

Topic 8.2 Cell Respiration

Essential idea: Energy is converted to a usable form in cell respiration.

Understandings:

- 8.2.U1 Cell respiration involves the oxidation and reduction of electron carriers.
- 8.2.U2 Phosphorylation of molecules makes them less stable.
- 8.2.U3 In glycolysis, glucose is converted to pyruvate in the cytoplasm.
- 8.2.U4 Glycolysis gives a small net gain of ATP without the use of oxygen.
- 8.2.U5 In aerobic cell respiration pyruvate is decarboxylated and oxidized, and converted into acetyl compound and attached to coenzyme A to form acetyl coenzyme A in the link reaction.

Understandings:

- 8.2.U6 In the Krebs cycle, the oxidation of acetyl groups is coupled to the reduction of hydrogen carriers, liberating carbon dioxide.
- 8.2.U7 Energy released by oxidation reactions is carried to the cristae of the mitochondria by reduced NAD and FAD.
- 8.2.U8 Transfer of electrons between carriers in the electron transport chain in the membrane of the cristae is coupled to proton pumping.
- 8.2.U9 In chemiosmosis protons diffuse through ATP synthase to generate ATP.
- 8.2.U10 Oxygen is needed to bind with the free protons to maintain the hydrogen gradient, resulting in the formation of water.
- 8.2.U11 The structure of the mitochondrion is adapted to the function it performs.

Application:

- 8.2.A1 Electron tomography used to produce images of active mitochondria.

Skills:

- 8.2.S1 Analysis of diagrams of the pathways of aerobic respiration to deduce where decarboxylation and oxidation reactions occur.
- 8.2.S2 Annotation of a diagram of a mitochondrion to indicate the adaptations to its function.

ATP is a Source of Energy

Remember this?
ADP + P_i is charged in ATP through the reactions and many enzymes used in cellular respiration.

$$C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2 \xrightarrow{\text{respiration}} 6CO_2 + 6H_2O$$

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Respiration is the controlled release of the energy from organic compounds in cells to form ATP.

glycolysis → link reaction → Krebs's cycle → electron transport chain → chemiosmosis

$$C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2 \xrightarrow{\text{respiration}} 6CO_2 + 6H_2O$$

Respiration consists of several different interlinked metabolic pathways.

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Respiration is the controlled release of the energy from organic compounds in cells to form ATP.

glycolysis → link reaction → Krebs's cycle → electron transport chain → chemiosmosis

electron transport + chemiosmosis = oxidative phosphorylation

Respiration consists of several different interlinked metabolic pathways.

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I. Structure and function in the mitochondrion

A. The structure of the mitochondrion is adapted to the function it performs-

1. Outer membrane separates the mitochondria from the cell to carry out aerobic respiration.
2. Inner membrane (highly folded into cristae to maximize surface area) is where oxidative phosphorylation occurs.
3. Intermembrane space allows a high concentration of hydrogen ions (protons) to accumulate as a result of electron transport.
4. Matrix contains the enzymes needed for the link reaction and Krebs's cycle to occur.
5. mDNA and 70S ribosomes are needed for the production of mitochondrial proteins.

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I. Structure and function in the mitochondrion

Matrix
contains enzymes and solutes for Link Reaction and Krebs Cycle

Outer Mitochondrial Membrane

Inner Mitochondrial Membrane
site for electron transport chain and oxidative phosphorylation

folded into **Cristae**
to maximise surface area for reactions

Small Inter-membrane Space
more efficient generation of H⁺ concentration gradient

70S Ribosomes
protein production

naked loops of DNA (mitochondrial DNA/ mDNA)
Passed unchanged from mother to child

1µm

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I. Structure and function in the mitochondrion

B. Electron tomography is a technique for obtaining 3D structures of sub-cellular structures using electron micrographs.

Measurements of Mitochondrial Membrane Structures

Outer Membrane Thickness 22 ± 4 nm

Cristae Junction 28 ± 6 nm

Cristae Diameter 1.7 ± 0.2 nm

Inter-cristae Diameter 12 ± 7 nm

Cristae Width 1.9 ± 0.2 nm

Electron tomography is improving the understanding of mitochondrial structure and function.

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NCMIR
NATIONAL CENTER for MICROSCOPY and IMAGING RESEARCH
at San Diego, an NIH supported resource center

II. Oxidation and Reduction (Redox)

A. Cell respiration involves the oxidation and reduction of compounds-

- Oxidation and reduction (redox) reactions involve the transfer of electrons between substances.

Oxidation	Reduction
Electrons are lost or Oxygen is gained or Hydrogen is removed	Electrons are gained or Oxygen is removed or Hydrogen is gained

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II. Oxidation and Reduction (Redox)

- Most redox reactions are paired, with one substance donating an electron (reducing agent) and the other accepting an electron (oxidizing agent).

Electron donor

Electron acceptor

Oxidized donor

Reduced acceptor

Reduction

Oxidation

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II. Oxidation and Reduction (Redox)

COMPARE **OXIDATION** AND **REDUCTION**

OXIDATION		REDUCTION
	electrons (gained/lost?)	
	oxygen	
	hydrogen	

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II. Oxidation and Reduction (Redox)

COMPARE **OXIDATION** AND **REDUCTION**

OXIDATION		REDUCTION
lost	electrons (gained/lost?)	gained
gained	oxygen	lost
lost	hydrogen	gained

remember : **OILRIG**

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II. Oxidation and Reduction (Redox)

B. Electron carriers are utilized in cell respiration to shuttle electrons from compounds to the electron transport chain by readily accepting and releasing electrons.

- The most common hydrogen carrier is NAD (Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide)

$$\text{NAD}^+ + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \xrightleftharpoons[\text{oxidation}]{\text{reduction}} \text{NADH} + \text{H}^+$$

Use the simplified form of the equation omitting the detail of the H⁺ ions and electrons:

$$\text{NAD}^+ \xrightleftharpoons[\text{oxidation}]{\text{reduction}} \text{NADH} + \text{H}^+$$

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II. Oxidation and Reduction (Redox)

- Another less frequently used hydrogen carrier is FAD (Flavin Adenine Dinucleotide).

$$\text{FAD} + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \xrightleftharpoons[\text{oxidation}]{\text{reduction}} \text{FADH}_2$$

Use the simplified form of the equation omitting the detail of the H⁺ ions and electrons:

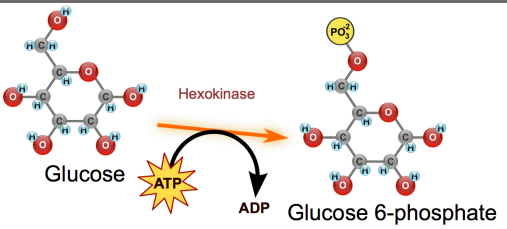
$$\text{FAD} \xrightleftharpoons[\text{oxidation}]{\text{reduction}} \text{FADH}_2$$

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III. Phosphorylation

A. Phosphorylation of molecules makes them less stable-

1. Phosphorylation is a reaction where a phosphate group (PO_4^{3-}) is added to an organic molecule.
2. The phosphorylated molecule is less stable and therefore reacts more easily in the metabolic pathway.
3. The phosphate group is usually transferred from ATP.

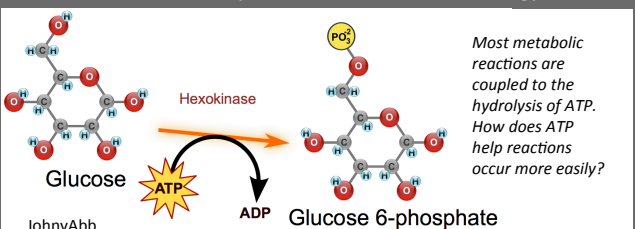


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III. Phosphorylation

B. Phosphorylation is a coupled reaction.

1. Hydrolysis of ATP is exergonic (releases energy).
2. Converting glucose to glucose-6-phosphate is endergonic (requires energy).
3. Coupling an exergonic reaction with an endergonic reaction makes the reaction occur spontaneously (a reaction that requires little/no activation energy).

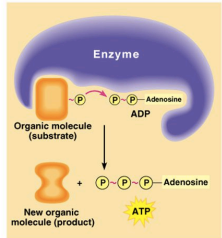
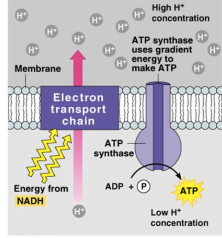


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III. Phosphorylation

C. Substrate level phosphorylation versus oxidative phosphorylation.

1. Substrate level phosphorylation occurs when one compound directly phosphorylates (adds a phosphate group) another compound as in glycolysis and the Krebs's cycle.
2. Oxidative phosphorylation occurs when one compound is oxidized to indirectly phosphorylate another compound as in the generation of ATP from ADP through the electron transport chain and chemiosmosis.

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