

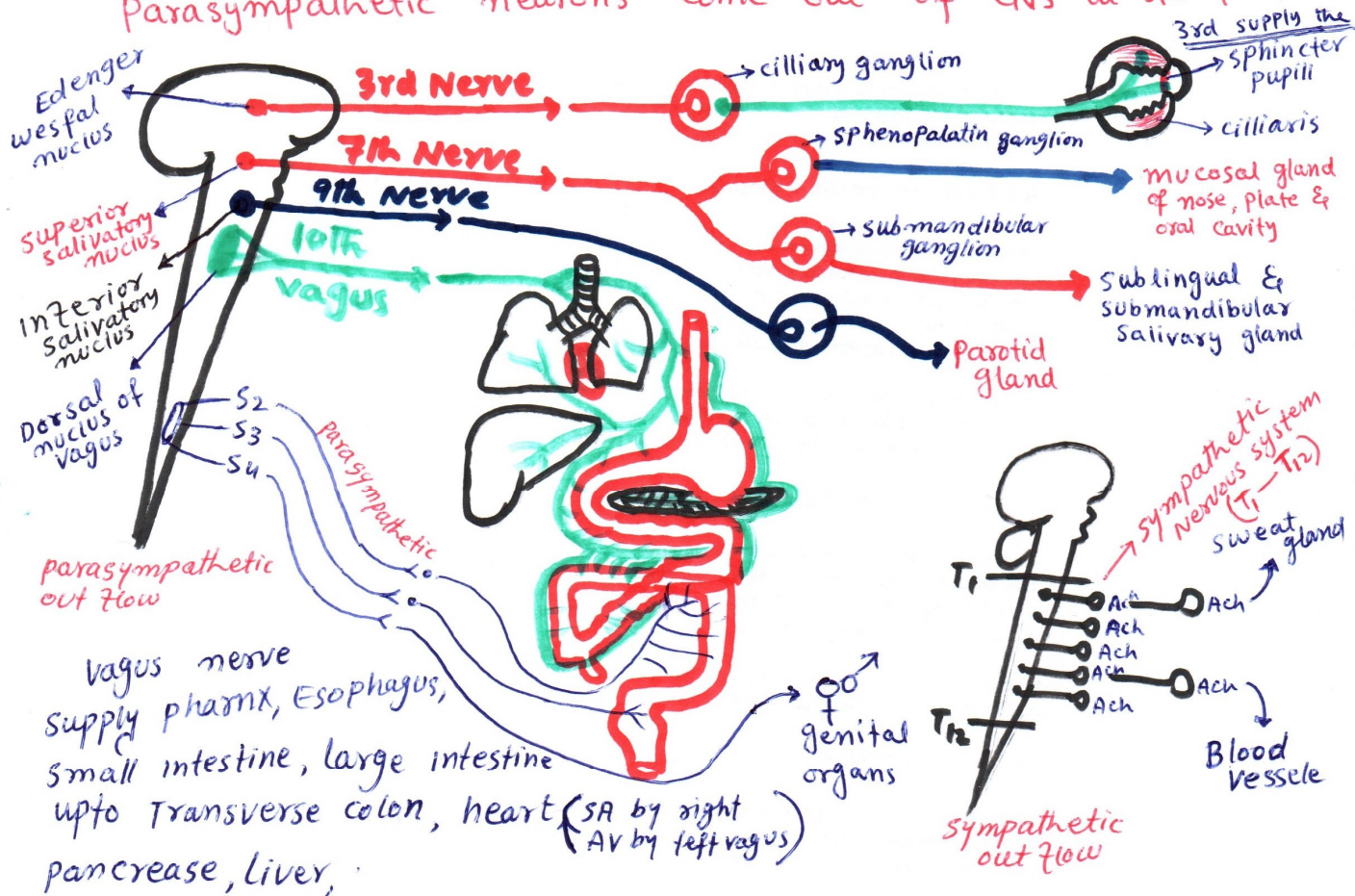
# Cholinergic system

By: zakirullah yousufzai

All neurons which release Acetylcholine as a neurotransmitter are called cholinergic neurons.

Cholinergic system is related with sympathetic & parasympathetic neurons outflow

Parasympathetic neurons come out of CNS at specific points-



cholinergic preganglionic + postganglionic neuron both secrete Acetylcholine

All Preganglionic sympathetic neurons are cholinergic, while post ganglionic are adrenergic but some exception:

- Post ganglionic sympathetic which innervate Blood vessels → which release Ach
- Post ganglionic sympathetic which supply sweat glands. also release Acetylcholine

①

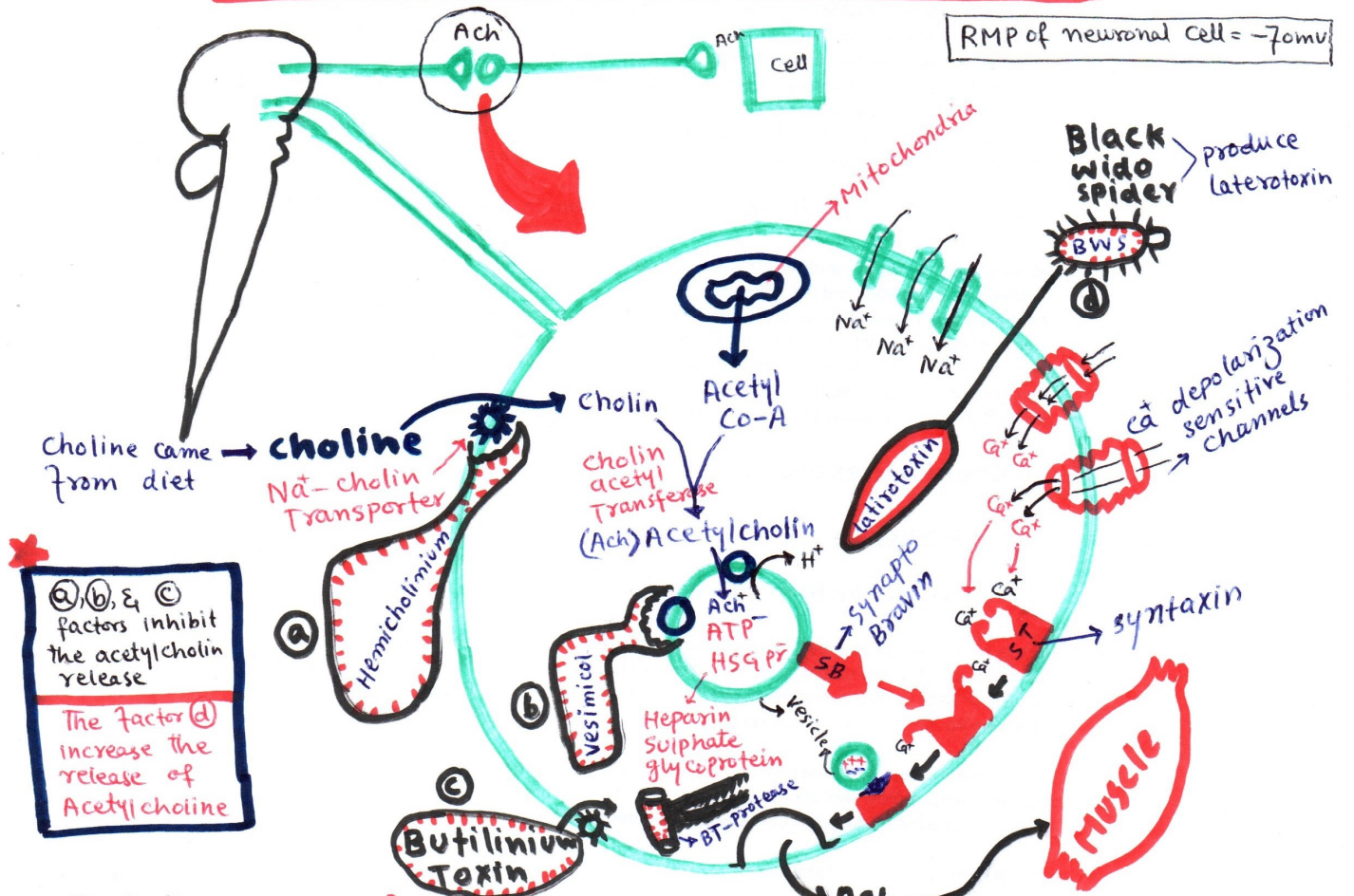
All the neurotransmitter which are peptide (larger molecular weight) are synthesized in cell body.

All the neurotransmitters which are small molecular weight are synthesized in nerve ending.

nerve ending are specialized structure which can synthesize, store, & release small amount neurotransmitter.

e.g Acetyl cholin, Nor Epinephrin, Epinephrin, histamin, serotonin.

## How Acetyl cholin are synthesized



- Choline come from diet, & enter to neuronal end by  $\text{Na}^+$ -cholin Transporter, choline are abundant extracellularly.
- Acetyl coA released from mitochondria
- cholin & Acetyl co-A are combined by Choline-acetyl Transferase & make Acetyl cholin, which enter to vesicle by ACh- $\text{H}^+$  Antiport, within the vesicle HSG Pr are -ve & ACh are +ve so attract oneanother, ATP within the vesicle are also -ve charged so attract more ACh.
- during Action potential when  $\text{Na}^+$  come into cell, the cell become depolarized than  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  depolarize sensitive channel opens & alot of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  come & bind with syntaxin, due to which the mouth of syntaxin opens & bind with SB than the vesicle touch with membrane & release Acetylcholine. (2)

## Factors which interfere with Acetylcholine Release

- (a) Hemicholinium acts on cholinergic nerves at Na<sup>+</sup>-choline Transporter, & block the transporter, so no choline enter inside
- (b) Vesimicol inhibit Acetylcholine-proton (ACh-H<sup>+</sup>) Antiport, so thus Acetylcholine can't enter to vesicle, for storage.
- (c) Butilinium Toxin will cause paralysis of muscle by decreasing the release of acetylcholine at cholinergic nerve ending

cholinergic nerve ending which are at neuromuscular junction have special transporters which transport Butilinium Toxin inward.

Butilinium Toxin have an enzyme (Butilinium protease) which can break down the synaptobrevin & syntaxin proteins, so than vesicle can't fuse with membrane so, Acetylcholine is there but not released, at neuromuscular junction, so no muscle contraction occur, leading to paralysis of muscles.

- (d) Black widow spider produce a toxin called **Latexotoxin**

laterotoxin increase interaction B/w synaptobrevin & syntaxin & with also other proteins, so when these proteins ~~act strongly~~ interact strongly large amount of ~~protein~~ acetylcholine is released, so acetylcholine crisis occur; There will be lacrimation, salivation, Bradycardia abdominal cramps, defecation & Micturation ----- etc

### **choline Can't cross BBB, How it reaches to CNS?**

In peripheral part of the body choline join a protein called phosphatidyl choline, than this phosphatidyl choline enter into CNS, & break down into choline

cholinergic nerve ending are very active metabolically

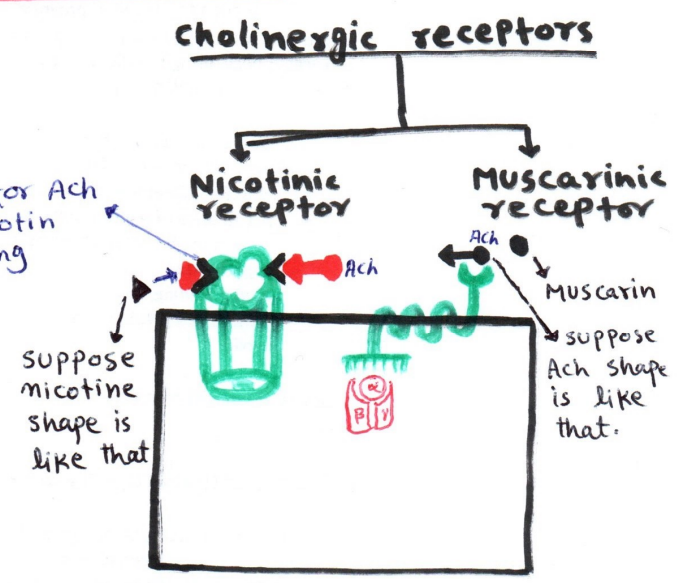
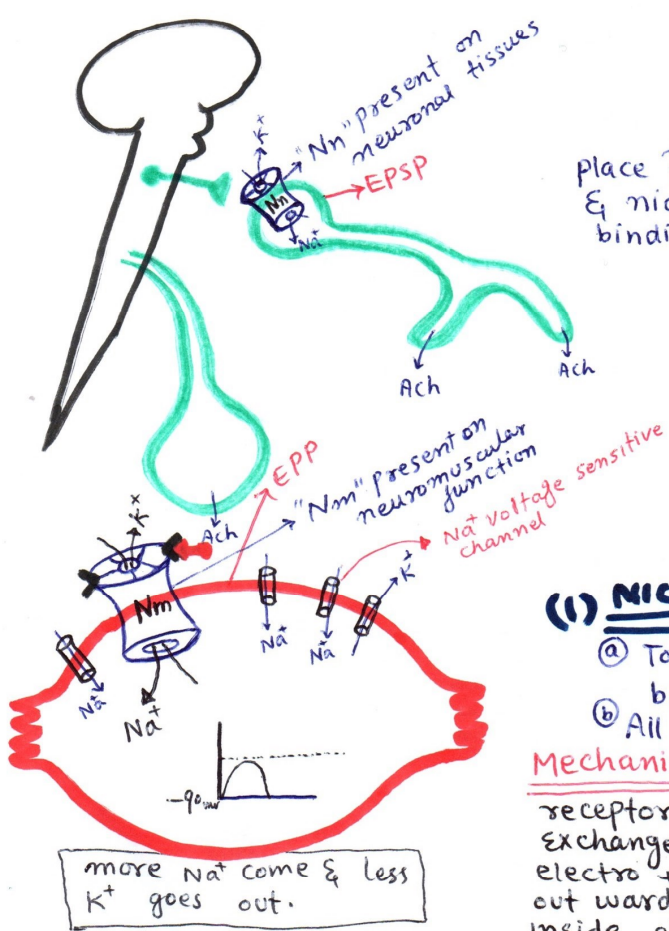
\* Acetylcholine are released in small amount all the time at neuromuscular junction  
 \* large amount release when action potential occur  
 ⇒ action potential is a wave of depolarization followed by wave of repolarization.

**Example**  
 Small amount release is like warmup & large amount release is like full exercise

**Conduction**  
 movement of impulse along the muscle or nerve endings

**Transmission**  
 when information pass from one nerve ending to another membrane.  
 ie impulses moving from presynaptic membrane to post synaptic membrane

**How Acetyl choline works**



**(1) Nicotinic cholinergic receptor**

- a) To this receptor Nicotin & Acetylcholine both can bind
- b) All nicotinic channels are Ion channel

**Mechanism of action:** Nicotine/Ach bind with receptor, the receptor opens & Monocatic exchange take place, Na<sup>+</sup> move inward against electro +ve concentration gradient & K<sup>+</sup> move out ward against concentration gradient, so inside electro negativity less & cell go to +ve side. ie: Excitation of cell take place.

**(2) Muscarinic chol-R:**

these are G-protein coupled 7-pass receptors, Stimulated by Ach & Muscarine.

# Mechanism of action at neuromuscular junction

- $\text{Na}^+$  move in through Ion channel (Nicotinic receptors), if small amount  $\text{Na}^+$  move in, it will not rise potential more from RMP (Resting membrane potential), But if large amount of Ach act on receptor, large amount of  $\text{Na}^+$  move in rise potential from RMP.

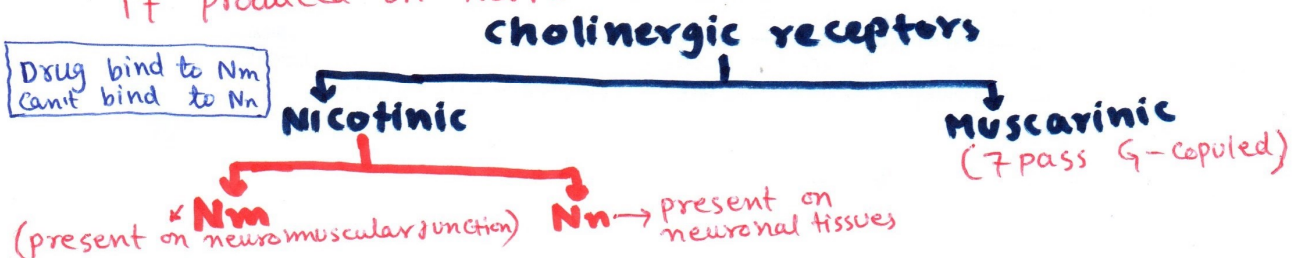
**Threshold:** Voltage at which ~~the~~ voltage gated  $\text{Na}^+$  channels opens.

They will carry voltage from RMP to EPP (End plate potential) if EPP is greater enough to reach to threshold, than large number of  $\text{Na}^+$  channel opens &  $\text{Na}^+$  move in, so potential rise upto action potential & action potential take place, cell become depolarized, such cell open  $\text{K}^+$  channel and  $\text{K}^+$  rush out, again inside electronegativity rise & cell become repolarized on this way wave of depolarization move on muscle membrane.

this receptor on muscle membrane is called Nm (Nicotinic receptor on muscle end plate)

- Another way of nicotinic receptor action on post synaptic neuronal membrane.  
presynaptic  $\rightarrow$  Ach  $\rightarrow$  Nicotinic receptor on postsynaptic membrane  $\rightarrow$   $\text{Na}^+$  move in post synaptic membrane & rise potential from RMP to EPSP (Excitatory post synaptic potential)

EPP & EPSP are same, if produced on neuromuscular junction is called EPP, if produced on nerve membrane is called EPSP.



## Stimulation of Nm

- Ach
- Nicotine
- succinyl choline

If Ach bind to this receptor, it will allow this receptor to allow little  $\text{Na}^+$  to move in after that receptor will be automatically blocked.

If we want this receptor to stimulate again Ach should be removed & then bind again, but the old Ach is destroyed by Acetylcholine Esterase, which is present abundantly on post synaptic membrane.

Acetylcholine  $\xrightarrow{\text{Acetyl cholin esterase}}$  Acetyl Co-A + Choline

Initially these receptors are stimulated & then desensitized.

succinyl choline is used as paralyzing agent, it is actually used to stimulate the receptor but, its over stimulation cause inhibition of further stimulation, so no further contraction occur.

There is no enzyme at receptor to destroy succinyl cholin, so it cause over stimulation & eventually desensitization of receptor.

### Tubocurarin:

tubocurarin block Nm, this drug bind & block Acetylcholin receptor on neuromuscular cholinergic receptor

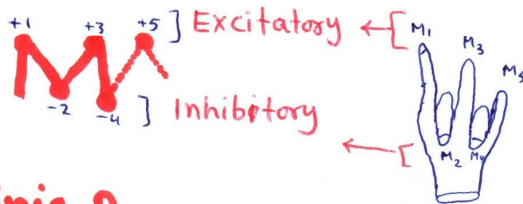
## Drugs which block Nn

- ① Mecamylomine
- ② Trimethopan
- ③ Bungarotoxin

Cholinergic pathway in CNS are concerned with learning & memory.

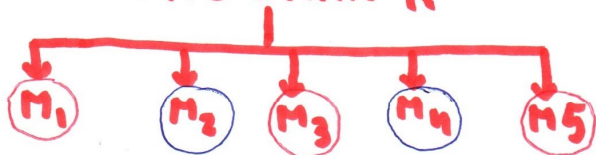
# MUSCARINIC RECEPTORS

MUSCARINIC receptors are present on those tissues which are innervated by parasympathetic post ganglionic neurons.



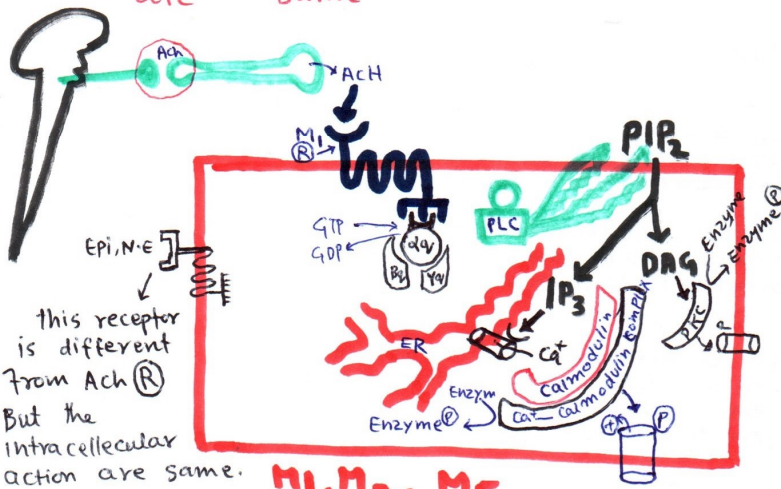
All MUSCARINIC receptors are G protein coupled. Some are excitatory & some are inhibitory.

## MUSCARINIC R



M <sub>1</sub>	Excitatory
M <sub>3</sub>	
M <sub>5</sub>	
M <sub>2</sub>	Inhibitory
M <sub>4</sub>	

① Mechanism of action of M<sub>1</sub>, M<sub>3</sub> & M<sub>5</sub> are same



- \* Epinephrine & N. Epinephrine also bind with Gq protein
- \* Angiotensin II is also coupled with Gq proteins
- GIT also has M<sub>3</sub> receptors

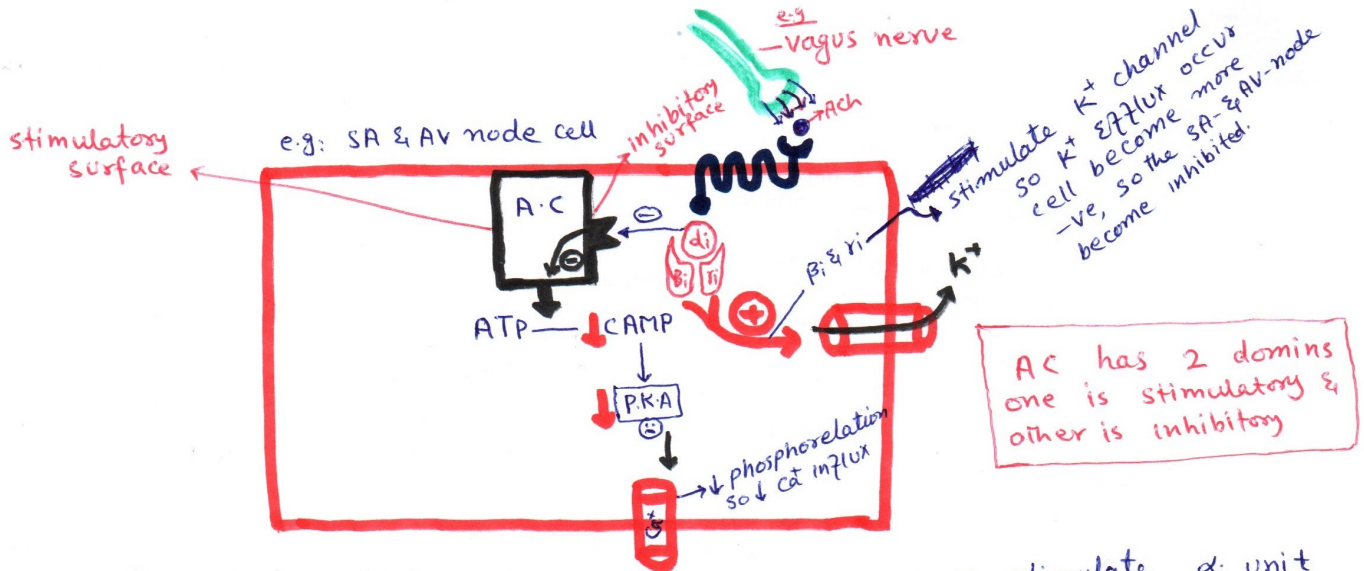
## M1, M3, M5

when the ACh bind with G coupled protein receptor, the  $\alpha_q$  unit are phosphorylated, & become highly energized, & stimulate the Phospholipase-c (PLC), The PLC breakdown PIP<sub>2</sub> (present on membrane) into IP<sub>3</sub> & DAG.

- \* The IP<sub>3</sub> stimulate Ca<sup>2+</sup> channel of Endoplasmic Reticulum & alot of Ca<sup>2+</sup> release from ER: the Ca<sup>2+</sup> bind with Calmoduline & Ca<sup>2+</sup>-calmoduline complex are formed, the complex & phosphorylate some enzymes & also phosphorylate channels present on membrane so alot of cations come in.
- \* The DAG activate Proteine kinase-c (PKC), which phosphorylate some enzymes & also open channels present on membrane so alot of cations come &: so as cell start its activity



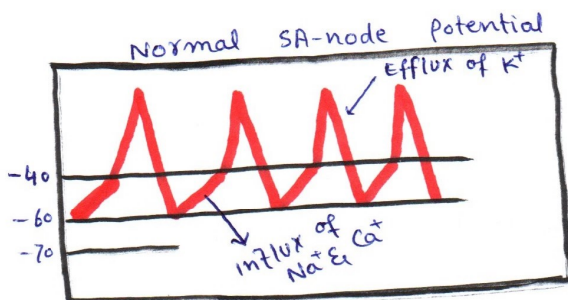
② Mechanism of action of  $M_2$  &  $M_4$  are same. vagus cause bradycardia. (inhibition)



\* when ACh bind to its receptor ( $M_2$  &  $M_4$ ) it stimulate  $G_i$  unit which inhibit Adenyl cyclase, so conversion of ATP into cAMP decrease; so decrease protein Kinase-A, as result  $Ca^{2+}$ -channel phosphorelation decreases,  $Ca^{2+}$  influx to cell become decrease  $\rightarrow$   $\downarrow$  cell activity.

\* The  $\beta_1$  &  $\gamma_1$  units opens  $K^+$ -channels, alot of  $K^+$ -efflux occur, cell become more negative, & thus inhibited.

Due to no cation influx, &  $\uparrow$  efflux of catione cell become more electronegative, & inhibited.



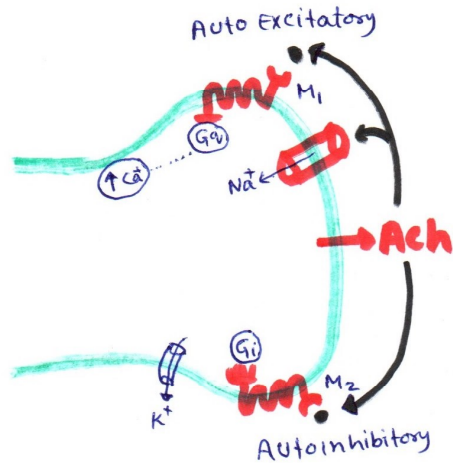
Action potential produced by normal SA-node.



if  $M_2$  receptors come into action, cell become more hyperpolarized b/c:  
 ① No cationes ( $Na^+$ ,  $Ca^{2+}$ ) come in &  
 ②  $\uparrow K^+$  efflux,  
 So on this way the Action potential will take more time, so  $\downarrow$  SA-node action; on this way bradycardia occur.

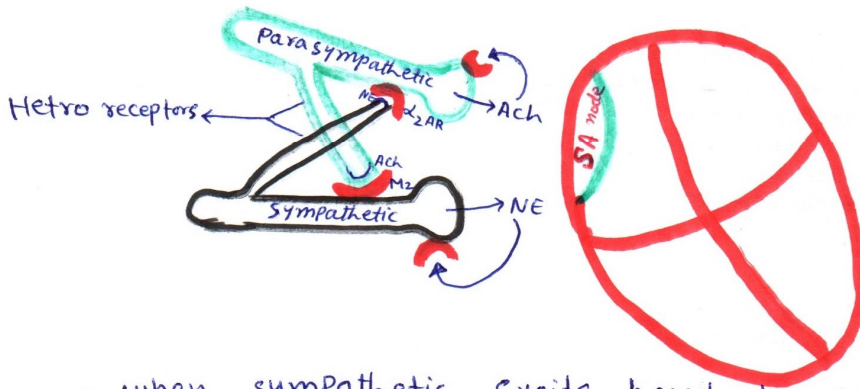


# Autoregulation of Acetylcholin



\* If the presynaptic membrane have  $M_2$  receptors, when it is stimulated by ACh, so the cell become inhibited

\* The excitatory receptor on presynaptic membrane may be:  
 \* Nicotinic receptor OR  
 \*  $M_1$  Receptor  
 when these are stimulated by ACh, cations in cell  $\uparrow$ , cell are stimulated.



\* Sympathetic  $\uparrow$  SA node activity  
 \* Parasympathetic  $\downarrow$  SA node activity

\* when sympathetic excite heart by excitation of same time it cause inhibition of parasympathetic nervous system.

\* when parasympathetic inhibit heart, it also inhibit adrenergic system.

Both sympathetic & parasympathetic have auto receptors also stimulated by the same neurotransmitter.

e.g. PSNS  $\Rightarrow$  ACh  
 SNS  $\Rightarrow$  E-pinephrine

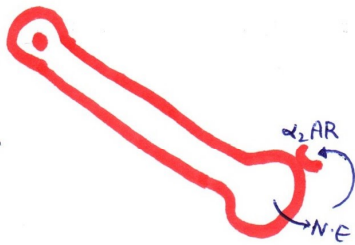
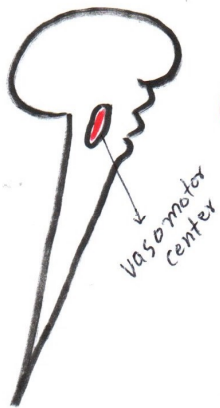
Adrenergic receptor on PSNS is called Heteroreceptor.

cholinergic receptor on SNS is called Heteroreceptor also.

\* Post junctional membrane are influenced by neurotransmitter.

\* Pre junctional membrane are also influenced by " " by having Autoreceptor & Heteroreceptors.

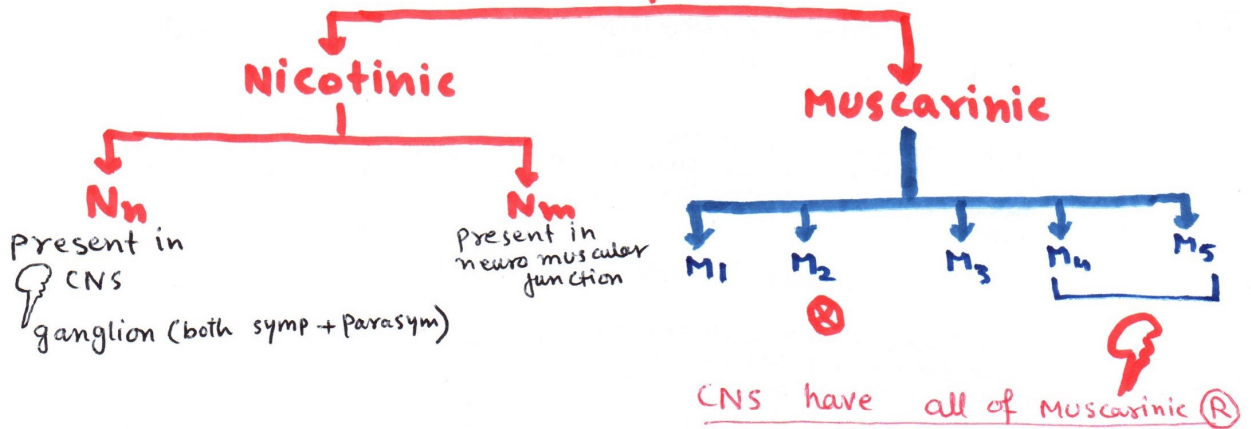
Clonidine  $\Rightarrow$  stimulate  $\alpha_2$  AR, Coupled with  $G_i$  so cell become inhibited.



\* Drugs which stimulate  $\alpha_2$  will inhibit further release of neurotransmitters

\* Drugs which inhibit  $\alpha_2$  will increase further release of neurotransmitters.

## Tissue distribution of cholinergic receptors



PNS concerned with Rest, digest & elimination

- $M_1 \rightarrow$  CNS, ganglion
- $M_2 \rightarrow$  CNS, heart tissues
- $M_3 \rightarrow$  CNS, smooth muscles, glands, Endothelial cells
- $M_4 \rightarrow$  ] only present in
- $M_5 \rightarrow$  ] CNS

Those tissues on which parasympathetic post ganglionic fibers ends: ~~ca~~ & release Ach those tissue have Muscarinic receptor.

Muscarinic receptor are present on:

- ① CNS
- ② effector tissue
- ③ Muscarinic receptor are also present on tissues where postganglionic cholinergic sympathetic fibers ends (ie: sweat gland)
- ④ There are some tissue where there is no direct cholinergic supply but they have Muscarinic receptor:  
e.g = Endothelium of Blood vessele has  $M_3$

In blood vessels there is no significant Acetylcholine act b/c Ach are destroyed by choline esterase rapidly.

## Cholinesterase

### Butylcholinesterase

- \* Present in plasma
- \* also called pseudocholinesterase
- \* These are also called non-specific cholinesterase

### Acetylcholin esterase

- \* present in tissues
- \* also called True cholinesterase
- \* These are also called specific choline esterase

Drugs which are cholinergic agonist (Muscarinic R) are also called Parasympathomimetic drugs



- \* Parasympathetic activated during rest
- \* sympathetic activated during stress

### NOTE

- \* All parasympathetic neuroeffector sites have Muscarinic receptor.
- \* sympathetic work diffusely
- \* parasympathetic work localized & discrete.
- ↳ If this was diffuse at the same time lacrimation, salivation, sweating, urination, defecation...etc occurs.

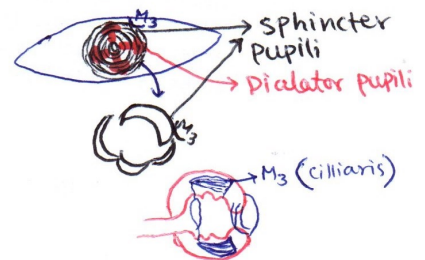
Rest diges & Elimination

### Function of Para sympathetic

## How Parasympathetic work

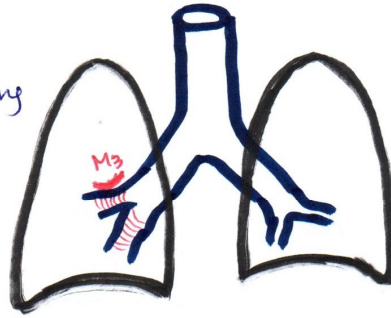
### ① EYE

- a) pupil constriction = sphincter pupili has M<sub>3</sub> receptor, so when stimulated, it will constricted
- b) cilliaris contract = cilliaris are contracted & make the lens globular so person accommodate for near vision
- c) ↑ lacrimation = M<sub>3</sub> → lacrimal gland



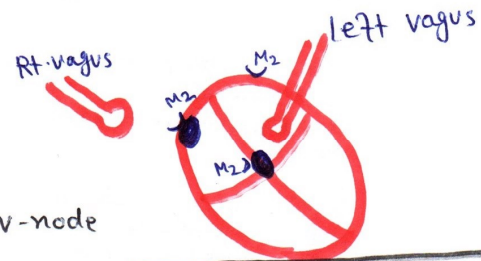
## (2) Respiratory system

- (a) slightly bronchoconstriction  $\rightarrow$  b/c during rest less  $O_2$  are needed.
- (b)  $\uparrow$  Mucociliary mechanism  
 $\downarrow$  ie  $\uparrow$  bronchial glands secretions  
 so cholinergic drugs should not be given in Asthma patients.



## (3) Cardiac

- (a)  $\downarrow$  HR (Bradycardia) due to inhibition of SA-node
- (b) AV-block  $\Rightarrow$  due to inhibition of AV-node
- (c) decrease contractility
  - $\ominus$  Chronotropic (by inhibition of SA-node)
  - $\ominus$  Dromotropic (by inhibition of AV-node)
  - $\ominus$  Inotropic (by inhibition of atria)



SA, AV-node & Atria has  $M_2$  receptors.  
 \* Ventricular Myocardium is not significantly supplied by parasympathetic nervous system.

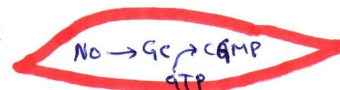
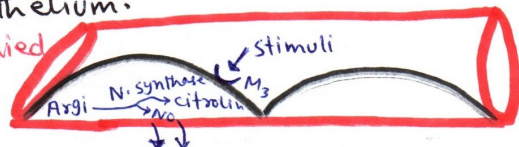
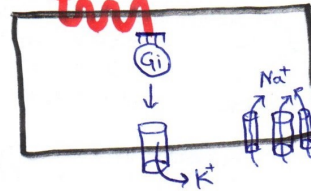
when  $M_2$  receptor on atria are stimulated Action potential of atria is increased, while refractive period of atria is decreased B/c  $M_2$  activation can lead to loss of  $K^+$  & cell become electronegative, when cell become too much electronegative, there is automatic opening voltage gated  $Na^+$  channels & it stimulate the cell

## (4) vascular system

There is no significant amount of Acetylcholine in the blood b/c it is destroyed. But even if neurotransmitter is released or enter into blood as a drug it acts on  $M_3$  receptor of endothelium.

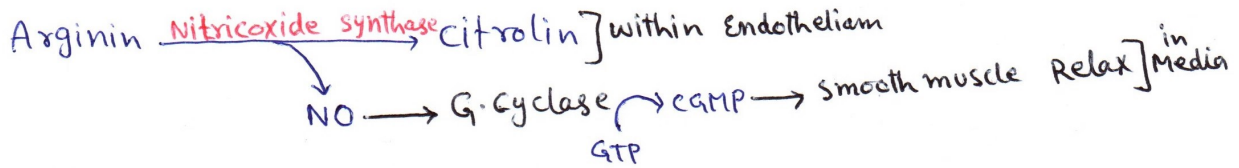
Most of vascular system is not supplied by cholinergic system

when stimuli come to  $M_3$  receptor of vesicle Endothelium, activate the Endothelium, in which Nitric oxide synthase enzyme are activated



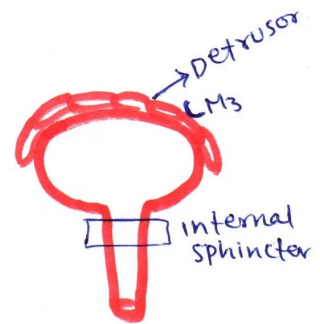
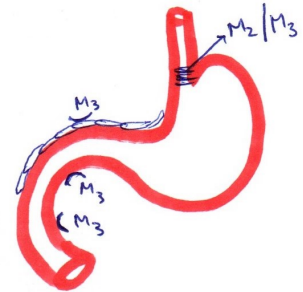
(12)

The nitric oxide synthase (N.S) convert Arginine to citrulline & release NO, the NO diffuse in media & stimulate Guanyl cyclase which convert GTP into cGMP, the cGMP cause relaxation of smooth muscle & BP goes down. previously NO were called Endothelial smooth muscle relaxant.



## (5) GIT

- a) salivary gland has M<sub>3</sub> ( $\uparrow$  secretion)
- b) Gastric secretion (M<sub>3</sub>) ( $\uparrow$  secretions)
- c) duodenum, jejunum, illium, Pancrease, biliary system has M<sub>3</sub> ( $\uparrow$  secretions)
- d)  $\uparrow$  peristalsis
- e)  $\uparrow$ ed Tone
- f) sphincters has M<sub>2</sub> & M<sub>3</sub> while M<sub>3</sub> dominant
- g) large intestine (M<sub>3</sub>)  $\Rightarrow$  defecation



## (6) urogenital system

- a) detrusor contraction  $\Rightarrow$  Bladder contraction
- b) Internal sphincter is under powerful control of sympathetic nervous system but when M<sub>3</sub> receptor of detrusor are stimulated by Acetylcholin, it will also inhibit sympathetic receptor, so sphincter relax & urination occur

All Parasympathetic nervous system activity are not stimulated it once.

- c) Penile erection  $\Rightarrow$  Ach  $\rightarrow$  M<sub>3</sub>  $\rightarrow$  NO  $\rightarrow$  Relax smooth muscle
- d)  $\uparrow$ ed vaginal secretion / lubrication

(7) sweat gland has M<sub>3</sub> receptor

what happend to body when there is cholinergic overflow  
 close the pupil, inhibit the heart  
 &  
 secrete & eliminate

End of cholinergic system  
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(13)