### Ch. 5: Cell Membrane + Signaling

### Cell membranes are fluid mosaics:

Selective Permeability - When a membrane allows some substances to cross more easily than others.

Amphipathic - A molecule with both a hydrophilic region and a hydrophobic region.

Ex. Phospholipid (Hydrophilic head & hydrophobic tail).

Fluid Mosaic Model - The membrane is a mosaic of protein molecules bobbing in a fluid bilayer of phospholipids.

The unsaturated hydrocarbon tails of some phospholipids keep membranes fluid at lower temperatures, while saturated hydrocarbon tails increase viscosity (resistance to flow) of the membrane.

# Cholesterol helps membranes resist changes in fluidity.

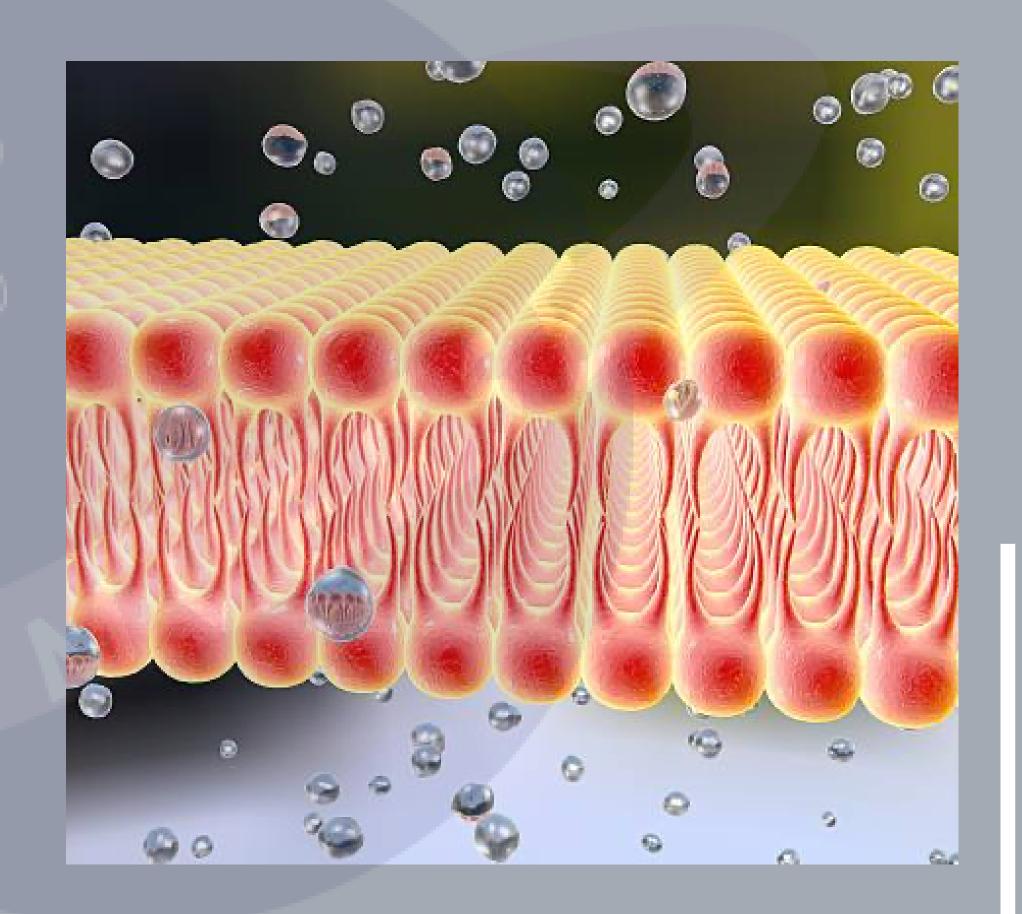
Integral Proteins - Penetrate the hydrophobic interior of the lipid bilayer.

Ex. Transmembrane proteins.

Peripheral Proteins - Not embedded in the lipid bilayer, instead loosely bound to the surface of the membrane. SHORT CHAINS OF SUGARS LINKED TO PROTEINS (GLYCOPROTEINS) AND LIPIDS (GLYCOLIPIDS) ON THE EXTERIOR SIDE OF THE PLASMA MEMBRANE INTERACT WITH SURFACE MOLECULES OF OTHER CELLS.

### **Functions of Membrane Proteins**

- Transport
- Enzymatic Activity
- Signal Transduction
- Cell-to-cell Recognition
- Intercellular Joining
- Attachment to the cytoskeleton & ECM



## Membrane Structure results in Selective Permeability:

Selective permeability of the plasma membrane controls the cells exchanges of molecules and ions with its surroundings.

Hydrophobic molecules are soluble in lipids and pass through membranes rapidly, whereas hydrophilic molecules and ions usually need specific transport proteins.

Transport Proteins - Channel proteins that function by having a hydrophilic channel that certain molecules or atomic ions use as a tunnel through the membrane.

Ex. Aquaporins (Help water pass through the cell membrane).

Passive Transport is the Diffusion of a Substance across a Membrane with no Energy Investment:

Diffusion - The movement of particles of any substance from high to low concentration.

Concentration Gradient - The region along which the density of a substance increases or decreases.

Passive Transport - The diffusion of a substance across a biological membrane requiring no energy.

Osmosis - The diffusion of water across a selectively permeable membrane (Artificial & Cellular).

Tonicity - The ability of a surrounding solution to cause a cell to lose or gain water.

Hypertonic - More solute outside the cell (Cell loses water & shrivels).

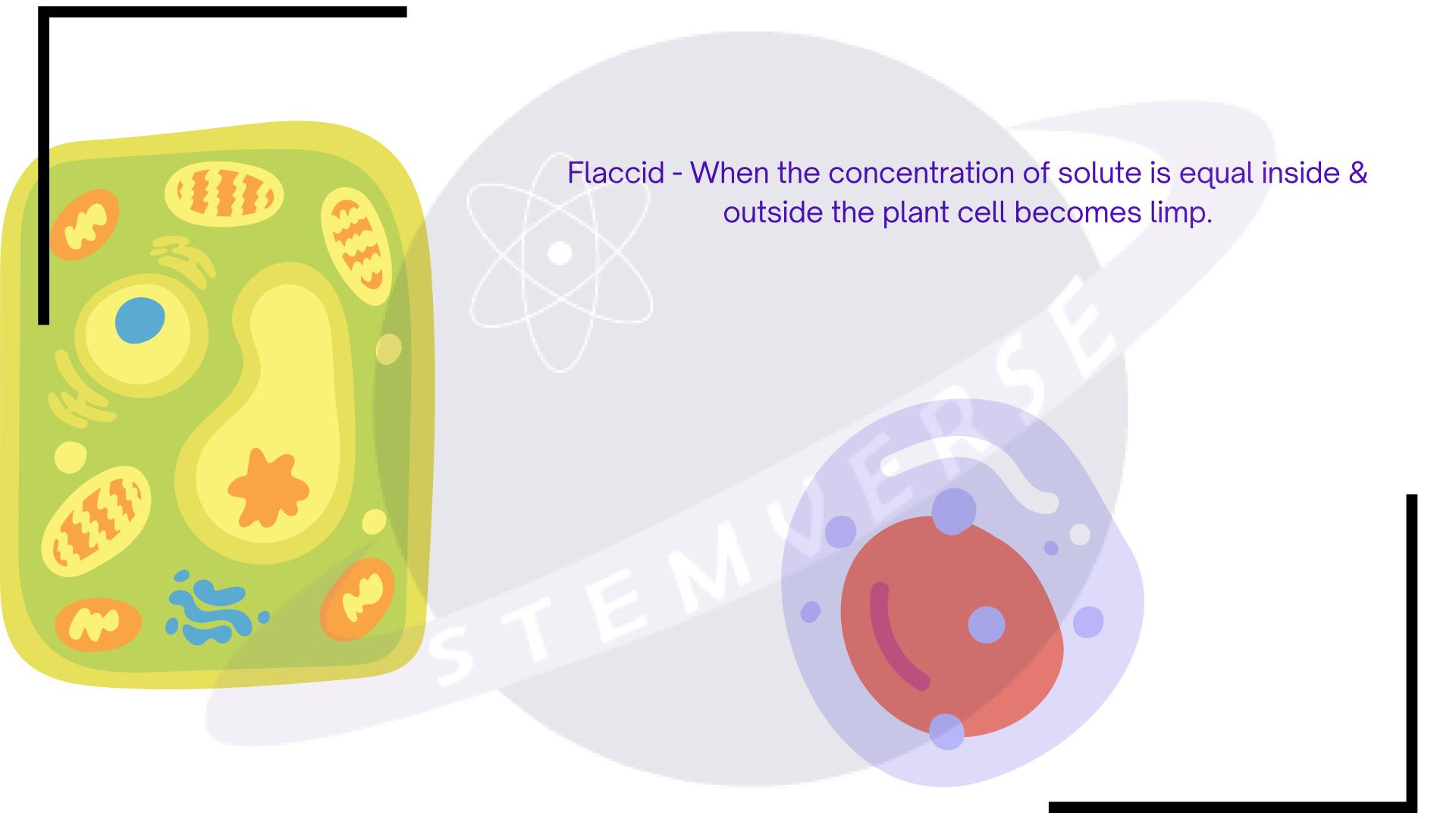
Hypotonic - Less solute outside the cell (Cell gains water & bursts).

Isotonic - Same solute concentration outside & inside the cell (Normal for animal cells).

Osmoregulation -The control of solute concentrations & water balance.

Turgid - When a plant is placed in a hypotonic solution it becomes firm (Normal for plant cells).

Plasmolysis -When a plant is placedina hypertonic solution it shrivels.



Facilitated Diffusion - The diffusion of molecules with the help of transport proteins.

Transport proteins are specific to a molecule.

Channel transport proteins.

Two types are:

Carrier transport proteins.

### Ion Channel -Channel proteins that transport ions.

# Gated Channels Open or close in response to a stimulus.

Stimulus can be electrical or chemical.

Active transport uses energy to move solutes against their gradients:

Active Transport - Consumes free energy so that a cell can maintain internal concentrations of small solutes that differ from concentrations in its environment.

Sodium Potassium Pump -Exchanges NA+ (Sodium) for K+ (Potassium) across the plasma membrane. The cytoplasmic side of the membrane is negatively charged relative to the extracellular side because of an unequal distribution of cations & anions on both sides.

Electrochemical Gradient - The combination of a chemical and electric force acting on an ion.

Electrogenic Pump - A transport protein that generates voltage across a membrane.

Proton Pump - The main electrogenic pump of plants, fungi & bacteria.

Cotransport - A transport protein can couple the "downhill" diffusion of the solute to the "uphill" transport of a second substance against its own concentration gradient. A Bulk transport across the plasma membrane occurs by exocytosis & endocytosis:

Exocytosis - When the cell secretes certain biological molecules by the fusion of vesicles with the plasma membrane.

Endocytosis - When the cell takes in molecules and particulate matter by forming new vesicles from the plasma membrane.

- Three types are:
  - Phagocytosis.
  - Pinocytosis.
  - Receptor-mediated endocytosis.

### The Plasma Membrane Plays a Key Role in Most Cell Signaling:

### Eukaryotic cells communicate by local and long-distance signaling.

Animals have gap junctions & plants have plasmodesmata.

### Local signaling in animal cells is called paracrine signaling.

- Ex. Growth factors.
- Synaptic signaling.

For long distance signaling, animals and plants use hormones.

Hormones (Animal Cells) - Also called endocrine signaling is when specialized cells release hormones, which travel via the circulatory system to other parts of the body, where they reach target cells.

Hormones (Plant Cells) - Reach distant targets via plant vessels (tubes), but others move through cell or diffuse through the air as gas.

### 3 Stages of Cell Signaling

Reception - The target cell's detection of a signaling molecule coming from outside the cell.

Transduction - Step or series of steps that convert the signal to a form that can bring a specific cellular response.

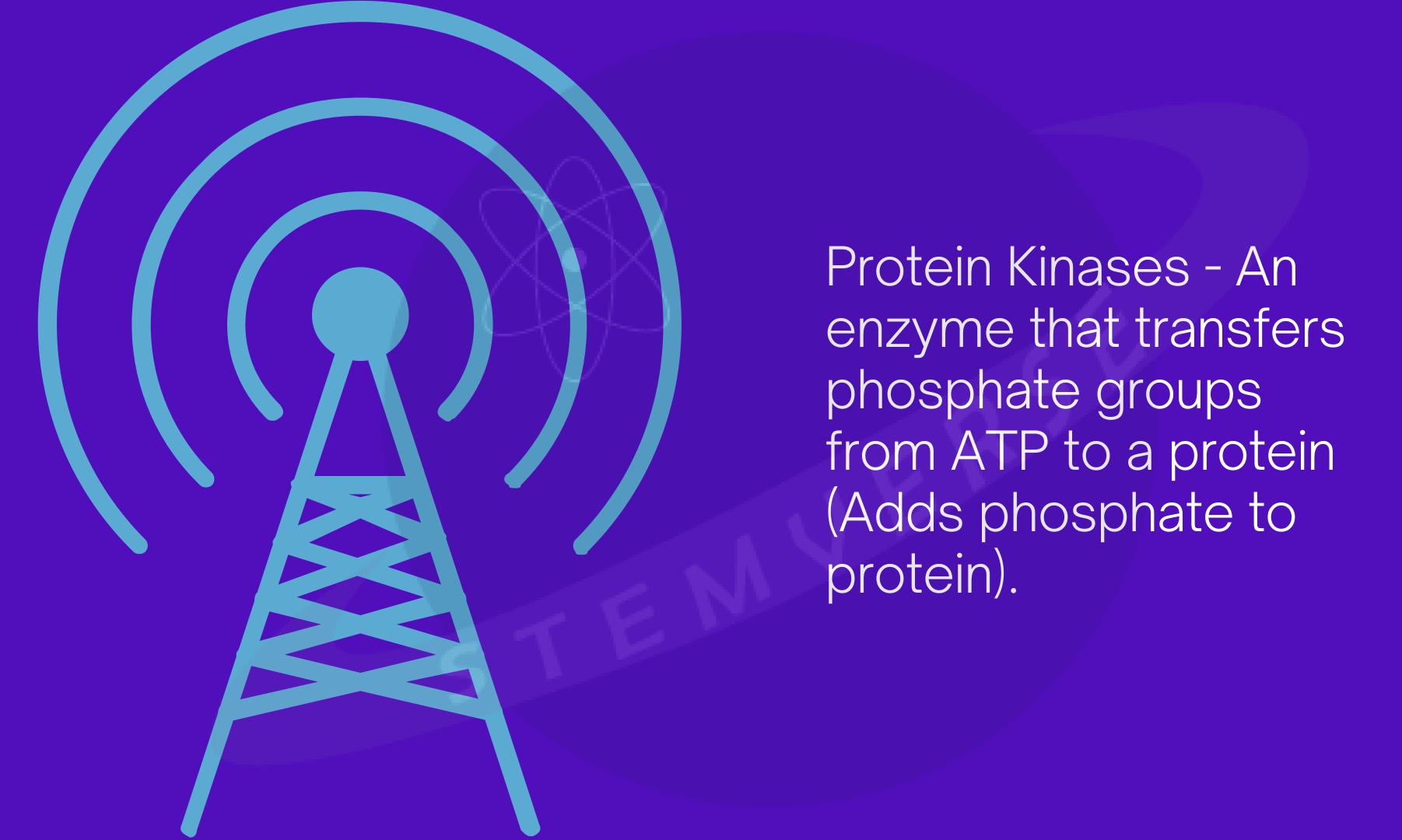
Requires a signal transduction pathway (Phosphorylation Cascade).

### Response -Cellular response triggered by the transducer signal.

Ligand - A molecule that specifically binds to another molecule.

Transmembrane Receptor - transmits information from the extracellular environment to the inside of the cell by changing shape when a specific ligand binds to it.

- G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) Work with cytoplasmic G proteins.
- Ligand-gated ion channels Open or close in response to binding by signaling molecules.



Protein Phosphatases - Enzymes that can rapidly remove phosphate groups from proteins (Dephosphorylation).

Second Messengers -Small, nonprotein, watersoluble molecules or ions involved in signaling pathways.

- Ex. Cyclic AMP (cAMP)
- Ex. Calcium ions (Ca 2+)

The cells response to a signal may be the regulation of transcription in the nucleus or of an activity in the cytoplasm.