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carbohydrates ketone
starch lipid protein amino
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Bio chemistry

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Sheet

Slides

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β -Oxidation of Fatty Acids

The oxidation of fatty acids occurs in 3 steps:

Step 1: Activation of the Fatty acid



- The fatty acid is **activated** by binding to **CoA**. The **high** energy bond that connects the fatty acid to CoA (FA-CoA) is a **thioester** bond.

The **hydrolysis** of the **thioester** bond yields **7.5 Kcal/mol** which is similar to the energy produced after the hydrolysis of **ATP 7.3 kcal/mol**.

To produce this high energy bond, energy in the form of **ATP** is required. ATP is **cleaved** giving **pyrophosphate** (PPi) and **AMP**.



- The **high** energy bond in the ATP is **cleaved forming** another **high** energy bond (thioester). Therefore, the **net** energy difference is *almost 0*. This means that the reaction is at equilibrium where the products and the reactants are **equally** favored.

Naturally, we need the **formation** of **products** to be **favored** which can only be achieved by **decreasing** the products **concentration**.

Therefore, the inorganic pyrophosphate (PPi), is **continuously** broken down into **two** phosphate ions by the inorganic **pyrophosphatase** enzyme. The action of this enzyme means that very **little** PPi remains in the cell, making the **synthesis** of the fatty acyl-CoA **favored**.



- Now, to convert AMP into ADP, the following reaction is considered:



By adding the 2 reactions:



Rule: ATP conversion to AMP + 2 Pi is **equivalent** to hydrolysis of 2 ATP to 2 ADP.

Enzyme used in the first step: Thiokinase (*Acyl CoA Synthetase*; using 2 ATP)

Note: *Synthetase* → Enzyme *requires* ATP, *Synthase* → Enzyme *doesn't* require ATP.

Location of this reaction: At the **outer mitochondrial membrane**, then the **activated** fatty acyl it is transferred into the **mitochondrial matrix** where the **β-oxidation** occurs.

Note: All fatty acyl CoA can diffuse through the **outer membrane**. Then, **short and medium** fatty acyl diffuse normally through the **inner membrane** into the **matrix**. However, the **inner membrane** is **impermeable to long-chain acyl groups**.

Last Product: **Fatty Acyl CoA** is produced from the first step (FA-CoA).

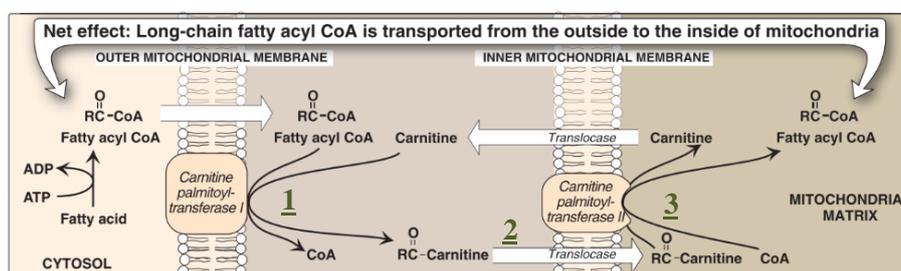
Step 2: Transport of long chain Acyl CoA across inner mitochondrial membrane.

The **inner mitochondrial membrane** is **impermeable** to **long** chained Acyl CoA. A **carrier** system is needed to transport them into the mitochondrial matrix, which is the **Carnitine Shuttle**.

The Carnitine Shuttle consists of:

- a- **Carrier molecule:** Carnitine
- b- **Two enzymes:** Carnitine palmitoyl transferase 1 (*CPT-1*) and Carnitine palmitoyl transferase 2 (*CPT-2*).
- c- **Membrane transport protein:** Translocase.

Steps of Long chain acyl CoA translocation through the Carnitine Shuttle system:



- 1- **CPT-1** transfers the **acyl group** from **CoA** to **carnitine** forming **acylcarnitine**, regenerating **free CoA** in the **intermembranous space**.
- 2- The **translocase**, it transports the **acylcarnitine** into the mitochondrial **matrix** in exchange for **free** carnitine.
- 3- **CPT-2** transfers the **acyl group** from **carnitine** to another **CoA** in the mitochondrial **matrix**, regenerating a **free** carnitine.

Note 1: CPT-1 is found in the outer mitochondrial membrane, while the CPT-2 is found in the inner mitochondrial membrane.

Note 2: The Carnitine Shuttle is inhibited during fatty acid synthesis.

Remember: This shuttle is For Long chain fatty acids, it is not required for medium and short chain fatty acids since they simply diffuse through the inner mitochondrial membrane.

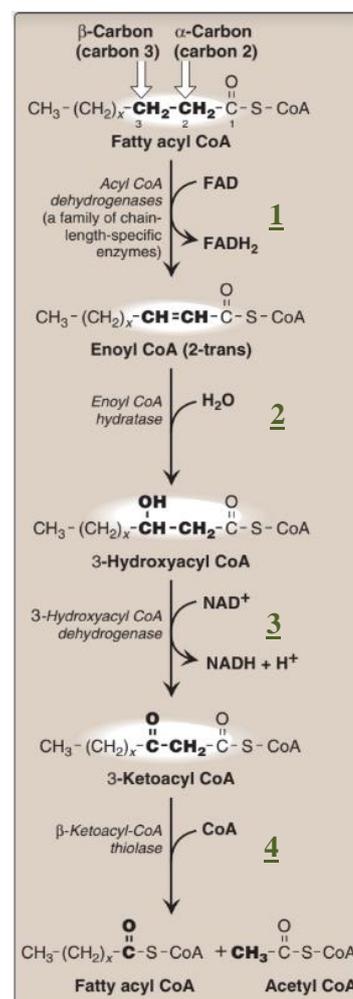
The **fatty Acyl CoA** is in the mitochondrial **matrix** now, further **beta oxidation** of the activated fatty acid will lead to production of **acetyl CoA**, a main intermediate in the TCA cycle.

Step 3: β - Oxidation of fatty acids reactions

Reactions -**shorting** the fatty acid chain by **2 carbons** in **each cycle**- are **repeated**, until we end up with **only** acetyl groups, which is the **purpose** of this beta oxidation. Each cycle consists of **4 reactions**:

- 1- An **oxidation** reaction that produces **FADH₂**, catalyzed by **Acyl CoA dehydrogenase**.
- 2- A **hydration** step catalyzed by **enoyl CoA hydratase**.
- 3- A second **oxidation** reaction that produces **NADH**, catalyzed by a **3-hydroxyacyl CoA dehydrogenase**.
- 4- Finally, a **thiolytic cleavage** that releases a molecule of **acetyl CoA**, catalyzed by **thiolase**.

Note: The last step involving the **cleavage** of ketoacyl CoA, is catalyzed by **thiolase** which cleaves the bond by **adding CoA**, which produces an **activated** fatty acyl. However, if a **hydrolase enzyme** is used cleaving the bond by adding **water**, this would result in an **inactivated** fatty acyl that needs to be **activated again** to be oxidized.



Calculating Energy Yield from FA Oxidation

This is only for FA with even # of carbon atoms

Important rules to calculate any Energy Yield from saturated FA Oxidation:

- **Activation** of the Fatty acid **consumes 2 ATP**.
- **Each cycle** of reactions releases: **2 carbon atoms, 1 NADH and 1 FADH₂**
 - Number of **cycles** needed to **degrade** the fatty acid to Acetyl CoA's = $(\frac{\# \text{ of Carbons}}{2}) - 1$
 - Number of **NADH** and **FADH₂** is **equal** to the number of **cycles**.
- In each cycle, **1 acetyl CoA** is produced except for the **last cycle** where the number of carbons **equals 4**, thus this cycle will yield **2 CoA**.
 - Number of **acetyl CoA** = $(\frac{\# \text{ of Carbons}}{2})$

Recall: 1 FADH₂ = 2 ATP, 1 NADH = 3 ATP, 1 Acetyl CoA = 12 ATP.

Example: Calculate the **energy yield** from the **oxidation** of a **16-Carbon** fatty acid (palmitate).

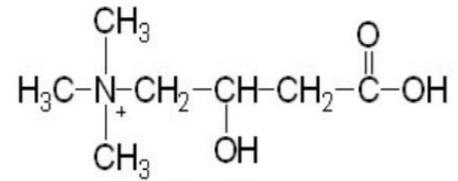
- Number of **Cycles** to **degrade** the FA = $\frac{16}{2} - 1 = 7$
- Number of **acetyl CoA** molecules = $\frac{16}{2} = 8 \rightarrow 96 \text{ ATP}$
- **FADH₂** = 7 $\rightarrow 14 \text{ ATP}$
NADH = 7 $\rightarrow 21 \text{ ATP}$
- Activation of the fatty acid **consumed 2 ATP**
 - Net **129 ATP** is yielded per mol of palmitate.

Note: Palmitic acid produces 129 ATP when oxidized, while glucose produces only 38 ATP. That is why it is more efficient to store energy in the form of Fats rather than carbohydrates.

Carnitine

Sources:

- 1- Carnitine can be obtained from the **diet**, where it is found primarily in **meat** products.
- 2- Carnitine can also be **synthesized** from the amino acids **lysine** and **methionine** by an enzymatic pathway found in the **liver** and the kidneys.



Functions:

- 1- **Export** of **branched** chain acyl groups from **mitochondria**.
- 2- **Excretion** of acyl groups that **cannot** be metabolized in the body.
- 3- In the **Carnitine Shuffle** system, where it **transports fatty acyls**.

Carnitine Deficiencies:

a- **Secondary Deficiencies** (acquired after birth):

- 1- In patients with liver disease causing **decreased synthesis** of carnitine.
- 2- In individuals suffering from **malnutrition** or those on strictly vegetarian diets.
- 3- In those with an **increased requirement** for carnitine as a result of, for example, pregnancy, severe infections, burns, or trauma.
- 4- In those who undergo **hemodialysis**, which removes carnitine from the blood.

We can evade this deficiency by administering **medium and short Fatty acid chains** which **don't** require Carnitine.

b- **Primary (Congenital) Deficiencies** (acquired since birth):

- 1- Impaired enzymes that **synthesize carnitine**.
- 2- Impaired **reuptake** by cells from the plasma by cardiac and skeletal muscle and the kidneys.
- 3- Impaired renal tubular **reabsorption** of carnitine causing it to be excreted.

These details weren't mentioned by the doctor, he mentioned them fast and briefly...

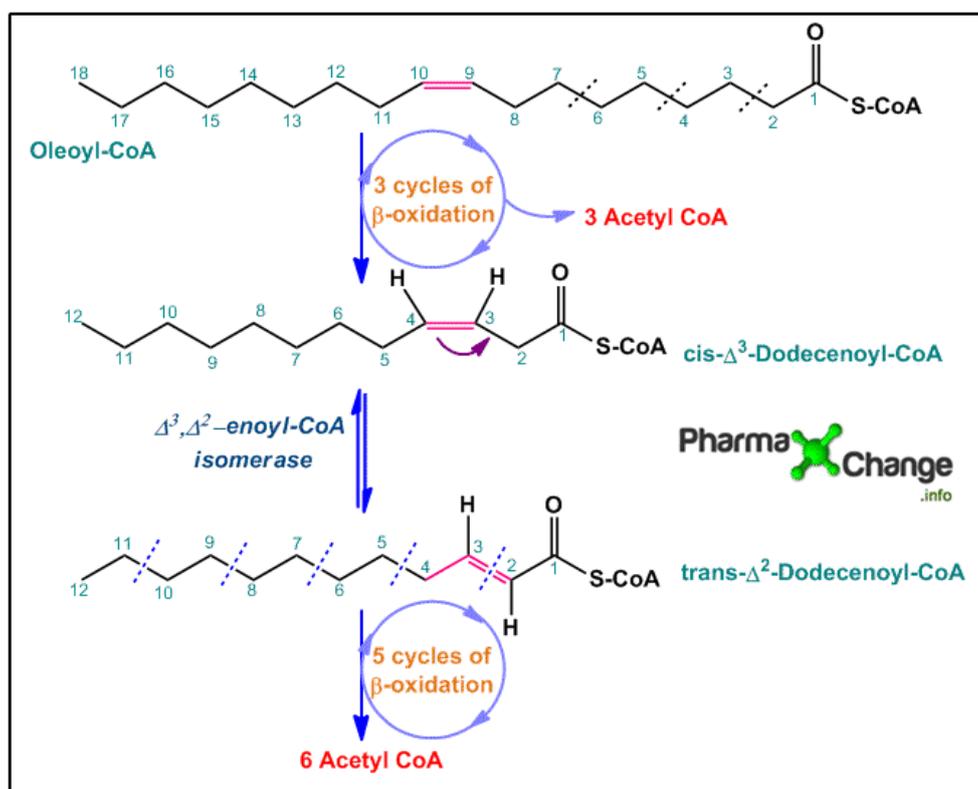
CPT-1 deficiency affects the **liver**, where an inability to use Long Chain FA for **fuel** greatly impairs the tissue's ability to **synthesize** glucose during a **fast**. This can lead to severe **hypoglycemia**, **coma**, and **death**.

CPT-2 deficiency occurs primarily in **cardiac and skeletal muscle**, where symptoms of carnitine deficiency range from **cardiomyopathy** to **muscle weakness**.

Oxidation of Unsaturated FA

1- Oleic Acid (18 Carbons)

- Oleic acid has a double bond at **carbon #9**, this means that in the first **8** carbons **no** double bonds are present, so we can produce **3 acetyl Co-A** molecules in the **same** way described previously until we end up with the remaining part of the Oleic acid, that is **12 carbons** with a double bond at **carbon #3**.
- Therefore, an **isomerase** is required, which converts the **3-cis** derivative obtained after 3 rounds of β -oxidation to the **2-trans** derivative, which is required as a **substrate** by the **enoyl CoA hydratase** (*rxn #2 of FA oxidation*).
- Afterwards, the reaction proceeds in the **same** way as the oxidation of **saturated** fatty acids that was discussed previously.



2- Linoleic Acid (18 Carbons)

- This fatty acid has **2** double bonds, one at **carbon #9** and the other at **carbon #12**. Just like oleic acid, the first **three cycles** can go on normally, then we get a 12-carbon fatty acid with double bonds at **carbon #3 and #6**.
- Through an **isomerase** the double bond at carbon #3 is **moved** to carbon #2, a 4th cycle can proceed now. The remaining fatty acid is a 10-carbon unit with a single double bond at **carbon #4**.
- A **dehydrogenase** forms **another** double bond at **carbon #2**, now we have **conjugated** double bonds. Then, a **reductase** removes one double bond and moves the other to **carbon #3**. Now an **isomerase** can move the double bond to carbon #2, then the oxidation proceeds normally.

Conclusion: *Oleic acid* requires only an *isomerase*, while *linoleic acid* requires a *reductase*, *dehydrogenase* and an *isomerase*.

