



# Cell Wall Inhibitors

## Lec.14 sheet

Pharmacology and Toxicology

General Pharmacology

Second Year Medical Students

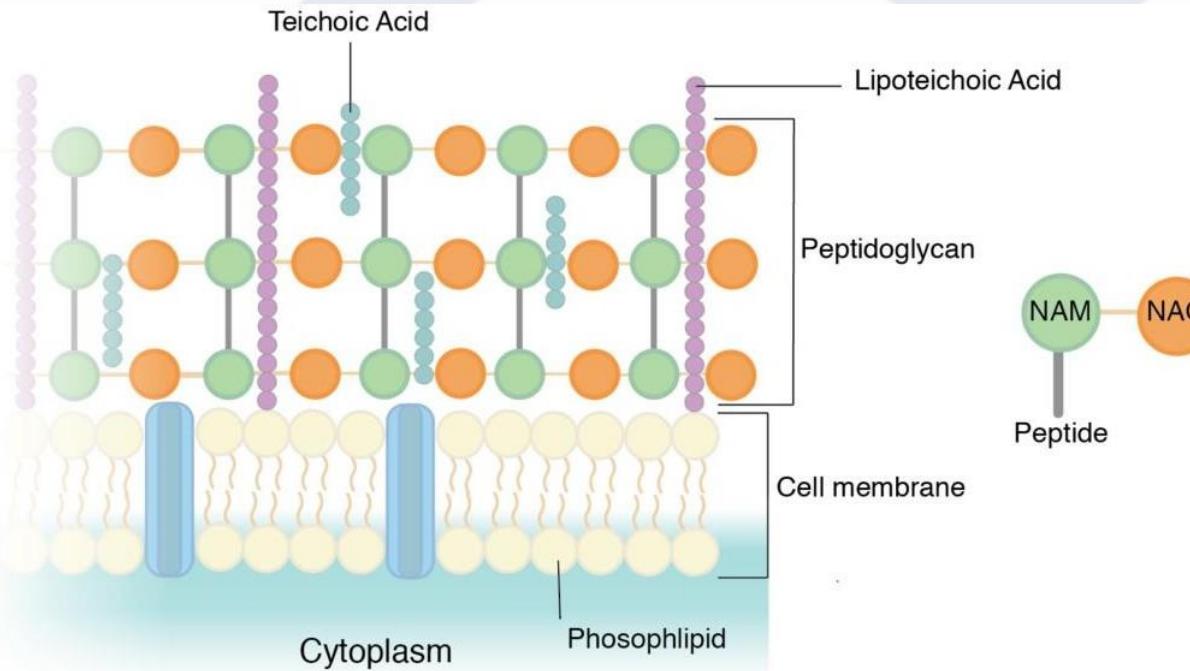
Tareq Saleh, MD, PhD

Faculty of Medicine

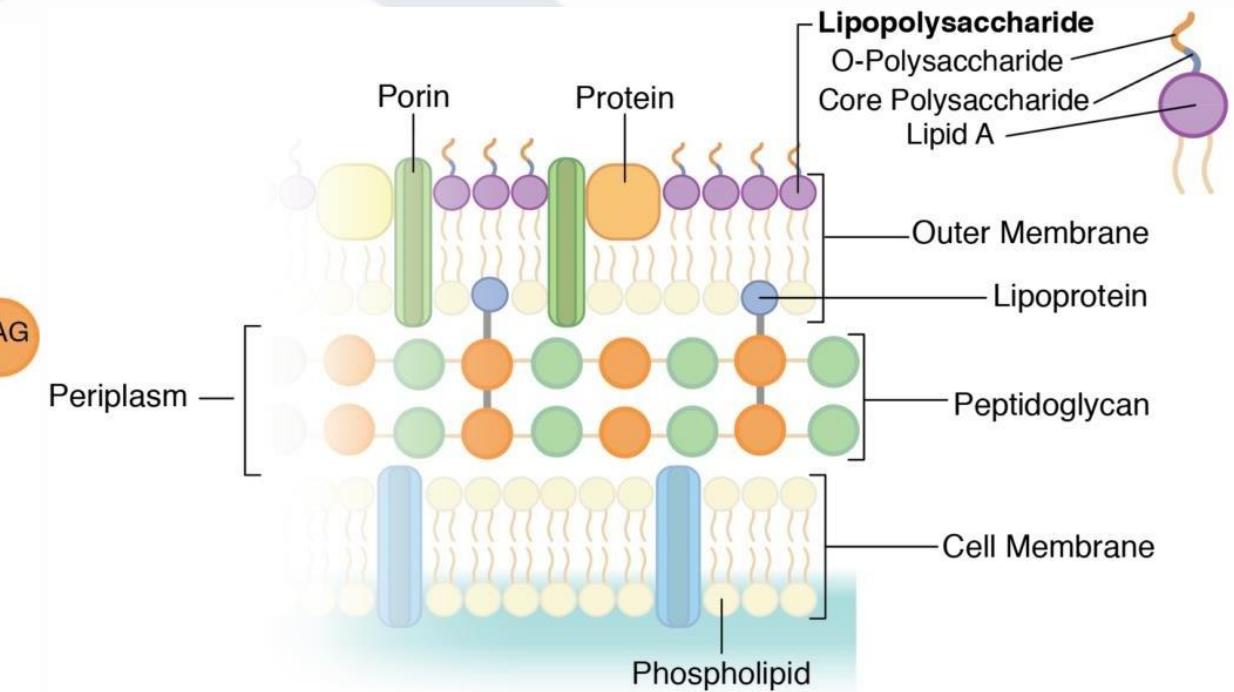
The Hashemite University

**Textbook:** Chapter 29 pp 369- 383

# Overview: Bacterial Cell Wall



Gram Positive Bacteria Cell Wall



Gram Negative Bacteria Cell Wall

# Overview: Synthesis of Bacterial Cell Wall

## 1. Cytoplasmic Stage:

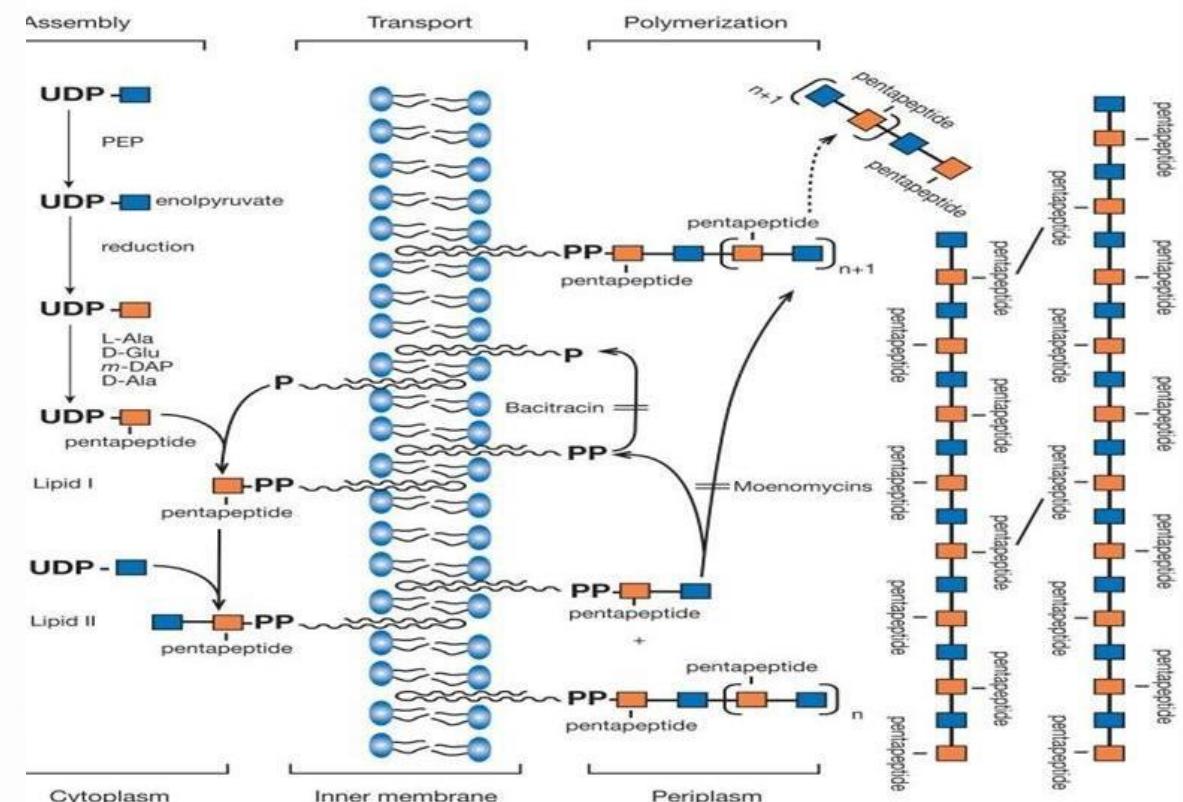
- Synthesis of glycan precursors:  
UDP-MurNAc-pentapeptide,  
UDP-GlcNAc

## 2. Cytoplasmic membrane Stage:

- Transfer to membrane receptors

## 3. Extracellular membrane stage:

- Transpeptidation via PBP





# Penicillins

# Penicillins

## PENICILLINS

*Amoxicillin* AMOXIL

*Ampicillin* PRINCIPEN

*Dicloxacillin* DYNAPEN

*Nafcillin*

*Oxacillin*

*Penicillin G* PFIZERPEN

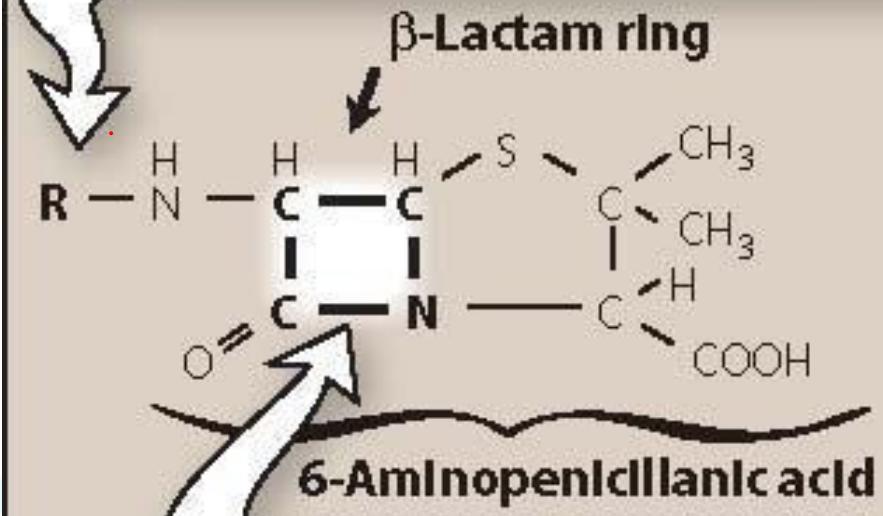
*Penicillin V*

*Piperacillin*

*Ticarcillin*

All these penicillins have similar mechanism of action and chemical structure

Nature of the R group determines the drug's stability to enzymatic or acidic hydrolysis and affects its antibacterial spectrum. **+cross-resistance**

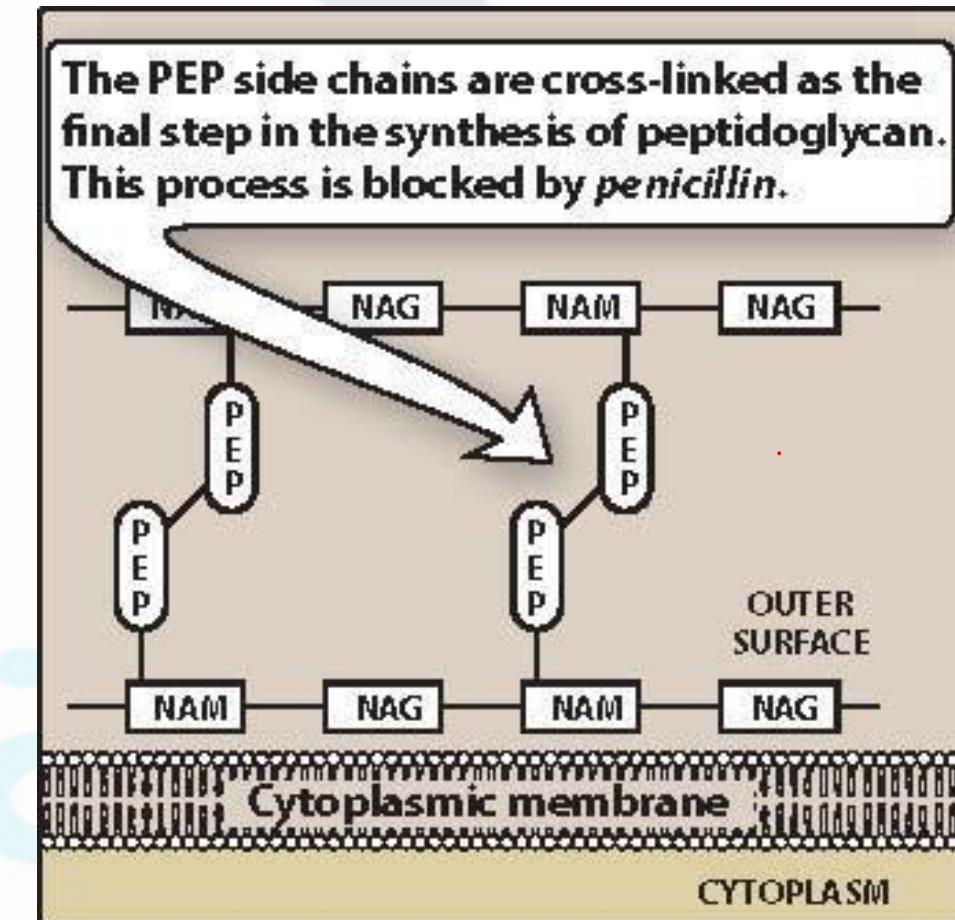


Site of hydrolysis by bacterial penicillinase or by acid.

# Quick Microbiology Reminder

## Penicillin-binding proteins:

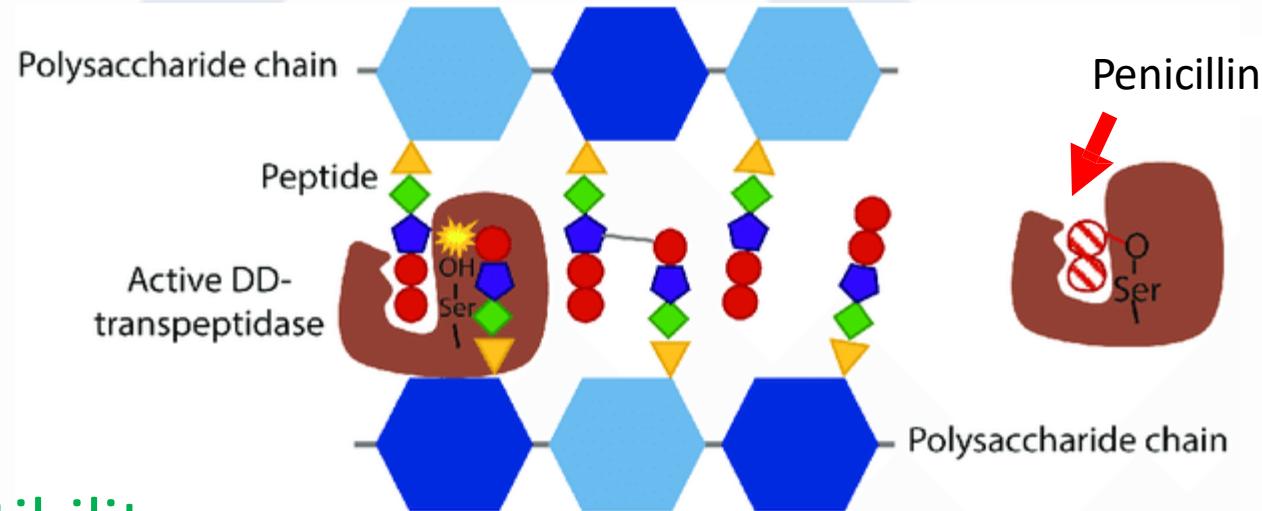
- Penicillins bind and inactivate bacterial cell membrane proteins called: penicillin-binding proteins (PBPs).
- Bacterial enzymes involved in cell wall synthesis
- Variable among different species
- Involved in resistance



# Penicillins

## Mechanism of action(**very important**)

- Inhibit transpeptidation or cross-linkage (*last step* of bacterial wall synthesis)
- Prevent cross-linking catalyzed by the PBP transpeptidase
- Factors determining PBP susceptibility to these antibiotics include size, charge, and hydrophobicity



*What is the basis of selective toxicity?*



# Penicillins

**What are the *consequences of transpeptidation inhibition?***

- Bacterial cell lysis
- Bactericidal
- Time-dependent
- Effective against rapidly growing bacteria (because dividing bacteria is actively synthesizing and transpeptidating their cell wall whereas non-dividing bacteria have their cell wall already synthesized)

The antibacterial spectrum of the various penicillins is determined, in part, by their ability to cross the bacterial peptidoglycan cell wall to reach the PBPs in the periplasmic space

In general, gram-positive microorganisms have cell walls that are easily traversed by penicillins, and, therefore, in the absence of resistance, they are susceptible to these drugs.

Gram-negative microorganisms have an outer lipopolysaccharide membrane surrounding the cell wall that presents a barrier to the water-soluble penicillins.

However, gram-negative bacteria have proteins inserted in the lipopolysaccharide layer that act as water-filled channels (called porins) to permit transmembrane entry.





# Pencillins journey

1) Natural Pencillins  
(Pencillin V G)

→ used to be effective against lots of Gram (+)  
• now effective against limited species  
• very limited Gram (-) activity

2) extended-spectrum  
(Carapicillin, amoxicillin)

→ effective against Gram (+).

S. aureus Produce Penicillinase against them

• Good gram (+) activity, but some produce Penicillinase like Pseudomonas



3) Antistaphylococcal  
Penicillins  
(methicillin, nafcillin,  
oxacillin, dicloxacillin)

→ effective against  
**MSSA**, iPis  
Resistant to  
Penicillinase (beta-lactamase)  
\* Not effective  
against **MRA**

4) Anti Pseudomonal  
Penicillins  
(piperacillin, ticarcillin)

→ effective  
against  
Pseudomo  
and other  
gram G+/-



# Penicillins

## Antibacterial spectrum

### 1. Natural penicillins:

- Penicillin G, Penicillin V: *Penicillium chrysogenum*
- Drugs of choice for the treatment of **gas gangrene** (*Clostridium perfringens*) and **syphilis** (*Treponema pallidum*). A **single injection** is **enough**
- Penicillin V is the **oral acid stable** form of penicillin(**but still has limited GI absorption**). Penicillin G is not acid stable and so given as **IM injection**



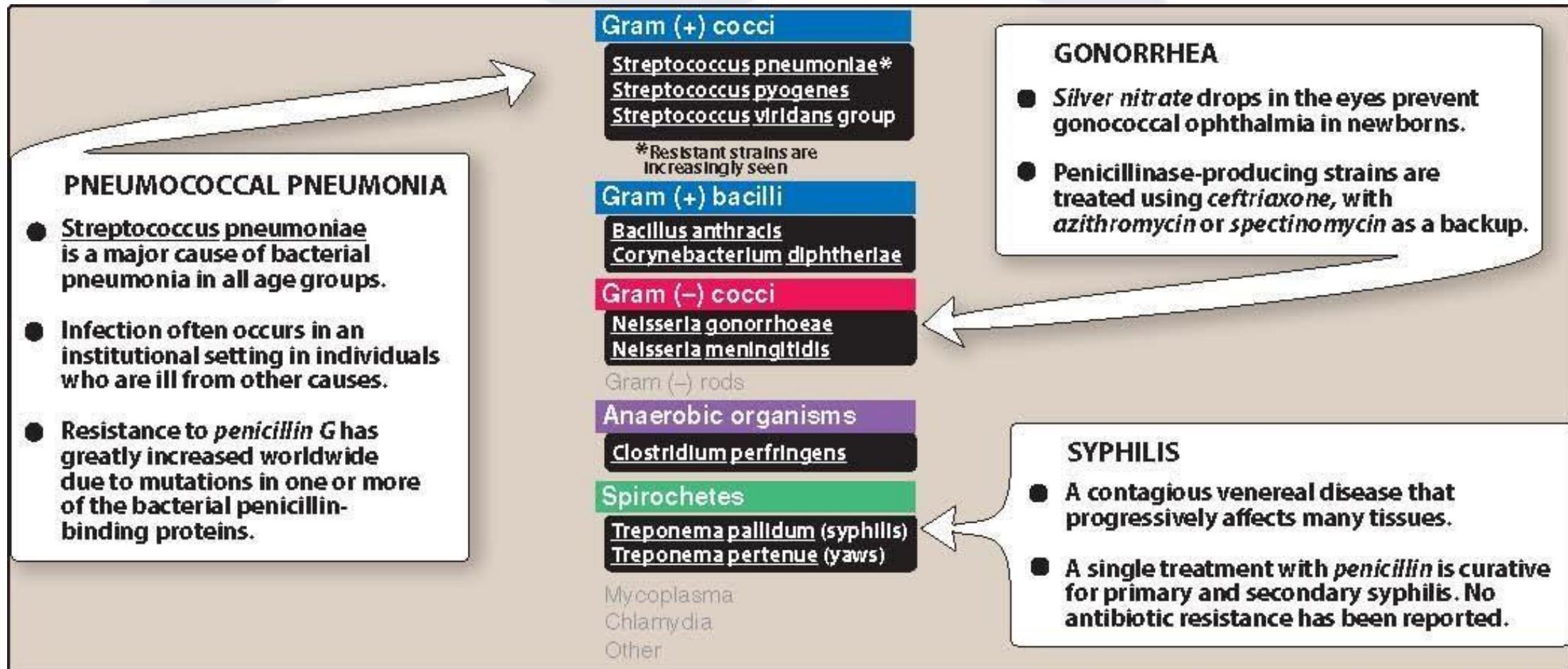


If a question tells you that strep pneumonia resistance is due to beta lactamase enzyme, **NO!!**

# Penicillins

## Antibacterial spectrum

The **potency** of **penicillin G** is five to ten times greater than that of **penicillin V** against both **Neisseria spp.** and certain **anaerobes**

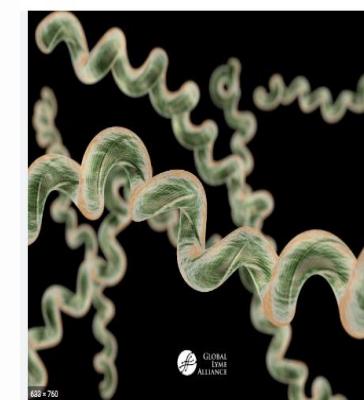




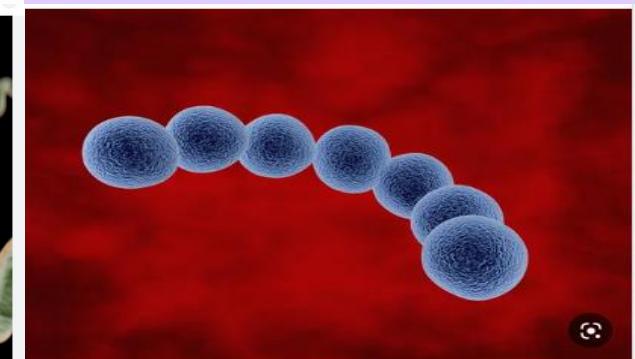
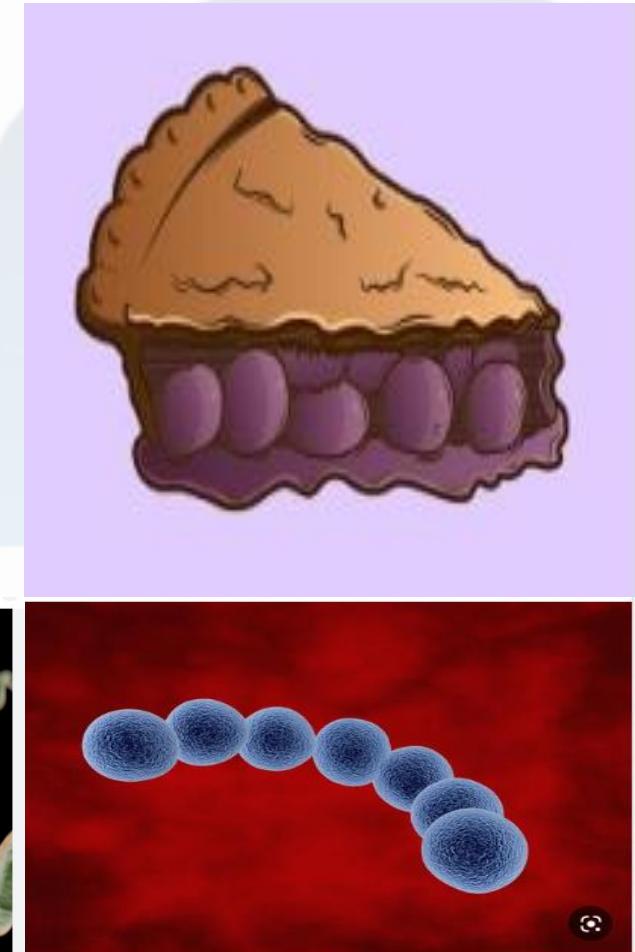


## Penicillin structure mnemonics

Two pennies(penicillin)



The two pennies will buy a sea food(syphilis) **pie** with a chain of purple berries(strep pyogenes), The rest is kept in the **fridge**(clostridium perfringens)





**If a question comes in the exam and says that a patient has pneumococcal(strep pneumoniae) pneumonia and penicillin was one of the choices, don't go for it! The majority of pneumococci are resistant.**



# Penicillins

## Antibacterial spectrum:

### 2. Extended-spectrum penicillins(also called aminopenicillins):

- **Semisynthetic:** ampicillin, amoxicillin
- Spectrum: extended to include gram- negative bacilli
  - Ampicillin(usually given by IV): **drug of choice** for gram-positive bacillus *L. monocytogenes*(causes *neonatal meningitis*), *enterococci*(a normal flora of gut → causes *infective endocarditis and septicemia*, *H.influenze* → resp infections
  - Amoxicillin(Usually given by mouth):
    1. **Upper respiratory infections**(like sinusitis الأنفية)
    2. **dental prophylaxis** against endocarditis

#### A. Antimicrobial spectrum of ampicillin

Gram (+) cocci

Enterococci

Gram (+) bacilli

*Listeria monocytogenes*

Gram (-) cocci

Gram (-) rods

*Escherichia coli*

*Haemophilus influenzae*

*Proteus mirabilis*

*Salmonella typhi*

Anaerobic organisms

Spirochetes

Mycoplasma

Chlamydia

Other



# Mnemonic



Listeria(list) affects the brain(meningitis) and is treated by ampicillin



# Penicillins

## Antibacterial spectrum:

### 2. Extended-spectrum penicillins:

- Combined with  $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitors

e.g., *MSSA* is resistant to ampicillin and amoxicillin IF given without a  $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitors

#### A. Antimicrobial spectrum of *ampicillin*

Gram (+) cocci

Enterococci

Gram (+) bacilli

*Listeria monocytogenes*

Gram (-) cocci

Gram (-) rods

*Escherichia coli*

*Haemophilus influenzae*

*Proteus mirabilis*

*Salmonella typhi*

Anaerobic organisms

Spirochetes

Mycoplasma

Chlamydia

Other



# Penicillins

## Antibacterial spectrum

### 3. Antistaphylococcal penicillins (penicillinase-resistant penicillins):

- Methicillin, nafcillin, oxacillin, dicloxacillin
- Effective against penicillinase-producing staphylococci (MSSA).
- Minimal activity against gram-negative
- Methicillin not used clinically (nephrotoxic)





# Penicillins

## Antibacterial spectrum:

### 4. Antipseudomonal penicillins:

- Piperacillin
- Effective against gram-negative bacilli
- Common combinations: **Piperacillin + tazobactam (penicillinase inhibitors)** → effective against most *Enterobacteriaceae* and *Bacteroides* species (but not against *Klebsiella*)

**They are not effective against gram positive**

### B. Antimicrobial spectrum of *ticarcillin* and *piperacillin*

Gram (+) cocci  
Gram (+) bacilli  
Gram (-) cocci

#### Gram (-) rods

***Enterobacter* species**  
***Escherichia coli***  
***Proteus mirabilis***  
***Proteus* (indole positive)**  
***Haemophilus influenzae***  
***Pseudomonas aeruginosa***

Gram (-) rods  
Anaerobic organisms  
Spirochetes  
Mycoplasma  
Chlamydia  
Other

# Antipseudomonas mnemonics

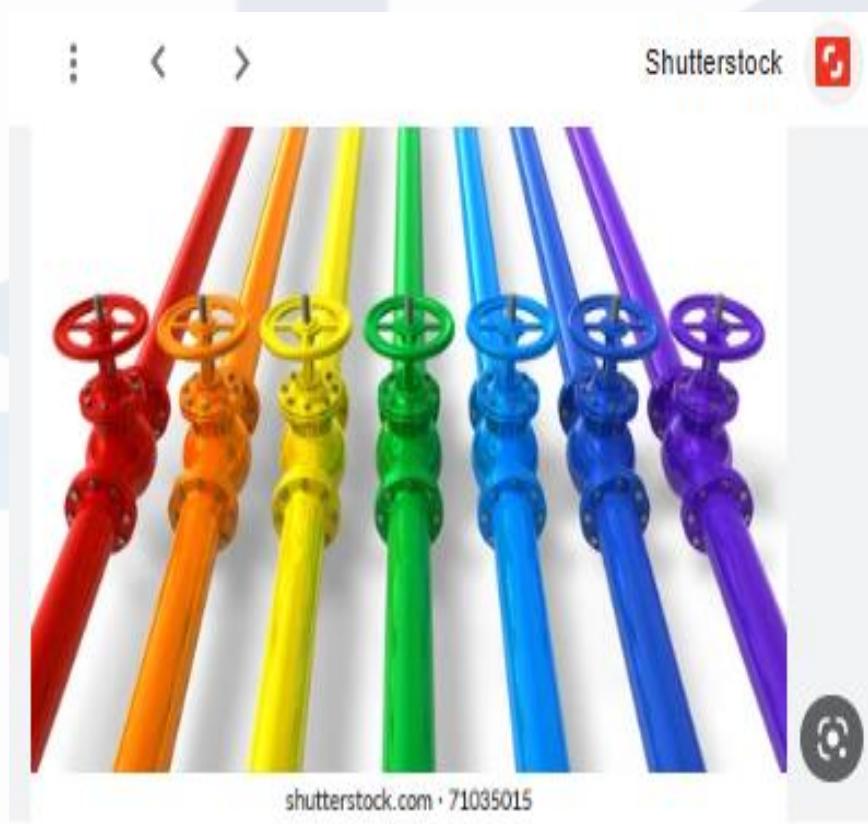
Production of colorful water-soluble pigments



Pyocyanin



Pyoverdin



**Colored pipes** →  
antipseudomonal piperacillin



**Colored cars** →  
antipseudomonal  
Ticarcillin



Tazobactam+piperacillin

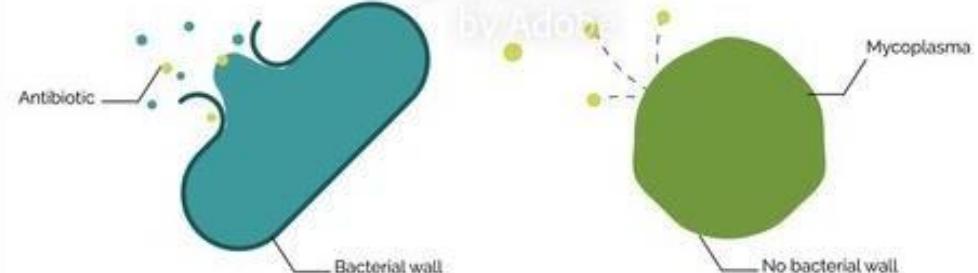
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# Penicillins

## Mechanisms of resistance

- **Intrinsic Resistance:**
  - Microorganisms that lack peptidoglycans cell walls e.g., *M. pneumoniae*
  - Microorganisms that have impermeable cell walls

Mycoplasma and penicillin example



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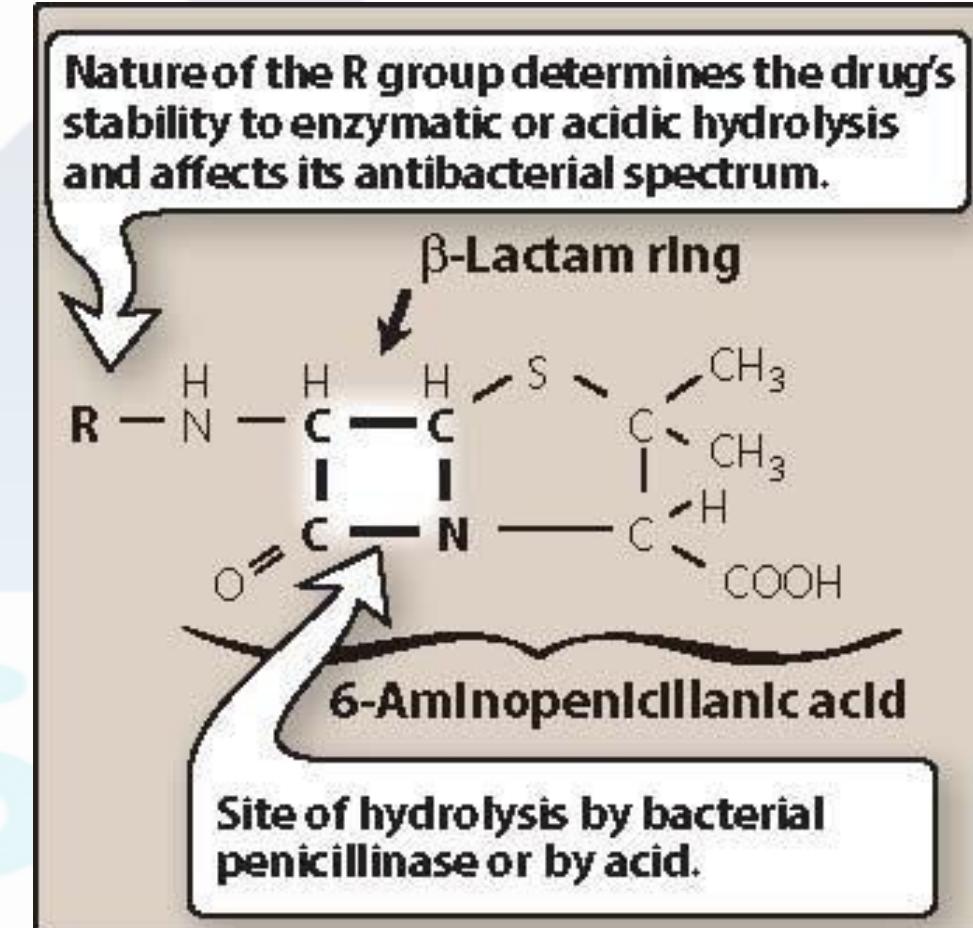
# Penicillins

## Mechanisms of resistance

- **Acquired Resistance:**

1.  **$\beta$ -Lactamase activity:**

- Enzymes that hydrolyze the cyclic amide bond of the  $\beta$ -lactam ring
- Mostly acquired (plasmids)
- **Gram-positive:** secrete  $\beta$ -lactamases extracellularly
- **Gram-negative:** periplasmic  $\beta$ -lactamases

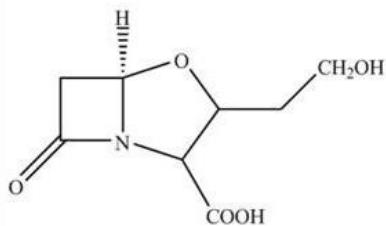




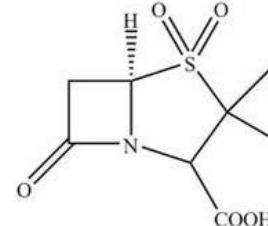
Production of  $\beta$ -Lactamases is the main resistance mechanism against  $\beta$ -Lactams.

How is this problem solved?

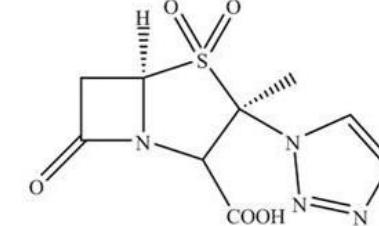
# $\beta$ -Lactamase Inhibitors



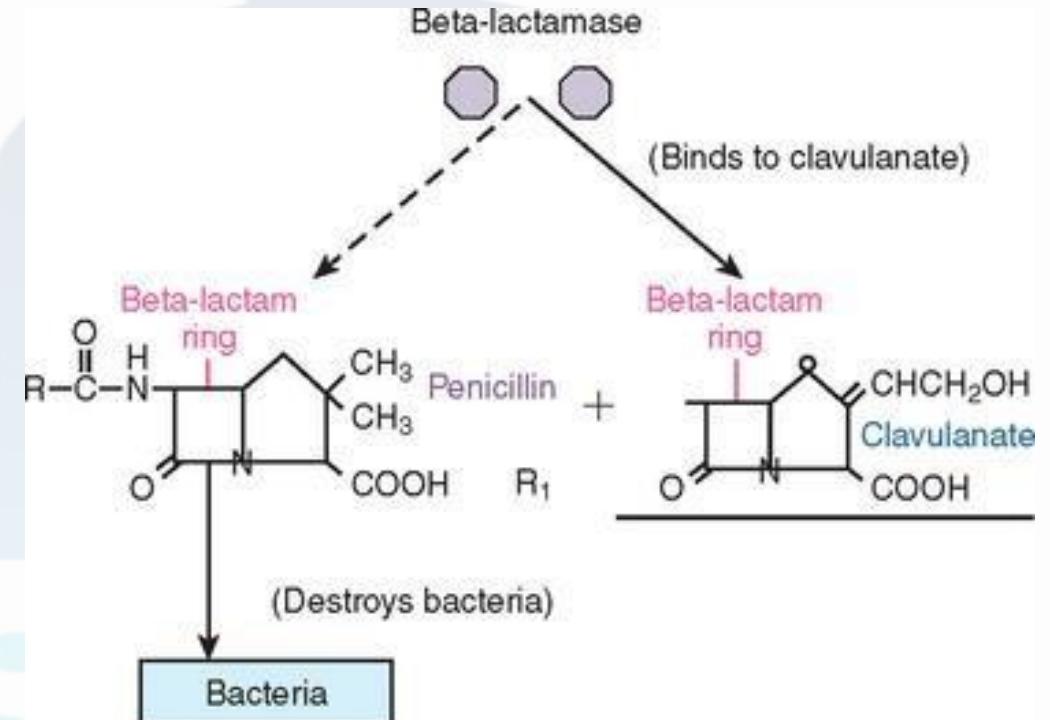
Clavulanic acid



Sulbactam

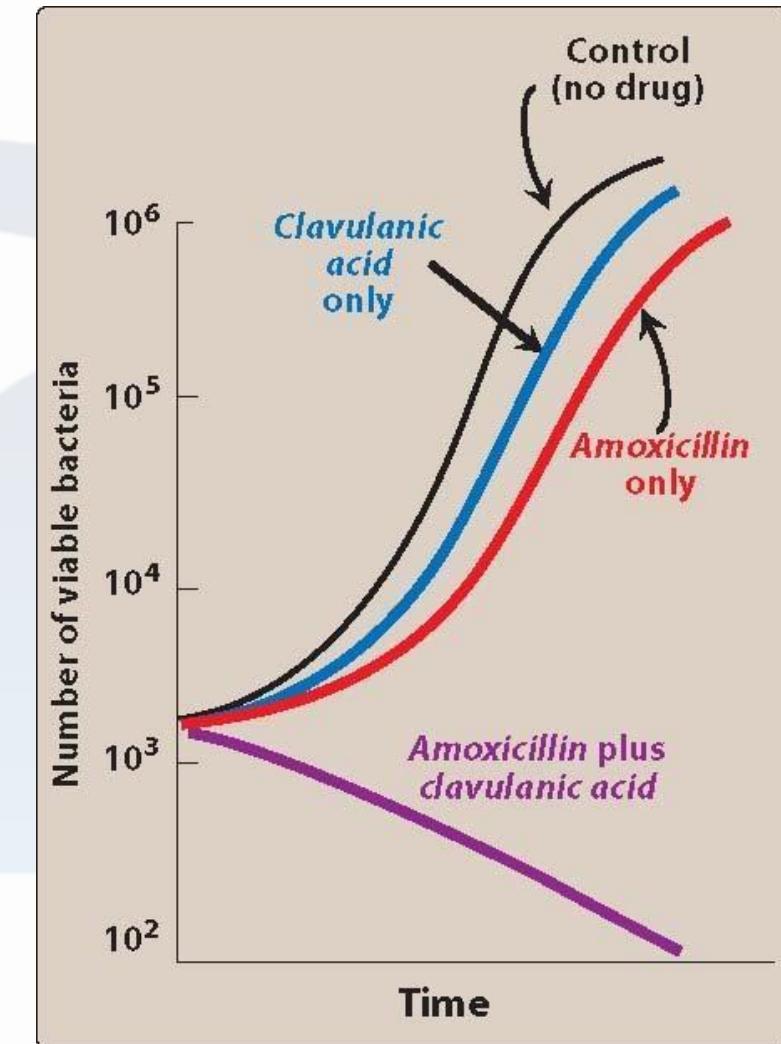


Tazobactam



# $\beta$ -Lactamase Inhibitors

- Contain  $\beta$ -Lactam rings
- BY THEMSELVES, no antibacterial activity
- Protect antibiotics that are normally substrates for  $\beta$ -Lactamases
- Example.....?



The in vitro growth of *Escherichia coli* in the presence of amoxicillin, with and without clavulanic acid.



# Penicillins

## Mechanisms of resistance

- Acquired Resistance:

### 2. Decreased permeability to the drug(usually be gram(-ve)):

- Reduced permeability e.g., *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- عندها سد *Pseudomonas*
- Efflux pump e.g., *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (*that's why antipseudomonal drugs can't target klebsiella!*)
- بتسيل الدوا برا ال *Klebsiella*

### 3. Altered PBPs:

- Modified PBPs with **lower affinity** for  $\beta$ -lactams e.g., *MRSA* resistance to most  $\beta$ -lactams. *Strep pneumonia*

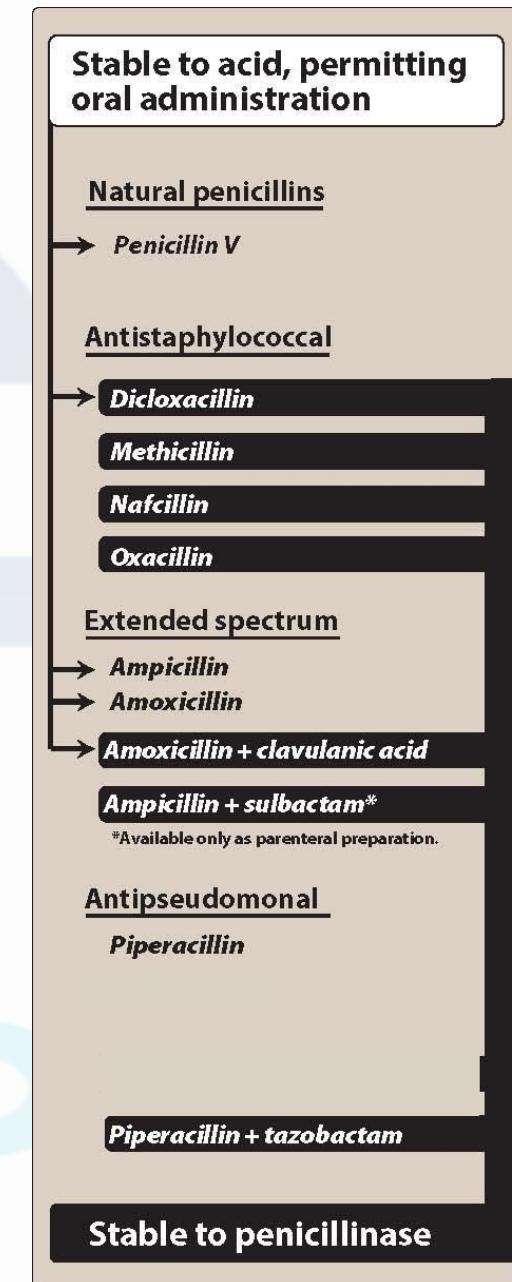


# Penicillins

## Pharmacokinetics

- **Routes of administration**
- **IV, IM only:** ampicillin+sulbactam, nafcillin, oxacillin
- **Oral only:** Penicillin V, amoxicillin, amoxicillin+clavulanic acid(co-amoxiclav), dicloxacillin
- **Depot forms:** Procaine penicillin G and benzathine penicillin G (IM):

They are **slowly absorbed** into the **circulation** and **persist at low levels** over a **long time period**. **Used for S. pyogenes rheumatic fever prophylaxis.**





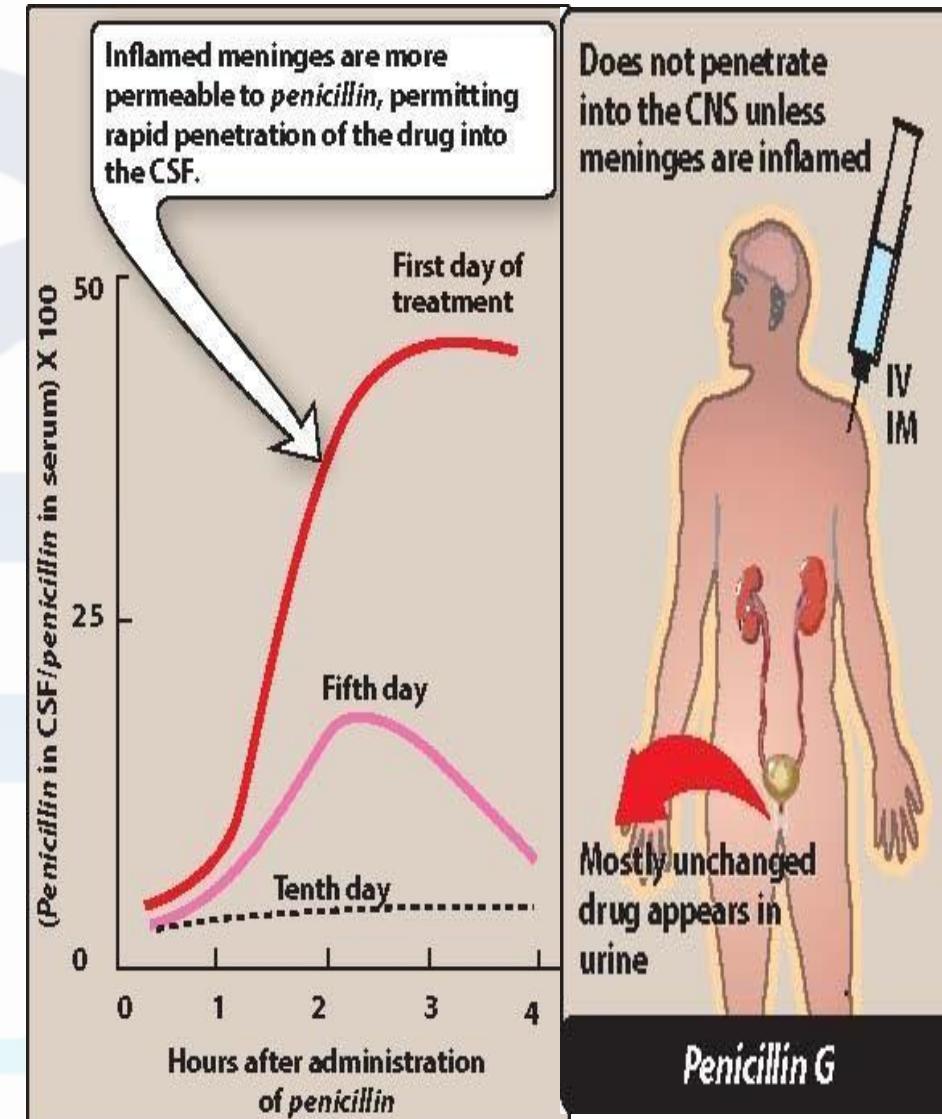
## Absorption

- Most penicillins are incompletely absorbed after oral administration
- Empty stomach? **More absorption because a stomach full of food means less emptying of contents (including drug) into intestines so that stomach can digest food. So full stomach exposes penicillins to acids for longer time.** An example is **dicloxacillin**. **Amoxicillin is acid stable and not affected.**

## Distribution

- Good distribution e.g., cross placenta (but no teratogenic effect, **it is a class B drug**)
- Insufficient penetration to prostate, bone, CSF (unless inflamed)

# Penicillins





# Pharmacokinetics

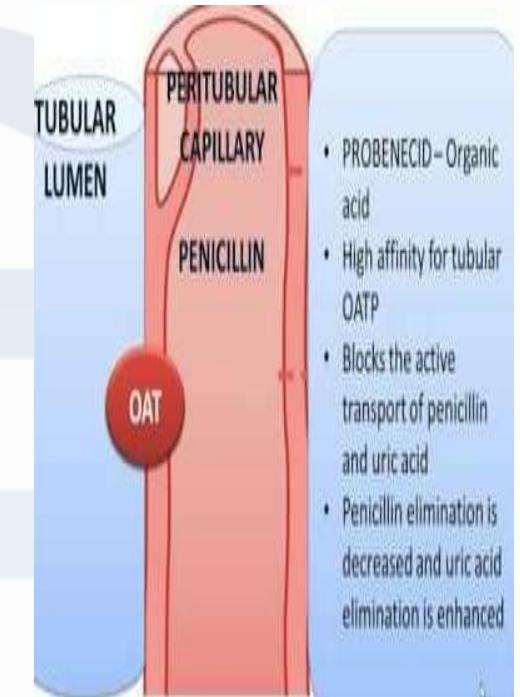
## Penicillins

- **Metabolism**

- Insignificant metabolism (An advantage in people with hepatic impairment, no need to reduce dose)
- Some metabolism of penicillin G may occur in renal failure
- Exceptions? (Nafcillin, oxacillin, and methicillin, they are metabolized in liver and excreted in bile) → advantage in renal failure because of no need for dose reduction

- **Excretion:**

- Renal: (Main) tubular secretory system through organic acid carrier,
- glomerular filtration
- *Probenecid* is an inhibitor of renal tubular excretion of penicillin. So give lower penicillin dose with probenecid





# Slide reminder

for mydriatic (non-oxonol) drugs with low molecular weight (e.g. atropine) (e.g. through glomerular pores). e.g. mannitol

**Factors affecting glomerular filtration**

- Glomerular filtration rate (GFR)
- Plasma protein binding (PPB) → prevents filtration

**2. Active tubular secretion:** through special transport system (carrier) → saturable & site for competition.

- Acid carrier e.g. for penicillins, probenecid, frusemide, uric acid
  - Probenecid →↓ tubular secretion of penicillin→↑ duration of action of penicillin
  - frusemide →↓ tubular secretion of uric acid →hyperuricemia as an adverse effect.
- basic carrier e.g. for digoxin, quinidine.

**3. Active tubular reabsorption:**

- Unionized form of drug (lipophilic) → tubular reabsorption

# Penicillins

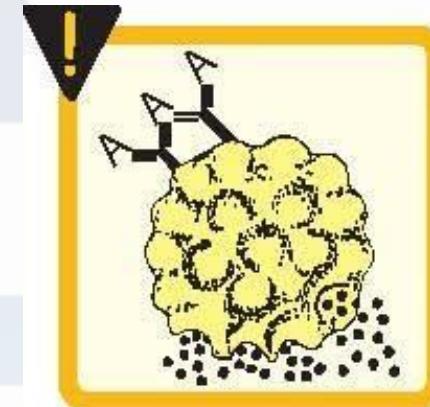
## Adverse effects

### 1. Hypersensitivity:

- 5-10% percent of patients (simple rash to angioedema to anaphylaxis)
- Cross-allergy among different beta lactam antibiotics
- **Always inquire** about penicillin allergy in history taking

### 2. Diarrhea:

- Caused by intestinal flora imbalance
- More with **extended-spectrum agents**
- May be due to **C.difficile pseudomembranous colitis**



Hypersensitivity



Diarrhea

# Penicillins

## Adverse effects

### 3. Nephritis:

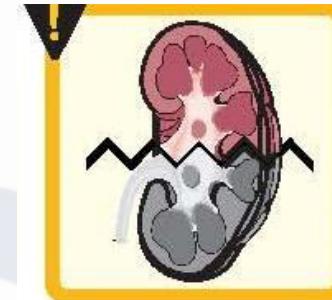
- Methicillin: no longer used because of this

### 4. Neurotoxicity:

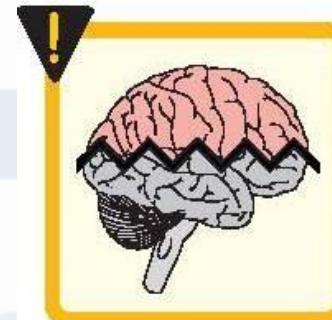
- If injected intrathecally or very high plasma levels are reached. **Epileptic patients are particularly at risk due to the ability of penicillins to cause GABAergic inhibition.**

### 5. Hematological toxicities

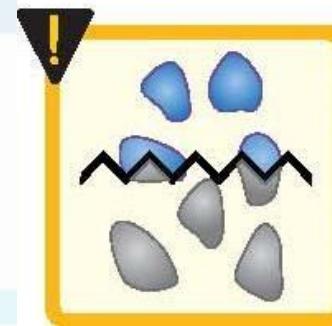
- Decreased coagulation
- Cytopenias in therapy for more than 2 weeks , blood counts should be monitored weekly for such patients.



Nephritis



Neurotoxicity



Hematologic toxicities



penicillin's in general, are very safe drugs. They are considered from pregnancy **class B drugs** → Can be given during pregnancy.

They are very commonly prescribed in outpatient clinics for treatment of infections



# Quick Revision

- Name a penicillin that is effective against penicillinase-producing *S. aureus* (MSSA)?
  1. Antistaphylococcal penicillins: methicillin, nafcillin, oxacillin and dicloxacillin
  2. Extended spectrum penicillins WITH beta-lactamase inhibitor: ampicillin+Sulbactam/ amoxicillin+clavulanic acid
- Name a penicillin that is effective against penicillinase-producing *S. aureus* (MRSA)? None



# Cephalosporins

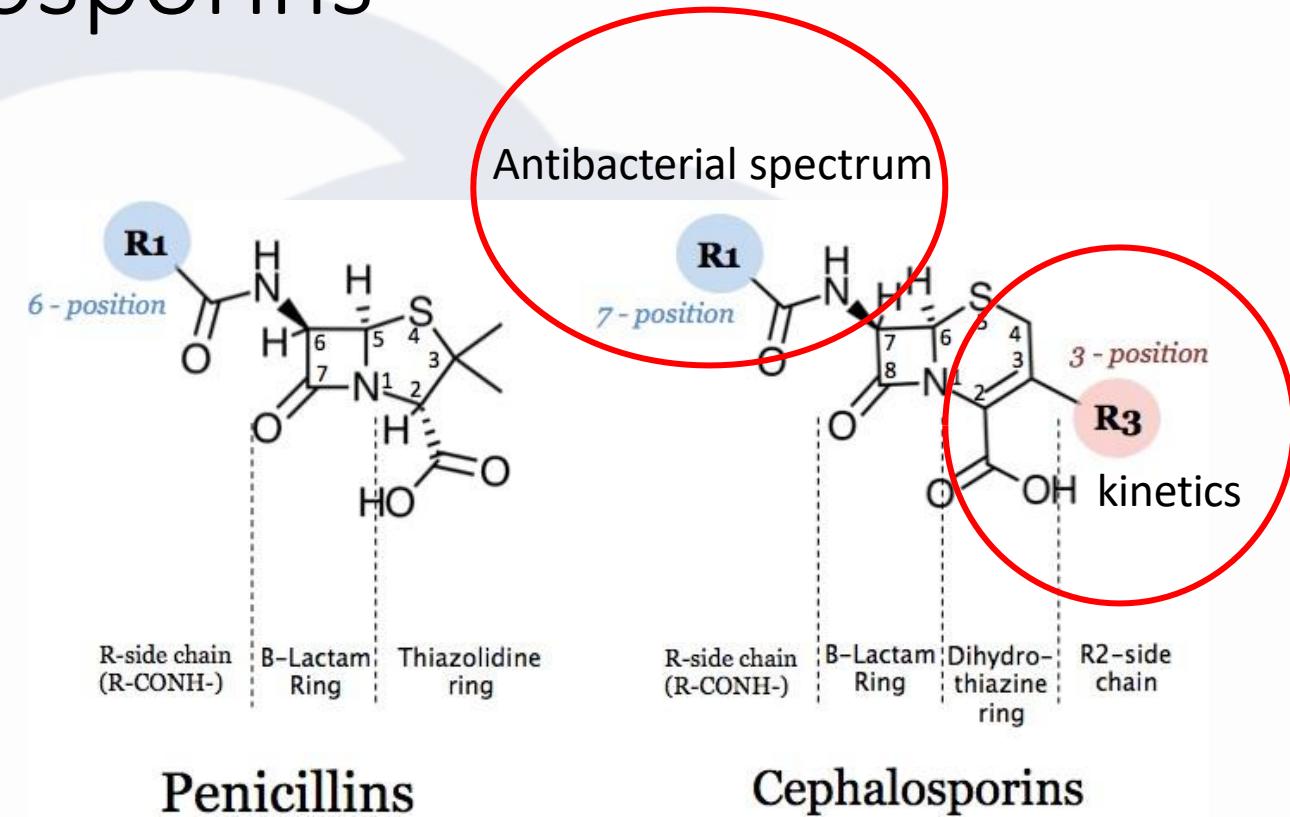


## Cephalosporins journey

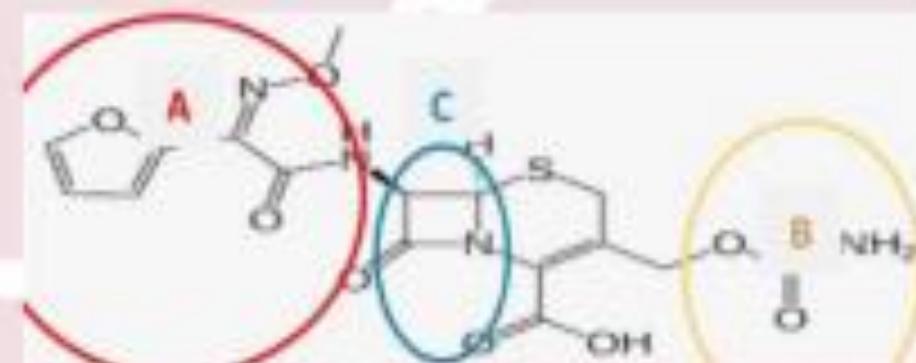
- \* <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> gen → Similar to natural Penicillin  
But spectrum
  - Gram(+) including **MSSA!** and a few gram(+)
- \* <sup>2<sup>nd</sup></sup> gen → Similar to extended Penicillin
  - Gram(+) with more gram(+) extension
- \* <sup>3<sup>rd</sup></sup> gen → Greater gram(+) coverage  
So wide gram(+) and gram(+) coverage
- \* <sup>4<sup>th</sup></sup> gen → Anti Pseudomonal
- \* <sup>5<sup>th</sup></sup> gen → **MRSA!!**

# Cephalosporins

- $\beta$ -lactams
- Structurally/functionally related to penicillins
- Semisynthetic :by chemical attachment of side chains to 7-aminocephalosporanic acid
- More resistant to certain  $\beta$ -lactamases



5. The following diagram depicts the chemical structure of cefuroxime, based on your understanding of the structure pharmacology relationship of cephalosporin, which of the following statement is **CORRECT**?



- A. Group A is responsible for the pharmacokinetic properties of cefuroxime.
- B. Group C is responsible for the activity of cefuroxime against MRSA.
- C. Group B is responsible for the susceptibility of cefuroxime to beta-lactamases.
- D. Group A is responsible for determining the antibacterial spectrum of cefuroxime.
- E. Group C is responsible for the extent of hepatic metabolism of cefuroxime.

**Answer: D**



# Cephalosporins

- Classified into generations:
  - first
  - second
  - third
  - fourth
  - advanced

## CEPHALOSPORINS

*Cefaclor* CECLOR  
*Cefadroxil* DURACEF  
*Cefazolin* KEFZOL  
*Cefdinir* OMNICEF  
*Cefepime* MAXIPIME  
*Cefixime* SUPRAX  
*Cefotaxime* CLAFORAN  
*Cefotetan* CEFOTAN  
*Cefoxitin* MEFOXIN  
*Cefprozil* CEFZIL  
*Ceftaroline* TEFLARO  
*Ceftazidime* FORTAZ  
*Ceftibuten* CEDAX  
*Ceftizoxime* CEFIZOX  
*Ceftriaxone* ROCEPHIN  
*Cefuroxime* CEFTIN  
*Cephalexin* KEFLEX



# Cephalosporins

## Antibacterial spectrum

- **First-generation cephalosporins:**
  - penicillin G substitutes
  - They cover MSSA (resistant to penicillinase) but not MRSA
  - Isolates of *S. pneumoniae* resistant to penicillins are also resistant to first-generation cephalosporins
  - *Bacteroides fragilis* is resistant

Cefazolin

Cephalexin

cefadroxil

Tareq Saleh ©

### **First-generation cephalosporins**

#### **Gram (+) cocci**

*Staphylococcus aureus*\*  
*Staphylococcus epidermidis*  
*Streptococcus pneumoniae*  
*Streptococcus pyogenes*  
Anaerobic streptococci

#### **Gram (-) rods**

*Escherichia coli*  
*Klebsiella pneumoniae*  
*Proteus mirabilis*

\**Methicillin-resistant staphylococci are resistant*

\*Not MRSA

Mnemonic:  
broccoli sport  
club

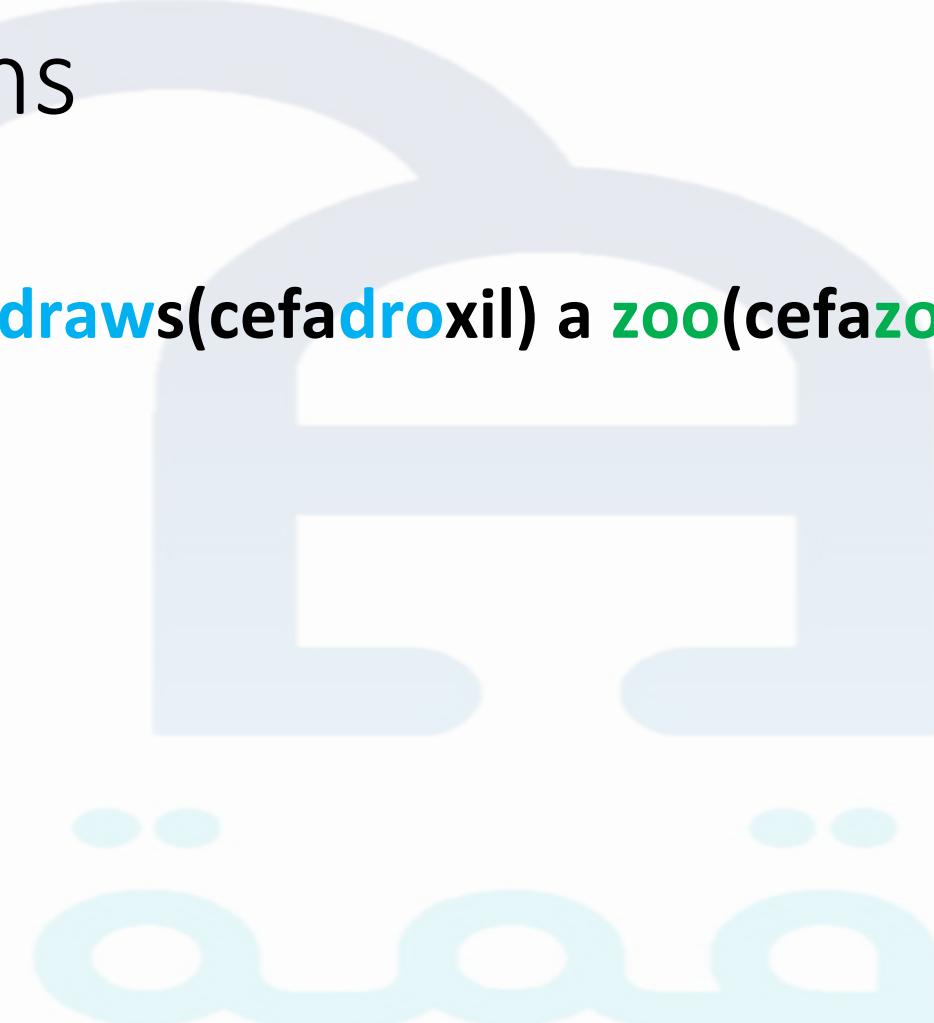




# Mnemonic: 1<sup>st</sup> generation cephalosporins

**1<sup>st</sup> generation= very young child**

**The young child **Alex(cephalexin)** draws(cefadroxil) a **zoo(cefazolin)****





# Cephalosporins

## Antibacterial spectrum

- **Second-generation cephalosporins:**

- Wider gram-negative spectrum: *H. influenzae*, *Klebsiella*, *Proteus*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*, and some *Neisseria* species

- Slightly weaker gram(+) activity

Cefotetan

Cefuroxime

Cefoxitin

Cefprozil

## Second-generation cephalosporins

### Gram (+) cocci

*Staphylococcus aureus*  
*Streptococcus pneumoniae*  
*Streptococcus pyogenes*  
*Anaerobic streptococci*

### Gram (-) cocci

*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*

### Gram (-) rods

*Enterobacter aerogenes*  
*Escherichia coli*  
*Haemophilus influenzae*  
*Klebsiella pneumoniae*  
*Proteus mirabilis*

### Anaerobic organisms\*\*

\*\**Cefoxitin* and *cefotetan* have anaerobic coverage

Cephamycins(cefoxitin and cefotetan) have activity against anaerobis(e.g. *B. fragilis*) but are not first line because of resistance



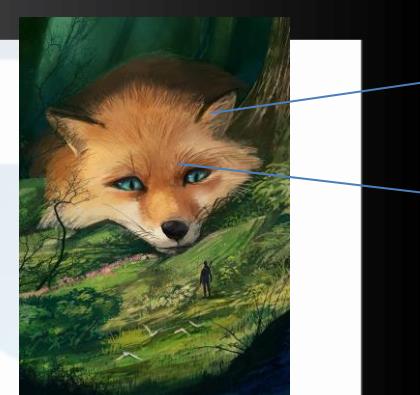
# 2<sup>nd</sup> generation cephalosporin mnemonics

**2<sup>nd</sup> generation cephalosporins: older children who watch cartoons**

Fox(Cefoxitin)



Titan(cefotetan)



Cefuroxime Fur فرو



Bro (Cefprozil)



# Antibacterial spectrum

## • Third-generation cephalosporins:

- Greater activity against gram-negative bacilli (broad-spectrum)
- Less potent than 1<sup>st</sup> generation against MSSA

Active against beta-lactamase producing strains of *H. influenzae* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*

- **Drugs of choice** for the treatment of **meningitis** (usually caused by *S.pneumonia* and *Meningitides*) and **gonorrhea**
- Must be used with caution “collateral damage” → normal flora disruption and *C. difficile* infection

**Ceftriaxone**

**Cefotaxime**

**Ceftazidime**

**Cefdinir**



## Third-generation cephalosporins

### Gram (+) cocci

***Streptococcus pneumoniae***  
***Streptococcus pyogenes***  
***Anaerobic streptococci***

### Gram (-) cocci

***Neisseria gonorrhoeae***

### Gram (-) rods

***Enterobacter aerogenes***  
***Escherichia coli***  
***Haemophilus influenzae***  
***Klebsiella pneumoniae***  
***Proteus mirabilis***  
***Pseudomonas aeruginosa***  
***Serratia marcescens***

\*only ceftazidime

# Mnemonic

**What do teenagers(3<sup>rd</sup> generation) do?  
They go out in taxi(cefotaxime) to have dinner(cefdinir), play  
trix(ceftriaxone) +ceftazidime?**



VectorStock®

[VectorStock.com/22319183](https://www.vectorstock.com/22319183)

An axe in head → ceftriaxone is used in meningitis



فاس مع لحمة نية  
neisseria



# Cephalosporins

## Antibacterial spectrum

- **Fourth-generation cephalosporins:**
  - Broad-spectrum
  - Active against strep and staph species (not MRSA)
  - Active against aerobic gram-negative species including *P. aeruginosa*

## Cefepime

## Antibacterial spectrum

- **Advanced-generation(5<sup>th</sup> generation) cephalosporins: Ceftaroline**
  - Broad-spectrum: unique structure allows ceftaroline to bind to **PBPs** found in **MRSA** and **penicillin-resistant Streptococcus pneumoniae**
  - Only  $\beta$ -lactam that is active against MRSA
  - Indicated for complicated skin MRSA infections and pneumonia
  - How about pseudomonas? ESBL? Ceftaroline is susceptible to them and so there are gaps in covering these gram negative organisms
  - *What are the limitations for using ceftaroline?*



**The twice-daily dosing regimen  
also limits use outside of an  
institutional setting is a major  
limitation for ceftazidime usage  
outside of an institutional  
setting**



# Quick Exercise

**Which of the following cell wall synthesis inhibitors is effective against MRSA?**

- amoxicillin
- ampicillin
- amoxicillin/clavulanate
- cefazolin
- cephalexin
- ceftriaxone
- cefepime
- ceftaroline



# Cephalosporins

## Mechanisms of resistance

- Similar to penicillins

### Susceptible to

Penicillinases (*staph*)

Extended spectrum beta-lactamase ESBL (*E.coli*, *Klebsiella*)

### ESBL

a group of plasmid-mediated, diverse, complex and rapidly evolving enzymes which share the ability to hydrolyze third-generation cephalosporins and aztreonam

*Rawat et al, 2010*



# Cephalosporins

- **Administration:**

- Poor oral absorption, mostly given IV, IM

- **Distribution:**

- To CSF: **ceftriaxone and cefotaxime** are effective in the treatment of neonatal meningitis caused by *H. Influenzae*

- **ceftriaxone** causes **biliary jaundice** (إصفرار) in **neonates** and so **cefotaxime** is preferred in neonates

- **cefazolin** can penetrate bone → used in **osteomyelitis (usually caused by staph aureus)**

Cefazolin is also commonly used for **surgical prophylaxis** due to its activity against **penicillinase-producing *S. aureus***, along with its good tissue and fluid penetration.

- **Elimination:**

- Renal tubular secretion and filtration (except ceftriaxone, eliminated in bile so preferred in renal failure with no need for dose reduction)

Most cephalosporins do not penetrate the CSF; third-generation agents achieve therapeutic levels in CSF



# Cephalosporins

## Adverse effects

- Hypersensitivity (cross-reactivity with penicillin **in about 3-5% of people with penicillin allergy**)
- Highest rate of allergic cross-sensitivity occurs with cephalosporins with **similar side chains to penicillins** → **1<sup>st</sup> generation**
- People who had anaphylaxis or Steven Johnson from penicillins **SHOULD NOT** receive cephalosporins
- Remember: broad-spectrum antibiotics are associated with superinfections





## First Generation

**Cefazolin**

This first-generation parenteral cephalosporin has a longer duration of action and a similar spectrum of action, compared to other first-generation drugs. It penetrates well into bone.

**Cefadroxil**

**Cephalexin**

This is the prototype of first-generation, oral cephalosporins. Oral administration twice daily is effective against pharyngitis.

## Second Generation

**Cefuroxime sodium**

This prototype second-generation, parenteral cephalosporin has a longer half-life than similar agents. It crosses the blood-brain barrier, and it can be used for community-acquired bronchitis or pneumonia in the elderly and for patients who are immunocompromised.

**Cefuroxime axetil**

Administered twice daily, this drug is well absorbed and is active against  $\beta$ -lactamase-producing organisms.

## Third Generation

**Cefdinir**  
**Cefixime**

These are administered orally once daily.

**Cefotaxime**

This penetrates well into the CSF.

**Ceftazidime**

This is active against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

**Ceftibuten**

This drug has the longest half-life of any cephalosporin (6 to 8 hours), which permits once-a-day dosing. High levels of the drug can be achieved in blood and CSF. It is effective against genital, anal, and pharyngeal penicillin-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. The drug is excreted in bile and may be used in patients with renal insufficiency. It has good penetration into bone.

**Ceftriaxone**

## Fourth Generation

**Cefepime**

This is active against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.



Cephazolin → osteomyelitis (limb pain, swelling, redness, inability to move limb)



Natural penicillins

Amoxicillin

→ sore throat/ pharyngitis

1<sup>st</sup> gen cephalo (cefalexin)

2<sup>nd</sup> gen cephalo (cefuroxime)

Amoxicillin

→ respiratory infections (dyspnea, ضيق نفسم, cough, sputum, chest pain)

Cefuroxime (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Ceftriaxone (3<sup>rd</sup>)

→ meningitis (headache, photophobia, بيتحملش ضوء, Neisseria gonorrhoea)

Cefotaxime (3<sup>rd</sup>)

Cefepime (4<sup>th</sup>) or antipseudomonal penicillins → pseudomonas

Ceftaroline (5<sup>th</sup>) → MRSA

(Amoxicillin/ampicillin) + lactamase inhibitors

Antistaphylococcal penicillins

- → MSSA

1<sup>st</sup> gen cephalo

2<sup>nd</sup> gen cephalo

Listeria, enterococci → **Don't** use cephalosporins, **use ampicillin**

Empiric therapy for neonatal (1 month old) meningitis → Ampicillin (covers listeria) + 3<sup>rd</sup> gen cefotaxime (covers other microbes)



# Other $\beta$ -Lactams

# Carbapenems

## CARBAPENEMS

*Doripenem* DORIBAX

*Ertapenem* INVANZ

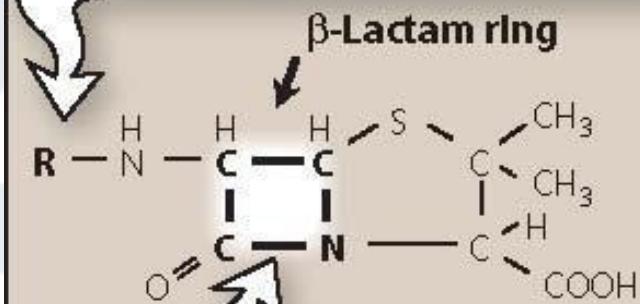
*Imipenem/cilastatin* PRIMAXIN

*Meropenem* MERREM

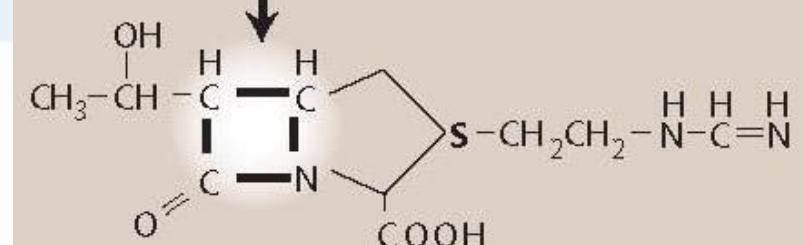
Carbapenems are synthetic

Carbapenems are in same manner has  $\beta$ -lactam ring, but the different is in sulfur group, this sulfur is externalized in carbapenem as side chain and has been replaced by a carbon atom.

Nature of the R group determines the drug's stability to enzymatic or acidic hydrolysis and affects its antibacterial spectrum.



### $\beta$ -Lactam ring



**Imipenem**  
(a carbapenem)



# Carbapenems

## Antibacterial spectrum

- Broad-spectrum empiric(used for therapy)
- Resist  $\beta$ -lactamases
- (Except for metalolactamase)
- Effective against  $\beta$ -lactamase-producing gram-positive and gram-negative organisms, anaerobes, and *P. aeruginosa*
- **Not effective against MRSA**

### Gram (+) cocci

*Staphylococcus aureus*\*  
*Staphylococcus epidermidis*  
*Enterococcus faecalis*  
*Streptococcus* groups A, B, C  
*Streptococcus pneumoniae*

\**Methicillin*-resistant  
*staphylococci* are resistant

### Gram (+) bacilli

*Listeria monocytogenes*

### Gram (-) cocci

*Mycoplasma*  
*Chlamydia*

### Other

*Actinomyces*  
*Nocardia* species

\*Not MRSA

### Gram (-) rods

*Acinetobacter* species  
*Citrobacter* species  
*Enterobacter* species  
*Escherichia coli*  
*Gardnerella vaginalis*  
*Haemophilus influenzae*  
*Klebsiella* species  
*Proteus* species  
*Providencia* species  
*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*  
*Salmonella* species  
*Serratia* species



Mnemonic:  
No carbapenem or penicillin is  
effective against MRSA





**Unlike other carbapenems, ertapenem lacks coverage against *P aeruginosa*, *Enterococcus* species, and *Acinetobacter* species.**  
**Ertapenem is administered IV once daily**



# Carbapenems

## Pharmacokinetics:

**Imipenem, meropenem, and doripenem are administered IV and penetrate well into body tissues and fluids.**

**Meropenem is known to reach therapeutic levels in bacterial meningitis even without inflammation.**



imipenem(the prototype) is given with cilastatin because cilastatin inhibits renal dehydropeptidase in proximal renal tubules, renal dehydropeptidase breaks down imipenem. So cilastatin will increase half-life of imipenem and so you don't have to give large frequent doses.

Other carbapenems don't need cilastatin.



**In general Carbapenem is relatively safe , they can cause gastrointestinal adverse affect which is nausea , vomiting and diarrhea also they have hematologic adverse effects similar to penicillins , so they can cause neutropenia and eosinophilia ; High concentration of carbapenem can provoke seizures in patient who susceptible or have epilepsy.**

**Carbapenems and penicillins share a common bicyclic core → Risk of penicillin cross-allergy is <1%**

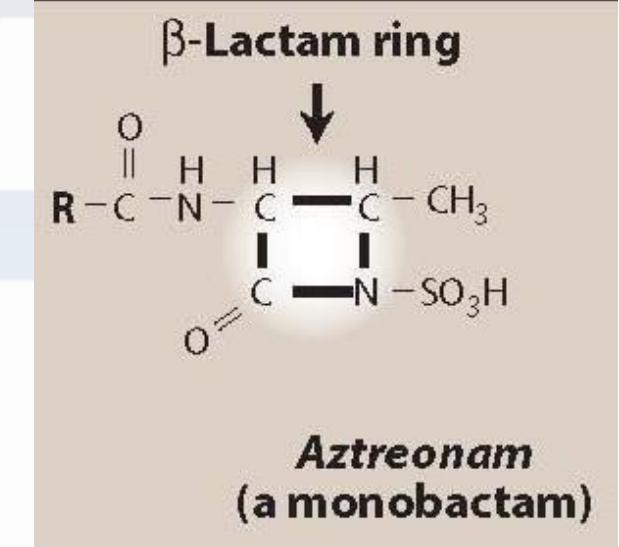
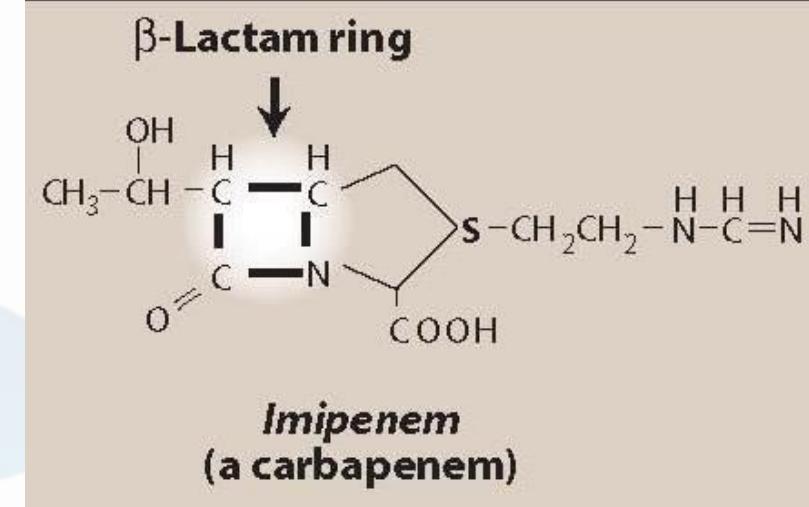
**Carbapenems are last resort drugs.**

# Monobactams

## MONOBACTAMS

### *Aztreonam* AZACTAM

- Effective against gram-negative (including *P. aeruginosa*)
- Lacks activity against gram-positive and anaerobes
- Susceptible to ESBLs
- Relatively non-toxic
- little cross-reactivity with other  $\beta$ -lactams  $\rightarrow$  safe alternative for penicillin allergy



administered either IV or IM and can accumulate in patients with renal failure



# Aztreonam mnemonic



Pink=gram negative coverage only

Colors=resemble pseudomonas



**Never, ever make the mistake of thinking that  
sulbactam and tazobactam are monobactams!!  
These are beta-lactamase inhibitors**



# Can Cephalosporins and Carbapenems Be Combined with $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitors?

- **Ceftolozane + tazobactam:** used for **multidrug resistant *P. aeruginosa*** and some ESBLs-producing bacteria
- **Ceftazidime + avibactam:** used against ESBL-producing bacteria+*pseudomonas*

\*\*\*both indicated for the management of complicated intra-abdominal and urinary tract infections caused by multidrug resistant bacteria. But are **susceptible to metallo-lactamases.**

- **Meropenem + vaborbactam:** used against ESBL-producing bacteria

Mnemonic: the carbapenem(**carbon** فحم) results in **vabor** بخار

\*\*\*indicated for the management of complicated urinary tract infections. **But is susceptible to metallo-lactamases.**



## Cell wall inhibitors

Beta lactams

Penicillins

Cephalosporins

Carbapenems

Non-beta lactam  
cell wall inhibitors

Monobactams



# Vancomycin

- Firstly, Vancomycin is **NOT** a beta-lactam
- tricyclic glycopeptide
- **What is the mechanism of action of vanco?**
- Effective against gram-positive bacteria INCLUDING MRSA and MRSE(**main** drug for MRSA)
- Oral and IV
- Vanco has poor absorption, so it is not absorbed after oral administration
- **IV** vanco used in patients with **MRSA skin infections, infective endocarditis, MRSA nosocomial pneumonia ....**
- **Oral** vanco used for severe antibiotic associated **pseudomembranous colitis**

## Gram (+) cocci

**Staphylococcus aureus\***  
**Staphylococcus epidermidis**  
**Streptococcus groups A,B,C**  
**Streptococcus pneumoniae**  
**Enterococcus faecalis**

**\*(including methicillin-resistant strains)**

## Gram (+) bacilli

**Listeria monocytogenes**  
**Corynebacterium jeikeium**

## Gram (-) cocci

## Gram (-) rods

## Anaerobic organisms

**Clostridium species\*\***

**Spirochetes**

**Mycoplasma**

**Chlamydia**

**\*\*Oral vancomycin only for *C. difficile***

## Other

**Actinomyces**



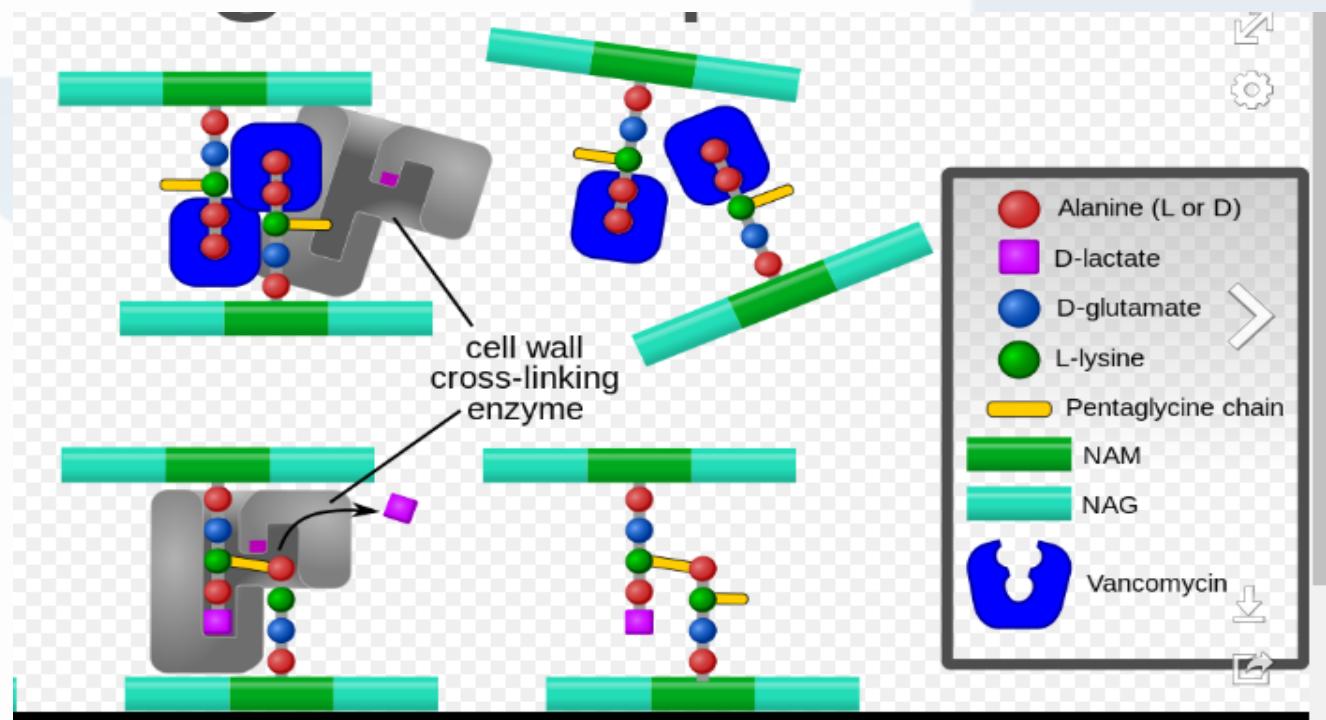
# Vancomycin spectrum mnemonic

## Vancomycin was named because it vanquishes gram positive



# Vancomycin mechanism

Binds to **ala-D peptidoglycan precursors**, preventing cross-linking enzyme from binding to them and initiating cross-linkages (so vancomycin works on **3<sup>rd</sup> last step of cell wall synthesis**)





# Vancomycin

- Bactericidal
- Time- and concentration-dependent

**Homework:** What is the best predictor of vancomycin's antistaph activity?

## Adverse effects

- Nephrotoxicity
- Infusion related: Red man syndrome and phlebitis (vein inflammation)
- Ototoxicity

## Mechanisms of resistance:

Resistance against vancomycin is rare, but is mostly seen in *Enterococcus faecium*

- Mechanism involves Alteration in binding affinity to peptidoglycan precursors



**Frequency of administration is dependent on renal function and serum levels. Therefore, monitoring of creatinine clearance is required to optimize exposure and minimize toxicity.**

**Optimal cure rates are observed when trough concentrations are maintained between 10 and 20 mcg/ml.**

**Initial trough concentrations are attained prior to the fourth or fifth vancomycin dose to ensure appropriate dosing.**

**[Note: The area under the curve/minimum inhibitory concentration ratio (AUC24/ MIC) is the best predictor of vancomycin activity against *S. aureus*, with an AUC/MIC of greater than or equal to 400 associated with treatment success.]**



Summary



# Daptomycin

- cyclic lipopeptide
- bactericidal
- concentration-dependent
- Effective against gram-positive INCLUDING MRSA vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE)
- Not used for pneumonia. WHY?

Because it is inactivated by pulmonary surfactant!!

Gram (+) cocci
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>
<i>Enterococcus faecium</i>
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (MRSA and MSSA)
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> (penicillin resistant)
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>
Gram (+) bacilli
<i>Corynebacterium jeikeium</i>
Gram (-) cocci
Gram (-) rods
Anaerobic organisms
Spirochetes
Mycoplasma
Chlamydia
Other



## Daptomycin mnemonic

Gram positive  
only



Arm covers lungs,  
**don't use for  
pneumonia!**

Avocado=lipopepti  
de



## Telavancin

- Semisynthetic
- Bactericidal
- Concentration-dependent
- The lipid tail is essential in anchoring the drug to the cell walls to improve target site binding. Additionally, telavancin and oritavancin disrupt membrane potential
- Similar antibacterial spectrum as vancomycin (but better)
- Alternative to vancomycin for the treatment of ABSSIs and nosocomial pneumonia caused by MRSA
- More toxic: nephrotoxicity and cardiotoxicity(QT prolongation)+fetal harm and teratogenicity, foamy urine and interference with coagulation lab studies (so don't use with heparin)



**Prior to initiation, assessment of renal function, pregnancy status, and current medications is needed to ensure safe administration.**

**In contrast to telavancin, oritavancin and dalbavancin have prolonged half-lives (245 and 187 hours, respectively), allowing for single-dose administration for the management of ABSSSI.**

**Stable patients with ABSSSI may be treated as outpatients, eliminating the need for inpatient admission, central catheter placement, and/or daily outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy.**



29.2 Which of the following adverse effects is associated with daptomycin?

- A. Ototoxicity
- B. Red man syndrome
- C. QT<sub>c</sub> prolongation
- D. Rhabdomyolysis

Correct answer = D. Ototoxicity and red man syndrome are associated with vancomycin. QTc prolongation is associated with telavancin. Myalgias and rhabdomyolysis have been reported with daptomycin therapy and require patient education and monitoring.

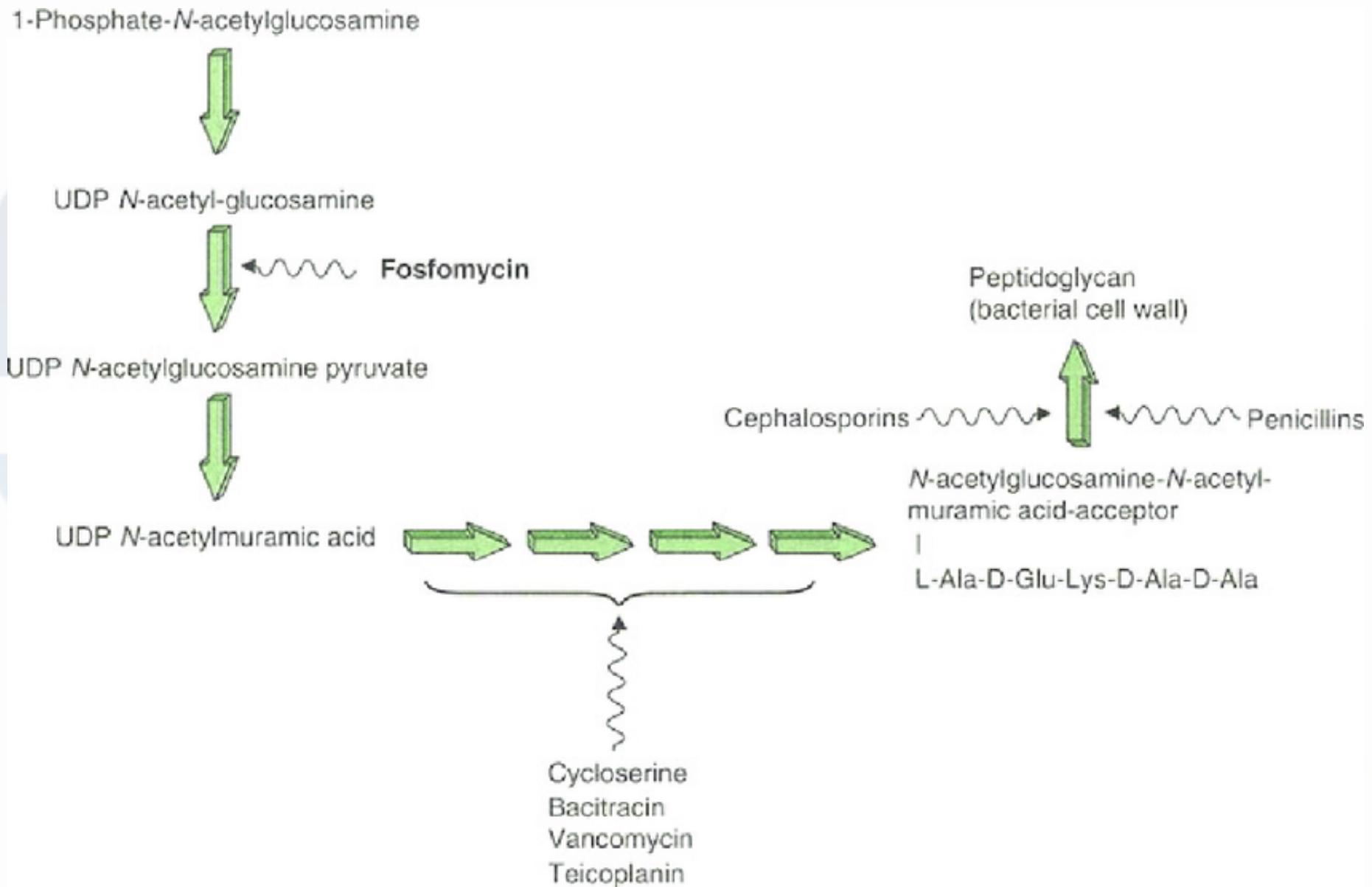


	<b>VANCOMYCIN</b>	<b>DAPTOMYCIN</b>	<b>TELAVANCIN</b>
<b>Mechanism of Action</b>	Inhibits bacterial cell wall synthesis	Causes rapid depolarization of the cell membrane, inhibits intracellular synthesis of DNA, RNA, and protein	Inhibits bacterial cell wall synthesis; disrupts cell membrane
<b>Pharmacodynamics</b>	Combination of time and concentration-dependent Bactericidal	Concentration-dependent Bactericidal	Concentration-dependent Bactericidal
<b>Common Antibacterial Spectrum</b>	Activity limited to gram-positive organisms: <u><i>Staphylococcus aureus</i></u> (including MRSA), <u><i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i></u> , <u><i>S. agalactiae</i></u> , penicillin-resistant <u><i>S. pneumoniae</i></u> , <u><i>Corynebacterium jeikeium</i></u> , vancomycin-susceptible <u><i>Enterococcus faecalis</i></u> , and <u><i>E. faecium</i></u>		
<b>Unique Antibacterial Spectrum</b>	<u><i>Clostridium difficile</i></u> (oral only)	<u><i>Vancomycin-resistant E. faecalis</i></u> and <u><i>E. faecium</i></u> (VRE)	Some isolates of <u><i>vancomycin-resistant enterococci</i></u> (VRE)
<b>Route</b>	IV/PO	IV	IV
<b>Administration Time</b>	60- to 90-min IV infusion	2-min IV push 30-min IV infusion	60-min IV infusion
<b>Pharmacokinetics</b>	Renal elimination Half-life: 6–10 h Dose is adjusted based on renal function and serum trough levels	Renal elimination Half-life: 7–8 h Dose is adjusted based on renal function	Renal elimination Half-life: 7–9 h Dose is adjusted based on renal function
<b>Unique Adverse Effects</b>	Infusion-related reactions due to histamine release: Fever, chills, phlebitis, flushing (red man syndrome); dose-related ototoxicity and nephrotoxicity	Elevated hepatic transaminases and creatine phosphokinase (check weekly), myalgias and rhabdomyolysis (consider holding HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors [statins] while receiving therapy)	Taste disturbances, foamy urine, QTc prolongation, interferes with coagulation labs (PT/INR, aPTT, ACT), not recommended in pregnancy (box warning recommends pregnancy test prior to initiation)
<b>Key Learning Points</b>	Drug of choice for severe MRSA infections; oral form only used for <u><i>C. difficile</i></u> infection; monitor serum trough concentrations for safety and efficacy	<i>Daptomycin</i> is inactivated by pulmonary surfactants and should never be used in the treatment of pneumonia	Use with caution in patients with baseline renal dysfunction (CrCl < 50 mL/min) due to higher rates of treatment failure and mortality in clinical studies; any necessary coagulation labs should be drawn just prior to the <i>telavancin</i> dose to avoid interaction



# Fosfomycin

- Synthetic Derivative of phosphoric acid
- Bactericidal
- **MOA:** blocks cell wall synthesis by **inhibiting the enzyme UDP-N- acetylglucosamine enolpyruvyl transferase (first step in peptidoglycan synthesis)**
- **First line therapy for acute cystitis** إلتهاب المثانة
- Acute cystitis signs/symptoms: **Dysuria**, lower abdominal pain, frequency, **urgency** شعور الشعور بحاجة للتبول بكثرة بأنه لازم يروح حالاً ومش قادر يستنى
- **Cross-resistance is unlikely**





# Polymyxin B

- Cation polypeptides
- **MOA:** bind phospholipids on the **bacterial cell membrane of gram-negative bacteria** (disrupt cell membrane by acting on the **lipopolysaccharides** and not cell wall)
- Active against most gram-negative bacteria including *P. aeruginosa*
- **However, alterations in the cell membrane lipid polysaccharides allow many species of *Proteus* and *Serratia* to be intrinsically resistant**
- Bactericidal
- Concentration-dependent
- Available through many routes, but has Limited use because of **nephrotoxicity/neurotoxicity**
- Spared for multi-drug resistant infections(salvage therapy)



**Colistin(polymyxin E) is only available as a prodrug, colistimethate sodium, which is administered IV or inhaled via a nebulizer.**



# Quick Exercise

**Name five cell wall synthesis inhibitors that have antipseudomonal activity.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_



# THANK YOU