Proteins

-polymer of 20 amino acids -L-amino acid -C,H,O,N,S



-each type of protein have a unique 3-dimensional shape or conformation

Amino acids

-organic molecule with carboxyl and amino groups -C = asymmetric carbon called alpha carbon (α)



-R group determines the property of amino acid:
polar, nonpolar and charge amino acid
-most amino acids exist in the form of dipolar ions
and serve as a biological buffer







Essential amino acids = amino acids that an animal cannot synthesize itself and must obtain from food.

8 essential amino acids of adult human = Trp, Met, Val, Thr, Phe, Leu, Ile, Lys

His is essential for infant.





Peptide bonds form by dehydration reactions link carboxyl group of one amino acid to the amino group of the next.
polypeptide chain grows from N- terminus to the Cterminus.

<u>A Protein's Function Depends on Its Specific</u> <u>Conformation</u>

-functional protein consists of one or more polypeptides with proper conformation
-the order of amino acid in a polypeptide chain
determines the three-dimensional conformation of that polypeptide



4 levels of protein structure -primary -secondary -tertiary -quaternary

Primary structure of protein -the unique sequence of amino acids in the polypeptide chain -determined by genetic codes



Changes in amino acids sequence can affect a protein's conformation and function: hemoglobin



Secondary structure $\mathbf{I}\alpha$ helix and β pleated sheet

 $-\alpha$ helix = coils β pleated sheet = folds -result from the hydrogen bonding between amino acids composition of polypeptide at regular intervals along the peptide backbone



Secondary structure : α helix and β pleated sheet

-only the atoms of the backbone are involved not the R group side chain



The spider silk: β -pleated sheet

The strength of silk fiber is the result from many hydrogen bonding.



Tertiary structure: overall conformation of the polypeptide chain (interaction between R group side chain)

Bonds and interaction involved: -hydrogen bonding -ionic bonding -disulfide linkage -hydrophobic interaction (the cluster of nonpolar amino acid (hydrophobic) at the core of the protein, out of contact with water)



Quaternary structure: -more than 1 polypeptide -interaction involved: the same interaction as in tertiary structure

Collagen (in connective tissue) : 3 polypeptides supercoiled like a rope Haemoglobin = a globular protein





Denaturation: lost of protein native conformation and function -caused by changes of pH, temperature, solvent





Renaturation: regain protein native 3-dimensional structure and biological activity

Protein Folding: Chaparonin, a multiprotein complex assist the proper folding of other peptides. (found in both prokaryotes e.g. *E.coli* and eukaryotes)



Chaparonins do not specify the final structure of a polypeptide. They work by keeping the new peptide from the cytoplasmic environment while the peptide folds spontaneously.



Determining the Structure of Proteins



X-ray crystallography





2 X-ray diffraction pattern from the crystal of a protein



A computer graphic model of the protein ribonuclease (purple) bound to a short strand of nucleic acid (green)

Function of proteins:

1. structure/support: silk fiber, collagen, keratin in hair, horn and feather

2. storage of amino acids: ovalbumin in egg white, casein in milk

3. transport of other substances: hemoglobin

4. coordination of organism's activity: hormones

5. movement: actin and myosin in muscle

6. defense: anbtibody

7. acceleration of chemical reaction: enzymes

8. response of cell to chemical stimuli: nerve cell receptors