



ANTICHOLINESTERASES

INDIRECT ACTING CHOLINOMIMETICS

CHOLINESTERASE INHIBITORS

Dr. Attiya Munir

SOURCES:

BERTRAM G. KATZUNG BASIC & CLINICAL
PHARMACOLOGY 15TH EDITION

GOODMAN AND GILMAN'S THE PHARMACOLOGICAL BASIS
OF THERAPEUTICS 13TH EDITION.



MOTTO AND VISION



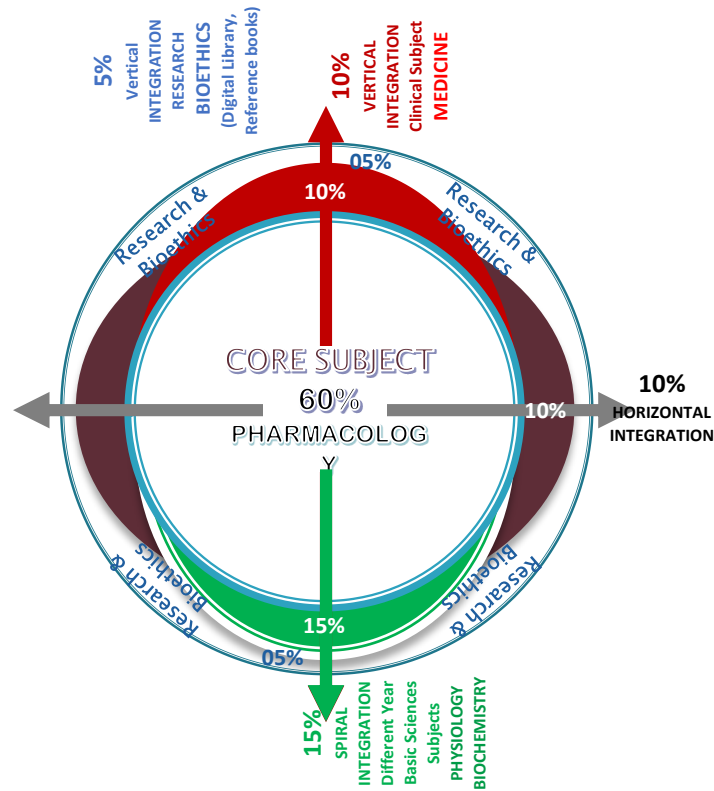
- ▶ To impart evidence based research oriented medical education
- ▶ To provide best possible patient care
- ▶ To inculcate the values of mutual respect and ethical practice of medicine



LEARNING OBJECTIVES



- ▶ At the end of this session, students will be able to:
- ✓ Classify indirectly acting cholinomimetics.
- ✓ Discuss mechanism of action.
- ✓ Describe the organ system effects produced by these drugs.
- ✓ Enumerate uses and adverse effects of cholinomimetics.



3 rd Year Pharmacology LGIS	
Core Subject – 60%	
Pharmacology	
Horizontal Integration – 10%	
Same Year Subjects	• Pathology (10%)
Vertical Integration – 10%	
Clinical Subjects	• Medicine (10%)
Spiral Integration – 15%	
Different Year Basic Sciences Subjects	• Physiology (10%) • Biochemistry (5%)
Vertical Integration – 05%	
Research & Bioethics	

CLASSIFICATION ON THE BASIS OF STRUCTURE

REVERSIBLE

ALCOHOLS

Edrophonium(Quaternary)

CARBAMATES

Tertiary Amines

Physostigmine

Quaternary Amines

Neostigmine

Pyridostigmine



CONTINUED....

OTHERS

Tacrine

Donepezil

Rivastigmine

Galantamine

IRREVERSIBLE

ORGANOPHOSPHATES

Therapeutic use

Echothiophate

Insecticides

Malathion

Parathion

Nerve gases

Tabuin

Sarin

Soman



CONTINUED....

CARBAMATES

Carbaryl

Propoxur

CLASSIFICATION ON BASIS OF DURATION OF ACTION

SHORT ACTING (5-10MINS)

Edrophonium

INTERMEDIATE ACTING (3-6HRS)

Neostigmine

Physostigmine

Pyridostigmine

LONGER ACTING (6-8HRS)

Donepezil

Tacrine

VERY LONG ACTING (IRREVERSIBLE)

Insecticides

War Gases

Ecothiopate

PHARMACOKINETICS

Indirect-acting, alcohol

Edrophonium

Highly polar; used IV

Duration: 5–10 min

Indirect-acting, carbamate

Neostigmine

Moderately polar but orally active

Duration: 2–4 h

Pyridostigmine

Moderately polar but orally active

Duration: 4–8 h

Physostigmine

Lipid soluble; can be used topically in the eye

Duration: 2–4 h

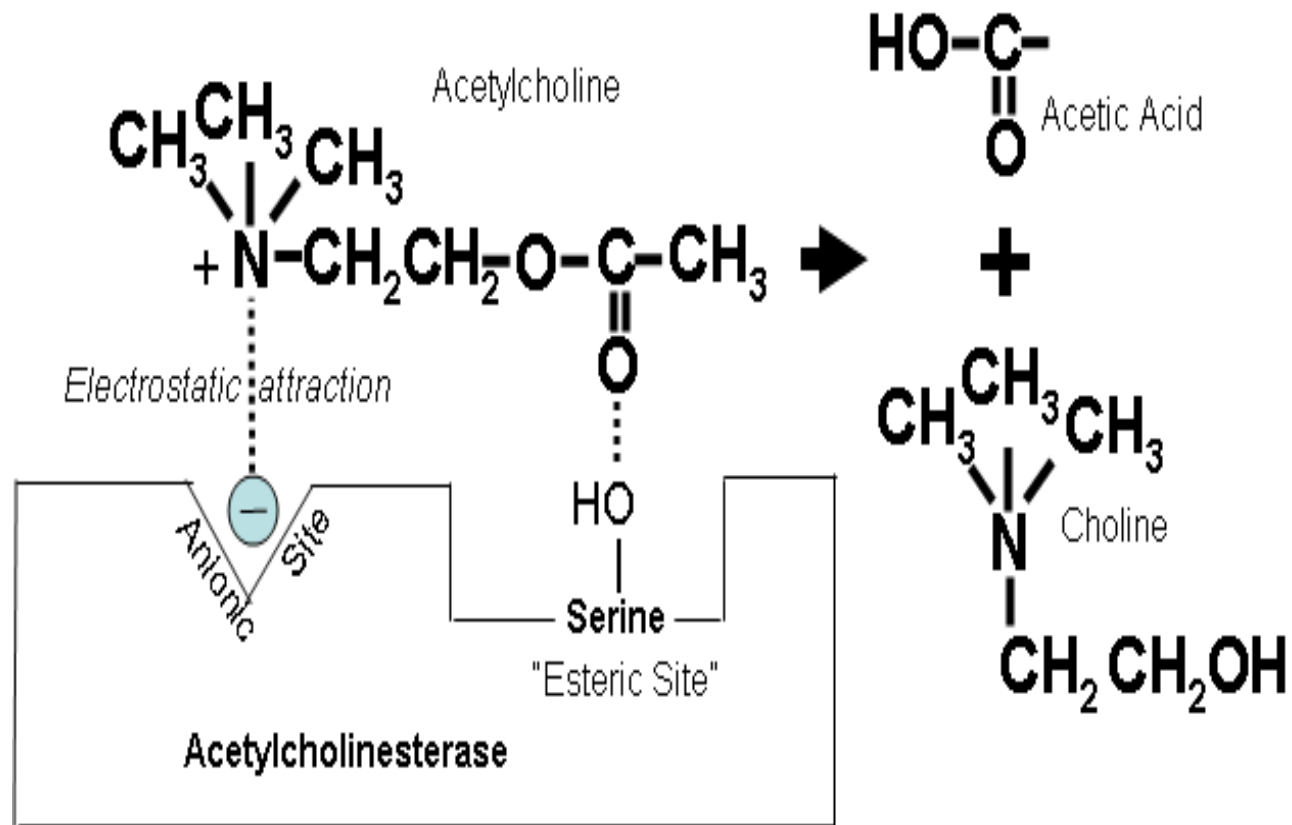
Indirect-acting, organophosphate	
Parathion	Highly lipid-soluble
Malathion	Highly lipid-soluble but metabolized to inactive products in mammals and birds
Sarin, tabun, others	Like parathion but more rapid action

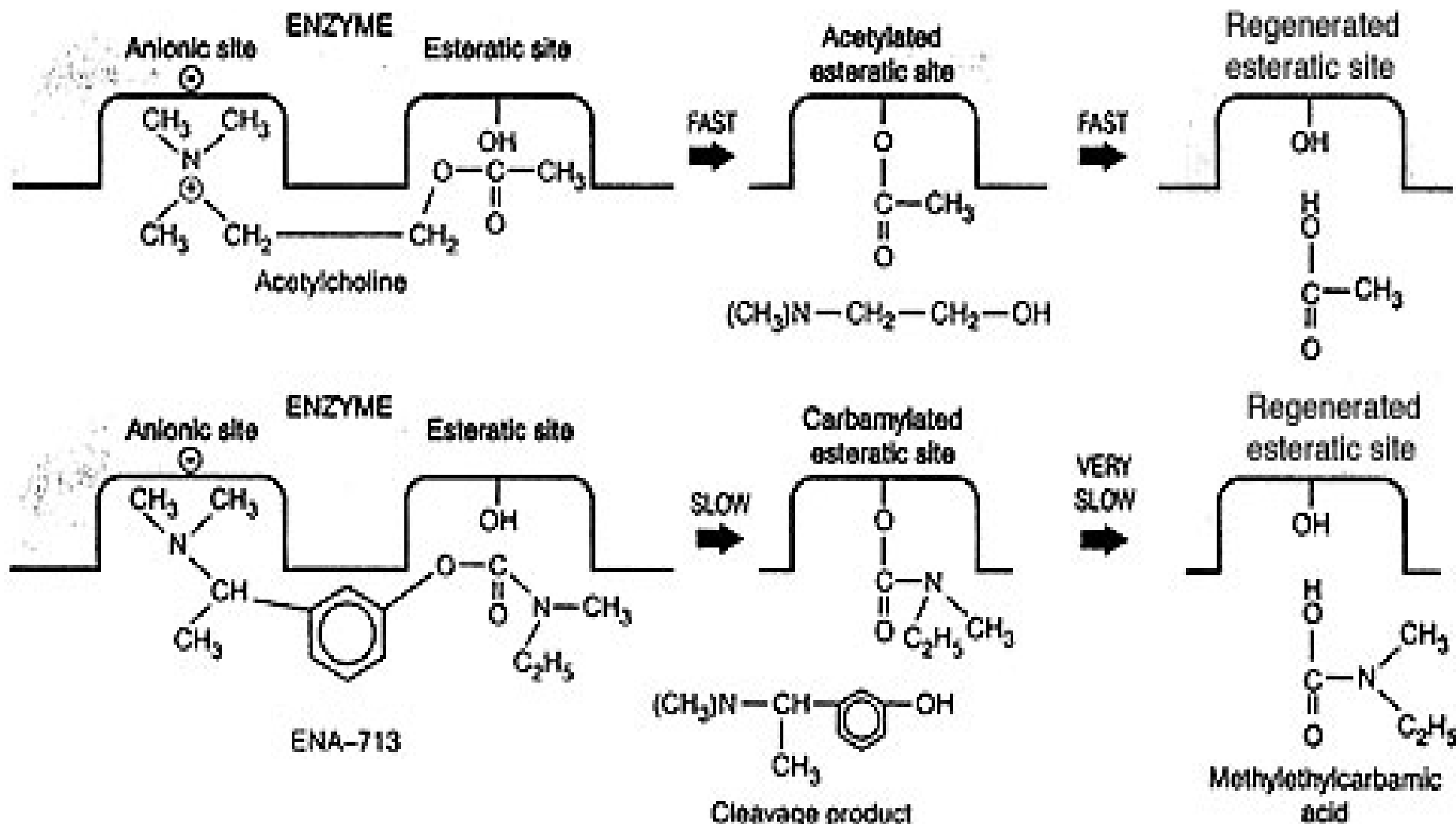
MECHANISM OF ACTION

- ▶ **Acetylcholinesterase** is the primary target of anticholinesterases.
- ▶ They react with the enzyme essentially in the same way as acetylcholine.
- ▶ Cholinesterase has two sites that bind acetylcholine

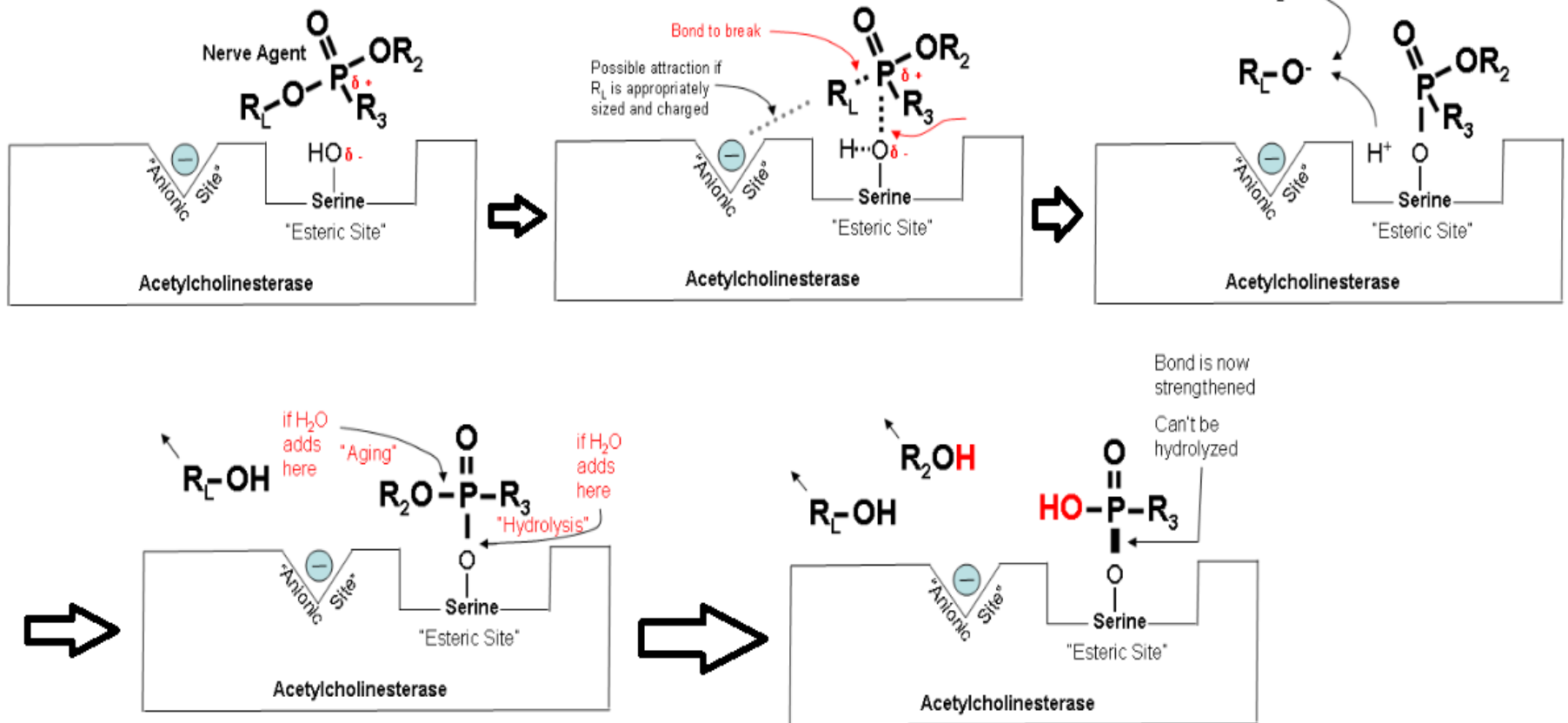
anionic site(N2)

esteratic site(-CO)

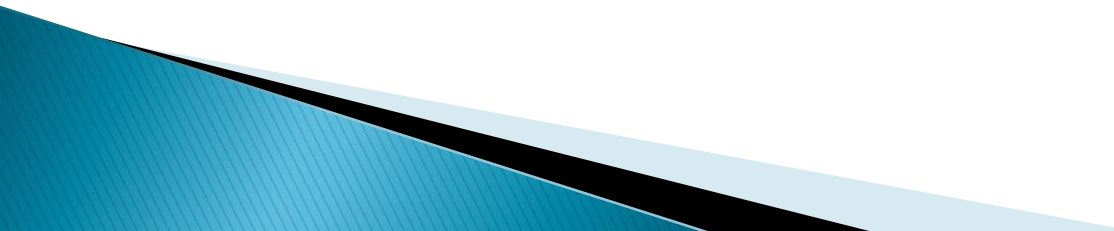




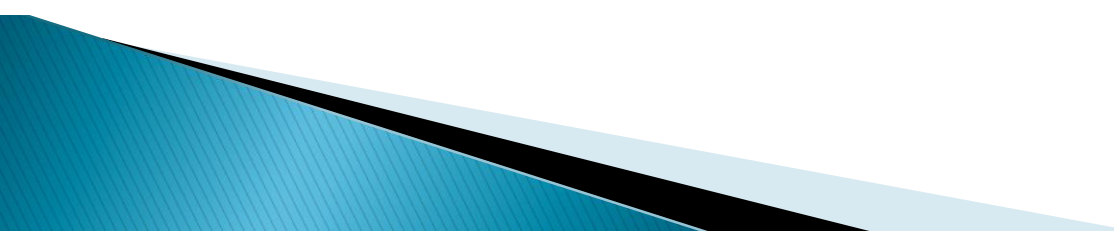
"Transition state"



Organ system effects

- ❖ G.I.T
 - ❖ URINARY BLADDER
 - ❖ EXOCRINE GLANDS
 - ❖ LUNGS
 - ❖ C.V.S
 - ❖ SKELETAL MUSCLES
- 

Therapeutic Uses of Inhibitors of Acetylcholinesterase

1. **Glaucoma** (wide angle)
 2. **Atony** of the bladder or GIT (after surgery).
 3. **Intoxication** by antimuscarinic agents, tricyclic antidepressants (TCA's) or phenothiazines (use physostigmine)
 4. **Recovery** of neuromuscular function after competitive blockade of Nm receptor of skeletal muscle fibers
 5. **Myasthenia gravis**
- 

How to differentiate between **Myasthenic crisis & Cholinergic crisis**

Myasthenic crisis

- Skeletal muscle weakness due to untreated or inadequately treated myasthenia Gravis.
- **Neostigmine** : Improved muscle strength
- **Treatment: Give or ↑ the dose of neostigmine**

Cholinergic crisis

- Skeletal muscle weakness due to over treated myasthenia gravis i.e. depolarization block.
- **Neostigmine**: No effect or increase muscle weakness
- **Treatment: Decrease the dose of neostigmine**

TREATMENT

- ▶ Indirectly acting cholinesterase inhibitors
 - ✓ Neostigmine
 - ✓ Pyridostigmine
- ▶ Corticosteroids
- ▶ Plasmapheresis
- ▶ Thymectomy

ADVERSE EFFECTS

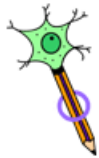
ORGANOPHOSPHOROUS POISONING

► Features

- ✓ Diarrhea
- ✓ Urination
- ✓ Muscle weakness/miosis
- ✓ Bradycardia
- ✓ Bronchoconstriction
- ✓ Emesis
- ✓ Lacrimation
- ✓ Salivation/sweating
- ✓ Convulsions , coma

▶ TREATMENT

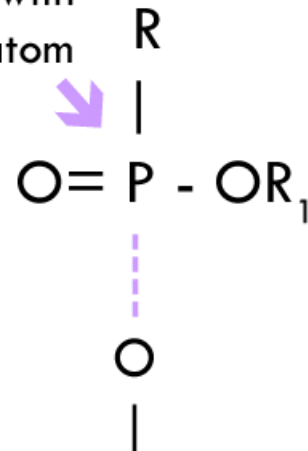
- ✓ Maintenance of vitals
- ✓ Decontamination
- ✓ Atropine
- ✓ Diazepam
- ✓ Cholinestrase enzyme regenerators
 - Pralidoxime
 - Diacetylmonoxime



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Pralidoxime

Oxime reacts with
phosphorous atom



Quarternary nitrogen
of pralidoxime
attaches here



Tryptophan
"Anionic site"

Serine
"Esteratic site"

Acetylcholine esterase

- ▶ **Chronic exposure**
- ▶ **Intermediate syndrome**
- ▶ **Prophylaxis of chemical warfare**

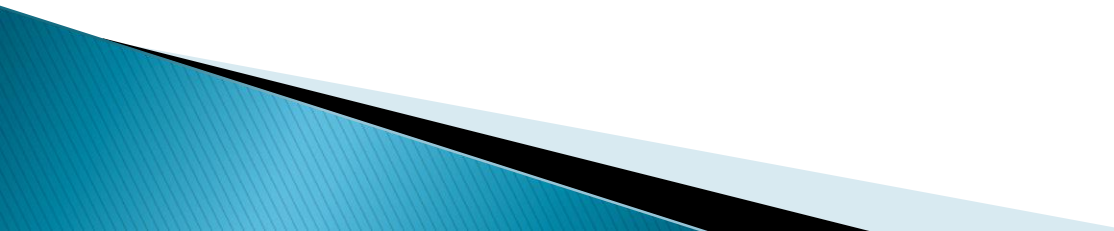
RESEARCH

- ▶ Žnidaršic, N., Štrbenc, M., Grgurevic, N. and Snoj, T., 2023. Potential revival of cholinesterase inhibitors as drugs in veterinary medicine.

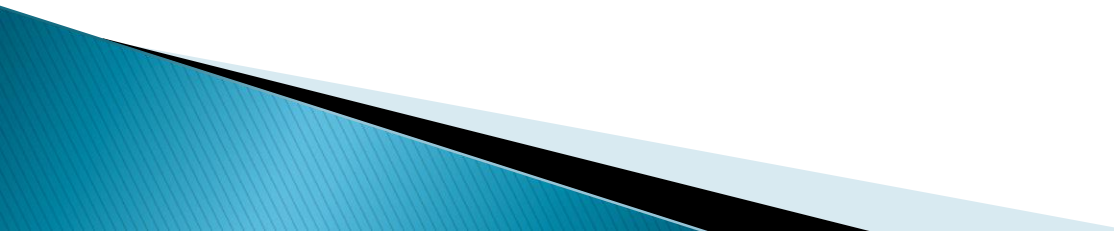
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- ▶ Nour H, Abdou A, Belaidi S, Jamal J, Elmakssoudi A, Dakir M, Chtita S. Discovery of promising cholinesterase inhibitors for Alzheimer's disease treatment through DFT, docking, and molecular dynamics studies of eugenol derivatives. Journal of the Chinese Chemical Society. 2022 Sep;69(9):1534–51.

EOLA

1. Which of the following condition limits the use of muscarinic agonists:
 - a) Bronchospasm
 - b) ↑ Intraocular pressure
 - c) Loss of memory
 - d) Muscles weakness
 - e) Xerostomia
- 

2. Which of the following cholinergic is used in treatment of Alzheimer's disease;

- a) Acetylcholine
 - b) Bethanechol
 - c) Edrophonium
 - d) Galantamine
 - e) Physostigmine
- 

3. A middle age farmer while spraying pesticide suffered diarrhea, urination, miosis, lacrimation, bronchoconstriction, bradycardia, salivation, sweating, muscle weakness & seizures. Which of the following chemical antagonist is used in this medical emergency?

- a) Atropine
 - b) Carbachol
 - c) Donepezil
 - d) Paralidoxime
 - e) Rivastigmine
- 