

Globular Proteins

Biochemistry Team 431

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Globular Proteins

- Amino acid chains fold into shapes that resemble spheres are called globular proteins
- This type of folding increases solubility of proteins in water
- Polar groups on the protein's surface
- Hydrophobic groups in the interior
- Fibrous proteins are mainly insoluble structural proteins

Hydrophilic groups in outside (Solubility of water)

Fibrous proteins are long in shape , so the **Hydrophobic** groups in the outside (example : Collagen

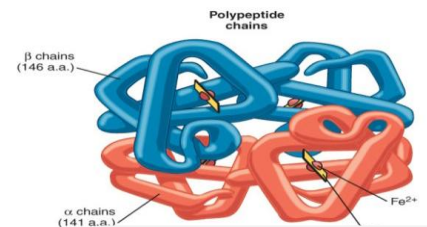
Types of Globular proteins

- Hemoglobin: oxygen transport function
- Myoglobin: oxygen storage/supply function in heart and muscle only.
- a1, a2, b-globulins: various functions
- g-globulins (immunoglobulins): immune function
- Enzymes: catalysis of biochemical reactions

Hb = 2 a polypeptide chains with heme in each chain + 2 b polypeptide chains with heme in each chain + 2 dimers of ab subunit + 4 O₂ (each heme carry O₂)

Hemoglobin

- A major globular protein in humans
- Composed of four polypeptide chains:
 - Two a and two b chains
- Contains two dimers of ab subunits
- Held together by non-covalent interactions
- Each chain is a subunit with a heme group in the center that carries oxygen
- A Hb molecule contains 4 heme groups and carries 4 molecules of O₂



The heme is planar structure containing iron.

Each heme carries one molecule of oxygen.

Types of Hemoglobin

<u>Normal</u>	<u>HbA (97%) , HbA₂ (2%), HbF (1%), HbA_{1c}</u>
<u>Abnormal:</u>	<u>Carboxy Hb , Sulf Hb, Met Hb</u>

Hemoglobin function

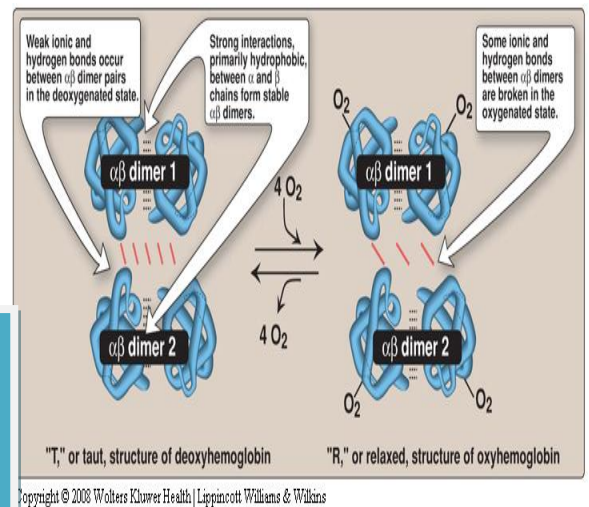
- Carries oxygen from the lungs to tissues
- Carries carbon dioxide from tissues back to the lungs
- Normal level (g/dL):

- Males: 14-16
- Females: 13-15

HB+O₂=oxyhemoglobin and bond is broken (relax).

HB-O₂=deoxyhemoglobin and bond is tightened and the number of hydrogen bond (taut)

HbA Structure



Oxygen binding to hemoglobin

Fetal hemoglobin (HbF):

- Major hemoglobin found in the fetus and newborn
- Tetramer with two α and two γ chains
- Higher affinity for O₂ than HbA
- Transfers O₂ from maternal to fetal circulation across placenta

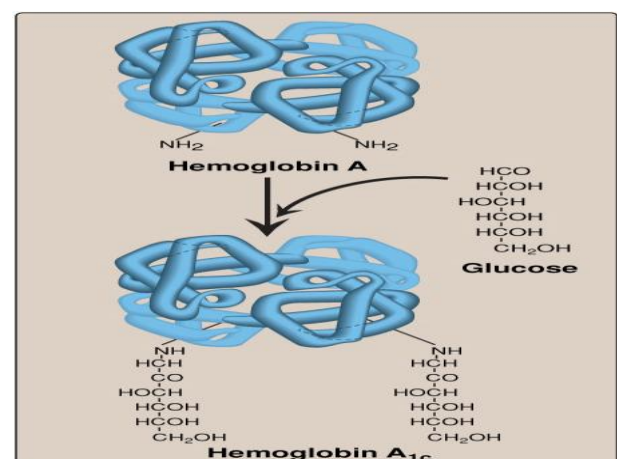
That why HbF is more in fetus so it can get the O₂ from the mother through the placenta.

HbA₂:

- Appears ~12 weeks after birth
- Constitutes ~2% of total Hb
- Composed of two α and two δ globin chains

HbA_{1c}:

- HbA undergoes non-enzymatic glycosylation
- Glycosylation depends on plasma glucose levels
- HbA_{1c} levels are high in patients with diabetes mellitus



Abnormal Hbs

- Unable to transport O₂ due to abnormal structure

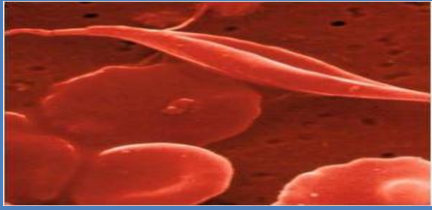
Abnormal Hbs	Characteristic
Carboxy-Hb	CO replaces O ₂ and binds 200X tighter than O ₂ (in smokers)
Met-Hb	Contains oxidized Fe ³⁺ (~2%) that cannot carry O ₂ "
Sulf-HB	Forms due to high sulfur levels in blood

The normal is Fe²⁺

Sometime if sulfate is too high it might be irreversible. But there is a very low values of it in the blood normally.

It is caused by (Point Mutation)

Hemoglobinopathies

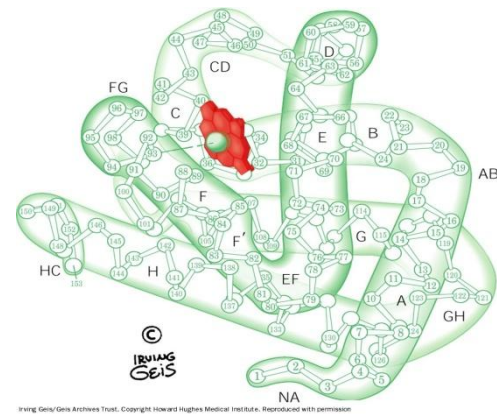
<u>disease</u>	<u>Characteristic</u>
<p><u>Sickle cell (HbS) disease</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Caused by a single mutation in b-globin gene -Glutamic acid at position 6 in HbA is replaced by valine -The mutant HbS contains bs chain -The shape of RBCs become sickled Causes sickle cell anemia
<p><u>Hemoglobin C disease:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Caused by a single mutation in b-globin gene -Glutamic acid at position 6 in HbA is replaced by lysine -Causes a mild form of hemolytic anemia
<p><u>Methemoglobinemia</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caused by oxidation of Hb to ferric (Fe³⁺) state -Methemoglobin cannot bind oxygen -Caused by certain drugs, reactive oxygen species and NADH-cytochrome b5 reductase deficiency -Chocolate cyanosis: brownish-blue color of the skin and blood
<p><u>Thalassemia:</u></p> <p>-Defective synthesis of either a or b-globin chain due to gene mutation</p>	<p><u>a-thalassemia:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Synthesis of a-globin chain is decreased or absent -Causes mild to moderate hemolytic anemia <p><u>b-thalassemia:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Synthesis of b-globin chain is decreased or absent , -Causes severe anemia -Patients need regular blood transfusions

Myoglobin

- A globular hemeprotein in heart and muscle
- Stores and supplies oxygen to the heart and muscle only
- Contains a single polypeptide chain forming a single subunit with eight α -helix structures
- The interior of the subunit is composed of nonpolar amino acids

Structure of myoglobin

- The charged amino acids are located on the surface
- The heme group is present at the center of the molecule
- Myoglobin gives red color to skeletal muscles
- Supplies oxygen during aerobic exercise

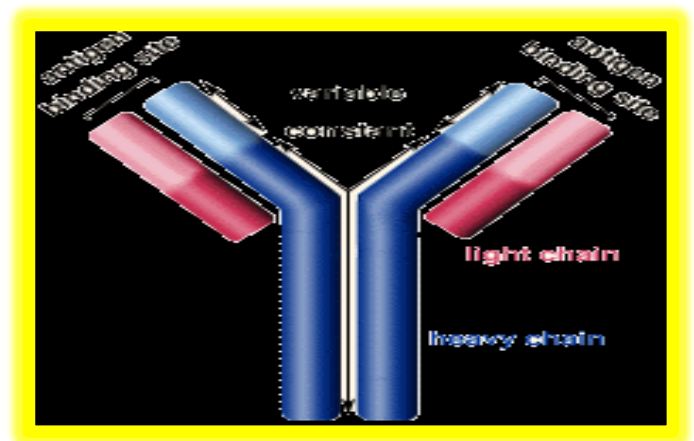


Myoglobin in disease

- Myoglobinuria: Myoglobin is excreted in urine due to muscle damage (rhabdomyolysis)
- May cause acute renal failure
- Specific marker for muscle injury
- Less specific marker for heart attack

Immunoglobulins

- Defensive proteins produced by the B-cells of the immune system
- Y-shaped structure with 2 heavy and 2 light polypeptide chains
- Neutralize bacteria and viruses
- Types: IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG, IgM



Review Question

1- The Normal level of Hemoglobin in the male is :

- A- 14-16 (g/dL)
- B-12-14 (g/dL)
- C- 13-15(g/dL)
- D-16-20(g/dL)

2-which of the following statement is correct about Fetal hemoglobin (HbF)

- A-specific marker for muscle injury
- B-Contains two dimers of ab subunits
- C-Contains Tetramer with two a and two g chains
- D- Contains a single polypeptide chain forming a single subunit with eight a-helix structures

3-which of the following is correct regarding Sickle cell disease ?

- A-Glutamic acid at position 5 in HbA is replaced by valine
- B-Glutamic acid at position 6 in HbA is replaced by lysine
- C-Caused by oxidation of Hb to ferric (Fe^{3+}) state
- D-non above

4- which of the following is correct regarding b-thalassemia

- A-Causes mild to moderate hemolytic anemia
- B-Causes severe anemia
- C- the patient suffers from Chocolate cyanosis
- D-Caused by a single mutation in b-globin gene

- **Answers**

1-A

2-C

3-D

4-B