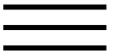


Intracerebral opiates block the epileptic effect of intracerebroventricular (ICV) leucine-enkephalin.

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Intracerebral opiates block the epileptic effect of Intracerebroventricular (ICV) leucine-enkephalin

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Abstract

Intracerebroventricular (ICV) injection of both enkephalin (100 μ g) and morphine (200 μ g) produces characteristic electrographic seizures. Injection of low doses of either morphine or levorphanol into the lateral ventricle of the brain prior to the administration of epileptogenic doses of enkephalin can block the induction of such seizures. A similar trend was observed when either opiate preceded ICV morphine. Microinjections of both morphine (30 μ g) or levorphanol (40 μ g) into the periaqueductal gray area (PAG) or into the nucleus accumbens resulted in potent analgesia. However, only morphine injected into the nucleus accumbens was effective in blocking electrographic seizures induced by ICV enkephalin. On the basis of this and other previous findings we propose that the excitatory-epileptic and the inhibitory-antiepileptic action of opiates and opioids are mediated by two different systems. Furthermore, we propose that such systems

may differ both in their anatomical distribution and in the classes of opiate receptors underlying their action.



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Keywords

opiates; endogenous opioids; convulsant action; anticonvulsant action; naloxone

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