

# Plasma proteins

it's important

لأنها تعتبر

bio markers

الذواع البروتينية العتمة بي نسبة لها  
لتفصيص الامراض المختلفة

لما تقرأ في اي مكان ان سنا negative acute phase protein  
تفظة فيها عتمة لرفع AA  
acute phase protein

- Plasma contains <sup>رنة</sup> >300 different proteins, their levels are affected by many pathological conditions.
- Mostly synthesized in the liver

↳ (+) acute phase protein

Phase protein

- Plasma contains <sup>كس</sup> >300 different proteins, their levels are affected by many pathological conditions.
- Mostly synthesized in the liver
- Some are produced in other sites (immunoglobulins by plasma cell)
- A normal adult has 6-8g/dl of plasma proteins
- The proteins of the plasma are a complex mixture that includes not only simple proteins but also conjugated proteins such as glycoproteins and various types of lipoproteins.

Functions <sup>مميزات</sup> biomarkers

- Transport (Albumin, prealbumin, globulins)
- Maintain plasma oncotic pressure (Albumin)
- Defense (Immunoglobulins and complement)
- Clotting and fibrinolysis (Thrombin and plasmin)
- Buffering pH
- Catalytic functions (enzymes as LPL)

positive acute phase proteins

لغرض لروتينيات حادة  
under certain condition  
like inflammation  
infection, trauma  
injury, surgery, malignancy

في حالات الالتهاب مع نزاع الحاد  
↳ (+) acute phase proteins

negative acute phase proteins  
لغرض لروتينيات حادة سلبية

تعيين سلايد (3)

Direct measurement of plasma protein

by immunological reaction → elysian

Ag Antibody reaction ← عيار

Albumin ← عيار

Antibody ← عيار

Against the Antigen → Albumin

Antibody ← Antigen

Colored molecule ← عيار

Conjugate that can be estimated on spectrophotometer

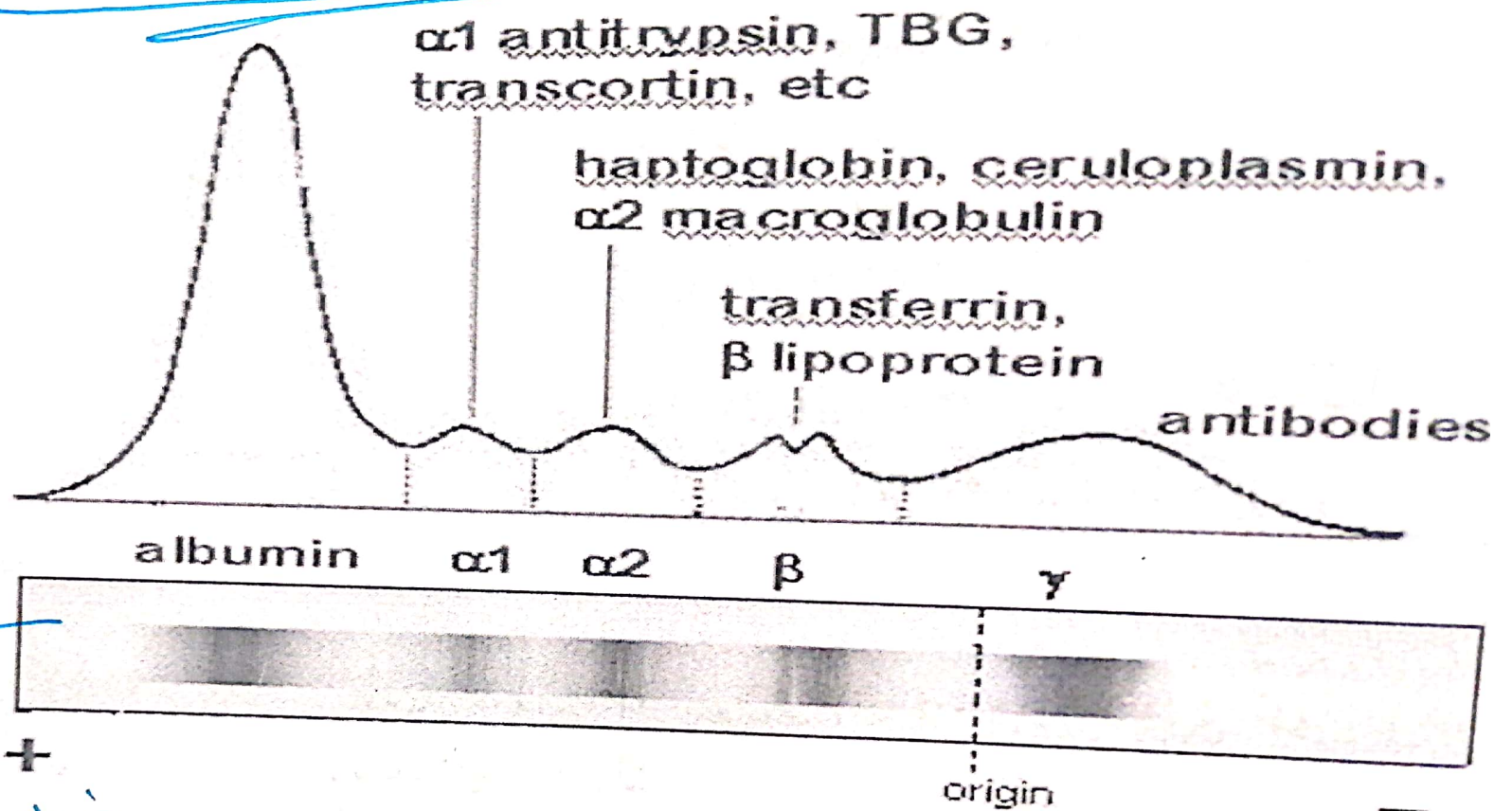
← (Concentration) ← عيار

Not accurate ← عيار

← non specific between Antibody and another types of proteins



observed, these bands change in disease).



← كبر في قوته فداد  
bands

+ لفرة لوفيه زيادة

في البروتين بس متدرج لوفيه قويه

للزيادة او القصانه

## Types of Plasma Proteins

- Prealbumin
- Albumin
- alpha-1-Globulins: as alpha-1-Antitrypsin, alpha-fetoprotein
- alpha-2-Globulins: as Ceruloplasmin, haptoglobin, etc.





# Albumin

70% of total plasma proteins

- Most abundant plasma protein (3.5-5 g/l) in normal adult
- Synthesized in the liver as <sup>inactive</sup> preproalbumin and secreted as albumin
- Half-life in plasma: 20 days **3 week**
- Decreases rapidly in injury, infection and surgery

حالة الاستوليت ابيض

prepro insulin  
(Inactive)

عصارة البنكرياس  
digestion  
للبروتينات  
ويعتبر بارازيما

## Functions

- Maintains oncotic pressure:
  - The osmotic pressure exerted by plasma proteins that pulls water into the circulatory system
  - Maintains fluid distribution in and outside cells and plasma volume
- (80% of plasma oncotic pressure is maintained by albumin)
- A non-specific carrier of hormones, calcium, free fatty acids, drugs, etc.
- It is by pinocytosis in the cells where it is hydrolyzed to amino acids
- Nutritive function → can be endocytose inside the cell to be cleaved to AA
- Buffering function
- Useful in treatment of liver diseases, hemorrhage, shock and burns

AA مناعية، AA طائفة موجودة بتركيز عالي بالدم

بانتالي الاقراص  
عند كلى  
disease  
Albumin  
علاج  
كلى  
edema  
in legs  
علاج

↓ ↓ ↓ osmotic pressure of Albumin

## Synthesis of albumin

- The liver produces albumin, it represents about 25% of total hepatic protein synthesis.
- Albumin is initially synthesized as a preproprotein
- Its signal peptide <sup>(pre)</sup> is removed as it passes into rough endoplasmic reticulum, and a hexapeptide <sup>in amino terminal end</sup> at the resulting amino terminal is subsequently cleaved off farther along the secretory pathway. → في ايتا جولدجى apparatus
- Mature human albumin consists of one polypeptide chain of 585 amino acids and contains 17 disulfide bonds
- It has an ellipsoidal shape, which means that it does not increase the viscosity of the plasma as much as an elongated molecule such as fibrinogen does. → soft thrombosis
- Has a relatively low molecular mass about 66 kDa

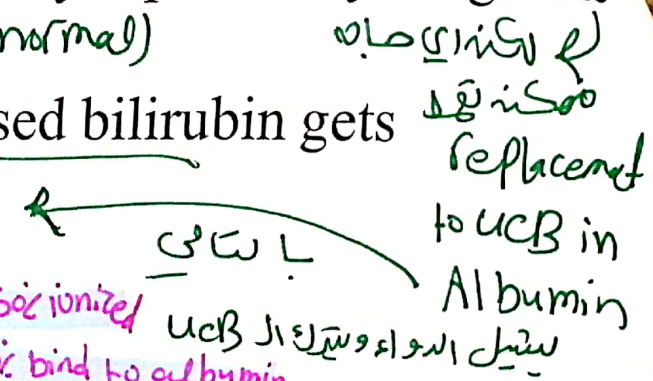
هنا في علاج الحروق والنزف Hemorrhage



# Clinical significance of albumin

## Blood brain barrier

- Albumin-free fatty acid complex can not cross the blood brain barrier, hence fatty acids can not be utilized by the brain.
- Loosely bound bilirubin to albumin can be easily replaced by drugs like aspirin (2:1) molar ratio UCB to albumin (normal)
- In new born if such drugs are given, the released bilirubin gets deposited in brain causing Kernicterus.



## Protein bound calcium

- Calcium level is lowered in conditions of hypoalbuminemia
- Serum total calcium may be decreased
- Ionic calcium remains the same → the functioning portion fraction of calcium
- Tetany does not occur
- Calcium is lowered by 0.8 mg/dl for a fall of 1g/dl of albumin

hypoCalcemia more dangerous than hypocalcemia and should given slowly because it can cause cardiac arrest

↓ 2g/dL Albumin → ↓ 1.5 mg/dL of calcium

↓ 1g/dL Albumin → ↓ 0.8 mg/dL of calcium

## Drug interactions

- Two drugs having same affinity for albumin when administered together can compete for



## Drug interactions

- Two drugs having same affinity for albumin when administered together, can compete for available binding sites with consequent displacement of other drug, resulting in clinically significant drug interactions. As phenytoin, dicoumarol interactions *so should not give together.*

## Oedema

### Hypoalbuminemia

#### Causes

- Decreased albumin synthesis (liver cirrhosis, malnutrition)
- Increased losses of albumin
  - Increased catabolism in infections
  - Excessive excretion by the kidneys (nephrotic syndrome).
  - Severe burns (plasma loss in the absence of skin barrier)
  - Excessive loss in bowel *vomiting, diarrhea*

## ffects

- Edema due to low oncotic pressure
  - Albumin level drops in liver disease causing low oncotic pressure
  - Fluid moves into the interstitial spaces causing edema
- Reduced transport of drugs and other substances in plasma
- Reduced protein-bound calcium
  - Total plasma calcium level drops
  - Ionized calcium level may remain normal

## Hyperalbuminemia

- No clinical conditions are known that cause the liver to produce large amounts of albumin
- The only cause of hyperalbuminemia is dehydration

↓  
volume ↓

decrease volume of blood  
does not mean increase synthesis  
of albumin.

[ ratio volume of ~~total~~ plasma  
to concentration of protein in  
plasma ]



## $\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin

- Called  $\alpha$ 1-antiprotease
- Synthesized by the liver and macrophages
- An acute-phase protein that inhibits proteases (trypsin, elastase, and other proteases) by forming complexes with them.
- Infection leads to protease release from bacteria and leukocytes.
- Normally  $\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin protects the lung tissues from the released active elastase from macrophages.
- In its deficiency, the active elastase destroys the lung tissue by proteolysis.

↓  
emphysema loss of elasticity of lung

## Types of $\alpha$ <sub>1</sub>-Antitrypsin

- Over 30 types are known (the most common is M type).
- Genetic deficiency of  $\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin (synthesis of the defective  $\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin occurs in the liver but it cannot secrete the protein) → its accumulation in hepatocytes and its deficiency in plasma

## Clinical consequences of $\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin deficiency

- Neonatal jaundice
- Childhood liver cirrhosis
- Pulmonary emphysema in young adults

$\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin

is

marked

all

## Laboratory Diagnosis

- Lack of  $\alpha$ 1-globulin band in protein electrophoresis
- Quantitative measurement of  $\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin by: radial immunodiffusion and isoelectric focusing.

## $\alpha$ -Fetoprotein (AFP)

- Synthesized in the developing embryo and fetus by the parenchymal cells of the liver.
- AFP levels decrease gradually during intra-uterine life and reach low levels at birth (normal level is  $1 \mu\text{g}/100 \text{ ml}$ ).
- Function is unknown but it may protect fetus from immunologic attack by the mother.
- No known physiological function in adults



- No known physiological function in adults

- Elevated maternal AFP levels are associated with:
  - Neural tube defect, anencephaly → spina bifida / myelomeningocele
- Decreased maternal AFP levels are associated with: meningocele
- Increased risk of Down's syndrome

- AFP is a tumor marker for: Hepatoma and testicular cancer

Ceruloplasmin <sup>Fe oxidase enzy</sup> → but it's not specific, so we cannot depend on AFP alone

- Synthesized by the liver (glycoprotein with enzymatic activity). <sup>to diagnose any cancer</sup>
- Carries about 90% of serum copper, albumin carries 10%. <sup>لا يفرز</sup>
- An oxidoreductase that inactivates ROS causing tissue damage in acute phase response. <sup>ليس</sup>
- Important for iron absorption from the intestine. <sup>لا يفرز في الدم</sup>

Wilson's disease:

- Due to low plasma levels of ceruloplasmin
- Copper is accumulated in the liver and brain
- The amount of ceruloplasmin in plasma is also decreased in liver diseases, malnutrition and nephrotic syndrome. <sup>(-) acute phase protein</sup>

Fe<sup>+2</sup> → Fe<sup>+3</sup>  
↓ to  
to bind transferrin.  
MRI/CT Scan

## Aptoglobin

- Synthesized by the liver (glycoprotein).
- Binds to free hemoglobin to form complexes that are metabolized in the RES, when bound to hemoglobin, it is cleared from the plasma about 80 times faster than normally.
- Limits iron losses by preventing Hb loss from kidneys
- Plasma level decreases during hemolysis and increases in inflammation.

Ab degradation  
to prevent its dangerous  
effect in renal tubule.

(+) acute phase  
protein

## Transferrin

- A major iron-transport protein in plasma
  - 30% saturated with iron
- Plasma level drops in:
  - Malnutrition, liver disease, inflammation, malignancy
- Iron deficiency results in increased hepatic synthesis
- A negative acute phase protein



## β2-Microglobulin

- A component of human leukocyte antigen (HLA)
- Present on the surface of lymphocytes and most nucleated cells
- Filtered by the renal glomeruli due to its small size but most (>99%) is reabsorbed
- Elevated serum levels are found in
  - Impaired kidney function
- May be a tumor marker for:
  - Leukemia, lymphomas, multiple myeloma

## C-reactive protein (CRP) *inflammation marker*

- An acute-phase protein synthesized by the liver (so named because it reacts with the polysaccharide of the capsule of pneumococci, important for phagocytosis)
- High plasma levels are found in many inflammatory conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis

*if* - A marker for ischemic heart disease

*↑ CRP + ↑ ESR + ↑ Sedimentation rate*  
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*↑ CRP + ↑ ESR + ↑ Sedimentation rate*  
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*↑ CRP + ↑ ESR + ↑ Sedimentation rate*

## $\alpha_2$ -Macroglobulin

- Major component of  $\alpha_2$  proteins
- Comprises 8-10% of the total plasma protein in humans.
- Tetrameric protein with molecular weight of 725 kDa.
- Synthesized by hepatocytes and macrophages
- Inactivates all proteases and thus is an important in vivo anticoagulant.  
↳ inhibit all activating clotting factors
- Carrier of many growth factors
- Normal serum level-130-300 mg/dl  
↳ proteases Clotting factors ←
- Concentration is markedly increased in nephrotic syndrome, since other proteins are lost through urine in this condition.



# Hypergammaglobulinemia

- May result from stimulation of
  - B cells (Polyclonal hypergammaglobulinemia)
  - Monoclonal proliferation (Paraproteinemia)

## Polyclonal hypergammaglobulinemia:

- Stimulation of many clones of B cells produce a wide range of antibodies *All type IgM, IgG, IgA ...*
- $\gamma$ -globulin band appears large in electrophoresis *very thick*
- Clinical conditions: acute and chronic infections, autoimmune diseases, chronic liver diseases

## Monoclonal Hypergammaglobulinemia:

- Proliferation of a single B-cell clone produces a single type of Ig
- Appears as a separate dense band (paraprotein or M band) in electrophoresis
- Paraproteins are characteristic of malignant B-cell proliferation
- Clinical condition: multiple myeloma

## Abnormal proteins

### 1- Bence Jones's proteins

- Abnormal proteins (monoclonal light chains).
- Present in the urine of a patient suffering from multiple myeloma (50% of patients)
- Molecular weight 45 kDa
- Identified by heat coagulation test
- Best detected by zone electrophoresis and immunoelectrophoresis

كل انواع البروتينات فعليا boiling  
لغيرها Coagulation لكن هاد البروتين  
Dissolution by boiling

### 2- Cryoglobulins

- These proteins coagulate when serum is cooled to very low temperature
- Commonly monoclonal IgG or IgM or both
- Increased in rheumatoid arthritis, multiple myeloma, lymphocytic leukemia, lymphosarcoma and systemic lupus erythematosus