

# Blood Plasma

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# Blood Plasma


- Fundamental role of blood → maintenance homeostasis.



- study of its constituents



- central importance.


- Vol : 2,5-3 liter.
- Plasma consists of :  
water,electrolytes,metabolites,nutrients,protein and hormones.
- Changes in plasma  protein and immunoglobulin can be monitored by electrophoresis.
- Major compound : protein plasma.(complex mixture): 7-7,5 gr/dl.

- Protein plasma : fibrinogen,albumin,globulin.
- Can be separated by “salting out methods”→
- Use of solvents or electrolytes (or both) to remove different protein fractions in accordance with their solubility characteristics.
- **MAJOR FUNCTION OF BLOOD**

- Concentration of protein plasma:
  - Important in determining the distribution of fluid between blood and plasma.
  - Hydrostatic pressure
  - Osmotic pressure
  - Starling force.
  - If plasma prot concentration due to severe malnutrition fluid is not attracted back into intravascular compartment, accumulation in extravas tissue spaces → edema.

# Characteristics of protein plasma

- Most synthesized in the liver, glycosylated except albumin.
- Each plasma prot has a characteristic half life in circulation.
  - Normal :half life alb and haptoglobin: 20 & 5 days.
  - Crohn dis : plasma prot (including alb ) lost into bowel through inflammed interstitial mucosa → protein losing gastroenteropathy → half life alb : 1 day.

- Levels of certain protein plasma  during acute inflammatory states or secondary to certain types of tissue damage.

- Acute phase protein

- CRP ( C Reactive Protein )

- Play a role in body's response to inflammation.

- Used as a marker of tissue injury, infection and inflammation.

- Predictor of certain types of cardiovascular disease secondary to atherosclerosis.

**– Functions of plasma proteins .**

# Albumin

- 60 % of total plasma protein.
- 40% of albumin is present in plasma
- 60 % in extracellular space.
- Liver produced about 12 gr alb/day.
- Synthesis ↓ → liver disease & protein malnutrition (kwashiorkor).
- Alb with low mol mass(69 kDa) and high concentration → principal determinant of intravascular osmotic pressure.



- Binds with many ligands such as free fatty acid, calcium, certain steroid hormone, drugs (PNC, aspirin, sulfonamide) & bilirubin.
- Transport of copper in human .

# Haptoglobin (Hp)

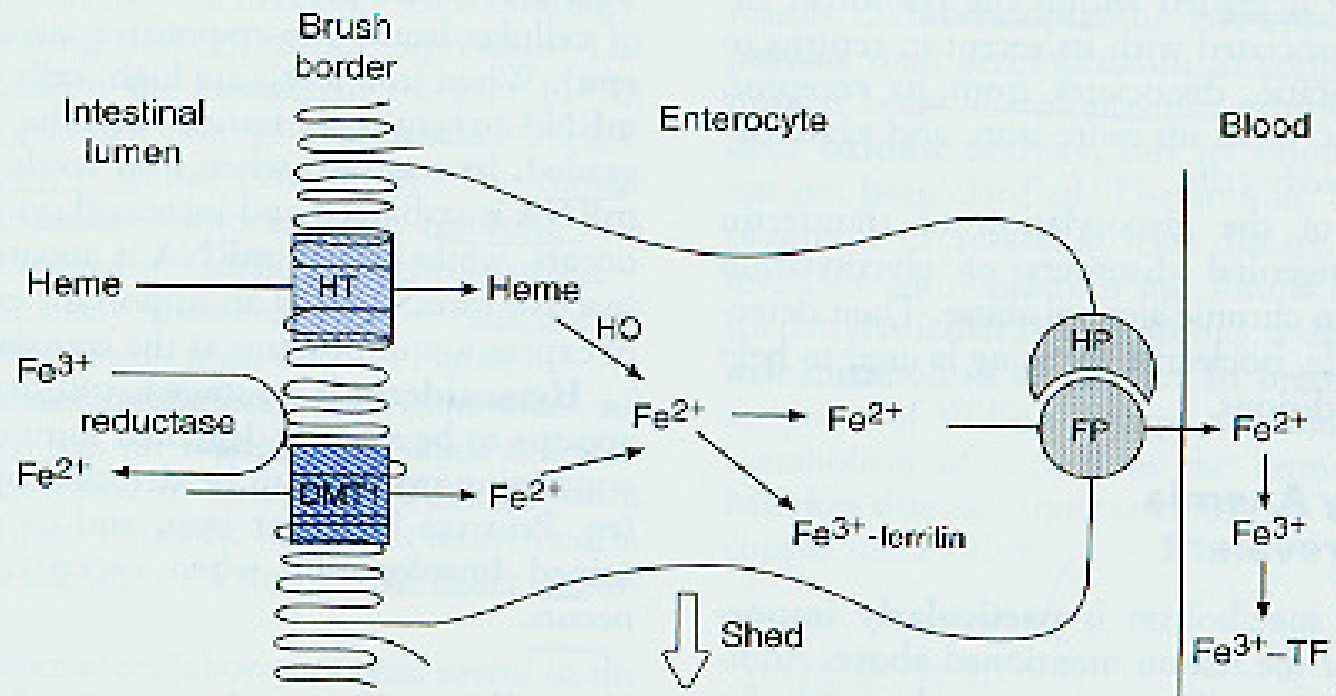
- Plasma glycoprotein that binds extracorporeal Hemoglobin in a tight noncovalent complex (Hb-Hp).
- 40-180 mg of Hb binding capacity per deciliter.
- 10% of Hb is degraded each day, released into circulation.
- 90 % → old, damaged red blood cells degraded by cells of histiocytic systems.

- Hp is an acute phase protein<sup>↗</sup> in a variety of inflammatory states.
- Low level found in hemolytic anemia (Hb is constantly released fr red cells).

# Transferrin (TF)

- Transporting iron around the body to sites where it is needed.
- $\beta$ 1 globulin, with molecular mass : 76 kDa
- Synthesized in the liver.
- Abnormalities of the glycosylation occur in:
  - Congenital disease of glycosylation.
  - Chronic alcohol abuse.

# Iron metabolism



**Figure 50-4.** Absorption of iron.  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  is converted to  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  by ferric reductase, and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  is transported into the enterocyte by the apical membrane iron transporter DMT1. Heme is transported into the enterocyte by a separate heme transporter (HT), and heme oxidase (HO) releases  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  from the heme. Some of the intracellular  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  is converted to  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and bound by ferritin. The remainder binds to the basolateral  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  transporter (FP) and is transported into the bloodstream, aided by hephaestin (HP). In plasma,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  is bound to the iron transport protein transferrin (TF). (Reproduced, with permission, from Ganong WF: *Review of Medical Physiology*, 21st ed. McGraw-Hill, 2003.)

- Concentration of TF : 300 mg/dl → this can bind 300μg/dl → this represent : total iron binding capacity of plasma.
- Iron def anemia due to :
  - Inadequate intake
  - Inadequate utilization
  - Excessive iron loss.

# Ferritin

- Stores iron that can be used as cond required.
- Hemosiderin :
  - Partly degraded form of ferritin but still containing iron.
  - Can be detected by Prussian blue for iron.
  - Presence when excessive storage of iron occurs.
- Hemochromatosis.
  - Autosomal recessive disorder.
  - Excessive storage of iron in tissues → tissue damage
  - Hereditary : mutation HFE
  - Secondary : repeated transfusion.

- Ceruloplasmin

- A2 globulin ,160 kDa
- Carries 90 % of copper in plasma (bind very tightly)
- 10 % carries by albumin ( less tightly)

- Copper

- Essential trace element.
- 100 mg,located mostly in bone,liver,kidney and muscle.
- Daily intake 2-4 mg,50% being absorbed in stomach,upper small intestine and excreted in feces.



- Involved in : dismutation, hydroxylation, oxygenation.
- Excess copper → oxidize protein, lipid, bind to nucleic acids, ↑ free radicals.

## – Menkes Disease

- Disorder of copper metabolism.
- X-linked, male, fatal in infancy.
- Involves : nervous system, connective tissue and vasculature.
- Mutation: P-type ATPase .(copper is not mobilized fr intestine → accumulate .
- Absence of hepatic involvement.

- **Wilson Disease**

- Genetic disorder
- Non functional ATPase → copper toxicosis → hemolytic anemia, cirrh hepatitis, neurologic syndrome.
- Kayser-Fleischer ring.
- Diag : liver biopsy
- Copper value?

- **Aceruloplasminemia**

- ?  
severe neurologic signs and DM.

- **Metallothioneins**

- Group of small protein ( about 6,5 kDa)
- High content of cysteine
- SH group of cysteine → involves in binding metal.
- Store metals in a nontoxic form, and involved in overall metabolism in the body.

- $\alpha$ 1-antitrypsin

- Major compound (> 90% ) of  $\alpha$ 1 fraction human plasma.
- Synthesized by hepatocytes and macrophages.
- Principal serine protease inhibitor of human plasma  $\rightarrow$  inhibits trypsin, elastase and certain other protease by forming complexes with them.

– Associates with emphysema

- Smoking → oxidized methionine → methionine sulfoxide → inactivate  $\alpha$ 1 antitrypsin → ↗ proteolytic destruction of lung tissue → emphysema.

– Liver disease → cirrhosis hepatitis.

**THANK YOU**