



# Phospholipid Compounds of Physiological Importance



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# Objectives

- Selected members of phospholipids
- Physiological importance of phospholipids
- Phospholipases:
  - Phospholipases A1, A2, C and D
  - Lysosomal phospholipase: Sphingomyelinase
- N. B
- **We didn't have to memorise any structure**



# Functions of Phospholipids

Membrane-bound phospholipids

Structural

Myelin sheath

Signaling

Anchoring

Non-membrane-bound phospholipids

Lung surfactant

Detergent effect

Structural



# Functions of Phospholipids

## (A) Membrane-bound phospholipids:

قسموها ع حسب الدور اللي تعمله الى :

- 1) **Structural:** Predominant lipids of cell membranes.
- 2) **Anchoring (تثبيت):** Attaching some proteins to membranes.
- 3) **Signaling:** Source of IP<sub>3</sub> and DAG.
- 4) **Myelin sheath:** insulator and speeds up transmission of nerve impulses.

## (B) Non-membrane-bound phospholipids:

The main function is :( Lung surfactant )

Easy re-inflation of alveoli by air

قسموها ع حسب الدور اللي تعمله الى :

1) **Detergent effect:**

- Essential component of bile
- Solubilize cholesterol, preventing gall stones
- Emulsifying lipids, helping lipid digestion

2) **Structural:** Coat of lipoproteins



# Background: Lipid Compounds

- Heterogeneous group (مجموعات غير متجانسه)
- Relatively water-insoluble **Except** (Ketone body)
- Soluble in non-polar solvents



# Lipid Compounds: Heterogeneous Group

## A. Simple Lipids:

- Fatty acids
- Ketone bodies
- Triacylglycerol
- Cholesterol

## B. Complex Lipids:

- Phospholipids اللي بندرسه هالمحاضره
- Lipoproteins
- Glycolipids



# Phospholipids

## A. Glycerophospholipids:

- Glycerol-containing phospholipids

## B. Sphingo-phospholipids:


- Sphingosine-containing phospholipids



# Phospholipids

## A. Glycerophospholipids:

### 1. Phosphatidylcholine (Lecithin)

e.g. Surfactant consist of  
, (Dipalmitoylecithin) 

### 2. Phosphatidylinositol

Wich is do 2 important functions:

(1) Signaling (2) anchoring molecule





# Phospholipids

## A. Glycerophospholipids:

- **Parent Compound:**  
**Phosphatidic acid**
- **Members:**
  1. **Phosphatidylcholine (Lecithin)**  
**e.g., (Dipalmitoylecithin) Surfactant**



# Phospholipids

## A. Glycerophospholipids:

### 1. Dipalmitoylecithin (Lung surfactant)

- Synthesis and secretion: by granular pneumocytes
- Surfactant consist of:
  - 1) Major lipid component (Dipalmitoylecithin 65%) of lung surfactant
  - 2) (Remaining 35%: Other phospholipids, cholesterol & proteins)
- **Function of Surfactant:** decreases surface tension of fluid layer -lining of alveoli, reducing the pressure needed for their inflation by air, and preventing alveolar collapse (atelectasis)

### Congenital Respiratory distress syndrome (RDS):

- Insufficient production of lung surfactant
- (especially in pre-term babies) → neonatal death



# Congenital Respiratory distress syndrome (RDS)

Pre-natal diagnosis by:

Lecithin/sphingomyelin (L/S) ratio in amniotic fluid

Ratio of **2 or above** indicates lung maturity and **no RDS**

(i.e., shift from sphingomyelin to lecithin synthesis by pneumocytes that normally occurs by 32 weeks of gestation)

Prevention:

- **Glucocorticoids** to the pregnant mother with low L/S ratio shortly before delivery

Treatment:

- Intratracheal administration of surfactant to pre-term infants with RDS

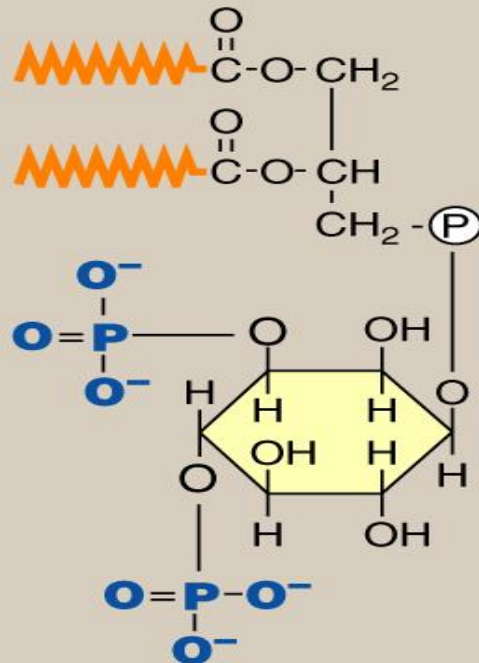
نسيك عال راتو  
قبل الولادة فطلع قليل  
تعني ان المولود بيحي  
بـ RDS  
فعمل على حل قبل  
الولادة



# Phospholipids

## A. Glycerophospholipids:

### 2. Phosphatidylinositol 4,5 biphosphate (PI)



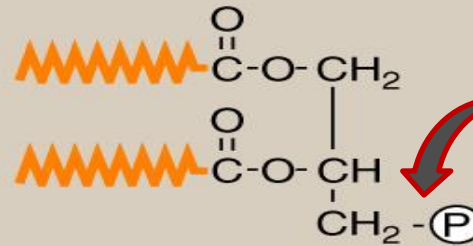
Phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate

سلايد للتأمل فقط ^^



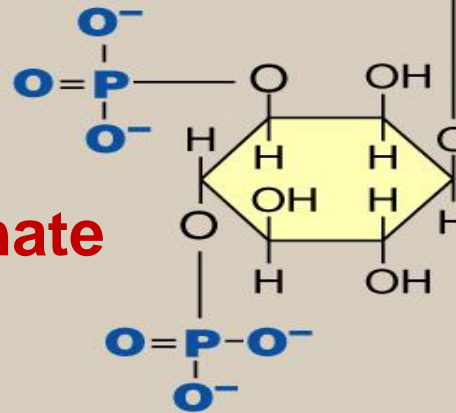
# Calcium/Phosphatidylinositol System

**Diacylglycerol  
(DAG)**



**Phospholipase C**

**Inositol Trisphosphate  
(IP<sub>3</sub>)**



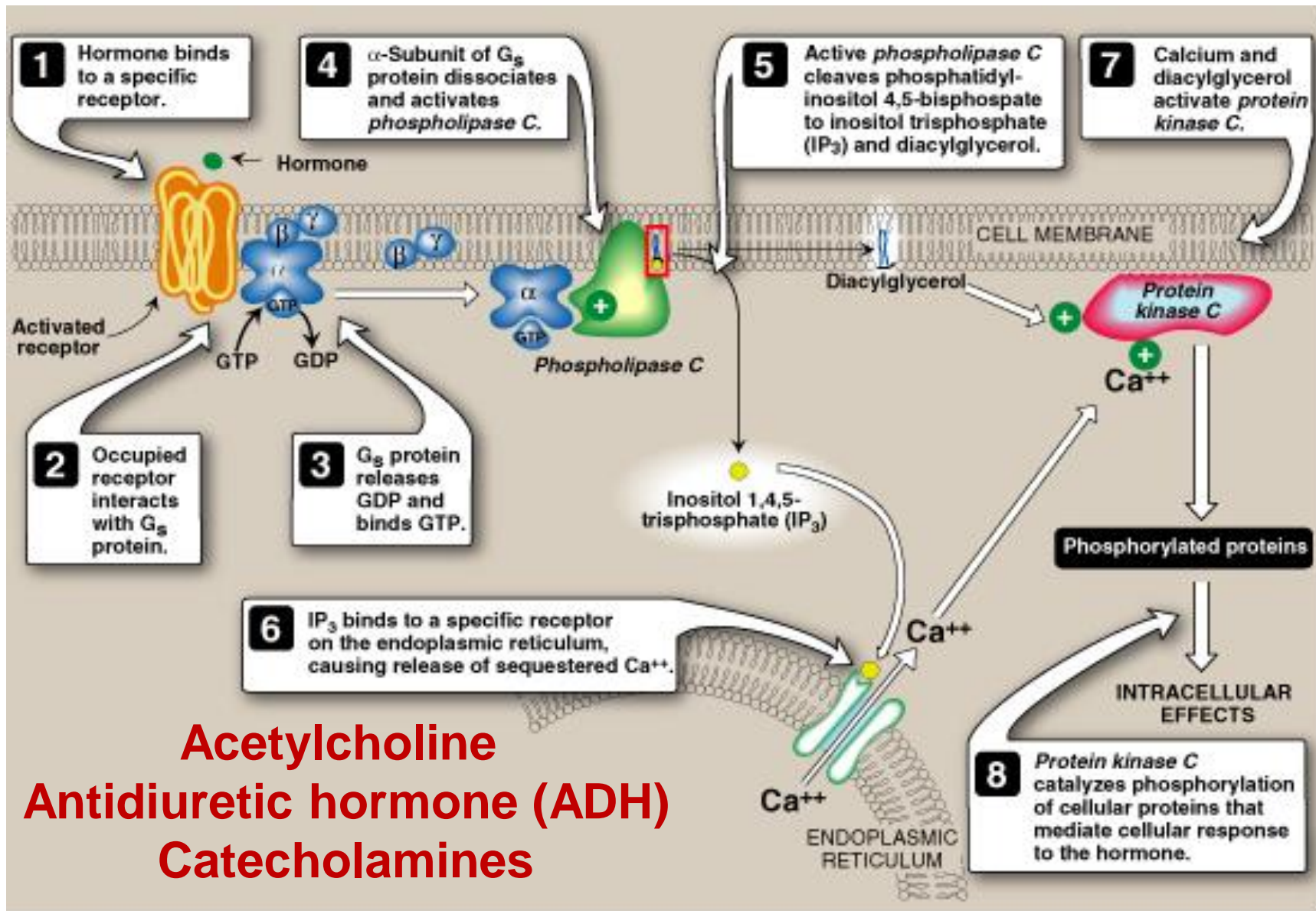
**Phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate**

phospholipase C ال  
يكسر المركب لجزئين  
(DAG + IP<sub>3</sub>)  
من عند الكربون رقم 3



# Phosphatidylinositol System

- **Signal:** Hormones or neurotransmitters  
e.g., Acetylcholine, antidiuretic hormone ( $V_1$  receptor) and catecholamines ( $\alpha_1$  actions)
- **Receptor:** G-protein coupled receptor
- **Effects:**
  - 1) \*Activation of phospholipase C
  - 2) Hydrolysis of phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate  
Production of IP<sub>3</sub> (  $Ca^{2+}$ ) and DAG
  - 3) Activation of protein kinase C
  - 4) Phosphorylation of cellular proteins
  - *Please refer to activation of adenylyl cyclase and guanylyl cyclase for production of second messengers in other G-protein coupled signaling pathways*
- **Response:** Biological responses to hormones



**Acetylcholine**  
**Antidiuretic hormone (ADH)**  
**Catecholamines**

**Intracellular Signaling by Inositol trisphosphate**

# PI- Protein Anchoring

Anchoring of proteins to membranes  
via  
Carbohydrate-Phosphatidylinositol Bridge

Examples of anchored proteins:

- 1. Alkaline phosphatase**  
(to the surface of small intestine)
- 2. Acetylcholine esterase**  
(to postsynaptic membrane)

These proteins can be cleaved from  
their attachment to the membranes  
by **phospholipase C**





## B. Sphingo-phospholipids:

**Sphingosine-containing phospholipids:**  
e.g., sphingomyelin (Myelin sheath)

- **Sphingosine :**
- **Long chain, unsaturated amino alcohol**  
“amino because of amino group”
- **Ceramide: Parent Sphingolipid Compound :**
  - ✓ **Long Chain Fatty acid**
  - ✓ **Sphingosine + fatty acid = ceramide**
- **Sphingomyelin :**
  - ✓ **Long Chain Fatty acid**
  - ✓ **Ceramide + Phosphorylcholine = sphingomyelin**

الدكتور قال  
«ما  
عليكش  
فيها كثير  
«^^»

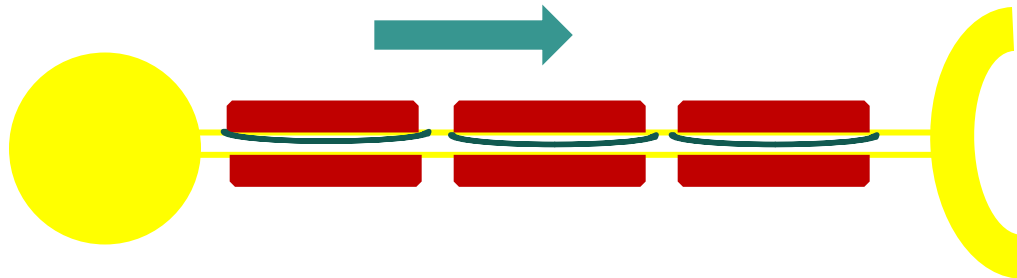


# Structure & Function of Myelin Sheath

- **Myelin structure:**
  - Lipid 80%
    - Glycolipids "mainly"
    - Sphingomyelin
  - Protein 20%

**Myelin sheath insulates the nerve axon to avoid signal leakage and greatly speeds up the transmission of impulses along axons**

**Direction of nerve impulse**



# Lipoprotein Structure :

## Outer part (coat):

- **Apoproteins or apolipoproteins**
- **Phospholipids** (Why?)
- **Free cholesterol**

(Relatively hydrophilic, allowing transport of lipid particles of the core in the aqueous plasma)

## Inner part (core):

- **According to the type of lipoproteins**
- **Different lipid components in various combinations**

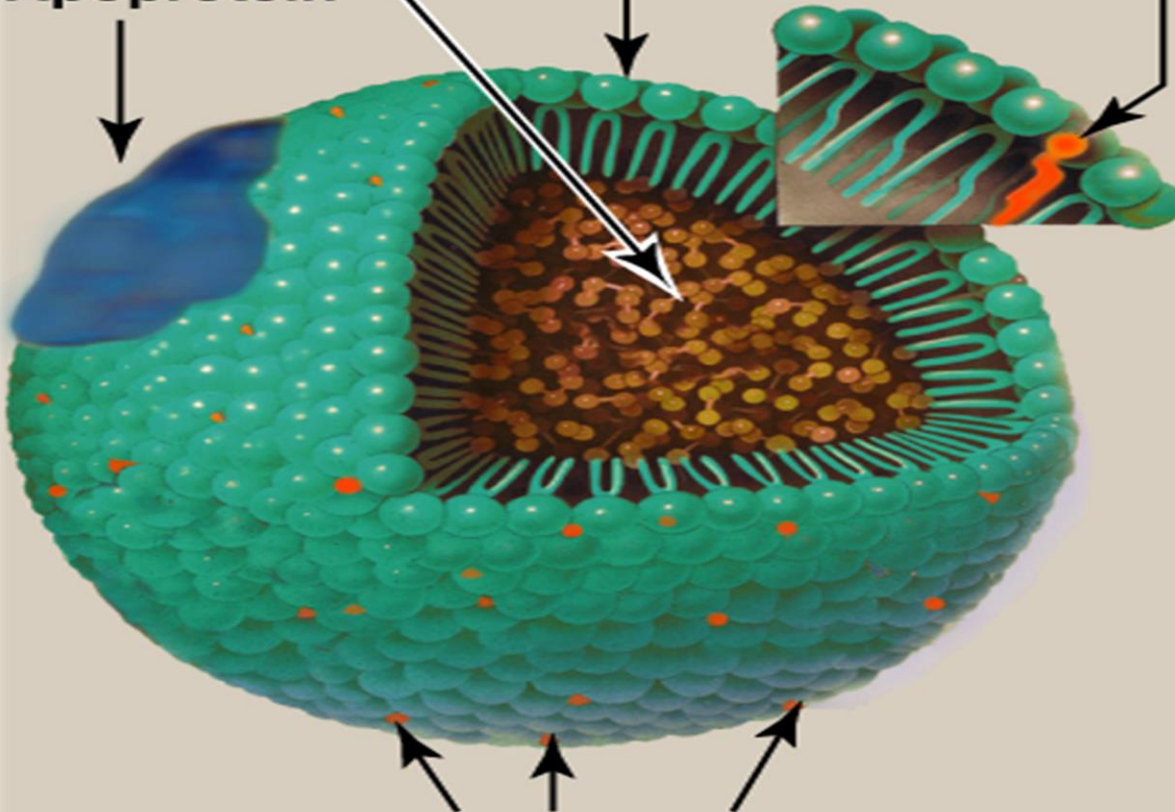


**Inner core of triacylglycerols and cholesteryl esters**

**Phospholipids**

**Unesterified cholesterol**

**Apoprotein**



**Unesterified cholesterol**



## شرح للسلايدين السابقين :

✓ ال lipoprotein لا يستطيع أن يتحرك في البلازما بسهولة لانه ما يذوب في الماء والبلازما أغلبها ماء , لذلك وهذا من بديع صنع الخالق فقد وضع الله سبحانه وتعالى حوله coat ليجعله يذوب جزئياً في الماء , وفي هذا الغطاء phospholipid ليششش ؟ لأنه ال phospholipid يحتوي على رأس محب للماء «hydrophilic head» و ذيل كاره للماء «hydrophobic tail» , وضحت 😊 ؟



# Phospholipases

## (1) For glycerophospholipids:

- Phospholipases **A1, A2, C and D**
- Present in all tissues and pancreatic juice
- Present in snake venoms and bacterial toxins

## (2) For sphingophospholipids:

- Lysosomal phospholipase
- **Sphingomyelinase**
- Sphingomyelin  $\longrightarrow$  Ceramide + Phosphocholine



# Glycero-phospholipases

الدكتور  
قال «مهم  
جداً إنك  
تعرف  
الكلام  
اللي  
بالصورة»

## PHOSPHOLIPASE A<sub>2</sub>

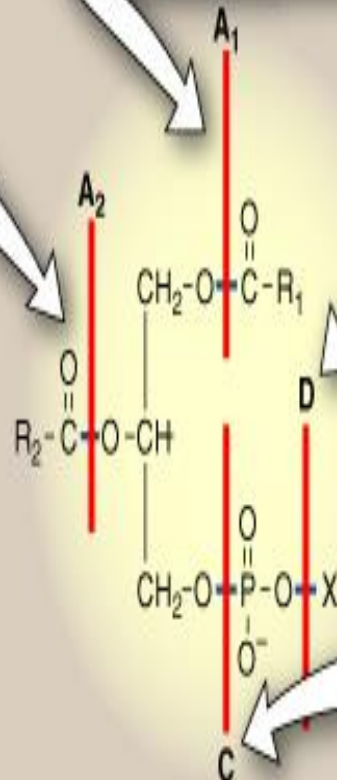
- *Phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>* is present in many mammalian tissues and pancreatic juice. It is also present in snake and bee venoms.
- *Phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>*, acting on phosphatidylinositol, releases arachidonic acid (the precursor of the prostaglandins).
- Pancreatic secretions are especially rich in the *phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>* proenzyme, which is activated by *trypsin* and requires bile salts for activity.
- *Phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>* is inhibited by glucocorticoids (for example, cortisol).

## PHOSPHOLIPASE A<sub>1</sub>

- *Phospholipase A<sub>1</sub>* is present in many mammalian tissues.

## PHOSPHOLIPASE D

- *Phospholipase D* is found primarily in plant tissue.



## PHOSPHOLIPASE C

- *Phospholipase C* is found in liver lysosomes and the  $\alpha$ -toxin of clostridia and other bacilli.
- Membrane-bound *phospholipase C* is activated by the PIP<sub>2</sub> system and, thus, plays a role in producing second messengers.

Proenzyme = zymogen =  
inactive digestive enzyme



# Functions of Phospholipases

## (1) Degradation of phospholipids :

- Production of second messengers
- Digestion of phospholipids by pancreatic juice
- Pathogenic bacteria degrade phospholipids of membranes and causing spread of infection

## (2) Remodeling of phospholipids:

- **Specific phospholipase removes fatty acid from phospholipid** →
- **Replacement of fatty acid by alternative fatty acid using fatty acyl CoA transferase**  
e.g., Binding of 2 palmitic acids in:  
**Dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine (DPPC)**  
**Binding of arachidonic to carbon 2 of PI or PC**

ما ينفع C  
فقط A1,A2





# Take Home Message

- **Phospholipids are Complex lipids**
  
- **Phospholipids have important physiological functions:**
  - A. Membrane-bound:**
    - Structural**
    - Signalling & anchoring: e.g., PI**
    - Myelin sheath: e.g., sphingomyelin**
  
  - B. Non-membrane bound:**
    - Structural: Lipoprotein coat**
    - Alveolar re-inflation: Lung surfactant**
    - Detergent effect: Phospholipids of bile**





## Phospholipases:

Phospholipases **A1, A2, C and D**

Lysosomal Phospholipase: **Sphingomyelinase**

## Function of phospholipases:

Degradation of phospholipids

**e.g., production of second messengers**

## Remodeling of phospholipids

**e.g., production of DPPC (lung surfactant)**



# Quiz

- 1) Pregnant mother with low L/S ratio what the complication of that ?
- A) DSR Syndrome.
  - B) Insufficient production of lung surfactant.
  - C) Pre-term babies
  - D) Down Syndrome.

the answer is (B)

- 2) Pregnant mother with low L/S ratio what we should do ?
- A) Give her Glucocorticoids shortly before delivery.
  - B) Surgical intervention.
  - C) Tell the mother to take supplements (Vitamins).
  - D) Give her Glucocorticoids at 20 week.

the answer is (A)

- 3) What is the intracellular messenger produced by IP<sub>3</sub>?
- A) Diacylglycerol (DAG)
  - B) Sphingomyelinase
  - C) Inositol 1,4,5-Trisphosphate (IP<sub>3</sub>)

the answer is (A)



# Quiz

4) Alkaline phosphatase in intestine is:

- A) Phosphatidylinositol
- B) Sphingomyelinase
- C) phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>

the answer is (A)

5) Which of the following is the remodeling phospholipid in Dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine which produce lung surfactant ?

- A) Sphingomyelinase
- B) phospholipase A<sub>2</sub>
- C) Phospholipase C

the answer is (B)

6) Which of the following is second messenger:

- A) Inositol 1,4,5-Trisphosphate (IP<sub>3</sub>)
- B) COA
- C) phospholipase C

the answer is (A)

