

Published on *British Columbia Drug and Poison Information Centre (BC DPIC)* (http://www.dpic.org)

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Dementia Therapy, Memantine

Volume: 28 Issue: 1

CLASSIFICATION

Donepezil: Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor; cholinergic Galantamine: Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor; cholinergic

Memantine: NMDA receptor antagonist

Rivastigmine: Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor; cholinergic

ACTION

Donepezil, galantamine, rivastigmine:

- Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors increase the level of acetylcholine in neuronal synaptic clefts in the brain.
- Galantamine also increases the effect of acetylcholine at nicotinic acetylcholine receptors in vitro; clinical relevance unproven.
- Rivastigmine also inhibits butyrylcholinesterase; clinical relevance unknown.

Memantine: Blocks one of the glutamate receptor types, the NMDA (N-methyl-D-aspartate) receptor, reducing

neuronal damage caused by excessive glutamate.

Keywords:

alzheimers disease dementia donepezil galantamine memantine rivastigmine

We are grateful to all the First Nations who have cared for and nurtured the lands and waters around us for all time, including the x?m??k??y??m (Musqueam), Sk?wx?wu?7mesh U?xwumixw (Squamish Nation), and s?l?ílw?ta? (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) on whose unceded and ancestral territory our centre is located.

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