

<http://www.geocities.com/emruf4/chart.jpg>

食品與營養化學(00070256)

Food and nutritional chemistry

保健營養學系三年級

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**Digestion and Absorption**

# Learning Objectives

- **Structures of the GI tract (1 h)**
- **Regulation of the digestive and absorption processes (1.5 h)**
- **Macronutrient digestion and absorption (1.5 h)**

# References

- **Gropper SS, Smith JL, Groff JL. Advanced Nutrition and Human Metabolism, 5th ed. Wadsworth: Belmont, 2009.**
- **Gropper SS, Smith JL, Groff JL. Advanced Nutrition and Human Metabolism, 4th ed. Wadsworth: Belmont, 2005.**
- **Groff JL, Gropper, SS. Advanced Nutrition and Human Metabolism, 3rd ed. Wadsworth Thompson Learning: Belmont, 2000.**
- **Linder MC. Nutritional Biochemistry and Metabolism: with Clinical Applications, 2nd ed. Elsevier: New York, 1991.**

# Gastrointestinal tract

- upper gastrointestinal tract

mouth

pharynx

esophagus

stomach

- lower gastrointestinal tract

small intestine (duodenum, jejunum, ileum)

cecum

colon

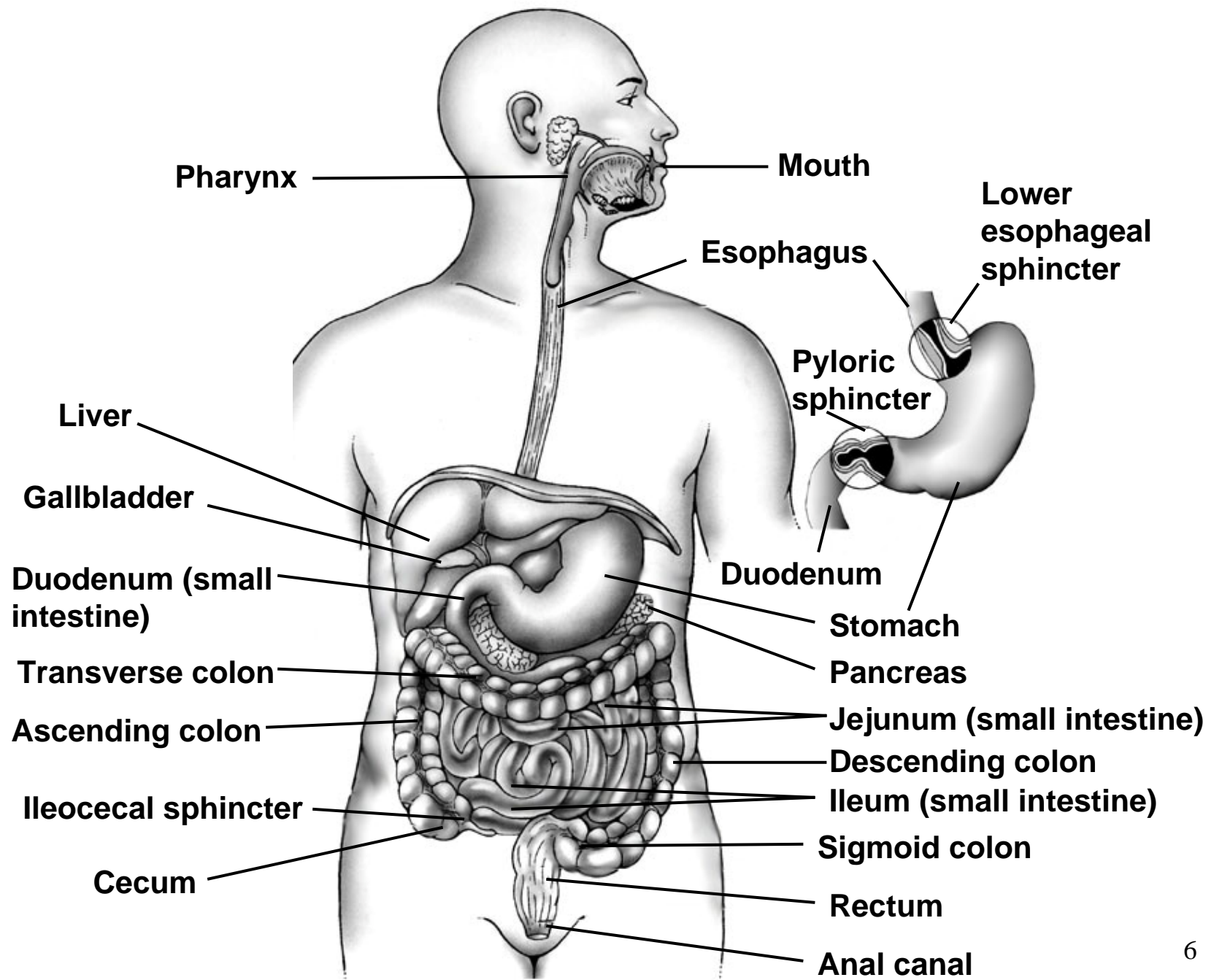
rectum

anal canal

} large intestine

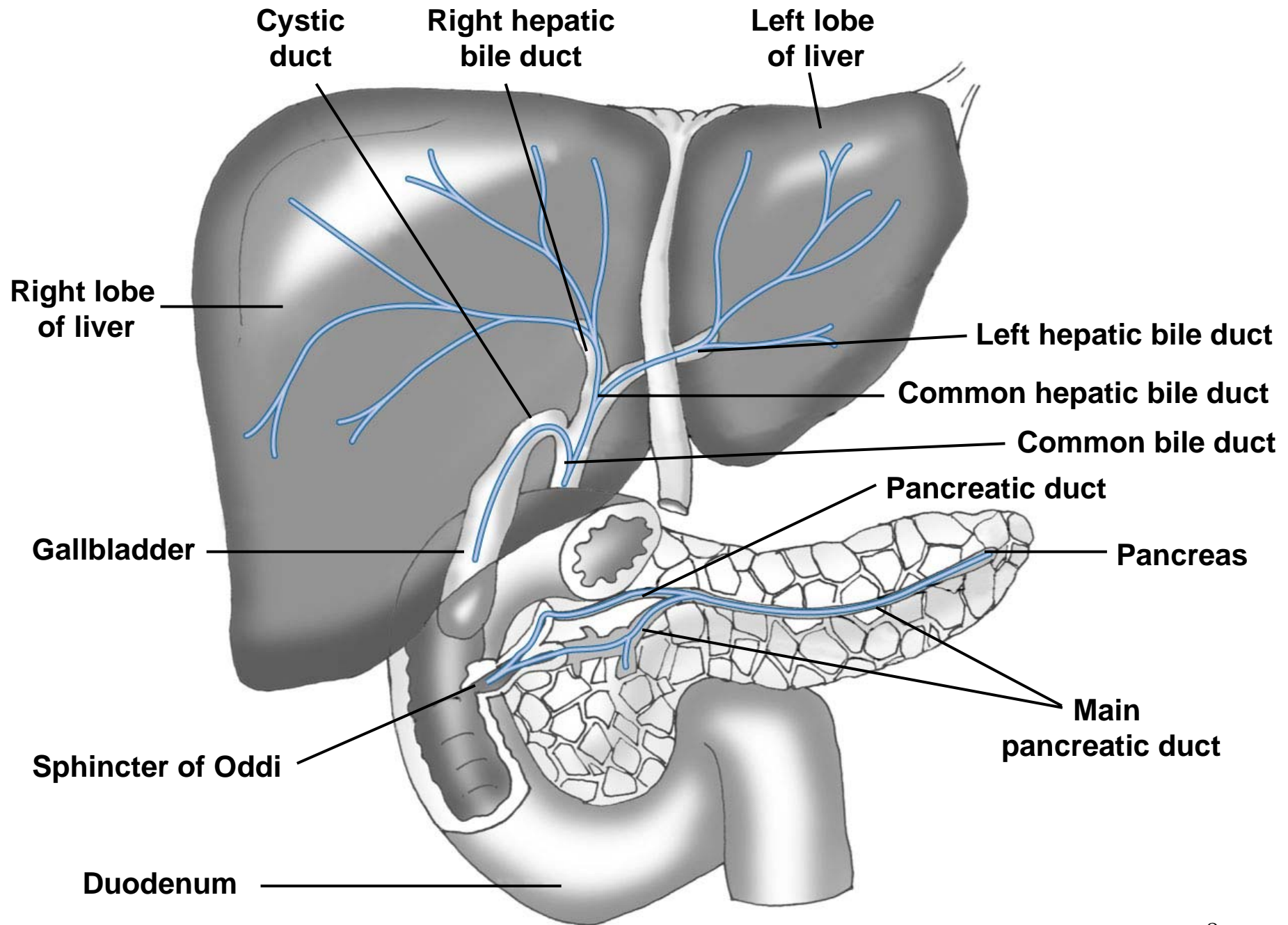
# Gastrointestinal tract

- **colon**
  - ascending colon**
  - transverse colon**
  - descending colon**
  - sigmoid colon**
- **accessory organs**
  - liver**
  - gallbladder**
  - pancreas**

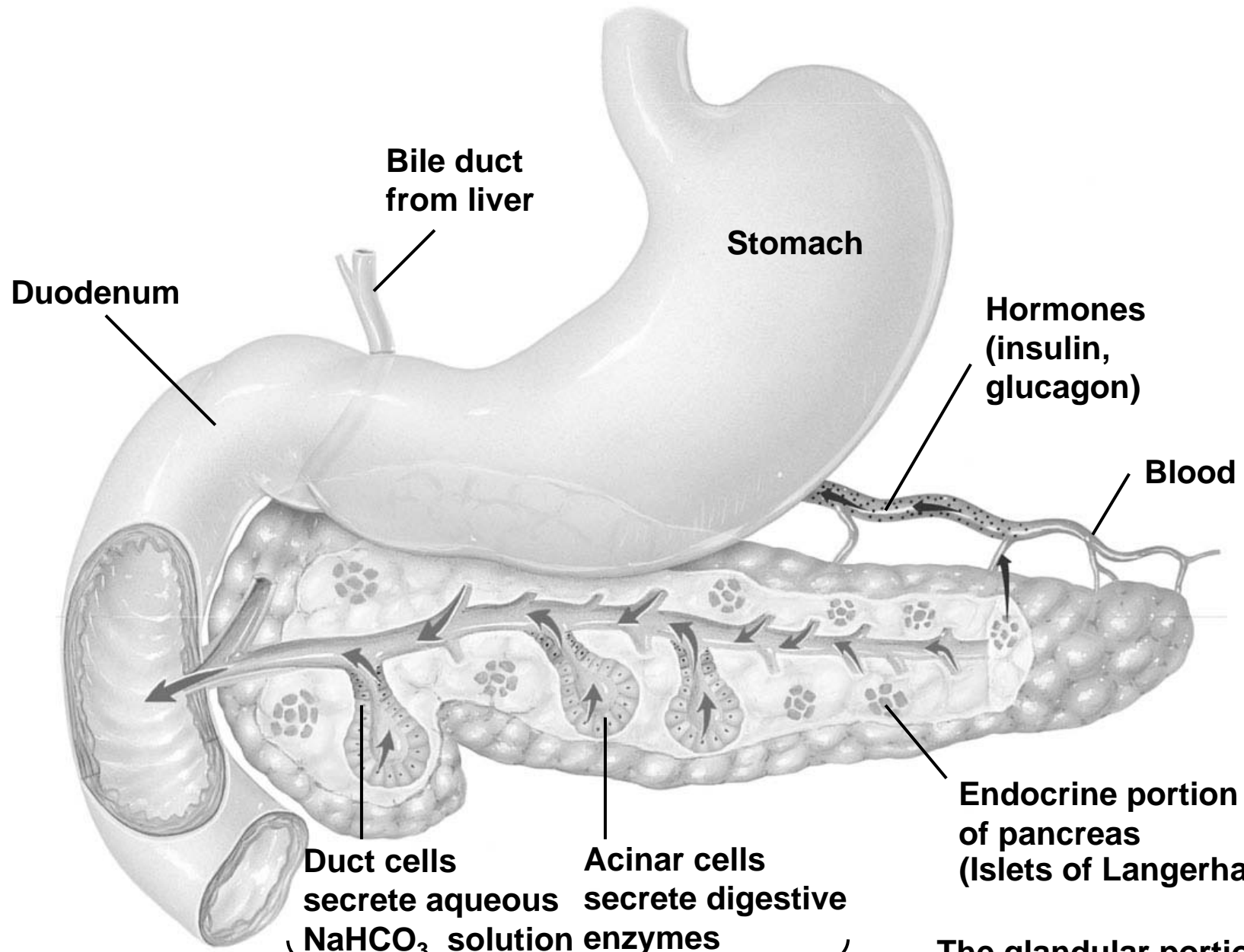


# Sphincter and valve

- **upper esophageal sphincter:**  
between **pharynx** and **esophagus**
- **lower esophageal sphincter:**  
between **esophagus** and **stomach**
- **pyloric sphincter:**  
between **stomach** and **duodenum**
- **Oddi's sphincter:**  
between **bile pancreatic duct** and **duodenum**
- **ileocecal valve:**  
between **ileum** and **cecum**







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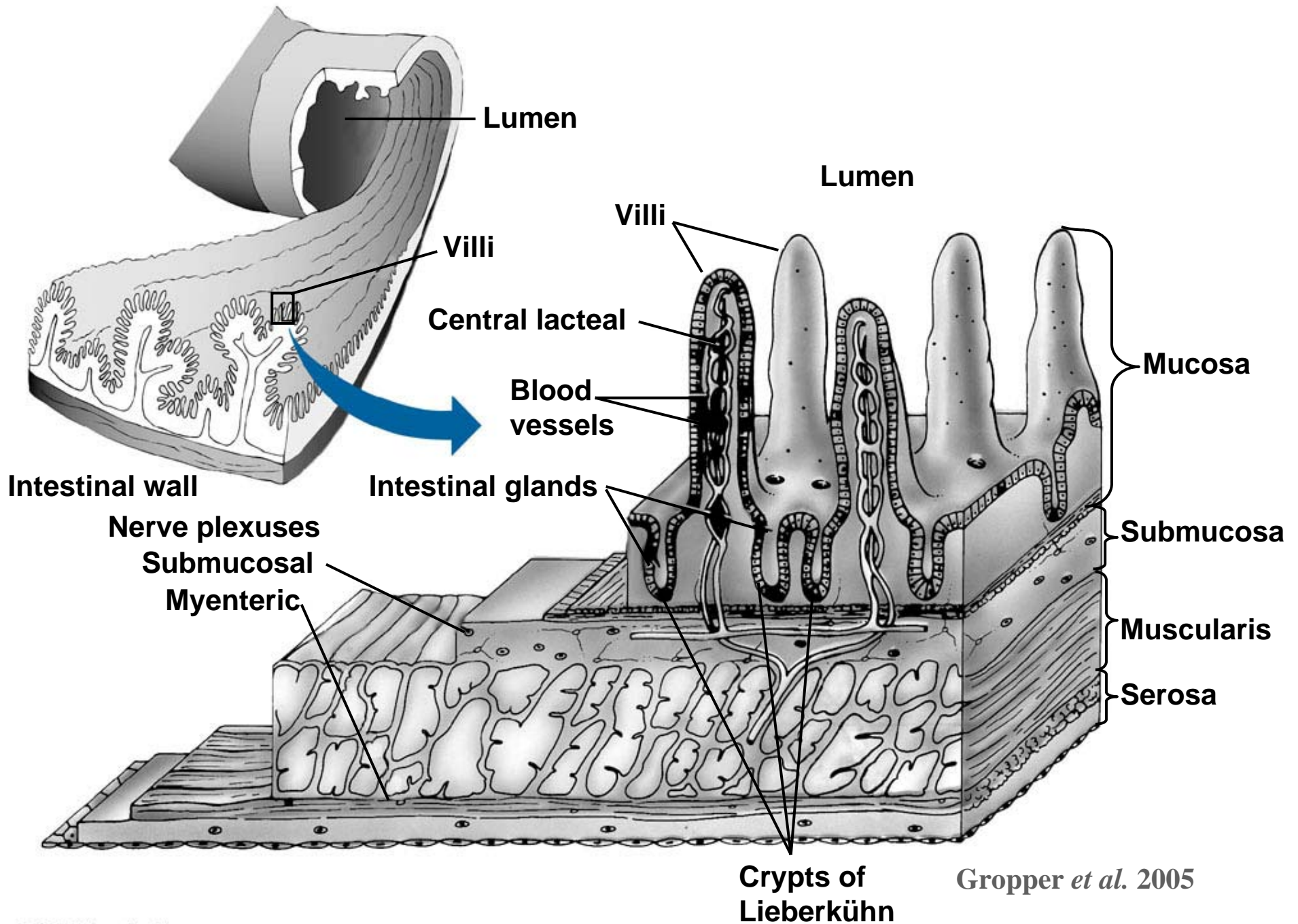
Gropper *et al.* 2005

Duct cells secrete aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solution  
 Acinar cells secrete digestive enzymes

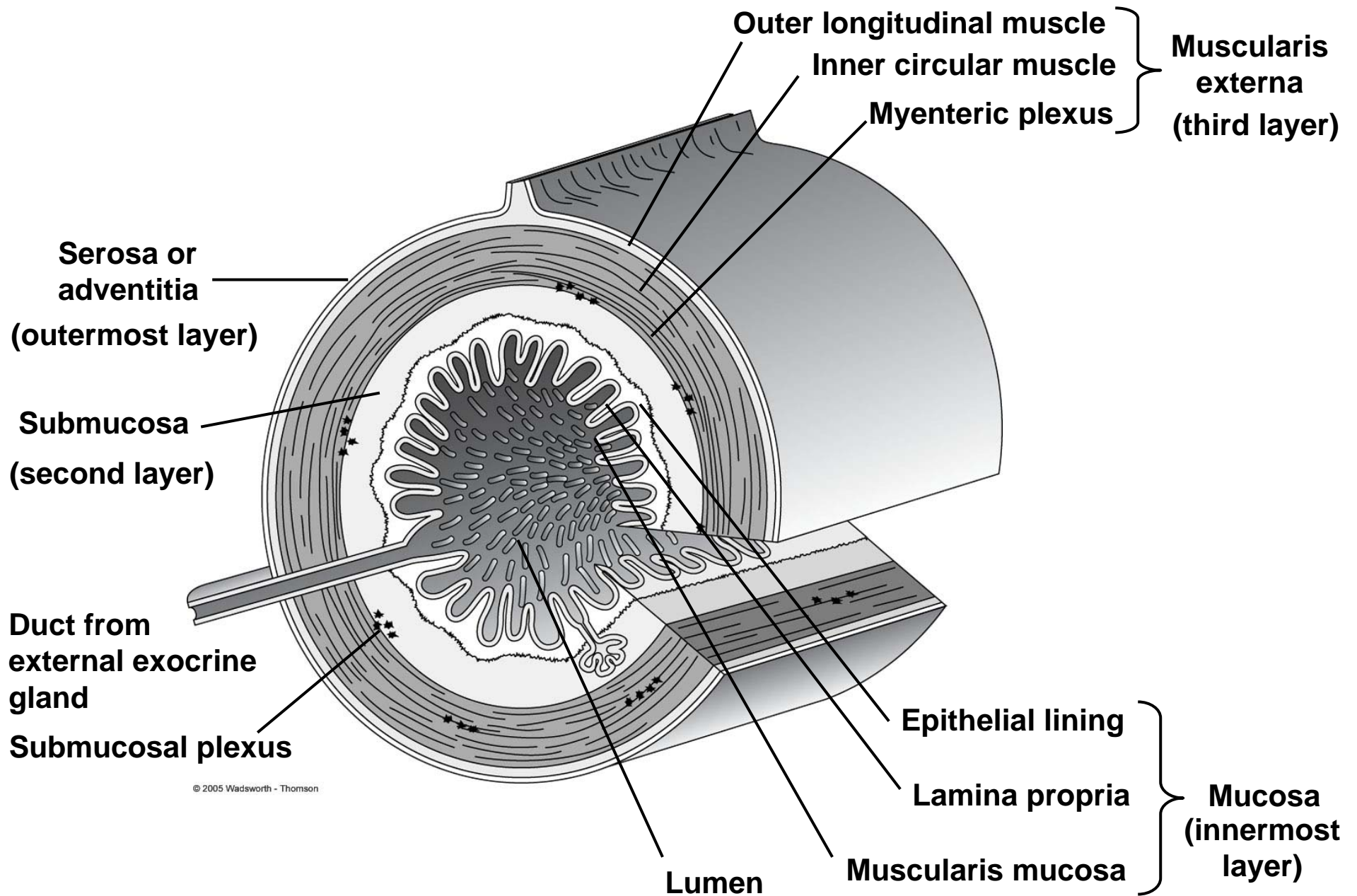
Exocrine portion of pancreas  
 acinar and duct cells

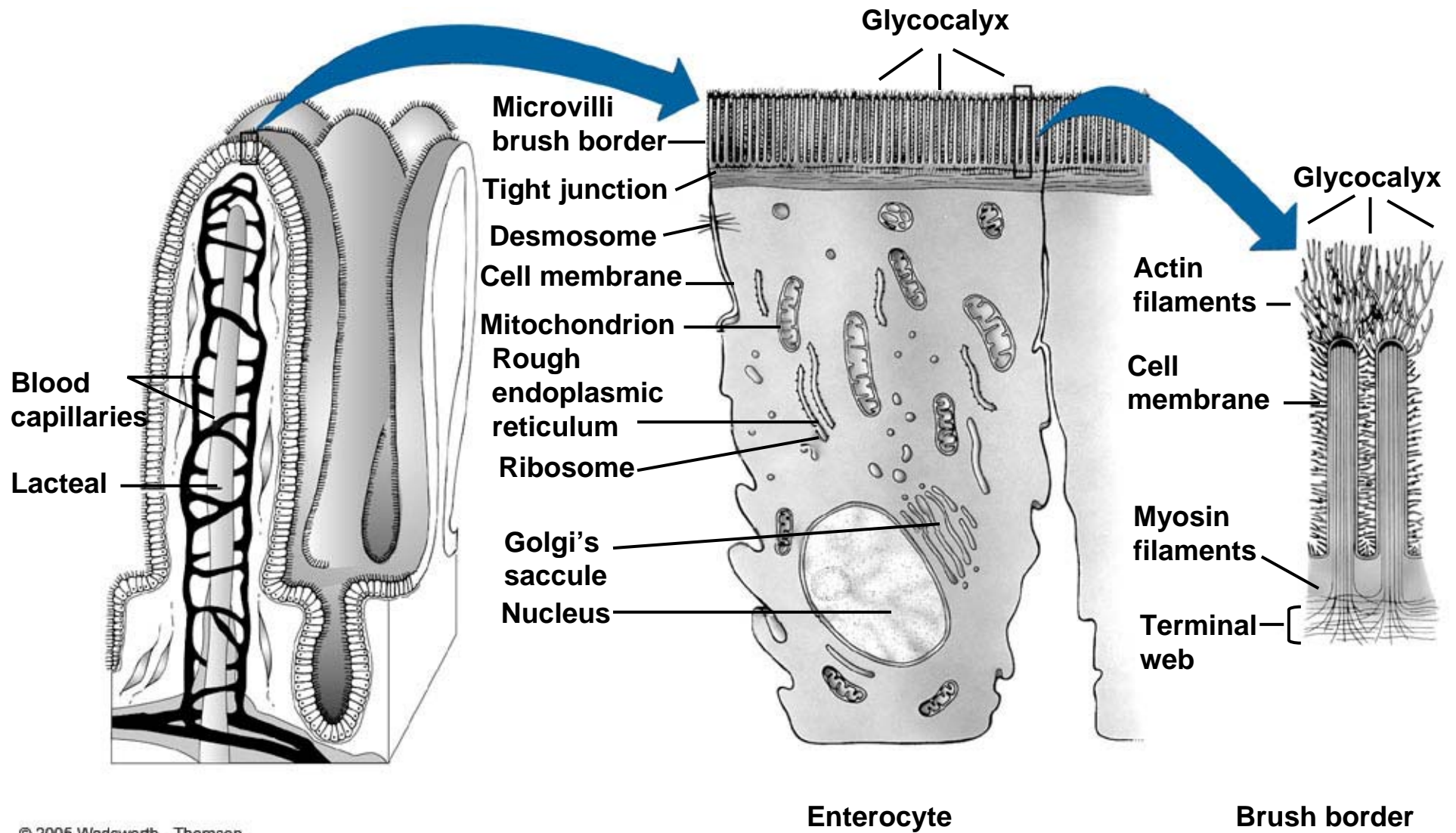
Endocrine portion  
 of pancreas  
 (Islets of Langerhans)

The glandular portions of  
 the pancreas are grossly  
 exaggerated. 9



Gropper *et al.* 2005





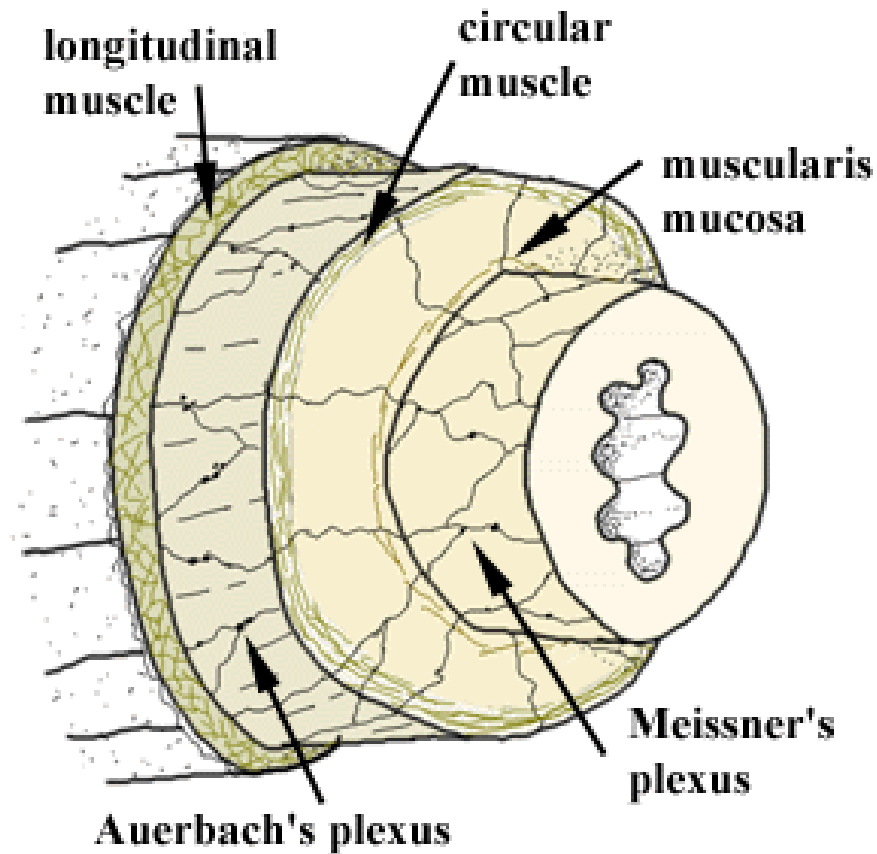
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# Neural regulation

- begins in esophagus and ends to anus

(1) neural plexuses

(2) reflexes



# Nerve plexus

- **submucosal nerve plexus:**  
in **submucosa**
- **myenteric nerve plexus:**  
between **circular muscles** and **longitudinal muscles**  
control **peristaltic** activity
- **sympathetic nerve**  
secrete **norepinephrine, epinephrine** ( $\ominus$  GI motility)
- **parasympathetic nerve (vagus nerve) :**  
secrete **acetylcholine** ( $\oplus$  GI motility)

# Reflex

- **enterogastric reflex:**  
origin from **intestine**  
⊖ gastric motility and secretion
- **colonoileal reflex:**  
origin from **colon**  
⊖ emptying of contents of ileum into colon

# Oral cavity and salivary gland

- **salivary glands:**

parotid gland

sublingual

submaxillary or submandibular gland

- **functions:**

secrete H<sub>2</sub>O, electrolytes, enzymes, mucus, antibodies

mucus: contains **glycoproteins** (i.e. mucin)

lubricate food and protect oral mucosa

antibodies: immunoglobulin A (**IgA**)

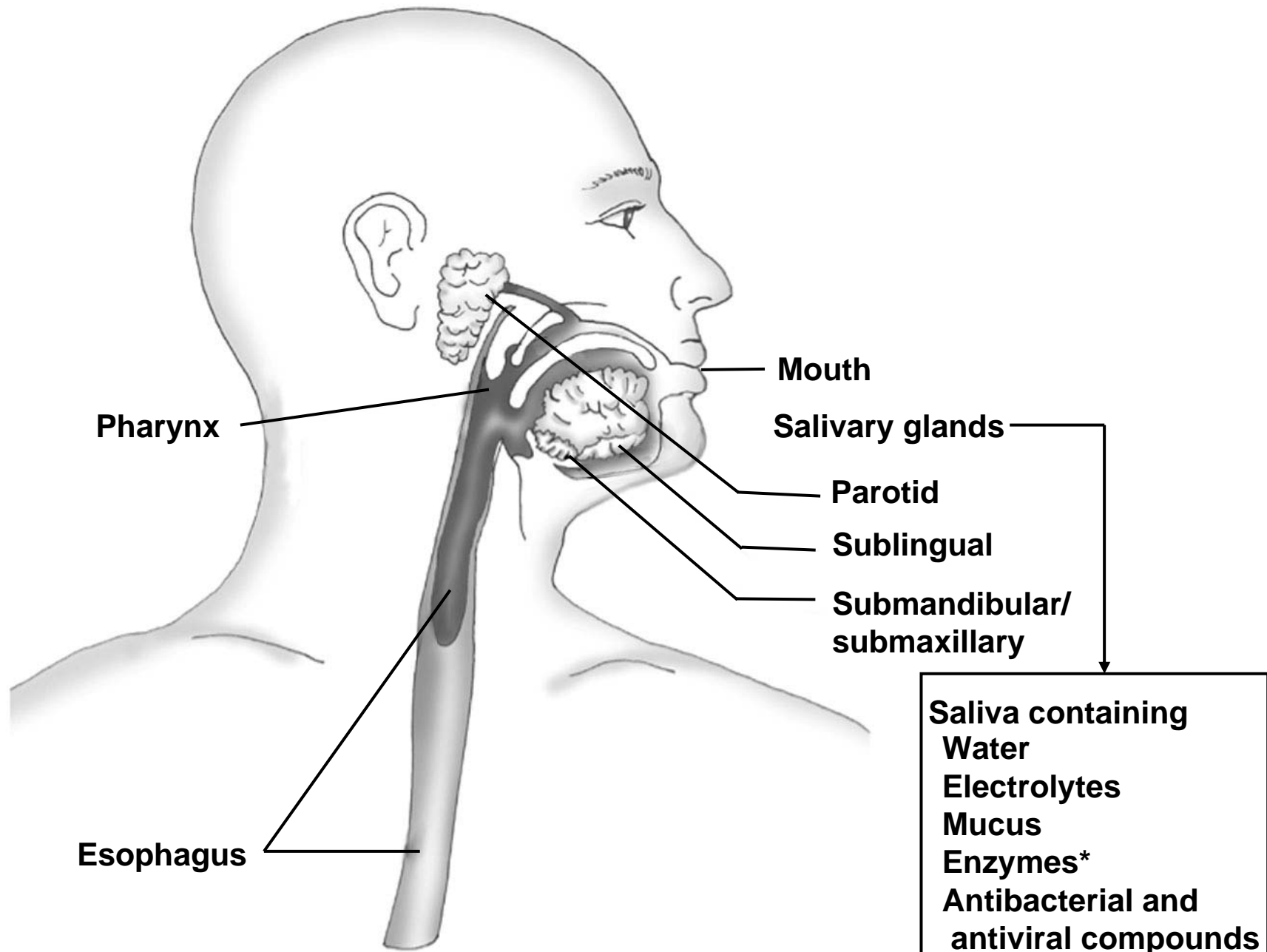
**α-amylase (ptyalin)**: cleaves **α1-4** bonds within starch

**lingual lipase**: produced by lingual serous gland

hydrolyzes dietary TG in stomach and intestine

important in infants





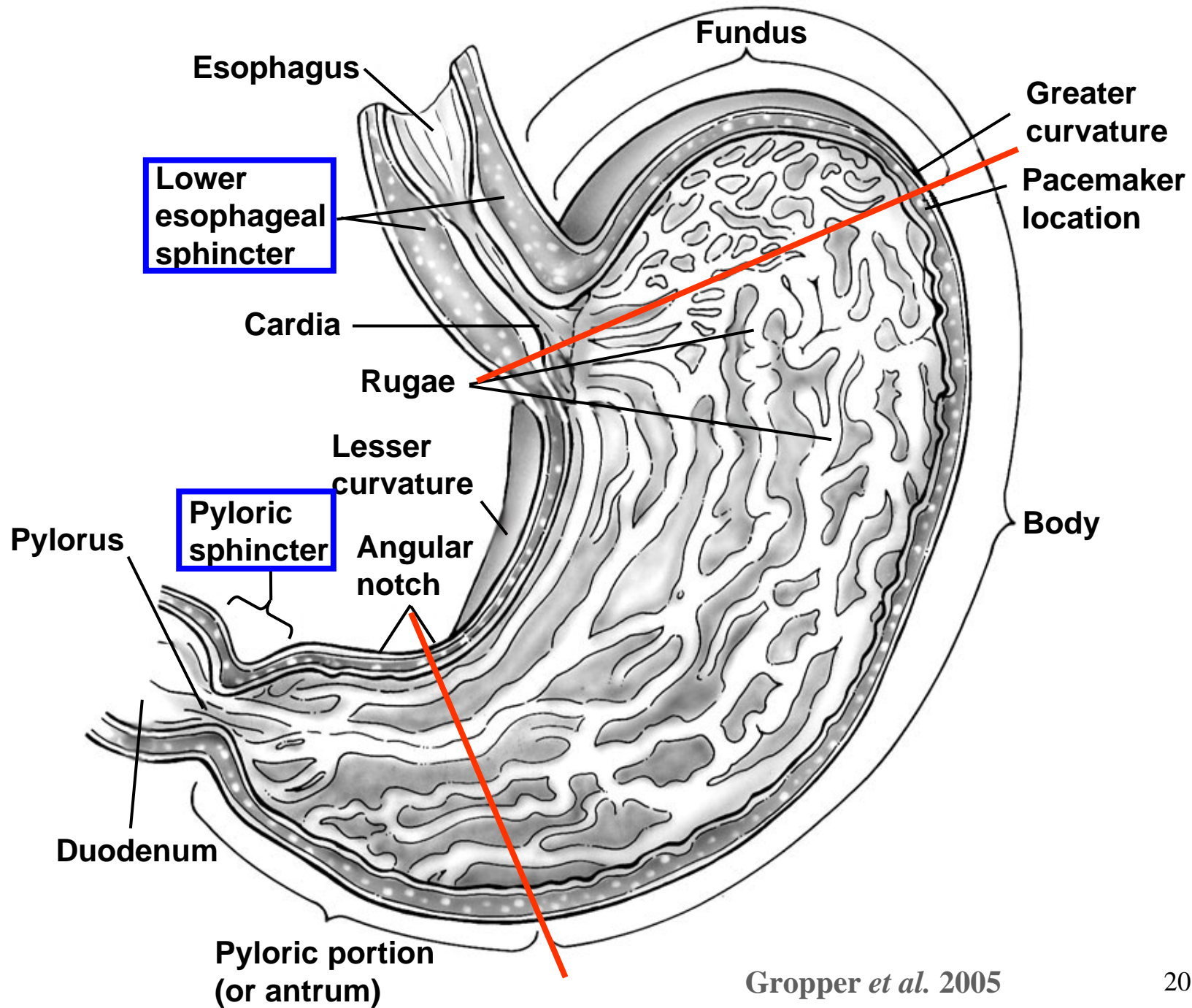
\*Main enzyme in saliva is **salivary amylase**, which hydrolyzes  $\alpha$  1-4 bonds in starch

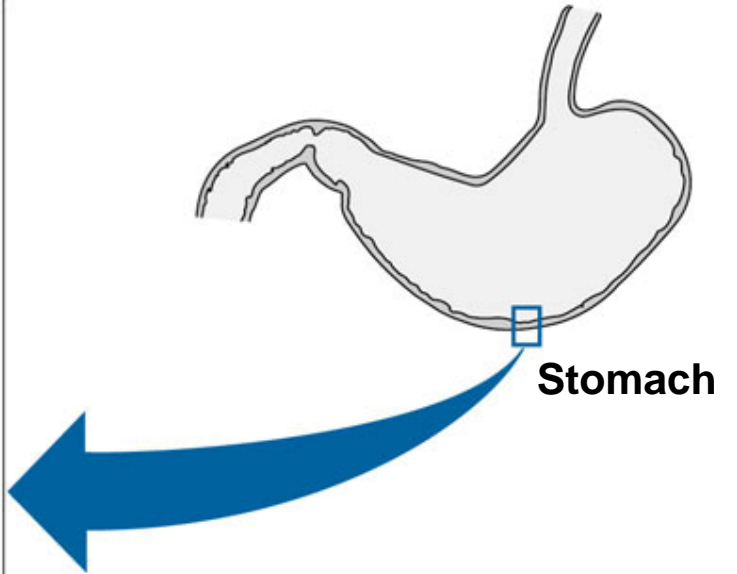
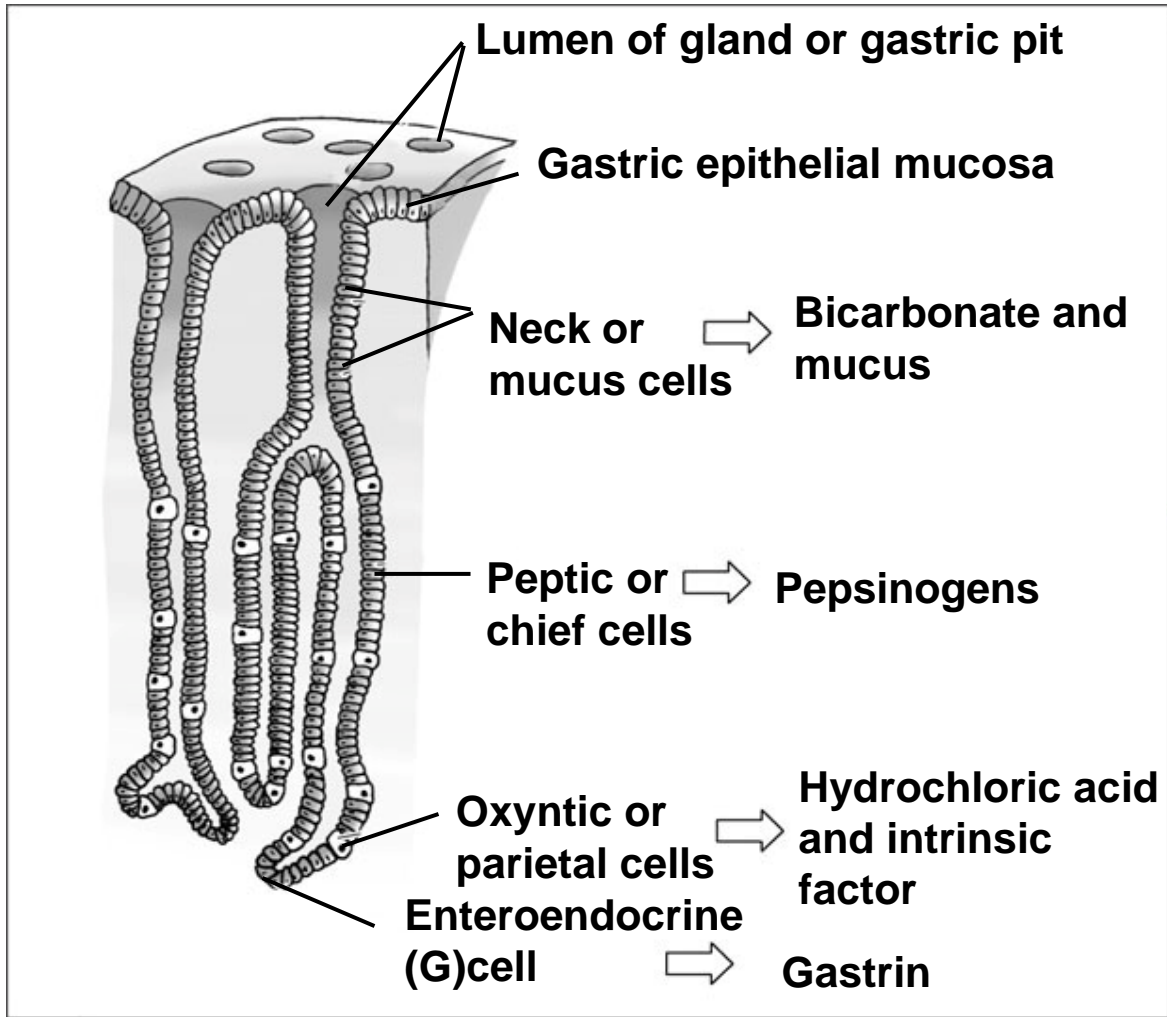
# Esophagus

- striated muscles of upper portion (1/3)
- smooth muscles of distal portion (1/3)
- parasympathetic nerve stimulates peristalsis
- normally lower esophageal sphincter (LES) pressure > intragastric pressure
- swallowing → ↓ LES pressure → relax sphincter
- LES ↑ tonic pressure to prevent gastroesophageal reflux
- smoking, chocolate, high fat, alcohol, peppermint  
↑ relaxation of LES (↓ LES pressure) → heartburn

# Stomach

- **structure: fundus, body (3/4 stomach), antrum**
- **pH: 1.8~3.5, emptying volume: 50 mL, filled v.: 1~1.5 L**
- **gastric glands:**
  - cardiac gland (in fundus)**
    - mucus (or neck) cells: secrete bicarbonate, mucus**
    - endocrine cells: secrete hormones**
  - oxyntic gland (in body)**
    - mucus (or neck) cells**
    - endocrine cells**
    - parietal (oxyntic) cells: secrete HCl, intrinsic factor**
    - chief (peptic or zymogenic) cells: secrete pepsinogen**
  - pyloric gland (in antrum)**
    - mucus cells**
    - parietal cells**
    - endocrine G cells: secrete gastrin**





# Stomach

- **gastric juice:**

**H<sub>2</sub>O, electrolytes, hydrochloric acid (HCl), enzymes, mucus, intrinsic factor**

- **HCl:**

**activate inactive proenzymes (zymogens) pepsinogen  $\xrightarrow{\text{HCl}^{\oplus}}$  pepsin**

**denature proteins (destruction of secondary and tertiary structure)**

**release nutrients from organic complexes**

**bactericide**

- **gastric lipase: hydrolyzes 10~30% of dietary triacylglycerol**

- **absorption:**

**H<sub>2</sub>O, a few fat-soluble drugs (ethyl alcohol, aspirin), a few minerals (Cu<sup>++</sup>, iodide, F<sup>-</sup>, molybdenum)**

# Stomach

- ⊕ pepsinogen secreted by chief cells:  
acetylcholine (from vagus nerve)  
acid
- ⊕ HCl secreted by parietal cells: secretagogue  
acetylcholine (from vagus nerve)

gastrin ← ⊕

histamine

alcohol

coffee

calcium

gastrin-releasing peptide (GRP; bombesin)

↑ [epinephrine] in blood

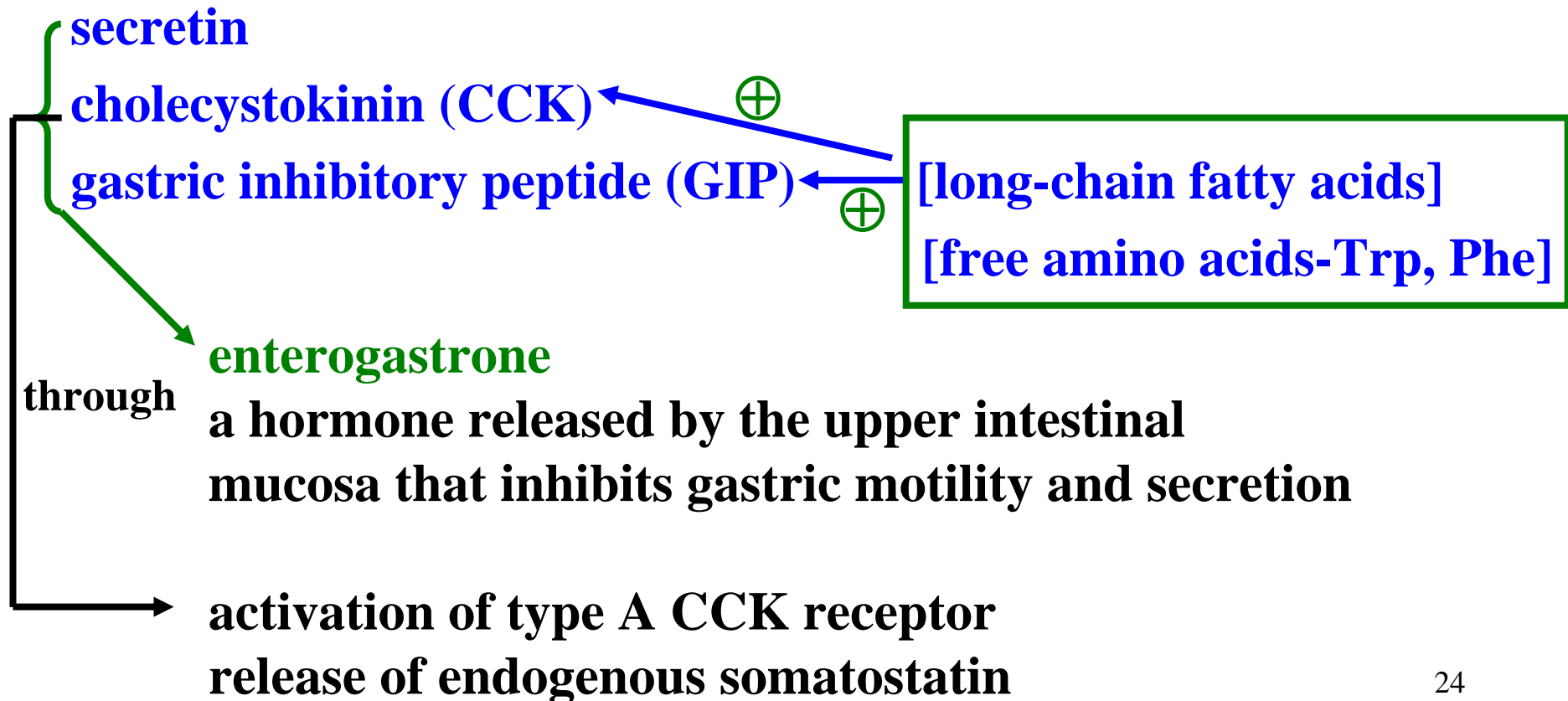
↑ [amino acids or peptides] in gastric lumen

# Stomach

- $\ominus$  HCl secreted by parietal cells:

acidification (pH < 2)

somatostatin  $\rightarrow$   $\ominus$  gastrin secretion  $\rightarrow$   $\ominus$  HCl secretion





# Stomach

- **gastric emptying:**
  - response of antrum to signals**
  - osmolarity of chyme in duodenum**
  - volume of chyme in duodenum**
- **emptying rate:**
  - carbohydrate and protein: at the same rate**
  - fat **slows** gastric emptying ( $\oplus$ GIP, CCK)**
  - salts, monosaccharides, free amino acids (Trp, Phe),**
  - soluble fiber  $\ominus$  gastric emptying**

# Small intestine

- duodenum (< 1 ft long), jejunum + ileum (9 ft long)
  - small intestine surface: 300 m<sup>2</sup>
  - goblet cells: secrete mucus
  - enterochromaffin cells: endocrine function
  - crypts: continuously undergo mitosis, secrete fluid (reabsorbed by villi)
  - duodenum is protected from gastric activity by pancreatic secretions with buffering capacity
- mucus-containing secretion: pH 8.0~9.3**
- bicarbonate release for neutralizing acid**

after reaching the top, the cells will be sloughed off into intestinal lumen and excreted in feces every 3-5 d

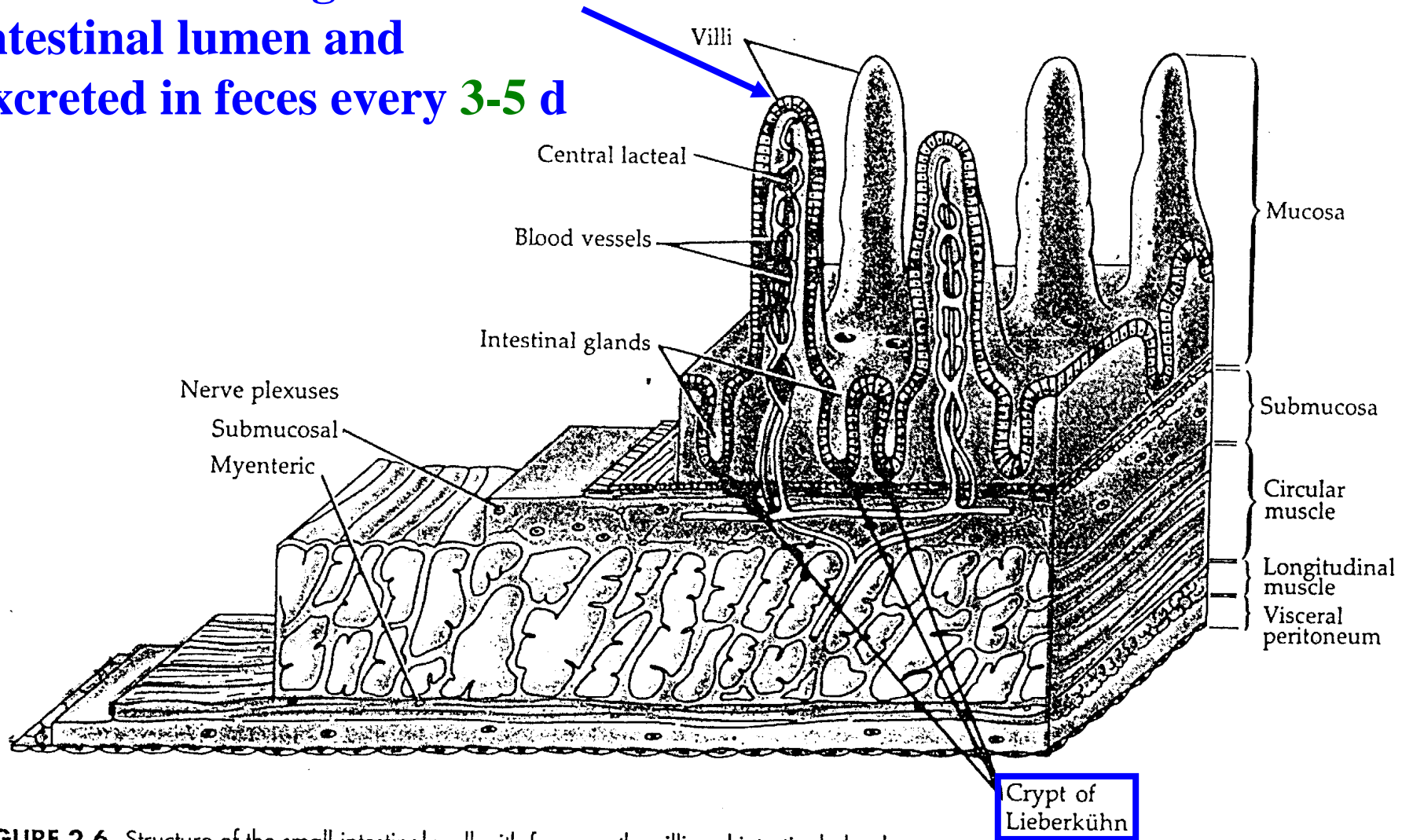


FIGURE 2.6 Structure of the small intestinal wall with focus on the villi and intestinal glands.

# Pancreas

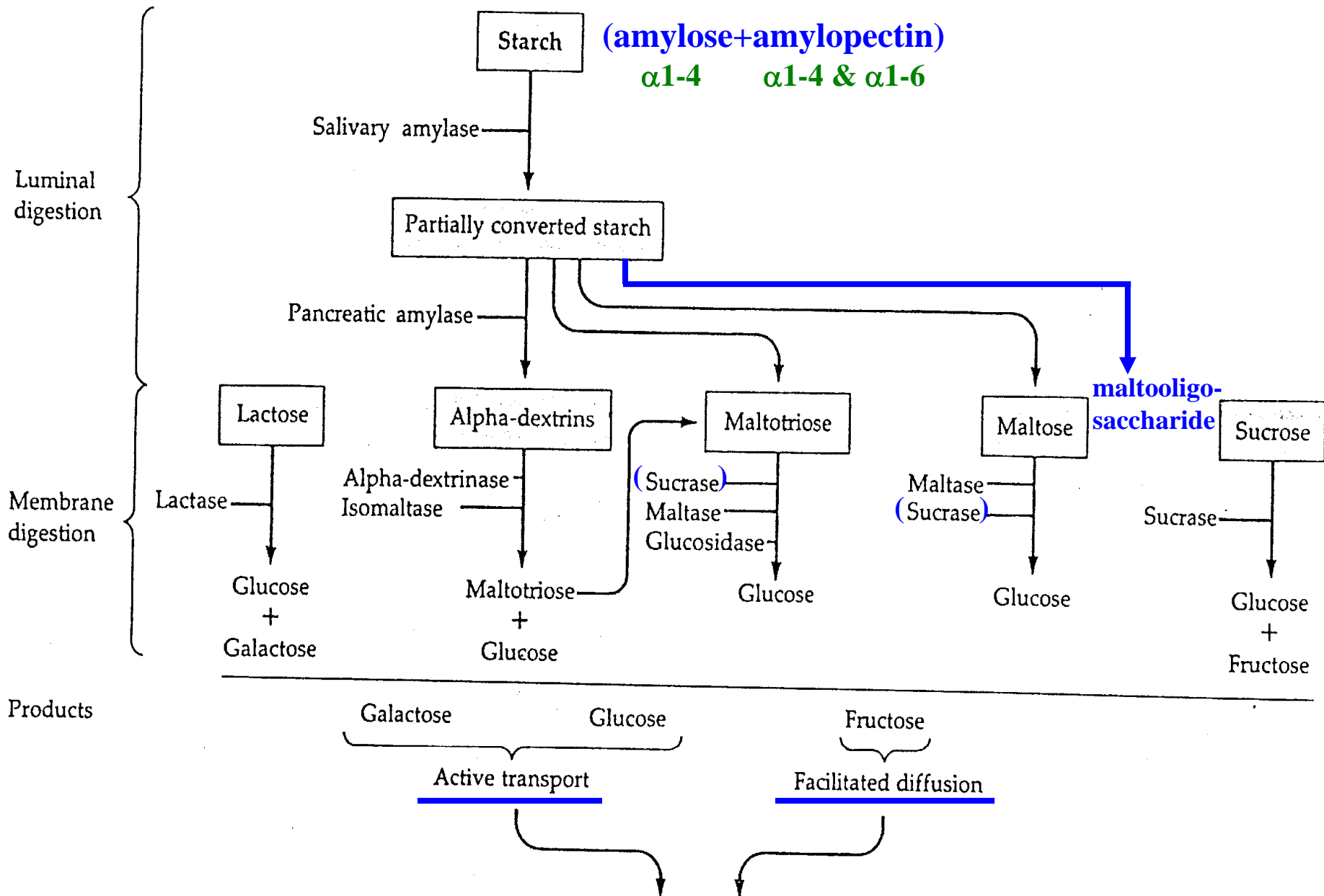
- **acini (ducted exocrine) tissue**  
**acinar cells: 82% by wt**  
**produces digestive enzymes (zymogens or enzymes)**
- **ductless endocrine tissue**  
**secretes hormones (insulin, glucagon)**  
**bicarbonate release for neutralizing acid**
- **zymogens (proenzymes):**  
**trypsinogen**  
**chymotrypsinogen**  
**procarboxypeptidase**  
**proelastase**  
**collagenase**

# Pancreas

- trypsinogen  $\xrightarrow{\text{enteropeptidase (enterokinase)}}$  trypsin
- $\text{CCK}^{\oplus}$   $\nearrow$
- chymotrypsinogen  $\xrightarrow{\text{enteropeptidase, trypsin}}$  chymotrypsin
- procarboxypeptidase  $\xrightarrow{\text{trypsin}}$  carboxypeptidase
- prophospholipase  $\xrightarrow{\text{trypsin}}$  phospholipase

# Carbohydrate digestion

- starch  $\xrightarrow{\text{pancreatic } \alpha\text{-amylase}}$  maltooligosaccharide (4~9 gluc)  
+ branched-chain  $\alpha$ -dextrin (5~9 gluc)  
+ maltotriose (3 gluc)  
+ maltose (2 gluc)
- maltooligosaccharide  $\xrightarrow{\text{glucoamylase}}$  glucose
- branched-chain  $\alpha$ -dextrin  $\xrightarrow[\text{(isomaltase)}]{\alpha\text{-dextrinase}}$  glucose + maltotriose
- maltotriose  $\xrightarrow[\text{(sucrase)}]{\text{glucosidase}}$  maltose + glucose
- maltose  $\xrightarrow[\text{(sucrase)}]{\text{maltase}}$  2 glucose



Groff and Gropper. 2000

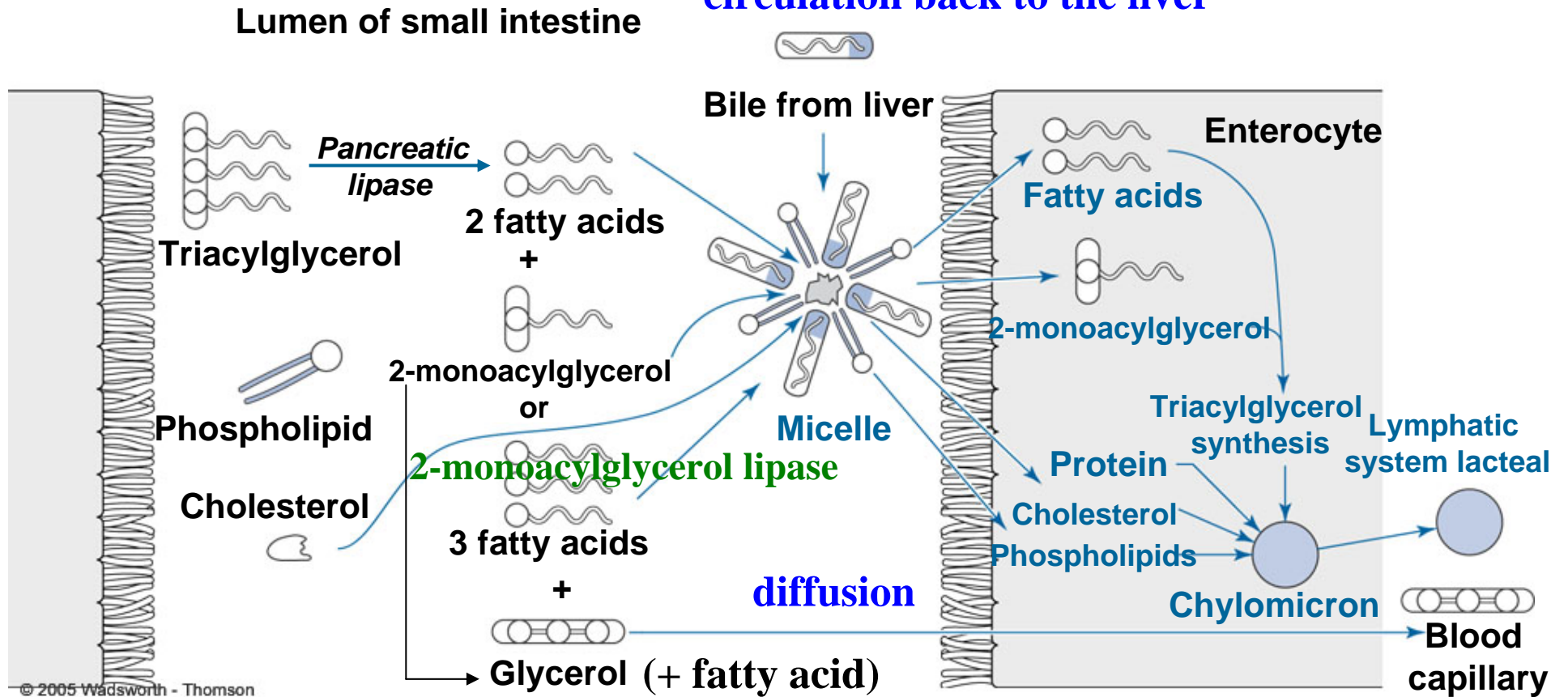
through brush border to absorptive cells  
via facilitated diffusion or diffusion to mucosal capillaries

# Lipid digestion

- triacylglycerol  $\xrightarrow[\text{colipase } \oplus]{\text{pancreatic lipase}}$  2-monoacylglycerol + 2 free fatty acids
- 2-monoacylglycerol  $\xrightarrow{\text{2-monoacylglycerol lipase}}$  glycerol + free fatty acid
- cholesterol ester  $\xrightarrow[\text{bile is needed for its activity}]{\text{cholesterol esterase}}$  cholesterol + free fatty acid



through enterohepatic  
circulation back to the liver



Gropper *et al.* 2005

# Protein digestion

- pancreatic proteases hydrolyze peptide bond to form:  
**oligopeptide (4~10 amino acids)**

**tripeptide**

**dipeptide**

**free amino acid (aa)**      brush border

- **oligopeptide**  $\xrightarrow{\text{aminopeptidase}}$  **tripeptide** + **dipeptide** + **aa**

brush border or intracellular

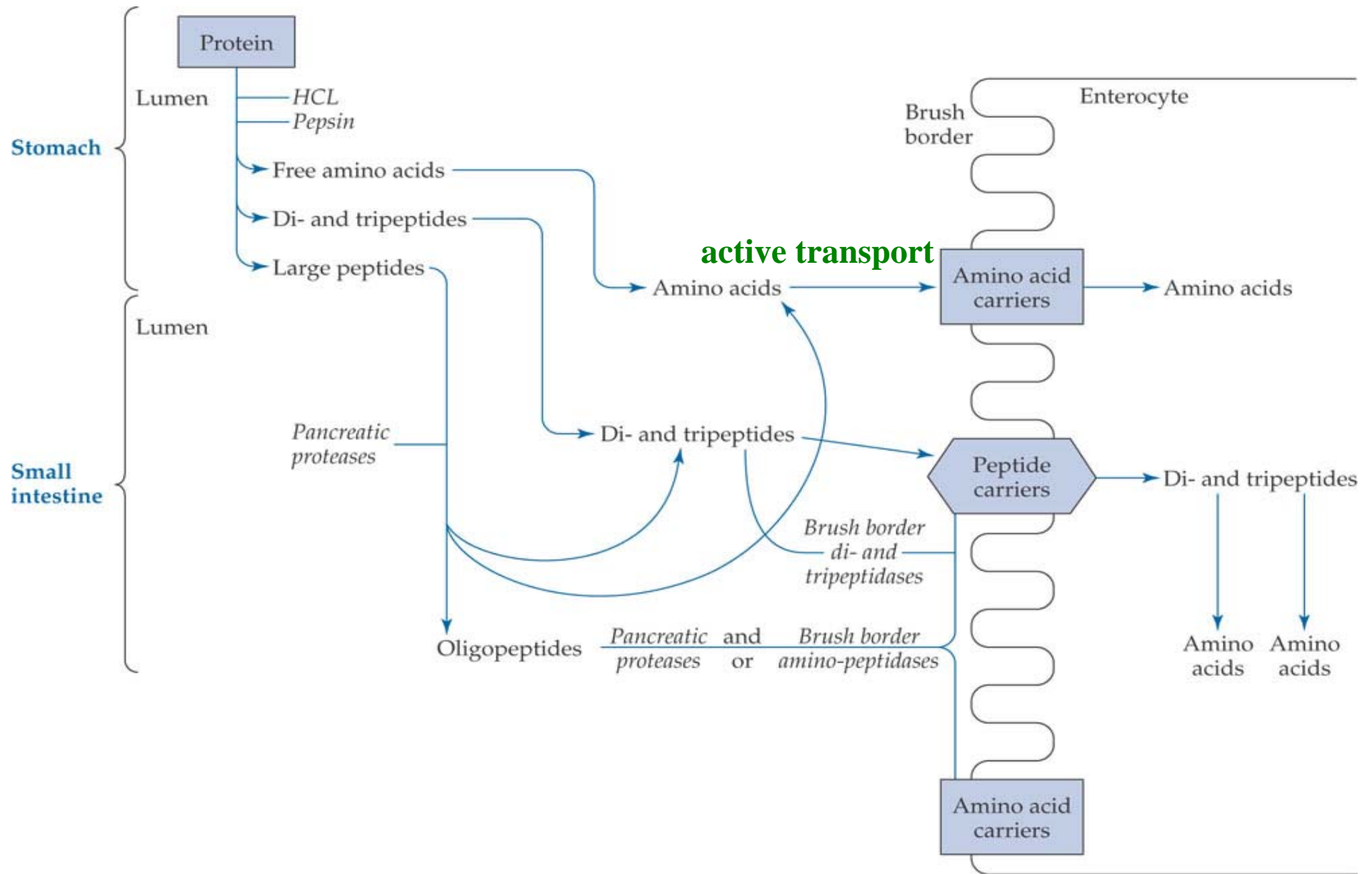
- **tripeptide**  $\xrightarrow{\text{tripeptidase}}$  **dipeptide** + **aa**

brush border or intracellular

- **dipeptide**  $\xrightarrow{\text{dipeptidase}}$  **2 aas**

- **67%** of aas are absorbed in the form of **small peptides**

**33%** of aas are absorbed in the form of **free amino acid**

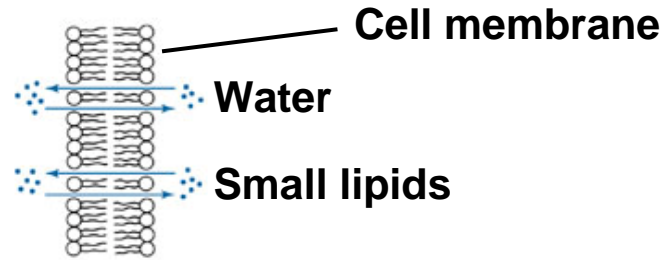


**Table 2.2** Digestive Enzymes and Their Actions

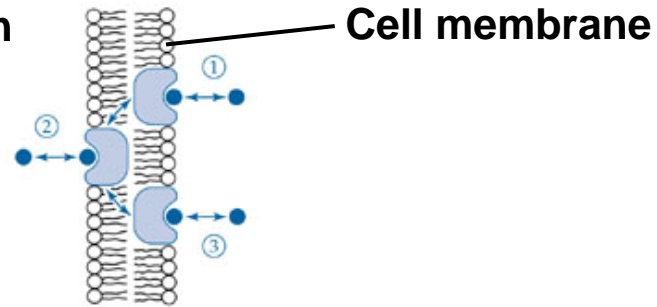
| Enzyme or Zymogen/Enzyme                   | Site of Secretion | Preferred Substrate(s)                            | Primary Site of Action   |
|--|-------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Salivary $\alpha$ amylase                  | Mouth             | $\alpha$ 1-4 bonds in starch, dextrins            | Mouth                    |
| Lingual lipase                             | Mouth             | Triacylglycerol                                   | Stomach, small intestine |
| Pepsinogen/pepsin                          | Stomach           | Carboxyl end of phe, tyr, trp, met, leu, glu, asp | Stomach                  |
| Trypsinogen/trypsin                        | Pancreas          | Carboxyl end of lys, arg                          | Small intestine          |
| Chymotrypsinogen/chymotrypsin              | Pancreas          | Carboxyl end of phe, tyr, trp, met, asn, his      | Small intestine          |
| Procarboxypeptidase/<br>carboxypeptidase A | Pancreas          | C-terminal neutral amino acids                    | Small intestine          |
| carboxypeptidase B                         | Pancreas          | C-terminal basic amino acids                      | Small intestine          |
| Proelastase/elastase                       | Pancreas          | Fibrous proteins                                  | Small intestine          |
| Collagenase                                | Pancreas          | Collagen  | Small intestine          |
| Ribonuclease                               | Pancreas          | Ribonucleic acids                                 | Small intestine          |
| Deoxyribonuclease                          | Pancreas          | Deoxyribonucleic acids                            | Small intestine          |
| Pancreatic $\alpha$ amylase                | Pancreas          | $\alpha$ 1-4 bonds, in starch, maltotriose        | Small intestine          |
| Pancreatic lipase and colipase             | Pancreas          | Triacylglycerol                                   | Small intestine          |
| Phospholipase                              | Pancreas          | Lecithin and other phospholipids                  | Small intestine          |
| Cholesterol esterase                       | Pancreas          | Cholesterol esters                                | Small intestine          |
| Retinyl ester hydrolase                    | Pancreas          | Retinyl esters                                    | Small intestine          |
| Amino peptidases                           | Small intestine   | N-terminal amino acids                            | Small intestine          |
| Dipeptidases                               | Small intestine   | Dipeptides  | Small intestine          |
| Nucleotidase                               | Small intestine   | Nucleotides                                       | Small intestine          |
| Nucleosidase                               | Small intestine   | Nucleosides                                       | Small intestine          |
| Alkaline phosphatase                       | Small intestine   | Organic phosphates                                | Small intestine          |
| Monoglyceride lipase                       | Small intestine   | Monoglycerides                                    | Small intestine          |
| Alpha dextrinase or isomaltase             | Small intestine   | $\alpha$ 1-6 bonds in dextrins, oligosaccharides  | Small intestine          |
| Glucoamylase, glucosidase, and sucrase     | Small intestine   | $\alpha$ 1-4 bonds in maltose, maltotriose        | Small intestine          |
| Trehalase                                  | Small intestine   | Trehalose   | Small intestine          |
| Disaccharidases                            | Small intestine   |   | Small intestine          |
| Sucrase*                                   |                   | Sucrose   |                          |
| Maltase                                    |                   | Maltose   |                          |
| Lactase                                    |                   | Lactose   |                          |

\*Part of an enzyme complex.

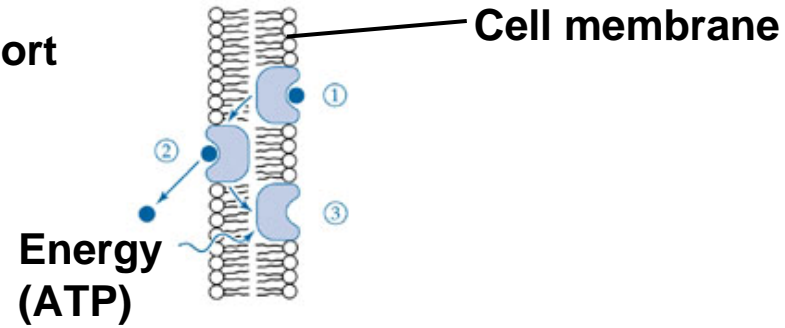
### Diffusion



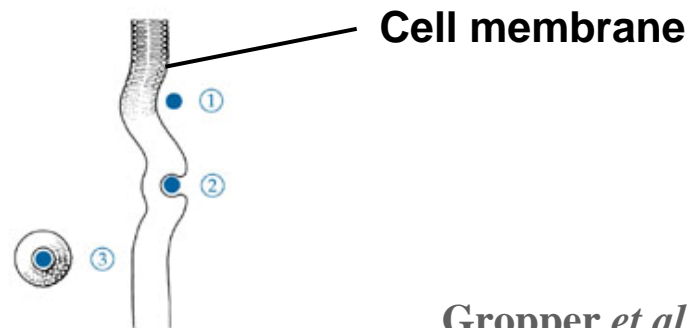
### Facilitated diffusion



### Active transport

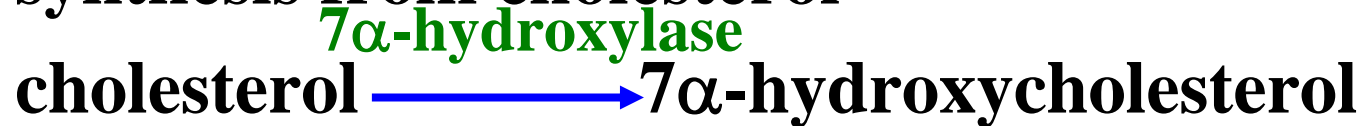


### Pinocytosis



# Bile acid

- synthesis from cholesterol



- primary bile acids (80%): synthesized in liver

cholic acid (-OH on 3, 7, 12) (40%)

chenodeoxycholic acid (-OH on 3, 7) (40%)

conjugated with glycine, taurine: improve ability to form micelles

glycocholic acid, taurocholic acid (75%:25%)

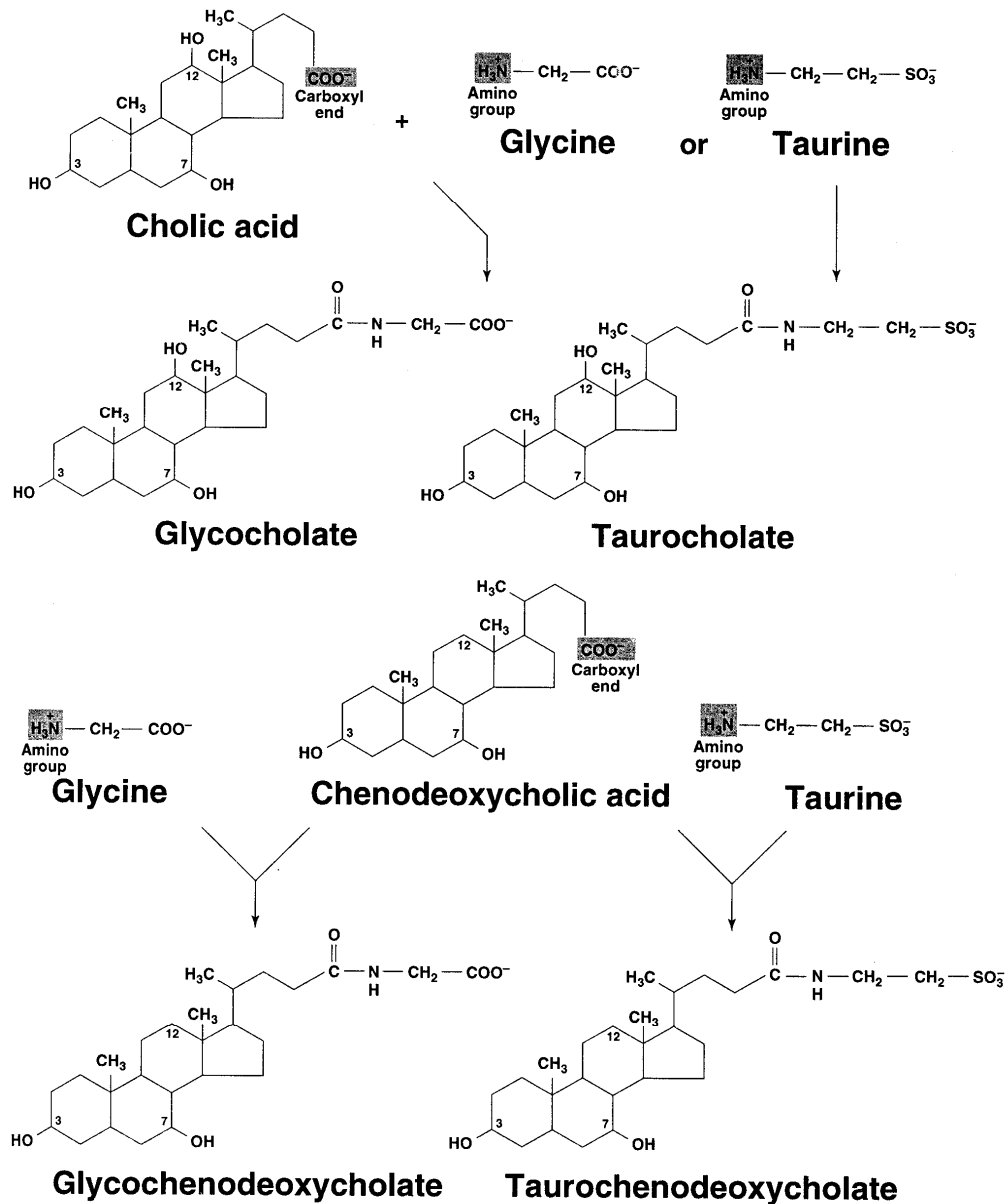
glycochenodeoxycholic acid, taurochenodeoxycholic acid (75%:25%)

# Bile acid

- **secondary bile acids (20%): synthesized through bacterial **deconjugation** and **dehydroxylation** by **7-dehydroxylase** in colon**

**cholic acid**  $\longrightarrow$  **deoxycholic acid** (-OH on 3, 12) can be reabsorbed

**chenodeoxycholic acid**  $\longrightarrow$  **lithocholic acid** (-OH on 3) excreted in feces  $\longrightarrow$  **0.5 g bile salt/d** in feces



*The Formation of Glycocholate, Taurocholate, Glycochenodeoxycholate, and Taurochenodeoxycholate Conjugated Bile Acids*

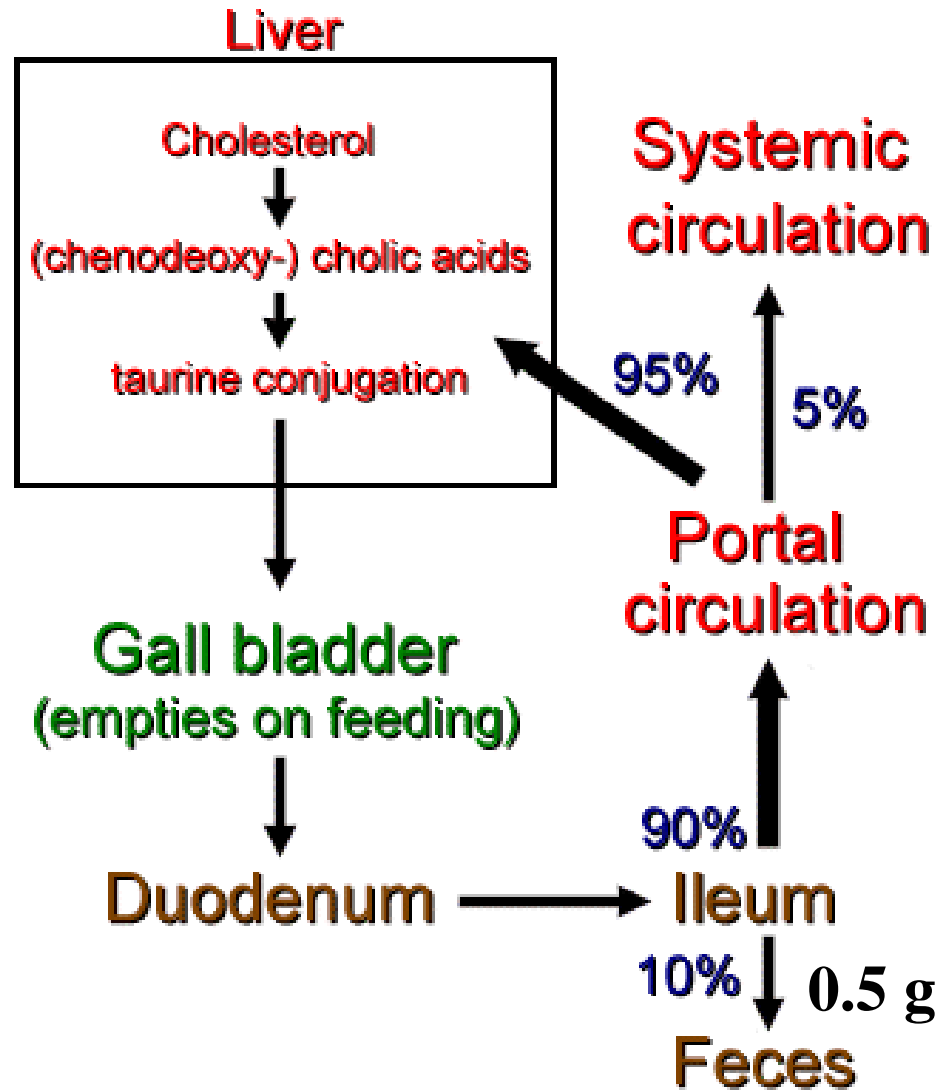
Groff and Gropper. 2000



# Enterohepatic circulation

- **90%** bile acids are reabsorbed by **active transport**
- **→ ileum → portal vein → attach to albumin → liver → cystic duct → gallbladder for storage**
- **recycle twice per meal**
- **10 times/day**
- **20-30 g bile acids entering and leaving SI/day**

# Circulation of Bile Acids



**Table 2.1** Actions of Selected Regulatory Peptides

| Action   | Hormones       |                |          |     |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|-----|
|  | Gastrin        | CCK            | Secretin | GIP |
| Acid secretion                                     | S*             | <del>S</del> I | I*       | I*  |
| Gastric emptying                                   | <del>I</del> S | I              | I*       | I   |
| Pancreatic HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> secretion | S              | S*             | S*       | O   |
| Pancreatic enzyme secretion                        | S              | S*             | S        | O   |
| Gallbladder contraction                            | S              | S*             | S        | ?   |
| Gastric motility                                   | S              | I              | I        | I   |
| Intestinal motility                                | S              | <del>S</del> I | I        | ?   |
| Insulin release                                    | S              | S              | S        | S*  |
| Mucosal growth                                     | S*             | S              | I        | ?   |
| Pancreatic growth                                  | S              | S*             | S*       | ?   |

# Cholecystokinin (CCK)

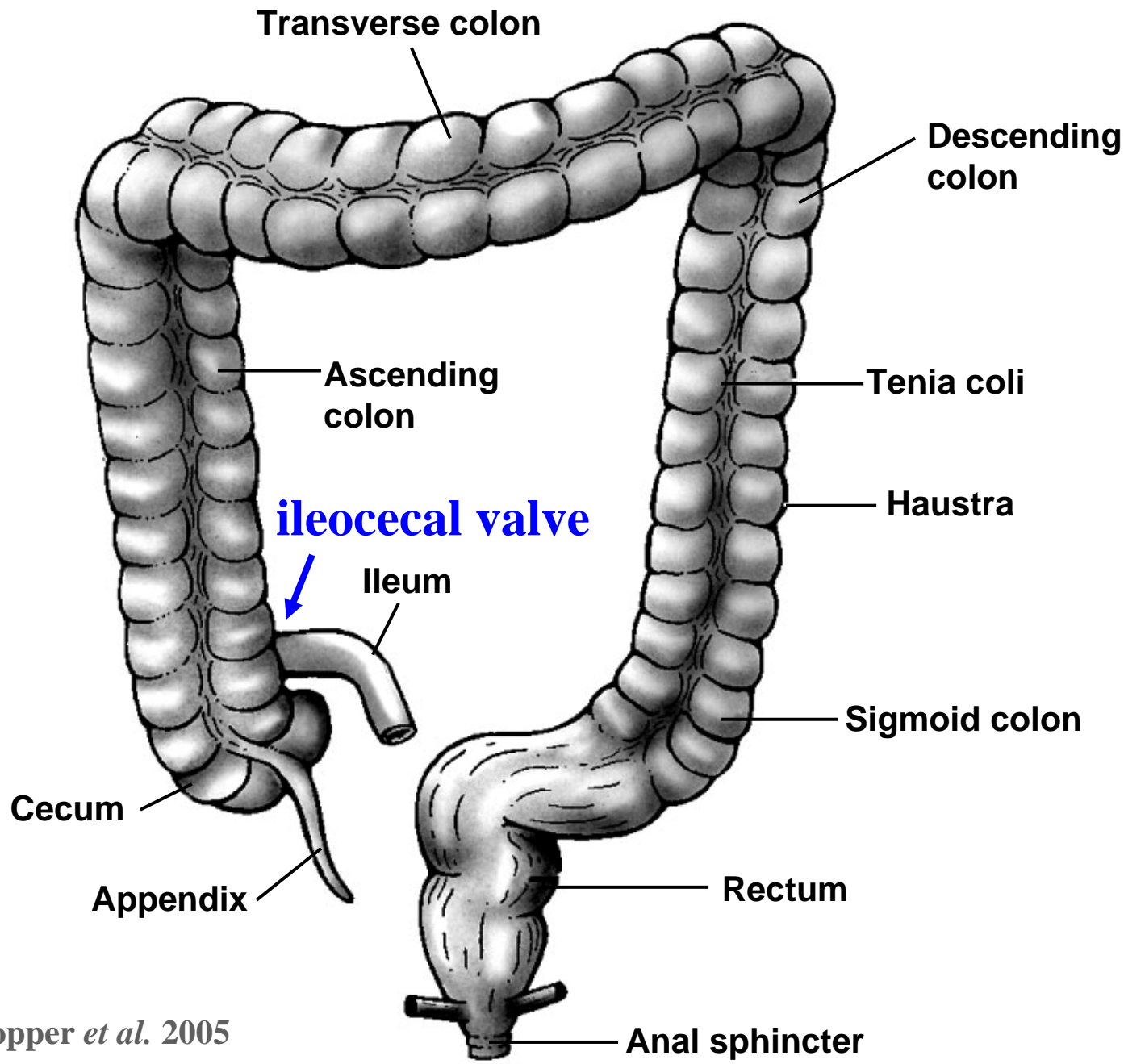
- + **gallbladder** contraction and **bile**  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion
- + the contraction of **pyloric sphincter**
- + **satiety**
- + **mucosal** and **pancreatic** growth
- + the secretion of **pancreatic** juice ( $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) and enzymes into duodenum
- + **pancreatic** insulin release
- – **intestinal** motility
- – **gastric** motility
- – **gastric** emptying
- – the secretion of **gastric acid**

# Secretin

- + **gallbladder** contraction and **bile**  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  secretion
- + **pancreatic** growth
- + the secretion of **pancreatic** juice ( $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) and enzymes into duodenum
- + **pancreatic** insulin release
- – **mucosal** growth
- – **intestinal** motility
- – **gastric** motility
- – **gastric** emptying
- – the secretion of **gastric acid**

# Gastric inhibitory peptide (GIP)

- + **intestinal** secretion
- + **pancreatic** insulin release
- – **gastric** motility
- – **gastric** emptying
- – the secretion of **gastric acid**
- – **gastrin** release
- – the response of **parietal cells** to gastrin

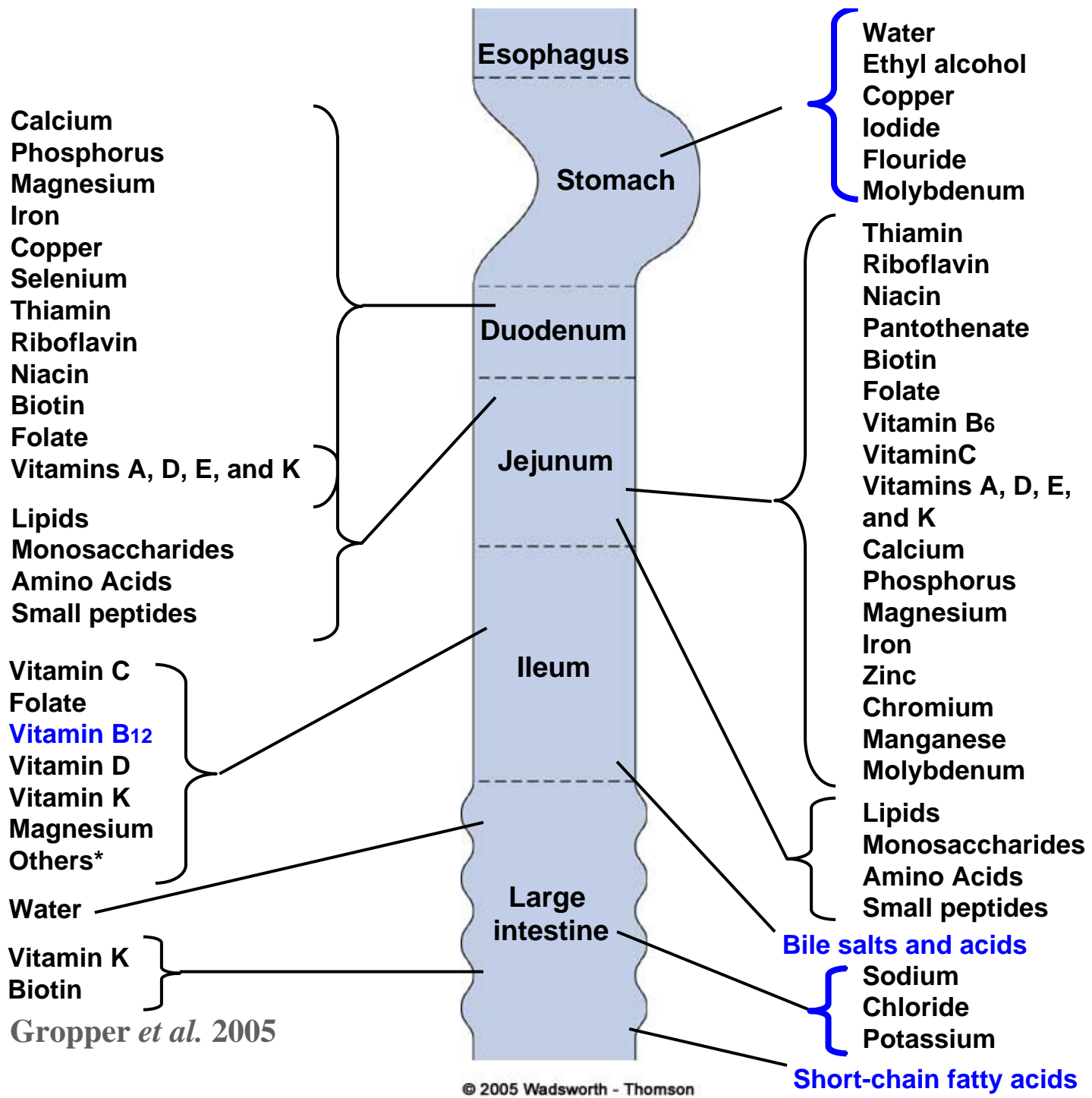


Gropper *et al.* 2005

# Fermentation

- **colonic bacterial action on unabsorbed carbohydrate**
- **production of lactate**
- **production of short-chain (volatile) fatty acids**
- **acetate (2C), propionate (3C), butyrate (4C)**
- **production of gases**
- **methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>), H<sub>2</sub>S, CO<sub>2</sub>**





Gropper et al. 2005

# Summary

- **Various mechanisms in the GI tract that allow food to be ingested, digested, and absorbed and its residue to be excreted reveals the complexity of the digestion and absorption processes.**
- **Many factors, including nervous, endocrine, and circulatory systems, affect and regulate digestion and absorption.**
- **The integrity and regulatory mechanisms must be coordinated to maintain normal functions of the GI tract.**