

Biochemical Aspects of Bile Acids and Salts

Don't wait for the perfect moment, take the moment and make it perfect! SO₂ HCN CCl₄ CuCl₂ SiCl₄

HbA

KCIO₂

KMnO₄

MqCl₂

CH2O

 Cl_2O_7



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Upon completion of this lecture, the students should be able to :

- Structure of primary bile acids and salts and secondary bile acids and salts
- Functions of bile salts
- Enterohepatic circulation
- Malabsorption syndrome
- Cholelithiasis



Overview





Overview

Bile salt is a watery mixture that's secreted and produced by the liver, it has to go to the intestine ultimately but if not required, it will be stored in the gall bladder.

- It's stimulated by the hormone CCK. And CCK itself stimulated by undigested fats and proteins.
- The parent molecule for the bile acid and salt is cholesterol which is hydrophobic in nature.
- About 5% of bile salts are not reabsorbed but excreted which means that cholesterol is getting excreted.
- The function of the bile is:

1- helping in digestion of fat by doing the Emulsification by increasing the surface area of fat so the enzyme can act.

2- formation of micelles which help in the absorption of the lipid and fat soluble vitamins.

3-helping in the excretion of cholesterol by solubilizing.

Cholesterol:



Cholesterol:

Number of carbons : 27 C Parent steroid compound Precursor of bile acids and salts



Primary Bile Acids:



Primary bile acids:

- Number of carbons : 24 C
 - Amphipathic
 - COOH at side chain
 - Cholic acid: 3 OH
- Chenodeoxycholic: 2 OH.

When we make primary bile acid from the cholesterol what we usually do is removing 3 carbon now it becomes 24C molecule with the carboxyl group at the end. Then we add either one or two more hydroxyl group to It. **if we add:**

- <u>One</u> hydroxyl group it becomes chenodeoxycholic acid.
- But if we add <u>two</u> hydroxyl group it becomes cholic acid.
- So cholic acid has in total 3 hydroxyl group and chenodexycholic acid has 2 hydroxyl group and now these molecules are amphipathic.

Those bile acids are ionized in nature shown as (COO-) at the end .. but in the body they are not ionized, so they will have (COOH) instead that's why we call them <u>bile</u> acids

For example : ionized (COO-) pyruvate but non ionized (COOH) pyruvic acid



Hepatic Synthesis of Bile Acids:

REGULATION:

The rate-limiting step is catalyzed by:

Cholesterol 7-α-hydroxylase

Making the cholic acid and Chenodeoxycholic acid is a multi step process and required multiple organs. One of the most important steps is <u>addition of this</u> hydroxyl group at the carbon number 7.

This the **rate limiting step** from the synthesis of both primary bile acid.

This reaction is catalyzed by the enzyme : Cholesterol 7- α -hydroxylase.

- > The substrate is : cholesterol
- \succ The position is : 7 α
- And we are doing here a hydroxylation
 So this enzyme adds the hydroxyl group to the carbon
 No.7 of the cholesterol and it will make either cholic
 acids or Chenodeoxycholic acid.



repression" – cholic acid

 If we have a lot of primary bile acid so it will be inhibited Downregulated by:

Up-regulated by:

- Cholesterol "Enzyme induction"
- If we have a lot of cholesterol and less primary bile acid it will be up regulated





Primary Bile Acids and salts:



Primary Bile salts:

- Addition of glycine or taurine results in the presence of fully ionized groups at pH 7.0 :
 - COO- of glycine
 - SO3- of taurine

(hence, its name as bile salts e.g., Sodium or potassium glycocholate)

- More effective detergent (Emulsification) than bile acids
- <u>Only bile salts</u>, but not acids, found in bile



Na or K Glycocholate

Na or K Taurochenodeoxycholate



Hormonal Control of Bile Secretion:







Hormonal Control of Bile Secretion:

As shown in the picture dietary lipids and proteins <u>stimulates</u> Gut endocrine cells .. (In this case I cells for CCK secretion and S cells for secretin secretion)

Cholecystokinin (CCK) has two functions:
1. <u>Decreases</u> Gastric motility
2. <u>Stimulates</u> Pancreatic enzymes and bile secretion and release into small intestine (relaxes sphincter of oddi)

Secretin <u>Stimulates</u> the release of bicarbonate into duodenum to utilize the acidity of the chyme that is coming from the stomach





Functions of Bile Salts:

- Important for cholesterol excretion:
 - 1. As metabolic products of cholesterol.
 - 2. Solubilizer of cholesterol in bile.
- Emulsifying factors for dietary lipids, a prerequisite step for efficient lipid digestion
 What we require for Emulsification:
 - 1- Has to be amphipathic
 - 2- Need mechanical mixing which is done by the peristaltic movement
 - 3- Need the bile salt to keep these small granules (fat globules)
- Co-factor for pancreatic lipase and PLA2
- ➢ Facilitate intestinal lipid absorption by formation of mixed micelle.
- Mixed micelles help to absorbed the fat from the lumen of the intestine to the enterocyte after that it will go as chylomicrons



Roles of Bile <u>Salts</u>

Emulsification of dietary lipids

- Emulsification increases the surface area of lipid droplets, therefore the digestive enzymes can effectively act.
- Mechanisms:
 - 1. Mechanical mixing by peristalsis
 - 2. Detergent effect of bile salts:

Bile salts interact with lipid particles and aqueous duodenal contents, stabilizing the particles as they become smaller, and preventing them from coalescing.

Absorption of dietary lipids

Mixed micelles:

Disc-shaped clusters of amphipathic lipids.

Arranged with their hydrophobic groups on the inside and their hydrophilic groups on the outside.

- Micelle includes end products of lipid digestion, bile salts and fat-soluble vitamins. Micelle carrying the monoacylglycerol, fatty acid, cholesterol, fat soluble vitamin
- ✓ Note: Short- and medium-chain fatty acids do not require mixed micelle for absorption by intestinal cells. They just diffuse inside



The Role of Bile Salts in Absorption of Lipids by Intestinal Cells

Mixed Micelle Formation:

• <u>Bile salts</u>

End products of lipid digestion Fat-soluble vitamins (A,K,D AND E)





Secondary bile acids



The intestine has a bacteria which can act on the bile salt and remove the glycine and taurine when it's removed we will left again with cholic or chenodexycholic acids. The Cholic acid and Chenodeoxycholic is known as the primary bile acid which formed from the cholesterol. now this bile acid is in the intestine, intestinal bacteria can act on it . When this bacteria acts on the bile acid it can removed the hydroxyl group from there (deoxy form) and that leads to production of another type of bile acid we call it secondary bile acid . These secondary bile acids goes to the liver because they can't form bile salt in the intestine they have to go to the liver and add the glycine and taurine again but they become secondary bile salt



Enterohepatic Circulation



In the liver the primary bile acid is formed from the cholesterol. After the addition of glycine and taurine to the primary bile acid they become primary bile salt. This salt goes to the common bile duct directly to the intestine. The intestinal bacteria act on this primary salt and removes the of glycine and taurine and we left with primary bile acid again! The intestinal bacteria act on

The intestinal bacteria act on this primary bile acid as well and removed the hydroxyl group which produce the secondary bile salt. These secondary bile acid by the addition of glycine and taurine they become secondary bile salt.



Maldigestion/Malabsorption of Lipids:

Decreased bile secretion by:

Liver diseases: Less synthesis e.g., Hepatitis or cirrhosis

Gall bladder diseases: e.g., Gall stones obstruction

Malabsorption of lipids





Cholelithiasis

Cholelithiasis means stone formation in the gall bladder

Causes

A. Decrease bile salts in bile:

1. Biliary tract obstruction

(interferes with enterohepatic circulation)

2. Hepatic dysfunction (synthesis)

B. Increase biliary cholesterol excretion

Treatment

✓ Bile acid replacement therapy

✓ Surgical



Summary

| Cholesterol (27 C) : | Parent steroid compound. Precursor of bile acids and salts. | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Primary bile acids (24 C): | Characteristics: Amphipathic -COOH at side chain Cholic acid: 3 OH Chenodeoxycholic acid: 2 OH | Hepatic Synthesis of Bile Acids: The rate-limiting step is catalyzed by: Cholesterol 7-α-hydroxylase Enzyme repression by bile acids Enzyme induction by cholesterol |
| Bile Salts: | Bile salts (Conjugated bile acids): amide-linked with <u>glycine</u> or <u>taurine</u> results in the presence of fully ionized groups at pH 7.0: -COO ⁻ of glycine & -SO ₃ ⁻ of taurine *Glycocholic \ <u>Tauro</u> cholic *Glycochenodeoxycholic\ <u>Taurochenodeoxycholic</u> | Hormonal Control of Bile Secretion: Cholecystokinin (CCK) Functions of Bile Salts: Important for cholesterol excretion Emulsifying factors for dietary lipids Cofactor for pancreatic lipase and PLA2 Facilitate intestinal lipid absorption by formation of mixed micelle |
| Secondary Bile Acids: | Decreased bile secretion by: Liver diseases: e.g., Hepatitis or cirrhosis Gall bladder diseases: e.g., Gall stones results in — Malabsorption of lipids | |

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QUIZ

Q1: Which ONE of the following molecules is more hydrophobic?

- A. Cholic acid
- B. Chenodeoxycholic acid
- C. Cholesterol
- D. Bile salts

Q2 : Mixed Micelles contain all the following EXCEPT?

- A. Long Chain Fatty Acids
- B. Bile acids
- C. Vit. K
- D. TAG

Q3 : Primary Bile Acids are?

- A. Amphipathic
- B. Hydrophobic
- C. Hydrophilic
- D. None of the Above

Q4 : Bile secretion is decreased by?

- A. Gall Stones
- B. Hepatitis
- C. Adenocarcinoma in the tail of pancreases
- D. Both A & B

Q5 : Primary bile salt found in the body associated with?

- A. Cl
- B. Na
- С. К
- D. B&C

Q6 : Which ONE of the following is the secondary bile acid derived from chenodeoxycholate?

- A. Lithocholic acid
- B. Deoxycholate
- C. Taurocholate
- D. Deoxycholic acid



Q7 : Mention a function of bile salts?

As metabolic products of cholesterol. Solubilizer of cholesterol in bile. Emulcification

Q8 : Can a person live without a gallbladder, why?

yes, because the liver can secrete the bile directly into the intestine, the gallbladder is only for storage and concentration.

Q9 : Mention how bile salts in bile get decreased?

1-Biliary tract obstruction (interferes with enterohepatic circulation)2-Hepatic dysfunction (synthesis)

Q10 : A 26 year old male comes to the clinic with a yellowish tinge to the eyes and skin and complains of abdominal pain, fatigue and weakness, liver function tests only shows mildly elevated bilirubin (mostly unconjugated) and the rest of the parameters were all normal. Which ONE of the following is the most likely diagnosis ?

Gilbert's Syndrome

<u>Suggestions and</u> recommendations



1) C 2) D 3) A 4) D 5) D 6) A

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