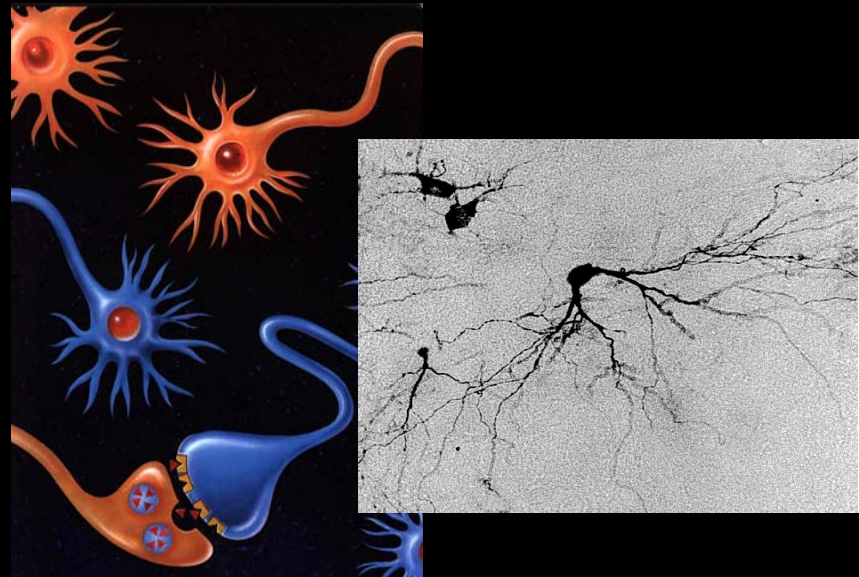
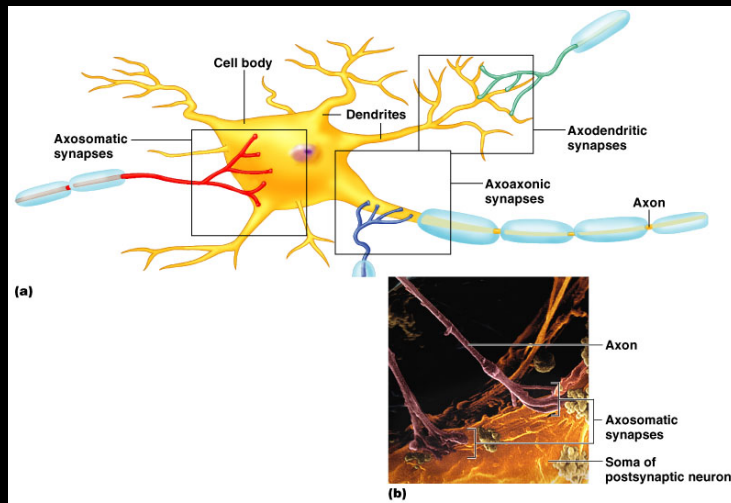


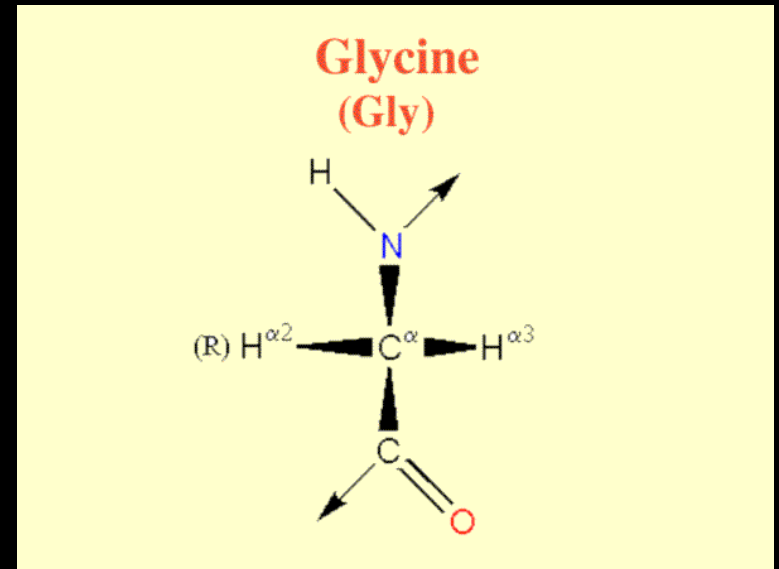
# GLYCINE AND GLYCINE RECEPTORS



POWERED BY ALI, EMRE, RANA

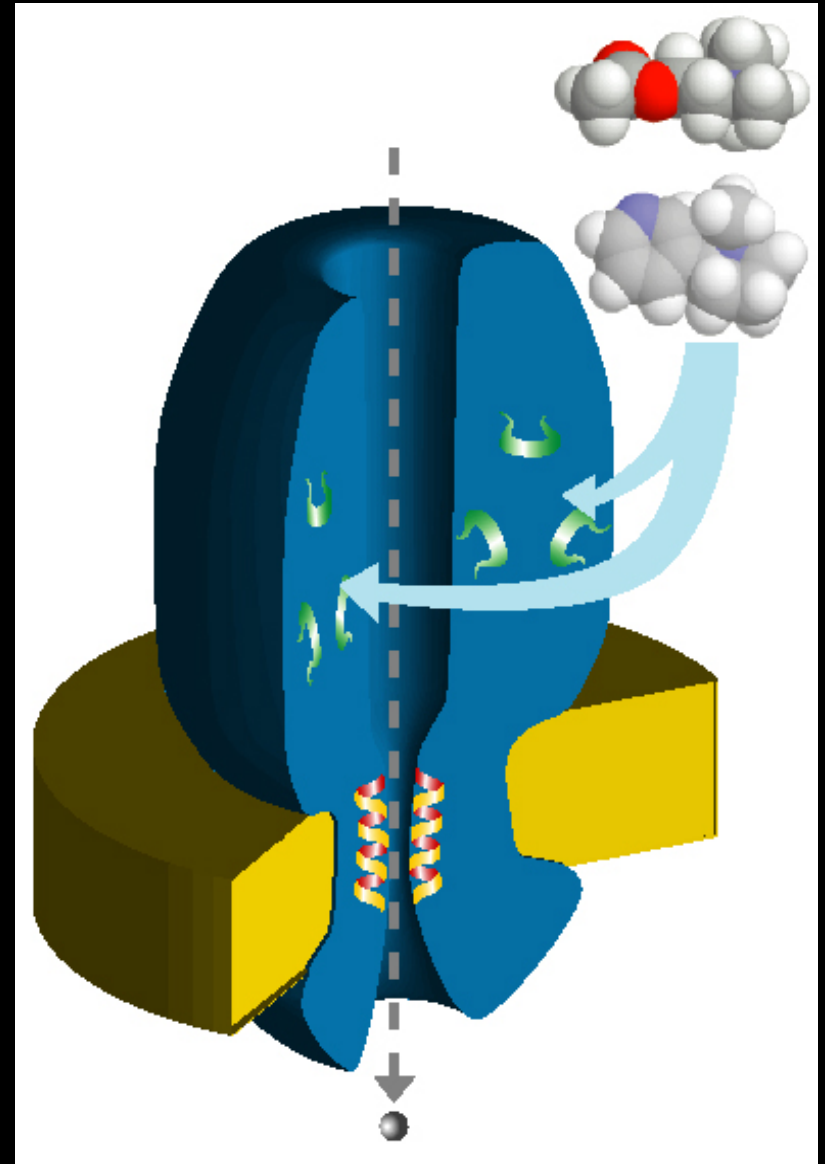
# GLYCINE

- The simplest amino acid
- It's the major inhibitory neurotransmitter in brainstem and spinal cord
- Moreover, it promotes the action of glutamate

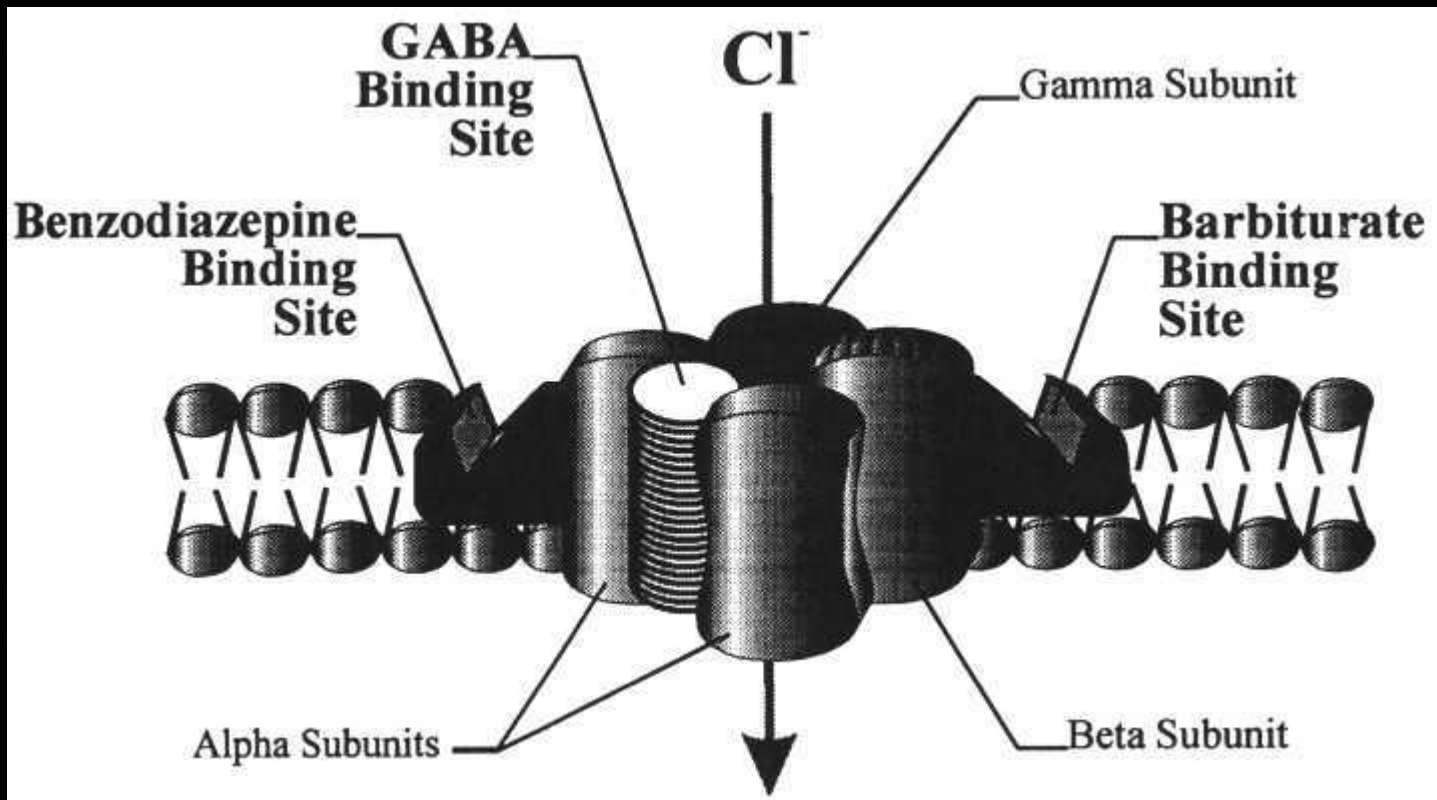


# GLYCINE RECEPTORS

- Type of ligand-gated ion channel
- They are inhibitory neurotransmitter receptors in brain and in spinal cord.



Composed of three alpha and two beta and gamma subunits each containing four transmembrane spanning domains.



- The stabilization of RGLy is mediated by a cytoplasmic anchor protein :the gephyrin who interacts both with the beta subunit of the receptor and with molecules of the cytoskeleton microtubules.

- The RGLy are concentrated in functional microdomains in front of active presynaptic area, the formation of such microdomains is made by a high density of proteins constituting the subsynaptic scaffold.

# Glycine Receptors

- They cause opening of chloride channels
- This in turn results in hyperpolarization of the adjacent neuron and thus switching off.
  - Essential in control of skeletal muscle by spinal cord

# Regulation

- The GlyR beta subunit contains a putative tyrosine phosphorylation site
- Protein tyrosine kinases (PTKs) regulate the function of GlyRs on the tyrosine-413 residue of the beta subunit.

# Other Important Aspects

- They are involved in enhancing glutamate interactions with its NMDA receptors
  
- Strychnine: blocks glycine receptors inhibitory neurons in brainstem & spinal cord causing uncontrolled convulsions & respiratory arrest



# Hyperekplexia (Startle disease)

- $\alpha$ -1 subunit (strychnine binding) ;
- Chromosome 5q33-q35; Dominant or Recessive

## Clinical features

- Stiffness, myoclonus & after sudden stimulus
- Onset: as early as infancy with hypertonia or myoclonus
- Onset & severity vary within families

Treatment: Clonazepam

Mouse models: *Spasmodic* & *Oscillator*

# Mouse Models

- *Spasmodic*

The phenotype is caused by a missense mutation in the  $\alpha 1$ -subunit at position 52

- *Oscillator*

The startle reflex of the oscillator mouse is more severe than that of the spasmodic mouse. This can be explained by an almost total loss of glycine receptor function. A microdeletion in the  $\alpha 1$ -subunit gene creates a frameshift, truncating the subunit at the end of TM3 . Like in the spasmodic mouse, the phenotype develops between the second and third postnatal week.