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KREBS CYCLE

Subject – Biochemistry

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Krebs cycle/TCA(tricarboxylic acid cycle)

Introduction

- The Krebs cycle or TCA cycle (tricarboxylic acid cycle) or Citric acid cycle is a series of enzyme catalysed reactions occurring in the mitochondrial matrix, where acetyl-CoA is oxidised to form carbon dioxide and coenzymes are reduced, which generate ATP in the electron transport chain.
- Krebs cycle was named after Hans Krebs, who postulated the detailed cycle. He was awarded the Nobel prize in 1953 for his contribution.

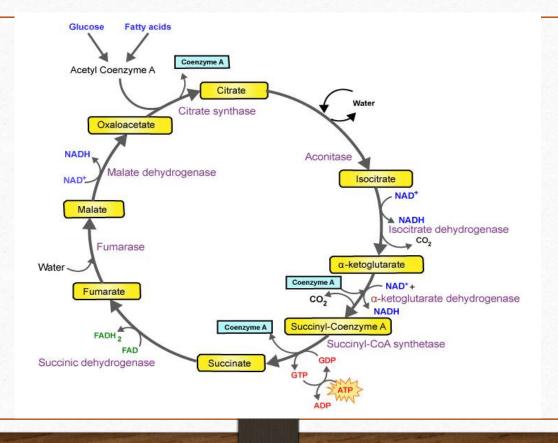


Krebs cycle

- It is a series of eight-step processes, where the acetyl group of acetyl-CoA is oxidised to form two molecules of CO₂ and in the process, one ATP is produced. Reduced high energy compounds, NADH and FADH₂ are also produced. Krebs cycle occurs in the mitochondrial matrix.
- Two molecules of acetyl-CoA are produced from each glucose molecule so two turns of the Krebs cycle are required which yields four CO₂, six NADH, two FADH₂ and two ATPs.



CYCLIC PATHWAY OF KREBS CYCLE





TRICK TO LEARN KREBS CYCLE

- CAN I KEEP SEELING SWEETS FOR MONEY OFFICER?
- C- CITRATE
- I- ISOCITRATE
- K-ALPHA KETO GLUTARATE
- S- SUCCINYL -CO-A
- S- SUCCINATE



- F- FUMARATE
- M- MALATE
- O-OXALOACETATE



- It is an eight-step process. Krebs cycle or TCA cycle takes place in the matrix of mitochondria under aerobic condition.
- **Step 1:** The first step is the condensation of acetyl CoA with 4-carbon compound **oxaloacetate** to form 6C citrate, coenzyme A is released. The reaction is catalysed by *citrate synthase*.
- **Step 2:** Citrate is converted to its isomer, isocitrate. The enzyme *aconitase* catalyses this reaction.



- Step 3: Isocitrate undergoes dehydrogenation and decarboxylation to form 5C α-ketoglutarate. A molecular form of CO₂ is released. *Isocitrate dehydrogenase* catalyses the reaction. It is an NAD⁺ dependent enzyme. NAD⁺ is converted to NADH.
- **Step 4:** α-ketoglutarate undergoes oxidative decarboxylation to form succinyl CoA, a 4C compound. The reaction is catalyzed by the α-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase enzyme complex. One molecule of CO₂ is released and NAD⁺ is converted to NADH.



- Step 5: Succinyl CoA forms succinate. The enzyme *succinyl CoA synthetase* catalyses the reaction. This is coupled with substrate-level phosphorylation of GDP to get GTP. GTP transfers its phosphate to ADP forming ATP.
- **Step 6:** Succinate is oxidised by the enzyme *succinate dehydrogenase* to fumarate. In the process, FAD is converted to FADH₂.



- **Step 7:** Fumarate gets converted to malate by the addition of one H₂O. The enzyme catalysing this reaction is *fumarase*.
- **Step 8:** Malate is dehydrogenated to form oxaloacetate, which combines with another molecule of acetyl CoA and starts the new cycle. Hydrogens removed, get transferred to NAD⁺ forming NADH. *Malate dehydrogenase* catalyses the reaction.

