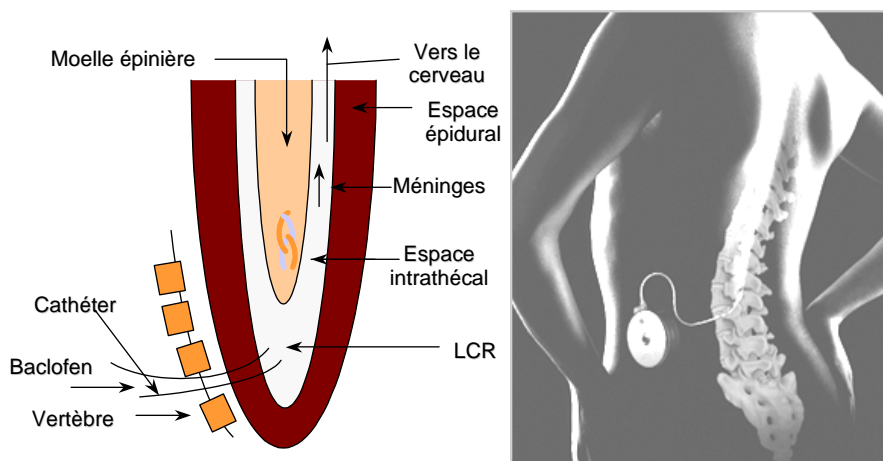


Treatment of spasticity in children having cerebral palsy :

Continuous intrathecal infusion of baclofen by pump

Professor Oreste Battisti, Pediatrics, University School, ULg

This mode of treatment has been approved by the FDA since 1986 in adults, and has been introduced in children since 1992.



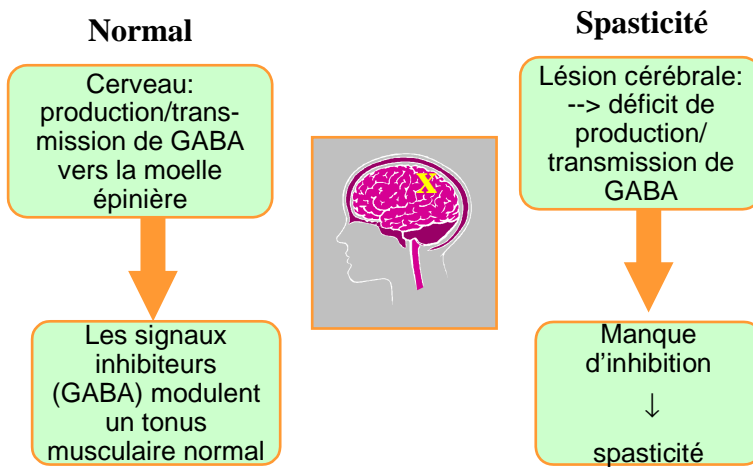
The pump and the following catheter is placed by the neurosurgeon in the (right or left) flank, and the tip of the catheter in the appropriate level in the intrathecal level

Baclofen is a “gabaergic” treatment.

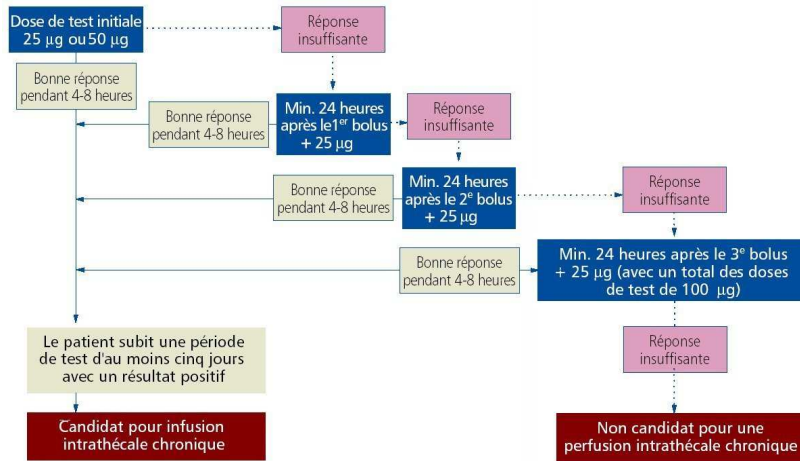
Its continuous intrathecal infusion aims to regulate the excessive basal state of medullary alpha neurons.

Its continuous delivery near the concerned medullary levels brings a good control of muscles spasticity by low dosages (these going from 50 to 400 microg/day).

La spasticité d’origine cérébrale



Before this, the patient has to be selected from the medical state (diplegia, quadriplegia; body weight > 18 kg), from a preliminary good response to (oral but preferably intratecal on a 5 days course for essay) baclofen.



The pump has a reservoir of 20 ml, need to be refilled every 6 to 12 months depending on the daily dose and the total starting dose.

This done transcutaneously, under sedation or mask anesthesia.

The precisions of the pump remains good for a period of 6 to 9 years.

