



The  
University  
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Sheffield.

# Medical School DDP 6950

## Literature Review

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January 2012



# Content

- Factual information that can be referenced
- Should cover entire scope of your study
- Conflicting arguments should be equally weighted and discussed – it's a review
- You may express an **evaluated opinion** on controversial data after full discussion of the literature.



# Information Sources

- Your Supervisor
- Your colleagues
- PubMed, Medline, Web of Knowledge
- Library e-journals
- Books – good, but can be out of date
- Websites – how authoritative or reliable are they?



# Practicalities

- 4000 word limit – flexible (20-30 pages)
- Use **12 point** font (e.g. Arial)
- Spacing at **1.5** lines
- Use a **Title page**
  - Must include DDP number, supervisor, department, registration number



# Structure

Flexible to suit your research field

- Introduction
- Body
- Figures
- Conclusion / Summary
- References
- Set the scene
- Contains the detail – organise using sub-sections
- A picture is better than a thousand words
- Round it off – what is the take home message?
- Generate a bibliography



# Figures

- Figures are actively encouraged
  - minimum of 3, don't go overboard
- Graphs – Pictures – Schematics – Diagrams
- Colour is acceptable
- Don't make text too small to read
- Legends – *describe what is in the figure* – exempt from the word count
- If it is not yours, reference it
- Try and construct a summary figure / schematic

- Inset figures in a **text box (1)** and use a **Caption (2)** for the legend. The legend text is excluded from the word count

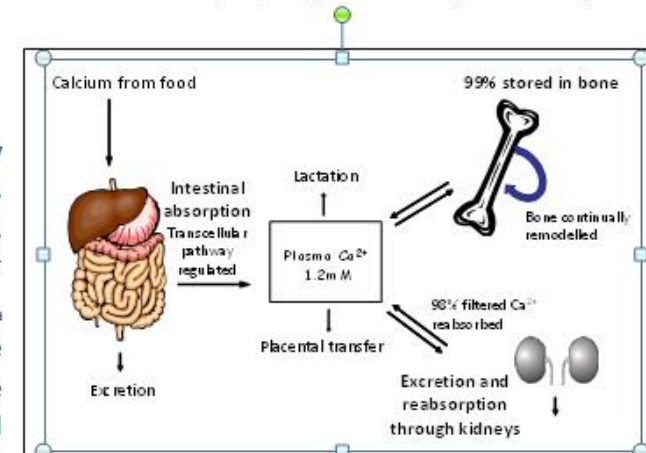
(1) Insert/Text/[Text Box]

(2) Select figure/Right click/Insert Caption

Ca<sup>2+</sup> balance is maintained. In older age both sexes display a negative Ca<sup>2+</sup> balance which is particularly pronounced in women postmenopause (Nordin, Wlshart et al. 2004). Therefore, dietary Ca<sup>2+</sup> intake is recommended to be increased for people aged over 60 (Favus 2006).

#### 1.1.6 Regulation of plasma Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration

Body Ca<sup>2+</sup> balance is achieved by related Ca<sup>2+</sup> handling at intestinal, renal and skeletal sites (figure 1.1). Though, to maintain body Ca<sup>2+</sup> homeostasis and keep [Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>plasma</sub> within tight physiological limits, the Ca<sup>2+</sup> handling activities at these tissues are regulated by external hormonal factors. Key to body Ca<sup>2+</sup> homeostasis is the effect on calcium handling tissues of parathyroid hormone (PTH), 1,25-dihydroxycholecalciferol (1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D<sub>3</sub>), the active metabolite of vitamin D, and calcitonin. All three factors are part of negative feedback systems maintaining [Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>plasma</sub> within a tight physiological range by responding to abnormal plasma Ca<sup>2+</sup> levels.



**Figure 1 Human calcium homeostasis**

The serum Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration is controlled by concerted actions of calcium handling by the intestine, kidneys and bone. Plasma Ca<sup>2+</sup> is tightly regulated. At neutral Ca<sup>2+</sup> balance net calcium intake is equal to net losses. Bone accrues Ca<sup>2+</sup> during positive calcium balance, but can lose Ca<sup>2+</sup> when body in negative balance as a mechanism for maintaining plasma Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration within physiological limits. Alongside actions at bone fractional Ca<sup>2+</sup> renal and intestinal (re)absorption is also regulated as part of body Ca<sup>2+</sup> homeostasis.

PTH is secreted from chief cells of the parathyroid gland in response to decreased [Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>plasma</sub> and promotes increased renal Ca<sup>2+</sup> reabsorption and liberation of Ca<sup>2+</sup> from bone (Khanal



# Create your own figures

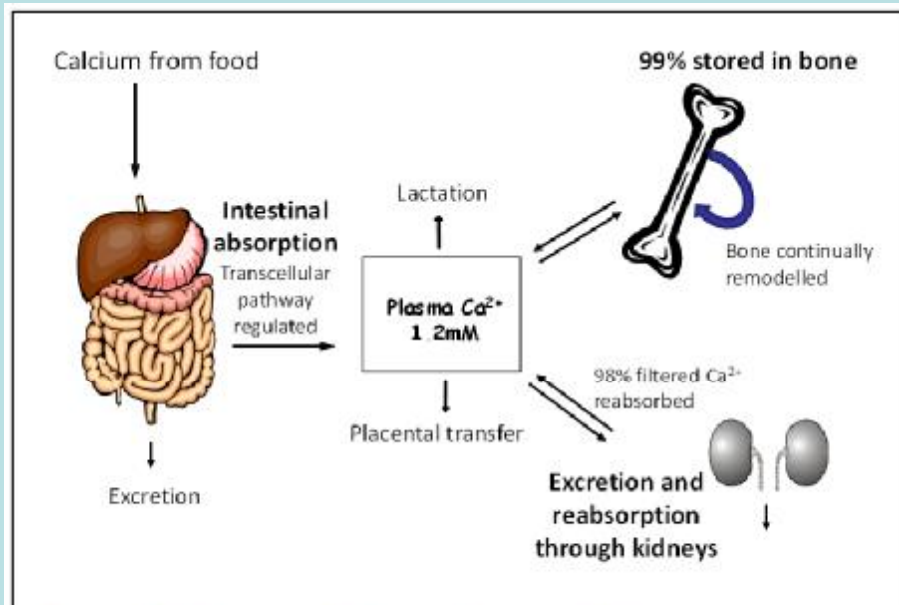


Figure 1 Human calcium homeostasis

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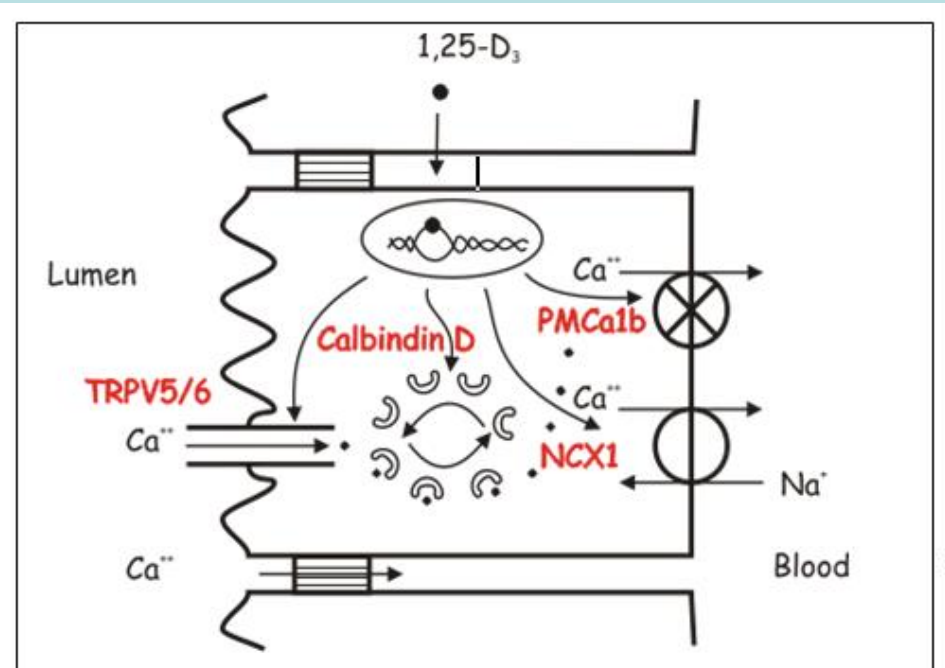


Figure 2 Proposed model of transepithelial  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  transport

The mechanism of transepithelial (re)absorption of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  from renal or intestinal lumen in to circulating blood according to van de Graaf *et al.* 2004. Transcellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  uptake from luminal fluid is mediated by

Use MS Word, MS Powerpoint, CorelDraw etc.  
Use free clip art or draw it yourself



# Structuring your Review

- Break the body into sections – a good structure makes it easier to read and looks professional
- Use **Outlining** and **Headings** tools in MS Word for this so you can automatically insert a:
  - Table of Contents
  - Table of Figures (optional)



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# References

- Referencing **must** be done using reference management software  
**e.g. Endnote, Endnote Web**
- Use **(Author, date)** to aid the marker validate your references easily
- Set the bibliography at the end into alphabetical order
- References are excluded from the word count



# Endnote referencing

- Endnote Web freely available across the campus
- Endnote widely available through Departments
- Personal copies of Endnote - ££ through CiCS
- Create a Reference Group for the review and include only the references you use
- Insert through MS Word Add-In menu
- When complete, export your Reference Group as an Endnote library (\*.enl)



# Submission

- **Deadline: 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012. 4.30 pm.**
- Every day late you lose 5% of your final mark
- 2 Printed copies and 1 Electronic copy to Jodie Burnham (LU116). [j.a.burnham@shef.ac.uk](mailto:j.a.burnham@shef.ac.uk)
- You must also email your Endnote Reference Library file to Jodie so she can verify its usage



# Submission

- Your review will be checked for plagiarism using **Turnitin** before marking
- Your supervisor and another member of staff knowledgeable in the area will mark your work
- The pass mark is 65%



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# Thank you

Any questions?