

Pharmacology - Diuretics (Saluretics)

Diuretics introduction

-Diuretics increase urine excretion mainly by ↓ reabsorption of salts and water from kidney tubules.

-These agents are ion transporter inhibitors that decrease the reabsorption of Na⁺ at different sites of the nephron, thus **increasing the volume of the urine** and often **change its pH** as well as **the ionic composition of the urine and blood**.

-Water, digitalis, caffeine and theophylline have diuretic activity or increase urine output, **but are not considered diuretics**.

Clinical uses of diuretics

- Hypertension
- Edema of heart, renal or liver failure
- Pulmonary edema
- ↑ intracranial pressure (Mannitol)
- ↑ intraocular pressure=glaucoma (CA inhibitors) (acetazolamide)
- Hypercalcemia (Furosemide=Frusemide)
- Idiopathic hypercalciuria (Thiazides)
- Inappropriate ADH secretion (Furosemide)
- Nephrogenic diabetes insipidus (Thiazides)

-They're used in the **management of any condition associated with salt and water retention**, by acting at different sites of the nephron (The basic unit of the kidney). They're **highly effective, relatively safe, and cheap**.

-Diuretics are the **first-line therapy** for most hypertensive patients. And without any compelling indications, the JNC reports say:

-**JNC 6th** report recommends **Diuretics or a beta-blocker**.

-**JNC 7th** report recommends **Thiazide-type diuretics**.

-(Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure)

-Accumulating evidence proves that in hypertensive patients diuretics, **particularly thiazides** decrease the risk of cardiovascular disease, fatal and nonfatal MI and stroke. This is according to the **ALLHAT study**. (*Antihypertensive and Lipid Lowering treatment to prevent Heart Attack Trial*) which involved 40,000 hypertensive pts for 8 years, (1994)

-Many other antihypertensive agents are combined with diuretics in the same tablet these days.

Diuretics MOA

-Simply by increasing urine output → ↓ plasma and stroke volume → ↓ CO → ↓ BP

-The initial ↓ in CO leads to ↑ peripheral resistance, but with chronic use extracellular fluid and plasma volume return to normal and peripheral resistance ↓ to values lower than those observed before diuretic therapy.

- Thiazides are also believed to have direct vasodilating effect

Diuretics therapy cautions

-Excessive diuretic usage may lead to a **compromise of the effective arterial blood volume** with reduction in perfusion of vital organs. (**This can lead to hypotension and collapse!**)

Therefore, the use of diuretics to mobilize edema requires careful monitoring of the patient's hemodynamic status and an understanding of the pathophysiology of the underlying condition.

- Blood viscosity rises due to an increase in erythro- and thrombocyte concentration, which could lead to an increased risk of intravascular coagulation or thrombosis.

Classification of diuretics

-Diuretics are usually categorized by their site of action in the kidney, their MOA and to a lesser extent by their potency.

- Many diuretics (loop diuretics, thiazides, amiloride, and triamterene) exert their effects on specific membrane transport proteins in renal tubular epithelial cells.

- Other diuretics **exert osmotic effects** that prevent water reabsorption (mannitol)

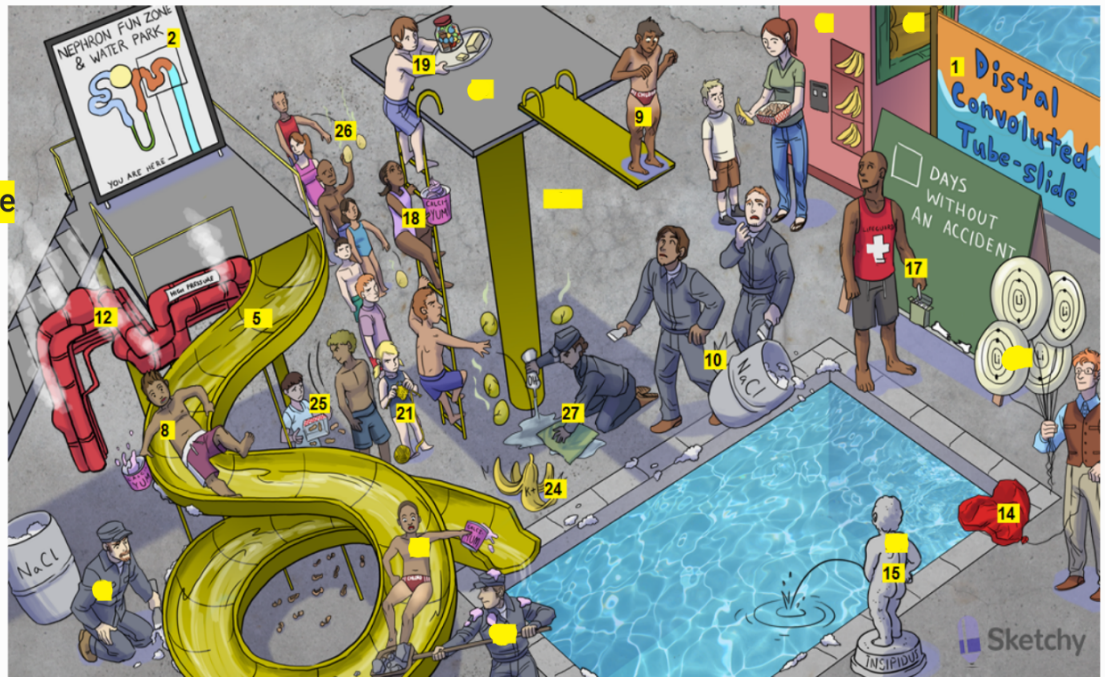
- Others **inhibit enzymes** (acetazolamide)

- Some others interfere with **hormone receptors** in renal epithelial cells (spironolactone)

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Thiazides

- Distal Convolved Tubule



1. Distal convolved tube slide: Distal convoluted tubule
2. Distal convolved tubule: site of action for thiazide diuretics
5. Yellow tube slide: tubular lumen
8. Active slider dropping the calci-yum ice cream: calcium is actively reabsorbed at the DCT (regulated by PTH) (that's why it is used in **idiopathic hypercalciuria**) and used for **Hypercalciuria**
9. Chloro-thighs, thiodore Roosevelt on high dive: **Hydrochlorothiazide and chlorothalidone (thiazide diuretics) / Indapamide**
10. Sodium chloride dumping into pool: thiazides inhibit NaCl reabsorption by blocking the **NaCl cotransporter**
12. High pressure pipes: thiazide diuretics are one of the first line treatments for mild or moderate **HTN**
14. Floppy failing heart balloon: use of thiazides can be useful in the symptomatic treatment of **heart failure** & Used for **Edema of HF; liver cirrhosis...**etc
15. Insipidus fountain: thiazide diuretics treat **nephrogenic diabetes insipidus**
17. The most frequent and dangerous: **muscle weakness** and serious **cardiac arrhythmias** (High risk in LVH, previous MI, cardiac arrhythmia, on digoxin therapy pts) لمدرّب بنقذ الناس الي صابهم ضعف بعضلاتهم
18. Elevated calci-yum ice cream: thiazide diuretics can cause **hypercalcemia**
19. Elevated Candy jar and stick of butter: Thiazide diuretics can promote **Hyperglycemia and also hyperlipidemia.** (↑ LDL, ↑ TG's)
21. Yellow knitting needles: thiazide diuretic can cause **hyperuricemia** (can precipitate gout)

- The effect of thiazides on uric acid is dose dependent:

Low doses → hyperuricemia

Large doses → ↓ uric acid reabsorption

24. Potassium depleted banana peel: Thiazide diuretics block the Na⁺/Cl⁻ cotransporter in the distal convoluted tubule, increasing sodium delivery to the collecting duct. This leads to increasing potassium secretion by the collecting duct in exchange for Na⁺ reabsorption leading to **hypokalemia + hypomagnesemia**

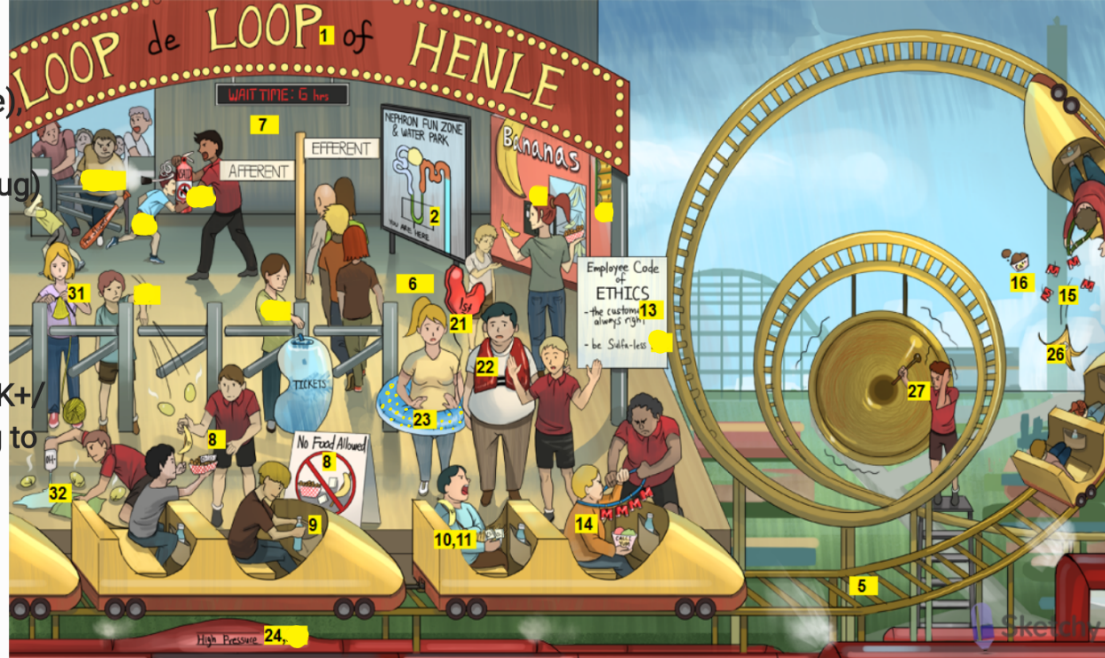
Adition

- 1-they are the **most frequently used, least expensive**, has low to moderate efficacy
- 2- usually given orally (Chlorthiazide may be given I.V), strongly bind plasma albumin, reach kidney tubules via a **specific secretory mechanism** (not filtered) and eliminated mostly unchanged by the kidney (small fraction biliary excretion)
- 3-MAO: by Inhibition of thiazide-sensitive Na⁺/Cl⁻ transporter in distal convoluted tubule, inhibiting Na⁺ reabsorption → ↑ Na⁺, K⁺, Cl⁻, HCO₃ and H₂O excretion (5-10% loss of filtered Na⁺)
- 4-Their early hypotensive effect is related to a reduction in blood volume
- 5-Their long-term effect is related to a reduction in peripheral vascular resistance
- 6- ↑ in dose will not lead to further increase in their diuretic effect (low ceiling)
- 7-They are ineffective in pts with impaired renal function or pts with GFR < 20 ml/min
- 8-They have synergistic effect with other lowering BP drug
- 9-can cause **Pancreatitis** and **Erectile dysfunction**

Loop Diuretics

1 Furosemide (Frusemide)
2 Bumetanide,
3 Ethacrynic acid (prodrug)
4 Torsemide (active metabolites) all can be given orally and IV

MAO: Inhibition of $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+/\text{2Cl}^-$ (transporter leading to 10-25% loss of filtered Na^+)



1. Loop de Loop of Henle: Loop of Henle
2. **Thick ascending Limb of the loop of Henle**: site of action of most loop diuretics. Most relevant is sodium chloride blocks
5. Yellow track: lumen of the renal tubule
6. Platform: intracellular compartment
7. Background wall is the interstitium
8. Track worker taking peanuts, bananas, and 2 chloride packets: **$\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+/\text{2Cl}^-$ cotransporter (NKCC)** reabsorbs these ions at the luminal membrane of the TAL thick ascending limb ***Loop diuretics \uparrow excretion of Na^+ , Cl^- , K^+ , H^+ , H_2O and HCO_3^- ***
9. Water secured in car: the TAL is impermeable to water (diluting segment)
10. **Furious kid: furosemide** (loop diuretics)
11. Furious kid clinging to food: furosemide selectively **blocks the NKCC transporter** on the luminal membrane of the TAL, keeping sodium in the lumen in the tubule representing furosemides ability to reduce reabsorption of NaCl
12. Loop diuretics are the most efficacious currently ***The strongest diuretics, have rapid OOA and short DOA***
A* **High ceiling effect** unlike thiazide, so \uparrow dose \rightarrow \uparrow diuretic effect; over-treatment \rightarrow dehydration
B* Effective even at GFR below 10 ml/min (they are most effective in patients with renal insufficiency = creatinine level $>$ 2.5 mg/dl) or resistant cases to other diuretics (unlike thiazides)
C* They are effective orally (OOA 30-60 min ; DOA \approx 6 hrs) and parenterally (OOA 5 min; DOA \approx 2 hrs)
D* They are **albumin bound, eliminated in urine** by filtration and tubular secretion and 1/3rd of oral dose is excreted in bile
13. **Ethics: ethacrynic acid** (loop diuretic)
14. Furious kid clinging to magnets and calci-yum ice cream: promoting the **excretion of Mg^{2+} and Ca^{2+} + K^+**
15. Falling magnets: prolonged use of loop diuretics can cause **hypomagnesemia**
16. Falling calci-yum ice cream: Loop diuretics can cause **hypocalcemia**
21. Failing heart balloon: loop diuretics are **1st line for the symptomatic treatment of acute decompensated heart failure**
22. Wet lungs: **reduction for peripheral or pulmonary edema**
23. Yellow inner tube: loop diuretics **treat ascites in liver failure (jaundice)**
24. High pressure pipes: loop diuretics can be useful in the **treatment of HTN**
26. Banana peel: **hypokalemia**
27. Loud gong: loop diuretics can **cause hearing loss (dose related and more common with I.V administration)**
31. Knitting needles: loop diuretics can cause **hyperuricemia + hyperglycemia**
32. Park employee cleaning the floor with contracted bleach bottle: contraction **alkalosis**

Addition

- 1- Can used for **Edematous states** (ascitis; CHF; renal failure...etc) + Syndrome of Inappropriate ADH secretion
- 2- it may cause **Allergic reactions**

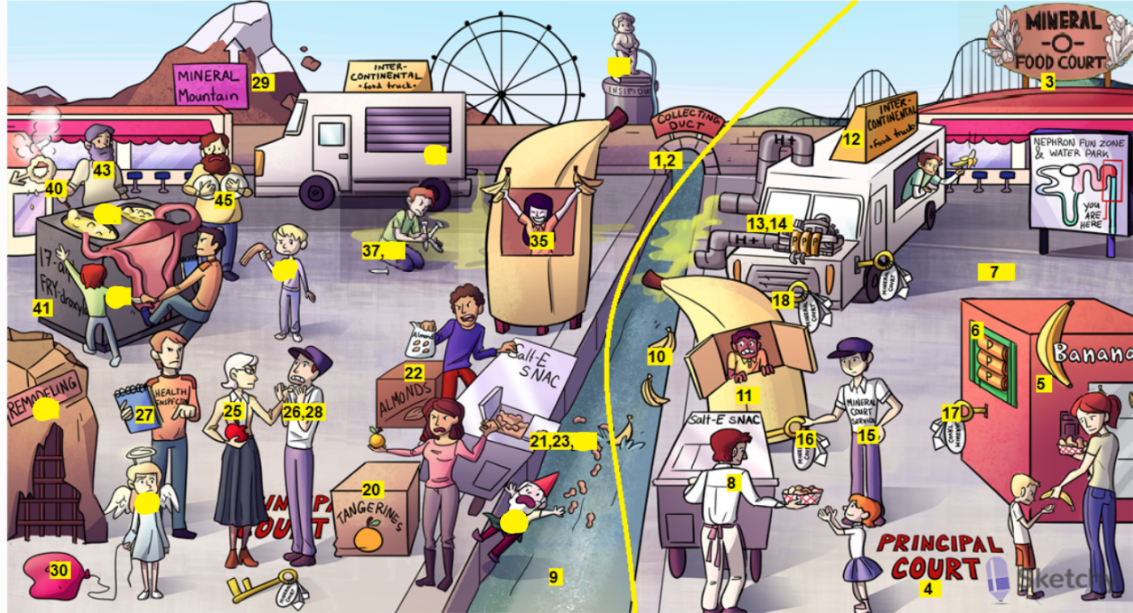
K⁺ sparing Diuretics

⊛ Late DCT
= + Collecting

⊠ Principal



⊠ Intercalated



General (لا تركز كثير حطيته للفهم بس و ما تعمق فيه الدكتور اهتم للأدوية تحت)

1. Central gutter: work in the collecting duct
2. Collecting duct (site of action of the K⁺ sparing diuretics)
3. Mineral-O-Food court: mineralocorticoids site of action (aldosterone) in the collecting duct
4. Principal court: principle cell of the collecting duct (major site of Na⁺/K⁺/H₂O transport)
7. Food court ground: intracellular compartment
8. Salt-E sNaC cart: epithelial Na⁺ channels (ENaC) reabsorb Na⁺
9. Water in gutter: tubular lumen
10. Banana stand dumping bananas: K⁺ channels allow the excretion of K⁺
12. Alpha intercontinental food truck: alpha intercalated cell of the collecting duct (major site of H⁺ excretion)
15. Mineral court services: intracellular mineralocorticoids (aldosterone) receptor
16. Mineral key: aldosterone binds to the salt-E sNaC upregulating ENaCs on the apical membrane, increasing Na⁺ reabsorption
17. Mineral Key activating the banana vending machine: aldosterone upregulates Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase on the basolateral membrane
18. Mineral key activating the banana stand: aldosterone upregulates K⁺ channels on the apical membrane, ↑ K⁺ excretion

Amiloride; Triamterene (None steroidal potassium sparing diuretics)

20. Tangerines: triamterene (K⁺ sparing diuretic)
21. Tangerines blocking the salt-E sNaC cart: **triamterene inhibits Na⁺ reabsorption through ENaC**
22. Almonds: amiloride (K⁺ sparing diuretic)
23. Almonds blocking the Salt-E sNaC cart: **amiloride inhibits Na⁺ reabsorption through ENaC**
37. Worker holding 4 acid tubes: K⁺ sparing diuretics causing a **type 4 renal tubular acidosis * Renal tubular damage** especially reported following the use of Triamterene + Hydrochlorothiazide*

Addition:

- 1-Orally effective and available alone or combined with thiazides
- 2- MOA: Blockade of epithelial Na⁺ channels → ↓ Na⁺ reabsorption, ↓ K⁺ excretion
- 3-Use for Hypertension & Hypokalemia
- 4-Side effects Hyperkalemia & Renal tubular damage

Spironolactone, Eplerenone (more potent form) ((Aldosterone competitive antagonists))

25. Apple with the teacher: **eplerenone (K⁺ sparing diuretic)**
26. Teacher with apple antagonizing the mineral court services man: **eplerenone antagonizes the mineralocorticoid receptor**
27. Health inspector with Spiral bound notebook: **spironolactone (a K⁺ sparing diuretic)**
28. Health inspector antagonizing the mineral court services man: **spironolactone antagonizes the mineral corticoid receptor**
29. Crumbling mineral mountain: **treatment of 1 and 2 hyperaldosteronism**
30. Failing heart balloon: K⁺ diuretics (spironolactone, eplerenone) are **useful in the treatment of heart failure**
35. Elevated banana's: K⁺ sparing diuretics can cause **mild or even dangerous(hyperkalemia)→ cardiac arrhythmias (More common in diabetes, chronic renal disease pts or patients on ACE inhibitors) (More severe with eplerenone)**
40. Fried male symbol: testosterone produced from cholesterol
41. Health inspector inhibiting 17 alpha "fry"droxylase: spironolactone inhibits 17alpha-hydroxylase Important in testosterone synthesis (**inhibit testosterone syntesis**) فقط اعرف انو يمنع التستوستيرون انساك من ال الفأ
43. Bushy beard: symptoms of androgen excess **trear (hirsutism)(antiandrogenic effect)**
45. Lids on chest: **Gynecomasta in men & Breast tenderness** in woman (rare with Eplerenone)

Addition

- 1-*Given orally; have delayed OOA
- 2-*Weak diuretics, usually combined with other antihypertensives or thiazides
- 3-treat Hypertension Hypokalemia and others

Diuretic-induced hypokalemia is a serious problem among most of pts on loop diuretics or thiazides . However, we can solve it by:

- Combining thiazide or loop diuretic + oral K⁺ supplement
 - Combine thiazide or loop diuretic with a K⁺ sparing diuretic
- ** Unlike thiazide diuretics..... loop and K⁺ sparing diuretics have no effects on blood lipids

Reasons for diuretic resistance or refractoriness (Therapeutic Failure):

- Continued ingestion of salt
- Impairment of organic acid secretion mechanisms in the proximal tubules due to diseases or drugs
- Secondary hyperaldosteronism
- Lowered renal blood flow → ↑ Na⁺ reabsorption (post diuretic salt retention)
- Lowered bioavailability of the drug

Management of diuretic resistance

By restriction of sodium intake, changes in dose, changes in timing, and combination of diuretic therapy