



# تفريغ ميديسينال

محاضرة: Cholinergic antagonist

الصيدلانية: Rahaf Zyoud



لجان الرفعات



**Patrick**  
***An Introduction to Medicinal Chemistry 3/e***

**Chapter 22**

**CHOLINERGICS, ANTICHOLINERGICS  
& ANTICHOLINESTERASES**

**Part 2: Cholinergics antagonists**

**updated by: Dr Dana Atoum**

Cardiac muscle

Smooth muscle

Gland



\* لما حكيينا عن ال Muscarinic receptor حكيينا انهم موجودين في كل

\* لما تحكي Muscarinic antagonist يعني انهم يتنافسون (Compete) مع ال Ach و فلما يرتبطوا بال Muscarinic receptor رح يعملوا blocking

ال receptor يعني رح يغير ال receptor ← inactive ك و صفة ال antagonist انه يمنع ارتباط ال Ach بال receptor

لما ال antagonist يعمل blocking لهذا ال cholinergic receptor رح يعطيه Opposit clinical effect for Ach

\* Muscarinic antagonist لا يؤثر على ال Nicotinic

smooth muscle → relaxation

Gland → decrease of secretion

## 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

\* Drugs which bind to cholinergic receptor but do not activate it

Prevent acetylcholine from binding

Opposite clinical effect to agonists - lower activity of

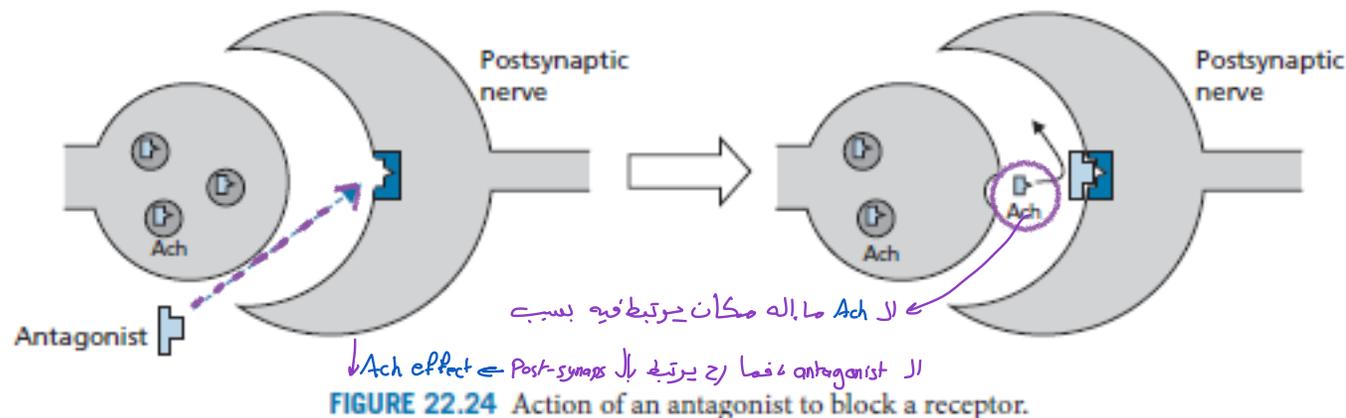
\* acetylcholine

Muscarinic antagonists **do not affect nicotinic receptors** (like those in skeletal muscle). Instead, they target:

**Glands** (e.g., salivary, gastric)

**Central Nervous System (CNS)**

**Smooth muscle** in: Gastrointestinal tract (GIT), Urinary tract, Eyes (iris muscles)



# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

## Clinical Effects

- 1- Decrease of saliva and gastric secretions
- 2- Relaxation of smooth muscle
- 3- Decrease in motility of GIT and urinary tract
- 4- Dilation of pupils

## Uses

- 1- Shutting down digestion for surgery
- 2- Ophthalmic examinations
- 3- Relief of peptic ulcers → GI secretion لأنه يقلل ال
- 4- Treatment of Parkinson's Disease
- 5- Anticholinesterase poisoning
- 6 Motion sickness

# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

## 12.1 Atropine

Atropine: Found in *Atropa belladonna* (deadly nightshade). Historically used by Italian women to dilate pupils—hence the name belladonna (“beautiful lady”).

Atropine exists as a racemate (equal mix of enantiomers), but:

Naturally found as (S)-hyoscyamine a single enantiomer.

Upon extraction into solution, racemization occurs due to:

The asymmetric center being adjacent to a carbonyl group and aromatic ring.

This makes the attached proton acidic and easily removed, allowing for rapid interconversion between enantiomers

ال atropin تعبير مادة صلبة

Used as a medicine

② decreases GIT motility

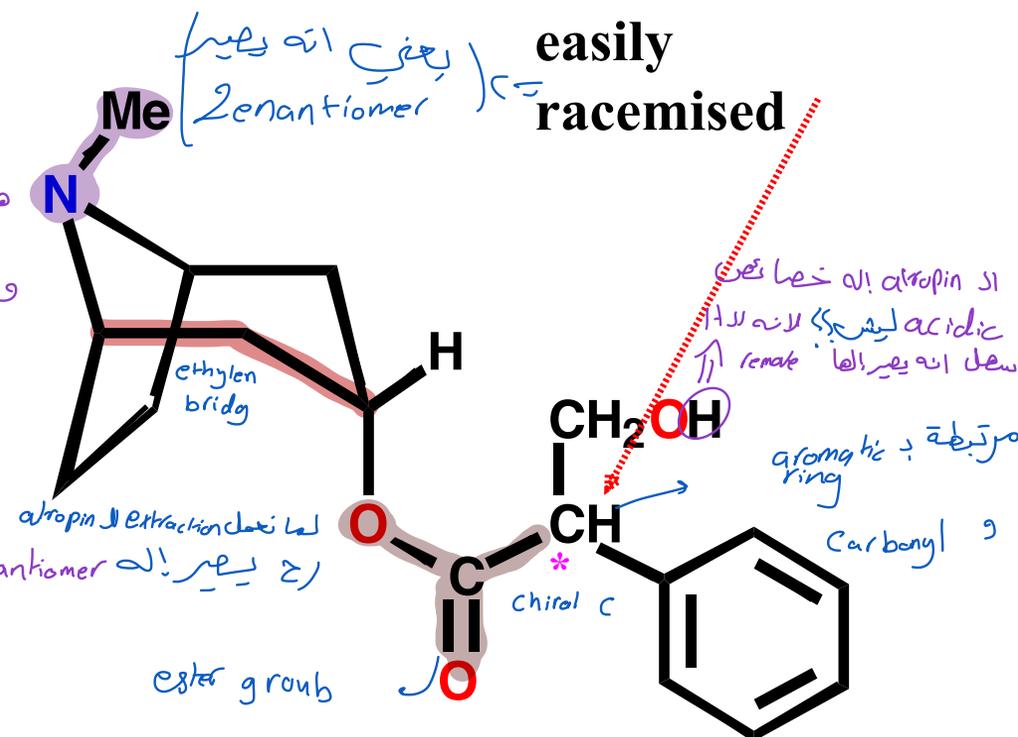
③ antidote for anticholinesterase poisoning

① dilation of eye pupils

④ CNS side effects - hallucinations

ماياد N تعبير tertiary عطبات صلبة تكون من unionized

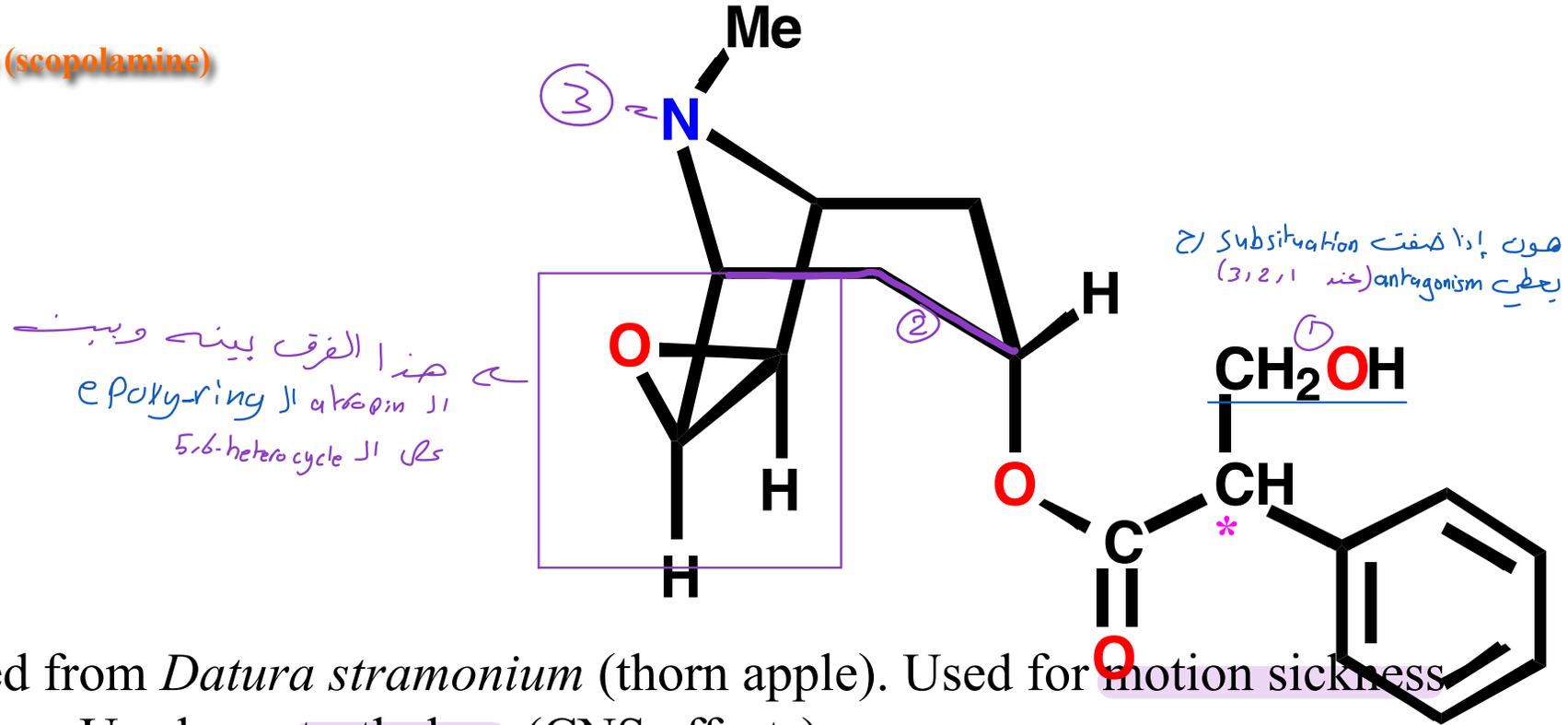
وسهل انما تدخل BBB وصوله لعل CNS effect



atropin يتسبب ال Ach  
 ال atropin ايس ethylen bridg و N  
 و ester group مرتبب فيا بدل ال Me  
 bulky group (benzen) و other group  
 و bulky ح يسهل hydrophobic

# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

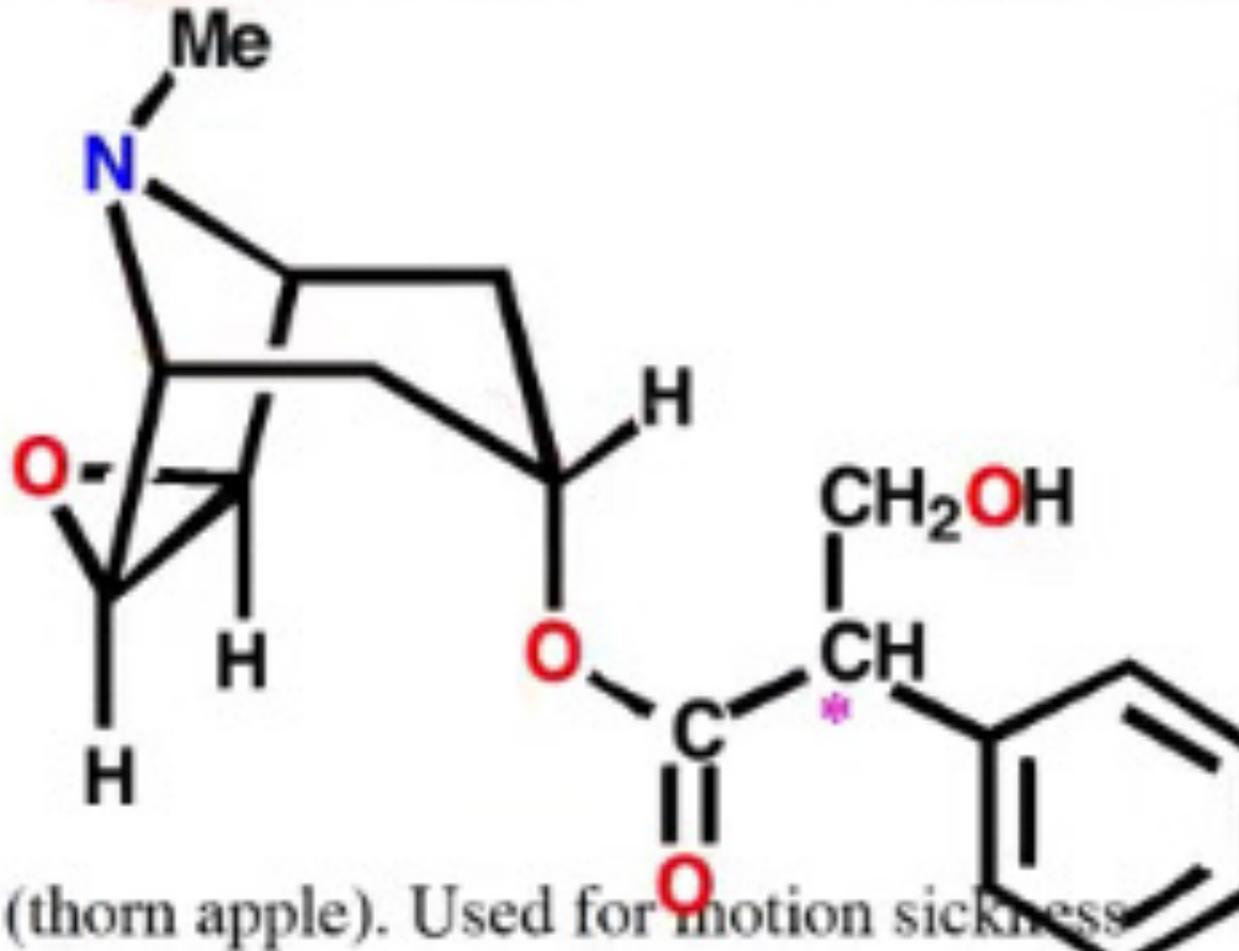
## 12.2 Hyoscine (scopolamine)



Extracted from *Datura stramonium* (thorn apple). Used for motion sickness and nausea. Used as a truth drug (CNS effects)

Both atropine and hyoscine are tertiary amines, meaning:

- o They are lipophilic enough in their free base form to cross the blood-brain barrier.
- o Once inside the CNS, they become protonated and bind muscarinic receptors.
- o High doses can cause hallucinogenic effects, historically associated with "witches' brews." → مشروب الساحرات



بہتر سے جگہ antagonist کے antagonist  
 Strongly binding to receptor more  
 than the acetylcholin •

بہتر سے جگہ hydrophobic group سے تعامل  
 binding site سے ال van-der bond  
 اقوی سے ال agonist

ium (thorn apple). Used for motion sickness

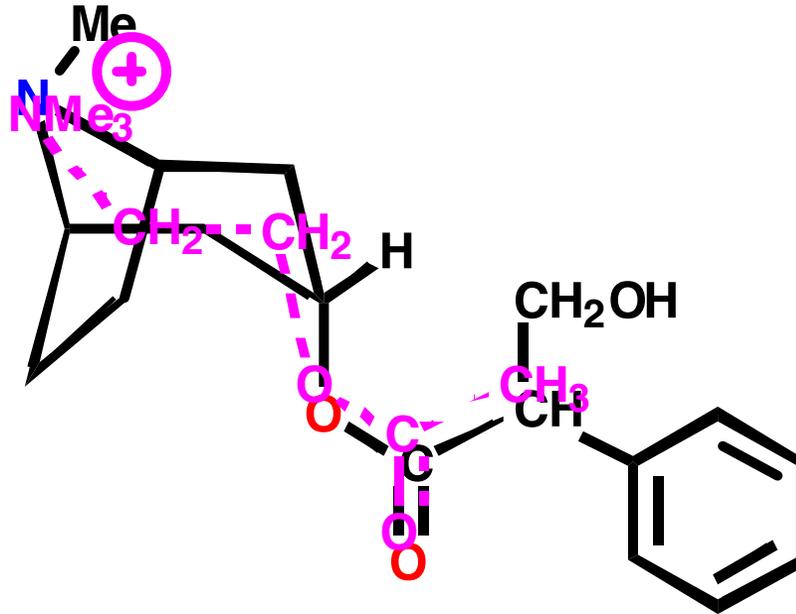
# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

اللون الزهري هو ال Ach  
اللون الاسود هو ال atropin

## 12.3 Comparison of atropine with acetylcholine

مقارنه بين ال Ach و ال atropin

الافضل تقارنوا بينهم بالرسامه  
يسر يكونوا جنب بعضه اش  
فوق بعضه

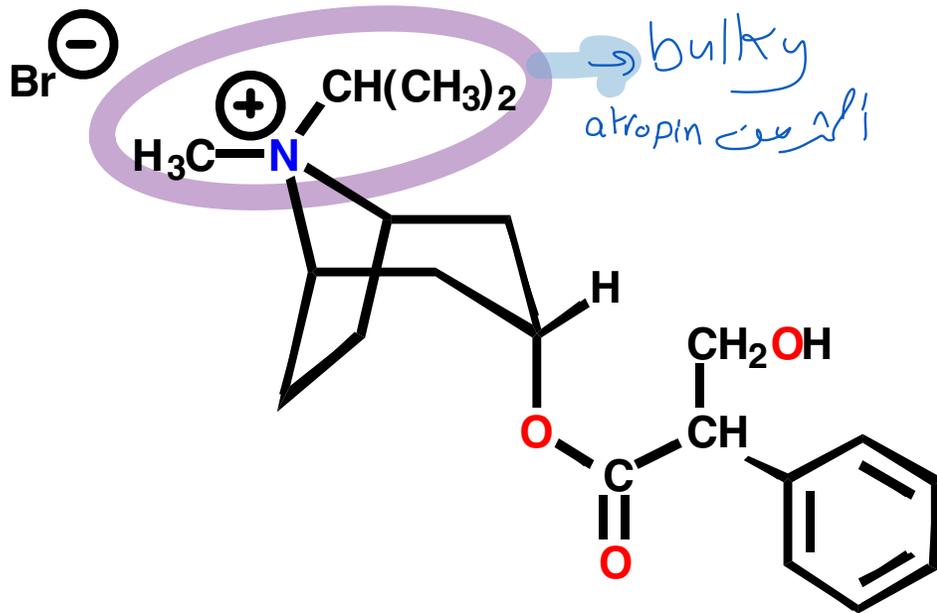


المسافه بين ال N و ال O  
بال atropin و ال Ach هي نفسها

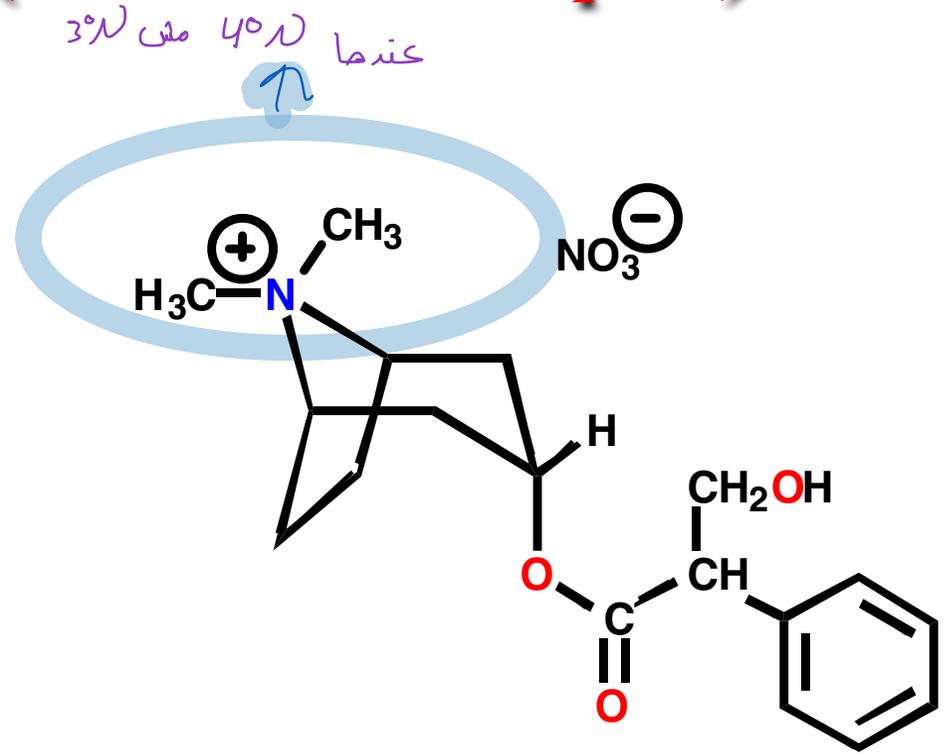
- ① Relative positions of ester and nitrogen similar in both molecules
- ② Nitrogen in atropine is ionised → 4° Amin
- ③ Amine and ester are important binding groups (ionic + H-bonds) Asp ↑ Asn ↑
- ④ Aromatic ring of atropine is an extra binding group (vdW)
- ⑤ Atropine binds with a different induced fit - no activation
- ⑥ Atropine binds more strongly than acetylcholine

# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

## 12.4 Analogues of atropine



Ipratropium  
(bronchodilator for COPD & anti-asthmatic)  
*or respiratory infection*



Atropine methonitrate  
Used to relieve intestinal spasms

- **Analogues are fully ionised**

- **Analogues unable to cross the blood brain barrier** *بسبب الشيفت (+) الحار*

- **No CNS side effects** *الى ركي ال 3°N*

# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

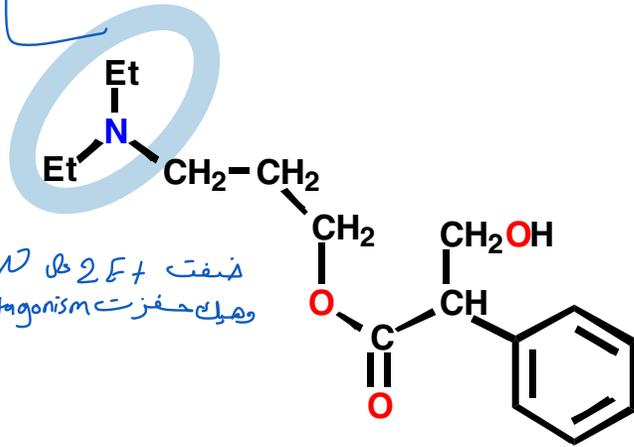
الانتقادي اي محدد عليها  
هي. اي رح تزيد antagonism

## 12.5 Simplified Analogues

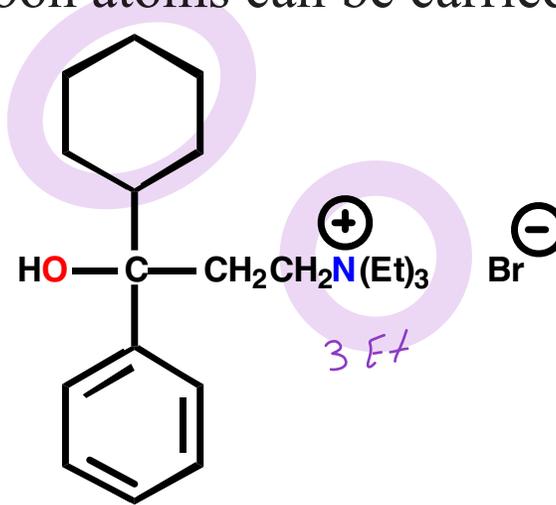
Pharmacophore = basic amine + ester + aromatic ring

The complex ring system is not necessary for antagonist activity

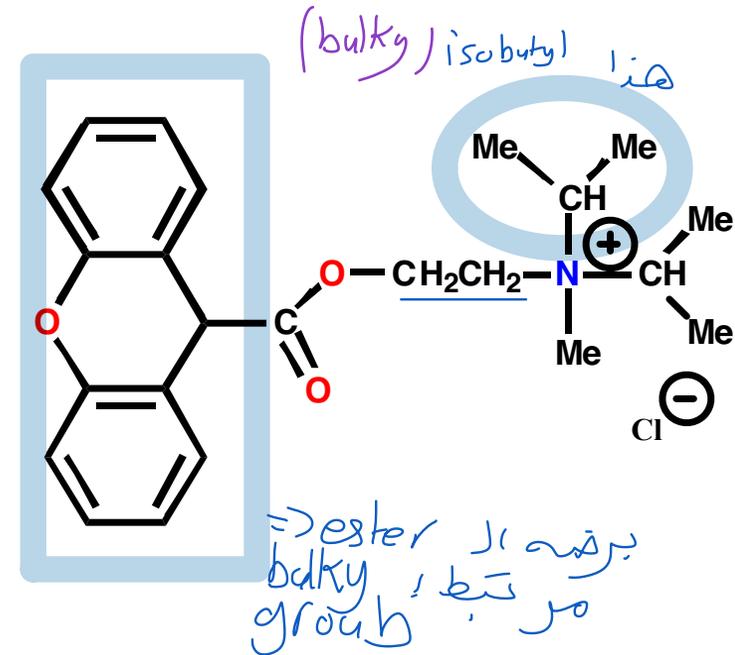
Chain contraction to two carbon atoms can be carried out without loss of activity



Amprotropine



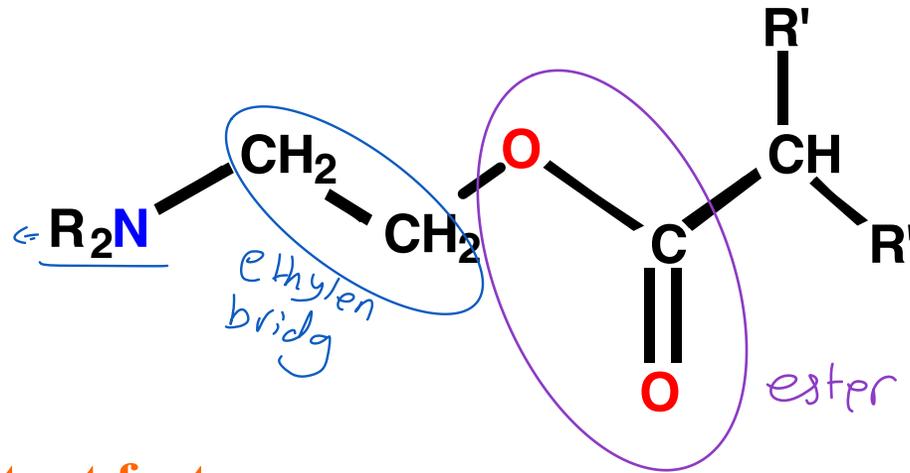
Tridihexethyl bromide



Propantheline chloride

# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

## 12.6 SAR for Antagonists



$R' =$  Aromatic or Heteroaromatic

## Important features

Tertiary amine (ionise at physiological pH) or a quaternary nitrogen

Ester

N-Alkyl groups (R) can be larger than methyl (unlike agonists)

Large branched acyl group

$R' =$  aromatic or heteroaromatic ring

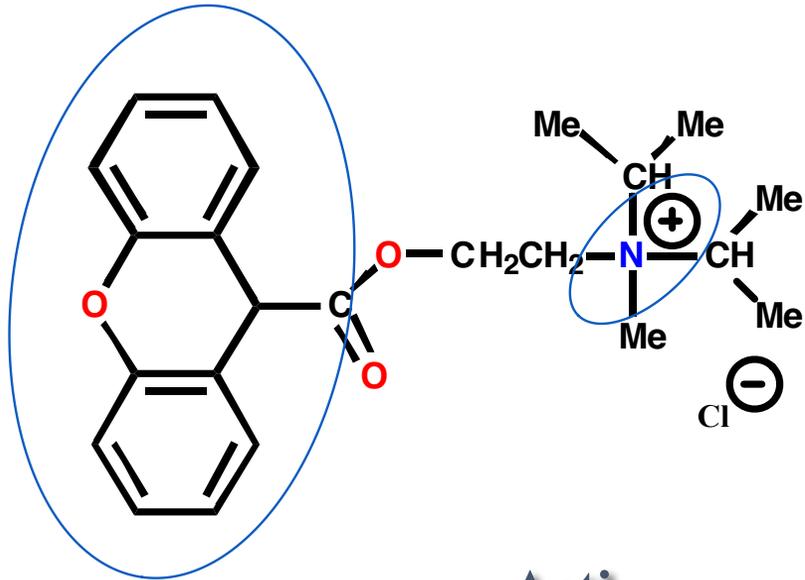
Branching of aromatic/heteroaromatic rings is important

\* ال alkyl group كل ما كانت bulky كل ما كانت  $P_{it}$  مع ال receptor أكثر يعني blocked for muscarinic

\* ال ester لازم يكون مرتب  $\rightarrow$  aromatic ring عندها يعني antagonism effect لانها زي تعدد  $V_d$  مع ال receptor وهدا ال binding رح يكون اقوى

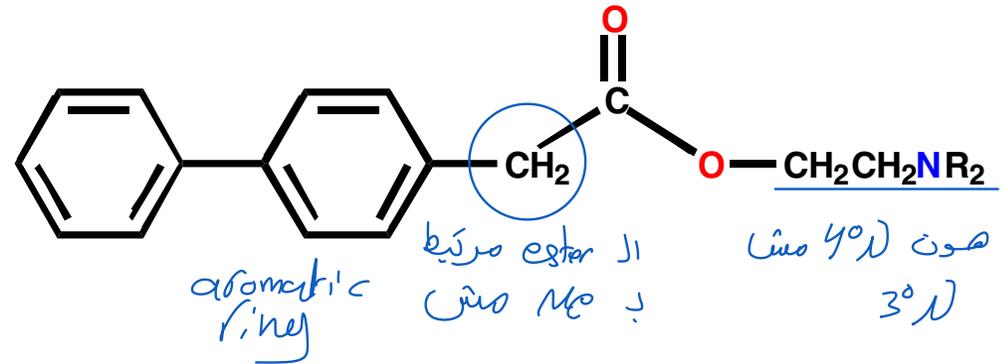
# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

## 12.6 SAR for Antagonists



Active

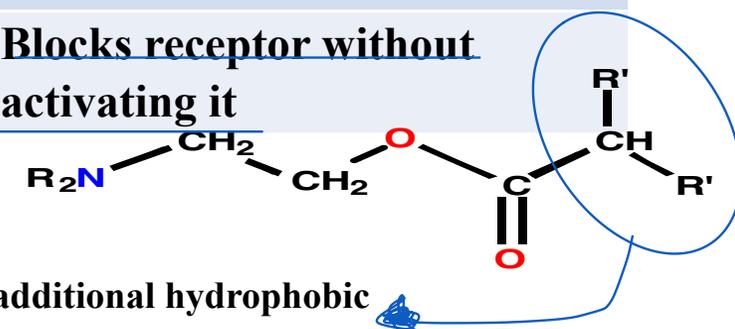
e



Inactive

# SAR Comparison: Antagonists vs. Agonists

| Feature     | Agonists (e.g., ACh)                                   | Antagonists (e.g., Atropine analogues)  |
|-------------|--|---|
| Nitrogen    | <u>Quaternary only</u><br>[ 2 Me او 3 Me ]             | <u>Tertiary or quaternary</u><br>(charged when bound)<br>bulky group                          |
| Acyl group  | <u>Small (acetyl)</u><br>→ مرتبطة بـ Methyl او بـ Amin | <u>Large, branched, hydrophobic</u><br>2-3 carbon atoms between ester and nitrogen still work |
| Ring system | <u>Not present</u><br><u>R' = H</u>                    | <u>R' = aromatic or heteroaromatic</u><br><u>Branching of Ar rings important</u>              |
| Function    | <u>Activates receptor</u>                              | <u>Blocks receptor without activating it</u>  |



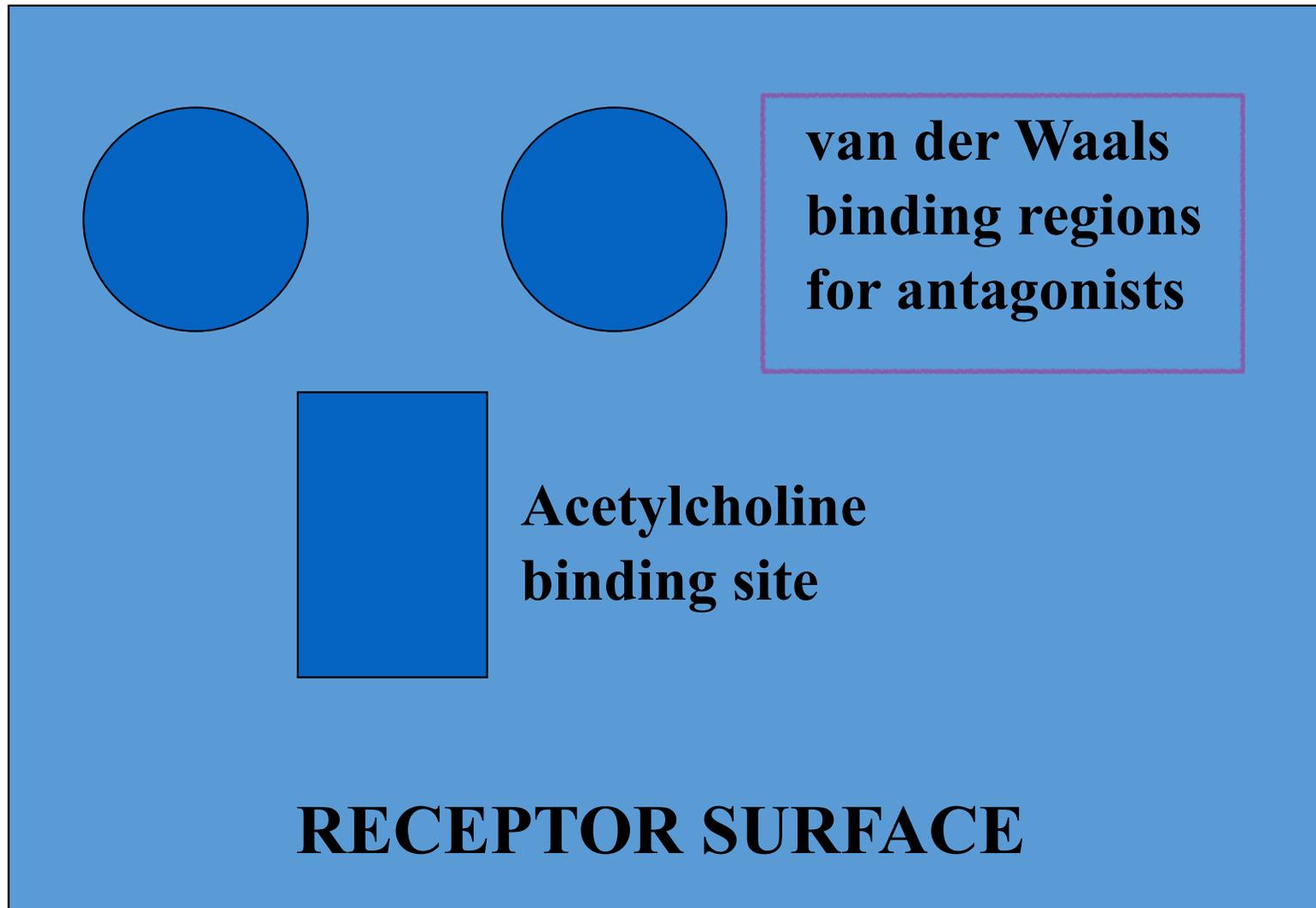
Antagonists like atropine can **bind more strongly** than acetylcholine due to **additional hydrophobic interactions**.

This causes a **different induced fit** → the receptor **fails to activate** and instead remains blocked.

The **bulk and branching** of the acyl group are crucial → this supports a **T- or Y-shaped binding site model**, suggesting extra hydrophobic pockets near the ACh site.

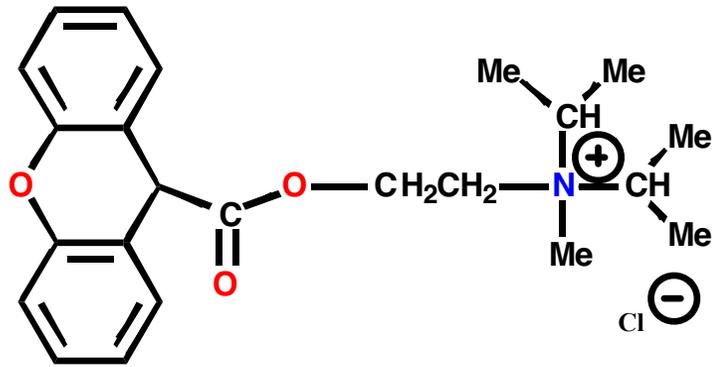
# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

## 12.7 Binding Site for Antagonists

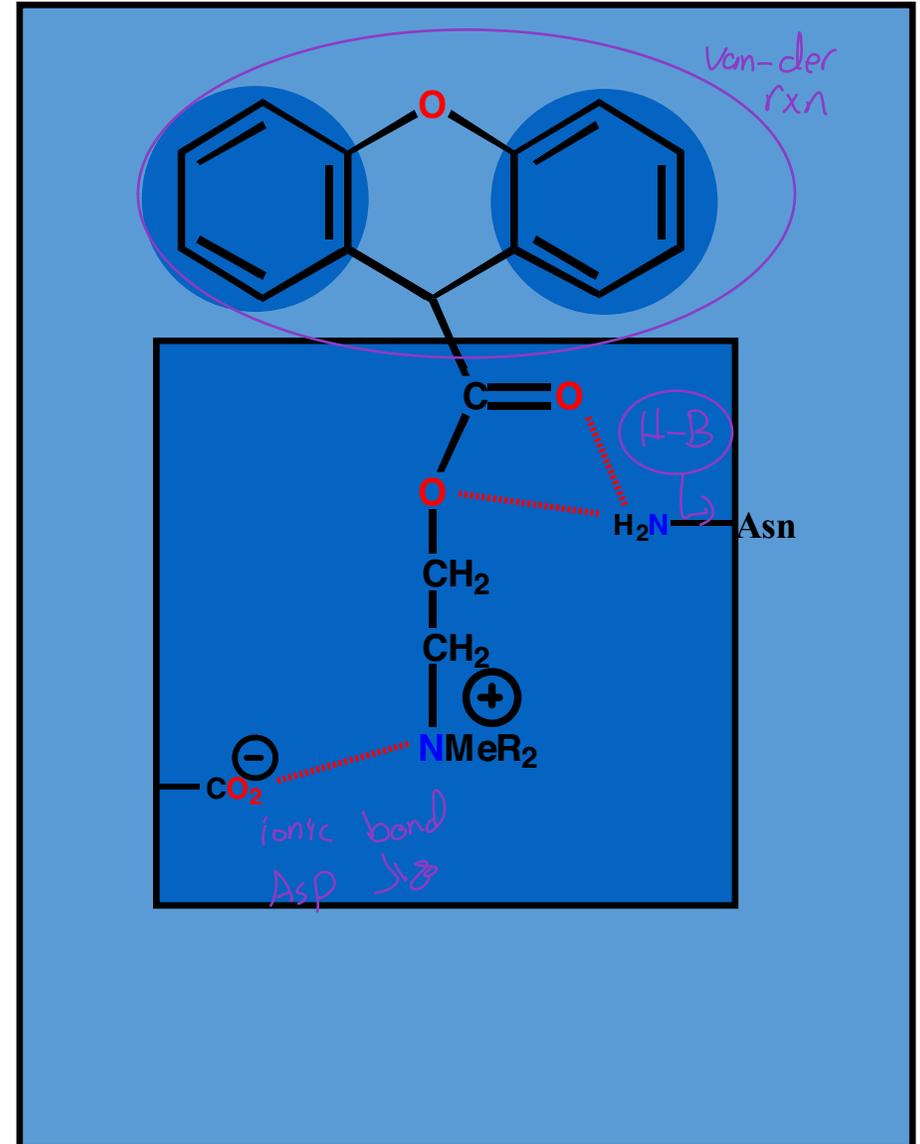


# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

## 12.7 Binding Site for Antagonists



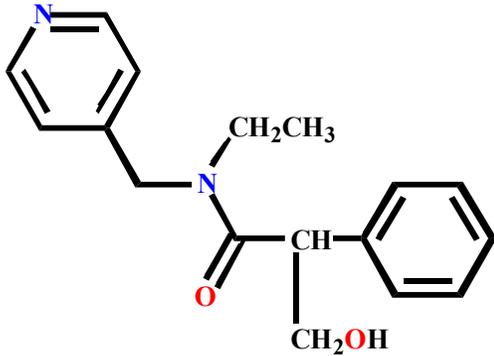
Propantheline chloride



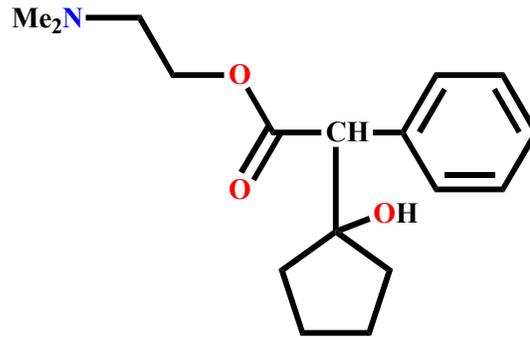
# 12. Cholinergic Antagonists (Muscarinic receptor)

هون ال Structure مطلوب

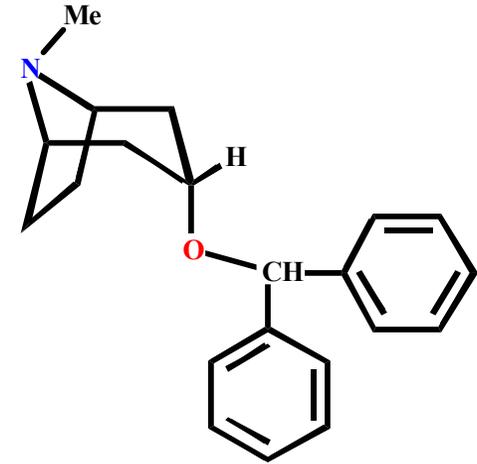
## 12.5 Simplified Analogues



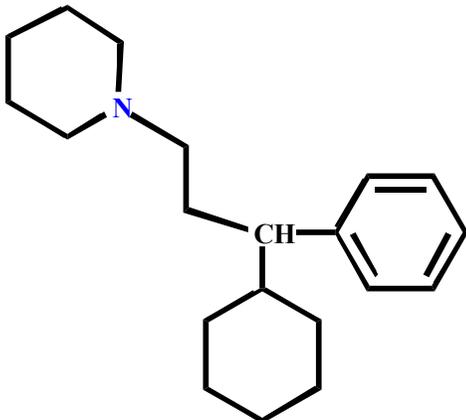
**Tropicamide**  
(ophthalmics)



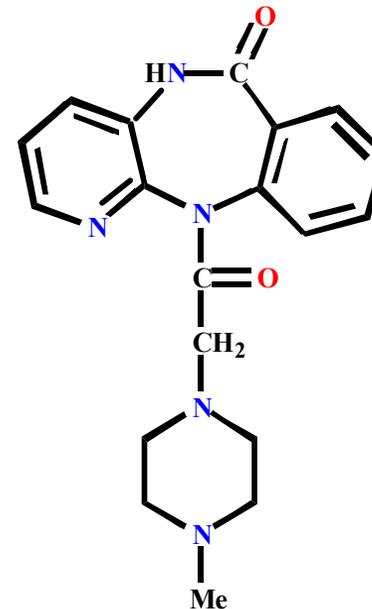
**Cyclopentolate**  
(ophthalmics)



**Benztropine**  
(Parkinsons disease)



**Benzhexol**  
(Parkinsons disease)



**Pirenzepine**  
(anti-ulcer)

# 13. Cholinergic Antagonists (Nicotinic receptor)

## 13.1 Curare

Extract from curare plant

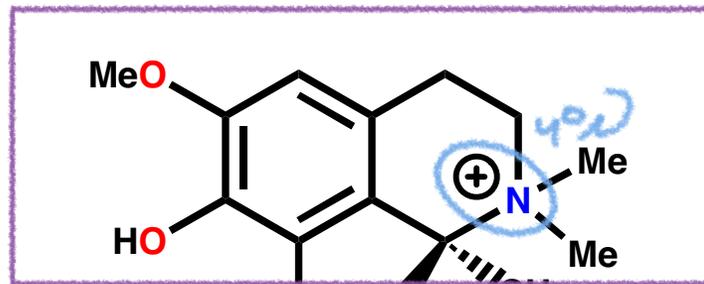
Used for poison arrows

Causes paralysis (blocks acetylcholine signals to muscles)

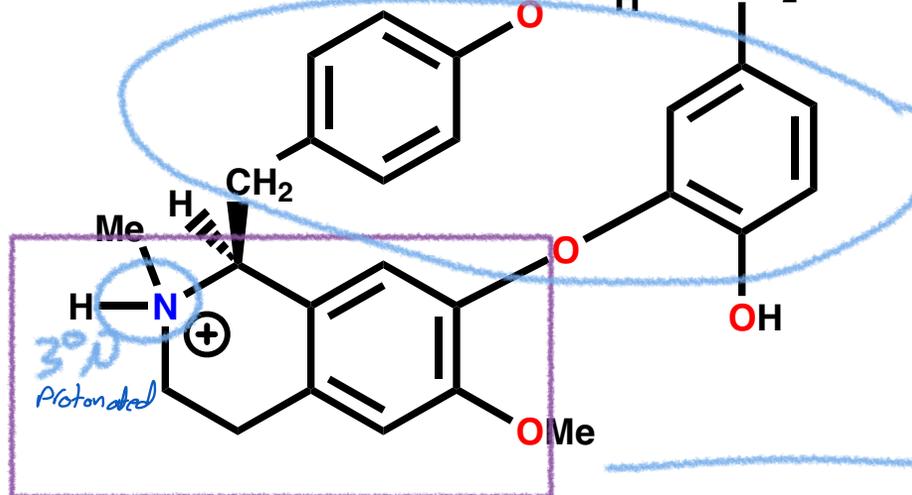
Active principle = tubocurarine

كانوا يستخدموه الصيادين في السم ويرصوه على  
الحيوان ذبح يصير له Paralysis ويقدر يمسه

ما في ester



كبارة عن حلقه benzen مع حلقه فيها N



Tubocurarine

بينهم 2 benzy

حلقه benzen وحلقه فيها N

# 13. Cholinergic Antagonists (Nicotinic receptor)

المسافة بينهم  
عشان تدخل ال  
Nicotinic  
receptor

## Pharmacophore

Two quaternary centres at specific separation (1.15nm)

Different mechanism of action from atropine based antagonists

Different binding interactions

MCA :- blocked for 5 glycoprotein

## Clinical uses

Acts as a **neuromuscular blocking agent**, helpful in:

**Surgery** (muscle relaxation)

**Reducing general anesthetic dose**

**Problem:** It also blocks autonomic ganglia nicotinic receptors, causing side effects (e.g., hypotension).

Now largely replaced by safer, more selective agents (e.g., rocuronium, atracurium).

## Tubocurarine:

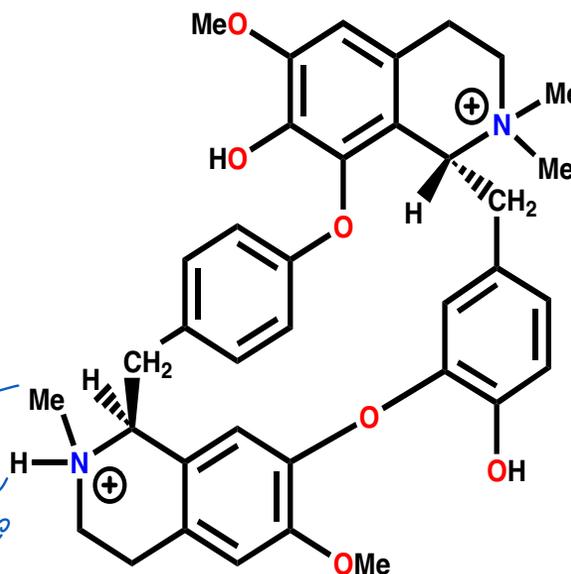
Has two positively charged nitrogens:

One quaternary ammonium

One protonated tertiary amine

No ester group, unlike acetylcholine or muscarinic antagonists.

ترتبط مع  
Cystein residue  
receptor ج



**Tubocurarine**

### Current Binding Theory

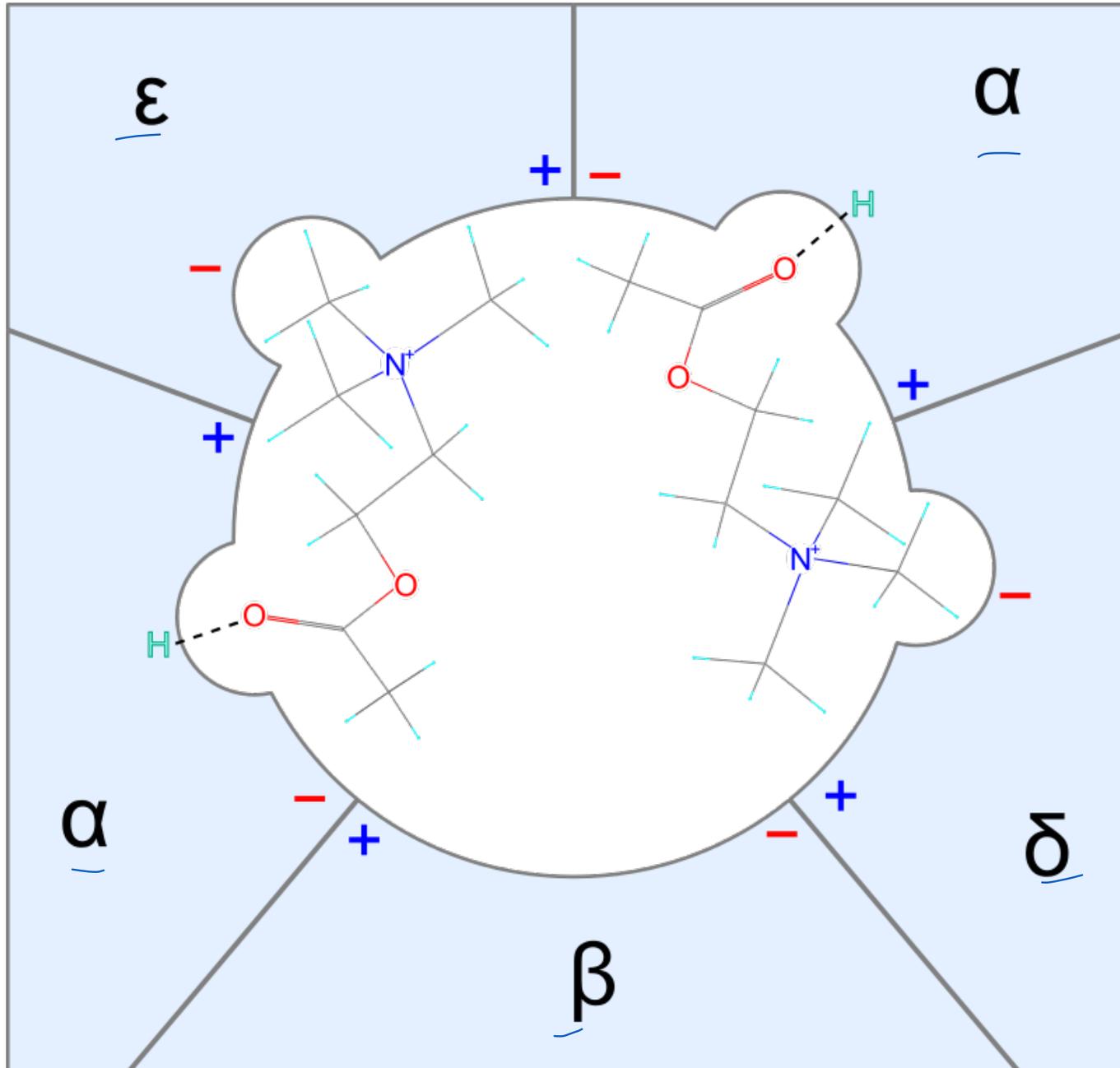
- One charged nitrogen binds the anionic ACh binding site (like ACh does).
- The second charged nitrogen interacts with a nearby cysteine residue, 0.9–1.2 nm away.
- This dual-point binding model helps explain:

Strong binding

Lack of receptor activation (due to altered induced fit)

Blockade of ion channel opening

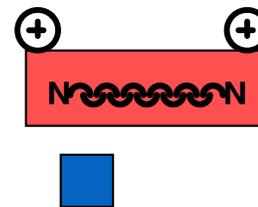
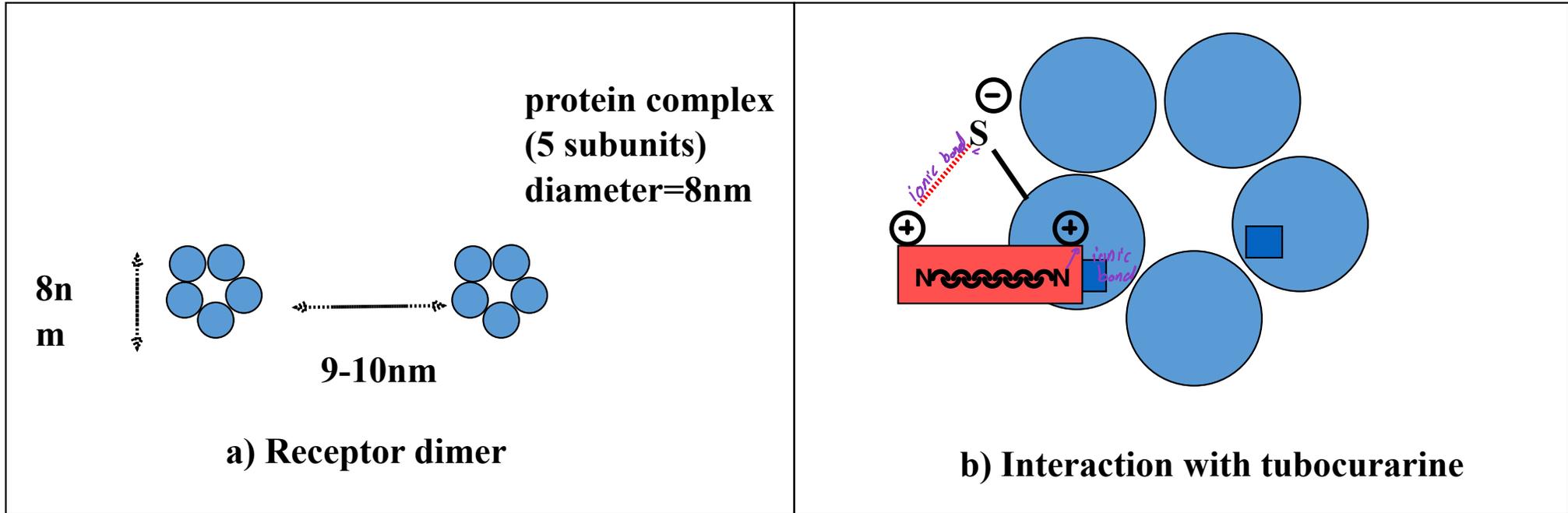
# Binding site of acetylcholine- cholinergic receptors





# 13. Cholinergic Antagonists (Nicotinic receptor)

## 13.2 Binding

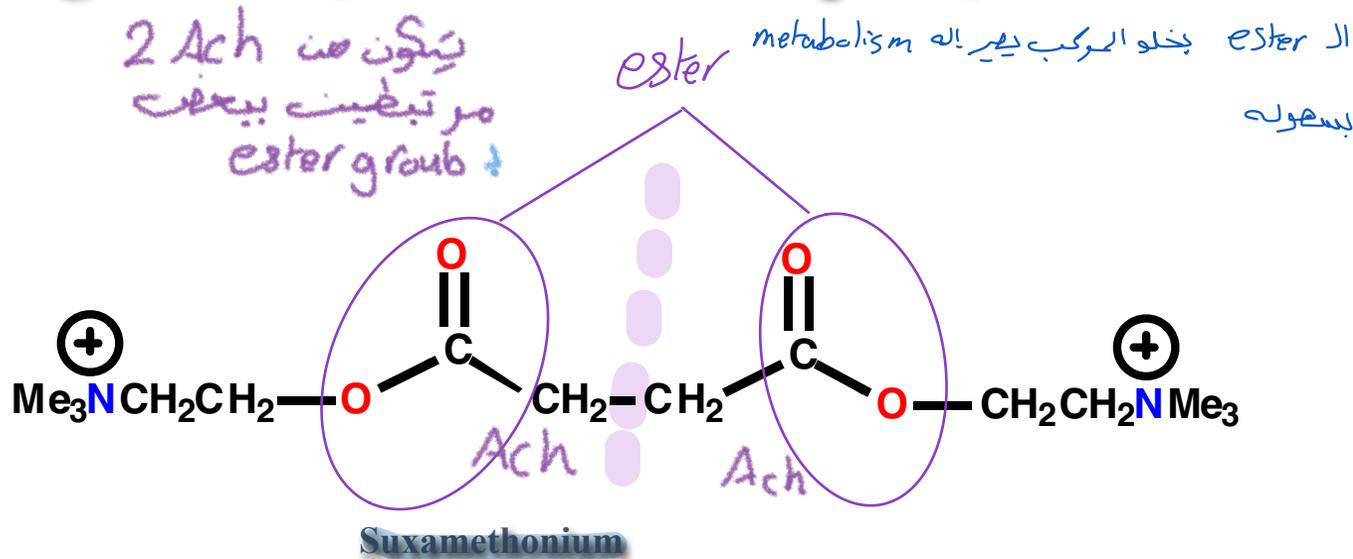
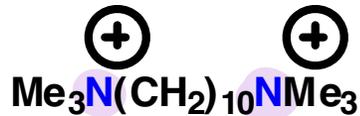


**Tubocurarine**  
**Acetylcholine binding site**

# 13. Cholinergic Antagonists (Nicotinic receptor)

## 13.3 Analogues of tubocurarine

2(40)



### Decamethonium

analogus of tubocurarine يساويها بجزء انها

• Long lasting (unmetabolized)

• Long recovery times → unmetabolized

• Side effects on heart

Structure: Simple, straight-chain molecule with two positively charged nitrogen atoms.

Flexibility: Can adopt a fully extended form (between nitrogens) or a folded conformation mimicking tubocurarine spacing.

المسافة بين ال 2N بال decamethonium تساوي المسافة بين ال 2N بال tubocurarine

• Esters incorporated

• Shorter lifetime (5 min)

• Fast onset and short duration

• Side effects at autonomic ganglia

• Designed to overcome decamethonium's long action.

• Structurally: Two acetylcholine molecules linked together, with two ester groups.

• Nitrogen-nitrogen distance preserved allowing effective receptor binding.

المسافة بين ال 2N عند تساوي المسافة بين ال 2N بال tubocurarine  
رج تزيه ال affinity لل binding

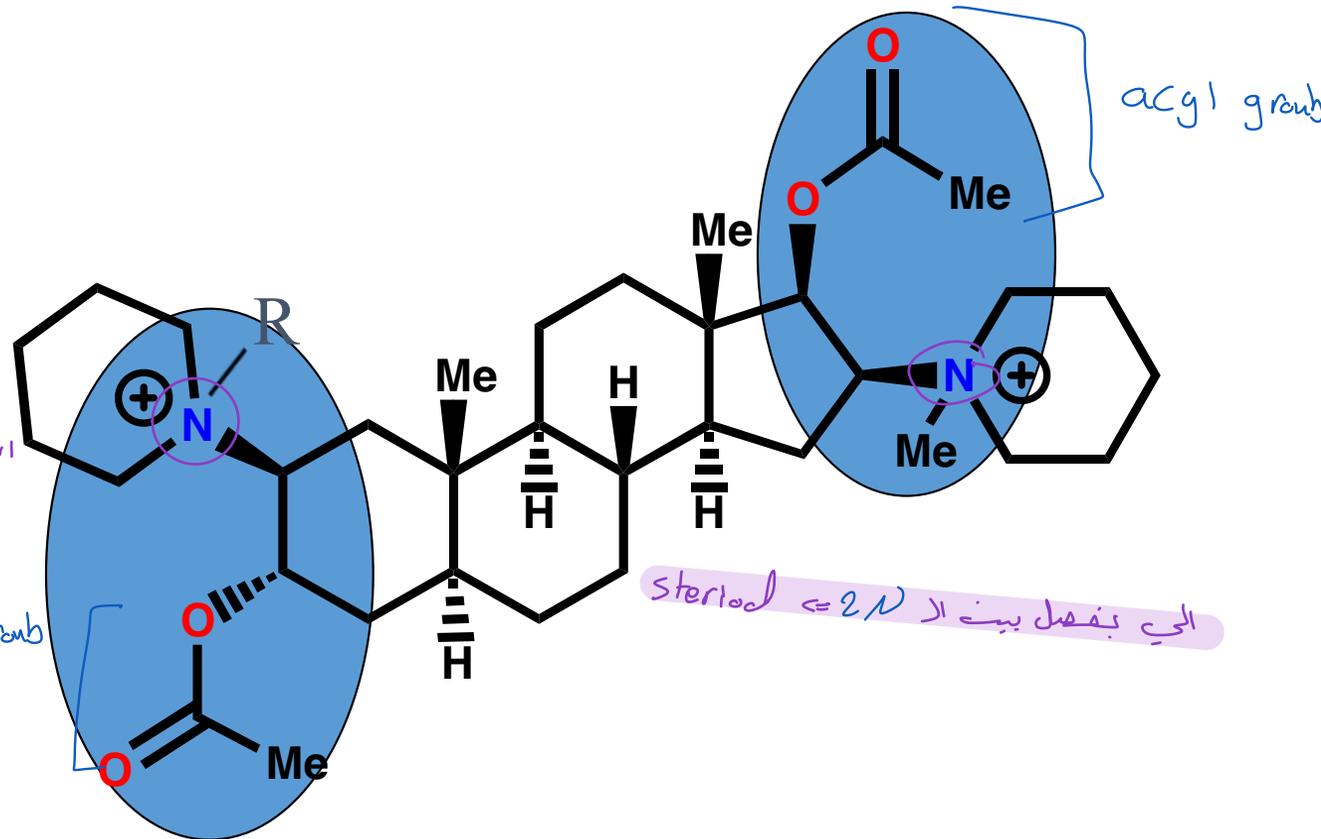
# 13. Cholinergic Antagonists (Nicotinic receptor)

## 13.3 Analogues of tubocurarine

**Pancuronium (R=Me)**

**Vecuronium (R=H)**

Steroidal Nicotinic Antagonist



acyl group

Steroid 2, N

ال acyl group  
خلت المركب يشبه  
ACh (methyl ester)  
وهي زلات ال  
Affinity

2 acyl group عشات  
binding affinity  
ازيد ال acyl group  
= حنفت

Steroid acts as a spacer for the quaternary centres (1.09nm)

Acyl groups are added to mimic the ACh skeleton enhancing receptor affinity

Faster onset than tubocurarine but slower than suxamethonium ⇒ رنة حيا عن ester 2

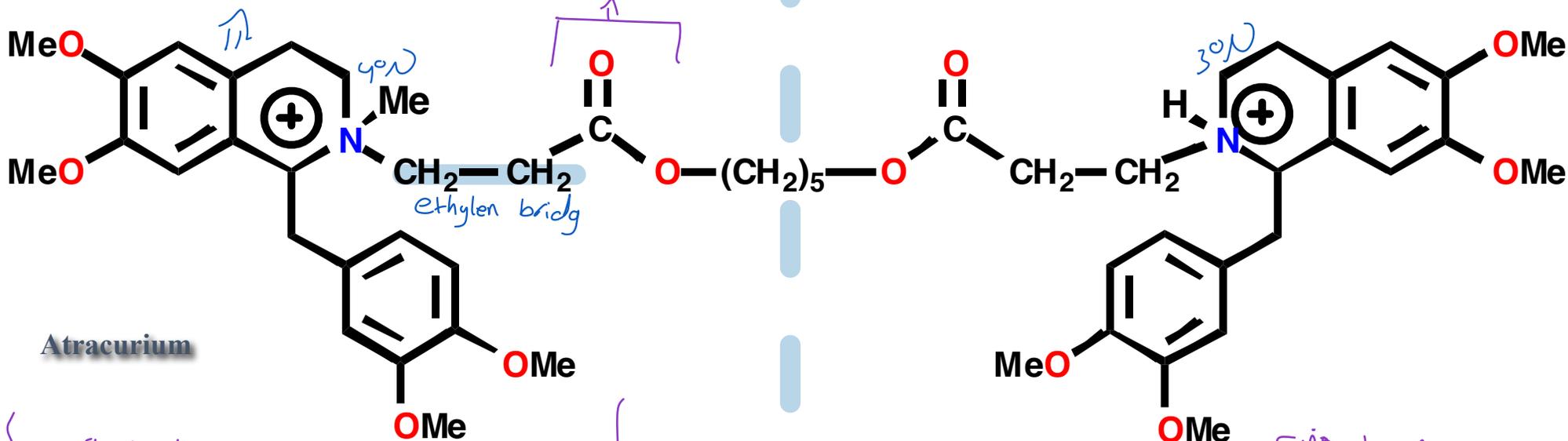
Longer duration of action than suxamethonium (45 min)

No effect on blood pressure and fewer side effects

# 13. Cholinergic Antagonists (Nicotinic receptor)

## 13.3 Analogues of tubocurarine

hetero ring → benzyl ring



Atracurium

هذا الجزء جاي من  
Tubocurarine

ال part 2 بنسبة جفت  
ما عدا ال 3 وحدة و 40  
ال ester 2 جايه منه

• Design based on tubocurarine and suxamethonium

• Lacks cardiac side effects

• Rapidly broken down in blood both chemically and metabolically

• Avoids patient variation in metabolic enzymes

• Lifetime is 30 minutes

• Administered as an i.v. drip

• Self destruct system limits lifetime

→ ما يحتاج ال enzyme ليكسره بسبب وجود ال ester 2

# 13. Cholinergic Antagonists (Nicotinic receptor)

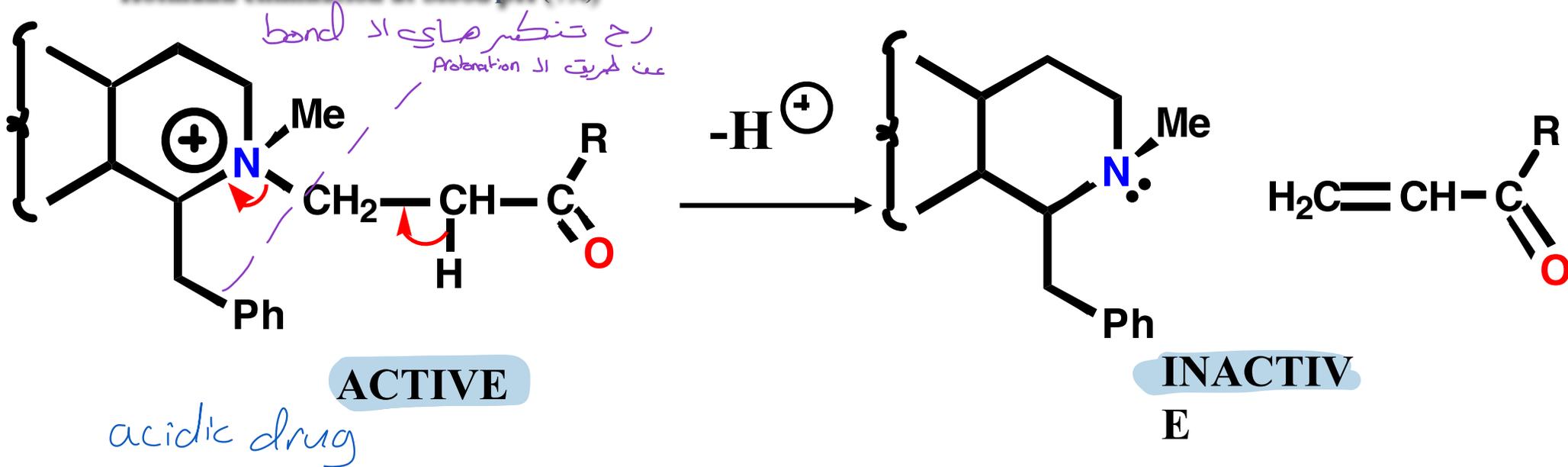
هذا ال drug بيسر ال elimination بسرة لانه ما يحتاج لحرارة او enzyme

## 13.3 Analogues of tubocurarine

ليس ال metabolism

Atracurium stable at acid pH

Hofmann elimination at blood pH (7.4)



Hofmann elimination is used to design **short-acting neuromuscular blockers** like atracurium and cisatracurium. These drugs contain ester groups and a quaternary nitrogen, allowing them to break down spontaneously in the bloodstream under **mild alkaline conditions (pH 7.4)**. The ester group increases the acidity of a nearby hydrogen, enabling elimination without the need for enzymes or heat. This makes the drug **fast-acting and short-lived (~30 minutes)**. It's **stable in acidic solution (pH 3–4)** for storage and can be safely administered during surgery via IV, with effects stopping quickly once the infusion ends.

ester → acidic بتكون ال drug عند خضائى

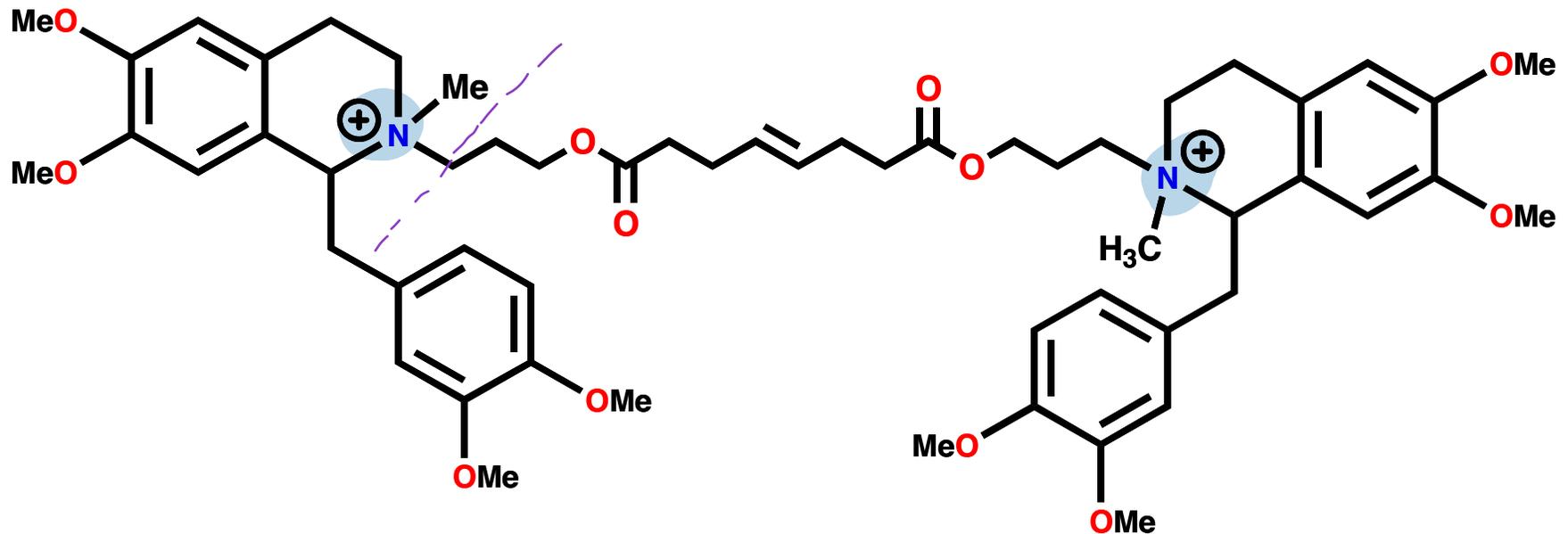
# 13. Cholinergic Antagonists (Nicotinic receptor)

## 13.3 Analogues of tubocurarine

ای 20 بکونوا 40N

بہ یتکسر بال basic pH

### Mivacurium



Mivacurium is a **short-acting neuromuscular blocker** similar to atracurium. It is inactivated **rapidly by both plasma enzymes and Hofmann elimination**, making it suitable for short procedures. It has a **faster onset of action** (~2 minutes) and a **shorter duration** (~15 minutes).

ال لدرجة 3 يعني tertiary amin

ال لدرجة 4 يعني quaternary amin

لا تنسوا زميلنا ايهم من دعائكم

