



# Option D: Medicinal Chemistry

D.3 & D.4

## D.3 Opiates

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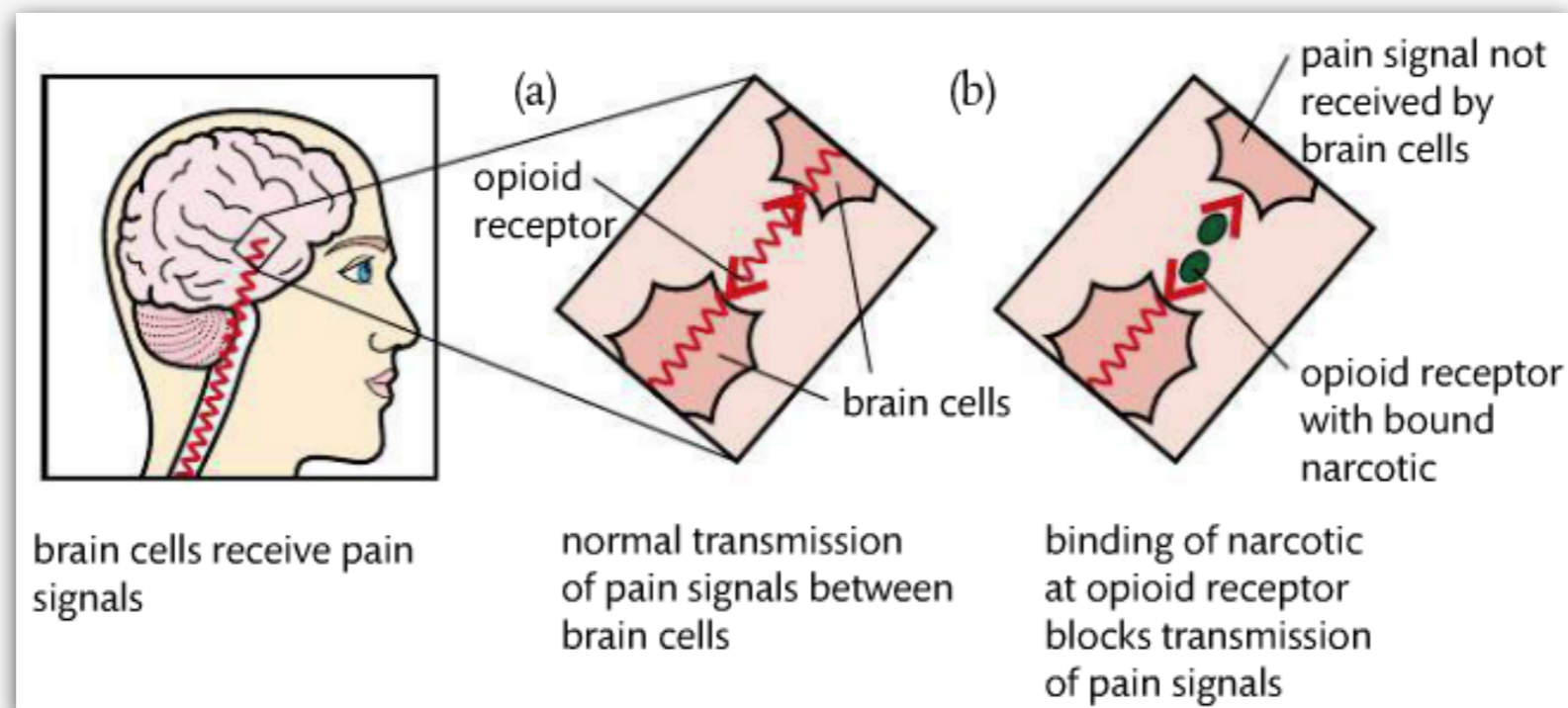


- ▶ Strong analgesic
- ▶ prevents transmission of pain in the brain, rather than at the source
- ▶ natural, derived from opium
- ▶ discovered 5000 years ago in Mesopotamia, and responsible for more wars and legislative changes than any other chemical substance

## D.3 Opiates

How they work:

- ▶ opiates bind to opioid receptors - blocks the transmission of impulses between brain cells that would signal pain
- ▶ interfere with the perception of pain, without depressing the central nervous system



### More intro...

- ▶ can cause changes in mood or behavior
  - ▶ called narcotics...
- ▶ most effective painkillers for severe pain
- ▶ because of side effects and potential for dependance, opiates must be monitored through medical supervision



# Getting into the brain

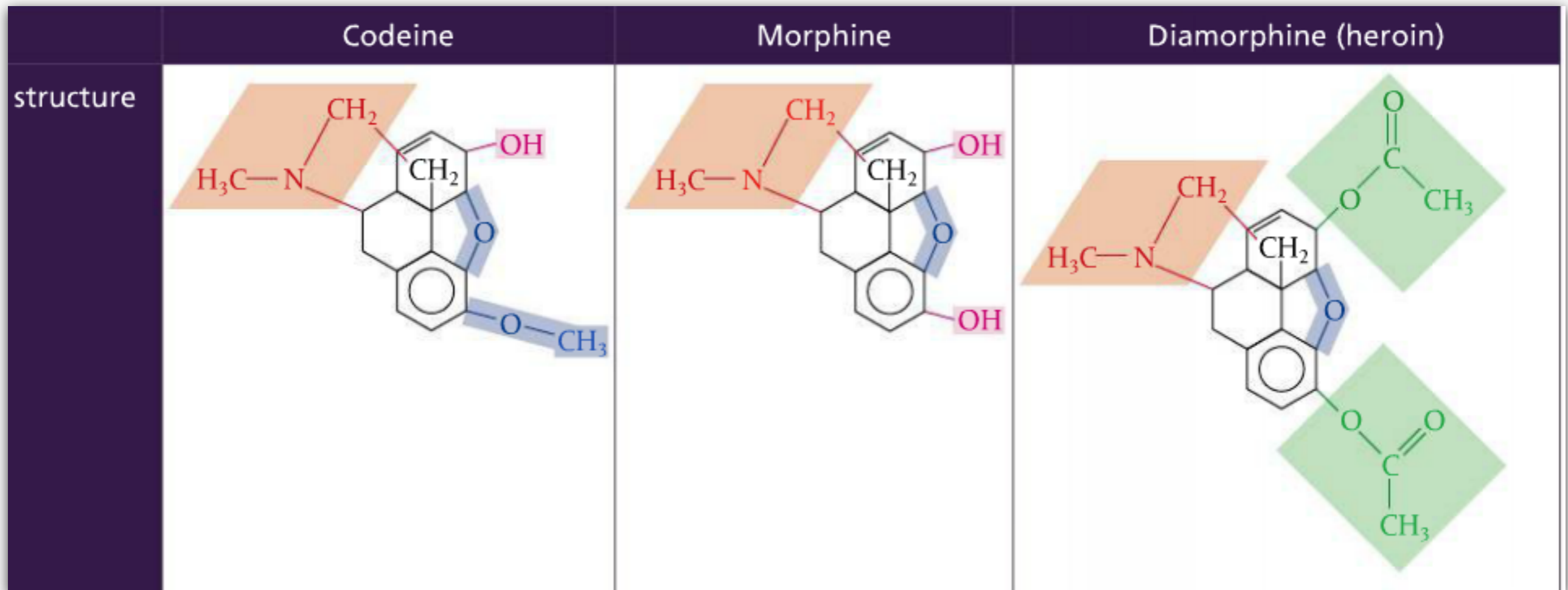
- ▶ Must cross the blood-brain barrier as the opiates target the brain
- ▶ BBB is a hydrophobic membrane made of mainly lipids
  - ▶ non-polar environment not often crossed by polar molecules



- ▶ must be aqueous soluble in blood and lipid soluble in the brain
- ▶ solubilities of drugs depend upon their structure

## D.3 Opiates

Opium derivative - morphine (will make codeine + diamorphine)



## D.3 Opiates

### Morphine



- ▶ obtained from 10% raw opium
- ▶ Therapeutic uses
  - ▶ pain management (such as severe cancer)
  - ▶ can be habit forming - must be regulated by a medical professional
- ▶ intravenous injection has 6x the bioavailability than if taken orally

## D.3 Opiates

### Codeine

- ▶ obtained from 0.5% raw opium, but usually prepared from morphine (semi-synthetic drug)
- ▶ prepped with a non-narcotic such as aspirin (2nd stage of pain management ladder)





## D.3 Opiates

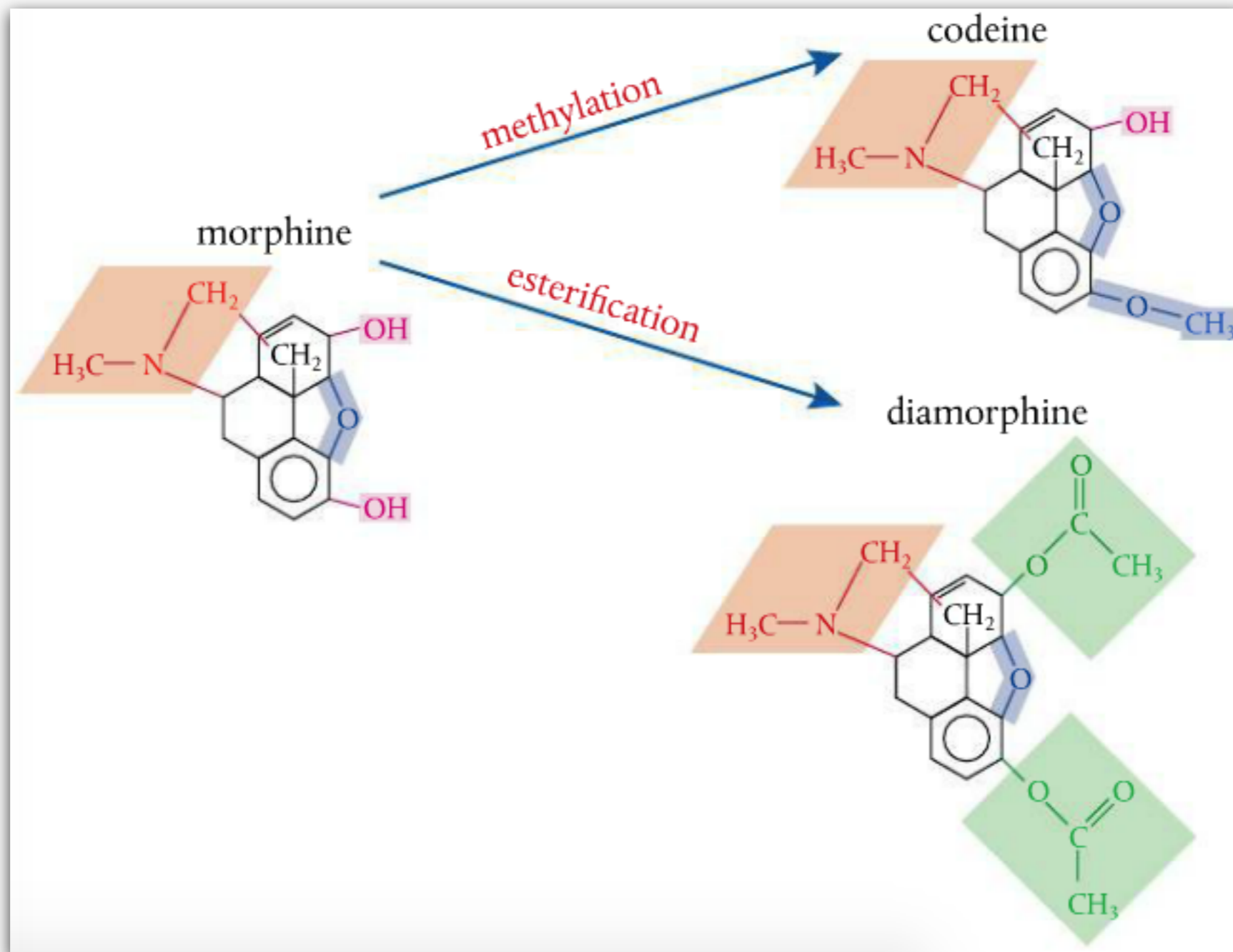
### diamorphine (heroin)

- ▶ found in opium - usually obtained by a reaction of morphine
- ▶ used medically in few countries
- ▶ most rapidly acting and abused narcotic
- ▶ produces euphoric effects, but very high potential for addiction and increasing tolerance
- ▶ dependance leads to withdrawal



## D.3 Opiates

### Reactions of Opiates



## D.3 Opiates

### Properties

- ▶ Codeine
- ▶ Morphine
- ▶ Diamorphine

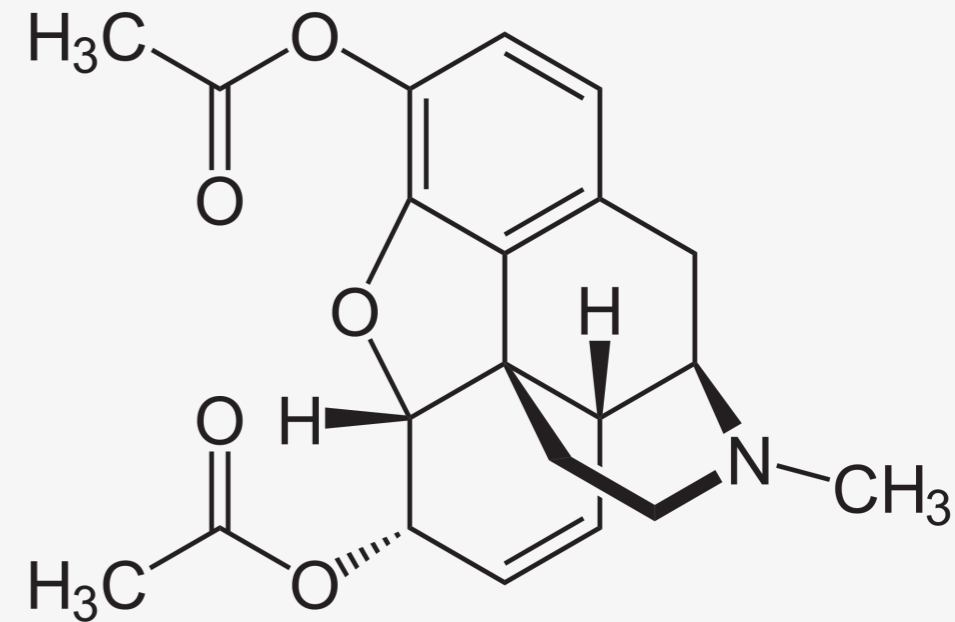


- ▶ increasing strength of analgesics
- ▶ increasing narcotic effects
- ▶ increasing side effects

## D.3 Opiates

### diamorphine (heroin)

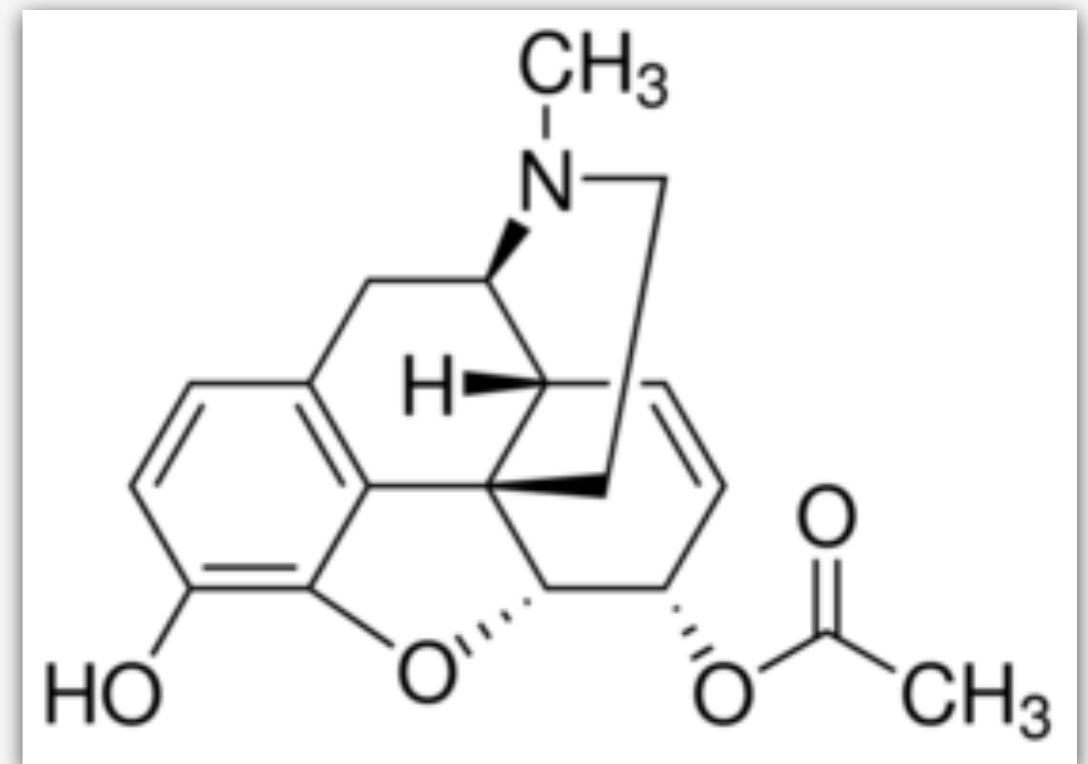
- ▶ reaches brain cells faster and in higher concentration
- ▶ more active by a factor of 2
- ▶ must undergo metabolic change before it can be active - ester links are broken
- ▶ products of change are basically morphine
- ▶ structure of diamorphine is "packaged" morphine - so it can reach target (brain) more efficiently



## D.3 Opiates

### 6-acetylmorphine

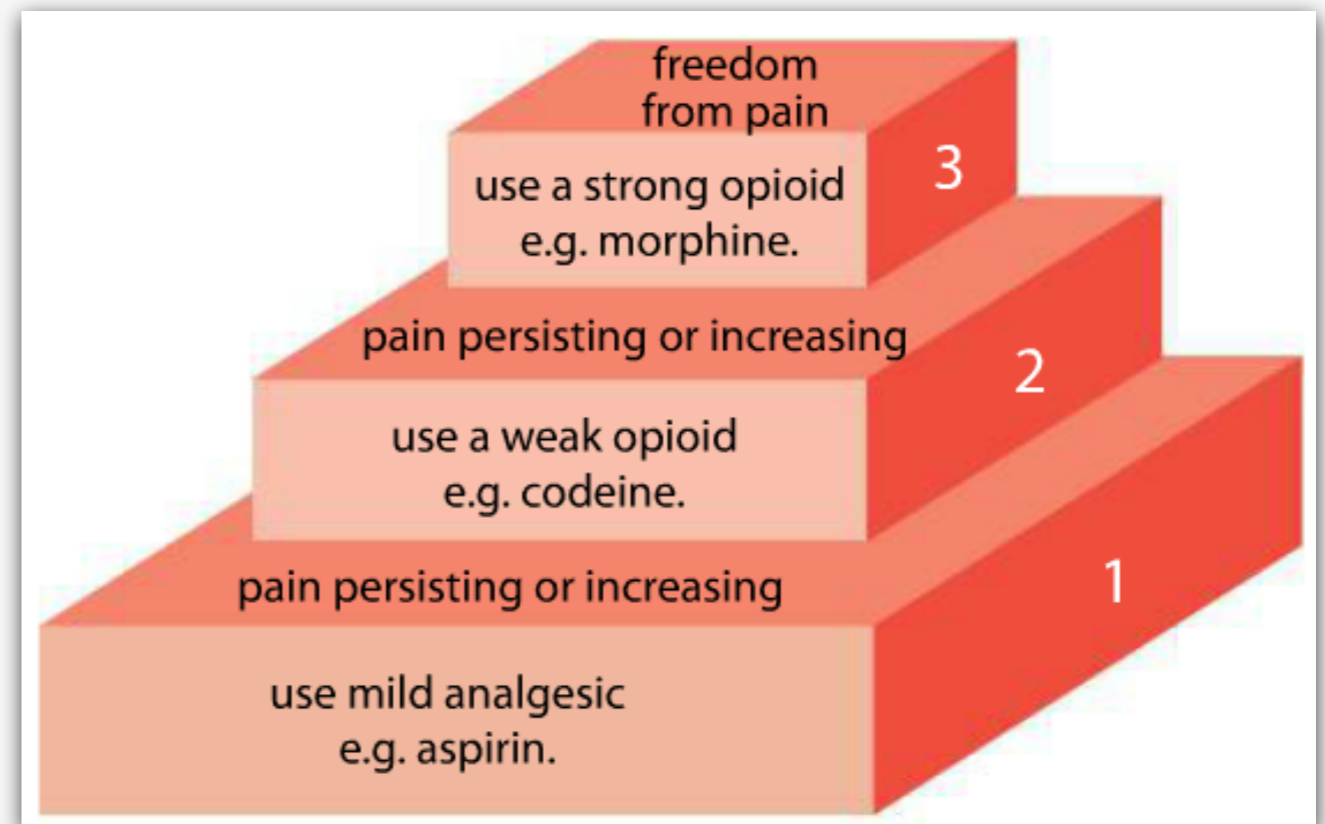
- ▶ derivative of morphine
- ▶ has only one of the ester linkages
- ▶ more potent than heroin as it doesn't need to undergo the hydrolysis reaction in order to interact with the brain
- ▶ extremely dangerous when taken in pure form



## D.3 Opiates

### Advantages and Disadvantages to Strong Analgesics

- ▶ WHO (World Health Organization) three step 'analgesic ladder'
- ▶ intravenous morphine is the most widely used in cases of severe pain
- ▶ In the UK and some European countries, diamorphine (heroin) can be legally prescribed (highly controlled)



## D.3 Opiates

### Side Effects

- ▶ constipation
  - ▶ suppression of cough reflex
  - ▶ constricted pupils
  - ▶ narcotic effects
- 
- ▶ mixture of kaolin and morphine is used to treat diarrhea
    - ▶ reduces muscle contractions and slows the passage of "matter"
    - ▶ not a pain killer in this use



## D.3 Opiates

### Narcotic Effects

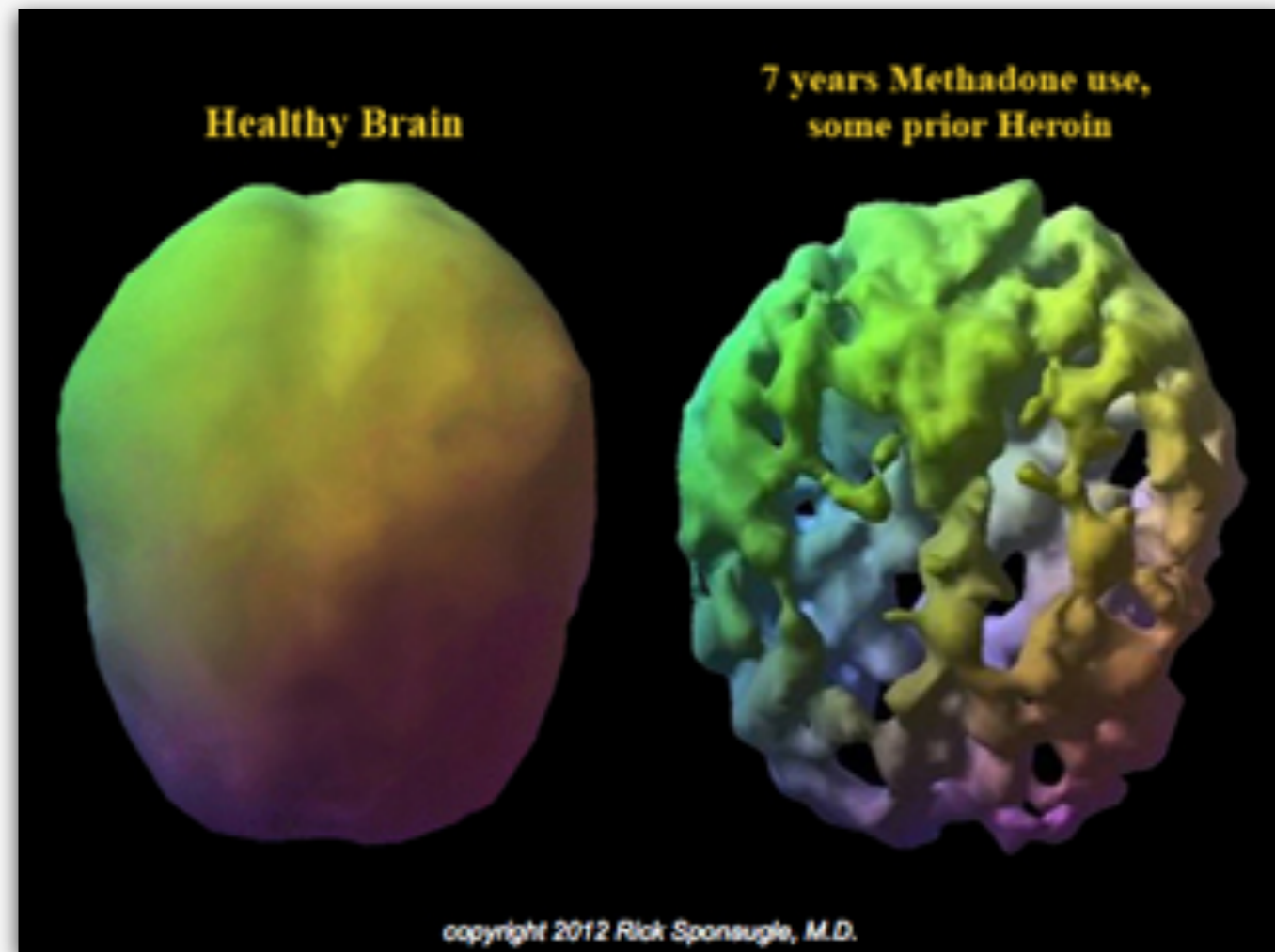
- ▶ narcotic - (greek) - numbness or stupor
- ▶ depress brain function, induces sleep, addictive
- ▶ short term
  - ▶ euphoric, feels lessening tension
  - ▶ quickly dependant with increasing tolerance
- ▶ long term
  - ▶ addiction, high cost leads to crime/social issues
  - ▶ injected drug - HIV + Hepatitis from unclean needles



## D.3 Opiates

### Addiction Treatment

- ▶ **Methadone** - taken orally, longer duration of action
- ▶ can reduce craving, and prevent withdrawal
- ▶ controversial, but effective treatment
- ▶ reduces death rate of heroin addicts



## D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

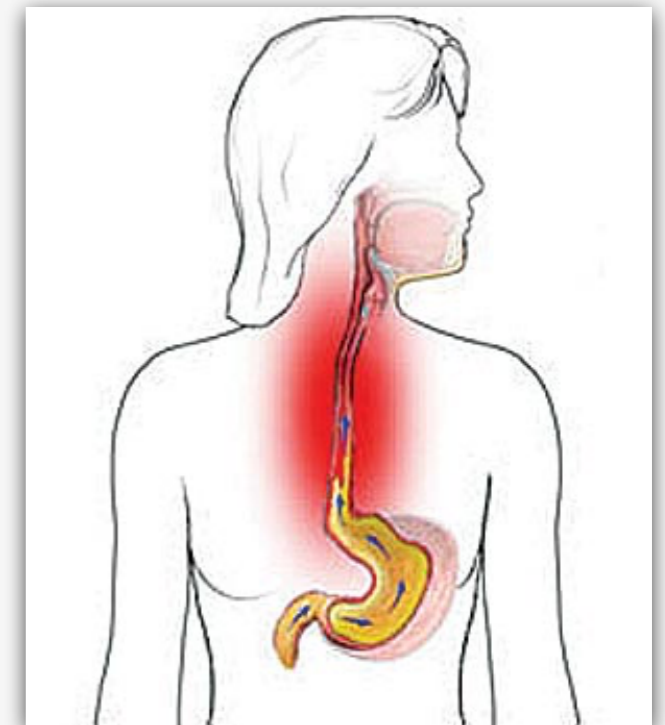


- ▶ body systems have strict regulation of pH throughout
- ▶ stomach is unique with HCl being produced by **perital cells** in lining of stomach wall (pH approx 1-2)
- ▶ acid not only kills bacteria ingested with food, but provides optimal environment for digestive enzymes

## D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

Excess acidity in the stomach is harmful

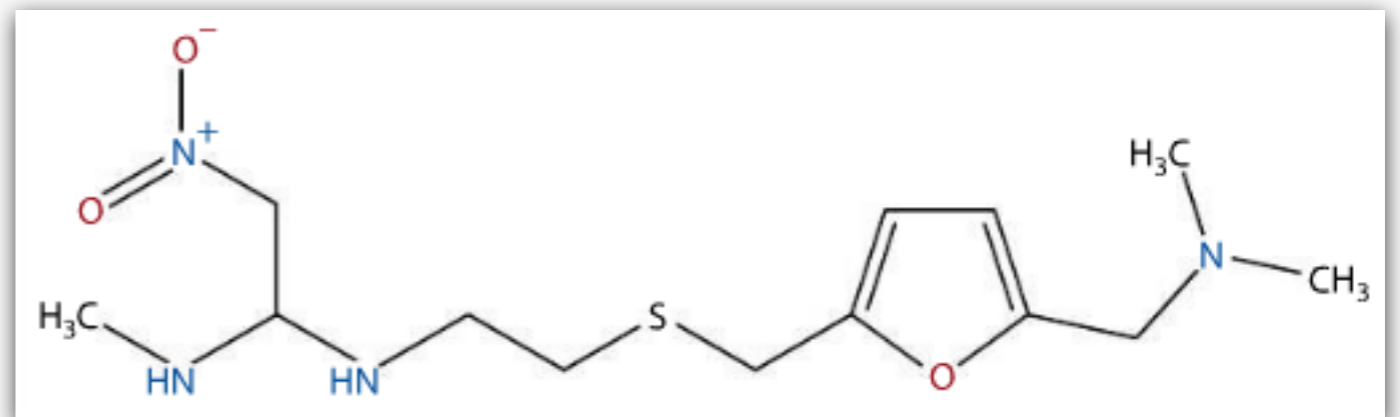
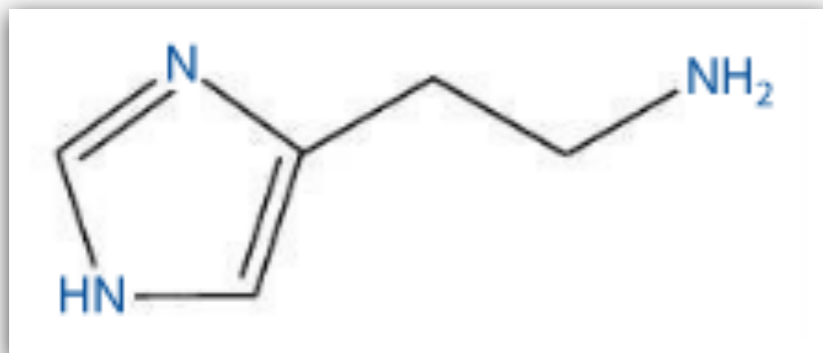
- ▶ Excess alcohol, smoking, caffeine, stress and some anti-inflammatory drugs — can cause excess acidity
- ▶ lead to the following:
  - ▶ acid indigestion - discomfort from too much acid
  - ▶ heartburn - acid rising into the esophagus (acid reflux)
  - ▶ ulceration - damage to the lining of the gut wall, loss of tissue and inflammation
  - ▶ **dyspepsia** - refers to feelings of pain and discomfort in the upper abdomen (indigestion and heartburn)



## D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

Some drugs work to prevent excess stomach acid

- ▶ The hormone histamine stimulates the stomach to stimulate the production of stomach acid - they interact at receptors known as  $H_2$  (not hydrogen gas...)
- ▶ Rantidine (Zantac) -  **$H_2$ -receptor antagonist**
  - ▶ competes with histamine @ the  $H_2$  receptors
  - ▶ available as an OTC drug - but higher doses require a prescription



## D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

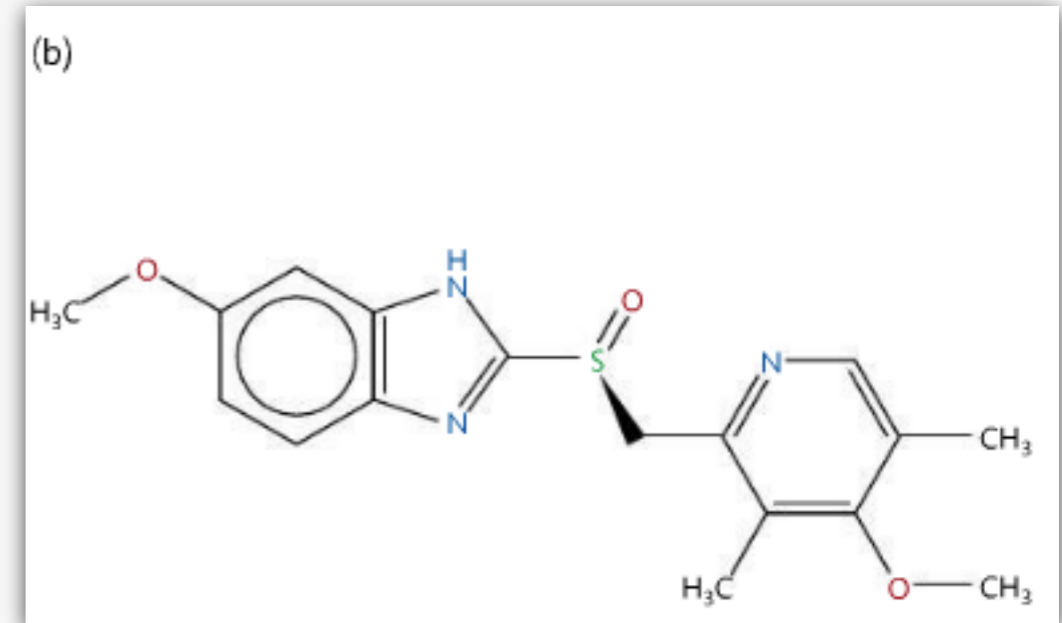
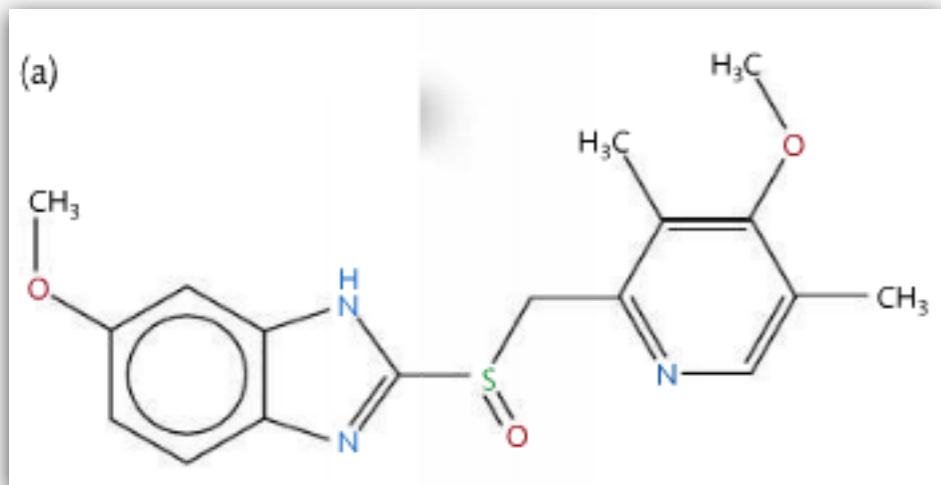
### Proton Pump Inhibitors

- ▶ In the last step of gastric acid secretion,  $H^+$  ions are pumped into the stomach as  $K^+$  ions are pumped in the opposite direction to prevent charge buildup
- ▶ Requires energy (against concentration gradient)
  - ▶ Hydrolysis of ATP (energy carrier) using the enzyme ATPase (embedded in cell membrane)
  - ▶ AKA  **$H^+/K^+$  ATPase** or a gastric proton pump

# D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

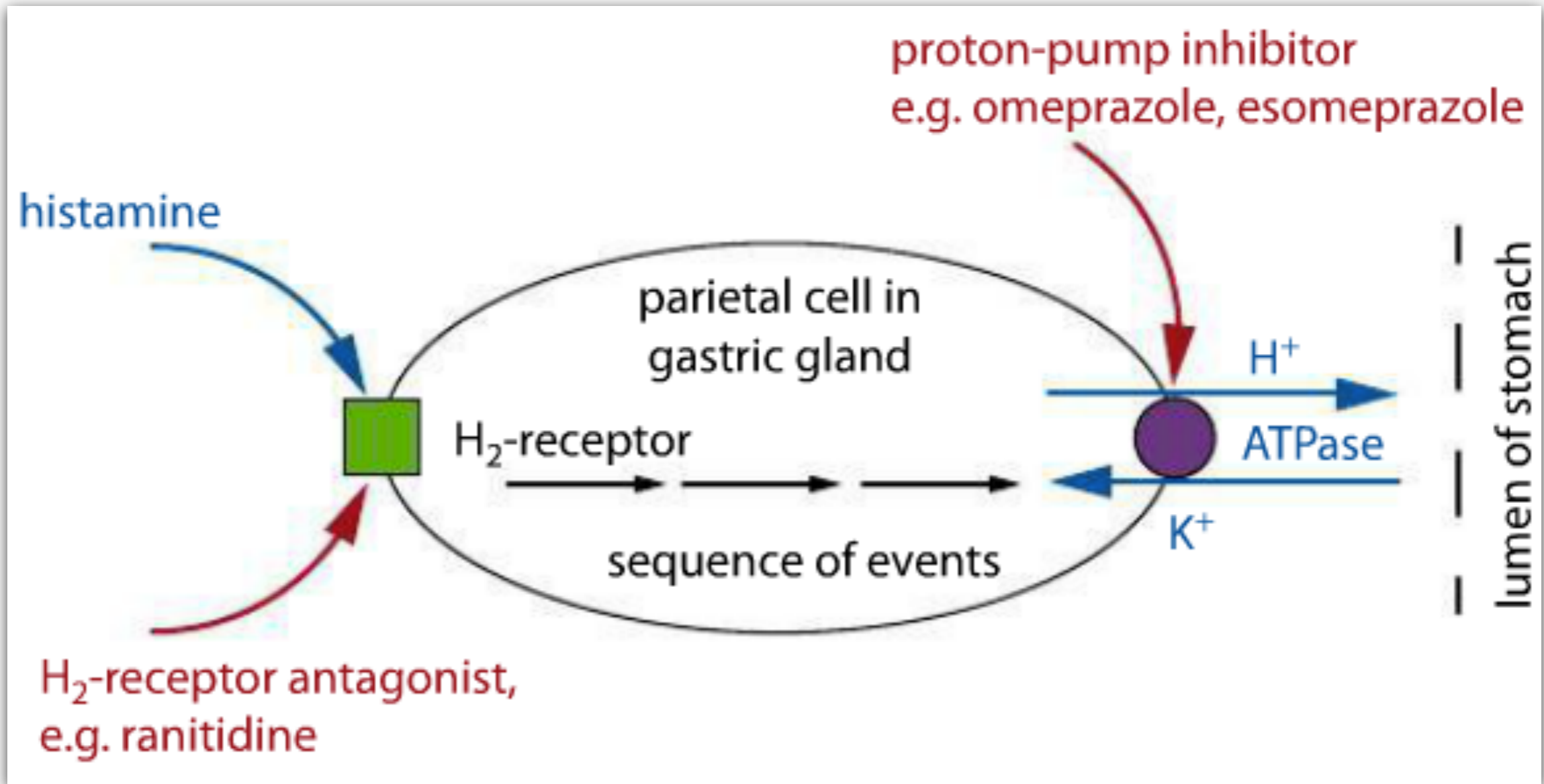
## Proton Pump Inhibitors

- ▶ First proton pump inhibitor - **omeprazole** (Prilosec)
- ▶ followed by release of **esomeprazole** (Nexium) when the patent expired for Prilosec (in 2001)



# D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

## Summary



## D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

### Antacids

- ▶ drugs that help combat stomach acid
- ▶ weak bases that neutralizing the HCl
- ▶ do not fix any stomach damage, but reduce the level of acid to allow the stomach time to heal
- ▶ ex.  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ ,  $\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2$ ,  $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$
- ▶  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_{2(\text{aq})} + \text{HCl}_{(\text{aq})} \rightarrow \text{CaCl}_{2(\text{aq})} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}_{(\text{l})}$



## D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

### Effects of Mg/Al combo antacids

- ▶ Mg salts - faster acting
  - ▶ laxative effect
- ▶ Al salts - slower acting but last longer
  - ▶ causes constipation
  - ▶ linked (but not proven to cause) to Alzheimer's
- ▶ Carbonates ( $\text{NaHCO}_3$ ) - create  $\text{CO}_2$  - cause bloating
  - ▶  $\text{NaHCO}_{3(\text{aq})} + \text{HCl}_{(\text{aq})} \rightarrow \text{NaCl}_{(\text{aq})} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_{(\text{l})} + \text{CO}_{2(\text{g})}$



## D.4 pH Regulation of the Stomach

### pH and Buffering

- ▶ body system is complex and requires specific pHs to work properly
- ▶ buffers prevent major fluctuations of pH

# How buffers work

- 2 main types of buffers
  - acidic - maintain the pH at a value less than 7
  - basic - maintain the pH at a value more than 7
- Mixture of 2 solutions
  - each contain a conjugate acid-base pair

# Determining pH of a Buffer Solution

- Consider an acidic buffer made of generic weak acid HA and its salt MA
  - $HA \rightleftharpoons H^+ + A^-$
  - $MA \rightarrow M^+ + A^-$
- We will make 2 approximations in order to help calculations
  - dissociation of HA is small  $\therefore [HA]_{\text{initial}} = [HA]_{\text{equilibrium}}$
  - the salt will fully dissociate  $\therefore [MA]_{\text{initial}} = [A^-]_{\text{equilibrium}}$

# Henderson-Hasselbalch

- $K_a = [H^+][A^-] / [HA]$
- $\therefore [H^+] = K_a \cdot [HA] / [A^-]$
- These equations are known as the Henderson-Hasselbalch Equations.
- Values must be in equilibrium concentrations
- we know:  $[HA]_{\text{initial}} = [HA]_{\text{equilibrium}}$  &  $[A^-]_{\text{equilibrium}} = [MA]_{\text{initial}}$

# Buffer & pH

- $\therefore [H^+] = K_a \cdot [HA]_{\text{initial}} / [MA]_{\text{initial}}$
- usually shown as:
  - $[H^+] = K_a \cdot [\text{acid}] / [\text{salt}]$
  - negative log of both sides
  - $\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log_{10} ( [\text{salt}] / [\text{acid}] )$
- for a base -  $[OH^-] = K_b \cdot [\text{base}] / [\text{salt}]$ 
  - $\text{pOH} = \text{p}K_b + \log_{10} ( [\text{salt}] / [\text{base}] )$

# Example

- Calculate the pH of a buffer solution at 298K, prepared by mixing 25cm<sup>3</sup> of 0.10 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> ethanoic acid, CH<sub>3</sub>COOH, with 25cm<sup>3</sup> of 0.10 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> sodium ethanoate, Na<sup>+</sup>CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>.
- $K_a$  of CH<sub>3</sub>COOH =  $1.8 \times 10^{-5}$  at 298K.
- In a buffer -
  - when [acid] = [salt], pH = pK<sub>a</sub>
  - when [base] = [salt], pOH = pK<sub>b</sub>

# Example

- How would you create a buffer solution with a pH 3.75 starting with methanoic acid,  $\text{HCOOH}$ ?



# Example

- How much  $0.10 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  butanoic acid solution and solid potassium butanoate should be used to make  $1.00 \text{ dm}^3$  of pH 5.00 buffer solution? State the assumptions made in the calculation.

# In summary...

- The pH of a buffer depends on
  - the  $pK_a$  (or  $pK_b$ ) of its acid or base (Table 21)
  - the ratio of initial concentrations of acid and salt (or base and salt) used in preparation