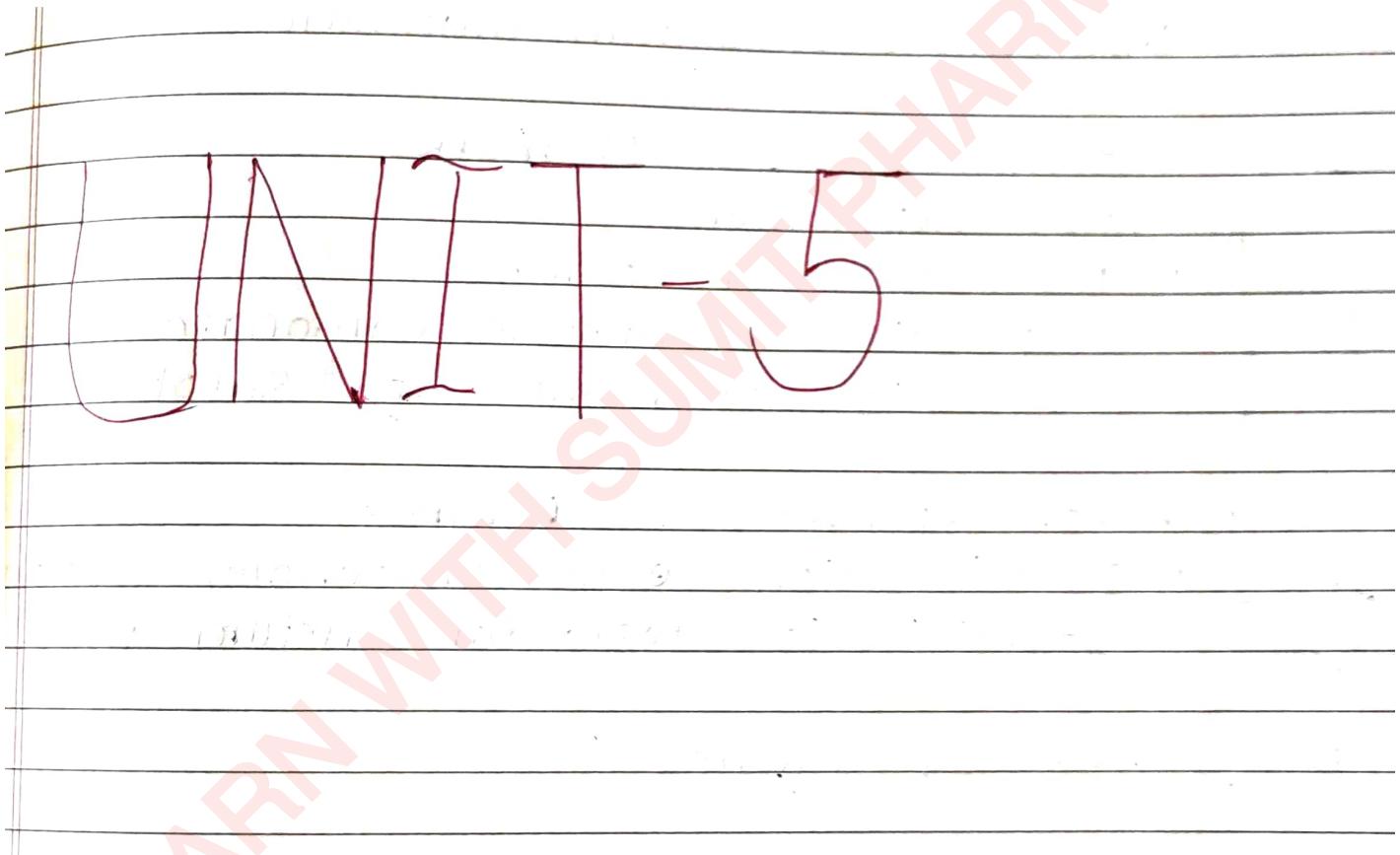


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# Radiopharmaceuticals.

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## Radiopharmaceuticals

→ Definition

These are the pharmaceutical which have radio activity and are used as drugs.

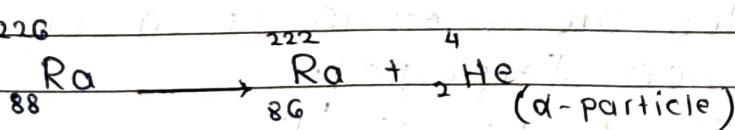
## Radioactivity

It is continuous emission of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  radiations from the radioactive sub.

## \* Properties of $\alpha$ , $\beta$ , $\gamma$ radiation

### $\alpha$ radiation

- i) These are positively charged particles
  - ii) penetration power of  $\alpha$ -radiations is low.
  - iii) Ionisation power of  $\alpha$ -particles is very high
  - iv) They have low speed.
  - v) They don't have any application in pharmacy field
  - vi)  $\alpha$ - particle is identical with the helium nucleus ( ${}^4_2\text{He}$ )
  - vii) when  $\alpha$ - particle is emitted , atomic number decreases by two and mass number ↓ by 4.
- e.g....



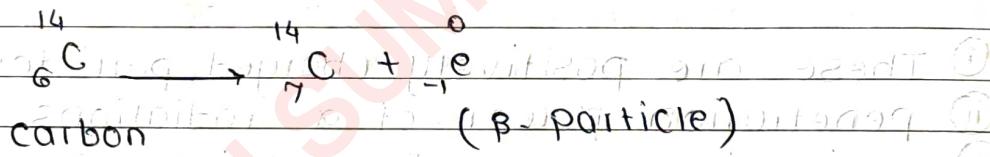
Radium

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## 2) $\beta$ - particles →

- ① They are negatively charged particle
- ② Penetration power is more than  $\alpha$ - particles
- ③ Ionisation power is less than  $\alpha$ - particles
- ④  $\beta$ - particles have more speed than  $\alpha$ - particles
- ⑤ They have any application in pharmacy field.
- ⑥ It is represented as (electrons)  $e^-$
- ⑦ When  $\beta$ - particle is emitted, atomic number is ↑ by 1 and mass number is not changed  
e.g... nitrogen is 7



## 3) $\gamma$ - particles →

- ① They do not have any charge but have energy.
- ② Penetration power is more than  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  particles.
- ③ Ionisation power is very less.
- ④ They have equal speed as that of light
- ⑤  $\gamma$  particles are used in pharmacy for the sterilization for purpose
- ⑥ It is represented as  $\gamma$
- ⑦ When  $\gamma$ - radiations are emitted, there is no change in atomic number and mass number

mark

## \* Precaution to be taken in handling and storage of radioactive materials →

- ORM is stored in area such that it should be away from exposure to human being.
- ④ α and β emitters are stored in thick glass shielding while γ emitters are stored in lead shield.
- ⑤ Exposure to radioactive radiation may produce blood cancer hence precaution should be taken while handling of RM.
- ⑥ RM should be never touched with hand but should be handled with forceps.
- ⑦ Smoking, drinking, eating should be avoided in the area where RM is kept.
- ⑧ Sufficient protective clothing should be used while handling of RM.
- ⑨ The area where RM is kept should be tested regularly.
- ⑩ There should be proper disposal of radioactive material.
- ⑪ There should be minimum movement of the workers.
- ⑫ The benches, cupboards in that area should be of plastic.

## \* Applications of the RM →

Any 4  
The radiopharmaceuticals have various applications as follows.

- ① Diagnosis
  - ② Therapy / Treatment
  - ③ Research
  - ④ Sterilization
  - ⑤ Agriculture
- ① Diagnosis → To fault and disease detection
- ①  $\text{Co}^{57}$  is used for measuring glomerular filtration rate.
- ②  $\text{Fe}^{59}$  is used in haematological disorders.
- ③  $\text{Ca}^{44}$  and  $\text{Ca}^{45}$  are used to study bone structure and to treat bone cancer.
- ④  $\text{I}^{131}$  is used to study thyroid gland function.
- ⑤  $\text{Au}^{198}$  is used to study blood circulation in liver.
- ⑥  $\text{Co}^{59}$  and  $\text{Co}^{60}$  are used to study vitamin  $\text{B}_{12}$  absorption.

## ② Theory / Treatment →

- ①  $\text{I}^{131}$  is used to treat thyroid Cancer.

- ②  $B^{10}$  is used to treat tumor.
- ③  $Au^{198}$  is used to treat uterus and urinary bladder cancer.
- ④ Vit $B_12$  (cyano-cobalamin) is used in diagnosis of anemia.
- ⑤  $O^{17}$  &  $O^{18}$  are used in photosynthetic study.
- ⑥  $C^{14}$  is used to study metabolism of carbohydrate (Sugars) and fats.

### ③ Research →

Excellent biological and medicinal study can be carried out with radioactive isotopes.

e.g..  $C^{14}$  and Tritium are most commonly radio pharmaceutical used in research.

### ④ Sterilization →

Vit., hormones, antibiotics, surgical instrument can be sterilized by strong radiation sources.

e.g..  $Co^{60}$  is used to sterilized Surgical instrument.

## ⑤ Agriculture →

Some radio-pharmaceuticals found application in agriculture also  
e.g...

$\alpha$ -radiation are used to kill pests and found use in agriculture.

## \* Half life of pharmaceuticals ( $t_{1/2}$ ) →

It is the time required for a radioactive material to decay to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of its original volume at any given point of time. It is represented as follows.

$$t_{1/2} = 0.693 / \lambda$$

$\lambda$  = disintegration constant.

## \* Units of radioactivity,

① Curie →

② Roentgen

③ RAD (Radiation absorbed dose)

④ RBE (Relative biological effectiveness)

\* Methods of measurement of radioactivity  
OR

Devices used to measure radiations:

- ① Ionization chamber
- ② Proportional counter
- ③ Geiger Muller (G.M Counter)
- ④ Scintillation counter
- ⑤ Semiconductor detector
- ⑥ Photographic plate method.

Monograph → NaI<sup>131</sup>