
Chapter 19 Oxidative Phosphorylation and Photophosphorylation

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria

Page: 690 Difficulty: 1 Ans: E

Almost all of the oxygen (O_2) one consumes in breathing is converted to:

- A) acetyl-CoA.
- B) carbon dioxide (CO_2).
- C) carbon monoxide and then to carbon dioxide.
- D) none of the above.
- E) water.

2. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria

Pages: 693-696 Difficulty: 3 Ans: E

A new compound isolated from mitochondria is claimed to represent a previously unrecognized carrier in the electron transfer chain. It is given the name coenzyme Z. Which line of evidence do you feel is the *least* conclusive in assigning this compound a position in the electron transfer chain?

- A) Alternate oxidation and reduction of the mitochondrion-bound coenzyme Z can be readily demonstrated.
- B) Removal of coenzyme Z from the mitochondria results in a decreased rate of oxygen consumption.
- C) The rate of oxidation and reduction of mitochondrion-bound coenzyme is of the same order of magnitude as the overall rate of electron transfer in mitochondria as measured by oxygen consumption.
- D) The reduction potential of Z is between that of two compounds known to participate in the electron transport chain
- E) When added to a mitochondrial suspension, coenzyme Z is taken up very rapidly and specifically by the mitochondria.

3. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria

Page: 696 Difficulty: 2 Ans: B

Antimycin A blocks electron transfer between cytochromes *b* and *c*₁. If intact mitochondria were incubated with antimycin A, excess NADH, and an adequate supply of O_2 , which of the following would be found in the oxidized state?

- A) Coenzyme Q
- B) Cytochrome *a*₃
- C) Cytochrome *b*
- D) Cytochrome *e*
- E) Cytochrome *f*

4. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria**Page: 698 Difficulty: 2 Ans: B**

Cyanide, oligomycin, and 2,4-dinitrophenol (DNP) are inhibitors of mitochondrial aerobic phosphorylation. Which of the following statements correctly describes the mode of action of the three inhibitors?

- A) Cyanide and 2,4-dinitrophenol inhibit the respiratory chain, and oligomycin inhibits the synthesis of ATP.
- B) Cyanide inhibits the respiratory chain, whereas oligomycin and 2,4-dinitrophenol inhibit the synthesis of ATP.
- C) Cyanide, oligomycin, and 2,4-dinitrophenol compete with O_2 for cytochrome oxidase (Complex IV).
- D) Oligomycin and cyanide inhibit synthesis of ATP; 2,4-dinitrophenol inhibits the respiratory chain.
- E) Oligomycin inhibits the respiratory chain, whereas cyanide and 2,4-dinitrophenol prevent the synthesis of ATP.

5. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria**Page: 700 Difficulty: 2 Ans: B**

In the reoxidation of QH_2 by purified ubiquinone-cytochrome *c* reductase (Complex III) from heart muscle, the overall stoichiometry of the reaction requires 2 mol of cytochrome *c* per mole of QH_2 because:

- A) cytochrome *c* is a one-electron acceptor, whereas QH_2 is a two-electron donor.
- B) cytochrome *c* is a two-electron acceptor, whereas QH_2 is a one-electron donor.
- C) cytochrome *c* is water soluble and operates between the inner and outer mitochondrial membranes
- D) heart muscle has a high rate of oxidative metabolism, and therefore requires twice as much cytochrome *c* as QH_2 for electron transfer to proceed normally.
- E) two molecules of cytochrome *c* must first combine physically before they are catalytically active.

6. ATP synthesis**Page: 696 Difficulty: 3 Ans: A**

If electron transfer in tightly coupled mitochondria is blocked (with antimycin A) between cytochrome *b* and cytochrome *c*₁, then:

- A) all ATP synthesis will stop.
- B) ATP synthesis will continue, but the P/O ratio will drop to one.
- C) electron transfer from NADH will cease, but O_2 uptake will continue.
- D) electron transfer from succinate to O_2 will continue unabated.
- E) energy diverted from the cytochromes will be used to make ATP, and the P/O ratio will rise.

7. ATP synthesis**Pages: 704-707 Difficulty: 3 Ans: E**

In normal mitochondria, the rate of NADH consumption (oxidation) will:

- A) be increased in active muscle, decreased in inactive muscle.
- B) be very low if the ATP synthase is inhibited, but increase when an uncoupler is added.
- C) decrease if mitochondrial ADP is depleted.
- D) decrease when cyanide is used to prevent electron transfer through the cytochrome $a + a_3$ complex.
- E) All of the above are true.

8. ATP synthesis**Page: 704 Difficulty: 2 Ans: A**

Which of the following statements about the chemiosmotic theory is correct?

- A) Electron transfer in mitochondria is accompanied by an asymmetric release of protons on *one* side of the inner mitochondrial membrane.
- B) It predicts that oxidative phosphorylation can occur even in the absence of an intact inner mitochondrial membrane.
- C) The effect of uncoupling reagents is a consequence of their ability to carry electrons through membranes.
- D) The membrane ATP synthase has no significant role in the chemiosmotic theory.
- E) All of the above are correct.

9. ATP synthesis**Page: 705 Difficulty: 1 Ans: E**Which of the following statements about the chemiosmotic theory is *false*?

- A) Electron transfer in mitochondria is accompanied by an asymmetric release of protons on *one* side of the inner mitochondrial membrane.
- B) Energy is conserved as a transmembrane pH gradient.
- C) Oxidative phosphorylation cannot occur in membrane-free preparations.
- D) The effect of uncoupling reagents is a consequence of their ability to carry protons through membranes.
- E) The membrane ATPase, which plays an important role in other hypotheses for energy coupling, has no significant role in the chemiosmotic theory.

10. ATP synthesis**Page: 705 Difficulty: 3 Ans: A**Upon the addition of 2,4-dinitrophenol (DNP) to a suspension of mitochondria carrying out oxidative phosphorylation linked to the oxidation of malate, all of the following occur *except*:

- A) oxygen consumption decreases.
- B) oxygen consumption increases.
- C) the P/O ratio drops from a value of approximately 2.5 to 0.
- D) the proton gradient dissipates.
- E) the rate of transport of electrons from NADH to O_2 becomes maximal.

11. ATP synthesis**Page: 707 Difficulty: 1 Ans: C**

Uncoupling of mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation:

- A) allows continued mitochondrial ATP formation, but halts O_2 consumption.
- B) halts all mitochondrial metabolism.
- C) halts mitochondrial ATP formation, but allows continued O_2 consumption.
- D) slows down the citric acid cycle.
- E) slows the conversion of glucose to pyruvate by glycolysis.

12. ATP synthesis**Page: 707 Difficulty: 2 Ans: A**

2,4-Dinitrophenol and oligomycin inhibit mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation. 2,4-Dinitrophenol is an uncoupling agent; oligomycin blocks the ATP synthesis reaction itself. Therefore, 2,4-dinitrophenol will:

- A) allow electron transfer in the presence of oligomycin.
- B) allow oxidative phosphorylation in the presence of oligomycin.
- C) block electron transfer in the presence of oligomycin.
- D) diminish O_2 consumption in the presence of oligomycin
- E) do none of the above.

13. ATP synthesis**Page: 707 Difficulty: 1 Ans: D**Which of the following statements about energy conservation in the mitochondrion is *false*?

- A) Drug that inhibits the ATP synthase will also inhibit the flow of electrons down the chain of carriers.
- B) For oxidative phosphorylation to occur, it is essential to have a closed membranous structure with an inside and an outside.
- C) The yield of ATP per mole of oxidizable substrate depends on the substrate.
- D) Uncouplers (such as dinitrophenol) have exactly the same effect on electron transfer as inhibitors such as cyanide; both block further electron transfer to oxygen.
- E) Uncouplers “short circuit” the proton gradient, thereby dissipating the proton motive force as heat.

14. ATP synthesis**Page: 708 Difficulty: 2 Ans: E**

Which of the following is correct concerning the mitochondrial ATP synthase?

- A) It can synthesize ATP after it is extracted from broken mitochondria.
- B) It catalyzes the formation of ATP even though the reaction has a large positive ΔG° .
- C) It consists of F_0 and F_1 subunits, which are transmembrane (integral) polypeptides.
- D) It is actually an ATPase and only catalyzes the hydrolysis of ATP.
- E) When it catalyzes the ATP synthesis reaction, the ΔG° is actually close to zero.

15. ATP synthesis**Page: 709 Difficulty: 2 Ans: D**

When the ΔG° of the ATP synthesis reaction is measured on the surface of the ATP synthase enzyme, it is found to be close to zero. This is thought to be due to:

- A) a very low energy of activation.
- B) enzyme-induced oxygen exchange.
- C) stabilization of ADP relative to ATP by enzyme binding.
- D) stabilization of ATP relative to ADP by enzyme binding.
- E) none of the above.

16. ATP synthesis**Page: 712 Difficulty: 2 Ans: C**

During oxidative phosphorylation, the proton motive force that is generated by electron transport is used to:

- A) create a pore in the inner mitochondrial membrane.
- B) generate the substrates (ADP and P_i) for the ATP synthase.
- C) induce a conformational change in the ATP synthase.
- D) oxidize NADH to NAD^+ .
- E) reduce O_2 to H_2O .

17. ATP synthesis**Page: 713 Difficulty: 2 Ans: C**

The oxidation of a particular hydroxy substrate to a keto product by mitochondria has a P/O ratio of less than 2. The initial oxidation step is very likely directly coupled to the:

- A) oxidation of a flavoprotein.
- B) oxidation of a pyridine nucleotide.
- C) reduction of a flavoprotein.
- D) reduction of a pyridine nucleotide.
- E) reduction of cytochrome a_3 .

18. General features of photophosphorylation**Page: 724 Difficulty: 2 Ans: B**

Which of the following statements about the light reactions in photosynthetic plants is *false*?

- A) A membrane-bound ATPase couples ATP synthesis to electron transfer.
- B) No CO_2 is fixed in the light reactions.
- C) The ultimate electron acceptor is O_2 .
- D) The ultimate source of electrons for the process is H_2O .
- E) There are two distinct photosystems, linked together by an electron transfer chain.

19. General features of photophosphorylation**Page: 724 Difficulty: 1 Ans: D**

The light reactions in photosynthetic higher plants:

- A) do not require chlorophyll.
- B) produce ATP and consume NADH.
- C) require the action of a single reaction center.
- D) result in the splitting of H_2O , yielding O_2 .
- E) serve to produce light so that plants can see underground.

20. General features of photophosphorylation**Page: 724 Difficulty: 2 Ans: C**

Photosynthetic phosphorylation and oxidative phosphorylation appear to be generally similar processes, both consisting of ATP synthesis coupled to the transfer of electrons along an electron carrier chain. Which of the following is *not* true of both processes?

- A) Both contain cytochromes and flavins in their electron carrier chains.
- B) Both processes are associated with membranous elements of the cell.
- C) Both use oxygen as a terminal electron acceptor.
- D) Each represents the major route of ATP synthesis in those cells in which it is found.
- E) Protons are pumped from the inside to the outside of both mitochondria and chloroplast membranes

21. Regulation of oxidative phosphorylation**Page: 718 Difficulty: 2 Ans: E**

The relative concentrations of ATP and ADP control the cellular rates of:

- A) glycolysis.
- B) oxidative phosphorylation.
- C) pyruvate oxidation.
- D) the citric acid cycle.
- E) all of the above.

22. Regulation of oxidative phosphorylation**Page: 718 Difficulty: 2 Ans: D**

The rate of oxidative phosphorylation in mitochondria is controlled primarily by:

- A) feedback inhibition by CO_2 .
- B) the availability of NADH from the TCA cycle.
- C) the concentration of citrate (or) the glycerol-3-phosphate shuttle.
- D) the mass-action ratio of the ATP-ADP system.
- E) the presence of thermogenin.

23. Mitochondrial genes: their origin and the effects of mutation**Page: 719 Difficulty: 2 Ans: B**Mutations in mitochondrial genes play a role in each of the following diseases *except*:

- A) adult onset diabetes.
- B) cystic fibrosis.
- C) hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.
- D) Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy.
- E) myoclonic epilepsy.

24. Mitochondrial genes: their origin and the effects of mutation**Page: 719 Difficulty: 2 Ans: A**

Which one of the following statements about human mitochondria is true?

- A) About 900 mitochondrial proteins are encoded by nuclear genes.
- B) Mitochondrial genes are inherited from both maternal and paternal sources.
- C) rRNA and tRNA are imported from the cytoplasm and used in mitochondrial protein synthesis.
- D) The mitochondrial genome codes for all proteins found in mitochondria.
- E) The mitochondrial genome is not subject to mutations.

25. Mitochondria play key roles in apoptosis and oxidative stress**Page: 721 Difficulty: 2 Ans: E**

Which one of the following best describes the role of mitochondria in apoptosis?

- A) Escape of cytochrome c into the cytoplasm.
- B) Increased rate of fatty acid β -oxidation.
- C) Increase in permeability of outer membrane.
- D) Uncoupling of oxidative phosphorylation.
- E) Both A and C are correct.

26. Light absorption**Page: 723 Difficulty: 2 Ans: A**

In photophosphorylation, absorption of light energy in chloroplast "light reactions" leads to:

- A) absorption of CO_2 and release of O_2 .
- B) absorption of O_2 and release of CO_2 .
- C) hydrolysis of ATP and reduction of NADP^+ .
- D) synthesis of ATP and oxidation of NADPH.
- E) use of iron-sulfur proteins.

27. Light absorption**Page: 725 Difficulty: 2 Ans: A**Oxidative phosphorylation and photophosphorylation share all of the following *except*:

- A) chlorophyll.
- B) involvement of cytochromes.
- C) participation of quinones.
- D) proton pumping across a membrane to create electrochemical potential.
- E) use of iron-sulfur proteins.

28. Light absorption**Page: 728 Difficulty: 2 Ans: B**

The experimental determination of the effectiveness of light of different colors in promoting photosynthesis is called the:

- A) absorption spectrum.
- B) action spectrum.
- C) difference spectrum.
- D) reflectance spectrum.
- E) refraction spectrum.

29. Light absorption**Pages: 728-729 Difficulty: 2 Ans: C**

In what order do the following five steps occur in the photochemical reaction centers?

- 1) Excitation of the chlorophyll *a* molecule at the reaction center
- 2) Replacement of the electron in the reaction center chlorophyll
- 3) Light excitation of antenna chlorophyll molecule
- 4) Passage of excited electron to electron-transfer chain
- 5) Exiton transfer to neighboring chlorophyll

- A) 1-2-3-4-5
- B) 3-2-5-4-1
- C) 3-5-1-4-2
- D) 4-2-3-5-1
- E) 5-4-3-2-1

30. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow**Pages: 733-738 Difficulty: 3 Ans: A**

Which one of the following is true about reaction centers?

- A) Cyanobacteria and plants have two reaction centers arranged in tandem.
- B) Cyanobacteria contain a single reaction center of the Fe-S type.
- C) Green sulfur bacteria have two reaction centers arranged in tandem.
- D) Plant photosystems have a single reaction center of the pheophytin-quinone type.
- E) Purple bacteria contain a single reaction center of the Fe-S type.

31. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow**Page: 734 Difficulty: 3 Ans: C**

In the photolytic cleavage of water by the oxygen-evolving complex [$2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 4\text{H}^+ + 4\text{e}^- + \text{O}_2$], how many photons of light at a wavelength of 680 nm are required?

- A) 1
- B) 2
- C) 4
- D) 6
- E) 8

32. ATP synthesis by photophosphorylation**Page: 741 Difficulty: 3 Ans: C**Which one of the following statements about photophosphorylation is *false*?

- A) It can be uncoupled from electron flow by agents that dissipate the proton gradient.
- B) The difference in pH between the luminal and stromal side of the thylakoid membrane is 3 pH units.
- C) The luminal side of the thylakoid membrane has a higher pH than the stromal side.
- D) The number of ATPs formed per oxygen molecule is about three.
- E) The reaction centers, electron carriers, and ATP-forming enzymes are located in the thylakoid membrane.

33. ATP synthesis by photophosphorylation**Page: 741 Difficulty: 3 Ans: B**

Cyclic electron flow in chloroplasts produces:

- A) ATP and O_2 , but not NADPH.
- B) ATP, but not NADPH or O_2 .
- C) NADPH, and ATP, but not O_2 .
- D) NADPH, but not ATP or O_2 .
- E) O_2 , but not ATP or NADPH.

Short Answer Questions**34. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria****Page: 696 Difficulty: 1**

As you read and answer this question, you are (presumably) consuming oxygen. What single reaction accounts for most of your oxygen consumption?

Ans: O_2 is converted to H_2O by electrons from the respiratory chain. The final step is the one catalyzed by cytochrome oxidase (Complex IV).

35. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria**Page: 696 Difficulty: 3**Show the path of electrons from ubiquinone (Q or coenzyme Q) to oxygen in the mitochondrial respiratory chain. One of the two compounds (Q and O_2) has a standard reduction potential (E°) of 0.82 V, and the other, 0.045 V. Which value belongs to each compound? How did you deduce this?

Ans: $QH_2 \rightarrow \text{cyt } b \rightarrow \text{cyt } c_1 \rightarrow \text{cyt } c \rightarrow \text{cyt } (a + a_3) \rightarrow O_2$

E° for O_2 must be the larger positive value (+0.82) because electron flow occurs spontaneously to the electron acceptor with the more positive E° .

36. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria**Pages: 696-701 Difficulty: 3**

Diagram the path of electron flow from NADH to the final electron acceptor during electron transport in mitochondria. For each electron carrier, indicate whether only electrons, or both electrons and protons, are accepted/donated by that carrier. Indicate with an arrow where electrons from succinate oxidation enter the chain of carriers.

Ans: NADH (both) \rightarrow FP (both) \rightarrow Q (both) \rightarrow cyt *b* (e^- only) \rightarrow cyt *c*₁ (e^- only) \rightarrow cyt *c* (e^- only) \rightarrow cyt (*a* + *a*₃) (e^- only) \rightarrow O₂ (both)
Electrons from succinate enter at Q.

37. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria

Pages: 695, 701 **Difficulty:** 3

A recently discovered bacterium carries out ATP synthesis coupled to the flow of electrons through a chain of carriers to some electron acceptor. The components of its electron transfer chain differ from those found in mitochondria; they are listed below with their standard reduction potentials.

Electron carriers in the newly discovered bacterium:

| Oxidant | Reductant | Electrons transferred | E° (V) |
|---|---|-----------------------|---------------|
| NAD ⁺ NADH | 2 -0.32 | | |
| flavoprotein <i>b</i> (FP _{<i>b</i>}) | flavoprotein <i>b</i> | 2 | -0.62 |
| (oxidized) | (reduced) | | |
| cytochrome <i>c</i> (Fe ³⁺) | cytochrome <i>c</i> (Fe ²⁺) | 1 | +0.22 |
| Fe-S protein | Fe-S protein | 2 | +0.89 |
| (oxidized) | (reduced) | | |
| flavoprotein <i>a</i> (FP _{<i>a</i>}) | flavoprotein <i>a</i> | 2 | +0.77 |
| (oxidized) | (reduced) | | |

(a) Place the electron carriers in the order in which they are most likely to act in carrying electrons.
(b) Is it likely that O₂ (for which $E^\circ = 0.82$ V) is the final electron acceptor in this organism? Why or why not? (c) How would you calculate the maximum number of ATP molecules that could theoretically be synthesized, under standard conditions, per pair of electrons transferred through this chain of carriers? (The Faraday constant, \mathfrak{F} , is 96.48 kJ/V·mol.) ΔG° for ATP synthesis is +30.5 kJ/mol.

Ans: (a) FP_{*b*} \rightarrow NAD⁺ \rightarrow cyt *c* \rightarrow FP_{*a*} \rightarrow Fe-S
(b) No; Fe-S has a larger E° , so will probably be the terminal acceptor.
(c) First calculate ΔG° for e^- flow from FP_{*b*} to Fe-S:

$$\Delta E^\circ = E^\circ(\text{oxidant}) - E^\circ(\text{reductant}) = +0.89 - (-0.62) = +1.51 \text{ V}$$

$$\Delta G^\circ = -n\mathfrak{F}\Delta E^\circ = (-2)(96.48 \text{ kJ/V}\cdot\text{mol})(1.51 \text{ V}) = -291 \text{ kJ/2e}^-$$

Theoretically, the flow of two electrons from FP_{*b*} to Fe-S could drive the synthesis of 291 kJ/30.5 kJ/mol = 9.5 mol ATP. Because only whole numbers of molecules can be made, the correct answer is 9 mol ATP per electron pair.

38. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria

Page: 701 **Difficulty:** 2

During electron transfer through the mitochondrial respiratory chain, the overall reaction is: NADH + 1/2 O₂ + H⁺ \rightarrow NAD⁺ + H₂O. The difference in reduction potentials for the two half-reactions (ΔE°) is +1.14 V. Show how you would calculate the standard free-energy change, ΔG° , for the reaction as written above. (The Faraday constant, \mathfrak{F} , is 96.48 kJ/V·mol.)

Ans: $\Delta G^\circ = -n\mathfrak{F}\Delta E^\circ = (-2)(96.48 \text{ kJ/V}\cdot\text{mol})(1.14 \text{ V}) = -220 \text{ kJ/mol}$

39. Electron-transfer reactions in mitochondria**Page: 701 Difficulty: 3**

The standard reduction potential for ubiquinone (Q or coenzyme Q) is 0.045 V, and the standard reduction potential (E°) for FAD is -0.219 V. Using these values, show that the oxidation of FADH_2 by ubiquinone theoretically liberates enough energy to drive the synthesis of ATP. The Faraday constant, \mathfrak{F} , is $96.48 \text{ kJ/V}\cdot\text{mol}$. ΔG° for ATP synthesis is $+30.5 \text{ kJ/mol}$.

$$\text{Ans: } \Delta E^\circ = E^\circ(\text{oxidant}) - E^\circ(\text{reductant}) = 0.045 - (-0.219) = +0.264 \text{ V}$$

$$\Delta G^\circ = -n \mathfrak{F} \Delta E^\circ = (-2)(96.48 \text{ kJ/V}\cdot\text{mol})(0.264 \text{ V}) = -51.0 \text{ kJ/mol}.$$

Passage of two electrons from FADH_2 to Q can, in principle, provide sufficient energy for synthesizing 1 ATP.

40. ATP synthesis**Pages: 704-705 Difficulty: 2**

Describe, in simple diagrams and a few words, the chemiosmotic theory for coupling oxidation to phosphorylation in mitochondria.

Ans: There are three central elements in the chemiosmotic model:

- (1) Electron flow through asymmetrically arranged membrane-bound carriers causes transmembrane flow of H^+ , creating a proton gradient (a proton motive force).
- (2) The proton motive force drives protons back across the membrane via specific proton channels (composed of F_0).
- (3) The energy released by “downhill” movement of protons is captured when ADP and P_i are condensed by ATP synthase (F_0F_1). (See Fig. 19-17, p. 705.)

41. ATP synthesis**Pages: 705, 707 Difficulty: 3**

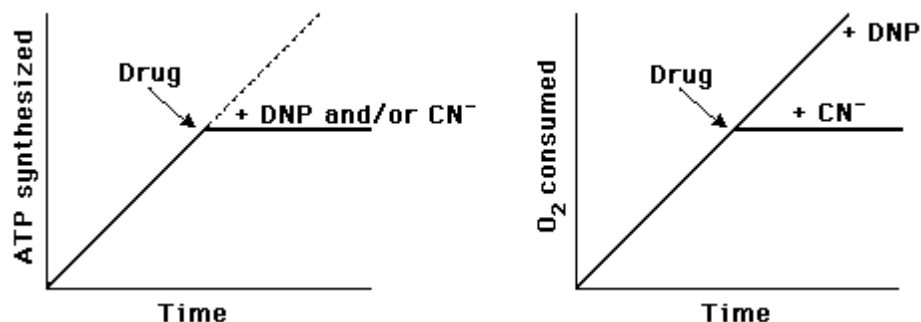
Compound X is an inhibitor of mitochondrial ATP synthesis. It was observed that when compound X was added to cells, the NAD^+/NADH ratio decreased. Would you expect X to be an uncoupling agent or an inhibitor of respiratory electron transfer? Explain in 30 words or less.

Ans: It is an inhibitor of electron transfer; its addition lowers the NAD^+/NADH ratio because NADH produced by oxidative reactions in mitochondria can no longer be reoxidized by electron flow to O_2 .

42. ATP synthesis**Page: 705 Difficulty: 3**

Cyanide ion (CN^-) blocks electron transfer in mitochondria at the level of cytochrome $a + a_3$. 2,4-Dinitrophenol (DNP) is a potent uncoupler of mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation. Add labeled curves to the graphs below to show the effects of adding each of these compounds *separately* to a suspension of mitochondria supplied with O_2 , succinate, ADP, and P_i . Arrow: time of drug addition.

Ans:



43. ATP synthesis

Pages: 705, 707 Difficulty: 1

Give an example of (a) an uncoupler of oxidative phosphorylation, and (b) an inhibitor of respiration. (c) Describe the difference in the effects of such uncouplers and inhibitors on mitochondrial function.

Ans: (a) Uncouplers include DNP, valinomycin, and CCCP. (b) Respiration inhibitors include antimycin A, piericidin A, CN^- , rotenone, and amytal. (c) Uncouplers stop formation of ATP while allowing electron transfer to continue. Inhibitors of respiration block both electron transfer and phosphorylation.

44. ATP synthesis

Pages: 705-707 Difficulty: 2

Mitochondria carrying out oxidative phosphorylation consume oxygen. Explain what happens to this oxygen, and describe the effect of an uncoupling agent such as 2,4-dinitrophenol on the rate of oxygen consumption. Assume there is a sufficient supply of oxidizable substrate, ADP, and P_i .

Ans: O_2 is reduced to H_2O by electrons passed through the respiratory chain. Addition of 2,4-dinitrophenol, which uncouples phosphorylation (ATP synthesis) from electron flow, actually stimulates O_2 consumption slightly by removing the “drag” of ATP synthesis.

45. ATP synthesis

Page: 706 Difficulty: 2

The skunk cabbage (*Symphocarpus foetidus*) can maintain a temperature of 10–25 °C higher than the temperature of the surrounding air. Suggest a mechanism for this.

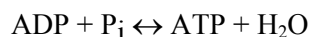
Ans: One possible heat-generating mechanism is partially uncoupled mitochondria in which some of the energy of electron flow is dissipated as heat.

46. ATP synthesis

Page: 708 Difficulty: 2

When the F_1 portion of the ATP synthetase complex is removed from the mitochondrial membrane and studied in solution, it functions as an ATPase. Why does it not function as an ATP synthetase?

Ans: Like all enzymes, the F_1 subunit of the ATP synthase catalyzes a reaction in *both* directions:



The standard free-energy change (ΔG°) for ATP hydrolysis is -30.5 kJ/mol . With no proton motive force to drive the reaction toward ATP synthesis, the hydrolysis (ATPase activity) occurs

spontaneously.

47. ATP synthesis

Pages: 705-717 Difficulty: 3

Using a simple diagram of the chemiosmotic theory, explain why anything that makes the mitochondrial membrane leaky stops ATP synthesis in the mitochondria.

Ans: There are three central elements in the chemiosmotic model:

(1) Electron flow through asymmetrically arranged membrane-bound carriers causes transmembrane flow of H^+ , creating a proton gradient (a proton motive force).

(2) The proton motive force drives protons back across the membrane via specific proton channels (composed of F_0).

(3) The energy released by downhill movement of protons is captured when ADP and P_i are condensed by ATP synthase (F_0F_1). Anything that makes the membrane leaky to protons (an uncoupler such as 2,4-dinitrophenol, or mechanical breakage of the membrane) prevents formation of a proton gradient. With no proton gradient, there is no energy source for ATP synthesis by F_0F_1 (ATP synthase). (See Fig. 19-17, p. 705, and Fig. 19-30, p. 717.)

48. ATP synthesis

Page: 709 Difficulty: 2

When the ΔG° of the ATP synthesis reaction is measured on the surface of the ATP synthase enzyme, it was found to be close to zero. Describe briefly why this is so.

Ans: The enzyme binds ATP more tightly than ADP thus stabilizing the former (i.e., the product of the synthesis reaction) relative to the latter (i.e., the reactant in the synthesis reaction).

49. ATP synthesis

Pages: 709-712 Difficulty: 3

Explain briefly the current model for how the proton motive force that is generated by electron transport is used to drive the ATP synthesis reaction.

Ans: The tight binding of ATP by the enzyme stabilizes it and makes the ΔG° of the synthetic reaction more favorable. Once the reaction has occurred, the ATP product must be released from the enzyme. The proton motive force causes protons to move across the inner mitochondrial membrane through the pore in the F_0 complex. This movement leads to conformational changes that decrease the affinity of the F_1 portion of the synthase for ATP, resulting in its release from the enzyme.

50. Regulation of oxidative phosphorylation

Pages: 716-718 Difficulty: 2

Describe and explain how each of the following manipulations will affect (1) the rate of NADH consumption and (2) the rate of ATP synthesis in mitochondria.

(a) Depletion of ADP

(b) Addition of an uncoupler

(c) Addition of cyanide (CN^-)

Ans:

| | NADH consumption | ATP synthesis |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| deplete ADP | lower | lower |
| add uncoupler | higher, or no change | lower |

add CN^-

lower

lower

51. Regulation of oxidative phosphorylation**Page: 716 Difficulty: 2**

What is respiratory control in mitochondria? What is accomplished by this control mechanism?

Ans: Respiratory control is the regulation of electron flow and ATP synthesis by [ADP]. When [ADP] is low, electron flow slows; when [ADP] is high, electron flow is stimulated. The overall effect is to keep the level of ATP nearly constant and to prevent oxidation of fuels when the demand for ATP is low.

52. Regulation of oxidative phosphorylation**Pages: 716, 705 Difficulty: 3**

In his studies of alcoholic fermentation by yeast, Louis Pasteur noted that the sudden addition of oxygen (O_2) to a previously anaerobic culture of fermenting grape juice resulted in a dramatic decrease in the rate of glucose consumption. This “Pasteur effect” can be counteracted by the addition of 2,4-dinitrophenol (DNP), an uncoupler of oxidative phosphorylation. (a) Why would the yeast cells consume less glucose in the presence of oxygen? Can you estimate how much less glucose they would use? (b) Why would DNP counteract or prevent the Pasteur effect?

Ans: (a) During aerobic oxidation of glucose, the yield of ATP is about 38 mol per mole of glucose. Under anaerobic conditions, only 2 ATP are produced per glucose. Thus, to get the same amount of ATP, a cell needs to use 19 times more glucose anaerobically.

(b) Because DNP blocks the principal path of aerobic ATP production, aerobic cells in the presence of DNP need about the same amount of glucose as anaerobic cells.

53. Regulation of oxidative phosphorylation**Page: 717 Difficulty: 3**

The compound 2,4-dinitrophenol (DNP), an uncoupler, was briefly used as a weight-loss drug. Some of its effects in people who took the drug included weight loss and higher than normal body temperature. Some people even died. Explain the first two effects of the compound in biochemical terms.

Ans: The uncoupler allows continuous oxidation of fuels (like fatty acids from adipose tissue). Because little or no ATP synthesis occurs, the respiratory control that normally limits fuel oxidation when ATP levels are high does not operate. The energy of fuel oxidation is dissipated as heat, accounting for the elevated body temperature.

54. Regulation of oxidative phosphorylation**Page: 718 Difficulty: 3**

Although molecular oxygen (O_2) does not participate directly in any of the reactions of the citric acid cycle, the cycle operates only when O_2 is present. Explain this observation.

Ans: The citric acid cycle produces NADH, which is normally reoxidized to NAD^+ by the passage of electrons through the respiratory chain to O_2 . With no O_2 to accept electrons, NADH accumulates, NAD^+ is depleted, and the citric acid cycle slows for lack of NAD^+ .

55. Regulation of oxidative phosphorylation**Page: 718 Difficulty: 3**

Consider a liver cell carrying out the oxidation of glucose under aerobic conditions. Suppose that we added a very potent and specific inhibitor of the mitochondrial ATP synthase, completely inhibiting

this enzyme. Indicate whether each of the following statements about the effect of this inhibitor is true or false; if false, explain in a sentence or two why it is false.

- ____ (a) ATP production in the cell will quickly drop to zero.
- ____ (b) The rate of glucose consumption by this cell will decrease sharply.
- ____ (c) The rate of oxygen consumption will increase.
- ____ (d) The citric acid cycle will speed up to compensate.
- ____ (e) The cell will switch to fatty acid oxidation as an alternative to glucose oxidation, and the inhibitor will therefore have no effect on ATP production.

Ans: (a) False. Mitochondrial ATP synthesis will cease, but to compensate, cells will accelerate the production of ATP by glycolysis, preventing ATP levels from dropping to zero.
(b) False. The acceleration of glycolysis noted above will actually increase the rate of glucose consumption.
(c) False. Because electron transfer through the respiratory chain is tightly coupled to ATP synthesis, blocking ATP synthase blocks electron flow and oxygen consumption.
(d) False. The citric acid cycle is an *oxidative* pathway, producing NADH. When electron flow from NADH to O₂ is blocked, NADH accumulates, NAD⁺ is depleted, and the citric acid cycle slows for lack of an electron acceptor (NAD⁺).
(e) False. Oxidation of fats produces NADH, FADH₂, and acetyl-CoA, which is further oxidized via the citric acid cycle. For the reasons noted above, blocking electron flow through the respiratory chain prevents ATP synthesis with energy from fatty acid oxidation.

56. Mitochondrial genes: their origin and the effects of mutation

Page: 719 Difficulty: 2

Mutations in mitochondrial genes frequently produce diseases that affect the brain and skeletal muscle (mitochondrial encephalomyopathies). Why are these two tissues particularly sensitive to mitochondrial mutations?

Ans: Both the brain and skeletal muscles are heavily dependent on an abundant supply of ATP for normal functioning.

57. Mitochondrial genes: their origin and the effects of mutation

Page: 721 Difficulty: 2

Discuss three lines of evidence that support the theory that mitochondria evolved from endosymbiotic bacteria.

Ans: 1) Modern prokaryotes have respiratory chains very similar to those in mitochondria. 2) Bacteria translate protons outward across their plasma membrane and use this proton gradient to drive ATP synthesis and other energy-requiring processes such as flagellar motion. 3) Unlike most other organelles, mitochondria in eukaryotic cells retain their own genome.

58. The role of mitochondria in apoptosis and oxidative stress

Pages: 721, 699 Difficulty: 2

Cytochrome c plays two distinct and very important roles in mammalian cells: (1) in the mitochondrial electron transport chain, and (2) in apoptotic cell death. Describe the roles of cytochrome c in these two processes.

Ans: In the electron transport chain, cytochrome c accepts electrons from complex III and transfers them to complex IV. In the electron transport chain, cytochrome c is the only water soluble carrier. It operates in the space between the outer and inner mitochondrial membranes. In apoptotic cell

death, the permeability of the outer mitochondrial membrane increases dramatically allowing the escape of cytochrome c into the cytoplasm where it activates caspase 9, one of the main proteolytic enzymes active in apoptosis.

59. The role of mitochondria in apoptosis and oxidative stress

Page: 722 Difficulty: 2

Oxidative stress results when the superoxide anion (O_2^-) is formed as a side reaction of mitochondrial electron transport. This oxygen anion radical is made nontoxic by the action of four enzymes of the mitochondrial matrix. Name these four enzymes and briefly describe the role of each in detoxifying the superoxide anion (O_2^-).

Ans: The enzymes are (1) superoxide dismutase, (2) glutathione peroxidase, (3) glutathione reductase, and (4) nicotinamide nucleotide transhydrogenase. Superoxide dismutase acts on two O_2^- , converting them to one molecule of water and one of H_2O_2 . Next, glutathione peroxidase reduces the H_2O_2 to two molecules of water with the concomitant oxidation of 2 glutathiones (GSH) to a molecule of oxidized glutathione (GSSG). Glutathione reductase re-reduces the oxidized glutathione with the conversion of NADPH to $NADP^+$. In the final step, nicotinamide nucleotide transhydrogenase replenishes the NADPH consumed in the glutathione reductase reaction using reduced NADH as the electron donor.

60. General features of photophosphorylation

Pages: 723-724 Difficulty: 2

Photophosphorylation differs from oxidative phosphorylation in that the former requires the input of energy in the form of _____ to create a good electron donor. In photophosphorylation, electrons flow through a series of membrane-bound carriers including _____, _____, and _____ proteins, whereas _____ are pumped across a membrane to create an _____ potential.

Ans: Light, cytochromes, quinones, iron-sulfur, protons, electrochemical.

61. General features of photophosphorylation

Pages: 723-724 Difficulty: 2

Describe the effect(s) that a mitochondrial uncoupler such as 2,4-dinitrophenol (DNP) would have on photophosphorylation.

Ans: Uncouplers like DNP, which act by dissipating transmembrane proton gradients, would uncouple photophosphorylation because it is also dependent on a transmembrane proton gradient to provide the energy required to synthesize ATP from ADP and P_i .

62. Light absorption

Page: 728 Difficulty: 2

Discuss how “accessory pigments” are able to extend the range of light absorption of the chlorophylls. Name some accessory pigments.

Ans: Accessory pigments are able to absorb light and transfer the absorbed energy to the chlorophylls in a process known as “exciton transfer.” Two accessory pigments are β -carotene and lutein.

63. Light absorption**Page: 728 Difficulty: 2**

What is an action spectrum, and what do peaks in an action spectrum signify? Show a typical action spectrum plot for photosynthesis.

Ans: An action spectrum is a plot of the effectiveness of a process (such as photosynthesis) versus wavelength of incident light. Its peaks signify the presence of a chromophore that absorbs light at that wavelength. (See Fig. 19-44, p. 728.)

64. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow**Pages: 729, 733 Difficulty: 2**

Describe what happens at photosystem I from the point where an antenna chlorophyll molecule absorbs a photon of light to the passage of an electron to NADP^+ .

Ans: The antenna chlorophyll molecule passes the energy of the photon, via exciton transfer, to neighboring chlorophyll molecules and ultimately to reaction center chlorophyll molecules. This excites P700 to P700^* , which donates an electron to A_0 . From A_0 , electrons pass to phylloquinone (A_1), through an Fe-S protein, to ferredoxin, then through a flavoprotein to NADP^+ .

$\text{P700}^* \rightarrow \text{A}_0 \rightarrow \text{A}_1 \rightarrow \text{Fe-S} \rightarrow \text{NADP}^+$ (See Figs. 19-43, p. 698, and 19-46, p. 703.)

65. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow**Page: 731-738 Difficulty: 2**

Give five general classes of electron carriers that function in both mitochondrial electron transfer to O_2 and photosynthetic electron transfer.

Ans: Any five of the following: pyridine nucleotides (NADH , NADPH); flavin nucleotides (FADH_2 , FMNH_2); quinones (ubiquinone, plastoquinone); cytochromes; Fe-S proteins; flavoproteins.

66. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow**Pages: 731-738 Difficulty: 3**

The processes of oxidative phosphorylation coupled with electron transfer (in mitochondria) and photophosphorylation (in chloroplasts) resemble each other in certain respects. Describe five ways in which the two processes are similar, and describe three significant differences between the two processes.

Ans: Similarities include: both contain a chain of membrane-bound electron carriers; electron transfer leads to establishment of a proton gradient; an ATPase/ATP synthase is a coupling factor; ATP synthesis is sensitive to uncouplers; both require a system of intact membranes to separate electrons inside and outside. Differences include: source of reducing power (NADH vs. light), product (ATP in respiration; NADPH in photosynthesis); source of oxidizing power (O_2 in mitochondria; light in photosynthesis).

67. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow**Page: 733 Difficulty: 2**

Show the path of electrons from photosystem II to NADPH in the chloroplast. What is the source of the energy that moves electrons through this path? Show where oxygen is involved in this pathway.

Ans: $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{P680} \rightarrow \text{Pheophytin} \rightarrow \text{PQA} \rightarrow \text{PQB} \rightarrow \text{cyt } b_6f \text{ complex} \rightarrow \text{Plastocyanin} \rightarrow \text{P700} \rightarrow \text{A}_0 \rightarrow \text{A}_1 \rightarrow \text{Fe-S} \rightarrow \text{Ferredoxin} \rightarrow \text{Ferredoxin-NADP}^+ \text{ oxidoreductase} \rightarrow \text{NADP}^+$.
The energy that drives the electron flow is from light. O_2 is generated from H_2O when H_2O donates electrons to PSII.

68. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow

Page: 733 Difficulty: 2

Plants carrying out photosynthesis produce O_2 . Describe the source of this O_2 , and explain, with chemical equations or schematic diagrams, why O_2 production occurs only during daylight hours.

Ans: O_2 is generated by the splitting and oxidation of H_2O , driven by the absorption of a photon by PSII (which occurs only in daylight). (See Fig. 19-49, p. 733.)

69. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow

Page: 734 Difficulty: 2

During photophosphorylation in plants, electrons flow through a series of carriers in the chloroplast. What is the ultimate donor of electrons, and what is the ultimate acceptor? What provides the energy to move those electrons?

Ans: The ultimate donor is H_2O , and the acceptor, NADP^+ . The energy that drives this electron flow is from light.

70. The central photochemical event: light-driven electron flow

Page: 739 Difficulty: 3

Describe what happens when a photon is absorbed by photosystem II; and the description of electron flow at plastoquinone.

Ans: Absorption of a photon by PSII excites P680 to P680^* , which passes an electron to pheophytin, which passes the electron to plastoquinone. P680, now lacking an electron, takes one away from a “water-splitting complex” of PSII, which in turn takes one from H_2O . (See Fig. 19-56, p. 739.)

71. ATP synthesis by photophosphorylation

Pages: 741-742 Difficulty: 3

DCMU is an herbicide that acts by blocking photosynthetic electron flow from photosystem II (PSII) to the cytochrome b_6f complex. Predict the effect of DCMU on O_2 production and on ATP synthesis in the chloroplasts of plants sensitive to DCMU.

Ans: DCMU blocks electron flow from PSII to PSI, preventing generation of O_2 from H_2O . ATP synthesis will be inhibited, but not completely; cyclic photophosphorylation can continue in the presence of DCMU.