BETA BLOCKERS

Sympathetic Nervous System - "Fight or Flight"

- o SNS stimulates receptors throughout the body to create "fight or flight response"
- o Receptors
 - Alpha vessels
 - Beta 1 Heart
 - Beta 2 Lungs

Beta 1 Receptors

o When stimulated by SNS they cause:

Increase Cardiac Output

- Increase HR in SA node (Chronotropic effect)
- Increase atrial contractility (Inotropic effect)
- Increase conduction and automaticity of AV node
- Increase conduction and automaticity of ventricles

Goal of Beta Blocker Therapy

o Goal is to block stimulation of B1 receptors in heart = ${}^{\downarrow}$ HR

Common B - Blockers

- o Metoprolol
- o Esmolol
- o Propranolol

Side Effects of B-Blockers

- o Bradycardia
- o ↓Blood Pressure
- o Bronchoconstriction
- o Blood sugar abnormalities



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