

Bioequivalence and Bioavailability of Receptors Dopamine (D2) and Serotonin in the Action of Antipsychotic Drugs

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First, who studied of occupancy degree the receptors D2 (D2R-protein that, in humans, is encoded by the DRD2 gene) it was Farde and colleagues in 1980 who observed that most antipsychotics, with the exception of clozapine, have a high occupancy rate, receptors D2 (70% or even more) to clinical doses used. The following studies have demonstrated that there is a "therapeutic window" for most antipsychotics with a locking of 60-65% of the receptors, necessary to obtain optimal response antipsychotic, and occupancy of more than of 80% it is associated with Extrapyramidal Symptoms (EPS) [1].

Blocking the receptors D2 can adequately explain the beneficial effects the typical antipsychotics on positive symptoms of acute the psychotic episode. Blocking the receptors D2 contribute to the antipsychotic effect of the serotonin-dopamine receptor antagonists.

EPS and increased prolactin levels caused by antipsychotics can be satisfactorily explained of the antagonism of dopaminergic neurotransmission mediated by receptors D2 in the striatum (which is part of the extrapyramidal nervous system) for extrapyramidal symptoms, and the level hypothalamic 'tuberoinfundibular' system for adverse effects, neuroendocrine [2].

The difference between antipsychotics, typical and atypical is their affinity date for receptors D2 (Table 1) [3].

Degree of occupation, of receptor D2 the basal ganglia and the cortical receptors 5HT2, PET-Positron emission tomography, SPECT-single-photon emission computed tomography¹ (Table 1).

Medications such as Clozapine binds slowly and have a fast dissociation for receptors D2 compared to typical antipsychotics (such as Haloperidol) which have a strong affinity for these receptors. Some researchers have proposed that this rapid dissociation receptors D2 and reduced affinity for these receptors could explain clozapine atypias, resulting in a low affinity for dopamine receptors D2. The atypia's rapid dissociation rate is given by Koff for receptor dopamine D2 [4].

Clozapine it is the prototype of atypical antipsychotic. As it is known, Clozapine It was found to be the most effective treatment for chronic schizophrenia, it having the lowest level of receptor occupancy D2 through all antipsychotic medications. At very low doses (50 mg/

day), lower than the usual doses used to obtain antipsychotic effect, it observed a complete occupancy for the system 5HT2. The efficacy of clozapine in refractory patients to be observed in the dose range 300-400 ng/ml, where occupancy receptors D2 it is between 50-60%. This reduced level occupancy of receptors. D2 explain why not give Clozapine EPS or significant increases in prolactin. Binding profile of the Olanzapine It is similar to the Clozapine, reality supported by studies PET [5].

Risperidone It becomes efficacious therapeutic levels of occupancy D2 observer usual to typical antipsychotics (at a dose of 2 mg develop an occupancy of D2 by 60% or bigger). High levels of occupancy of 5HT2 They were observed even at low doses, but they do not result from antipsychotic effect [6].

Olanzapine He showed a preferential blocking of the receptors 5HT2 comparable dopamine receptors D2. The antipsychotic effect is usually seen at a dose between 10-20 mg/day, when the occupancy rate of D2 achieve 65-80%. At dosages of 30 mg/day or larger, then they increase in prolactin levels and EPS, occupancy threshold, exceeded the 80%. Amisulpride, unlike other antipsychotic has no affinity for the serotonin receptors 5HT2. Doses of Amisulpride between 600-900 mg/day give occupancy rate D2 of 70-80%, while the doses >1100 mg/day give occupancy rate D2 of >85%, and at these higher doses may be observed EPS. Blocking the receptors 5HT2A and preferential blocking certain subtypes of dopamine receptors it was an assumption relevant in defining the mechanism effectiveness atypical or second generation antipsychotics in the treatment of negative symptoms [7]. The studies PET of atypical antipsychotics showed an extended of the receptors occupancy rate 5HT2A in the cerebral cortex clozapine, olanzapine, risperidone and quetiapine, but not amisulpride. The difference observed between receptors occupancy and active clinical doses lead to the question whether the effect on receptors 5HT2A It is the sole determinant of neurochemical atypia [8].

In conclusion, can affirm that, numerous research techniques increasingly more laborious find answers to some questions but have raised some new ones, developing new lines of research. Once again, the human brain proves to be a universe to be further explored, schizophrenia and remained an enigma, only partially loosed.

Antipsychotics	The receptors profile	PET (SPECT) ¹	
		D2 (%)	5-HT2 (%)
Haloperidol	Antagonist, in particular, receptor. D2 like	70-90	0
Amisulpride	Selective antagonist D2/3	38-76	0
Clozapine	Multiple antagonist	20-68	84-100
Olanzapine	Multiple antagonist	43-39	90-100
Quetiapine	Multiple antagonist	22-68	48-70
Risperidone	Antagonist 5-HT2/D2/α1	59-89	78-100
Sertindole	Antagonist 5-HT2/D2/α1	50-74	(90+)
Ziprasidone	Antagonist 5-HT2/D2/α1+Antagonist 5HT1A+reuptake NA/5HT	77	95
Zotepine	Multiple antagonist+reuptake NA	(57-61)	?

Table 1: Comparison between pharmacological profile typical antipsychotics and second generation¹.

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