

# SPOTLIGHT Series

Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Pharmacology for Dummies

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### Objectives

By the end of the presentation the learner will be able to:

- Recall the action of medications administered to patients with cardiovascular and/or pulmonary dysfunction
- Recall indications and contraindications to participation in physical therapy with patients who are prescribed select cardiovascular and pulmonary medications
- Discuss the effects of select cardiovascular and pulmonary medications on exercise tolerance and vital sign response
- Discuss the importance of precise exercise prescription with patients who are prescribed select cardiovascular and/or pulmonary medications

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"In your lifetime, Mr. Johnson, approximately how much secondhand smoke have you been exposed to?"



### **Pulmonary Medication Classes**

- Adrenergic Agonists
- Cholinergic Antagonists
- Antibiotics
- Antiviral Agents
- Adrenocortical Hormones (Steroids)
- Histamines/Antihistamines
- Immunosuppressive
- Others





## **Agonists and Antagonists**

Agonists - Drugs that occupy receptors and activate them.

Antagonists - Drugs that occupy receptors but do not activate them Antagonists block receptor activation by agonists.

Agonist & Antagonist

Agonist



Full activation

Less activation

Antagonist



No activation

Anticholinergics/Cholinergic Antagonists		
Medication	<b>Effects</b>	Side Effects
Tiotropium (Spiriva)		Dry Throat/Mouth
Ipratropium Bromide (Atrovent)		
Atropine (mostly used for dysrhythmias)		Blurred Vision
	Long acting (24 hour) anticholinergic bronchodilators	Tachycardia
		Constipation

Short Acting β2 Adrenergic Agonists		
Medication	Effects	Side Effects
		Tremor
		Palpitations
Albuterol	Rescue or quick relief medication.	Headache
Levalbuterol	Provides fast and temporary relief of bronchoconstrictive flare-up	Nervousness
Pributerol		Dizziness
	Acts within 3-5 minutes, lasts 4-6 hours	Nausea
		HTN
		May cause (+) inotropic and/or chronotripic effects

Long Acting β2 Adrenergic Agonists		
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
	NOT intended for immediate and	Tremor
	rapid bronchodilation	Palpitations
Salmeterol	Commonly taken 2x day with anti	Headache
Formoterol	inflammatory medication	Nervousness
	Especially helpful to maintain airways open during sleeping hours	Dizziness
		Nausea
		HTN
	Can relieve airway restriction up to 12 hours	May cause (+) inotropic and/or chronotripic effects

### **Other Selective Adrenergic Agonists**

- **α**<sub>1</sub>
  - Phenylephrine
    - Decongestant
    - Used 2/2 pseudoephedrine restrictions
  - Naphazoline
    - Nasal spray
    - Vasoconstrictive properties
      - Rebound effects
- β<sub>1</sub>, β<sub>2</sub>
  - Isoproterenol
    - Asthma and emphysema (rare)
    - Primary use is for heart blocks



### Non Selective Adrenergic Agonists

### Epinephrine

- Activates  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$
- Alleviates severe bronchoconstriction

### Norepinephrine

- Not as effective bronchodilator as epinephrine
- Activates  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\beta_1$
- Used more in cardiac patients



Methylxanthines		
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
		Nausea/Vomiting
		Diarrhea
		Headache
Theophylline	Long acting bronchodilator effects.	Tachycardia/Dysrhythmias
Aminophylline	Prevents asthma and COPD exacerbations	Muscle Cramps
		GERD
		"Jittery" Feelings



Corticosteroids		
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
Triamcinolone (Azmacort)		Increase risk of infection
Prednisone	Reduce inflammatory response	GI Disturbances
Prednisolone		Muscle Weakness (proximal > distal)
Budesonide (Pulmicort)	Decrease mucosal swelling	"Moon Face"
Flunisolide	Bronchodilate	Insomnia
Fluticasone (Flovent)		Glaucoma
	No immediate relief. Help with long	
	term control	

Leukotriene Inhibitors		
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
Zileuton	Smooth muscle relaxation	Headaches
Montelukast (singulair)	(Bronchodilation)	Liver damage
Zafirlukast	Inhibition of leukotriene synthesis	Fatigue
		Nausea/Vomiting

Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Agents		
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
Cromolyn Sodium	Bronchodilation	
Nedocromil Sodium		Dry Mouth
		Dry Throat
	Prevention of late-stage asthma bronchoconstriction – impairs release of bronchoconstrictive	Airway Irritation
	mediators (histamine)	

### Administration of Inhaled Agents

- Medication administration RT or RN
  - Clear secretions
  - Decrease inflammations
  - Reduction of side effects
  - Localized medication delivery
- Aerosol Therapy
  - Inhalers
  - Nebulizers
- Relevance
  - Pre PT may enhance pt performance
  - Increase clearance of secretions
  - Decrease SOB and/or WOB



### Antibiotics

#### Pneumonia

- Azithromycin (Zithromax)
- Clarithromycin (Biaxin)
- Fluoroquinolones (Ciproflaxin)

#### Tuberculosis

• Rifampin and Isoniazid combinations

#### Side effects

- Hyperglycemia
- N/V/D
- Rash
- QT elongation on ECG



### Antihistamines

- Prevent of block the release of histamines
  - Cetirizine (Zyrtec)
  - Desloratadine (Clarinex)
  - Fexofenodine (Allegra)
  - Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)
- Side Effects
  - Drowsiness
  - Dizziness
  - Decreased coordination
  - Palpitations



### **Combination Agents**

•2 or more medications combined to reduce the number of inhaled agents

- Advair (Flovent and Salmeterol)
  - Corticosteroid, long acting  $\beta_2$  adrenegic receptor agonist
- Symbicort (Budesonide and Formoterol)
  - Corticosteroid, long acting  $\beta_2$  adrenegic receptor agonist
- Combivent (Ipratropium and Salbutamol)
  - Anticholinergic, short acting  $\beta_2$  adrenegic receptor agonist • COPD patients



"To prevent a heart attack, take one aspirin every day. Take it out for a run, then take it to the gym, then take it for a bike ride..."

### **Cardiac Pharmacology Categories**

- Beta-blockers
- Calcium channel blockers
- Antiarrhythmic medications
- Nitrates
- Risk reduction medications



### Main Goal and Purpose

- Inotropic Effects
- Chronotropic Effect
- Dromotropic Effect
- Antihypertensive
- Blood lipid management
- Cardioprotective effects



### **Beta Blockers**

- Decrease myocardial O2 demand by decreasing HR, BP and myocardial contractility
  - Chronotropic and inotropic effect
- Sympathetic hormones blocked at β<sub>1</sub> receptor sites
  - $\beta_1$  receptors = adrenergic agonists



### **Beta Blockers**

#### Main Uses

- Hypertension
- With nitrates for angina
- Atrial and/or ventricular arrhythmia
- Heart failure
- Acute MI
- Certain types of tremors
- Migraines

#### Contraindications

- Acute heart failure
- Bradycardia
- Hypotension
- Asthma
- Bronchitis/COPD
- Cardiogenic Shock
- AV Blocks
- Diabetes

	Beta Blockers	
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
Atenolol	Lower mortality in patients with	
Propanolol	previous MI	Impotence
Metropolol	Slows progression of CHF	Hair Growth
Sotalol		Cough
Bisoprolol		Dizziness
Carvidelol	Decreases HR and BP	Weakness
Timilol		Nightmares
Nadolol		Exercise complications
Betaxolol	May suppress some cardiac arrhythmias	Heat intolerance
Pindolol		
Labetolol		

### **Calcium Channel Blockers**

- Inhibit flow of CA<sup>+</sup> ions across membrane of myocardial muscle
- Decrease myocardial O2 demand by decreasing HR, BP and myocardial contractility
  - Chronotropic and inotropic effect
- Peripheral vasodilation



### **Calcium Channel Blockers**

#### Main Uses

- Hypertension
- Atrial and/or ventricular arrhythmia
- Angina
- Raynaud's Disease
- Migraines

#### Contraindications

- Bradycardia
- Hypotension
- Acute MI
- Pulmonary Congestion
- Cardiogenic Shock

Calcium Channel Blockers		
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
Nifedipine	Treatment of arrhythmias and angina	
Diltiazem		Leg Swelling
Verapamil	Decreases BP	
Amlodipine		Impotence
Felodipine		
Isradapine	May lower HR	
Nicardipine		Dizziness
Nimodipine		
Bepridil	Dilates coronary arteries	Weakness

### Antiarrhythmics

- •4 classes, classified by mechanism of action
- Alter conductivity and automaticity of the myocardium
- Slow impulse generation and conduction
  - Suppress ectopic stimuli



### Antiarrhythmics

#### Main Uses

- Restore heart rhythm to NSR
- Decrease symptoms associated with arrhythmias
  - Palpitations
  - Lightheadedness
  - Pre-syncope
  - Angina
  - DOE

#### Contraindications

- Sinus Bradycardia
- CHF
- Cardiogenic Shock
- AV Blocks
- Asthma

Antiarrhythmics		
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
Amiodarone		
Sotalol		Liver toxicity
Disopyramide		
Procainamide		Kidney toxicity
Quinidine		
<pre>***Digitalis/Digoxin*** (Cardiac Glycoside)</pre>	Reduce or eliminate cardiac arrhythmias	Lung toxicity
		Sudden cardiac death
		Neurological symptoms

### Nitrates

- Potent vasodilators
  - Relaxation of smooth muscle walls
- Decrease venous return
- Decrease preload
- Decrease myocardial O2 demand

- Uses
  - Angina
  - MI
  - HTN
  - Heart Failure
- Contraindication
  - Hypotension

• Decrease afterload

\*\*\*1 sublingual tablet every 5 minutes prn during active angina (NO MORE THAN 3)\*\*\*

	Nitrates	
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
	Coronary artery vasodilation	
Isosorbide Dinitrate		
Isosorbide Mononitrate		Dizziness
Nitrostat		
Nitro-time	Reduces SOB with CHF	Transient Headache
Rectiv		
		Hypotension
	***Photosensitive medication***	
	<pre>***Can loose effect over time***</pre>	

### Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitors "ACE Inhibitors"



	ACE Inhibitors	
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects
	Lowers Blood Pressure	
Lisinopril		
Catopril		Dry Cough
Enalapril		
Accupril		
Quinapril	Decreases TPR	Hyperkalemia
Benozapril		
Fosinopril	Prolongs life of patients with CHF	

### Angiotensin Receptor Blockers "ARBs"



Angiotensin Receptor Blockers					
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects			
	Lowers Blood Pressure				
Losartan		Hyperkalemia			
Valsartan					
Candesartan		Metallic Taste			
Irbesartan					
	Decreases TPR	Rash			
	Prolongs life of patients with CHF				

### **Cardiac Glycosides**

- Increase intracellular CA<sup>+</sup>
  - Inhibit NA/K pump on cell walls
- (+) Inotropic effect
  - Increased contractility
- Increased cardiac output
- Decreased Preload, cardiac workload and myocardial O2 demand
- (-) Chronotropic effect
  - Decreased HR



Cardiac Glycosides				
Medication	<u>Effects</u>	Side Effects		
		Nausea		
Digitalis/Digoxin	<b>Congestive Heart Failure</b>			
Ouabain		Vomiting		
Metildigoxin	Atrial Arrhythmias			
Cymarin		Fatigue		
		Confusion		
		"Digitoxicity"		

### Digoxin/Digitalis

- Increases myocardial contractility
  - Positive inotrope
- Antiarrhythmic
  - Afib
- Slows SVTs

- Side effects
  - "Digitoxicity"
  - Arrhythmias
  - Nausea
  - Vomiting
  - Confusion
  - Visual disturbances
  - Diarrhea



Digitalis Purpurea "Common Foxglove"

### Putting It All Together

\*\*Hypertension Control\*\*

- Diuretics
  - Lasix reduce myocardial afterload
- Centrally acting alpha agonist
  - Catapres (Clonidine) sympathetic system modulator
    - Blunts HR, vasodilates arterial walls
- Combined drug therapy
  - Beta Blocker/Calcium Channel Blocker
  - Diuretic

### Putting It All Together

\*\*Hypertension Control\*\*

- Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitor
  - Losartan Reduces afterload
- Beta Blocker
  - Metoprolol Alters effect of sympathetic system on B<sub>1</sub> receptors
    - Blunts HR
- Calcium Channel Blocker
  - Diltiazem inhibits influx of Ca<sup>+</sup> ions
    - Peripheral vasodilation

### **Medical Risk Reduction**

- Hypertension Control
- Reduce Myocardial Workload/O2 Demand
- Cholesterol/Lipid Management
- Manage Chronic Arrhythmias

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"Healthy food is expensive. Can you write me a prescription for groceries?"

BORG RPE	Modified RPE	BREATHING	% MAX HR	
6	0	No exertion		
7	U		50% - 60%	
8	1	Very Light		
9	T			
10	2	Notice breathing deeper, but still		
11	2	comfortable. Conversations possible	60% - 70%	
12	2	connortable. conversations possible.		
13	5	Aware of breathing harder; more difficult	70% 90%	
14	4	4 to hold a conversation		
15	5	Starting to breathe hard and get	200/ 000/	
16	6	uncomfortable	80% - 90%	
17	7	Deep and forceful breathing,		
18	8	uncomfortable, don't want to talk	0.0% 10.0%	
19	9	Extremely hard	50% - 100%	
20	10	Maximum exertion		





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