Acts through inhibition the synthesis of pyrimidine nucleotide especially deoxythymine monophosphate(dTMP).

Synth. thymine nucleotide from uracil nucleotide by thymidylate synthetase





5-FU metabolism



Pro-drog 5-FU

O

HO

Pyrimidine antagonists products (uracil Derivative)

•Fluorouracil (5-FU)



Anabolism of 5-FU





No oxidative breakdown of ternary complex, due the inability of the cofactor to abstract F from its position and this resultin-:

No dTMP formation. No release of DHF (irreversible inhibitor). No regeneration of thymidylate synthetase. No DNA formation.



Tegafur



Prodrug of 5-FU

Capecitabine



Used for treatment breast and colorectal cancer

Cytarabine (ARA-C)

Cytarabin[®], Cytosar[®],





Folic Acid analogs as antimetabolites



Mechanism of action of folic acid antagonist



Methotrexate(amethopterin)



The mechanism of action of methotrexate

Methotrexate binds tightly to dihydrofolate reductase, blocking the reduction of dihydrofolate to tetrahydrofolate. It is specific for the S phase of the cell cycle.

Resistance to methotrexate can occur because of:-

Decreased carrier-mediated transport of drug into cells. Increased expression of the target enzyme DHFR, due to amplification of the DHFR gene. Impaired of polyglutamation.

Methotrexate undergoes polyglutamation intracellularly forming a pool of compounds that is retained for months.

Trimetrexate (use by IV inj only)•



The drug is used to treat colorectal cancer, head and neck cancer as well as nonsmall cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

The mechanism of action of trimetrexate involves folate antagonism and inhibition of thymidylate synthesis. Trimetrexate does not form intracellular polyglutamate adducts as does methotrexate and other related compounds. Resistance can occur by increased expression of the target enzyme, decreased binding affinity for the target enzyme, or decreased intracellular drug transport.

The major catabolic pathways involve O-demethylation followed by glucuronide conjugation.