

**Faculty of Pharmacy**  
**Biochemistry-2**

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**Lecture 3**

# Utilization of Glucose



**Catabolic  
Reactions**



- 1) Glycolysis**
- 2) Kreb's Cycle**
- 3) Pentose Shunt**
- 4) Formation of Uronic acids**

# Hexose Monophosphate Pathway (HMP)

- HMP is a minor oxidation pathway for glucose.
- It is an alternative pathway which involves **phospho-pentoses** as intermediates for purposes other than energy production.

# HMP Shunt

- **HMP occurs in the Cytoplasm of:**
  - 1. Liver**
  - 2. Lactating mammary gland**
  - 3. Adipose tissue**
  - 4. Red blood cells**
  - 5. Adrenal cortex**

# The pentose phosphate pathway has two main functions

## 1- **Generation of NADPH**

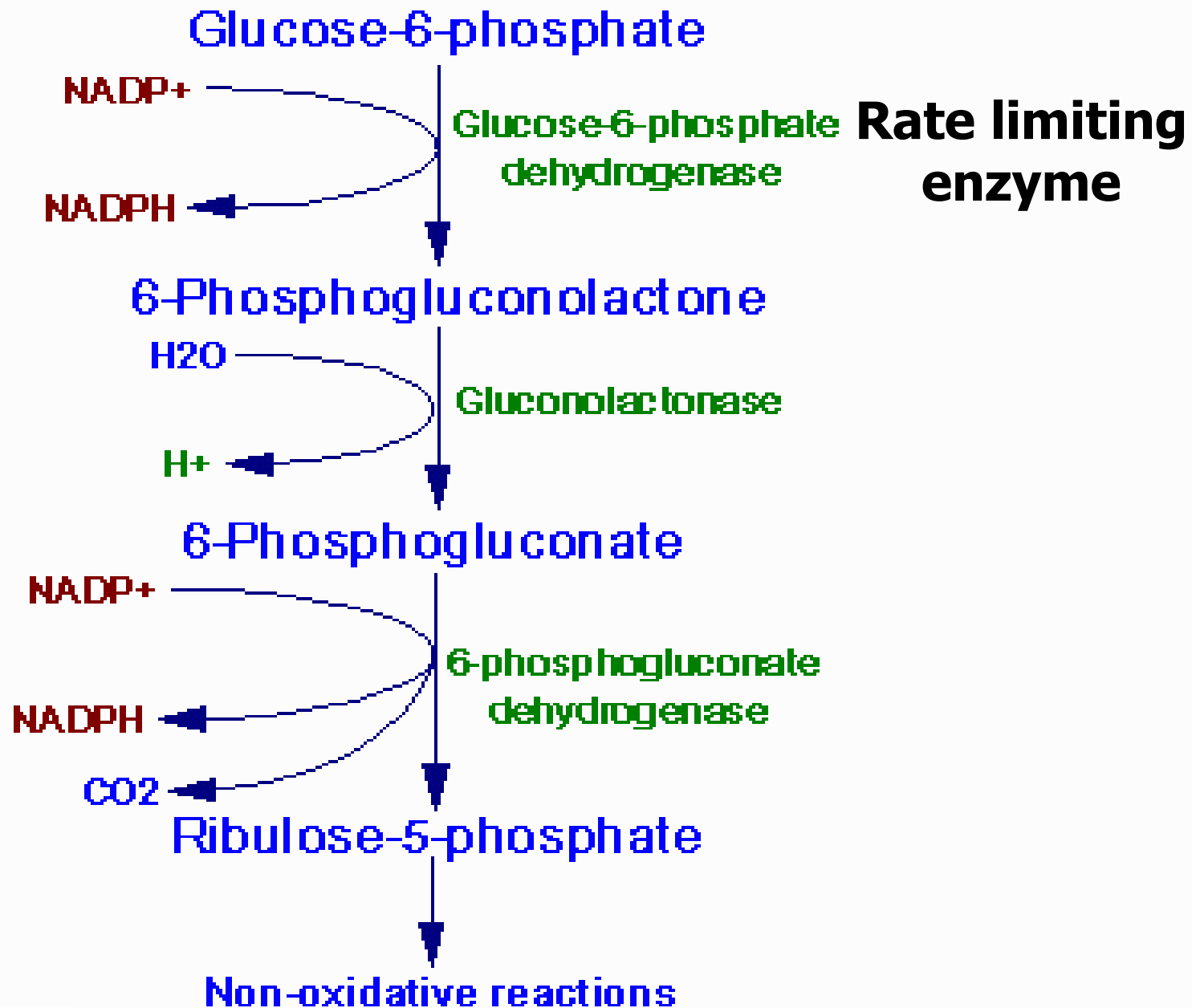
mainly used for syntheses of fatty acids, steroids, amino acids and production of reduced glutathione.

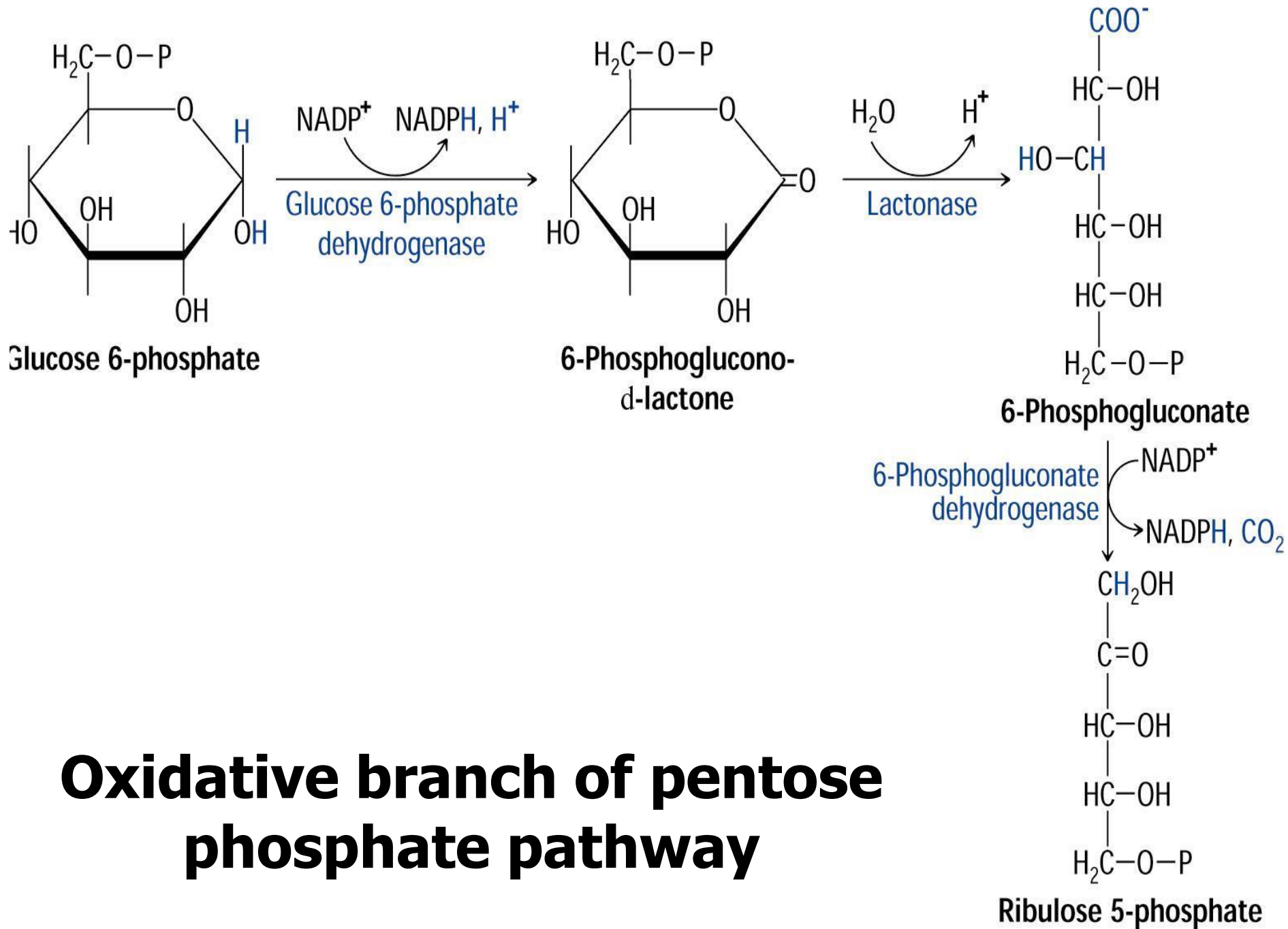
## 2- **Production of ribose** residues for nucleotide and nucleic acid synthesis.

# Reactions of the pentose phosphate pathway occur in the cytosol in two phases

- **Oxidative non-reversible phase**
- **Non-oxidative reversible phase**
- NADP<sup>+</sup>, not NAD<sup>+</sup>, is used as hydrogen acceptor
- **1st phase**
  - Glucose 6-phosphate undergoes dehydrogenation and decarboxylation to give a pentose, ribulose 5-phosphate, which is converted to its isomer, D-ribose 5-phosphate.
  - Overall equation of 1st phase:  
$$\text{Glucose 6-phosphate} + 2 \text{ NADP}^+ + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{ribose 5-phosphate} + \text{CO}_2 + 2 \text{ NADPH} + 2 \text{ H}^+$$

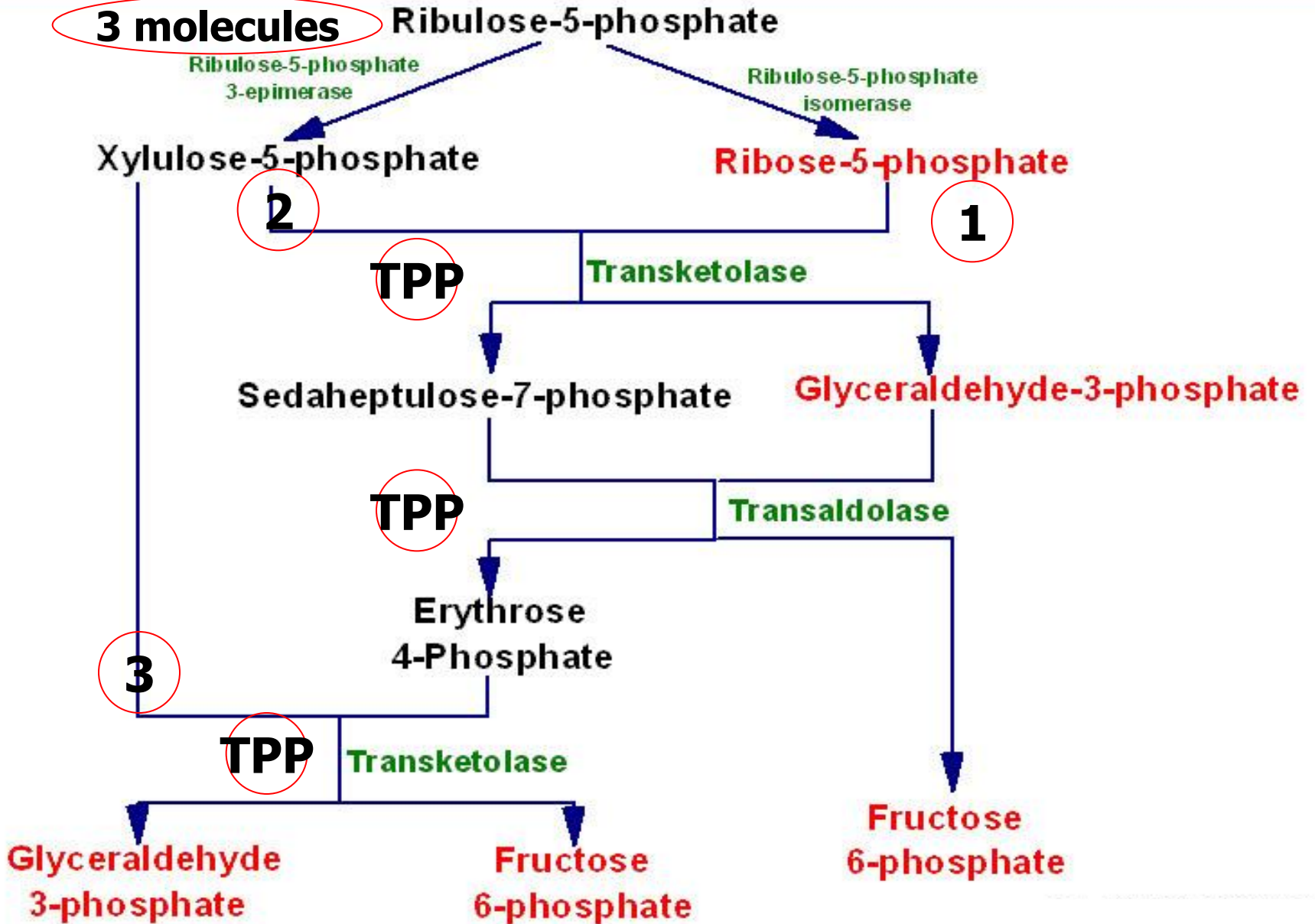
# Oxidative Stage of Pentose Phosphate Pathway

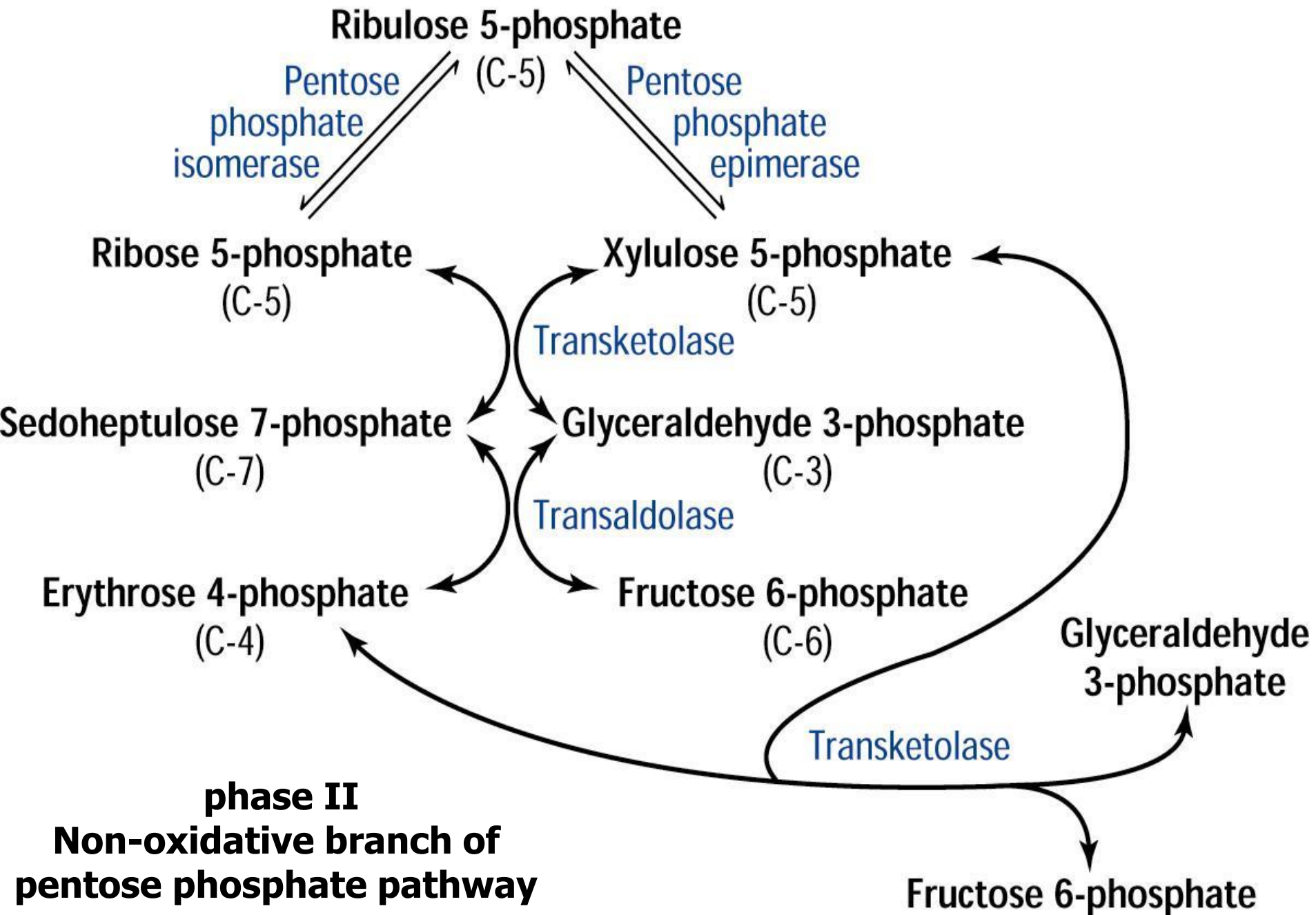




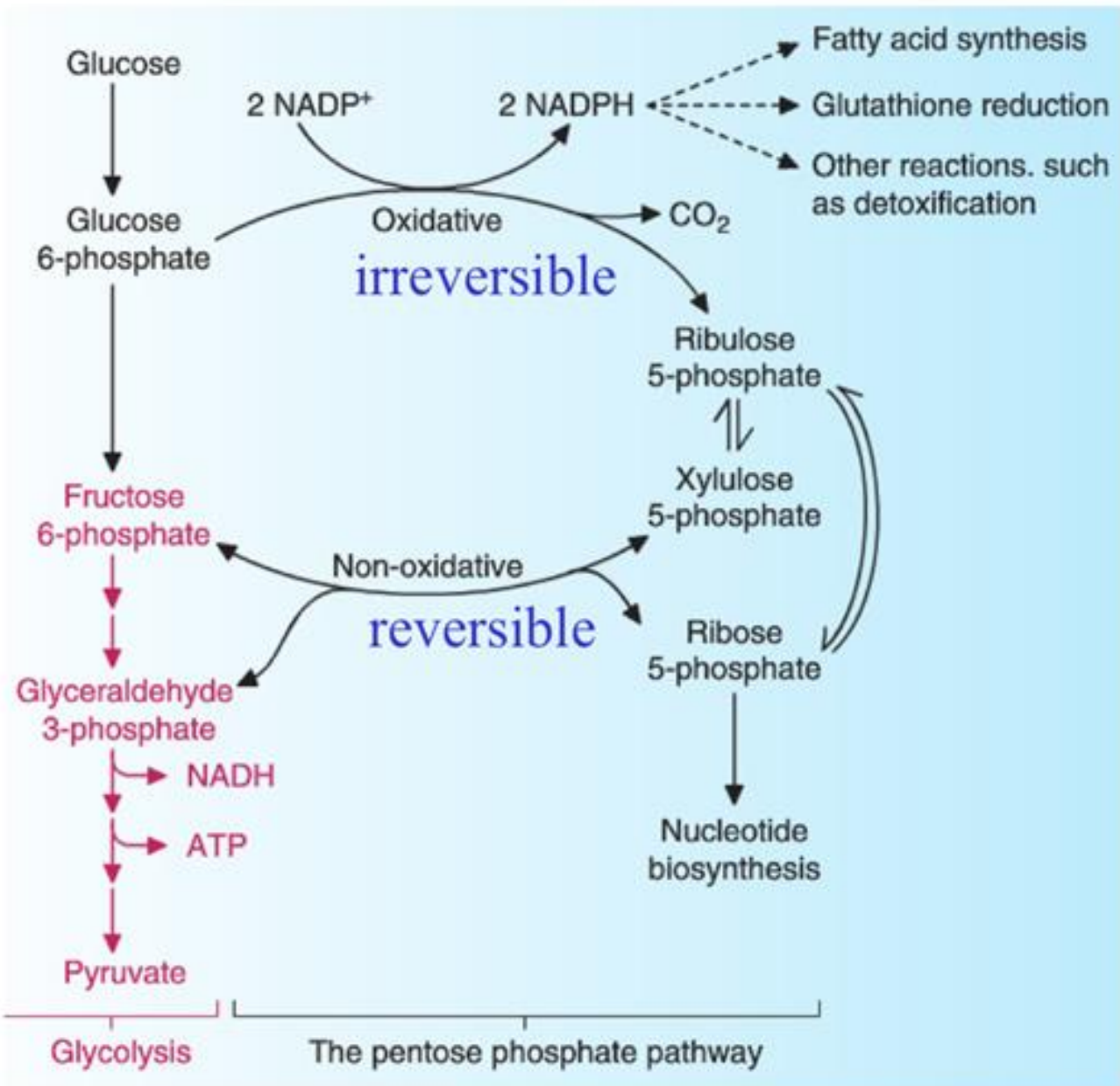


# Non-Oxidative Stage of Pentose Phosphate Pathway





# Pentose phosphate pathway and its link to glycolysis



- NADPH
- Ribose 5-P
- Glucose 6-P dehydrogenase deficiency

# Metabolic Significance of HMP Shunt

- 1) It is the only source of phosphorylated pentoses which used for the synthesis of:
  - A. Nucleotides: ATP & GTP.
  - B. Coenzymes: FAD, NAD<sup>+</sup>.
  - C. Certain vitamins: B<sub>2</sub> & B<sub>12</sub>.
  - D. Nucleic acids: DNA & RNA.

# Metabolic Significance of HMP Shunt

2) It is the major source of NADPH<sup>+</sup> which is essential for:

- A. Fatty acid synthesis for lipogenesis which occurs in liver, adipose tissue & lactating mammary gland.
- B. Steroid synthesis (Adrenal cortical hormones, Sex hormones) which is active in adrenal cortex, testes, ovaries & placenta.
- C. Act as coenzyme of glutathione reductase which keeps GSH in reduced state.

# Metabolic Significance of HMP Shunt

- 3) There is a relation between G-6-P DH in the RBCs and fragility of the cell wall of RBCs, since reduced G-SH is essential for:
- A. Keeping iron of Hb in Ferrous state ( $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ).
  - B. Keeping globin of Hb in native structure.
  - C. Preventing accumulation of free radicals &  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  in RBCs.
  - D. Keeping RBCs wall intact preventing hemolysis.



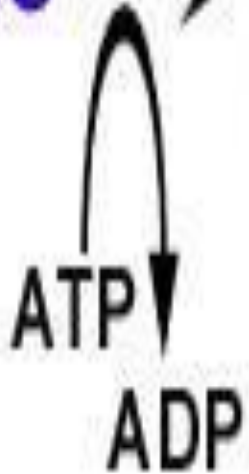
# *Glutathione Protects us from Oxidation*



**4** Protects RBC's against hemolysis

# G 6 P D

*Hexokinase*



*Glutathione reductase*



**Oxidized Glutathione**

**Reduced Glutathione**



## G6PD (glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase) deficiency

- Blocks hexose monophosphate shunt
- Reduced supply of NADPH
- Reduced GSH/Increased oxidative stress ( $H_2O_2$ )
- Causes hemolysis

## Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency causes hemolytic anemia

- Mutations present in some populations causes a deficiency in **glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase**, with consequent impairment of NADPH production.
- Detoxification of  $H_2O_2$  is inhibited, and cellular damage results - lipid peroxidation leads to erythrocyte membrane breakdown and hemolytic anemia.
- Most G6PD-deficient individuals are asymptomatic - only in combination with certain environmental factors (sulfa antibiotics, herbicides, antimalarials, \*divicine) do clinical manifestations occur.

\*toxic ingredient of fava beans

# favism

Resulting from deficiency of glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase enzyme

It is type of hemolytic anaemia (destruction of RBCs) after ingestion of fava beans and some other compounds

Main presentation of this patient: jaundice, and decreased hemoglobin concentration.

# Child with Favism

With signs of  
anemia

(decreased red  
blood cell count,  
jaundice, etc.)



# Other NADPH<sup>+</sup> Source

- Malic enzymes (In the cytoplasm) catalyze the oxidative decarboxylation of malate to pyruvate and CO<sub>2</sub>, with the concomitant reduction of the cofactor NADP<sup>+</sup> to NADPH.
- Reaction catalyzed:
- Malate + NADP<sup>+</sup>  $\rightleftharpoons$  Pyruvate + CO<sub>2</sub>  
+ NADPH

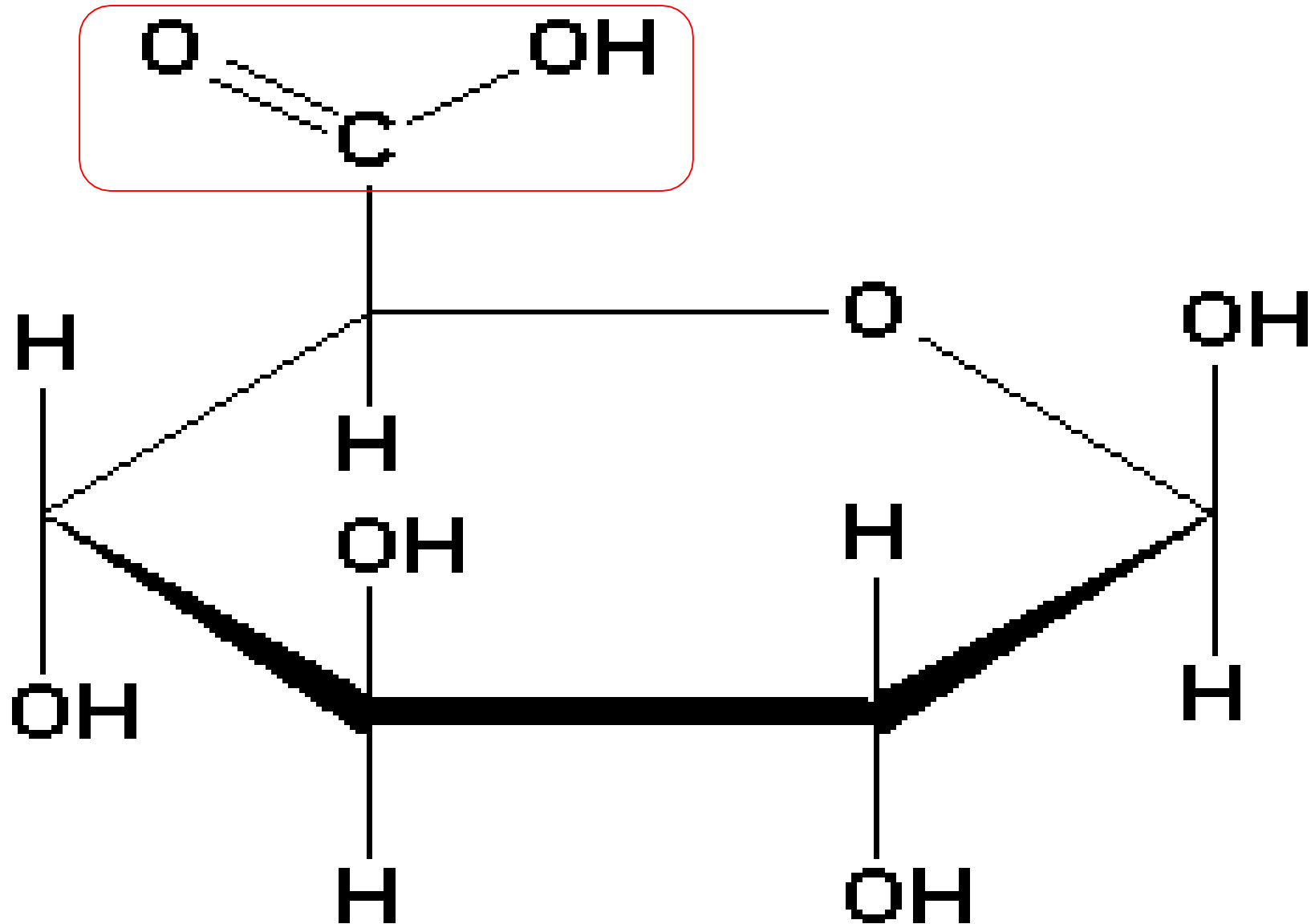
# Regulation of HMP shunt:

**Glucose-6- phosphate dehydrogenase is the key enzyme of HMP-shunt.**

- **Stimulated by: insulin and NADP+**
- **Inhibited by NADPH, H<sup>+</sup> and acetyl CoA. .**

# Glucuronic Acid Synthesis (Oxidation of Glucose into Glucuronic acid)





**Glucuronic Acid**

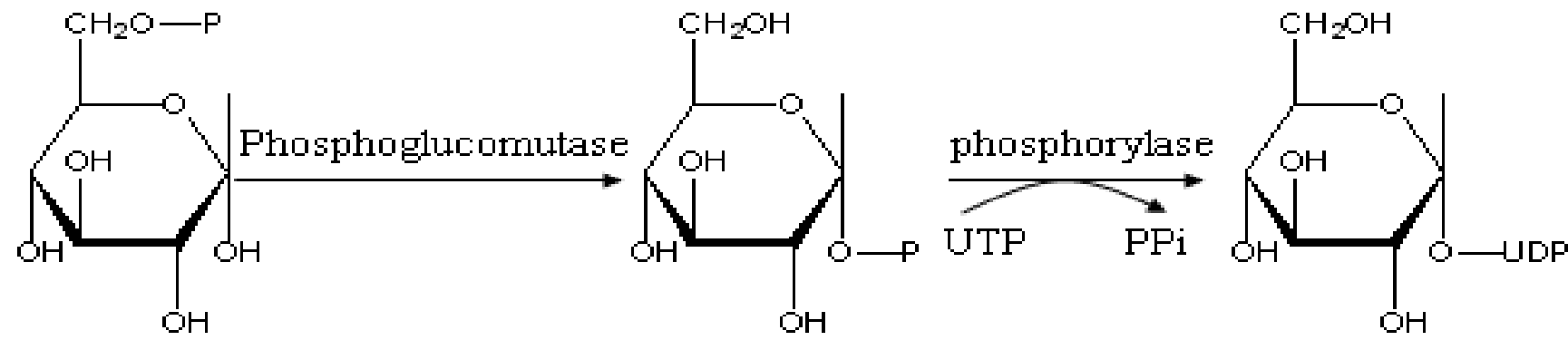


# Uronic acid pathway

It is a minor pathway, to convert the glucose into glucuronic acid

Location: intracellular : cytosol

Organ location : mainly in the liver



Glucose-6-phosphate

Glucose-1-phosphate

Uridine diphosphate  
Glucose (UDP-G)



L-ascorbic acid

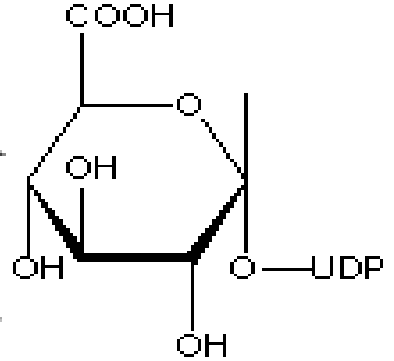
In all animals except  
human and Guinea pig

**HMP Shunt**

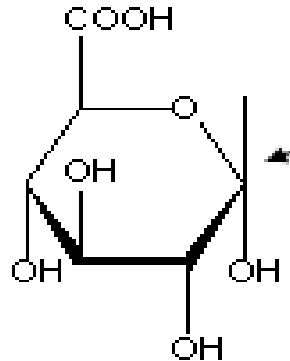
D-Xylose-5-phosphate

Xylitol

May proceed to  
L-Xylose

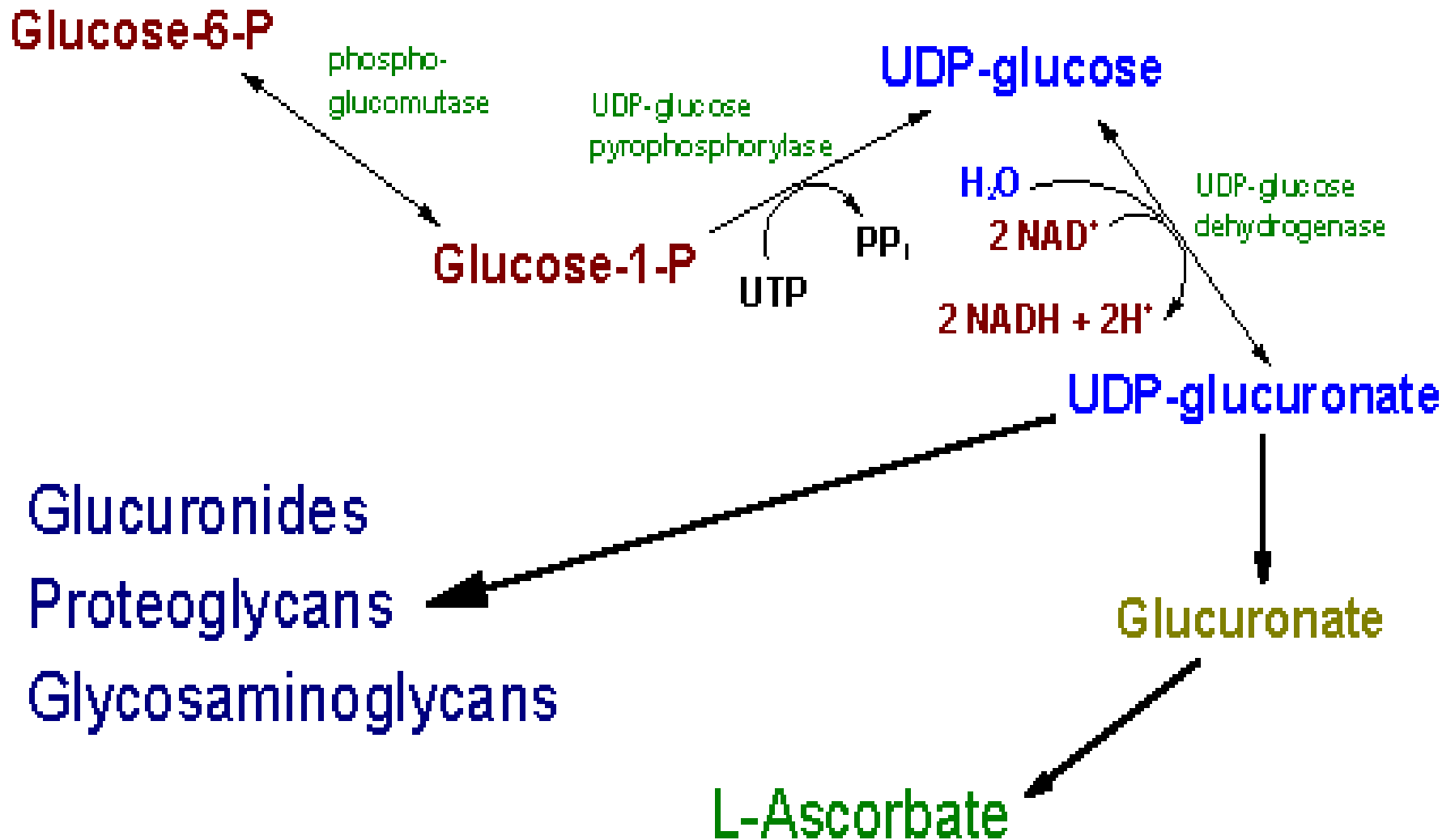


UDP-glucuronic acid



Glucuronic acid

# Glucuronic Acid Usage



# Metabolic Significance of Glucuronic Acid

- **Glucuronic acid is used in:**
  - 1. Synthesis** of **Mucopolysaccharides, Glycosaminoglycans, (GAGs).**
  - 2. Excretion** of **Bilirubin** and **Steroid** compounds
  - 3. Detoxification** of certain drugs and their metabolites by increasing their solubility

# Galactose Metabolism

- Galactose is found in **milk** containing diet and it is rather slowly converted to glucose in **the liver**.
- Galactose is synthesized from glucose in large quantities in actively **secreting mammary gland**, and the blood and urine of pregenant and lactating women may contain both galactose and lactose.

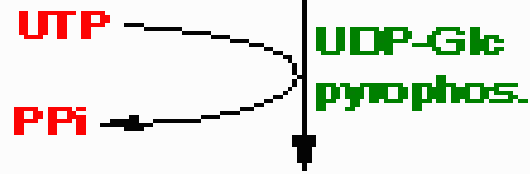
- Galactose found in milk sugar (lactose)

# Galactose

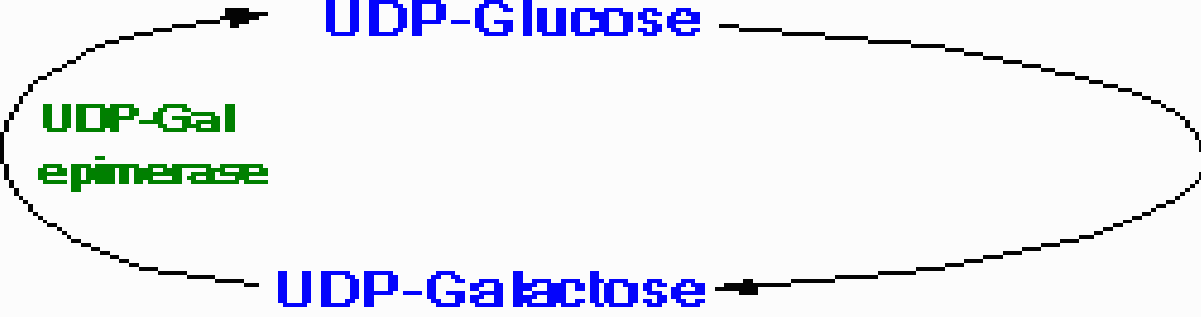
Glucose-1-phosphate



Galactose-1-phosphate



UDP-Glucose



UDP-Galactose

Glucose-1-phosphate



Glucose-6-phosphate

Glycolysis



# Galactosemia

**Galactosemia**: Congenital disease caused by deficiency of galactose-1-P-uridyl transferase. It's characterized by galactosemia and galactosuria and cataract. Cataract which occurs in case of galactosemia is due to:

- 1-Accumulation of galactose in the eye which is reduced in the eye lens to its alcohol , this alcohol overhydrates the eye lens, causing cataract.
- 2-Increased galactose levels inhibit glucose-6-P dehydrogenase, the key enzyme of HMP shunt which is one source of energy to the eye lens.

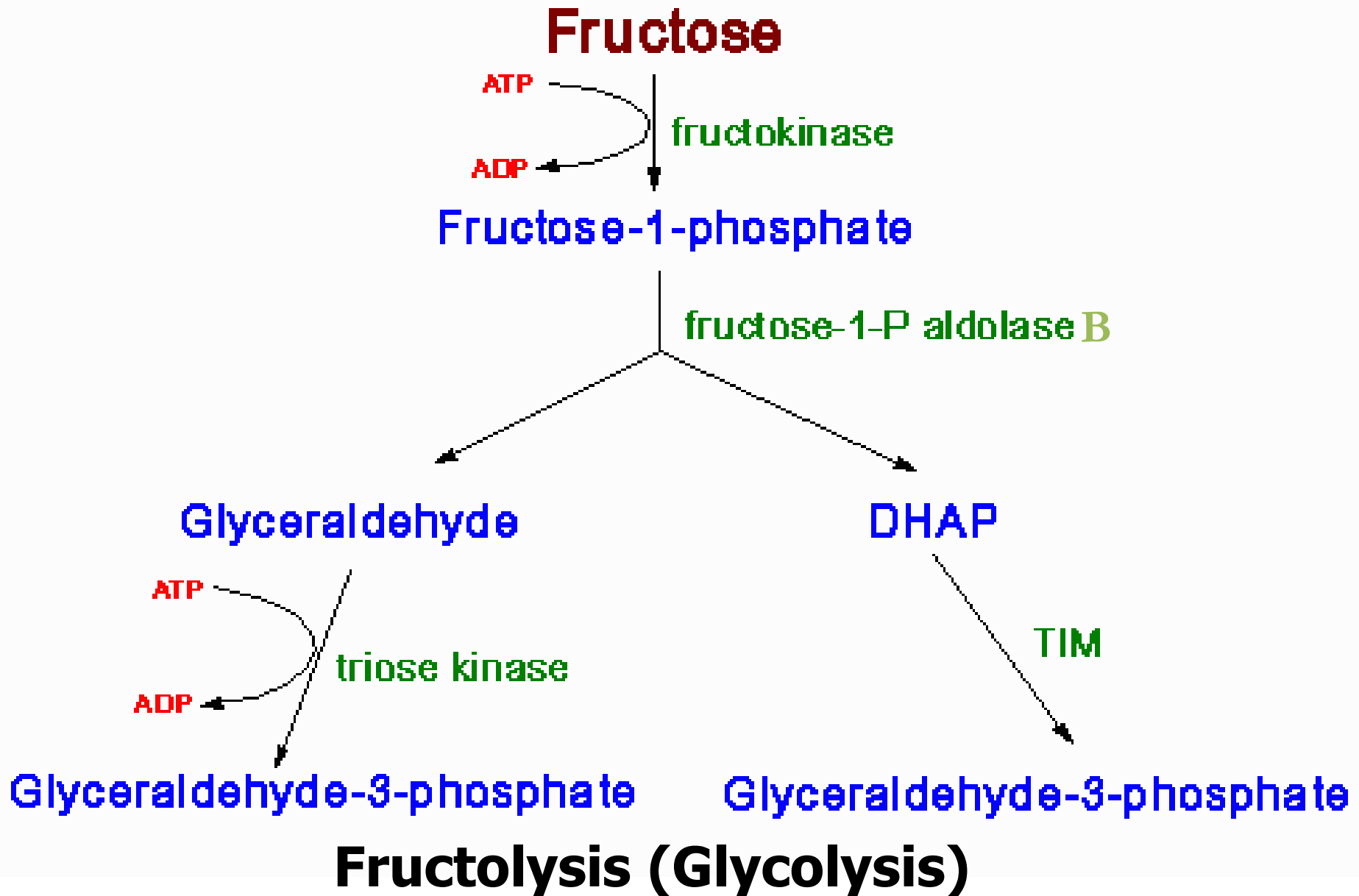
# Fructose Metabolism

- People eating diets containing large amounts of sucrose, can utilize fructose as a major source of energy.
  - The pathway for utilization of fructose differs in muscle and liver.
  - Muscle which contains only hexokinase can phosphorylate fructose into F-6-P which is a direct glycolytic intermediate.
- **In the liver, glucokinase does not activate fructose**
  - **Fructokinase produces F1P**
  - **This is cleaved by type B aldolase to glyceraldehyde + DHAP**





# Entry of fructose carbon atoms into the glycolytic pathway in hepatocytes



Deficiency for aldolase B (Hereditary Fructose Intolerance) leads to:

1. Accumulation of Fructose & F-1-P.
2. F-1-P inhibits glycogen phosphorylase enzyme leading to hypoglycemia especially after ingestion of fructose.

# Synthesis of Fructose in Seminal Vesicles



- Estimation of seminal fructose is used as a Male Fertility Test.
- Aldose reductase (NADPH-linked) can reduce glucose into Sorbitol.
- Sorbitol dehydrogenase converts Sorbitol into fructose.

# Metabolism of Sorbitol

- ❖ Aldose reductase is found in significant amounts in:
  - ❖ Liver.
  - ❖ Seminal vesicle.
  - ❖ Epithelium of the eye lens.
  - ❖ Schwann cells of peripheral nerves.
  - ❖ kidney.
  
- ❖ While Sorbitol dehydrogenase is present only in liver & Seminal vesicle.

## In Diabetes Mellitus:

- Glucose enters tissues freely (requires no insulin).
- In hyperglycemia large amounts of glucose enter these tissues & converted into sorbitol which is dead metabolite in the retina, kidney & peripheral nerves, due to absence of Sorbitol DH.
- Sorbitol will accumulates in these cells, causing many physiologic & pathologic manifestation including:
  - Cataract.
  - Retinopathy of eye lens.
  - Peripheral neuropathy of peripheral nerves.
  - Nephropathy of kidney.
  - Vascular problems (Atherosclerosis).

# References:

- **Lippincott's Illustrated Reviews: Biochemistry  
Fifth Edition  
Richard A. Harvey and Denise R. Ferrier.**