



# ANTI - NEOPLASTIC DRUGS II

*Dr. Nashwa Abo-Rayah*

*Assistant prof. (clinical & experimental  
pharmacology)*

*Mu'tah University- Faculty of Medicine*



# Objectives

- ◆ 1- Alkylating Agent
- ◆ 2- Antimetabolites
- ◆ 3- Antibiotics
- ◆ 4- Microtubule inhibitors (mitotic inhibitors)

# Anticancer Drugs classification

- ◆ Alkylating Agent
- ◆ Antimetabolites
- ◆ Antibiotics
- ◆ Microtubule inhibitors (mitotic inhibitors)
- ◆ Hormones
- ◆ Protein kinase inhibitors
- ◆ Monoclonal antibodies
- ◆ Others

# General Adverse Effects

- ◆ **Anticancer drugs damage rapidly growing cells.**
- ◆ 1- Gastrointestinal mucosa: Inflammation of the mucous membranes lining the digestive tract from the mouth to the anus.
- ◆ 2- Myelosuppression:
  - ◆ Granulocytopenia and lymphocytopenia (increased risk of infection)
  - ◆ Thrombocytopenia (increased bleeding risk)
  - ◆ Anemia (fatigue)
- ◆ 3- Hair follicles: hair loss (alopecia)
- ◆ 4- Peripheral neuropathy
- ◆ 5- Hepatotoxicity
- ◆ 6- Gonadal hypofunction
- ◆ 7- Teratogenic
- ◆ 8- Carcinogenic

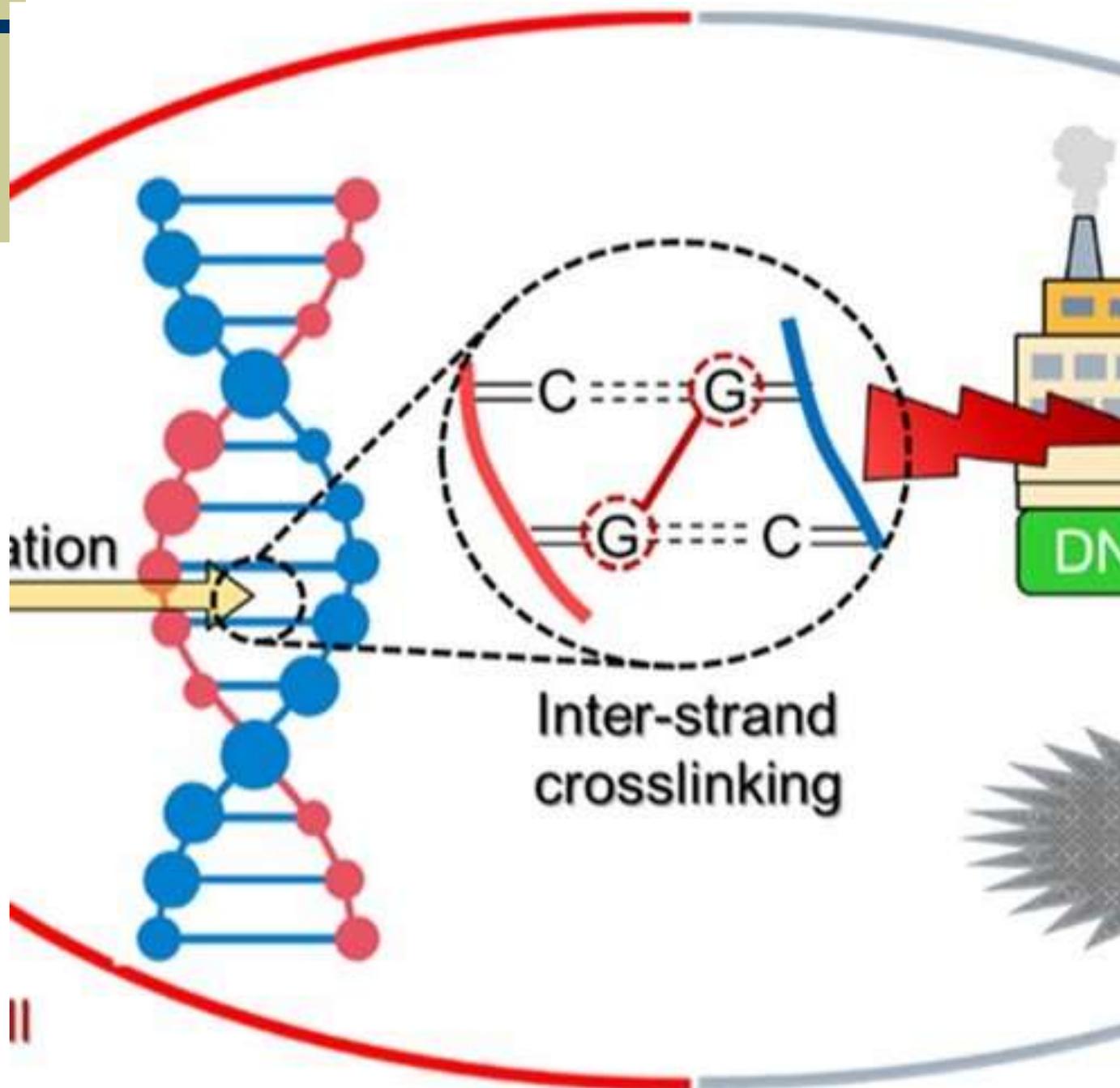
# Alkylating Agents

- ◆ These compounds were known as **the nitrogen mustard gases**.
- ◆ One of war gases

# 1-Alkylating Agents

## Mechanism of Action

- ◆ Binding irreversibly with the nucleic acids (DNA). The specific type of chemical bonding involved is *alkylation*.
- ◆ These agents act directly on DNA, resulting in its cross-linking and causing DNA strand breaks, leading to abnormal base pairing and inhibiting cell division, eventually resulting in cell death.
- ◆ Alkylating anticancer drugs are effective during all phases of cell cycle : cell cycle non-specific



# Classification of Alkylating Agents

- ◆ Cyclophosphamide
- ◆ Carmustine
- ◆ Busulfan
- ◆ Cisplatin

# Alkylating Agents— Cyclophosphamide

**PRODRUG:** *inactive and activated by metabolism by hepatic cytochrome enzymes.*

## Indications:

- ◆ 1- broad-spectrum anticancer: chronic lymphocytic leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, breast and ovarian cancer, and a variety of other cancers.
- ◆ 2- potent immunosuppressant, it is used in the management of rheumatoid disorders and autoimmune nephritis.

## Adverse Effects:

### General?

- ◆ **SPECIFIC:** Hemorrhagic cystitis?

# Cisplatin

- ◆ MOA: as cyclophosphamide
- ◆ Concentrated in: genitourinary tissues
- ◆ Used in: ovarian and testicular tumors
- ◆ Side effects: 1- nephrotoxicity: 70%
- ◆ 2- sensory hearing loss: high-pitched sounds
- ◆ 3- peripheral neuropathy

## 2-Antimetabolites

### General Characteristics :

- Antimetabolites are specific drugs that are structural analogues of essential metabolites and that interfere with DNA synthesis.
- Cell-cycle specific: G1, S phases

# Classification of Antimetabolites

- ◆ Folic acid Antagonists: MTX
- ◆ Purine Antagonists: 6MP
- ◆ Pyrimidine Antagonists: 5FU

# Antimetabolites— Folic Acid Antagonist

## Methotrexate (MTX)

### Mechanism of Action:

- The structures of MTX and folic acid are similar.
- MTX is actively transported into mammalian cells and inhibits dihydrofolate reductase, the enzyme that normally converts dietary folate to the tetrahydrofolate form required for DNA synthesis.

# Antimetabolites— Folic Acid Antagonist

## *Methotrexate (MTX)*

### Indications:

- ◆ Different types of malignant tumors
- ◆ Immunosuppressant in rheumatoid arthritis

### Adverse Effects:

- 1- Hepatotoxicity: monitor liver function tests
- 2- Megaloblastic anemia: avoided by folic acid therapy

# Antimetabolites— Purine Antagonists

## 6-Mercaptopurine (6-MP)

The drug act similarly to inhibit purine base synthesis.

### Indications:

◆ Maintenance of remission in patients with acute lymphocytic leukemia.

### Adverse Effects:

1- sever myelosuppresion: may be fatal

2- sever hepatotoxicity.

Mecahnism of adverse effects: lack of S-methyl transferase and xanthine oxidase enzymes

## 3- Cytotoxic Antibiotics

- ◆ Mechanism of action: inhibition of DNA synthesis
- ◆ Cell-cycle specific
- Adverse effects:
  - ◆ Doxorubicin: cardiotoxicity
  - ◆ Mitomycin C : nephrotoxicity
  - ◆ Bleomycin: pulmonary fibrosis

# 4- Microtubule inhibitors (cell-cycle specific)

## *Vinca Alkaloids*

- ◆ Interfere with microtubules (cellular structures that help move chromosomes during mitosis)
- ◆ A vinca alkaloid is a type of mitotic inhibitor and a type of antimicrotubule agent.



# VINCA ALKALOIDS

*Vinblastine & vincristine are alkaloids derived from the periwinkle plant (Vinca rosea).*

Adverse effects	Vinblastine	Vincristine
Bone marrow depression	++++ sever	+ marrow-sparing
Peripheral neuropathy	+	++++ sever



# Taxanes

- ◆ Paclitaxel: breast cancer & ovarian cancer



## *References*

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***Thanks!***