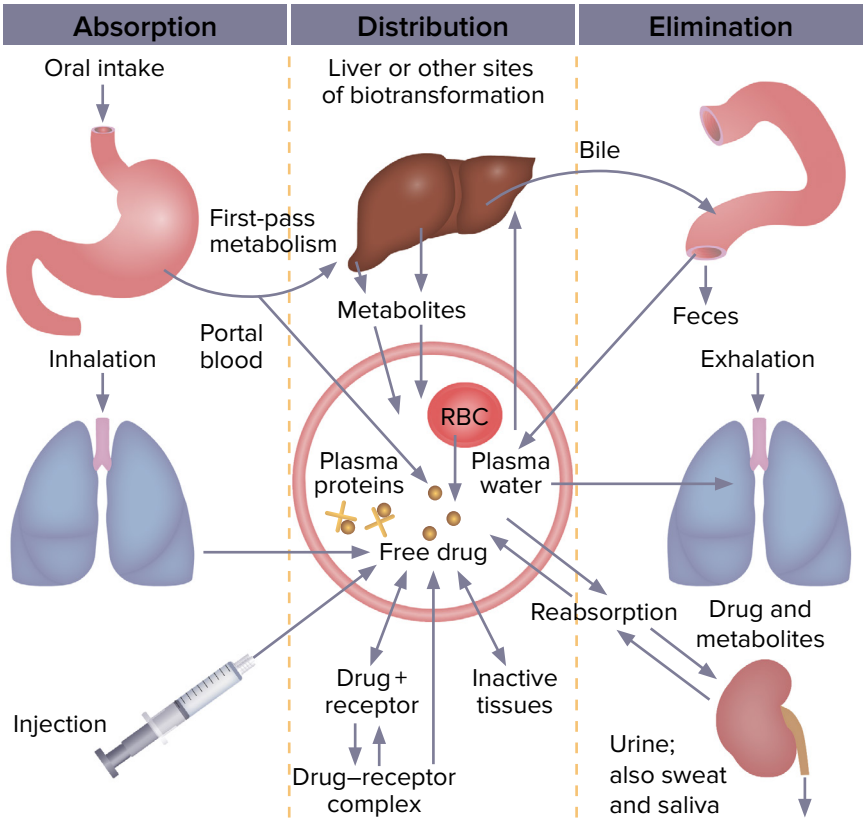
BASIC OVERVIEW OF PHARMACOLOGY

Pharmacology is the study of medicines and drugs, including their action, their use, and their effects on the body. It includes knowledge of physiology, biochemistry, and molecular biology.

Pharmacokinetics



General Drug Categories

- Analgesics
- Antacid
- Anxiolytics
- Antiarrhythmics
- Anti-infectives
- Antibiotics
- Anticonvulsants
- Antidepressants
- Antidiarrheals
- Antiemetics
- Antifungals
- Anticoagulants
- Antihistamines
- Antihypertensives
- Anti-inflammatories
- Antineoplastics
- Antipsychotics
- Antipyretics
- Antivirals
- Barbiturates
- Benzodiazepines
- Beta blockers
- Bronchodilators
- Corticosteroids
- Cough suppressants
- Cytotoxics
- Decongestants
- Diuretics
- Expectorants
- Hormones
- Hypoglycemics
- Immunosuppressives
- Laxatives
- Muscle relaxants
- Vitamins

Divisions of Pharmacology

1. **Pharmacokinetics:** movement of the drug within the body, how the body acts on the drug, including absorption, bioavailability, distribution to tissues, metabolism, and excretion
2. **Pharmacodynamics:** involves receptor binding, postreceptor effects, and chemical interactions; determines the onset, duration, and intensity of a drug's effect
3. **Pharmacotherapeutics:** Therapeutic action of a drug is the effect or reaction of such drug on biological tissue, including beyond the desired action of the drug.
4. **Chemotherapy:** use of chemicals to destroy fast growing cells within the body, used for treatment of cancer and cancerous tumors
5. **Toxicology:** study of harmful effects of chemical substances on living tissue; predicting how such chemicals may cause harm; study of poisons
6. **Clinical pharmacology:** study of medications in humans and their effects

NOTES