



- A number of proteins possess the amino acid sequence **KDEL** (**Lys-Asp-Glu-Leu**) at their **carboxyl terminal**
- KDEL-containing proteins **first travel to the GA** in vesicles coated with coat protein II (**COPII**)
- This process is known as **anterograde vesicular transport**.
- In the **GA** they interact with a **specific KDEL receptor** protein, **which retains them transiently**.
- They then return to the ER in vesicles coated with **COPI** (**retrograde vesicular transport**), where they dissociate from the receptor, and are thus retrieved
- Certain **other non-KDEL-containing proteins** also pass to the Golgi and then return, by retrograde vesicular transport, to the ER to be inserted therein.

## THE ER FUNCTIONS AS THE QUALITY CONTROL COMPARTMENT OF THE CELL

- After entering the ER, newly synthesized proteins attempt to fold with the assistance of chaperones and folding enzymes.
- Some Chaperones and Enzymes Involved in Folding That Are Located in the Rough Endoplasmic Reticulum:

1. BiP (immunoglobulin heavy chain binding protein)
2. GRP94 (glucose-regulated protein)
3. Calnexin
4. Calreticulin
5. PDI (protein disulfide isomerase)
6. PPI (peptidyl prolyl cis-trans isomerase)

## 1. Calnexin

- The chaperone calnexin is a **calcium-binding protein**
- located in **the ER membrane**.
- This protein **binds a wide variety of proteins**, including major histocompatibility complex (MHC) antigens and a variety of **plasma proteins**.
- Calnexin binds the **monoglucosylated species of glycoproteins** that occur during processing of glycoproteins, **retaining them in the ER until the glycoprotein has folded properly**

## 2. GRP94 (glucose-regulated protein)

- It is the **most abundant protein in the ER lumen**, and is ubiquitously present in nucleated cells.
- GRP94 **function as molecular chaperones** and can bind to malformed proteins and unassembled complexes.
- They are **induced in response to stress**, but once the stress is removed the GRPs are posttranscriptionally modified into biologically inactive forms.

### 3. Calreticulin:

- Calreticulin, which is also a calcium binding protein, has **properties similar to those of calnexin**
- But it is **not membrane-bound**.

### 4. Protein disulfide isomerase (PDI):

- Protein disulfide isomerase (PDI) promotes **rapid formation and reshuffling of disulfide bonds** until the correct set is achieved

### 5. Peptidyl prolyl isomerase (PPI):

- It accelerates folding of proline-containing proteins by **catalyzing the cis–trans isomerization of X-Pro bonds**, where X is any amino acid residue.

- **Misfolded or incompletely folded** proteins interact with chaperones, **which retain them in the ER** and prevent them from being exported to their final destinations.
- If **such interactions continue for a prolonged period** of time, the misfolded proteins are usually disposed of by endoplasmic reticulum associated degradation (**ERAD**).
- This **avoids a harmful build-up of misfolded proteins**.
- In a number of genetic diseases, such as **cystic fibrosis**, retention of misfolded proteins occurs in the ER, and in some cases, the retained proteins still exhibit some functional activity

## Conformational Diseases That Are Caused by Abnormalities in Intracellular Transport of Proteins and Enzymes due to Mutations

Disease	Affected Protein
$\alpha_1$ -Antitrypsin deficiency with liver disease	$\alpha_1$ -Antitrypsin
Chediak-Higashi syndrome	Lysosomal trafficking regulator
Combined deficiency of factors V and VIII	ERGIC53, a mannose-binding lectin
Cystic fibrosis	CFTR
Diabetes mellitus [some cases]	Insulin receptor ( $\alpha$ -subunit)
Familial hypercholesterolemia, autosomal dominant	LDL receptor
Gaucher disease	$\beta$ -Glucosidase
Hemophilia A and B	Factors VIII and IX
Hereditary hemochromatosis	HFE
Hermansky-Pudlak syndrome	AP-3 adaptor complex $\beta$ 3A subunit
I-cell disease	N-acetylglucosamine 1-phosphotransferase
Lowe oculocerebrorenal syndrome	PIP <sub>2</sub> 5-phosphatase
Tay-Sachs disease	$\beta$ -Hexosaminidase
von Willebrand disease	von Willebrand factor



## Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress

- Maintenance of homeostasis in the ER is important for normal cell function.
- The unique environment within the lumen of the ER is disturbed
  - changes in ER  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,
  - alterations of redox status,
  - exposure to various toxins or
  - some virusescan lead to **reduced protein folding capacity** and the **accumulation of misfolded proteins**
- The **accumulation of misfolded proteins** in the ER is referred to as **ER stress**.

- The cell responds to ES by **unfolded protein response** to restore the ER homeostasis.
- The unfolded protein response is initiated by ER stress sensors responds in many ways:
  1. Transient **inhibition of translation** to decrease the protein load entering the ER.
  2. **Increased expression of chaperons** to enhance protein folding.
  3. **Increased synthesis of protein required for degradation of protein.**
- **If the ES persists, cell undergoes apoptosis.**

- Degradation of misfolded proteins occur after these proteins are transported back across the ER into cytosol. (**retrotranslocation or dislocation**)
- Proteins are degraded in two ways -
  - A. By lysosomal proteases** – which do not require ATP
  - B. By Proteasome** – the proteasomal degradation requires ubiquitin and ATP.

The protein to be degraded are **marked by attachment of ubiquitin** .

It is **major pathway of protein degradation**.