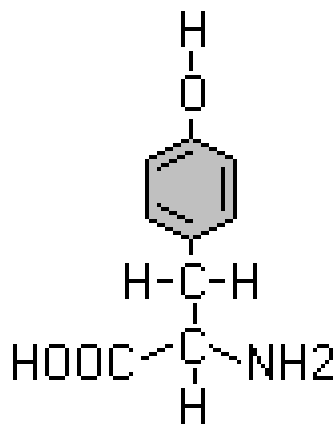




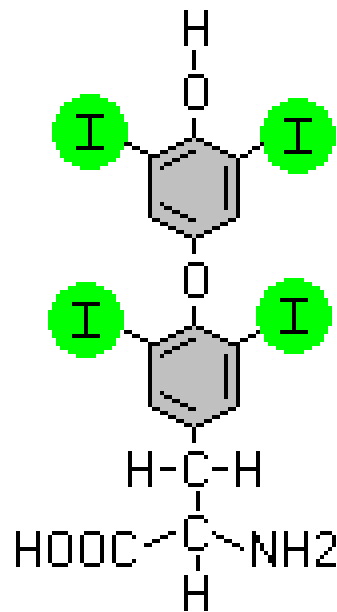
# ▶ Thyroid Hormones

**COMPILED BY**  
**Prof Sudhir K. Awasthi**  
**Dept. Of Life Sciences**  
**CSJM University**

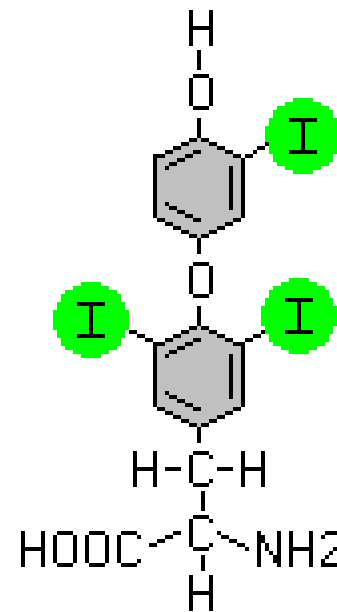
## Thyroid hormones derived from two iodinated tyrosine molecules



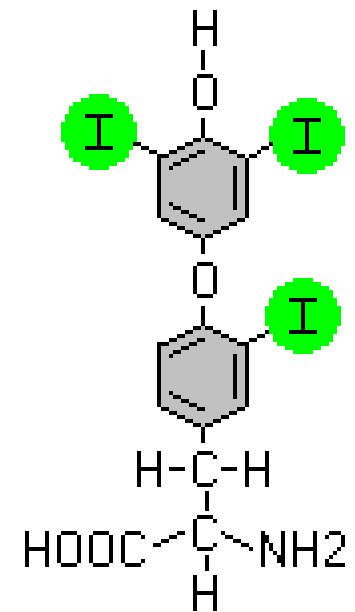
**Tyrosine**



**Thyroxine (T4)**

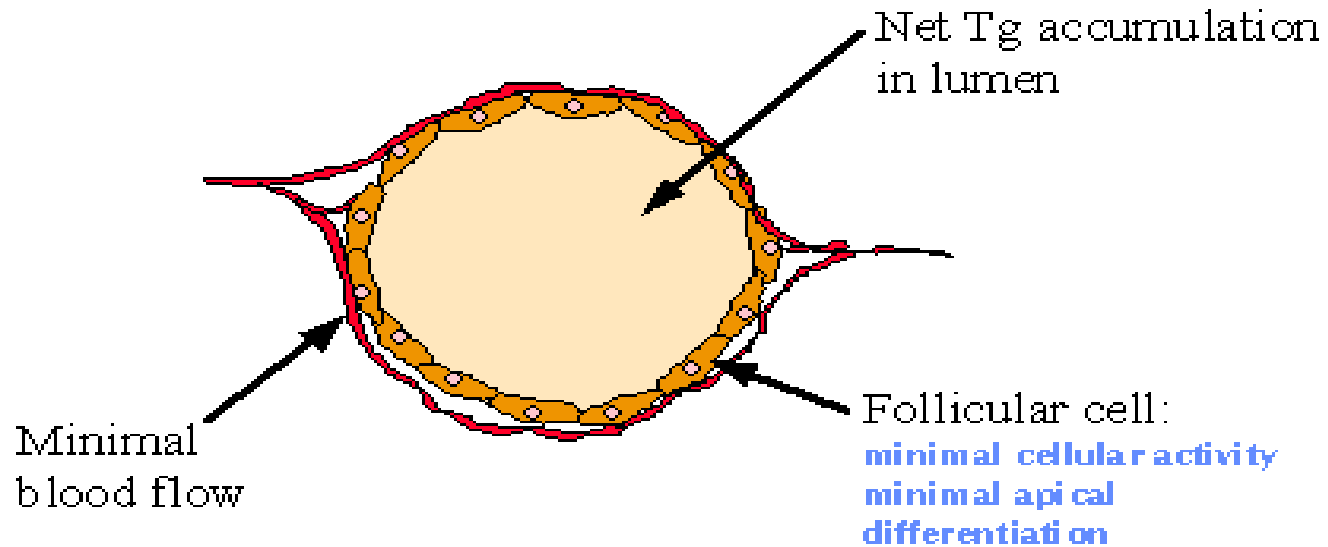


**Triiodothyronine (T3)**

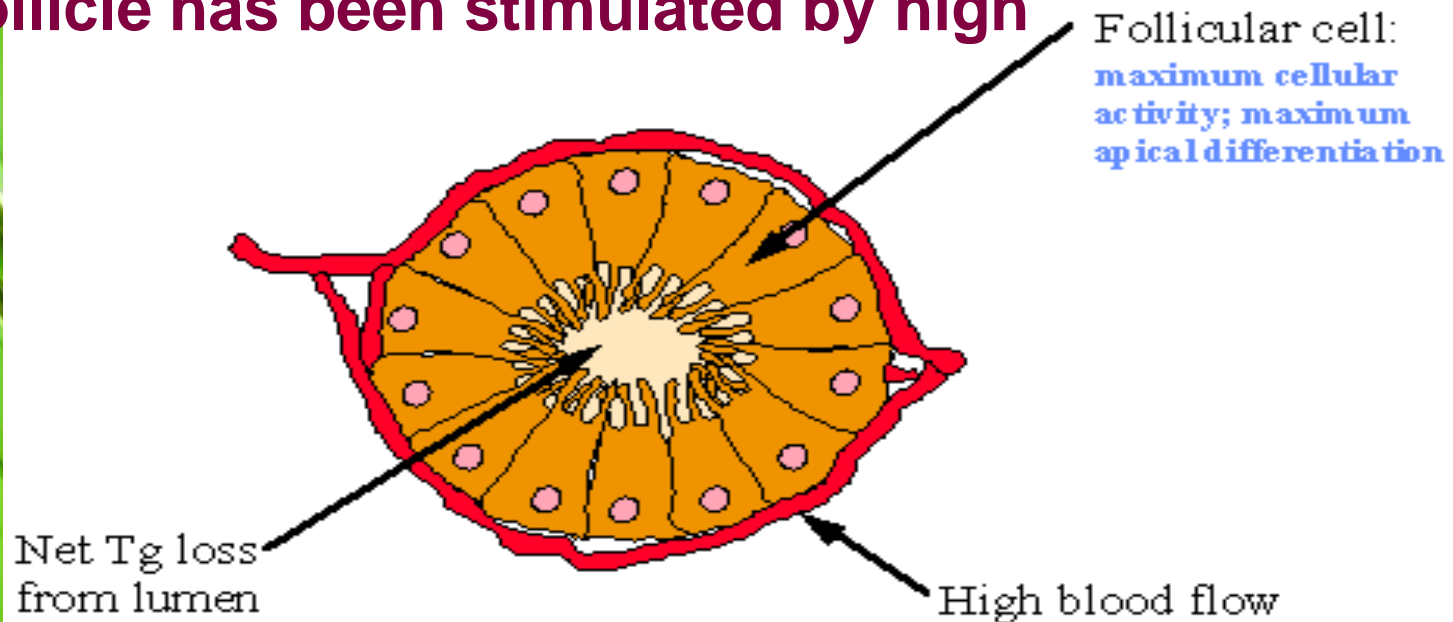


**"Reverse T3"  
(inactive)**

## This follicle lacks TSH stimulation



## This follicle has been stimulated by high TSH

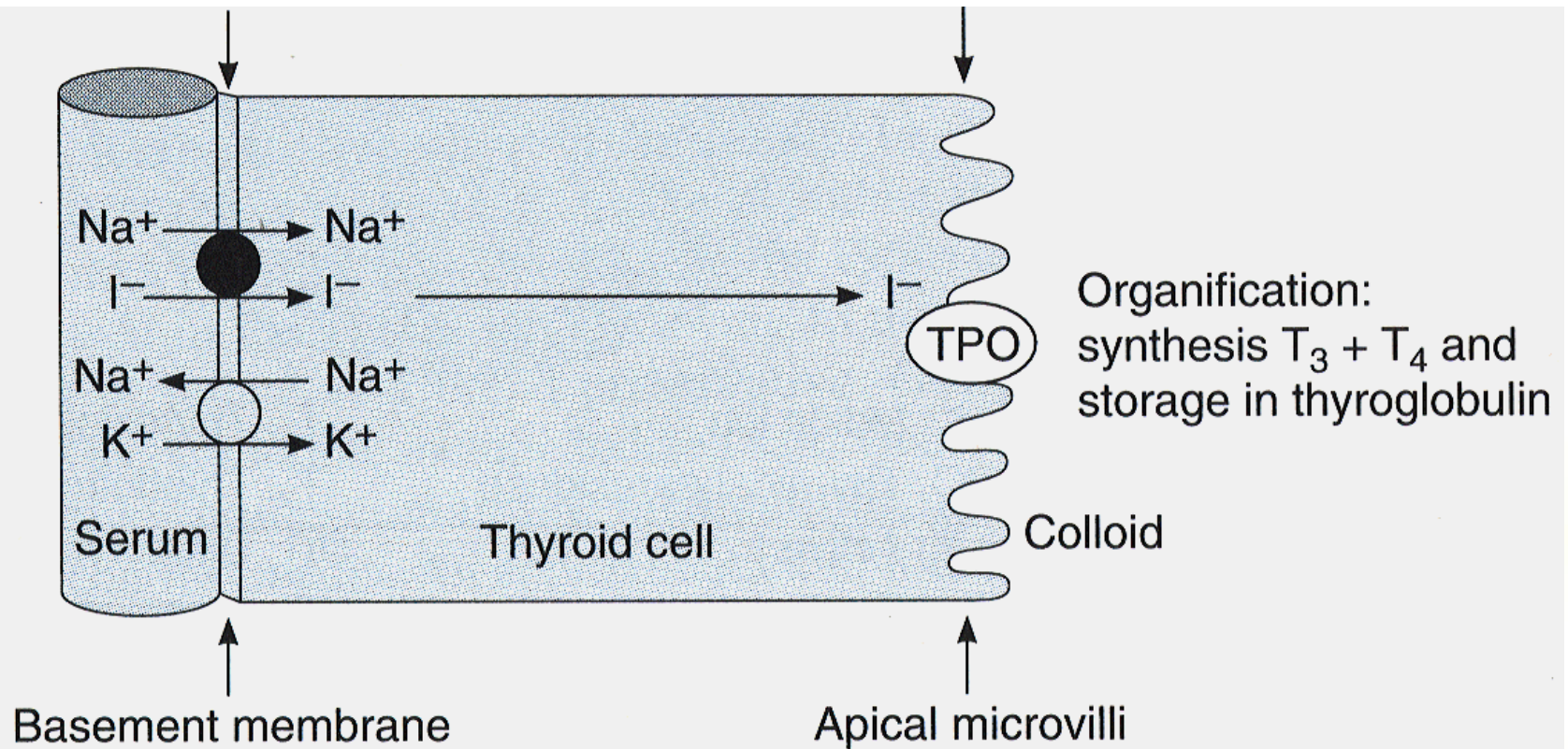


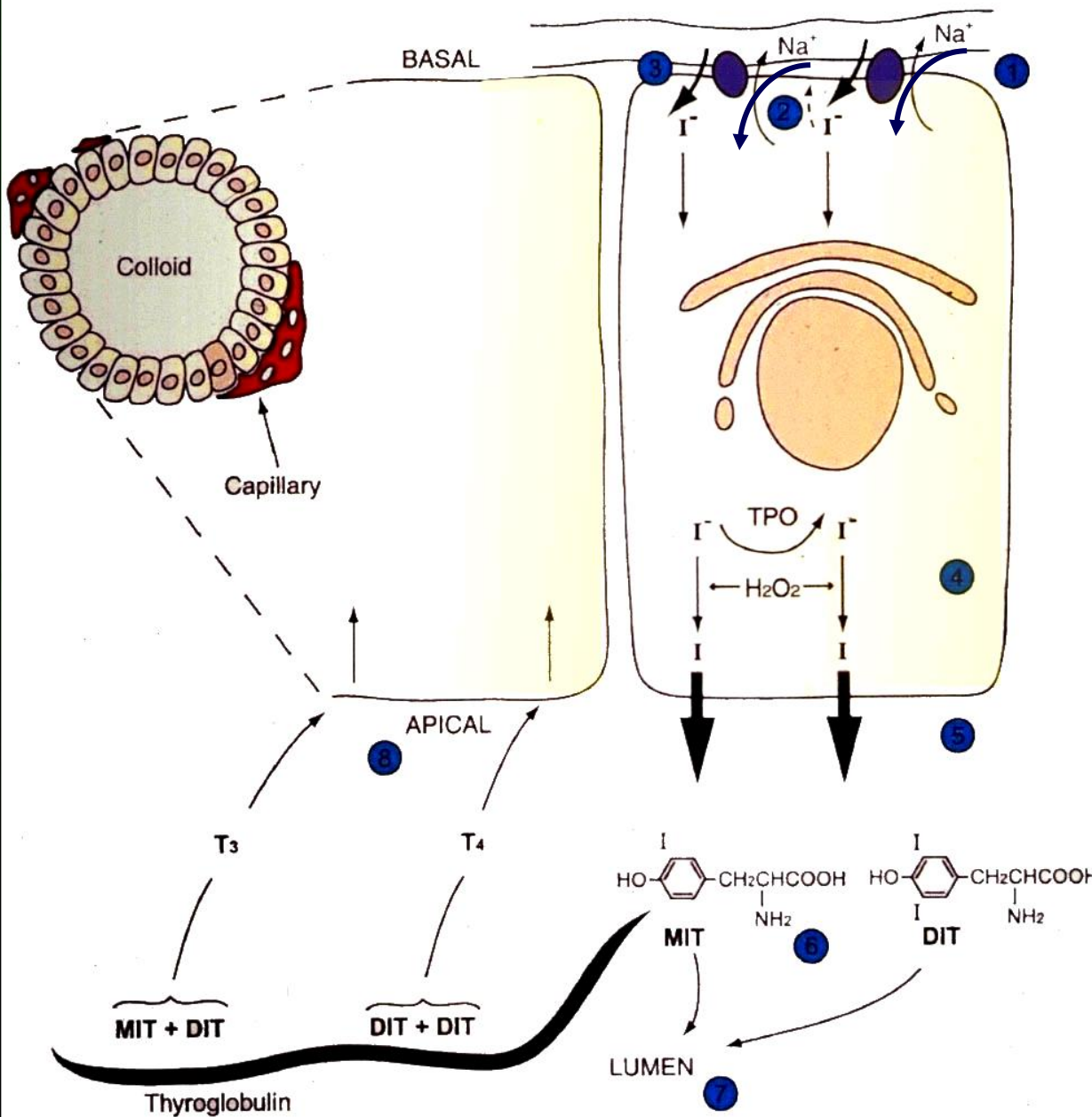
# Synthesis of thyroid hormones

- Active uptake of iodide into follicular cell
- Iodide  $\rightarrow$  iodine -  $H_2O_2$  (catalysed by TPO)
- Active uptake of iodine at follicular/ colloid interface
- Incorporation of iodine onto tyrosine residues of thyroglobulin
- Coupling of iodinated tyrosines
- Storage of  $T_3$  and  $T_4$



**Active transport of iodine ( $\text{ATP}_{\text{ase}}$  dependent) against electrical and chemical gradient - concentration of iodine 30-50 times that of the circulation**





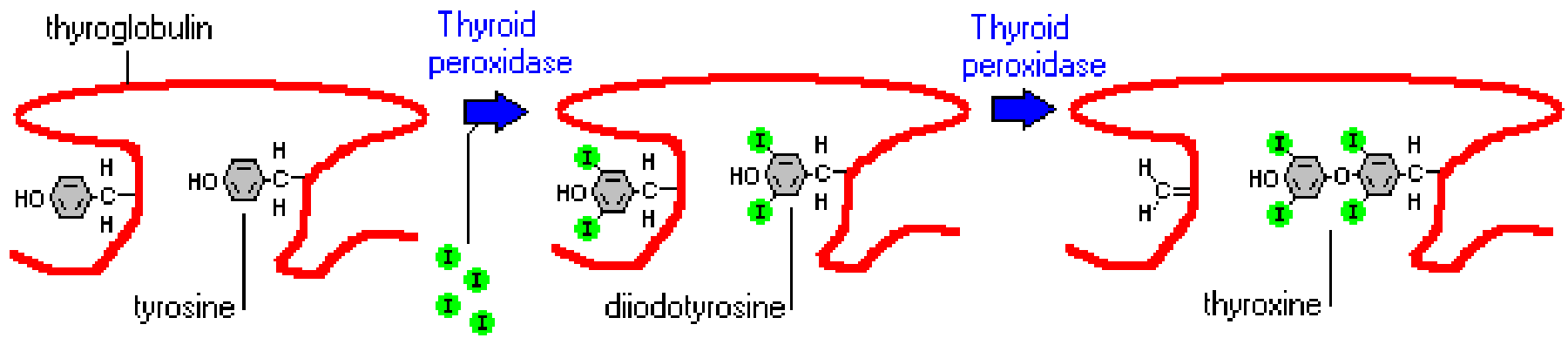
- Active uptake of iodine by a sodium iodide symporter

- Oxidation of iodide to iodine

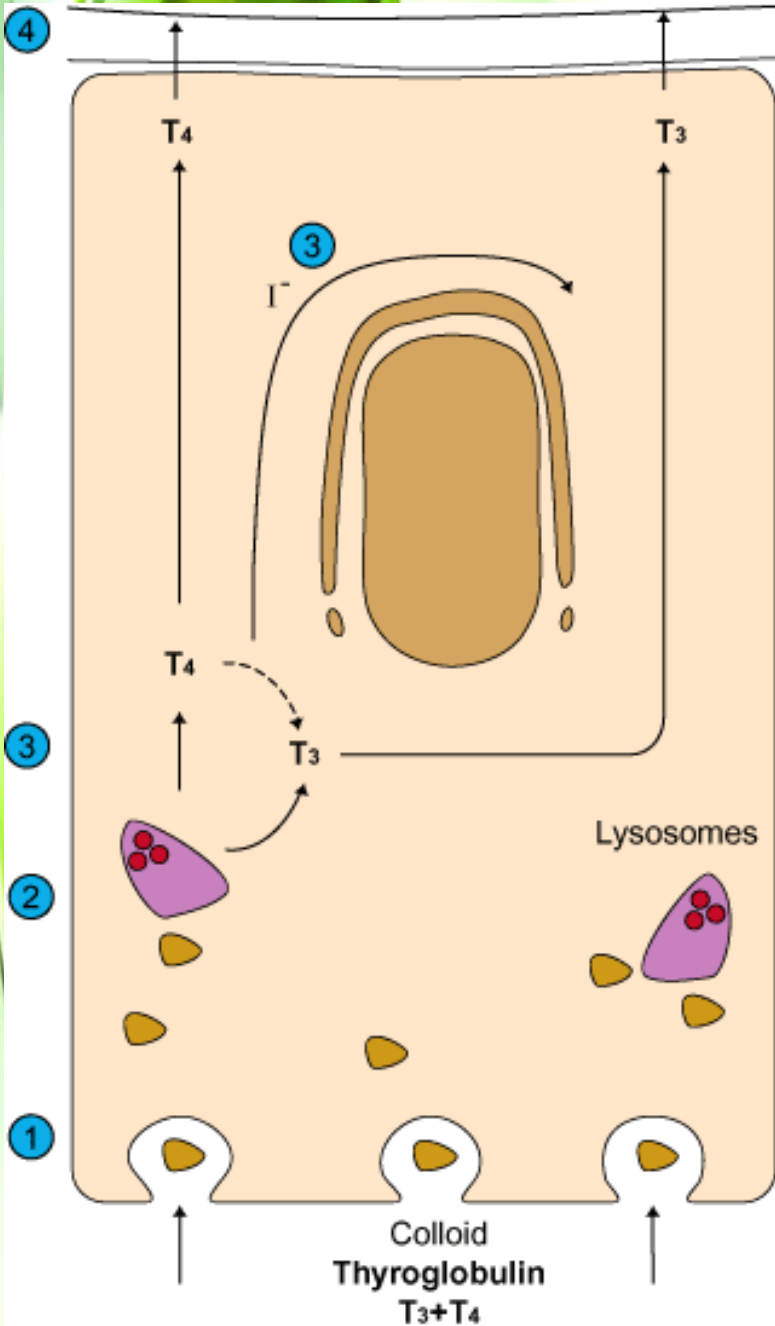
- Iodination of tyrosine residues at apical/colloid interface to form MIT and DIT

- Uptake of thyroglobulin into the lumen of the follicle

# Incorporation of iodine onto tyrosine residues on the thyroglobulin molecule







1) Release of T<sub>4</sub> and T<sub>3</sub> into circulation -

100μg T<sub>4</sub> & 10μg T<sub>3</sub>/day

2) ~ 10% T<sub>4</sub> undergoes mono-deiodination to T<sub>3</sub> before secretion

3) Fusion of colloid droplets with lysosomes --> hydrolysis and release of thyroid hormones

4) Stimulated by TSH colloid droplets with the bound thyroid hormones are taken back into follicular cells by pinocytosis



# Iodine metabolism

## Concentration of Iodide ( $I^-$ )

- ▶ **ACTIVE TRANSPORT BY THYROIDAL ( $I^-$ ) TRANSPORTER LINKED WITH  $Na^+/I^+$  ATPase**
- ▶ **Inhibition**
  - **Perchlorate ( $ClO_4^-$ )**
  - **Thiocyanate ( $SCN^-$ )**

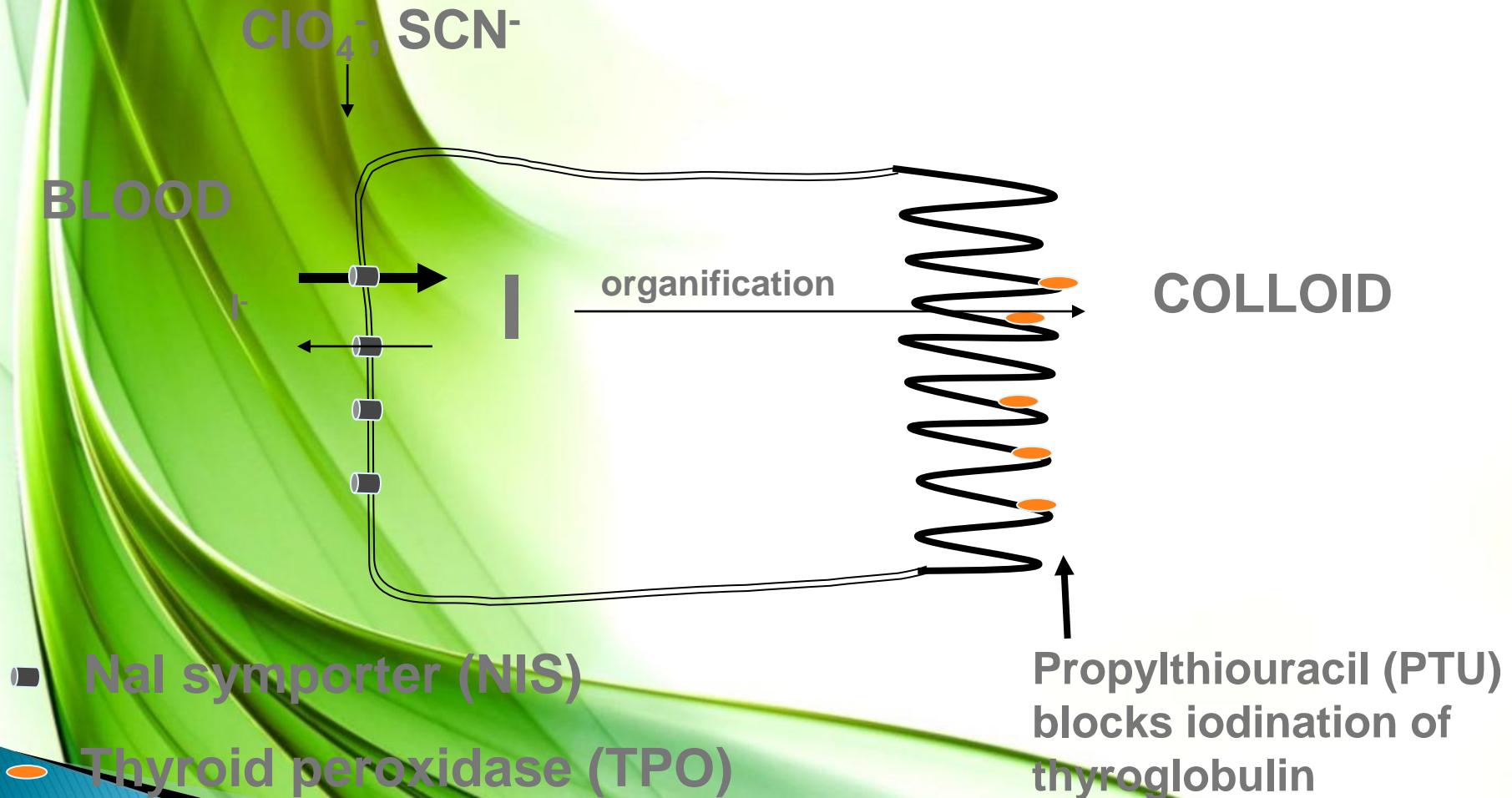
# Oxidation of iodide ( $I^- \rightarrow I$ )



▶ **Inhibitor**

**Propylthiouracil**

# Ion transport by the Thyroid follicular cell





# Iodination of tyrosine (Organification)

▶ Oxidized Iodine + tyrosine residues  
( thyroglobulin)  $\xrightarrow{\text{Peroxidase}}$  MIT and DIT

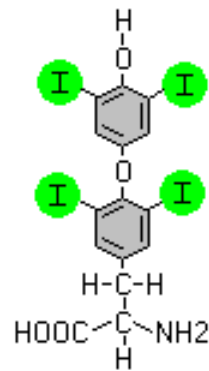
**Inhibitor**  
**Thioureas**



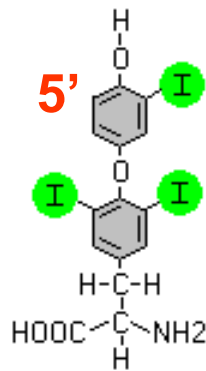
# Coupling of Iodotyrosyls



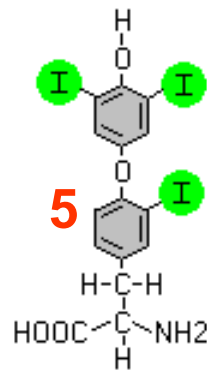
- **Inhibitor**  
Propylthiouracil



Thyroxine (T4)

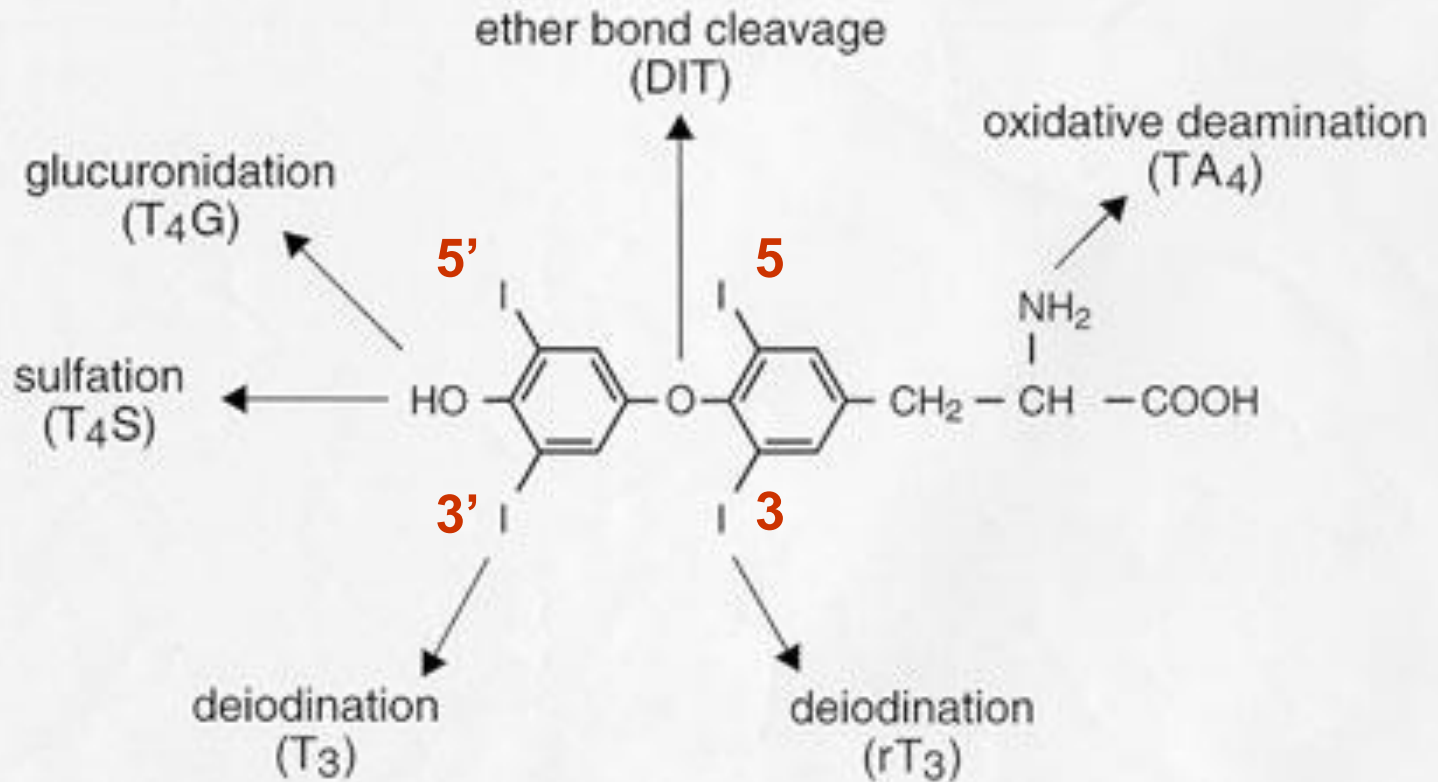


Triiodothyronine (T3)



"Reverse T3" (inactive)

## Thyroid hormone metabolism



# Metabolism of thyroid hormones

## Series of deiodinations by deiodinases

**Type 1 - liver, kidney, thyroid, pituitary gland, CNS: 5' and 5 positions**

**Type 2 - brain, brown fat, placenta, pituitary gland: 5' position only:  $T_4 \rightarrow T_3$  only: intracellular concentrations of  $T_3$**

**Type 3 - brain, placenta: 5 position only**



**Other metabolic pathways: sulphation, decarboxylation, conjugated with glucuronide**

# Thyroid Hormone Transport

- ❖ **Thyroxine binding prealbumin (TBPA)** (transthyretin), binds 10% of circulating thyroxine, increased level may be familial (high total T4, but normal fT4)
- ❖ **Albumin**-binds about 15% of circulating T4 and T3



# Thyroid Hormone transport

- Thyroid hormones are transported in the blood bound to protein carriers
- Only 0.04% of T4, and 0.4% of T3 are free
- The free fraction is responsible for hormone action
- About 99% of T3 is derived from peripheral conversion of T4

# Factors affecting Thyroxine binding Globulin level (TBG)-Increase level

- ❖ Hereditary
- ❖ Pregnancy
- ❖ Estrogen therapy
- ❖ Hypothyroidism
- ❖ Phenothiazines
- ❖ Acute viral hepatitis

# Factors that decrease

- ❖ Hereditary
- ❖ Androgens
- ❖ Corticosteroids
- ❖ Thyrotoxicosis
- ❖ Nephrotic syndrome
- ❖ malnutrition
- ❖ 'major illness



# Thyroid function in pregnancy

- Rise in Total Binding globulin (due to estrogen)  
→inc. total T4 and T3, due to estrogen
- Free T4 and T3 are normal
- HCG has weak TSH agonist activity, and responsible for the slight thyroid enlargement during pregnancy

• Anti thyroid drugs like carbimazole and

Propylthiouracil (PTU) is a medication used to treat hyperthyroidism cross the placenta to varying degrees.

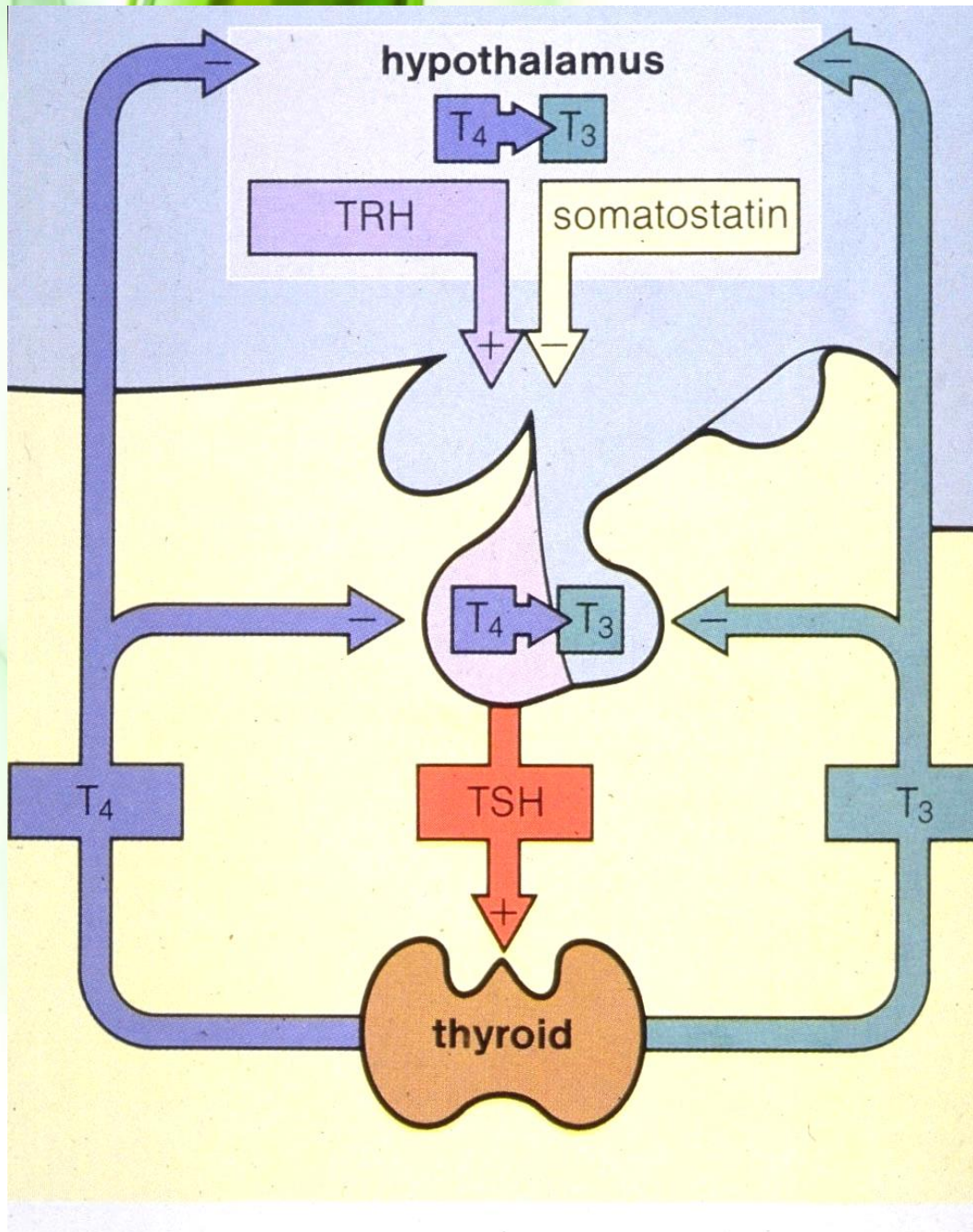


# Thyroid hormone in various disorders

condition	TSH	Free T4	Free T3
Primary hyperthyroid	Undetectable	V.high	High
T3 thyrotoxicosis	Undetectable	Normal	v.High
Secondary hyperthyroidism	Increased	High	High
Subclinical hyperthyroidism	Low	N	N

# Thyroid hormone conc. In various Disorders

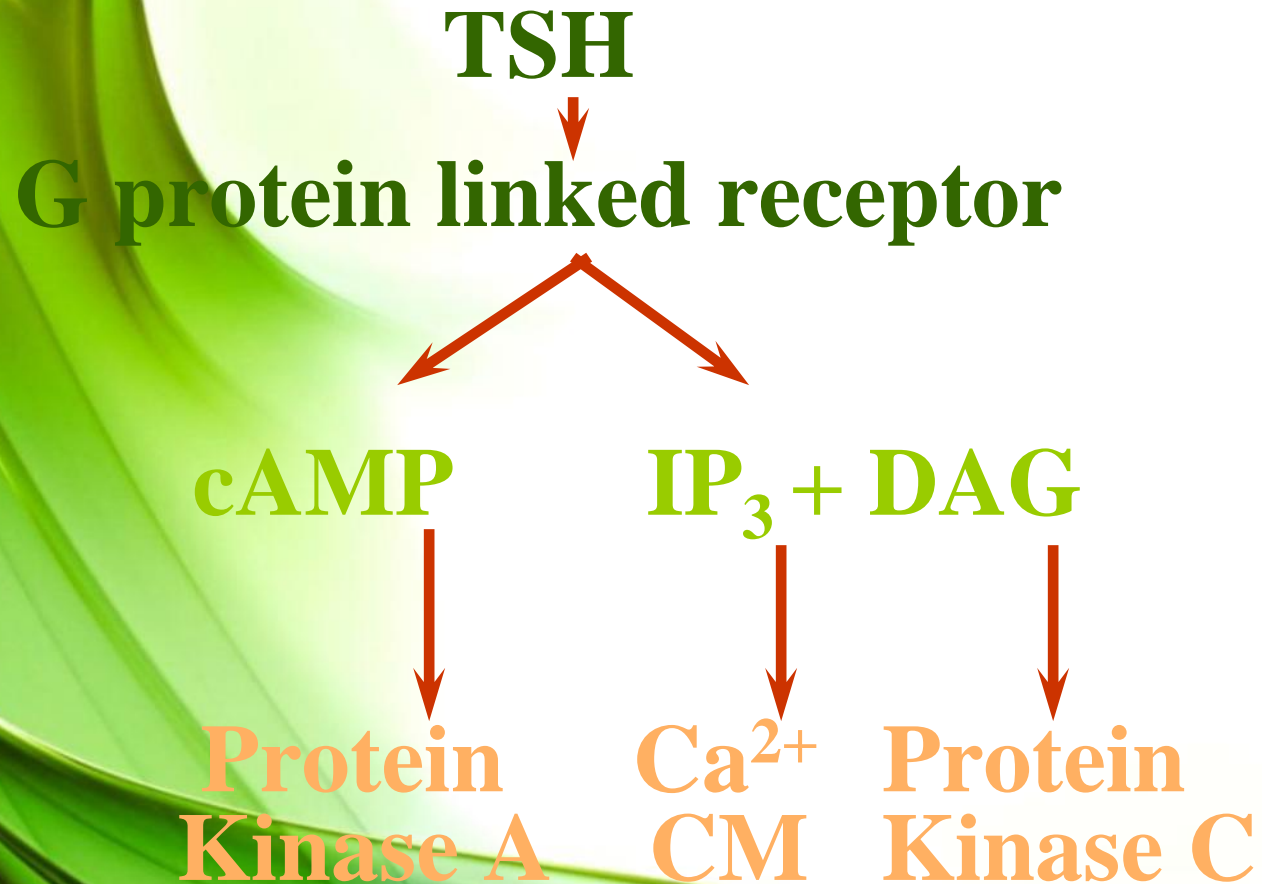
Condition	TSH	Free T4	Free T3
Thyroid H Resistance	↑ or N	↑	↑
Prim hypothyroidism	↑	↓	↓ or N
Secondary hypothyroidism	↓ or N	↓	↓ or N



**Control of thyroid hormone synthesis and release and feedback control**

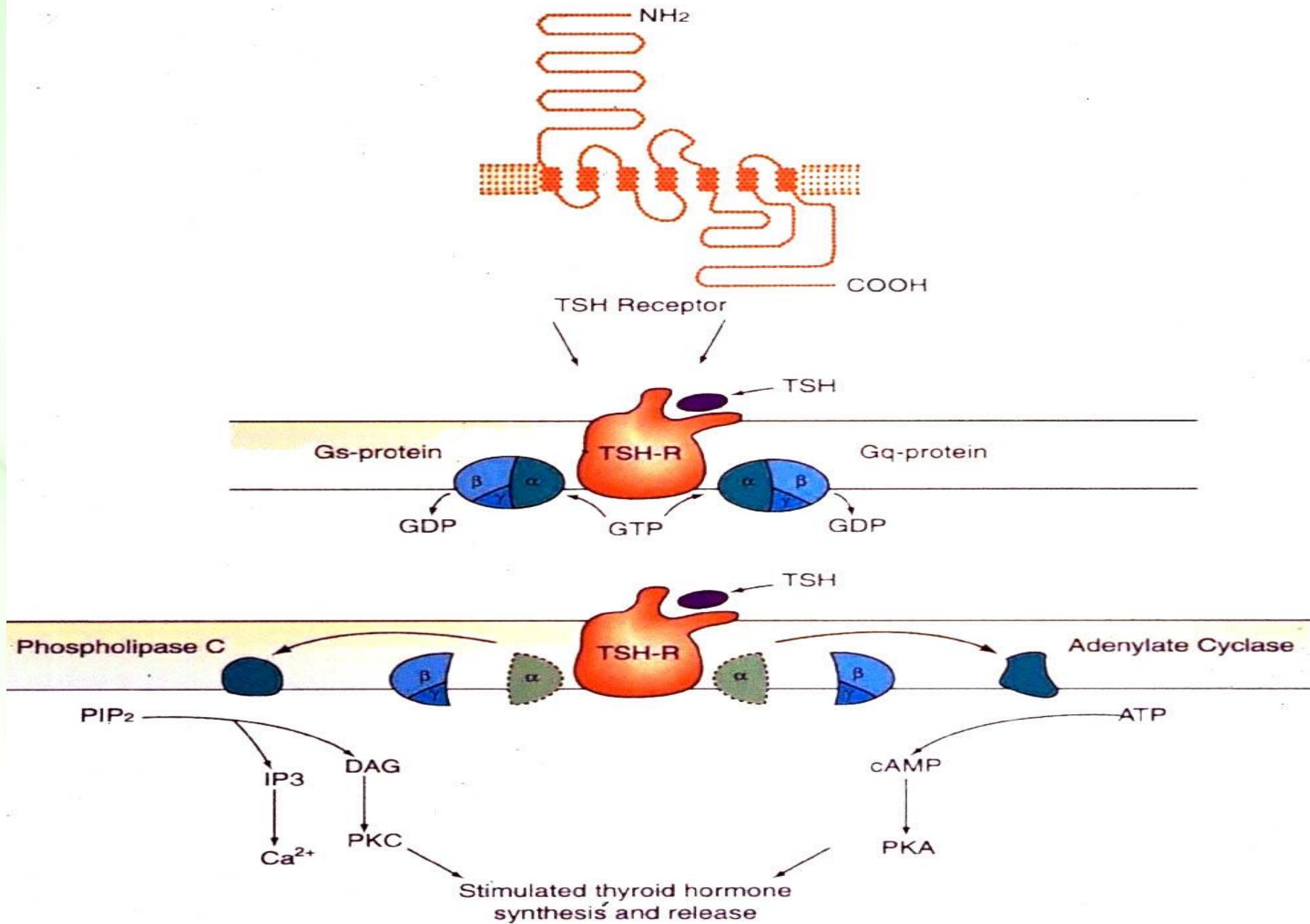


# TSH Receptors



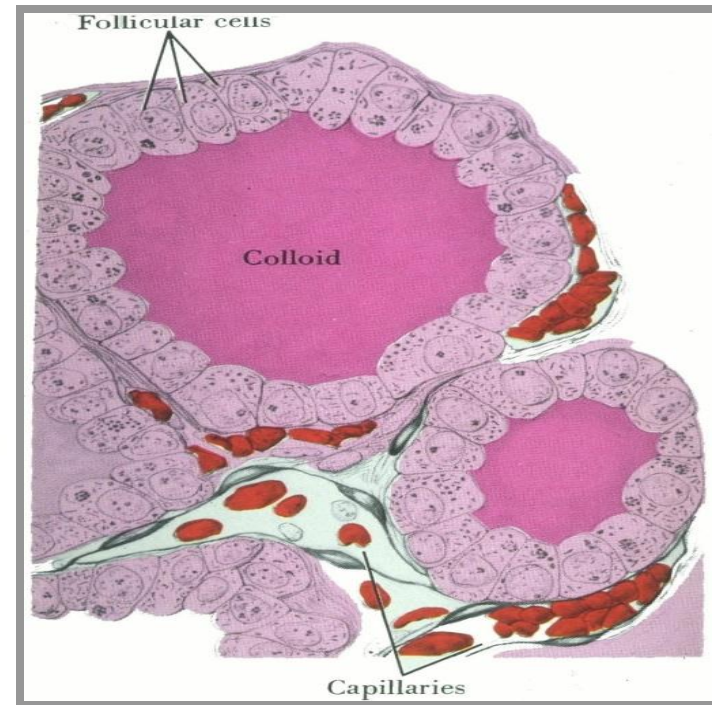
**(high concentrations)**





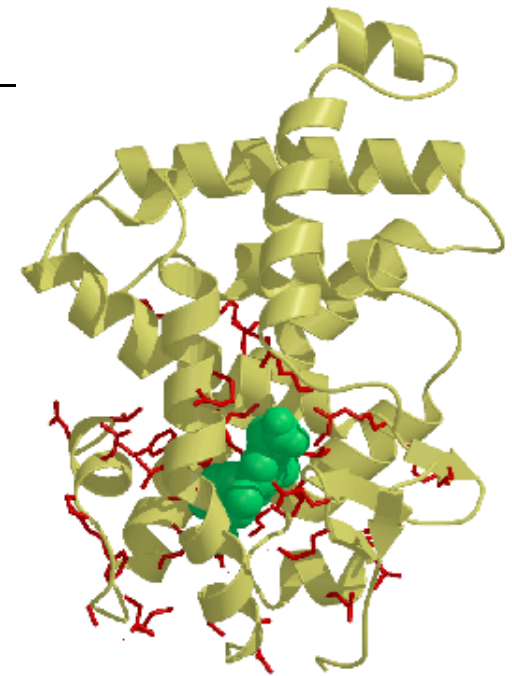
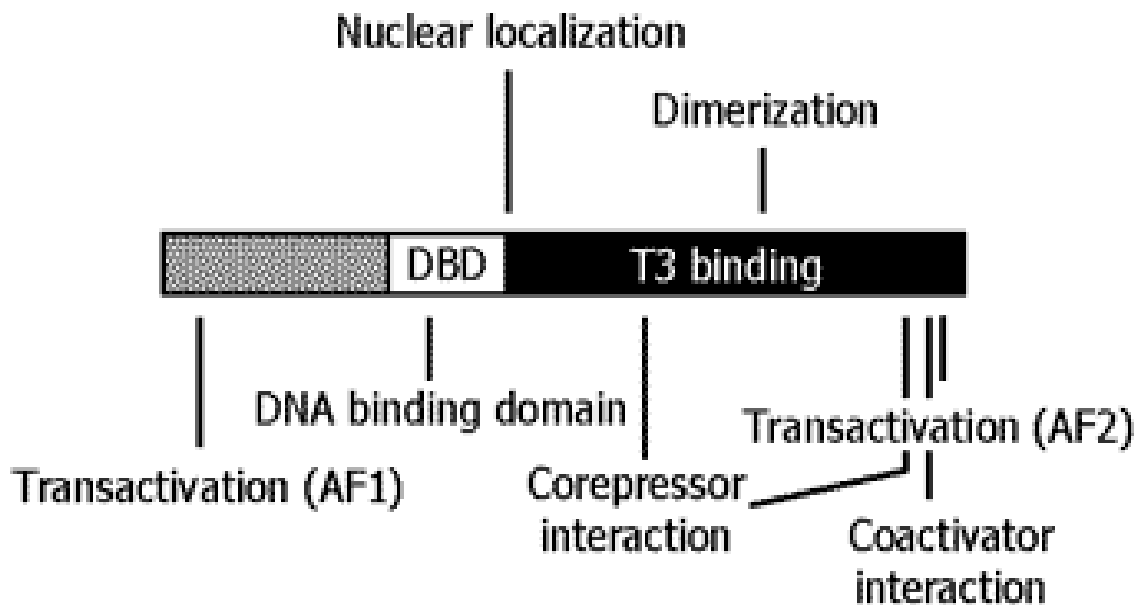
## Actions of TSH

- Active uptake of iodine\*
- Stimulates other reactions involved in thyroid hormone synthesis
- Stimulates the uptake of colloid
- Induces growth of the thyroid gland



# Thyroid hormone receptors

## Functional Domains in the TR

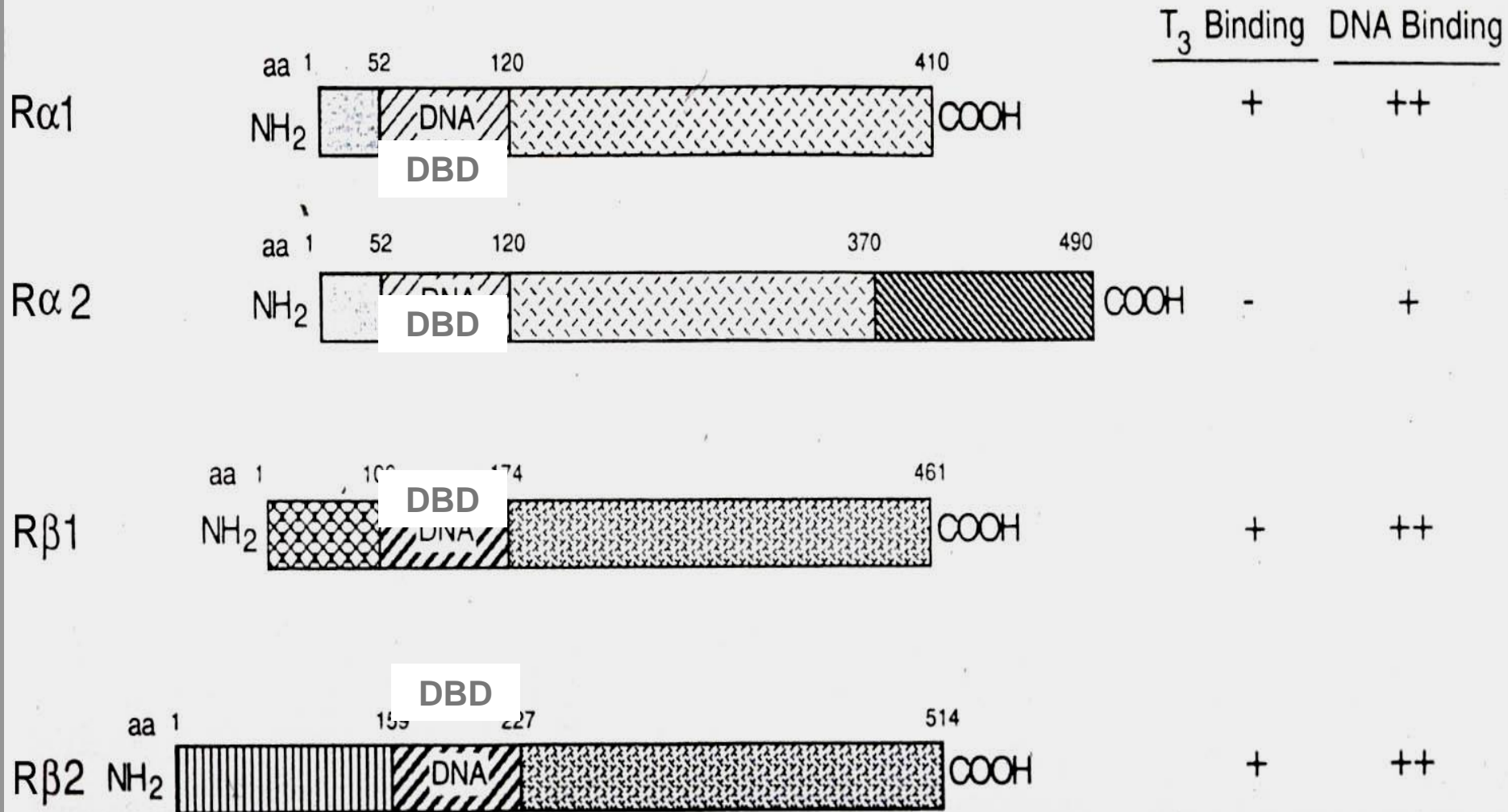


# Thyroid hormone receptors

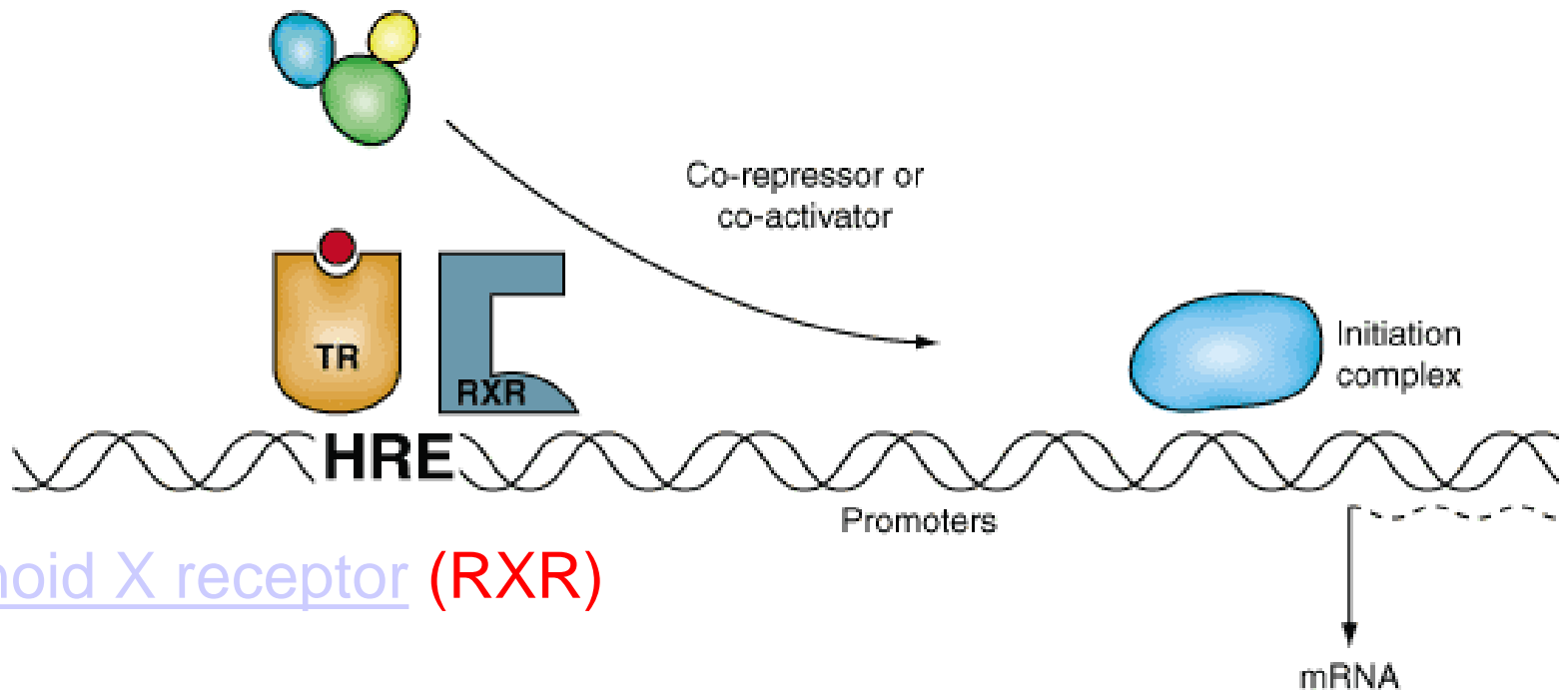
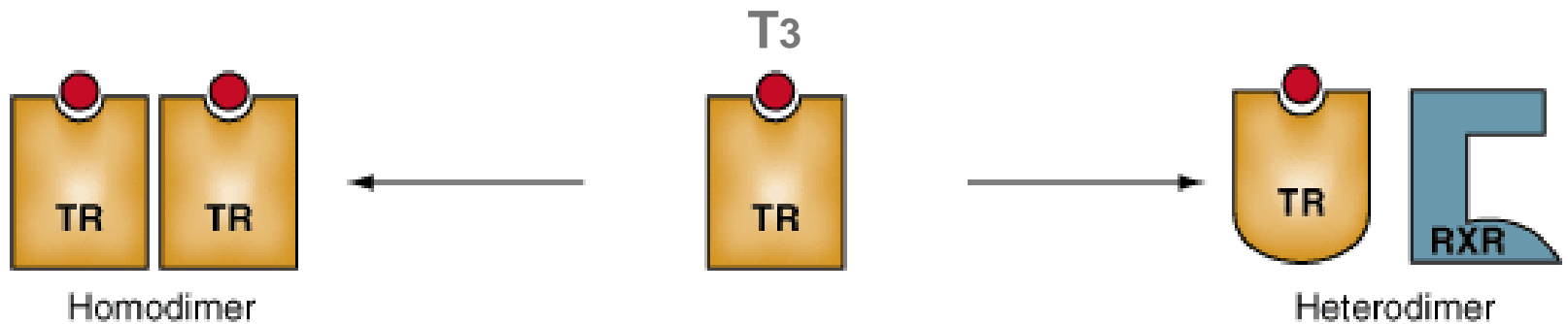
- **Type 2 receptors in nucleus - high affinity for  $T_3$**
- **Dimerize with another  $T_3$  receptor (homodimer) or retinoic acid receptor (heterodimer)**
- **Dimerized receptor + other transcription factors  $\longrightarrow$  gene transcription**
- **Membrane receptors? Ion movements**



# Isoforms of the thyroid hormone receptor

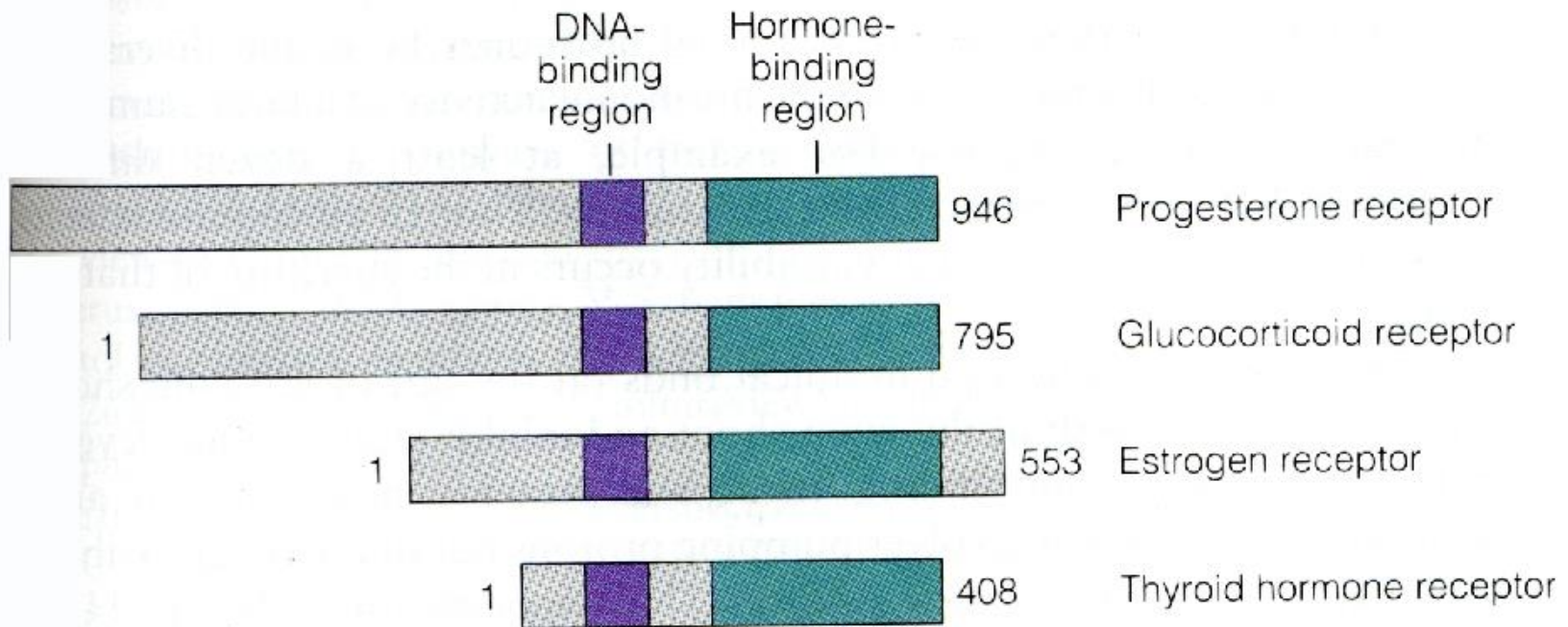


# Dimerization of thyroid hormone receptors and gene activation/inactivation



retinoid X receptor (RXR)

# Structural similarities among receptors for steroid and thyroid hormones

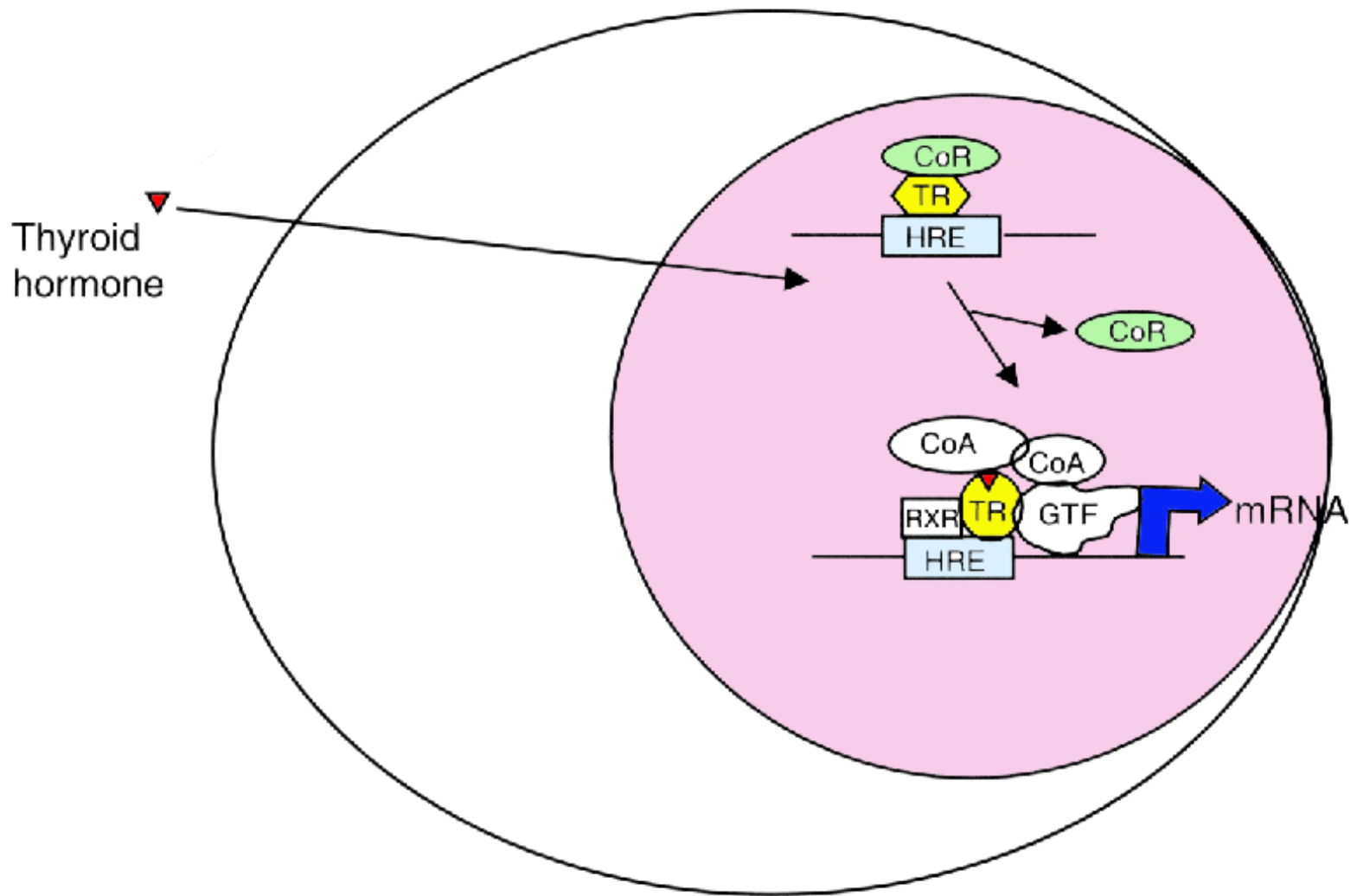


# Mechanism of thyroid hormone action

- Receptors for thyroid hormone are located in the cytoplasm and nucleus. The affinity of the receptor is ten times higher for  $T_3$  than for  $T_4$ .
- Four variants of nuclear receptor exist: thyroid hormone receptor, retinoic acid receptor, vitamin D receptor, and mitochondrial receptor for thyroid hormone.
- Free thyroid hormone binds to thyroid hormone receptor (TR) and thyroid hormone receptor-associated protein (TRAP). The hormone is bound to heterodimeric thyroid hormone receptor (HRE) and corepressor protein.



# Mechanism of thyroid hormone action



# Increased expression of proteins by thyroid hormones

- **Glycerol 3-phosphate** – a component of glycerol in the membranes of mitochondria (one of transporters in mitochondria)
- **Cytochrome c oxidase** – an enzyme in the electron transport chain that converts cytochrome c to oxygen
- **ATPases** – (eg. Ca ATPase)
- **Carbamyl phosphate** – in the urea cycle
- **Growth hormone**

# Increased respiration during hyperthyroidism

## Increased synthesis of

synthesis of cytochrome  
increased oxidative phosphorylation  
the increased consumption of oxygen  
increased production of heat

## Increased consumption of

synthesis of various proteins  
dependent in muscle  
of store of ATP

# Mechanisms increasing body temperature during hyperthyroidism

**Reducing efficiency of ATP**

synthesis of glycerol

increased transport NAD<sup>+</sup>

malate/aspartate shuttle

**Increased synthesis of**

**Increased consumption of**

**Uncoupling of phospho**

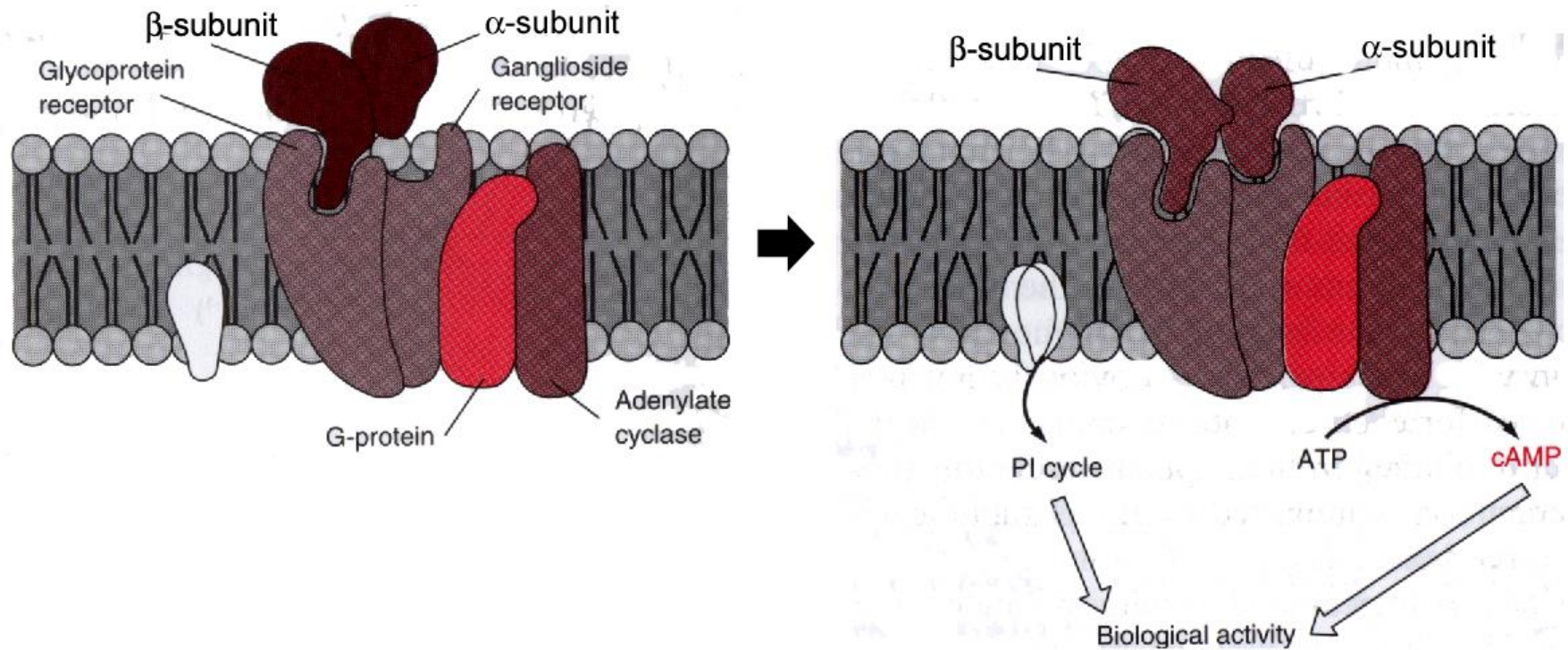
**mitochondria**



# Control of thyroid hormone synthesis and secretion

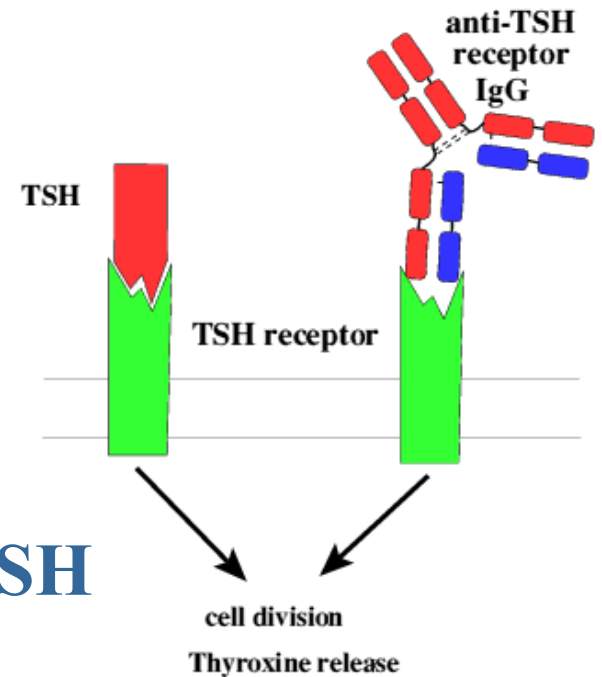
- Pituitary hormone thyrotrophic hormone (TSH) increases activity of iodide pump in thyroid gland
- Endocytosis of iodinated thyroglobulin following secretion is upregulated by TSH
- Production of TSH is controlled by thyroid hormone feedback

# Model of TSH receptor



## Grave's disease (1<sup>o</sup>)

- Autoimmune - activating AB's to TSH receptor
- High concentrations of circulating thyroid hormones
- Weight loss, tachycardia, tiredness
- Diffuse goitre - TSH stimulating growth
- Ophthalmopathy and dermopathy







# Exophthalmos

bilateral exophthalmos is a  
marker of hyperthyroidism  
(hypethyroidism)

Thyroid-stimulating hormone  
action of thyroid-stimulating  
thyrotropin releasing hormone  
thyroid gland  
through interaction  
with the thyroid gland

Subset of orbital adipose tissue  
membrane

After stimulation, these adipocytes are  
capable of differentiating into adipose tissue  
thus increase orbital adipose tissue



# Symptoms and signs of hyperthyroidism

## Symptoms

## Signs

### Common

Anxiety and irritability (~ >90%)  
Palpitations (~ 90%)  
Increased perspiration and heat intolerance (~ 90%)  
Fatigability (~ 80%)  
Weakness (~ 70%)  
Increased appetite and weight loss (~ 85%)

Tachycardia (~ 100%)  
Tremor (~ 95%)  
Goiter (~ 100%)  
Warm moist skin (~ 95%)

### Less common

Dyspnoea (~ 65%)  
Increased bowel frequency (~ 30%)  
Anorexia (~ 10%)  
Weight gain (~ <5%)  
Oligomenorrhoea (~ 25%)

Atrial fibrillation (~ 10%)  
Onycholysis (~ <5%)  
'Liver palms' (~ 5%)  
Heart failure (~ 5%)

### Rare

Pruritus (~ <1%)  
Periodic paralysis (~ <1%)

# Hashimoto's (1°)

- **Autoimmune - AB's destruction of thyroid gland**
- **Low concentrations of thyroid hormones**
- **Lethargy, intolerance to cold**
- **Lack of growth and development**
- **Diffuse goitre - lymphocytic infiltration of gland + TSH stimulated growth**



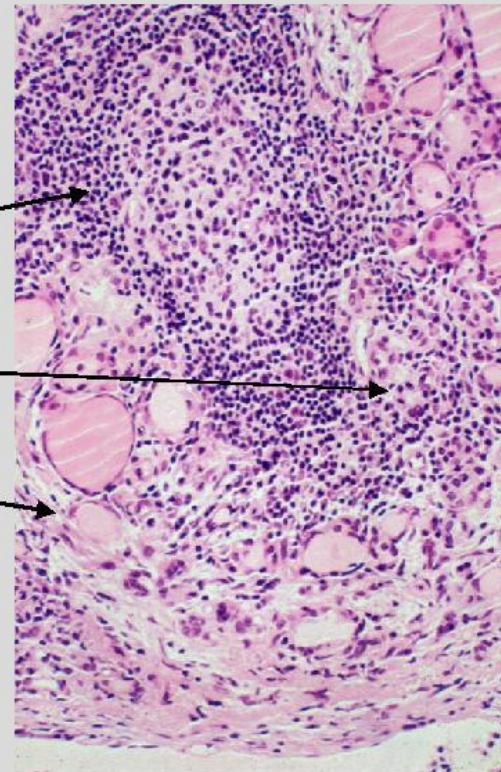
# Hashimoto's Autoimmune Thyroiditis



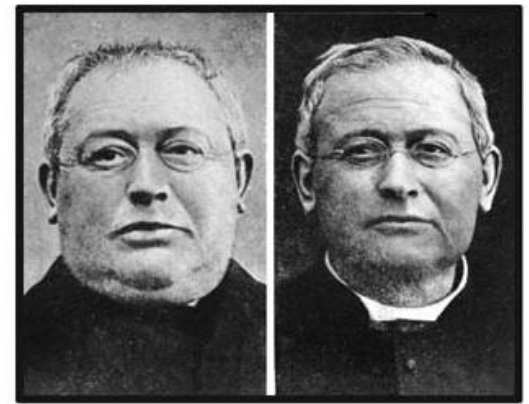
## Histologic features:

Lymphoid follicles

Destruction of Thyroid Cells  
and Follicles  
by T Lymphocytes



# Myxedema (myxoedema)



- Hypothyroid myxedema is specific form of skin edema
- Increased activity of connective tissues leads to increased deposition of components of extracellular matrix (mainly glycosaminoglycans, proteoglycans) which retains large amounts of sodium ions and water
- Stimulation of fibroblasts is caused by increased amount of TSH which is able to bind to some membrane receptors and by this way it activates biosynthesis of extracellular matrix



# Symptoms and signs of hypothyroidism

## Clinical features of hypothyroidism

### Symptoms

### Signs

#### Common

Fatigue (~ 90%)  
Cold intolerance (~ 80%)  
Depression (~ 70%)  
Poor concentration (~ 65%)  
Musculoskeletal aches and pains (~ 25%)  
Carpal tunnel syndrome (~ 15%)

Dry, scaly skin (~ 90%)  
Coarse, brittle thinning hair (~ 60%)  
Bradycardia (~ 40%)  
Hair loss or dryness (~ 70%)  
Anemia  
Puffy eyes (~ 90%)

#### Less common

Constipation (~ 50%)  
Hoarse voice (~ 40%)  
Menorrhagia (~ 30%)

Edema (~ 30%)  
Cerebellar signs\*  
Deafness\*  
Psychiatric\*

# References

- Concise Medical Biochemistry by Sucheta Dandekar (2019)
- Conceptual review of biochemistry by S.P. Pahwa(2018)
- Biochemistry by Lubert & Stryer(2017)