

[lecture 4]

# Inborn Errors of Amino Acid Metabolism



Biochemistry  
Team



Teams

## The Objectives

1. Phenylketonuria (PKU)
2. Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD)
3. Albinism
4. Homocysteinuria
5. Alkaptonuria

Red =  
Important

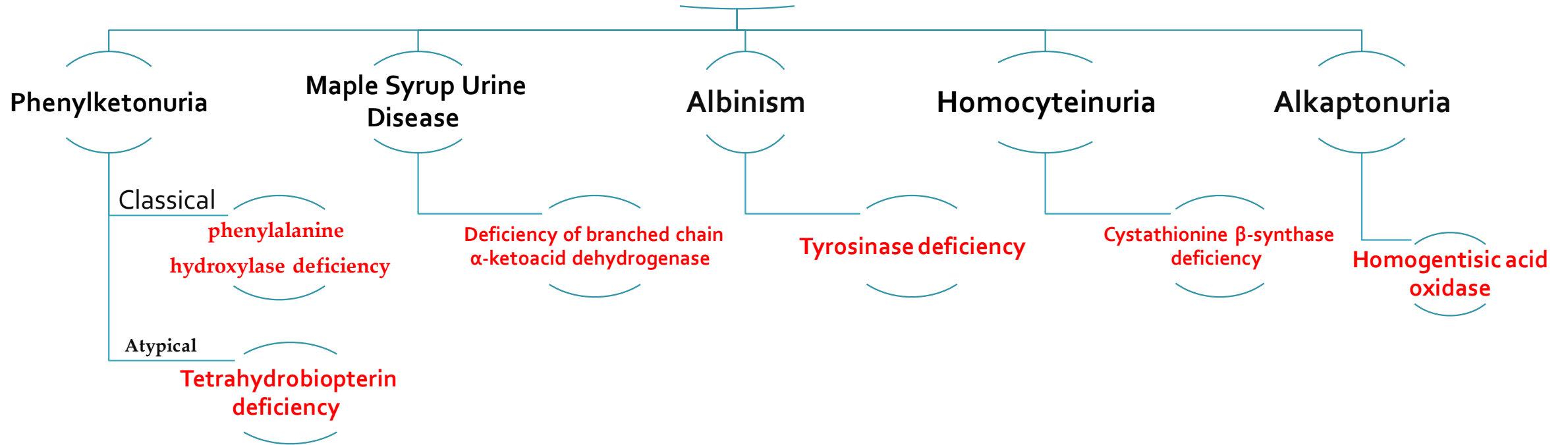
Blue =  
explain

Green =  
addition  
notes



# Mind Map

## Inborn Errors of Amino Acid Metabolism





## Inborn Errors of Amino Acid Metabolism

Caused by enzyme loss or deficiency due to gene loss or gene mutation  
Normal amino acid metabolism



But if there are any deficiency of either enzyme or cofactor   
There will be abnormality of amino acid metabolism

**There are five examples for these abnormality:**

1. Phenylketonuria (PKU)
2. Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD)
3. Albinism
4. Homocysteinuria
5. Alkaptonuria

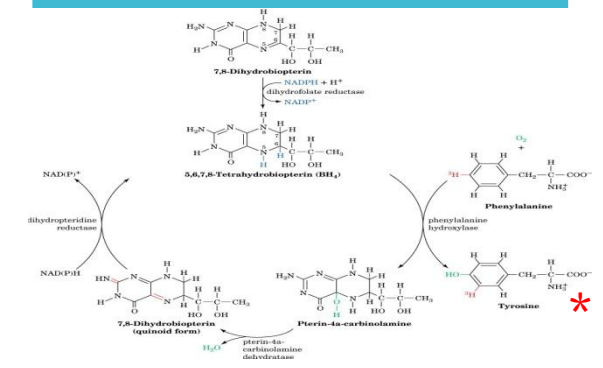
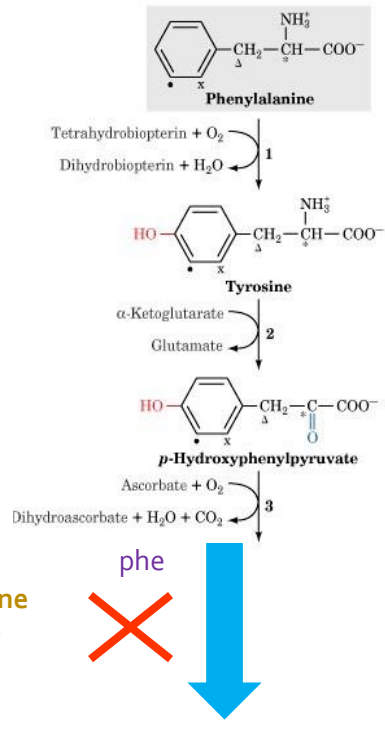
<b>Amino acid involved</b>	<b>phenylalanine</b>
<b>Cause</b>	Due to deficiency of <b>phenylalanine hydroxylase enzyme</b>
<b>symptoms</b>	1) CNS symptoms: Mental retardation, failure to walk or talk, seizures, etc. 2) Hypopigmentation Deficiency of melanin Hydroxylation of tyrosine by tyrosinase is inhibited by high phe conc.
<b>diagnosis</b>	Prenatal diagnosis is done by detecting gene mutation in fetus <b>Neonatal diagnosis in infants is done by measuring blood phe levels</b>
<b>treatment</b>	Life long phe-restricted diet

Phenylketonuria (PKU)

types

**Classic PKU**  
 Due to deficiency of enzyme  
 Due to deficiency of **phenylalanine hydroxylase**  
 Hence Phenylalanine is accumulated

**Atypical hyperphenylalaninemia**  
 Due to deficiency of cofactor  
 Due to deficiency of **BH<sub>4</sub>**  
 Conversion of Phe to Tyr requires tetrahydrobiopterin (BH<sub>4</sub>)  
 Even if phenylalanine hydroxylase level is normal, the enzyme will not function without BH<sub>4</sub>  
**deficiency of BH<sub>4</sub> Caused by the deficiency of:**  
 Dihydropteridine reductase  
 Dihydrobiopterin synthetase  
 Carbinolamine dehydratase



\*not imp just memorize the names

Phenylalanine hydroxylase

Tyrosine so there will be no tyrosine

**Characteristics of PKU**

In the absence or deficiency of BH<sub>4</sub>

In the absence or deficiency of phenylalanine hydroxylase

Phe will not be converted to Tyr

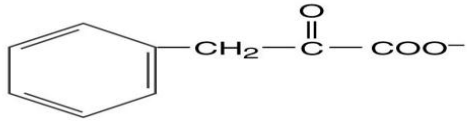
No or less melanin  
Light skin in PKU patients

Tyr will not be converted to catecholamine (neurotransmitter)  
Synthesis of catecholamines requires BH<sub>4</sub>

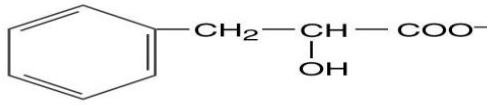
Trp will not be converted to serotonin (a neurotransmitter) as it requires BH<sub>4</sub>

Elevated phenylalanine in tissues, plasma, urine

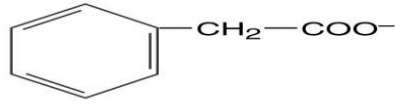
Gives urine a mousy odor  
Because of >  
Phe is degraded to>  
1& 2&3



1 Phenylpyruvate



2 Phenyllactate



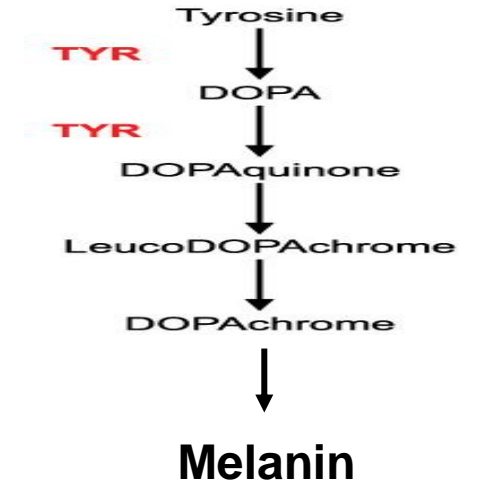
3 Phenylacetate

tryptophan

Tryptophan hydroxylase  
Which required BH<sub>4</sub>



serotonin



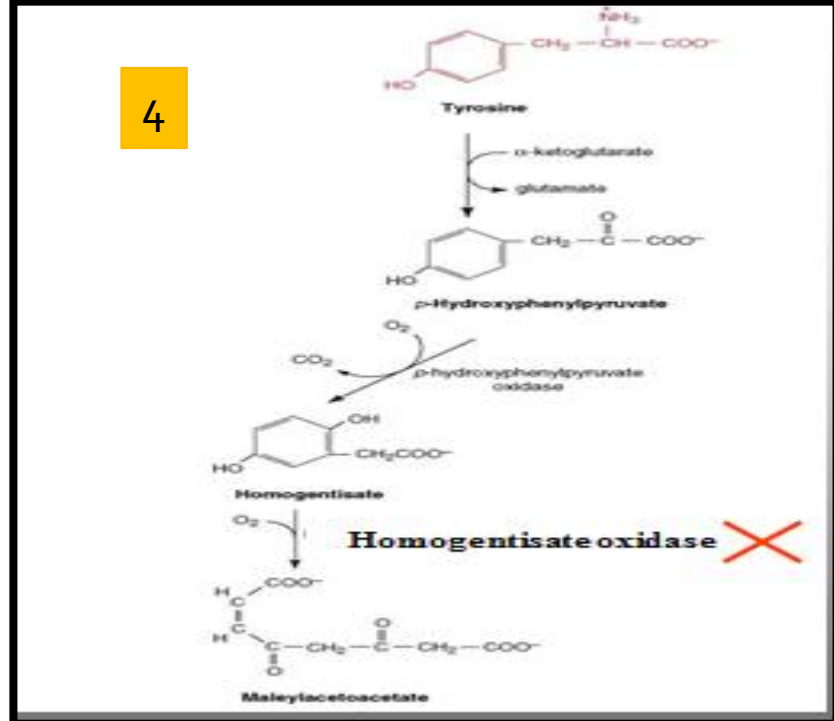
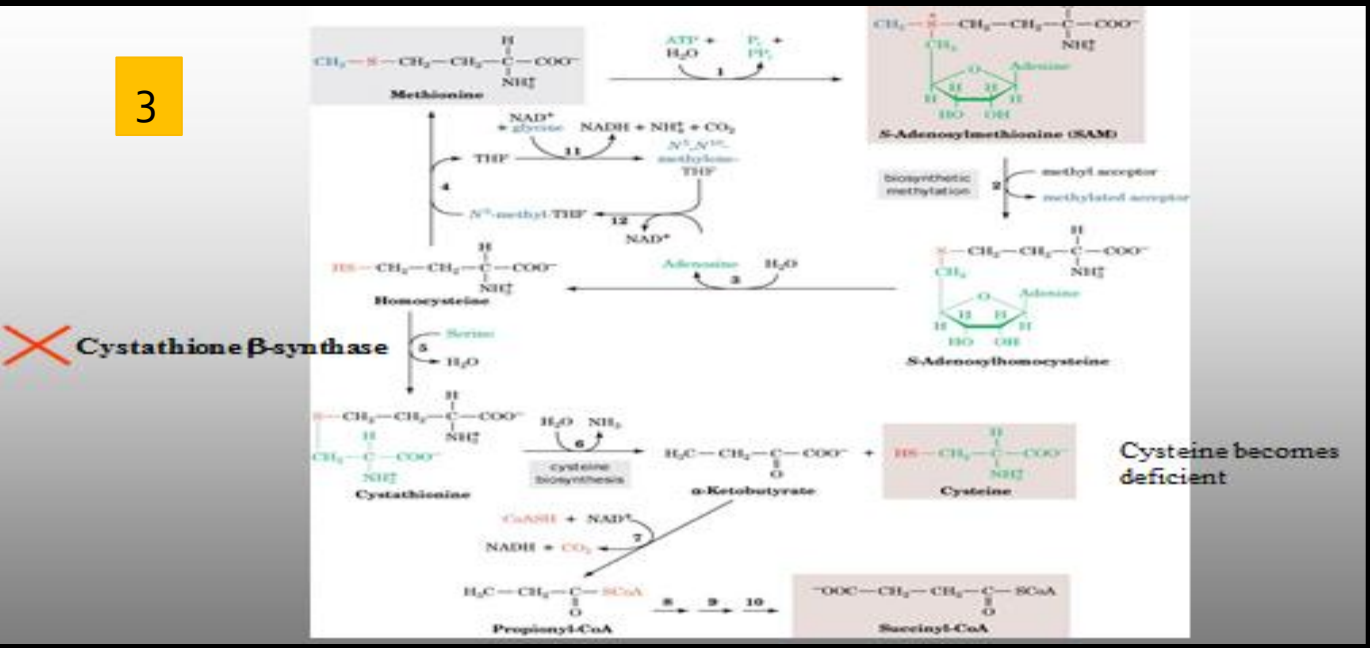
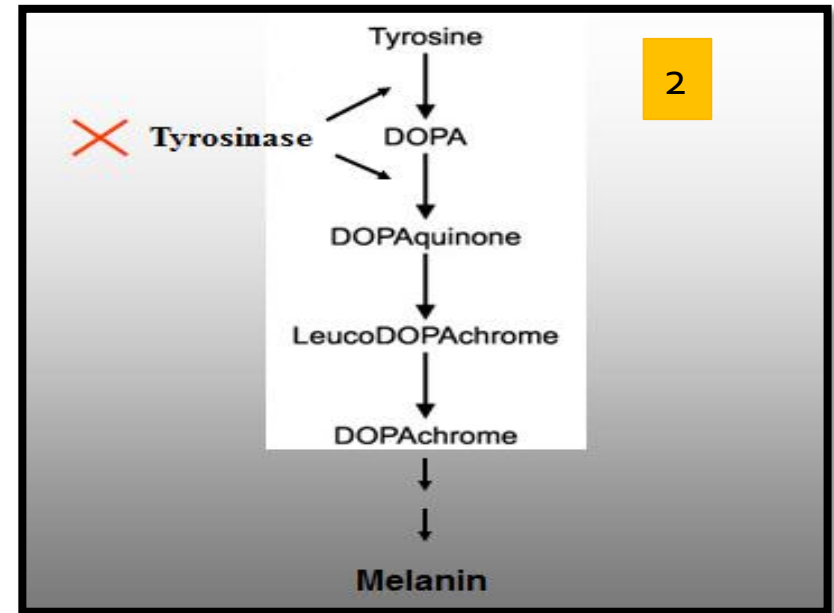
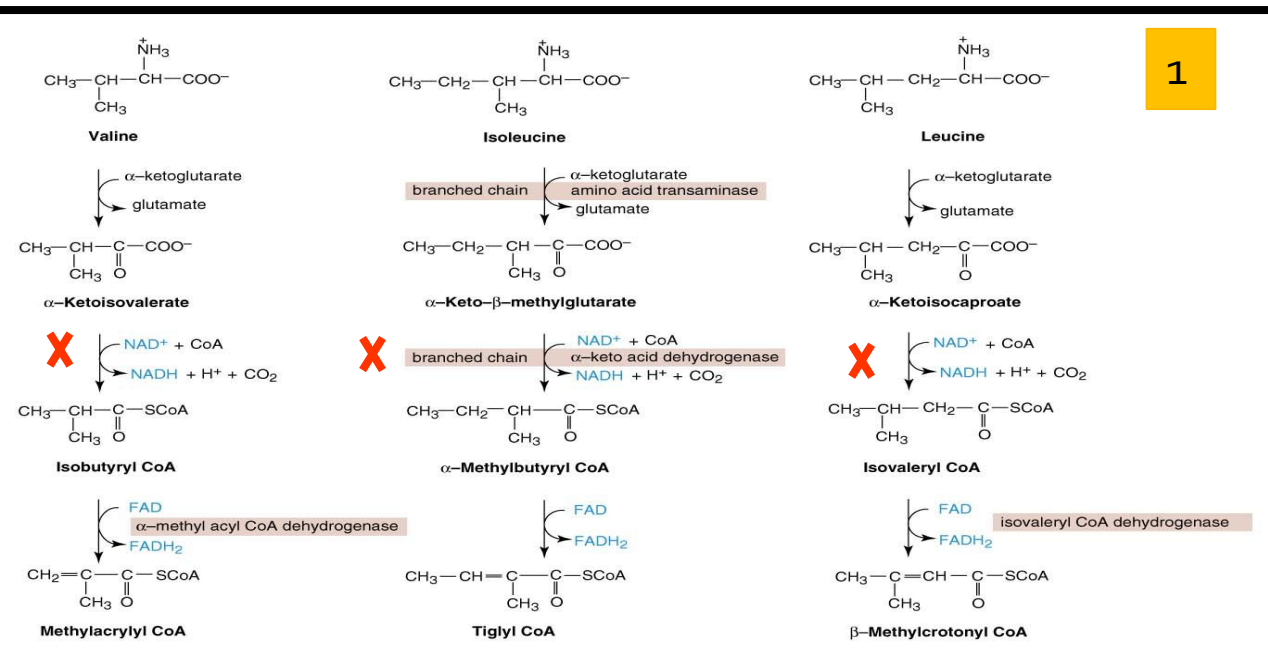
Melanin biosynthesis from tyrosine

serotonin biosynthesis from tryptophan

OTHER PIC s<is not imp  
Just look at it

Disease	Maple syrup urine disease	Albinism
Enzyme	<b>Branched chain <math>\alpha</math>-ketoacid dehydrogenase</b>	<b>Tyrosinase</b>
Amino acids involved	Isoleucine, leucine and valine	Tyrosine ✓ Tyrosine is involved in melanin production
Place of accumulation	In blood	—
symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mental retardation.</li> <li>• physical disability .</li> <li>• metabolic acidosis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hair and skin appear white.</li> <li>• Vision defects .</li> <li>• Photophobia.</li> </ul>
Clinical features	Maple syrup odor .	Melanin is absent
types	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Classic type: Most common, due to little or no activity of <math>\alpha</math>-ketoacid dehydrogenase.</li> <li>2. Intermediate and intermittent forms.</li> <li>3. Thiamin-responsive form.</li> </ol>	—
treatment	Limited intake of leucine, isoleucine and valine	—

Disease	Homocystinuria	Alkaptonuria
Enzyme	<b>Cystathionine <math>\beta</math>-synthase</b>	<b>Homogentisic acid oxidase</b>
Amino acids involved	Methionine	Tyrosine and phenylalanine
Place of accumulation	In plasma and urine .	in tissue and cartilage
symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skeletal abnormalities.</li> <li>• Osteoporosis.</li> <li>• mental retardation.</li> <li>• displacement of eye lens.</li> </ul> <p>*is also associated with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Neural tube defect (spina bifida)</li> <li>2. Vascular disease (atherosclerosis)</li> <li>3. Heart disease.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Usually <b>asymptomatic until adulthood</b></li> <li>• Arthritis may will be seen</li> </ul>
Clinical features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High plasma and urine levels of homocysteine.</li> <li>• Has a risk factor for atherosclerosis and heart disease.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• urine is oxidized to dark pigment over time.</li> <li>• Black pigmentation of cartilage, tissue.</li> </ul>
treatment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oral administration of <u>vitamins B6, B12</u> and <u>folate</u>.</li> <li>2. Methionine-restricted diet</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Restricted intake of tyrosine.</li> <li>2. <u>phenylalanine</u> reduces homogentisic acid and dark pigmentation.</li> </ol>





disease	Defect	Due to
<b>1</b> <b>MSUD</b>	Valine, Isoleucine, Leucine and their keto acids accumulated.	deficiency of branched chain a-keto acid dehydrogenase leads to.
<b>2</b> <b>Albinism</b>	Absents of Melanin.	Deficiency of tyrosinase.  *Melanin biosynthesis from tyrosine.
<b>3</b> <b>Homocystinuria</b>	Methionine and its metabolites are accumulated . <b>(homocystinuria / homocysteinemia)</b>	Deficiency of cystathione b-synthase .
<b>4</b> <b>Alkaptonuria</b>	<b>Homogentisic aciduria</b> ( <i>elevated homogentisic acid in urine</i> )	deficiency of homogentisic acid oxidase



Explanation

1- In a patient with **MAPLE SYRUP URNIE DISEASE** there is a deficiency of enzyme ... :

- A ) Tyrosinase
- B) Branched chain  $\alpha$ -ketoacid dehydrogenase
- C) phenylalanine hydroxylase enzyme
- D) Homogentisic acid oxidase

2- The most obvious clinical feature in **ALBINISM** is :

- A) Tissue damage.
- B) Osteoporosis.
- C) Mental retardation.
- D) Melanin absence.

3- The patient with **HOMOCYSTINURIA** may present with :

- A) Displacement of eye lens .
- B) Seizures .
- C) Metabolic acidosis .
- D) Vision defects .

4- The doctor can treat **Phenylketonuria (PKU)** with :

- A) Life long phe-restricted diet.
- B) Intake of vitamin B6 .
- C) Intake of tyrosine .
- D) Intake of leucine.



Biochemistry  
Team

If you find any mistake, please contact us:)  
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