Anthelmintic Agents
= Anthelmintics

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CHAPTER 32

Drugs Used to Treat Parasitic Infections

Thomas L. Lemke

TREATMENT OF HELMINTH INFECTIONS:

- Albendazole
- Ivermectin
- Mebendazole
- Moxidectin
- Praziquantel
- Pyrantel pamoate

Types of Helminths

- Platyhelminths:

✓ cestodes(tapeworm): taenia
✓ trematodes(flukes): schistosoma

- Nematohelminths:

✓ ascaris;
✓ Strongyloides

- True round worms:

✓ hookworm
✓ pinworm
✓ wuchererria bancrofti
✓ onchocerca

Chemical Classification for Anthelmintic agents

- Benz-imidazoles:

✓ albendazole

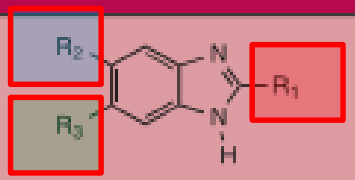
✓ mebendazole

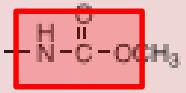
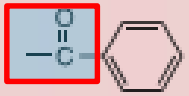
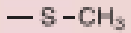
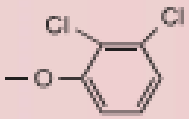
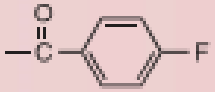
✓ thiabendazole

- Tetra-hydro-iso-quinoline: praziquantel
- Tetra-hydro-quinoline: oxamniquine
- Tetra-hydro-pyrimidine: pyrantel
- Levamisole
- Piperazine: piperazine & Di-Ethyl Carbamazine(DEC)
- Lactone: ivermectin, moxidectin
- Benzamide: niclosamide

Benzimidazole Anthelmintics

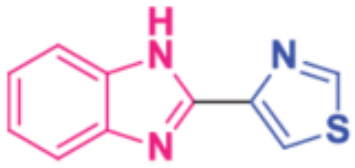
Table 32.7 Benzimidazole Anthelmintics



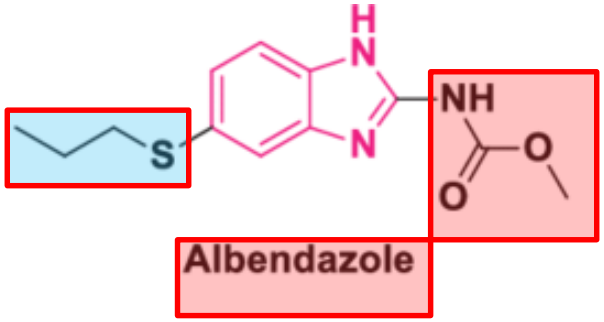
Drugs	Trade Name	R_1	R_2	R_3
Mebendazole	Emverm Vermox			H
Albendazole	Albenza			H
Triclabendazole	Egaten[a] Fasinex[b]			Cl
Fenbendazole	Several brand names[b]			H
Flubendazole	Several brand names[b]			H

[a]Egaten has recently been shown to be useful for treatment of fascioliasis by WHO.
[b]Used in veterinary practice for protection and treatment of parasite and worm infections.

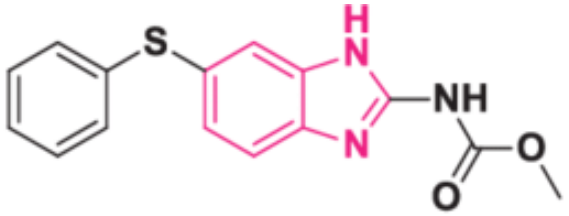
Benzimidazoles as Anthelminthics



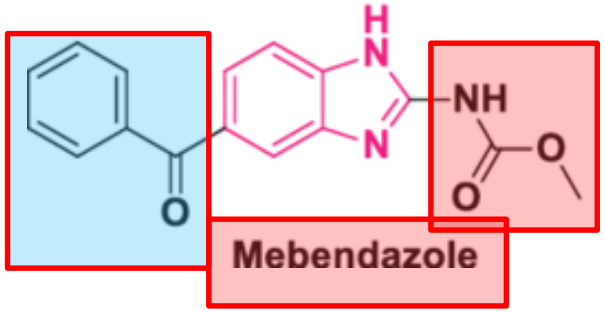
Thiabendazole



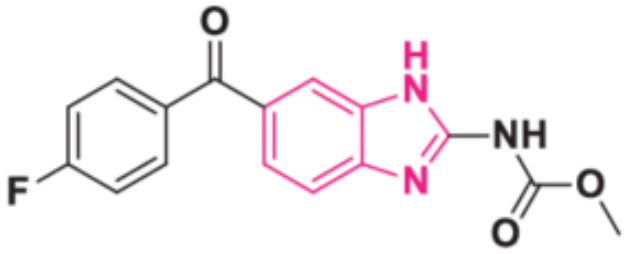
Albendazole



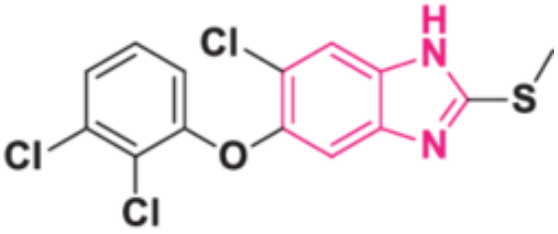
Fenbendazole



Mebendazole



Flubendazole



Triclabendazole

MOAs for Benzimidazole Anthelmintics

- Broad spectrum on intestinal helminths

1- inhibition of fumarate reductase:

✓ responsible enzyme for oxidation of NADH to NAD

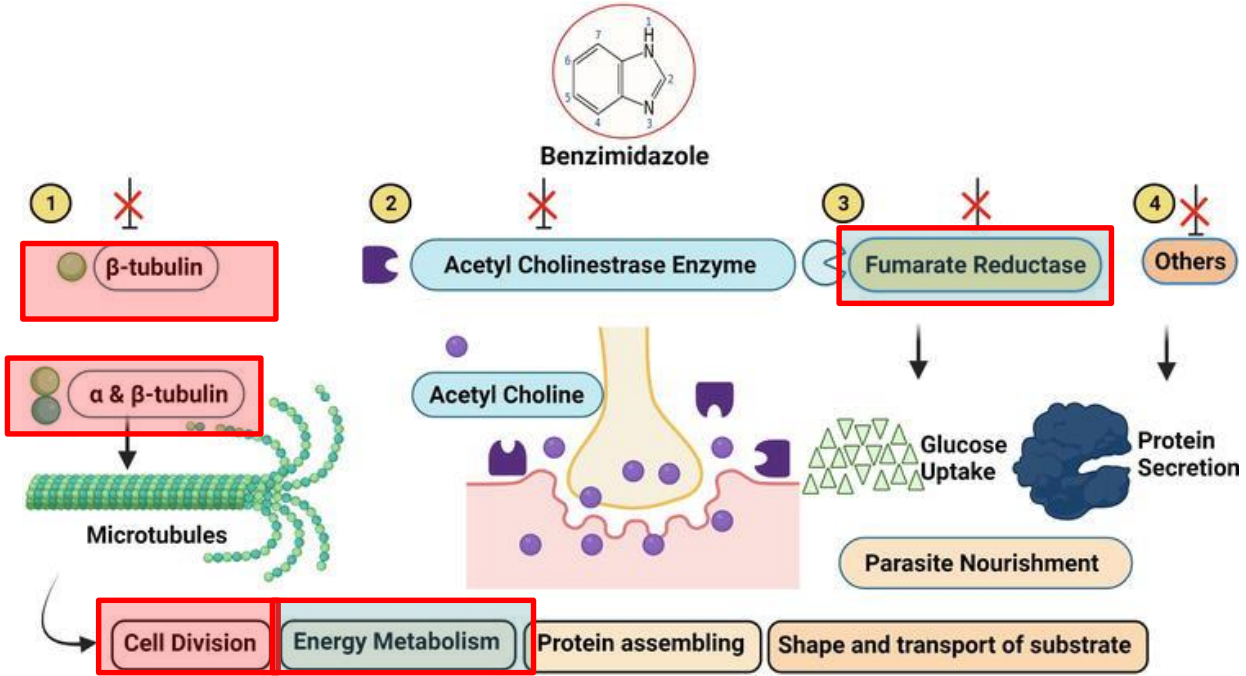
✓ which uncouples oxidative phosphorylation for ATP production

2- Prevention of tubulin polymerization:

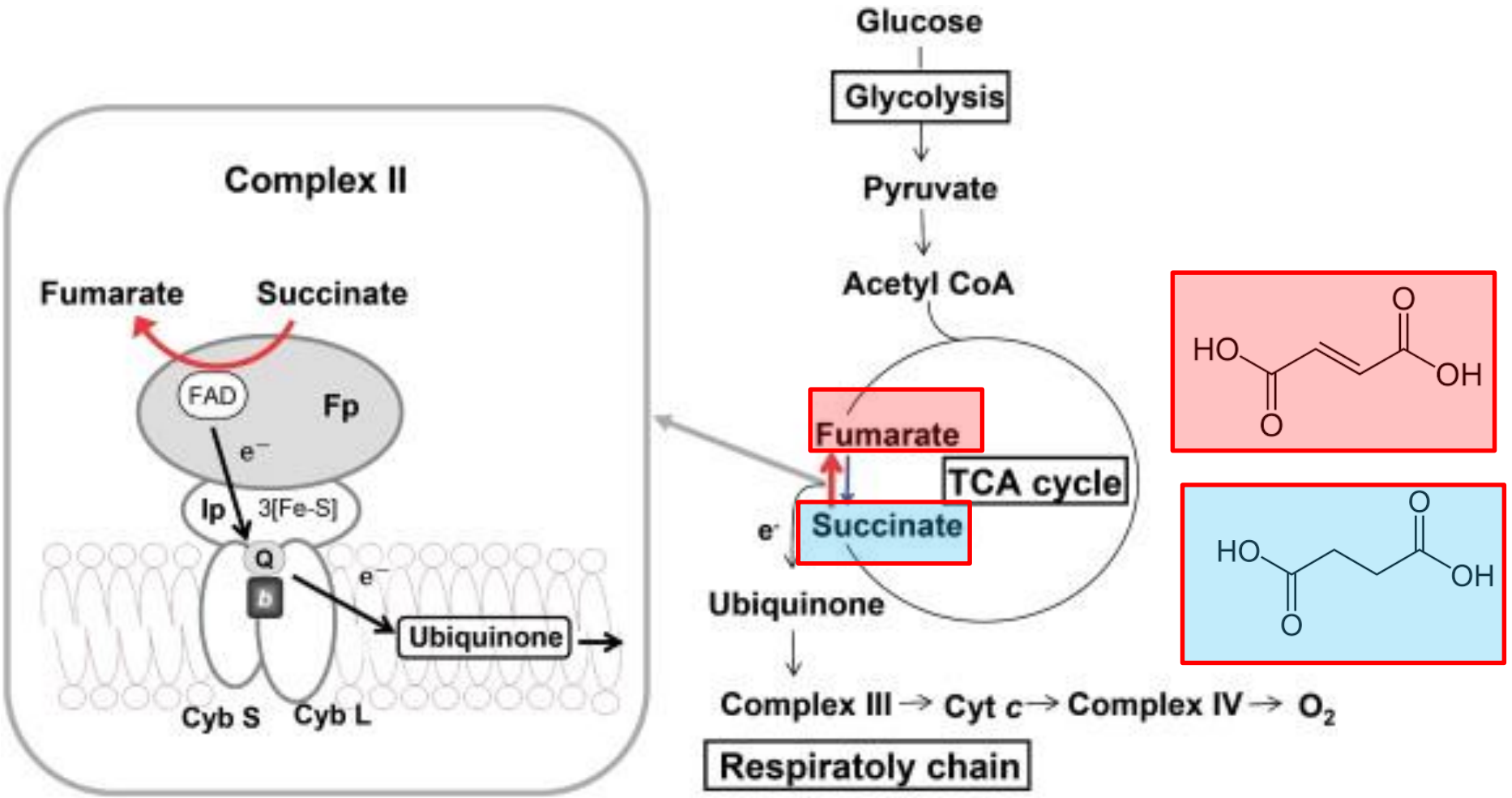
✓ prevents self association of tubulin subunits

✓ create a capping of microtubule at associating or polymerizing end

✓ hence microtubule dissociation from opposite end with a net loss of length



Fumarate Reductase as a Functional enzyme in Vitality of Helminths



Metabolism of Benzimidazoles

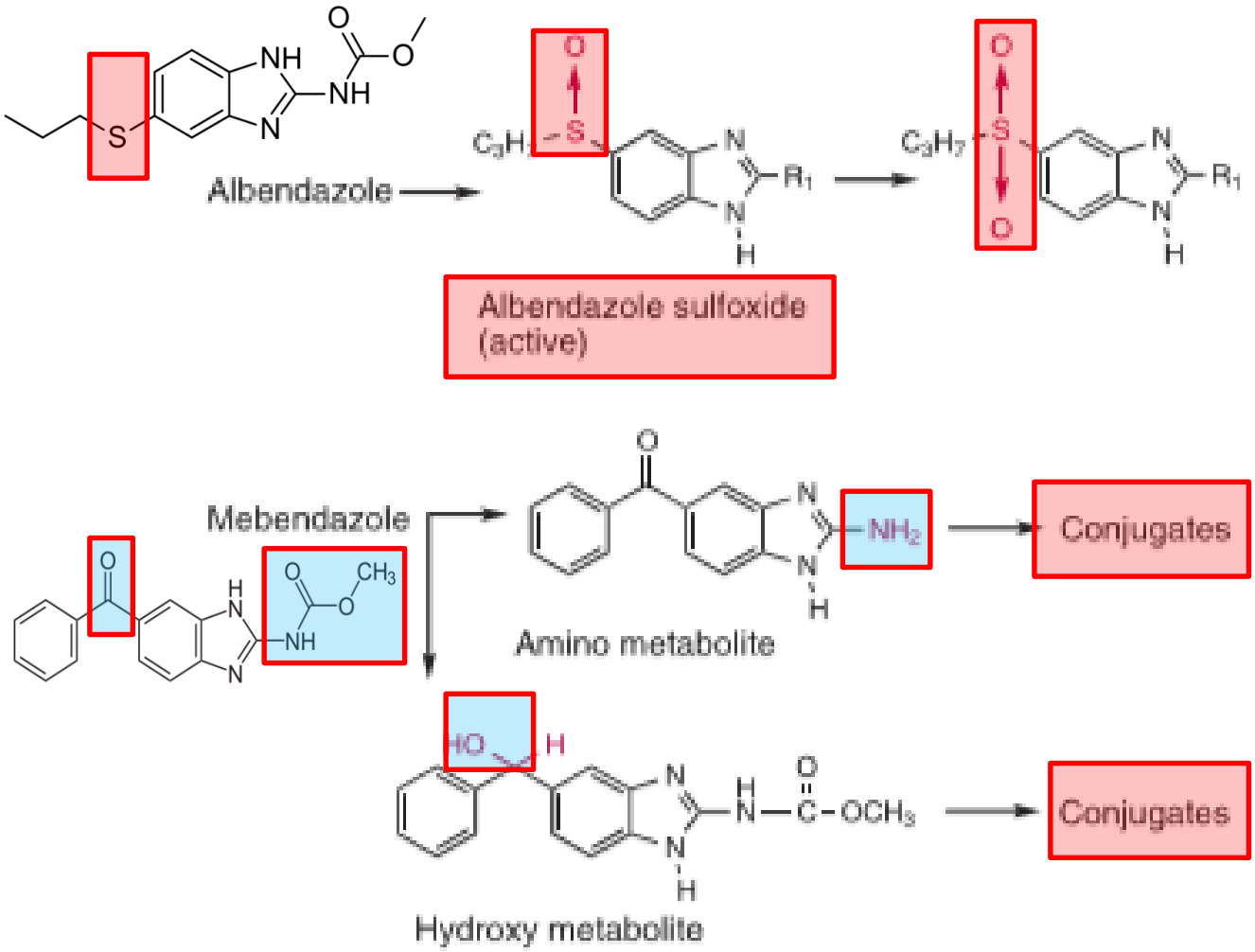
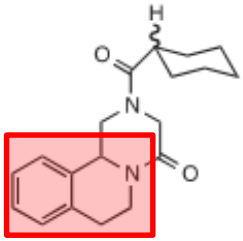


Figure 32.20 Metabolism of benzimidazoles.

Tetra-Hydro-Iso-quinoline: Praziquantel (PZQ)



Praziquantel
(Biltricide)

- Chemistry: iso-quinoline derivative

- MOA:

✓ in/direct Ca^{2+} redistribution: muscle contraction & paralysis

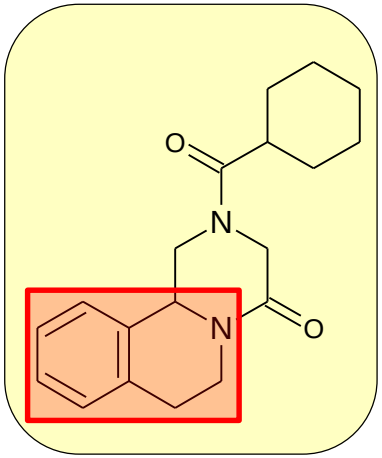
✓ inhibit phospho-inositide metabolism

✓ affects glycogen content & energy metabolism

- Therapeutic application:

✓ against cestode & trematode

✓ against *schistosomiasis*



Metabolism for Praziquantel (PZQ)

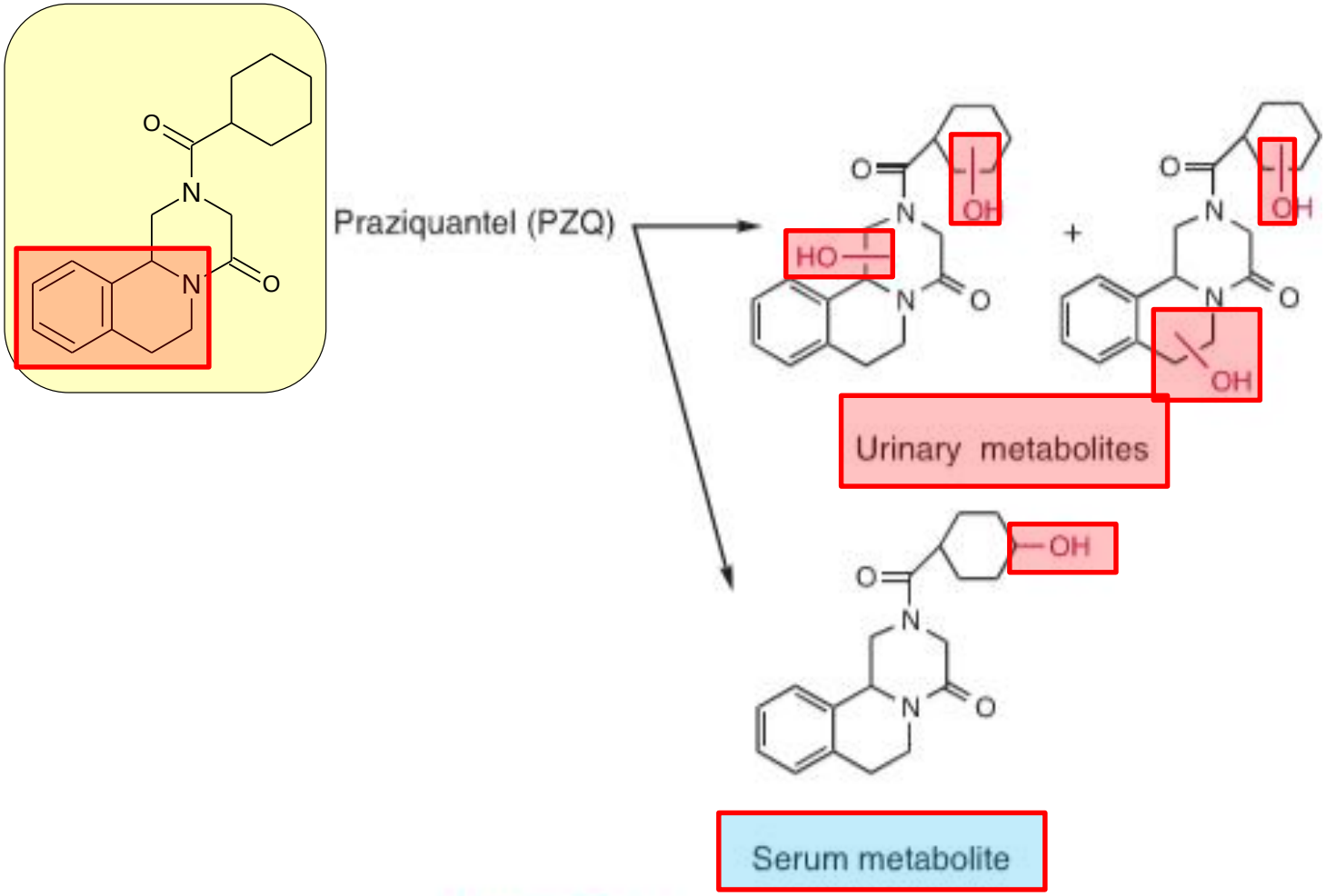
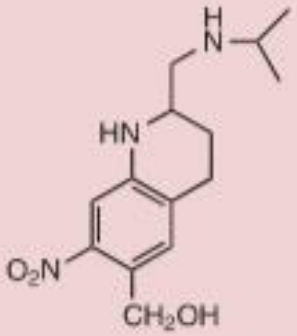


Figure 32.21 Metabolism of praziquantel (PZQ).

Tetra-Hydro-Quinoline: Oxamniquine

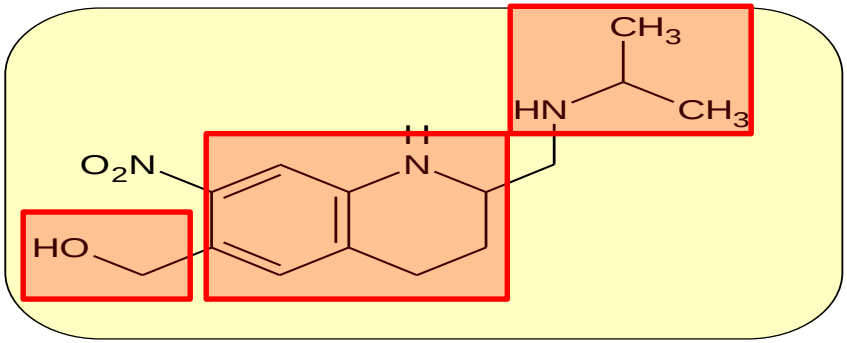
MOA: inhibit DNA , RNA & protein synthesis

OXAMNIQUINE



Oxamniquine

Oxamniquine was previously available with a spectrum of activity similar to that of praziquantel. The drug has been discontinued in the United States. The drug is listed in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines 20th List (March 2017) as an antischistosomal backup when praziquantel treatment fails.

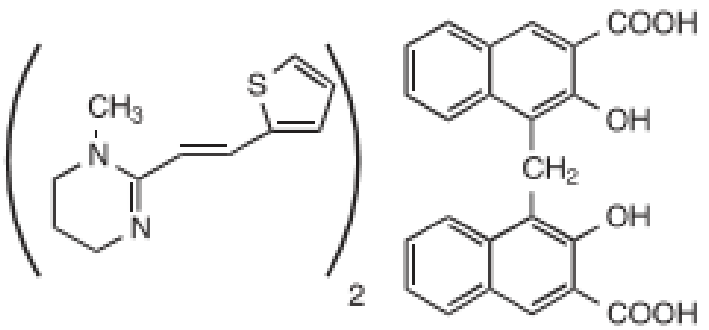


Tetra-Hydro-pyrimidine: Pyrantel Pamoate

- Chemistry:

✓ pamoate salt: quite in-soluble:

✓ not readily absorbed: benefit?



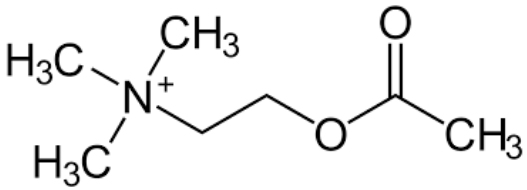
Pyrantel pamoate

- MOA:

✓ depolarizing NMBA: activate nicotinic receptors

✓ inhibit cholinesterase

✓ gives spastic paralysis



Acetylcholine

- Therapeutic application:

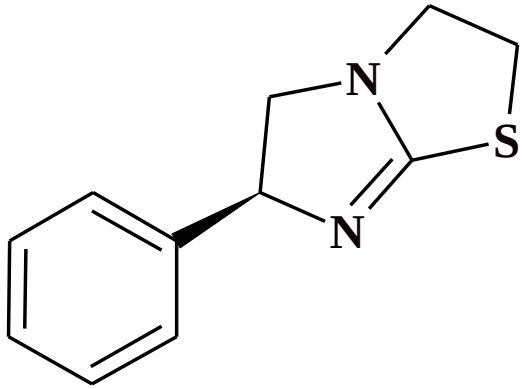
✓ against pinworms (considered as drug of choice)

✓ against hookworm & roundworms (ascariasis)

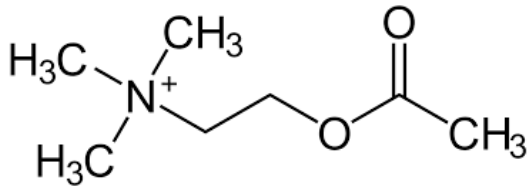
✓ with piperazine!!! is a wrong medication

Levamisole

- Chemistry:



- Withdrawn from FDA since 2000
- MOA: acetylcholine agonist on nAChR in nematodes

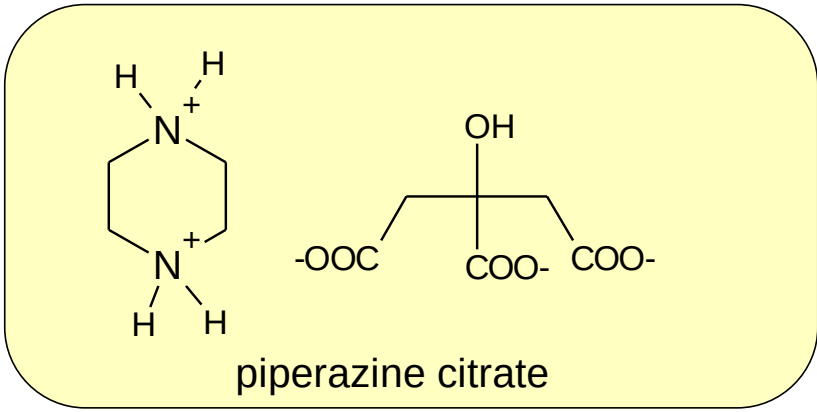


Acetylcholine

Piperazine Anthelmintics: Piperazine

- Chemistry:

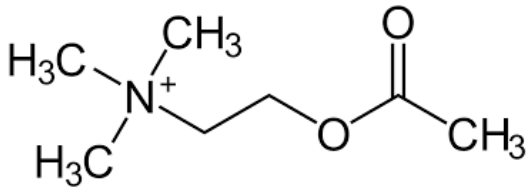
✓ citrate salt



piperazine citrate

- MOA:

✓ block the response of worm muscles to acetylcholine



Acetylcholine

- Therapeutic application:

✓ against pinworm & roundworm(nematodes)

Piperazine Anthelmintics: Di-Ethyl-Carbamazine (DEC)

- Chemistry:

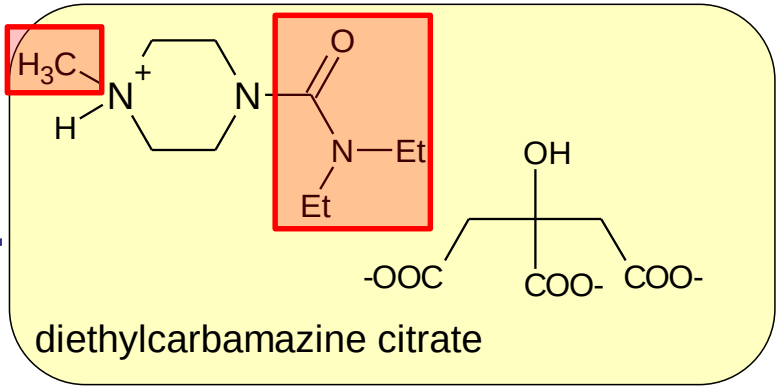
✓ citrate salt

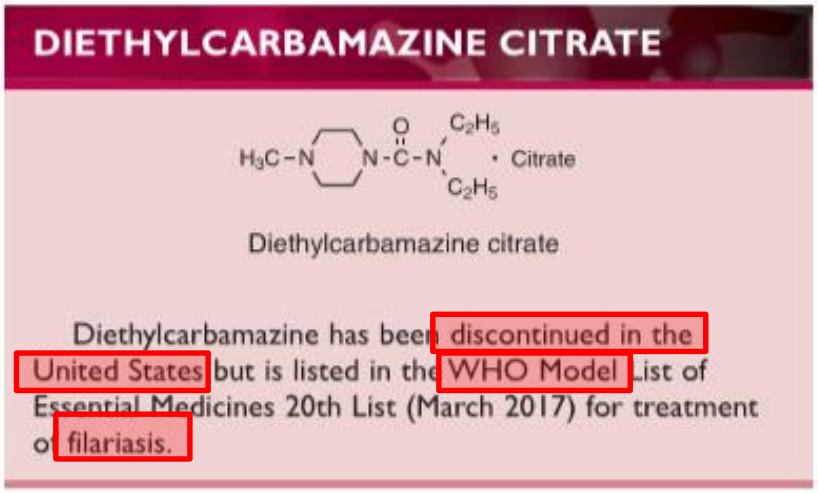
- Selective anthelmintic activity: filaricide:

✓ against *filariasis*, *ascariasis*, *onchocerciasis*

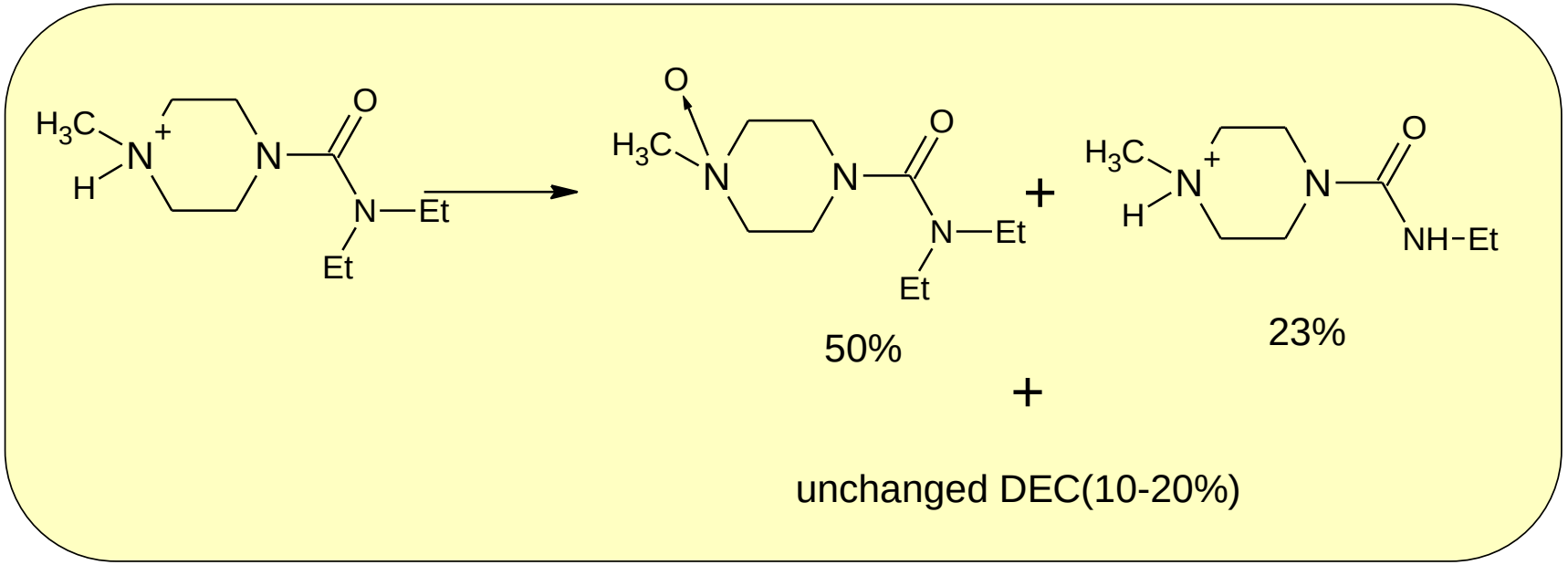
- Metabolites: ?
- MOA: !?: Rapid action

✓ three proposed mechanisms: …



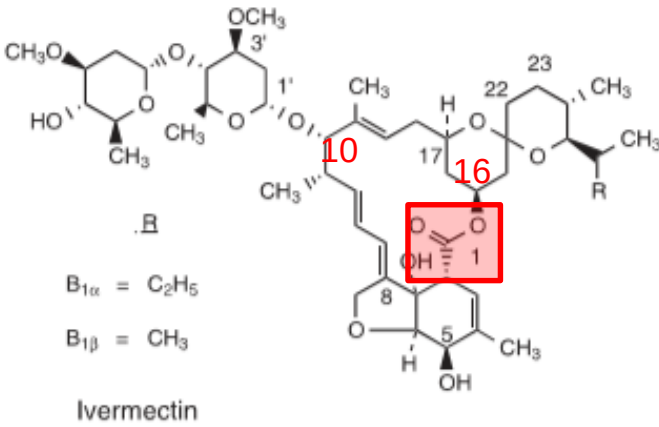


Metabolism of DEC



Lactone: Dihydro/Ivermectin (IVM)

- Source: extracted from *Streptomyces avermitilis*
- Chemistry: 16 membered macrocyclic lactone: $B_{1\alpha}$:$B_{1ß}$(80:20)



- MOA:

✓ reduce motility of *microfilaria*:

✓ allows host cytotoxic cells to adhere to parasite

✓ acts as GABA agonist: induce Cl^- influx:

✓ lead to hyperpolarization & muscle paralysis

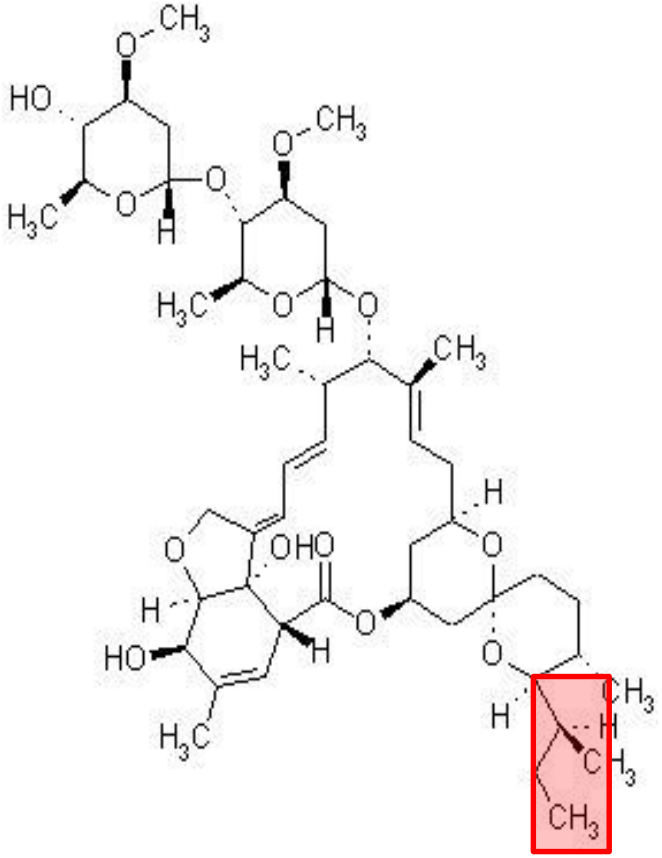
✓ irreversibly bind to Glu gated Cl^- channel: open conformation of gate

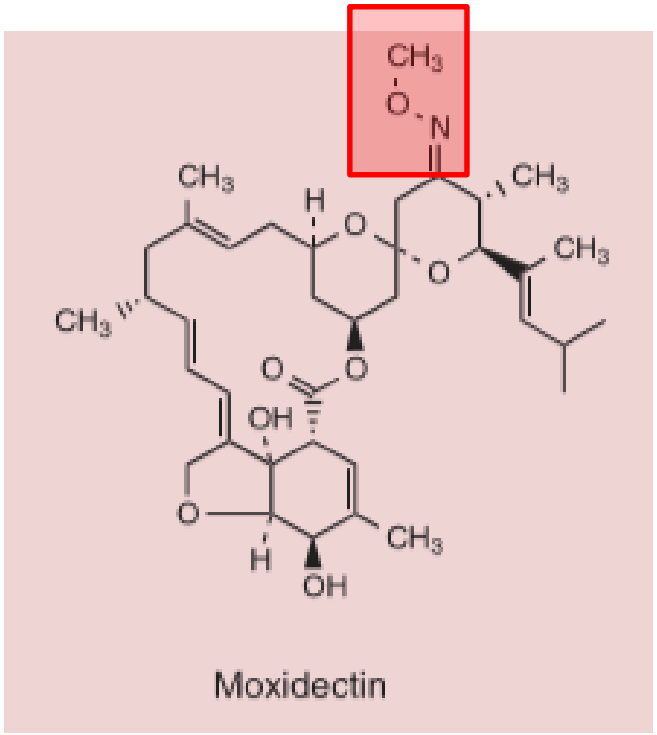
- Advantage over DEC (Di-Ethyl Carbamazine)

- Know about efficacy in COVID-19: inhibit host nuclear transport Prs which are part of key intracellular target of virus

Lactones: Ivermectin & Moxidectin

- Novel derivative: moxidectin





Benzamide: Niclosamide

- Potent taenicide:

✓ rapid disintegration of worm segments