

MAO-B inhibitors are a class of drugs that are commonly used in the management of Parkinson's disease (PD). These drugs work by inhibiting the activity of the enzyme monoamine oxidase B, which is responsible for the breakdown of dopamine in the brain.

Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that is important for controlling movement, and in PD, there is a loss of dopamine-producing cells in the brain, leading to motor symptoms such as tremors, stiffness, and difficulty with movement. MAO-B Inhibitors increase the amount of dopamine available and keep it there for longer.

It is helpful for reducing wearing-off phenomenon.

MAO-B inhibitors are often used in the early stages of PD to help manage the motor symptoms of the disease. They can be used alone or in combination with other medications, such as levodopa, which is converted into dopamine in the brain.

There are two MAO-B inhibitors used in the management of PD:

- Selegiline (also known as Deprenyl)
- Rasagiline (also known as Azilect)

MAO-B inhibitors are generally well-tolerated and have few side effects. However, they can interact with certain medications and foods, such as antidepressants, which can cause a potentially dangerous increase in blood pressure.

It is important to note that while MAO-B inhibitors can help manage the motor symptoms of PD, they do not slow or stop the progression of the disease.

Additionally, these medications are not thought to be effective for the treatment of non-motor symptoms of PD, such as cognitive impairment or depression.