



# Biochemistry

## *Globular proteins*

There is no elevator  
to success, you have  
to take the stairs !

- **Important.**
- Extra Information.
- **Doctors slides**

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436 Biochemistry team



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# Objectives:

1. describe the globular proteins using common examples like hemoglobin and myoglobin.
2. To study the structure and functions of globular proteins like:  
Hemoglobin (a major globular protein)  
Myoglobin, and  
 $\gamma$ -globulins (immunoglobulins) .
3. To know the different types of hemoglobin and difference between normal and abnormal hemoglobin .
4. To understand the diseases associated with globular proteins .

- Amino acid chains fold into shapes that resemble spheres are called globular proteins

### Globular protein

- This type of folding increases solubility of proteins in water :

#### Polar groups on the protein's surface

They come from the side chain of amino acid

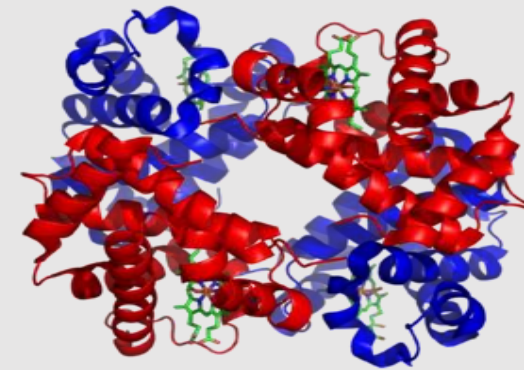
#### Hydrophobic groups in the interior

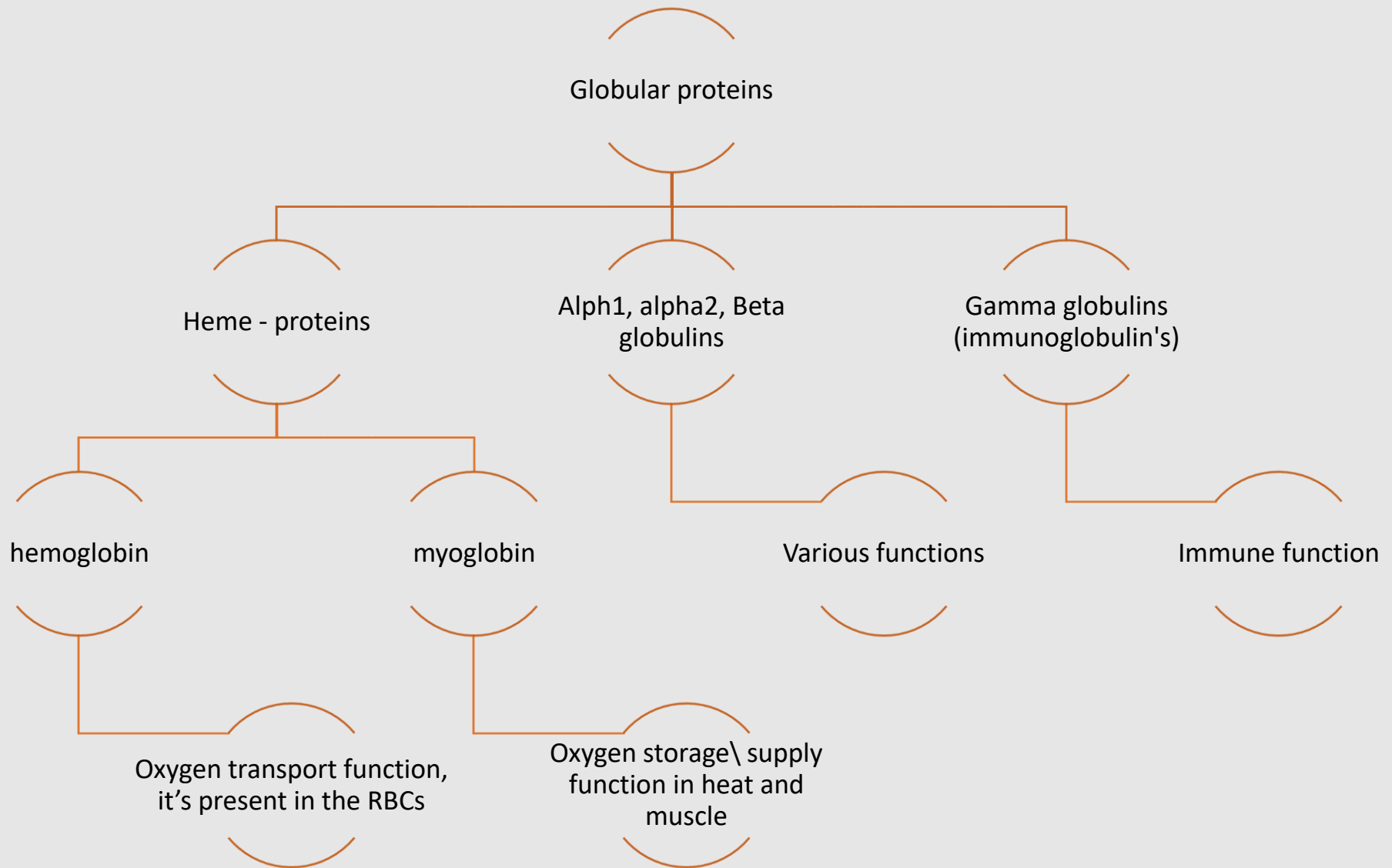
- Fibrous proteins are mainly insoluble structural proteins

The sequence of the protein is what determine the structure and the structure is what determine the function of it

-Globular proteins have functional properties.  
ex: they can work as enzymes  
-Fibrous proteins are structural only.

What makes the protein soluble is the ability to interact with water





**Enzymes:** catalysis of biochemical reactions.

hemoglobin and myoglobin are the two most abundant heme-proteins in humans.

# Hemoglobin

A major globular protein in humans

Composed of four polypeptide chains: (subunits)

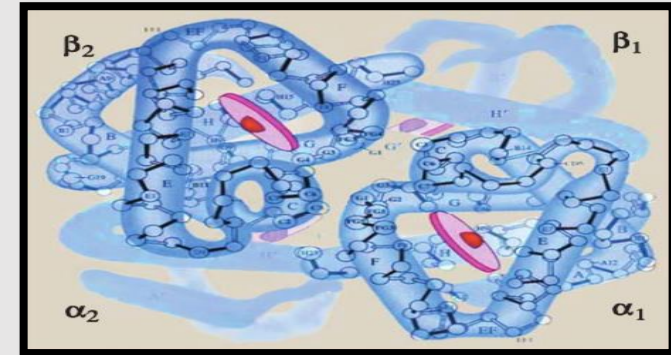
Two  $\alpha$  and two  $\beta$  chains

Contains two dimers of  $\alpha\beta$  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  $O_2$



- the bond within the dimer itself is very strong because it has covalent and Hydrophobic bonds .while, the bond between the 2 dimers is weaker because it has ionic and van der val bond .

- 1 hemoglobin > 4 heme group > 4 oxygen molecules.



# Hemoglobin Structure

Hemoglobin consist of heme group and chains ( alpha - beta - gamma - delta )

beta chain represented by one gene , while alpha represented by two

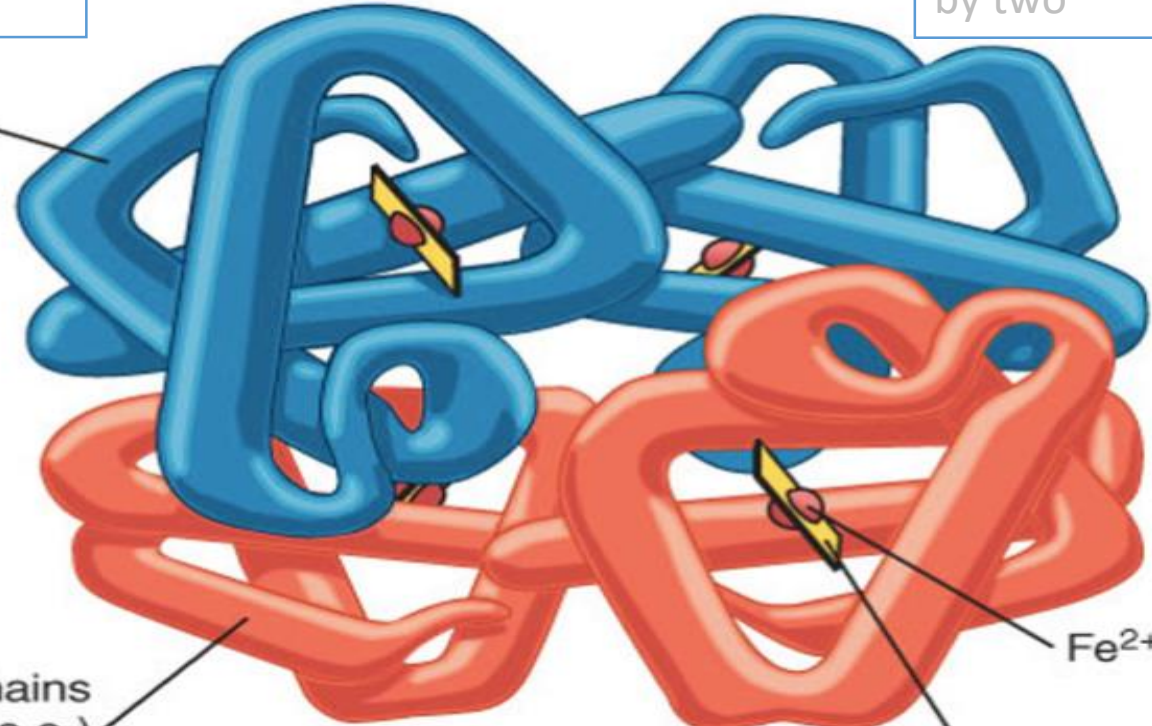
$\beta$  chains  
(146 a.a.)

the heme is in a ring form and the ferrous iron is in the center

$\alpha$  chains  
(141 a.a.)

Iron binds with the Histidine residue in the globule chain and in the other side binds to O<sub>2</sub>

Polypeptide chains

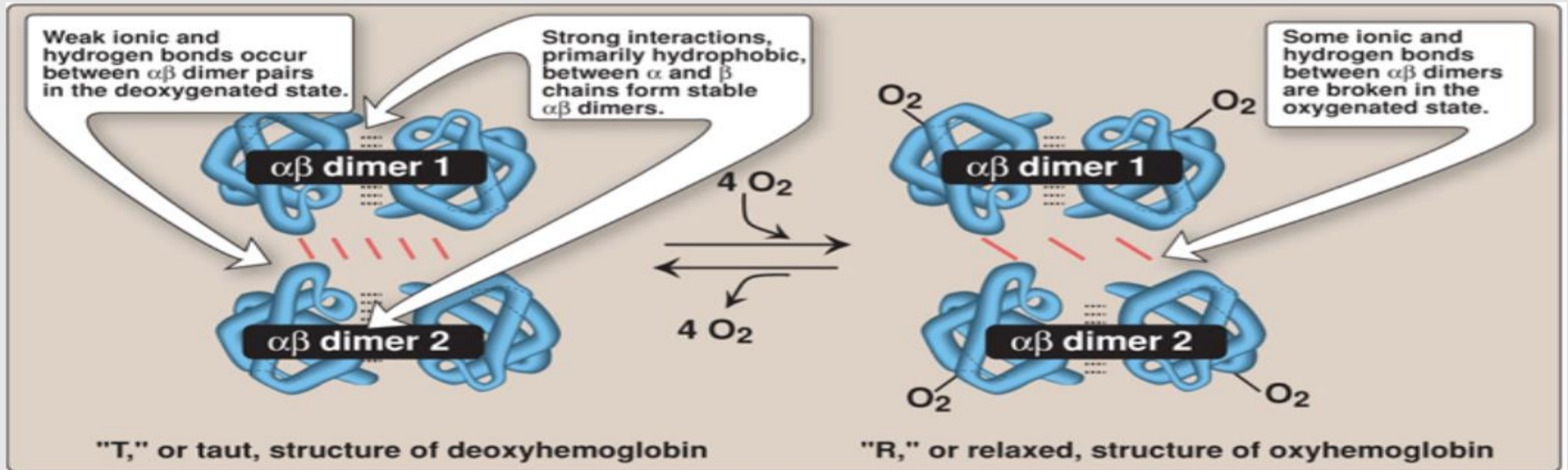


Heme  
(protoporphyrin + iron)

# Types of hemoglobin

Normal :	Abnormal: not able to transport O <sub>2</sub> due to the structure of it.
<p>HbA (97%) It is the major hemoglobin</p>	<p>Carboxy – HB: <b>(IMPORTANT NOTES)</b> CO replaces O<sub>2</sub> and binds 220X tighter than O<sub>2</sub> (Smokers) it can produce toxic concentrations of carboxyhemoglobin in the blood for example increased levels of CO are found in the blood of tobacco smokers. CO toxicity appears to result from a combination of tissue hypoxia and direct CO- mediated damage at cellular level.</p>
<p>HbA<sub>2</sub> (2%)</p>	<p>Met- HB: Contains oxidized Fe<sup>3+</sup> (~2%) that cannot carry O<sub>2</sub></p>
<p>HbF (1%) fetal or neonates It is increased in hepatocellular carcinoma patients</p>	<p>Sulfur-HB: Forms due to high sulfur levels in blood (irreversible reaction) (increased in people who have been using sulfur containing drugs for a long period of time)</p>
<p>HbA<sub>1c</sub></p>	

# Hemoglobin A (O<sub>2</sub> binding to hemoglobin)



T form: The deoxy form of hemoglobin is called the "T," or taut (tense) form. In the T form, the two alpha beta dimers interact through a network of ionic bonds and hydrogen bonds that constrain the movement of the polypeptide chains. The T conformation is the low-oxygen-affinity form of hemoglobin.

R form: The binding of O<sub>2</sub> to hemoglobin causes the rupture of some of the polar bonds between the dimers, allowing movement. This leads to a structure called the "R" or relaxed form. The R conformation is the high-oxygen-affinity form of hemoglobin.



# Types of normal hemoglobin

## HbA<sub>2</sub>

Composed of two  $\alpha$  and two  $\delta$  globin chains

Appears before birth

Constitutes ~2% of total Hb in an adult body.

## HbA<sub>1c</sub>

HbA undergoes non-enzymatic glycosylation, which depends on plasma glucose levels so we can get HbA<sub>1c</sub>

It has glucose residues attached predominantly to the NH<sub>2</sub> groups of the N-terminal valines of the  $\beta$ -globin chains

HbA<sub>1c</sub> levels are high in patients with diabetes mellitus

## Fetal hemoglobin (HbF)

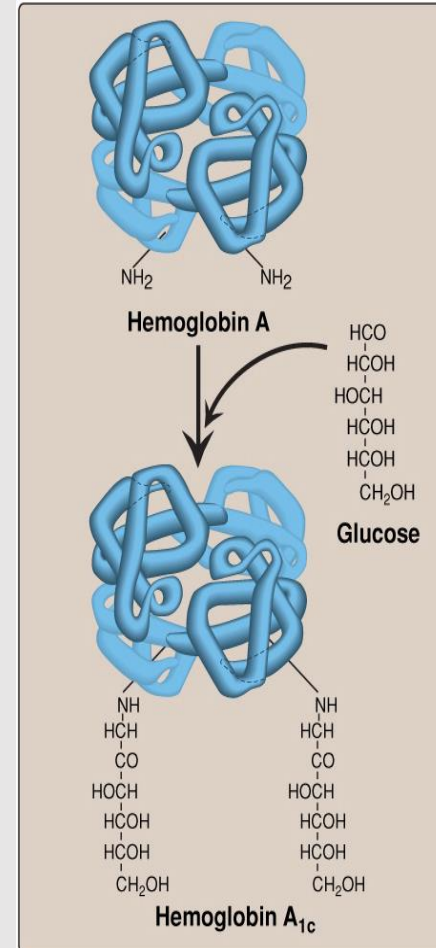
Composed of two  $\alpha$  and two  $\gamma$  globin chains

Has higher affinity for O<sub>2</sub> than HbA  
Which facilitates the transfer of O<sub>2</sub> from the maternal circulation across the placenta to the RBCs of the fetus.

Major hemoglobin found **in the fetus and newborn**

- HbA<sub>1c</sub> is a marker for diabetes, and it is modified form of HbA<sub>2</sub>.
- The most abundant form of glycosylated hemoglobin is HbA<sub>1c</sub>
- **Hb A<sub>1c</sub> identifies how long has the patient been maintaining his/her blood glucose level for a period of 2-3 months; therefore it's a better marker for diagnosing and monitoring diabetic patients)**

## HbA<sub>1c</sub>



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# Hemoglobin function

Hemoglobin is found exclusively in red blood cells.

Carrying oxygen from the lungs to tissues.

Carries carbon dioxide from tissues back to the lungs.

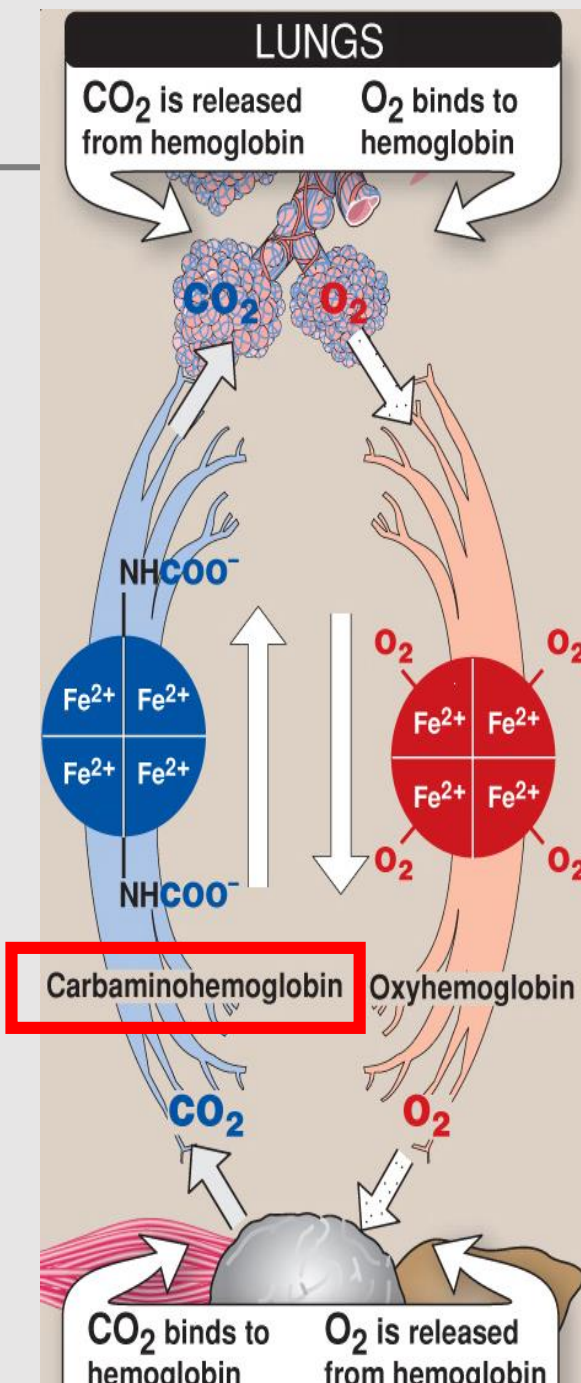
## Normal levels (g/dL):

Males: 14-16

Females: 13-15

oxygenated Hb called oxyhemoglobin  
But Hb that has CO<sub>2</sub> called carbaminohemoglobin

Extra information:  
Hb's main function is to transport O<sub>2</sub> from the lungs to the capillaries of the tissues, and can carry 4 molecules of O<sub>2</sub>. Also Hb can transport H<sup>+</sup> and CO<sub>2</sub> from the tissues to the lungs.  
And most of CO<sub>2</sub> is hydrated and **bicarbonated**.  
**And it's produced in the RBCs**



# Hemoglobin in diseases

All are autosomal recessive

Hemoglobinopathies are genetic disorders of hemoglobin are caused by:

- \*Synthesis of structurally abnormal Hb (qualitative)
- \*Synthesis of insufficient quantities of normal Hb (quantitative)

**OR**

**A combination of both**

Hemoglobinopathies	Description	
Sickle cell disease (HbS)	<b>Caused by a single mutation in B-globin gene</b>	Glutamic acid at position 6 in HbA is replaced by <b>valine</b> The mutant HbS contain B <sup>S</sup> chains The shape of RBC's are sickled Cause sickle cell anemia. It is caused by single point mutation
Hemoglobin C disease (HbC)		Glutamic acid at position 6 in HbA is replaced by <b>lysine</b> Cause a mild form of hemolytic anemia (no specific therapy is required)

# Hemoglobin in diseases cont.

Hemoglobinopathies	Description	
Methemoglobinemia	<p>Caused by the oxidation of Hb to ferric Fe<sup>3+</sup> state Methemoglobin cannot bind to O<sub>2</sub></p> <p>Caused by certain drugs, reactive O<sub>2</sub> species, and NADH-cytochrome b5 reductase deficiency</p> <p>Chocolate cyanosis: the brownish-blue color of the skin and blood (<b>IMPORTANT</b>)</p>	
Thalassemia	<p>Defective synthesis of either alpha or beta global chains due to gene mutation.</p> <p>Beta-thalassemia has higher risk than alpha-thalassemia because <u>beta-thalassemia has only two copies of the gene while alpha-thalassemia has four copies.</u></p> <p>That's why beta-thalassemia <u>need regular blood transfusion</u> and <u>cause severe anemia</u></p>	<p><b>Alpha-thalassemia:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Synthesis of alpha-globin chain is decreased or absent</li> <li>- <b>Cause mild to moderate hemolytic anemia.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Beta thalassemia:</b></p> <p>Synthesis of beta-globin chain is decreased or absent</p> <p><b>Cause severe anemia</b></p> <p><b>Need regular blood transfusion .</b></p>

# Myoglobin

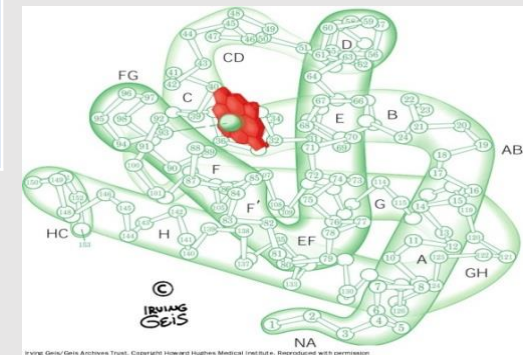
A globular hemeprotein in heart and skeletal muscle

Acts as O<sub>2</sub> carrier that increases the rate of transport of O<sub>2</sub> within muscle cell.

Function	Structure
Stores and supplies oxygen to the heart and skeletal muscle only	Contains a single polypeptide chain forming a single subunit with <b>eight</b> $\alpha$ -helix structures
It gives red color to skeletal muscles	The <b>interior</b> of the subunit is composed of nonpolar amino acids
Supplies oxygen during aerobic exercise	The charged (polar) amino acids are located on the <b>surface</b> (forming hydrogen bond) while The heme group is present at the <b>center</b> of the molecule

Single chain will bind to **one Heme**. So Myoglobin molecule will bind to **one O<sub>2</sub>**

Explanation: Forming the structure of myoglobin is stabilized by hydrophobic interaction.





# Myoglobin in diseases

- **Myoglobinuria**: Myoglobin is excreted in urine due to muscle damage (rhabdomyolysis it means the destruction of muscle cells)
- May cause acute renal failure

The most common causes of myoglobinuria in adults are : trauma, alcohol and drugs.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**  
The cause of myoglobinuria is muscle damage and myoglobinuria may cause acute renal failure

Myoglobin  
in the urine

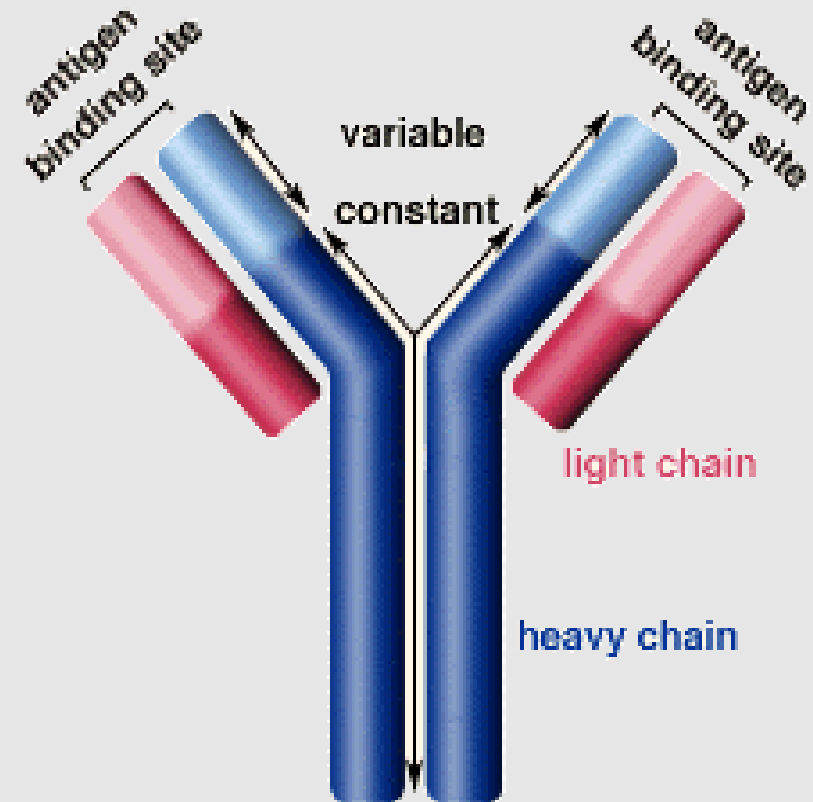
Specific marker:  
**Muscle injury**

less Specific marker:  
**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**

Explanation: The antibodies bind with the antigen and makes immune complex which trigger the immune system and the macrophages start engulf this complex



# Summary

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## **Hemoglobin:**

4 Chains

Transports O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>

Normal HB: 4 Types

-HbA –HbA<sub>2</sub> –HbF –HbA<sub>1C</sub>

Abnormal HB: 3 Types

-Carboxy Hb –Met Hb –Sulf Hb

Hemoglobinopathies: 4 types

- 1- Sickle cell disease (HbS)
- 2- Hemoglobin C disease (HbC)
- 3- Methemoglobinemia
- 4- Thalassemia (alpha or beta)

## **Myoglobin:**

1 Chain

Stores O<sub>2</sub>

Gives red color to skeletal muscles

Myoglobin disease:

Myoglobinuria

## **Immunoglobulins:**

4 Chains

Neutralizes Bacteria

5 Types: Ig G, A, M, E, D

# Quiz

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SAQ

<https://www.onlineexambuilder.com/globular-proteins-saq/exam-127554>

MCQ'S

<https://www.onlineexambuilder.com/globular-proteins/exam-127546>

<https://www.onlineexambuilder.com/globular-proteins/exam-128219>

## Helpful video

[Hemoglobin Video:](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89feCoBXRGE)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89fe](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89feCoBXRGE)

[CoBXRGE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89feCoBXRGE)

# TEAM MEMBERS



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**THANK YOU**  
PLEASE CONTACT US IF  
YOU HAVE ANY ISSUE



- Review the notes



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89feCoBXRGE>



- Lippincott's Illustrated Reviews: Biochemistry, 6<sup>th</sup> E



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