Pharmacodynamics

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be altered by disorders, aging, and other chemicals or drugs. Physiological changes associated with the aging body can alter the response to medications. Changes in both the production of neurotransmitters and receptor sensitivity have the potential to lead to adverse reactions that are at times unpredictable. Thus, as receptor sensitivity or availability is altered, the drug effect is altered as well.

Synonyms

[Drug impact](#)

Definition

Pharmacodynamics is a branch of pharmacology that studies how a drug acts on a living organism, including the pharmacologic response and the duration and magnitude of that response observed relative to the drug concentration. The drug interactions involve receptor binding, receptor sensitivity, postreceptor effects, and other related chemical reactions. Pharmacodynamics, along with pharmacokinetics, helps explain the relationship between the dose and the response of a particular drug. The pharmacodynamics of a drug can

Cross-References

- [Pharmacokinetics](#)
- [Psychopharmacology](#)

References and Readings

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