Medications used to treat Parkinson’s disease

Edwin B. George, M.D., Ph.D.
Director of Wayne State University Movement Disorder Clinic University Health Center Neurology Clinic University Health

The John D. Dingell VA Medical Clinic. Movement Disorder Clinic
Michigan Parkinson Foundation, board of Directors
Professional Advisory Board
Immediate Past Chair
# Treatment of Parkinson’s Disease

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<td>Bromocriptine</td>
<td>Apomorphine</td>
<td>Tolcapone</td>
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<td>Carbidopa</td>
<td>Pergolide</td>
<td>Ropinirole</td>
<td>Entacapone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benserazide</td>
<td>Lisuride*</td>
<td>Pramipexole</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cabergoline*</td>
<td>Rotigotine</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MAO-B Inhibitor</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trihexyphenidyl</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Selegiline</td>
<td></td>
<td>Benztropine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amantadine</td>
<td></td>
<td>Biperiden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rasagiline</td>
<td></td>
<td>Procyclidine</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*not marketed in the US for Parkinson’s disease*
Anticholinergics

- Often the most effective choice to treat Parkinsonian tremor
- Best tolerated in younger patients
- Discontinue anticholinergic medications first if cognitive dysfunction occurs
- Amantidine has both anticholinergic and MAO-B inhibitory effects
Anticholinergics: Side-Effects

- Memory impairment
- Confusion
- Hallucinations
- Dry eyes and dry mouth
- Exacerbation of constipation
- Urinary retention
Selegiline

- Provides good symptomatic treatment in early Parkinson’s disease
- Well tolerated in most patients, BID dosing is convenient
- Can be used effectively to delay initiation of dopaminergic therapy
- May have a mild neuroprotective effect
- Alleged increase in mortality is only in combination therapy with dopamine, if at all
Rasagiline

- Provides moderate efficacy as monotherapy in patients with early Parkinson's disease, may provide efficacy as adjunctive therapy to levodopa
- Well tolerated in most patients, once per day dosing is convenient
- Can be used effectively to delay initiation of dopaminergic therapy
- Has more neuroprotective effect than selegiline in preclinical studies
Dopamine Agonists

- Pramipexole = Mirapex
  - Tablet three times per day or daily long-acting
  - Cognitive side-effects > cardiovascular side-effects
- Ropinerole = Requip
  - Tablet three times per day or daily long-acting
  - Cardiovascular side-effects > cognitive side-effects
- Rotigotine = Neupro
  - Patch daily
- Apomorphine
  - Subcutaneous injection for short action
# Receptor Properties of Dopamine Agonists Used to Treat Parkinson’s Disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>D1</th>
<th>D2</th>
<th>D3</th>
<th>Half-life (h)</th>
<th>Ergot Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bromocriptine</td>
<td>0/-</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pergolide</td>
<td>0/+</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pramipexole</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>+++</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ropinirole</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabergoline</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Apomorphine

- Dopamine agonist with strong emetic properties
- Used in patients with severe oscillations in motor control
- CONTINUOUS SUBCUTANEOUS INFUSIONS of apomorphine have been used (Stibe et al, 1988). The initial rate was 1 mg/hr for 10 hrs with a minipump that delivered the dose into the abdominal wall. The dose was increased and the interval extended to 14 hours. The mean infusion rate was 0.04 mg/kg/hr (range, 0.02 to 0.07), with a mean daily dose of 77 mg (range, 30 to 150). In similar studies, patients required doses of 1.5 to 3.5 mg/hr for control (Ruggieri et al, 1989; Frankel et al, 1990)

- Subcutaneous injections of apomorphine were given as 0.02 ml/dose (10 mg/ml) PRN. The dose was gradually increased to a total of 0.14 ml (1.4 mg) until a good clinical response was consistently noted (Stibe et al, 1988). Under a similar protocol, patients required 2.5 to 7 mg (mean 4.7) for a positive clinical response (Poewe et al, 1988). Repeated injections (range 1.2 to 4 mg) do not decrease the sensitivity of receptors over time to dyskinesia episodes (Hughes et al, 1991)
Dopamine Agonist Side-effects

- Orthostatic hypotension and syncope
- Somnolence and sleep attack
- Hallucinations and delusions
- Compulsive behaviors
Carbidopa/Levododopa

- Most patients require 50-100 mg of carbidopa per day to prevent side-effects due to peripheral conversion of levodopa to dopamine
- Tablets of carbidopa alone are available to combine with carbidopa/levodopa
- Clinical effects of excess carbidopa are very rare
- Some patients can benefit from domperidone to block dopamine effects in the GI tract
Tolcapone

- Trade name: TASMAR
- Dosage
  - 100 mg TID (200 mg TID)
  - Liver enzymes every 2 weeks during the first year, every 4-8 weeks thereafter
- Tablets: 100, 200 mg
- Adverse effects
  - Diarrhea, nausea, dyspepsia, abdominal cramps, and dizziness
  - Risk of potentially fatal fulminant liver failure
Entacapone

- **Trade name:** COMTAN
- **Dosage**
  - 200 mg with each dose of levodopa
  - Maximum 1600 mg/day
- **Tablets:** 200 mg
- **Adverse effects**
  - Nausea, urine discoloration, abdominal pain, orthostatic hypotension and diarrhea
Stalevo

- Carbidopa/entacapone/levodopa tablets
  - 12.5 MG-200 MG-50 MG
  - 18.75 MG-200 MG-75 MG
  - 25 MG-200 MG-100 MG
  - 37.5 MG-200 MG-150 MG

- MAX 8 tablets per day
  - individual tablets should not be fractionated
  - only 1 tablet should be administered at each dosing interval

- FDA labeled indications: Idiopathic Parkinson's disease
  - Substitute (with equivalent strength of each of the 3 components) for immediate release carbidopa/levodopa and entacapone previously administered as individual products
  - Replace immediate release carbidopa/levodopa therapy (without entacapone) when patients have end-of-dose "wearing off"; only if total daily dose of levodopa is 600 mg or less and without dyskinesias
New Forms for an Old Therapy

RYTARY formulation

A NEW extended-release carbidopa and levodopa treatment

RYTARY is formulated in a 1:4 carbidopa to levodopa ratio.

Each capsule contains both:
- Immediate-release beads.
- Extended-release beads.
# New Forms for an Old Therapy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Levodopa</th>
<th>Rytary Capsules</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>levodopa-naive</td>
<td>Carbidopa 23.75 mg/levodopa 95 mg 3 times daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>400 mg to 549 mg/day</td>
<td>Carbidopa 23.75 mg/levodopa 95 mg 3 capsules 3 times daily; total dose levodopa 855 mg/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>550 mg to 749 mg/day</td>
<td>Carbidopa 23.75 mg/levodopa 95 mg 4 capsules 3 times daily; total dose levodopa 1140 mg/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750 mg to 949 mg/day</td>
<td>Carbidopa 36.25 mg/levodopa 145 mg 3 capsules 3 times daily; total dose levodopa 1305 mg/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>950 mg to 1249 mg/day</td>
<td>Carbidopa 48.75 mg/levodopa 195 mg 3 capsules 3 times daily; total dose levodopa 1755 mg/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1250 mg or more/day</td>
<td>Carbidopa 48.75 mg/levodopa 195 mg 4 capsules 3 times daily; total dose levodopa 2340 mg/day OR carbidopa 61.25 mg/levodopa 245 mg 3 capsules 3 times daily; total dose levodopa 2205 mg/day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Micromedex/ Package insert: Impax Laboratories (per FDA),
New Forms for an Old Therapy

Duopa is a gel for continuous intestinal administration. For long-term administration, the gel should be administered with a portable pump directly into the duodenum or upper jejunum by a permanent tube via percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy with an outer transabdominal tube and an inner intestinal tube.