

# *Review:* Energy Generation in Mitochondria

- You are investigating ATP generation and discover **Compound X** that inhibits the movement of coenzyme Q and **Compound Y** that inhibits the movement of cytochrome c in the electron transport chain.
- Which compound would lead to less ATP generation per molecule of pyruvate that enters the mitochondria? Why?
- You next discover **Compound Z** that sterically prevents NADH from contacting Complex I of the electron transport chain. What would you expect to happen to cellular metabolism in the presence of Compound Z?

# *Review:* Energy Generation in Mitochondria

- You are investigating ATP generation and discover **Compound X** that inhibits the movement of coenzyme Q and **Compound Y** that inhibits the movement of cytochrome c in the electron transport chain.
- Which compound would lead to less ATP generation per molecule of pyruvate that enters the mitochondria? Why?
  - Compound X would produce less ATP because an electrochemical proton gradient would only be able to form from Complex I whereas Compound Y would also incorporate protons pumped from Complex III
- You next discover **Compound Z** that sterically prevents NADH from contacting Complex I of the electron transport chain. What would you expect to happen to cellular metabolism in the presence of Compound Z?
  - In the presence of Compound Z, the electron transport chain would not function, and so the cell would not be able to produce ATP via oxidative phosphorylation. To produce ATP, compensatory mechanisms such as upregulation of glycolysis would likely occur, but depending on the energy demands of the cell would potentially be insufficient following prolonged exposure and lead to cell death

# Most recent cover for Science magazine



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# Intracellular Compartments and Protein Transport

BIOL366

Chapter 15

Matthew Ellis, PhD





# Learning Objectives for Today's Lecture:

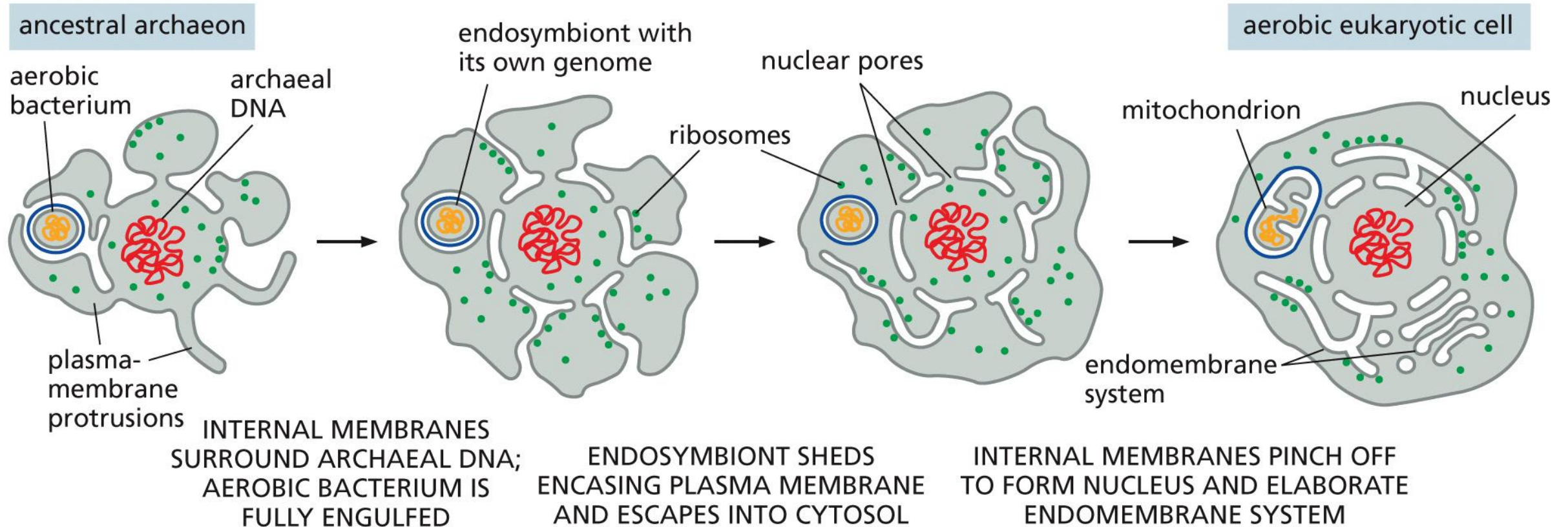
Upon completing this module, **you should be able to:**

- Understand the mechanisms cells use to distribute proteins within a cell (i.e., **signal sequences**, **GEFs** and **GAPs**)
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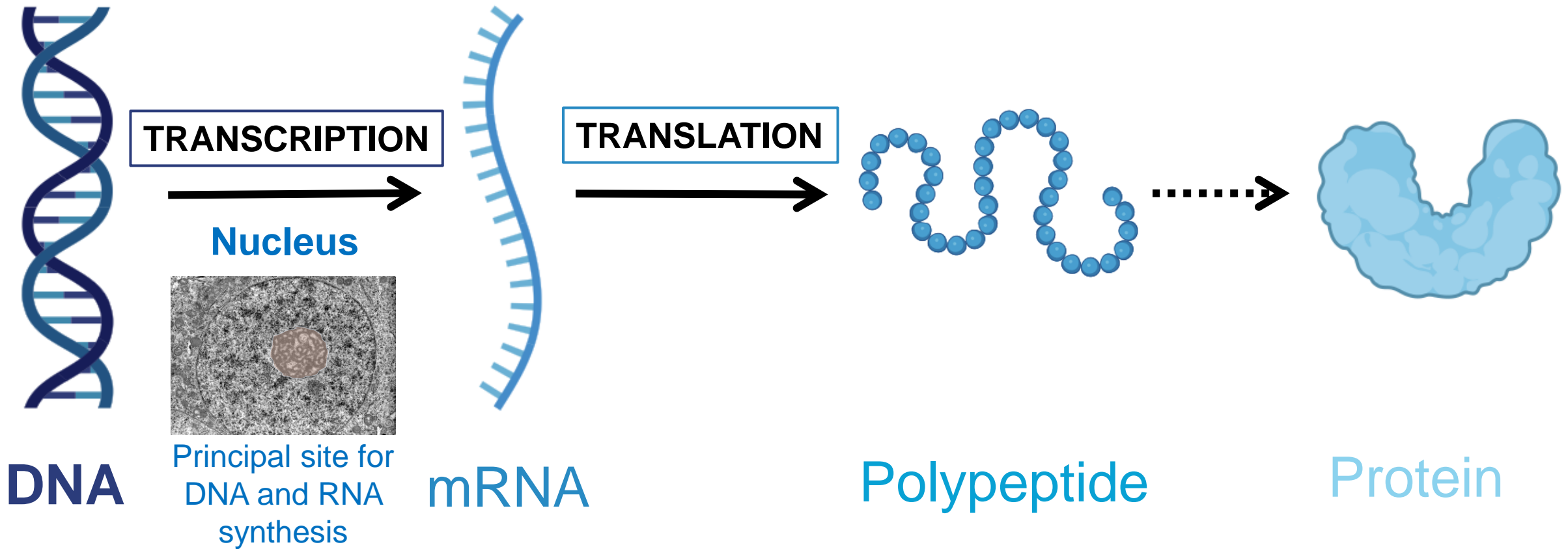
# Key Terms

- **Organelle:** a specialized structure in the cell with multiple functions
- **Post-translational modification:** a chemical modification that occurs to a protein after it has been translated by a ribosome
- **Protein translocation:** a biological process where proteins move between cellular compartments
- **Guanine Exchange Factor (GEF):** proteins that stimulate release of GDP and binding of GTP
- **GTPase Activating Protein (GAP):** proteins that catalyze the hydrolysis of GTP to GDP
- **Chaperone protein:** A protein that helps other proteins fold properly during or after synthesis
- **Endocytosis:** Bringing material (proteins, molecules, etc) into the cell
- **Exocytosis:** Releasing material (proteins, molecules, etc) from the cell

# Evolution of membrane enclosed organelles



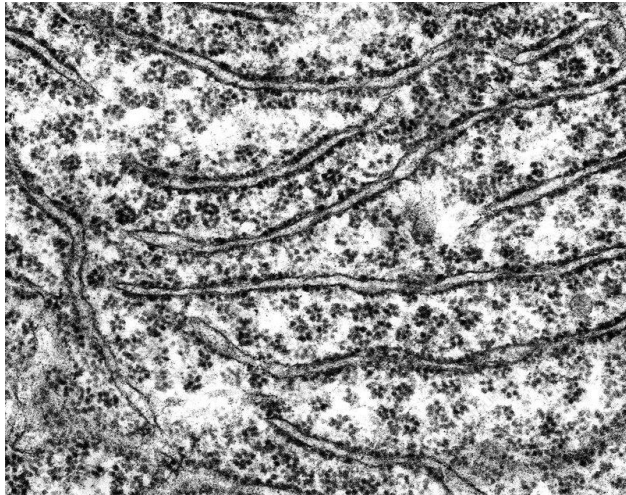
# *Recap:* The Central Dogma of Molecular Biology



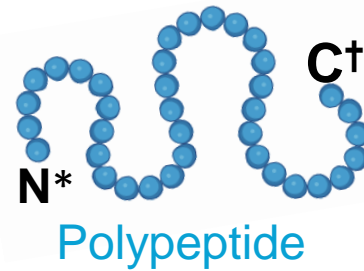
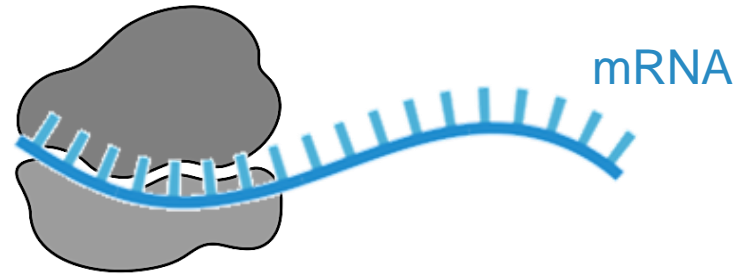


# Proteins are synthesized on Ribosomes

## Ribosomes

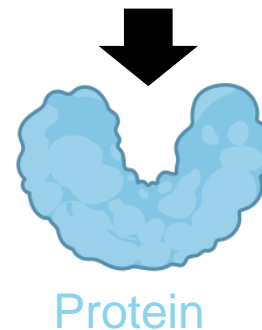


- Ribosomes are located in the cytosol (free-floating)
- Ribosomes are also attached Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER) ("bound" ribosomes)



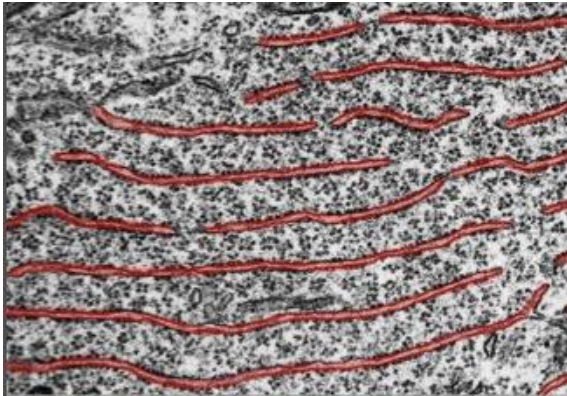
\*N-terminus → 1<sup>st</sup> amino group

†C-terminus → last amino acid with Carboxyl group (COO<sup>-</sup>)

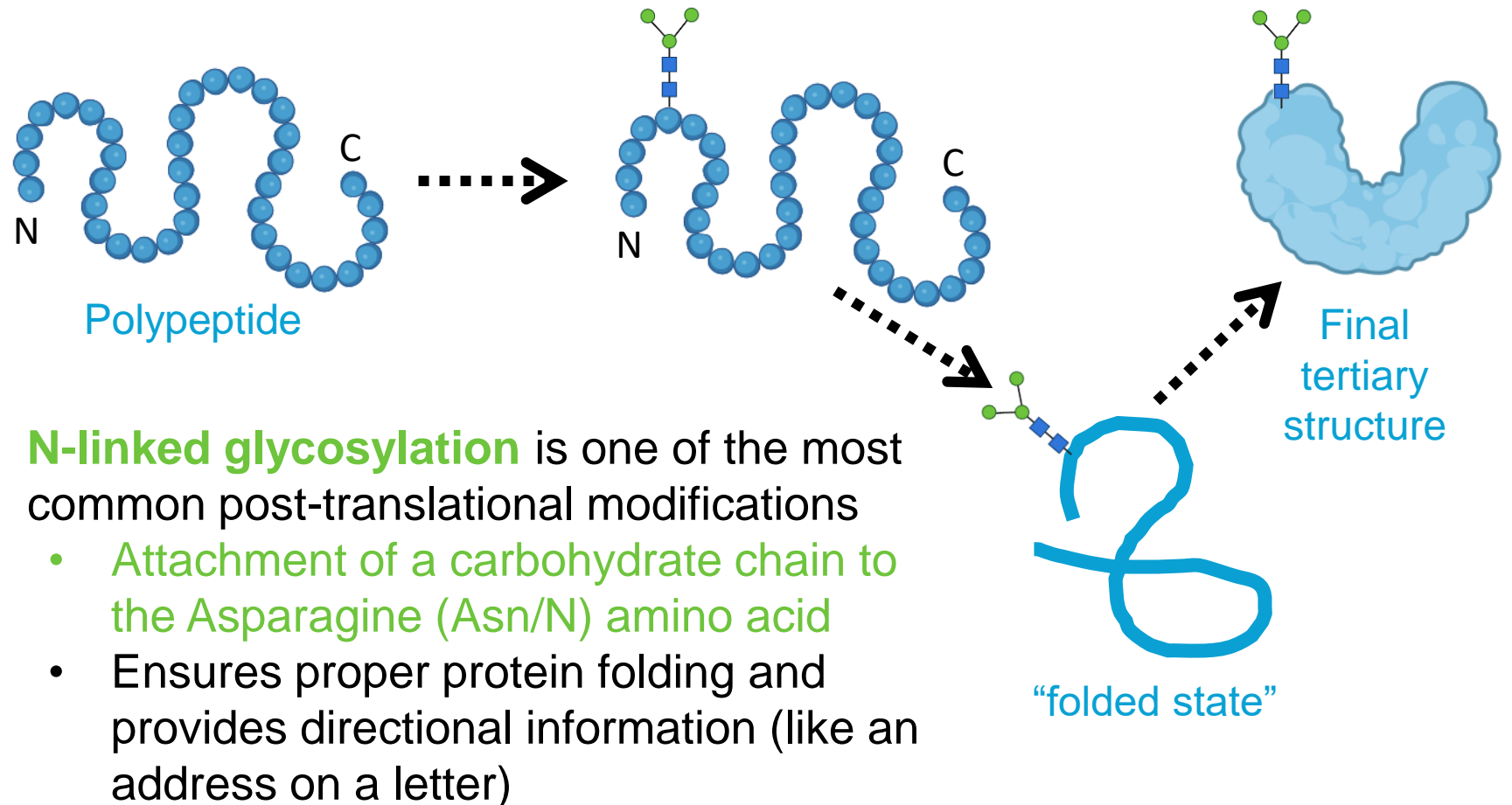


# Proteins undergo **post-translational modifications** and **folding** in the rough ER

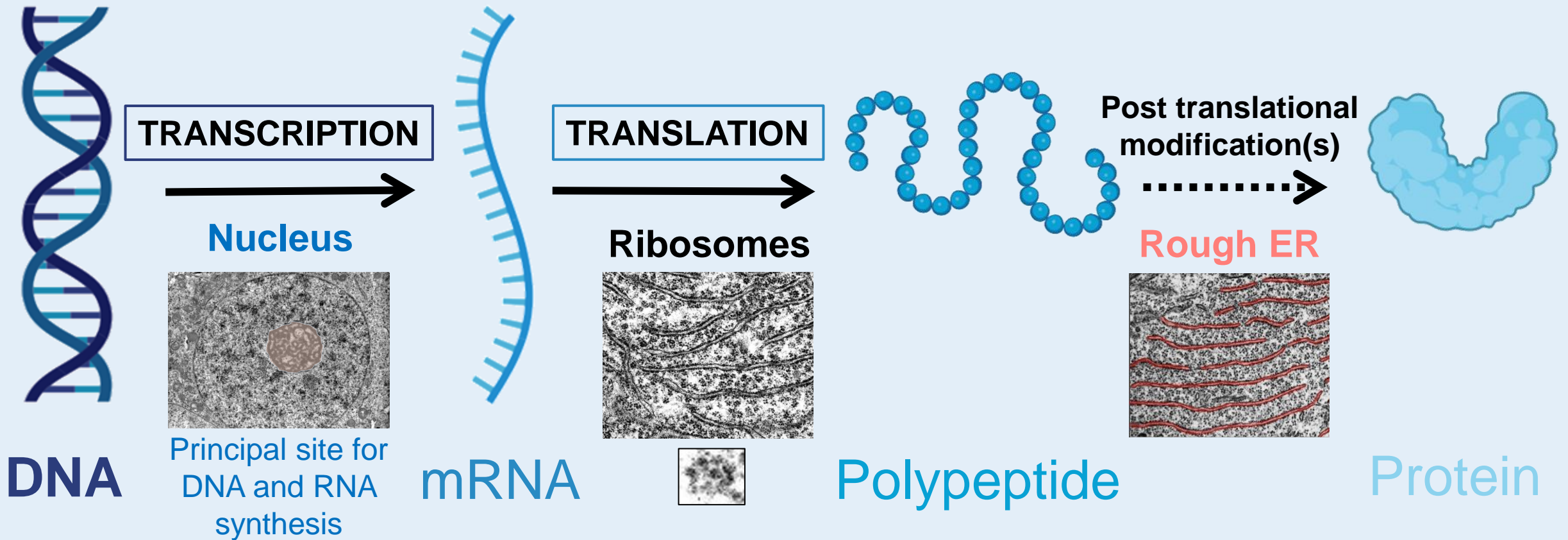
## Rough Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER)



Site for **protein synthesis, modification(s), folding and transport**



# Recap: The Central Dogma of Molecular Biology



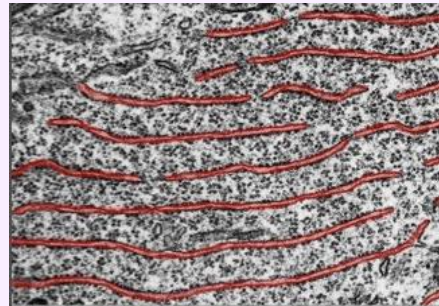


# The Golgi apparatus sorts proteins received from the ER

Ribosomes



Rough Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER)



Golgi Apparatus



- Shipping/packaging center for proteins
- Further protein modifications can occur
  - **ER** + Golgi apparatus form the endomembrane system

# Learning Objectives for Today's Lecture:

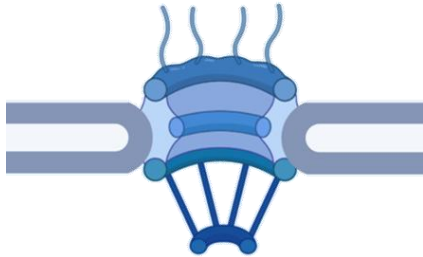
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# Proteins are transported into membrane-bound organelles using **3 main mechanisms**

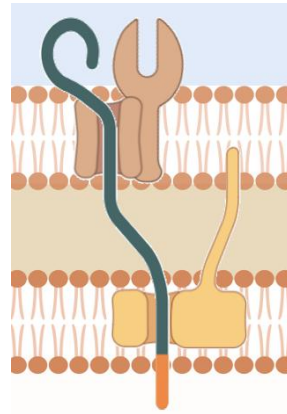
1

**Nuclear Pore Complex  
transport**



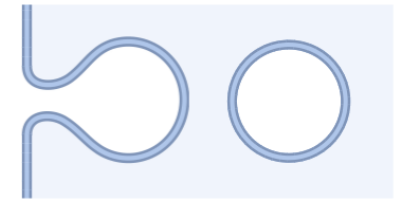
2

**Transmembrane  
transport**



3

**Vesicular (Vesicle)  
transport**

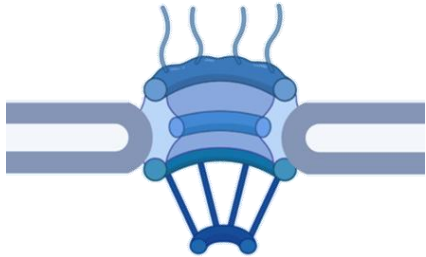




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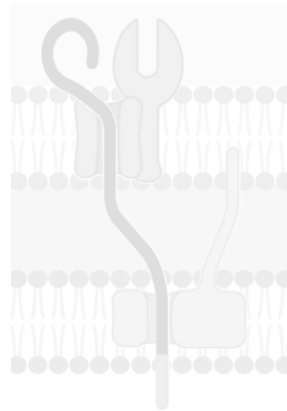
1

**Nuclear Pore Complex  
transport**



2

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transport**



3

**Vesicular (Vesicle)  
transport**



# Signal sequences direct proteins to the correct cellular compartment

A signal sequence is comprised of a specific sequence of amino acids

## Examples of signal sequences      Function of the signal sequence

-P-P-**K-K-K-R-K**-V-

Import into the Nucleus

**M**-E-E-**L**-S-Q-A-**L**-A-S-S-**F**-

Export from the Nucleus

H<sub>3</sub>N-**M**-**M**-S-F-V-S-**L**-**L**-**L**-**V**-**G**-**I**-**L**-**F**-  
**A**-T-**E**-A-**E**-Q-L-T-K-C-**E**-V-F-Q-

Import into the ER

-**K**-**D**-**E**-**L**-COO<sup>-</sup>

Retention in the ER

H<sub>3</sub>N = N-terminus of protein    **Hydrophobic amino acids**    **(-) charged amino acids**    **(+) charged amino acids**  
COO<sup>-</sup> = C-terminus of protein

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Import into the Nucleus

**M**-E-E-**L**-S-Q-A-**L**-A-S-S-**F**-

Export from the Nucleus

H<sub>3</sub>N-M-M-S-F-V-S-L-L-L-V-G-I-L-F-  
A-T-E-A-E-Q-L-T-K-C-E-V-F-Q-

Import into the ER

-K-D-E-L-COO<sup>-</sup>

Retention in the ER

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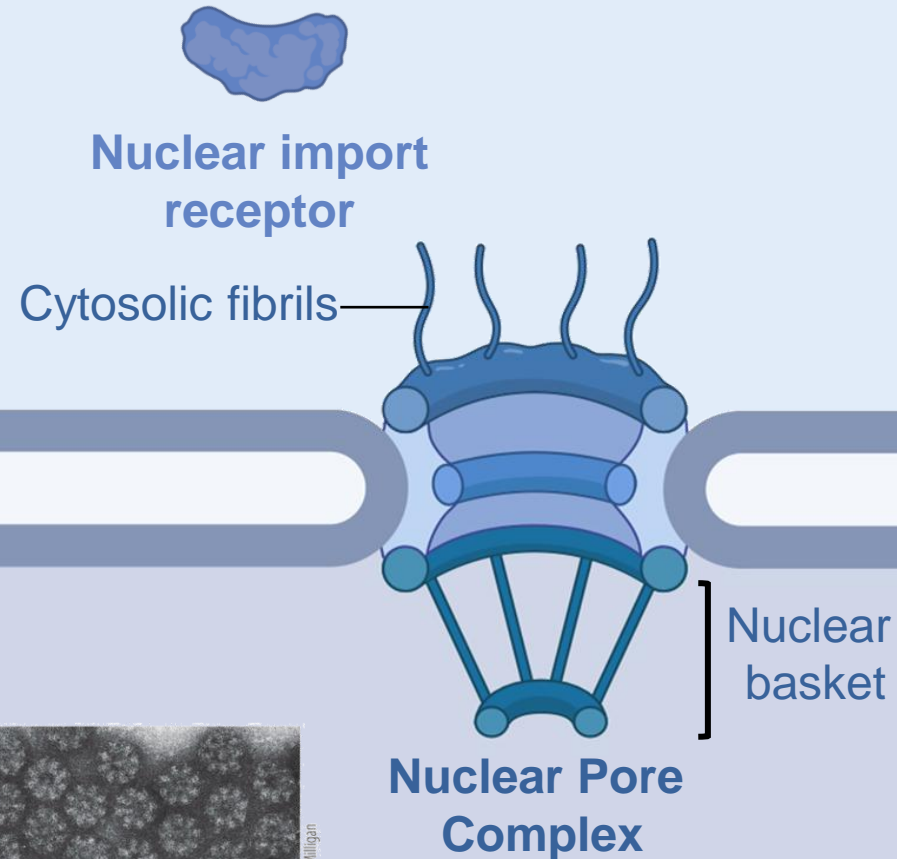


# Proteins destined for the nucleus have a **nuclear localization signal (NLS)**

Extracellular

Cytoplasm

- Nuclear import receptor recognizes **NLS** signal and binds the protein

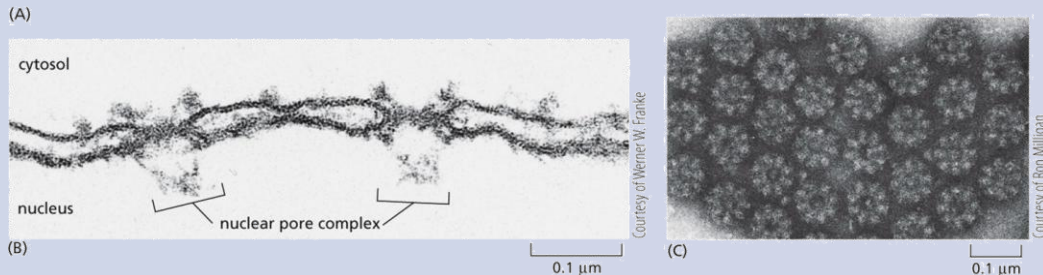


Outer nuclear membrane

Lumen

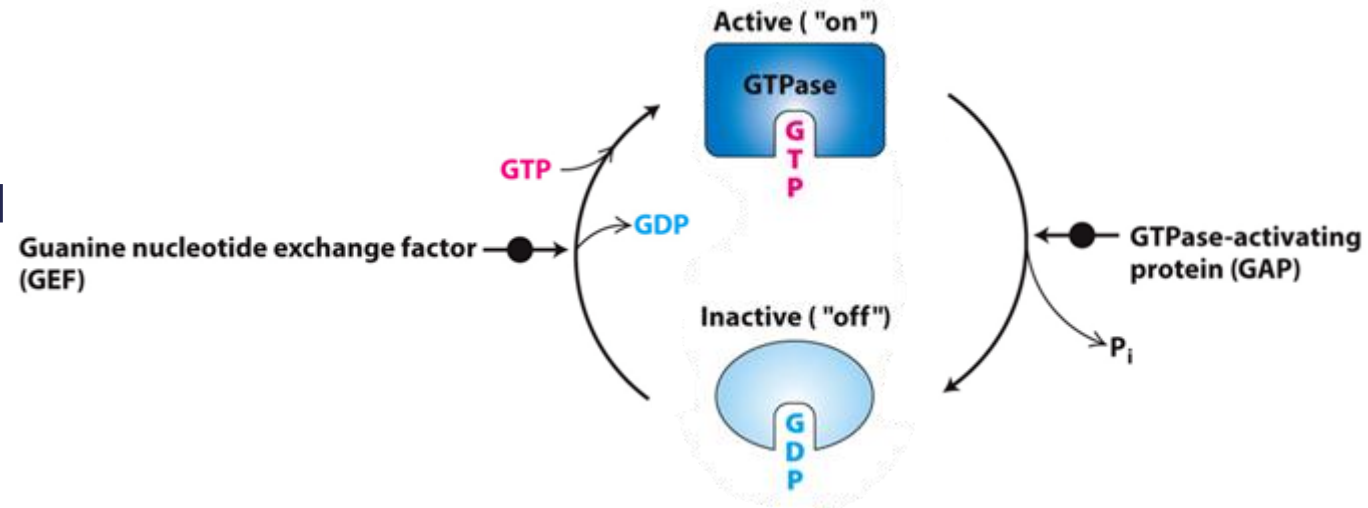
Inner nuclear membrane

Nucleus



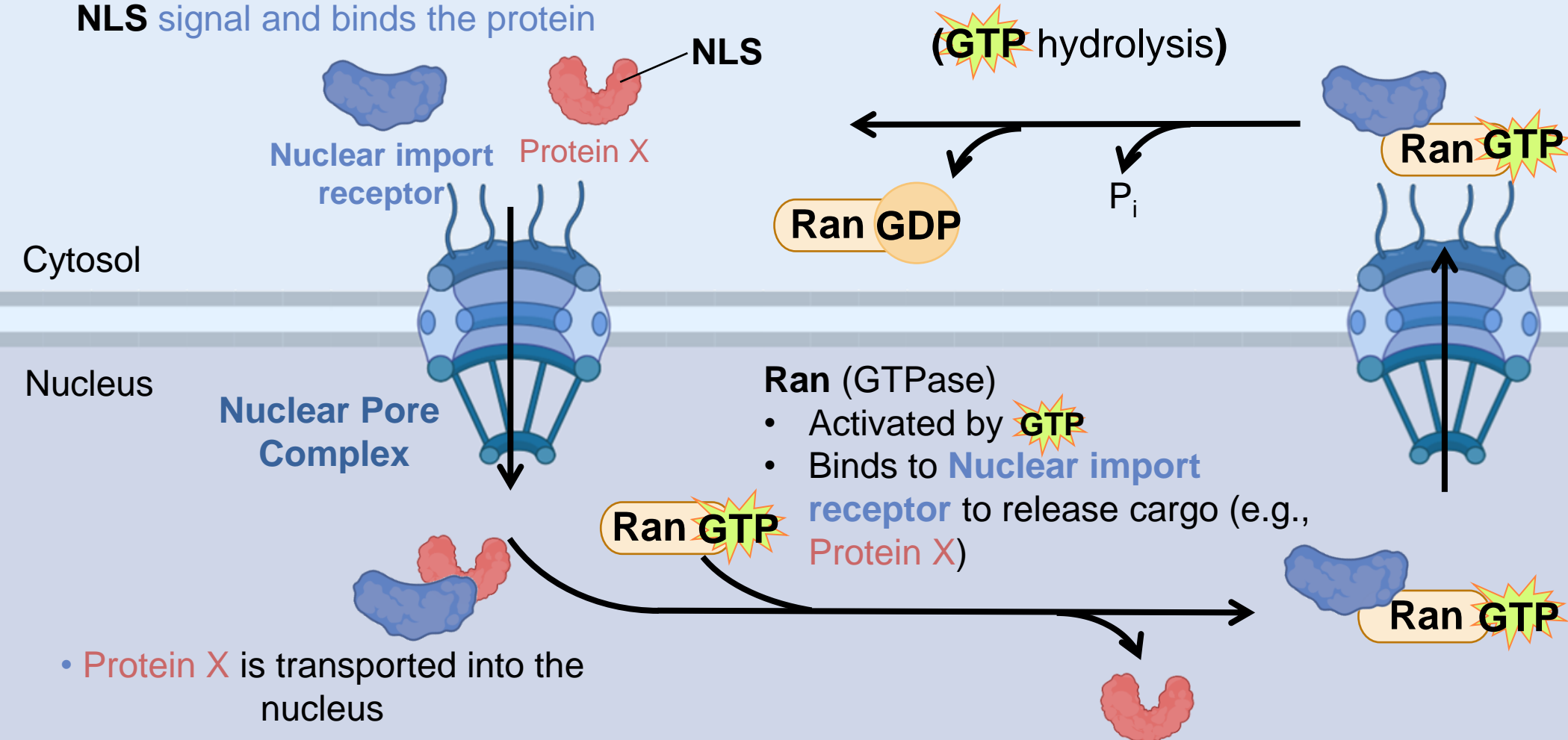
# GTP hydrolysis drives nuclear transport

- GTP, like ATP, is an energy rich activated carrier. It's hydrolysis is used to drive reactions that are energetically unfavorable
- GTP or GDP are bound to hydrolyzing enzymes called *GTPases*. They are active when bound to GTP and inactive when bound to GDP
- These GTPases are *activated* by **guanine nucleotide exchange factors (GEFs)**, proteins stimulate release of GDP and binding of GTP
- They are *inhibited* by **GTPase activating proteins (GAPs)** that catalyze hydrolysis of GTP to GDP



# GTP hydrolysis drives the transport of proteins from cytosol → nucleus

- Nuclear import receptor recognizes NLS signal and binds the protein

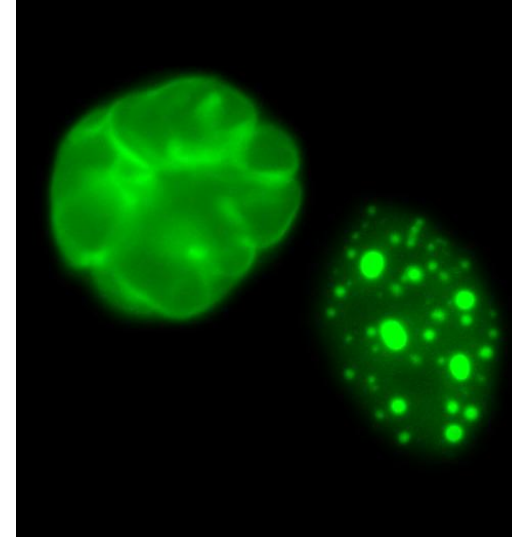


# Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome (HGPS)

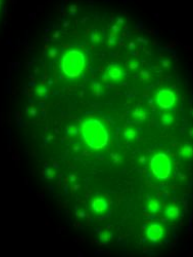
Mutations in the nuclear lamin protein, essential to nuclear envelope formation and pore function lead to HGPS

HGPS patient develop the signs of premature aging (progeria), including hair loss, stiff joints, osteoporosis and atherosclerosis as early as 6 months of age due to defects in nuclear structure and function.

Nuclei are characterized by dysmorphic shape, increased DNA damage, and down-regulation of several nuclear proteins.



Progeria  
nucleus



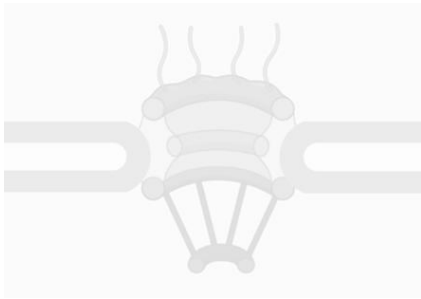
Healthy  
nucleus



# Proteins are transported into membrane-bound organelles using **3 main mechanisms**

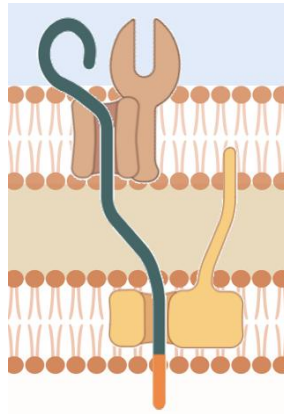
1

Nuclear Pore Complex  
transport



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## Examples of signal sequences    Function of the signal sequence

-P-P-K-K-K-R-K-V-

Import into the Nucleus

M-E-E-L-S-Q-A-L-A-S-S-F-

Export from the Nucleus

H<sub>3</sub>N-M-M-S-F-V-S-L-L-L-V-G-I-L-F-  
A-T-E-A-E-Q-L-T-K-C-E-V-F-Q-

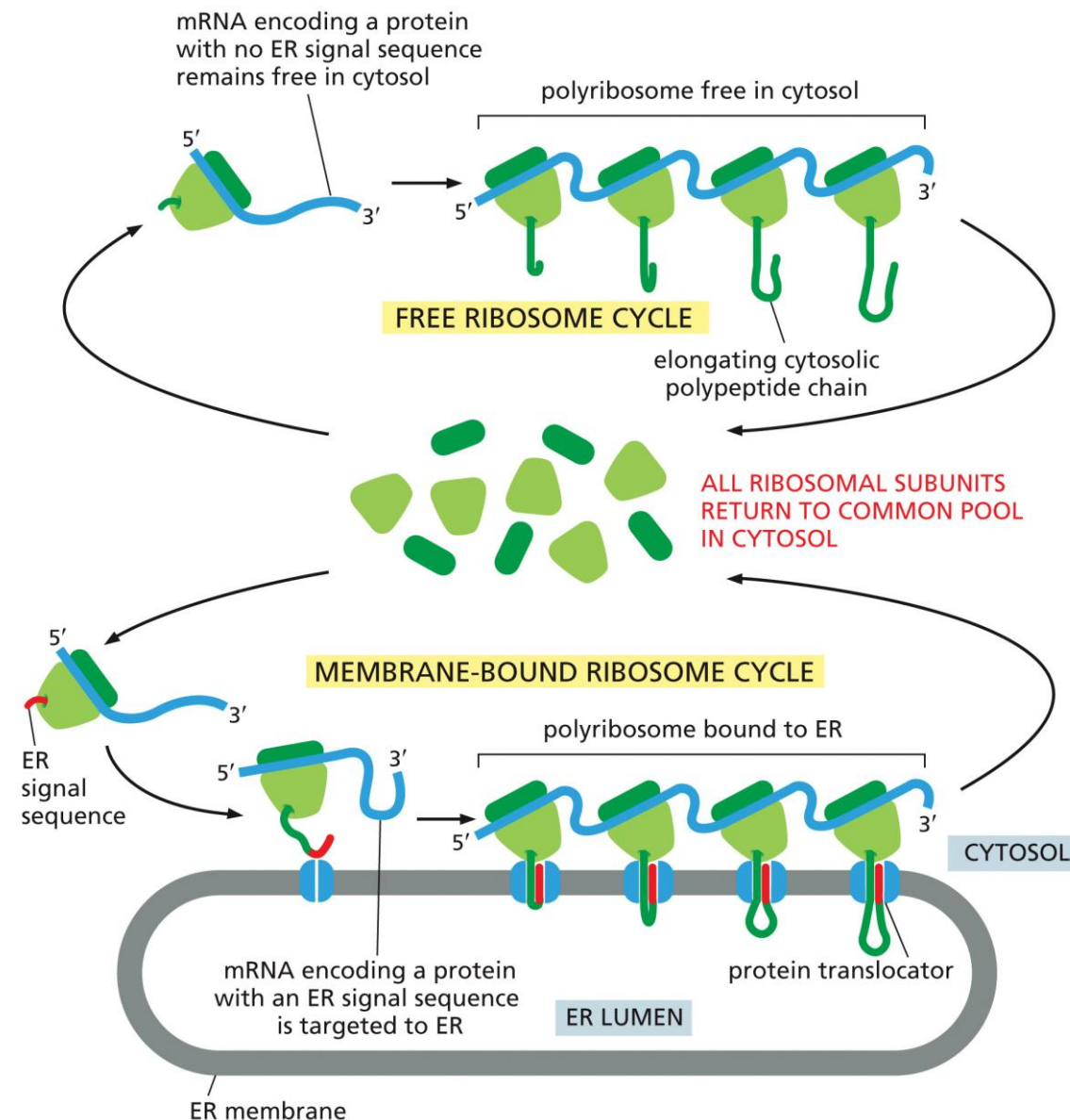
Import into the ER

-K-D-E-L-COO<sup>-</sup>

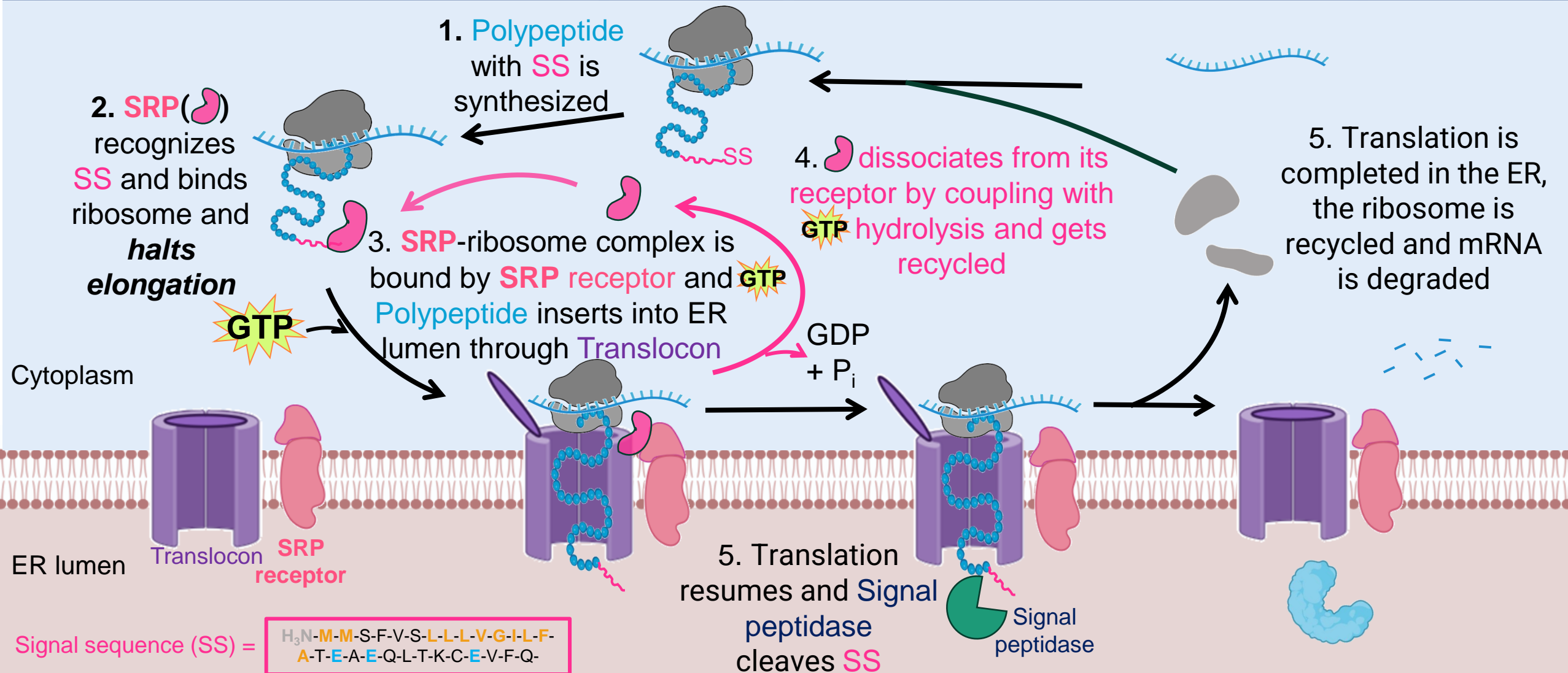
Retention in the ER

H<sub>3</sub>N = N-terminus of protein    **Hydrophobic amino acids**    **(-) charged amino acids**    **(+) charged amino acids**  
COO<sup>-</sup> = C-terminus of protein

# Ribosomes attach to the endoplasmic reticulum in the presence of an ER signal sequence

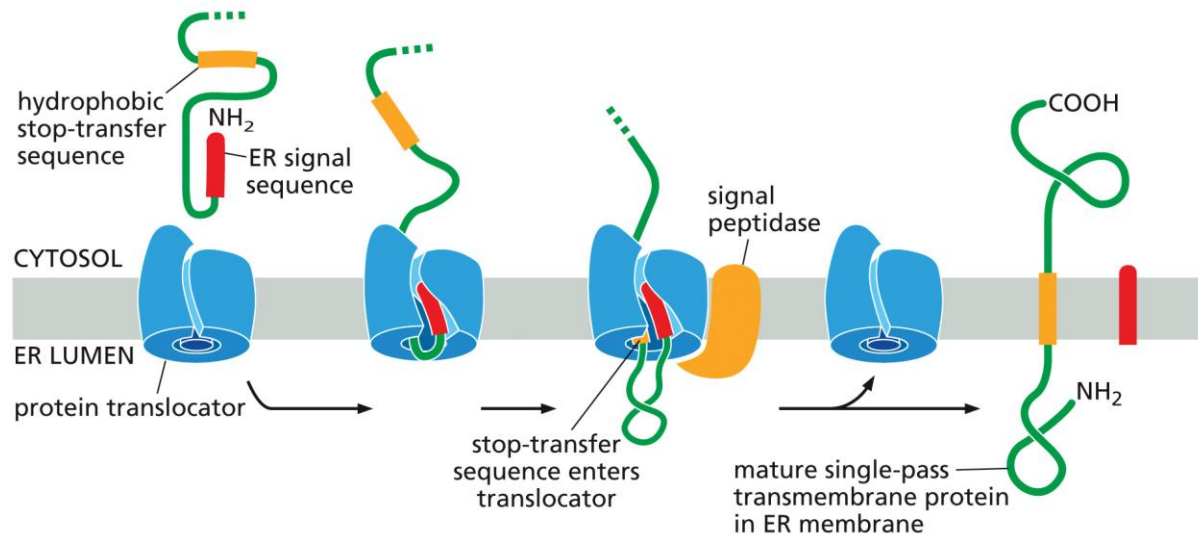


# Targeting Proteins to the ER with Signal Recognition Particle (SRP)

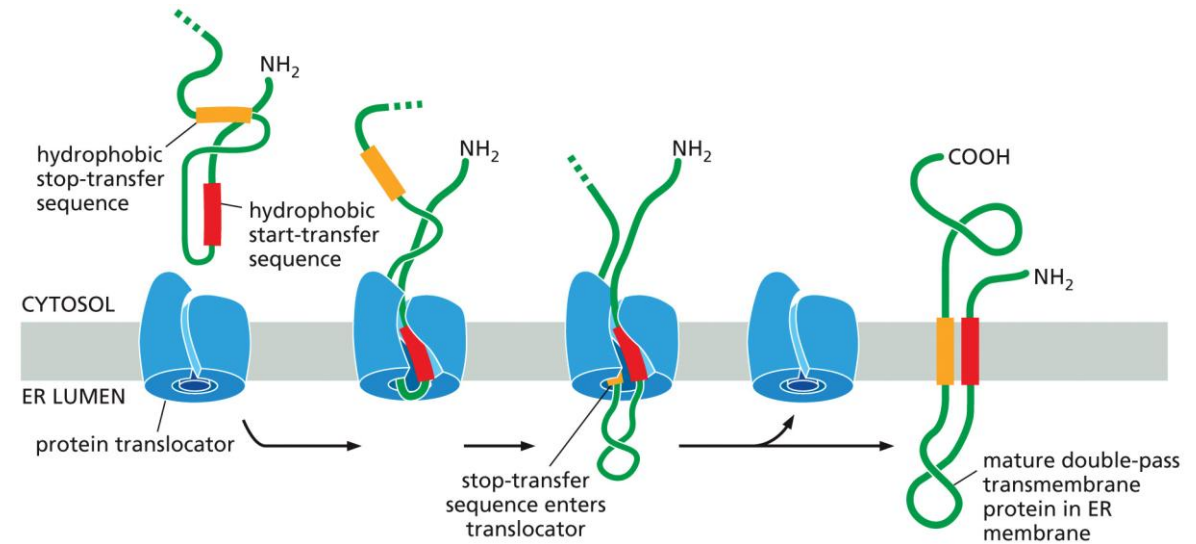


# Start and stop signals dictate transmembrane localization in the lipid bilayer of ER

## Scenario #1: Single pass transmembrane protein



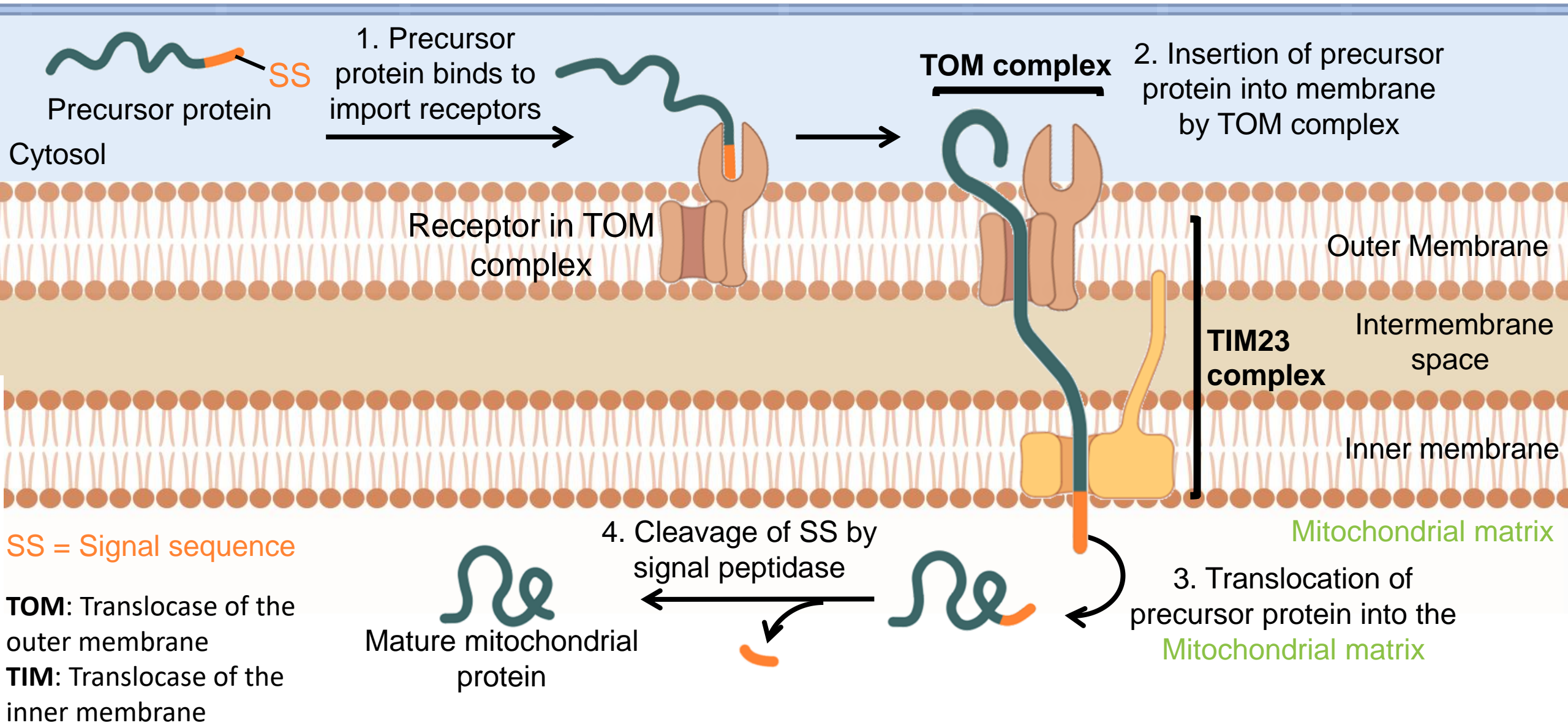
## Scenario #2: Multiple transmembrane domains



- Translocator recognizes hydrophobic stop/start-transfer sequences (as with ER signal sequence)
- While the ER signal sequence is cleaved off to produce cytosolic ER proteins, internal transmembrane start and stop sequences are not cleaved
- Multiple start-stop combinations can occur for transmembrane proteins



# TOM and TIM help import proteins into the mitochondria





Squarecap #1-2

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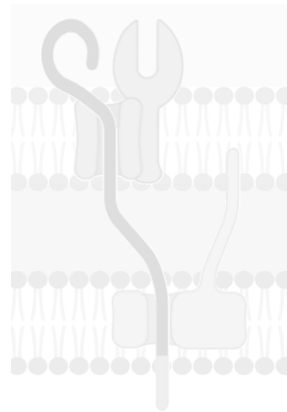
1

Nuclear Pore Complex  
transport



2

Transmembrane  
transport

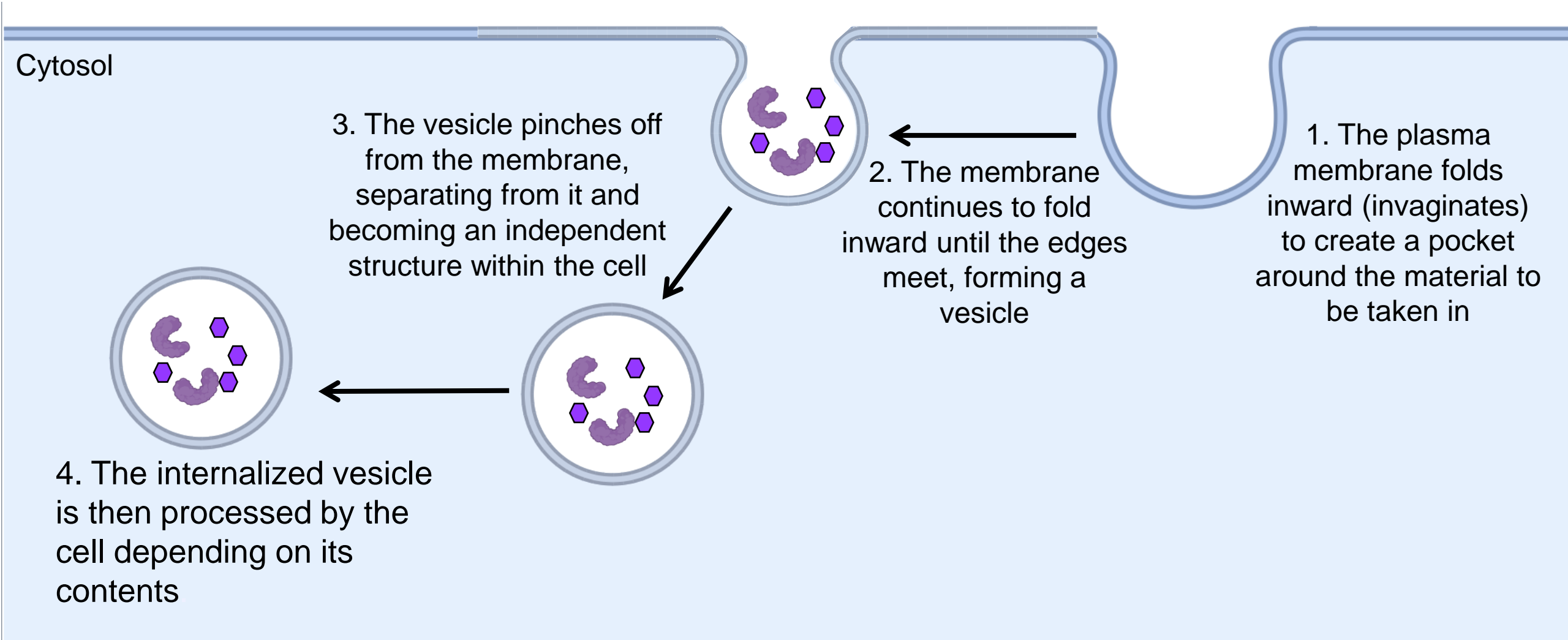


3

Vesicular (Vesicle)  
transport

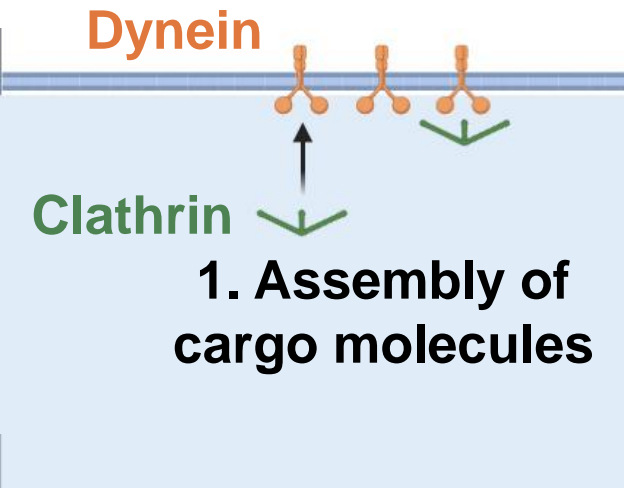


# Endocytosis: Bringing material (proteins, molecules, etc.) into the cell

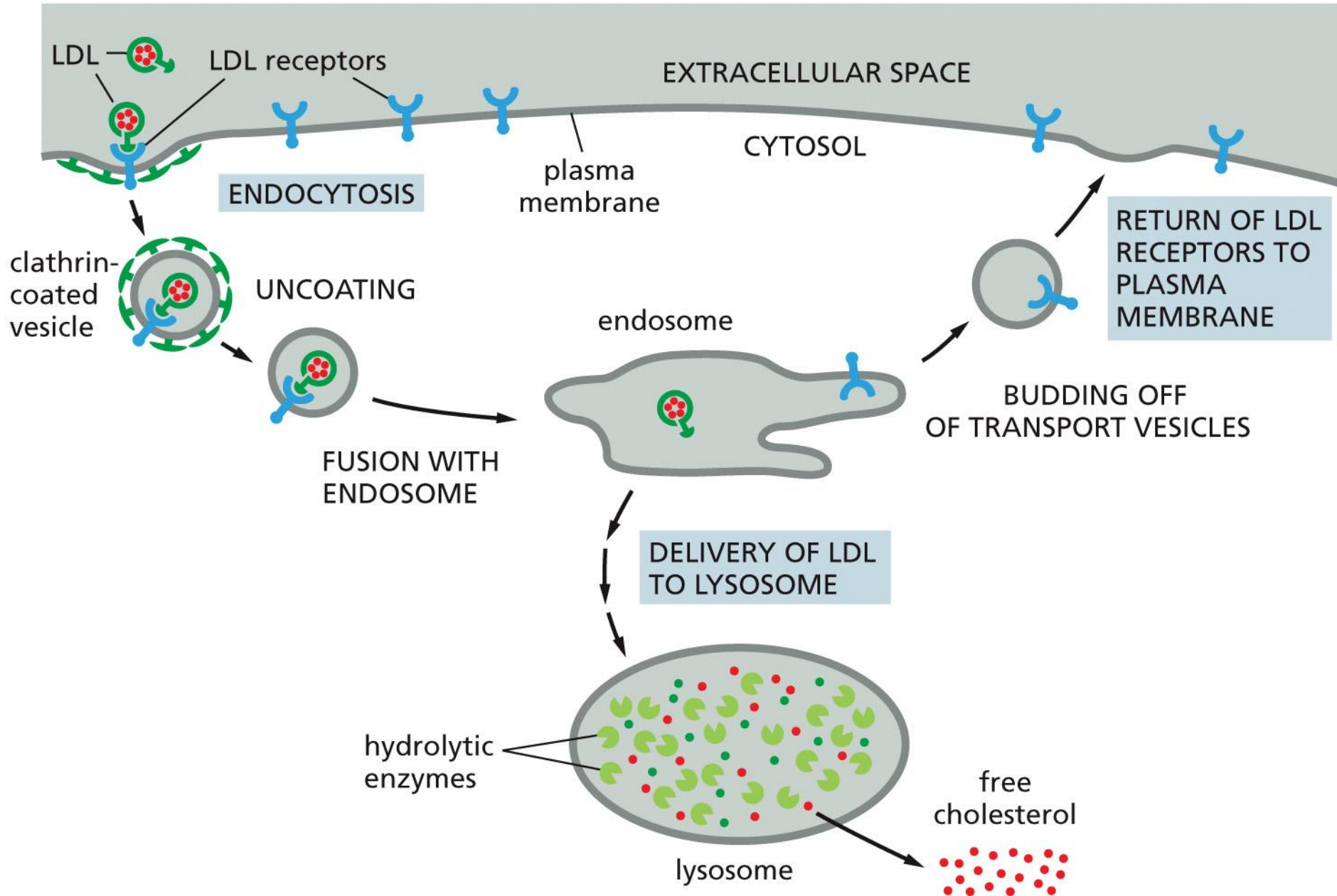




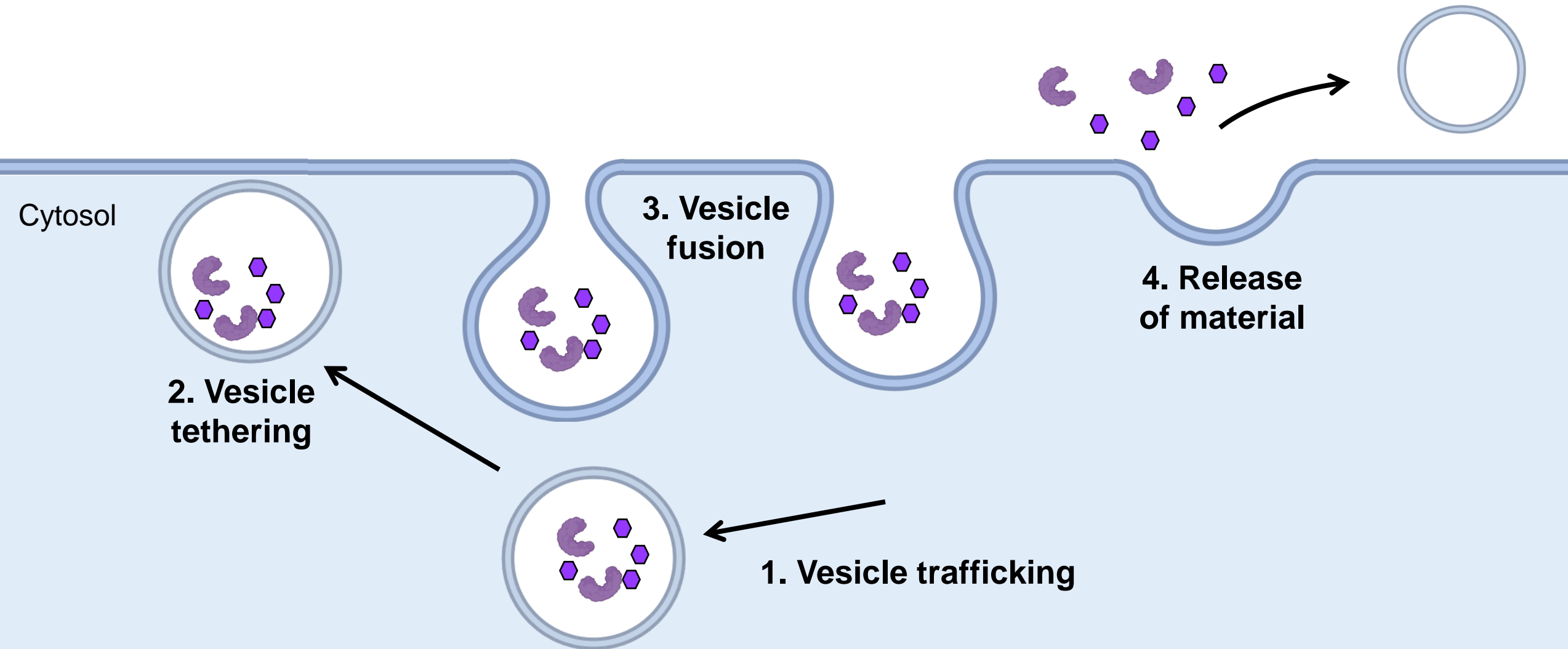
# “Clathrin-mediated endocytosis” moves proteins and other molecules inside the cell



# Receptor mediated endocytosis

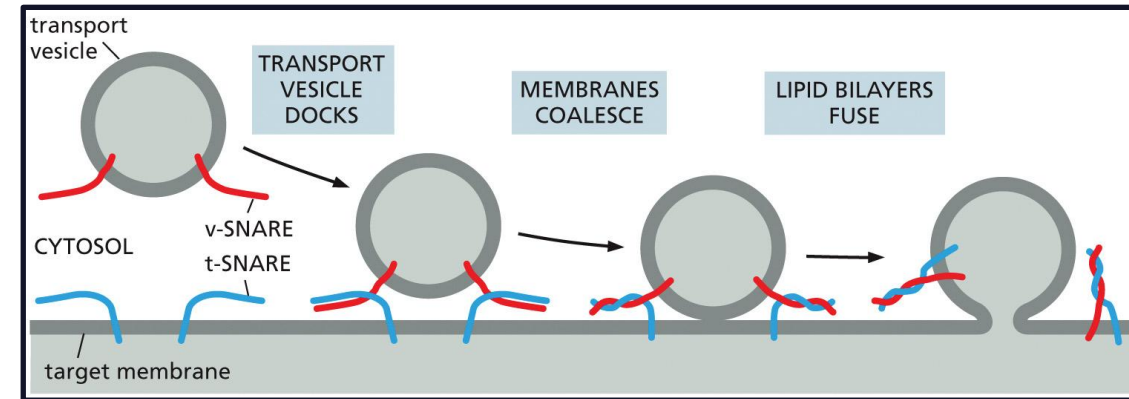
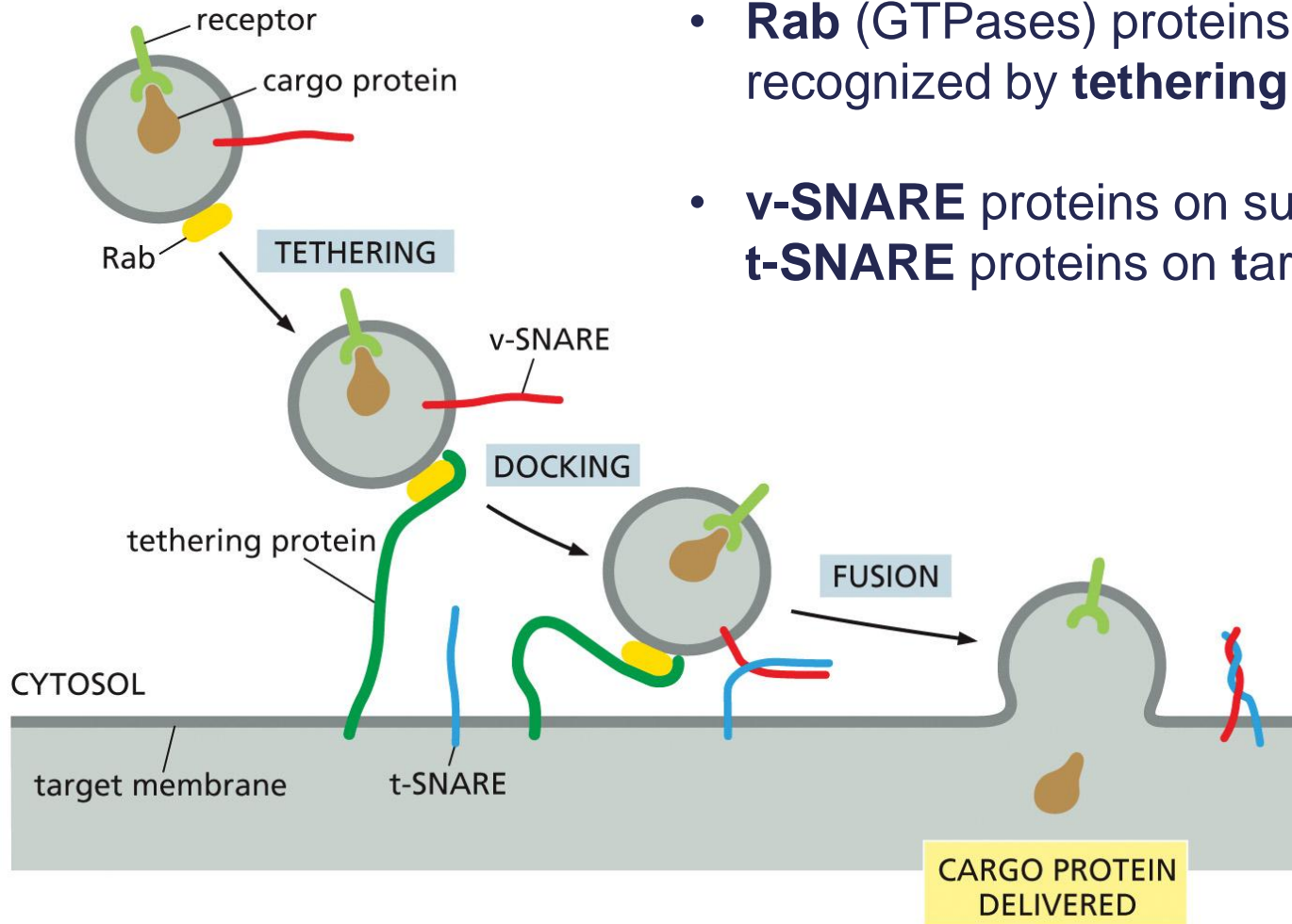


**Exocytosis**: Releasing material (proteins, molecules, etc.) from the cell



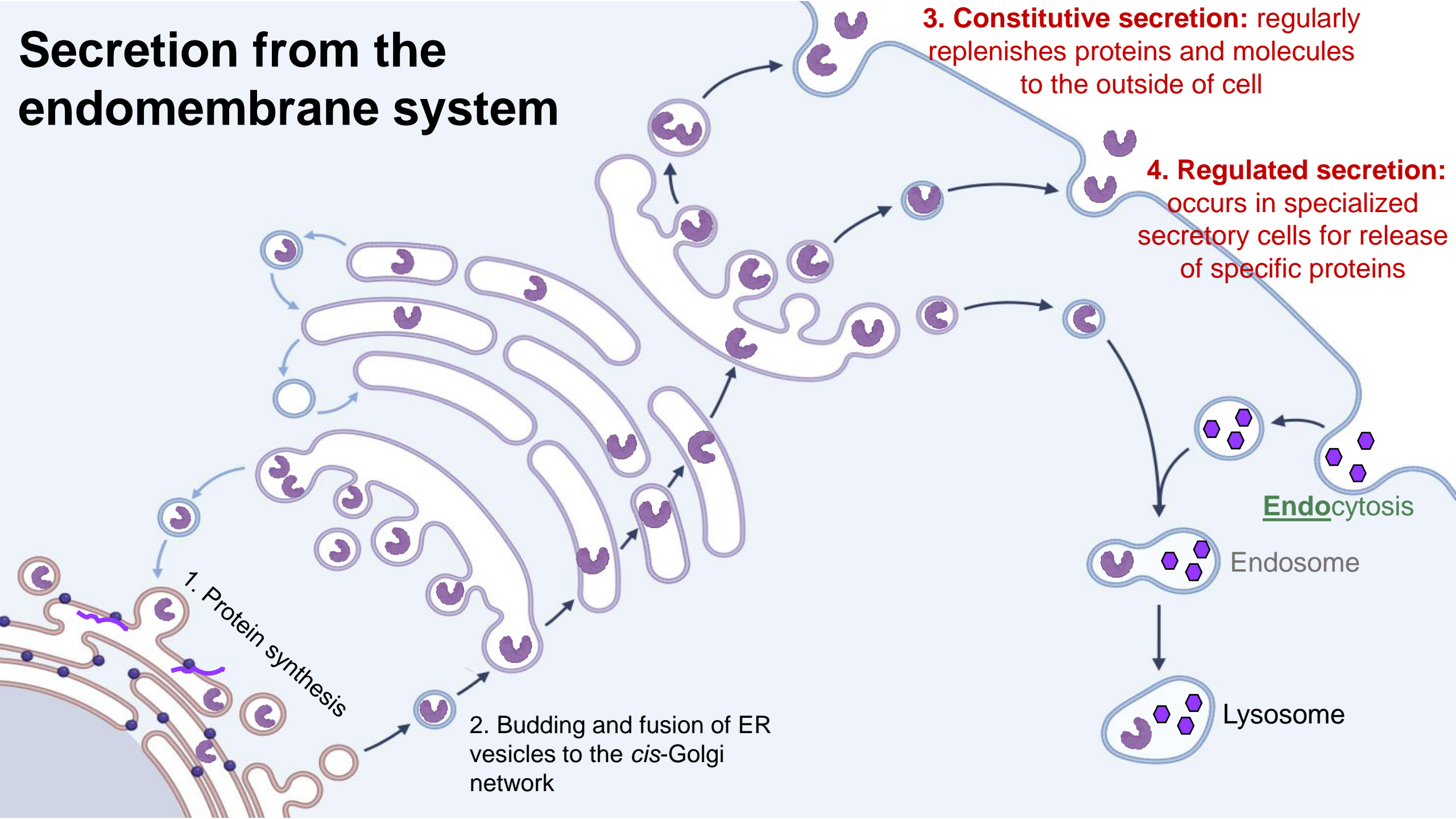
# In general transport vesicle 'docking' requires distinct proteins

- **Rab** (GTPases) proteins on transport vesicle surface are recognized by **tethering proteins** on target membrane
- **v-SNARE** proteins on surface of vesicle can intertwine with **t-SNARE** proteins on target membrane

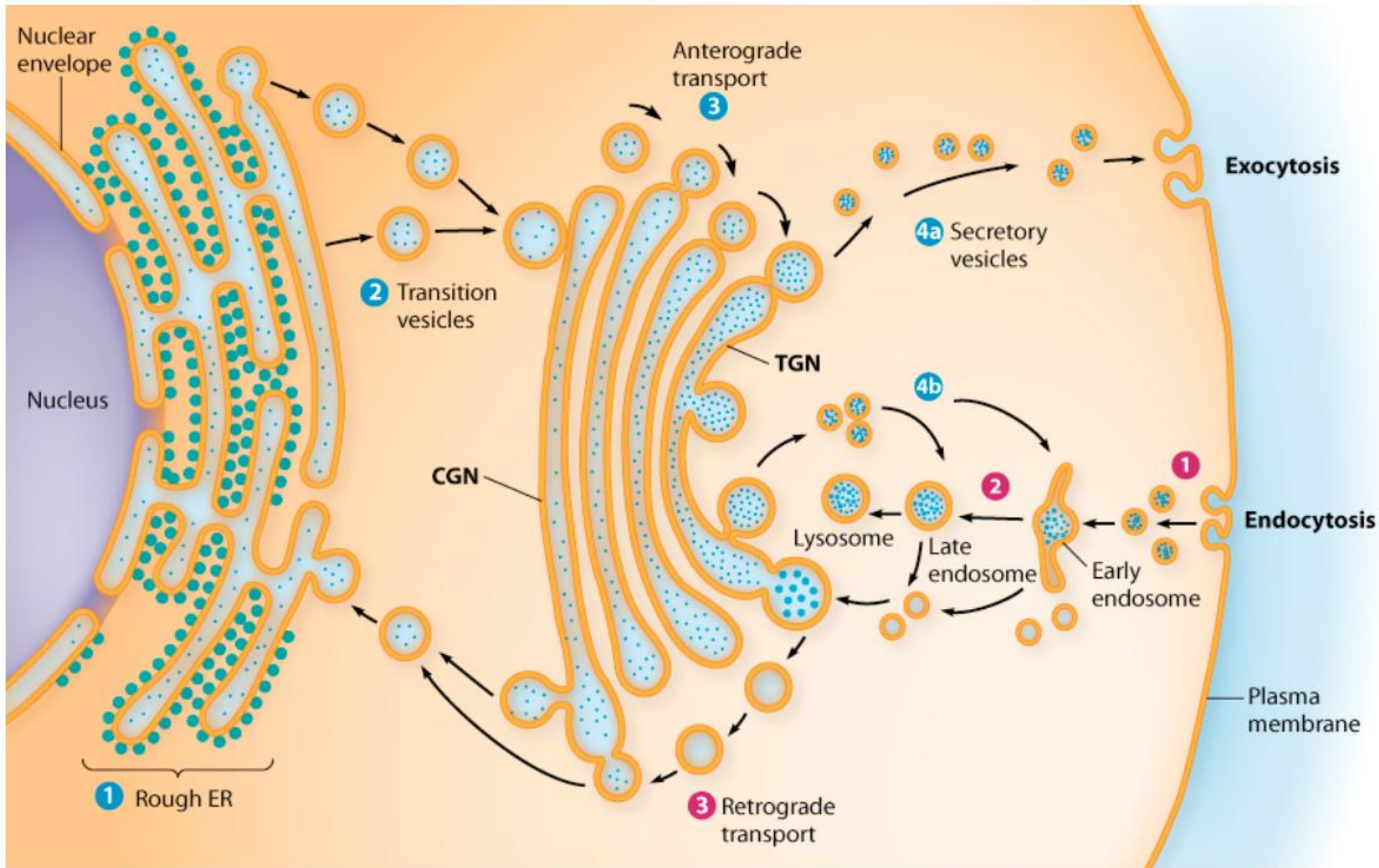


**SNARE** interactions drive vesicle fusion with target membrane through a "tug-of-war"





# Movement occurs both anterograde and retrograde



Endocytosed factors can thus be trafficked towards the ER and nucleus to affect gene expression and cell function

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# Case Study

You are an ambitious graduate student who wants to engineer a new protein to express in the cytosol. You include the following sequence on the C-terminus of the protein: L-H-A-T-P-Y-A-S-H-K-D-E-L. You fluorescently label your protein with a GFP tag and introduce it into cells in a petri dish in the laboratory. The next day, when you check for the expression of your protein under a fluorescent microscope, you are surprised to find your protein is not localized to the cytosol.

- 1. In which part of the cell would you see the GFP signal?  
How did your protein get there?**
- 2. Given the sequence above, how would you engineer your protein so that it only localizes to the cytosol?**

# Case Study

You are an ambitious graduate student who wants to engineer a new protein to express in the cytosol. You include the following sequence *on the C-terminus* of the protein: L-H-A-T-P-Y-A-S-H-K-D-E-L. You fluorescently label your protein with a GFP tag and introduce it into cells in a petri dish in the laboratory. The next day, when you check for the expression of your protein under a fluorescent microscope, you are surprised to find your protein is not localized to the cytosol.

**1. In which part of the cell would you see the GFP signal? How did your protein get there?**

- It would appear in the ER, as the KDEL sequence at the C-terminus is the address label for resident ER proteins. Upon entering the cell, this signal sequence would be recognized and flagged for retrograde transport through the endomembrane system back to the ER.

**2. Given the sequence above, how would you engineer your protein so that it only localizes to the cytosol?**

- Remove the KDEL sequence and be sure no other organelle-specific signal sequences exist

# Case Study

A G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) is an integral membrane protein with 7 transmembrane domains, an extracellular amino terminus and an intracellular carboxy terminus.

You are trying to design a novel GPCR to study cell biology. You design your GPCR with an ER signal sequence at the N-terminus and add multiple start- and stop-transfer sequences throughout. Upon visualization of your protein with Cryo-EM you are surprised to find your protein is inverted, with the amino and carboxy termini on the wrong sides.

- 1. Why would the protein be inverted?**
- 2. How would you design the protein to be in the correct orientation?**



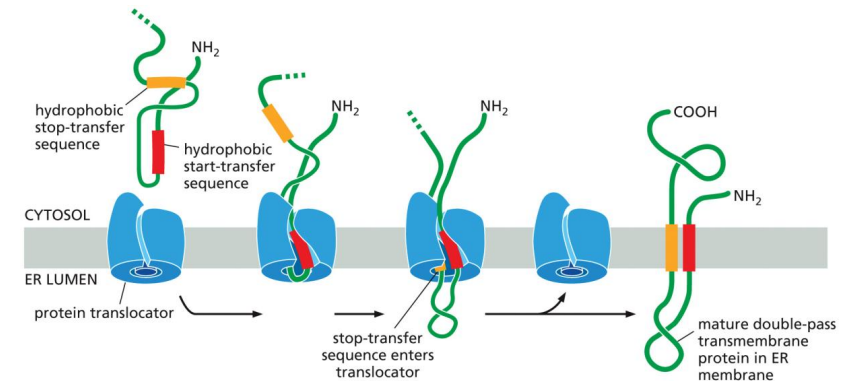
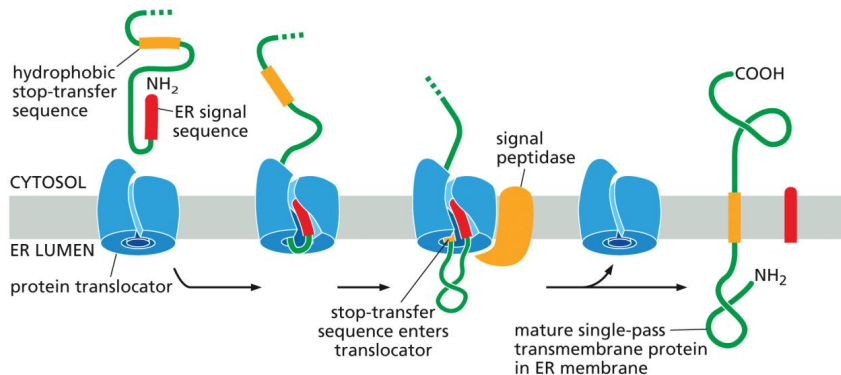
# Case Study

## 1. Why would the protein be inverted?

- With an ER signal sequence at the extreme N-terminus, this would be cleaved upon finishing translation, and so all “stop” and “start” transfer sequences would also be inverted

## 2. How would you design the protein to be in the correct orientation?

- You would want the first hydrophobic sequence to occur later, more internally along the growing polypeptide chain, so that the N-terminus remains cytosolic while the SRP translocates to the ER, and would have 4 start transfer sequences and 3 stop transfer sequences for the C-terminus to remain in the ER lumen



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# Metacognitive Reflection Form

