

The mitochondrial structure and processes of cellular respiration

#### Learning objective

•to establish the relationship of mitochondrial structure and processes of cellular respiration

#### Success criteria

 Knows the structure of mitochondria
Describes mitochondrial structures
To establish the relationship between the structure of mitochondria and the processes of cellular respiration

# Terminology

- Mitochondria
- Matrix
- Outer and inner membrane
- Inter membrane space
- Cristae
- Ribosome
- Granules
- DNA
- ATP synthase
- Cellular respiration
- Link reaction
- Krebs cycle
- Electron transport chain



# Mitochondria

- The mitochondrion (plural mitochondria) is a double membrane-bound organelle found in all eukaryotic organisms.
- Mitochondria are rod-shaped organelles that can be considered the power generators of the cell, converting oxygen and nutrients into adenosine triphosphate (ATP).



# Mitochondria

 Mitochondria are commonly between 0.75 and 3 µm in diameter, but vary considerably in size and structure. Unless specifically stained, they are not visible.



# The structure of mitochondria





# The structure of mitochondria

- the outer mitochondrial membrane,
- the intermembrane space (the space between the outer and inner membranes),
- the inner mitochondrial membrane,
- the cristae space (formed by infoldings of the inner membrane), and
- the **matrix** (space within the inner membrane).



#### Structure and function



## Structure and function

- In eukaryotic organisms, the mitochondrion is the site of the Krebs cycle and the electron transport chain.
- Each mitochondrion is surrounded by an envelope of two phospholipid membranes.
- The outer membrane is **smooth**, but the **inner** is much folded inwards to form **cristae** (singular: crista).

Diagram - Cellular Respiration



# ATP synthase

- The inner membrane is studded with **tiny spheres**, about **9 nm** in diameter, which are attached to the inner membrane by stalks.
- The spheres are the enzyme **ATP synthase**.
- The inner membrane is the site of the electron transport chain and contains the proteins necessary for this.

Diagram - Cellular Respiration



# Matrix

- The matrix of the mitochondrion is the site of the link reaction and the Krebs cycle, and contains the enzymes needed for these reactions.
- Diagram Cellular Respiration



## **Ribosome and DNA**

 contains small (70 S) ribosomes and several identical copies of looped mitochondrial DNA.



# The mitochondria and the processes of cellular respiration

• ATP is formed in the matrix by the activity of ATP synthase on the cristae. The energy for the production of ATP comes from the proton gradient between the intermembrane space and the matrix. The ATP can be used for all the energy-requiring reactions of the cell, both inside and outside the mitochondrion.

#### Structure and function



# MITOCHONDRIA

- Structure
  - Double membrane
  - Have own DNA
  - Very numerous in high requirement cells (muscles)
- Function
  - Powerhouse of the cell (energy)
  - Transfers energy into ATP to be used as energy for life functions
- Cell Type
  - Eukaryotic Cells
  - Plant and Animal Cells

#### **Mitochondria Structural Features**



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