



## CDL Advances Chemical Studies (ACS)

Metabolic Biochemistry 7 CFU = 6+1

Lecture

Laboratory

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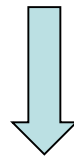


# The Pentose Phosphate Pathway

**Pentose phosphate pathway**

**Phosphogluconate pathway**

**Hexose Monophosphate Shunt (HMP Shunt)**



Metabolic pathway parallel to glycolysis

# The Pentose Phosphate Pathway

About half of the glucose metabolized by the liver enters the pentose phosphate pathway

It occurs in the **cytoplasm** of cells.

Neither **ATP** is consumed nor directly formed.



## Functions:

Produce NADPH

Produce pentoses (ribose 5P, nucleotide synthesis)

Convert pentoses into glycolytic intermediates

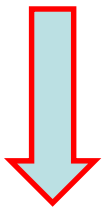
## The Pentose Phosphate Pathway



Its primary role is anabolic rather than catabolic

The pathway provides **NADPH** for reductive biosynthesis and **ribose-5-phosphate** for nucleotide biosynthesis in the quantities that the cell requires.

ribose-5-phosphate



Nucleotide synthesis in cells that have high division velocity

**NADPH**



**Reducing power** used for reductive biosynthesis (fatty acid, cholesterol, steroid hormone) and to counteract oxidative damage (erythrocyte, lens, cornea)

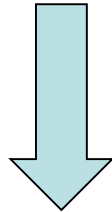
**NADPH derives from vitamin B3**

The pathway is especially important in red blood cells (erythrocytes).



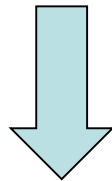
Require the **NADPH** provided by this pathway.

Tissues that carry out extensive fatty acid synthesis



liver, adipose, lactating mammary gland

Tissue very active synthesis of cholesterol and steroid hormone



liver, adrenal glands, gonads



Rapidly dividing cells

- bone marrow
- skin
- intestinal mucosa
- tumors

Rapidly dividing cells use the pentose ribose 5-phosphate to **make**

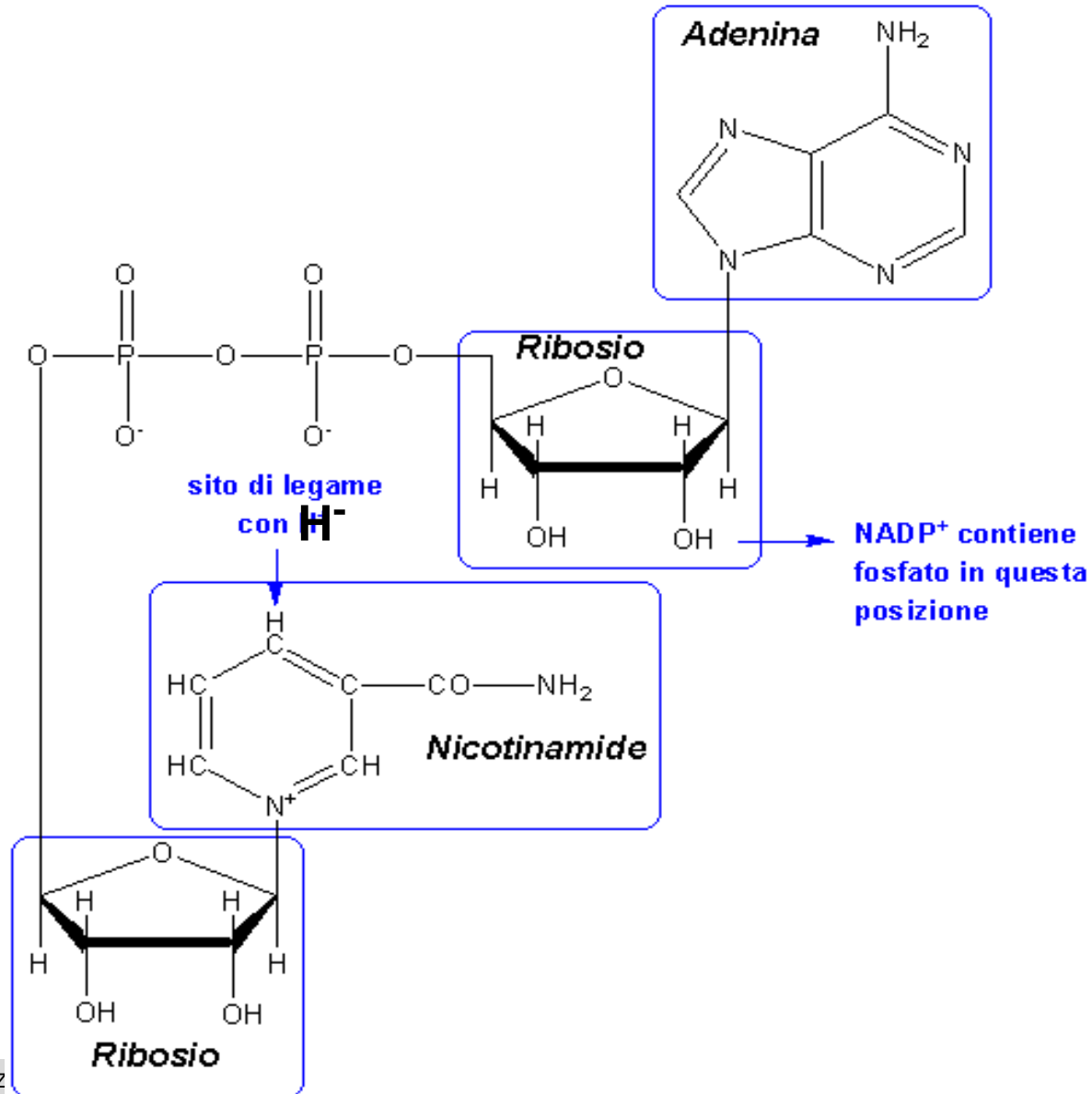
- **RNA, DNA**

-coenzymes (ATP, NADH, FADH<sub>2</sub>, and coenzyme A)



# NAD + e NADP+

Trasferiscono un  
H<sup>-</sup>  
forma  
fosforilata=  
NADP<sup>+</sup>





# NADPH

It is an electron-transporting coenzyme.

It is a coenzyme used in reductive biosynthesis (e.g., fatty acid synthesis, cholesterol synthesis, nucleotide synthesis).

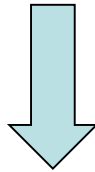
It is used to form reduced glutathione (a molecule with antioxidant functions).

Electrons are not transferred to oxygen in the mitochondrial respiratory chain (unlike those of NADH).

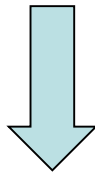
# The Pentose Phosphate Pathway

glucose 6-phosphate

Glycolysis

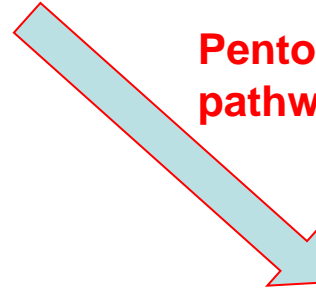


pyruvate



citric acid cycle

Pentose phosphate pathway



pentose phosphates



NADPH,

It's necessary to reductive biosynthesis or to counter the damaging effects of oxygen radicals.

**Erythrocytes** and the cells of the lens and cornea that are directly exposed to oxygen to free radicals generated by oxygen.



**Erythrocytes** (NADPH prevent oxidative damage that **a genetic defect in glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase**, the first enzyme of the pathway, can have serious medical consequences



The pathway comprises two phases:

Oxidative phase:

Production of the coenzyme NADPH

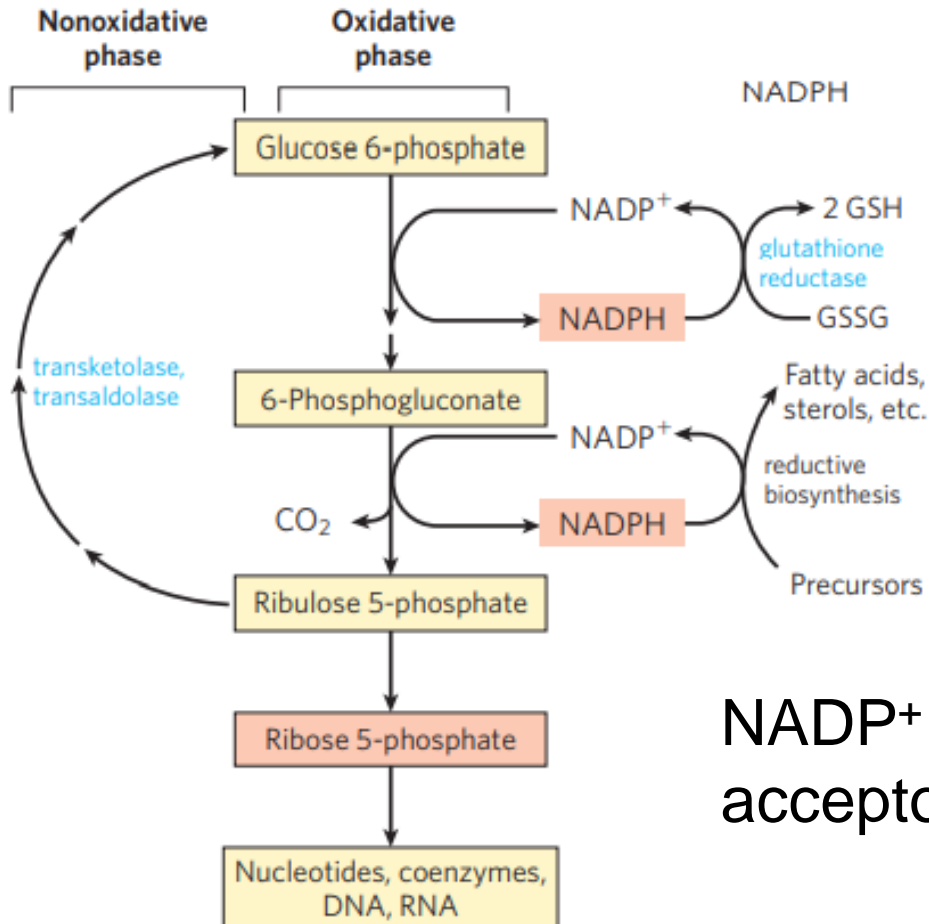
Nonoxidative phase:

Interconversion of 5C sugars into 6C and 3C sugars.



# The Pentose Phosphate Pathway

There are two distinct phases in the pathway. 1) Oxidative phase  
2) Non-oxidative phase



NADP<sup>+</sup> is the electron acceptor, yielding NADPH.



# The Pentose Phosphate Pathway

There are two distinct phases in the pathway.

1) Oxidative phase

2) Non-oxidative phase

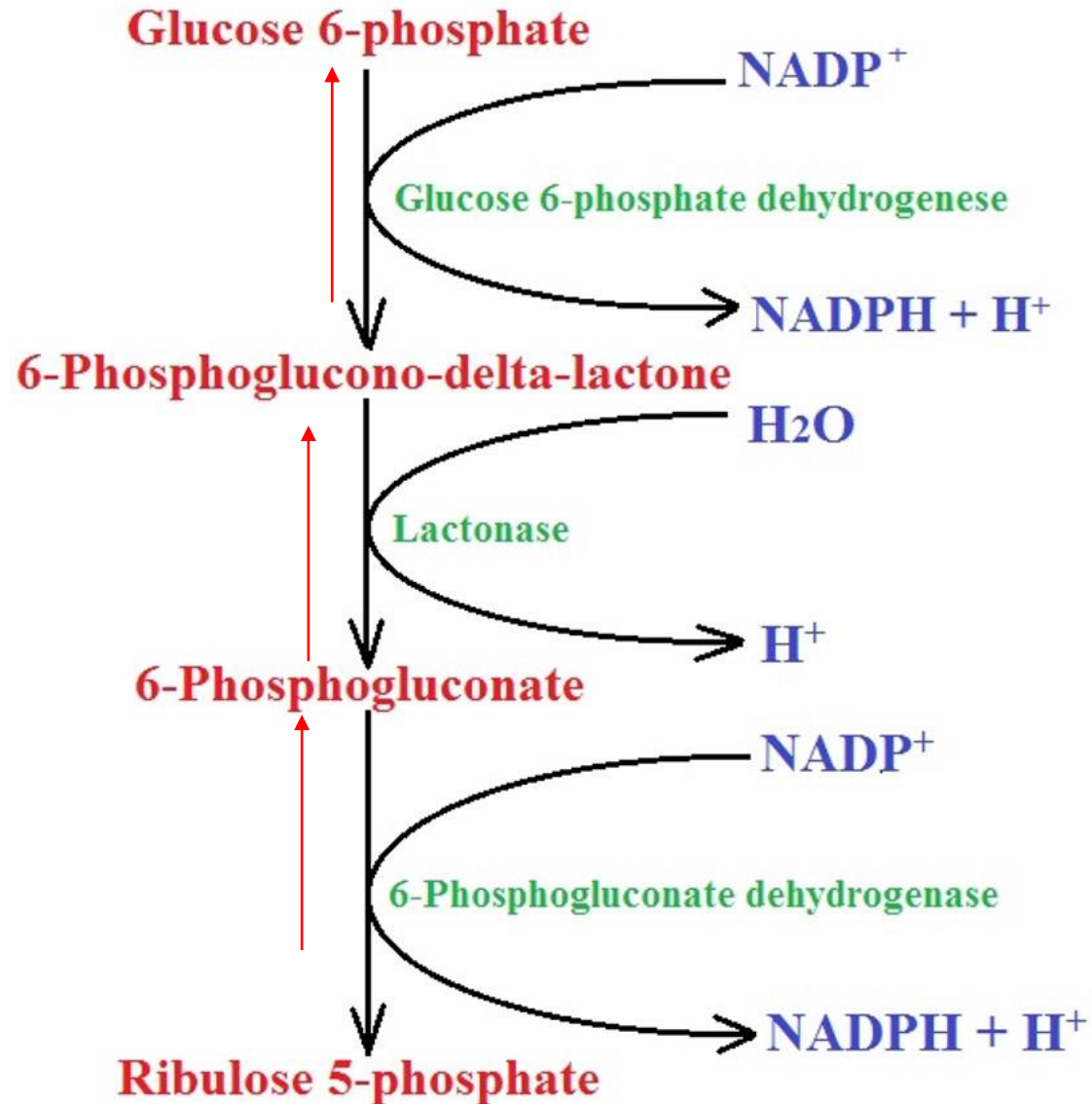
# Pentose Phosphate Pathway

## PHASE I (Oxidative Phase)



The first is the oxidative phase, in which NADPH is generated.

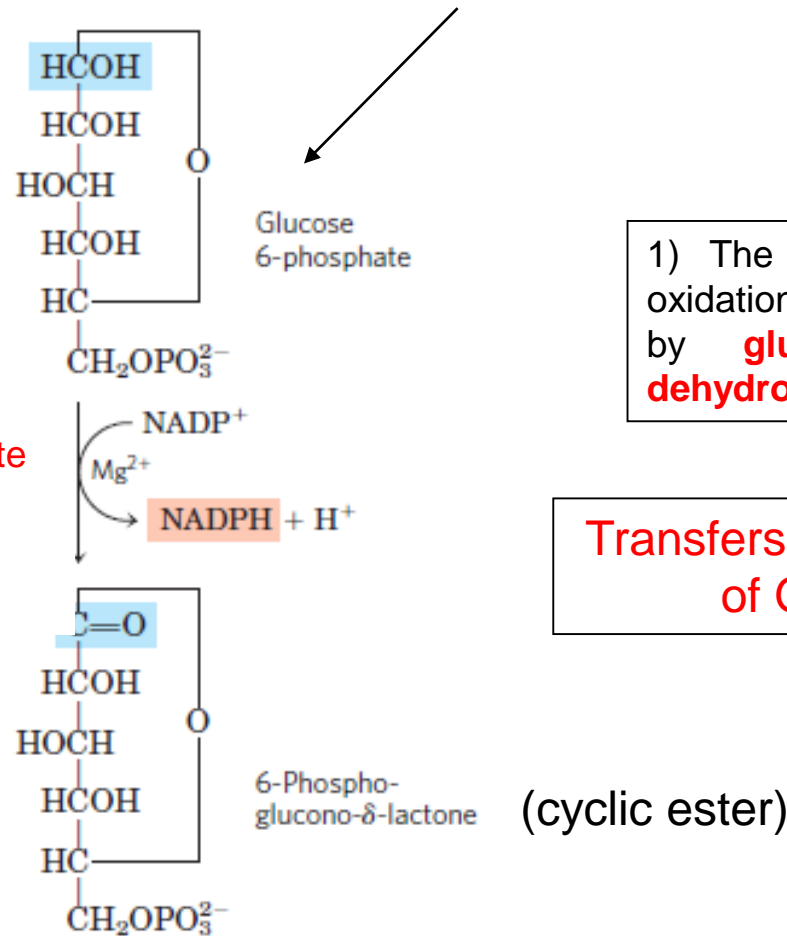
There are **three** reversible reactions





# 1) Oxidative phase

Derived from glycolysis or glycogenolysis



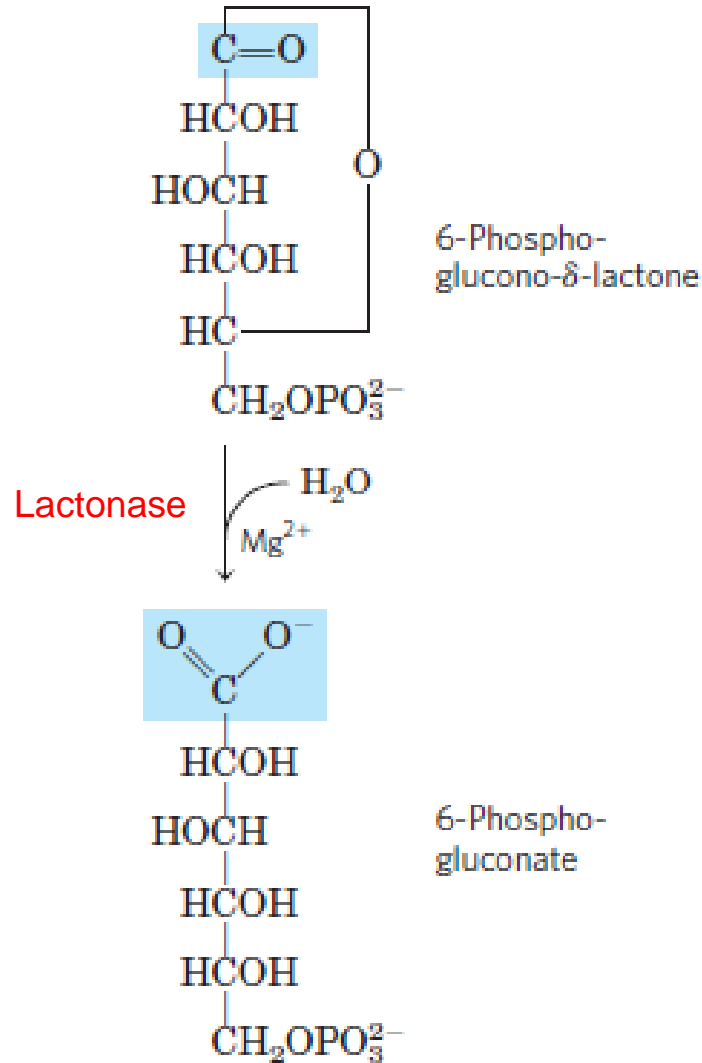
1) The first reaction is the oxidation of G6P by **glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD)**

Transfers hydride ion from C1 of G6P to NADP+

# G6PD Generates 1<sup>st</sup> NADPH



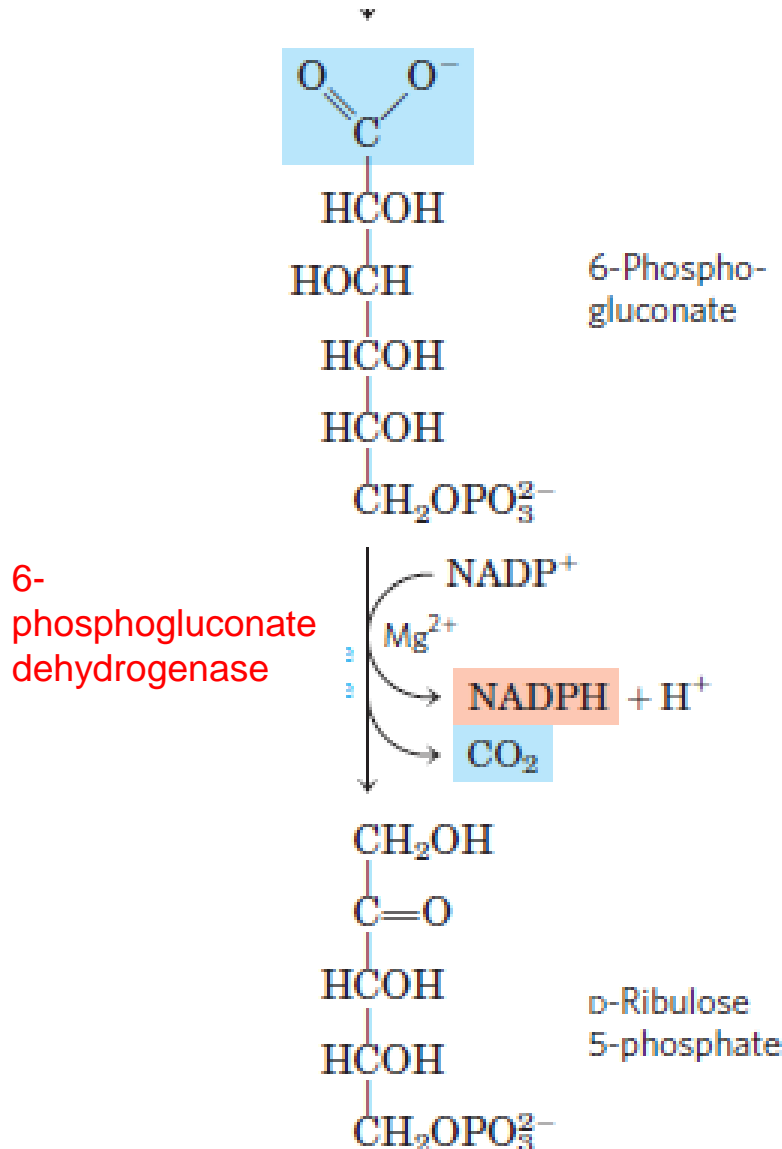
## 2) Oxidative phase



The lactone is hydrolyzed to the free acid 6-phosphogluconate by a specific **lactonase**,



### 3) Oxidative phase



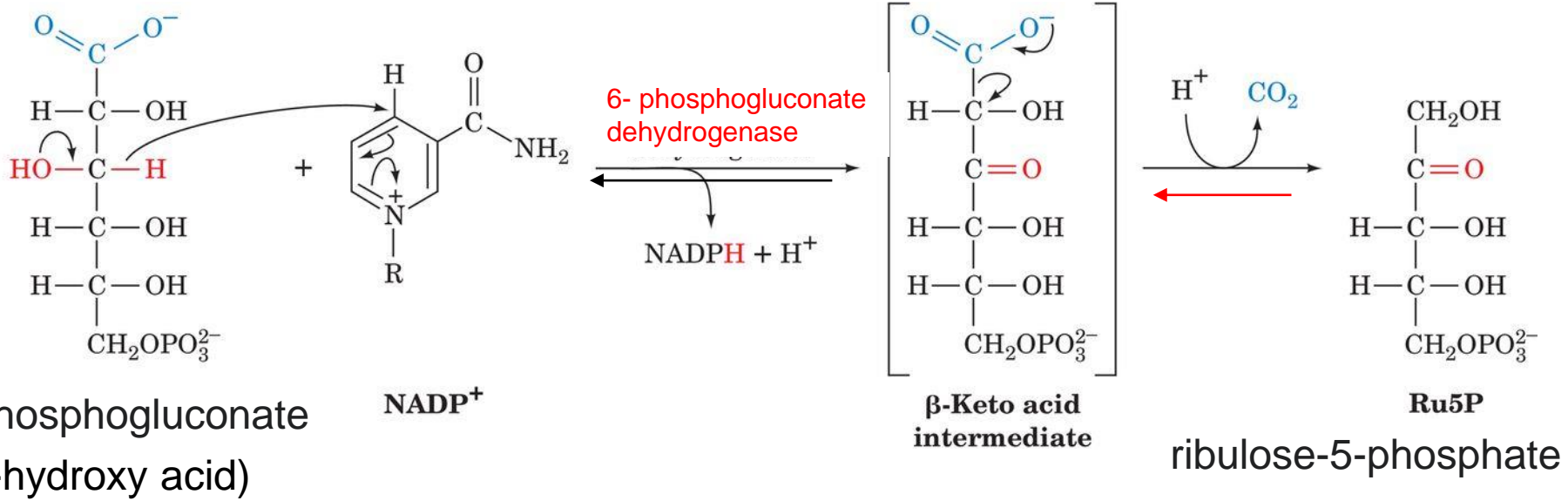
3) oxidation and decarboxylation  
by **6-phosphogluconate dehydrogenase**

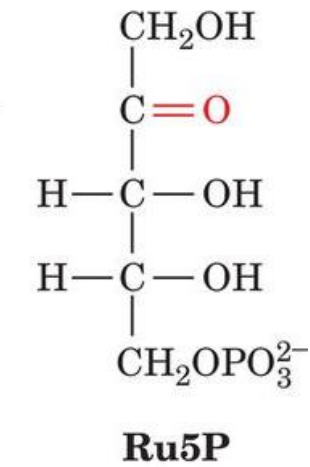
**Generates 2<sup>nd</sup> NADPH**  
**Oxidative decarboxylation**

**Ribulose 5-phosphate** is important in glycolysis and gluconeogenesis regulation



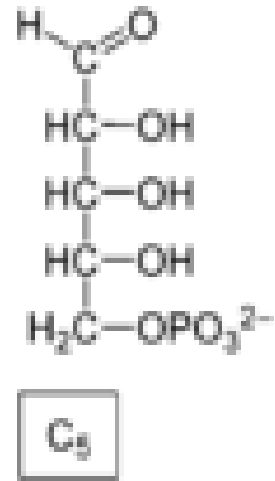
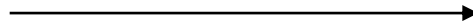
# oxidation and decarboxylation





ribulose-5-phosphate

Ribulose 5-phosphate isomerase



ribose-5-phosphate

Phosphopentose isomerase converts

Ribulose 5-phosphate to its aldose isomer, ribose 5-phosphate.



# The Pentose Phosphate Pathway

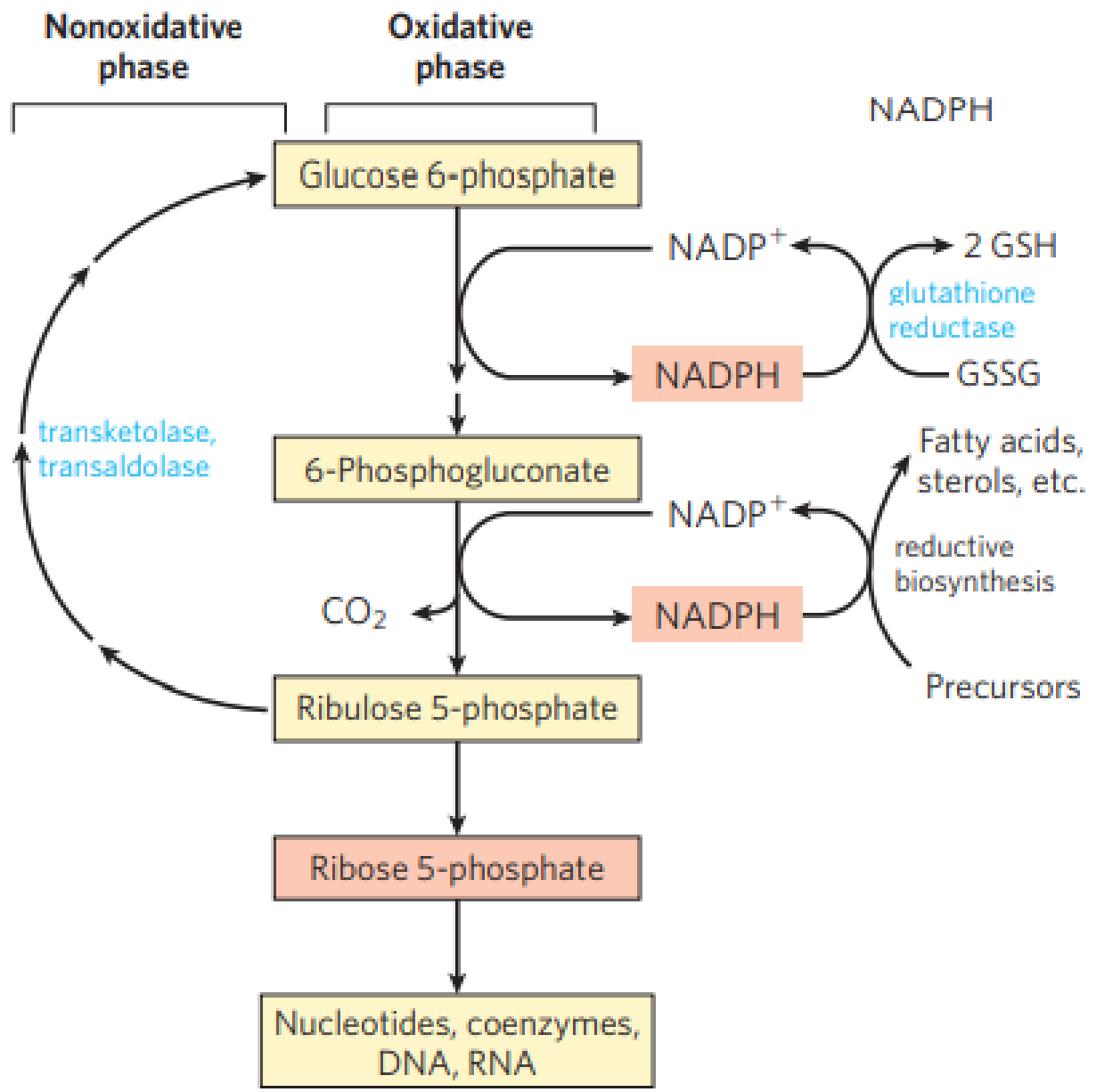
Glucose 6-phosphate + 2NADP<sup>+</sup> + H<sub>2</sub>O → ribose 5-phosphate + CO<sub>2</sub> + 2NADPH + 2H<sup>+</sup>



# The Nonoxidative Phase Recycles Pentose Phosphates to Glucose 6-Phosphate

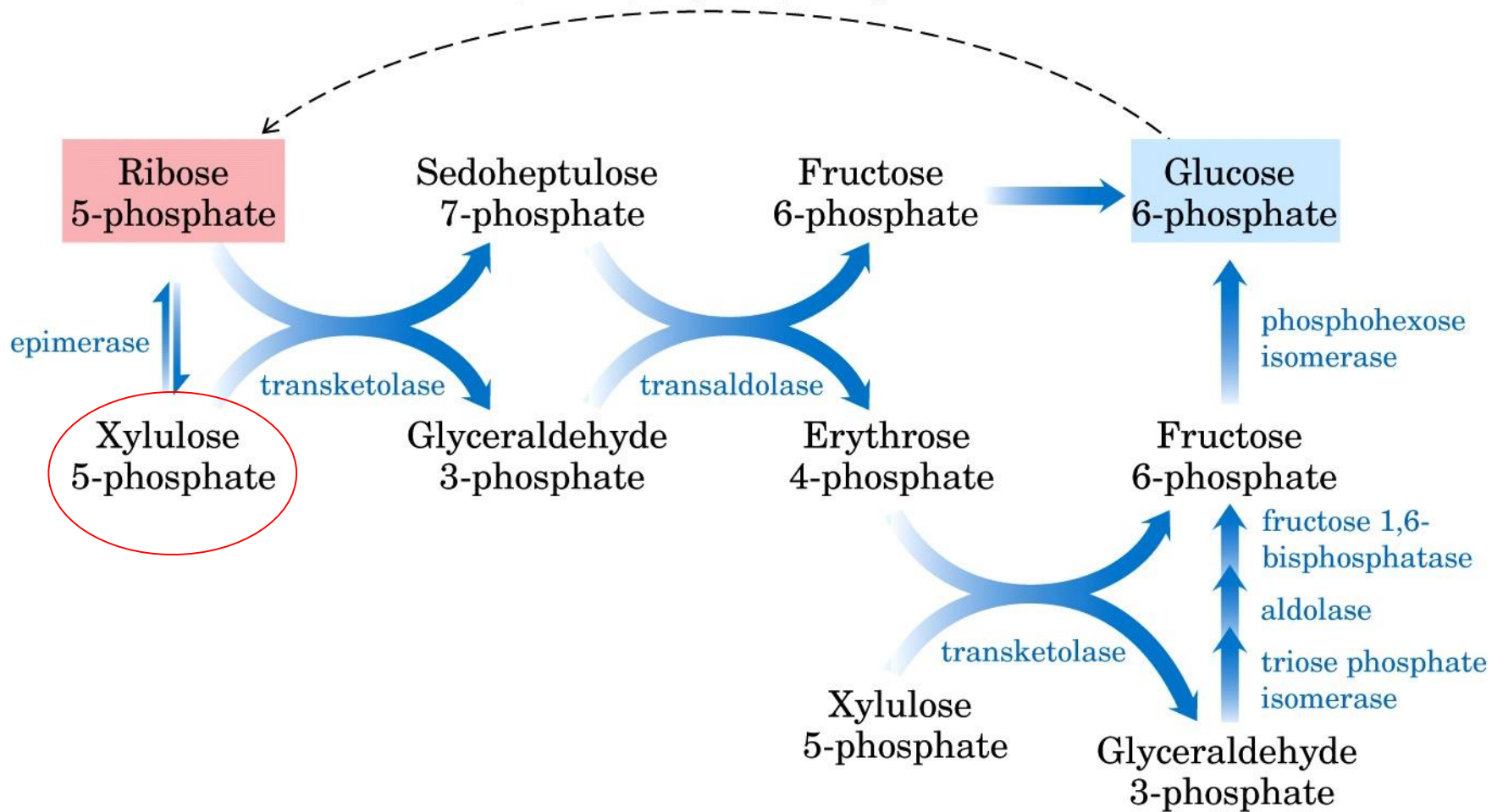
Pentose phosphates produced in the oxidative phase

are recycled into **glucose 6-phosphate.**





oxidative reactions of  
pentose phosphate pathway

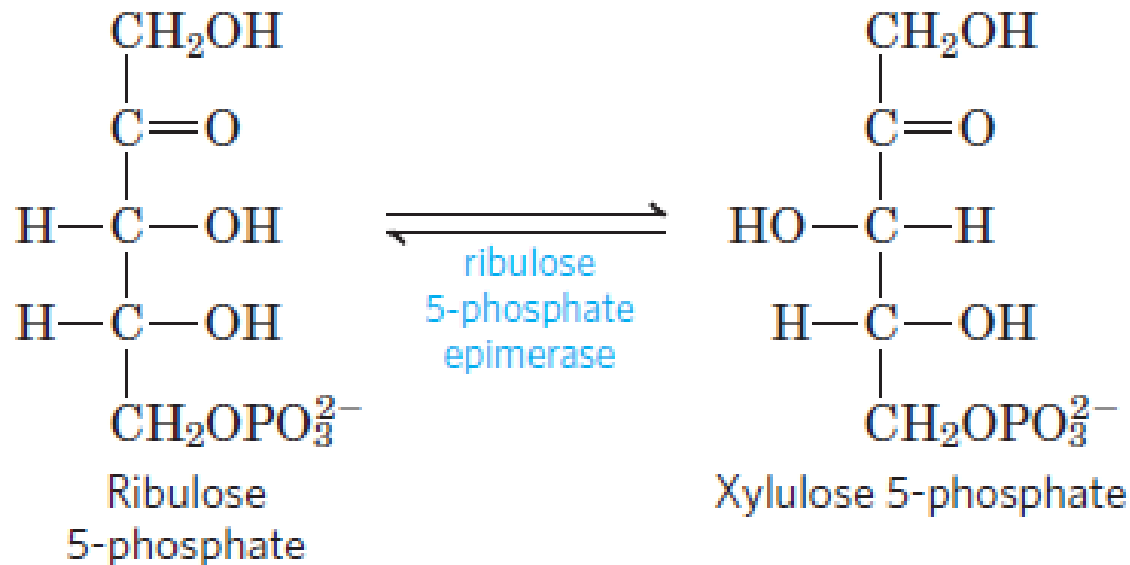


(a)



# PHASE II: Non-oxidative phase

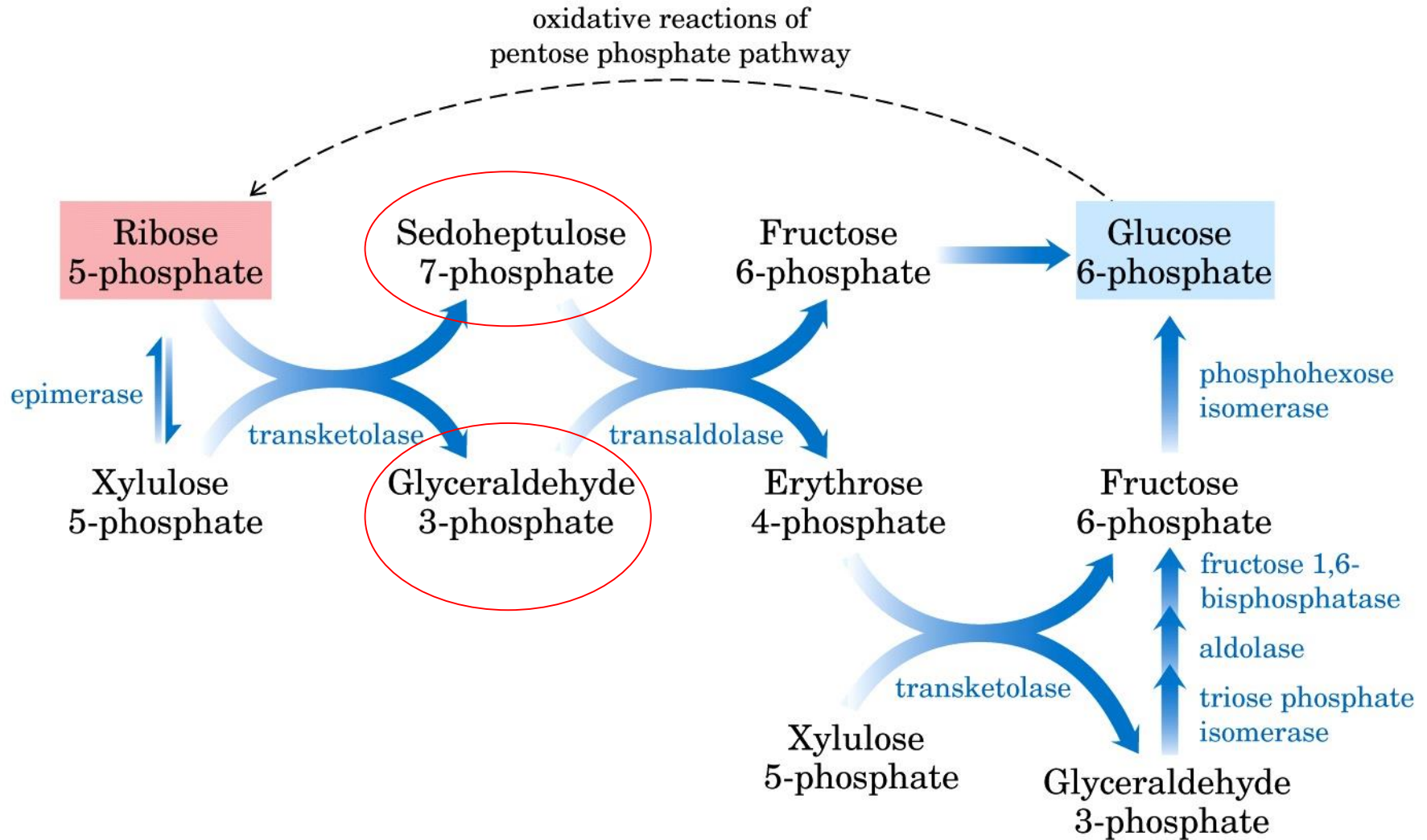
**Ribulose 5-phosphate** is first epimerized to **xylulose 5-phosphate**:





Transketolase transfers a two-carbon unit

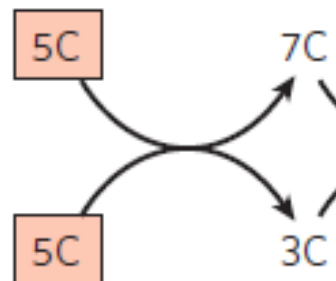
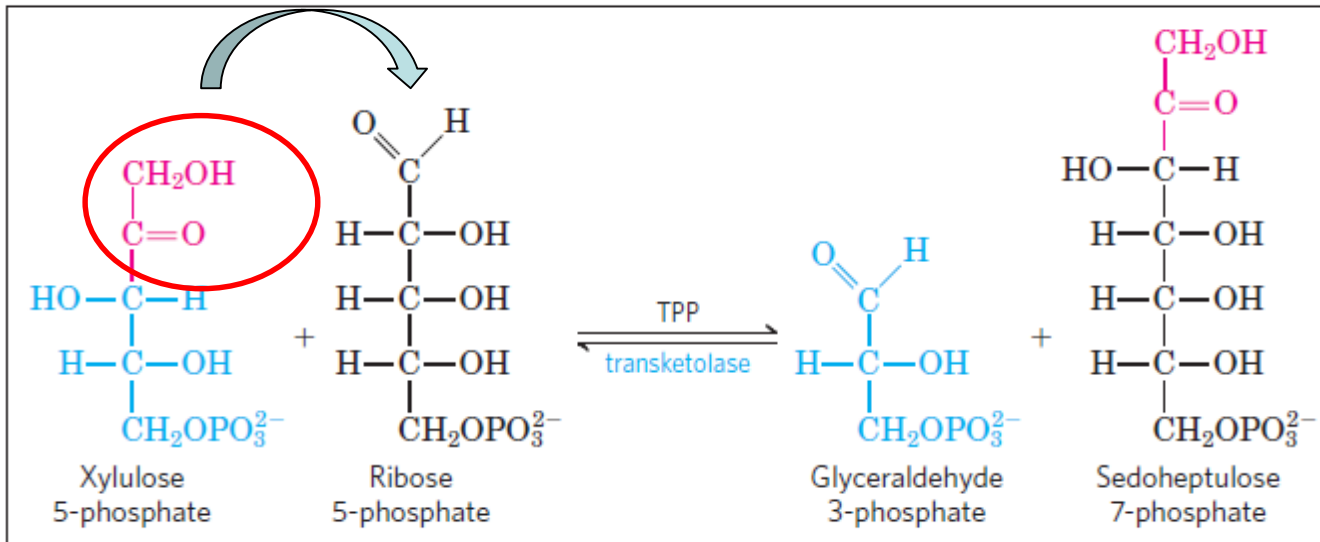
Transaldolase transfers a three-carbon unit



(a)

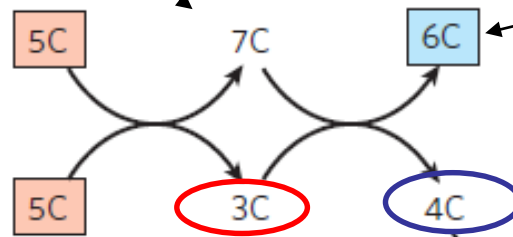
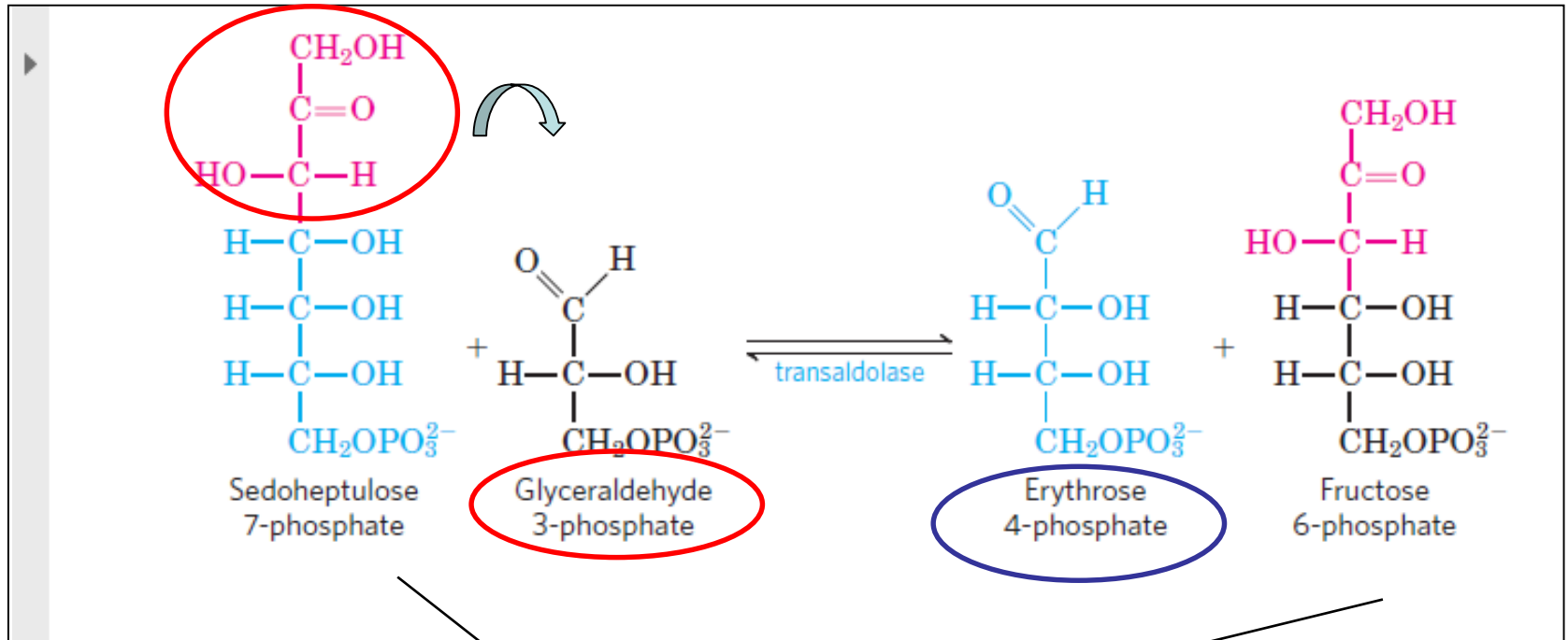


Conversion of two pentose phosphates to a triose phosphate and a seven-carbon sugar phosphate, sedoheptulose 7-phosphate. (**Tranketolase**)



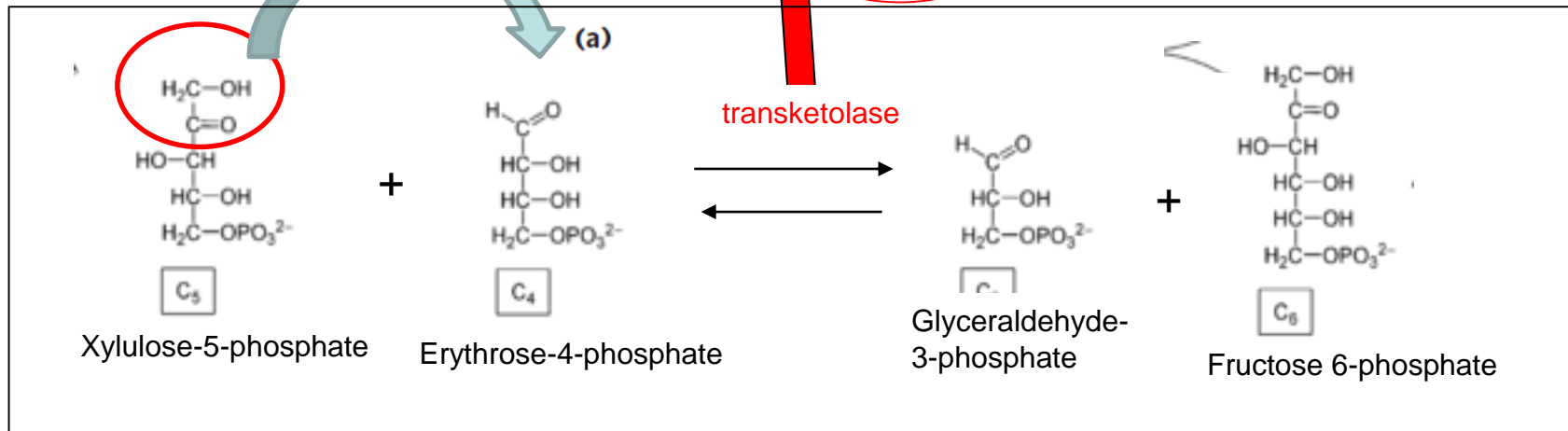
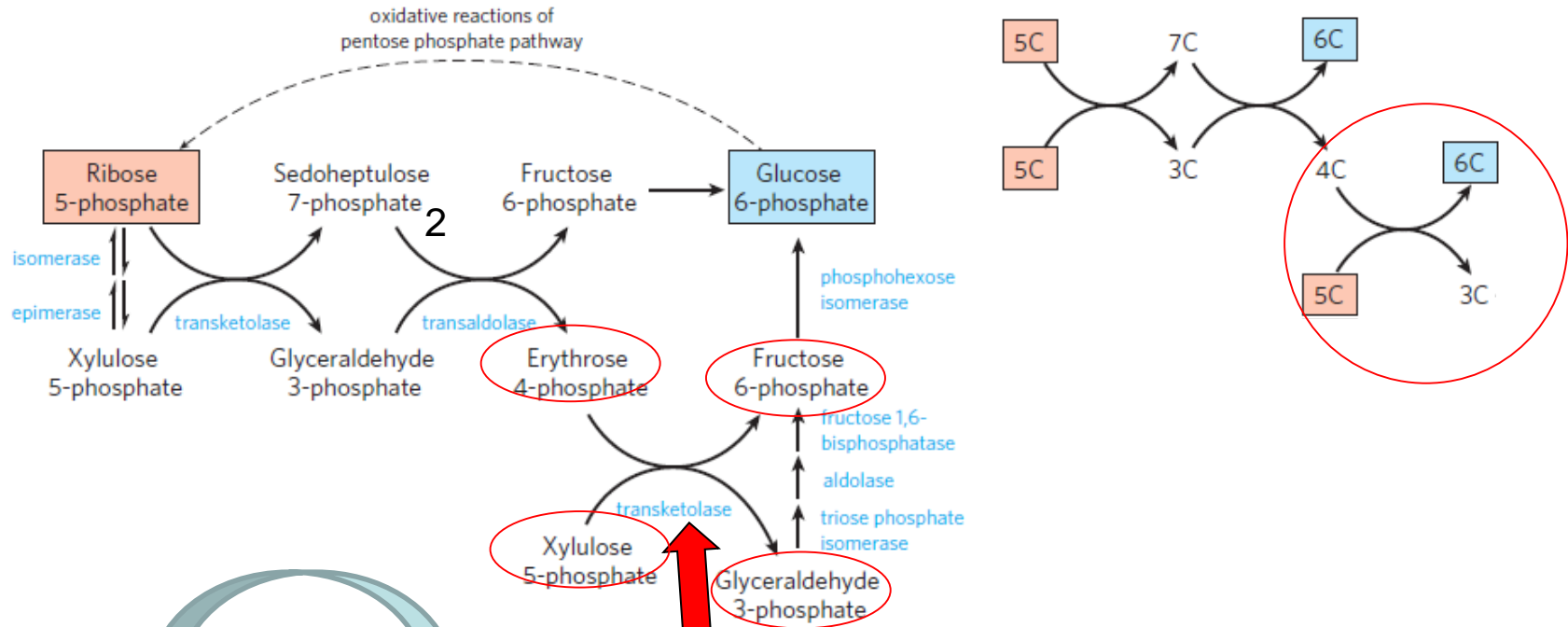


**Transaldolase** transfers 3 carbon atoms of sedoheptulose 7-phosphate on C1 of acceptor aldose (glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate)





# A series of rearrangements of the carbon skeletons





Principal products of this way

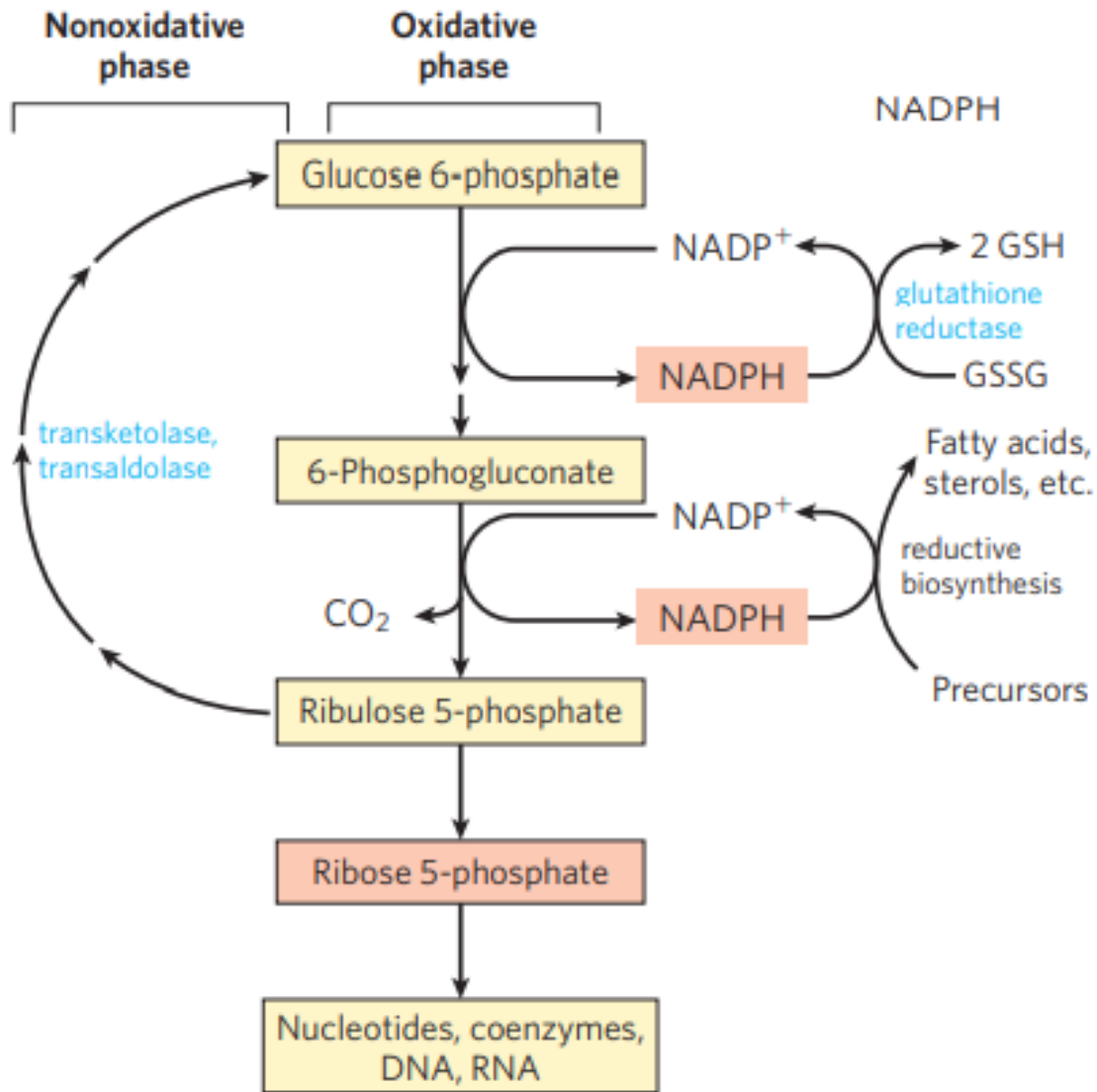
**NADPH and Ribose-5-P**

Reducing equivalents

•Nucleotid and nucleic acid

- Produces erythrose 4-phosphate
- Precursor of aminoacid and vitamin B6 synthesis .

**Transketolases** and **Transaldolases** are activated to produce metabolic intermediates of glycolysis. |



# Relationship Between Glycolysis & Pentose Phosphate Pathway



Glycolysis and gluconeogenesis

Principal function:

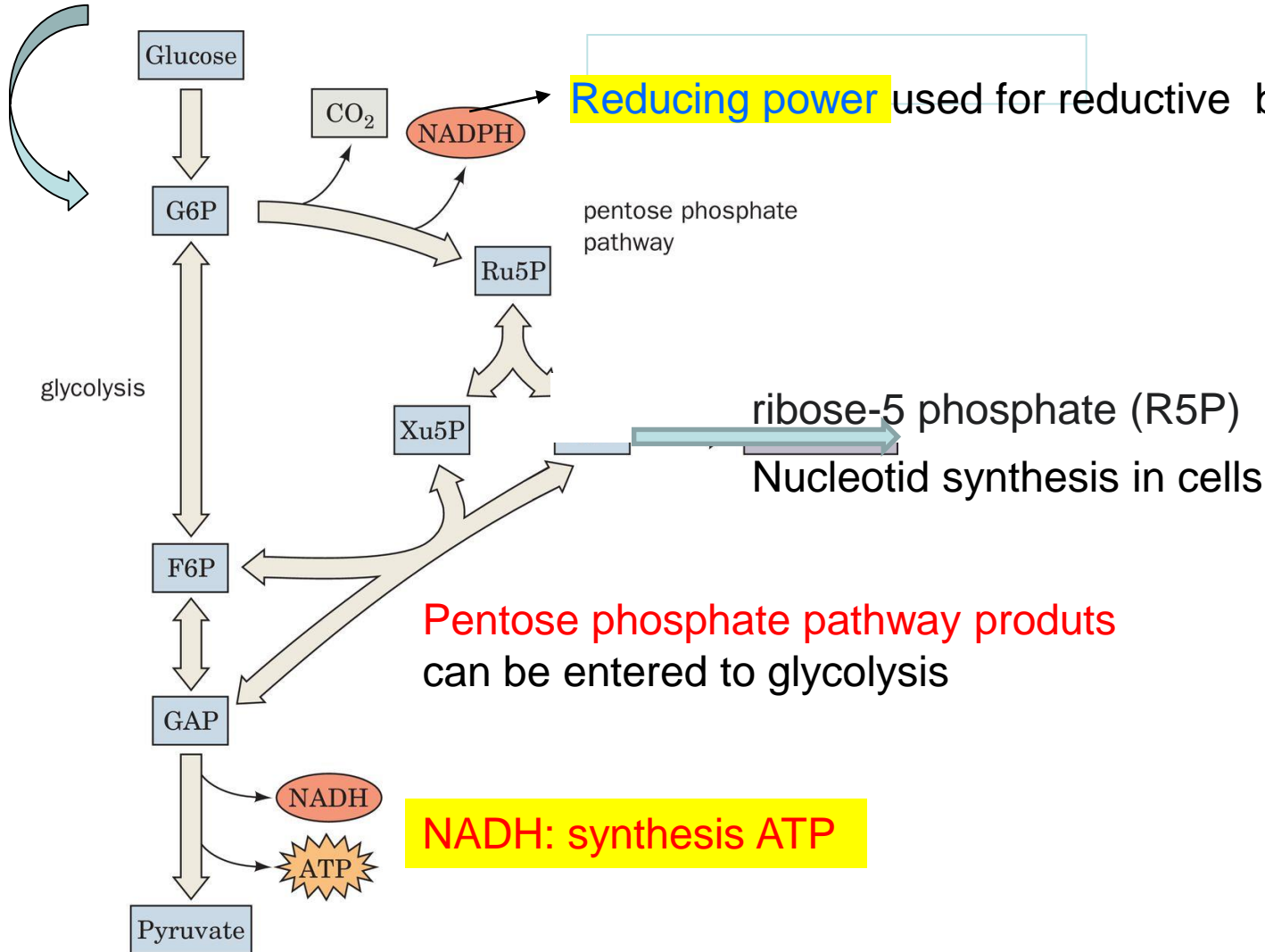
**Reducing power** used for reductive biosynthesis

pentose phosphate pathway

ribose-5 phosphate (R5P)  
Nucleotid synthesis in cells

**Pentose phosphate pathway products can be entered to glycolysis**

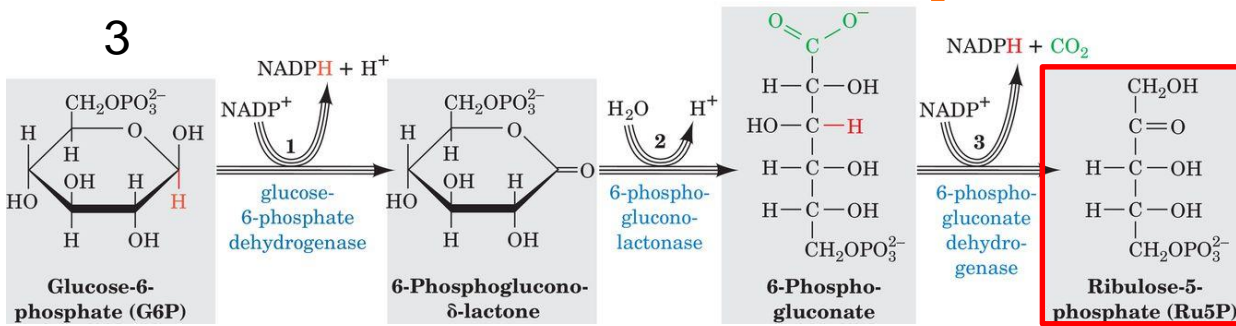
**NADH: synthesis ATP**



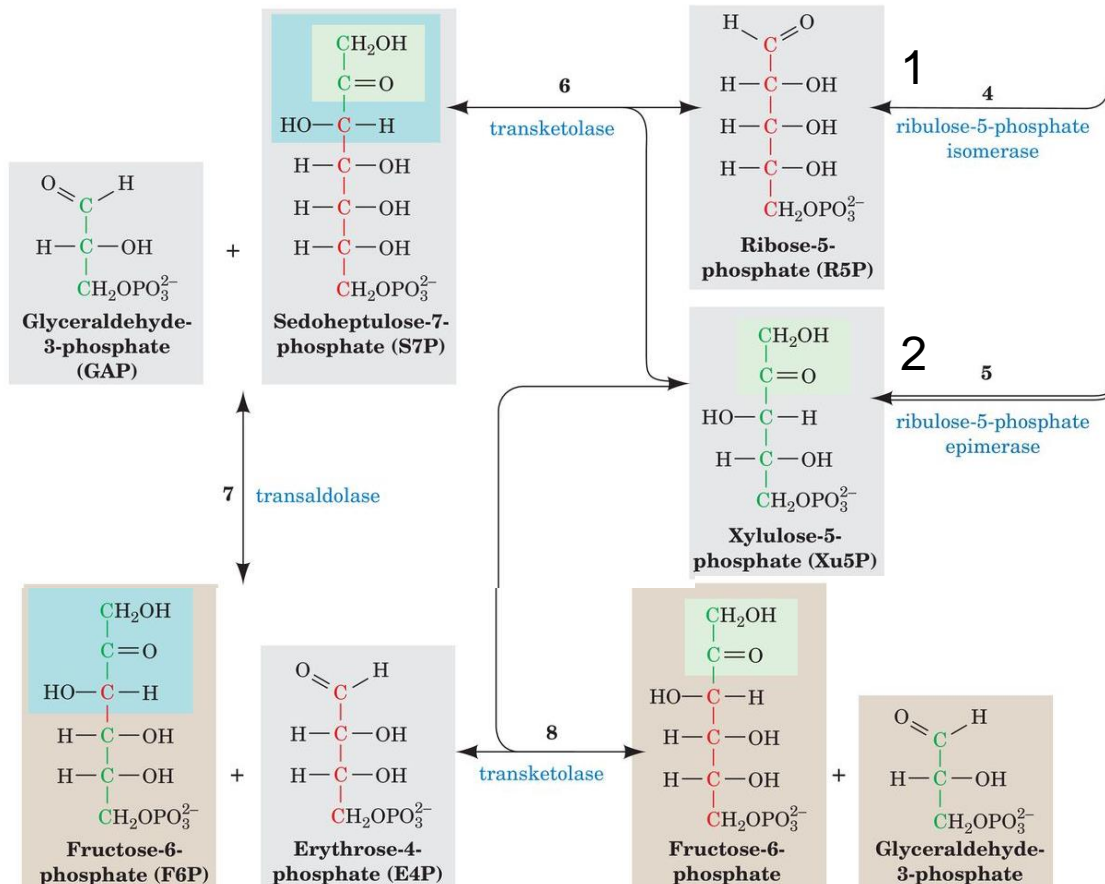


# Pentose Phosphate Pathway

3



1) Oxidative phase

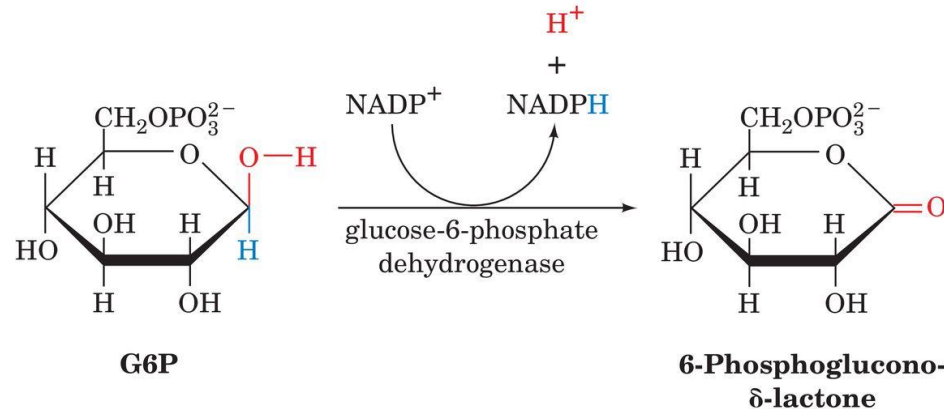


2) Isomerization and epimerization



# Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency

Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase catalyzes **the first step** in the pentose phosphate pathway which produces **NADPH**.



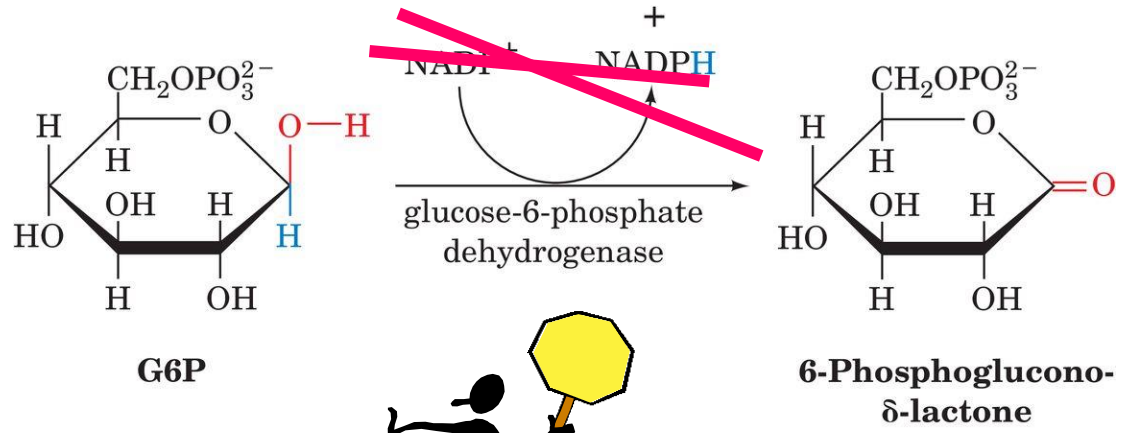
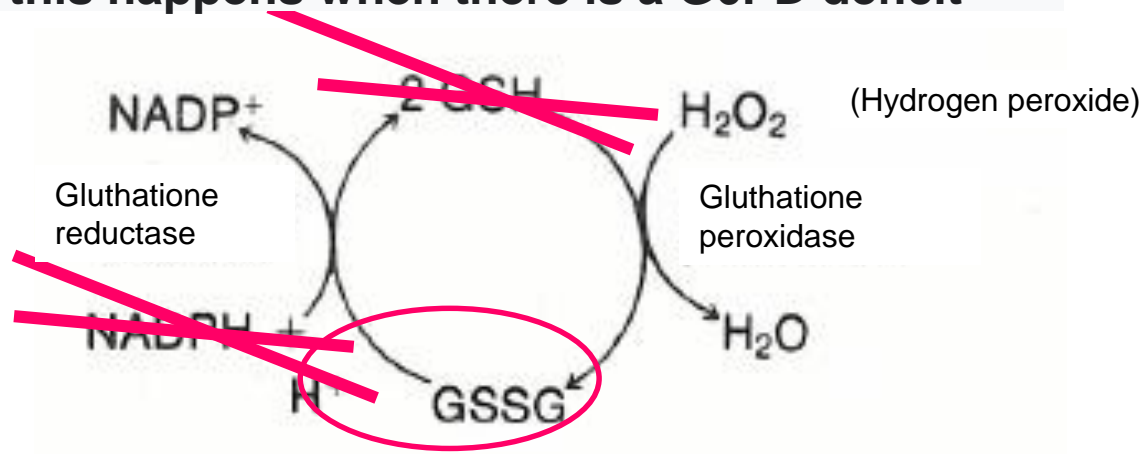
G6PD: Essential in many biosynthetic pathways, also protects cells from **oxidative damage by hydrogen peroxide ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ )** and **superoxide free radicals**,

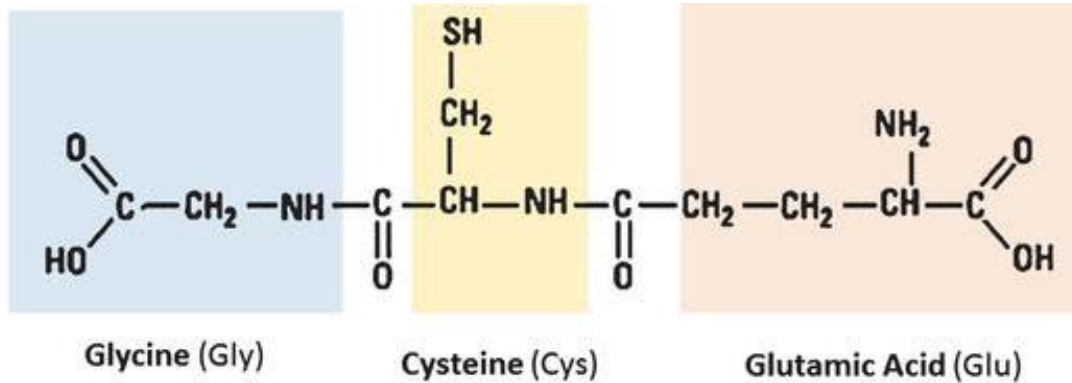
Highly reactive oxidants generated as metabolic byproducts and through the actions of **drugs** such as **primaquine** and natural products such as **divicine** (the toxic ingredient of fava beans)

# NADPH is important to obtain GSH (glutathione)



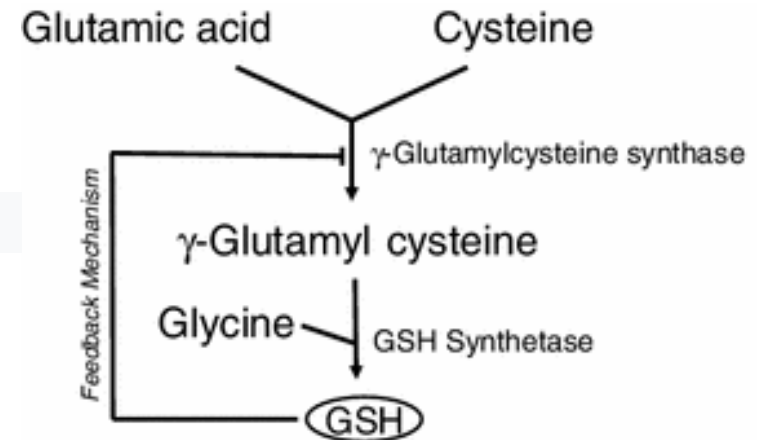
**GSH is not produced when pentose phosphate pathway is broken and this happens when there is a G6PD deficit**





Glutathione (GSH) is a tripeptide that performs various functions, such as antioxidant, reducing the -SH groups of proteins, reducing the ferrous ion of Hb and cofactor of some enzymes

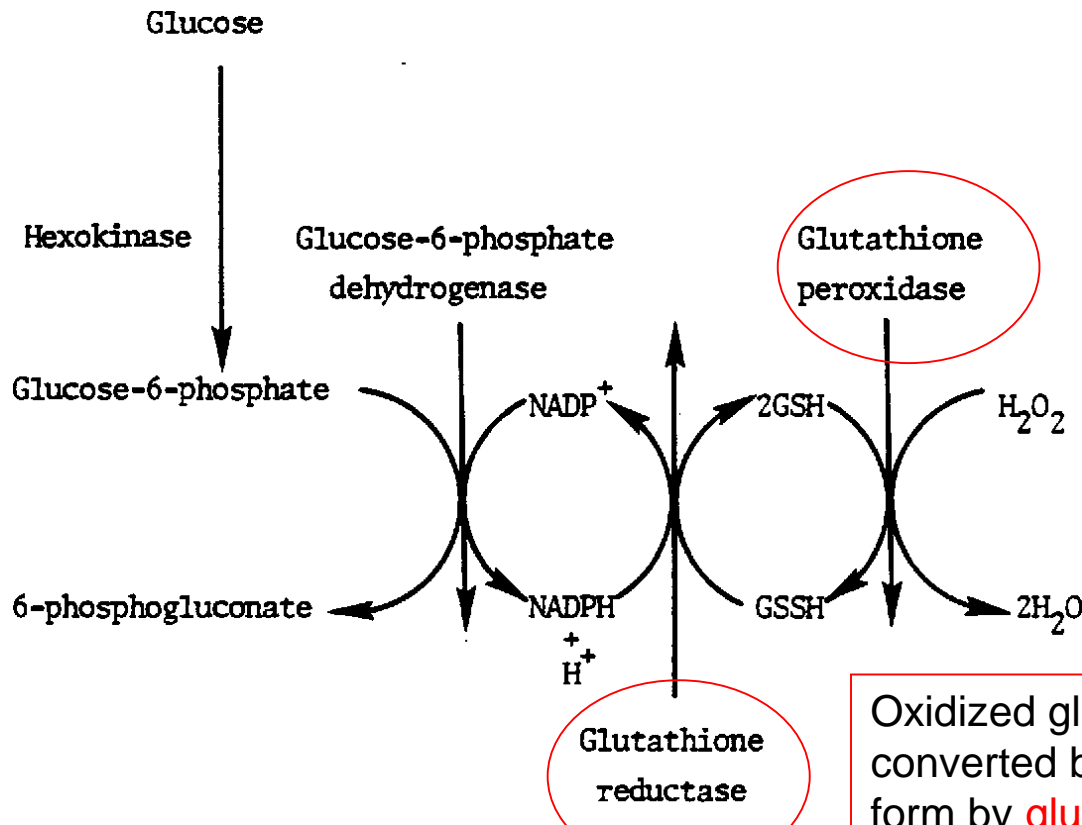
It is synthesized from glutamate



# Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency



In G6PD-deficient individuals, the **NADPH** production is **diminished** and detoxification of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  is inhibited.

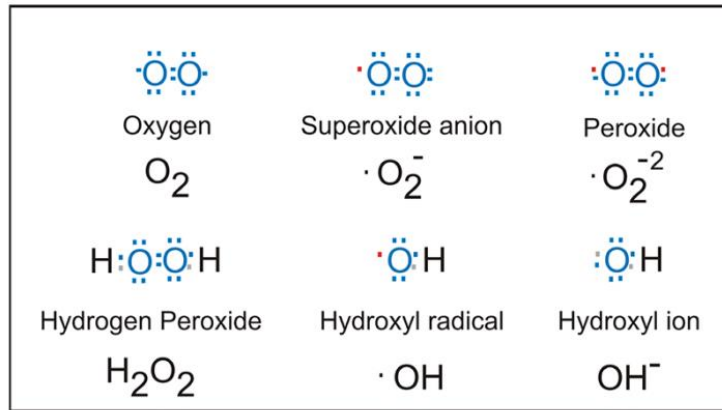


During normal detoxification,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  is converted to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in a reaction which **glutathione** is oxidated by **glutathione peroxidase**

Oxidized glutathione is converted back to the reduced form by **glutathione reductase** and **NADPH**



# ROS (Reactive oxygen species)

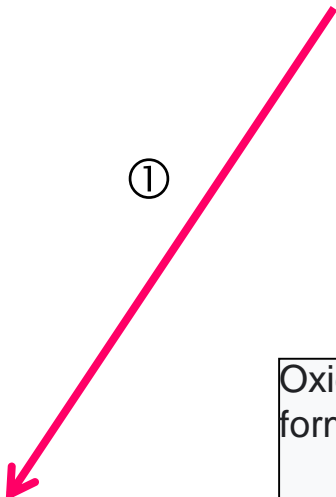


Oxidizing molecules

The absence of intra erythrocyte glutathione causes damage to the erythrocytes



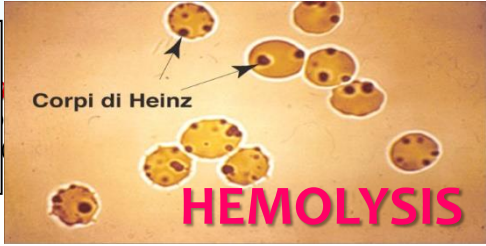
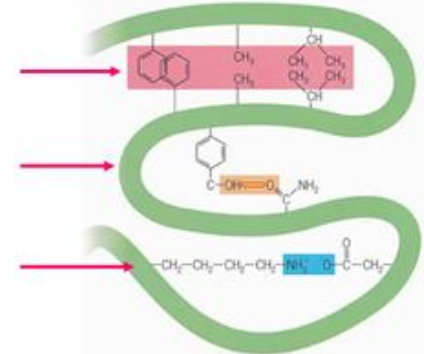
Damage to cellular membrane



Oxidation of heme iron with the formation of methemoglobin



Destruction of the tertiary structure of the Hb



It is therefore vital for the integrity of the erythrocytes to have a continuous supply of  $NADPH + H^+$ .

Cellular damage results: lipid peroxidation leading to breakdown of erythrocyte membranes and oxidation of proteins and DNA

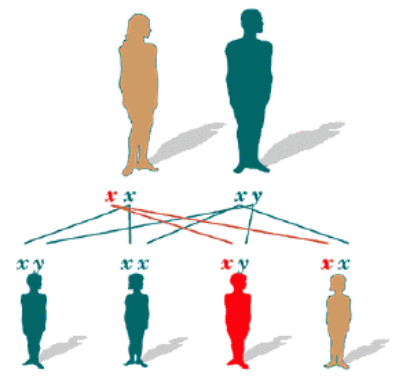
# Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency

G6PD is expressed in all tissues, but its deficiency occurs essentially in erythrocytes



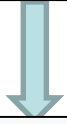
**GENE is located on the X chromosome**

- ☞ Enzyme is not expressed
- ☞ the enzyme is expressed but is labile (half-life of a few days)

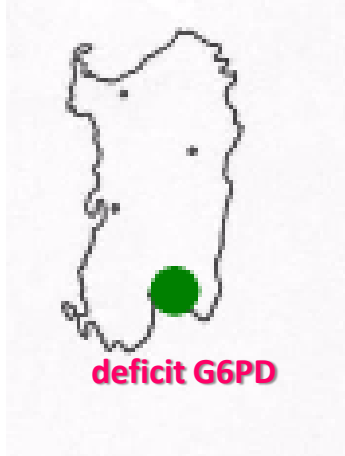




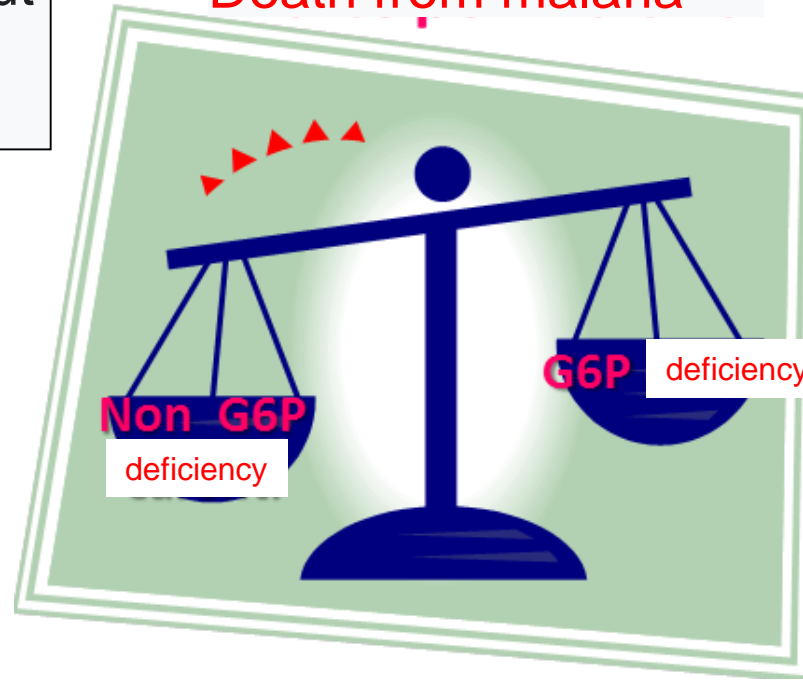
# Glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency



The maximum incidence (about 30%) is observable in areas where malaria was endemic



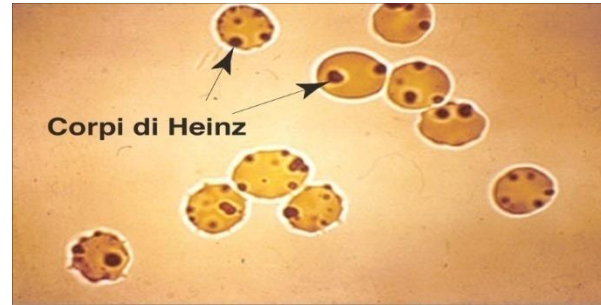
Death from malaria



**Oxidative stress**, induced by a condition of **G6PD deficiency**, has created an unfavorable environment at the erythrocyte level for the establishment of the protozoan *Plasmodium falciparum*

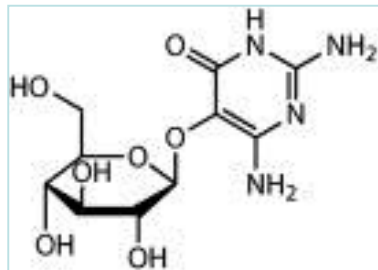
# Factors triggering hemolysis in G6PD deficient subjects

Ingestion of fava beans

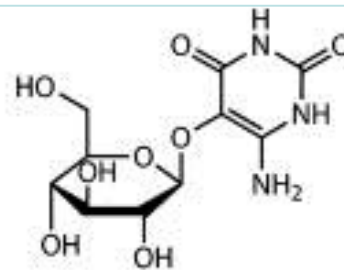


They contain vicine and convicine, able to promote oxidative stress

Vicine and Convicine are pyrimidine glycosides.



Vicine

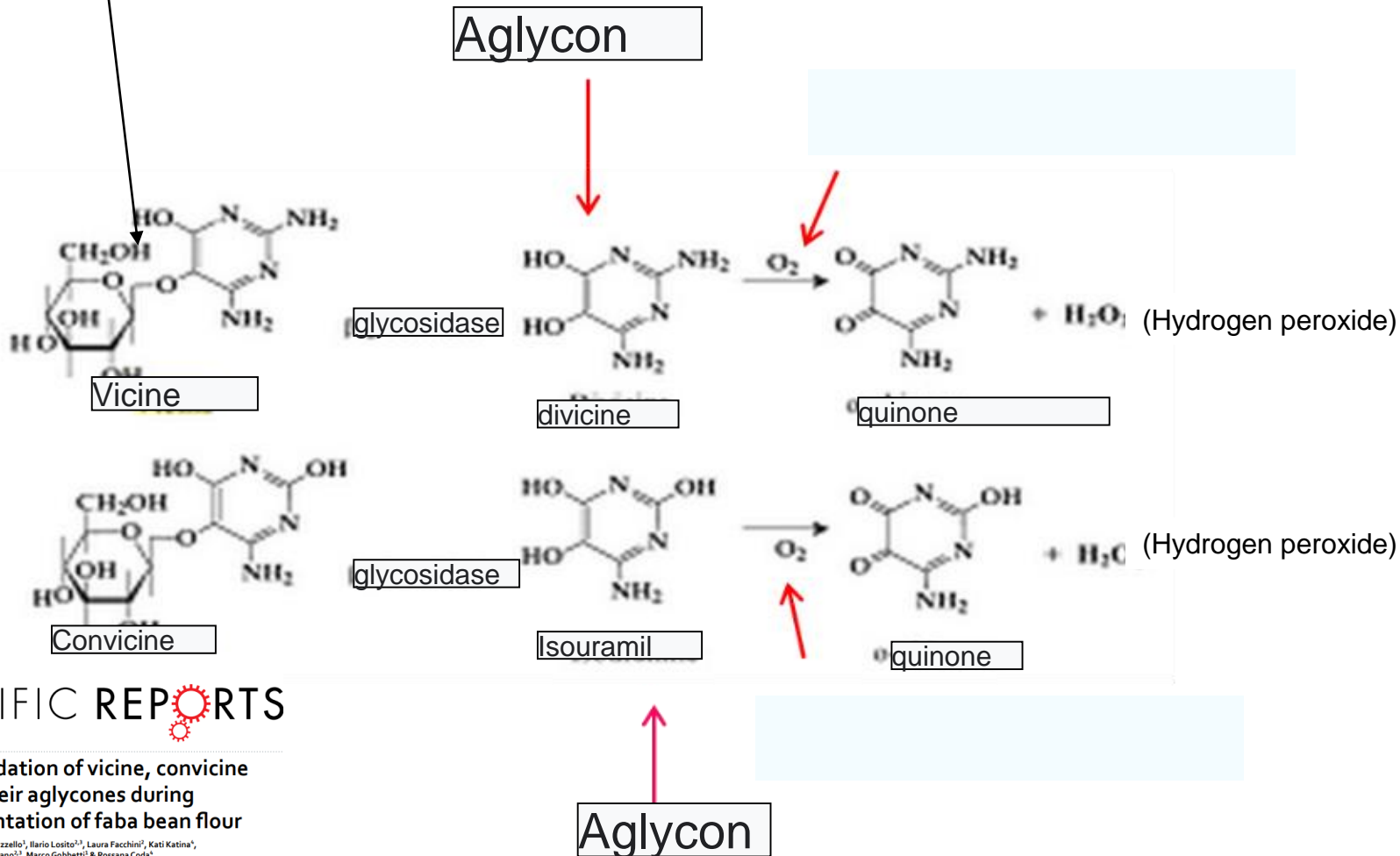


Convicine



# Vicine and Convicine

By hydrolysis of the  **$\beta$ -glucosidic bond** between glucose and the hydroxyl group at C-5 on the pyrimidine ring, generate the **aglycones**: **divicine** (2,6-diamino-4,5-dihydroxypyrimidine) and **isouramil** (6-amino-2,4,5-trihydroxypyrimidine), respectively.



# Factors triggering hemolysis in G6PD deficient subjects



Some drugs can promote oxidative stress

DRUGS TO AVOID IN G6PD DEFICIENCY			
DEFINITE RISK OF HAEMOLYSIS		POSSIBLE RISK OF HAEMOLYSIS	
Pharmacological Class	Drugs*	Pharmacological Class	Drugs*
<b>Anthelmintics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• β-Naphthol</li> <li>• Niridazole</li> <li>• Stibophen</li> </ul>	<b>Analgesics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acetylsalicylic acid (Aspirin)</li> <li>• Acetanilide</li> <li>• Paracetamol (Acetaminophen)</li> <li>• Aminophenazone (Aminopyrine)</li> <li>• Dipyrone (Metamizole)</li> <li>• Phenacetin</li> <li>• Phenazone (Antipyrine)</li> <li>• Phenylbutazone</li> <li>• Tiaprofenic acid</li> </ul>
<b>Antibiotics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nitrofurans                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nitrofurantoin</li> <li>- Nitrofurazone</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Quinolones                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ciprofloxacin</li> <li>- Moxifloxacin</li> <li>- Nalidixic acid</li> <li>- Norfloxacin</li> <li>- Ofloxacin</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chloramphenicol</li> <li>• Sulfonamides                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-trimoxazole (Sulfamethoxazole + Trimethoprim)</li> <li>- Sulfacetamide</li> <li>- Sulfadiazine</li> <li>- Sulfadimidine</li> <li>- Sulfamethoxazole</li> <li>- Sulfanilamide</li> <li>- Sulfapyridine</li> <li>- Sulfasalazine (Salazosulfapyridine)</li> <li>- Sulfisoxazole (Sulfafurazole)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<b>Antimalarials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mepacrine</li> <li>• Pamaquine</li> <li>• Pentaquine</li> <li>• Primaquine</li> </ul>	<b>Antibiotics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Furazolidone</li> <li>• Streptomycin</li> <li>• Sulfonamides                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sulfacytine</li> <li>- Sulfaguanidine</li> <li>- Sulfamerazine</li> <li>- Sulfamethoxyipyridazole</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Antimethemoglobinaemic Agents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methylene blue</li> </ul>	<b>Anticonvulsants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phenytoin</li> </ul>
<b>Antimycobacterials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dapsone</li> <li>• Para-aminosalicylic acid</li> <li>• Sulfones                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aldesulfone sodium (Sulfoxone)</li> <li>- Glucosulfone</li> <li>- Thiazosulfone</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Antidiabetics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glibenclamide</li> </ul>
<b>Antineoplastic Adjuncts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doxorubicin</li> <li>• Rasburicase</li> </ul>	<b>Antidotes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dimercaprol (BAL)</li> </ul>
<b>Genitourinary Analgesics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phenazopyridine (Pyridium)</li> </ul>	<b>Antihistamines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antazoline (Antistine)</li> <li>• Diphenhydramine</li> <li>• Triptelenamine</li> </ul>
<b>Others</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acetylphenylhydrazine</li> <li>• Phenylhydrazine</li> </ul>	<b>Antihypertensives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hydralazine</li> <li>• Methyl dopa</li> </ul>
		<b>Antimalarials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chloroquine &amp; derivatives</li> <li>• Proguanil</li> <li>• Pyrimethamine</li> <li>• Quinidine</li> <li>• Quinine</li> </ul>
		<b>Antimycobacterials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isoniazid</li> </ul>
		<b>Antiparkinsonism Agents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trihexyphenidyl (Benzhexol)</li> </ul>
		<b>Cardiovascular Drugs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dopamine (L-dopa)</li> <li>• Procainamide</li> <li>• Quinidine</li> </ul>
		<b>Diagnostic Agent for Cancer Detection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toluidine blue</li> </ul>
		<b>Gout Preparations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colchicine</li> <li>• Probenecid</li> </ul>
		<b>Hormonal Contraceptives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mestranol</li> </ul>
		<b>Nitrates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isobutyl nitrite</li> </ul>
		<b>Vitamin K Substance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Menadiol Na sulfate</li> <li>• Menadione</li> <li>• Menadione Na bisulfite</li> <li>• Phytomenadione</li> </ul>

# Factors triggering hemolysis in G6PD deficient subjects

Some drugs can promote oxidative stress

## Controindicato

- Acido nalidissico
- Nitrofurantoina
- Metamizolo sodico
- Rasburicase
- Sulfadiazina (via orale)
- Sulfametossazolo (via orale e parenterale)
- Sulfasalazina
- Trimetoprim (via orale e parenterale)

## Sconsigliato (eccetto particolari situazioni) a causa dell'osservazione di casi di emolisi acuta

- Ciprofloxacina (via orale e parenterale)
- Cloroquina
- Dimercapolo
- Fitomenadione (vitamina K<sub>1</sub>)
- Glibenclamide
- Levofloxacina (via orale e parenterale)
- Norfloxacina (via orale)
- Spiramicina (via orale e parenterale)
- Sulfadiazina (via orale)

## Sconsigliato (eccetto particolari situazioni) a causa dell'appartenenza ad una classe farmacologica a rischio, o a causa di un rischio potenziale di emolisi

- Acido pipemidico
- Chinina
- Enoxacina
- Fenazone (via auricolare)
- Gliclazide
- Glimepiride
- Glipizide
- Idrossiclorochina
- Lomefloxacina
- Moxifloxacina
- Ofloxacina (via orale e parenterale)
- Pefloxacina (via orale e parenterale)
- Prilocaina
- Sulfacetamide

## Sconsigliato a dosi elevate

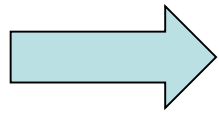
- Acido acetilsalicilico
- Acido ascorbico
- Paracetamolo

## Possibile utilizzo dopo l'analisi dei dati disponibili (letteratura e farmacovigilanza)

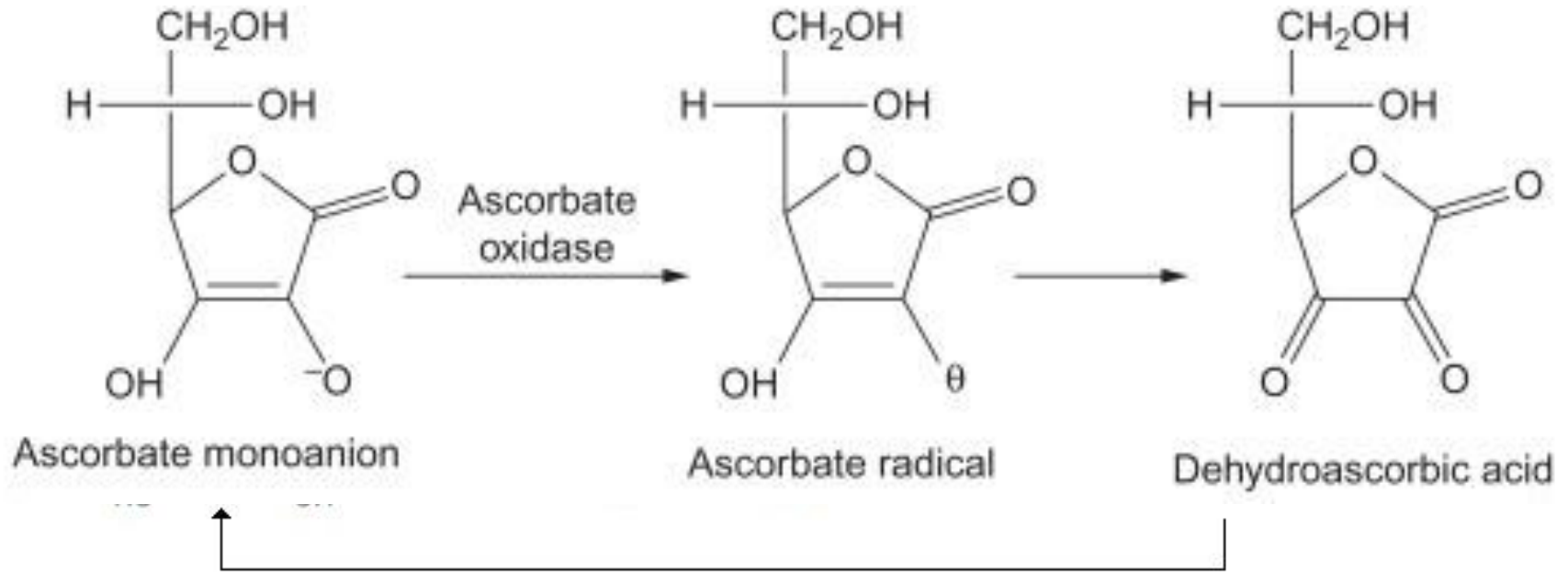
- Blu di metilene (via topica)\*
- Bupivacaina\*
- Chinidina\*
- Ciprofloxacina (via oftalmica e auricolare)\*
- Cloramfenicolo (via oftalmica)\*
- Colchicina\*
- Dietilamina\*
- Diidrochinidina\*
- Dimenidrinato\*
- Doxorubicina\*
- Fenazone (via auricolare)\*
- Fenilbutazone\*
- Fenitoina\*
- Glicole propilenico\*
- Isoniazide (via orale e parenterale)\*
- Levodopa\*
- Meflochina\*
- Monossido di azoto\*
- Nitroprussiato\*
- Norfloxacina (via oftalmica)\*
- Ofloxacina (via oftalmica e auricolare)\*
- Pirimetamina\*
- Proguanile\*
- Streptomina\*
- Tiamfenicolo\*
- Triesilfenidile\*



Ascorbic acid



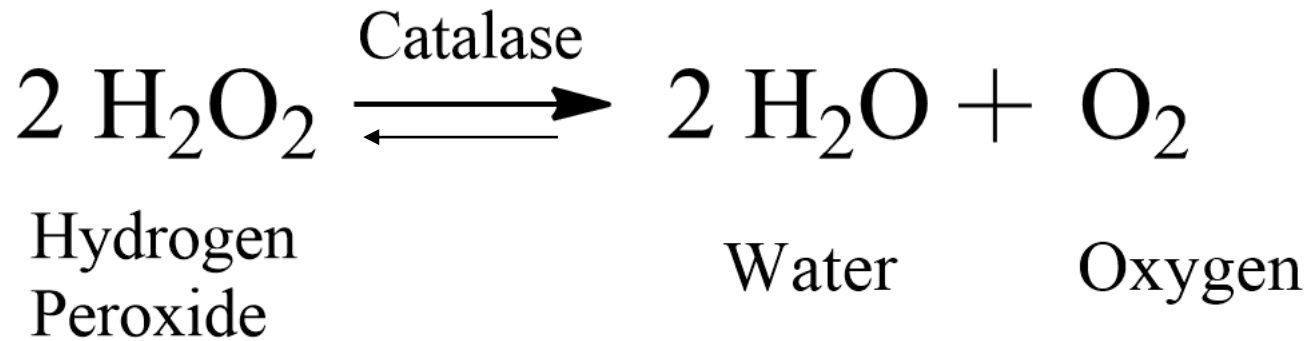
not recommended in high doses



**Ascorbic acid** is oxidized to dehydroascorbic acid (DHA) and converted back to ascorbic acid at the expense of glutathione.

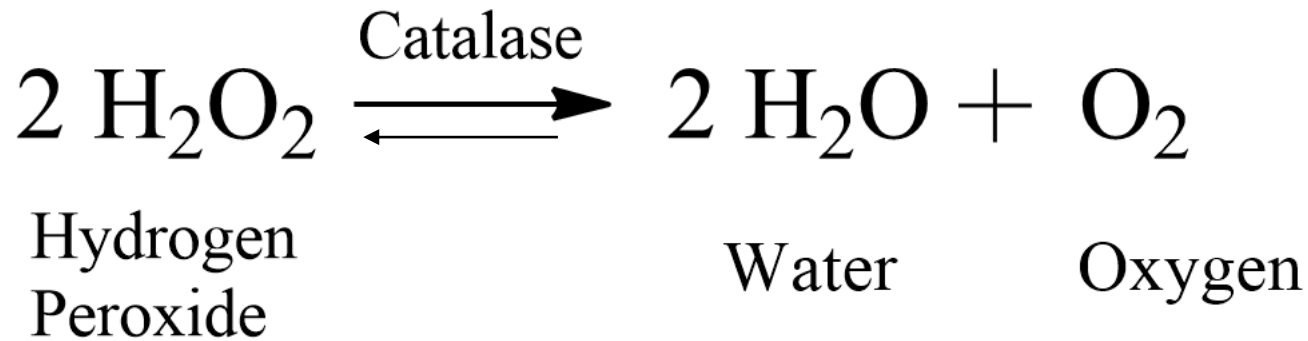


H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is also broken down to H<sub>2</sub>O and O<sub>2</sub> by **catalase**, which also requires NADPH.





H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is also broken down to H<sub>2</sub>O and O<sub>2</sub> by **catalase**, which also requires NADPH.





# Wernicke-Korsakoff Syndrome Is Exacerbated by a Defect in Transketolase

**Transketolase** requires thiaminepyrophosphate (TPP) as coenzyme

Wernicke-Korsakoff syndrome is a disorder caused by a severe deficiency of **thiamine**, a component of TPP.

The syndrome is more common among **people with alcoholism** than in the general population, because chronic, heavy alcohol consumption interferes with the **intestinal absorption of thiamine**.

The syndrome can be exacerbated **by a mutation in the gene for transketolase** that results in an enzyme with a lowered affinity for TPP an affinity one-tenth that of the normal enzyme.



The result is a slowing down of the whole pentose phosphate pathway.

**Wernicke-Korsakoff syndrome** symptoms:

Severe memory loss

Mental confusion

Partial paralysis

# Relationship Between Glycolysis & Pentose Phosphate Pathway



Glycolysis and gluconeogenesis

Principal function:

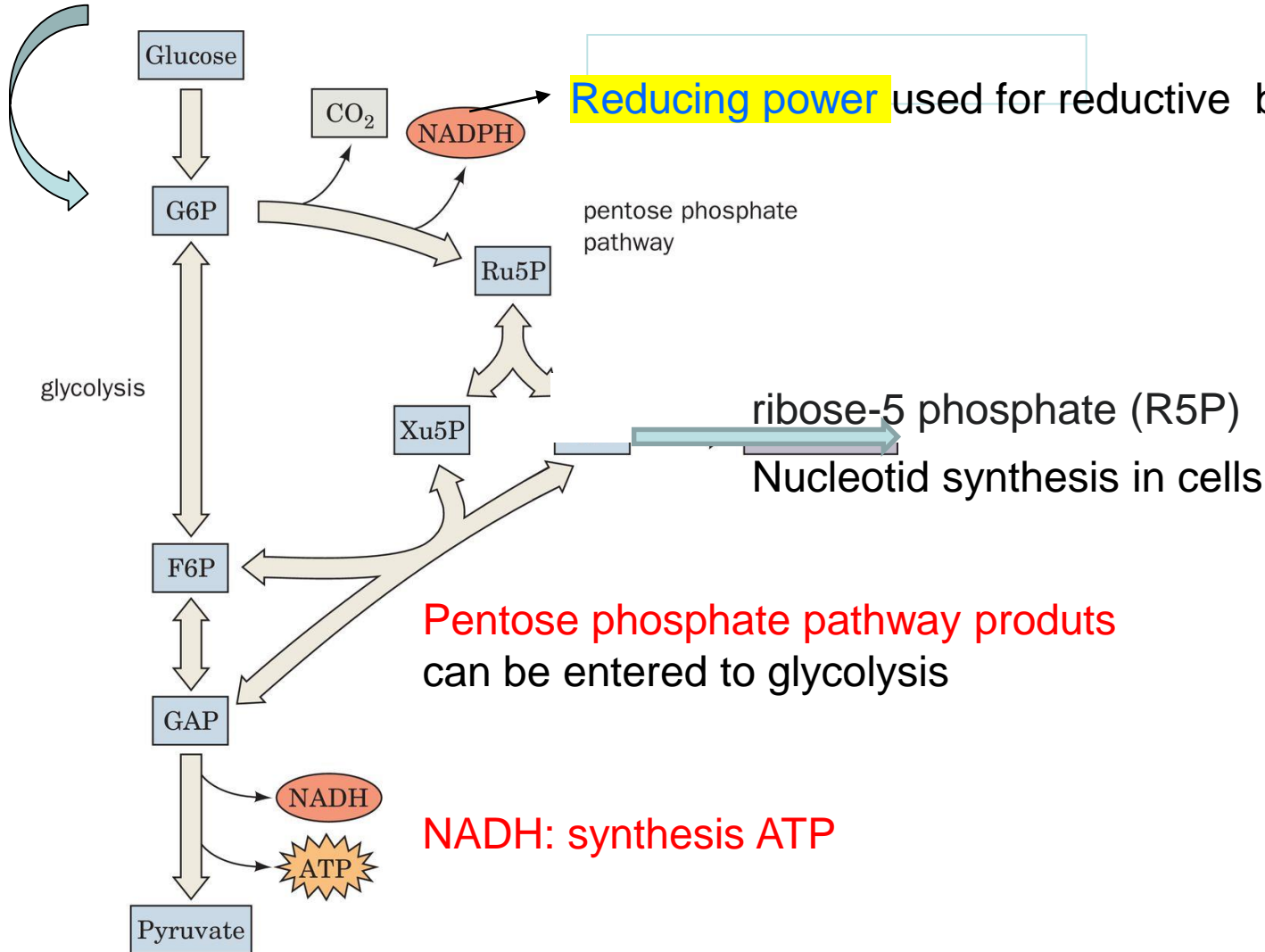
Reducing power used for reductive biosynthesis

pentose phosphate pathway

ribose-5 phosphate (R5P)  
Nucleotid synthesis in cells

Pentose phosphate pathway products can be entered to glycolysis

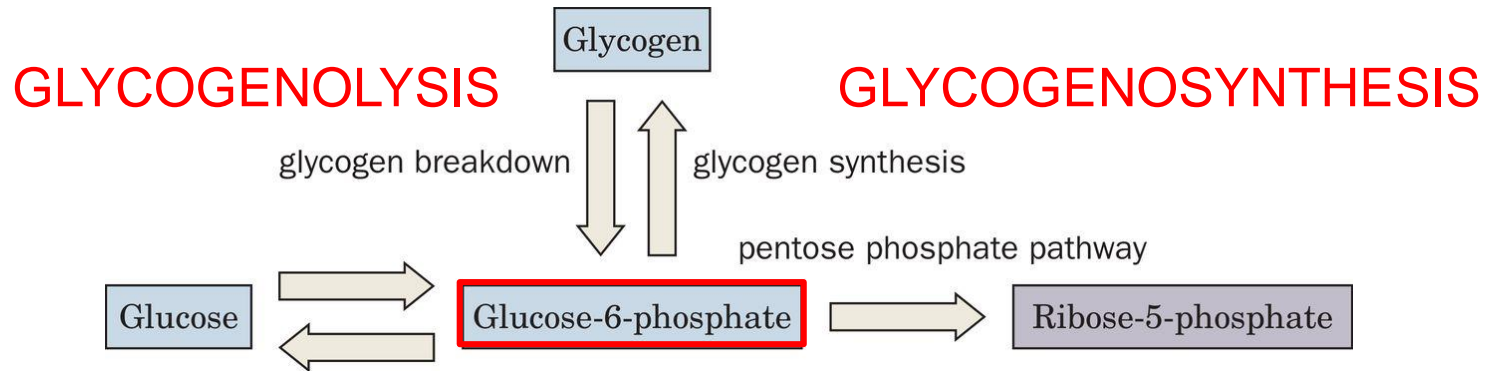
NADH: synthesis ATP





# Overview of Glucose Metabolism

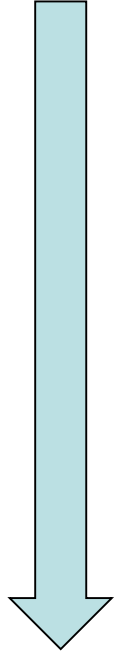
## CYTOSOL



The two glycogen storage tissues, **liver and muscle**, store and then metabolize this glucose polymer for different purposes



Plants



Starch in plants

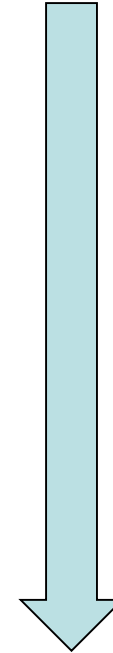
Bacteria

excess glucose

storage

polymeric forms

Vertebrates

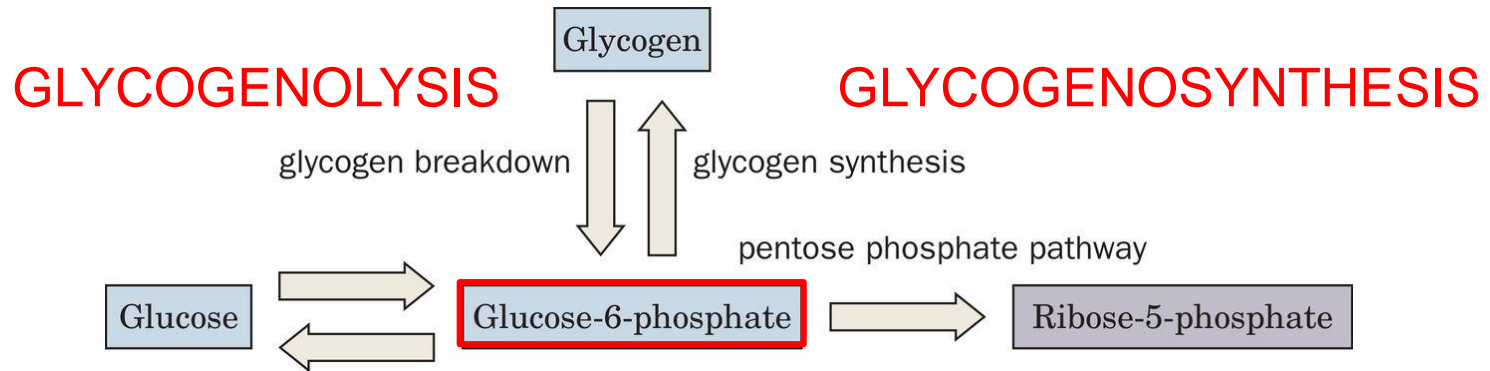


Glycogen



# Overview of Glucose Metabolism

## CYTOSOL



Two glycogen storage tissues, **liver and muscle**, store and then metabolize this glucose polymer for different purposes and purposes

# Glycogen Breakdown



- **Glycogen**, the storage form of glucose, is a branched polymer.
- Glucose mobilization in the **liver involves a series of conversions from glycogen to glucose-1-phosphate to glucose-6-phosphate and finally to glucose.**

Glycogenolysis is guaranteed by the intervention of **three enzymatic activities:**

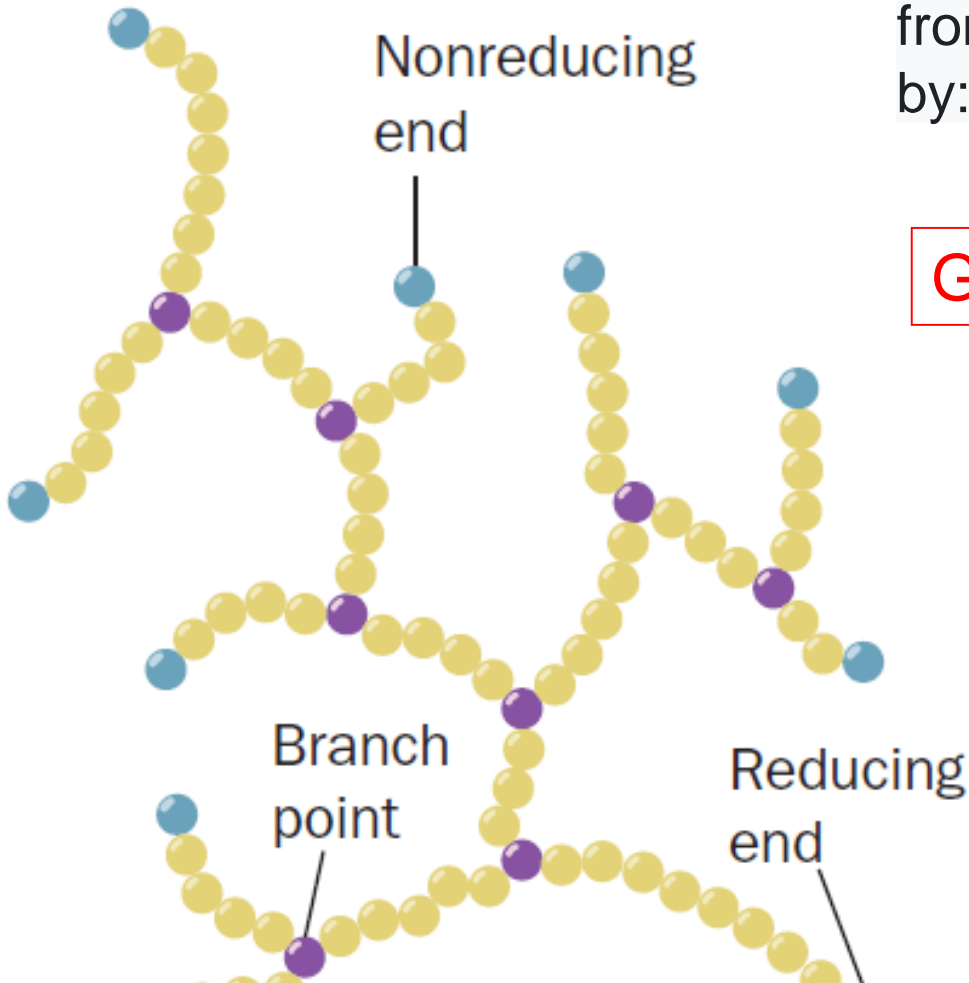
- 1) Glycogen phosphorylase
- 2) Debranching enzyme
- 3) Phosphoglucomutase

# Branched Structure of Glycogen



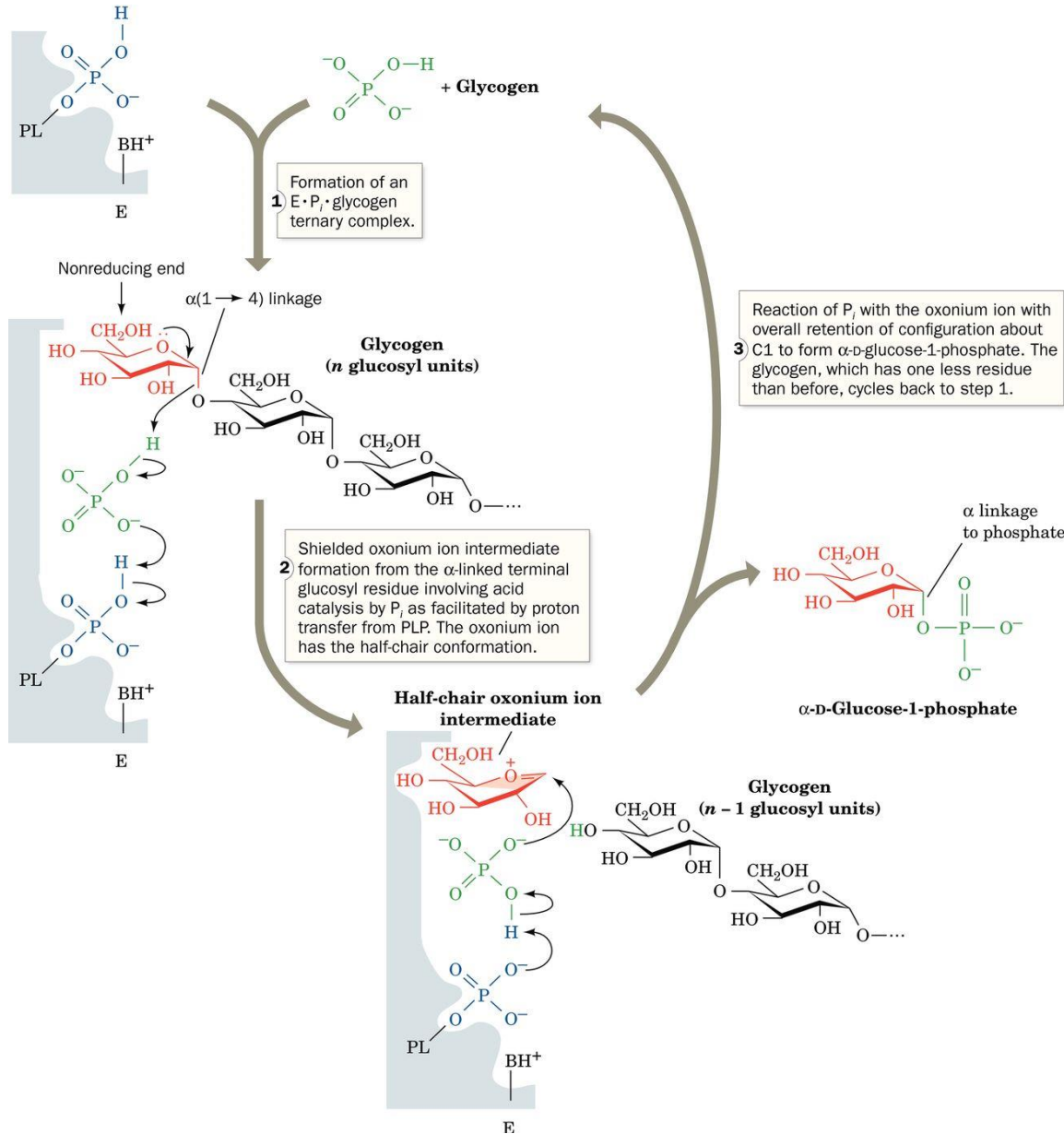
The demolition of glycogen starts from the NON-REDUCING ends by:

Glycogen phosphorylase





# Glycogen Phosphorylase Mechanism



Glycogen phosphorylase uses **PLP** as a prosthetic group which catalyzes **phosphorolysis** with its phosphoric group:

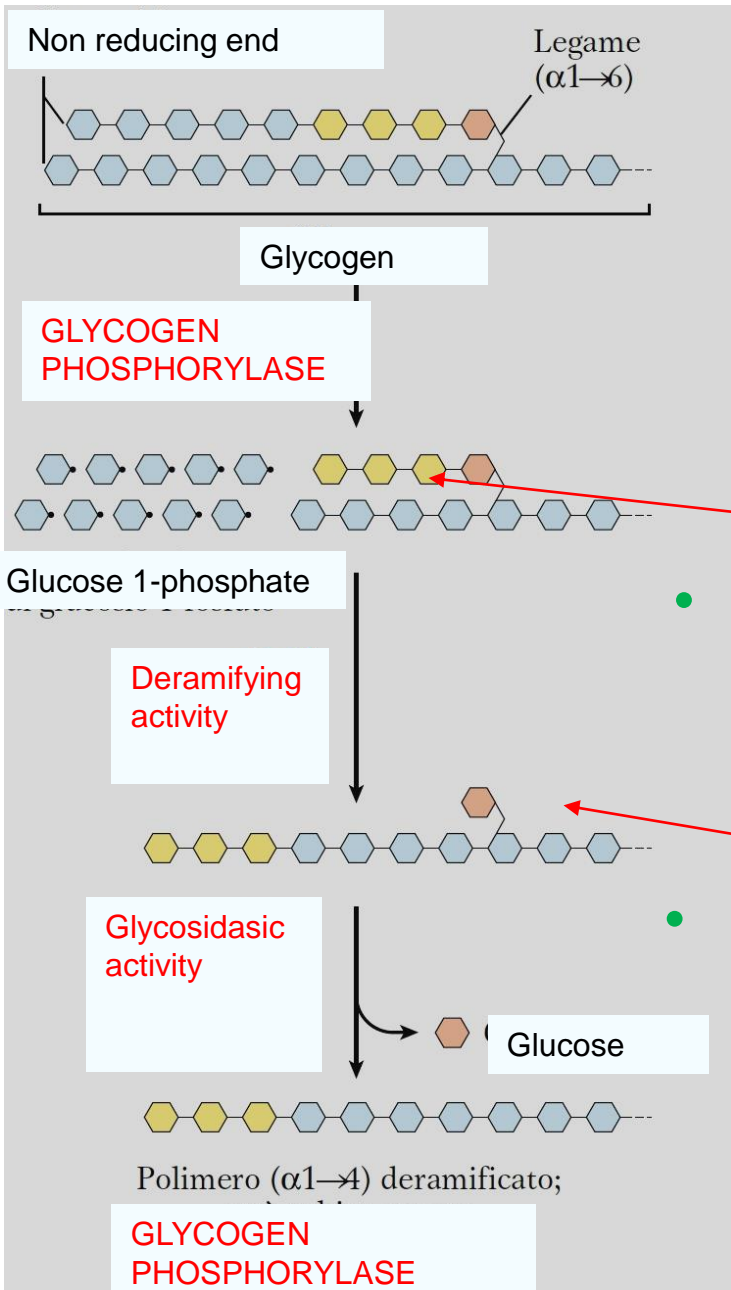
A ternary complex

ENZYME + Pi + Glycogen

is formed



The **glycogen DERAMIFYING** enzyme removes the ramifications making new saccharide units accessible to the action of glycogen phosphorylase - **DOUBLE ACTION!**



- **α(1→4)** transglycosylase >> transfers a **trisaccharide unit** from a branch to a reducing end

- **α(1→6)** glycosidase >> removes **glucose** (not G1P) from the branching by **HYDROLYSIS** (non-phosphorolysis)

**GLYCOGEN PHOSPHORYLASE**

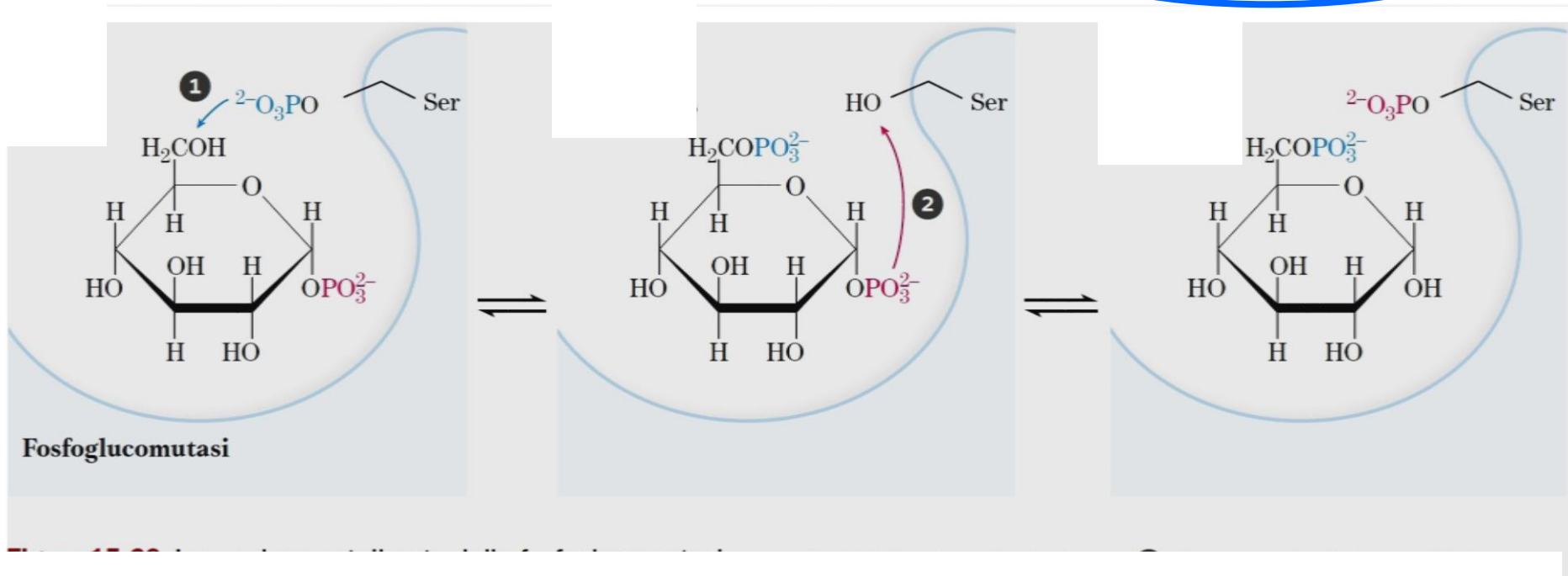
# Phosphoglucomutase Mechanism



Glucose1-P

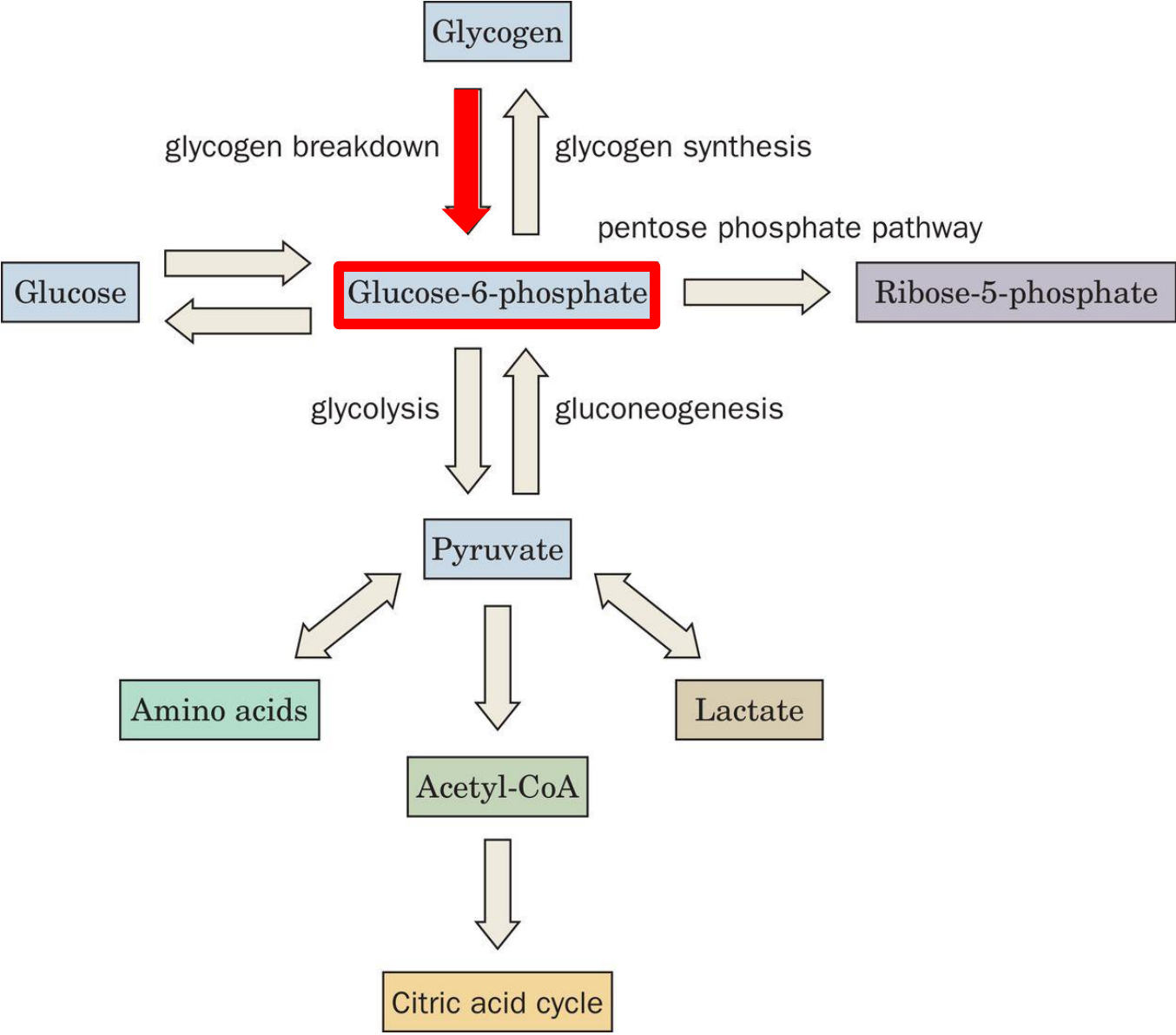
[Glucose-1,6-P]

Glucose-6-P





# Glucose 6-phosphate can follow different metabolic fates.....



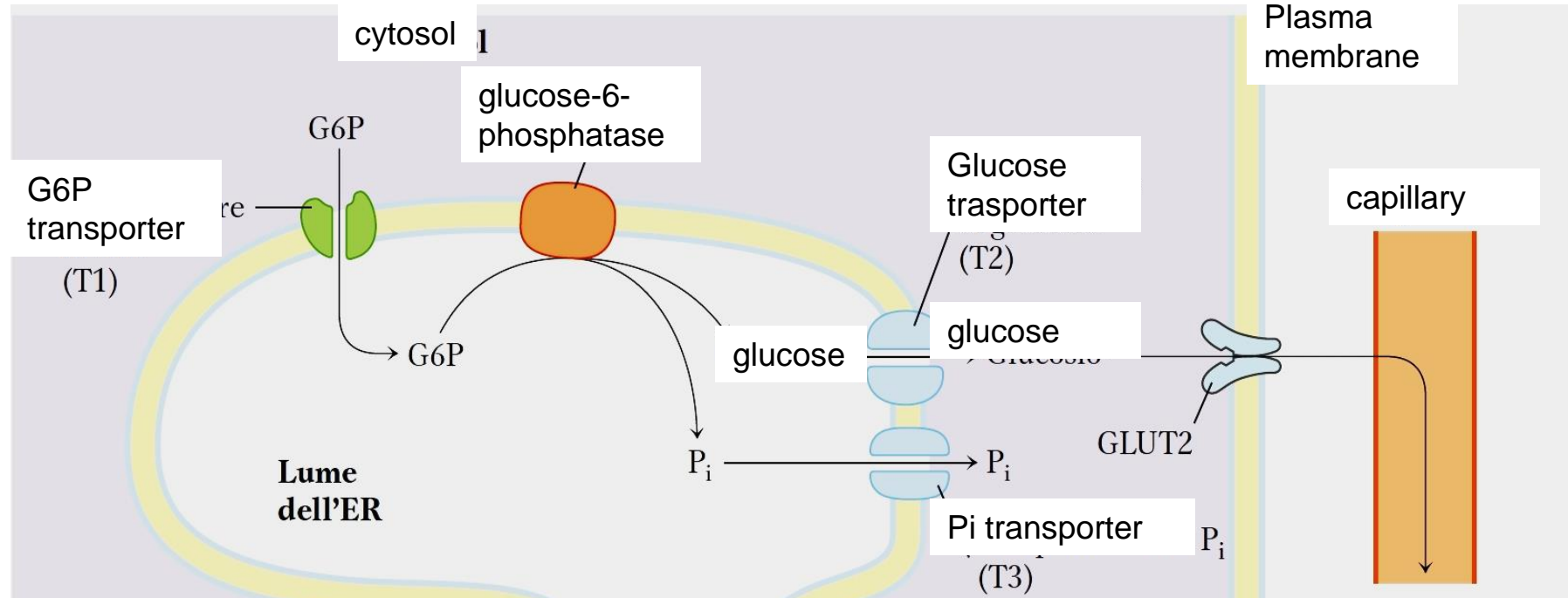


Glucose-6-phosphate  $\xrightarrow{\quad}$  Glucose

only in the liver

Glucose-6-phosphatase (G6Pase)

Produce free glucose in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER)



Muscle does not has glucose-6-phosphatase (G6Pase)

## **Von Gierke Disease (GSD-I): glucose 6-phosphatase deficiency** (incidenza ca.1/100.000)

The deficiency impairs the liver's ability to produce glucose free from glycogen and via gluconeogenesis. Causes severe hypoglycemia during fasting and increased glycogen in the liver and kidneys with their enlargement, convulsions. Other metabolic problems include lactic acidosis and hyperlipidemia.

Therapy: Frequent or continuous feeding with carbohydrates.

## **McArdle Disease (GSD-V): deficiency of myophosphorylase.**

Its incidence is reported as 1 in 100,000, approximately the same as glycogen storage disease type I. Symptoms include exercise intolerance with myalgia, early fatigue, painful cramps, weakness of exercising muscles and myoglobinuria.

**Pompe Disease (GSD-II)** caused by an **accumulation of glycogen** in the lysosome due to deficiency of the lysosomal acid  $\alpha$ -1,4-glucosidase enzyme. Damages to muscle and nerve cells throughout the body. The build-up of glycogen causes progressive muscle weakness (myopathy) throughout the body and affects various body tissues, particularly heart, skeletal muscles, liver and nervous system.



# Glycogen Synthesis

Liver glycogen synthesis involves a series of conversions from

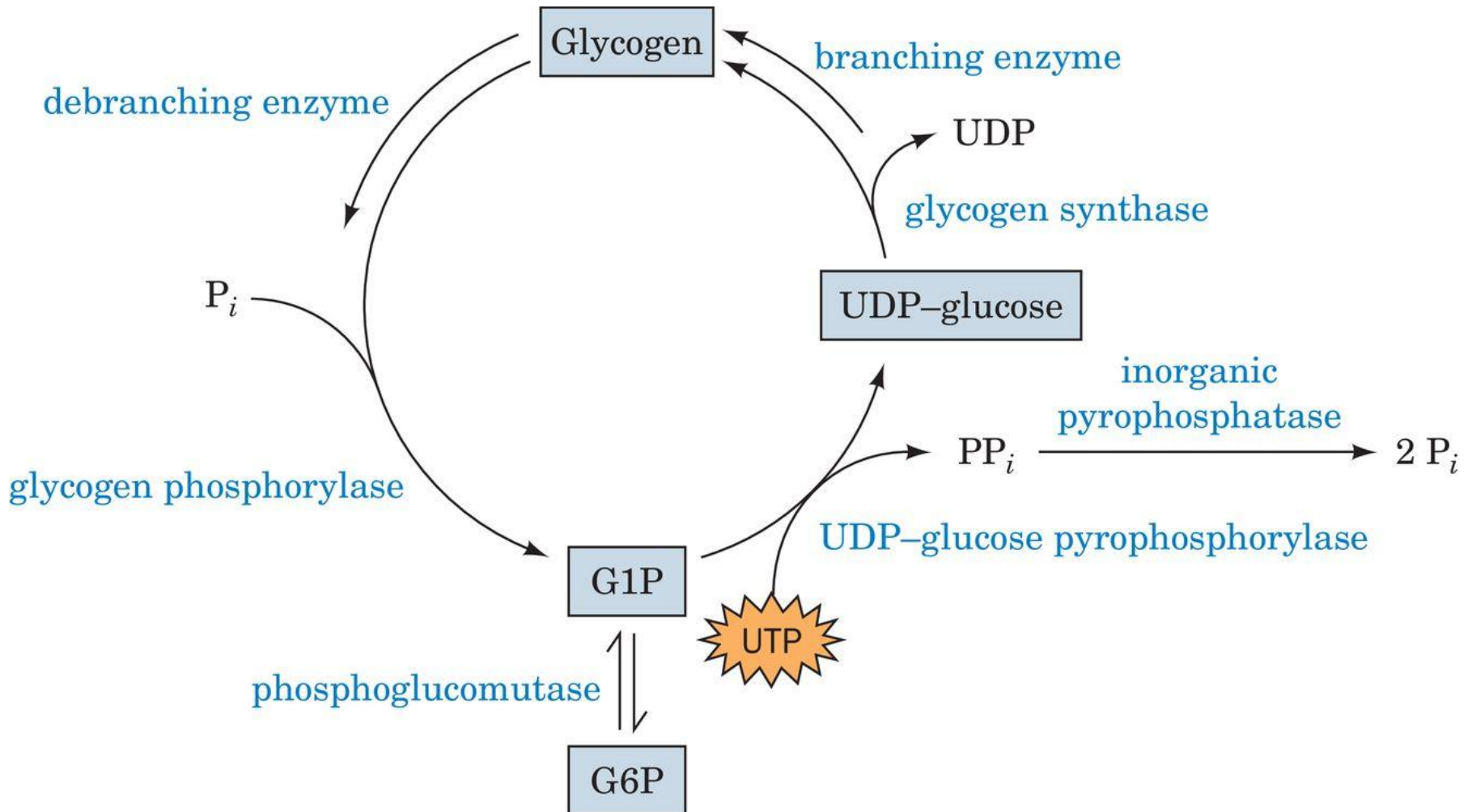
glucose → glucose-6-phosphate → UDP–glucose → glycogen

- UDP–glucose is an activated molecule.
- Glycogen is extended from a primer and by the protein glycogenin.

Glycogenosynthesis is ensured by the intervention of three enzymatic activities:

- 1) UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase
- 2) Glycogen synthetase (or synthase)
- 3) Glycogen branching enzyme

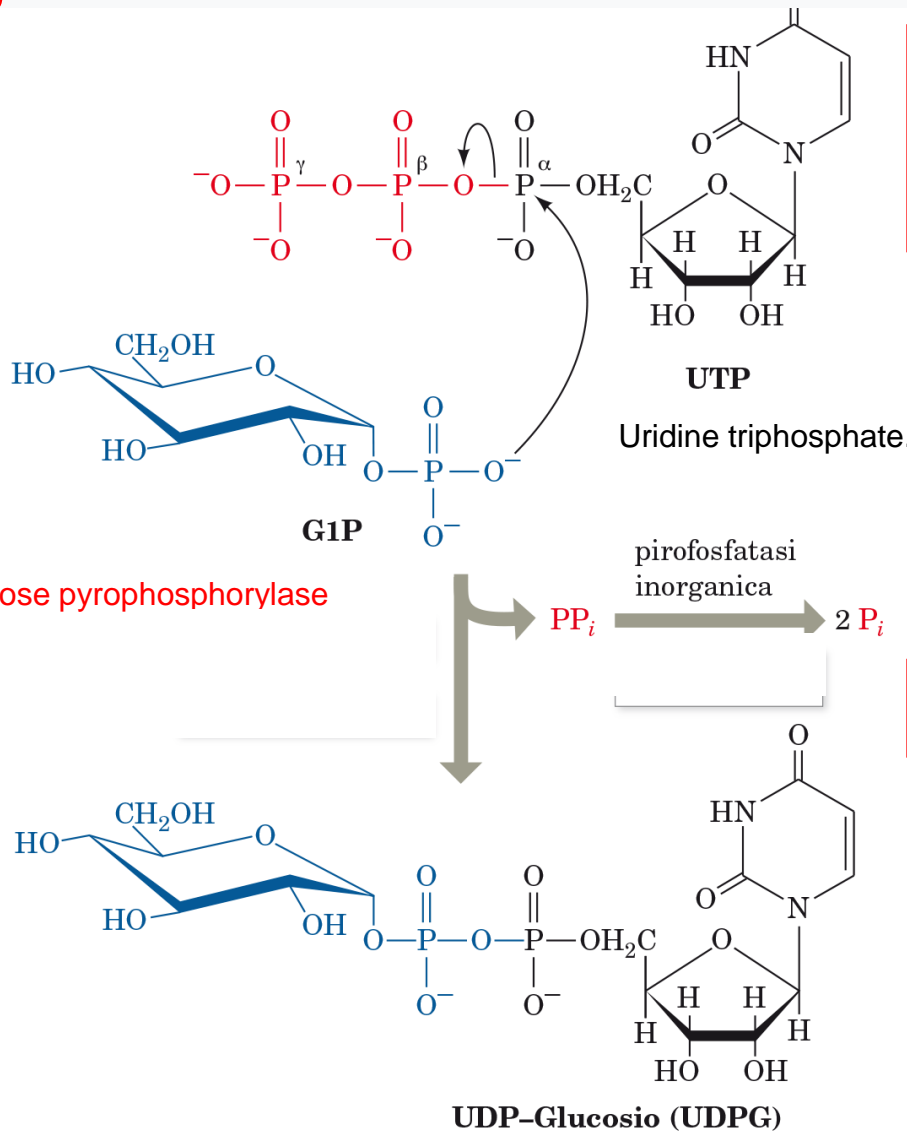
# Opposing Glycogen Pathways: Synthesis & Degradation





# 1) UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase

The biosynthesis of glycogen goes through the formation of a **sugar bound to a nucleotide**



Glucose 1 phosphate is converted to UDP-glucose by the action of **UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase**, in a key step of glycogen biosynthesis.

The **negatively charged oxygen** on the sugar phosphate acts as a nucleophile, attacking the phosphate of the nucleoside triphosphate and displacing pyrophosphate.

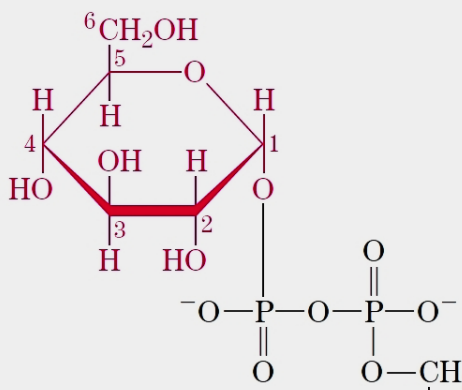
Pyrophosphate is rapidly hydrolyzed by **inorganic pyrophosphatase**

The hydrolysis of pyrophosphate to P<sub>i</sub> makes the **EXERGONIC** reaction (-19kJ / mol) therefore spontaneous

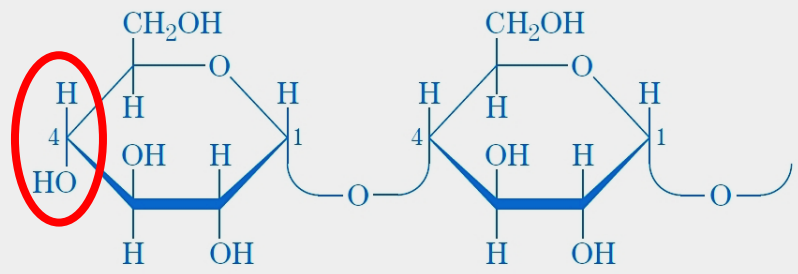
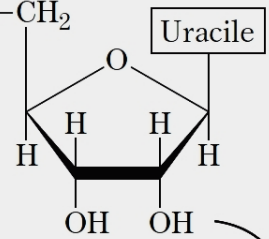
## 2) Glycogen synthetase (or synthase)

UDP-glucose is the immediate donor of glucose residues in the reaction catalyzed by glycogen synthase,

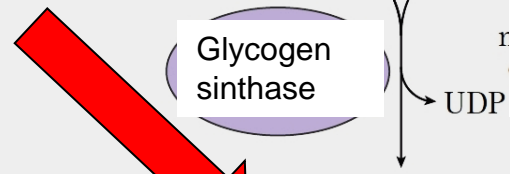
Glycogen synthase transfers a glucose residue from UDP-glucose to a nonreducing end of a branched glycogen molecule



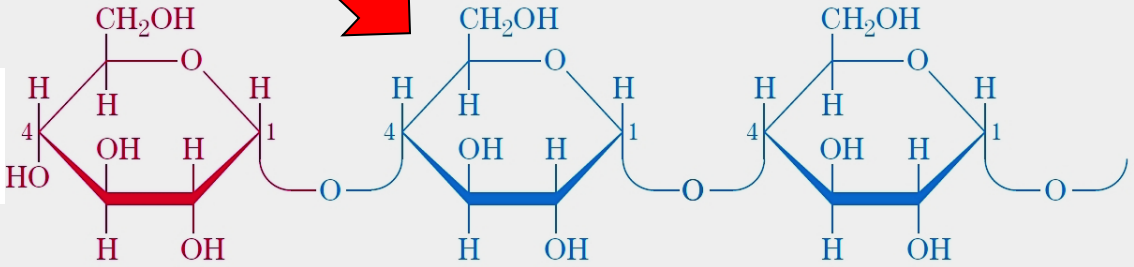
UDP-glucose.



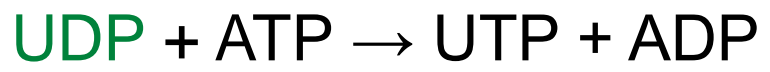
Nonreducing end of a glycogen chain with n residues (n > 4)



New nonreducing end



Elongated glycogen with n + 1 residues



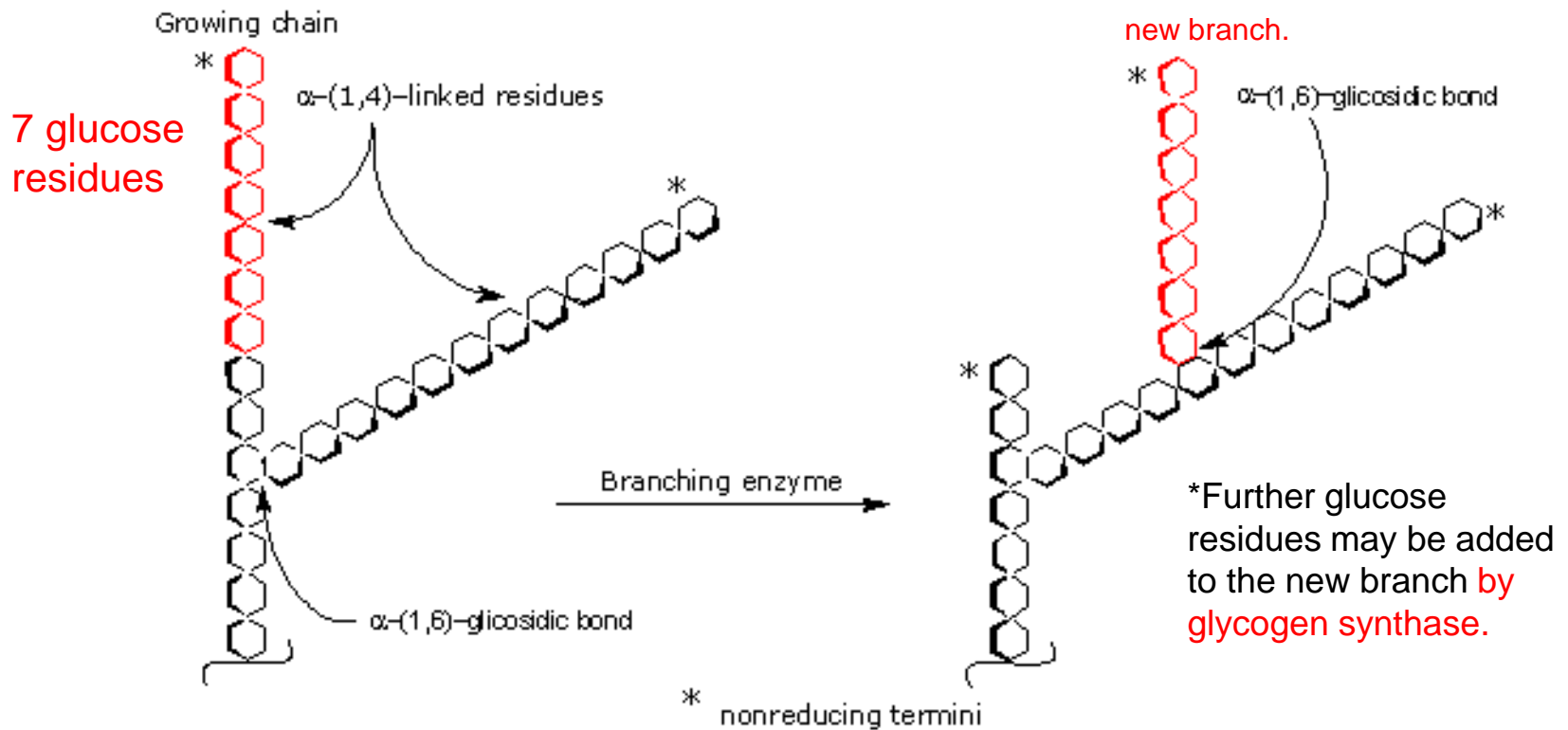


**Glycogen synthase** can not make (1->6) bonds at the branch points of glycogen.

### 3) Glycogen branching enzyme

also called **amylo (1->4) to (1->6) transglycosylase**, or **glycosyl- (4->6) transferase**.

**Glycogen-branching** enzyme catalyzes transfer of a **terminal fragment of 6 or 7 glucose residues** from the nonreducing end of a glycogen branch having at least **11 residues** to the **C-6 hydroxyl group of a glucose residue** at a more interior position of the same or another glycogen chain, thus creating a new branch.

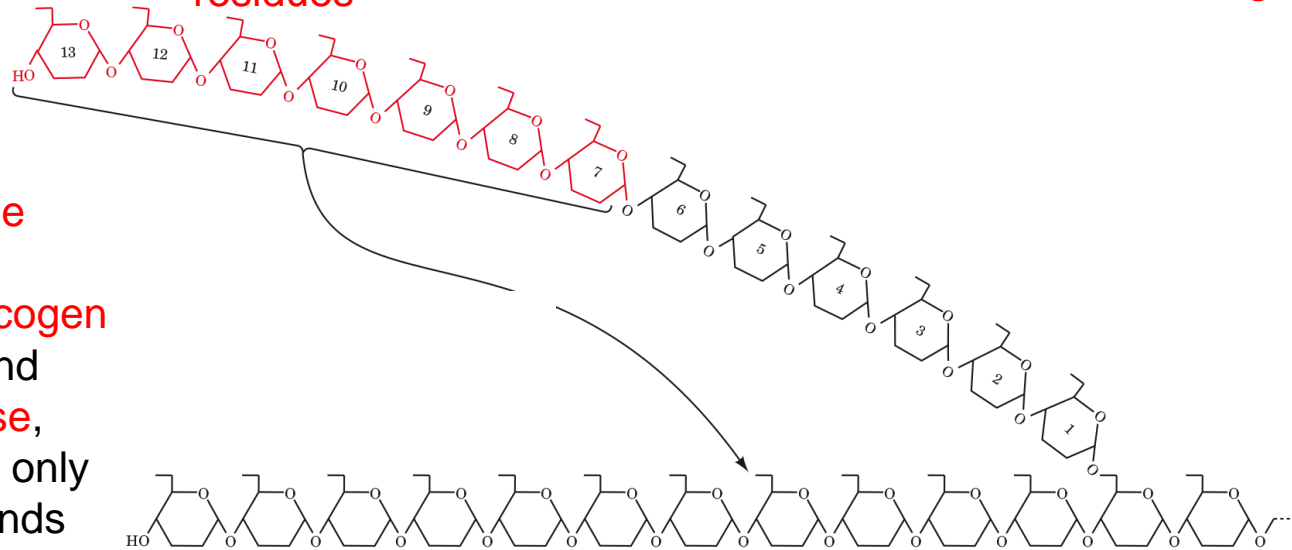




# Glycogen-branching enzyme,

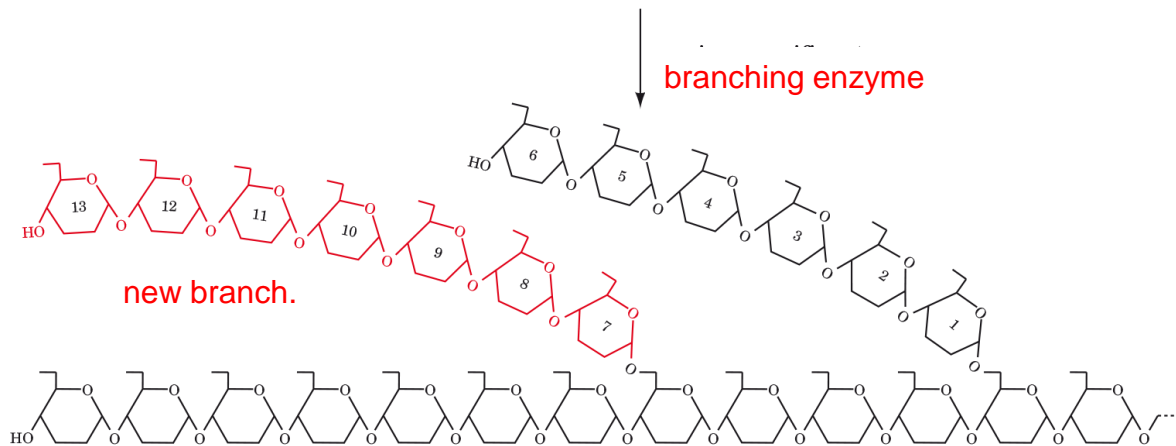
The biological effect of branching is to make the glycogen molecule **more soluble** and to increase the number of **nonreducing ends**.

7 glucose residues



This increases the number of sites accessible to **glycogen phosphorylase** and **glycogen synthase**, both of which act only at nonreducing ends

branching enzyme

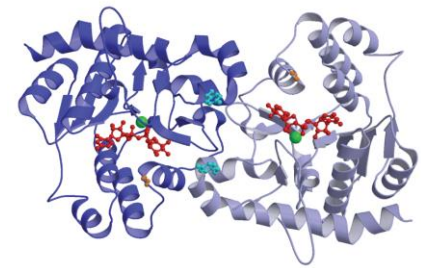


new branch.





# GLYCOGENIN



It is a protein of **332 amino acids** that acts as a trigger for the attack of the first glucose molecule, but is also endowed with enzymatic activity

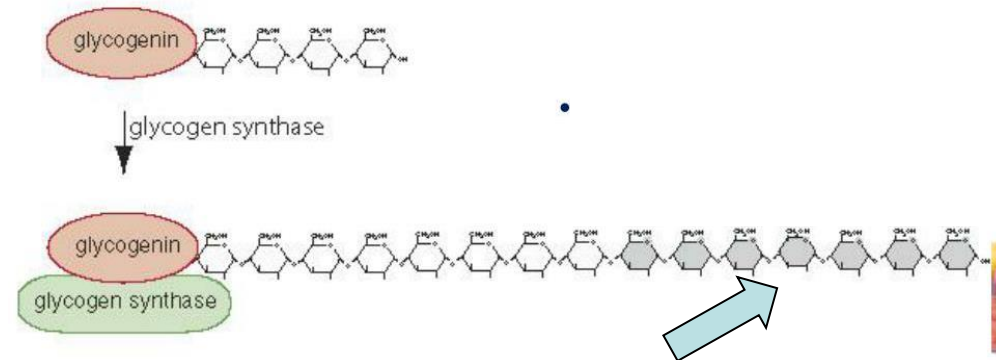
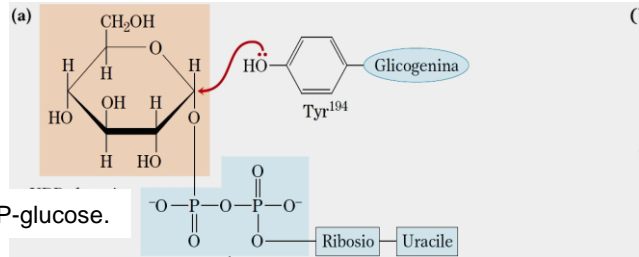
1) **Glycosyl transferase activity** (transfers the glucose residue from UDP-glucose to the OH group of a tyrosine residue (Tyr 194))

2) **Chain extension activity** (adds 7 glucose residues provided by UDP-glucose)

In solution it has a dimeric form and each monomer has catalytic activity mediated by a cofactor,  $Mn^{2+}$

1) Binding of UDP-glucose to tyrosine 194 of glycogenin (glycosyl transferase activity)

2) Binding of glycogenin to glycogen synthase



3) Glycogenin adds 7 glucose residues to the nascent chain

4) Dissociation of glycogenin from glycogen synthase

5) Glycogen synthase lengthens the chain

6) **Glycogen branching enzyme** creates the branching

