

#### Ch 5 Protein Function

Myoglobin and Hemoglobin Immune system (Antibody) Molecular Motors: Actin and Myosin

# Oxygen binding proteins

- 🚽 Myoglobin (Mb)
- O<sub>2</sub> storage
- In muscle tissue
- Mb = monomer
  - 1 x (polypeptide chain + heme)
  - ✓ Mb m.w. = 16.7 kDa

- Hemoglobin (Hb)
- O<sub>2</sub> transport
- Found in erythrocyte
- Hb = tetramer
  - 4 x (polypeptide chain + heme)
  - ✓ Hb m.w. = 64.5 KDa
  - Interactions between subunits



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 $\alpha_1$ 

# O<sub>2</sub> binding to Heme

- Heme group to bind O<sub>2</sub>
  - $\checkmark$  Heme = organic ring (porphyrin) + Fe<sup>2+</sup>
  - ✓ Free heme →  $Fe^{2+}$  (binds  $O_2$ ) vs.  $Fe^{3+}$
- O<sub>2</sub> rich blood (bright red) vs. O<sub>2</sub> depleted blood (dark purple)
- CO, NO binds with higher affinity than  $O_2$



Protein-ligand interaction  
P + L 
$$\iff$$
 PL p. 155-156  
 $K_{\alpha} = \frac{[PL]}{[P][L]}$   $K_{\alpha}$ : association constant (M<sup>-1</sup>)  
 $K_{\alpha}[L] = \frac{[PL]}{[P]}$   
 $\theta = \frac{Binding sites occupied}{Total binding sites} = \frac{[PL]}{[PL] + [P]}$   
 $\theta = \frac{[L]}{[L] + 1/K_{\alpha}} = \frac{[L]}{[L] + K_{d}}$   $K_{d}$ : dissociation constant (M)

# Ligand binding and K<sub>d</sub>

- When [L] = K<sub>d</sub>, 50% ligand-binding sites are occupied
- K<sub>d</sub>: dissociation constant
- K<sub>d</sub> = [L] at half-saturation
- Affinity  $\uparrow$ , K<sub>d</sub>  $\downarrow$



### O<sub>2</sub> binding of Mb

- O<sub>2</sub> binds tightly to Mb
- Good for O<sub>2</sub> storage
- Not good for O<sub>2</sub> transport





# Structure affects K<sub>d</sub>

	K <sub>d</sub> for O <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>d</sub> for CO
Free heme	1×	1/20,000x
Heme in Mb	1×	1/200x



Fig 5-5 a and b, p.158





### Hb has 2 conformations



O<sub>2</sub> binding to T triggers a conformational change to R



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# Hb-O2 binding curve

- A sigmoid (S-shape) binding curve
- Permit highly sensitive response to small change in  $pO_2$  or [L]



# O<sub>2</sub> binding of Mb

- O<sub>2</sub> binds tightly to Mb good for O<sub>2</sub> storage
- Not sensitive to small changes in  $pO_2$  or [L]



# O<sub>2</sub> binding to Hb

- Cooperativity (positive)
  - One subunit binding of O<sub>2</sub> affects K<sub>d</sub> of the adjacent subunits
  - S-shaped (sigmoid) binding curve multimer only
    - ✓ Hb =  $4 \times (\text{subunit} + O_2)$ 
      - ✓  $1^{st} O_2$  binds Hb (T) weakly, initiate T → R
      - ✓  $2^{nd} O_2$  binds Hb (T→R) with higher affinity
      - ✓  $3^{rd} O_2$  binds Hb (T→R) with even higher affinity
      - ✓  $4^{\text{th}} O_2$  binds Hb (**R**) with highest affinity
- Allosteric protein
  - Homotropic: modulator = ligand (substrate)
  - Heterotropic: modulator ≠ ligand (substrate)

#### CO intoxication (Box 5-1)

- CO has a higher affinity for Hb
  - ✓ Smoker has higher level of COHb (3~15%) vs. < 1%
  - $\checkmark$  Binding of CO to Hb increase the O<sub>2</sub> affinity of Hb

 $\checkmark O_2$  transport become less efficient (Fig 2)

- Suspected CO intoxication
  - ✓ Rapid evacuation

✓ Administer 100% O<sub>2</sub>



Quantification  
P + n L 
$$\iff$$
 PL<sub>n</sub> p.161~164  
 $K_a = \frac{[PL_n]}{[P][L]^n}$   
 $\theta = \frac{Binding sites occupied}{Total binding sites} = \frac{[L]^n}{[L]^n + K_d}$   
 $\frac{\theta}{1 - \theta} = \frac{[L]^n}{K_d}$   
 $\log \frac{\theta}{1 - \theta} = n \log [L] - \log K_d$  Hill equation



#### Hill plot of Mb vs. Hb







### Binding mechanisms (I)

- MWC model (concerted)
  - Equilibrium
  - Bind ligand with different affinity
  - ✓ All subunits change at the same time



# Binding mechanisms (II)

- Sequential model
  - Subunits change conformation individually
  - More intermediate states



# Hb also transports H<sup>+</sup> and CO<sub>2</sub>

#### $CO_2 + H_2O \implies H^+ + HCO_3^-$

Carbonic anhydrase rich in erythrocytes

- Bohr effect
- pH and CO<sub>2</sub> modulate the affinity of Hb for O<sub>2</sub>
   ✓ Tissues: pH ↓ and CO<sub>2</sub>↑, O<sub>2</sub> affinity ↓, Hb release O<sub>2</sub>
   ✓ Lungs: pH ↑ and CO<sub>2</sub>↓, O<sub>2</sub> affinity ↑, Hb binds more O<sub>2</sub>

#### Hb binds H<sup>+</sup> and CO<sub>2</sub>

Hb binds O<sub>2</sub> and (H<sup>+</sup> or CO<sub>2</sub>) with inverse affinity
Hb binds O<sub>2</sub>, H<sup>+</sup>, and CO<sub>2</sub> at different sites



#### BPG (2,3-bisphosphoglycerate)

- BPG binds Hb and reduce the Hb affinity for O<sub>2</sub>
- Blood [BPG] ↑ at high altitude
- Sea level vs. high altitude in  $O_2$  saturation curve



#### BPG in fetal development

- BPG binds to ⊕ a.a. in the cavity between β subunits in Hb (T state)
- BPG stabilize T state  $\Rightarrow O_2$  affinity  $\downarrow$
- Fetal Hb needs to have a higher  $O_2$  affinity than mother's Hb



#### Sickle-cell anemia

- Homozygous allele for the  $\beta$  subunit gene
- Fewer and abnormal erythrocytes: sickle blade
- Due to one a.a. in  $\beta$  chains



### A single a.a. substitution

- Hb A (Glu<sup>6</sup>) vs. Hb S (Val<sup>6</sup>) on  $\beta$  subunits surface
- "Sticky" hydrophobic contacts
- deoxyHb S: insoluble and form aggregates



Interaction between molecules

Fig 5-20b, p.169



### Natural selection

- Homozygous: anemia, blocked capillaries
- Heterozygous: malaria resistance
- Anemia or Malaria ?

Time?





Fig 5-19, p.168

#### Summary

O<sub>2</sub> binding protein: Mb and Hb
 Protein-ligand interactions

 Affinity and K<sub>d</sub>
 Cooperativity, Hill plot
 Allosteric protein
 Homotropic and heterotropic modulators

 Problems: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8