

Catabolism of Amino Acids

following stages are involved

(1) The removal of α -amino group in the form of ammonia by following reactions.

(i) Transamination: Catalysed by aminotransferase or transaminase

(ii) Deamination: May be oxidative or nonoxidative

(a) Oxidative deamination: Catalysed by glutamate dehydrogenase or amino acid oxidase

(b) Nonoxidative deamination: Catalysed by amino acid dehydratase

(2) Disposal of ammonia in the form of urea in liver by reactions of urea cycle.

(3) Catabolism of remaining carbon skeleton of amino acid to CO_2 and water by reactions of "Citric Acid cycle"

Transamination

Defination: Involves transfer of α -amino group from ~~an~~ α -amino acid to α -keto acid to form new α -amino acid and a new α -keto acid. Without any loss of amino group.

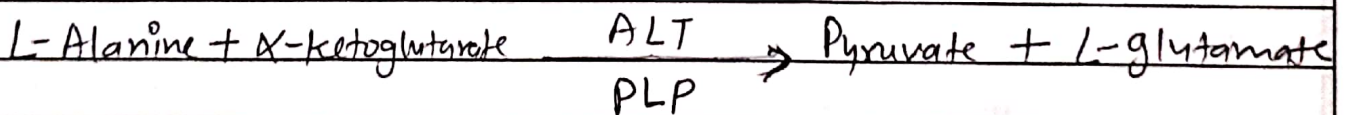
Reaction is catalysed by aminotransferase or transaminase.

\Rightarrow α -ketoglutarate is most common acceptor of amino group.

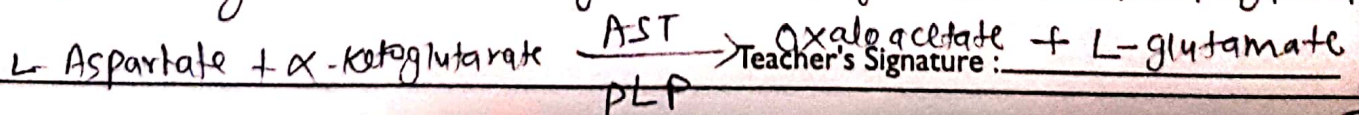
\Rightarrow All transaminase require Pyridoxal Phosphate as Coenzymes (PLP)

Common examples of transaminase are alanine transaminase (ALT) and Aspartate transaminase (AST)

ALT \Rightarrow also called glutamate pyruvate transaminase (GPT) Catalyse transfer of amino group of alanine to α -ketoglutarate resulting in formation of pyruvate and L-glutamate



AST \Rightarrow Also called glutamate oxaloacetate transaminase (GOT) which catalyse transfer of amine groups of Aspartate to α -ketoglutarate resulting in formation of oxaloacetate & L-glutamate



Metabolic significance of transamination reaction

- ⇒ Provide mechanism for collecting amino group from all α -amino acid and introducing in α -ketoglutarate to form ~~an~~ L-glutamate
- ⇒ L-glutamate is the only amino acid whose amino group can easily removed by oxidative deamination than other amino acids.
- ⇒ Because transamination reaction is reversible so it can ~~be used in~~ function as both catabolism & ~~an~~ synthesis of amino acids.

Clinical significance of transaminase enzyme:

- Elevated
⇒ serum level of transaminase as SGPT, SGOT are an important in diagnosis of liver and heart ~~disease~~ damage.
 - liver → liver serosis, Jaundice
 - Myocardial infarction, heart muscle shredding

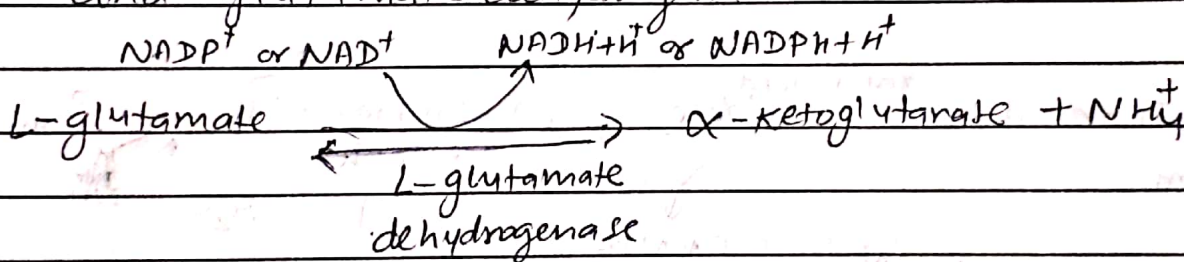
Deamination

Oxidative deamination \Rightarrow By Glutamate dehydrogenase

The α -amino group of most of the amino acids are transferred to α -ketoglutarate by transaminase forming ~~the~~ L-glutamate.

The L-glutamate next undergoes oxidative deamination by the action of L-glutamate dehydrogenase which require NAD^+ or NADP^+ as oxidising agents.

\Rightarrow Thus the net removal of α -amino group to ammonia requires the combined action of glutamate trans~~ferase~~^{aminase} and glutamate dehydrogenase.



Metabolic Significance \Rightarrow

\Rightarrow being reversible in nature, this reaction function both in catabolism and ^{bio}synthesis.

Clinical significance \Rightarrow In normal stage glutamate dehydrogenase present in trace amount in serum. But increased activities are observed in cases of liver disease.

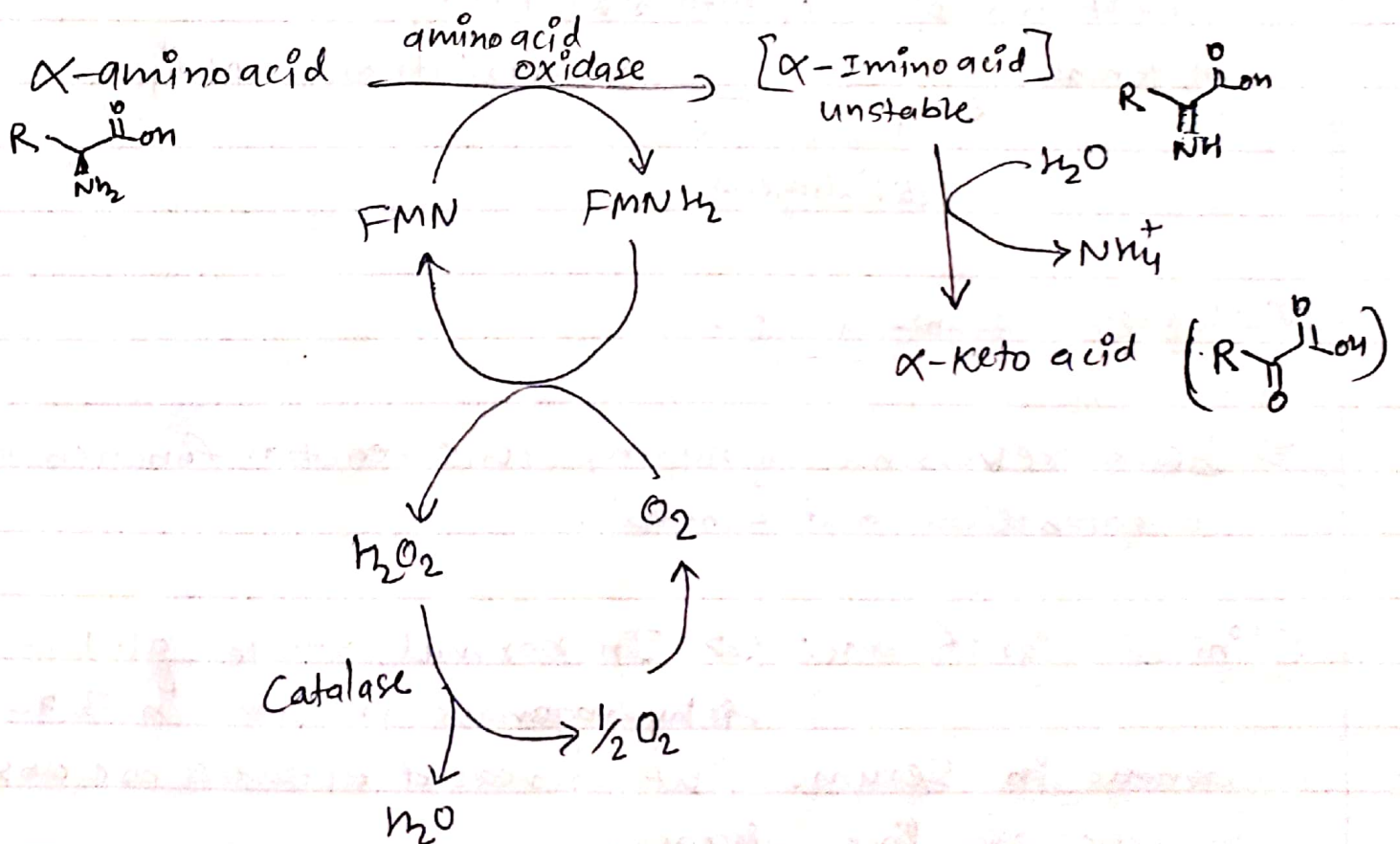
Oxidative deamination by amino acid oxidases

⇒ Both D & L-amino acid oxidases occurs in the kidney & liver with low activities.

⇒ These enzyme uses auto oxidisable FMN or FAD as ~~oxidising~~ coenzyme.

⇒ The enzyme oxidise α -amino acid to less stable α -imino acid which ~~undergoes~~ ^{upon} decomposition form α -ketoglutarate and ammonium ion.

⇒ In this reaction oxygen is reduced to H_2O_2 , which is later decomposed to H_2O & O_2 by catalase.



Metabolic significance \Rightarrow

By this ~~reaction~~ reaction, D-amino acid is metabolised in liver using D-amino acid oxidase.

Non oxidative deamination by amino acid dehydratase

\Rightarrow The α -amino group of serine and threonine can be directly deaminated into NH_4^+ ion. These amino acid contain OH group attached to its β -carbon.

\Rightarrow These reaction are catalysed by serine dehydratase and threonine dehydratase using Pyridoxal phosphate as coenzyme (PLP)

