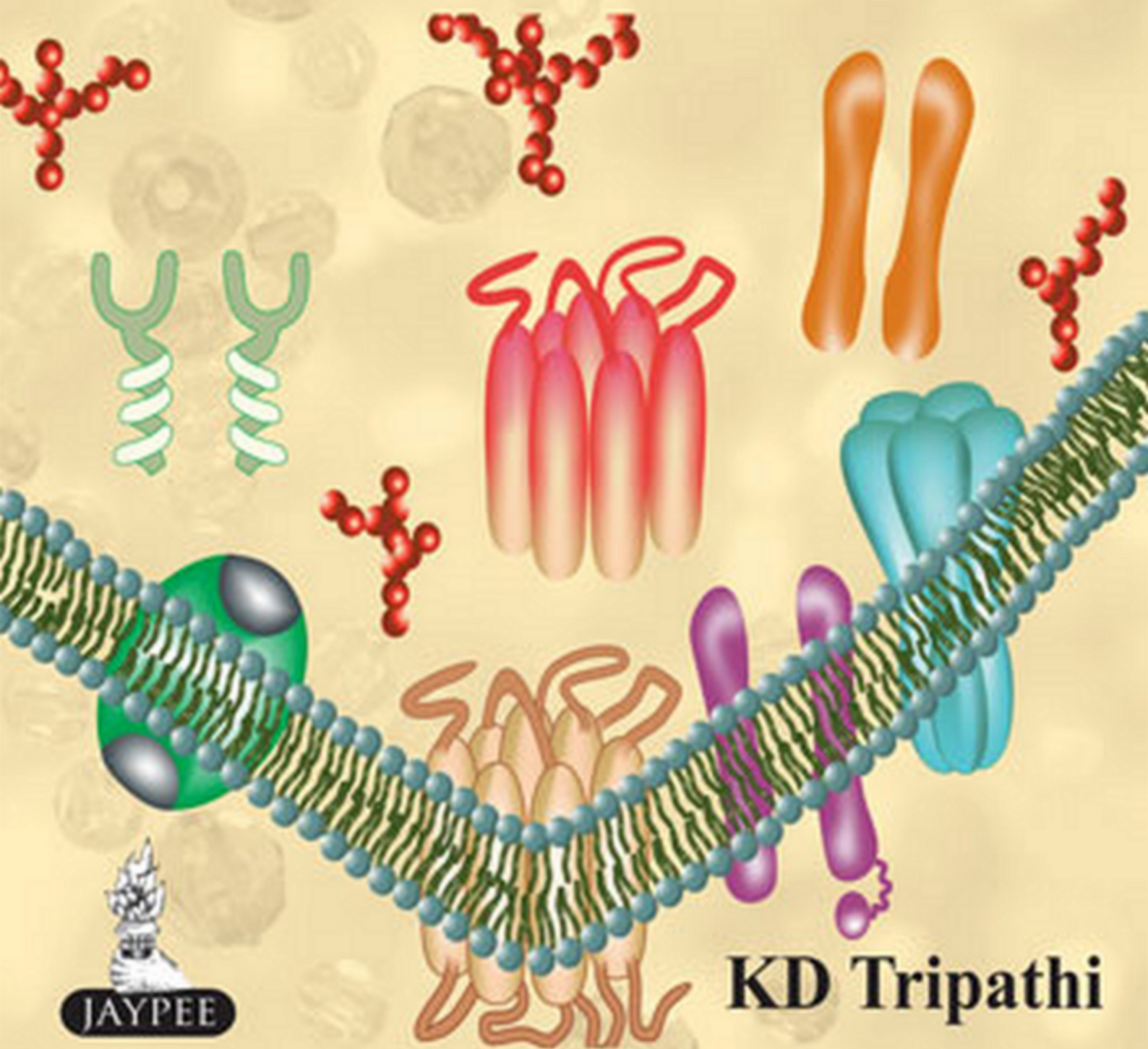


Essentials of MEDICAL PHARMACOLOGY

SEVENTH EDITION



KD Tripathi

**Essentials of
Medical
Pharmacology**

Essentials of Medical Pharmacology

Seventh Edition

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Preface

Medical pharmacology is a unique synthesis of basic pharmacology with clinical pharmacology and pharmacotherapeutics. The subject is highly dynamic. Developments are occurring both in defining molecular targets for drug action and finding targeted drugs, as well as in accruing credible evidence regarding the impact of different treatment modalities on therapeutic outcomes. These efforts have begun to crystallize into evidence based medicine and clear cut therapeutic guidelines. The present edition endeavours to amalgamate the developments with the core content of the subject.

While the primary theme of the book outlined in the preface to the first edition is maintained, the successive editions have become more descriptive and more comprehensive. In preparing this edition, all chapters have been revisited and extensively updated. Latest therapeutic guidelines from authoritative sources like WHO, British National Formulary, National Formulary of India, as well as from eminent professional bodies have been incorporated, especially in areas like hypertension, dyslipidaemias, acute coronary syndromes, surgical prophylaxis, tuberculosis (including MDR-TB), MAC-infection, leprosy, HIV-AIDS, malaria, kala-azar, etc. Recent innovations have been highlighted, notably in antidiabetic drugs, psychopharmacological agents, antiplatelet drugs, treatment of inflammatory bowel disease, drugs affecting renin-angiotensin system, anticoagulants, antiviral (including anti-HIV) drugs, targeted anticancer drugs, etc.

New drugs released in India have been included. Infrequently used drugs and those not available in India are presented briefly in extract type. Important points are summarized in boxes. Use of distinctive headings in a hierarchical order makes the text highly systematic. Representative trade names of drugs with available dosage forms are mentioned. Due emphasis is given to diseases prevalent in India and similar tropical countries, alongwith their current drug therapy.

The most important objective of medical pharmacology is to train medical students in therapeutic decision making according to specific clinical problems in individual patients. A new feature 'problem directed study' has been included at the end of majority of chapters to give an exercise in therapeutic decision making for a realistic clinical scenario. The solutions provided in Appendix-1 explain how rational decisions could be arrived at.

I thank students and other readers of this text for their valuable feedback and suggestions. All credit for existence of this book, especially the present edition, goes to Mr. Jitendar Pal Vij, the untiring Group Chairman and Mr. Ankit Vij (Managing Director) of M/s Jaypee Brothers. Meticulous typesetting by Ms. Sunita Katla and proof reading by Ms. Geeta Srivastava deserves special mention. Credit for improving the illustrations goes to Mr. Manoj Pahuja. The cooperation and editorial management of my wife is acknowledged.

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