#### Antibiotics

Joel Goodman STARS Minisymposium March 6, 2006

## Outline

- The spectrum of infectious agents and the global problem of human infections
- Classification of bacteria
- Intro to antibiotic classes, drug targets and resistance
- Three antibiotics in detail
  - Sulfonamides
  - Penicillin
  - Streptomycin

#### Statement by

Dr. David L. Heymann Executive Director for Communicable Diseases World Health Organization

**Before the** 

Committee on International Relations U.S. House of Representatives

29 June 2000

"The Urgency of a Massive Effort Against Infectious Diseases"





#### Projected changes in life expectancy in African countries with high HIV preva













"The highly unnatural journey of No. 534, from calf to steak" Cows rarely live on feedlot diets for more than six months, which might be about as much as their digestive systems can tolerate. "I don't know how long you could feed this ration before you'd see problems," Metzen said; another vet said that a sustained feedlot diet would eventually "blow out their livers" and kill them. As the acids eat away at the rumen wall, bacteria enter the bloodstream and collect in the liver. More than 13 percent of feedlot cattle are found at slaughter to have abscessed livers.

What keeps a feedlot animal healthy — or healthy enough — are antibiotics. Rumensin inhibits gas production in the rumen, helping to prevent

bloat; tylosin reduces the incidence of liver infection. Most of the antibiotics sold in America end up in animal feed — a practice that, it is now generally acknowledged, leads directly to the evolution of new antibiotic-resistant "superbugs." In the debate over the use of antibiotics in agriculture, a distinction is usually made between clinical and nonclinical uses. Public-health advocates don't ob-



ject to treating sick animals with antibiotics; they just don't want to see the drugs lose their efficacy because factory farms are feeding them to healthy animals to promote growth. But the use of antibiotics in feedlot cattle confounds this distinction. Here the drugs are plainly being used to treat sick animals, yet the animals probably wouldn't be sick if not for what we feed them.

New York Times Magazine, March 31, 2002, p51

I asked Metzen what would happen if antibiotics were banned from cattle feed. "We just couldn't feed them as hard," he said. "Or we'd have a higher death loss." (Less than 3 percent of cattle die on the feedlot.) The price of beef would rise, he said, since the whole system would have to slow down.

"Hell, if you gave them lots of grass and space," he concluded dryly, "I wouldn't have a job."

"Tylosin is a macrolide, bacteriostatic antibiotic. It is similar in structure, mechanism of action, and spectrum as that of erythromycin" www.kuddlykorner4u. com

> New York Times Magazine, March 31, 2002, p51

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## Drug Resistance ca. 2006

- Half the time, prescriptions for antibiotics are inappropriate. Antibiotic use promotes outgrowth of resistant organisms!
- Antibiotics in cattle feeds account for ~ 50% of use; cross-resistance occurs. Antibiotics are ubiquitous in the environment.
- Until very recently, no classes of antimicrobial drugs have been developed since 1970. Big Pharma is reluctant to get involved! Resistance has developed to ALL these classes of antibiotics.

#### **Classes of Bacteria**

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Gram stain distinguishes two classes



www.meddean.luc.edu/lumen/DeptWebs/microbio/med/gram/tech.htm

#### Gram stain stains cell wall

- Gram positive bacteria have exposed cell wall (peptidoglycan)
- Gram negative bacteria have an outer membrane that surrounds the cell wall



http://pathmicro.med.sc.edu/fox/bact-mem.jpg

## Function of envelope

#### Protects cells from toxic substances Keeps important proteins concentrated in periplasm



#### **Shapes of Bacteria**





spirochete

http://www.mansfield.ohio-state.edu/~sabedon/biol2010.htm



# How do you treat all these bugs??

#### Dawn of the Antibiotic Age

- 1870s Robert Koch discovered the anthrax bacterium.
- 1877 Louis Pasteur discovered that common bacteria can prevent anthrax from growing in culture.
- 1890s Paul Ehrlich chemicals can be "magic bullets". Development of Salvarsan.
- 1908 Paul Gelmo textile azo dyes can kill bacteria; led to sulfonamides in 1930s.
- 1928 Alexander Fleming discovery of penicillin. First patient cured in 1941.

# Sites of Drug Action (1)



- Cell wall: Beta-lactams (Penicillins, Cephalosporins), Glycopeptides, Bacitracin
  - Plasma membrane: Daptomycin
  - C<sub>1</sub> transfer: Sulfonamides, Trimethoprim (Bactrim)

### Sites of Action (2)



- DNA synthesis: Fluoroquinolones (ex. Ciprofloxacin)
- RNA synthesis: Rifampin, fluoroquinolones
- 6 Translation: Aminoglycosides (ex. streptomycin), Tetracyclines, Chloramphenicol, MLSK drugs, Linezolid, Streptogramins

#### Sulfonamides

# IG Farbenindustrie AG ~1940



http://www.us-israel.org/jsource/Holocaust/farben.html

#### Prontosil

N = N $H_2N$  $SO_2NH_2$ Ο  $\left( \right)$  $NH_2$ 

Gerhard Domagk



#### Sulfanilamide, the active drug



Sulfanilamide



Para-aminobenzoic acid (*p*ABA)



#### Folic Acid



#### Folic acid carries methyls for. .

- Purine biosynthesis
  - C2 and C8 carbons are delivered by THF
- Thymidylate synthesis

   Catalyzed by thymidylate synthetase
- Amino acid synthesis
  - Serine (from glycine)
  - Methionine (from homocysteine)

#### We can import folic acid.

Many bacteria cannot. . . They must synthesize it.

#### Folate synthesis (bacteria)





#### Selective action of sulfa

- Mammals cannot make folic acid; they must import it. We do not possess DAS, the drug target. Instead we have a folic acid transporter.
- Bacteria cannot import folic acid (no transporter); they must synthesize it.

#### Sulfa facts

- Usually administered as a combination of sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim (Bactrim)
- Broad spectrum, but bacteriostatic
- Usually safe, but many suffer GI distress or rashes
- Commonly used for urinary tract infections

#### **Beta-lactams**

## History

#### Fleming discovered penicillin (1928)





# History

- Fleming discovered penicillin (1928)
- Florey, Chain and Abraham isolated it and determined structure (1940)
- First cure in human (1941)
- Critically important on the field in WWII
- Park & Strominger deduced mechanism (1965)

# The Oxford Group



Ernst Chain 1906-1979 Howard Walter Florey 1898-1968

Dorothy Hodgkin 1910-1994



Figure 74. First clinical trial of penicillin in the United States: penicillin therapy of  $\beta$ -hemolyt tococcal septicemia.

Goodman and Gilman, 2nd ed. (1955)



The biosynthesis of cell wall peptidoglycan, showing the sites of action of five antibiotics (shaded bars; 1 = fosfomycin,2 = cycloserine, 3 = bacitracin,4 = vancomycin, $5 = \beta$ -lactam antibiotics). Bactoprenol (BP) is the lipid membrane carrier that transports building blocks across the cytoplasmic membrane; M = N-acetylmuramic acid; Glc =glucose; NAcGlc or G = Nacetylglucosamine

> Katzung, 9th ed.

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Grooves in carboxypeptidase/transpeptidase, complexed with Cephalosporin I



Green - first strand Yellow, second strand

Lee et al., (2001) :PNAS 98:1427



#### Classes of $\beta$ -lactams



#### Penicillin and other betalactams

- Very active against gram positive organisms (MICs as low as 0.01 µg/ml)
- Inhibits crosslinking of the peptidoglycan
- Releases autolysins -> cell death
- Side effects: ALLERGY!!
- Resistance: bacteria make beta lactamases, which destroy penicillin

#### **Ribosome Binders**

- 30S binders
  - Aminoglycosides
  - Tetracyclines
- 50S binders
  - MLSK family
    - Macrolides
    - Lincosamides
    - Streptogramins
    - Ketolides
  - Chloramphenicol
- Linezolid (binds both subunits)



## Aminoglycosides Gentamycin C

René Dubos



Selman Waksman



#### JSB Vol.4, No.2

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#### Journal of Spiritual Bodywork

#### Vol. 4, No.1 ISSN 1079-8390 August 2000 A NEW PARADIGM FOR MASSAGE BASED ON SUBTLE ENERGY AND QUANTUM SCIENCE

#### PART 1: SUBTLE ENERGY

Albert Schatz and Mary Brewster

#### Contents

An invitation to visit a new world ..

What is a paradigm?.

We need a philosophy of massage.

Why is massage beneficial?.

The old paradigm.

Inadequacies of the old paradigm.

Two centuries after Peter Ling.

#### Binding of streptomycin to 30S



**Figure 5** Interaction of streptomycin with the 30S ribosomal subunit. **a**, Difference Fourier maps showing the binding site of streptomycin. Mutations in ribosomal protein S12 that confer resistance are shown in red. **b**, Chemical structure of streptomycin, showing interactions of the various groups with specific residues of the ribosome. **c**, The streptomycin-binding site, showing its interaction with H27, the 530 loop (H18), H44 and ribosomal protein S12. **d**, A view of the 30S showing streptomycin in a space-filling model, and the surrounding RNA and protein elements

#### Aminoglycosides

- Used for serious gram negative infections
- Binds to ribosomes, inhibits protein synthesis and causes misreading of mRNA
- Resistance: Bugs synthesize transferases
   that inactivate drugs
- Toxic effects: Ototoxicity (hearing and balance loss) and nephrotoxicity

### Mechanisms of resistance

- Drug inactivation
  - Penicillins, aminoglycosides
- Alteration of target sites
  - Beta-lactams, fluoroquinolones
- Decrease in accessibility
  - Tetracyclines
- Increase in competing metabolites
  - Sulfonamides