

Prescott's

# MICROBIOLOGY

ELEVENTH EDITION

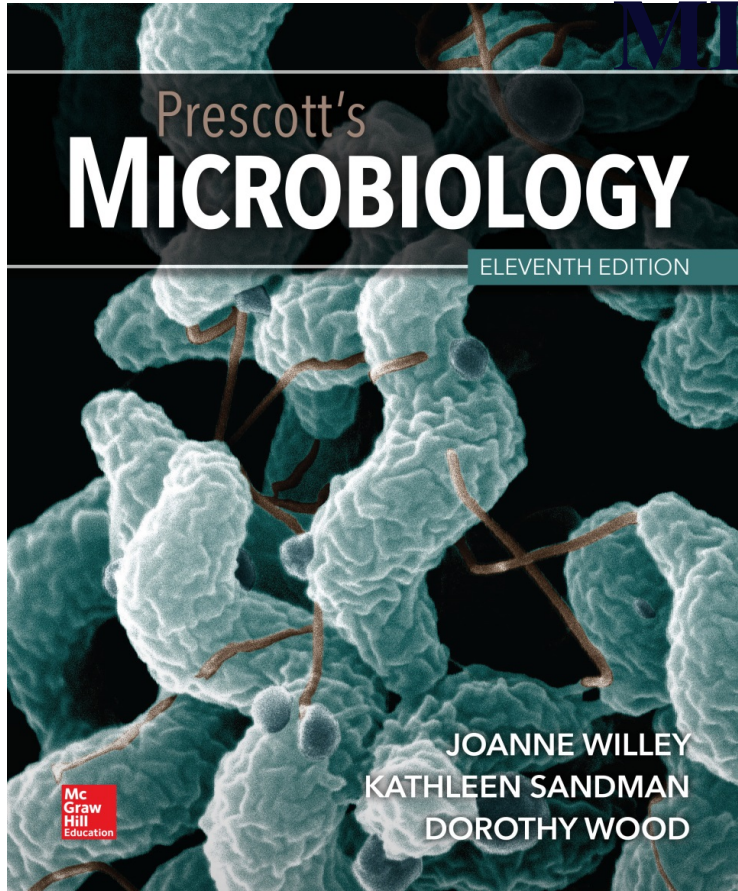
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Chapter 9

## Antimicrobial Chemotherapy



Prescott's  
**MICROBIOLOGY**

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\* Antimicrobial agents → Chemicals that inhibit Microbs → Some agent inhibit Microbial Growth while others can Kill them completely.

\* The Majority of Antimicrobial agents Are Antibiotics that are derived from other organisms (fungi, other bacteria).  
- Sometimes Bacteria can Produce their own Antibiotic Agents.

# Chemotherapeutic Agents

Chemical agents used to **treat disease**.

**Destroy** pathogenic microbes or **inhibit** their growth within host.

Most are **antibiotics**.

- **Microbial products** or their derivatives that **kill** **susceptible microbes** or **inhibit** their growth.

# The Development of Chemotherapy

Paul Ehrlich (1904) → He showed that certain chemicals have selective toxicity ⇒ meaning that these chemicals can kill microbes but unable to kill eukaryotic cells.

- ✓ Developed concept of selective toxicity.
- ✓ Identified dyes that effectively treated African sleeping sickness. → He also finds out that some dyes → kill tsetse fly (A fly that if infect human cause sleeping sickness)

Sahachiro Hata (1910) → Some compounds can treat syphilis (Cherch. in Presence of Sores on gum)

- ✓ Working with Ehrlich, identified arsenic compounds that effectively treated syphilis.

Gerhard Domagk, and Jacques and Therese Trefouel (1935).

- Discovered sulfonamides, or sulfa drugs.

# Penicillin

First discovered by Ernest Duchesne (1896), but discovery lost. ✓

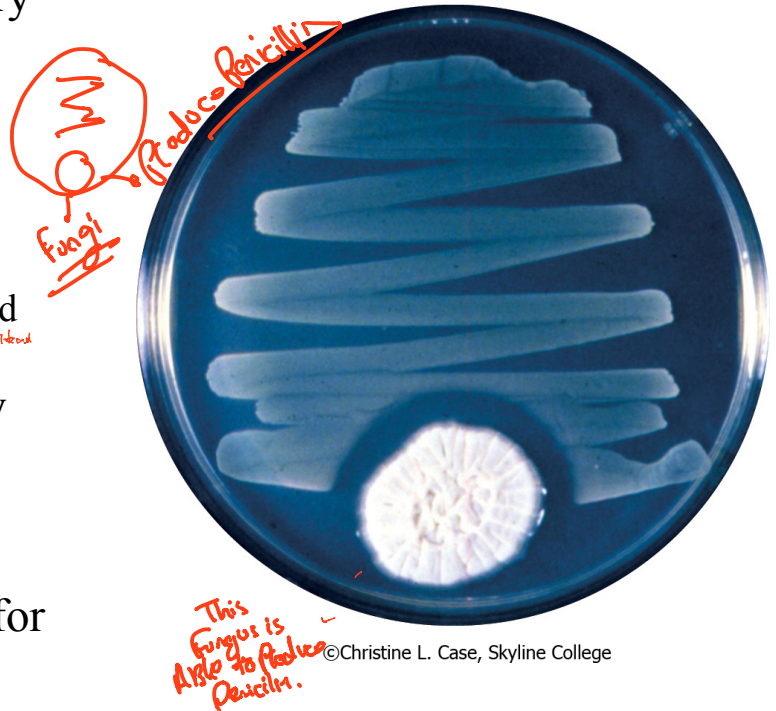
Accidentally discovered by Alexander Fleming (1928).

- Observed penicillin activity on contaminated plate. ✓
- Did not think could be developed further → After the growth of Microorganisms the fungal growth in one area of the Petri-dish stunted with zones of inhibition.

✓ Effectiveness demonstrated by Florey, Chain, and Heatley (1939).

✓ Fleming, Florey, and Chain received Nobel Prize in 1945 for discovery and production of penicillin.

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Active Against  
Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis

## Later Discoveries

Streptomycin, an antibiotic active against tuberculosis, was discovered by Selman Waksman (1944).

- Nobel Prize was awarded to Waksman in 1952 for this discovery.

By 1953 chloramphenicol, neomycin, oxytetracycline, and tetracycline isolated.

# General Characteristics of Antimicrobial Drugs<sub>1</sub>

## Selective toxicity.

- Ability of drug to kill or inhibit pathogen while damaging host as little as possible.

## Therapeutic dose.

- Drug level required for clinical treatment.

## Toxic dose.

- Drug level at which drug becomes too toxic for patient (i.e., produces side effects).

## Therapeutic index.

- Ratio of toxic dose to therapeutic dose.

# General Characteristics of Antimicrobial Drugs<sub>2</sub>

\* When we think about Antimicrobial Growth we think about  
Common criteria → Must be present in any antibiotic

**Side effects**—undesirable effects of drugs on host cells.  
↳ symptoms, negative effect,

**Narrow-spectrum** drugs—attack only a few different pathogens.

**Broad-spectrum** drugs—attack many different kinds of bacteria.

**Cidal agent**—kills the target pathogen.

**Static agent**—reversibly inhibits growth of microbes.

# Measuring Effectiveness of Antimicrobial Drugs

→ Talking about antimicrobial Agent → we need to think about the conc.

→ depends on the Conc. of Microbs → we give the Conc of Drug.

Effect of an agent may vary with concentration, microbe, host.

Effectiveness expressed in two ways:

- Minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC)—lowest concentration of drug that prevents growth of the pathogen. → you need to make sure that use of MIC
- Minimal lethal concentration (MLC)—lowest concentration of drug that kills the pathogen.

→ we use the lowest conc. → So the patient won't have resistance for the Antibiotic

if we need to think about  
① the Conc. of Drugs.  
→ at any experiment we use the same Conc. of the Drugs  
② Bacteria Conc → the inoculum that we start with is important

MacFarland stand  
↓  
Chemical  
 $0.5 = 1 \times 10^8$   
cfu/ml

So if we grow the bacteria in the tube → compare turbidity

turb of inoculum  
turb of the std  
 $1 \times 10^8$  cfu/ml

if Turbidity is higher we need to do dilution.



# Antimicrobial Drugs—Main Modes of Action

- 1) Inhibitors of cell wall synthesis. ✓
- 2) Protein synthesis inhibitors. ✓
- 3) Metabolic antagonists.
- 4) Nucleic acid synthesis inhibition.  
DNA/RNA

# 1 Inhibitors of Cell Wall Synthesis:

Sometimes we have other side chains

**Penicillins** (Gamma penicillic Acid)

Most are 6-aminopenicillanic acid derivatives and differ in side chain attached to amino group.

Most crucial feature of molecule is the  $\beta$ -lactam ring.

main Active ingredient /  
Bioactive Component.

- Essential for bioactivity.
- Many penicillin resistant organisms produce  $\beta$ -lactamase (penicillinase) which hydrolyzes a bond in this ring.

Hydrolyze the Penicillin

# Penicillins—Structures

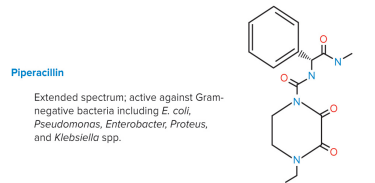
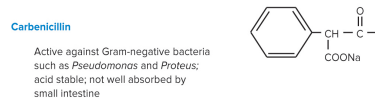
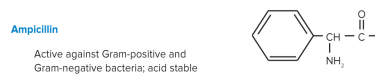
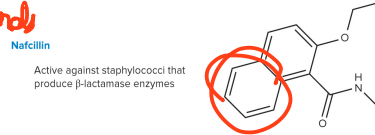
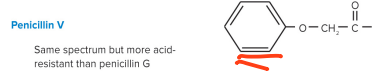
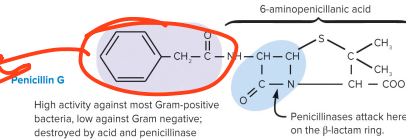
Mode of action → interfere with cell wall biosynthesis

- Blocks the enzyme that catalyzes **transpeptidation** (formation of cross-links in peptidoglycan).
- Prevents the synthesis of complete cell walls** leading to **lysis of cell**.
- Acts only on **growing bacteria** that are synthesizing new **peptidoglycan**.

Side chain

Peptide bonds synthesis in the cell wall

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# Other Actions and Types of Penicillins

Binds to periplasmic proteins (penicillin-binding proteins, PBPs)

Naturally occurring penicillins:

- Penicillin V and G are narrow spectrum *→ Certain microorganisms can produce this penicillin → Gram positive bacteria*

Semisynthetic penicillins have a broader spectrum than naturally occurring ones. *→ Named penicillin but added tail, new groups*

- Bulkier side chains make them more difficult for  $\beta$ -lactamase enzymes to degrade.

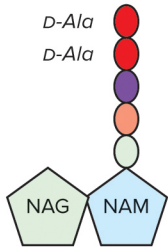
Resistance to penicillins, including the semisynthetic analogs, continues to be a problem.

Aminopenicillins have broader coverage that includes many Gram-negative bacteria.

# B-lactam Antibiotics Block Transpeptidation

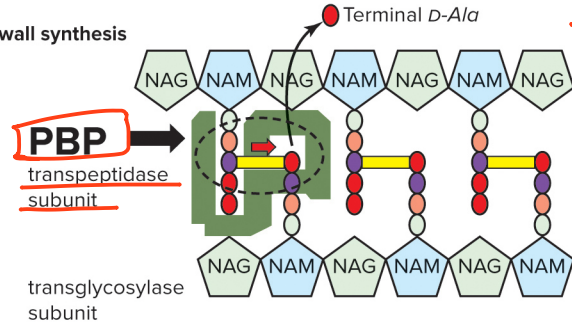
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a. Peptidoglycan subunit



*Transpeptidate -  
Forming Peptide Bonds Between Amino acids in the Cell!*

c.  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics block cell wall synthesis



Cell wall synthesis blocked by  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic



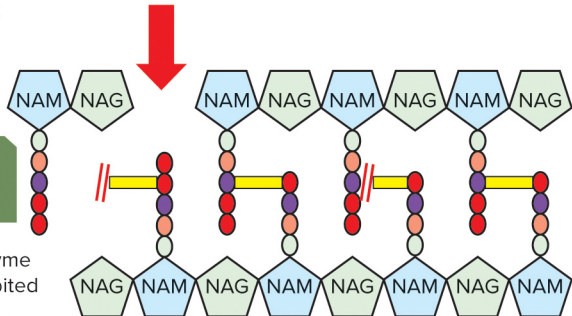
**$\beta$ -lactams - bind to transpeptidase active site**

Block of transpeptidase activity interrupts cross-linking & cell wall synthesis

**PBP**



$\beta$ -lactam antibiotic



b. PBP (transpeptidase)



\* Some Microorganisms Are Resistant to Penicillin → So we need another Drug of choice

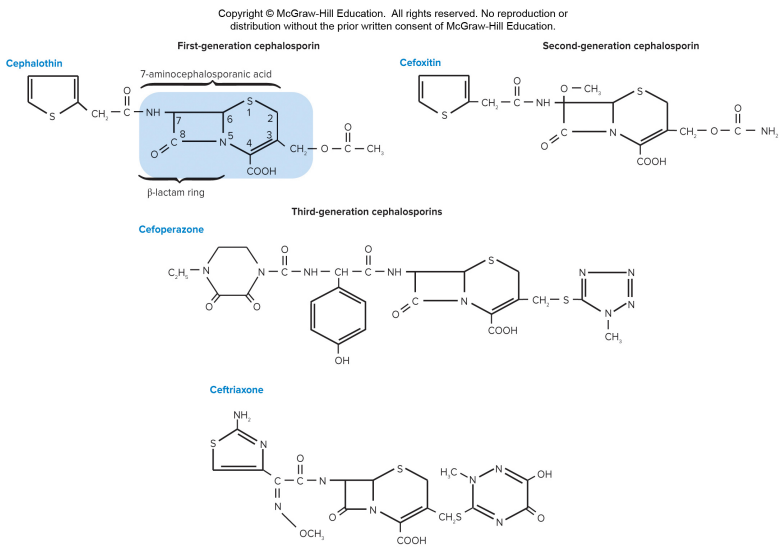
# Cephalosporins

↳ For Penicillin Resistance Microbes.

Structurally and functionally similar to penicillins.

Broad-spectrum antibiotics that can be used by most patients that are allergic to penicillin.

Four categories based on their spectrum of activity.



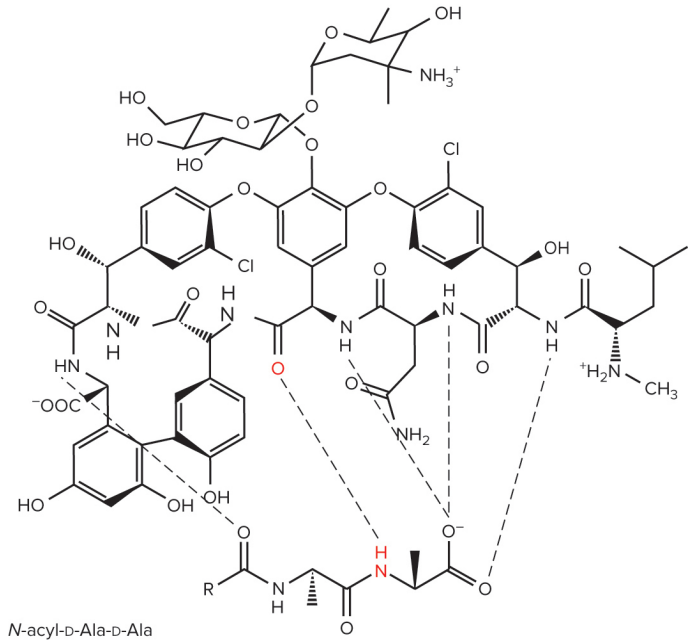
MRSA - Mupirocin Resistance *S. Aureus* → lead to bans.

Resistance to most of Antibiotics

used on sides.

**Vancomycin** → Acts on the cell wall biosynthesis  
→ Last Drug of choice / Alternative to Penicillin.

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**Glycopeptide antibiotic.**

**Inhibit cell wall synthesis.**

Vancomycin—important for treatment of **antibiotic-resistant staphylococcal and enterococcal infections.**

Previously considered “drug of last resort” so rise in resistance to vancomycin is of great concern.

→ Main Component → Ribosome.

# Protein Synthesis Inhibitors

↳ interfere with Ribosome function / units.

Many antibiotics bind specifically to the bacterial ribosome.

Target different steps in protein synthesis.

- Aminoacyl-tRNA binding. ✓
- Peptide bond formation. ✓
- mRNA reading. ✓
- Translocation. ✓

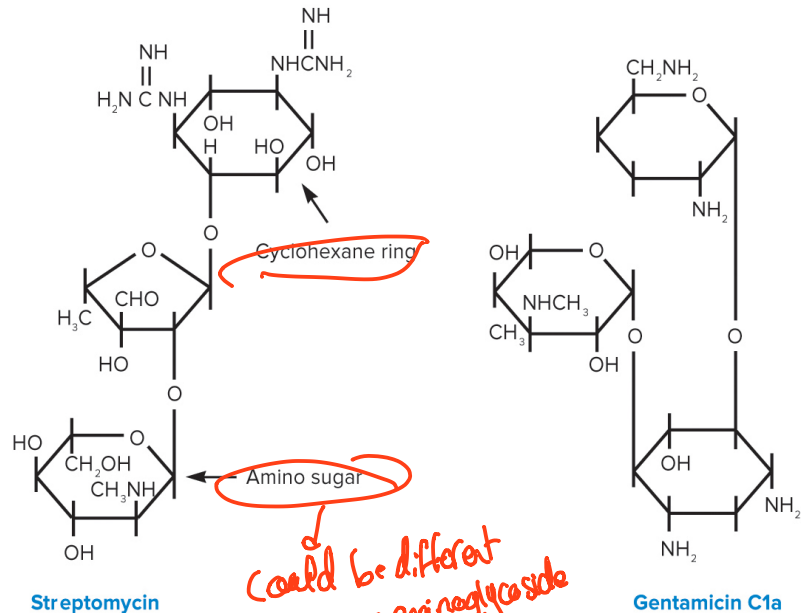


# Aminoglycosides → Cyclohexane Rings.

Large group, all with a **cyclohexane ring**, **amino sugars**.

Bind to **30S** ribosomal subunit, interfere with **protein synthesis** by **directly inhibiting the process** and by causing **misreading of the messenger RNA**.

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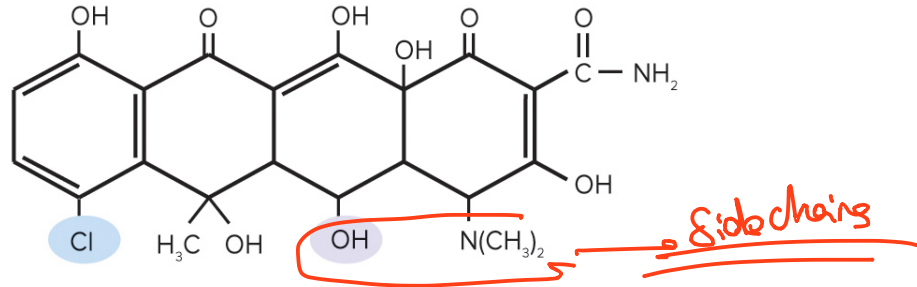


could be different from one enantiomer to another.

# b) Tetracyclines → 4 Rings.

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Tetracycline (chlortetracycline, doxycycline)



All have a four-ring structure to which a variety of side chains are attached.

Are broad spectrum, bacteriostatic. → don't kill but inhibit.

Target the 30S subunit of the ribosome inhibiting protein synthesis.

# @ Macrolides

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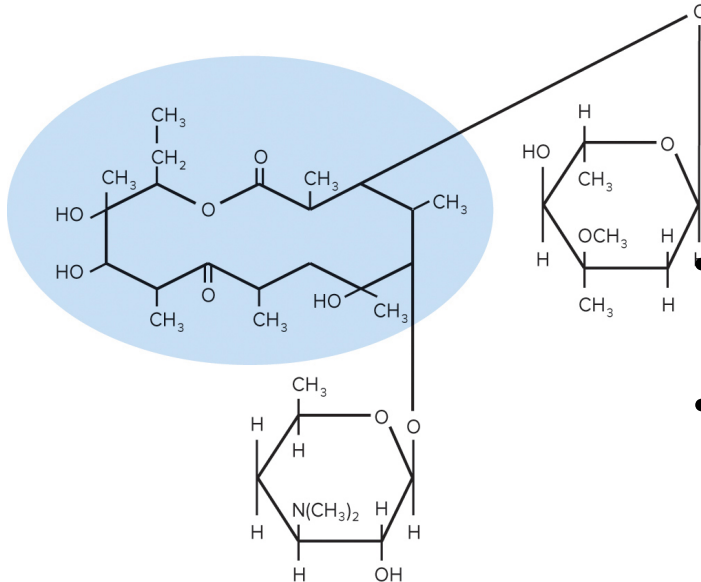
Contain 12- to 22-carbon  
lactone rings linked to one  
or more sugars.

For example, erythromycin.

Broad spectrum, usually  
bacteriostatic.

- Binds to 50S ribosomal  
subunit to inhibit bacterial  
protein elongation.

Used for patients allergic to  
penicillin.



## ① Chloramphenicol → Extremely Toxic

Now is chemically synthesized.

Binds the 50S ribosomal subunit to inhibit bacterial protein synthesis.

Toxic with numerous side effects so only used in life-threatening situations. ✓

## ③ Metabolic Antagonists

Produce Metabolites  
→ are structurally  
similar to metabolites  
in eukaryotic cells.

Act as antimetabolites.

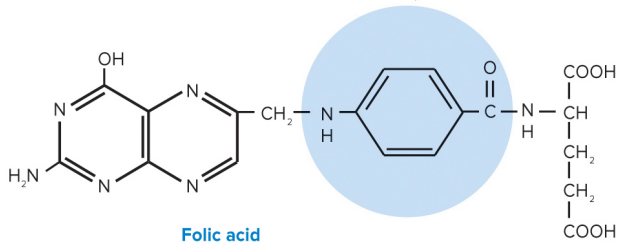
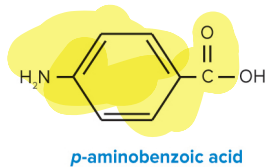
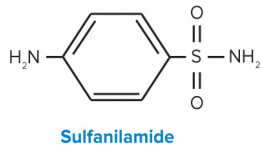
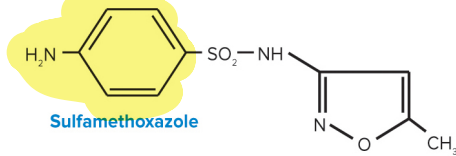
- Antagonize or block functioning of metabolic pathways by competitively inhibiting the use of metabolites by key enzymes.

Are structural analogs.

- Molecules that are structurally similar to, and compete with, naturally occurring metabolic intermediates to block normal cellular metabolism.

# A Sulfonamides or Sulfa Drugs

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↳ looks similar to compounds used for synthesising Folic Acid.

Structurally related to sulfanilamide, a para aminobenzoic acid (PABA) analog.

PABA used for the synthesis of folic acid and is made by many pathogens.

- Sulfa drugs are selectively toxic due to competitive inhibition of folic acid synthesis enzymes.

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# B Trimethoprim

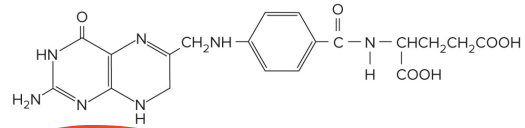
Synthetic antibiotic that also interferes with folic acid production.

Broad spectrum.

Can be combined with sulfa drugs to increase efficacy of treatment.

- Combination blocks two steps in folic acid pathway.

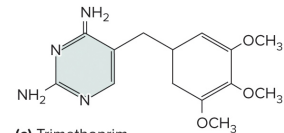
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(a) Dihydrofolic acid (DFA)



(b) Dihydrofolate reductase



(c) Trimethoprim

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DNA/RNA

# Nucleic Acid Synthesis Inhibition

Effect Biosynthesis / Replication

The most commonly used antibacterial drugs that inhibit nucleic acid synthesis function by inhibiting:

- DNA polymerase and topoisomerases (fluoroquinolones). ✓
- RNA polymerase (rifamycins). ✓

✗ Nucleic Acid Antibiotics  
as not as effective on  
others.

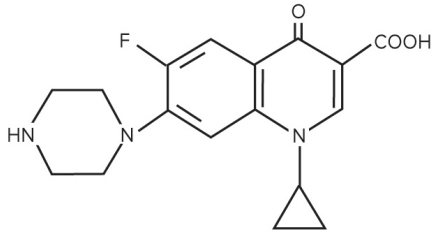
Drugs not as selectively toxic as other antibiotics because bacteria and eukaryotes do not differ greatly in the way they synthesize nucleic acids. ✓



# (A) Fluoroquinolones

↳ effect the DNA syn → Act on DNA Gyrase + topoisomerase II.

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Ciprofloxacin

Synthetic drugs containing the 4-quinolone ring.   
↳ Unwinding for DNA strands

Act by inhibiting bacterial DNA gyrase and topoisomerase II.

Broad spectrum, bactericidal, treat a wide variety of infections.

\* Once viruses enter the host cell they start replicating and assembling and forming their own structure

# Antiviral Drugs →

they are challenging because viruses are killing organisms.

Drug development has been slow because it is difficult to specifically target viral replication.

Antiviral drugs have had mixed success and the vast majority of viral infections cannot be cured.

Some antiviral drugs simply limit the duration of the illness (For example, flu) or its severity (For example, herpes, HIV).

\* They are not good because they affect eukaryotes and we need relative toxicity.

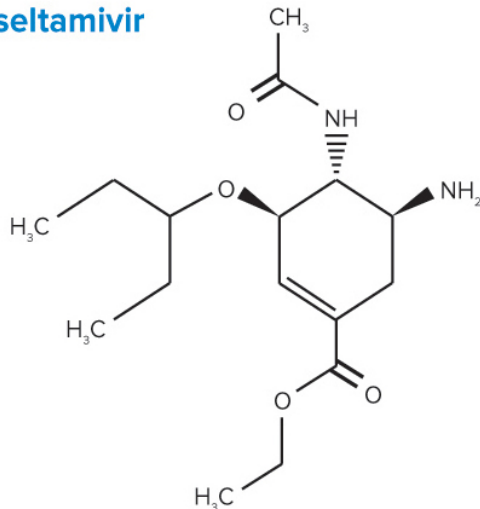
Drugs currently used inhibit virus-specific enzymes and life cycle processes .

# Antiviral Drugs for Influenza

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## e. Neuraminidase inhibitor

### Oseltamivir



## Tamiflu.

- Anti-influenza agent.
- A neuraminidase inhibitor.
- Though not a cure for influenza, has been shown to shorten course of illness.

# Antiviral Drugs for Viruses With DNA Genomes

## Acyclovir and vidarabine

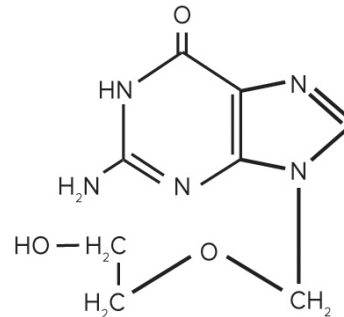
- Used to treat herpes infections and shingles.

*L Herpes*

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d. Inhibitors of viral DNA polymerase

### Acyclovir



## Ganciclovir.

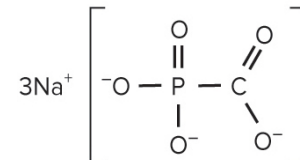
- Used to treat systemic cytomegalovirus illness.

## Foscarnet. → For people who are Resistant

- Used in cases of acyclovir or ganciclovir resistance.
- Treats illnesses caused by both herpes simplex viruses and cytomegalovirus.

c. Viral fusion inhibitor

### Foscarnet

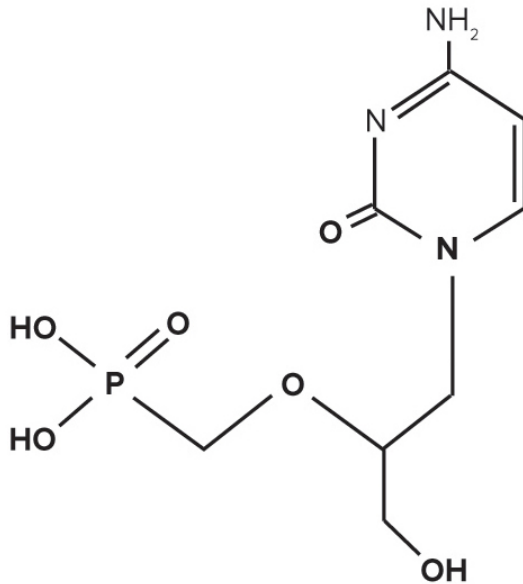


# Broad Spectrum Antiviral Drugs

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## d. Inhibitors of viral DNA polymerase

### Cidofovir



## Cidofovir.

- Inhibits viral DNA polymerase.

# Anti-HIV Drugs<sub>1</sub>

## ✓ Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs).

- Target and interfere with critical steps in viral replicative processes.

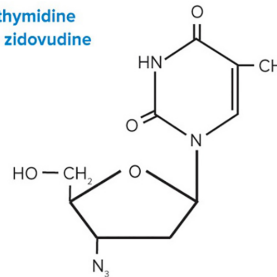
## ✓ Protease inhibitors (PIs).

- block the activity of the HIV protease needed for the production of all viral proteins.

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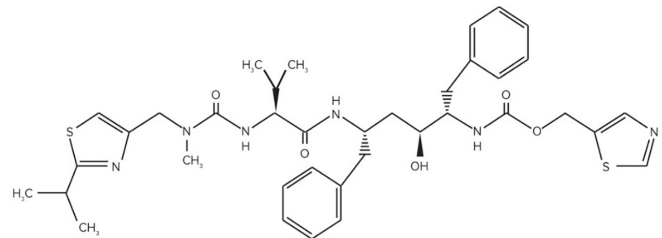
### a. Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor

Azidothymidine (AZT) or zidovudine



### b. Viral protease inhibitor

Ritonavir



# Anti-HIV Drugs<sup>2</sup>

This virus is made n.n from RNA → can be converted to cDNA.

## ✓ Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs).

- Prevent HIV DNA synthesis by selectively binding to and inhibiting the viral reverse transcriptase enzyme.

## ✓ Integrase inhibitors.

- Prevent the incorporation of the HIV genome into the host's chromosomes.

## ✓ Fusion inhibitors.

- Prevent HIV entry into cells.

Most successful are drug cocktails to curtail resistance.

# Identifying Targets for Anti-HIV Drugs

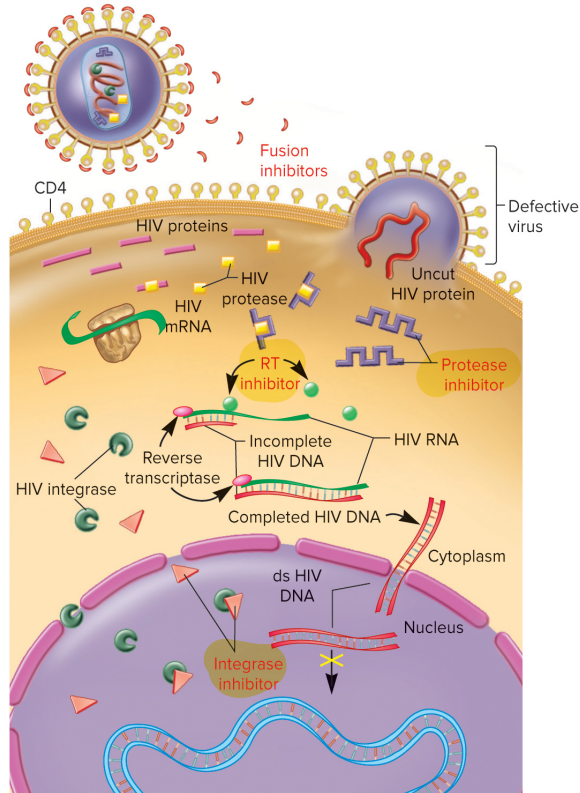
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Infection begins with HIV fusion.  
Fusion inhibitors block this step.

Once inside a host cell, HIV uncoats and its reverse transcriptase (RT) makes DNA from the viral RNA genome.  
RT inhibitors block this step.

Viral DNA is transcribed and translated into polyproteins that are cut to release viral proteins.  
Protease inhibitors block this step.

Viral DNA is added to the host DNA by the action of a viral integrase.  
Integrase inhibitors block this step.



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# Antifungal Drugs

↳ least effective drugs

Fewer effective agents because of similarity of eukaryotic fungal cells and human cells.

- Many have low therapeutic index and are toxic.

Easier to treat superficial mycoses than systemic infections.

↳ outside (surfaces) ✓.

- Combinations of drugs may be used.

# Treating Mycoses

## Superficial mycoses.

- For example, *Candida*. → Gastrointestinal Tract.
- Topical and oral.
- Disrupt membrane permeability and inhibit sterol synthesis.
- Disrupts mitotic spindle; may inhibit protein and DNA synthesis.

## Systemic mycoses. *Internal.*

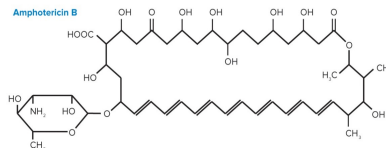
- Difficult to control and can be fatal.
- Three common drugs.
  - Amphotericin B—binds sterols in membranes.
  - 5-flucytosine—disrupts RNA function.
  - Fluconazole—low side effects, used prophylactically.

# Common Antifungal Drugs

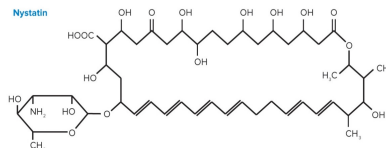
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- a. Polyenes bind to sterols, resulting in membrane damage

**Amphotericin B**

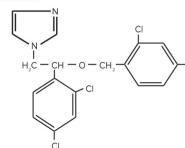


**Nystatin**

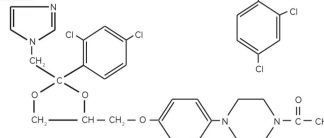


- b. Azoles inhibit sterol synthesis, resulting in altered membrane permeability

**Miconazole**

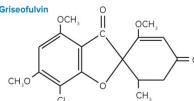


**Ketoconazole**



- c. Drug that inhibits nucleic acid synthesis, protein synthesis, or cell division

**Griseofulvin**



- d. Drug that disrupts RNA function

**5-flucytosine**



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When we talk antiBacterial or other Antibiotic → Resistance

# Types of Drug Resistance

## Intrinsic →

- Mycoplasma resistance to β-lactam antibiotics and other cell wall inhibitors simply because these bacteria lack a cell wall.

**Acquired**—occurs when there is a change in the genome of a bacterium that converts it from one that is sensitive to an antibiotic to one that is resistant.

**Drug-tolerant bacteria** (persisters) lack the mechanisms for antibiotic resistance and “ignore” the presence of antibiotics, usually because they are embedded in biofilms that antibiotics cannot effectively penetrate or are growing too slowly to be inhibited.

→ at extreme conditions

How do Bacteria Resist Antibiotics? → *Savece medca.* → *Efflux drugs.*

# Mechanisms of Drug Resistance

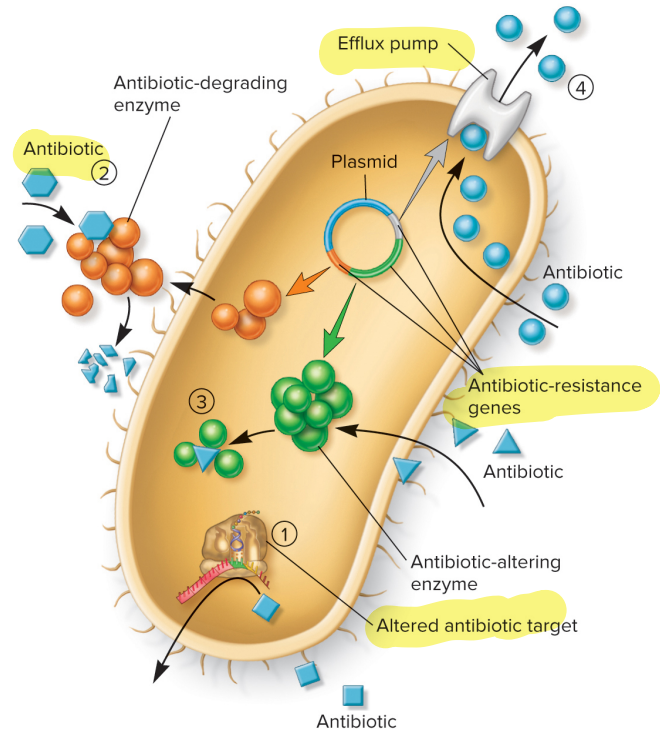
Modify the target of the antibiotic.

Drug inactivation.

Minimize the concentration of antibiotic in the cell.

Bypass the biochemical reaction inhibited by the agent or increase the production of the target metabolite.

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# Detecting Drug Resistance

Commercial gene expression systems are designed to identify the production of specific resistance factors, such as a target-modifying enzyme.

Several test systems measure the color change induced when a chromophore is acted upon by either a  $\beta$ -lactamase or an antibiotic-modifying enzyme. ✓

- ✓ Color changes are measured spectrophotometrically and protein concentration is extrapolated from a standardized curve.

Detection systems are also commercially available to identify genes encoding drug resistance factors using polymerase chain reactions (PCRs).

# Overcoming Drug Resistance

Give drug in appropriate concentrations to destroy susceptible microbes and most spontaneous mutants.

Give two or more drugs at same time.

Use drugs only when necessary.

Possible future solutions.

- Continued development of new drugs.
- Use of bacteriophages to treat bacterial disease.