

	Dopaminergic drugs					Anticholinergic drugs (Synthetic atropine substitutes [M1])
	Dopamine precursor	COMT inhibitors	Selective MAO-B inhibitors	Dopamine agonists	Dopamine Releaser	
Examples	Levodopa (L-dopa) (1st Line)	Tolcapone Entacapone	Selegiline	Bromocriptine	Amantadine (Anti-viral)	Benztropine
MOA	<p>-Dopamine can't cross BBB but L-dopa can.</p> <p>-Most of the administered dose is decarboxylated into dopamine in peripheral tissues. Small fraction cross BBB.</p> <p>-Decarboxylase inhibitor, carbidopa (Don't cross BBB), minimizes peripheral decarboxylation → ↓ L-dopa dose and adverse effects.</p>	<p>-Reversibly inhibit COMT.</p> <p>-↑ Efficacy of L-dopa and stabilizes dopamine levels in striatum.</p>	<p>-Selective MAO-B inhibitor → ↓ breakdown of dopamine in the brain</p>	<p>-D2 agonist Derived from ergot alkaloids.</p> <p>-Compared to L-dopa: Faster onset, longer duration, No on-off effect</p>	<p>- ↑ release of dopamine stored in nerve terminals.</p> <p>- ↓ reuptake of released dopamine by the presynaptic neuron.</p> <p>-Weak glutamate NMDA receptor antagonist → ↓ glutamatergic overactivity .</p>	<p>-Selectivity block central M1.</p> <p>-Improve tremors</p> <p>-Little effect on muscle rigidity.</p> <p>Uses</p> <p>-Parkinsonism (less effective than L-dopa)</p> <p>-Drug-induced extrapyramidal side effects (↓ tremors only)</p>
S/E	<p>-GIT: nausea & vomiting</p> <p>-CNS: Mood changes, hallucinations and nightmares</p> <p>-Autonomic: postural hypotension, arrhythmias (β1), mydriasis.</p>					<p>-Aggravation of dementia in patients with Parkinsonism.</p> <p>-Atropine-like action</p>
	<p>-On-off phenomenon</p> <p>-Dyskinesia</p>	<p>Hepatic necrosis (Tolcapone)</p>	<p>Insomnia (Caused by its metabolites)</p>	<p>Pulmonary fibrosis & vasospasm (ergot)</p>	<p>Skin pigmentation (mottled skin): VD of capillaries (Livedo reticularis)</p>	
Pharmacokinetics	<p>-Absorbed rapidly from the small intestine.</p> <p>-Short t1/2 (1-2 h) (may produce on-off phenomenon)</p> <p>-L-dopa absorption reduced by amino acids; take on empty stomach.</p>	—	—	—	—	—

Other Dopamine agonists

Pramipexole

-Not ergot alkaloids.

-Acts as selective D 2-receptor agonists.

-Can **delay the need for levodopa** when used in early stages of PD (younger patient).

-In advanced stages, **reduce the "off" period** and decrease the levodopa dosage requirement.

Apomorphine

-Chemically related to morphine, does not bind to opioid receptors but rather is a dopamine receptor agonist.

-Approved for the **treatment of acute intermittent hypomobility** (freezing) episodes associated with advanced PD (**SC injection**)