

# Oral Chemotherapy: A Mouthful

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# Objectives

- Identify the major classes of oral chemotherapy agents
- Discuss mechanism of action (MOA), place in therapy, adverse effects, drug interactions (DIs) & treatment pearls of oral chemotherapy classes
- Demonstrate an understanding for the treatment of characteristic adverse effects of selected oral chemotherapy agents

# Oral Chemotherapy

- Chemotherapy taken orally to treat cancer
- Antineoplastic
  - Suppress the abnormal & rapid growth of malignant cells
- Specificity varies with selected agent
  - Non-specific MOA
  - Targeted therapy
    - Binds specific targets on cells that effect cell cycle mechanisms
  - Immunotherapy

# Pro's & Con's

## PROs

- Patient can manage own therapy
- Usually requires less supportive care for ADRs due to specificity
- Less dose dense chemotherapy
- Less visits to hospitals & oncology clinics

## CONs

- ↑ risk of medication non-compliance
- ↑ risk of mal-absorption OR supra-absorption
- Not available for all malignancies
- ↑ risk of drug/food interactions
- Excessive cost of medications (ie. Economic toxicity)



# Oral Chemotherapy

- **Multi tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs)**
  - Imatinib (Gleevec®), Sunitinib (Sutent®), Sorafenib (Nexavar®), Dasatinib (Sprycel®), Nilotinib (Tasigna®)
- **Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Inhibitors (EGFR-I)**
  - Erlotinib (Tarceva®), Lapatinib (Tykerb®), Gefitinib (Iressa®)
- **Anti-metabolites**
  - Capecitabine (Xeloda®)
- **Anti-hormonal Agents**
  - Tamoxifen, Anastrozole (Arimidex®), Exemestane (Aromasin®), Letrozole (Femara®), Abiraterone (Zytiga®)
- **Alkylating Agents**
  - Temozolomide (Temodal®), Cyclophosphamide (Procytox®)
- **Miscellaneous**
  - Everolimus (Afinitor®), Lenalidomide (Revlimid®), Prednisone

# Oral Chemotherapy

- **Multi Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors (TKIs)**
  - Imatinib (Gleevec<sup>®</sup>), Sunitinib (Sutent<sup>®</sup>), Sorafenib (Nexavar<sup>®</sup>), Dasatinib (Sprycel<sup>®</sup>), Nilotinib (Tasigna<sup>®</sup>)
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# Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors

- Targeted therapy
- Broad spectrum of activity
  - Hematologic malignancies
  - Solid tumors
- First approved in 2001
- Represent a big step forward for patient specific therapy
  - Targeted = less toxicities



# Mechanism of Action

- Tyrosine kinases (TKs)
  - Catalyses phosphorylation of tyrosine residues
  - Governs cellular processes including:
    - Cellular growth & survival
    - Proliferation
    - Differentiation
    - Apoptosis
- Two different types of TKs
  - Receptor TKs
  - Cellular TKs



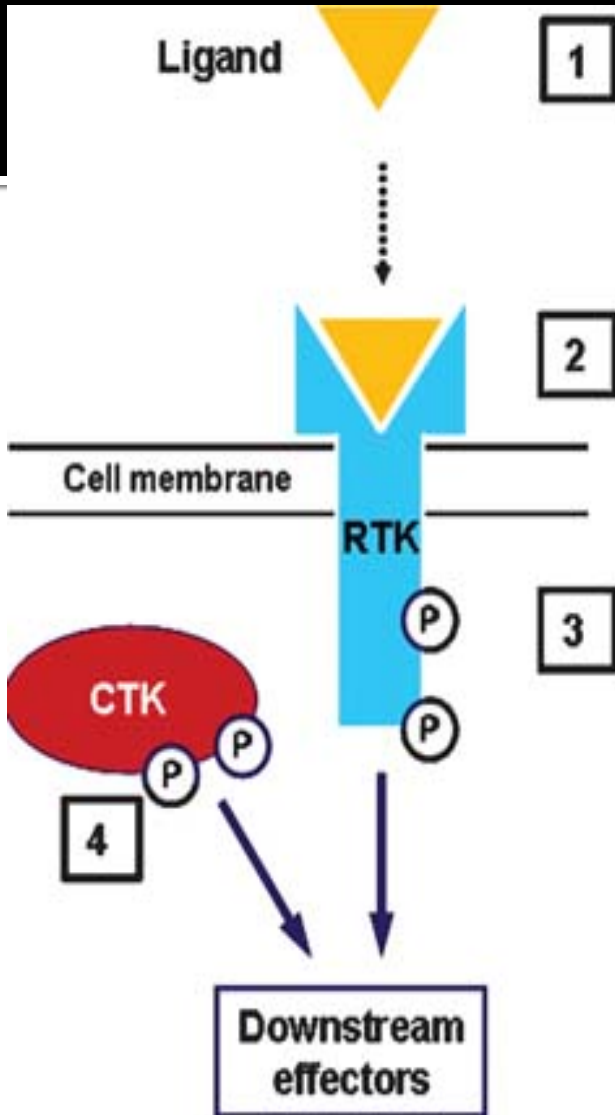
# Mechanism of Action

## Extracellular Activity

- Inhibits ligand OR binds to extracellular TK domain
- Monoclonal antibodies (aka *large molecule*)
- IV administration
- Trastuzumab (Herceptin<sup>®</sup>), Bevacizumab (Avastin<sup>®</sup>), Cetuximab (Erbix<sup>®</sup>)

## Intracellular Activity

- Binds TKs on intracellular TK domain OR cellular TKs
- Bind ATP binding site of TKs
- Aka “small molecule TKI”
- **PO administration**



	Target	Drug
1. Ligand sequestration/inactivation	VEGF-A	Bevacizumab
2. Receptor binding/inactivation	EGFR	Cetuximab
3. Inhibition of RTK phosphorylation	EGFR	Erlotinib
4. Inhibition of CTK phosphorylation	Bcr-Abl	Imatinib

RTK = Receptor tyrosine kinase  
 CTK = Cytosolic tyrosine kinase  
 P = Phosphorylation

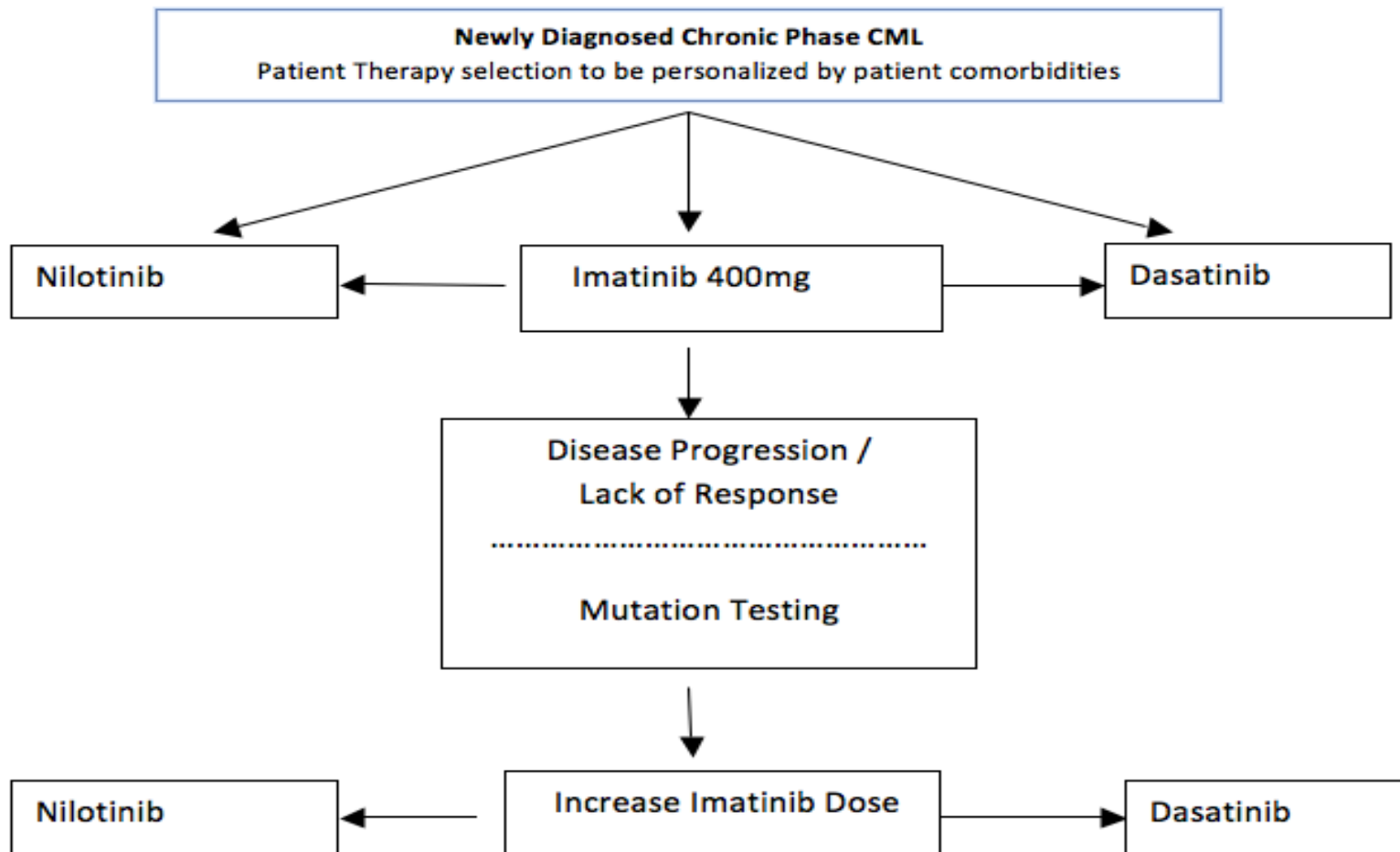
# Multi-TKIs

- Act on cellular TKs in the cytoplasm
  - Amplify signal from trans-membrane TKs
- Each drug acts on unique cellular TKs

TKI	Enzymes effected
Imatinib (Gleevec®)	Bcr-Abl ( <i>major</i> ), c-kit, PDGFR
Dasatinib (Sprycel®)	Bcr-Abl ( <i>major</i> ), Src family, c-kit, PDGFR, EPHA2
Nilotinib (Tasigna®)	Bcr-Abl ( <i>major</i> ), c-kit, PDGFR
Sunitinib (Sutent®)	VEGFR, c-kit, PDGFR, CSF1-R, Flt-3, RET
Sorafenib (Nexavar®)	VEGFR, c-kit, PDGFR, Raf, Flt-3, RET, FGFR-1

# Place in therapy

	Cancer Site	TKI
<b>Hematologic</b>	Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML)	Imatinib
		Dasatinib
		Nilotinib
	Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL)	Dasatinib
<b>Solid Tumor</b>	*GIST	Imatinib
		Sunitinib
	Renal Cell Carcinoma	Sorafenib
		Sunitinib
	Hepatic Carcinoma	Sorafenib
	Pancreatic Carcinoma	Sunitinib
*GIST = Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor		



# Adverse Events

- Chemo related toxicities must be graded before treatment
- Toxicities graded by the Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE)
  - Grades toxicities from 1-5
  - 1= Mild toxicity ; 5= Death
- Toxicity grade coordinates with elected supportive care
- Refer to drug manuals for comprehensive list of ADRs
  - [www.bccancer.bc.ca](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca)
  - [www.cancercare.on.ca](http://www.cancercare.on.ca)

# Adverse Events

## ■ Myelosuppression

- Neutropenia & thrombocytopenia
- Related to underlying malignancy
- Dose related (ie. *Higher doses in accelerated phase of disease*)
- Dasatinib > Imatinib > Nilotinib > Sorafenib/Sunitinib

## ■ Hepatotoxicity

- $\uparrow$  Tbili ( $>3x$  ULN) &  $\uparrow$  AST/ALT ( $>5x$  ULN)
- Dose reduction or interruption

## ■ Edema

- Dose related
- Pleural effusion (*Dasatinib*)
- Caution in CHF, ascites, etc.
- Responsive to loop diuretics (ie. *Furosemide*)



# Adverse Events

- Diarrhea
  - Dasatinib > Nilotinib > Imatinib
  - Supportive therapy (ie. Loperamide)
- Pancreatitis
  - ↑ in amylase/lipase (>2x ULN)
  - Unique to **Nilotinib**
- QT Prolongation
  - **Nilotinib >> Dasatinib > Sunitinib**
  - **May require interruption**
  - Monitor new/current meds that could also ↑QT<sub>c</sub>
- Electrolyte abnormalities
  - Hypo-/hyperkalemia, hyponatremia, hypocalcemia, hypophosphatemia
  - Nilotinib



# Adverse Events

- **Hypertension (14-28%)**
  - Sunitinib & Sorafenib (...Due to inhibition of VEGF & PDGFTK..?)
  - Avoid non-DHP CCBs due to drug interactions
- **Left Ventricular Dysfunction (↓ in LVEF)**
  - Sunitinib & Sorafenib
  - Caution patients with previous cardiac history (*ie. CHF, MI, etc.*)
  - Monitor LVEF with MUGA scan at baseline & as clinically indicated
- **Hypothyroidism (36%)**
  - Sunitinib
  - Monitor TSH monthly during therapy
- **Hand-Foot syndrome (12-14%)**
  - Sorafenib > Sunitinib
  - Different than Xeloda type HFS
- **Bleeding/Hemorrhaging (15-26%)**
  - Sorafenib & Sunitinib
  - Occurs from any site



# Drug Interactions (DIs) – TKIs

- All TKIs extensively metabolized by CYP3A4
  - Cornucopia of drug interactions
  - May inhibit 3A4 metabolism of other substrates

Other Substrates	Inhibitors	Inducers
Warfarin, non-DHP CCBs, statins, digoxin, <b>midazolam</b>	Grapefruit juice, Azole antifungals, erythromycin, clarithromycin etc.	<b>Dexamethasone</b> , Rifampin, anticonvulsants, SJW etc.

- PPI's, H<sub>2</sub>RA's and Antacids
  - ↑pH of gastric secretions = ↓absorption = ↓pharmacological effect
  - Separate administration by ~2-4 hours
- Synergistic QT<sub>c</sub> prolongation
  - Antimicrobials, 5-HT<sub>3</sub> antagonists (ie. Ondansetron), antiarrhythmics, etc.

# Administration

- Food can vary the bioavailability of some TKIs
  - Food = ↓gastric pH = unpredictable absorption = ↑ ADRs
- Strict guidelines on administration

TKI	Dose	Administration	Renal Adjustment
Imatinib	400-800mg daily	With Food	😊
Nilotinib	300-400mg BID	<b>WITHOUT Food*</b>	😊
Dasatinib	100-140mg daily	N/A	😊
Sunitinib	37.5-50mg daily	N/A	😊
Sorafenib	400mg BID	<b>WITHOUT Food*</b>	😞

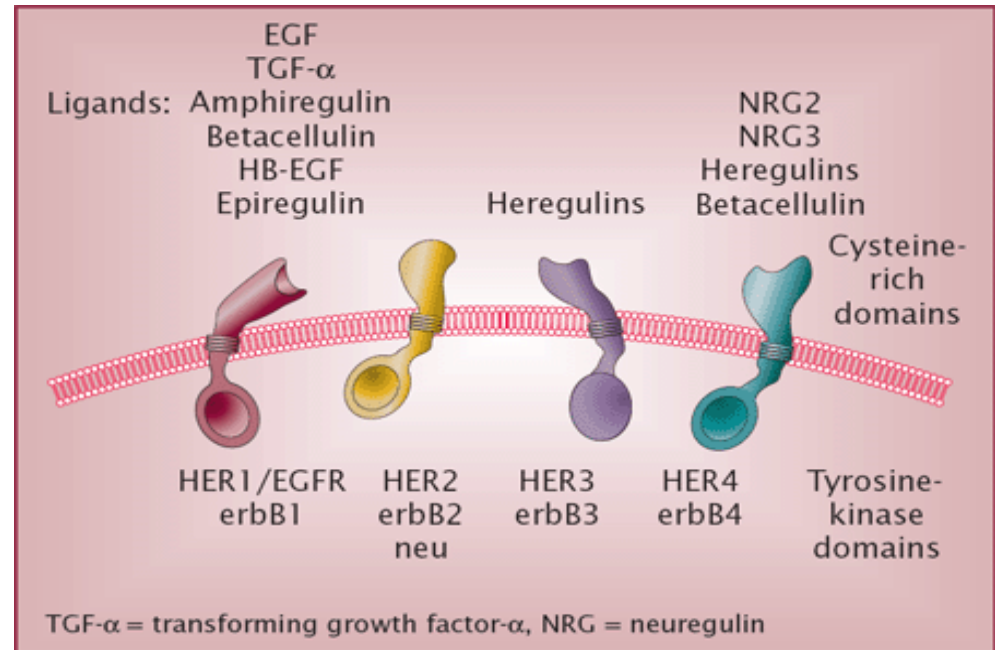
\*=1hr before OR 2hrs after a meal; N/A= not applicable

# Monitoring

Baseline	Regular	As clinically indicated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBC, Plt</li> <li>• Lytes, SCr/BUN, LFTs, uric acid</li> <li>• Amylase/lipase (<i>nilotinib</i>)</li> <li>• TSH (<i>sunitinib</i>)</li> <li>• QT interval (ECG)</li> <li>• Drug interactions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBC, Plt</li> <li>• Lytes, SCr/BUN, LFTs, uric acid</li> <li>• Blood pressure (<i>sunitinib/sorafenib</i>)</li> <li>• Electrolytes (<i>nilotinib</i>)</li> <li>• TSH (<i>sunitinib</i>)</li> <li>• QT interval (ECG)</li> <li>• Compliance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBC, Plt</li> <li>• TSH (<i>sunitinib</i>)</li> <li>• MUGA scan (<i>sunitinib/sorafenib</i>)</li> <li>• Blood Pressure (<i>sunitinib/sorafenib</i>)</li> <li>• Fluid retention (<i>ie. Pleural effusion, pedal edema, etc</i>)</li> <li>• Drug interactions</li> </ul>

# EGFR specific TKIs

- Reversibly inhibit receptor TK on HER family of receptors
- EGFR = "HER-1"
- Over-expressed and/or mutated in many cancers



Drug	TK Target
Lapatinib (Tykerb®)	EGFR (HER-1) + HER-2
Erlotinib (Tarceva®)	EGFR (HER-1)
Gefitinib (Iressa®)	EGFR (HER-1)

# Place in therapy

- HER-2 (+) Breast cancer
  - Lapatinib combined with Xeloda®
  - **Adjuvant**: Relapsed on or within 12 months of Herceptin®
  - **Advanced**: Progress despite prior Herceptin® based therapy
- Advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)
  - Erlotinib, Gefinitinb
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> line

# Adverse Events

- Rash (45-100%)
  - Class specific toxicity
    - Acneiform **like** rash on face & upper trunk
  - Correlates with clinical activity of drug → surrogate marker?
- Other skin toxicities
  - Nail changes (10-20%), xerosis, pruritis, hirsutism, trichomegaly
- Diarrhea (36-59%)
  - Dose related
  - Symptomatic treatment (ie. Loperamide)
- QT<sub>c</sub> Prolongation
- Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD) (0.3-2%)
  - Gefitinib & erlotinib
  - Requires discontinuation of drug



BETH EBERT-SANDY, CRNP, CCN



**FIGURE 1.** Grade 3 rash on the chest of a patient taking erlotinib



# EGFR Induced rash

## Mild Symptoms (Grade 1)

- No Treatment **OR**
- Topical HC 1-2.5% Clindamycin 1% gel
- **Duration**: 2-4 weeks
- No dose reduction required

## Moderate Symptoms (Grade 2)

- HC 1-2.5% Clindamycin 1% **PLUS**
- Doxycycline 100mg BID **OR** Minocycline 100mg BID
- **Duration**: 2-4 weeks
- No dose reduction required

## Severe Symptoms (Grade 3-4)

- HC 1-2.5% Clindamycin 1% **PLUS**
- Doxycycline 100mg BID **OR** Minocycline 100mg BID
- **PLUS** Short course of PO steroids
- Dose reduction or interruption in therapy

# EGFR Induced rash

## ■ Counselling Points

1. Bath in warm or lukewarm water (not hot)
2. Use mild soaps without alcohols, perfume or dyes
3. Continuous use of non-alcoholic, emollient cream (ie. Eucerin®)
4. Avoid prolonged sun exposure
  - Wear hat, long sleeved shirt & pants
  - Use zinc OR titanium oxide based sun block on exposed areas

# Drug Interactions

- Extensively metabolized by CYP<sub>3A4</sub>
  - May inhibit metabolism of other CYP<sub>3A4</sub> substrates

Other Substrates	Inhibitors	Inducers
Warfarin, non-DHP CCBs, statins, digoxin, midazolam	GFJ, Azole antifungals, erythromycin, clarithromycin etc.	Dexamethasone, Rifampin, anticonvulsants, SJW etc.

- PPI's, H<sub>2</sub>RA's & Antacids
  - ↑pH = ↓absorption = ↓pharmacological effect
  - Separate administration by ~2-4hrs
- QT<sub>c</sub> prolongation drugs
- Metoprolol...?
  - Gefitinib inhibition of CYP<sub>2D6</sub>

# Administration

EGFR Inhibitor	Dose	Administration	Renal Adj.	†Hepatic Adj.
Lapatinib	1250mg daily	<b>*WITHOUT Food</b>	😊	😞
Erlotinib	150mg daily	<b>*WITHOUT Food</b>	😊	😞
Gefinitib	250mg daily	N/A	😊	😊

\*= 1 hour before OR 2 hours after meals

† = Tbili >3X ULN **OR** AST/ALT >5X ULN requires interruption or discontinuation

N/A = Not applicable

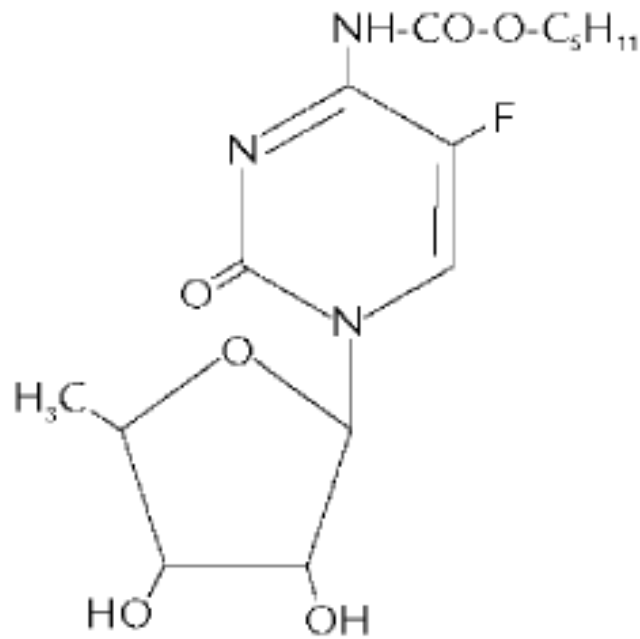
# Monitoring

Baseline	Regular (Each cycle)	As clinically indicated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CBC, Plt</li><li>• Lytes, SCr/BUN, LFTs, bilirubin</li><li>• Chest X-ray for ILD (<i>Erlotinib, Gefitinib</i>)</li><li>• MUGA scan (<i>Lapatinib</i>)</li><li>• Skin &amp; nail abnormalities</li><li>• QT interval (ECG)</li><li>• Drug interactions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CBC, Plt</li><li>• Lytes, SCr/BUN, LFTs, bilirubin</li><li>• Skin &amp; nail abnormalities</li><li>• Compliance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CBC, Plt</li><li>• Chest X-ray for ILD (<i>Erlotinib, Gefitinib</i>)</li><li>• MUGA scan (<i>Lapatinib</i>)</li><li>• QT interval (ECG)</li><li>• Drug interactions</li></ul>

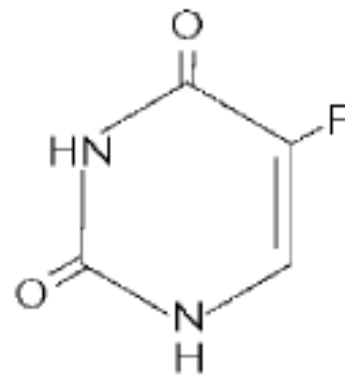
# Oral Chemotherapy

- **Multi Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors (TKIs)**
  - Imatinib (Gleevec<sup>®</sup>), Sunitinib (Sutent<sup>®</sup>), Sorafenib (Nexavar<sup>®</sup>), Dasatinib (Sprycel<sup>®</sup>), Nilotinib (Tasigna<sup>®</sup>)
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- **Anti-metabolites**
  - Capecitabine (Xeloda<sup>®</sup>)
- **Anti-hormonal Agents**
  - Tamoxifen, Anastrozole (Arimidex<sup>®</sup>), Exemestane (Aromasin<sup>®</sup>), Letrozole (Femara<sup>®</sup>), Abiraterone (Zytiga<sup>®</sup>)

# Capecitabine (Xeloda<sup>®</sup>)



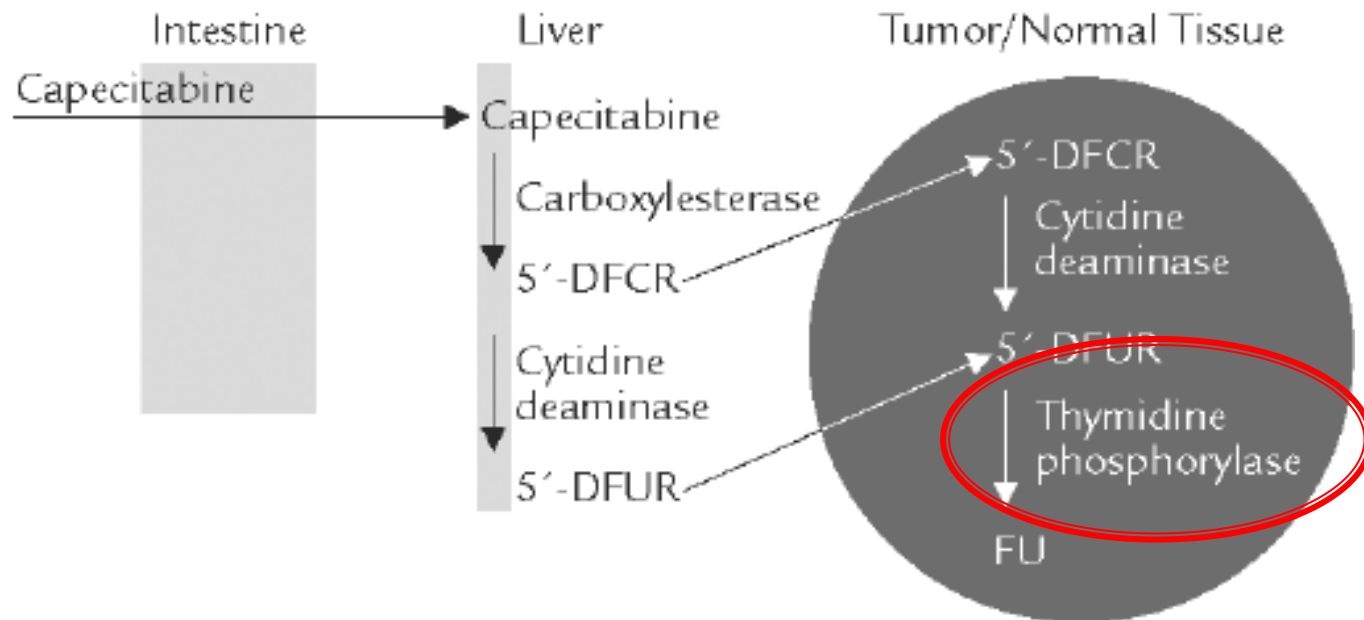
Capecitabine



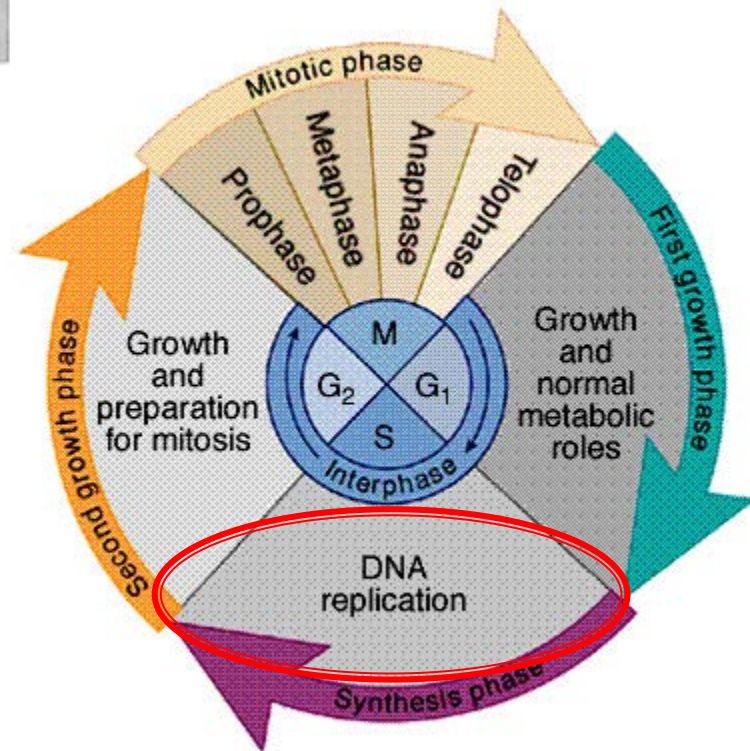
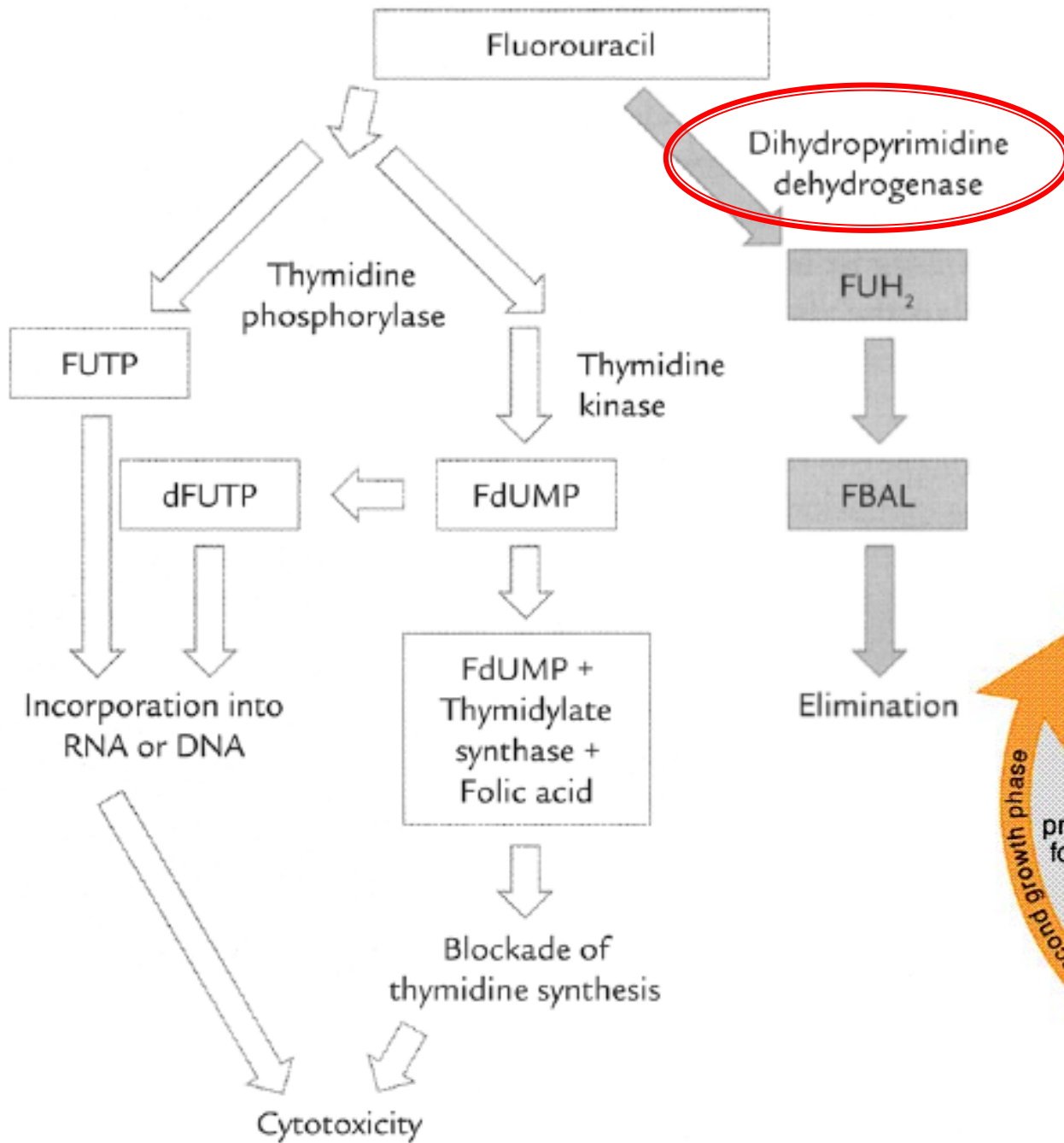
Fluorouracil

# Pharmacology

- Pro-drug metabolized to 5-Fluorouracil (5-FU)
  - 3 step metabolism
  - Concentrates 5-FU within tumor tissue









# Place in therapy

- Metastatic breast cancer
  - Mono-therapy
  - Combination with Docetaxel (Taxotere®)
  - Combination with Lapatinib **OR** Herceptin®
- Gastrointestinal malignancies
  - Colorectal cancer
    - Adjuvant & Metastatic settings
    - Acts as a radio-sensitizer in combination with radiation
  - Esophageal & gastric cancers
  - Neuro-endocrine cancer of the pancreas

# Adverse Effects

- Palmar-Plantar Erythrodysesthesia (53-57%)
  - Aka Hand-Foot syndrome (HFS)
- Nausea (38-53%) , Vomiting (23-37%) & Anorexia (20-23%)
  - **Moderate** emetogenic potential
- Diarrhea (**49-57%**)
  - Supportive care is **KEY**
- Stomatitis (25%)
  - Tender & painful oral ulceration
- Severe hyperbilirubinemia (~19%)
  - Bilirubin >1.5X ULN requires interruption until normalization

# HFS

- PEG-Doxorubicin, Xeloda<sup>®</sup>, 5-FU, sorafenib, sunitinib
- Symptoms are painful & debilitating
  - Dysesthesia → erythema → swelling → blistering → ulceration
- Multiple pathologic mechanisms
  - Concentration in sweat glands
  - Mechanical trauma to micro-capillaries in hands/feet
  - Build up of 5-FU metabolites in skin
- Time dependant
  - Occurs after >3-4 weeks of therapy



### **Grade 1**

**Numbness, dysesthesia or paresthesia, tingling, painless swelling or erythema, and/or discomfort of hands or feet not disrupting normal activities**



### **Grade 2**

**Painful erythema and swelling of hands or feet and/or discomfort affecting ADLs**



### **Grade 3**

**Moist desquamation, ulceration, blistering or severe pain of hands or feet, or severe discomfort preventing work or performance of ADLs**

- Dose reduction & therapy interruption mainstay of therapy
  - Grade 1: Focus on prevention
  - Grade 2-3: Delay therapy until grade 0-1; possible dose ↓
  - Grade 4: Usually requires D/C of therapy
  - Typically improves within 1-2 weeks after interruption
- Prevention & supportive care is critical
  - **Goals of therapy**: ↓ pain, discomfort & prevent infections
  - Petrolatum and/or lanolin based emollients
  - Cold compresses & cold water baths
  - Analgesics (ie. Tylenol, opioids, Celecoxib...?)
  - Vitamin B<sub>6</sub> (pyridoxine)

- Counselling points
  1. Avoid tight fitting shoes, gloves and socks
  2. Limit strenuous activity requiring hands & feet
    - Heavy lifting, long walks, running, standing for long periods
  3. Avoid sweating and excessive heat on the hands & feet
    - Sweat or perspiration should be washed off immediately
  4. Promote regular use of moisturizers on hands & feet

# Drug Interactions

- Warfarin
  - CYP2C9 inhibition
  - May ↑ INR on initiation or dose changes
  - Monitor INR more frequently initially
- Phenytoin
  - May ↑ phenytoin levels
  - Monitor levels & for signs of toxicity
- Antacids ( $Mg^{2+}$ , Al)
  - Space 2hrs from therapy
  - Theoretical interaction, not clinically meaningful



# Administration

- Dosed twice daily (BID) after meals
- 1250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> BID (total 2500 mg/m<sup>2</sup> daily)
  - Cycles usually 2 weeks on, 1 week off
- Requires renal adjustment
  - ~96% renal elimination
  - Ensure patient isn't in acute renal failure (ie. diarrhea....)

>50 mL/min	30-50 mL/min	<30 mL/min
Full dose	25% dose reduction	Contraindicated

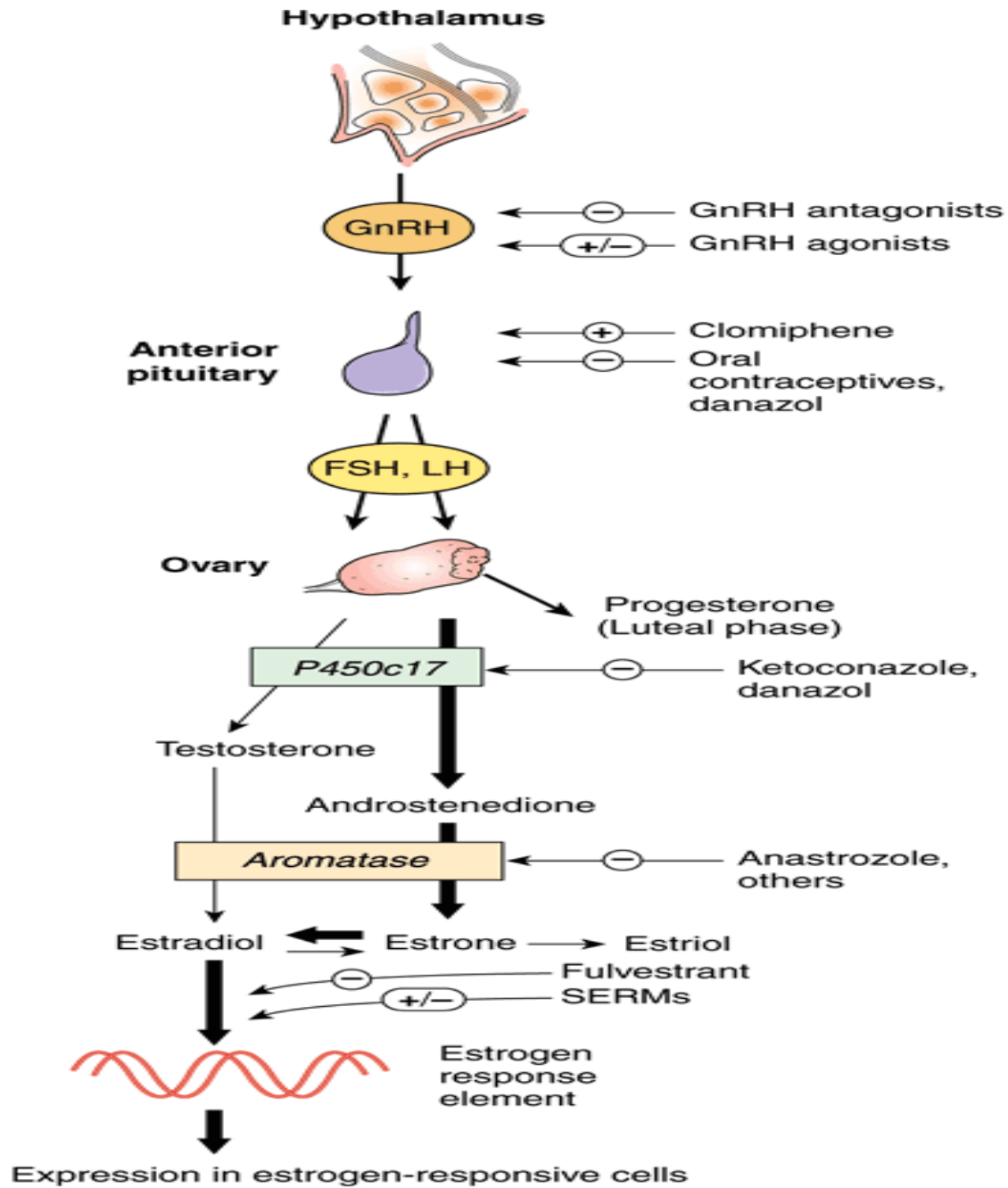
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Baseline	Regular (Each cycle)	As clinically indicated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CBC, Plt</li><li>• Lytes, SCr/BUN, LFTs, <b>bilirubin</b></li><li>• Drug interactions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CBC, Plt</li><li>• Lytes, SCr/BUN, LFTs, <b>bilirubin</b></li><li>• Exam of hands &amp; feet to assess for HFS</li><li>• Compliance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CBC, Plt</li><li>• Bilirubin, LFTs</li><li>• Drug interactions</li></ul>

- Regular monitoring for HFS can allow for early detection
  - Preventative therapies can be initiated to prevent progression

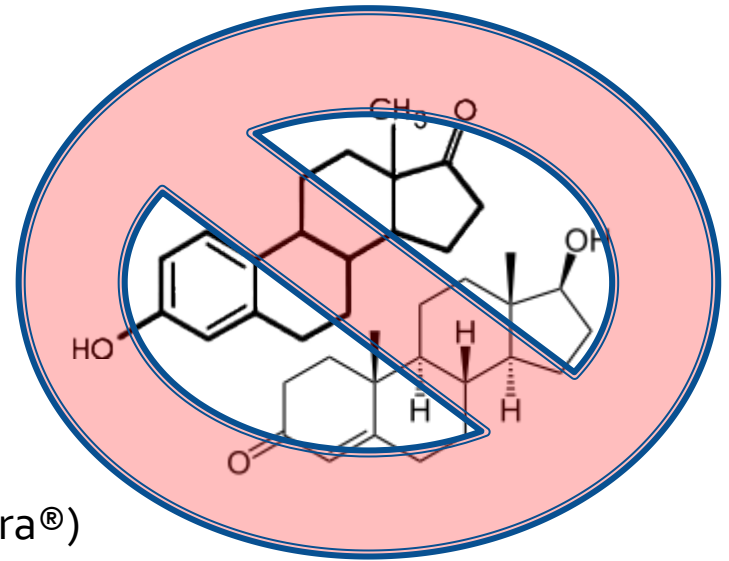
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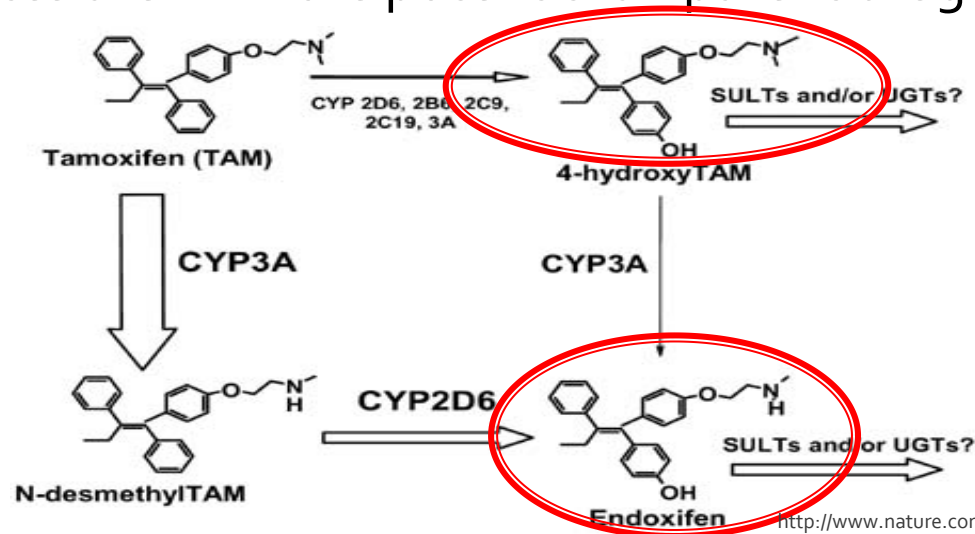
# Anti-hormonal Agents

- Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulator (SERM)
  - Tamoxifen
- Aromatase Inhibitors (AIs)
  - Steroidal analogues
    - Exemestane (Aromasin®)
  - Non-Steroidal analogues
    - Anastrozole (Arimidex®), Letrozole (Femara®)
- Anti-androgen
  - Abiraterone (Zytiga®)



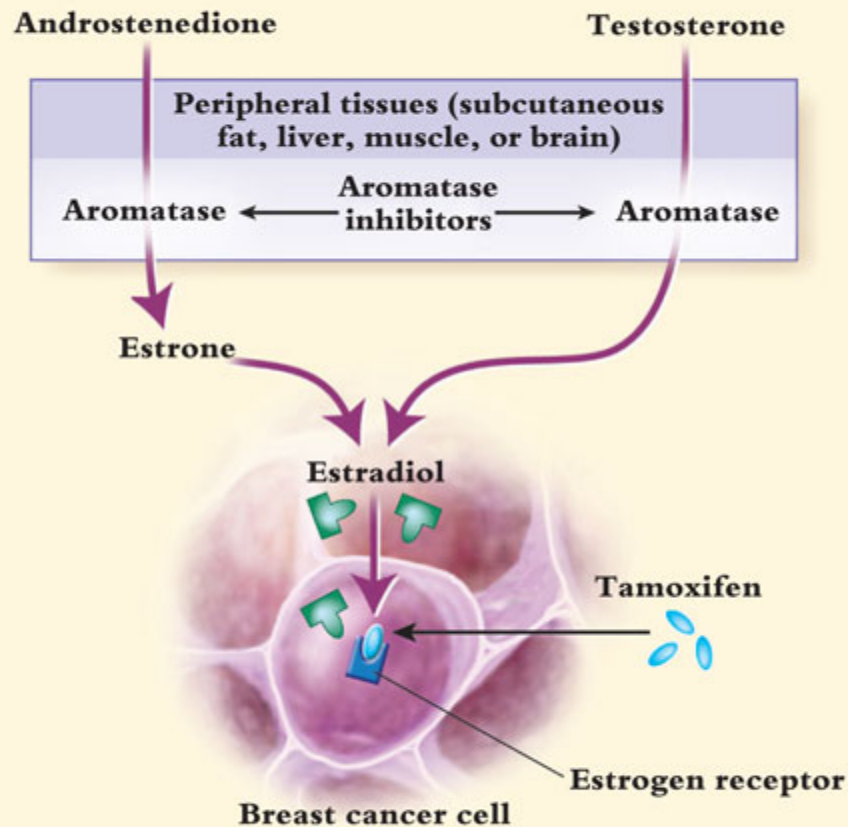
# Tamoxifen

- Mixed effects at estrogen receptors
  - **Antagonistic:** Breast tissue
  - **Agonistic:** Bone ( $\uparrow$  *BMD*), endometrial tissue (hypertrophy/cancer), liver ( $\downarrow$  lipids), coagulation ( $\uparrow$  Thrombosis)
- Requires activation by CYP2D6 (major) & 3A4/5
  - Metabolites are ++ more potent than parent drug

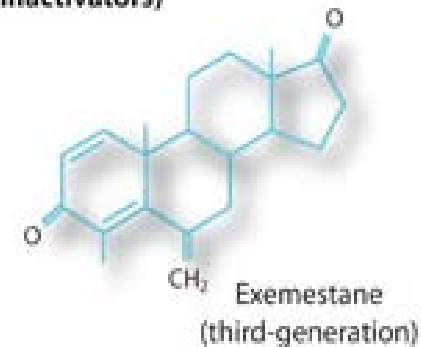
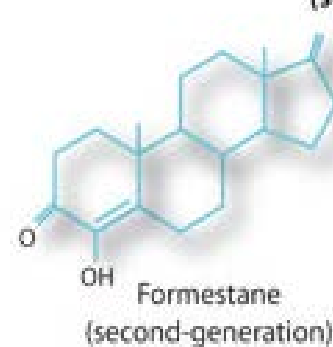


# Aromatase Inhibitors

Figure 2. Mechanism of action of the aromatase inhibitors.



## Type 1 Inhibitors (steroidal inactivators)

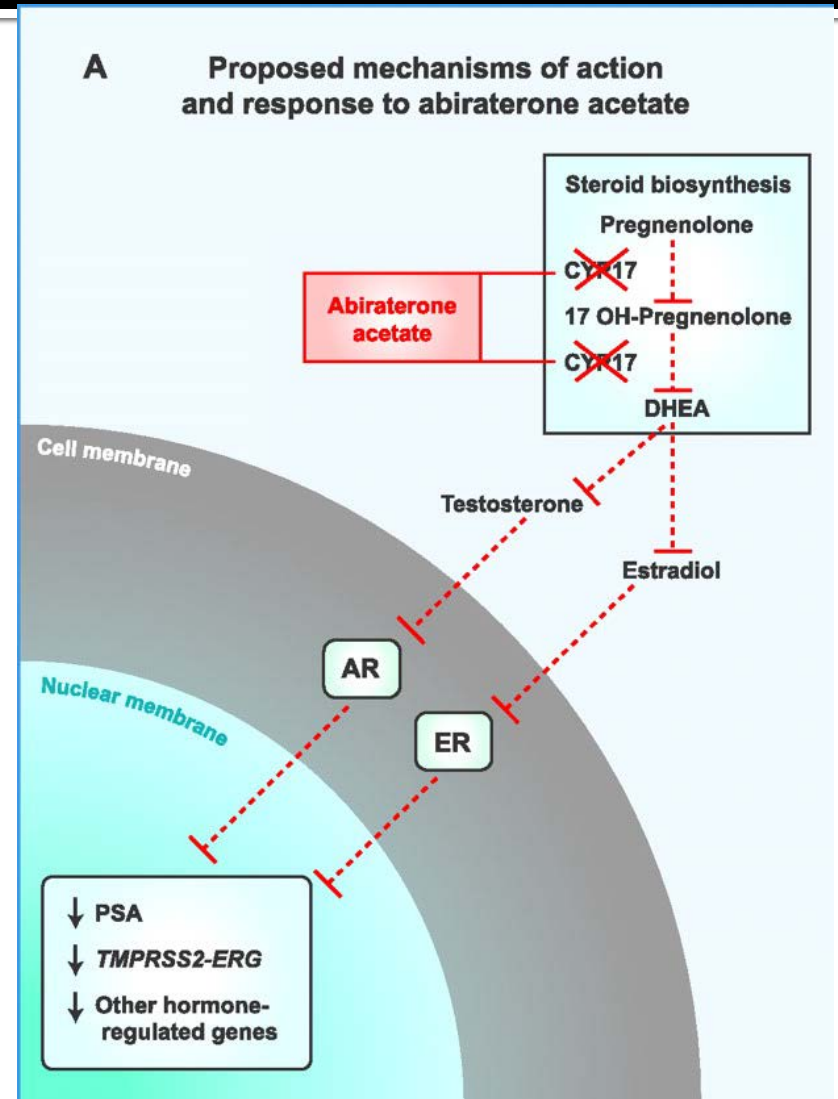


## Type 2 Inhibitors (nonsteroidal inhibitors)



# Abiraterone

- Testosterone stimulates growth of prostate tumors
- Inhibits metabolism of precursors to testosterone
  - Via CYP17 enzyme
  - Testis, adrenals, prostate tumor
- Adrenal glands compensate by ↑ mineralo-corticoid production
  - ADRs





# Place in therapy

- Adjuvant breast cancer
  - All tumors that are ER/PR +

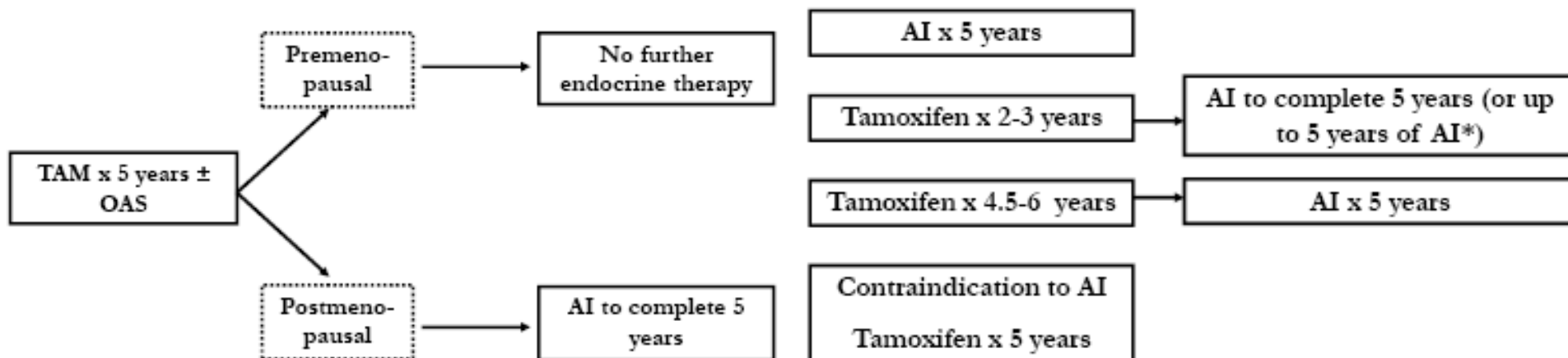
Drug Class	Place in Therapy
Tamoxifen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Premenopausal women:</b> 5 yrs of treatment</li><li>• <b>Postmenopausal women:</b> 2-3yrs of tamoxifen followed by AI (to complete 5yrs OR additional 5yrs)</li><li>• <b>Postmenopausal women:</b> 4.5-6yrs of tamoxifen followed by 5 yrs of AI</li></ul>
Als	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Postmenopausal women only</b></li><li>• 5 yrs of therapy (<i>with no tamoxifen</i>)</li><li>• 5 yrs of therapy after 2-3 yrs OR 4.5-6yrs of tamoxifen</li></ul>

- Metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC)
  - Combined with prednisone 10mg daily
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> line after treatment with docetaxel (Taxotere®)
  - Castration could be surgical or pharmacological

# Place in therapy

## Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy Premenopausal Women

## Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy Postmenopausal Women



# Adverse Effects

- Menopausal type ADRs
  - Hot flashes, sweating, depression
- Arthralgia & myalgia (4-29%)
- Endometrial hypertrophy
  - Bleeding/spotting, endometriosis, ↑risk of endometrial cancer
- Venous thromboembolism (2-5%)
  - Monitor those patients at ↑ risk
- Vision abnormalities (<1-7%)
  - Cataracts, retinopathy, visual acuity
- Menopausal type ADRs
  - Hot flashes, vaginal dryness, depression
- Arthralgia & Myalgia (2-36%)
- Headache (8-19%)
- Osteoporosis
  - ↑ risk of fractures
  - Calcium + Vitamin D supplementation
- Edema (2-17%)
- Androgenic ADRs
  - Buildup of testosterone
  - Hoarseness, acne, hypertrichosis

# Adverse Effects (Abiraterone)

- Hyper-aldosterone ADRs
  - Fluid retention, **hypertension** & **hypo-kalemia**
  - Avoid use of spironolactone (**may** ↑ **androgen production**)
- Hepatotoxicity (2%)
  - Reversible if dose ↓ or therapy is withheld
  - Typical in 1<sup>st</sup> 3 months
  - Hold if AST/ALT >5x ULN or Tbili > 3X ULN, then ↓ dose
- Arthralgia & myalgia (27-36%)

# Drug Interactions

- Tamoxifen requires activation by **CYP2D6 & 3A4/5**
  - Inhibitors of CYP2D6
    - Switch to other anti-depressant with less enzyme inhibition (ie. Celexa)
    - Reference Yellow Card
  - Clinical implications unknown

CYP 2D6 Inhibitors	CYP 3A4 Inhibitors
SSRIs (ie. <b>Paroxetine, fluoxetine</b> ), Bupropion, quinine	GFJ, erythromycin, clarithromycin, azole antifungals etc.

- Estrogens (...obviously...)
- Abiraterone metabolized by CYP3A4
  - Also inhibitor of CYP2D6, 2C9/19, 3A4/5 & p-glycoprotein
  - Drug interactions of unknown clinical significance

# Administration

Drug	Dose	Administration	Renal Adj.	Hepatic Adj.
Tamoxifen	20mg daily	N/A	😊	😞
Anastrozole	1mg daily	N/A	😊	😞
Exemestane	25mg daily	N/A	😊	😊
Letrozole	2.5mg daily	N/A	†😊	😊
Abiraterone	1000mg daily	<b>*WITHOUT Food</b>	😊	😞

\*= 1 hour before OR 2 hours after meals

†= Not recommended in CrCL < 10mL/min

N/A = Administration with food not applicable

# Monitoring

Baseline	Regular (Each cycle)	As clinically indicated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBC, Plt , lytes, SCr/BUN</li> <li>• LFTs, bilirubin</li> <li>• Lipid Profile</li> <li>• Drug interactions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBC, Plt , <b>Lytes</b>, SCr/BUN (<i>Abiraterone</i>)</li> <li>• LFTs, bilirubin</li> <li>• Blood Pressure (<i>Abiraterone</i>)</li> <li>• Calcium (<i>tamoxifen</i>)</li> <li>• Lipid profile (q 3 months)</li> <li>• Compliance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBC, Plt, SCr/BUN</li> <li>• Lytes (<i>Abiraterone</i>)</li> <li>• LFTs, bilirubin</li> <li>• Bone Mineral Density (BMD)</li> <li>• Eye exam (<i>Tamoxifen</i>)</li> <li>• Drug interactions</li> </ul>

- Prostate specific antigen (PSA) monthly to assess efficacy

# Notable Exclusions... ☹️

- Lenalidomide (Revlimid®)
  - Advanced multiple myeloma (MM)
  - Myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS)
- Everolimus (Afinitor®)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> line advanced renal cell carcinoma
  - Breast cancer..?
- Corticosteroids
  - Prednisone, dexamethasone
  - Multiple Leukemias, lymphomas & MM
- Cyclophosphamide (Procytox®)
- Temozolomide (Temadol®)
  - Head & Neck





# Take home points

- Always verify:
  - Administration of medication (**Food/No food**)
  - DIs when therapy initiated OR new medications started
- Grade toxicities before proceeding with care
  - Level of supportive care coordinates with toxicity grade
  - Algorithms usually present in drug monographs
- Medication adherence is critical
  - May increase resistance & cause unfavorable clinical response
  - Continually monitor tolerability
- Always be proactive with ADRs
  - Monitor, Monitor, MONITOR!
  - Many grade 3-4 ADRs can be prevented with timely supportive care
  - ADRs can lead to ↑ morbidity, ↓ compliance & ↓ patient outcomes



# Useful Oncology Resources

- BC Cancer Agency
  - [www.bccancer.bc.ca](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca)
- Cancer Care Ontario (CCO)
  - [www.cancercare.on.ca](http://www.cancercare.on.ca)
- Cancer Care Nova Scotia
  - [www.cancercare.ns.ca](http://www.cancercare.ns.ca)
- American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)
  - [www.asco.org](http://www.asco.org)
- Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC)
  - [www.mascc.org](http://www.mascc.org)
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)
  - [www.nccn.org](http://www.nccn.org)
- European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)
  - [www.esmo.org](http://www.esmo.org)
- Canadian Society of Pharmacists in Oncology (CaPhO)
  - [www.capho.org](http://www.capho.org)
- Cancer Network
  - [www.cancernetwork.com](http://www.cancernetwork.com)
- Care Beyond Cure (Publication from CSHP)

# Questions?



Happy Halloween 😊



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