Protein

Chemistry Food Unit

Protein Functions

- Building blocks of cells
 - Muscle cells
 - Skin cells
 - Organ cells (liver, kidney, lung, etc)
 - Blood cells
 - Nerve cells
 - etc

Protein Functions (cont)

- Enzymes (digests food)
 - Enzymes are <u>catalysts</u>, which start a reaction and make it go faster
- Chemical Synthesis: assemble other molecules
 Special proteins build DNA, fats, and new proteins
- Burn for energy

Protein Functions (cont)

- Cellular signaling / regulation
 - Ex: blood clotting
- Cellular transport
 - Carry nutrients and other molecules in and out of cells
- Immune system functions
- Structural components: hold cells together, hold organs together, etc

Hemoglobin (blood protein)



Hemoglobin Structure (again)



Phosphofructokinase (helps you burn sugar in glycolysis)





Nucleosome Protein (holds DNA together in a chromosome)



P53: a protein that regulates the cell cycle



Titin (muscle protein)



Titin (muscle protein)



A ribosome: a collection of proteins that assembles other proteins.



Question

• How can proteins perform so many different functions?

Answer

 They are made up of different combinations of <u>amino acids</u>. Different sequences have completely different structure and function.

By the way:

- What is DNA for?
 - DNA records the sequence of proteins. The 4 letters of DNA (in 3 letter chunks) are translated into the 20 or so types of amino acids.

Amino Acids





Amino Acids

 They have two groups: an <u>amino</u> group & an <u>acid</u> group.



How amino acids combine



Peptide Bond: a new functional group



A molecule of water is removed from two glycine amino acids to form a peptide bond.

Protein in your Diet

- Energy: 4 Cal/g
- How much protein do you need?
 Depends on age, gender, exercise, etc.
- Who needs the MOST protein?

Essential Amino Acids

- Your cells can make some of the amino acids.
- The ones your body <u>cannot</u> make are called essential amino acids.
- You can only get them in your food.
 (plants can make all of the amino acids)

Complete Proteins

- Proteins that have enough of all of the amino acids
 - Meats, eggs, dairy, soy

Incomplete Proteins

 Proteins that are missing some essential amino acids (or are very low on some)

Complementary Proteins

- <u>Combinations</u> of incomplete proteins that form a complete protein.
 - Ex: Lentils + Grains

Complementary Proteins

FOODS	LIMITING AMINO ACIDS (low levels, not completely missing)	COMPLEMENTARY FOODS	MENU ITEM EXAMPLES
Legumes: lentils, peas beans	Tryptophan Methionine	Grains, nuts & seeds	Stir-fry veg w/green soybeans, served over brown rice, sesame seeds garnish or Hummus (chickpeas & tahini spread), served with whole wheat pita bread
Grains: wheat, com, rice, oats barley, rye	Lysine Isoleucine Threonine	Legumes, dairy	Grilled cheddar on whole wheat bread or Cornbread & chili beans, grated cheddar
Nuis & Seeds Almonds, peanuts, sunflower, cashews	Lysine Isoleucine	Legumes	Lentil-walnut loaf, cashew gravy or Fried tofu cubes on mixed salad, peanut-coconut dressing