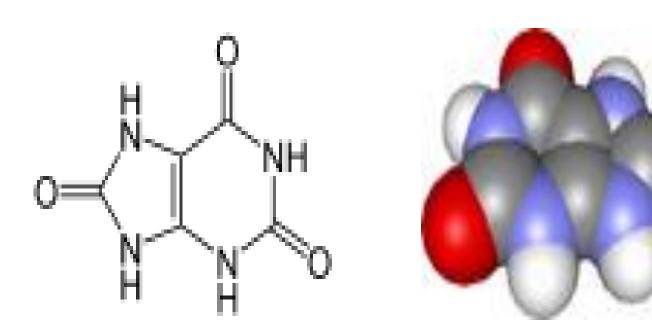


Uric acid is a heterocyclic compound of carbon,

nitrogen, oxygen, and hydrogen with the formula

 $C_5H_4N_4O_3$ .



Urates; is the ionized forms of uric acid, predominate in plasma, extracellular fluid (ECF) and synovial fluid.

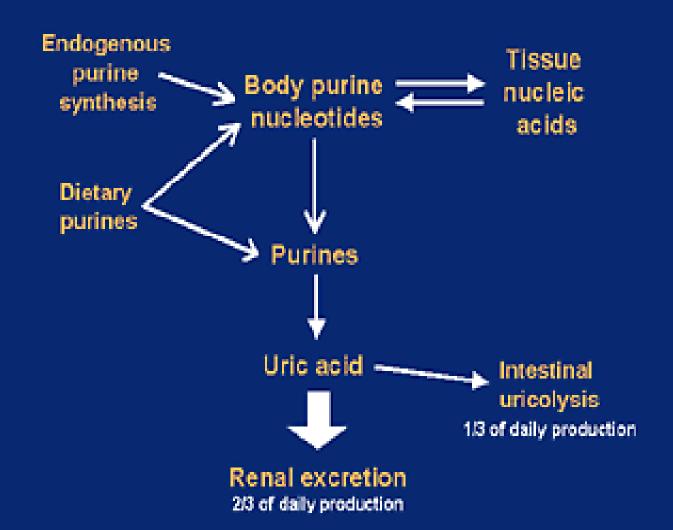
Uric acid <-> Urate - + H+

With ~98% existing as monosodium urate (MSU) at pH 7.4.

## Purine Degradation to Uric Acid

Xanthine oxidase catalyzes the final conversions to uric acid

## Schematic Overview of the Production and Elimination of Uric Acid



The vast majority of mammalian species have extremely low serum urate levels (about 1 mg/ dL= 60μmol\L) because uric acid is converted to allantoin, (by uricase enzyme) a highly soluble excretory product.

Serum urate levels vary with age and sex:

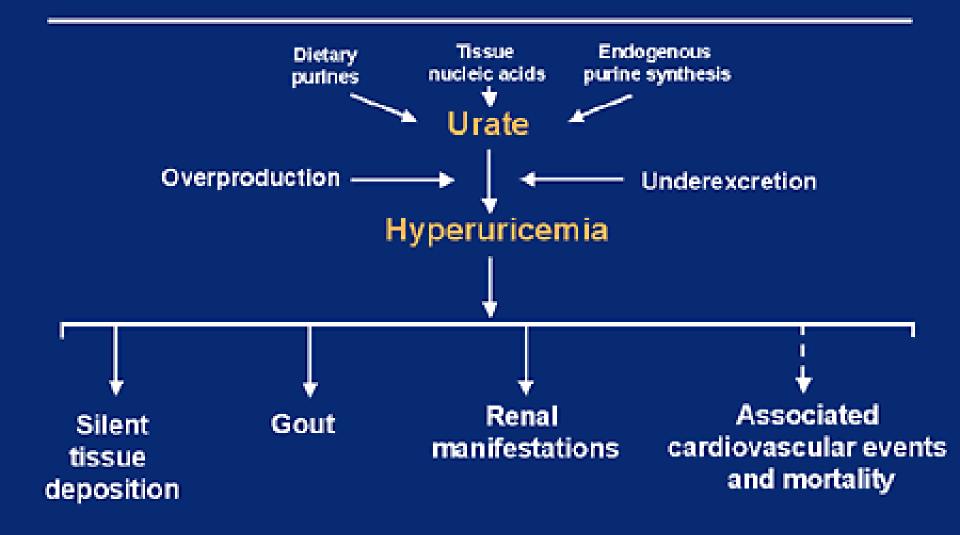
Children:----3- 4 mg/dl (180-240 μmol\L).

Adult men:----3.4-7.2 mg/dl (200-430 μmol/L).

Adult women:--2.4-6.1mg/dl(140-360  $\mu$ mol/L) (1 mg/dl =59.48  $\mu$ mol/L).

- Uric acid as an anti oxidant( beneficial effect):
- Uric acid has profound beneficial effects since it scavenges potential harmful radicals in our body; over half the antioxidant capacity of blood plasma comes from uric acid.

## The Hyperuricemia Cascade



# GOUT

#### Patho physiology of gout:

Gout is a disorder of purine metabolism, and occurs when its final metabolite crystallizes in the form of monosodium urate (MSU), precipitating in joints, tendons, and in the surrounding tissues.

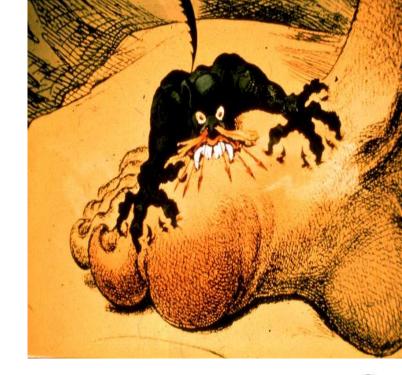
These crystals then trigger a local immune -mediated inflammatory reaction, with one of the key proteins in the inflammatory cascade being interleukin(IL-1 $\beta$ ).

#### Symptoms

- The signs and symptoms of gout are almost always acute, occurring suddenly
  often at night and without warning.
- They include: Intense joint pain; usually affects the large joint of big toe (podagra), but it can occur in ankles, knees, hands and wrists. The pain is likely to be most severe within the first 12 to 24 hours after it begins.



- An acute attack of gout can a wake up the patient in the middle of the night with the sensation that the big toe is on fire.
- The affected joint is hot, swollen and so tender that even the weight of the sheet on it may seem intolerable.





## **Mark** Investigations:

#### @ Blood tests:

- Hyper uricemia is a classic feature of gout.
- Gout can occurs nearly half of the time without hyper uricemia.
- Most people with raised uric acid levels never develop gout.

Thus, the diagnostic utility of measuring uric acid level is limited.

- Synovial fluid
- A definitive diagnosis of gout is based upon the identification of monosodium urate crystals (MSU) in synovial fluid or a tophus.
- Under polarized light microscopy, they have a needle-like morphology and strong negative birefringence.



## @ Radiological feature:

border of the feet.

Soft tissue swelling at the lateral

Bony erosions with an over hanging

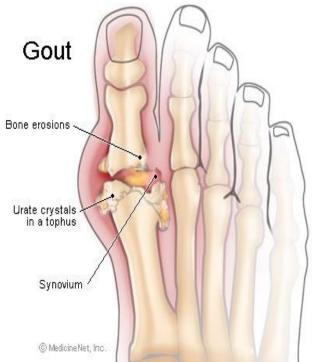
edge.

The joint space is preserved in Bone erosions.

gout until very late in the disease

process.





- **❖**How is gout treated?
- 1) Some home remedies may help ease gout pain.

Rest the affected joint and apply ice packs or cold compresses.

- 2) Colchicine: This medicine can be effective if
  - given early in the attack.

#### 3) Non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs):

Indomethacin (Indocin).

Naproxen (Naprosyn).

have become the treatment choice for most acute

attacks.

4) Corticosteroids: such as.

prednisone and triamcinolone are useful options for patients who cannot take NSAIDs. Given orally or by injection.

5) anakinra (Kineret): an "interleukin 1 beta antagonist," for very severe attacks of gout.

6) Xanthine oxidase inhibitors: allopurinol and febuxostat

(Uloric). Medications that block uric acid production:

7) Probenecid (Probalan): Medicatons that increase

kidneys' ability to remove uric acid from the body.

8) Pegloticase (Krystexxa): this drug breaks down uric acid given for patients who do not respond to other treatments or cannot tolerate them.

Once the uric acid levels drop below 6 mg/dL (normal), crystals tend to dissolve and new deposits of crystals can be prevented. You probably will have to stay on this medicine long term to prevent gout attacks.

