

Lipid Compounds of Physiological Significance

Lecture 6

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- Boys' slides
- Doctors' notes
- Important
- Extra info





Objectives

- Define and classify lipids.
- Understand the physiological importance of lipids.
- List the examples of simple and complex lipids.
- Correlate implications of lipids in clinical conditions.



What Are Lipids?

A heterogeneous group of hydrophobic (water-insoluble) organic molecules that are soluble only in organic solvents.

Body lipids are compartmentalized (packed) in **cell membranes, tissue and plasma** (because the environment is mainly water)

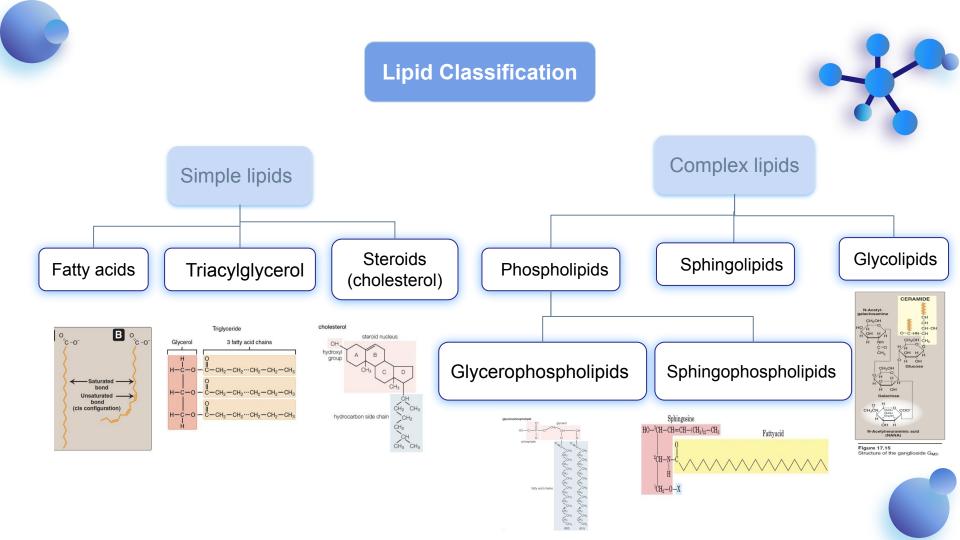
Functions:

- Lipids are essential components of biological membranes. (cell membranes)
- Lipids with hydrocarbon chains serve as major energy stores.
- Cell signaling involves lipid molecules e.g. Inositol triphosphate.
- Fat-soluble vitamins (Vit: A,D,E,K), steroid hormones (sex hormones) and prostaglandins (inflammation process) are formed of lipids.

Lipids and Diseases:

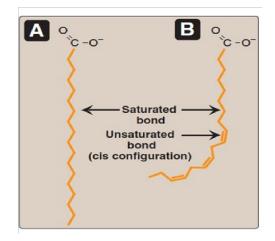
Diseases that are strongly associated with abnormality in lipid metabolism:

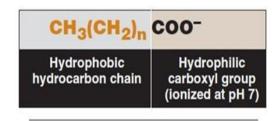
- 1. Atherosclerosis (fat accumulation in artery)
- 2. Coronary artery disease (fat accumulation in coronary artery)
- 3. Obesity
- 4. Metabolic syndrome
- 5. Hypertension



1- Fatty Acids (FAs): Simple Lipids

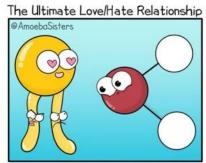
- FAs are **carboxylic acids** with long-chain hydrocarbon side groups.
- They are **amphipathic** in nature (have both hydrophilic and hydrophobic).
- The carboxylic group (COOH) is hydrophilic & the hydrocarbon chain is hydrophobic.





1- Fatty Acids (FAs): Simple Lipids

- FAs are highly insoluble in water. (because they're lipids and they're non-polar)
- Must be transported in plasma with proteins.
- Majority of plasma FAs are esters of: Triacylglycerol, Cholesterol, Phospholipids.



Phospholipids are **amphiphilic** – they have polar heads and nonpolar tails.

Chain Length:

- In mammals it varies from C16–C18.
- Examples: palmitic, oleic, linoleic, stearic acids.

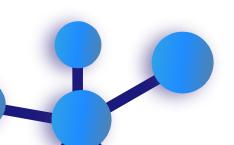
The saturated (single) bond is heavier than the unsaturated (double) bond because the carbon in saturated bond attached to 4 atoms.

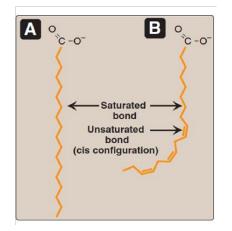
Fatty Acids (FAs) Simple Lipids, Contd..

Degree of saturation:

FAs may contain:

- **No double bonds** (Saturated/trans form)
- One or more double bonds (Mono or Polyunsaturated/cis form)





439 Notes:

• Trans fatty acid " seen in unsaturated ", trans = straight, as you see in the pic.

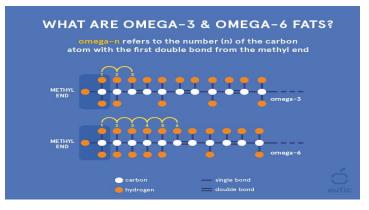
• Cis kink fatty acids " seen in unsaturated ", kink = bending , as you see in the pic.

• Kinks means bends, they're sites where cholesterol is found. Important for membrane fluidity.

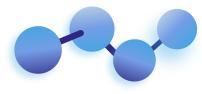
Fatty Acids (FAs) Simple Lipids, Contd.. **Unsaturated FAs** Saturated FAs -18:1 Oleic acid -12:0 Lauric acid -16:0 Palmitic acid -18:2 Linoleic acid -18:0 Stearic acid -20:4 Arachidonic acid 16:0 You need to memorize examples from the table, no need for numbers NO.of carbon atom No. of double bond

Essential Fatty Acids:

- Body cannot synthesize (like essential amino acids)
- Must be supplied in the diet.
- Deficiency can cause dermatitis (التهاب الجلد), membrane function loss.
- Examples of essential fatty acids:
 - Linoleic acid (precursor of arachidonic acid) (Arachidonic is derived from Linoleic)
 - o α-Linolenic acid.
 - Arachidonic acid is essential when linoleic acid is **deficient** in the diet (conditional).







Essential Fatty Acids:

$\omega\text{-}3 \text{ fatty acids}$

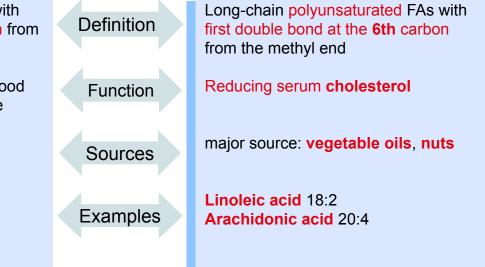
Long-chain polyunsaturated FAs with first double bond at the **3rd** carbon from the methyl end

Reducing **serum triglycerides**, blood pressure and risk for heart disease

Major source: fish

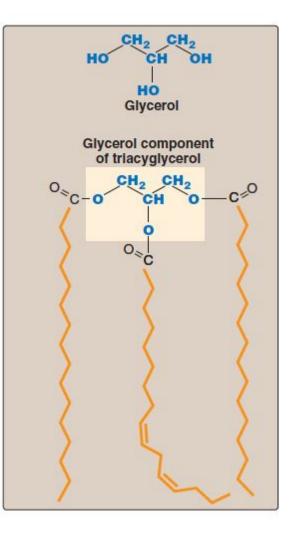
α-Linolenic acid,EPA (Eicosapentaenoic acid),DHA (Docosahexaenoic acid).

ω -6 fatty acids



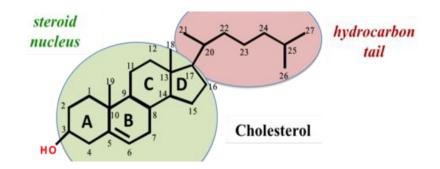
Triacylglycerols (TGs)

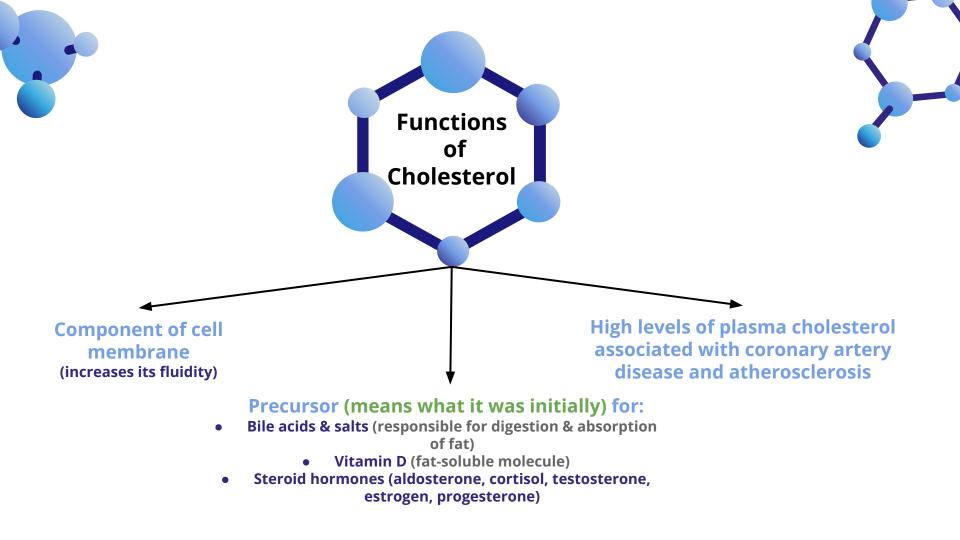
- Tri-esters of fatty acids (AKA fats)
- Composition: **3 fatty acids + 1 glycerol.**
- Constitutes majority of dietary lipids
- Not a component of cell membranes
- Stored in **adipocytes** (fat cells) as energy reservoir
- Subcutaneous layer of fats provides thermal insulation

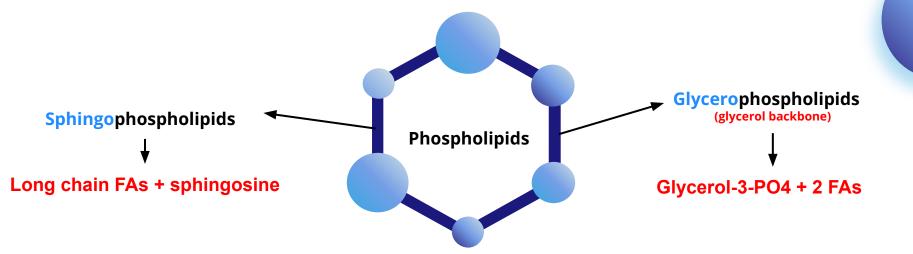


Steroids

- Derivatives of cyclo-pentano-perhydro-phenanthrene
- Consists of **4 fused rings** called **steroid nucleus** with an **8-Carbon chain**.
- Steroids with $-OH \rightarrow Sterols$.
- Steroids without $-OH \rightarrow$ Steroids.
- **Cholesterol** \rightarrow major sterol in humans & animals.
- Cholesterol in plasma is bound to FAs called cholesteryl esters







Sphingophospholipids contains sphingosine

Example:

• Sphingomyelin

Sphingophospholipids are important components of myelin that protects and insulates nerve fibers

The **PO4** group is **linked** to a **hydrophilic group Amphiphilic** nature:

- Hydrophobic tail
- Hydrophilic phosphoryl heads

Major components of biological membranes

Examples:

- phosphatidic acid
- phosphatidylcholine
- phosphatidylserine

Quick Comparison 441

Phospholipids complex lipid:	Glycerophospholipids (contain <mark>glycerol</mark> backbone)	Sphingophospholipids (contain sphingosine backbone)	
Structure	 Glycerol - phosphate is bonded to two FAs chains The PO4 group is linked to a hydrophilic group (from glyc) Amphiphilic in nature Hydrophilic phosphoryl heads 	 Long-chain fatty acids attached to sphingosine Sphingosine HO-³CH-CH=CH-(CH₂)₂₂-CH₃ Fattyacid ³CH-N-O -Notice the FA chain in sphingosine itself -FA+Sphingosine=Ceramide 	
Function	Major components of biological membranes	An important component of myelin that protects and insulates nerve fibers	
Examples	Phosphatidic acid Phosphatidyl- choline and Serine	Sphingomyelin	

Glycolipids (glycosphingolipids)

- Derived from: ceramide (long chain fatty acid + sphingosine)
- Components: Carbohydrates + Lipids
- Examples: Ganglioside & Galactocerebroside
- Act as: blood group antigens, cell surface receptors for bacteria/viruses



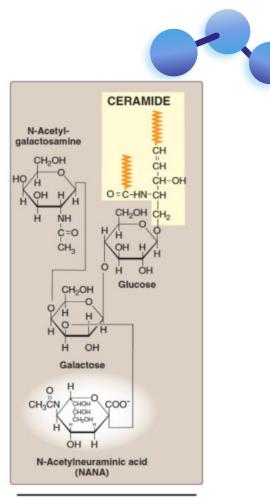
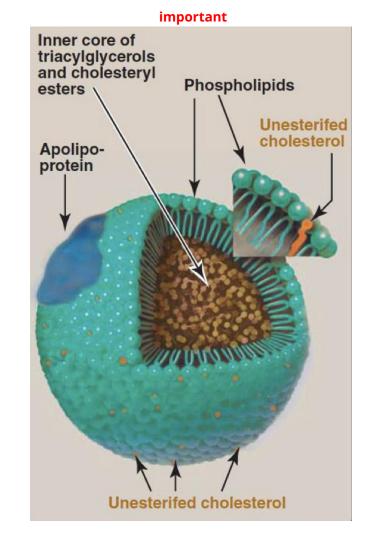


Figure 17.15 Structure of the ganglioside G_{M2}.

Transport of Plasma Lipids

- Plasma Lipids are transported as lipoprotein particles (lipids + proteins)
- Protein part: Apoproteins or Apolipoproteins
- Examples: Apolipoproteins A, B, C, E.
- Functions: lipid transport, enzymatic functions, ligand for receptors
- Lipid part: contains lipids of various types.

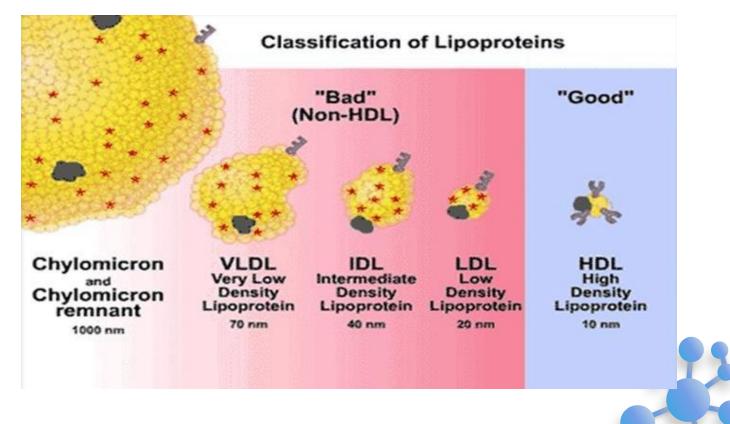




Types & Functions of Lipoproteins

Lipoprotein	What It Transports	
Chylomicrons	Dietary TGs	
Very Low Density Lipoprotein (VLDL)	Endogenous TGs	
Low Density Lipoprotein (LDL)	Free Cholesterol	
High Density Lipoprotein (HDL)	Cholesteryl Ethers	

Quick Comparison



Take Home Messages

- Lipids are a group of hydrophobic molecules
- Perform essential physiological functions in the body
- Simple lipids include fatty acids, TGs, & steroids
- Complex lipids include phospholipids, sphingolipids, and glycolipids
- A number of diseases are associated with abnormal lipid metabolism



Quiz

	1- Lipids are a	an essential comp	ponent of which of	the following?	
	a) cytoplasm	b) cytoskeleton	c) cell membranes	d) mitochondria	
2- In mammals, the chain length varies from:					
	a) C12-C14	b) C10-C12	c) C14-C16	d) C16-C18	
3- Which of the following is NOT an example of an ω -3 fatty acid?					
	a) EPA	b) Linoleic acid	c) α-Linolenic acid	d) DHA	
4- Cholesterol can be a precursor for:					
ċ	a) stomach acids	b) bile acids	c) Vitamin C	d) Vitamin A	
5- Which of the following do high-density lipoproteins transport?					
	a) cholesteryl esters	b) dietary TAGs	c) endogenous TAGs	d) free cholesterol	

B B C C



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