

Amino Acid Degradation

K,W

- Intermediates of the **central metabolic pathway**
- Some amino acids result in more than one intermediate.
- Ketogenic amino acids can be converted to ketone bodies.

Seven to **Acetyl-CoA** Leu, **Ile**, **Thr**, Lys, **Phe**, **Tyr**, **Trp**

- Glucogenic amino acids can be converted to glucose.

Six to **pyruvate**¹ Ala, Cys, Gly, Ser, **Thr**, **Trp**

Five to **α-ketoglutarate**² Arg, Glu, Gln, His, Pro

Four to **succinyl-CoA** **Ile**, Met, **Thr**, Val

Two to **fumarate**³ **Phe**, **Tyr**

Two to **oxaloacetate**⁴ Asp, Asn

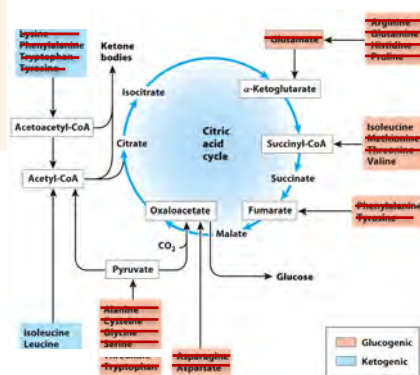
1. Transaminase/Deaminase Family
2. Glu Family
3. Pyruvate Family
4. α-ketobutyric Family
5. Aromatic Family
6. α-ketoadipic Family
7. Branched-chain Family

¹Pyruvate family

²Glu family

³Aromatic family

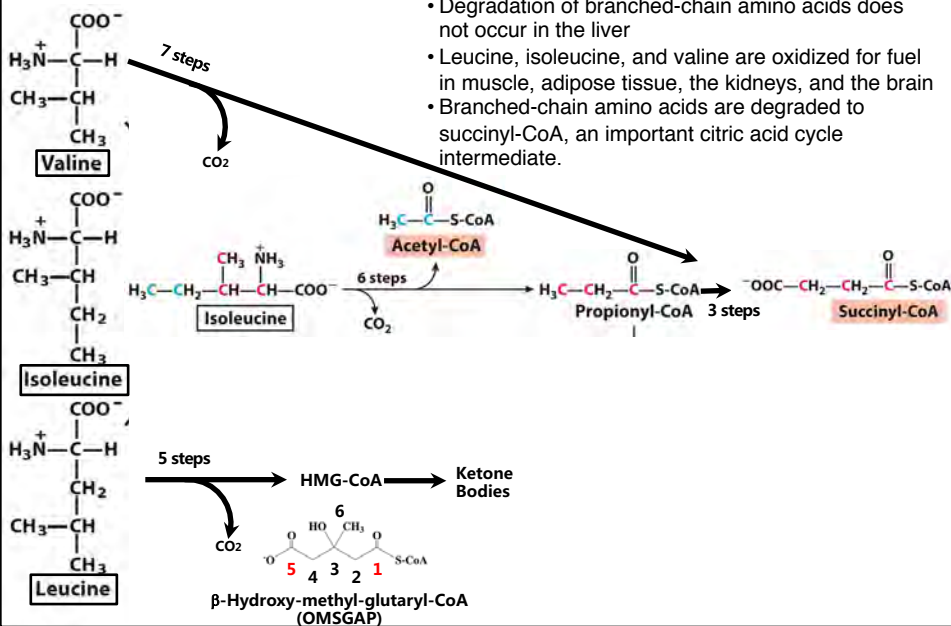
⁴Trans-/de-aminase family

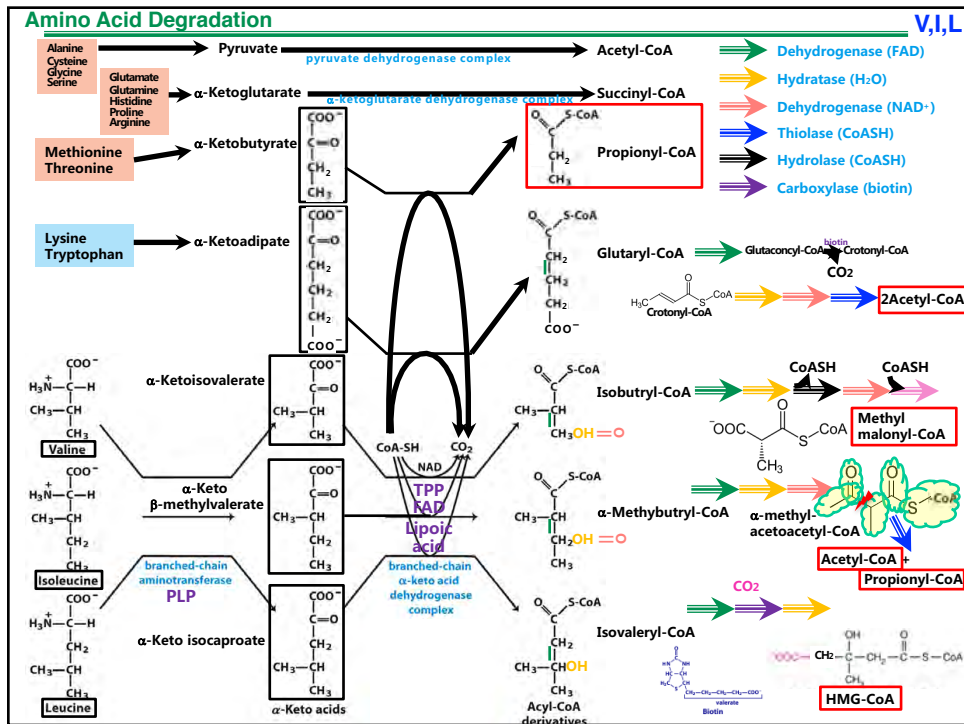
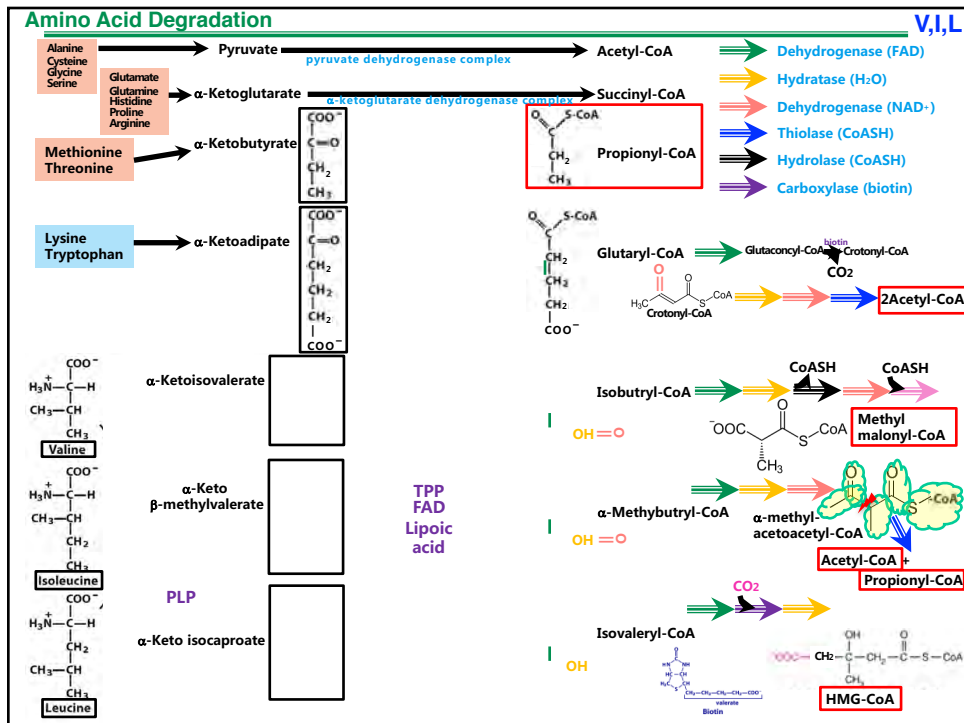


Amino Acid Degradation

V,I,L

- Degradation of branched-chain amino acids does not occur in the liver
- Leucine, isoleucine, and valine are oxidized for fuel in muscle, adipose tissue, the kidneys, and the brain
- Branched-chain amino acids are degraded to succinyl-CoA, an important citric acid cycle intermediate.





Amino Acid Degradation

V,I,L

- Intermediates of the **central metabolic pathway**
- Some amino acids result in more than one intermediate.
- Ketogenic amino acids can be converted to ketone bodies.

Seven to **Acetyl-CoA** Leu, **Ile**, **Thr**, Lys, **Phe**, **Tyr**, **Trp**

- Glucogenic amino acids can be converted to glucose.

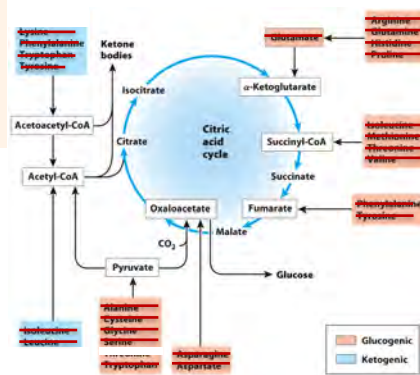
Six to **pyruvate**¹ Ala, Cys, Gly, Ser, **Thr**, **Trp**

Five to **α-ketoglutarate**² Arg, Glu, Gln, His, Pro

Four to **succinyl-CoA** **Ile**, Met, **Thr**, Val

Two to **fumarate**³ **Phe**, **Tyr**

Two to **oxaloacetate**⁴ Asp, Asn



¹Pyruvate family

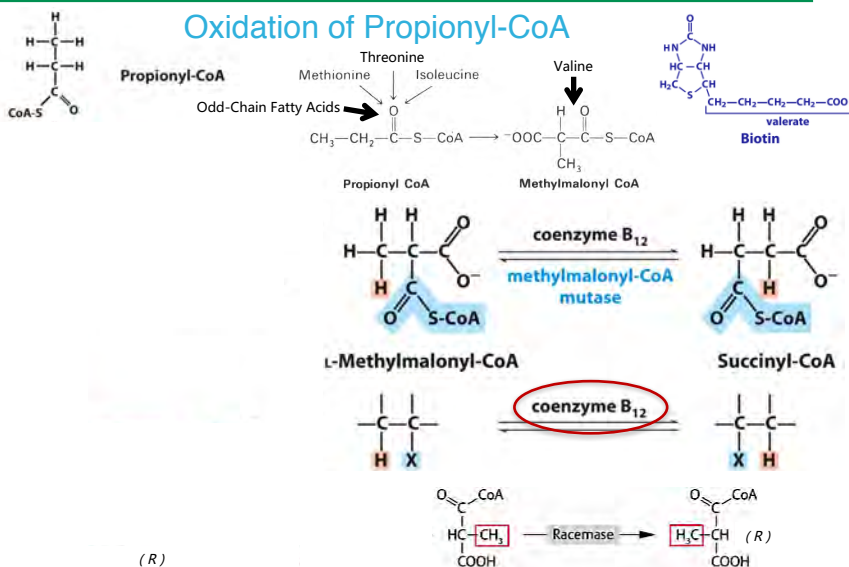
²Glu family

³Aromatic family

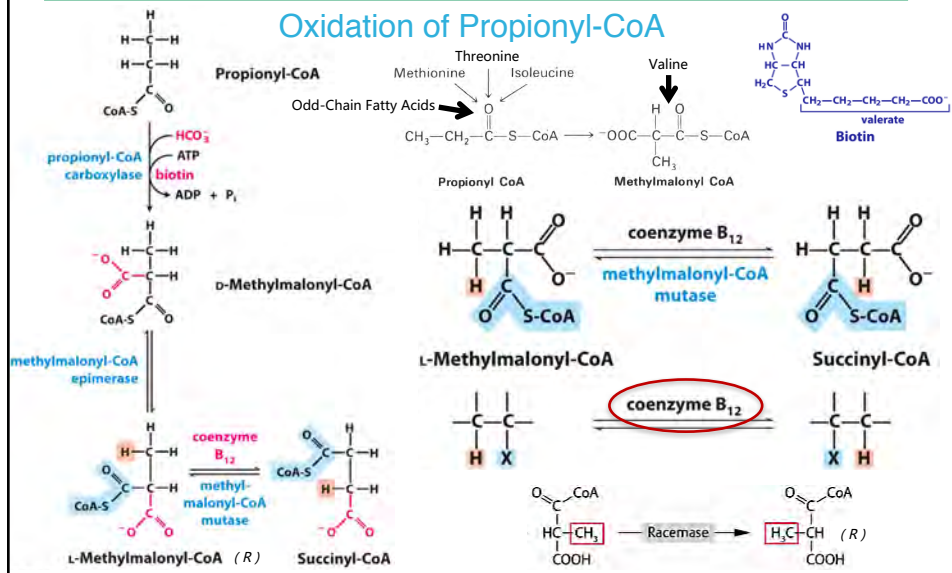
⁴Trans-/de-aminase family

Amino Acid Degradation Meets Fatty Acid Degradation

Oxidation of Propionyl-CoA

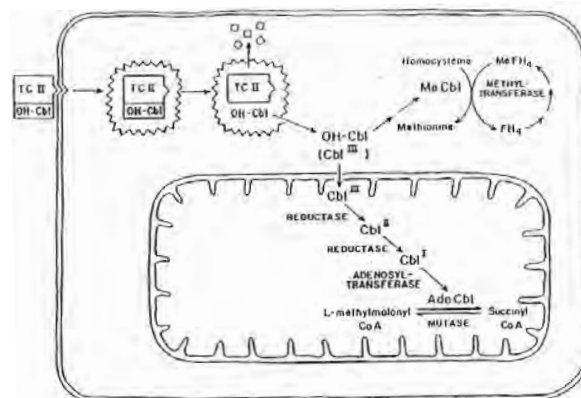


Amino Acid Degradation Meets Fatty Acid Degradation



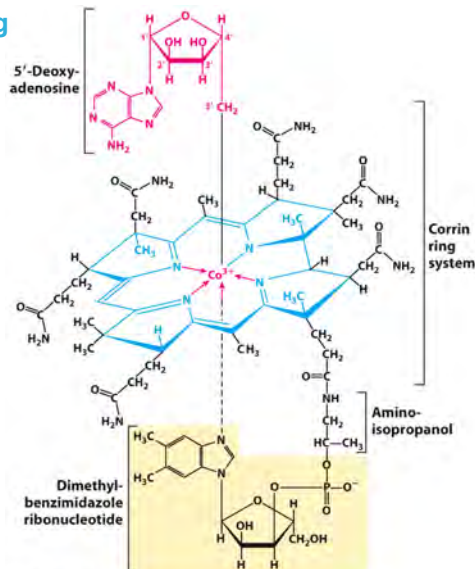
Amino Acid Degradation Meets Fatty Acid Degradation

Only a handful of enzymes
require Coenzyme B₁₂

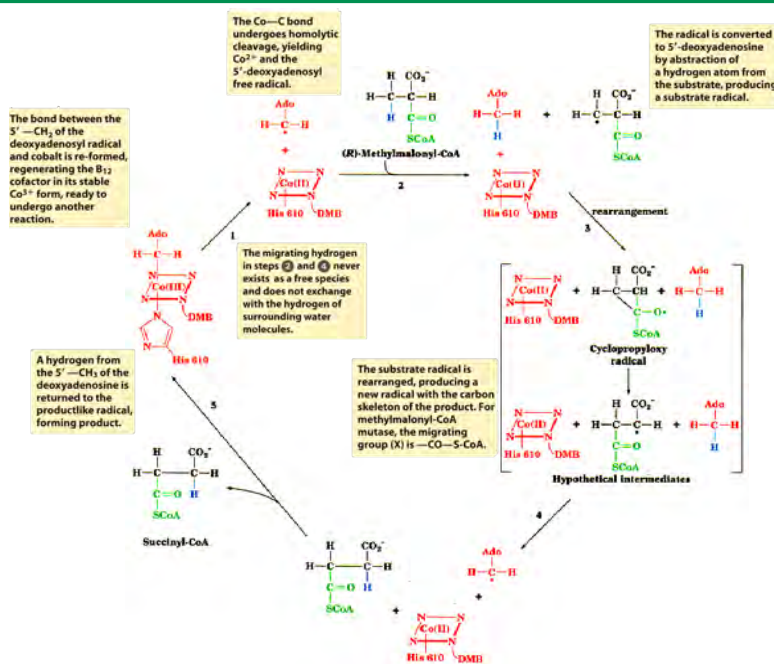


Amino Acid Degradation Meets Fatty Acid Degradation

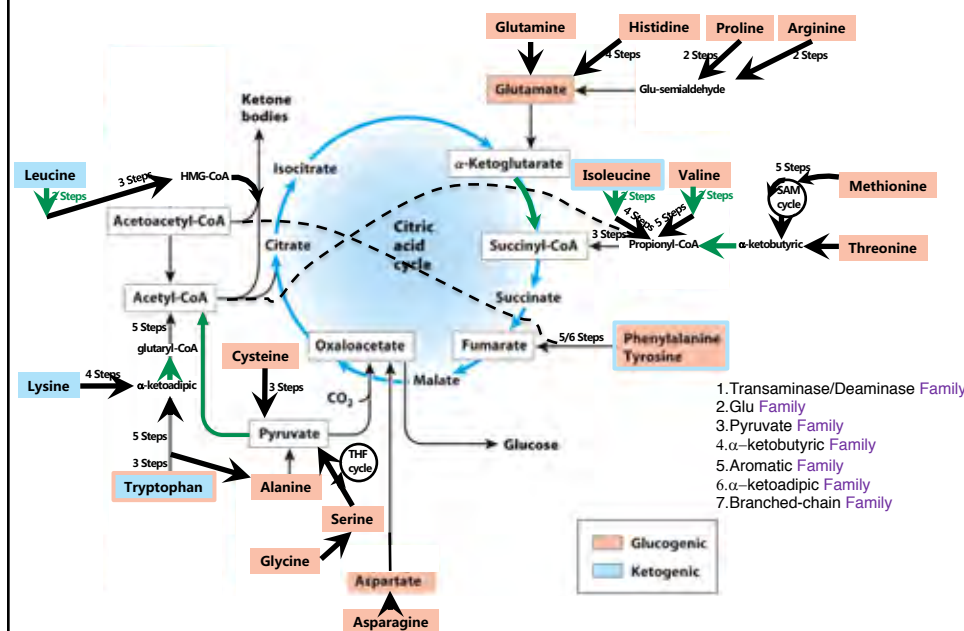
Complex Cobalt-Containing Compound: Coenzyme B₁₂



Amino Acid Degradation Meets Fatty Acid Degradation



Amino Acid Degradation: Overview



Amino Acid Degradation: Overview

TABLE 18-2

Some Human Genetic Disorders Affecting Amino Acid Catabolism

Medical condition	Approximate incidence (per 100,000 births)	Defective process	Defective enzyme	Symptoms and effects
Albinism	<3	Melanin synthesis from tyrosine	Tyrosine 3-monooxygenase (tyrosinase)	Lack of pigmentation; white hair, pink skin
Alkaptonuria	<0.4	Tyrosine degradation	Homogentisate 1,2-dioxygenase	Dark pigment in urine; late-developing arthritis
Argininemia	<0.5	Urea synthesis	Arginase	Mental retardation
Argininosuccinic acidemia	<1.5	Urea synthesis	Argininosuccinase	Vomiting; convulsions
Carbamoyl phosphate synthetase I deficiency	<0.5	Urea synthesis	Carbamoyl phosphate synthetase I	Lethargy; convulsions; early death
Homocystinuria	<0.5	Methionine degradation	Cystathionine β-synthase	Faulty bone development; mental retardation
Maple syrup urine disease (branched chain ketoaciduria)	<0.4	Isoleucine, leucine, and valine degradation	Branched-chain α-keto acid dehydrogenase complex	Vomiting; convulsions; mental retardation; early death
Methylmalonic acidemia	<0.5	Conversion of propionyl-CoA to succinyl-CoA	Methylmalonyl-CoA mutase	Vomiting; convulsions; mental retardation; early death
Phenylketonuria	<8	Conversion of phenylalanine to tyrosine	Phenylalanine hydroxylase	Neonatal vomiting; mental retardation

Amino Acid Degradation: Overview

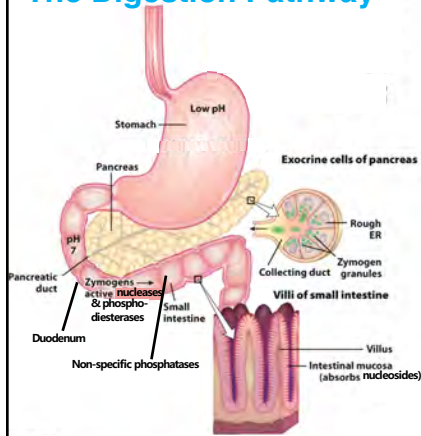
We learned that:

- amino acids from protein are an important **energy source** in carnivorous animals
- the first step of AA catabolism is transfer of the NH_3 via PLP-dependent aminotransferase usually to α -ketoglutarate to yield L-glutamate
- in most mammals, toxic ammonia is quickly recaptured into carbamoyl phosphate and passed into the **urea cycle**
- amino acids are degraded to pyruvate, acetyl-CoA, α -ketoglutarate, succinyl-CoA, and/or oxaloacetate
- amino acids yielding acetyl-CoA are ketogenic
- amino acids yielding other end products are glucogenic
- genetic defects in amino degradation pathways result in a number of human diseases
- amino acid catabolism is dependent on a variety of cofactors, including THF, ado-Met (SAM), Cbl, and **PLP**

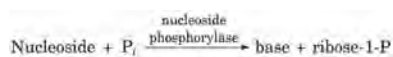
Nucleotide Degradation

Nucleotide Degradation

The Digestion Pathway

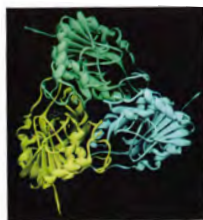


- Ingestion of food always includes nucleic acids.
- As you know from BI 421, the low pH of the stomach does not affect the polymer.
- In the duodenum, zymogens are converted to nucleases and the nucleotides are converted to nucleosides by non-specific phosphatases or nucleotidases.
- Only the non-ionic nucleosides are taken up in the villi of the small intestine.
- In the cell, the first step is the release of the ribose sugar, most effectively done by a non-specific **nucleoside phosphorylase** to give ribose 1-phosphate (Rib1P).
- **Most ingested nucleic acids are degraded.**



Nucleotide Degradation: Overview

Fate of Nucleic Acids:



Purine Nucleoside Phosphorylase

Nucleotides

P_i

Nucleosides

P_i

α D-Rib 1-P (or Rib) & α D-dRib 1-P (or dRib)

Bases

Purine & Pyrimidine Salvage Pathway

Oxidation

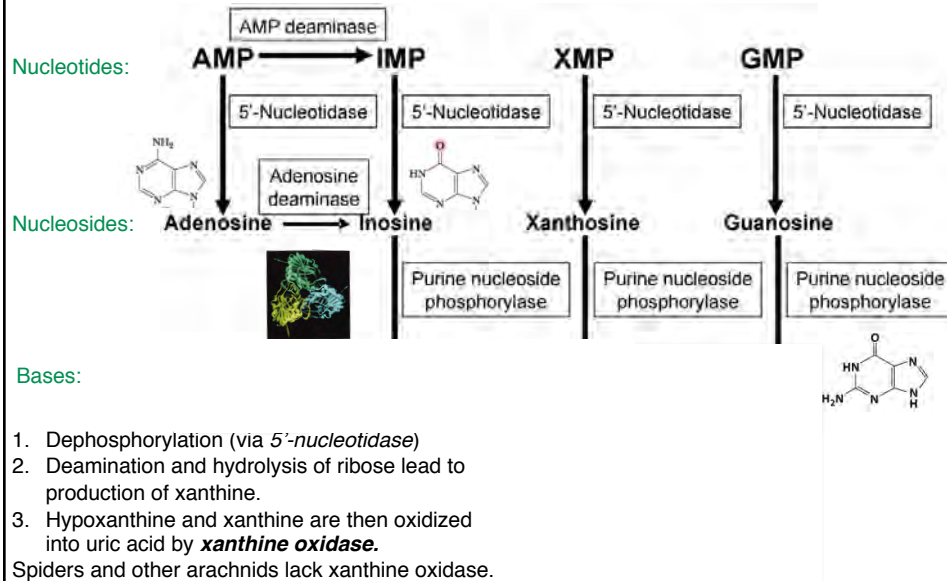
Once broken down to the nitrogenous bases they are either:

1. Salvaged for recycling into new nucleic acids (most cells; from internal, not ingested, nucleic acids).
2. Oxidized (primarily in the intestine and liver) by first converting to nucleosides, then to
 - Uric Acid (purines)
 - Propionyl CoA (pyrimidines)

The Salvage Pathways are in competition with the *de novo* biosynthetic pathways, and are both **ANABOLISM**

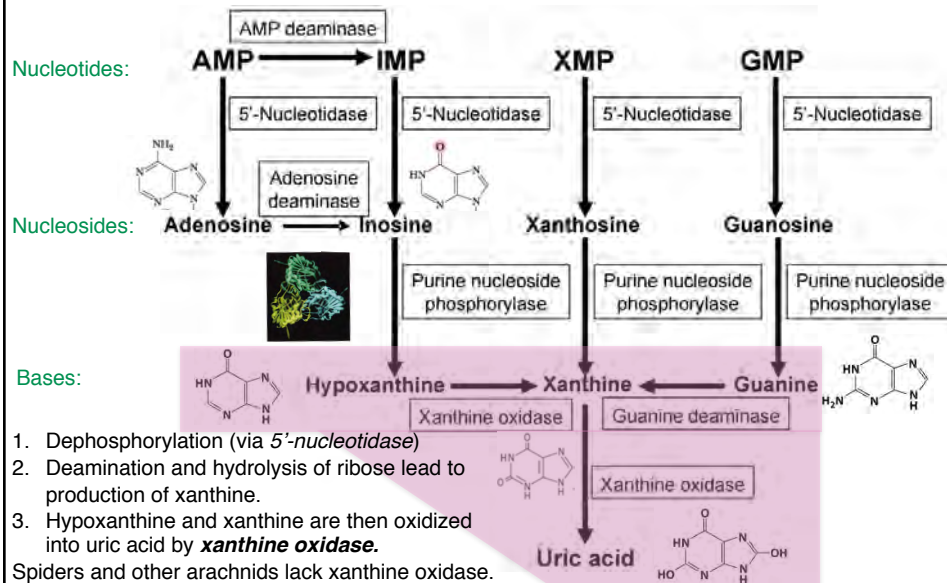
Nucleotide Degradation

Catabolism of Purines



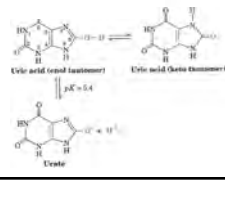
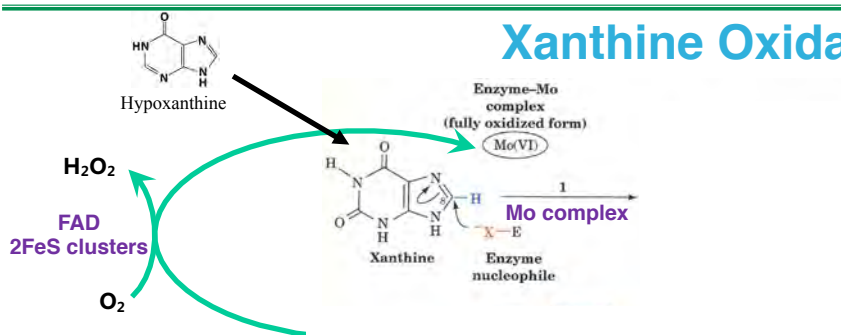
Nucleotide Degradation

Catabolism of Purines



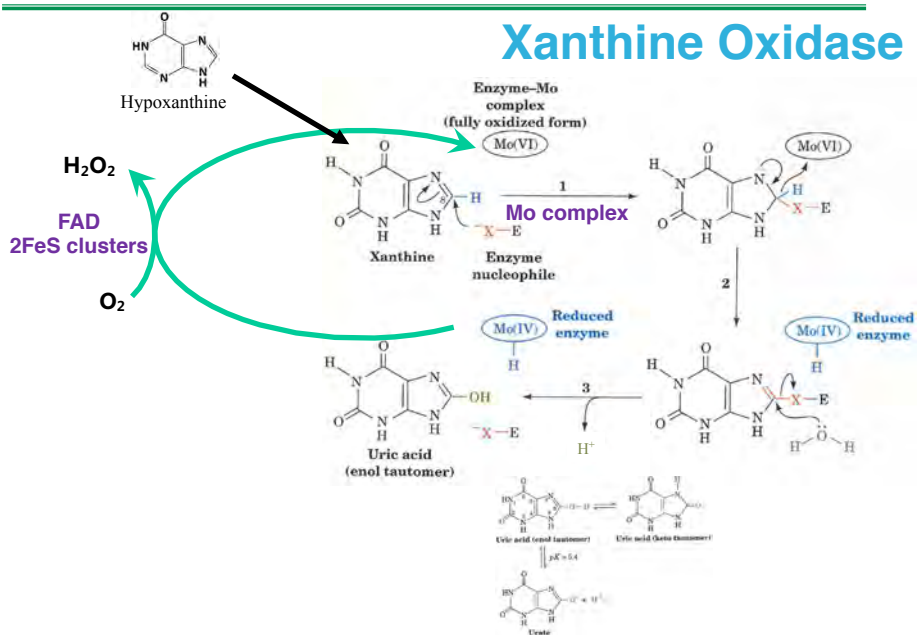
Nucleotide Degradation

Xanthine Oxidase



Nucleotide Degradation

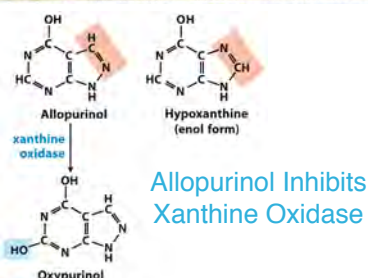
Xanthine Oxidase



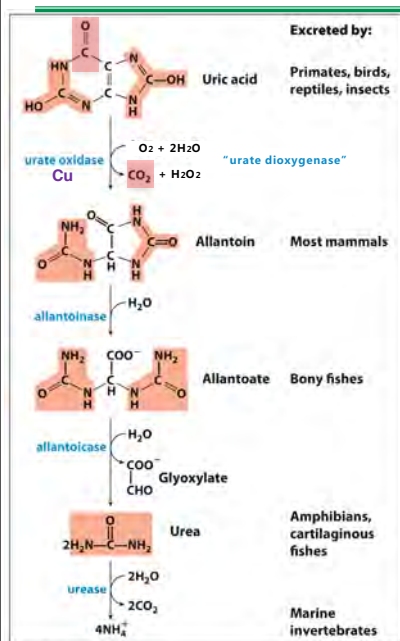
Nucleotide Degradation

Excess Uric Acid causes Gout

- Painful joints (often in toes) due to deposits of sodium urate crystals
- Primarily affects males
- May involve genetic under-excretion of urate and/or may involve overconsumption of fructose
- Treated with avoidance of purine-rich foods (seafood, liver) or avoidance of fructose
- Also treated with xanthine oxidase inhibitor **allopurinol**



Nucleotide Degradation



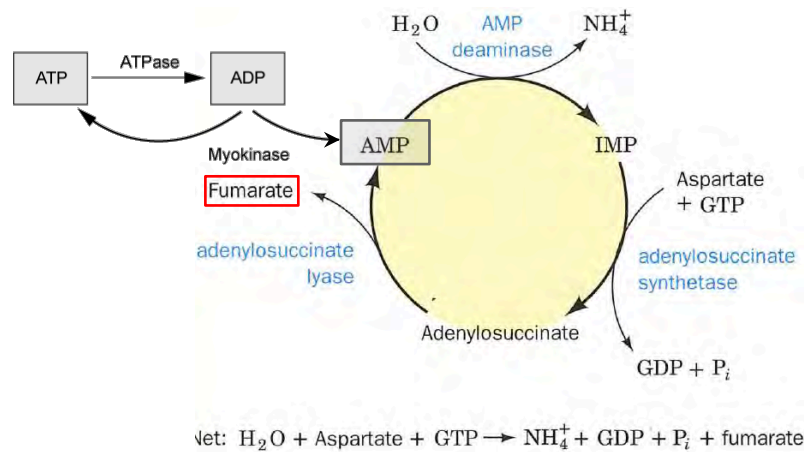
- Degree of further oxidation of uric acid is organism dependent.
- Birds and insects don't excrete amino-acid nitrogen as urea, but as uric acid to conserve water.

Conversion of Uric Acid to Allantoin, Allantoate, and Urea

Nucleotide Degradation

In muscle

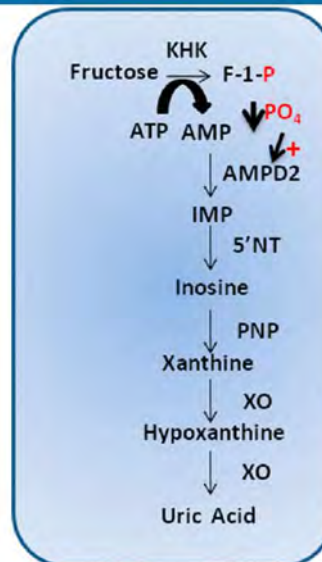
Purine Nucleotide Cycle



Nucleotide Degradation

Hyperuricemia

- The interesting connection between sugar metabolism and nitrogen metabolism
- What is even more interesting is that this metabolism is connected to fat metabolism as well
- The production of Uric Acid, by unknown mechanisms, converts liver mitochondria to fatty acid synthesis.



Medscape

Source: Outlines 10 (2014) American Diabetes Association, Inc.

Catabolism of Pyrimidines

Catabolism of Pyrimidines

- Leads to NH_4^+ and urea
- T is degraded to succinyl-CoA.
- U & C is degraded to acetyl-CoA

