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MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY – I

UNIT 5

TOPIC :

- **Narcotic and non-narcotic analgesics**

Morphine and related drugs : SAR of Morphine analogues, Morphine sulphate, Codeine, Meperidine hydrochloride, Anilerdine hydrochloride, Diphenoxylate hydrochloride, Loperamide hydrochloride, Fentanyl citrate, *Methadone hydrochloride*, Propoxyphene hydrochloride, Pentazocine, Levorphanol tartarate.

Narcotic antagonists : Nalorphine hydrochloride, Levallorphan tartarate, Naloxone hydrochloride.

Anti-inflammatory agents : Sodium salicylate, Aspirin, Mefenamic acid, *Meclofenamate*, *Indomethacin*, *Sulindac*, *Tolmetin*, *Zomepriac*, *Diclofenac*, *Ketorolac*, *Ibuprofen*, Naproxen, Piroxicam, Phenacetin, Acetaminophen, Antipyrine, Phenylbutazone

Narcotic and Non-Narcotic Analgesics

- **Analgesics** = drugs that relieve pain without causing loss of consciousness.
- Two main types:
 1. **Narcotic (Opioid) Analgesics** – strong, CNS-acting painkillers.
 2. **Non-Narcotic (Non-Opioid) Analgesics** – mild/moderate pain relief, mostly peripheral action.

Narcotic Analgesics

- Use: Moderate to severe pain (post-surgery, cancer, trauma).
- Effects: Analgesia, sedation, drowsiness, euphoria.

Mechanism of Action (MOA):

- Bind to opioid receptors (μ , δ , κ) in brain and spinal cord.
- Inhibit adenylate cyclase \rightarrow \downarrow cAMP.
- Close Ca^{2+} channels \rightarrow \downarrow neurotransmitter release.
- Open K^{+} channels \rightarrow hyperpolarization.
- Result: Pain signals blocked, analgesia, sedation, respiratory depression.

Examples:

- Morphine sulfate, Codeine, Meperidine HCl, Anileridine HCl, Diphenoxylate HCl, Loperamide HCl, Fentanyl citrate, Methadone HCl, Propoxyphene HCl, Pentazocine, Levorphanol tartrate.

Narcotic Antagonists:

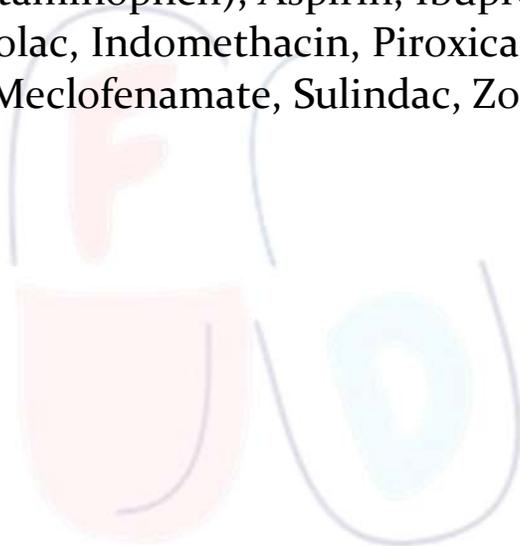
- Naloxone HCl, Nalorphine HCl, Levorphanol tartrate \rightarrow reverse opioid effects.

Non-Narcotic Analgesics

- Use: Mild to moderate pain, headache, muscle pain, inflammation.
- Mechanism of Action:
 - Inhibit cyclooxygenase (COX) enzymes → ↓ prostaglandin synthesis → ↓ pain, inflammation, swelling.

Examples:

- Paracetamol (Acetaminophen), Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Naproxen, Diclofenac, Ketorolac, Indomethacin, Piroxicam, Phenacetin, Mefenamic acid, Meclofenamate, Sulindac, Zomepirac, Phenylbutazone.



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Morphine and Related Drugs

- Morphine: Naturally occurring alkaloid from *Papaver somniferum* (opium).
- Prototype narcotic analgesic: Used as a standard for comparing other opioid analgesics.

Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Binds to μ -opioid receptors in the brain and spinal cord.
- Cellular effects:
 1. Inhibits adenylate cyclase \rightarrow \downarrow cAMP
 2. Closes Ca^{2+} channels \rightarrow \downarrow neurotransmitter release
 3. Opens K^{+} channels \rightarrow hyperpolarization
- Result: Analgesia, sedation, pain signals blocked, respiratory depression.

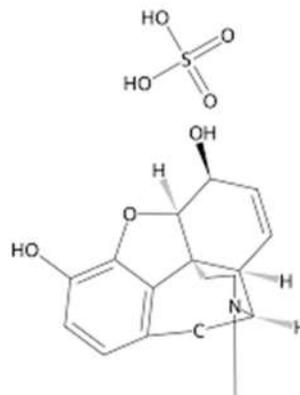
Example :

- Morphine sulphate,
- Codeine,
- Meperidine hydrochloride,
- Anilerdine hydrochloride,
- Diphenoxylate hydrochloride,
- Loperamide hydrochloride,
- Fentanyl citrate*,
- Methadone hydrochloride*,
- Propoxyphene hydrochloride,
- Pentazocine,
- Levorphanol tartarate.

Morphine Sulphate

Structure

- Chemical class: Opioid analgesic (phenanthrene derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{17}H_{19}NO_3 \cdot H_2SO_4$.
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; soluble in water; usually available as tablets, injections, or oral solutions.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Opioid receptor agonist:
 - Primarily binds to μ (mu) opioid receptors in the brain, spinal cord, and gastrointestinal tract.
- Effects on cellular signaling:
 - Inhibition of adenylate cyclase \rightarrow decreased cAMP.
 - Closure of voltage-gated Ca^{2+} channels \rightarrow reduces neurotransmitter release (substance P, glutamate).
 - Opening of K^+ channels \rightarrow hyperpolarization of neurons \rightarrow reduced excitability.
- Net effect:
 - Analgesia, sedation, euphoria, respiratory depression, and reduced GI motility.

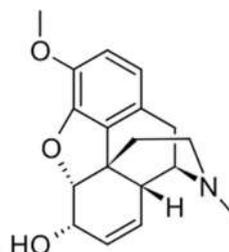
Therapeutic Uses

- Severe acute pain: Postoperative, trauma, myocardial infarction.
- Chronic pain: Cancer pain, palliative care.
- Cough suppression: In certain formulations (codeine preferred).
- Diarrhea: Occasionally in opioid preparations with limited CNS effect.

Codeine

Structure

- Chemical class: Opioid analgesic (methylated morphine derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{18}H_{21}NO_3$.
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; soluble in water; usually available as tablets, syrups, or injections.
- Structural difference from morphine:
 - Methylation of the hydroxyl group at position 3 → less potent than morphine but better oral bioavailability.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Opioid receptor agonist:
 - Primarily binds to μ (mu) opioid receptors in the CNS and GI tract.
- Cellular effects:
 - Inhibition of adenylate cyclase → ↓ cAMP.
 - Closure of voltage-gated Ca^{2+} channels → reduced neurotransmitter release.
 - Opening of K^+ channels → hyperpolarization of neurons → decreased excitability.
- Net effect:
 - Analgesia (mild to moderate pain), antitussive effect (cough suppression), some sedation, and GI motility reduction.

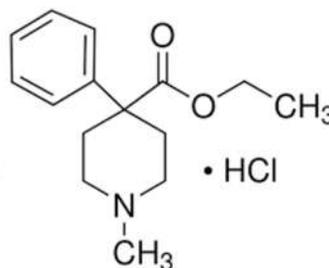
Therapeutic Uses

- Pain management: Mild to moderate pain (postoperative, musculoskeletal, or cancer-related).
- Cough suppression: Effective as antitussive.
- Diarrhea management: Occasionally used in limited doses due to opioid effect on gut motility.

Meperidine Hydrochloride (Pethidine HCl)

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic opioid analgesic (phenylpiperidine derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{15}H_{21}NO_2 \cdot HCl$.
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; soluble in water; available as injection, tablets, or oral solution.
- Structural features:
 - Piperidine ring linked to a phenyl group.
 - Ester group at position 4 → contributes to pharmacokinetic properties.
 - Tertiary amine at position 1 → necessary for μ -opioid receptor activity.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Opioid receptor agonist:
 - Binds primarily to μ (mu) opioid receptors in CNS.
- Cellular effects:
 - Inhibits adenylate cyclase → \downarrow cAMP.
 - Closes voltage-gated Ca^{2+} channels → decreases neurotransmitter release.
 - Opens K^+ channels → hyperpolarizes neurons → reduced neuronal excitability.
- Net effect:
 - Analgesia (moderate to severe pain), sedation, respiratory depression, euphoria, and antitussive effect (mild).

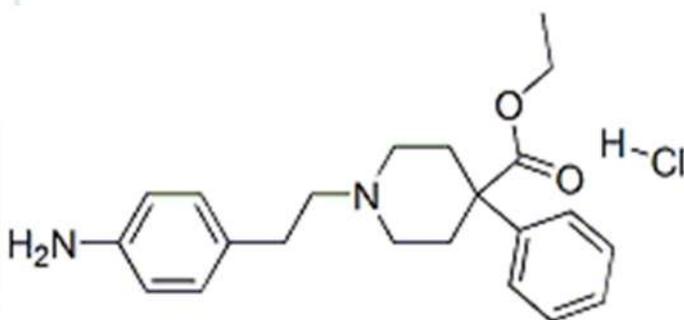
Therapeutic Uses

- Pain management: Moderate to severe acute pain (postoperative, labor pain).
- Anesthesia: As preoperative analgesic or adjunct to general anesthesia.
- Shivering control: Sometimes used to control postoperative shivering.

Anilerdine Hydrochloride

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic opioid analgesic.
- Chemical formula: $C_{18}H_{25}N \cdot HCl$.
- Physical properties: White to off-white crystalline powder; soluble in water and ethanol.
- Structural features:
 - Piperidine-based structure similar to meperidine derivatives.
 - Aromatic ring linked to a tertiary amine \rightarrow essential for μ -opioid receptor binding.
 - Hydrochloride salt improves water solubility for parenteral administration.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Opioid receptor agonist:
 - Binds primarily to μ (mu) opioid receptors in CNS.
- Cellular effects:
 - Inhibits adenylate cyclase \rightarrow reduces cAMP.
 - Closes voltage-gated Ca^{2+} channels \rightarrow decreases neurotransmitter release.
 - Opens K^+ channels \rightarrow hyperpolarizes neurons \rightarrow reduces neuronal excitability.
- Net effect:
 - Analgesia (moderate to severe pain), sedation, respiratory depression, and euphoria.

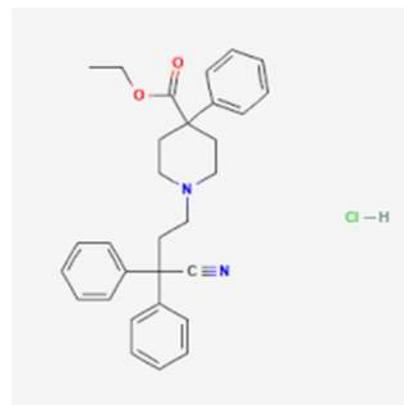
Therapeutic Uses

- Pain management: Moderate to severe pain where other opioids may not be suitable.
- Pre-anesthetic medication: Occasionally used as a premedication for sedation and analgesia before surgery.

Diphenoxylate Hydrochloride

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic opioid derivative (meperidine analogue).
- Chemical formula: $C_{22}H_{27}NO_2 \cdot HCl$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; soluble in water and ethanol.
- Structural features:
 - Piperidine ring with a tertiary amine → essential for opioid receptor binding.
 - Aromatic substitution → contributes to lipophilicity and activity.
 - Hydrochloride salt → increases water solubility for oral use.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Opioid receptor agonist (peripherally acting):
 - Acts mainly on μ -opioid receptors in the gut.
 - Reduces GI motility by decreasing longitudinal and circular smooth muscle contractions.
- CNS effect: Minimal central analgesic activity at therapeutic doses; crosses the BBB poorly.
- Net effect:
 - Decreases frequency and urgency of diarrhea.
 - Increases intestinal transit time → allows more water absorption from feces.

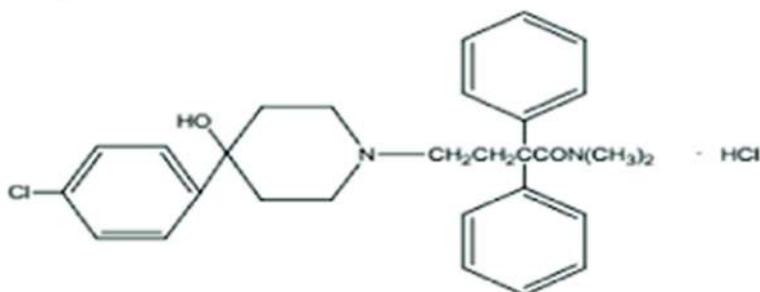
Therapeutic Uses

- Primary use: Symptomatic treatment of diarrhea, including acute nonspecific diarrhea.
- Adjunct use: Sometimes combined with atropine to discourage abuse (Lomotil formulation).

Loperamide Hydrochloride

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic piperidine derivative (opioid analogue).
- Chemical formula: $C_{29}H_{33}ClN_2O_2$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; practically insoluble in water but soluble in ethanol.
- Structural features:
 - Piperidine ring → essential for opioid receptor binding.
 - Two aromatic rings → enhance lipophilicity and receptor affinity.
 - Hydrochloride salt → improves stability and formulation.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Peripheral μ -opioid receptor agonist:
 - Acts mainly on μ -opioid receptors in the myenteric plexus of the gut.
 - Reduces peristaltic movements and prolongs intestinal transit time.
- Other effects:
 - Increases anal sphincter tone, reducing fecal urgency.
 - Decreases gastrointestinal secretion.
- CNS effect: Minimal because it is actively pumped out of the CNS by P-glycoprotein, limiting abuse potential.
- Net effect: Controls diarrhea without significant analgesic or sedative CNS effects at therapeutic doses.

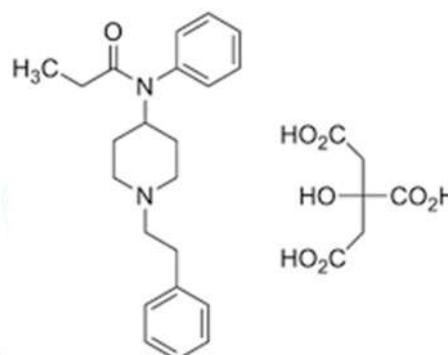
Therapeutic Uses

- Primary use: Symptomatic treatment of acute and chronic diarrhea.
- Adjunct use: Treatment of traveler's diarrhea, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), and inflammatory bowel disease-related diarrhea.

Fentanyl Citrate

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic opioid (phenylpiperidine derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{22}H_{28}N_2O \cdot C_6H_8O_7$ (as citrate salt)
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, soluble in water and alcohol.
- Structural features:
 - Phenylpiperidine nucleus: Essential for μ -opioid receptor binding.
 - N-phenylpropanamide group: Enhances potency.
 - Citrate salt: Improves water solubility and stability for injection.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Strong μ -opioid receptor agonist:
 - Binds to opioid receptors in CNS, mainly μ receptors.
 - Inhibits adenylate cyclase \rightarrow reduces cAMP.
 - Opens K^+ channels \rightarrow hyperpolarization of neurons.
 - Closes voltage-gated Ca^{2+} channels \rightarrow reduces neurotransmitter release (substance P, glutamate, acetylcholine).
- Effects: Analgesia, sedation, respiratory depression, euphoria.

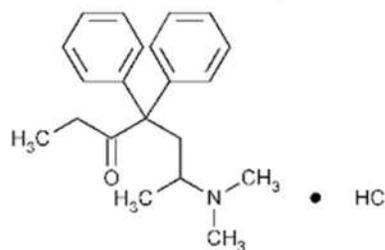
Therapeutic Uses

- Analgesia:
 - Severe acute pain (e.g., postoperative, trauma).
 - Chronic pain in opioid-tolerant patients (e.g., cancer pain).
- Anesthesia adjunct:
 - Used in balanced anesthesia protocols for surgical procedures.
- Other:
 - Transdermal patches for long-term chronic pain management.

Methadone Hydrochloride

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic opioid (diphenylpropylamine derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{21}H_{27}NO \cdot HCl$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, soluble in water (as HCl salt) and alcohol.
- Structural features:
 - Diphenylpropylamine nucleus: Confers strong μ -opioid receptor activity.
 - Basic nitrogen atom: Required for receptor binding.
 - Hydrochloride salt: Improves water solubility for oral or parenteral use.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Agonist at μ -opioid receptors:
 - Binds in CNS to produce analgesia, sedation, and euphoria.
 - Inhibits adenylate cyclase \rightarrow reduces cAMP formation.
 - Opens K^+ channels \rightarrow neuronal hyperpolarization.
 - Closes voltage-gated Ca^{2+} channels \rightarrow reduces neurotransmitter release.
- NMDA receptor antagonism (weak): May contribute to analgesic properties, particularly in neuropathic pain.
- Effects: Long-acting analgesia, suppression of opioid withdrawal symptoms.

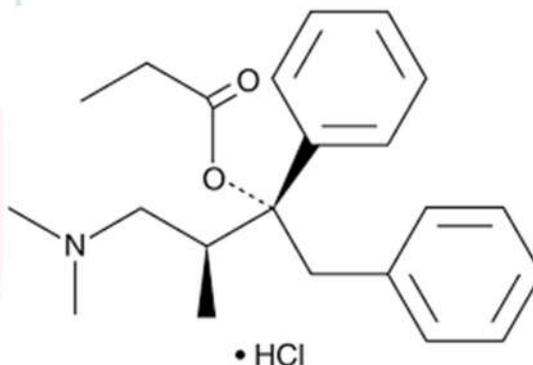
Therapeutic Uses

- Analgesia:
 - Moderate to severe chronic pain (e.g., cancer pain).
- Opioid dependence treatment:
 - Suppresses withdrawal symptoms in heroin or morphine addicts.
- Anesthesia adjunct (occasionally):
 - Used for preoperative analgesia or balanced anesthesia.

Propoxyphene Hydrochloride

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic opioid (phenylheptylamine derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{20}H_{27}NO \cdot HCl$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, soluble in water (as HCl salt).
- Structural features:
 - Phenylpropylamine skeleton: Confers weak μ -opioid receptor agonist activity.
 - Basic nitrogen atom: Necessary for receptor binding.
 - Hydrochloride salt: Improves water solubility and stability.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Weak agonist at μ -opioid receptors:
 - Binds in CNS to provide analgesia, but less potent than morphine.
 - Inhibits adenylate cyclase \rightarrow reduces cAMP formation.
 - Opens K^+ channels \rightarrow neuronal hyperpolarization.
 - Closes voltage-gated Ca^{2+} channels \rightarrow reduces neurotransmitter release.
- Effects: Mild to moderate pain relief with less euphoria and respiratory depression compared to strong opioids.

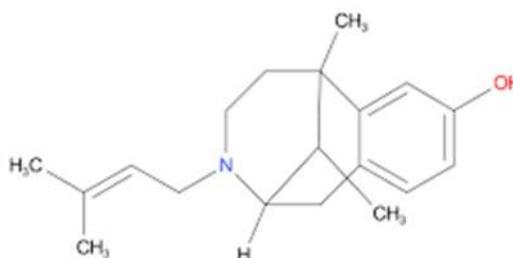
Therapeutic Uses

- Analgesia:
 - Mild to moderate pain relief (e.g., musculoskeletal pain, postoperative pain).
- Adjunct to non-narcotic analgesics:
 - Often combined with acetaminophen for enhanced effect.

Pentazocine

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic opioid (benzomorphan derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{16}H_{25}NO$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, slightly soluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Benzomorphan skeleton: Provides mixed agonist-antagonist activity at opioid receptors.
 - Tertiary amine: Essential for receptor binding.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Mixed opioid receptor activity:
 - Partial agonist at κ -opioid receptors: Produces analgesia and sedation.
 - Weak antagonist or partial agonist at μ -opioid receptors:
 - Reduces the risk of respiratory depression compared to full μ -agonists.
- Cellular effects:
 - Opens K^+ channels \rightarrow hyperpolarization of neurons.
 - Reduces Ca^{2+} influx \rightarrow decreases neurotransmitter release.
- Result: Pain relief with lower euphoria and lower dependence potential than strong μ -opioid agonists.

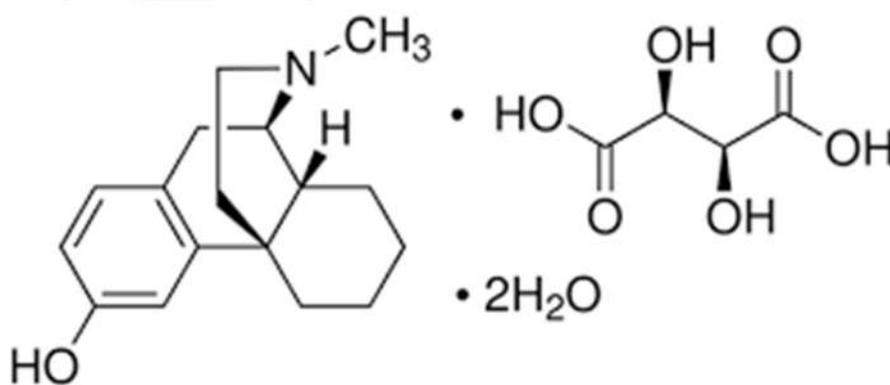
Therapeutic Uses

- Moderate to severe pain relief:
 - Musculoskeletal pain, postoperative pain.
- Analgesic in patients at risk of opioid dependence:
 - Less risk of abuse than morphine or codeine.

Levorphanol Tartarate

Structure

- Chemical class: Synthetic opioid (morphinan derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{21}H_{29}NO \cdot C_4H_6O_6$ (as tartarate salt)
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, soluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Morphinan skeleton: Related to morphine, retains opioid activity.
 - Tertiary amine: Important for binding to opioid receptors.
 - Hydroxyl group at position 3: Essential for analgesic activity.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Agonist at μ , δ , and κ opioid receptors:
 - Strong μ -receptor agonist → potent analgesia.
 - Some κ and δ receptor activity contributes to analgesic and sedative effects.
- Cellular effects:
 - Opens K^+ channels → hyperpolarizes neurons.
 - Closes Ca^{2+} channels → decreases neurotransmitter release.
- Result: Potent analgesia, sedation, and reduced perception of pain.

Therapeutic Uses

- Moderate to severe pain relief:
 - Postoperative pain, cancer pain, chronic severe pain.
- Alternative to morphine:
 - Sometimes used when morphine is contraindicated or not tolerated.

Narcotic Antagonists

- Narcotic antagonists are drugs that block or reverse the effects of opioid (narcotic) drugs.
- Used in cases of opioid overdose or to counteract opioid-induced side effects.

Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Bind to opioid receptors in the brain and spinal cord (μ , κ , δ).
- Block opioid drugs from binding, preventing their effects.
- Result: Reversal of opioid effects including:
 - Analgesia
 - Sedation / drowsiness
 - Respiratory depression

Examples of Narcotic Antagonists

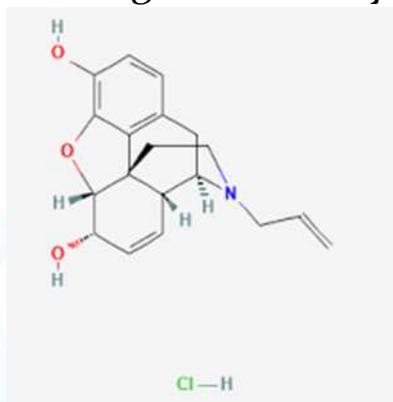
- Nalorphine hydrochloride,
- Levallorphan tartarate,
- Naloxone hydrochloride

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Nalorphine Hydrochloride

Structure

- Chemical class: Opioid partial agonist/antagonist (morphinan derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{19}H_{23}NO \cdot HCl$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, soluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Morphinan skeleton (similar to morphine).
 - Tertiary amine at position 17.
 - Modifications confer mixed agonist-antagonist activity (blocks μ -receptors, activates κ -receptors).



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Opioid receptor interaction:
 - μ -receptor: Antagonist \rightarrow reverses effects of pure opioids (e.g., morphine, fentanyl).
 - κ -receptor: Partial agonist \rightarrow provides mild analgesia and sedation.
- Cellular effects:
 - Blocks μ -receptor-mediated K^+ and Ca^{2+} channel modulation \rightarrow inhibits opioid-induced analgesia, sedation, and respiratory depression.
- Result:
 - Reverses opioid overdose effects.
 - Produces mild analgesia and sedation via κ -receptors.

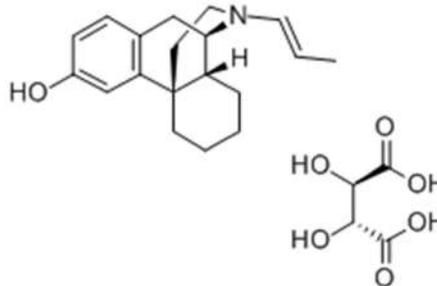
Therapeutic Uses

- Reversal of opioid overdose (especially respiratory depression).
- Opioid antagonism in anesthesia when partial reversal is desired.
- Research applications: Studying opioid receptor pharmacology.

Levallorphan Tartarate

Structure

- Chemical class: Opioid mixed agonist–antagonist (morphinan derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{20}H_{25}NO_4 \cdot C_4H_6O_6$ (as tartarate salt)
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, soluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Morphinan nucleus similar to morphine.
 - Tertiary amine at position 17.
 - Substitutions at the N-17 position confer μ -receptor antagonism and κ -receptor agonism.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Opioid receptor interaction:
 - μ -opioid receptor: Antagonist → blocks effects of morphine and other μ -agonists.
 - κ -opioid receptor: Partial agonist → provides mild analgesic effect.
- Cellular effects:
 - Inhibits μ -receptor-mediated G-protein signaling → reverses opioid-induced analgesia, sedation, and respiratory depression.
 - Activates κ -receptor pathways → mild analgesia and sedation without strong respiratory depression.
- Result:
 - Reverses opioid overdose effects.
 - Produces mild analgesia and sedation.

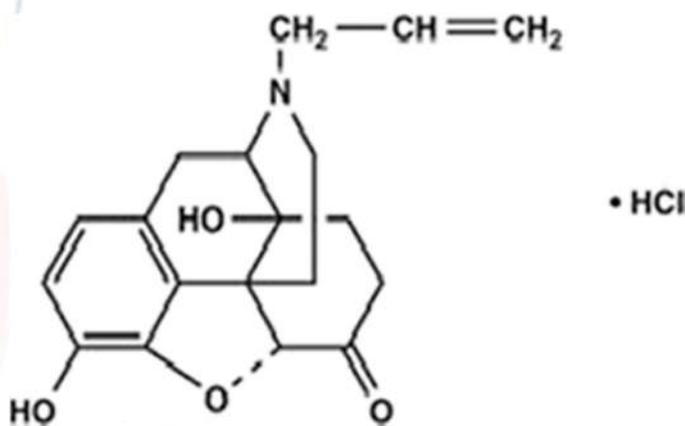
Therapeutic Uses

- Reversal of opioid overdose (especially morphine).
- Adjunct in anesthesia to counteract opioid effects.

Naloxone Hydrochloride

Structure

- Chemical class: Opioid pure antagonist (morphinan derivative).
- Chemical formula: $C_{19}H_{21}NO_4 \cdot HCl$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, soluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Morphinan nucleus similar to morphine.
 - N-17 substituent (allyl group) → confers μ -opioid receptor antagonism.
 - Hydroxyl groups at positions 3 and 14 → important for receptor binding.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Opioid receptor interaction:
 - μ , δ , and κ -opioid receptors: Competitive antagonist → blocks effects of agonists (morphine, fentanyl, heroin).
- Cellular effects:
 - Displaces agonists from receptors.
 - Reverses opioid-induced inhibition of adenylate cyclase → restores neurotransmitter release.
 - Reverses opioid-induced K^+ channel opening → depolarizes neurons.
- Result:
 - Rapid reversal of opioid-induced analgesia, sedation, respiratory depression, and euphoria.

Therapeutic Uses

- Emergency treatment of opioid overdose (respiratory depression).
- Reversal of opioid anesthesia post-surgery.
- Management of opioid-induced pruritus.

Anti-Inflammatory Agents (NSAIDs)

- Drugs that reduce pain, swelling, and fever without causing significant sedation.
- Widely used for minor pain, inflammatory joint diseases, and tissue injuries.
- Also called Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs).

Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Inhibit cyclooxygenase (COX) enzymes (COX-1 and COX-2).
- COX enzymes catalyze the formation of prostaglandins, which mediate:
 - Inflammation
 - Pain
 - Fever
- Result: Reduced inflammation, analgesia, and antipyretic effects.

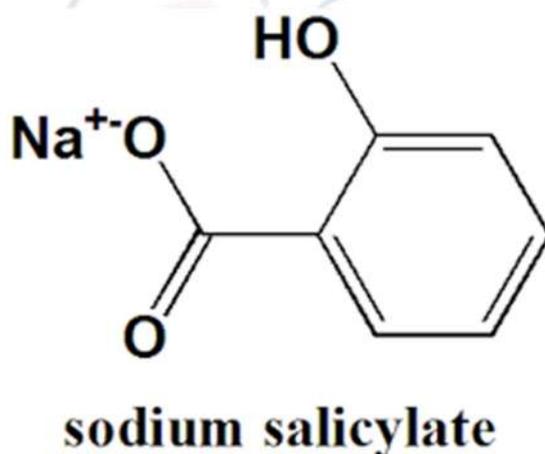
Examples of Anti-Inflammatory Agents

- Sodium salicylate, Aspirin,
- Mefenamic acid*, Meclofenamate,
- Indomethacin, Sulindac,
- Tolmetin, Zomepirac,
- Diclofenac, Ketorolac,
- Ibuprofen*, Naproxen,
- Piroxicam, Phenacetin,
- Acetaminophen, Antipyrine,
- Phenylbutazone

Sodium Salicylate

Structure

- Chemical class: Salicylate derivative (NSAID).
- Chemical formula: $C_7H_5NaO_3$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder, soluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Salicylic acid moiety (ortho-hydroxybenzoic acid).
 - Sodium salt → increases water solubility.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective COX (cyclooxygenase) inhibitor.
- Blocks COX-1 and COX-2 enzymes, preventing conversion of arachidonic acid → prostaglandins.
- Result:
 - Reduces inflammation, pain, and fever.
 - Analgesic and anti-inflammatory effects without sedation.

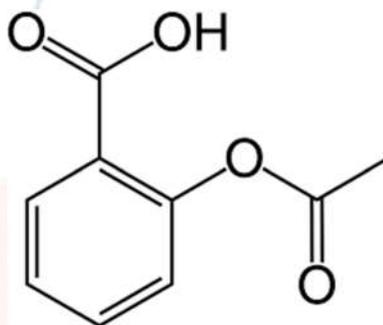
Therapeutic Uses

- Mild to moderate pain (headache, musculoskeletal pain).
- Inflammatory conditions (rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis).
- Fever reduction.

Aspirin (Acetylsalicylic Acid)

Structure

- Chemical class: Salicylate derivative (NSAID).
- Chemical formula: $C_9H_8O_4$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; slightly soluble in water; soluble in ethanol.
- Structural features:
 - Acetyl group ($-COCH_3$) attached to phenolic hydroxyl of salicylic acid.
 - The acetylation distinguishes it from sodium salicylate.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Irreversible COX inhibitor (COX-1 > COX-2): acetylates cyclooxygenase enzyme.
- Blocks conversion of arachidonic acid → prostaglandins & thromboxanes.
- Effects:
 - Analgesic → reduces mild to moderate pain.
 - Anti-inflammatory → reduces swelling and inflammation.
 - Antipyretic → reduces fever.
 - Antiplatelet → inhibits thromboxane A₂ synthesis → decreases platelet aggregation.

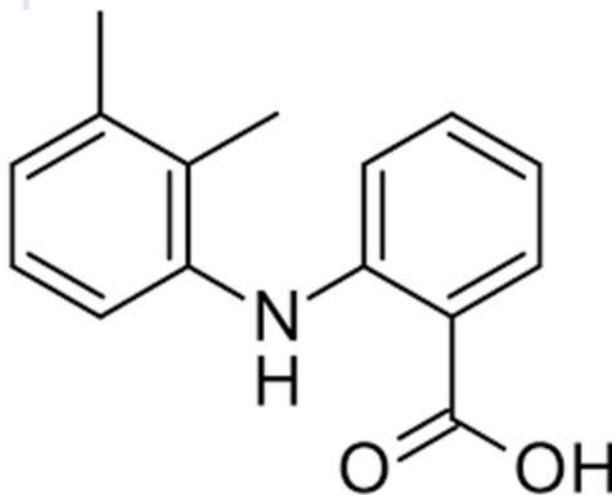
Therapeutic Uses

- Analgesic: headache, musculoskeletal pain, toothache.
- Antipyretic: fever reduction.
- Anti-inflammatory: rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis.
- Cardiovascular: low-dose aspirin for prevention of myocardial infarction and stroke.

Mefenamic Acid

Structure

- Chemical class: Anthranilic acid derivative (Fenamate group of NSAIDs).
- Chemical formula: $C_{15}H_{15}NO_2$
- Physical properties: White or pale yellow crystalline powder; practically insoluble in water; soluble in organic solvents like ethanol.
- Structural features:
 - Contains an anthranilic acid core (o-aminobenzoic acid) with a phenyl group substitution.
 - Carboxylic acid (-COOH) is responsible for its anti-inflammatory activity.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective COX inhibitor (COX-1 and COX-2).
- Blocks conversion of arachidonic acid → prostaglandins, reducing pain, inflammation, and fever.
- Mainly acts peripherally to inhibit prostaglandin synthesis.
- Analgesic, anti-inflammatory, and antipyretic effects arise from prostaglandin inhibition.

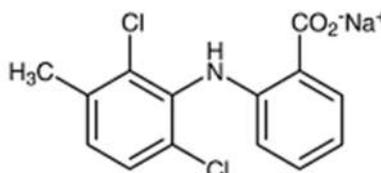
Therapeutic Uses

- Pain: mild to moderate pain, including dysmenorrhea (menstrual pain).
- Inflammation: rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis.
- Other uses: post-operative pain, musculoskeletal pain.

Meclofenamate

Structure

- Chemical class: Anthranilic acid derivative (Fenamate group of NSAIDs).
- Chemical formula: $C_{14}H_{12}Cl_2N_2O_2$
- Physical properties: White to pale yellow crystalline powder; practically insoluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Contains two chlorine atoms on the phenyl ring, which enhance potency.
 - Possesses an o-aminobenzoic acid core (anthranilic acid derivative).
 - Carboxylic acid (-COOH) group is essential for anti-inflammatory activity.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective COX-1 and COX-2 inhibitor.
- Inhibits prostaglandin synthesis by blocking arachidonic acid conversion.
- Reduces inflammation, pain, and fever primarily by peripheral action.

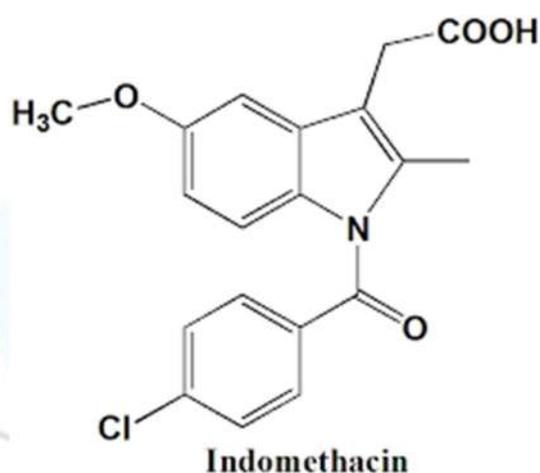
Therapeutic Uses

- Pain management: mild to moderate pain.
- Inflammatory conditions: rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, ankylosing spondylitis.
- Dysmenorrhea: effective in relieving menstrual pain.

Indomethacin

Structure

- Chemical class: Indole acetic acid derivative (NSAID).
- Chemical formula: $C_{19}H_{16}ClNO_4$
- Physical properties: White to slightly yellow crystalline powder; sparingly soluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Indole nucleus is essential for anti-inflammatory activity.
 - Contains a chlorobenzoyl group at the 1-position.
 - Carboxylic acid (-COOH) group contributes to COX inhibition and anti-inflammatory activity.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective COX-1 and COX-2 inhibitor.
- Inhibits prostaglandin synthesis → reduces inflammation, pain, and fever.
- Also inhibits leukocyte migration and platelet aggregation to some extent.

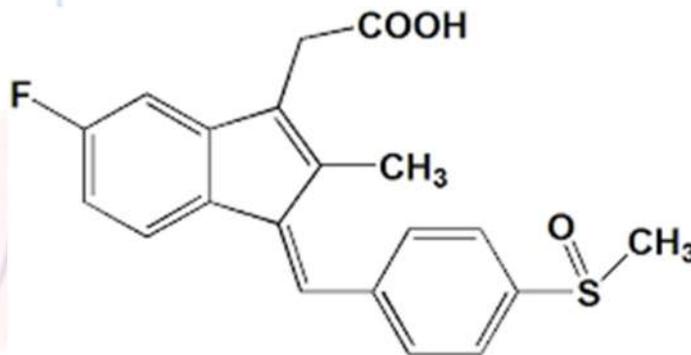
Therapeutic Uses

- Inflammatory conditions:
 - Rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, ankylosing spondylitis.
- Acute gout attacks: reduces pain and inflammation.
- Pain management: mild to moderate pain, especially in musculoskeletal disorders.
- Patent ductus arteriosus (PDA) in neonates: helps close PDA by inhibiting prostaglandin synthesis.

Sulindac

Structure

- Chemical class: Arylalkanoic acid derivative (NSAID).
- Chemical formula: $C_{20}H_{16}O_3S$
- Physical properties: White to off-white crystalline powder; sparingly soluble in water.
- Structural features:
 - Contains a sulfinyl group (-S=O) which is metabolically reduced to the active sulfide form.
 - Carboxylic acid (-COOH) group is crucial for COX inhibition.
 - Aromatic rings contribute to anti-inflammatory activity.



Sulindac

Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Prodrug: Converted to active sulfide metabolite in the liver.
- Non-selective COX inhibitor → inhibits prostaglandin synthesis.
- Reduces inflammation, pain, and fever.
- May also inhibit neutrophil migration, contributing to anti-inflammatory effect.

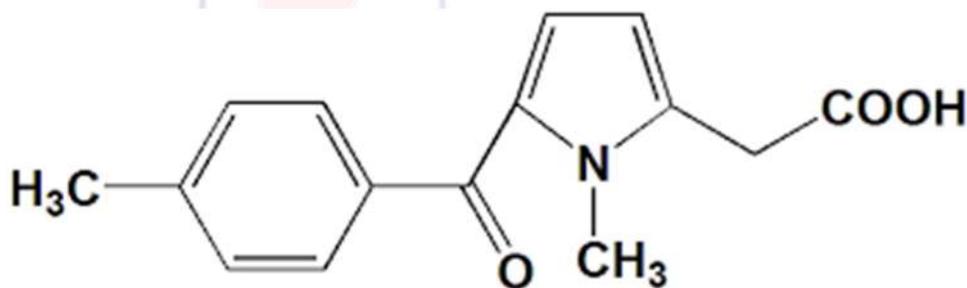
Therapeutic Uses

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Osteoarthritis
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Acute gout attacks (for pain and inflammation)
- Familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP): reduces polyp formation in colon (long-term preventive use).

Tolmetin

Structure

- Chemical class: Arylacetic acid derivative (NSAID).
- Chemical formula: $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$
- Physical properties: White to off-white crystalline powder; slightly soluble in water, freely soluble in alcohol and chloroform.
- Structural features:
 - Contains a carboxylic acid (-COOH) group essential for COX inhibition.
 - Aromatic rings enhance anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity.
 - Methyl substituents improve lipophilicity and absorption.



Tolmetin

Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective COX inhibitor → inhibits prostaglandin synthesis.
- Reduces inflammation, pain, and fever.
- Acts mainly by reducing prostaglandins responsible for pain and swelling in inflamed tissues.

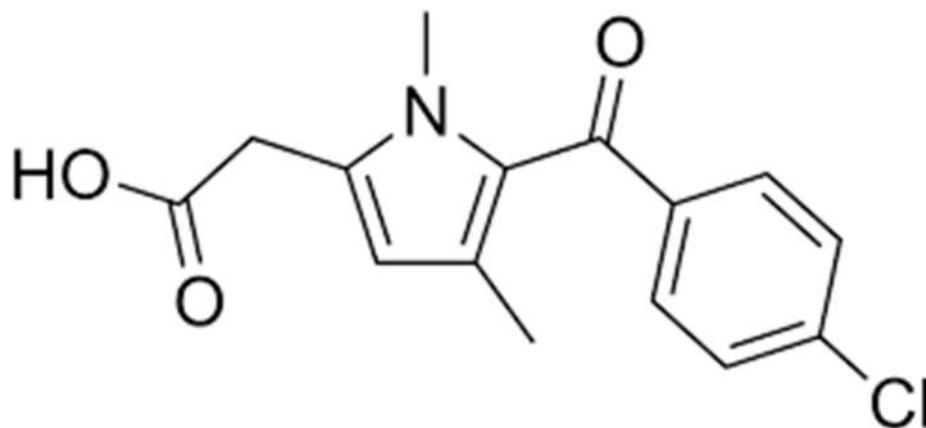
Therapeutic Uses

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Osteoarthritis
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Acute musculoskeletal pain
- Can be used for mild to moderate pain relief in other inflammatory conditions.

Zomepirac

Structure

- Chemical class: Pyrrole-acetic acid derivative (NSAID).
- Chemical formula: $C_{14}H_{13}NO_4$
- Physical properties: White to off-white crystalline powder; slightly soluble in water, soluble in organic solvents like ethanol.
- Structural features:
 - Contains carboxylic acid (-COOH) group essential for COX inhibition.
 - Aromatic and heteroaromatic rings contribute to anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity.
 - Nitrogen atom in pyrrole ring enhances receptor interaction and potency.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective COX inhibitor → inhibits prostaglandin synthesis.
- Reduces pain, inflammation, and fever.
- Highly potent NSAID, providing rapid analgesic effect in acute pain conditions.

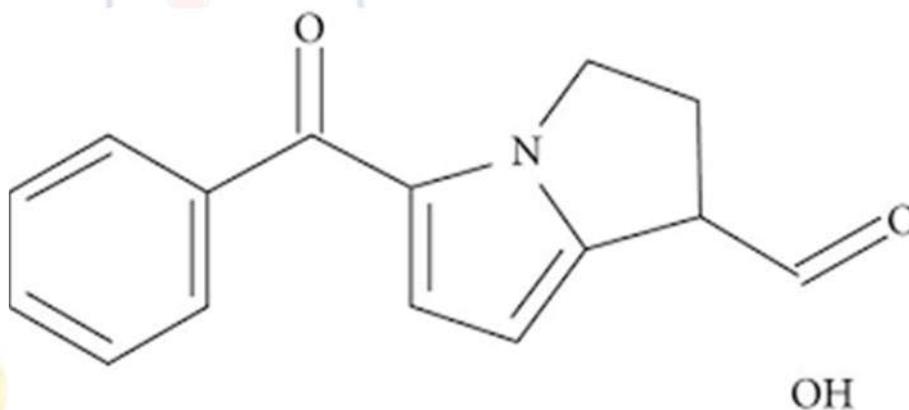
Therapeutic Uses

- Acute musculoskeletal pain
- Postoperative pain management
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Osteoarthritis (less commonly, due to availability of safer alternatives)

Ketorolac

Structure

- Chemical class: Pyrrolizine carboxylic acid derivative (NSAID).
- Chemical formula: $C_{16}H_{13}NO_3$
- Physical properties: White to off-white crystalline powder; practically insoluble in water, soluble in organic solvents like ethanol.
- Structural features:
 - Contains carboxylic acid (-COOH) group essential for cyclooxygenase (COX) inhibition.
 - Aromatic and heteroaromatic rings contribute to anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity.
 - Pyrrolizine moiety increases potency and bioavailability.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective COX inhibitor → inhibits prostaglandin synthesis.
- Reduces pain, inflammation, and fever.
- Provides potent analgesic effect, often used for moderate to severe pain, comparable to weak opioids.

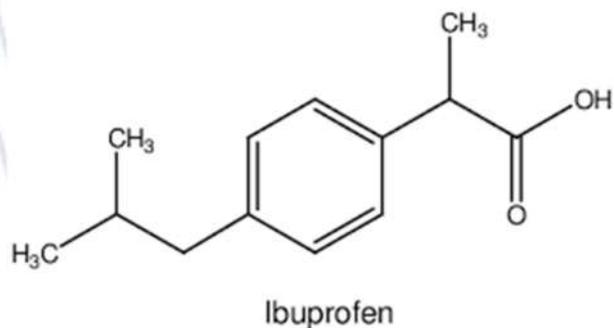
Therapeutic Uses

- Acute musculoskeletal pain
- Postoperative pain management
- Dental pain
- Short-term management of moderate to severe pain
- Not recommended for chronic inflammatory conditions due to renal and GI risk

Ibuprofen

Structure

- Chemical class: Propionic acid derivative (NSAID).
- Chemical formula: $C_{13}H_{18}O_2$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; practically insoluble in water; soluble in ethanol and methanol.
- Structural features:
 - Contains a carboxylic acid (-COOH) group → essential for COX inhibition.
 - Aromatic ring contributes to anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity.
 - Isobutyl side chain at α -position enhances potency and selectivity.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective cyclooxygenase (COX-1 and COX-2) inhibitor → inhibits prostaglandin synthesis.
- Reduces:
 - Pain (analgesic effect)
 - Inflammation (anti-inflammatory effect)
 - Fever (antipyretic effect)
- Works primarily by reducing prostaglandin-mediated sensitization of pain receptors.

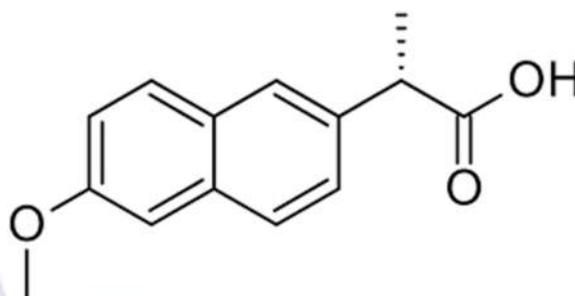
Therapeutic Uses

- Mild to moderate pain: headaches, toothache, muscle pain.
- Inflammatory conditions: rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, ankylosing spondylitis.
- Fever reduction (antipyretic).
- Dysmenorrhea (menstrual pain).

Naproxen

Structure

- Chemical class: Propionic acid derivative (NSAID)
- Chemical formula: $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$
- Physical properties: White or almost white crystalline powder; slightly soluble in water; soluble in alcohol and acetone.
- Structural features:
 - Carboxylic acid (-COOH) group → essential for COX inhibition.
 - Naphthalene ring → contributes to anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity.
 - Chiral center (S-enantiomer is active) → responsible for pharmacological activity.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective inhibitor of cyclooxygenase (COX-1 and COX-2) → blocks prostaglandin synthesis.
- Reduces:
 - Pain (analgesic effect)
 - Inflammation (anti-inflammatory effect)
 - Fever (antipyretic effect)
- Acts by reducing prostaglandin-mediated sensitization of pain receptors.

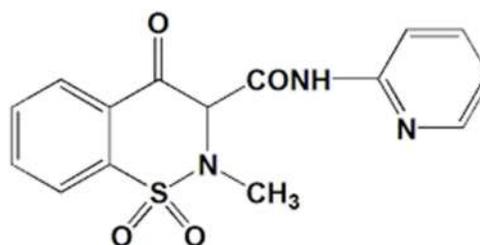
Therapeutic Uses

- Pain relief: headaches, dental pain, musculoskeletal pain, postoperative pain.
- Inflammatory disorders: rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, juvenile arthritis.
- Dysmenorrhea: relief of menstrual pain.
- Fever reduction (antipyretic).

Piroxicam

Structure

- Chemical class: Oxicam derivative (NSAID)
- Chemical formula: $C_{20}H_{18}N_2O_4S$
- Physical properties: Yellow crystalline powder; practically insoluble in water; soluble in alcohol and dimethylformamide.
- Structural features:
 - Enolic hydroxyl group (-OH) → essential for COX inhibition.
 - Carboxamide moiety → contributes to anti-inflammatory activity.
 - Furan ring → increases lipophilicity and tissue penetration.



Piroxicam

Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Non-selective inhibitor of cyclooxygenase (COX-1 and COX-2) → inhibits prostaglandin synthesis.
- Reduces:
 - Pain (analgesic effect)
 - Inflammation (anti-inflammatory effect)
 - Fever (antipyretic effect)
- By decreasing prostaglandin-mediated sensitization of nociceptors, it alleviates pain and inflammation.

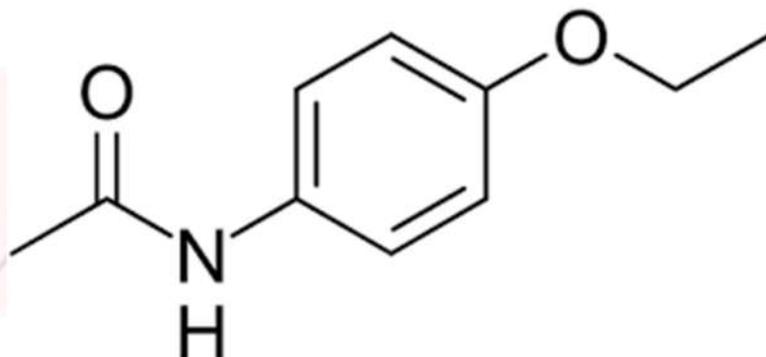
Therapeutic Uses

- Rheumatic diseases:
 - Rheumatoid arthritis
 - Osteoarthritis
 - Ankylosing spondylitis
- Acute musculoskeletal pain
- Postoperative pain and inflammation
- Dysmenorrhea

Phenacetin

Structure

- Chemical class: Acetanilide derivative (non-opioid analgesic/antipyretic)
- Chemical formula: $C_{10}H_{13}NO_2$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; slightly soluble in water; soluble in alcohol.
- Structural features:
 - Acetylated aniline group (-NHCOCH₃) → responsible for analgesic activity.
 - Ethoxy group (-OCH₂CH₃) on aromatic ring → contributes to lipid solubility.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Analgesic and antipyretic effects:
 - Metabolized in the liver to paracetamol (acetaminophen), which inhibits prostaglandin synthesis in CNS.
 - Reduces pain and fever without significant anti-inflammatory action.
- No significant peripheral COX inhibition → less GI irritation compared to NSAIDs.

Therapeutic Uses

- Mild to moderate pain relief
 - Headache
 - Toothache
 - Musculoskeletal pain
- Fever reduction (antipyretic)

Acetaminophen (Paracetamol)

Structure

- Chemical class: Para-aminophenol derivative (non-opioid analgesic/antipyretic)
- Chemical formula: $C_8H_9NO_2$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; freely soluble in hot water; slightly soluble in cold water; soluble in alcohol.
- Structural features:
 - Phenolic hydroxyl group (-OH) → responsible for analgesic and antipyretic activity.
 - Amide group (-NHCOCH₃) → contributes to CNS activity and reduced peripheral side effects compared to NSAIDs.

Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Analgesic and antipyretic effects:
 - Inhibits central cyclooxygenase (COX) enzymes, reducing prostaglandin synthesis in CNS → decreases pain perception and fever.
 - Minimal inhibition of peripheral COX → less GI irritation and no significant anti-inflammatory effect.
- Antipyretic effect: Acts on hypothalamic heat-regulating center, promoting heat dissipation.

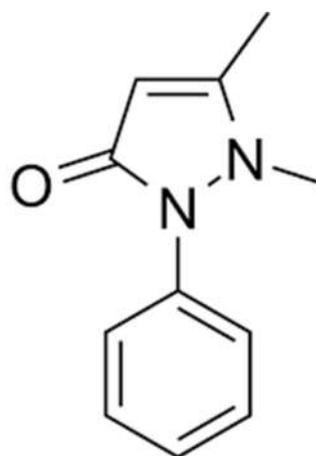
Therapeutic Uses

- Analgesic (pain relief):
 - Headache, toothache, musculoskeletal pain, postoperative pain.
- Antipyretic (fever reduction):
 - Fever due to infections or other causes.
- Safe alternative to NSAIDs in patients with peptic ulcer or bleeding risk.

Antipyrine (Phenazone)

Structure

- Chemical class: Pyrazolone derivative (non-opioid analgesic/antipyretic)
- Chemical formula: $C_{11}H_{12}N_2O$
- Physical properties: White crystalline powder; slightly soluble in water; soluble in alcohol and ether.
- Structural features:
 - Pyrazolone ring → central to its analgesic and antipyretic activity.
 - Substituted methyl and phenyl groups → modulate lipophilicity and potency.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Analgesic and antipyretic effects:
 - Inhibits prostaglandin synthesis in CNS, decreasing pain perception and lowering fever.
 - Weak peripheral COX inhibition → minimal anti-inflammatory effect.
- Additional action: Mild central inhibition of pain and temperature-regulating centers in hypothalamus.

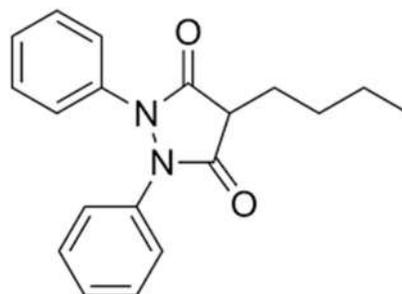
Therapeutic Uses

- Analgesic: Mild to moderate pain, including headache, toothache, musculoskeletal pain.
- Antipyretic: Fever reduction in infections or postoperative fever.
- Occasionally used as a topical ear analgesic in combination ear drops.

Phenylbutazone

Structure

- Chemical class: Pyrazolidinedione derivative
- Chemical formula: $C_{19}H_{20}N_2O_2$
- Physical properties: White or off-white crystalline powder; slightly soluble in water, soluble in alcohol and ether.
- Structural features:
 - Pyrazolidinedione ring → essential for anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity.
 - Phenyl groups at positions 1 and 2 → increase lipophilicity and activity.



Mechanism of Action (MOA)

- Primary action: Non-selective cyclooxygenase (COX) inhibitor, reducing prostaglandin synthesis.
- Effects:
 - Anti-inflammatory → reduces inflammation and edema.
 - Analgesic → decreases pain perception by lowering prostaglandin-mediated sensitization of nociceptors.
 - Antipyretic → lowers fever by acting on hypothalamic thermoregulatory centers.
- Additional: Can inhibit leukocyte migration, contributing to anti-inflammatory effect.

Therapeutic Uses

- Rheumatic diseases: Rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, osteoarthritis (historically).
- Gout: Acute gouty arthritis attacks.
- Musculoskeletal pain: Severe pain due to soft tissue injuries (limited use now).