

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY

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VOLUME 13

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ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

A.	Ångström unit(s)	A.S.M.E.	American Society of
A	anion; as, HA		Mechanical Engineers
abs.	absolute	A.S.T.M.	American Society for
a.c.	alternating current		Testing Materials
ac-	alicyclic; as, <i>ac</i> -derivatives of tetrahydro-naphthalene	atm.	atmosphere(s), atmos- pheric
A.C.S.	American Chemical So- ciety	at. no.	atomic number
addn.	addition	at. wt.	atomic weight
A.G.A.	American Gas Associ- ation	av.	average
A.I.Ch.E.	American Institute of Chemical Engineers	b. (as, b_H)	boiling (at 11 mm.)
A.I.M.E.	American Institute of Mining and Metal- lurgical Engineers	B	base; as, <i>B.2HCl</i>
alc.	alcohol, alcoholic	bbl.	barrel(s)
alk.	alkaline (not alkali)	Bé.	Baumé
Alk	alkyl	b.p.	boiling point
amp.	ampere(s)	B.t.u.	British thermal unit(s)
amp.-hr.	ampere-hour(s)	bu.	bushel(s)
amt.	amount (noun)	C.	centigrade
anhyd.	anhydrous	C-	denoting attachment to carbon; as, <i>C</i> -alkyl derivatives of aniline
A.P.I.	American Petroleum In- stitute	cal.	calorie(s)
app.	apparatus	calcd.	calculated
approx.	approximate (adj.), ap- proximately	c.f.m.	cubic foot (feet) per minute
aq.	aqueous	cg.	centigram(s)
Ar	aryl	c.g.s.	centimeter-gram-second
ar-	aromatic; as, <i>ar</i> -deriva- tives of tetrahydro- naphthalene	chem.	chemical
as-	asymmetric; as, <i>as-m</i> - xylidine	<i>C.I.</i>	<i>Colour Index</i> no.
ASA	American Standards As- sociation	eks.	centistokes
A.S.M.	American Society for Metals	c.l.	car lots
		cm.	centimeter(s)
		coeff.	coefficient
		com.	commercial
		compd.	compound (noun)
		compn.	composition
		concd.	concentrated
		concn.	concentration
		cond.	conductivity
		const.	constant
		cor.	corrected

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

c.p.	chemically pure	ff.	following (pages)
cps.	centipoise	fl.oz.	fluid ounce(s)
crit.	critical	f.o.b.	free on board
cryst.	crystalline	f.p.	freezing point
crystd.	crystallized	ft.	foot (feet)
crystn.	crystallization	ft.-lb.	foot-pound(s)
cu.	cubic	g.	gram(s)
d (as, d_4^{20})	density (conveniently, specific gravity)	gal.	gallon(s)
d	differential operator	g.p.d.	grams per denier
d-	<i>dextro</i> -, dextrorotatory	g.p.m.	gallons per minute
D-	denoting configurational relationship, as to <i>dex</i> - <i>tro</i> -glyceraldehyde	hp.	horsepower
d.c.	direct current	hr.	hour(s)
dec., decomp.	decompose(s)	hyd.	hydrated, hydrous
decompn.	decomposition	i.	insoluble
deriv.	derivative	i-	inactive; as, <i>i</i> -methio- nine
detd.	determined	i.b.p.	initial boiling point
detn.	determination	I.C.C.	Interstate Commerce Commission
diam.	diameter	I.D.	inner diameter
dielec.	dielectric (adj.)	in.	inch(es)
dil.	dilute	insol.	insoluble
distd.	distilled	I.P.T.	Institute of Petroleum Technologists
distn.	distillation	I.U.	International Unit(s)
DL-, dl-	racemic	I.U.C.,	International Union of Chemistry, Interna- tional Union of Pure and Applied Chem- istry
dm.	decimeter	I.U.P.A.C.	
e	electron	j.	joule
ed.	edition, editor	K.	Kelvin
elec.	electric, electrical	K	dissociation constant
elev.	elevated	Kev	kilo electron volt
e.m.f.	electromotive force	kg.	kilogram(s)
eng.	engineering	kg.-cal.	kilogram-calorie(s)
eq.	equation	kv.	kilovolt(s)
equil.	equilibrium	kv.-amp.	kilovolt-ampere(s)
equiv,	equivalent	kw.	kilowatt(s)
esp.	especially	kw.-hr.	kilowatt-hour(s)
estd.	estimated	l.	liter(s)
estn.	estimation	l-	<i>levo</i> -, levorotatory
e.s.u.	electrostatic unit(s)	L-	denoting configurational relationship, as to <i>levo</i> -glyceraldehyde
e.u.	entropy unit(s)	lb.	pound(s)
e.v.	electron volt(s)	LC ₅₀	concentration lethal to 50% of animals tested
expt.	experiment		
exptl.	experimental		
ext.	extract		
extd.	extracted		
extn.	extraction		
F.	Fahrenheit		
Fedl.	Federal		

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

l.c.l.	less than car lots	N.O.I.B.N.	not otherwise indexed
LD ₅₀	dose lethal to 50% of animals tested	o-	by name
ln	logarithm (natural)	O-	ortho; as, <i>o</i> -xylene
log	logarithm (common)		denoting attachment to oxygen; as, <i>O</i> -acetylhydroxylamine
m.	meter(s)	O.D.	outer diameter
<i>m</i> -	meta; as, <i>m</i> -xylene	oz.	ounce(s)
M	metal	P., pp.	page, pages
<i>M</i>	molar (as applied to concn.; not molal, which is written out)	<i>p</i> -	para; as, <i>p</i> -xylene
ma.	milliampere(s)	pos.	positive (adj.)
manuf.	manufacture	powd.	powdered
manufd.	manufactured	p.p.m.	parts per million
manufg.	manufacturing	ppt.	precipitate
max.	maximum	pptd.	precipitated
M.C.A.	Manufacturing Chemists' Association	pptn.	precipitation
m.c.f.	million cubic feet	prepd.	prepared
m.e., meq.	milliequivalent(s)	prepn.	preparation
mech.	mechanical	Pr. no.	Foreign Prototype no (for dyes)
M.e.v.	million electron volts	p.s.i.(g.), (a.)	pound(s) per square inch (gage), (absolute)
mg.	milligram(s)	pt.	point
m.g.d.	million gallons per day	pts.	parts
min.	minimum; minute(s)	quad. pt.	quadruple point
misc.	miscellaneous	qual.	qualitative
mixt.	mixture	quant.	quantitative
ml.	milliliter(s)	<i>q.v.</i>	"which see"
M.L.D.	minimum lethal dose	R	univalent hydrocarbon radical (or hydrogen)
mm.	millimeter(s)	R.	Rankine
mM	millimole(s)	ref.	reference
mol.	molecule, molecular	resp.	respectively
m.p.	melting point	r.h.	relative humidity
m.p.h.	miles per hour	<i>R.I.</i>	<i>Ring Index</i> no.
M.R.	molar refraction	r.p.m.	revolutions per minute
mv.	millivolt(s)	r.p.s.	revolutions per second
mμ	millimicron(s)	s.	soluble
<i>n</i> (as, <i>n</i> _D ²⁰)	index of refraction (for 20°C. and sodium light)	s-	symmetric(al); as, <i>s-m</i> -xylidine
<i>n</i> -	normal; as, <i>n</i> -butyl	S-	denoting attachment to sulfur; as, <i>S</i> -methylcysteine
<i>N</i>	normal (as applied to concn.)	S.A.E.	Society of Automotive Engineers
<i>N</i> -	denoting attachment to nitrogen; as, <i>N</i> -methylaniline	satd.	saturated
neg.	negative (adj.)	satn.	saturation
no.	number		

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

S.C.F.	standard cubic foot (feet)	t.s.i.	tons per square inch
Sch.	Schultz no. (for dyes)	Twad.	Twaddell
sec.	second(s)	u.v.	ultraviolet
sec-	secondary; as, <i>sec</i> -butyl	v.	volt(s)
S.F.s.	Saybolt Furol second(s)	var.	variety
sl.s.	slightly soluble	vic-	vicinal; as, <i>vic-m</i> -xyli- dine
sol.	soluble	vol.	volume(s) (not volatile)
soln.	solution	v.s.	very soluble
soly.	solubility	w.	watt(s)
sp.	specific	wt.	weight
sp., spp.	species	X.U. (10 ⁻¹⁰ mm.)	X-unit
spec.	specification	yd.	yard(s)
sp.gr.	specific gravity	yr.	year(s)
sq.	square	[α] _D ²⁰	optical rotation (for 20°C. and sodium light)
S.T.P.	standard temperature and pressure	γ	microgram(s)
subl.	sublime(s), subliming	∂	differential operator (partial)
S.U.s.	Saybolt Universal second(s)	Δ	finite difference
<i>sym</i> -	symmetric(al); as, <i>sym</i> - <i>m</i> -xylidine	η	viscosity
T.A.P.P.I.	Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry	λ	wave length
tech.	technical	μ	micron(s)
temp.	temperature	Ω	ohm(s)
<i>tert</i> -	tertiary; as, <i>tert</i> -butyl	<	less than
theoret.	theoretical	>	more than
t.p.h.	tons per hour	~	cycle(s)
		≈	approximately equal to

Other letter symbols may be found in "Standard System of Nomenclature for Chemical Engineering Unit Operations" adopted by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

SHIPPING REGULATIONS

Complete information for the U.S. is given in "Tariff No. 9 Publishing Interstate Commerce Commission Regulations for Transportation of Explosives and Other Dangerous Articles by Land and Water in Rail Freight Service and by Motor Vehicle (Highway) and Water Including Specifications for Shipping Containers," with supplements, issued by H. A. Campbell, Agent, 30 Vesey Street, New York 7, N.Y. (1954). The following terms for labeling explosives and other dangerous articles have been used in the Encyclopedia:

- Red label (for inflammable liquids)
- Yellow label (for inflammable solids and oxidizing materials)
- White label (for acids and corrosive liquids)
- Red label (for inflammable compressed gases)
- Green label (for noninflammable compressed gases)
- N.O.I.B.N. (not otherwise indexed by name)

In the text of the Encyclopedia the preferred terms "flammable" and "nonflammable" are used in place of "inflammable" and "noninflammable," respectively.

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PERIODICAL ABBREVIATIONS

The abbreviations used are, for the most part, those given in the "List of Periodicals Abstracted by Chemical Abstracts" (Vol. 45, No. 24, Pt. 2 (1951), also published separately). See also *Literature (survey)*, especially the sections on "Reviews, yearbooks, and monographs" and "Periodicals," Vol. 8, pp. 437-40.

<i>Am. Soc. Testing Materials, Proc.</i>	American Society for Testing Materials, Proceedings
<i>Anal. Chem.</i> (superseding <i>Ind. Eng. Chem., Anal. Ed.</i>)	Analytical Chemistry
<i>Angew. Chem.</i> (superseding <i>Die Chemie; Z. angew. Chem.</i>)	Angewandte Chemie
<i>Ann. Chem., Justus Liebig's</i>	Annalen der Chemie, Justus Liebig's
<i>Arch. Biochem. and Biophys.</i> (superseding <i>Arch. Biochem.</i>)	Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics
<i>Arch. Ind. Hyg. and Occupational Med.</i> (superseding <i>J. Ind. Hyg. Toxicol.</i>)	Archives of Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Medicine
<i>Biochem. J. (London)</i>	Biochemical Journal, The
<i>Biochem. Z.</i>	Biochemische Zeitschrift
<i>Biochim. et Biophys. Acta</i>	Biochimica et Biophysica Acta
<i>BIOS Repts.</i>	British Intelligence Objectives Subcommittee Reports
<i>Bull. Chem. Soc. Japan</i>	Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan
<i>Bull. soc. chim. or Bull. soc. chim. France C.A.</i>	Bulletin de la société chimique de France
<i>Can. J. Research</i>	Chemical Abstracts
<i>Chem. Ber.</i> (superseding <i>Ber.</i>)	Canadian Journal of Research
<i>Chem. Eng.</i> (superseding <i>Chem. & Met. Eng.</i>)	Chemische Berichte
<i>Chem. Eng. News</i> (superseding <i>News Ed. (Am. Chem. Soc.); Ind. Eng. Chem., News Ed.</i>)	Chemical Engineering with Chemical & Metallurgical Engineering
<i>Chem. Eng. Progress</i> (superseding <i>Trans. Am. Inst. Chem. Engrs.</i>)	Chemical and Engineering News
<i>Chem. Eng. Science</i>	
<i>Chemische Industrie</i>	Chemical Engineering Progress with Transactions of American Institute of Chemical Engineers
<i>Chemistry & Industry</i> (formerly part of <i>J. Soc. Chem. Ind.</i>)	Chemical Engineering Science
<i>Chem. Revs.</i>	Chemische Industrie
<i>Chem. Tech. (Berlin)</i> (superseding <i>Chem. Fabrik</i>)	Chemistry & Industry
<i>Chem. Week</i> (superseding <i>Chem. Inds. Week</i>)	
<i>Chem. Zentr.</i>	Chemical Reviews
<i>Chem.-Ztg.</i>	Chemische Technik, Die (Berlin)
<i>Chimica e industria (Italy)</i> or <i>Chimica e industria (Milan)</i>	Chemical Week
<i>Chimie & industrie</i>	Chemisches Zentralblatt
<i>CIOS Repts.</i>	Chemiker-Zeitung mit dem Sonderteil, Die Chemische Praxis und der Beilage, Chemisch-technische Übersicht
<i>Compt. rend.</i>	Chimica, La, e l'industria (Italy) or (Milan)
<i>FIAT Repts.</i>	Chimie & industrie
<i>Fortschr. chem. Forsch.</i>	Combined Intelligence Objectives Subcommittee Reports
<i>Gazz. chim. ital.</i>	Comptes rendus hebdomadaires des séances de l'Académie des sciences
<i>Helv. Chim. Acta</i>	Field Information Agency Technical Reports
	Fortschritte der chemischen Forschung
	Gazzetta chimica italiana
	Helvetica Chimica Acta

PERIODICAL ABBREVIATIONS

Ind. Chemist
Ind. Eng. Chem. (superseding *J. Ind. Eng. Chem.*)

J. Agr. Food Chem.
J. Am. Chem. Soc.
J. Am. Med. Assoc.
J. Am. Pharm. Assoc.
J. Appl. Chem. (U.S.S.R.) (see also *Zhur. Priklad. Khim.*)
J. Appl. Phys. (superseding *Physics*)
J. Assoc. Offic. Agr. Chemists

J. Biol. Chem.
J. Chem. Phys.
J. Chem. Soc.
J. Colloid Sci.
J. Electrochem. Soc. (superseding *Trans. Electrochem. Soc.*; *Trans. Am. Electrochem. Soc.*)
J. Gen. Chem. (U.S.S.R.) (see also *Zhur. Obshchei Khim.*)
J. Indian Chem. Soc.
J. Inst. Metals

J. makromol. Chem. (superseding *J. prakt. Chem.*)
J. Org. Chem.
J. Phys. Chem. (superseding *J. Phys. & Colloid Chem.*)
J. Polymer Sci. (superseding *J. Polymer Research*)
J. Research Natl. Bur. Standards (superseding *Bur. Standards J. Research*)
J. Sci. Food Agr.
J. Soc. Chem. Ind. or J. Soc. Chem. Ind. (London) (formerly containing *Chemistry & Industry*)
J. Soc. Chem. Ind., Japan
Kolloid-Z.
Mfg. Chemist

Monatsh. Chem.

Nature
Nucleonics
Office Tech. Services (OTS) Repts. (superseding *Office Publication Board Repts.*)
Oil, Paint Drug Reprtr.
Phys. Rev.
Rec. trav. chim.
Research (London)
Revs. Mod. Phys.
Science
Trans. Am. Inst. Mining Met. Engrs.

Trans. Am. Soc. Metals (superseding *Trans. Am. Soc. Steel Treating*)
Trans. Inst. Chem. Engrs. (London)

Z. anorg. u. allgem. Chem. (superseding *Z. anorg. Chem.*)
Z. Elektrochem.

Zhur. Obshchei Khim.

Zhur. Priklad. Khim.

Z. physik. Chem.

Industrial Chemist and Chemical Manufacturer, The
Industrial and Engineering Chemistry

Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry
Journal of the American Chemical Society, The
Journal of the American Medical Association, The
Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association
Journal of Applied Chemistry (U.S.S.R.)

Journal of Applied Physics
Journal of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists
Journal of Biological Chemistry, The
Journal of Chemical Physics, The
Journal of the Chemical Society (London)
Journal of Colloid Science
Journal of the Electrochemical Society

Journal of General Chemistry (U.S.S.R.)

Journal of the Indian Chemical Society
Journal of the Institute of Metals and Metallurgical Abstracts
Journal für makromolekulare Chemie

Journal of Organic Chemistry, The
Journal of Physical Chemistry, The

Journal of Polymer Science

Journal of Research of the National Bureau of Standards
Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture
Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry (London)

Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, Japan
Kolloid-Zeitschrift
Manufacturing Chemist and Pharmaceutical and Fine Chemical Trade Journal Incorporating Manufacturing Perfumer
Monatshefte für Chemie und verwandte Teile anderer Wissenschaften
Nature
Nucleonics
Office of Technical Services Reports

Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter
Physical Review, The
Recueil des travaux chimiques des Pays-Bas
Research, A Journal of Science and Its Applications
Reviews of Modern Physics
Science

Transactions of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers
Transactions of the American Society for Metals

Transactions of the Institution of Chemical Engineers (London)
Zeitschrift für anorganische und allgemeine Chemie

Zeitschrift für Elektrochemie und angewandte physikalische Chemie
Zhurnal Obshchei Khimii (Journal of General Chemistry (U.S.S.R.))
Zhurnal Prikladnoi Khimii (Journal of Applied Chemistry (U.S.S.R.))
Zeitschrift für physikalische Chemie

S *continued*

STILBITE, $(\text{Na}_2, \text{Ca})\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{16} \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$. See *Silica and silicates (mineral)*.

STILLINGIA OIL. See *Fats and fatty oils*, Vol. 6, pp. 144, 147.

STIMULANTS AND DEPRESSANTS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

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See also *Alkaloids; Analgesics and antipyretics; Anesthetics; Antispasmodics; Barbituric acid and barbiturates; Cardiovascular agents; Choline; Emetics and expectorants; Epinephrine; Heterocyclic compounds; Histamine and antihistamine agents; Hypnotics and sedatives; Quaternary ammonium compounds.*

Physiological Considerations

The nervous system of man and all other vertebrates includes both central and peripheral neuron networks. It is usually subdivided into:

- A. Central nervous system
- B. Peripheral nervous system
 1. Somatic or voluntary nervous system
 2. Autonomic or involuntary nervous system
 - a. Sympathetic division
 - b. Parasympathetic division

The *central nervous system* includes the cerebral cortex, brain stem, cerebellum, and spinal cord. All divisions of the peripheral nervous system contain both sensory (*afferent*) and motor (*efferent*) components. The *peripheral somatic nervous system* is composed of efferent nerves to skeletal (voluntary) muscle and afferent connections from superficial and deep receptors. The *autonomic nervous system* consists of efferent nerves, ganglia, and plexuses, which innervate the thoracic and abdominal viscera and widely distributed glands and blood vessels, as well as afferent fibers from most of the same areas.

2 **STIMULANTS AND DEPRESSANTS**

The autonomic nervous system is subdivided into sympathetic and parasympathetic divisions. The *sympathetic division*, including the adrenal medulla, is organized to elicit a diffuse response, whereas the *parasympathetic division* provides for more discrete and limited effects. Efferent pathways of both the sympathetic and the parasympathetic divisions have peripheral synapses and therefore pre- and postganglionic nerve fibers. All preganglionic nerve fibers and most postganglionic parasympathetic fibers are *cholinergic*; that is, they release an acetylcholine-like substance when stimulated. On the other hand, most sympathetic postganglionic fibers are *adrenergic*; that is, they release an epinephrine- or norepinephrine-like substance when stimulated.

In general, but not in all areas, the sympathetic and parasympathetic systems act as physiological antagonists (Table I). If one inhibits a certain function, the other stimulates it, and vice

TABLE I. Responses of Effector Organs to Chemical Mediators.

Organ	Adrenergic	Cholinergic
Heart		
Rate	Increase	Decrease
Output	Increase	Decrease
Blood vessels		
Coronary	Dilatation	Dilatation
Muscle	Dilatation or constriction	Dilatation
Cerebral	Constriction	Dilatation
Skin and visceral	Constriction	Dilatation
Eye		
Iris	Mydriasis	Miosis
Ciliary muscle	—	Stimulation
Skin		
Pilomotor muscles	Stimulation	—
Lung		
Bronchial muscle	Inhibition	Stimulation
Glands	No effect or slight stimulation	Stimulation
Gastrointestinal tract		
Motility and tone	Inhibition	Stimulation
Sphincters	Stimulation	Inhibition
Liver	Glycogenolysis	—
Urinary bladder		
Detrusor	Inhibition	Stimulation
Trigone and sphincter	Stimulation	Inhibition
Autonomic ganglia and adrenal medulla	Inhibition	Stimulation
Skeletal muscle	Facilitation	Stimulation

versa. Many organs are innervated by both systems, and their responses are the algebraic sum of the effects of both. Removing the effects of one system by extirpation or by drug blockade may produce the same response as augmenting the activity of the other. The effects of adrenergic (usually sympathetic) and cholinergic (usually parasympathetic) mediators are summarized in Table I. Responses to sympathetic and parasympathetic nerve stimulation are similar to those listed, but some organs, such as most blood vessels, are not innervated by parasympathetic fibers. (See also 3,4.)

From a functional point of view, the rigid anatomical division of the nervous system into central and peripheral components is artificial. Any voluntary movement involves neurons of the cerebral cortex which send axons down the brain stem and spinal cord to synapse with motor horn cells. The axons of these motor neurons then pass through peripheral somatic nerves to innervate skeletal muscles which execute the desired movement. Likewise most autonomic nervous system activity is dependent upon connections with many parts of the brain and spinal cord.

Drugs may act at many different sites within the nervous system. They may facilitate or inhibit transmission along nerve cells or across their junctions, and either stimulate or depress effector cells in such a way as to mimic increased or decreased nervous activity. An agent may be depressant

TABLE II. Examples of Drugs Affecting the Nervous System.

Primary site of action	Stimulants	Depressants ^a
Central nervous system	Picrotoxin Pentylenetetrazol Nikethamide Sympathomimetics Carbon dioxide (low concn.) Strychnine Xanthines Camphor Semicarbazides Ammonium ion Fluoroacetate Anticholinesterases Local anesthetics	Ethers Halogenated compounds Hydrocarbons Carbamates (urethan, etc.) Alcohols Barbiturates Ions (bromide, magnesium, etc.) Opiates and related drugs Hydantoins Oxazolidines Phenacetylureas Glycerol derivatives (mephensin, etc.) Benzazoles Ergot alkaloids Carbon dioxide (high concn.) Antihistaminics (diphenhydramine, etc.) Atropine and some other muscarinic blocking agents
Peripheral nervous system		
Nerve fibers	Calcium ion deficiency	Local anesthetics
Sensory receptors	Acetylcholine Histamine	Local anesthetics
Motor endplate	Choline derivatives (low dose) Nicotine (low dose) Anticholinesterases ^b Potassium ion	Choline derivatives (high dose) Nicotine (high dose) Tubocurarine and related alkaloids Synthetic quaternary nitrogen compounds (decamethonium, etc.) Magnesium ion
Autonomic nervous system		
Sensory receptors	Veratrum alkaloids Choline derivatives Nicotine Lobeline Cyanide ion	Ganglionic blocking agents (hexamethonium, etc.)
Motor ganglia	Choline esters and ethers (low dose) Anticholinesterases ^b Nicotine (low dose)	Choline esters (high dose) Sympathomimetics Nicotine (high dose) Tetraethylammonium Hexamethonium, etc. Solanaceous alkaloids Synthetic antispasmodics (atropine, methantheline, etc.)
Effector cells innervated by postganglionic cholinergic nerves	Choline derivatives Anticholinesterases ^b Alkaloids (muscarine, pilocarpine, arecoline)	
Effector cells innervated by postganglionic adrenergic nerves	Phenethylamines Pyrocatechol derivatives Aliphatic and alicyclic amines Some imidazolines	β -Haloalkylamines Some ergot alkaloids Some imidazolines Benzodioxans Yohimbine and other alkaloids

^a Includes blocking agents.^b Act indirectly by inhibiting cholinesterases.

at one level or locus and stimulant at another; for example, morphine depresses the cerebral cortex and respiratory center but augments certain spinal cord reflexes. Likewise autonomic agents such as epinephrine may excite certain effector cells and inhibit others. Excitatory and inhibitory systems interact complexly, both centrally and peripherally. Depression of a central inhibitory system may cause apparent stimulation due to the phenomenon of release; likewise stimulation of an inhibitory system may cause further inhibition. Peripherally, stimulation of carotid sinus pressoreceptors may reflexly depress medullary activity and cause a reduction in blood pressure and inhibition of respiration. It is apparent that any classification of drugs as stimulants or depressants of nervous function is subject to error. Such a classification cannot be accurate unless the locus and mechanism of the action of each drug is known, and this information is rarely available.

The ubiquity of substances which affect the nervous system or simulate alterations in nervous activity by direct actions on effector cells may be seen by inspection of the partial list presented in Table II.

Many of these substances have been described in part in other sections of this Encyclopedia, to which the reader will be referred in the text. As indicated in Table II, many drugs have more than one locus of action. Autonomic agents especially have diverse effects. For example, atropine not only blocks postganglionic parasympathetic responses but also acts on the brain stem. Similarly, epinephrine and its congeners act on effector cells innervated by postganglionic adrenergic nerve fibers and also on several areas of the central nervous system.

In the following sections, agents will be classified on the basis of their most obvious gross pharmacological effects. Most of the compounds discussed are employed as salts. However, the anions involved are of importance only in determining certain physical properties of the products. Consequently the pharmacology and the structure-activity relations of the various compounds will be presented without regard for the specific anions involved. The reader may assume that the discussion is applicable to all salts which are reasonably soluble in aqueous mediums.

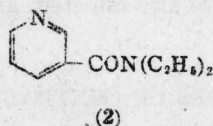
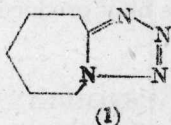
Central Nervous System Stimulants

Many drugs produce excitation of the central nervous system, but relatively few of these are of therapeutic importance. Increased nervous activity induced by drugs is always followed by a period of depression proportional to the previous excitation. Because of this, the more powerful stimulants are used for relatively short periods of time, usually to stimulate the depressed respiratory center in emergencies. These agents are frequently referred to as analeptics because they reduce narcosis. (See 3,35.)

Picrotoxin, U.S.P. XIV, N.N.R., $C_{30}H_{34}O_{13}$, is obtained from the East Indian fish-berry *Anamirta cocculus*. Its chemical structure has not been determined, but it seems to be an equimolecular compound of *picrotoxinin*, $C_{15}H_{16}O_6$, and *picrotin*, $C_{15}H_{18}O_7$; the former is pharmacologically the more active. Picrotoxin is a powerful stimulant of the central nervous system, but even when administered intravenously it acts only after a latency of 10–30 minutes. The metabolic fate of this agent is unknown, but it rapidly leaves the circulation. A portion can be recovered in the urine. The predominant action of therapeutic doses of picrotoxin is stimulation of the respiratory center of the medulla. Larger doses affect cerebral centers and produce clonic convulsions with subsequent depression. Death may result from respiratory failure.

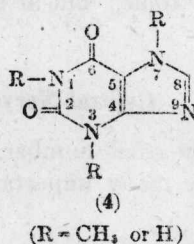
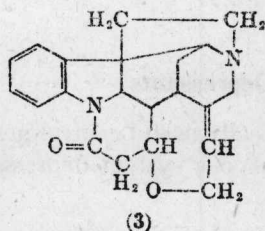
Pentylenetetrazol, U.S.P. XIV (6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-5-azepotetrazole, Metrazol, 1), is another potent central nervous system stimulant. In contrast to picrotoxin, it has a rapid onset of action when administered intravenously. Pentylenetetrazol is rapidly detoxified by the liver, and consequently the duration of action is relatively short; it is only weakly active after oral administration. The drug acts chiefly on

the respiratory center of the medulla but also affects higher brain centers. Subconvulsant doses in certain laboratory animals may produce an electroencephalographic pattern of "spike and dome" waves similar to those seen in petit mal epilepsy. Large doses produce tonic-clonic convulsions.



Nikethamide, U.S.P. XIV, N.N.R. (*N,N*-diethylnicotinamide, Coramine, 2) (see Vol. 9, p. 312) probably produces respiratory stimulation by a direct action on the medulla, although some action via peripheral chemoreceptors has been suggested. It is a less effective respiratory stimulant than are picrotoxin, pentylenetetrazol, or several sympathomimetics (see p. 20). When administered in large doses, it causes excitation of higher motor centers with subsequent convulsions. Postexcitatory depression is pronounced. Nikethamide does not have clinically significant cardiovascular effects, although trade names such as Coramine might imply otherwise. It can substitute for nicotinic acid or nicotinamide in nutritional deficiencies.

Strychnine, N.F. IX, $C_{21}H_{22}N_2O_2$, is the principal alkaloid obtained from seeds of the Indian tree *Strychnos nux vomica*. Its probable structure is as illustrated (3).



Strychnine stimulates all parts of the central nervous system but acts predominantly on the internuncial neurons of the spinal cord. It also depresses reciprocal reflex inhibition. In low doses strychnine increases reflex excitability, but after larger doses coordinated activity is lost and a simultaneous discharge of motor neurons to both flexor and extensor muscles occurs, giving rise to "spinal convulsions." Local application to any portion of the central nervous system causes increased excitability or spontaneous discharge of the part. This response has been used extensively in experiments designed to map out interconnections in the central nervous system.

The **methylated xanthines** (4), **caffeine**, U.S.P. XIV (1,3,7-trimethylxanthine), **theophylline**, U.S.P. XIV (1,3-dimethylxanthine), and **theobromine**, U.S.P. XIV, N. F. IX (3,7-dimethylxanthine), are widely distributed in plants whose aqueous extracts, such as coffee, tea, and cocoa, are used as beverages. (See also Vol. 1, p. 475; *Caffeine*; *Cardiovascular agents*, Vol. 3, p. 221; *Diuretics*, Vol. 5, p. 191.) The popularity of these beverages can be attributed in part to their mild central stimulant actions. Methylated xanthines also have other important pharmacological effects, including cardiac and skeletal muscle stimulation and a diuretic action. The phar-