

Heme Synthesis & Degradation

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Professor

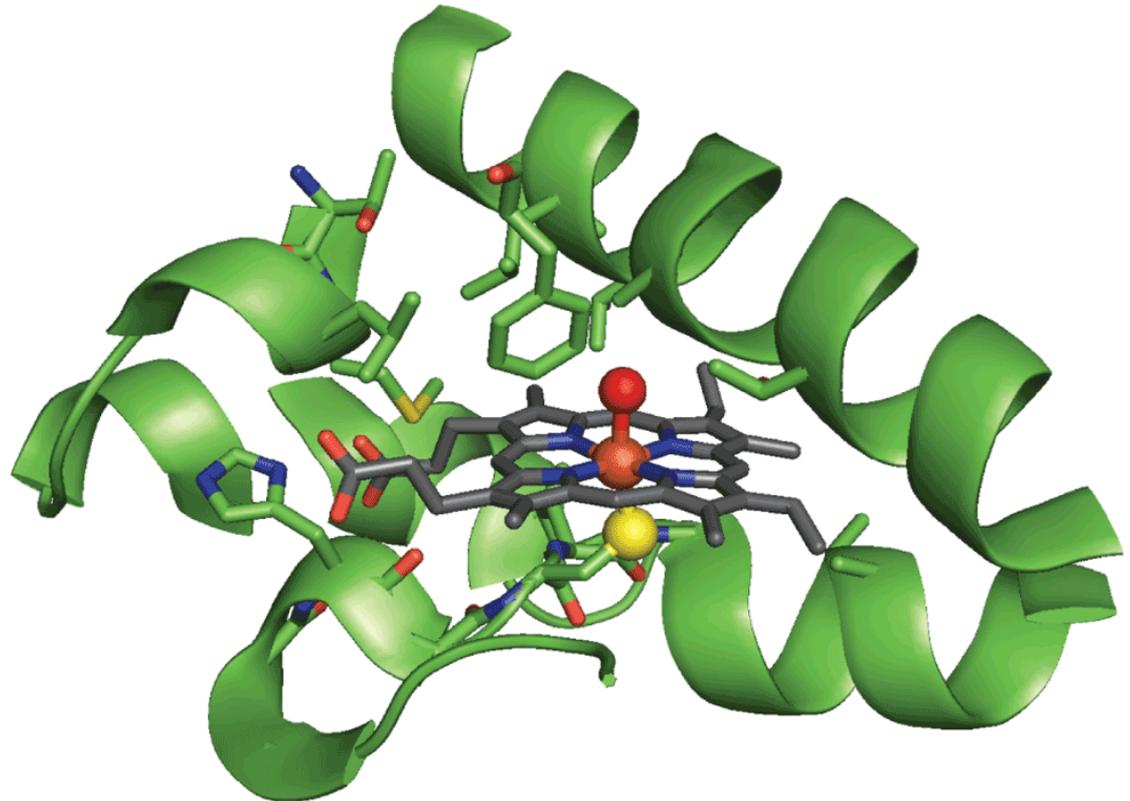
Department of Biochemistry

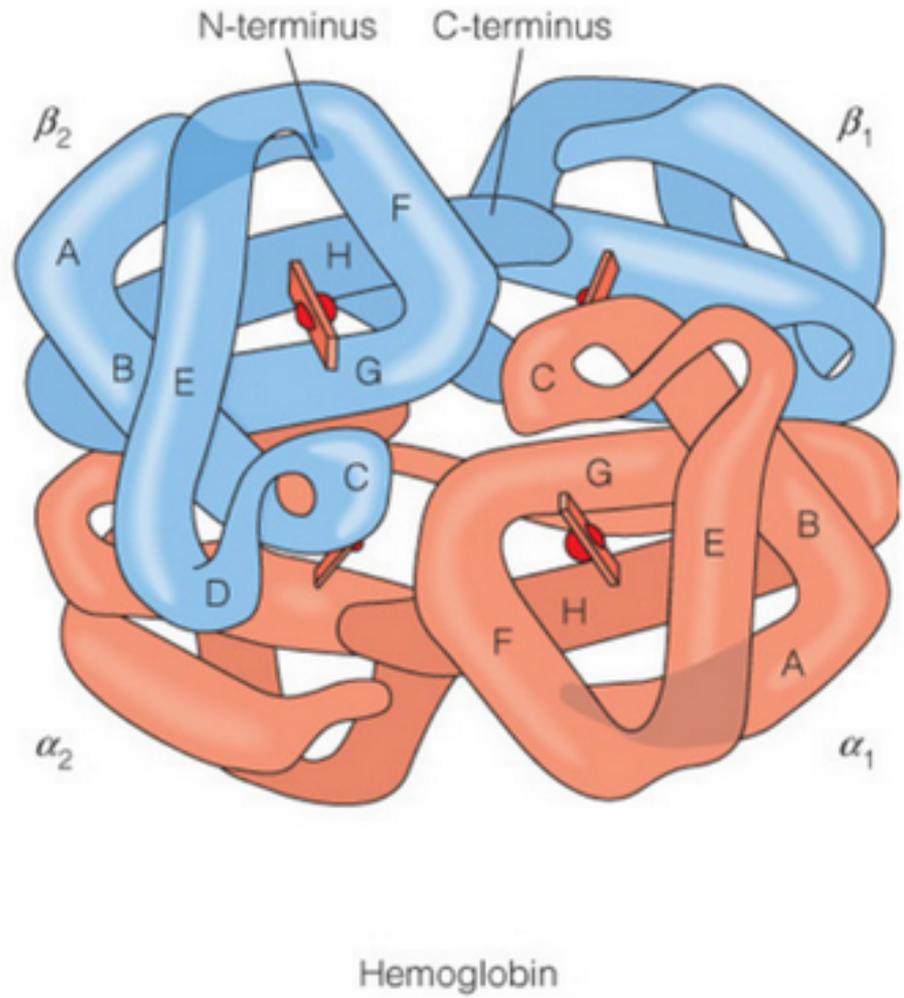
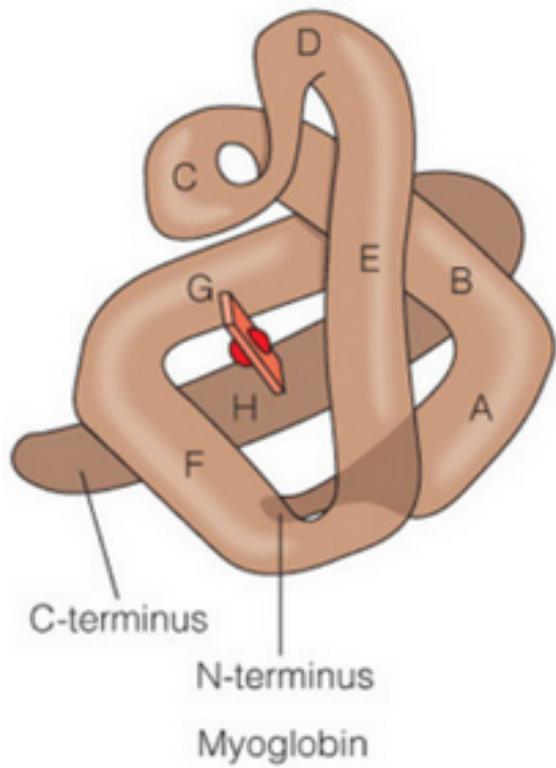
Govt. Medical college

Bhavnagar

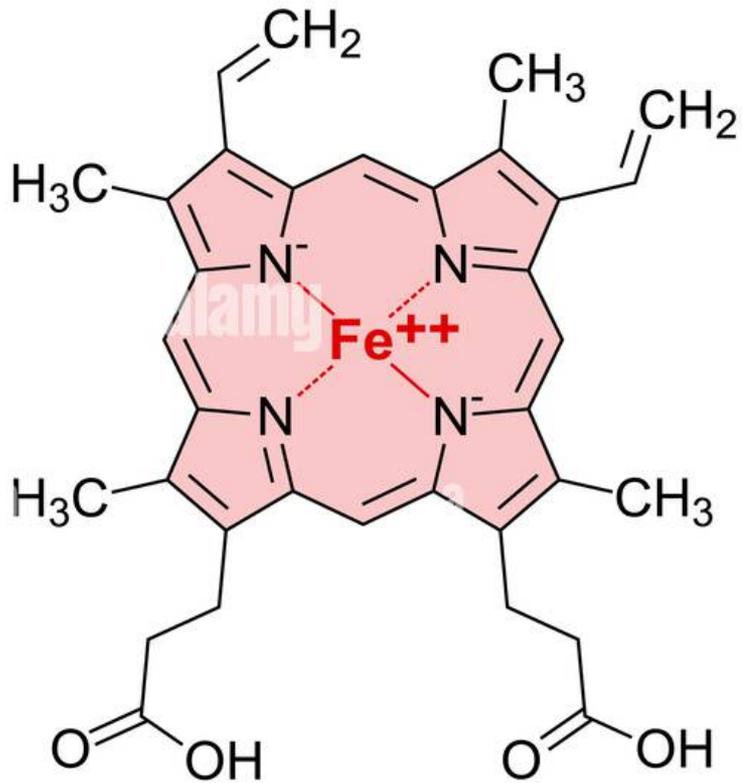
HEME-CONTAINING PROTEINS

- Hemoglobin
- Myoglobin
- Cytochromes
- Catalase
- Peroxidases



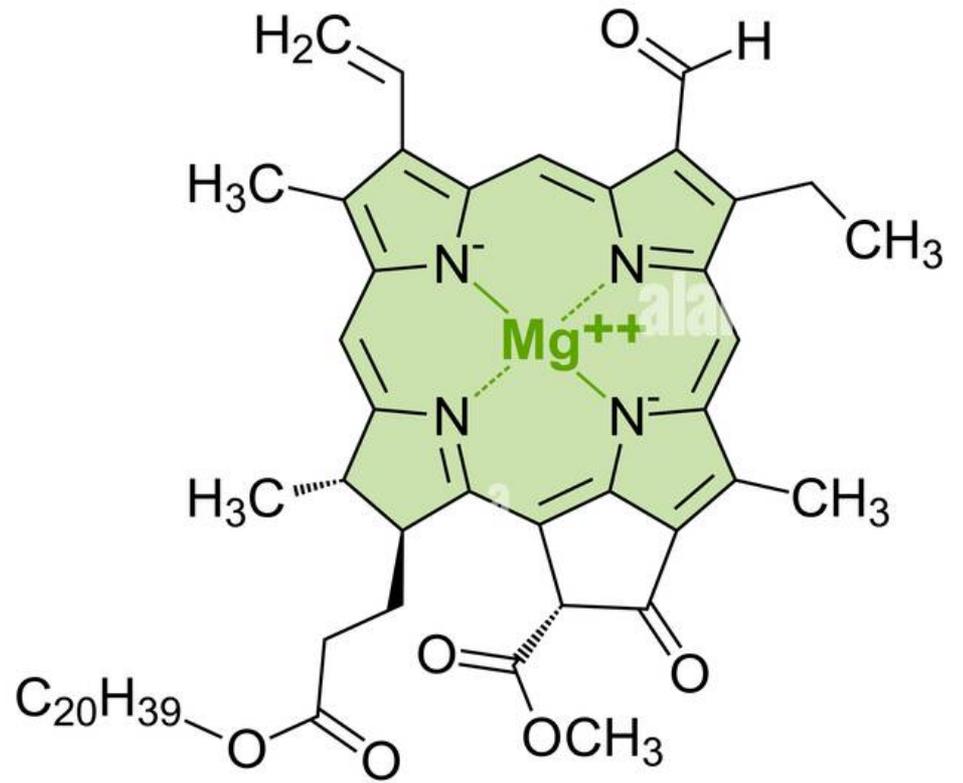






Heme B

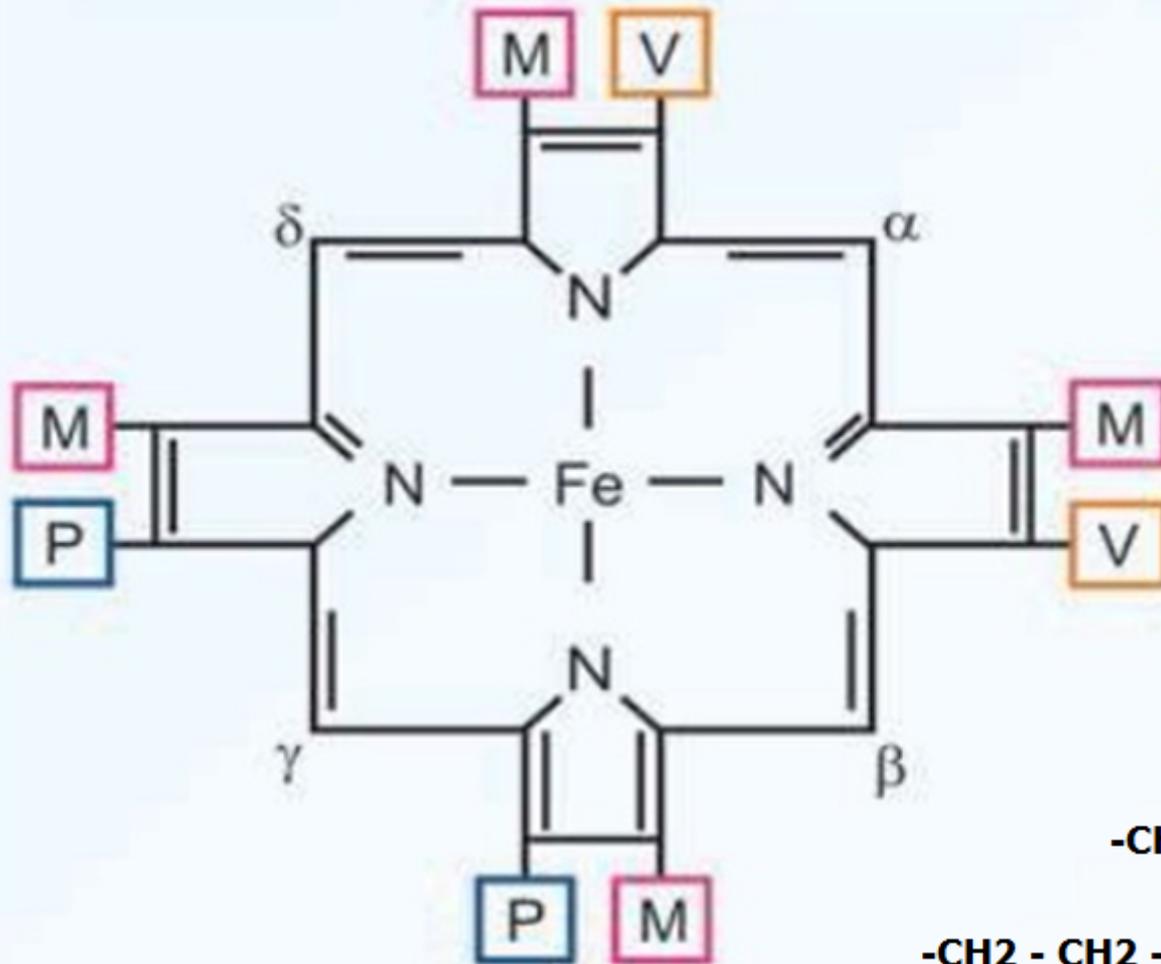
Red blood pigment precursor



Chlorophyll b

Green pigment in land plants

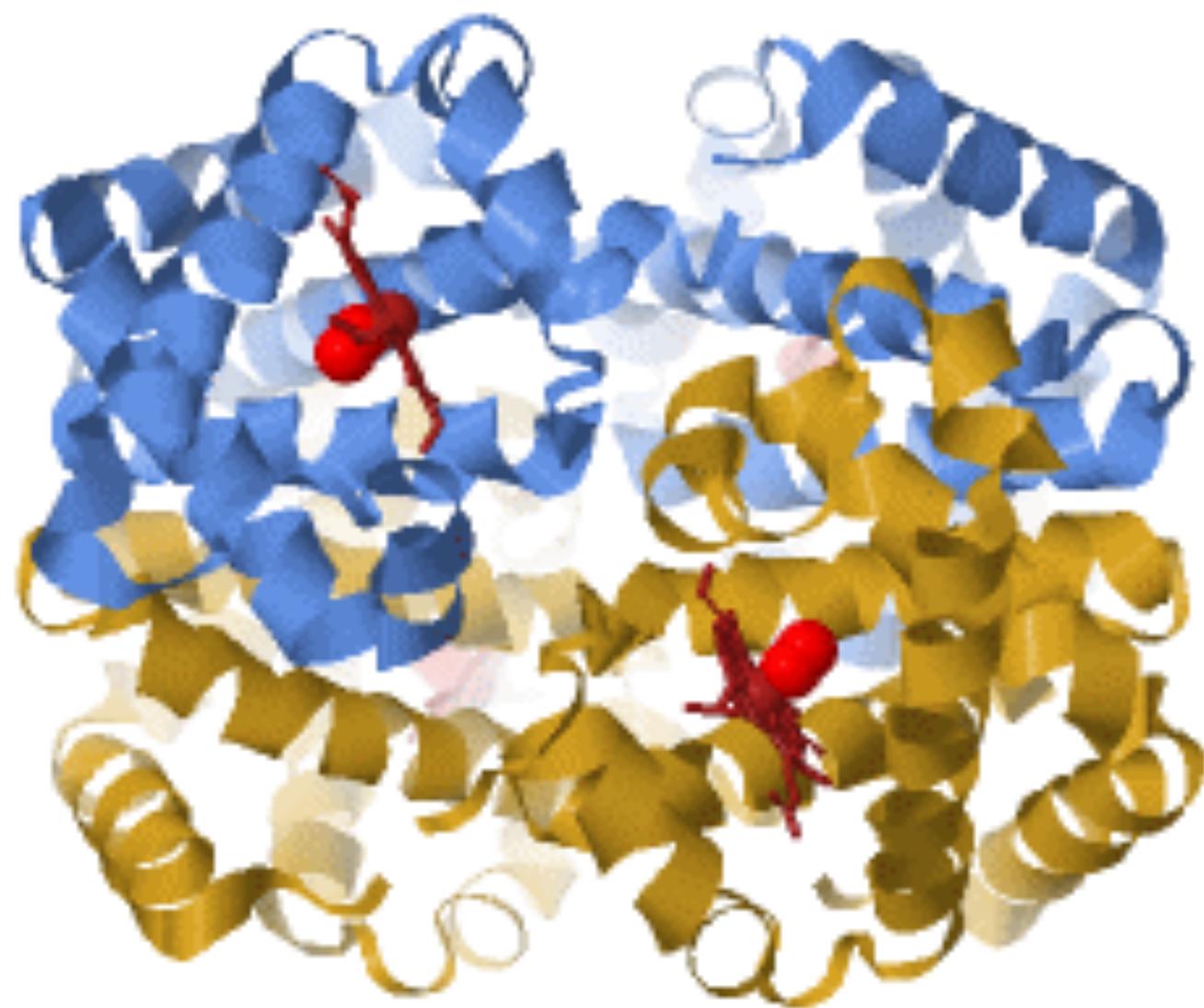
Structure of heme



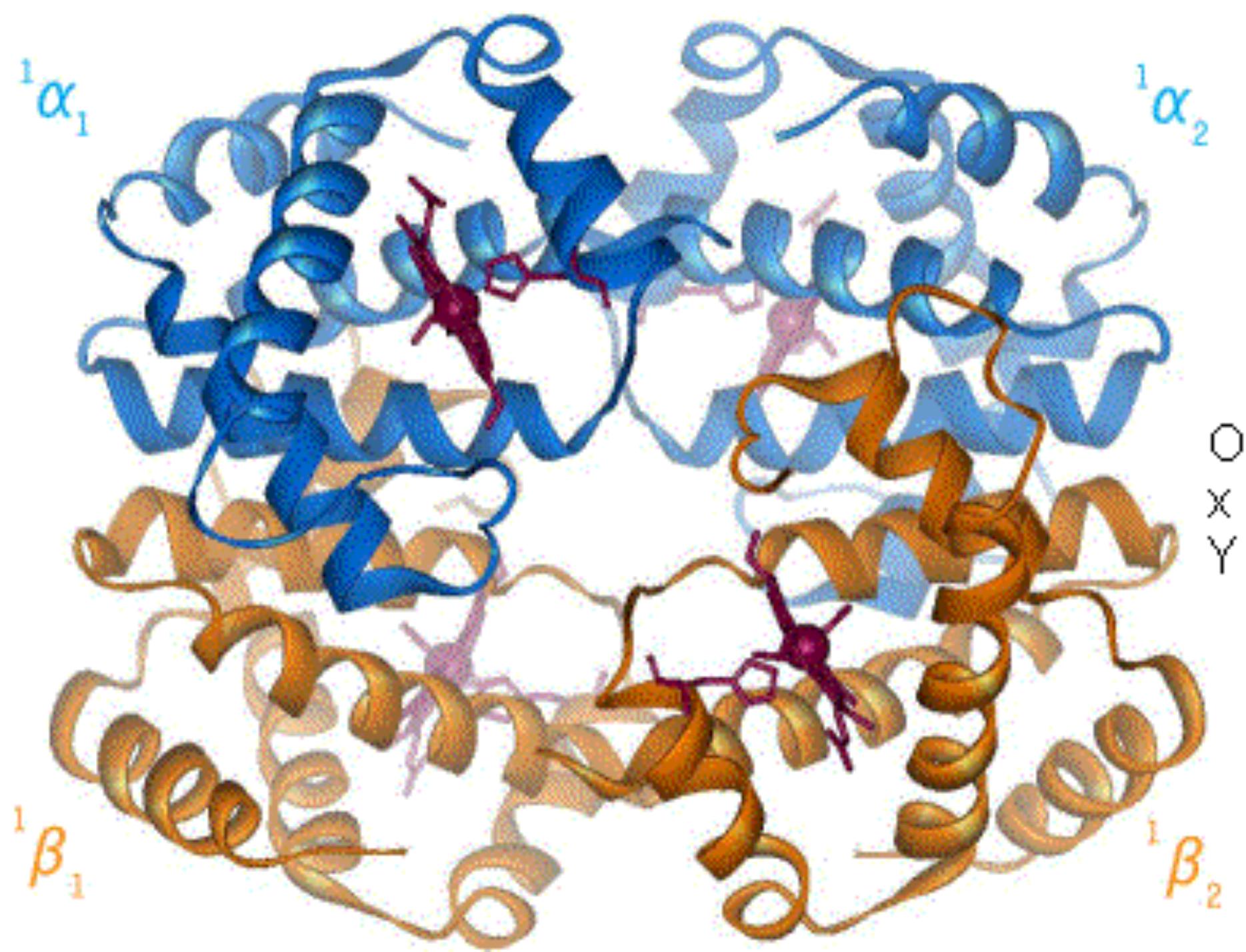
-CH₃ M = Methyl

-CH=CH₂ V = Vinyl

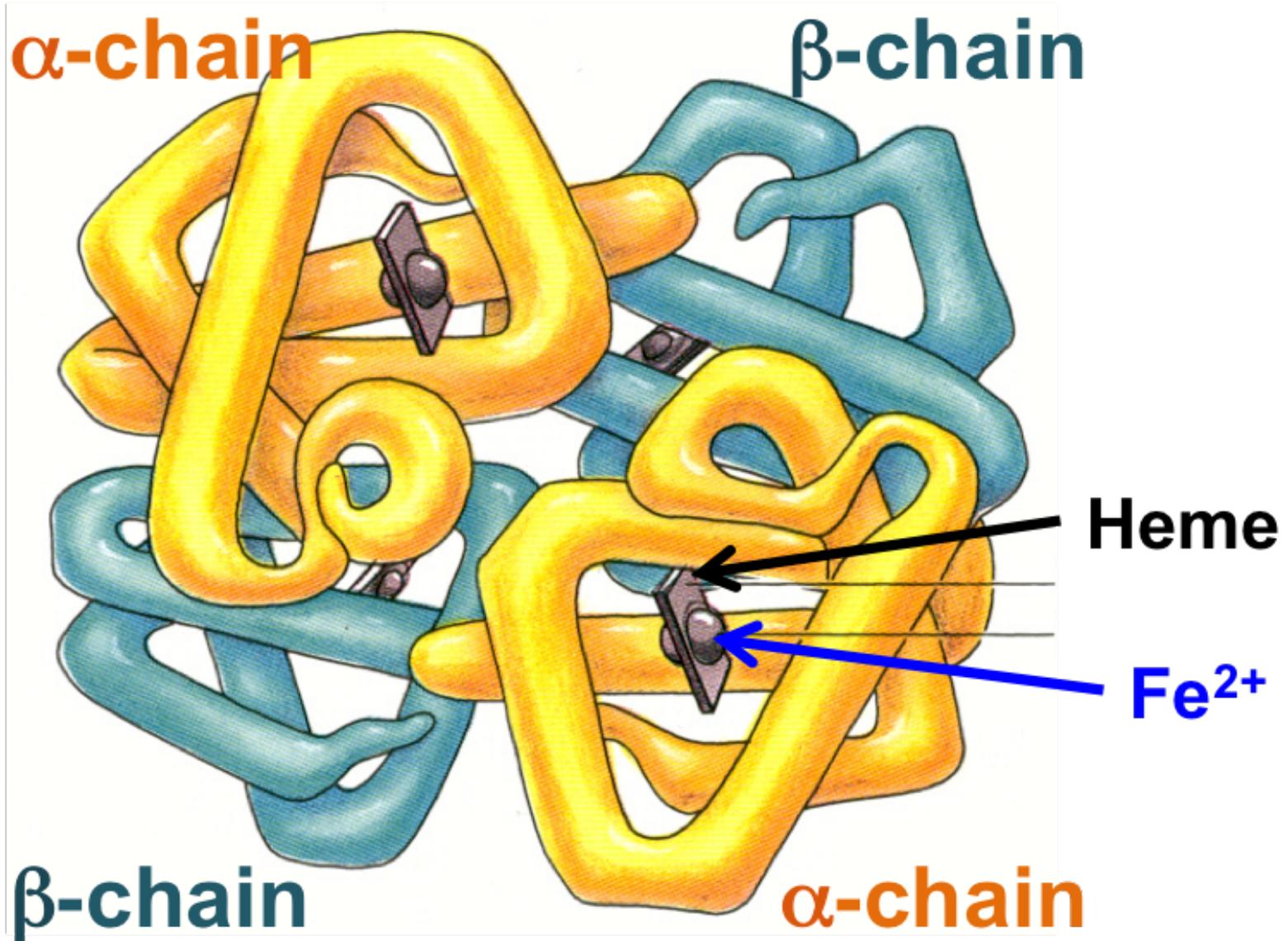
-CH₂ - CH₂ - COOH P = Propionyl



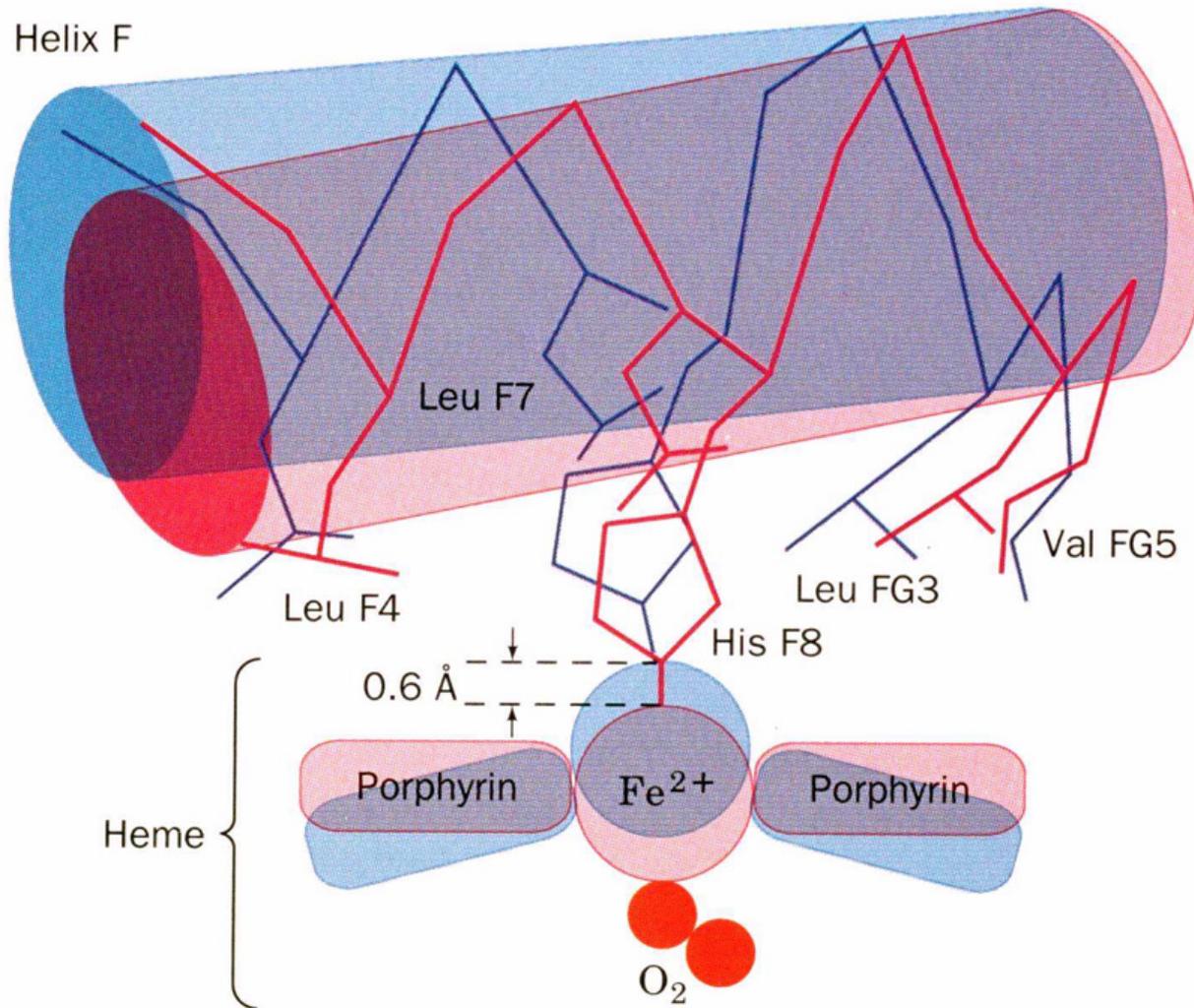
Jmol

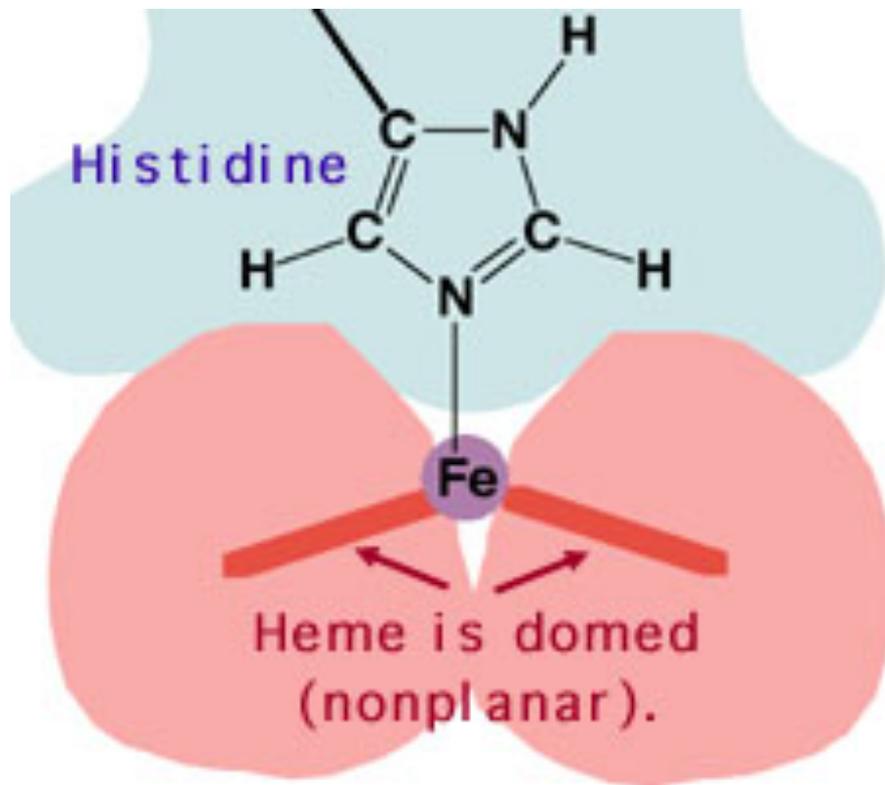


Haemoglobin Structure

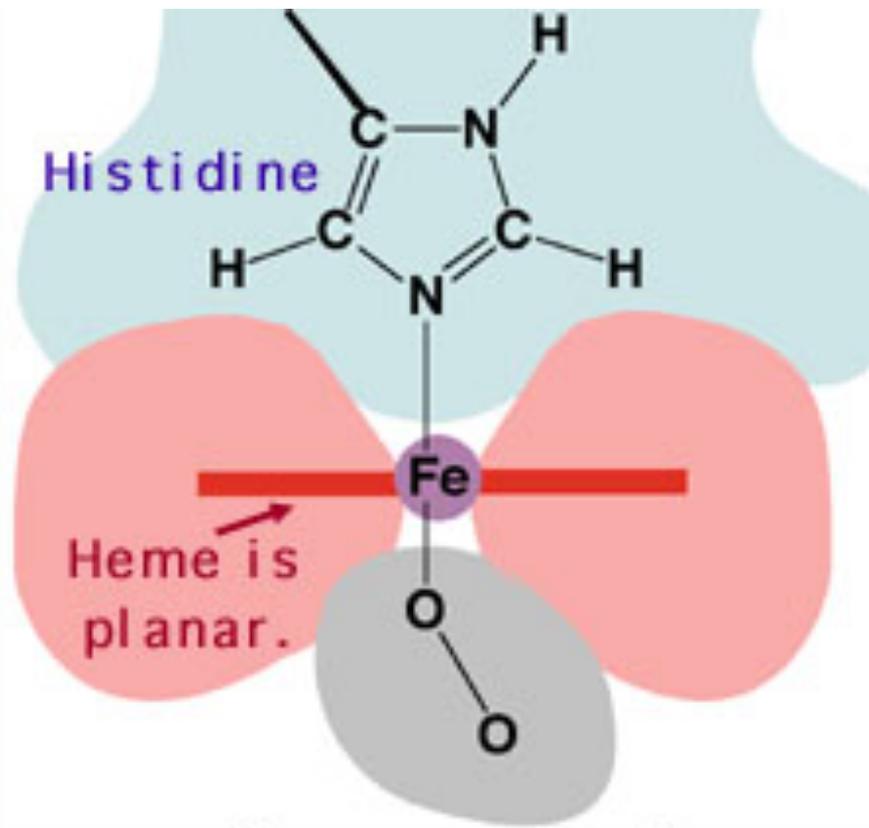


O₂ and heme changes

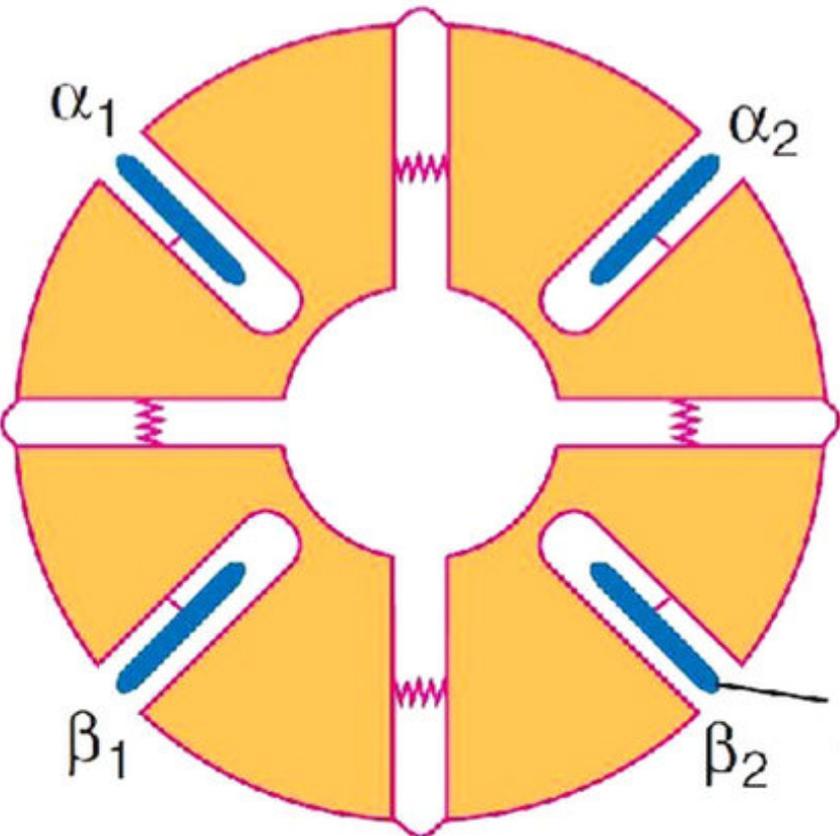




Deoxygenated

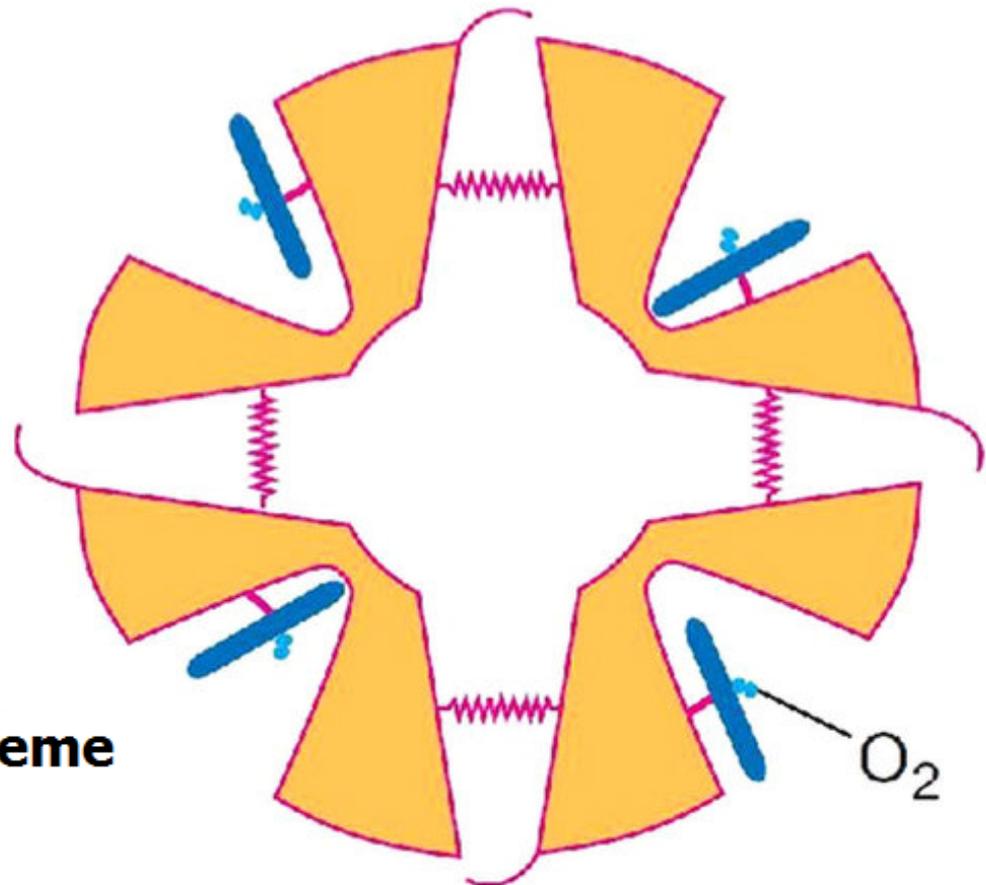


Oxygenated



T (Tight) Form

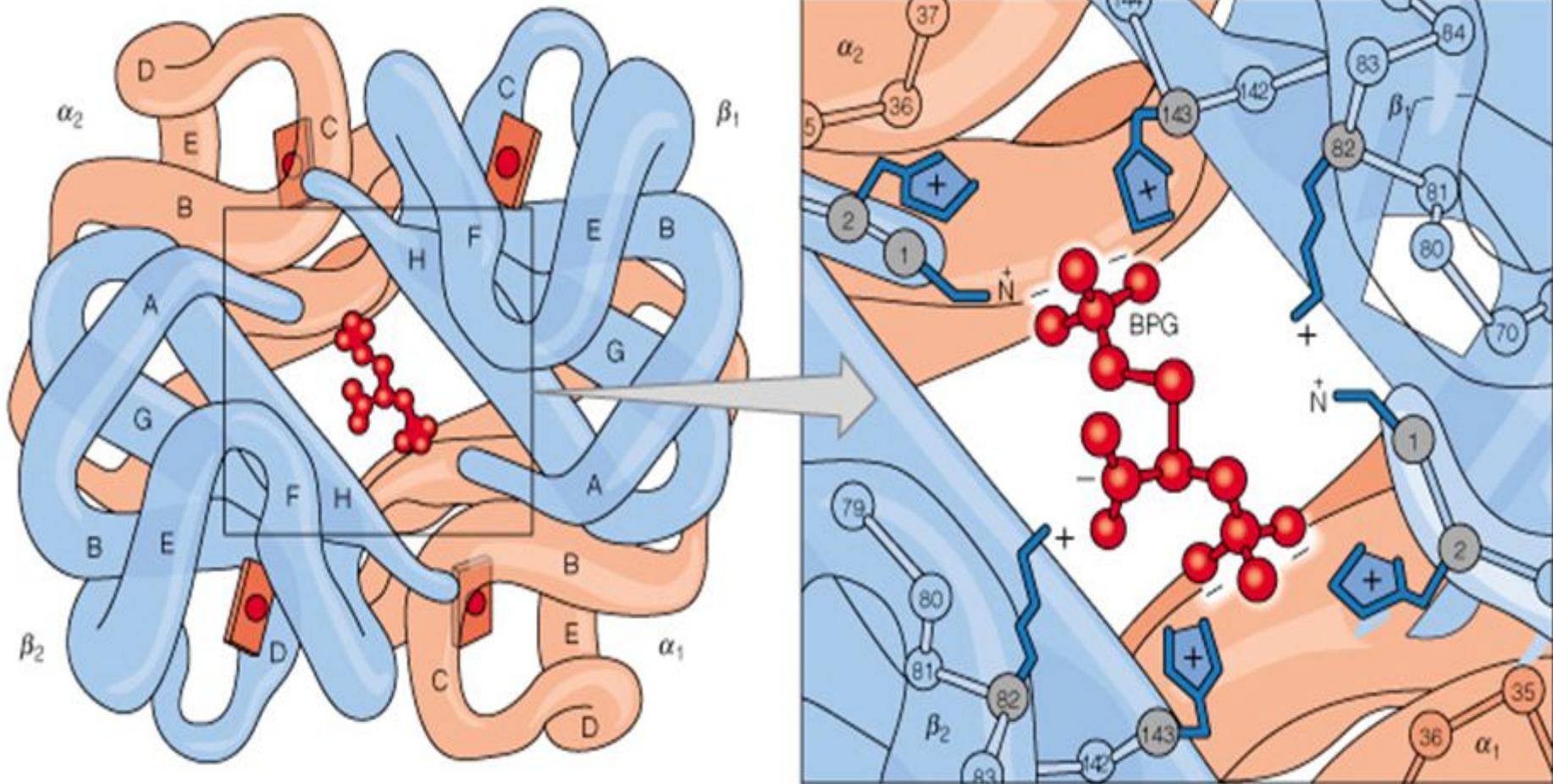
Heme



R (Relax) Form

O₂

2-3 BPG = Effect on Heme



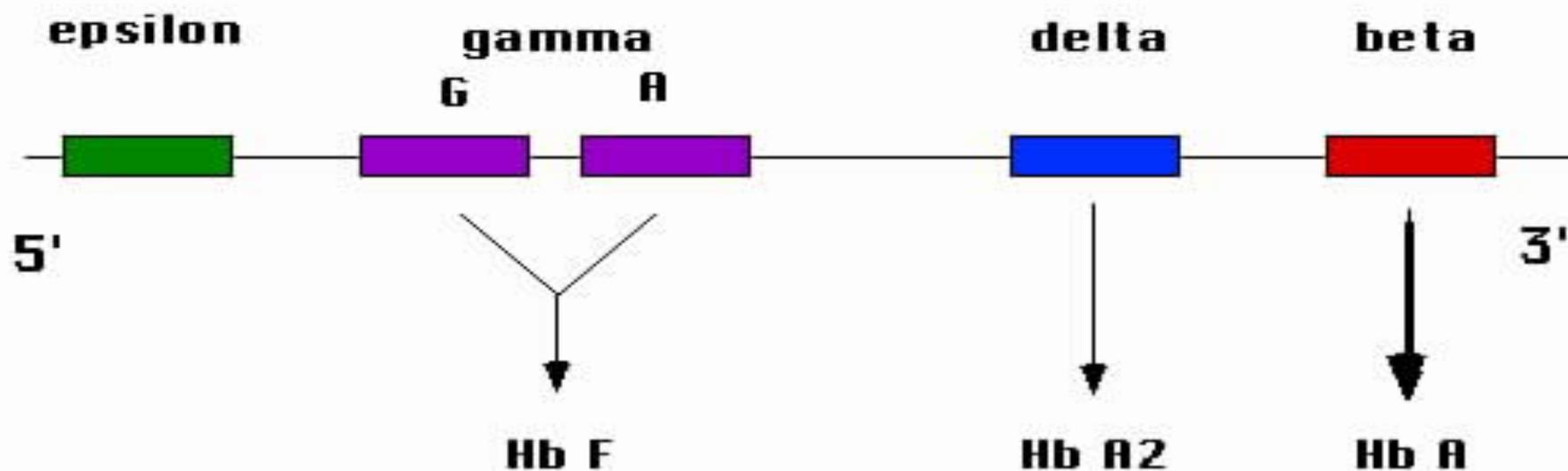
2 3 BPG Effect on Hb F

- Beta Chain is Replace by Gamma Chain
- Histidine is replace by Serine
- Positive Charge is replace by Serine
- Positive charge ????? Decrease / Increase ?
- Attraction to 2-3 BPG, Decrease / Increase ?
- Will Haemoglobin remain in Tight / Relax form?
- HbF affinity for Oxygen, Decrease / Increase ?

2 3 BPG Effect on Hb F

- Beta Chain is Replace by Gamma Chain
- Histidine is replace by Serine
- Positive Charge is replace by Serine
- Positive charge ????? Decrease / ~~Increase~~
- Attraction to 2-3 BPG, Decrease / ~~Increase~~
- Will Haemoglobin remain in Tight / ~~Relax-form~~
- HbF affinity for Oxygen, ~~Decrease~~ / Increase

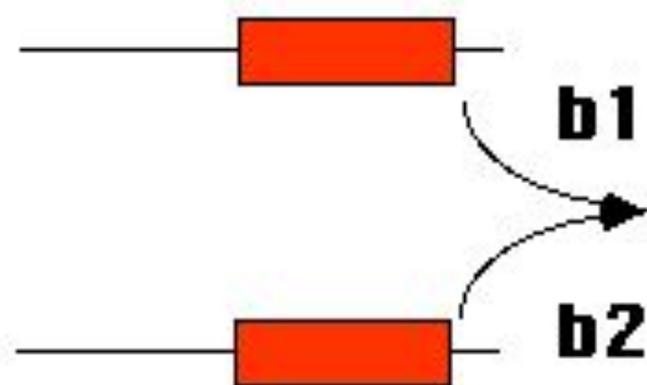
Beta Globin Gene Cluster Chromosome 11



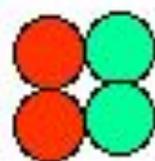
Alpha Globin Gene Cluster Chromosome 16



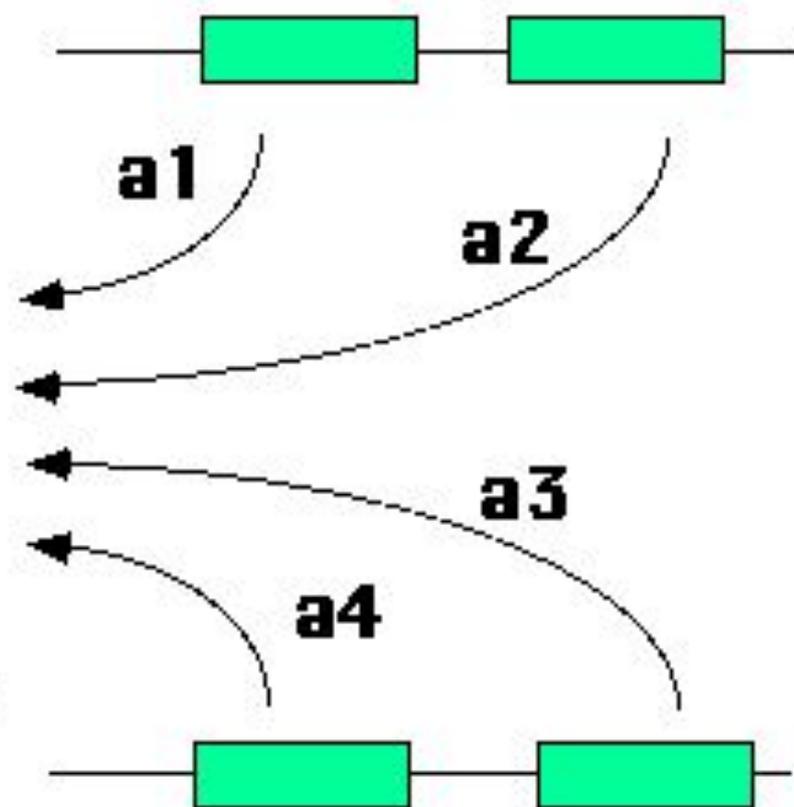
Beta Globin Genes



Hemoglobin Protein



Alpha Globin Genes



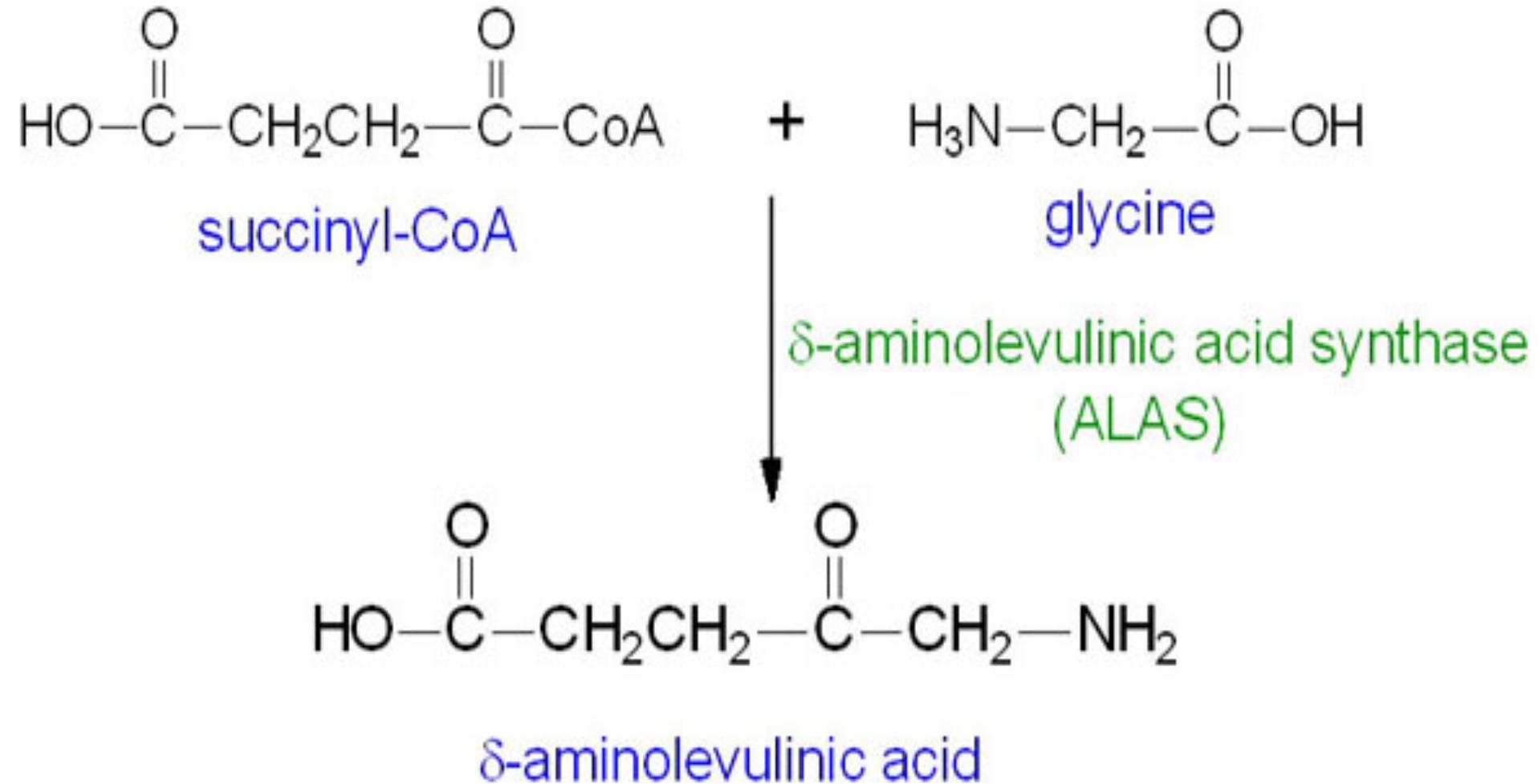
Chromosome 11

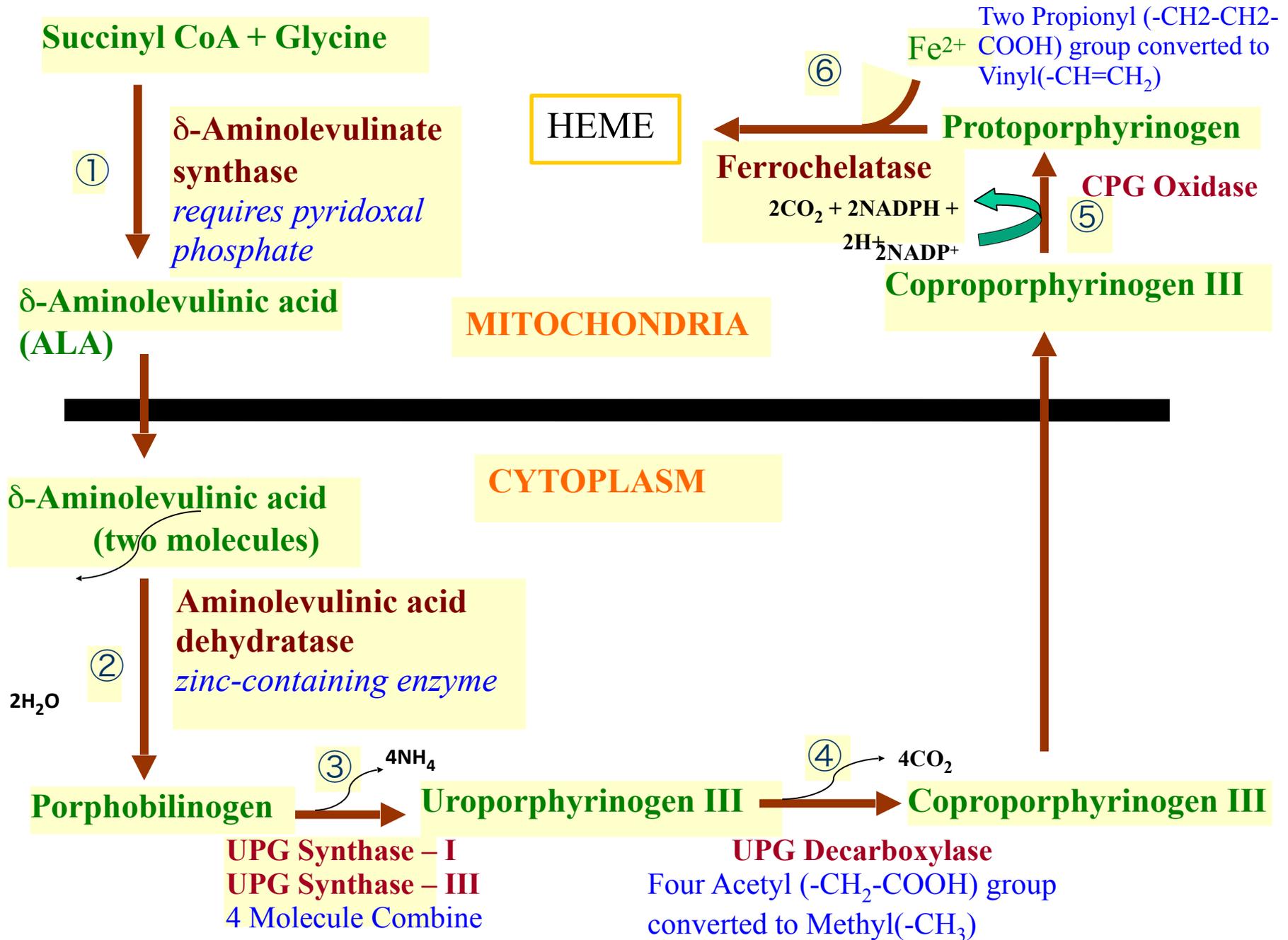
Chromosome 16

STRUCTURE OF HEME

- 4 Pyrrole rings linked together by Methenyl bridges = **PORPHYRIN**
- Porphyrin + Ferrous ion (Fe^{+2}) = **HEME**
- Pyrrole rings named = I , II, III & IV
- Bridges named = α , β , γ & δ
- Substitution denoted as = 1 to 8
- If Substitution group have a symmetrical arrangement (1,3,5,7 & 2,4,6,8) = **Series I**
- If Substitution group have a asymmetrical arrangement (1,3,5,8 & 2,4,6,7) = **Series III** (Predominant in biological system)
- Substitution group = Propionyl ($-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)
= Acetyl ($-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$)
= Methyl ($-\text{CH}_3$)
= Vinyl ($-\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$)

Heme Synthesis (First Step)





Regulation of Heme and Globin Synthesis

- ALA synthase has **two Iso – Enzymes**.
 - Erythroid = X chromosome (**Not Repress** by Heme)
 - Non Erythroid = On 3rd chromosome
- **Repression** of Gene for ALA synthase .
 - High Heme
 - High Glucose
 - High Catabolite Repressor
 - Repression of ALA synthase
- Free Heme = Stimulation of Globin synthesis
- Excess Heme = Fe⁺² is oxidised to Fe⁺³ (Hemetin)

Regulation of Heme and Globin Synthesis

Drug effect on Regulation

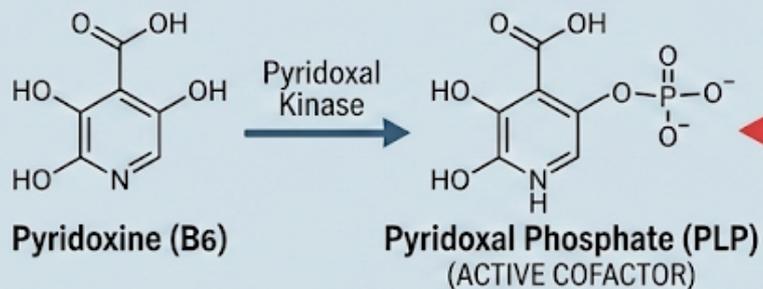
- **Barbiturates**
 - Require Cytochrome P -450 for their metabolism.
 - For Cytochrome P - 450 synthesis - Heme is require
 - So Heme synthesis is stimulated
 - Induction of Enzyme
 - ALA Synthase

Regulation of Heme and Globin Synthesis

Drug effect on Regulation

- **Isoniazide (INH)**
 - Used in Treatment of Tuberculosis
 - Decrease availability of Pyridoxal phosphate.
 - Decrease activity of ALA Synthase
 - Decrease Heme synthesis

NORMAL VITAMIN B₆ METABOLISM & FUNCTIONS



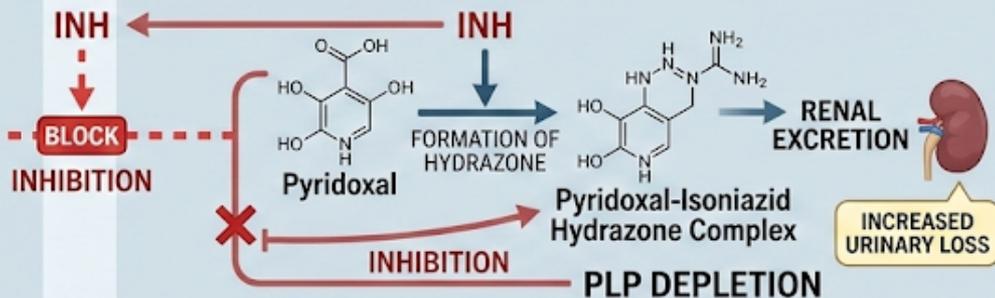
1. AMINO ACID & NEUROTRANSMITTER SYNTHESIS (e.g., GABA, Serotonin)

2. HEME SYNTHESIS (Heme \rightarrow Hemoglobin)

Normal Neurological Function

Normal RBC Function

EFFECTS OF ISONIAZID (INH) & PLP DEPLETION



DECREASED NEUROTRANSMITTER SYNTHESIS

PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY (e.g., Tingling, Numbness)

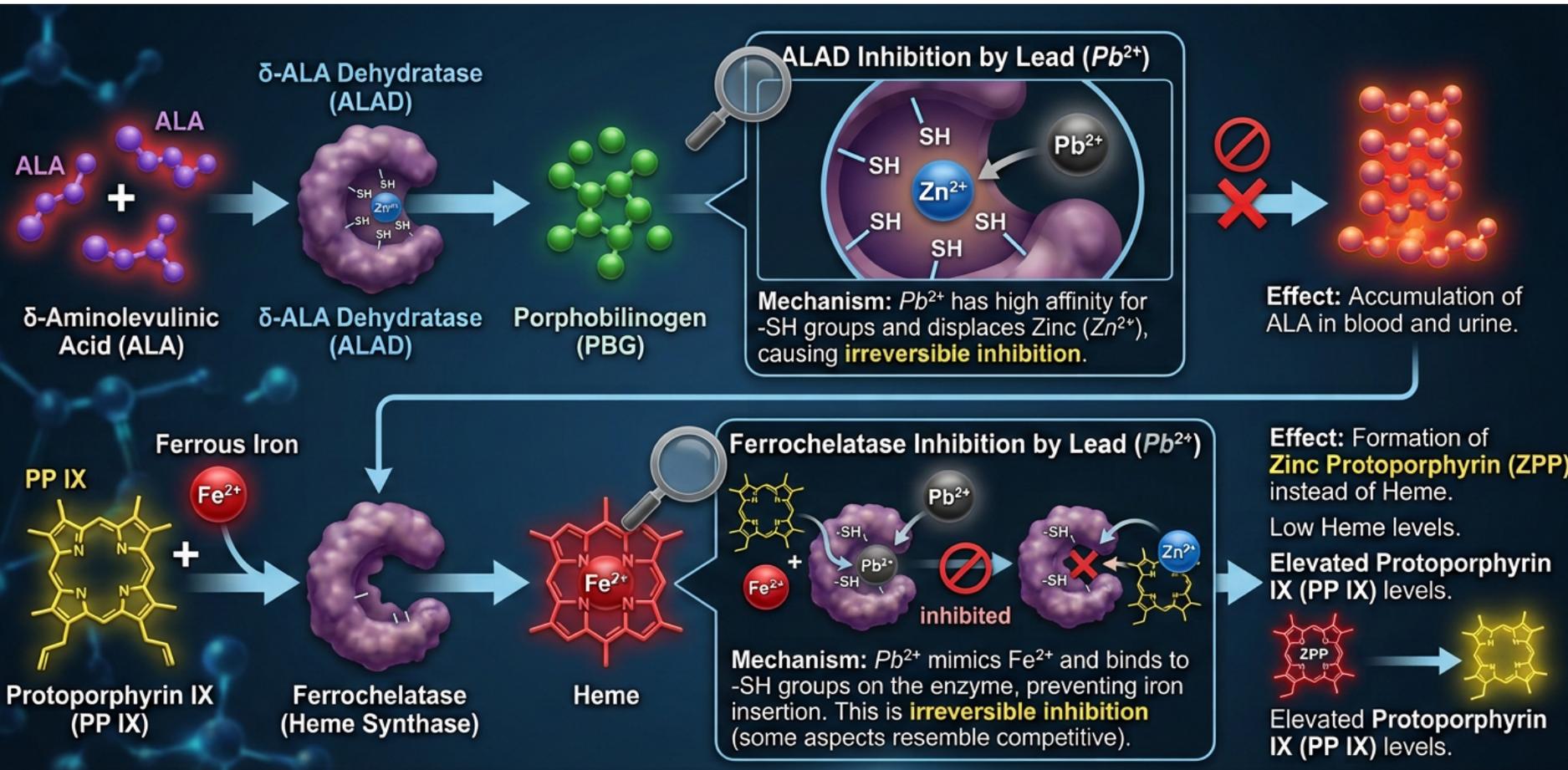
DECREASED HEME SYNTHESIS

SIDEROBLASTIC ANEMIA

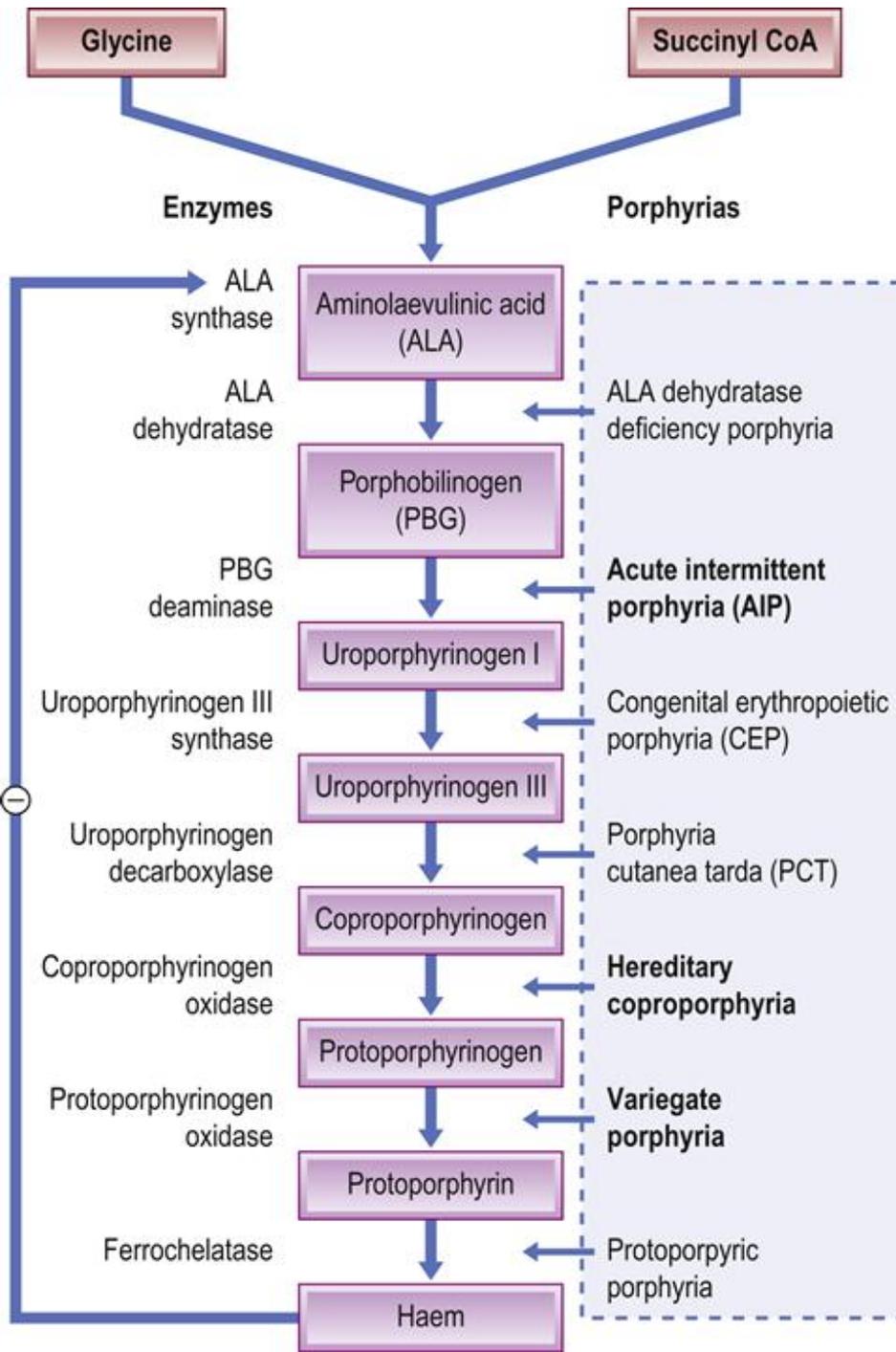
Regulation of Heme and Globin Synthesis

Drug effect on Regulation

- **Lead**
 - Non-Competitive - Irreversible inhibition
 - Inhibit ALA dehydratase enzyme.
 - Inhibit Ferrochelatase (Heme Synthase)enzyme.



SUMMARY: Lead (Pb^{2+}) causes irreversible inhibition of Ferrochelatase and ALAD by binding covalently to essential sulfhydryl (-SH) groups and displacing essential metal cofactors (Fe^{2+} , Zn^{2+}).



Acute Intermittent Porphyria

- Autosomal dominant trait
- **Deficiency of UPG – I synthase** (*Porphobilinogen De-aminase*)
- Thus increase activity of UPG – III synthase.
- Increase level of ALA & PBG (Porphobilinogen)
- Due to Photo-Oxidation, PBG converted into Porphyrin.
- Most commonly, “**Acute Abdominal Pain**”.
- Neurological manifestation
 - Sensory – Motor disturbances, Confusion, Mania
- **Not Photosensitive sign**
- Female Sex hormone = Stimulate ALA synthase
 - AIP is more severe during menstruation.
 - AIP is less severe before menarche & after menopause.
- Attack is precipitated by Starvation
- Means Glucose helps to relieve attack.

Congenital Erythropoietic Porphyria

- Autosomal recessive trait
- *Deficiency of UPG – III synthase* ,
- Thus increase activity of UPG – I synthase.
- Increase level of Porphyrin – I (*Photosensitive*)
- Makes urine dark red colour.
- Porphyrin absorb light at 400 nm
- Emit intense Red light (Reactive Oxygen Species = Free Radical).
- *“Mimic leprosy”*
 - Dermatitis
 - Facial deformoty (monkey facies)
 - Mutation of Nose, Ear & Cartilage

	Acute Intermittent Porphyria (Hepatic)	Congenital Erythropoietic Porphyria (Erythropoietic)
Primary Defect Zone	Hepatocyte (Cytosol)	Erythroid Cell (Mitochondria/Cytosol)
Enzyme Deficient	PBG Deaminase / Uroporphyrinogen I Synthase	Uroporphyrinogen III Synthase
Major Accumulation	Delta-Aminolevulinic acid (ALA) & Porphobilinogen (PBG)	Uroporphyrin I & Coproporphyrin I
Pathology	ALA is Neurotoxic	Photosensitive (ROS generation)
Clinical Features	Severe abdominal pain Neurological symptoms Psychiatric attacks	Blistering Photosensitivity Scarring Erythrodonτία
Photosensitivity	No	Yes, Severe

Billirubin Synthesis (Heme Degradation)

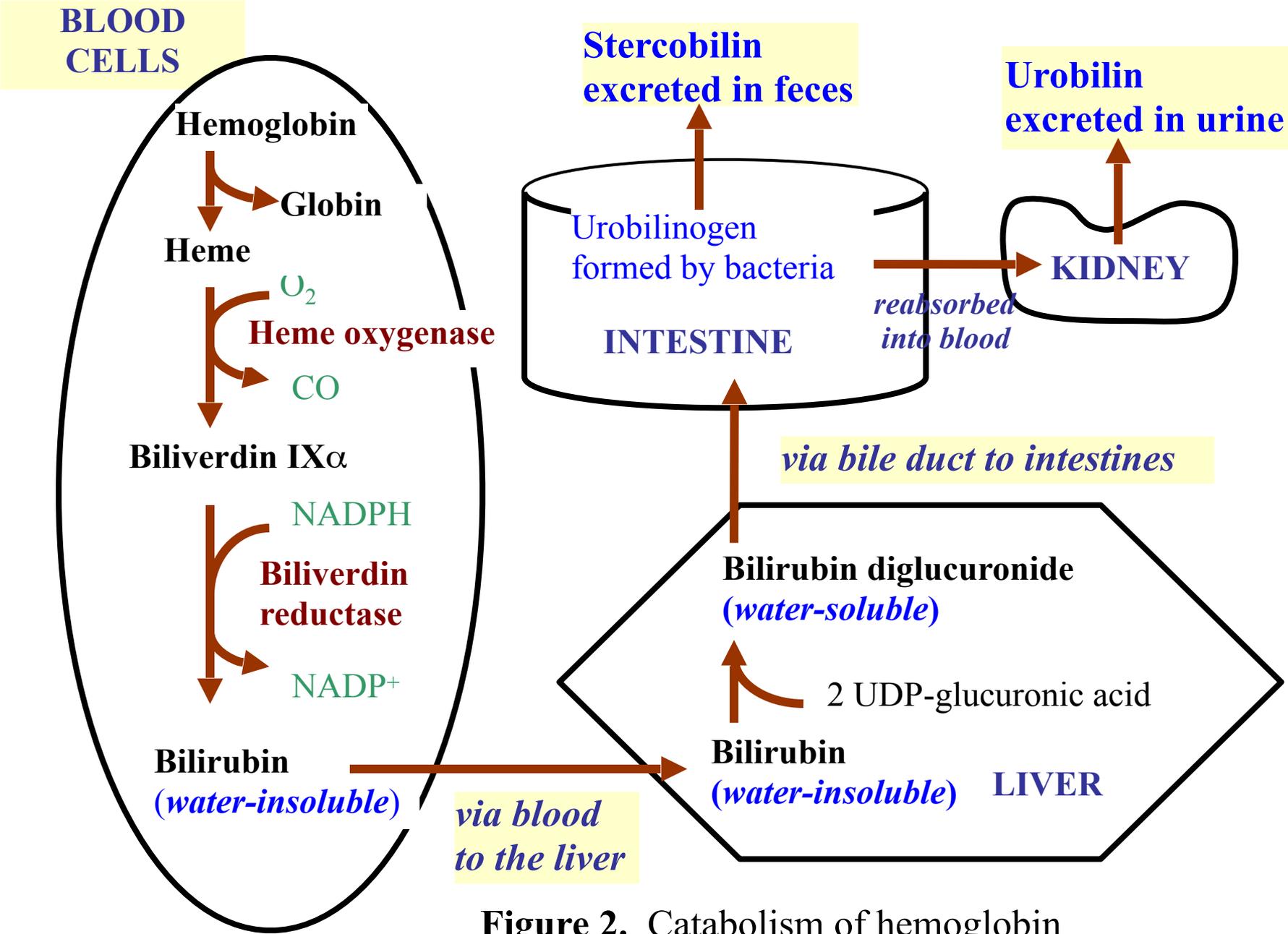
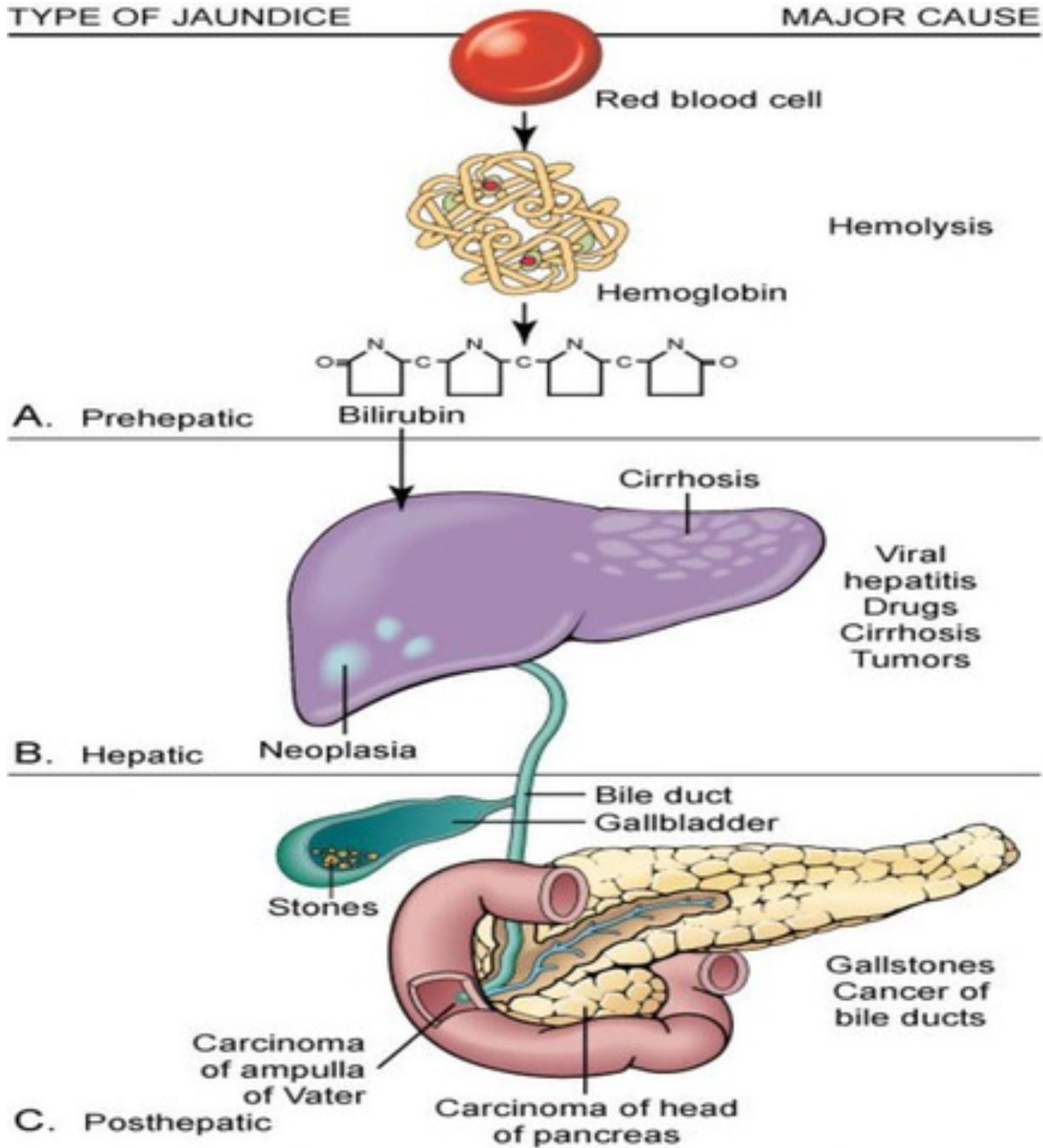


Figure 2. Catabolism of hemoglobin

- Which enzyme is required to convert unconjugated bilirubin to conjugated bilirubin?
- What are the diseases related to this enzyme deficiency?
- What is the difference between diglucuronic acid and mono-glucuronic acid?

TYPE OF JAUNDICE

MAJOR CAUSE



Type & Cause of Jaundice

➤ Pre-hepatic Jaundice

- ✓ Neonatal (Physiological) Jaundice
- ✓ Malaria
- ✓ G 6 PD deficiency
- ✓ Thalassaemia
- ✓ Sickle cell disease
- ✓ Mis-match Blood Transfusion
- ✓ Auto-immune

➤ Intra-Hepatic Jaundice

- ✓ Acute Viral hepatitis
- ✓ Alcohol Cirrhosis
- ✓ Cirrhosis of Liver
- ✓ Primray Biliary Cirrhosis,
- ✓ Haemochromatosis
- ✓ Wilson Disease
- ✓ Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency
- ✓ Drug induce – Quinine Group, NSAID, Chemotherapeutic drugs

∅ Post Hepatic Jaundice

- ü Gall Bladder - Common Bile Duct - Pancreatic duct Stone
- ü Gall Bladder - Hepatic – Pancreatic – Duodenal Carcinoma

Features	Pre-hepatic Hemolytic	Hepatic Hepatocellular	Post-hepatic Obstructive
Blood Examination			
Total Billirubin	↑↑	↑↑	↑↑
Direct Billirubin	Normal	↑	↑↑
Indirect Billirubin	↑↑	↑	Normal
ALT	Normal	↑↑	Normal
Alkaline phosphatase	Normal	Normal / ↑	↑↑
Urine Examination			
Bile Pigment	Normal	Normal / ↑	↑↑
Urobilinogen	↑↑	Normal / Absent	Absent
Bile Salt	Normal	Normal / ↑	↑↑
Stool Examination			
Stool Examination	Normal	Normal	Clay Colour
Specific Investigation	Haemoglobin, LDH	Liver Function Test	USG Abdomen

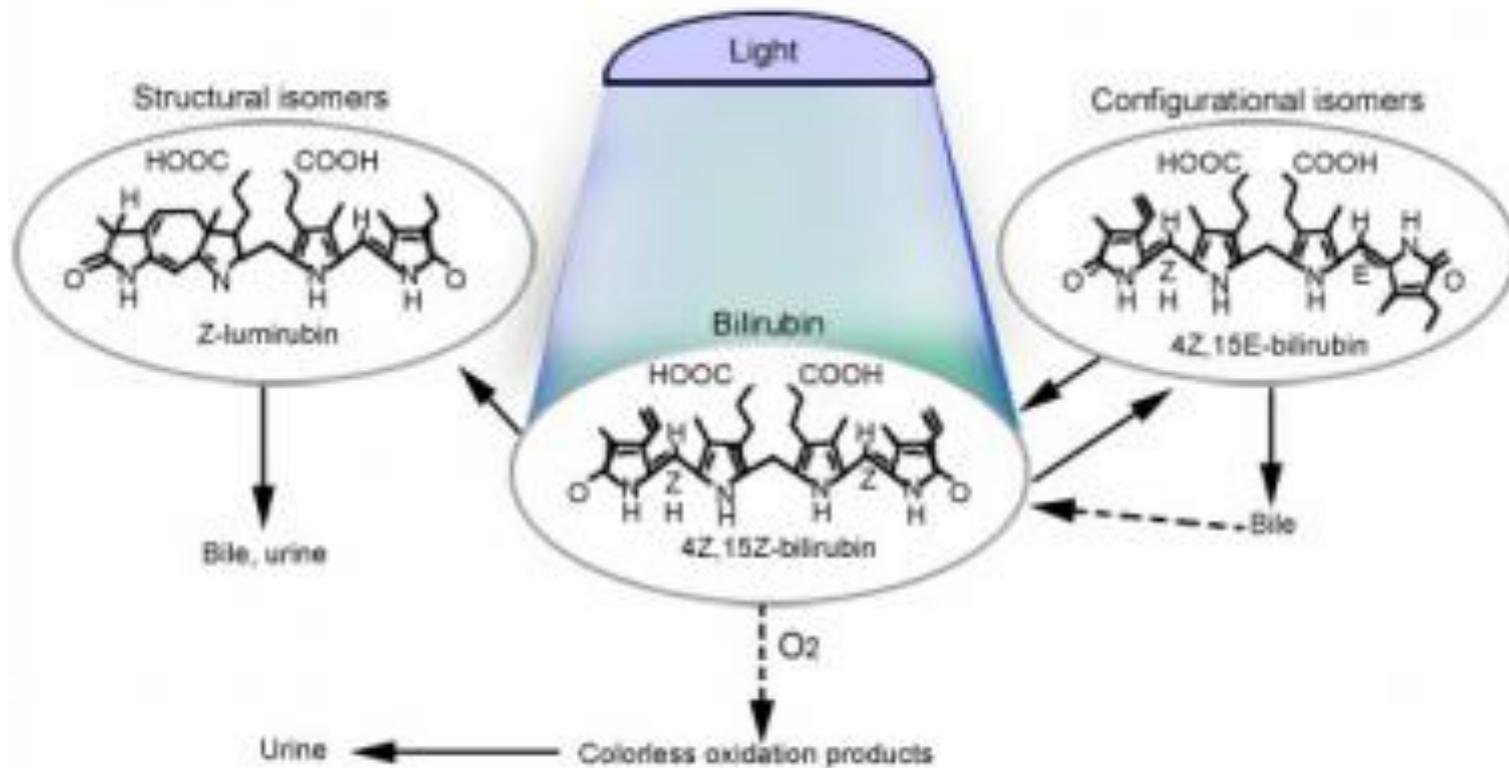
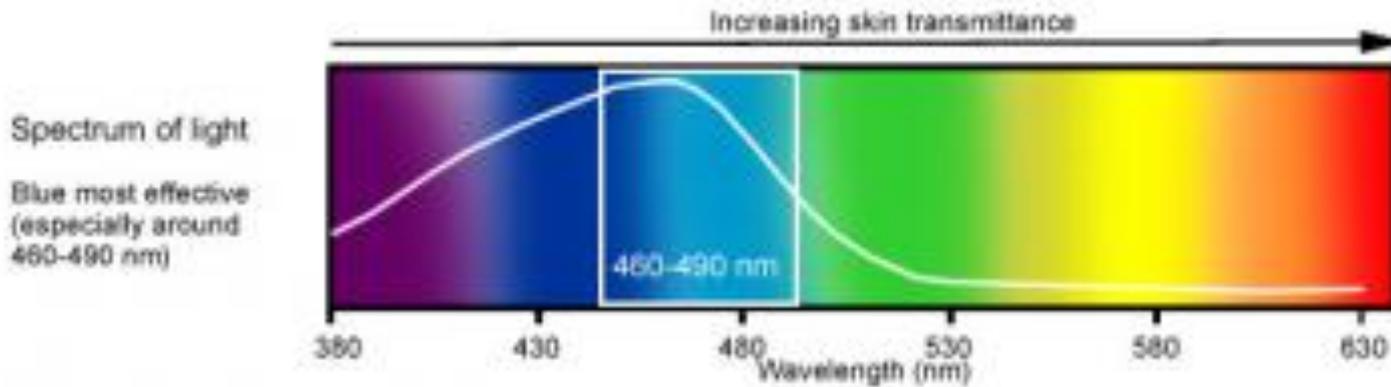
Genetic Disorders of Bilirubin Metabolism

Name	Defect	Level of Serum Billirubin
Crigler-Najjar syndrome Type I	Complete deficiency of UDP-glucuronyltransferase	20 mg% Indirect Billirubin
Crigler-Najjar syndrome Type II	Decrease (less than 10 %) activity of UDP-glucuronyltransferase	15 – 20 mg % Indirect Billirubin
Gilberts syndrome	Decrease (Approx. 30 %) activity of UDP-glucuronyltransferase	1.4 - 5.0 mg % Indirect Billirubin
Dubin-Johnson syndrome	Defect in transport of conjugated bilirubin from hepatocyte to biliary system	Direct Billirubin

Role of Phototherapy

- Convert Bilirubin into Water Soluble Isomer
- So Excreted
- Normal bilirubin (4Z,15Z-bilirubin)
- After Exposed to Phototherapy (430 – 490 nm)
- 2 isomer forms of bilirubin
 - Structural = Z-lumirubin = Irreversible.
 - Configurational = 4Z,15 E –bilirubin = Reversible.
- Both are Less lipophilic than normal bilirubin
- Excreted into bile without Conjugation in the liver.

Role of Phototherapy



Phototherapy



Role of Phenobarbitone

- Induce Enzyme production
- Increase UDP-Glucuronate transferase Enzyme
- Increase Conjugation of Billirubin
- Excretion of Billirubin
- **Not useful in Criggler-Najar Syndrome Type – I**