

PROTEIN BINDING

• The phenomenon of complex formation of drugs with proteins is called as protein-binding.

• Binding of drugs to plasma proteins is a major determinant in drug distribution.

• This binding is both, reversible & irreversible in nature.

• Reversible binding → weak chemical bonds



Hydrogen bonds
Hydrophobic bonds
Ionic bonds
Vander Waal's forces

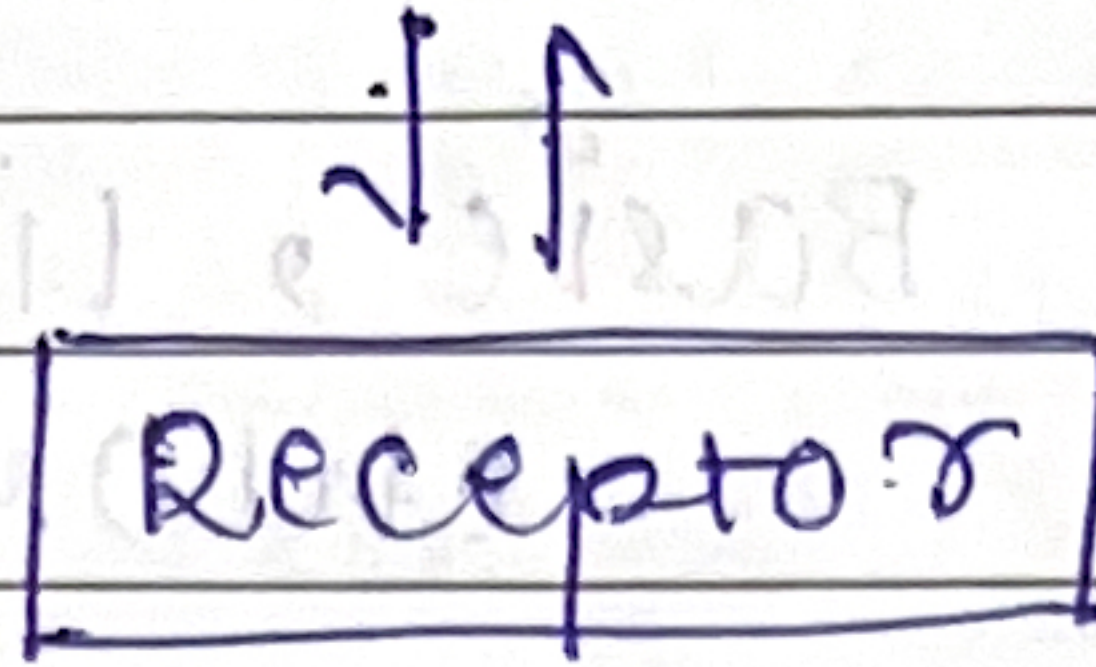
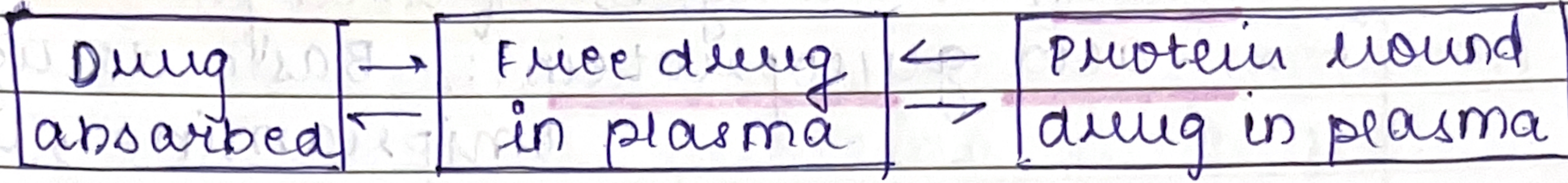
• Irreversible binding → covalent bond.

⇒ Order of binding:

Albumin > α_1 acid glycoproteins > lipoproteins

↓
Globulins.

- Albumin : All types of drugs.
 - α_1 -acid glycoprotein : Basic drugs, imipramine, lidocaine.
 - Lipoproteins : Basic, lipophilic drugs, chlorpromazine.
 - α_1 globulin : Steroids.
 - α_2 globulin : Vitamins A, D, E & K.
 - Hemoglobin : Phenytoin, Pentaminitol, phenothiazines.
- When the drug appears in circulation, the following things happen:
- (i) A fraction of drug molecules bind with plasma proteins and another fraction remains free.
 - (ii) There is always an equilibrium between bound and free drug concentration.
 - (iii) In general, the binding is reversible and follows law of Mass action.
- The bound drug is kept in the blood stream while the unbound drug is either excreted or metabolized.

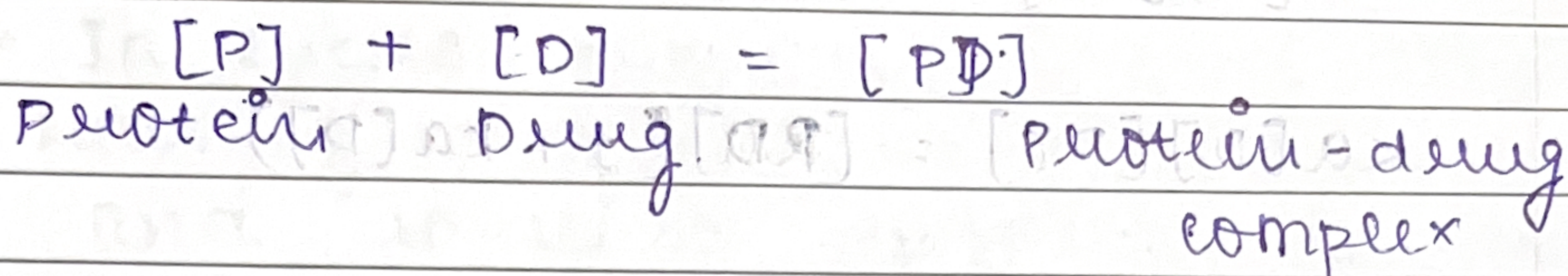


Pharmacological and
therapeutic response

KINETICS OF PROTEIN-DRUG BINDING :

If $[P]$ represents protein and $[D]$ represents drug,

Then applying law of mass action to reversible protein-drug binding, the equation will be as follows :



The association constant $[K]$ can be expressed as follows :

$$K_a = \frac{[PD]}{[P][D]}$$

OR

$$K_a [P][D] = [PD] \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where,

$[P]$ = conc. of protein

$[D]$ = conc. of drug

$[PD]$ = conc. of protein-drug complex

K_a = Association rate constant.

⇒ If total protein is supposed to be $[P_T]$, then

$$[P_T] = [P] + [PD]$$

OR

$$[P] = [P_T] - [PD] \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

By substituting eqn (2) in eqn (1), we get:

$$[PD] = k_a [D] [P_T - PD]$$

$$[PD] = k_a [D] [P_T] - k_a [D] [PD]$$

$$k_a [D] [P_T] = [PD] + k_a [D] [PD]$$

$$k_a [D] [P_T] = [PD] (1 + k_a [D])$$

$$[PD] = \frac{k_a [D] [P_T]}{(1 + k_a [D])}$$

⇒ Dividing both sides by $[P_T]$:

$$\frac{[PD]}{[P_T]} = \frac{k_a [D]}{1 + k_a [D]}$$

Here,

$\alpha = \frac{\text{moles of drug bound}}{\text{total moles of protein}}$

$$\alpha = \frac{[PD]}{[P_T]}$$

$$\therefore \frac{[PD]}{[P_T]} = \frac{k_a [D]}{(1 + k_a [D])}$$

From above equation:

$$\alpha = \frac{k_a [D]}{(1 + k_a [D])}$$