

B19 - Diuretics

(a) To outline a physiological basis of classifying diuretics related to their site of action.

See diagram - Sites of action diuretics

- (1) Thiazides
- (2) Loop
- (3) Osmotic
- (4) K⁺ sparing
- (5) Aldosterone antagonists
- (6) Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors

Thiazides

- ie. bendroflurazide
- used in HT, mobilization of oedema, management of DI, treatment of hypercalcaemia.
- inhibit reabsorption of Na⁺ & Cl⁻ principally in the cortical portions of the ascending loops of Henle & proximal & distal renal tubules -> increased loss of Na⁺, Cl⁻ & HCO₃⁻ + associated loss of K⁺ (occurs when ever there is enhanced distal delivery of Na⁺ & H₂O).

Bendroflurazide

Chemical - a thiazide

Uses

- (1) HT
- (2) oedema
- (3) diabetes insipidus
- (4) renal tubular acidosis
- (5) hypercalcuria
- (6) inhibition of lactation

Presentation

- tablets: 2.5mg to 5mg
- other combination drugs

Route - PO

Dose - 2.5mg - 10mg daily

Duration: 16hrs

PK

Absorption - great

Distribution - 94% protein bound, Vd 1.2L/kg

Metabolism -

Elimination - urinary, 30% unchanged, Cl 3.5ml/min/kg, $t_{1/2}$ = 3hrs

PD

Main action - diuretic & antihypertensive

Mechanism

- inhibit Na⁺ & Cl⁻ co-transport in DCT -> increased urinary excretion of Na⁺, K⁺ & H₂O.

CVS

- decrease BP

- slight increase in Q

RESP

- nil

CNS

- in toxic doses -> depression

GU

- decreased RBF

- decreased GFR

- decreased urinary excretion of Ca²⁺ & increased loss of Na⁺, K⁺ & Mg²⁺

Metabolic

- increase blood glucose

- increase urate, triglyceride & cholesterol concentration.

Toxicity

- CNS depression

- haemopoietic disturbance

- rashes

- impotence

- acute pancreatitis

- gout
- hypokalaemia
- hypercalcaemia

Drug interactions

- digoxin -> toxicity
- NDNMBD -> increased duration of blockade
- GA -> increased risk of arrhythmias
- opioids, barbiturates, halothane -> hypotension

Loop

- ie. frusemide, bumetanide, ethcrynac acid
- inhibit Na⁺ & Cl⁻ reabsorption in medullary portions of the ascending limbs of LOH.

Frusemide

Chemical - an anthranilic acid (sulphonamide) derivative

Uses

- (1) oedema of cardiac, renal or hepatic origin
- (2) chronic renal failure
- (3) hypertension
- (4) raised ICP
- (5) symptomatic hypercalcaemia
- (6) conversion from oliguric -> polyuric renal failure

Presentation

- injection: clear solution, must be protected from light
- tablets

Route - IV, IM or PO

Doses

- PO: 20 -> 2000mg
- IM: 20 -> 50mg
- IV: 10 -> 1000mg

PK

Absorption

- bioavailability 60%

Distribution

- 96% protein bound
- $V_d = 0.1 \text{ L/kg}$

Metabolism

- in kidney to glucuronide

Elimination

- 80% kidney, 20% faeces
- $Cl = 2 \text{ mL/min/kg}$
- $t_{1/2} = 60 \text{ min}$

PD

Main action - diuretic

Mechanism of action

- inhibition of Na^+ & Cl^- reabsorption in PT & ascending LOH \rightarrow reduces tonicity in renal medulla \rightarrow diuresis

CVS

- vasodilation (pulmonary & systemic)

RESP

- decrease SOB

GU

- diuresis occurs in 2min and lasts 2hrs
- O_2 consumption in the LOH is reduced

Metabolic

- metabolic alkalosis
- increased in serum urate
- hypokalaemia
- hypocalcaemia
- hypomagnesaemia

Other adverse effects

- ototoxicity
- pancreatitis
- skin rashes
- bone marrow depression
- interstitial nephritis

Osmotic

- ie. mannitol & urea
- freely filterable at glomerulus, undergo limited reabsorption, resist metabolism and are pharmacologically inert.
- they thus can be administered in large quantities to alter the osmolarity of the plasma, filtrate & renal tubular fluid -> induce an osmotic diuresis.
- site of action = parts that are highly permeable to H₂O -> PCT, descending LOH.

Mannitol

Chemical - an alcohol derived from Dahila tubers (6 carbon sugar)

Uses

- (1) reduce CSF volume -> reduce ICP
- (2) preserve renal function during perioperative period in jaundice patients undergoing major vascular surgery.
- (3) acute management of glaucoma
- (4) bowel prep
- (5) initiate diuresis in transplanted kidney
- (6) treatment for rhabdomyolysis

Presentation

- sterile solution
- 10-20% in water

Route - IV

Dose

- decrease ICP: 1g/kg over 15min -> 0.5g/kg intermittently
- diuresis: 0.5-1.0 g/kg
- bowel prep: 100mL of 20%

Onset - minutes

Duration - 3 hrs

PK

Absorption - 20% absorbed orally

Distribution - V_d 0.5L/kg

Metabolism - not metabolized

Elimination - $Cl = 7\text{mL/min/kg}$, $t_{1/2} = 72\text{min}$

PD

Main action - osmotic diuretic

Mechanism

- increases the osmolarity of the glomerular filtrate -> increasing urinary volume
- decreases CSF volume & pressure by

(1) decreasing rate of CSF production

(2) withdrawing brain extracellular water across the BBB into plasma

CVS

- decreases Q
- decreases BP

CNS

- decreases ICP
- preserves preservation of cerebral blood flow

GU

- diuresis
- washes out medullary interstitial gradient -> decreased ability to concentrate urine

Metabolic

- Na^+ & K^+ plasma levels may fall
- plasma urea increases

Other adverse effects

- irritant to veins & tissues
- may have toxic effect on DCT & CD's
- after cessation of treatment -> may produce rebound increases in ICP.

K⁺ sparring

- ie. amiloride, triamterine
- act on renal tubular transport mechanism in DCT -> increase in urinary excretion of Na⁺, Cl⁻ & HCO₃⁻.

Amiloride

Chemical - pyrazinoylguanidine

Uses

- (1) oedema of all causes
- (2) HT

Presentation

- 5mg tablets
- in fixed dose combinations

Route - PO

Doses

- 10 to 20mg/day

Onset - 2 hrs

Duration - 24hrs

PK

Absorption - bioavailability = 50%

Distribution - <5% protein bound, Vd = 5L/kg

Metabolism - no metabolism

Elimination

- 50% unchanged in urine
- 50% in faeces
- Cl = 300mL/min/kg
- t_{1/2} = 20hrs

PD

Main action - diuretic

Mechanism

- selective block of Na⁺ reabsorption in DCT -> electrical potential across tubular epithelium decreases -> K⁺ excretion inhibited.

CVS

- decrease in Na⁺ content in arteriolar smooth muscle -> decrease in BP

GU

- diuresis
- increased Na⁺ & HCO₃⁻ loss
- decreased K⁺, Ca²⁺, ammonium & H⁺ loss

Metabolic

- inhibition of H⁺ ion excretion -> alkalinisation of urine
- increase in serum uric acid levels

Other adverse effects

- hyperkalaemia
- nausea
- abdominal pain
- diarrhoea
- rashes
- cramps
- impotence
- interstitial nephritis

Drug interactions

- digoxin -> accumulation of dig
- NSAIDs -> amiloride activity obtunded

Aldosterone Antagonists

- ie. spironolactone

Spirinolactone

Chemical - synthetic steroid

Uses

- (1) congestive heart failure

- (2) hepatic cirrhosis with ascites & oedema
- (3) refractory oedema
- (4) hypertension
- (5) nephrotic syndrome
- (6) diagnosis & treatment of Conn's syndrome

Presentation

- tablets: 25 to 100mg

Route - PO

Doses

- 100 - 400mg/day (onset = 4 days)

PK

Absorption

- bioavailability 70%

Distribution

- >90% protein bound

Metabolism

- rapidly & extensively hepatically metabolised

Elimination

- urinary & biliary
- $t_{1/2}$ = 2hrs

PD

Main action - diuretic

Mechanism of action

- competitive antagonism of ALD at its receptor site (cytoplasmic mineralocorticoid receptor) in DCT -> Na⁺ reabsorption inhibited & K⁺ ion reabsorbed

CVS

- decrease BP

CNS

- sedation
- weakness

GI

- n & v

GU

- diuresis
- menstrual disturbances

Metabolic

- inhibition of ovarian androgen secretion -> antiandrogenic effect
- increase in renal Ca^{2+} excretion -> hypercalcaemic metabolic acidosis
- increase plasma urea concentration
- hyperkalaemia
- gynaecomastia in men

Drug interactions

- decreased response to pressors & anaesthetic agents

Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors

- ie. acetazolamide
- non-competitive inhibition of CA in proximal renal tubules -> diminished loss of H^+ & increased loss of HCO_3^- .

Acetazolamide

Chemical - a sulphonamide

Uses

- (1) glaucoma
- (2) pet mal epilepsy
- (3) Meiere's disease
- (4) familial periodic paralysis
- (5) prophylaxis & treatment of mountain sickness.
- (6) reversal of metabolic acidosis in critically ill

Presentation

- 250mg tablets
- 500mg vials for reconstitution with H₂O

Route - IV, PO

Dose - 250 to 1000mg Q4hrly

PK

Absorption - 100% bioavailability

Distribution - 80% protein bound

Metabolism - not metabolized in man

Elimination - urinary, Cl 2.7mL/min/kg, t_{1/2} = 4hrs

PD

Main action - diuretic & decrease in intraocular pressure

Mechanism

- reversible, non-competitive inhibition of CA within cell cytosol and on brush border of the PCT.
- enzyme catalyses the conversion of HCO₃⁻ + H⁺ -> carbonic acid -> CO₂ + H₂O
- decreases the availability of H⁺ ions therefore Na⁺ & HCO₃⁻ remain in the tubule as Na⁺ usually transported with H⁺.

RESP

- produces a compensatory increase in ventilation in response to the metabolic acidosis & increased tissue CO₂

CNS

- anticonvulsant
- decreased IOP
- decrease in CSF formation

GI

- inhibits pancreatic & gastric secretion

GU

- mild diuresis (alkaline urine)

Metabolic

- hyperchloraemic metabolic acidosis
- interferes with iodide uptake in thyroid gland

Other adverse effects

- GI & haemopoietic disturbances
- rashes
- renal stones
- hypokalaemia

Drug interactions

- renal or hepatic failure -> contraindicated

Chemical

(b) To describe the actions of mannitol, frusemide, thiazides, aldosterone antagonists & carbonic anhydrase inhibitors.

See above

(c) To describe the side-effects of the diuretics.

See above

(d) To describe the major applications & toxicities of thiazides, loop diuretics & K⁺ sparing diuretics.

See above