

Antiarrhythmic Drugs. Week 4 Pharm

CLASS 1A Na Channel block (intermediate dissociation) * ganglion blocking properties. i.e moderate blockade *

Used for: AF, Aflutter, SVT, VT

Eg: procainamide (anticholinergic) - depresses SA + AV node but also vagal block. Prolongs AP/QRS/ERP/QT

Toxicity: QT prolongation, TdP, Lupus syndrome, N&D, HYPOTENSION

PK: IV/IM/PO, hepatic metabolism to NAPA + renal elimination.

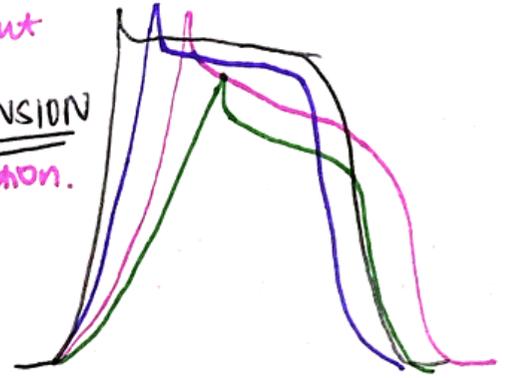
t_{1/2} 3-4 hours

Eg Quinidine - As above actions but poorly tolerated.

Good GI absorption - hepatic metabolism

Significant risk of torsades due to ↑↑ QTc prolongation.

Amiodarone also class 1A actions: Blood dyscrasia.



Myocyte action potential.

CLASS 1B Na Channel block w rapid dissociation i.e weak block.

↓ERP

Used for: VT *lignocaine*

Eg: Lidocaine - arrhythmias assoc. w MI (post cardiac version) can precipitate torsades DP!

PK: IV only due to ↑ 1st pass metab. t_{1/2}: 1-2 hrs binds to acute phase reactant. Liver metabolism.

Blocks active + inactive Na Ch's = not resting greater effect in r- cells w longer AP i.e perkinje + ventricular > atrial

Low toxicity → potential for ↓BP from myocardial dep.

Eg. Mexiletine - orally active lidocaine analog

t_{1/2} = 8-20 hours. clearance reduced by drugs that ↓ liver blood flow i.e cimetidine/propranolol

Na Channel blockade

1C > 1A > 1B

↑ Effective refractory period

1A > 1C > 1B (decreases!)

interrupts tachycardia from reentry from action on K⁺ channels (non specific)

NB: Lignocaine does not affect AV conduction

CLASS 1C. Na channel block w slow dissociation i.e Strong block

For life threatening SVT/VT.

Eg. Flecainide - blocks Na + K channels strongly (no ↑AP & no QTc ↑) ↑ERP

PK: well absorbed, t_{1/2} 20 hours, hepatic + renal elimination

For normal hearts only → exacerbates arrhythmias in pts w prior VT/MI/PVCS.

Propafenone - similar to above t_{1/2} 5-7 hours w some beta blocker activity.

Moricizine - withdrawn

→ or can be partial agonists → prevent enhanced SNS activity.

CLASS 2 - Beta Blockers (sympatholytic)

Used for: HTN, Angina/MI, arrhythmias, heart failure, AORTIC DISSECTION

General MOA: bind to β receptors + block norad/adrenaline from binding

↑β1 in heart w some β2 → Gs protein → cAMP → L-type Ca²⁺ ch's → ↑Ca into cell

○ ↑ chronotropy (HR) ○ inotropy (contractility)

blockade causes: ↓HR, ↓contractility, ↓conduction velocity, ↓relaxation rate. ↑effect w ↑SNS activity

Vascular SM has β2. G protein → cAMP → inhibits myosin light chains → SM relaxation

so blockade can cause some ↑ vasoconstriction.

Antiarrhythmic effect: from inhibition of sympathetic influences

Sympathetic NS → ↑ SA node pacemaker current.

β blockers also ↑AP duration & refractory period.

CLASS 3 Prolongation of action potential (K⁺ channel block)

For: AFlutter, Reentry, VT/VF.

Bind to and block K⁺ channels in phase 3 of AP = delays repolarisation.

QT prolongation! But no torsades.

Eg: Amiodarone: ^{Rapid 3-16 days} t_{1/2} 30-60 days, Class I, II, III, IV actions. ↓ Risk of QTc → TAP.

Hepatic meta
CYP450
lots of
interactions

Serious side effects → thyroid issues, pulm fibrosis.

used if ICD discharging a lot OR cannot manage VT/VF/PVCs x many.

can cause bradycardia + AV node block so c/I in pts w previous known blocks.

Also: Sotalol (also class II) prolongs QT + ERP.

dofetilide } no effect on AV conduction.
ibutilide }

CLASS 4: Calcium Channel Blockers.

Rate control AF/flutter esp AVNRT.

Bind to L-type Ca²⁺ in myocytes, pacemaker cells, vascular SM.

↓ firing rate of aberrant pacemaker cells, ↓ conduction velocity + prolong repol. (esp. AV node)

Block AVNRT.

Antiarrhythmics are the NON-DIHYDROPYRIDINES.

VERAPAMIL: myocardial selective. t_{1/2} 4-7 hrs. PO → BioAv. 20%. liver metabolism

PO onset 30mins → blocks activated + inactivated channels so ↑ effect in frequently firing cells i.e. SA/AV node

→ suppress early + delayed after depolarisations. NEGATIVE INOTROPE

→ causes peripheral vasodilation.

*cardiotoxic effects are *
dose related + avoidable

S/E: constipation
lassitude
nervousness
peripheral oedema

→ If given in VT can cause ↓ BP & VF.

→ can cause AV block (treat w atropine + pacemakers)

DILTIAZEM - cardiac + SM actions

PO onset >30mins t_{1/2} 3-7 hours - ↓ arterial pressure without reflex tachycardia.

ADENOSINE ^{A₂} Naturally occurring nucleoside, Binds G protein receptor → cAMP

Nucleoside t_{1/2} 10sec.

Activates K⁺ channels + Inhibits Ca²⁺ current (from cAMP)

⇒ hyperpolarisation of cells + suppression of Ca dependent AP in nodal cells

↑ effect on AV node

90-95% effective in
terminating SVT

Tox: flushing, dyspnoea, hypotension, Afib.
sense of doom, headache, chest pain.

Mg²⁺ 1g MgSO₄ over 20mins

MOA? understood → effect on Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase.

Even if ⊕ Mg levels

Membrane stabiliser → VT/SVT

B-BLOCKERS

Carvedilol & Labetalol also cause $\alpha-1$ blockade.

Used for

- $\downarrow O_2$ demand post MI.
- HTN (via $\downarrow CO$)
- Arrhythmias (rate control)
- glaucoma
- heart failure (low + slow)
- hyperthyroidism (propranolol)
- migraines
- cirrhosis + varices (\downarrow portal venous pressure)
- infantile haemangiomas

MOA: Antagonise the effects of catecholamines @ β adrenoreceptors.

PK: Well absorbed PO.
Peak [] 1-3 hours.

Varied bioavailability i.e. propranolol - 1st pass metabolism @ lower doses.

Large V_d .

Propranolol + penbutolol cross BBB

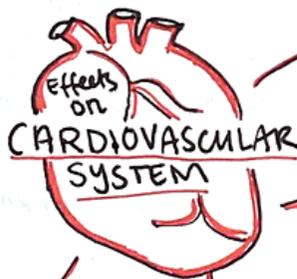
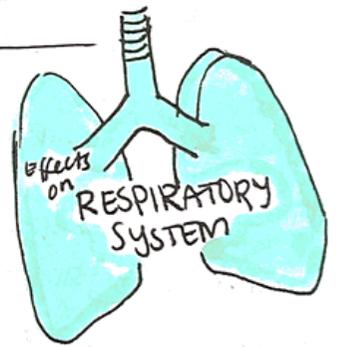
Esmolol $t_{1/2}$ 10 mins.

metoprolol + propranolol metabolised in liver.
CYP2D6 enzyme Δ informs clearance.
(poor metabolizers = 3-10 fold \uparrow [])

β receptors Cellular mechanism

- Bind to receptor
- Gprotein activation
- Adenyl cyclase
- $\uparrow cAMP$
- $\uparrow Ca^{2+}$ in cell
- activate protein kinase (blocked by β blockers)

β_2 blockade in smc = airway resistance (esp in asthmatics)



Blocks β_2 vasodilation in peripheral vas.

$\downarrow O_2$ use by β

Negative inotropy

Negative Chronotropy

class II (don't use if AV block)

Slow AV conduction
 \uparrow PR interval

lower BP via renin release

(no hypotension in N people)

METABOLIC ENDOCRINE

β inhibits SNS activation of lipolysis.

Δ 1st to VLDL + HDL ratio

can impair recovery from hypoglycaemia

Nebivolol

Most β_2 selective vasodilation via NO effects

Timolol



\downarrow IOP from \downarrow aqueous humor production

Propranolol

- Non-selective
- ~~Parasympathetic~~
- Local anaesthetic action
- High lipid solubility (CNS)
- E \uparrow $t_{1/2}$ 3-6 hrs
- Dose dependent bioavailability (~30%)
- No effect on α \rightarrow seizures

"also blocks Na⁺ channels" widening of QRS \rightarrow VF arrest in overdose

Metoprolol

- β_2 selective
- $t_{1/2}$ 3-4 hrs
- BioAv 50%
- V_d \gg 200L

OD = seizure

Labetalol

- $\alpha_1 + (\beta_1/\beta_2)$
- pregnancy + HTN

Esmolol

- β_1 , rapid
- Bisoprolol
- β_2 selective
- $t_{1/2}$ 9-12 hrs
- BioAv 80%

Sotalol (Class II + III)

- overdose = asystole
- prolongs QT
- 100% bioavail.
- $t_{1/2}$ 12 hrs.

SIDE EFFECTS

- Bradycardia
- Cold hands + feet
- Vivid dreams
- Depression
- Worsening asthma
- cardiac decompensation
- hypoglycaemia
- fatigue
- hypotension
- interaction w/ Ca^{2+} channel blockers can cause heart block
- hyperkalaemia (from \downarrow insulin release)

TOT → GIT: nausea/vomiting/anorexia/diarrhoea.
CNS: chemo trigger zone, hallucinations.

verapamil + Amiodarone ↑ digoxin []

DOWNSTREAM EFFECTS

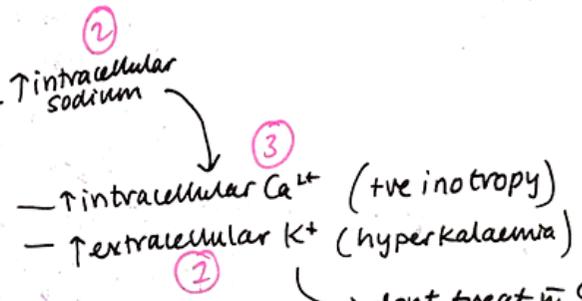
- ↑ contractility = ↑ CO
- ↓ stimulus for ↑ sympathetic output.
- ↓ HR + ↓ vascular tone
- ↑ CO = ↑ systolic fxn
- ↑ End diastolic relaxation + ↓ stress
- ↑ heart size + O₂ req.
- ↑ Renal blood flow = ↑ GFR
- ⇒ ↓ aldosterone driven Na⁺ reabsorption.

DIGOXIN

70% oral bioavailability
67% urinary excretion (2/3rds)
25% plasma bound
clearance 9L/h/kg
Vd 500
t_{1/2} 39hrs

PK inhibits binding (↓K facilitates)
↑Ca ↑action

MOA: Inhibits Na⁺/K⁺/ATPase



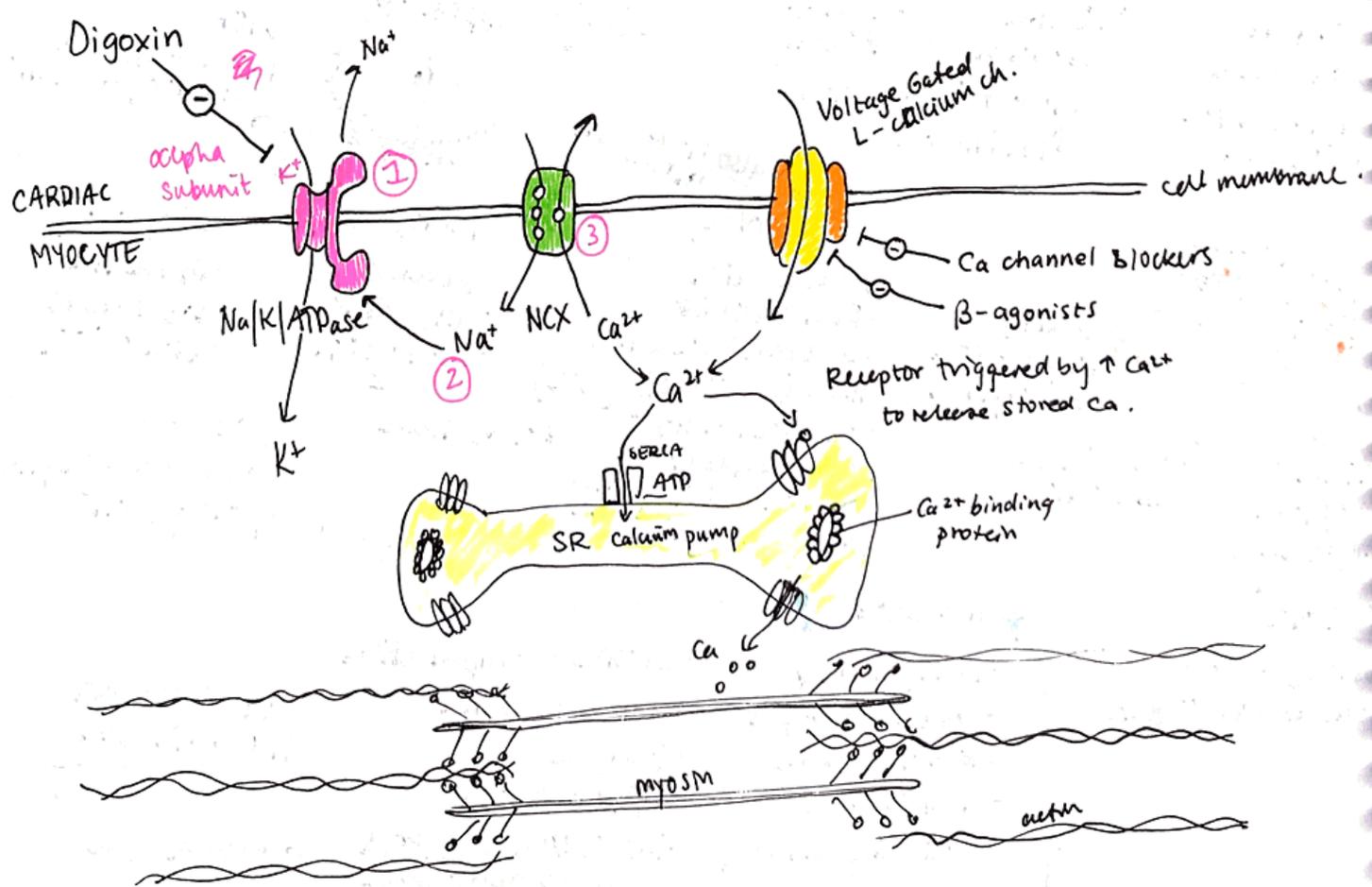
Electrical effects:
Therapeutic dose

- SA node: ↓ Rate
- Atrial muscle: ↓ Refractory period.
- AV node: ↓ conduction velocity, ↑ refractory period
- Perkinje system: Slight ↓ refractory period
- ECG: ↑ P-R interval, ↓ QT, ↑ TWI

toxic dose

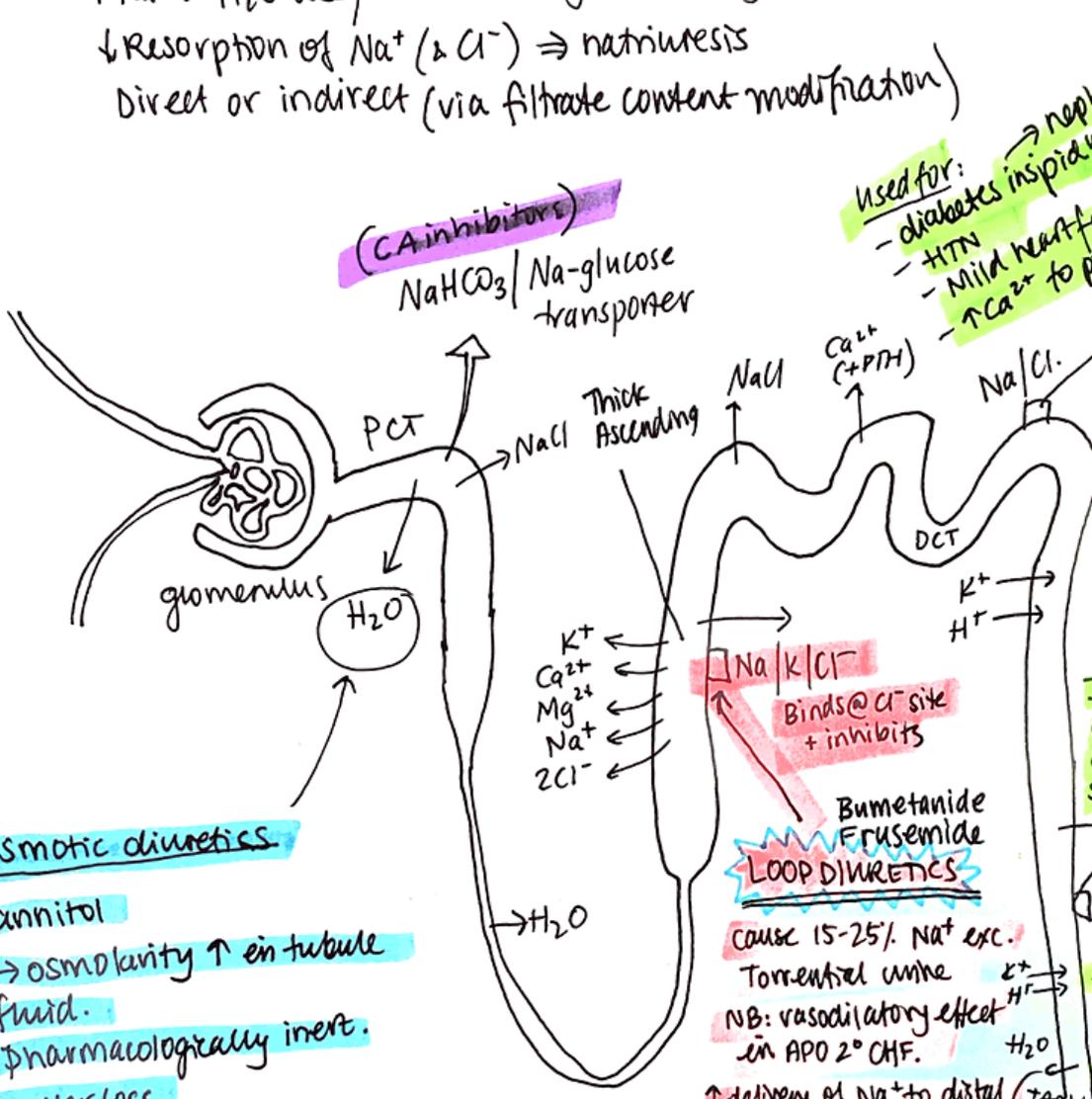
- ↓↓ rate.
- ↓ ref → arrhythmias
- extrastystole, Aach, VF
- Tachy, VT, VF, arrest.

don't treat w/ calcium gluconate → will ↑ arrhythmias due to already high intracellular Ca.
Also enhances vagal tone = ↓ SA/AV node velocity.
NB: ACh binds to M₂ @ heart → "reflex brady"



DIURETICS

↑ Na⁺ & H₂O loss/excretion by the kidney
↓ Resorption of Na⁺ (& Cl⁻) ⇒ natriuresis
Direct or indirect (via filtrate content modification)



Osmotic diuretics

- mannitol
- ↳ osmolality ↑ in tubule fluid.
- pharmacologically inert.
- ↑ water loss
- Problems → transient ↑ in ECF volume
- ↳ risk of LV failure.

→ ciliary body, choroid plexus, prox renal tubules.
ACETAZOLAMIDE (blocks bicarb reabsorption)
Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors

- ↑ excretion of bicarb w Na⁺/K⁺/H₂O
- = ↑ flow of alkaline urine & metabolic acidosis
- Self limiting due to depleting bicarb.

well absorbed PO.
used for glaucoma; ↓ ICA related aqueous humor
mountain sickness
causes acidity in pH of CSF

- Toxic effects:
- Hyperchloraemic metabolic acidosis
 - Renal stones (PO₄, Ca²⁺)
 - Renal K⁺ wasting,
 - Drowsiness, paraesthesia
 - Hepatic encephalopathy in pts w cirrhosis 2° ↓ NH₄⁺ clearance

used for:
- diabetes insipidus (paradoxical effect)
- HTN
- mild heart failure
- ↑ Ca²⁺ to prevent stones.

THIAZIDES
less powerful but better tolerated
Same electrolyte effects @ smaller magnitude.
Bind to Cl⁻ site (inhibits)
↓ Ca²⁺ loss (benefit in OP)
Vasodilator action.
Good PO effects
can be used w loops.

LOOP DIURETICS

Bumetanide
Furosemide
cause 15-25% Na⁺ exc.
Torrential urine
NB: vasodilatory effect in APO 2° CHF.

PK:
✓ well absorbed PO ≈ 50%.
1hr PO vs 30mins IV
secreted into PCT
protein bound →
t_{1/2} 90 mins
Action 3-6 hrs

Problems → hypotension
→ hypovolaemia (pre renal AKI)
→ ↓ K⁺/Met Alkalosis/↓ Mg
→ ↑ effects of digoxin → dose related hearing loss

longer t_{1/2} w renal failure.

used in: APO
• CHF
• Ascites
• Nephrotic sy.
• Renal failure

DRUG INTERACTIONS: NSAIDs / Aminoglycosides
Anticoagulants
digoxin / lithium.

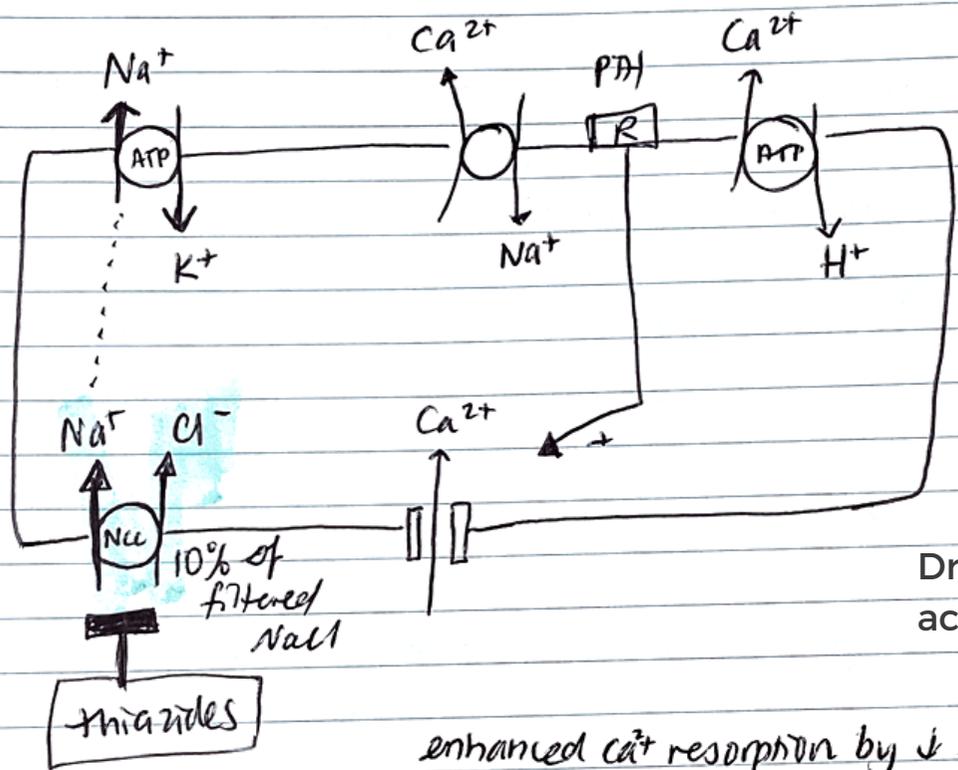
Impaired glucose tolerance from activation of KATP channels on islet cells.
secreted into tubule
→ NaCl (+ aldosterone)
Spirolactone (K⁺ sparing)
Anti-HTN effects + anti-androgen
active metab: canrene (16hrs)
Hyperkalaemia
GI upset
t_{1/2} 10mins
takes days for action to develop.
used when K⁺ loss is bad i.e also on digoxin
(structurally similar to progesterone)

K⁺ sparing
Triamterene
= collecting duct
Amiloride

Thiazides

OFF TARGET EFFECT
 hyperpolarize pancreatic β -cells + \downarrow insulin release $\rightarrow \uparrow$ BGL.

Distal convoluted tubule



Also hyperlipidaemia

Dr. Charlotte Durand
 acemprimarypodcast.com

Thiazides

enhanced Ca^{2+} resorption by \downarrow intracellular $[Na^+]$ & causing more Na^+/Ca^{2+} exchange. can unmask hypercalcaemia from other sources that was previously compensated.

- Hyponatremia
 \rightarrow hypovolaemia induced
 \uparrow ADH
 \rightarrow \downarrow dilution of urine
 \rightarrow \uparrow thirst.

can be used to prevent kidney stones 2^o hypercalcaemia.

Hypokalaemic metabolic alkalosis (also for loops)

- \rightarrow Inhibition of Na reabsorption (hyponatraemia)
- \rightarrow \uparrow delivery of Na to collecting duct
- \rightarrow \uparrow Na \Rightarrow \uparrow secretion of H^+ & K^+ in collecting duct.

Causes gout

