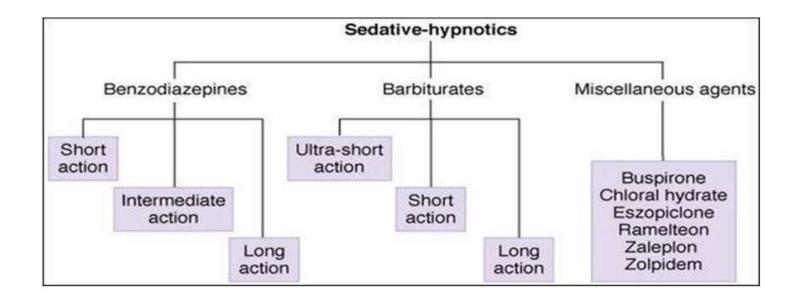
> Anxiolytic agents (sedatives) are the drugs that reduces

tension, anxiety and calms the patients with minimum effect on

the mental or motor functions.

> Hypnotics induce sleep.



1. Barbiturates		
Long acting	Short acting	Ultra-short
		acting
Phenobarbitone	Butobarbitone	Thiopentone
	Pentobarbitone	Methohexitone

2. Benzodiazepines

Hypnotic Diazepam Flurazepam Nitrazepam Alprazolam Temazepam Triazolam

Antianxiety

Diazepam Chlordiazepoxide Oxazepam Lorazepam Alprazolam

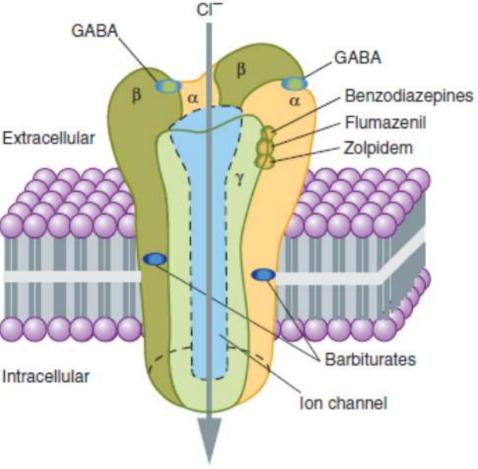
Anticonvulsant Diazepam Lorazepam Clonazepam Clobazam

3. Newer nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics Zopiclone, Zolpidem Zaleplon

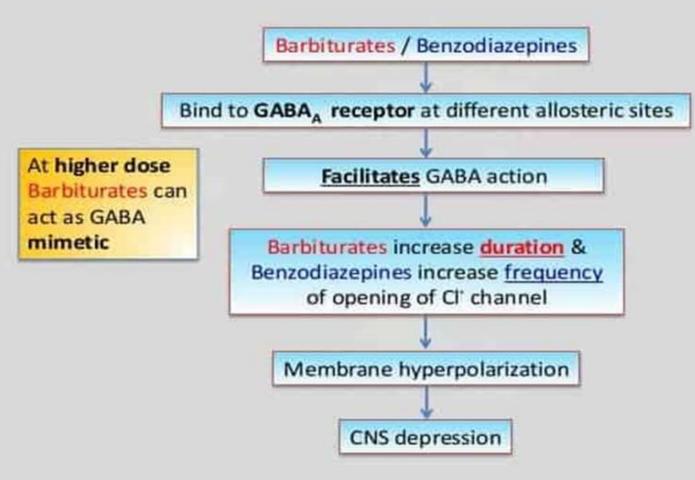
Barbiturates

Barbiturates Bind to a specific barbiturate receptor on the GABA_△ Chloride channel complex and facilitate GABA mediated chloride ion channel opening(increasing duration), membrane hyperpolarization and CNS depression occur.

Barbiturates also can block neuronal Na⁺ channels, & block the excitatory NMDA receptors of glutamate.



Mechanism of Action



	Barbiturates		
Pharmacokinetics	 1-They are weak acidic drugs, absorbed orally. 2- redistribute in the body 3- metabolized in the liver 4- induce P450 microsomal enzymes 5- inactive metabolites are excreted in the urine. 6- Alkalinization of urine helps their excretion (IV sodium bicarbonate is used for management of acute barbiturate toxicity) 7- readily cross the placenta and can depress the respiratory center of the fetus. 		
Therapeutic uses	 1- Anesthesia :(The ultra-short acting barbiturates, such as thiopental, are used intravenously to induce general anesthesia.) 2- Treating anxiety and insomnia (BZD are preferred now): a- used as mild sedatives to relieve anxiety, nervous tension, and insomnia (amobarbital). b- Barbiturates suppress REM sleep significantly. 3- Anticonvulsant: (phenobarbital, mephobarbital): a- Phenobarbital is used in long-term management of tonic- clonic seizures, status epilepticus, and eclampsia. b- Primidone is also used for seizure disorders and tremors. c- The anticonvulsant doses are less than hypnotic doses and doses used for anaesthesia. 4- Treatment of young children with recurrent febrile seizures: a- phenobarbital can depress cognitiveperformance in children b-drug should be used cautiously. 5- Treatment of neonatal jaundice:(Stimulation of microsomal hepatic enzymes by phenobarbital can accelerate bilirubin metabolism. 6- Methohexital a-is used for procedural sedation of short duration b-e.g. cardioversion and pediatric outpatient surgery, fracture reduction for elective intubation). 7- Butalbital:(is used for the treatment of headache disorders.) 		
Adverse effects of barbiturates	 1- Dose dependent CNS depression: (Barbiturates cause drowsiness, vertigo, impaired concentration, etc.) 2-Drug hangover: (Hypnotic doses of barbiturates produce a feeling of tiredness well after the patient wakes.) 3- In toxic doses (respiratory depresion, Cardiovascular colapse, and coma. Death occurs due to respiratory failure) 4- induce the P450 system (affect metabolism of many drugs (drug-drug interactions)). 5- increase porphrin synthesis (C.I : in patients with prophyria) 6- behaviour change in children 7- tolerance , dependence, addication (more than BZD) 8- Abrupt withdrawal (anxiety, restlessness, delirium, seizures, weakness, vomting , cardiac arrest) 		

Acute Barbiturates poisoning

causes deep coma with marked respiratory depression & hypotension.

<u>Treatment</u> includes :

- 1- support respiration and circulation.
- 2- gastric lavage followed by charcoal and cathartics.
- 3-increase renal excretion of phenobarbital by
 - making urine pH alkaline with IV. sodium bicarbonate
 - 4- In severe cases, hemodialysis is done.

Buspirone	Melatonin and Ramelteon	Orexin receptor antagonists
 1-It selectively binds to SHTIA (serotonin) receptor acting as a partial agonist. 2- It has no relation to BZD receptor or GABA inhibitory neurotransmitter. 3- Ipsapirone: a- one is a selective 5-HTIA receptor partial agonist. b- It has both antidepressant and anxiolytic effects 	 Both melatonin and Ramelteon are agonists at MT and MT 2 melatonin receptors located in the brain. The drug has no direct effects on GABAergic neurotransmission in the CNS (Little CNS depresion). Ramelteon (Synthetic tricyclic analog of melatonin) 	1- orexin receptor antagonists), which include Almorexant and suvorexant.
 1- Its anxiolytic effect does not appear before 2-4 weeks of its administration. 2- it is highly bound to plasma protein 3- metabolized in the liver by CYP 3A4 4- Tolerance to its effect does not occur, little potential to abuse and no withdrawal symptoms develop after abrupt withdrawal. 	 Melatonin is used orally or sublingual It is safe for children. It has no rebound insomnia or significant withdrawal symptoms. Ramelteon has minimal potential for abuse, and regular use does not result in dependence 	 Orexin A and B are peptides that are involved in the control of wakefulness and that are silent during sleep. Orexin levels increase in the day and decrease at night. Loss of orexin neurons is associated with narcolepsy (daytime sleepiness). Animal studies show that orexin receptor antagonists have sleep-enabling effects.
 1- suitable for chronic anxiety 2- not effective in severe anxiety like panic attacks 3- not effective in acute anxiety states. 4- It has no hypnotic or anticonvulsant effects. 	1- novel hypnotic drug specifically useful for patients who have difficulty in falling asleep.	 A new class of hypnotics (orexin receptor antagoinsts Suvorexant was approved for use as hypnotic by FDA.
 1- cns :headache, nausea, drowsiness but sedation is minimal. 2- paresthesias may occur. 3- tachycardia 4- eye: causes a dose-dependent pupillary constriction (miosis). 5- Other : palpitations, GI distress 	 1- dizziness 2- fatigue 3- endocrine changes (increases prolactin and decreases testosterone). 	

	Miscellaneous sedative hypnotics					
	1- Chloral hydrate	2.Chlormethiazole	Alpha 2-Adrenoreceptor Agonists		ß-Adrenoreceptor Antagonists	5- Antihistaminic drugs
			1- clonidine	2-2-Dexmedetomidin		
Note	 1- it is metabolized in liver to active metabolite Trichloroethanol (which is also a microsomal hepatic enzyme inducer). 2- It displaces warfarin from plasma protein binding sites. 	 It is a thiamine analogue. It enhances GABA actions. 			e.g., Propranolol)	H1-blockers as diphenhydramine
Use	1-Little used now as hypnotic.	 It may be used as hypnotic in elderly. It may also be used IV for status epilepticu 	 Antihypertensive Has been used for the treatment of panic attacks. Has been useful in suppressing anxiety during the management of withdrawal from nicotine and opioid analgesics 	 It is used for sedation in mechanically ventilated adults it may reduce time needed for extubating patients reduce the time of ICU stay. 	Used to treat some forms of anxiety, particularly when physical (autonomic) symptoms (sweating, tremor, tachycardia) are severe.	1- can be used as sleep aids for children with insomnia.
•Adverse effects	1- It is a gastric irritant		Withdrawal from clonidine, after long use, may lead to a life- threatening hypertensive crisis.		 1- lethargy, 2- vivid dreams 3- hallucinations 4- bronchospasm, 5- bradycardia 6- hypoglycemia with insulin 7- hyperlipidemia. 	

Treatment of anxiety disorders		
A- Stress anxiety disorder:	1- treated by BDZs: for short- term relief; resolve < 1 month. 2- Beta blockers can be used	
B- Social anxiety and situational anxiety disorder	1- Beta-adrenergic blockers e.g. propranolol 2- Long term benefit from SSRIs	
C-Panic attacks	 BDZs (alprazolam) for short-term relief <u>SSRIs</u> antidepressants e.g. paroxeti or <u>TCAs</u> e.g. clomipramine for long-term control 	
D- Phobias	1-Phobias are treated by Behavioral therapy 2- drugs like Alprazolam (acute), or SSRIs (long-term).	
E-Generalized anxiety disorder	1-BDZs: for acute symptoms or for chronic use.2- Buspirone : for chronic control esp. in elderly.3- Antidepressants esp. SSRIs are also helpful	
F- Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD)	 Psychotherapy Antidepressants e.g Clomipramine or SSRIs. BDZs are not helpful in OCD 	
G- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD):	1- BDZs: should be used early to promote sleep and minimize mental re-experience of the stress trauma which can lead to its persistence. May be used long- term for 6	
	2- SSRIs: paroxetine for long term control .	
	3- Other antidepressants TCAs may also be used.	

