

Hypnotics: Past, Present, and Future

Psychopharmacology Update
Maryland Psychiatric Society

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Disclosures

- Consultant: Eisai Pharmaceuticals, Purdue Pharma
- All “off-label” and investigational use of medications will be clearly identified
- Product brand names and images are presented solely for educational purposes and do not represent endorsements or promotion for any medications

Learning Objectives

- Review the key pharmacologic characteristics of FDA-approved insomnia medications that allow customized therapy of patients with insomnia disorder
- Describe the mechanism of action of medications commonly prescribed for insomnia symptoms
- Discuss types of compounds being investigated as possible insomnia disorder treatments





Early Neolithic wine of Georgia in the South Caucasus

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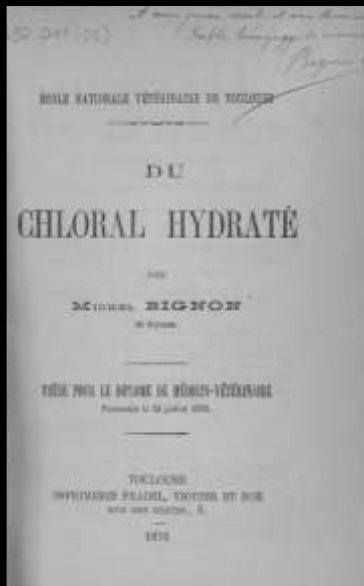
Contributed by David Lordkipanidze, October 7, 2017 (sent for review August 22, 2017; reviewed by A. Nigel Goring-Morris and Roald Hoffmann)

Sleep Diary – May, 2006

In bed at 7:45 PM
Asleep at 9:45 PM
Awake at 11:00 PM
From Scotch
Asleep at 11:30 PM
Awake at 4:04 AM
~~Scotch~~
Asleep at 4:15 AM
Awake at 5:24 AM
Scotch
Asleep at 5:35 AM
Awake at 8:00 AM







1903



1920s

WHEN

Crisis

DEMANDS QUICK-ACTING HYPNOTICS

In cases where immediate response is imperative, Pentobarbital* and Phenobarbital* (Lakeside) have been found to be especially effective. And they have the advantage of being easily administered to the patient in any position or during transport.


Phenobarbital* and Pentobarbital* are indicated in these conditions. In emergency situations, the fact that the medicines are available in liquid form is an added advantage. For these reasons, Pentobarbital* and Phenobarbital* should be available in every hospital, clinic, and office.

Pentobarbital
Lakeside and Searle's Tablets

Phenobarbital
Lakeside and Searle's Tablets

LAKESIDE

1944



from simple to simple

whenever a patient needs prompt, effective sedation ...

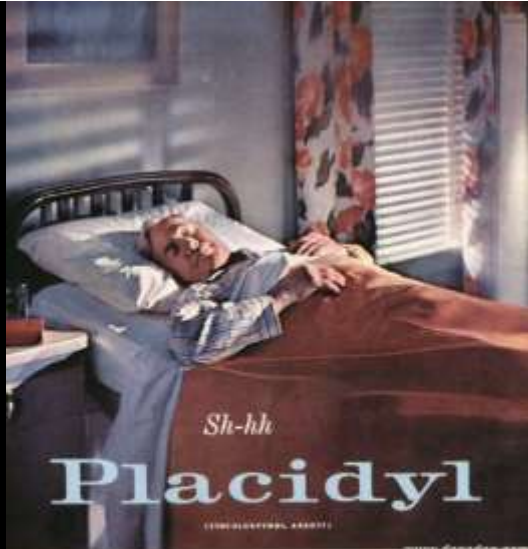
short-acting Nembutal
(PHENOBUTOL, BARBIT)

You can achieve any degree of cerebral depression using short-acting Nembutal—usually with only about one-half the dosage of many other barbiturates. This means:

- ... less drug to be administered,
- ... shorter duration of effect,
- ... little tendency toward respiratory and, of course, with short-acting Nembutal you are using a thoroughly studied sedative-hypnotic with a wide margin of safety. Hundreds of clinical reports, more than 20 years of safe medical use stand behind your Nembutal prescription.

Short-acting Nembutal—so effective so hypnosis is induced, so comfortable short-acting Nembutal—... a standard in barbiturate therapy. **Abbott**

1956



Sh-hh

Placidyl
(CHLORAZEPATE, BARBIT)

nudges your patient to sleep

Placidyl as a Sedative, this new egghead-friendly hypnotic brings tranquil sleep and is useful even for those patients with liver or kidney disease. 500 mg. capsules, bottles of 100. **Abbott**

1956

**SLEEP SO NATURAL THE
PATIENT CAN BE ROUSED BY A
RINGING ALARM CLOCK AND
AWAKE WITHOUT DROWSINESS**



NOLUDAR
brand of methyprylon **ROCHE**

GOOD NIGHT

PATIENTS ASLEEP THROUGH THE DAY
CONTINUOUSLY THROUGHOUT THE DAY
THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND NIGHT
WITHOUT DROWSINESS AND WITH
THEY ARE IN THE

Doriden
MEPERIDINE

GOOD MORNING

PATIENTS AWAKE ALERT AND
POWERFUL THROUGHOUT THE DAY
THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND NIGHT
WITHOUT DROWSINESS AND
WITH THE

C. I. R. A. INC.

1957

Insomnia does not result from a hypnotic deficiency

Insomnia Treatment Approaches

- Education about sleep and mental health
- Promote healthy sleep habits
 - Recommend regularity in sleep-wake timing
 - Discuss an environment conducive for sleep
 - Advise caution with caffeine, alcohol, and other drugs
- Optimize management of comorbid conditions
- Cognitive-behavioral therapy for insomnia (CBT-I)
- Light/dark exposure
- Head cooling
- Pharmacotherapy
 - Directly targeting sleep
 - Indirectly facilitating sleep

Schutte-Rodin S, et al. *J Clin Sleep Med*. 2008;4(5):487-504.

What People Take for Insomnia

		Formal sleep indication?	
		No	Yes
Prescription required?	No		
	Yes		

What People Take for Insomnia

		Formal sleep indication?	
		No	Yes
Prescription required?	No	Dietary Supplements	Over-the-Counter Sleep Aids
	Yes	Assorted Sedating Medications "Off-label"	FDA-Approved Insomnia Medications

What People Take for Insomnia

		Formal sleep indication?	
		No	Yes
Prescription required?	No	<u>Dietary Supplements</u>	Over-the-Counter Sleep Aids
	Yes	Assorted Sedating Medications "Off-label"	FDA-Approved Insomnia Medications

Dietary Supplement Sleep Aids

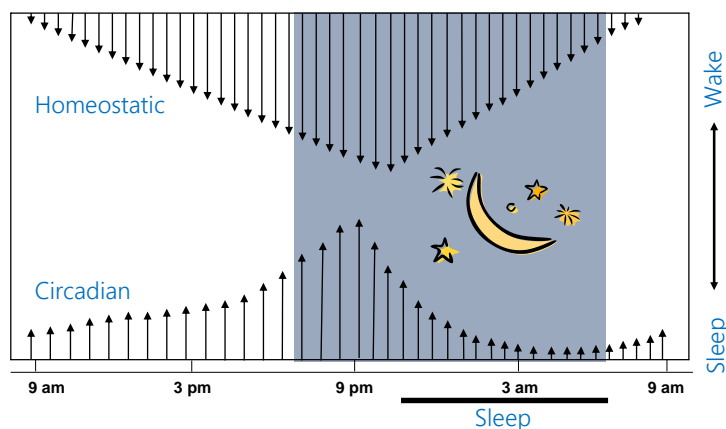
- Dietary supplements, herbal preparations, homeopathic formulations
- Often considered Complementary and Alternative Medicine
- Two broad types
 - Melatonin
 - Everything else (e.g., valerian)
- Limited efficacy data
- Few safety concerns
- Huge number of products marketed as sleep aids

Melatonin

- Hormone produced by the pineal gland with timing controlled by the circadian system
- Melatonin blood level:
 - Low throughout daytime
 - Gradually rises in the evening as bedtime approaches
 - Relatively high during the nighttime sleep period
 - Declines at the end of the normal sleep period in the morning
 - May free run in totally blind individuals or in people not exposed to the photoperiod or 24-hour routines
- Minimal efficacy for insomnia when taken at typical bedtime
- Strong evidence for selected circadian rhythm disorders

Buscemi N, et al. *J Gen Intern Med.* 2005;20(12):1151-1158.

Homeostatic and Circadian Sleep Regulation



Dietary Supplement Sleep Aids: Other Assorted Ingredients

- Valerian
- Kava-Kava
- Passion flower
- Skullcap
- Lavender
- Hops
- Glycine
- Hyoscyamus
- Stramonium
- L-Theanine
- Griffonia
- Wild jujube seeds
- Chamomile
- L-Tryptophan

Dietary Supplement Sleep Aids

- None are regulated by the FDA
- Safety questions
 - Purity
 - Concentration
 - Toxicity

What People Take for Insomnia

		Formal sleep indication?	
		No	Yes
Prescription required?	No	Dietary Supplements	<u>Over-the-Counter Sleep Aids</u>
	Yes	Assorted Sedating Medications "Off-label"	FDA-Approved Insomnia Medications

Over-the-Counter Sleep Aids

- Regulated by FDA
 - Composition
 - Dosing
 - Manufacturing
 - Labeling
 - Marketing
- Antihistamines (Brand or generic)
- Sedating effect (tolerance possible)
- Available alone or combined with analgesics
- May be prescribed at higher doses

Over-the-Counter Sleep Aids

- All are antihistamines
 - Diphenhydramine (most products)
 - Peak concentration: 2 to 3 hours
 - Elimination half-life: 8.5 ± 3.2 hours (short in children; longer in elderly)
 - Doxylamine
 - Peak concentration: 2 to 4 hours
 - Elimination half-life: 10 to 12 hours (longer in elderly)
 - Pharmacodynamics
 - Histamine H₁ receptor antagonist
 - Muscarinic acetylcholine receptor antagonist
 - Tolerance to sedating effects may develop with daily use
 - Adverse effects: Sedation, anticholinergic symptoms

Antihistamines: Potential Adverse Effects

- Next day residual sedation - common
- Anticholinergic effects
 - Confusion and delirium
 - Urinary retention
 - Dry mouth
 - Blurred vision
 - Narrow angle glaucoma exacerbation
 - Greater risk:
 - Elderly individuals
 - Patients concomitantly taking other anticholinergic medications (e.g., antidepressants, antipsychotics)

What People Take for Insomnia

		Formal sleep indication?	
		No	Yes
Prescription required?	No	Dietary Supplements	Over-the-Counter Sleep Aids
	Yes	<u>Assorted Sedating Medications</u> <u>"Off-label"</u>	FDA-Approved Insomnia Medications

"Off-Label" Prescriptions for Insomnia

- Antidepressants
- Antipsychotics
- Anxiolytics
- Antihistamines
- Anticonvulsants/mood stabilizers
- Antihypertensives
- Anesthetics
- Issues
 - Efficacy for insomnia
 - Safety in insomnia patients
 - Prescribing guidelines
 - Knowledge of sleep effects
- Is there comorbidity with an indicated condition?

Antidepressants Prescribed for Insomnia

- Question of psychiatric comorbidity
- Often prescribed in absence of mental health disorders
- Sedation from serotonergic, muscarinic, and histaminic receptor blockade
- Risk-benefit questions
- Commonly prescribed examples
 - Trazodone
 - Amitriptyline
 - Mirtazapine
 - Doxepin*

Trazodone

Biphasic $T_{1/2}$

- 3 – 6 hours
- 5 – 9 hours

Onset 30 – 120 minutes

Receptor effects

- 5-HT_{2A,2B} receptor antagonist
- 5-HT_{1A} partial agonist
- α_1 -receptor antagonist
- α_2 -receptor antagonist
- Histamine H₁ antagonist
- Serotonin reuptake inhibition

Side effects

- Dizziness
- Hypotension
- Sedation
- Headache
- Sweating
- Arrhythmias
- Priapism
- Serotonin syndrome

Active metabolite: mCPP

Antipsychotics Prescribed for Insomnia

- Question of psychiatric comorbidity
- Occasionally prescribed solely for insomnia symptoms
- Sedation from serotonergic, muscarinic, and histaminic receptor blockade
- Major risk-benefit questions
- Most commonly prescribed example
 - Quetiapine

What People Take for Insomnia

		Formal sleep indication?	
		No	Yes
Prescription required?	No	Dietary Supplements	Over-the-Counter Sleep Aids
	Yes	Assorted Sedating Medications "Off-label"	<u>FDA-Approved Insomnia Medications</u>

Current FDA-Approved Insomnia Treatment Medications

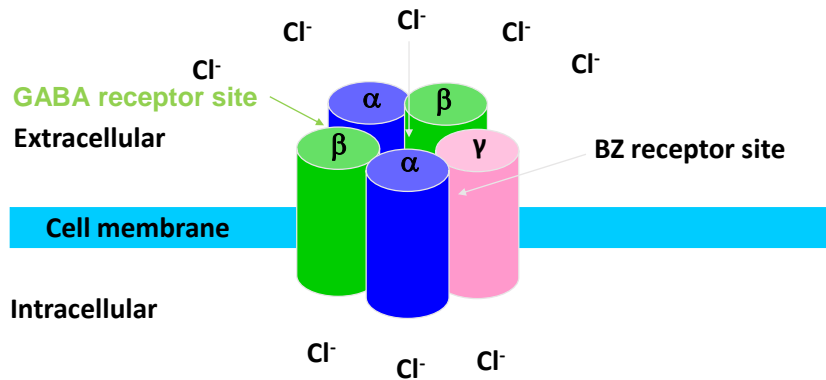
- Benzodiazepine receptor agonists
 - Benzodiazepine hypnotics
 - Nonbenzodiazepine hypnotics
- Selective melatonin receptor agonist
 - Ramelteon
- Selective histamine receptor antagonist
 - Low dose doxepin
- Dual orexin/hypocretin receptor antagonist
 - Suvorexant

FDA-Approved Insomnia Medications, Part 1

Generic name	Brand name	Available doses (mg)	Elimination half-life (hours)
Benzodiazepine Receptor Agonists			
Benzodiazepines Immediate Release			
Estazolam	ProSom	1, 2	10 to 24
Flurazepam	Dalmane	15, 30	2.3 (active metabolite: 48 - 160)
Quazepam	Doral	7.5, 15	39 (active metabolite 73)
Temazepam	Restoril	7.5, 15, 22.5, 30	3.5 to 18.4
Triazolam	Halcion	0.125, 0.25	1.5 to 5.5
Nonbenzodiazepines Immediate Release			
Eszopiclone	Lunesta	1, 2, 3	~6 (~9 in elderly)
Zaleplon	Sonata	5, 10	1
Zolpidem	Ambien	5, 10	~2.5
Nonbenzodiazepines Extended Release			
Zolpidem ER	Ambien CR	6.25, 12.5	2.8 in males (longer in females)
Nonbenzodiazepines Alternate Delivery			
Zolpidem oral spray	Zolpimist	5, 10	2.7 – 3.0
Zolpidem sublingual	Edluar	5, 10	~2.5
Zolpidem sublingual	Intermezzo	1.75, 3.5	~2.5

US Food and Drug Administration. Drugs@FDA. www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda.

GABA_A Receptor Complex



Möhler H, et al. *J Pharmacol Exp Ther.* 2002;300(1):2-8. Rowlett JK, et al. *CNS Spectr.* 2004;10(1):40-48.

Benzodiazepine Receptor Agonists Benzodiazepines

- Pharmacodynamics
 - Positive allosteric modulators of GABA responses at the GABA_A receptor complex
 - Multiple GABA_A receptor α subunit subtypes
 - Targeted action in the hypothalamic sleep nuclei
 - Global CNS effects
- Pharmacokinetics
 - Relatively rapidly absorbed
 - Very wide range of elimination half-lives: hours to days
 - Expect prolonged half-life in older adults
 - Most efficacious for sleep onset and maintenance
 - Potential for residual daytime sedation

Walsh JK, Roth T. In: Kryger MH, Roth T, Dement WC, eds. *Principles and Practice of Sleep Medicine*. 5th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Saunders; 2011:905-915. Mohler H, Fritschy JM, Rudolph U. *J Pharmacol Exp Ther* 2002;300:2-8

Benzodiazepine Receptor Agonists

Non-Benzodiazepines

- Pharmacodynamics
 - Positive allosteric modulators of GABA responses at the GABA_A receptor complex
 - Selected GABA_A receptor α subunit subtypes
 - Targeted action in the hypothalamic sleep nuclei
 - Global CNS effects
- Pharmacokinetics
 - Relatively rapidly absorbed
 - Relatively shorter elimination half-lives: About 1 to 6 hours
 - Expect prolonged half-life in older adults and for zolpidem in women
 - Indications vary for sleep onset and maintenance
 - Limited potential for residual daytime sedation

Walsh JK, Roth T. In: Kryger MH, Roth T, Dement WC, eds. *Principles and Practice of Sleep Medicine*. 5th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Saunders; 2011:905-915. Mohler H, Fritschy JM, Rudolph U. *J Pharmacol Exp Ther* 2002;300:2-8

BZRA Hypnotics: Possible Adverse Effects

- Residual effects
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Somnolence
- Blurred vision
- Nausea/diarrhea
- Fatigue
- Ataxia
- Anterograde amnesia
- Somnambulism/complex sleep behaviors

Zolpidem: 2013 FDA Update

Drug Safety Communication

- Recommends lower doses for women due to slower metabolism and possible excessive blood levels the following morning
- Initial dose for women should be 5 mg (IR) or 6.25 mg (ER)
- Consider these lower doses for men as well since they often provide sufficient efficacy
- Exception: dissolvable middle-of-the-night formulation (1.75, 3.5 mg) already recommends lower dose for women

Eszopiclone: 2014 FDA Update

Drug Safety Communication

- Recommends lower initial dose for men and women to be 1 mg at bedtime
- "...the previously recommended dose of 3 mg can cause impairment to driving skills, memory, and coordination that can last more than 11 hours after receiving an evening dose "
- Dosage may be increased to 2 or 3 mg at bedtime with caution

FDA-Approved Insomnia Medications, Part 2

Generic name	Brand name	Available doses (mg)	Elimination half-life (hr)
Selective melatonin receptor agonist			
Ramelteon	Rozerem	8	1 – 2.6
Selective histamine H₁ receptor antagonist			
Doxepin	Silenor	3, 6	15.3
Dual orexin receptor antagonist			
Suvorexant	Belsomra	5, 10, 15, 20	12

US Food and Drug Administration. Drugs@FDA. www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda.

Melatonin Receptor Agonist: Ramelteon

- Pharmacodynamics
 - Melatonin MT₁ and MT₂ receptor agonist
 - Targeted action in the hypothalamic suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN)
 - Reduces evening circadian driven arousal
 - Reinforces circadian periodicity
 - Enhances sleep onset
- Pharmacokinetics
 - Relatively rapidly absorbed
 - Relatively short elimination half-life: 1 to 2.6 hours
 - Indication for sleep onset
 - Limited potential for residual daytime sedation

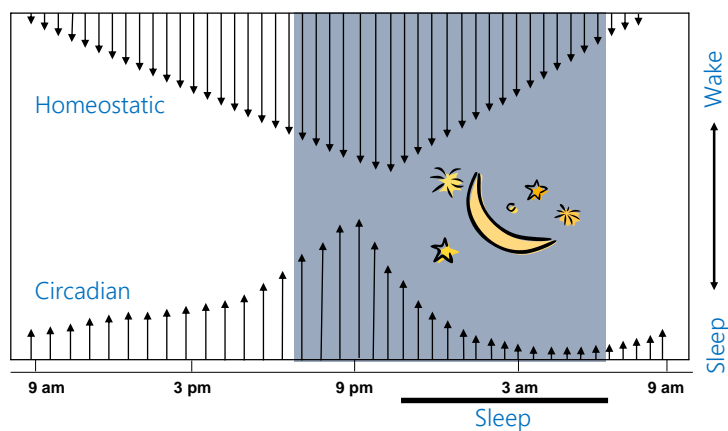
Kato K, et al. *Neuropharmacology*. 2005;48(2):301-310.

Melatonin Receptor Agonist: Ramelteon

- Indicated for insomnia with sleep onset difficulty
- Adverse events
 - Somnolence (5%)
 - Dizziness (5%)
 - Fatigue (4%)
- No abuse liability
- Avoid with
 - Hepatic impairment (moderate to severe)
 - Fluvoxamine (Luvox) coadministration

Kato K, et al. *Neuropharmacology*. 2005;48(2):301-310.

Homeostatic and Circadian Sleep Regulation



Histamine Receptor Antagonist Low-Dose Doxepin

- Pharmacodynamics
 - At very low doses primarily histamine receptor antagonist (avoiding receptor effects associated with higher doses)
 - Histamine is a potent wake-promoting neurotransmitter
 - Enhances sleep by reducing nighttime histamine arousal
- Pharmacokinetics
 - Relatively rapidly absorbed
 - Elimination half-life: About 15.3 hours
 - Indication for sleep maintenance
 - Limited potential for residual daytime sedation

Krystal AD, et al. *Sleep Med Rev.* 2013;17(4):263-272.

Histamine Receptor Antagonist Low-Dose Doxepin

- Indicated for the treatment of insomnia characterized by difficulties with sleep maintenance
- Approved by the FDA (2010)
- Ultra-low dose (3 mg, 6 mg)
- No abuse liability
- Most common adverse effects
 - Somnolence/sedation
 - Nausea
 - Upper respiratory tract infection

US Food and Drug Administration. Drugs@FDA. www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda.

Orexin/Hypocretin Receptor Antagonist Suvorexant

- Pharmacodynamics
 - Dual orexin receptor (OX₁ and OX₂) antagonist
 - Hypothalamic neurons with peptides orexin-A and orexin-B project to cortex and wake-promoting nuclei to reinforce and stabilize wakefulness
 - Suvorexant promotes sleep by decreasing orexin-associated CNS arousal
- Pharmacokinetics
 - Relatively rapidly absorbed
 - Elimination half-life: About 12 hours
 - Dose-dependent potential for residual daytime sedation

Winrow CJ, et al. *J Neurogenet.* 2011;25(1-2):52-61.

Orexin/Hypocretin Receptor Antagonist Suvorexant

- Indication: For the treatment of insomnia characterized by difficulties with sleep onset and/or sleep maintenance
- FDA approved in 2014
- Contraindication: narcolepsy
- Adverse reactions: somnolence
- Schedule IV controlled substance

Medication	Unspecified Insomnia	Sleep Onset	Sleep Maintenance	Early Awakening
Estazolam		✓	✓	✓
Flurazepam		✓	✓	✓
Quazepam		✓	✓	✓
Temazepam	✓			
Triazolam	✓			
Eszopiclone		✓	✓	
Zaleplon		✓		
Zolpidem		✓		
Zolpidem ER		✓	✓	
Zolpidem spray		✓		
Zolpidem sublingual		✓		
Zolpidem sublingual-MONT			✓	
Ramelteon		✓		
Low-dose doxepin			✓	
Suvorexant		✓	✓	

US Food and Drug Administration. www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf/.

Medication	DEA Class	PC	Most Common Side Effects
Estazolam	IV	X	Somnolence, hypokinesia, dizziness, abnormal coordination
Flurazepam	IV	X	Dizziness, drowsiness, lightheadedness, loss of coordination, staggering, falling
Quazepam	IV	X	Drowsiness, headache
Temazepam	IV	X	Drowsiness, dizziness, lightheadedness, difficulty with coordination
Triazolam	IV	X	Drowsiness, headache, dizziness, "pins & needles," coordination difficulty, lightheadedness
Eszopiclone	IV	C	Unpleasant taste, headache, somnolence, rash, respiratory and viral infections, dizziness, dry mouth, anxiety, hallucinations
Zaleplon	IV	C	Drowsiness, lightheadedness, dizziness, "pins & needles," difficulty with coordination
Zolpidem	IV	C	Drowsiness, dizziness, diarrhea, drugged feeling
Zolpidem ER	IV	C	Headache, next-day somnolence, dizziness
Zolpidem spray	IV	C	Drowsiness, dizziness, diarrhea, drugged feeling
Zolpidem sublingual	IV	C	Drowsiness, dizziness, diarrhea, drugged feeling
Zolpidem sublingual-MONT	IV	C	Headache, nausea, fatigue
Ramelteon	---	C	Somnolence, dizziness, fatigue, nausea, exacerbated insomnia
Low-dose doxepin	---	C	Somnolence/sedation, nausea, upper respiratory tract infection
Suvorexant	IV	C	Somnolence

US Food and Drug Administration. www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf/. PC = pregnancy category

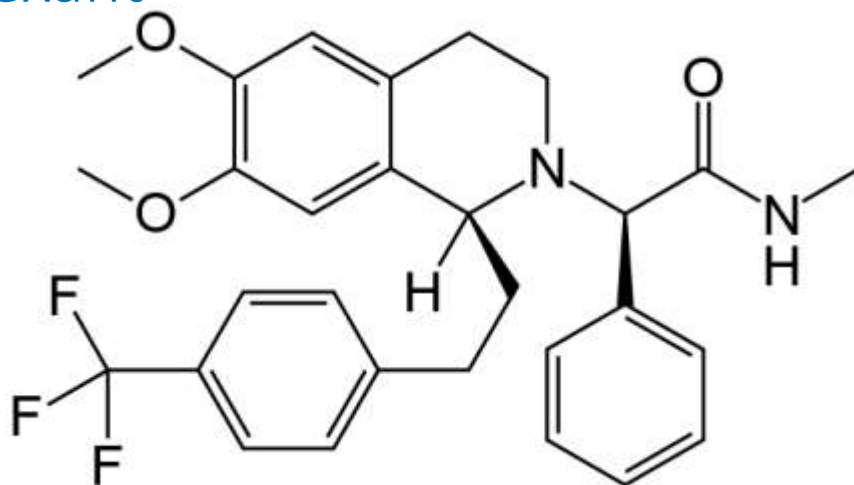


What's new under the moon?

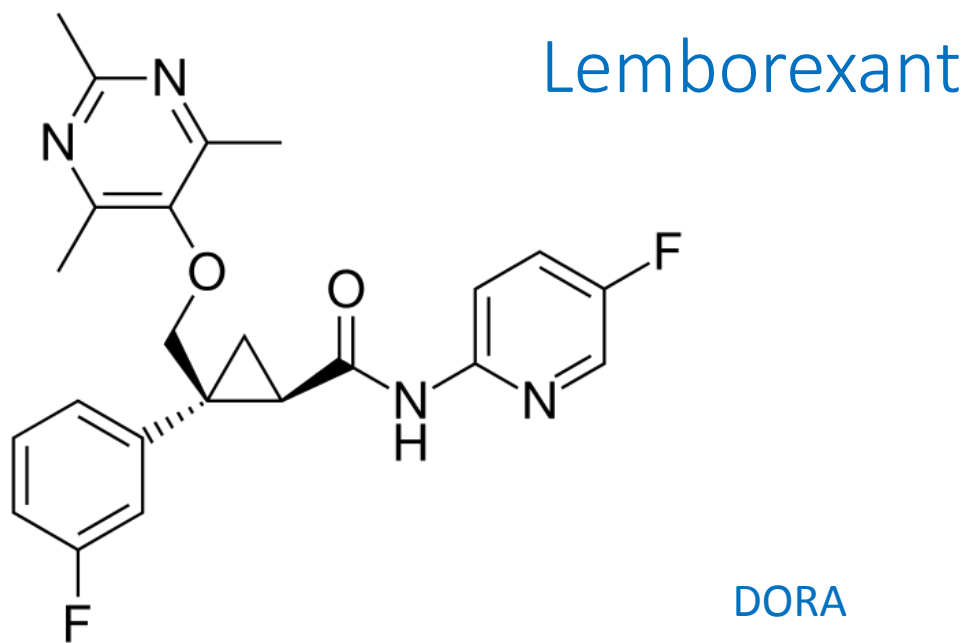
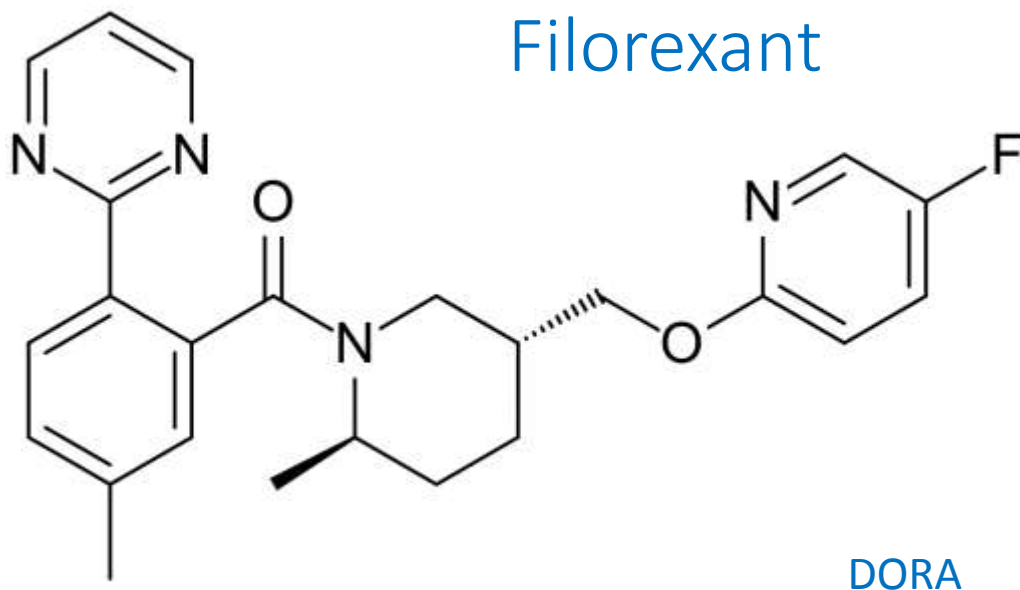


More Orexin Antagonists

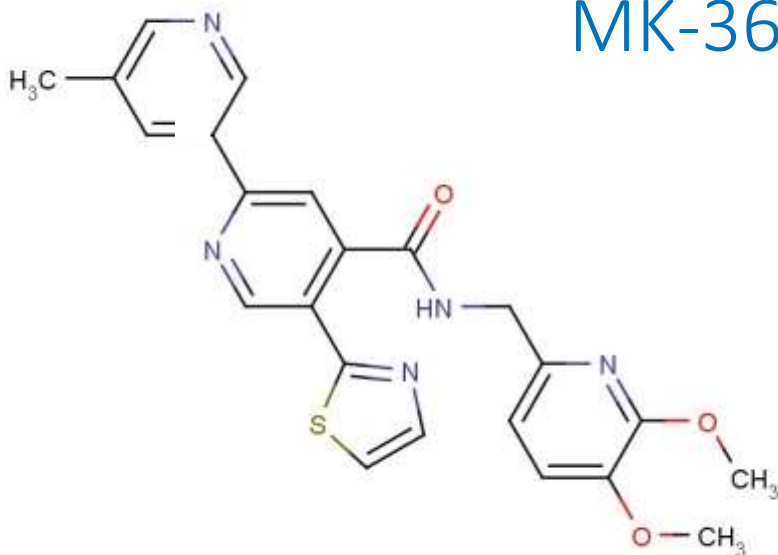
Almorexant



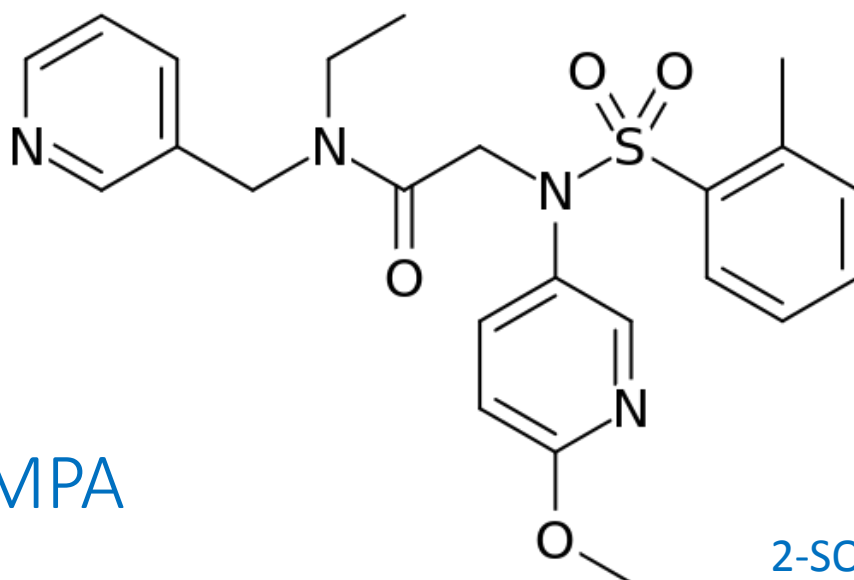
DORA



MK-3697

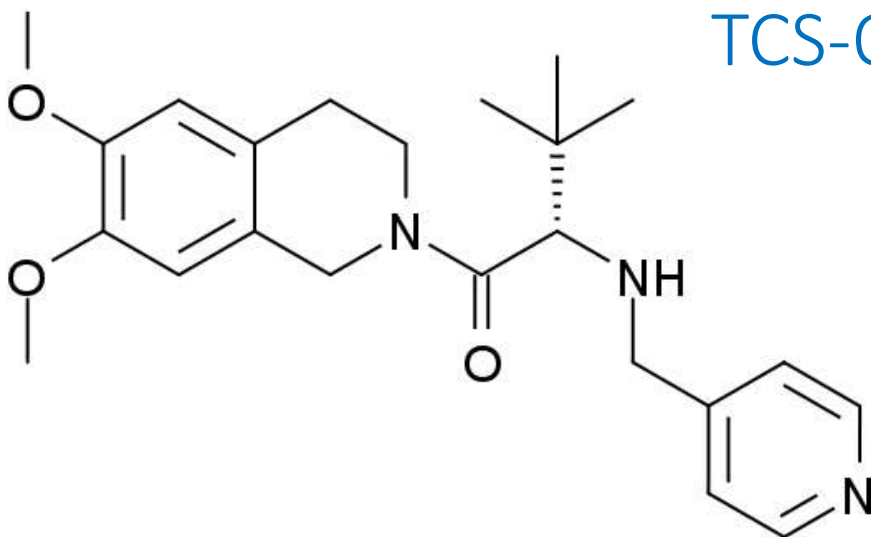


2-SORA



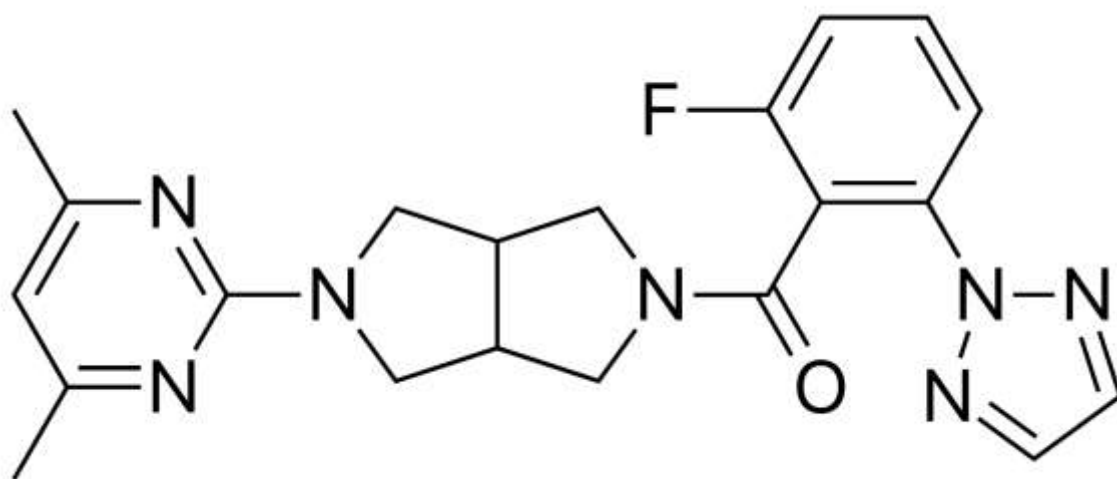
EMPA

2-SORA



TCS-OX2-29

2-SORA



Seltorexant

2-SORA

What's new under the moon?



Benzodiazepine Receptor Agonists

What's new under the moon?



Controlled Release Zaleplon (Somnus Therapeutics)

What's new under the moon?



Inhaled Zaleplon (Alexza Pharmaceuticals)

What's new under the moon?



Avram MJ, Spyker DA, Kehne JH, Cassella JV. The Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Zaleplon Delivered as a Thermally Generated Aerosol in a Single Breath to Volunteers. *J Clin Pharmacol*. 2013.

What's new under the moon?



Indiplon (Neurocrine Biosciences)

What's new under the moon?



Lorediplon (Ferrer)

What's new under the moon?



EVT-201
(Evotec)

What's new under the moon?



Melatonin Agonists

What's new under the moon?



Controlled Release Melatonin (Neurim Pharmaceuticals)

What's new under the moon?



Tasimelteon Non-24 Hour Disorder (Vanda Pharmaceuticals)

What's new under the moon?



Piromelatine (Neu-P11)
MT, 5-HT_{1A}, 5-HT_{1D} Agonists
(Neurim Pharmaceuticals)

What's new under the moon?



TIK-301
(Tikvah Pharmaceuticals)

What's new under the moon?



UCM-765 Selective MT2 Agonist

What's new under the moon?



Beta Blockers

Use of a composition comprising at least one beta-blocker for the treatment of sleep disorders

WO 2009018824 A1

ABSTRACT

A composition comprising specific beta-blockers such as bisoprolol and nebivolol for the treatment of insomnia and/or another sleep disorder. The composition should be given in such an amount that it causes a less than 40 % decrease in the amount of aMT6s in complete nocturnal urin. The composition can be a combination treatment comprising a specific beta-blocker in combination with another known drug e.g., melatonin with similar effect for treatment of insomnia.

Publication number	WO2009018824 A1
Publication type	Application
Application number	PCT/DK2008/000249
Publication date	Feb 12, 2009
Filing date	Jul 4, 2008
Priority date ⓘ	Aug 3, 2007
Inventors	Søren TULLIN, Birger Jan Oslen
Applicant	Tullin Soeren, Birger Jan Oslen
Export Citation	BIBTeX, EndNote, RefMan
Patent Citations (5), Non-Patent Citations (1), Classifications (13), Legal Events (3)	
External Links: Patentscope , Espacenet	

What's new under the moon?



Histamine H1 Antagonist

What's new under the moon?



LY-2624803
(Eli Lilly)

What's new under the moon?



Histamine H3 Agonist

What's new under the moon?



Tetracyclic Antidepressant

What's new under the moon?



CB-2810 (Cennerv Pharma)

What's new under the moon?



5-HT_{2A} Receptor Antagonists

What's new under the moon?



A(2A) Adenosine Receptor Agonist

What's new under the moon?



CGS-21680

What's new under the moon?



Angiotensin II Receptor
Type 1 (AT1) Antagonist

What's new under the moon?



Promoting sleep using at1 receptor blockers

WO 2013119605 A1

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to the use of an Angiotensin II type 1 (AT1) receptor blocker for promoting sleep and/or the treatment of insomnia. It is based, at least in part, on the results of experiments performed using a validated rat model of stress-induced insomnia in which candesartan was found to ameliorate sleep disturbances induced by stress. Further, it was observed that this effect seems to be caused by blockade of AT1 receptors located in several brain regions that are key components of the neural circuitry activated during insomnia. In contrast to currently marketed treatments for insomnia, the AT1 receptor blocker was found to restore normal sleep without inhibiting REM sleep and/or inducing atypical wave components in the EEG.

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What's new under the moon?



CB1/CB2 Cannabinoid Agonist

What's new under the moon?



NEO-1940

Insomnia with cancer (NEOMED)



2008 AASM Chronic Insomnia Clinical Guideline Consensus Recommendations

*The choice of a specific pharmacologic agent
within a class should be directed by:*

- Symptom pattern
- Treatment goals
- Past treatment response
- Patient preference
- Cost
- Availability of other treatments
- Comorbid conditions
- Contraindications
- Concurrent medication interactions
- Side effects

AASM: American Academy of Sleep Medicine

2008 AASM Chronic Insomnia Clinical Guideline Consensus Recommendations

- Patient education to accompany pharmacologic treatment
 - Treatment goals and expectations
 - Safety concerns
 - Side effects/interactions
 - Alternate Rx modalities
 - Potential for dose escalation
 - Rebound insomnia

AASM: American Academy of Sleep Medicine

2008 AASM Chronic Insomnia Clinical Guideline Consensus Recommendations

- Patients should be followed on a regular basis, every few weeks in the initial period of treatment when possible
- Efforts should be made to employ the lowest effective maintenance dosage of medication and to taper medication when conditions allow
- Chronic hypnotic medication may be indicated for long-term use in those with severe or refractory insomnia or chronic comorbid illness
- Long-term use may be nightly, intermittent, or as needed

AASM: American Academy of Sleep Medicine

1968

choose an experienced candidate—
millions of doses prescribed

Benadryl
(diphenhydramine hydrochloride)

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