



Biochemistry

Title : Electron transport chain

Lec no : 5

Done By : Baraa Safi

وَقُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

Electron transport and oxidative phosphorylation

Ahmed Salem, MD, MSc, PhD, FRCR

* كيف نصنع الـ (ATP) وآين ؟

نقل الإلكترونات من مادة إلى أخرى، بس ما بصير فيها تقصا صناعة (ATP) وبصير الصناعة في
(COXidative phosphorylation)

Electron Transport Chain

- Energy-rich molecules, such as glucose, are metabolized by a series of oxidation reactions ultimately yielding carbon dioxide and water (H₂O).
في نهاية المطاف *CO₂ / H₂O*
- The metabolic intermediates of these reactions donate electrons to specific coenzymes, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺) and flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD), to form the **energy-rich** reduced forms, **NADH** and **FADH₂**.

Coenzymes

*عشانه أنقل (e) لازم يصير (تأكسد واختزال) لـ (NAD و FAD)

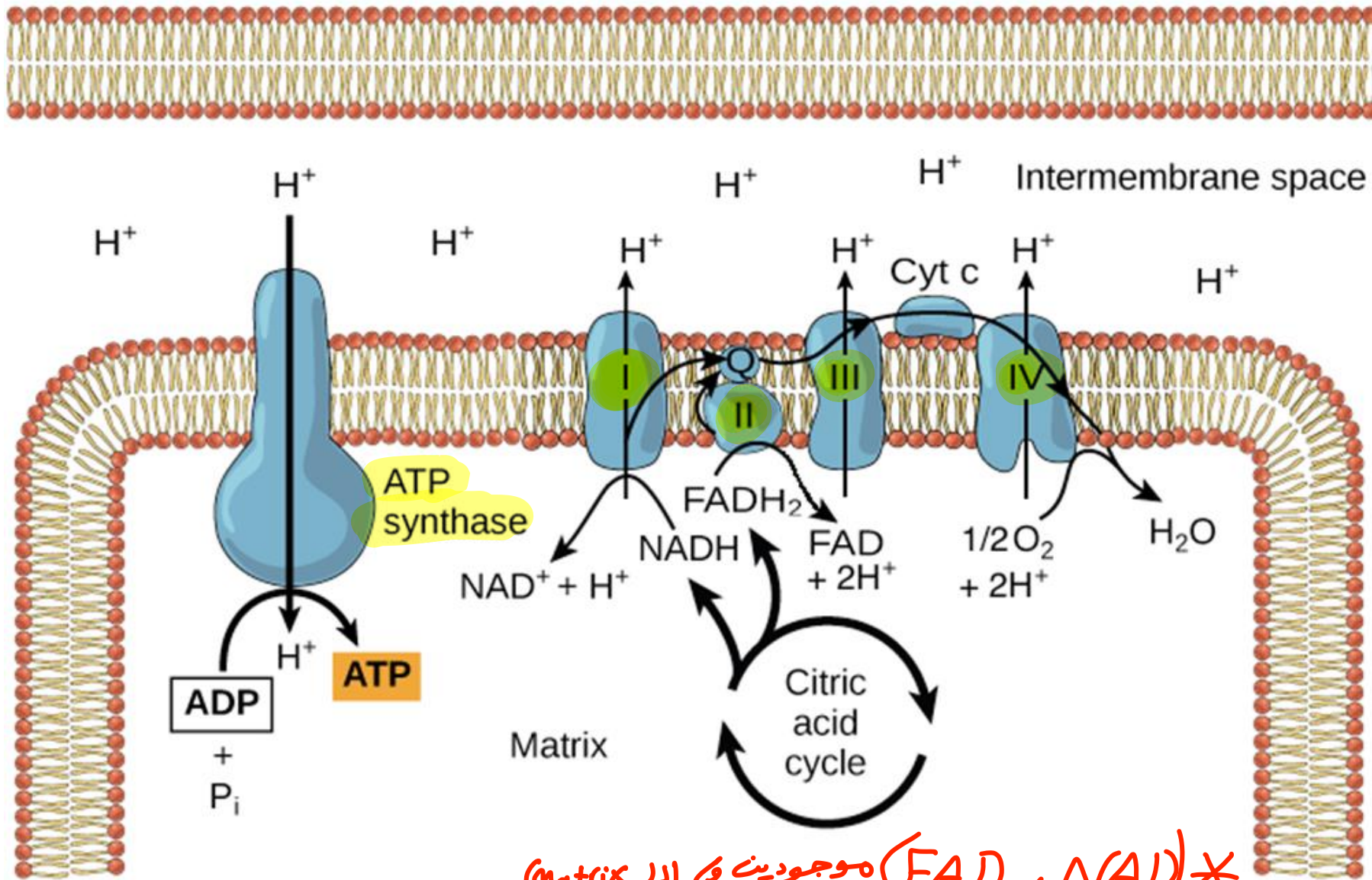
ETC & OXPHOS

* لما أنقل (e) يصير فيه طاقة وبتودينه لـ (Oxidative phosphorylation)

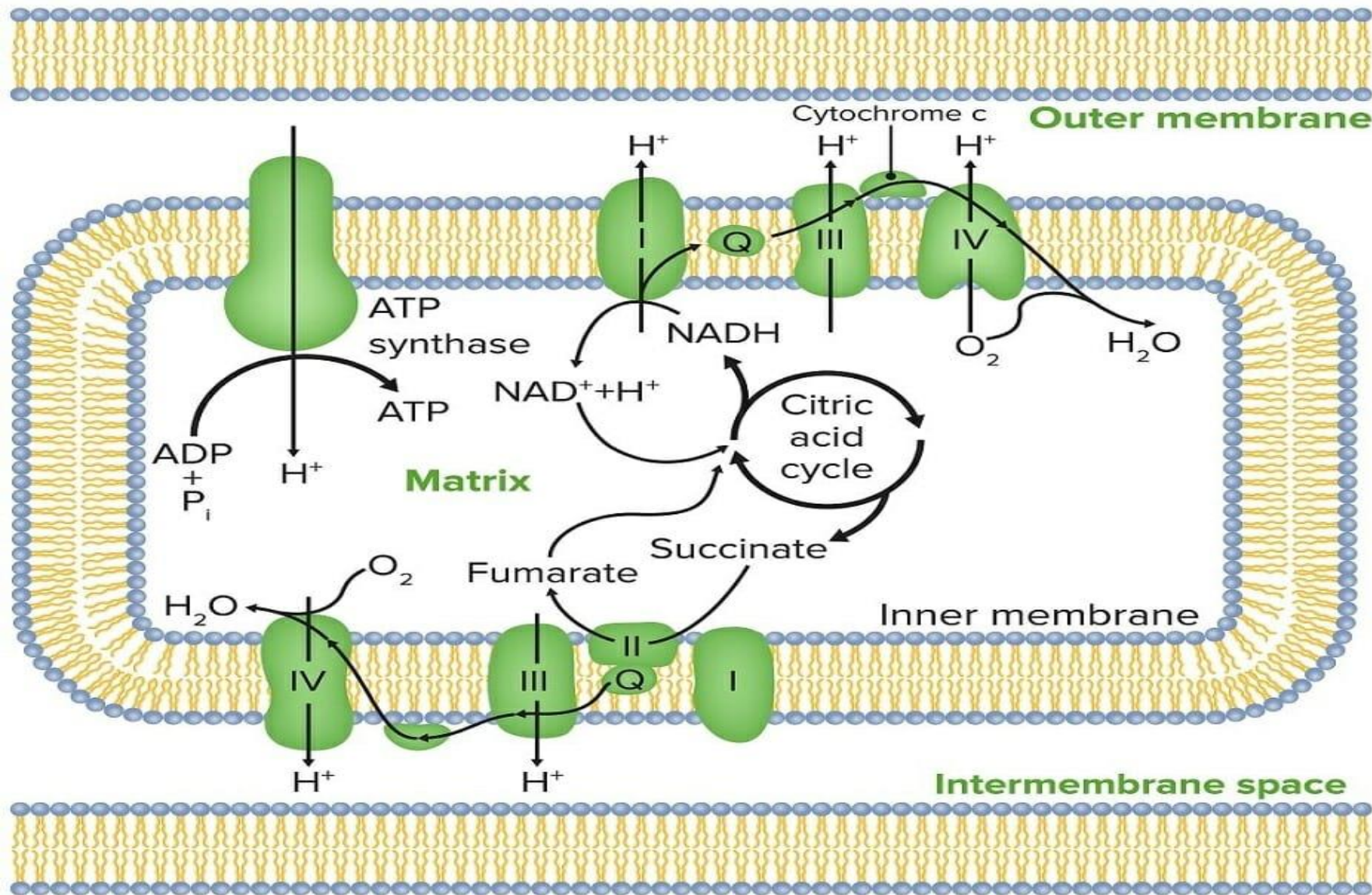
- These **reduced coenzymes** can, in turn, each **donate a pair of electrons** to a specialized set of **electron carriers**, collectively called the electron transport chain (ETC).
- As electrons are passed down the ETC, they **lose much of their free energy**.
- This energy is used to move H^+ across the inner mitochondrial membrane, creating a **H^+ gradient** that **drives the production of ATP** from ADP and inorganic phosphate (P_i).
- The coupling of electron transport with ATP synthesis is called **oxidative phosphorylation**. It proceeds continuously in all tissues that contain mitochondria.

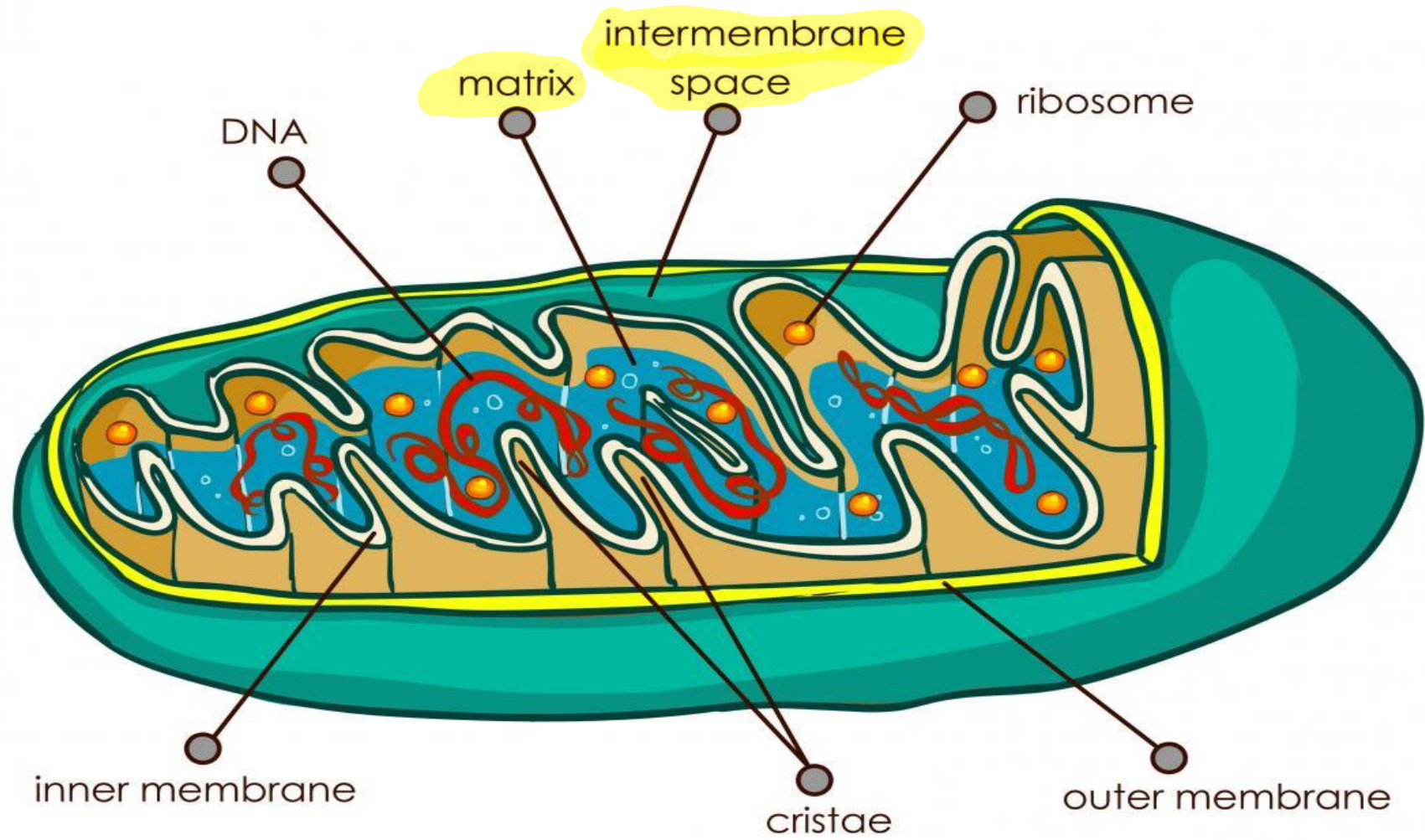
Oxidative phosphorylation

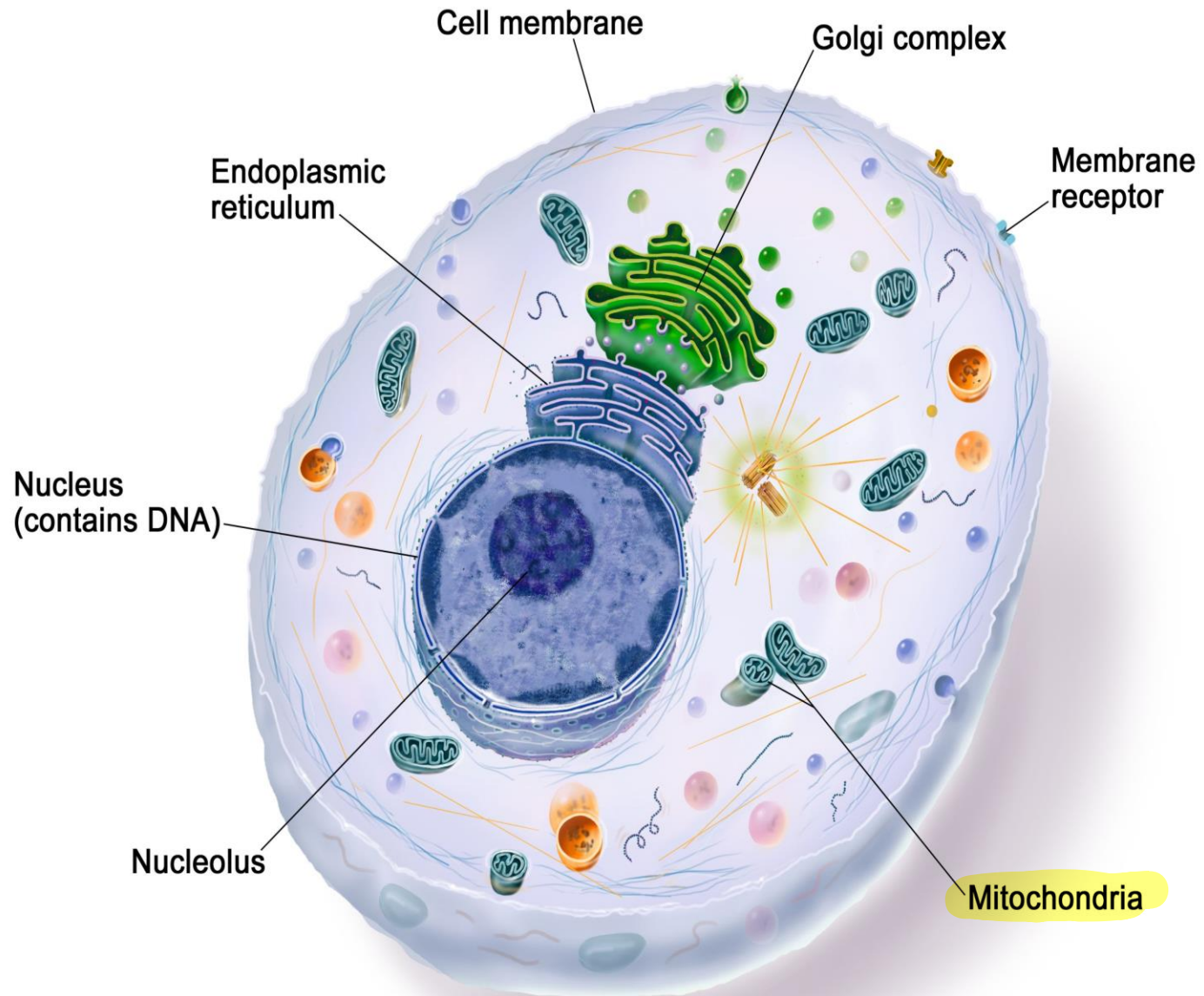
- **Definition:** coupling of oxidation (loss of electrons) & phosphorylation
- **Electron transport (respiratory) chain:**
 - Oxidizes reduced cofactors by **transferring electrons in series of steps** to O₂ (terminal electron acceptor)
 - Free energy released by these oxidation reactions **is used to derive synthesis of ATP**
 - During removal of electrons, protons are also removed and pumped from matrix across inner membrane → forms electrochemical gradient → **provides energy for synthesis of ATP**
 - Consists of **4 multistep enzyme complexes** with series of electron carriers



* (FAD, NAD) موجودین فی ادار (matrix)







Electron transfer

Electrons are transferred across molecules in 4 different ways

- Directly as electrons (e.g. Fe²⁺ / Fe³⁺ redox pair: oxidases) $\text{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{e}^-$

- Incorporated in hydrogen atoms (e.g. FAD) $\text{FADH}_2 \rightarrow \text{FAD} + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^-$

- Transferred as hydride ion (H⁻) $\text{NADH} + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{NAD}^+ + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^-$

- When there is direct combination of an organic reductant with oxygen (oxygenases) → آخر خطوة بالـ (ETC)

- All 4 types could occur in cells

- → term “reducing equivalent” is used to designate ^{لتعيين} any of these types

Electrochemical gradient

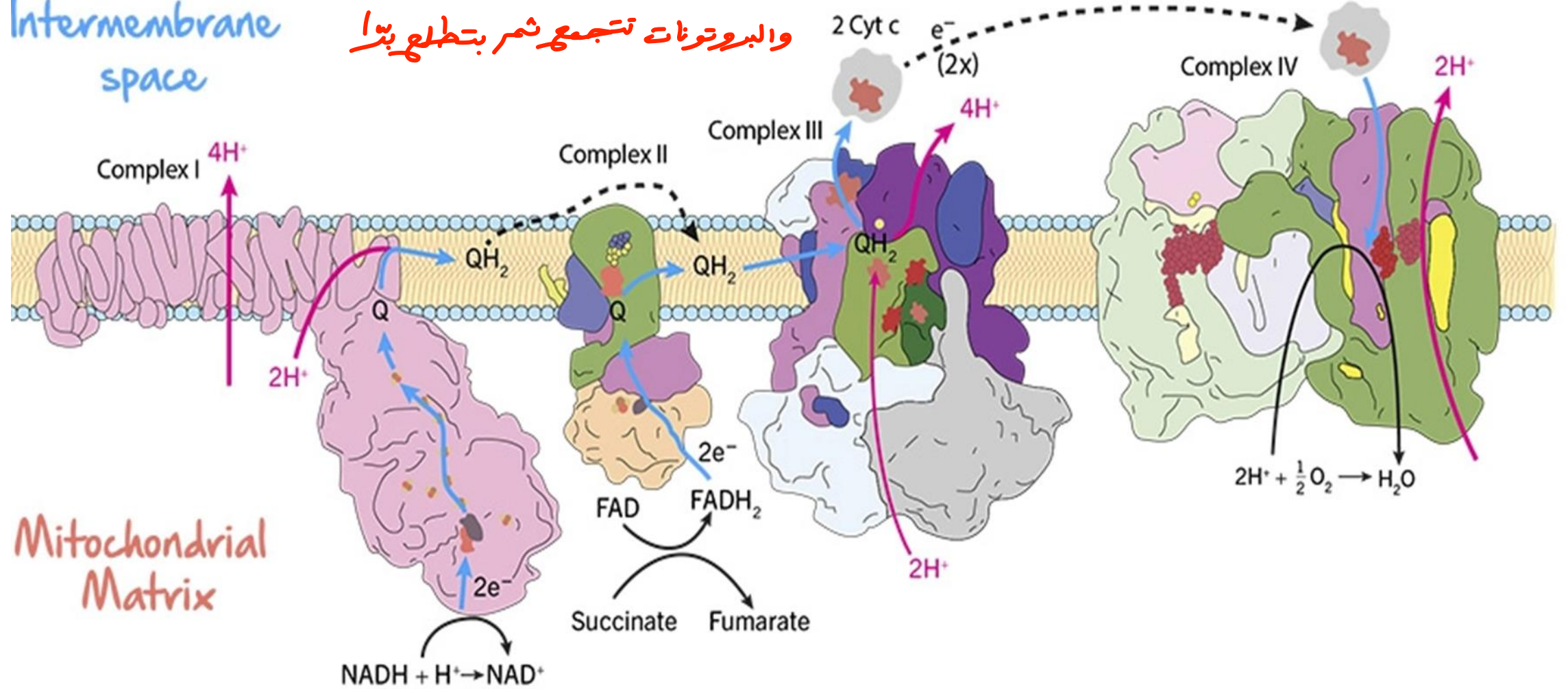
- **4 multi-subunit enzyme complexes** have groups capable of accepting or donating either one or two electrons
- Electron carriers have standard redox potential ranging from:
 - Most electronegative electron donor (NADH) \rightarrow - 0.32 volt to
 - Most electropositive electron acceptor (O₂) \rightarrow + 0.82 volt
 - \rightarrow 1.14 volt difference
- Each component of the chain will accept electrons from proceeding carrier & transfer them to following carrier

كل (Complex) بصيرفيه (oxidation and reduction)

و بصير عندي انتقال (E)

والبروتونات تتجمع ثم بتطلع بتر

Intermembrane space



Mitochondrial Matrix

Electrochemical gradient

- Most of the electrons arise by action of dehydrogenases that collect electrons from catabolic pathways and funnel them into electron acceptors NAD^+ and FAD
- The **driving force** of the chain is the electron transfer potential of NADH or FADH_2

Three other types of electron carriers in ETC

1. Coenzyme Q

- Can accept 2 electrons (& 2 protons) to become reduced CoQ
- Lipid soluble → diffusible between lipid bilayer of inner mitochondrial membrane
- Plays a central role in compelling electron flow to proton movement as it carries both

قادر على التحرك بعد ما يتقبله! mobile carrier
يستقبل $2e^-$

2. Cytochromes

- Are a class of proteins that have iron-containing heme group tightly bound to protein
- Iron can be alternatively oxidized (Fe^{3+}) or reduced (Fe^{2+}) as it functions in ETC
- 3 types participate in ETC (a (cytochrome c oxidase), b & c)
→ all integral membrane proteins except Cyt C which is a mobile electron carrier

ثابت

Three other types of **electron carriers** in ETC

3. **Iron-sulphur proteins**

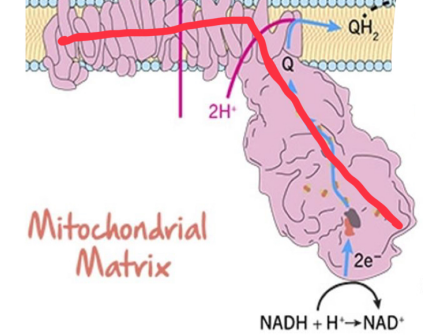
- Iron is present in association with **inorganic sulphur** or sulphur atoms of cysteine residues
- These iron-sulfur (Fe-S) centers range from simple structures with a single Fe atom coordinated to four Cys OSH groups to more complex Fe-S centers with two or four Fe atoms
- **Rieske** iron-sulfur proteins are a variation on this theme, in which one Fe atom is coordinated to two His residues rather than two Cys residues.
- At least eight Fe-S proteins function in mitochondrial electron transfer.

Respiratory (ETC) chain

- Consists of 4 enzymatic complexes:
 - **Complex I:** NADH-Q dehydrogenase complex
 - **Complex II:** Succinate-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (Succinate Dehydrogenase)
 - **Complex III:** Cytochrome reductase complex
 - **Complex IV:** Cytochrome C oxidase complex

↳ (A)

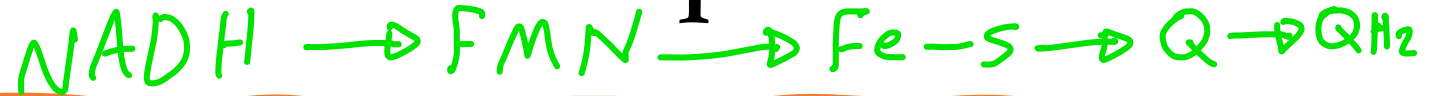
Complex I: NADH to Ubiquinone



- Complex I is called, **NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase** or **NADH dehydrogenase**
- L-shaped, with one arm embedded in the inner membrane and the other extending into the matrix.
- Large enzyme composed of 45 different polypeptide chains, including an **FMN-containing flavoprotein** and at least 8 **iron-sulfur centers**.

Hydride ion: H^-

Complex I: NADH to Ubiquinone



1. Complex I catalyzes the transfer of a hydride ion from **NADH** to flavin mononucleotide (**FMN**). The FMN is reduced to the form **FMNH₂**.
1
2. **FMNH₂** is then oxidized, and two electrons pass through a series of **iron-sulfur groups** and are transferred to the associated coenzyme Q (ubiquinone).
2
3
3. **Coenzyme Q** *يستقبل* also extracts two protons from the matrix to form the **fully reduced ubiquinol (QH₂)**.
3
5
4. As the electrons are moving through the series of FeS clusters, they use the **provided electrical energy (12 kcal/mol) to pump 4 H⁺ ions out of the mitochondrial matrix and into the intermembrane space.**
 - To provide them for ATP production in oxidative phosphorylation.

Complex I: NADH to Ubiquinone

Complex I catalyzes two simultaneous **INDIRECT** coupled processes:

1. The exergonic transfer to ubiquinone of a hydride ion from NADH and a proton from the matrix, expressed by



بصير عندي (release) لا (energy) التي بتضخ البروتونات
منه ار (matrix) إلى (inter membrane space)

2. The endergonic transfer of **four** protons from the matrix to the intermembrane space (protons are moved against a transmembrane proton **gradient** in this process.)

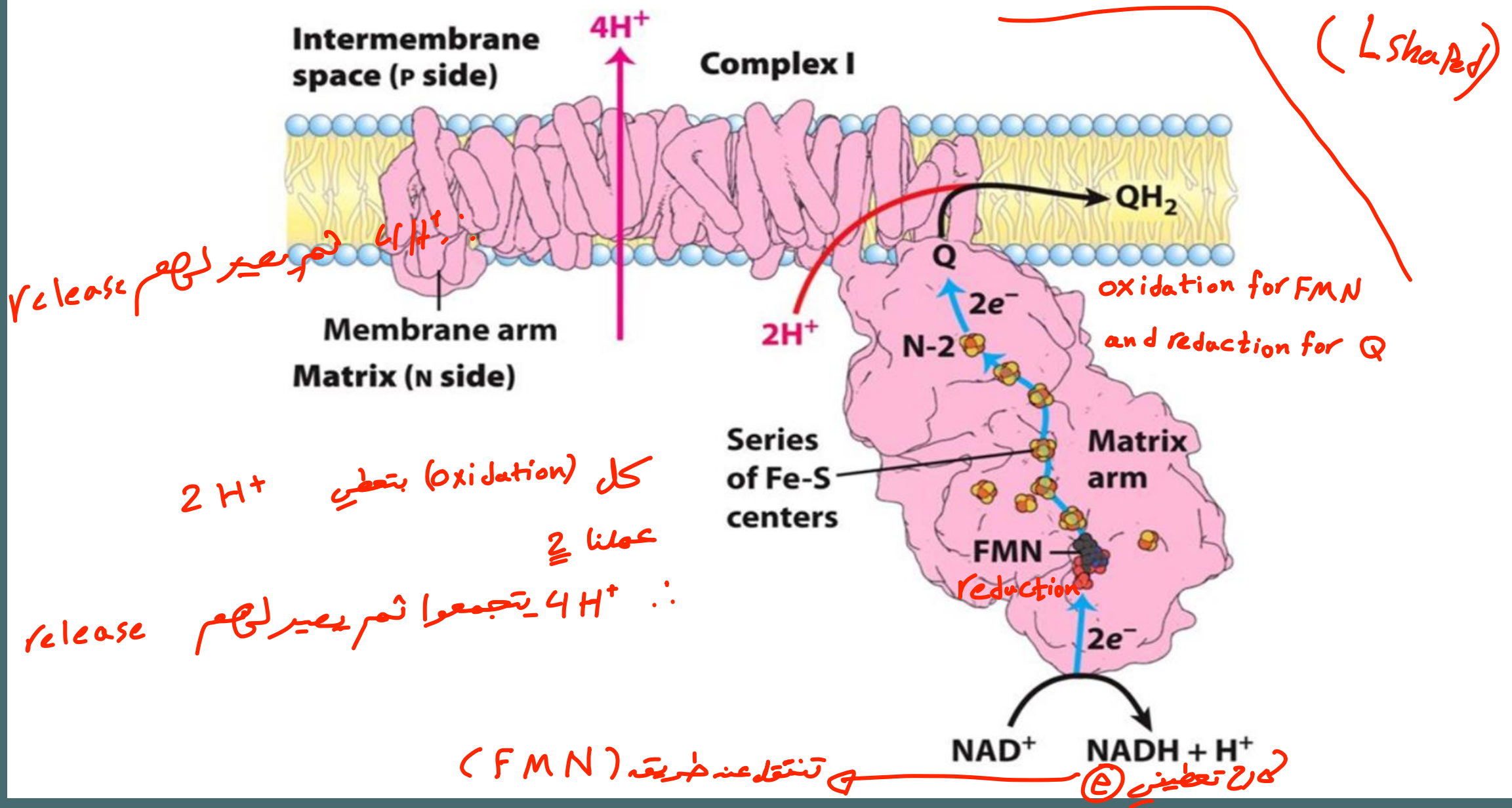
• It moves protons in a from the matrix, which becomes negatively charged with the departure of protons to the intermembrane space, which becomes positively charged.

مغادرة



• Complex I is therefore a proton pump driven by the energy of electron transfer

* قبل نقل ال (H+) يكون ادخال سالب والخارج موجب وبعد النقل يصبح العكس



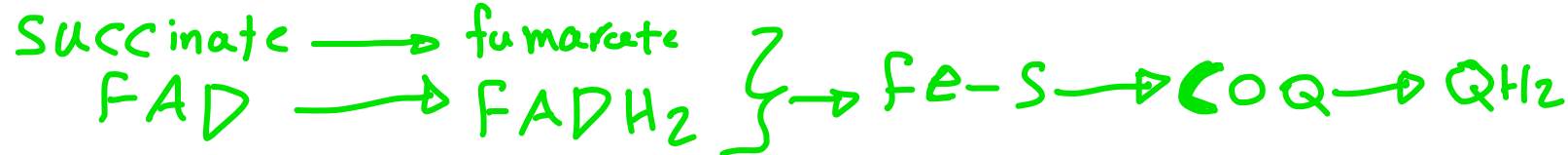
Inhibitors of Complex I

Inhibit **electron flow** from the **Fe-S centers** of Complex I to **ubiquinone** and therefore block the overall process of oxidative phosphorylation.

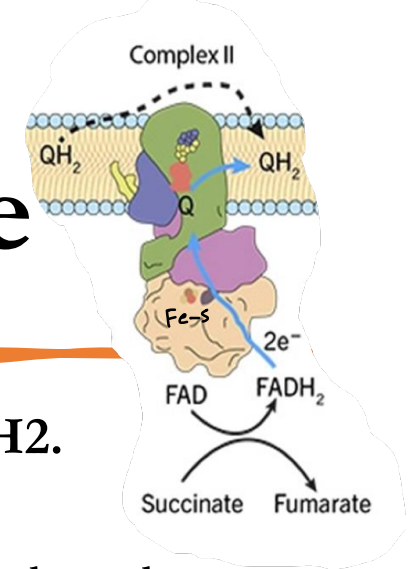
ارجع في سلايدات شفقت (3) هو الين بنمنعه

- A 1. **Amytal** (a barbiturate drug)
- R 2. **Rotenone** (a plant product commonly used as an **insecticide**),
- P 3. **Piericidin A** (an antibiotic)

حرب



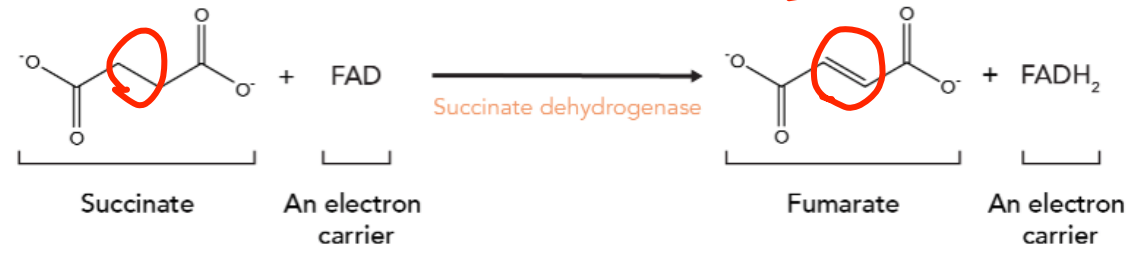
Complex II: Succinate to Ubiquinone



• This protein complex (**succinate dehydrogenase**) provides the entry point for FADH₂.

1. In Complex II the enzyme **succinate dehydrogenase** produces **fumarate** from succinate and produces **FADH₂**.

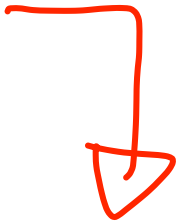
P2



2. FADH₂ gives off two energetic electrons to a chain of **FeS clusters**, ultimately transferring them to **coenzyme-Q** (to contribute to the flow of electrons in the electron transport chain).



3. Electron transfer through Complex II is **not** accompanied by proton pumping across the inner membrane, although the QH₂ will be used by Complex III to drive proton transfer.

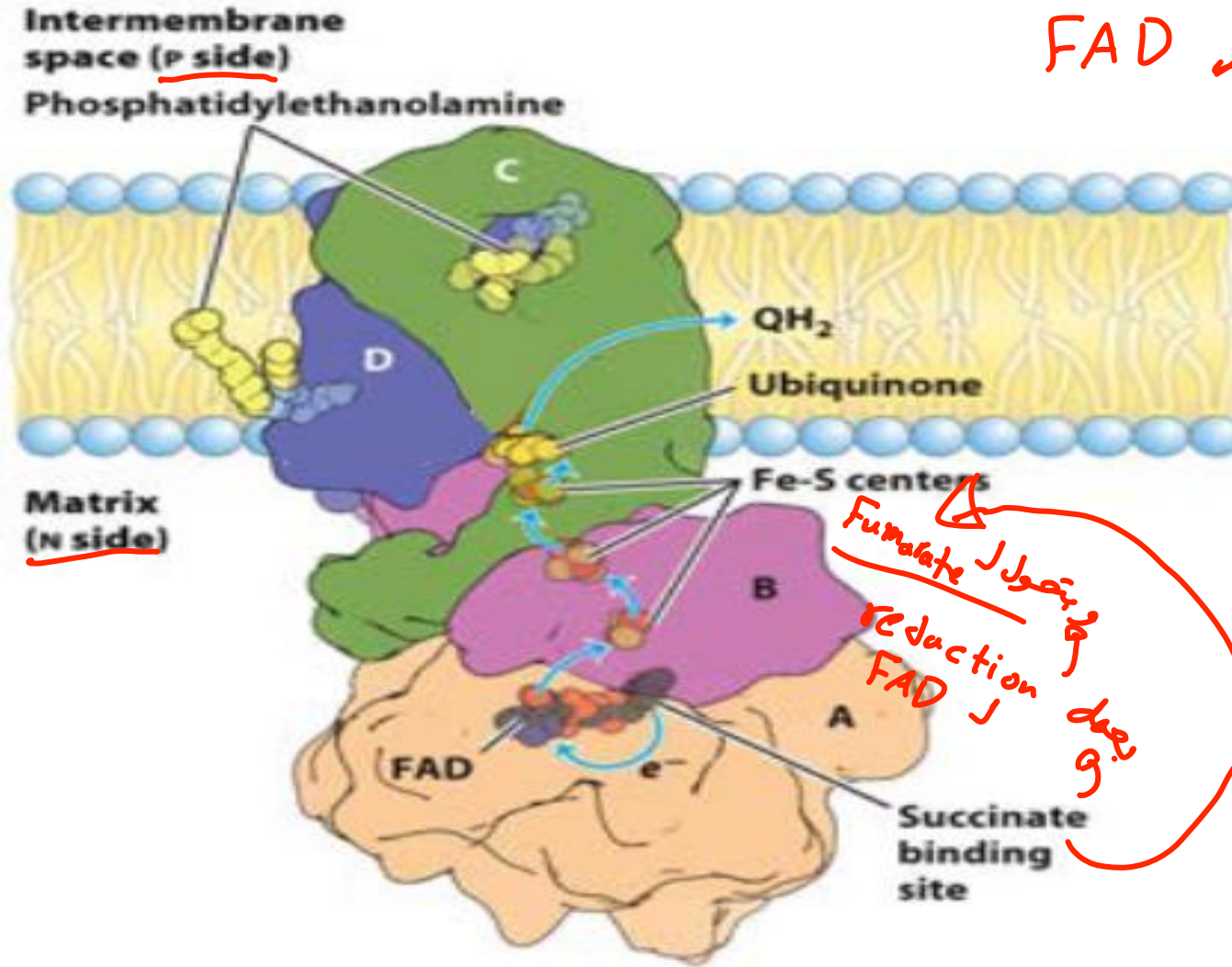


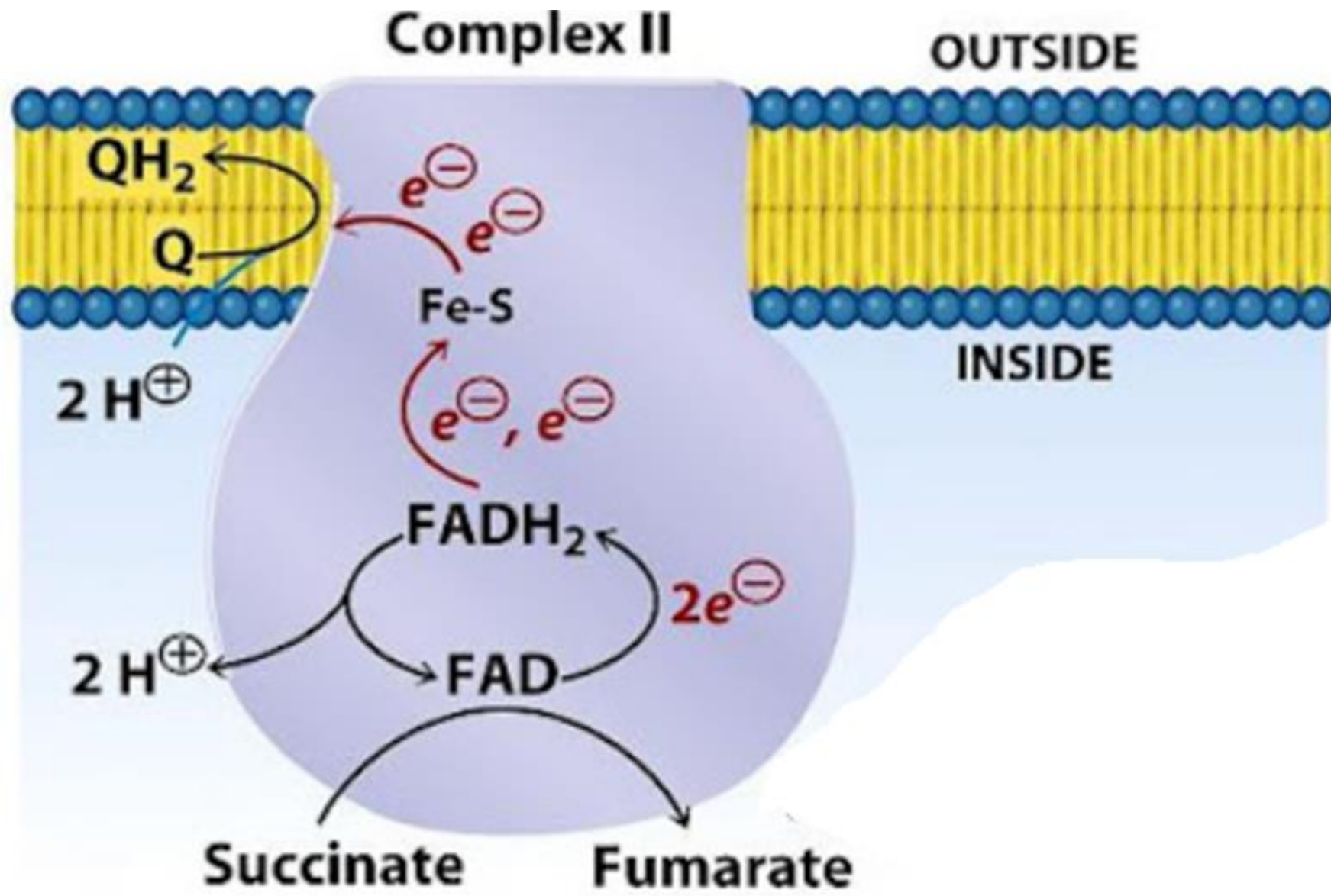
لیٹر ؟
واجب ہے

Complex II (2) succinate: ubiquinone oxidoreductase also called succinate dehydrogenase complex, convert coenzyme Q oxidized to reduced coenzyme QH₂ with electrons accepted by succinate.

This reactions is usually characterized with very little free energy. For this reason, complex II cannot directly contribute to proton concentration gradient across the membrane.

اور complex بدخل NAD
تاي complex بدخل FAD





(succinate) يعمل (reduction) لـ (FAD) ويتحول لـ (Fumarate)



② FAD صار $FADH_2$ بصير له (oxidation) ويتم نقل الـ (e) عبر (Fe-S)

③ تصل بعدها إلى Q ليحدث له (reduction) ويتحول إلى QH_2

Inhibitors of Complex M

- **M**alonate: acts as **competitive inhibitor** for succinate
- **M**utations that affect the succinate-binding region in Complex II may lead to **degenerative changes in the central nervous system**, and some mutations are associated with **tumors of the adrenal medulla**.

Dimer: 50 → two subunits

Complex III: Ubiquinone to Cytochrome c

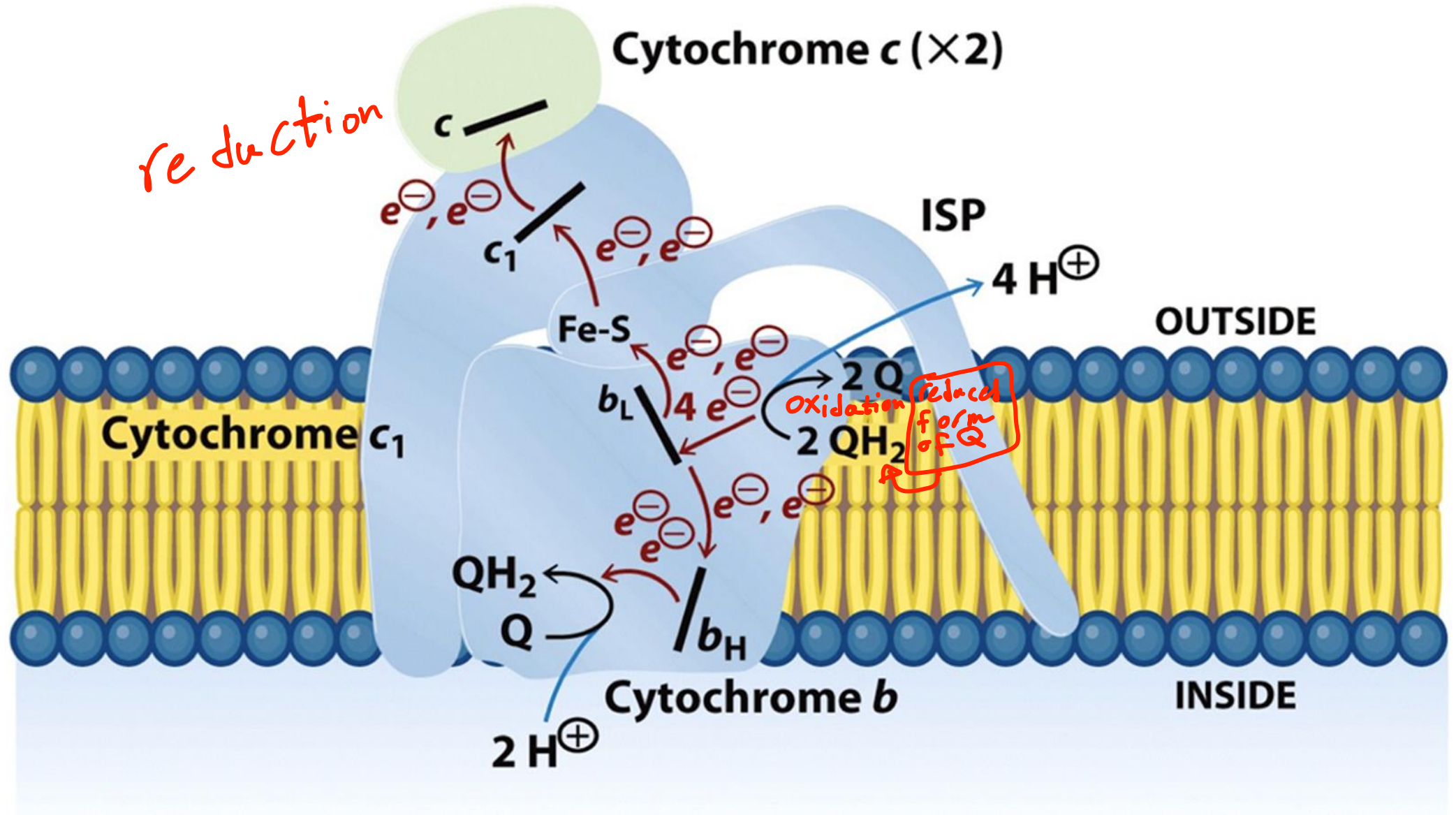
- Called **ubiquinone:cytochrome c oxidoreductase**
- The functional unit of Complex III is a dimer.
- Each monomer consists of **three proteins central to the action of the complex**: cytochrome b, cytochrome c1, and the **Rieske iron-sulfur protein**.
 - The Rieske cluster allows these proteins to efficiently transfer electrons during redox reactions.

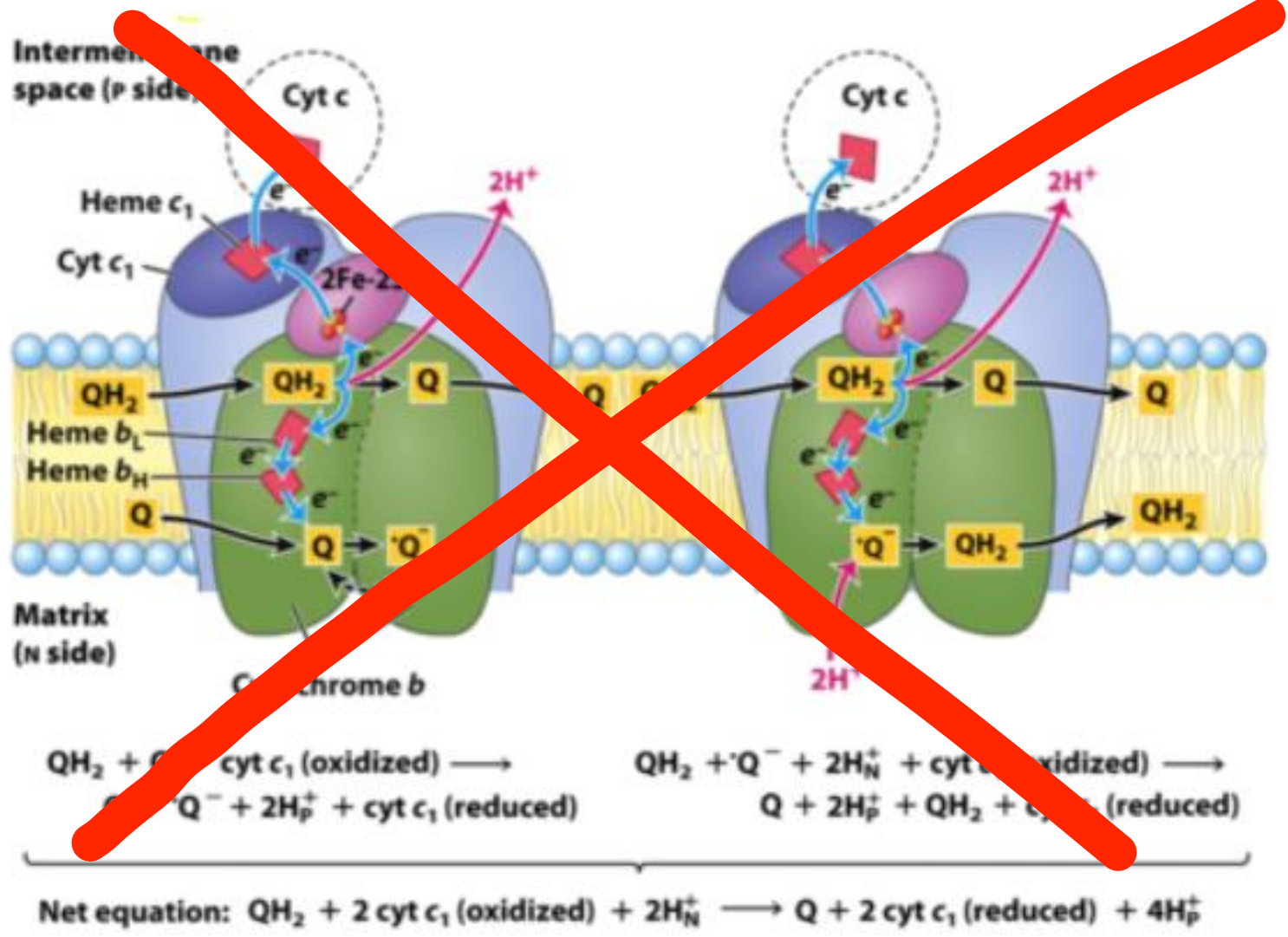
Complex III: Ubiquinone to Cytochrome c

1. Complex III couples the transfer of electrons from **ubiquinol** to **cytochrome c** with the transport of protons from the matrix to the intermembrane space.
2. Complex III catalyzes the transfer of electrons from the **reduced coenzyme Q** (ubiquinol) to **cytochrome c**.
3. QH₂ is oxidized to Q, two molecules of cytochrome c are reduced, and two protons are moved from the N side to the P side of the inner mitochondrial membrane.



4. **4 protons are pumped out**





Inhibitors of Complex III

A
م

- **Antimycin A**, binds at ubiquinol oxidation site, which blocks electron flow from cytochrome b to cytochrome c1. This binding prevents the transfer of electrons from ubiquinol (QH₂) to cytochrome c.

oxidation ١١

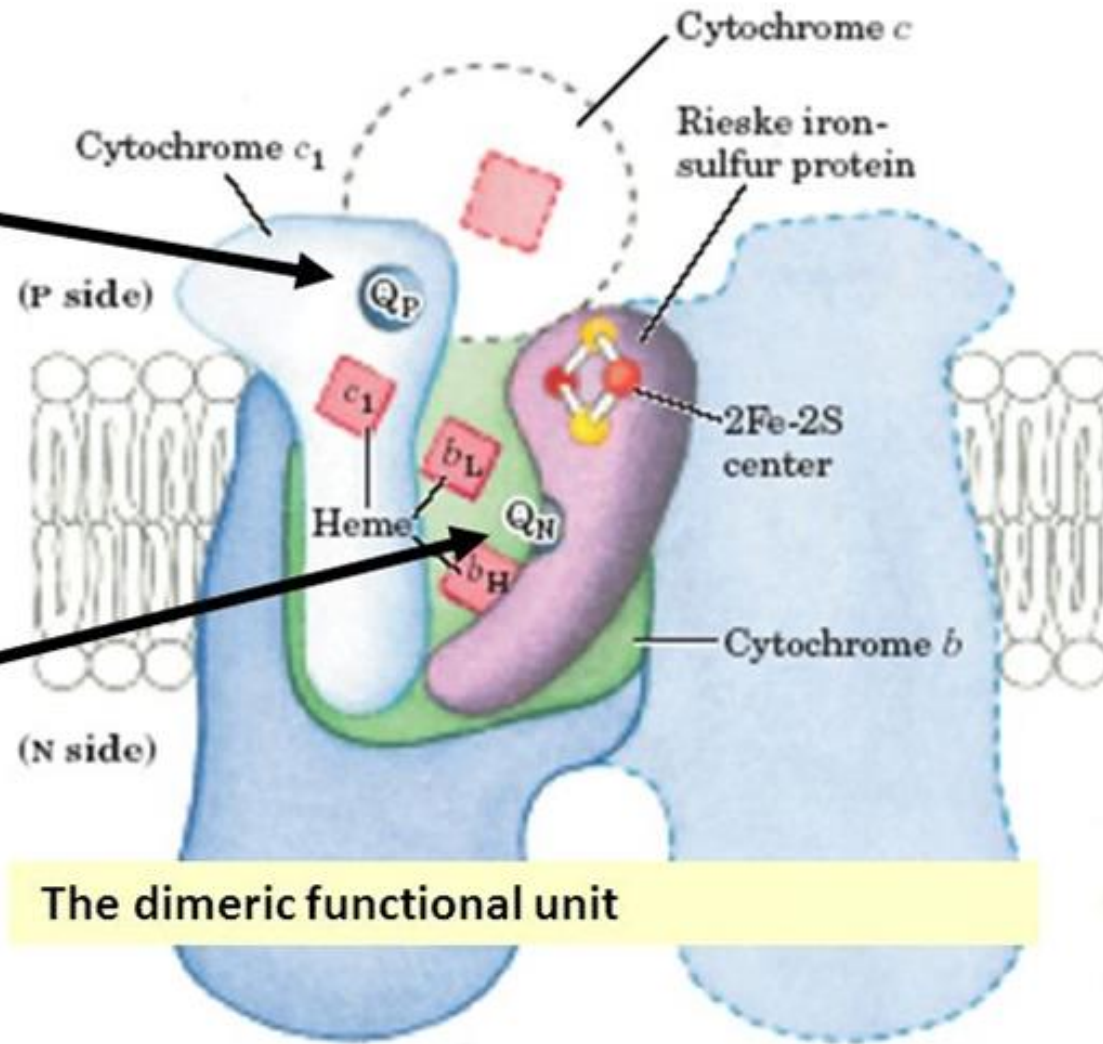
M

- **Myxothiazol**, which prevents electron flow from QH₂ to the Rieske iron-sulfur protein, binds at Q_P.

توضیحی فطر وینہ حفا لہ (I)

Myxothiazol, which prevents electron flow from QH₂ to the Rieske iron-sulfur protein, binds at QP,

Antimycin A, which blocks electron flow from heme *b*H to Q, binds at QN,



The dimeric functional unit

Complex IV: Cytochrome c to (O_2) ↘ Terminal acceptor

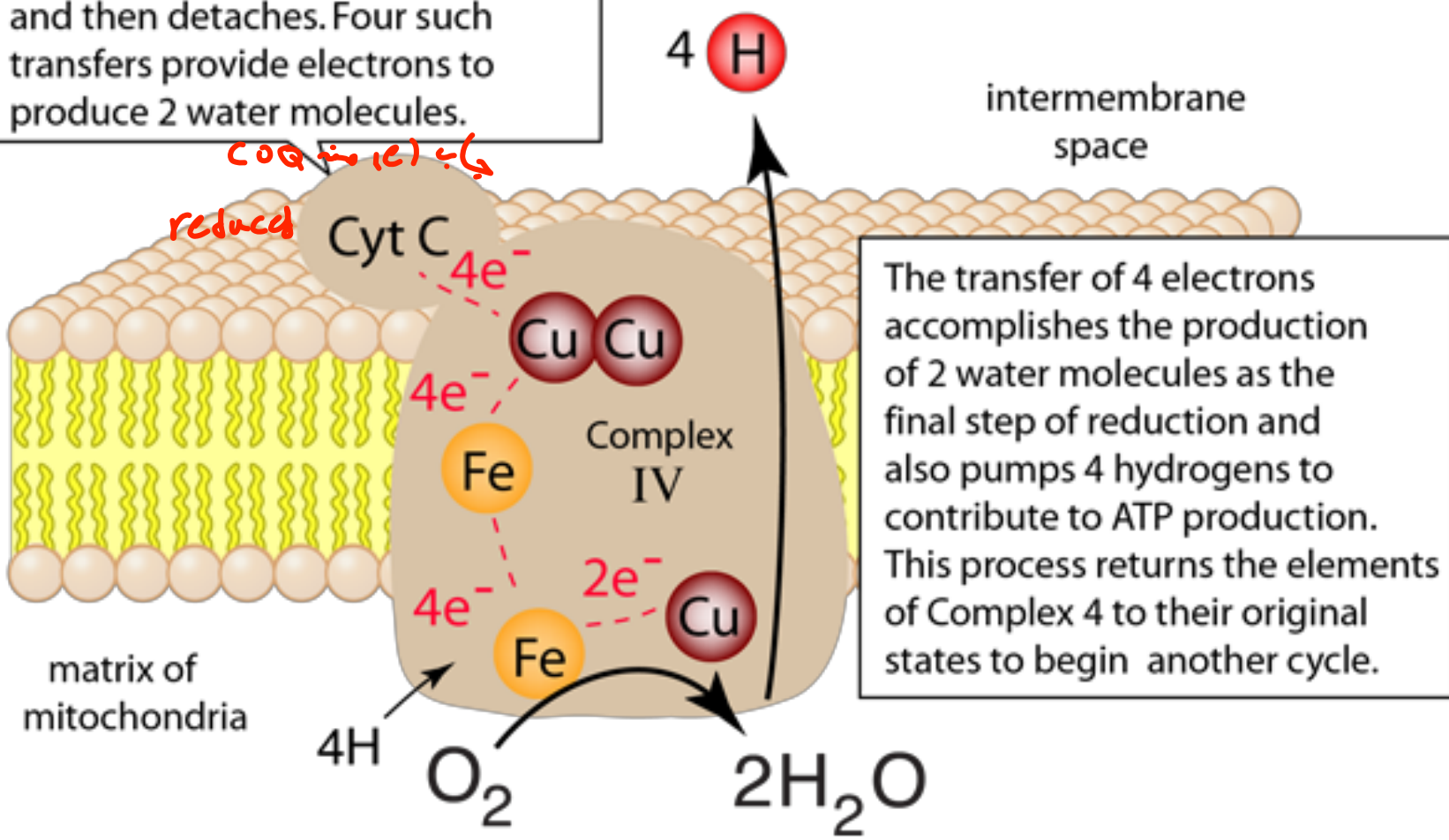
- Complex IV (Cytochrome Oxidase), which reduces an oxygen molecule to a (H_2O) water molecule and providing 4 hydrogens (2 protons per pair of electrons) to the intermembrane space: (4H⁺)

1. Electron transfer through Complex IV is from **cytochrome c** to the **CuA center**, to **heme a**, to the **heme a₃-CuB center**, and finally to **O₂**.
2. For every four electrons passing through this complex, the enzyme consumes four “substrate” H⁺ from the matrix (_N side) in converting O₂ to two H₂O.
3. It also uses the energy of this redox reaction to pump four protons outward into the intermembrane space (_P side) for each four electrons that pass through.



EXERGONIC IS OXIDATION

The reduced cytochrome-c in the electron transport chain transfers an electron to complex IV and then detaches. Four such transfers provide electrons to produce 2 water molecules.



The transfer of 4 electrons accomplishes the production of 2 water molecules as the final step of reduction and also pumps 4 hydrogens to contribute to ATP production. This process returns the elements of Complex 4 to their original states to begin another cycle.

* (Cytochrome c) ينقل (e) إلى (CuA center) بعدها إلى (heme a)

بعدها إلى (heme a₃-CuB center) وتُؤكس شيئاً إلى (O₂) عندها يتغير لونها (reduction)

ويتحول إلى ماء ويتم ضخ (4H⁺) إلى الخارج وبعد كل هذا بالآخر يرجع كل شيء طبيعي

عندها يتم استقبال (ETC) جديدة

بصير عددي (Concentration) بتا اعل فبقل H^+ جوا تم برجع ماشانه ياعه في (Oxidative Phosphorylation)

Inhibitors of Complex IV

Cyanide

- One of most potent & rapidly acting **poisons** ^{قوية}
- Bind to **cytochrome a & a₃** (oxidised form of heme) → **inhibit oxidative phosphorylation**
- Energy produced by cells will be blocked → **asphyxia** ^{الاضتناق} especially of CNS → death

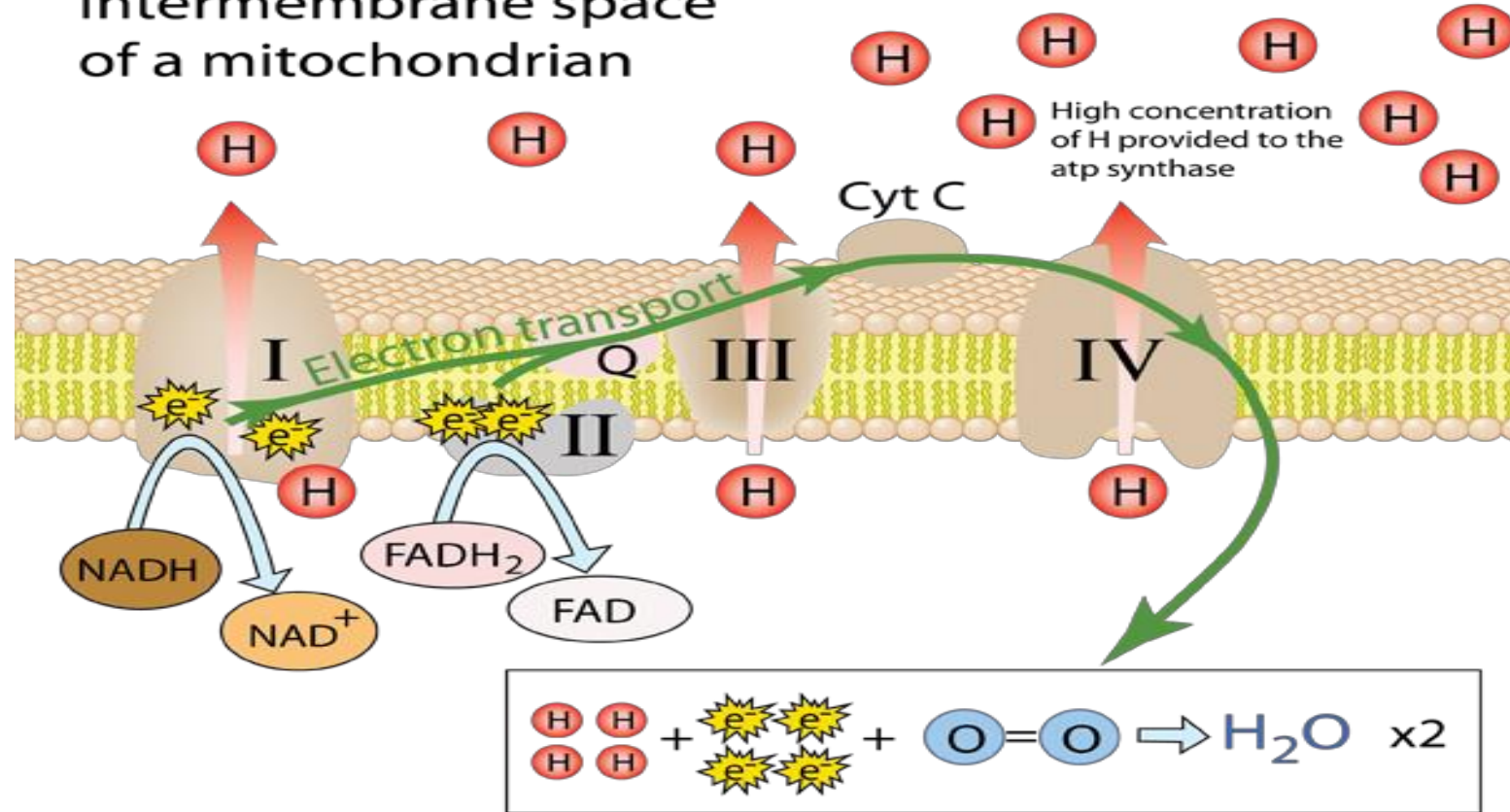
Carbon monoxide

- Bind to reduced form of heme **competitively with O₂**
- Prevents electron transfer to O₂
- Inhibition of mitochondrial electron transport → **impairment of energy** ^{ضعف} generating function of oxidative phosphorylation → death

Summary

- Complexes I and II catalyze electron transfer to ubiquinone from two different electron donors: **NADH** (Complex I) and **succinate** (Complex II).
FADH₂
- Complex III carries electrons from **reduced ubiquinone** to **cytochrome c**.
- Complex IV completes the sequence by **transferring electrons** from **cytochrome c** to **O₂**.

Intermembrane space of a mitochondrion



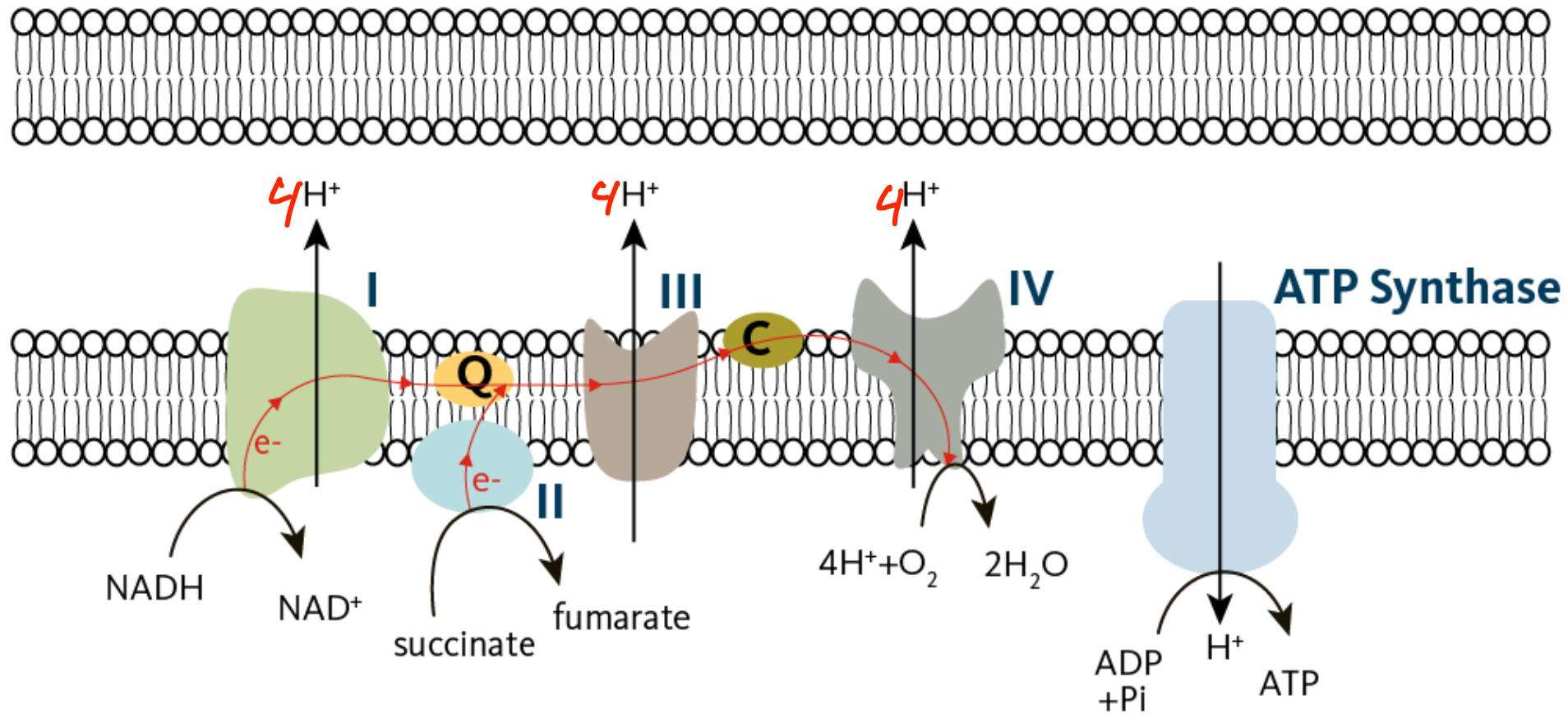
Inside the mitochondrial matrix, the electron transport chain and the atpsynthase nano-machine are tightly coupled systems to provide energy for metabolism.

Mitochondrial
Outer
Membrane

Intermembrane
Space

Mitochondrial
Inner
Membrane

Mitochondrial
Matrix



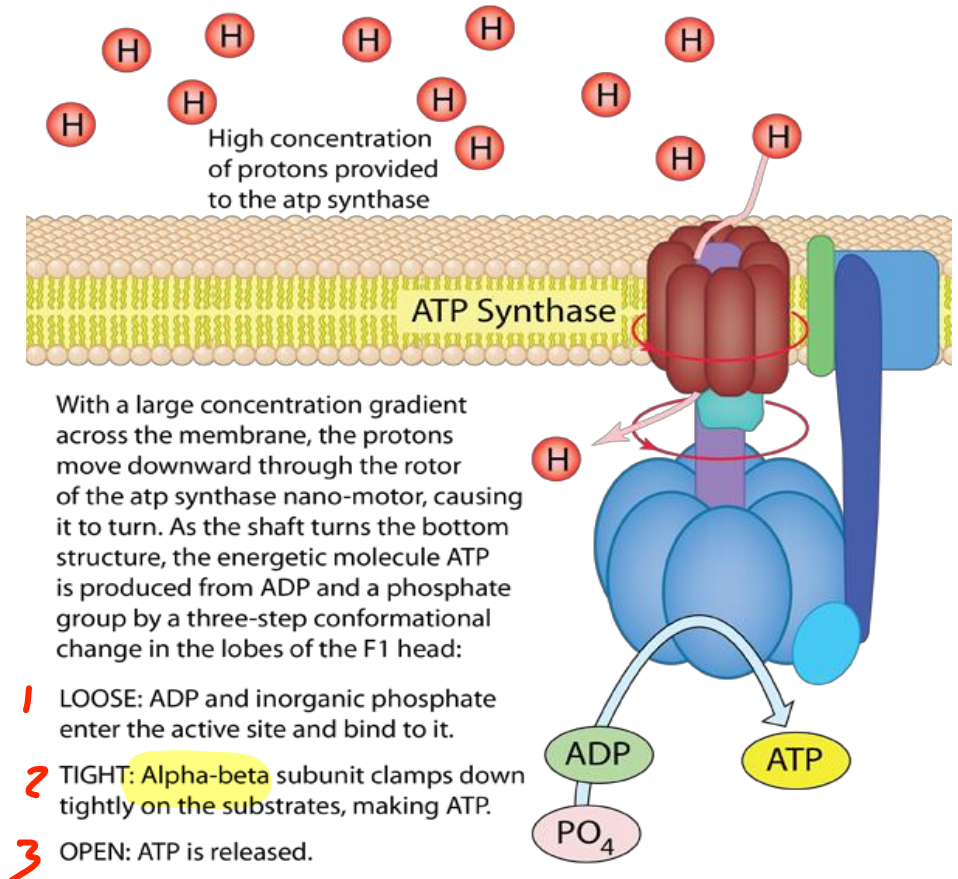
ATP synthesis

Chemiosmotic theory: Transfer of electrons along ETC is accompanied by outward pumping of protons.

- Protons accumulate outside inner membrane
- External surface becomes more positively charged, matrix negatively charged → **gradient**
- ***This electrochemical gradient drives ATP synthesis by movement of protons down gradient using ATP synthase***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJNx1DDqIVo>

شرح الطريقة



ATP synthesis

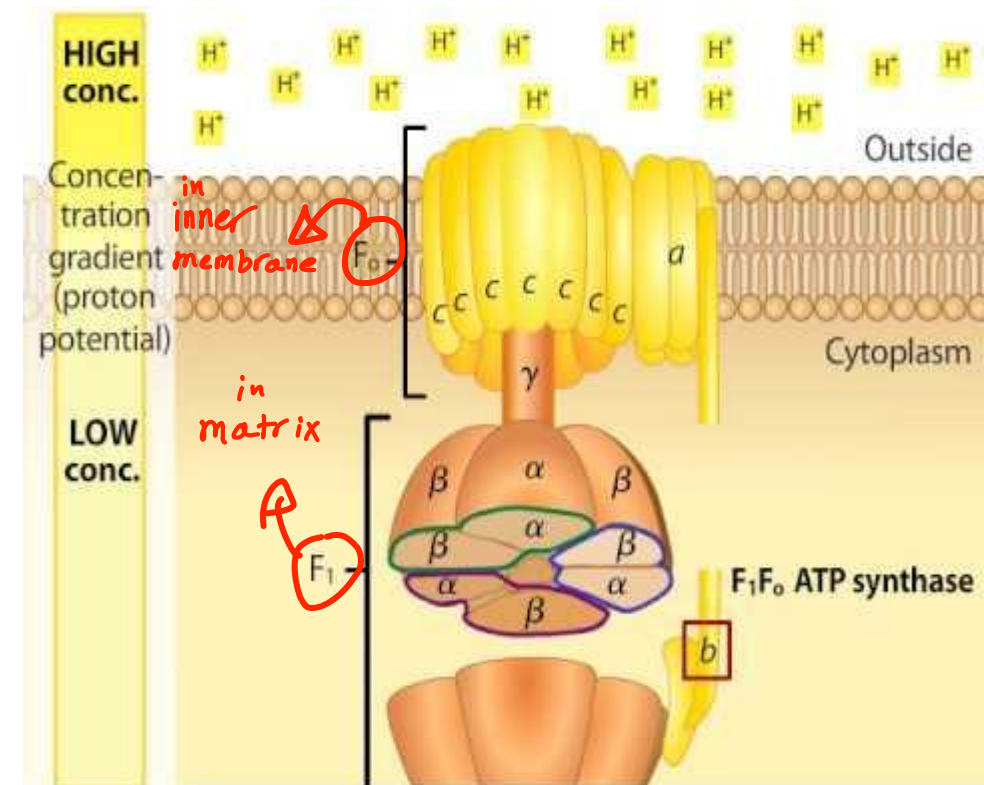
ATP synthase enzyme:

- Composed of 2 major components: F₀ (oligomycin sensitive portion) and F₁
- Present in inner mitochondrial membrane
- Uses proton-motive force for ATP synthesis

Protons passage leads to:

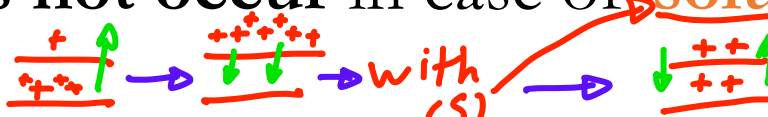
→ configurational changes → activation of catalytic F₁ subunit

- Inhibition of F₀ subunit by oligomycin → blocks electron movement [explains coupling between electron movement & ATP synthesis]



Findings that support chemiosmotic theory

1. Addition of protons (acid) to external medium of mitochondria → stimulates ATP production

2. Oxidative phosphorylation **does not occur** in case of **solubilizing mitochondrial membranes**: →  (تلا ريد خذ و يخرج منه اشياء (زادت النفاذية) **solubilizing** mitochondrial membranes: →

- If **leak of H⁺ across membrane is induced** → proton gradient would be discharged → energy coupling would fail

3. Uncouplers

ما تذكروا عليها
بس ففهم

Inhibitors/ uncouplers of OXPHOS

1. Inhibitors of **ETC** proper
2. Inhibitors of **phosphorylation** → oligomycin (antibiotic): completely blocks F₀ (ATP synthase) so it inhibits ATP synthesis
3. **ATP/ ADP transporter inhibitor** → atractyloside [natural, toxic glycoside present in numerous plant species]
4. Uncouplers of oxidative phosphorylation

بتميز (Oph)

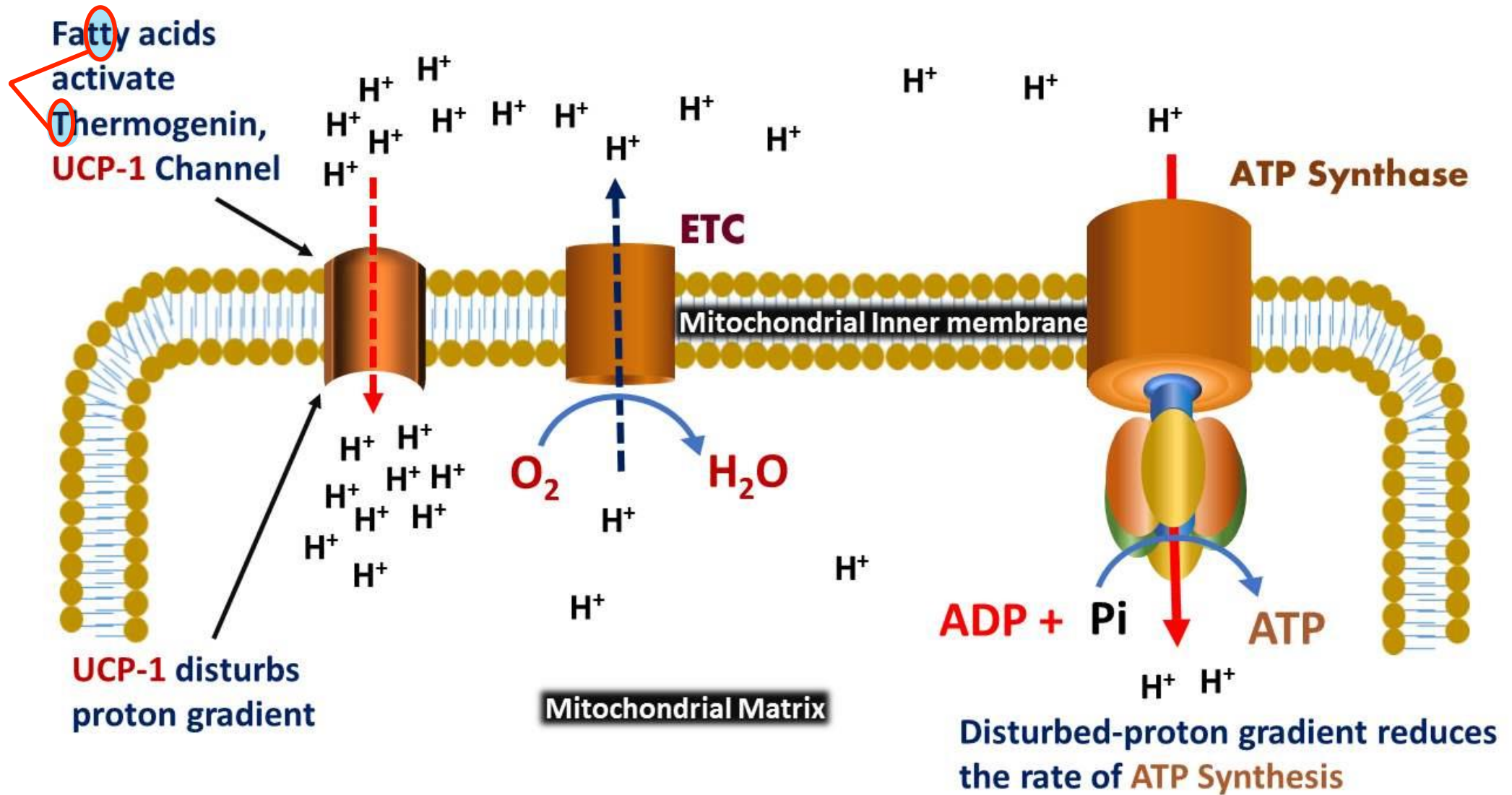
Uncouplers of oxidative phosphorylation

- **Interrupt/ uncouple oxidation & phosphorylation** (carry H⁺ across inner mitochondrial membrane without passing through complex V)
 - i.e. oxidation will proceed building proton gradients but **will not result in ATP synthesis**
 - Energy that would have been used for ATP synthesis is **dissipated as heat**
- **In presence of uncouplers**, oxidative process becomes **uncontrolled** as concentration of **ADP** no longer a limiting rate
 - Proton gradient will give heat

يوجد (uncouplers)
هل يوانتقال لـ (e)؟ يس
هل يصير (oPh)؟ نو
هل ينتج ATP؟ نو

Examples of uncouplers of oxidative phosphorylation

- High level of bilirubin
- High level of thyroxin
- Snake venoms (their phospholipases)
- Halothane intoxication
- Thermogenin (هيك مخلوقة) (physiological uncoupler present in brown fat)
 - **Brown fat**: high content of mitochondria, rich blood supply → characteristic brown colour
 - Uses oxidation of fuel not to produce ATP but **heat** to keep **new-born warm**
 - A specialised protein called **thermogenin** is present in inner mitochondrial membrane → provides a path for protons to return to the matrix without passing through the F₀/F₁ complex



ATP synthesis) (رج توريد) / Pi / O₂ / FADH₂ / NADH / ADP
الآن هو ADP

Respiratory control of ETC

- Rate of oxidative phosphorylation is determined by the need for ATP
 - When ADP levels increase in the cell, it reflects a higher demand for ATP.
 - This elevated ADP concentration acts as a signal to the ETC to accelerate the flow of electrons and enhance the proton pumping, **resulting in increased ATP synthesis** to meet the cellular energy demands.
- The most important determining factor of oxidative phosphorylation is:
 - ADP level
- Other important regulatory factors include:
 - NADH, FADH₂, O₂, Pi

P: O ratio

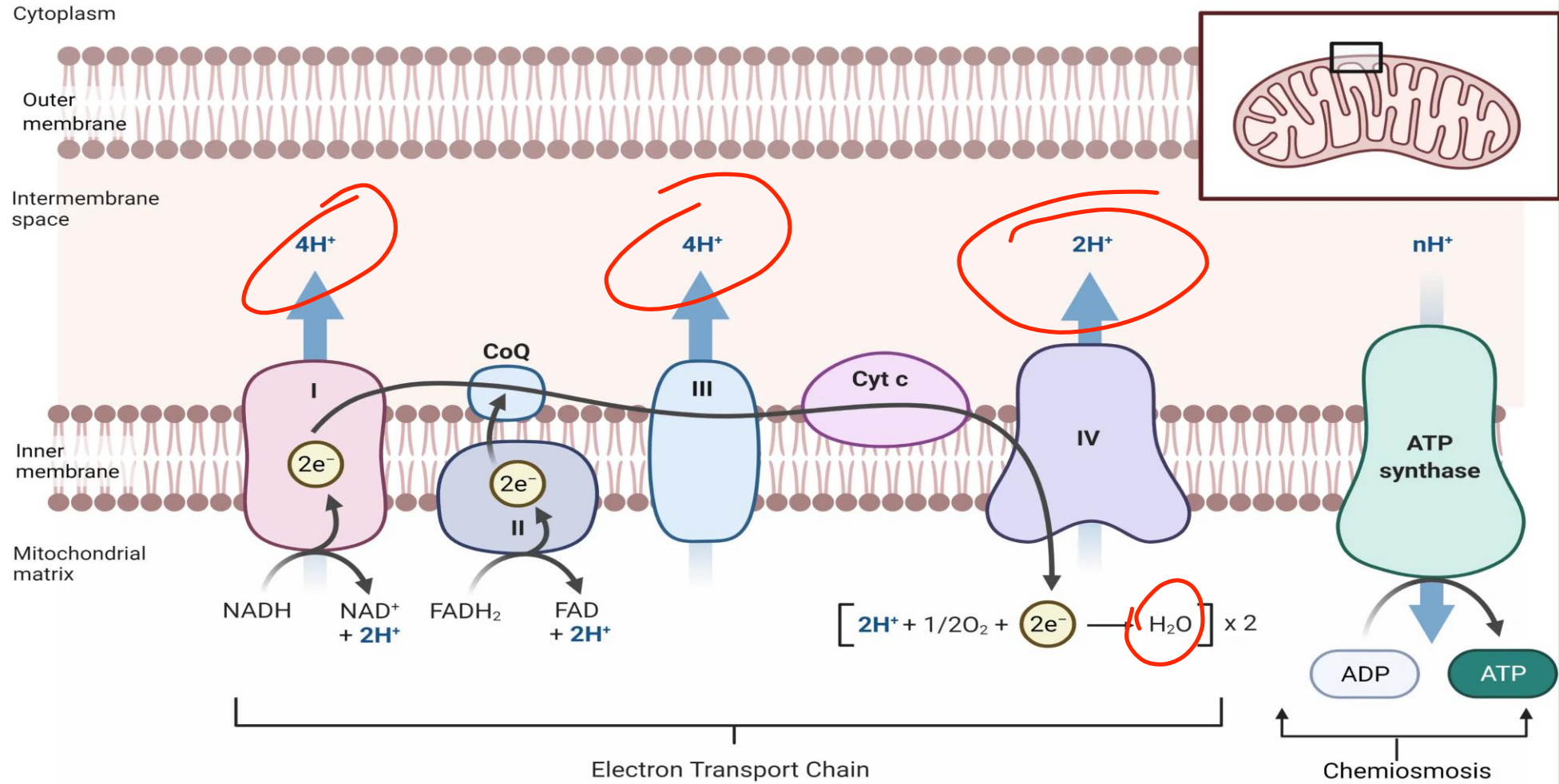
- It is a measure of how many moles of ATP are formed per gram atom of oxygen for a given substrate
 - It is 3 for NADH-linked substrates (**old system**)
 - It is 2 for FADH₂ linked substrates (as succinate) → **old system**
 - It is equal to **0** in the presence of uncouplers

ما تركز عليهم

Table 19.4. ATP generation, old and new values

ATP generation by oxidation of	Old value	Presently accepted
NADH	3	2.5
FADH	2	1.5
Glucose	38	32
Acetyl CoA	12	10
Palmitate	129	106

Oxidative Phosphorylation



Read from book

- Paragraph on “Diseases associated with mitochondria”

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