

STUDY MATERIAL

Lecture – 1

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Discipline : B.SC (H)

Subject : Chemistry

Semester : VI

Course Code : CCT13

Topic : DIOXYGEN MANAGEMENT PROTEINS – Hb AND Mb

DIOXYGEN MANAGEMENT PROTEINS

- Nature has designed four oxygen management proteins for transport and storage of oxygen in biological systems. These are Haemoglobin (Hb), Myoglobin (Mb), Hemocyanin (Hc), Hemerythrin (Hr)
- Haemoglobin (Hb) and Myoglobin (Mb) are Fe(II) Heme proteins. While Hemerythrin (Hr) is a non Heme Fe(II) protein.
- On the other hand, Hemocyanin (Hc) contains copper at its binding sites.

HEMOGLOBIN (Hb)

- Hb acts as a dioxygen (O₂) transport from lungs to the muscle cells.
- Hb is tetrameric protein contains four polypeptide chains two alpha and two beta.
- Hb is found in blood and its molecular weight is approx.64,500.
- Hill co-efficient of Hb is 3 and it has four oxygen binding sites.
- Oxygen binding curve of Hb is sigmoidal (s-shaped) in nature.

HEMOGLOBIN (Hb)

- Hb is more oxygenated than Mb at higher oxygen pressure.
- Oxygenation of Hemoglobin is PH dependent i,e Hb shows Bohr effect.
- Oxygenation of Hb is autocatalytic due to cooperative interaction as Hb contains tetrameric units.
- Due to constraining rate of oxygenation in Hb is slower than that of in Mb.

ROLE OF Hb IN BIOLOGICAL SYSTEM

- Hb is very sensitive to oxygen. When we breathe in O₂, Hb present in our blood combines reversibly with O₂ in the lungs to form oxy hemoglobin.
- As the blood runs through the arteries to the tissues, the oxygen pressure decreases and O₂ bound with Hb is set free. This free O₂ diffuses into the body cells where it combines with glucose and oxidises it to CO₂ and H₂O. Thus O₂ is used in the combustion of food.

MYOGLOBIN (Mb)

- Mb acts as a dioxygen storage and it stores O₂ for use in mitochondrial oxidation i.e, respiration.
- Mb is a monomeric protein and contain one polypeptide chain.
- Mb is found in muscle cell and its molecular weight is approx. 17000 .In Mb, co-operative interaction is absent as Mb contains monomeric unit.
- Oxygenation of Mb is PH independent i.e, Mb does not show Bohr effect.
- O₂ binding curve of Mb is hyperbolic in nature.