

# Carbohydrates Metabolism

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## Review of Carbohydrates

### Digestion and absorption of carbohydrates

### Suggested Readings:

1: Lippincott's Illustrated reviews: Biochemistry

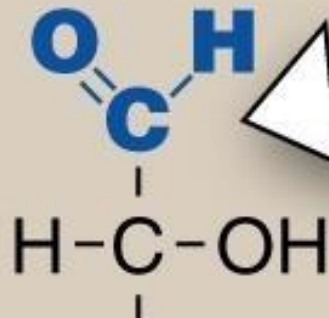
2: Marks' Basic Medical Biochemistry

# Carbohydrates Metabolism Topics

- Utilization of Glucose → Energy
- Non-Carbohydrates → Glucose
- Storage of Glucose → Glycogen
- Release of Glucose from Glycogen
- Reducing Power NADPH >> GSH
- Glucuronic acid >> Drug metabolism
- Interconversion of sugars

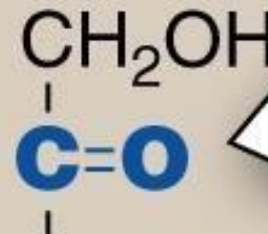
Sugars are either  
aldoses or ketoses

**A** Aldehyde group



Ribose  
Glucose

**B** Keto group



Ribulose  
Fructose

# Examples of monosaccharides found in human

## Generic names

**3** carbons: trioses  
**4** carbons: tetroses  
**5** carbons: pentoses  
**6** carbons: hexoses  
**7** carbons: heptoses  
**9** carbons: nonoses

## Examples

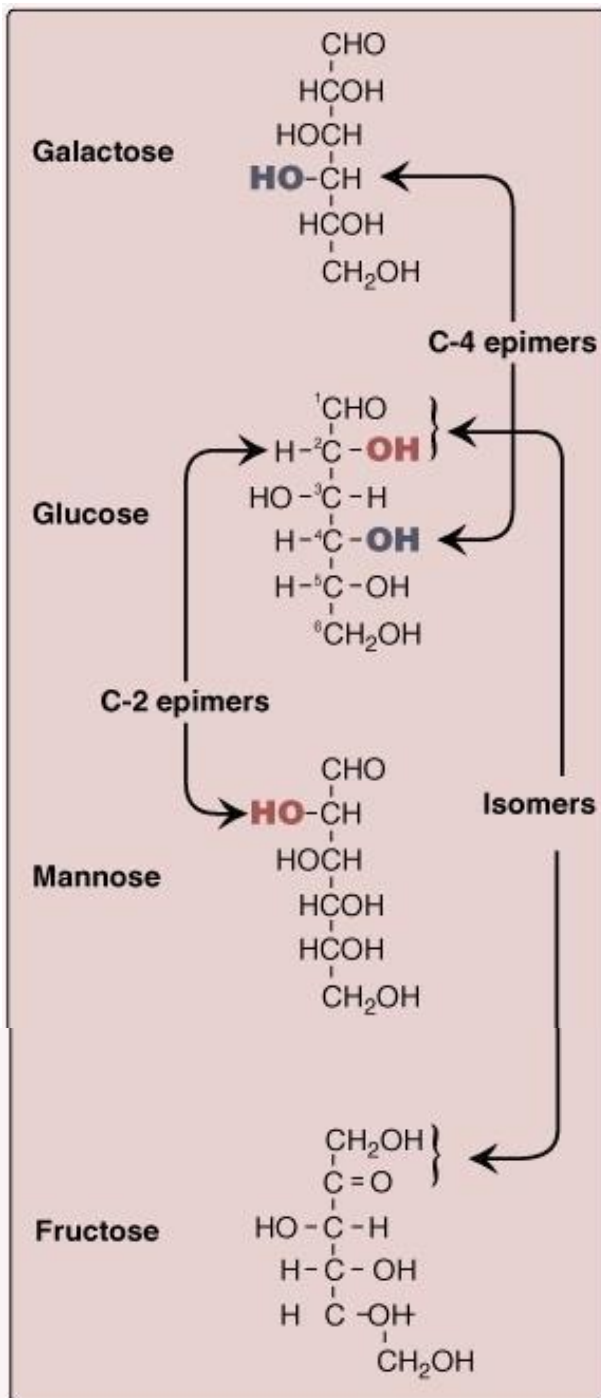
Glyceraldehyde  
Erythrose  
Ribose  
Glucose  
Sedoheptulose  
Neuraminic acid

# Sugars have Isomers

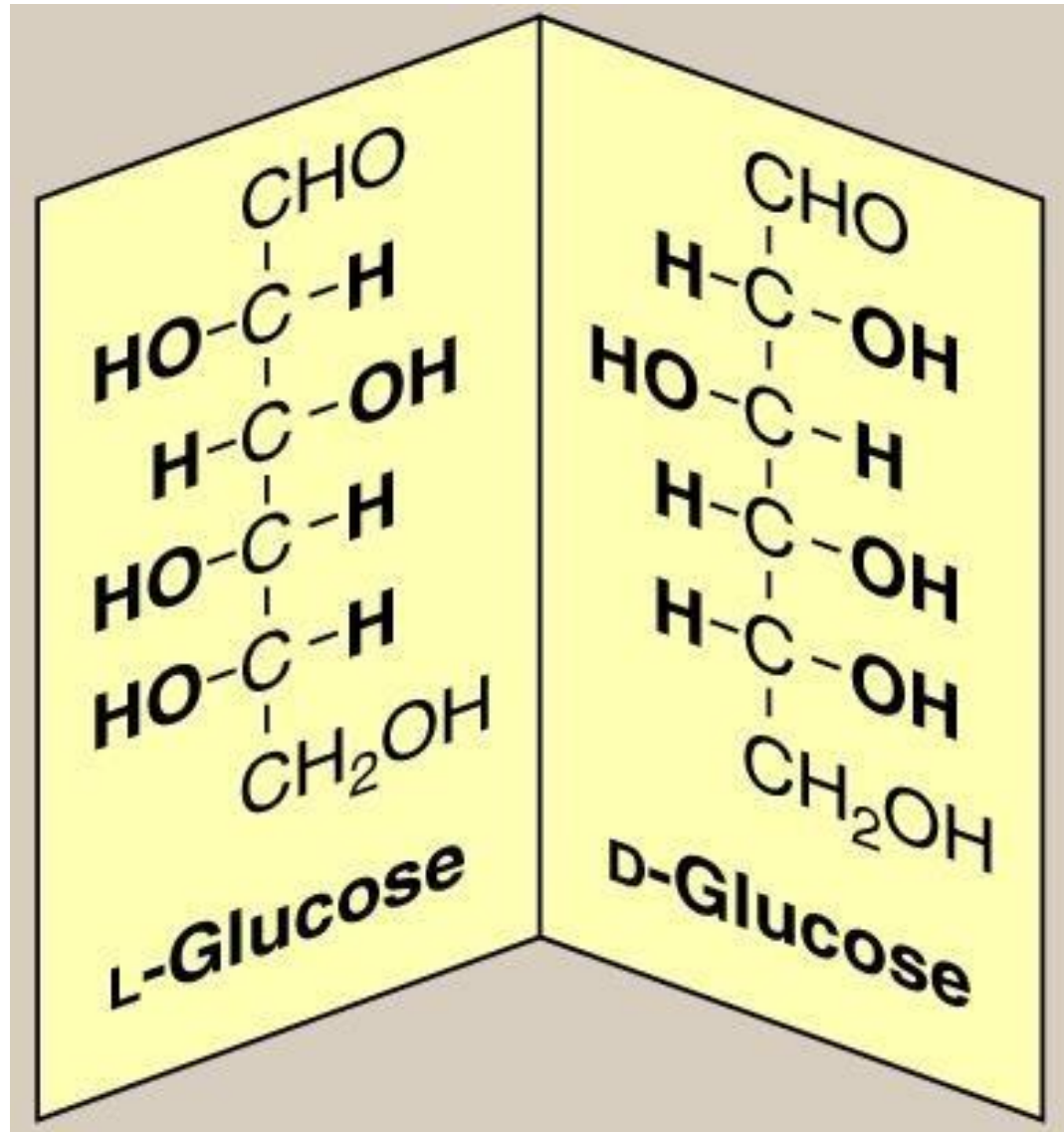
Epimers are isomers:

Changing the orientation of one hydroxyl group will produce a different sugar

Glucose and Fructose are isomers

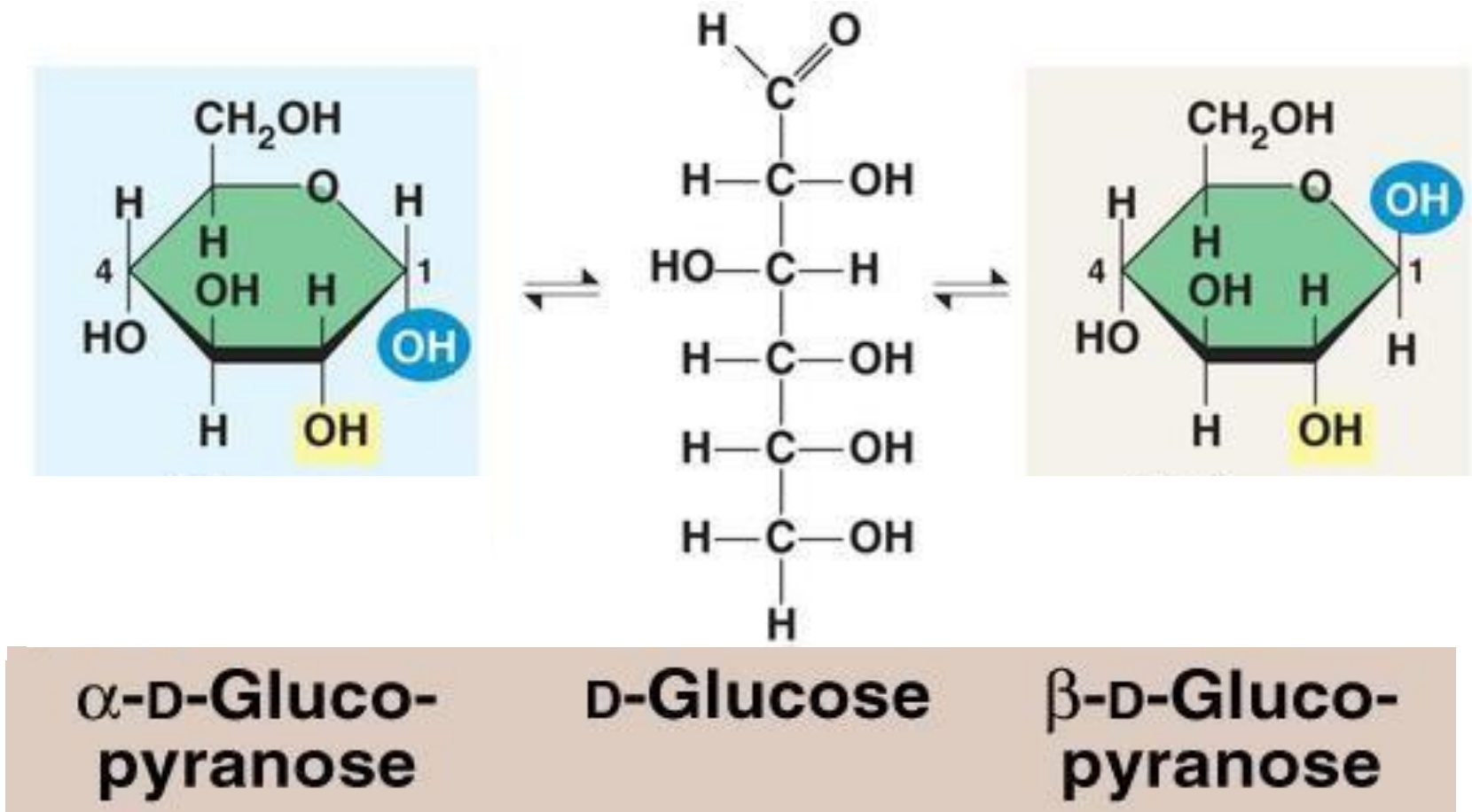


# Enantiomers



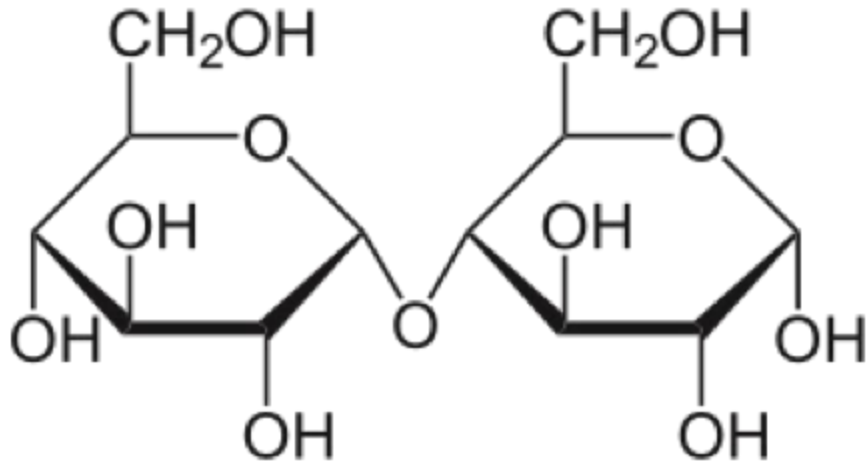


# Alpha and Beta Sugars (Anomers)

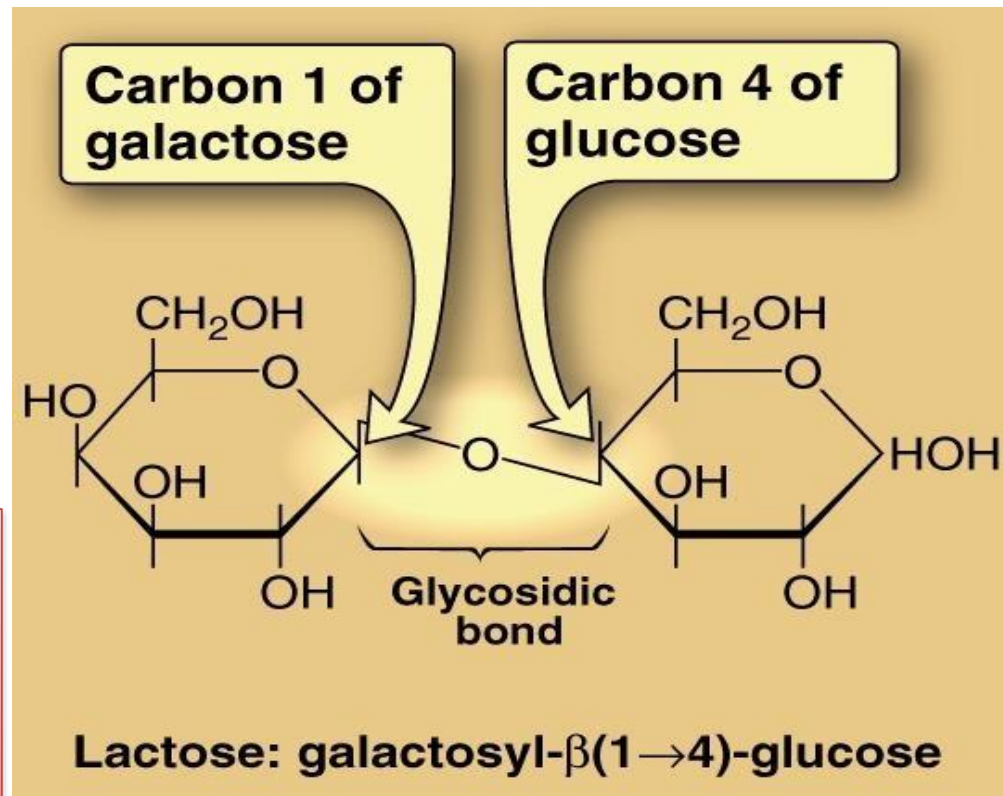


# Disaccharides

Sugars made of two monosaccharide units joined by a glycosidic bond

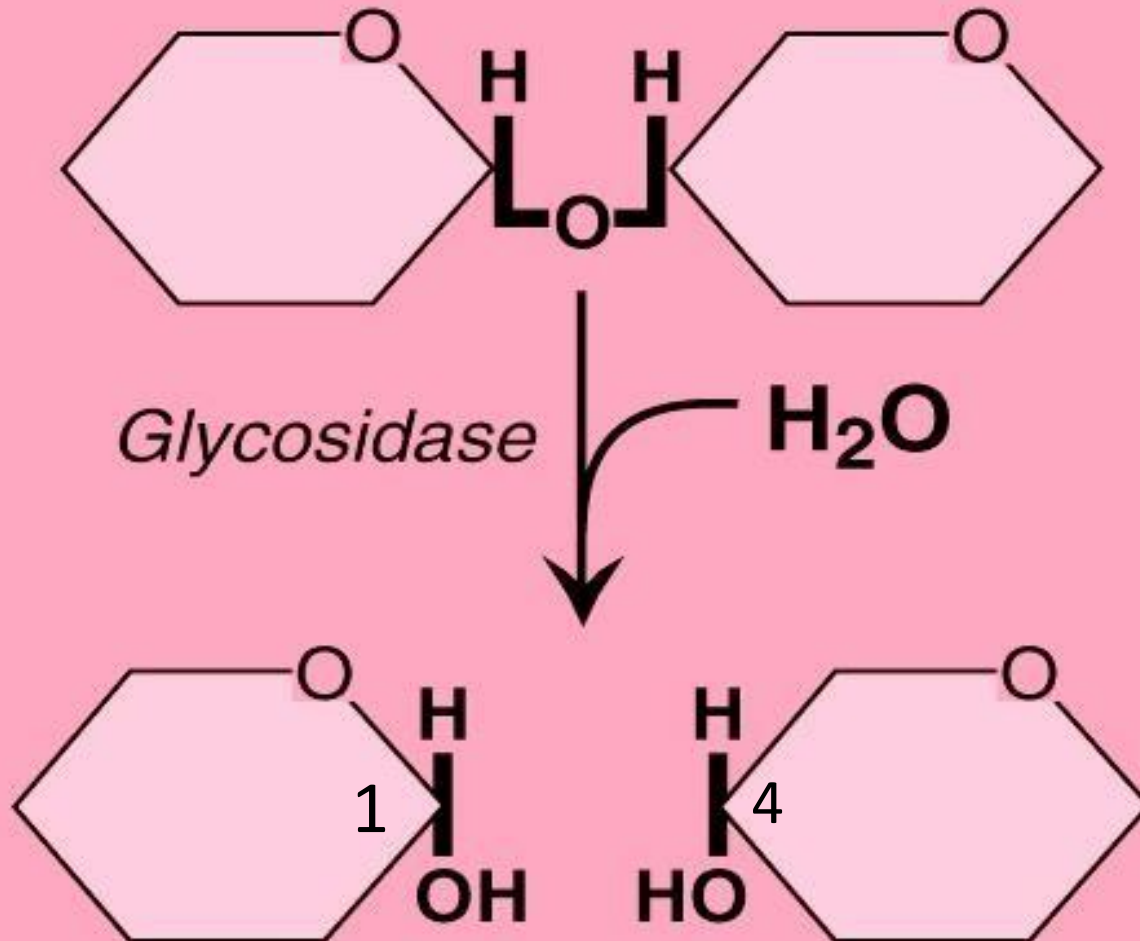


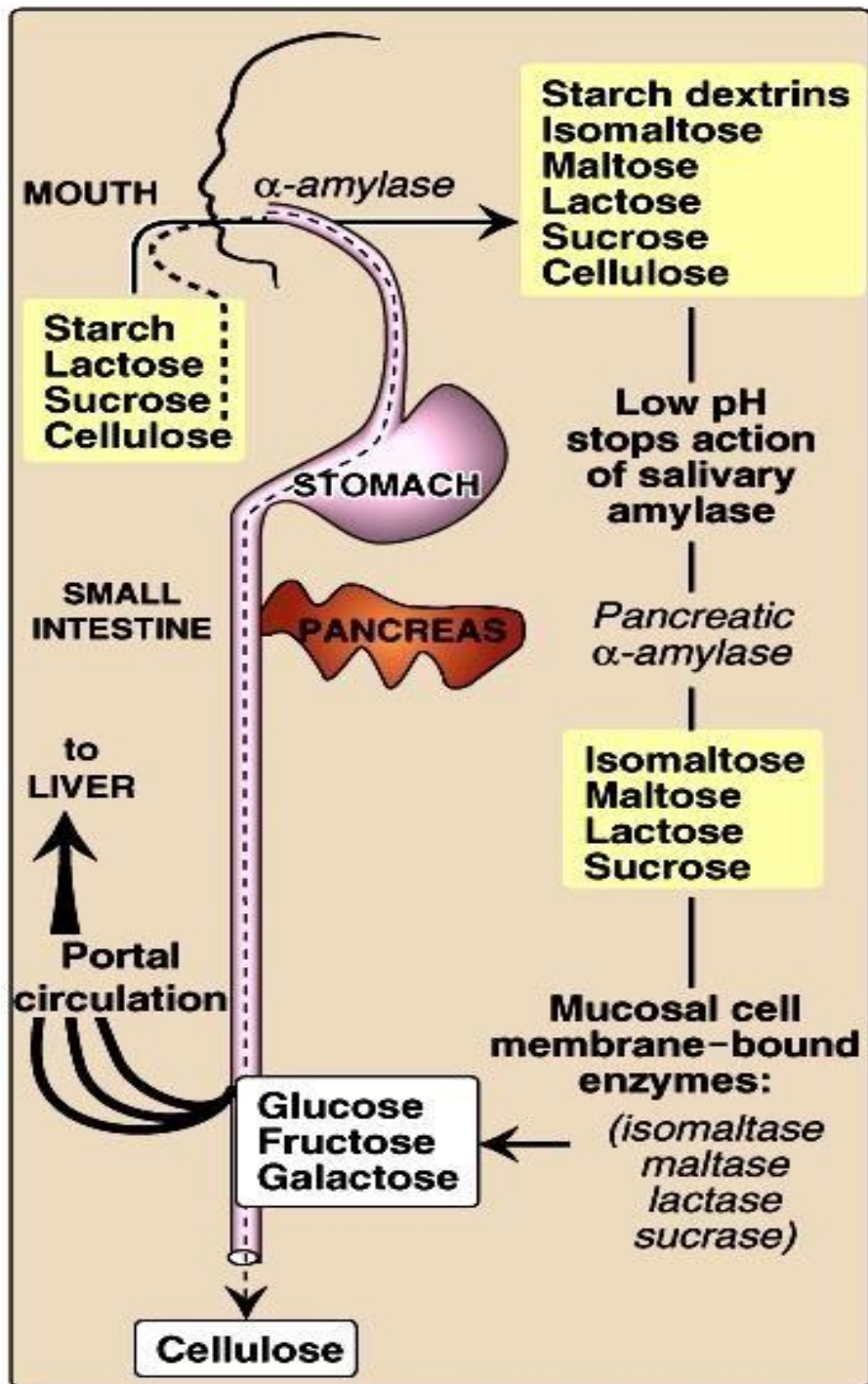
Maltose: a disaccharide made from two glucose units





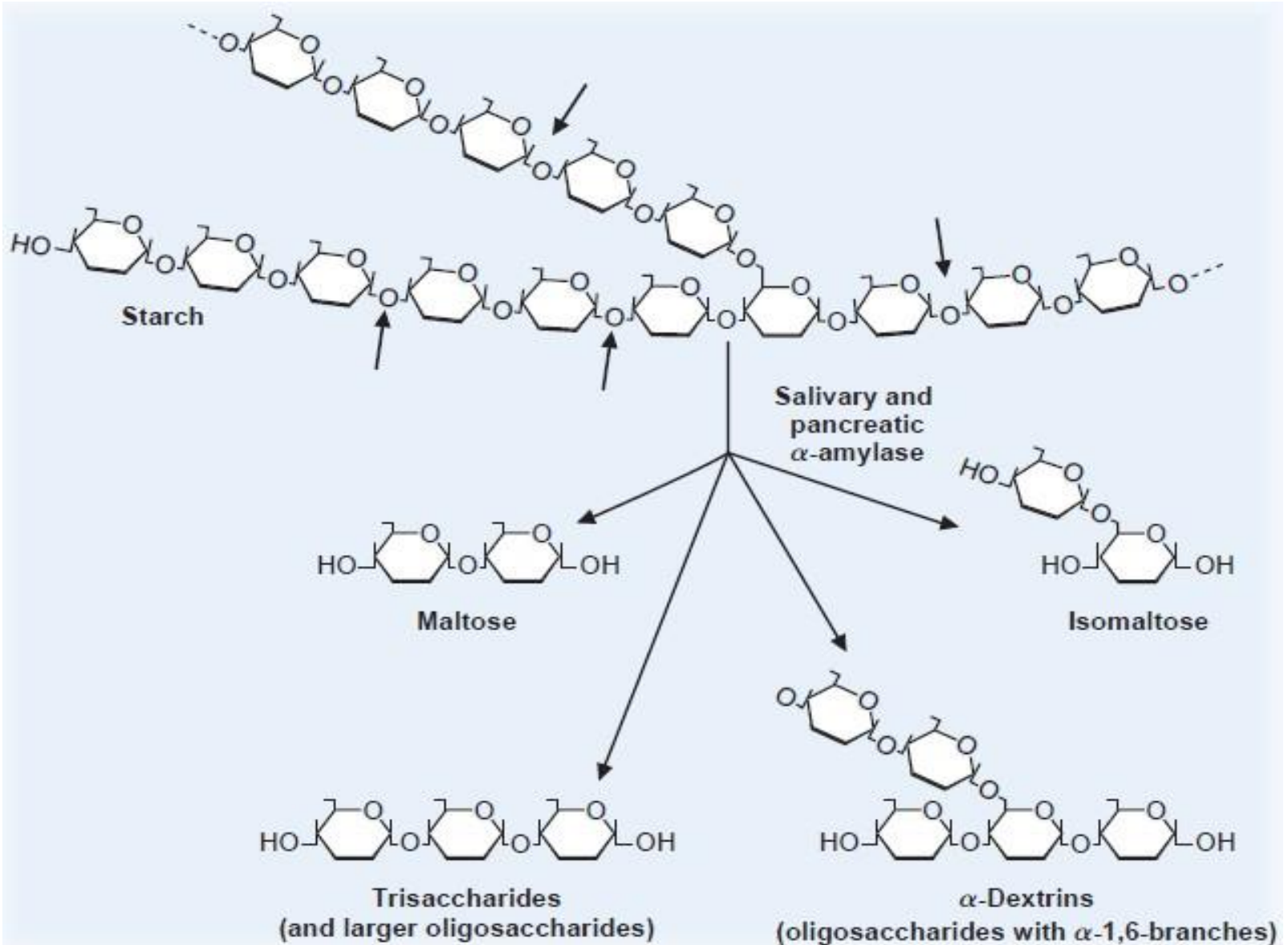
# Glycosidic bond is cleaved by glycosidase enzyme





# Digestion of Carbohydrates

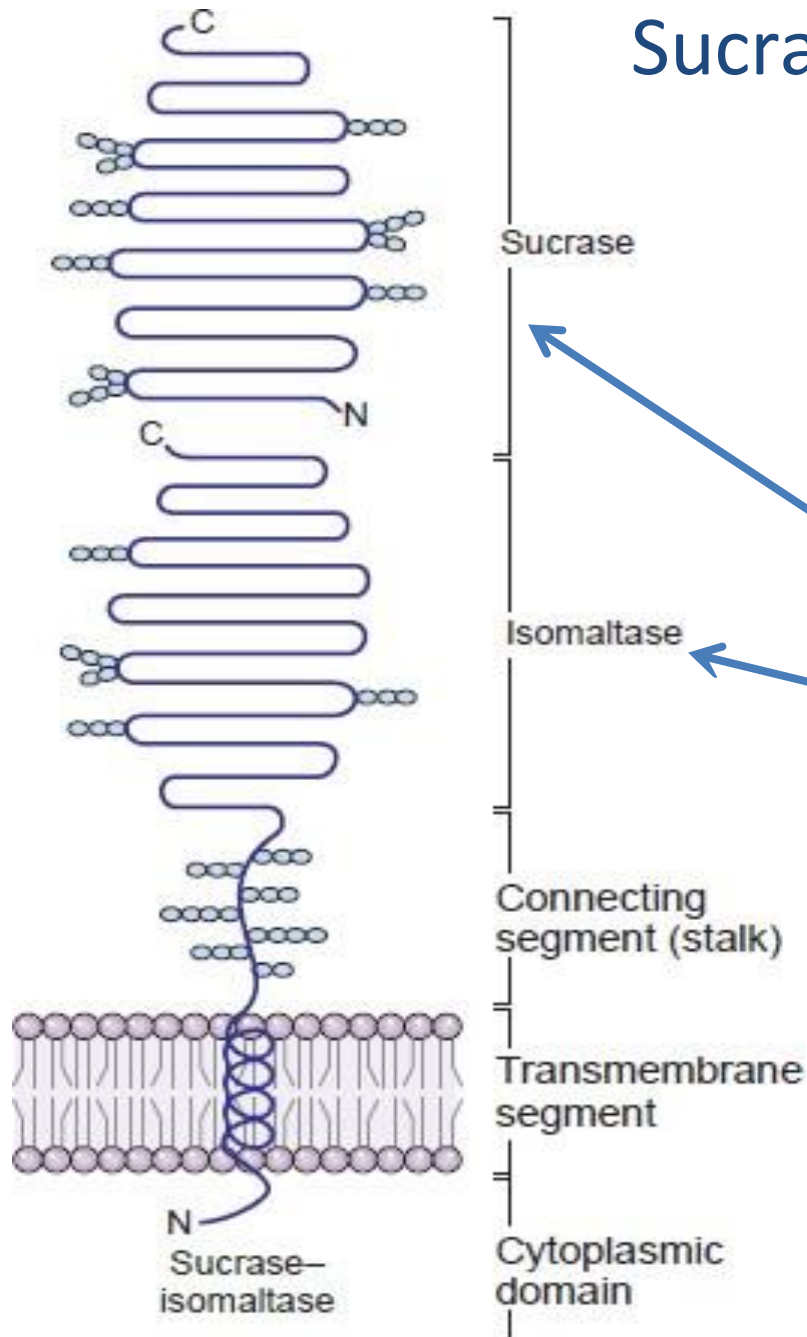
# Starch Digestion



# Mucosal cell membrane-bound enzymes

ENZYME	Bond Cleaved	Substrates
Isomaltase	$\alpha$ 1 $\rightarrow$ 6	Isomaltose
Maltase	$\alpha$ 1 $\rightarrow$ 4	Maltose
Sucrase	$\alpha$ 1 $\rightarrow$ 2	Sucrose
Lactase	$\beta$ 1 $\rightarrow$ 4	Lactose
Trehalase	$\alpha$ 1 $\rightarrow$ 1	Trehalose
Exoglycosidase	$\alpha$ 1 $\rightarrow$ 4	Glucoamylose

# Sucrase-isomaltase complex and Glucoamylase



Sucrase

Isomaltase

Connecting  
segment (stalk)

Transmembrane  
segment

Cytoplasmic  
domain

N  
Sucrase-  
isomaltase

\* Sucrase + isomaltase  
Single protein → complex  
of two associated subunits

- Sucrase-maltase

- Isomaltase-maltase

Together 80% of the  
maltase activity

\* Maltase + exoglycosidase  
(glucoamylase): no split



# Sucrase-isomaltase complex

**FIG. 27.5.** The major portion of the sucrase–isomaltase complex, containing the catalytic sites, protrudes from the absorptive cells into the lumen of the intestine. Other domains of the protein form a connecting segment (stalk) and an anchoring segment that extends through the membrane into the cell. The complex is synthesized as a single polypeptide chain that is split into its two enzyme subunits extracellularly. Each subunit is a domain with a catalytic site (distinct sucrase–maltase and isomaltase–maltase sites). In spite of their maltase activity, these catalytic sites are often called just *sucrase* and *isomaltase*.



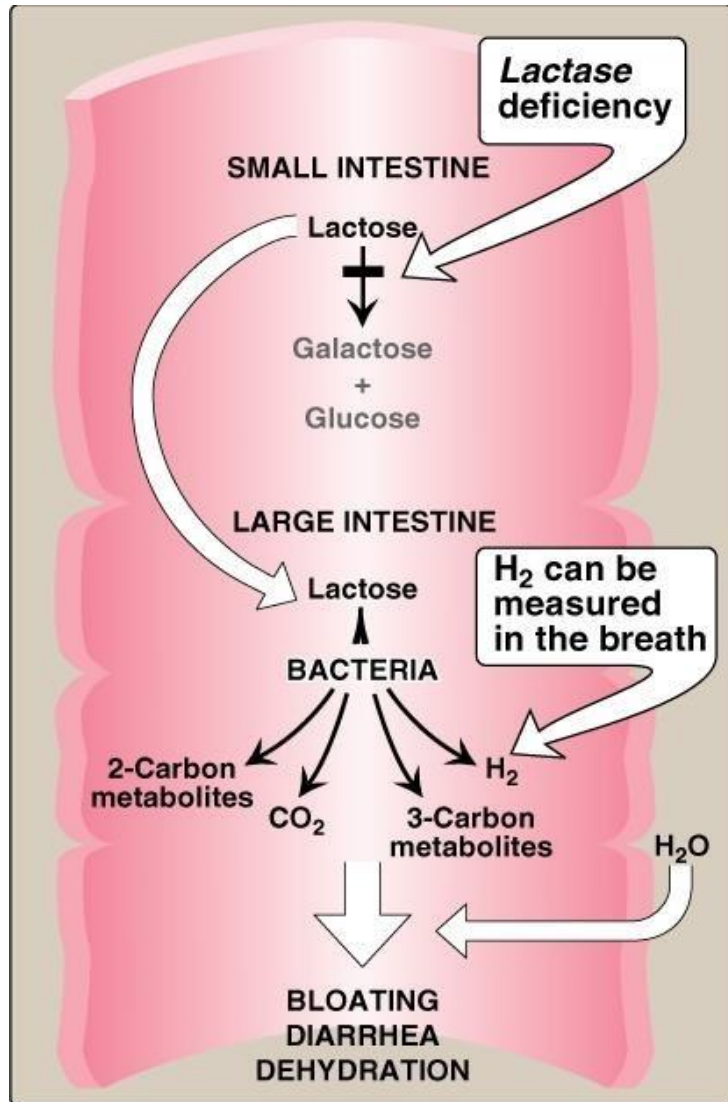
# Clinical Hint: Abnormal Degradation of disaccharides

## 1. Sucrase-isomaltase deficiency:

- Causes:
  - Genetics
  - Variety of intestinal diseases
  - Malnutrition
  - Injury of mucosa i.e by drugs
  - Severe diarrhea

# Clinical Hint: Abnormal Degradation of disaccharides

## 2. Lactase deficiency: ½ world's population

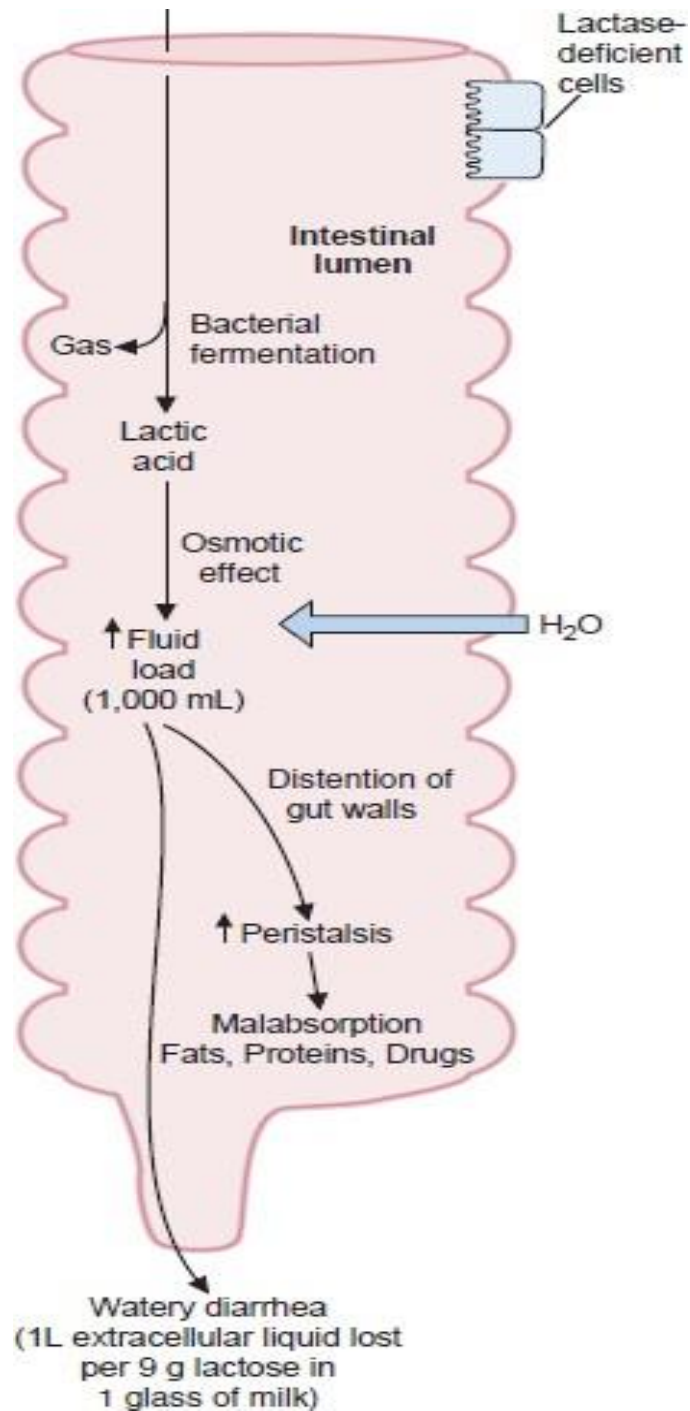


Lactase reached maximal activity @ 1 month of age

Declines ----- >> adult level at 5 to 7 year of age

10 % of infant level

1 cup of milk (9 grams of lactose) → loss of 1 liter of extracellular fluid



# Lactase deficiency

# Absorption of Sugars

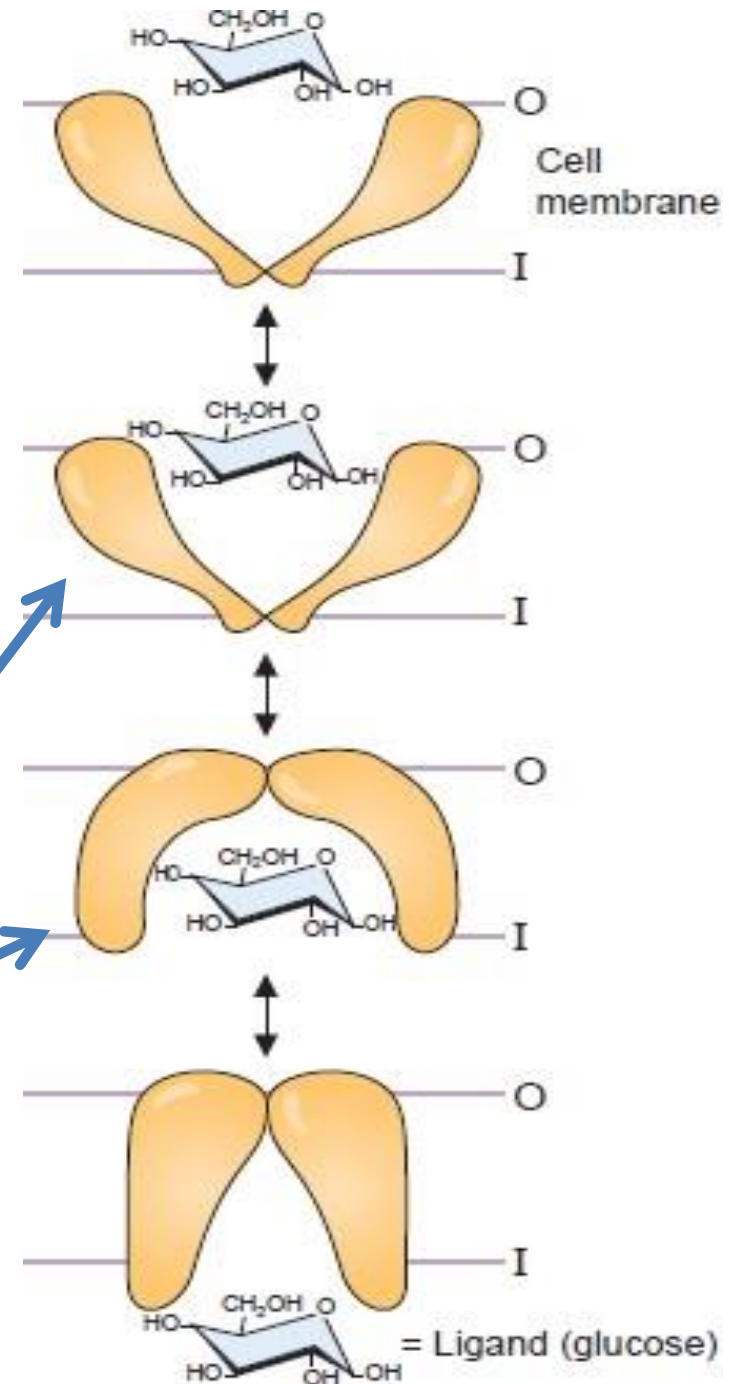
Polar molecules can not diffuse

**A:**  $\text{Na}^+$ -independent facilitated diffusion transport

GLUT 1-----GLUT 14

Glc. Movement follows concentration gradient

Two conformational states

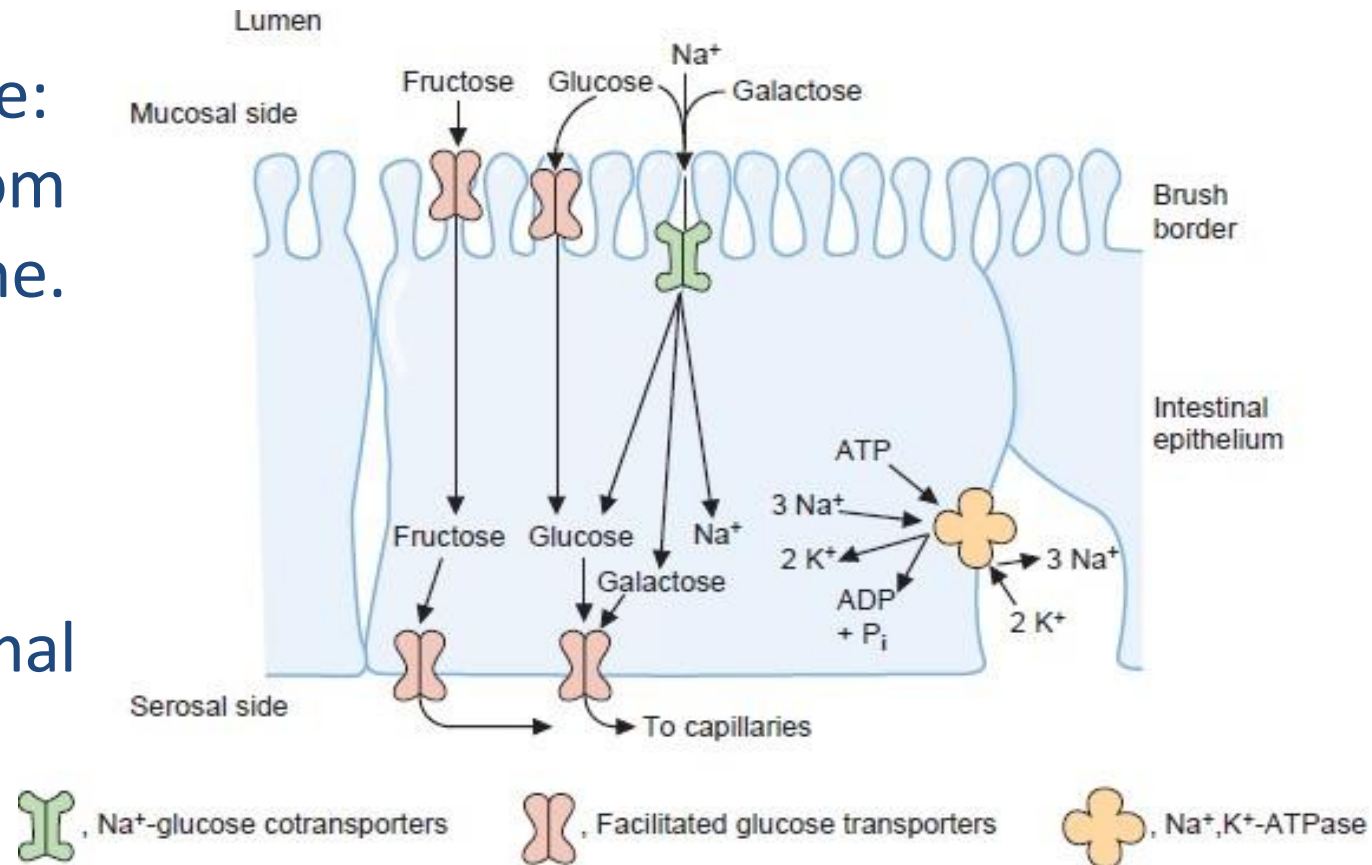


# Na<sup>+</sup> monosaccharide cotransporter system (SGLT)

- Against concentration gradient (requires energy).

\* Small intestine:  
Active uptake from  
lumen of intestine.

\* Kidney:  
reabsorption of  
glucose in proximal  
tubule.



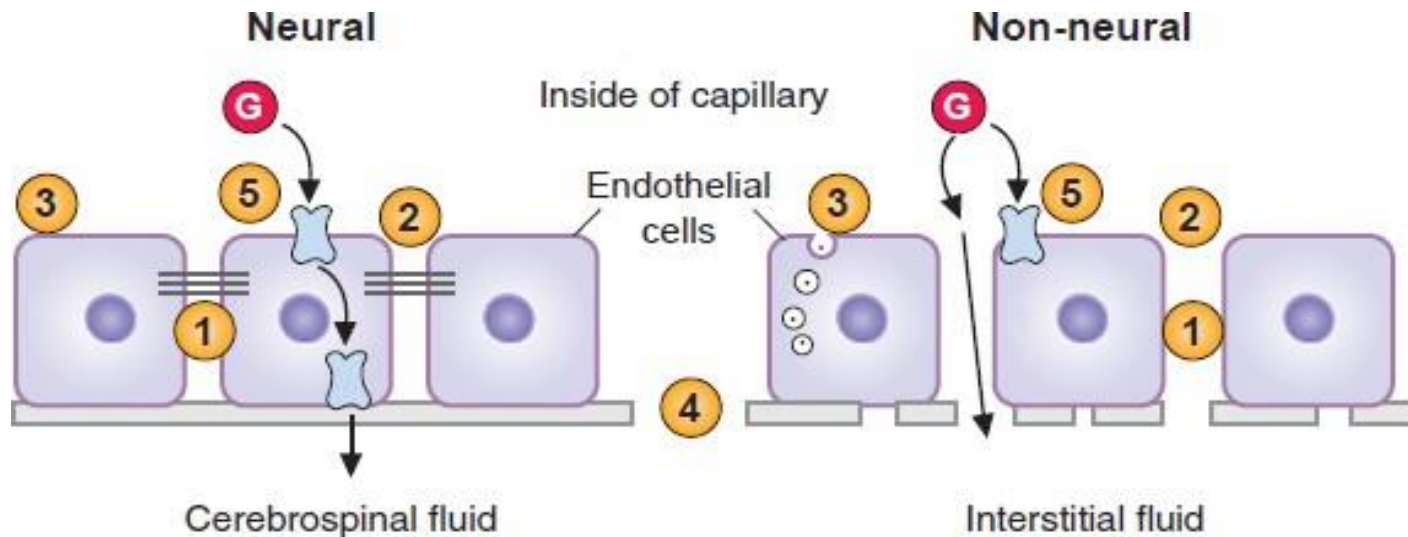
- For glucose and galactose absorption

**Table 27.5 Properties of the GLUT 1 to GLUT 5 Isoforms of the Glucose Transport Proteins**

<i>Transporter</i>	<i>Tissue Distribution</i>	<i>Comments</i>
GLUT 1	Human erythrocyte Blood–brain barrier Blood–retinal barrier Blood–placental barrier Blood–testis barrier	Expressed in cell types with barrier functions; a high-affinity glucose transport system
GLUT 2 Glucose, galactose and fructose	Liver Kidney Pancreatic $\beta$ -cell Serosal surface of intestinal mucosa cells (Basolateral surface)	A high-capacity, low-affinity transporter May be used as the glucose sensor in the pancreas
GLUT 3	Brain (neurons)	Major transporter in the central nervous system, a high-affinity system
GLUT 4	Adipose tissue Skeletal muscle Heart muscle	Insulin-sensitive transporter. In the presence of insulin, the number of GLUT 4 transporters increases on the cell surface; a high-affinity system
GLUT 5 Fructose	Intestinal epithelium Spermatozoa	This is actually a fructose transporter Na independent
GLUT 7	Glucogenic tissues	at endoplasmic reticulum membrane

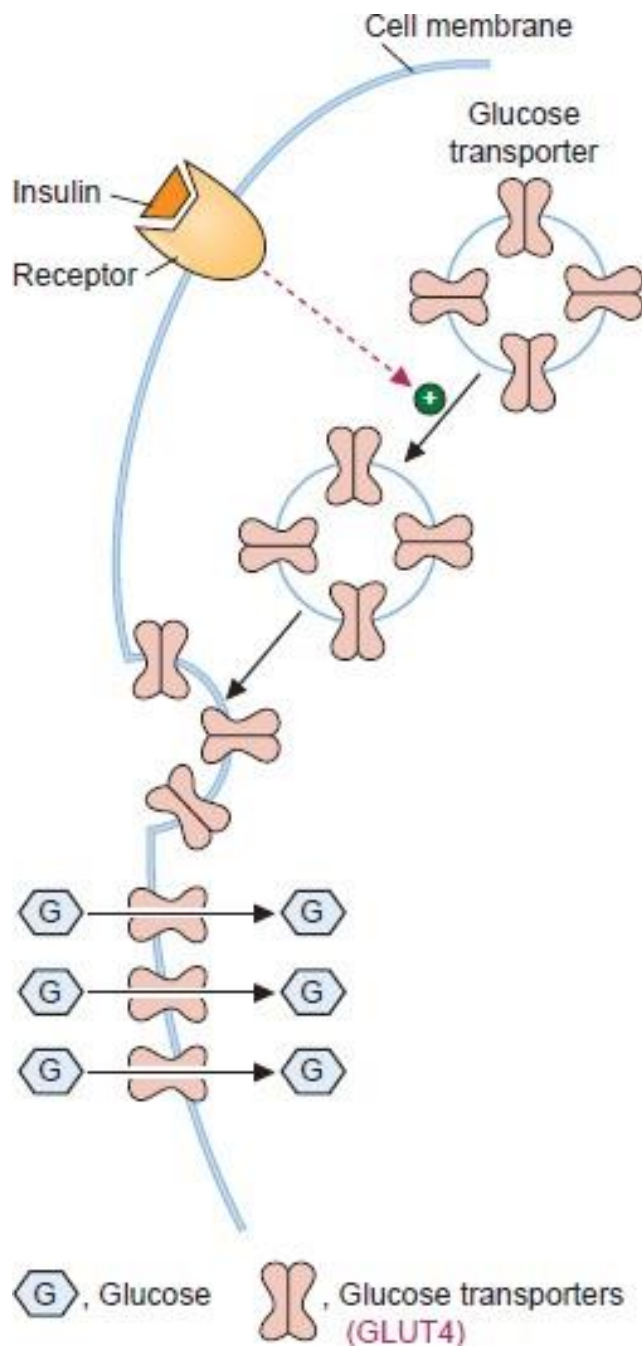


# Glucose transport in neural vs. non-neural cells



- 1 Tight junctions between endothelial cells
- 2 Narrow intercellular space
- 3 Lack of pinocytosis
- 4 Continuous basement membrane
- 5 Glucose transporters in both membranes

- 1 No tight junctions
- 2 Sometimes wide intercellular gaps
- 3 Pinocytosis
- 4 Discontinuous basement membrane
- 5 Glucose can diffuse between cells and into interstitial fluid



Insulin stimulates transport of glucose into muscle and adipose tissues

# An overview of glucose metabolism

