

# DOSE -RESPONSE CURVES

DR.SIDRAH GHAFOR

Foundation II MODULE

Pharmacology

Febraury 2023

# Objectives

- Determine quantitative aspects of drug receptor binding.
- Recognize concentration binding curves.
- Identify dose response curves and the therapeutic utility of these curves.

# Concentration-Binding Curve

Relate concentration [C] of Drug used (x- axis) to the binding capacity at receptors (y-axis) ►

## ❖ **B<sub>max</sub>** (the binding capacity):-

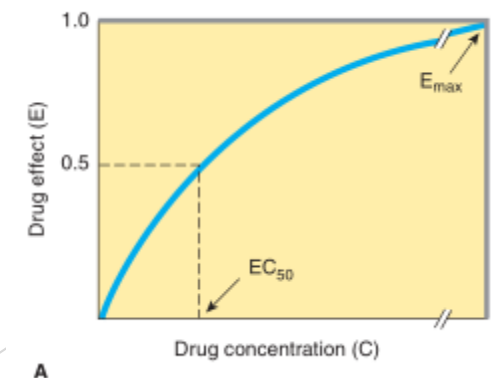
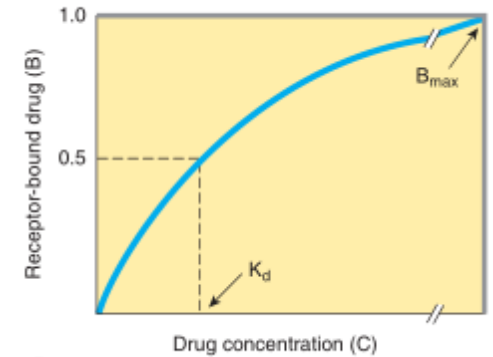
is the total density of receptors in the tissues.

## ❖ **K<sub>d50</sub>**:- $K_d$ (the equilibrium dissociation constant)

is the concentration of drug required to occupy 50% of receptors at equilibrium.

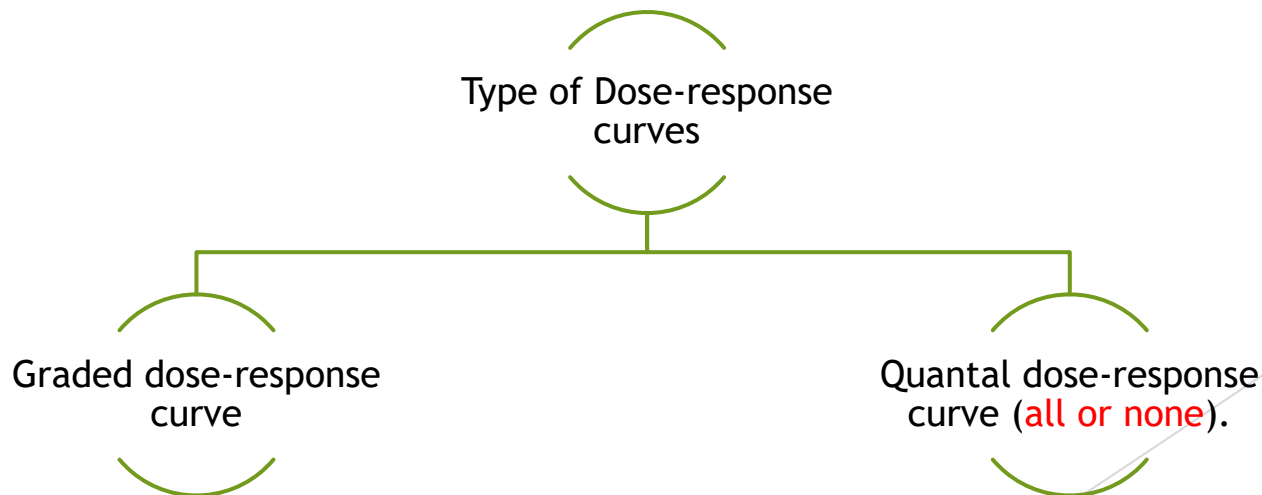
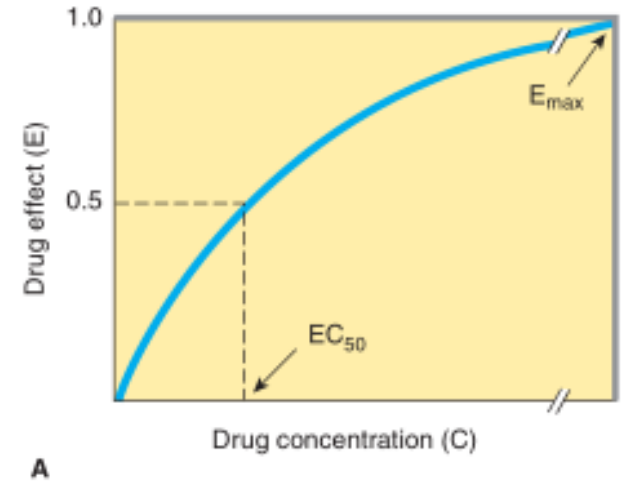
## ❖ **The affinity of drug for receptor:-**

The higher the affinity of D for receptor the lower is the  $K_d$  i.e. inverse relation ( Binding Potential =  $B_{max}/K_d$  ).

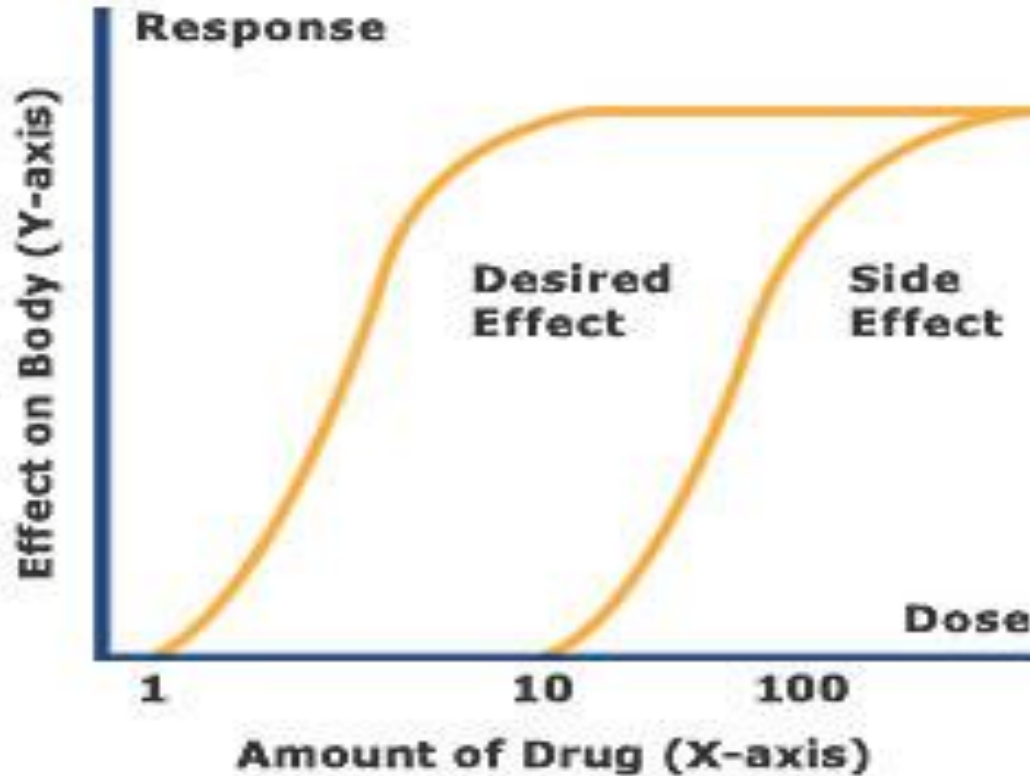


# Dose Response Curve

- ▶ Used to study how response varies with the concentration or dose.
- ▶ Is a correlation between drug concentration [C] used (x-axis) and drug effect [E] (y-axis)  
*.i.e. relation between concentration & Response*



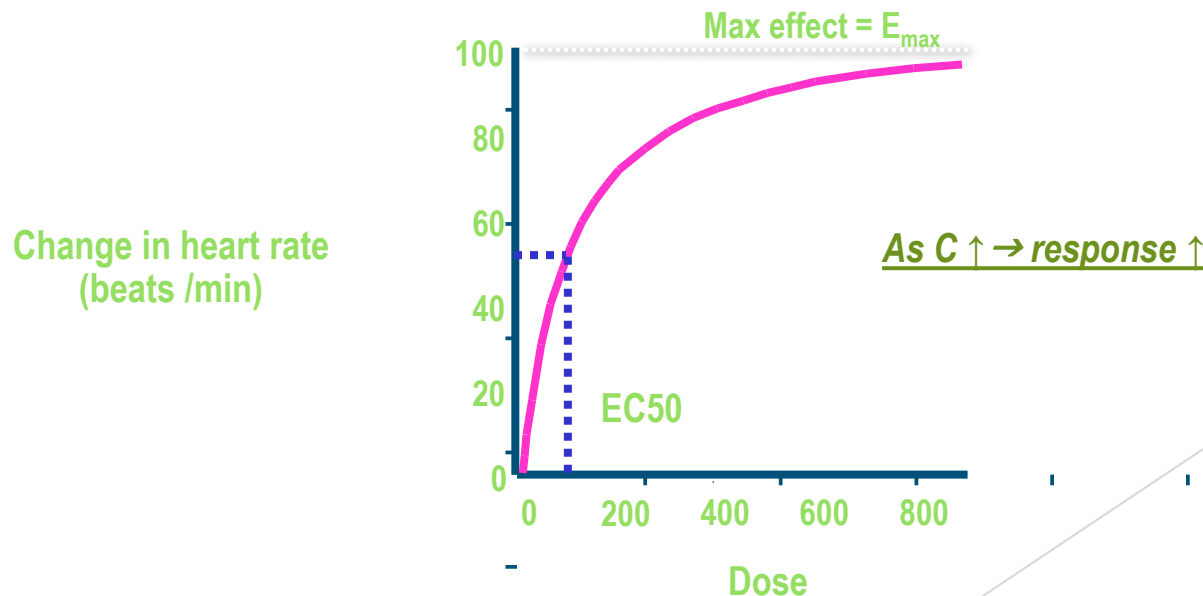
**Dose-response curves determine how much of a drug (X-axis) causes a particular effect, or a side effect, in the body (Y-axis).**



# Graded dose response curve

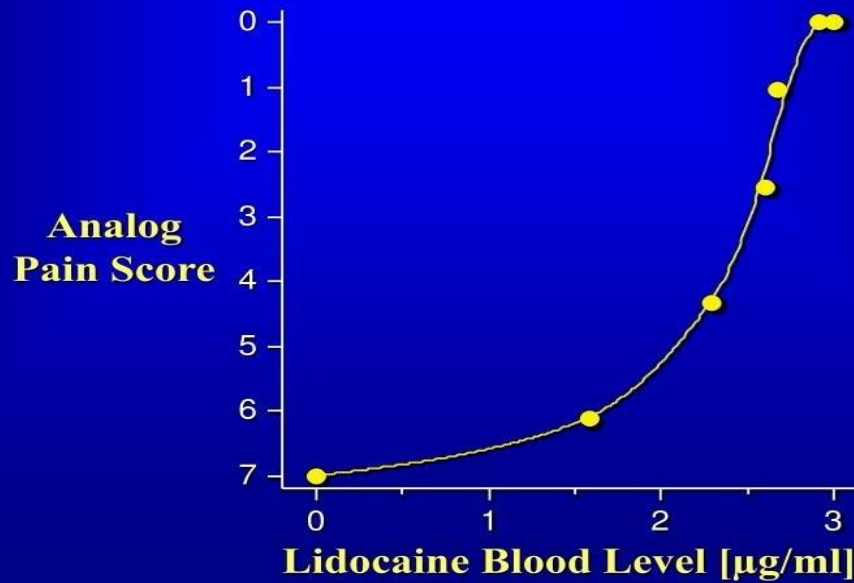
# Graded dose-response curve

- Response is gradual.
- Gradual increase in response by increasing the dose (continuous response)
- Curve is usually **sigmoid in shape**.
- e.g. ↓blood pressure, heart rate, blood glucose level, cholesterol,...



# Example of graded-dose response curve

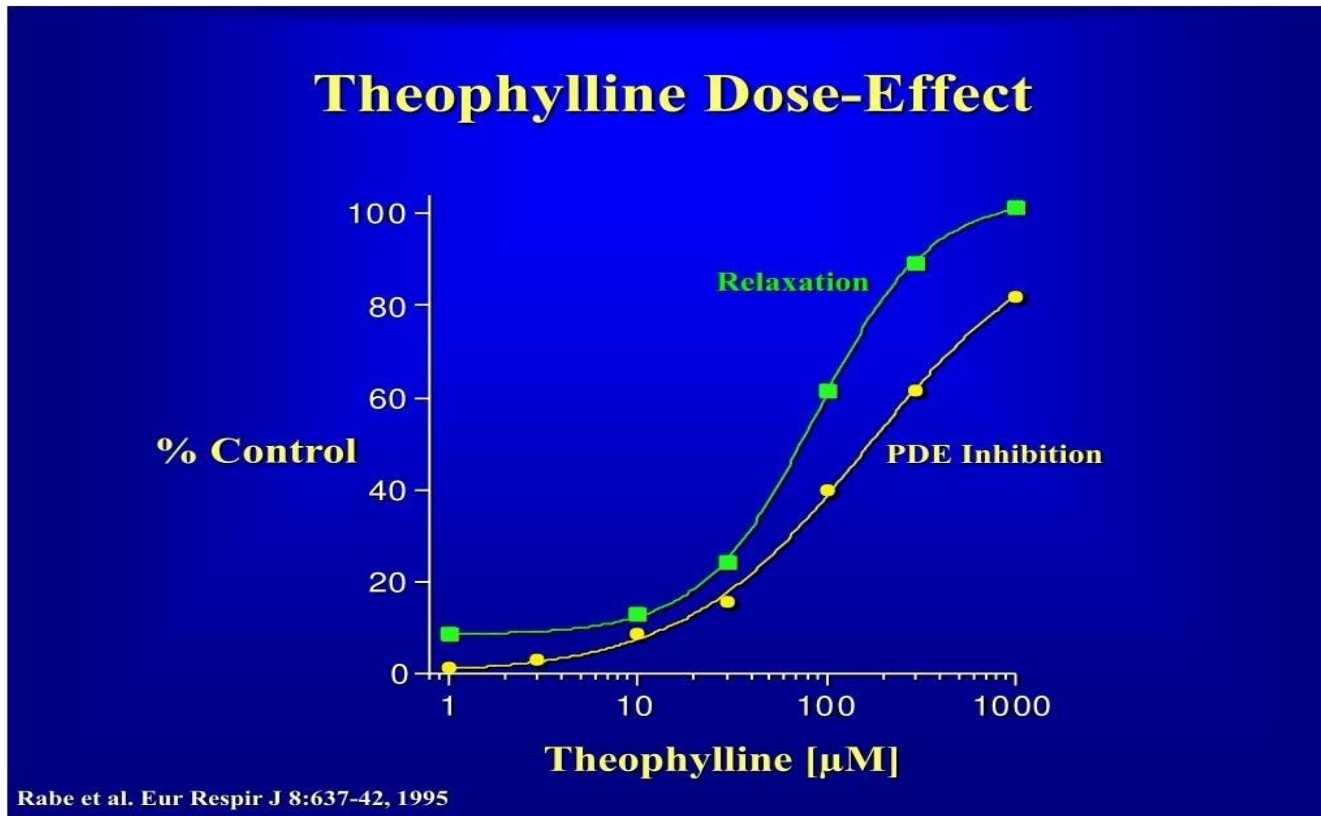
## Lidocaine Graded Dose-Effect



Ferrante et al. Anesth Analg 82:91-7, 1996



# Example



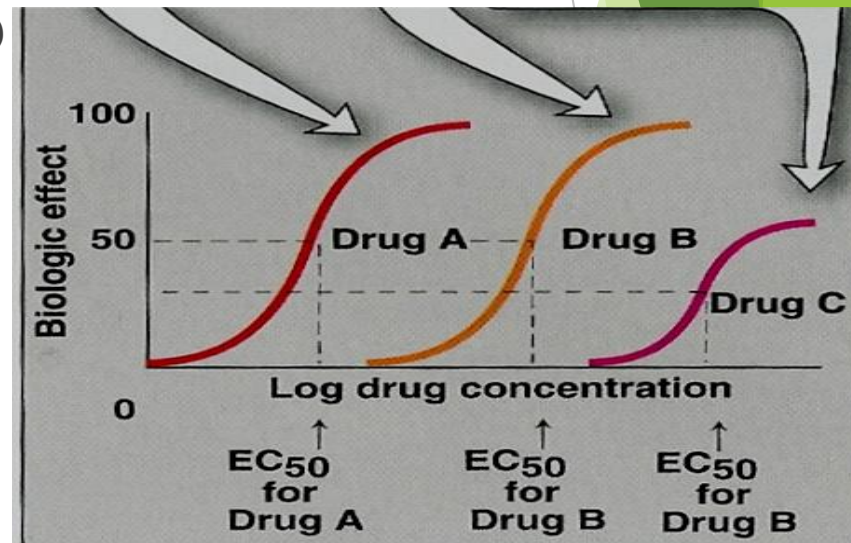
# Graded dose-response curves are used to calculate

- **Efficacy:** --often called maximal efficacy( $E_{max}$ ).
- **$E_{max}$ :** is the maximal biological response produced by a drug at highest tolerated drug level.
- **$EC_{50}$ :** The dose of the drug required to produce half the maximal effect
- **Potency:** the concentration of drug required to produce a specified response ( $EC_{50}$  is the international parameter)

Potency is inversely proportional to  $EC_{50}$ .

(lower concentration  $\rightarrow$  higher potency.

higher concentration  $\rightarrow$  lower potency).

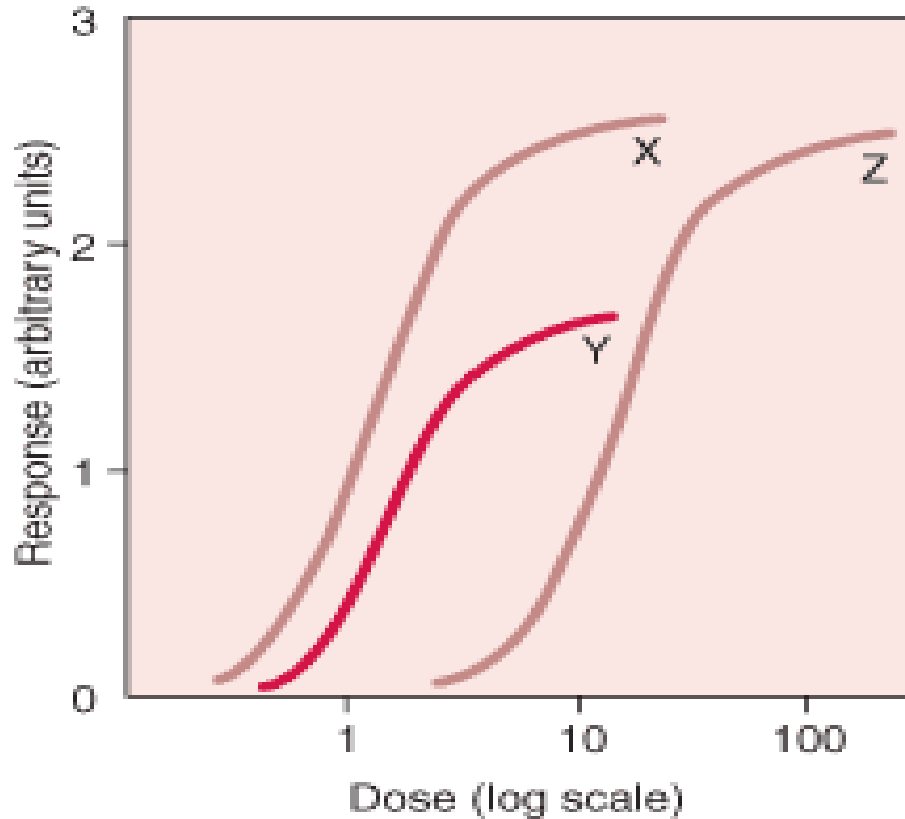


The potency of drug A is more than drug B & C.

The efficacy of drug A & B are the same and they are more efficacy than drug C.

# Graded dose response curve significance summary

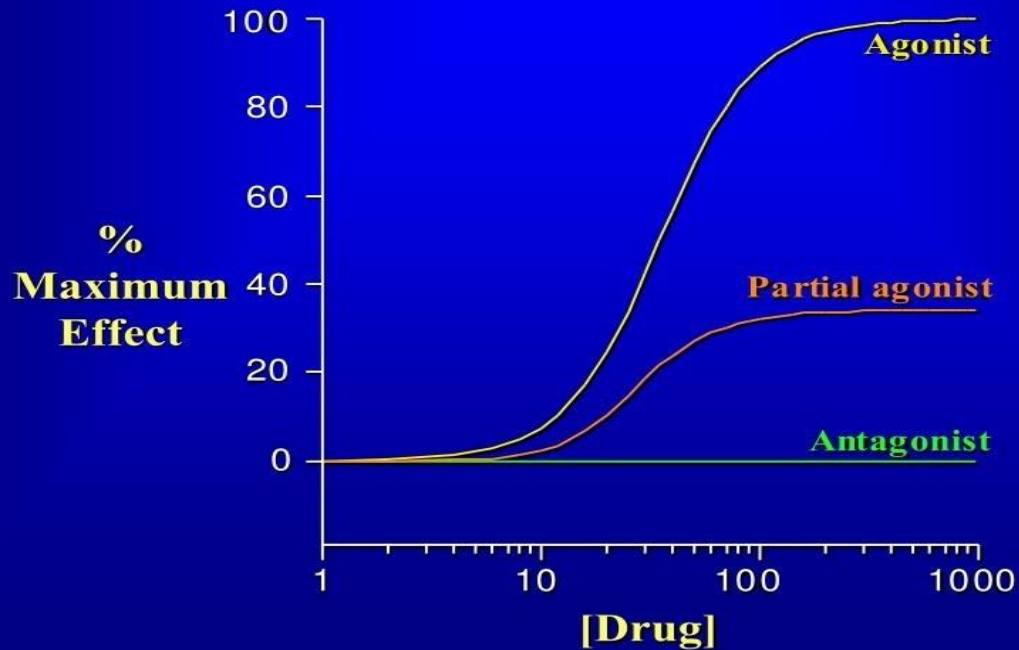
- ▶ Along with assessing efficacy and potency of drug this curve also
- ▶ Identify therapeutic dose/concentration
- ▶ Classify drug effect by drug receptor interaction (agonist, antagonist)
- ▶ Compare relative efficacy and potency of different drug with same effect
- ▶ Assess mechanism of drug interaction



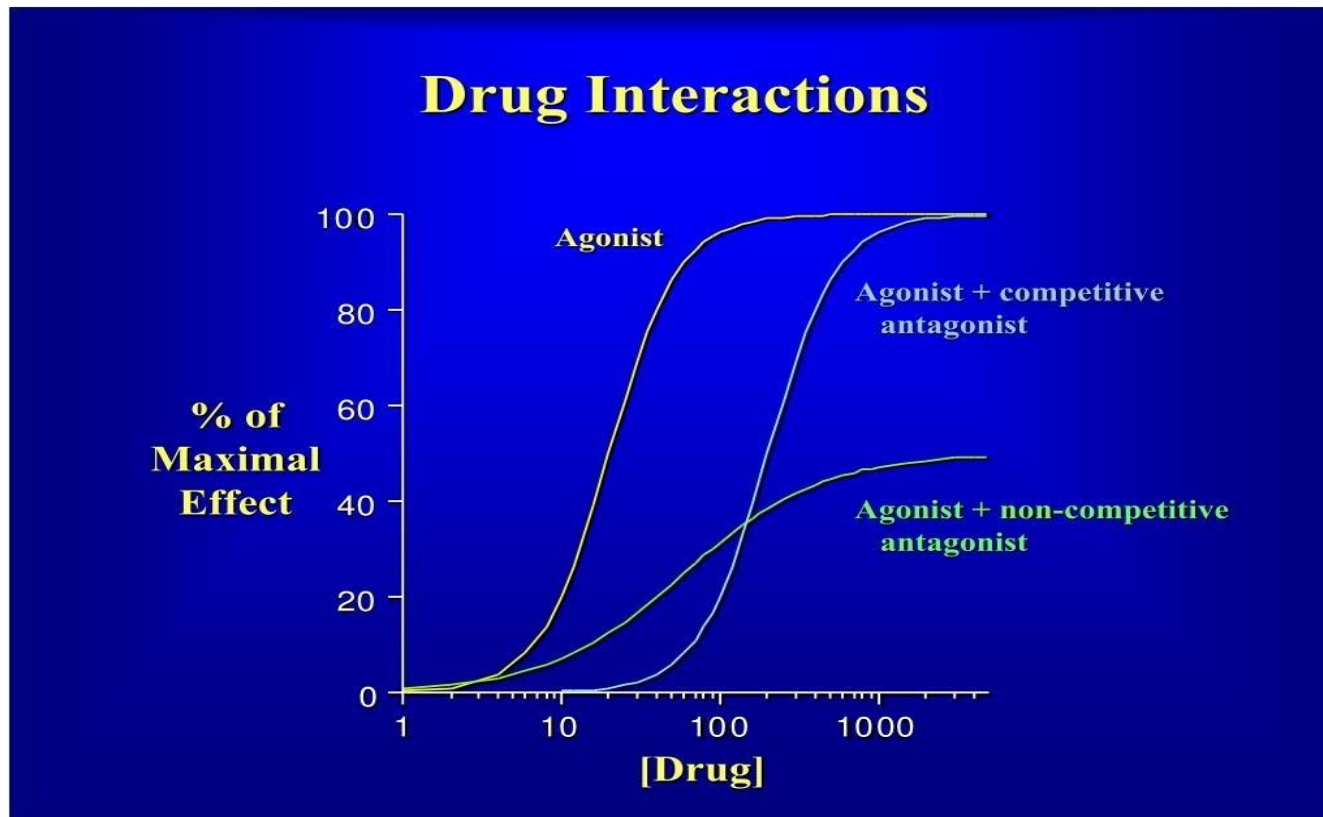
**Drug X has greater biologic activity per dosing equivalent and is thus more potent than drug Y or Z. Drugs X and Z have equal efficacy, indicated by their maximal attainable response (ceiling effect). Drug Y is more potent than drug Z, but its maximal efficacy is lower.**

# Assess effect of drug

## Receptor-Mediated Effects



# Assess mechanism of drug interaction



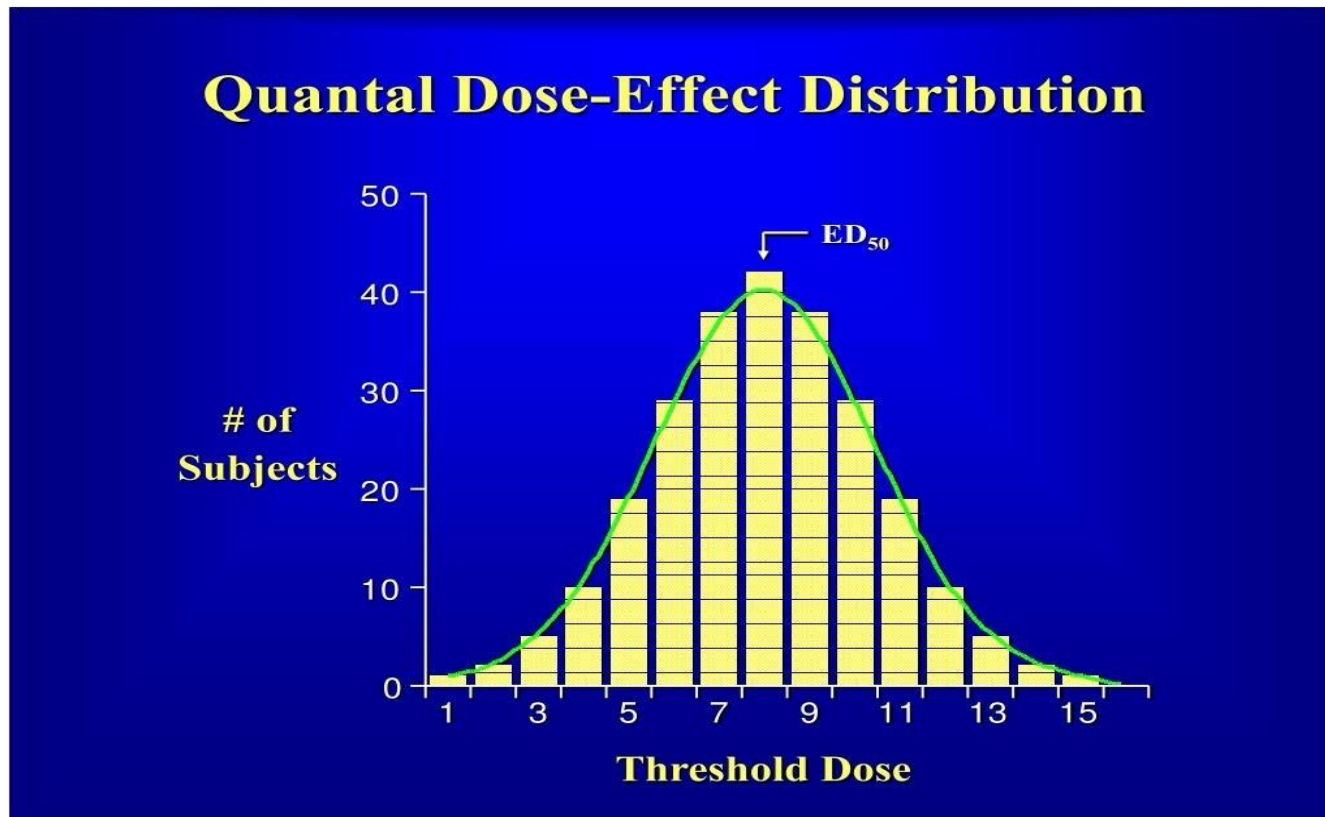
# Quantal dose response curve

# Quantal Dose-Response Curves

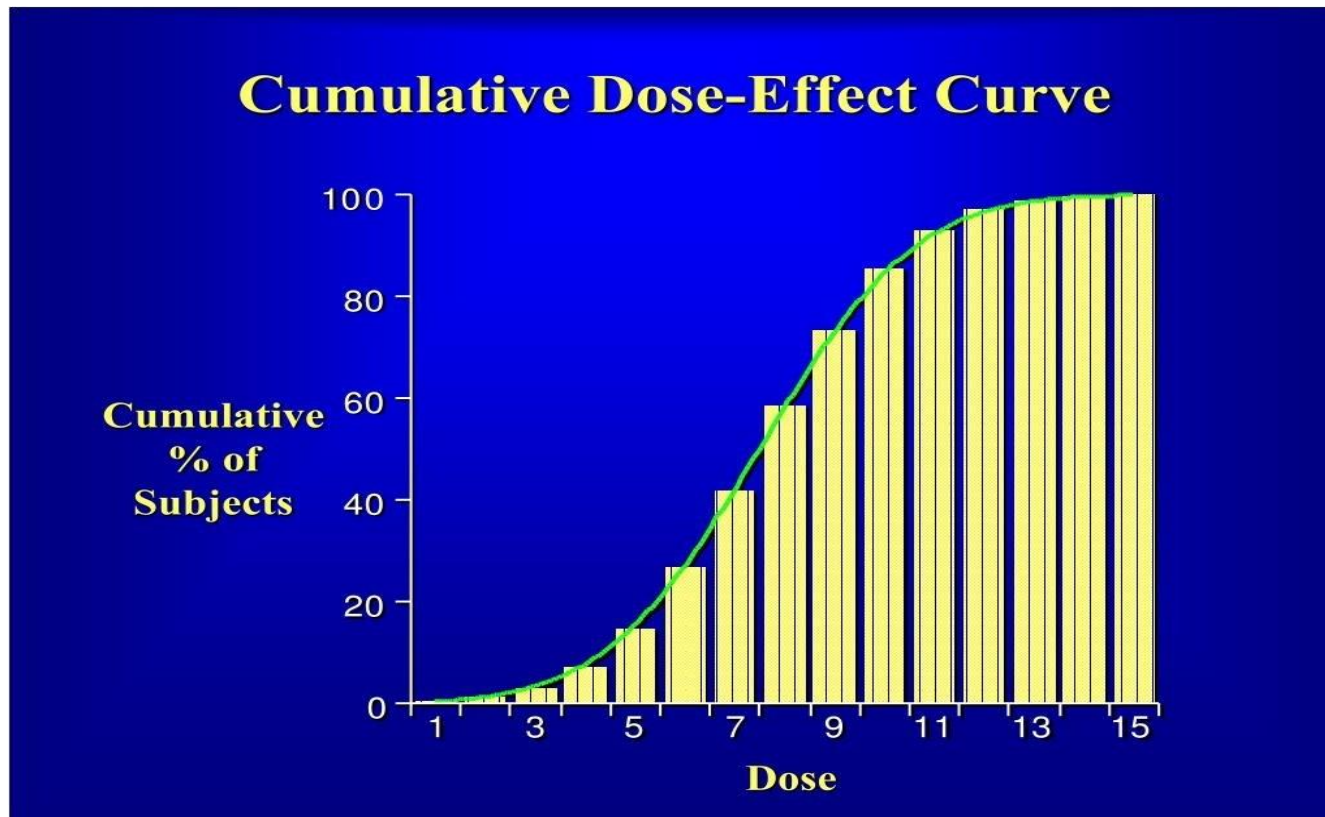
- ▶ Relates drug concentration to % percentage of patients responding  
(all or none response).
- ▶ Population studies
- ▶ The response may be  
therapeutic response, adverse effect or lethal effect.



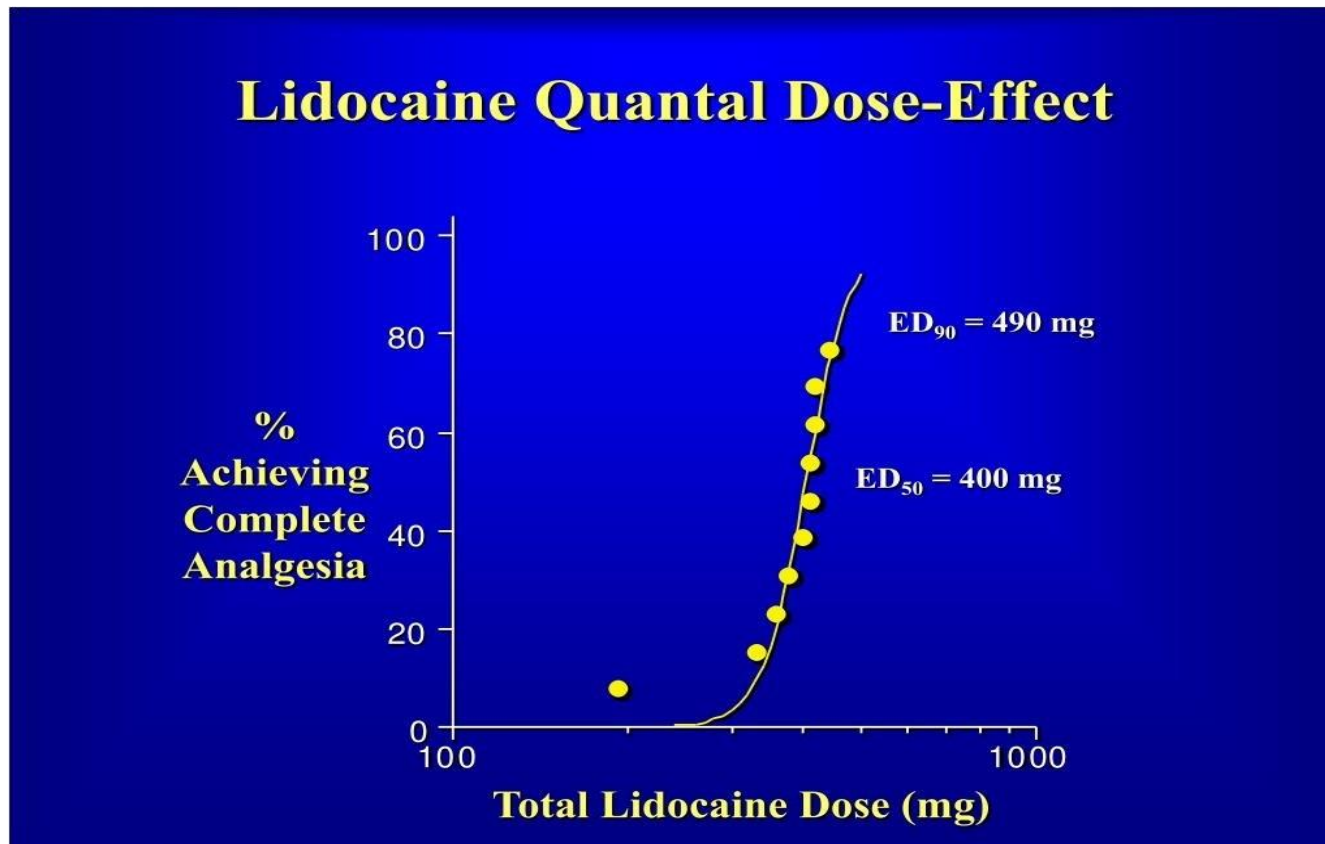
# Quantal dose response curve



# Hyperbolic curve



# Example quantal dose response curve



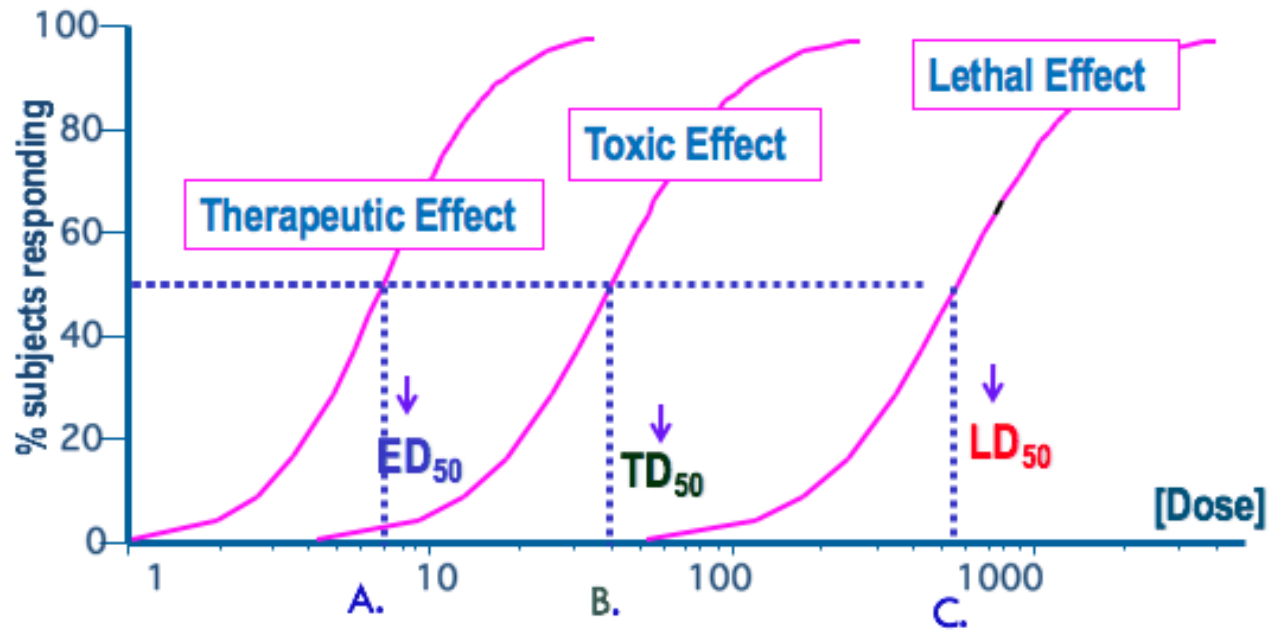
# Quantal Dose-Response Curves

## Used to determine:

- $ED_{50}$ : the dose of drug Required to exhibit a **therapeutic effect** in 50% of patients.
- $TD_{50}$ : the dose of drug required to exhibit a **toxic effects** in 50% of patients.
- $LD_{50}$ : the dose of drug required to exhibit **death** in 50% of patients.
- **Therapeutic index (T.I):**

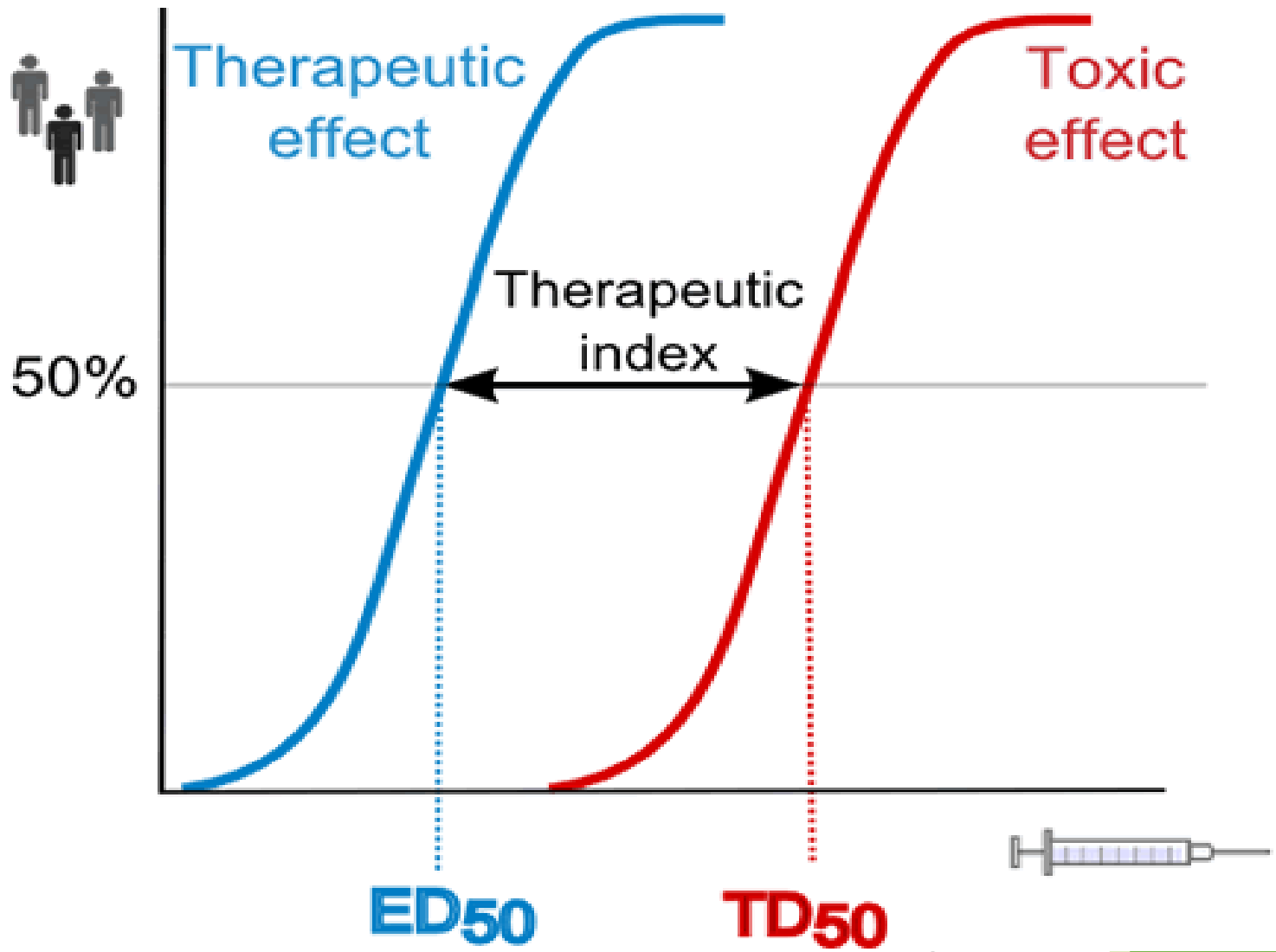
It is a measure of safety profile.

$$\textit{Therapeutic Index} = \frac{TD_{50}}{ED_{50}} \textit{ or } \frac{LD_{50}}{ED_{50}}$$



- A. 50% of individuals exhibit the specified therapeutic response
- B. " " " toxic effects
- C. " " " death

**Predict the safety profile**

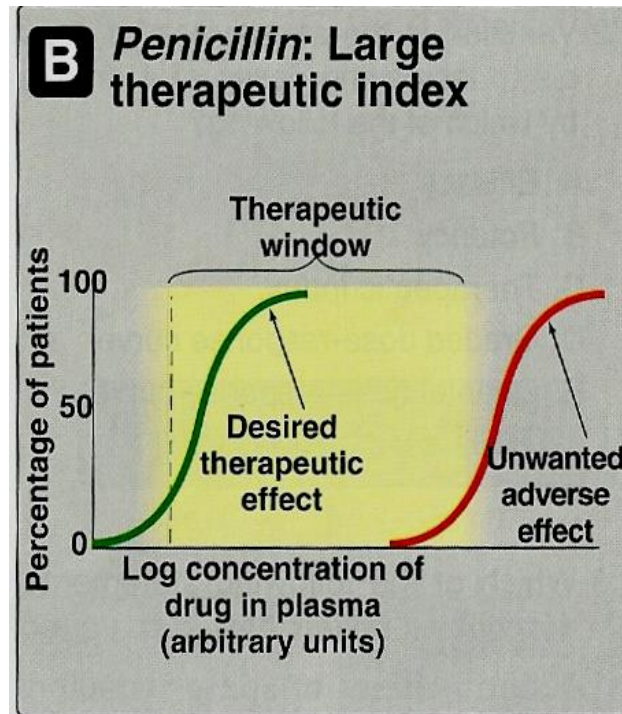
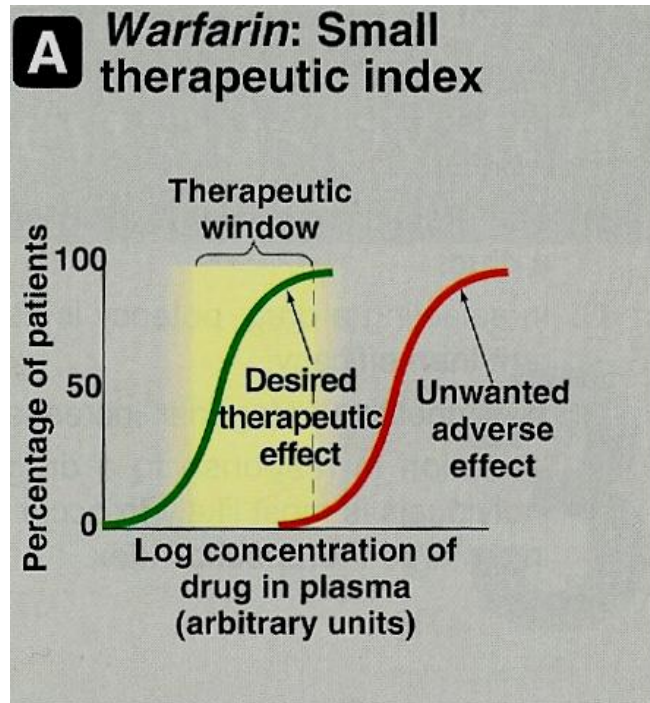


# Quantal Dose-Response Curves uses

Therapeutic index

Large value = drug has wide margin of safety e.g. diazepam

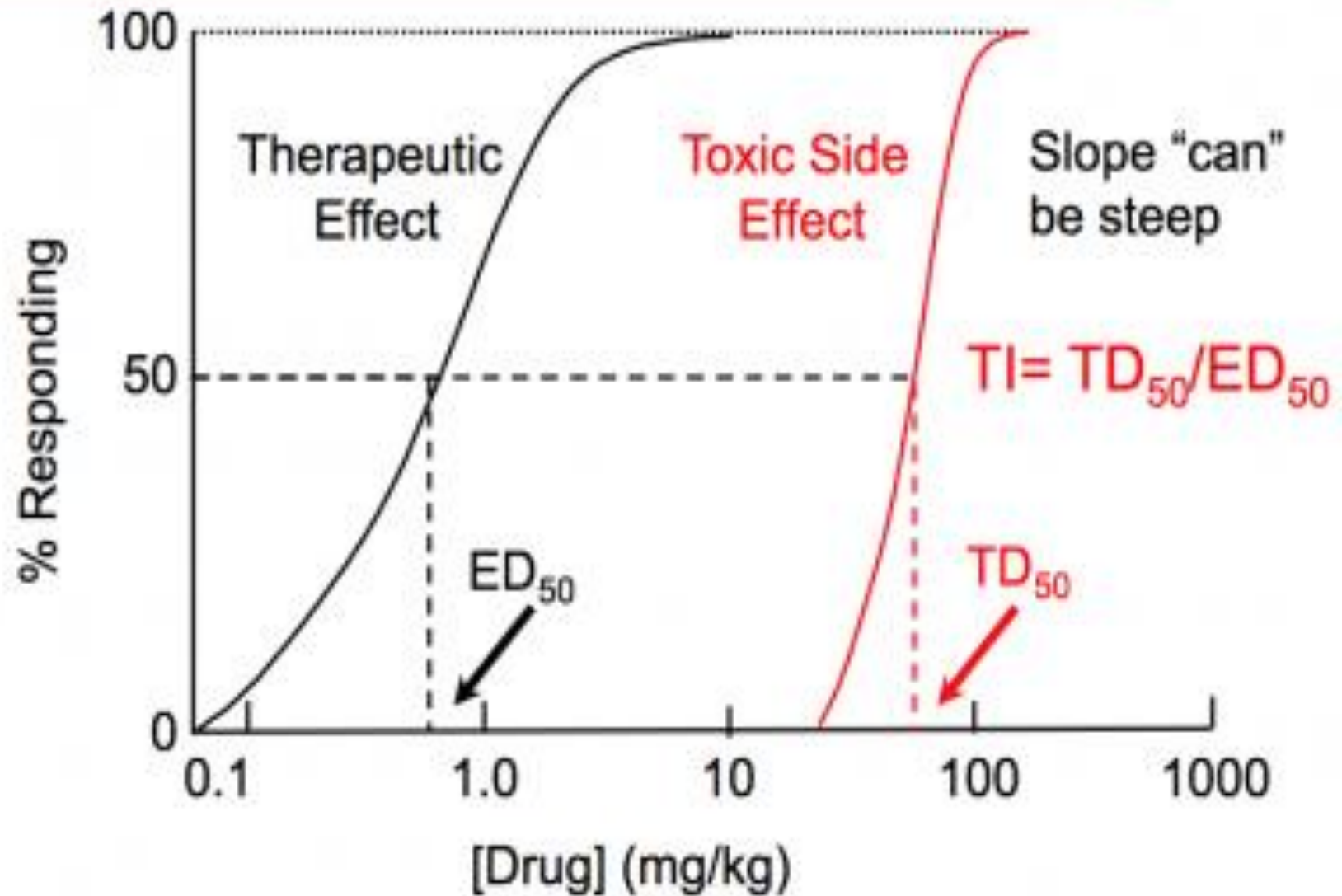
Small value = a narrow margin of safety e.g. digoxin



\*note the difference in T.I.



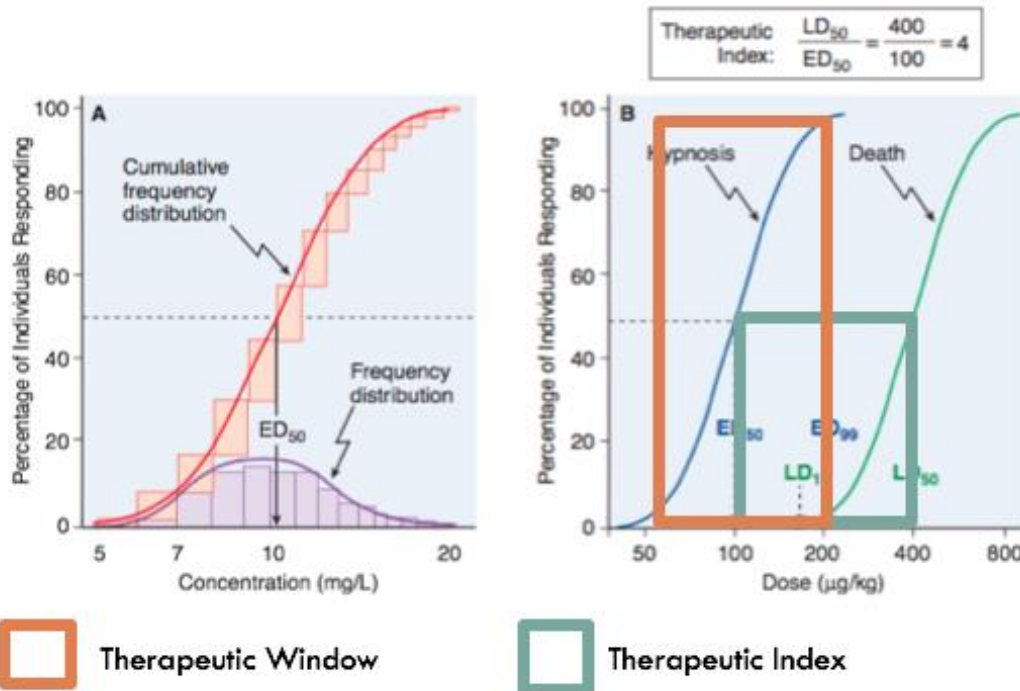
# Drug Safety - Therapeutic Index





# Therapeutic window

- ▶ Range of concentration of drug at which it produce desired effect with minimal toxicity



# History

- ▶ **Hill, a student in Cambridge, explored the concentration-effect curve quantitatively in 1909**
- ▶ **A J Clark applied this more generally to concentration-effect curves, in what is now known as classical receptor theory.**
- ▶ **Clark assumed that the effect of a drug is directly proportional to the concentration of drug–receptor complex**  
**that the maximum effect occurs when all the receptors are occupied.**
- ▶ **From this he derived the apparent dissociation constant of the interaction of a drug with its receptor.**

# Dose -response studies significance

- ▶ Drug development
  - ▶ Site of drug action
  - ▶ Selection of dose and schedule
  - ▶ Potency efficacy safety
  - ▶ Drug interations
- ▶ Patient management
  - ▶ Therapeutic drug monitoring
  - ▶ Risk-benefit (therapeutic indices)

# Take home message

## Dose-Effect Endpoints

### Graded

- Continuous scale (dose → effect)
- Measured in a single biologic unit
- Relates dose to intensity of effect

### Quantal

- All-or-none pharmacologic effect
- Population studies
- Relates dose to frequency of effect

THANK YOU

