Metabolism: Anabolism and Catabolism

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Objectives

- Understand the concept of metabolic pathway
- Identify types & characters of metabolic pathways- anabolic and catabolic
- Identify ATP as the energy currency of cells

Metabolism

- All the chemical reactions taking place inside a cell are collectively known as METABOLISM
- Metabolism consists of: energy consuming (anabolic) pathways

energy producing (catabolic) pathways

Pathway Vs Chemical Reaction

Metabolic Pathway:

A multi-step sequence of chemical reactions

A product of first reaction becomes a substrate for second reaction

Integrated pathways: Metabolism

Glycolysis, an example of a metabolic pathway



Metabolic Map

 Different pathways can intersect, forming an integrated and purposeful network of chemical reactions "The Metabolic Map"



Classification

 Most pathways can be classified catabolic anabolic

• Note: Pathways that regenerate a component are called cycles

Catabolic Pathways



Anabolic Pathways

Precursor molecules into complex molecules

Endergonic reactions require ATP

Divergent process

Catabolism Vs Anabolism



Comparison of catabolic and anabolic pathways

Anabolic

Catabolic

- Simple to complex molecules
- Endergonic
- Involves reductions
- Requires NADPH
- Divergent process

- Complex to simple molecules
- Exergonic
- Involves oxidations
- Requires NAD+
- Convergent process

Amphibolic Pathways

- Amphi = Dual, amphibolic: dual pathway
- For example, Krebs cycle is mainly a catabolic cycle, but with some anabolic features,

e.g., part of Krebs cycle is used for the synthesis of glucose from amino acids

Therefore, Krebs cycle is amphibolic

Energy Currency: ATP

ATP + H2O ---- ADP +Pi

- The free energy liberated in the hydrolysis of ATP is used to drive the endergonic reactions
- ATP is formed from ADP and Pi when fuel molecules are oxidized
 - This ATP-ADP cycle is the fundamental mode of energy exchange in biological systems

Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP)



Oxidation-Reduction in Metabolism



Oxidation/Reduction

Oxidation: Loss of hydrogen Loss of electrons

Reduction: Gain of hydrogen Gain of electrons

NAD⁺/ NADH



Regulation of Metabolism

Intracellular signals: Substrate availability Product inhibition Allosteric activators

Intercellular communications: Chemical signaling (hormones): Second messenger cAMP, cGMP Ca/phosphatidylinositol

Metabolic Fuel

- Carbohydrates & lipids (mainly) and proteins (little extent) are used for energy production
- These are- glucose, fatty acids and amino acids
- **Glucose** is the major metabolic fuel of most tissues

Take Home Message-1

 Metabolism is the sum of all biochemical pathways that occur inside the cells.

A metabolic pathway is a multistep sequences of enzyme-catalyzed reactions.

Take Home Message-2

- Catabolism is a convergent process that provides energy to cells in the form of ATP.
- Anabolism is a divergent process that consumes energy for the synthesis of complex molecules.
- Metabolic pathways are tightly regulated and highly integrated.

Take Home Message-3

• ATP is the energy currency of the cells

Electron Transport Chain (ETC)



Electron transport and ATP synthesis are tightly coupled processes