

- Acquire low abundance solutes
- Creates signalling gradients
- Expel waste

### Cell Signalling

03 November 2014 11:31

How do cells know where they are, what to become, and when to change?

#### **Coordination**

- The immune system, for example has 7 types of cell, and 21 different chemical signals
- Each cell has to select one of a number of possible responses at the right time and in the right place

#### Signal problems

- Hormones such as steroids are lipophilic and easy to synthesise
- Lack diversity
   Pentide horm
  - Peptide hormones are much more diverse
  - 34 human interleukins
    - But are expensive to make and cannot cross the plasma membrane
  - Peptide signals are at low concentrations and cannot enter the cell
- <u>Receptors</u>
  - Receptors are proteins which bind and respond to signals
  - Many sit on the cell surface
  - Respond to low concentration, hydrophilic, peptide signals
  - Characteristics:
    - Transfer information from outside to inside
    - Specific
      - Distinguish between closely related signals
    - Sensitive
    - Detect at low concentration
    - Interactions are reversible
    - End stimuli
    - Can be controlled (on/off)
    - Coupled to a response
  - Types:
    - Ligand-gated
      - Ionotropic
      - e.g. nicotinic, ACh
    - G-Protein-coupled
      - Metabotropic

OFF

Secondary messengers

linked receptor

Often long-term changes

Kinas

- e.g. muscarinic
- $\hfill\square$  Another type of on/off switch which depends on the binding of GDP or GTP
- G proteins are heterotrimeric signal receptors

the binding of GDP or GTP **First messenger First messenger G protein G protein C AMMP M Second M Second** 

A secondary messenger as a signal generated within

a cell in response to an extracellular signal

Secondary Messengers

Cytokine receptors
 Protein kinases transfer a phosphate from ATP to an amino acid. Typically triggers a conformational change in the phosphorylated protein.

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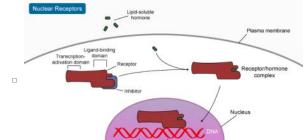
Protein Phospharylated Protein

nall monomeric

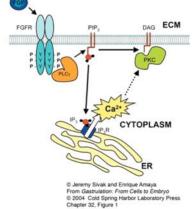
ions between two states

Preteis Kinase

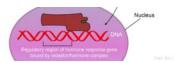
- Nuclear receptors
  - Affect gene transcription
  - e.g. Oestrogen receptors
  - Used for steroid hormones
  - Can cross plasma membrane
  - Testosterone passes through p. membrane, and bind to androgen receptor (held out of nucleus by heat-shock proteins). This causes a conformational change, unbinding hsp's, and allowing the androgen to pass into the nucleus and bind to DNA, triggering change in expression.



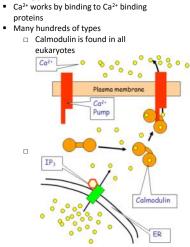
 Another type of secondary messenger system yes membrane phospholipids as a source of <u>2</u> internal signals

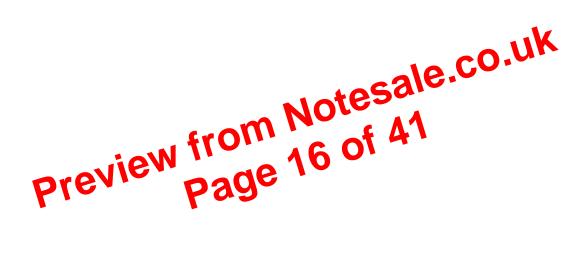


- Where does calcium come from? • Cells expend energy keeping cytosolic calcium
- concentration low
- Ca<sup>2+</sup> enters the cytosol:
  - IP<sub>3</sub> from PIP<sub>2</sub>
    - Opens Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels in ER
    - Diffusion gradient floods Ca<sup>2+</sup> through
- Ca<sup>2+</sup> binding proteins
  - Ca<sup>2+</sup> works by binding to Ca<sup>2+</sup> binding



- Function:
  - Receptors bind ligands
  - Receptors are constantly flicking between active and inactive
  - Majority are active at a given time
  - Signal traps the receptors in the less stable active state - tips equilibrium
  - Explains the ability to switch off





- Diffusion gradient floods Ca<sup>2+</sup> through
- Ca<sup>2+</sup> binding proteins

# Enzymes

26 November 2014 13:45

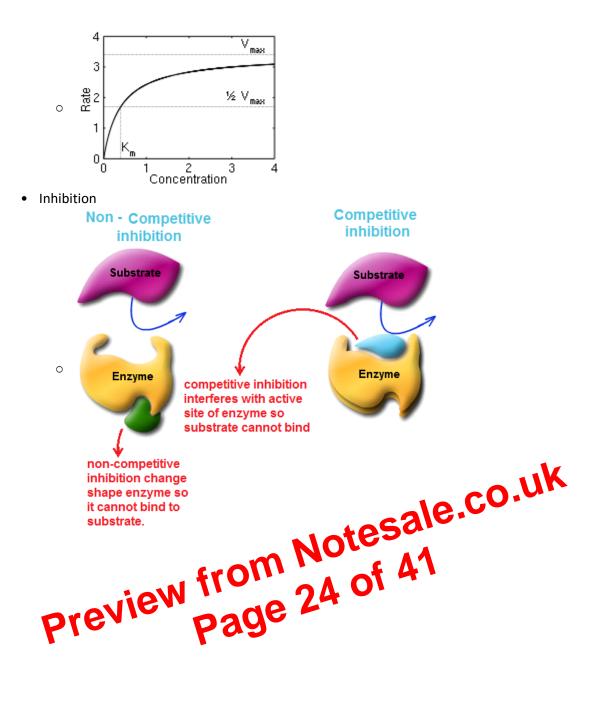
- Macromolecular biological catalysts
- Many key reaction impossible without enzymes
- Most are proteins
  - Ribozymes
    - Make all other enzymes
- Function depends on sequence and 3D structure
- Structure
  - Sequence
    - Key catalytic amino acids
  - 3D structure
    - 3D cleft brings reactants together
    - Enzymes are selective
    - Other regulatory sites
      - □ e.g. activation sites
  - Co-factors, co-enzymes, prosthetic groups
    - Crucial to function
    - Co-factors
      - □ Inorganic ions
    - Co-enzymes
    - Prosthetic groups
- Permanently bound prospection
  Inorganic ion in organic framework
  - Haem
- Role
  - Many reaction are slow/don't happen

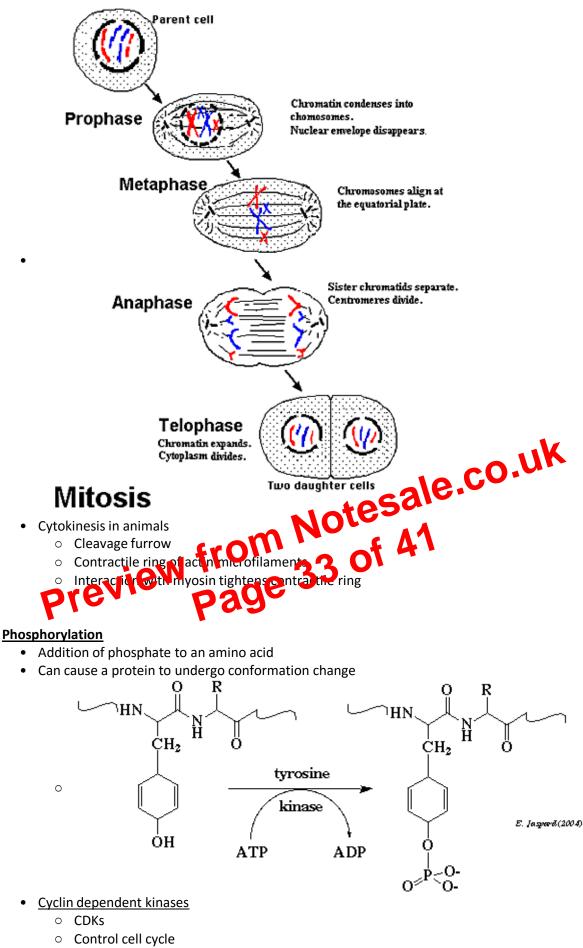
## s increase rate by 10 (t) 10<sup>-4</sup> times

- Bring reactants together 🧭
  - Substrates enter site and are held there
    - □ Interaction more likely than when free floating

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- Interaction stabilised
  - □ H, ionic, covalent bonding
- Product is formed and released
- Take intermediate routes
- Makes even unfavourable reactions possible
- Activation energy
  - Lowered
- Michaelis-Menten kinetics
  - Relationship between [S] and rate in enzyme catalysed reactions
  - V<sub>max</sub> = maximum turnover
  - K<sub>m</sub> = [S] at 1/2V<sub>max</sub>
    - Measure of [S] at which enzyme is active
  - Gives a clue to the [S] at which saturation occurs





- CDKs bind cyclins and become active
- Cyclin b and CDK 1 form mitosis promoting factor
  - Cyclin b concentration rises, forms complex
  - Mitosis happens