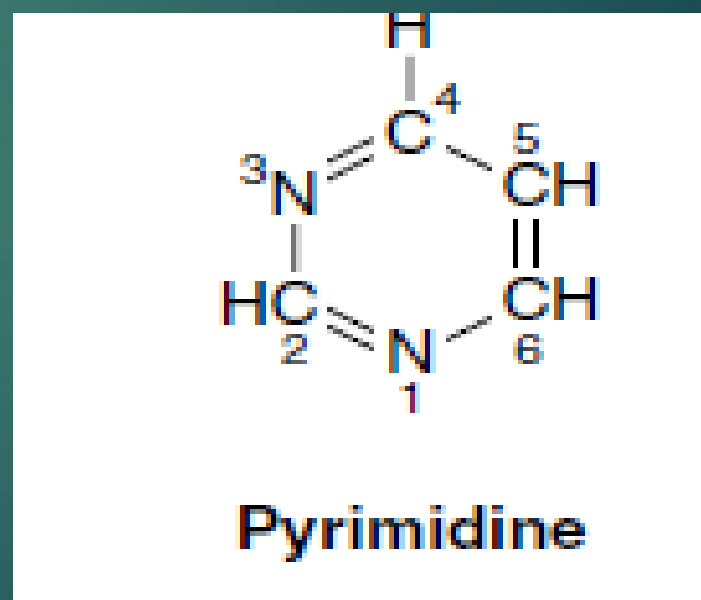
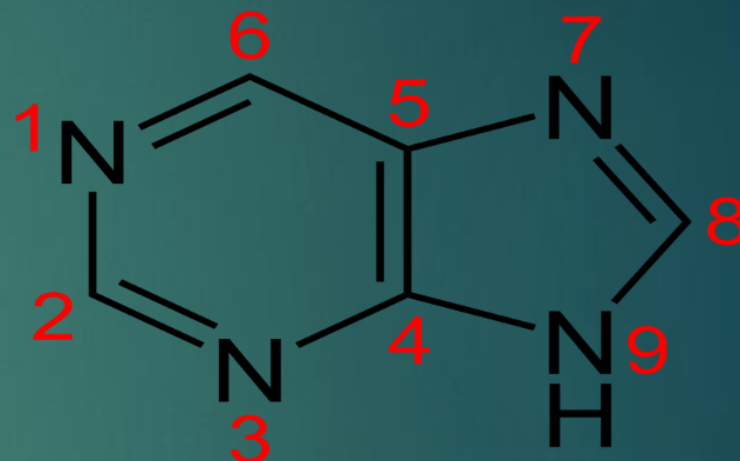


# Purine and Pyrimidine Metabolism

BCH 305

# PURINES AND PYRIMIDINES

Purines and pyrimidines are nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds whose rings contain both carbon and other elements (hetero atoms)



# The Nitrogenous Bases

In DNA:

Adenine

Guanine

\*Thymine\*

Cytosine

In RNA:

Adenine

Guanine

\*Uracil\*

Cytosine

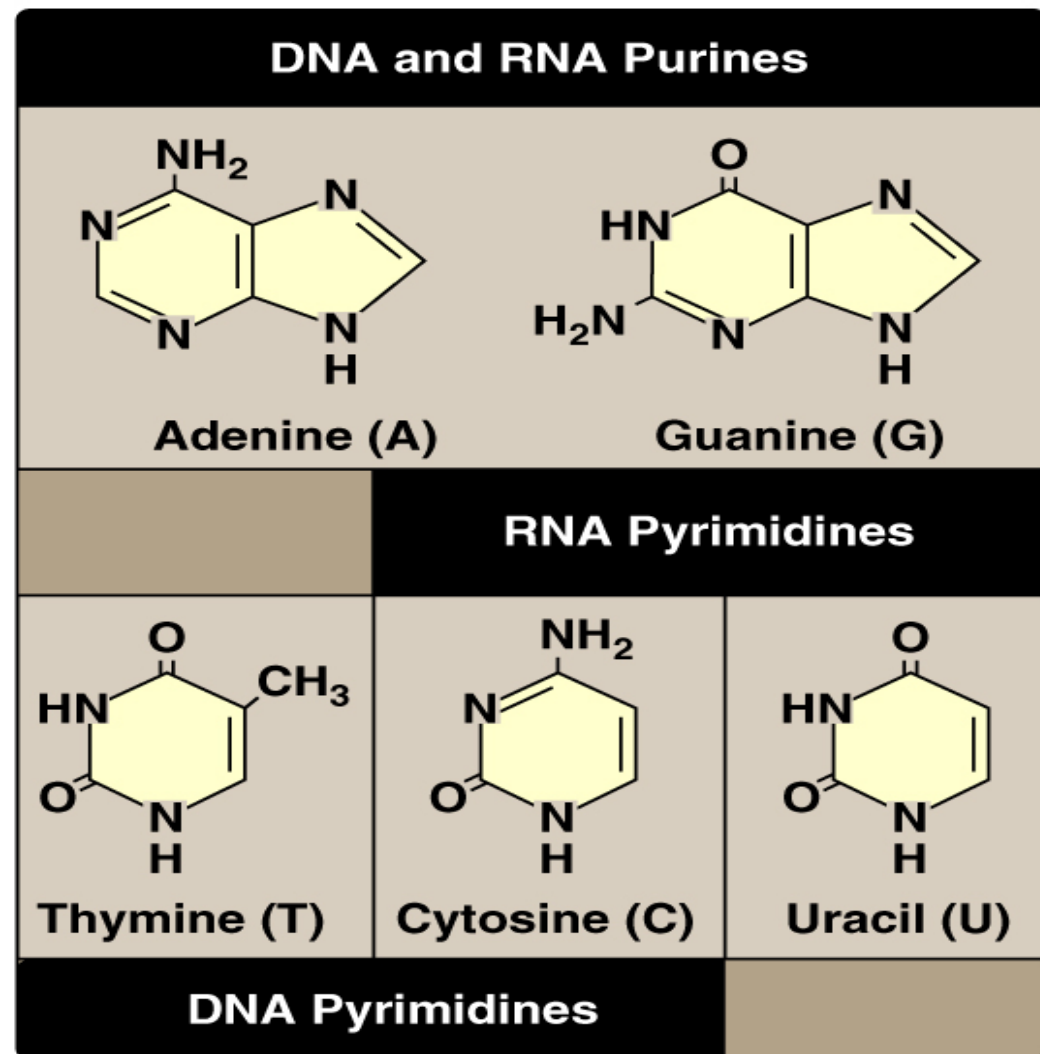


Figure 22.1

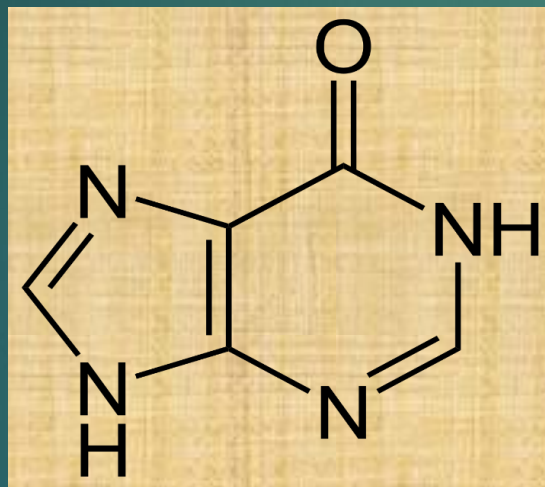
Purines and pyrimidines commonly found in DNA and RNA.

# Purine chemical names

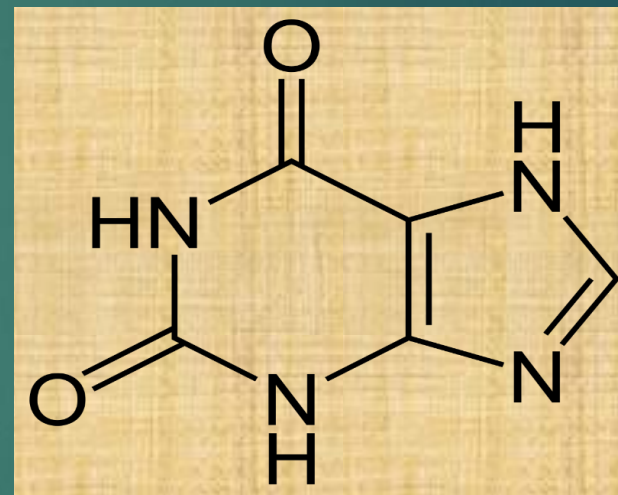
- ▶ Adenine = 6-amino purine
- ▶ Guanine = 2-amino-6-oxy purine
- ▶ Hypoxanthine = 6-oxy purine
- ▶ Xanthine = 2,6-dioxy purine
- ▶ Uracil = 2,4-dioxy pyrimidine
- ▶ Thymine = 2,4-dioxy-5-methyl pyrimidine
- ▶ Cytosine = 2-oxy-4-amino pyrimidine
- ▶ Orotic acid = 2,4-dioxy-6-carboxy pyrimidine

Important metabolic intermediates; not typically found in either DNA or RNA.

Hypoxanthine

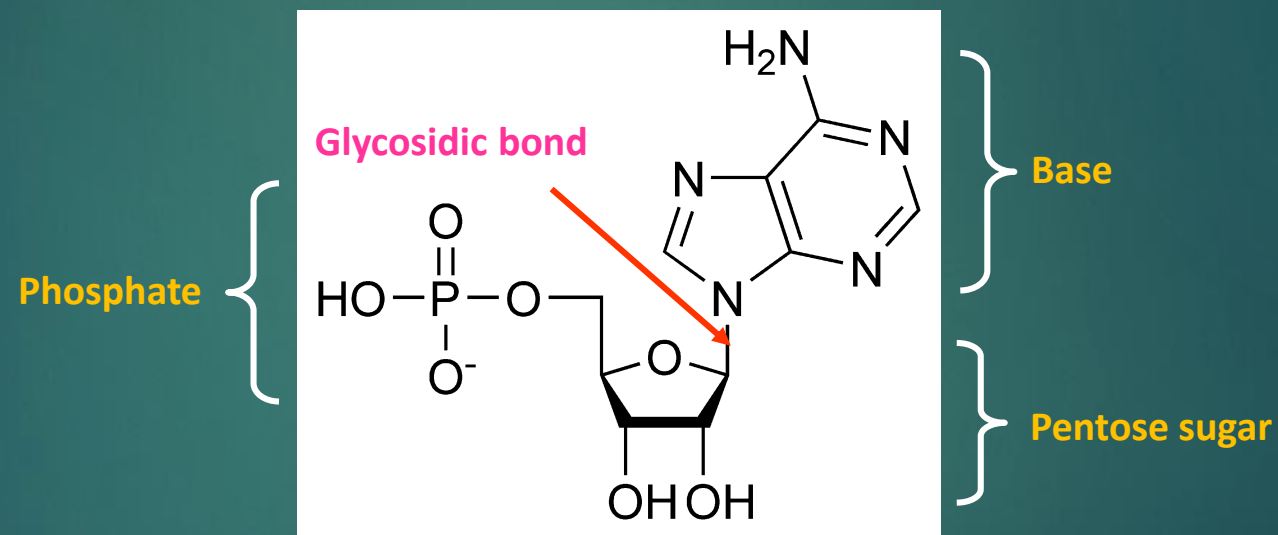


Xanthine



# Nucleotides

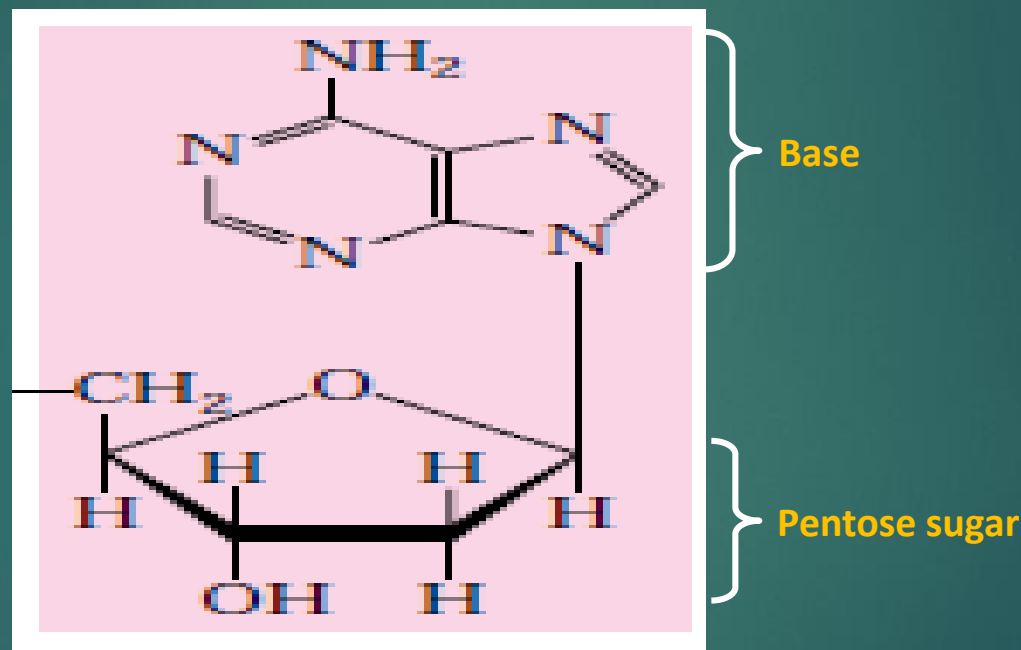
Chemical compound composed of three components: (1) **heterocyclic or nitrogenous base**; (2) sugar (pentose; ribose); and (3) one or more phosphate groups



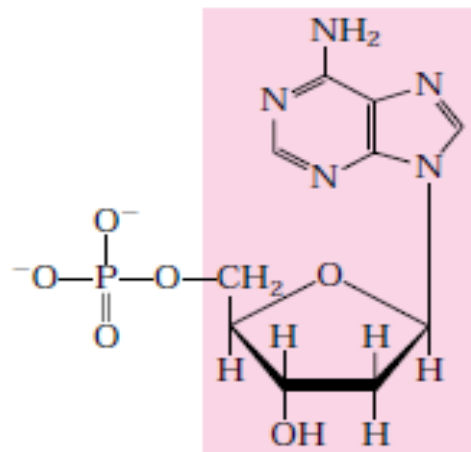
Adenosine monophosphate (AMP)

# Nucleosides

Nucleosides are derivatives of purines and pyrimidines that have a sugar linked to a ring Nitrogen. The sugar can be **ribose** (ribonucleotides) or **deoxyribose** (deoxyribonucleosides).



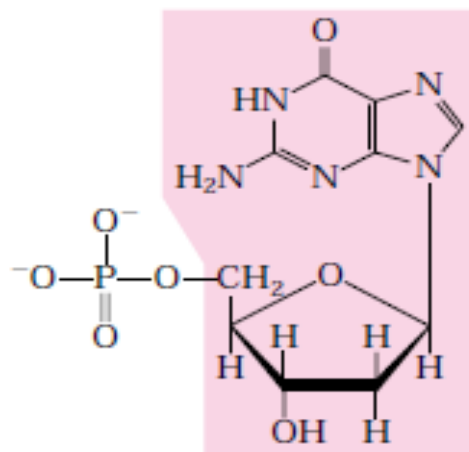
**DEOXYADENOSINE**



**Nucleotide:** Deoxyadenylate  
(deoxyadenosine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** A, dA, dAMP

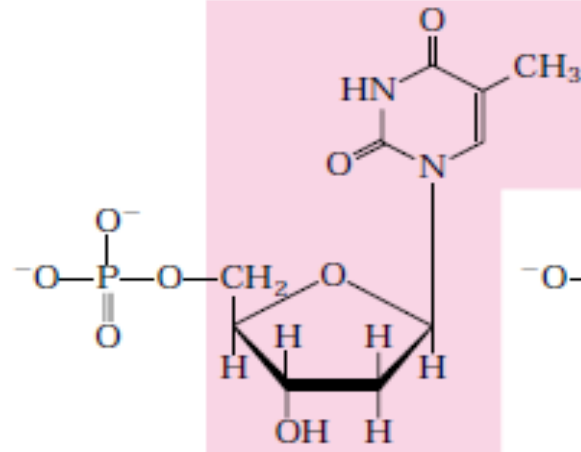
**Nucleoside:** Deoxyadenosine



**Nucleotide:** Deoxyguanylate  
(deoxyguanosine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** G, dG, dGMP

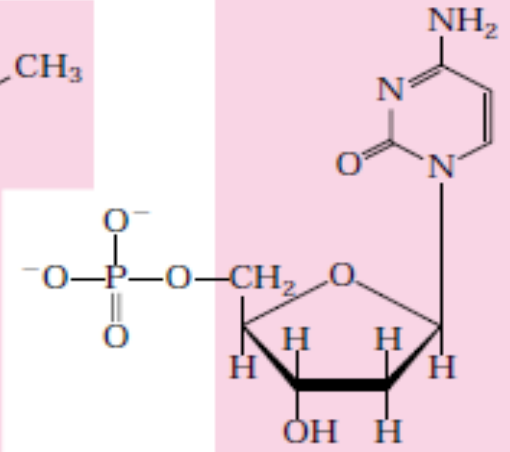
**Nucleoside:** Deoxyguanosine



**Nucleotide:** Deoxythymidylate  
(deoxythymidine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** T, dT, dTMP

**Nucleoside:** Deoxythymidine

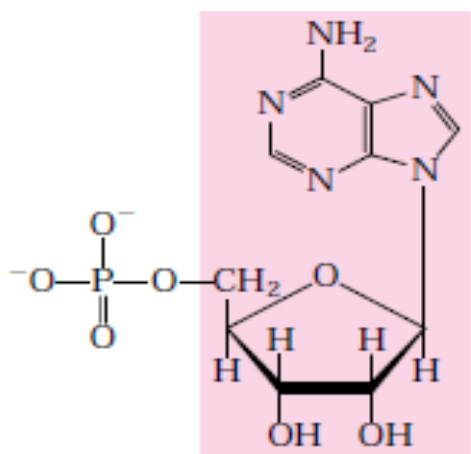


**Nucleotide:** Deoxycytidylate  
(deoxycytidine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** C, dC, dCMP

**Nucleoside:** Deoxycytidine

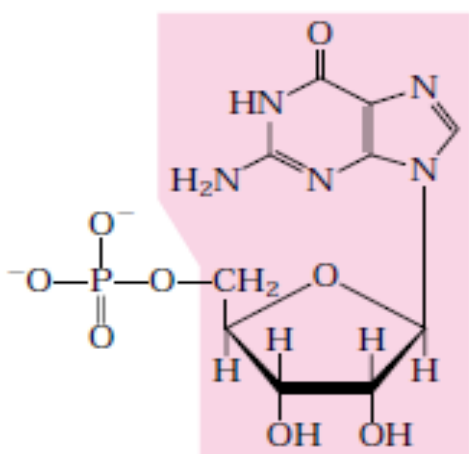
#### (a) Deoxyribonucleotides



**Nucleotide:** Adenylate (adenosine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** A, AMP

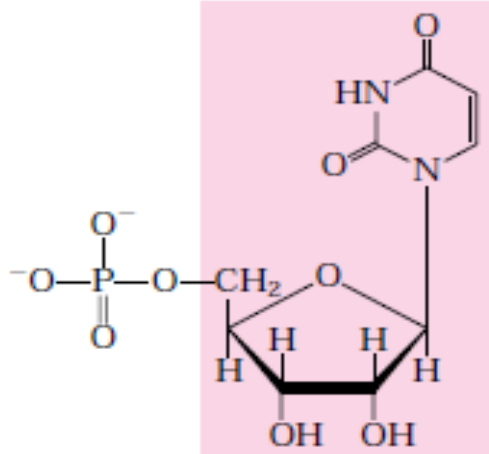
**Nucleoside:** Adenosine



**Nucleotide:** Guanylate (guanosine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** G, GMP

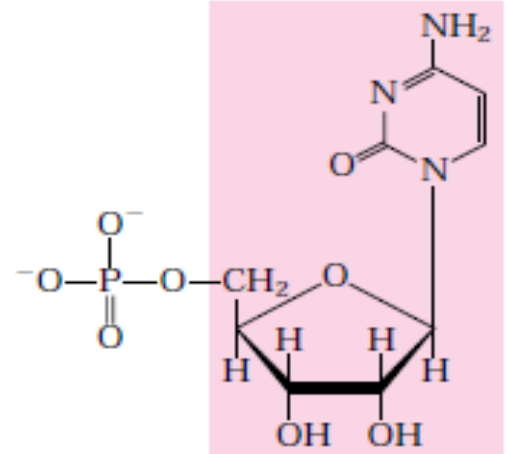
**Nucleoside:** Guanosine



**Nucleotide:** Uridylate (uridine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** U, UMP

**Nucleoside:** Uridine



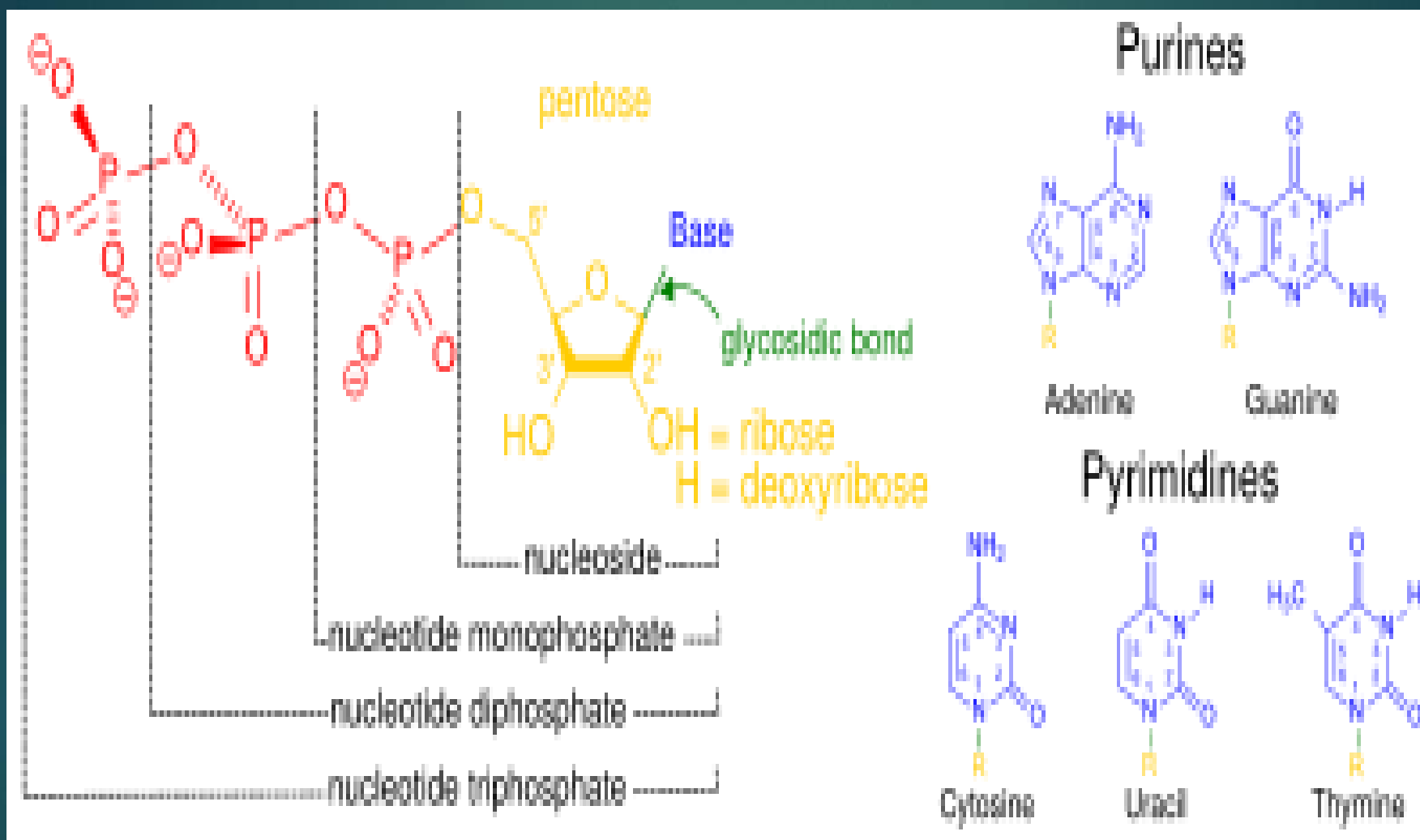
**Nucleotide:** Cytidylate (cytidine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** C, CMP

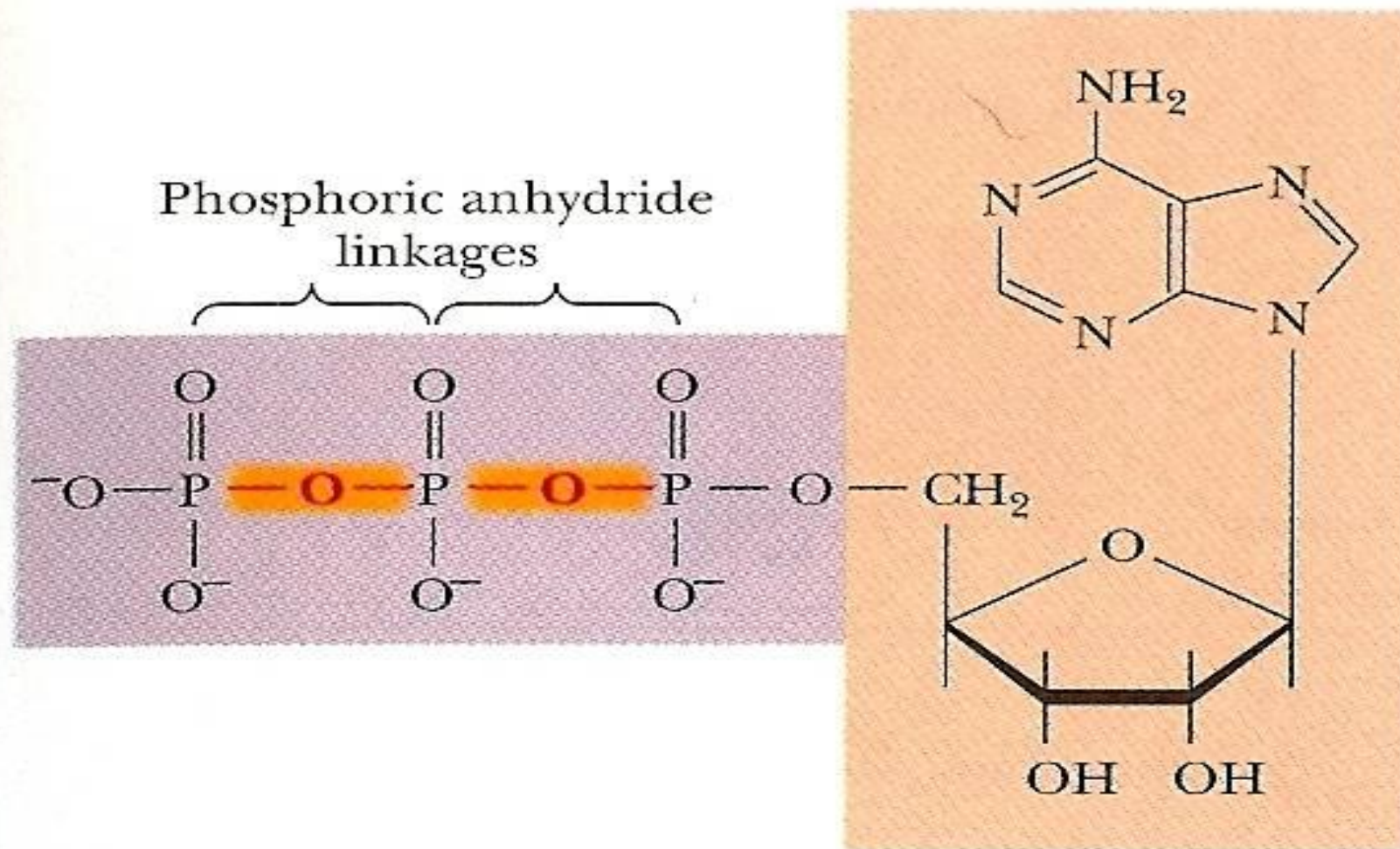
**Nucleoside:** Cytidine

#### (b) Ribonucleotides

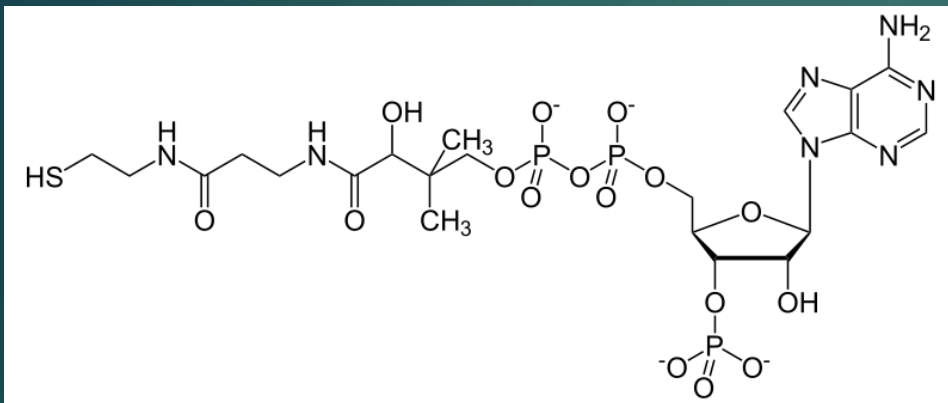




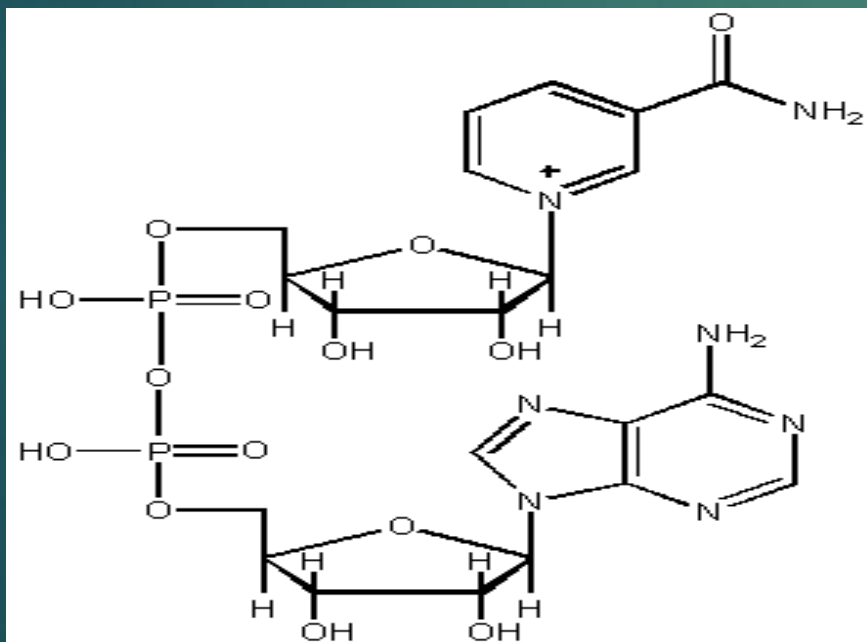
# Energy Currency



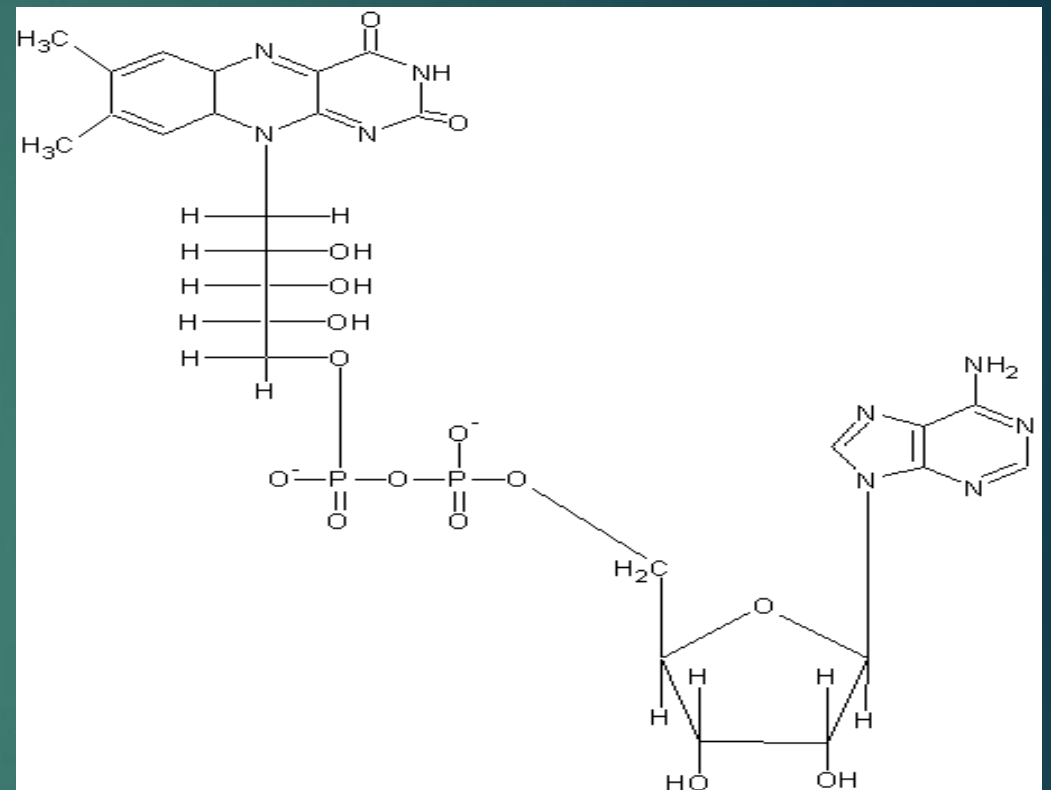
**ATP**  
(adenosine-5'-triphosphate)



## Coenzyme A



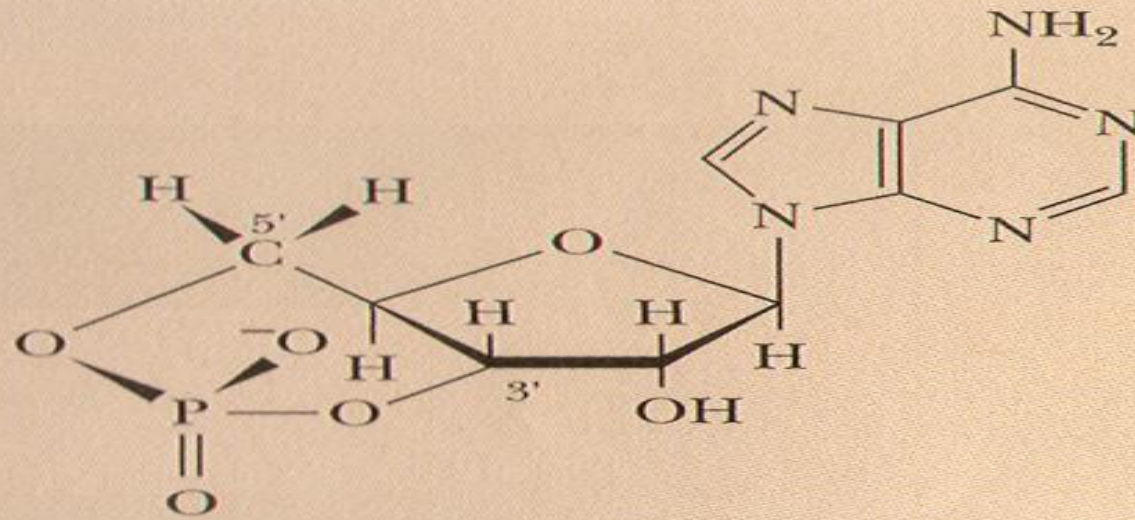
**NAD(P)<sup>+</sup>**



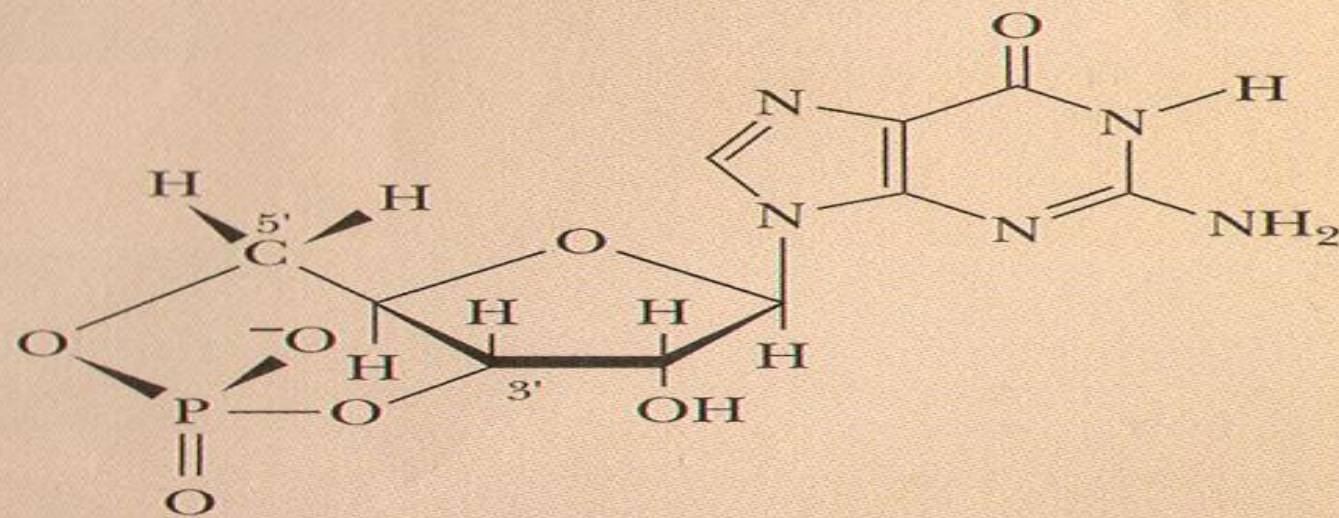
## Flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD)



# Signaling Molecules



**3',5'-Cyclic AMP**



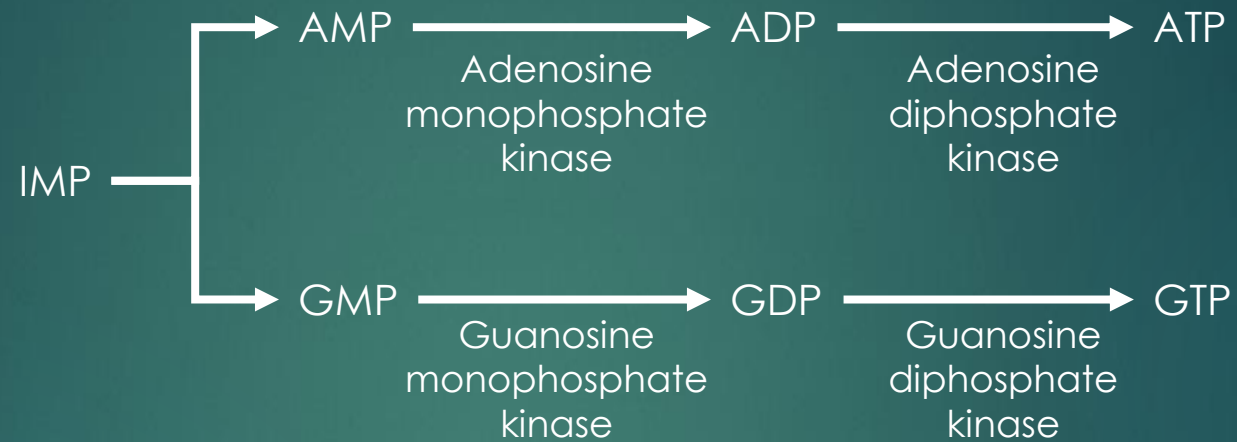
**3',5'-Cyclic GMP**

# Purine synthesis

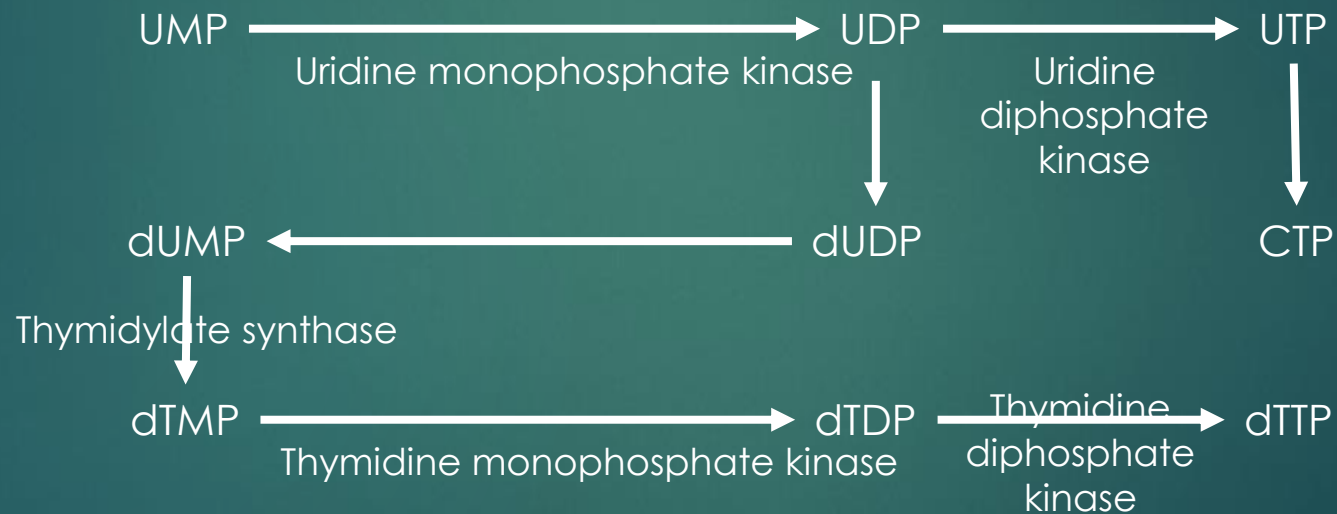
# Purine Synthesis

- ▶ Two ways:
  - ▶ **De Novo Pathway**: means from scratch; nucleotide bases are produced from simpler compounds
    - ▶ **Purines**: base is synthesized in segments, in order, directly onto the ribose structure
    - ▶ **Pyrimidines**: base is synthesized first and then assembled onto the ribose structure
  - ▶ **Salvage Pathway**: “a process whereby a metabolite is reutilized for biosynthesis of a compound from which the metabolite was derived”

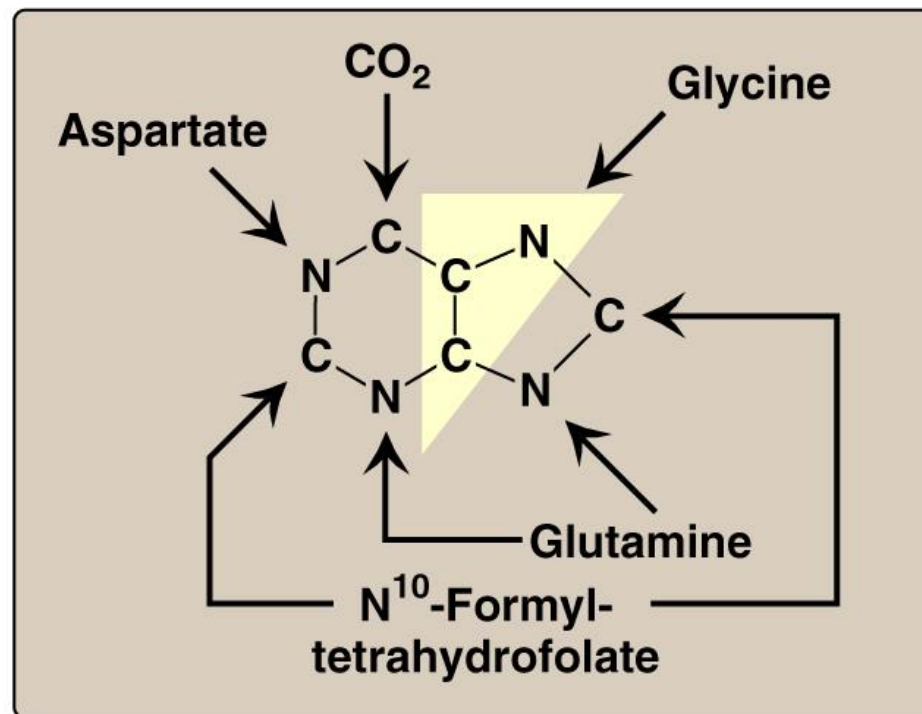
### De novo purine synthesis



### De novo pyrimidine synthesis



## *De novo* purine synthesis

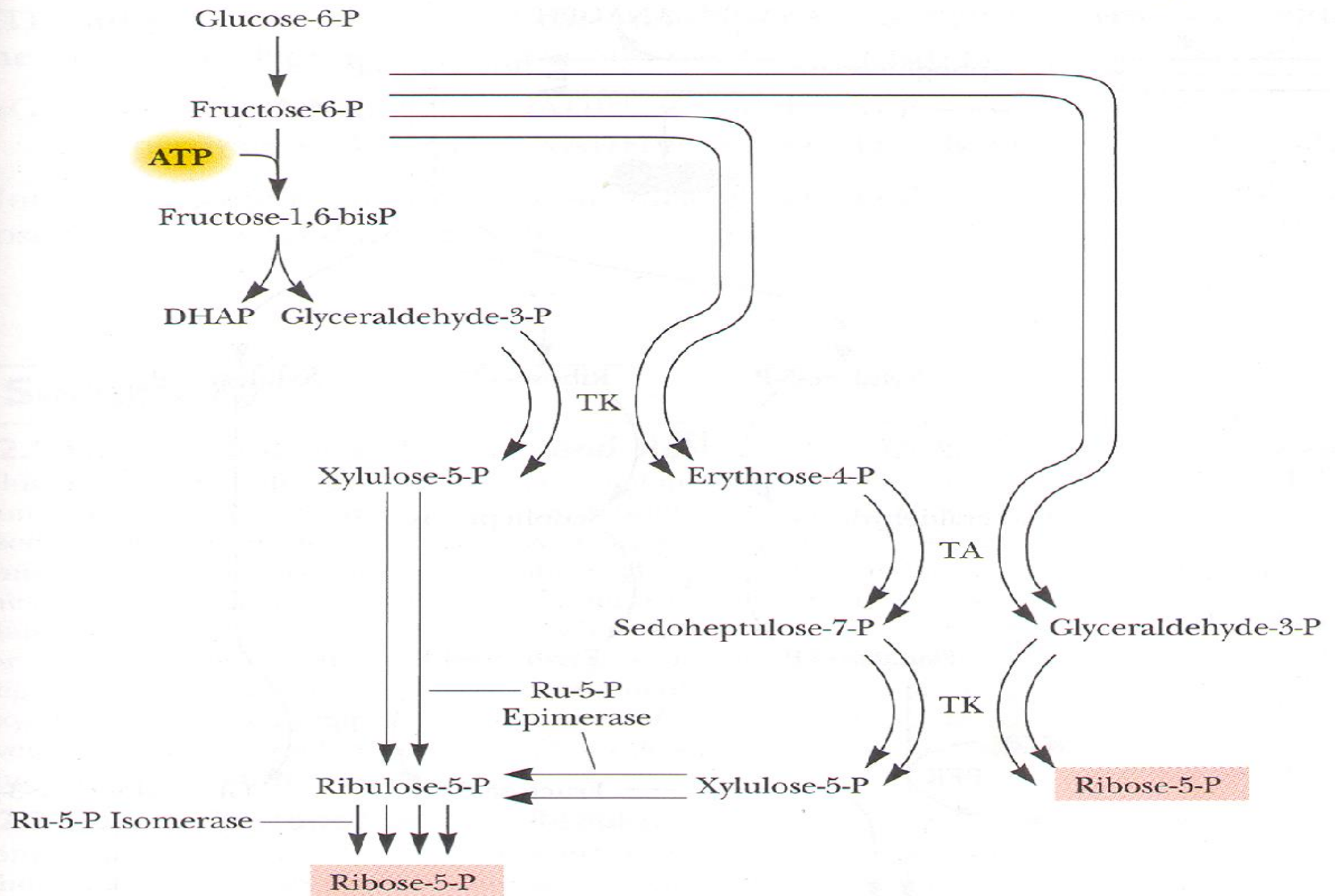




# *De novo* purine synthesis

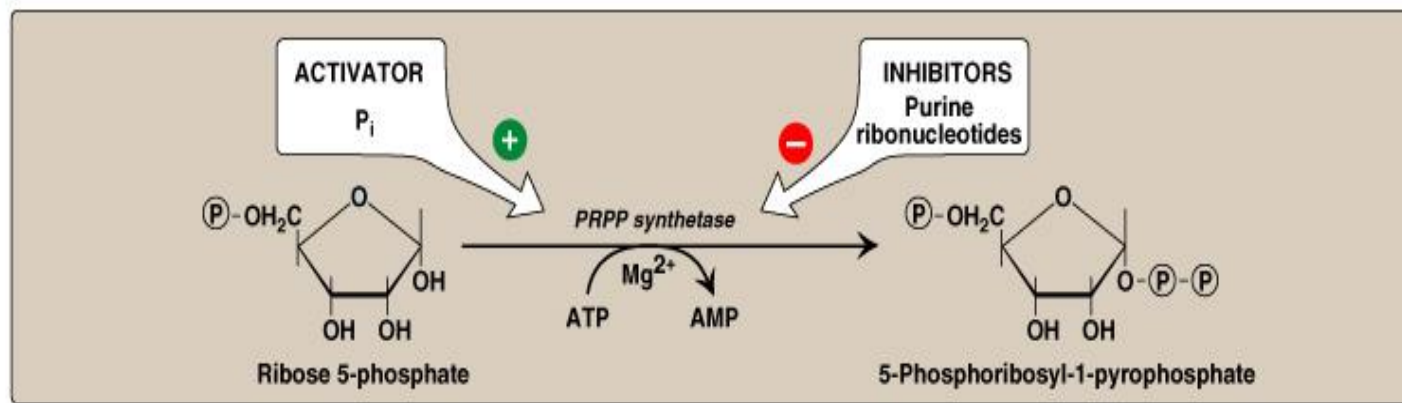
- ▶ **Purine ring:** synthesized by a series of 12 reactions; carbon and nitrogen atoms added to a pre-formed ribose-5-phosphate.
- ▶ Ribose-5-phosphate: **Hexose MonoPhosphate Pathway.**
- ▶ In humans: enzymes found in the cytoplasm of the cell.

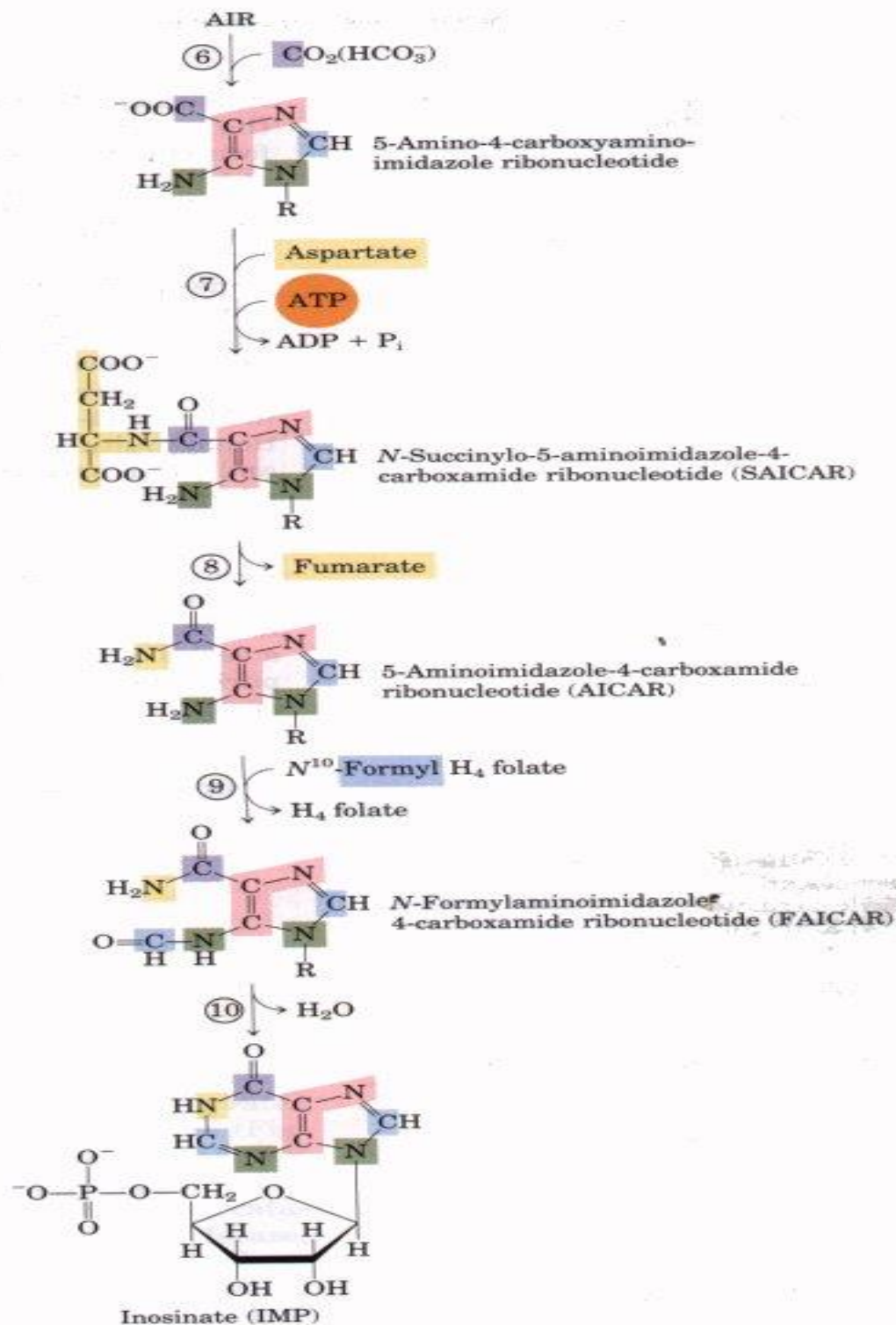
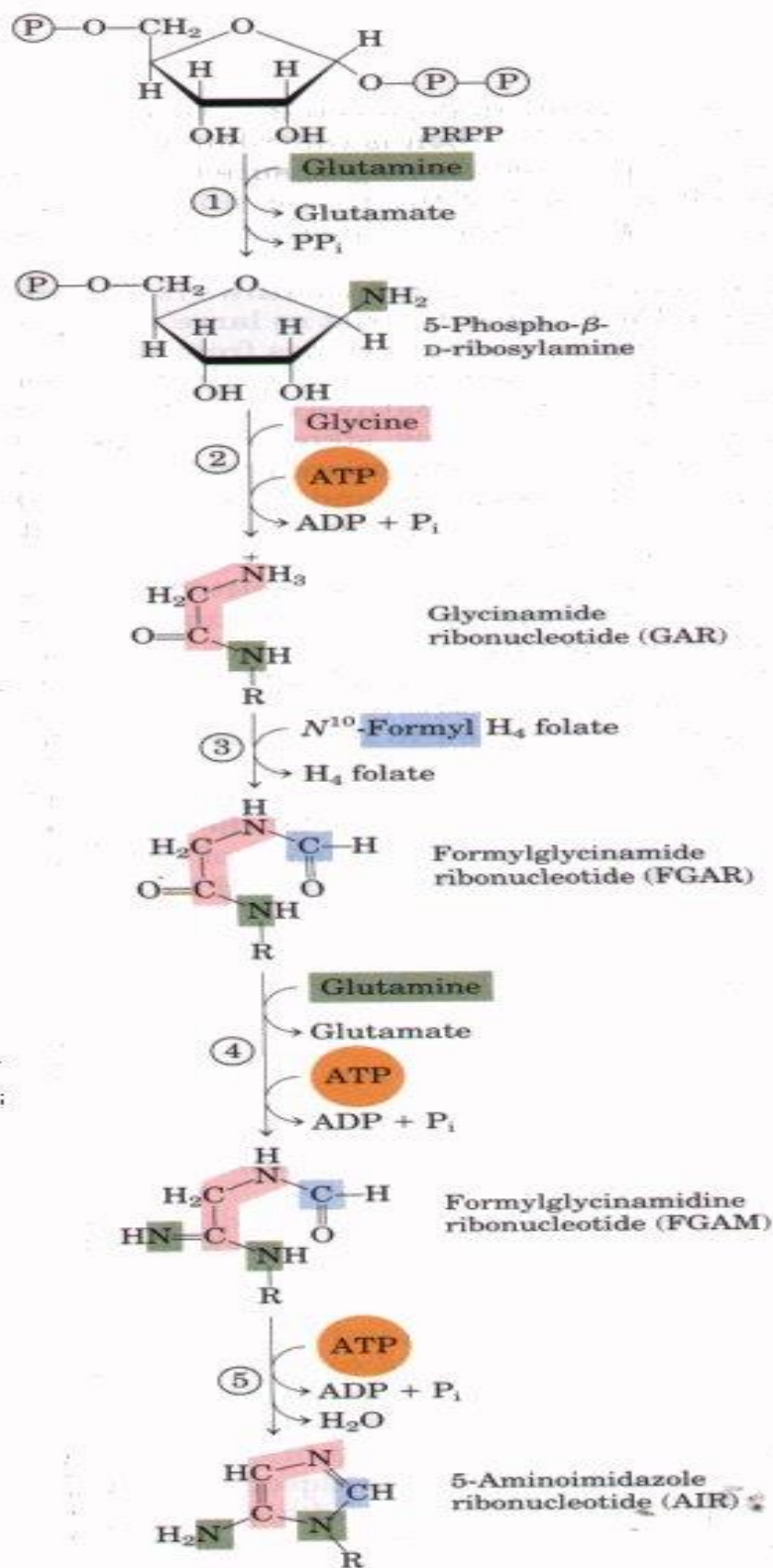
# Source For Ribose-5-Phosphate

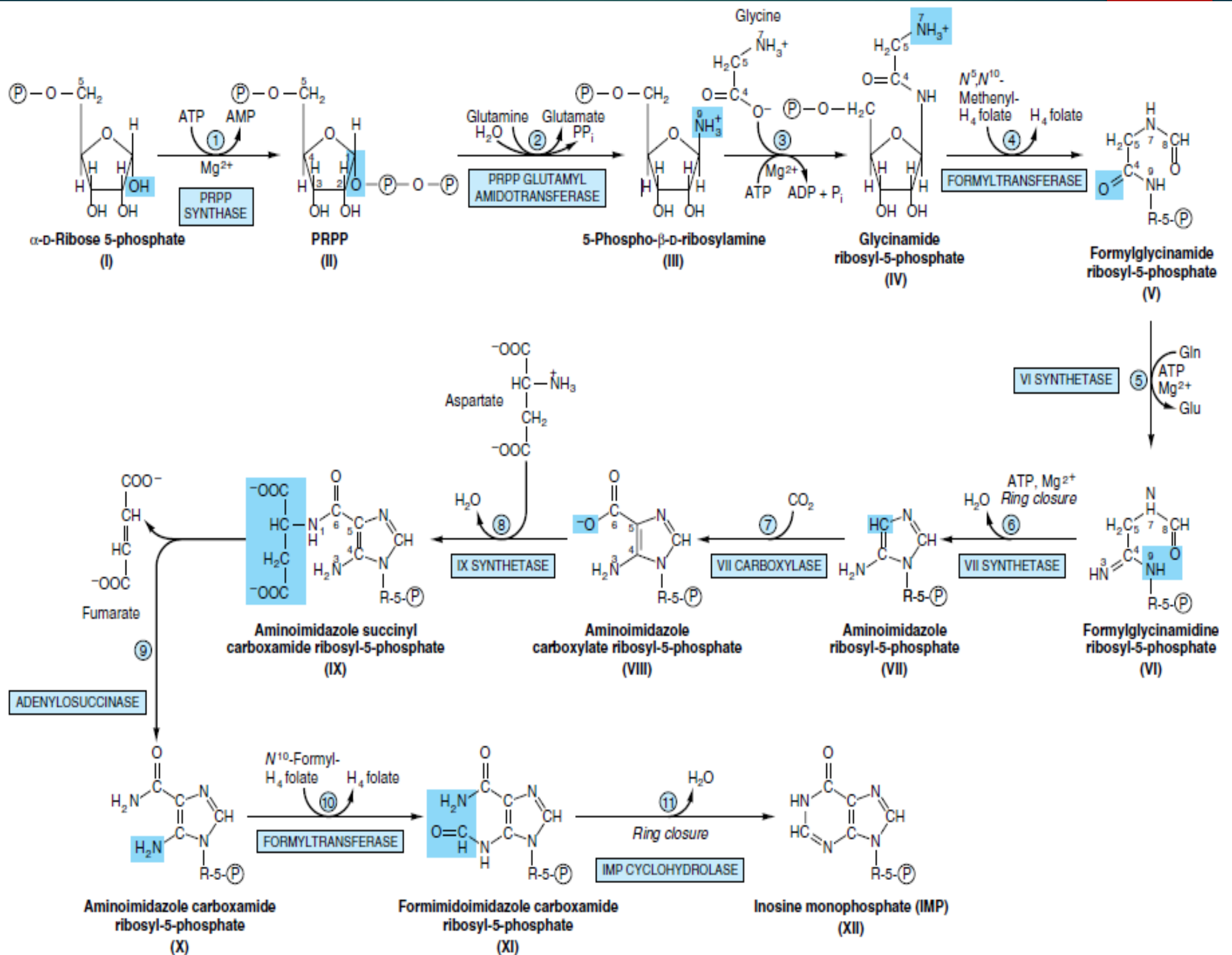


# Conversion of Ribose-5-phosphate to PRPP

- Ribose: Pentose sugar; may be reduced to deoxyribose (DNA).
- **5-Phosphoribosyl-1-pyrophosphate (PRPP)**: also involved in pyrimidine synthesis,  $\text{NAD}^+$ , and histidine biosynthesis.



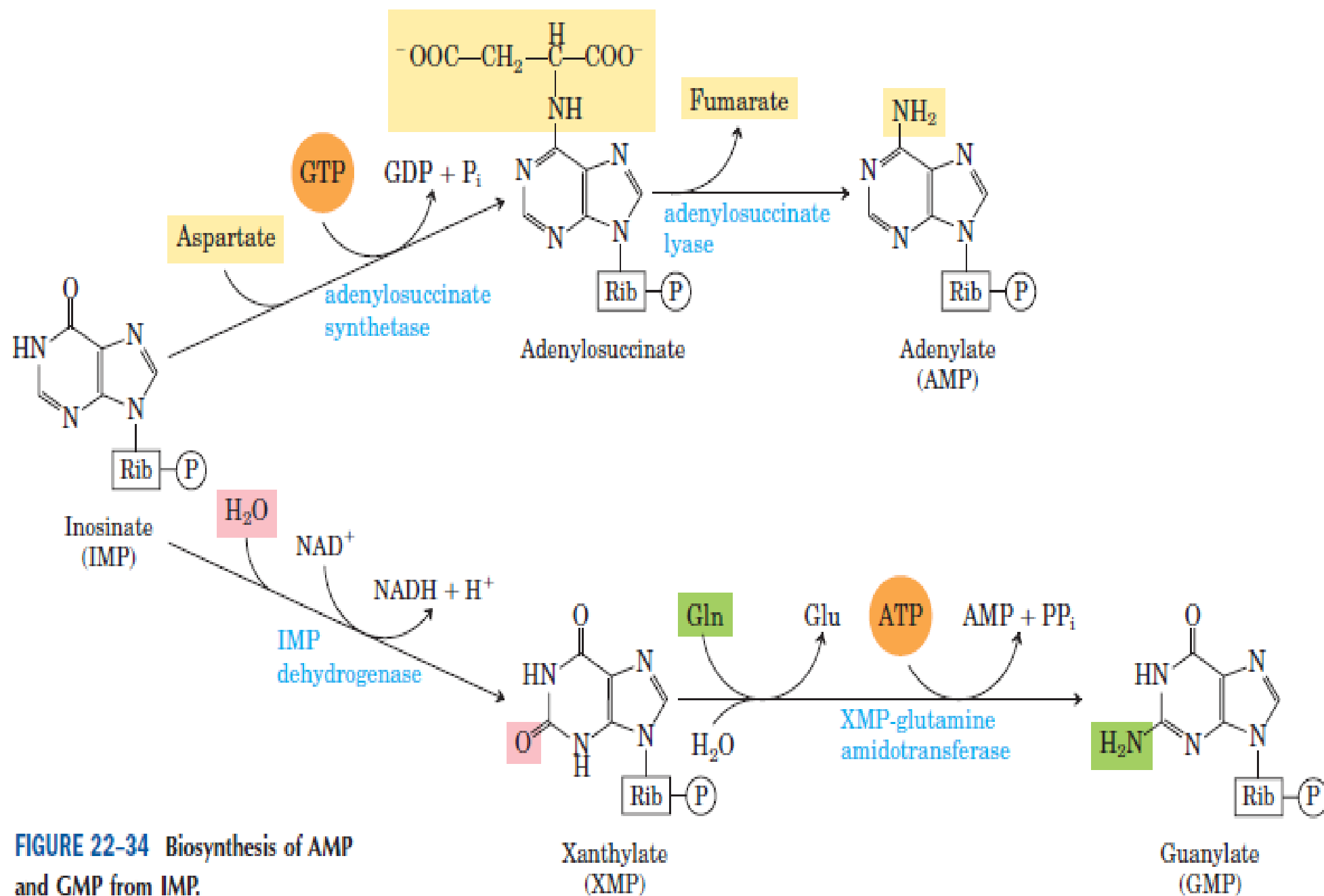






# Purine Salvage Pathway

- ▶ From normal turnover of cellular nucleic acids
- ▶ Obtained from the diet
- ▶ Reutilization of adenine, hypoxanthine, and guanine
  - ▶ Two enzymes:
    - ▶ 1. Adenine phosphoribosyltransferase
    - ▶ 2. Hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyltransferase



**FIGURE 22-34** Biosynthesis of AMP and GMP from IMP.

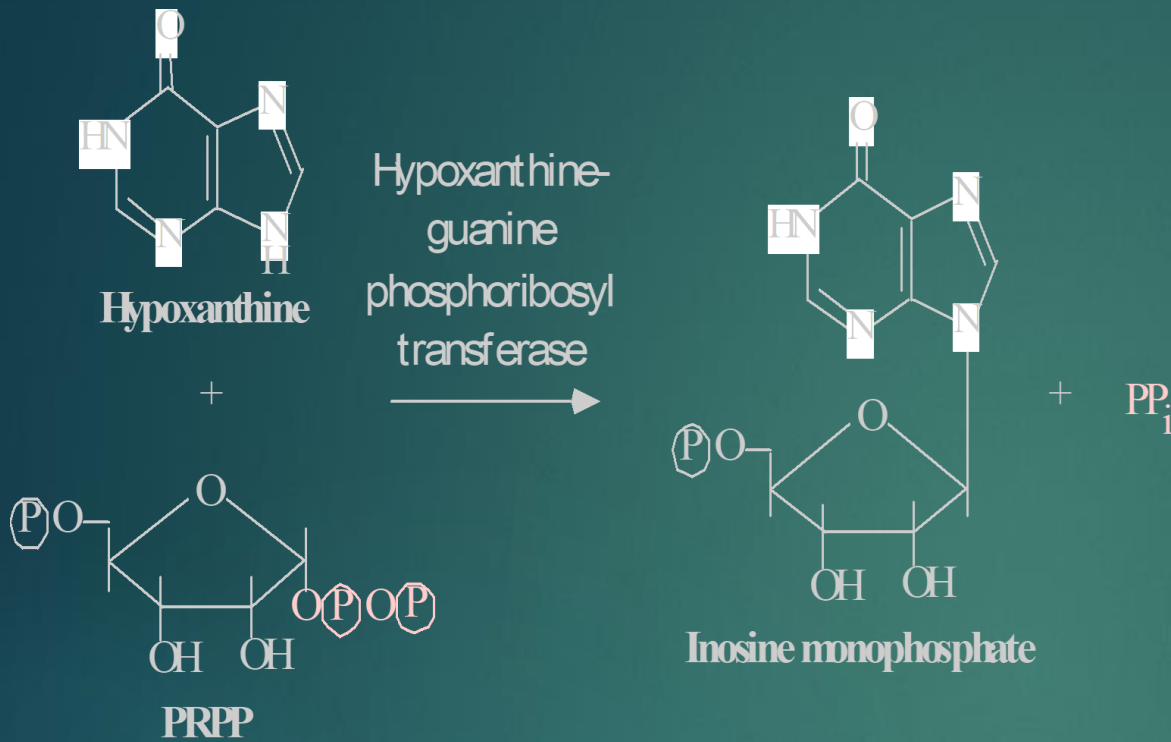
# Regulation

- ▶ KEY: Feedback Inhibition
  - ▶ Purine biosynthesis: 3 sites:
    - ▶ 1) glutamine phosphoribosyl amidotransferase
    - ▶ 2) the reactions leading away from inosinate
    - ▶ 3) the reciprocal substrate relationship between GTP and ATP

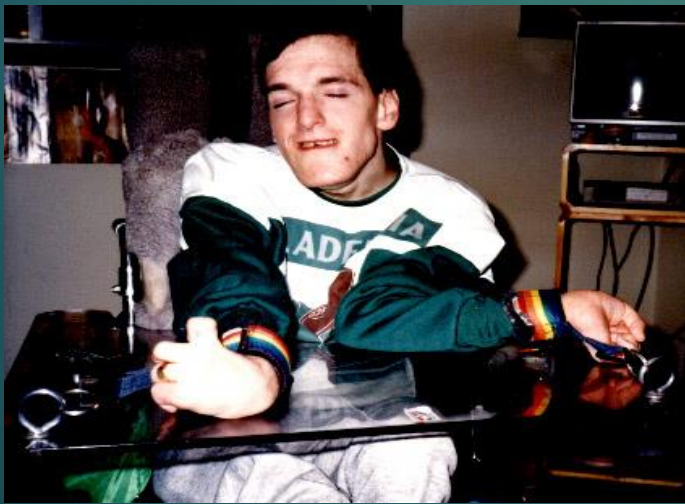




## Lesch-Nyhan Syndrome

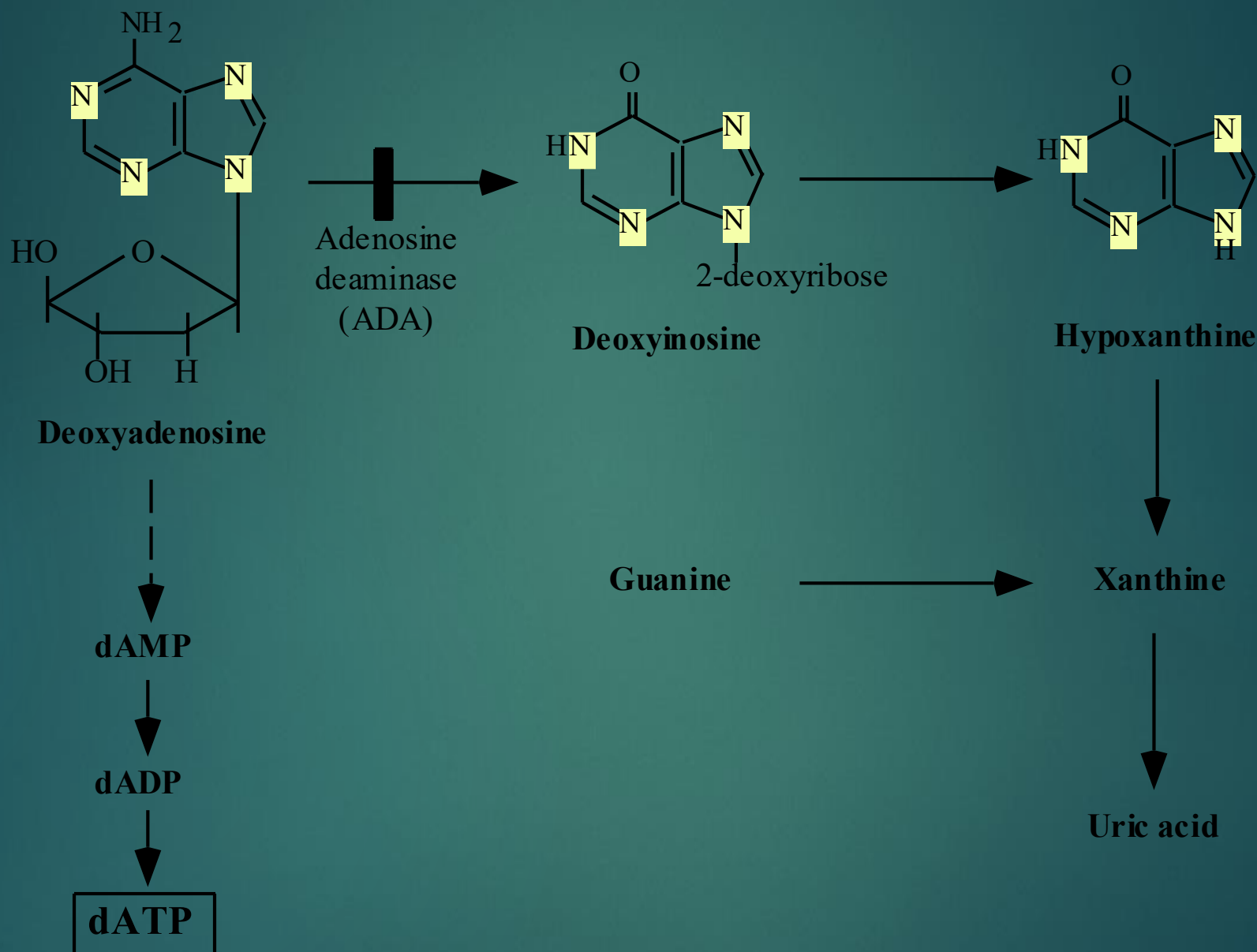


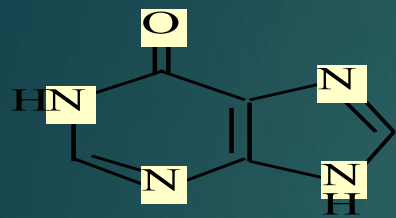
- Build up of hypoxanthine and guanine
- Degradation of hypoxanthine and guanine results in increased **uric acid**
- Excess uric acid in urine often results in orange crystals in the diaper of affected children
- Severe mental retardation
- Self-mutilation
- Involuntary movements
- Gout



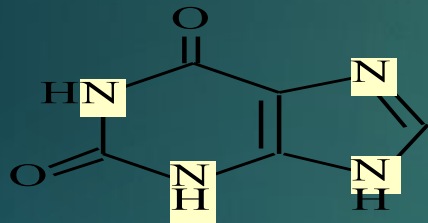
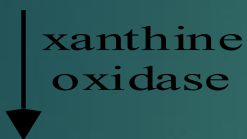
**Figure 22.11**  
Lesions on the lips of Lesch-Nyhan patients caused by self-mutilation.

## Adenosine Deaminase Deficiency:

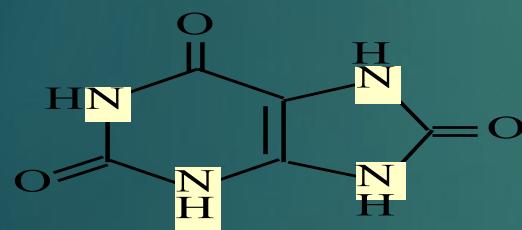
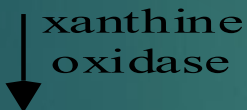




**Hypoxanthine**



**Xanthine**



**Uric acid**

Gout: deposition of urate crystals in joints,  
“tophi” in cooler periphery

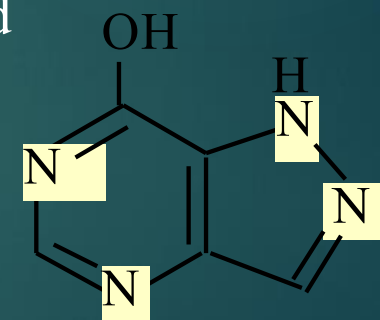
**Hyperuricemia** can be caused by:

Accelerated degradation of purines:

- Accelerated synthesis of purines
- Increased dietary intake of purines

Impaired renal clearance of uric acid

Allopurinol inhibits xanthine oxidase  
and reduces blood uric acid levels:



**Allopurinol**

The hands of a patient with a long history of gout, including high serum urate levels





# Purine Biosynthesis

## Summary:

1. Sulfonamides inhibit purine synthesis in bacteria by interfering with folate synthesis.
2. Methotrexate inhibits dihydrofolate reductase.
3. IMP, end product of *de novo* purine synthesis.
4. AMP, GMP, and IMP inhibit; **PRPP** is an activator.
5. Rate limiting step of the pathway and source of atoms for the purine ring.
6. Requires 4 ATP molecules.

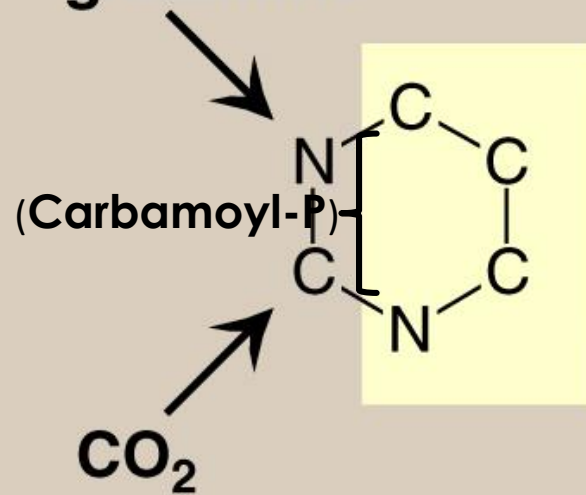
# Pyrimidine synthesis

# Pyrimidine Synthesis

- ▶ Pyrimidine ring: completely synthesized, then attached to a ribose-5-phosphate donated by **PRPP**
- ▶ Source of carbons and nitrogens less diverse than purines.



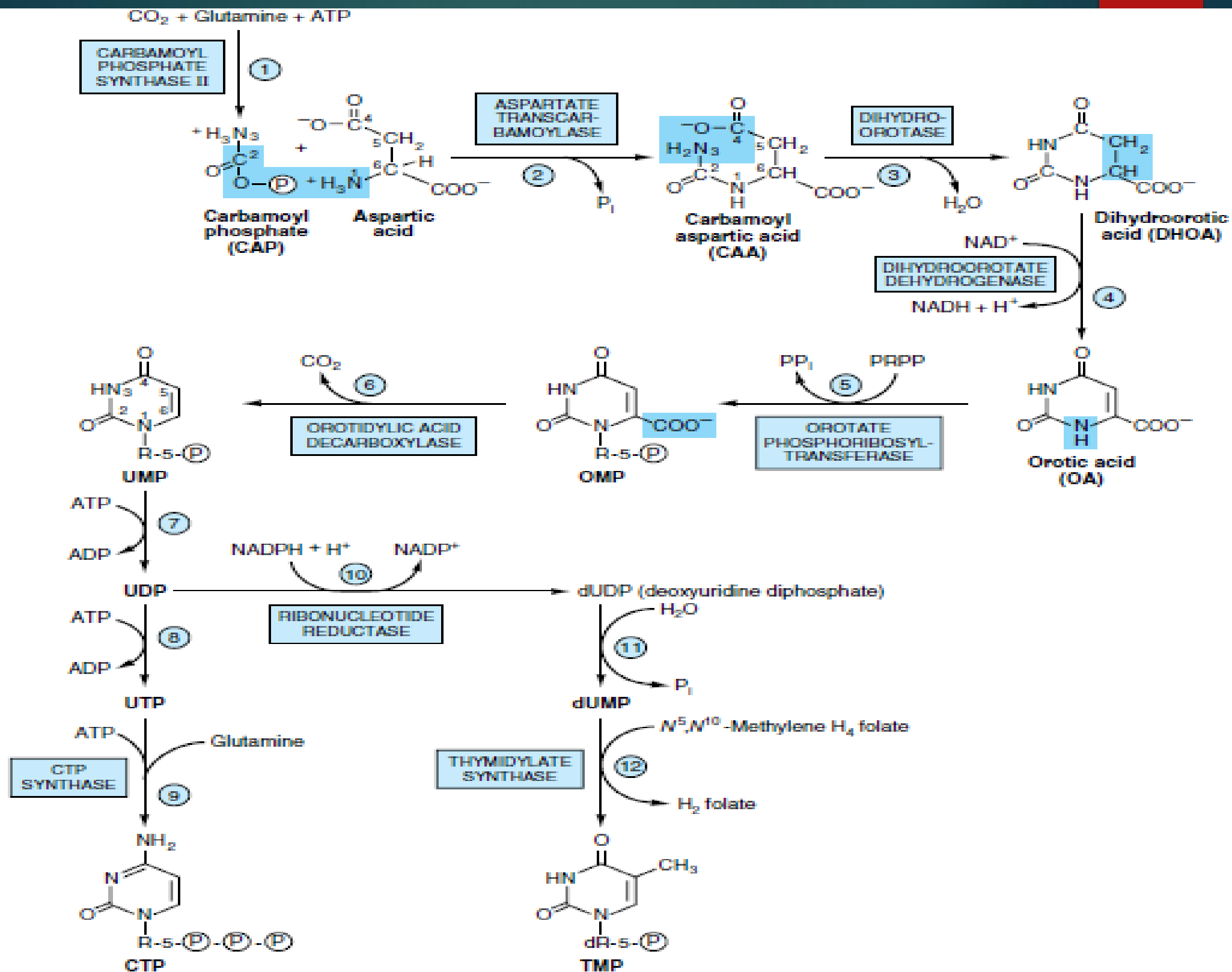
**Amide nitrogen  
(R-group) of  
glutamine**



**← Aspartic acid**

# Pyrimidine synthesis

- ▶ Carbamoyl-phosphate synthetase II, Aspartate transcarbamoylase, Dihydroorotase, i.e. the **CAD Complex** (in mammals); located on the outer face of the inner mitochondrial membrane.
- ▶ Orotate phosphoribosyltransferase and Orotidylate decarboxylase, i.e., the **UMP Synthase**



# Regulation

- ▶ KEY: Feedback Inhibition
  - ▶ Pyrimidine Biosynthesis
    - ▶ In bacteria: Aspartate Transcarbamoylase
    - ▶ In both prokaryotes and eukaryotes: Carbamoyl phosphate synthetase

# Pyrimidine Biosynthesis summary

1. CPSII, aspartate transcarbamoylase, and dihydroorotase are three enzymatic functions in one protein.
2. Orotate phosphoribosyltransferase and OMP decarboxylase are two enzymatic functions in one protein; deficiency = Orotic Aciduria.
3. Orotate, 1<sup>st</sup> pyrimidine base made, then attached to a PRPP.

# Basis for Deoxyribonucleotide synthesis

- High [ATP]
  - plenty of energy, make DNA
  - activation of ribonucleotide reductase is active (ON)
- ATP
  - in specificity site S favors CDP or UDP in catalytic site C  $\rightarrow$  [dCDP] and [dUDP]  $\uparrow$
- dCDP and dUDP become metabolized to dTTP
- [dTTP] $\uparrow$ , occupies specificity site favoring GDP in catalytic site; [dGP] $\uparrow \rightarrow$  [dGTP] $\uparrow$
- [dGTP] $\uparrow$ , occupies specificity site, favors ADP in catalytic site, [dADP] $\uparrow \rightarrow$  replace ATP in activity site and turn enzyme off