

## Protein Targeting and Degradation

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## Objective

- Describe the important process of protein targeting to the mitochondria, endoplasmic reticulum, and nucleus
- Describe the defect of protein targeting and protein degradation in some diseases

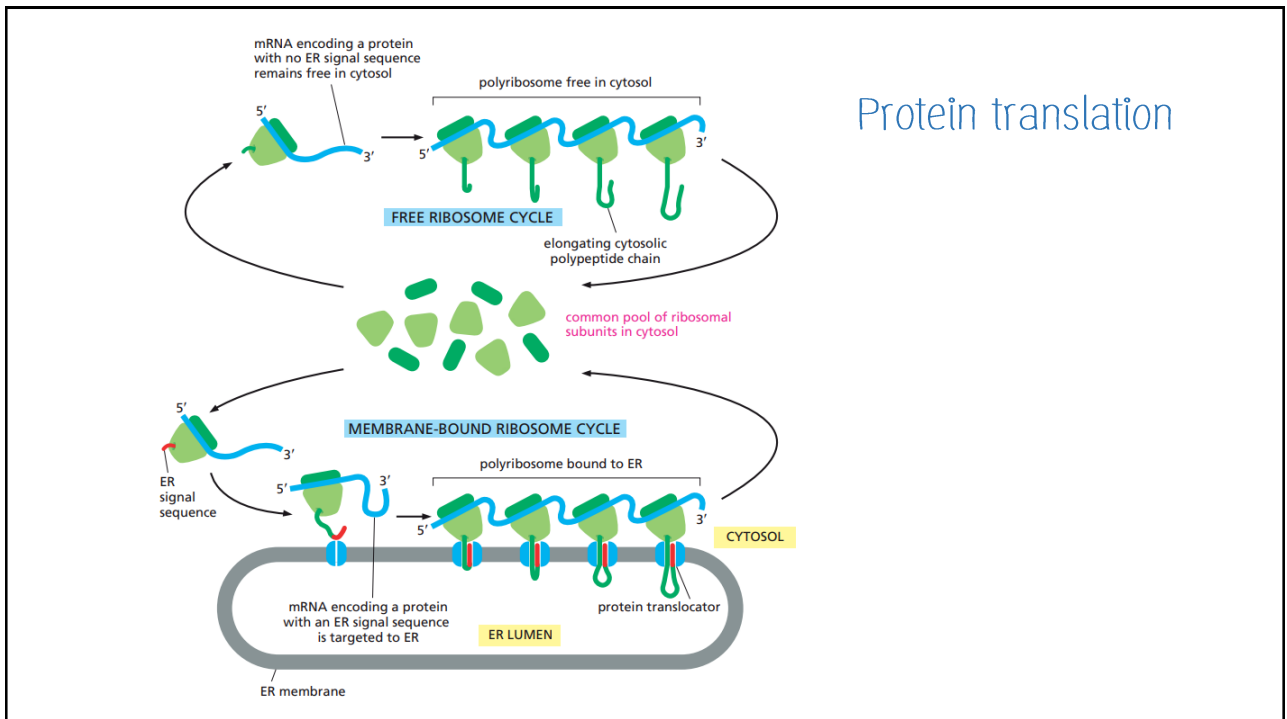
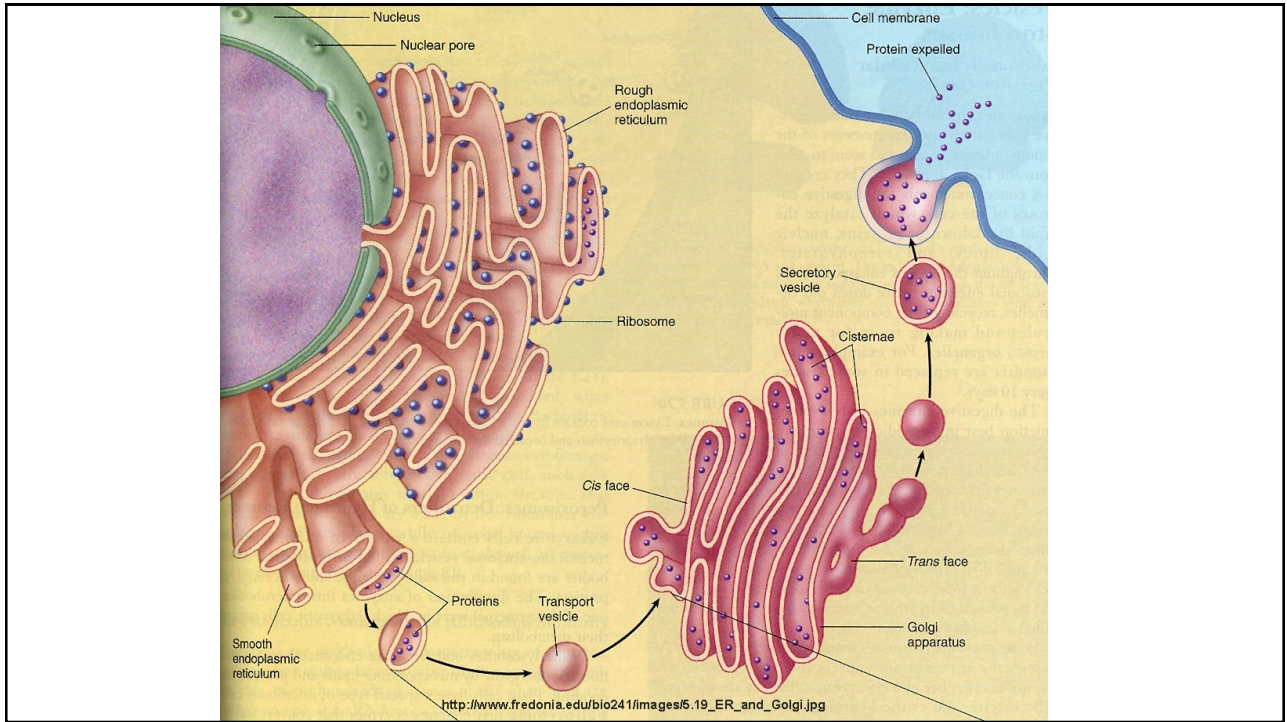
## Protein Targeting

*The delivery of newly synthesized protein to their proper cellular destination for function*

- Receptors – plasma membrane
- DNA polymerase – nucleus
- Catalase – peroxisomes
- Insulin – secrete outside the cell

## Protein Targeting

- Protein targeting is necessary for proteins that are destined to work outside the cytoplasm.
- The delivery process is carried out based on information contained in the protein itself.
- Correct sorting is crucial for the cell: errors can lead to diseases.

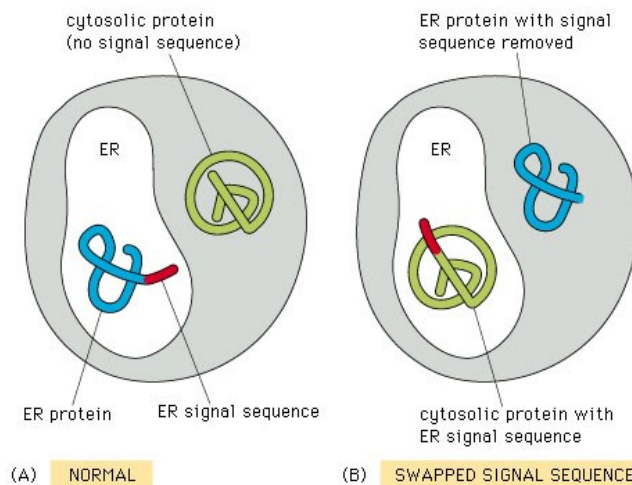


## How are proteins directed to the correct cell address?

- **Signal peptide:** 15–60 residues long
- Often present at the N-terminus of polypeptide chain

Function of signal	Example of signal sequence
Import into ER	<sup>1</sup> H <sub>3</sub> N-Met-Met-Ser-Phe-Val-Ser-Lue-Lue-Leu-Val-Gly-Ile-Leu-Phe-Trp-Ala-Thr-Glu-Ala-Glu-Gln-Leu-Thr-Lys-Cys-Glu-Val-Phe-Gln-
Retention in lumen of ER	-Lys-Asp-Glu-Lue-COO <sup>-</sup>
Import into mitochondria	<sup>1</sup> H <sub>3</sub> N-Met-Leu-Ser-Leu-Arg-Gln-Ser-Ile-Arg-Phe-Phe-Lys-Pro-Ala-Thr-Arg-Thr-Leu-Cys-Ser-Ser-Arg-Tyr-Lue-Leu-
Import into nucleus	-Pro-Pro-Lys-Lys-Lys-Arg-Lys-Val-
Import into peroxisomes	-Ser-Lys-Leu-
Positively charged amino acids	
Negatively charged amino acids	
An extended block of hydrophobic amino acids	

## Signal peptide



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## The two basic targeting pathways

### Post-translational targeting:

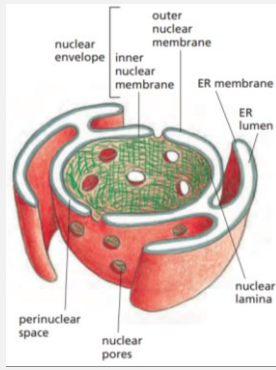
- Nucleus
- Mitochondria
- Chloroplasts
- Peroxisomes

### Co-translational targeting (Secretory pathway):

- ER
- Golgi apparatus
- Lysosomes
- Plasma membranes
- Secreted protein

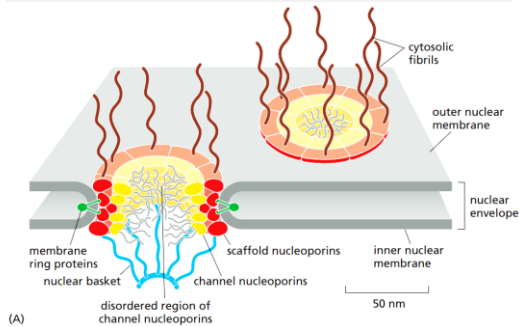
## Post-translational targeting

- This pathway occurs after the process of protein translation.
- Even though most proteins are co-translationally translocated, some are *translated in the cytosol and later transported to their destination.*
- These proteins go to a mitochondrion, a chloroplast, or peroxisome.

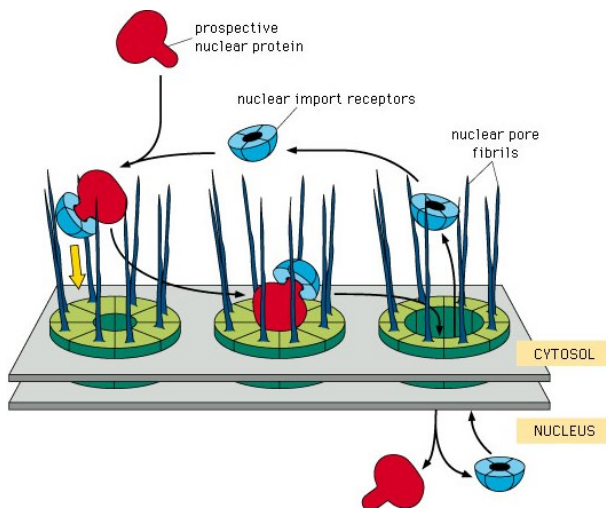


## Protein import into nucleus (Gated transport)

- Nuclear pore complexes (NPCs) are protein-based channel in the nuclear envelope.
- Regulate the movement of molecules between nucleus and cytoplasm
- Some molecules are simply small enough to pass through the pores (carbohydrates, lipids, ribosome)
- Large molecules must be recognized by different signal sequences (nuclear localization signal :NLS) before being allowed to diffuse through the nuclear pores (proteins, mRNA, tRNA)

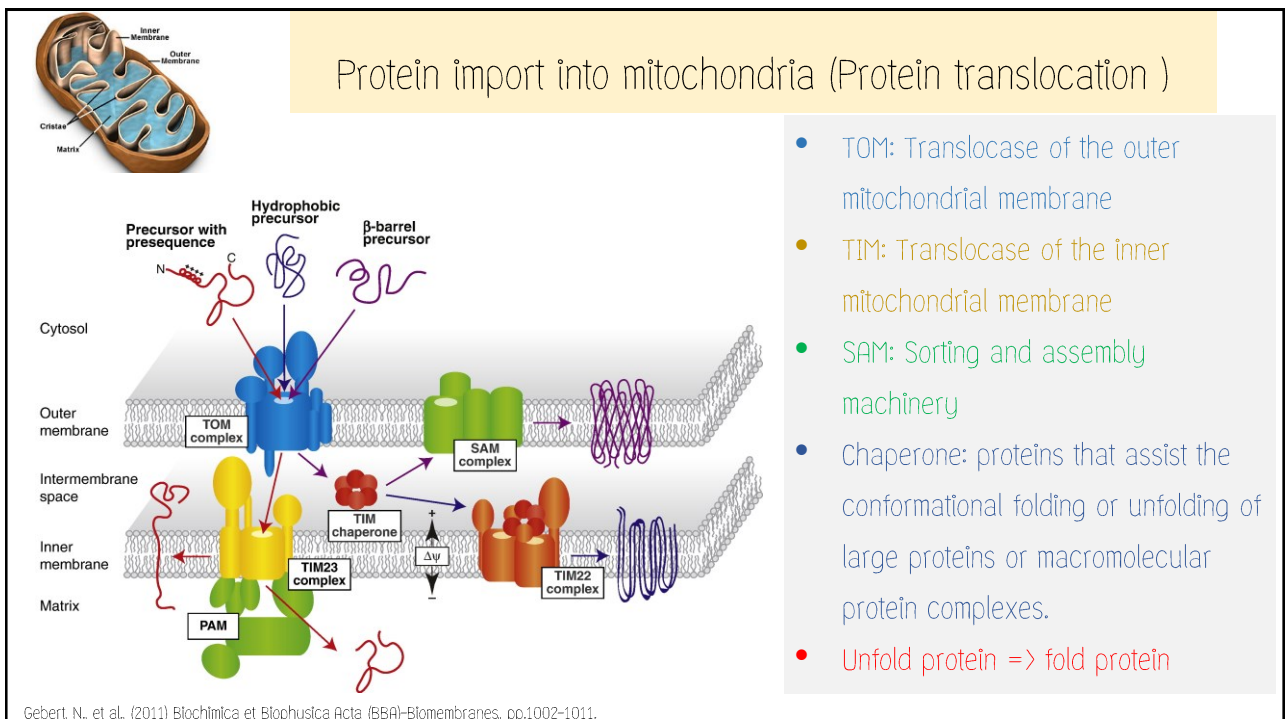
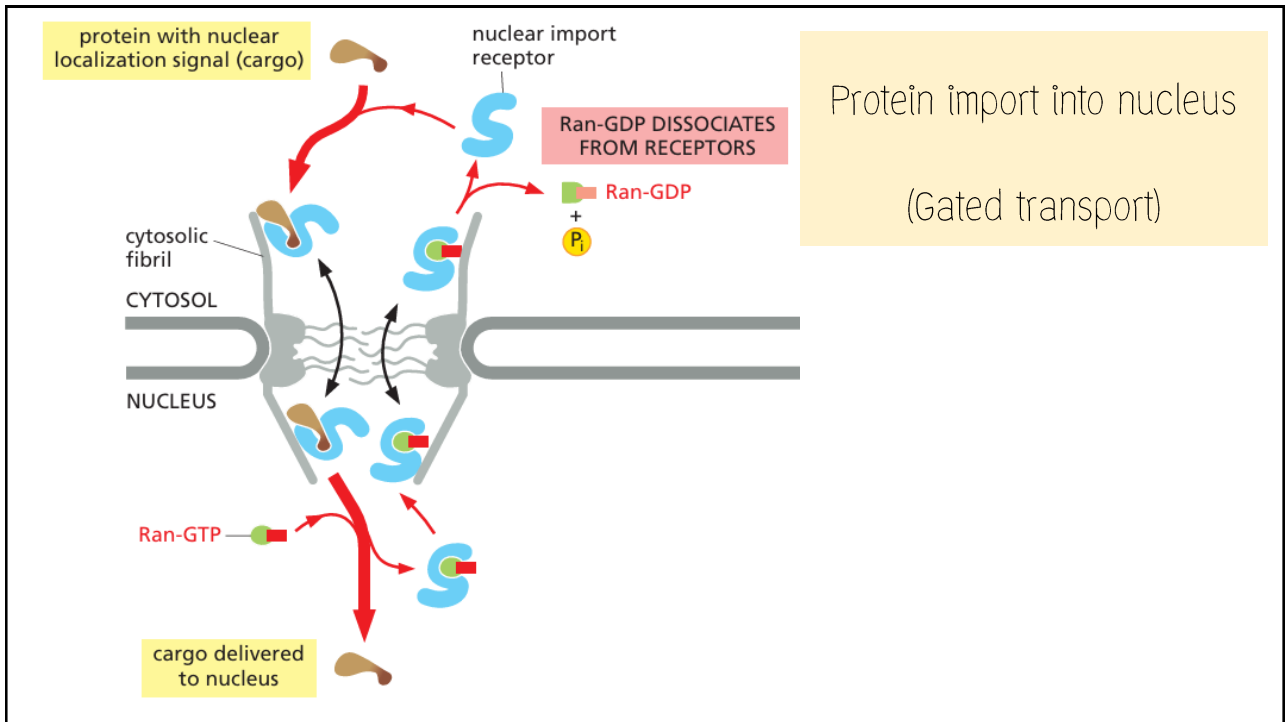


## Protein import into nucleus (Gated transport)

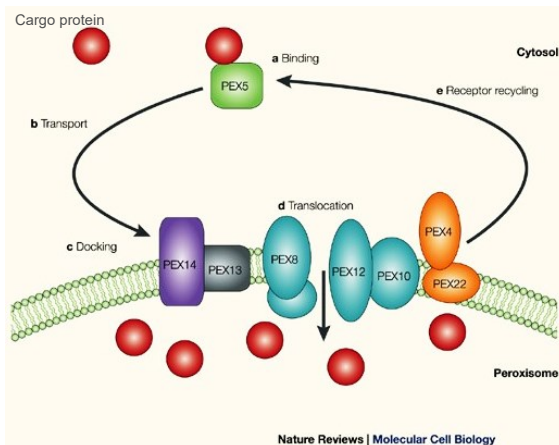


- Protein with nuclear localization signal (NLS) bind to the nuclear import receptors (NIR)
- NLS-NIR bind to the nuclear pore
- Translocation of the NIR-NLS-protein complex into the nucleus
- NIR proteins dissociate from the NLS-protein by Ran GTP interact with NIR
- NIR-Ran GTP return to cytosol

[https://www.zoology.ubc.ca/~berger/B200sample/unit\\_8\\_protein\\_processing/protein\\_targetting/lect26.htm](https://www.zoology.ubc.ca/~berger/B200sample/unit_8_protein_processing/protein_targetting/lect26.htm)



## Protein targeting to peroxisome (Protein translocation)



PEX, peroxin

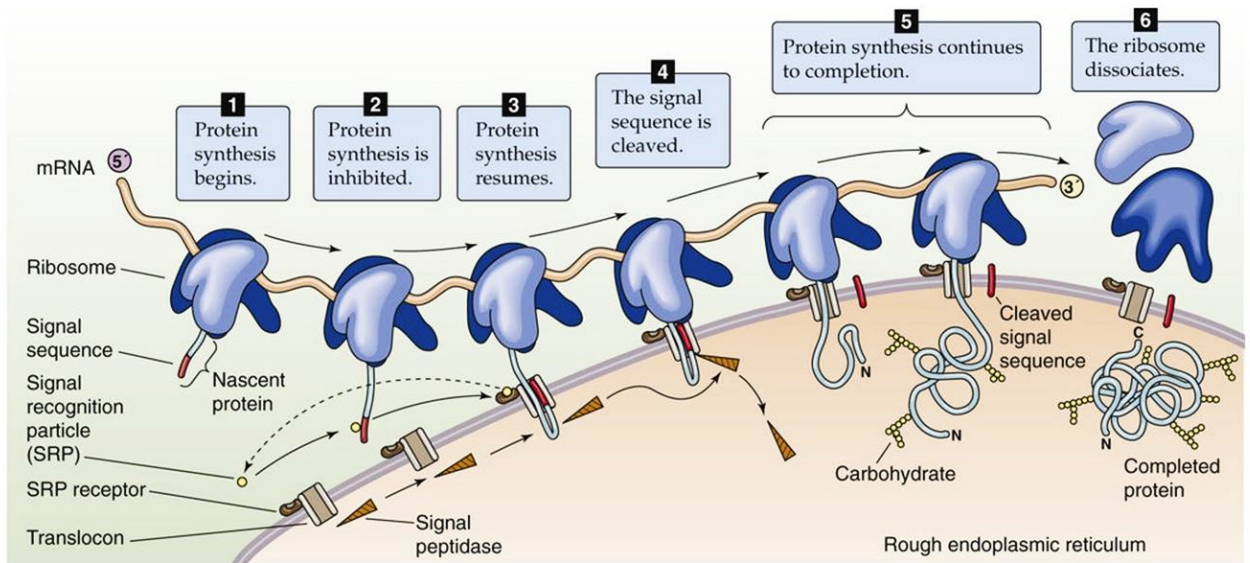
Gould and Collins, 2002, Nature Review Molecular Cell Biology

- Peroxisome contains the reducing enzymes (catalases, oxidases, etc.)
- Peroxisomal translocation signal
  - PTS1 (-SKL at C-terminus, very conserved)
  - PTS2 (-R/KLX<sub>5</sub>Q2HL at N-terminus, just few proteins)
- Proteins (Cargo) are synthesized and fold in cytosol

## Co-translational targeting (Secretory pathway)

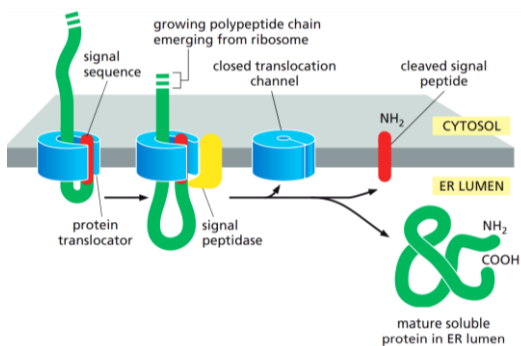
- This pathway occurs **during translation which is not completed fully**.
- Synthesized protein is transferred to an **SRP receptor on the ER**
- The nascent protein is inserted into the translocation complex.
- Two kinds of proteins are transferred from the cytosol to the ER:
  - (1) **Water-soluble proteins** are completely translocated across the ER membrane and are released into the ER lumen
  - (2) Prospective **transmembrane proteins** are only partly translocated across the ER membrane and become embedded in it.

# Co-translational targeting (Secretory pathway)

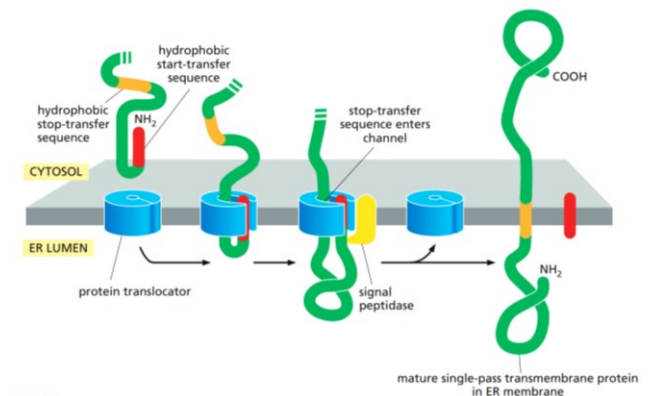


<https://www.weareeaton.com/the-d-proteins-essential-proteins-for-cell-membranes/>

A soluble protein crosses the ER membrane and enters the ER lumen.

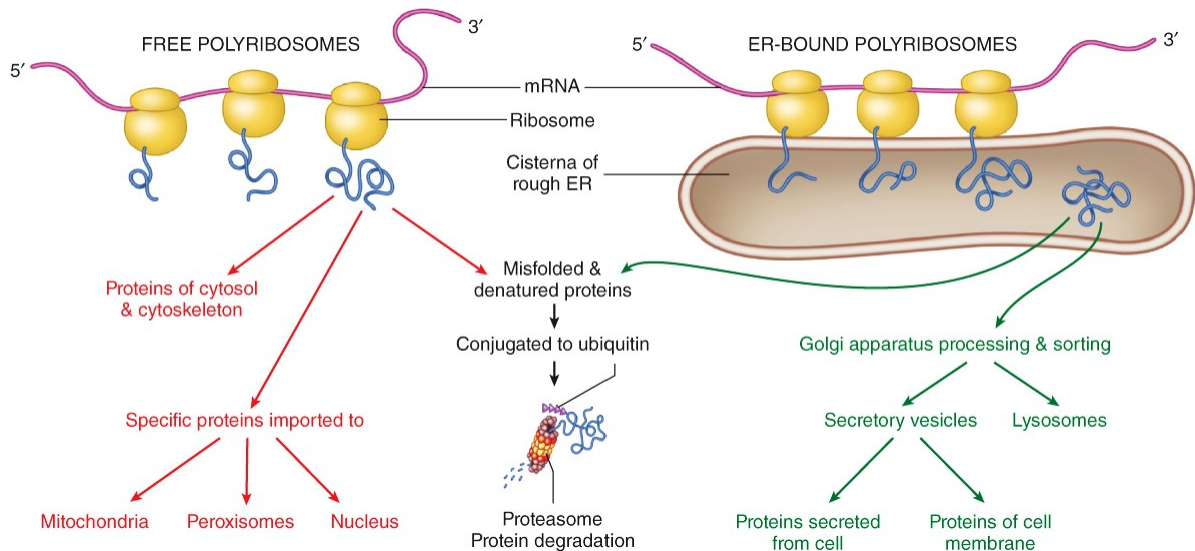


A single-pass transmembrane protein is retained in the lipid bilayer.



Alberts, Bruce. Essential Cell Biology, 4<sup>th</sup> edition

## The two basic targeting pathways



## Compartmental translocation of proteins

### 1) Gated transport (via nuclear pore complex in the nuclear envelope)

Proteins and RNA molecules move between the cytosol and the nucleus

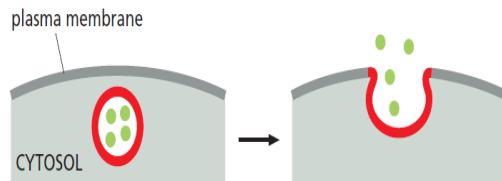
### 2) Protein translocation

Transmembrane *protein translocators* directly transport specific proteins across a membrane from the cytosol to the target location (mitochondria, peroxisomes, chloroplast)

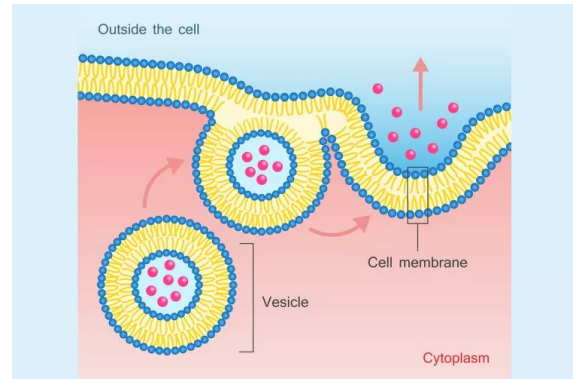
### 3) Vesicular transport

## Vesicular transport

### Exocytosis



<https://www.thoughtco.com/what-is-exocytosis-4114427>

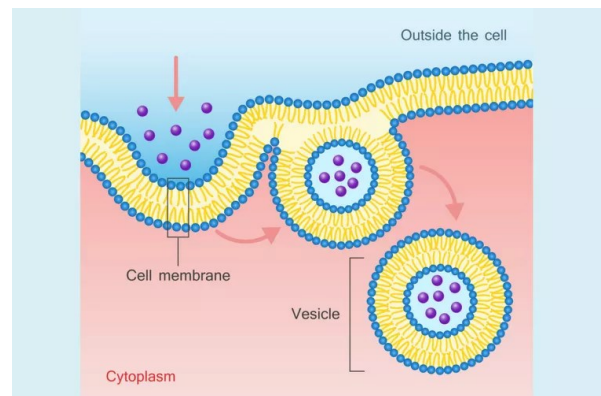
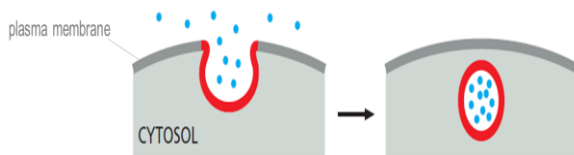


<https://www.thoughtco.com/what-is-exocytosis-4114427>

The fusion of secretory vesicles with the plasma membrane and results in the discharge of vesicle content into the extracellular space and the incorporation of new proteins and lipids into the plasma membrane.

## Vesicular transport

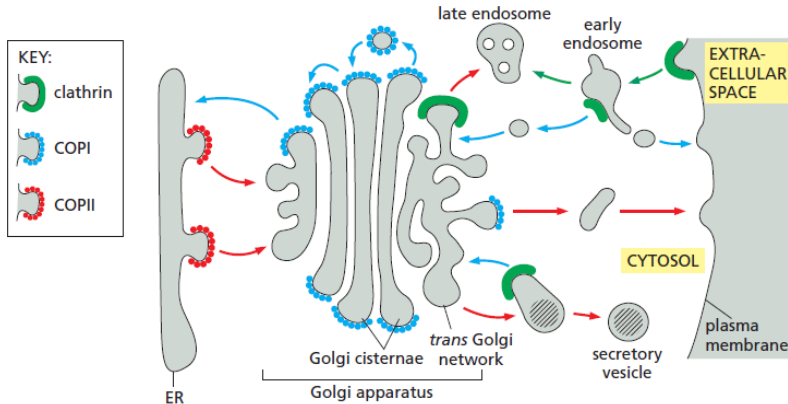
### Endocytosis



<https://www.thoughtco.com/what-is-endocytosis-4163670>

The material to be internalized is surrounded by an area of cell membrane, which then buds off inside the cell to form a vesicle containing the ingested material.

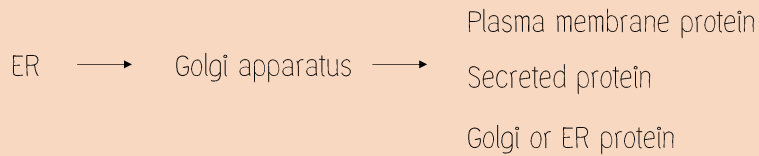
## Vesicular transport



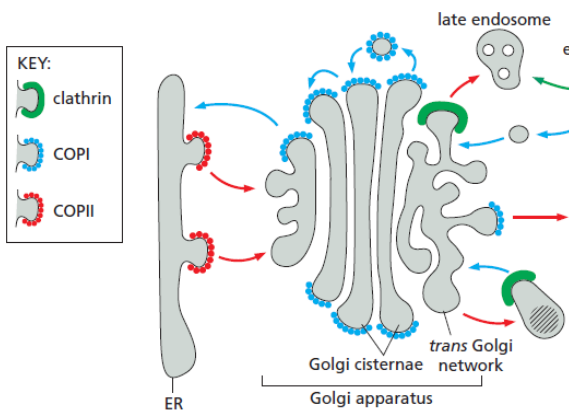
Three main vesicular frameworks found across eukaryotic life

Coat proteins:

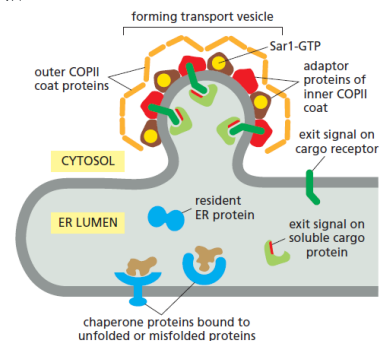
- Clathrin (plasma mb to lysosome)
- COPI (Golgi apparatus to ER)
- COPII (ER to Golgi apparatus)

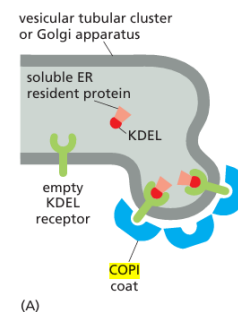
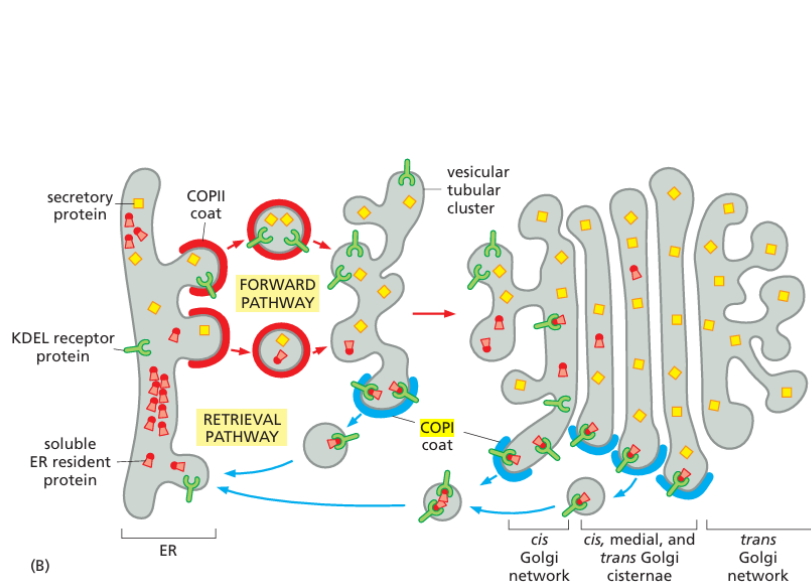
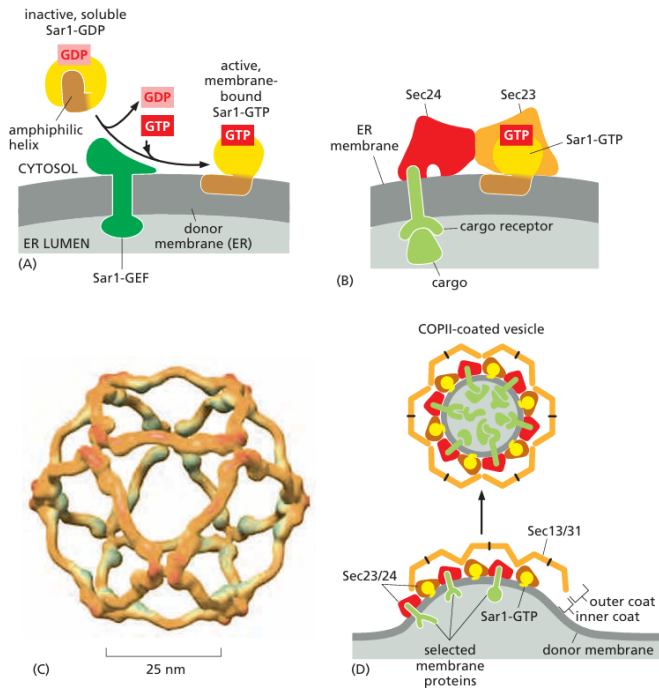


## Transport the protein from ER to Golgi apparatus



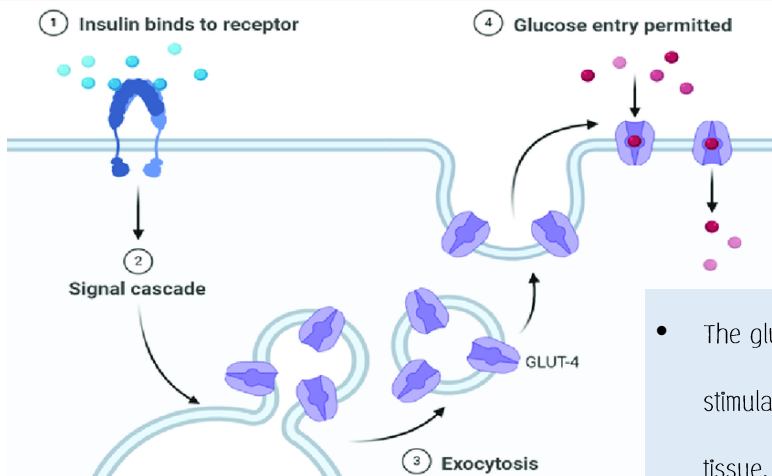
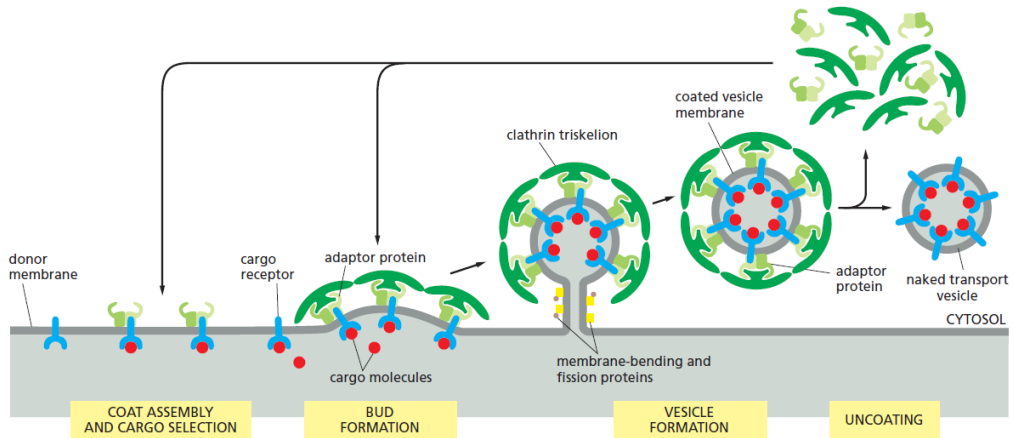
- Materials are packaged into COPII-coated transport vesicles
- Vesicles bud from the **ER exit site** (membrane lacks bound ribosomes) and transport to Golgi apparatus





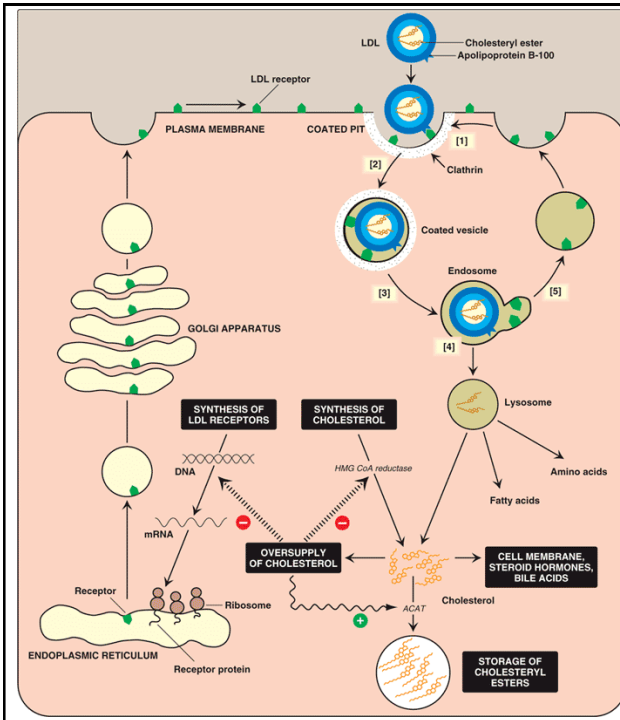
**Figure 13-25 Retrieval of soluble ER resident proteins.** ER resident proteins that escape from the ER are returned by vesicle transport. (A) The KDEL receptor present in both vesicular tubular clusters and the Golgi apparatus captures the soluble ER resident proteins and carries them in COPI-coated transport vesicles back to the ER. (Recall that the COPI-coated vesicles shed their coats as soon as they are formed.) Upon binding its ligands in the tubular cluster or Golgi, the KDEL receptor may change conformation, so as to facilitate its recruitment into budding COPI-coated vesicles. (B) The retrieval of ER proteins begins in vesicular tubular clusters and continues from later parts of the Golgi apparatus. In the environment of the ER, the ER resident proteins dissociate from the KDEL receptor, which is then returned to the Golgi apparatus for reuse. We discuss the different compartments of the Golgi apparatus shortly.

## The assembly and disassembly of a clathrin coat



- The glucose transporter GLUT4 facilitates insulin-stimulated glucose uptake into muscle and adipose tissue.
- Defects in glucose uptake represent an early step in the development of type 2 diabetes mellitus

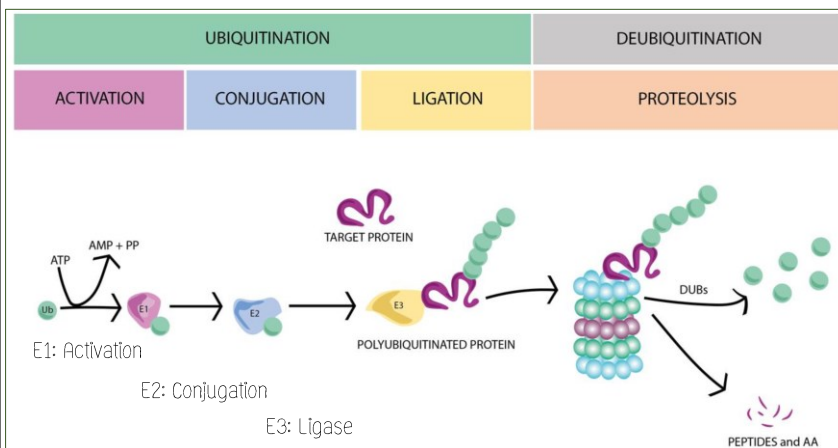
Ashish A, et al., (2020) J Diabetes Metab Disord Control. 58-61.



The receptor-mediated endocytosis of lipoprotein (low-density lipoprotein: LDL)

<https://alchetron.com/LDL-receptor>

## Protein Degradation: UBIQUITIN-PROTEASOME SYSTEM

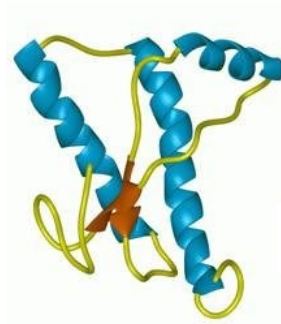


- Multiprotein complex in cytoplasm
- Protein to be degraded 1<sup>st</sup> tagged with ubiquitin
- Ubiquitin will be attached to Lys of protein
- Protease inside the proteasome cleave the polypeptide into small peptides

Bachiller S., et al., Int. J. Mol. Sci 2020, 21(17), 6429

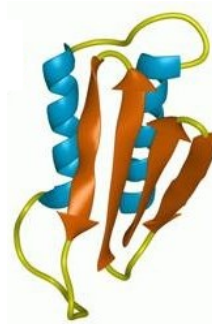
## Prion protein

Normal prion



Normal cellular protein (PrP<sup>C</sup>) has an  $\alpha$ -helical internal structure

Diseased prion



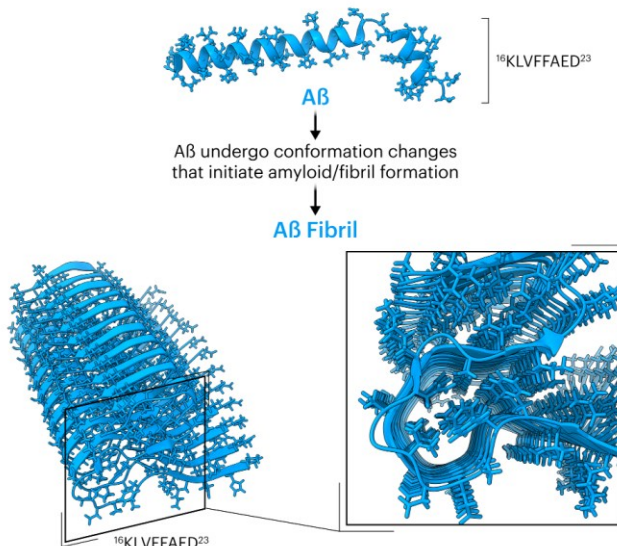
Abnormal protein has anti-parallel  $\beta$ -pleated strands

In the central nervous system high PrP<sup>C</sup> expression is found in the synaptic membranes of neurons, and the protein also is expressed in astrocytes.

These misfolded prion proteins are associated with several neurodegenerative diseases in humans and animals such as mad cow disease.

<https://microbewiki.kenyon.edu>

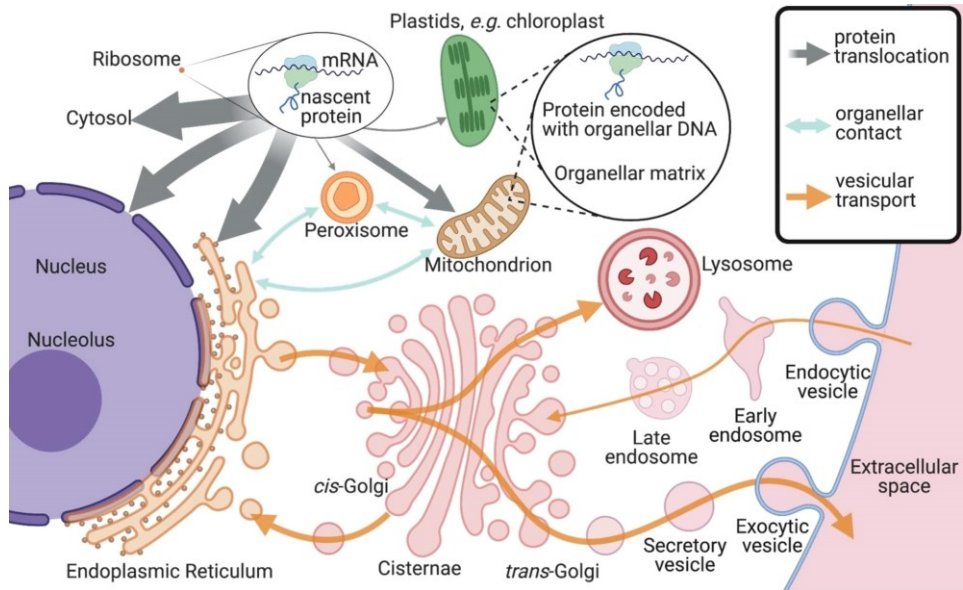
## Amyloid protein



A characteristic of Alzheimer's is the accumulation of mutated beta-amyloid proteins which form plaques around neurons and disturb normal cell function in the brain.

<https://www.news-medical.net/whitepaper/20230725/How-can-we-monitor-Alzheimers-Progression-using-Pathological-Variant-Detection-in-beta-amyloid-Proteins.aspx>

## SUMMARY



## References

