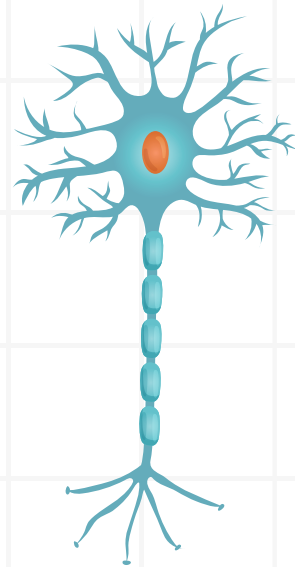


PHYSIOLOGY

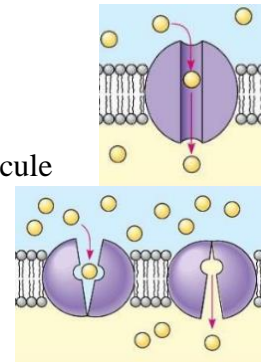
2024



DR. AHMAD AL-QAWASMI

❖ Plasma membrane

- The membrane is a *selective permeable barrier* consisting of a lipid bilayer (phospholipids), many proteins (carriers, channels, receptors, enzyme) and carbohydrates (glycocalyx, glycoprotein)
 - *Fluid mosaic model*: The arrangement of molecules within the membrane resembles a sea of containing many types of proteins
 - The most common phospholipids are P-choline and P-ethanolamine which have a negative phosphate
 - Cholesterol decrease the effect of temperature fluctuations on the membrane fluidity
 - The lipid bilayer is **permeable** to small hydrophobic molecules (O₂, CO₂, steroids) and water but **impermeable** to large hydrophilic molecules (such as glucose, fructose, ions)
- Functions of the membrane proteins:
 - *Ion channels and transporters*
 - ✓ These proteins are selective and specific
 - ✓ Transporters undergo *conformational changes* during passing a specific molecule
 - ✓ Channels can be gated or leaky channels
 - ✓ *Hydrophilic (water-soluble) molecules* pass across the membrane by channels and transporters
 - *Receptors*
 - ✓ Signal transduction via binding to specific ligands (hormones) and producing second messengers inside the cell (intracellular)
 - ✓ GPCR are receptors linked to G-proteins which can be G_s, G_i, G_q, ...
 - ✓ G-proteins require **GTP** to be activated
 - ✓ G_s activates adenylyl cyclase and G_i inhibits adenylyl cyclase which forms cAMP
 - ✓ G_q activates phospholipase C-β (PLC-β) which cleaves PIP₂ into IP₃ and DAG
 - *Cell identity markers*
 - ✓ They are glycoproteins, where their carbohydrate part is the responsible for recognition
 - ✓ Also glycolipids contribute in the cell-cell recognition
 - ✓ Example: *MHC* molecules
 - *Enzymes* which catalyze chemical reactions
 - *Cell adhesion and communication*
 - ✓ It is done by some proteins, in the aid with carbohydrates
 - ✓ Examples: *CAM* (cell adhesion molecules) which include *cadherins*
 - *Linkers and junctions*, they include:
 - ✓ *Tight junctions (impermeable junction)*
 - Prevents the passing of foreign substances to the cells (separate 2 different compartments)
 - Present in the epithelial tissue such as the skin and epithelium of the GI system
 - ✓ *Gap junctions (communication junctions)*
 - Small tunnels between adjacent cells enable neighboring cell to communicate with each other
 - This tunnel is composed connexons protein which extend outward from the plasma membrane to join other connexon from the adjacent cell
 - Present in the heart (cardiac) and smooth muscle, enabling synchrony
 - ✓ *Desmosomes (adhering junctions)*
 - Consist of filaments that connect adjacent cells maintaining about 20 nm between them
- Integral proteins can be channels, transporters, receptors (signal transduction) and enzymes



- Transport across the membrane can be either:
 - **Passive transport**
 - ✓ Does *not require* input of energy
 - ✓ Occurs *down* the concentration gradient (downhill)
 - ✓ Includes *simple diffusion* (across the lipid bilayer) and *facilitated diffusion* (transporters, carriers)
 - **Active transport**
 - ✓ *Requires energy* input
 - ✓ Occurs *against* concentration gradient (uphill)
 - ✓ Include *primary* and *secondary* active transport

❖ Passive transport

1. Simple Diffusion

Diffusion: is the continuous movement of particles in liquids and

- Passive movement of particle across the membrane directly through **lipid bilayer** or channels proteins
- It is responsible for the passage of small lipid soluble (**hydrophobic**) molecules across the membrane
 - Examples: O₂, CO₂, steroids, monoglycerides, lipid-soluble vitamins ...
- Diffusion depends on the following:
 - Concentration gradient (ΔC):** It is the difference in the concentration of a specific molecule between the 2 sides of the membrane
 - ✓ It determines the direction of diffusion, where molecules diffuse from the **higher** concentration to the **lower** concentration (**downhill**, down concentration gradient)
 - ✓ As the difference between the 2 sides increases, the rate of diffusion increases
 - ✓ It is also called **chemical gradient** (chemical potential)
 - ✓ Also pressure and electrical gradients affect the movement of substances across the membrane
 - Permeability (P):** which depends on the **lipids solubility** of the transported molecule
 - ✓ As the permeability of the molecule increases, the rate of diffusion increases
 - Surface area**
 - ✓ As the surface area increases, the rate of diffusion increases
 - Molecular weight:** which represents the **size** of the molecule
 - ✓ Smaller (lighter) molecules pass more easily and readily than larger (heavier) molecules
 - Membrane thickness (distance of movement)**
 - ✓ Greater the distance the slower the rate of diffusion
- All the factors that affect diffusion are explained in Fick's law of diffusion
 - **Directly** proportional factors: **Concentration gradient, Permeability, Surface area**
 - **Inversely** proportional factors: **Molecular Weight, Membrane Thickness**

Fick's law

$$J = P \cdot \Delta C$$

$$P = D \cdot A / \Delta X$$

$$J = D \cdot A \cdot \Delta C / \Delta X$$

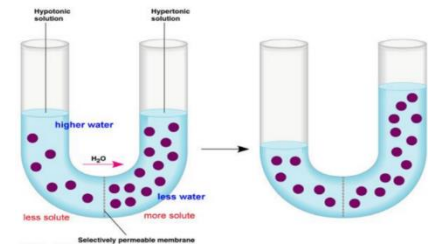
2. Facilitated diffusion

- Passive movement of particle using membrane proteins such as **transporters (carriers)**
- Transportes **larger and more hydrophilic** substances
 - Example: glucose (by GLUT) in the basal surface of the enterocytes

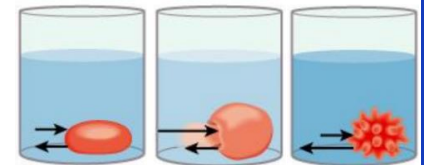
- It is **saturable**, which means that it has a maximum number of molecules to be transporter at the same time (limit) which is called **V_{max}**
 - V_{max} is due to the limited number of transporters in the membrane
- Diffusion through **channels** can be considered as **simple or facilitated diffusion**

3. Osmosis

- It is the movement of **water** across a semipermeable membrane
- Water moves from the higher concentration of free water molecules (less solute) into the lower concentration of free water molecule (higher solute)
 - Water always goes **toward the region of higher solutes**
- **Equilibrium:** it is the condition where the **net movement equals zero**
 - It is reached when the hydrostatic pressure equals and opposes the osmotic pressure
 - **Hydrostatic pressure:** is the force done by the volume of water
 - **Osmotic pressure:** is the force that drives water to go toward soultres (ions, sugars, proteins, ...)
 - When equilibrium is reached, if an external pressure is applied, that causes **filtration**
- Concentration of particles is represented by
 - **Molarity:** Number of **molecules** per liter of water
 - **Osmolarity:** Number of active **particles** per liter of water
 - **Osmolality:** Number of active particles per Kg of water
- **Isotonic solution:** A solution with osmolarity similar to body fluids
- **Hypertonic solution:** A solution with osmolarity higher than body fluids
- **Hypotonic solution:** A solution with osmolarity less than body fluids
- Van't Hoff's law ($\pi = RTC$) where C is the osmolarity



Osmolarity of body fluids and blood is **300 mOsm**



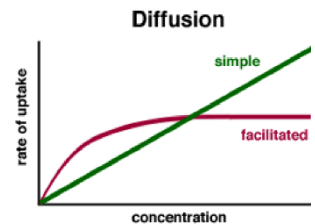
❖ Active transport

1. Primary active transport

- Requires energy input by **direct** hydrolysis of ATP
- Requires transporter proteins called **pumps (ATPase)**, such as:
 - **Na⁺-K⁺ pump**
 - ✓ Pumps **3 Na⁺ ions outward**, and **2 K⁺ ions inward**
 - ✓ It maintains the gradient of these ions across the membrane which **regulates cell volume**
 - ✓ It changes its conformation by phosphorylation and dephosphorylation
 - **Ca⁺⁺ pumps**
 - ✓ Maintain low Ca⁺⁺ concentration in the cytosol
 - ✓ There are 2 types of Ca⁺⁺ pumps:
 - In the **plasma membrane**, which expels Ca⁺⁺ into the ECF
 - In the membranes of **internal organelles** (**ER, mitochondria**), which stores Ca⁺⁺ into the lumen (reducing Ca⁺⁺ in muscles causing muscle **relaxation**)
 - **H⁺ pumps (or H⁺-K⁺ pump)**
 - ✓ In the **pareital cells** of the gastric mucosa, which **increases acidity** (lowers pH) of the stomach
 - ✓ In the distal tubules and cortical collecting ducts in the **kidney**, which pumps H⁺ into the urine and so **controlling the amount of H⁺** in the body

2. Secondary active transport

- It requires energy input by **indirect** utilization of ATP, via utilizing the tendency of a specific particle (such as Na⁺) to move downhill to transport another molecule against its gradient
 - Utilization of the **concentration gradient** of a particle to transport another particle
 - Uses *sodium-dependent carriers*
 - **Co-transport**: Both substances are moved in the **same** direction
 - ✓ Co-transporters of **amino acids** or **glucose** in the apical surface of the enterocytes in the intestines (during absorption) which transport them with Na⁺ into the cells
 - ✓ Also, Co-transporters of Fe⁺⁺, Cl⁻, iodine and urate
 - **Counter-transport**: One substance passes in a direction and the other is pumped in **opposite** direction
 - ✓ **Na⁺-Ca⁺⁺** counter transporter which is found in most cells such as cardiac muscles
 - ✓ **Na⁺-H⁺** counter transporter which is found in the proximal tubules of the nephron (kidney)
- Primary and secondary active transport are **saturable** (limited, V_{max})



❖ Vesicular transport

- Used for very large particles that can't pass through the membrane
 - They are transported via membranous vesicles
 - It requires energy (so it can be considered as an active transport mechanism)

1. Endocytosis

- The vesicle buds from the plasma membrane and carry the substances to ER, Golgi and other organelles
- It has many types including:
 - **Pinocytosis**: which is non-specific transport of solutions (**fluid**)
 - **Phagocytosis**: transport large multimolecular particles into the cell
 - **Receptor mediated endocytosis**: most specific type

2. Exocytosis

- Cellularly synthesized molecules (neurotransmitters, hormones, ...) are transported out of the cell where the vesicle fuses with the plasma membrane and releases its contents into the ECF
 - It occurs in the **presence of Ca⁺⁺** ions
 - Vesicles are mostly synthesized in the ER

3. Transcytosis

- Involves endocytosis and exocytosis

