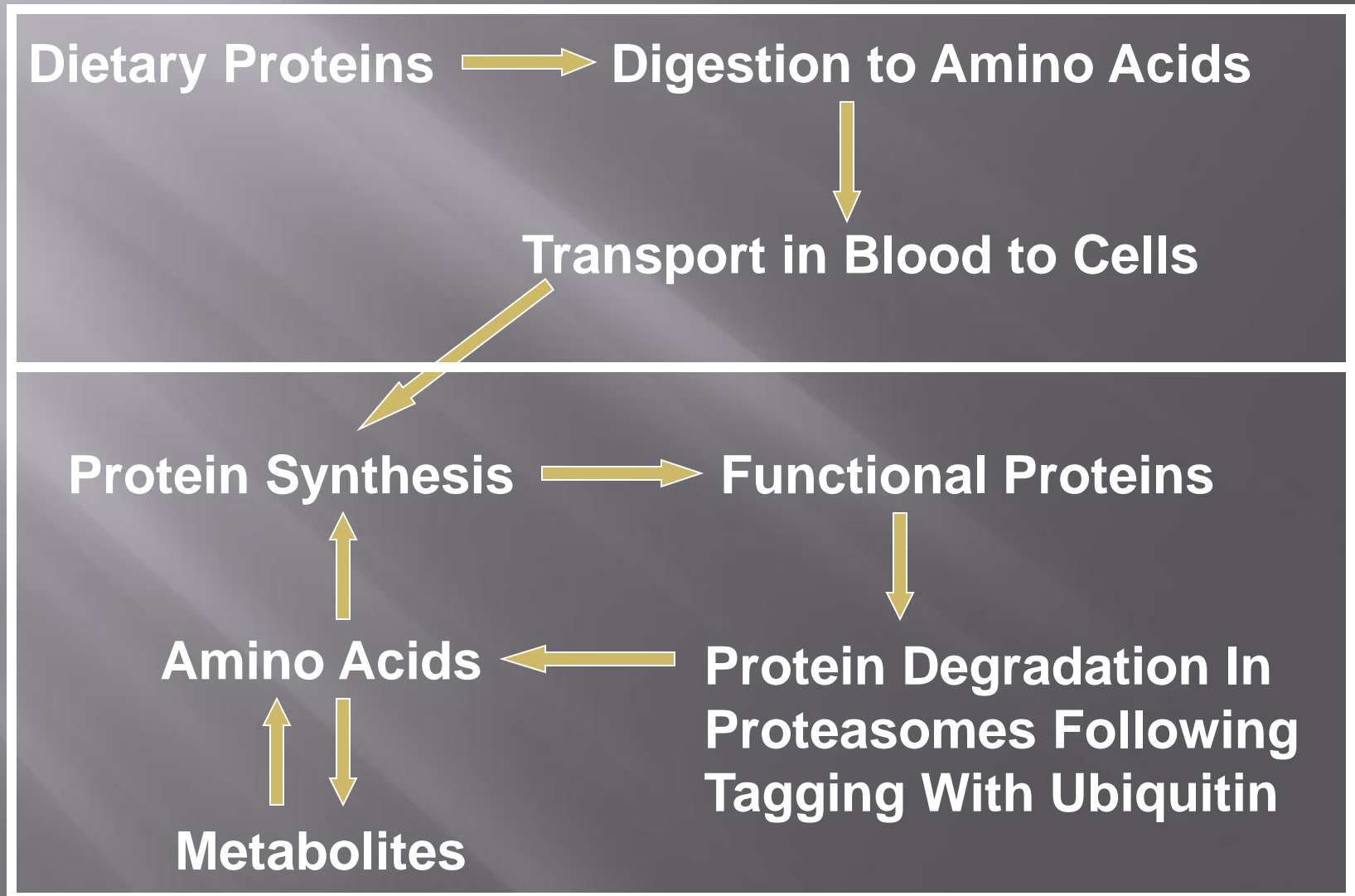


بیوشیمی عمومی
گروه علوم دامی دانشکده کشاورزی دانشگاه یاسوج
دکتر مختار خواجوی

AMINO ACID METABOLISM

Dynamics of Protein And Amino Acid Metabolism



Digestion of Proteins

Stomach: Pepsinogen  Pepsin (max. act. pH 2)

Small Intestine: Trypsinogen  Trypsin
Enteropeptidase

Trypsin cleaves:

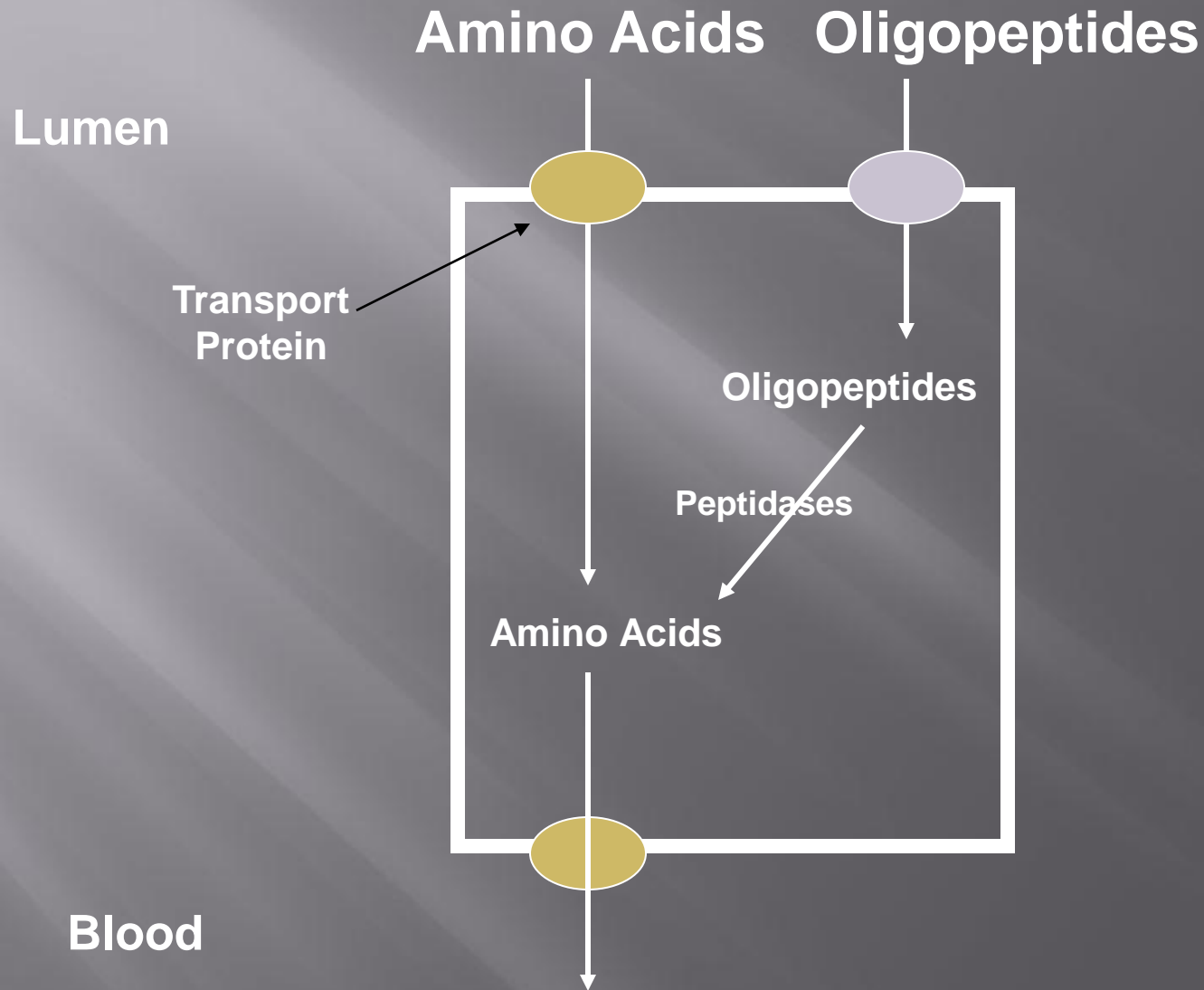
Chymotrypsinogen to chymotrypsin

Proelastase to elastase

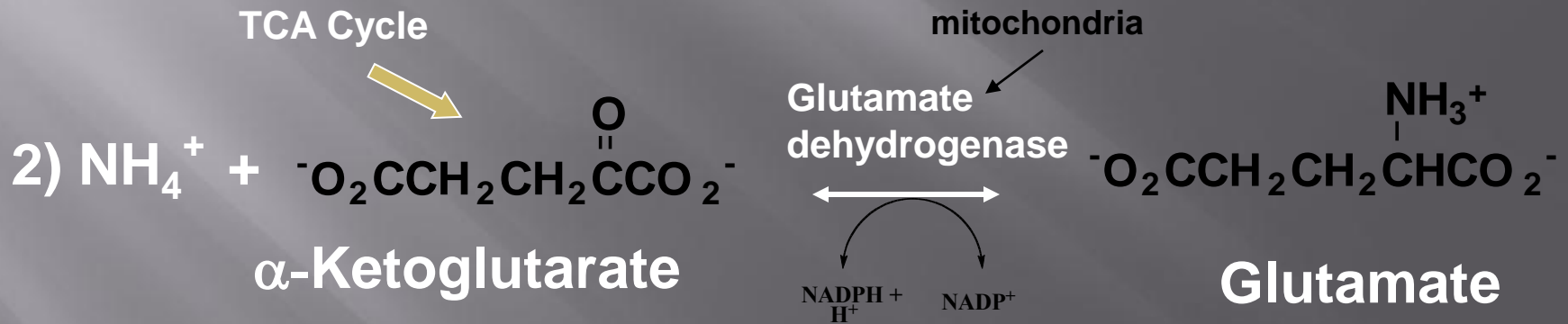
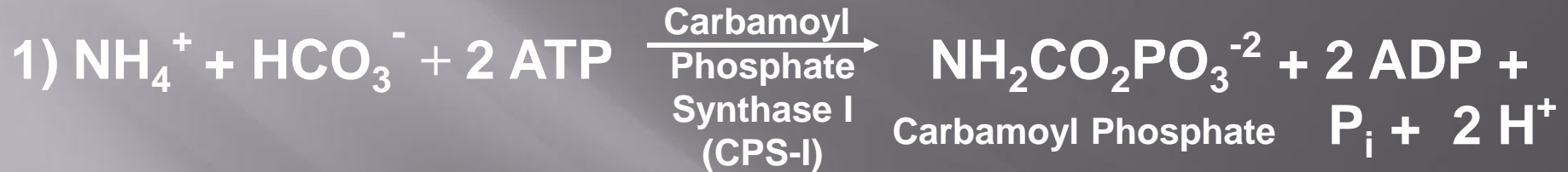
Procarboxypeptidase to carboxypeptidase

Aminopeptidases (from intestinal epithelia)

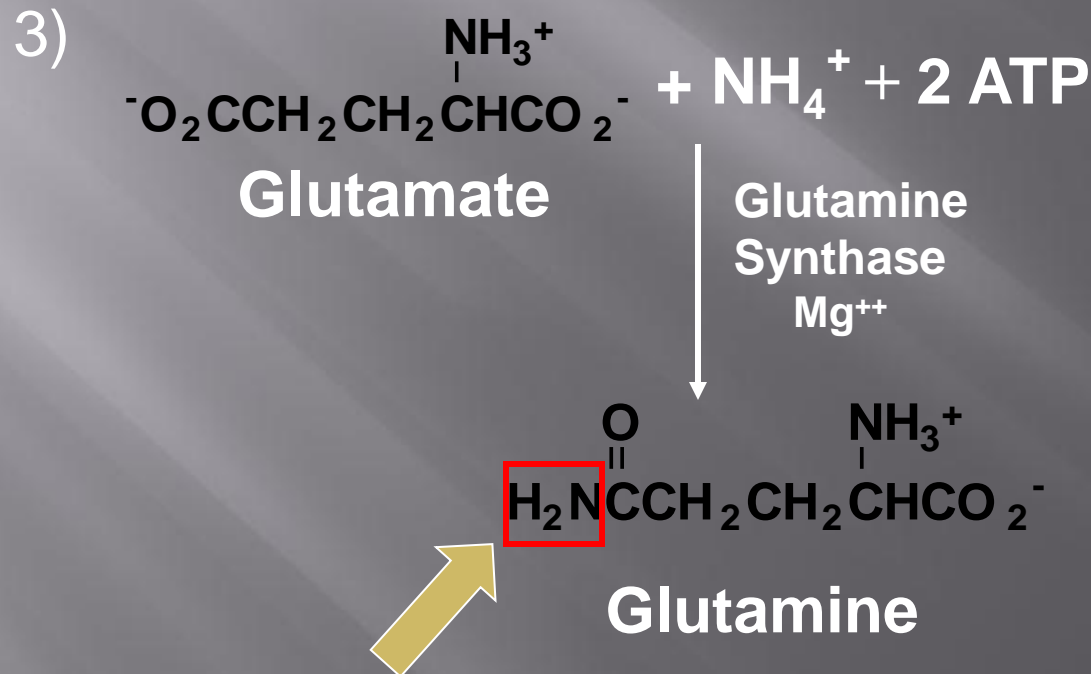
Intestinal Absorption



Incorporation of NH_4^+ Into Organic Compounds

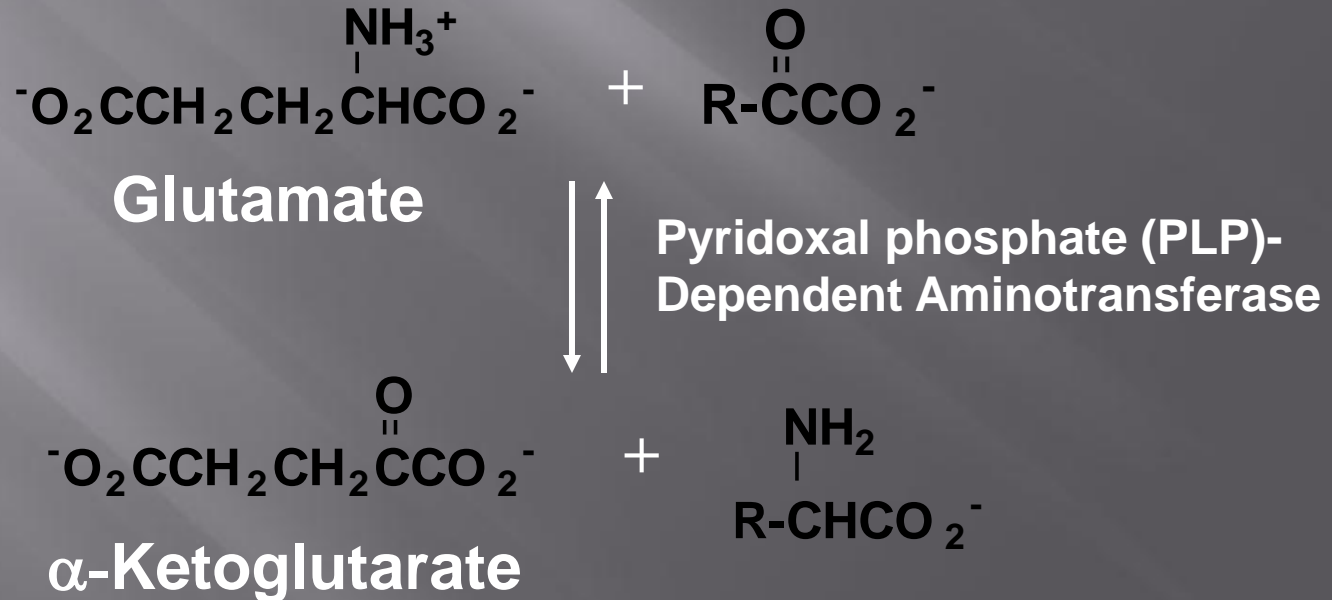


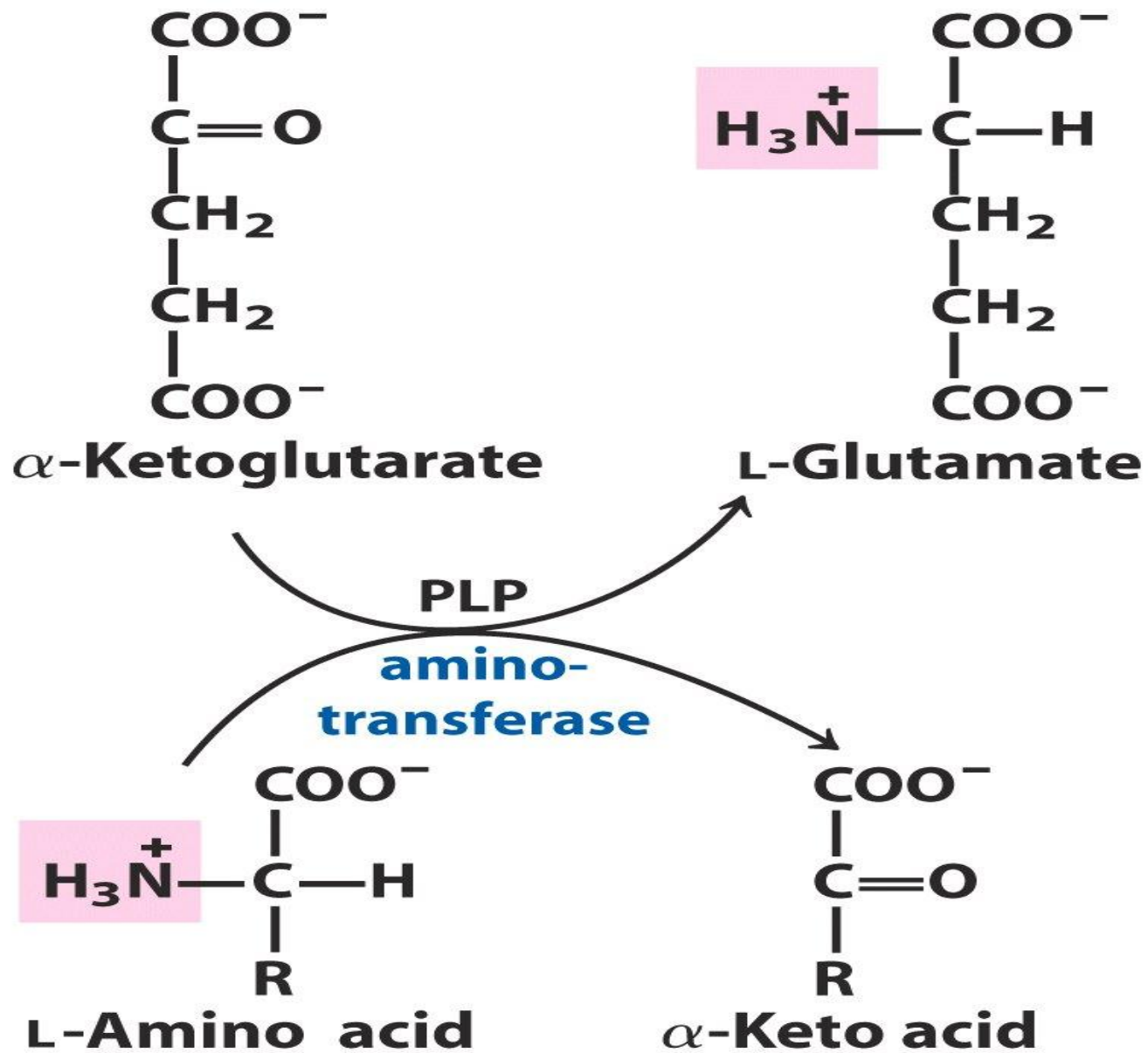
Incorporation of NH_4^+ Into Organic Compounds (Cont.)



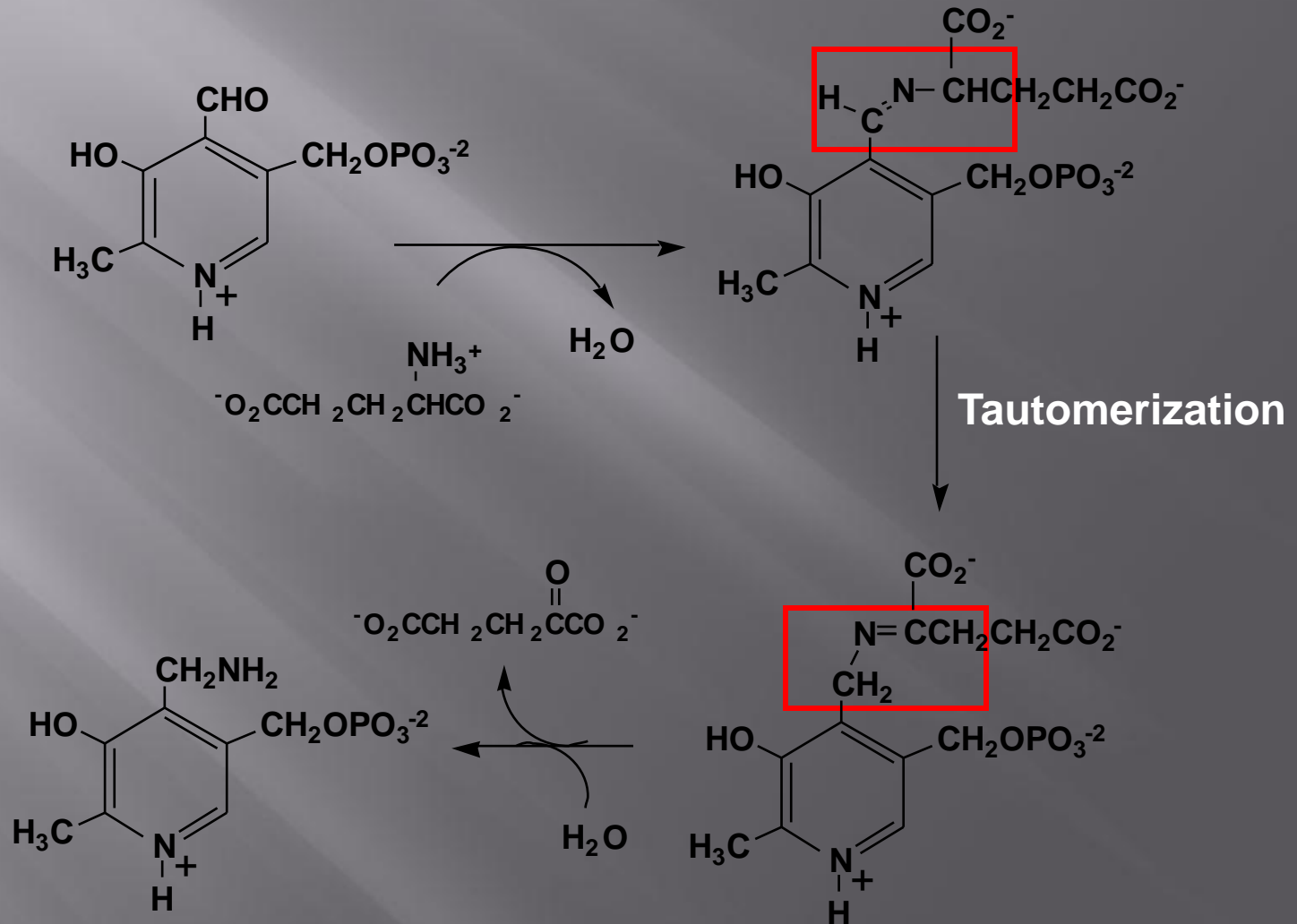
N of glutamine donated to other compounds
in synthesis of purines, pyrimidines,
and other amino acids

Biosynthesis of Amino Acids: Transaminations

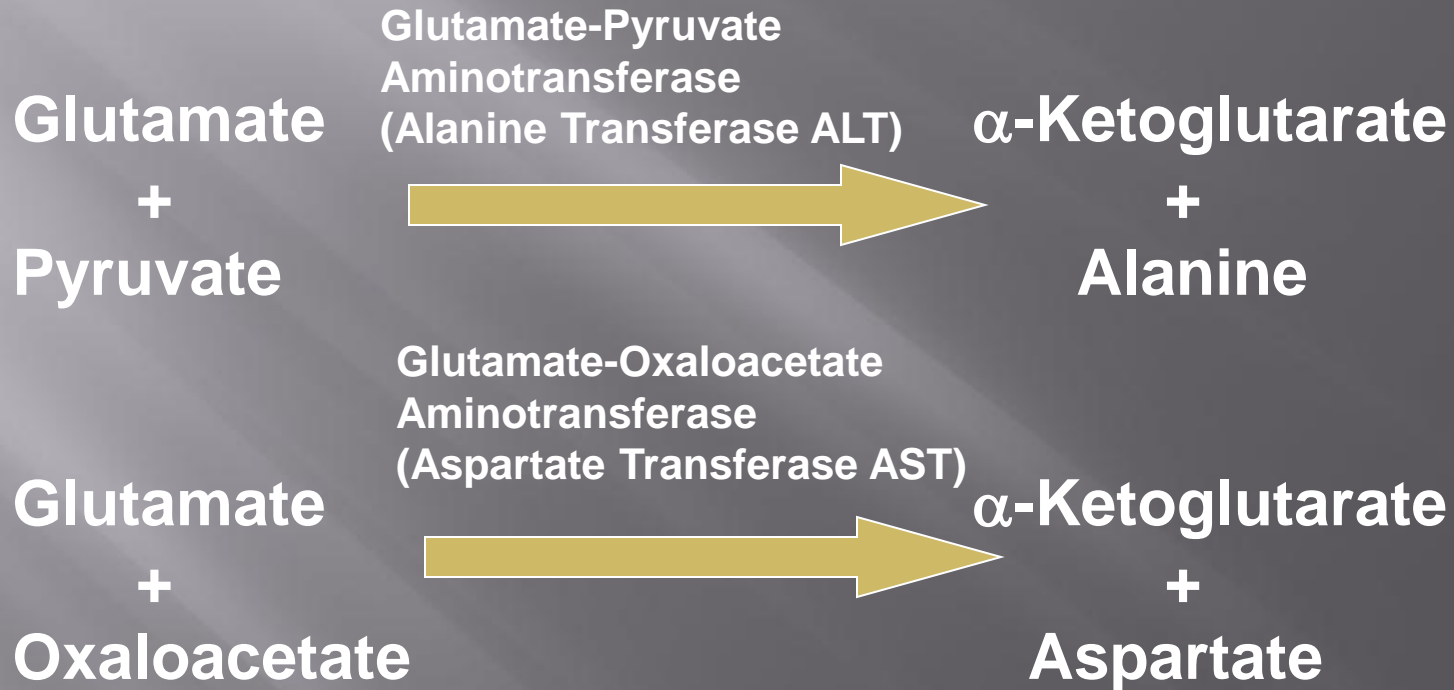




Transaminations: Role of PLP



Transaminations



Blood levels of these aminotransferases, also called transaminases, are important indicators of liver disease

Metabolic Classification of the Amino Acids

- **Essential and Non-essential**
- **Glucogenic and Ketogenic**

Non-Essential Amino Acids in Humans

- ▣ Not required in diet
- ▣ Can be formed from α -keto acids by transamination and subsequent reactions

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| • Alanine | • Glycine |
| • Asparagine | • Proline |
| • Aspartate | • Serine |
| • Glutamate | • Cysteine (from Met*) |
| • Glutamine | • Tyrosine (from Phe*) |

* Essential amino acids

Essential Amino Acids in Humans

- ▣ Required in diet
- ▣ Humans incapable of forming requisite carbon skeleton

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| • Arginine* | • Lysine |
| • Histidine* | • Methionine |
| • Isoleucine | • Threonine |
| • Leucine | • Phenylalanine |
| • Valine | • Tryptophan |

* Essential in children, not in adults

Glucogenic Amino Acids

- Metabolized to α -ketoglutarate, pyruvate, oxaloacetate, fumarate, or succinyl CoA

→ Phosphoenolpyruvate → Glucose

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| • Aspartate | • Methionine | • Alanine |
| • Asparagine | • Valine | • Serine |
| • Arginine | • Glutamine | • Cysteine |
| • Phenylalanine | • Glutamate | • Glycine |
| • Tyrosine | • Proline | • Threonine |
| • Isoleucine | • Histidine | • Tryptophan |

Ketogenic Amino Acids

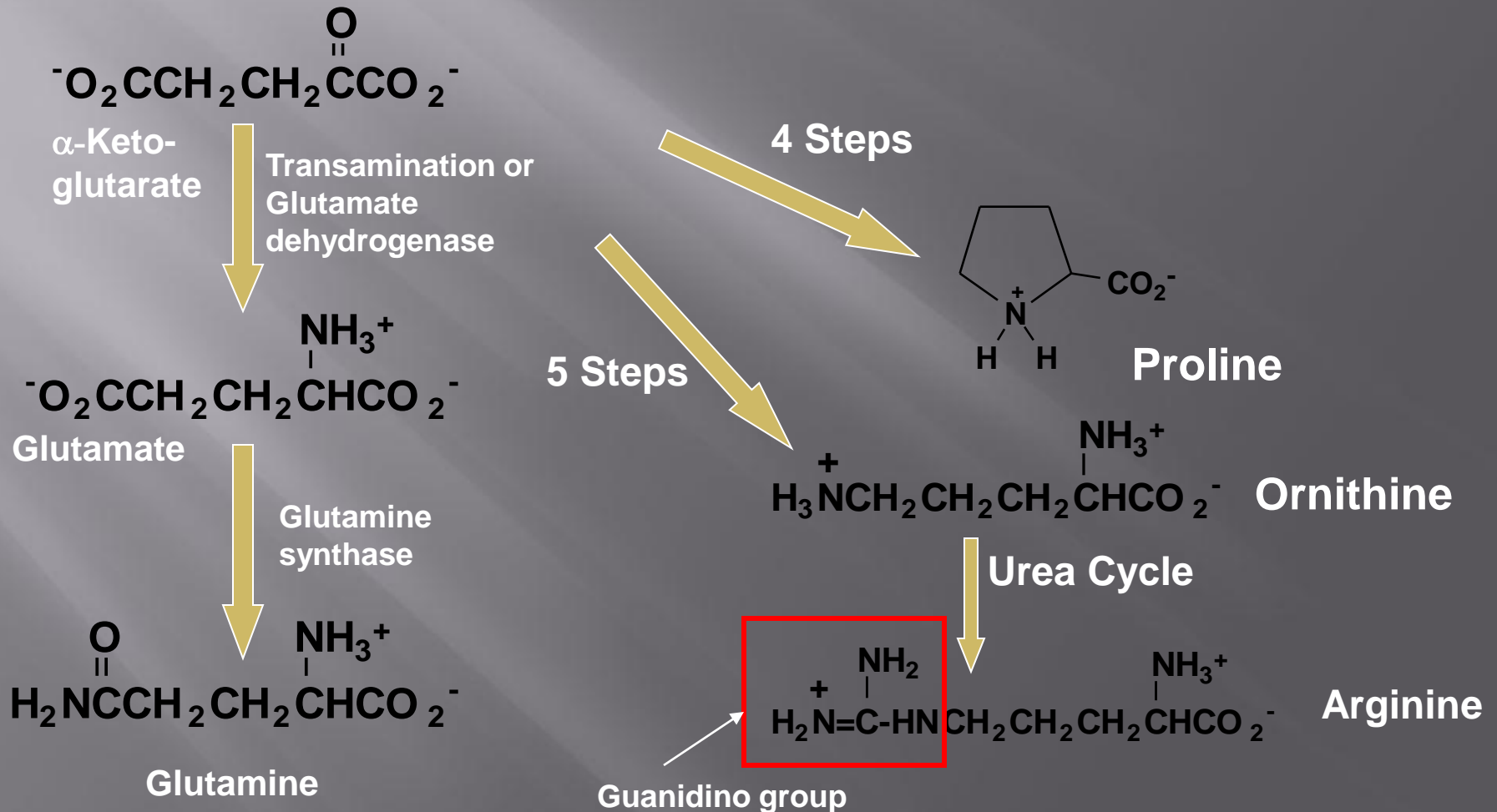
- ▣ **Metabolized to acetyl CoA or acetoacetyl CoA**

Animals cannot convert acetyl CoA or acetoacetyl CoA to pyruvate

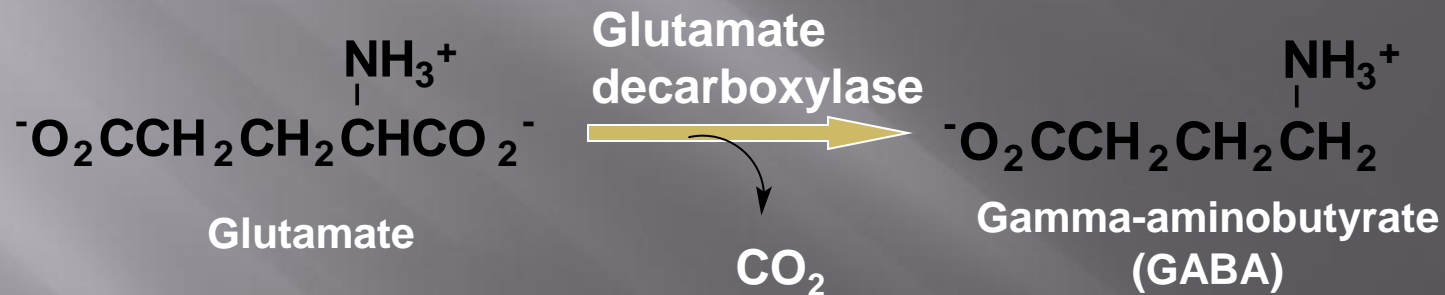
- Isoleucine
- Leucine *
- Lysine *
- Threonine
- Tryptophan
- Phenylalanine
- Tyrosine

*** Leucine and lysine are only ketogenic**

Amino Acids Formed From α -Ketoglutarate



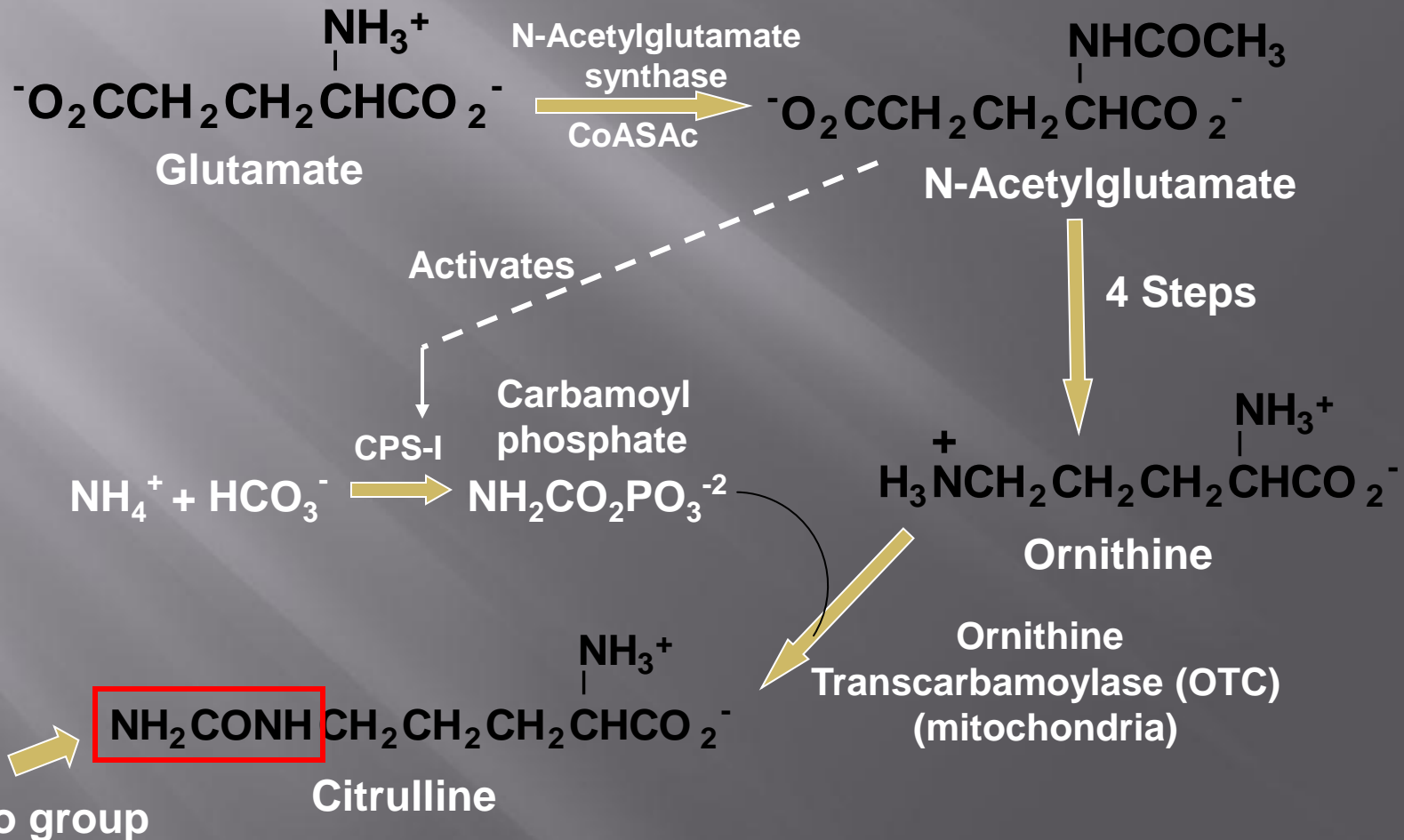
GABA Formation



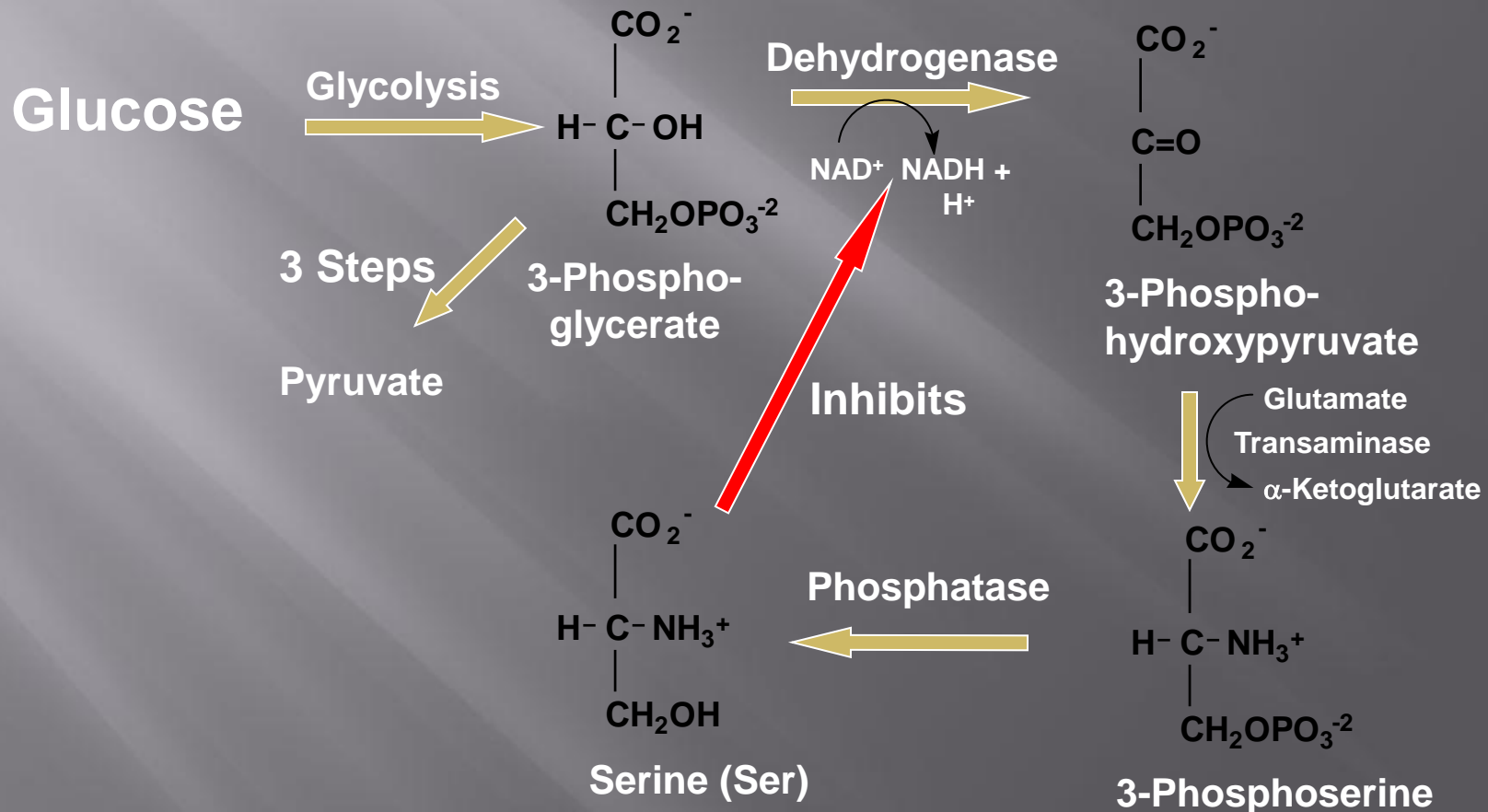
GABA is an important inhibitory neurotransmitter in the brain

Drugs (*e.g.*, benzodiazepines) that enhance the effects of GABA are useful in treating epilepsy

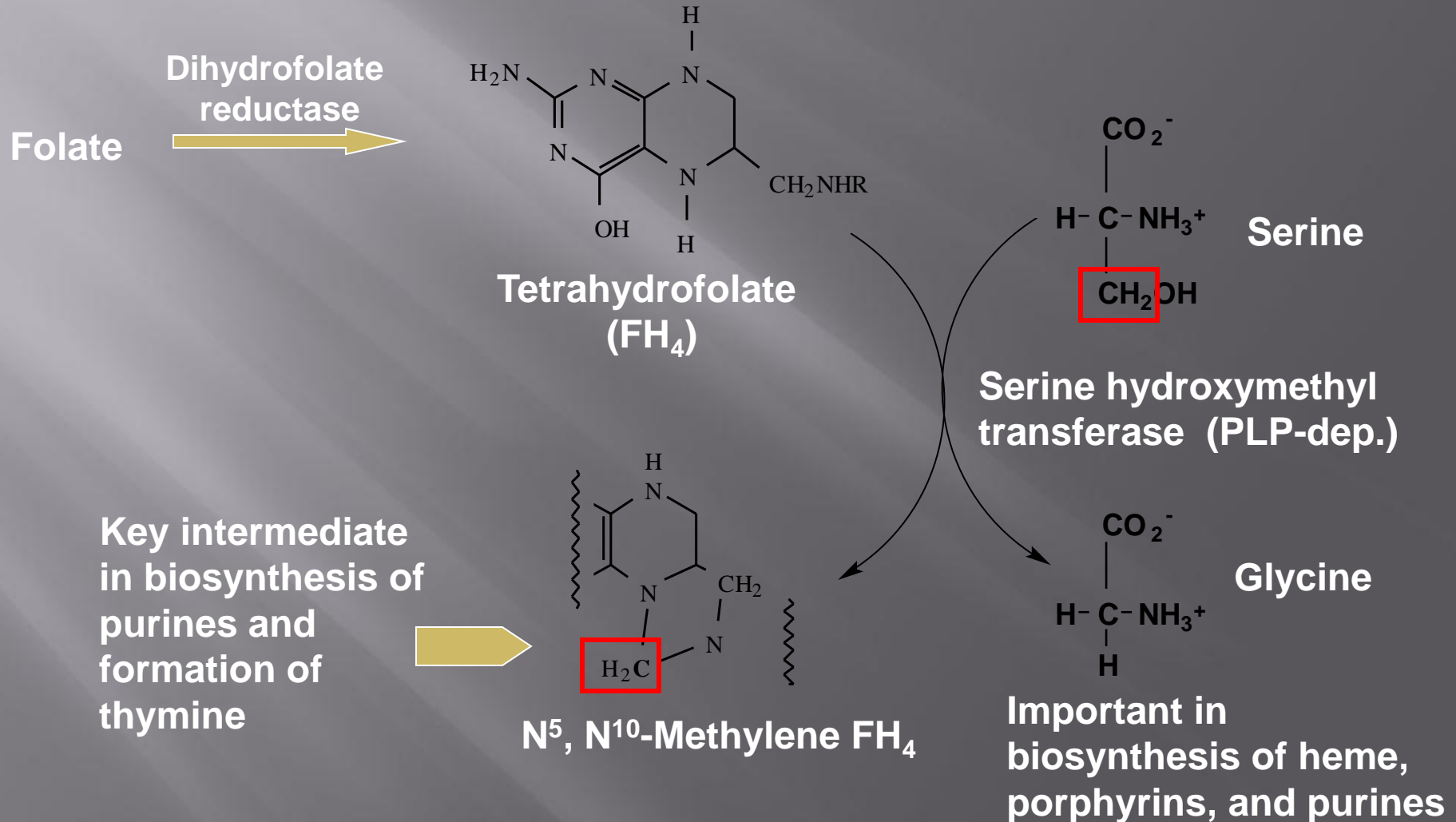
Arginine Synthesis: The Urea Cycle



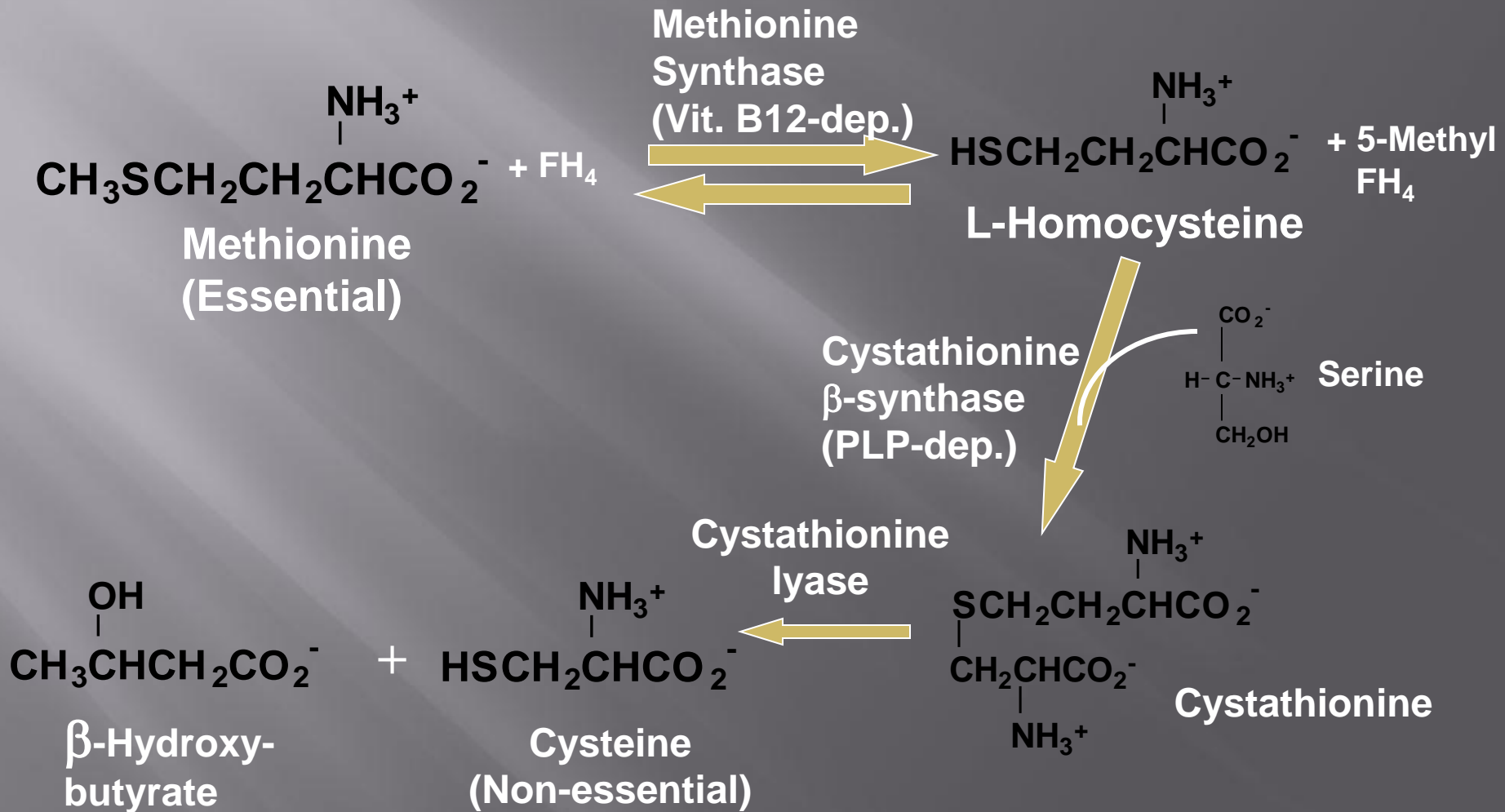
Formation of Serine



Conversion of Serine to Glycine




Sulfur-Containing Amino Acids



Homocysteine

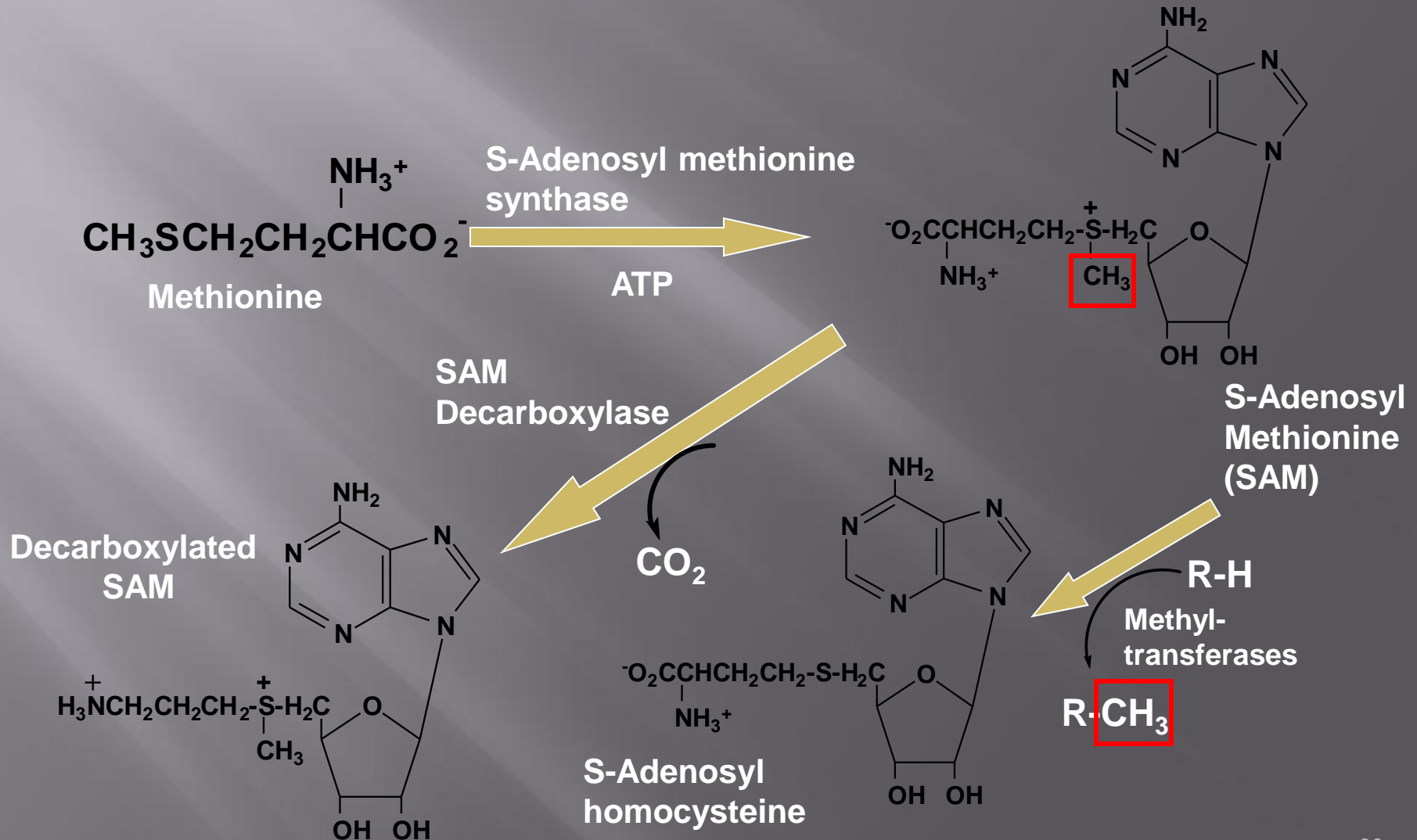
Homocysteinuria

- Rare; deficiency of cystathionine β -synthase
- Dislocated optical lenses
- Mental retardation
- Osteoporosis
- Cardiovascular disease  death

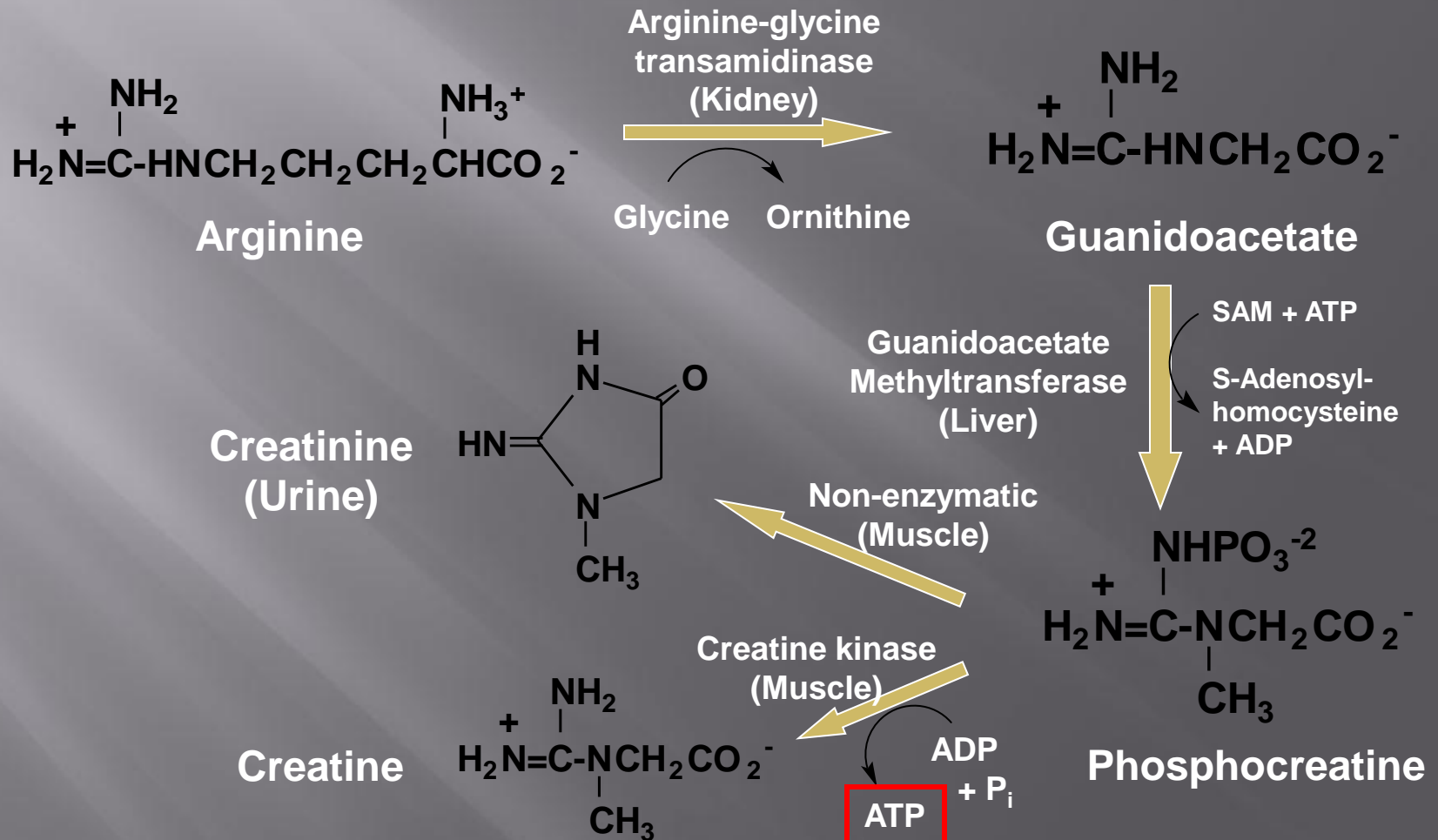
High blood levels of homocysteine associated with cardiovascular disease

- May be related to dietary folate deficiency
- Folate enhances conversion of homocysteine to methionine

Methionine Metabolism: Methyl Donation



Creatine and Creatinine



Creatine and Creatinine

Creatine:

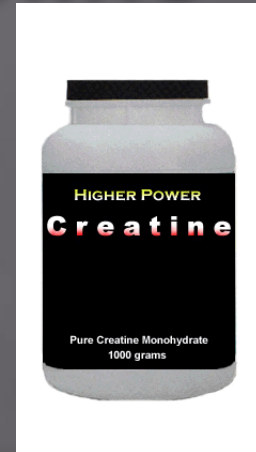
- Dietary supplement
- Used to improve athletic performance

Creatinine:

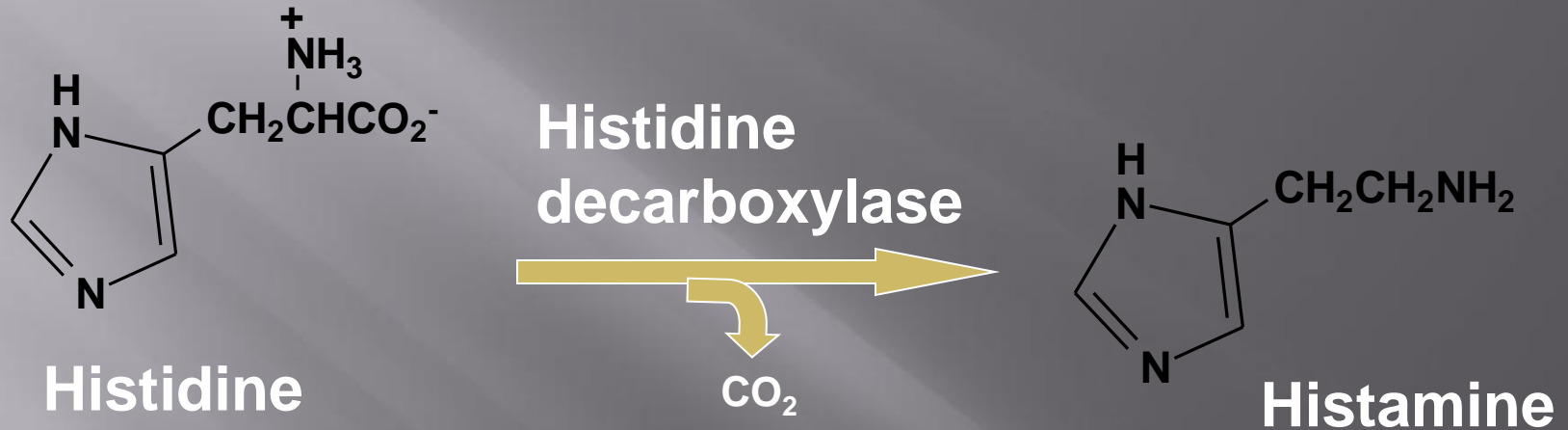
- Urinary excretion generally constant; proportional to muscle mass

Creatinine Clearance Test:

- Compares the level of creatinine in urine (24 hrs.) with the creatinine level in the blood
- Used to assess kidney function
- Important determinant in dosing of several drugs in patients with impaired renal function



Histidine Metabolism: Histamine Formation

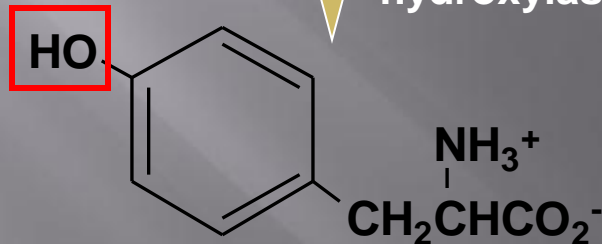
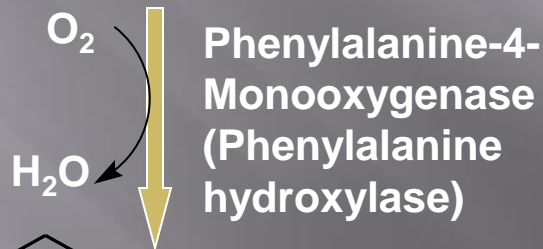
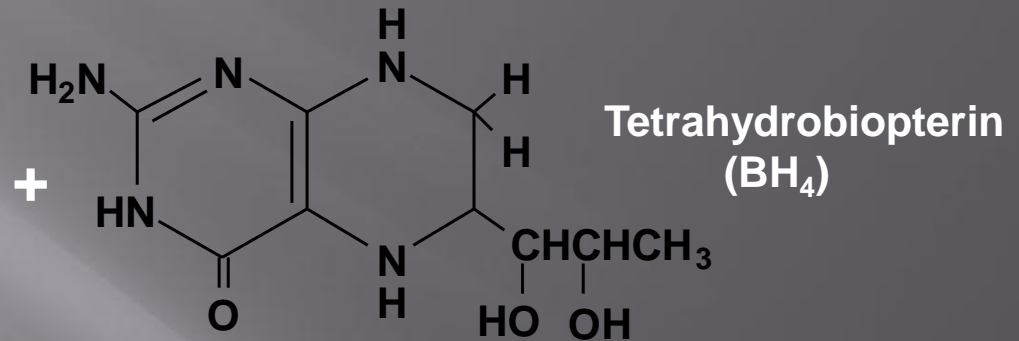
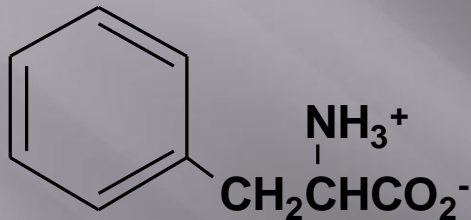


Histamine:

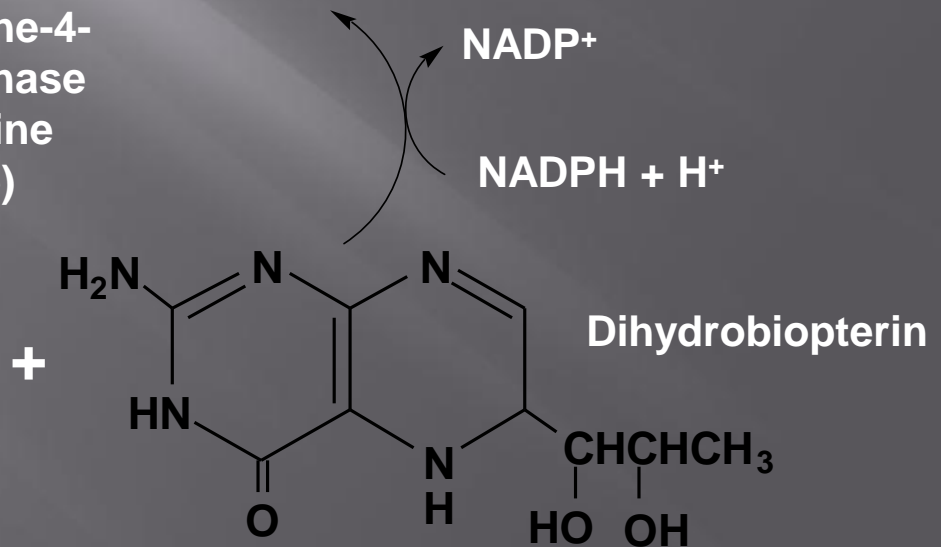
- Synthesized in and released by mast cells
- Mediator of allergic response: vasodilation, bronchoconstriction (H_1 receptors)
 - H_1 blockers: Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)
Loratidine (Claritin)
- Stimulates secretion of gastric acid (H_2 receptors)
 - H_2 blockers: Cimetidine (Tagamet); ranitidine (Zantac)

Phenylalanine and Tyrosine

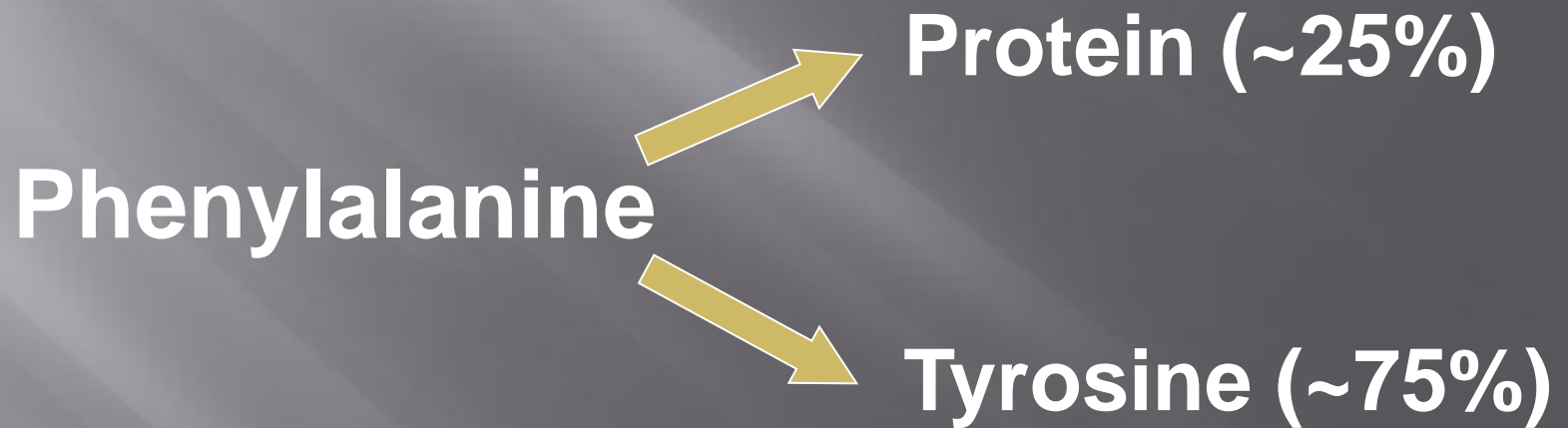
Phenylalanine
(Essential)



Tyrosine
(Non-essential)

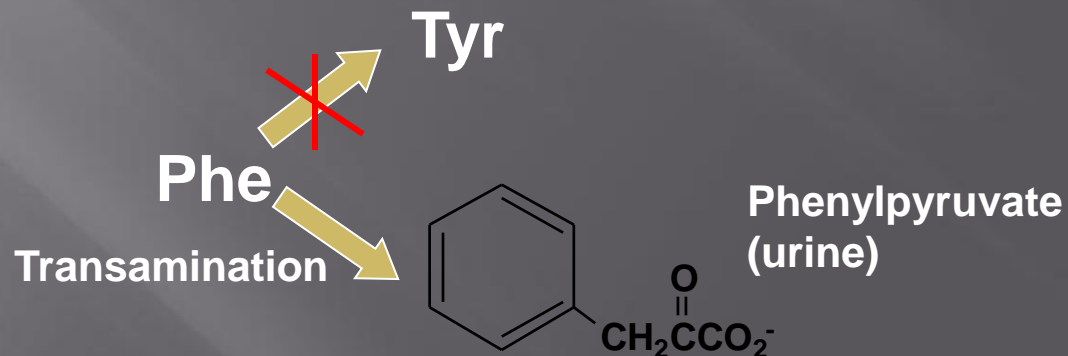


Normal Utilization of Phenylalanine

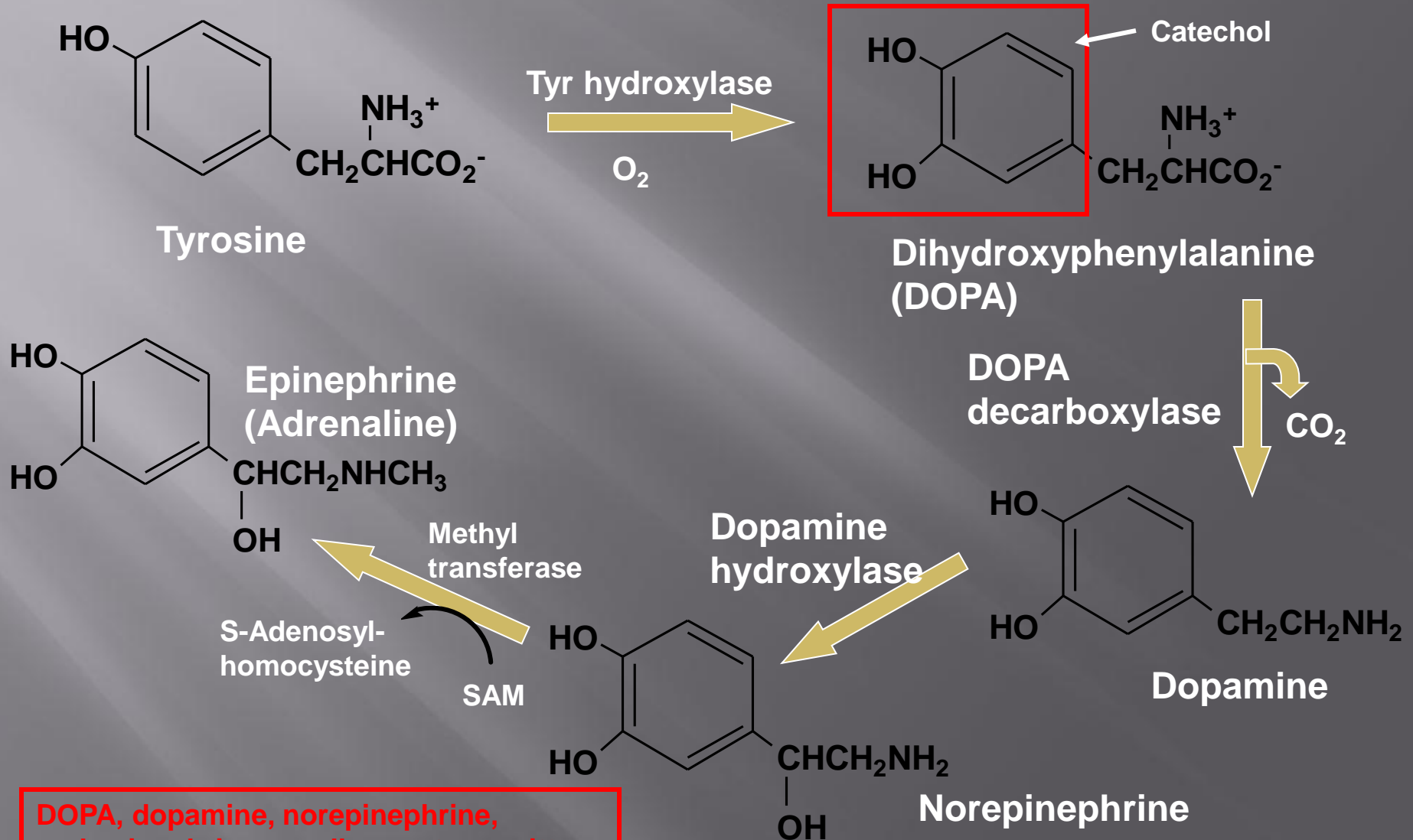


Phenylketonuria (PKU) Disease

- ▣ Deficiency of Phe hydroxylase
- ▣ Occurs in 1:20,000 live births in U.S.
- ▣ Seizures, mental retardation, brain damage
- ▣ Treatment: limit phenylalanine intake
- ▣ Screening of all newborns mandated in all states

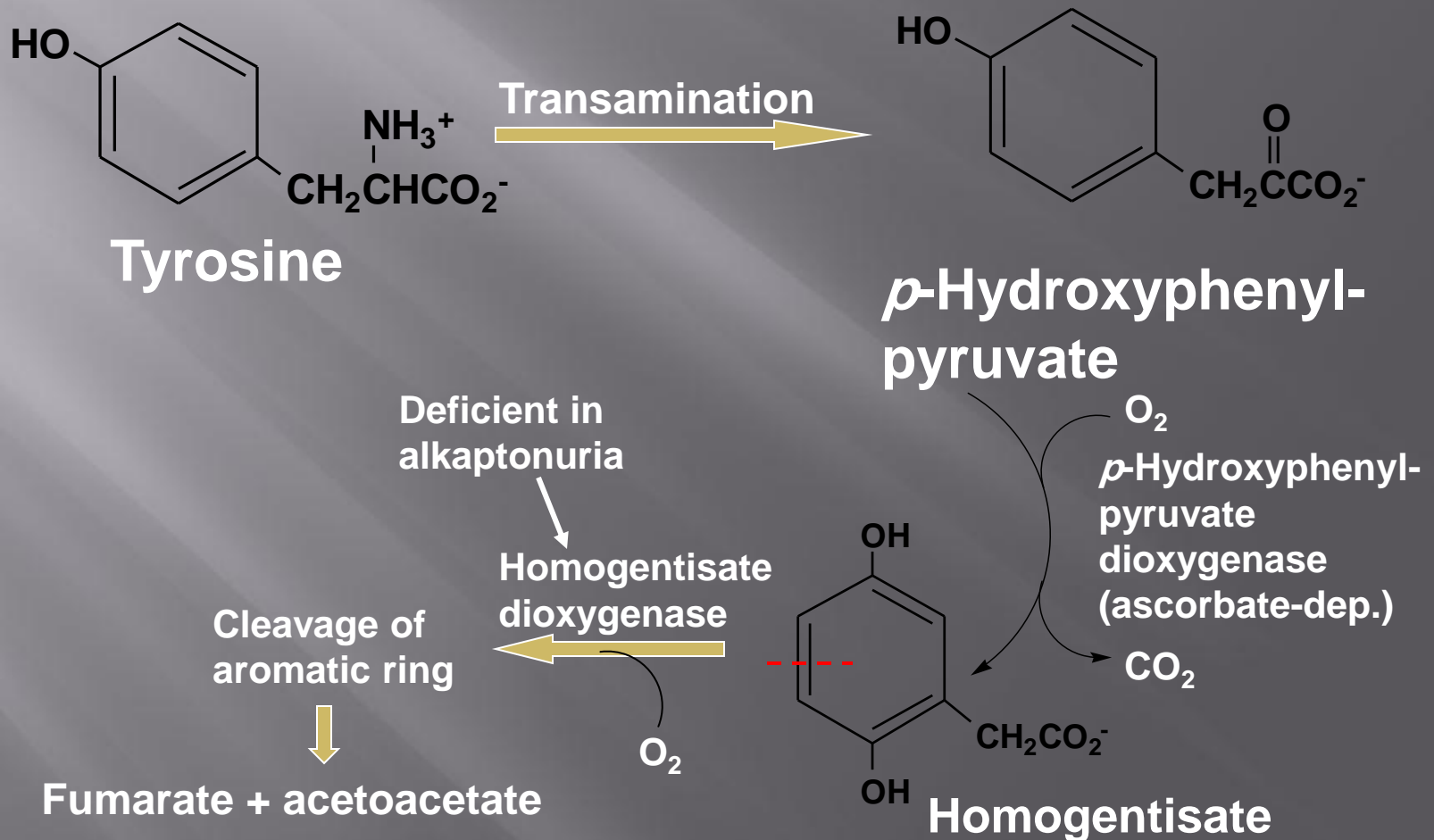


Catecholamine Biosynthesis

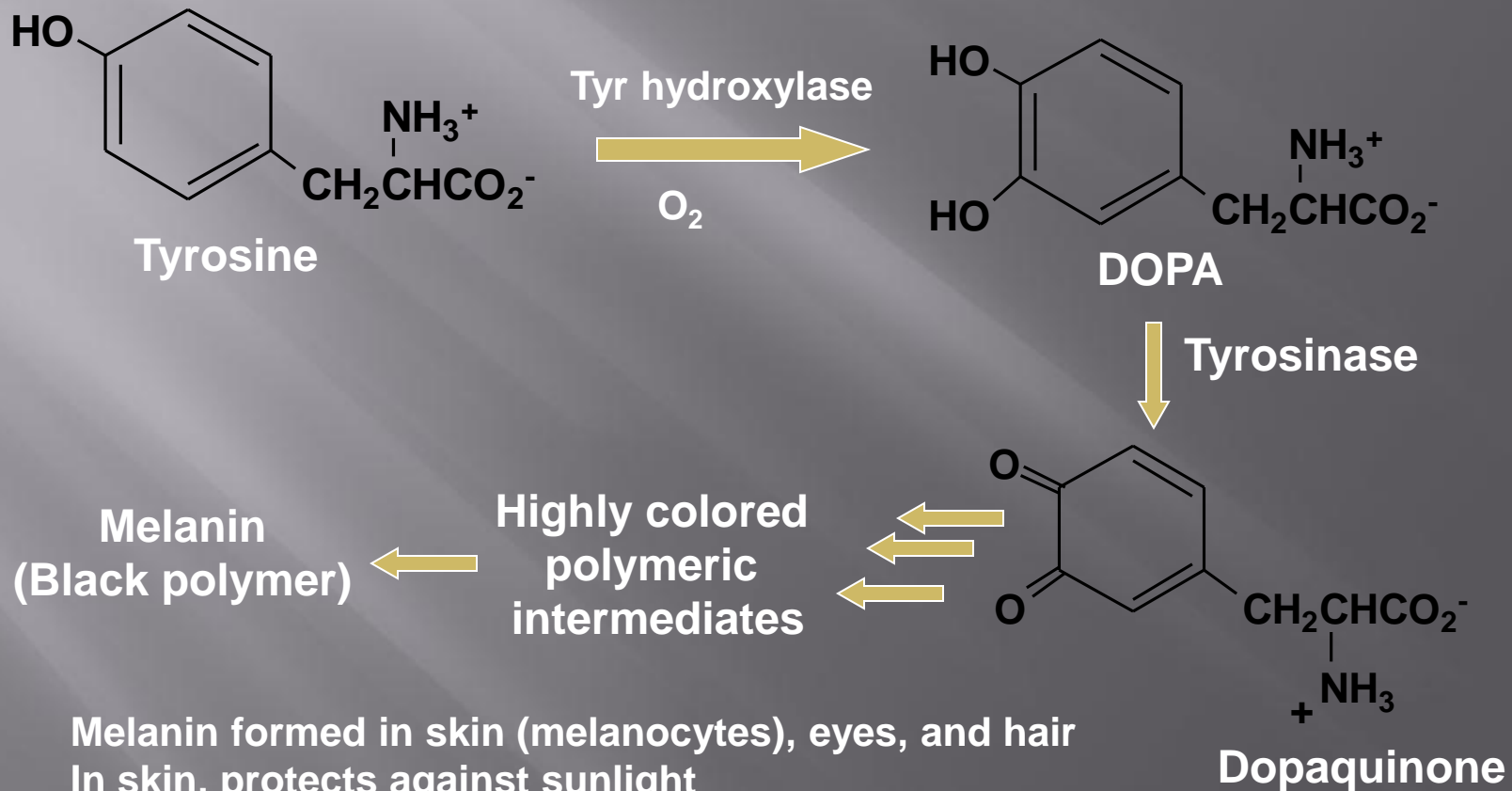


DOPA, dopamine, norepinephrine, and epinephrine are all neurotransmitters

Tyrosine catabolism

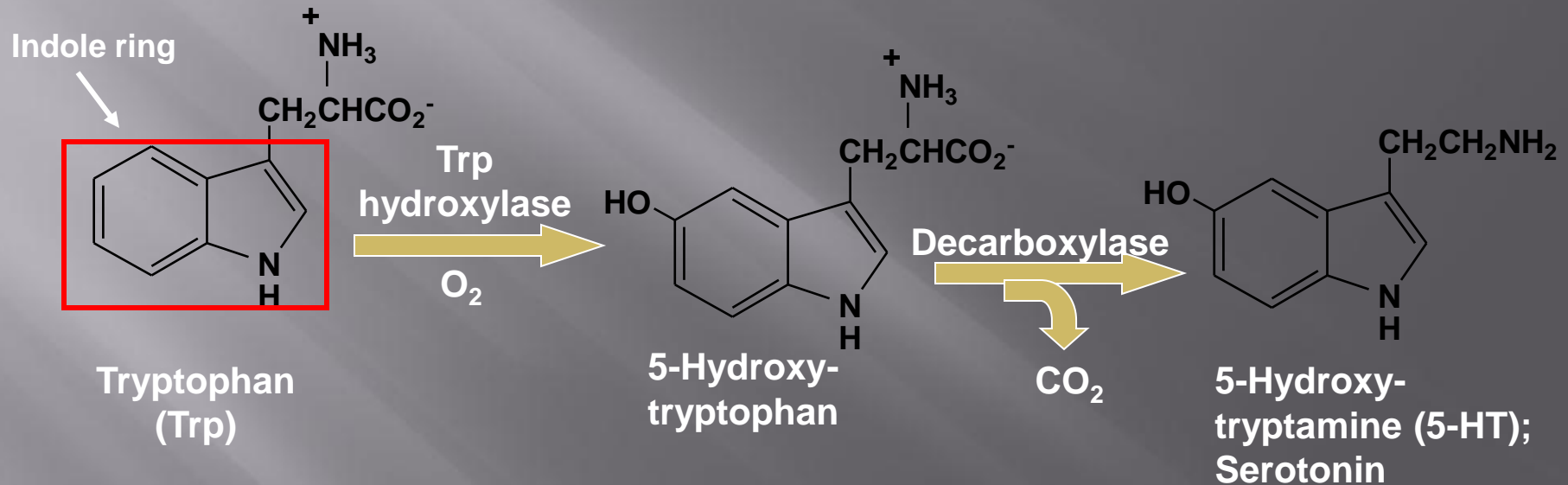


Melanin Formation



Melanin formed in skin (melanocytes), eyes, and hair
In skin, protects against sunlight
Albinism: genetic deficiency of tyrosinase

Tryptophan Metabolism: Serotonin Formation

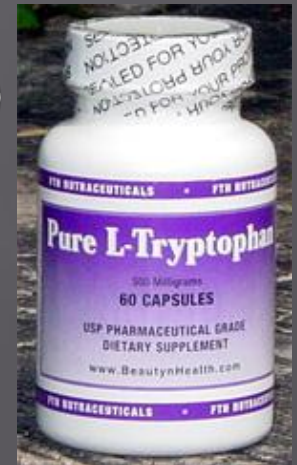


Serotonin

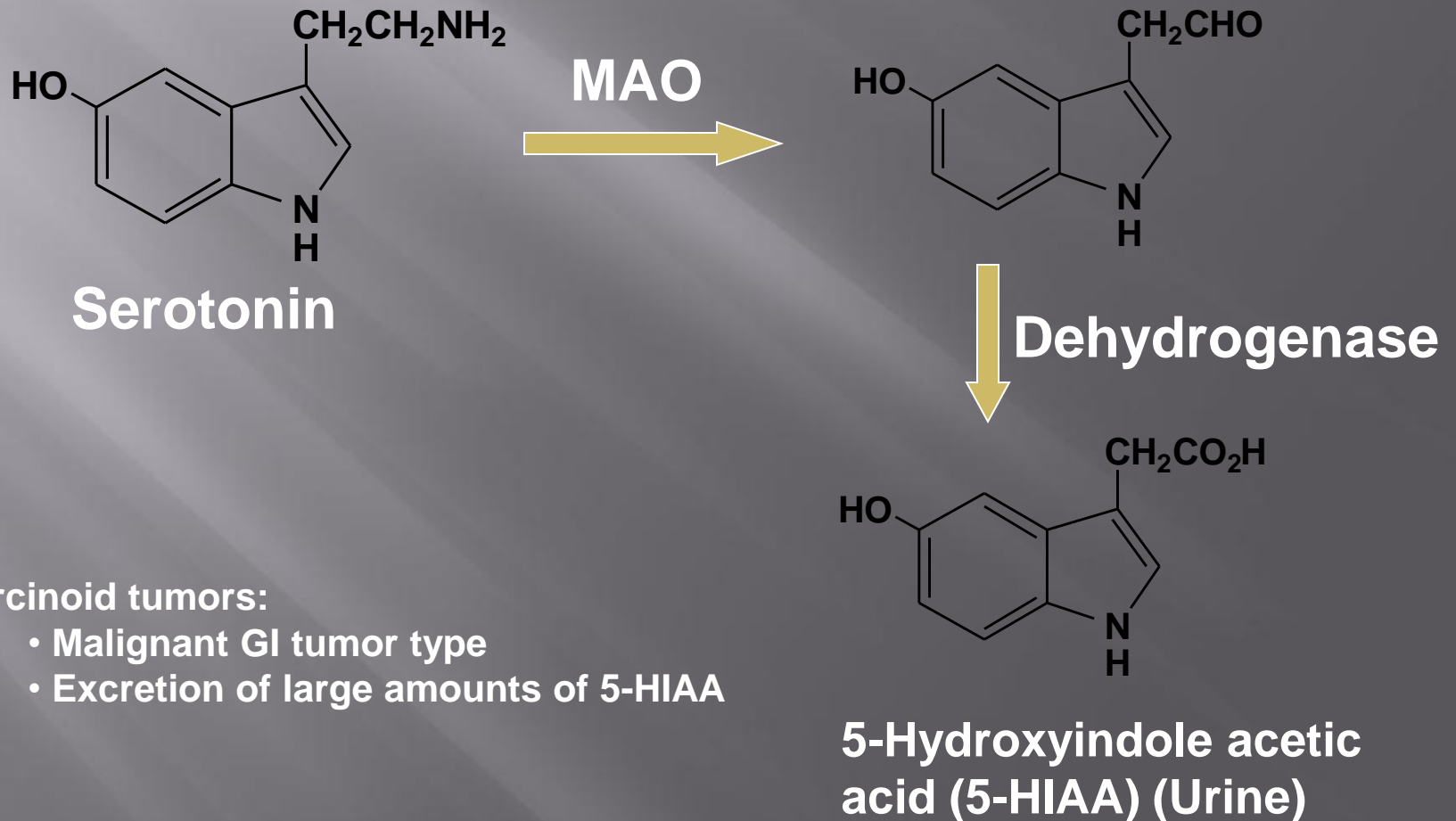
- Serotonin formed in:
 - Brain (neurotransmitter; regulation of sleep, mood, appetite)
 - Platelets (platelet aggregation, vasoconstriction)
 - Smooth muscle (contraction)
 - Gastrointestinal tract (enterochromaffin cells - major storage site)
- Drugs affecting serotonin actions used to treat:
 - Depression
 - Serotonin-selective reuptake inhibitors (SSRI)
 - Migraine
 - Schizophrenia
 - Obsessive-compulsive disorders
 - Chemotherapy-induced emesis
- Some hallucinogens (*e.g.*, LSD) act as serotonin agonists

L-Tryptophan

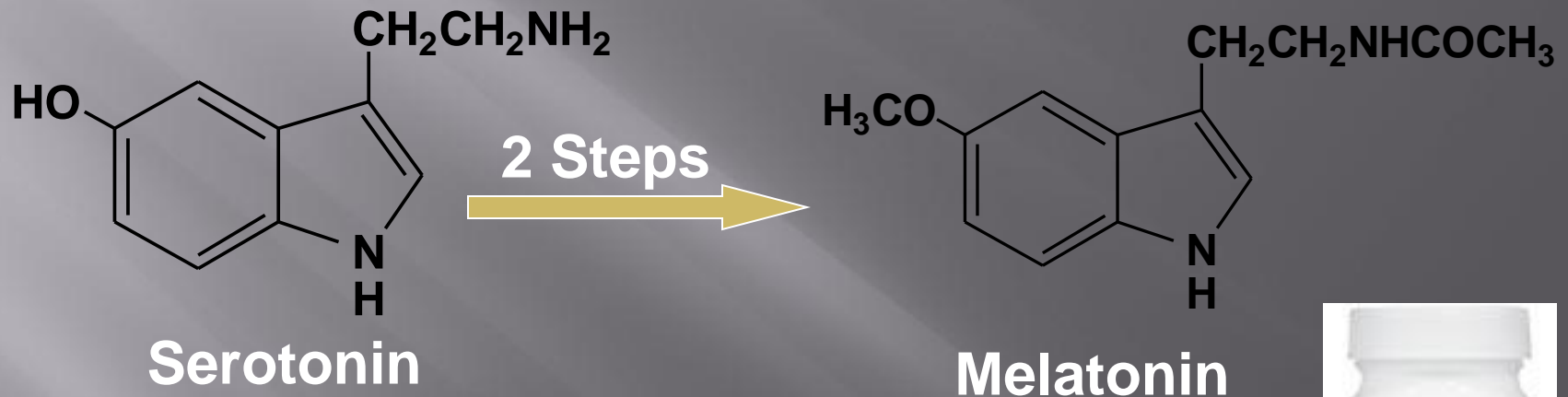
- Food supplement promoted for serotonin effects
- L-Tryptophan disaster (1989):
 - Eosinophilia-myalgia syndrome (EMS)
 - Severe muscle and joint pain
 - Weakness
 - Swelling of the arms and legs
 - Fever
 - Skin rash
 - Eosinophilia
 - Many hundreds of cases; several deaths
 - Traced to impurities



Serotonin Metabolism: 5-HIAA



Serotonin Metabolism: Melatonin



Melatonin:

- Formed principally in pineal gland
- Synthesis controlled by light, among other factors
- Induces skin lightening
- Suppresses ovarian function
- Possible use in sleep disorders



Tryptophan Metabolism: Biosynthesis of Nicotinic Acid

