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# Unravelling the neurochemical maze: neurotransmitters, neuropeptides and novel drug modes of action based on epilepsy pathophysiology

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## SUMMARY

The brain is extremely complicated three dimensional structures made up of interconnected neurons and neuroglia cells. It entails all type of functions of our body whether we are healthy or in disease conditions. Brain is accountable for our connectivity with the surroundings; all this is performed by an organized and systemic electrical activity of neurons by which they communicate messages to and from the brain. The abnormal electrical activity leading to the intense outburst of impulses, results in the development of epilepsy. Epilepsy is typified by recurrent, unprovoked seizures as a result excessive, hypersynchronous discharge of neurons occurs in the brain. Nearly 1% of the population throughout the worldwide is suffering from epilepsy and almost 75% begins at childhood. The patients almost one third are resistant to current available antiepileptic drugs. We don't have the deep knowledge of the pathophysiology of the disease which can prove useful in further research for drugs with new mechanisms of action for diseases. This paper covers the role various neurotransmitters and neuropeptides in the pathophysiology of epilepsy. Our objective is to introduce the scientists with that aspect of the disease which may prove useful for further development of new drugs of epilepsy to overcome the resistance shown by the patientsorithm.

## KEYWORDS

Epilepsy, neurotransmitters, pathophysiology, neuropeptides, brain, neuron, gamma-aminobutyric acid, GABA.

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### Выход из нейрохимического лабиринта: нейротрансмиттеры, нейропептиды и основанные на патофизиологии эпилепсии механизмы действия новых лекарственных средств

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#### РЕЗЮМЕ

Мозг представляет собой чрезвычайно сложную трехмерную структуру, состоящую из взаимосвязанных нейронов и клеток нейроглии, которые определяют все проявления функций организма человека в норме и при патологии. Взаимодействие с окружающей средой осуществляется благодаря организованной и системной электрической активности нейронов, с помощью которой они передают сообщения в мозг и от него. Патологическая электрическая активность, приводящая к интенсивной вспышке возбуждения, приводит к развитию эпилепсии. Для эпилепсии характерны повторяющиеся неспровоцированные приступы в результате чрезмерного гиперсинхронного разряда нейронов в головном мозге. Около 1% населения во всем мире страдает эпилепсией, при этом почти у 75% больных она начинается в детстве. Почти у 1/3 пациентов заболевание резистентно к современным противоэпилептическим препаратам. В настоящее время отсутствует глубокое понимание патофизиологии данной болезни, которое могло бы быть полезным в дальнейших исследованиях лекарственных средств с новыми механизмами действия. В статье рассматривается роль различных нейротрансмиттеров и нейропептидов в патофизиологии эпилепсии. Задача обзора – познакомить ученых с накопленными представлениями об эпилепсии, которые могли бы помочь в дальнейшей разработке новых препаратов, нацеленных на преодоление терапевтической резистентности у пациентов с эпилепсией.

#### КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА

Эпилепсия, нейротрансмиттеры, патофизиология, нейропептиды, мозг, нейрон, гамма-аминомасляная кислота, ГАМК.

#### ИНФОРМАЦИЯ О СТАТЬЕ

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## INTRODUCTION / ВВЕДЕНИЕ

Epilepsy is typified by the tendency to have repeated seizures, which in Latin means ‘to strike’ as a result of sudden synchronous discharges in cerebral cortical neurons leading to troubled movements, sensation and consciousness. In epilepsy, the main focuses, there is an imbalance between the excitatory neurotransmitter such as dopamine, noradrenalin and glutamate when compare with inhibitory such as of serotonin and gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) via GABAA receptors, modified sodium, chloride, calcium and potassium currents.

Epilepsy is usually identified through a combination of electroencephalographic (EEG) testing and a complete examination of the state of a patient by a skilled expert of epilepsy disorder. Adults are identified with disorder merely when they have revealed recurring incidents of seizures, those who have encounter a seizure episode just one time are not thought to be epileptic [1]. Following diagnosis, patients are categorized based on the type of seizures they are exhibiting and after this treatment is given. Seizures might stay restricted to their region of starting point (“focal” or “partial” seizures) or extend to the complete hemispheres of cerebrum (“generalized” seizures).

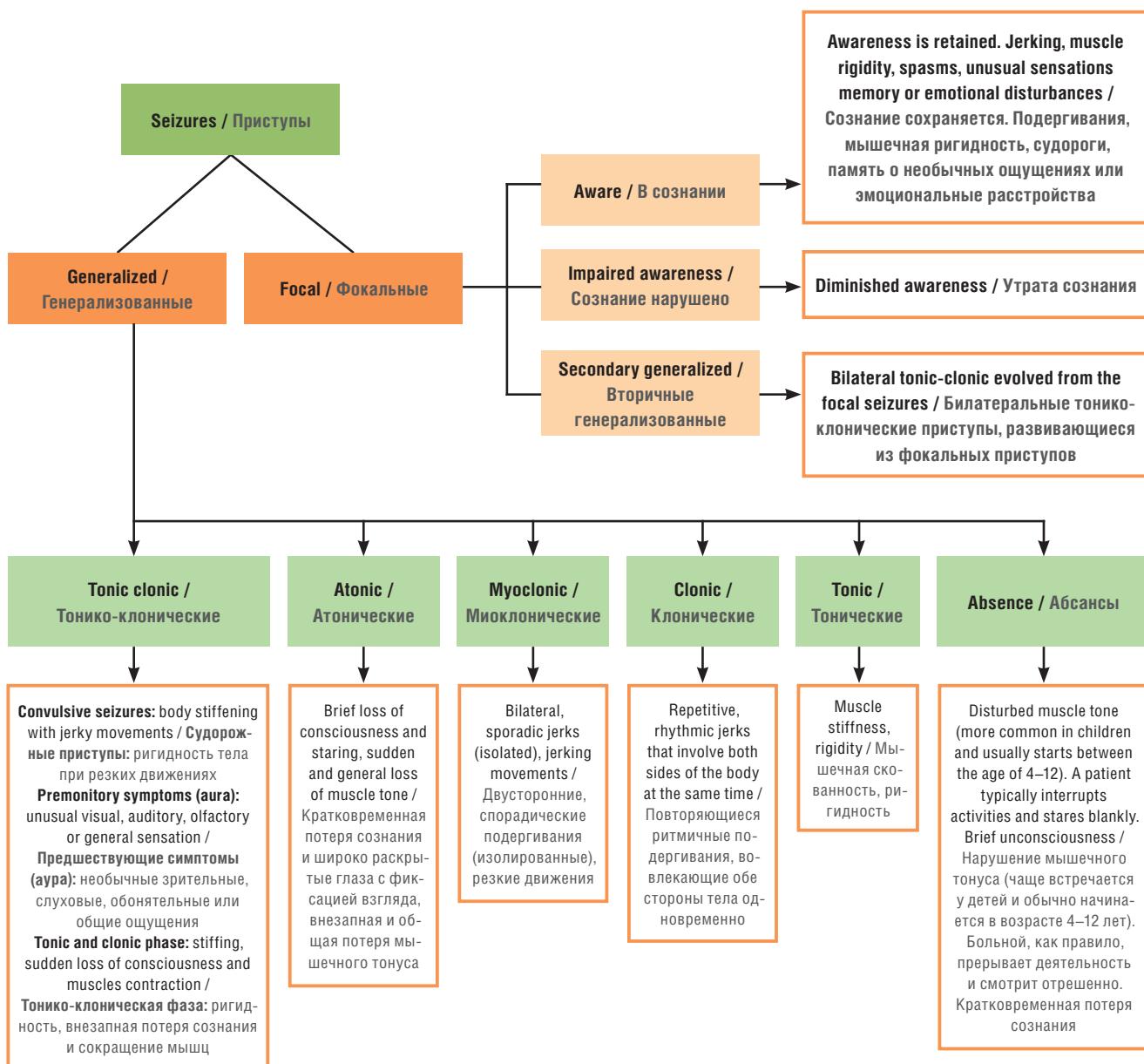
Symptoms of the seizures firmly depend on the portions of brain which are influenced by hyperactivity. Seizures have been usually described as an unevenness between dopaminergic and serotonergic neurons and between glutamatergic (excitatory) and GABAergic (inhibitory) transmission. The neuropeptides perform an important function in modifying the brain excitability by modulating the role neurotransmission such as dopamine and serotonin. Many neuropeptides have been described to perform a function as an anticonvulsant. Irregularity in the concentration of certain neuropeptides is also reported in patients suffering from epilepsy. The classification of types of epileptic seizures are represented in the **Figure 1** [3].

The living life of most adults with epilepsy still is badly influenced due to lack of awareness, support, not timely diagnosis, improper and irregular treatment, illiteracy, regulation, and improper research [2]. The deep study of the

role of neurotransmitters, neuropeptides, and their receptors can serve as an important target for the development of new antileptic drugs. In this review article it has been updated the role of altered neurotransmitters and neuropeptides in epilepsy. Currently pharmacological treatment is effective only in two third patients and thus new drug targets are required [3, 4].

## PATHOPHYSIOLOGY / ПАТОФИЗИОЛОГИЯ

GABAA receptors, which regulate excitability, and GABA, an inhibitory neurotransmitter performs a significant part in the pathophysiology and progress of epilepsy [5, 6]. Serotonin receptors by altering binding functions have been reported to ensure a robust association with anxiety and epilepsy. Currently, the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channels which regulate the secretion at the synapse of neurotransmitters is anticipated



**Figure 1.** Classification of epileptic seizures types (adapted from [3])

**Рисунок 1.** Классификация типов эпилептических приступов (адаптировано из [3])

to be concerned in the beginning of anxiety in the patients of epilepsy. The disturbance in the inhibitory control or imbalance of both is recognized to perform a chief regulatory role in disease progress [7].

The interval of excitation due to glutamate can be controlled by clearing the synaptic cleft which controls the extracellular levels, thus thwarting hyperexcitability. So the neurotransmitter transport can be seen as the important possible mechanism to decrease the concentration of the excitatory neurotransmitter in the synaptic cleft [8]. There are five types of glutamate receptors which have been identified some of them are reported to reside on neurons and the rest on to glial membranes [9]. Glutamate transporters help in the removal of excessive glutamate from the synaptic cleft resulting in synaptic inactivation [10].

By exploring the role of neurotransmitter transporters and their role in excitatory and inhibitory neurotransmission and the participation of the preeminent level of glutamate-glutamine shuttle operation for constant epileptic activity, may expose the novel perceptions that suggest that the therapeutic variations in the supply of neurotransmitters may cause reduction in seizure activities [11].

### **Ion channels interaction / Взаимодействие ионных каналов**

Voltage gated ion channels proper functioning is very important for the synchronous generation and propagation of action potential. So they definitely perform a function in the origin and mitigation of epilepsy. Mainly the channel involved are voltage gated sodium channels as we see that many antiepileptic drugs (AEDs) also act by suppressing these channels [12]. Other ionic channels involve are potassium, chloride, and calcium [13]. Epileptogenic agents act through voltage-gated ion channels by modifying excitatory and inhibitory neurotransmission [14].

Glutamate is the chief excitatory amino acid neurotransmitter present in the brain. The glutamate receptors can be present presynaptically, postsynaptically, and on specific types of glial cells. The ionotropic subcategories are namely alpha-amino-2,3-dihydro-5-methyl-3-oxo-4-isoxazolepropanoic acid (AMPA), N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) and kainate receptors, are considered to perform a main function in epilepsy [15]. Agonist of these receptors induce epilepsy and antagonist suppress seizures. GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors which present postsynaptically in the neurons act as inhibitory receptors when treated with their agonists suppress the seizures in epilepsy [15].

### **Calcineurin / Кальциневрин**

Calcineurin (CaN) is a calcium-calmodulin-dependent pervasive protein phosphatase. It curb NMDA receptor activity and synaptic plasticity [16]. Cerebral cortex, hippocampus, and cerebellum are the main area of the brain where this phosphatase can be found in abundance [17]. Several animal models confirm the relation between CaN and epileptic seizures. It has been studied that the CaN expression was found to be enhanced in epileptic

patients [18, 19]. Calcineurin inhibitors namely FK-506 and cyclosporin A found to show neuroprotective effect. In status epilepticus CaN activity has been found to be enhanced in both hippocampus and cortex, further FK-506 and cyclosporin A both shown to impede the progression of kindling [20]. The pathophysiological mechanisms of seizures are represented in Figure 2 [7, 19].

### **Extra synaptic transmission in epilepsy / Внесинаптическая передача при эпилепсии**

There are many studies which gives evidence for the involvement of synaptic transmission disturbances of excitatory and inhibitory neurotransmitters in epilepsy. Recently, it has been evident these receptors are also expressed extrasynaptically [20]. Main extrasynaptic neurotransmitter involved are glutamate and GABA [21]. Certain ionotropic glutamate receptor are present extracellularly. The main sites where they are found to be located are cell stomata and pyramidal cells. The lower level of GABA is thought to always present in extrasynaptic spaces, the receptor recognized is GABA A subtype and are specifically responsible for tonic inhibition. But recently it has been hypothesized that extra cellular receptors have a distinct existence and have a specific role in various brain functions [22]. Thus, these receptors can be further explored for new treatment strategies.

### **Intracellular signaling pathways / Внутриклеточные сигнальные пути**

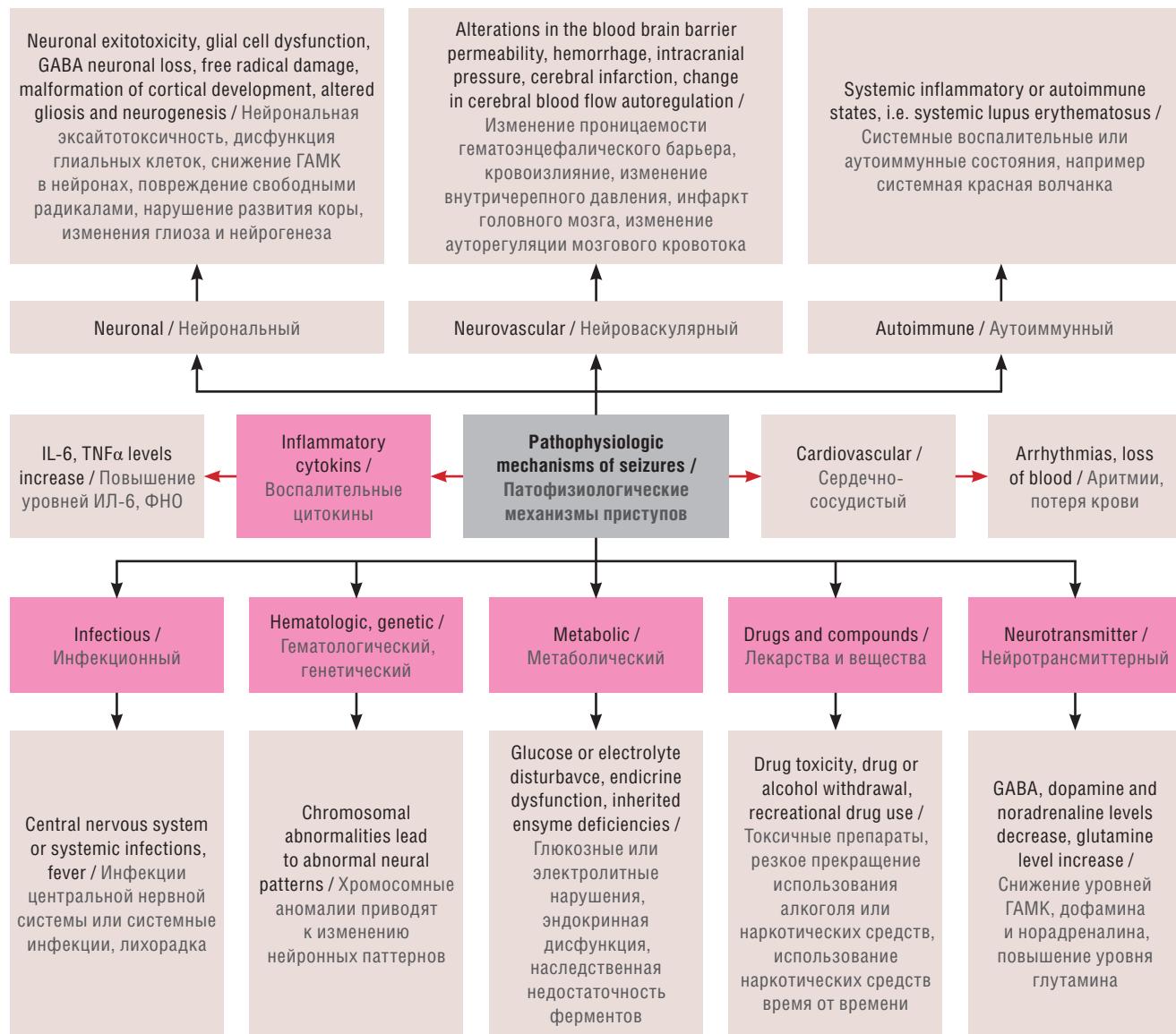
Certain recent studies gives the evidences of an enhanced level of extracellular regulated kinase (ERK) at the time of spontaneous seizure in both human and animals [23]. These ERK kinases are copiously directed in the hippocampus, although it is the part of the brain involved mainly in memory and learning but most epileptogenic also [24]. These pathways are also activated during pathological conditions namely epilepsy and brain ischaemia. p38 and ERK are included in hippocampal seizure capable to initiate epilepsy in certain animal models [25].

### **NEUROTRANSMITTERS INVOLVED IN EPILEPSY / НЕЙРОТРАНСМИТТЕРЫ, УЧАСТВУЮЩИЕ В РАЗВИТИИ ЭПИЛЕПСИИ**

Hippocampus is the main site for epileptogenic activity: GABA an inhibitory neurotransmitter and serotonin undergoes decreased activity and glutamate and catecholamines shows hyperactivity. The glutamate exerting an excitotoxic action at postsynaptic neuron [26].

### **Gamma-aminobutyric acid / Гамма-аминомасляная кислота**

GABA is presynaptic inhibitory neurotransmitter having a vast distribution throughout the whole nervous system act mainly via GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors [27]. At the developmental stage

**Figure 2.** Pathophysiological mechanisms of seizures (adapted from [7, 19]).

GABA – gamma-aminobutyric acid; IL – interleukin; TNF – tumor necrosis factor

**Рисунок 2.** Патофизиологические механизмы приступов (адаптировано из [7, 19]).

ГАМК – гамма-аминомасляная кислота; ИЛ – интерлейкин; ФНО – фактор некроза опухоли

of brain GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors initially function as excitatory and depolarizing present postsynaptically, after words becomes inhibitory hyperpolarizing and location is presynaptic [27]. Several of GABA agonist drugs are anticonvulsant, whereas GABA antagonists are mainly proconvulsant. Reduction of GABA synthesis is often epileptogenic. Drugs that enhance GABA-mediated inhibition and that enhances synaptic GABA are anticonvulsant [22, 28, 29].

### Glutamate / Глутамат

Glutamate being the most ardent excitatory neurotransmitter, its role in epilepsy has been attempted to be studied. Seizures results in elevations in extracellular glutamate, alterations in glial and neuronal manifestation of glutamate receptors and uptake transporters accounting

to excitotoxic impairment. It has been studied that metabotropic glutamate receptors perform a significant function in modulating the actions depicted by ionotropic receptors in modifying the action of the epileptic focus. After pilocarpine-induced seizures, it has been found that there is down-regulation of presynaptic mGluR2/3 expression, which may promote enhanced excitability [30, 31].

### Noradrenaline / Норадреналин

The noradrenalin system is concerned in the pathophysiology of several brain disorders. In the brain this neurotransmitter is involved in the process of consciousness, sleep, learning and its reminiscence. The decrease in the concentration of this neurotransmitter seems to enhance epileptic activity and enhanced concentration seems to

## Научные обзоры / Review articles

inhibit it. Mainly antiepileptic activity is considered to be through the involvement of its alpha 2 receptors. Beyond this seizure risk is associated with certain brain disorders which are related to monoaminergic dysfunctions [32].

### Dopamine / Дофамин

The limbic system related seizures are mainly influenced by Dopamine modulations. Functional control of dopamine is reported to be disturbed or might also be due to improper expression of certain dopaminergic receptors. In contrast, certain antiparkinsonian drugs stimulate D2 receptors. The decrease in calcium level affects the dopamine synthesis leading to epileptic convulsions without any disturbances of a dopamine receptor [33].

### Serotonin / Серотонин

It is an old observation that depression and epilepsy runs side by side. The depression is common in temporal lobe epileptic patients. Psychiatric patients are also at higher risk of epilepsy. Serotonin along with other neurotransmitters maintains a balance between an inhibitory and excitatory system in cortex [34]. The evidences provided by the animal model regarding the involvement of serotonin and its receptors might act as a potential novel target for a new category of drugs for epilepsy with new mechanism [35].

### Acetylcholine / Ацетилхолин

Destruction of the nicotinic receptors of the acetylcholine neurons present in the pedunculopontine tegmental nucleus are reported to involve in epilepsy. Certain acetylcholinesterase inhibitor drugs eg. soman lead to status epilepticus and seizures. These drugs enhances brain acetylcholine levels [36]. By report of literature, we can assume the association of the cholinergic system in the production of seizures and modification of key proteins associated in the cholinergic system leading to episodes of seizures. Further research can be done on the various cholinergic receptor systems regarding its involvement in epilepsy and new targets for development of newer drugs [37].

### Other neuroactive substances / Другие нейроактивные вещества

The stimulation of inhibitory presynaptic adenosine A1 receptors has been reported to show a protective effect for neurons. While the barrier of excitatory postsynaptic adenosine A2 receptors depicts a remedial response in the above disorders [23].

## NEUROPEPTIDES / НЕЙРОПЕПТИДЫ

The neuropeptides are basically signaling molecules just like neurotransmitters but with long half-life as compared to neurotransmitters (act only for milliseconds), thus have a long time effect on neuronal activity and modulate the seizure threshold. At present only adrenocorticotrophic

hormone (ACTH) and thyrotropin-releasing hormone (TRH) is being popular in clinical practice for epilepsy therapy. Certain neuropeptides have seizure suppressing and the other have proconvulsive properties [38, 39].

### Adrenocorticotropic and corticotrophin-releasing hormones / Адренокортикотропный гормон и кортикотропин-рилизинг-гормон

ACTH commonly known as corticotropin acts by binding the melanocortin receptors, nowadays most commonly used drug for treatment of infantile spasms. The etiology is based on the hypothesis of stress mediated release of corticotrophin-releasing hormone (CRH) neuropeptide in limbic regions of the brain. Origin place of CRH-induced seizures is amygdala spreading up to the hippocampus, here the expression of CRH receptors causes hyperexcitability by repression of after hyperpolarisation and potentiation of glutamatergic neurotransmission. ACTH mitigates the infantile spasm by minimizing the production and secretion of CRH. ACTH, although is recommended therapy but with a lot of side effects so further research is required [40–42].

### Dynorphin / Динорфин

Dynorphins are endorphins that act through opioid receptors most actions are  $\kappa$ -receptor mediated. These peptides act on presynaptic receptors and inhibit the release of excitatory amino acids to reduce excitability [43].

### Galanin / Галанин

Several studies have reported the role of galanine neuropeptide in the epilepsy. In status epilepticus, it has been reported that there is severe depletion of galanin mainly from the hippocampus region of brain. Galanine causes presynaptic inhibition of glutamatergic neurotransmission. Galanin is also interacts with serotonin. Serotonin in the hippocampus shows anticonvulsant effect. Thus, Galanine can be considered as a future target for research of new anticonvulsant therapy [44]. The neurotransmitters alterations in epilepsy are mentioned in Table 1.

### Neuropeptide Y / Нейропептид Y

It is most abundant in GABAergic interneurons of central nervous system and hippocampus, act through Y1-5 receptors, although the predominant action is on Y1, 2 and 5 [51]. It has been reported by animal studies and also in epileptic patients that Neuropeptide Y concentration is increased during seizure. It is also studied that activation of Y2 and Y5 receptors and blockage of Y1 receptors helps to slow down epileptic activity. Thus, Y2 and Y5 agonists and Y1 antagonist can be explored for epilepsy treatment [51].

### Somatostatin / Соматостатин

Somatostatin peptide is generally expressed in GABA interneurons in the hippocampus and are of two types 14

**Table 1.** Neurotransmitter alterations in epilepsy**Таблица 1.** Нейротрансмиттерные изменения при эпилепсии

Neurotransmitter / Нейротрансмиттер	Receptors involved / Задействованные рецепторы	Effect in epileptogenesis / Влияние на эпилептогенез	Reference / Источник
GABA / ГАМК	GABA <sub>A</sub> / ГАМК <sub>A</sub>	Shows presynaptic inhibitory actions / Проявляет пресинаптическое ингибирующее действие	[45]
Glutamate / Глутамат	NMDA	Imbalance in the inhibitory and excitatory neurotransmitters in the hippocampus as a result of brain injuries or status epilepticus / Дисбаланс тормозных и возбуждающих нейротрансмиттеров в гиппокампе в результате травм головного мозга или эпилептического статуса	[46]
Noradrenaline / Норадреналин	Alpha 2 / Альфа 2	At low concentration exerts proconvulsant effects, and anticonvulsant effects at high concentrations in the hippocampus / В низкой концентрации оказывает конвульсантное действие, а в высоких концентрациях – антиконвульсантное действие в гиппокампе	[47]
Dopamine / Дофамин	D1, D2	Frontal and parietal cortices is rich in D2-like receptors (to a lesser extent CA3 area of the hippocampus) in status epilepticus and genetic epilepsy / Лобная и теменная кора богата D2-подобными рецепторами (в меньшей степени – область СА3 гиппокампа) при эпилептическом статусе и генетической эпилепсии	[48]
Serotonin / Серотонин	5-HT	Modulating effect upon epileptogenesis / Модулирующее воздействие на эпилептогенез	[49]
Acetylcholine / Ацетилхолин	nACh alpha 7 / nACh альфа 7	Enhances inhibitory GABAergic neurotransmission / Усиливает ингибирующую ГАМКергическую нейротрансмиссию	[50]

**Note.** GABA – gamma-aminobutyric acid; NMDA – N-methyl-D-aspartate; HT – hydroxytryptamine; nACh – nicotinic acetylcholine receptor.

**Примечание.** ГАМК – гамма-аминомасляная кислота; NMDA (англ. N-methyl-D-aspartate) – N-метил-D-аспартат; HT (англ. hydroxytryptamine) – гидрокситриптамин; nACh (англ. nicotinic acetylcholine receptor) – никотиновый ацетилхолиновый рецептор.

and 28 depending upon the number of amino acid present. Somatostatin act through five distinct receptors named SST 1–5, where receptor 2-4 are considered to have anticonvulsant action. These receptors are located on granular cells and control the excitatory input that comes to hippocampus. It has been reported in various models of animals of temporal lobe epilepsy that the density of somatostatin interneurons decreases after seizure [52, 53].

#### Substance P / Вещество Р

Substance P, basically an element of the tachykinin family was investigated for pain and nociception. It acts at the neurokinin1 receptor, by reducing inward rectifying potassium currents. Substance P has been reported to show pro-epileptic effects. During intense status epilepticus, peptides changes their expression within the hippocampus [54–57].

#### Thyrotropin-releasing hormone / Тиреотропин-рилизинг-гормон

TRH, a tripeptide released from hypothalamus is also depicted in further brain portions namely cerebral cortex, amygdala, hippocampus, striatum and brainstem. It has been reported to show anticonvulsant properties in various models of animals and is mainly effective in the management

of intractable epilepsy. It requires further research for the development of TSH analogues which are with good central nervous system permeability, high potency and metabolically more stable [58–60]. The neuropeptides, alterations and potential remedies in generalized epilepsy are enlisted in **Table 2**.

#### TREATMENT CASES OF EPILEPSY / ЛЕЧЕНИЕ ЭПИЛЕПСИИ

There are a number of other illustrations where unusual monogenic episodes of epilepsy have been examined thoroughly and management customized to the identified pathophysiological mechanism, with altering success.

1. Most reliably efficient is the usage of ketogenic eating habit to commence cerebral energy metabolism away from glucose in people with deficiency of Glut-1, that might be noticeably successful. Control of seizures and higher quantity use of folic acid throughout pregnancy had enhanced over two decades. Regardless the alterations in the AED use over period, the major congenital malformations (MCM) rates had remained unmodified perhaps owing to the continual usage of valproate, enhanced usage of clobazam and topiramate which are concerned with greater MCM rates and deficient of diminution in polytherapy [70].

2. Controlled clinical trials in patients with medically intractable focal seizures managed with the RNS® System

## Научные обзоры / Review articles

**Table 2.** Neuropeptides, alterations and potential remedies in generalized epilepsy

**Таблица 2.** Нейропептиды, изменения и потенциальные средства лечения генерализованной эпилепсии

Neuropeptide / Нейропептид	Alterations and associations / Изменения и ассоциации	Reference / Источник
ACTH / АКТГ	ACTH and cortisol amounts are decreased soon ahead of seizures, enhanced in course of seizures, and remain amplified following seizures / Уровни АКТГ и кортизола снижаются незадолго перед приступами, повышаются во время приступов и остаются повышенными после приступов	[61]
Angiotensin / Ангиотензин	Bioactive peptides from the renin-angiotensin system, namely angiotensin II and IV, have reduced episodes of epilepsy. At increased levels, they reveal an antiepileptic action, enhance memory and learning / Биоактивные пептиды ренин-ангиотензиновой системы, а именно ангиотензины II и IV, уменьшают эпизоды эпилепсии. В повышенных концентрациях они проявляют противоэпилептическое действие, улучшают память и обучаемость	[62, 63]
NPY / Нейропептид Y	In seizures of epilepsy, there is an over expression of NPY, leading to the reduction of glutamate secretion. NPY1 receptors depict a postsynaptic response and are associated in neuroproliferative actions in the dentate gyrus. NPY2 receptors exhibit a presynaptic response and reduce the secretion of glutamate / При эпилептических приступах наблюдается избыточная экспрессия нейропептида Y, приводящая к снижению секреции глутамата. Рецепторы нейропептида Y1 проявляют постсинаптический ответ и участвуют в нейропролиферативных процессах в зубчатой извилине. Рецепторы нейропептида Y2 проявляют пресинаптический ответ и снижают секрецию глутамата	[64]
Proenkephalin / Проэнкефалин	Proenkephalin depicts proconvulsant responses and is enhanced in a kainic acid-stimulated animal model of temporal epilepsy / Проэнкефалин способствует развитию судорог и повышается в модели вызванной кайновой кислотой височной эпилепсии у лабораторных животных	[65]
Somatostatin / Соматостатин	Somatostatin is exhibited in dentate granule interneurons. It is expressed in seizures and reveals its action through the reduction of voltage gated $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ channels / Соматостатин экспрессируется в зубчатых гранулярных интернейронах. Он повышается во время приступов и проявляет свое действие через снижение напряжения в $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ каналах	[66]
Substance P / Вещество P	Substance P receptor-expressing cells of neurosurgically detached hippocampi in adults with epilepsy depict augmented dendritic arborisation / Экспрессирующие рецепторы вещества P клетки нейрохирургически отделенного гиппокампа взрослых пациентов с эпилепсией демонстрируют усиленное ветвление дендритов	[67]
TRH / ТРГ	TRH might have an antiepileptic response in the management of intractable epilepsy and exhibits reduced proportions in generalized epilepsy / ТРГ может оказывать противоэпилептическое действие при ведении пациентов с фармакорезистентной эпилепсией и имеет сниженную концентрацию при генерализованной эпилепсии	[68]
VIP / ВИП	VIP allays the intrathalamic rhythms revealed in epilepsy by stimulation of the VPAC2 receptor / ВИП ослабляет внутриталамические ритмы, выявляемые при эпилепсии, путем стимуляции рецептора VPAC2	[69]

**Note.** ACTH – adrenocorticotrophic hormone; NPY – neuropeptide Y; TRH – thyrotropin-releasing hormone;

VIP – vasoactive intestinal peptide.

**Примечание.** АКТГ – адренокортикотропный гормон; ТРГ – тиреотропин-рилизинг-гормон; ВИП – вазоактивный интестинальный пептид.

depict that closed-loop responsive neuroactivation to the seizure focus lessens the occurrence of disabling seizures, is well adapted, and is preferably secure.

3. The findings from a computational technique which will ensure denser brain coverage in focal medically refractory epilepsy adults experiencing invasive checking by measuring neural activity at “desired” missing electrode positions from signals of implanted electrodes. The tool contains an iterative algorithm that concurrently measures brain network models and the “missing” invasive EEG signals [71, 72].

4. US-based EAP registering kids and patients with treatment-resistant epilepsies, add-on cannabidiol efficiently decreased the median occurrence of the chief motor and total

seizures monthly following twelve weeks of management in the subcategory of patients with Lennox–Gastaut or Dravet syndrome [72, 73].

5. Though levetiracetam was not efficiently advanced to phenytoin, the findings, together with formerly described safety behavior and relative ease of an administration, propose levetiracetam might be an suitable option to phenytoin as the first-option, second-line anticonvulsant drug in the cure of convulsive status epilepticus in paediatric [74].

There is a need to increase the quality of epilepsy research in India to understand the underlying biology of epilepsy which will further aid in devising new treatments and cure for chronic epilepsies. National and worldwide collaboration

and financial support from funding organizations are needed to conduct quality research in India [75].

## RECENT APPLICATIONS OF ANTI-EPILEPTIC DRUGS / СОВРЕМЕННЫЕ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЯ ПРОТИВОЭПИЛЕПТИЧЕСКИХ ПРЕПАРАТОВ

The usage of AED molecules has become progressively more efficient through various factors: novel technologies that ensure the better identification of the seizure disease and its underlying ground; the formulation of innovative medicines and amplified information of older ones; and the extensive usage of AED proportion determination. The selection of a drug relies greatly on precise identification of seizure type, which may decide the action of the medicine.

**Table 3.** Recent applications of antiepileptic drugs

**Таблица 3.** Современные исследования противоэпилептических препаратов

INN / МНН	Drug form / Лекарственная форма	Research stage / Стадия исследования	Results / Результаты	References / Источники
Ezogabine / Эзогабин	Nano-suspension / Наносупспензия	Zeta potential, saturation solubility, <i>in vitro</i> drug release, particle size / Зета-потенциал, растворимость в насыщении, высвобождение <i>in vitro</i> , размер частиц	Enhance dissolution rate, increase saturation solubility, reduce particle size / Повышение скорости растворения, растворимости в насыщении, уменьшение размера частиц	[76, 77]
Lamotrigine / Ламотриджин	Nano-particles / Наночастицы	<i>In vitro</i> drug release, drug content viscosity, pharmacokinetic study / Исследования высвобождения <i>in vitro</i> , вязкости содержимого лекарственного средства, фармакокинетические исследования	Fast and pronounced absorption across the blood brain barrier by passing first pass metabolism / Быстрое и выраженное проникновение через гематоэнцефалический барьер при первом прохождении	[78, 79]
Carbamazepine / Карбамазепин	Tablets (liquisolid compact) / Таблетки (микронизированная форма)	Content uniformity, disintegration test, dissolution test / Исследования однородности состава, тест на дезинтеграцию, тест на растворение	Improve dissolution rate / Улучшение скорости растворения	[80, 81]
Stiripentol / Стирипентол	Tablets / Таблетки	Friability, disintegration time, <i>in vitro</i> release study / Исследования растворения, времени распада, высвобождения <i>in vitro</i>	Improve patient compliance along with the rapid onset of action / Улучшение комплаентности пациентов за счет быстрого начала действия	[82, 83]
Levetiracetam / Леветирацетам	Extended release tablets / Таблетки с пролонгированным высвобождением	<i>In vivo</i> dissolution study, the drug release mechanism, stability study / Исследования стабильности, механизма высвобождения, растворения <i>in vivo</i>	Improve patient compliance / Улучшение комплаентности пациентов	[84, 85]
Phenytoin sodium / Фенитоин натрия	Sustained release tablets / Таблетки с замедленным высвобождением	<i>In vitro</i> release study, content uniformity, friability / Исследования однородности состава, растворения, высвобождения <i>in vitro</i>	Increase solubility / Повышение растворимости	[86, 87]
Diazepam / Диазепам	Orodispersible tablets / Диспергируемые таблетки	Uniformity of content, <i>in vivo</i> disintegration, dissolution / Однородность содержимого, дезинтеграция <i>in vivo</i> , растворение	Good dissolution, appreciable buccal absorption, fast <i>in vivo</i> disintegration / Хорошее растворение, значительная абсорбция через рот, быстрая дезинтеграция <i>in vivo</i>	[88, 89]

*Note.* INN – international nonproprietary name.

*Примечание.* МНН – международное непатентованное наименование.

The recent applications of AEDs used to treat epilepsy are given in **Table 3**.

## CONCLUSION / ЗАКЛЮЧЕНИЕ

Epilepsy is a neurological disease typified by recurring incidents of unusual neural dynamics in the central nervous system. The specific clinical indications or impairments happened through such seizures rely on the specific brain part involved in the disease. By clear finding of the brain part involved, various biomarkers involved in the atypical electrical brain action new treatment strategies can be searched. The kind of remedy suggested will rely on various factors namely the occurrence and harshness of the seizures as well as the age of person, overall health and record of the medical past.

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