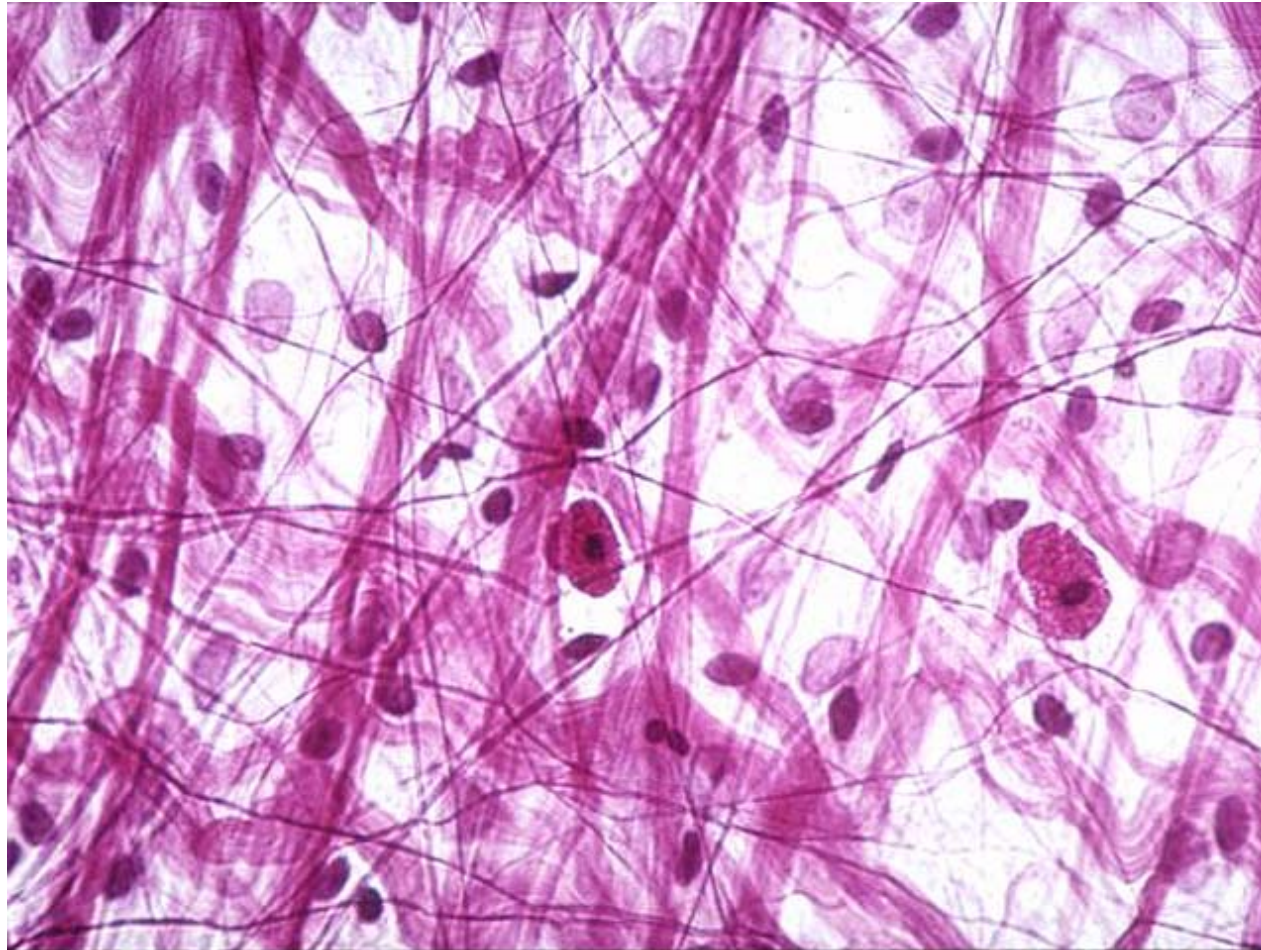
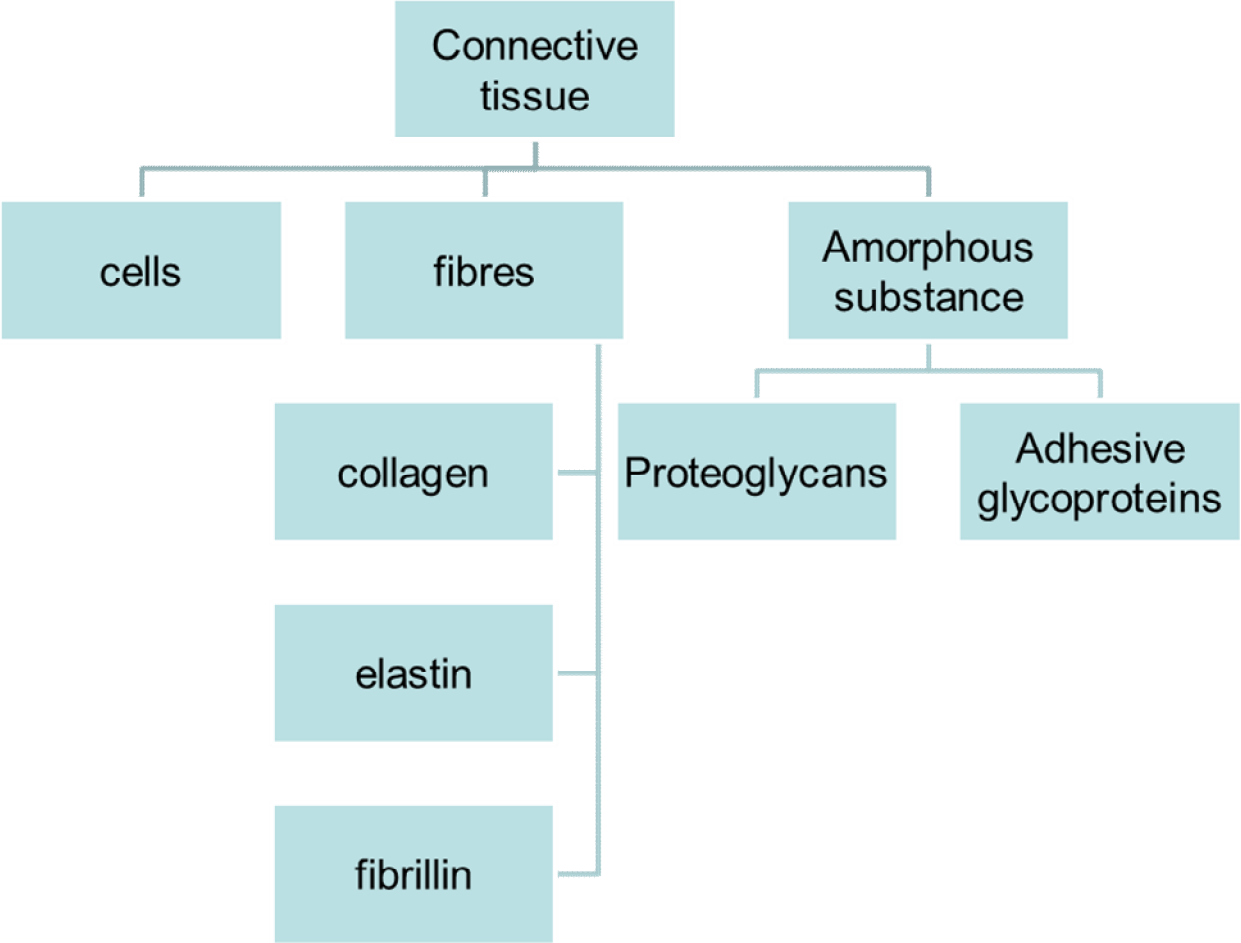


# Connective tissue





# Collagen

Most abundant protein of our body

## Role:

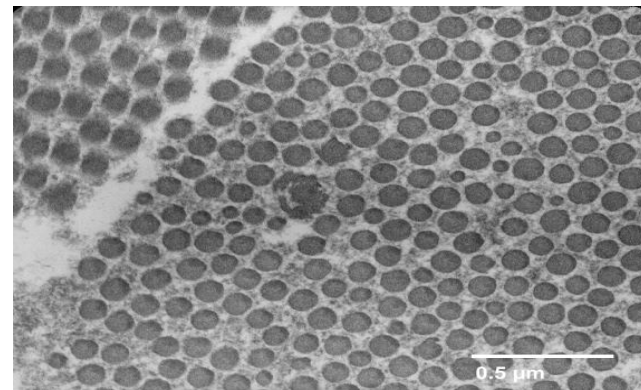
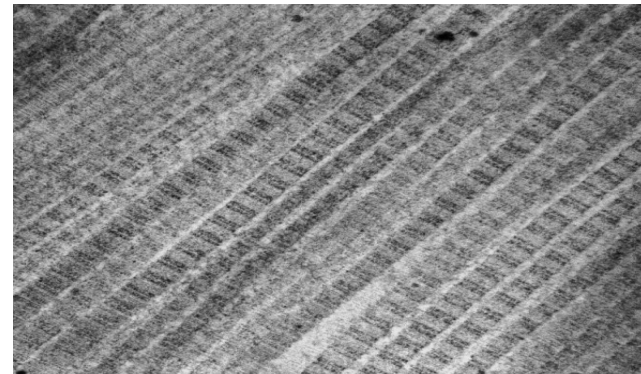
- *Framework*– tendons, articular capsules, basal lamina, skin, vascular wall etc.
- extrinsic pathway of hemostasis

Structure: tropocollagen subunits bind to each other in a shifted construction



Striped pattern

Forms tufts, fibrils



# Synthesis of collagen

Collagen gene → mRNA → polypeptide chain

Posttranslational modification, 3 peptide chains bind to each other - ER



**Procollagen** - hydrophilic

Secretion into extracellular space

Procollagen peptidases cut the terminal parts

(extension peptides)



**Tropocollagen**  
lipophilic

→ Polymerization + cross links



**COLLAGEN FIBER**



# Characteristics of synthesis

➤ **Sequence:** repeated parts, approx. 30% of aminoacids is Gly, there's also much Pro

➤ **Posttranslational modification**

1. Hydroxilation – on Lys & Pro, dioxygenase enzymes catalysate it, with vitamin C cofactor

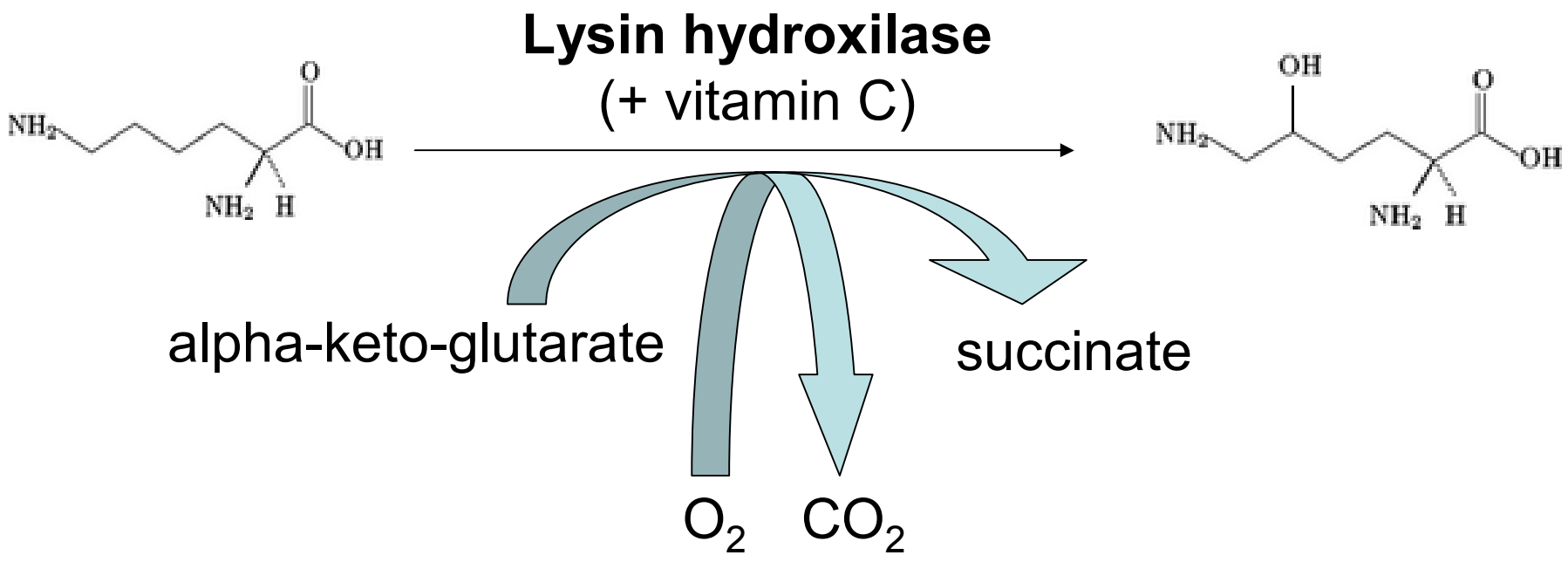
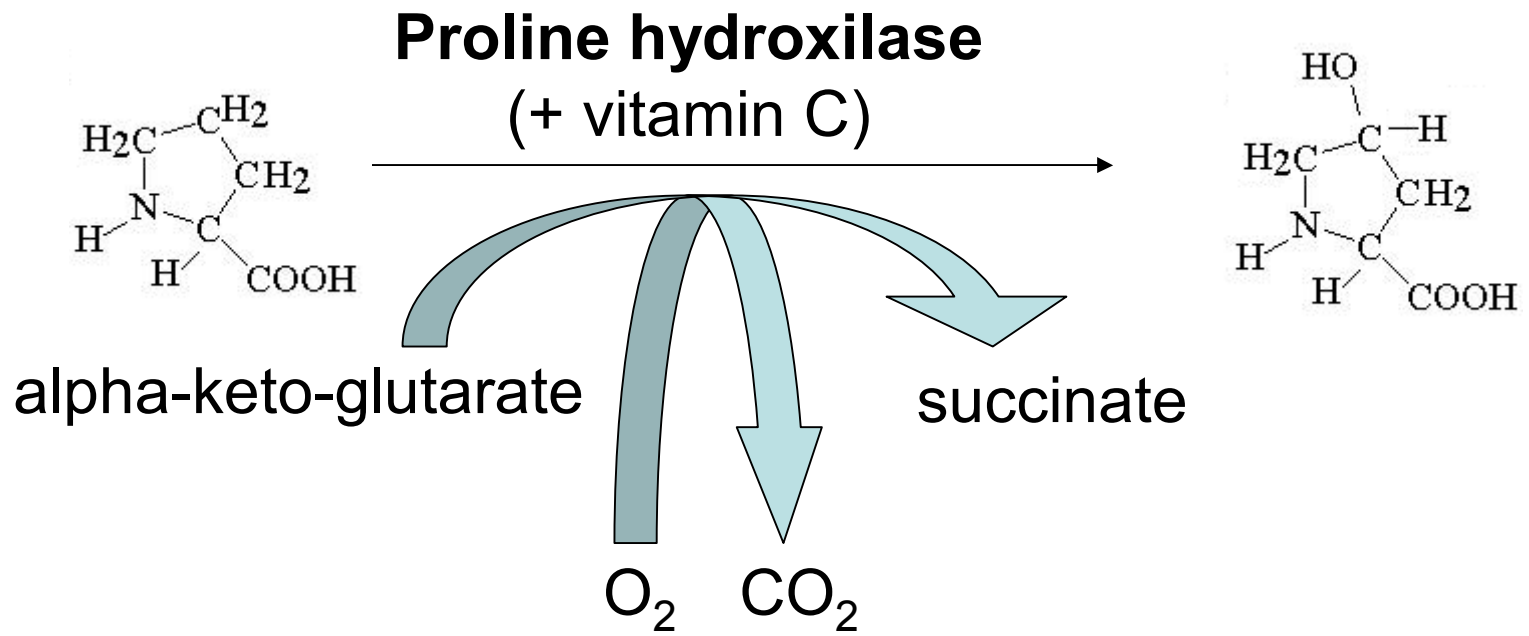
2. Glycosylation – glucose-galactose disaccharide units

➤ **CROSS-LINKING**

Lys-aldehyde + Lys       $\longrightarrow$       lysinorleucyn (Schiff-base)

2 lysinaldehyde       $\longrightarrow$       aldole crosslinks

2 OH-Lys + Lys       $\longrightarrow$       hydroxi-pyridin crosslinks

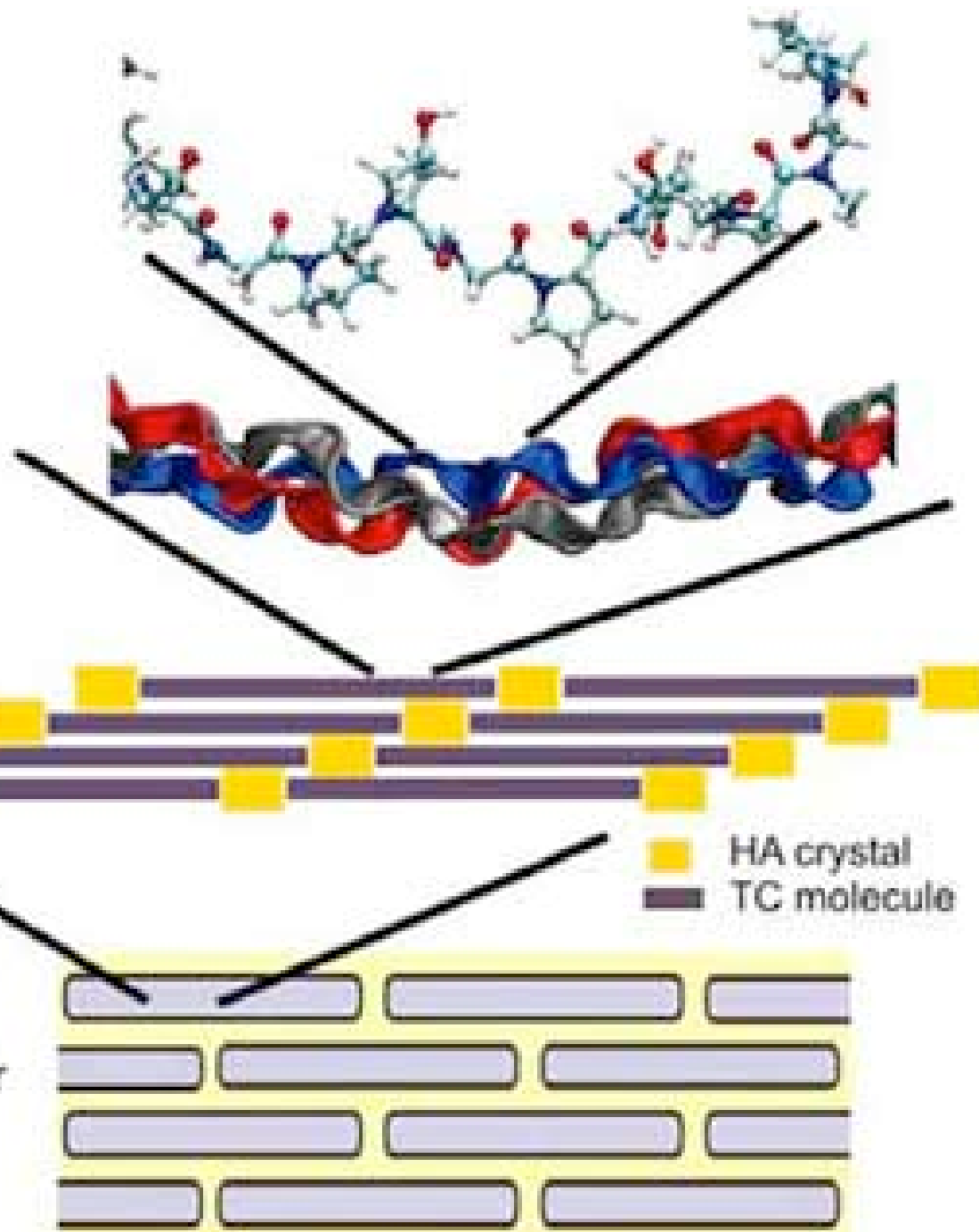


amino acids  
~1 nm

tropocollagen  
triple helix  
~300 nm

mineralized  
collagen  
fibrils  
~1  $\mu\text{m}$

mineralized  
collagen fibrils  
with extrafibrillar  
matrix  
~10  $\mu\text{m}$



# Collagen types

12 types of tropocollagen → 12 types of collagen

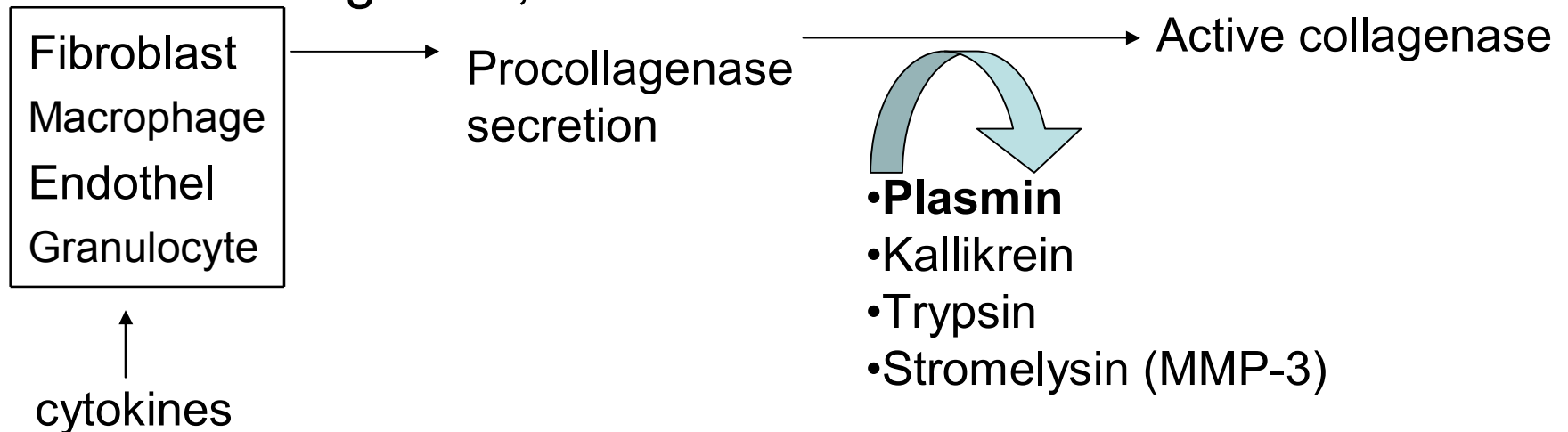
<b>appearance</b>	<b>Type (eg.)</b>	<b>occurrence (eg.)</b>
Fibre forming	I	Most abundant – tendons, skin...
	II	cartilage, corpus vitreum
	III	
Reticulum forming	IV	Lamina basalis
Associated to other collagens	V	Associated to I
	XII	Associated to I, II

# Degradation of collagen

- Stable molecules – degradation: tissue collagenase (MMP-1)
- Reassembly needed: wound healing, uterine cycle
- Pathologic degradation:

Clostridium histolyticum

Tumor growth, metastasis



# Collagen defects

## Secondary

- **Vitamin C deficiency**— decreased hydroxylation  $\longrightarrow$  more vulnerable (gingiva bleeding when tooth brushing, poor woundhealing)

## Primary

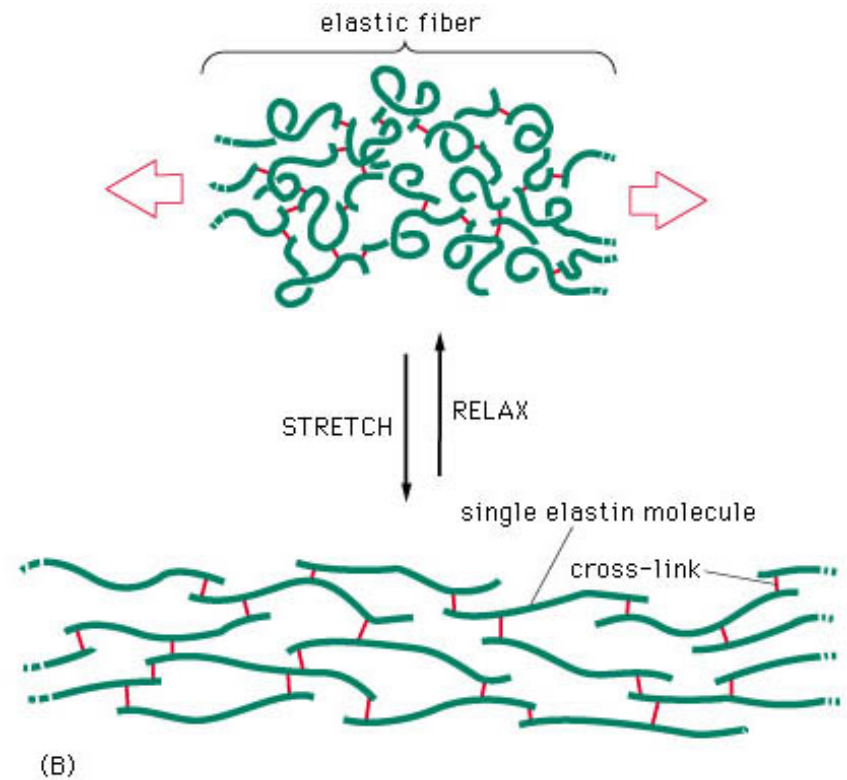
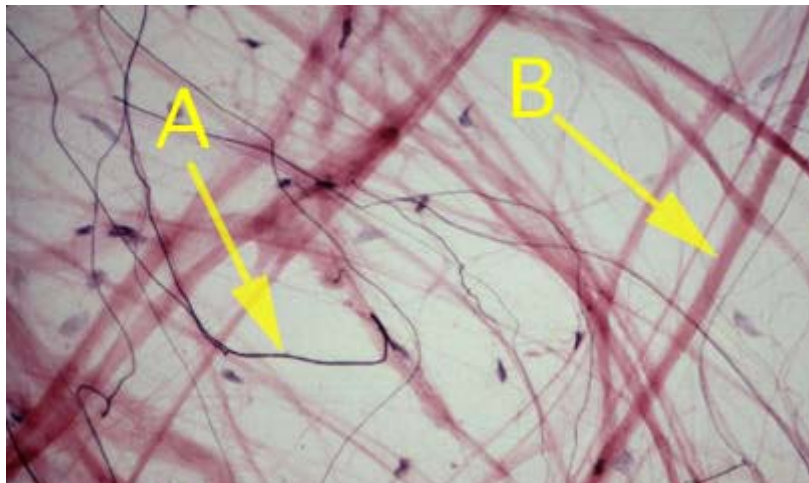
- **Ehlers-Danlos syndrome** —  $\downarrow$  procollagenase activity, procollagen accumulation  
tensile skin, flexible joints
- **Osteogenesis imperfecta**  
Gly  $\longrightarrow$  Cys substitution  $\longrightarrow$
- **Epidermolysis bullosa**
- **Alport syndrome**
- **Chondrodysplasias**





# Elastic fibres

- tensile, gives flexibility to tissues
- occurrence: aorta, wall of arteries, lungs, .
- Not common: skin, loose conn. tissues
- Cross-links stabilizing it



A – elastic B – collagen

# Synthesis of elastin



- hydrophilic
- Val-Pro-Gly-Val sequences are common
- A lot of Gly, Ala
- Special helical parts
- Between them: Ala rich not helical parts

- lipophilic
- Contains cross-links

↓  
lysine or leucine

↘  
desmosine

# Elastin degradation - diseases

**ELASTIN**



↑  
**Elastase**  
↑  
Pancreas  
Leukocytes

← **Alpha<sub>1</sub>-antitripsin**

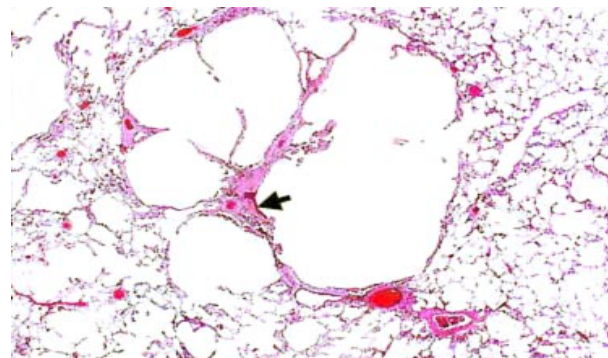
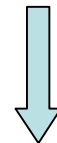
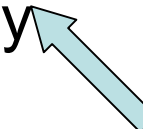
When missing:  
unlimited elastase activity

↓  
Emphysema of the lungs

Enzyme defect

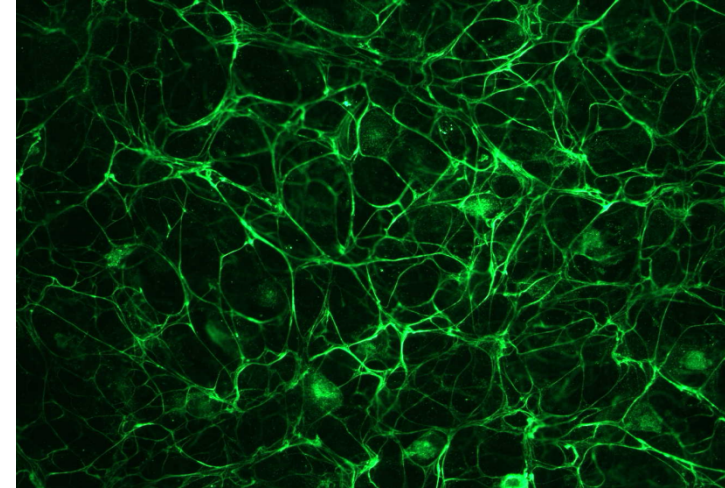


SMOKING

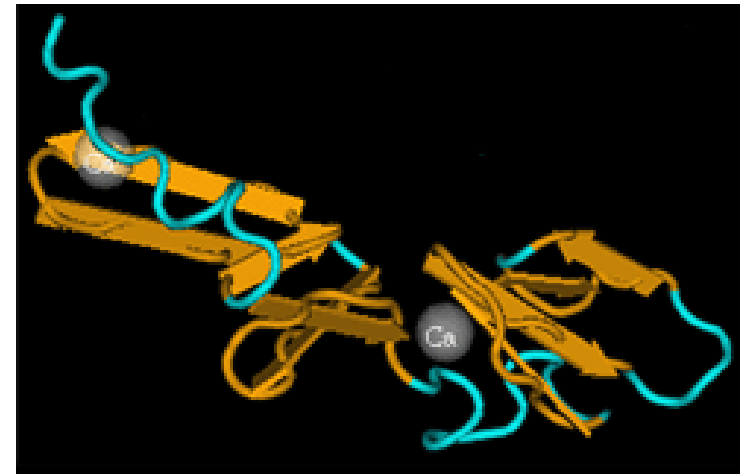


# Fibrillin

- Thin fibrils bound to elastin,
- „framework” maintaining elastic fibres
- Synthesized by fibroblasts
- abundant:
  - bones, tendons, vessel wall, lens-suspeding fibres, heart valves
- When missing: damage to these organs– **Marfan** syndrome



Fibrillin with immunohistochemistry

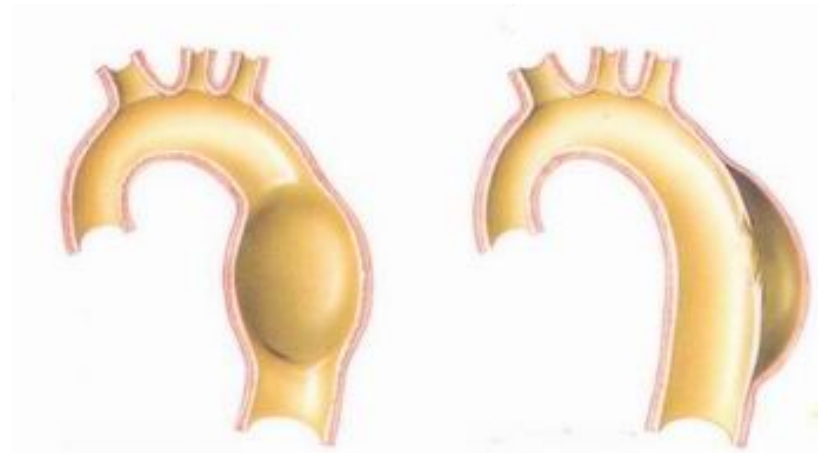


Fibrillin monomer

# Marfan syndrome

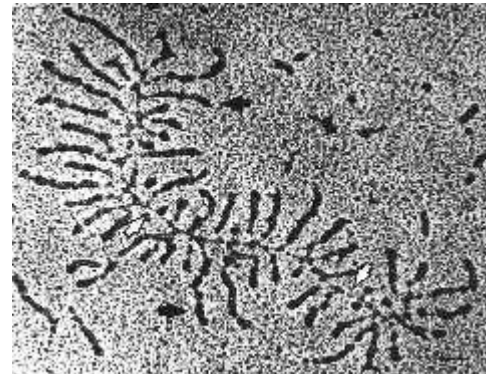
Fibrillin gene defect

Symptoms: tall, thin, long limbs, fingers (arachnodactyly), common scoliosis, subluxation of the eye lens, aneurysm and dissection of the aorta, heart valve insufficiencies



# Proteoglycans

- Different amount but in all connective tissues  
Muc eg. Cartilage                      Less eg. tendon
- Seems homogenous by light microscopy
- Polyanions, binds much water, solidification (eg cartilaginous disc)
- Gel-like substance:  $\xrightarrow{\text{diffusion}}$ , cell wandering
- Functional role  
eg. Heparine – hemostasis
- Compounds:
  - Polysaccharides: 95%
  - Proteins: 5%





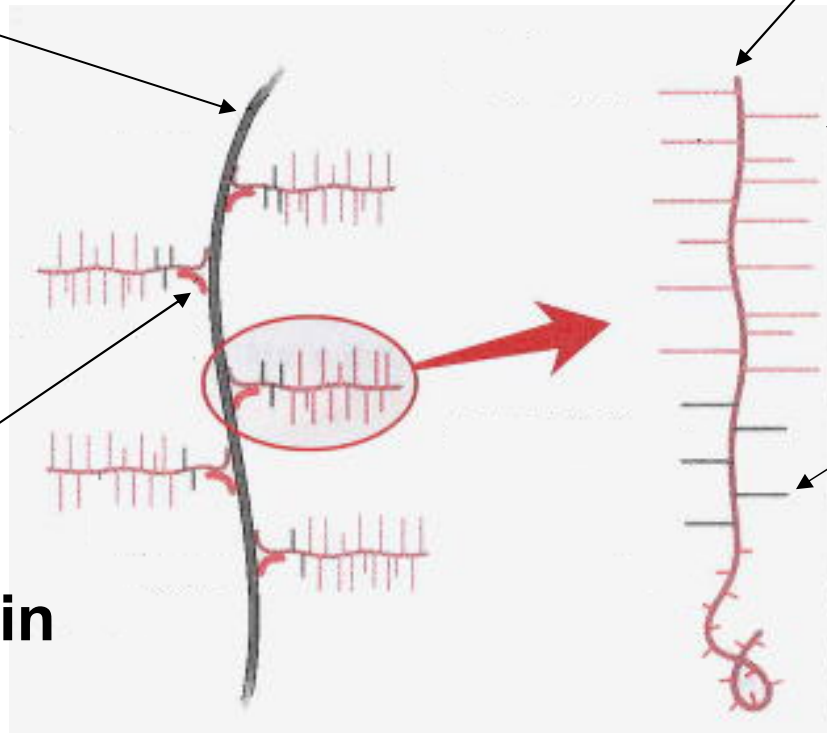
# Structure

**Hyaluronic acid (HA)**

**Axial protein**

**Bond protein**

**different  
Heteropoly-  
saccharides**



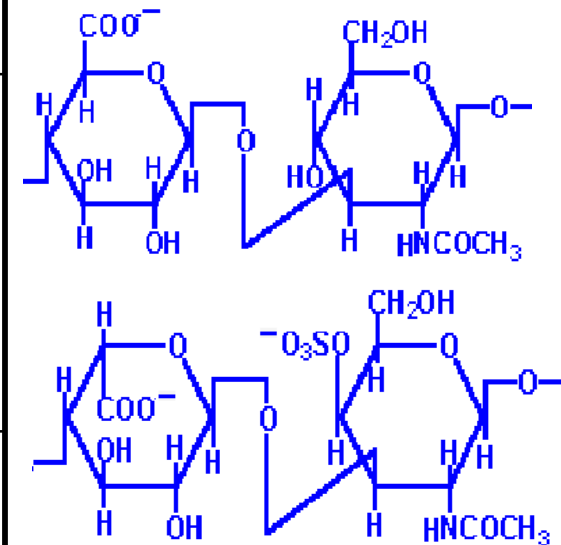
# Polysaccharides

Name: mucopolysaccharides/glucose aminoglycans  
(GAG)

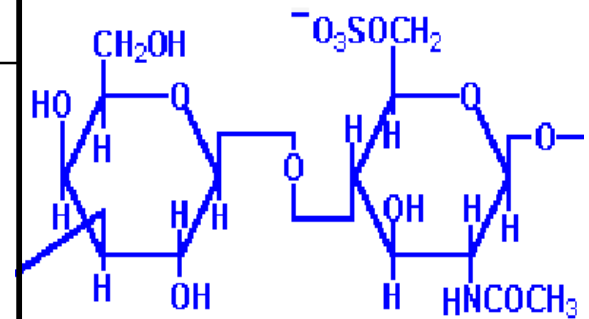
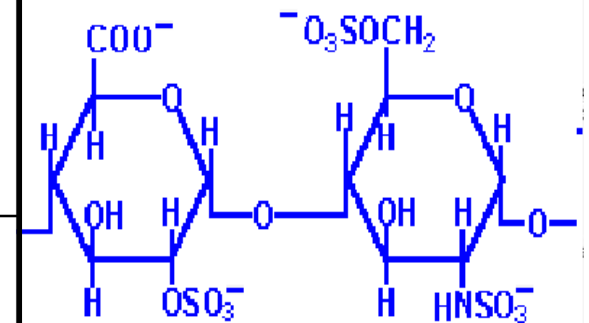
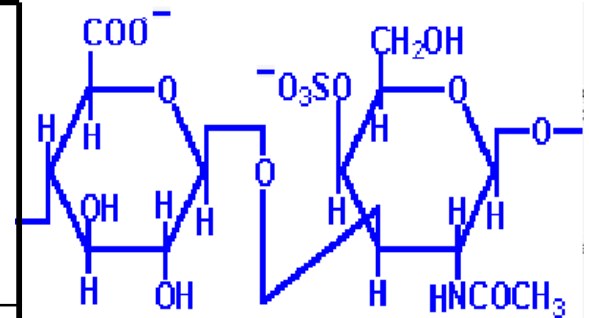
Disaccharide monomers

Sulfated on certain OH-groups except for HA

Type	Occurrence eg.
<b>Hyaluronic acid</b> Iduronate N-Ac-glucosamine	Corpus vitreum, synovia Embryonal ECM Helps proliferation
<b>Dermatan-sulfate</b> Iduronate N-Ac-galactose-amine	Skin, vessels



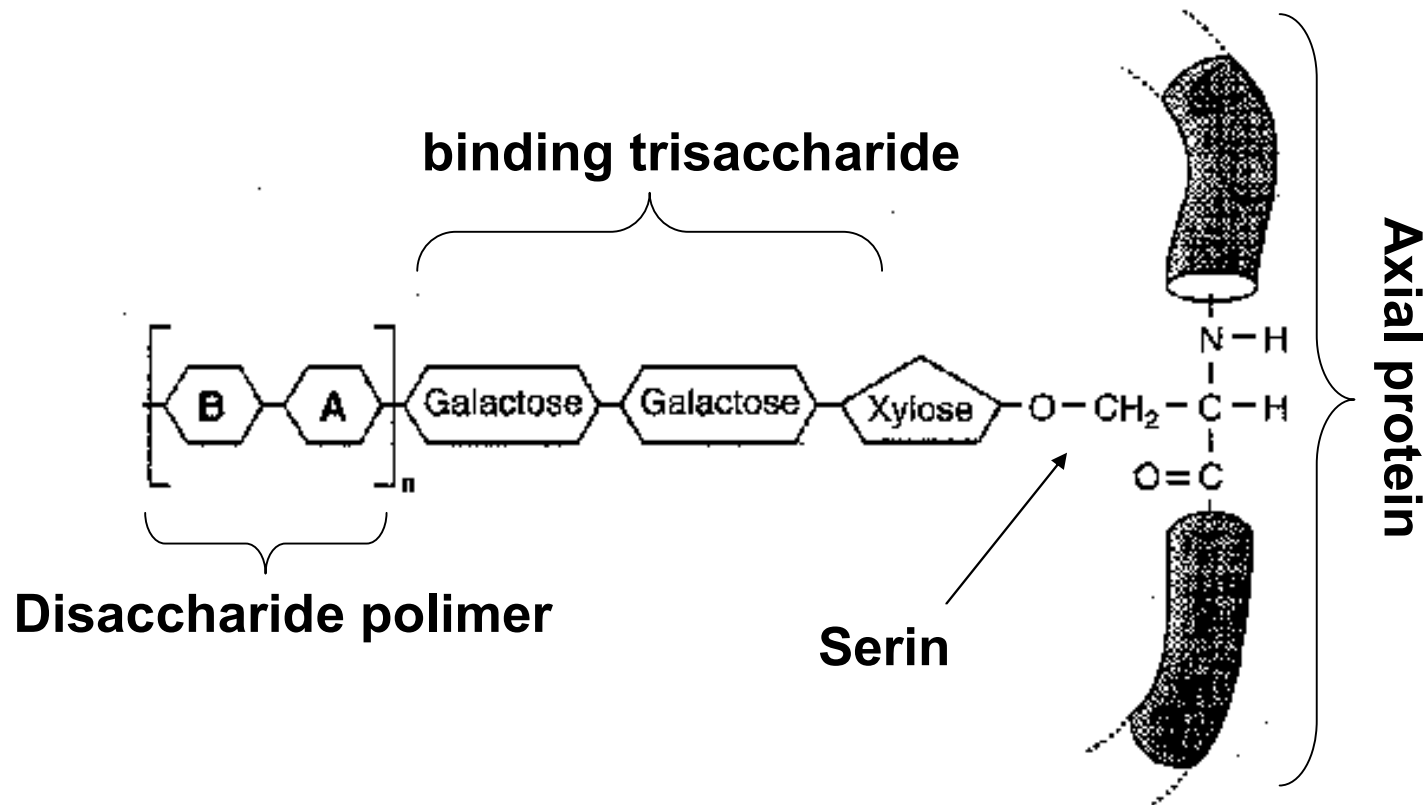
<p><b>chondroitin-sulfate</b> glucuronate N-Ac-galactose-amin</p>	<p>Cartilage, bone Most abundant proteoglycan</p>
<p><b>Heparin</b> glucuronate/iduronate N-sulfo- glucoseamin</p>	<p>Granules of mast cells endothel antithrombotic</p>
<p><b>Heparan-sulfate</b> Same but less sulfated</p>	<p>basement membrane bound to inner surface of cells</p>
<p><b>Keratan-sulfate</b> Galactose N-Ac-glucoseamin</p>	<p>Cornea, bone, cartilage</p>



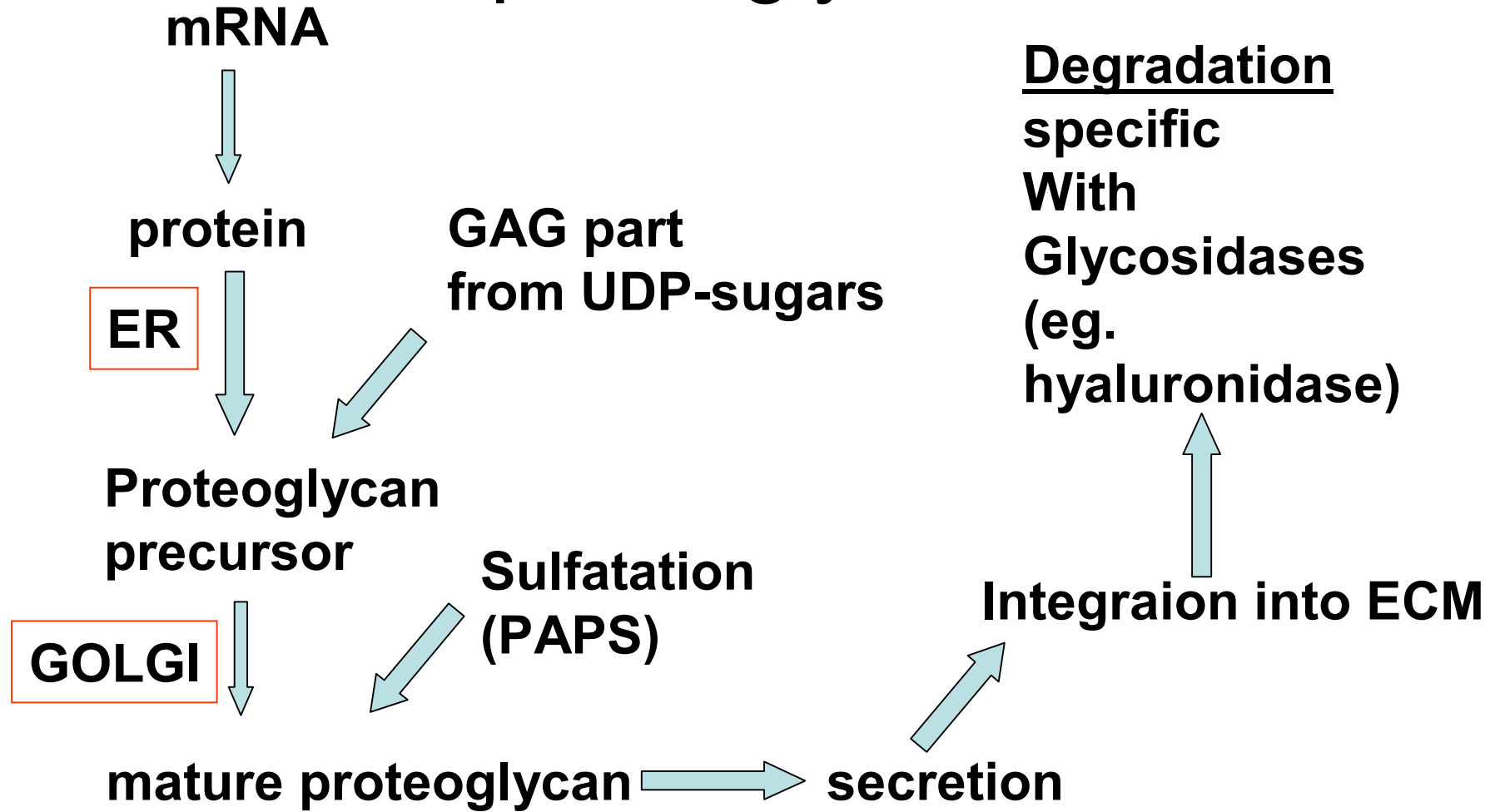
# Protein-carbohydrate binding

CS, HS, DS, KS – covalent binding

HA – secondary binding



# Synthesis and degradation of proteoglycans



# Mucopolisaccharidoses

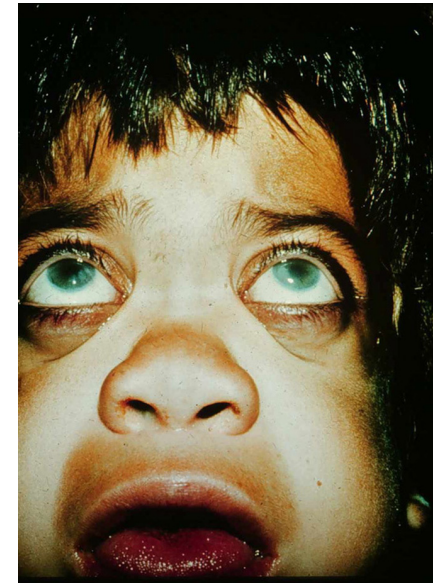
Defect of the degrading *glycosidases*  
accumulation of substrates

- **Hurler's disease** – alpha-L-iduronidase defect
- **Hunter's disease** – iduronate-sulfate-sulfatase defect

Mental retardation,

Distorted face, body

Cause of death usually coronary occlusion



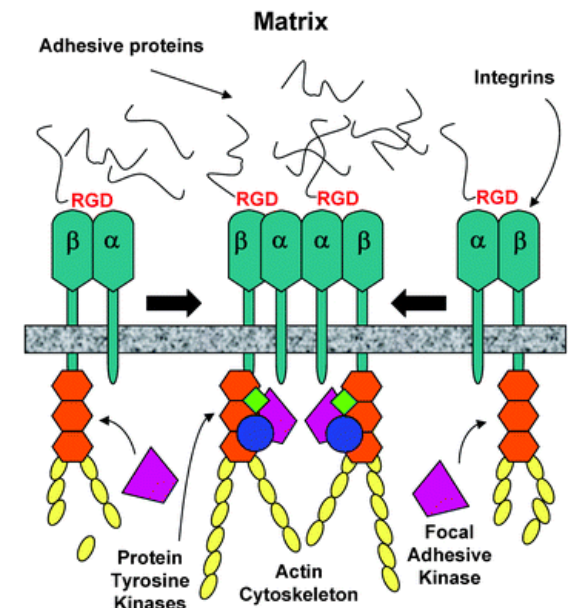


# Proteoglycan types

- huge, aggregating PGs
  - ✓ Aggrecan
  - ✓ Perlecan
- small, Leucin-rich PGs
  - ✓ Biglycan
  - ✓ Decorin
- Cell membrane PGs
  - ✓ Syndecan
  - ✓ Appican

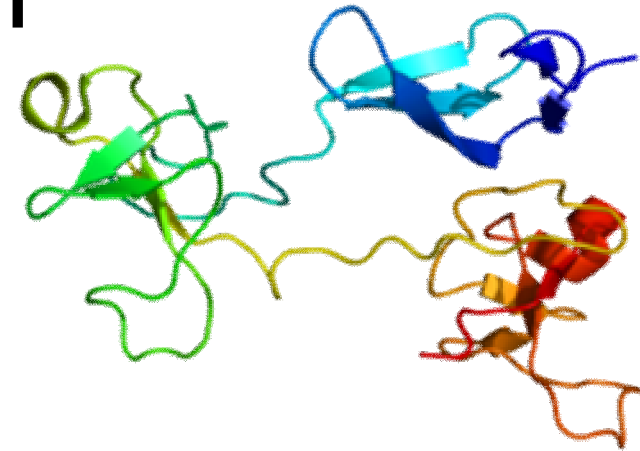
# Adhesive glycoproteins

- Contain often RGD sequence (Arg-Gly-Asp), which is recognized by specific receptors
- Groups:
  1. „trace forming” eg.: fibronectin, tenascin
  2. BasementMembrane components eg.: laminin, entaktin/nidogén
  3. haemostasis eg.: von Willebrand factor
  4. bone mineralisation eg.: osteopontin



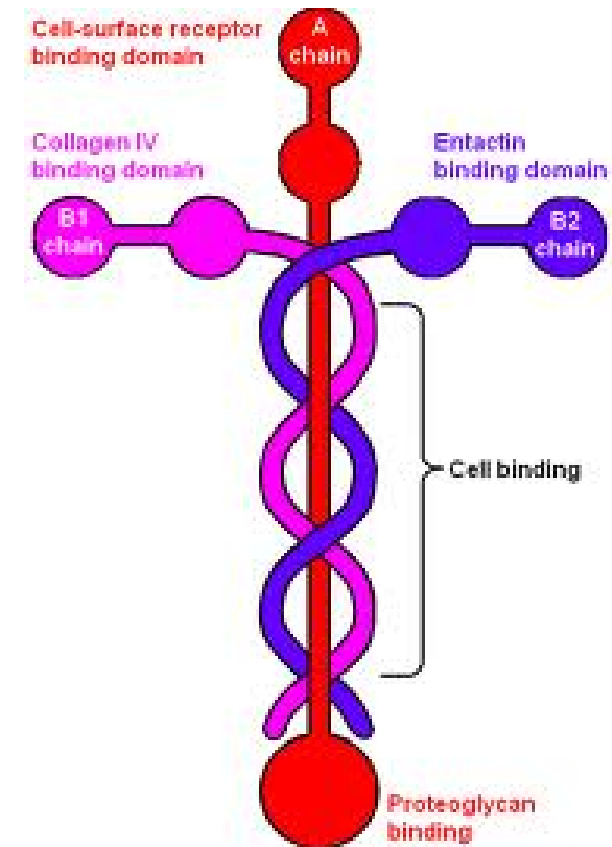
# Fibronectin

- Multidomain structure
- Binds to fibrin and contains
  - Collagen binding site
  - Cell binding site
  - Binds to other fibronectin molecules - aggregates
- Functions:
  - Cell motion
  - Wound healing
  - Embryonic development
- Pathobiochemistry: fibrosis
  - too many fibroblasts activated, much collagen deposited at the damaged site



# Laminin

- 3 subunits:  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$
- Main component of BasementMembrane
- Several binding sites:
  - Several cell binding sites
  - Collagen binding site
  - Entactin/nidogen binding site
  - Laminin binding site (able to bind to each other at the end of the subunits)
- 10 laminin types, eg.:
  - I laminin: epithel, endothel, smooth muscle BasementMembrane
  - II laminin=merosin: nervous system, muscle, cardiac muscle;  
when missing: mental retardation, muscular dystrophy



# von Willebrand factor (vWf)

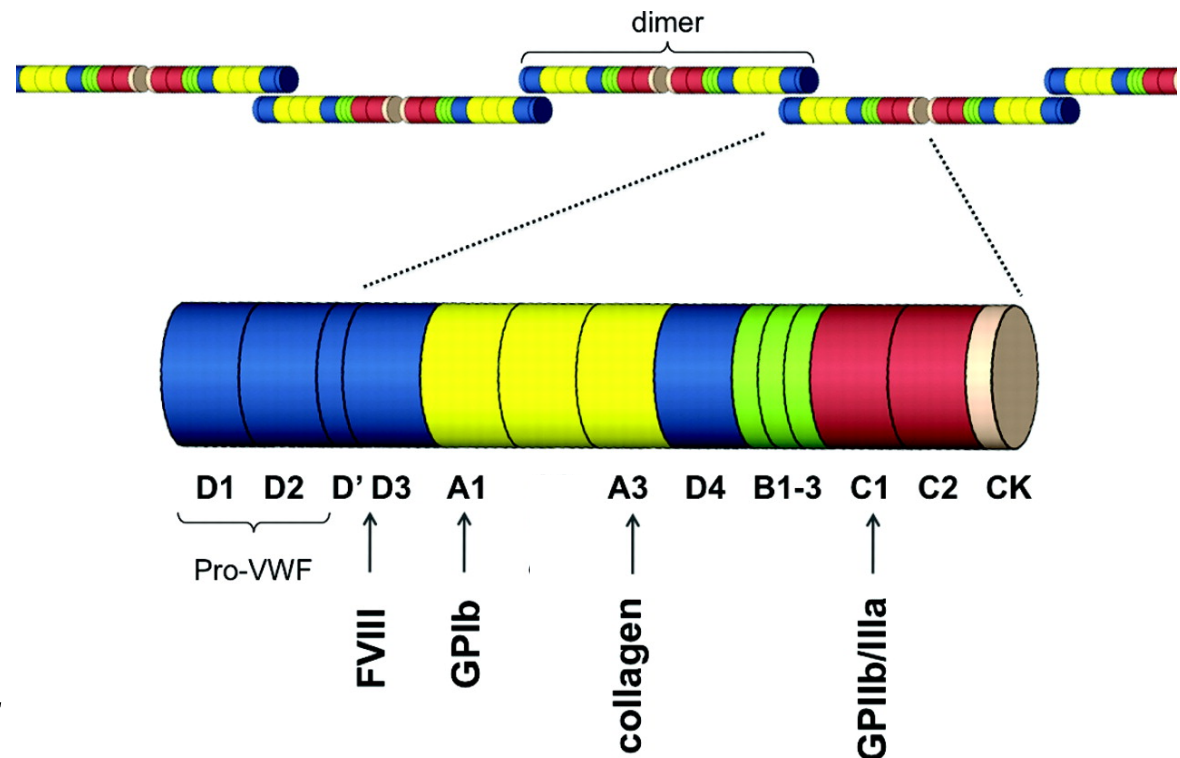
- Hugest known soluble protein, dimer

- plasma glycoprotein

- synthesis:  
limited proteolysis

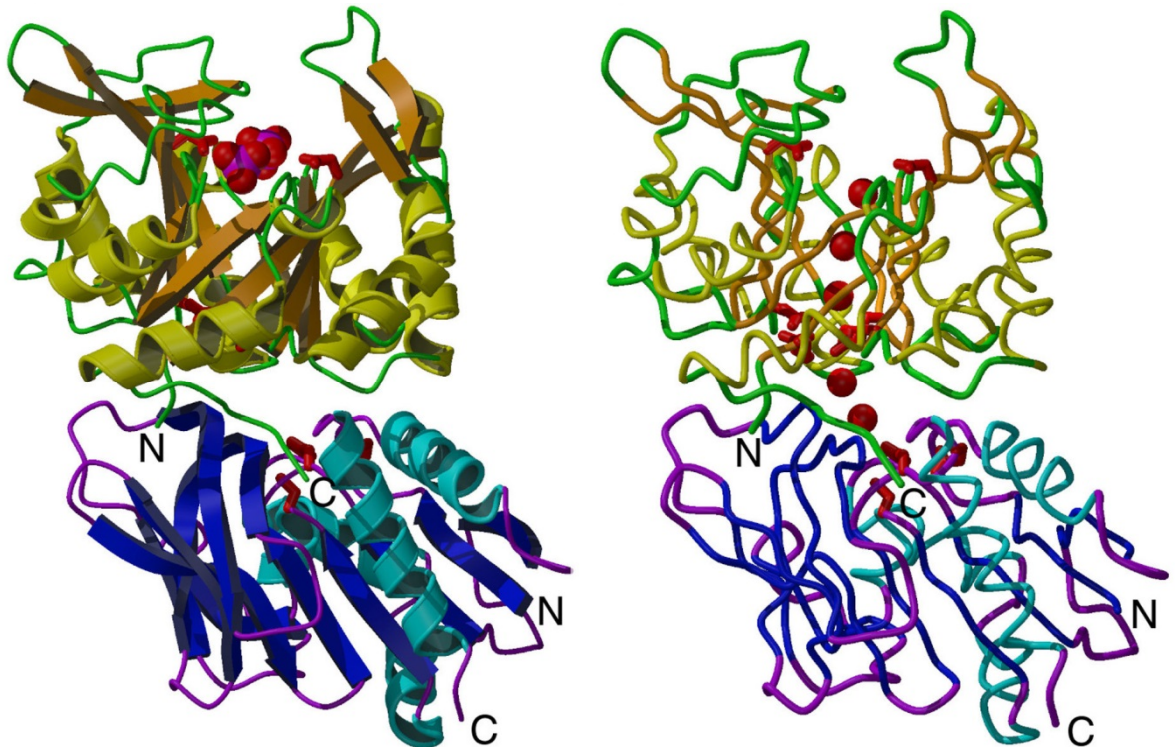
- spec. receptor on  
thrombocyte for vWf

- Important for stable thrombocyte adhesion





# Osteopontin

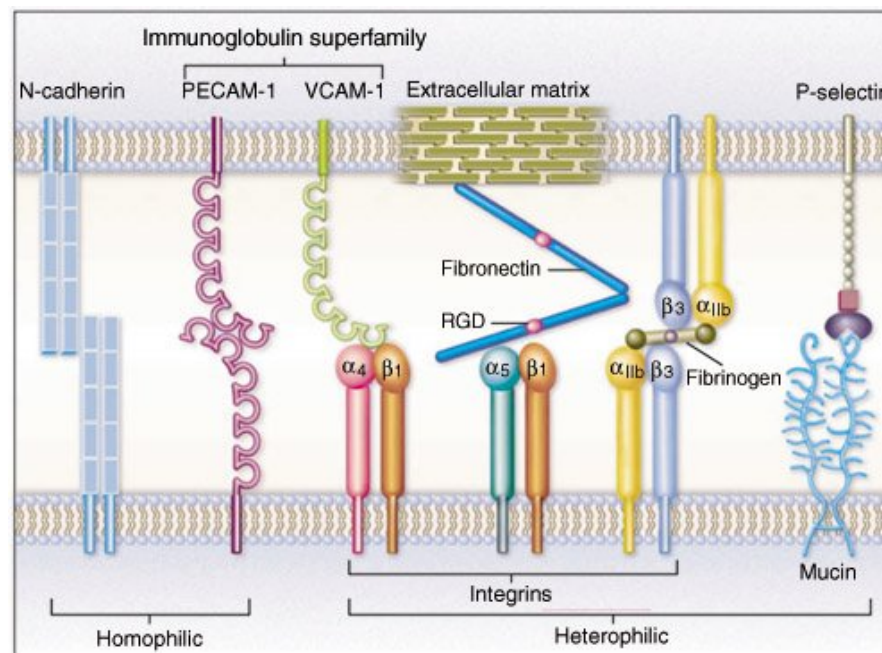
- Role: bone remodelling and degradation
- Cell binding (RGD )- synthesized by osteoclasts+early osteoblasts
- Heparin binding
- Hydroxiapatit binding
- Calcium binding





# Adhesion receptors

- connection+signal recognition in the cell membrane
  - **Groups:**
  - Integrins  cell - extracell. matrix (ECM) adhesion
  - Selectins
  - Ig (immunoglobulin) superfamily
  - Cadherins (bind to Ca ion)
-  Cell-cell adhesion

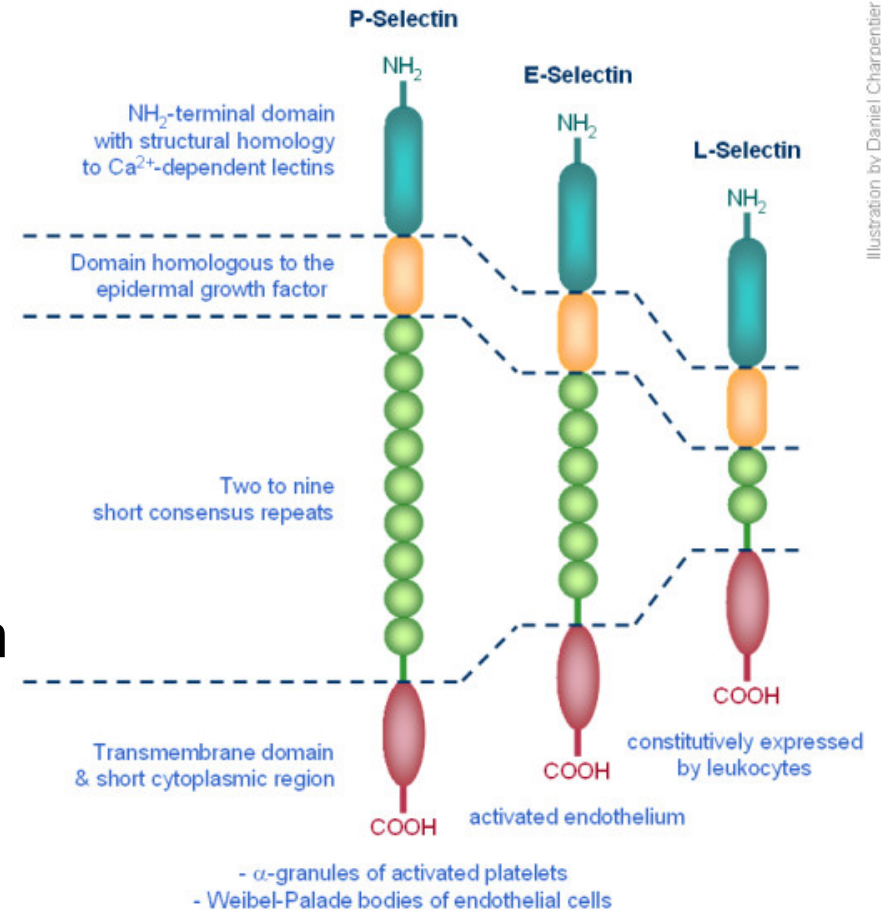


# Integrins

- 2-subunit receptor:
  - $\alpha$ -subunit: Ca binding sites
  - $\beta$ -subunit: ligand binding sites –recognizing RGD sequence
- Types: 14 different  $\alpha$ -subunits, 8 different  $\beta$ -subunits
- $\beta_1$  – many cell types, commonly bound to ECM components
- $\beta_2$  – only white blood cells (WBC)
  - EXCEPTION because cell-cell adhesion;  
WBC-endothel: chemotaxis, extravasation
  - $\beta_3$  – thrombocytes, eg. in fibrinogen receptor
- $\beta_4$  – binds laminin
  - Formation of HEMIDESMOSOMES  
(epithel-BasementMembrane connection)

# Selectins

- Heterophil:  
different rec. and diff. ligand
- Ca-dependent
- Lectin domain:  
sugar/oligosaccharide recognition

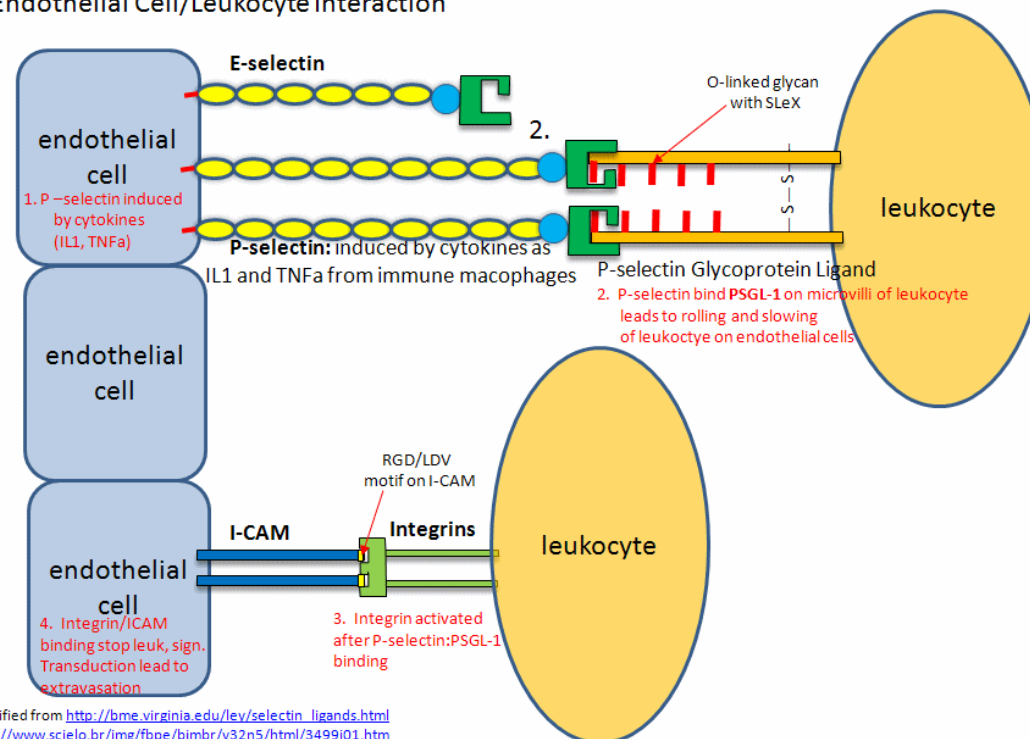


- Types:
  - L : leukocytes (constitutive)
  - P : endothel cells, thrombocytes (not constitutive, only if endothel activated)
  - E : endothel cells (constitutive)

# Ig - CAM

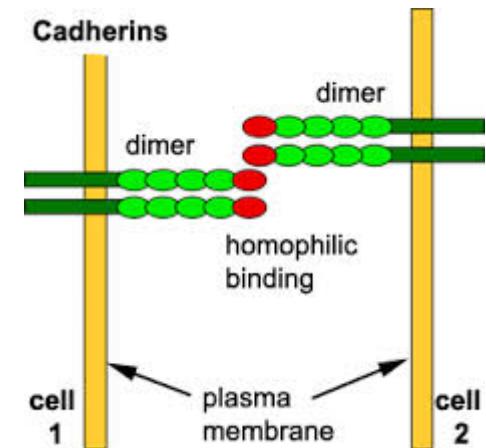
- Homo- és heterophil, Ca-independent
- Types:
  - ICAM-1, 2 (intercell. adh. molec.): heterophil bonds, binds to  $\beta_2$  integrins
  - NCAM (neural cell adh. molec.): homophil bonds
- Function: tissue remodelling (embryonic development, regeneration)

Endothelial Cell/Leukocyte Interaction



# Cadherins

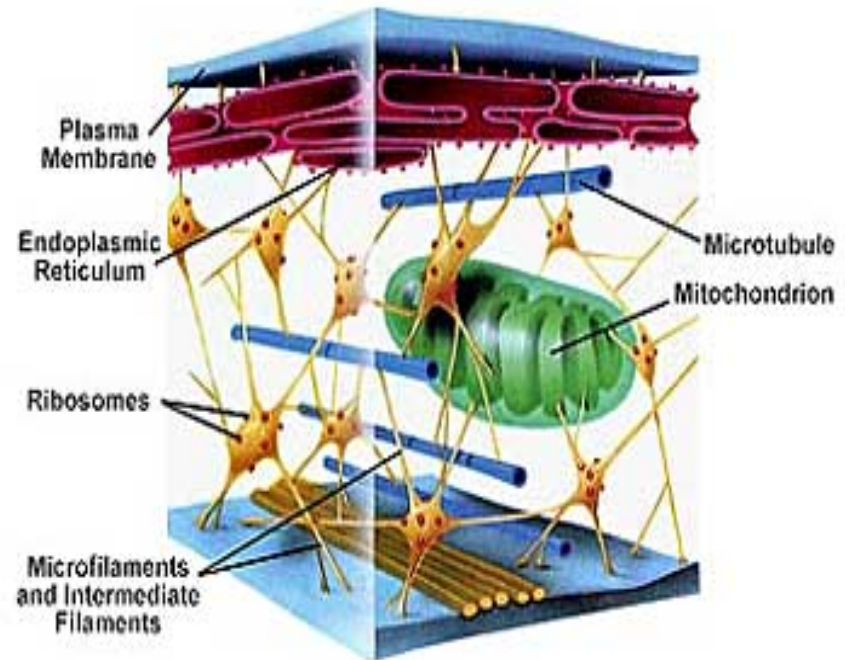
- homophil, Ca-dependent
- 3-4 Ca binding domain
  - If there's no Ca – conformation change – degradation
- Key role in embryogenesis
- adults: development of normal cell-cell interactions
  
- Spec. desmosomal cadherins
  - DESMOSOME:  
stable composition of epithel
  - cadherins eg. desmoglein, desmocollin
  - IC binding to intermediate filaments



# Cytoskeleton

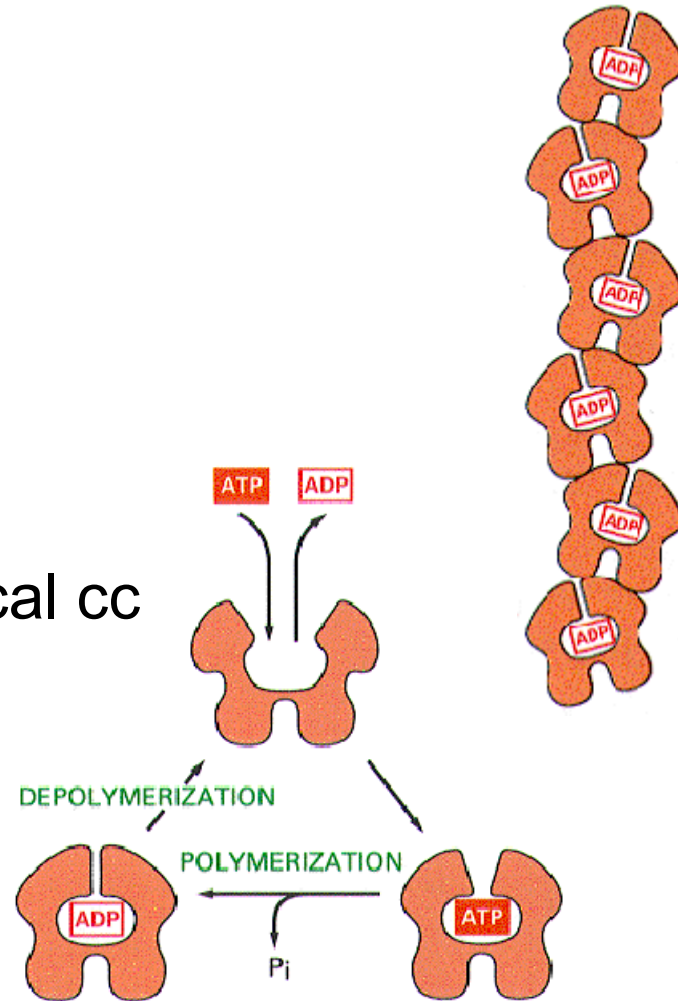
Intracellular filamentum system

- Cell shape
- Tract for motion
- 3 types :
  1. Microfilaments
  2. Intermediate filaments
  3. Microtubules



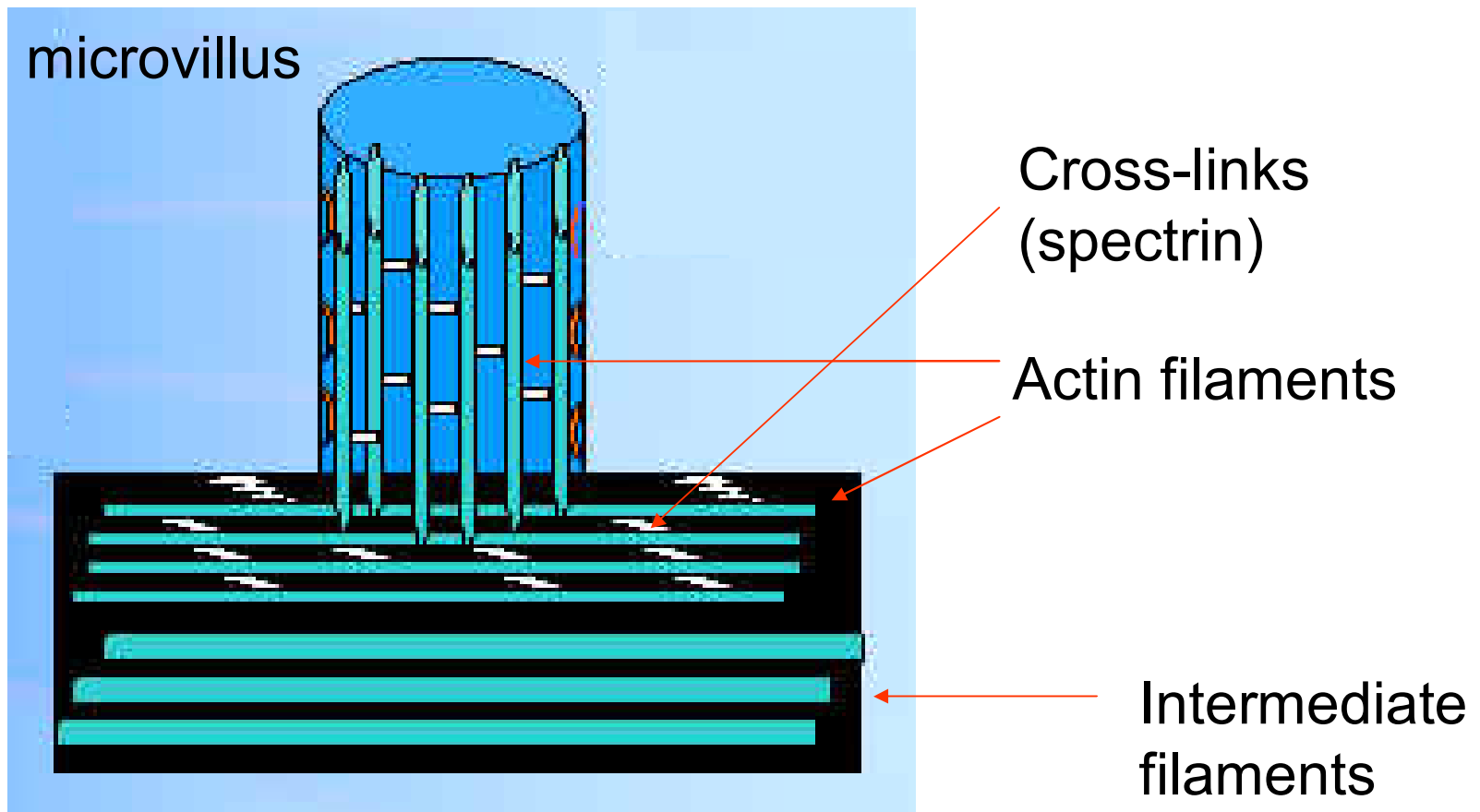
# Microfilaments

- Basic in each cell
- Width: 7nm
- Monomer: globular actin
- Polimerization into F-actin  
ATP dependent, polarized
- Fast remodelling
- Polimerization starts at critical cc  
but actin binding proteins can  
withhold it



# Task of actin I

- **framework**





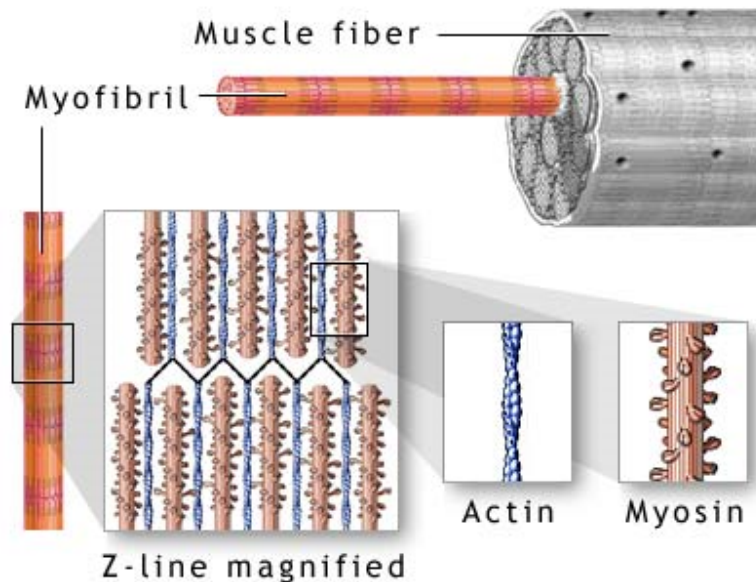
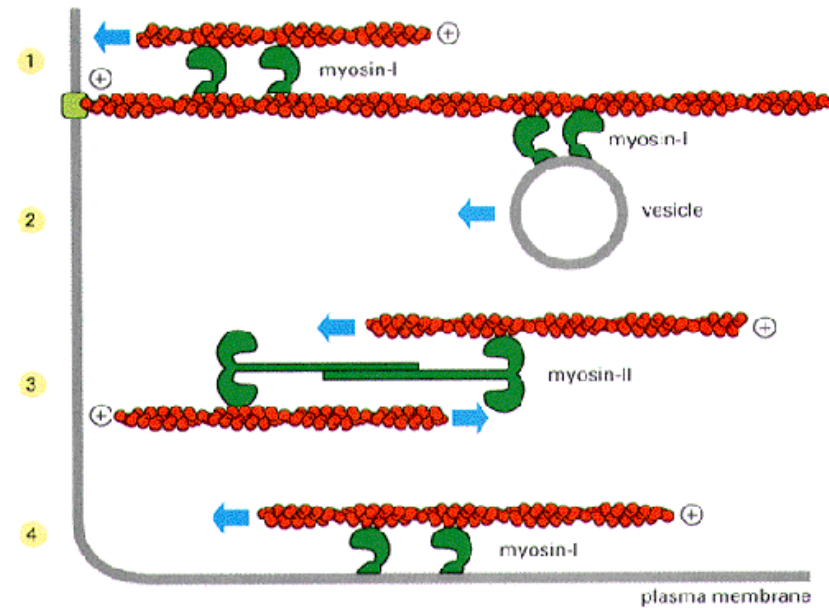
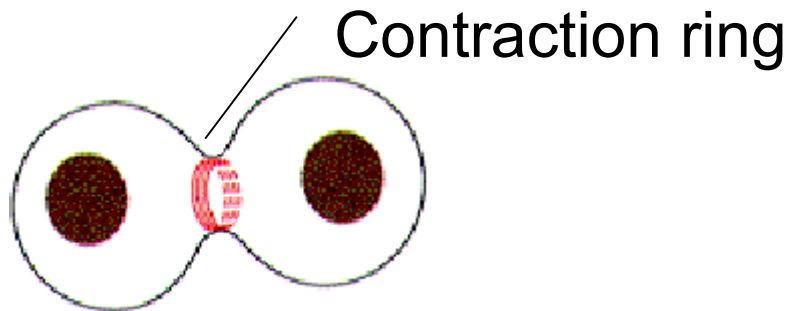
# Task of actin II.

- **Tract for motion**

The mechanoenzyme  
myosin

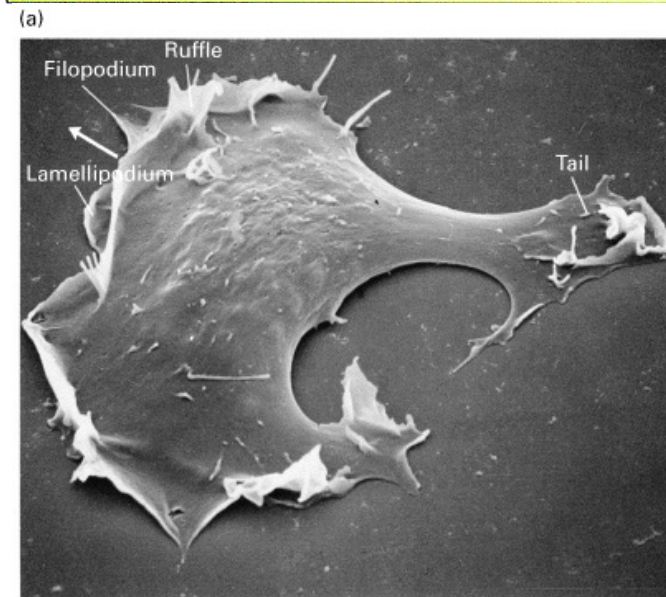
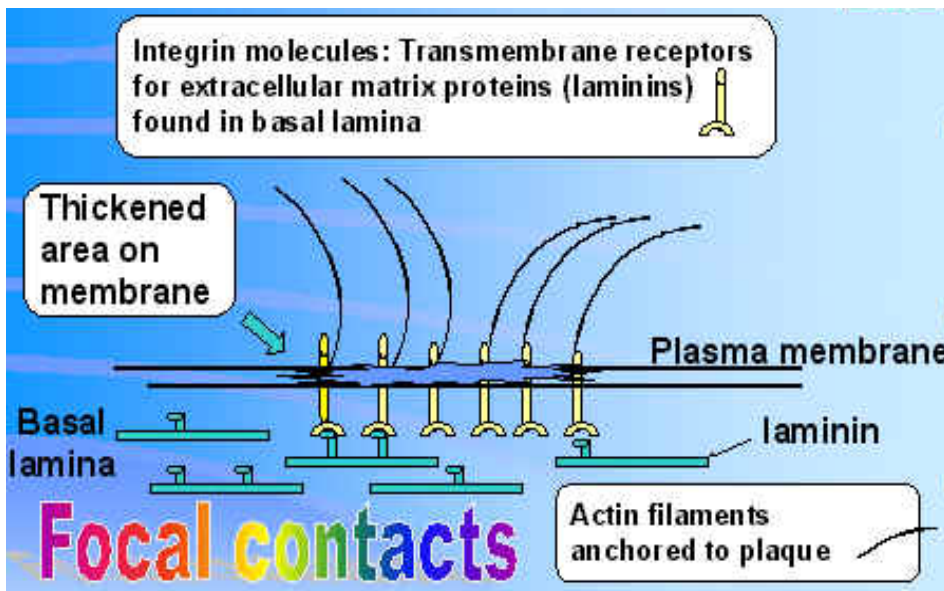
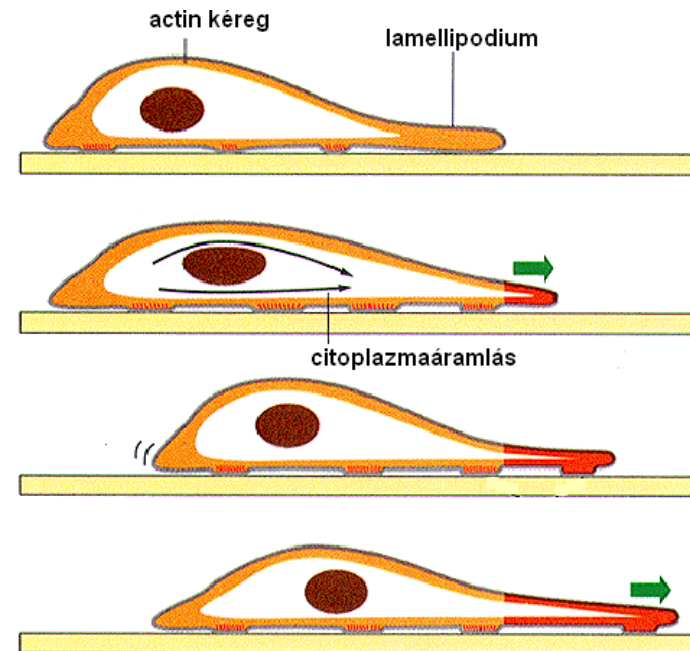
myosin I –  
membrane-cytoskeleton  
interaktion (vesicle  
transport)

myosin II – muscle,  
cytokinesis



# Task of actin III

- Polymerization in response to extracellular effects – focal adhesive plaques: binding to extracellular elements
- Plasma membrane cambers in the direction of polymerisation– phagocytosis, chemotaxis



# Pathobiochemistry of microfilaments

- **hereditary spherocytosis**

Spectrin defect → unstable cytoskeleton, spherical RBCs, degraded by the spleen

- **Duchenne's disease**

(dystrophia musculorum progressiva)

dystrophin defect – vulnerable to mechanic effects  
cytoskeleton → fibre damage

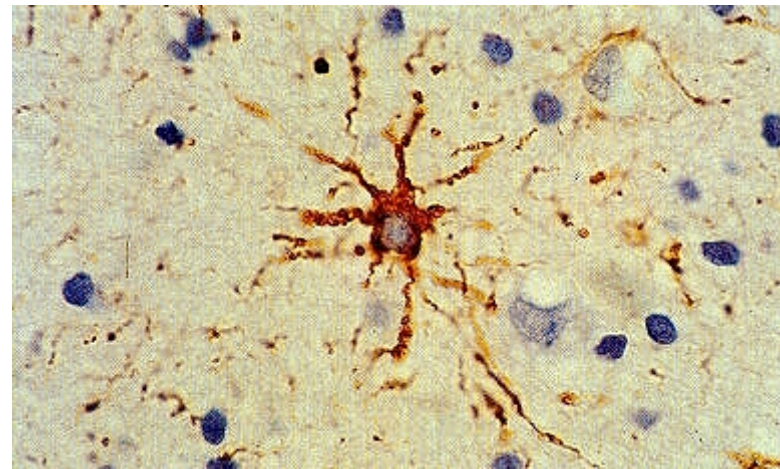
- Role of F-actin in certain bacterial infections  
(Listeria – actin)



# Intermediate filaments

- Width 10 nm
- Hardening of cells
- Stabilizing
- No polarization
- Much in those cells which undergo strong mechanic effects
- Diagnostic importance: determination of origin of anaplastic tumors

GFAP staining



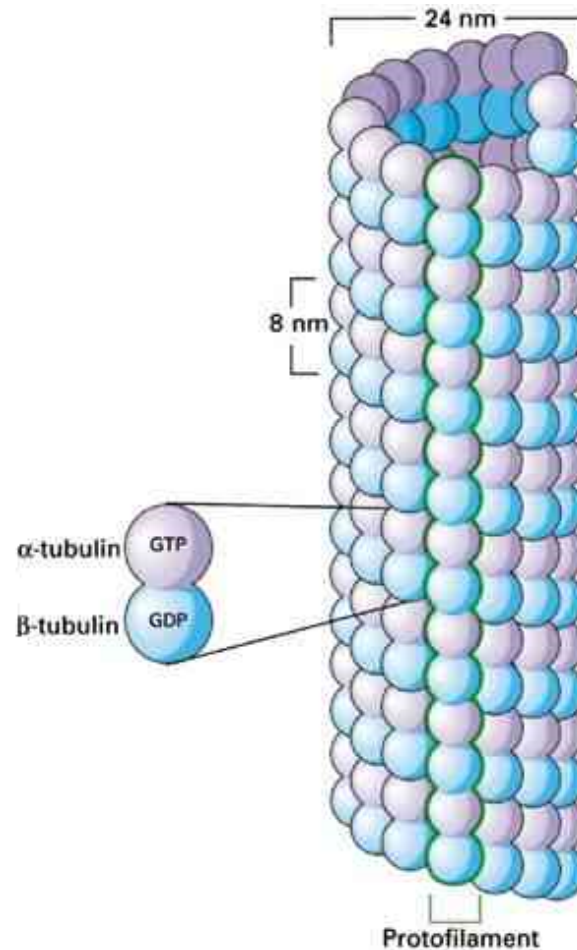
# Types of intermediate filaments

Nuclear	Lamin	inner surface of nuclear membrane
Epithelial	Keratin I and II (acidic and basic)	Epithel and adnexa (hair, nail, etc)
Vimentin-like	Vimentin	certain mesenchymal cells
	Desmin	muscle
	GFAP	Glial cells
	Periferin	certain neurons
Axonal	Neurofilaments	Neurons



# Microtubules I

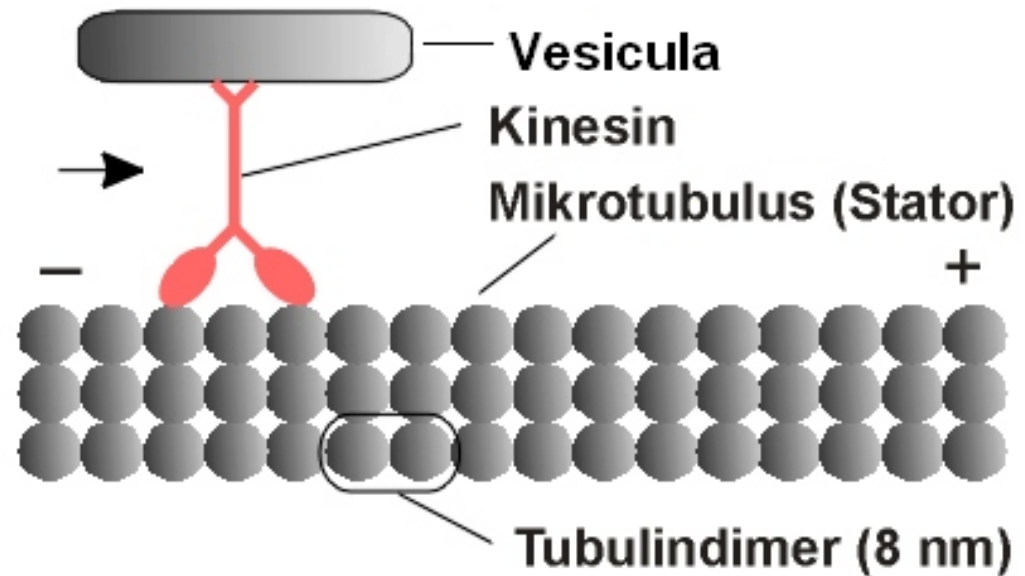
- Width: 24 nm
- Tract for motion
- Polymerized from tubulin dimers
- Fast remodelling
- Polarized (+ and – end)
- Building up in positive direction
- Degrading in negative direction



# Microtubules II

- Polymerization: starts from centriolium, basal body(MTOC)  
negative end here

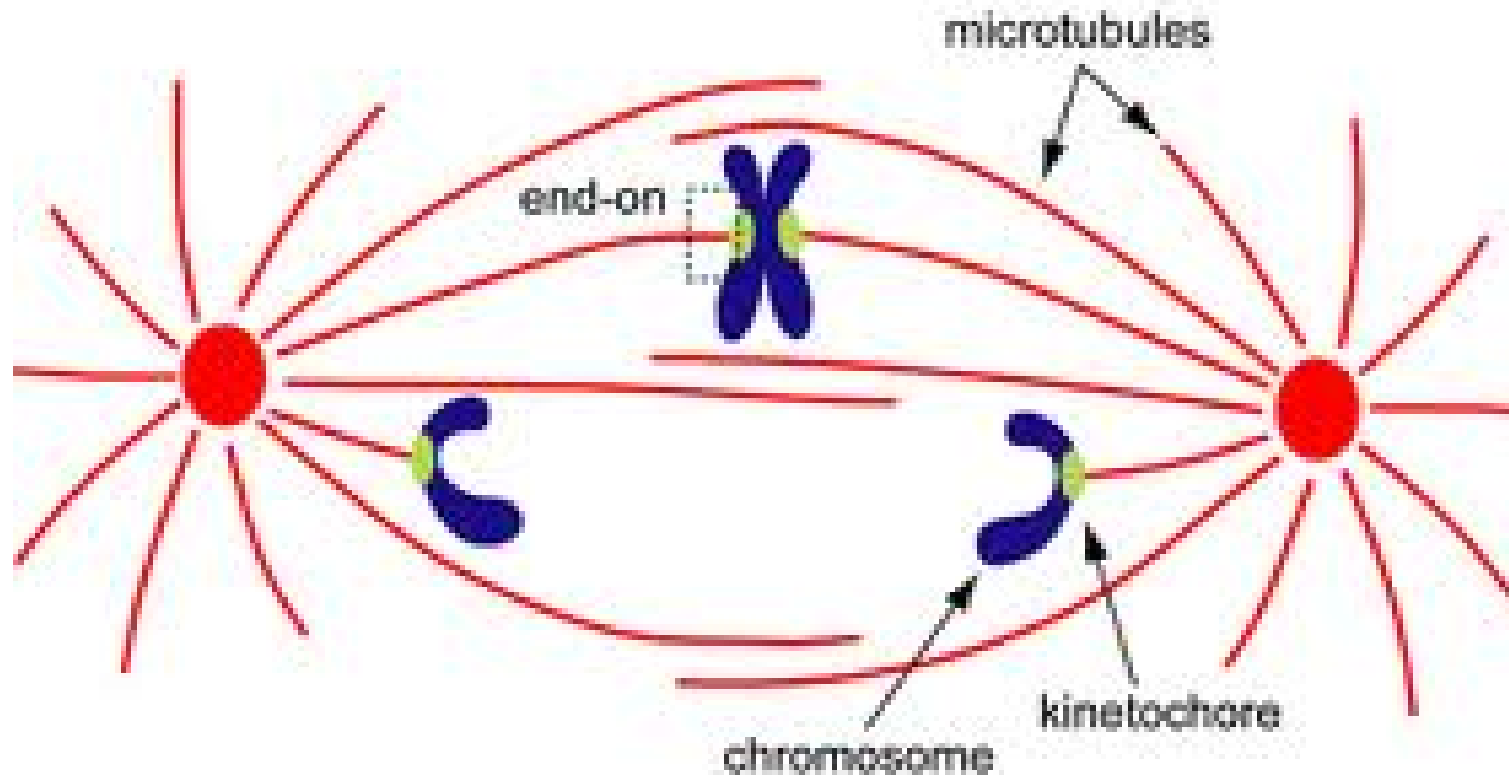
- Mechanoenzymes:  
Kinesin -  $\rightarrow$  +  
Dinein +  $\rightarrow$  -



- Tasks:
  1. proliferation – chromosome wandering
  2. neurons – fast axonal transport
  3. kinocilia, flagella
  4. other cells – transport of IC organelles, vesicles

# Functions of microtubules

## Cell proliferation

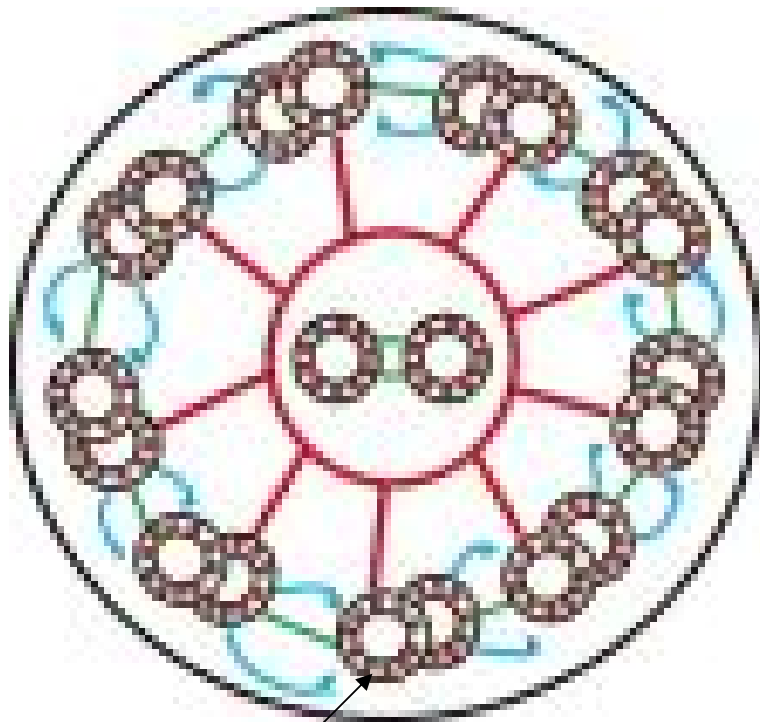


**No cell proliferation without proper microtubule function**  
**MT toxins – cytostatic drugs**  
**pl. colchicin, taxol, Vinca alkaloids**



# Functions of microtubules

## Cross section of cilium



Dynein arms

