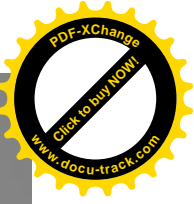


# Protein and amino acid metabolism

SIBC511

Chayanon Peerapittayamongkol,

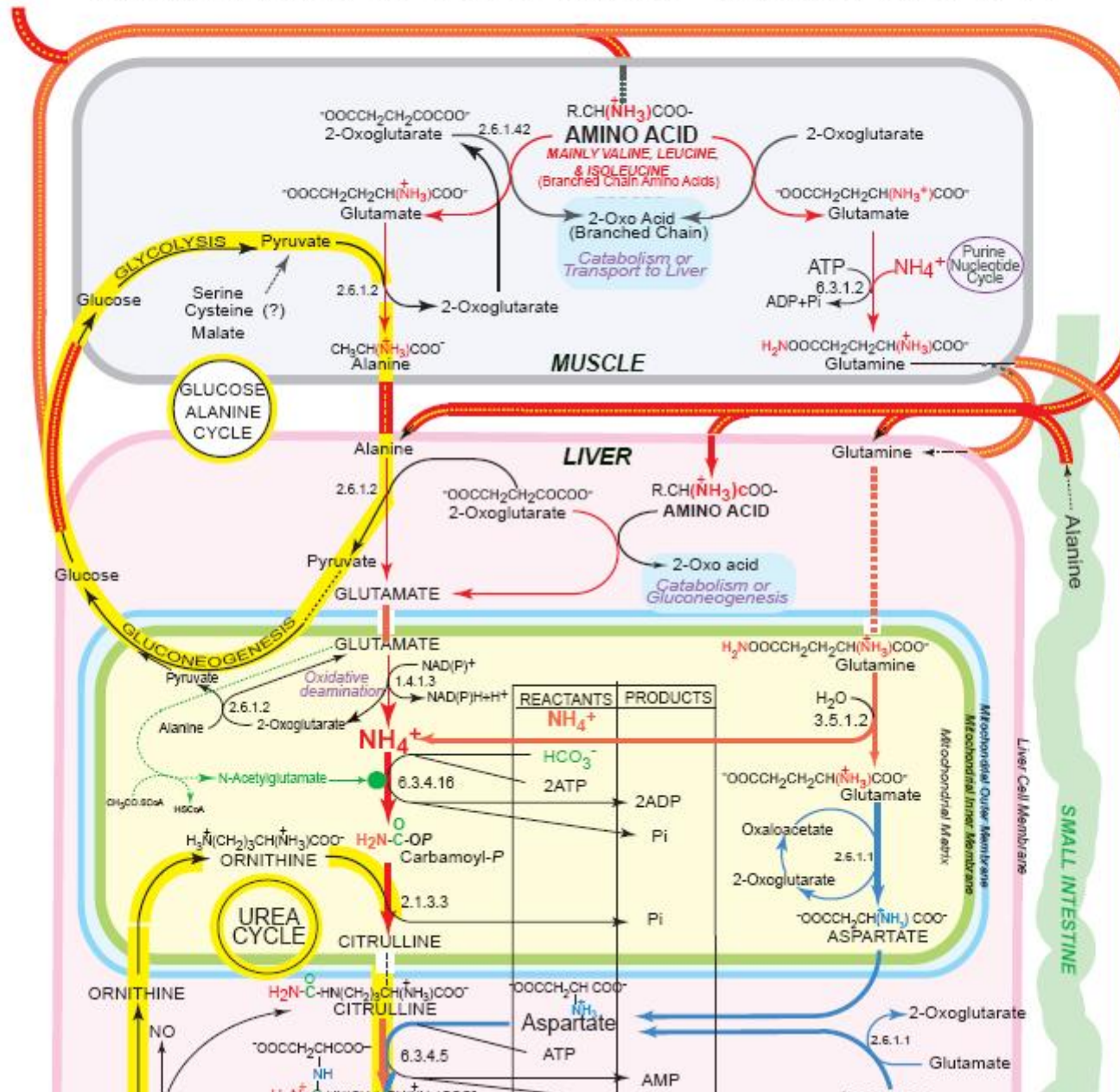
July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007

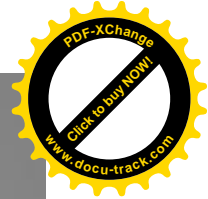


# Topics

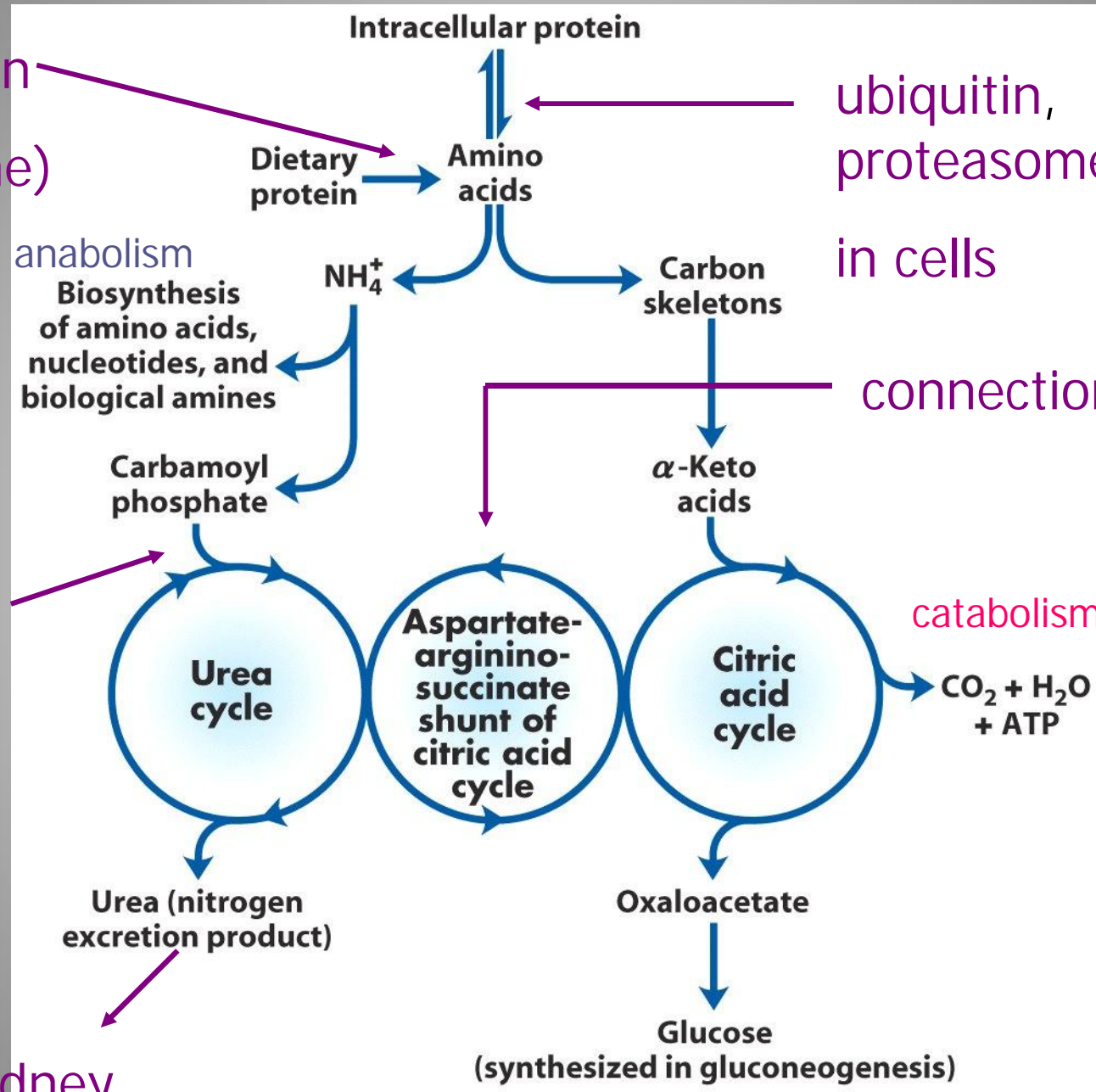
- Digestion and absorption of proteins
- Intracellular degradation of proteins
- Nitrogen metabolism
  - Nitrogen balance
- Amino acid degradation
- Urea cycle
- Metabolism of the carbon skeletons of amino acids
- Inherited diseases of amino acid metabolism
- Amino acid biosynthesis
- Conversions of aa to other biological amines

# DEAMINATION OF AMINO ACIDS - THE UREA CYCLE





Digestion  
(intestine)



ubiquitin,  
proteasome  
in cells

connection

in liver

catabolism

via kidney

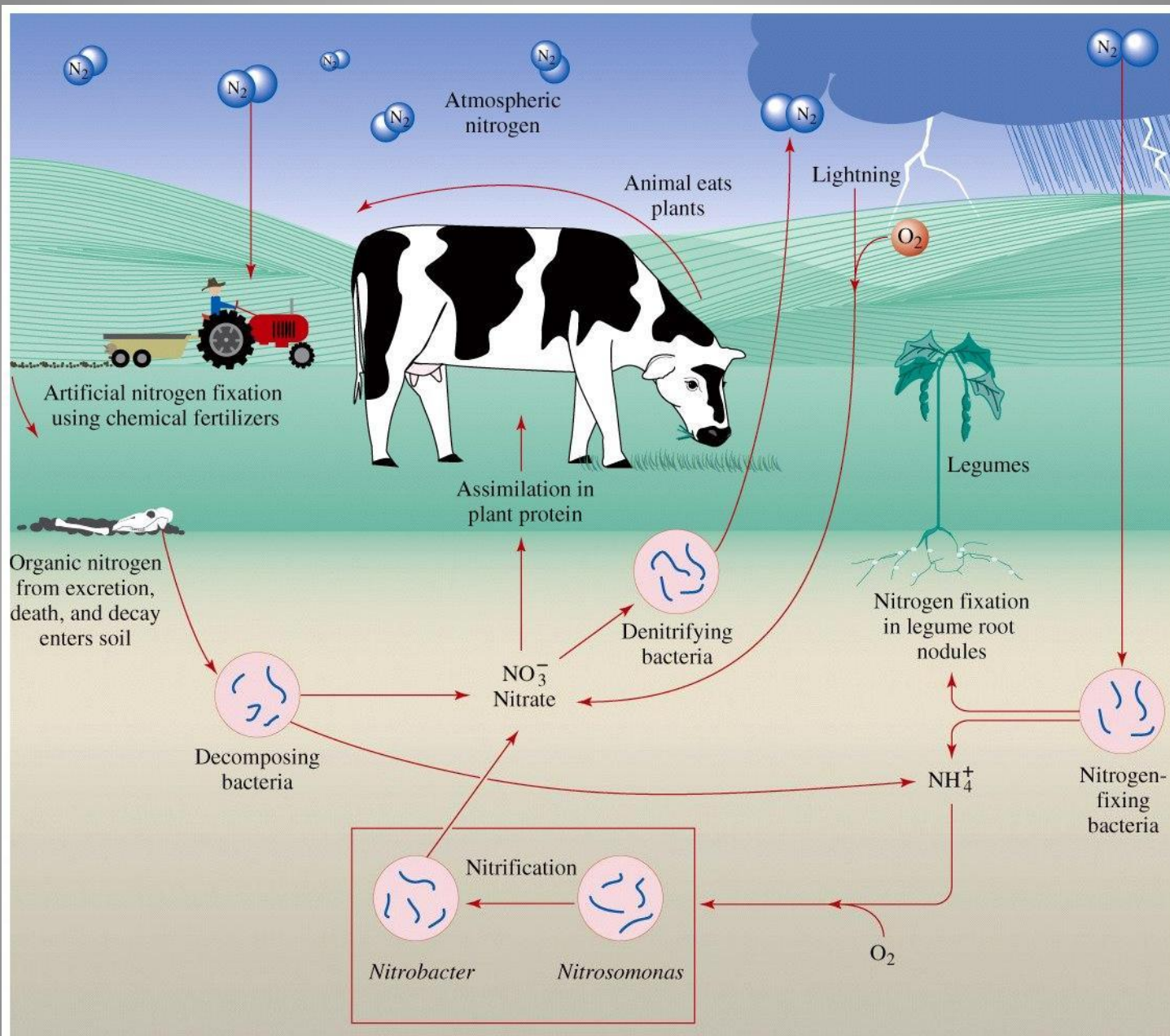
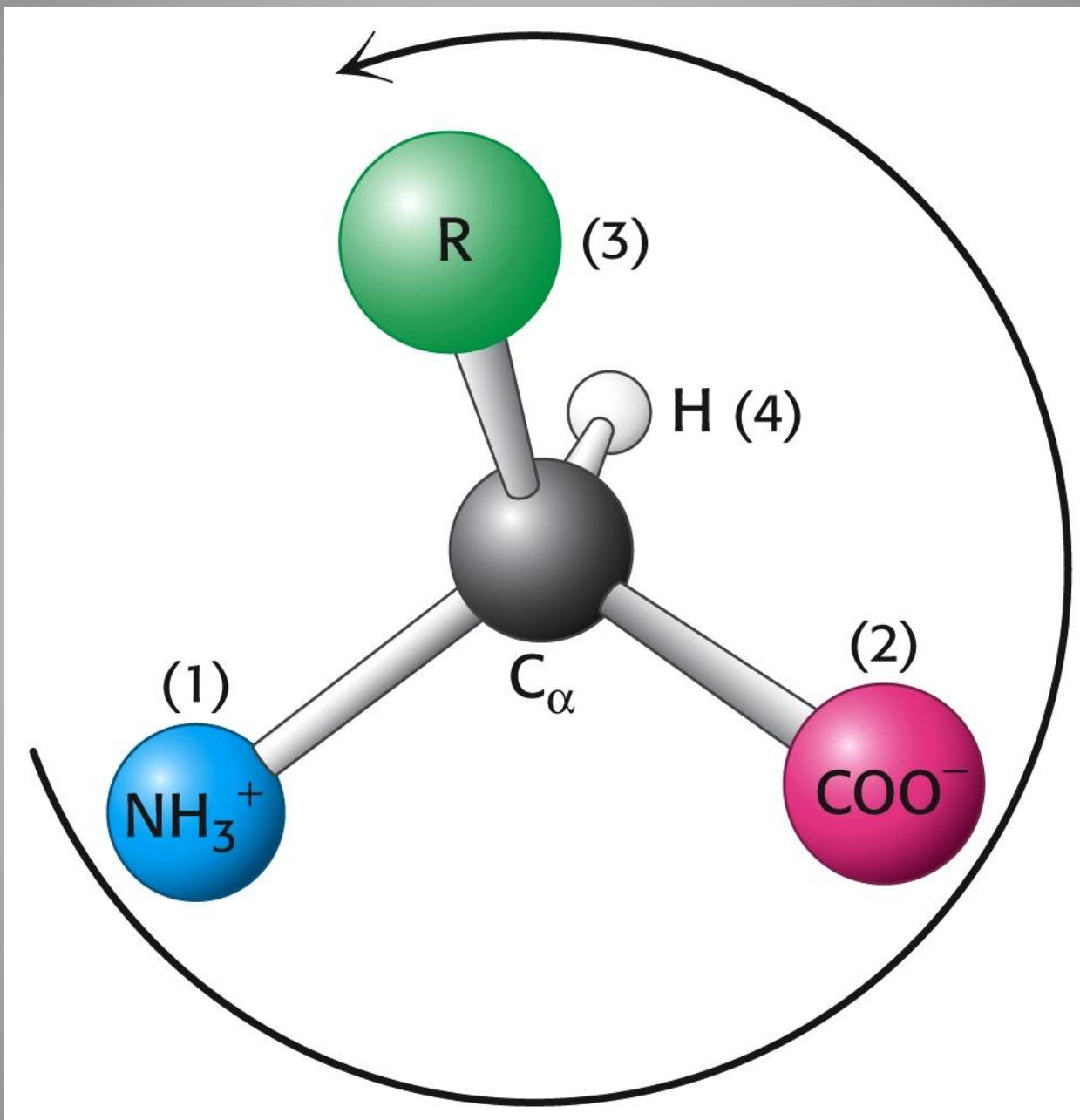
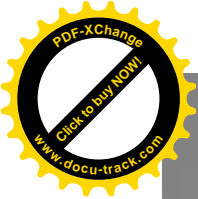
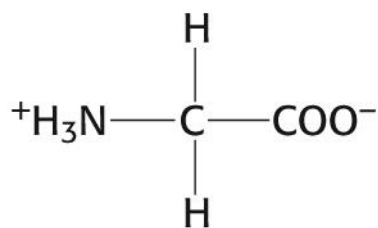
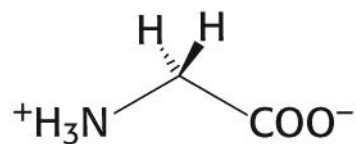
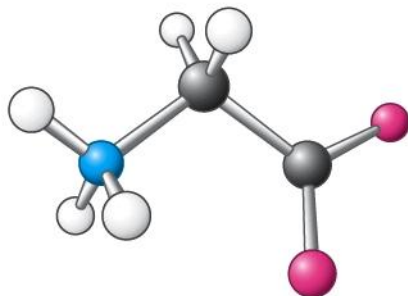


Figure 19-1 Concepts in Biochemistry, 3/e  
© 2006 John Wiley & Sons



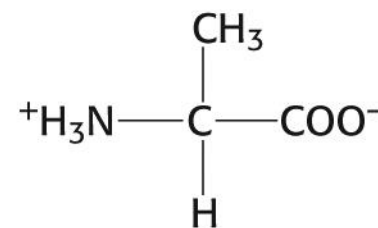
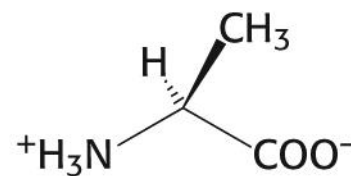
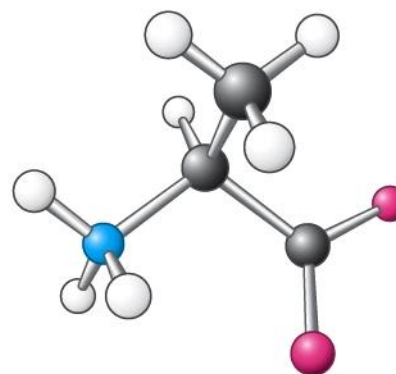


**Glycine**  
(Gly, G)



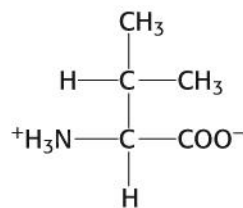
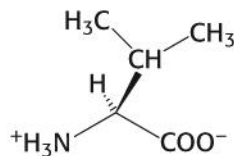
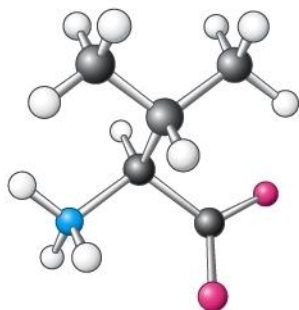
**Glycine**  
(Gly, G)

**Alanine**  
(Ala, A)



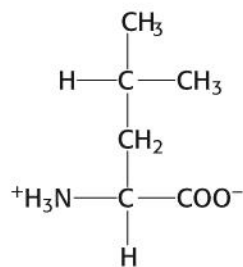
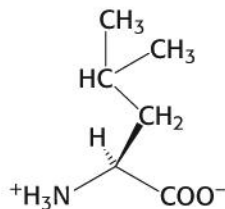
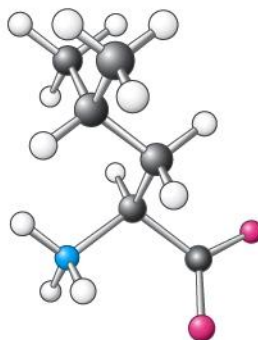
**Alanine**  
(Ala, A)

**Valine  
(Val, V)**



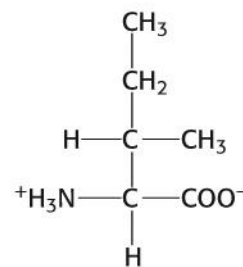
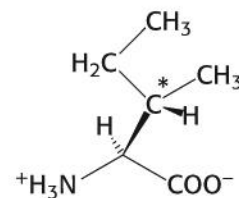
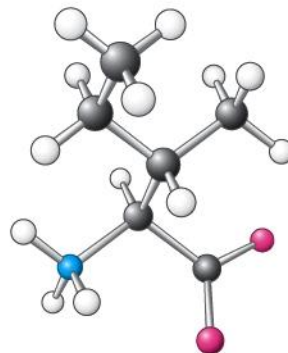
**Valine  
(Val, V)**

**Leucine  
(Leu, L)**



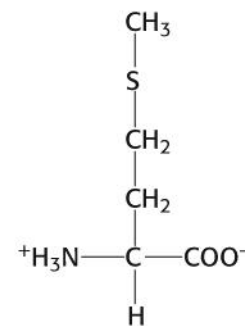
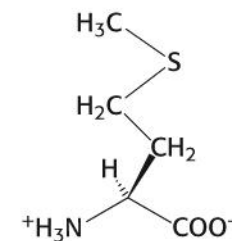
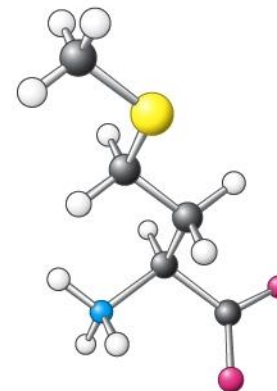
**Leucine  
(Leu, L)**

**Isoleucine  
(Ile, I)**



**Isoleucine  
(Ile, I)**

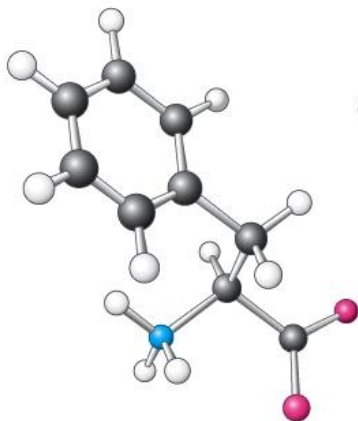
**Methionine  
(Met, M)**



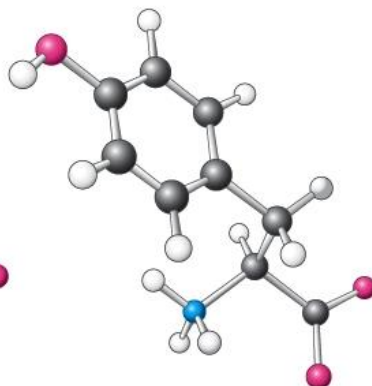
**Methionine  
(Met, M)**



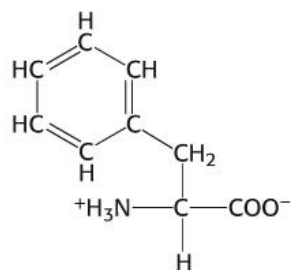
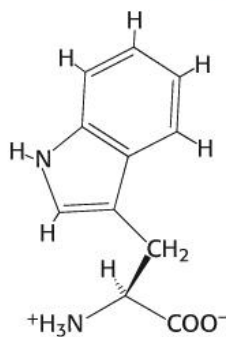
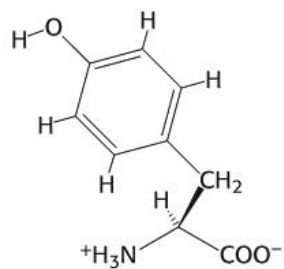
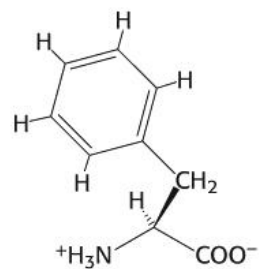
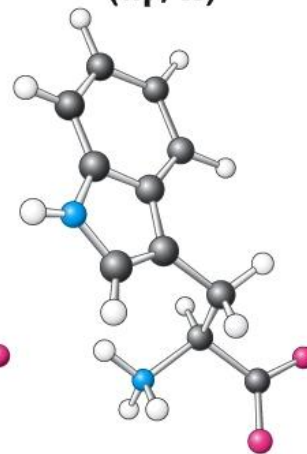
**Phenylalanine  
(Phe, F)**



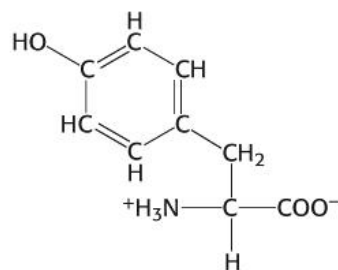
**Tyrosine  
(Tyr, Y)**



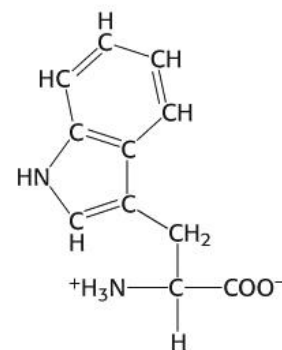
**Tryptophan  
(Trp, W)**



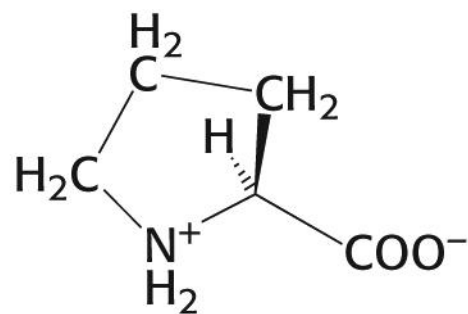
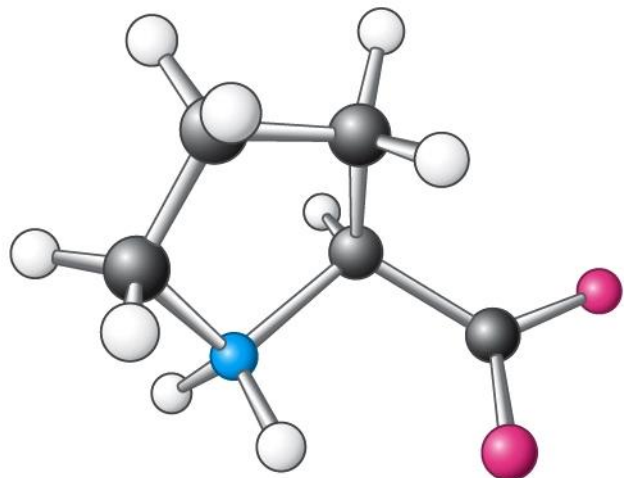
**Phenylalanine  
(Phe, F)**



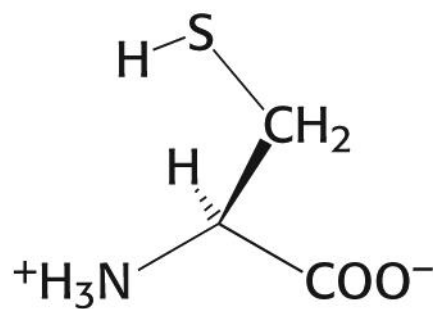
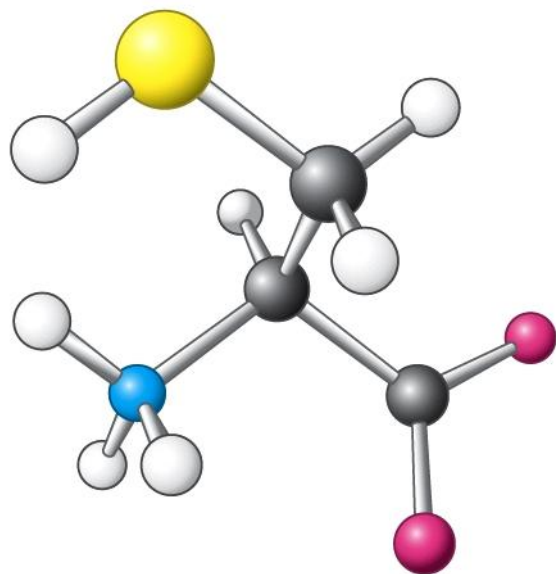
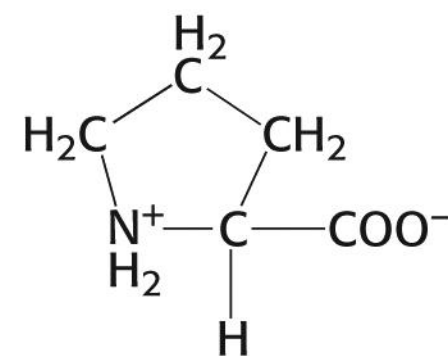
**Tyrosine  
(Tyr, Y)**



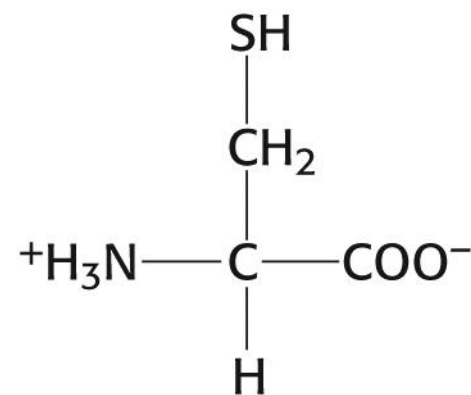
**Tryptophan  
(Trp, W)**



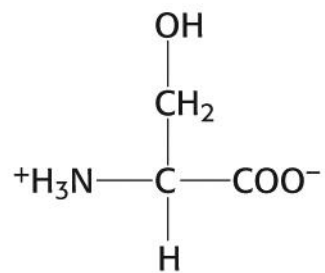
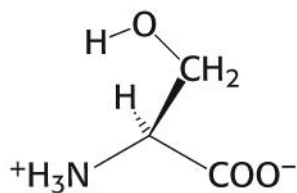
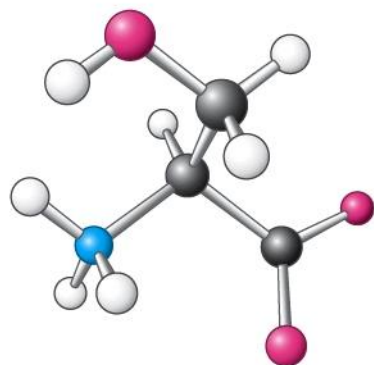
**Proline**  
(Pro, P)



**Cysteine**  
(Cys, C)

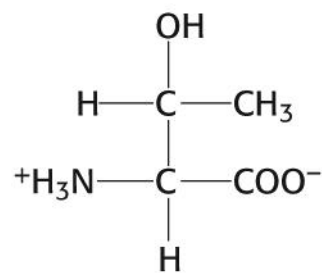
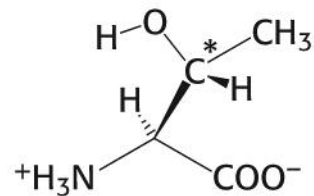
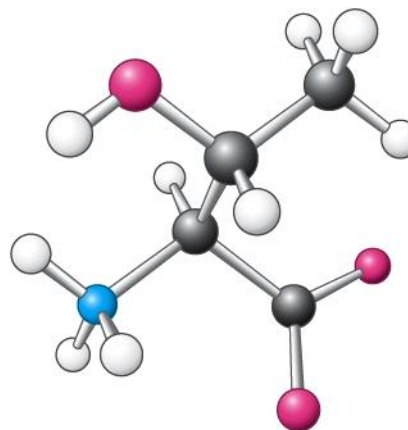


**Serine**  
(Ser, S)



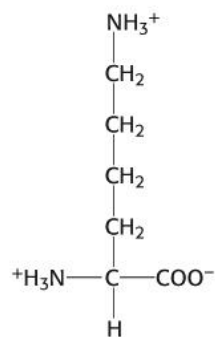
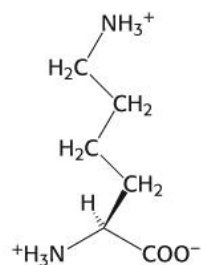
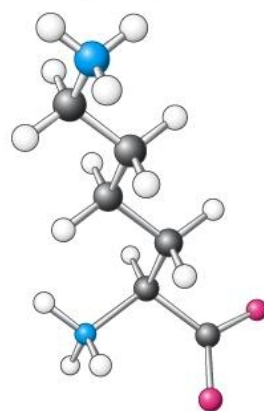
**Serine**  
(Ser, S)

**Threonine**  
(Thr, T)



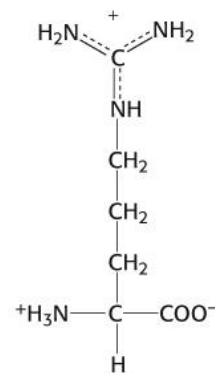
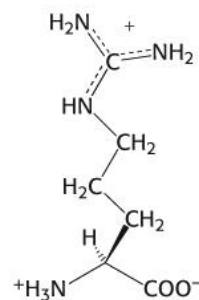
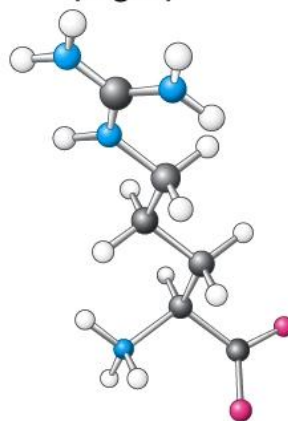
**Threonine**  
(Thr, T)

**Lysine**  
(Lys, K)



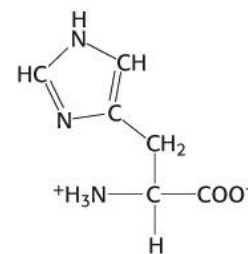
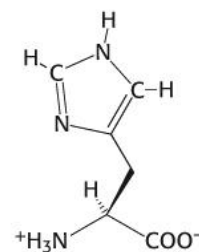
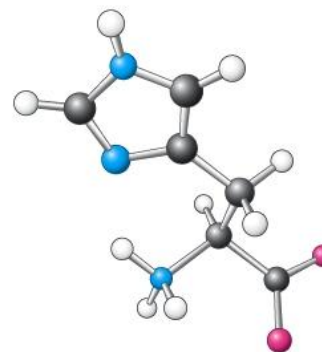
**Lysine**  
(Lys, K)

**Arginine**  
(Arg, R)



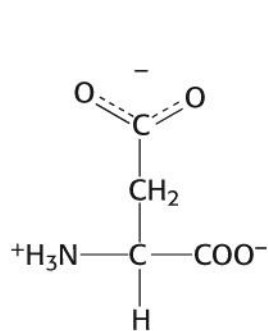
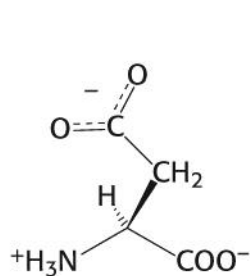
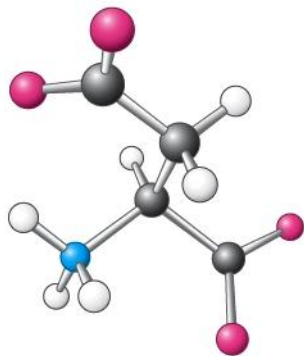
**Arginine**  
(Arg, R)

**Histidine**  
(His, H)



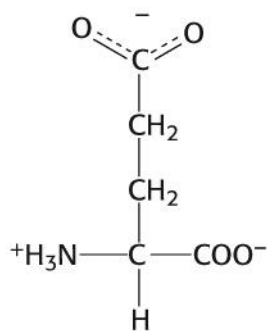
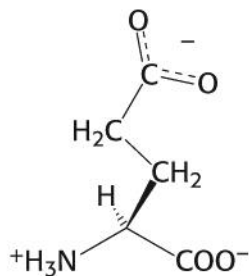
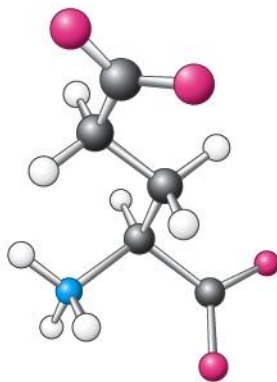
**Histidine**  
(His, H)

**Aspartate  
(Asp, D)**



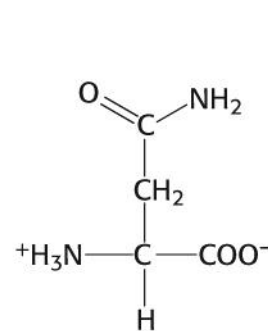
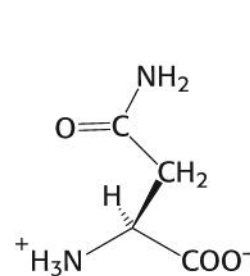
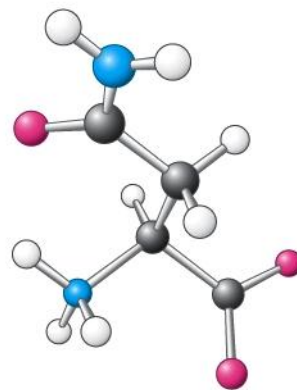
**Aspartate  
(Asp, D)**

**Glutamate  
(Glu, E)**



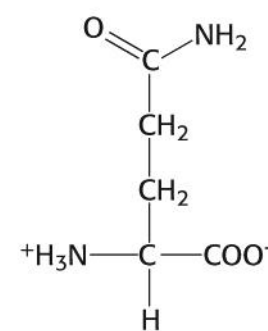
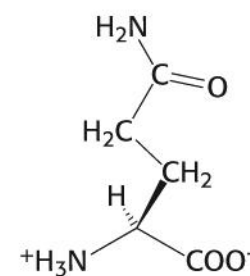
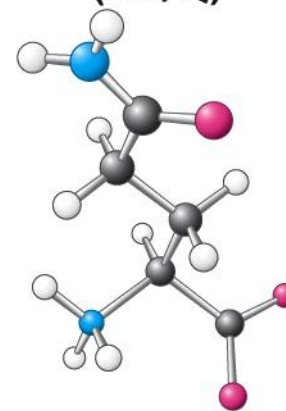
**Glutamate  
(Glu, E)**

**Asparagine  
(Asn, N)**

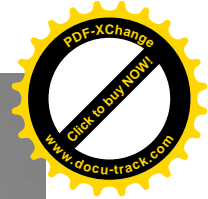


**Asparagine  
(Asn, N)**

**Glutamine  
(Gln, Q)**



**Glutamine  
(Gln, Q)**



# Protein turnover (intracellular)

**TABLE 23.2 Dependence of the half-lives of cytoplasmic yeast proteins on the identity of their amino-terminal residues**

**Highly stabilizing residues**

( $t_{1/2} > 20$  hours)

Ala	Cys	Gly	Met
Pro	Ser	Thr	Val

“N-end rule”

**Intrinsically destabilizing residues**

( $t_{1/2} = 2$  to 30 minutes)

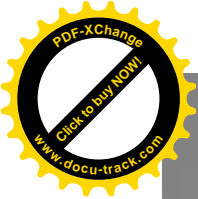
Arg	His	Ile	Leu
Lys	Phe	Trp	Tyr

**Destabilizing residues after chemical modification**

( $t_{1/2} = 3$  to 30 minutes)

Asn	Asp	Gln	Glu
-----	-----	-----	-----

Source: J. W. Tobias, T. E. Schrader, G. Rocap, and A. Varshavsky. *Science*



## **TABLE 23.3 Processes regulated by protein degradation**

---

**Gene transcription**

**Cell-cycle progression**

**Organ formation**

**Circadian rhythms**

**Inflammatory response**

**Tumor suppression**

**Cholesterol metabolism**

**Antigen processing**

---

Table 23-3

*Biochemistry, Sixth Edition*

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- Proteasome digests the ubiquitin-tagged proteins

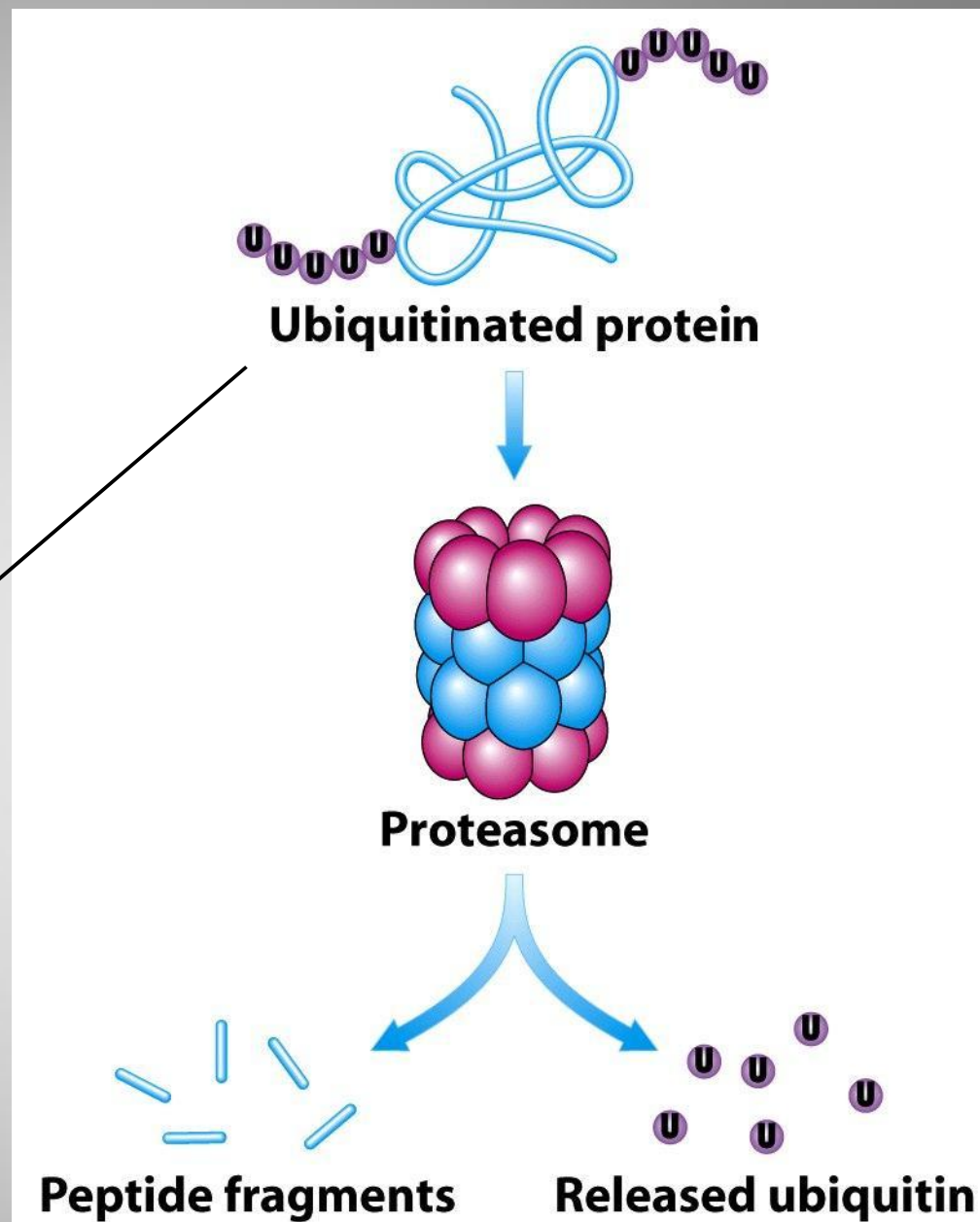
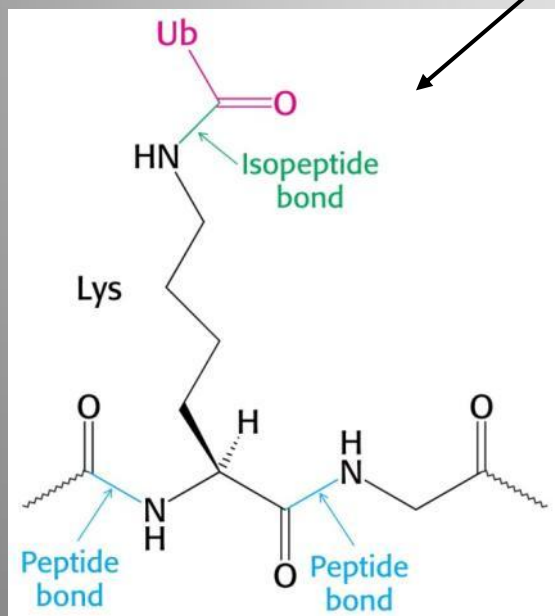


Figure 23-7 part 1  
*Biochemistry, Sixth Edition*  
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- Ubiquitin (8.5 kD)
- Present in all eukaryotes
- Highly conserved
- Form isopeptide bond with target proteins

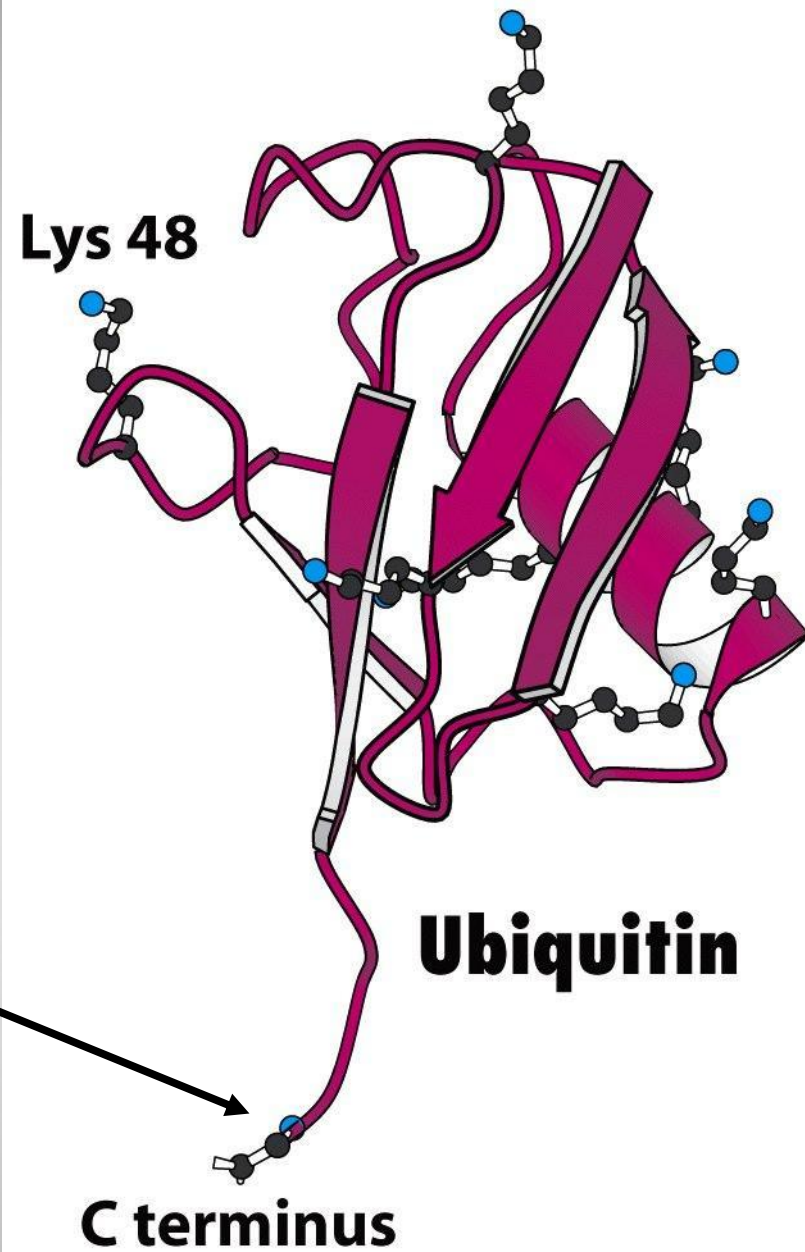


Figure 23-2  
*Biochemistry, Sixth Edition*  
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# Ubiquitin conjugation

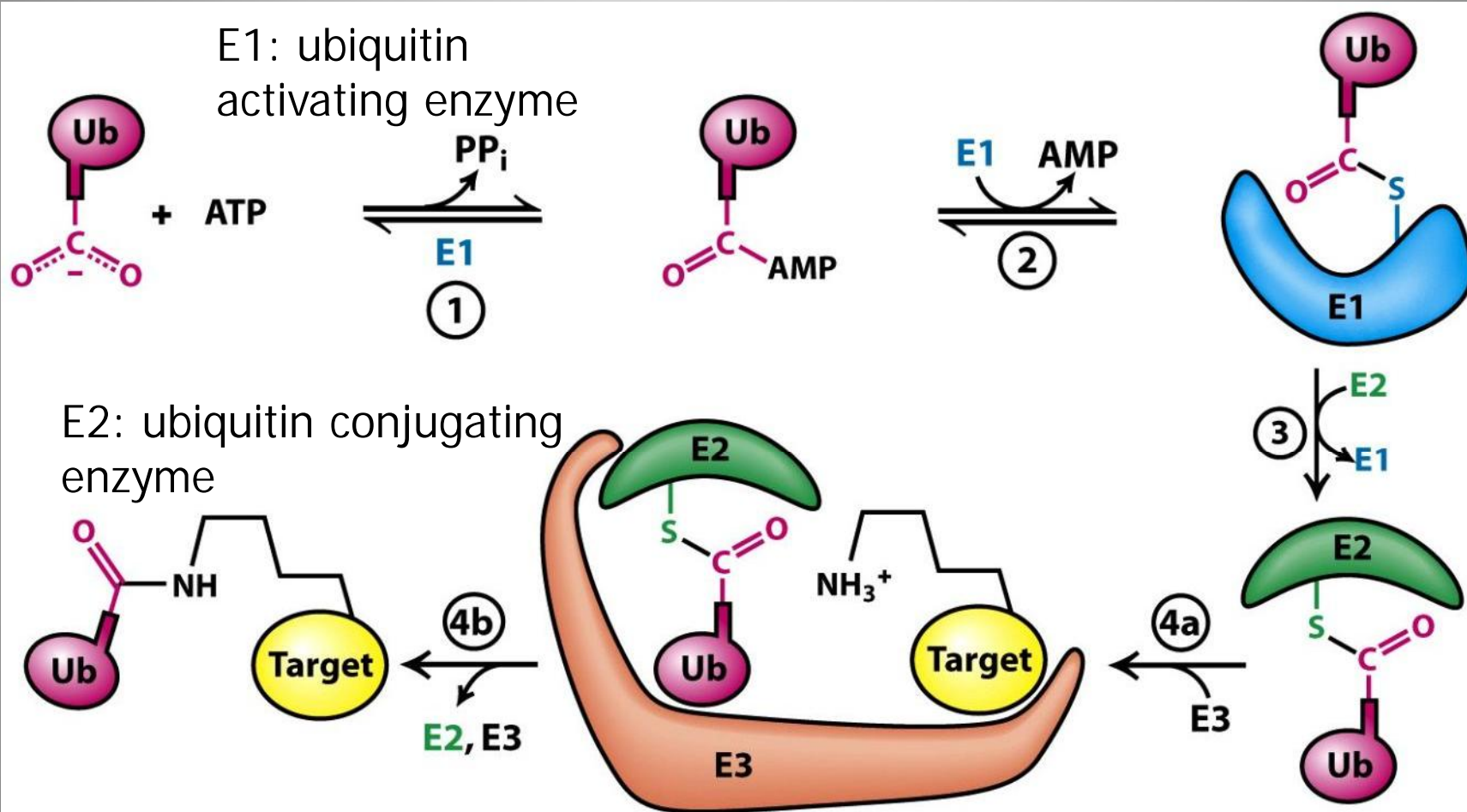
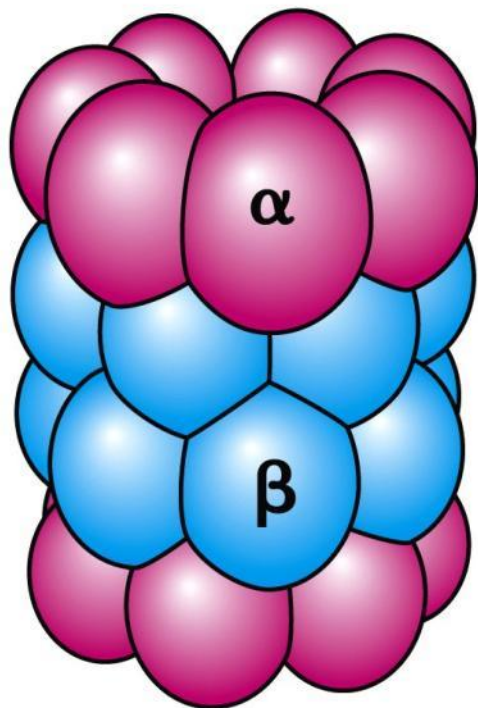


Figure 23-3  
*Biochemistry, Sixth Edition*  
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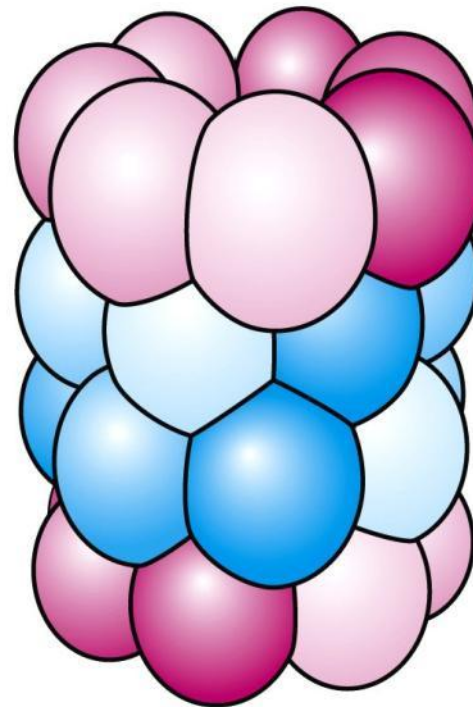
E3: ubiquitin-protein ligase

# 26S proteasome



**Archaeal proteasome**

Figure 23-8  
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**Eukaryotic proteasome**

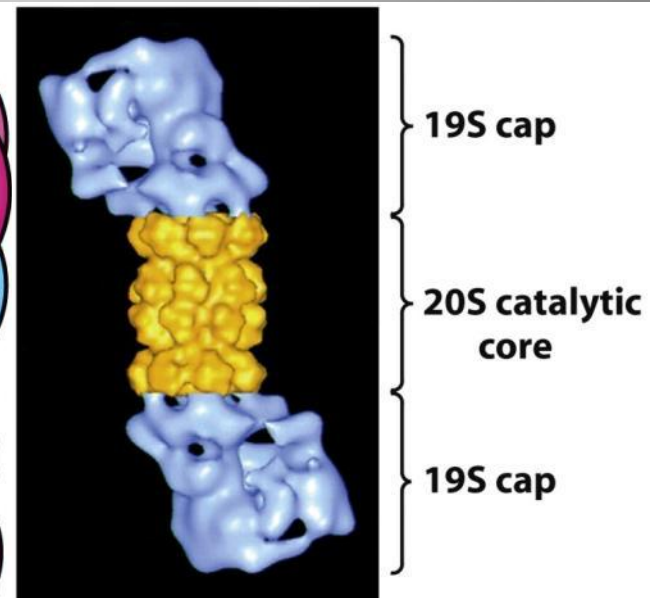


Figure 23-6  
*Biochemistry, Sixth Edition*

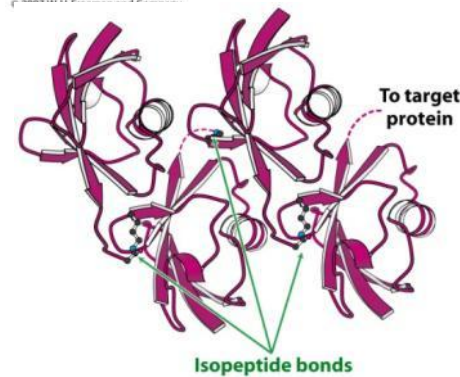
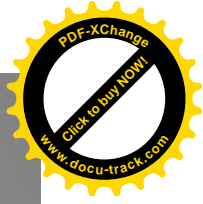


Figure 23-4  
*Biochemistry, Sixth Edition*  
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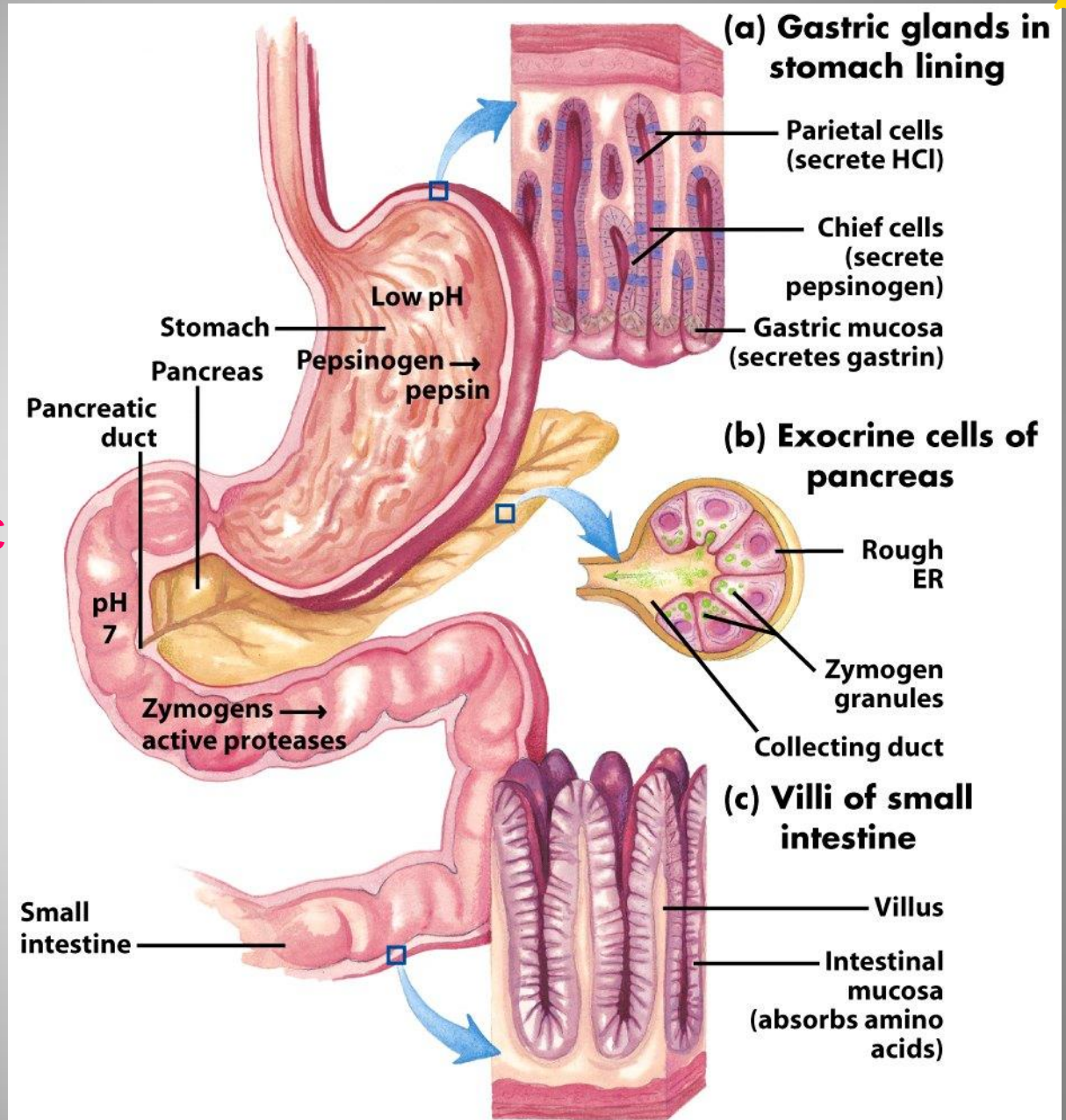


# Applications

- E3, the reader of N-terminal residues
- Cyclin destruction in cell cycle
- Proteins rich in PEST sequence
- HPV encodes protein that activates E3
  - then E3 ubiquitinates p53 (tumor suppressor) → degraded → → cervical CA

# Digestion

- acid denaturation
- pepsin,
  - primary proteolytic enzyme
- pancreatic enzymes
  - trypsin
  - chymotrypsin
  - elastase



# Absorption

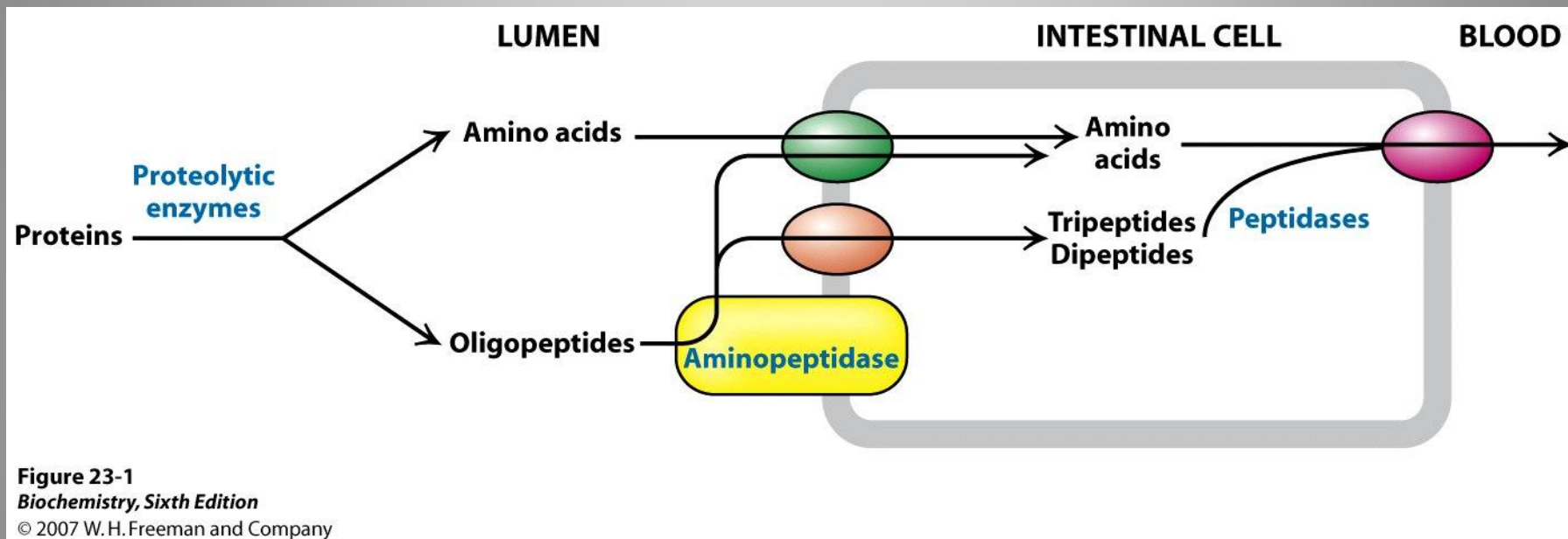
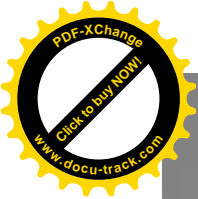


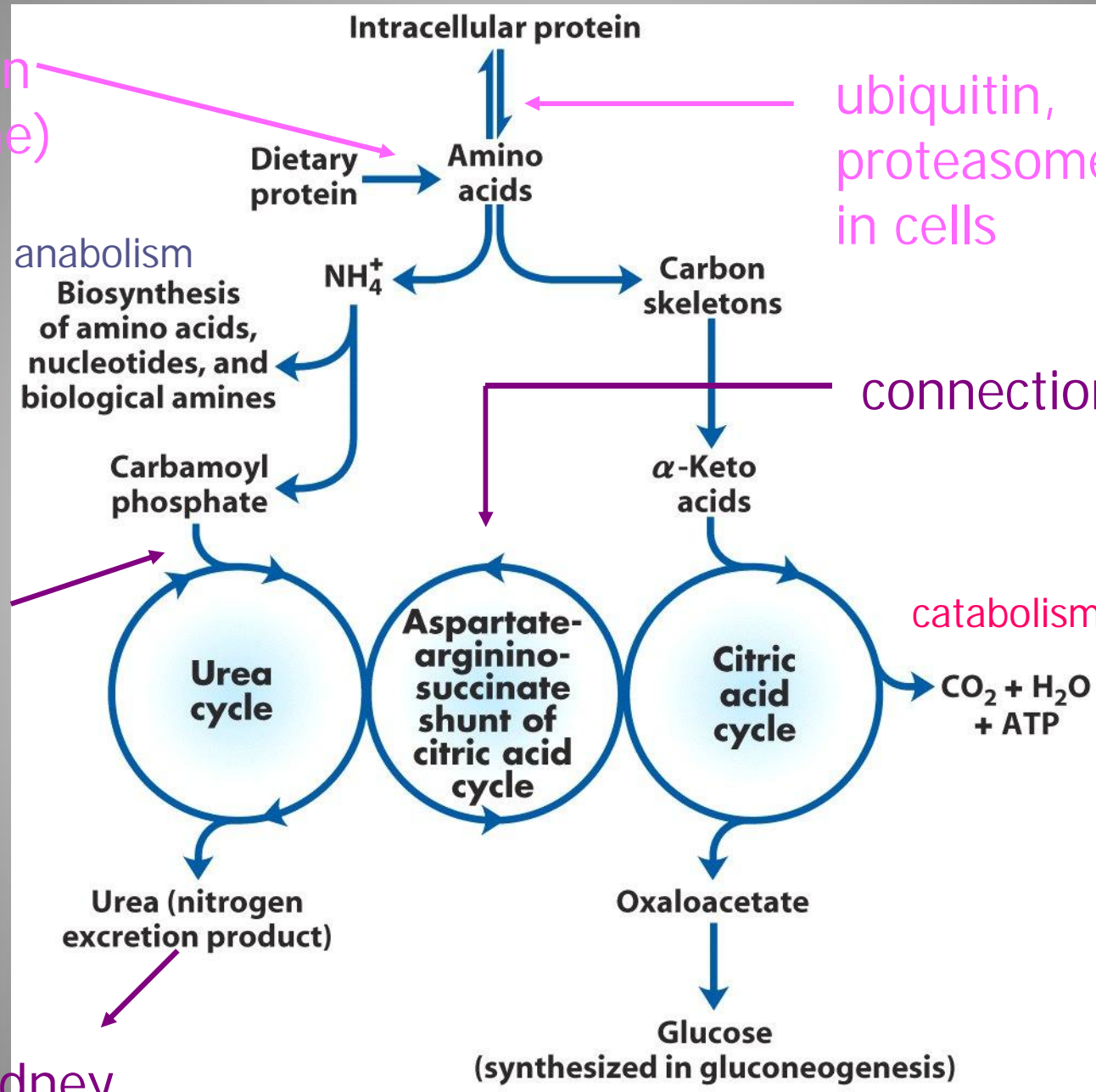
Figure 23-1  
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- oligopeptides=di-, tripeptides=-absorbable



Digestion (intestine)

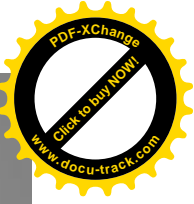
ubiquitin, proteasome in cells



in liver

catabolism

via kidney



# Nitrogen balance

A well-nourished adult is said to be in nitrogen equilibrium or normal nitrogen balance if

Dietary intake of nitrogen = Nitrogen loss (through excretion and other processes, such as perspiration)

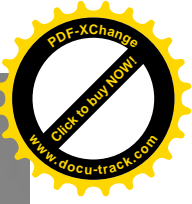
Positive nitrogen balance occurs when:

Dietary intake of nitrogen > Nitrogen loss

Negative nitrogen balance occurs when:

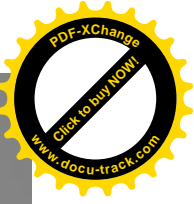
Dietary intake of nitrogen < Nitrogen loss





# Nitrogen balance (application)

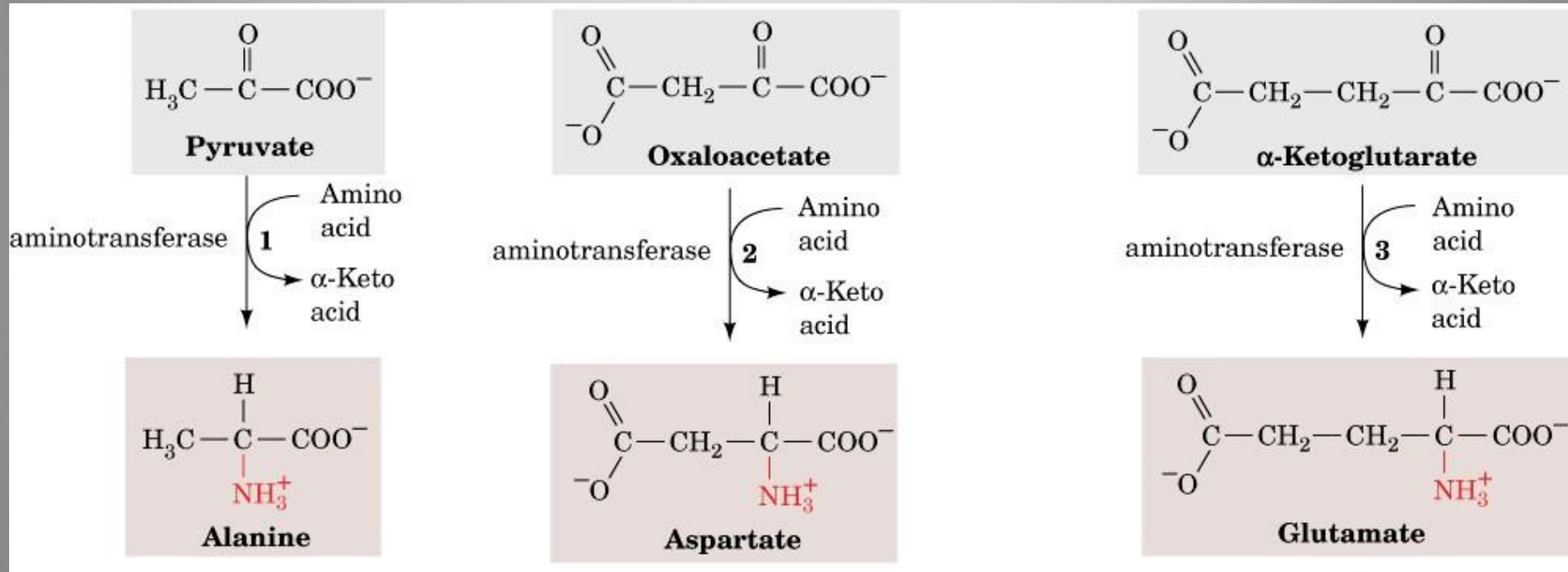
- Daily protein recommendation: 0.8 g/kg/day
- 1.4-1.7 g/kg/day for strength athletes to maintain muscle mass
- Balance between the rate of protein synthesis and protein breakdown
- Excess intake  $> 3$  g/kg/day have negative effect

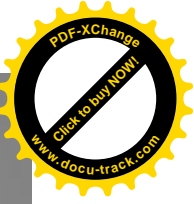


# Amine group removal (deamination)

1. Transamination : transaminase
2. Oxidative deamination : glutamate dehydrogenase, L-amino acid oxidase
3. Dehydratase : removal of water first and then followed by deamination e.g serine dehydratase and threonine dehydratase

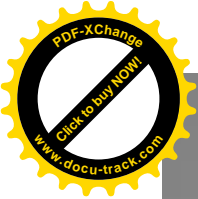
# $\alpha$ -Amino acids and $\alpha$ -keto acids



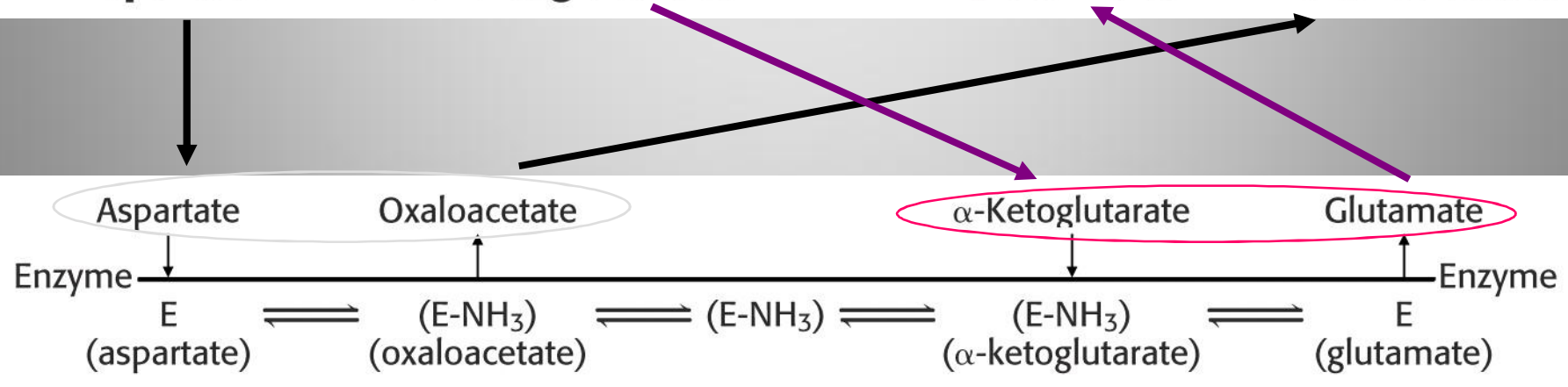
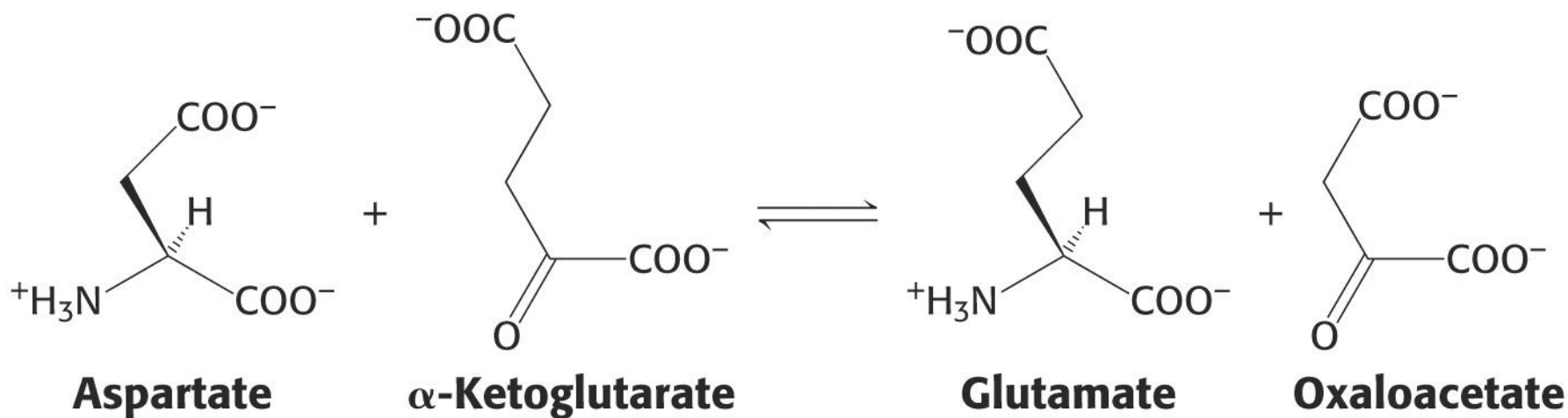


# Transamination

- Enz: transaminase, aminotransferase
- Mec: transfer of  $\alpha$ -amino group from  $\alpha$ -amino acid to an  $\alpha$ -ketoacid—usu.  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate
- Aspartate aminotransferase:  
 $\text{aspartate} + \alpha\text{-ketoglutarate} \leftrightarrow \text{oxaloacetate} + \text{glutamate}$
- Alanine amino transferase:  
 $\text{alanine} + \alpha\text{-ketoglutarate} \leftrightarrow \text{pyruvate} + \text{glutamate}$

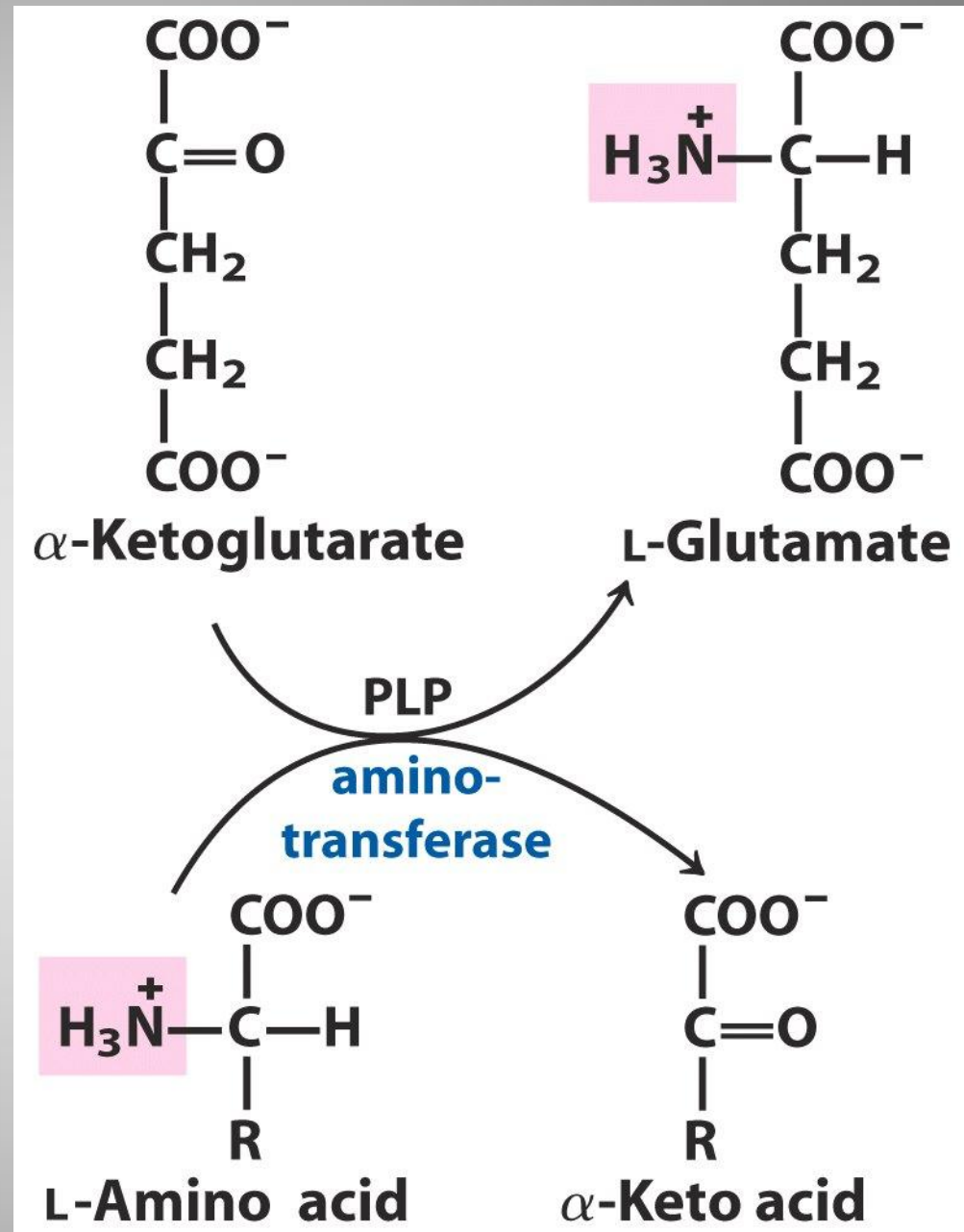


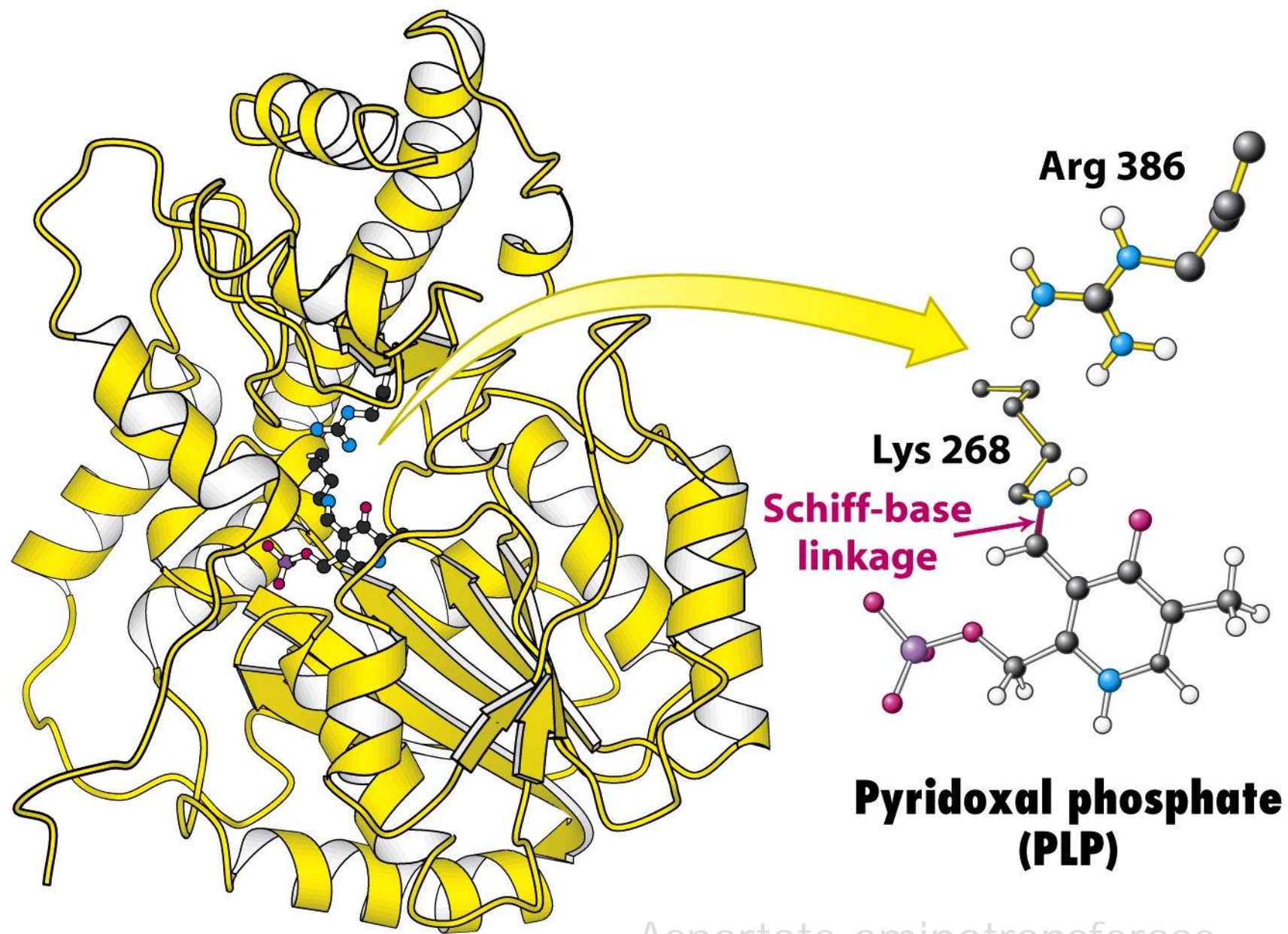
# Ping-pong reaction



# Transamination

- $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate often used by many transaminase
- all transaminases contain pyridoxal phosphate (prosthetic gr)
- Occur in most tissues

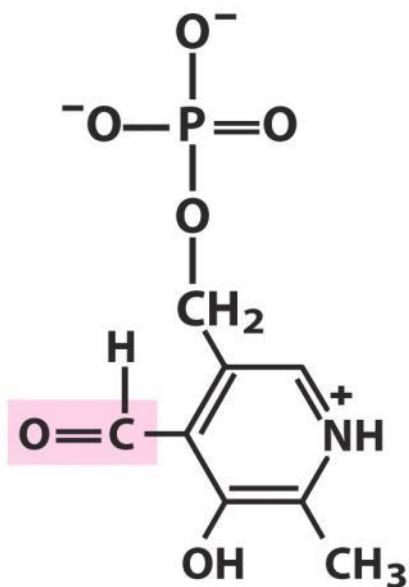




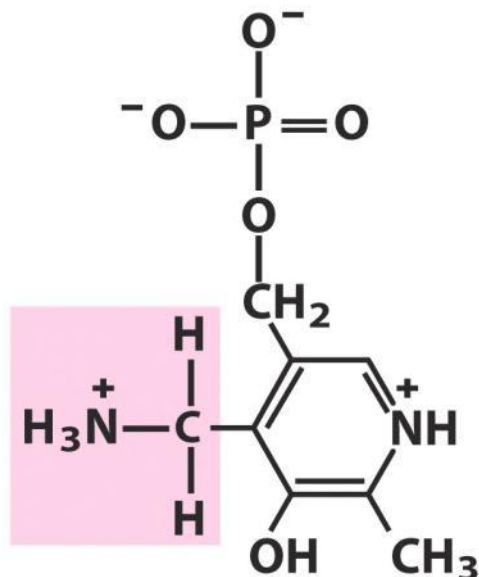
Aspartate aminotransferase

**Figure 23-12**  
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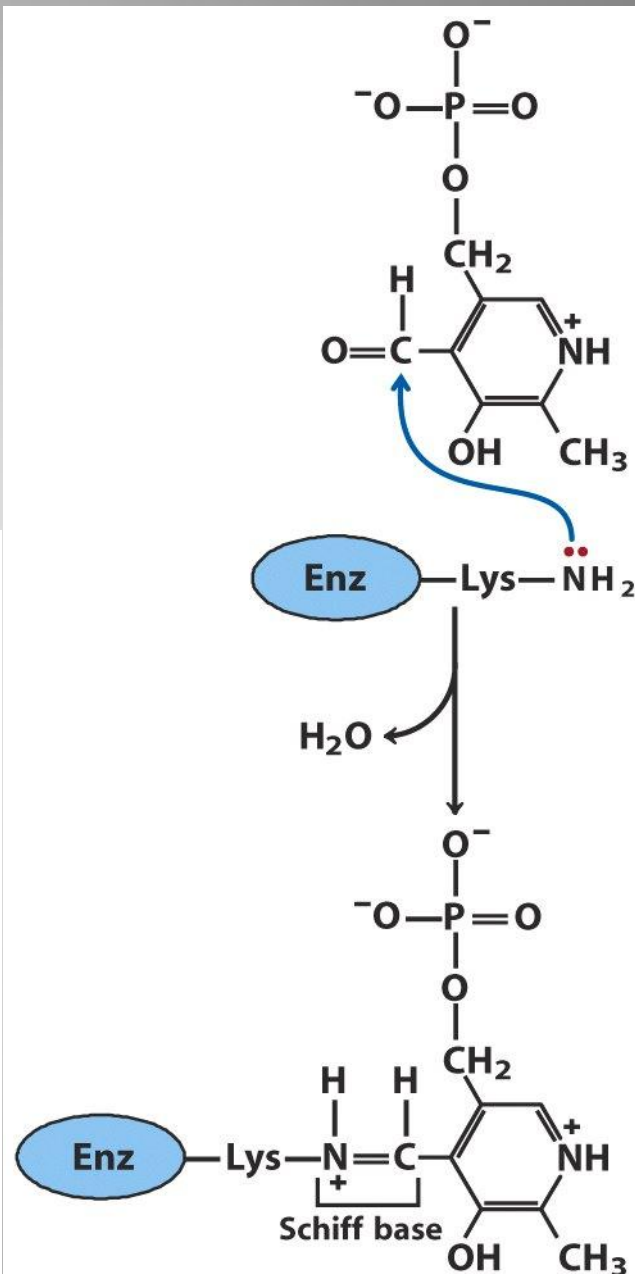
# Vitamin B6



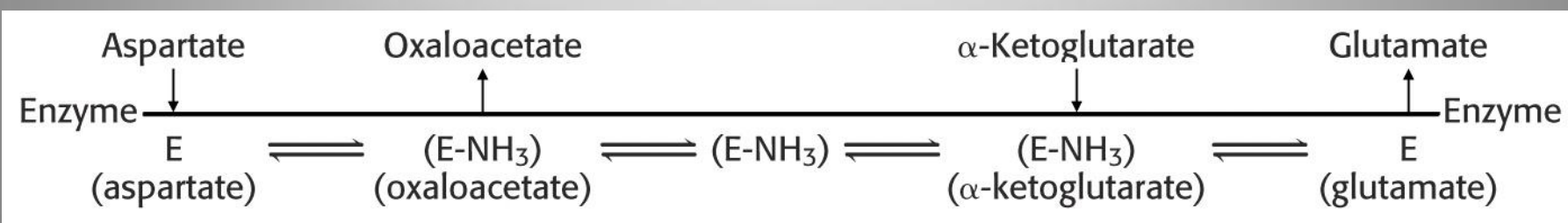
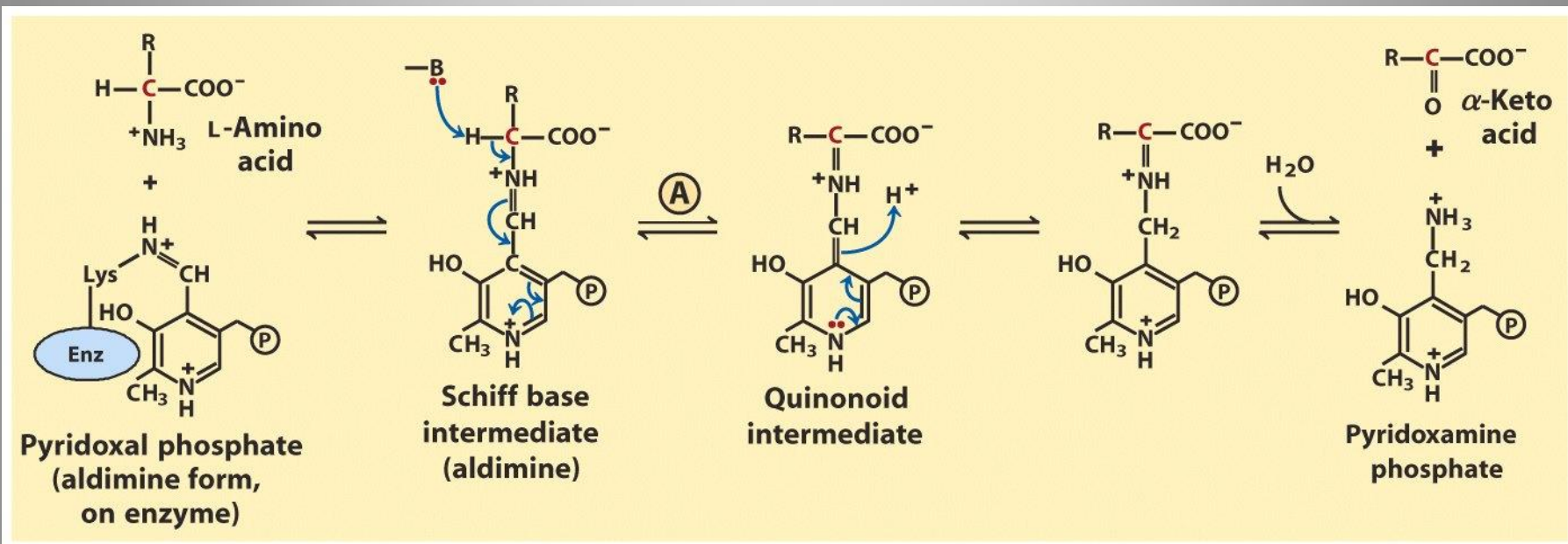
Pyridoxal phosphate  
(PLP)

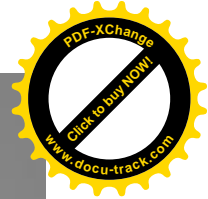


Pyridoxamine  
phosphate





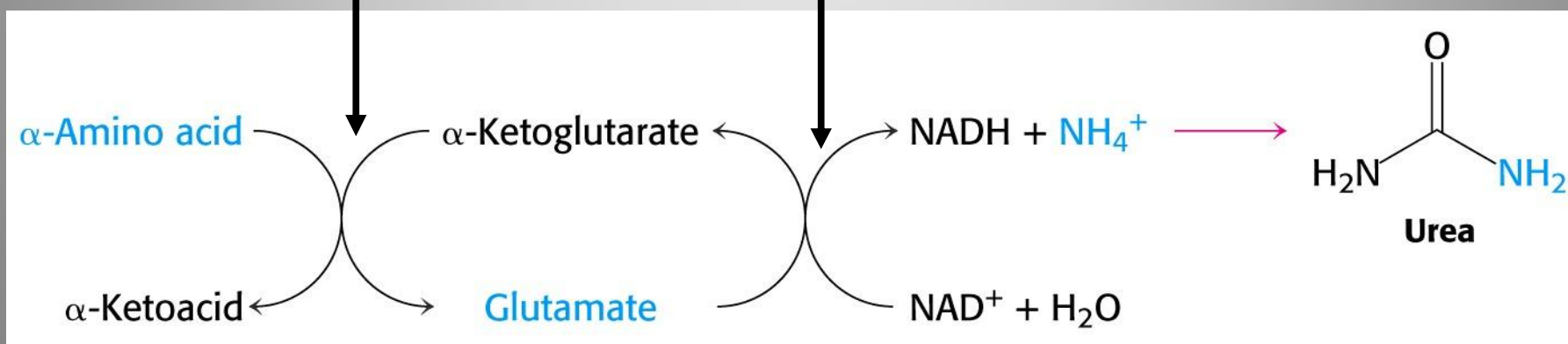


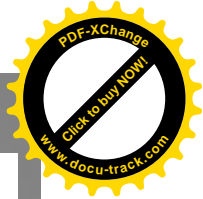


# Transamination followed by oxidative deamination

aminotransferase

glutamate dehydrogenase





# Glutamate DH

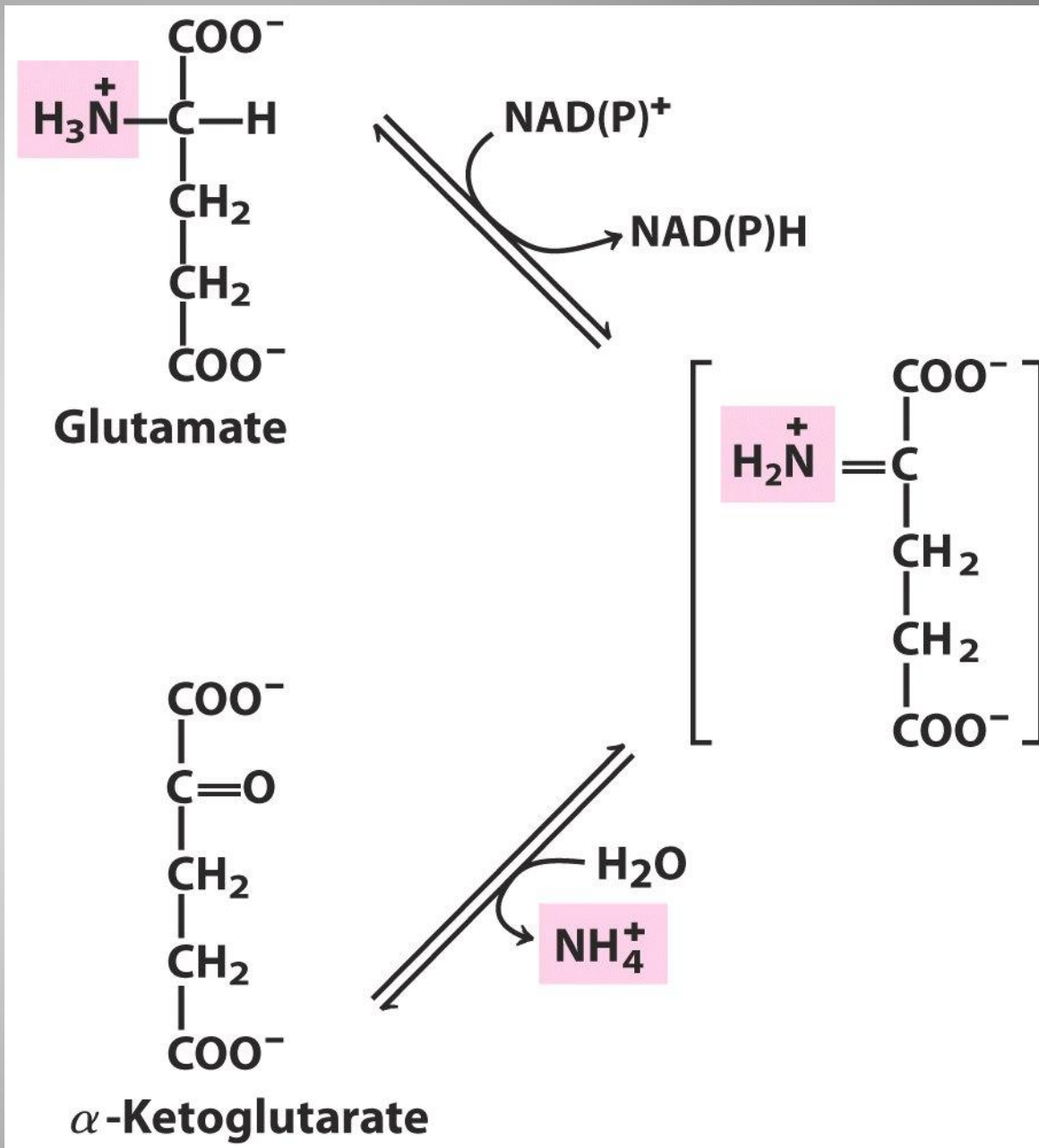
- Release free ammonium
- Occur in mitochondrion

Allosteric inhibitors

GTP, ATP

Allsteric activators

GDP, ADP



**Active pathways:**

1. Glycogen breakdown,
2. Glycolysis,
3. Citric acid cycle,
4. Oxidative phosphorylation,
5. Gluconeogenesis,
6. Urea cycle,

Glucose-alanine cycle

Cori cycle

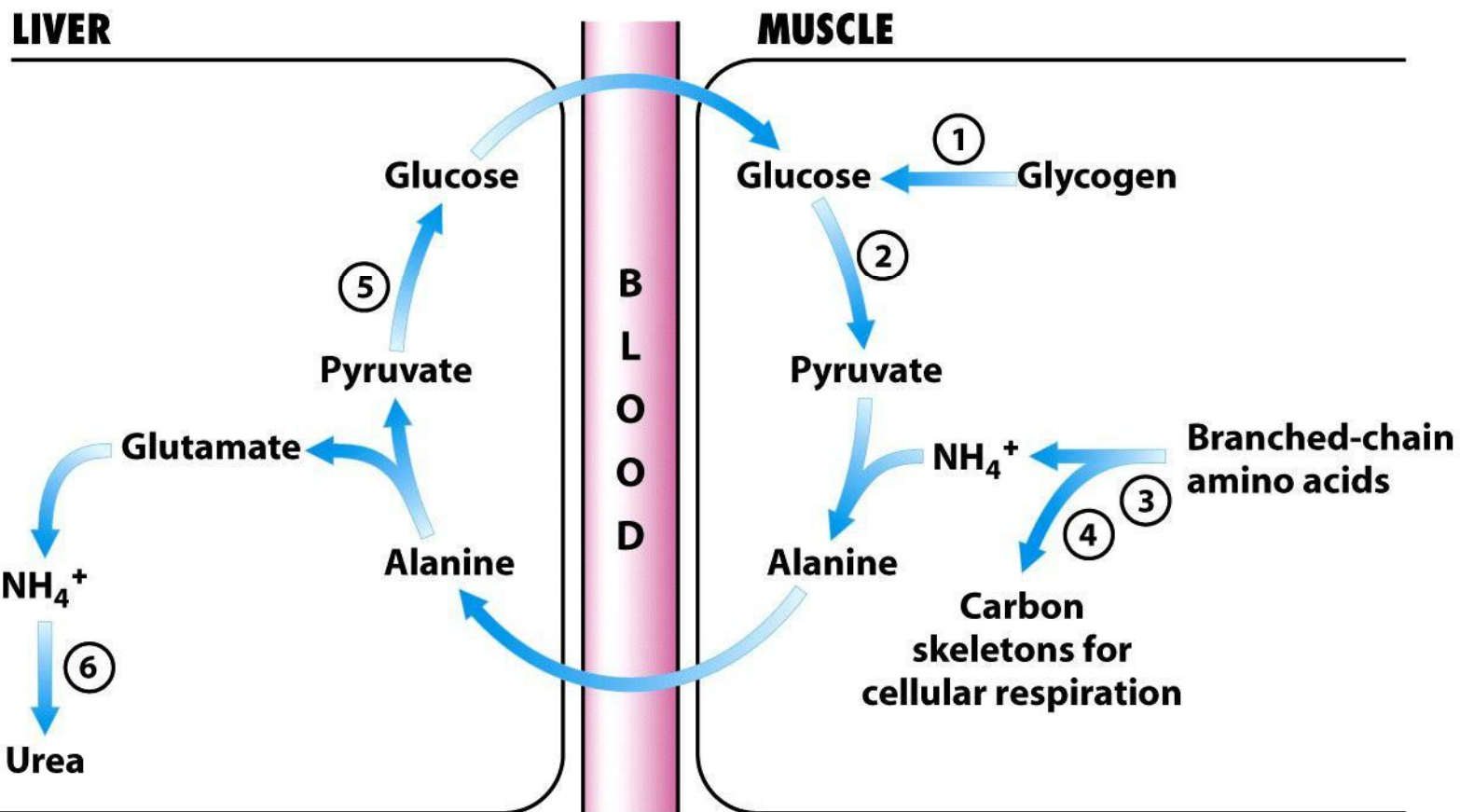
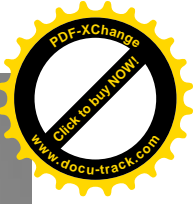
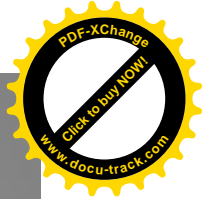


Figure 23-16  
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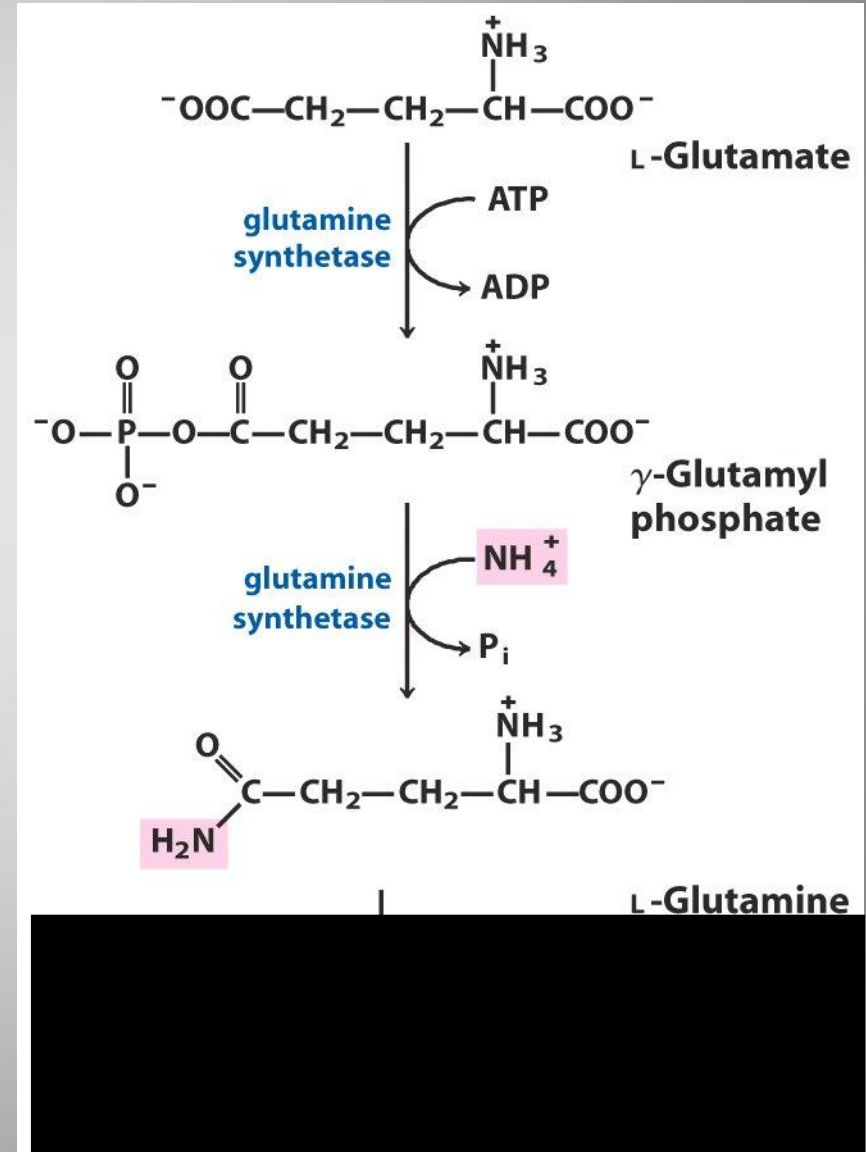
# Nitrogen transport to liver

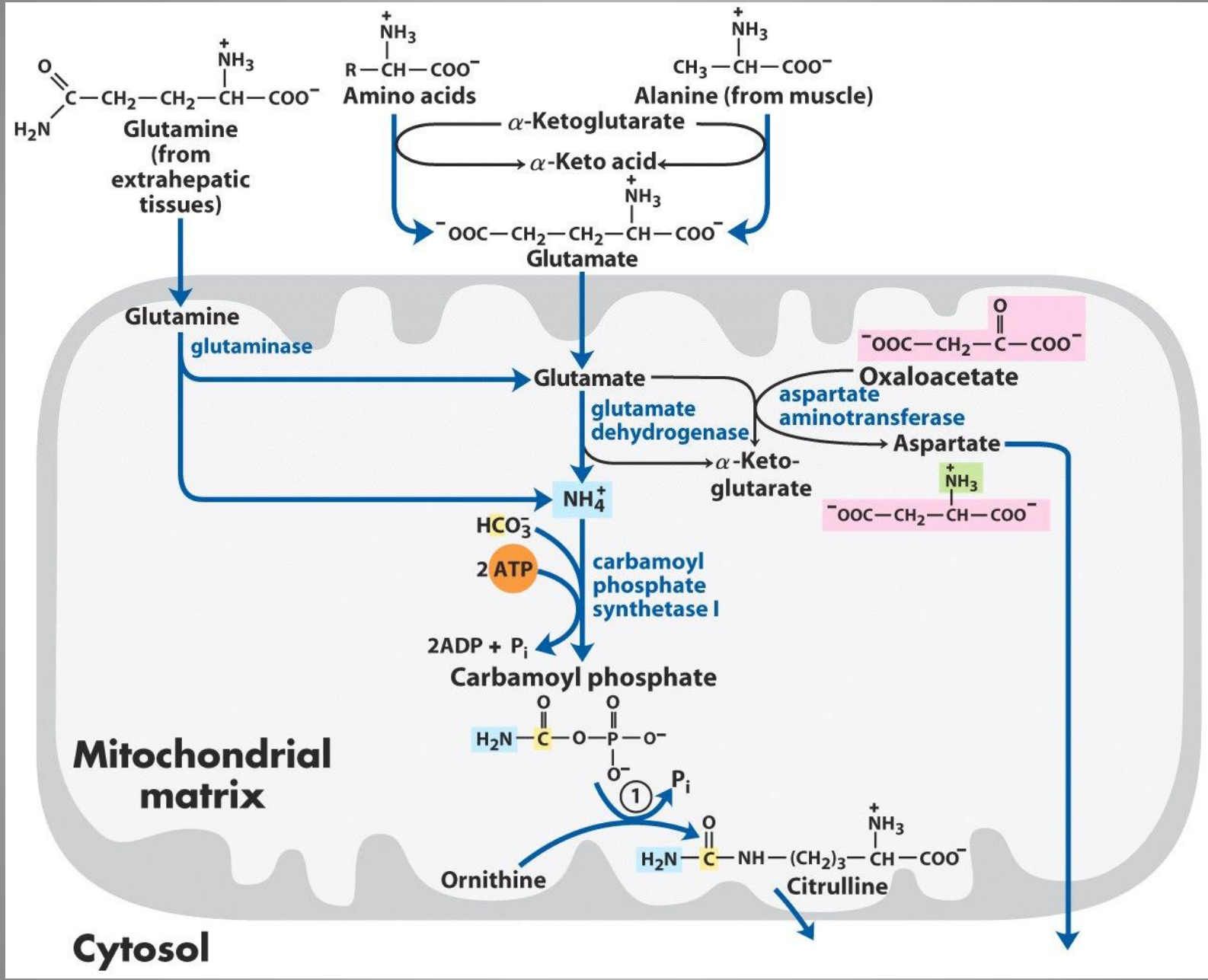
- Amino acid degradation occurs in tissues other than liver
- Muscle uses aa during prolong exercise and fasting
- Only liver contains all enzymes for urea cycle
- Muscle transports nitrogen in the form of alanine (via glucose –alanine cycle)
- Others transport nitrogen as glutamine via glutamine synthetase



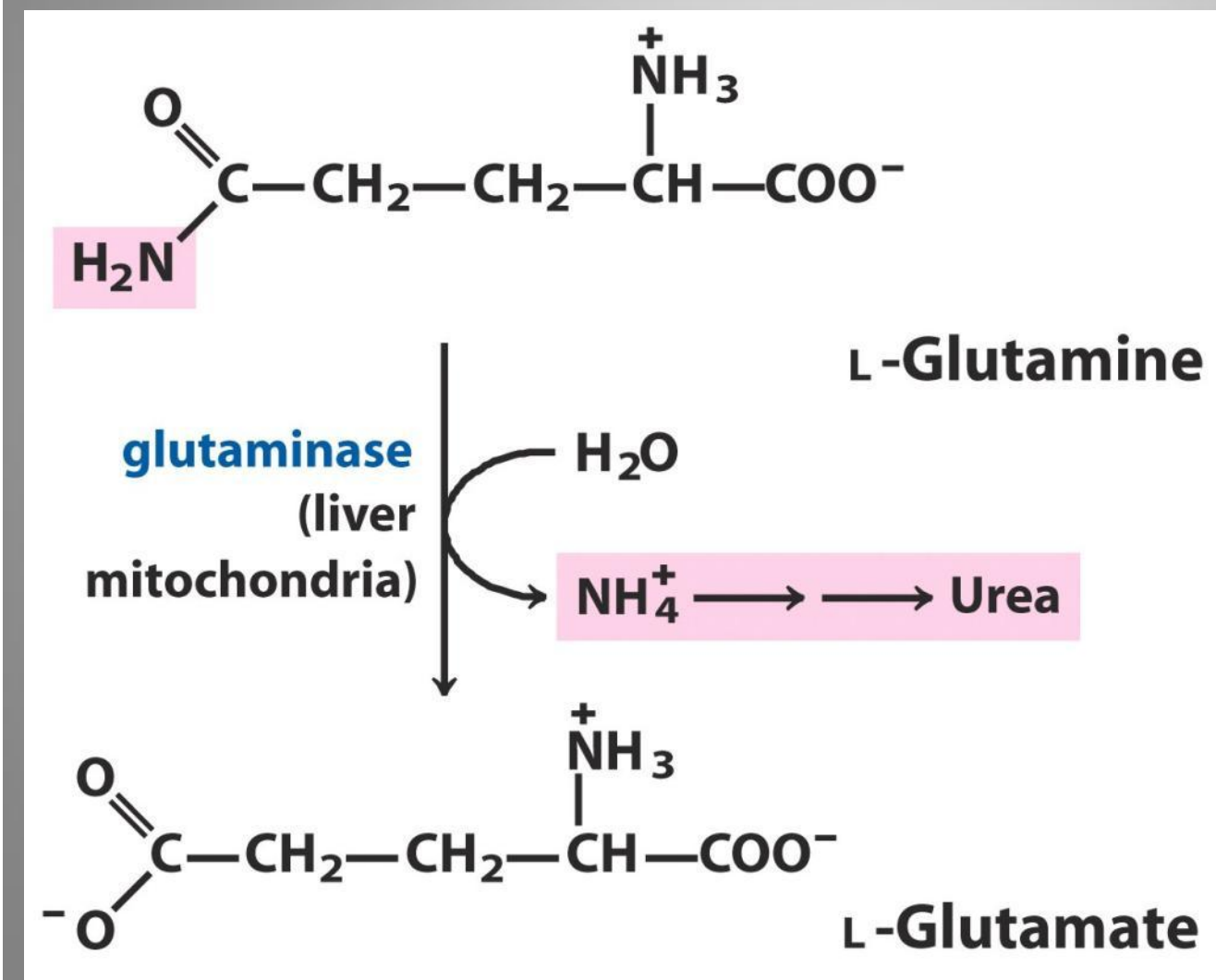
# Glutamine

- Formation of glutamine from glutamate, ATP, ammonium
- Occurred in tissues other than liver
- Glutamine carries nitrogen to liver



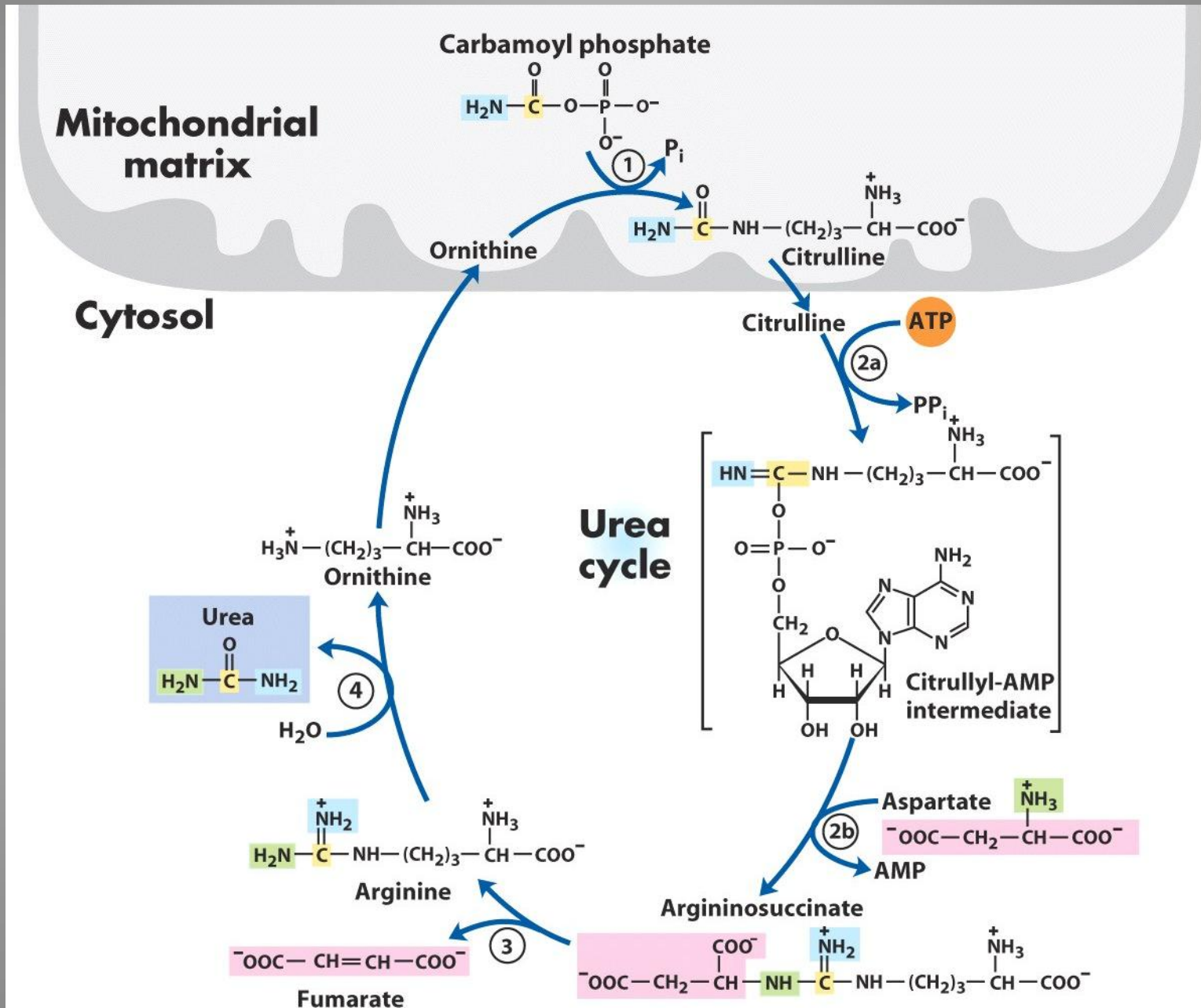
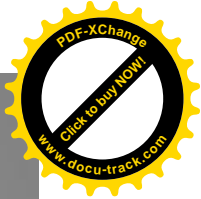
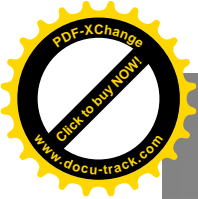


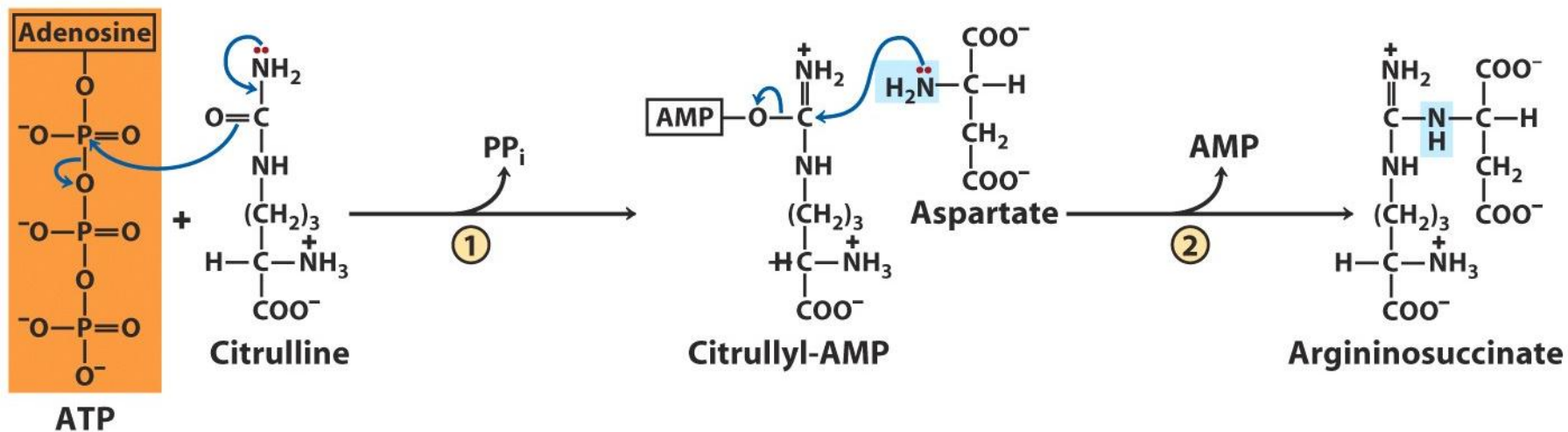
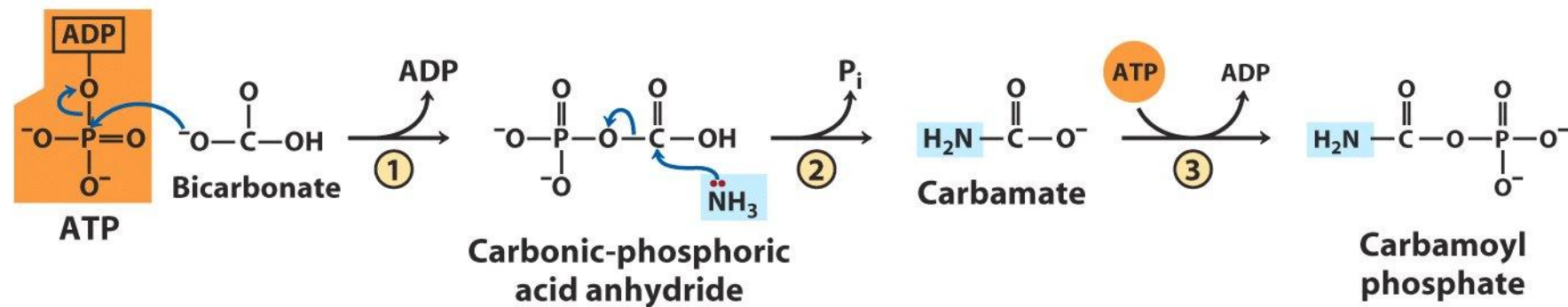
# Action of glutaminase

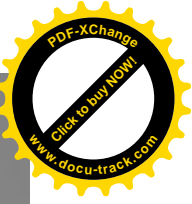


Glutaminase also present in kidney but for acid-base regulation



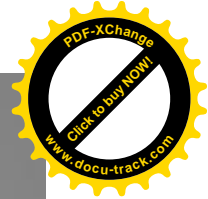






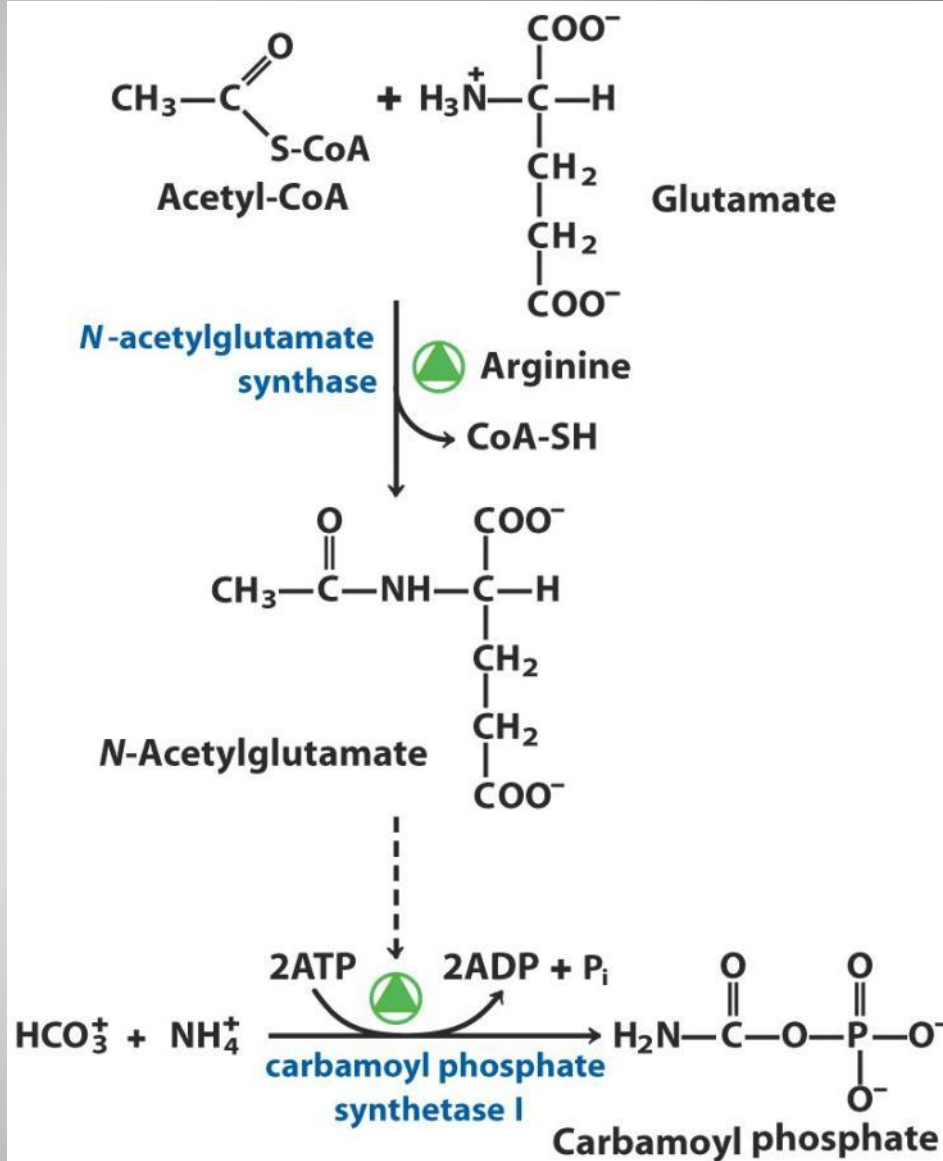
# Urea cycle

- 1=carbamoyl phosphate synthetase I:
- 2=**ornithine transcarbamoylase**: ornithine is carbamoylated citrulline
- 3=**argininosuccinate synthetase**: condensation of citrulline and aspartate
- 4=**argininosuccinase**: cleavage of argininosuccinate into arginine and fumarate
- 5=**arginase**: arginine is hydrolyzed to urea and ornithine

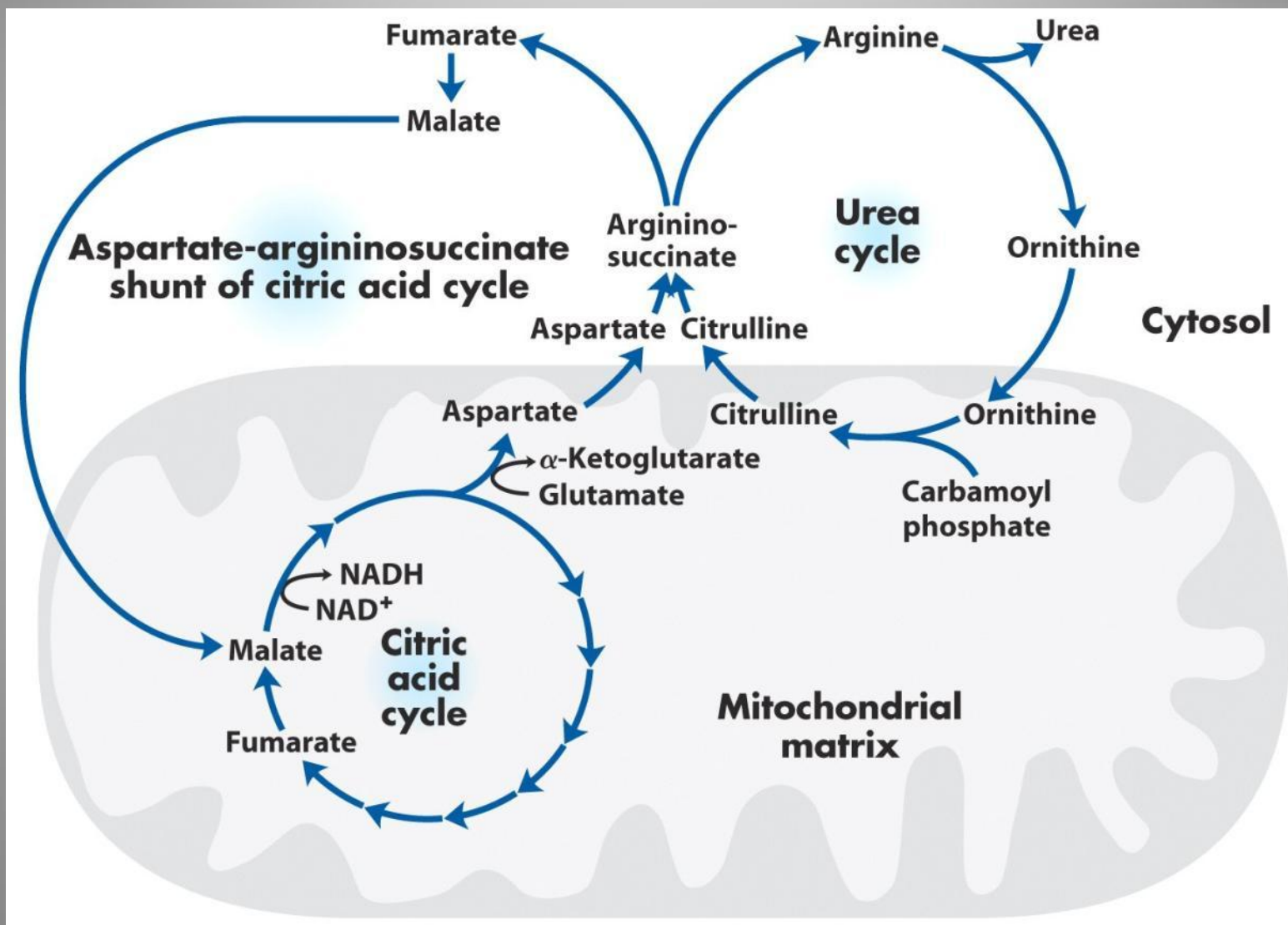


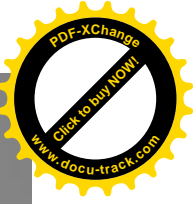
## Regulation of urea cycle

CPS I needs N-acetyl glutamate as an allosteric activator



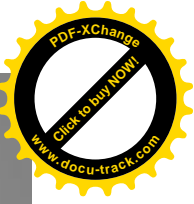
# Urea cycle and citric acid cycle





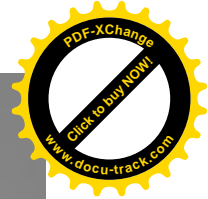
# Fates of oxaloacetate

- Fumarate →→ oxaloacetate = the link
  - Transamination to aspartate
  - Conversion into glucose via gluconeogenic pathway
  - Condensation with acetylCoA to form citrate
  - Conversion into pyruvate

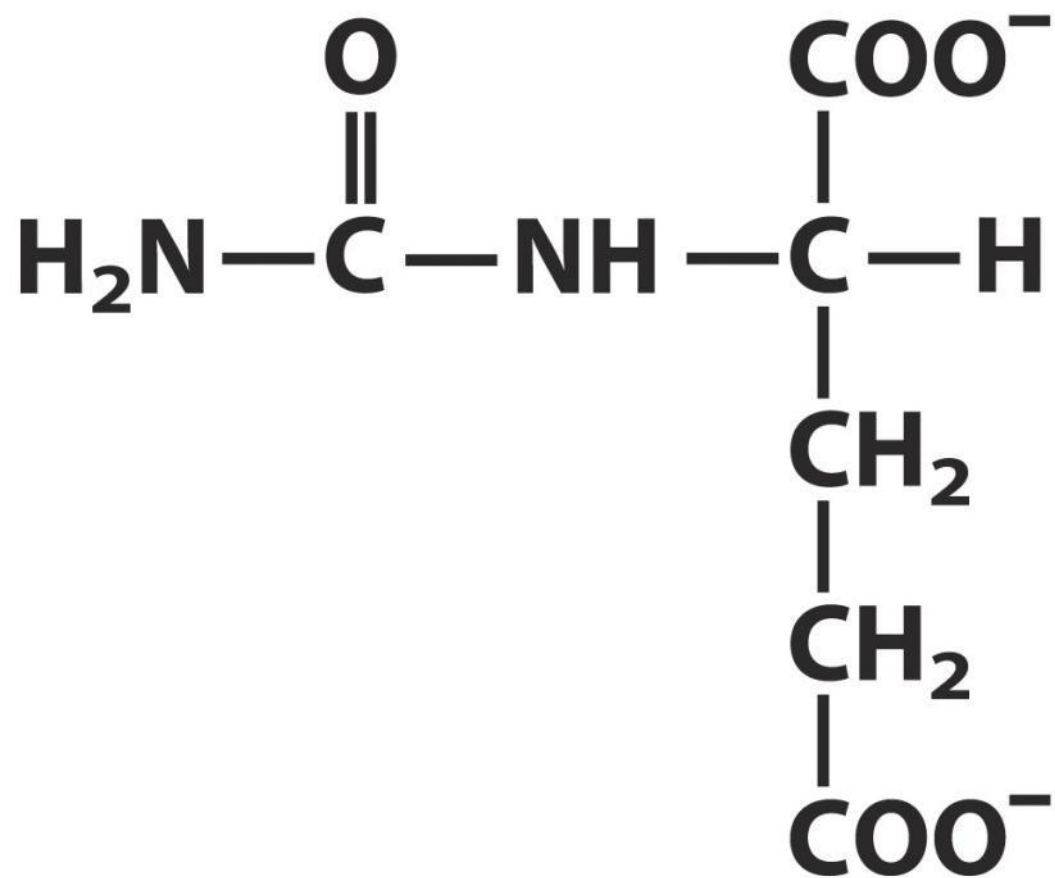


# Ammonia

- Ammonia is toxic
  - Brain swelling (increase in the brain's water content)
  - Increase in intracranial pressure
  - Potential depletion of ATP
- ↑ ammonia →  
( $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate ↓ → glutamate ↑) → glutamine ↑  
↑↑ osmolyte in brain astrocyte

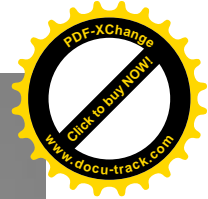


# Treatment of urea cycle defect

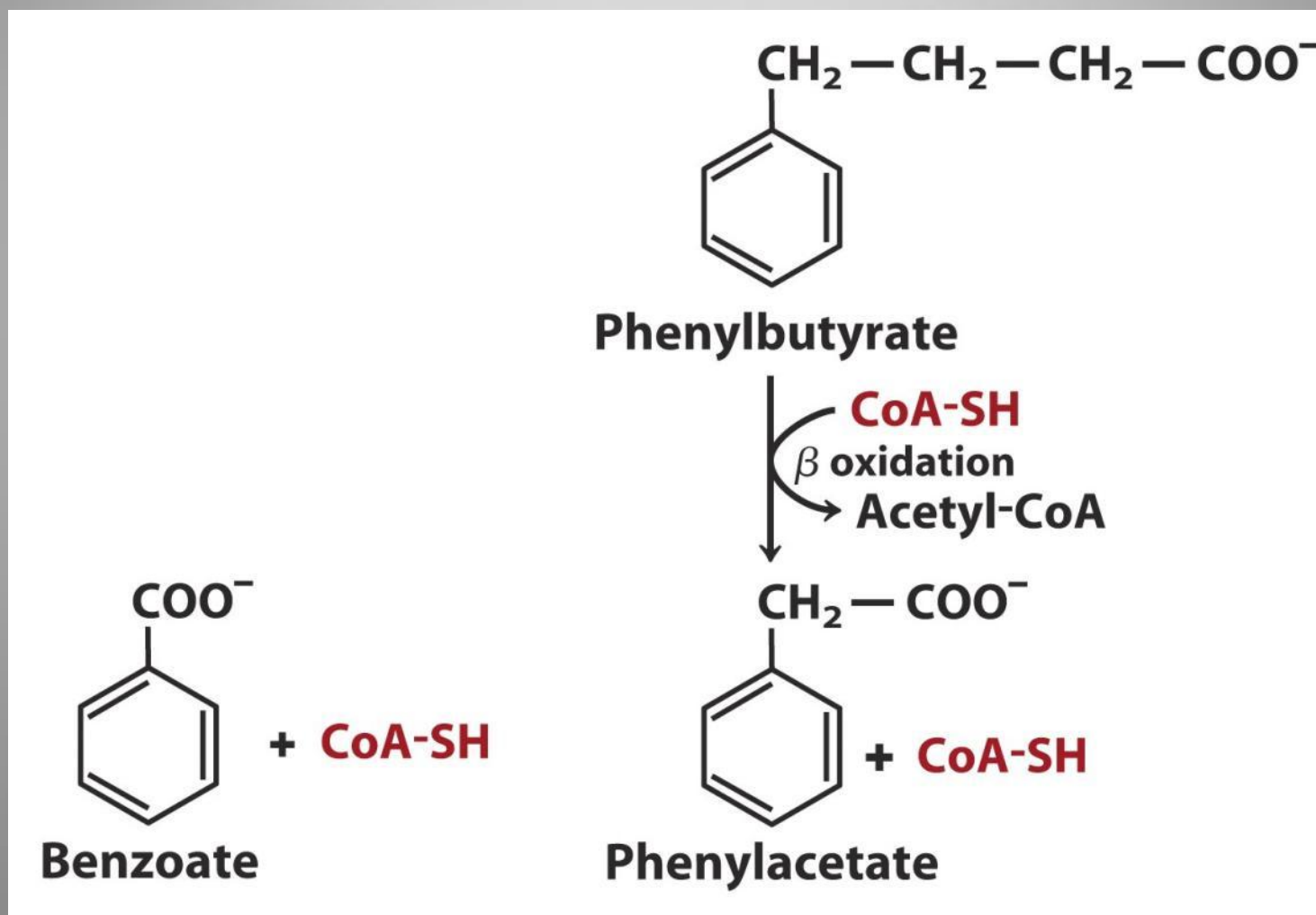


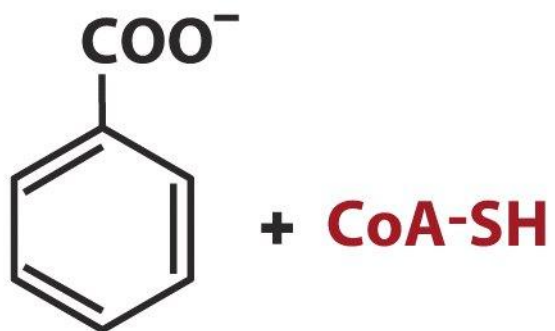
**Carbamoyl glutamate**



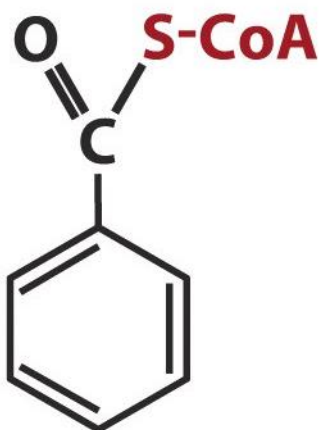
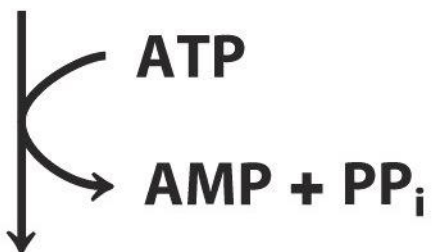


# Treatment of urea cycle defect

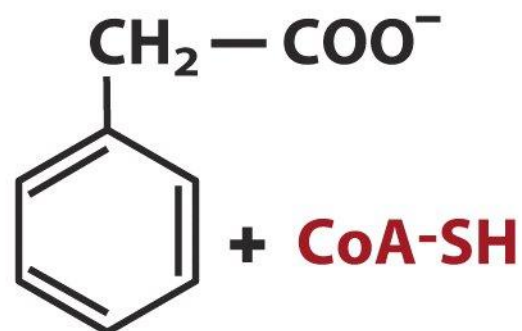




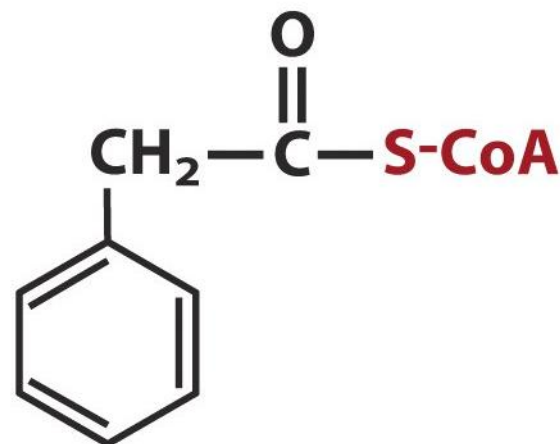
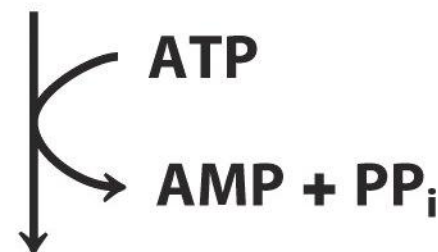
**Benzoate**



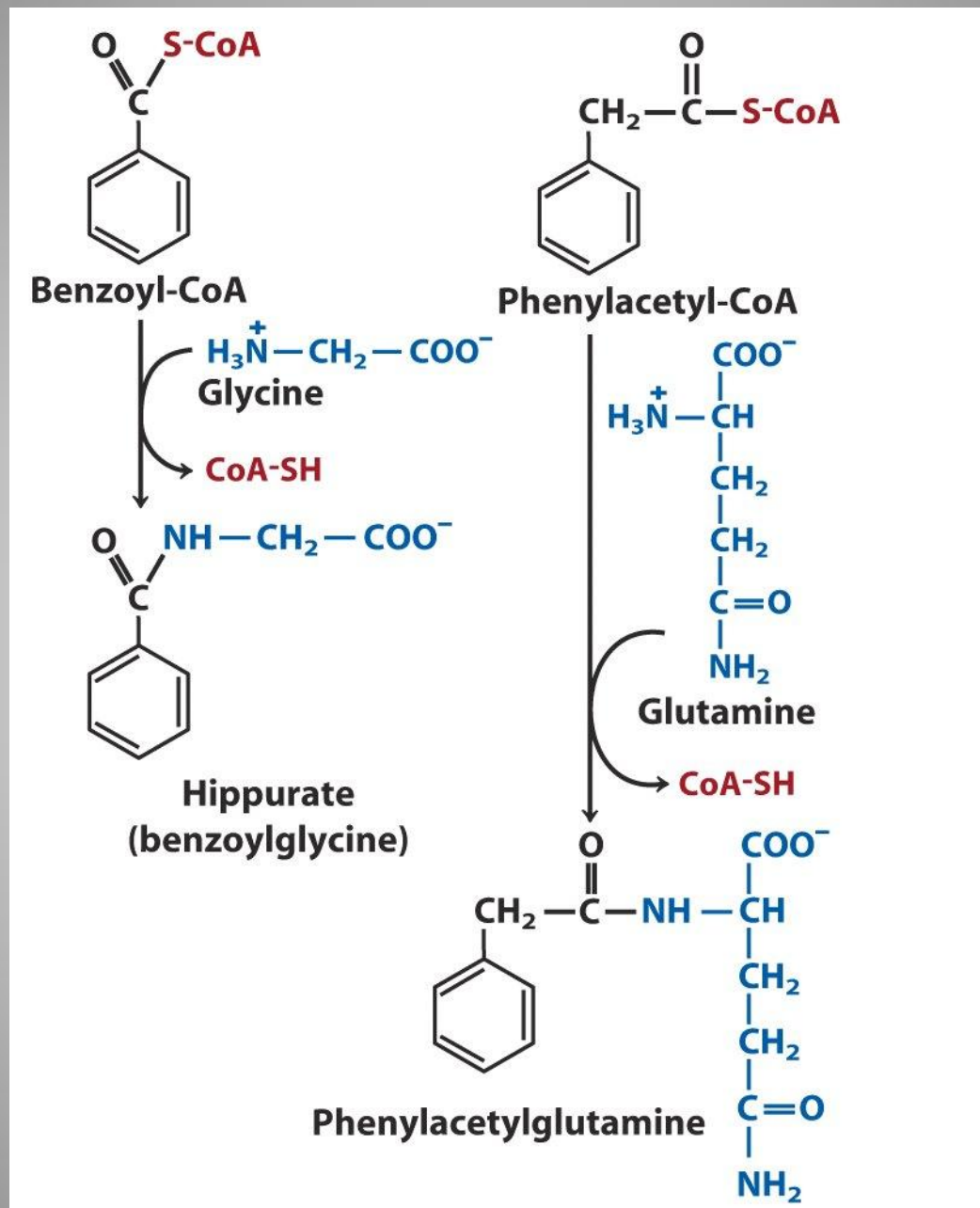
**Benzoyl-CoA**

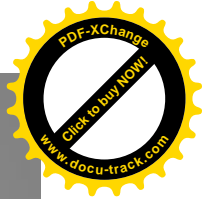


**Phenylacetate**



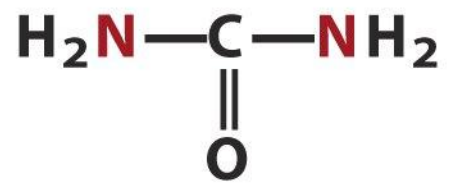
**Phenylacetyl-CoA**





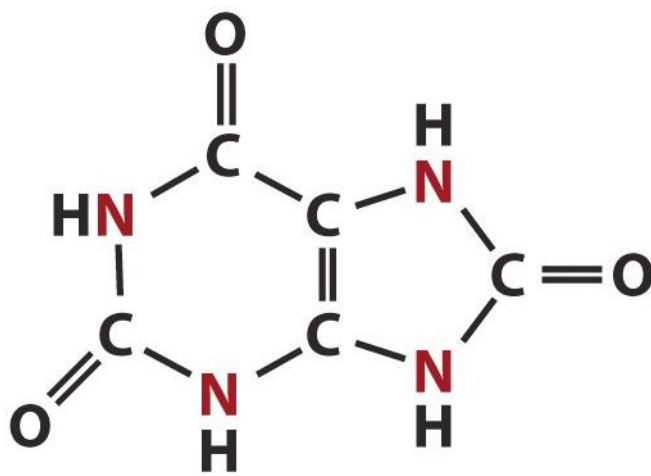
**Ammonia (as ammonium ion)**

**Ammonotelic animals: most aquatic vertebrates, such as bony fishes and the larvae of amphibia**



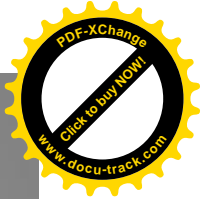
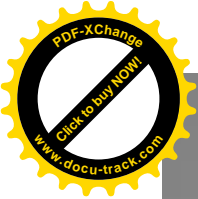
**Urea**

**Ureotelic animals: many terrestrial vertebrates; also sharks**

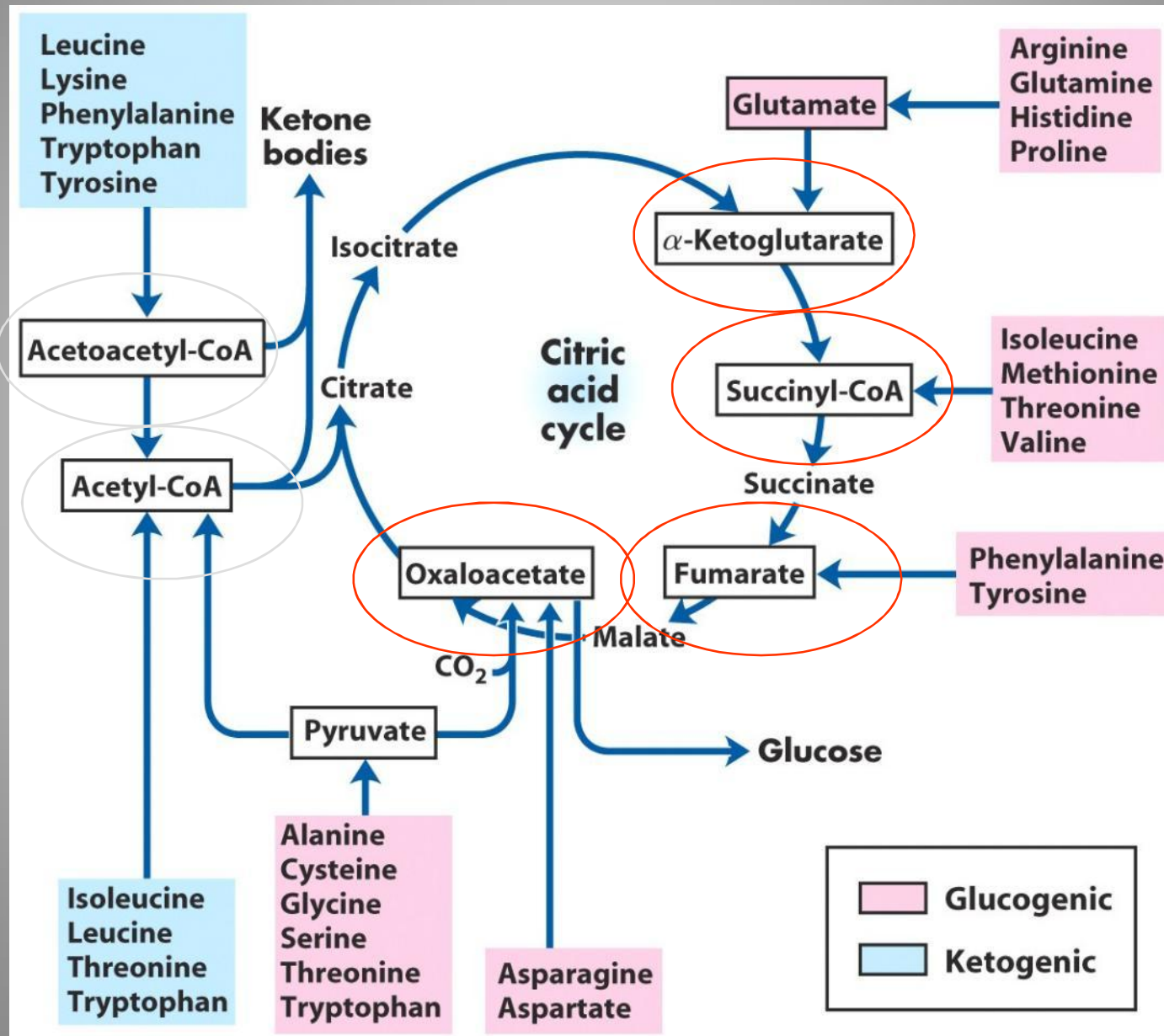


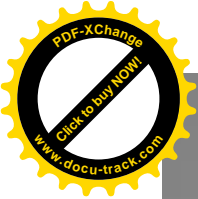
**Uric acid**

**Uricotelic animals: birds, reptiles**



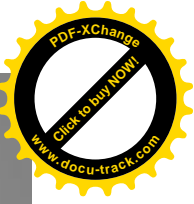
# Catabolism





# Catabolism

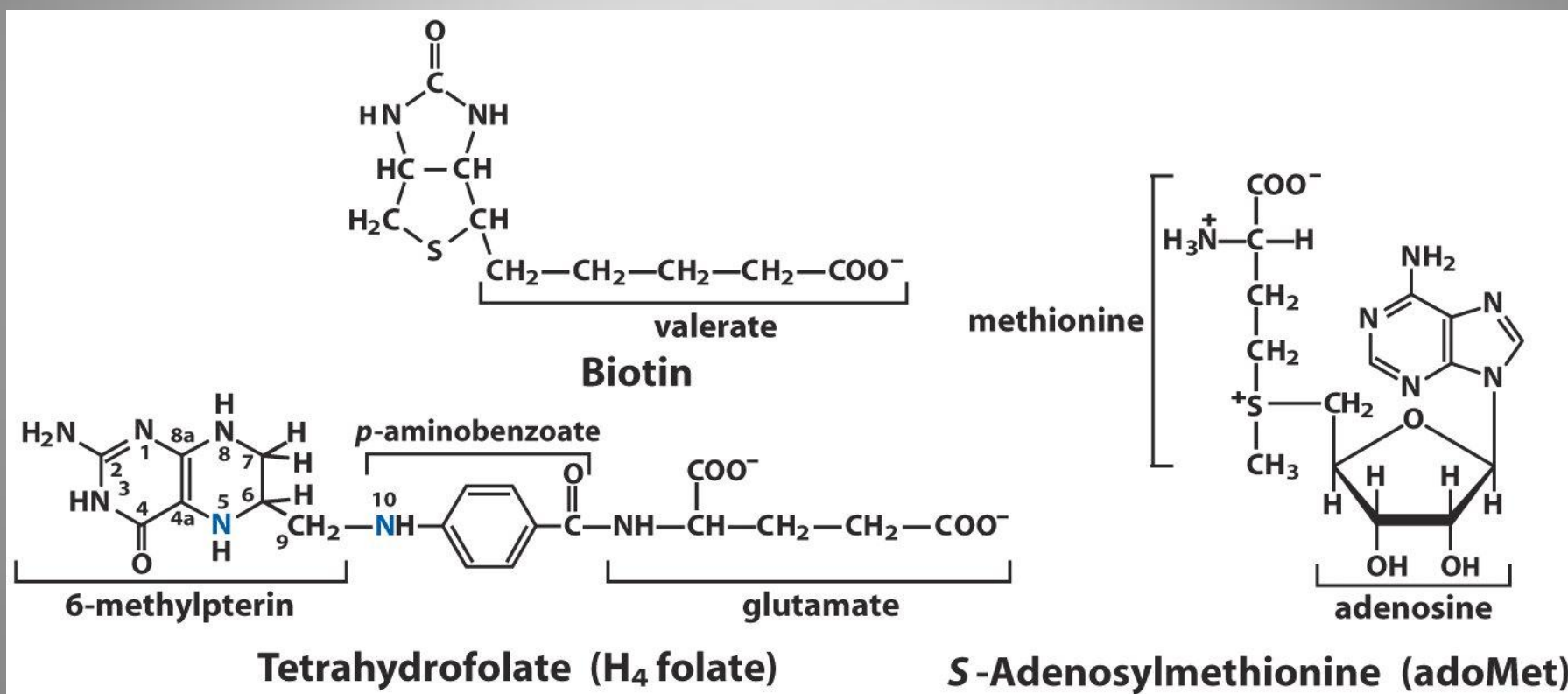
- Accounted for 10-15% of human energy production
- 20 pathways converge to 6 major products
  - 7 aa are broken down to acetyl-CoA
  - 5 aa to  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate
  - 4 to succinyl-CoA
  - 2 to fumarate
  - 2 to oxaloacetate



# Catabolism

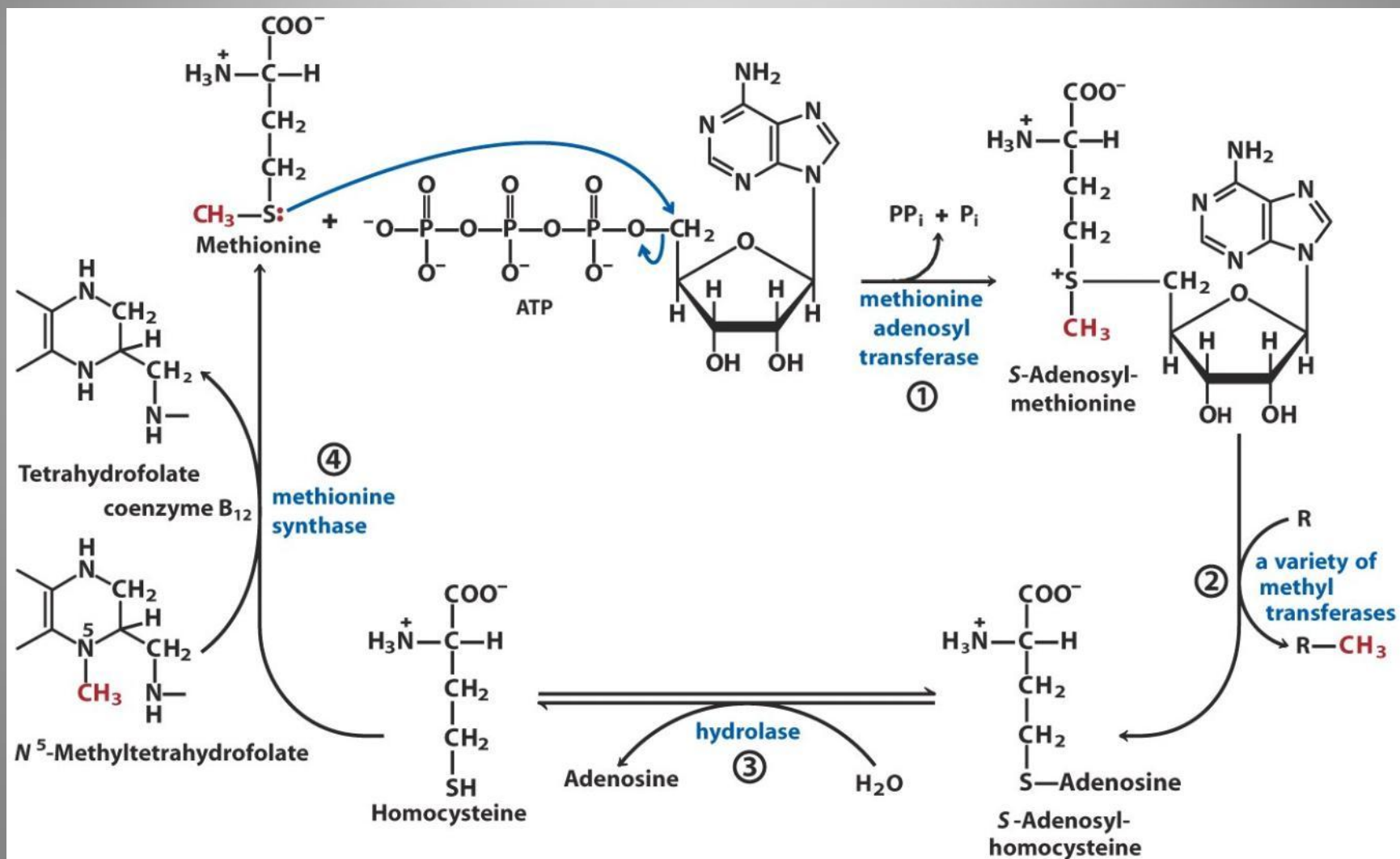
- Phe, Tyr, Ile, Leu, Trp, Thr, Lys → → acetoacetyl CoA/or acetyl CoA → → ketone bodies in liver (acetoacetate → acetone →  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate) = ketogenic
- Glucogenic aa = → → pyruvate,  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate, succinyl CoA, fumarate and/or oxaloacetate
- Trp, Phe, Tyr, Thr, Ile both ketogenic and glucogenic

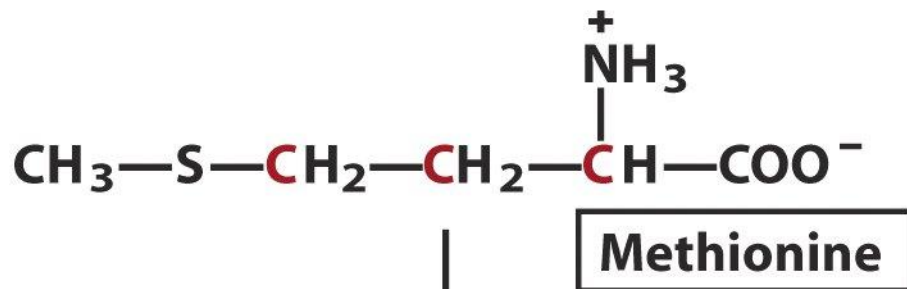
# Enzyme cofactors in one-carbon transfer reaction



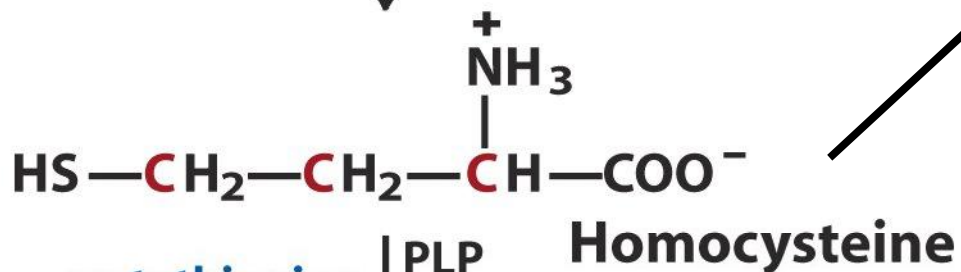


# Metabolism of methionine





3 steps

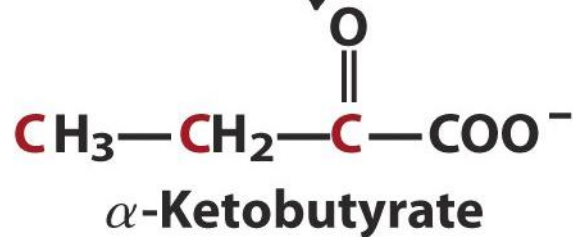


**cystathionine  
 $\beta$ -synthase**

PLP  
Serine

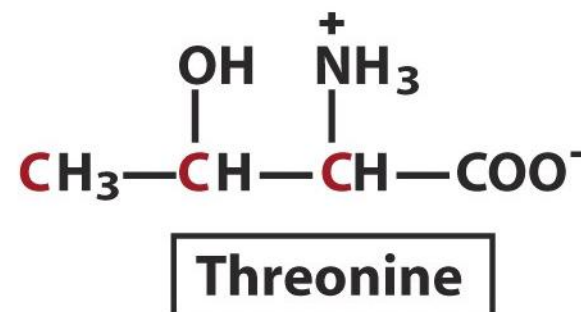
**cystathionine  
 $\gamma$ -lyase**

PLP  
Cysteine



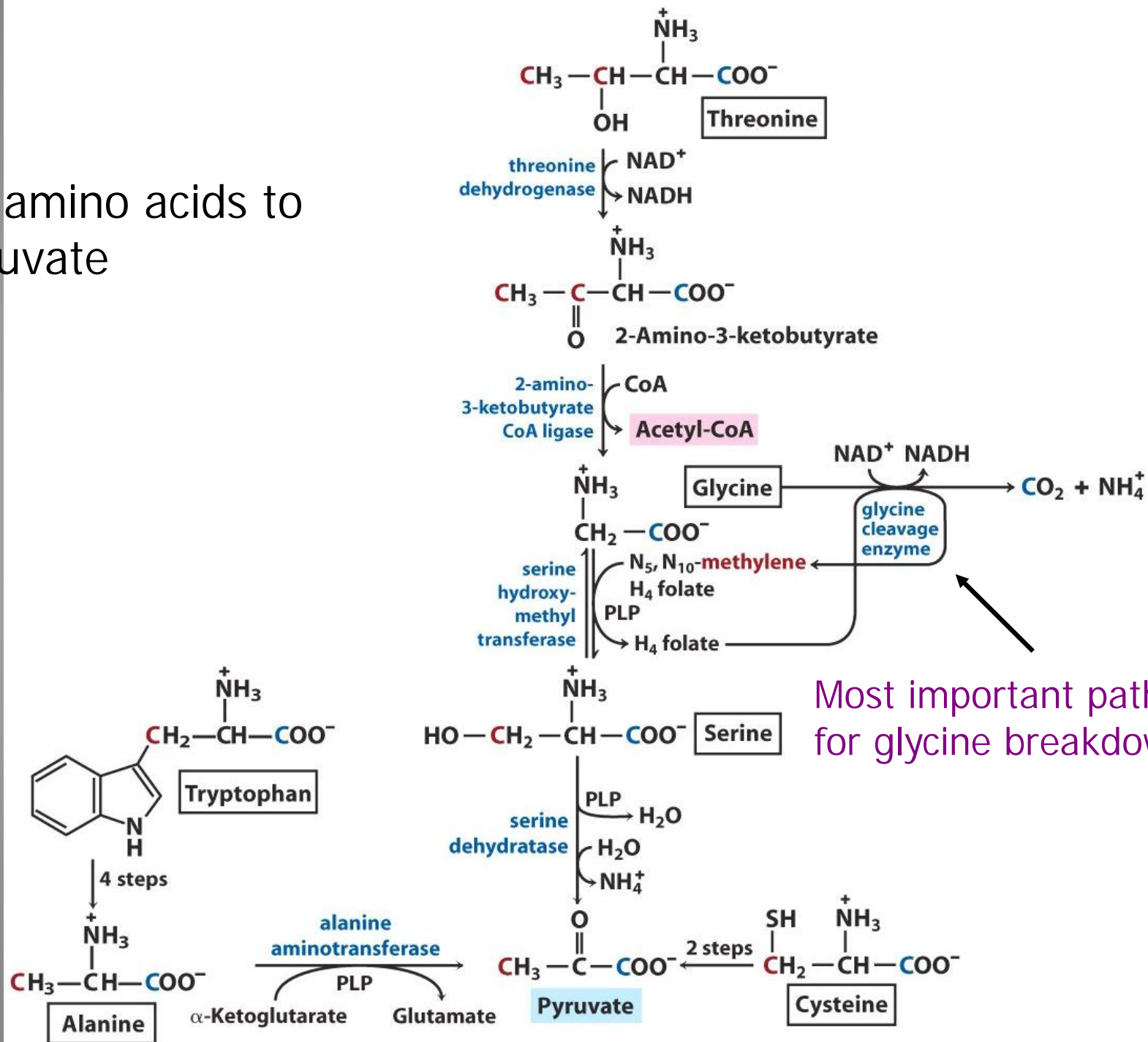
**threonine  
dehydratase**

$\text{NH}_4^+$   $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  PLP

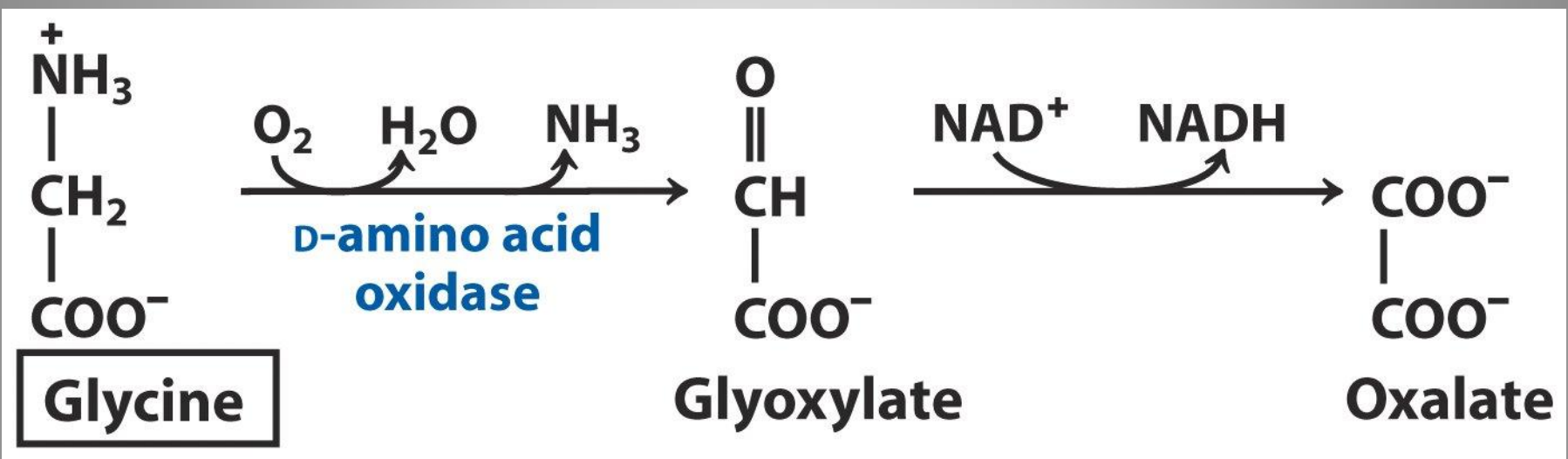
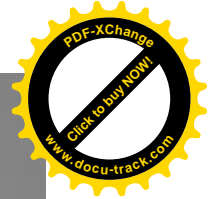


Associated with  
atherosclerosis  
and neural tube  
defect

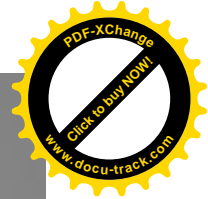
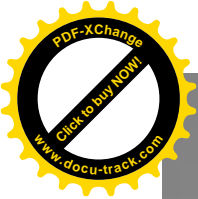
# Six amino acids to pyruvate



Most important pathway for glycine breakdown

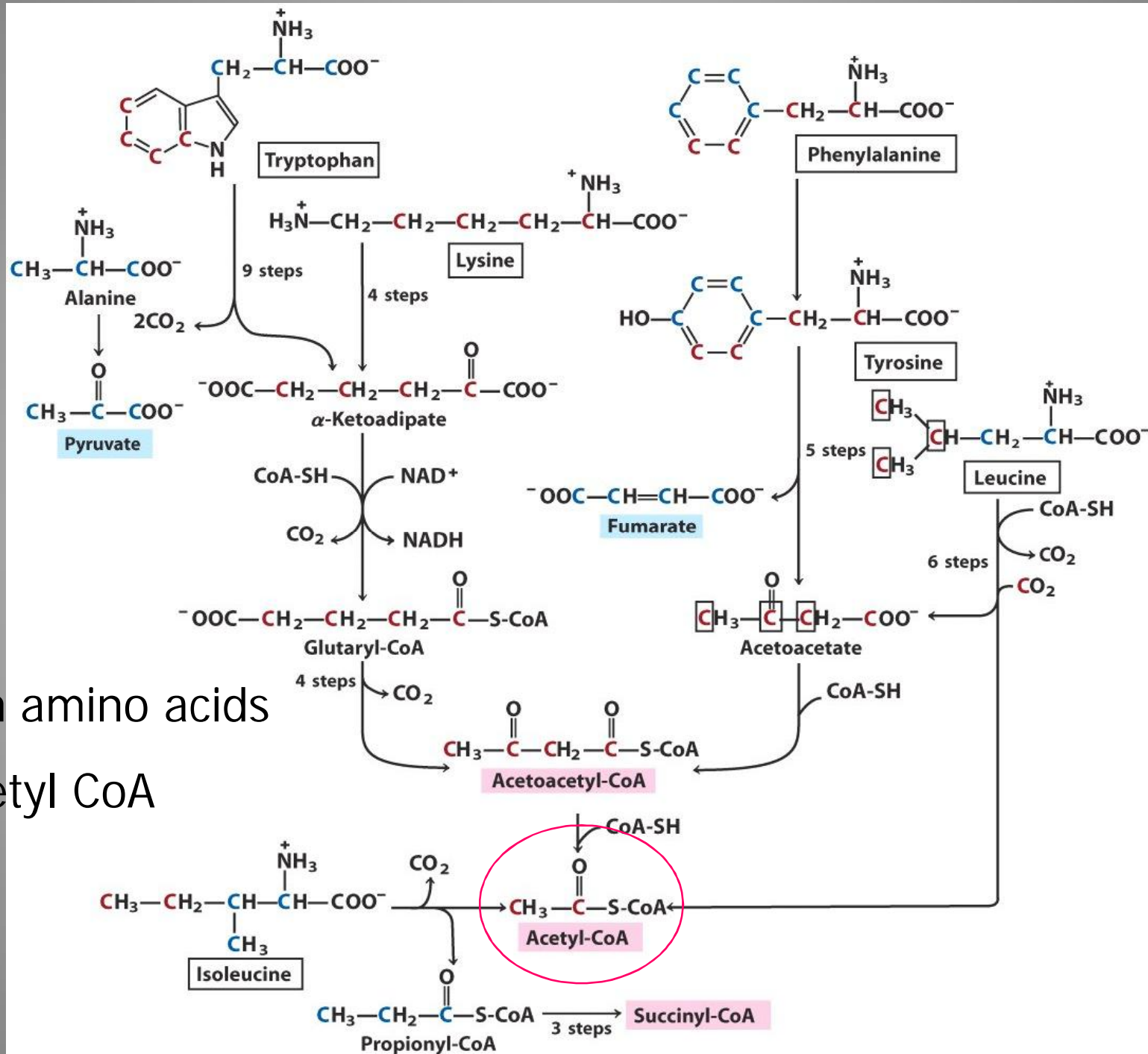


- High levels in kidney
- 75% kidney stones—calcium oxalate



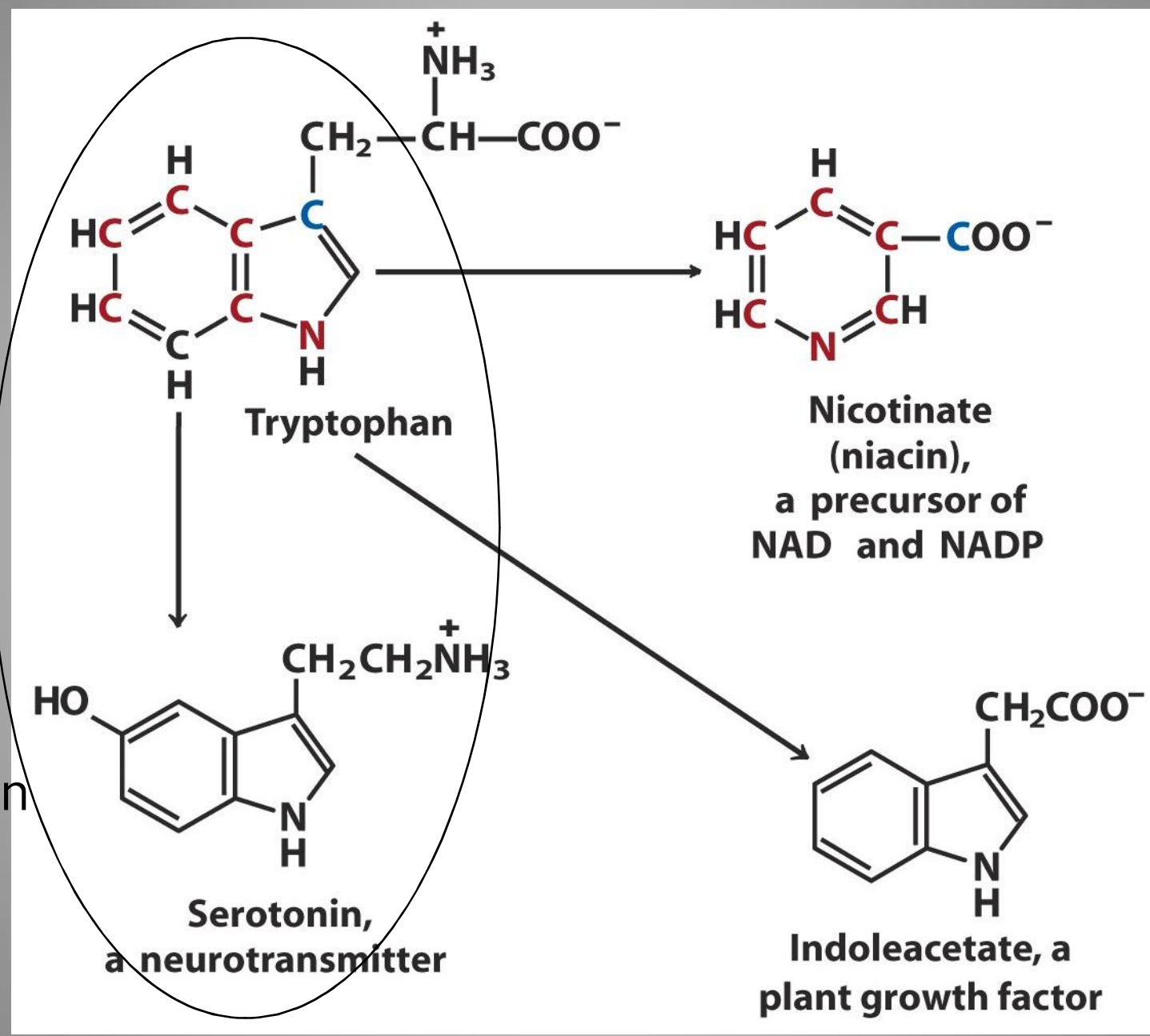
**TABLE 18-2** Some Human Genetic Disorders Affecting Amino Acid Catabolism

<i>Medical condition</i>	<i>Approximate incidence (per 100,000 births)</i>	<i>Defective process</i>	<i>Defective enzyme</i>	<i>Symptoms and effects</i>
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 $\beta$ -synthase	Faulty bone development; mental retardation
Maple syrup urine disease (branched-chain ketoaciduria)	<0.4	Isoleucine, leucine, and valine degradation	Branched-chain $\alpha$ -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

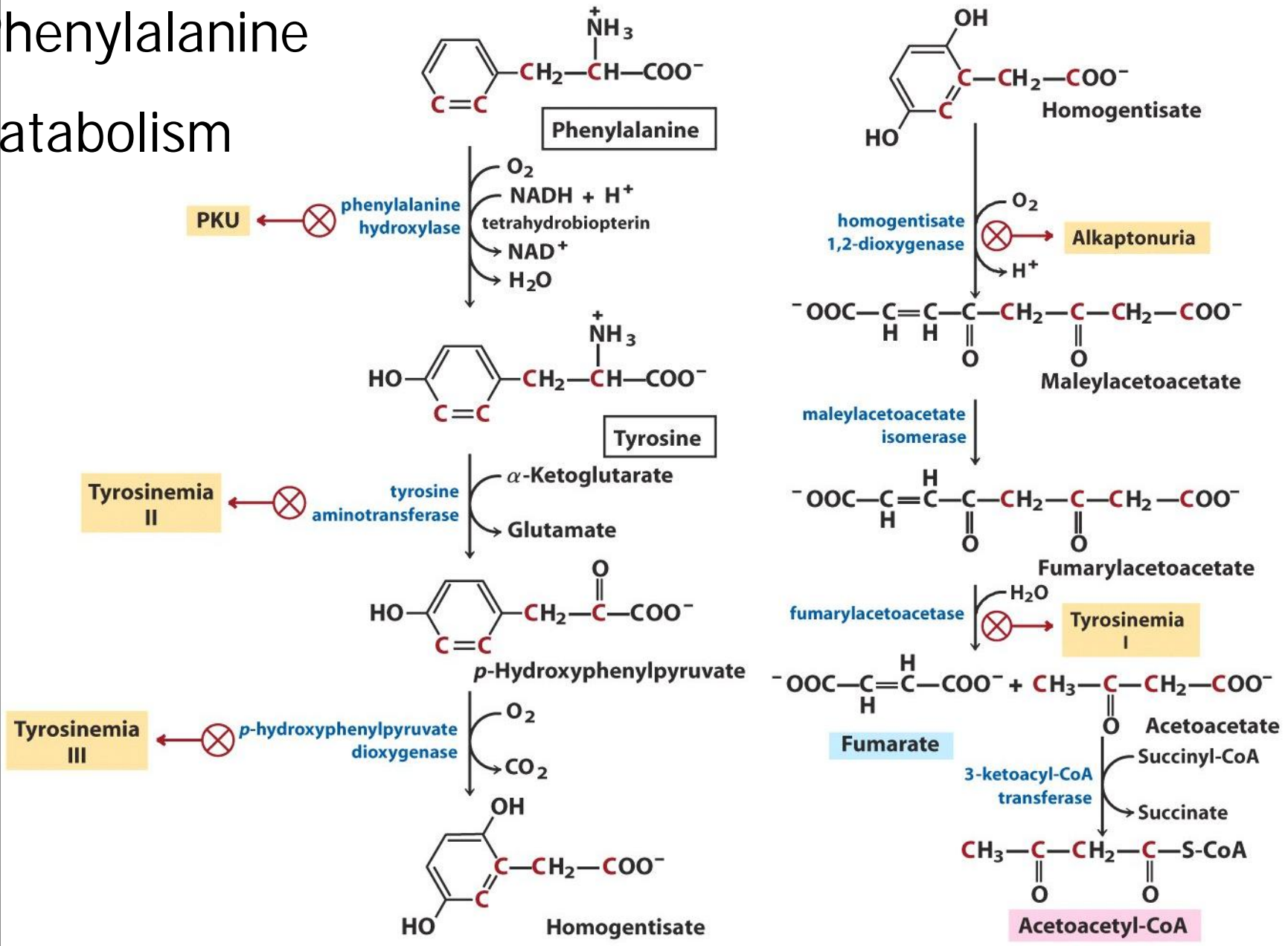


Seven amino acids  
to acetyl CoA

human

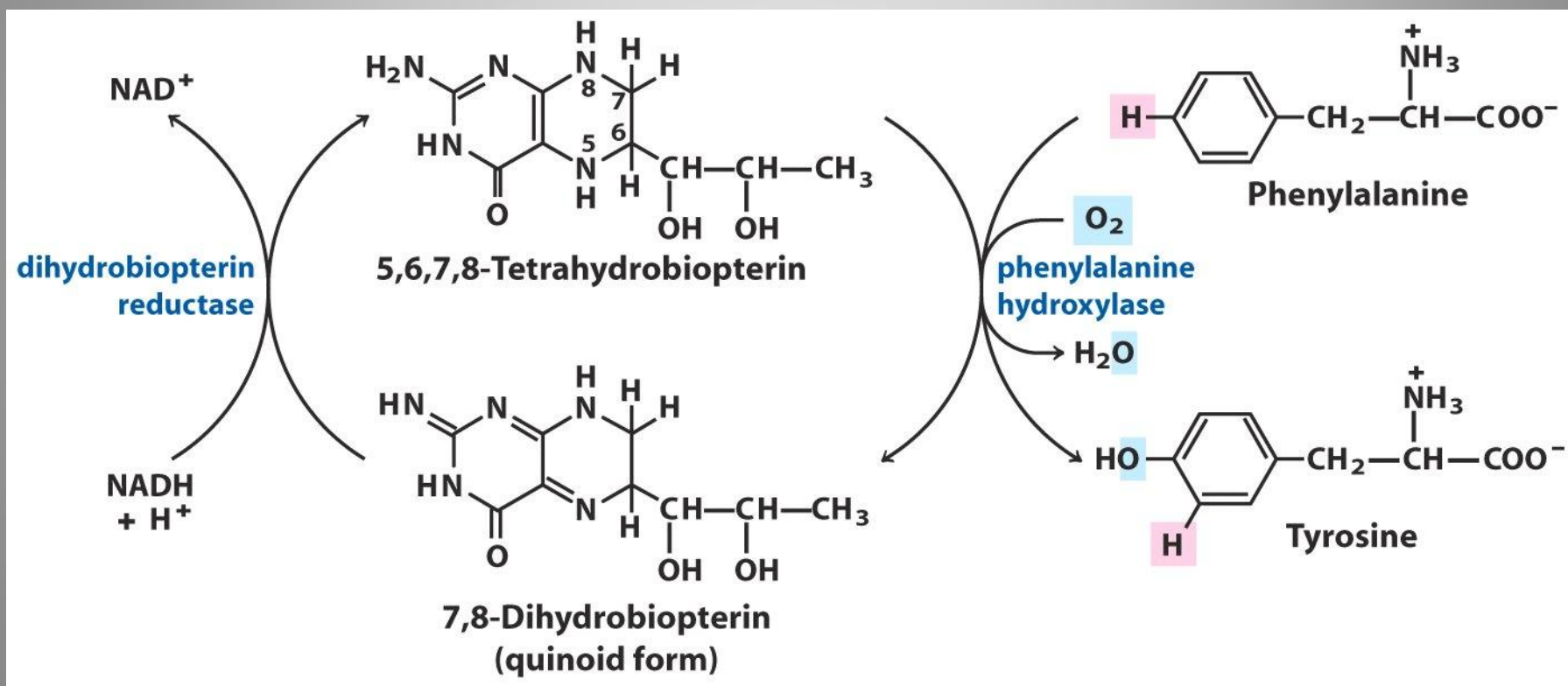


# Phenylalanine catabolism



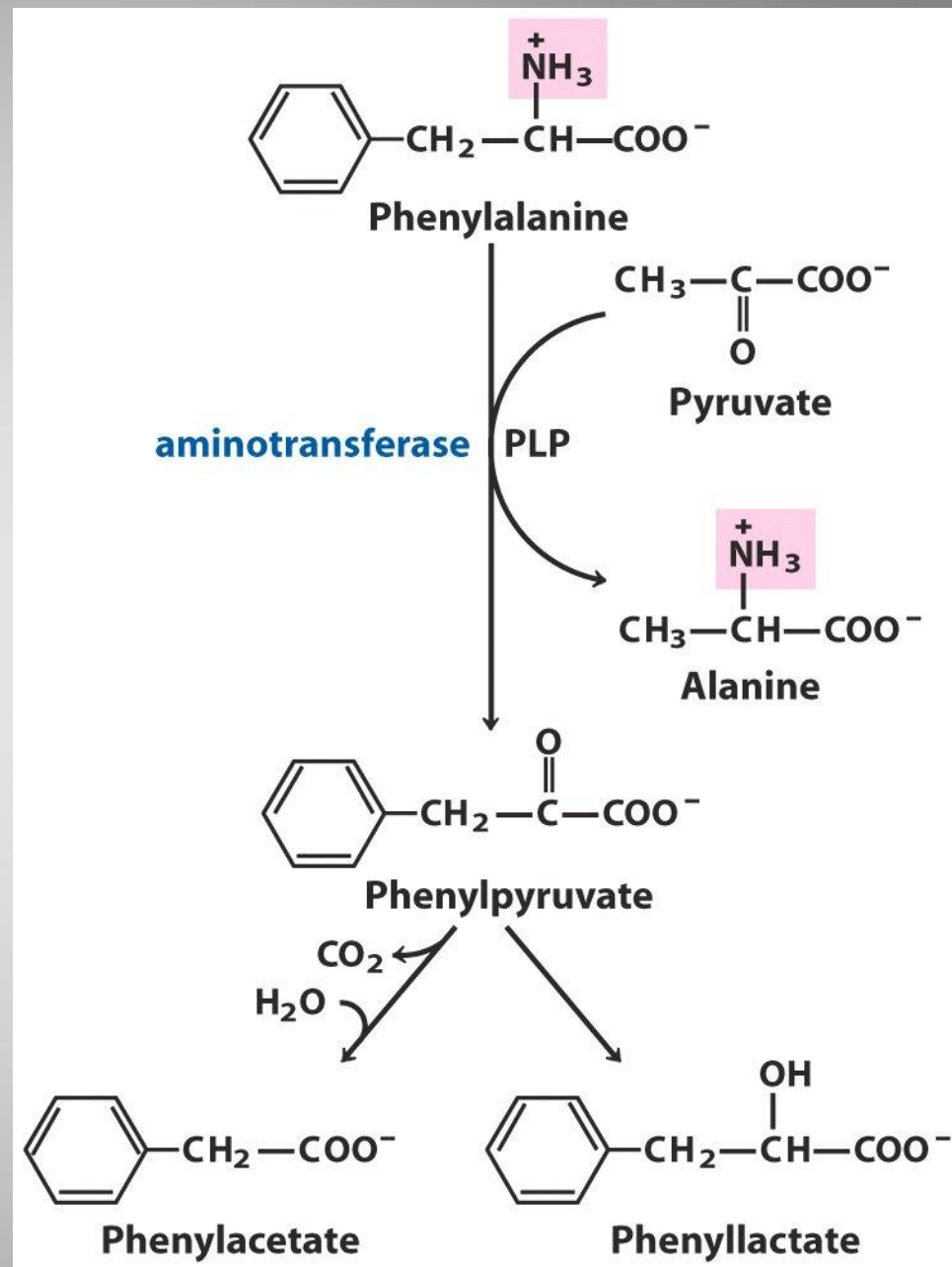


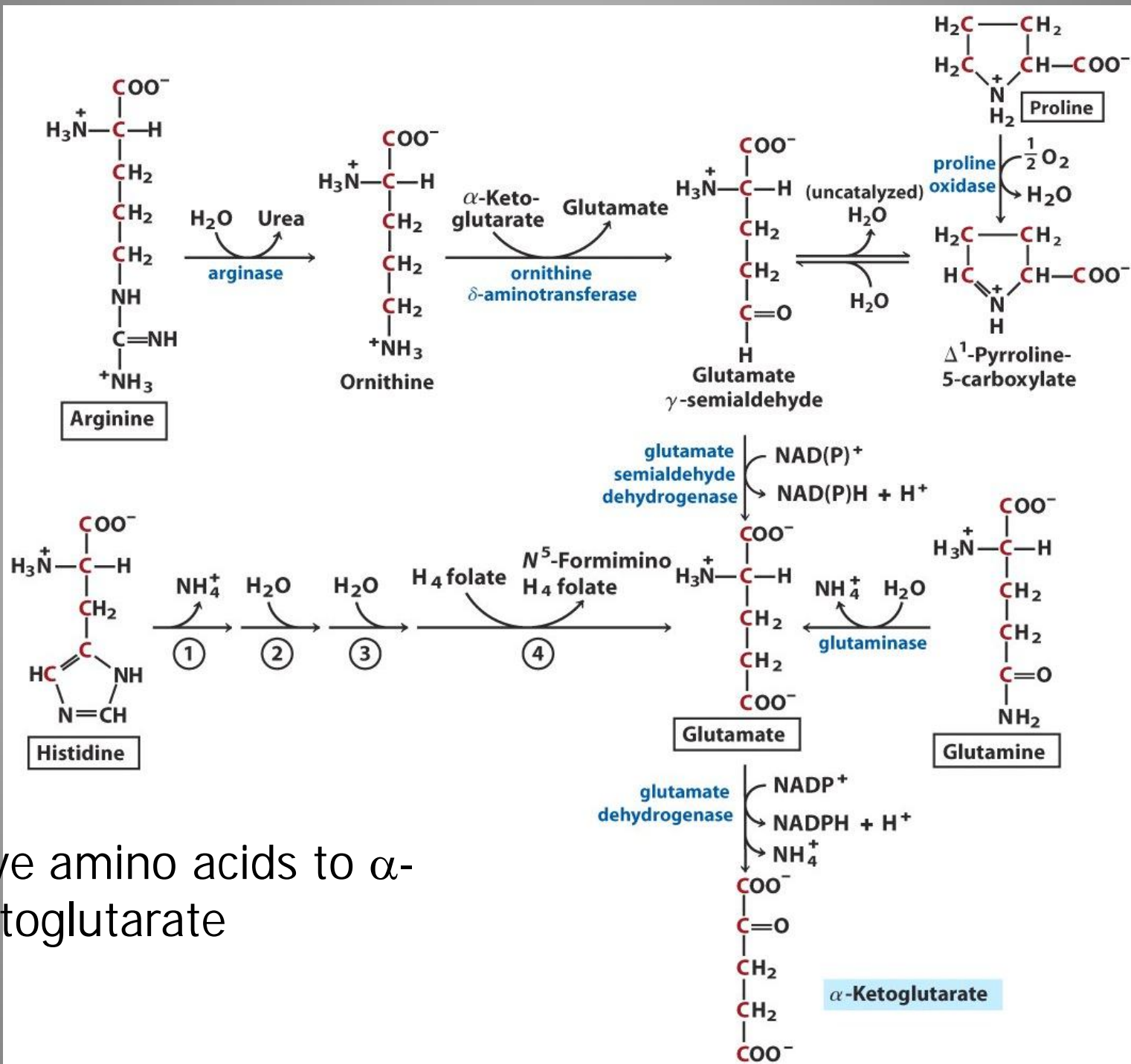
# Phenylalanine hydroxylase



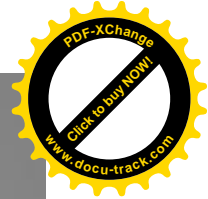
# Minor pathway

- In PKU phenylpyruvate accumulates in tissues, blood, urine
- Urine also contains phenylacetate and phenyllactate

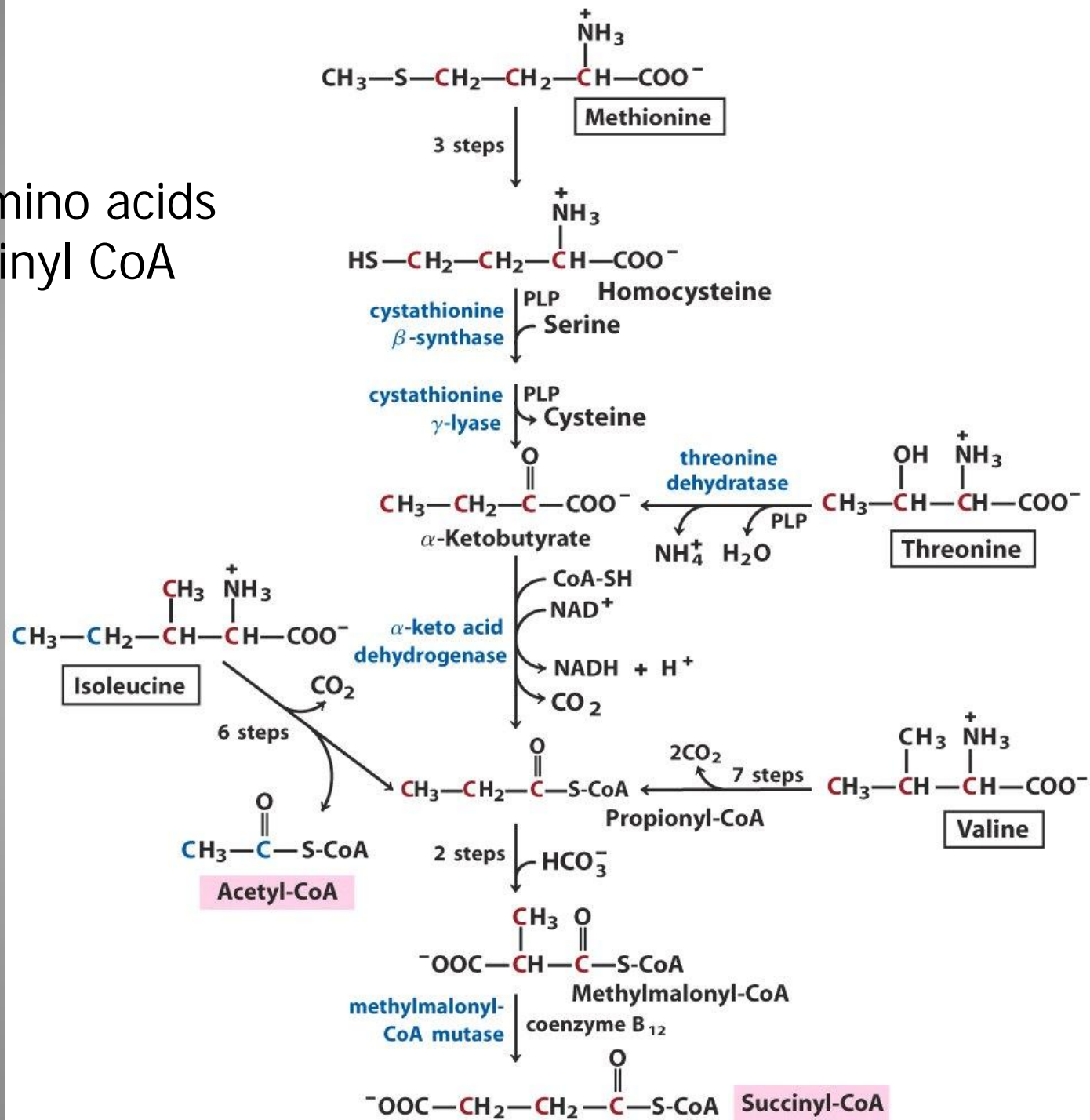




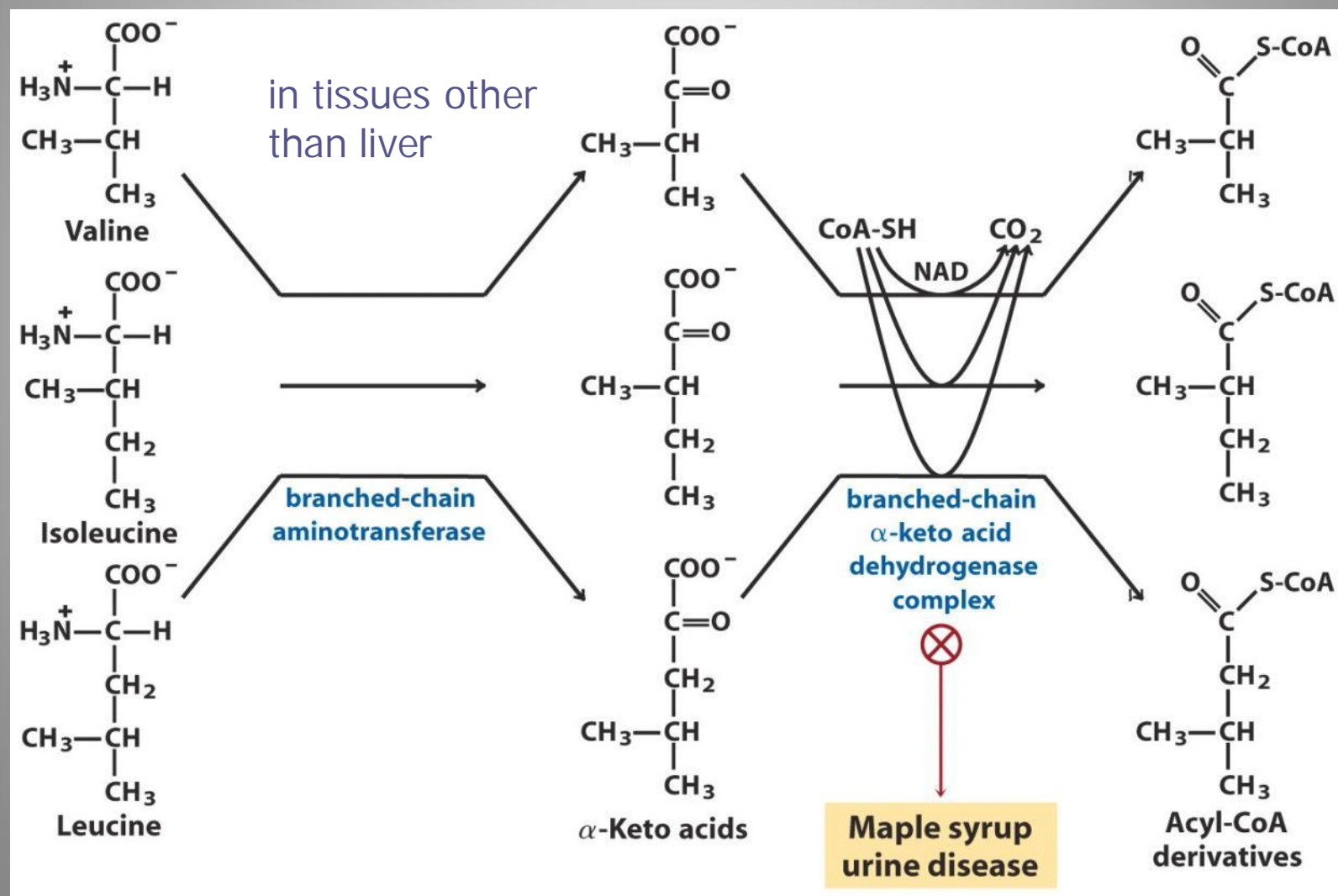
Five amino acids to  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate

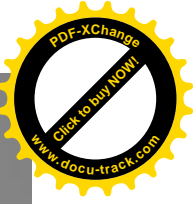


# Four amino acids to succinyl CoA



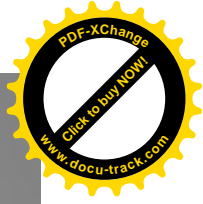
# Branched-chain amino acids





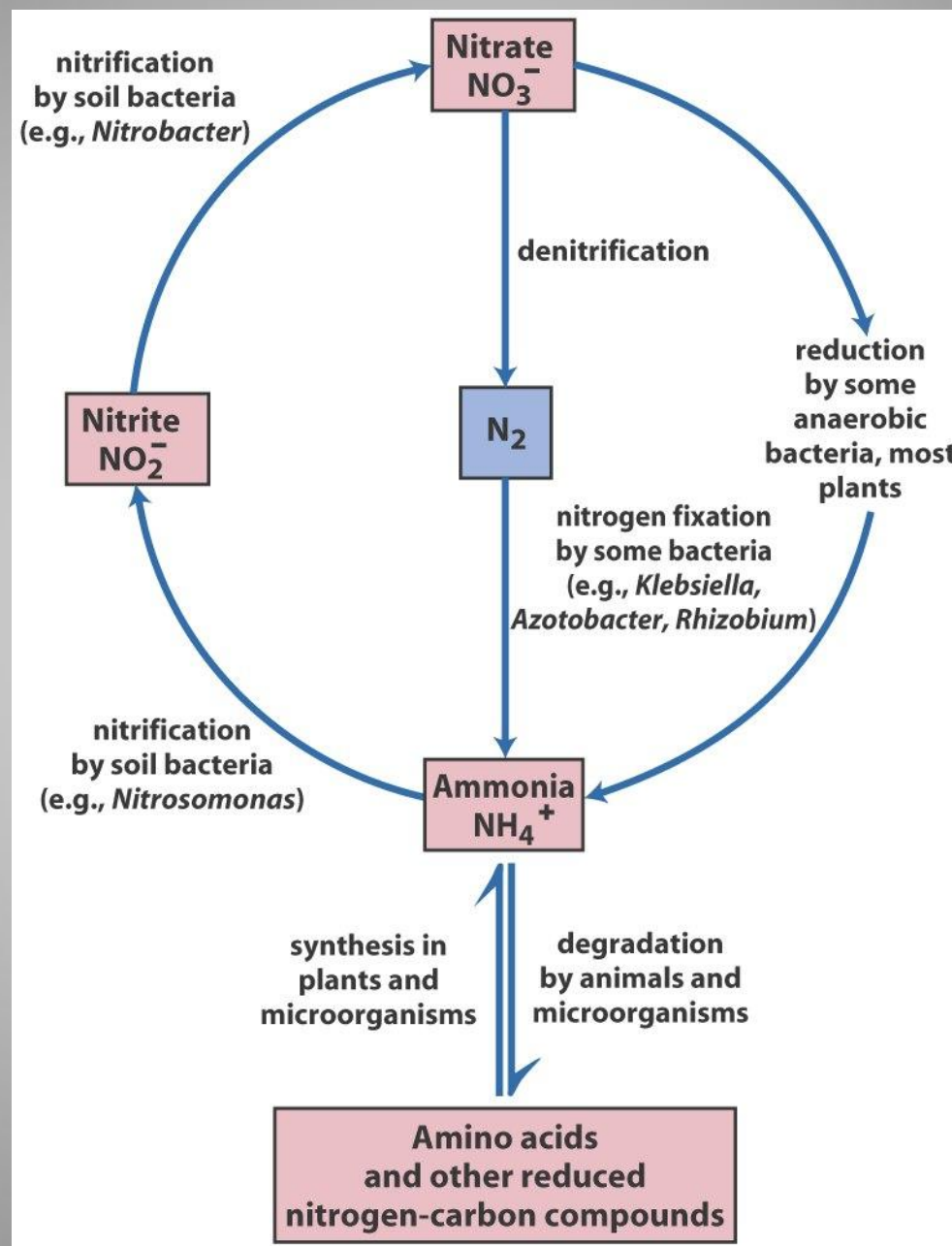
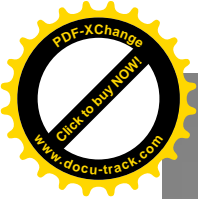
# Pathways of amino acid degradation

- Removal of their amino groups
- Carbon skeletons undergo oxidation to common intermediates
- Some aa to glucose, some to ketone bodies, some to both
- Acetyl CoA,  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate, succinyl CoA, fumarate and oxaloacetate

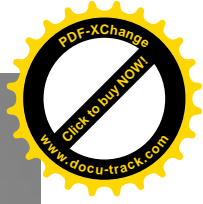


# Nitrogen cycle

- The majority source of N is the air ( $N_2$ )
- Nitrogen fixation: reduction of  $N_2$  to  $NH_4^+$ 
  - By nitrogen-fixing bacteria e.g. *Rhizobium*
- Nitrification: oxidation of  $NH_4^+$  to nitrite and nitrate
  - By soil bacteria
- Denitrification: conversion of nitrate to  $N_2$  under anaerobic condition







# Nitrogenase complex

- Reduction of nitrogen to ammonia

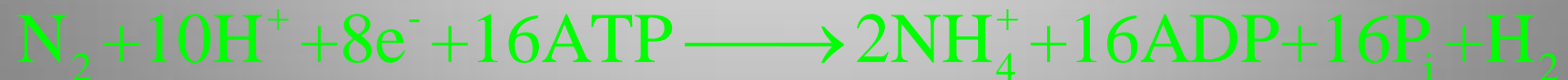


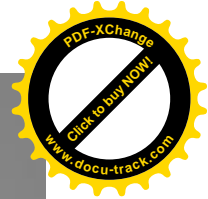
- $\Delta G'^{\circ} = -33.5 \text{ kJ/mol}$

- Activation energy  $\rightarrow$   $\text{N} \equiv \text{N}$

- Bond energy = 930 kJ/mol

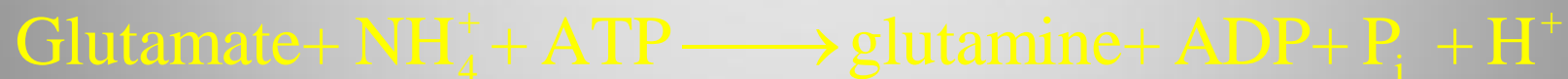
- Nitrogenase complex





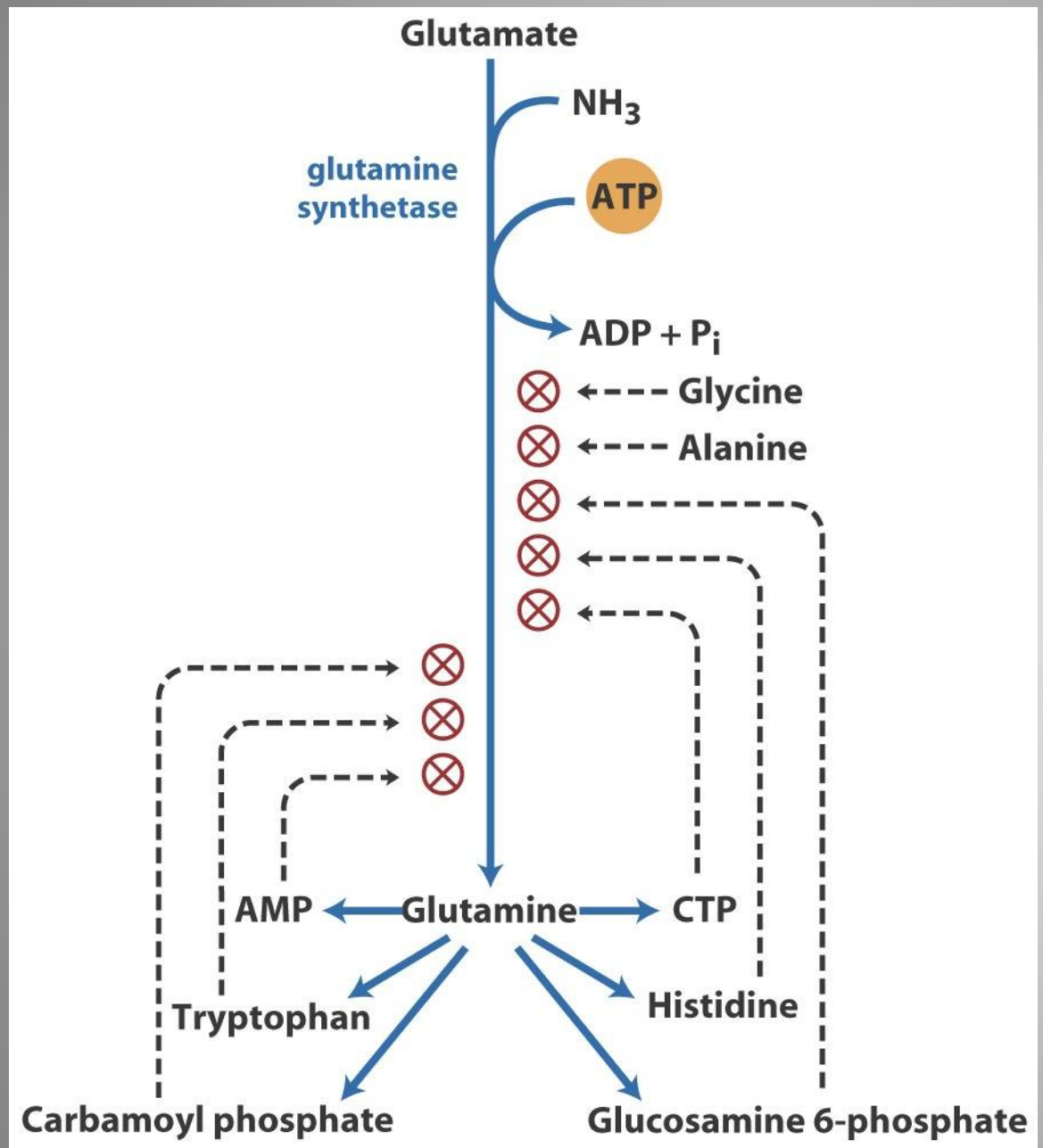
# Ammonia → Glu, Gln

- Assimilation of  $\text{NH}_4^+$  into glutamate requires two reactions
- Glutamine synthetase

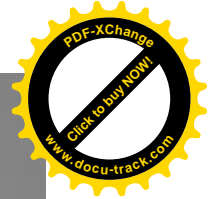


- Glutamate synthetase





Glutamine synthetase: primary regulatory in *E.coli*



# Biosynthesis of amino acids

- Nonessential amino acids
  - Around half of 20 aa can be synthesized
- Essential amino acids

**TABLE 22-1** Amino Acid Biosynthetic Families, Grouped by Metabolic Precursor

**$\alpha$ -Ketoglutarate**

Glutamate  
Glutamine  
Proline  
Arginine

**3-Phosphoglycerate**

Serine  
Glycine  
Cysteine

**Oxaloacetate**

Aspartate  
Asparagine  
Methionine\*  
Threonine\*  
Lysine\*

**Pyruvate**

Alanine  
Valine\*  
Leucine\*  
Isoleucine\*

**Phosphoenolpyruvate and erythrose 4-phosphate**

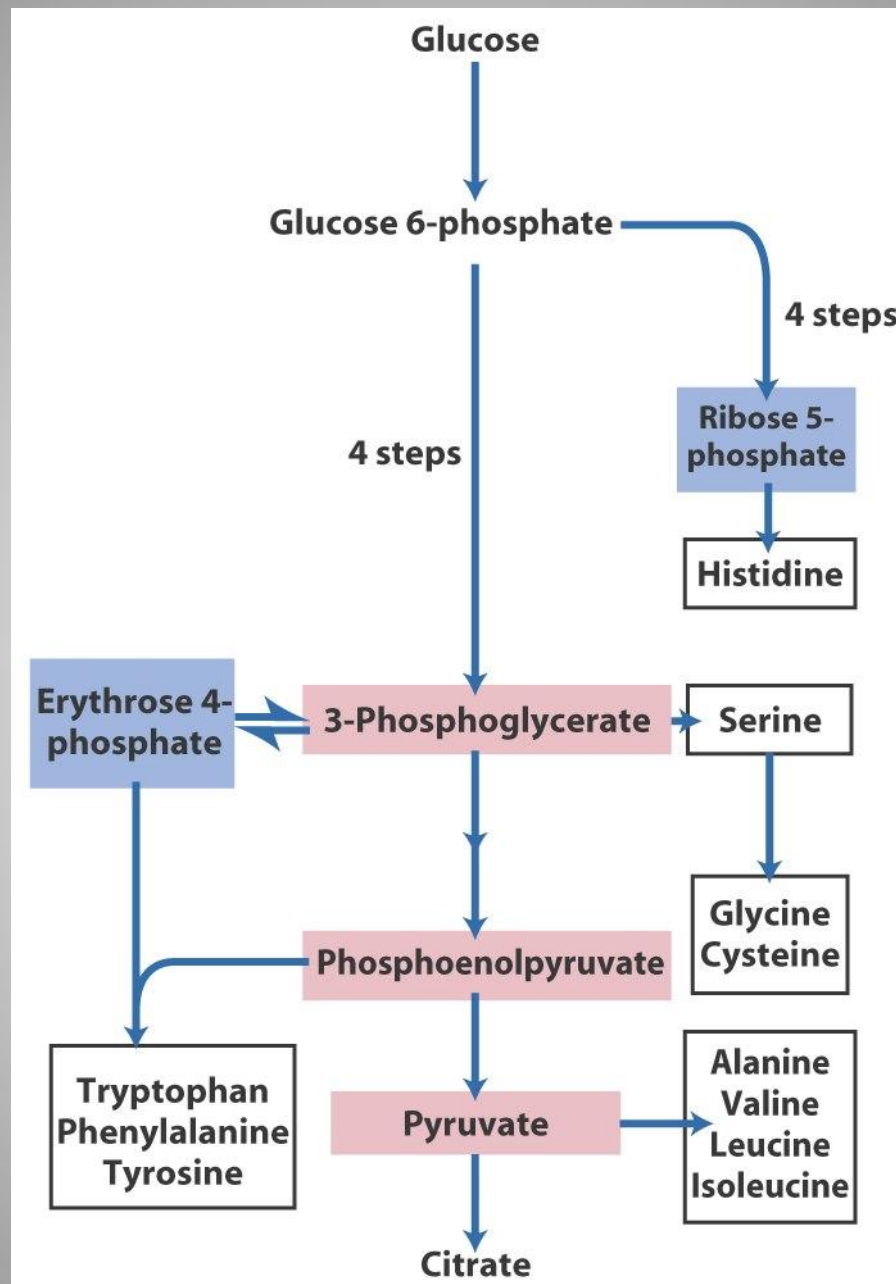
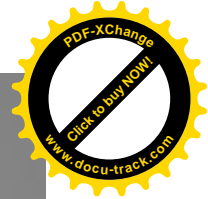
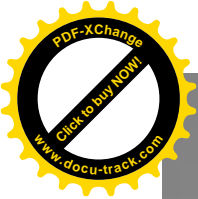
Tryptophan\*  
Phenylalanine\*  
Tyrosine<sup>†</sup>

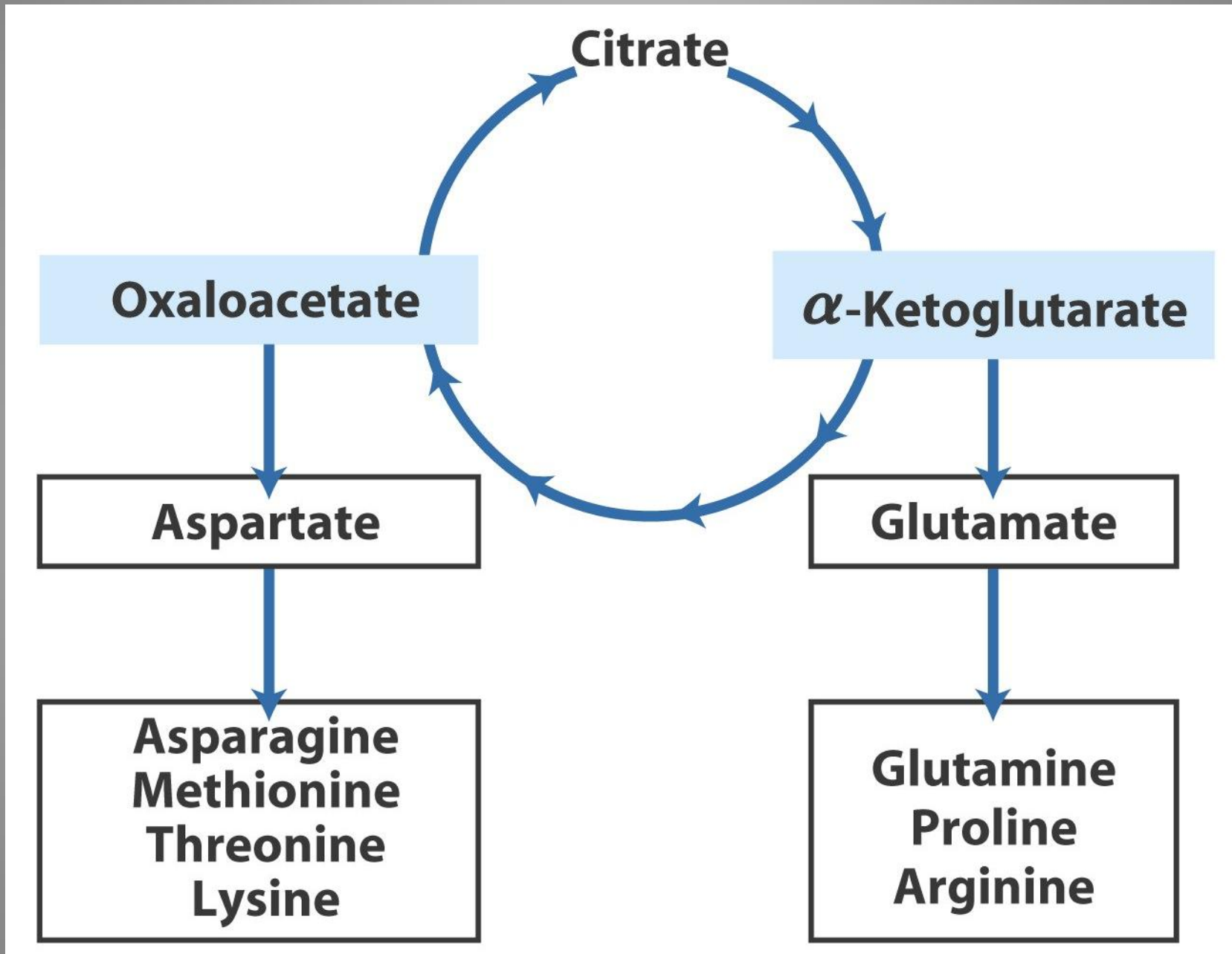
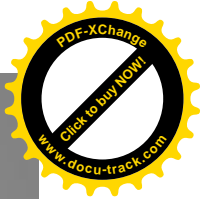
**Ribose 5-phosphate**

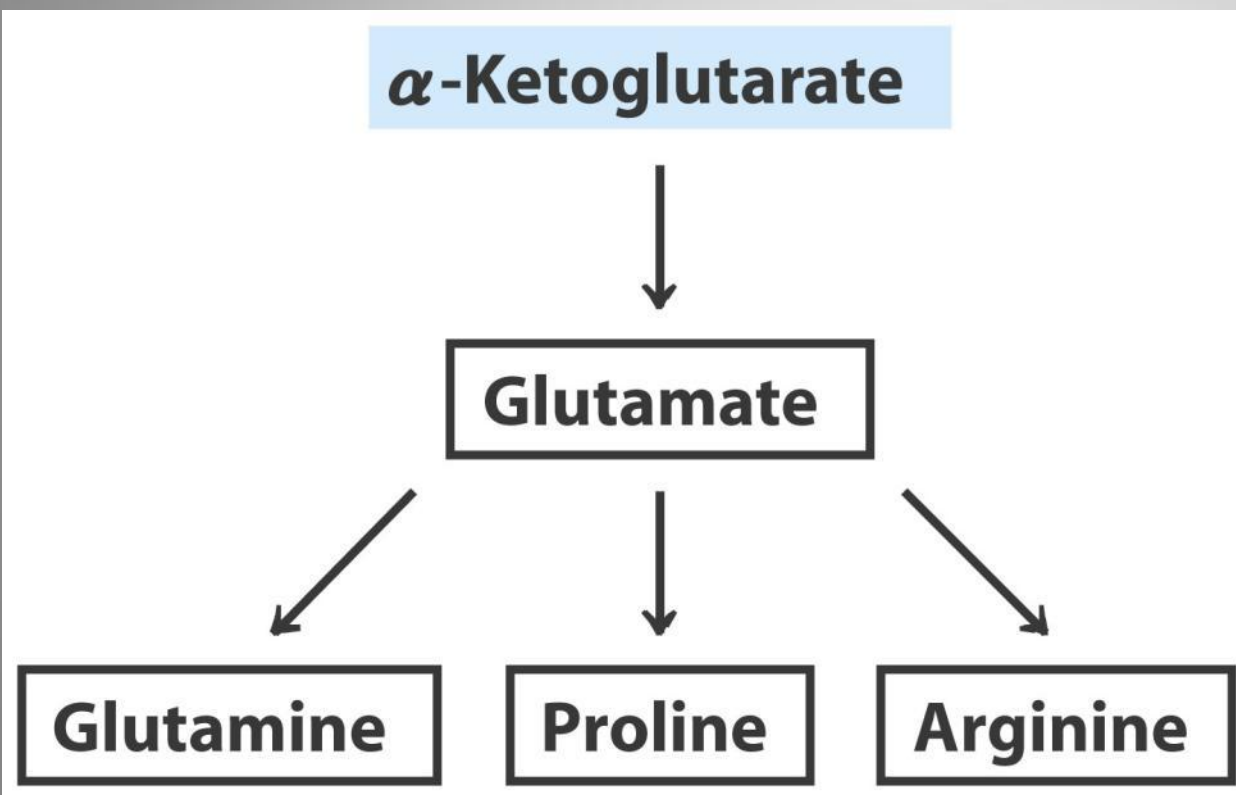
Histidine\*

\*Essential amino acids.

<sup>†</sup>Derived from phenylalanine in mammals.

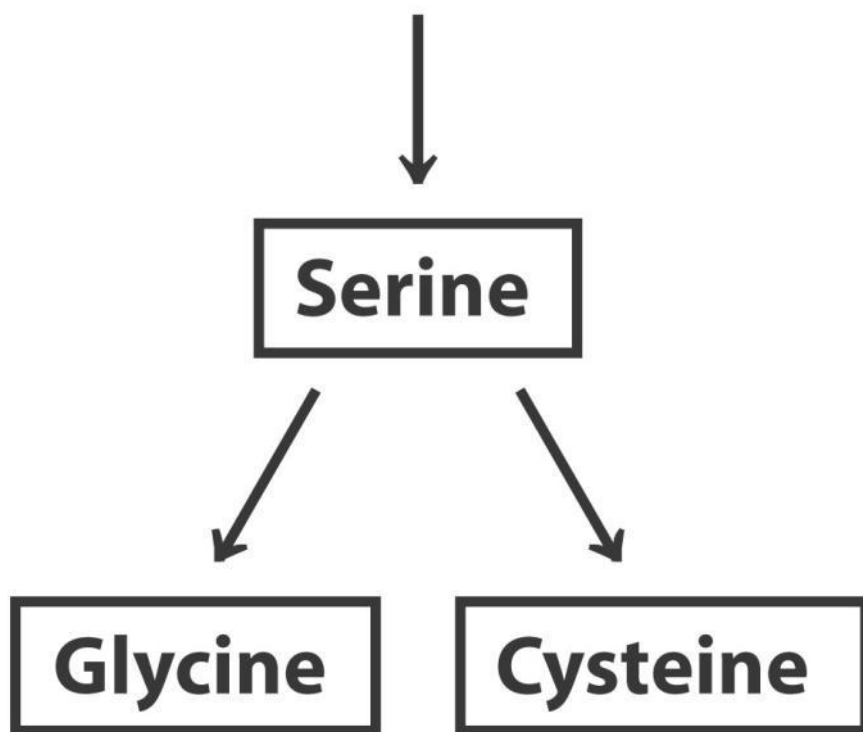






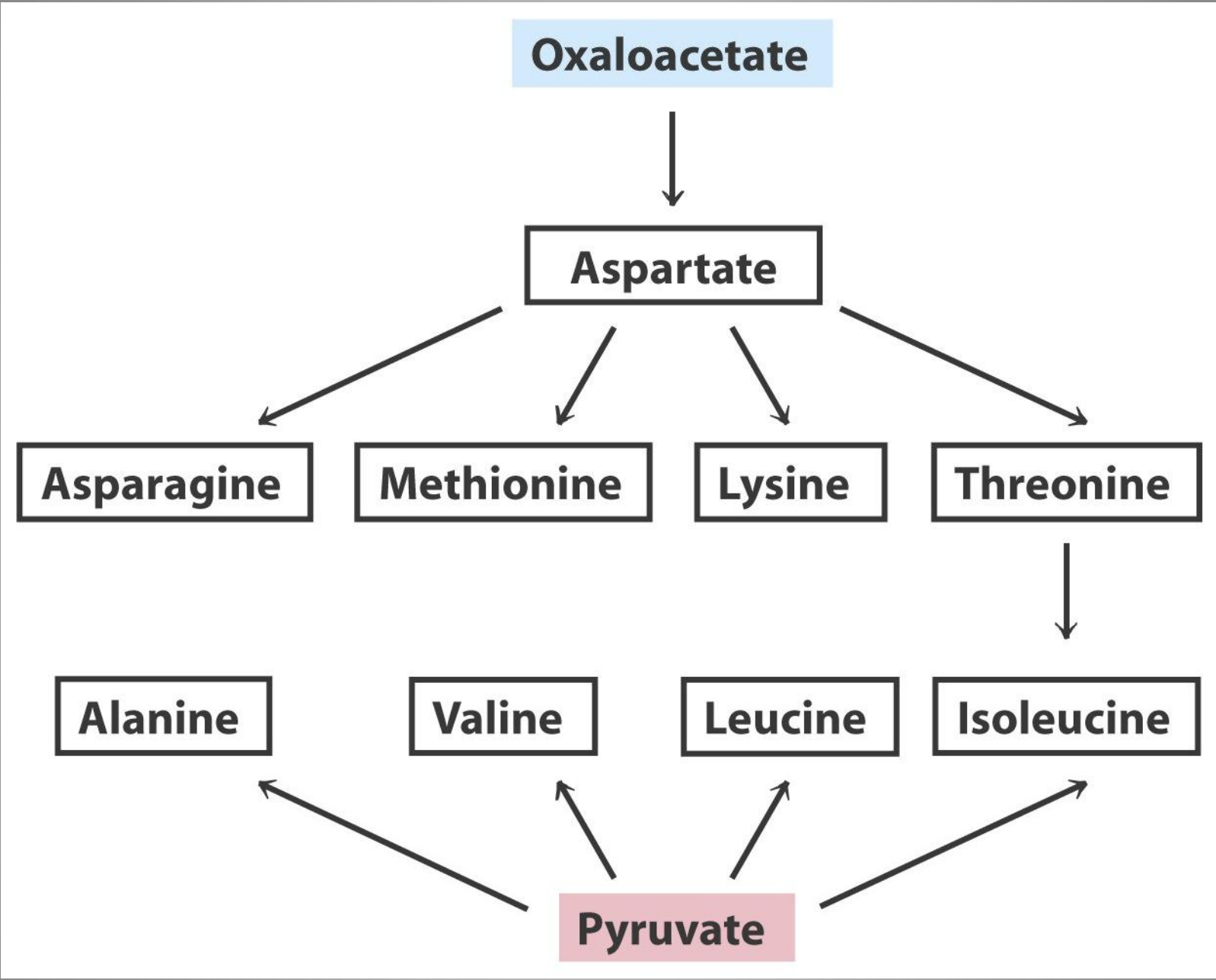
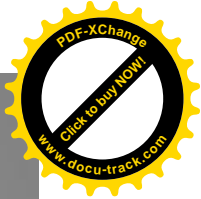
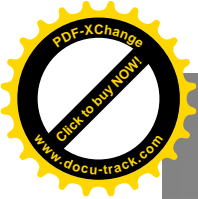
- Pro is a cyclized derivative of glutamate
- Arg is synthesized from glutamate via ornithine and the urea cycle
- Ornithine is interconverted to glutamate  $\gamma$ -semialdehyde by ornithine  $\delta$ -aminotransferase

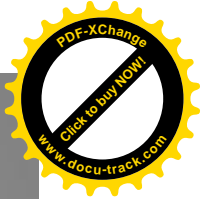
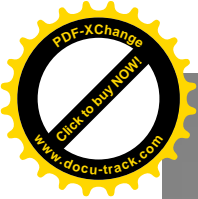
## 3-Phosphoglycerate



- Major pathway for synthesis of serine is the same in all organism.
- First by oxidation of hydroxyl group of 3-phosphoglycerate
- Transamination from glu yields 3-phosphoserine



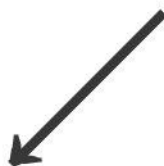




**Phosphoenolpyruvate**

+

**Erythrose 4-phosphate**



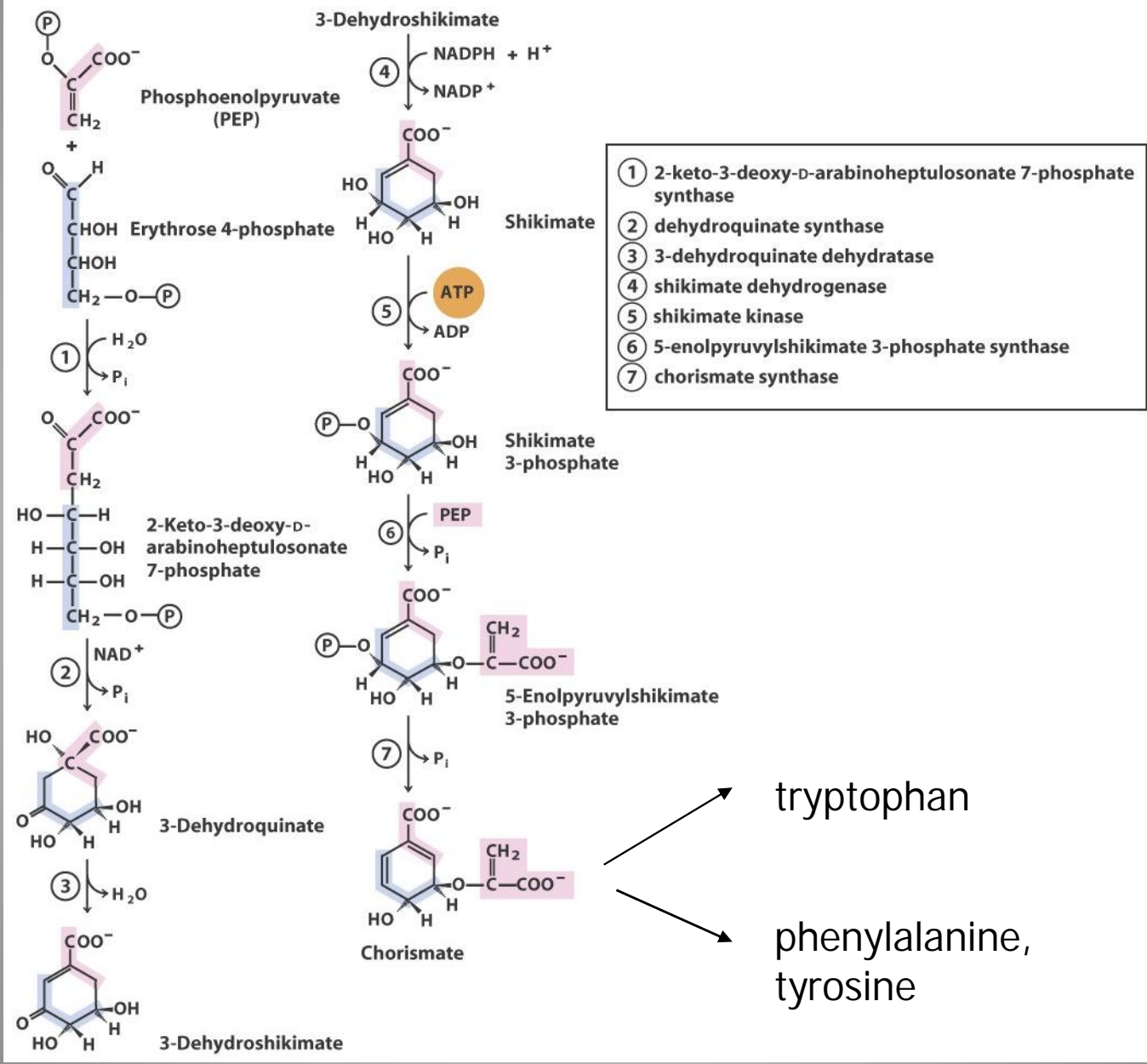
**Phenylalanine**

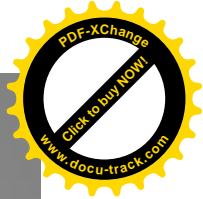
**Tyrosine**

**Tryptophan**



**Tyrosine**



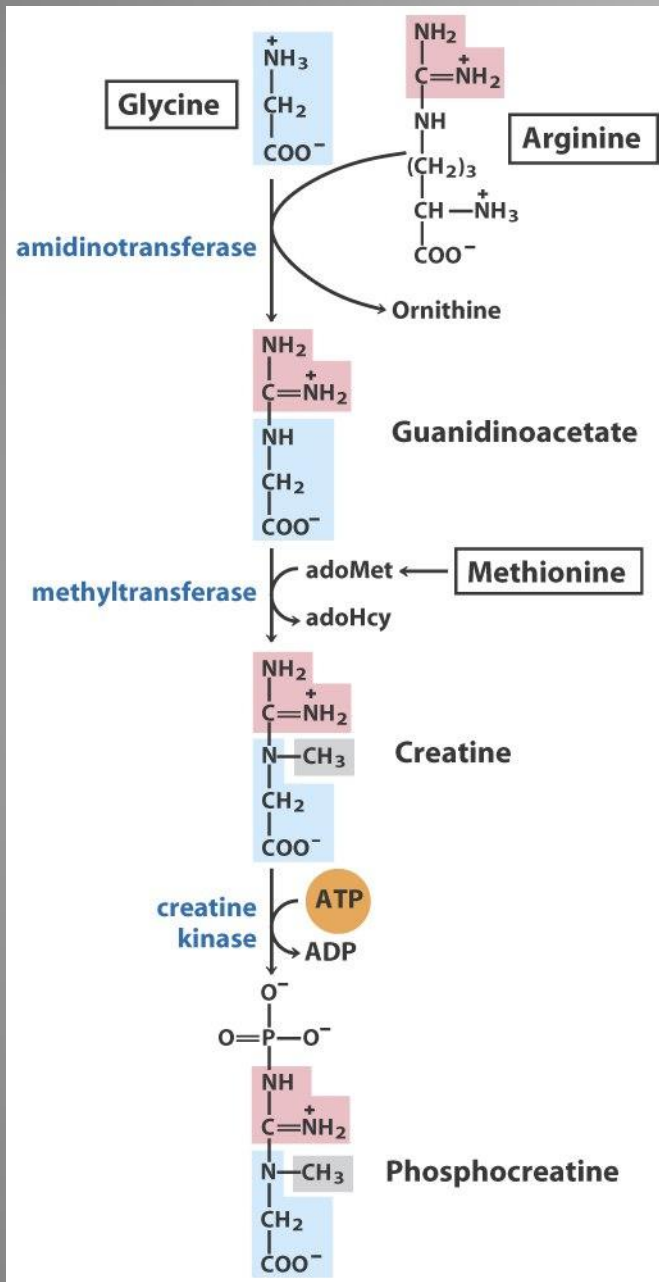


PRPP contributes five carbons, the purine ring of ATP contributes a nitrogen and a carbon, and glutamine supplies the second nitrogen atom.

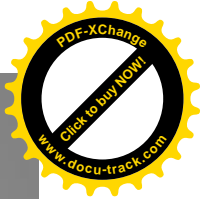
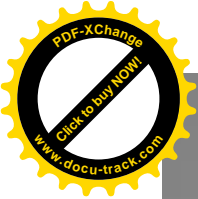
**Ribose 5-phosphate**



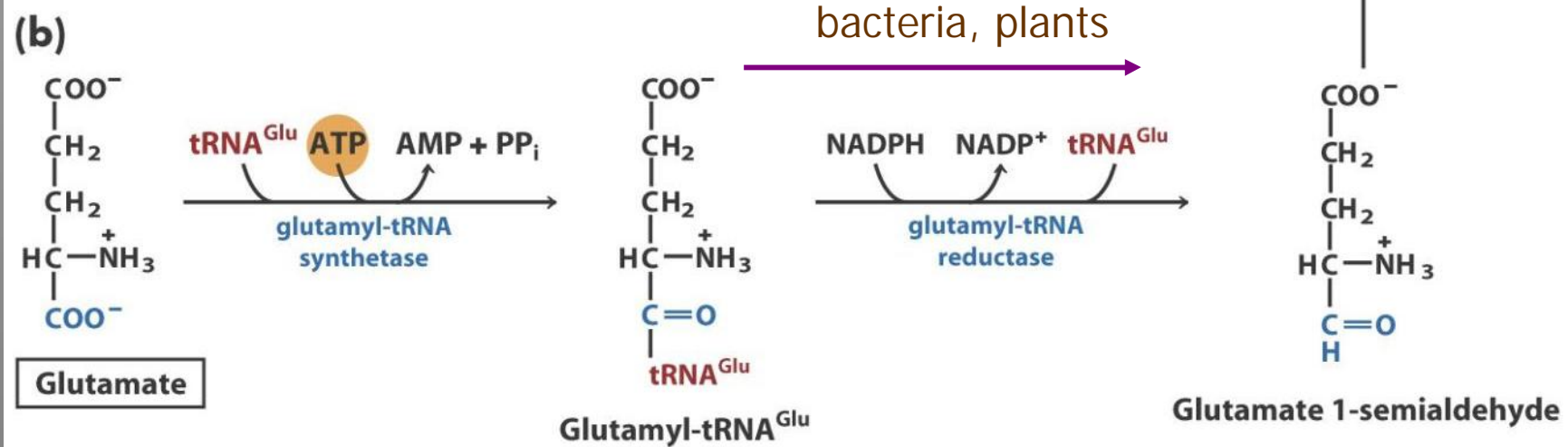
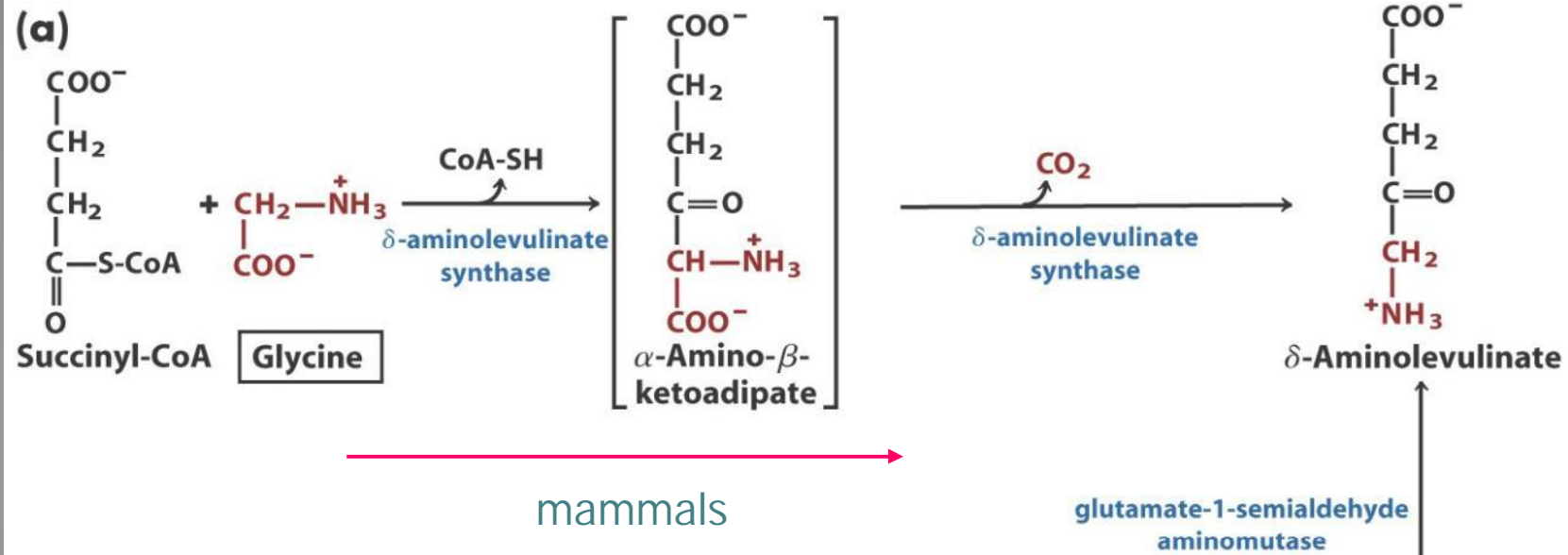
**Histidine**



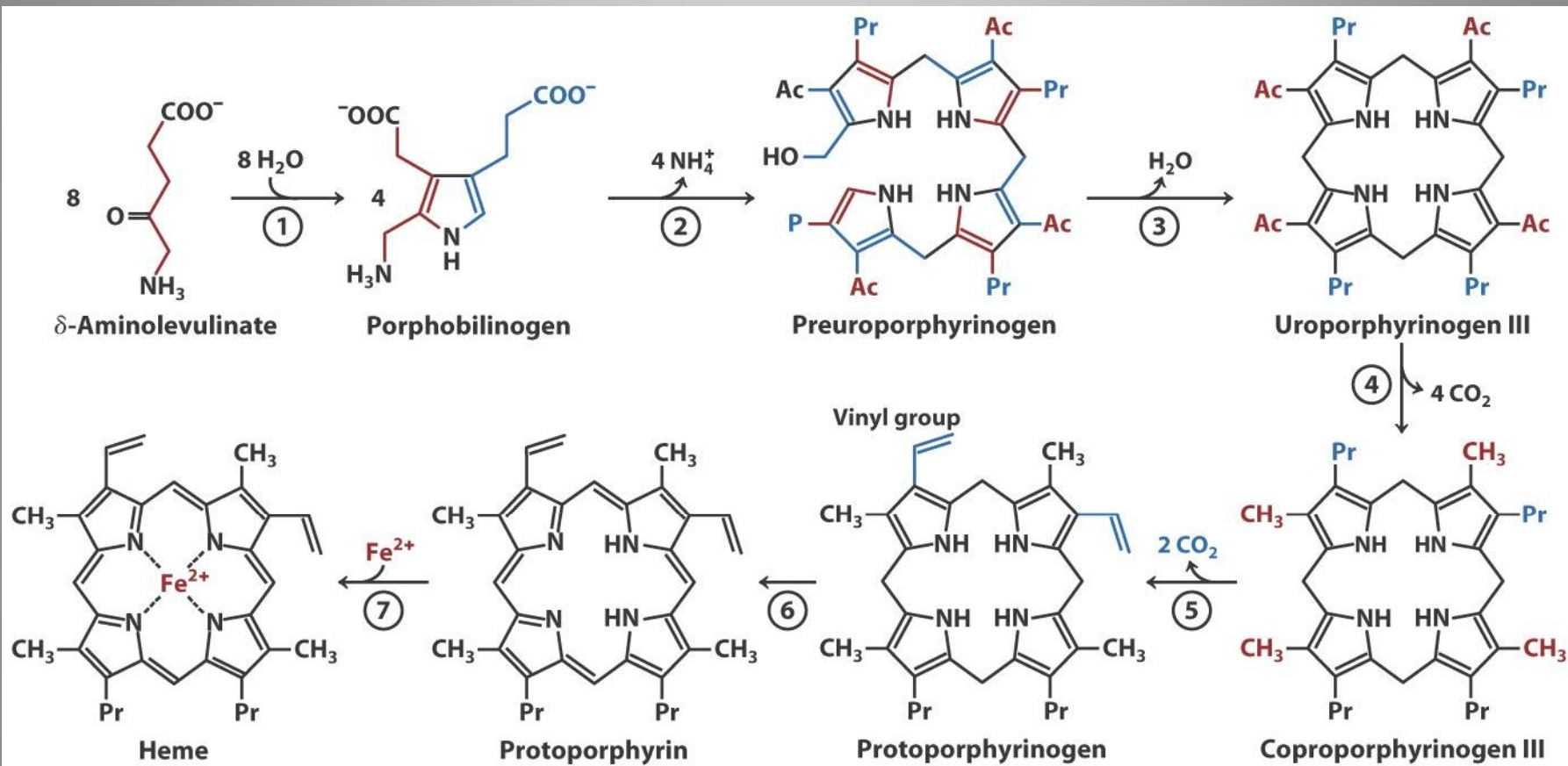
- Synthesis of high energy compounds: Creatine phosphate



# Glycine as a precursor of porphyrins

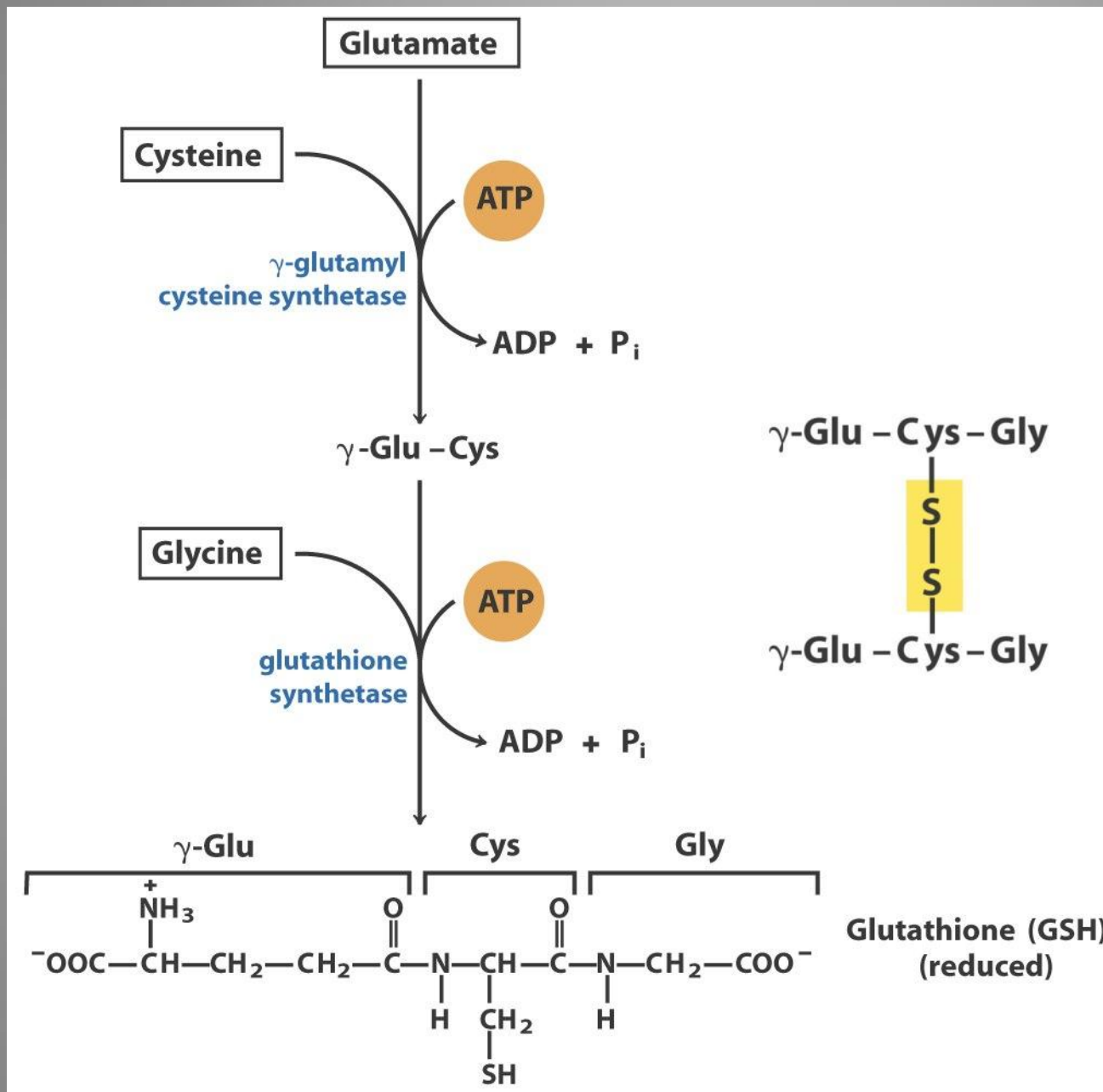


# Biosynthesis of heme



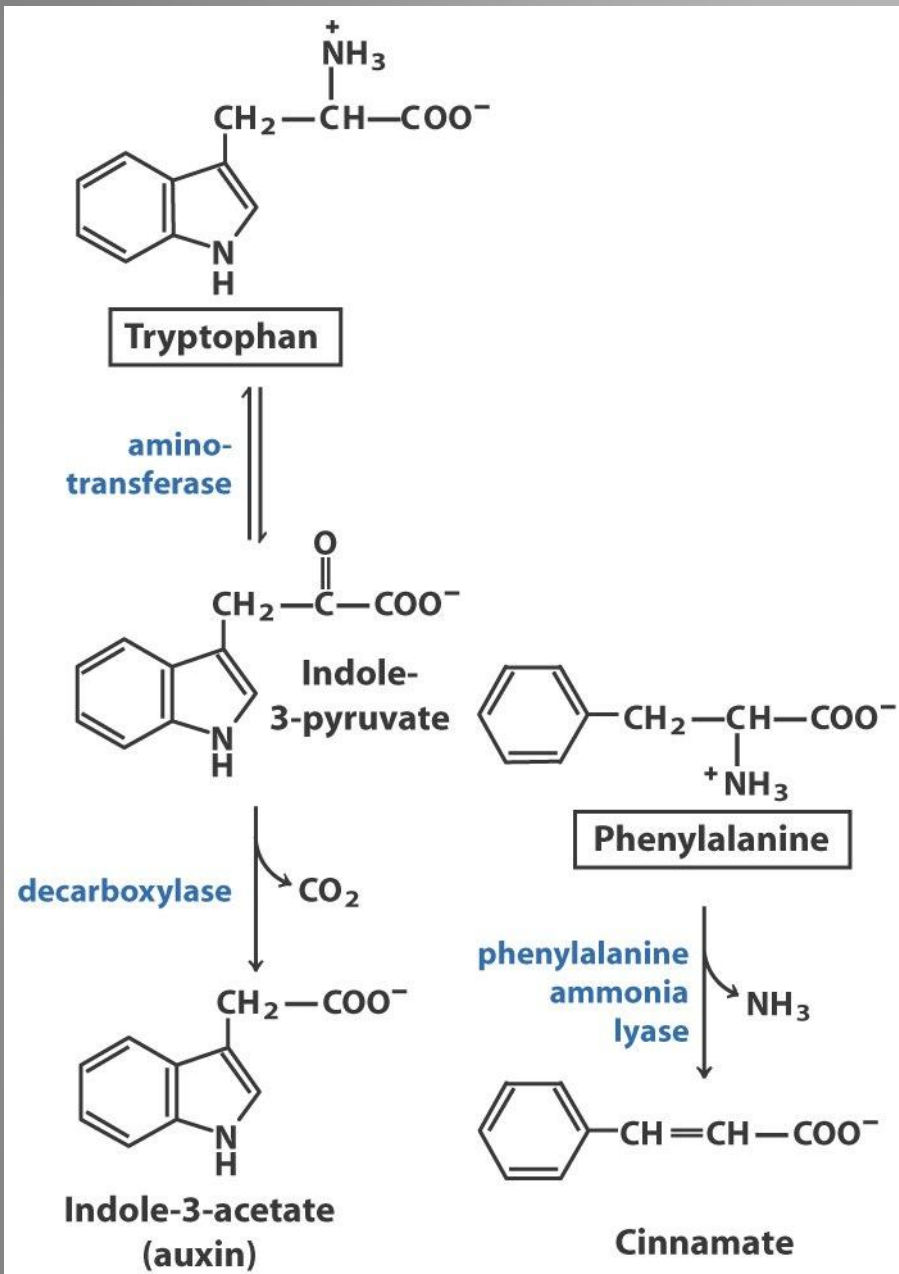
- ① porphobilinogen synthase
- ② uroporphyrinogen synthase
- ③ uroporphyrinogen III cosynthase
- ④ uroporphyrinogen decarboxylase

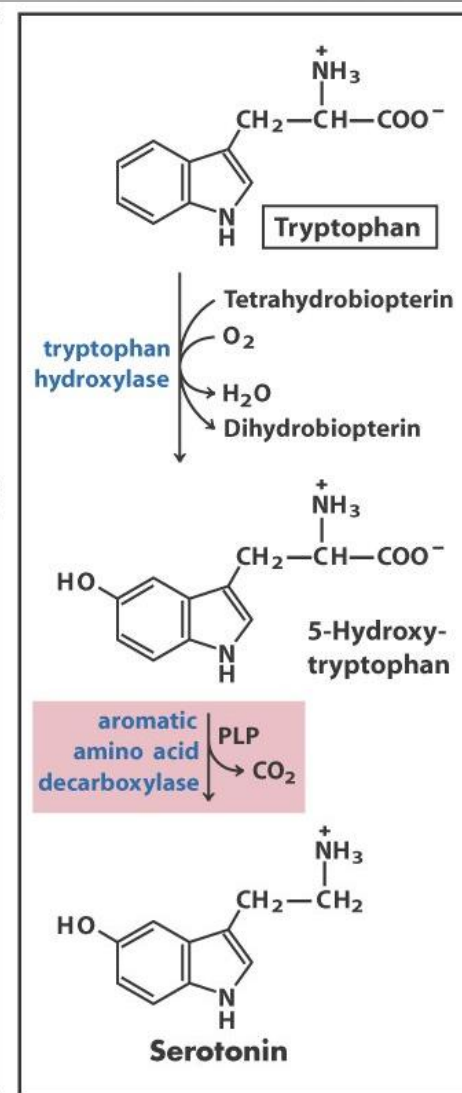
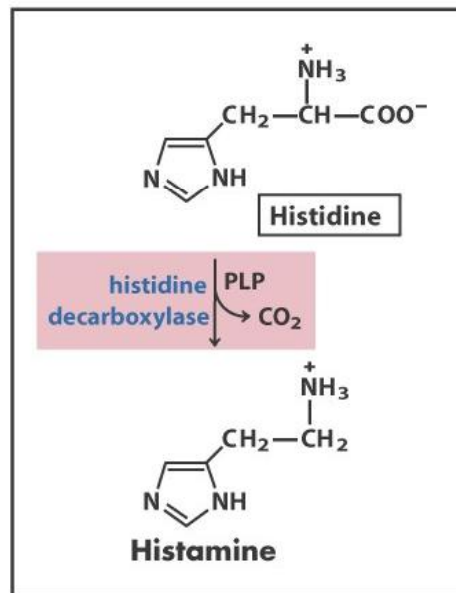
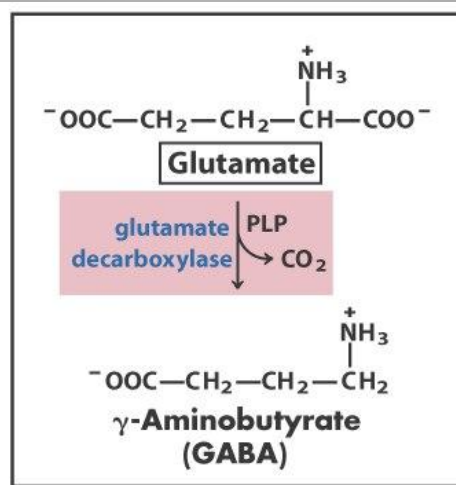
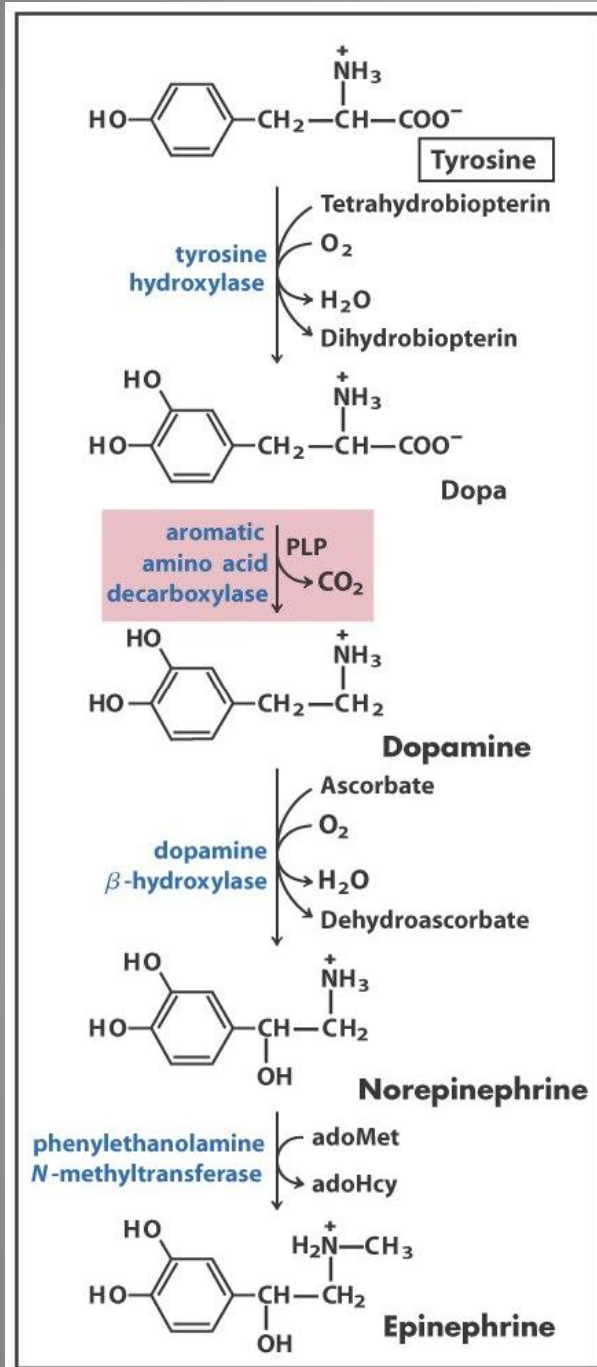
- ⑤ coproporphyrinogen oxidase
- ⑥ protoporphyrinogen oxidase
- ⑦ ferrochelatase



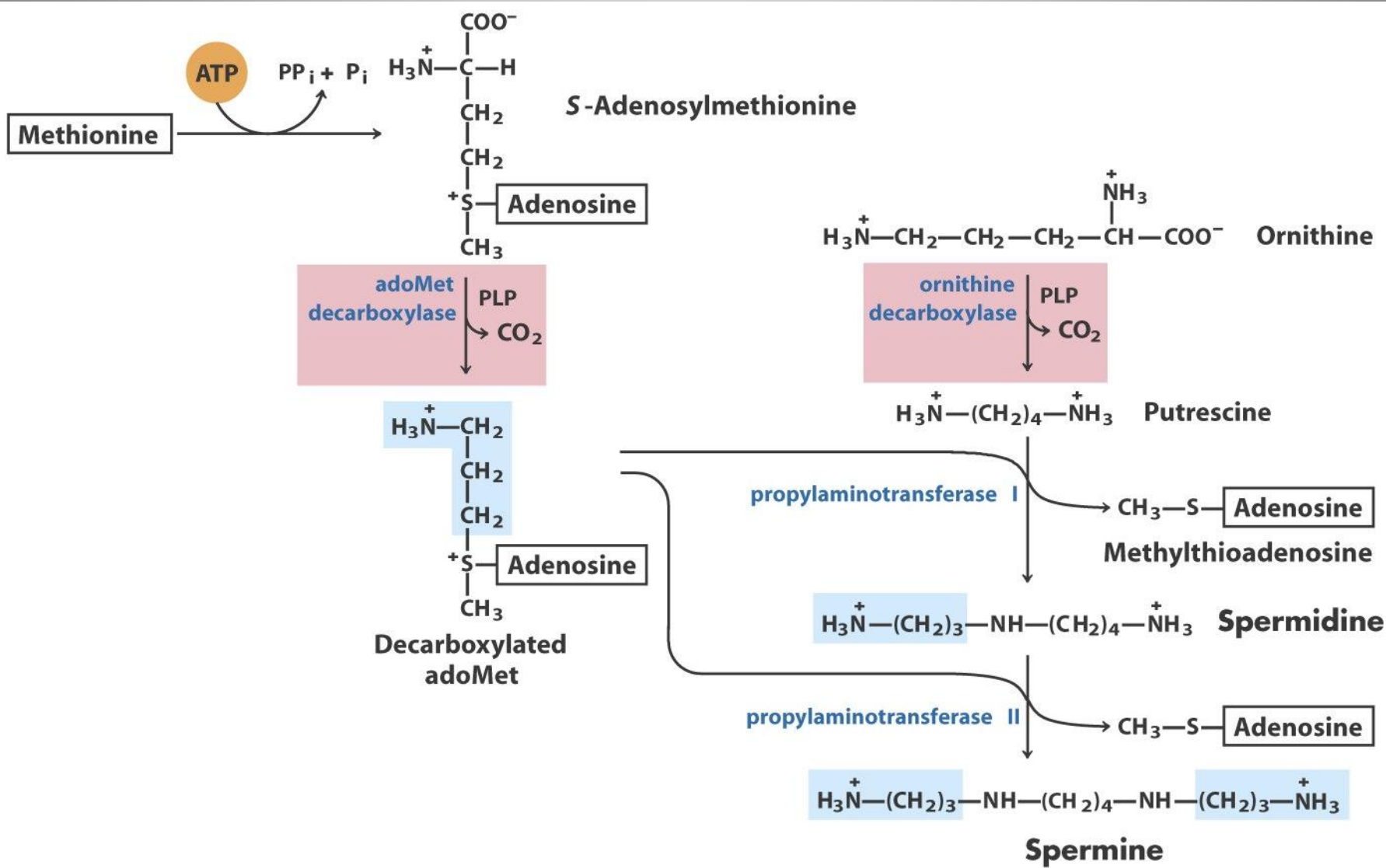


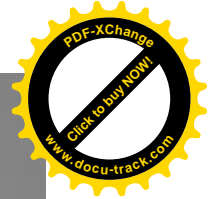
# Biological amines from aa decarboxylation





Biosynthesis of some neurotransmitters





# Biosynthesis of NO

