



METABOLISM

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Carbohydrates

- Sugars consist of a carbon skeleton with a *carbonyl* group and *many hydroxyl*-groups
 - If the carbonyl located **peripherally**, the sugar is considered as an **aldose**
 - If the carbonyl located in the **middle**, the sugar is considered as a **ketose**
 - ✓ Most ketoses end with -ulose
- *Monosaccharide*: A single sugar, such as:
 - Triose (3C): **Glyceraldehyde**
 - Tetrose (4C): **Erythrose**
 - Pentose (5C): **Ribose**
 - Hexose (6C): **Glucose, Galactose, mannose, Fructose**
 - Heptose (7C): **Sedoheptulose**
 - Nonose (9C): **Neuraminic acid**
- *Isomers*: molecules with the same molecular formula but different structures, and they include:
 - *Constitutional isomers*: Difference in the position of the carbonyl group (*ketose, aldose*)
 - *Stereoisomers*: difference in the orientation of the OH group on the chiral carbons
 - ✓ *Enantiomers*: *all* the chiral carbons are reflected (*mirror* image)
 - ✓ *Diastereomers*: *1 or more* chiral carbons are reflected (not mirror image)
 - ✓ *Epimer*: *1* chiral carbon is reflected (not mirror image)
 - *Anomer*: Isomers depend on the orientation of the anomeric carbon (carbon of the carbonyl)
 - ✓ *Downward* OH on the anomeric carbon, *alpha* isomer
 - ✓ *Upward* OH on the anomeric carbon, *beta* isomer
- *Disaccharides*: 2 sugars joined by a glycosidic bond via dehydration reaction, such as:
 - *Maltose* consists of **2 glucose** molecules (homodimer)
 - *Lactose* consists of *galactose* and *glucose* molecules (heterodimer)
- Glycosidic bond is cleaved by **glycosidase** enzyme via hydrolysis, such as:
 - *Amylase*: hydrolyzes α 1-4 glycosidic linkage and it is specific to *starch*
 - ✓ Produced in the saliva and pancreas
 - ✓ It breaks starch into smaller oligo- or disaccharides which are digested into monosaccharides by *mucosal cell membrane enzymes*
 - ✓ Amylase is **not active in the stomach** due to acidity
 - *Isomaltase* break the α 1-6 bond of isomaltose
 - *Maltase* breaks the α 1-4 bond of maltose
 - *Sucrase* breaks the α 1-2 bond of sucrose

The majority of sugars are aldoses

Glucose (aldose): 3
Galactose (aldose): 3,4
Mannose (aldose): 3,2
Fructose (ketose)

Cellulose is not broken down inside our bodies

Exoglycosidase (Glucoamylase) breaks the α 1-4 and α 1-6 bonds

- *Lactase* breaks the β 1-4 bond of lactose
- *Trehalase* breaks the α 1-1 bond of trehalose

Sucrase-isomaltase complexes

- Complexes encoded in 1 gene forming **1 polypeptide** having **2 hydrolytic** activities involving a *maltase* with another *glycosidase* including *sucrase-maltase* activity and *isomaltase-maltase* activity
 - Inserted in the apical surface of the intestines and toward the lumen
 - It is a glycoprotein which is modified pre-translationally
- Clinical Notes:
 - *Sucrase-isomaltase deficiency* can be due to **genetic** mutations, **intestinal diseases** (such as Celiac and Crohn's diseases), **malnutrition**, injury of the mucosa (by **drugs**) and severe **diarrhea**
 - *Lactase deficiency*: Mostly genetic and causes diarrhea and blotting (gases due to normal flora)
 - ✓ Half of the world population
 - ✓ Lactase reaches its maximum activity at the **first month** of birth and its activity decreases until reaching the adults level at 5-7 years (10% of the max)
- Absorption of Sugars
 - **Na⁺ - independent facilitated diffusion**: In the apical and basal membrane of the intestinal cells
 - ✓ Down the concentration gradient (no energy needed)
 - ✓ Involve glucose transporters (**GLUT 1-14**) which transport most monosaccharides from the lumen of the intestine into the cells then into the circulation and vice versa (**Bidirectional**)
 - ✓ **GLUT 1**: High affinity glucose transporter in the barriers
 - ✓ **GLUT 2**: High capacity, low affinity transporter for *glucose, galactose, fructose*
 - It performs glucose sensor in the pancreas
 - ✓ **GLUT 3**: In the central nervous system
 - ✓ **GLUT 4**: Stimulates the movement of glucose to intestines and adipose tissue (**Insulin sensitive**)
 - ✓ **GLUT 5 (Fructose)**: *Fructose* transporter (in sperms)
 - ✓ **GLUT 7**: In the endoplasmic reticulum
 - **Na⁺ monosaccharide cotransporter system (SGLT)**: In the *apical* surface of the intestinal cells
 - ✓ Against the concentration gradient (requires energy, active transport)
 - ✓ It also presents in the *proximal kidney tubules* to prevent the loss of sugars in the urine

Past Papers

1. The fructose-specific transporter is:
 - A. GLUT 4
 - B. GLUT 5
 - C. GLUT 7
 - D. GLUT 1
 - E. SGLT

2. Lactase is a _____ enzyme that is used in digestion of _____ bond:
 - A. Mucosal cell-membrane bound, alpha 1,6
 - B. Mucosal cell-membrane bound, alpha 1,2
 - C. Pancreatic, alpha 1,4
 - D. Mucosal cell-membrane bound, beta 1,4
 - E. Pancreatic, alpha 1,1

3. True about isomaltase-sucrase enzyme:
 - A. It's composed of 2 polypeptide chains.
 - B. It can metabolize lactose, sucrose and isomaltose.
 - C. It is a glycoprotein.
 - D. It's cleaved pre-translationally.

4. Which of these transporters is insulin dependent glucose transferase?
 - A. Glut 5
 - B. SglT
 - C. Glut 4
 - D. Glut 3
 - E. Glut 7



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◆ A C A D E M Y ◆

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