



# LOCAL ANESTHETICS

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## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Mechanism and Termination of Action

Types of Local Anesthetics

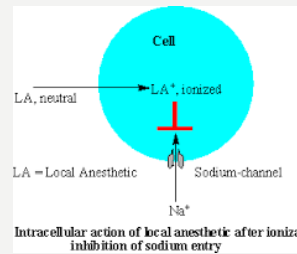
Allergic Potential

Dosage Limits

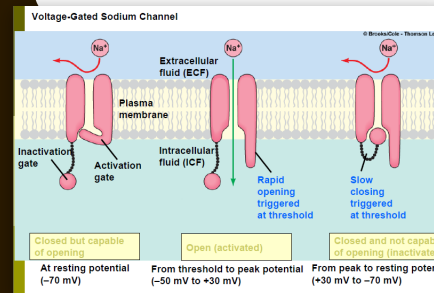
Local Anesthesia Systemic Toxicity (LAST)

## MECHANISM OF ACTION

- Injected local anesthetic rapidly dissociates into an uncharged base (LA) and an ionized conjugate acid (LA<sup>+</sup>)
- The base (uncharged portion) can pass through the lipid membrane.
- Reversibly binds to the alpha subunit of voltage gated sodium channel



## NA<sup>+</sup> CHANNEL INACTIVATION



- Once inside the cell it becomes ionized. This LA<sup>+</sup> (acid) binds to the alpha-subunit on the inside of the voltage gated sodium channels
- It effectively “plugs” the channel so the Na<sup>+</sup> cannot pass therefore blocking nerve conduction process
- The channel is in a closed inactive state once the local binds. In this state the channel cannot be opened



# ACTION & CHARACTERISTICS OF LOCAL ANESTHETICS

- Onset of action
  - pKa value
  - Concentration of drug (dose administered)
- Potency
  - Lipid solubility
- Duration of action
  - Protein binding
  - Vasoconstrictor added?



**HENDERSOHN-HASSELBACH EQUATION**

$$pH = pK_a + \log K_a$$

At the midpoint,  $K_a = 1$  and  $pH = pK_a$

*The pH at the midpoint is equal to the pKa*



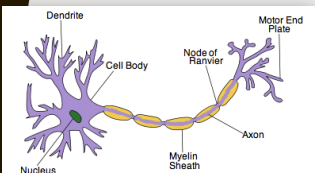
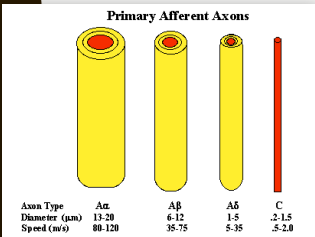
# DIFFERENTIAL SENSORY AND MOTOR BLOCKADE

- Local anesthetics ability to affect the nerve
  - Bupivacaine good example sensory blockade with minimal motor until high dose
- Anatomy of the nerve axon
- Nerves sensitivity behavior



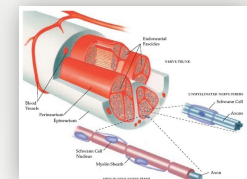
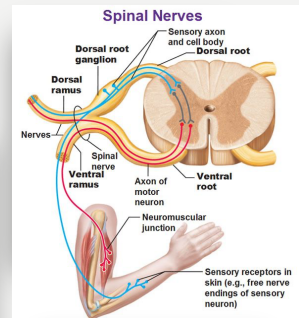
# NERVE FIBER REVIEW

- Peripheral nerves can vary in
  - Size
    - Wider diameter nerves conduct signal faster than narrow ones
  - Presence of myelin (myelination)
    - Insulates the nerve, faster conduction of signal
  - Structure



# NERVE FIBER REVIEW

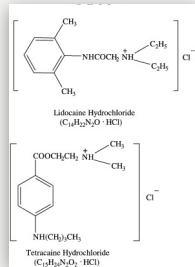
Fiber type	Function	Diameter (mm)	Conduction (m/s)	Myelinated
Aα	Motor efferent	12-20	70-120	yes
Aα	Proprioception	12-20	70-120	yes
Aβ	Touch, pressure	5-12	30-70	yes
Aγ	Motor efferent	3-6	15-30	yes
Aδ	Pain, temp, touch	2-5	12-30	yes
B	Paraganglion autonomic	<3	3-14	some
C dorsal root	Pain, temperature	0.4-0.12	0.5-2	No
C sympathetic	Postganglionic sympathetic	0.3-1.3	0.7-2.3	No



# CHEMICAL STRUCTURE OF LOCAL ANESTHETICS

- The typical local anesthetic molecule contains a tertiary amine attached to a substituted aromatic ring by an intermediate chain that contains either ester or an amide linkage

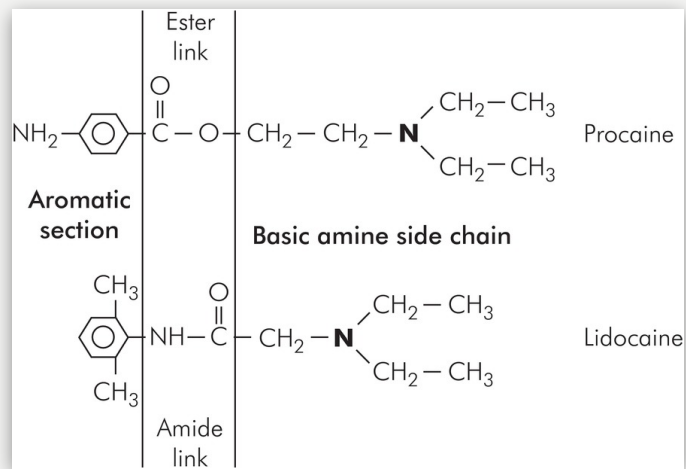
- Aromatic ring gives a lipophilic character
- Tertiary amine end is relatively hydrophilic
- LA is classified as amino-ester or amino-amide compounds



Amides

Esters

**TYPES**



# ESTERS

- Metabolized by Pseudocholinesterase
  - \*Cocaine also metabolized in the liver
  - Benzocaine
  - Cocaine
  - Chlorprocaine
  - Procaine
  - Tetracaine



# AMIDES

Amide- has "I" before -caine

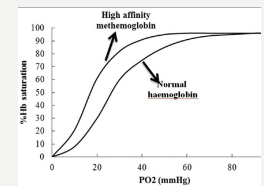
Bupivacaine    Dibucaine    Etidocaine    Lidocaine    Mepivacaine    Ropivacaine

- Amides are metabolized in the liver by CYP450



# METHEMOGLOBINEMIA

- Methemoglobin (MetHb) is altered state of hemoglobin (Hb)
  - Ferrous ( $Fe^{2+}$ ) irons of heme are oxidized to the ferric ( $Fe^{3+}$ ) state
  - Results in *left shift* of oxygen dissociation curve,
    - Less  $O_2$  released at tissue
- Signs: cyanosis and low  $SpO_2$  with normal arterial  $PO_2$  on ABG, chocolate colored blood, brown urine



Generic Name	Trade name	Duration of action	Unique characteristics
Benzocaine*	Americaine	SHORT	Only Weak base No ionization Met-Hb
Cocaine*		1-hour plasma half life	* metabolized in liver also. vasoconstrictor!
Chloroprocaine	Nesacaine	SHORT	Least toxic of LA
Procaine		SHORT	Poor protein binding, low toxicity
Tetracaine*	Pontocaine	LONG	93% ionized at 7.4 76% protein binding

# ESTERS



Name	Trade name	Duration of action	Unique characteristics
Bupivacaine	Marcaine	LONG	96% protein binding
Dibucaine	Nupercaine	LONG	
Etidocaine	Duranest	LONG	Highly protein bound
Lidocaine*	Xylocaine	MODERATE	*neurotoxicity in sab
Mepivacaine*	Carbocaine	MODERATE	75% protein binding
Prilocaine*	Citanest	MODERATE	55% protein binding
Ropivacaine	Naropin	LONG	94% protein binding

# AMIDES



## METHEMOGLOBINEMIA

- Congenital or Acquired
  - Specific medications can cause oxidation of Hb to MetHb
    - Local anesthetics
      - Prilocaine, lidocaine and benzocaine\*
    - Anesthesia adjuncts
      - NTG, phenytoin, sulfonamides, metoclopramide, nitrous oxide, chloroquine



## METHEMOGLOBINEMIA TREATMENT

- If asymptomatic with MetHb <20% no therapy necessary, just d/c causative agent
- Increase oxygen delivery to patient
- Administer Methylene blue
- Hyperbaric O<sub>2</sub> and exchange transfusions alternate treatments



## METHYLENE BLUE

- Accelerates enzymatic reduction of methemoglobin
  - Converts ferric ion (fe<sup>3+</sup>) back to ferrous state (fe<sup>2+</sup>)
- Inhibitor of nitric oxide synthase and guanylate cyclase
  - Improves hypotension in septic shock
- Antimalarial
- Dosing for Methemoglobinemia
  - If >20% MetHgb administer 1-2mg/kg of 1% solution IV over 5 minutes.
  - Dose can be repeated in 30-60 minutes
  - Total dose should not exceed 7-8mg/kg



## METHYLENE BLUE CONSIDERATIONS

- Contraindicated in pts with G6PD deficiency patients [causes hemolysis]
  - Alternative treatment: Ascorbic acid 2mg/kg or IV thionine
- Can be toxic if high dosage administered
  - Cardiac arrhythmias, coronary vasoconstriction, decreased CO, decreased renal blood flow, increased pulmonary vascular pressure and resistance
  - Dose dependent toxic CNS effects: Confusion, h/a, dizziness or tremors
  - MAO inhibiting properties can precipitate fatal serotonin toxicity >5mg/kg
  - Anaphylaxis has been reported
- Rebound Methemoglobinemia can occur 18 hours after methylene blue administration
- \*False depression in o<sub>2</sub> sat reading with administration!



# LOCAL ANESTHETICS AND ALLERGIC REACTIONS



## ALLERGIC REACTIONS

### ESTERS

- Low allergic potential
- Cross sensitivity possible between Esters

### AMIDES

- Extremely rare to have an allergy to Amide Local Anesthetic
- No cross sensitivity within Amide class if allergy exists

There is no cross sensitivity between Ester and Amide classes



## LA ALLERGY

- More common with Esters
- Ester type local anesthetics are derivatives of para-aminobenzoic acid (PABA)
- PABA is an immunogenic molecule (cross sensitivity within class)

**ALLERGY  
ALERT**



## UPTAKE AND TERMINATION OF ACTION

- Absorption into the systemic circulation removes the LA from the site of action (termination of effect)
- Higher amount of vascular uptake= $C_p$  (plasma concentration)
- Influential factors for Vascular uptake and  $C_p$ 
  - Site of injection
  - Tissue blood flow
  - Physiochemical properties of LA
  - Metabolism
  - Addition of vasoconstrictor



## INJECTION SITE VASCULARITY

Interpleural  
Intercostal  
Caudal  
Epidural  
Brachial plexus  
Femoral  
Sciatic  
Subcutaneous



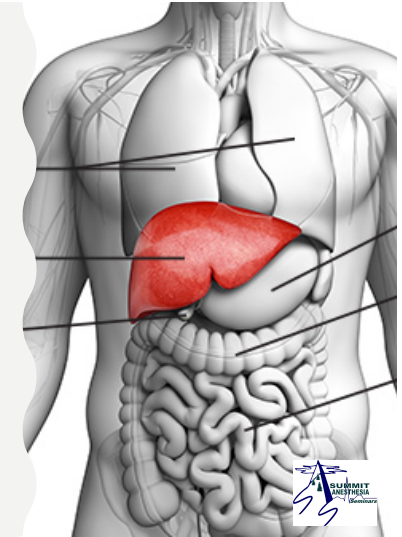
Most Vascular

Least Vascular



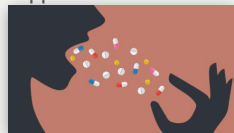
## LA METABOLISM

- Factors that may decrease LA metabolism
  - Amide local anesthetic is metabolized in the liver
- Predisposition to lidocaine toxicity directed r/t to decrease hepatic excretion
  - Decreased cardiac output
  - Cytochrome P450 inhibitors
    - Specifically 3A4 and 1A2
  - Liver conditions (Cirrhosis)



## CYTOCHROME P450 INHIBITORS

- Anesthetics
- Anti-Arrhythmia Drugs
- Antibiotics/Antifungal/Antiviral
- Anti-Depressants
- H2 blockers
- Anti-Neoplastic
- Immunosuppressants
- Anticonvulsants
- Antihypertensive/Cardiac
- Calcium channel blockers:
- Cholesterol medications:
- Steroids
- Herbs/Foods
- Other: Methadone, Thyroxine



## LA PLASMA LEVEL FACTORS

- Injected tissue acts as reservoir for LA
- Plasma protein binding helps limit Cp
- Metabolism decreases Cp
- Vasoconstrictor use decreases systemic absorption

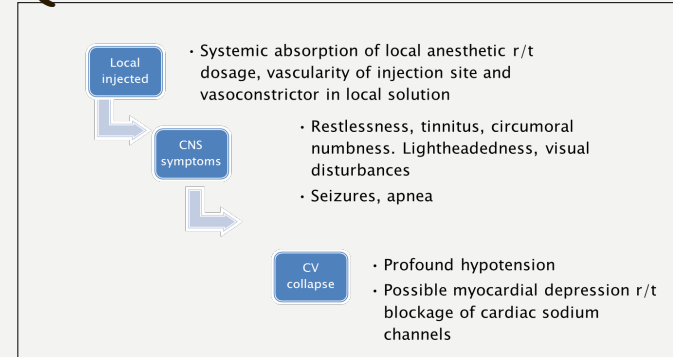


# LIDOCAINE TOXICITY

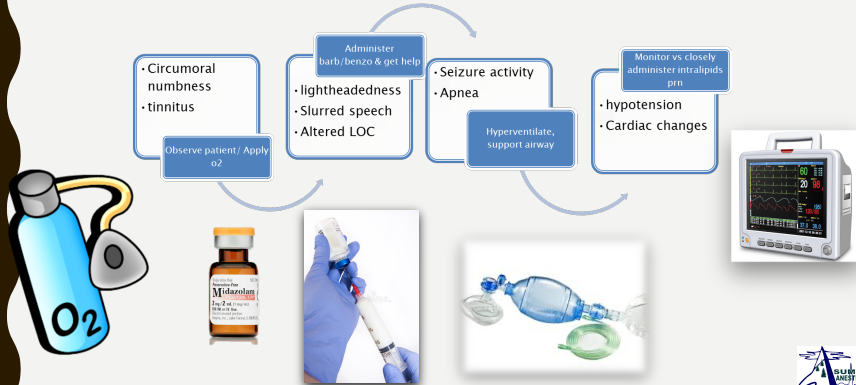


PLASMA CONCENTRATION	TOXIC MANIFESTATIONS
3ug/ml	Circumoral and tongue numbness
4ug/ml	Lightheadedness and tinnitus
6ug/ml	Visual disturbances
8ug/ml	Muscular twitching
10ug/ml	Unconsciousness
12ug/ml	Convulsions
15ug/ml	Coma
20ug/ml	Respiratory Arrest
26ug/ml	Cardiovascular Collapse

# LAST (LA SYSTEMIC TOXICITY)



# LAST TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS



Perioperative Cardiac Arrest:  
Focus on Local Anesthetic Systemic Toxicity (LAST)

When compared to out-of-hospital cardiac arrests, such events that occur in the perioperative setting are unique with respect to their etiology, the fact that they are often witnessed firsthand and their significant departure from standard ACLS algorithms. A mnemonic device for the general approach to LAST is illustrated below.

- Pacing** (For bradycardia prior to arrest)
- 20% Lipid emulsion** (1.5 cc/kg IV load, then... 0.25 cc/kg/min)
- Airway**
- CPR**
- Epinephrine**
- Bicarbonate** (to maintain pH > 7.25)
- ECMO**
- Amiodarone** (For ventricular arrhythmias)
- NO Vasopressin or Lidocaine**
- Seizure management** (benzodiazepines)

**SMALL doses only!**  
10 - 100 mcg IV

Review articles contained in this issue elaborate the unique characteristics of in-hospital, perioperative cardiac arrest and delineate the approach to eight clinical scenarios<sup>1,2</sup>. The reader is encouraged to explore these reviews for further detail.







## LIPID EMULSION

- Mechanism of action
  - Lipid sink
- Dosage
  - Bolus 20% 1.5ml/kg (lean body mass) over 1 minute
  - Infusion 0.25ml/kg/min
  - Maximum dose 10ml/kg in first 30 minutes



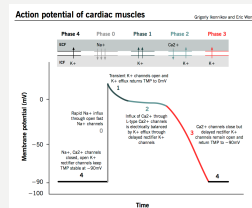
## FACTORS THAT AFFECT LAST

- Increase risk of LAST
  - Hypercarbia
  - Hyperkalemia
  - Metabolic Acidosis
- Decrease risk of LAST
  - Hypocarbia
  - Hypokalemia
  - CNS depressants



## CARDIAC TOXICITY

- Cardiac action potential, myocardial performance and vascular resistance are disrupted by LA
- Factors can determine the extent of cardiotoxicity
  - Affinity for voltage gated sodium channels
  - Rate of dissociation from the receptor



\* Bupivacaine has a greater affinity for voltage gated sodium channel than lidocaine and a slower rate of dissociation.



## MAXIMAL DOSAGES

Medication	Max dose (mg/kg)	Max total dose (mg)
Bupivacaine	plain 2.5 w/ epi 3	175mg 200mg
Chloroprocaine	plain 11 w/epi 14	800mg 1000mg
Lidocaine	plain 4.5 w/epi 7	300mg 500mg*
Mepivacaine	7	400mg
Prilocaine	8	500mg *
Procaine	7	600mg
Ropivacaine	3	200mg



# TUMESCENT SOLUTION



- Developed in 1980s.
- Tissue is swollen and firm = tumescent
- 1 L NSS with additives used to infiltrate subcutaneous tissue to allow for liposuction cannula extraction of excess fat



# TUMESCENT SOLUTION COMPONENTS

- Lidocaine 0.05%-0.1% solution
  - Max dose lidocaine 35-55mg/kg in tumescent
- Epinephrine 0.5mg-1.0 mg per L fluid
  - Max epi dose 50mcg/kg
- Sodium Bicarbonate
  - 12.5 meq per L fluid



# SAFE TUMESCENT DOSAGES

- 25ml of 2% lidocaine in 1L bag
  - What is concentration of solution? How many mg/ml?
  - 25 x 20mg/ml + 500mg in 1L bag=0.5mg/ml or 0.05% solution
- How much of above solution can a 70kg patient receive safely?
  - Safe dosage for lidocaine 35-55mg/kg in tumescent solution**
  - 70x35mg/kg=2450mg if 0.5mg/ml= 2450x2= 4900ml solution
  - 70x55mg/kg=3850mg if 0.5mg/ml= 3850x2= 7700ml solution



# EPINEPHRINE IN TUMESCENT SOLUTION

- Epi 1ml of 1:1000 equals 1mg/ml or 1000mcg diluted in 1000ml so 1mcg/ml
- Recommended safe dosage 50mcg/kg
  - 70kgx50mcg =3500mcg total =3500ml tumescent acceptable



## SUMMARY

- Knowledgeable of:
  - Medication being administered
  - Appropriate dosage
  - Aware of allergic potential
  - Prepared for LAST



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Any Questions?

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