# DOSE RESPONSE CURVE

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## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- Define Dose response curve, Graded dose-response curve and Quantal dose-response curve.
- Describe Graded dose-response curve and Quantal dose-response curve.
- Describe the limitations of graded dose-response curve and its remedy in a Quantal dose-response curve.
- Describe the significance of constructing doseresponse curves.
- Explain the advantages of taking log dose values on the dose axis

#### Relation between drug concentration & Response It may be:

- Complex as observed clinically in patients.
- Simple in carefully controlled in vitro systems.
- It can be described mathematically & represented graphically.





## Dose-response relationships

- The relationship between the concentration of drug at the receptor site and the magnitude of the response is called the dose-response relationship
- Depending on the purpose of the the studies, this relatioship can be described in terms of a graded (continous) response or a quantal (all-ornone) response







1. A hypothetical dose-response curve

Dose-response graphs typically have the dose on the Xaxis and the measured effect (i.e. the measured response) on the y- axis. Plotting the logarithm of the concentration generally results in sigmoidal plots as shown on the left.

The main parameters that can be identified by doseresponse curves are

- Potency- the position of the curve along the x-axis a
- Maximal efficacy- the greatest response attainable b
- Slope- change in response per unit dose (and half maximal dose c)



#### 2. Comparison of dose-response curves

The pharmacologic profiles of individual drugs can be differentiated by comparing their dose-response curves.

In the graph on the left, drug **A** has greater biological activity per dosing unit and is therefore considered to be more potent than drugs **B** or **C**- shown by its leftshifted position on the x-axis. Drugs **A** and **C** have equal efficacy- indicated by their maximal attainable response (ceiling effect). Drug **B** is more potent than drug **C**, but its maximal efficacy is lower.

## Shape of the curve

A standard dose-response curve is defined by four parameters: the baseline response (Bottom), the maximum response (Top), the slope, and the drug concentration that provokes a response halfway between baseline and maximum (EC50).

#### Dose-Response Curve Showing a Threshold



Dose (mg/kg body weight)

Response (% of subjects responding)





3 - The dose-response curve for hypothetical Chemical B is added. with a slope initially much lower than Che

A sharp increase in slope suggest increasingly higher risk of toxic response as the dose increases

relatively flat slope suggest that effect of an increasing dose is minimal



## **DOSE RESPONSE CURVES**

# Bioassay/ Quantitative analysis TYPES

Graded dose response = hyperbola
 Quantal dose response = sigmoid
 Time dependent response
 <u>INTERPRETATIONS</u>

Steep rise = frusemide
Early plateau = thiazides

# **Graded-dose response relationship** The response to a drug is a graded effect, meaning that the measured effect is continuous over a range of doses Graded dose response curves are constructed by plotting the magnitude of the response against increasing doses of a drug (or log dose)

#### **GRADED DOSE RESPONSE**

- The response is *elicited* is expressed in terms of Percentage of the maximal response
- Plotted against the Log dose of the drug
- o Illustrates the relationship among
  - Drug dose
  - Receptor occupancy
  - Magnitude of physiological event
- o Obeys Law of mass action
  - E = Emax \* D / KD + D
- Unmasks the spare receptors





## Graded dose response curve





#### Quantal Dose-Response Curve: Effective Dose

- The quantal dose-response curve represents estimates of the frequency with which each dose elicits the desired response in the population
- This is done through the calculation of an ED50, the dose that would protect 50% of the animals



#### Sigmoidal Cummulative Reponse Curve



#### Quantal-dose response relationship

- The quantal (all or none) dose-effect curve often characterizes the distribution of responses to different doses in a *population* of individual organisms
  - Median toxic dose(TD<sub>50</sub>): the dose at which 50% of individuals/population exhibit a particular toxic effect
  - If the toxic effect is death of the animal, a median lethal dose (LD<sub>50</sub>) may be experimentally defined
  - Median effective dose (ED<sub>50</sub>) is the dose that produces a quantal effect (all or nothing) in 50% of the population that takes it



## Difference graded-quantal

Quantal: fraction of animals responding

- e.g. 8 out of 20 = 0.4
- always between 0% and 100%
- no standard deviations

Graded: degree of response of the animal

- e.g. 85 eggs or body weight of 23 g
- usually between 0 and infinite
- standard deviations when >1 animal

## THERAPEUTIC USES

#### THE NEED FOR DOSE RESPONSE CURVES

- Orug Potency' and 'Drug Efficacy' used interchangeably
- However, they are NOT synonymous
- Refer to different characteristics of the drug.
- The two can vary independently: Easily demonstrated on curves
  - § Aspirin is less potent as well as less efficacious analgesic than morphine.
  - § Pethidine is less potent but equally efficacious analgesic as morphine.
  - § Furosemide is less potent but more efficacious diuretic than Metolazone.
  - § Diazepam is more potent but less efficacious CNS depressant than Pentobarbitone.

Both curves provide Information regarding potency. Selectivity But Graded dose response curve indicates maximum efficacy Quantal dose response indicates potential variability of responsiveness

among individuals

#### **GRADED DOSE RESPONSE**

#### o USES

- Maximum efficacy :::: Emax; the highest limit of dose response on response axis
- Potency: the smallest the Emax the greater the potency
- **Comparison** of relative efficacy and potency of drugs that elicit the same response



## The difference between 'potency' (affinity) and 'efficacy' (activity)









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### Quantal D/R curves used to define

median effective (and toxic) doses,

concept of "therapeutic index"

the potential range of inter-subject variability in drug response.
### **THERAPEUTIC WINDOW**

# Optimal therapeutic effect exerted only over a narrow range of plasma drug concentrations or drug doses

- Both below and above this range, beneficial effects are suboptimal,
  - § Tricyclic (Imipramine) exert maximal antidepressant effect when their plasma concentration is maintained between 50–150 ng/ml.
  - § Clonidine lowers BP over a plasma concentration range of 0.2–2.0 ng/ml; BP may rise at concentrations above 2 ng/ml.
  - § Glipizide exerts poorer glycaemia control at doses > 25 mg/day.

#### Figure No. 1: THERAPEUTIC RANGE







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# The Log Dose-Response Curve

- Advantages of expression as log versus response
  - Dose-response relationship expressed as a nearly straight line over a large range of drug doses.
  - Wide range of doses can be plotted on a single graph, allowing easy comparison of different drugs.
  - Use of log dose-response curves to compare different drugs which produce the same response

## **Physiological Salt solution**

Constituents	Frog's ringer soln.	Mammalian ringer soln.	Tyrode soln.	Krebs Henseleit salt solution	Ringer locke solution	De-jalon solution
NaCl	6.5g	9.2g	8.0g	6.90g	9.15g	9.00g
KCI	1.4g	0.42g	0.2g	0.35g	0.42g	0.42g
MgCl2	0.3g		0.1g	0.11g		
MgSO4.7H2O						
NaH2PO4.2H 2O	0.1g		0.05g	0.14g		
KH2PO4						
Glucose	2.0g		1.0g	2.0g	1.00g	0.50g
NaHCO3	0.2g	0.2g	0.1g	2.10g	0.15g	0.50g
Sodium lactate					3.10g	
CaCl2	0.12g	0.24g	0.2g	0.28g	0.24g	0.06g



#### Preparation of Tyrode solution (PSS)

- Prepare 1 litre of Tyrode solution by dissolving NaCl (8.0 g), KCl (0.2 g), MgCl2 (0.1 g), NaHCO3 (1.0 g), NaH2PO4 (0.05 g) and glucose (2.0 g) in distilled water.
- MgCl2 should be added at last.
- CaCl2 (0.2 g) should be dissolved separately in distilled water to avoid chances of precipitation of salt.
- Mix CaCl2 solution to the higher volume of PSS.

	Tyrode <sup>®</sup> solution	K <sup>+</sup> -Tyrode <sup>®</sup> solution
NaCl (mmol/l)	137.0	122.0
KCl (mmol/l)	5.0	20.0
CaCl <sub>2</sub> (mmol/l)	2.0	2.0
MgCl <sub>2</sub> (mmol/l)	1.0	1.0
NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (mmol/l)	1.0	1.0
NaHCO₃ (mmol/l)	12.0	12.0
Glucose (mmol/l)	11.0	11.0

















#### REFERENCES

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