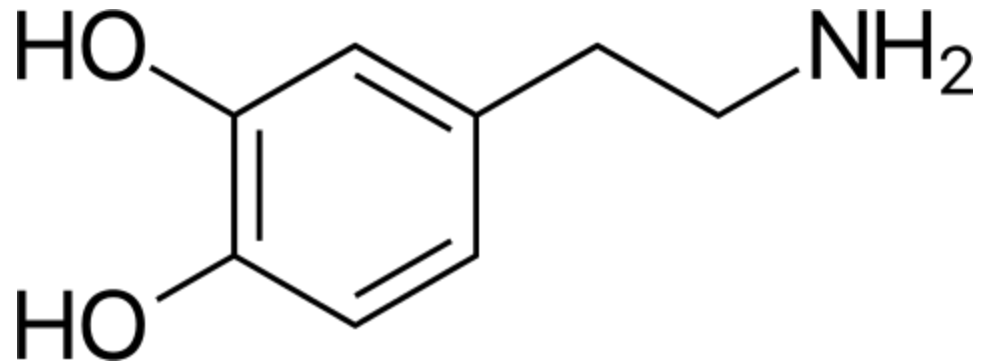


# Antipsychotics

Ma'en K Abdelrhman  
5<sup>th</sup> year medical student  
Mu'tah University

# Dopamine

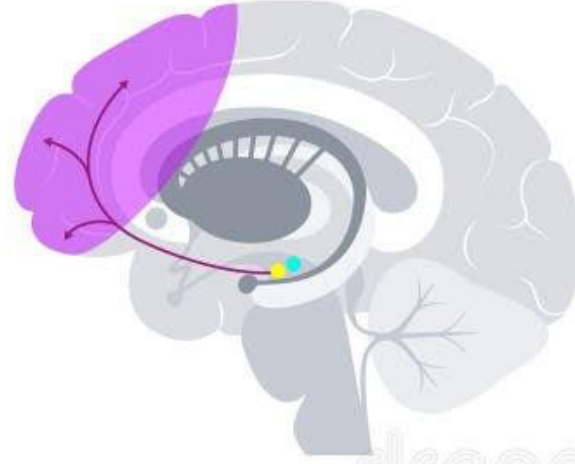
- 1950s: **chlorpromazine** found to improve psychosis
- Also found to block CNS **dopamine** receptors
- Dopamine hypothesis



**Dopamine**

# DOPAMIN PATHWAYS

Mesocortical



Tuberoinfundibular



Mesolimbic



Nigrostriatal



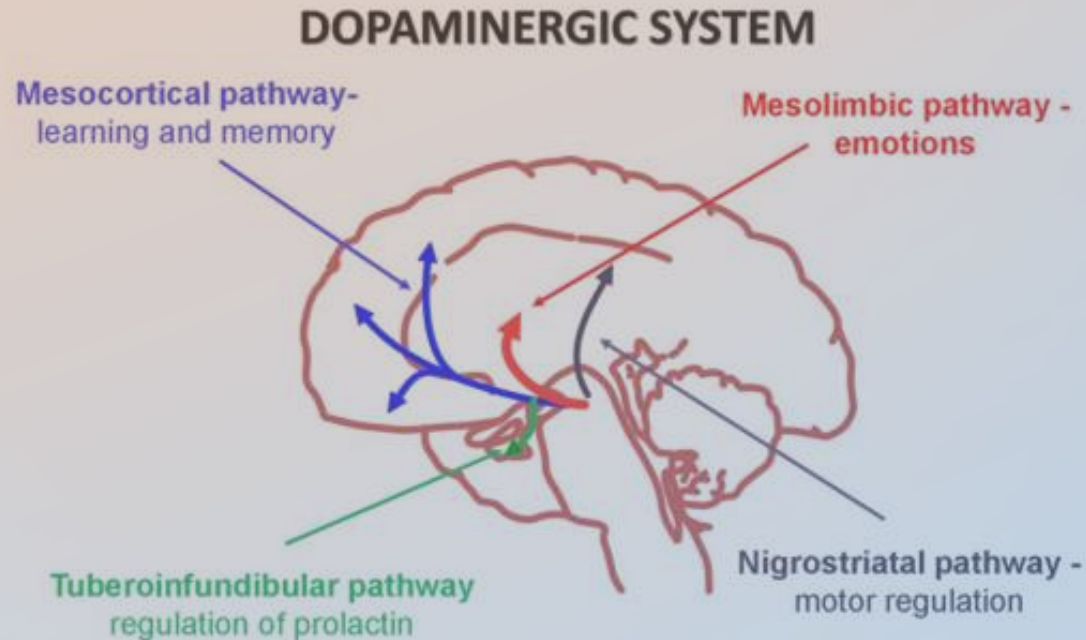
dreamstime.

# Dopamine Pathways

Ural Federal University

**Prefrontal cortical**  
Responsible for negative symptoms

**Tuberoinfundibular**  
Blocked by neuroleptics, causing Hyperprolactinemia (gynecomastia, galactorrhea, and menstrual irregularities)



Stahl SM. Essential Psychopharmacology of antipsychotics and mood stabilizers; 1st ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 2002

**Mesolimbic**  
Excessive dopaminergic activity responsible for positive symptoms

**Nigrostriatal**  
Blocked by neuroleptics, causing extrapyramidal side effects such as tremor, akathisia, dystonia.

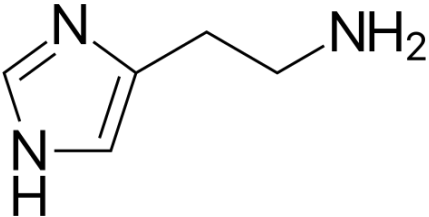
# Parkinson's Disease

- Motor dysfunction
- Tremors, rigidity
- Associated with ↓ **CNS dopamine activity**

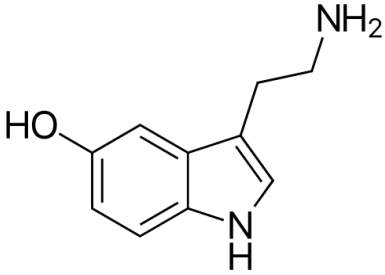


Wikipedia/Public Domain

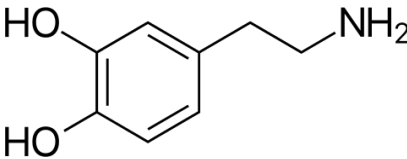
# Neurotransmitters



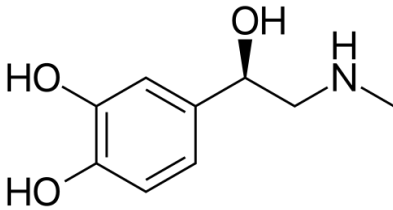
Histamine



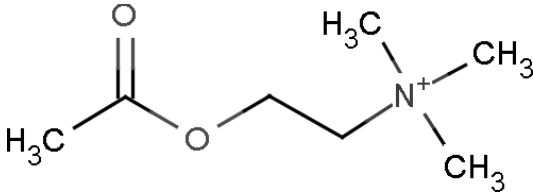
Serotonin  
5-HT



Dopamine



Epinephrine



Acetylcholine  
(Muscarinic)

# Antipsychotics

- First Generation or Typical (old)
- Second Generation or Atypical (new)

# Antipsychotics

## First Generation or Typical

- Haloperidol
  - Pimozide
  - Fluphenazine
  - Trifluoperazine
  - Chlorpromazine
  - Thioridazine
- 
- Primary antipsychotic effect: **D2 receptor blockade**



# Antipsychotics

## First Generation or Typical

- **High potency agents**
  - Haloperidol, fluphenazine, pimozide
- Lower dose required to achieve effect
- Example: haloperidol 1mg
- Little effect on histamine and muscarinic receptors
  - Less sedation (histamine) or dry mouth (muscarinic)
- **Extrapyramidal side effects**

Chlorpromazine:  $\alpha_1=5HT > D_2$

Haloperidol:  $D_2 > \alpha_1 > 5HT > H_1$

# Antipsychotics

## First Generation or Typical

- **Low potency agents**
  - Thioridazine, chlorpromazine
  - Example: Thioridazine 50-100mg
- Less extrapyramidal side effects
- **More non-neurologic side effects**
  - Sedating (“sedatives”)
  - Dry mouth

Chlorpromazine:  $\alpha_1=5HT > D_2$

Haloperidol:  $D_2 > \alpha_1 > 5HT > H_1$

# Antipsychotics

## First Generation or Typical

- Dopamine blockade
- Serotonin blockade
- Histamine blockade
- Acetylcholine (muscarinic) blockade
- Epinephrine (alpha-1) blockade

Chlorpromazine:  $\alpha_1=5HT > D_2$

Haloperidol:  $D_2 > \alpha_1 > 5HT > H_1$

# Antipsychotics

First Generation or Typical

**Low Potency**  
Thioridazine  
Chlorpromazine

**High Potency**  
Haloperidol  
Trifluoperazine  
Fluphenazine

**Non-EPS Effects**  
Sedation  
Dry mouth

**EPS Effects**  
Movement symptoms



# Antipsychotics

## First Generation or Typical

- Dopamine blockade
  - Parkinsonian effects (extrapyramidal)
  - Hyperprolactinemia
  - Gynecomastia
  - Galactorrhea
  - Amenorrhea

**Anti-emetic** (Prochlorperazine/Chlorpromazine)



# Antipsychotics

## First Generation or Typical

- ACh muscarinic receptor blockade
  - Dry mouth
  - Constipation
  - Urinary retention
  - Tachycardia
  - Sexual dysfunction
- $\alpha$ 1 receptor blockade
  - Hypotension
- Histamine receptor blockade
  - Sedation
- Serotonin
  - Weight gain

Xerostomia  
(Dry Mouth)



Wikipedia/Public Domain

# Pyramidal vs. Extrapyramidal

- Pyramidal system
  - Corticospinal tract
  - Run in pyramids of medulla
  - Damage → weakness
- Extrapyramidal system
  - Basal ganglia nuclei and associated tracts
  - controlling and coordinating involuntary movements, posture, and muscle tone.
  - Damage → movement disorders



Wikipedia/Public Domain

# EPS

## Extrapyramidal Symptoms

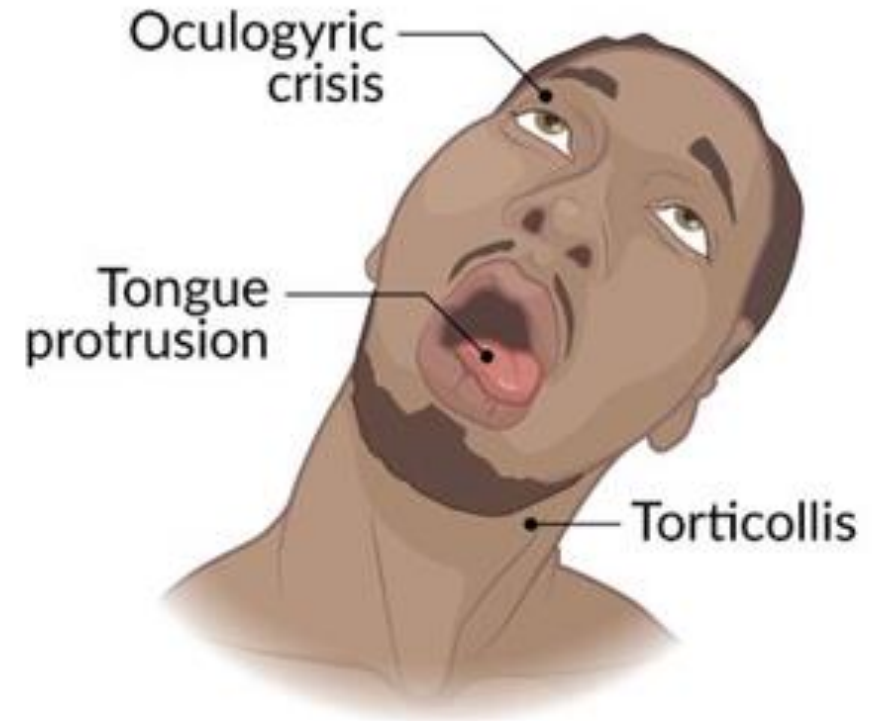
- Response to dopamine receptor blockade
- **Movement** side effects
- Dystonia
- Akathisia
- Bradykinesia
- Tardive dyskinesia



# Dystonia

## Extrapyramidal Symptoms

- Acute side effect
- Occurs within **hours/days**
- Involuntary contraction of muscles
- Spasms, stiffness
- Treatments:
  - **Benzotropine (anticholinergic)**
  - **Diphenhydramine (antihistamine)**
  - Improves dystonia



# Akathisia

- Extrapyrimalidal Symptoms
  - Occurs **within days**
  - Most common EPS adverse effect
  - Restlessness, urge to move
  - Sometimes misdiagnosed as worsening agitation
- Treatments:
  - Lower dose
  - Benzodiazepines
  - Propranolol



# Bradykinesia

- Extraparamidal Symptoms
  - Occurs weeks after starting drug
  - “Drug-induced Parkinsonism”
  - Slow movements (Parkinson-like)
- Treatment:
  - **benztropine**
    - Second line: amantadine

Tremor



Cogwheel rigidity

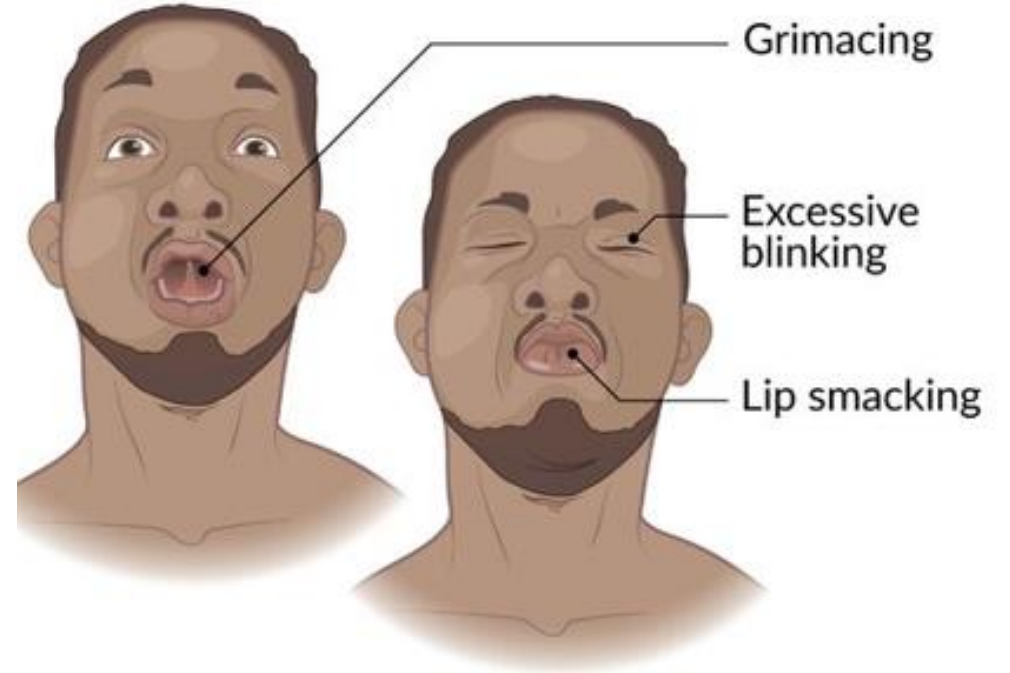


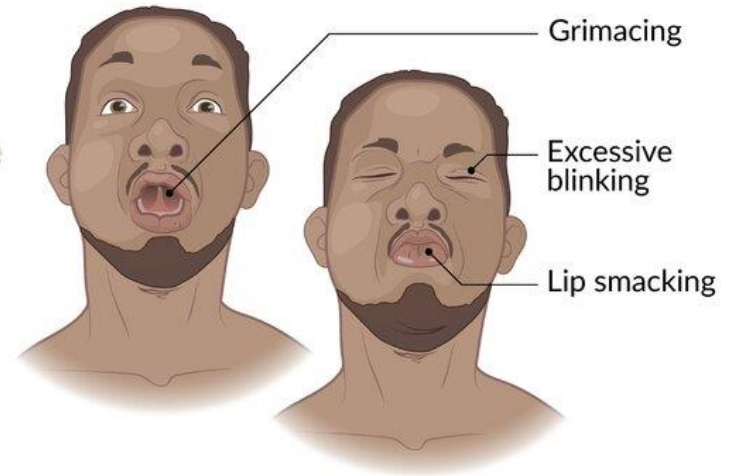
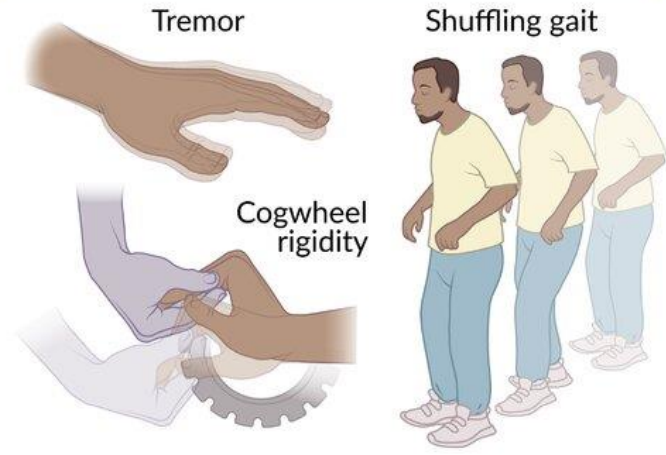
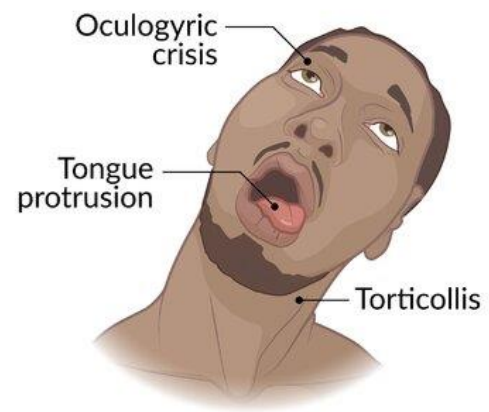
Shuffling gait



# Tardive Dyskinesia

- Extrapiramidal Symptoms
- Occurs months or years after starting drug
- **Choreoathetosis**
  - Chorea: irregular migrating contractions
  - Athetosis: twisting and writhing
- Mouth, tongue, face, limbs
- Smacking lips, grimacing
- **Often irreversible**
  - Stopping drug doesn't help





**Akathisia**



# NMS

## Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome

- Rare, dangerous reaction to neuroleptics
- Usually high-potency first-generation drugs
  - Haloperidol, fluphenazine
- Usually 7-10 days after treatment started
- **Fever and rigid muscles**
- Mental status changes (encephalopathy)
- Elevated creatine kinase (muscle damage)
- Myoglobinuria → acute renal failure (rhabdomyolysis)

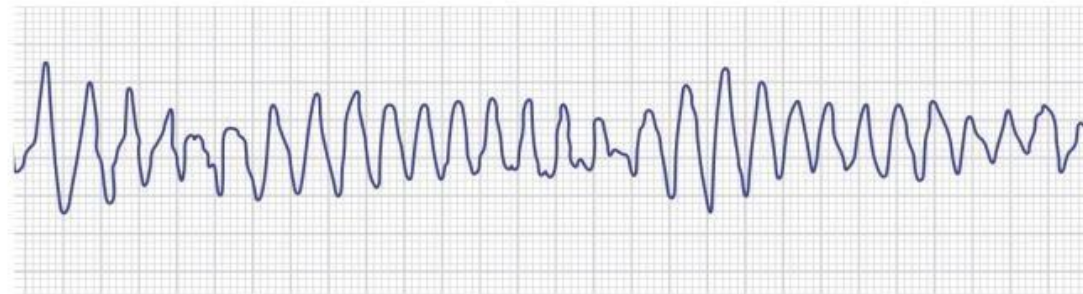
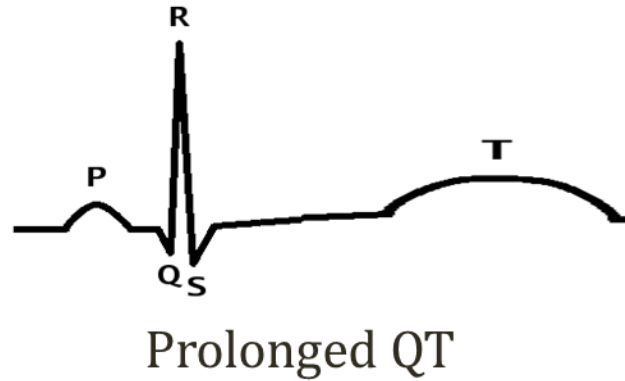
# NMS

## Treatment

- Dantrolene (muscle relaxant)
- Bromocriptine (dopamine agonist)
- Similar to malignant hyperthermia
  - Reaction to halothane, succinylcholine
  - Same treatment: dantrolene (muscle relaxant)

# QT interval

- May block cardiac potassium channels
- Prolongs QT interval
- Strongest association with IV haloperidol



Torsade de Pointes



# Thioridazine and Chlorpromazine

- **Retinal deposits**

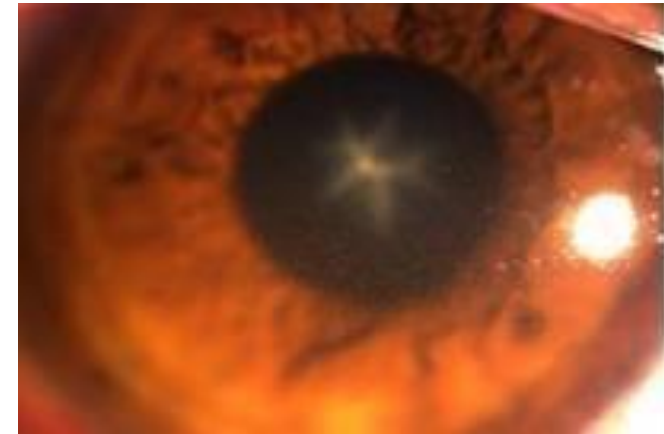
- “browning” of vision



Christian Hamel

- **Corneal deposits**

- May accelerate aging of lens
- Possibly associated with cataracts



Sushil et al.. Opth Res 4(4) 108-111

# Chlorpromazine

- **Skin effects**

- Occurs in sun-exposed areas
- Photosensitivity
- Skin pigmentation (blue-gray)

- **Cholestatic jaundice**

- Occurs in 1 to 2 percent of patients



International journal of dermatology 2016

[Chlorpromazine-induced severe skin pigmentation and corneal opacities in a patient with schizophrenia.](#)

Ana María Molina-Ruiz, Águeda Pulpillo, R. M. Molina-Ruíz, Teresa Sagrario, Luis Requena

# Antipsychotics

## Second Generation or Atypical

- Clozapine
  - Olanzapine
  - Quetiapine ← Pines  
Lowest EPS risk  
Metabolic symptoms
  - Asenapine
  - Iloperidone
  - Paliperidone
  - Risperidone ← Dones  
\_ Highest EPS risk  
Qt symptoms
  - Lurasidone
  - Ziprasidone
- 
- **Defining feature: Less EPS adverse effects**

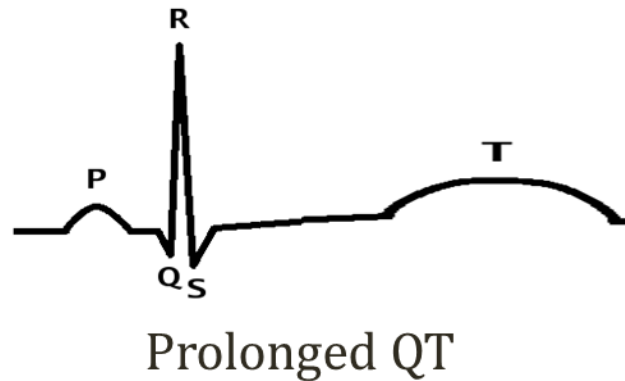
# Metabolic Syndrome

- May occur with any antipsychotic
- Common with “pines” – especially **clozapine** and **olanzapine**
- Weight gain
- Hyperglycemia
- Hyperlipidemia



# QT interval

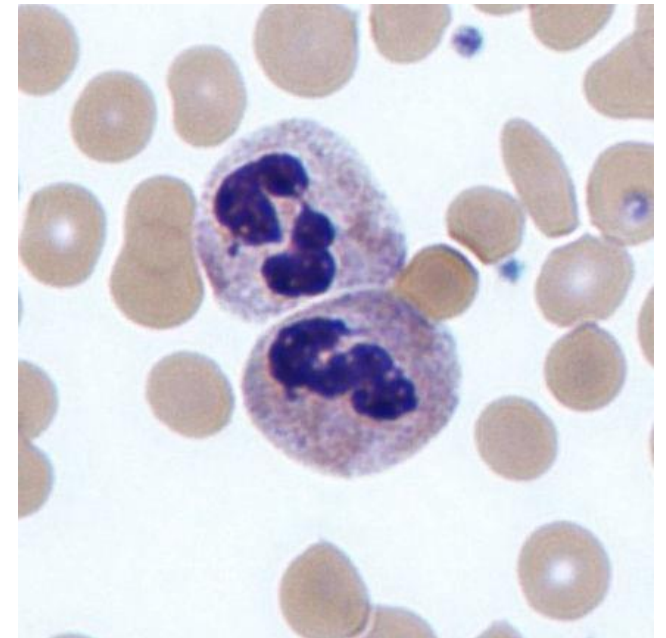
- Prolongation also can occur with atypical drugs
- More risk with “dones”
- Highest risk: **ziprasidone**



Torsade de Pointes

# Clozapine

- Highly effective but not first line due to adverse effects
  - Used in refractory cases
- May cause **agranulocytosis** (1-2% of patients)
- Must monitor WBCs during therapy
  - Weekly at start
  - Every few weeks to monthly thereafter
  - **Stop if neutrophil counts < 1500**
- **Reversible when drug stopped**
- May also cause **seizures** (2-5% of patients)
  - Dose related
- **Rarely associated with myocarditis**



Dr Graham Beards

# Aripiprazole

- **D2 partial agonist**
  - Some blockade, some agonist effects
- Associated with **loss of impulse control**
  - Pathologic gambling
  - Binge eating
  - Shopping sprees



Flickr/Public Domain

# Atypical Antipsychotics

Drug	Key Adverse Effects
“pines”	Metabolic syndrome
Clozapine	Agranulocytosis
Quetiapine	Lowest risk of EPS (Quetiapine is quiet) Use in patients with movement disorders (Parkinson’s)
“dones”	Highest risk of QT prolongation
“dones”	Highest risk of EPS
Aripiprazole	Loss of impulse control



# Case scenario

Ms. B is a 28-year-old, overweight female . Police found her in a local shopping mall, talking to herself and telling a passer by that the devil had “stolen her soul.”

the hospitalization, you found that she was diagnosed with schizophrenia. However, during her last appointment with her primary care doctor, she was told she had an elevated fasting glucose of 115 and triglycerides of 180, and that she had gained 12 pounds in the past 3 months with a waist circumference of 36 inches. Her blood pressure was normal, but she reported

a family history of diabetes and high blood pressure.

What is the drug that she take for schizophrenia ?

# Metabolic Syndrome

- May occur with any antipsychotic
- Common with “pines” – especially **clozapine** and **olanzapine**
- Weight gain
- Hyperglycemia
- Hyperlipidemia



Condition	Acute Use	Chronic Use	First-Line Therapy
<b>Schizophrenia</b>	Manage acute psychotic episodes (e.g., hallucinations, delusions)	Maintenance therapy to prevent relapses	Second-generation antipsychotics (SGAs)
<b>Bipolar Disorder</b>	Acute manic or mixed episodes	Maintenance to prevent relapses	SGAs (e.g., quetiapine, olanzapine)
<b>Major Depressive Disorder with Psychotic Features</b>	Adjunct to antidepressants in severe cases	-	SGAs (e.g., aripiprazole)
<b>Schizoaffective Disorder</b>	Acute psychotic episodes with mood disorder	Long-term management combining antipsychotics and mood stabilizers	SGAs (e.g., risperidone, quetiapine)
<b>Delirium</b>	Control acute agitation and psychotic symptoms	-	Low-potency typical antipsychotics (e.g., haloperidol)
<b>Dementia-related Psychosis</b>	Manage acute behavioral disturbances	Long-term management of psychosis	SGAs (e.g., risperidone, olanzapine)

# Notes

- Schizophrenia (typical antipsychotics primarily treat positive symptoms; atypical antipsychotics treat both positive and negative symptoms) .
- Other uses : Tourette syndrome, OCD, Huntington disease.
- Clozapine is used for treatment resistant psychotic disorders or those with persistent suicidality (cloze to the edge)

# YES/NO important question

- Are antipsychotics addictive?

• **NO**

- Are antipsychotics safe in pregnancy?

**YES**

Not : during pregnancy the first line is 1<sup>st</sup> generation , but in ppp the first line is 2<sup>nd</sup> generation



- نَسِيرُ لِمَوْتِ كَانَا فِي طَرْبِ
- وَقَدْ صَحِبْنَاهُ وَطَالَ الْمُصْطَحَبِ
- حَتَّى عَرَفْنَا مَا قَلَى وَمَا أَحَبِ
- مُعَوِّدٌ عَلَى الْجَلَالِ وَالرَّهَبِ
- فَإِنْ رَأَى لَمْ تَخَفْ مِنْهُ اضْطَرَبِ
- وَنَحْنُ مِنْ كُلِّ مَعْرُوفِ النَّسَبِ

