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## **Adverse Medicine Reactions**

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### **Learning goals**

- Define adverse drug reaction
- Understand mechanisms and classification of adverse drug reactions
- Know some important examples
- Appreciate how adverse drug reactions can be prevented
- Know where to source information for prescribers about adverse drug reactions

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### **Adverse Drug Reactions**

Definition:

A noxious or unintended response to a drug, which occurs at doses normally used in humans for the prophylaxis, diagnosis or treatment of diseases or for the modification of physiological function.

Significance:

- Common (9-28% of hospitalised patients)
- Associated with long-term disability and death.

<p>Slide 4</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Adverse Drug Interactions: Classification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Type A (Augmented pharmacological effect)</b> Related to the main pharmacological action of the drug, or cytotoxicity of the drug or metabolites</li> <li>• <b>Type B (Bizarre)</b> Unrelated to the main pharmacological action of the drug</li> <li>• <b>Type C (Chronic effects)</b> Adverse effects associated with long-term therapy</li> <li>• <b>Type D (Delayed effects)</b> Effects appearing along time after treatment</li> <li>• <b>Type E (End of treatment effects)</b> withdrawal reactions</li> <li>• <b>Type F (Failure of treatment)</b></li> </ul>	
<p>Slide 5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Type A Adverse Drug Reactions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Related to the main pharmacological action of a drug or the cytotoxic action of the drug or its metabolites</li> <li>• predictable</li> <li>• dose-related eg. bleeding with warfarin hypoglycaemia with insulin confusion and drowsiness with nortriptyline</li> </ul>	
<p>Slide 6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Type A Adverse Drug Reaction</b></p> <p><b><u>Cytotoxicity:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• drug or reactive metabolites may directly damage cells</li> <li>• form covalent bonds or alter target molecules by non-covalent interaction</li> <li>• hepatic metabolism generates high levels of metabolites in the liver → hepatotoxicity</li> <li>• polar drugs/metabolites are concentrated within the nephron → nephrotoxicity</li> </ul>	

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## Type A Adverse Drug Reactions

### Clinical example: Paracetamol Hepatotoxicity:

- converted by hepatic CYPs to toxic alkylating intermediate\*
- metabolite inactivated by conjugation to reduced glutathione
- in overdose, glutathione is rapidly depleted
- excess metabolite binds covalently to liver macromolecules causing cell damage and acute hepatic necrosis
- prevented by N-acetylcysteine that facilitates glutathione synthesis

\*N-acetyl-p-benzoquinonimine (NABQ1)

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## Type A Adverse Drug Reactions

### Clinical example: Gentamicin nephrotoxicity:

- Aminoglycoside antibacterial ribosomal protein synthesis inhibitor
- Excreted unchanged in urine by glomerular filtration
- Cytotoxic at high concentrations to proximal renal tubules causing nephrotoxicity
- Gentamicin dose needs to be adjusted according to blood level monitoring and renal function

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## Type B Adverse Drug Reactions

- Bizarre
- Not related to the main pharmacological action of a drug
- not predictable
- not dose related
- allergic reactions or pharmacogenetic variability

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## Adverse Drug Reactions

### Allergic Reactions:

- initial exposure and sensitisation
- allergic reaction occurs on repeated exposure
- symptoms and signs resemble allergic disease eg. acute hypersensitivity, skin rash, haematological reaction
- antibiotics, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, radio-contrast agents, anaesthetic agents

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## Type B Adverse Drug Reactions

### **Clinical example: Benzylpenicillin Allergy:**

- skin rash 1:10; anaphylaxis 1:5000; death 1:50,000
- antibodies directed to penicilloyl-protein complex or penicillin polymers
- many types of allergic reaction
  - eg. acute anaphylaxis
  - haemolytic anaemia
  - serum sickness
  - rash

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## Type B Adverse Drug Reactions

### **Clinical example: Carbamazepine Skin Reaction:**

- Sodium channel blocker used for epilepsy
- Occasional life-threatening severe skin reactions
  - Stevens-Johnson syndrome, Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis
  - Blistering and peeling of skin leading to dehydration, sepsis, multiple organ failure and death
  - Immune-mediated adverse drug reactions
  - Genetic susceptibility among those with HLA-B\*1502 allele

<p>Slide 13</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Type C Adverse Drug Reactions (Chronic effects of Long-Term Therapy)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-term treatment may alter receptor expression and/or tissue sensitivity to drugs</li> <li>• adverse drug reactions can occur during therapy or after withdrawal of the drug</li> </ul>	
<p>Slide 14</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Type C Adverse Drug Reaction (Chronic effect)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical example: haloperidol-induced dyskinesia</li> <li>• Dopamine receptor antagonist used for psychosis</li> <li>• Tardive dyskinesia - Late neurological syndrome associated with long-term anti-psychotic use that persists after cessation of treatment</li> <li>• Involuntary movements of the lips, jaw and tongue</li> <li>• Possibly due to compensatory increase in dopaminergic system</li> </ul>	
<p>Slide 15</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Type E Adverse Drug Reaction (End of treatment effect) Withdrawal Reactions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Withdrawal reaction</li> <li>• Abrupt cessation of treatment can cause symptoms because of the unopposed change in receptor expression or tissue sensitivity</li> <li>• Clinical example: dexamethasone-induced adrenocorticoid insufficiency</li> <li>• acute adrenocorticoid insufficiency upon sudden withdrawal of dexamethasone due to adrenal atrophy</li> <li>• Dexamethasone must be gradually reduced and withdrawn to allow return of adrenocorticoid function</li> </ul>	

Slide 16	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Type D (Delayed) Adverse Drug Reactions</b></p> <p><b><u>Carcinogenesis</u></b></p> <p>Drug may cause cause by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) causing mutations by covalently modifying DNA in growth regulatory proto-oncogenes or tumour suppressor genes, or;</li> <li>b) by promoting cell proliferation</li> </ol>	
Slide 17	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Delayed ADR due to Carcinogenesis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical example: Doxorubicin (topoisomerase inhibitor) or Cyclophosphamide (DNA binder) induced secondary cancers</li> <li>• Both common components of combination chemotherapy</li> <li>• Both mutagenic and carcinogenic</li> <li>• Secondary cancers presenting after a long delay after treatment, most commonly acute myelogenous leukaemia</li> <li>• Survivors of childhood cancer &gt;10 times increase risk of secondary cancer for 30 years after initial treatment compared to normal population</li> </ul>	
Slide 18	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Type D (Delayed) Adverse Drug Reactions</b></p> <p><b>Teratogenicity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fetal malformations</li> <li>• damage resulting from drugs prescribed during pregnancy</li> <li>• Clinical example: doxycycline-induced tooth discolouration and malformation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Antibacterial ribosomal protein synthesis inhibitor</li> <li>– Disposition of doxycycline in growing bones and teeth by binding calcium causes tooth staining and hypoplasia in unborn child</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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## Adverse Drug Reactions

### Risk Factors:

- fetus or neonatal
- elderly
- previous drug reactions
- liver or kidney disease
- number of drugs given

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## Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring

Some important adverse reaction are not recognised before approval for marketing

Post-marketing monitoring aims to detect serious or unexpected adverse drug reactions

New Zealand:

- Voluntary reporting of serious or unexpected reactions or interactions
- Intensive Medicines Monitoring Programme

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## Summary

- adverse drug reactions are unwanted effects of drugs
- they can arise via mechanisms related (Type A) or unrelated (Type B) to the main mechanism of action of the drug
- adverse drug reactions are predicted and therefore can often be anticipated
- monitoring programs aim to identify significant adverse drug reactions after marketing

## Short answer question example

- An 87 year old NZ European woman is brought to Emergency Dept by ambulance. She is unconscious and was found on the floor by a cleaner. The ambulance officer noted she was taking glipizide.
- What is the main mechanism of action of glipizide?
- What is the main clinical use of glipizide?
- What Type A (Augmented pharmacological effect) adverse drug reaction would be expected from glipizide?