Biochemistry

Metabolism

22.11.2018 - 11.12.2017

Bioamines C1-Metabolism

Gerhild van Echten-Deckert

Tel. 73 2703 E-mail: g.echten.deckert@uni-bonn.de www.limes-institut-bonn.de

TABLE 24.2 One-carbon groups carried by tetrahydrofolate			by
	Oxidation state	Group	
	Most reduced (= methanol)	-CH ₃	Methyl
	Intermediate (= formaldehyde)	-CH2-	Methylene
	Most oxidized (= formic acid)	-CHO -CHNH -CH =	Formyl Formimino Methenyl

Berg, Tymoczko, Stryer: Biochemistry

Tetrahydrofolate (THF)



Note: THB (BH₄, Tetrahydrobiopterin)

The two-stage reduction of folate to THF



Both reactions are catalyzed by dihydrofolate reductase

Biochemistry. Voet & Voet



Biochemistry. Voet & Voet

Interconversion of the C_1 units carried by THF.



Biochemistry. Voet & Voet



THF in medicine



Antibiotics: Structural analogs of p-aminobenzoic acid



Cytostatica: Structural analogs of folic acid

S-Adenosylmethionine is the major donor of methyl groups



Methylation is Accompanied by Generation of Homocysteine



Methylation of ethanolamine to choline Methylation of noradrenaline to adrenaline Methylation of mRNA (methyl-caps on aminogroup of terminal G) Methylation of DNA and of histones (epigenetic memory)

Recovery of Methionine by Methylation of Homocysteine





S-adenosylmethionine

Hyperhomocysteinemia (Hhcys)

Reasons for Hhcys are poorly understood.

Hhcys is closely associated with **cardiovascular disease**, **cognitive impairment**, and **neural tube defects** (the cause of a variety of severe birth defects including spina bifida defects in the spinal column leading to paralysis, and **anencephaly** - invariably fatal failure of the brain to develop leading to infant death).

Hhcys is readily controlled by ingesting <u>vitamins of the B complex</u> including niacin, riboflavin, pyridoxine, cobalamine, and **folate**. The latter especially appears to alleviate Hhcys since its administration to pregnant women dramatically reduces the incidence of neural tube defects in newborns.

This had led to the discovery that 10 % of the population is homozygous for the A222V mutation in N⁵,N¹⁰-methyleneTHF reductase, the enzyme that generates N⁵-methylTHF for the Met synthase reaction. The mutation causes loss of the essential flavin cofactor. Folate derivatives bind to the enzyme thus reducing flavin loss and enabling an increase of the mutant enzyme's activity to reduce homoCys concentration.

Alternative Metabolization of Homocysteine to Cysteine



The pathway of methionine degradation, yielding cysteine and succinyl-CoA as products



Pyridoxal phosphate facilitated decarboxylation



© 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company

The Cori cycle



© 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company



Figure 18-9 Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition © 2008 W.H. Freeman and Company