

Potential of angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARBs) in the treatment of diabetic retinopathy

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- Hyperglycemia induces pathological overexpression of angiotensin II (Ang II) and aldosterone. An elevated plasma level of Ang II induces and aggravates insulin resistance and equally elevates the possibility/risk of development of diabetic complications.
- Ang II has been demonstrated to play a detrimental role in progression of diabetic retinopathy by augmenting key events involved in its pathogenesis, namely oxidative stress, angiogenesis and inflammation. Research with ARBs has shown positive results in this area.

ARBs potentially provide a novel adjuvant therapy for treating diabetic retinopathy.