# SELECTIVE ESTROGEN RECEPTOR MODULATERS

Dr. Sidrah Ghafoor

Pharmacology dept kgmc

Endocrine & Reproduction-II Module

4th Year MBBS

Theme-6: Breast lump

# Objectives

- By end of this presentation you will be able to
- Enlist Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulators (SERMs)
- Describe the mechanism of action and clinical uses of Tamoxifen

# WHAT IS SERM?

• Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulator (SERM) are non steroidal synthetic agents whose agonist or antagonist activities on estrogen receptor (ER) are tissue selective.

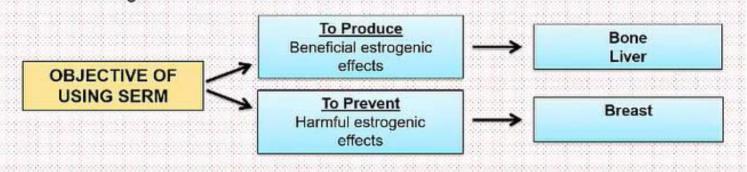
## **Enlist SERMS**

- SERMs are a class of estrogen-related compounds
- display selective agonism or antagonism for estrogen receptors **Depending On The Tissue Type.**
- Tamoxifen.(prototype drug)
- Raloxifen
- Ormeloxifen
- Toremifene
- Clomiphene & Ospemifene



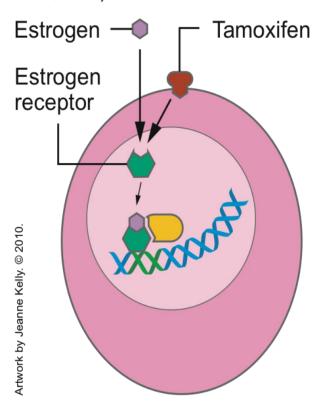


- Drugs with tissue selective actions
- Estrogenic action in some tissues
- Antiestrogenic action in some other tissues



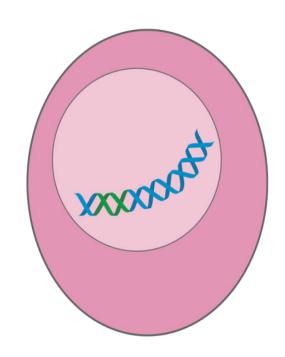
### Estrogen target cell

(e.g., breast, uterine lining, liver, etc.)

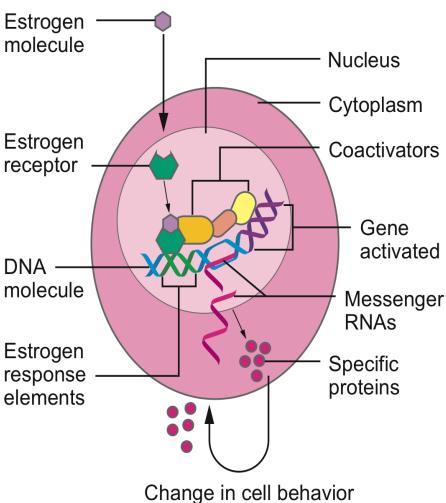


### Non-target cell

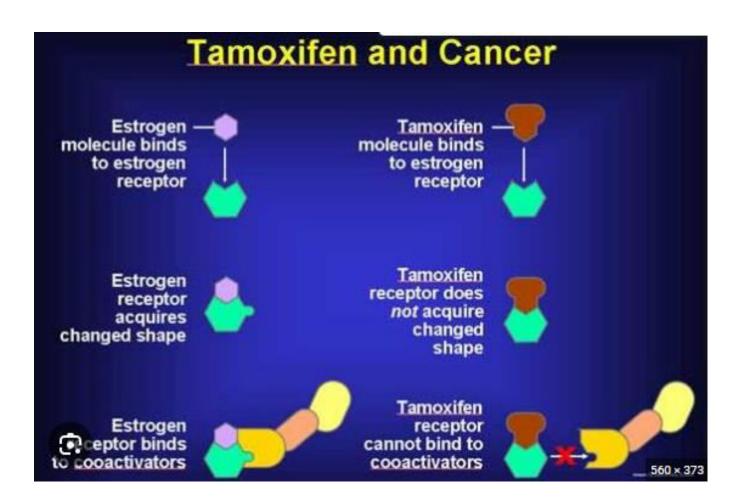
(contains no estrogen receptor)



## Estrogen Receptors Trigger Gene Activation



Change in cell behavior (e.g., increase proliferation)



## **SERMs ACTION**

- Tamoxifen, Toremifene, Raloxifene compete with estrogen for binding to the estrogen receptor in breast tissue.
- So breast tumors regress following treatment with these agents.
- Raloxifene acts as an estrogen agonist in bone,
  - leading to decreased bone resorption,
  - increased bone density,
  - decreased vertebral fractures

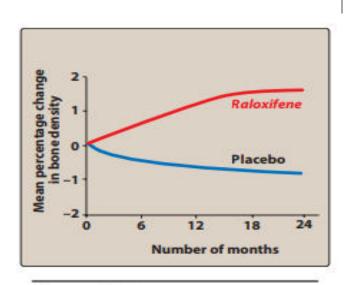
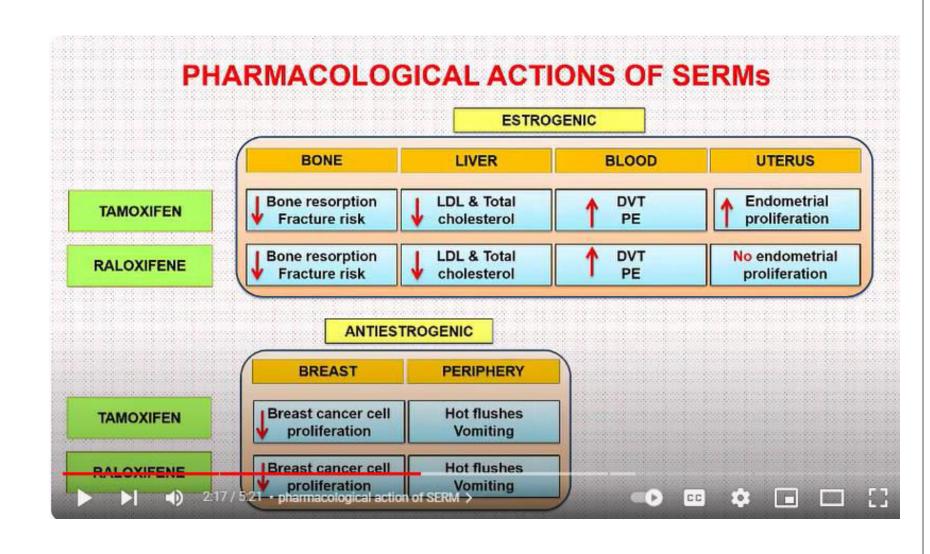


Figure 26.5

Hip bone density increases with 
raloxifene in postmenopausal women.

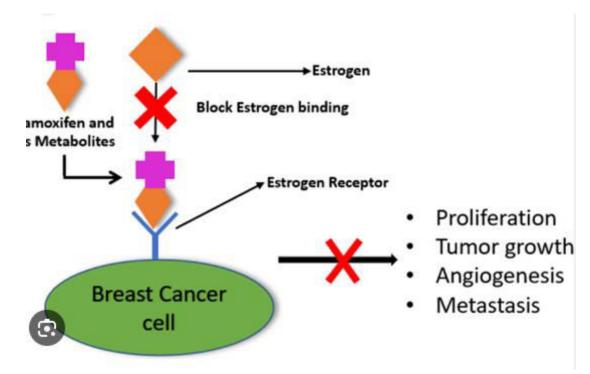


- Raloxifene does not have estrogen agonist activity in the endometrium so does not predispose to endometrial cancer.
- Clomiphene a partial estrogen agonist & interferes with the negative feedback of estrogens on the hypothalamus.
  - stimulation of ovulation



# Therapeutic uses

- Tamoxifen
  - Treatment of metastatic breast cancer,
  - Or as adjuvant therapy following mastectomy or radiation for breast cancer.



- Tamoxifen and Raloxifene as **prophylactic therapy** to reduce the risk of breast cancer in high-risk patients.
- Raloxifene is also approved for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women.
- Clomiphene is useful for the treatment of infertility associated with anovulatory cycles.
- Ospemifene is indicated for the treatment of dyspareunia (painful sexual intercourse) related to menopause

## INDICATIONS OF SERMs



#### CLOMIPHENE

- Female infertility (due to anovulation)
- Male infertility
- · Invitro fertilization

#### **TAMOXIFEN**

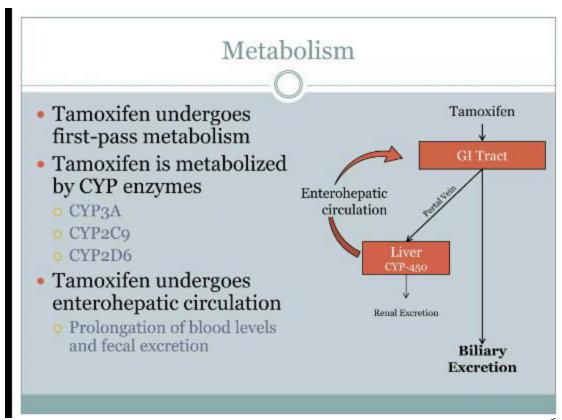
- Treatment of breast cancer (both pre- & postmenopausal)
- Prevention of breast cancer

### RALOXIFENE

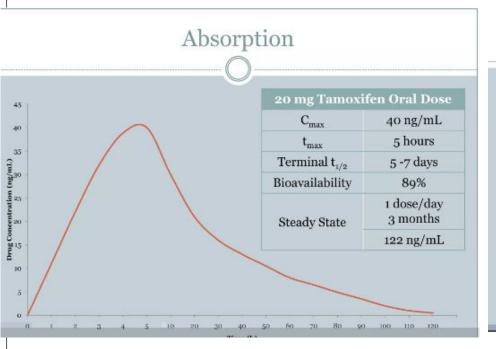
 Treatment & prevention of osteoporosis (postmenopausal women)

# pharmacokinetics

- The SERMs are rapidly absorbed after oral administration.
- Raloxifene is rapidly converted to glucuronide conjugates through first-pass metabolism.



# Tamoxifen



### Distribution

- Tamoxifen is 99% albuminbound in serum
- · Volume of Distribution
  - 50 60 L/Kg
- This represents an extensive distribution to the peripheral tissues
- · Areas of high concentration
  - Breast
  - o Lung
  - o Liver
  - o Brain
  - o Bone
  - o Uterus



## Adverse effects



- Most common side effects (up to 25% occurrence)
  - Rarely severe enough to require discontinuation of treatment
    - Hot flashes
    - Nausea
    - Vomiting

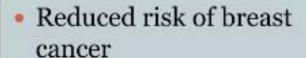
- hot flashes and nausea.
- Endometrial hyperplasia and malignancies with tamoxifen therapy. So recommendations are use drug for short intervals
- Tamoxifen have drug interactions.
- Hot flashes and leg cramps are common with raloxifene.
- Increased risk of DVT, pulmonary embolism, and retinal vein thrombosis.
- C/I in Patient with history of venous thromboembolic events

# tamoxifen

### **Adverse Drug Reactions**

- Increased risk of uterine cancer
  - o Agonist in uterine ER
  - Increased cell proliferation
- Increased risk of blood clot formation
  - Increase in clotting factors
- Increased risk of cataract
  - Ophthalmic toxicities

### **Benefits of Drug**



- ER Antagonist
- Strengthens bones
  - ER Agonist
- Lower risk of heart disease
  - Increase HDL cholesterol
  - Reduce LDL cholesterol



## **ADVERSE EFFECTS OF SERMs**



#### CLOMIPHENE

- Ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome
- Polycystic ovaries
- Multiple pregnancies
- Nausea/vomiting
- · Hot flushes

#### **TAMOXIFEN**

- Increased risk of endometrial cancer
- Increased risk of deep vein thrombosis & pulmonary embolism
- Nausea/vomiting
- · Hot flushes

#### RALOXIFENE

- DO NOT INCREASE endometrial cancer risk
- Increased risk of deep vein thrombosis & pulmonary embolism
- · Hot flushes
- Leg cramps

# Thank you

