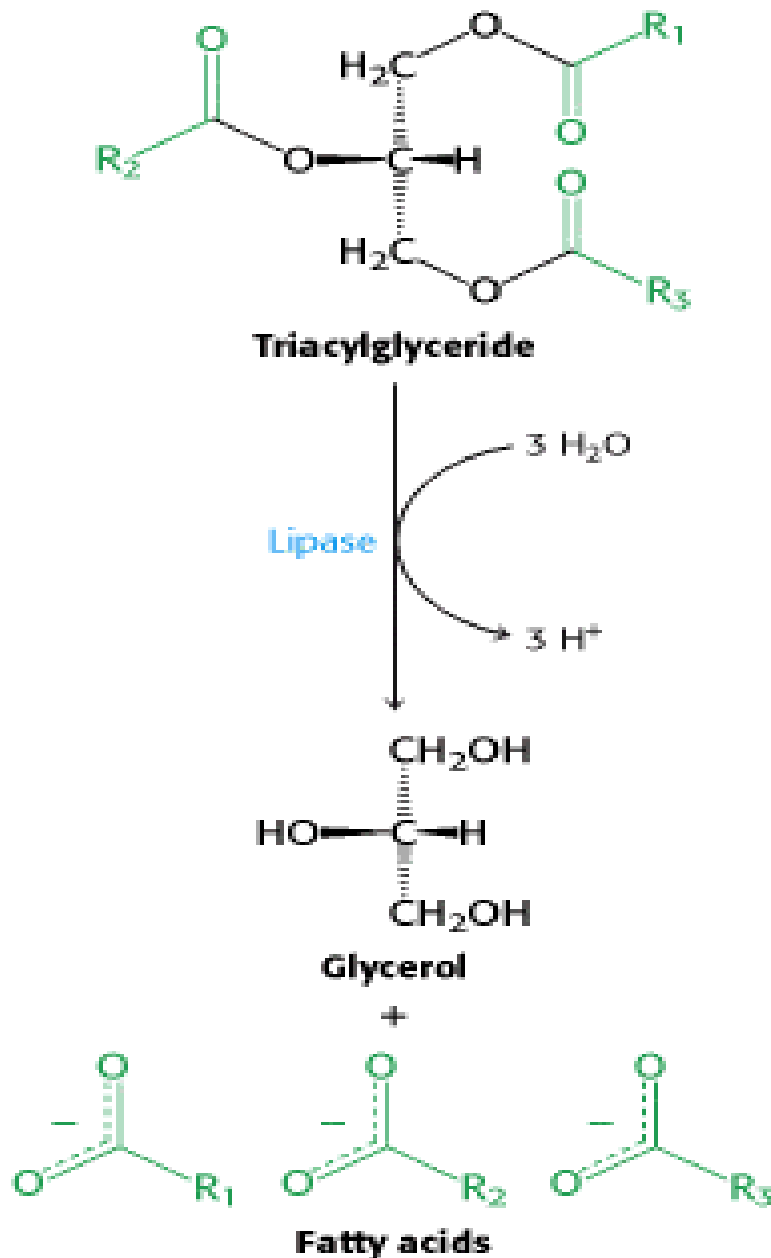
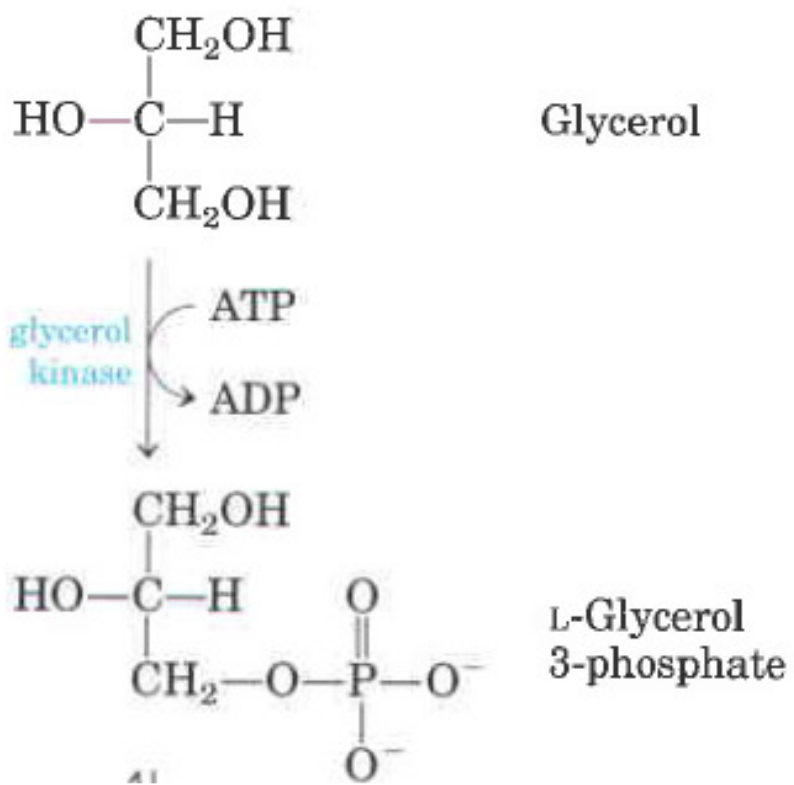


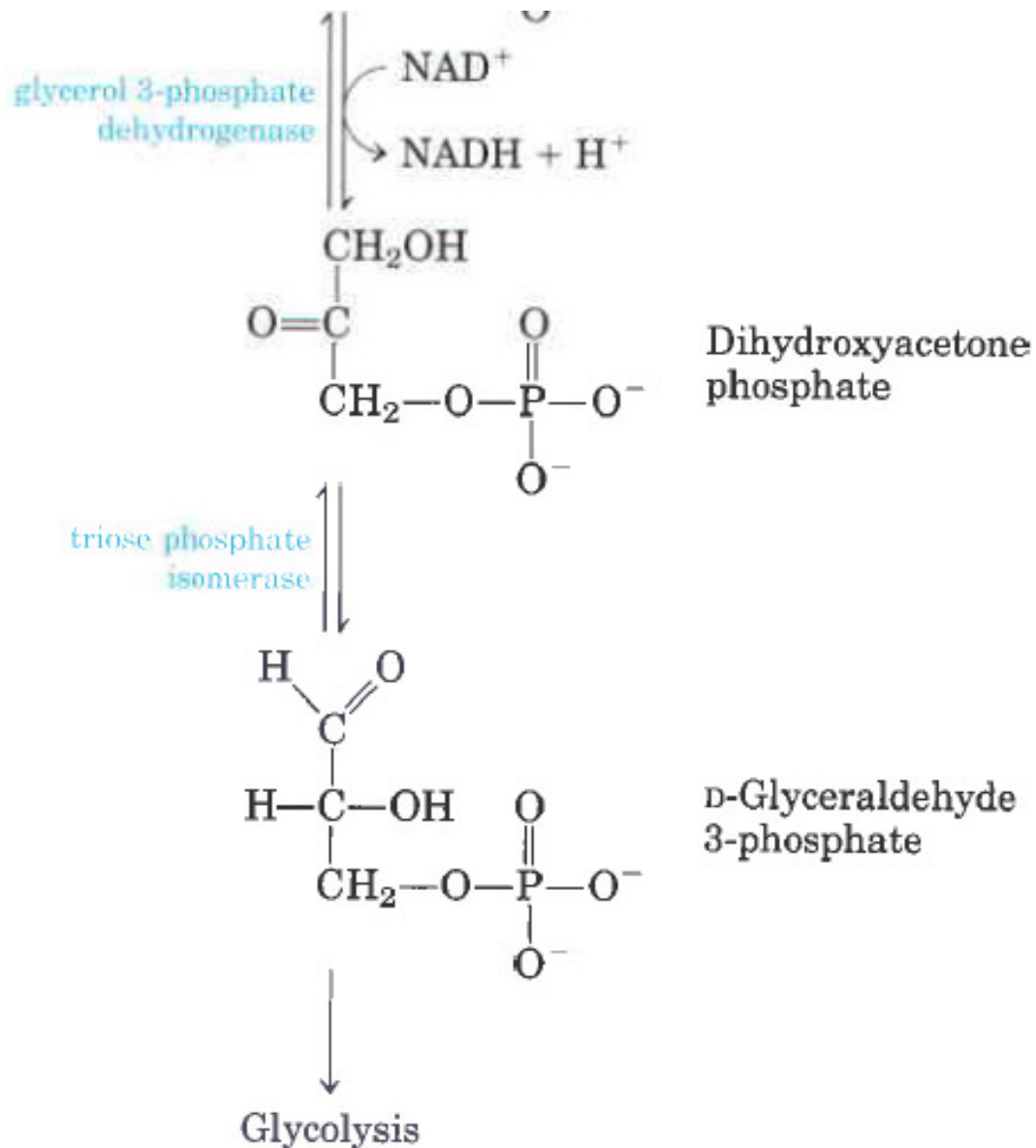
BETA OXIDATION/LIPIDS/ UG SEM 3 HONS/SDG

The initial event in the utilization of fat as an energy source is the hydrolysis of triacylglycerols by lipases, an event referred to as *lipolysis*.



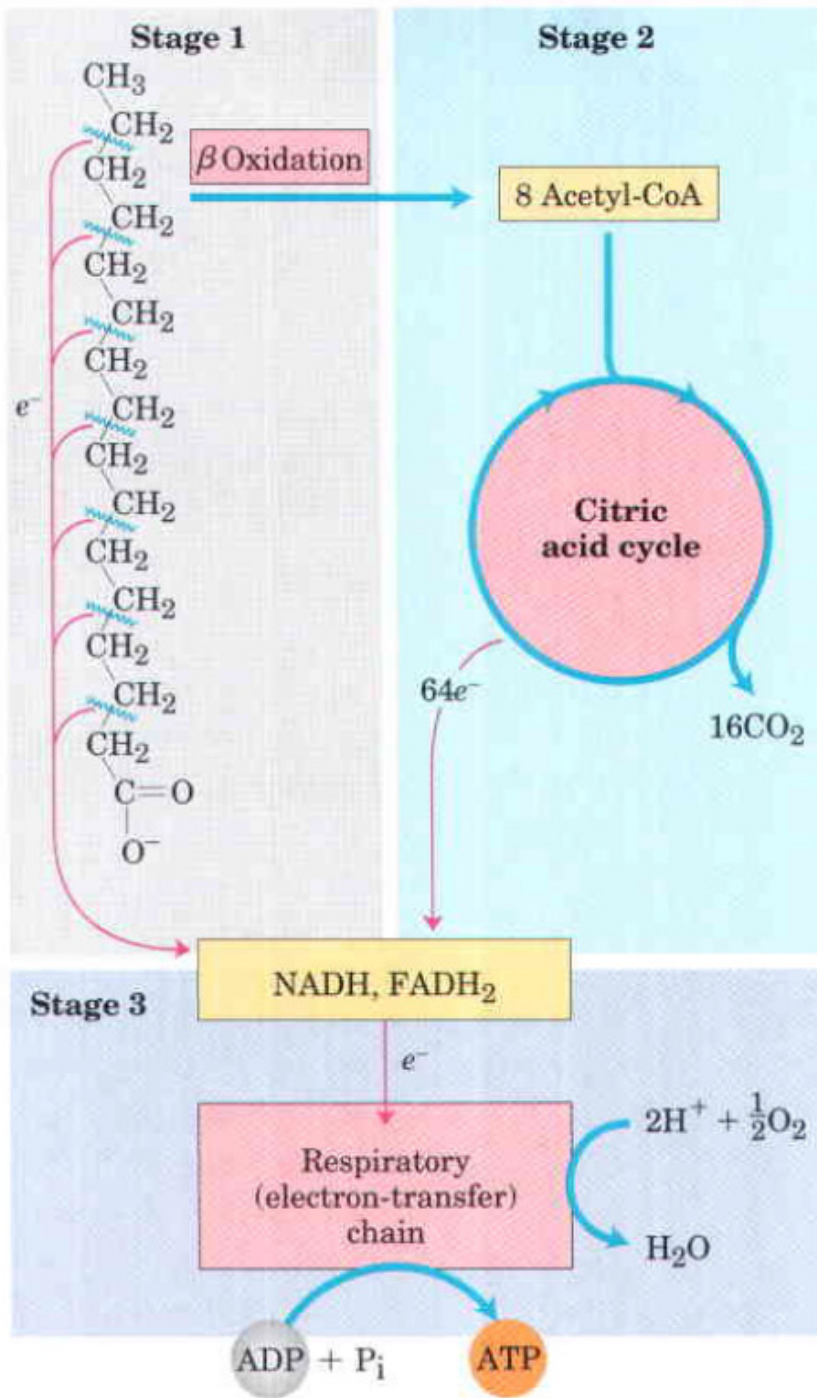


Entry of glycerol into the glycolytic pathway



Glycerol formed by lipolysis is absorbed by the liver and phosphorylated, oxidized to dihydroxyacetone phosphate, and then isomerized to glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate.

This molecule is an intermediate in both the glycolytic and the gluconeogenic pathways.



β -OXIDATION OF FATTY ACIDS

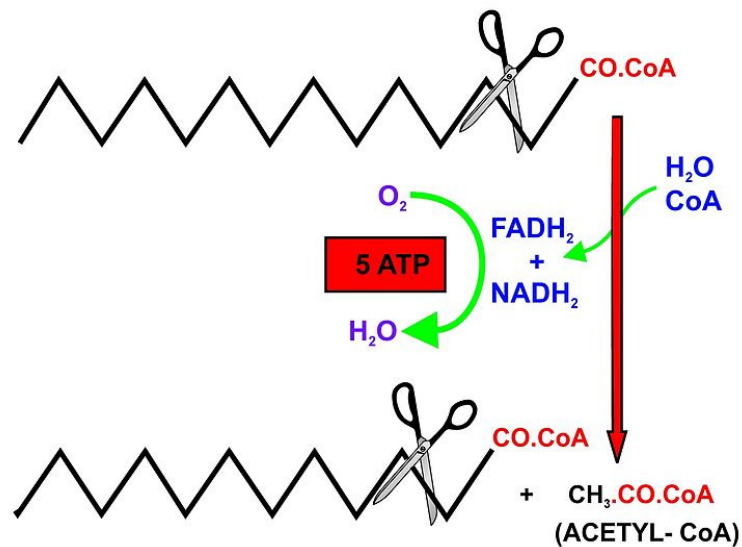
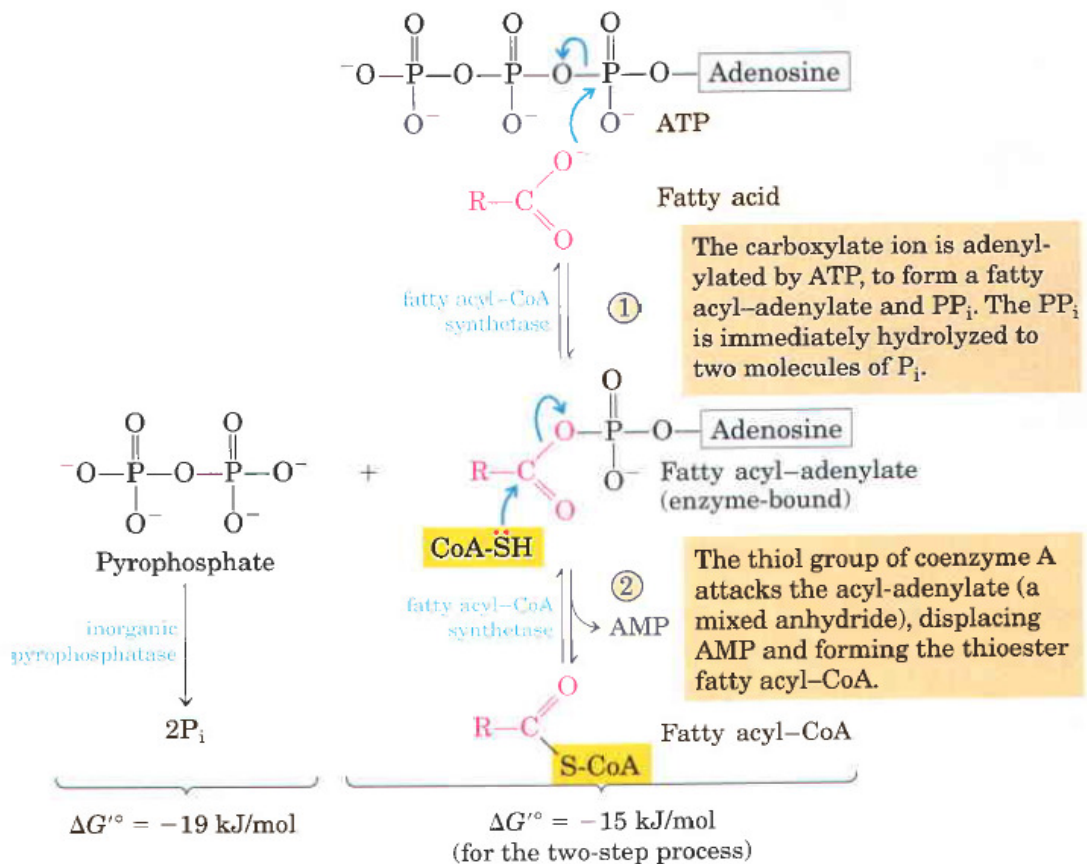
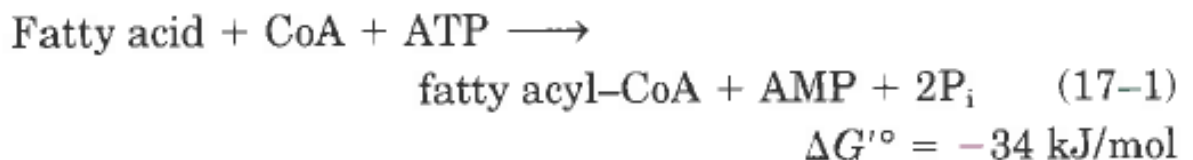


FIGURE 17–7 Stages of fatty acid oxidation. Stage 1: A long-chain fatty acid is oxidized to yield acetyl residues in the form of acetyl-CoA. This process is called β oxidation. Stage 2: The acetyl groups are oxidized to CO_2 via the citric acid cycle. Stage 3: Electrons derived from the oxidations of stages 1 and 2 pass to O_2 via the mitochondrial respiratory chain, providing the energy for ATP synthesis by oxidative phosphorylation.

Fatty Acids Are Activated and Transported into Mitochondria



The overall reaction is



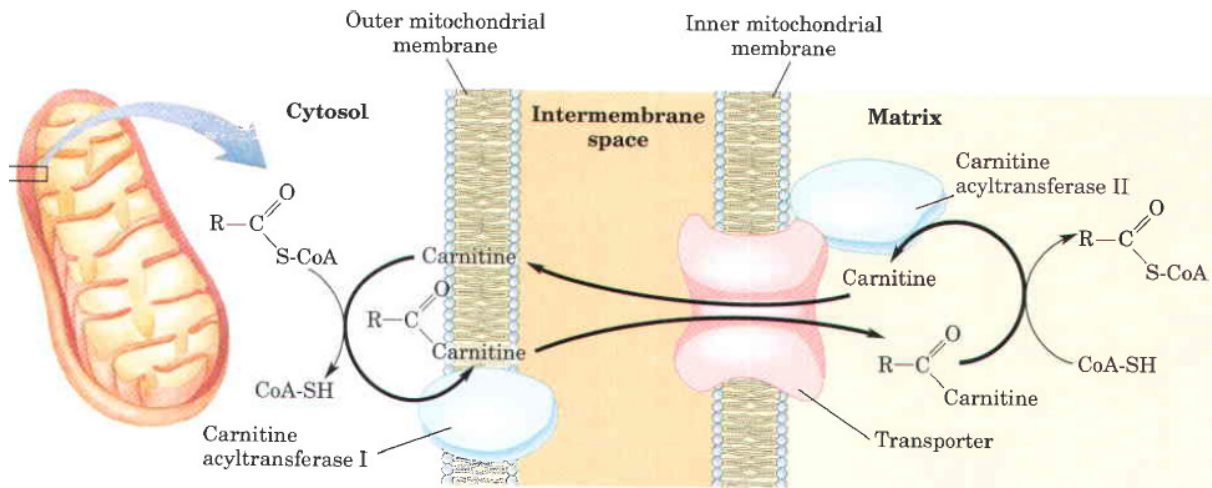
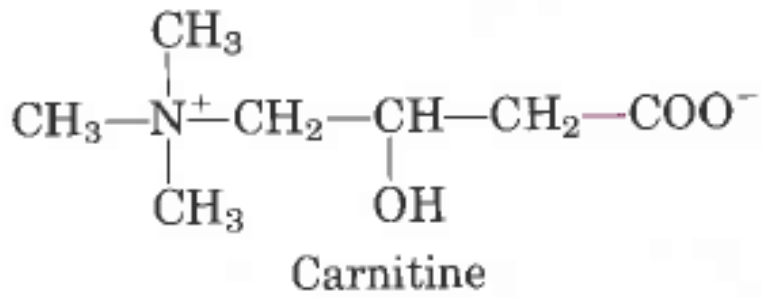
Activated fatty acids are oxidized in the mitochondrial matrix.

- A special transport mechanism is needed to carry long-chain acyl CoA

molecules across the inner mitochondrial membrane.

- Activated long-chain fatty acids are transported across the membrane by

conjugating them to *carnitine*, a zwitterionic alcohol.



Carnitine shuttle

Acyl carnitine is shuttled across the inner mitochondrial membrane by a translocase.

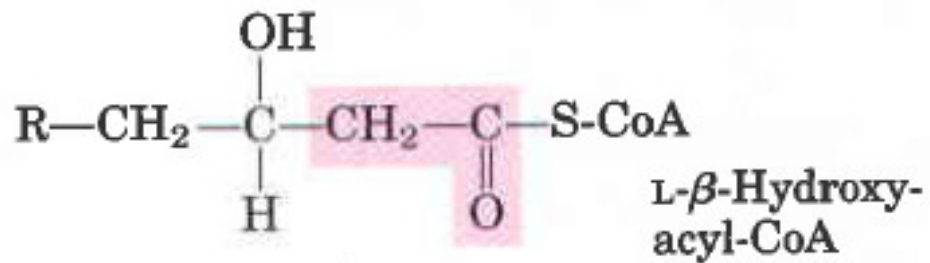
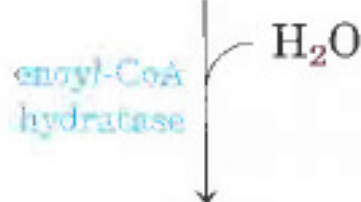
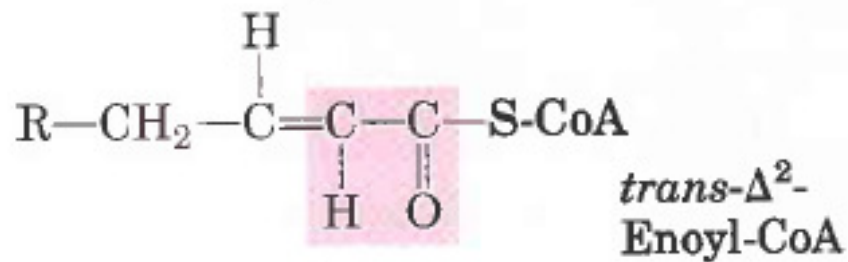
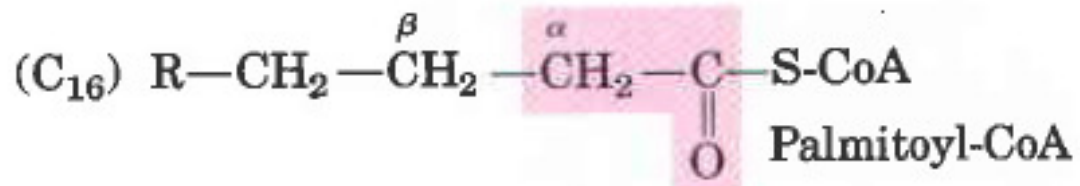
Finally, the translocase returns carnitine to the cytosolic side in exchange for an incoming acyl carnitine.

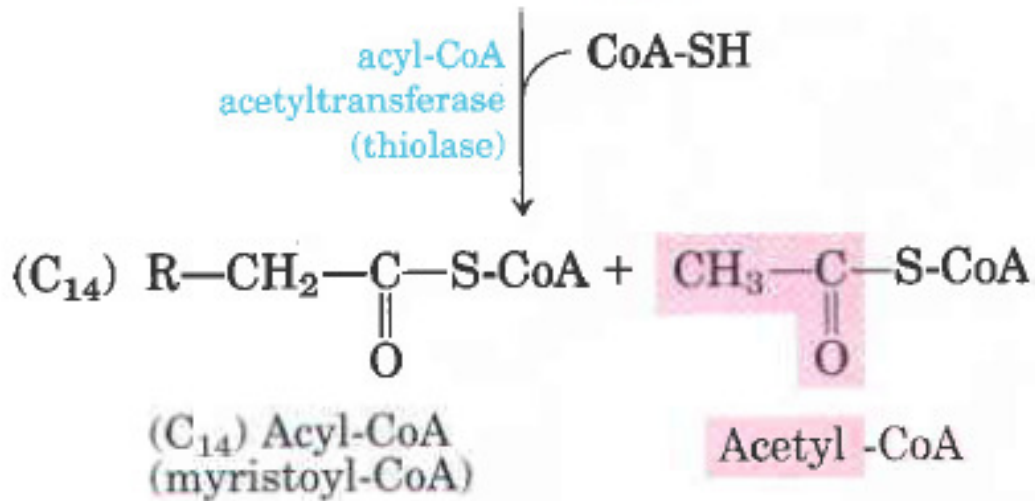
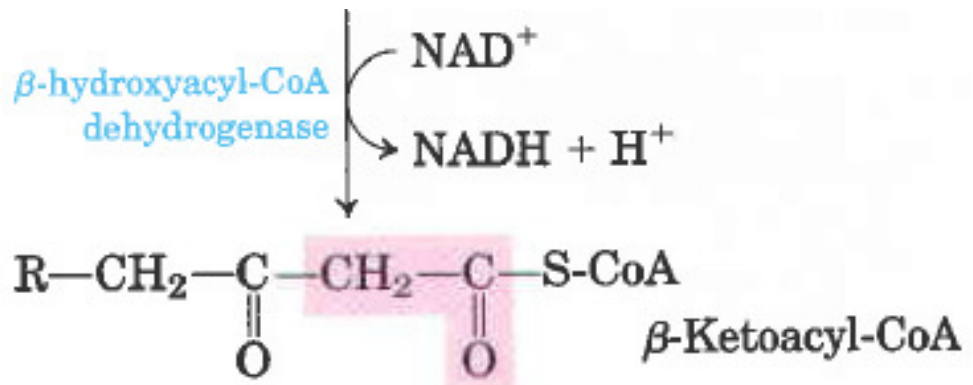
The β -oxidation pathway.

It consists of four steps,

- (1) dehydrogenation,
- (2) addition of water to the resulting double bond,
- (3) oxidation of the β -hydroxyacyl-CoA to a ketone,
- (4) thiolytic cleavage by coenzyme A.

An activated fatty acid is oxidized to introduce a double bond;
The double bond is hydrated to introduce an oxygen;
The alcohol is oxidized to a ketone;
Finally, the four carbon fragment is cleaved by coenzyme A to yield acetyl CoA
and a fatty acid chain two carbons shorter.





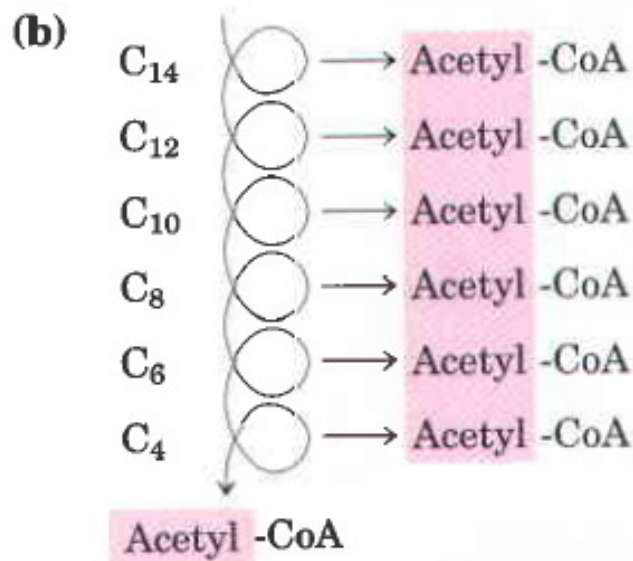


FIGURE 17–8 The β -oxidation pathway. (a) In each pass through this four-step sequence, one acetyl residue (shaded in pink) is removed in the form of acetyl-CoA from the carboxyl end of the fatty acyl chain—in this example palmitate (C_{16}), which enters as palmitoyl-CoA. (b) Six more passes through the pathway yield seven more molecules of acetyl-CoA, the seventh arising from the last two carbon atoms of the 16-carbon chain. Eight molecules of acetyl-CoA are formed in all.

