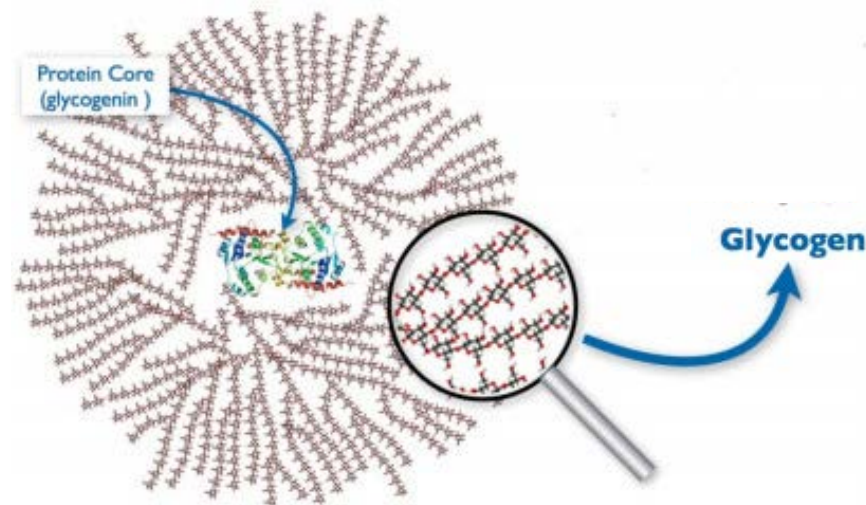




# Glycogen Metabolism



Dr. Nesrin Mwafi

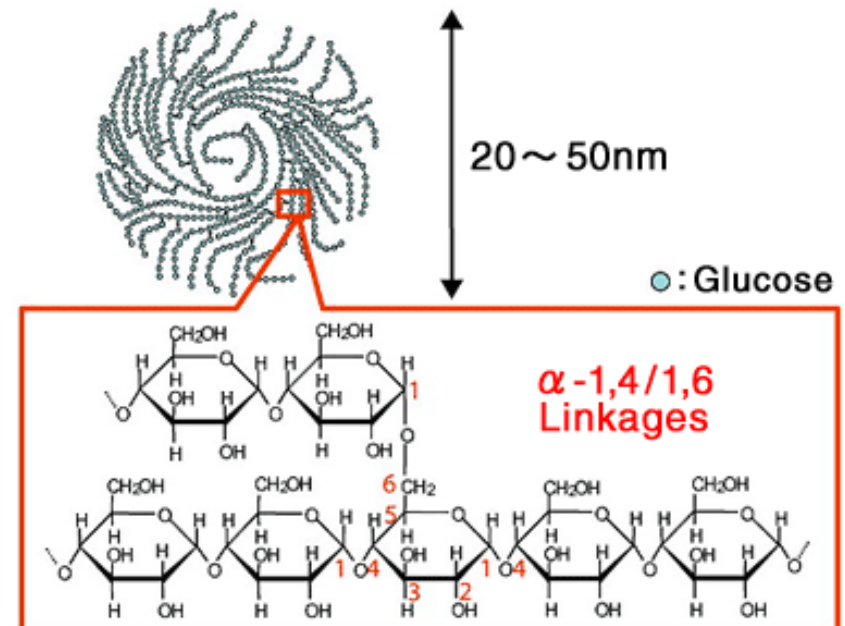
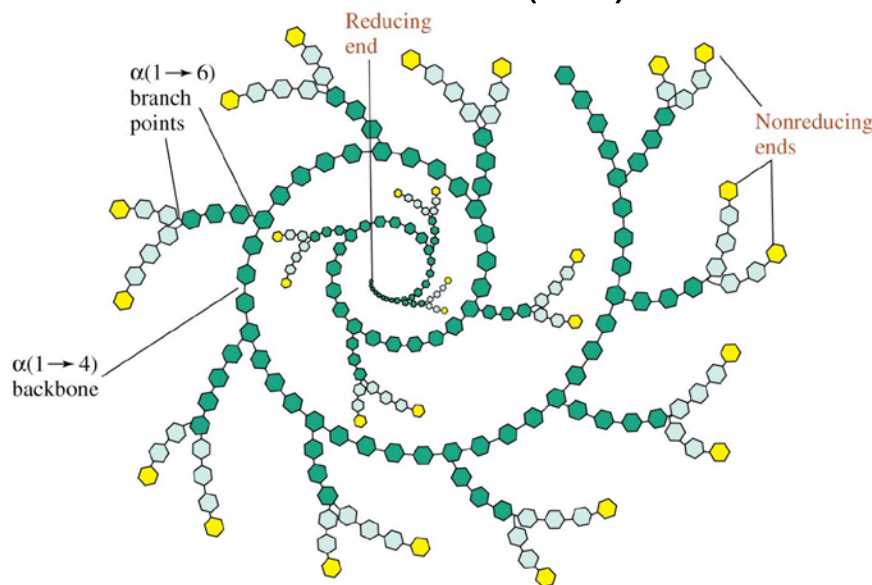
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Department  
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# Glycogen Structure

1-start with reducing end (have free anomeric carbon atom)  
2-branch end → non reducing end

ملوك

- Glycogen is a readily **mobilized** storage form of glucose in animals and human
- It is a **homoglycan** or homopolysaccharide consists of **glucose subunits** most of them are linked by  $\alpha$ -1,4-glycosidic bonds
- Glycogen is a **highly branched polymer** with branch points occurring every **8-14 residues** created by  **$\alpha$ -1,6-glycosidic** bonds
- Glycogen consists of only one reducing end consisting of free anomeric carbon (C1)



# Glycogen Metabolism

brain can store small amount  
glycogen for its own use not for  
other cell

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- Mainly found in skeletal muscle (up to 1-2% of muscle mass) and liver cells (up to 10% of liver mass). It is found in the cytosol as granules ranging in diameter from 10-40 nm
- Other tissues particularly the brain require a constant supply of blood glucose for survival
- Glycogen is synthesized (glycogenesis) when blood glucose is high and glycogen is degraded (glycogenolysis) releasing glucose into the blood stream when blood glucose is low (normal blood glucose level is 80-100 mg/dl)
- This balance between the need and availability is called metabolic homeostasis

# Glucose Transporter Protein



- Glucose transporters (GLUTs) are transmembrane proteins which facilitate the transport of glucose across plasma membrane

IN ADIPOSE TISSUE

GLUCOSE → glycolysis → pyruvate → ACETYL-COA → FATTY ACID

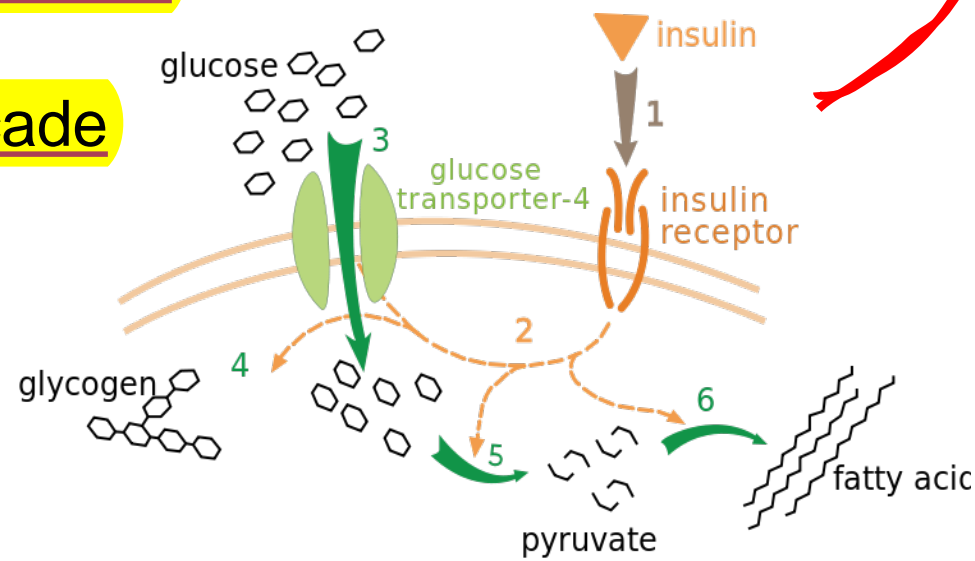
- To date, **12 GLUTs** genes have been identified in human genome which are expressed in various tissues

insulin dependent

- For example, GLUT4 is found primarily in adipose tissues and striated muscles (skeletal and cardiac muscles). It is regulated by insulin: insulin binds

its receptor and initiates downstream signaling cascade

which allows the influx of glucose and consequently stimulates glycogenesis in muscles and fatty acids synthesis in adipose tissue



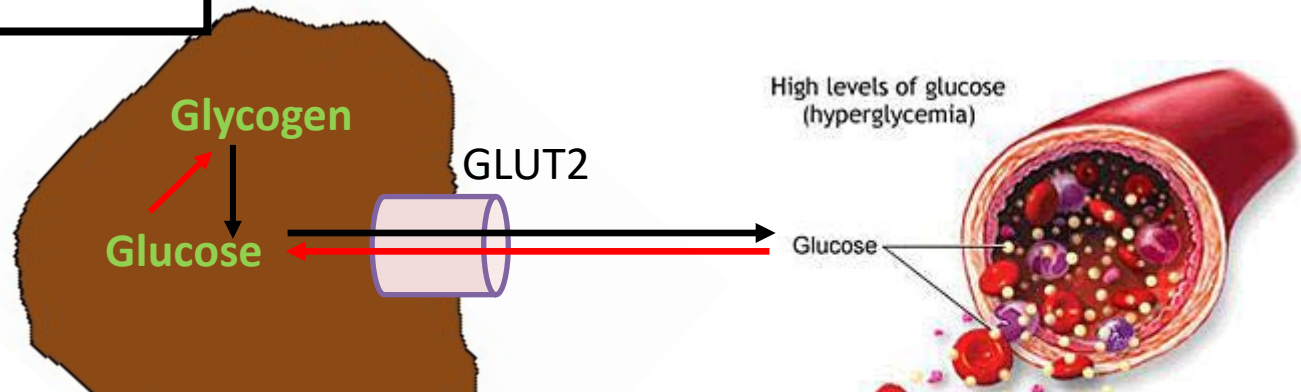
# Glucose Transporter Protein



- GLUT3 expressed mostly in neurons
- GLUT2 is a **bidirectional transporter** expressed mainly in liver and pancreatic  $\beta$ -cells. It does not relay on insulin for facilitated diffusion (glucose uptake)

insulin independent / facilitated diffusion

BLOOD VESSELS

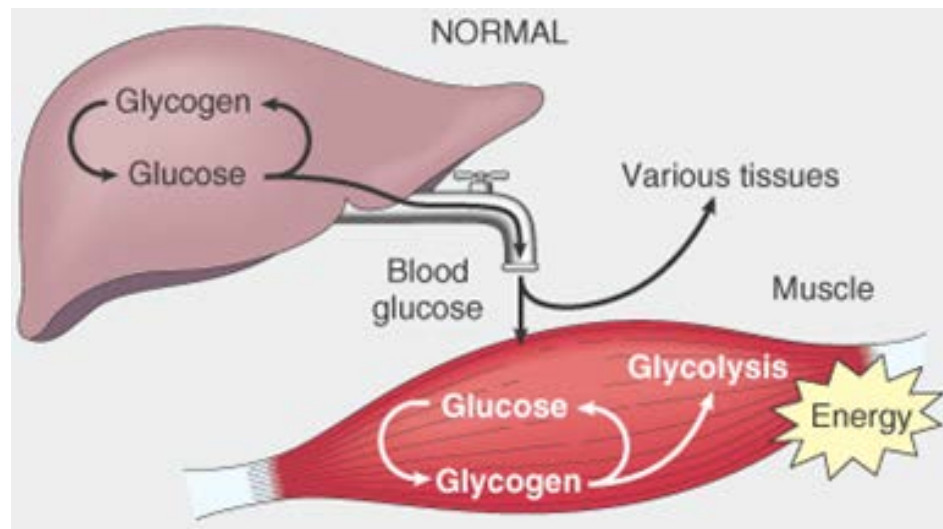


- 1- only in liver G-6-PHOSPHATASE
- 2- THE LIVER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAIN THE LEVEL OF BLOOD GLUCOSE NORMAL SO  $\downarrow$  IN BLOOD GLUCOSE  $\rightarrow$  GLYCOGENOLYSIS OF GLYCOGEN TO G-6-P THEN TO GLUCOSE BY **G-6-PHOSPHATASE** (PREVENT TRAP OF GLUCOSE BY REMOVE PHOSPHATE GROUP FROM G-6-P) WHICH GET OUTSIDE BY GLUT-2
- 3- IN MUSCLE AND BRAIN NO G-6-PHOSPHATASE SO THE GLUCOSE WILL REMAIN PHOSPHORYLATED AND TRAP IT IN THEIR CELL FOR ITS OWN USE
- 4- INSULIN WILL  $\uparrow$  glycogenesis and  $\downarrow$  glycogenolysis in liver cell

# Glycogen Metabolism



- In liver, glycogen synthesis and degradation processes are controlled to maintain blood-glucose level within the normal range in order to meet the energetic needs of the organism as whole
- In muscle, glycogen synthesis and degradation processes are regulated to meet the energetic needs of the muscle itself



what is UDP?

1- uridine → one P → UMP

2- URIDINE → 2 P → UDP

3- URIDINE → 3P → UTP

# Glycogenesis

KEY ENZYME FOR GLYCOGEN  
SYNTHESIS WHICH CALLED (GLYCOGEN  
SYNTHASE ENZYME) ACT ONLY ON  
UDP-GLUCOSE  
NOT ACT ON GLUCOSE

- Glycogenesis is the process of glycogen synthesis in which glucose molecules are added to chains of glycogen for storage. It occurs in the **cytosol of the cell**.
- This process is stimulated by the **insulin hormone**, a peptide hormone secreted by **beta cells in the pancreas**.
- Glycogenesis takes place when **blood glucose level is sufficiently high** (e.g. after a CHO-rich meal) to allow excess glucose to be stored in liver and muscle cells.
- The glycogenesis requires an **activated form of glucose** "uridine diphosphate glucose or **UDP-glucose**" generated by the reaction of UTP with glucose-1-phosphate. **UDP-glucose is a substrate for glycogen biosynthesis**.

A-INSULIN ACT BY TWO WAY :

1-ACT ON GLUT4 OPEN THE GATE FOR ENTRY OF GLUCOSE

2- INDUCE EXPRESSION AND ACTIVATE ENZYME RESPONSIBLE FOR GLYCOGENESIS

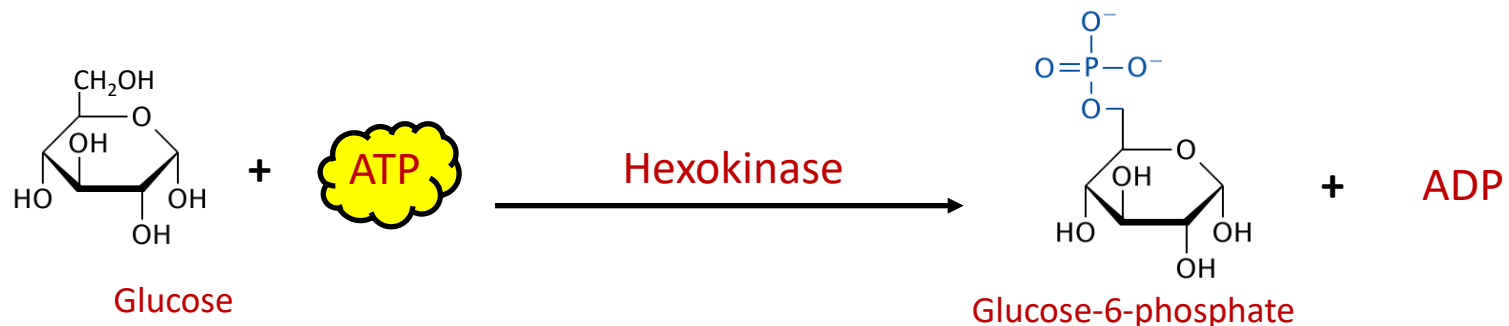
B → pancreas WHICH HAVE GLYT act as glucose sensor



# Glycogenesis



- Glycogenesis pathway consists of three phases:
  1. Biosynthesis of UDP-glucose
  2. The glycogen synthase reaction and the formation of **glycogen primer** (the first 8 glucose residues in the core chain)
  3. Formation of branches
- ❖ **Biosynthesis of UDP-glucose:** this pathway consists of three steps
- **Step 1:** the **intracellular glucose** is phosphorylated by **hexokinase** (glucokinase in liver and pancreas) to produce **glucose-6-phosphate**





HECOKINASE HAVE FOUR isomer different in expressing tissue AND other properties

- isomer 4(glucokinase) in liver+ pancreas →

1- specific for glucose not LIKE other ISOMER WHICH ARE NON-SPECIFIC

2- not inhibited by G-6-P SO IT ALLOW accumulate the G-6-P FOR GLYCOGEN IN LIVER SYNTHESIS

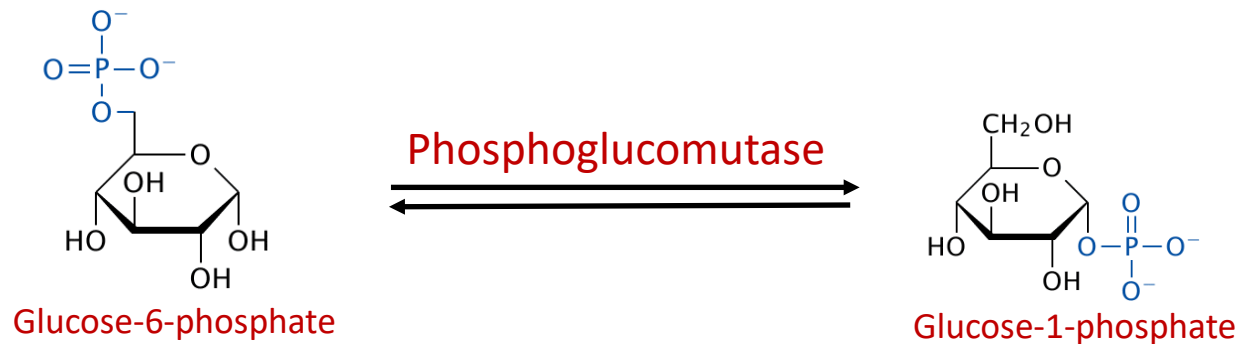
3- LOW AFFINTY FOR GLUCOSE →ACT ONLY WHEN HIGH LEVEL OF GLUCOSE

4- IN PANCERAS WHEN HIGH GLOCUSE LEVEL IT WILL ACT AND START TO PHOSPHOLYRATE GLUCOSE →SO IT ACT AS SENSOR FOR GLUCOSE LEVEL →B-CELL START TO SECRET INSULIN BY ITS ACTION

# Glycogenesis



- Step 2:** G6P is isomerized to G1P by phosphoglucumutase in a reversible reaction

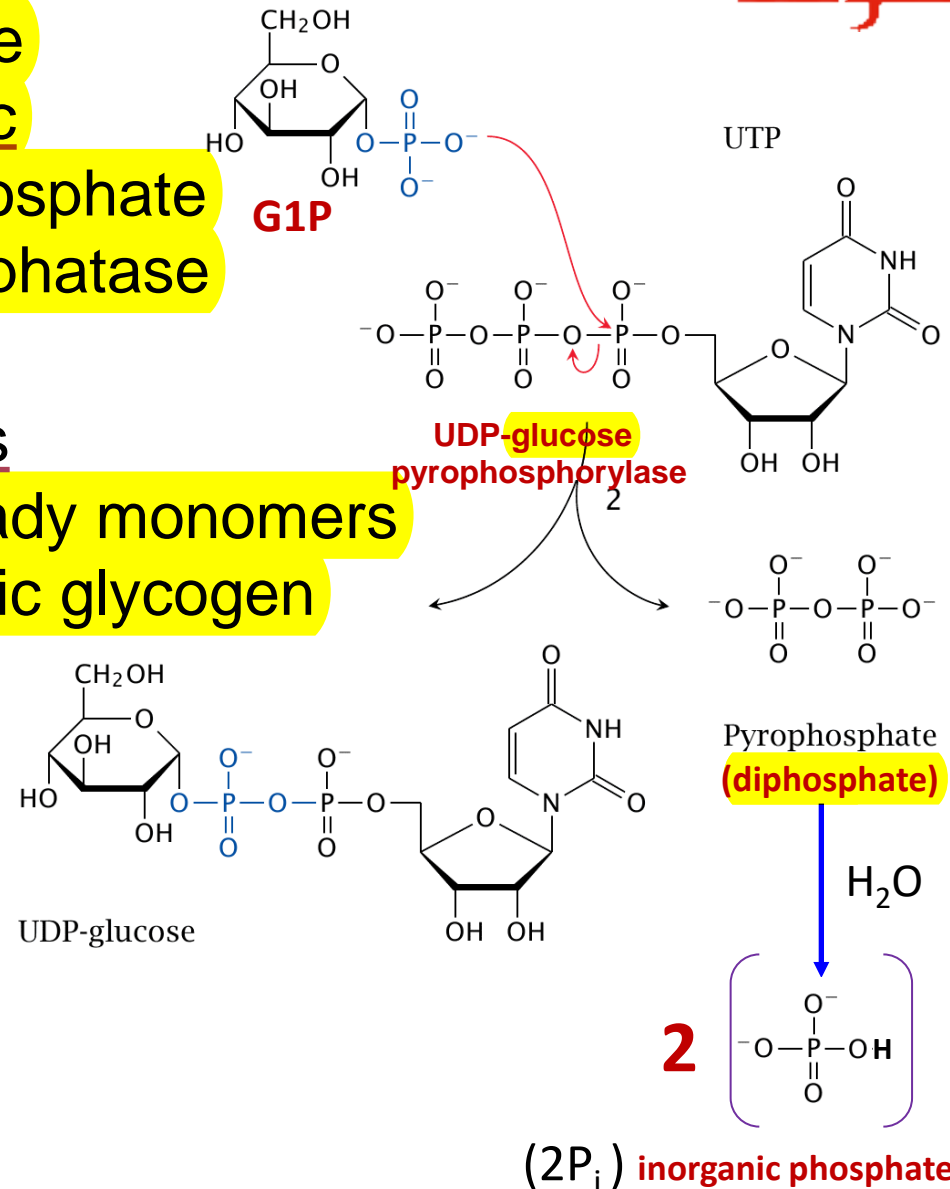


- Step 3:** an important intermediate in glycogen synthesis is UDP-glucose which is synthesized from G1P in a reversible reaction catalyzed by the enzyme UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase which transfer an UMP to G1P releasing pyrophosphate ( $\text{PP}_i$ )

# Glycogenesis



- The reaction is drawn to the right by the rapid enzymatic cleavage of  $PP_i$  to orthophosphate  $2P_i$  catalyzed by pyrophosphatase (hydrolysis rxn)
- The activated glucose units (UDP-glucose) are now ready monomers to be added to the polymeric glycogen (substrate for glycogen synthase enzyme)



# Glycogenesis

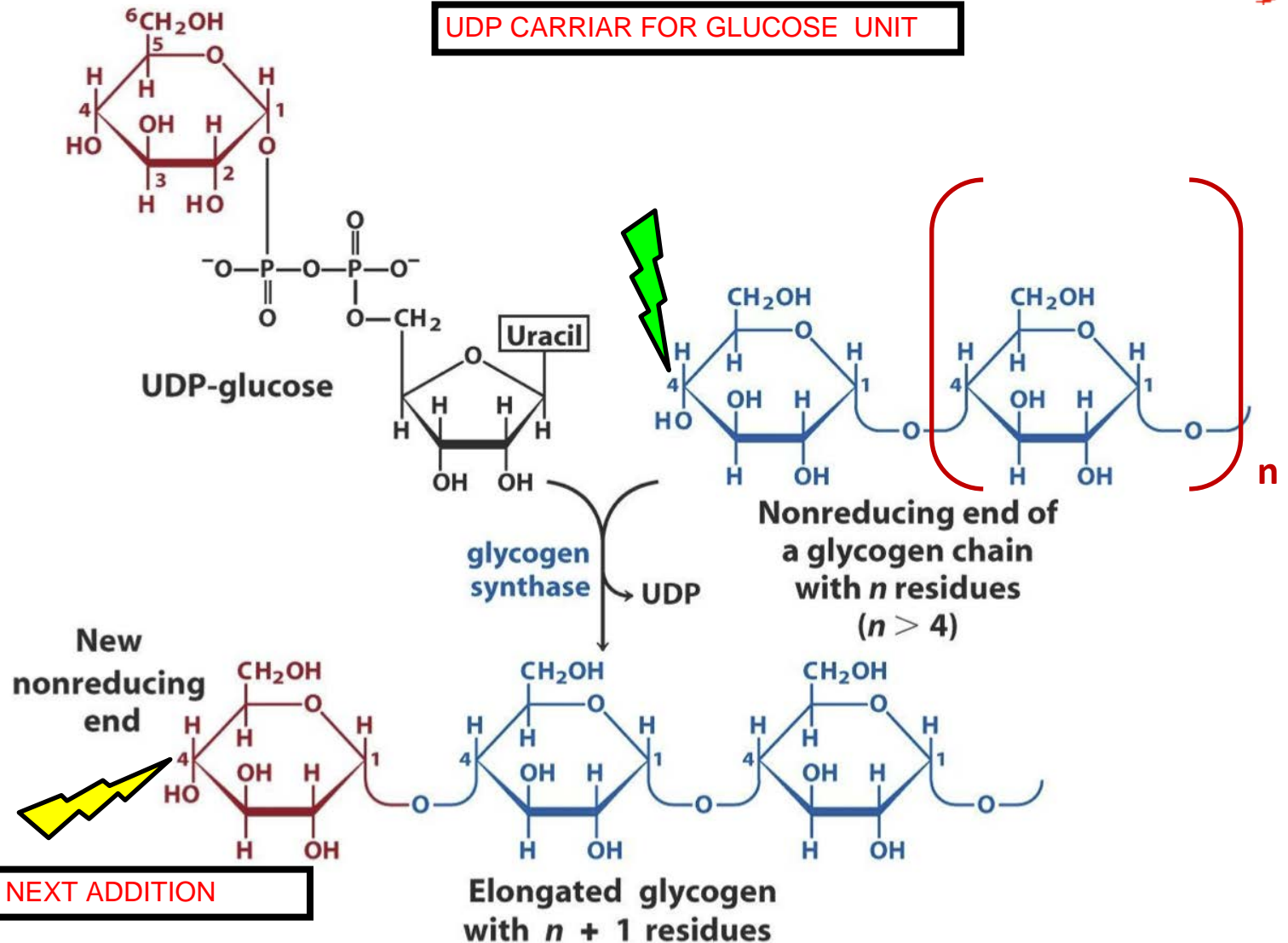
ELONGATION STEP  
BUT IT NEED BACKBONE TO  
WORK AND IT CAN ELONGATE THE  
PRIMER

طوقه

## ❖ The Glycogen Synthase reaction (the second phase)

- UDP-glucose units are the immediate donors of glucosyl residues added to the non-reducing end of either:
  - 1) Glycogen branch consists of at least 4 glucose units in length  
( $n \geq 4$ )
  - 2) Primer or glycogen core (8 Glu residues)
- $\alpha$ -1,4-glycosidic bond is formed between C1 of the transferred glucosyl moiety and C4 of the terminal glucose residue of the elongated chain

# Glycogenesis



# Glycogen

because add glucosyl unit to non-reducing end it called

## ❖ The Glycogen Synthase reaction (the second phase)

- UDP-glucose units are the immediate donors of glucosyl residues added to the non-reducing end of either:
  - 1) Glycogen branch consists of at least 4 glucose units in length ( $n \geq 4$ )
  - 2) Primer or glycogen core (8 Glu residues)
- $\alpha$ -1,4-glycosidic bond is formed between C1 of the transferred glucosyl moiety and C4 of the terminal glucose residue of the elongated chain
- This process is catalyzed by glycogen synthase (a glycosyltransferase enzyme)
- How is a new/nascent glycogen molecule initiated?

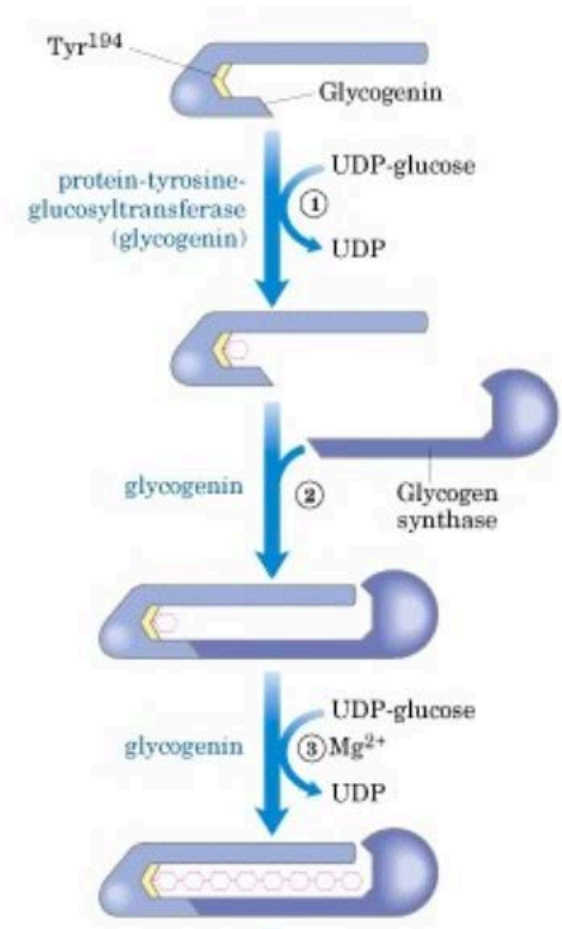
# Glycogen Synthesis Initiation



TRANSFERASE ENZYME SO TI HAVE  
CATALYTIC ACTIVITY

COME FROM UDP-GLUCOSE

- **Step 1:** the first glucose is attached to tyrosine residue of a protein called glycogenin
- **Step 2:** glycogenin forms a tight complex with glycogen synthase
- **Step 3:** the chain is extended by sequential addition of up to 7 glucose residues autocatalyzed by glycogenin itself ( $\alpha$ -1,4-glycosidic bond)
- **Step 4:** at this point, glycogen synthase dissociates and starts to extend the linear glycogen chain

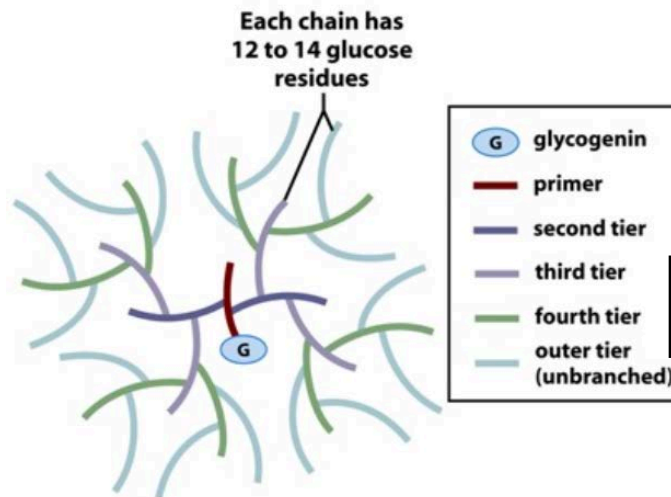
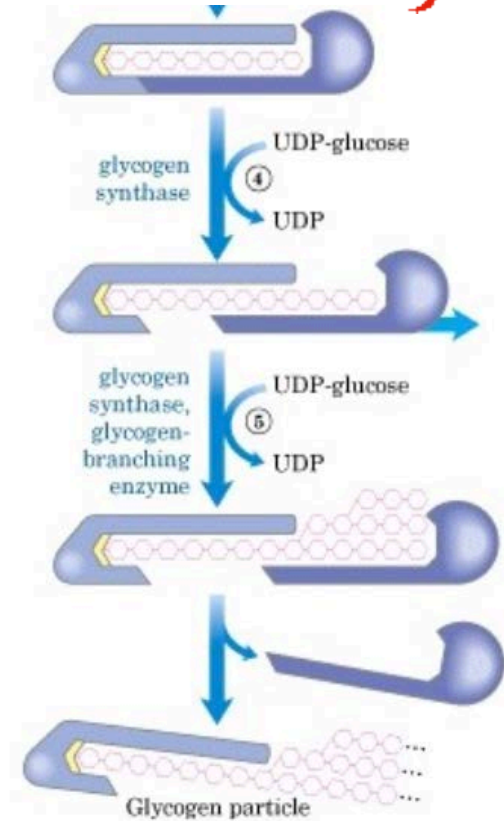




# Glycogen Synthesis Initiation



- **Step 5:** the combined action of glycogen synthase and branching enzyme completes the glycogen particle
- **Step 6:** glycogen synthase dissociates from the newly synthesized glycogen molecule while the glycogenin remains covalently attached to reducing end



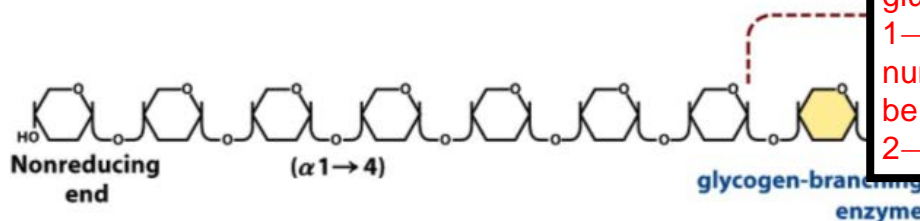
ACT AS ANCHOR FOR REDUCING END OF GLYCOGEN

# Glycogen Branching

DEBRANCHING ADD TO THE SAME CHAIN OR  
OTHER CHAIN  
TRANSFER THEM TO MORE ANTERIOR POINT

## ❖ Formation of branches (the third phase)

- **Step 1:** the ( $\alpha_{1 \rightarrow 6}$ ) bonds found at the branch points of glycogen are formed by **glycogen branching enzyme** which catalyzes the transfer of small fragment (6-7 glucosyl residues) from the non-reducing end of a branch having at least eleven residues.
- **Step 2:** further glucosyl residues may be added to the new branch by glycogen synthase

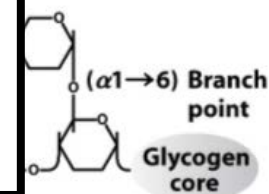


GLYCOGEN: rapidly and easily mobilized form OF glucose /why it is highly branch?  
1→ to be fast degradable so we have to increase number of non-reducing from which the G-1-P can be derived  
2→↑ solubility

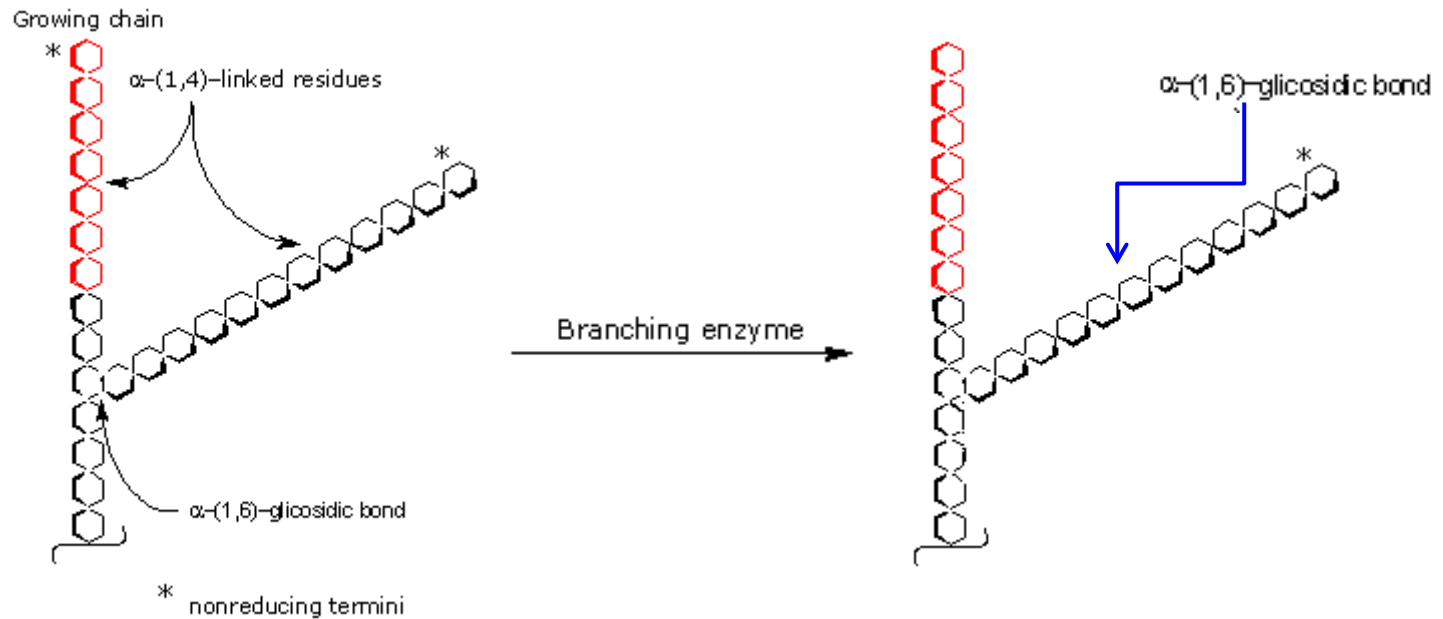
ELEVEN = 7+4

SO IT WILL TAKE 7 TO MAKE NEW BRANCH SO THE FOUR WILL REMAIN IN ORIGINAL CHAIN THEY ARE ELONGATE BY ACTION OF GLYCOGEN SYNTHASE ENZYME

THE NEW BRANCH ELONGATE BY ACTION OF GLYCOGEN SYNTHASE ENZYME



# Glycogenesis



# Glycogenolysis

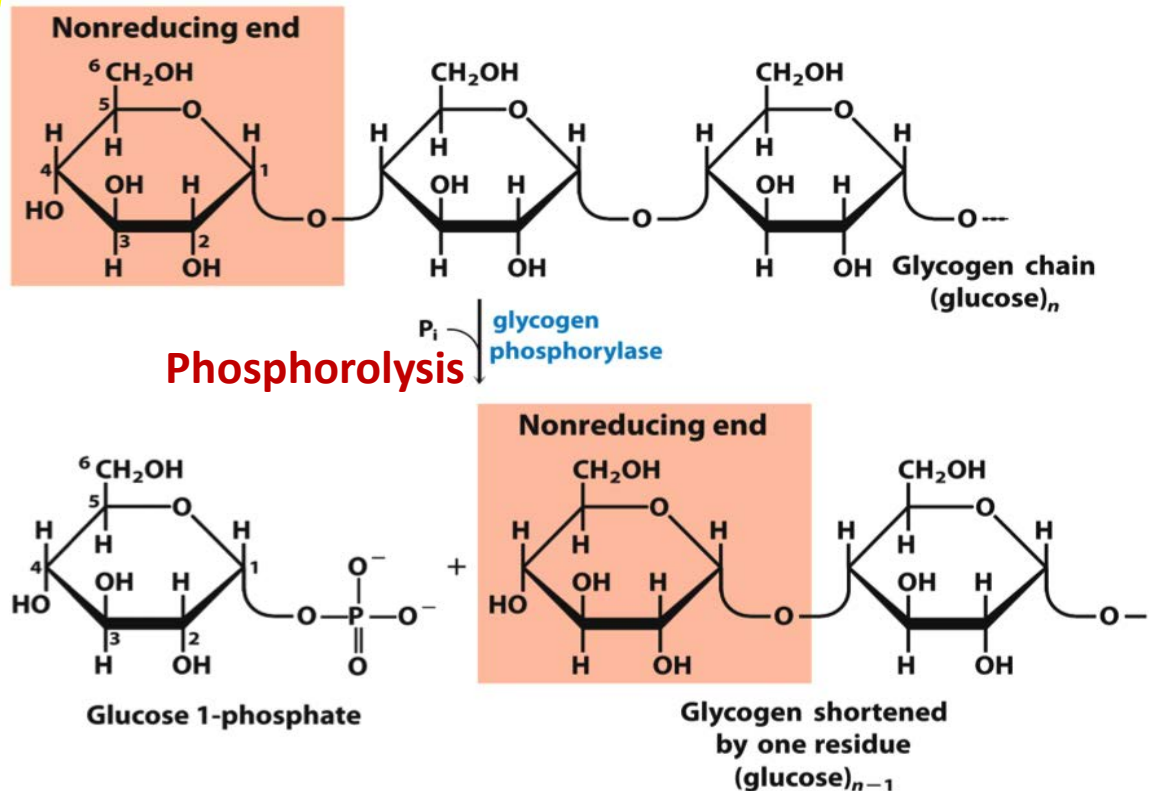


- Glycogenolysis occurs in the cytosol of the cells primarily in liver (and any glycogen containing tissues like muscles)
- Glycogenolysis or glycogen mobilization is the breakdown of glycogen<sub>(n)</sub> into usable energy by sequential phosphorolytic cleavages of ( $\alpha_{1 \rightarrow 4}$ ) glycosidic bonds catalyzed by glycogen phosphorylase. Each time, this enzyme cleaves single bond starting from the non-reducing ends of branches releasing one G1P unit while leaving glycogen<sub>(n-1)</sub> polymer

# Glycogenolysis



- Phosphorylase enzyme catalyzes the phosphorolysis step “the cleavage of the bond by the addition of inorganic phosphate  $P_i$ ”
- Although this cleavage reaction is slightly disfavored under standard conditions but it proceeds in this direction due relatively to high intracellular levels of inorganic phosphate ( $P_i$ )



FRUCTOSE I.V AND HIF → ↓  
GLYCOGENOLYSIS WHICH  
DEPEND ON  
PHOSPHOROLYSIS (ADDITION  
OF PHOSPHATE GROUP TO  
CASE CLEAVAG)

# Glycogenolysis



- A second enzyme called **debranching enzyme** removes the **branch points** in two steps:
  1. **First “the transferase activity”**: the **enzyme** removes intact **trisaccharide moiety (3 glucose units)** and **transfers it to the end of some other outer branch**
  2. **Second “the ( $\alpha_{1\rightarrow6}$ ) glucosidase activity”**: the enzyme removes the last glucose unit attached to the chain by ( $\alpha_{1\rightarrow6}$ ) glycosidic bond
- The end result of this **debranching process** is the **release of one glucose moiety each time**
- Therefore, the end products of glycogenolysis are **G1P (the major product)** and **glucose**

glycogen phosphorylase act on the branch until it reach last 4 glucose molecule

it can not break them but another enzyme will come and break it we call it

debranching enzyme WHICH separate the first 3 glucose and attached them to the core of the branch and the remaining GLUCOSE ATTACHED TO THE MAIN CHAIN BY ( $\alpha_{1\rightarrow6}$ ) SO IT CLEAVE IT AND release IT AS free glucose

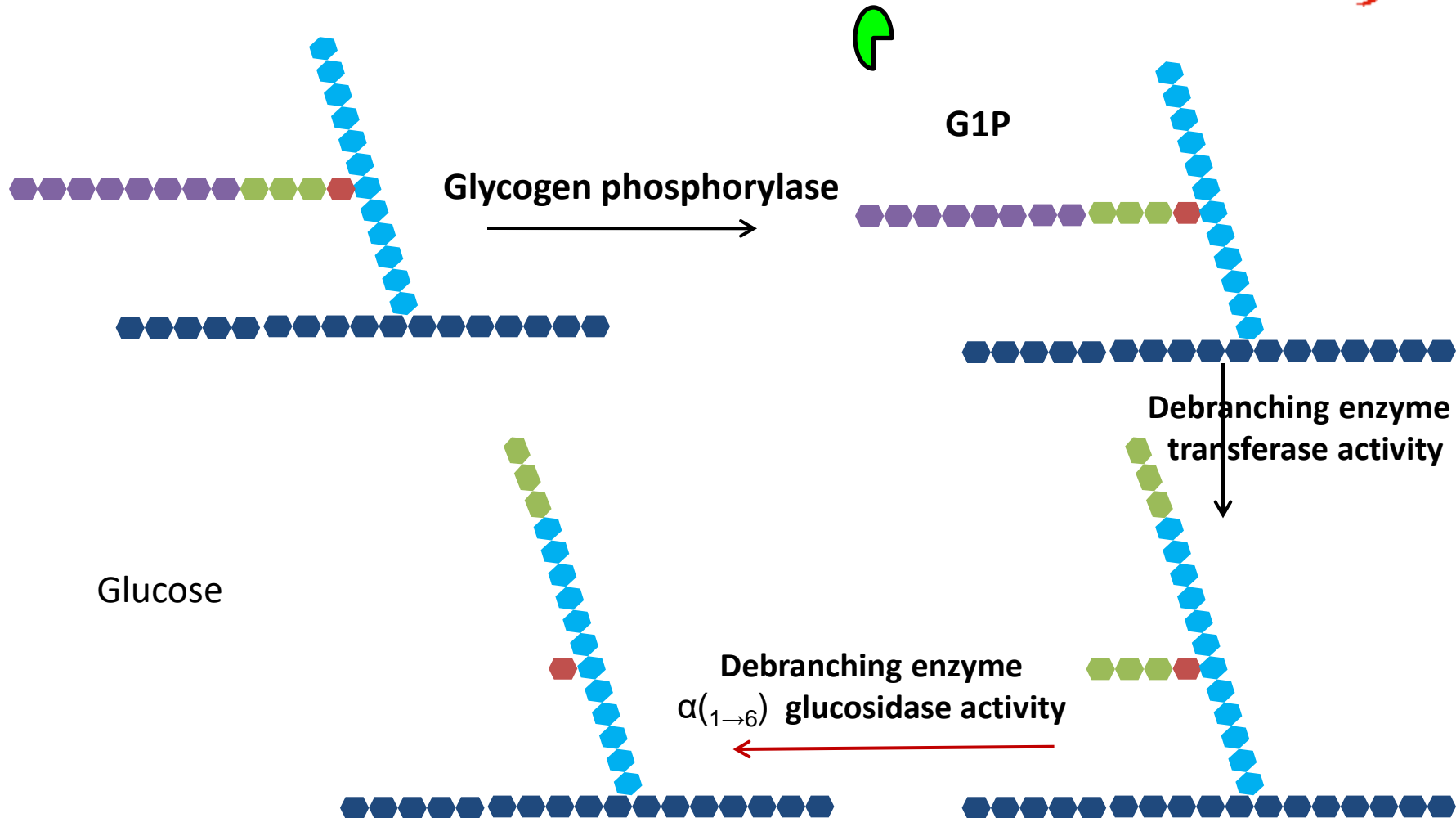
so the result of glycogenolysis is

1- glycogen phosphorylase→release G-1-P

2-debranching enzyme→release free glucose FROM EACH BRANCHING POINT



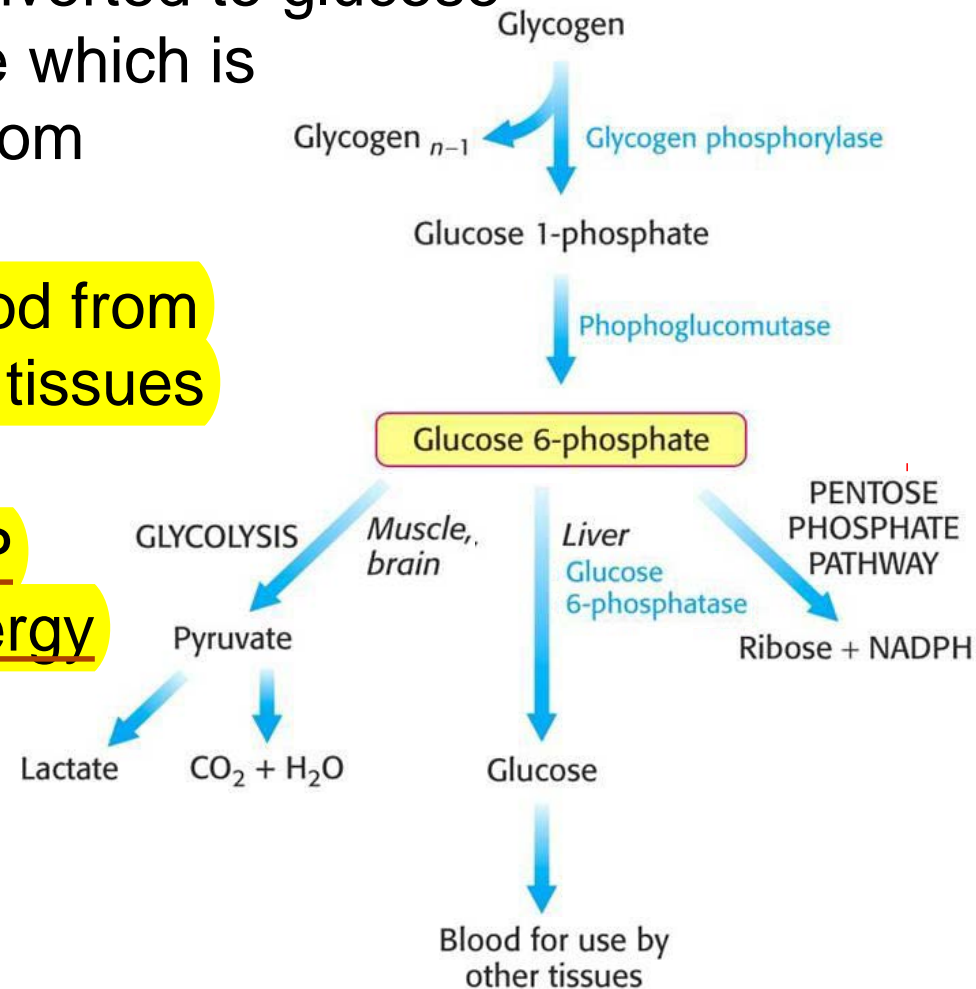
# Glycogenolysis



# Glycogenolysis



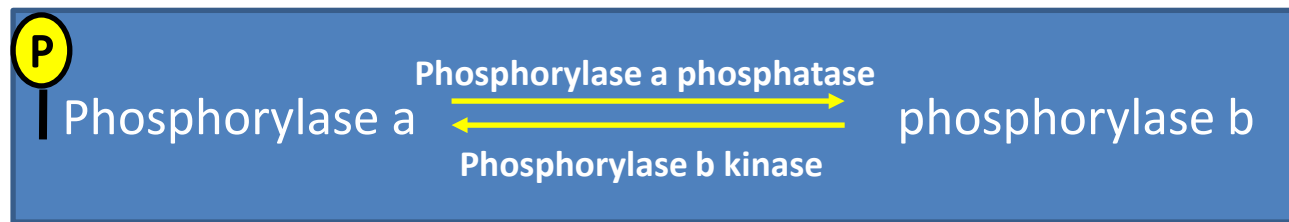
- G1P is reversibly converted via phosphoglucomutase to G6P. G6P can then be converted to glucose by glucose-6-phosphatase which is found in liver but absent from muscle and brain tissues
- Glucose released into blood from liver is distributed to other tissues in need for energy
- In muscles and brain, G6P joins the glycolysis for energy production



# Regulation of Glycogenolysis



- Glycogen breakdown is under non-hormonal (allosteric) as well as hormonal regulation. Glycogen phosphorylase is the target enzyme for regulation of glycogenolysis
- Glycogen phosphorylase exists in two interconvertible forms: phosphorylase a (active) and phosphorylase b (inactive)

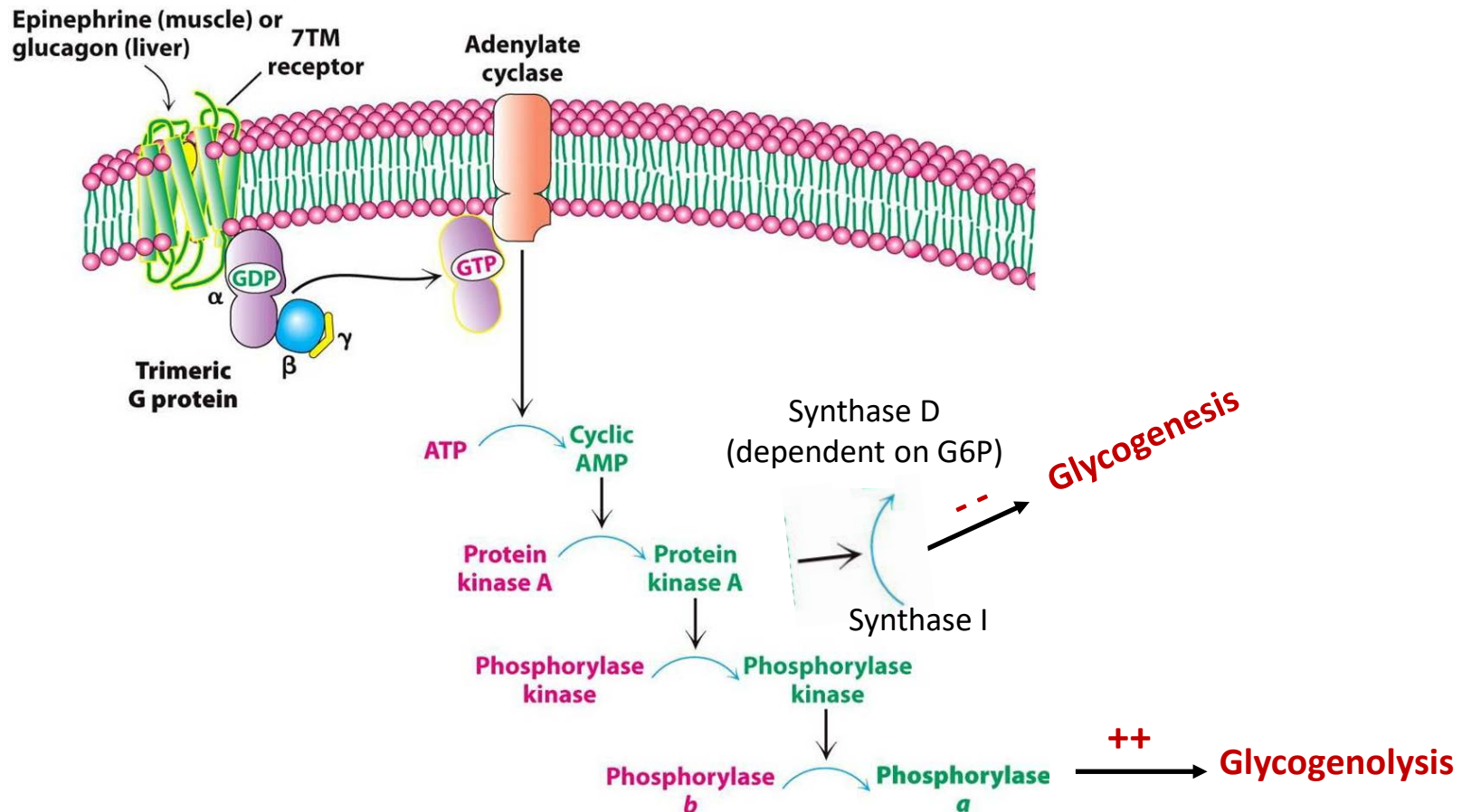


- Glycogenolysis is stimulated in muscle primarily by epinephrine (adrenaline) hormone secreted from the adrenal gland and in liver primarily by the pancreatic hormone glucagon

# Regulation of Glycogenolysis



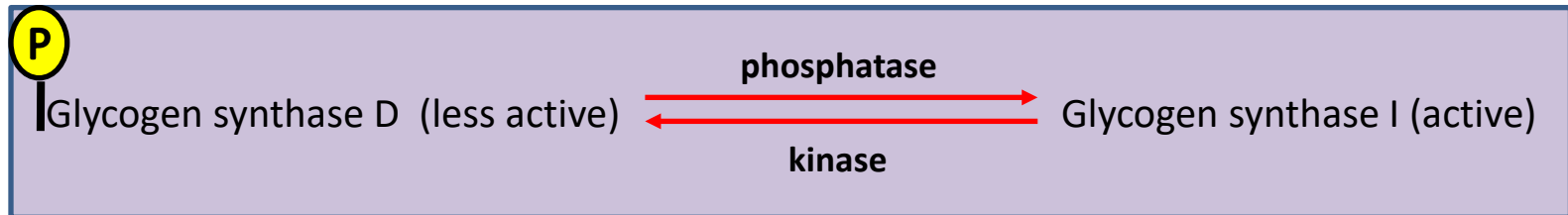
- The effect of these hormones is mediated by the second messenger pathways (cAMP) which is under the control of adenylate cyclase. Actually, this effect is amplified



# Reciprocal Relationship between Glycogenolysis & glycogenesis



- Conditions that activate glycogenolysis inhibit glycogenesis and vice versa. Therefore, epinephrine and glucagon secretion inhibit glycogen synthesis. This happens due to cAMP-mediated inhibition of glycogen synthase



- So phosphorylation of glycogen synthase inhibits its activity only in the absence of G6P (which is an allosteric activator of glycogen synthase)
- Epi/glucagon inhibit glycogenesis only in the absence of G6P

# Reciprocal Relationship between Glycogenolysis & glycogenesis



- Allosteric regulation: G6P is an allosteric activator of glycogen synthase (glycogenesis)
- Hormonal regulation: epinephrine (in muscle) and glucagon (in liver) stimulate glycogenolysis and inhibit glycogenesis through the cAMP. **In contrast, insulin (secreted from the beta cells of pancreas) activates glycogenesis and inhibit glycogenolysis both in muscle and liver by inducing dephosphorylation of glycogen phosphorylase (inactive b form) and glycogen synthase (active I form)**
- Unlike allosteric regulation, hormonal regulation is mediated through covalent modification of key enzymes by phosphorylation/dephosphorylation mechanism

# Reciprocal Relationship between Glycogenolysis & glycogenesis

