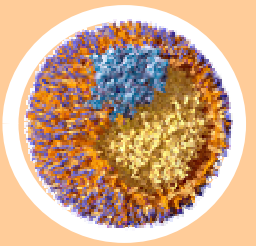


Cellular Biochemistry [918SM]

Module 2_3

Intercellular Lipid Transport



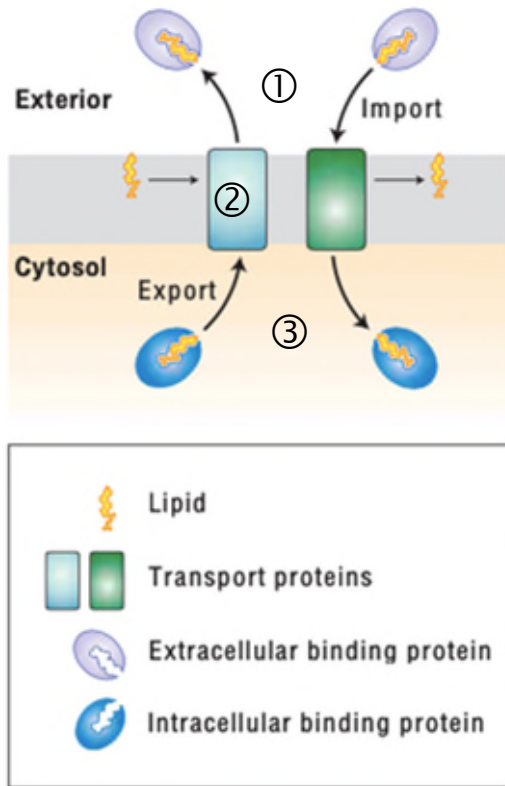
A. Tossi atossi@units.it

AA 2026-2027

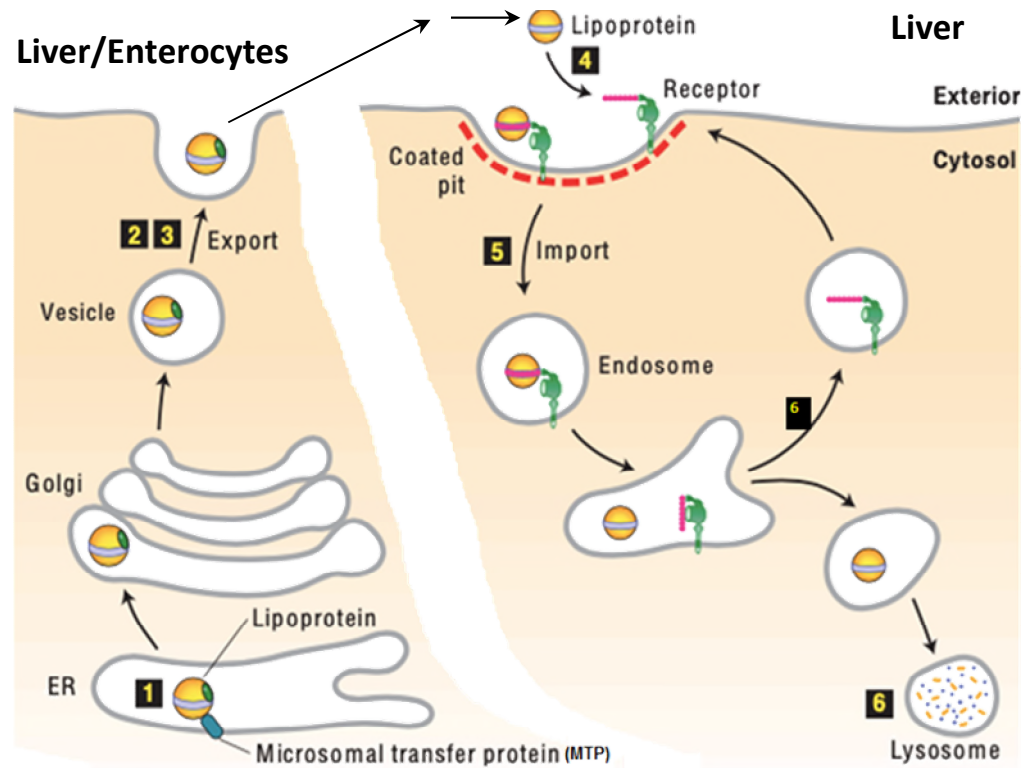
LIPID TRANSPORT IN AND OUT OF CELLS

► Two main routes for the import, export and transport of cellular lipids

1) I/E Mediated by **Transport Proteins** 2) **Transport** mediated by **Lipoproteins (LP)**



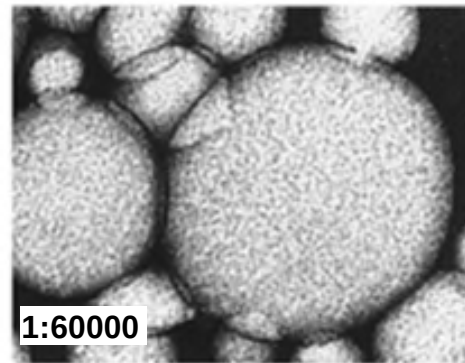
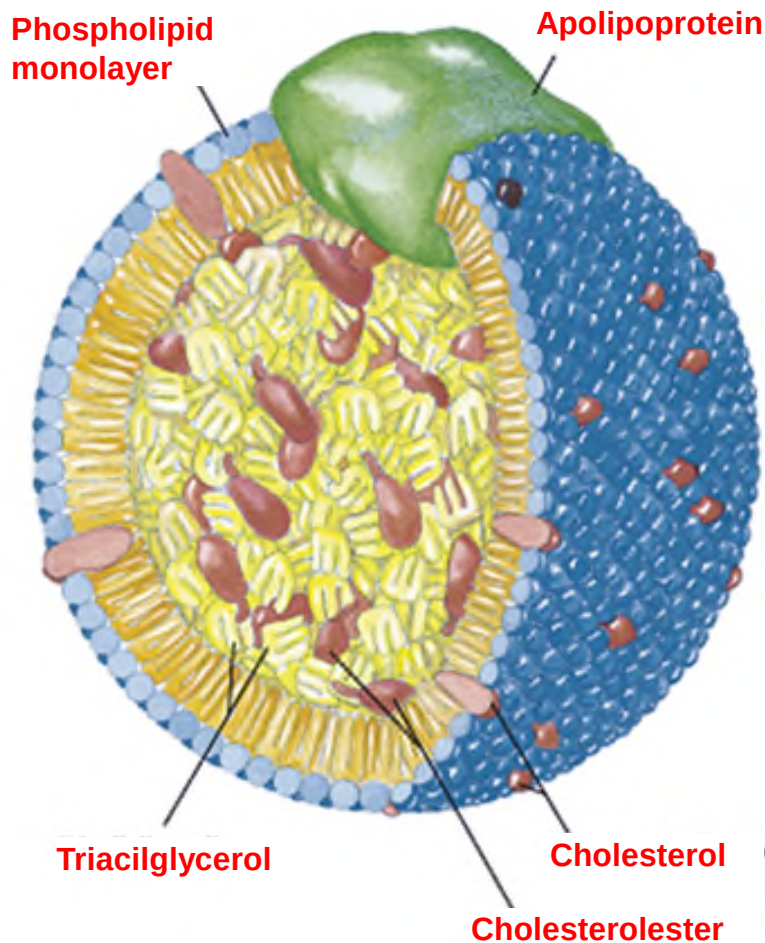
- ① eg. Serum albumin, CETP
- ② eg. ABC Transporter
- ③ eg. FABP



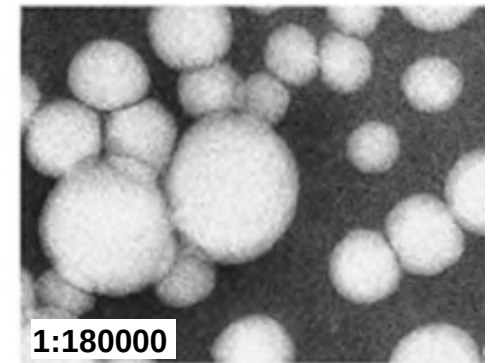
- ① **Lipoproteins assembled** in liver/enterocyte ER
- ② Carried to CP membrane by **Golgi-dependent secretory pathway**
- ③ **Exocytosis & delivery to tissue**
- ④ **LP remnants** return to liver and **bind to LP receptors**
- ⑤ **Endocytosis → endosomes**
- ⑥ Delivered to **lysosomes** for dismantling (LP receptor recycled)

LIPOPROTEINS (LP)

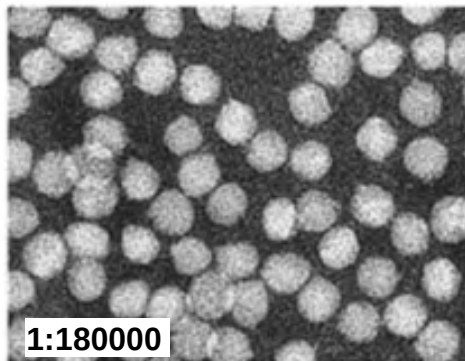
- ▶ **Large complexes composed of different lipids and Apolipoproteins**
 - Transport lipids (TAG, CL, CLE, & lipophylic vitamins) in biological fluids (plasma, interstitial fluid, and lymph) in which they are poorly soluble, to and from tissues
 - Each type of LP transports cargo with different destinations and varies in size and density.



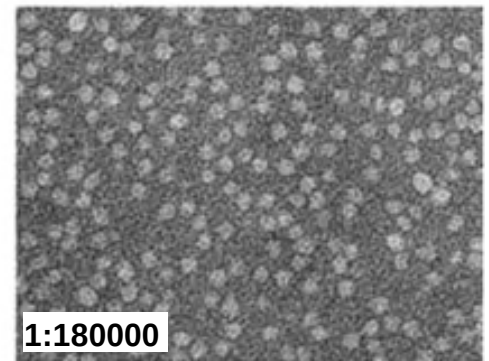
CHYLOMICRON: Largest size, lowest density



VLDL (Very low density LP)
Large size, low density



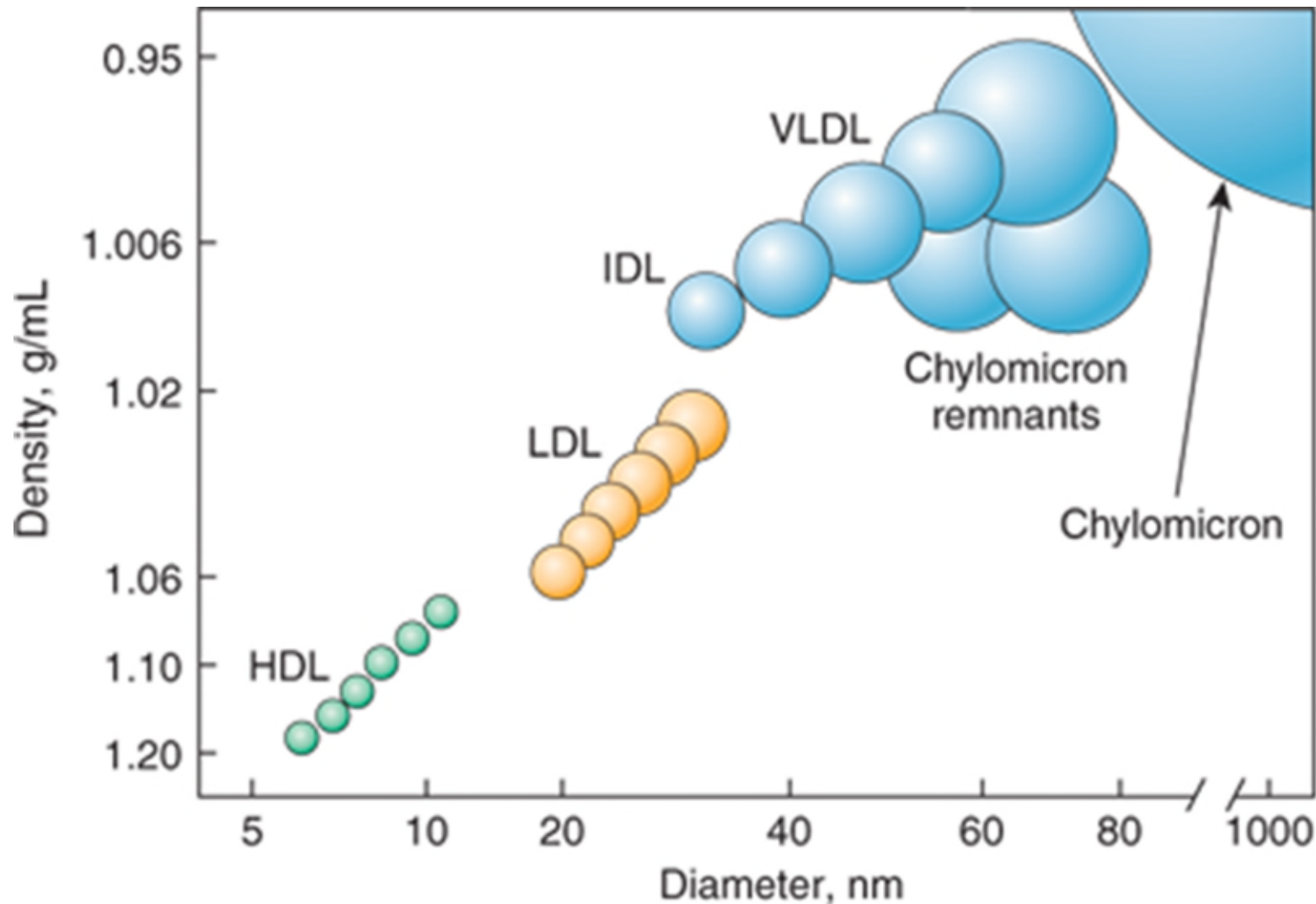
LDL (Low density LP)
Small size, increased density



HDL (High density LP)
Smallest size, highest density

LIPOPROTEIN SIZE AND DENSITY

- ▶ Lipoprotein density is inversely proportional to their size
 - Proteins are denser than lipids

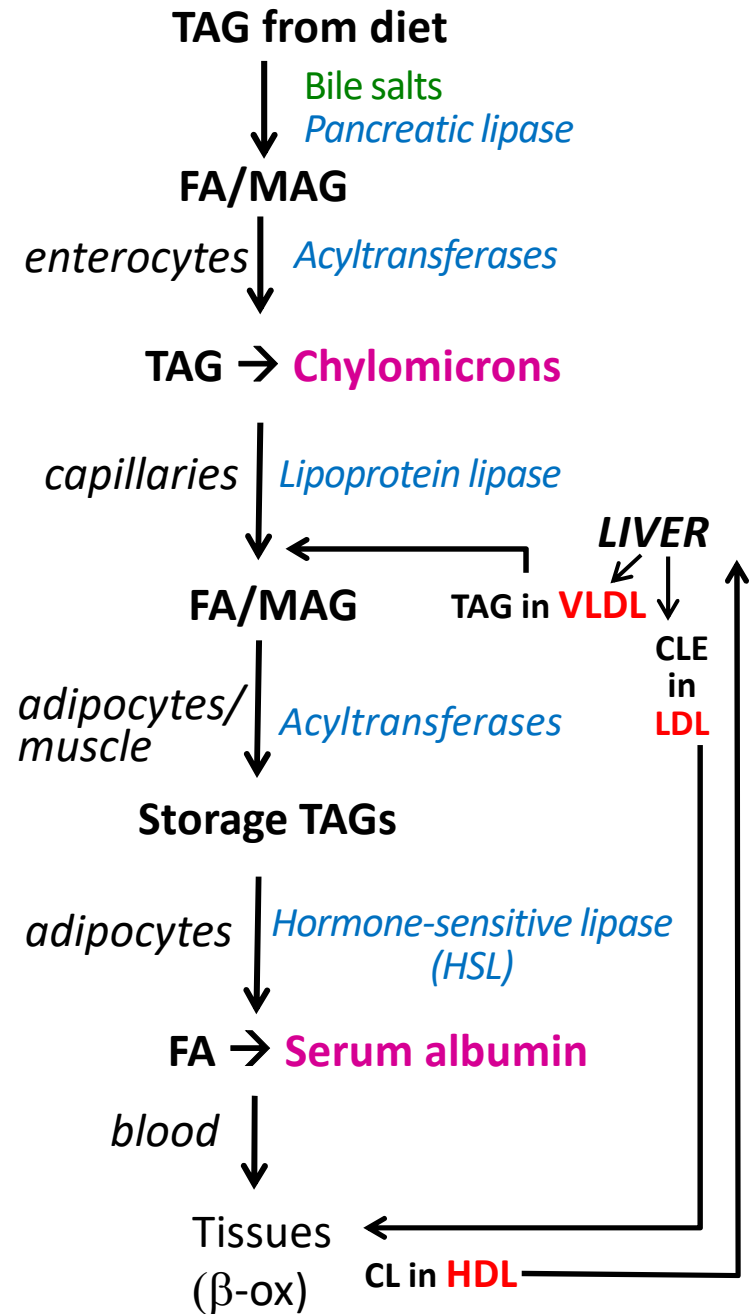
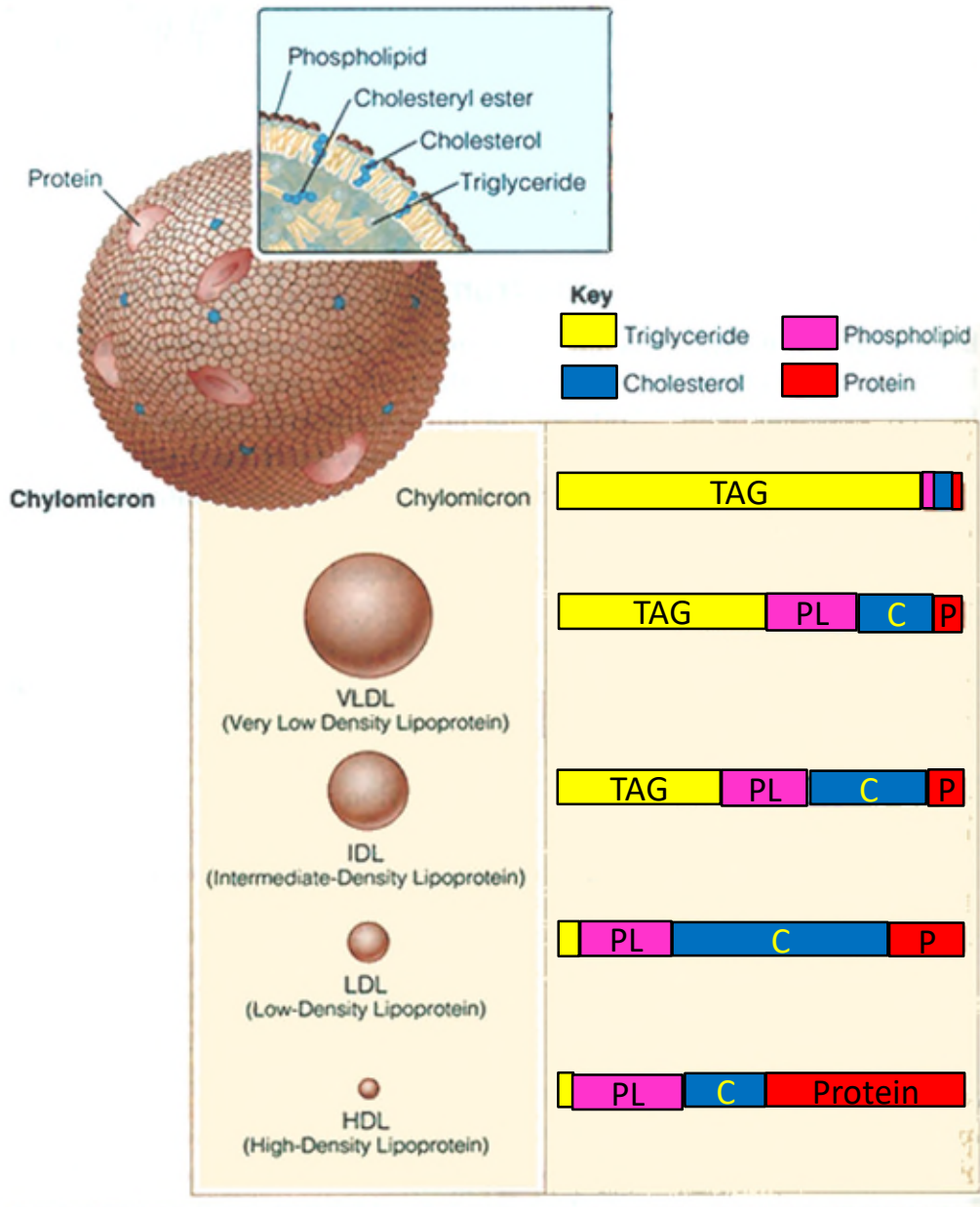


LIPOPROTEIN COMPOSITION, ORIGIN, CARGO & DESTINATIONS

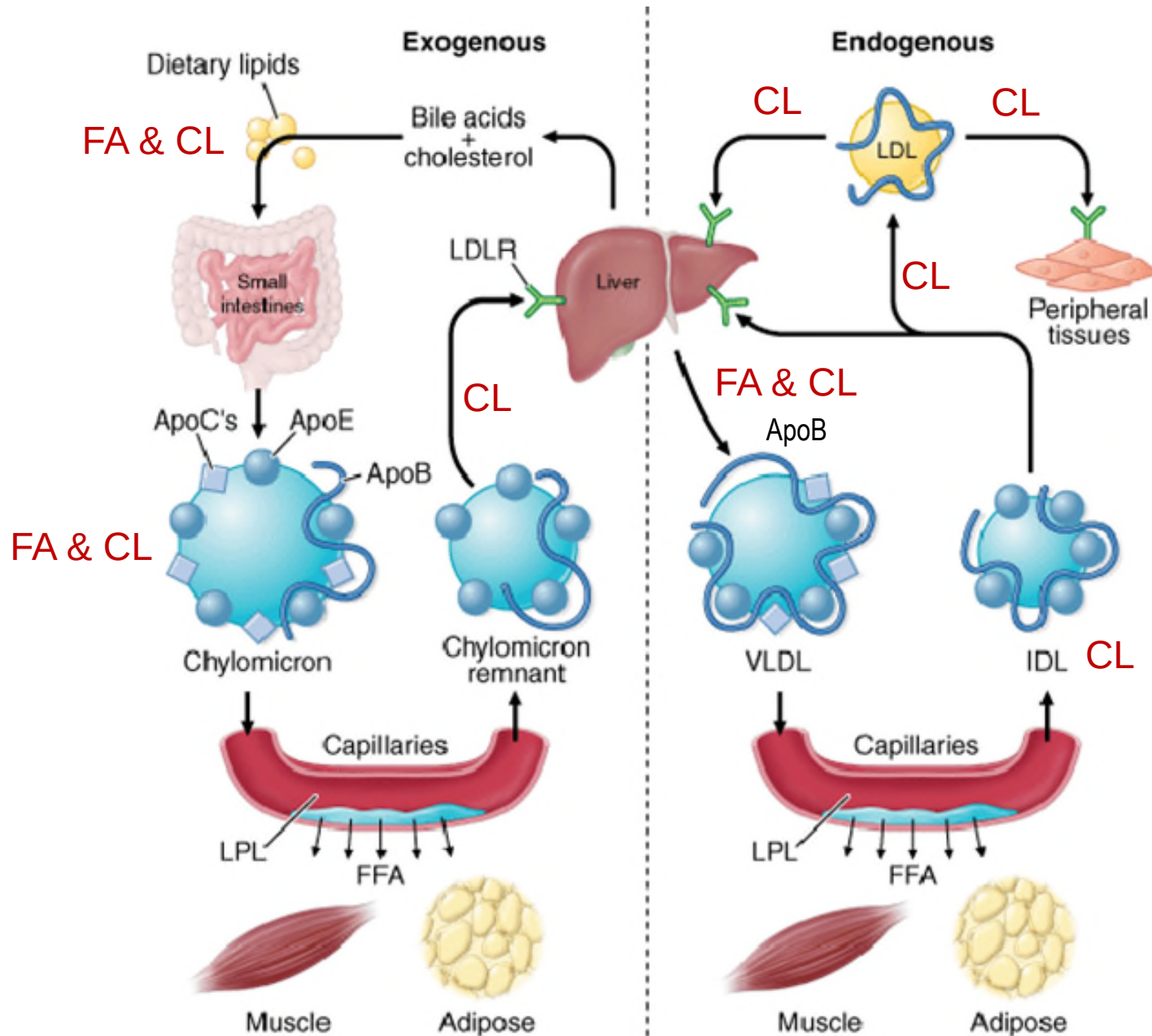
► Composition of lipoproteins in human plasma

	Chylomicrons	VLDL	LDL	HDL
Origin	Intestine	Liver	Liver	Tissues
Destination	Tissues	Tissues	Tissues	Liver
Size (nm)	~500	~60	~25	~ 10
Density (g/ml)	~0.95	~1.0	~1.05	~1.15
Apolipoproteins	B ₄₈ , C, A ₁₋₅ , E	B ₁₀₀ , C, E	B ₁₀₀	A ₁₋₅ , C, E
<i>composition</i>				
Protein	2%	10%	20%	40%
Lipid	98%	90%	80%	60%
of which				
Triglyceride	88%	56%	13%	13%
Phospholipid	8%	20%	28%	47%
Free cholesterol	1%	8%	10%	10%
Cholesteryl esters	3%	16%	48%	30%

LIPOPROTEIN COMPOSITION, ORIGIN, CARGO & DESTINATIONS (cont.)



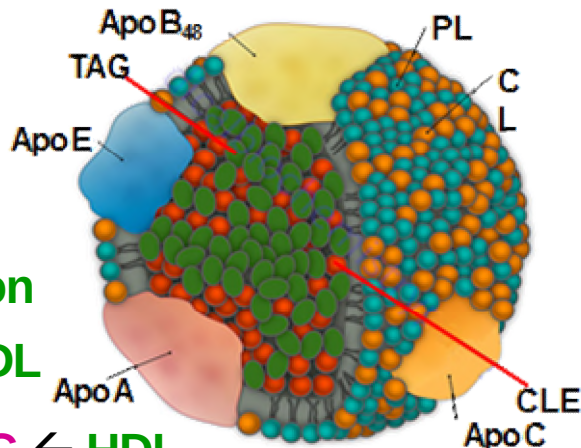
EXOGENOUS AND ENDOGENOUS PATHWAYS FOR LIPOPROTEINS



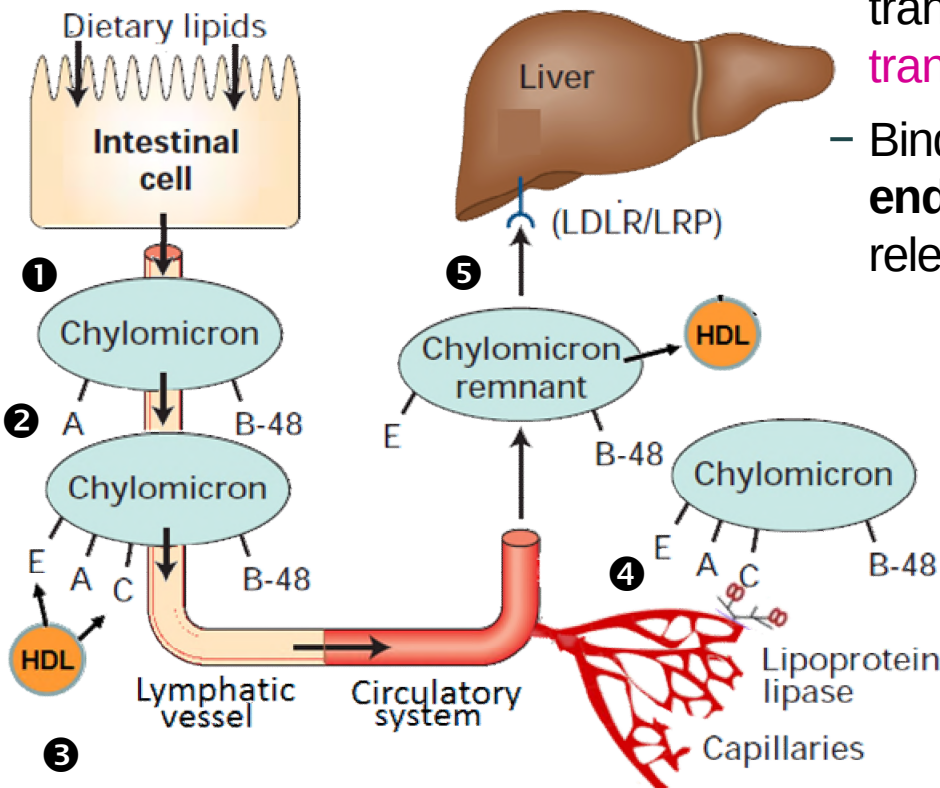
ROLES OF APOLIPOPROTEINS

- ▶ **ApoA1**
 - **source:** intestine/liver
 - **LP:** **VLDL** and **chylomicrons** (which transfer it to HDL, mediates uptake)
 - **Function:** structural protein - Activates *lecithin cholesterol acyltransferase* (CL → CLE)
- ▶ **ApoB48**
 - **Source:** Intestine
 - **LP:** **Chylomicrons**
 - **Function:** structural protein - Truncated form of ApoB100 - Does not bind receptors
- ▶ **ApoB100**
 - **Source:** liver
 - **LP:** **VLDL, IDL, LDL**
 - **Function:** structural protein – Ligand for LP receptor (LPR) on tissue cells
- ▶ **ApoC II**
 - **Source:** liver
 - **LP:** **Chylomicrons, VLDL** and **HDL** (HDL → CM, VLDL, remnants → HDL)
 - **Function:** *Lipoprotein lipase* cofactor on capillary endothelial cells – mobilizes FA from LP
- ▶ **ApoE**
 - **Source:** liver
 - **LP:** **Chylomicrons, IDL** and **HDL** (exchange it)
 - **Function:** ligand for tissue LP receptor and liver scavenger receptor (for remnants)

LIPOPROTEIN FUNCTIONS - CHYLOMICRONS

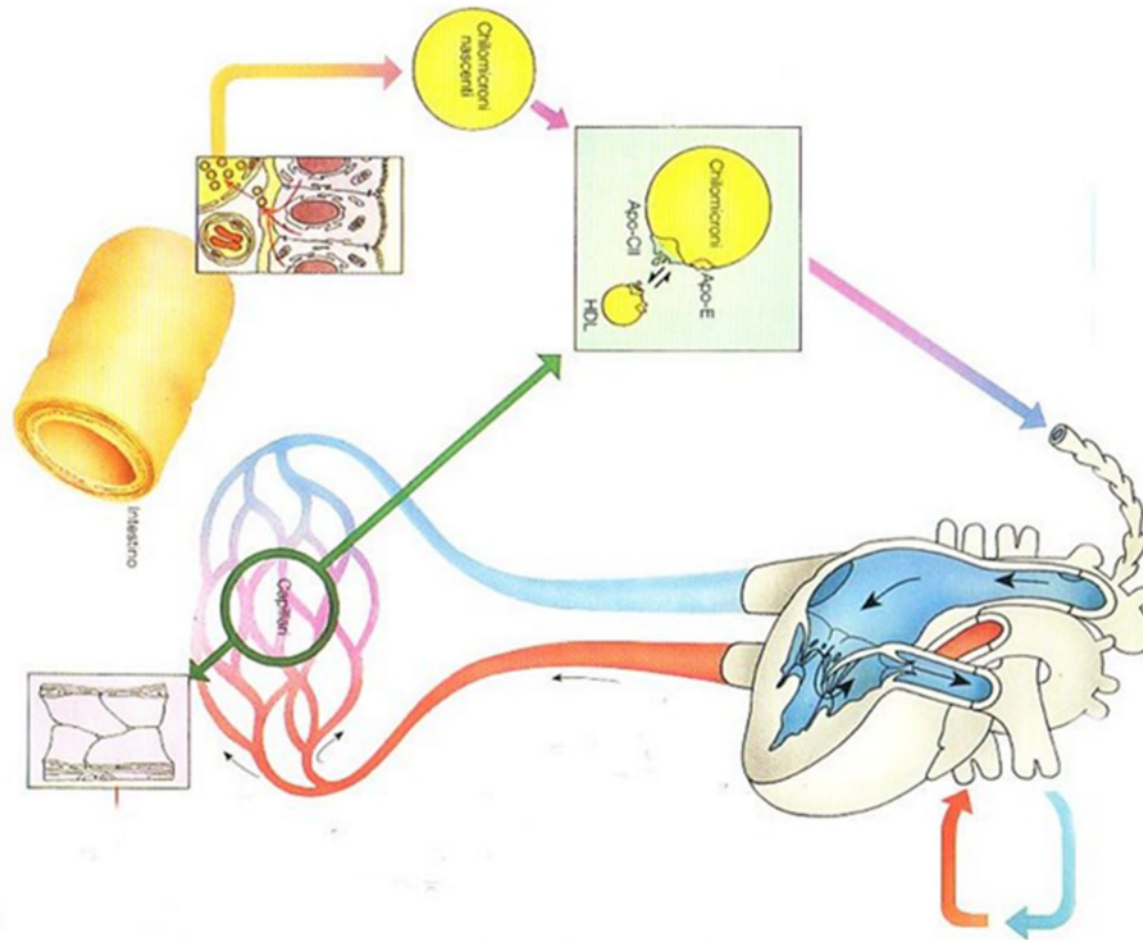


- Formed in the **ER of enterocytes** with the aid of **MTP**, they are secreted in **immature form** including apoproteins **ApoB48** and **Apo A** ①
- Secreted into specialized **lacteal lymphatic capillaries** ②, reach the thoracic duct, enter the bloodstream via **subclavian vein** to reach tissues
- During transit they pass **Apo A** to **HDL**, and receive **ApoE** and **ApoC** from HDL, which also transfer CLE using **CETPs** (cholesterol ester transfer proteins) ③.
- Bind to **Lipoprotein lipase** located on **capillary endothelia** (via **Apo C**) that hydrolyzes TAGs releasing FA/MAG that translocate into the cells ④



- Remnants return to the liver, returning **Apo C** to HDL, and are internalized into hepatic cells via the **LDLR** receptors (low density lipoprotein receptor), which recognizes **Apo B100**, and **LRP** (LDLR related protein) which recognizes **Apo E**. ⑤.

CHYLOMICRON METABOLISM - SUMMARY



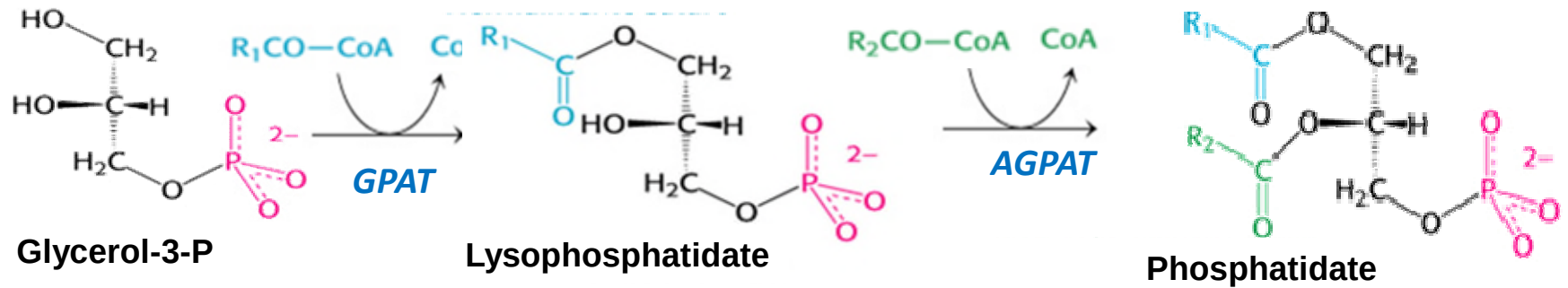
Enterocytes → lacteal duct → mesenteric ducts → thoracic duct → subclavian vein → tissues

Immature chylomicrons → ApoC/E from HDL → mature chylomicrons → TAG to tissue (LPL)

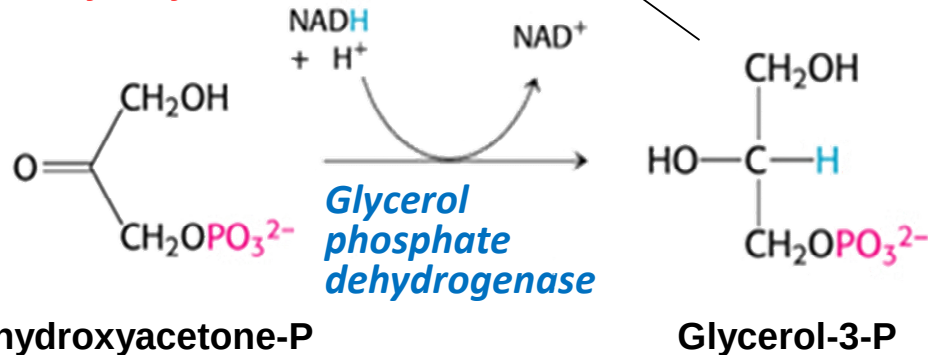
-----Enterocytes----- lymphatic system-----
 -----Epathocytes----- Circulatory system -----

Recycling ← Receptor mediated endocytosis ← CLE from HDL ← Remnants

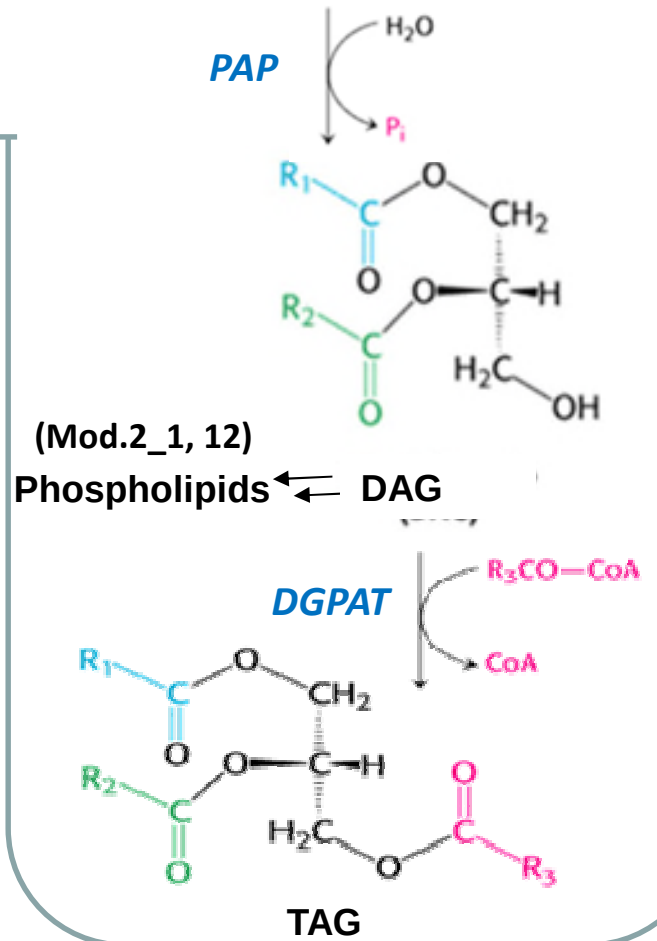
TAG RECONSTITUTION IN ADIPOCYTES



Glycolysis



GPAT = glycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase
AGPAT = acylglycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase
PAP = phosphatidate phosphatase
DGPAT = diacylglycerol-3-phosphate acyltransferase



TAG MOBILIZATION FROM ADIPOCYTES

► Function of adipocytes

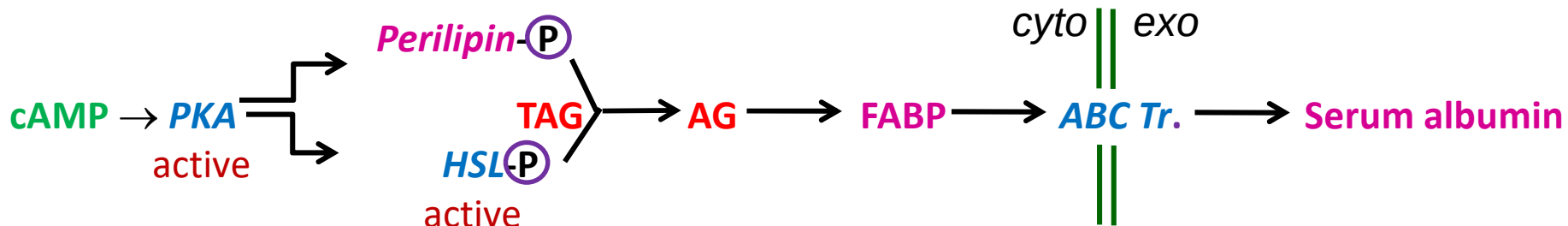
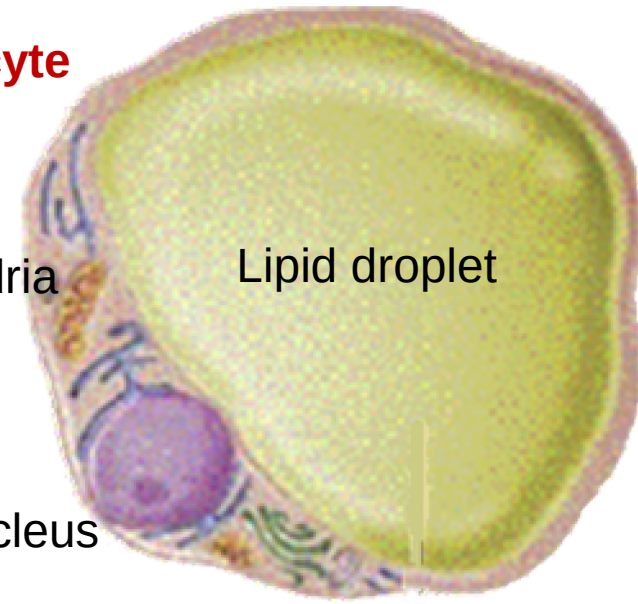
- To **store fat** in an **easily metabolizable form**
(TAG contribute up to 90 % of weight)
- To **release FA** in a **controlled manner**
(Have receptors for:
Glucagon & catecholaminee (**GPCR**, $G_{\alpha s} \rightarrow$ **PKA**)
Insulin (**RPTK**, $\rightarrow$ **PPP1**)
- TAGs are stored in adipocytes as lipid droplets with a core composed of CLE and TAG, surrounded by a layer of phospholipids (PL).
- Embedded in droplet surface are **Perilipins**, which when phosphorylated by **PKA** attach **Hormone sensitive lipase** (**HSL**, also activated by **PKA** phosphorylation)
- This mobilizes stored TAG, releasing glycerol & FA that are exported, binding serum albumin
- **Glucagone/epinefrina** (insufficient glucose) $\rightarrow$ **cAMP** transduction cascade

Adipocyte

mitochondria

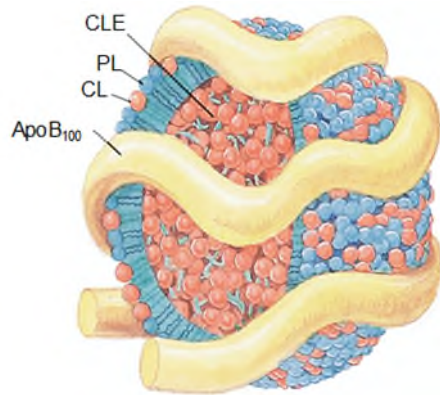
Lipid droplet

nucleus

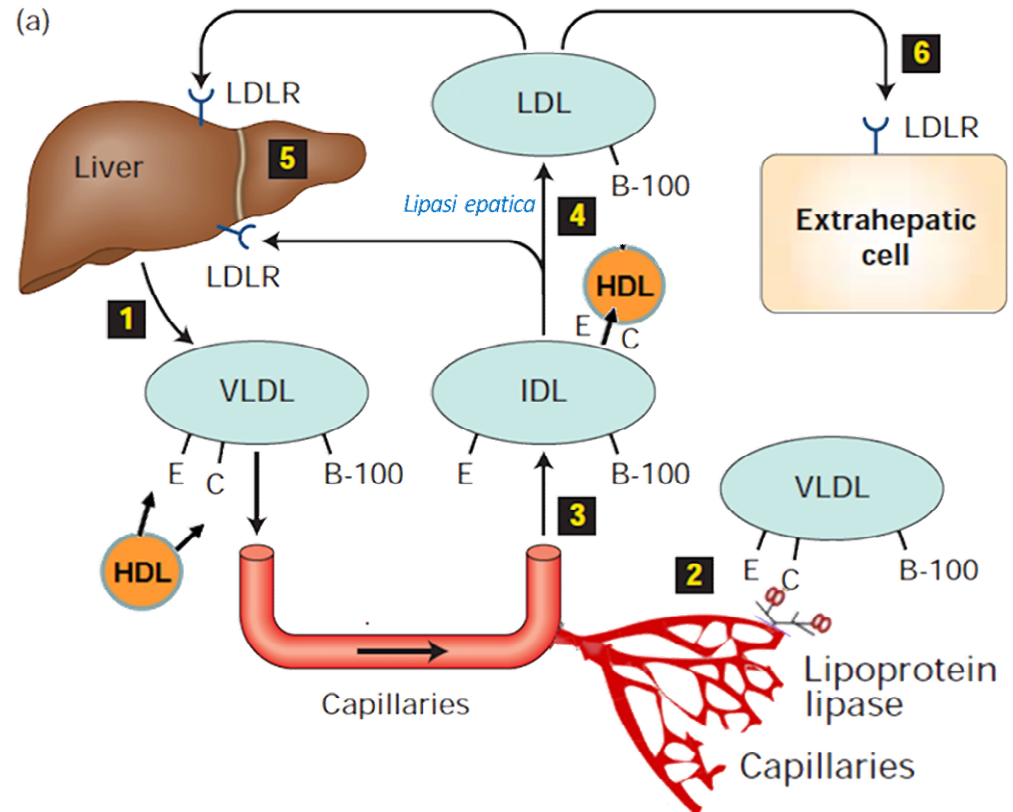
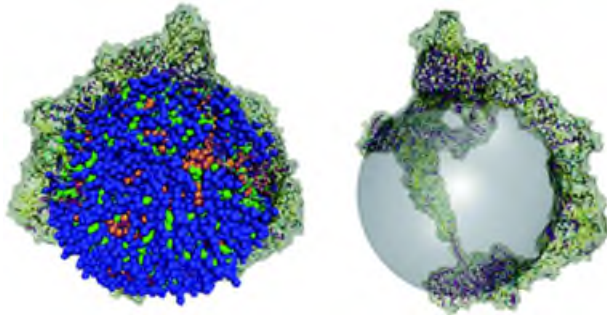


LIPOPROTEIN FUNCTIONS – VLDL, IDL & LDL

VLDL



LDL

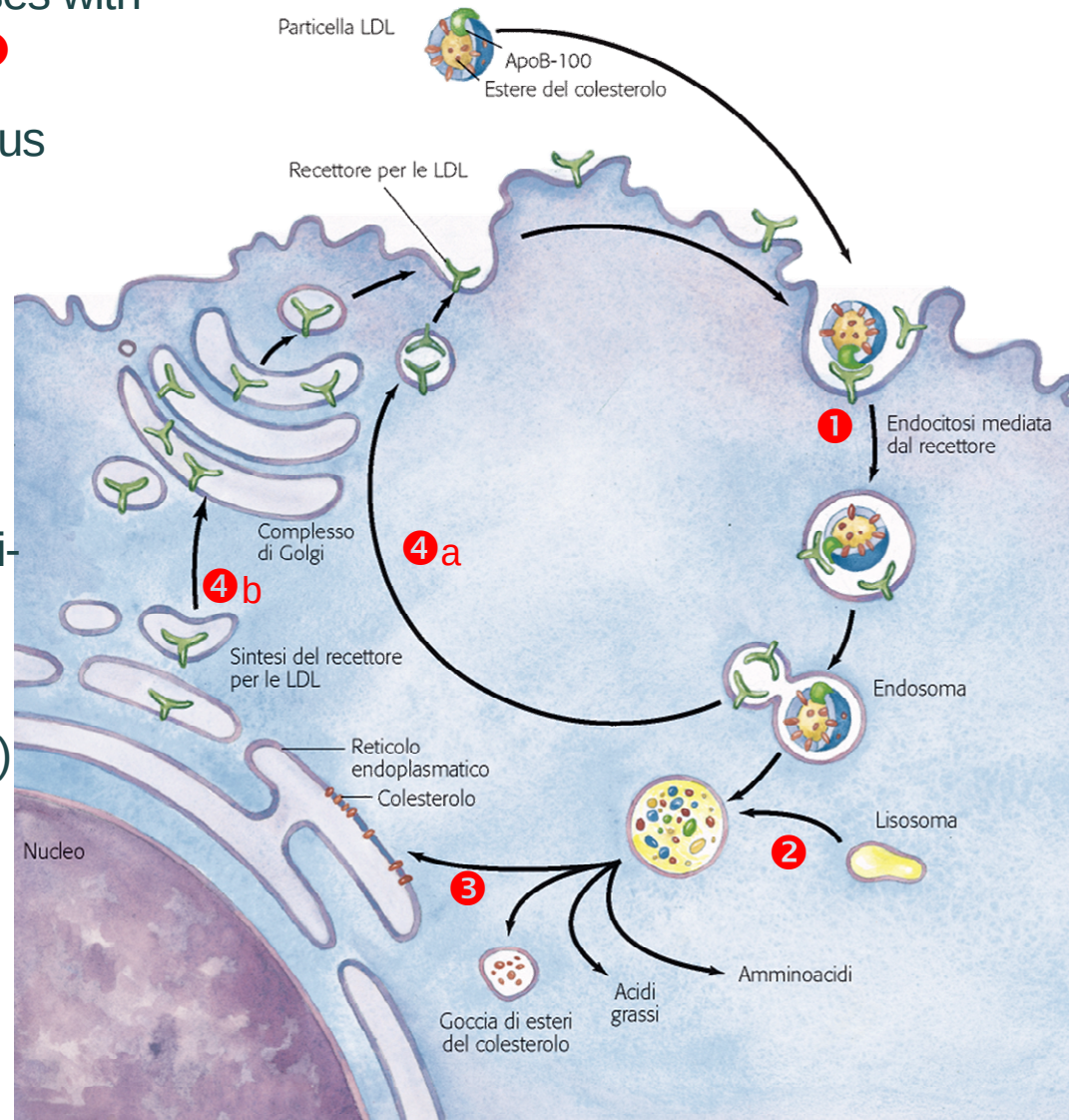


- VLDL form in hepatocyte RE
- They carry **ApoB100**, and are secreted directly into the bloodstream ❶. They acquire **ApoC** and **ApoE** from **HDL** and transfer **CLE** to **HDL**, using **CETP**
- They bind **Lipoprotein lipase** on capillary endothelia (via **Apo C**), which releases **AG** and **MAG** for translocation into cells ❷.
- Remnants (**IDL**) move to the liver, returning **ApoE/ApoC** to **HDL** ❸. Partly absorbed for recycling ❹, or more TAG are removed (❹ by **Hepatic lipase**) and become **LDL**, highly enriched in **CL** which they transport to tissue LDL receptor (LDLR) ❻ for internalization

LIPOPROTEIN FUNCTIONS – LDL

► LDL transport cholesterol to tissues

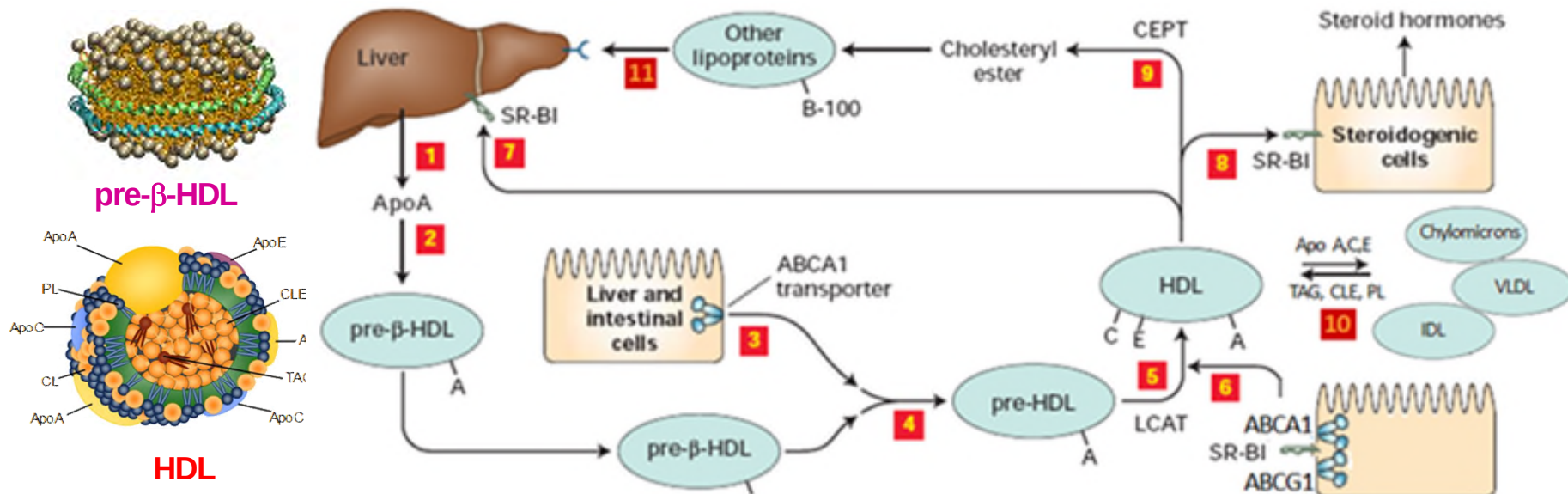
- They are taken up by **receptor-mediated endocytosis** mediated by **ApoB100** ❶
- They enter an **endosome** that then fuses with a **lysosome** and **LDL are degraded** ❷
- **CL and CLE released** ❸ e CL can be used as a membrane component or for the synthesis of steroid hormones
- The LDL receptor (**LDLR**) is in part recycled ❹a and in part degraded
- If degraded it must be re-expressed and sent to the membrane by the Golgi-dependent secretory pathway ❹b.
- Expression is regulated by SREBP via the Sterol Sensing Domain (SDS) of SCAP (Module 2_2 slides 7,9)
- Regulating LDLR recycling and expression regulates LDL entry



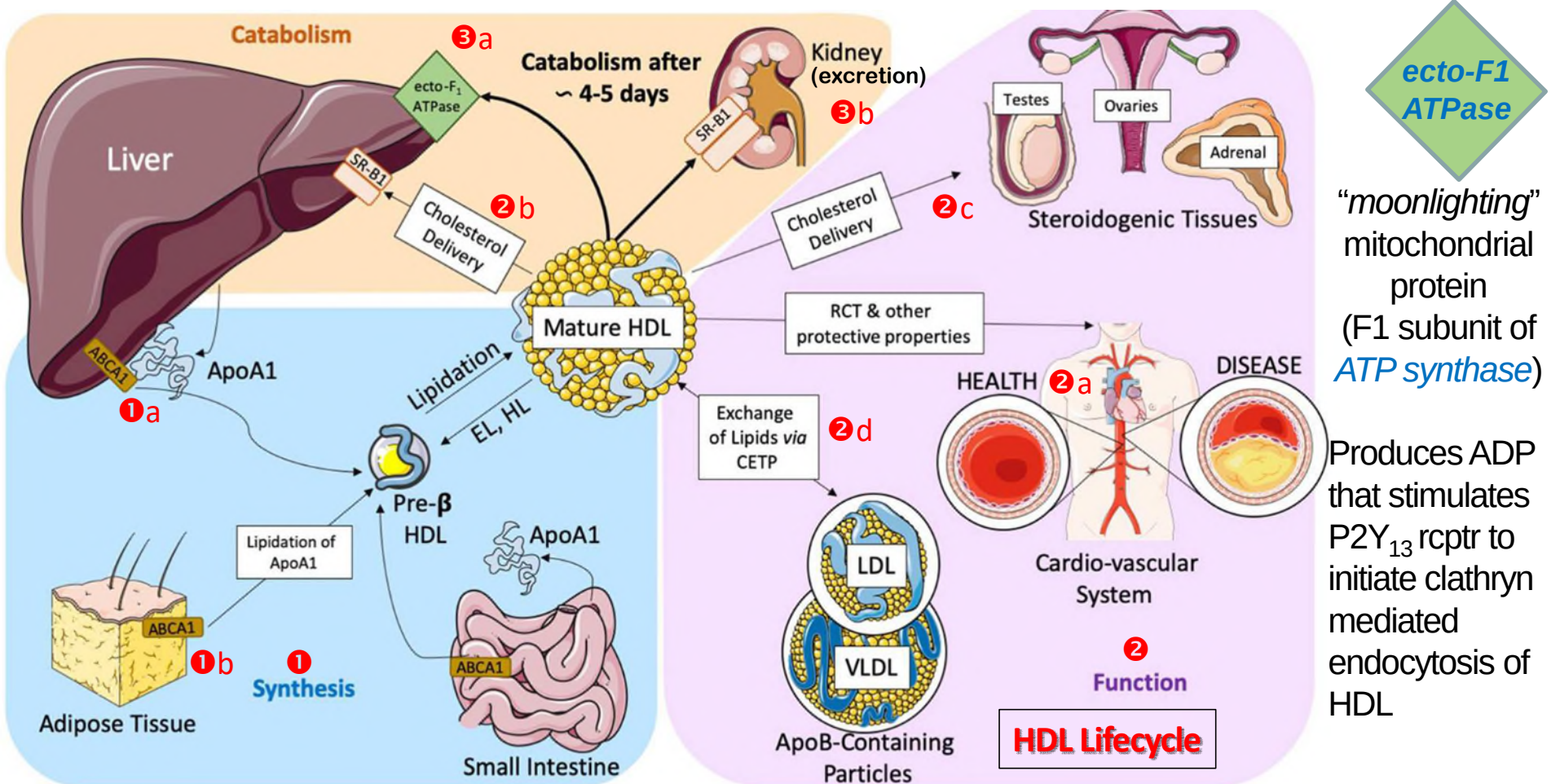
LIPOPROTEIN FUNCTIONS – HDL

► HDLs are built from ApoA1 (liver & intestine)

- **ApoA1**, secreted from hepatocytes **1** (in **VLDL**), forms **pre-β-HDL** particles **2** with little lipid.
- These load **PL** and **CL** from hepatocytes, enterocytes or adipocytes **3** (**ABCA1** transporters).
- **pre-HDL** particles form that are enriched in **CL** **4**.
- **CL** esterifies to **CLE** (plasma enzyme **Lechitin-CL acyltransferase (LCAT)** in mature **HDL** **5**
- **HDL** collect **ApoE/C** from remnants, & **PL/CL** from tissues with **ABCA1/ABCG1** transp. **6**
- **HDL** return **CL** to hepatocytes **7** or steroidogenic cells **8** via **scavenger receptor SR-B1**
- **HDL** exchange **CL** (via **CETP**) **9** and **ApoE/C** **10** with other lipoproteins (**CM**, **VLDL**, **IDL**)
- These are an **alternative method 11** to return **CL** to hepatocytes using receptors **LDLR** and **LPR** for remnants. **Excess CL** returned to liver is **excreted as bile**



THREE KEY STAGES OF THE HDL LIFECYCLE

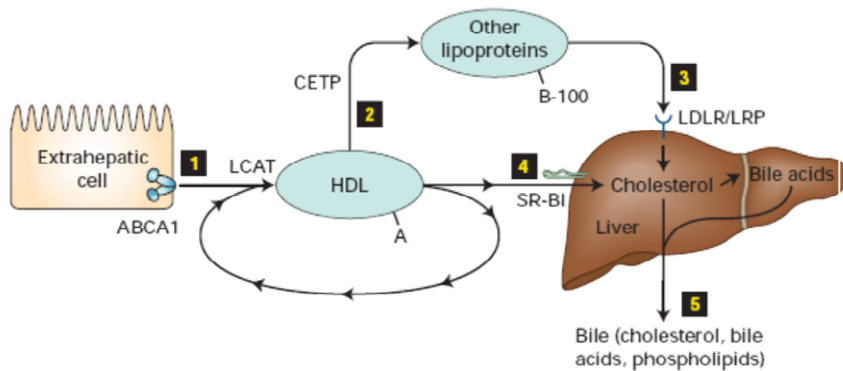


- Synthesis:** ApoA1 from liver/gut is loaded on-site via **ABCA1** (a) or at adipose tissue (b) to produce **pre-β HDLs**. Mature **HDL** form by lipitation and return to **pre-β HDL** by **endothelial (EL)** and **hepatic lipases (HL)**.
- Function:** To efflux CL(CLE) from peripheral tissues (e.g. cardio-vascular system) (a) and transport it either to (b) the liver for disposal, (c) steroidogenic tissues or (d) exchange it with other **lipoproteins**.
- Catabolism:** After ~4/5 days, **HDL** is internalized into hepatocytes via **ecto-F1 ATPase**, and both **ApoA1** and **CL** recycled/eliminated. Or it binds to scavenger receptor **SR-B1** in kidney and ApoA1 catabolized/excreted

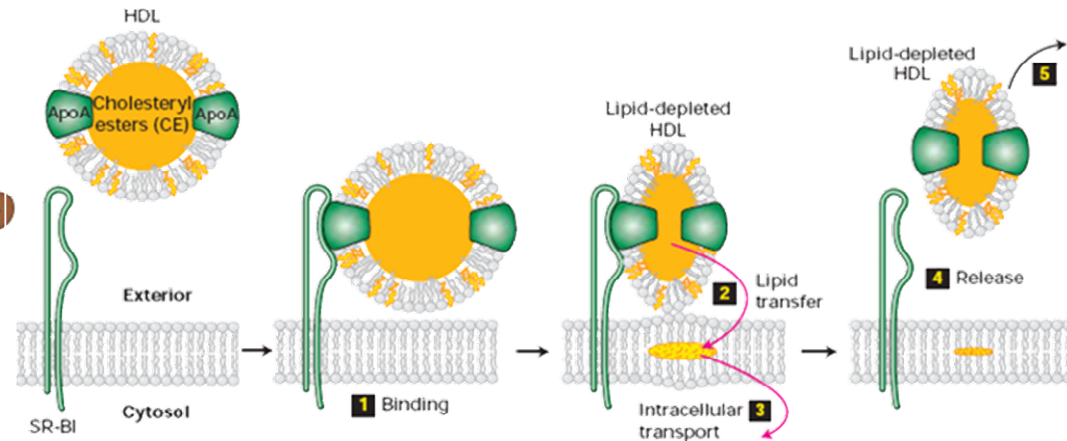
LIPOPROTEIN FUNCTIONS – M.O.A

► HDL returns excess cholesterol from the tissues to the liver (Reverse Cholesterol Transport)

FUNCTION



MODE-OF-ACTION

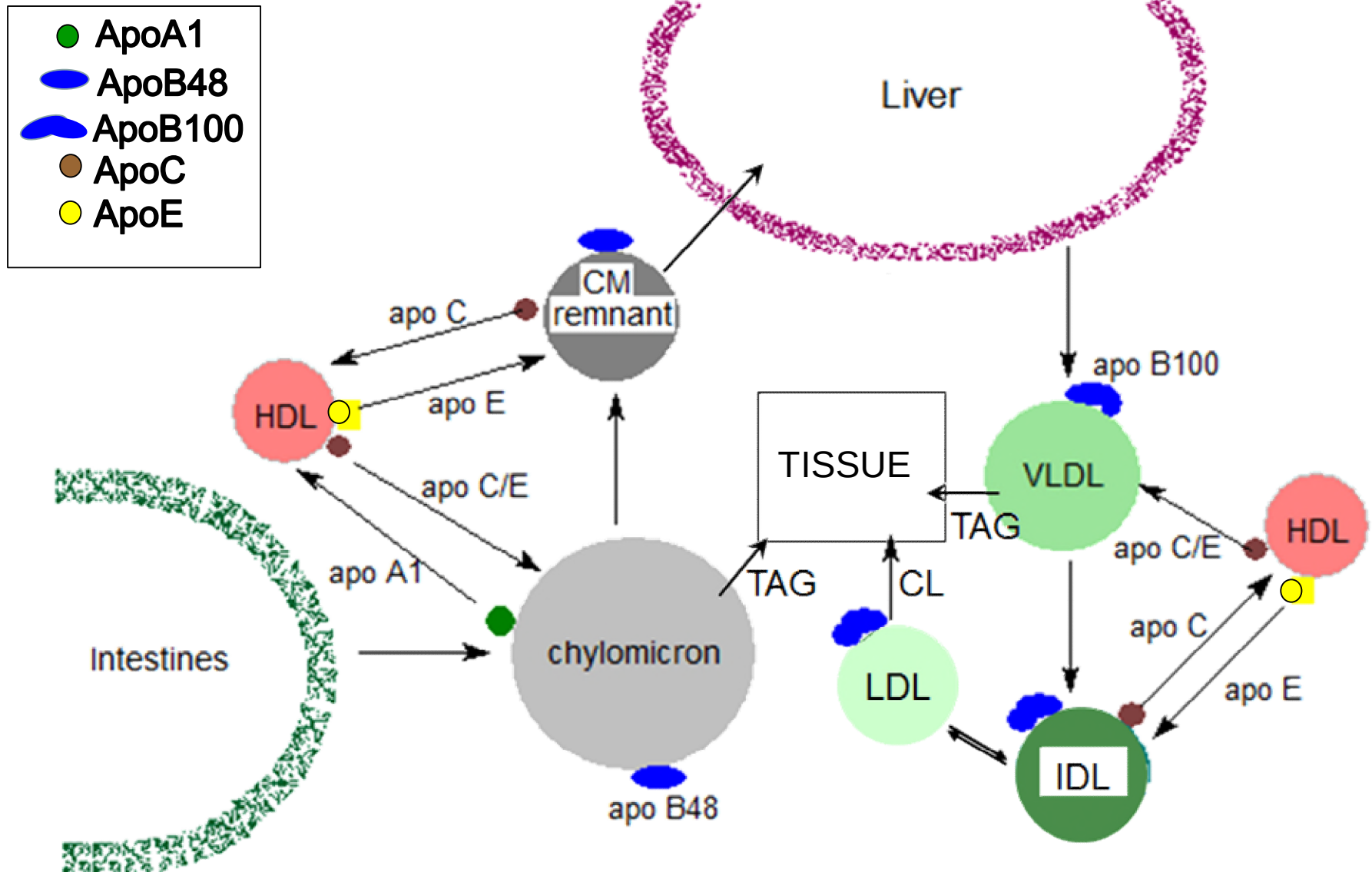


- 1 Collect CL from cells via **ABCA1/ABCG1**
- 2 Exchange CLE with other lipoproteins (VLDL/CM) via **CETP**
- 3 Return of CL by other lipoproteins, via **LDLR e LRP**
- 4 Return of CL by HDL and **Scavenger Receptor SR-B1**
- 5 Reuse of CL by liver or **Elimination in bile**

- 1 **HDL binds to the SR-B1**, which positions cholesterol-laden HDL close to membrane
- 2 **Transfer of CLE to the membrane**
- 3 **Transfer of CLE to cytosolic CLE Binding Protein** for intracellular transport.
- 4 **CLE-depleted HDL detaches from SR-B1**
- 5 **HDL return to the circulation** and resume their activity of taking up excess CL

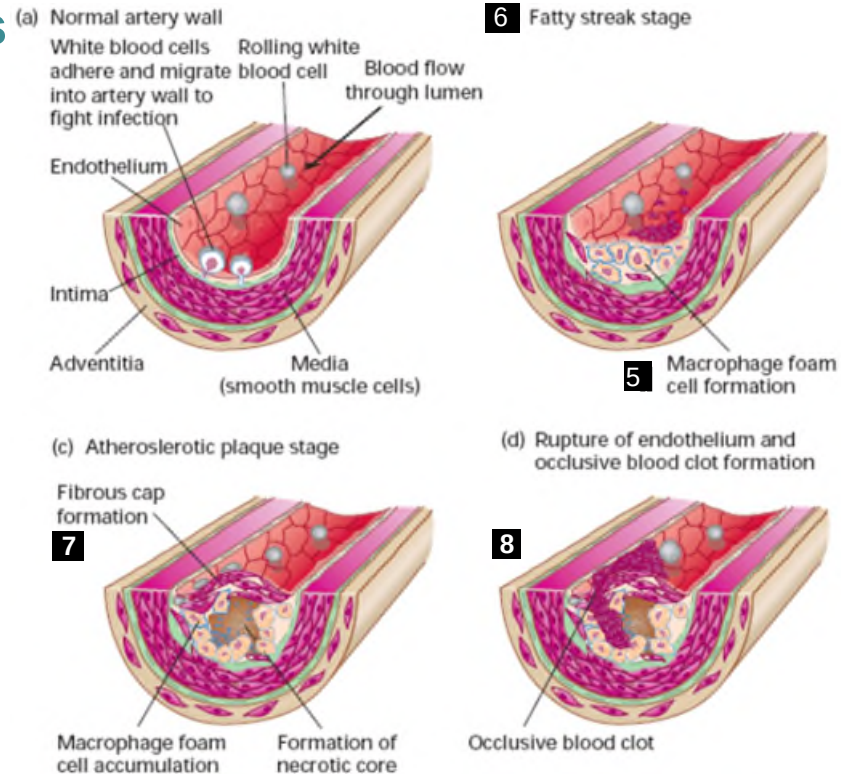
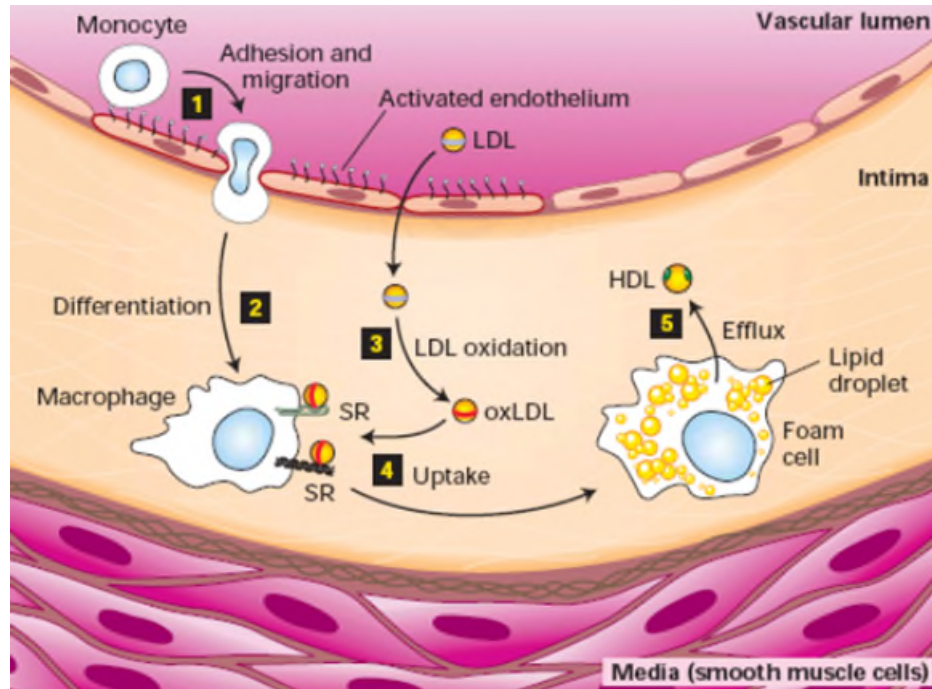
LIPOPROTEIN EXCHANGE

► Lipoproteins exchange lipids and ApoProteins



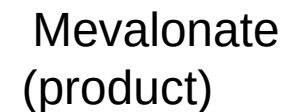
LIPOPROTEIN DISREGULATION

Excess LDL can cause atherosclerosis



- 1 Infection, inflammation or tissue damage can result in LDL (especially if excessive) entering the *intima*, the layer just below endothelial tissue in the arteries as well as immune cells (e.g. monocytes)
- 2 monocytes differentiate into macrophages 3 LDL contents become oxidized and oxLDL is recognized *scavenger receptors SR* on macrophages, leading to phagocytosis and degradation.
- 4 CLE accumulate in macrophages, forming droplets, and resulting in so-called 'foam cells'.
- 5 Macrophages can pass CLE to HDL via ABCA1, but if levels are unbalanced, foam cells accumulate.
- 6 This leads to the formation of 'fatty streaks', then leads to 7 necrosis and the formation of a fibrous cap
- 8 eventuallu an atherosclerotic plaque or atheroma

► **Statins – inhibitors of *HMG-CoA reductase***



- *Pleurotus ostreatus* contains lovastatin (< 3% dry weight)



- Lovastatin is normally derived from the fermentation broth of fungi belonging to the genus *Aspergillus*, preferably *Aspergillus terreus*.
- The related drug simvastatin is also produced

