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DEPARTMENT: MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

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## ASSIGNMENT!!!

## 1. What are CoEnzymes:

A substance that enhances the action of an enzyme. An enzyme is a protein that functions as a catalyst to mediate and speed a chemical reaction.

Coenzymes are small molecules. They cannot by themselves catalyze a reaction but they can help enzymes to do so. In technical terms, coenzymes are organic nonprotein molecules that bind with the protein molecule form the active enzyme.

## 2. Differentiate between Fat Soluble Vitamins and Water Soluble Vitamins

a. Fat Soluble Vitamins: Soluble In Fat

Water Soluble Vitamins: Soluble In Water

- b. Fat Soluble Vitamins: Requires Bile Salts and Fat For Their Absorption Water Soluble Vitamins: They Are easily Absorbed
- c. Fat Soluble Vitamins: Normally They Are Not Excreted In The Urine Water Soluble Vitamins: They Have A Threshold For Urinary Excretion
- d. Fat Soluble Vitamins: They Are Generally Stored In The Liver
  Water Soluble Vitamins: They Are Not Stored In The Body Except Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>
- e. Fat Soluble Vitamins: They Do Not Act As Coenzymes Water Soluble Vitamins: They Act As Coenzymes
- d. Fat Soluble Vitamins: Examples are; Vitamin A, D, E, K Water Soluble Vitamins: Examples are; Vitamins B-Complex and Vitamin C

## 3. Describe niacin in relation to its coenzymic function

Niacin is a coenzyme, like thiamine and riboflavin, that is responsible for energy release from carbohydrates. A niacin deficiency can lead to pellagra, a disabling disease with symptoms that may be characterized by four "Ds": depression, diarrhea, delirium and dementia.

Niacin is found in fortified breads and cereals. Protein foods, such as eggs, fish, meat, dairy milk and poultry, are naturally rich in niacin. They are also plentiful in the amino acid

tryptophan, which can be synthesized into niacin by the liver. Chicken breast, ground beef, halibut, tuna and turkey are particularly good sources of tryptophan. In the vegetable kingdom, asparagus, baked potatoes and cantaloupe have significant amounts of tryptophan.

Niacin has been used to lower LDL cholesterol and raise HDL cholesterol when administered as a drug under medical guidance. In heavy doses, niacin has been known to cause a "niacin flush" due to the capillaries increasing in size. This condition can lead to fatigue and even liver damage.