

# **Long Chain Fatty Acids- a Key Component of Cellular Membranes**

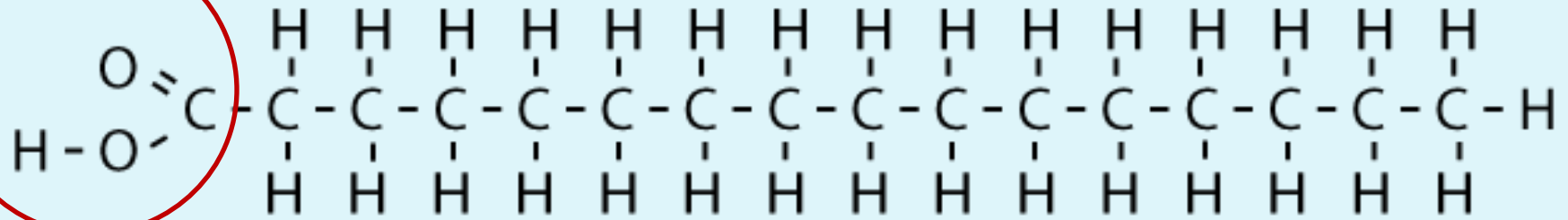
**Biological Stain Commission and the New York State Histotechnological Society 2018**

**\*William E. Grizzle, M.D., Ph.D.  
Dennis Otali, Ph.D.**

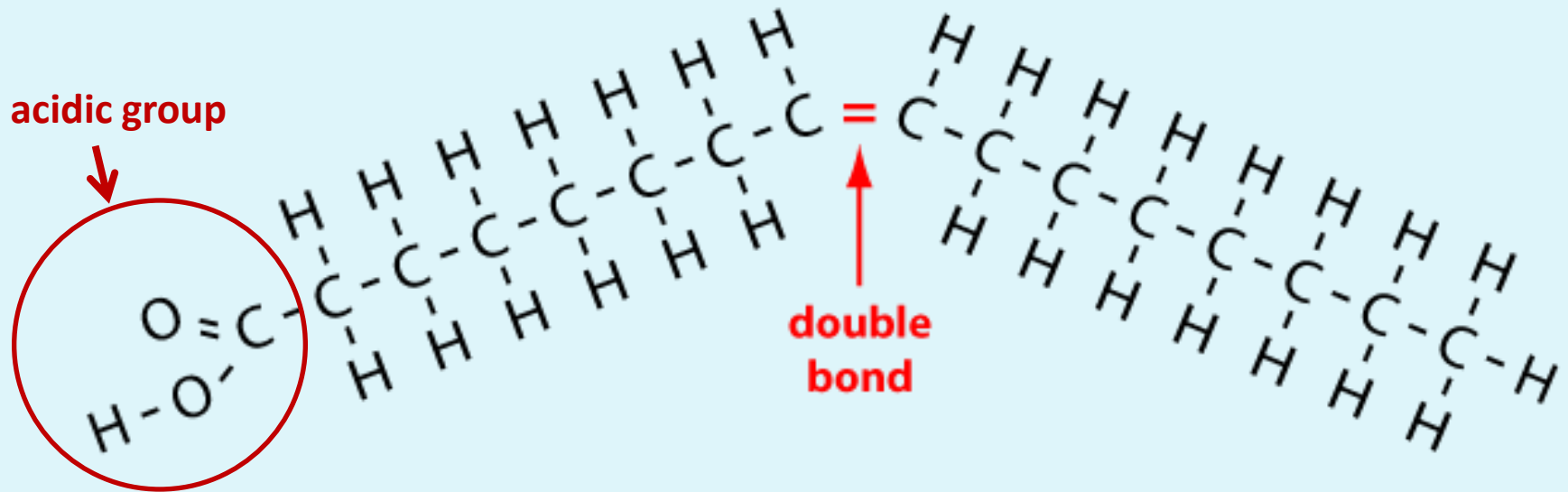
**\*Trustee Emeritus of the Biological Stain Commission and Professor of Pathology University of Alabama at Birmingham  
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acidic group

## saturated fatty acid



## unsaturated fatty acid



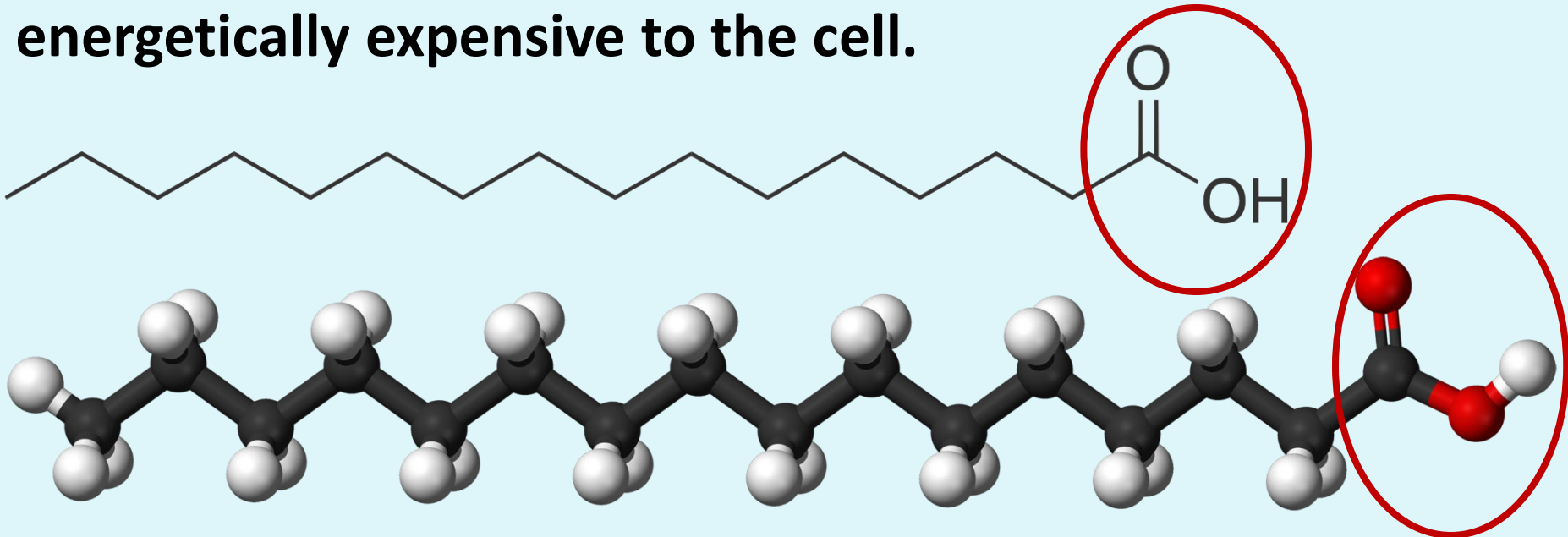
# Fatty Acids

- The most common fatty acids.

	<b>Carbon Atoms:</b>	<b>Common</b>	<b>Melting Point</b>
	<b>Double Bonds</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>(°C)</b>
	<b>Saturated Fatty Acids</b>		
<i>Higher mp</i>	<b>12:0</b>	<b>Lauric acid</b>	<b>44</b>
	<b>14:0</b>	<b>Myristic acid</b>	<b>58</b>
	<b>16:0</b>	<b>Palmitic acid</b>	<b>63</b>
	<b>18:0</b>	<b>Stearic acid</b>	<b>70</b>
	<b>20:0</b>	<b>Arachidic acid</b>	<b>77</b>
	<b>Unsaturated Fatty Acids</b>		
<i>Lower mp</i>	<b>16:1</b>	<b>Palmitoleic acid</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>18:1</b>	<b>Oleic acid</b>	<b>16</b>
	<b>18:2</b>	<b>Linoleic acid</b>	<b>-5</b>
	<b>18:3</b>	<b>Linolenic acid</b>	<b>-11</b>
	<b>20:4</b>	<b>Arachidonic acid</b>	<b>-49</b>

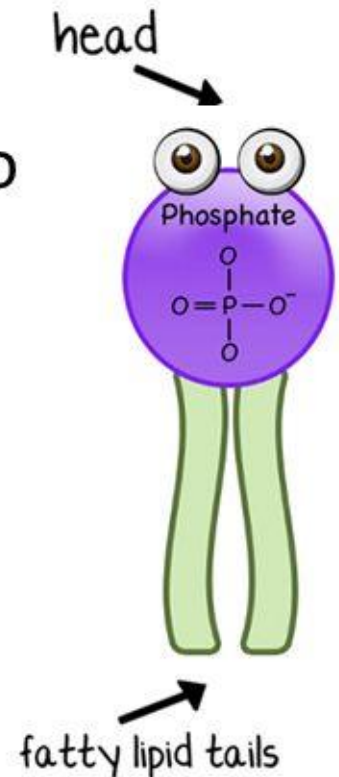
# 16 carbon atom fatty acid – palmitic acid

The acid group of the fatty acid (red circle) is the only active binding site. When a molecule binds to this group, the name changes, for example, from palmitic acid to palmitate. Also, during synthesis, which begins with the acid group, each pair of methyl groups ( $-\text{CH}_2-$  or  $-\text{CH}_3$ ) added to the length of the fatty acid chain is very energetically expensive to the cell.

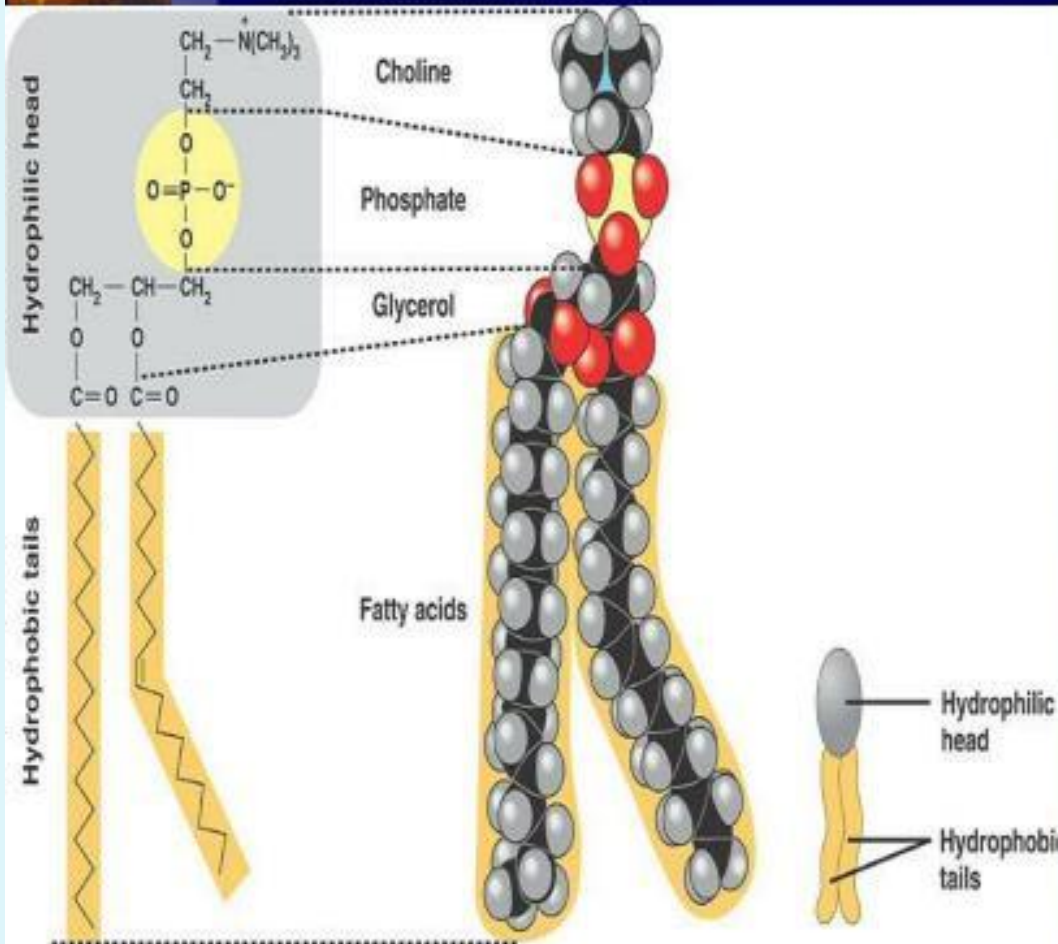


# Phospholipid

- Cell membranes are made up of a lipid similar to triglycerides; a **phospholipid**
- Structure: Glycerol backbone attached to a phosphate group “**head**” and 2 fatty acid “**tails**”
  - The tails can be saturated or unsaturated
  - [\(\\*Animation\\*\)](#) About 80% of the way down...
- Function: Provide a selective **barrier** between the inside and outside of the cell and cellular compartments.



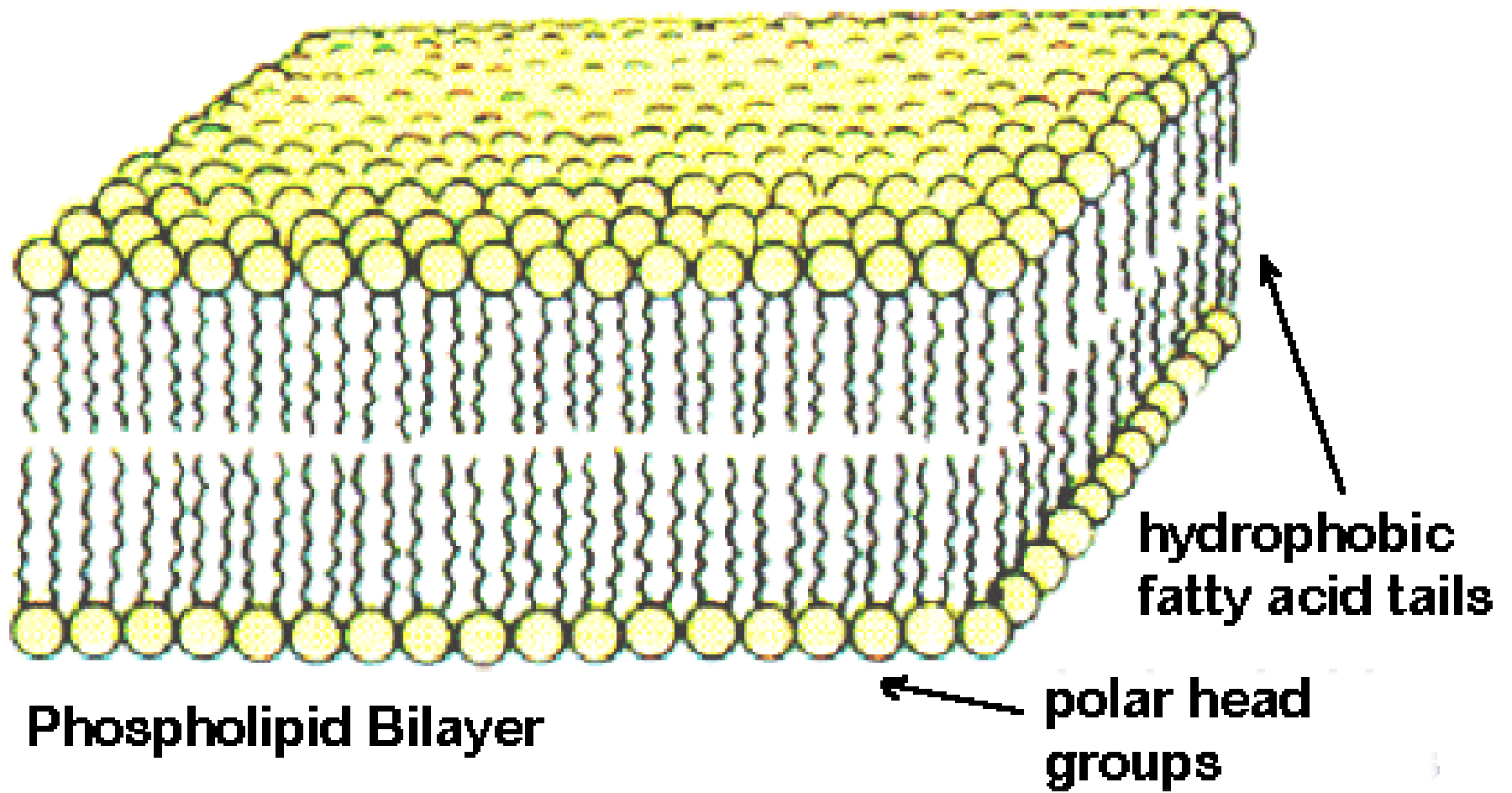
# Phospholipids — cell membrane component



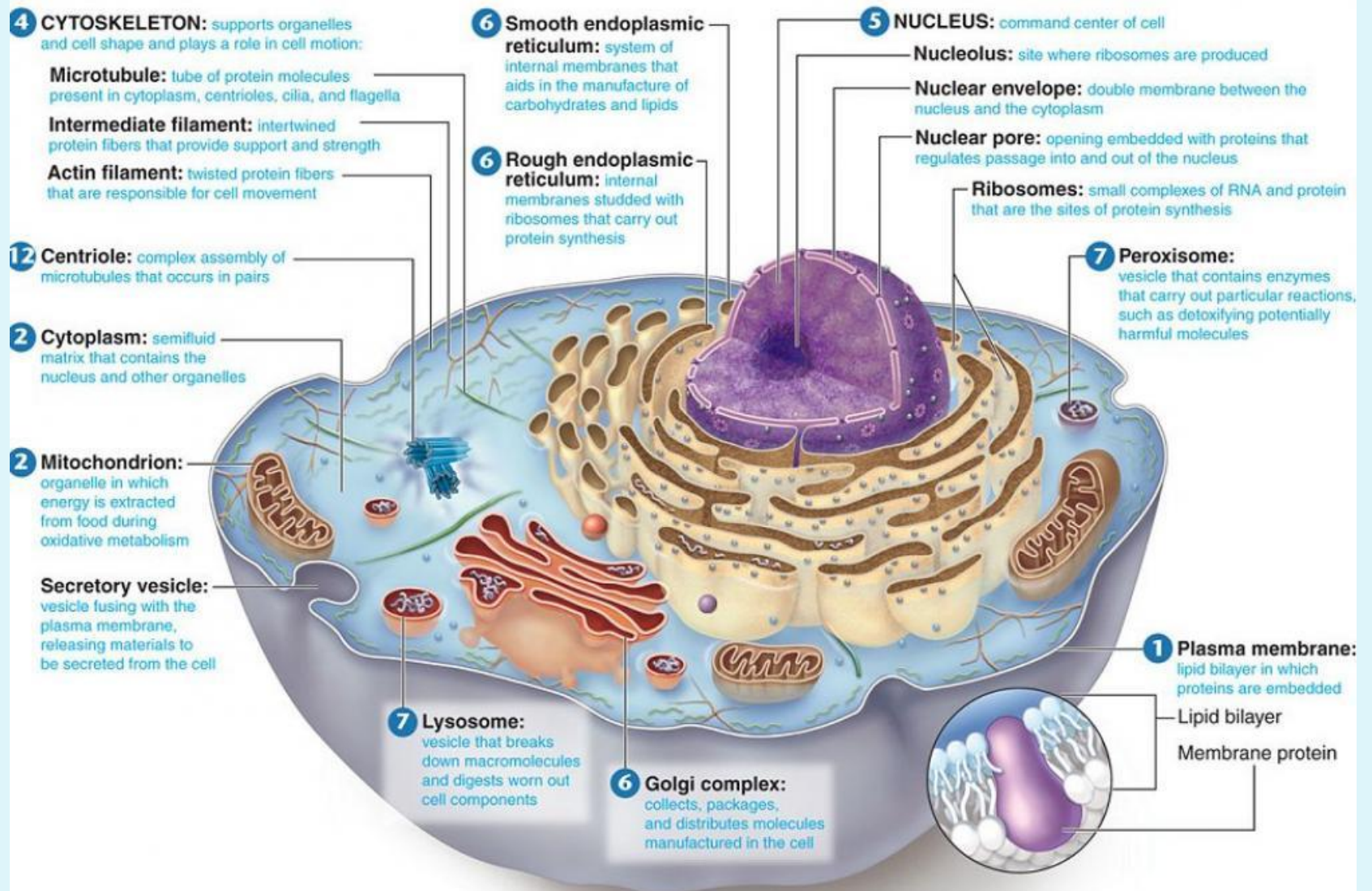
**Phospholipids:** fatty acids bound to glycerol, a phosphate group replaces one fatty acid.

Phosphate group is **hydrophilic**—“water loving head”

“Water fearing tails” are fatty acid chains—**hydrophobic**



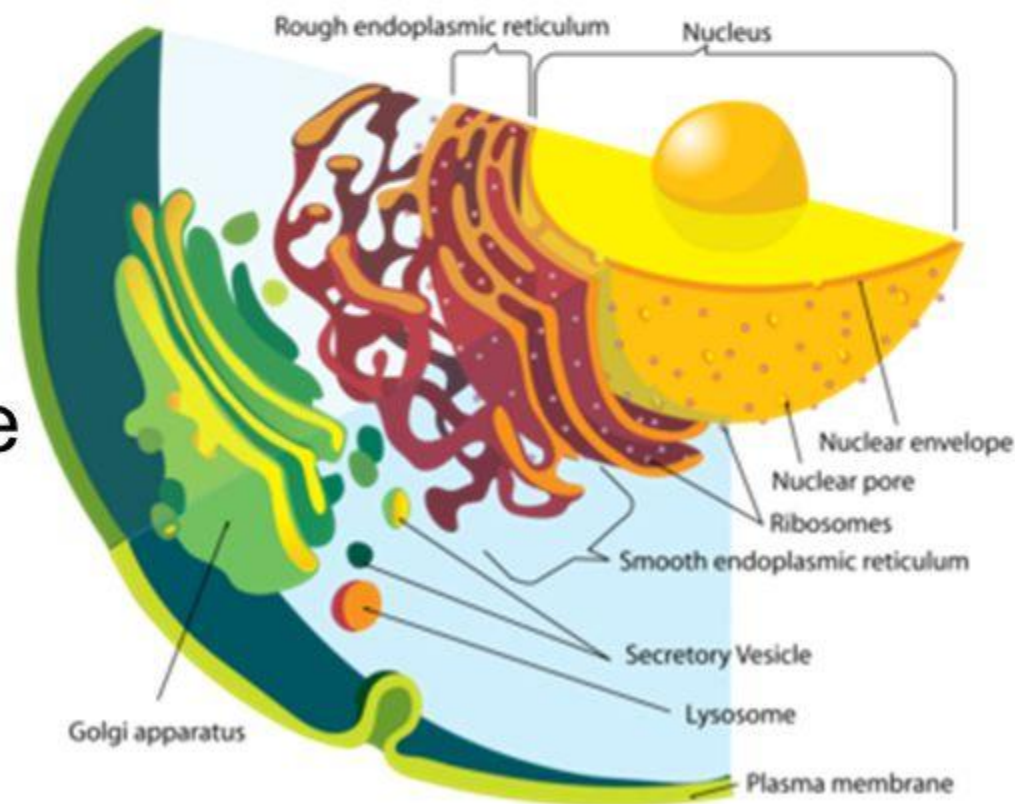
# Long Chain Fatty Acids- a Key Component of Cellular Membranes





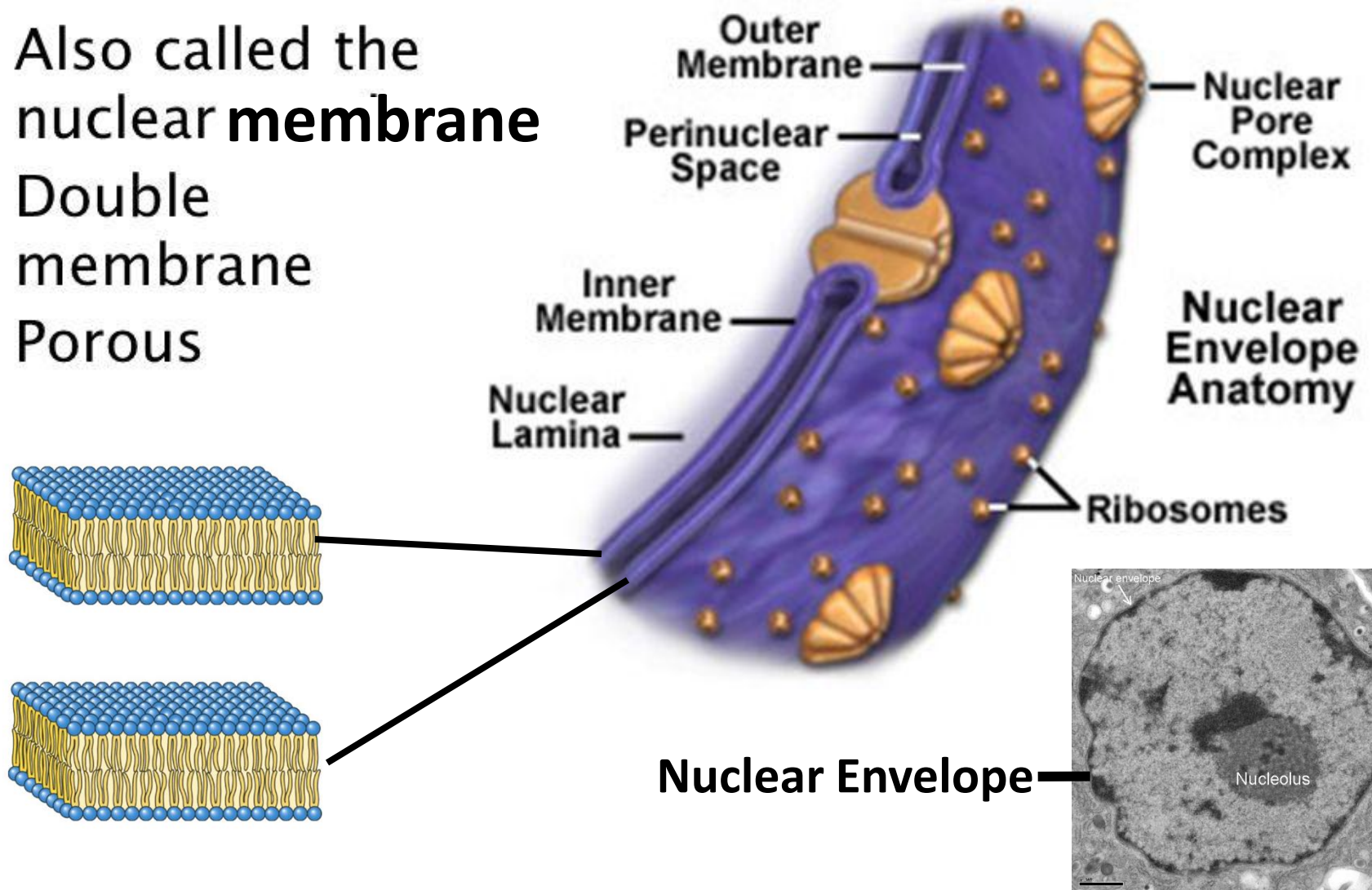
# The **ENDOPLASMIC** SYSTEM

- The nuclear envelope
- Endoplasmic reticulum
- Golgi apparatus
- Lysosomes
- Vacuoles
- Plasma membrane

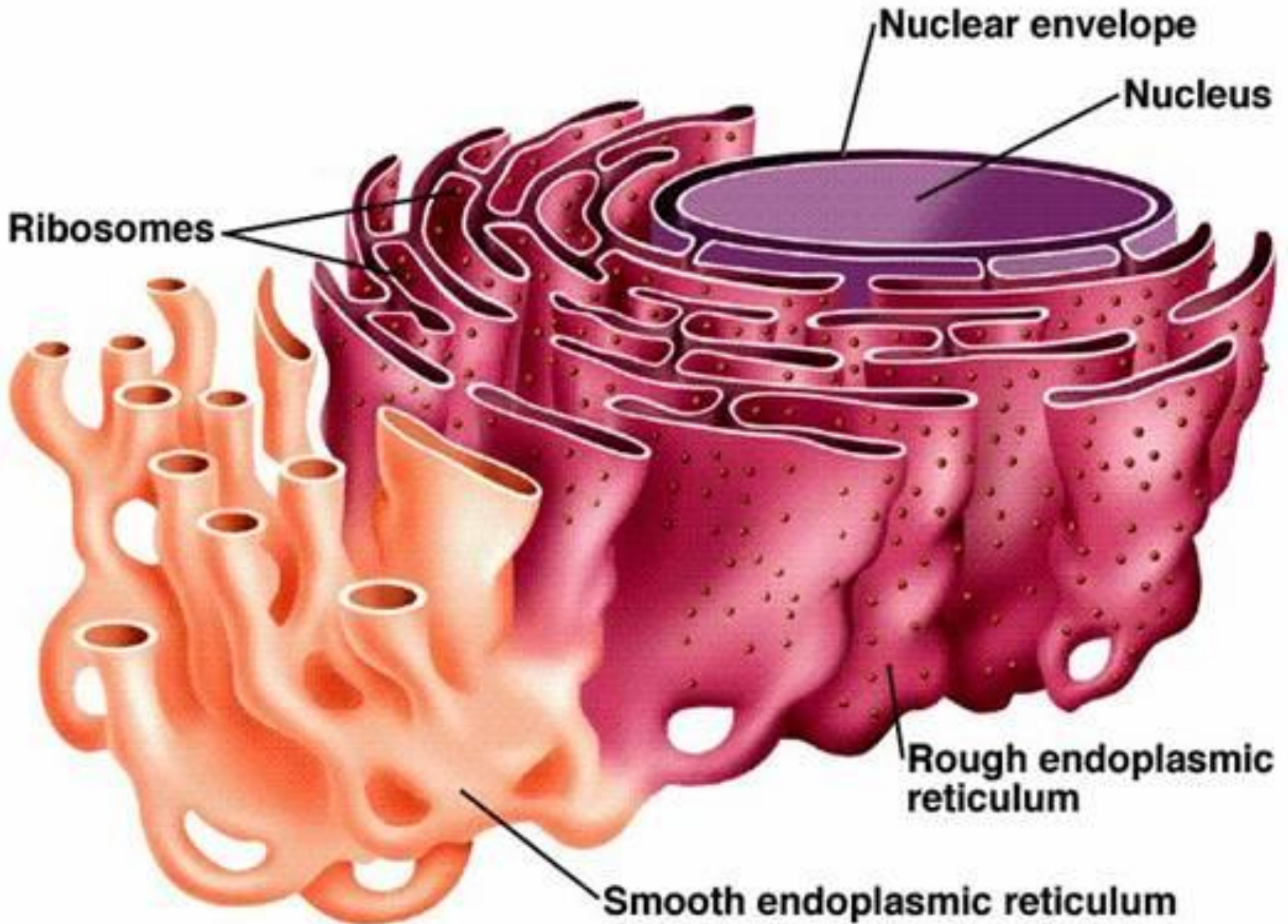


# Nuclear Envelope

- ▶ Also called the nuclear **membrane**
- ▶ Double membrane
- ▶ Porous

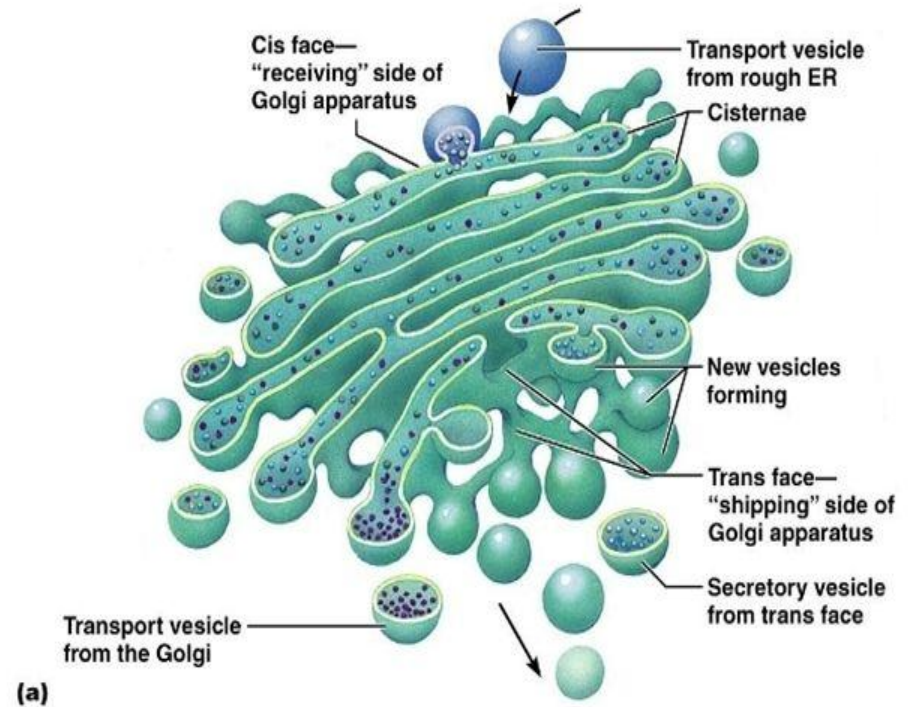


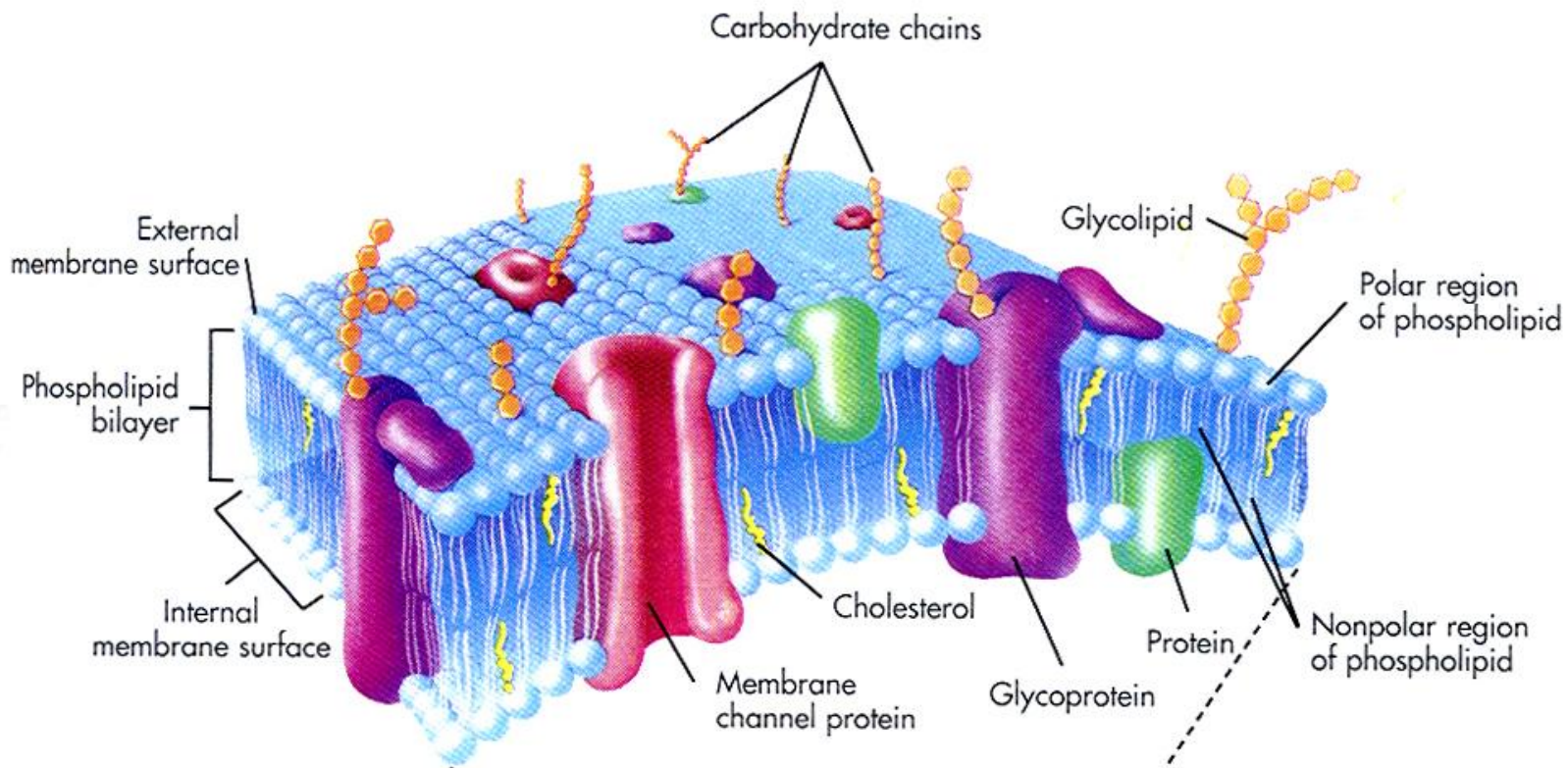
# SOME MEMBRANE SYSTEMS OF ANIMAL CELLS



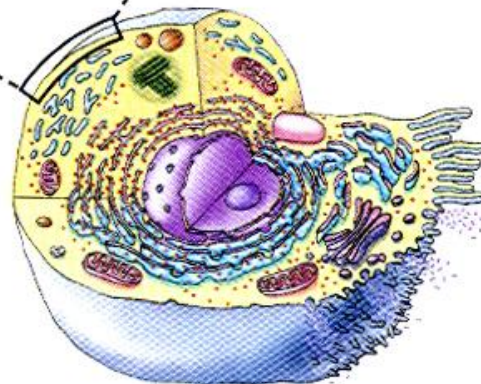
# Golgi Apparatus

- Modifies proteins by adding signaling sugars onto surface of protein.
- Unmodified protein arrives at Golgi inside a transport vesicle.
- Fuses with Golgi and is modified as it travels through Golgi
- Golgi membrane pinches off with modified protein inside.





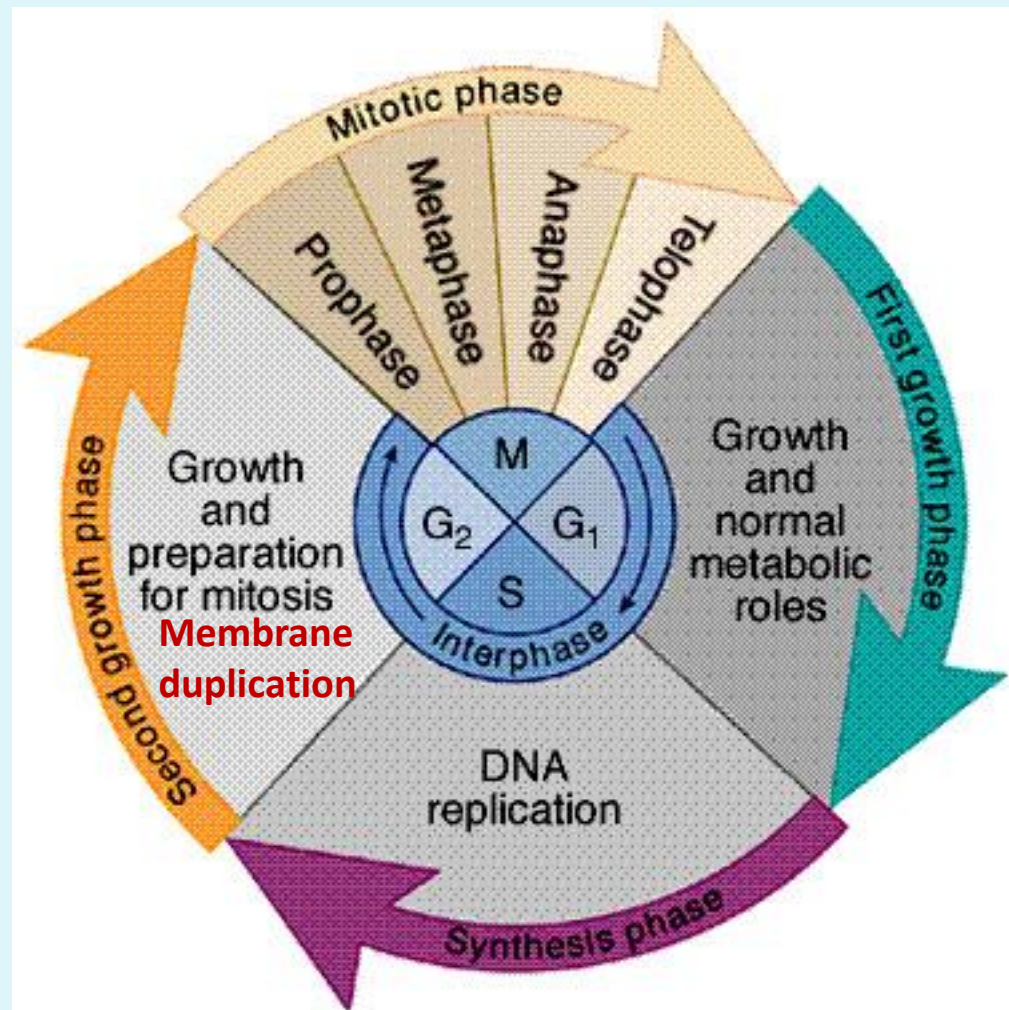
## Cell Plasma Membrane



- **Palmitate is one of the major fatty acid components of the human body; it is especially high in adipocytes and in cell membranes.**
- **The fatty acid composition of cell membranes varies widely with diet and other factors. Specifically, the composition of the membranes of cells can change during culture when different fatty acid salts are provided in the media.**



- **Fatty acids and their components can be absorbed from the diet or can be synthesized endogenously.**
- **Long chain fatty acids are synthesized in cells by fatty acid synthase (FASN). This synthesis is very energy-expensive for each carbon addition to the growing fatty acid chain.**
- **Palmitic acid (16 – carbon atoms) is the main fatty acid synthesized by FASN.**
- **Because fatty acids are required for construction of all cell membranes, fatty acids are required by all cells, especially rapidly proliferating cells.**



Our studies of the involvement of fatty acids in cancer utilizes prostate cancer as a model.



- **For a cell to proliferate, all cell membranes must be duplicated prior to mitosis. This requires high levels of fatty acids.**
- **Thus, cancers require an increased amount of fatty acids to grow rapidly; this has been confirmed by many studies which have found that high levels of FASN are correlated with tumor aggressiveness.**
- **Less proliferative cells (e.g., normal cells) require less fatty acids for which adequate levels may be provided by diet.**

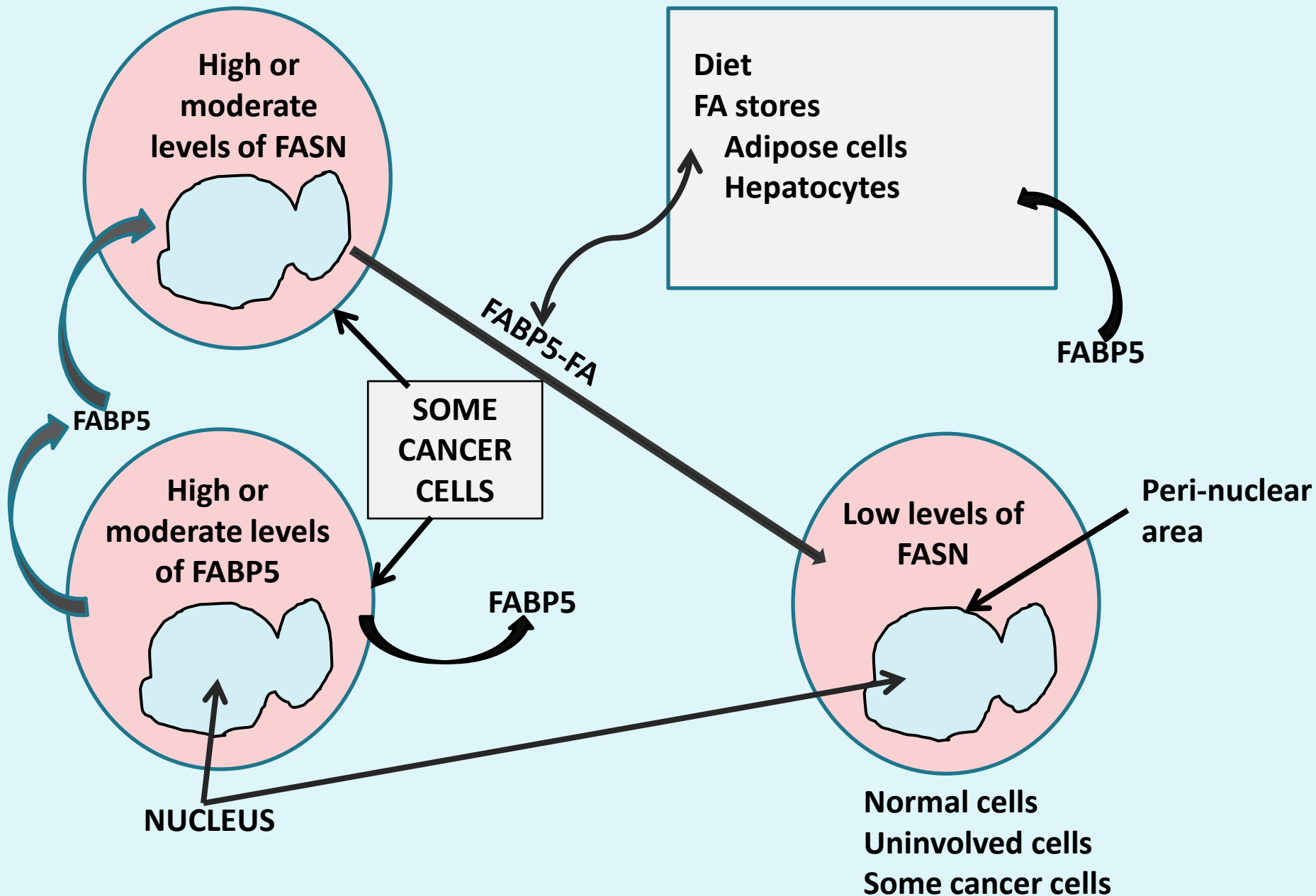
- **Fatty acids (FA) have limited solubility and must be transported to, into, and out of cells by a carrier protein.**



- **The carrier proteins for fatty acids vary**
- **with cell type.**



- **Our laboratory has been focused on the carrier protein, epidermal fatty acid binding protein (e-FABP) or fatty acid binding protein 5 (FABP5) which has variable expression in prostate cancer.**

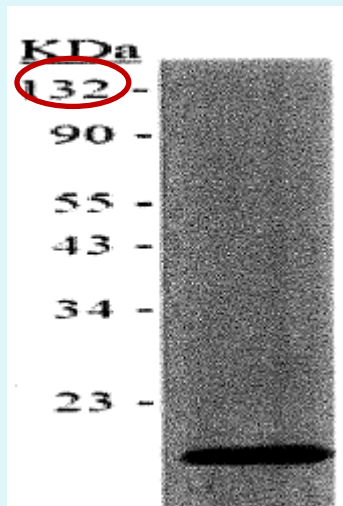


**As part of our effort to study and understand fatty acids in prostate cancer we need to study FABP5 and FASN.**

## **Problems in Immunohistochemistry**

- A. Tissues**
- B. Primary antibodies**
- C. Secondary detection system**
- D. Performance of assay (test and standard operating procedures)**
- E. Controls**
- F. Evaluating immunohistochemistry**
- G. Problem solving**

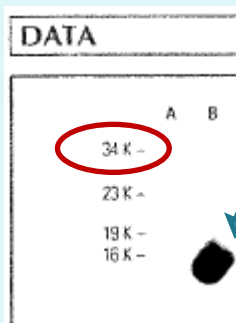
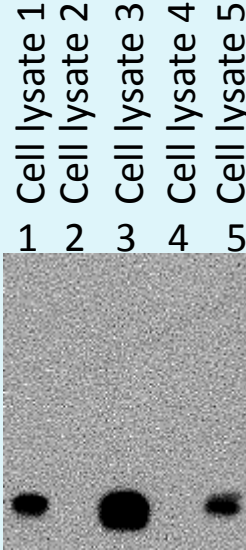
# Western blot analysis of FABP5 MW= 15KDa



Company 1

Polyclonal antibody

15 KDa



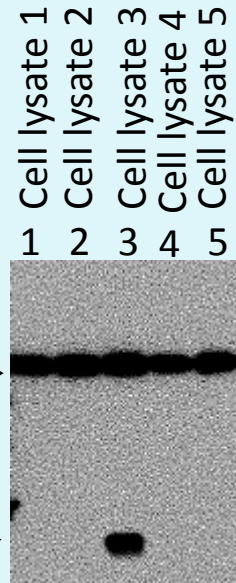
Company 2

Cell line A transfected with FABP5 as in B

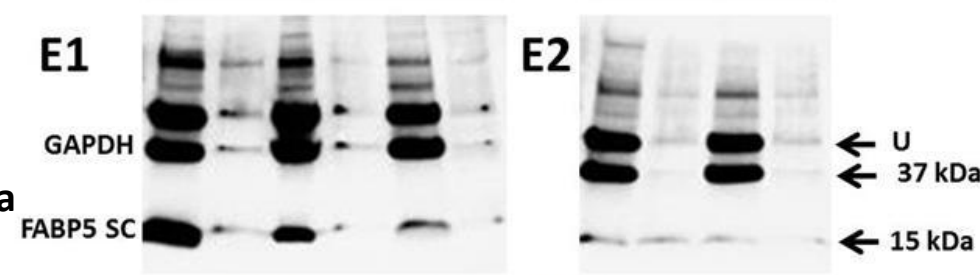
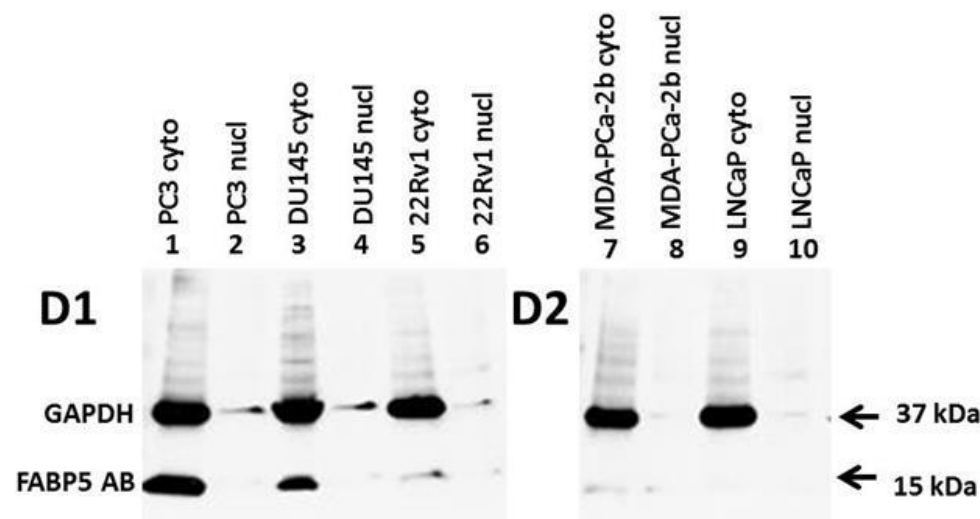
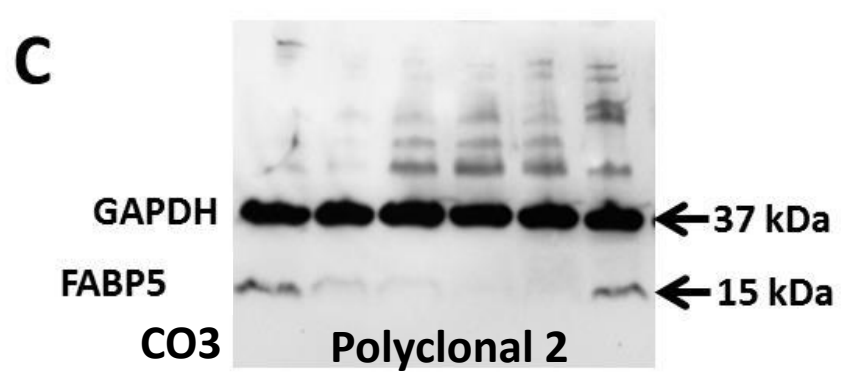
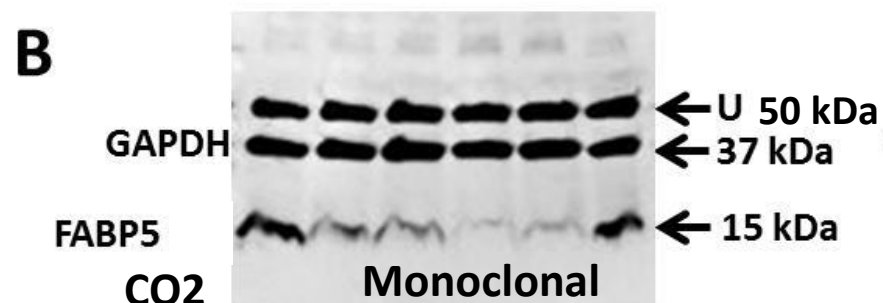
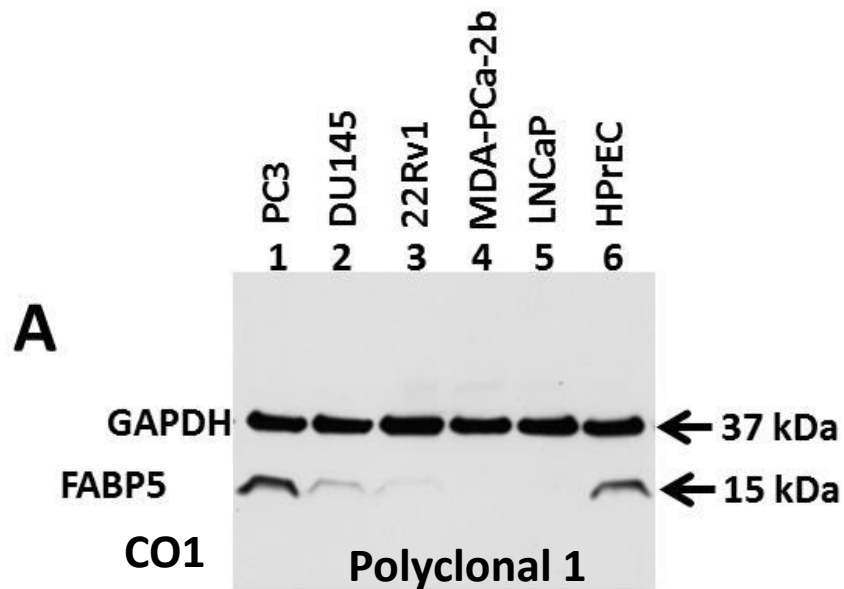
Monoclonal antibody

50 KDa

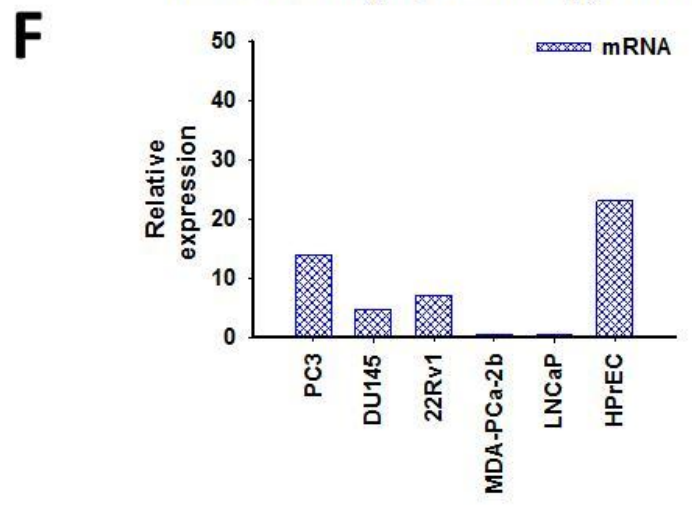
15 KDa



Will this band affect specificity in IHC

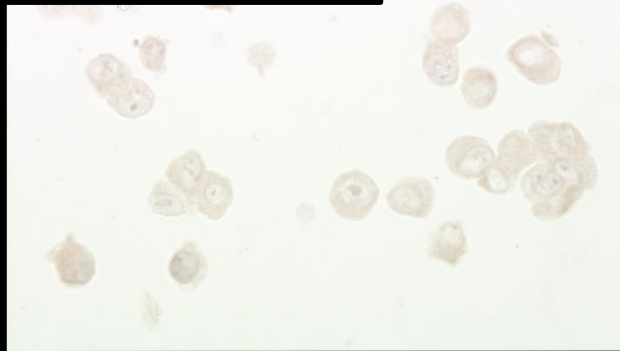


FABP5 mRNA expression in untreated cells relative to benign pooled biopsy standard

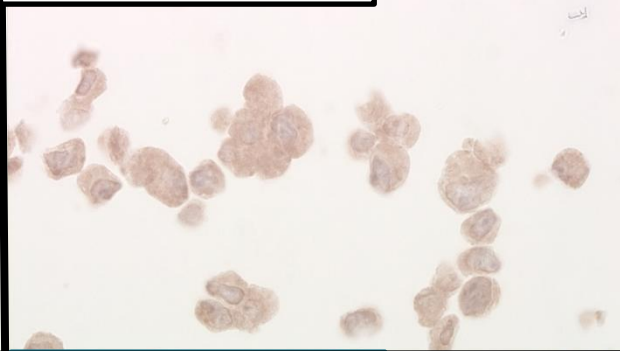


# LNCAP PROSTATE CANCER CELLS STAINED BY A RABBIT POLYCLONAL ANTIBODY TO FABP5

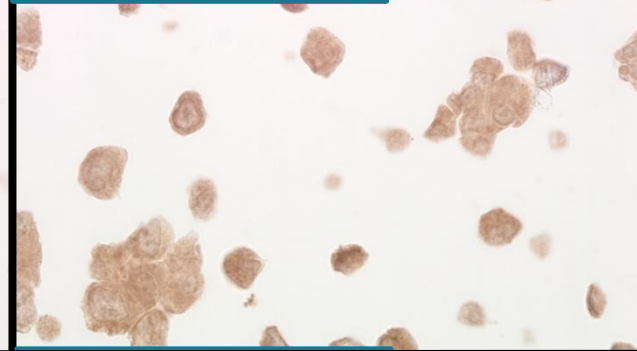
Rabbit polyclonal dilution 1/400



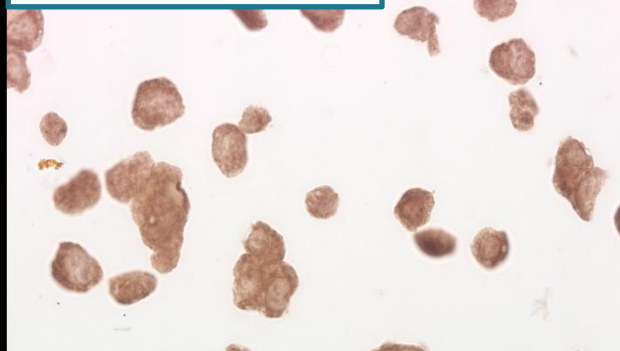
Rabbit polyclonal dilution 1/300



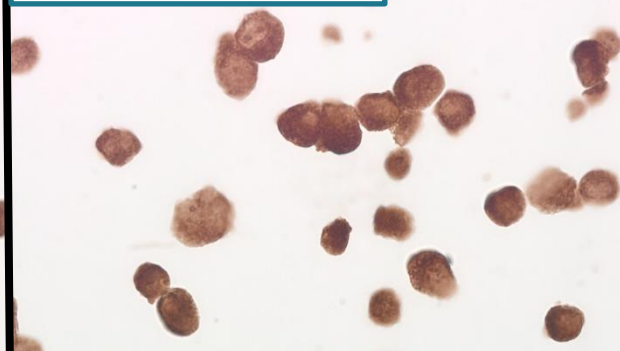
Rabbit polyclonal dilution 1/200



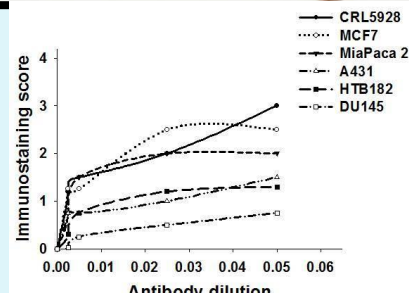
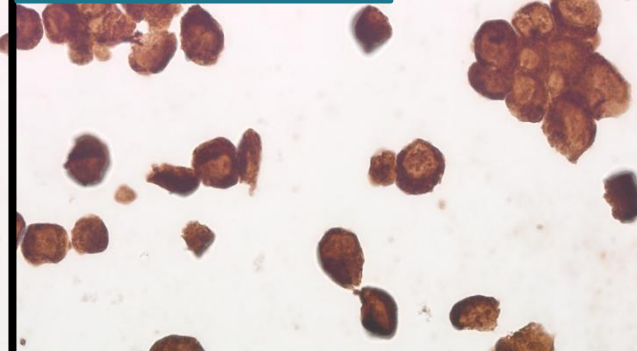
Rabbit polyclonal dilution 1/100



Rabbit polyclonal dilution 1/50

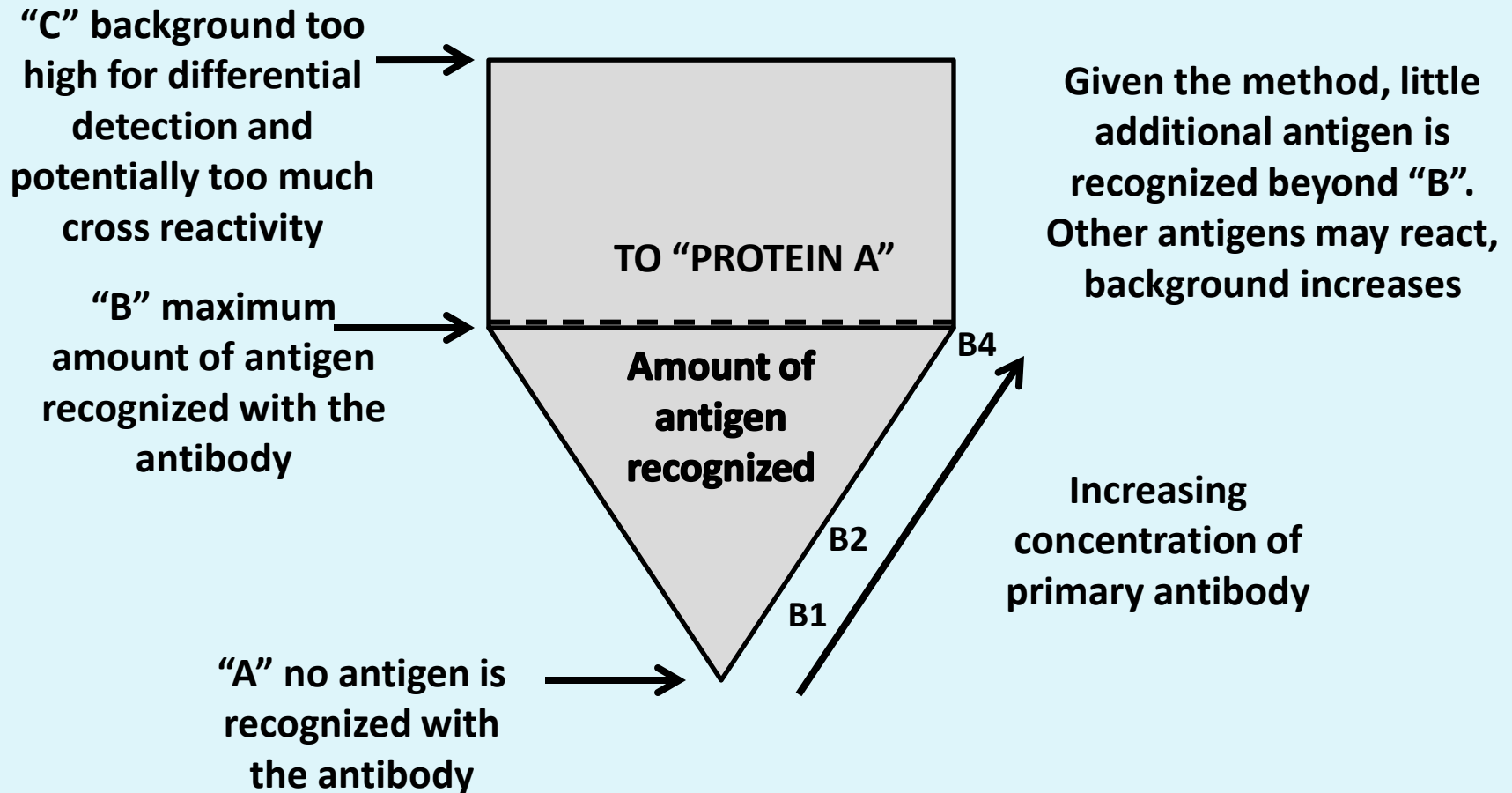


Rabbit polyclonal dilution 1/10



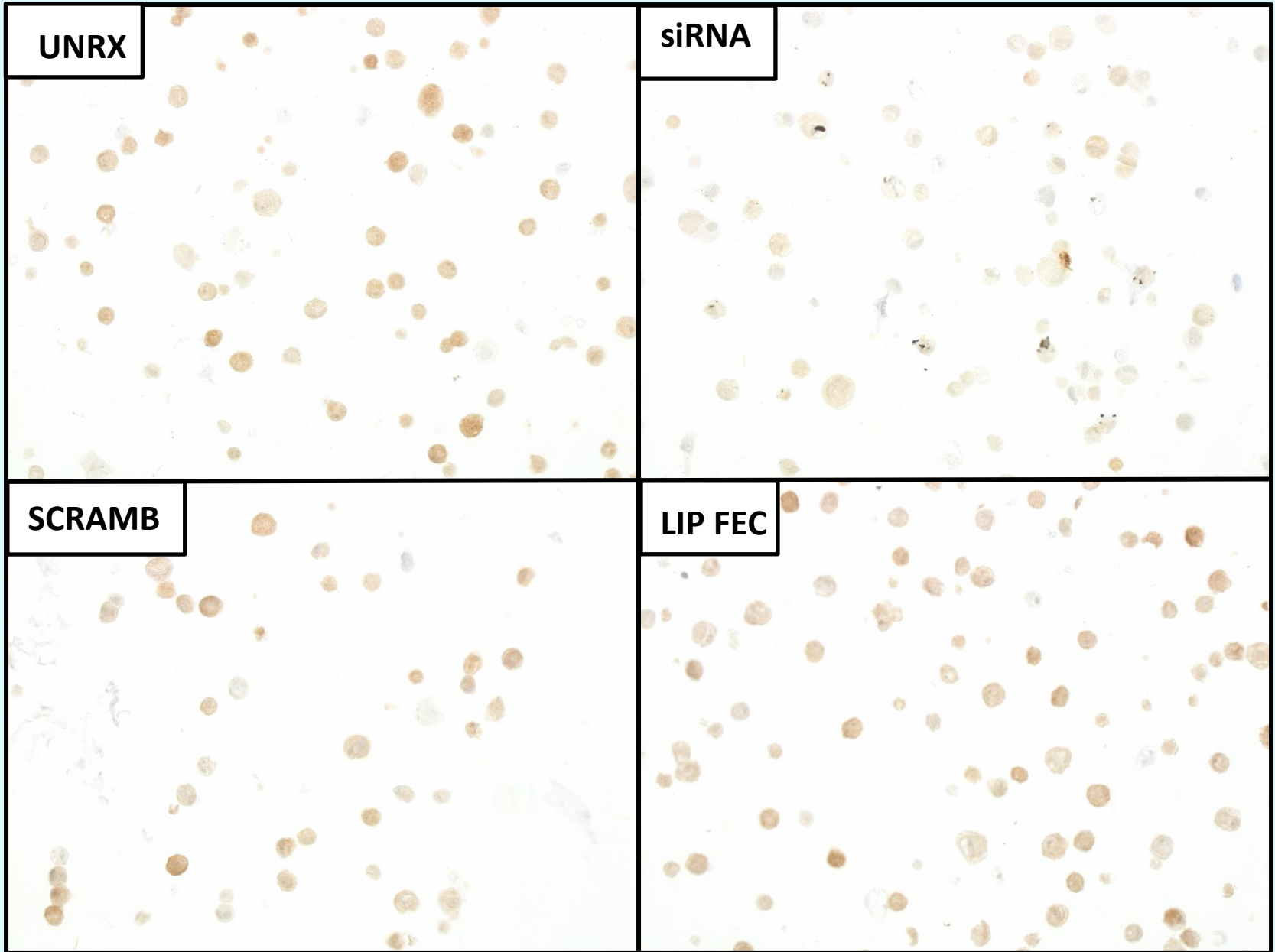
# Problems in Immunohistochemistry

## Primary Antibody – Sensitivity

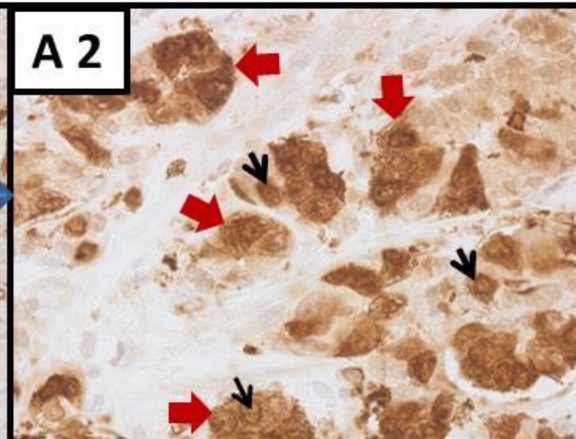
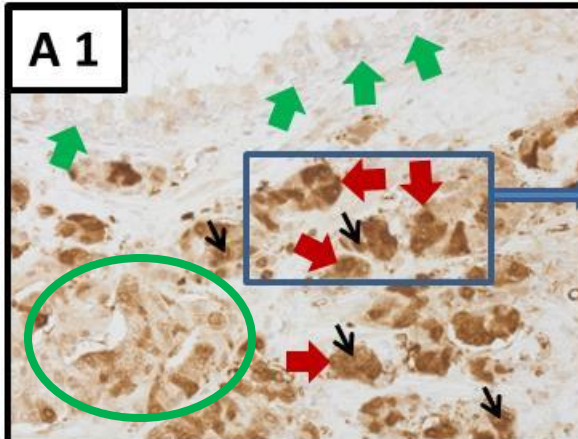




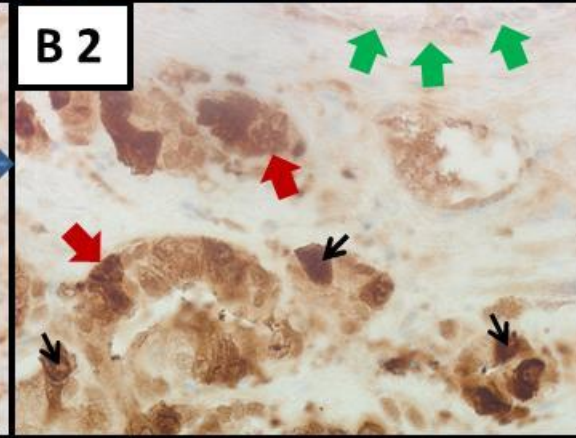
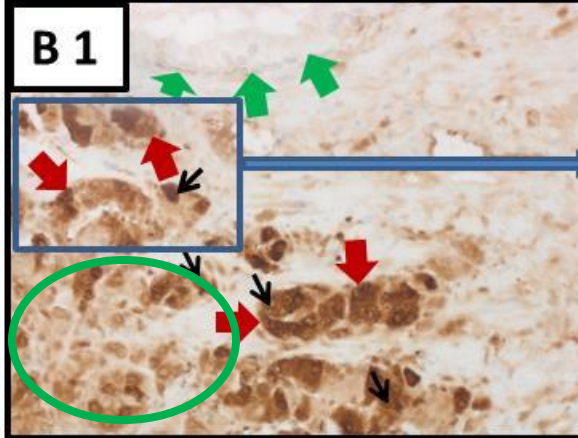
**FABP5 Downregulated by siRNA in PC3 Cells and Stained by Antibody from Company 2**



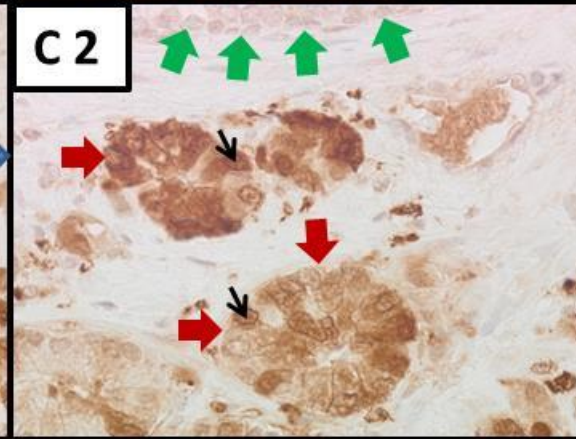
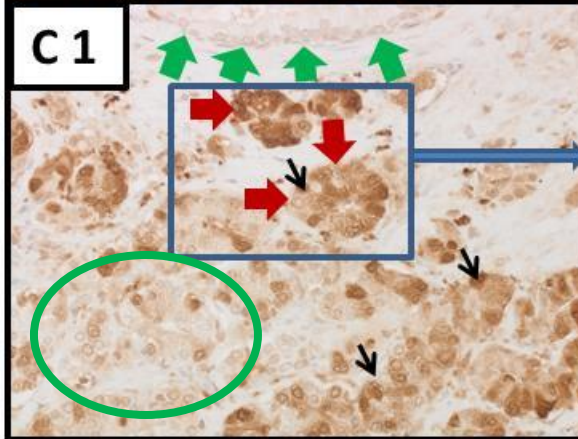
FABP5 AB

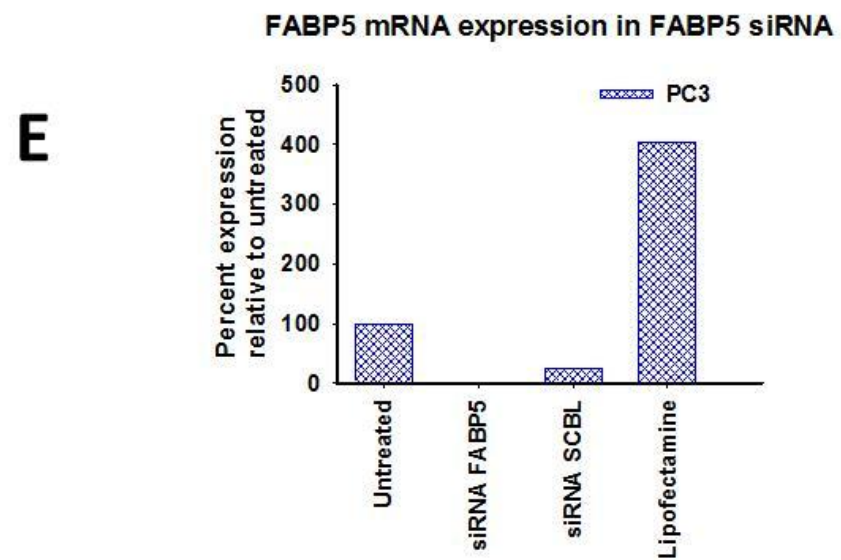
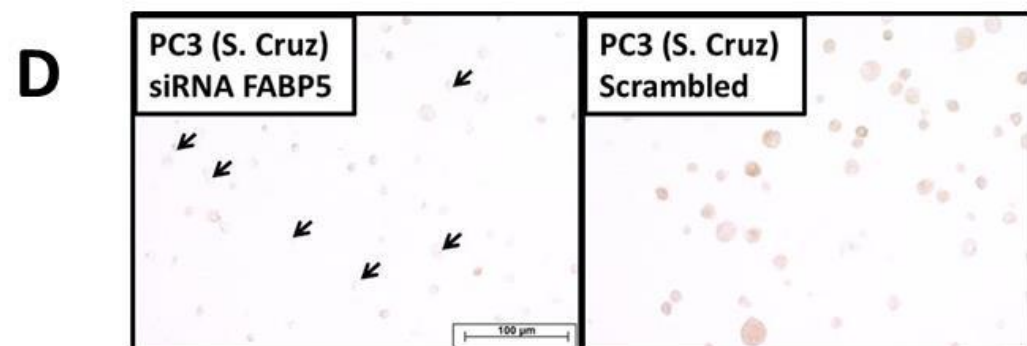
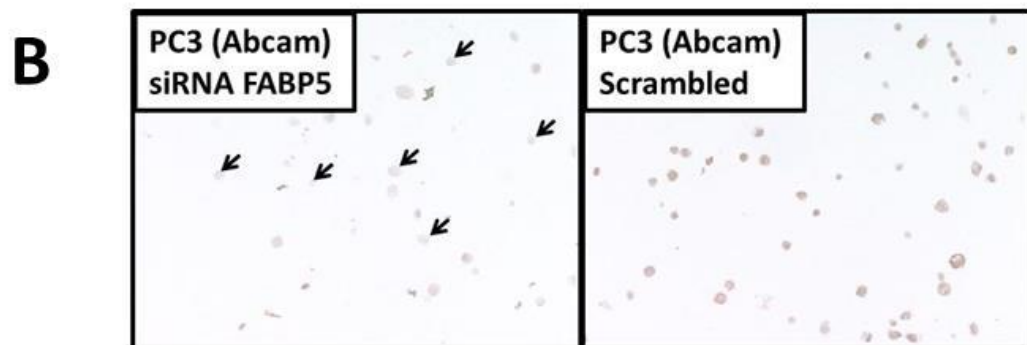


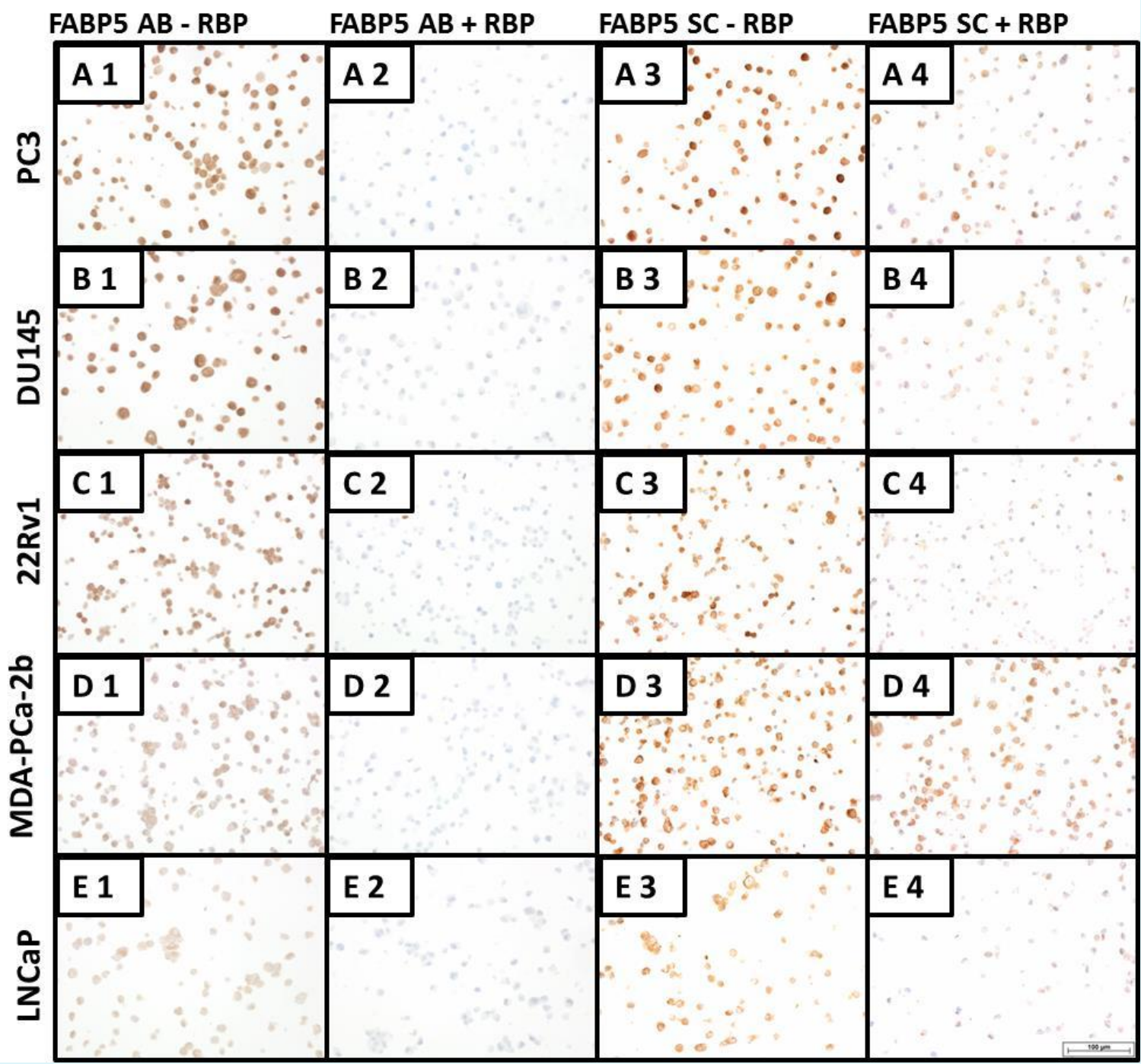
FABP5 SC



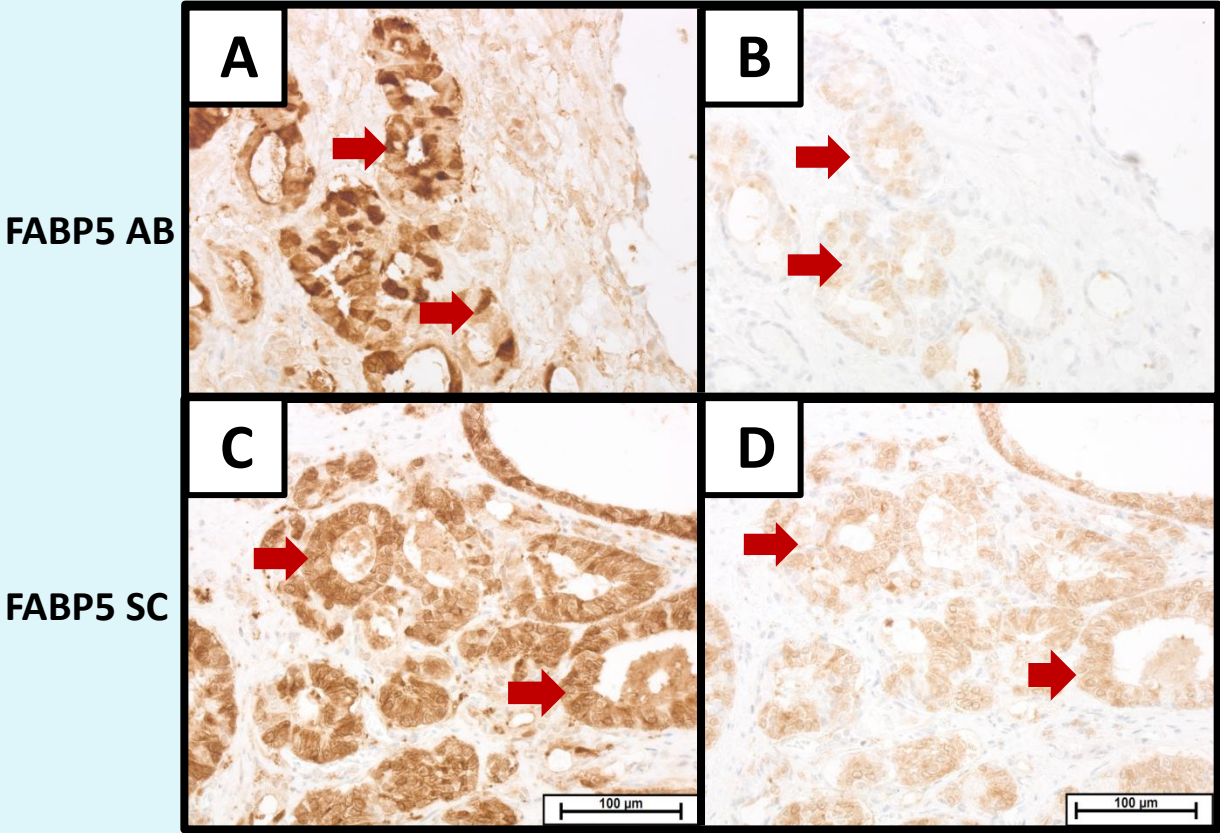
FABP5 HY







# RECOMBINANT PEPTIDE BLOCKING OF ANTIBODY TO FABP5



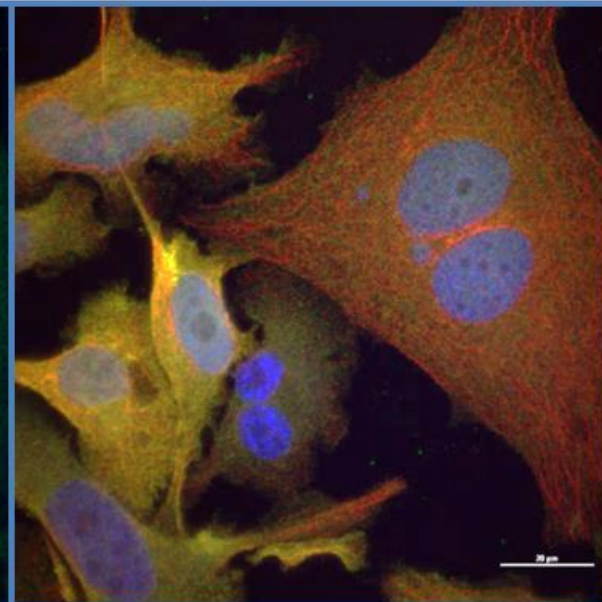
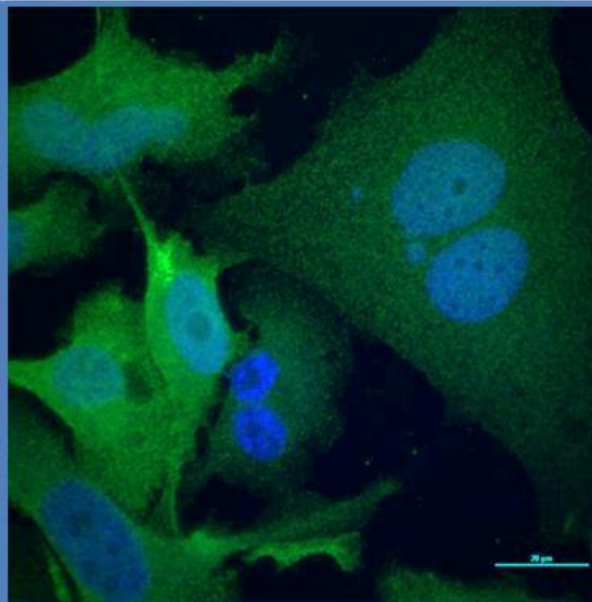
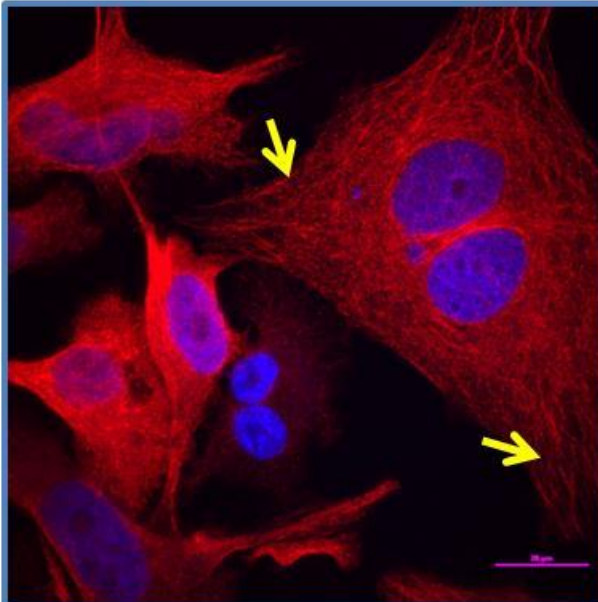
PC3 SC (594) /AB (488) confocal microscopy

594 Channel

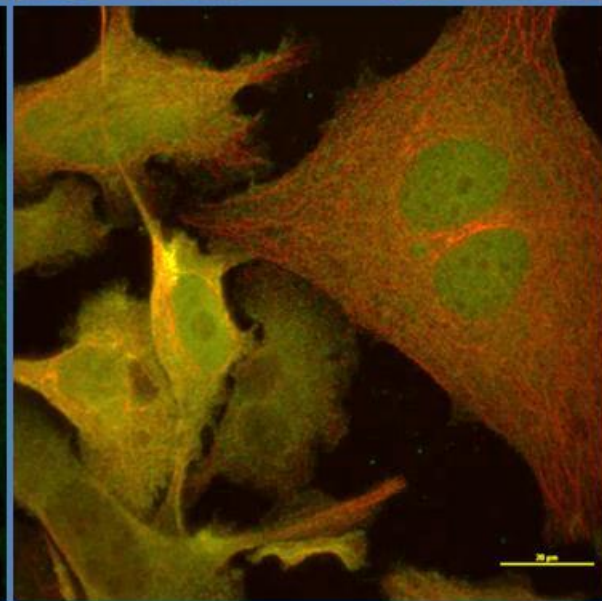
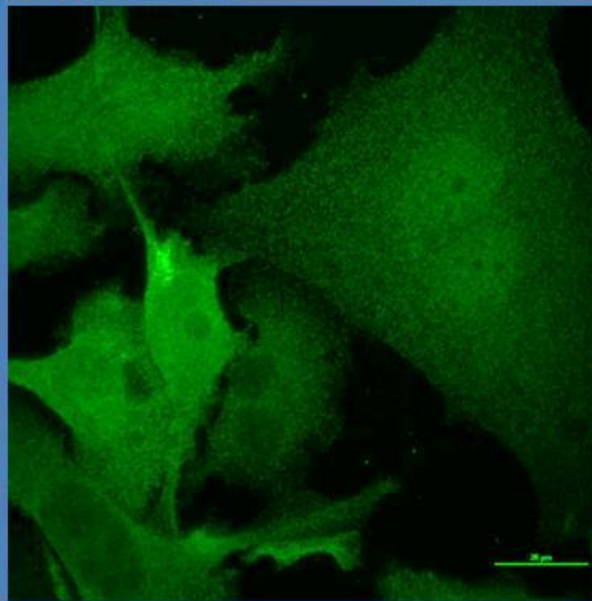
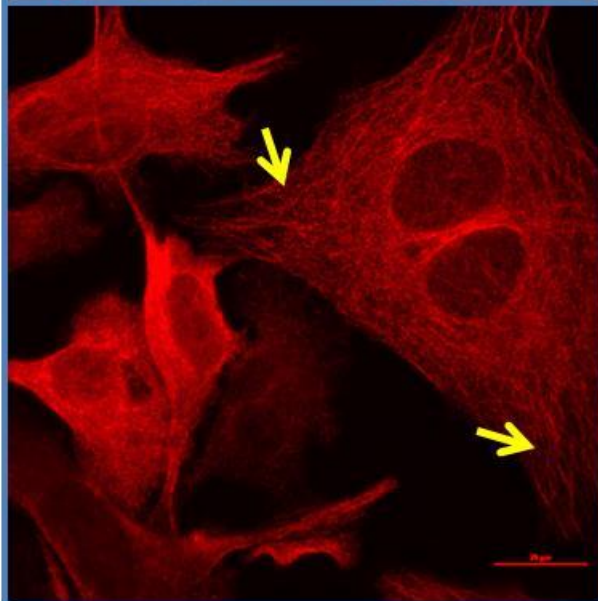
488 Channel

Merged

+ DAPI Channel



- DAPI Channel

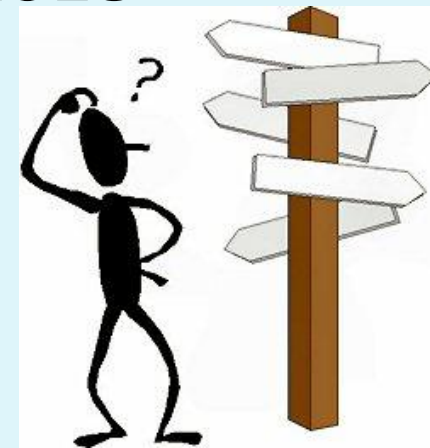


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