ANTICOAGULANTS

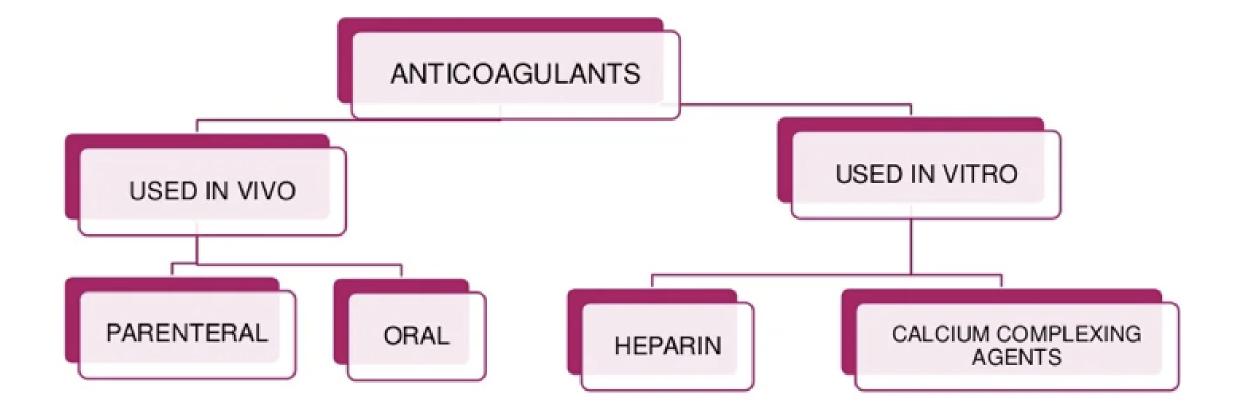
BY DR. PRABHUSWAMY

ANTICOAGULANTS

- Drugs that help prevent the clotting (coagulation) of blood
- Coagulation will occur instantaneously once a blood vessel has been severed
- Blood begins to solidify to prevent excessive blood loss and to prevent invasive substances from entering the bloodstream.

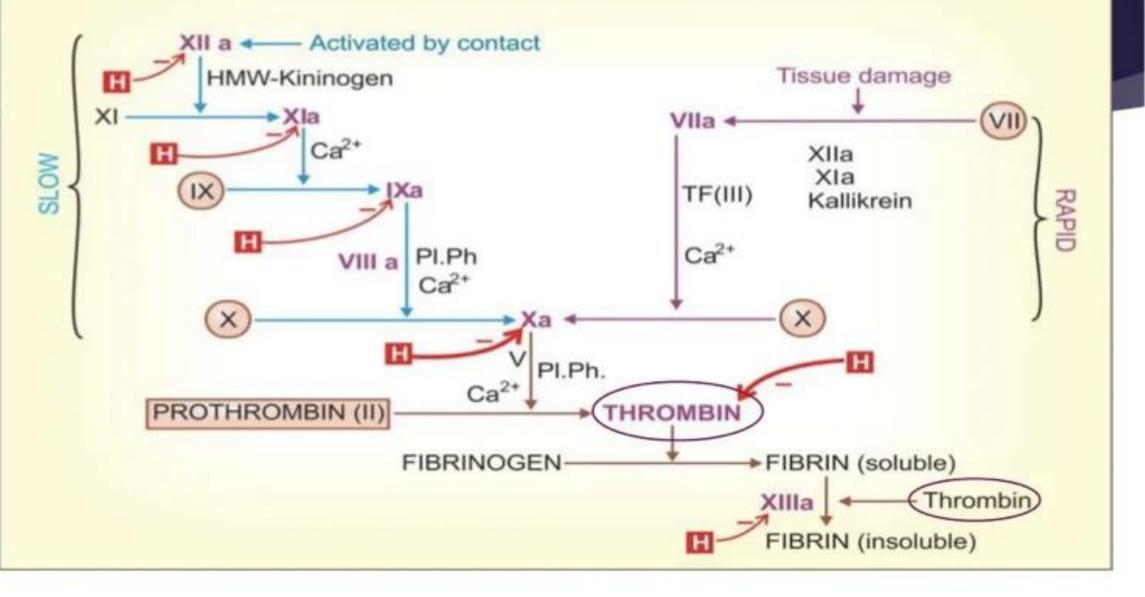


CLASSIFICATION



INTRINSIC SYSTEM

EXTRINSIC SYSTEM





1) USED IN VIVO:

A) PARENTERAL ANTICOAGULANTS:

- INDIRECT THROMBIN INHIBITORS: INHIBITORS:

Heparin

Low molecular weight heparins

Fondaparinux

Danaparoid

- DIRECT THROMBIN

Lepirudin Bivalirudin Argatroban



B) ORAL ANTICOAGULANTS:

- COUMARIN DERIVATIVES:

Bishydroxcoumarin (dicumarol)

Warfarin sodium

Acenocoumarol

Ethylbiscoumacetate

-INDANDIONE DERIVATIVE:

Phenindione

-DIRECT FACTOR Xa INHIBITORS:

Rivaroxaban

-ORAL DIRECT THROMBIN INHIBITOR:

Dabigatran etexilate

USES OF ANTICOAGULANTS

- Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE)
- Myocardial infarction (MI)
- Unstable angina
- Rheumatic heart disease; Atrial fibrillation(AF)
- Cerebrovascular disease
- Vascular surgery, prosthetic heart valves, retinal vessel thrombosis, extracorporeal circulation, haemodialysis
- Defibrination syndrome or 'disseminated intravascular coagulation'



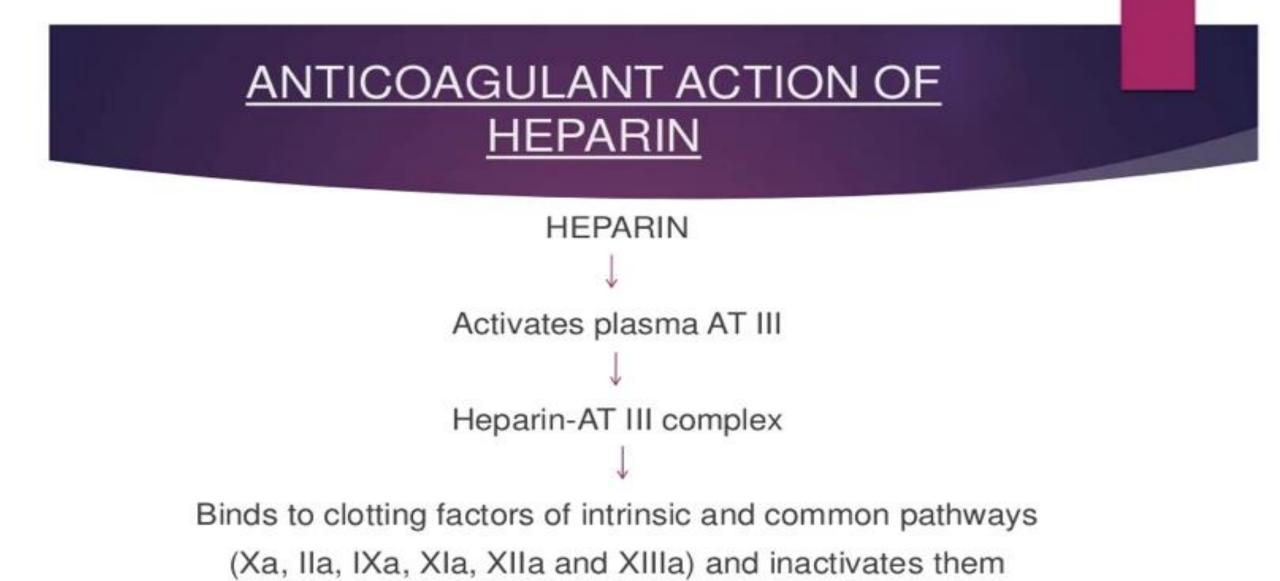
Heparin is a non-uniform mixture of straight chain mucopolysaccharides with MW 10,000 to 20,000.

It contains polymers of two sulfated disaccharide units:

D-glucosamine-L-iduronic acid

D-glucosamine-D-glucuronic acid

It is present in all tissues containing mast cells; richest sources are lung, liver and intestinal mucosa.

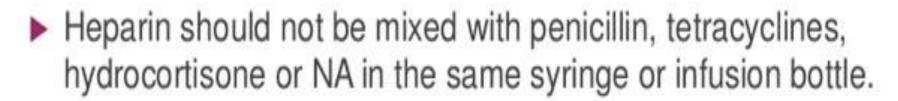


OTHER ACTIONS OF HEPARIN

- Heparin in higher doses inhibits platelet aggregation and prolongs bleeding time.
- ▶ Heparin in lower doses helps in lipaemia clearing.

PHARMACOKINETICS

- Heparin is not absorbed orally.
- If Injected i.v. acts instantaneously.
- After s.c. injection anticoagulant effect develops after ~60 min.
- Bioavailability of s.c. heparin is inconsistent.
- Heparin does not cross blood-brain barrier or placenta (it is the anticoagulant of choice during pregnancy).
- It is metabolized in liver by heparinase.
- Fragments are excreted in urine.



Heparinized blood is not suitable for blood counts (alters the shape of RBCs and WBCs), fragility testing and complement fixation tests.

ADVERSE EFFECTS

- Bleeding due to overdose most serious complication.
- Thrombocytopenia mild and transient.
- Transient and reversible alopecia is infrequent. Serum transaminase levels may rise.
- Osteoporosis long-term use of relatively high doses.
- Hypersensitivity reactions rare.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Bleeding disorders, history of heparin induced thrombocytopenia.
- Severe hypertension, threatened abortion, piles, g.i. ulcers.
- Subacute bacterial endocarditis, large malignancies, tuberculosis.
- Ocular and neurosurgery, lumbar puncture.
- Chronic alcoholics, cirrhosis, renal failure.

Low molecular weight (LMW) heparins

- Heparin has been fractionated into LMW forms (MW 3000–7000) by different techniques.
- LMWHs are defined as heparin salts having an average molecular weight of less than 8000 Da.
- These are obtained by various methods of fractionation or depolymerisation of polymeric heparin.

- Selectively inhibit factor Xa with little effect on IIa.
- Act only by inducing conformational change in AT III
- Hence LMW heparins have smaller effect on aPTT and whole blood clotting time than unfractionated heparin (UFH)
- Also, they have lesser antiplatelet action—less interference with haemostasis.
- Lower incidence of haemorrhagic complications compared to UFH
 Elimination primarily by renal excretion.

ADVANTAGES OF LMW HEPARIN

- Better subcutaneous bioavailability (70–90%) compared to UFH (20–30%)
- Longer and more consistent monoexponential t¹/₂(4–6 hours)
- Since aPTT/clotting times are not prolonged, laboratory monitoring is not needed.
- Risk of osteoporosis after long term use is much less.

INDICATIONS

- Prophylaxis of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism in high-risk patients undergoing surgery.
- Treatment of established deep vein thrombosis.
- Unstable angina and MI: they have largely replaced continuous infusion of UFH.
- To maintain patency of cannulae and shunts in dialysis patients.



A number of LMW heparins have been marketed-

- Enoxaparin
- Reviparin
- Nadroparin
- Dalteparin
- Parnaparin
- Ardeparin

FONDAPARINUX

- The pentasaccharide with specific sequence that binds to AT III with high affinity to selectively inactivate factor Xa without binding thrombin (factor IIa), has been recently produced synthetically.
- Bioavailability If injected s.c. is 100%
- Excreted unchanged by the kidney.

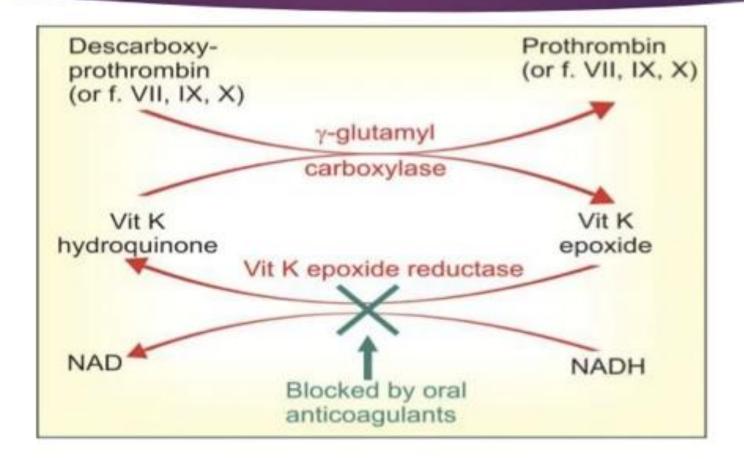
DIRECT THROMBIN INHIBITORS

- Unlike heparin, these recently developed anticoagulants bind directly to thrombin and inactivate it without the need to combine with and activate AT III.
- Lepirudin
- Bivalirudin
- Argatroban

ORAL ANTICOAGULANTS

- Act indirectly by interfering with the synthesis of vit K dependent clotting factors in liver.
- Apparently behave as competitive antagonists of vit K and lower the plasma levels of functional clotting factors in a dose-dependent manner.
- they inhibit the enzyme vit K epoxide reductase (VKOR) and interfere with regeneration of the active hydroquinone form of vit K which acts as a cofactor for the enzyme γ-glutamyl carboxylase.

MECHANISM OF ACTION OF ORAL ANTICOAGULANTS



DIRECT FACTOR XA INHIBITORS

- Act rapidly without a lag time
- Have short-lasting action.
- Rivaroxaban

ORAL DIRECT THROMBIN INHIBITOR

Dabigatran etexilate

- Reversibly blocks the catalytic site of thrombin and produces a rapid (within 2 hours) anticoagulant action.
- Oral bioavailability is low.
- ▶ No laboratory monitoring is required.
- ▶ The plasma t1/2 is 12–14 hours.
- Duration of action 24 hours.

