



# ***PENICILLINS***

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*Cell Wall Inhibitors*



Classify beta-lactam antibiotics

Enlist narrow and broad spectrum Penicillins.

Enlist anti-pseudomonal, antistaphylococcal/ beta lactamase resistant Penicillin

Enlist long- and short-acting Penicillins

Describe anti-bacterial spectrum of Penicillins.

Describe pharmacokinetics in respect of emphasis on route of administration and excretion of Penicillins

Describe mechanism of action of Penicillins

Describe clinical uses of Penicillins

Describe adverse effects of Penicillins

Describe contraindications of Penicillins.

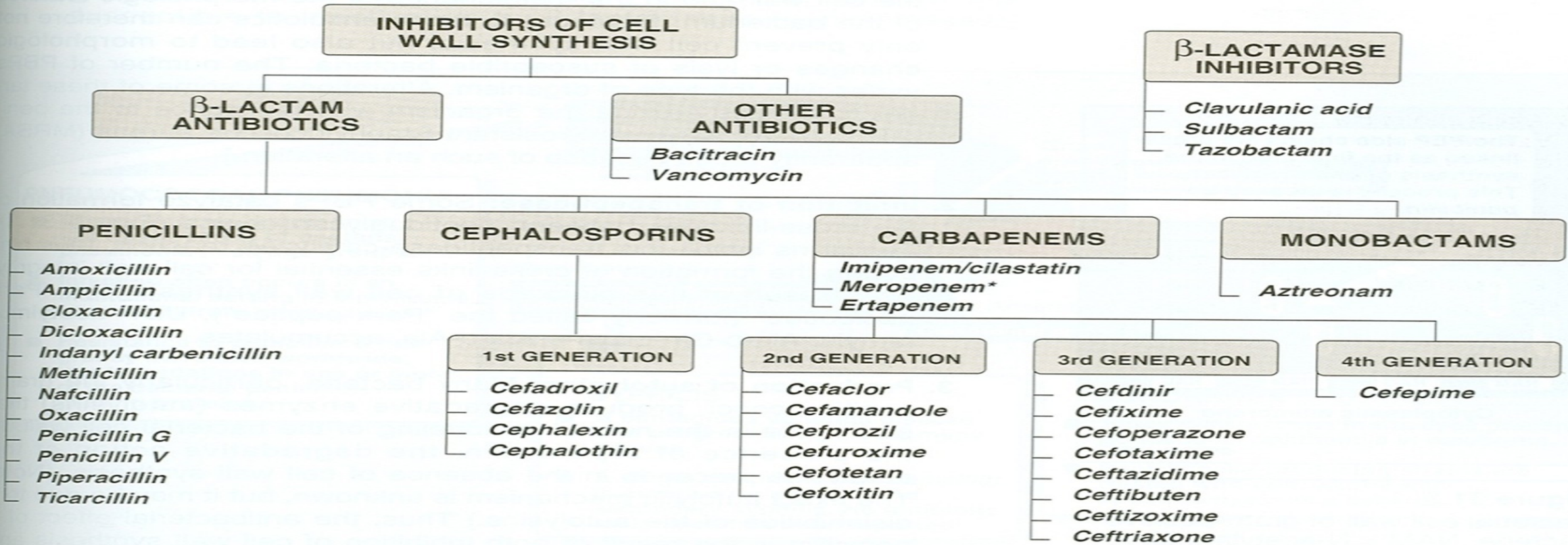
Describe principal mechanism of bacterial resistance to Penicillins

Describe drug interactions of Penicillins

Apply formula for interconversion of milligrams and units of Penicillin G.

Relate pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of Penicillin with their clinical applications / uses.

# Classification of cell wall inhibitors



**Figure 31.1**

Summary of antimicrobial agents affecting cell wall synthesis \**Cilastatin* is not an antibiotic but a peptidase inhibitor that protects *imipenem* from degradation.

# Classification of penicillins

## Narrow spectrum

Natural penicillins

Penicillin G

Penicillin V

Anti-staphylococcal penicillins

Methicillin

Nafcillin

Cloxacillin

dicloxacillin

## Extended spectrum

Amoxicillin

Ampicillin

Anti pseudomonal

carbenicillin

piperacillin

ticarcillin

mezlocillin

**$\beta$ -lactamase  
resistant  
penicillins**



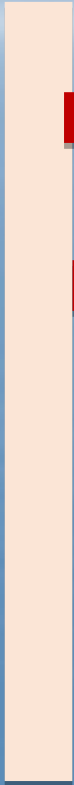
**methicillin**

**nafcillin**

**cloxacillin**

**oxacillin**

**$\beta$ -lactamase  
inhibitors**



**Clavulanic  
acid**

**Sulbactam**

**Tazobactam**

## Long Acting Penicillins

Procaine Penicillin(12-24 hours)

BenethaminePenicillin (2-3days)

Benzyl Penicillin(7-30 days)

## Short Acting Penicillins

Penicillin G

Penicillin V

Amoxicillin

Ampicillin

(4-6hours)

## Anti bacterial spectrum

***Anti-bacterial spectrum*** depends upon the

- I. Ability of the *penicillins* to pass through the bacterial cell wall to PBP's.
- II. The susceptibility of PBP's to *penicillins* is dependent upon the
  - a) Size of the molecule of *Penicillins*
  - b) Charge of the *penicillins*
  - c) Hydrophobicity of *penicillins*.



## Anti bacterial spectrum

**Narrow spectrum**  
*penicillin G & penicillin V*

- Gram +cocci
- Gram+ive baccilli,
- Gram –ive cocci
- spirochetes.

They not active against penicillinase producing gram + Staphlococci

**Very narrow spectrum**  
*Anti Staphylococcal*

- Penicillinase producing staphlococci

# Anti bacterial spectrum

Extended spectrum  
Amoxicillin  
Ampicillins

- gram+ive ,
- gram-ive cocci
- and bacilli

**H**  
**H-influenza**

**E**  
**E-coli, E neterococci**

**L**  
**Listeria**  
**monocytogens**

**P**  
**Proteus**

**S**  
**Solmonella**

Anti bacterial spectrum

Piperacillin

Ticarcillin

Carbenicillin

*Pseudomonas Auriginosa*

## Combination With Beta Lactamase Inhibitors

Amoxicillin+ Clavulanic  
Acid

Ampicillin+ Sulbactam

Piperacillin+ Tazobactam

Ticarcillin + Clavulanic Acid

## Mechanism of action of Penicillins

The penicillins interfere with the last step of bacterial cell wall synthesis (transpeptidation or cross-linkage), resulting in exposure of the osmotically less stable membrane. Cell lysis can then occur, either through osmotic pressure or through the activation of autolysins

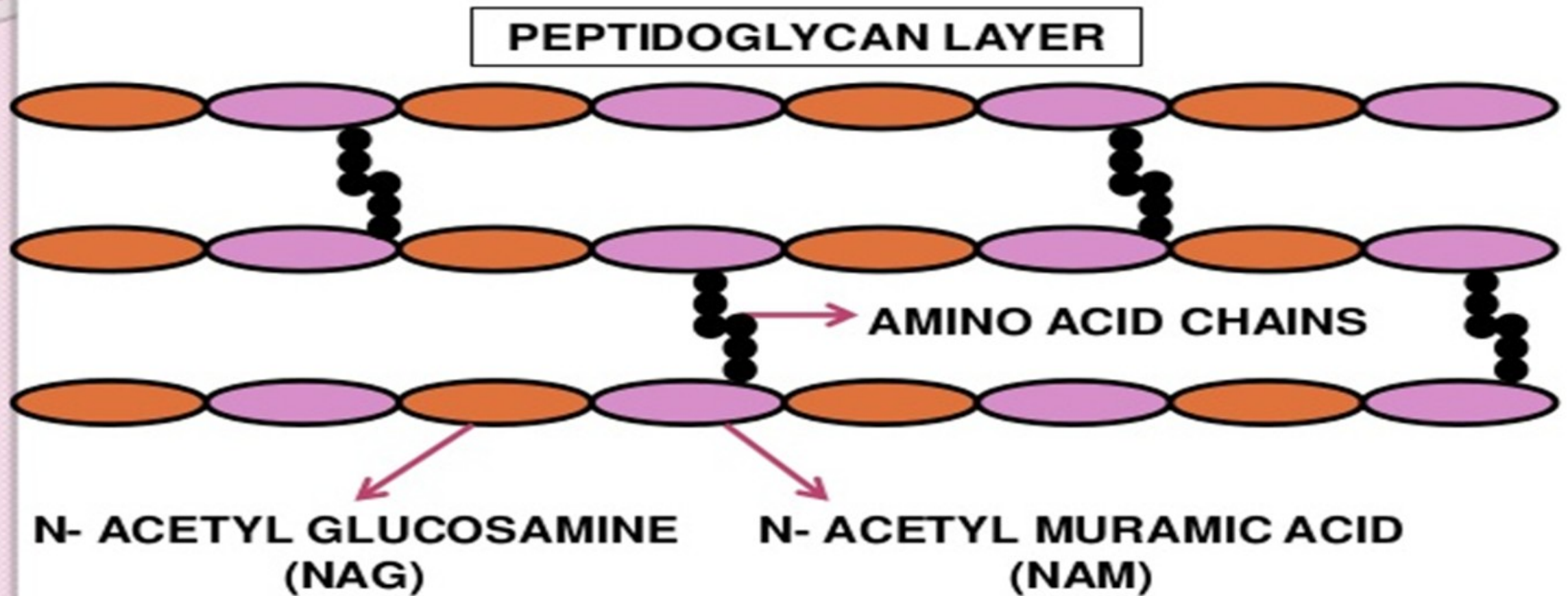
Penicillins are only effective against rapidly growing organisms that synthesize a peptidoglycan cell wall.

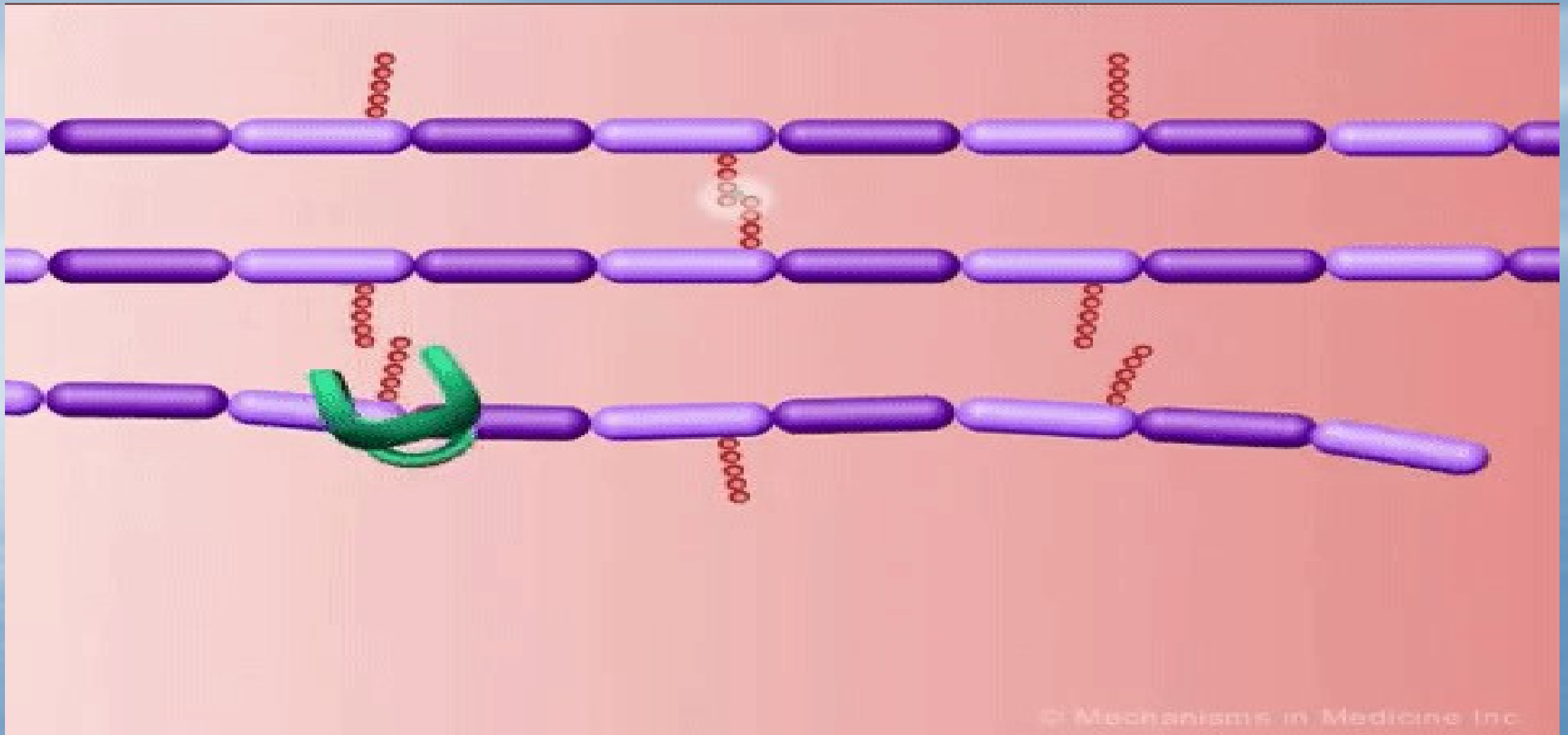
The success of a penicillin antibiotic in causing cell death is related to the antibiotic's size, charge, and hydrophobicity

They are bactericidal drugs

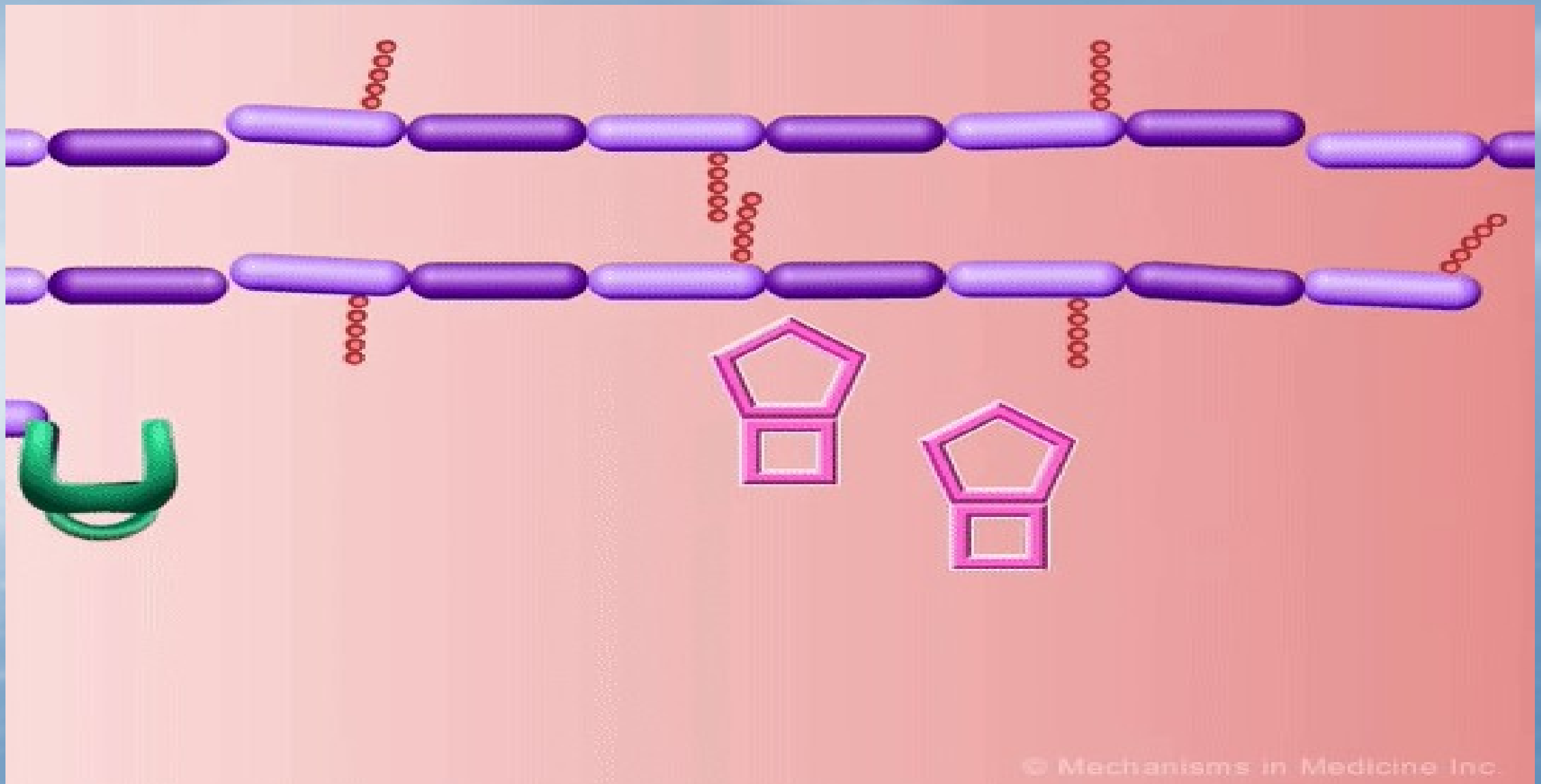
# Mechanism of Action

- Interferes with bacterial cell wall synthesis





Normal synthesis of cell by tranpeptidation



MOA of penicillins



## Mechanism of action

**Penicillin binding proteins:** There are a number of proteins on the bacterial cell membrane that are responsible for the synthesis of bacterial cell wall and for the maintenance of morphological features of bacterium.

Penicillin's inactivate these proteins there by disrupting cell wall synthesis as well as morphological features of the bacterium are also affected.

**Inhibition of transpeptidase:** Some of penicillin binding proteins (PBP) catalyze the cross linkages between peptidoglycan units. These proteins are called Transpeptidases. Penicillin inhibit these transpeptidases as a result of which cross linkages doesn't occur leading to inhibition of bacterial cell wall synthesis.

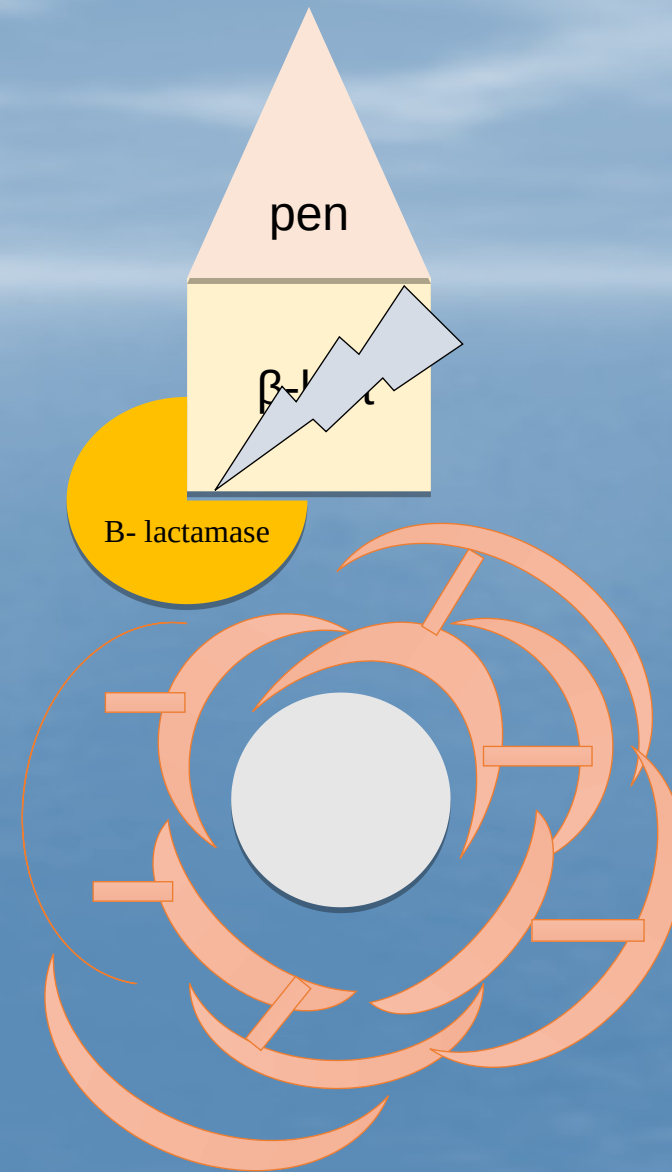
## Mechanism of action

**Autolysins:** for the constant repair and remodeling of bacterial cell walls autolysins are all the time active. The activity of these autolysins in turn is under the control of autolysins inhibitors. Autolysins are all the time under the control of autolysins inhibitors. Penicillin's inhibit these inhibitors along with inhibition of the last step in the synthesis of the cell as a result of which the cell wall is eaten up and further synthesis of the cell wall is also stopped.

# Mechanism of resistance

$\beta$ -lactamase produced by bacteria  
Damage the beta lactam ring

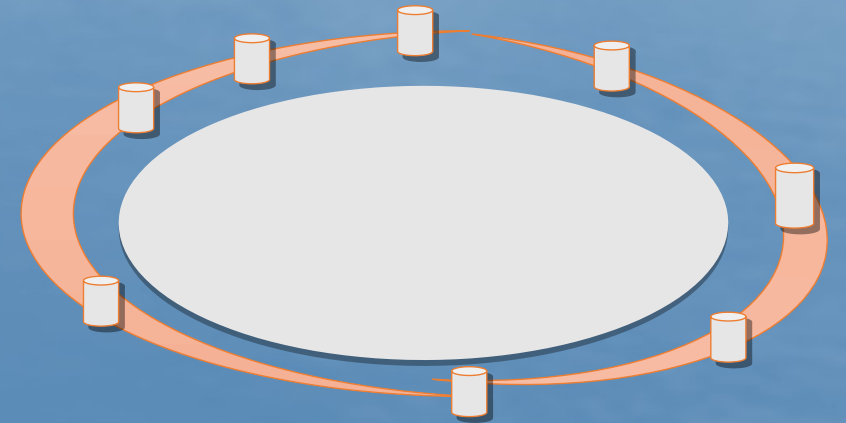
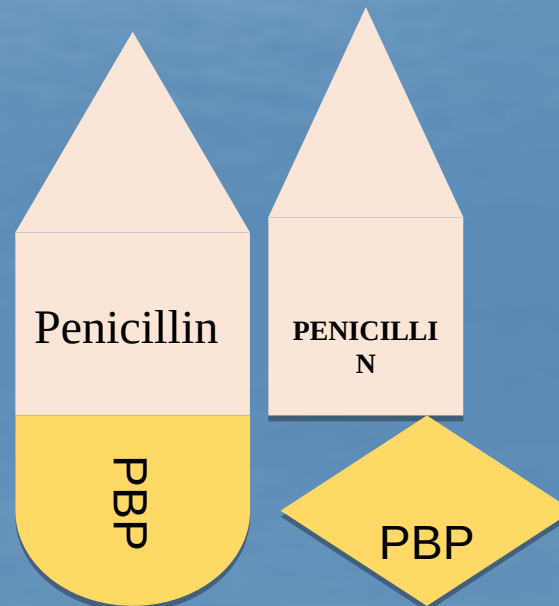
Decreased permeability  
Due to eflux



# Mechanism of resistance

Decreased permeability due to tightening of porins

Decreased permeability due to changes in the Penicillin Binding Proteins



- **Decreased permeability ;**
- Some times there is decreased permeability through the bacterial cell wall, so the penicillins cannot reach the target PBP's.
- **Efflux pumps:**
- Also some bacteria develop increased number of efflux pumps on the cell membrane so the antibiotics are pushed out.
- **Changes in PBP's :**
- The PBP's undergo modifications. The PBP's loose binding affinity for the penicillins. This results in decreased concentrations of penicillins in the bacteria , not enough to significantly stop bacterial growth.
- For example MRSA there is alteration in the PBP' therefore than *Vancomycin* is then used.

## **$\beta$ -lactamase activity:**

This is the main cause of resistance. They hydrolyse amide bond of  $\beta$ -lactum antibiotics as a result of which they lose their bactericidal activity.

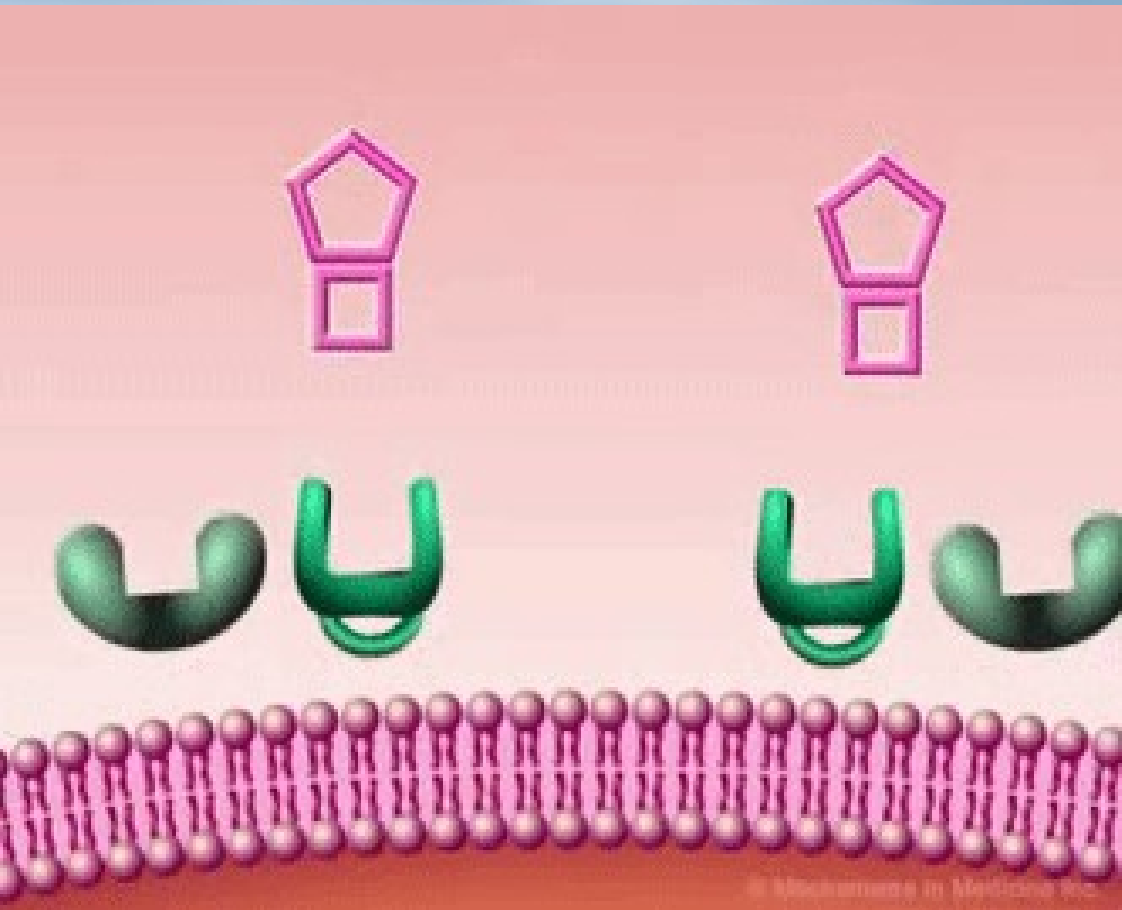
$\beta$ -lactamase may be constitutional in some bacteria and in some it may be acquired that is plasmid mediated.

In some it may be chromosomal which is inducible by the  $\beta$ -lactum antibiotics.

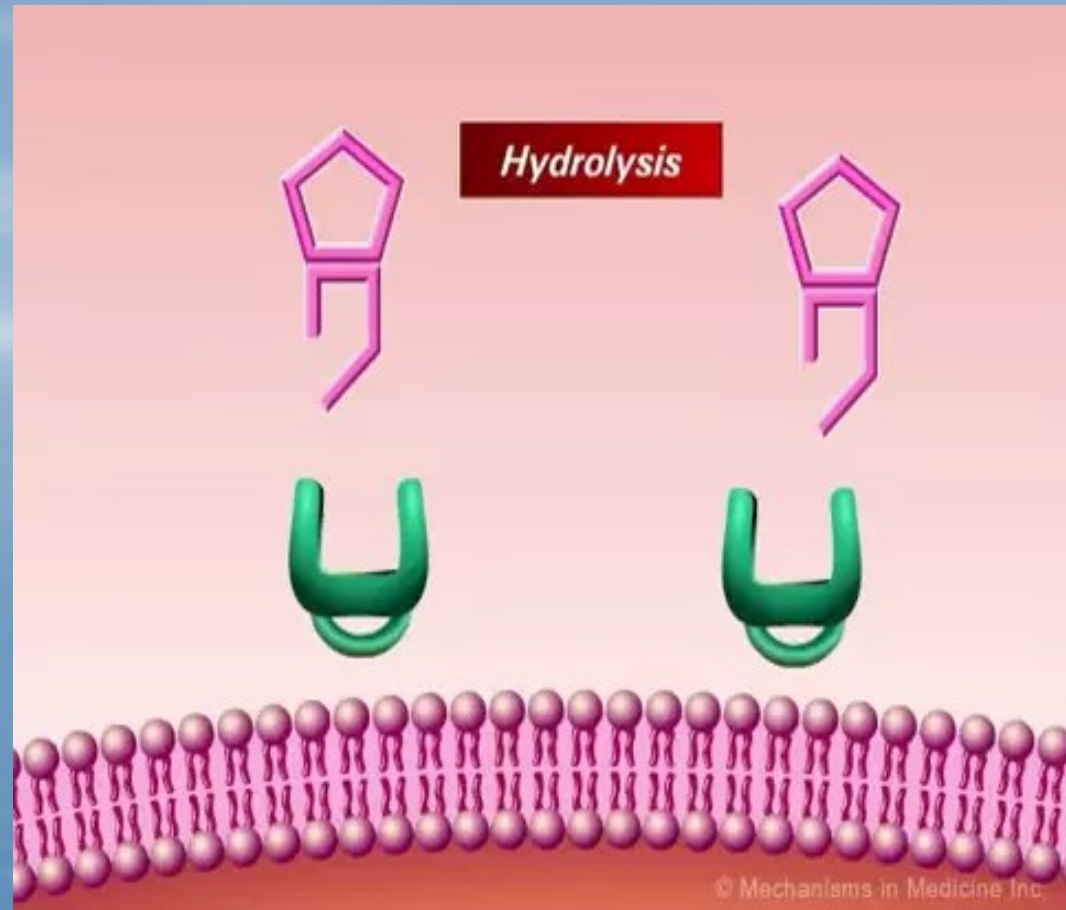
On the other hand some of the  $\beta$ -lactum antibiotics are not so vulnerable to  $\beta$ -lactamase and maintain antibacterial activity.

In case of Gram +ive bacteria the  $\beta$ -lactamases go out of the bacterial cells to hydrolyze  $\beta$ -lactum rings of anti-biotics but in case of Gram -ive bacteria the  $\beta$ -lactamases are restricted within the periplasmic space.

It is because of this that resistance offered by gram-ive is much more stronger.

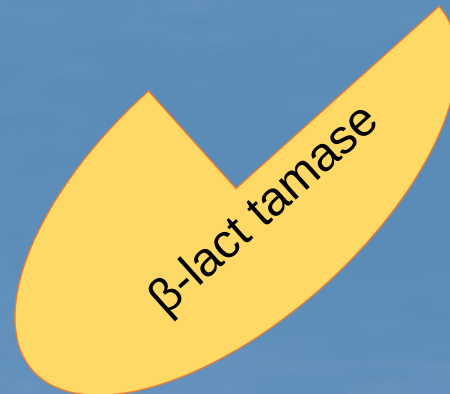
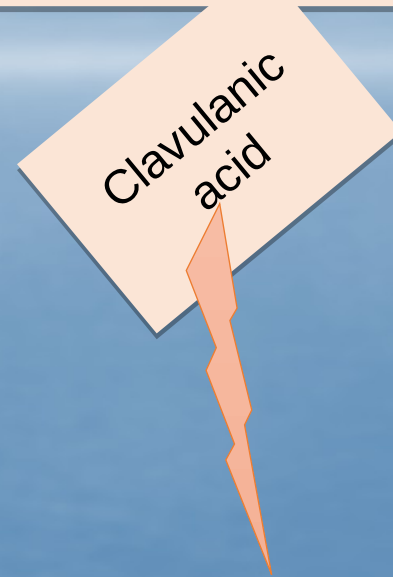


**MECHANISM OF BETA  
LACTAMASES**



**HYDROLYSIS OF BETA LACTAM  
RING OF PENICILLINS**

# Mechanism of action anti-beta lactamases





## Pharmacokinetics in respect of emphasis on route of administration and excretion of Penicillins

The route of administration is dependent upon

- Acid stability of the drug.
- Severity of disease.

Acid stable penicillins can be given orally.

Penicillin V  
Amoxillin  
Ampicillin

Acid vulnerable penicillins cannot be given orally.

Penicillin G.

## Pharmacokinetics in respect of emphasis on route of administration and excretion of Penicillins

### PARENTRALLY

- Penicillin-G,
- Ticarcillin,
- Piperacillin,
- Ticarcillin+clavulanic Acid
- Piperacillin+Tazobactam
- Ampicillin +Sulbactam

Depot forms.  
Benzathine Penicillin-G,  
Procain Penicillin –G are given I/M as depot they are slowly released over a period of time

# Excretion

probenid  
competes with  
penicillin G at  
the site of  
secretion in the  
PCV

## ***Penicillin G***

The primary route of excretion is through the organic acid (tubular) secretory system of the kidney as well as by glomerular filtration

## ***Nafcillin*** is

eliminated primarily through the biliary route

The penicillins are also excreted into breast milk.

# Absorption

- *Amoxicillin* is almost completely absorbed. Consequently, *it is not appropriate therapy for the treatment of shigella- or salmonella-derived enteritis, because therapeutically effective levels do not reach the organisms in the intestinal crypts.*
- Absorption of all the penicillinase-resistant penicillins is decreased by food in the stomach, because gastric emptying time is lengthened, and the drugs are destroyed in the acidic environment. Therefore, they must be administered 30 to 60 minutes before meals or 2 to 3 hours postprandially. Other penicillins are less affected by food

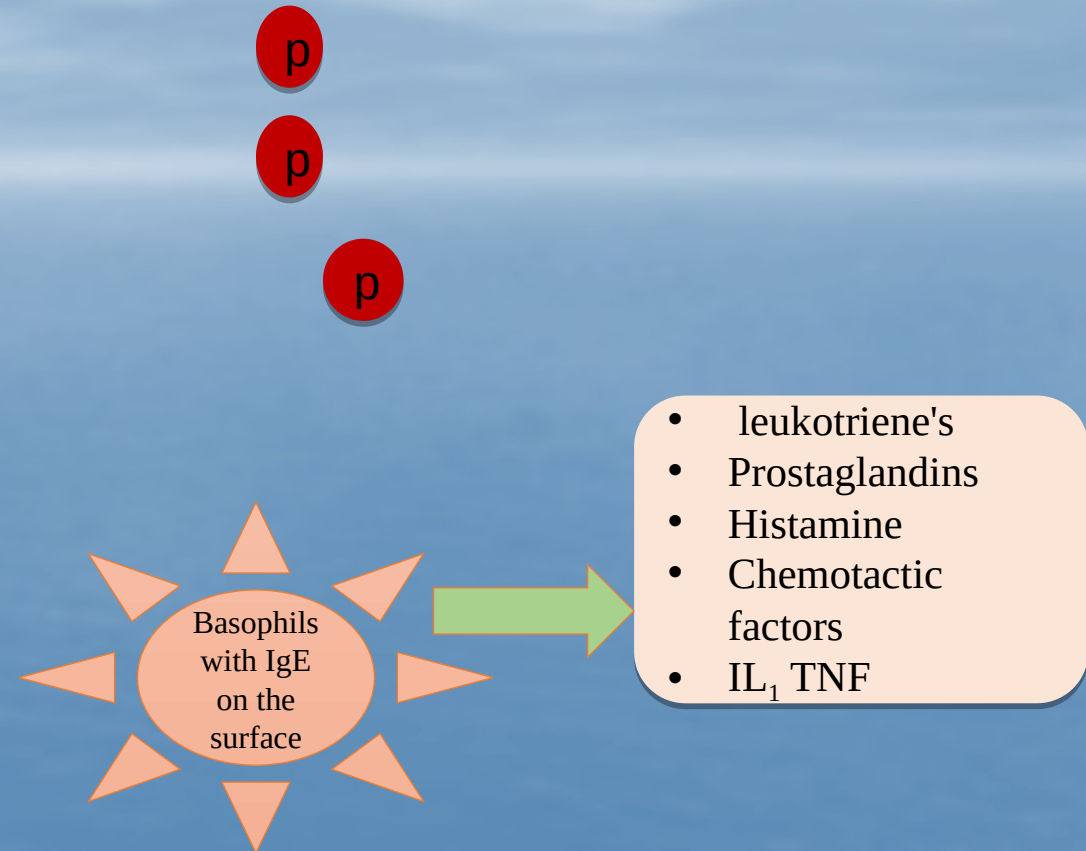
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# ***DISTRIBUTION***

- The  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics distribute well throughout the body.
- All the penicillins cross the placental barrier, but none has been shown to be teratogenic.
- Penetration into bone or cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), is insufficient for therapy unless these sites are inflamed, same is the case for bones.
- *Penicillin levels in the prostate are insufficient* to be effective against infections

## Adverse Effects

- Mast cells around the BV—Vasodilation—fall of BP
- Mast cell around the skin- rash
- Mast cells around GIT— abdominal pain
- Mast cells around bronchi— bronchoconstriction.
- May even lead to **Anaphylactic shock.**



TYPE1 HYPRESENTIVITY  
REACTION( IgE mediated)

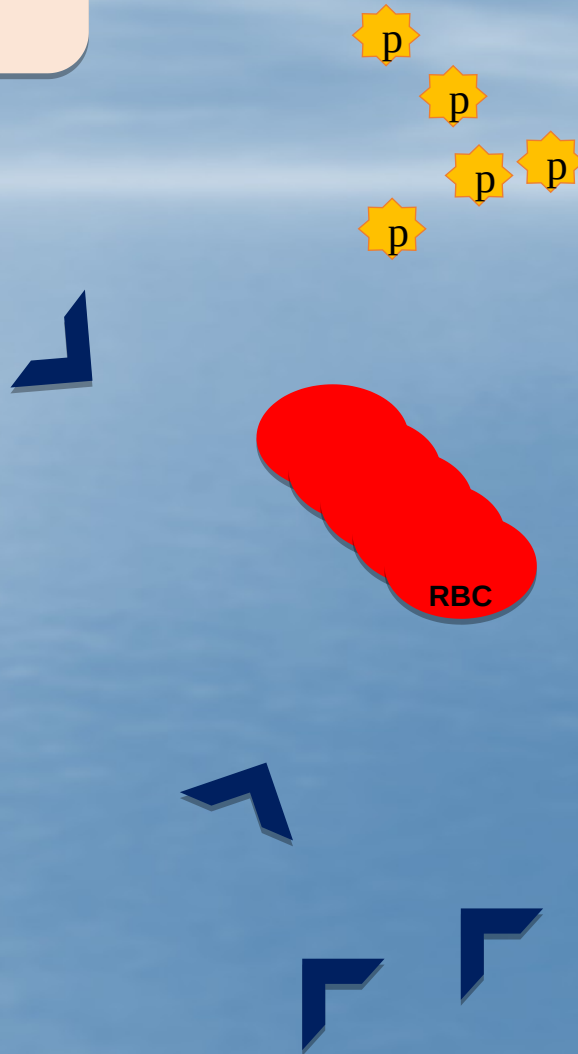
# Adverse Effects

alters the proteins on surface of RBC'S

Immune System  
Now Recognize  
these proteins as  
foreign bodies and  
release IgG.

immune system is activated against intrinsic proteins (**antigens**) on the RBC and tissue membrane.  
For example when penicillins bind to these antigenic proteins the nature of these proteins is altered.

- PENICILLIN ASSOCIATED  
**HEMOLYTIC ANEMIA**  
**TYPE 11 HSR**



# Adverse Effects

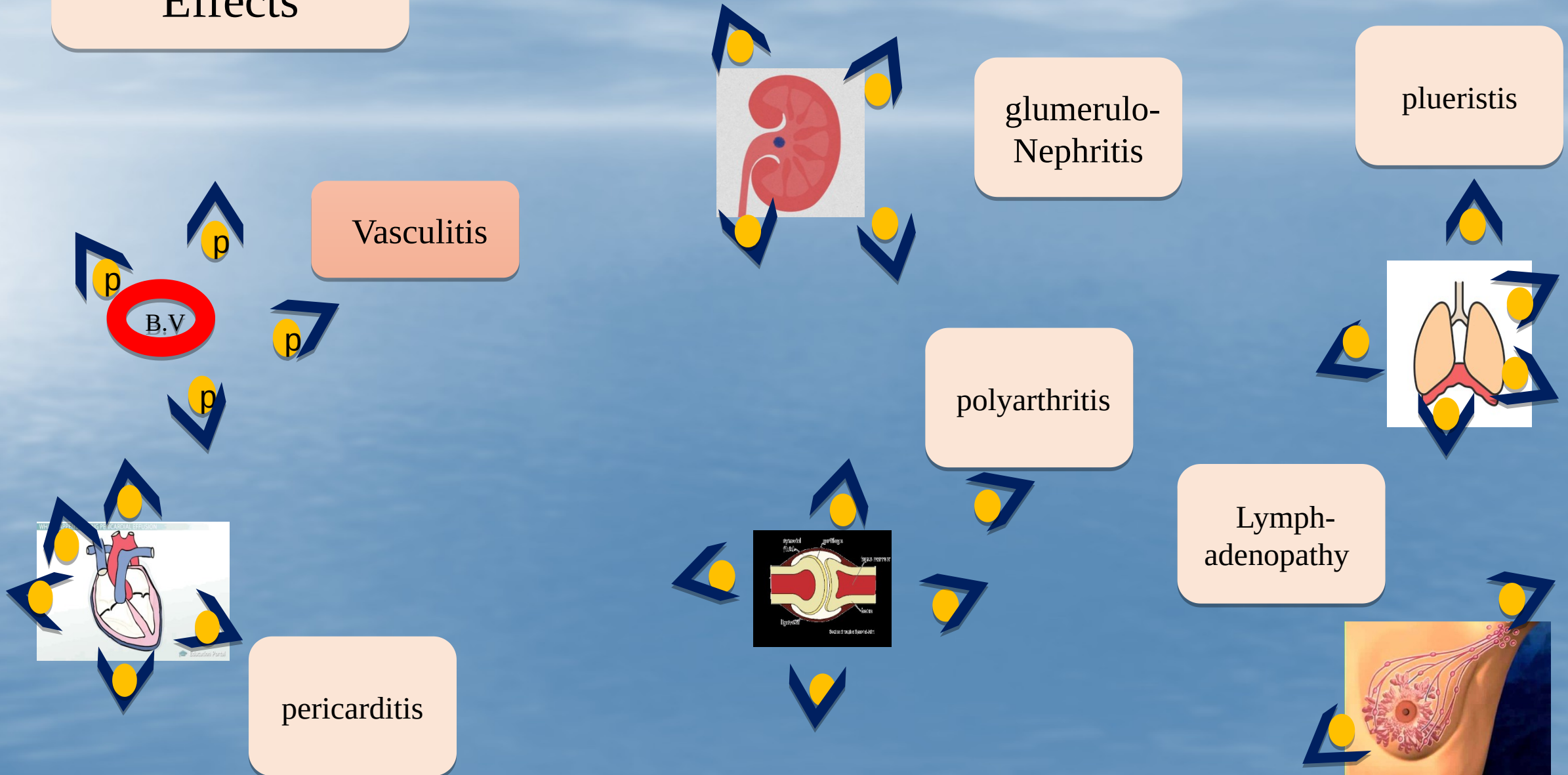
penicillin Ag+ IgE/IgG complexes





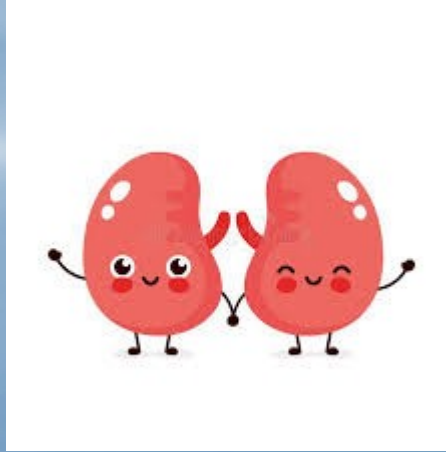
# Adverse Effects

# TYPE 111 HSR

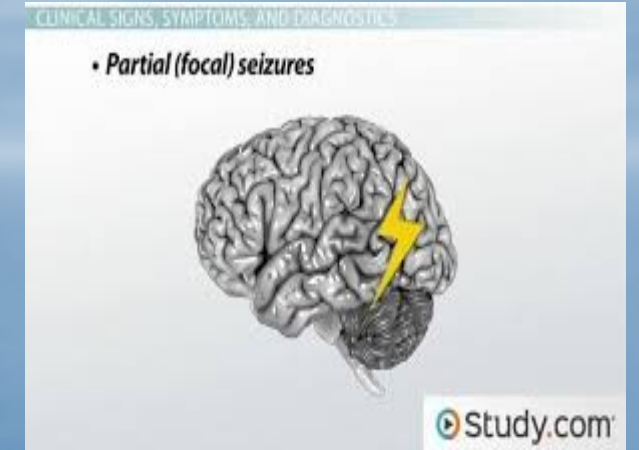




- Diarrhea
- Pseudomembranous colitis



**Nephritis** : the most notorious among these is ***methicillin***



penicillin and its metabolites reach the CNS they disrupt the cationic channels on the neurons & there is over influx of cations that may precipitate seizures. So we don't give penicillin's intra thecally. Should be monitored in renally compromised patients.



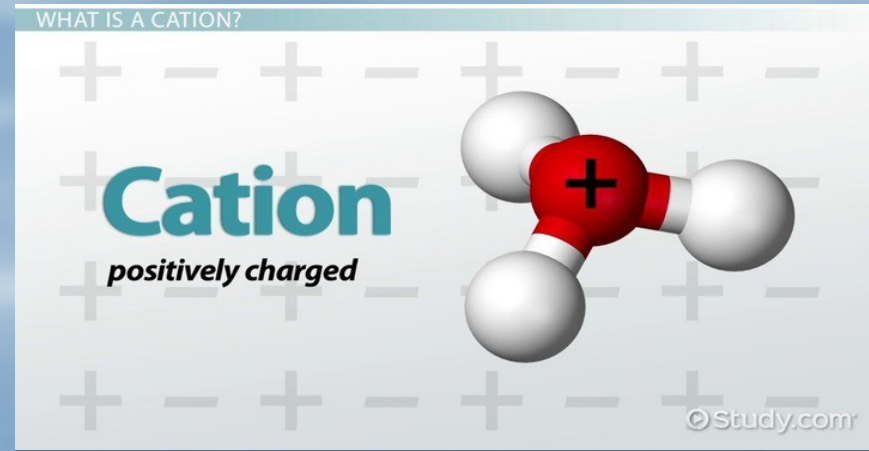
platelets

Carbenicillin, piperacillin and ticarcillin bind with surface receptors on the platelets alter them & reduce their aggregating capability.

Neutropenia

Cytopenia especially when used for more than 2 weeks.

Blood complete should be done regularly.



### **Cation toxicity:**

Penicillin's are generally administered as sodium or potassium salts.

Prolonged administration of sodium salt penicillin may lead to water retention along with dilatational hypokalemia. This can be dangerous in cardiac patients

# Therapeutic indications

## Uses of Penicillin

### 1. Natural Penicillins

- Streptococcal Infections
- Gram positive rods
- Meningococcal Infections
- Syphilis
- Prophylaxis for scarlet fever

### 2. Penicillinase-Resistant Penicillins

- Staphylococcal Infections
- Streptococcal infections

### 3. Aminopenicillins

- Otitis Media
- Bronchitis/Pneumonia
- Enterococcal endocarditis
- Meningitis
- Urinary Tract Infections
- Prophylaxis for bacterial endocarditis
- Lyme Disease and Erlichiosis

### 4. Broad-Spectrum Penicillins

- Pseudomonas aeruginosa infections
- Mixed infections
- Urinary tract infections & prostatitis
- Surgical prophylaxis

### 5. B-Lactamase Combinations

#### a. Amoxicillin + clavulanic acid

- Otitis media, sinusitis, influenza
- Skin and Skin-structure infections

#### b. Ampicillin + Sulbactam

- Skin & soft tissue infections
- Intra-abdominal infections
- Gynecologic infections

#### c. Ticarcillin + clavulanic acid

- Septicemia
- Lower respiratory tract infections
- Bone & joint infections
- UTIs

## *Uses of penicillin:*

- Skin and soft tissue infections.
- Diphtheria , tetanus
- Intra abdominal infection
- Ear, lung , infections
- Respiratory tract infection
- Urinary tract infection
- Dental infection
- Syphilis , gonorrhoea
- Streptococcal infection

# PROPHYLACTIC USES

## **Rheumatic Fever**

*Benzathine Penicillin* 1.2 MU every 4 weeks till 18 years of age or 5 years after the attack whichever is more.

## **Bacterial Endocarditis**

Dental extractions, Endoscopies or catheterization may lead to bacterial endocarditis specially in those valvular defects.

# Drug Interactions Of Penicillins

## Drug Interactions

- With Tetracyclines, Chloramphenicol, Erythromycin-  
– **Antagonism**
- Penicillin with Aminoglycosides-  
– **Synergism.**
- Penicillin and Aminoglycosides or Penicillin and hydrocortisone in same syringe –  
– **Inactivate each other (Pharmaceutical)**
- Ampicillin with Allopurinol –  
– **High incidence of non-urticarial maculopapular rashes**
- Penicillin with Probenecid  
– **Prolongs action of penicillin by decreasing tubular secretion**

