

Physiology and Pathophysiology of Liver

Prof. Anil Dhawan MD FRCPCH

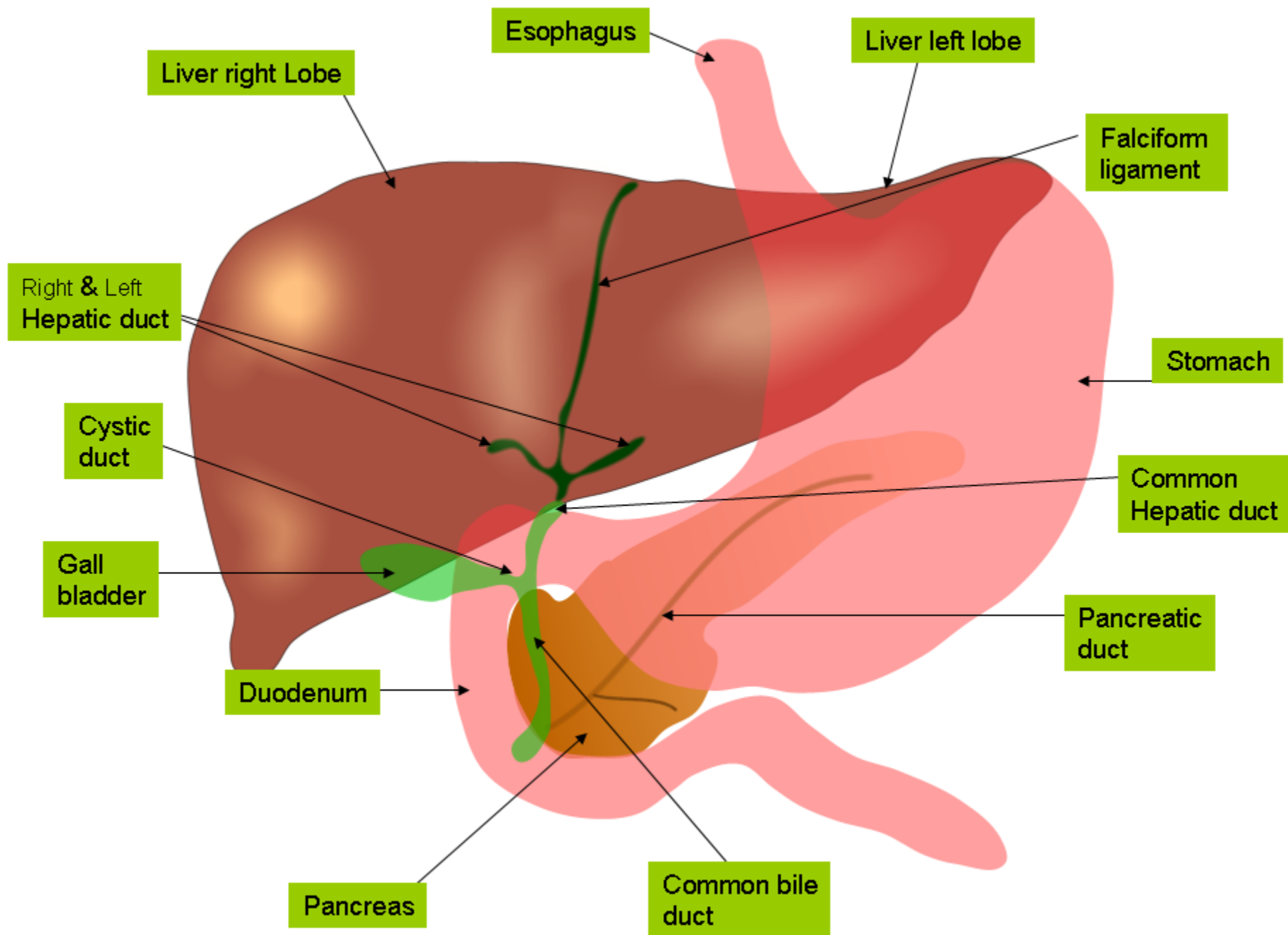
Director , King's Cell Therapy Unit

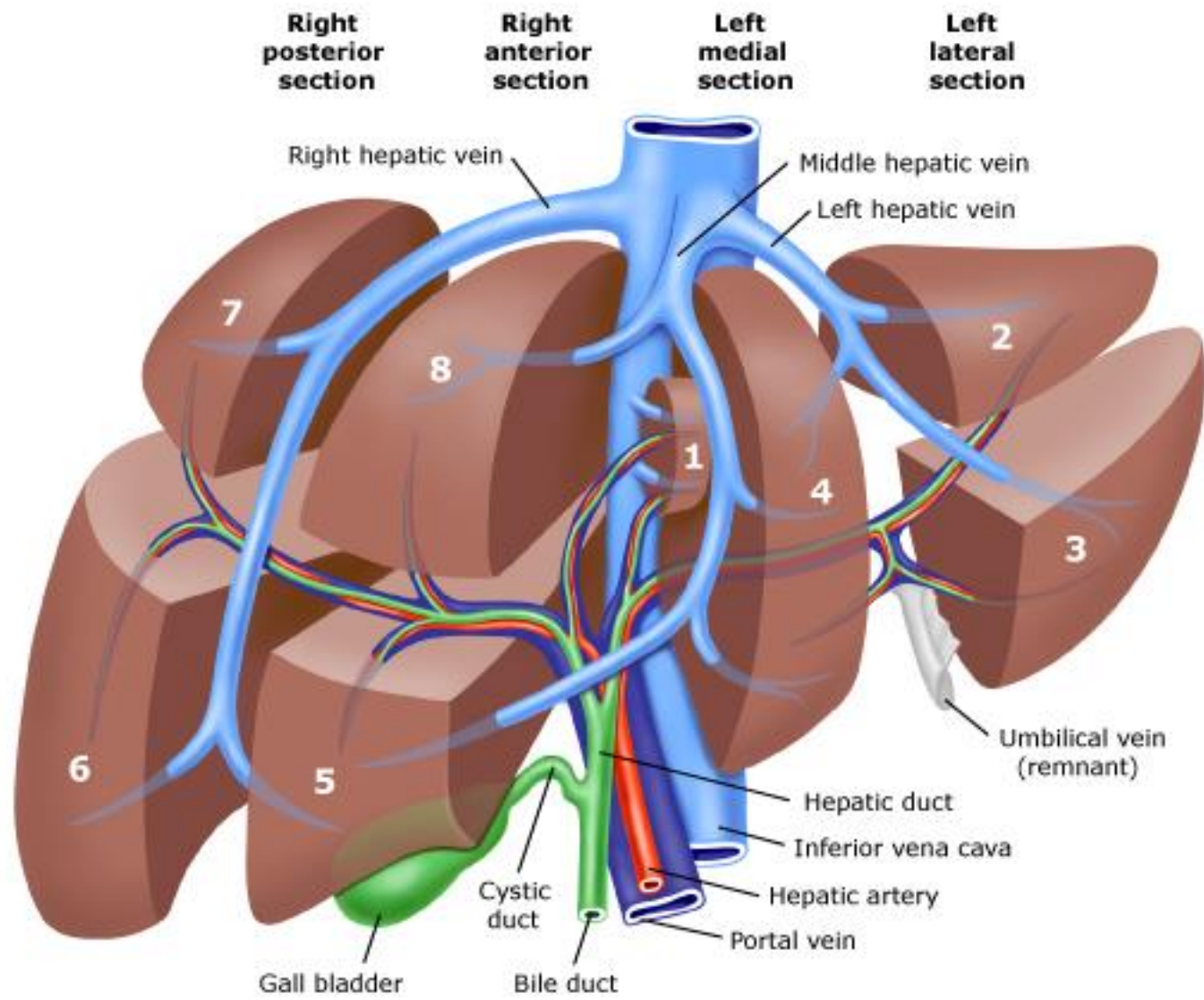
**Director Paediatric Liver GI and Nutrition
Centre**

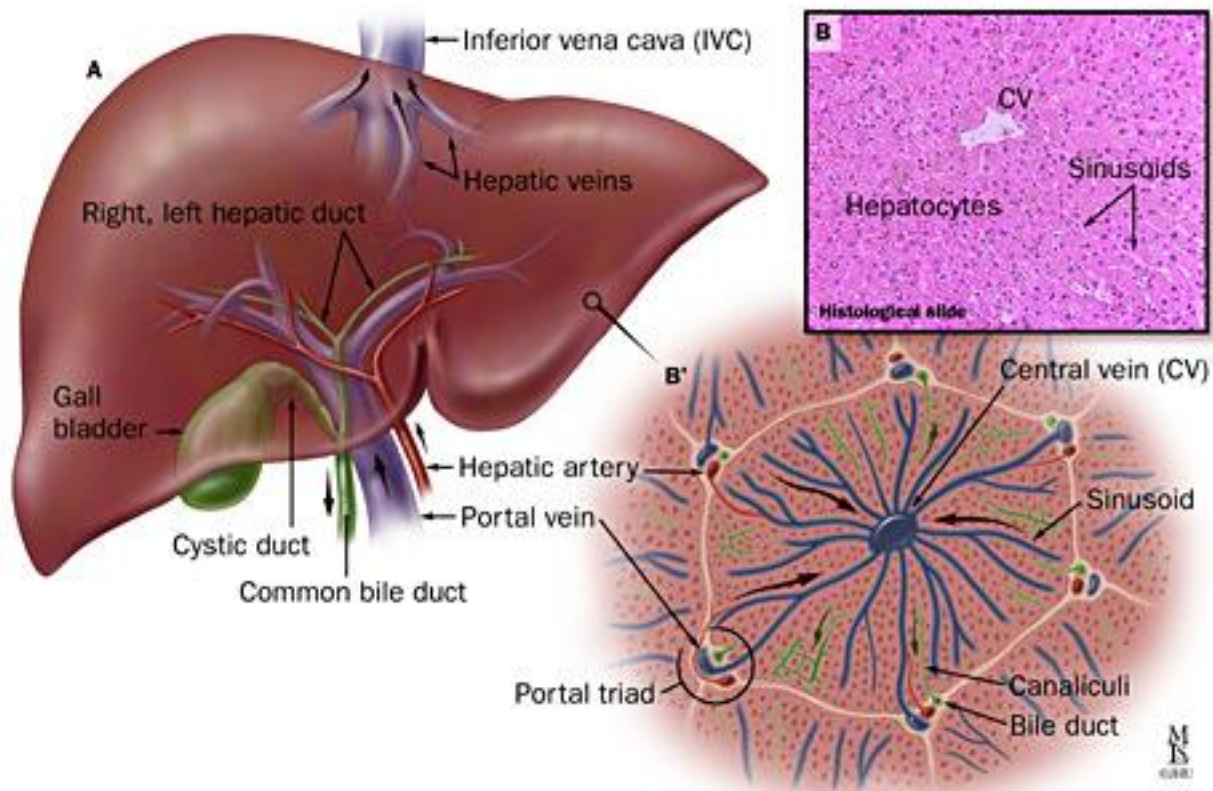
**King's College Hospital
London**

Remit of the talk

- Applied anatomy
- Synthetic functions
- Detoxification functions
- Common pathophysiology states in liver disease
 - Hepatorenal syndrome
 - Hepatopulmonary syndrome
 - Ascites
 - Encephalopathy
 - Portal hypertension







Hepatic Blood Flow

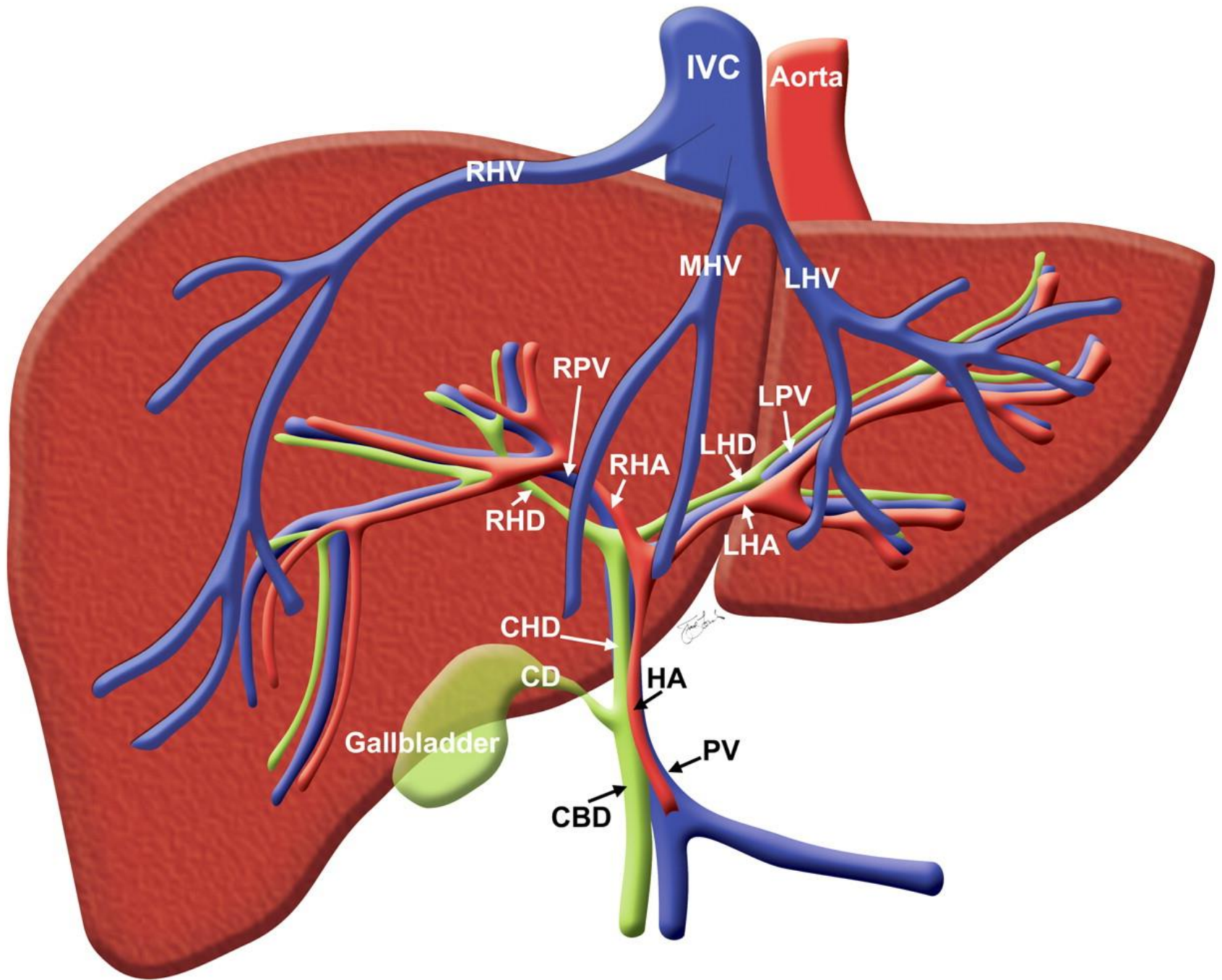
Dual blood supply

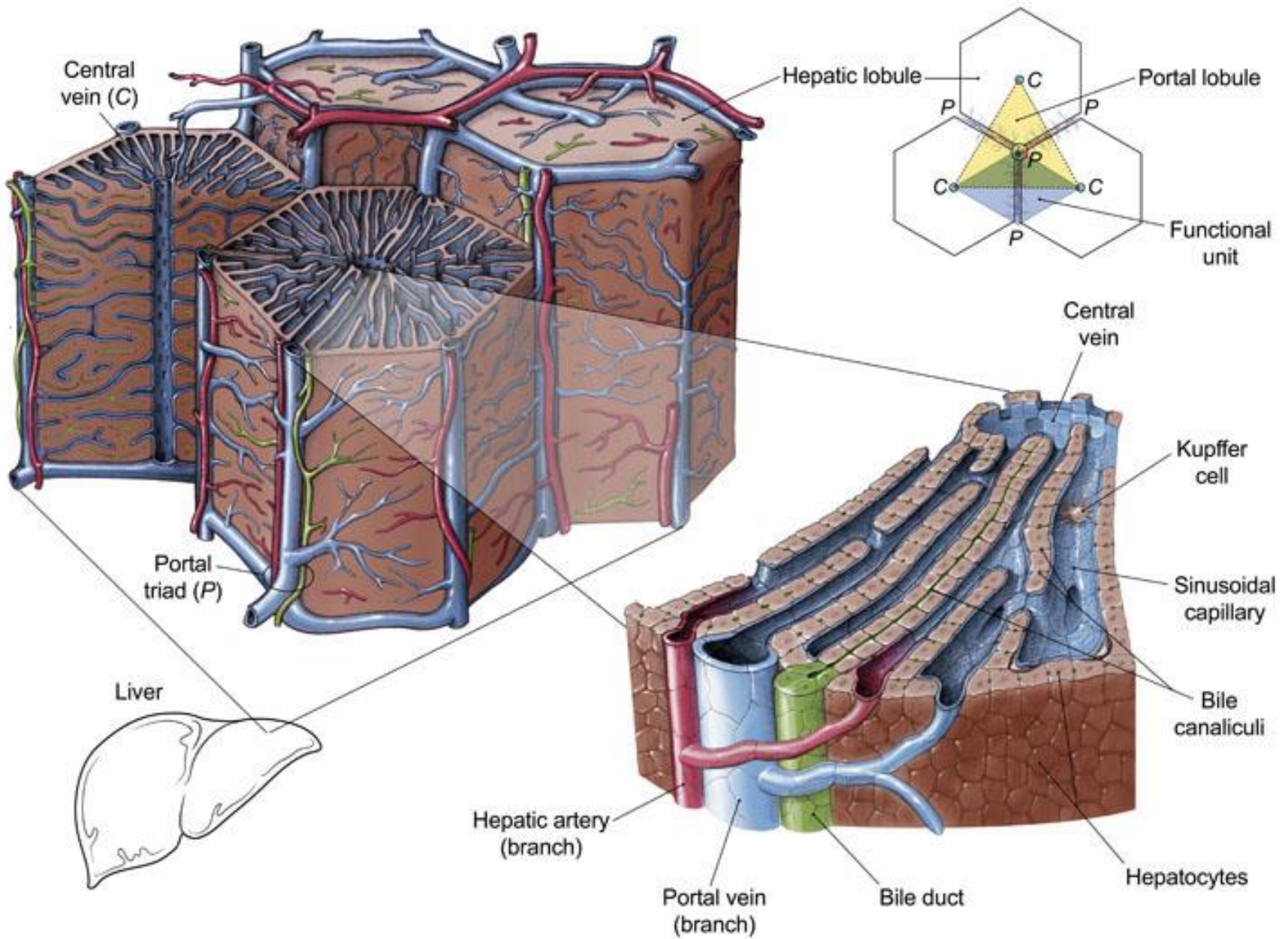
Hepatic Artery (40%)

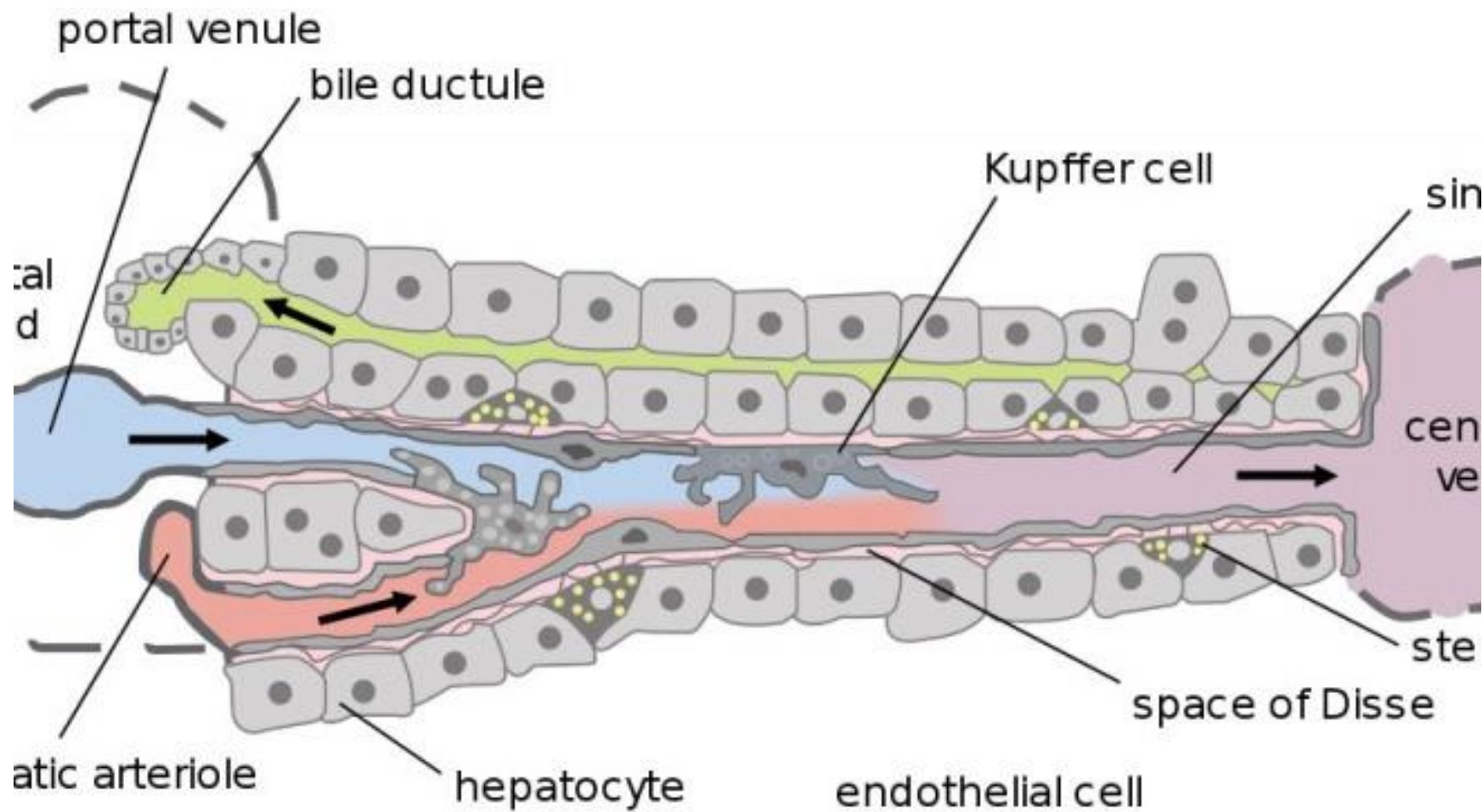
Portal vein (60%)

Outflow

Three Hepatic Veins

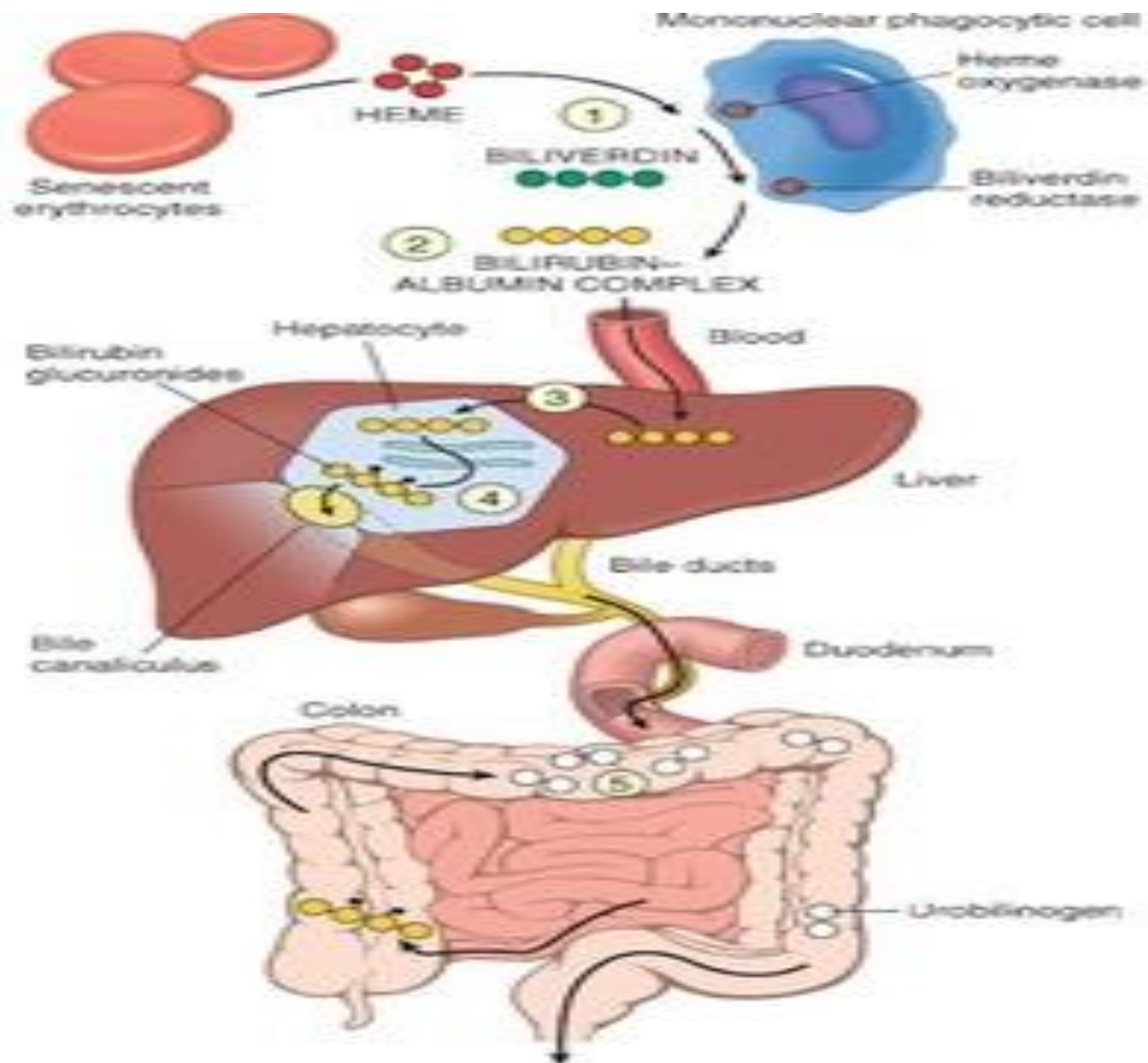




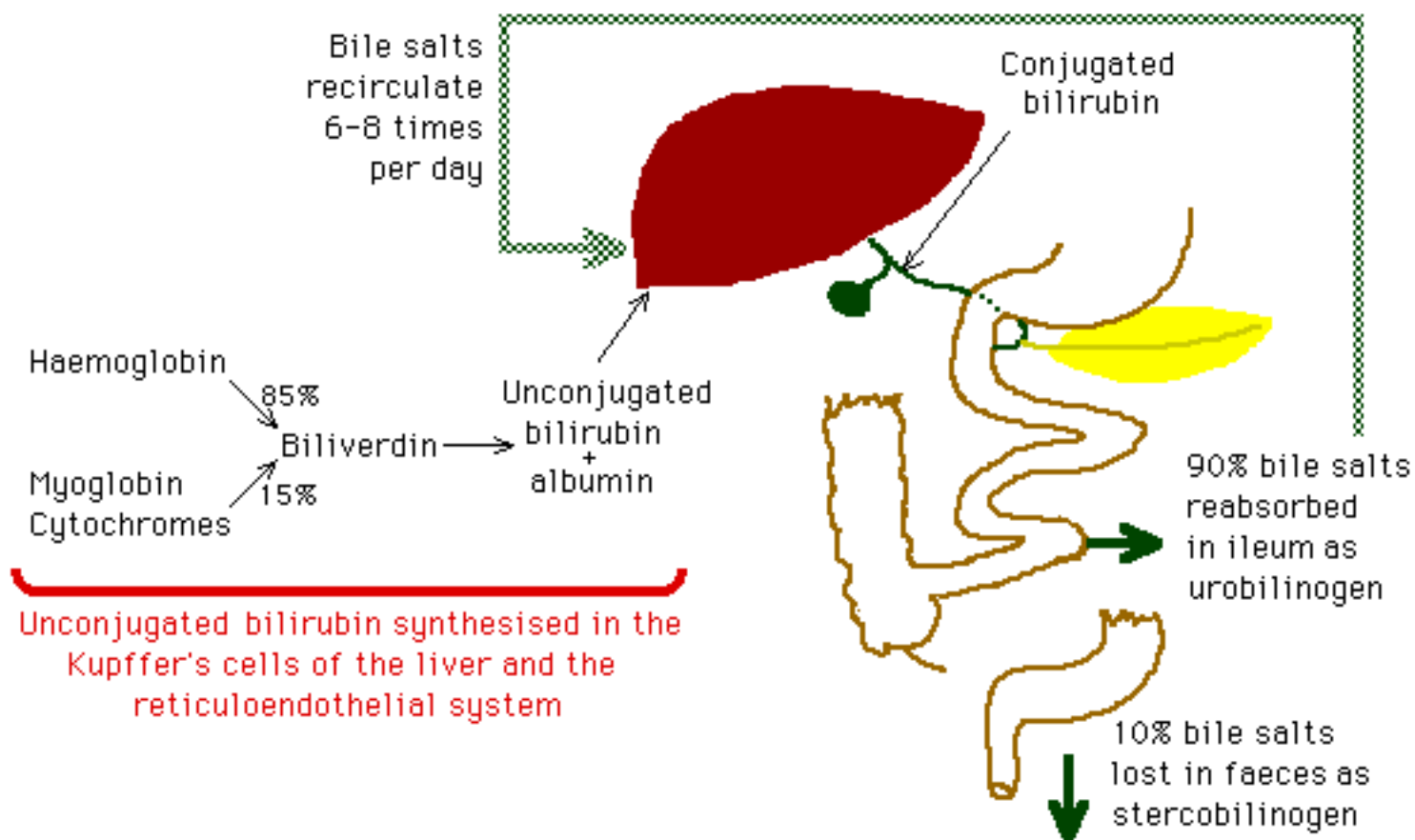


Formation of bile

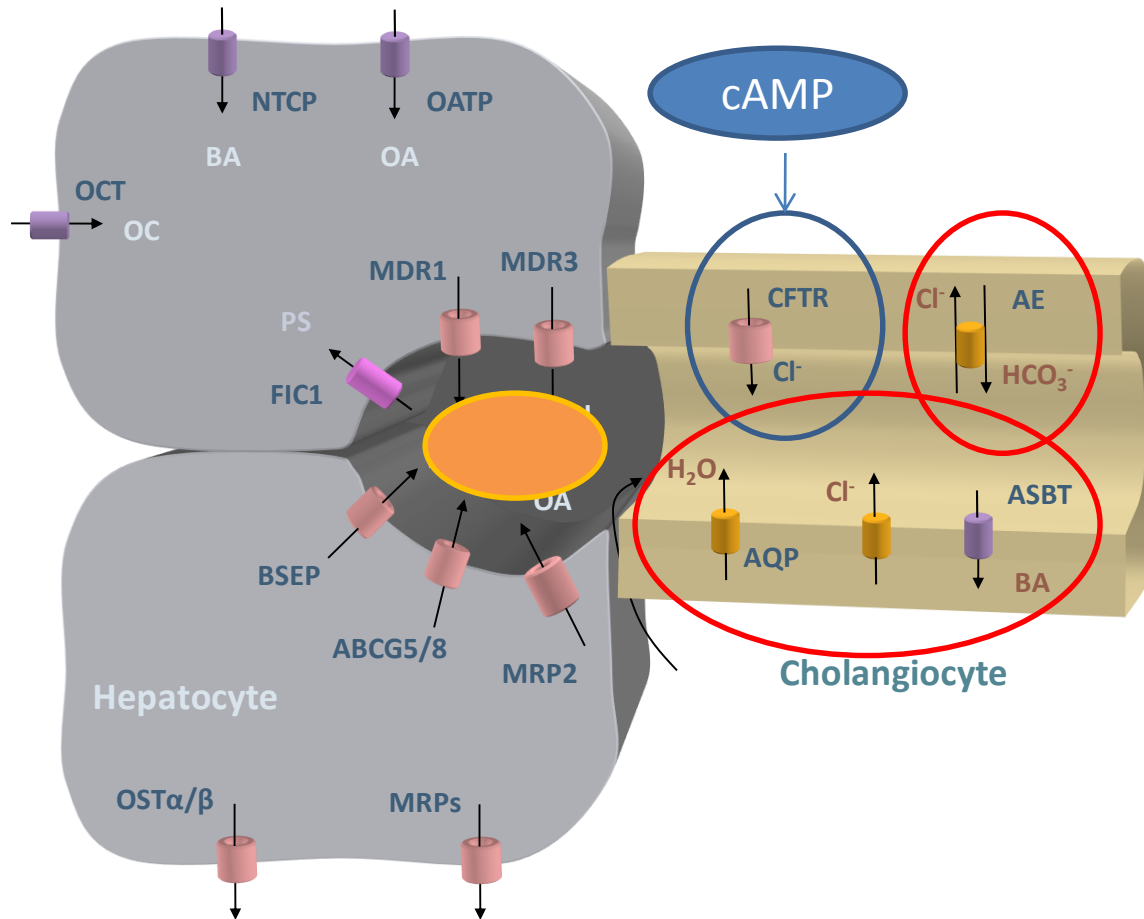
Central function of liver



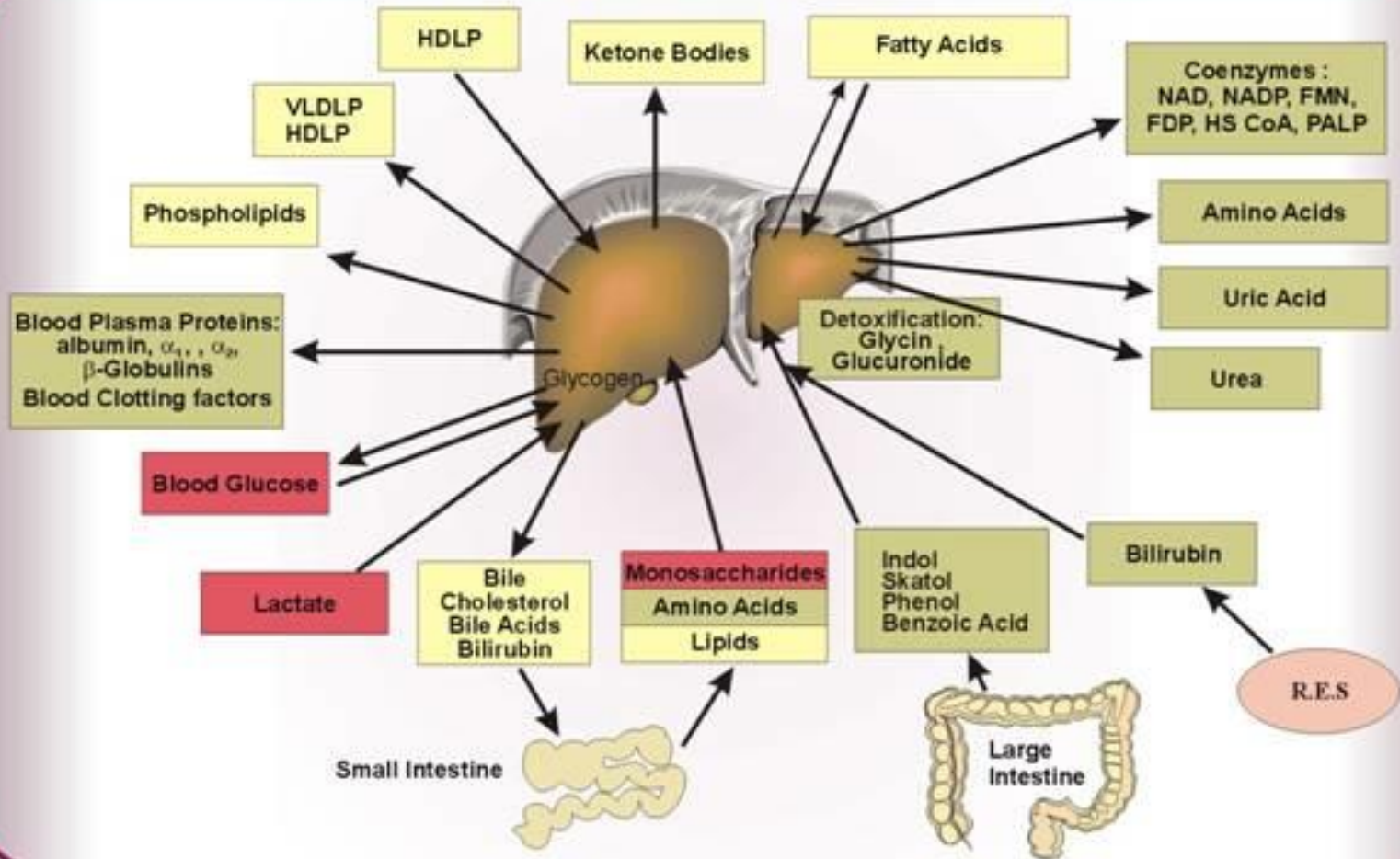
The synthesis and enterohepatic circulation of bile salts



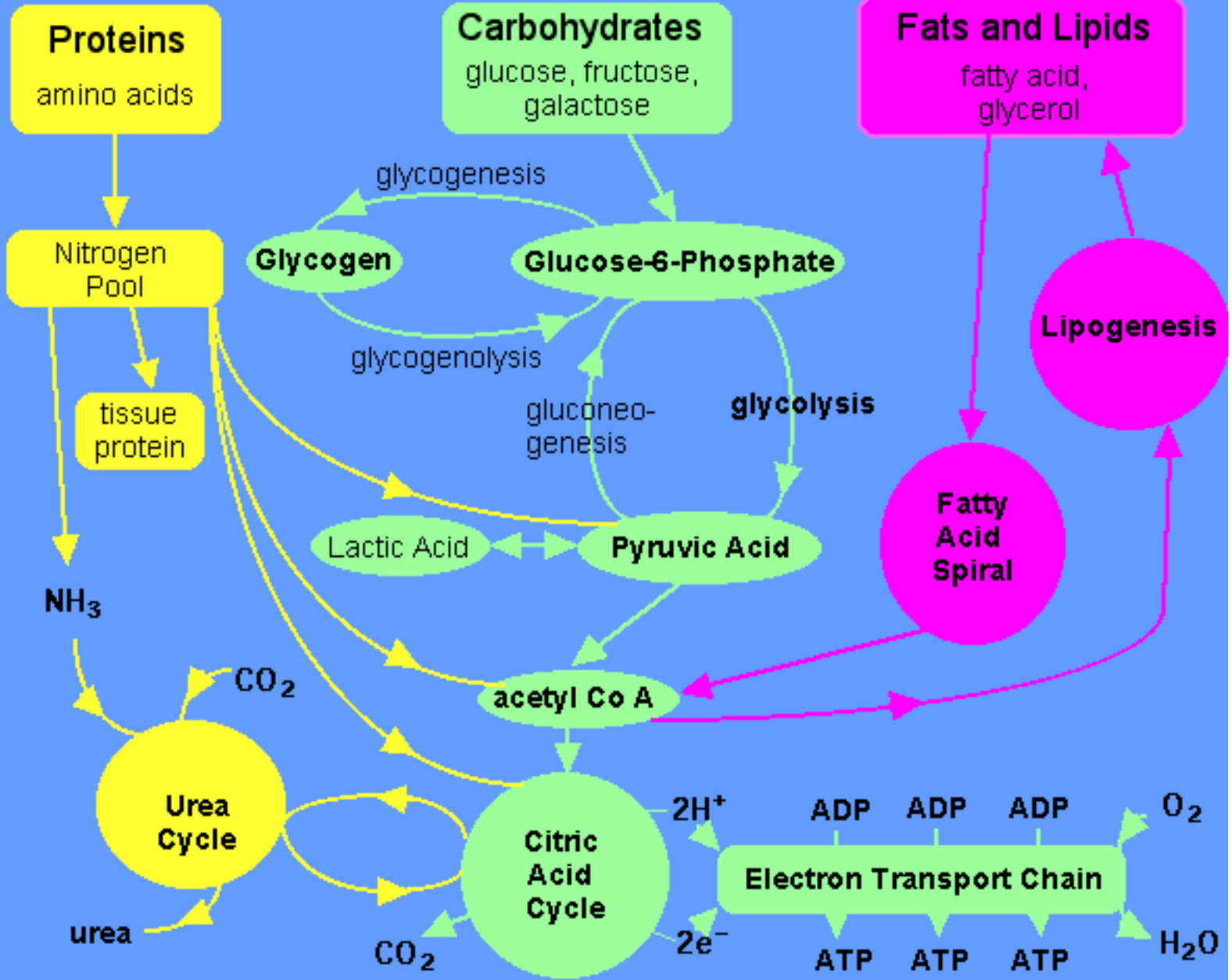
Focal biliary cirrhosis

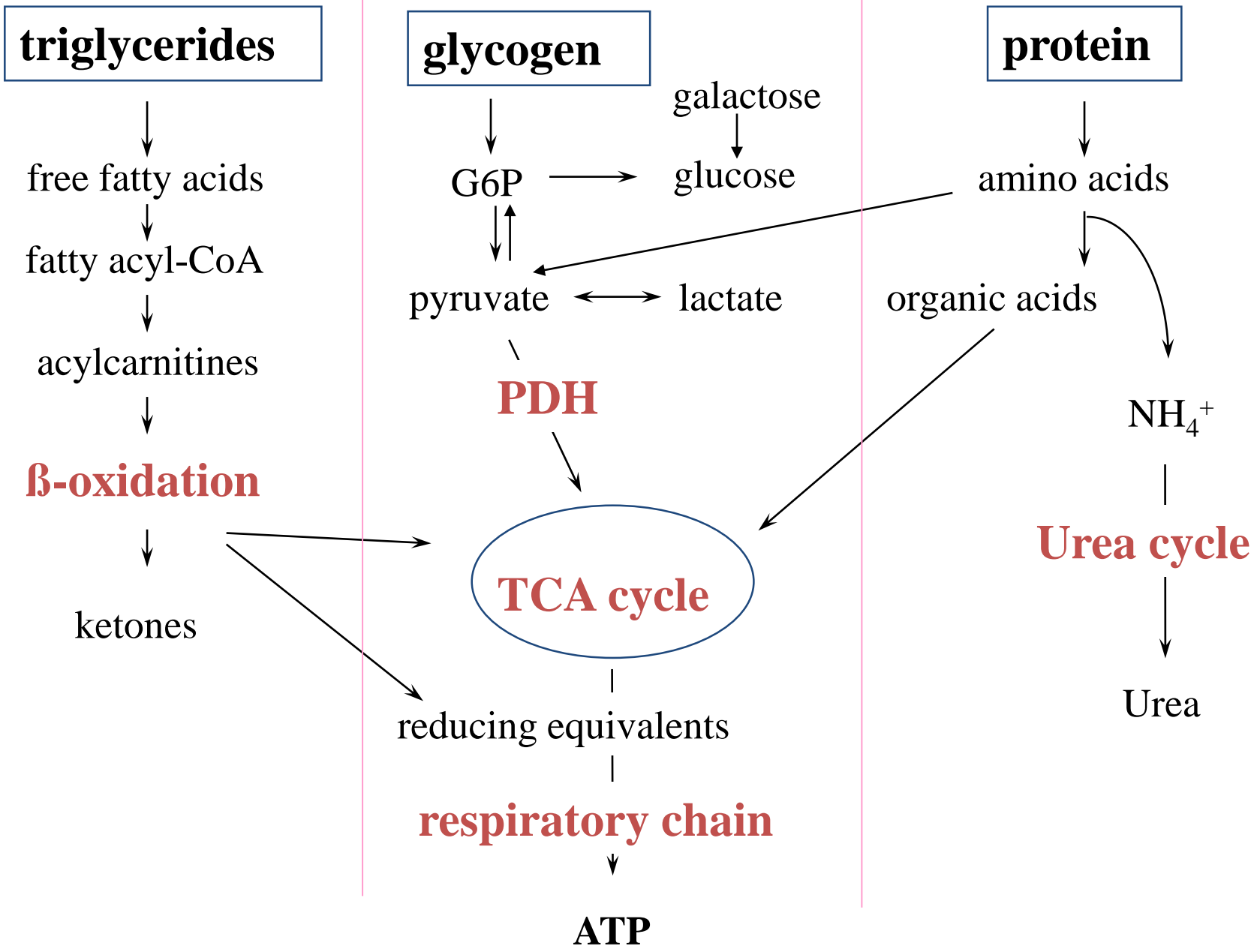


Role of Liver in Metabolism

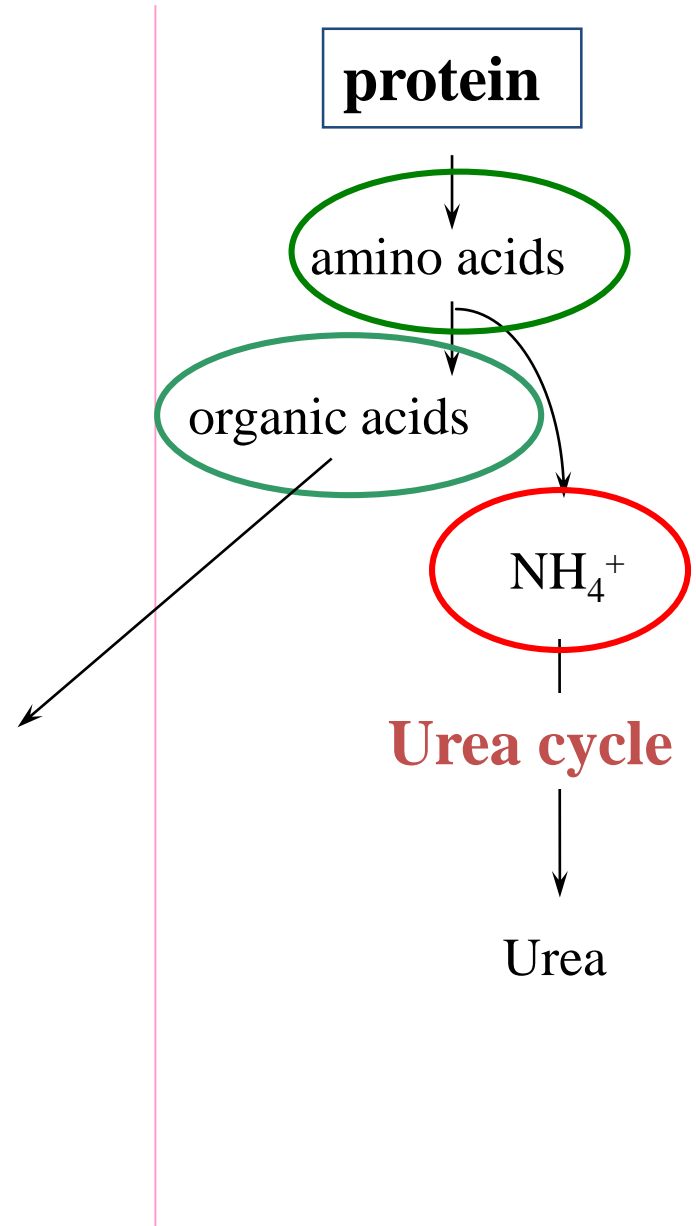


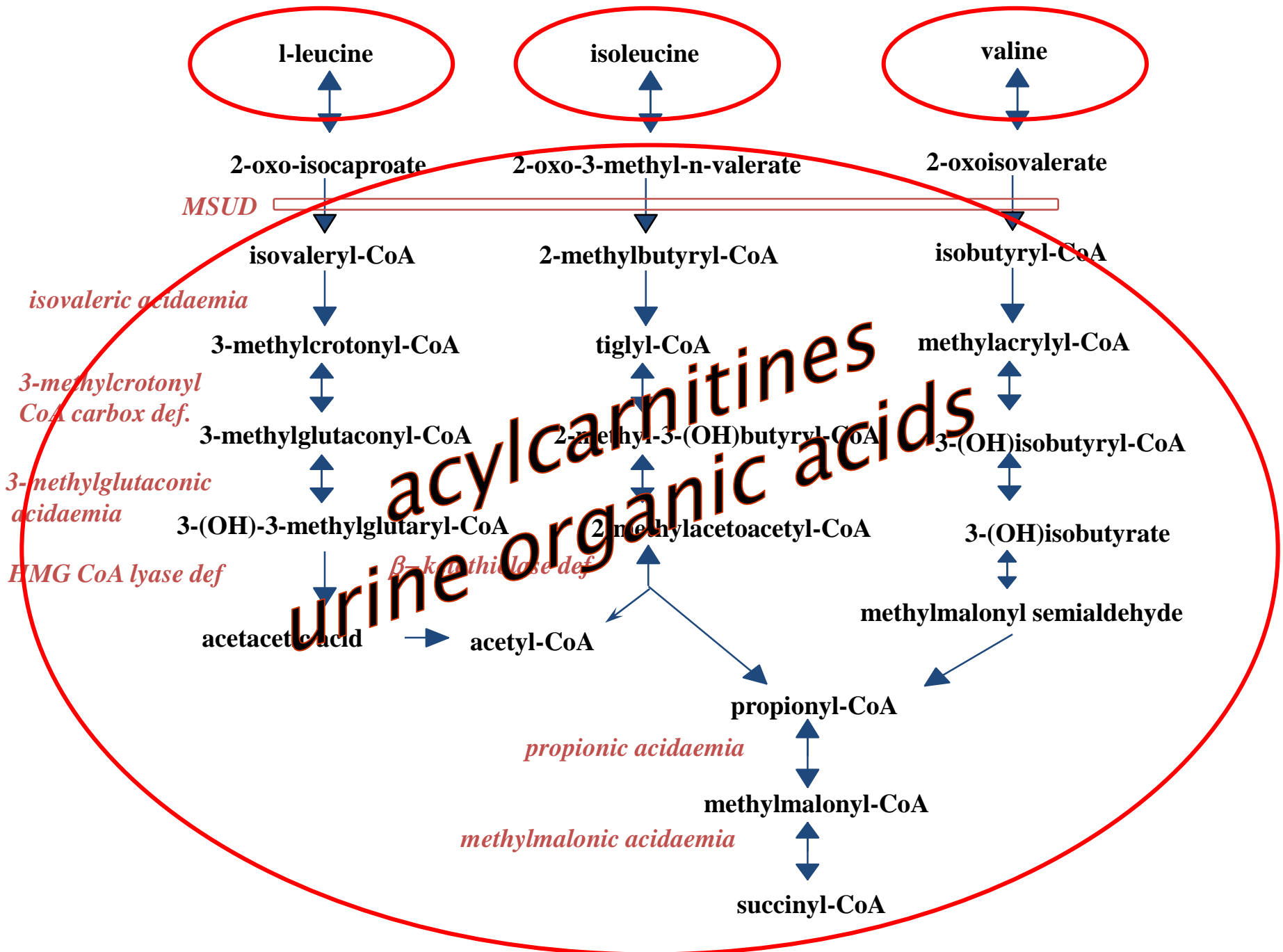
Metabolism Summary





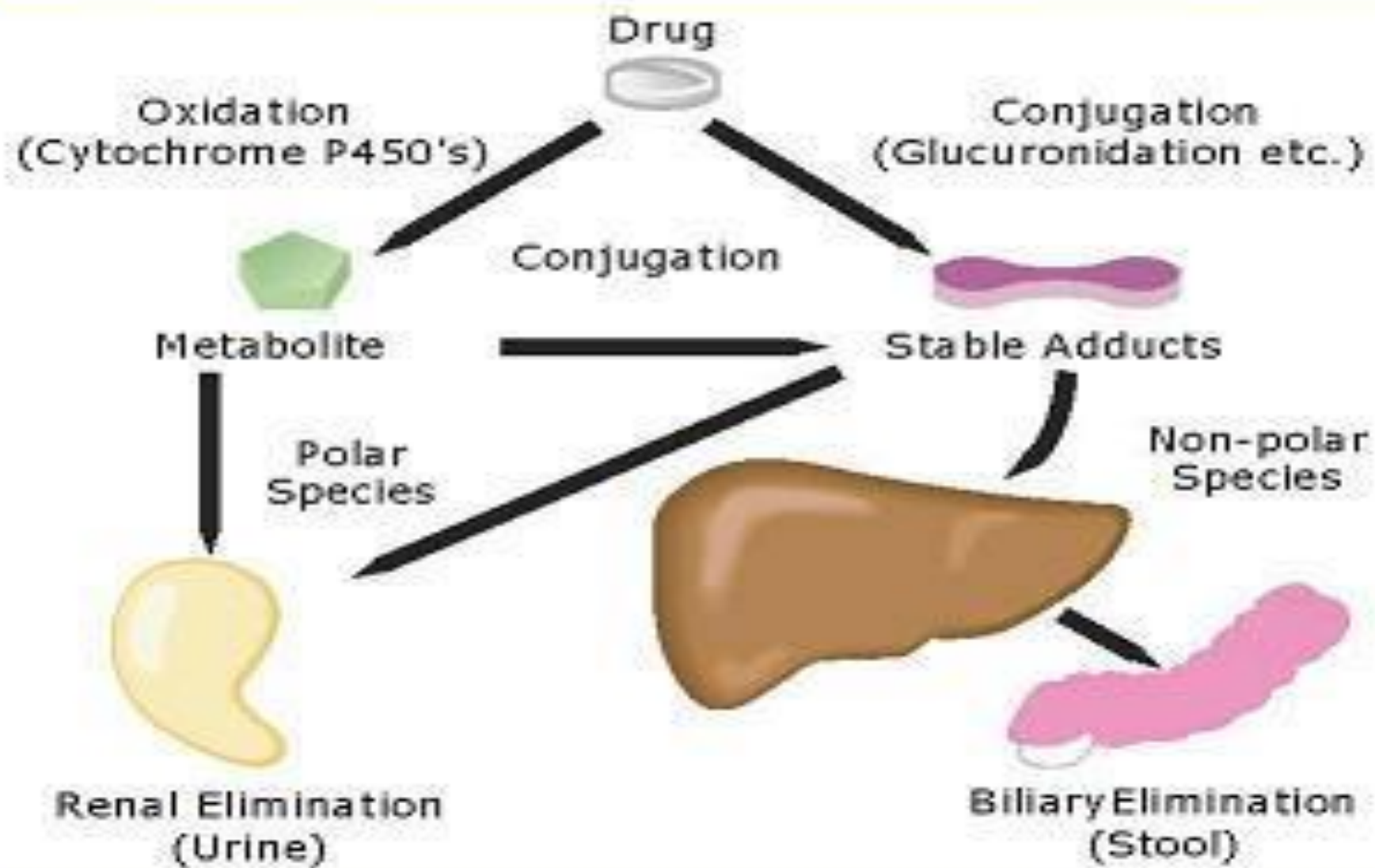
- aminoacidopathies
- organic acidemia
- urea cycle disorders





acylcarnitines
urine organic acids

Figure No. 1: DRUG METABOLISM PATHWAYS



FAT-SOLUBLE TOXINS

Phase 1
(Cytochrome P450 Enzymes)

Oxidation
Reduction
Hydrolysis
Hydration
Dehalogenation

Nutrients Needed

- Vitamins B2, B3, B6, B12
- Folic Acid
- Glutathione
- Flavonoids

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R
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Phase 2
(Conjugation Pathways)

Sulfation
Glucoronidation
Glutathione Conjugation
Acetylation
Amino Acid Conjugation
Methylation

Nutrients Needed

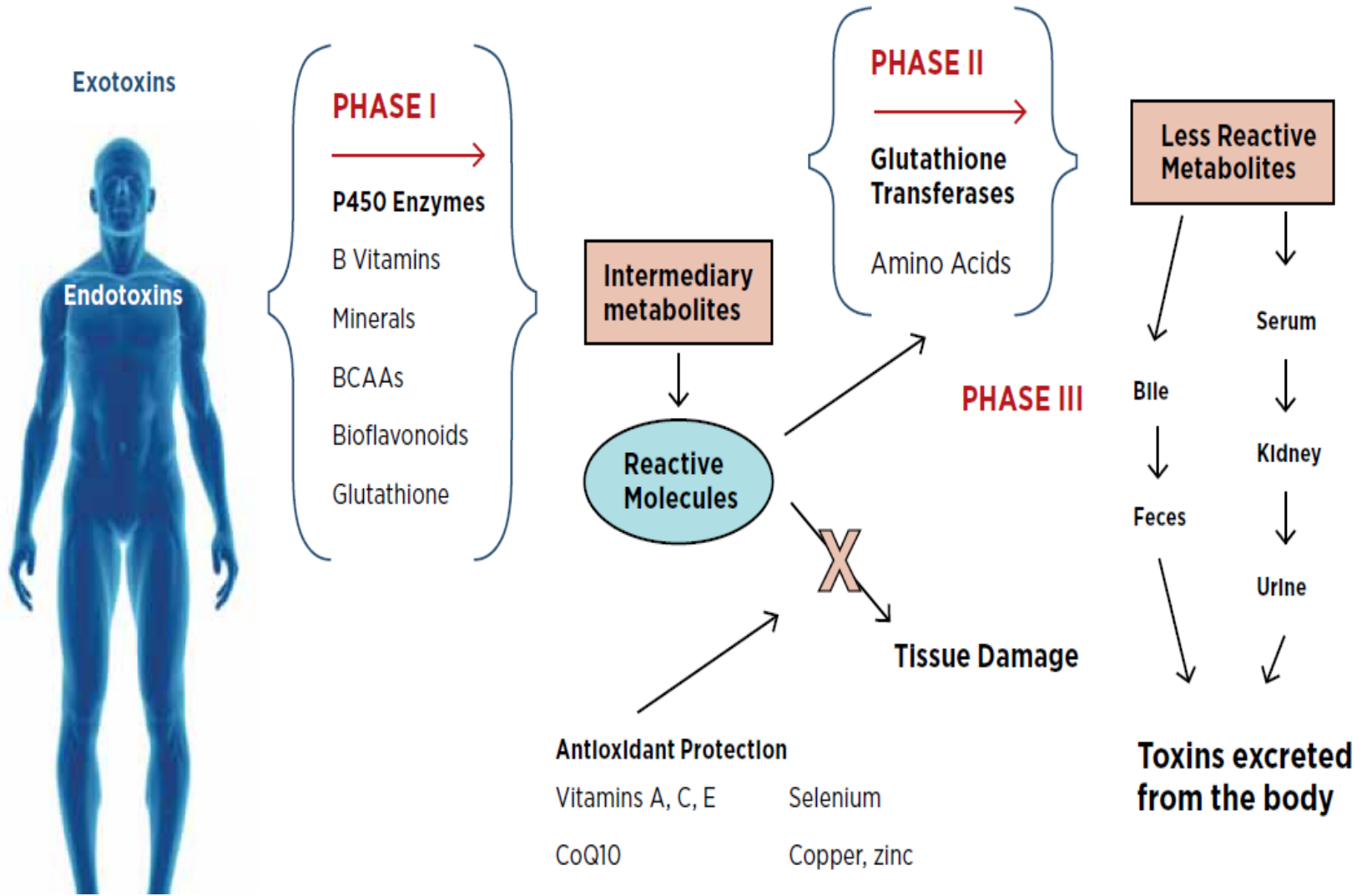
- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| • Methionine | • Vitamin B5, B12 | • Glutamine |
| • Cysteine | • Vitamin C | • Folic Acid |
| • Magnesium | • Glycine | • Choline |
| • Glutathione | • Taurine | |

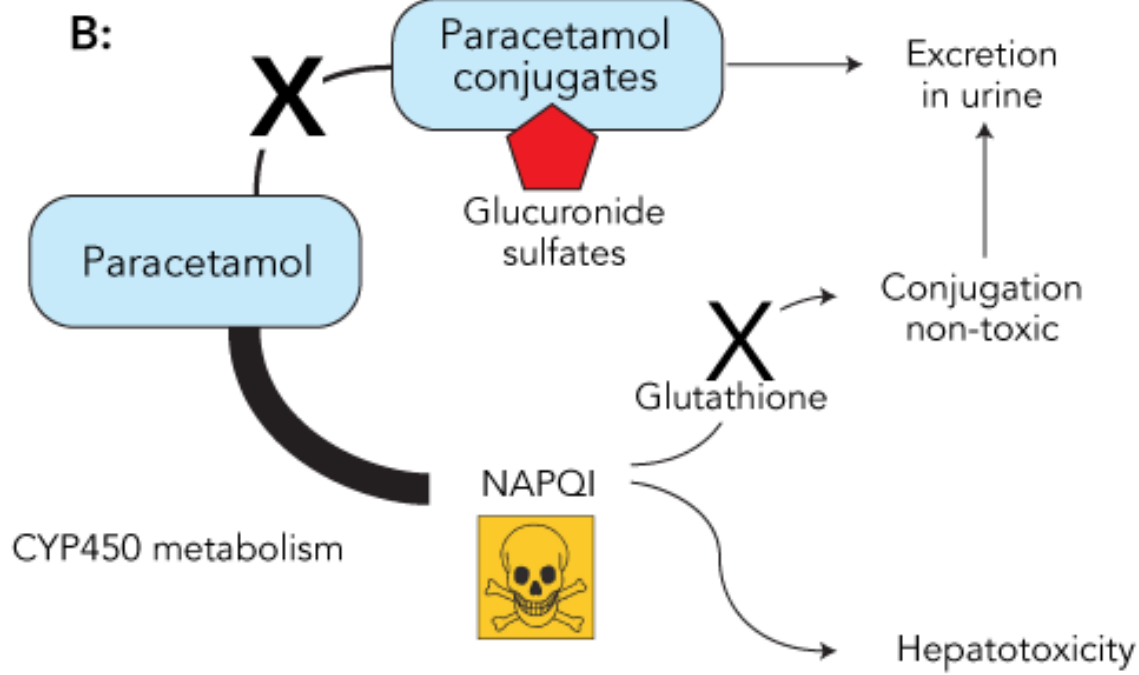
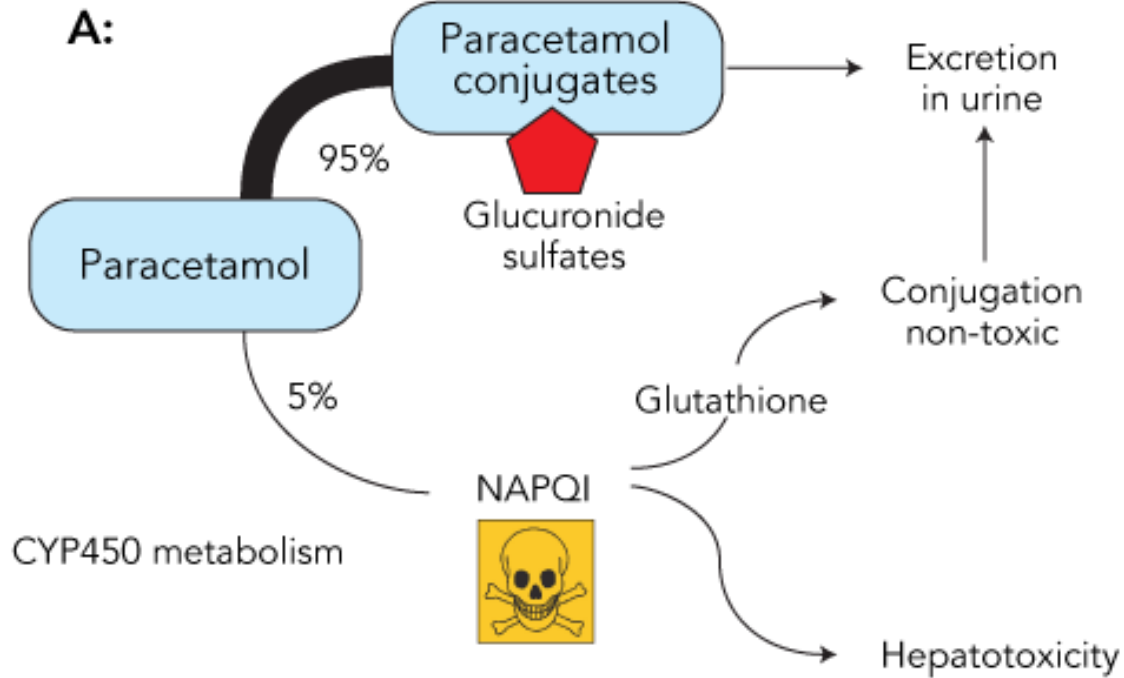
WATER-SOLUBLE WASTE

Eliminated via:

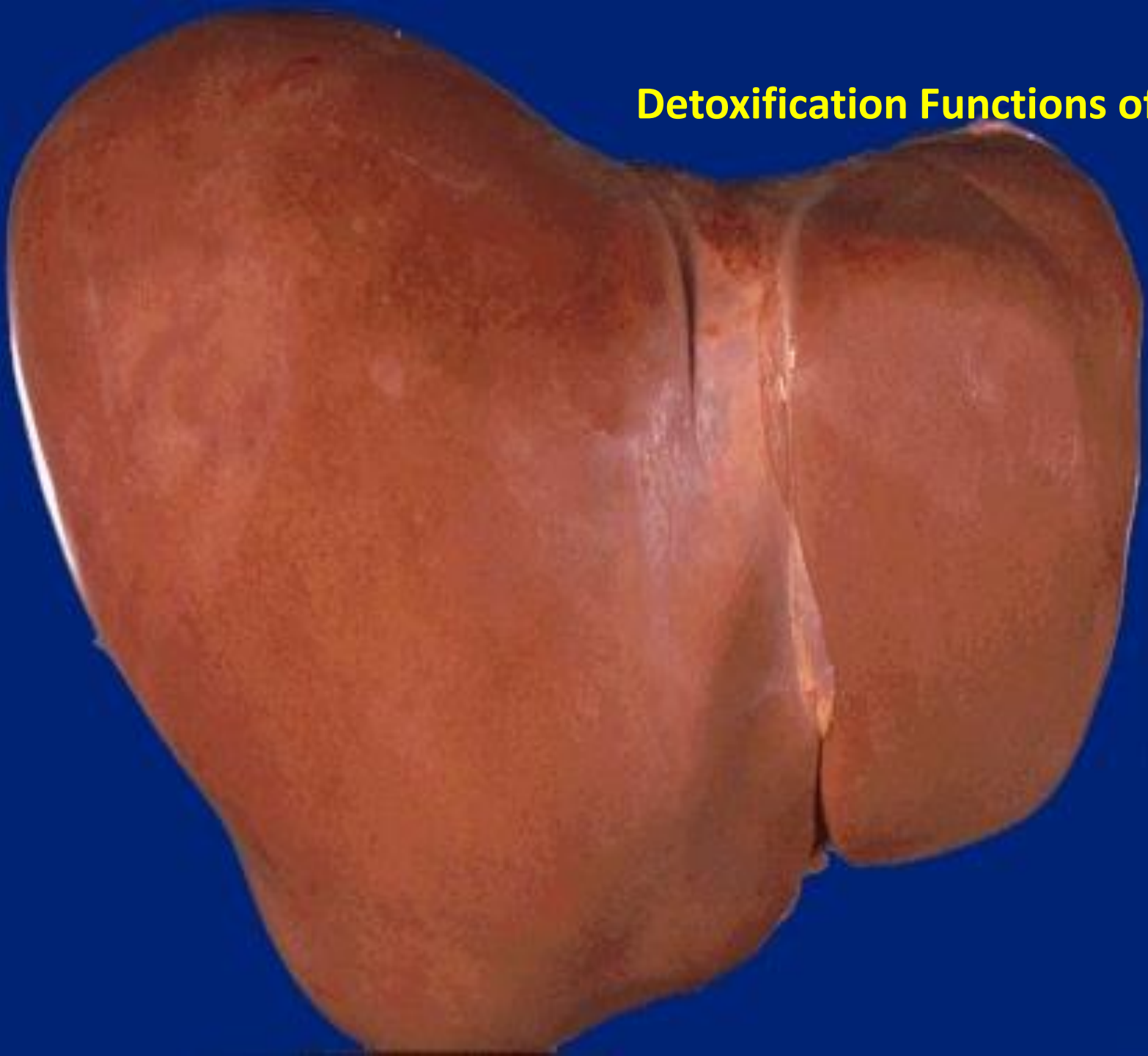
Urine
Bile
Stool

TOXIC METABOLISM

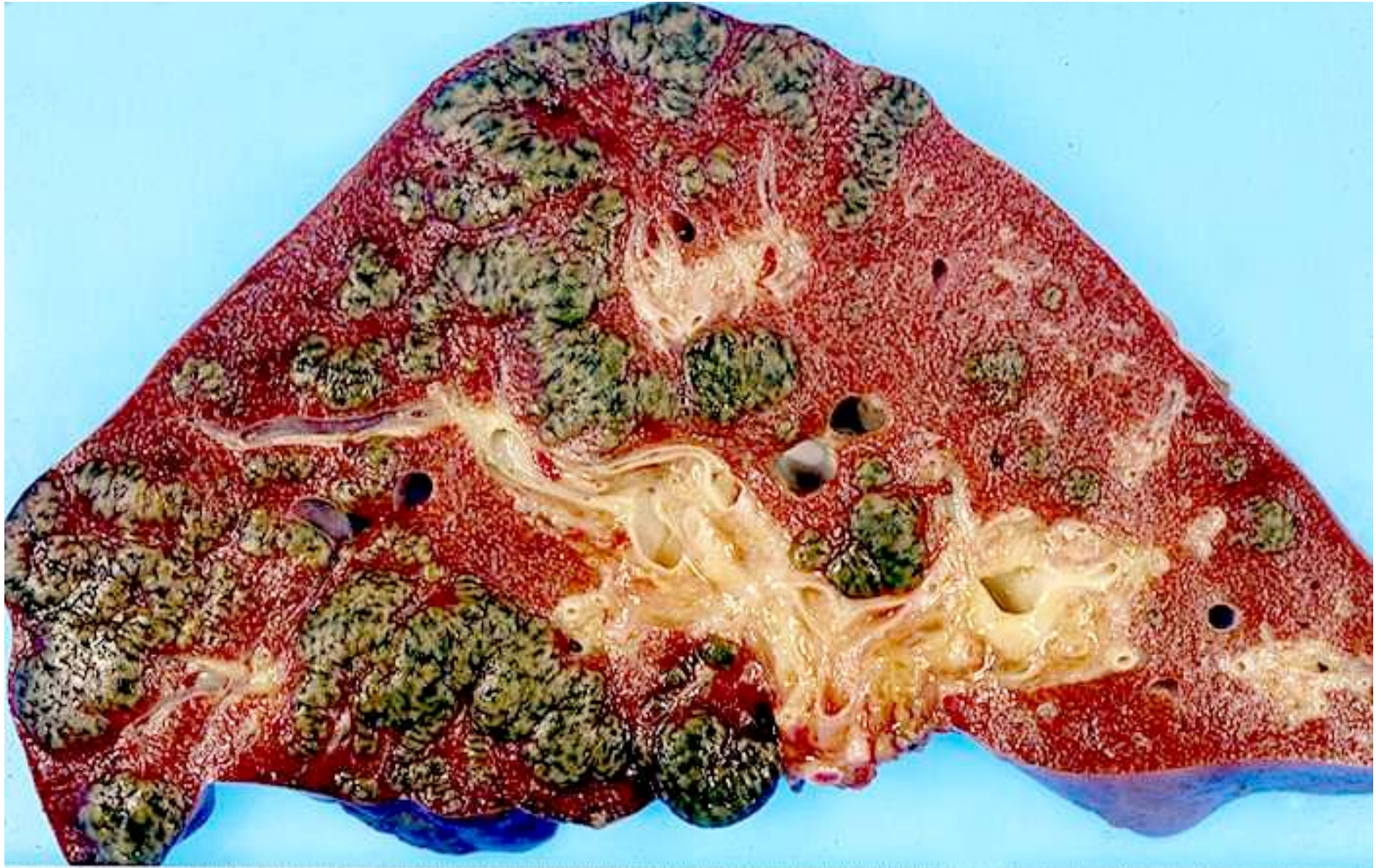




Detoxification Functions of Liver







. Initial Event

- Infection (bact./viral)
- Bleeding
- Intoxication
- Ischemia
- other

. Secondary Organdysfunctions

- Brain (HE, Edema)
- Kidneys (HRS)
- Cardiovascular system (SVRI↓, MAP ↓, CI↑)
- Bone marrow (Depression)
- Immune system (Activation/Paralysis)
- Liver (Inflammation, Necrosis, Apoptosis)

. Toxin-concentration

Hydrophobic substances

- Hydrophobic bile acids
- Bilirubin
- plasmatic NO
- Prostacycline
- Indol/Phenol-Metabolits
- Toxic fatty acids
- Thiols
- Digoxin/Diazepam-like subst.

Hydrophilic substances

- Ammonia

**Toxin Hypothesis of Liver failure:
Vicious cycle of autointoxication**

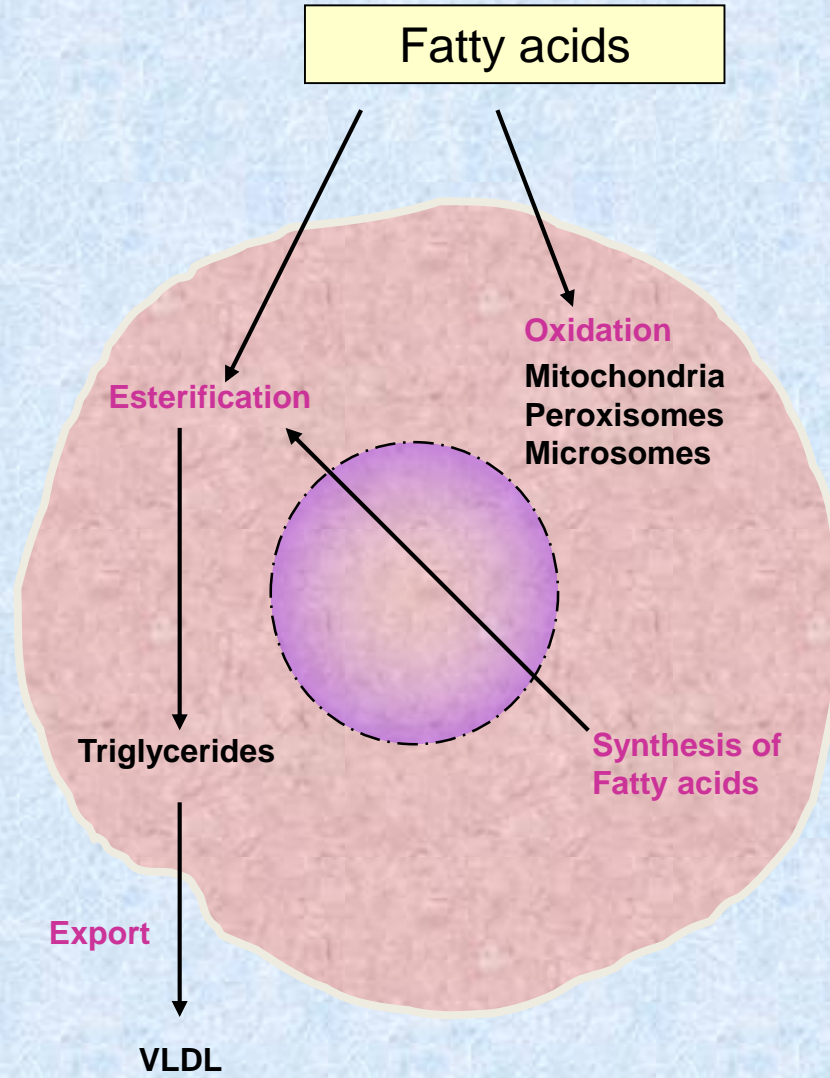
NAFLD In Children

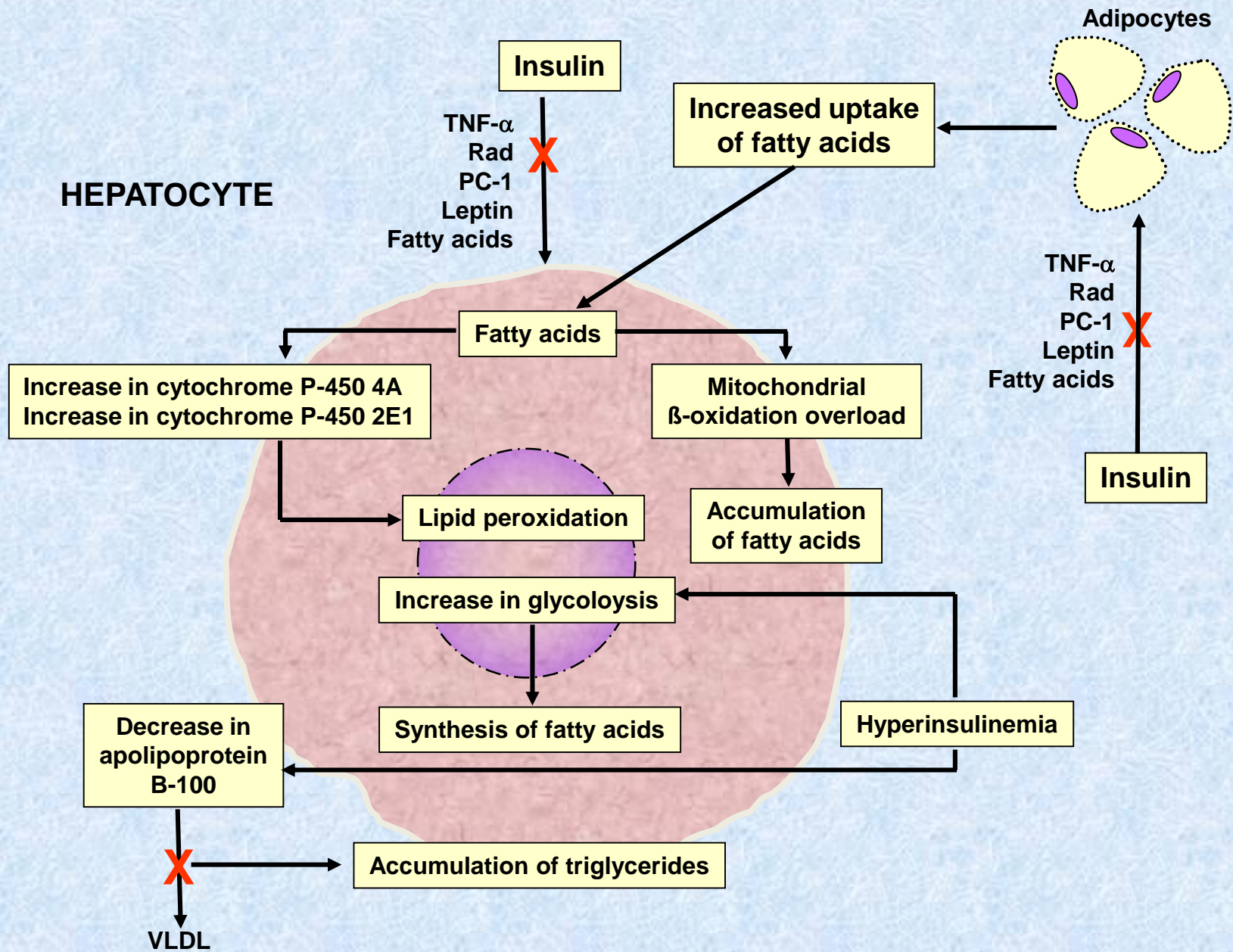


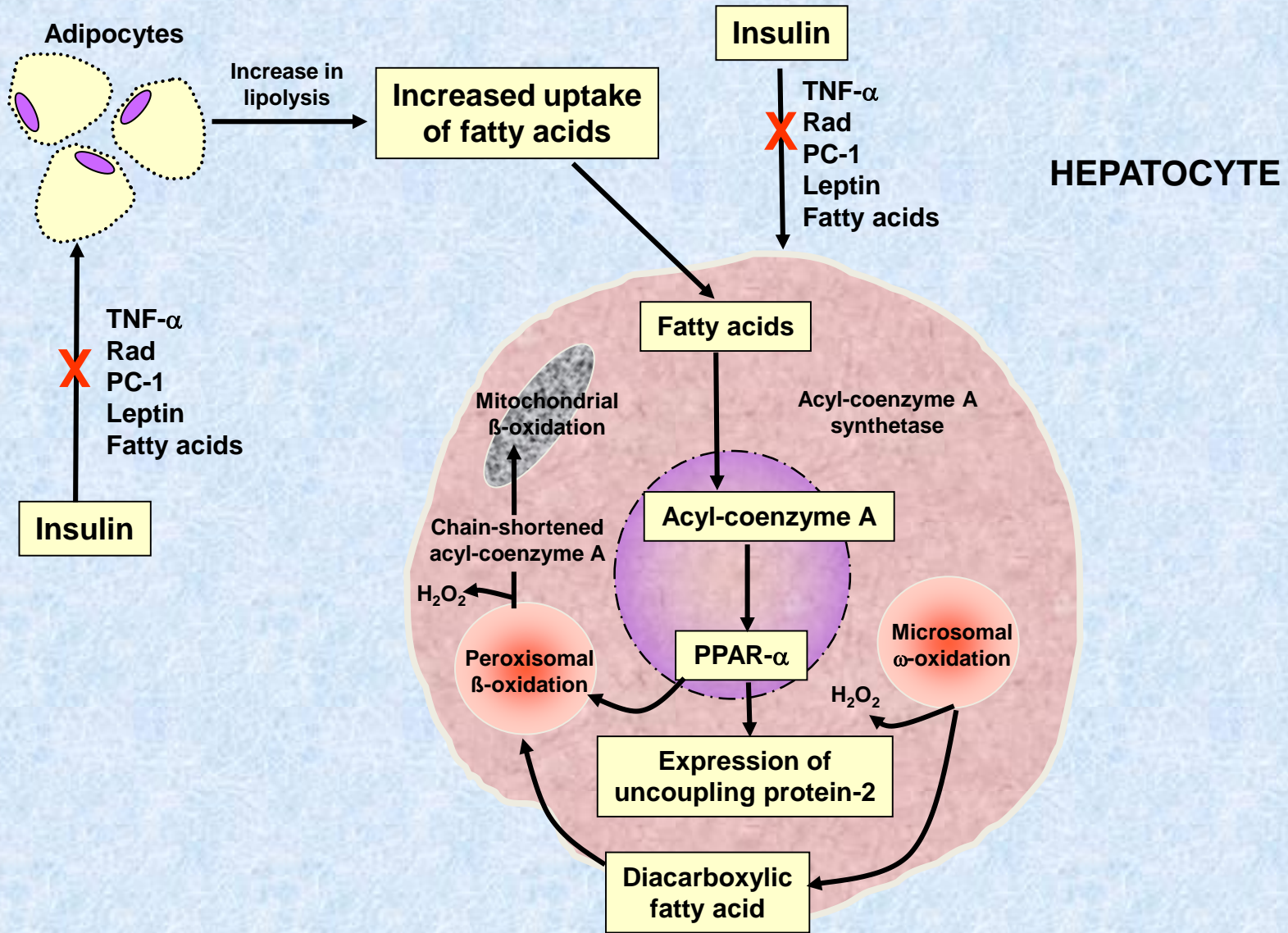
Pathogenesis of NAFLD



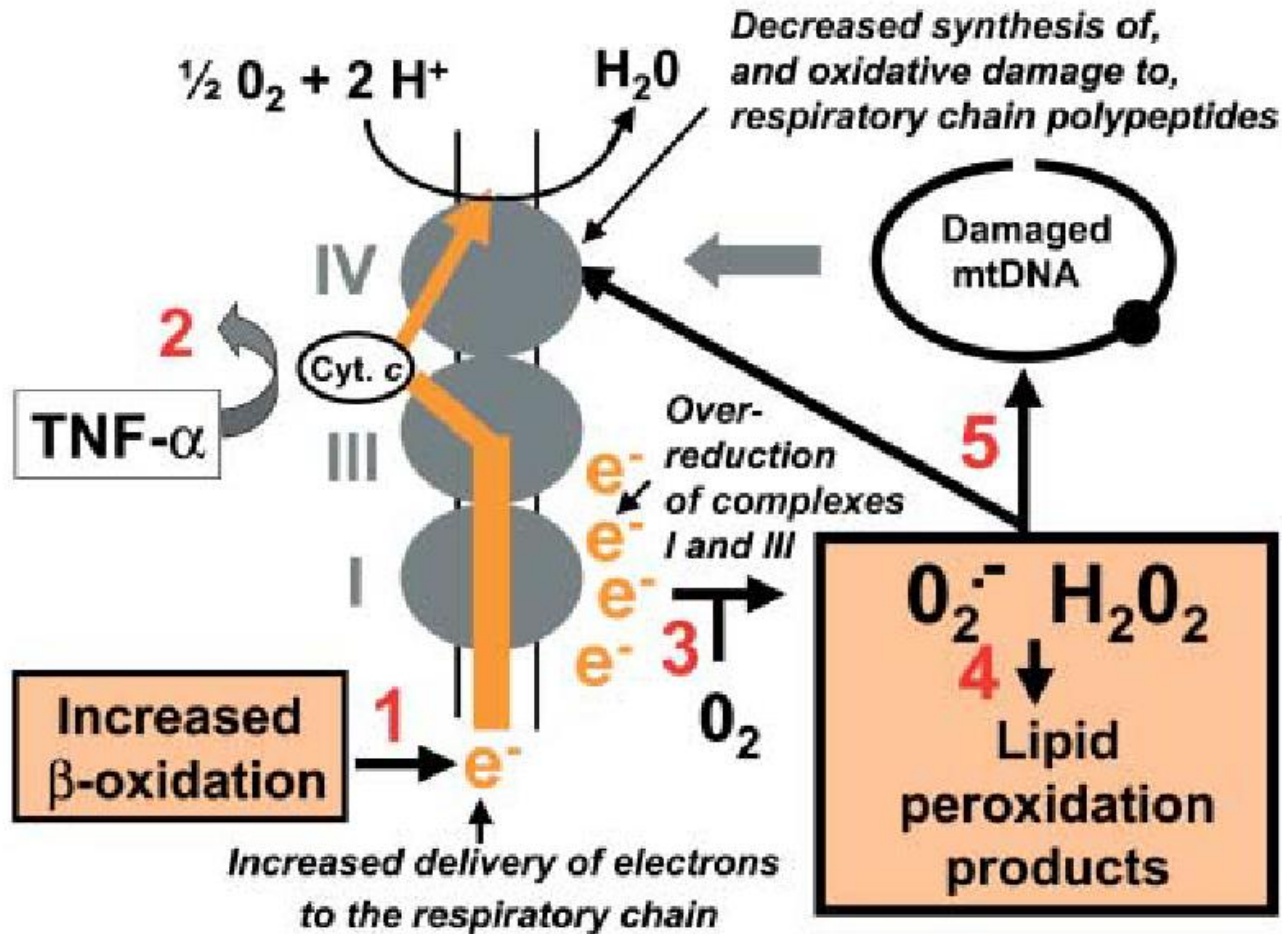
HEPATOCTYTE





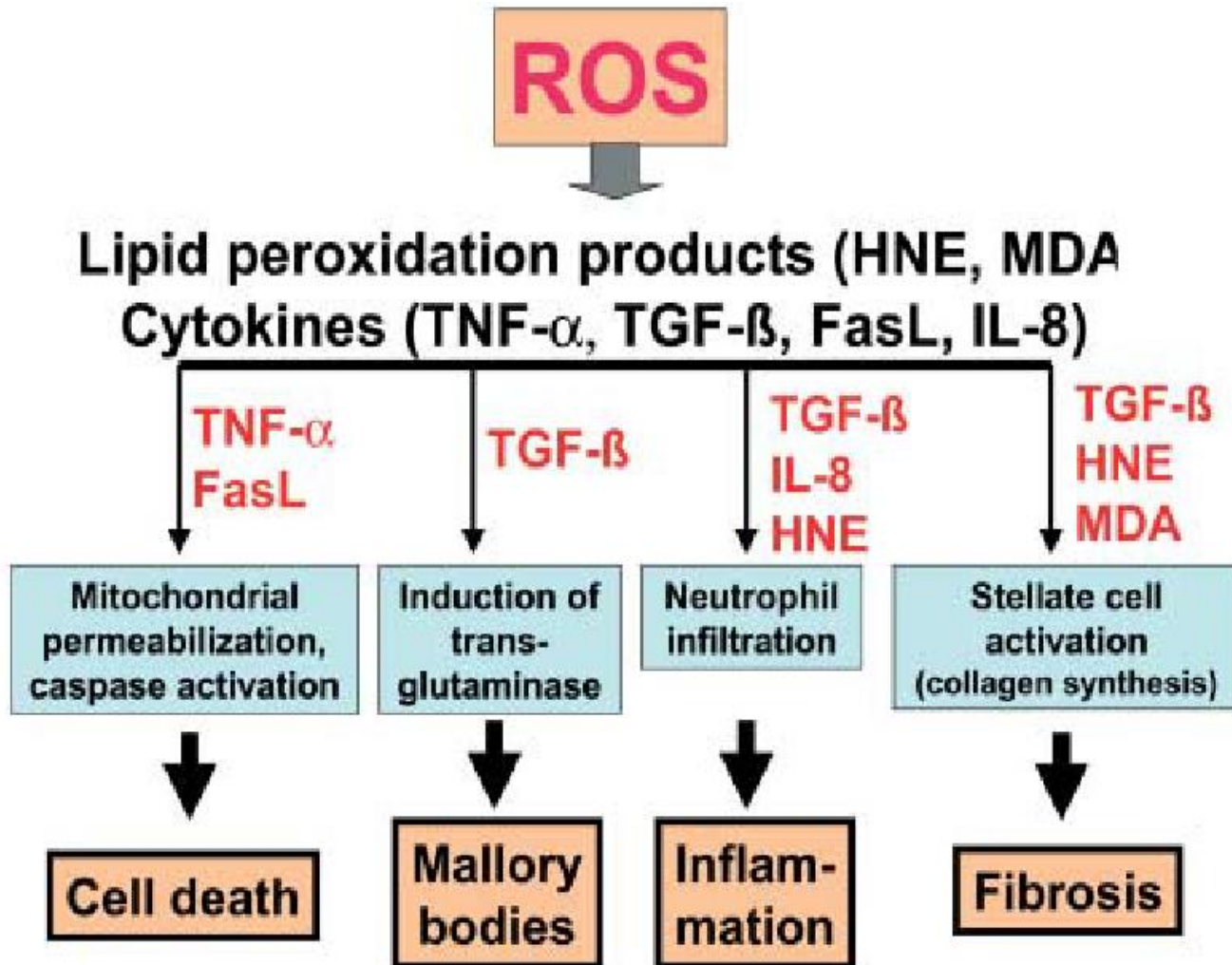


Pathogenesis of NAFLD



Pathogenesis of NAFLD

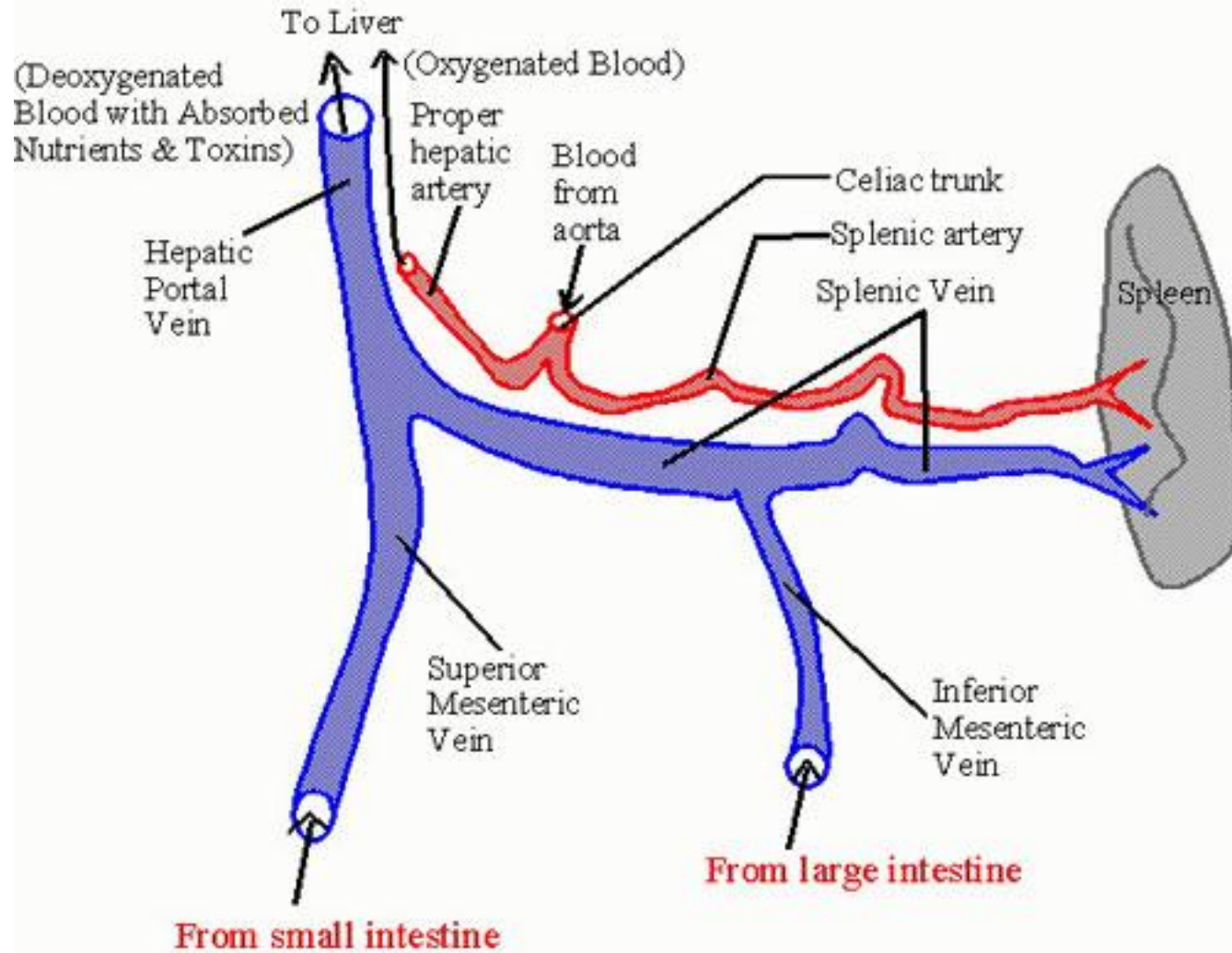
ROS to Steatohepatitis



Vascular Pathologies

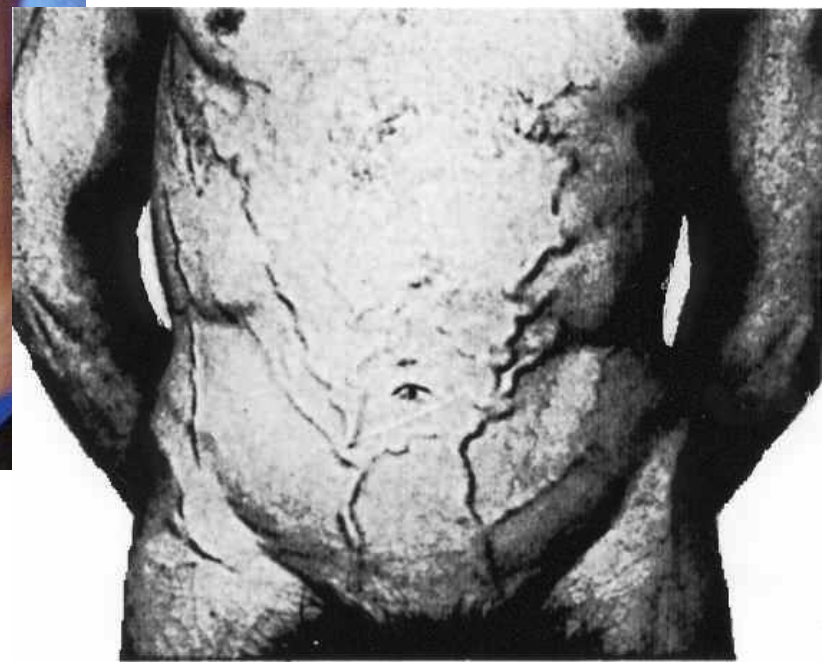
- Portal inflow
 - EHPVO
 - Portal Vein Sclerosis
- Hepatic artery pathologies
 - Rare , hepatic artery problems more seen after LTx
- Hepatic venous outflow
 - Budd Chiari Syndrome
 - Sinusoidal obstruction syndrome

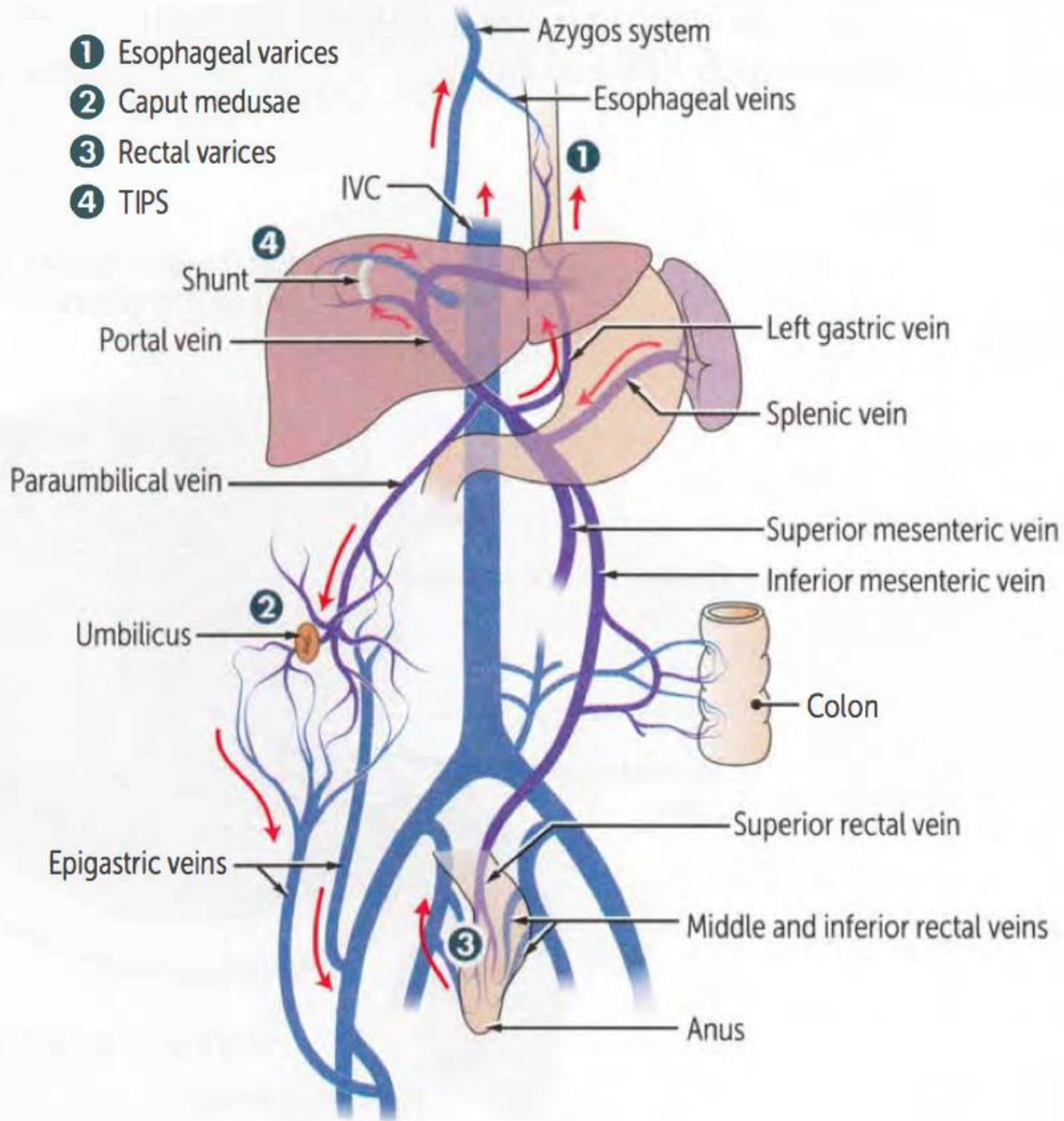
Major Vessels of the Hepatic Portal System

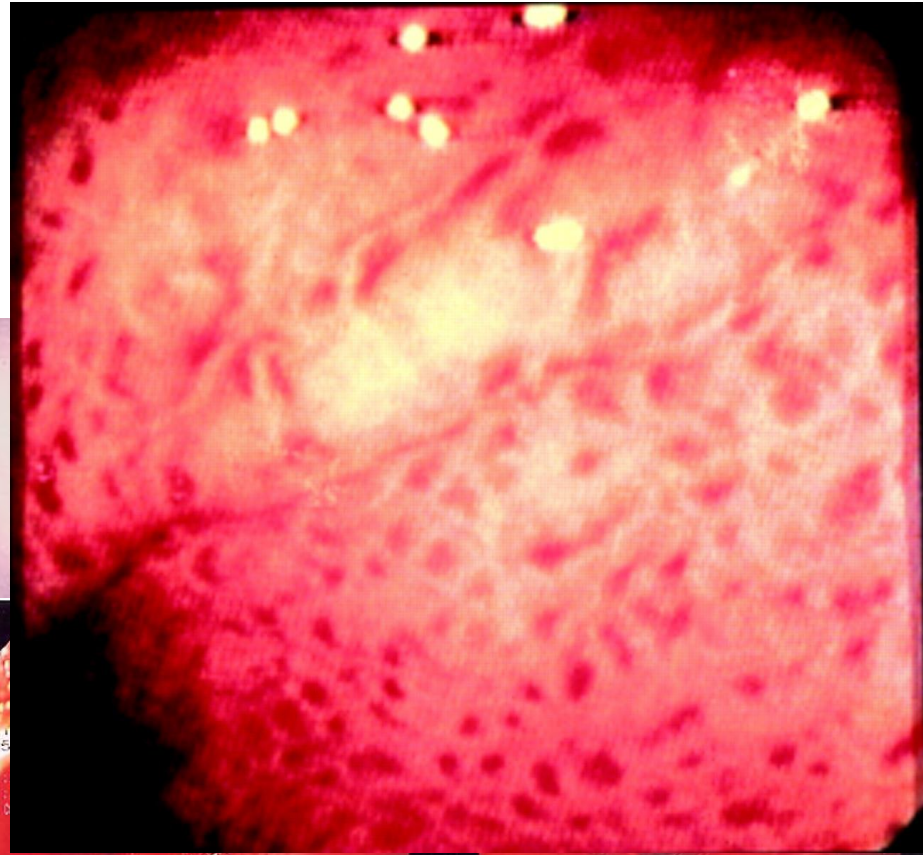
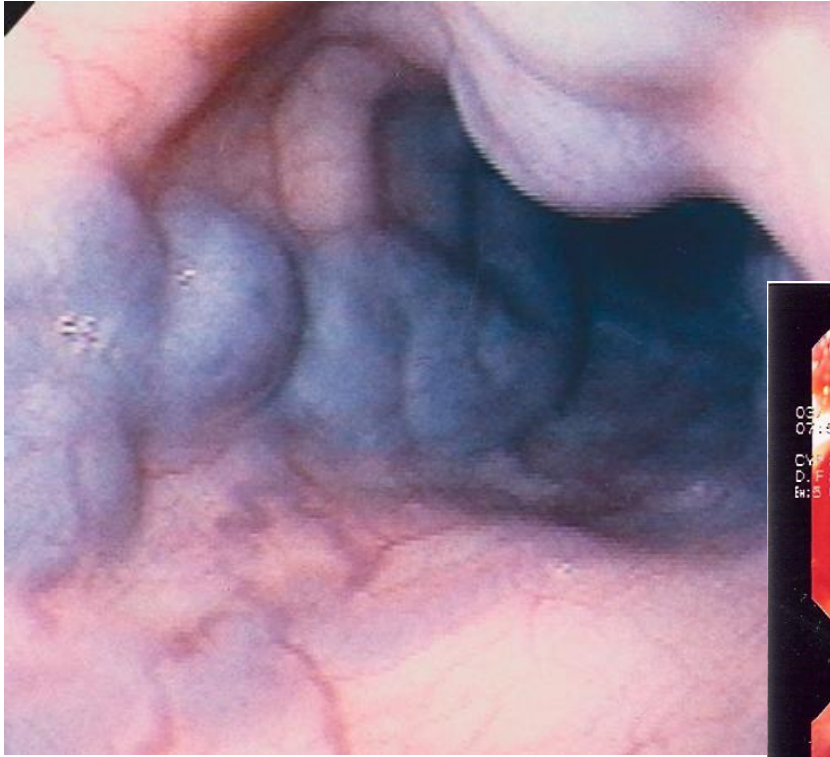




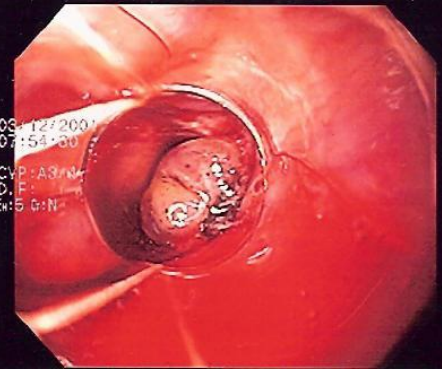
Medussa Head venous pattern



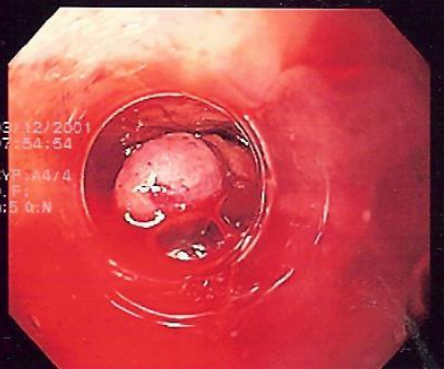




EVO 00
12/2001
54:54
P-A474
5 0:N



EVO 00
12/2001
54:54
P-A474
5 0:N



EVO 00
12/2001
54:54
P-A474
5 0:N

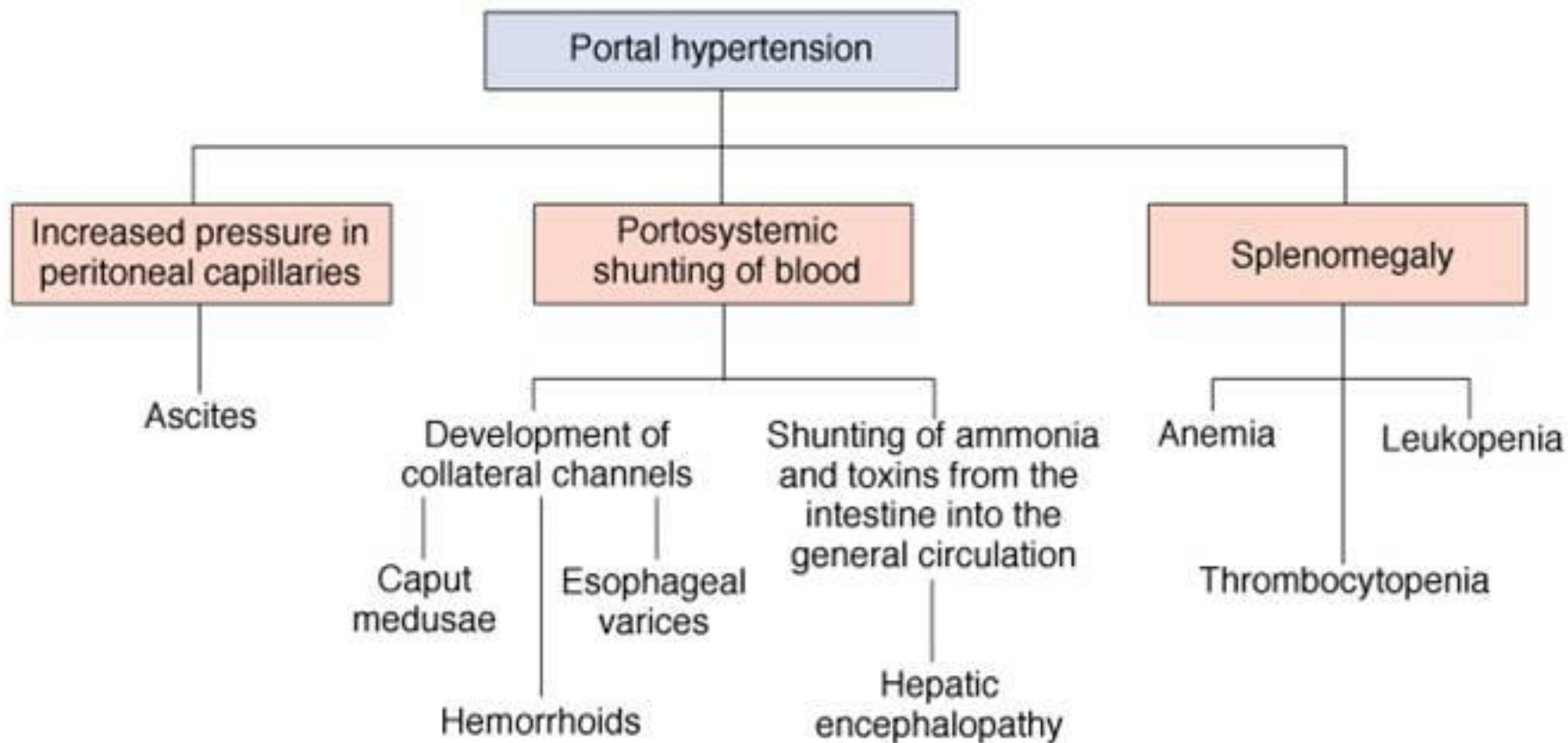


Figure 40-13 Mechanisms of disturbed liver function related to portal hypertension.

Spider Naevi



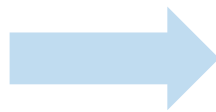
Renal Involvement In Liver Disease

Pathogenesis of Acute Kidney Injury

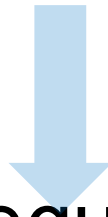
Arterial vasodilatation (“VASOPLEGIA”)



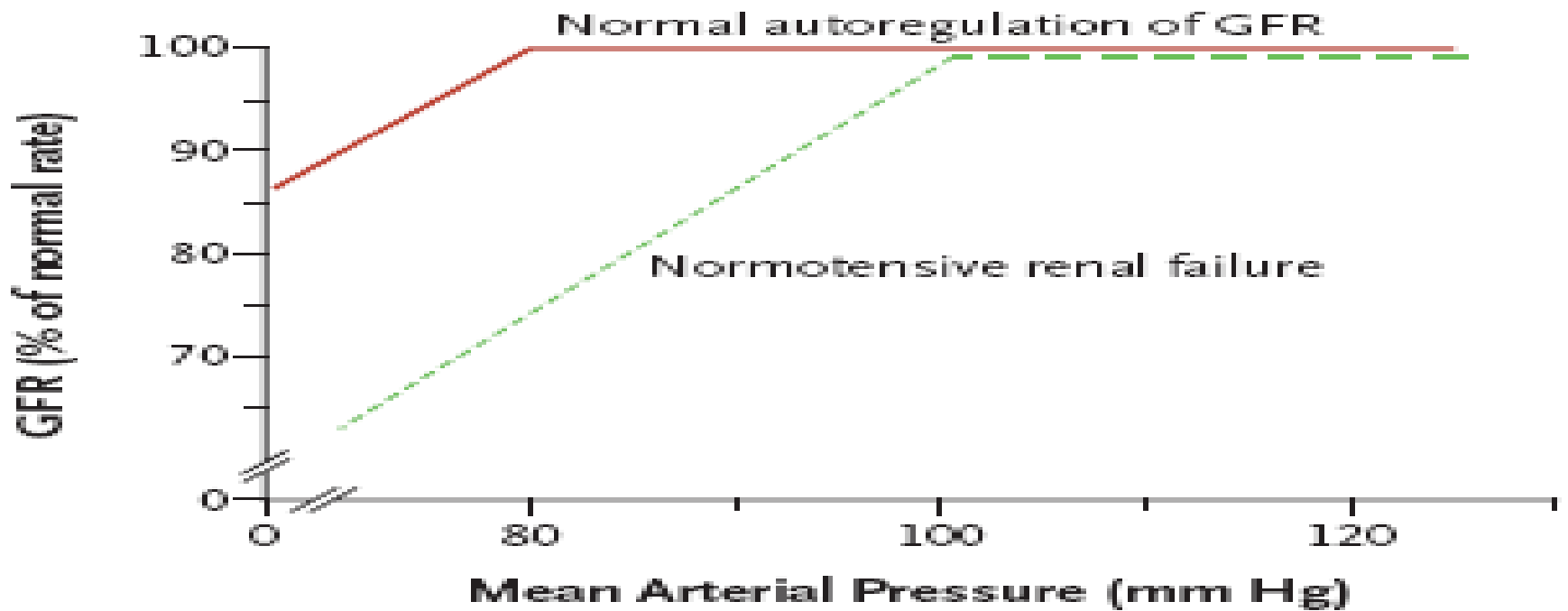
Decreased SVR



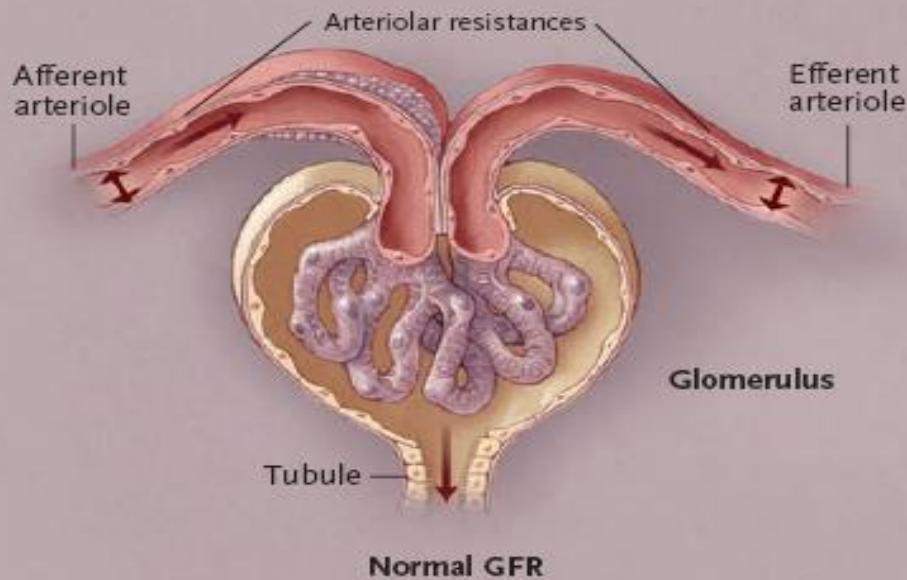
High Cardiac Output



Renal Auto-regulation becomes Pressure Dependent - Intra-renal Vasoconstriction



A Normal perfusion pressure



B Decreased perfusion pressure

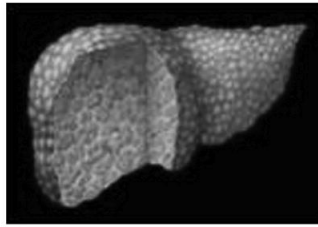


Aetiology of renal involvement in LD

- Multifactorial
- Hypovolaemia induced pre-renal AKI
- Acute tubular necrosis due to profound hypovolemia and hypotension.
- Direct drug nephrotoxicity (paracetamol, NSAIDs) OR Drugs affecting both liver/kidney
- Hepatorenal syndrome
- Intra-abdominal hypertension (IAH) and development of ICS

HEPATO-RENAL SYNDROME

Cirrhosis



Obstruction to portal flow



Portal hypertension



Systemic & splanchnic arterial vasodilatation



Activation of vasoconstrictor systems

↑ Renal sensitivity to vasoconstrictors



Renal vasoconstriction

Cirrhotic cardiomyopathy



Abnormal renal autoregulation



HRS II



HRS I

HRS - Diagnosis of exclusion

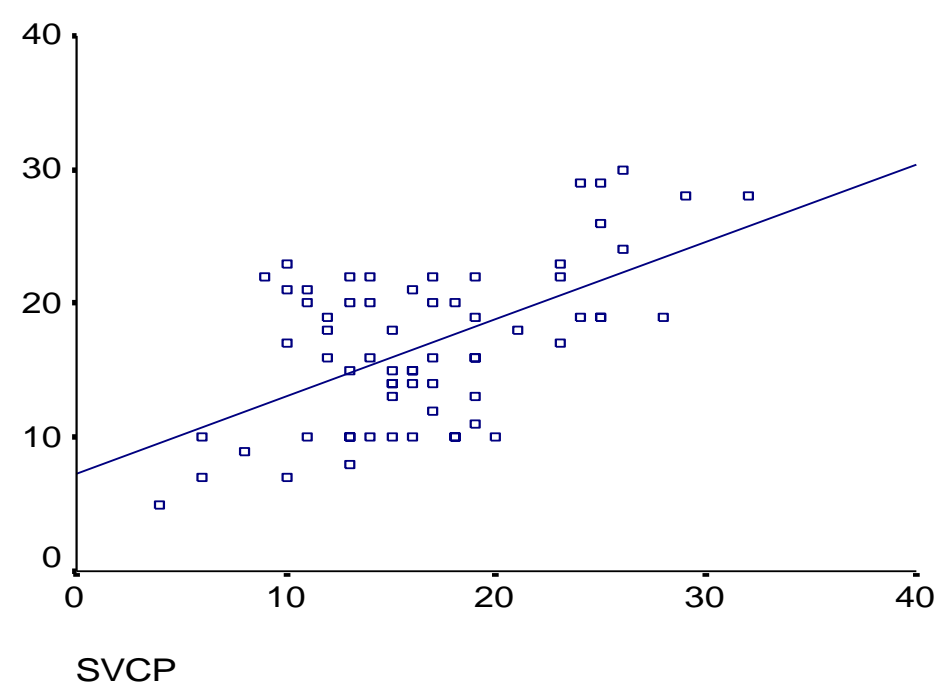
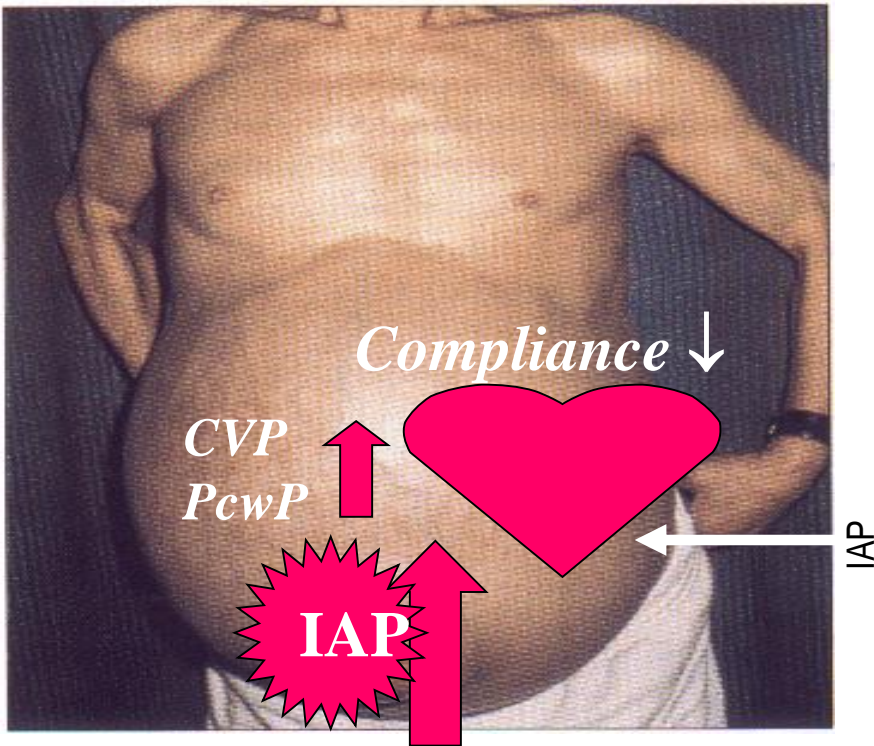
- Hepatorenal syndrome (HRS) is defined as the occurrence of renal failure in a patient with advanced liver disease in the absence of an identifiable cause of renal failure
- **The diagnosis of HRS is one of exclusion, so investigations should be performed to rule out other common causes of AKI.**

Characteristics of Type 1 and Type 2 Hepatorenal Syndrome

	Course	Precipitating Event	History of Diuretic-Resistant Ascites	Prognosis
Type -1 HRS	Precipitous doubling of serum creatinine in < 2 weeks	Present in > 50% of cases	May or may not be present	Without therapy- 90-day survival of 10%
Type -2 HRS	Gradually progressive	Absent	Always Present	Median survival- 6 months

Ascites





Intra-abdominal pressure

Sugrue et al Arch Surg 1999 134:1082
Malbrain CCM 2005;33:315

263 patients 40.7% increased IAP

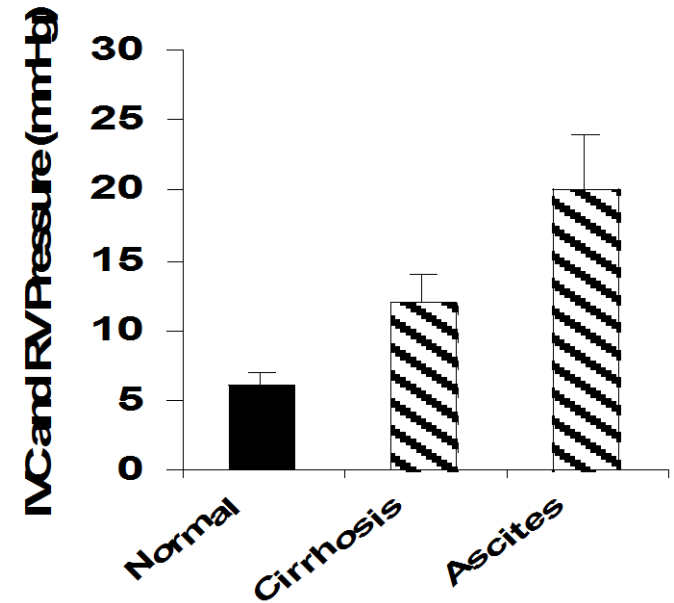
Renal dysfunction:

32% with IAP elevated

14% with normal IAP

32% IAP > 12

40% IAP > 20



HEPATOPULMONARY SYNDROME

HPS and clubbing in CLD

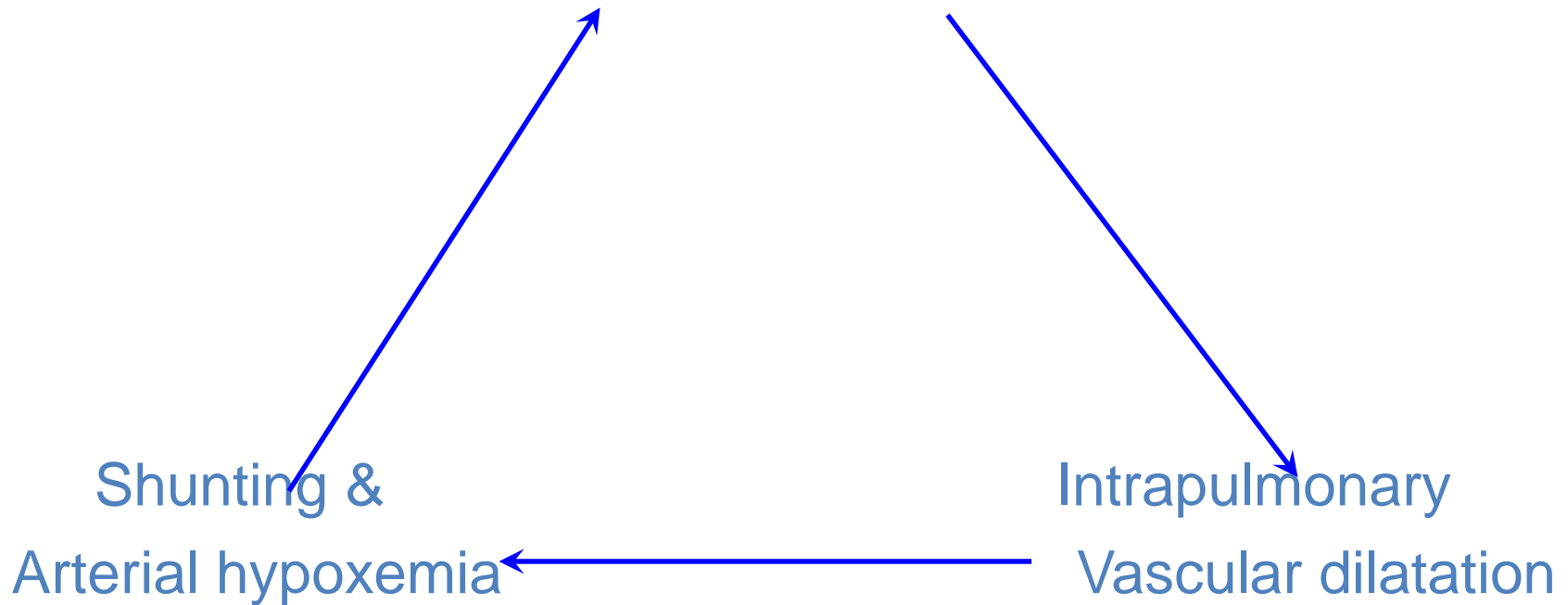


Definition – HEPATOPULMONARY SYNDROME

Arterial Oxygenation Defect induced by intrapulmonary vascular dilatation(IPVD) associated with hepatic disease

Hepatopulmonary syndrome (HPS)

Liver disease

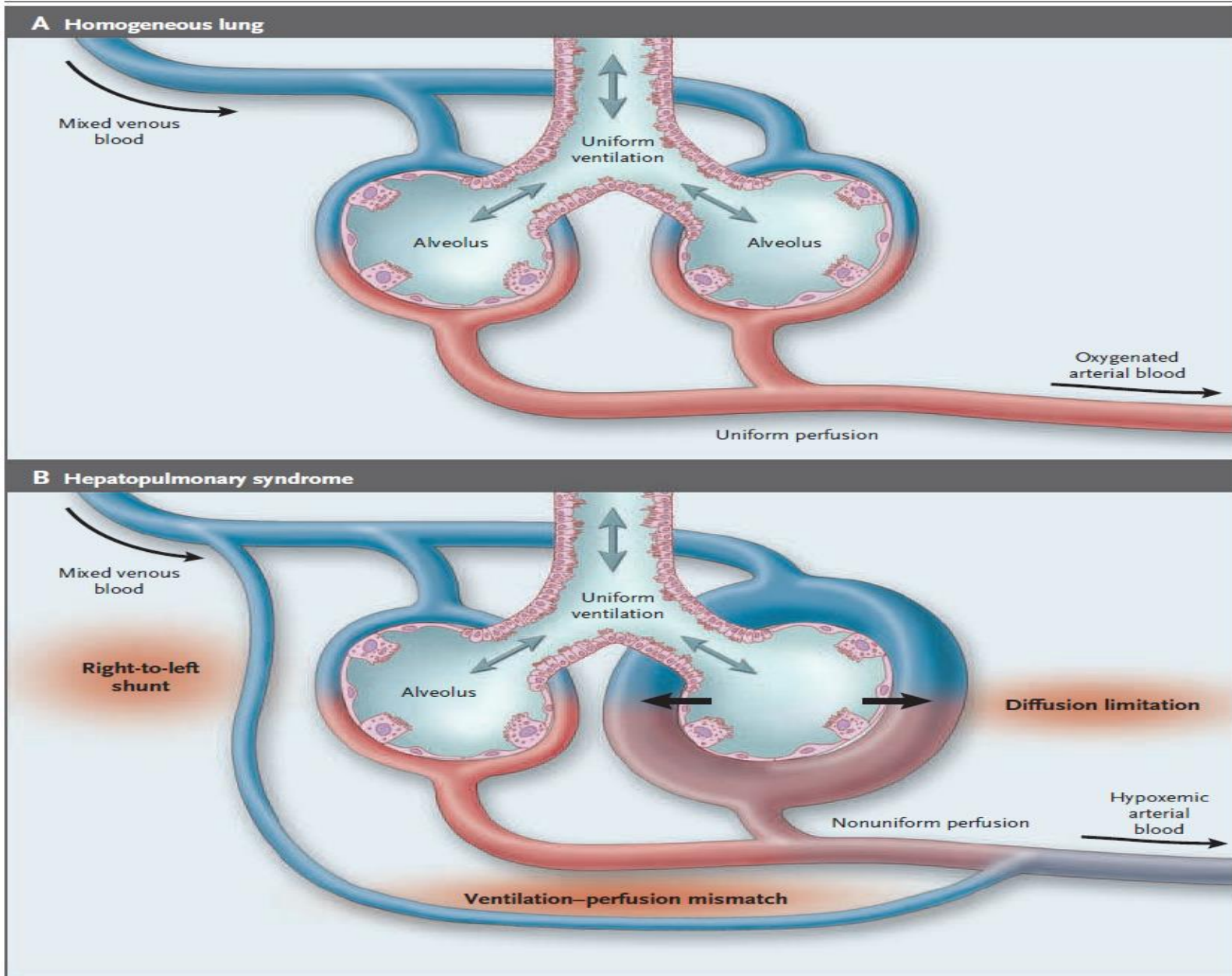


In absence of intrinsic cardiopulmonary disease

Pathogenesis

- Enhanced pulmonary production of nitric oxide
- Exhaled nitric oxide increased in HPS , normalise after transplant
- Nitric oxide synthesized by nitric oxide synthase – eNO and iNO
- eNO – pulmonary endothelial cells
- iNO – alveolar macrophages
- Endothelin 1 acts through ET-A (vascular smooth muscle) or ET-B receptors (pulmonary endothelium)
- ET-A causes vasoconstriction, ET-B causes vasodilatation

Mechanism of hypoxemia in HPS



Clinical Features of HPS

- Non-specific
- Dyspnoea at rest/exertion
- Platypnoea/orthodeoxea – Arterial PaO₂ decreases by 5% or more when the patient moves from a supine to an upright position -further ventilation-perfusion mismatch
- Spider nevi, digital clubbing, cyanosis
- Differential Diagnosis :
 - ❑ Several pulmonary complications or pleural complications
 - ❑ Porto-pulmonary hypertension (PPHTN)

CARDIOVASCULAR INVOLVEMENT IN ALF

Cardiovascular changes in ALF - Pathogenesis

- Multi-factorial
- Lesser intake, ongoing losses - hypovolaemia
- Severe SIRS and sepsis play a paramount role.
- Vasodilatation - due to loss of vascular tone leads to systemic hypotension, low effective arterial blood volume and high cardiac output
- Cytokine release from the failing liver appears to be partly responsible for the observed haemodynamic disturbances
- Subclinical myocardial injury

Implication

The associated cardiovascular collapse and organ hypo-perfusion may be central to the progression of multiple organ failure

Strategy

- Target hypovolaemia - fluids
- Target SIRS, infection - antibiotics
- Target vasodilatation – vasopressors-
noradrenaline , vasopressin
- If myocardial depression - Inotropes
- Target Adrenal insufficiency
- **Optimise oxygen delivery**

Neurological Involvement In Liver Disease



Neurologic Support; Brain Swelling

Acute Hepatic Dysfunction

Neurotoxins; ↑ Ammonia

Systemic Inflammatory Response

→ Astrocytic metabolism to glutamine

Increased intra-cellular osmotic load

→ Mitochondrial toxicity

Failure of energy metabolism

→ Neurotransmitter alterations



Vascular function ←

Vasomotor dysfunction
Endothelial dysfunction

Alterations in BBB ? ←

Water/neurotoxin permeability

Mitochondrial toxicity ←

Failure of energy metabolism

Neurological involvement in ALF

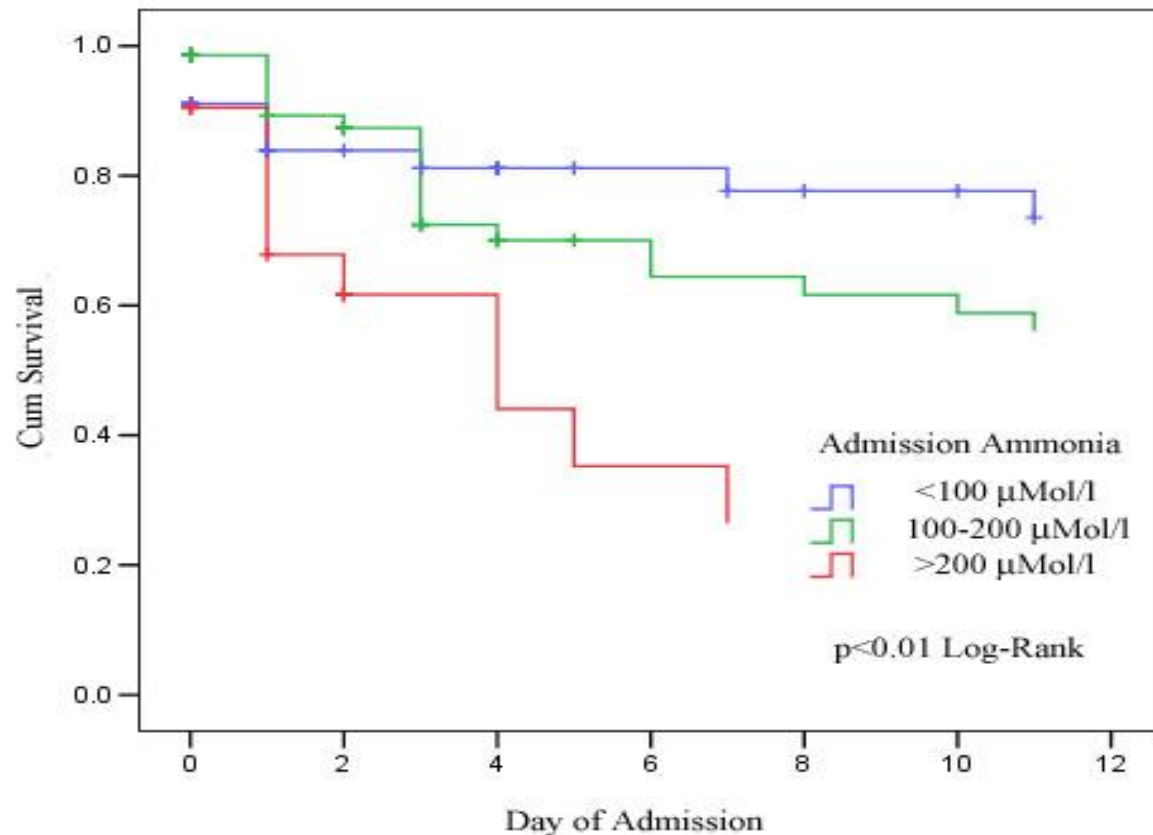
- Highly contentious in ALF
- Concept of Hyperaemia vs Ischaemia
- Risk factors for ICP ??
- Neuro-critical care monitoring –To Bolt or Not to bolt ???
- Role of non/minimally invasive monitoring ??
- Management uncertainties ???????

Who is at risk of raised ICP?

- 25-75% of ALF with Grade iii/iv encephalopathy
- Rapid onset
- High ammonia
- Younger age
- Inotropic support
- RRT

Neurologic Support; Arterial Ammonia and Risk of Cerebral Oedema

ALF Cases, n=165



Why does raised ICP matter

- Compromises CPP
- Transtentorial herniation
- 2nd commonest cause of death in ALF
- Does measuring it help?

Summary



Presentation of cirrhosis/portal hypertension.

Conclusions

Understanding of applied anatomy and physiology is essential to understand the complications and natural history of liver disease