

Glycogen Metabolism

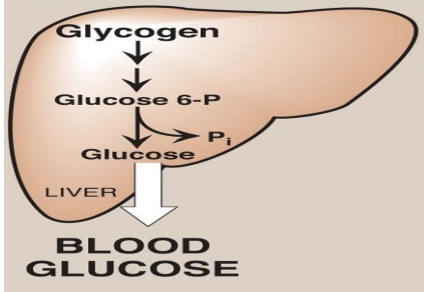
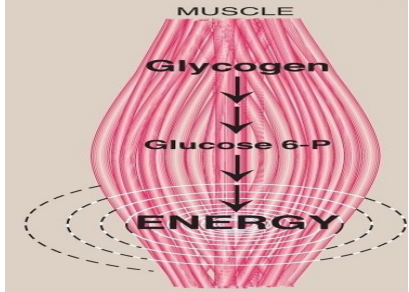
- Color Index:
- Original content
- Important
- Dr's Notes
- Extra info
- Only in girls' slides
- Only in boys' slides



Objectives:

- Slide No. 3 1. The need to store carbohydrates in muscle
2. The reason for carbohydrates to be stored as glycogen
- Slides (6,7) 3. An overview of glycogen synthesis (Glycogenesis)
- Slides(9,10) 4. An overview of glycogen breakdown (Glycogenolysis)
- Slide No.12 5. Key elements in regulation of both Glycogenesis and Glycogenolysis

Location and function of glycogen

location	Liver	Skeletal muscle
Weight of glycogen	100 g	400 g
Percentage of the total organ weight	10% of a well-fed (healthy) adult liver	1-2% of the weight of resting muscle
Function	<p>Major: source for blood glucose (especially during early stages of fasting 10-17 hours)</p> <p>“during late stages gluconeogenesis occurs”</p> <p>Minor: fuel reserve for hepatic cells</p>	<p>fuel reserve (ATP)</p> <p>(during muscular exercise)</p>
Pathway	<p>Glycogen → Glucose 6-P → Glucose</p> 	<p>Glycogen → Glucose 6-P → Energy</p> 

★ Extra info:

why muscles never make glucose?

1. the aim of glycogenolysis in muscle cells is to generate energy, so it's better to start from glucose 6-P rather than glucose to avoid losing 1 ATP.
2. The enzyme Glucose 6-phosphatase which is responsible for the formation of glucose from glucose 6-P is only present in the liver

Structure of Glycogen

branched-chain homopolysaccharide

★ made exclusively from α - D-glucose

in the form of granules

★ present in the **cytoplasm**
(it can be found in all cells but mainly in liver & muscle)

→ these granules also contain

α (1→4) Glycosidic linkage

α (1→6) Glycosidic linkage

★ Between glucose residues

★ in branches

→ (linear)

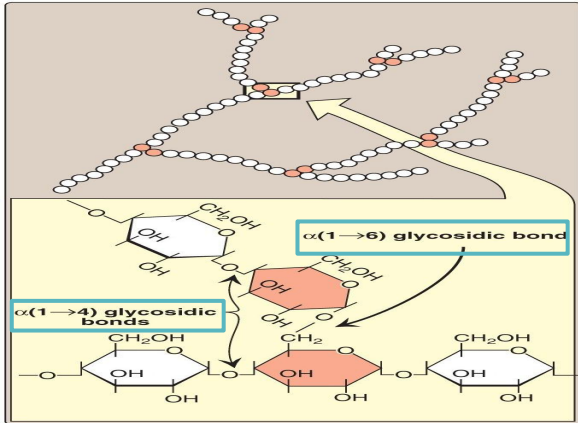
→ every 8 to 10 residues

→ The primary glycosidic bond

enzymes necessary for
glycogen **synthesis**

enzymes necessary for
glycogen **degradation**

★ These are different enzymes



Metabolism of Glycogen in Skeletal Muscle

1- Glycogenesis:(Anabolism)
Synthesis of Glycogen from glucose

2- Glycogenolysis : (catabolism)
Breakdown of Glycogen to Glucose-6-phosphate
“not to glucose”

Glycogenesis Synthesis of Glycogen in skeletal muscles

1) Building blocks

UDP-GLUCOSE (UDP: uridine diphosphate)

- ★ Source of glucose molecules(energy) , UDP carries the glucose but it is not added to the elongated chain.

(get removed in the elongation step)

2) Initiation of synthesis (either by):

- A. Elongation of pre-existing glycogen fragment
- B. The use of glycogen primer. (Glycogenin)

*option B is like DNA replication we can't start from scratch so we need an enzyme to make a primer (glycogenin in glycogenesis or primase in DNA replication)

EXCEPT in glycogenesis The primer doesn't get removed

3) Elongation

Using the enzyme **glycogen synthase** for (α 1-4 linkages)

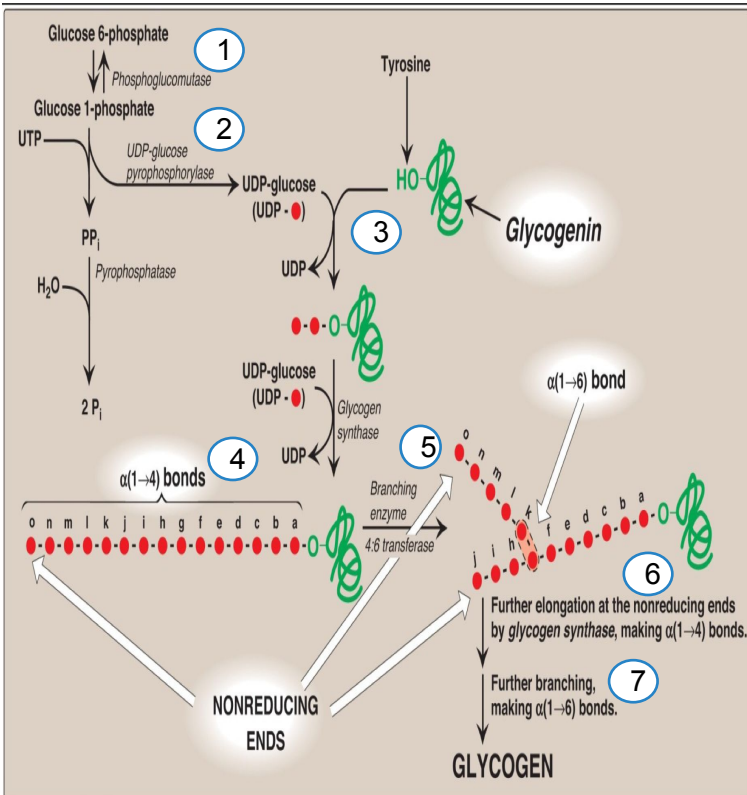
- ★ Glycogen synthase cannot initiate synthesis but only elongates pre-existing glycogen fragment or glycogen primer + removes the UDP

4) Branching:

Using **branching enzymes** for (α 1-6 linkages)



Synthesis of Glycogen



1- Glucose 6-P + **phosphoglucomutase** (Isomerization) \rightarrow Glucose 1-P

-UDP: is an important factor in glycogenesis.

-Before glucose can be stored as glycogen in the liver and muscles, the enzyme **UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase** forms a UDP glucose complex

2- Glucose 1-P + UTP (energy) + **UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase** (enzyme) \rightarrow UDP-glucose unit.

- Meanwhile the glycogenin is making the primer.

3- Start of elongation by **removing** of UDP and **adding** of glucose to the primer by **glycogen synthase** (enzyme)

-Branching speeds up the process of synthesis of glycogen, so:

After having at least 8-10 residues:

-and by the (**Branching enzyme 4:6 transferase**) *the name in a simple term which is the one you should know :

4- **breaking** the ($\alpha 1\rightarrow 4$ linkage) of 4-6 residues minimum.

5- transfer the 4-6 residues to a different site and **making** a ($\alpha 1\rightarrow 6$ linkage).

* Nonreducing end is when the anomeric carbon is attached to something else.

the most important enzyme of Synthesis of Glycogen

Enzyme	function
phosphogluco-mutase	Isomeration from G6P to G1P
UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase	forms a UDP glucose complex
glycogenin	making the primer
glycogen synthase	Start of elongation
4:6 transferase	Branching enzyme

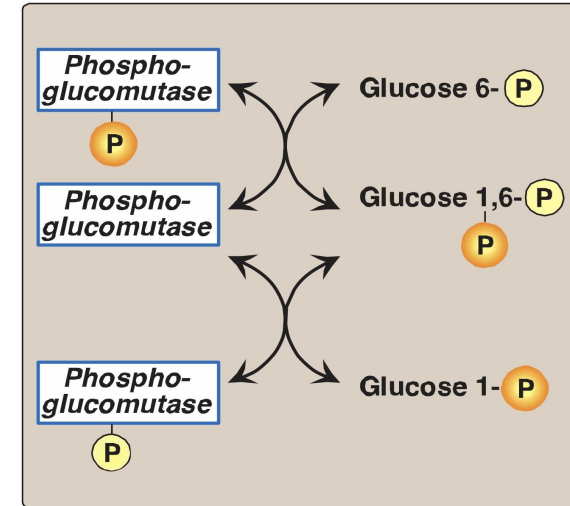


Figure 11.6

Interconversion of glucose 6-phosphate and glucose 1-phosphate by *phosphoglucomutase*. P = phosphate.



Glycogenolysis

Breakdown of Glycogen to Glucose-6-phosphate in skeletal muscle.

1-Shortening of glycogen chain: by glycogen phosphorylase

Glycogen phosphorylase contains a coenzyme: **pyridoxal phosphate (PLP)**

They cleave (break) **$\alpha(1\rightarrow4)$ bonds** of the glycogen chain \rightarrow Producing Glucose 1-phosphate *Note: After it reaches 4 residues the enzyme will stop cleaving*

G1P is converted to glucose 6-phosphate by **mutase enzyme - (phosphoglucomutase)**

2-Removal of branches: by debranching enzymes

Cleaving of $\alpha(1\rightarrow6)$ bonds at the branches of glycogen which releases free glucose

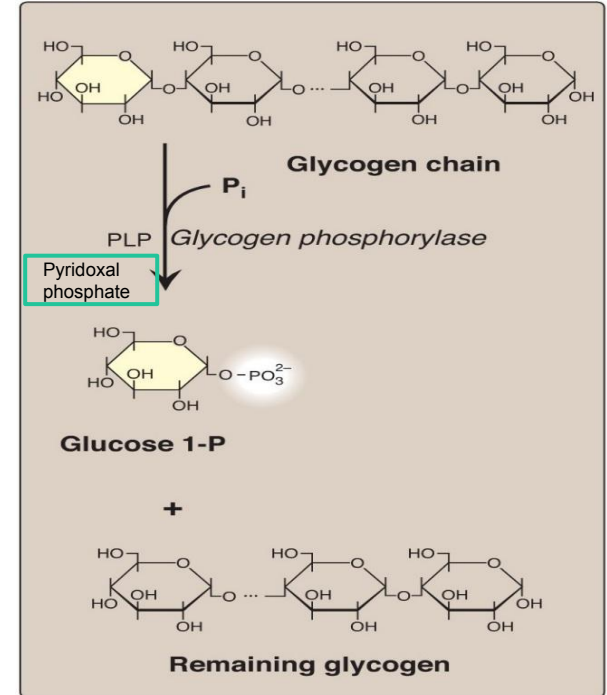
**in few quantities because the majority of the bonds are $\alpha(1\rightarrow4)$ bonds*

3-Fate of glucose 6-phosphate (G-6-P)

G-6-P is not converted to free glucose

.(it is converted to free glucose only in the liver)

It is used as a source of energy for skeletal muscles during muscular exercise (by anaerobic glycolysis starting from G-6-P step)



*Pyridoxal phosphate (coenzyme) = vitamine B12

.. continue

1) LIMIT DEXTRIN:

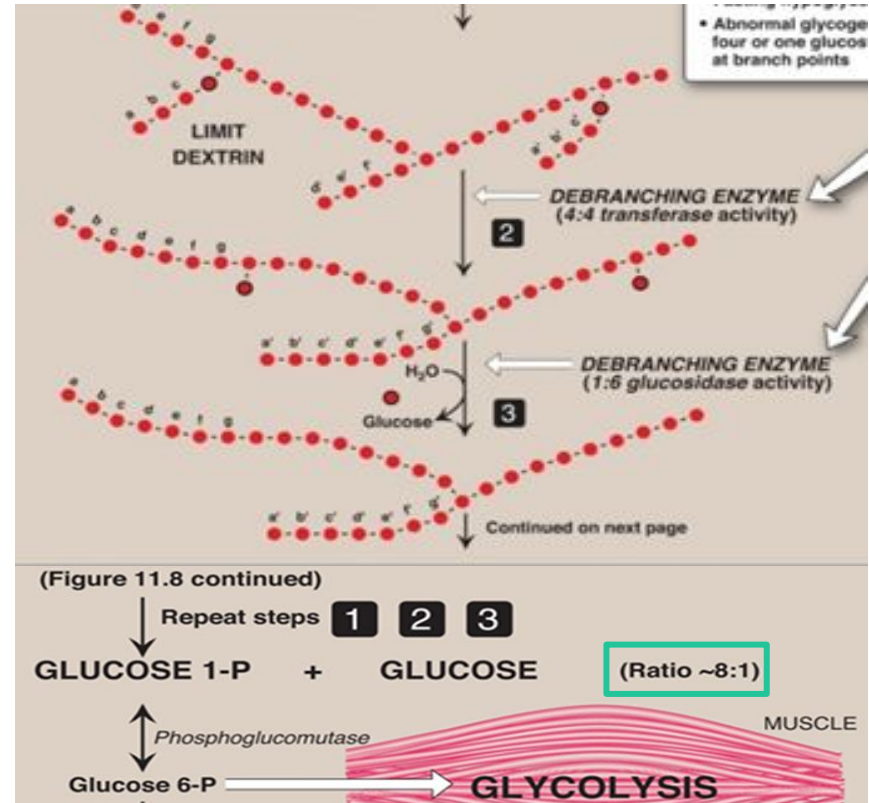
in this point the **glycogen phosphorylase** can't continue shorting the chine (it remains)

2) debranching enzyme **4:4 transferase**:

take three glucose molecules by breaking $\alpha(1\rightarrow4)$ bonds from one end and bind it to the other end

3) debranching enzyme **1:6 glucosidase**:

it's the same enzyme above except that unbind the $\alpha(1\rightarrow6)$ bonds



*every 8 molecules of G-1-P, one molecule of free glucose will be produced)

the most important enzyme of Glycogenolysis

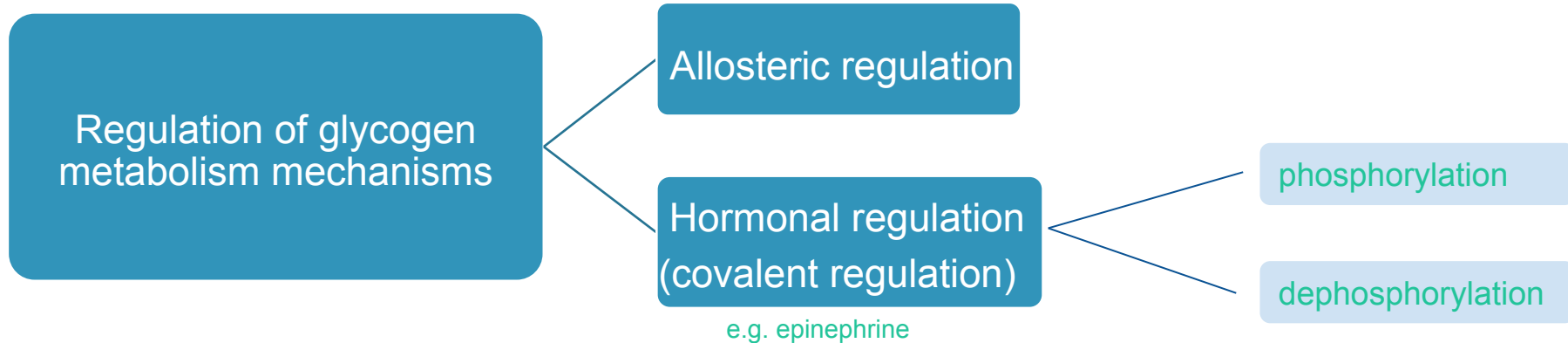
Enzyme	function
glycogen phosphorylase	Chain shortening
pyridoxal phosphate	coenzyme of glycogen phosphorylase
mutase enzyme (phosphogluco-mutase)	convertes G1P to G6P
debranching enzymes 4:4 transferase	take three glucose & bind it to another branch
debranching enzymes 1:6 glucosidase	unbind the 1:6 linkage

Regulation of Glycogen Metabolism.

Synthesis & degradation of glycogen are tightly regulated

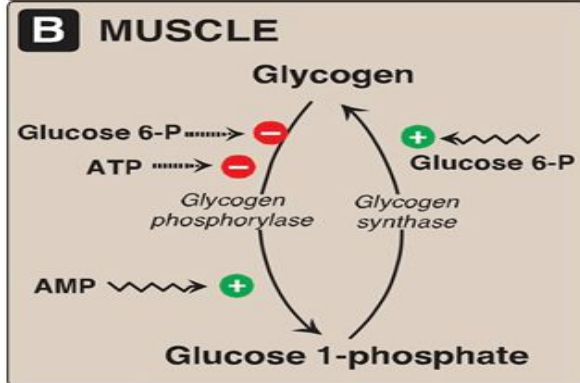
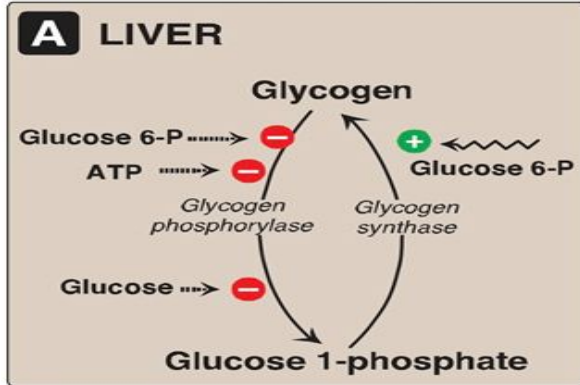
In Skeletal Muscles:

- Glycogen **degradation** occurs during **active exercise**
- Glycogen **synthesis** begins when the **muscle is at rest**



1- Allosteric Regulation

in skeletal muscles (in liver is extra)



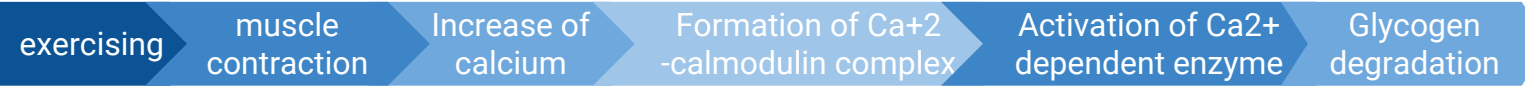
Glycogen phosphorylase

- **-Inhibited by:** (Inhibit glycogen break down)
- -glucose 6-p (High energy signal in the cell **end product of the pathway**).
- - ATP (ATP is abundant, no need for more energy).
- **-Activated by:** (activate glycogen break down)
- - Ca⁺⁺ (we will explain it in the next slide).
- - AMP (low energy signal).

Glycogen synthase

- **Activated by:** (activate glycogen synthesis)
- Glucose 6-p (High energy signal in the cell)

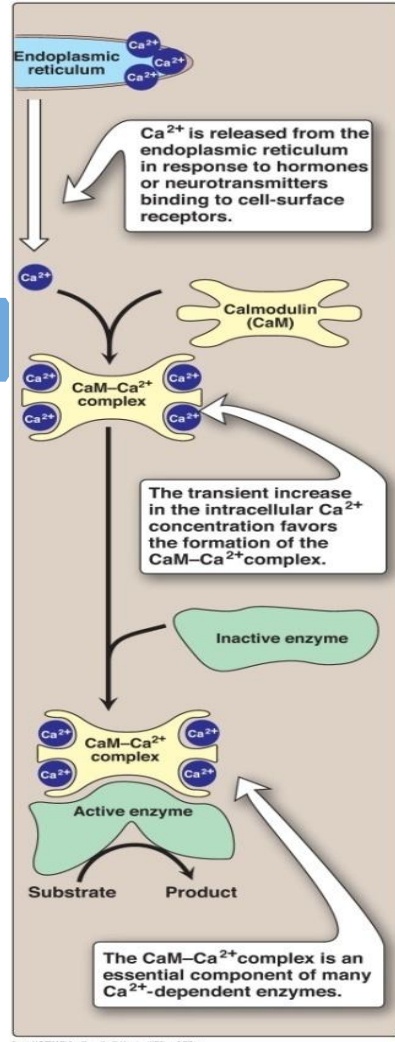
➤ mechanism of Allosteric Regulation



“recall the mechanism of muscle contraction from physiology : the calcium comes out from sarcoplasmic reticulum during muscle contraction”.

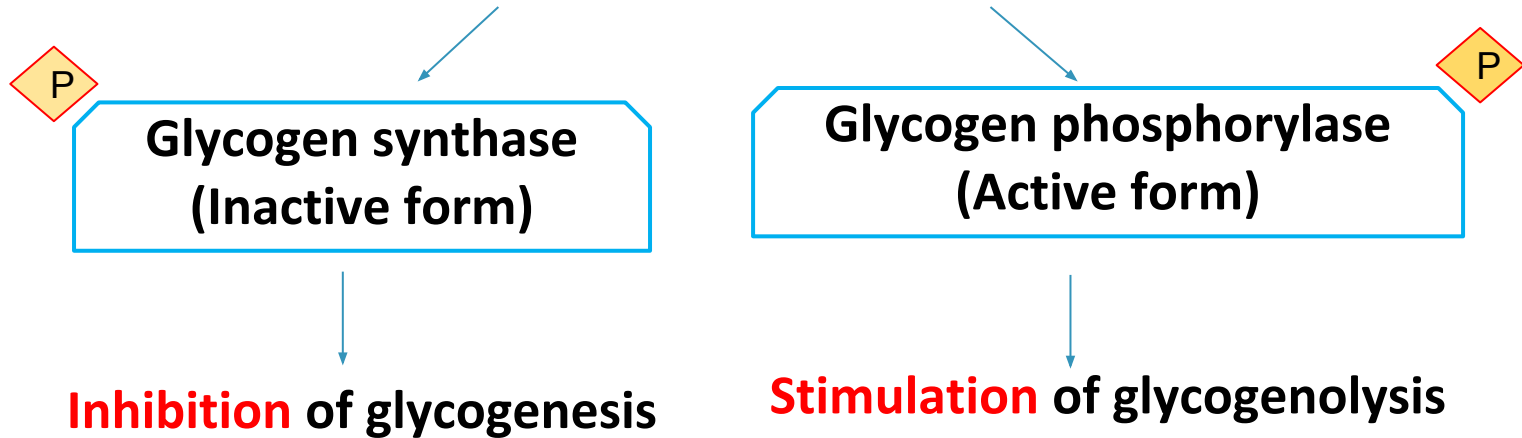
“because of high concentration of Ca²⁺ intracellularly”.

- e.g. **glycogen phosphorylase**.



2- Hormonal Regulation

1. Muscle contraction
2. Epinephrine release
3. Skeletal muscle: Epinephrine/receptor binding
4. Second messenger: cAMP (Activate protein kinase A)
5. Response: **Enzyme phosphorylation**



Glycogen storage Diseases (GSD)

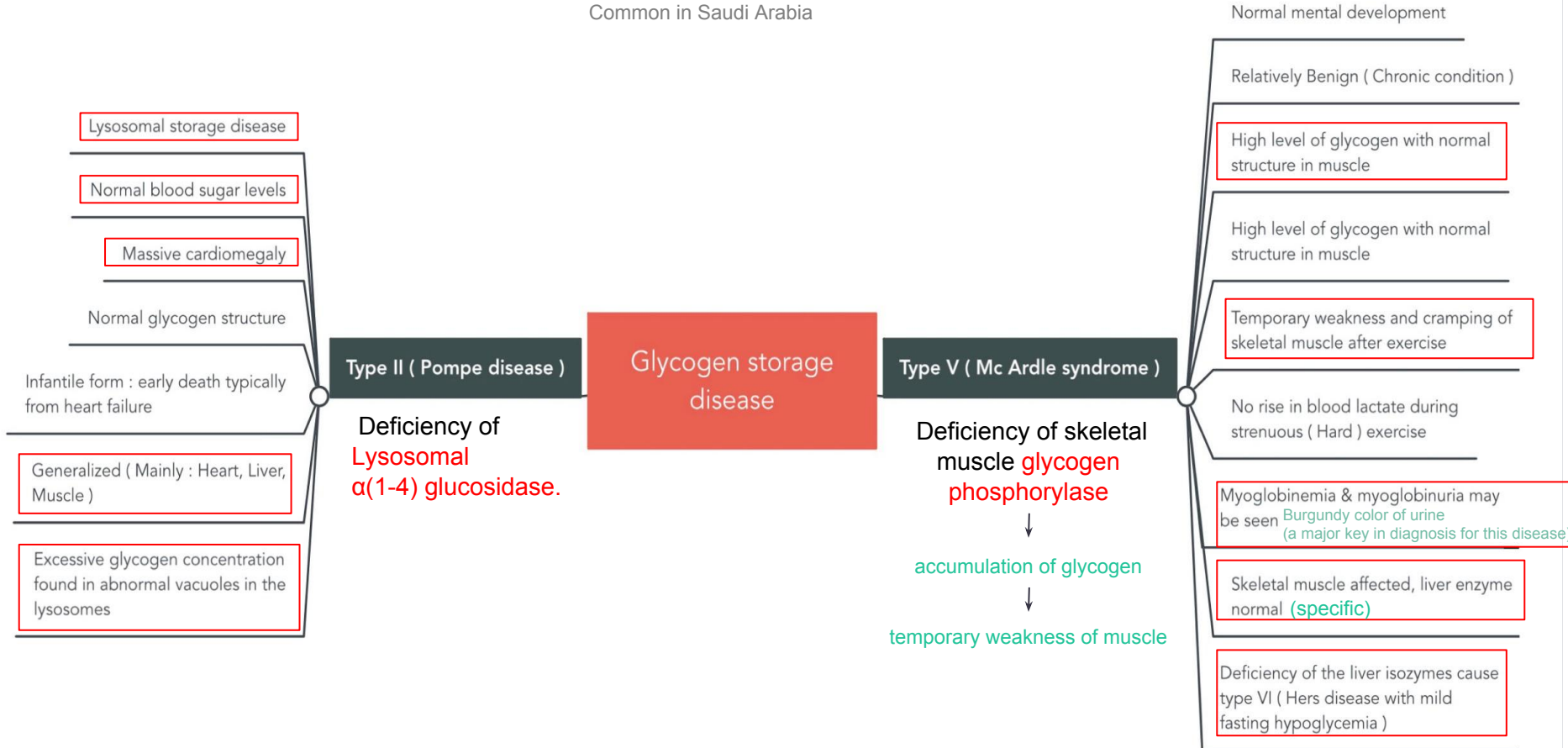
- A group of genetic diseases that result from a defect in an enzyme required for :

a) *glycogen synthesis* $\xrightarrow{\text{Result in :}}$ Formation of abnormal glycogen structure

b) *glycogen degradation* $\xrightarrow{\hspace{1.5cm}}$ Excessive accumulation of normal glycogen in a specific tissue.

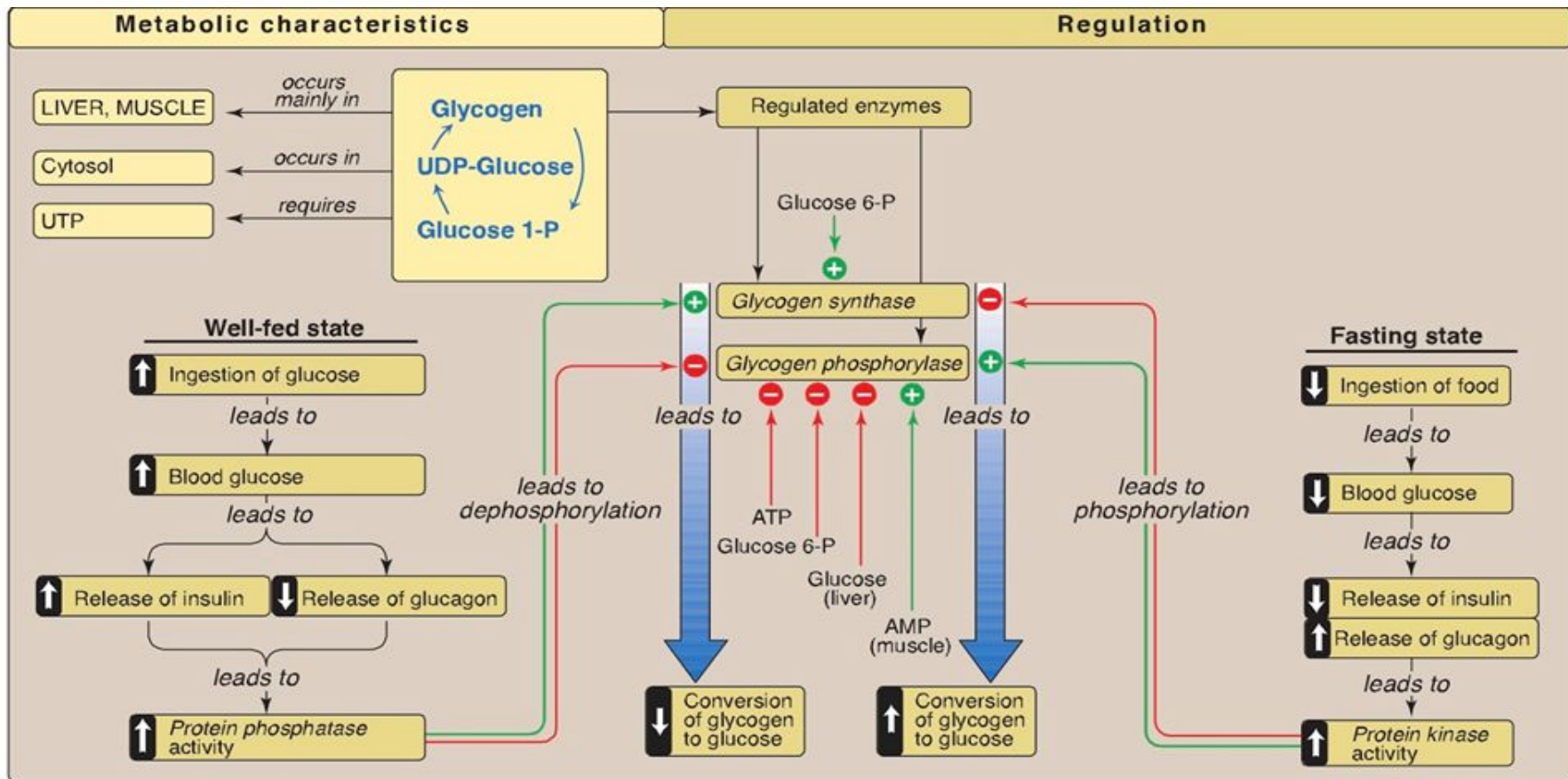
Glycogen storage Diseases (GSD)

Common in Saudi Arabia



the brief about the diseases are useful in question as cases

Review



MCQs

Q1: The first product formed during glycogenolysis (glycogen degradation at alpha 1,4 glycosidic bonds) is:

A) Glucose	B) glucose 1 phosphate	C) glucose 6 Phosphate	D) glucose 1,6 bisphosphate
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Q2:A 23 years old male came to the clinic complaining from muscle cramps and pain, after examination you found high levels of glycogen with normal structure in muscle, and no rise in blood lactate during strenuous exercise.

The patient most likely have :

A)GSD Type V	B)GSD Type II	C)GSD Type III	D) GSD Type 1
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Q3:The glycogen become glucose 1-phosphate, the enzyme used for this reaction is :

A)Glycogen synthase	B)Glycogen phosphorylase	C)Phosphoglucomutase	D) glycogenin
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Q4:debranching enzyme

A)1:6 glucosidase	B)4:4 transferase	C)4:6 transferase	D)A&B
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Q5:what is percentage of of the weight of 100 g of glycogen in a healthy adult liver

A) 10%	B)100%	C)20%	D)50%
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Q6:Glycogen phosphorylase can be activated by

A)UDP	B)ATP	C)ADP	D)AMP
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Answer key:

- 1) B
- 2) A
- 3) B
- 4) D
- 5) A
- 6) D

SAQs

Q1:Glycogen phosphorylase enzyme activity inhibited by?

Glucose 6-phosphate, ATP

Q2:What happen to the glycogen if the muscle was at rest?

Glycogen synthesis begin

Q3 name the steps of Synthesis of Glycogen from glucose

building blocks , initiation , elongation , branching

Q4:Name two enzyme that help in glycogenolysis and their function

1-4:4 transferase: debranching enzyme

2- mutase enzyme: convertes G1P to G6P

❖ Team leaders:

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رائد العجيري

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ريم القرني

طيف العتيبي

نوره المزروع

❖ Boys team:

مهند القرني

سعد دماس

عمر الغامدي



Wish you all the best !

“You can't
have a
better
tomorrow
if you're
still thinking
about yesterday.”

Charles F Kettering

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