

Anti viral

Against respiratory viruses

Amantadine

- inhibit viral un-coating
- used for prevention or early treatment of influenza A2
- effective orally, eliminated by kidney, avoided in renal failure and epilepsy (increase brain excitability and cause seizures)
- useful in parkinsonism

Rimantadine is similar but largely eliminated by liver and lesser extent by kidney

Neuraminidase inhibitors

inhibit release of new viral progeny occurs by budding and block viral entry into host cells

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu): orally, prodrug activated by liver or gut, eliminated by kidney in urine

- used in prevention and treatment of influenza A or B or virulent H5N1 of avian virus
- SE: nausea and vomiting

zanamivir (Relenze): inhalation for prevention and treatment of influenza A or B, cause bronchospasm, avoid in asthma

Ribavirin

- decrease viral mRNA synthesis, effective against many RNA and DNA viruses
- inhalation for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (infant) which cause acute bronchiolitis (high mortality)
- oral with subcutaneous IFN-alpha-2b for chronic hepatitis C (effective together)
- eliminated by kidney in urine, avoided in RF
- SE: fatigue, rash, nausea and hemolytic anemia, avoided during pregnancy (teratogenic in animals)

Against HIV

Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors

- converted to triphosphate form by host enzymes to become active.
- inhibits reverse transcriptase (RT) competitively, & causes premature termination of proviral DNA chain.

Non-Nucleoside RTIs

- Nevirapine, Delaviradine, Efavirenz**
- Don't require intracellular phosphorylation, Directly inhibit viral RT of HIV.
- Less S.Es: Maculopapular rash
- Liver toxicity in ~ 5% with Nevirapine

Protease inhibitors

- Indinavir, Ritonavir, Saquinavir, Nelfinavir**
- Inhibits viral protease that converts large viral polyproteins into smaller polyproteins for virions.
- S.Es: G.I (most common) Renal stones (with indinavir) Liver toxicity (with ritonavir and saquinavir)

Fusion inhibitors

- given SC
- Enfuvirtide**: binds to surface glycoprotein of HIV, preventing its attachment and penetration into host cells.
- used in combinations if resistance to other anti-HIV drugs develops

Integrase Inhibitors

- Raltegravir** is the first of new class of antiretroviral drugs (integrase inhibitors).
- Raltegravir inhibits the final step in integration of stand transfer of the viral DNA into our own host cell DNA

→ Note: result in HIV treatment are obtained with combination of 4 drugs: 2NRTIs + 1NNRTI + Protease inhibitor

*lipodystrophy: interference with carbohydrate and lipid metabolism with prolong therapy in combination

*lipodystrophy syndrome: include fat redistribution insulin resistance and dyslipidemia

→ fat redistribution after chronic use including loss of fat from extremities and its accumulation in abdomen and base of neck (buffalo hump)



Against herpes viruses

Against herpes simplex & varicella zoster virus

Acyclovir

- inside viral infected covert into acyclo-guanosine monophosphate by viral thymidine kinase
- converted by host kinase into triphosphate which is incorporated into DNA & competitively inhibits viral DNA polymerase in viral DNA synthesis (cause premature termination of proviral DNA chain)
- Topically: ointment for herpetic keratitis, cream for oral & genital herpes simplex
- orally: 4/d treatment and prevent of genital & oral herpes and for treating herpes zoster (20% absorbed from gut)
- IV: severe herpes simplex or varicella zoster in immuno-suppressed patients and for cases of herpetic encephalitis
- eliminated by kidney, safe in pregnancy
- SE: GI (nausea, diarrhea), CNC (headache, neurotoxicity in large doses), renal crystal precipitation and damage (IV)

valacyclovir

oral, better absorbed from intestine than acyclovir, more bioavailable (60%), converted into acyclovir by first pass liver

Famciclovir and penciclovir

- given oral
- Famciclovir is converted to penciclovir in liver
- Famciclovir: used for herpes zoster
- penciclovir: similar to acyclovir to inhibit viral DNA synthesis, used for genital or oral herpes

others for herpetic keratitis

- Vidarabine (adenine arabinoside)**: ointment
- Trifluridine (trifluorothymidine)**: eye drops

Both decrease viral DNA synthesis

Idoxuridine: Eye drops, ointment, it is incorporated into DNA instead of thymidine so decrease viral DNA synthesis

SE: stinging sensation, allergy

Against cytomegala virus

Ganciclovir

- like acyclovir
- converted inside host cell into active triphosphate
- IV for CMV retinitis (may given intra vitreous or ocular implant)
- orally 6-9% absorbed from gut
- cause neutropenia, anemia, thrombocytopenia (due to BM depression)

Foscarnet

- non-nucleoside derivative
- IV for ganciclovir resistant CMV and for acyclovir resistant herpes zoster
- eliminated by kidney
- SE: renal toxicity, hypocalcemia, CNS (hallucination, seizures)

Cidofovir

- phosphorylated inside host cells into active diphosphate
- IV for CMV retinitis
- longer intra-cellular t1/2 than ganciclovir
- nephrotoxic (reduced by probenecid)

Fomiverson

- bind to viral mRNA to inhibit protein synthesis & virus growth
- intravitreal injection for resistant cases
- slowly eliminated from retina
- systemic anti-CMV therapy also needed
- toxicity is iritis, vitritis, rise IOP

Lamivudine

protective glycoproteins that are produced by virally infected cells to make other normal cells resist viral infection

- IFN-alpha is produced by leukocytes, IFN-beta is produced by fibroblasts, and IFN-gamma is produced by lymphocytes
- IFN-alpha (2a, 2b) are prepared by DNA recombinant biotechnology

MOA: Stimulation of intracellular enzymes in virally infected cells leads to inhibition of translation of viral mRNA by ribosomes; also inhibit formation of viral mRNA

Stimulate cellular immune defences against virus, and also against some cancers: IFN-a (2b, or 2a) is used SC or IM against: hepatitis B or C virus infections, Kaposi's sarcoma, severe herpes zoster, and intra-lesional injection into viral genital warts.

IFN-a (2b): used in some cancers e.g. chronic myeloid leukemia, hairy cell leukemia, malignant melanoma, & metastatic renal cell cancer.

SE: Flue-like illness: this occurs within few hours of administration; it is a common reaction

- CNS: causing fatigue and depression. Severe anorexia occurs, leading to weight loss
- CVS: hypotension and cardiac arrhythmias may occur
- Bone marrow depression may occur leading to neutropenia or thrombocytopenia.

Antiviral drugs for hepatic viral infections

Interferons IFNs