

## Glycogen metabolism

Glycogen review - 1,4 and 1,6 -glycosidic links

- every 10 sugars are branched - open helix with many non-reducing ends.

Effective storage of glucose

Glucose storage

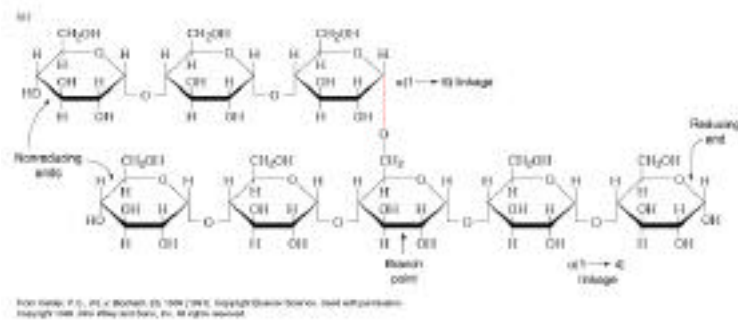
Liver glycogen	4.0%	72 g
Muscle glycogen	0.7%	245 g
Blood Glucose	0.1%	10 g

Large amount of water associated with glycogen

- 0.5% of total weight

Glycogen stored in granules in cytosol w/proteins for synthesis, degradation and control

There are very different means of control of glycogen metabolism between liver and muscle



## Glycogen biosynthetic and degradative cycle

Two different pathways - which do not share enzymes like glycolysis and gluconeogenesis

glucose -> glycogen

glycogenesis - biosynthetic

glycogen -> glucose 1-P

glycogenolysis - breakdown

Evidence for two paths

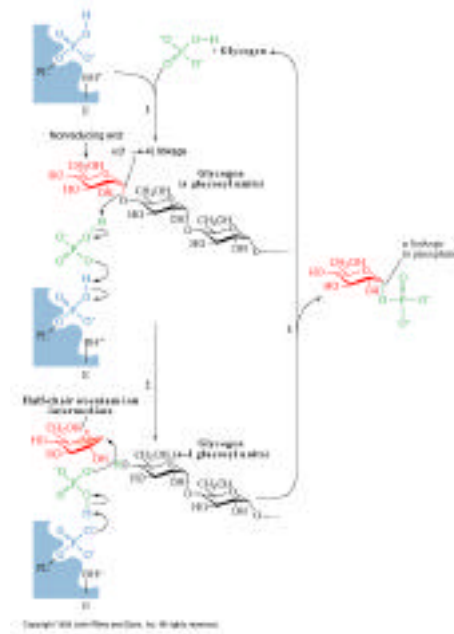
- Patients lacking phosphorylase can still synthesize glycogen
- hormonal regulation of both directions

## Glycogenolysis (glycogen breakdown)-

Glycogen Phosphorylase \_glycogen (n) + Pi -> glucose 1-p + glycogen (n-1)

- Enzyme binds and cleaves glycogen into monomers at the end of the polymer (reducing ends of glycogen)
- Dimer interacting at the N-terminus.
- rate limiting - controlled step in glycogen breakdown
- glycogen phosphorylase - cleavage of 1,4 glycosidic bond by Pi NOT H<sub>2</sub>O
- Energy of phosphorolysis vs. hydrolysis
  - low standard state free energy change -transfer potential
  - driven by Pi concentration
  - Hydrolysis would require additional step s/ cost of ATP
  - Think of the difference between adding a phosphate group with hydrolysis
- phosphorylation locks glucose in cell (imp. for muscle)
- Phosphorylase binds glycogen at storage site and the catalytic site is 4 to 5 glucose residues away from the catalytic site.

- Phosphorylase removes 1 residue at a time from glycogen until 4 glucose residues away on either side of 1,6 branch point – sterically hindered by glycogen storage site
- Cleaves without releasing at storage site
- general acid/base catalysts
- Inorganic phosphate attacks the terminal glucose residue passing through an oxonium ion intermediate.
- cofactor PLP pyridoxal 5'-phosphate
  - Covalently bound by Schiff base
  - Phosphate functional group of PLP acts as an acid/base catalyst
  - Allows the exclusion of water - replaced by Pi



### Transferase/debranching enzyme

Finishes what phosphorylase cannot

Two activities on same enzyme

- 1st- transferase - move 4 or 5 sugars from one chain to another
- Exposes 1,6 branched sugar
- 2nd - debranching - specific cleavage (hydrolysis) of 1,6 branched glucose - giving free glucose

### Phosphoglucomutase

glucose 1-P -> glucose 6-P

- mechanism involves phosphoryl shuttle from serine in active site to glucose hydroxyls
- no additional energy required
- equilibrium far to the right

### Glucose 6-phosphatase (G-6-Pase)

glucose 6P -> glucose + Pi

- Found mostly in Liver and Kidney NOT Muscle or Brain
- Allows gluconeogenic tissue to supply and glucose for body while muscle and brain keep it for glycolysis

## **Glycogenesis**

### UDP glucose transferase

Glucose 1 P + UTP -> UDPglucose + PPi

- UTP acts as a high energy handle for many sugar polymers
- PPi hydrolysis - pulls reaction to right of reaction

### Glycogen synthase

UDPglucose -> 1,4 glycogen + UDP

- Highly regulated enzyme of this path
- requires a preexisting primer of glycogen

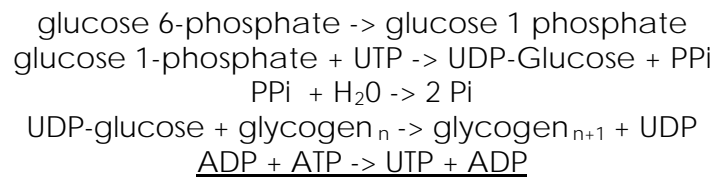
- Primer is glycogenin enzyme/protein
- Glycogenin glycosylates itself
- Glycogen "core"
- 1,4 glycogen addition until glycogen synthase loses contact with glycogenin core

### Branching enzyme

1,4 glycogen -> 1,6 /1,4 glycogen

- once 11 or so glucose residues have been added, transfers 1,4 to another chain in a 1,6 linkage
- transfers about 7 sugar residues

### **Energy cost of Glycogen synthesis**



The cost of storage of glucose in the form of glycogen is very small as compared to the production of ATP from glucose