

Parasympathomimetics

General properties

Parasympathomimetics mimic the effects that arise from *irritation of the parasympathetic system*. They are substances that act on **three types of muscarinic receptors** (M-receptors). Their effect is similar to **acetylcholine**. We can therefore also call them *synergists of acetylcholine on M receptors*. Most parasympathomimetics are non-selective substances that can be used in *the therapy of certain diseases*.

Types of parasympathomimetics

Parasympathomimetics can be divided into **two large groups**:

1. **Direct parasympathomimetics** – directly acting, stimulate M receptors
2. **Indirect parasympathomimetics** - acting indirectly, they block **ACHE (acetylcholinesterase)** and thereby increase the amount of neurotransmitter (ACH).

Effects

PSMs have the most pronounced effects in the area of **smooth muscle**. They are used to increase *the tone and motility of the GIT*. Indirectly acting PSMs improve the condition in *myasthenia gravis*.

Adverse effects

Adverse effects such as diarrhea , vomiting , nausea , stomach cramps, sweating, miosis, increased salivation may occur.

Contraindications

Do not use in case of *obstruction of the urinary tract*.

Links

Related articles

- Indirect parasympathomimetics

References

- HYNIE, Sixtus. *Farmakologie v kostce*. 2. edition. Triton, 2001. ISBN 80-7254-181-1.