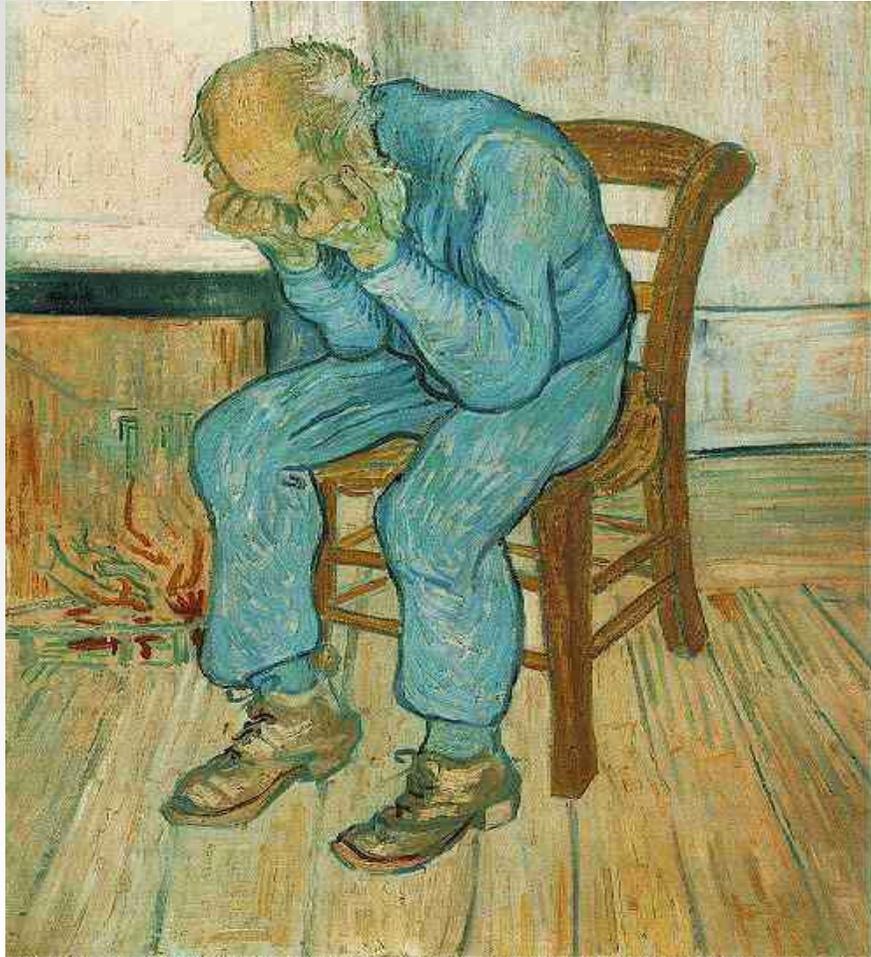
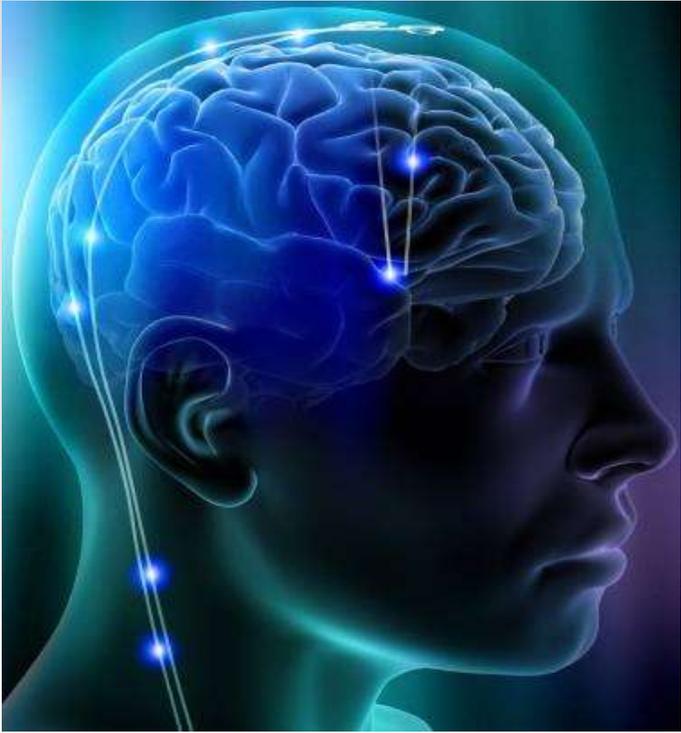
Hypomania

Euthymia

Dysthymia

Depression





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have
hips.

Stark

van Gogh 1890

SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION

- **Low mood**
- **Marked decrease in interest**
- **Marked lack of feeling joy**
- **Significant changes in the body weight
(loosing or gaining weight)**
- **Insomnia or sleepiness**
- **Psychomotor agitation or retardation**
- **Fatigue**
- **Feeling of worthlessness or exaggerated
consciousness of guilt**
- **Decrease of ability to concentrate**
- **Returning thoughts in relation to death and suicide**



Depression



➤ **major depression – MDD**

genetic back ground ?

MDD prevents a person from functioning normally, it interferes with a person's ability to work, sleep, study, eat, enjoy once-pleasurable activities

➤ **dysthymia** - characterized by long-term (2 years or longer) symptoms that may not be severe enough to disable a person but can prevent normal functioning or feeling well.

➤ **minor depression** - symptoms for 2 weeks or longer that do not meet full criteria for MDD. Without treatment, people are at high risk for developing MDD

Psychotic depression, postpartum depression, seasonal affective disorder (SAD)

AFFECTIVE DISORDERS

(mood disorders)

➤ **depression (unipolar depression,
major depression)**

➤ **bipolar disorder**

➤ **anxiety disorder**

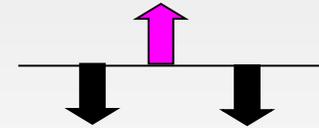
MOOD VARIATIONS



Euthymia

Dysthymia

Depression



depressive and manic phases may alternate

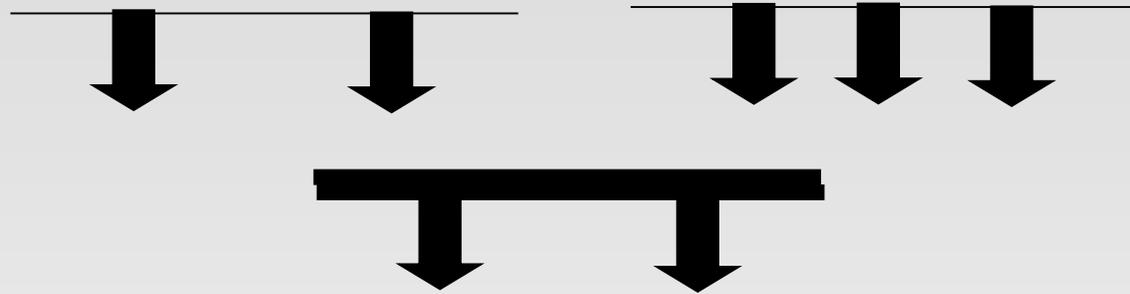
SYMPTOMS OF MANIC EPISODES

- Increased activity, energy or agitation.
- Unusual talkativeness, Racing thoughts
- Decreased need for sleep
- Marked restlessness, impulsivity
- Exaggerated sense of well-being and self-confidence (euphoria)
- Hazardous, sometimes deleterious behavior

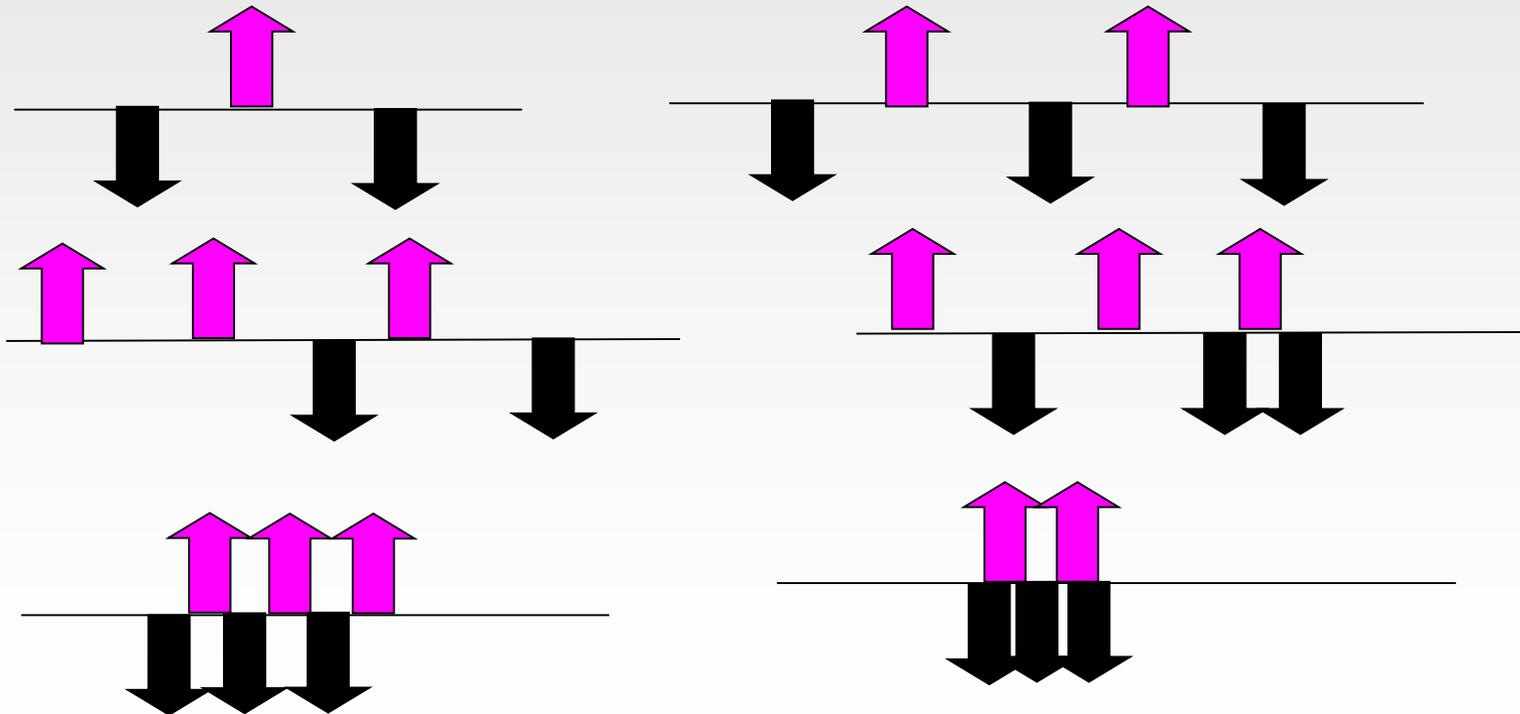


Both include subtypes and variations in severity

Depression



Bipolar disorder



AFFECTIVE DISORDERS

(mood disorders)

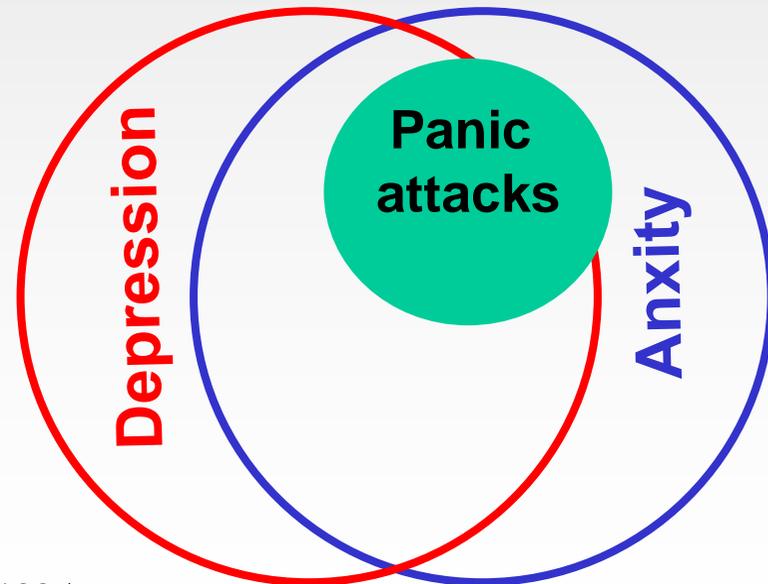
- **depression (unipolar depression,
major depression)**
- **bipolar disorder**
- **anxiety disorder**

Anxiety disorders

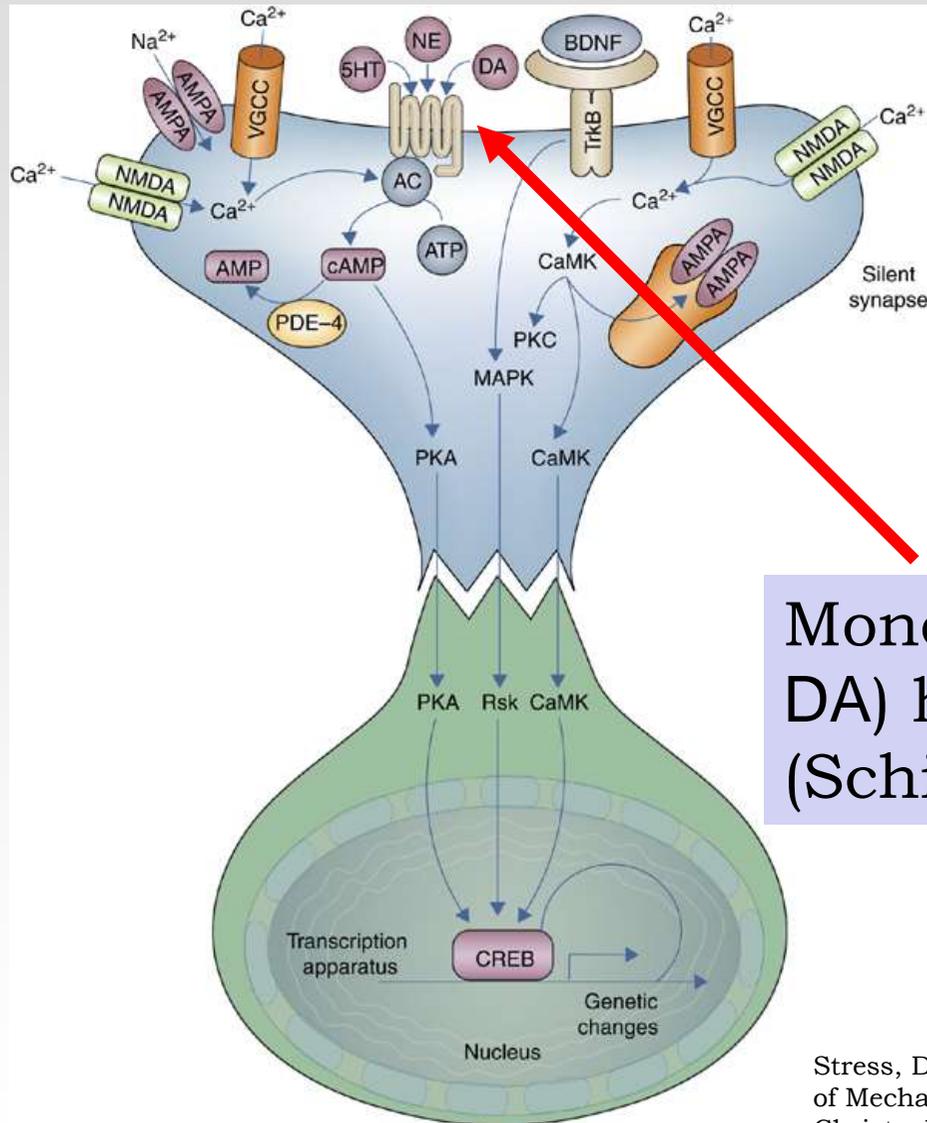
- **Panic disorder** (dyspnoe, palpitation, tremor, sweating, nausea - gastrointestinal discomfort, depersonalizations, feeling of hot/cold, substernal pain, fear of death, general fear)
- **Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD)**
- **Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)**
- **Generalized anxiety disorder (GAD)**
- **Premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD)**

- **Drugs for treatment of depression**
- **Drugs for treatment of manic phase**
- **Drugs for treatment of anxiety disorders**

**comorbidity of
depression and
anxiety**



PATHOGENESIS of MDD I



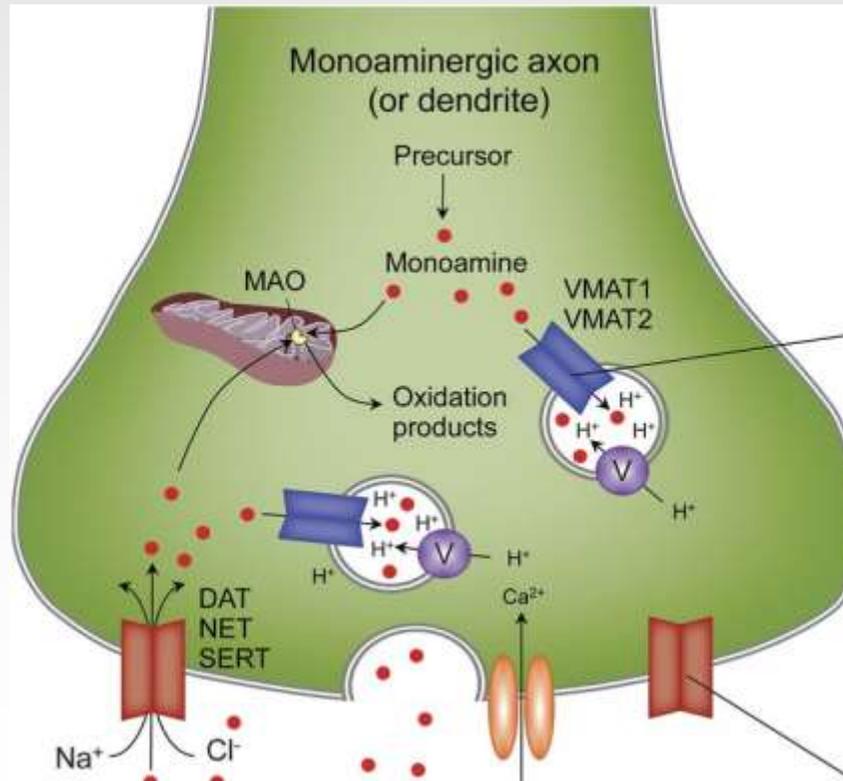
Monoamine (NE, 5-HT, DA) hypothesis (Schildkraut)

Stress, Depression, and Neuroplasticity: A Convergence of Mechanisms
Christopher Pittenger and Ronald S Duman,
Neuropsychopharmacology 2007, 33:88

Monoamine (NE,5-HT) hypothesis

Some argues for it:

- Monoamine depletors (reserpine) induce depression



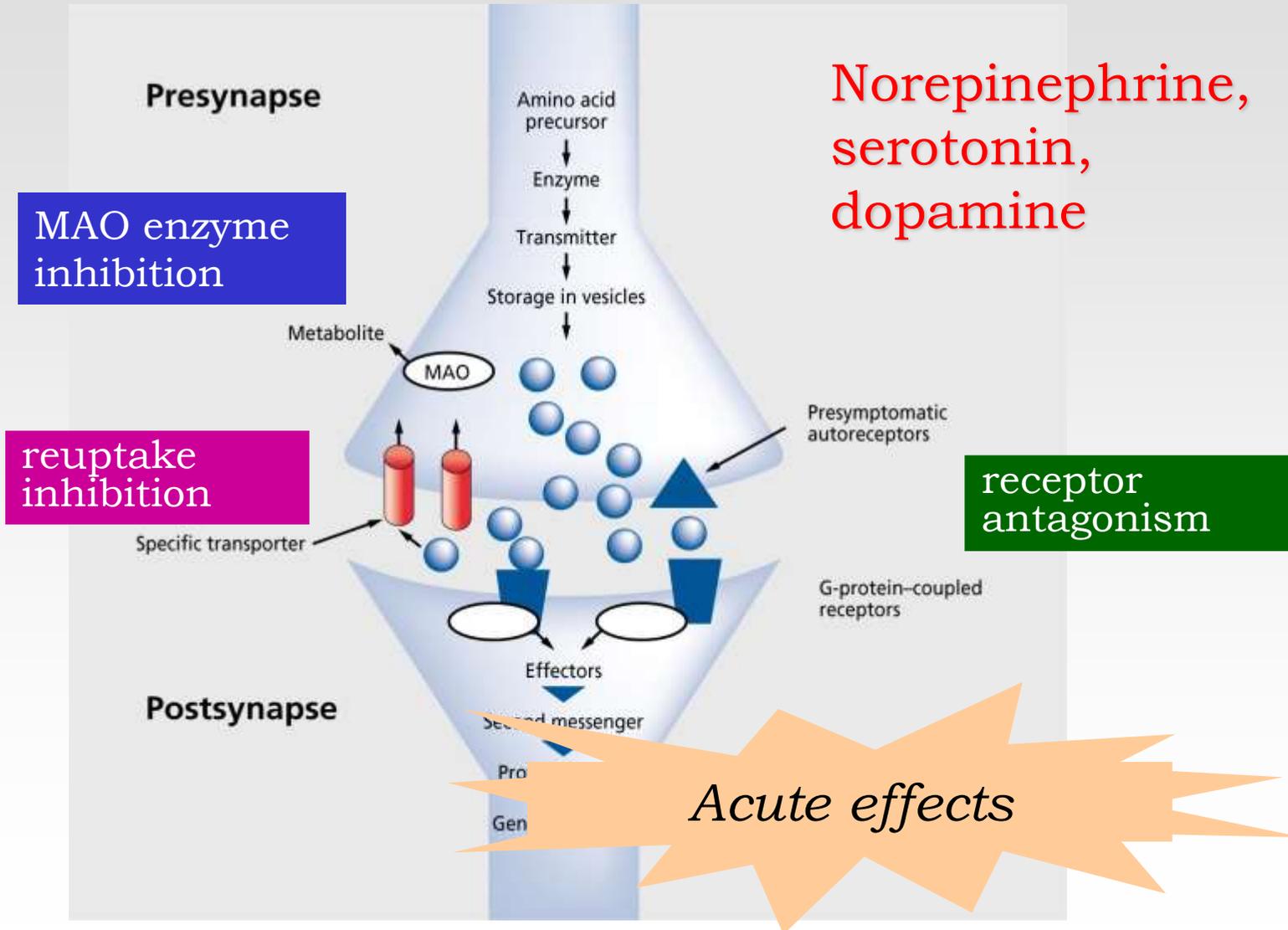
reserpine inhibits VMAT

Monoamine (NE,5-HT) hypothesis

Some argues for it:

- Monoamine depletors (reserpine) induce depression
- Genetic studies – functional polymorphism exists for SERT (5-HT transporter) gen
- Reduction of 5-HIAA (5-HT metabolite) in CSF is associated with violent and impulsive behavior (not specific for depression)
- Nearly all the antidepressants enhance the availability of NE and/or 5-HT and/or DA in the synaptic cleft

Majority of the pharmacons used nowadays are based on the monoamine hypotheses



Weeks (4-6) are needed for development of antidepressant effect



????

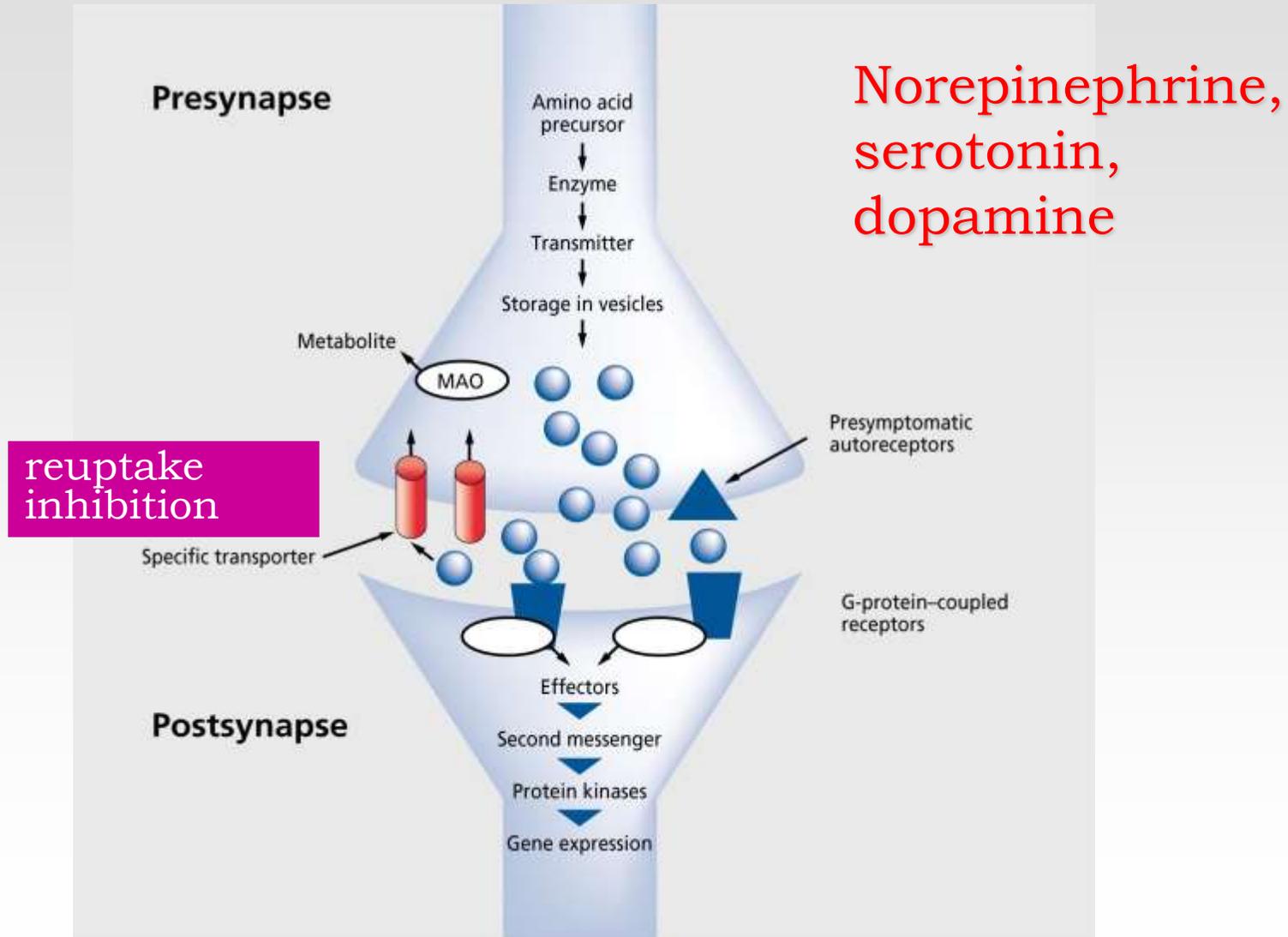
α_2 receptor desensitization (presynaptic)

5-HT₂ receptor desensitization

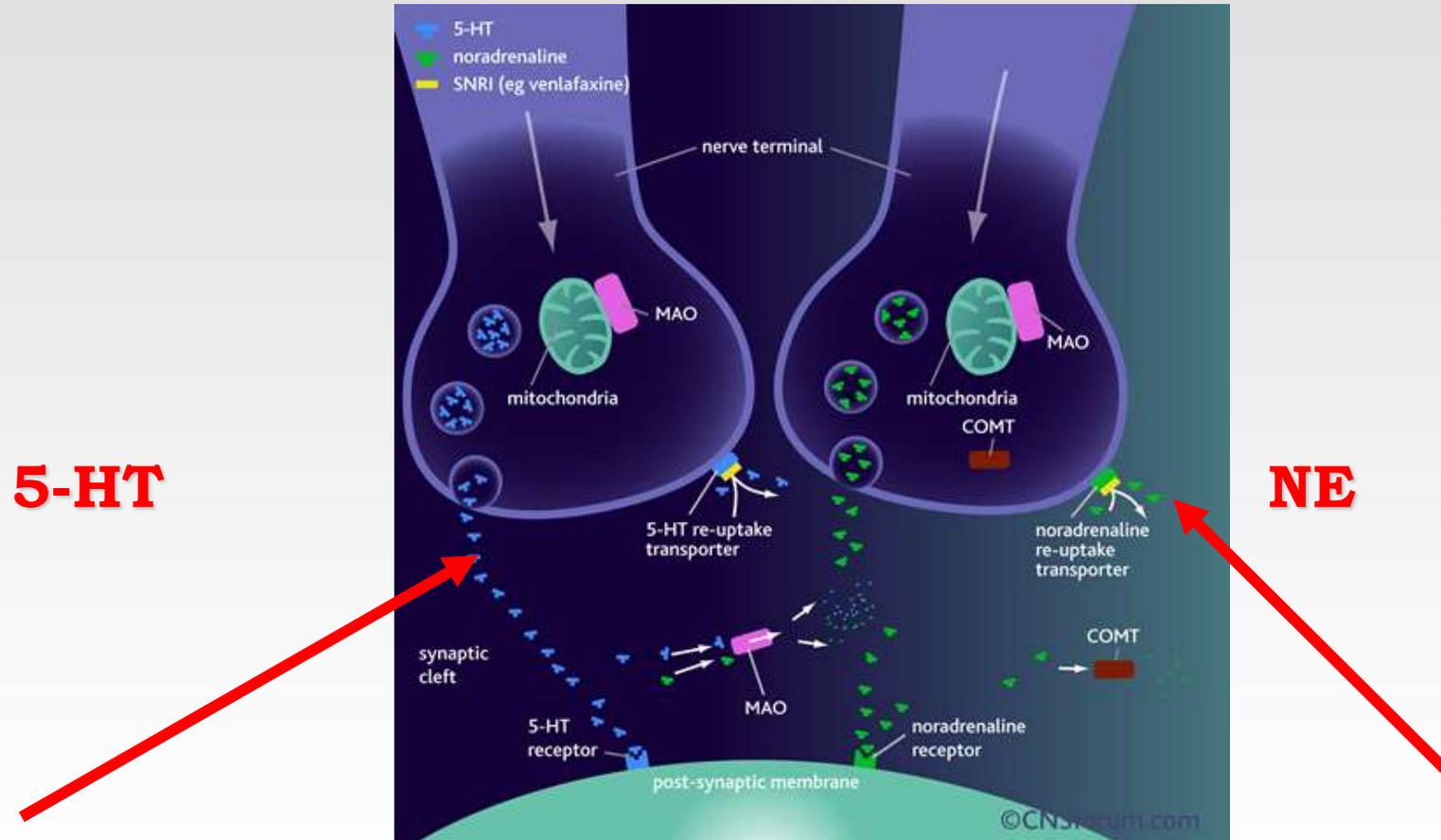
enhanced sensitivity of 5-HT_{1A} receptors

β receptor desensitization and down regulation

Majority of the pharmacons used nowadays are based on the monoamine hypotheses

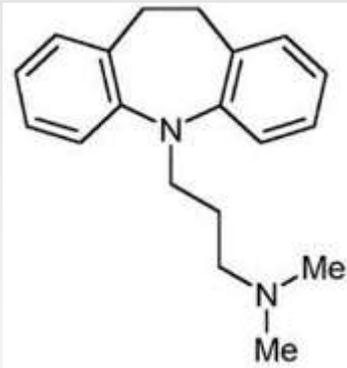


Reuptake inhibitors I

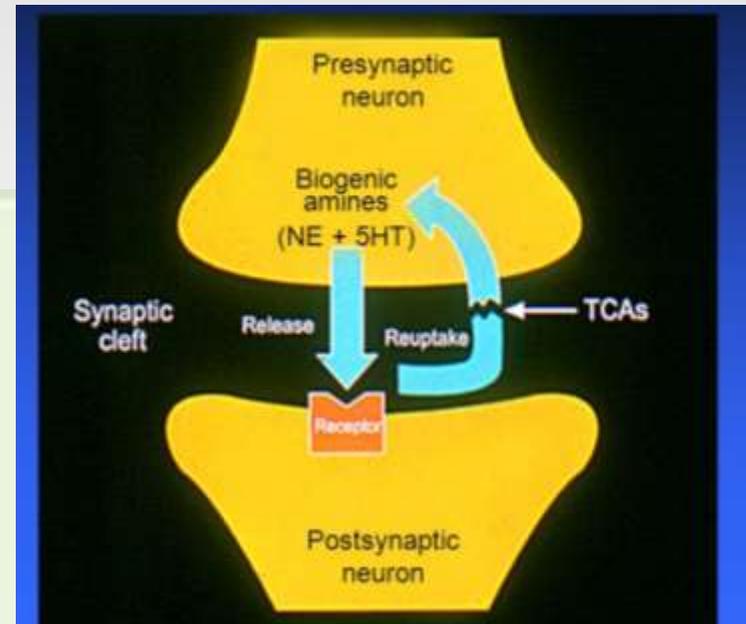


Reuptake inhibitors

TCAs (tricyclic antidepressants)



amitriptyline
nortriptyline
desipramine
clomipramine
amoxapine
doxepin
protriptyline
trimipramine
imipramine

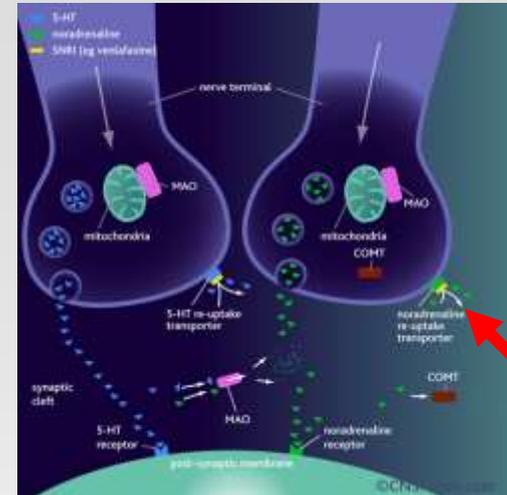
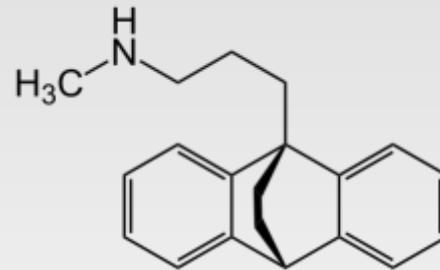


<http://slideplayer.com/8377657/26/images/14/MECHANISM+OF+ACTION+OF+TRICYCLIC+ANTIDEPRESSANTS.jpg>

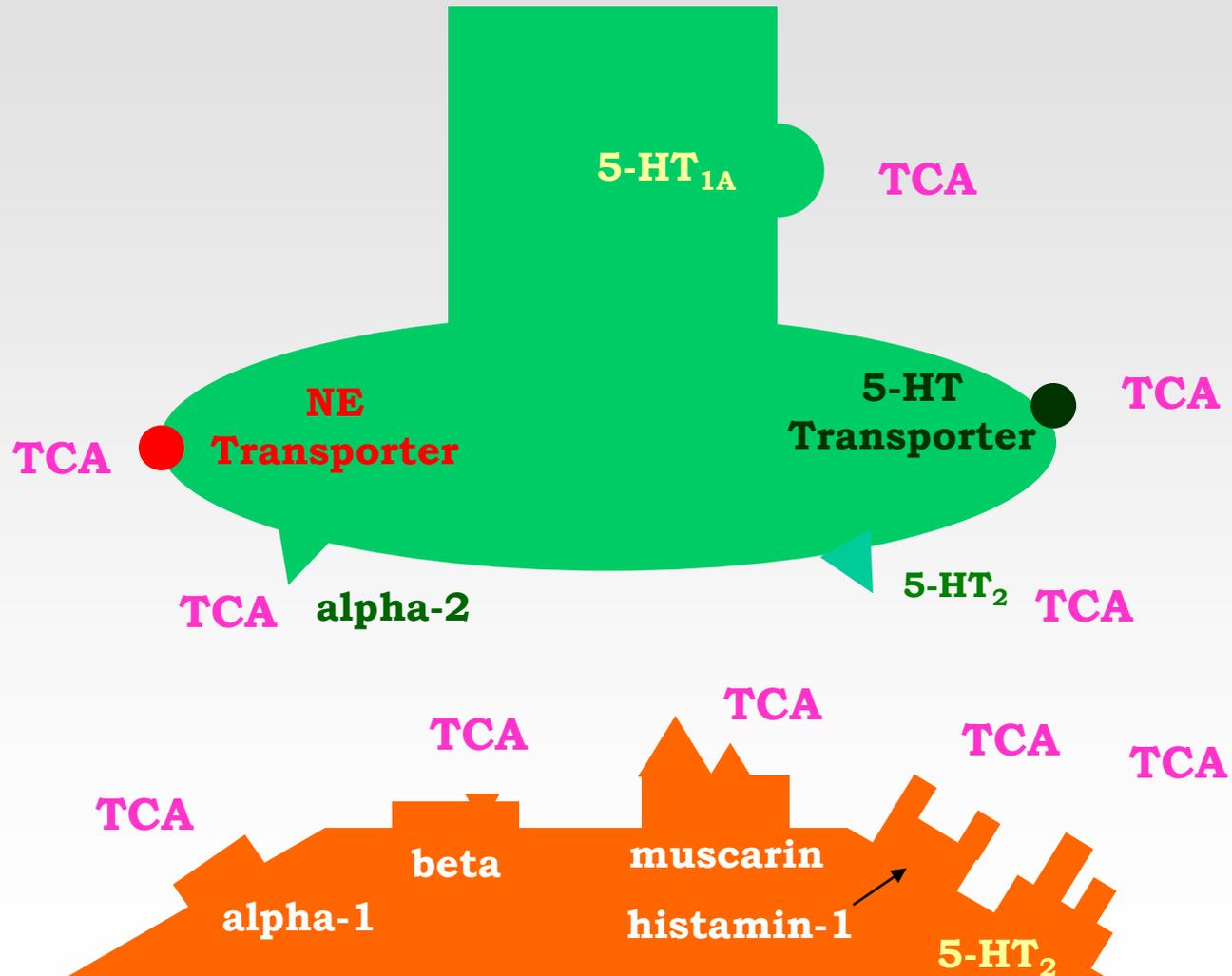
Tetracyclic antidepressants

maprotiline

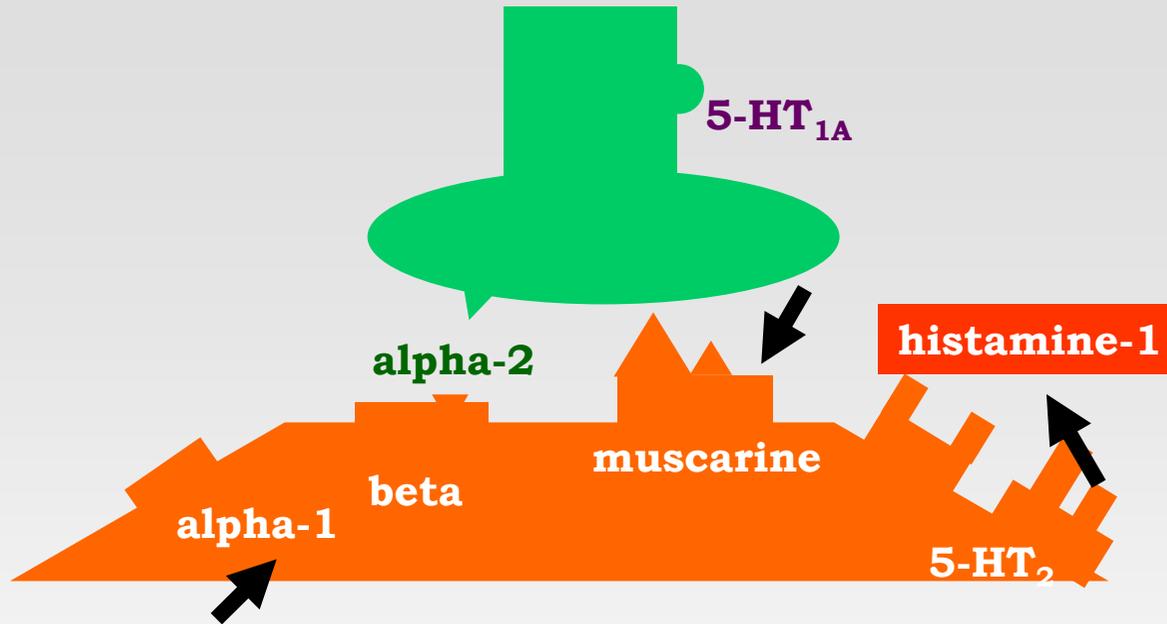
high affinity to NERT



Binding profile of TCAs



Adverse effects of TCAs I



H₁ blockade - sedation, dizziness, confusion, weight gain

α₁ blockade - dizziness, hypotension, reflex tachycardia

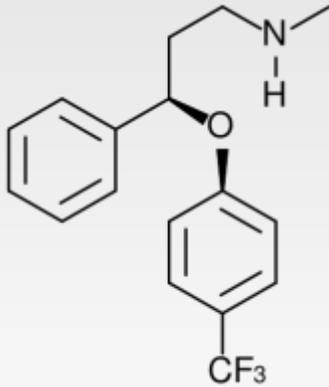
M blockade - peripheral parasympatholytic symptoms
delirium, memory impairment

Adverse effects of TCAs II

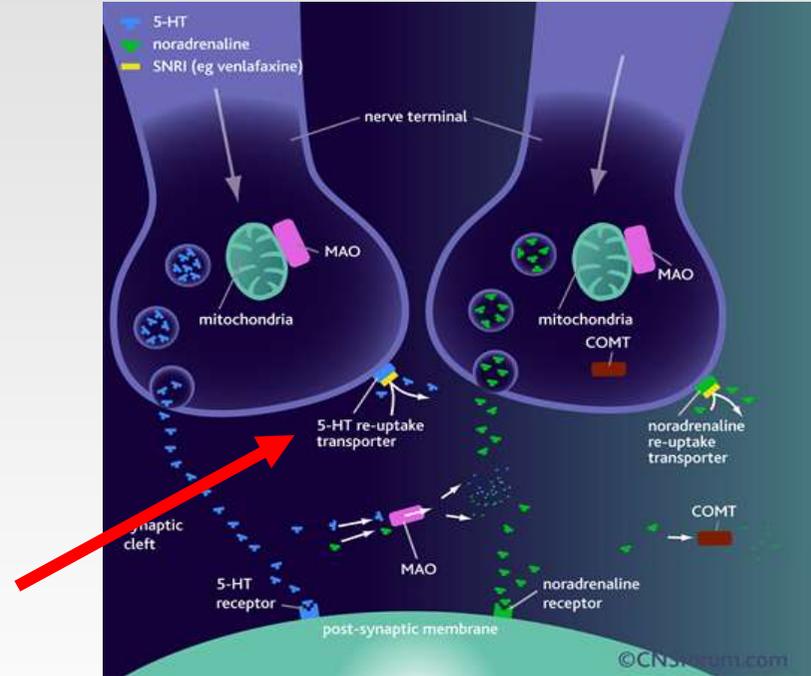
- **Cardiovascular**
tachycardia, orthostatic hypotension, conduction defects, arrhythmias)
- **Psychiatric/Neurological**
sedation, sleepiness, aggravation of psychosis, tremor, additive effects with other sedative drugs, **seizures !!!**
- **Metabolic-endocrine**
weight gain/loss, sexual disturbances)

Reuptake inhibitors II

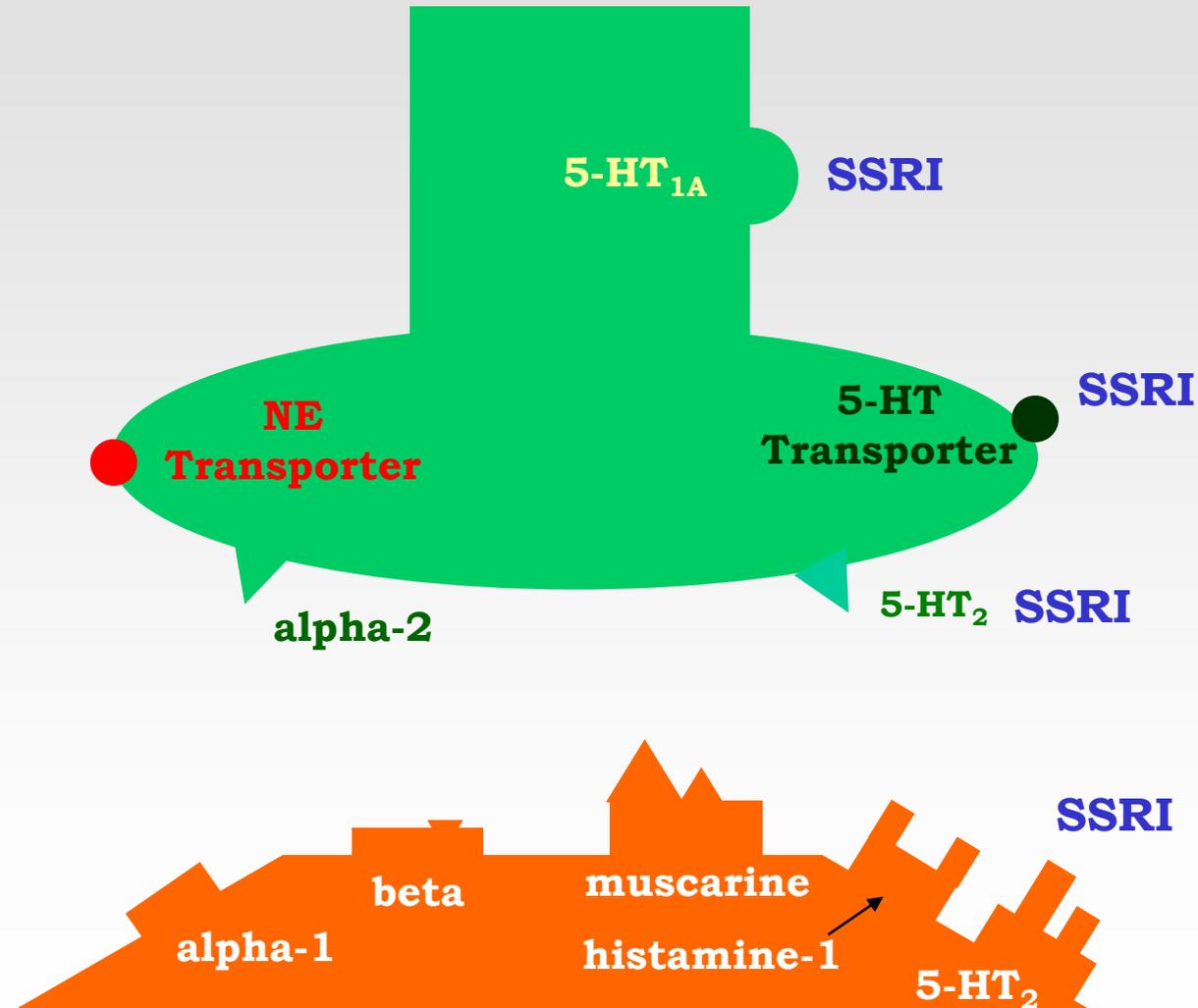
Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)



fluoxetine
paroxetine
sertraline
fluvoxamine
citalopram
escitalopram

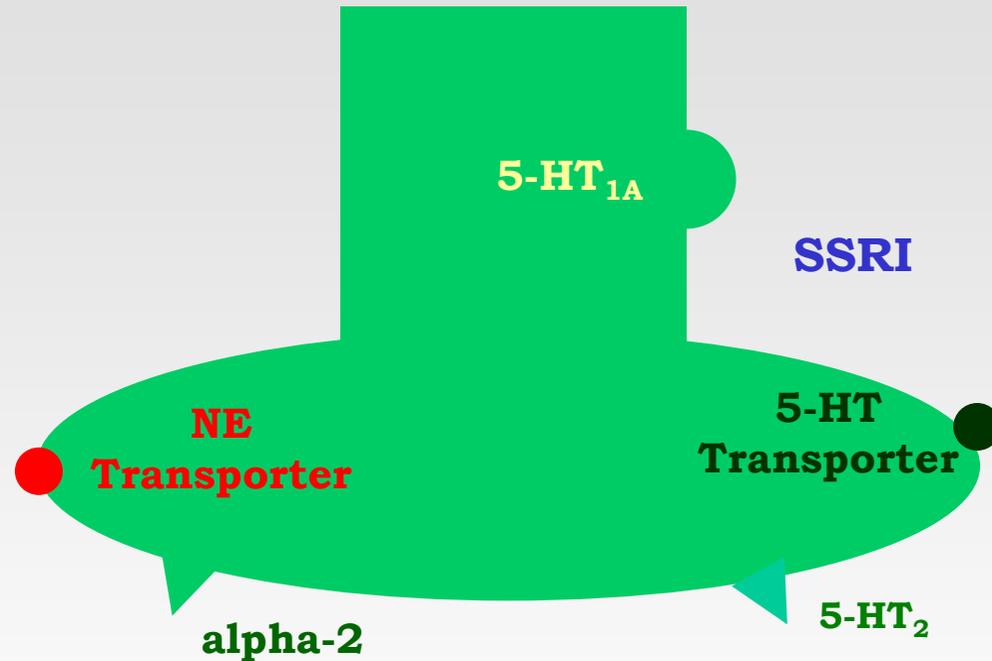


Comparative receptor specificity for SSRIs and TCAs



Comparative receptor specificity for SSRIs and TCAs

➤ **stimulation of 5-HT₂ receptors** - agitation, akathisia, anxiety (temporary), panic attacks (temporary), hallucination, psychosis, insomnia, sexual dysfunction



➤ **stimulation of the 5-HT₃ receptors** (central and peripheral effects) - nausea, vomiting, GI discomfort, diarrhea, headache



Adverse effects of SSRI/SSNRIs

Central: headache, anxiety, insomnia/hypersomnia, tremor, hallucination, psychosis, decrease of libido and sexual function

GI: nausea and vomiting, GI discomfort, diarrhea

weight gain

seizures

Discontinuation syndrome: dizziness, paresthesia
(with short acting like paroxetine, sertraline)

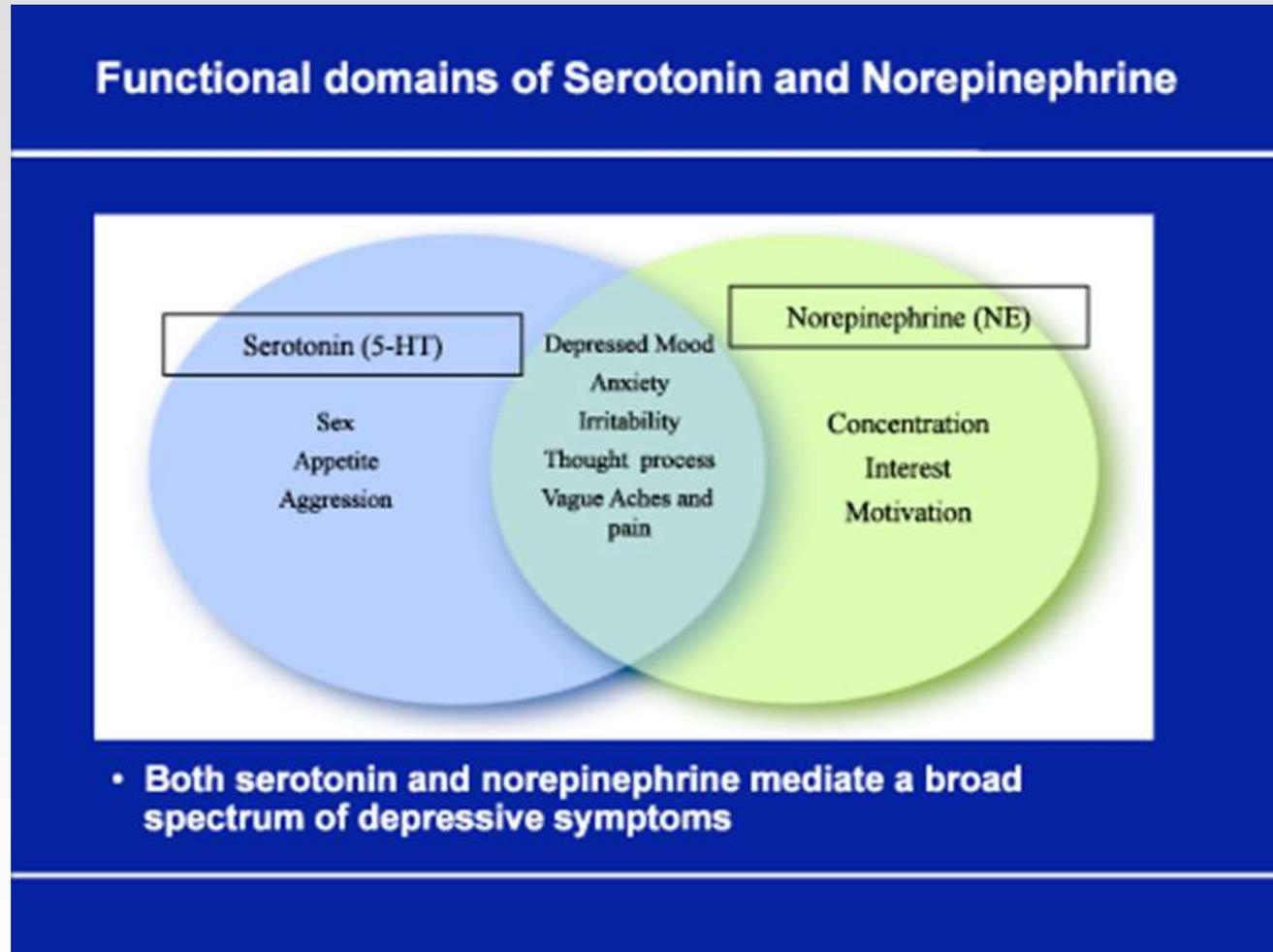
serotonin syndrome

hyperthermia, hypertension, hyperactive bowel, agitation, coma (onset – hours)

th: BZs, symptomatic treatment, 5-HT

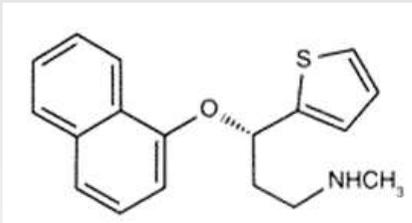
antagonists (cyproheptadine)

In depression serotonin and norepinephrine appear to be out of balance

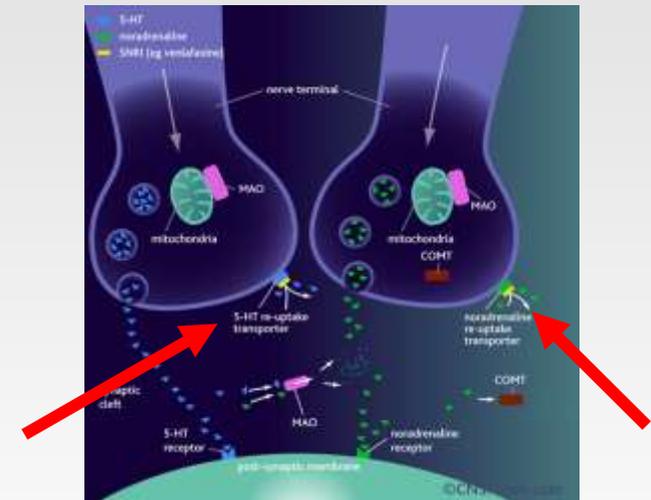


Reuptake inhibitors III

Selective Serotonin and Noradrenaline Reuptake Inhibitors (SSNRIs)



venlafaxine
desvenlafaxine
duloxetine

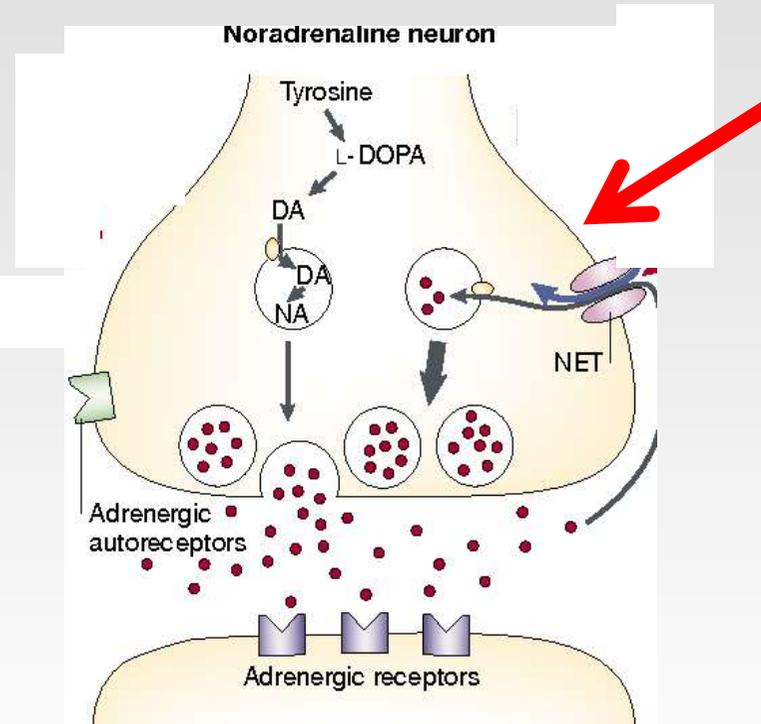
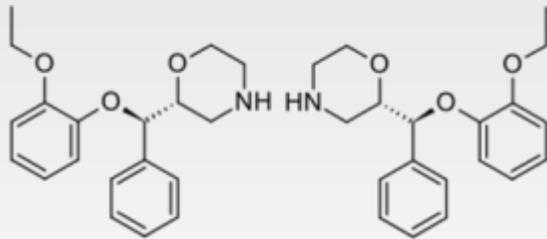


Selective – binding profile is similar to SSRIs

Reuptake inhibitors IV

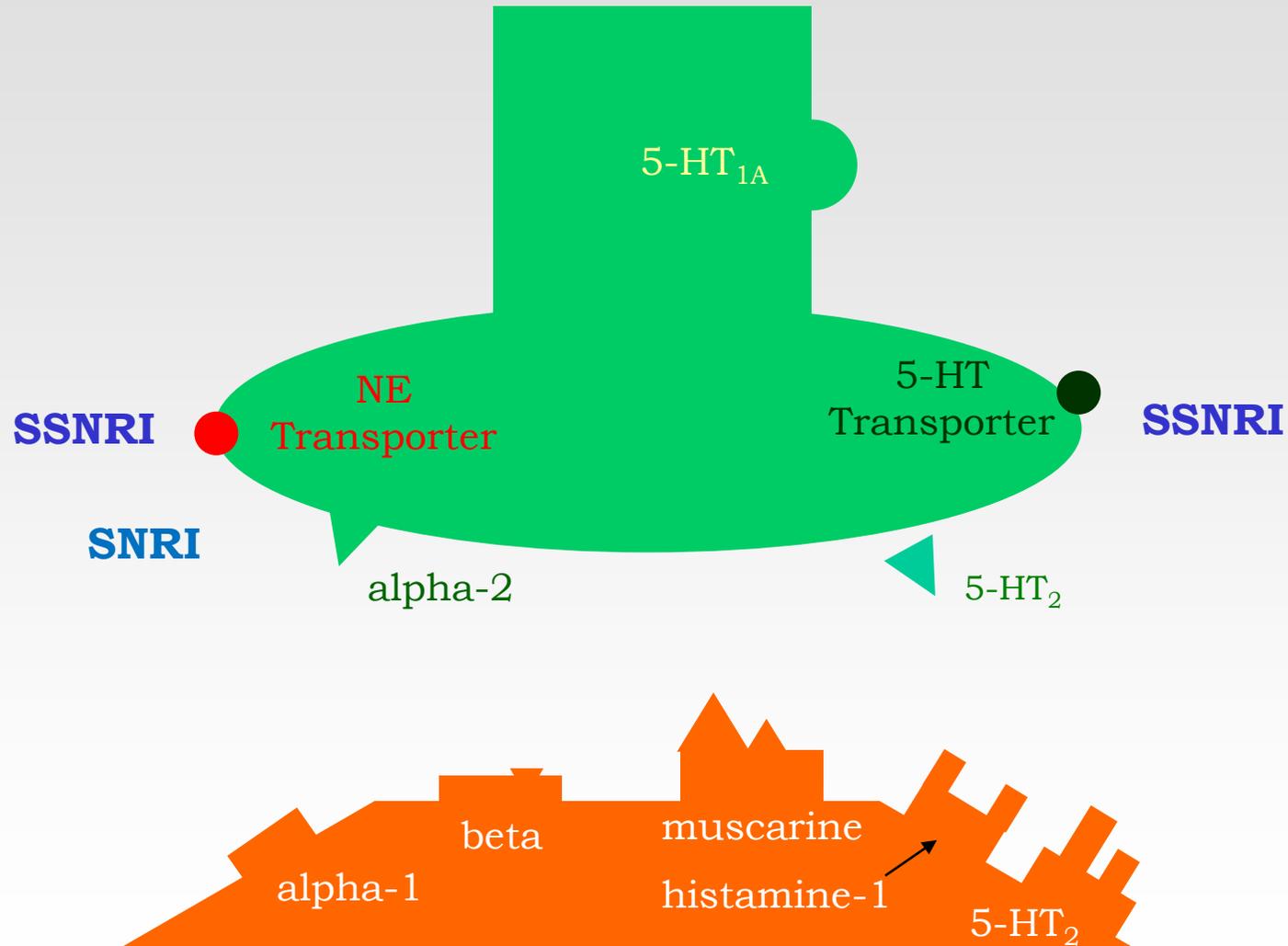
SNRIs (selective NE reuptake inhibitors)

reboxetine



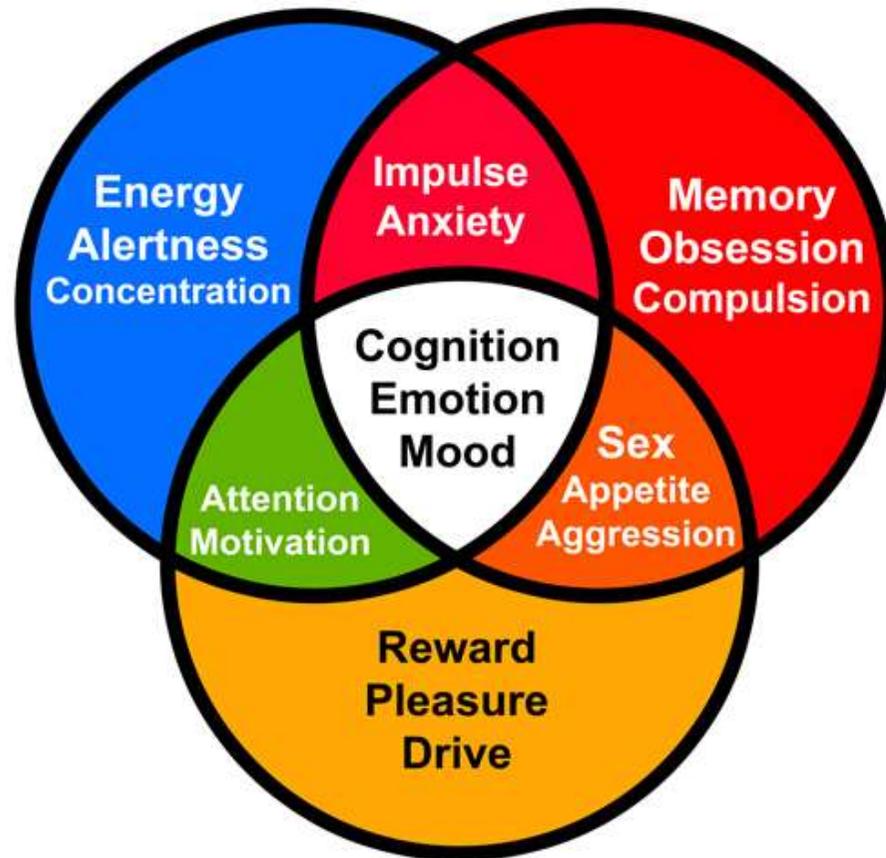
no antiadrenergic, antimuscarinergic, antihistaminergic effect

Comparative receptor specificity for SSNRIs and TCAs



NORADRENALINE

SEROTONIN

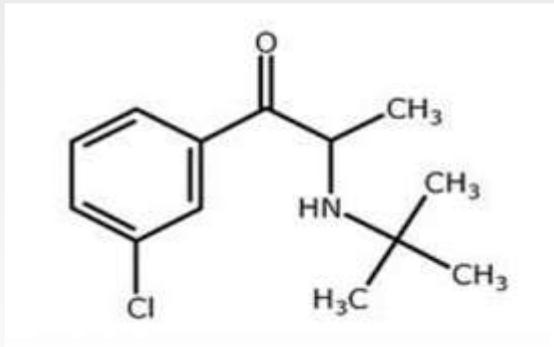


DOPAMINE

https://universityhealthnews.com/media/brain_chemistry-neurotransmitters.jpg

Reuptake inhibitors V

bupropion



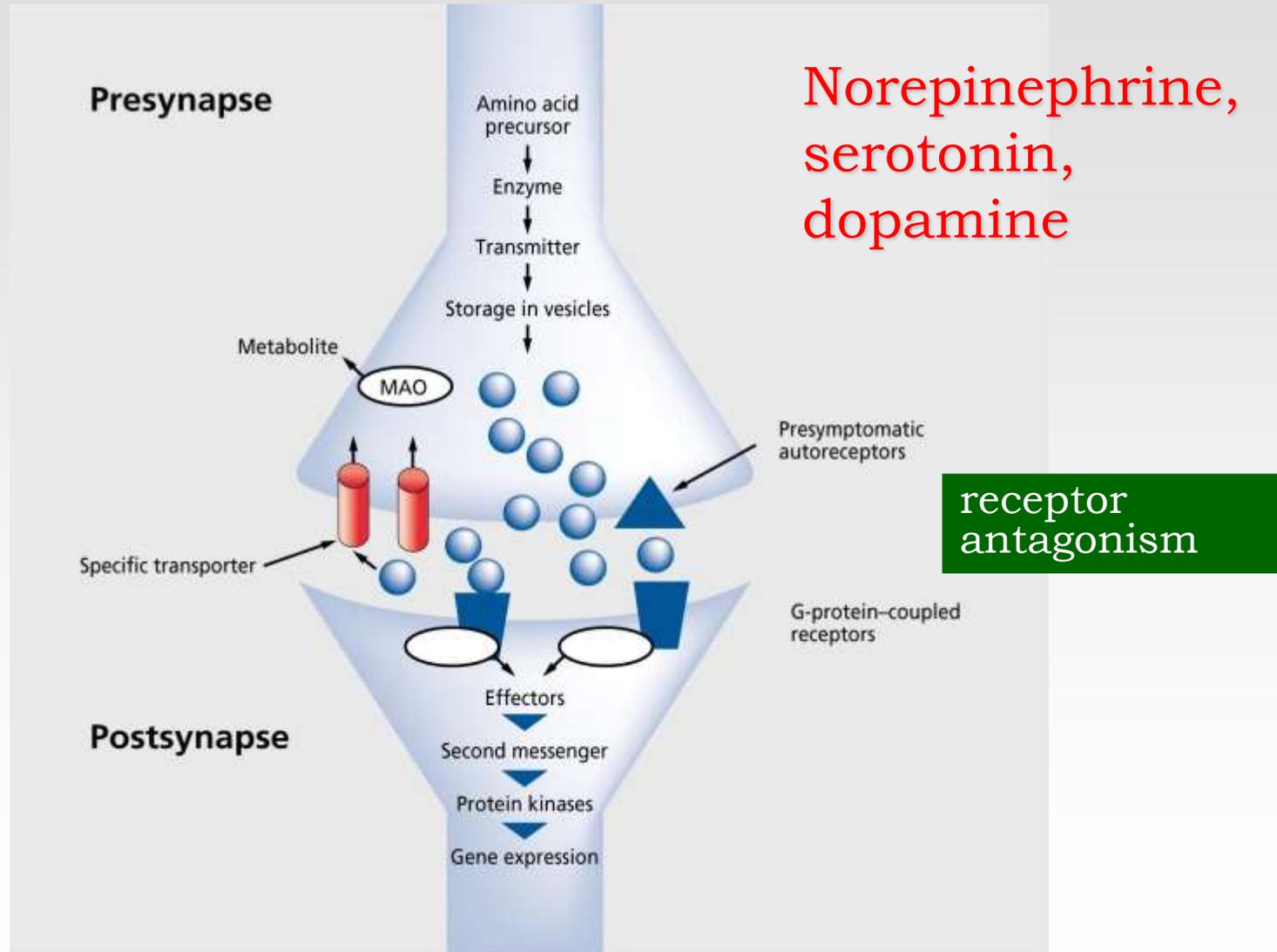
Inhibits DA and NA reuptake
(not 5-HT)

Inhibits nicotine receptor

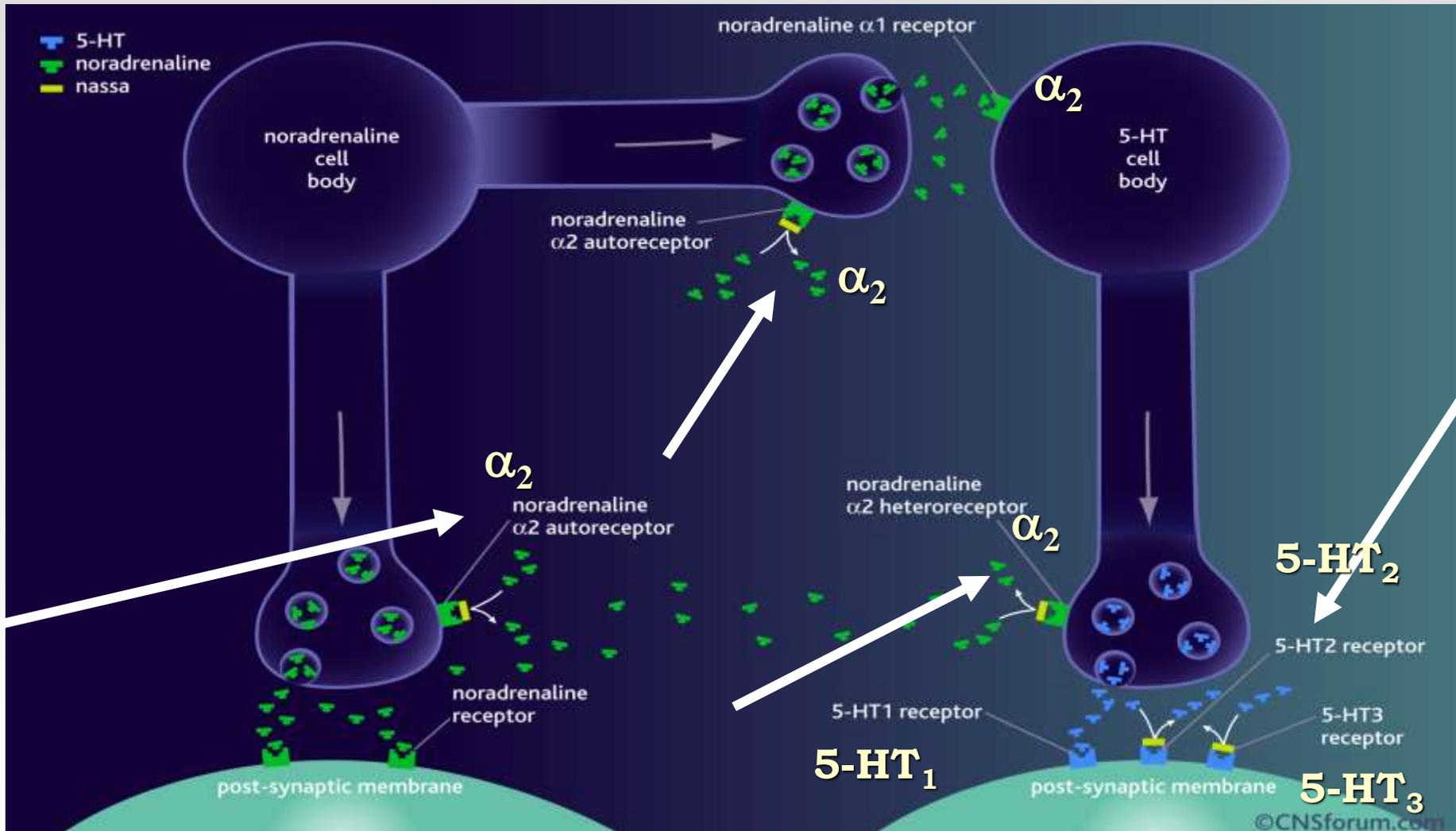
Besides MD used:

for helping smoking cessation
together with naloxone as
anorectic

Majority of the pharmacons used nowadays are based on the monoamine hypotheses



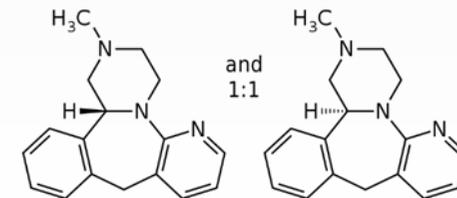
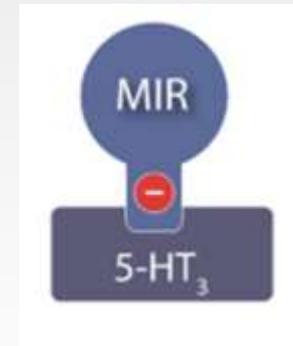
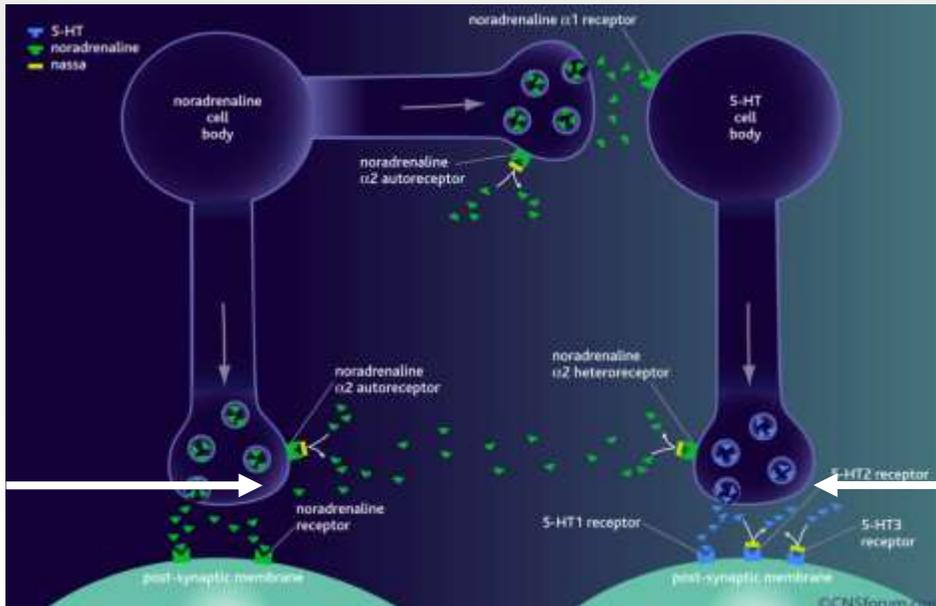
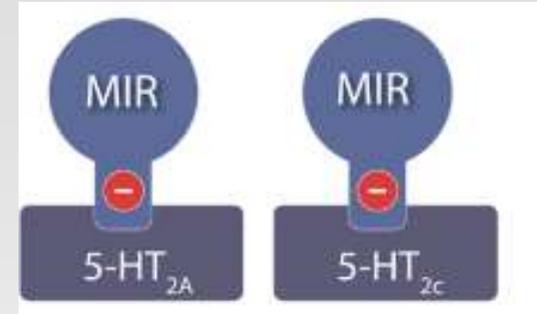
receptor antagonism



Receptor antagonists I

receptor blockers

mirtazapine



Receptor antagonists II

Reuptake inhibitors and receptor blockers

nefazodone

Inhibitor of NE and 5-HT reuptake + 5-HT₂ blocker

trazodone

Weak inhibitor of 5-HT reuptake + 5-HT₂ blocker

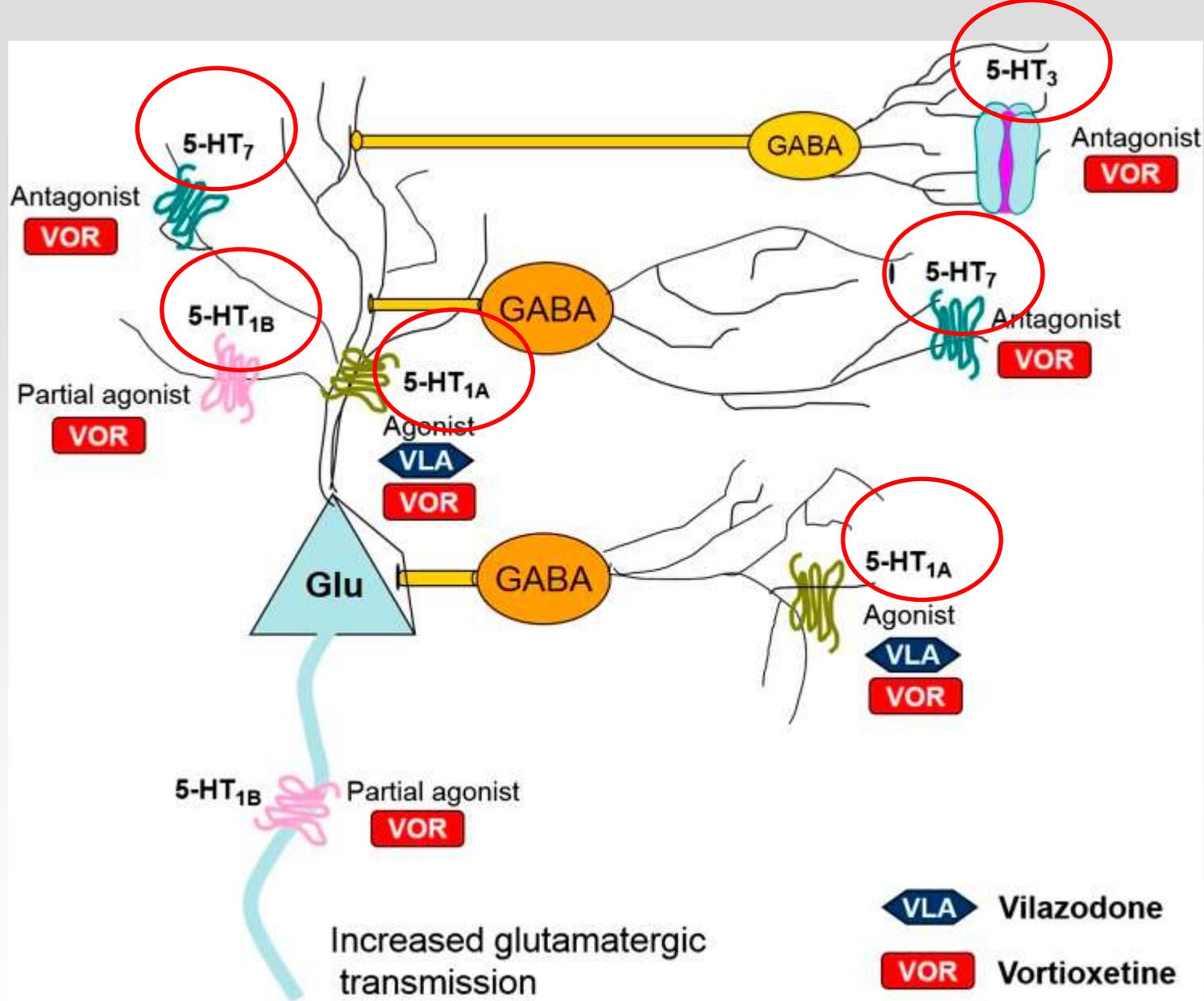
Receptor antagonists III

Newly developed compounds affecting the serotonergic system

The central serotonergic system works as a rhythmic homeostat

Enhanced activity of the serotonergic neurons are partly reduced by

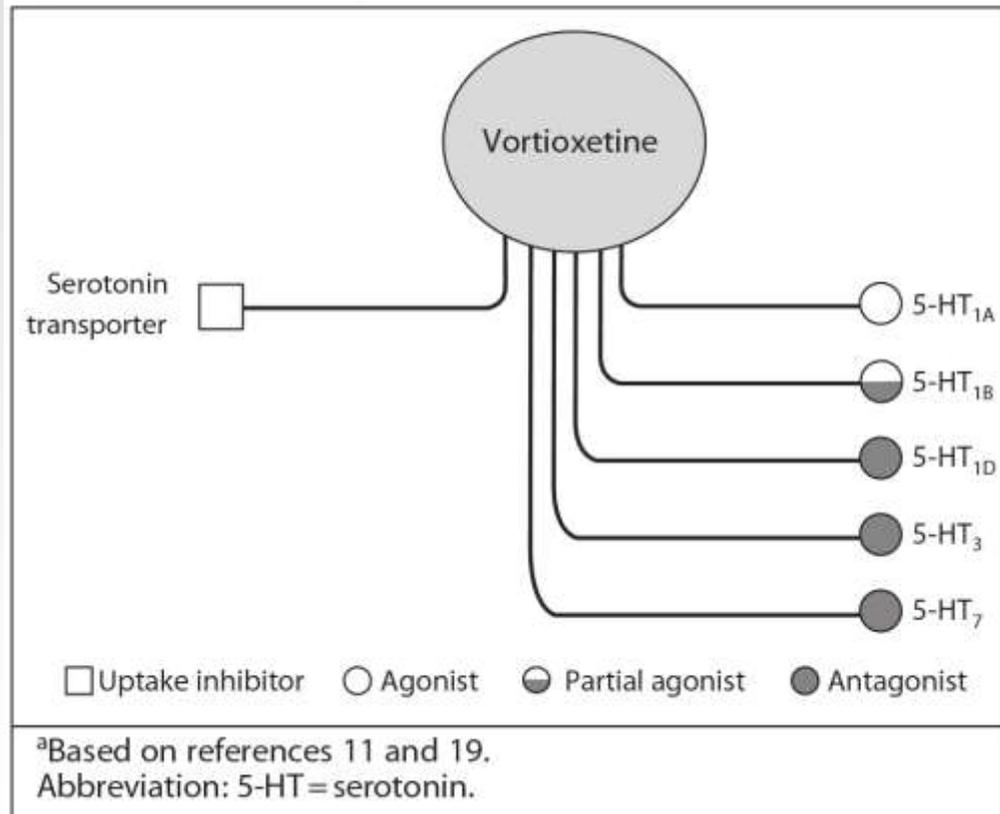
- **5HT1B/1D** receptors in the synapse
- **5HT1A** receptors on the dendrites
- **5HT3/7** receptors via the GABA-erg interneurons



Receptor antagonists III

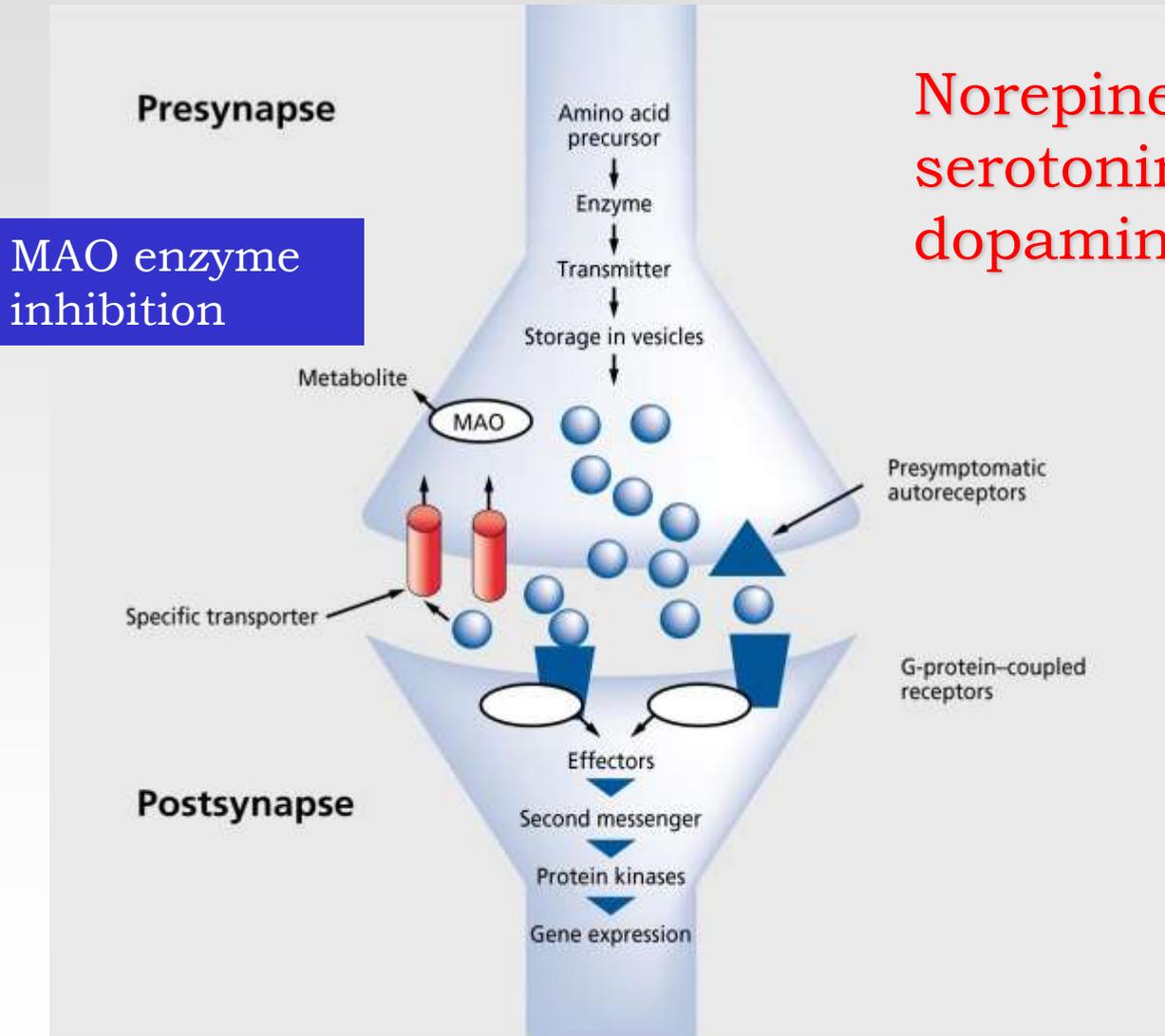
Vortioxetin - a new AD with "multimodal" serotonergic mechanism of action

Figure 1. Pharmacologic Profile of Vortioxetine^a



The result of this complex receptorial effect is - beside enhancement of the serotonerg activity - the **noradrenergic, dopaminergic, cholinergic, histaminergic, glutamatergic neuronal activity will also increased** (via by blockade of the 5HT3/7 receptors on the GABA-neurons)

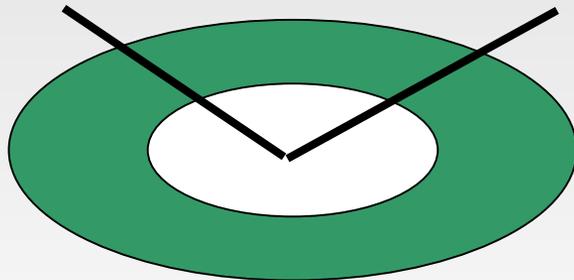
Majority of the pharmacons used nowadays are based on the monoamine hypotheses



Norepinephrine,
serotonin,
dopamine

Monoamino-oxidase enzyme

norepinephrine
serotonin

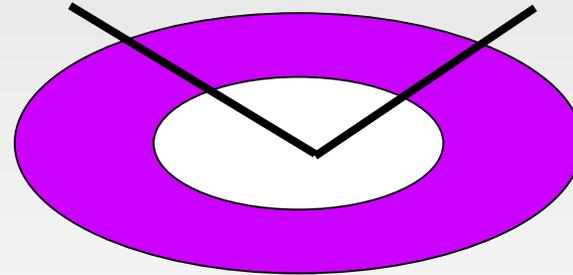


MAO-A

GI
neuronal end-terminals

dopamine
tyramine

phenylethylamine
benzilamine



MAO-B

platelets
glia

Classification of MAO inhibitors (MAOIs)

non selective irreversible MAO inhibitors
in extremely severe depression
phenelzine, tranylcypromine

**selective reversible MAO-A
inhibitors (RIMA)**
moclobemide
depression

**selective irreversible
MAO-B inhibitors**
selegiline
**Parkinsonian disease
depression
Alzheimer disease**

Adverse effects of MAOIs

- **"cheese effect" - dietary restriction (first of all for irreversible MAOIs)**



- **drug interaction**



- **orthostatic hypotension**

- **insomnia, irritability**

- **sexual disturbances**

seizures

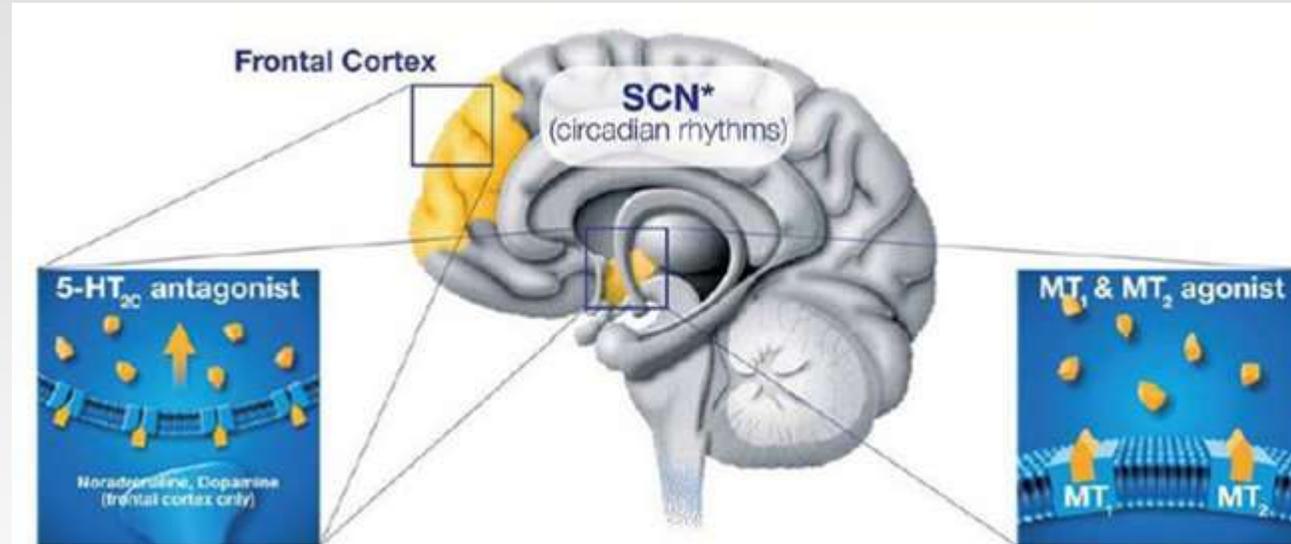
In case of RIMA the symptoms are less marked and shorter

In case of selegiline minimal risk of cheese effect

Other possibilities

Melatonin (MT1 and MT2) agonist and 5-HT_{2c} receptor antagonists

agomelatine



No effect on the monoamine uptake, no influence on the extracellular 5-HT level

Main adverse effects – obesity, risk of hepatotoxicity

Other possibilities

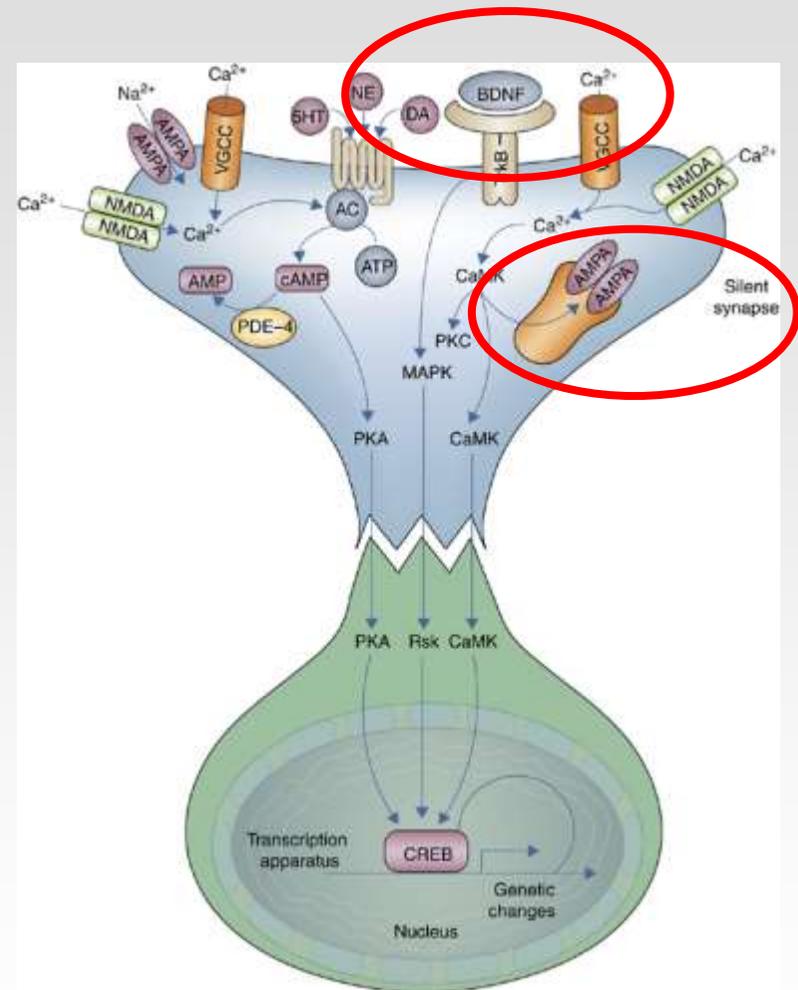
tianeptine

enhancer of 5-HT reuptake

- ✓ Decrease of the stress induced activation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis ?
- ✓ Enhancement of AMPA receptor function; enhancement of the BNFD release ??

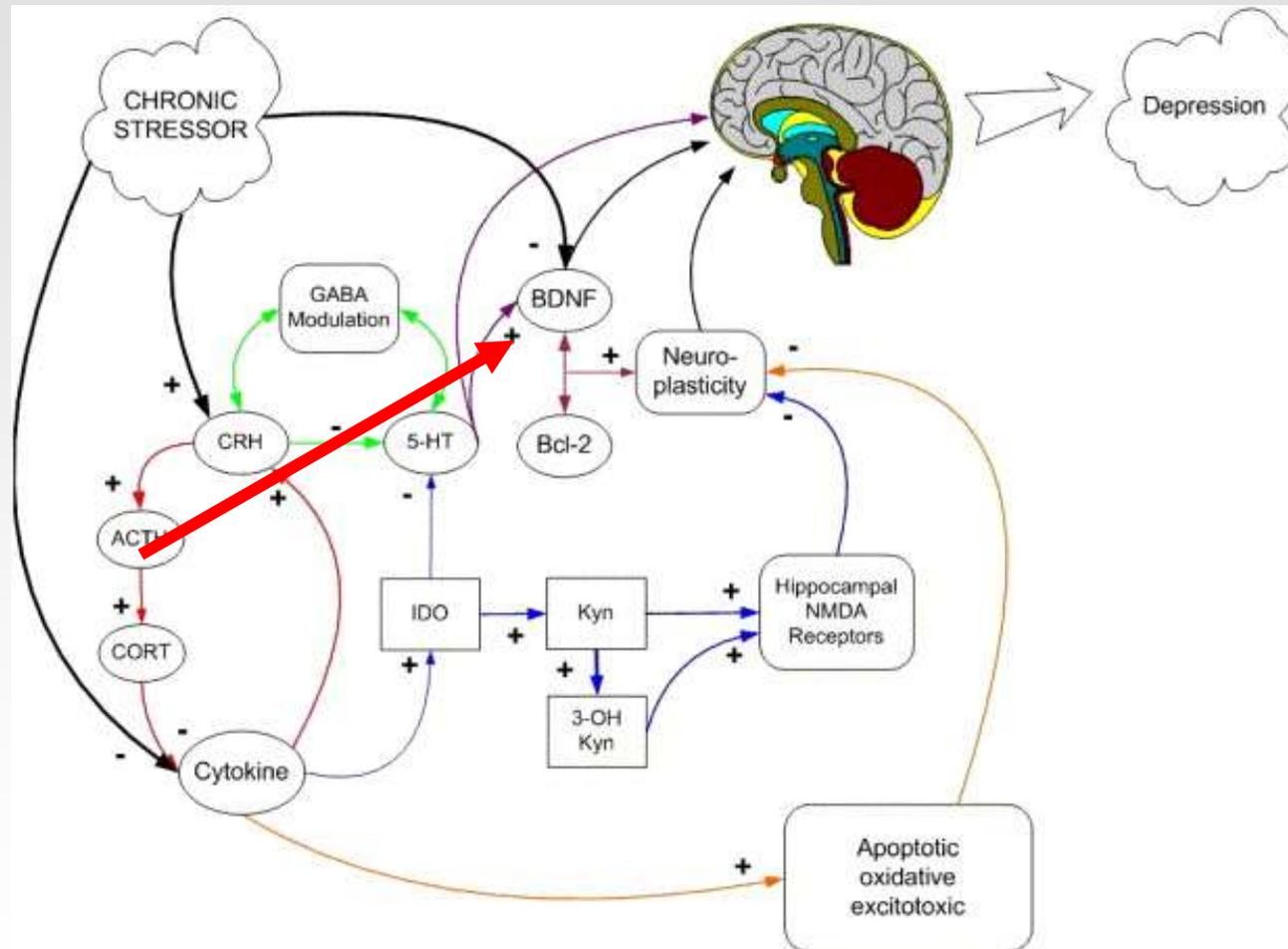
Advantages:

Therapeutical effects develops within 1-2 weeks,
not anticholinergic effect



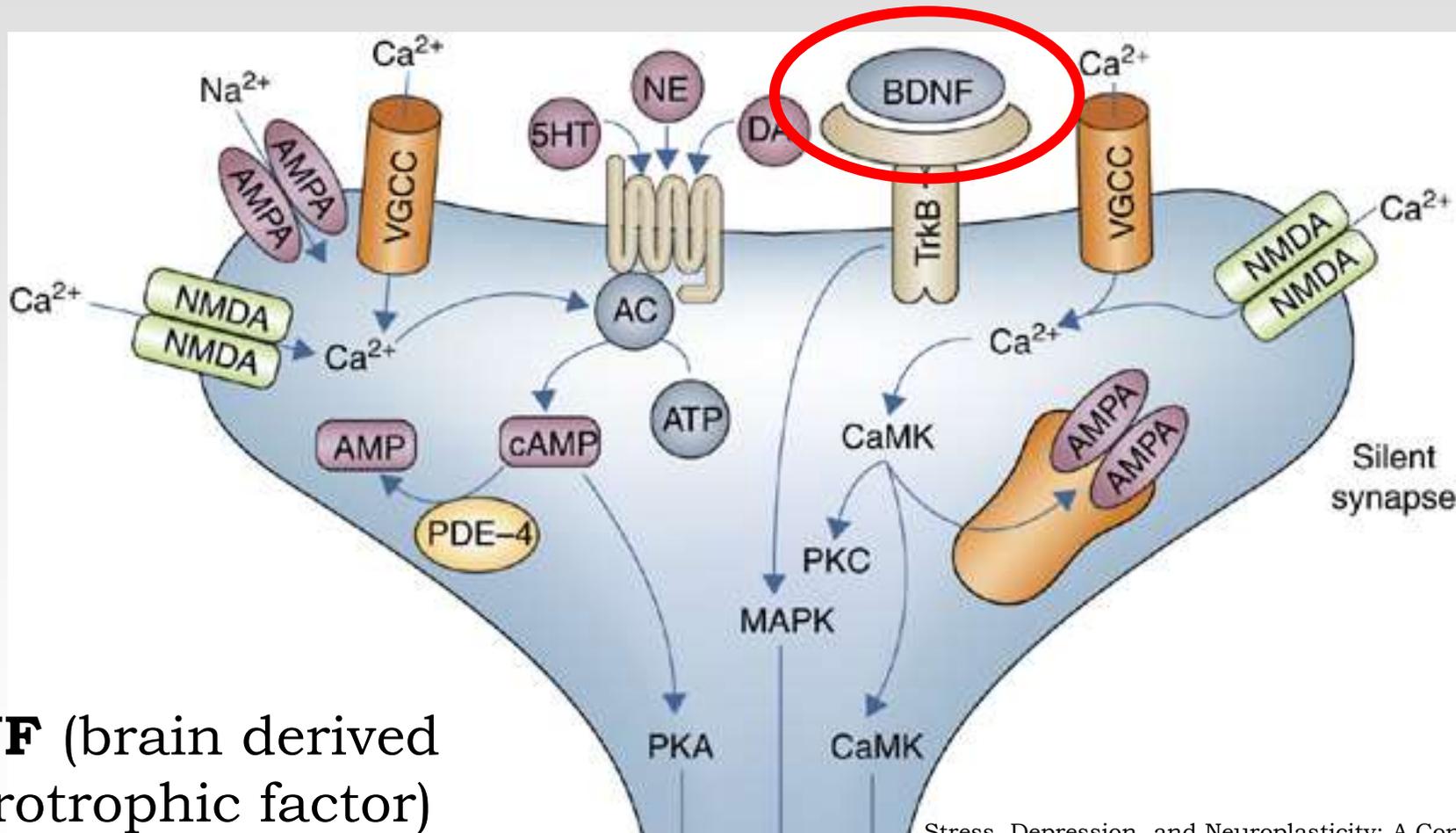
Other possibilities

Electro Convulsion Therapy



PATHOGENESIS of MDD II

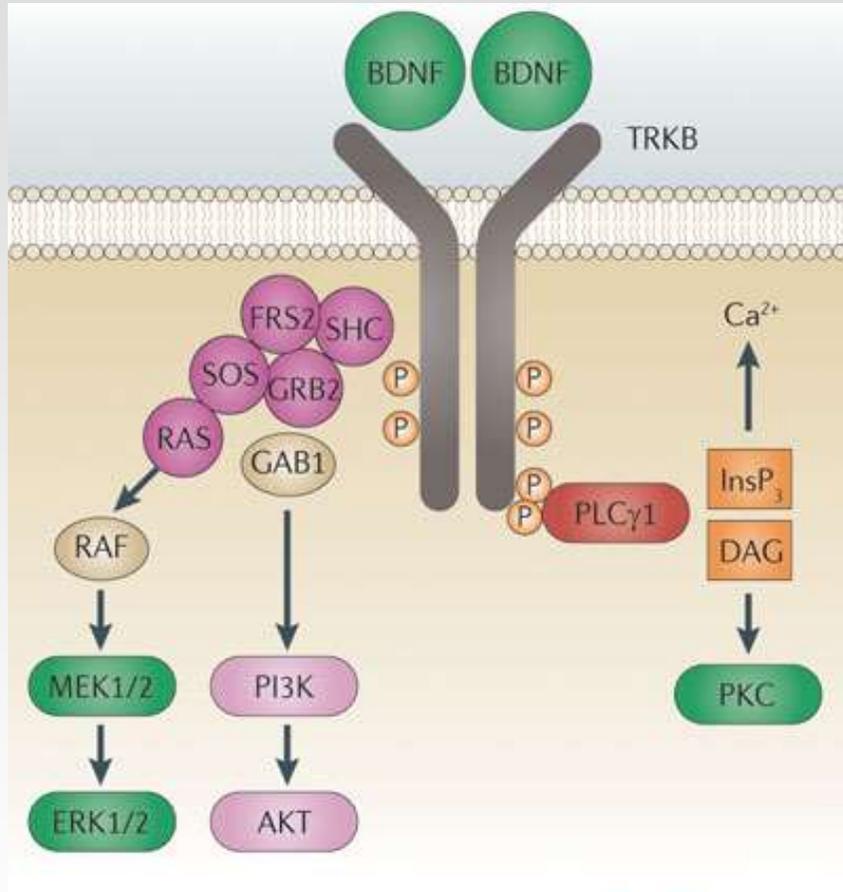
Neurotrophic (BFNF) hypothesis



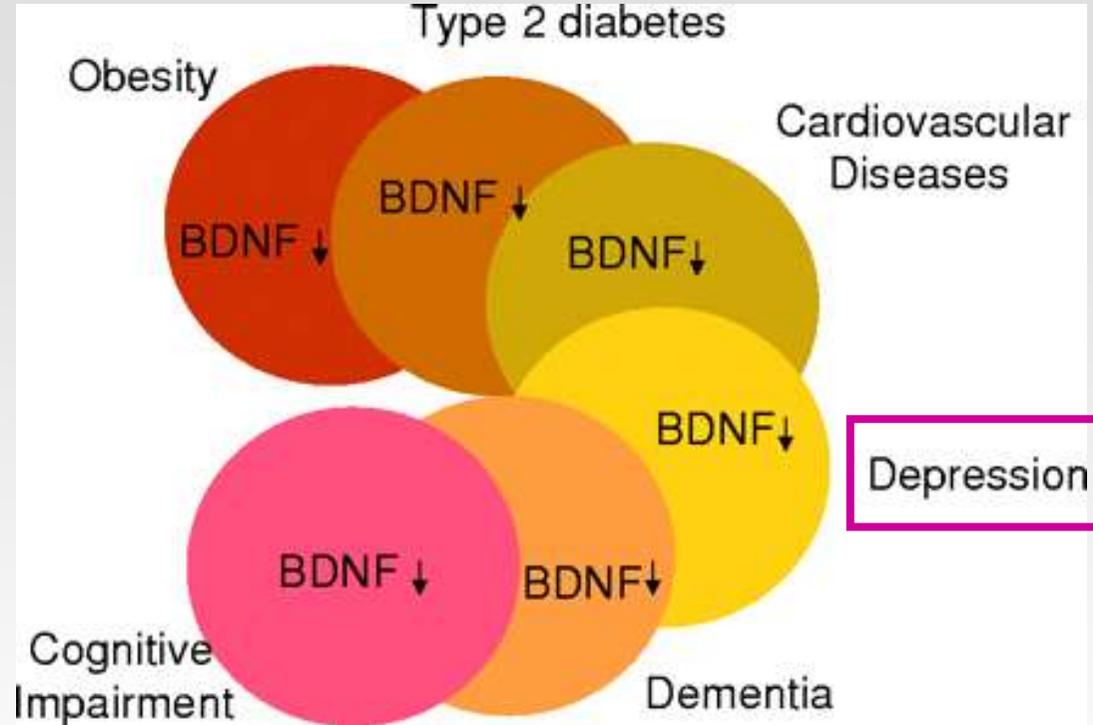
BDNF (brain derived neurotrophic factor)

Stress, Depression, and Neuroplasticity: A Convergence of Mechanisms
Christopher Pittenger and Ronald S Duman,
Neuropsychopharmacology 2007, 33:88

BDNF



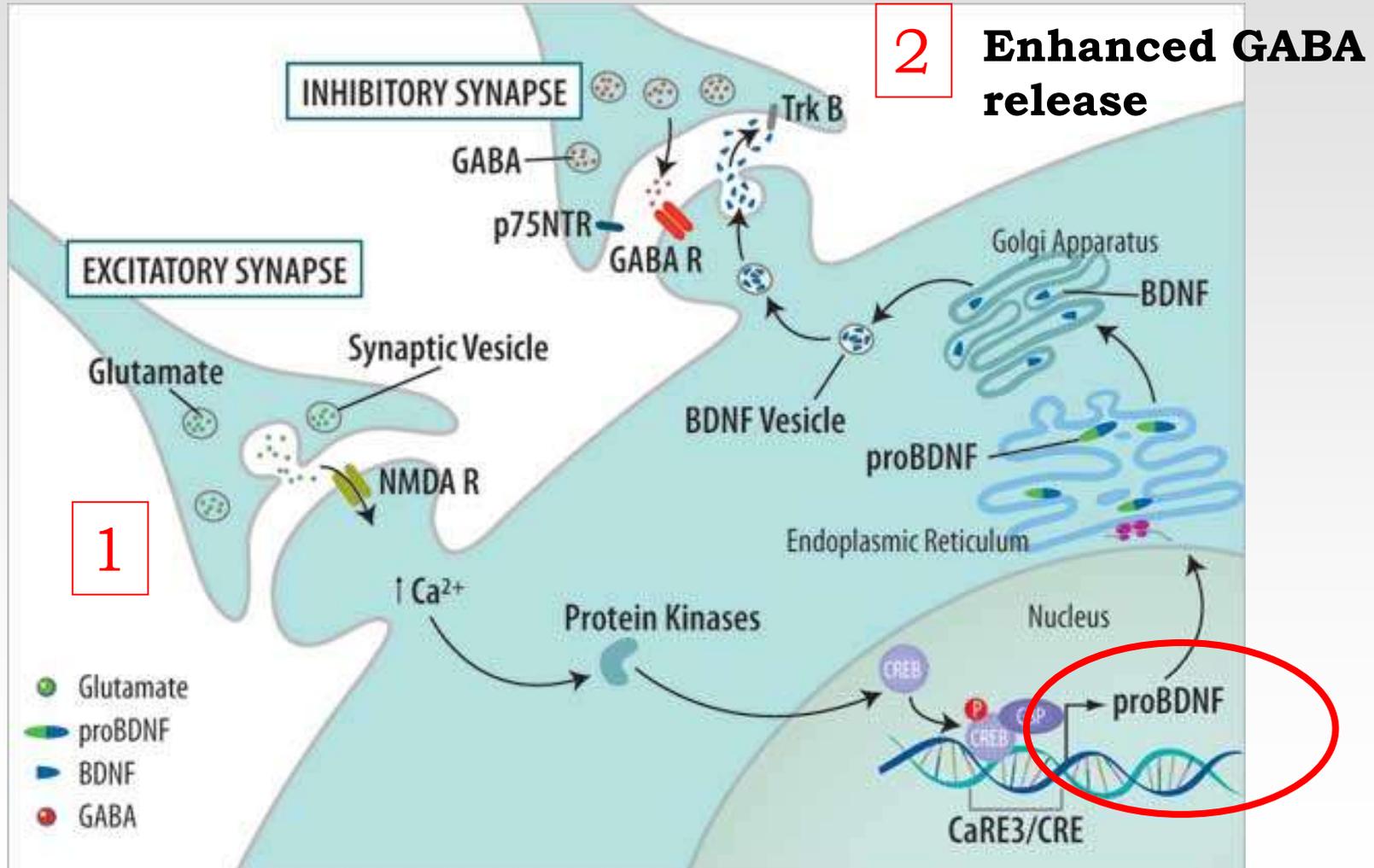
Nature Reviews | Drug Discovery



BDNF plays critical role in regulation of neural plasticity, neurogenesis, neuronal survival, etc.

BDNF

Role of BDNF expression on the activity homeostats

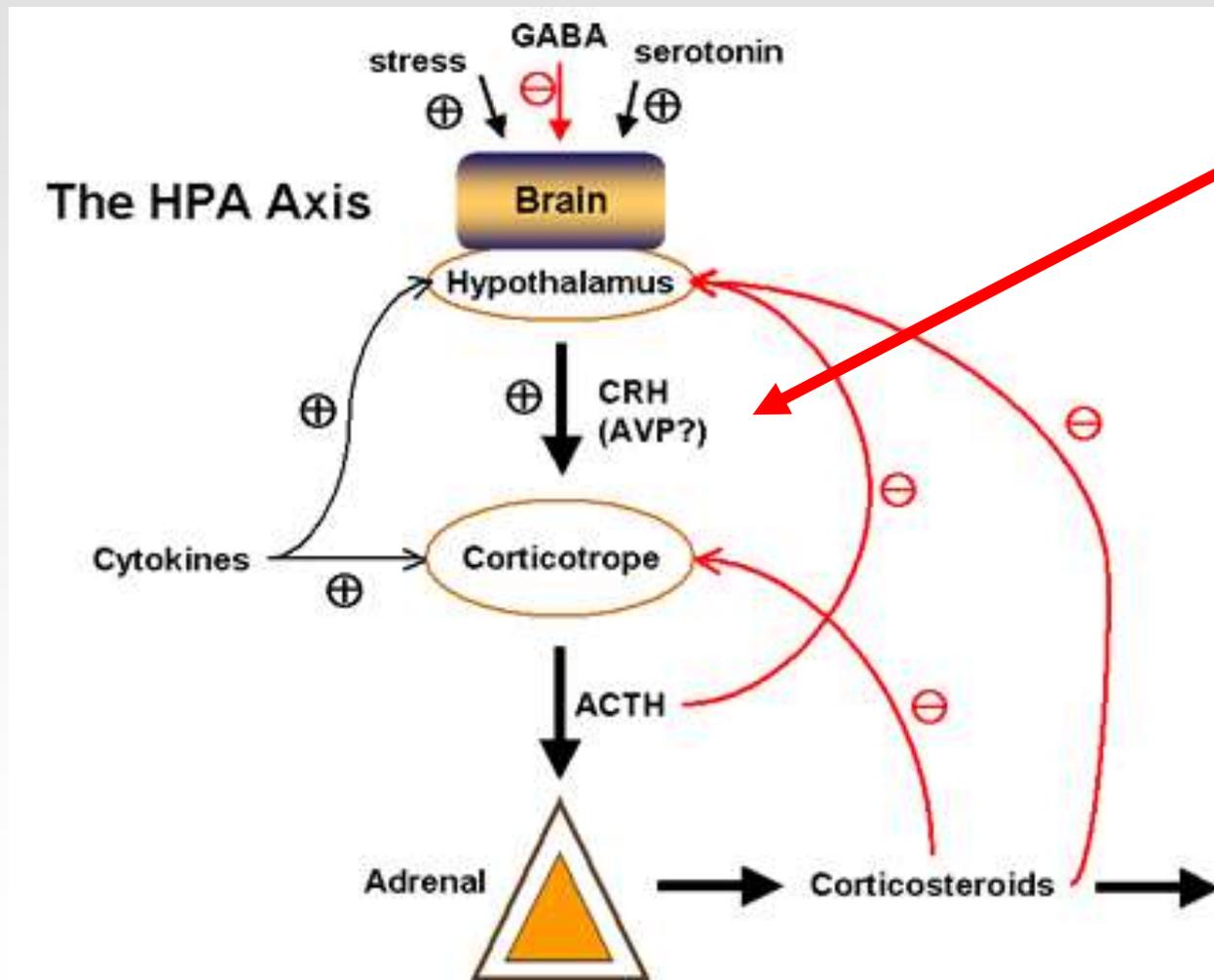


Some argues for BDNF hypothesis:

- During stress the BDNF level decreases in the a hippocampus
- In animal experiments all the antidepressants (and even electroshock) enhance the BDNF level
(following chronic administration !!)

PATHOGENEZIS of MDD III

Neuroendocrine hypothesis - role of HPA axis

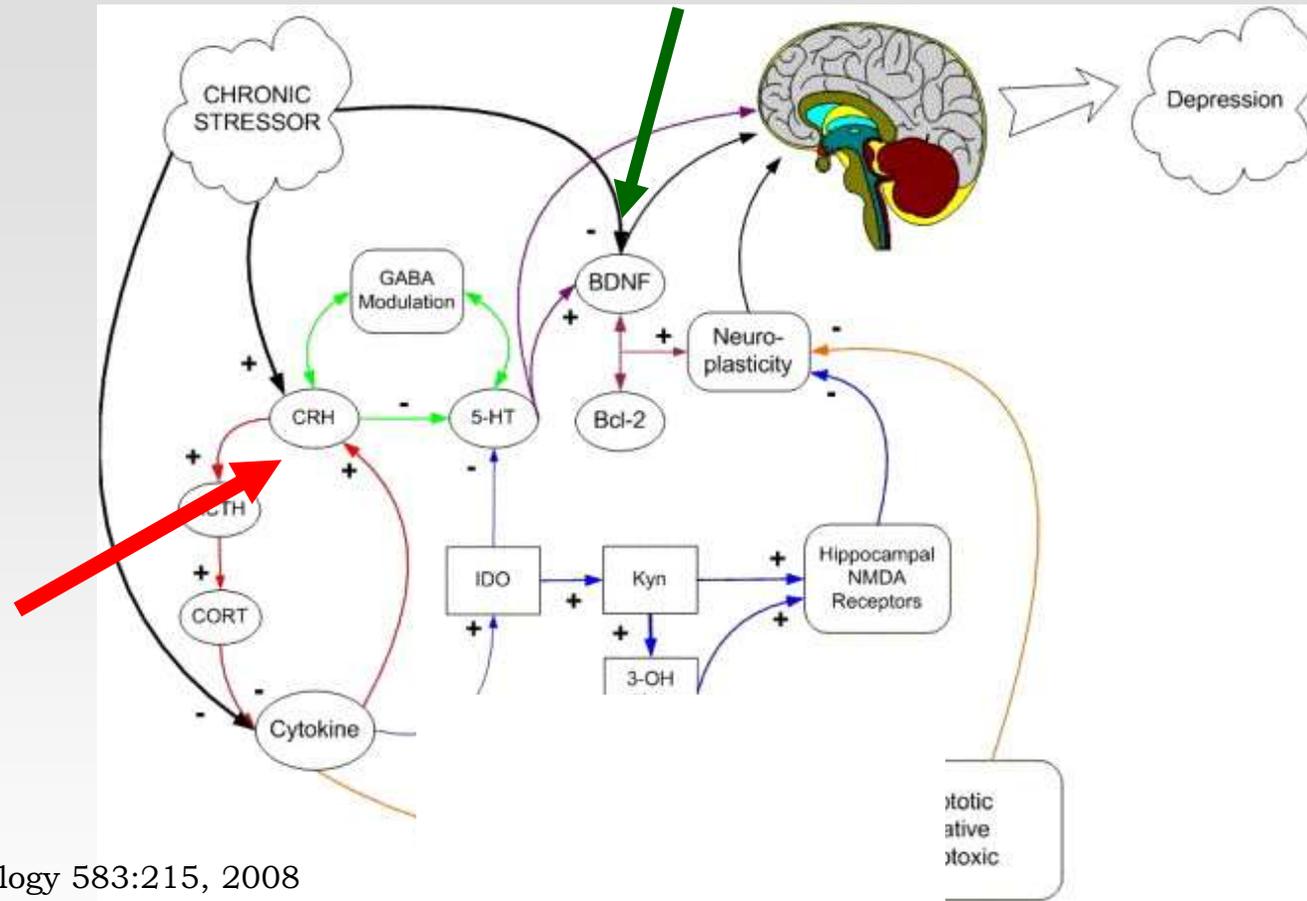


CRH- corticotrope releasing hormone

argue for neuroendocrine hypothesis:

- In MDD regulation of HPA axis is disturbed (higher cortisol and CRH level, ACTH does not act correctly in dexamethasone test)

Neuroendocrine (CRH) hypothesis

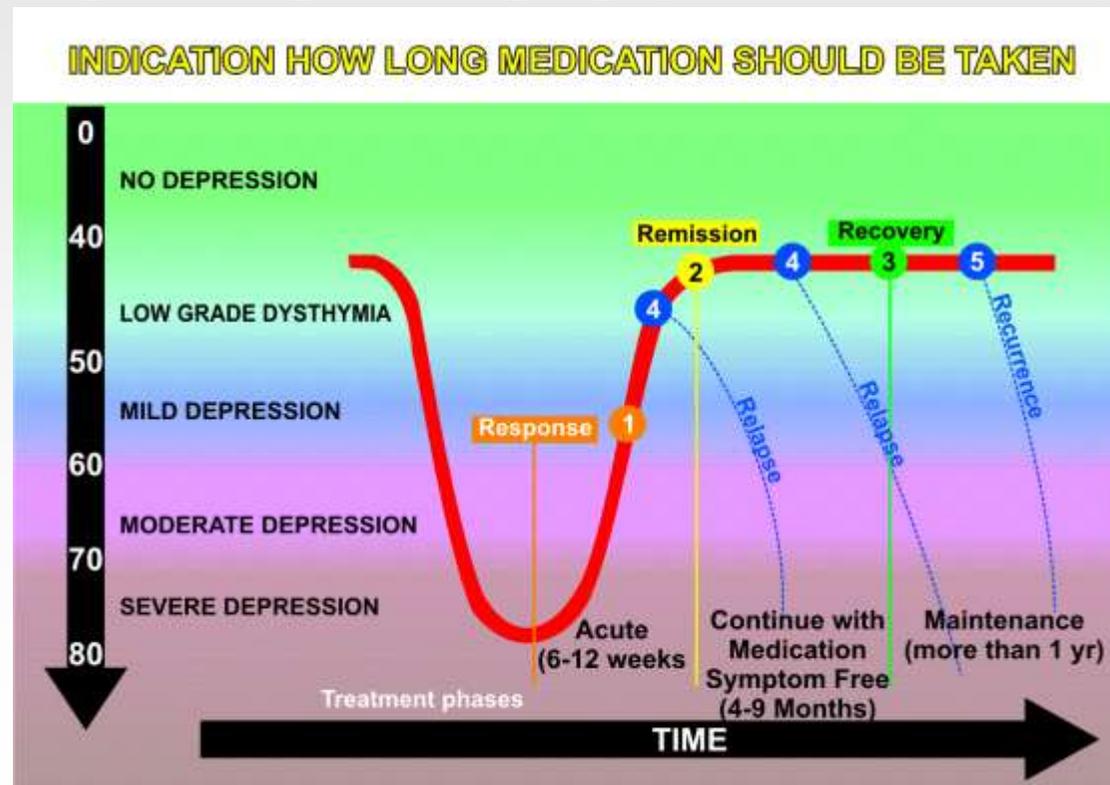


Eur J. Pharmacology 583:215, 2008

CRH reciprocally modulate GABA_A receptor and inhibit 5-HT neuronal functioning, hence (via negatively affecting BDNF) may involved in depression

AIM OF ANTIDEPRESSANT/ANTIMANIC TREATMENT

- Relief of acute symptoms **weeks**
- Prevention of relapse (maintenance therapy) **months**
- Prevention of repeated episodes (prophylactic treatment) **years**



Other indications of ADS

- anxiety disorders - **SSRIs, SNRIs**
- chronic pain - **TCAs, SSNRI**s
- premenstrual dysphoric disorder **SSRIs**
- bulimia nervosa **SSRIs** (no real value in anorexia)
- nocturnal enuresis **TCA**
- smoking cessation **bupropion**
- urinary stress incontinence **duloxetine**
- migraine prophylaxis
- ADHD **atomoxetine**

Agents for treatment of manic (hypomanic) episodes (mood stabilizers) I

➤ *Lithium carbonate*

Prophylactic dose may prevent mood swings

➤ **Anticonvulsive agents**

carbamazepine

valproate

clonazepam

lamotrigine

acute treatment

prophylactic treatment for preventing mood swings

Agents for treatment of manic (hypomanic) episodes (mood stabilizers) II

➤ Antipsychotics

for treatment – *risperidone, ziprasidone*
also for prophylaxis – *aripiprazole, quetiapine,*
olanzapine

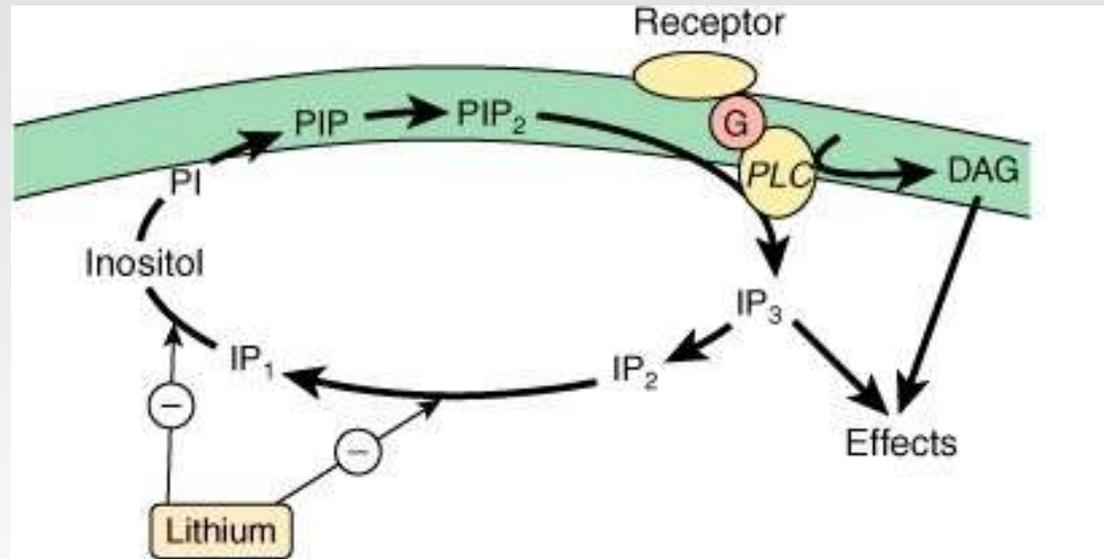
in acute phase, if absolutely needed
haloperidol

Lithium

Mechanism of action

Inhibition of two signal transduction pathway

1



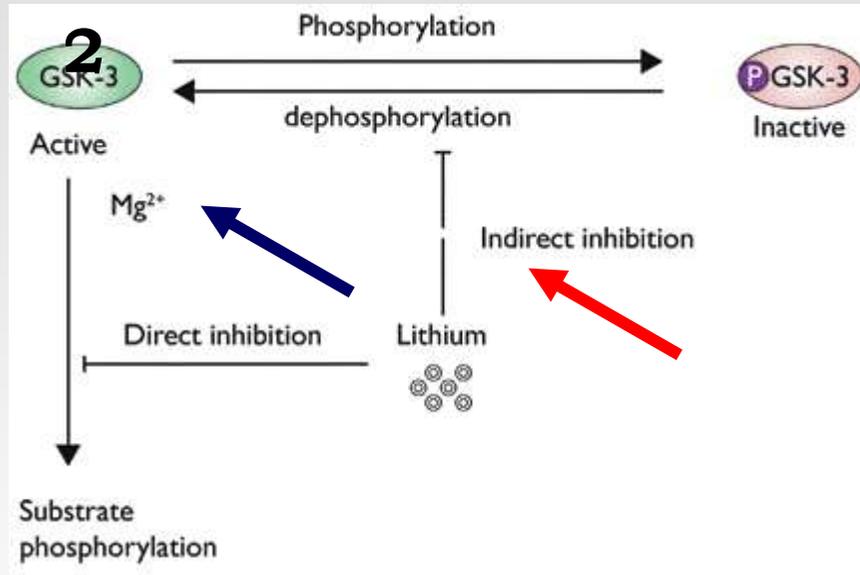
Source: Katzung BG, Masters SB, Trevor AJ: *Basic & Clinical Pharmacology*, 11th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

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Lithium

Mechanism of action

Inhibition of two signal transduction pathway



GSK3 (glycogen synthase kinase 3) is a protein kinase, phosphorylation of a protein by GSK-3 usually inhibits the activity of its downstream target

- Lithium inhibits the dephosphorylation, and consequently GSK-3 is less active
- By competing with Mg²⁺, lithium ions block the function of activated GSK-3.

Adverse effects of lithium

- Tremor, motor hyperactivity, mental confusion
- Decrease of thyroid function
- Polyuria, polydipsia, edema
- Decrease of cardiac function

**Therapeutic
plasma levels**

prophylactic

0.6-1 mol/l

acute manic phase

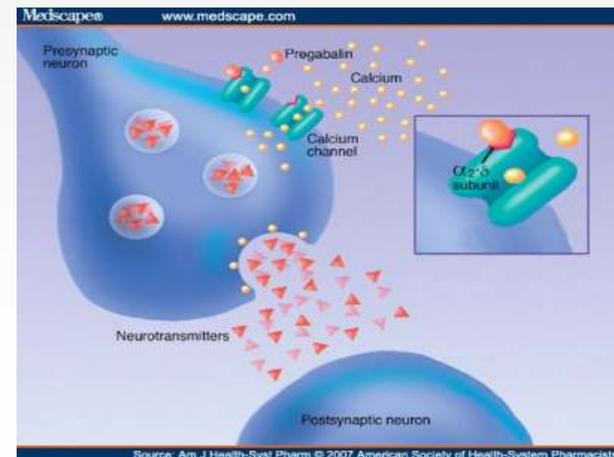
1.0-1.2 mol/l

toxic plasma level

1.5-1.7 mol/l

Agents for treatment of anxiety disorders

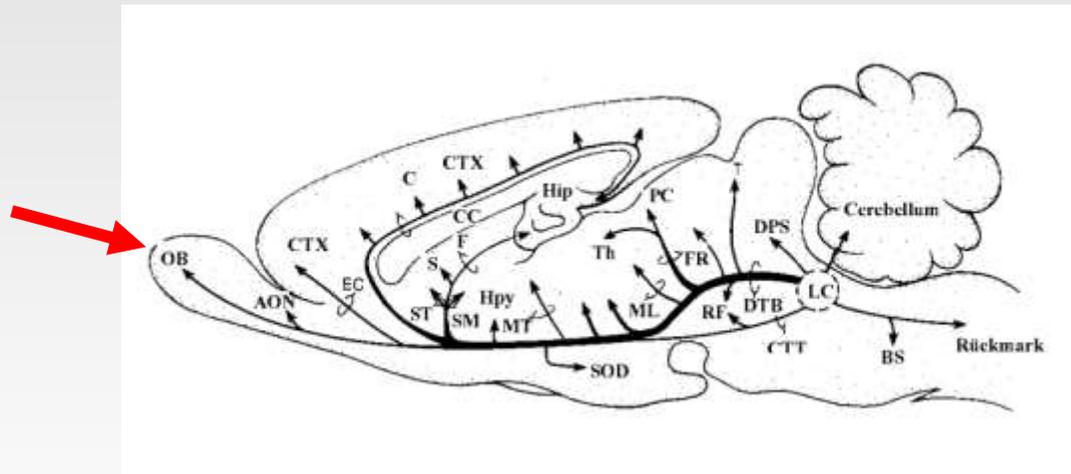
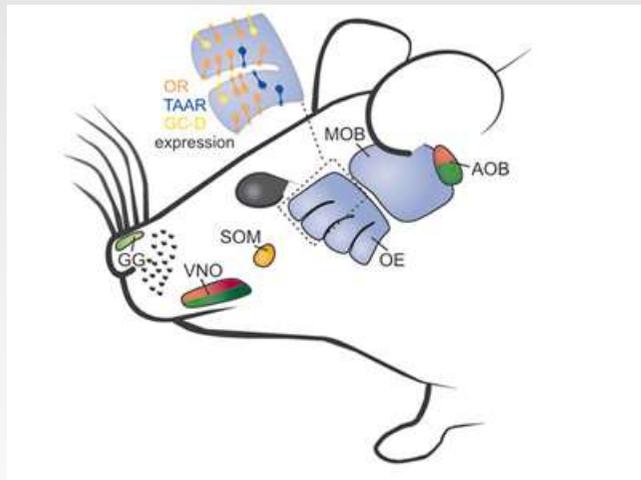
- **SSRIs, SSRNIs, RIMA**
- **benzodiazepines – alprazolam
clonazepam (panic disorder)
clobazam (severe anxiety)**
- **non-GABA-ergic anxiolytics – buspirone (GAD)**
5-HT_{1A} partial agonist
- **pregabalin (GAD)**



Animal models for depression

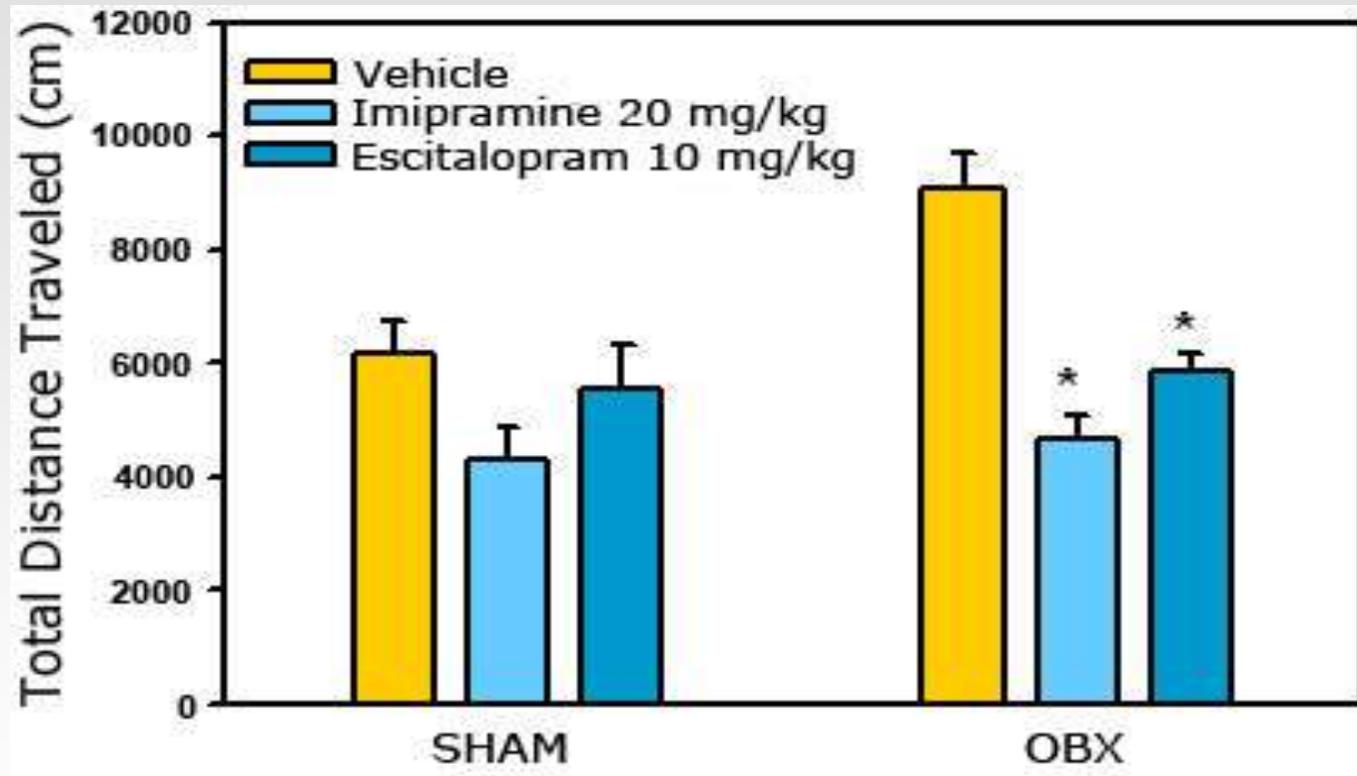
BILATERAL BULBECTOMY (OBX)

Studying the behavioral changes developing after removal of both *bulbus olfactorius*



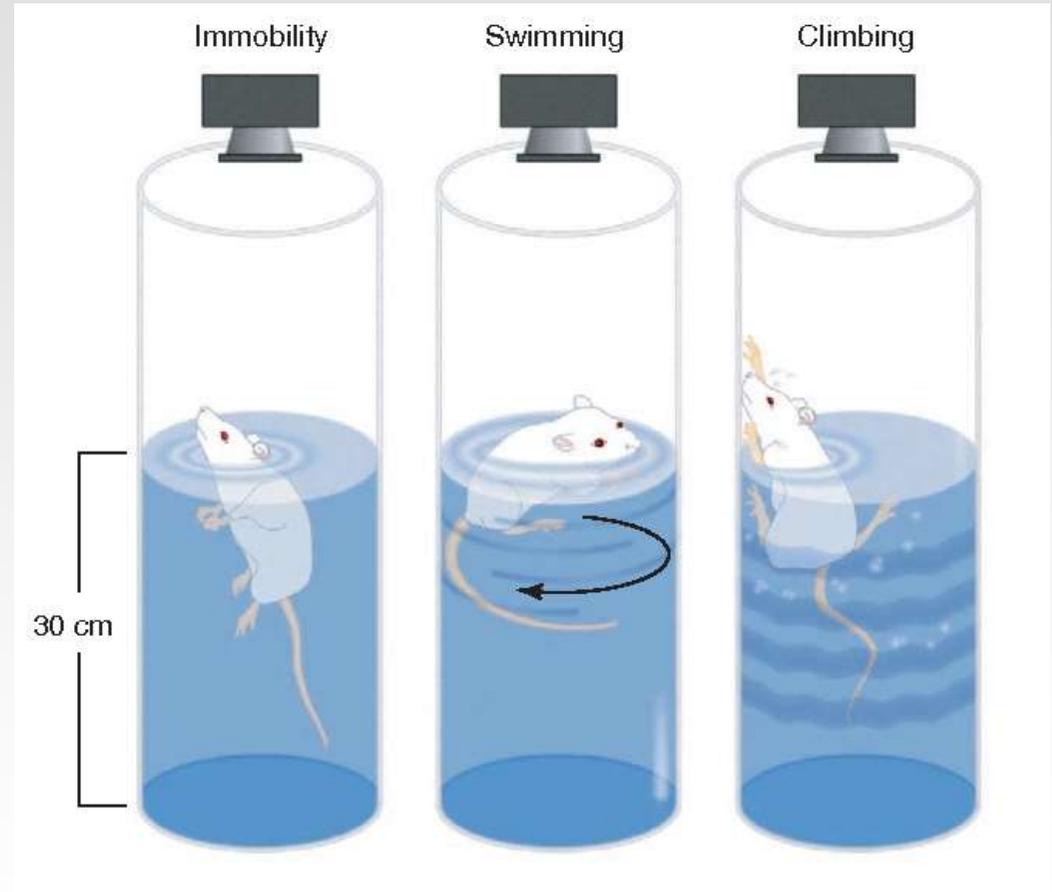
(changes in the locomotor activity, escape failure, loss of memory, aggressiveness, etc.)

changes in the locomotor activity



Sensitive only for chronic treatment

FORCED SWIMMING TEST (PORSHOLT TEST)

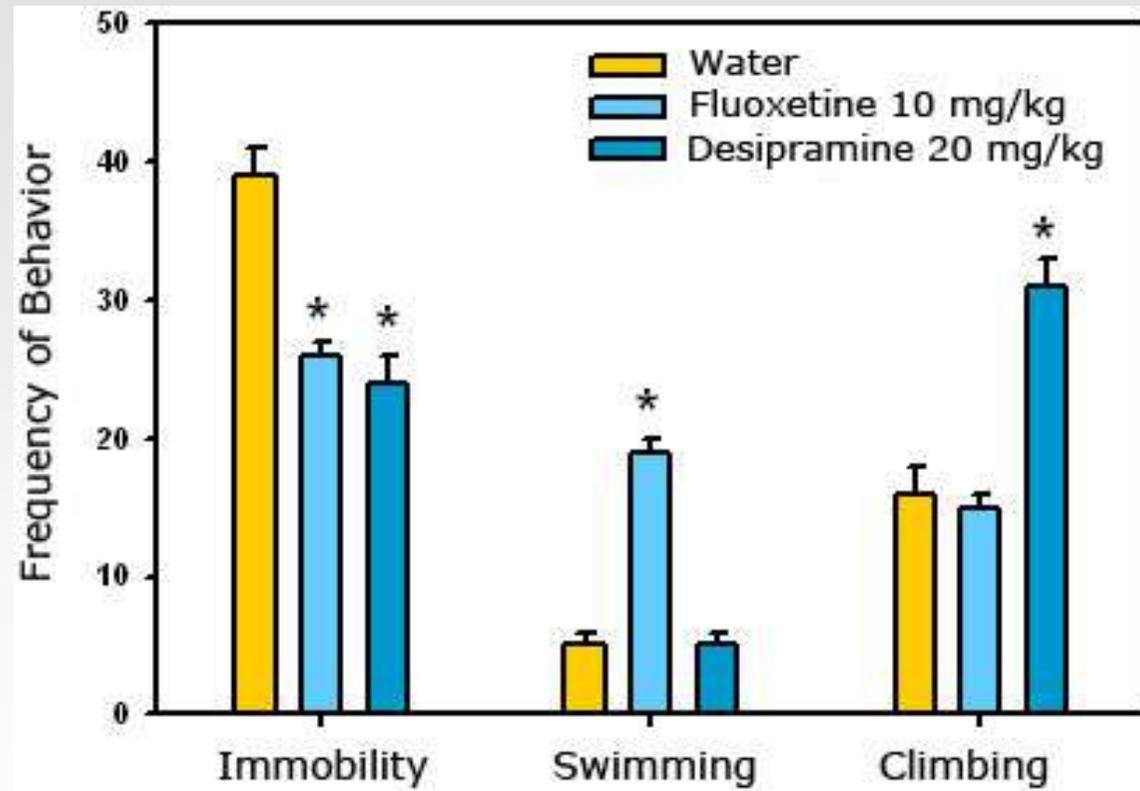


Sensitive only for acute treatment

FORCED SWIMMING TEST (PORSHOLT TEST)

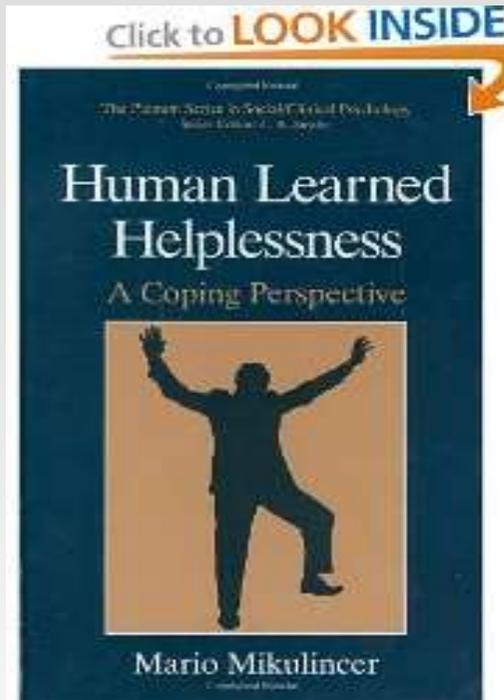


Sprague Dawley



<http://www.psychogenics.com/forcedswim.html>

LEARNED HELPLESSNESS TEST (stress model)



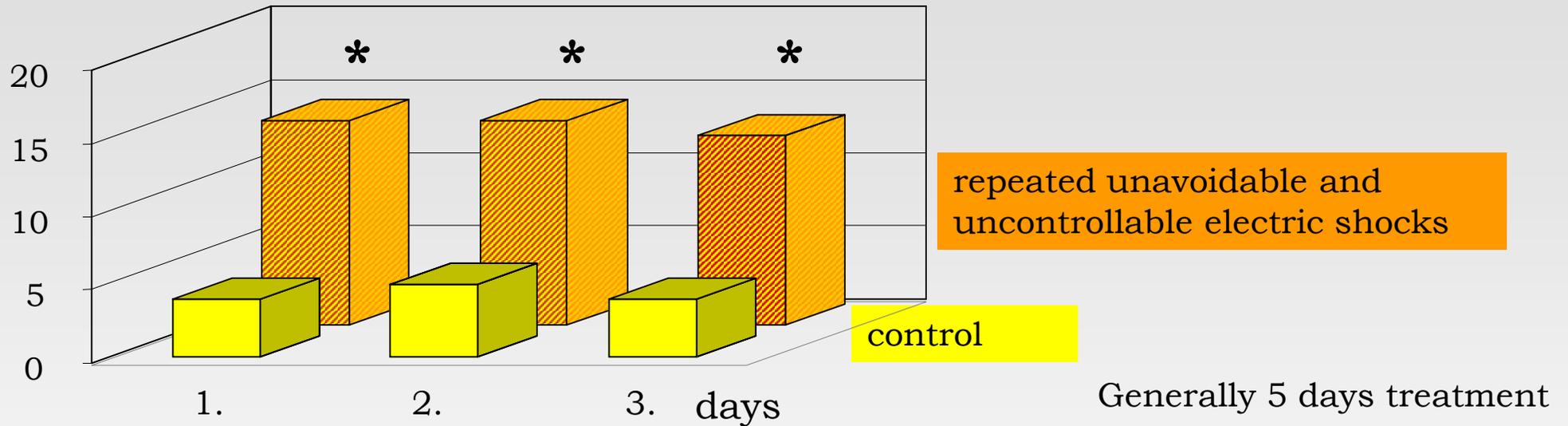
repeated unavoidable and uncontrollable moderate electric shocks are given in randomized way



response measured in shuttle box

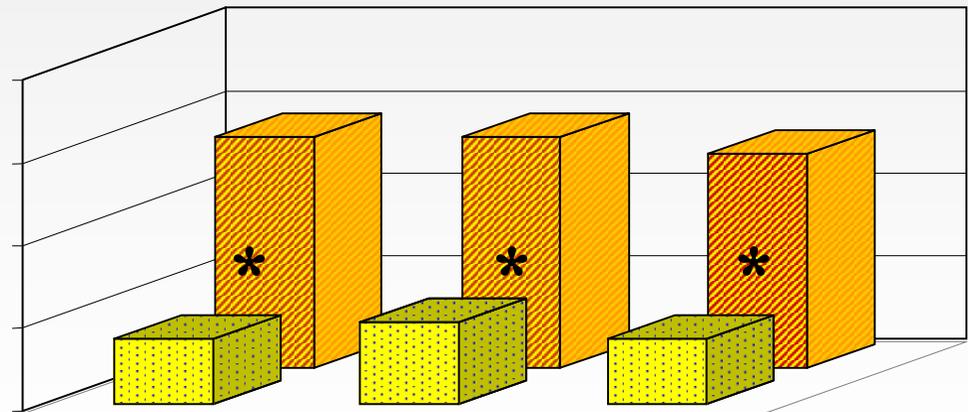
LEARNED HELPLESSNESS TEST

(negative escape response)



repeated unavoidable and uncontrollable electric shocks

repeated unavoidable and uncontrollable electric shocks + imipramine

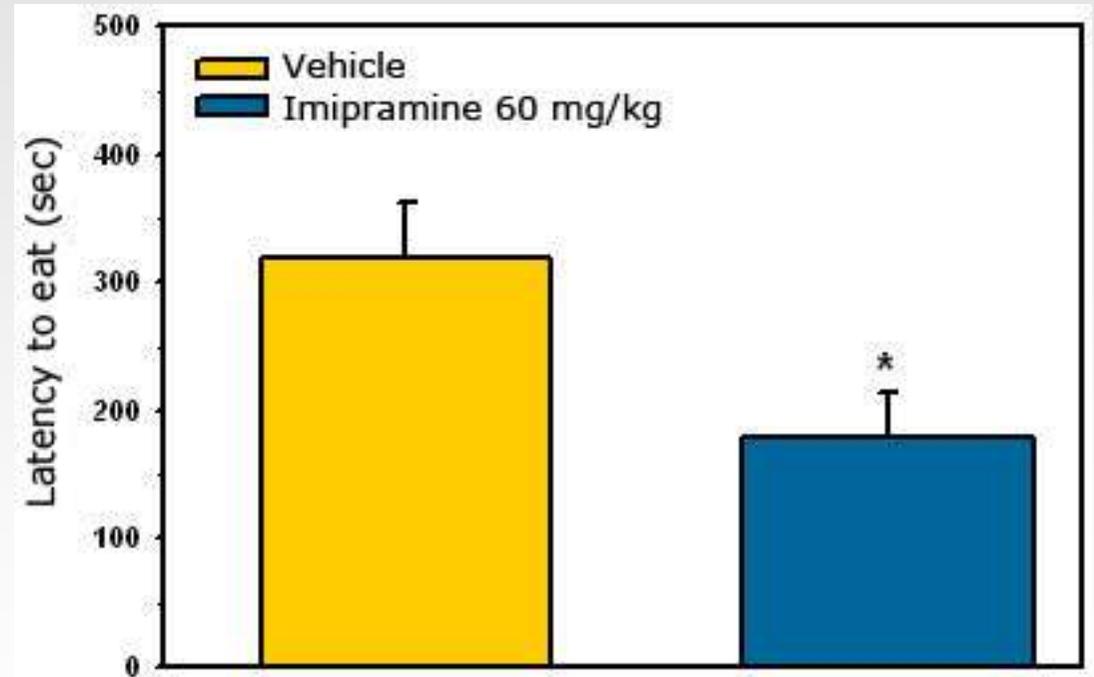


* p < 0.05 ANOVA

ANXIETY BASED TESTS I

- ❖ Novelty induced hypophagia (NIH)
- ❖ Novelty suppressed feeding (NSF)

Effect of **chronic** (28 days) imipramine (60 mg/kg; po) treatment (C57Bl/6J mice)



Sensitive to acute anxiolytic and chronic antidepressant treatment

Chronic mild stress (CMS)

Presently CMS is considered to be the most reliable depression model. During a minimum 2 weeks period animals are exposed to mild but unexpected, randomized stress – this results in long-term behavioral, neurochemical and neuroendocrinological changes.

Week	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
1	17:00 to next day: damp bedding	4 h white noise	8 h cage tilt	Continuous light 24 h	Removal of nesting 24 h	Food and water deprivation 8 h	Swimming at 4°C for 5 min
2	Continuous light 24 h	17:00 to next day: damp bedding	Food and water deprivation 8 h	Swimming at 4°C for 5 min	8 h cage tilt	4 h white noise	Removal of nest- ing 24 h
3	Swimming at 4°C for 5 min	Continuous light 24 h	8 h cage tilt	Removal of nesting 24 h	4 h white noise	Food and water deprivation 8 h	17:00 to next day: damp bedding

Ream Al-Hassani et al, Front. Pharmacol, 2013 doi: 10.3389/fphar.2013.00096

Sensitive for chronic treatment