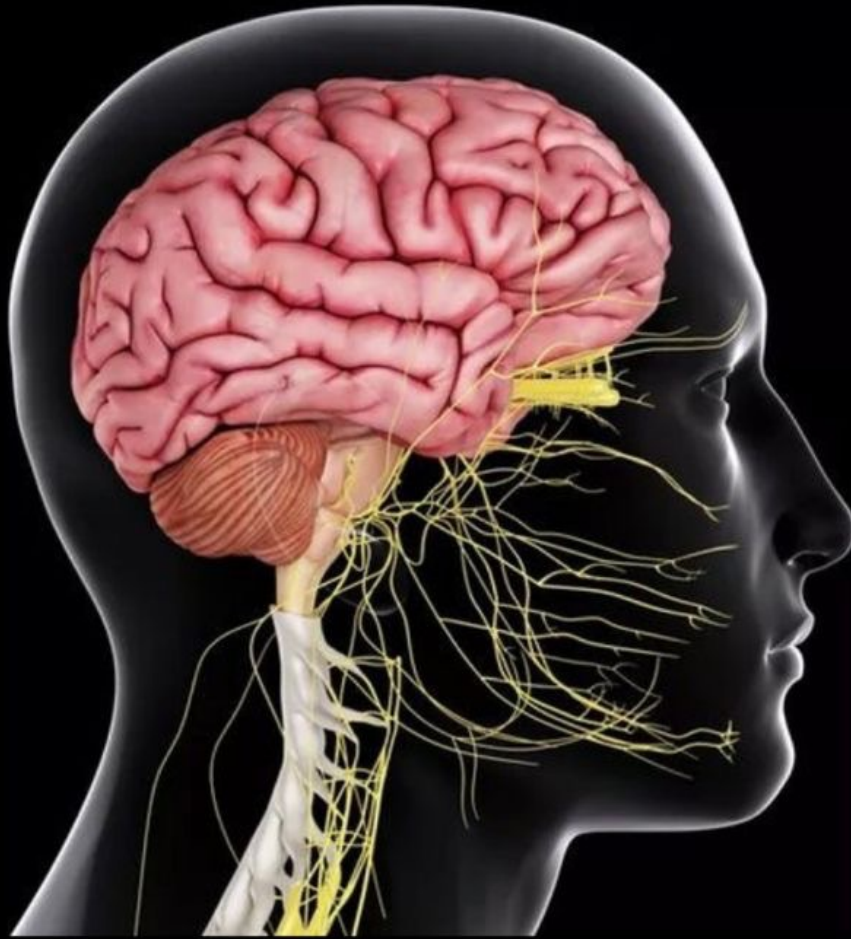




CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM



SUBJECT : Pharmacology

LEC NO. : 2

DONE BY : Batool ALzubaidi

وَقُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا



Opioids

Pharmacology and Toxicology
Central Nervous System Module
Third Year Medical Students

Tareq Saleh

Faculty of Medicine

The Hashemite University

Textbook: pp. 180-193

opioids are drugs used to treat pain
و الكلمة مشتقة من كلمة opium التي هو
بالعربي افيون ففي الغالب هم naturally
drugs that derived compounds و هي
carry high liability of abuse و اكن
لساتهم يستخدموا to manage pain

pain isn't a simple problem it's a very complicated medical challenge not easy to treat

Pain

من الاشياء الي ممكن تسبب level عالي من ال pain
مثلا cancers, big trauma, road traffic accident

- “an unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage, or described in terms of such damage”

- Acute or chronic

ال chronic لحدا عنده fibromyalgia

- Consequence of complex neurochemical processes in the peripheral and central nervous systems

Pain treatment is wholistic approach that doesn't only involve drugs

- Subjective

Drugs that relieve pain are called analgesics



Pain

The assessment of pain is very difficult because it's subjective to the patient's perception of stimulus

Pain rating scale

Opioids are used to treat moderate to moderately severe to severe pain, there not used to treat mild pain because they carry high risk for abuse and dependence





Pain

Mild pain that we experience on a daily basis you can prescribe another analgesic like acetaminophen, paracetamol most importantly prescribe non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs to treat musculoskeletal and back pain, headache, joint pain

Types of pain

- **Nociceptive pain:** pain due to an actual or potentially tissue-damaging injury that is transduced and transmitted via nociceptors.

Examples: somatic pain, cancer pain, postoperative pain

Pain receptors

+ somatic pain like appendicitis which is caused by inflammation, tissue injury and destruction

- **Neuropathic pain:** pain arising as a direct consequence of a lesion or disease of the somatosensory system.

They result from neurological problem in somatosensory system

Examples: carpal tunnel syndrome, chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy, postherpetic neuralgia.

بالعادة ما يكون في physical damage الا اذا كانت
conveys the signals الي sensor nerve بال injury

+ Diabetic neuropathy, vitamin D deficiency associated neuropathy

- **Others**

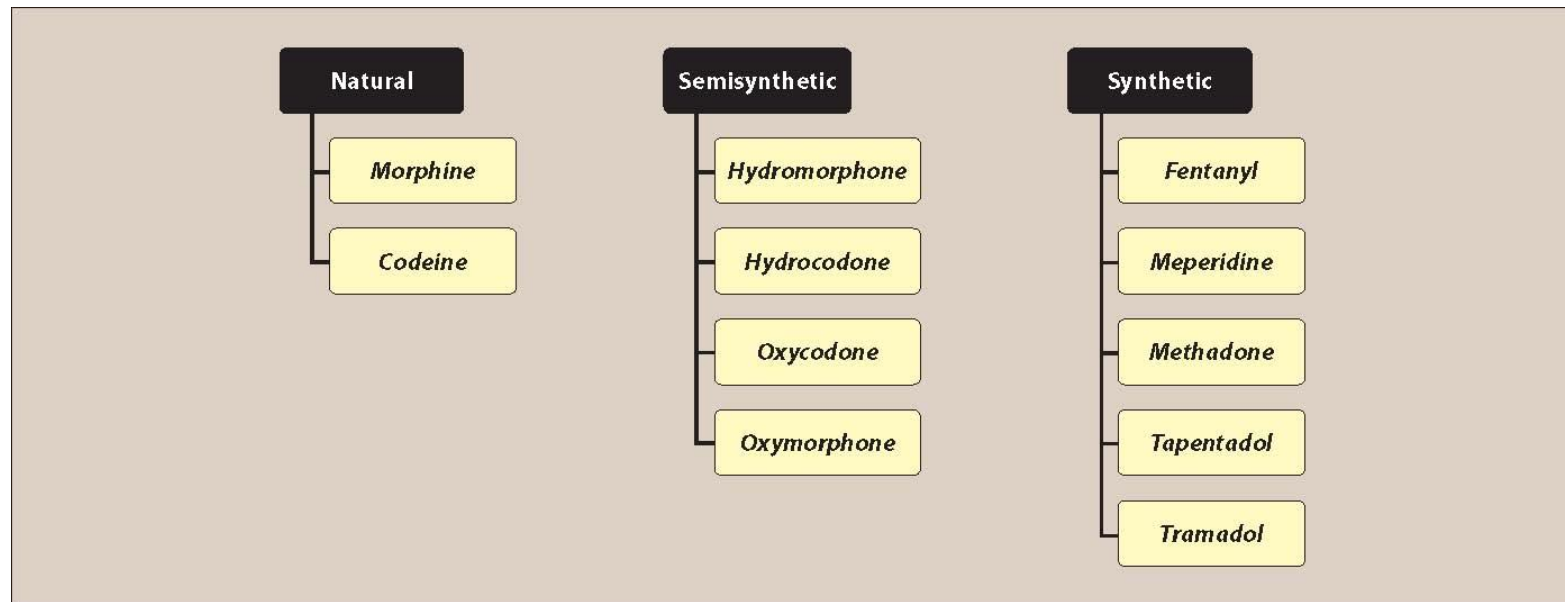
In this case opioids play a very minimal role if any role, there not the drugs good for treating neuropathic pain

Morphine like compounds

Drugs that exert their effect through opioid receptors

Opioids

- *Opioids* are natural, semi-synthetic or synthetic compounds that bind specifically to opioid receptors and share the properties of one or more of the naturally occurring endogenous opioids



Opioids exert their actions through opioid receptors which are located in different types of neurons in the brain, they have some sort of distinct distribution

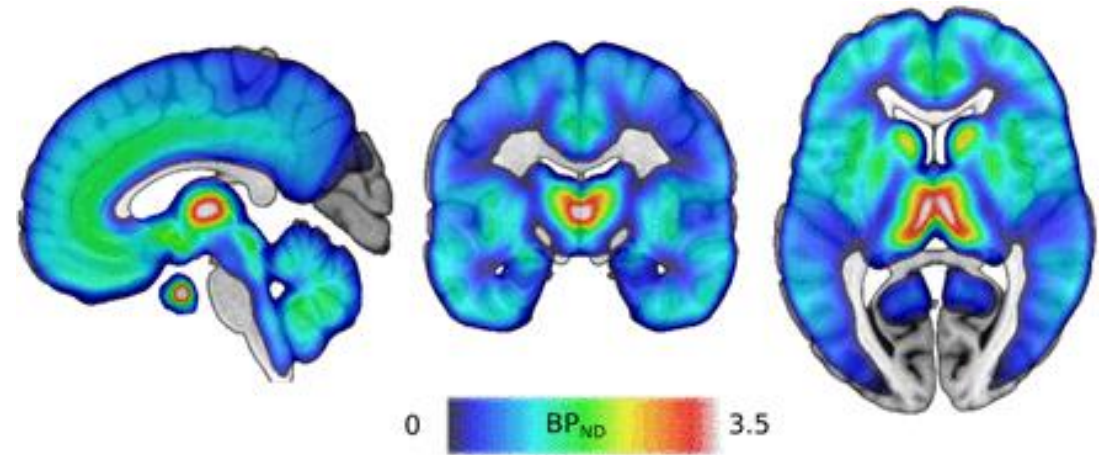
Opioid Receptors

- Distributed throughout the CNS

- Nucleus of tractus solitaries
- PAG
- Cerebral cortex
- Thalamus
- Spinal cord

But also.... Present peripherally

- Gut
- Bladder



Mean distribution of μ -opioid receptors in the human brain based on the 204 [11C]carfentanil BPND images, *Kantonen et al., 2019*

They're dominant in the peri-aqueductal gray matter, they're present in cerebral cortex (predominant in its sensory part), present in thalamus

Opioid Receptors

Primary receptor that's involved in analgesia and propagates euphoric effects of opioids

Opioid Receptor

أهم واحد



ميو ←



دلتا



كابا

← Receptor name

Endogenous opioid

Endorphins

Enkephalins

Dynorphins

Effect

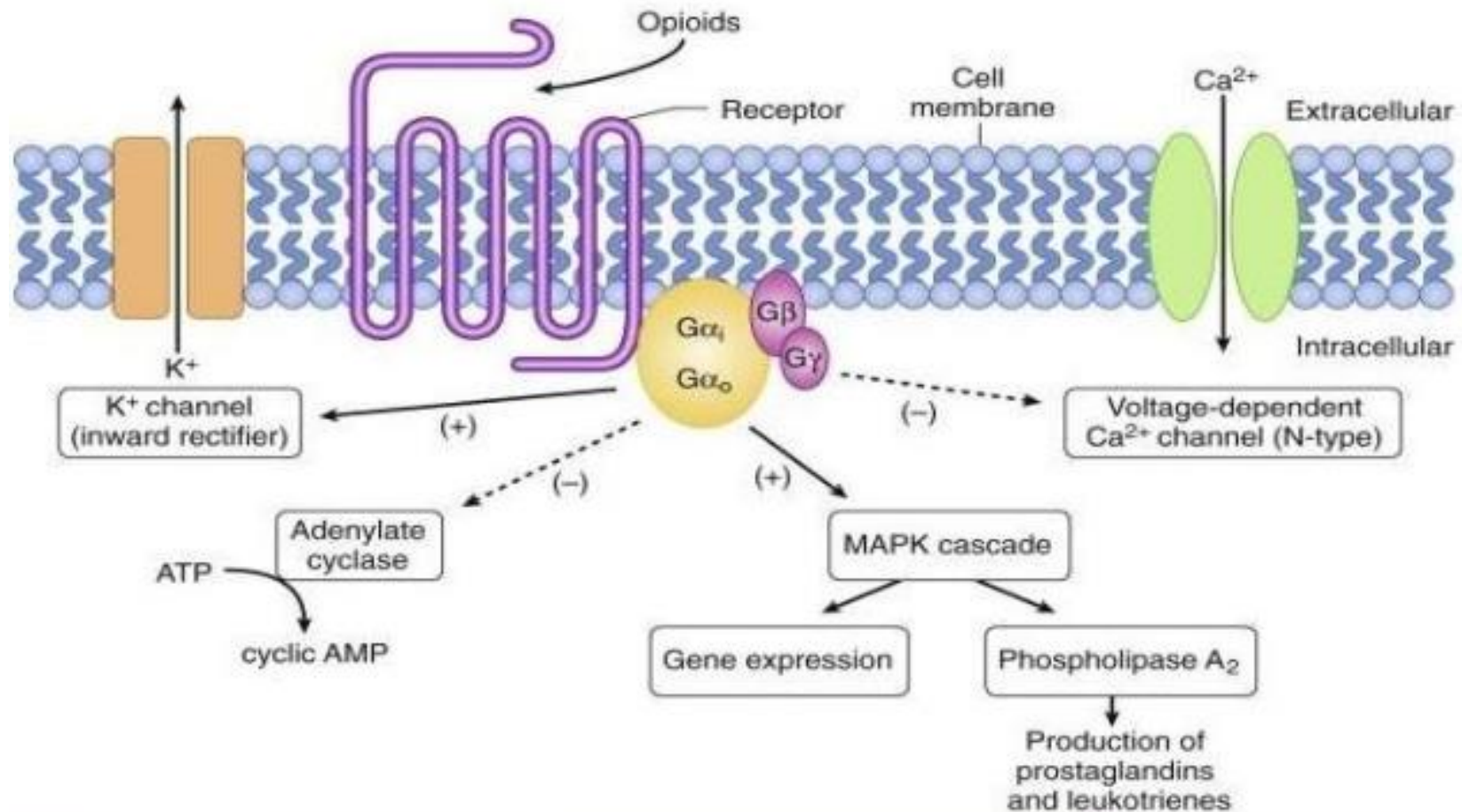
Analgesia, euphoria, respiratory depression, constipation, sedation, meiosis

Seizures, analgesia?

Dysphoria, analgesia?

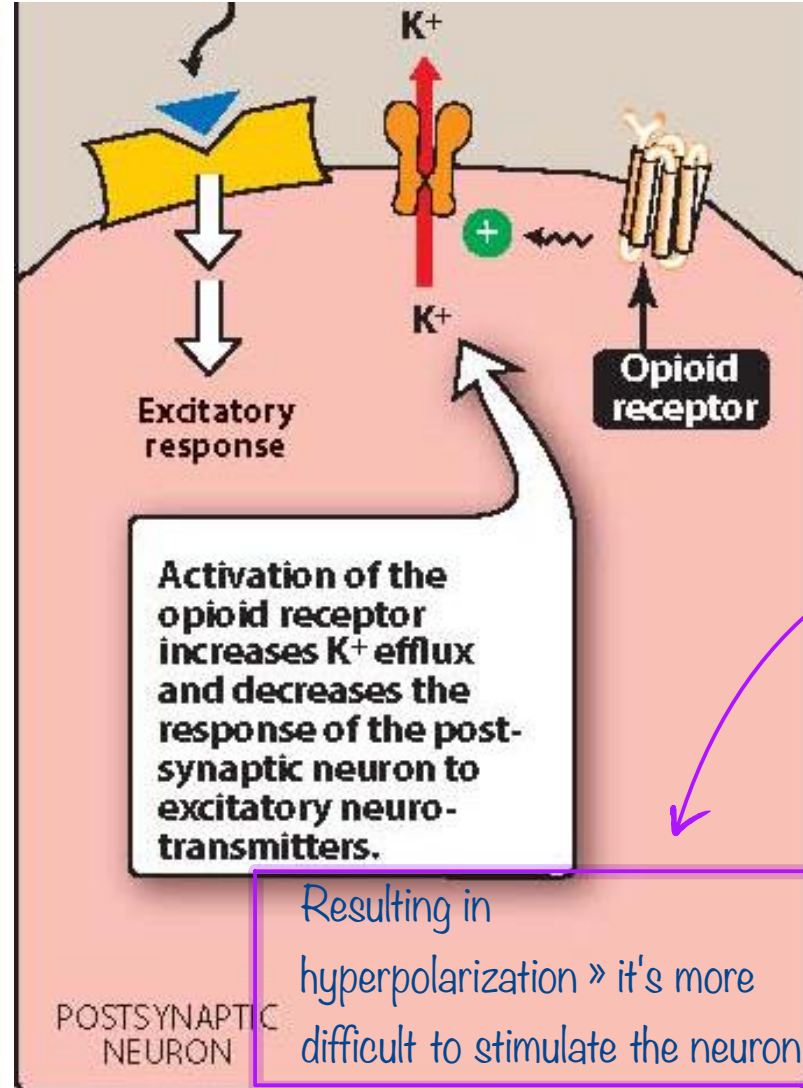
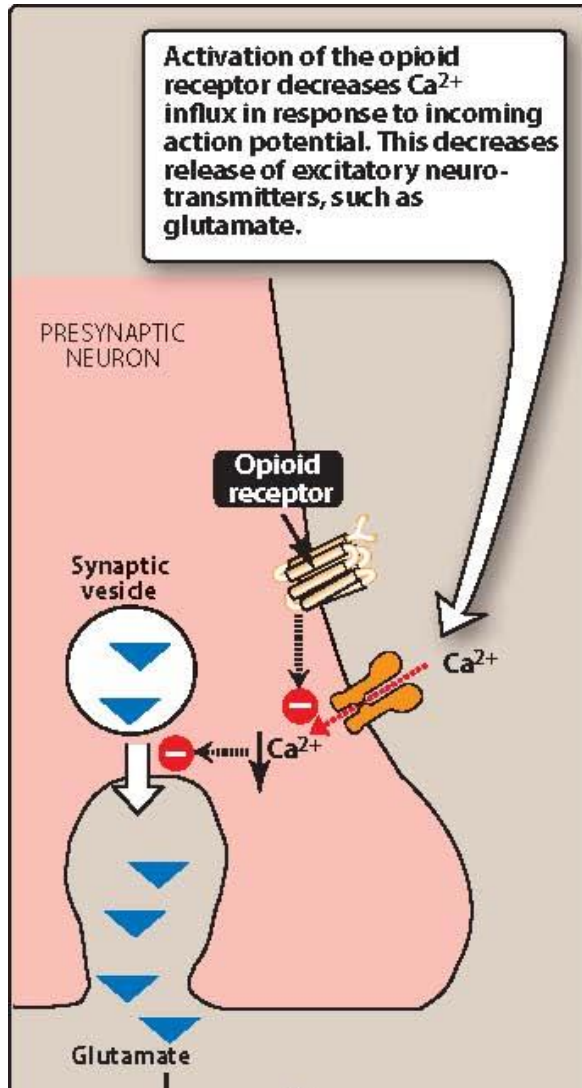
إذا احنا اعتبرنا هذول ال compounds بكونوا naturally derived or semisynthetic يعني يعتبروا external substances ليش الهم receptors بال brain ؟
 لانه we have our own internal system of endogenous opioids الي حكينا عنهم ال محاضرة الماضية بكونوا inhibitory neurotransmitters

Opioids: Mechanism of Action



Opioids receptors present both pre and post synaptically

Opioids: Mechanism of Action



G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs)
[$G_{i/o}$ (inhibitory)]

Reduce camp production in postsynaptic neuron

↗ Inhibit adenylyl cyclase

Increase postsynaptic K^+ efflux


Reduce presynaptic Ca^{++} influx

You want to suppress pain » you want to suppress sensory signals propagated through sensory neurons coming from sites of tissue injury

Decreased granulation and release of neurotransmitters



Opioid Agonists

- Morphine  Most clinically used
- Codeine
- Oxycodone
- Oxymorphone
- Hydrocodone
- Fentanyl
- Methadone
- Meperidine

Morphine

- Natural
- Derived from *papaver somniferum*
- After the Greek god of dreams
“Morpheus”

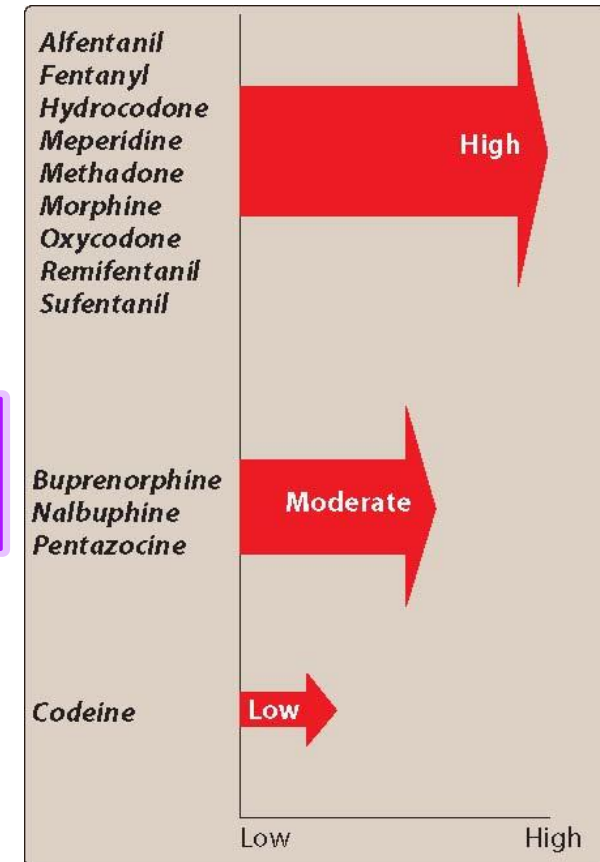


شو الفرق بين ال analgesia and sedation ؟ ال analgesia يعني pain relief
ال sedation has to do with awareness يعني ال sedative
ال compound بقلل ال awareness و بعمل CNS suppression و ممكن يخليك
تنام فهو اله علا بال consciousness, alertness, awareness بقللهم كلهم

Morphine

Actions:

- **Analgesia** sedation higher doses اما بال therapeutic doses بال
 - without loss of consciousness ↗
 - raises pain threshold (spinal cord) ↘
 - يعني ال stimulus الي بالعادة ممكن يعمل pain يبطل → هو ما يكون في pain بس ال damage موجود
 - alters perception of pain (brain)
 - ❖ still aware of pain, but not unpleasant
 - nociceptive >>> neuropathic



Morphine

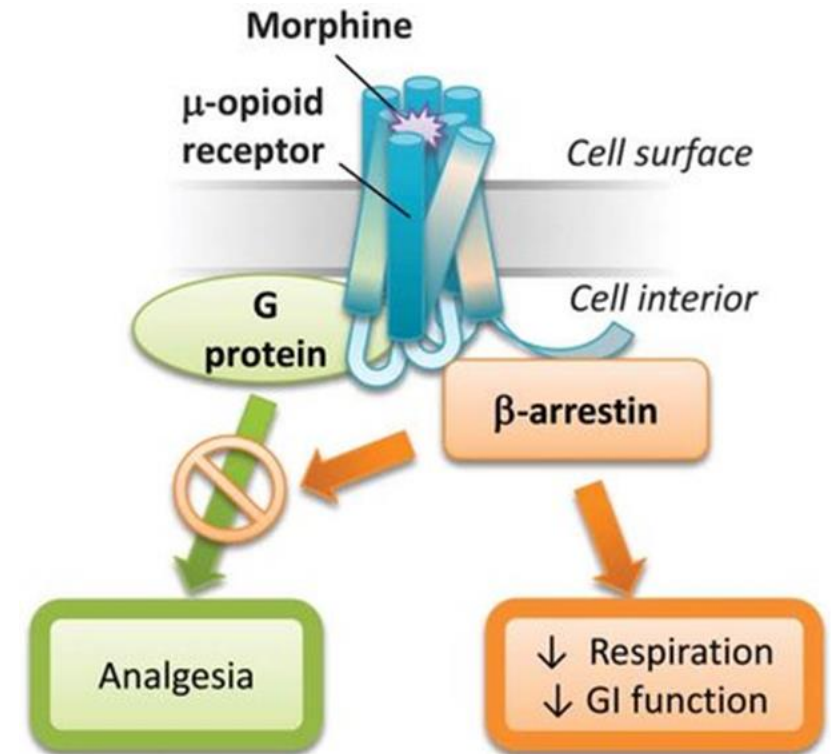
Actions:

بالعربي بنحكي بكون مزهزه

• Euphoria

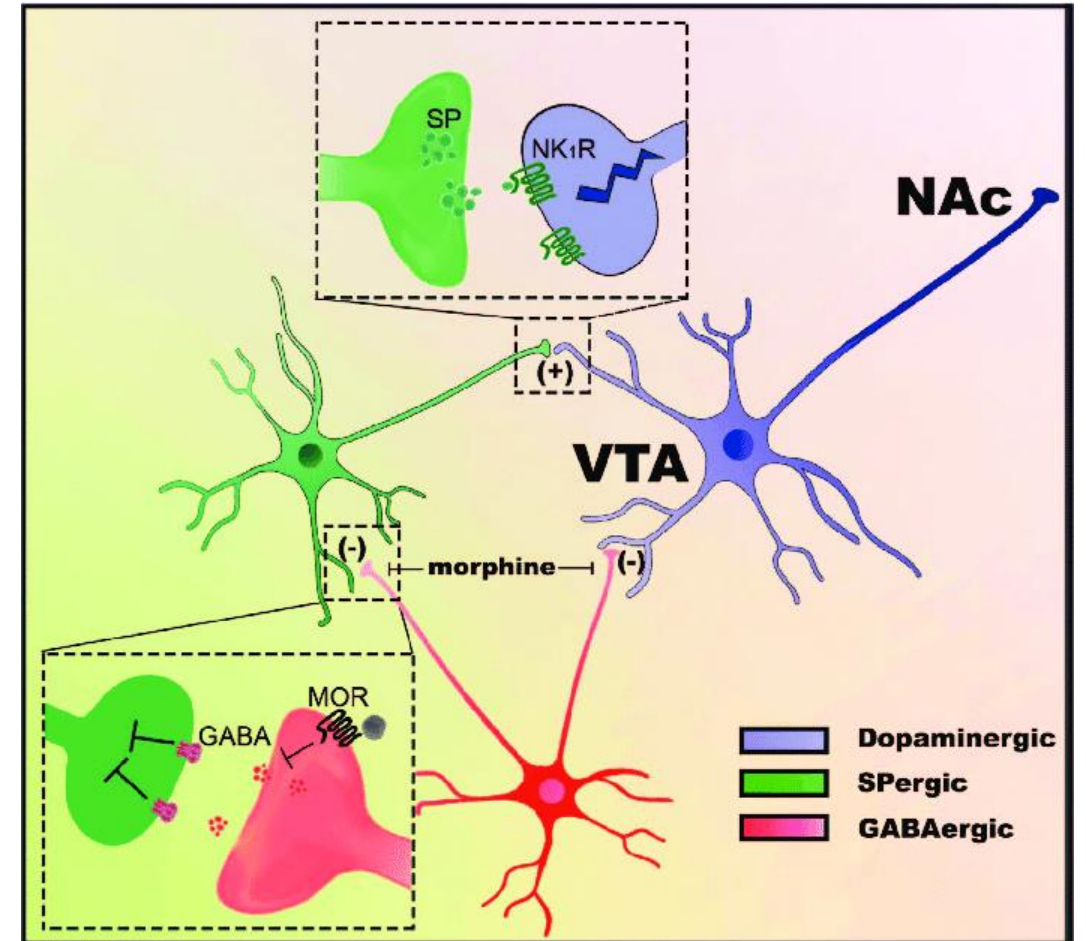
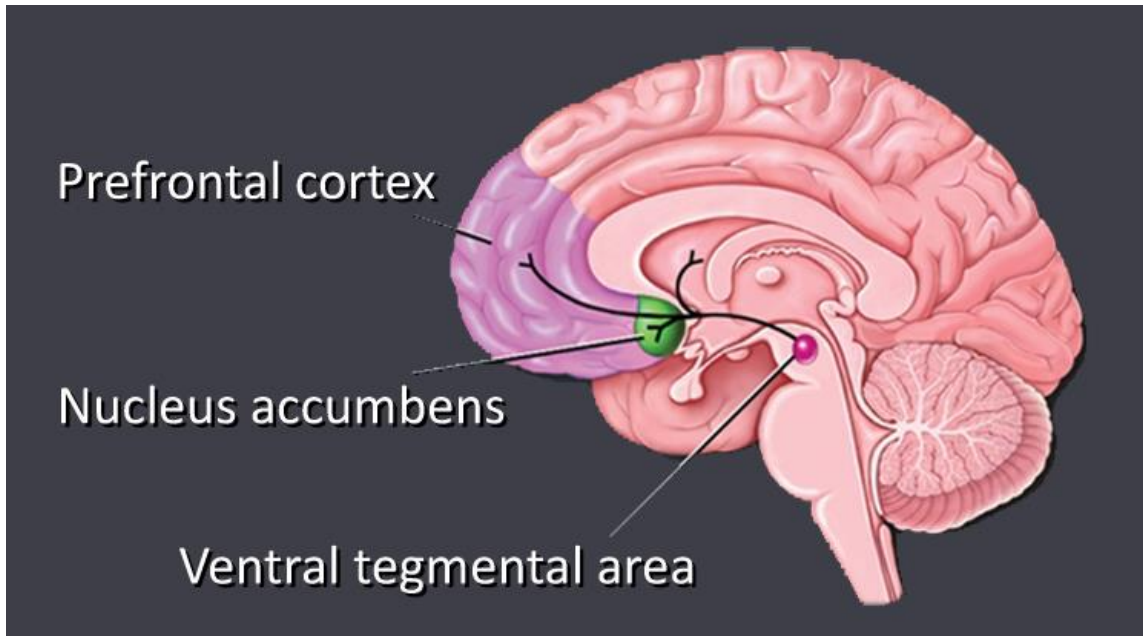
Main cause of opioids abuse

- sense of contentment and well-being
- caused by the disinhibition of the dopamine-containing neurons of the ventral tegmental area
- **Respiratory depression**
 - reduces the sensitivity of respiratory center to CO₂
 - most common cause of **death** from opioid overdose.
 - Tolerance develops quickly ↴



With repeatative doses with increasing concentration of morphine the risk of developing respiratory depression reduces because of tolerance

Morphine and the Reward Pathway

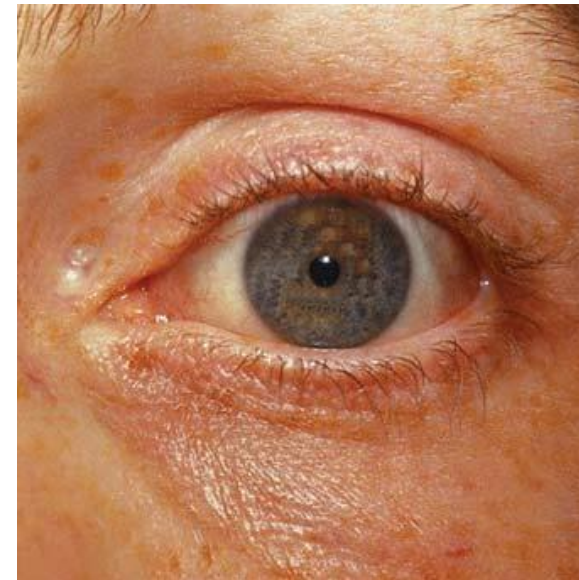


ليه بصير عنا euphoria بالمعنى العام هم بعملوا inhibition
للاحساس بالالم طيب ليش بنحس بالسعادة ؟ لانه ال opioids
activate the reward pathway that results with causing
happiness بغض النظر عن ال stimulus يعني مثلا لو اكلت اكلة
زاكية او لعبة بلايستيشن مع صحابك كنت مبسوط صار اي اشى
منيح معك دخنت سيجارة مثلا ، هاد ال reward feeling اكيد
physiological ولكن ال physical basis لانه ال علاقة بال neurons
that project in the ventral segmental area in the midbrain
بتروح لل nucleus accumbens بعدين prefrontal cortex فعشان
تحس بال euphoria هاد ال pathway لازم يشتغل، طيب احنا
حكينا ال opioids suppressive كيف بعملوله activation ؟ بعملوا
inhibition لل regulatory neurons لانه دايم هاد ال pathway
بكون فيه inhibitory neurons بسكروه و بكونوا gaba neurons
ال morphine بعمللهم inhibition و بحرر ال pathway بنسميها
بالاخص disinhibition يعني inhibition ل inhibitory neurons

Morphine

Actions:

- ↓ cough reflex
 - both morphine and codeine have *antitussive* effect.
- **Miosis**
 - *pinpoint pupil* Constriction of pupil
 - results from μ and κ receptors
 - no tolerance to this effect ↗



miosis

مهمة لما تكون بال emergency و يجي مريض comatose و تكون بدك تحدد السبب of loss os consciousness ففي حالة ال opoid overdose راح يكون عنده pupil constriction لانه معظم اسباب ال coma الاخرى يكون العكس يكون dilation in pupil or unresponsive

Morphine

Actions:

• Emesis

- stimulates the chemoreceptor trigger zone in area

postrema → vomiting

• GI tract

- ↓ gut motility ↑ intestinal smooth muscle tone ↑ anal sphincter tone

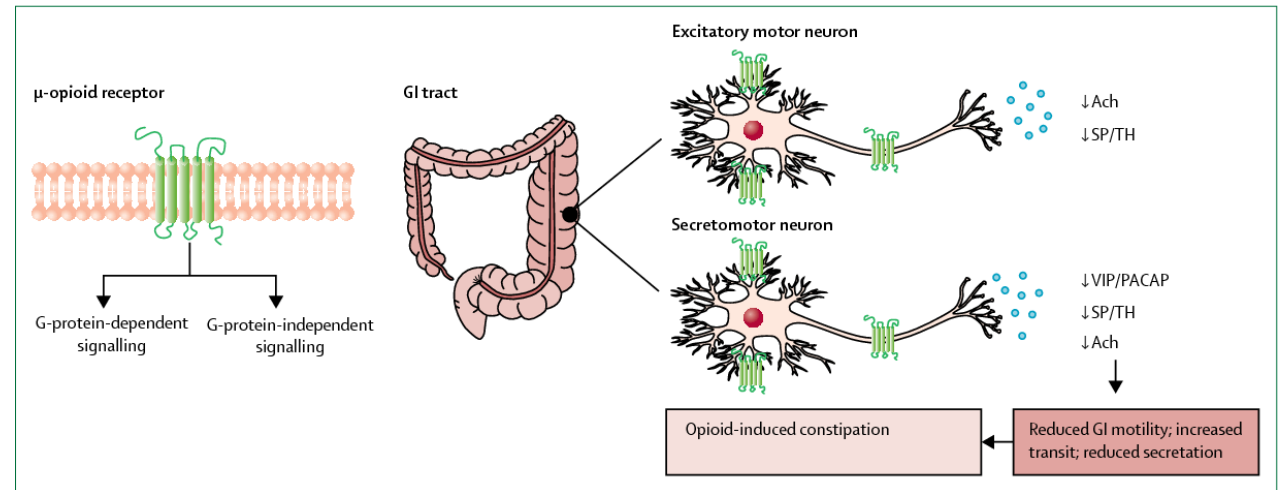
- constipation

Most annoying adverse effect for opioids especially when chronically used

- little tolerance to this effect

هل ممكن يكون اشفي جيد ؟ هل ممكن استخدم ال morphine عشان اعالج ال diarrhea ؟ هو ممكن لانه ممتازين و powerful بس بعمل الخوف من ال abuse

بس مثلا لو بدك تستخدمه بدون ال abuse liability شو تعمل ؟ بعمل modification بحيث ما يعمل crossing لل blood brain barrier زي loperamide



Morphine

Actions:

• **Cardiovascular**

Essential component for the treatment of myocardial infarction to treat pain associated with MI, reduced anxiety and reducing preload on cardiac muscle

- Peripheral vasodilation most prominent effect due to histamine release and decreased adrenergic tone
- Very high doses may produce bradycardia and hypotension
- **Contraindicated** in patients with severe brain/head injury ↘

It causes vasodilation in cerebral veins resulting with increased intracranial pressure and cerebral hypertension

• **Histamine release**

- Enhance the release of histamine from mast cells, causing urticaria, sweating, and vasodilation.

That's why it's contraindicated to be used in patients with allergies or asthma

Morphine

Actions:

- **Urinary retention:**

- Due to contraction of sphincter, inhibition of reflex of urination and increase ADH.

- **OPIAD: opioid-induced androgen deficiency**

And infertility in males

- **Labor**

Delays labour especially second stage

- increases second stage of labor.

How?

Morphine relaxes the muscles including those involved in the contractions of childbirth, this can slow down the progression of labor, potentially prolonging the process.

"MORPHINE"

M	MYOSIS
O	OUT OF IT (SEDATION)
R	RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION
P	PNEUMONIA (ASPIRATION)
H	HYPOTENSION
I	INFREQUENCY (CONSTIPATION, URINARY RETENTION)
N	NAUSEA
E	EMESIS



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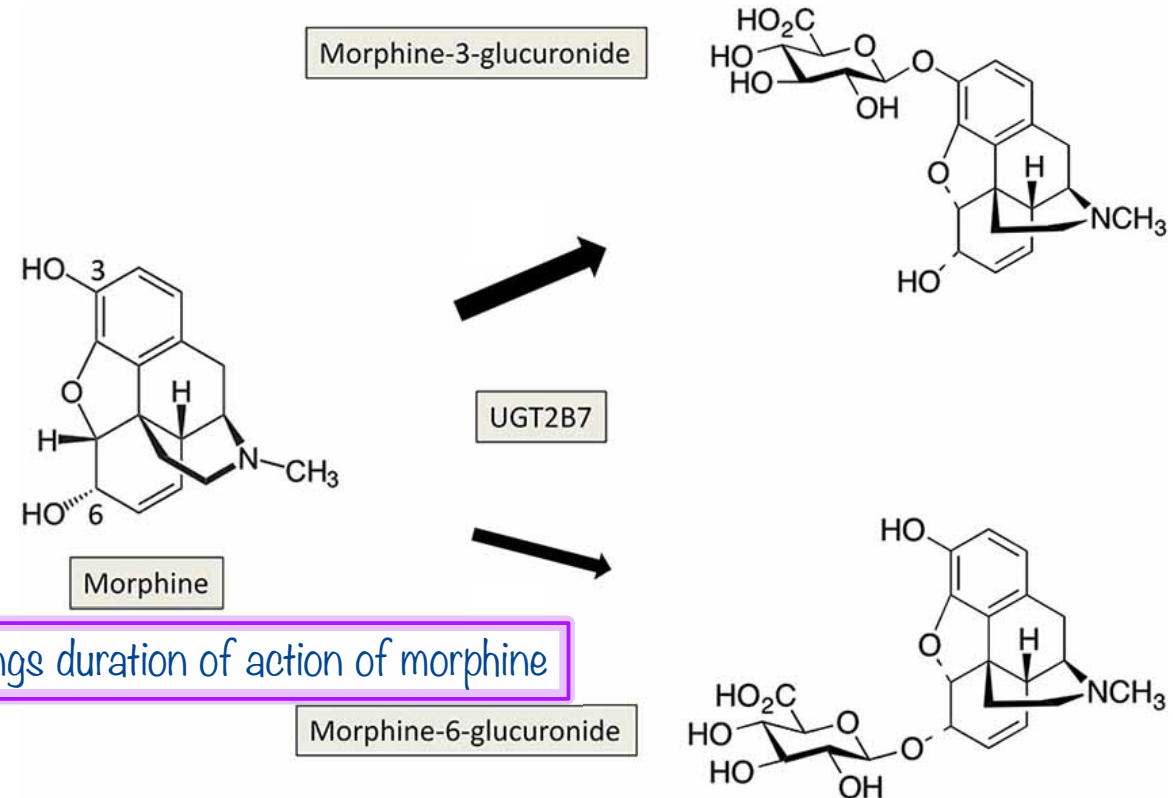
Pregnant women who are dependent on morphine or they abused morphine at some point usually give birth to dependent babies as well that could suffer from severe withdrawal after the moment of birth

Morphine

Pharmacokinetics

- **Administration:** *IM, IV, SC* – best effect
- **Distribution:** enters all body tissues (including fetus) – **contraindicated** for analgesia in labor
- **Metabolism:** glucuronidated into 2 metabolites:
 - ❖ **Morphine-6-glucuronide:** potent analgesic
 - ❖ **Morphine-3-glucuronide:** not an analgesic
- **Duration of action:** 4-5 h in opioid-naïve patients.

Neuro-exciting compound/metabolite » it prolongs duration of action of morphine



Morphine

Analgesia

- Postoperative pain
- Renal colic
- Cancer-associated pain

MI, Acute Pulmonary Edema (LFV)

- To decrease preload
- Pain

Preanesthetic

Antitussive?

- Codeine is better

Can you use morphine as antidiarrheal?

Of course not

Therapeutic Uses



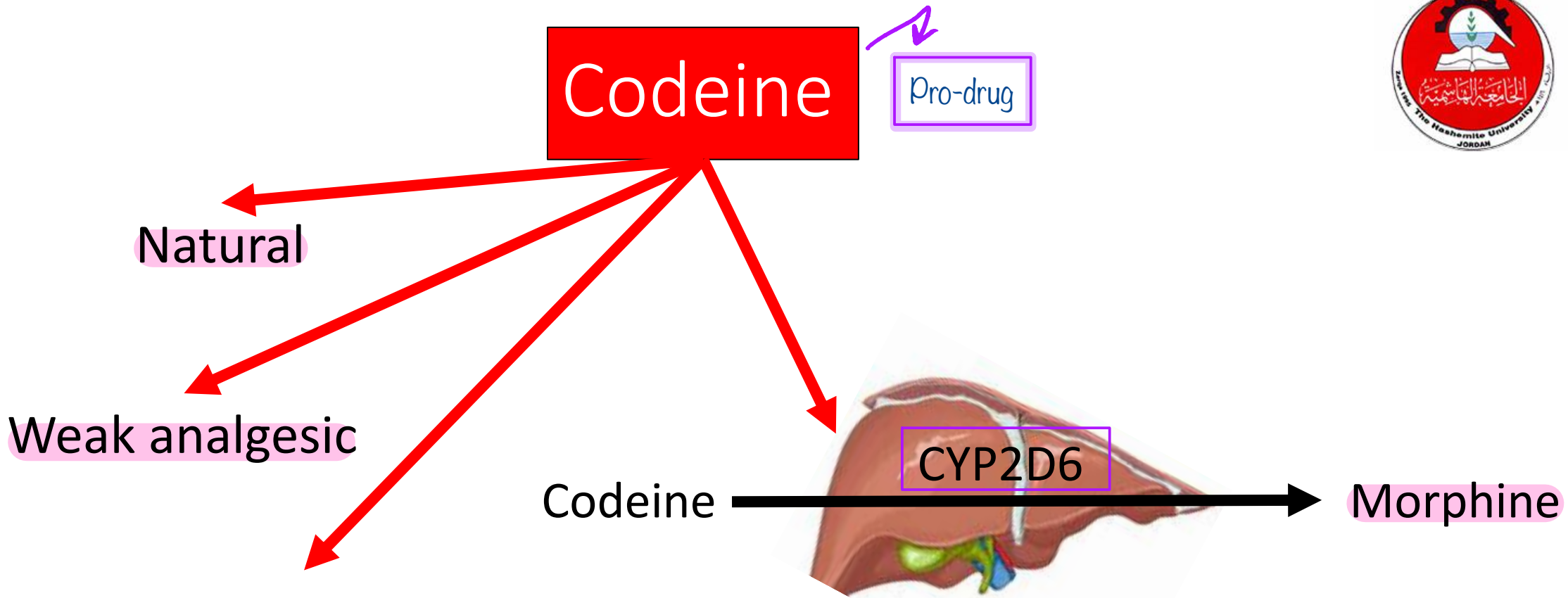
Morphine

Tolerance:

- Happens to analgesic + respiratory depressant + euphoric + sedative effects
- Not to miotic or constipating effects (problem?) ^{أُكِيد}
- Cross tolerance develops between opioids

Dependence

- Physical
- Psychological



Uses:

- mild/moderate pain (+paracetamol)
- Antitussive (dextromorphan preferred)

بينعطى oral على شكل syrup

-used over-the counter??????

اكيد بعمل بس اقل من morphine

Oxycodone



oxymorphone

>>>>>>>>>>

morphine
(parenterally)

اضعف من ال morphine بال
parenterally و لكن اقوى orally

highly abused

semisynthetic

oxycodone >>
morphine (orally)

oxymorphone
>>> morphine
(orally)

semisynthetic

Oxymorphone

Hydrocodone



semisynthetic

Hydrocodone=morphine
(orally)

Uses

- moderate to severe pain (+ibuprofen or paracetamol)
- 2• antitussive

Fentanyl

Synthetic

Contraindicated in opioid-naïve patients

Fentanyl 100-folds > morphine

كل اشني بعمله ال morphine من risk or effects ضاعفه مية مرة

اقوى لانه very lipophilic

Uses

- Postoperative pain, epidural analgesia in labor
- Cancer pain
- Anesthesia (sedative)

Kinetics

- Rapid onset of action (15-30 mins)
- Short duration of action

الي ما اخدوا opioid من قبل و ما عندهم tolerance لانه بسهولة بعمل overdose حتى لو استخدمت therapeutic dose

Methadone

Synthetic

- Methadone ≠ morphine
- μ agonist
- NMDA antagonist
- SNRI ↗

Glutamatergic pathways

Serotonin epinephrine reuptake inhibitors

Uses

- Analgesia (against nociceptive and neuropathic pain)
- Detoxification of opioids and heroin (treatment of opioid abuse) ↗

V.I

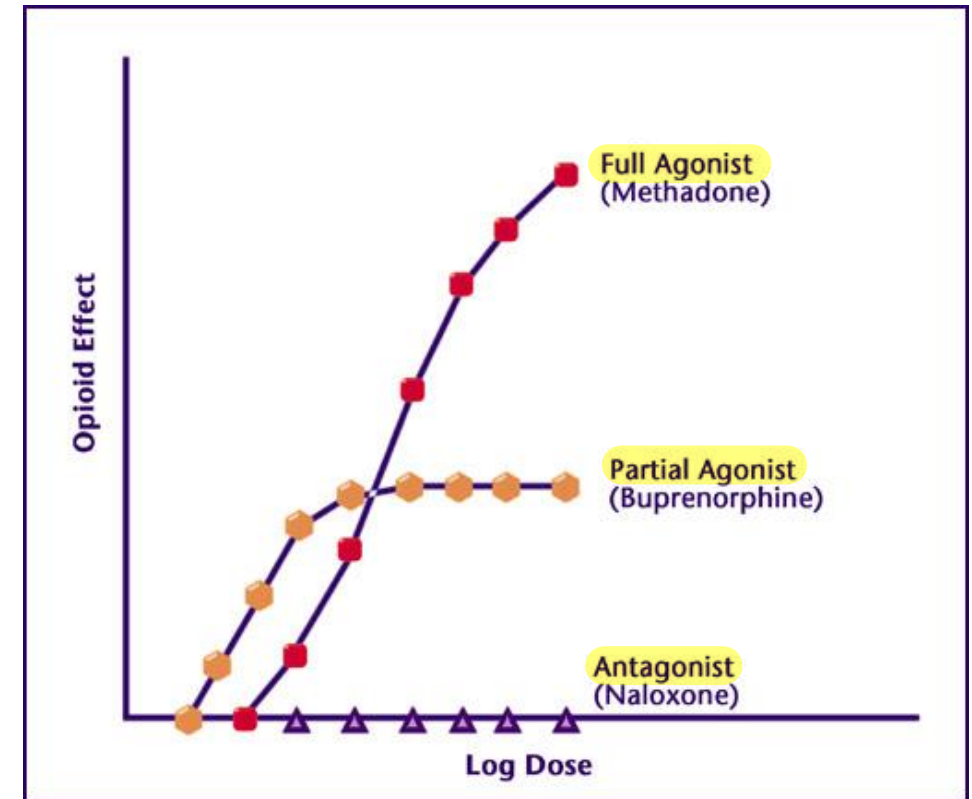
ليش ما بنستخدم الهيروين مع انه
it has no clinical utility لانه ؟ opioid

كيف بدي استخدم opioid بمعالجة opioid abuse ؟ الي بادي لل abuse هم ال withdrawal symptoms
and reward pathway، هلا ال methadone بعمل withdrawal symptoms بس they're milder

Opioid Partial Agonists

Mixed Agonist-Antagonist

- Partial opioid agonists bind to opioid receptors but have only partial efficacy relative to full opioid agonists.
- Buprenorphine
- Pentazocine
- Nalbuphine



Buprenorphine

Less efficacious than morphine because it's a partial agonist, in terms of potency which has to do with the binding affinity it's more potent than morphine it has a higher affinity for binding to opioid receptors

Partial agonist

at μ

Antagonist at κ

Lower risk in comparison with full agonist opioid drugs

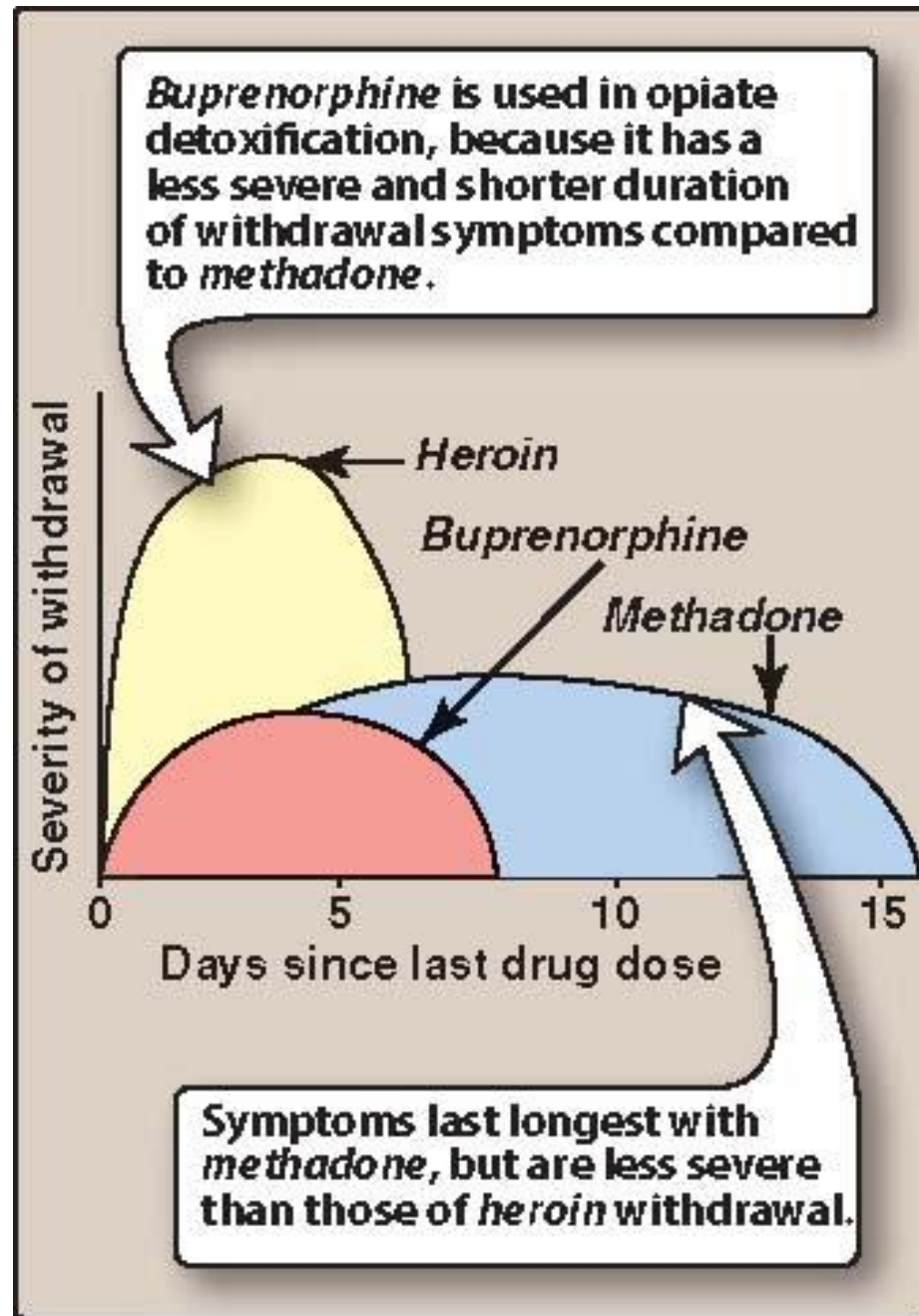
Little sedation,
respiratory depression,
hypotension

Treatment of opioid dependence, because of its higher affinity it can replace full agonist binding to receptors

Combined with naloxone (antagonist). Why?

Uses

- Used for opioid detoxification
- Moderate to severe pain



Withdrawal symptoms of buprenorphine is less than heroin, and can be managed in patients better, it's even better than methadone because it's withdrawal symptoms last less than

Patients using methadone should be rehabilitated and treated under supervision but with buprenorphine patient can be treated from home, it requires less frequent dosing because it has a longer half life than methadone



Other Analgesics

- Tapentadol
- Tramadol

Tramadol

Binds and acts on μ
SNRI

Highly abused

Less respiratory
depression than
morphine

Uses

- Analgesia (moderate to severe pain)

Can be used in oit patients



V.I Opioid Antagonists

- Naloxone
- Naltrexone

Naloxone

Non-selective

Depends on concentration gradient

Competitive antagonist at μ , κ and δ

Can precipitate withdrawal

Uses

It can precipitate abrupt withdrawal

- Used to reverse coma and respiratory depression of opioid overdose

Drug of choice to reverse opioid overdose

Administered IV
Half-life: 30-81 minutes

Very fast onset of action



Opioid Antagonists

- Naloxone
- Naltrexone

Naltrexone

Longer duration of action
than naloxone
Oral

Uses

- Used for opioid detoxification (maintenance)
- Used to decrease cravings in patients with alcohol dependence



Activation of μ opioid receptors by morphine can result in which of the following effects?

- A) Hyperalgesia
- B) Arousal
- C) Diarrhea
- D) Mydriasis
- E) Nausea and vomiting



Morphine is an important component of the treatment of myocardial infarction. The beneficial effect of morphine in the treatment of MI is because of its ability to result in:

- A) Decreased venous return (cardiac preload)
- B) Increased stroke volume
- C) Respiratory depression
- D) Reduced peripheral vascular resistance
- E) Lowered intracranial pressure



The opioid partial agonist that is indicated for the treatment of heroin and opioid dependence is Bupernorphine

The opioid antidote is Naloxone

The opioid agonist used to induce analgesia in labor as a replacement of morphine is Meperidine

Metabolism of Codeine by CYP2D6 to morphine is required to produce its analgesic effects.

Which synthetic full-opioid agonist can be used as during anesthesia? Fentanyl