

Aminoglycosides



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Aminoglycosides

- It includes Gentamicin , Tobramycin , Amikacin, Netilmicin , Kanamycin , Paromomycin, Streptomycin (systemic) & Neomycin, Framycetin (topical)
(Paromomycin- It is used orally for intestinal amebiasis and in the management of hepatic coma.)
- Primarily used to Tt inf.s caused by aerobic G-ve bact. & Streptomycin is an important agent for the Tt of Tuberculosis.

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- In contrast to most inhibitors of microbial protein synth. which are bacteriostatic the Amgl.s are bactericidal .
- Mutations affecting proteins in bact. ribosomes can confer marked resist. to their action

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These agents contain amino-sugars linked to an aminocyclitol ring by glycosidic bonds .

-They are polycations

- Their polarity is responsible, in part for pharmacokinetic property shared by all members of the group. e.g.- **none is abs. adequately after oral administration.**
- Inadequate concentrations are found in CSF.

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- All are excreted rapidly by normal kidney.
- Amgl.s are widely used but their toxicity limits their usefulness (esp. **nephrotoxicity & ototoxicity**).

History :

- They are natural prod.s or semisynth.

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derivatives of compd.s produced by variety of soil Actinomycetes .

- **Streptomycin** first isolated from **Streptomyces griseus**.
- **Gentamicin & Netilmicin** are broad spect. antib.s derived from sp. of the **Actinomycetes - Micromonospora** .

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The difference in spelling :

- micin ,antb.s originate from Genus- **Micromonospora**
 - mycin, antb.s originate from Genus- **Streptomyces**
 - semisynth. derivatives e.g. Netilmicin also end with suffix "micin"
- **Tobramycin** is one of several components of an Amgl. complex that is produced by **S. tenebrarius**. It is \equiv Gentamicin .
- **Amikacin** a derivative of **Kanamycin**

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& **Netilmicin** a derivative of **Sisomicin** are semisynth. product .

Chemistry :

Amgl.s consists of two or more amino sugars joined in glycoside linkage to a hexose nucleus . This hexose or aminocyclitol is either **streptidine**

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(found in Streptomycin) or **2-deoxy streptamine** (found in all other Amgl.s)

-Amgl. family is distinguished by the aminosugar attached to the aminocyclitol .

Mech. of action :

Amgl. antib.s are rapidly bactericidal

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- It is conc. dependent. The higher the conc. the greater is the rate at which bact.s are killed (**Conc. Dependent Killing**)
- The **post antibiotic effect** i.e. residual bactericidal action persist after the serum conc. falls below the MIC (**minimum inhibitory concentration**) also a

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a characteristic of Amgl.s (accounts for once daily dosing regimen of Amgl. antb.s).

- Amgl.s diffuse through aq. channels formed by Porin protein in the outer membrane of G-ve bact. to the periplasmic space.

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- Transport of Amgl. across cytoplasmic (inner) memb. depends on electron transport . This phase of transport has been termed as ***energy dep. phase I*** (**EDP I**) . {It can be blocked by divalent cations e.g. Ca^{++} & Mg^{++} ions (rate limiting) , hyperosmolarity , low pH and & anaerobic conditions }

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(thus the AM action of Amgl. is reduced markedly in the anaerobic environment of an abscess & in hyperosmolar acidic urine) .

- Once inside the cell it binds to polysomes & interfere with protein synthesis by causing misreading &

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premature termination of mRNA transl.

→ aberrant protein prod. & insertion into the cell membrane → altered permeability & ↑ further transport of Amgl.

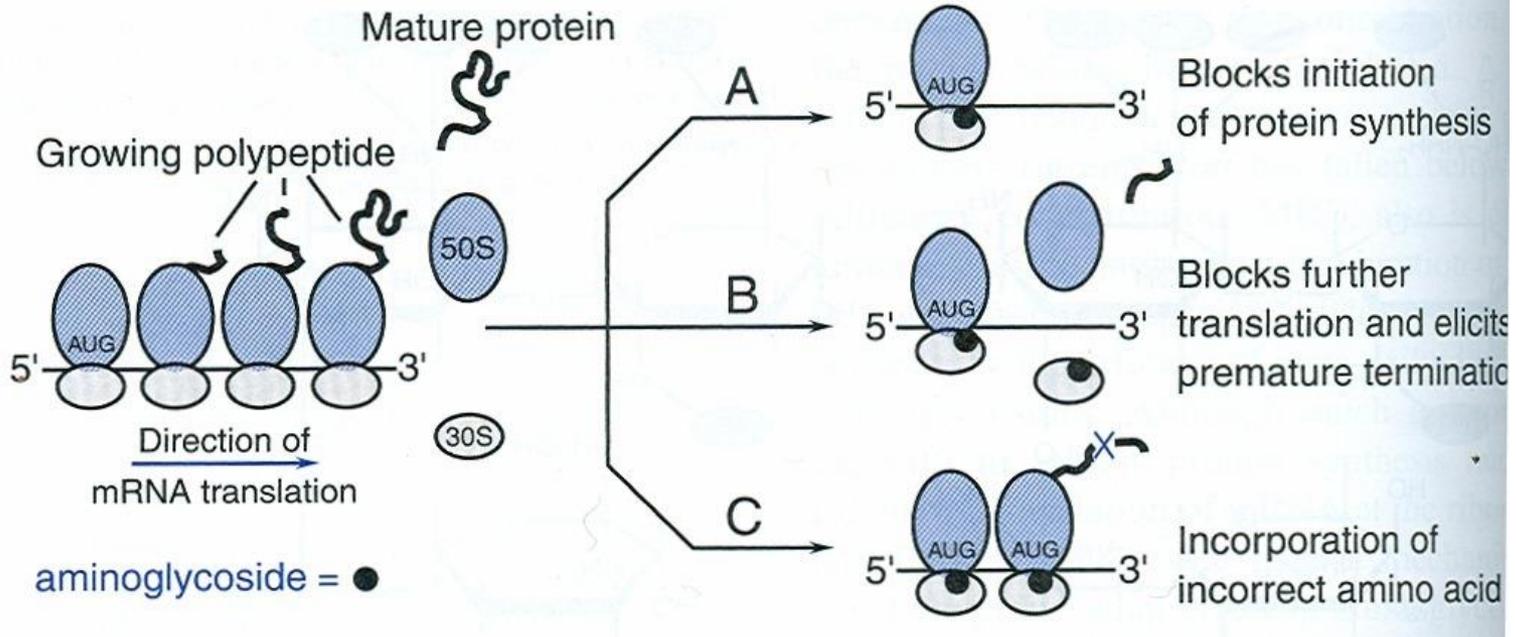
This is termed as ***energy dep. phase*** // **(EDPII)** which is ≈ disruption of cell membrane by aberrant protein.

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- This progressive disruption of the cell envelop , as well as other vital processes may help in explaining the lethal action of Amgl.s .

(The primary intracellular site of action of the aminoglycoside is **30 S** ribosomal subunit)

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Spectrum of Amgl.s :

-AM activity of Gentamicin
, Tobramycin, Kanamycin , Netilmicin
& Amikacin is directed primarily
against **aerobic G- ve bacilli** .

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- Kanamycin & Streptomycin has limited spectrum compared with other Amgl.s (not used in inf. caused by *Serratia* or *P. aeruginosa*).
- Amgl.s has little effect against anaerobic micro-organisms.

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or facultative bacteria under anaerobic conditions .

- Action against most G +ve bact. is limited & they should not be used as single agents to treat them (**G- ve cocci are also not sensitive**)

e.g. in comb. with Penicil. & Vancomy.

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The Amgl. Gentamicin & Streptomycin are tested extensively , they produce synergistic bactericidal effect in vitro against **Enterococci , Streptococci & Staphylococci.**

- the aerobic G- ve bacilli vary in their susceptibility to the Aminoglycosides

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- Tobramycin & Gentamicin exhibit similar activity against most G-ve bacilli .
 - Tobramycin > active against P. aeruginosa & some proteus spec.
- (**Amikacin** & in some instances Netilmicin retain their act. against Gentamicin resistant strains because they are a poor substrate for many of the **Amgl. inactivating enzymes.**)

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Absorption ,Distribution ,Dosing & Elimination of the Amgl. :

- Amgl. are highly polar cations & hence poorly abs. from GIT .
- The drugs are not inactivated in the intestine & are eliminated in the feces

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(Long term oral or rectal administration of Amgl.s may result in accumulation up to toxic concentration in pts with renal impairment .) .

-Installation of these drugs into body cavities with serosal surfaces also may result in rapid absorption & unexpected toxicity (recurrent muscular blockade).

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- Similarly topical application for long periods (in large wounds , cut ulcers & burns) causes toxicity .
- All are absorb rapidly from I.M. site of inj.s .(**Peak conc. reaches after 30-90 min.s**)

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Distribution :

- Polar nature so not penetrate into **most cells , CNS & eye** .
- They do not bind to pl. albumin (**except Streptomycin**)
- Conc. of Amgl.s in secretions & tissues are also low.

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- High conc.s are found only in the **renal cortex , endolymph & perilymph** of the inner ear
(& likely contribute to nephrotoxicity & ototoxicity respectively) .
- Bile represents only minor route of elimination.

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- inflam. ↑ the penetration of Amgl. in the peritoneal & pericardial fluids .
- Conc. of Amgl.s in CSF with parenteral administ. usually are sub-therapeutic (**Concentration in CSF is < 10% of plasma & ↑ to 25% in meningitis and intrathecal & intraventricular administration of Amgl.s and can achieve therapeutic levels**) .

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-Administ. in women in late pregnancy may result in **accumulation of drug in fetal plasma & amniotic fluid** & can cause hearing loss (e.g. **Streptomycin & Tobramycin**).

So they are used with caution during pregnancy & only for strong clinical indication.

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Dosing :

Current procedure is to give total daily dose as a single injection

(**It is associated with less toxicity & as effective as multiple doses**)

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- Once daily dosing also cost less & administered more easily .so it is better to give single daily dose.
(exception is use in pregnancy , neonates & pediatric infection & combination low dose therapy in endocarditis)

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- Once daily dose should be avoided in pt with Creatinine clearance $< 20 - 25$ ml/min because accumulation can occur so less frequent dosing (**48hrly**) is more appropriate .

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<u>Creatinine Cl.</u>	<u>% of max. daily dose</u>	<u>Freq. of dosing</u>
100	100	every 24 hr
75	75	
50	50	
25	25	
20	80	every 48 hr
10	60	
< 10	40	

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- The maximum daily dose for
 - Amikacin ,Kanamycin & Streptomycin
-15mg/kg,
 - Gentamicin & Tobramycin is
-5.5mg/kg
 - Netilmicin **-6.5 mg/kg**

(Monitoring will be done in multiple daily dosing where renal function test are compromised or impaired .)

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Elimination :

eliminated almost entirely by glomer.

filtrate. (**renal cl. of Amgl. is $\frac{2}{3}$ of creatinine cl.**).

- Amgl.s can be remove from the body by either hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis .

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S/E –

All Amgl.s have the potential to prod.
reversible or irreversible

**vestibular /cochlear & renal
toxicity.**

These side effects complicate the use
of these compounds .

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Ototoxicity -

- Vestibular & auditory dysfunction is because of accumulation of drug in perilymph & endolymph .
- The $t_{1/2}$ is **5-6 times high in otic fluid** than in plasma . (Ototoxicity has been linked to mutation in the mitochondrial ribosome RNA gene - **genetic predisposition.**) .

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- It is largely irreversible (**more resistant in Cochlear changes** & results from prolong destruction of vestibular or cochlear sensory cells .
- Repeated course of Amgl. can probably resulting in the loss of nerve cells which leads to deafness & ataxia.

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(Drug e.g. **Ethacrynic acid** & **Furosemide** potentiates the ototoxic effect of Amgl.s if given simultaneously).

- More in pts having preexisting auditory impairment .

(**Streptomycin** & **Gentamicin** predominantly produces **vestibular toxicity** whereas **Amikacin** , **Kanamycin** & **Neomycin** affects **auditory function** , **Tobramycin** affects **both equally**).

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- Cochlear Toxicity-

First symptom is tinnitus & if drug is not discontinued then impairment of auditory function occurs after a few days .

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Vestibular toxicity-

headache in 1-2 days →
nausea ,vomiting & diff. in equilibrium
(if persists for 1-2 wks)→ vertigo in upright
position , diff in standing & sitting (**+ve
Romberg test**).

Rarely spontaneous Nystagmus &
Chronic labrynthitis leads to **ataxia** in
in walking .

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Nephrotoxicity :

- Mild renal impairment. – if Amgl.s are given for more than several days & is **reversible**
- Late effect- mild proteinuria & appearance of hyaline & granular cast in microscopic examination of urine
→ **↓↓ GFR .**

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- Severe acute tub. necrosis may occur rarely (mild ↑ in creatinine cl.) .
- The impairment in renal functions is almost always revers. (**because the prox. renal tubular cells have the capacity to regenerate**).
- Neomycin is highly nephrotoxic & not given systemically .

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- Streptomycin does not conc. in renal cortex so **least nephrotoxic.**
- **AmphotericinB** , **Vancomycin**, **ACEIs**, **Cisplatin** & **cyclosporin** may pot. Amgl induced nephrotoxicity.

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Neuromuscular blockade :

Order of decreasing potency for this is
Neomycin > Kanamycin > Amikacin >
Gentamicin & Tobramycin (**especially**
after intra pleural or intra peritoneal instillation in
high doses .)

- Pts of myasthenia gravis are more susceptible to Amgl.s for this effect.

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-It is due to ↓ in prejunc. release of **Ach** & also due to ↓ in post synaptic sensitivity to transmitter. (Tt. is – IV Ca-gluconate / IV Neostigmine)

Others –

-Streptomycin can cause **optic nerve damage** .

-H/S react.s are rare – skin rash, eosinophilia , fever , blood dyscrasia

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angiodema , exfoliative dermatitis & stomatitis.

1.) **Streptomycin :**

Used for the Tt of certain unusual inf. gen. in comb with other AM agents. it is less active than other memb.s against aerobic G -ve rods .

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- Given deep I.M. / I.V. & I.M may be painful at the site of injection.

(dose – 10-15mg/kg/day)

Uses :

1. **Bact. endocarditis** (**Streptomycin + Penicillin produces synergistic & bactericidal effect**)

2. **Tularemia -DOC** (Gentamicin,
Fluroquinolones & Tetracyclines are also given)

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- 3. Plague** – effective in all forms – (2gm I.M./ day in 2div.doses x7-10 days \equiv Gentamicin & Tetracyclines)
- 4. Tuberculosis** – always used in combination with at least one or two other drugs.
(dose- with normal renal function is 15 mg/kg/day OD. X 2-3 months or 2-3 times a week. .)

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2.) **Gentamicin** (& other Amgl.s):

(dose- 2mg/kg , $\frac{1}{3}$ given 8 hourly or single daily dose -5-7 mg/ kg)

Uses :

- **UTI** – not indicated in uncomplicated inf.
- **Pneumonia** – in comb. with β - lactum
- **Meningitis** – with G- ve org. (resistant to β -lactum e.g.- **Pseudomonas , Acinobacter .**)

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- **Bact. endocarditis** - synergistic effect with Penicillin or Vancomycin.
- **Sepsis** : febrile patient with granulocytopenia. & infection with *P. aeruginosa*

Topical use –

Gentamicin absorb slowly when applied topically (**but more rapidly when applied as cream**) .

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3.) **Tobramycin** \equiv Gentamicin (**also as ophthalmic oint. & soln.**) > effective in inf. with *P. aeruginosa*

4.) **Amikacin** : broadest spectrum (**because resistant to many Amgl. inactivating enzymes**).

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-Specific role in **hospital acquired infection** (dose- 10 mg/kg/day)

DOC in serious nosocomial G -ve infection of hospitals.

- Not effective against most G-ve anaerobic bacteria.

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- Active against **M. tuberculosis** including Streptomycin resist. cases & atypical mycobacteria in **AIDS** pts .

5.) **Netilmicin** : Latest \equiv Gentamicin

- not metabolize by Amgl.s
inactivating enzymes like Amikacin.

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- UTI – in complicated infection
(**Dose – 1.5-2 mg / kg 12 hrly .**)
- Useful in Tt . of aerobic G- ve bacilli inf. & inf. with Enterobacteriaceae.

6.) Neomycin:

Broad spectrum antibiotic

(**G- ve** - highly sensitive species are – E.coli , Enterobacter , Klebsiella , Pneumococci , Proteus vulgaris , **G+ve** - S.aureus & M. tuberculosis –**acid fast rods**)

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Uses :

- Topical- skin & mucous memb. Infect.
(Neomycin sulfate- **burns , wounds ,ulcers & infective dermatosis**) .
- Oral with Erythromycin (for bowel prepr.) or Polymixin (**40 mg Neomycin + 2 lack Unit of Polymixin** for irrigation of bladder)
- In hepatic encephalopathy (**4-10 gm orally if renal functions are normal**)

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It kills the ammonia producing org.s in the large gut, but now Lactulose is preferred .

S/E – Hypersensitivity react . in topical use,
renal impairment & nerve deafness
oral – intestinal malabsorption. &
superinfection

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7.) Kanamycin :

most toxic & spectrum of activity is limited (Dose – 1.5 mg/kg /day)

- **almost obsolete** .

(only in India – in resistant Tuberculosis with comb. of other drugs)

-prophylactic use -in hepatic encephalopathy (6 gm /day) .

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Framycetin: \equiv Neomycin-

It is also very toxic so used only for topical purpose (as ointment) – Skin inf. , otitis externa , furunculosis , burns & scalds & also as eye drops .

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Spectinomycin (produced by *Streptomyces spectabilis*) :

It is Aminocyclitol related to aminoglycosides , which is used as **single dose treatment** for –

-Penicillinase producing **Neisseria gonorrhoea (PPNG)**.

-For gonorrhoea in Penicillin allergic patients

MCQs

1. Tick the drug belonging to antibiotics- Aminoglycosides:

- a) Erythromycin
- b) Gentamicin
- c) Vancomycin
- d) Polymyxin

. 2. Aminoglycosides are effective against:

- a) Gram positive microorganisms, anaerobic microorganisms, spirochetes
- b) Broad- spectrum, except *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- c) Gram negative microorganisms, anaerobic microorganisms
- d) Broad- spectrum, except anaerobic microorganisms and viruses

3. Aminoglycosides have the following unwanted effects:

- a) Pancytopenia
- b) Hepatotoxicity
- c) Ototoxicity, nephrotoxicity
- d) Irritation of gastrointestinal mucosa

4. The most important mechanism of bacterial resistance to an Aminoglycoside antibiotic is :

- (a) Plasmid mediated acquisition of aminoglycoside conjugating enzyme
- (b) Mutational acquisition of aminoglycoside hydrolyzing enzyme
- (c) Mutation reducing affinity of ribosomal protein for the antibiotic
- (d) Mutational loss of porin channels

5. Which toxic effect of aminoglycoside antibiotics is most irreversible in nature ?

- (a) Vestibular damage
- (b) Hearing loss
- (c) Neuromuscular blockade
- (d) Kidney damage

6. Select the antibiotic whose dose must be reduced in patients with renal insufficiency :

- (a) Ampicillin (b) Chloramphenicol
- (c) Tobramycin (d) Erythromycin

7. The aminoglycoside antibiotic which is distinguished by its resistance to bacterial aminoglycoside inactivating enzymes is :

- (a) Kanamycin (b) Sisomicin
- (c) Amikacin (d) Tobramycin

8. An aminoglycoside antibiotic should not be used concurrently with the following drug :

- (a) Ampicillin (b) Vancomycin
- (c) Ciprofloxacin (d) Rifampin

9. The aminoglycoside that can be used in amoebiasis is :

- (a) Paromomycin (b) Framycetin
- (c) Amikacin ((d) Netilmicin

10. Streptomycin sulfate is not absorbed orally because it is :

- (a) Degraded by gastrointestinal enzymes
- (b) Destroyed by gastric acid
- (c) Highly ionized at a wide range of pH values
- (d) Insoluble in water

11. Aminoglycoside antibiotics have the following common property :

- (a) They are primarily active against gram negative bacilli
- (b) They are more active in acidic medium
- (c) They readily enter cells and are distributed in total body water
- (d) They are nearly completely metabolized in Liver

12. Which aminoglycoside antibiotic causes more hearing loss than vestibular disturbance as toxic effect ?

- (a) Streptomycin
- (b) Gentamicin
- (c) Kanamycin
- (d) Sisomicin

- 13. Single dose of Aminoglycoside administration is more preferable than 8 hourly dose because of:
 - a) Post antibiotic effect
 - b) Increase perfusion of renal cortex
 - c) MIC
 - d) Time dependent killing

Answer Key

- 1-a ,2-d, 3-c, 4-a, 5-b , 6-c , 7-c, 8-b, 9-a ,
10-c, 11-a, 12-c, 13-a

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