



Pharmacological Agents in the Sleeping Disorder

Mr. Sumit M Patil¹, Mr. Mayur B Pachunde², Dr. Gajanan S Sanap³

Department of Pharmacology, Late Bhagirathi Yashwantrao Pathrikar College of D Pharmacy, Pathri, Chh Sambhajinagar, India

DOI: https://doi.org/10.51244/IJRSI.2025.120800324

Received: 04 Sep 2025; Accepted: 10 Sep 2025; Published: 11 October 2025

ABSTRACT

Sleep disorders, are involved insomnia, restless legs syndrome (RLS), narcolepsy, and obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), affect millions worldwide, significantly impacting health and quality of life. Pharmacological treatment remains a cornerstone in the management of these conditions, with diverse agents targeting different pathways. This review provides a comprehensive examination of the pharmacological agents used in treating sleep disorders, covering their mechanisms of action, efficacy, safety, and clinical application. Additionally, it highlights emerging therapies and future next way in the field.

Keywords: Sleep disorder, Insomnia, obstructive sleep apnea, RLS, narcolepsy Pharmacological agents, Therapeutic effect of Drugs, Special Indications.

INTRODUCTION

Overview of sleep disorder and their prevalence.

The most prevalent sleep complaint, wakefulness, refers to issues falling or becoming asleep. Ten to fifteen percent of adults express difficulties performing during the day, four to twenty-two percent have symptoms severe enough to qualify as wakefulness complaints, and around one-third of adults report some wakefulness symptoms. Sleep conditions, also known as serious conditions, are issues with the standard, timing, & quality of the nap that impede performance and results daytime sleep. Sleep-wake patterns are often associated with medical conditions or other internal health issues, such as depression, anxiety, or cognitive impairments.

Important of pharmacological treatment in management sleep disorder.

Sleep disorders impact the results of sleep, and their occuring raises morbidity. Patients who have trouble falling asleep, who refuse to go to sleep, who are overly drowsy throughout the day, and who move more while they sleep are all considered to have sleep disorders. Cognitive behavioural therapy is used to diagnose and treat insomnia based on medical history. The inability to fall or stay asleep that interferes with daytime functioning is known as insomnia, either without hypnotics or with them. The impulse to move the legs, which worsens at rest and improves when you move them, is the defining feature of restless legs syndrome. It usually takes place at night or in the evening. The treatment plan is determined by the frequency of symptoms of restless legs syndrome. Symptoms of narcolepsy include excessive weariness, hallucinations, hypersomnia, and cataplexy. Multiple sleep latency testing, overnight polysomnography, and an actigraphy or sleep journal are used to diagnose it. Stimulants such as the used to the treat narcolepsy. Overnight polysomnography can to used to treat obstructive sleep apnea, which is more likely to happen to people who have apnea and snore. For obstructive sleep apnea, the most popular and Sustained positive airway pressure is a sign of a successful treatment. Quick eye movements Elevated muscular tone during sleep is a hallmark of sleep behavior disorder, which leads to the patient acting out potentially harmful dreams.

Objective and scope of the review

Determine the cause of sleep disorders. Explain how sleep disorders are assessed. Describe the various sleep

ISSN No. 2321-2705 | DOI: 10.51244/IJRSI | Volume XII Issue IX September 2025



disease operation possibilities. In order to address the fashionable case challenges, exemplify an interprofessional approach to care coordination in treating instances with sleep disorders.

Classification of sleep disorder:

Insomnia:

Further than one- third of grown-up's witness flash wakefulness sometime during their lives. In 40 cases are, wakefulness can makes into a more habitual & patient state. The opinion of wakefulness is produced when the client expresses discontent with their sleep (sleep- conservation wakefulness) to the another day symptoms (eg, somnolence, disabled attention, mood distractions) for at least 3 nights/week and last to than 3 months. 1

The two drug classes authorised for the treatment of insomnia are benzodiazepines and the more recent nonbenzodiazepines, despite the fact that there are many pharmacological options. Although it takes a lot of time, behavioural treatment for insomnia can be beneficial. Pharmacological and behavioral therapies work well together most of the time. Rats that are exposed to a mildly warm environment on a regular basis report more sleep. It was also suggested that one nonpharmacological way to significantly increase paradoxical sleep-in rats is to expose them to warm ambient temperatures. Before making a solid judgement on the nonpharmacological approach to generating a persistent increase in sleep, it is necessary to investigate the changes in sleep that are brought about by prolonged exposure to mildly warm ambient temperatures in humans. 1

Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA):

Breathing pauses during sleep are a hallmark of this, a main sleep disorder. Obstructive sleep apnea and the central sleep apnea, and complicated sleep apnea are the 3 main forms of the condition. The upper-down slump that occurs while you're sleeping causes obstructive apnea, which is characterized by a tailwind lasting ten seconds or more. The absence of breathing difficulties, on the other hand, is a hallmark of central apnea, which is usually brought on by the respiratory centers and breathing-regulating muscles in the brain. Complex sleep apnea is the term used to describe certain cases that exhibit a combination of central and obstructive apnea.¹

OThe widespread and persistent condition known as obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) causes breathing problems while you sleep. Those in their middle and older years are particularly affected, but people of all ages are affected. Individuals who suffer from OSA frequently stop or reduce their breathing when they sleep (either independently or through apnea or hypopnea). ² The reason for this conclusion or decrease in breathing is repeated partial or whole airway inhibition brought on by constriction of the respiratory passageways. A person may be awakened or able to sleep well thanks to these respiratory disturbances. The benefits of restless nights on daytime weariness and slumber are widely acknowledged. ²

People of all ages are affected by obstructive sleep apnea, although it is more common in those over 60. Although the precise frequency is uncertain, it is thought to be between two and fourteen. Obstructive sleep apnea is linked to a number of medical disorders, such as depression, heart arrhythmias, hypertension, and coronary artery disease. Clinical characteristics that are predictive include rotundity, larger neck circumference, loud snoring, and heaving during sleep. Although they are not very effective, screening questionnaires can be used to determine whether a person has sleep apnea. Nightly polysomnography in a sleep lab is the individual typical for obstructive sleep apnea. Although they to be used in some situations, home sleep apnea tests are usually thought to be less accurate. Constantly maintaining positive airway pressure is the first line of treatment; adherence rates vary and seem to improve with early patient support and education.

Narcolepsy

A persistent neurological condition known as narcolepsy affects REM (rapid-fire eye movement) sleep in particular and makes it difficult to control sleep-wake cycles. Inordinate day somnolence (EDS), sleep-related

ISSN No. 2321-2705 | DOI: 10.51244/IJRSI | Volume XII Issue IX September 2025



visions, sleep palsy, disrupted nightly sleep (DNS), and cataplexy are the pentad symptoms of awake..³

There are two main types Trusted Source of narclepsy.

Type A: includes cataplexy and somnolence. Tests will reveal that a neurotransmitter called hypocretin is almost completely absent from the individual. This could happen if an autoimmune disease is brought on by an infection.

Type B: substantially include inordinate day somnolence, but they generally no unforeseen weak-ness.

When the hypothalamus is damaged by trauma or an excrescence, secondary wakefulness may follow. This area of the brain plays a role in sleep.

The illness is often underdiagnosed, and before forming an established view, patients are often detained five to ten times. About 50% of individuals start exhibiting symptoms when they are teenagers. There is significant morbidity associated with the complaint, which impairs social and academic functioning. Thankfully, there are ways to treat the problem.

Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS) and Periodic Limb Movement Disorder (PLMD):

RLS and periodic branch moving complaint are movement diseases, with RLS generally being in a awake state at rest and periodic branch movement complaint being lower generally and during sleep. ⁴ A common cause of excessive wakefulness is restless legs syndrome (RLS). Out of the general population, 5 to 15 percent suffer from this neurologically sensitive movement issue.⁵ Legs that feel restless The syndrome is characterized by an uncomfortable feeling that is somewhat relieved by physical activity, accompanied by a harmonious evening predominance, a hunger to move the branches that happens or gets worse when at rest, and dysesthesia. The feeling is often described by cases as "creeping, crawling chinking," shock, emotions, or just indescribable discomfort. The pain may radiate to the box or arms during the duration of the complaint. The restless legs pattern's primary characteristic is that it becomes more difficult to fall asleep in the evening and at night. People that have this tendency frequently To ease their pain, stand up and move around the room. Consequently, lack of sleep is often the cause of fatigue and daytime somnolence.¹

The shift from wakefulness to sleep is when this discomfort is most noticeable. Patients who have "restlessness of their legs" do so since moving their legs eases these uncomfortable feelings. According to recent research, there may be a susceptibility gene region, which may account for the persistent domestication of RLS. ⁶

Circardian Rhythm Sleep Wake Disorders:

It's disorders are prevalent. Sleep happens chronologically later than desired in let sleep-wake stage disorder, In contrast, it Get them up and walk about the room to relieve their agony. As a result, in advanced sleep-wake phase disorder, sleep deprivation frequently occurs much earlier than intended. But in both cases, the duration of sleep is normal, and the patient feels refreshed when they go to bed at the requested hour. Ten cases of habitual wakefulness can be attributed to delayed sleep - wake phase complaints, which are especially prevalent in teenagers and young adults (7%-16%). It is expected that one middle-aged adult and older populations in general suffer from advanced sleep-wake phase complaints. More than 50 percent of eyeless individuals are permitted to have non-24-hour circadian rhythm complaints, and more than 80% of them report sleep difficulties. Twenty percent of the population works shifts, and it is believed that between 10 and 38 percent of them experience shift work circadian rhythm complaints.⁷

Pharmacological Agents for the Treatment of Sleep Disorders:

Pharmacological Agents for Insomnia

Benzodiazepines

Benzodiazepines are the class of medication that can be used to treat sleep disorders such as insomnia. They





are available in 1970s to treat for insomnia. All types of benzodiazepines are considered potentially addictive. there are following drugs,

Triazolam

Estazolam

Flurazepam

Temazepam

Clonazepam

Mechanism of Action

Drugs in the benzodiazepine receptor class act on the CNS (central nervous system). A chloride channel is formed in the center of the receptor, which is a protein composed of five transmembrane subunits, which is known as the gamma-aminobutyric acid. These five subunits consist of one gamma, two beta, and two nascence subunits. A receptor site for the inhibitory neurotransmitter GABA is formed by the extracellular portions of the nascence and beta subunit proteins. The benzodiazepine list point is formed by the extracellular regions of the gamma and nascence subunit proteins.

Chloride ions can enter the neuron when benzodiazepine receptors are activated because they undergo a conformational change to a central severance. The neuron becomes hyperpolarized due to the abundance of the chloride anion, which causes CNS depression. ⁸ When GABA is present, Benzodiazepines enhance the frequency of the GABA-A receptor Cl-channel opening. Benzodiazepines have no effect on GABA-A receptor activity when GABA is not present. ⁹

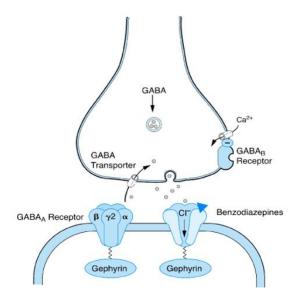


Fig 1: Mechanism of action of the benzodiazepine

Efficacy and safety

The "Z-medicines" have strong evidence supporting their effectiveness in treating habitual wakefulness in the short term. Commonly used narcotics include benzodiazepines and benzodiazepine receptor agonists. Even yet, there are still serious negative effects associated with the central nervous system (CNS), such as amnesia, reliance, growing forbearance, and CNS depression. In contrast, although they have less proven efficacy, newer agents have better side-effect profiles. Antidepressants, antihistamines, and natural supplements are examples of off-markers that are widely used. ¹⁰ Because benzodiazepines can have harmful effects, particularly when abused, they are regulated. Additionally, they have the potential to create habits. Due to





these considerations, medical professionals utilize benzodiazepines with caution. However, if your nerve system's exertion falls too low, it might have harmful or even fatal consequences.

Side effects and risks

The side effects and risk of benzodiazepine, confusion, drowsiness, dizziness, depression, increased anxiety, respiratory depression, diplopia, memory loss.

Clinical uses

Benzodiazepines are specified for the treatment of adolescent sleep diseases.

Benzodiazepines are trigger stress and anxiety.

Benzodiazepines are reduced seizure disorder.

Reduce bipolar and painic disorder.

Z-Drugs (Non- benzodiazepine Hypnotics)

Its most common prescribed medication for sleeping disorder is following;

Eszopiclone

Zaleplon

Zolpidem

Zolpidem, extended release

Zolpidem, sublingual

Mechanism of Action

The z-drug causes the cell to become hyperpolarized by GABA-A receptor binding .However, in contrast to benzodiazepines, the z-drug binds more broadly to specific GABA-A receptor subunits, mainly focussing on the receptor's opiate rather than anxiolytic effects. ¹¹The z-drugs, like benzodiazepines, have a number of side effects, especially when used as advanced tablets. These include vision problems, nausea, disinhibition, memory loss, and dizziness. It is uncommon for people taking large doses of Z-drugs to exhibit sophisticated sleep-related behaviours (such as sleep feeding or driving); this risk should be considered when these details are first mentioned. ¹²

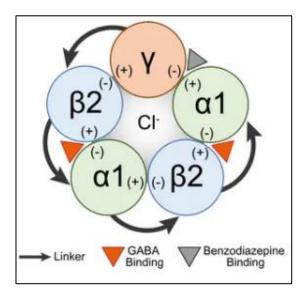


Fig 2: mechanism of action in the z-drugs



ISSN No. 2321-2705 | DOI: 10.51244/IJRSI | Volume XII Issue IX September 2025

Efficacy and Safety

For insomnia, Z-drugs are usually advised as the initial course of treatment. However, older persons may have different benefits and drawbacks with Z-drugs. The information currently known about Z-medications' efficacy and safety in treating older people' sleeplessness was thoroughly examined in this systematic review. ¹³

Z-drugs appear to be safe and effective in treating older persons' insomnia, based on the results of short-term interventional trials; nevertheless, long-term use may have adverse side effects. Because of the high risk of fractures and cascade, we therefore advise against using Z-drugs. Nevertheless, the quantity and quality of the evidence are not well supported. Because there is a dearth of information, especially on medicine dependence with extended treatment ages and thenotably increased risk for fractures and cascade, further investigation is required to ascertain the benefit-threat profile of Z-drugs use in the elderly, especially for long use.¹³

Side effect and Risk

sleepiness, blurred vision, dry eyes, dry mouth, nose, or throat, reduced urination, constipation, restlessness (especially in children), drowsiness throughout the day, As instructed, use Z-Sleep. Serious heart problems can result from taking too much Z-Sleep, seizures, coma, or death, do n't use this drug to make a child sleepy. Z-Sleeping drug isn't for use in children youngish than 12 times old.

Clinical uses

Z-drugs is treating insomnia in children with developmental disabilities.

Z-drugs is binding the alpha1 subunit of the GABA-A receptor and thereby induce sedation.

Z- medicines drop sleep onset quiescence, drop darkness awakenings, and increase total sleep time.

Melatonin Receptor Agonist

A melatonin receptor agonist is a type of remedial agent that has shown implicit for treating insomnia in the senior and the eyeless, as well as managing sleep- wake disturbances caused by shift- work and spurt- pause, there drug is following,

Ramelteon

Ramelteon

Melatonin

Mechanism of Action

A variety of signaling pathways are activated by the melatonin-to-melatonin receptor list. There is a splashing effect of non-activation when the MT1 receptor is active because it inhibits adenylyl cyclase. This is followed by decreased protein-kinase A (PKA) activity the decrease in cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP) conformation, stopping the cAMP response element-binding protein (CREB list protein) from becoming P-CREB by phosphorylation. Additionally, MT1 binding receptors influence ion channels, control ion flux within the cell, and initiate phospholipase C (PLC). Adenylyl cyclase is inhibited by melatonin's binding to MT2 receptors, which lowers cAMP's conformation. Additionally, it prevents cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP) from generating by inhibiting guanylyl cyclase. PLC is likely impacted by list to MT2 receptors, which raises protein kinase C (PKC) activity. Ion flux inside the cell may result from receptor activation. In the cell in the cell of the cell o



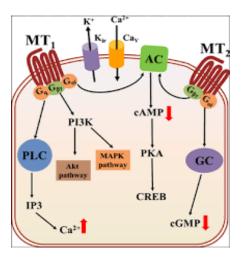


Fig 3: mechanism of action in the melatonin receptor agonist

A variety of physiological processes are triggered when melatonin receptor agonists activate their receptors. Both circadian and non-circadian sleep disorders may be treated by targeting MT1 and MT2 binding receptors.

Efficacy and Safety

The endogenous pineal gland hormone melatonin has a variety of physiological roles in both humans and animals, but its main purpose in humans is to keep sleep cycles in sync with the day/night cycle. When taken as a medication, it has significant clinical implications and impacts several physiological systems. Melatonin has the potential to delay the start of sleep in cases with sleep disorders, although its effectiveness is limited and inconsistent. Melatonin seems to have the most influence on when children with neurodevelopmental disorders go to sleep, but it has little effect on how well they sleep.

Short-term use of melatonin pills is safe, and they seem to help people fall asleep, according to studies. Blind people with circadian rhythm sleep abnormalities and delayed sleep phases can benefit from melatonin, which also helps with insomnia.

Side effects and Risk

fatigue, lightheadedness, A headache, complaint about taste, Feeling queasy, elevated alanine aminotransferase (ALT) levels in the liver, infections of the upper respiratory tract, infections of the urinary tract Abnormams and agonies, sleep disruptions During night, Delusions

Clinical uses

Following illness, melatonin receptor agonists are used in clinical settings as oral pills, capsules, or suspensions. al dre

Not a 24-hour problem with sleep-wake When a person's natural clock is unable to keep up with the 24-hour day and night cycle, they may experience a circadian meter sleep complaint, which is more common in persons who are entirely blind and unable to sense light.

Sleeplessness A sleeping disorder that makes it distrub to get to sleep and stay asleep.

A rare hereditary condition known as the Smith-Magenis pattern results in a variety of behavioural and cognitive impairments, including sleep problems.

Orexin Receptor Antagonists

A drug that inhibits the effects of orexin by functioning as a receptor antagonist of either the OX1 and OX2





orexin receptors (picky orexin receptor antagonist, or SORA) or both (binary orexin receptor antagonist, or DORA), is known as an orexin receptor antagonist. Treatment of sleep disorders is part of medical procedures, just like wakefulness.¹⁵

Suvorexant

Lemborexant

Daridorexant

Mechanism of Action

Orexin 1 (Ox1R) and Orexin 2 (Ox2R) are two different kinds of postsynaptic G-protein-coupled receptors that mediate orexin neurotransmission. Ox2R is the site of considerable binding for the neurotransmitter orexin B, although Ox1R and Ox2R can interact with the neurotransmitter orexin A. The attach of orexin A to Ox1R activates the sodium/calcium exchanger and increases intracellular calcium levels. Orexin A or B stimulates Ox2R by inactivating boosting the synthesis of N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) glutamate receptors and enhancing G-protein-regulated inwardly amending potassium (GIRK) channels. Ox2Rs are predominantly found in the histaminergic tuberomammillary nexus (TMN), whereas Ox1Rs are mainly present in the noradrenergic locus coeruleus. Next, While enmity of OxR2s may reduce histamine exertion in the hypothalamus, enmity of OxR1s is thought to alter dopamine in the brain's dependence and price centres. As a narcotic, suvorexant is the only licensed medication that promotes sleep without generating excessive arousal or the risk of dependence. It is a binary orexin antagonist (ORA), inhibiting both OxR1 and OxR2. ¹⁶

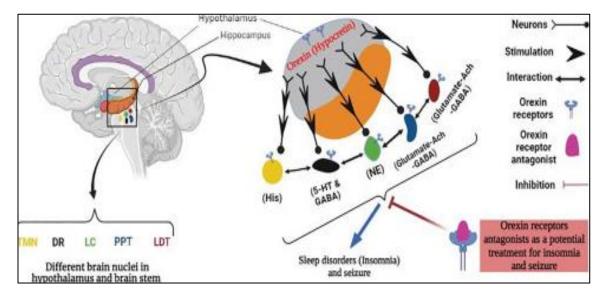


Fig 4: mechanism of action of the orexin receptor antagonist.

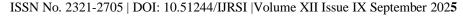
Efficacy and Safety

Orexin receptor antagonists are more effective than a placebo for all efficacity issues except the number of private awakenings. Orexin receptor antagonists can help people fall asleep briskly and increase total sleep time.

Orexin recerptor antagonist can increase the threat of doziness, abnormal dreams, fatigue, and dry mouth. still, the overall prevalence and inflexibility of treatment- imperative adverse events (TEAEs) are analogous across groups. utmost TEAEs are mild or moderate in inflexibility.

Side effect and Risk

Somnolence, Over sleepiness, Abnormal dreams, Sedation, Sleep paralysis, Nasopharyngitis





Clinical uses

Orexin receptor antagonist is use to tretment of insomnia.

Orexin receptor antagonist to useful in treating substance wrong effect.

Orexin receptor antagonist is use to the treat of depression.

Orexin receptor antagonist for treating obesity.

Summary of pharmacological agents of Insomnia.

Class	Drugs	Onsetof Action	Side Effects	Indications
Bezodiazepines	•Temazepam	7-8hr	Daytime sleepiness, poorsleep	Treatment of insomnia
	•Clonazepam	7-8hr		
	•Estazolam	8hr	induction	
	•Triazolam	<4hr		
	•Flurazepam	50-110hr		
Z-drugs (non- Benzodiazepines)	•Eszopiclone	1-3hr	Idiosyncratic	Treatment of
	•Zaleplon	2-5hr	daytime sleepiness	chronic insomnia
	•Zolpidem	1-2hr		
Meletonin receptor agonist	•Tasimelteon	1.5-3hr	Daytime	Treat sleep-
	•Ramelteon	2-5hr	sedation, shortness of	wake disorder
	•Melatonin	1-2hr	breath	
Orexin receptor antagonist	•Suvorexant	2-3hr	Decrease mental	Treatment of
	•Lemborexant	1-3hr	alertness, sleep paralysis	insomnia
	•Daridorexant	1-2hr		

Pharmacological agents of Narcolepsy and Excessive Daytime Sleepiness

Stimulants

Narcolepsy, shift work sleep disorder, and obstructive sleep apnea are all treated with stimulants. It can also be used in combination with other treatments for obstructive sleep apnea. ¹⁷ ,there drugs are following,

Modafinil

Armodafinil

Mechanism of Action

Modafinil's key therapeutically significant characteristic may be that it is a poor asset of dopamine reuptake. Its affinity for the norepinephrine (NE) or serotonin (5HT) transporters is negligible or nonexistent in vivo. There is evidence linking modafinil treatment to increased attention of NE and 5HT in the prefrontal cortex and hypothalamus; this could be due to an increase in extracellular dopamine. A racemic combination of





modafinil's S- and R-enantiomers is found. The psychotropic effects of modafinil are allowed to be caused by the R-enantiomer when it is sold alone as armodafinil.¹⁸

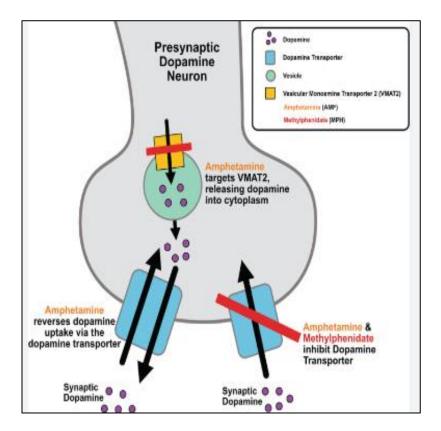


Fig 5: Mechanism of action of the stimulants

Furthermore, research has suggested a glutamatergic action, and modafinil may improve signalling in the histamine and orexin neurotransmitter pathways in the hypothalamus. One benefit of modafinil that is not mentioned is its actually low observed tendency to elicit the euphoric effects of traditional psychostimulants (like cocaine and amphetamine). This has been explained by differences in how it interacts with the dopamine transporter at the molecular level. Several laboratory studies involving healthy subjects have also shown that modafinil reduces the euphoric effects of cocaine.¹⁹

Efficacy and Safety

Modafinil, a stimulant, has become a typical treatment for daytime sleeplessness in wakefulness instances. It may also be a helpful alternative to psychostimulants used to improve awake performance in other medical diseases. The pharmacological profile and chemical makeup of modafinil are distinct from those of the psychostimulants. Modafinil is well accepted and has a modest potential for abuse. Modafinil proved to be a successful and approved treatment for correcting day insomnia in awake cases that had previously been treated with psychostimulants throughout this 6-week open-mark research.²⁰

Side effects and Risk

discomfort, chills and fever, Yellow eyes or skin, dark urine, rash, stomach ache, and unusual bleeding.

Clinical uses

The most commonly prescribed stimulant for narcolepsy.

Stimulants can improve sleep.

Stimulants are treat to the depression.





Stimulants are increasing blood pressure.

Sodium Oxybate

Sodium oxybate is another name for GHB, a substance that's frequently immorally vended and abused, especially by youthful grown-ups in social settings similar as clubs. Tell your croaker if you use or have ever used road medicines, or if you have overused tradition specifics. There drugs are following,

Mechanism of Action

It is not quite clear how exactly sodium oxybate alleviates symptoms in wakefulness situations. One theory suggests that deeper sleep could result from having fewer transitions to stages N1/Wake/REM and more time spent in stages N2 and N3.²¹Gamma-hydroxybutyrate, an endogenous chemical that breaks down the neurotransmitter GABA, is swabbed by sodium oxybate.Because sodium oxybate acts as a GABA-B receptor agonist, it has therapeutic effects for cataplexy and excessive daytime sleepiness.²²

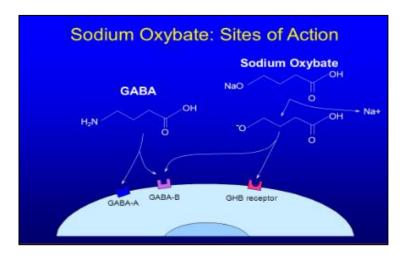


Fig 6: Mechanism of action of the sodium oxybate

Numerous research' findings have demonstrated that the medication has properties similar to those of ethanol. Notably, This is accomplished by sodium oxybate binding to GABA and extra-synaptic GABA. There will be a 34 percent increase in abstinence in a controlled sample of alcohol-dependent individuals compared to a placebo group. Sodium oxybate has been used for over 25 years to treat alcohol withdrawal symptoms and maintain abstinence in countries , which supports the proposal. Wakefulness is a complex sleep disorder that causes hypocretin (orexin) to be lost, leading to a disrupted sleep-wake cycle. Because there are insufficiently qualified physicians or because it is mistaken for other mental illnesses, excessive daytime sleepiness is frequently misdiagnosed. Early diagnosis and therapy are essential because they have been demonstrated to improve patient problems. 24

Efficacy and Safety

In ordinary clinical practice, sodium oxybate has a fair safety profile and good clinical efficacy for the treatment of wakefulness with cataplexy. Elderly patients are more susceptible to more severe SEs, and in 25% of cases, SEs pull out of the medication.

Serious side effects, such as life-threatening respiratory issues, can result from sodium oxybate. Sodium oxybate should not be taken with some particular. Make sure your doctor and chemist are aware of any medications you are now taking or want to start taking sodium oxybate. ²⁵

Side effects and Risk

Bedwetting, Sleep walking, being forgetful, Blurred vision, decrease in the amount of urine, Dizziness, Burning, crawling, itching, numbness, prickling, Including serious or life-threatening breathing problems.





Clinical uses

Sodium oxybate is medication to treat narcolepsy and daytime sleepiness.

Sodium oxybate is the central nervous system depressent.

Sodium oxybate is pharmacological agent treat the cataplexy

Summary of pharmacological agents of the narcolepsy and excessive daytime sleepiness

Class	Drugs	Onset of Action	Side Effect	Indications
Stimulants	Modafinil Armodafinil	2-4hr 2-3hr	Staying a sleep, chest pain	Treatment of narcolapsy
Sodium oxybate	Sodium oxybate	0.5-1.5 hr	Respiratory depression, CNS depression	Treatment of narcolepsy and excessive daytime sleepiness

Pharmacological Agents for Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS)

Dopaminergic Agents

Dopamine agonists are extensively used to relieve the symptoms of restless legs pattern, indeed though these cases are in a hyperdopaminergic state. This treatment incongruity inescapably leads to addition pattern. Then, we review the pathophysiological base of this deterioration in cases treated with dopamine agonists.²⁶

Pramipexole

Ropinirole

Mechanism of Action

As a selective dopaminergic agonist, pramipexole slightly presses against other receptors. When a drug's dissociation constant (Km in nmol/L) is low, it means that it binds to a receptor as well as possible. While pramipexole reported a somewhat advanced value with the D2 receptor, It used the D3 dopaminergic receptor to record the shortest Km value. Since pramipexole has an affinity for D3 that is over eight times greater than that of D2, it is primarily selective to D3 and D2 receptors. It is insignificant because D1 receptor affinity is about a million times lower than D3 receptor affinity. In addition to its dopaminergic action, Certain adrenergic and serotonergic receptors are weakly affinized by pramipexole. ²⁷ The D3 selectivity of pramipexole is responsible for its effectiveness in Parkinson's disease. In order to provide negative feedback on endogenous dopamine conflation, it attaches itself to presynaptic dopamine auto receptors. By reducing oxidative stress, this procedure lessens the harm to the gastrointestinal tract. ²⁸ Even though the precise pathophysiology of RLS is yet unknown, research strongly points to a dopaminergic component. In RLS, a group of neurones in the midbrain seem to be the target, as opposed to PD, where the nigrostriatal pathways are impacted. These neurones modulate nociception via designing into the spinal cord's rearward cornucopia. Giving pramipexole to patients with RLS restores the best possible neurotransmission in these pathways. ²⁹

Pramipexole has an antidepressant impact on patients with major depressive disorder and Parkinson's disease. Research indicates that comparable cases exhibit dopaminergic receptor downregulation, which contributes to their suicidal tendencies. Pramipexole promotes to the overexpression and potentiation of similar receptors in the mesolimbic system, a part of the brain that helps control mood.³⁰





Efficacy and Safety

For patients with early Parkinson's disease who are not starting levodopa, pramipexole is a safe and efficient short-term monotherapy. To ascertain pramipexole's long-term effects on the development of disability in the Parkinson's disease (PD) and its relative merits to other dopamine agonists and levodopa treatment, more research is necessary.

People taking pramipexole have reported falling asleep without advising during conditioning of diurnal living, including driving, which occasionally redounded in accidents. This may be as late as one time after taking the drug.³¹

Side effects and Risk

Xerostomia, Polyuria, Constipation, Dizziness, Depression, Tiredness

Clinical uses

Pramipexole is used to treat Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS).

Pramipexole is a dopamine agonist there act on the nervous system.

Pramipexole is use to medication to treat to Parkinson disorder.

Anticonvulsants

Anticonvulsants are discussed, with one patient using lamotrigine, a broad-diapason anticonvulsant, to successfully reduce RLS symptoms.preliminarily, lamotrigine had been used in 2 trials with successful treatment of RLS, there drugs are following,

Gabapentin

Pregabalin

Mechanism of Action

Although the exact method of action with the GABA receptors is unknown, researchers know that gabapentin easily crosses the blood-brain barrier and acts on neurotransmitters. Chemically speaking, gabapentin is linked to the neurotransmitter GABA by a cyclohexyl group. Although it shares a structure with GABA, it does not bind to GABA receptors, influence GABA absorption, or cause confusion. In the presynaptic area involved in epileptogenesis, gabapentin appears to inhibit the release of excitatory neurotransmitters by exhibiting a substantial affinity for binding sites in the brain that correlate to voltage-gated calcium channels, specifically α -2- δ -1. There is no evidence to demonstrate direct activity at the histamine, benzodiazepine, dopamine, or serotonin receptors; nonetheless, research has indicated that gabapentin raises serotonin levels in healthy control participants.³² It is unknown how exactly gabapentin works in RLS, Nevertheless, it is known to bind to voltage-actuated calcium channel α 2 δ -subunits explosively. The precise process is still unclear, but this list most likely inhibits calcium entry, which lowers excitatory glutamate and other neurotransmitter release.

Efficacy and Safety

When used as an adjuvant treatment for refractory partial seizures, gabapentin tablets up to 2400 mg/day are safe for the high term use.

When used as a spare treatment for partial seizures, not or with secondary conceptions, pregabalin at a dose of 600 mg per day is safe, generally well tolerated, and effective. ³³





Side effects and Risk

Blurry vision, Headaches, Stomach upset, Aplastic anemia, Uncontrollable shaking, Psychosis

Clinical uses

Anticonvulsants is treat or prevent to rest leg syndrome (RLS).

Anticonvulsants are treat seizures.

Anticonvulsant's medication controlled abnormal electrical activity in brain.

Anticonvulsants are treat to the epilepsy.

Other Agent

Opioids

Opioids are widely used to treat pain, but because of their serious side symptoms and dependence risk, they must be taken carefully. Additionally, severe, treatment-resistant restless legs syndrome (RLS) is treated the with opioids.⁵

Mechanism of Action

Opioids may initially boost dopamine release when they dwell in these μ -receptors, but eventually this results in decreased perceptivity or down-regulation of dopamine receptors. Consequently, RLS may result from a sudden decrease in dopamine release following opioid termination. Dopamine conflation and the reduction of endogenous anodynes are linked to the activation of tyrosine hydroxylase, which is triggered by the stimulation of adenylyl cyclase and protein kinase A, is another explanation for the long-term stimulation of opioid receptors. Consequently, opioid termination results in decreased adenylyl cyclase and protein kinase A activity, which lowers dopamine and opioids in the brain.

Efficacy and safety

Low Energy opioids, similar as codeine, hydrocodone, and tramadol can be veritably effective for treating intermittent RLS symptoms during the day (as long as they do n't beget sedation) or at bedtime. Depending on the medicine, relief may begin in roughly 30 to 60 twinkles and last for 3 to 6 h.

Conventional opioids used to relieve pain are generally safe as long as you take them as prescribed by your doctor and for a limited amount of time. Users of opioids are nonetheless at risk for overdose and opioid use disorder (OUD). When opioids are abused, these risks grow.

Side effects and Risk

Shortness of breath, Constipation, Drowsiness, Euphoria, Confusion

Clinical uses

Opioids are treat to the restless leg syndrome.

Opioids is medication of acute and chronic pain.

Opioids are treat to depression

Iron Supplements

Iron supplements treat secondary restless leg syndrome disorder it causes to deficiency of iron.

ISSN No. 2321-2705 | DOI: 10.51244/IJRSI | Volume XII Issue IX September 2025



Mechanism of Action

Iron insufficiency is associated with reduced exertion of D2 receptors, which are involved in RLS. Iron is a

cofactor in the conversion of tyrosine to dopamine, which is involved in RLS. Iron insufficiency may reduce dopamine situations and worsen RLS symptoms.³⁶

Efficacy and Safety

An iron cure, as opposed to a placebo, can reduce inflexibility and RLS symptoms. The International Restless Legs Syndrome (IRLSS) score was dramatically reduced by iron treatment, according to a the systematic review & meta-analysis of randomized of controlled trials.

Side Goods from iron supplements are n't more common than with a placebo, and are generally mild and gastrointestinal affiliated.²⁶

Side effects and Risk

Constipation, Stomach upset, Fever Headache, Dizziness

Clinical uses

Iron supplements are treat to the restless leg syndrome.

Iron supplements are treat to different types of anemia.

Iron supplements are make essential hemoglobin.

Special populations

Childerns

Some parents give untoward antihistamine specifics to children to help them sleep. These drugs are not approved for sleep purposes. There is a threat of overdosing your child.

Take the smallest lozenge first. When administered 30 to 90 twinkles before bed, many youngsters to the respond to a low dose (0.5 mg or 1 mg). The majority of kids who benefit from melatonin—in fact, kids with ADHD—need little more than 3–6 mg of the hormone. ³⁷

Elderly

In senior individualities, tradition nonbenzodiazepines, similar as zolpidem, eszopiclone, zaleplon, and ramelteon, may generally be specified as a last- gutter trouble to treat wakefulness. These types of specifics are generally safer and better permitted in aged cases than other tradition sleep aids, tricyclic antidepressants, antihistamines, and benzodiazepines. ³⁸

Pregnant Women

The most common nonprescription specifics that can help with sleep in gestation are antihistamines similar as Benadryl (diphenhydramine) and Unisom(doxylamine), and melatonin. Antihistamines like Benadryl(diphenhydramine) have been used considerably in gestation and aren't associated with birth blights.

CONCLUSION

Medication that was frequently addictive and hazardous was provided to patients who complained of having trouble falling asleep only a few years ago, and the cause of the patient's complaint was not addressed. Our knowledge of the sleep state has grown significantly, and sleeping drugs are now safer. Symptoms of a variety



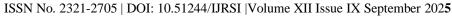


of sleep disorders with distinct diagnostic criteria and suitable therapies, insomnia and daytime sleepiness are no longer diagnoses but rather complaints that must be addressed.

All living things depend on sleep, and as it makes up around one-third of our lives, sleep disturbances having a serious detrimental effect on our quality of life and ability to operate during the day. For this reason, sleep problems should be addressed as soon as possible. A referral to a subspeciality should be taken into consideration when appropriate.

REFERENCES

- 1. K. Pavlova M, Latreille V. Sleep Disorders. Am J Med. 2019;132(3):292-299. doi:10.1016/j.amjmed.2018.09.021
- 2. Laratta CR, Ayas NT, Povitz M, Pendharkar SR. Diagnosis and treatment of obstructive sleep apnea in adults. Cmaj. 2017;189(48):E1481-E1488. doi:10.1503/cmaj.170296
- 3. España RA, Scammell TE. Sleep Neurobiology from a Clinical Perspective. 2011;34(7). doi:10.5665/SLEEP.1112
- 4. Aurora RN, Kristo DA, Bista SR, et al. The treatment of restless legs syndrome and periodic limb movement disorder in adults An update for 2012: Practice parameters with an evidence-based systematic review and meta-analyses. Sleep. 2012;35(8):1039-1062. doi:10.5665/sleep.1988
- 5. Park EJ, Park Y min. Opioid Withdrawal and Restless Legs Syndrome. 2020;2(4):137-140.
- 6. Lai SC, Chen RS. Restless legs syndrome. Acta Neurol Taiwan. 2008;17(1):54-65.
- 7. Sateia MJ. International classification of sleep disorders-third edition highlights and modifications. Chest. 2014;146(5):1387-1394. doi:10.1378/chest.14-0970
- 8. Guo F, Yi L, Zhang W, Bian Z jie, Zhang Y bo. and Risk of Cognitive Impairment in Middle-Aged and Older Patients With Chronic Insomnia. 2021;15(December):1-8. doi:10.3389/fnhum.2021.775144
- 9. Ac ce pt Pa pe.
- 10. Del A, Verduzco R, Salari A, Haghparast P. Efficacy and safety of pharmacotherapy in chronic insomnia: A review of clinical guidelines and case reports Insomnia Pharmacotherapy and Adverse E ff ects Overview. Published online 2024. doi:10.9740/mhc.2023.10.244
- 11. Drover DR. Comparative Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Short-Acting Hypnosedatives. 2004;43(4):227-238.
- 12. Tsai M jun, Tsai Y hung, Huang Y bin. Compulsive activity and anterograde amnesia after zolpidem use. 2007;(91):179-181. doi:10.1080/15563650600956741
- 13. Scharner V, Hasieber L, Sönnichsen A, Mann E. Efficacy and safety of Z-substances in the management of insomnia in older adults: a systematic review for the development of recommendations to reduce potentially inappropriate prescribing. BMC Geriatr. Published online 2022:1-19. doi:10.1186/s12877-022-02757-6
- 14. Dubocovich ML, Delagrange P, Krause DN, Sugden D, Cardinali DP, Olcese J. International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology . LXXV . Nomenclature , Classification , and Pharmacology of G Protein-Coupled Melatonin Receptors. 2010;62(3):343-380. doi:10.1124/pr.110.002832.343
- 15. Roecker AJ, Coleman PJ. Orexin Receptor Antagonists: Medicinal Chemistry and Therapeutic Potential. Published online 2008:977-987.
- 16. Stahl SM. BRAINSTORMS Clinical Neuroscience Update Mechanism of action of suvorexant BRAINSTORMS Clinical Neuroscience Update. 2017;36(2016):1769-1772. doi:10.1017/S1092852916000225
- 17. Wisor J, Mistlberger RE, Fraser S. Modafinil as a catecholaminergic agent: empirical evidence and unanswered questions. 2013;4(October):1-10. doi:10.3389/fneur.2013.00139
- 18. Ishizuka T, Murotani T, Yamatodani A. Action of Modafinil Through Histaminergic and Orexinergic Neurons. Vol 89. 1st ed. Elsevier Inc. doi:10.1016/B978-0-12-394623-2.00014-7
- 19. Jr PR, Hellriegel ET. Profile of Modafinil. 2003;42(2):123-137.
- 20. Schwartz JRL, Feldman NT, Fry JM, Harsh J. Efficacy and safety of modafinil for improving daytime wakefulness in patients treated previously with psychostimulants. 2003;4:43-49. doi:10.1016/S1
- 21. Roth T, Dauvilliers Y, Guinta D. Sodium oxybate and narcolepsy Effect of sodium oxybate on disrupted nighttime sleep in patients with narcolepsy. Published online 2017:407-414.





doi:10.1111/jsr.12468

- 22. Sanap GS. International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews Therapeutic Role of Euphorbia Nerifolia their Active Constituents and Pharmacological Activity in Disease prevention and T ... International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews Therapeutic . 2024;4(April 2023):1584-1595.
- 23. Van W, Addolorato G, Aubin H jean, et al. Ef fi cacy and safety of sodium oxybate in alcohol-dependent patients with a very high drinking risk level. :969-986. doi:10.1111/adb.12645
- 24. Miskoff JA, Chaudhri M. Off-label Sodium Oxybate in Childhood Narcolepsy: A Comprehensive Report. 2018;10(4):5-9. doi:10.7759/cureus.2526
- 25. Drakatos P, Lykouras D, D'Ancona G, et al. Safety and efficacy of long-term use of sodium oxybate for narcolepsy with cataplexy in routine clinical practice. Sleep Med. 2017;35:80-84. doi:10.1016/j.sleep.2017.03.028
- 26. Lm T, La B. Iron for the treatment of restless legs syndrome (Review). Published online 2019. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD007834.pub3.www.cochranelibrary.com
- 27. D LIVP, D NA agugua P, D JCP, et al. Critical review of ropinirole and pramipexole putative dopamine D 3 -receptor selective agonists for the treatment of RLS. 2009;(November 2008):493-505. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2710.2009.01025.x
- 28. I PAIHIL, Eh CHIHUY, Ang SHUEIW. Original Contribution. 2002;28(3):349-358.
- 29. Merlino G, Serafi A, Robiony F, Valente M, Gigli GL. Clinical experience with pramipexole in the treatment. Published online 2008.
- 30. Warot D, Mazet P. After 11 Years of Treatment in Parkinson's Disease T O THE E DITOR: The dr u g 5 met hox y-N, N diis opropyl-. 2005;(April):292-293.
- 31. Randomized A. Safety and Efficacy of Pramipexole in Early Parkinson Disease.
- 32. Chincholkar M. Gabapentinoids: pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and considerations for clinical practice. Published online 2020. doi:10.1177/2049463720912496
- 33. Us T, Group S. The long-term safety and efficacy of gabapentin (Neurontin @) as add-on therapy in drug-resistant partial epilepsy. 1994;8:67-73.
- 34. Opposite effects of Is and K opiates on the firing-rate of dopamine cells in the substantia nigra of the rat. 1987;134:53-59.
- 35. Co O, Lbc C, Mm O, Lbf P, Gf P. Opioids for restless legs syndrome (Review). Published online 2016. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD006941.pub2.www.cochranelibrary.com
- 36. Connor JR, Patton S, Oexle K, Allen R. HHS Public Access. Published online 2018:61-70. doi:10.1016/j.sleep.2016.07.028.Iron
- 37. Eick AP Ten, Blumer JL, Reed MD. Safety of Antihistamines in Children. 2001;24(2):119-147.
- 38. Dolder C, Nelson M, Mckinsey J. Use of Non-Benzodiazepine Hypnotics in the Elderly Are All Agents the Same ? 2007;21(5):389-405.
- 39. Sanap, G. S., Dama, G. Y., Hande, A. S., Karpe, S. P., Nalawade, S. V., Kakade, R. S., & Jadhav, U. Y. (2008). Preparation of transdermal monolithic systems of indapamide by solvent casting method and the use of vegetable oils as permeation enhancer G. International Journal of Green Pharmacy (IJGP), 2(2).
- 40. Sanap, G. S., & Mohanta, G. P. (2013). Design and evaluation of miconazole nitrate loaded nanostructured lipid carriers (NLC) for improving the antifungal therapy. Journal of Applied Pharmaceutical Science, 3(1), 046-054.
- 41. Sanap, G. S., Zarekar, N. S., & Pawar, S. S. (2017). Review on method development and validation. International Journal of Pharmaceutics and Drug Analysis, 5(5), 177-184.
- 42. Hondadakatti, R., Shinde, D., Khandelwal, H. R., Pawar, A. K., & Sanap, G. S. (2022). Intranasal Drug Delivery: Novel Delivery Route for Management of Parkinson's and Depression Neurological Disorders. Letters in Applied NanoBioScience, 11(3), 3640-3651.
- 43. Mirkar, P. P., Pandav, S. S., & Sanap, G. S. (2023). A review on: Diabetes mellitus treatment using herbal drug.