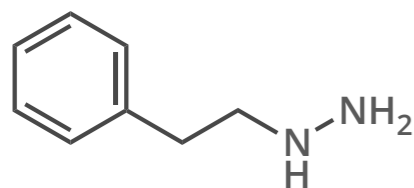


# MAJOR CLASSES OF ANTIDEPRESSANT DRUGS

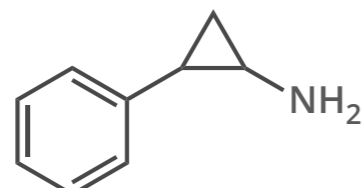
**Key:** ● 'FIRST GENERATION' ANTIDEPRESSANTS ● 'SECOND GENERATION' ANTIDEPRESSANTS NOTE: DESIGNATIONS ARE ARBITRARY - DIFFERENT SOURCES CAN GROUP THEM DIFFERENTLY

## MONOAMINE OXIDASE INHIBITORS (MAOIs)

THE FIRST CLASS OF MODERN ANTIDEPRESSANTS



Phenelzine (Nardil)



Tranylcypromine (Parnate)

### EXAMPLES

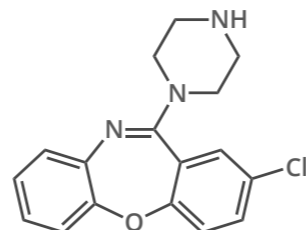
Iproniazid (discontinued), phenelzine (Nardil), isocarboxazid (Marplan), tranylcypromine (Parnate), selegiline (Emsam), moclobemide (Amira).

### DETAILS

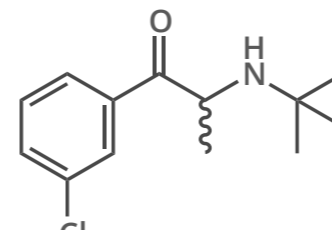
Inhibit monoamine oxidase, preventing breakdown of neurotransmitters. Rarely used due to toxicity and potentially lethal food & drug interactions.

## TETRACYCLIC & UNICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS

PRIMARILY COMPOUNDS THAT DON'T FIT OTHER CLASSES



Amoxapine (Asendin)



Bupropion (Wellbutrin)

### EXAMPLES

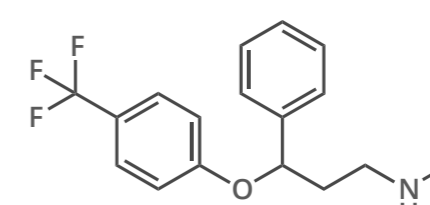
Bupropion (Wellbutrin), mirtazapine (Remeron), amoxapine (Asendin), maprotiline (Ludimil).

### DETAILS

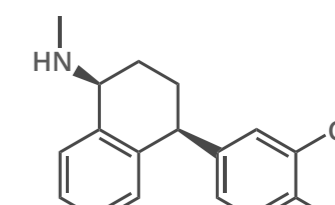
Variably inhibit serotonin & norepinephrine reuptake. Some poorly understood. Bupropion is amongst the few antidepressants without sexual side-effects.

## SSRIs

SELECTIVE SEROTONIN REUPTAKE INHIBITORS



Fluoxetine (Prozac)



Sertraline (Zoloft)

### EXAMPLES

Fluoxetine (Prozac), sertraline (Zoloft), citalopram (Celexa), paroxetine (Paxil), fluvoxamine (Faverin), escitalopram (Lexapro).

### DETAILS

Inhibit reuptake of serotonin. High toxic dose and mild side effects. The most widely prescribed antidepressants in many countries.

FIRST APPROVED 1950

1960

1970

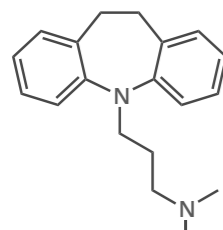
1980

1990

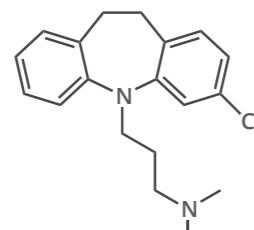
2000

## TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS (TCAs)

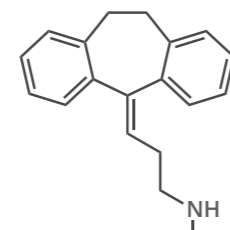
DOMINANT CLASS UNTIL INTRODUCTION OF SSRIs



Imipramine (Tofranil)



Chloripramine (Anafranil)



Nortriptyline (Aventyl)

### EXAMPLES

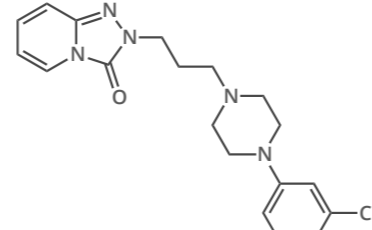
Chloripramine (Anafranil), imipramine (Tofranil), nortriptyline (Aventyl), lofepramine (Lomont), amitriptyline (Tryptomer).

### DETAILS

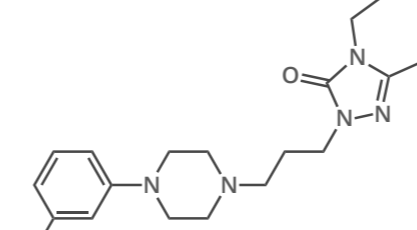
Inhibit reuptake of neurotransmitters; mostly epinephrine, and serotonin. Due to side effects and potential for fatal overdose, now seldom used.

## SARIs

SEROTONIN ANTAGONIST & REUPTAKE INHIBITORS



Trazodone (Desyrel)



Etoiperidone (Axiomin)

### EXAMPLES

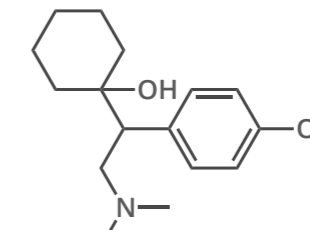
Trazodone (Desyrel), etoperidone (Axiomin), loripirazole (Normarex), mepiprazol (Psigodal), nefazodone (Serzone).

### DETAILS

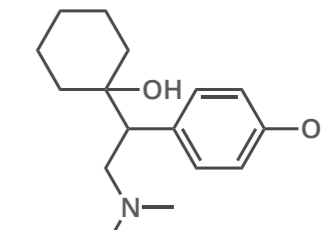
Prevent reuptake of serotonin, as well as stopping it binding to cell receptors. Nefazodone can be toxic to the liver and is no longer commonly prescribed.

## SNRIs

SEROTONIN-NOREPINEPHRINE REUPTAKE INHIBITORS



Venlafaxine (Efexor)



Desvenlafaxine (Pristiq)

### EXAMPLES

Venlafaxine (Efexor), desvenlafaxine (Pristiq), duloxetine (Cymbalta).

### DETAILS

Inhibit both serotonin & norepinephrine reuptake. Studies have shown they may have a modest increase in efficacy compared to SSRIs. They also have slightly milder side effects.

