

A 3D molecular model of a ribosome, showing the large and small subunits. A prominent green helical structure, likely the Shine-Dalgarno sequence, is shown interacting with the small subunit. Two large purple clusters represent the ribosomal subunits. The background is a soft, green, out-of-focus field.

# Aminoglycosides

1



# Antibiotics inhibit protein synthesis

- ▶ Proteins are super-important molecules and their sequences represent the information encoded in the DNA.
- ▶ The reading of the information from DNA, formation of the message (mRNA) and the translation of message to protein (by ribosomes) represents targets for inhibiting protein synthesis.
- ▶ Inhibition of protein synthesis is usually fatal for cells (bactericidal)
- ▶ How to achieve selectivity toward bacterial cells for antibiotics that inhibition protein synthesis?
  - ▶ Different diffusion rates between bacterial and mammalian cells.
  - ▶ Structural differences between bacterial and mammalian ribosomes

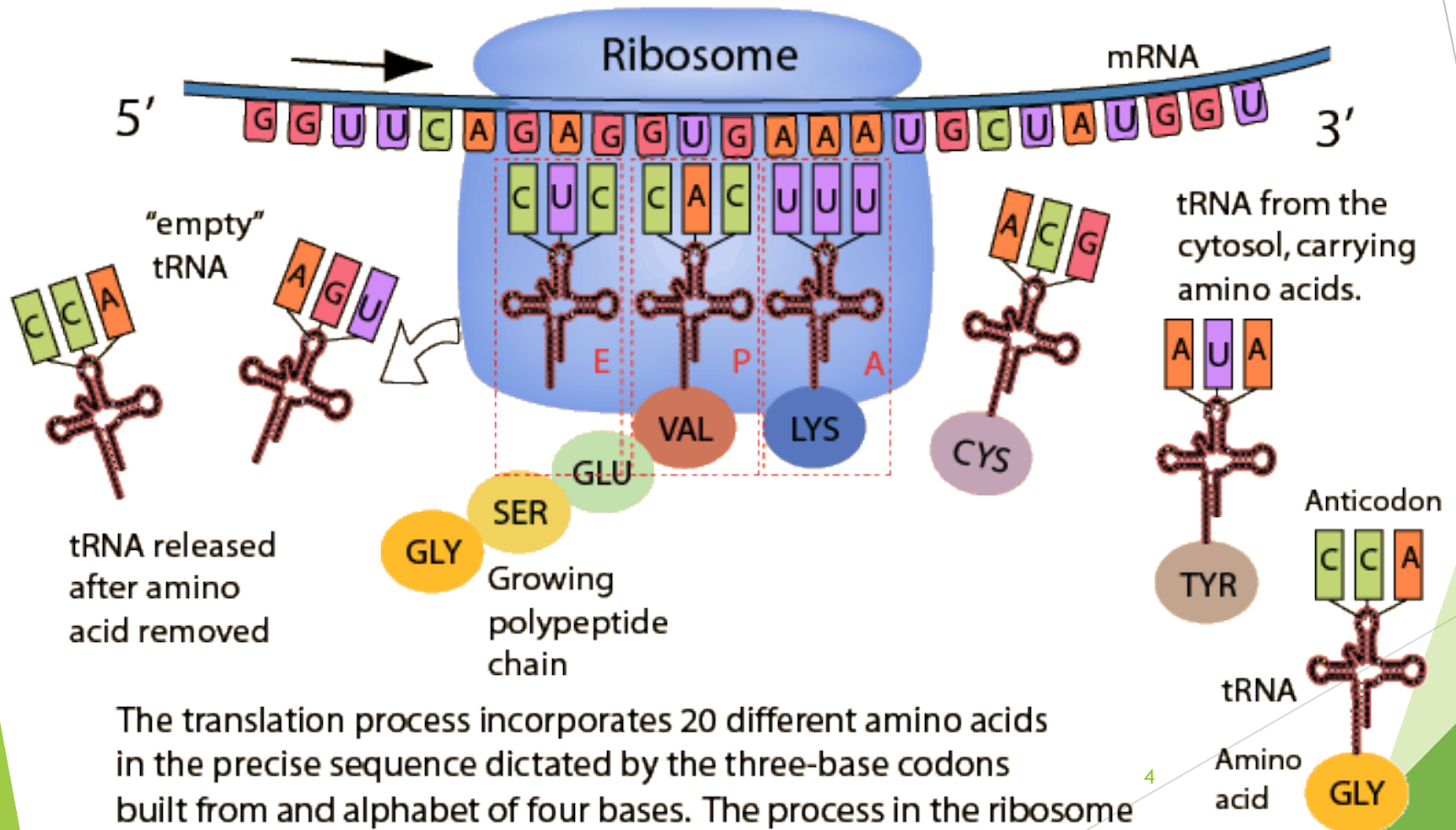


- ▶ Bacterial protein synthesis can be divided into four phases:
  - ▶ **Initiation:** where a functionally competent ribosome is assembled in the correct place on an mRNA ready to commence protein synthesis.
  - ▶ **Elongation:** whereby the correct amino acid is brought to the ribosome, is joined to the nascent polypeptide chain, and the entire assembly moves one position along the mRNA.
  - ▶ **Termination:** which happens when a stop codon is reached, there is no amino acid to be incorporated and the newly-synthesized polypeptide is released from the ribosome.
  - ▶ **Disassembly:** whereby a special factor binds to the ribosome so that it can release the mRNA and tRNA that is still bound to it and so that it can be recycled in another round of protein synthesis.



# Steps for protein synthesis within ribosome

- ▶ Eukaryotic ribosome is bigger 80S (60S+40S)

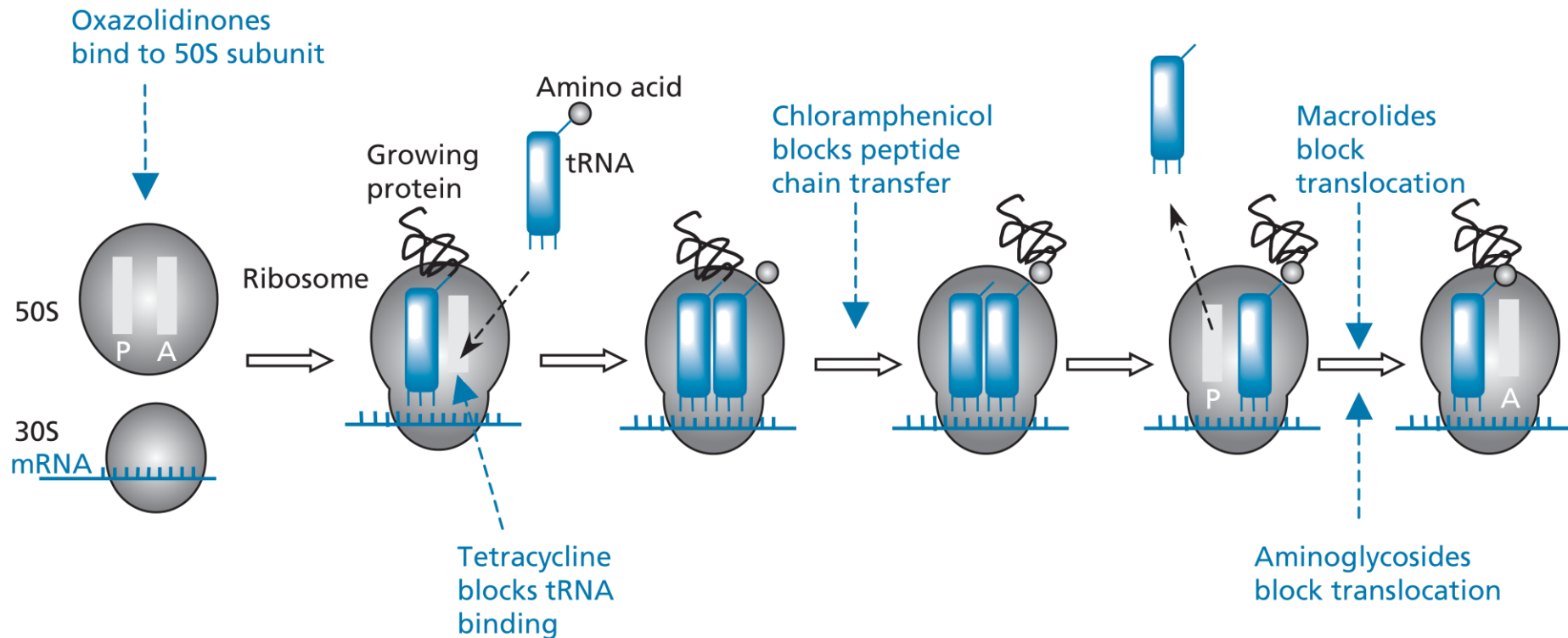


The translation process incorporates 20 different amino acids in the precise sequence dictated by the three-base codons built from an alphabet of four bases. The process in the ribosome builds the polypeptide chains that will become proteins.



# Antibiotics inhibits the ribosome function

- ▶ The bacterial ribosome is a 70S particle (30S subunit + 50S subunit)
- ▶ 30S binds mRNA and initiates protein synthesis
- ▶ 50S binds aminoacyl tRNA and catalyze peptide bond formation.

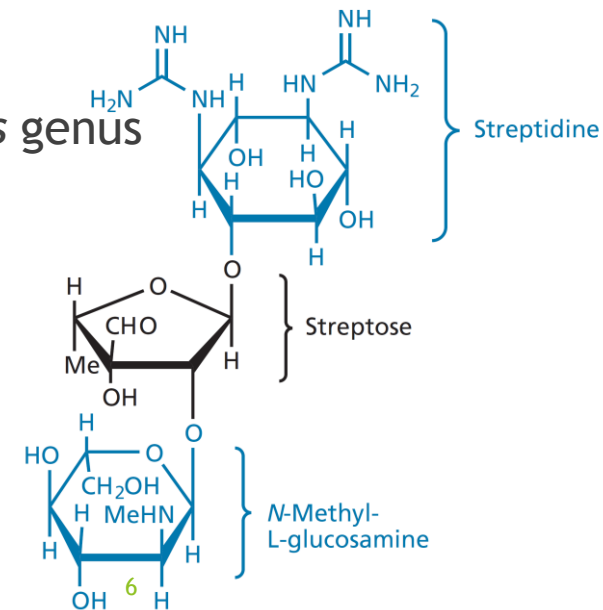
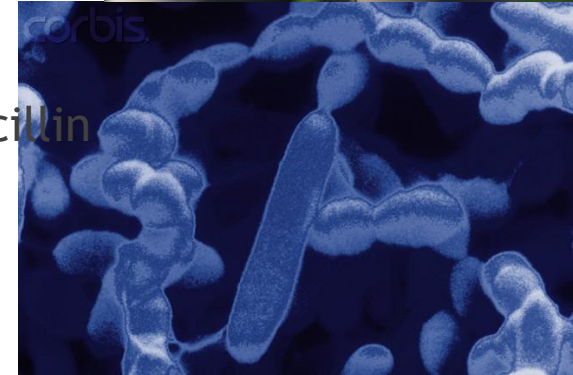


**FIGURE 19.64** Stages at which antibacterial agents inhibit translation.



# Aminoglycosides

- ▶ Isolated from Soil bacteria *Streptomyces griseus* in 1944.
- ▶ It is aminoglycoside (carbohydrate + amine).
- ▶ The next important antibiotic discovered after penicillin
- ▶ Best work at alkaline pH → +ve charge →  
↑ absorption through outer membrane of Gram-ve
- ▶ Binds to 30S subunit of ribosome
- ▶ Used to treat aerobic Gram -ve bacteria
- ▶ Other aminoglycosides isolated from *Streptomyces* genus include —kanamycin, neomycin, paromomycin, gentamicin, tobramycin and Spectinomycin (the latter is different chemically and microbiologically)
- ▶ Sisomicin, and amikacin are semisynthetic aminoglycoside



Streptomycin (from *Streptomyces griseus*)



# Aminoglycosides (Cont.)

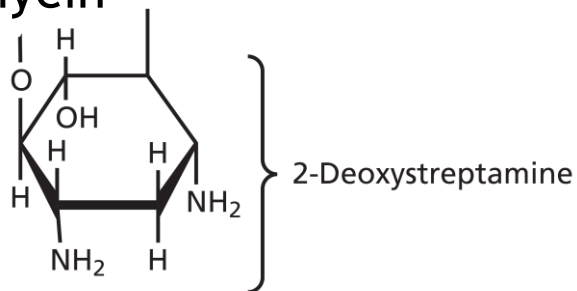
- ▶ Poor absorption (<1%), Kanamycin, Neomycin and Paromycin used for treatment of GIT infections
- ▶ Cause ototoxicity and nephrotoxicity if used systematically



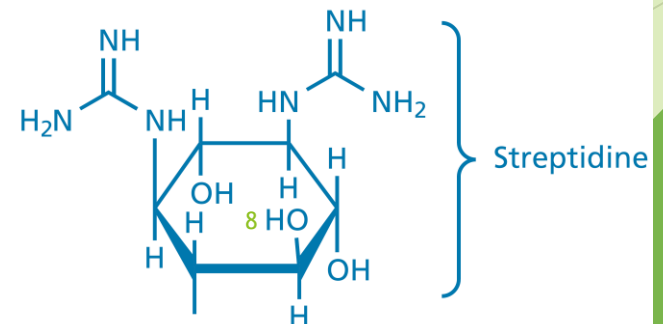
# Chemistry

- ▶ Named aminoglycosides: aminosugars and aminocyclitols linked glycosidically.
- ▶ Aminoglycosides usually composed of 3 rings, but sometimes 4 such as in neomycin and paromomycin
- ▶ Aminoglycosides rings are:
  1. At least 1 aminohexose and may have pentose (without amine) e.g. streptomycin, neomycin and paromomycin
  2. A highly substituted 1,3-diaminocyclohexane central ring:

**Deoxystreptamine** in kanamycin, neomycin, gentamicin and tobramycin

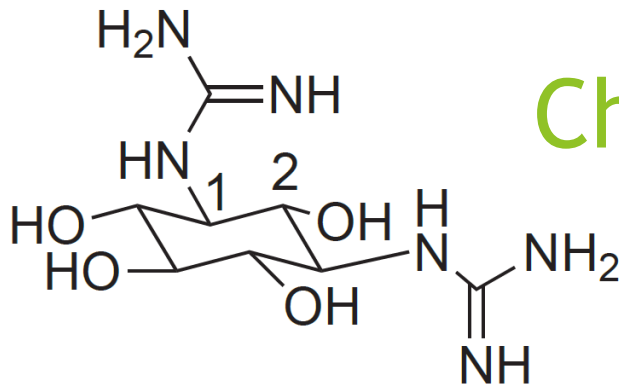


**Streptidine** in streptomycin

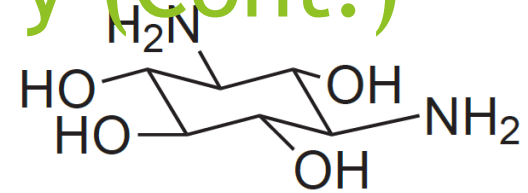




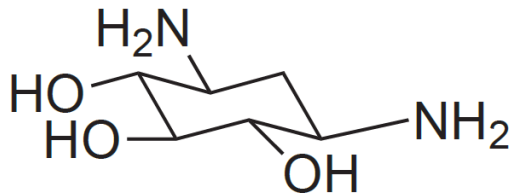
## Chemistry (Cont.)



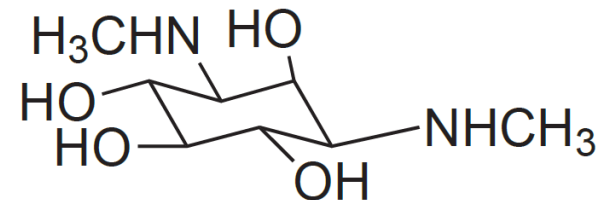
N<sup>1</sup>,N<sup>3</sup>-bis(aminoimino-methyl)streptamine



Streptamine



2-Deoxystreptamine



Spectinamine

**FIGURE 33.25** 1,3-Diaminoinositol moieties present in aminoglycosides.



# Chemistry (Cont.)

- ▶ Strong basic exist as polycations at physiological pH
- ▶ Their inorganic acid salts (e.g. sulfates) are very water soluble at all pH values
- ▶ Due to the polarity, they distribute well into most body fluids but **NOT** to CNS, bone, fatty and connective tissues.
- ▶ Concentrated in kidney, excreted by glomerular filtration and not metabolized *in vivo*
- ▶ Their aqueous solution is stable for autocalving
- ▶ chemistry, spectrum, potency, toxicity, and pharmacokinetics of these agents are a function of the specific identity of the diaminocyclitol and arrangement and identity of the attachments.



**Aminoglycoside  
(AGL)**

**Streptomyces  
Suffix -mycin**

**Micromonospora  
Suffix -micin**

**Streptomycin**

**Paromomycin**

**Gentamicin**

**Amikacin**

**Neomycin**

**Tobramycin**

**Netilmicin**



# Chemistry (Cont.)

## Aminoglycosides Structure

Amino sugar -o- 2-deoxystreptamine -o- Amino sugar

## Streptomycin structure

Streptidine

-o-

Streptose  
amino sugar

-o-

N-Methyl-L  
glucosamine  
amino sugar

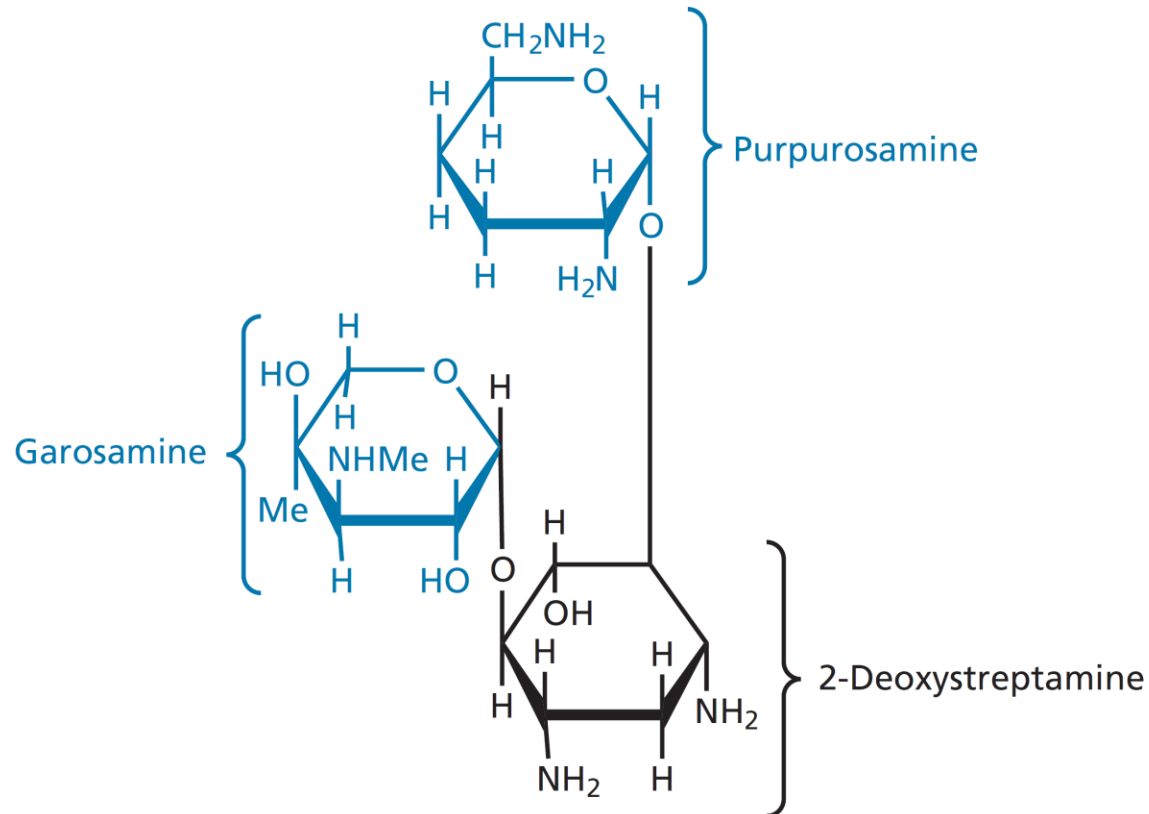
Streptobiosamine<sup>12</sup>



# Chemistry

## Aminoglycosides Structure

Amino sugar -o- 2-deoxystreptamine -o- Amino sugar



Gentamicin C1a



# Chemistry

## Streptomycin structure

Streptidine

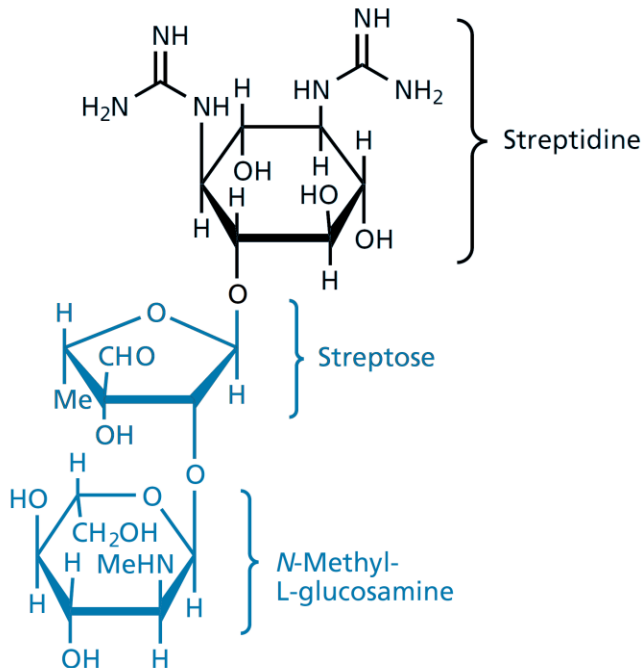


Streptose  
amino sugar



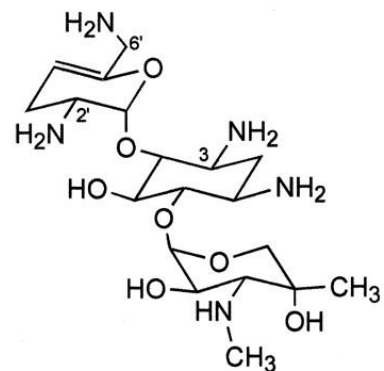
N-Methyl-L  
glucosamine  
amino sugar

Streptobiosamine

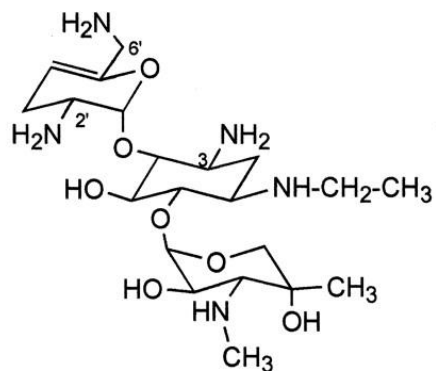


Streptomycin (from *Streptomyces griseus*)

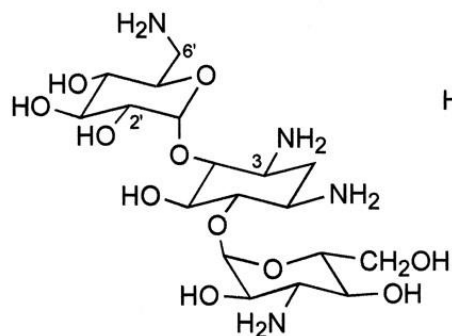




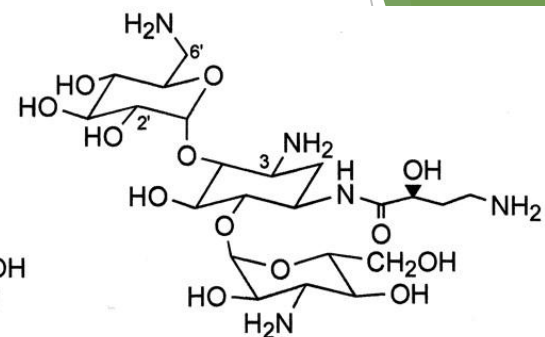
Sisomicin



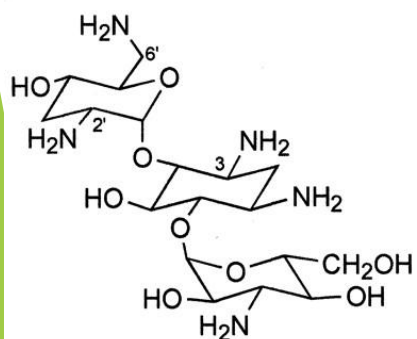
Netilmicin



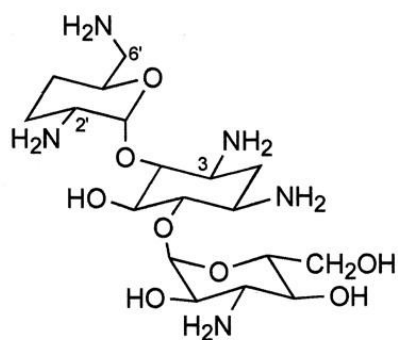
Kanamycin A



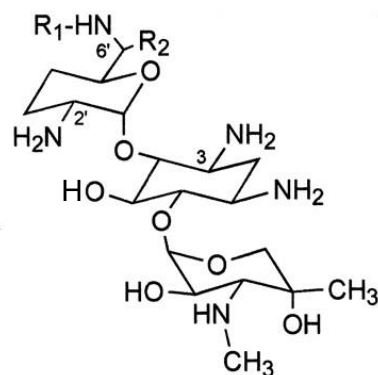
Amikacin



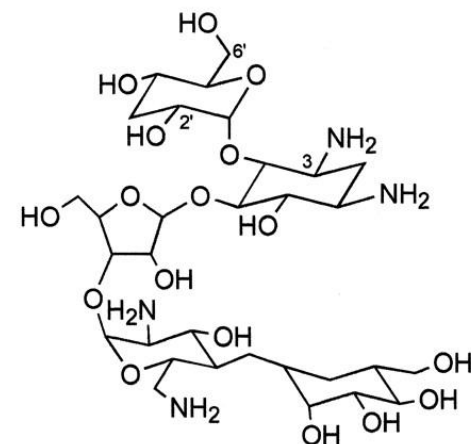
Tobramycin



Dibekacin



Gentamicin  
Complex



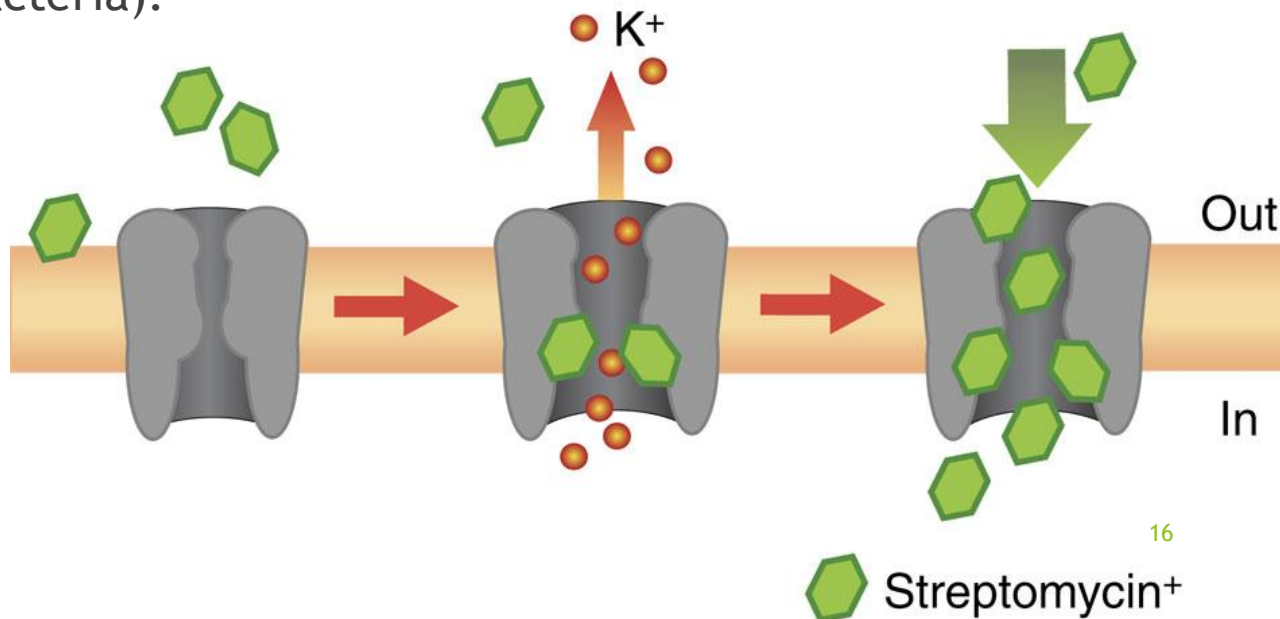
Lividomycin A

C<sub>1</sub>: R<sub>1</sub> = R<sub>2</sub> = CH<sub>3</sub>  
C<sub>1a</sub>: R<sub>1</sub> = R<sub>2</sub> = H  
C<sub>2</sub>: R<sub>1</sub> = H, R<sub>2</sub> = CH<sub>3</sub>



# Entrance of aminoglycosides into bacterial cell

- ▶ Aminoglycosides are highly polar
- ▶ Aminoglycosides bind initially to external lipopolysaccharides and diffuse into the cells in small amounts.
- ▶ The uptake process is inhibited by  $\text{Ca}^{+2}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{+2}$  ions. These ions are, then, partially incompatible therapeutically.
- ▶ Passage through the cytoplasmic membrane is dependent on respiration-driven active-transport (which is absent in anaerobic bacteria).





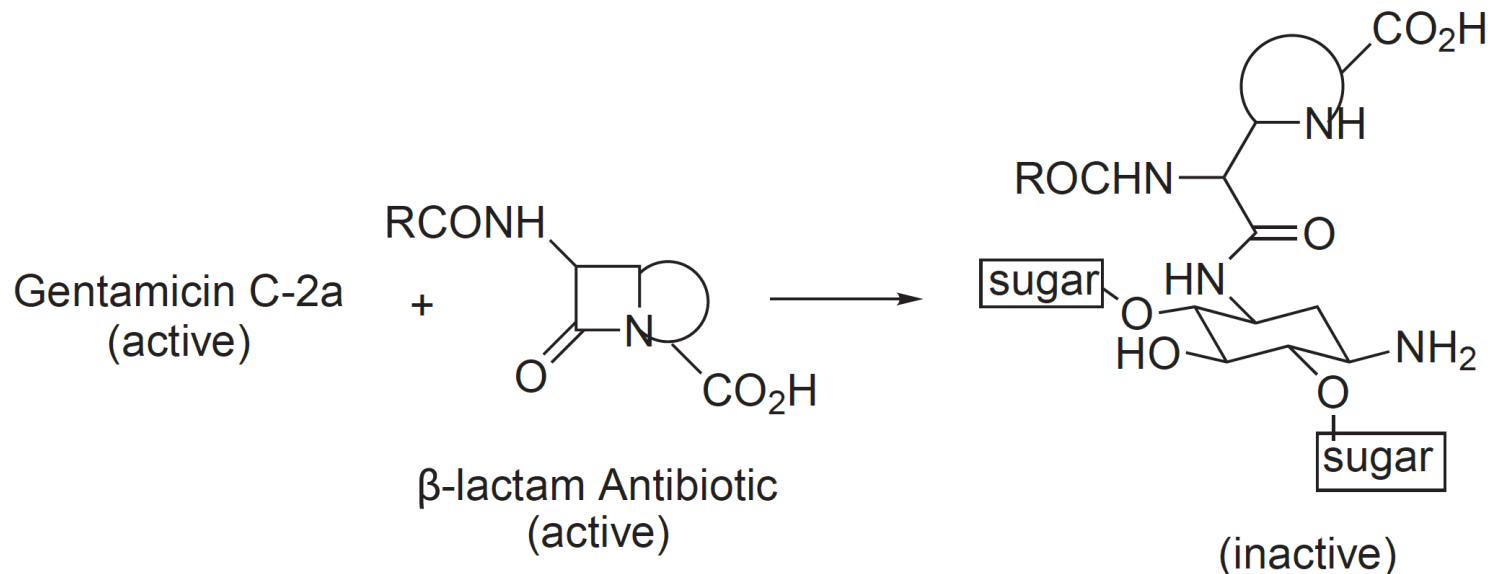
# Spectrum of activity

- ▶ Active against aerobic Gram-ve bacilli
- ▶ Less active against aerobic Gram-ve and Gram+ve cocci than  $\beta$ -lactams
- ▶ Inactive against anaerobic bacteria (because aminoglycosides need oxygen dependent transport system to get inside the cell).
- ▶ The commonly used combinations:  
Aminoglycosides +  $\beta$ -lactams = synergism  
(*damaged cell wall increases penetration of aminoglycosides*)  
AG+Pen are **INCOMPATIBLE**  
if mixed in same syringe
  - ▶ Carbenicillin + Gentamicin.
  - ▶ Penicillin G + streptomycin for Enterococci infections (endocarditis).
- ▶ Have good activity against *P. aeruginosa* especially in combination with penicillins.
- ▶ Some are widely used for skin and eye infections for local antibacterial actions such as neomycin and Gentamicin.
- ▶ Some are used for GIT infections such as paromomycin and tobramycin.



# Incompatibility of AG + Pen

- Aminoglycosides are incompatible with certain  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics. The two drugs react with each other. For example *N*-acylation on C-1 of gentamicin takes place by the  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotic, thus inactivating both antibiotics



**FIGURE 33.27** A chemical drug–drug incompatibility between gentamicin C-2a and  $\beta$ -lactams.



# Mechanism of action

- ▶ Bind to 30S subunit of bacterial ribosome, thus
  - inhibit the initiation of protein synthesis
  - inhibit fidelity of translation of genetic message → wrong protein
- ▶ Deoxystreptamine-containing aminoglycosides (misreading at low doses and inhibition of initiation at high doses)
- ▶ Streptomycin-containing aminoglycosides (misreading and inhibition of initiation)
- ▶ Spectinomycin (inhibition of initiation only)
- ▶ All aminoglycosides are bacteriostatic (at lower dose) and bactericidal at higher dose, except spectinomycin which is only bacteriostatic.
- ▶ At high concentrations, eukaryotic protein biosynthesis can also be inhibited



# Resistance

- ▶ Bacteria has two major resistant mechanisms to aminoglycosides:
  1. Mutation at energy dependent transport system which affects aminoglycosides uptake by the cell (e.g. *Ps. Aeruginosa*)
  2. Mutation at the ribosomal 30S subunit
  3. Inactivating aminoglycosides by changing the chemical structure, especially the essential functional groups for activity.
- ▶ Mainly in enterobacteriaceae family of bacteria
- ▶ Some strains are resistant to streptomycin, kanamycin and gentamycin
- ▶ Resistant strain produce enzymes that modify aminoglycosides' terminal amines and hydroxyls by acetylation, phosphorelation or adenylation
- ▶ The sensitivity of an aminoglycoside to inactivating enzymes affects the spectrum of its antibacterial activity.



# Resistance (Cont.)

the most important cause of resistance is enzymically catalyzed inactivation of aminoglycosides. More than 50 aminoglycoside-inactivating enzymes have been reported, however all catalyze only three major types of reactions:

1. **N-Acetylation** of vulnerable amino groups using acetyl coenzyme A as the acetyl donor. The N-acetyl transferases comprise the largest group of aminoglycoside-inactivating enzymes.
2. **O-Adenylylation** involving the transfer of an AMP residue from ATP to certain hydroxyl groups. The O-adenylyl transferases form the smallest group of aminoglycoside-inactivating enzymes.
3. **O-Phosphorylation** of hydroxyl groups with ATP acting as the phosphate donor.



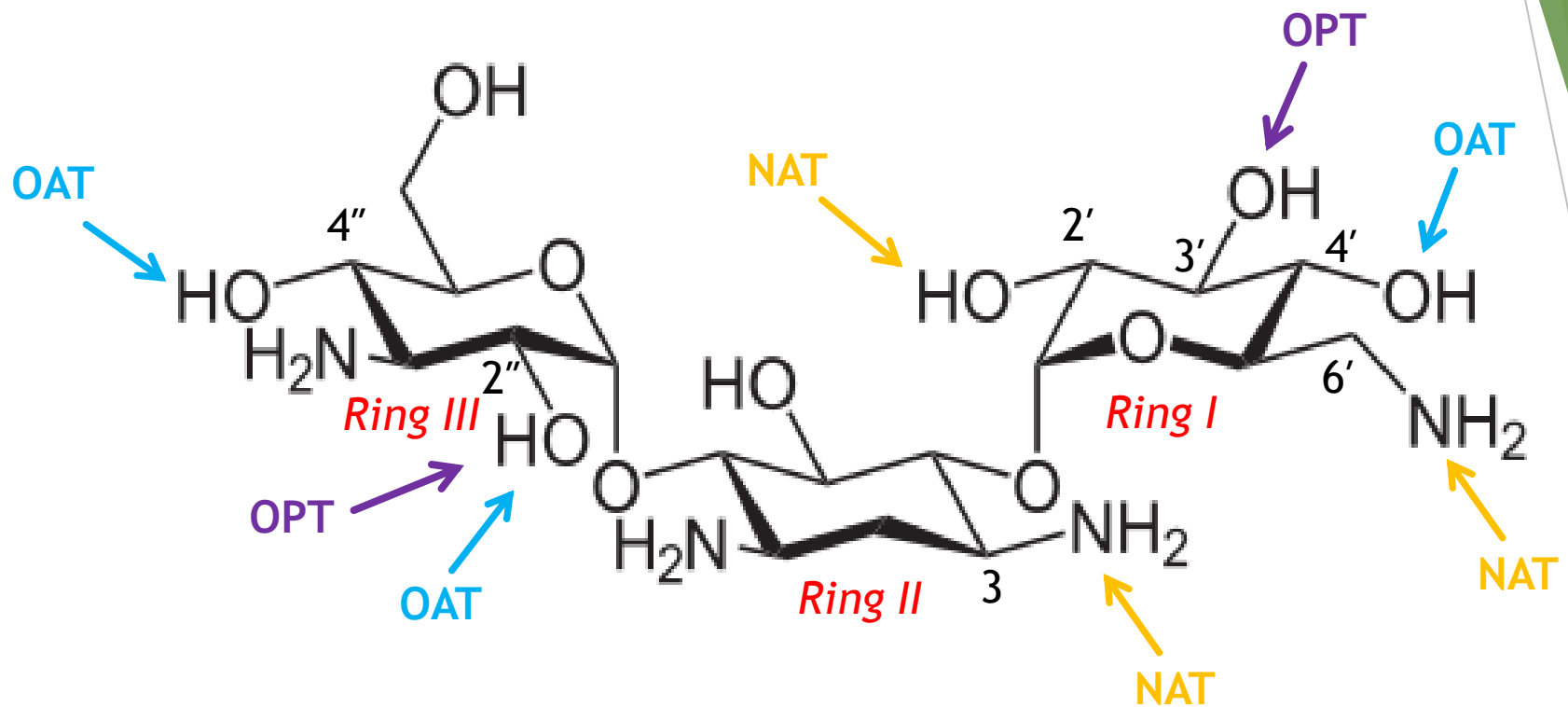
# Resistance (Cont.)

Aminoglycoside-inactivating enzymes include:

- a) **N-acetyl transferases (NAT)** which acetylates:
  - 6'-NH<sub>2</sub> of Ring I
  - 3-NH<sub>2</sub> of Ring II
  - 2'-NH<sub>2</sub> of Ring I
  
- b) **O-Phosphoryl transferases (OPT)**: which phosphorylates
  - 3'-OH of Ring I
  - 2''-OH of Ring III
  
- c) **O-Adenylyl transferases (OAT)**: which adenylylates
  - 2''-OH of Ring III
  - 4'-OH of Ring I
  - 4''-OH of Ring III



# Resistance (Cont.)



**NAT** → 6', 3 and 2' amines

**OPT** → 3' and 2'' hydroxyls

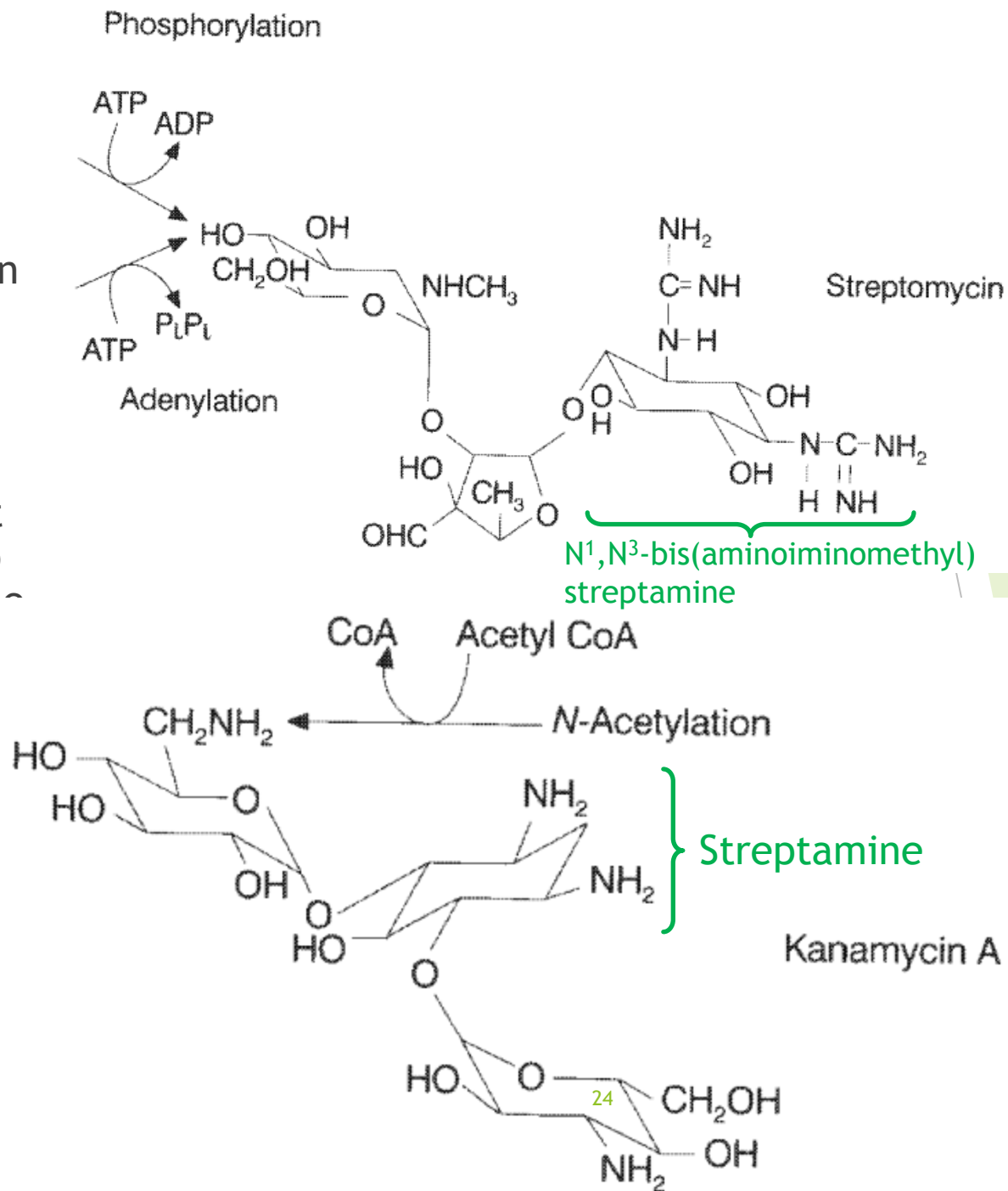
**OAT** → 2'', 4' and 4'' hydroxyls

Kanamycin A



## Resistance (Cont.)

- Streptomycin is **NOT** subject to *N*-acetylation due to 1° amine of N1,N3-bis(aminoiminomethyl) streptamine
- Kanamycin A is subject to *N*-acetylation due to 1° amine of streptamine
- Both kanamycin A and streptomycin are inactivated by O-adenylation and O-phosphorylation





# Resistance (Cont.)

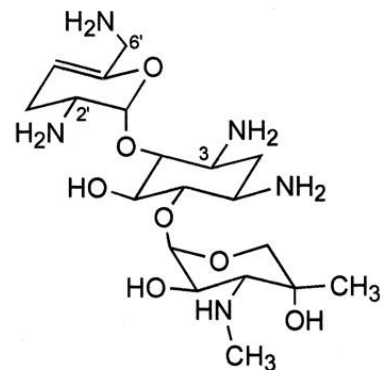
Q) How to overcome the enzymatic inactivation of AG by molecular design?

A) Modifying the vulnerable functional groups, for example:

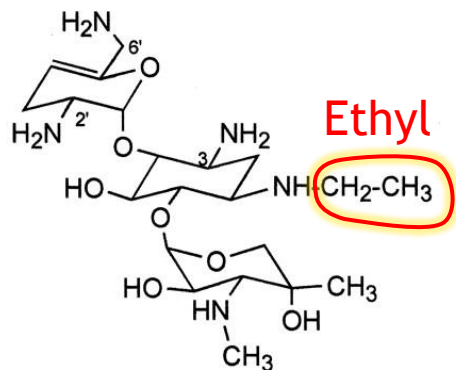
- ▶ **1° amine → 2° amine** (resistant to N-acetylation e.g. Gentamycin C1 but NOT others)
- ▶ **Removal of 3'-OH, 4'-OH or both in ring I** (resistant to phosphorylation e.g. gentamycin and tobramycin but NOT kanamycin)
- ▶ **2° equatorial → 3° axial orientation for 4"-OH** (resistant to adenylation e.g. gentamicins but NOT kanamycin)
- ▶ **1-NH<sub>2</sub> is acylated by bulky group**. L-hydroxyaminobutyryl amide (L-HABA) to be more resistant to acetylation as well as to adenylation and phosphorylation at distant sites (2' and 3') (e.g. amikacin). Similarly N-ethyl for Netilmicin



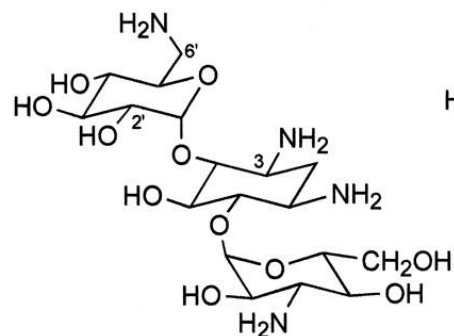
# Examples of aminoglycosides



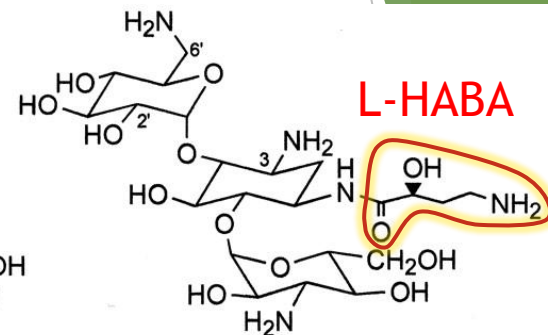
Sisomicin



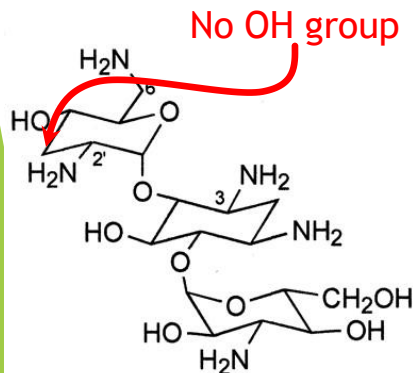
Netilmicin



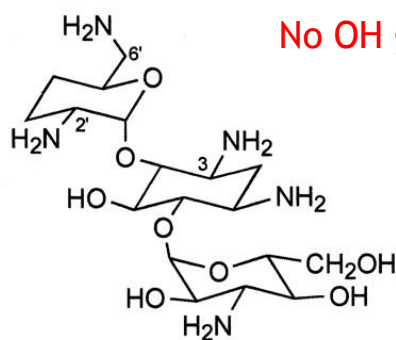
Kanamycin A



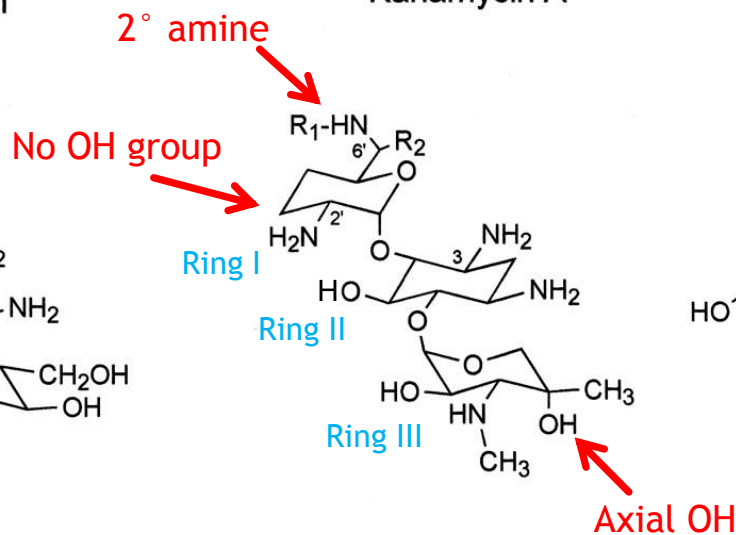
Amikacin



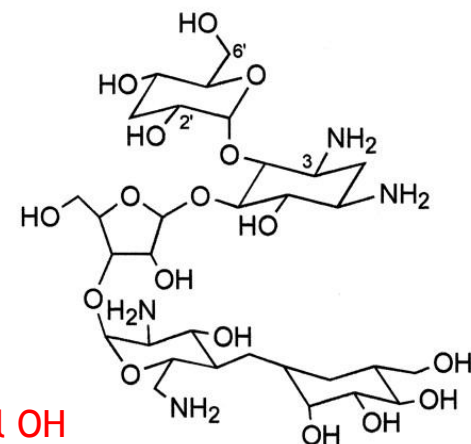
Tobramycin



Dibekacin



Gentamicin Complex



Lividomycin A

C<sub>1</sub>: R<sub>1</sub> = R<sub>2</sub> = CH<sub>3</sub>  
C<sub>1a</sub>: R<sub>1</sub> = R<sub>2</sub> = H  
C<sub>2</sub>: R<sub>1</sub> = H, R<sub>2</sub> = CH<sub>3</sub>



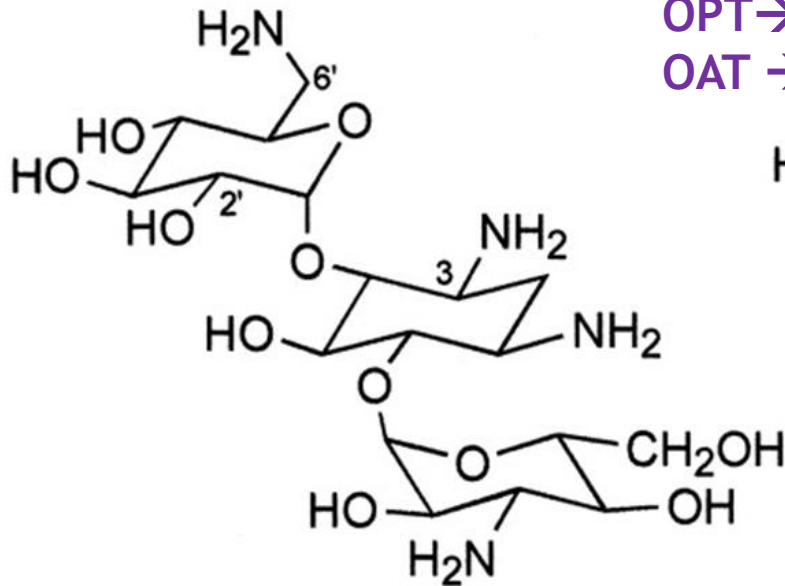
# Resistance (Cont.)

- ▶ The most significant breakthrough yet achieved in the development of aminoglycosides is the amikacin, which is L-aminohydroxybutyric acid (L-AHBA) derivative of kanamycin A)

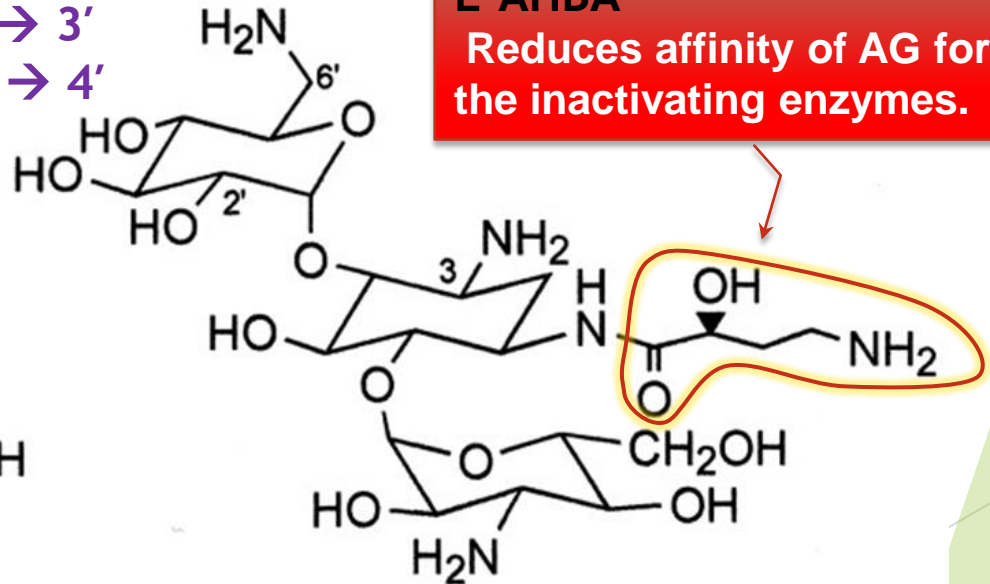
- Similar activity to kanamycin C
- Resist all AG inactivating enzymes except:  
NAT → 6'  
OPT → 3'  
OAT → 4'

**L-AHBA**

**Reduces affinity of AG for the inactivating enzymes.**



Kanamycin A



Amikacin



# Adverse effects

## ► Toxicities include:

1. Disrupt functions mediated by eighth cranial nerve (hearing, vertigo).
2. Kidney tubular necrosis → decrease in glomerular function
3. Curare-like neuromuscular blockade (may be due to competitive inhibition of calcium ion-dependent acetylcholine release at neuromuscular junction)

## ► Symptoms of toxicity may be delayed after injury



# SAR for aminoglycosides

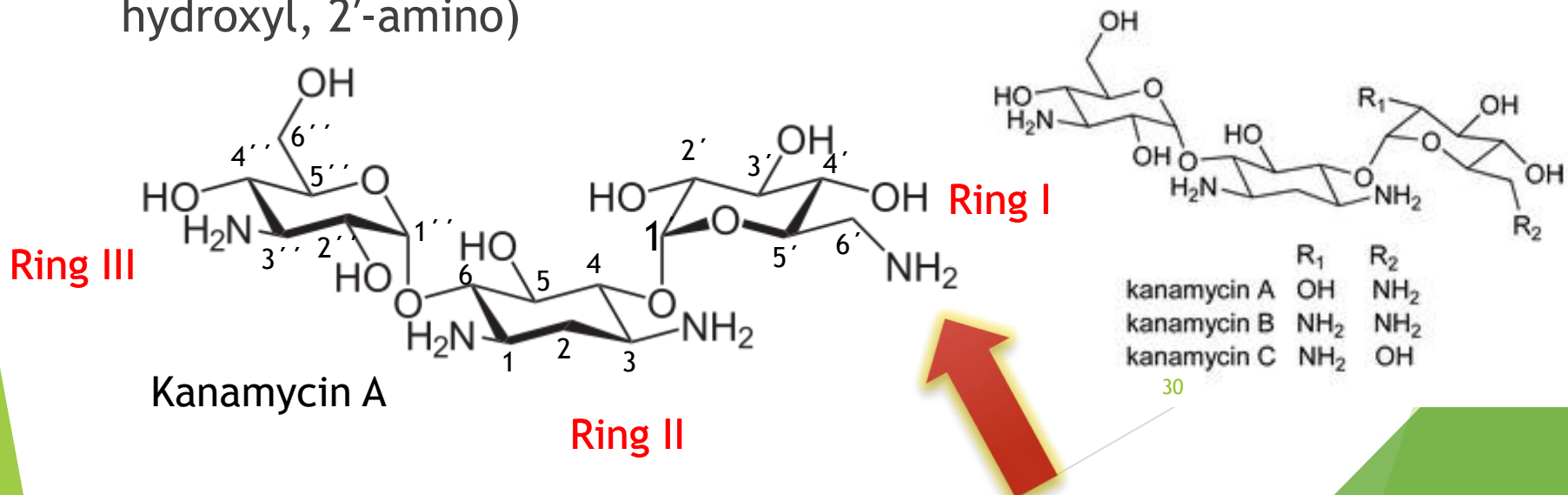
- ▶ The important structural characteristics responsible for interaction of aminoglycosides with rRNA of 30S subunit include:
  1. The substituent at position 6' of ring I,
  2. The number of protonated amino groups of ring I
  3. The linkage between the sugar rings and the central deoxystreptamine moiety (ring II)



# SAR for aminoglycosides (Ring I)

**Ring I: is crucially important for characteristic broad-spectrum antibacterial activity**

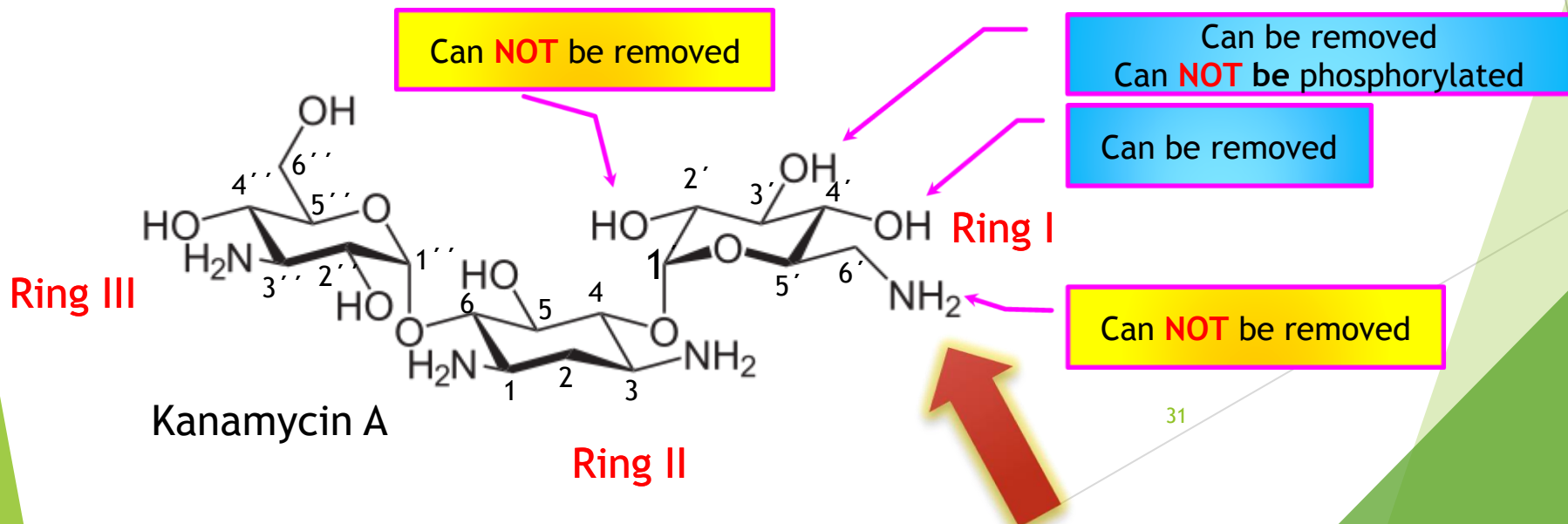
1. is crucially important for characteristic broad-spectrum antibacterial activity
2. Is the primary site for inactivating enzymes
3. Amino functions at 6' and 2' are important for activity: thus kanamycin B (6'-amino, 2'-amino) is more active than kanamycin A (6'-amino, 2'-hydroxyl) which is more active than kanamycin C (6'-hydroxyl, 2'-amino)





# SAR for aminoglycosides (Ring I) cont.

4. Methylation at either 6'-carbon or 6'-amino confers resistance to enzymatic acetylation and NOT lower antibacterial activity (e.g. gentamycin C1)
5. Removal of 3'-hydroxyl or 4'-hydroxyl or both in kanamycins (e.g. 3',4'-dideoxykanamycin B) or getamincins (e.g. netilmicin) confers resistance to phosphorylation and does NOT reduce antibacterial activity
6. Phosphorylation of 3'-hydroxyl reduces binding to 30S subunit

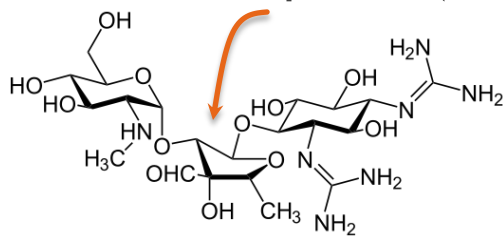




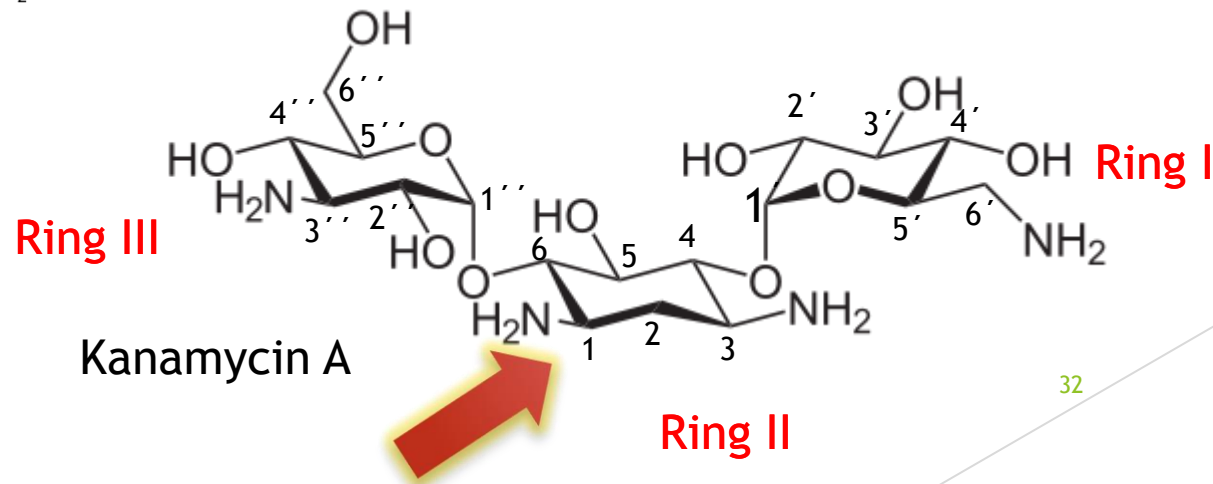
# SAR for aminoglycosides (Ring II)

**Ring II (deoxystreptamine ring) : Few modifications for functional groups are possible without loss of activity** for example:

1. Acetylation of 1-amino group of kanamycin A to give amikacin)
2. Depending on type of aminoglycoside, the ring can be ribose, streptose (5 membered ring) or streptamine (6 membered ring)



Streptomycin

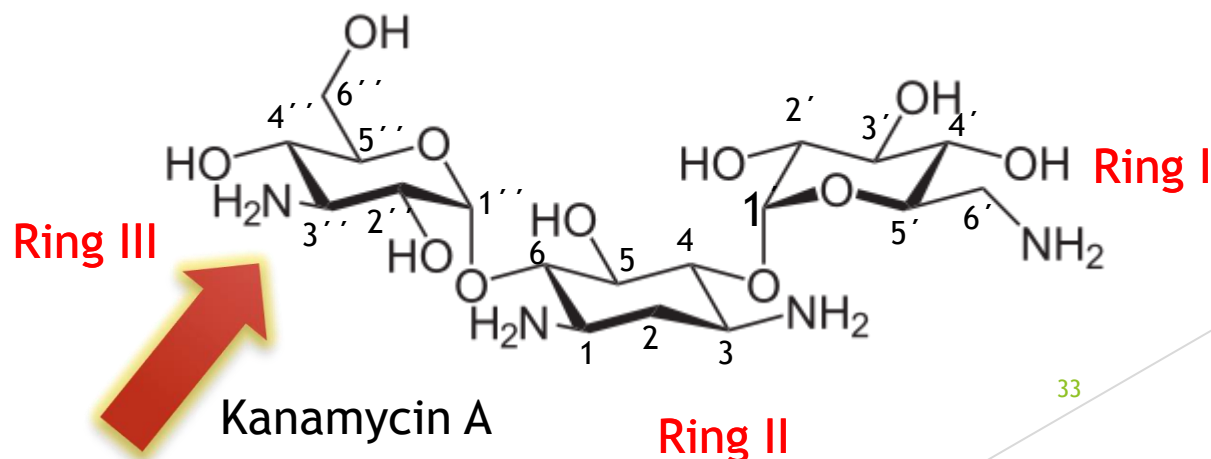


Kanamycin A

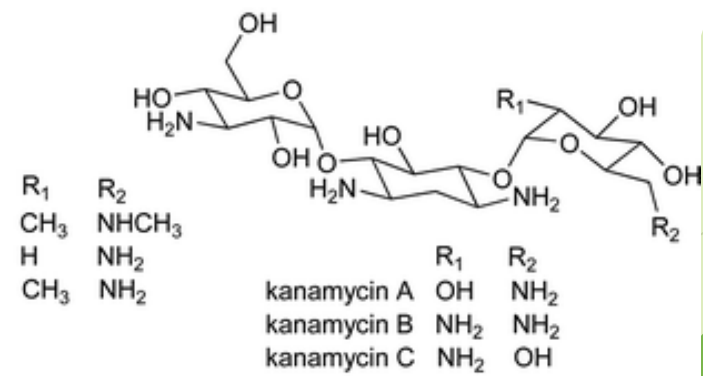
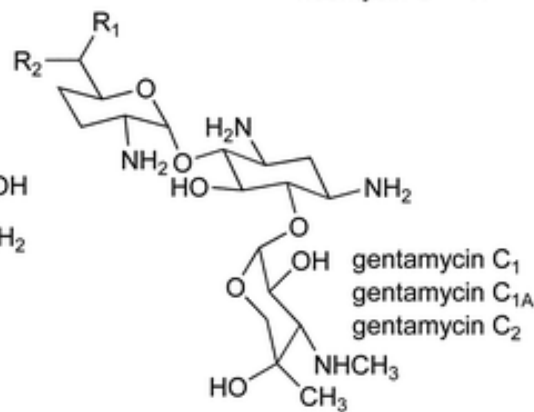
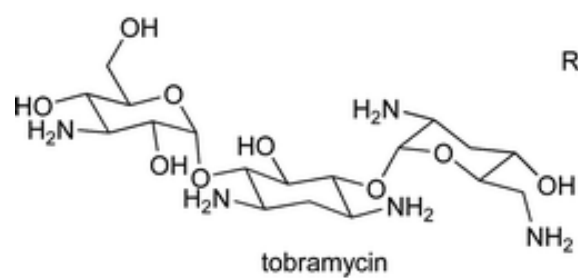
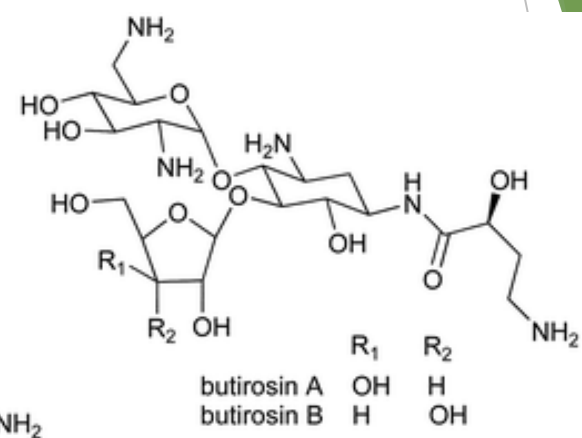
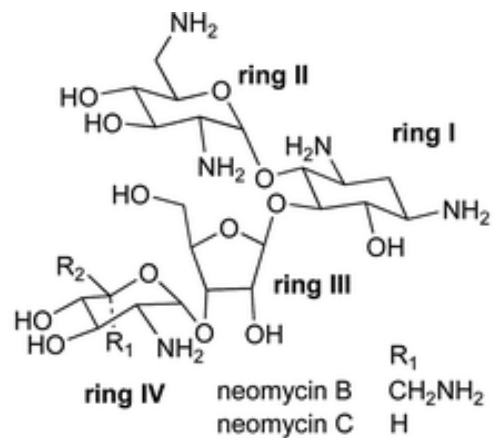
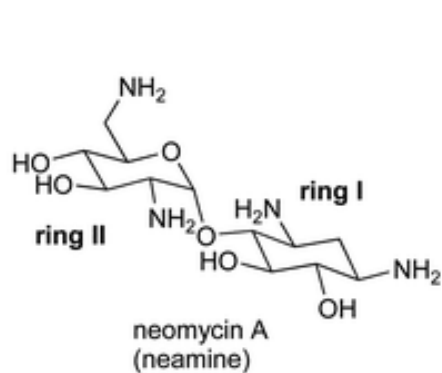


# SAR for aminoglycosides (Ring III)

- ▶ **Ring III: Is less sensitive for changes in functional groups than Ring I and II**
- 1. The 2'' functional groups activity  $\text{NH}_2 > \text{OH} > \text{H}$
- 2. The 3'' amino group can be 1° or 2° amine which are active
- 3. The 4'' hydroxyl group can be axial or equatorial
- ▶ *Despite improvements in antibacterial potency and spectrum for semisynthetic aminoglycosides, efforts to find agents with improved margins of safety have been disappointing*

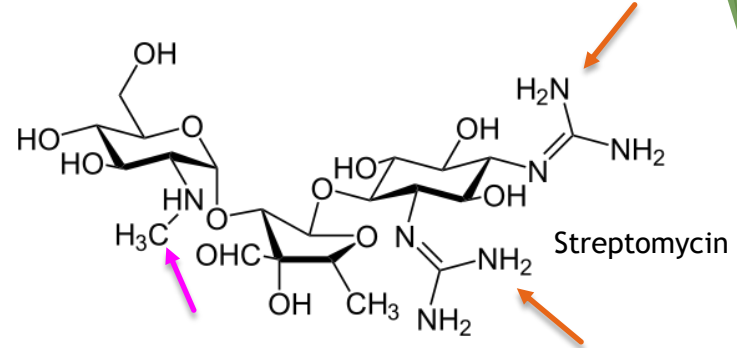








# Streptomycin

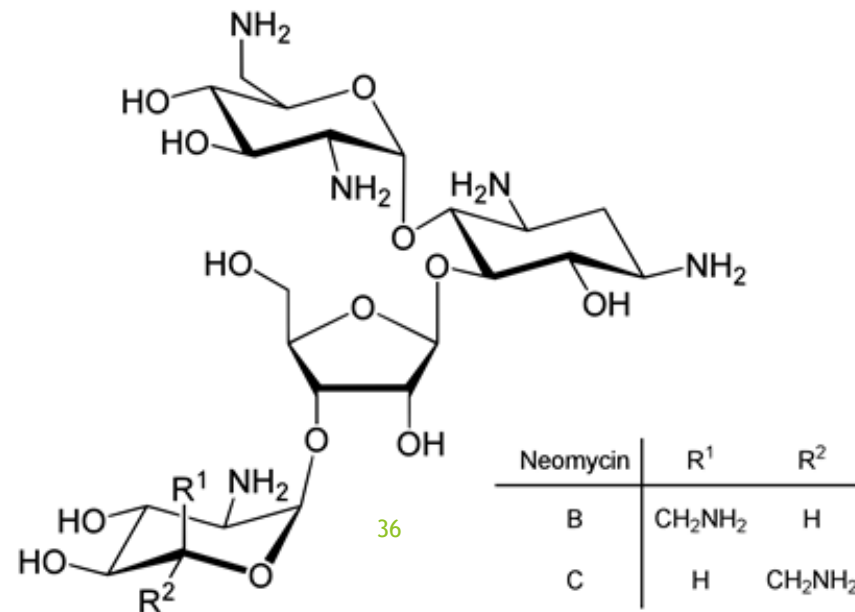


- ▶ Isolated from *Streptomyces griseus* as mixture of streptomycins A, B & C
- ▶ Formulated as sulfate salt which is white, odorless, hygroscopic powder. It is stable toward light and air but heat sensitive.
- ▶ Freely soluble in water and slightly soluble in alcohol and insoluble in organic solvents.
- ▶ Hydrolyzed by acids into streptadinine and streptobiosamine
- ▶ It has 2 strong **guanido groups** that give acidic character and **1 methylamino** group that gives basic character.
- ▶ It resists the N-acetylation at streptadinine
- ▶ Active vs Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria, and *M. tuberculosis*
- ▶ Causes neurotoxicity and occasional nephrotoxicity
- ▶ Bacterial resistance is rapidly acquired



# Neomycin

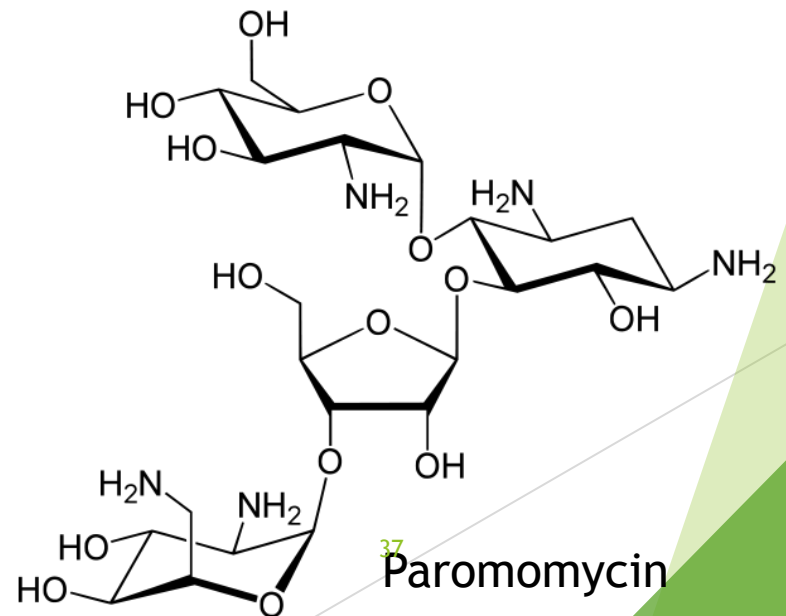
- ▶ Isolated from *Streptomyces fradiae* as mixture of neomycin A (or called neamine) and neomycins B and C
- ▶ It is composed of 4 rings
- ▶ Discovered during the search for aminoglycoside less toxic than streptomycin.
- ▶ Formulated as sulfate salt which is hygroscopic photosensitive powder
- ▶ Used for GI, dermal and peritoneal infections
- ▶ Broad spectrum as streptomycin
- ▶ Less toxic than streptomycin
- ▶ Bacterial resistance is rarely acquired





# Paromomycin

- ▶ Isolated from *Streptomyces rimosus* as mixture of Paromomycin I and II.
- ▶ It is composed of 4 rings
- ▶ The structure of paromomycin is similar to that of neomycin except that paromomycin contains D-glucosamine instead of the 6-amino-6-deoxy-D-glucosamine
- ▶ It has antibacterial activity similar to that of neomycin and streptomycin.

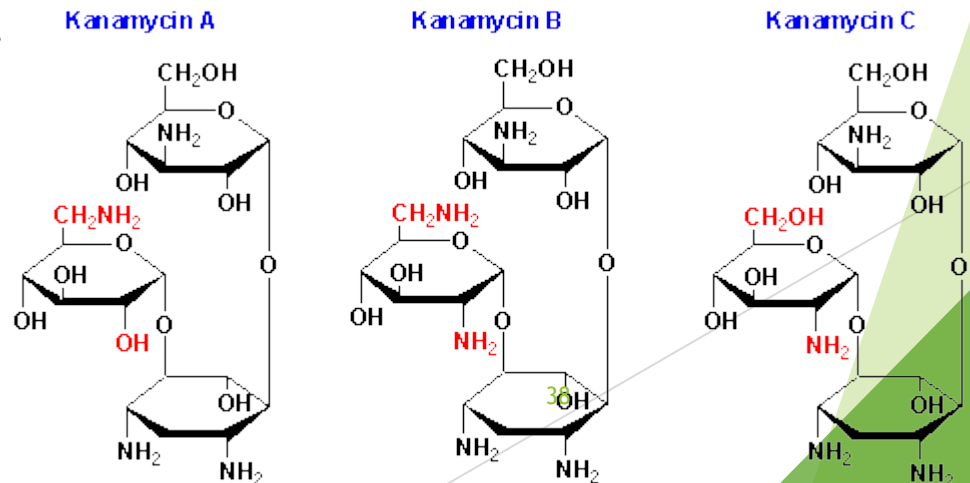




# Kanamycin

- ▶ Kanamycin is isolated from *Streptomyces kanamyceticus* as a mixture of at least 3 components (A,B and C)
- ▶ Kanamycin, Gentamicin, Neomycin and Paromomycin are the most chemically stable.
- ▶ O-phosphorylated on the C-3' hydroxyl by enzymes APH and N-acetylated on the C-6' amino group to form inactive metabolite
- ▶ *P. aeruginosa* and anaerobes are resistant
- ▶ Used in combination against Mycobacterium
- ▶ The kanamycins do not have the D-ribose molecule that is present in neomycins and paromomycins.

Kanamycins A, B and C are differ only in the sugar moieties attached to the glycosidic oxygen on the 4-position of the central deoxystreptamine

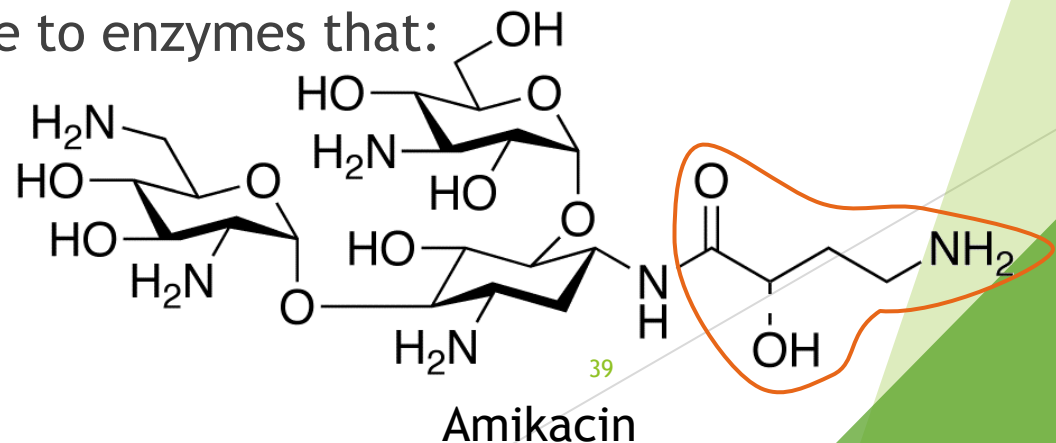




# Amikacin

- ▶ Amikacin (or 1-*N*-amino- $\alpha$ -hydroxybutyrylkanamycin) is semisynthetic analogue of kanamycin prepared by acetylation of 1-amino.
- ▶ The acylamino substitution (L-HABA) retains about 50% of the original activity of Kanamycin A against Gram-ve bacilli.
- ▶ Amikacin with L-HABA gives is more active than that with D-HABA.
- ▶ Amikacin resist most of the aminoglycoside inactivating enzymes
- ▶ Amikacin is ONLY sensitive to enzymes that:

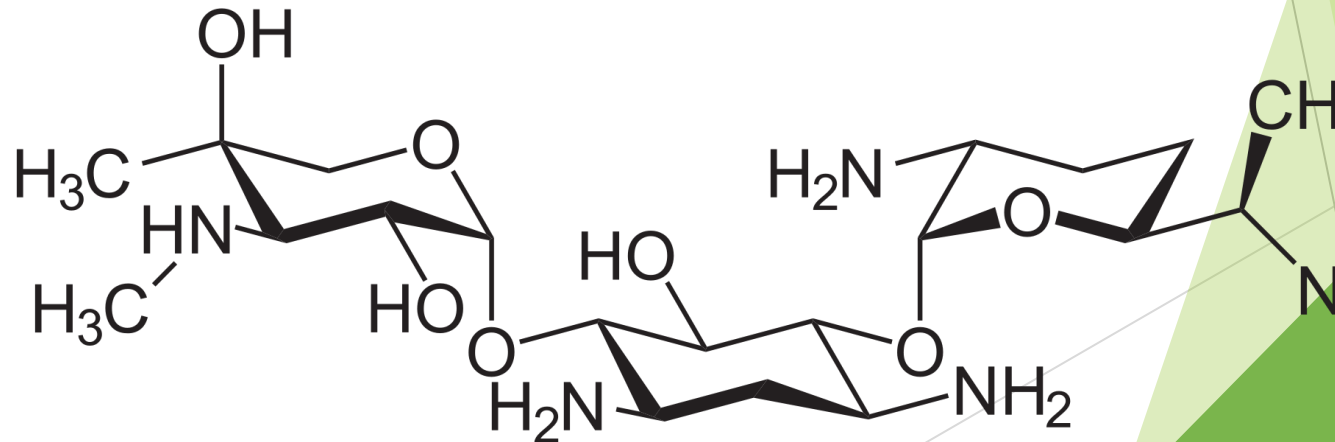
1. Acetylate 6'-NH<sub>2</sub>
2. Phosphorylate 3'-OH
3. Adenylate 4'-OH





# Gentamicin

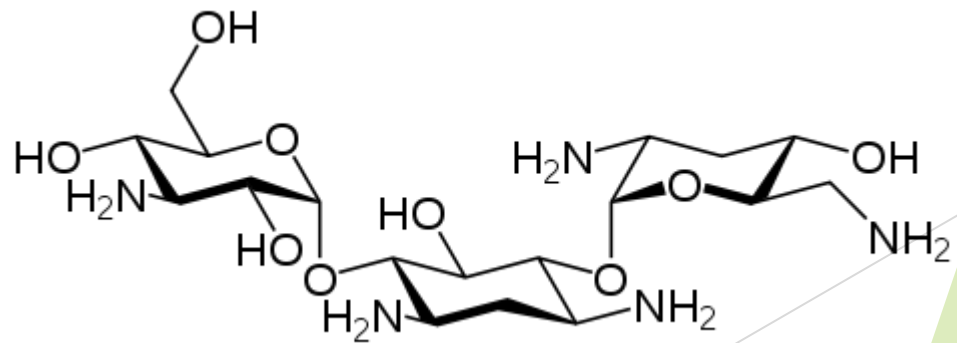
- ▶ Isolated from *Micromonospora purpurea* as Gentamycins C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>1a</sub>
- ▶ Active against Gram+ve and Gram-ve as well as *P. aeruginosa*.
- ▶ Used topically and internally
- ▶ Gentamycin C<sub>1</sub> has several properties render it stable toward inactivating enzymes (discussed previously)

Gentamicin C<sub>2</sub>



# Tobramycin

- ▶ Isolated from *Streptomyces tenebrarius* as three forms of tobramycins.
- ▶ Is the most active chemically-related aminoglycoside
- ▶ The most important feature is its high activity (2X or 4X) against *P. aeruginosa* compared to gentamicin



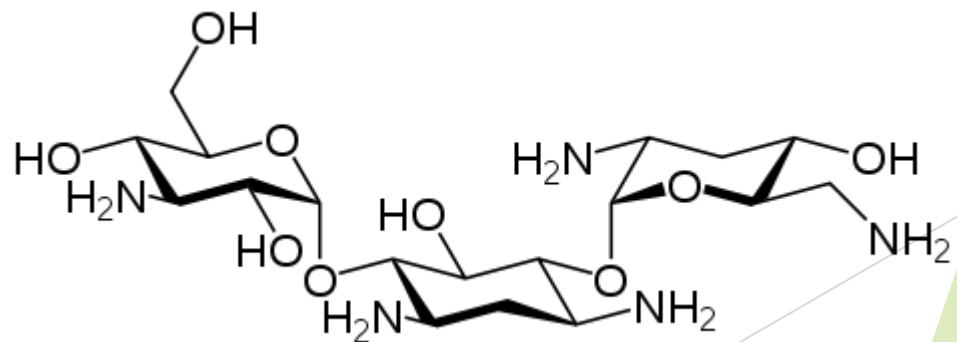
41

Tobramycin



# Netilmicin

- ▶ Is semisynthetic derivative of sisomicin.
- ▶ Is the most active chemically-related aminoglycoside
- ▶ The most important feature is its high activity (2X or 4X) against *P. aeruginosa* compared to gentamicin



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Tobramycin



# Sisomicin and Netilmicin

- ▶ Sisomicin is isolated from *Micromonospora inyoensis*, while netilmicin is semisynthetic derivative of sisomicin.
- ▶ Both are structurally similar to gentamicin C<sub>1a</sub>.
- ▶ Both have similar gentamicin in antibacterial spectrum and potency.
- ▶ Netilmicin is better than sisomicin in activity against some gentamicin-resistant strains, which may be attributed to netilmicin stability toward most inactivating enzymes (**except N-acetyltransferases**).
- ▶ The stability of netilmicin toward inactivating enzymes is due to 1-ethyl group (which act in a manner similar to L-HABA of amikacin)





2° amine



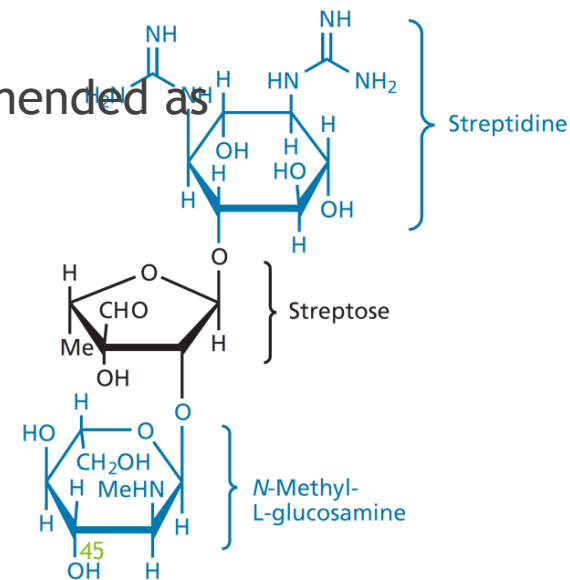
$C_1: R_1 = R_2 = CH_3$   
 $C_{1a}: R_1 = R_2 = H$   
 $C_2: R_1 = H, R_2 = CH_3$



# Aminoglycosides

## 1. Streptomycin

- ▶ Isolated from Soil bacteria *Streptomyces griseus* in 1944.
- ▶ Was the first effective agent to treat tuberculosis, before using combination due to resistance development (Streptomycin + Isoniazid + *p*-aminosalicylic acid) until 1970s
- ▶ Used for enterococcal endocarditis and plus doxycycline for TB
- ▶ Activity against Gram-ve > Gram+ve
- ▶ Resistance rapidly developed, therefore not recommended as monotherapy
- ▶ Not absorbed orally and acid-sensitive



Streptomycin (from *Streptomyces griseus*)



# Aminoglycosides

## 1. Gentamycins

- ▶ Isolated from Gram+ve bacteria (*Micromonospora*)
- ▶ Activity Gram-ve > Gram+ve (active against *P. aeruginosa*)
- ▶ Used as IM or slow IV for septicemia, neonatal sepsis and meningitis, endocarditis, or topically as eye and ear drops.
- ▶ Poor oral bioavailability
- ▶ Systemic