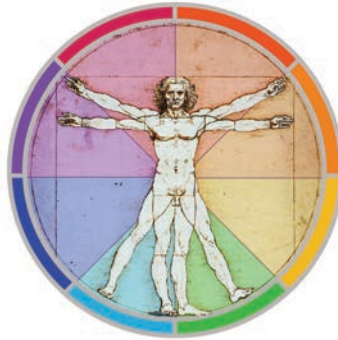


# HUBS191 Lecture Material

This pre-lecture material is to help you prepare for the lecture and to assist your note-taking within the lecture,  
it is NOT a substitute for the lecture !



Please note that although every effort is made to ensure this pre-lecture material corresponds to the live-lecture there may be differences / additions.



# HUBS191



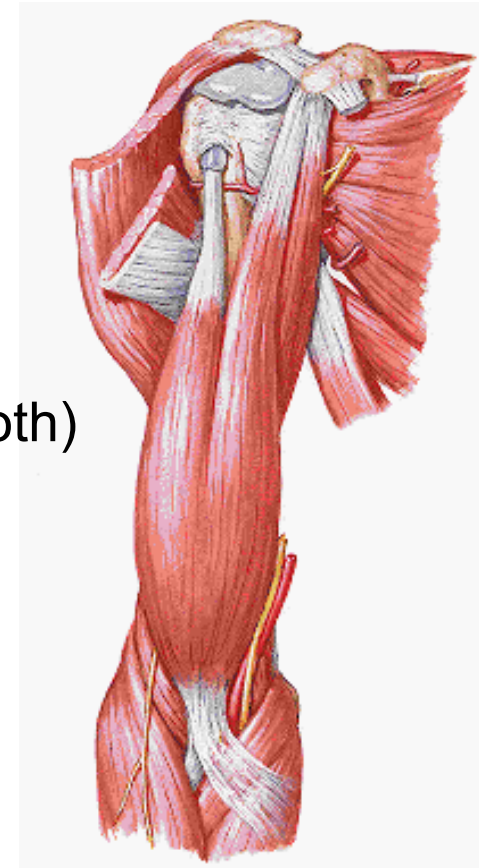
Physiological  
Principles of Human Movement and Sensation

Dr Regis Lamberts

# Lecture 25 – Skeletal Muscle: Structure and function

## Topics of Today's Lecture

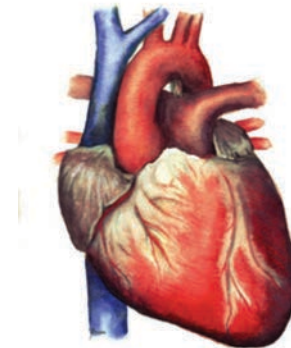
1. Why do we need muscle? (skeletal, cardiac, smooth)
2. The Structure of Skeletal Muscle
3. The Motor Unit
4. Mechanism of Contraction of Skeletal Muscle



# 1. Why do we need muscle ?

## **Cardiac Muscle**

Pumping of blood



## **Smooth Muscle**

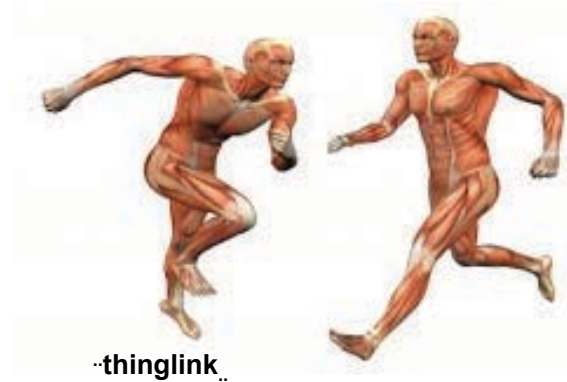
To control the movement of fluids  
( blood, urine, digestion, ...)



# 1. Why do we need muscle ?

## Skeletal Muscle

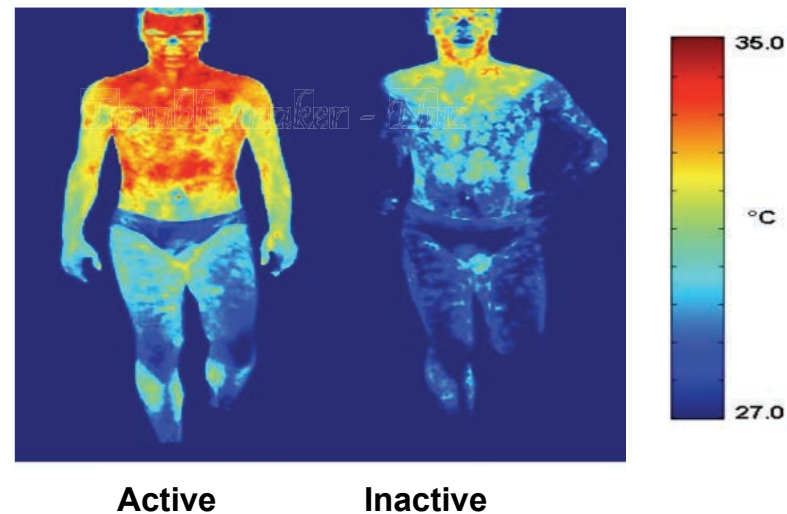
To move



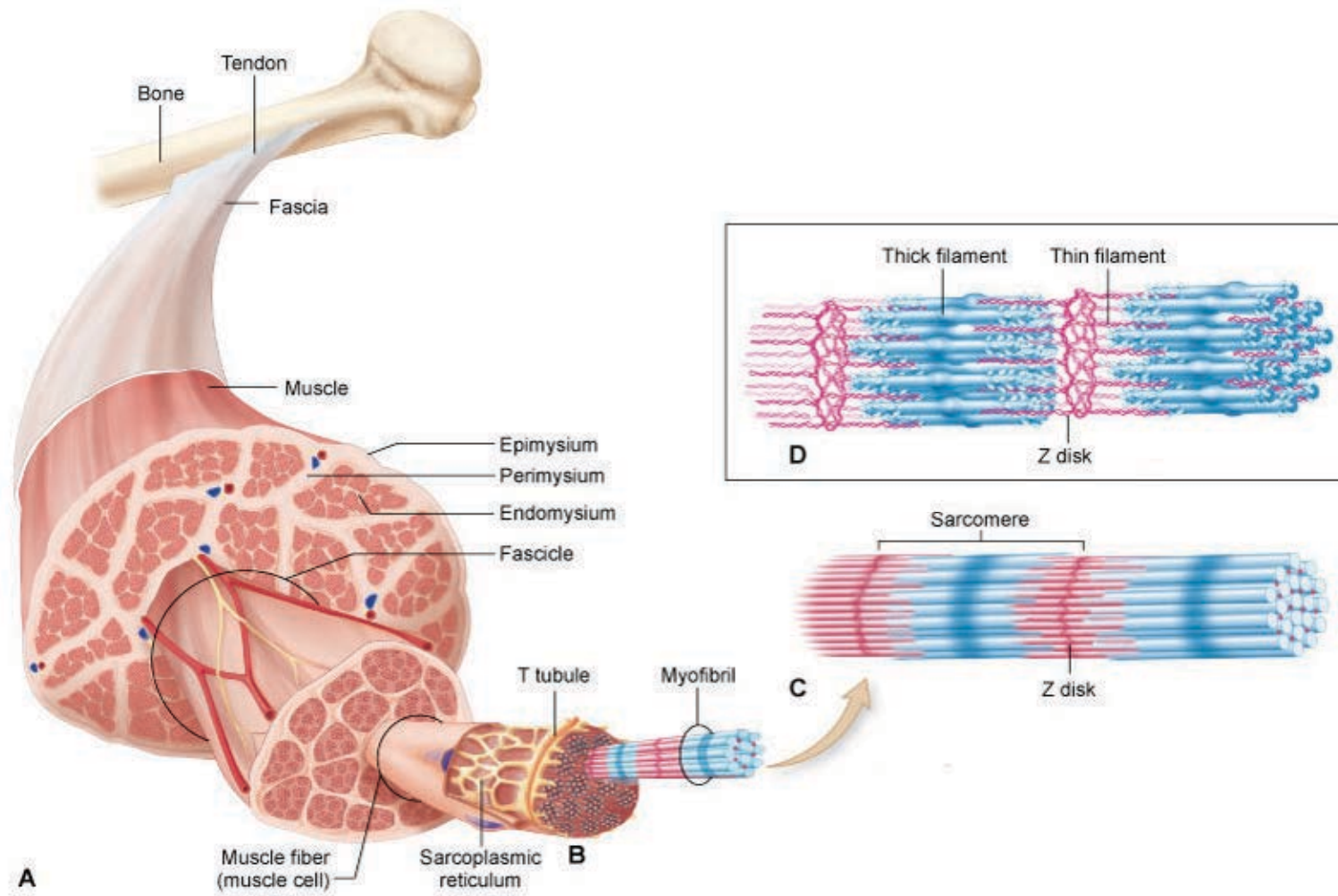
To maintain posture



To generate heat  
(numerous, highly active)



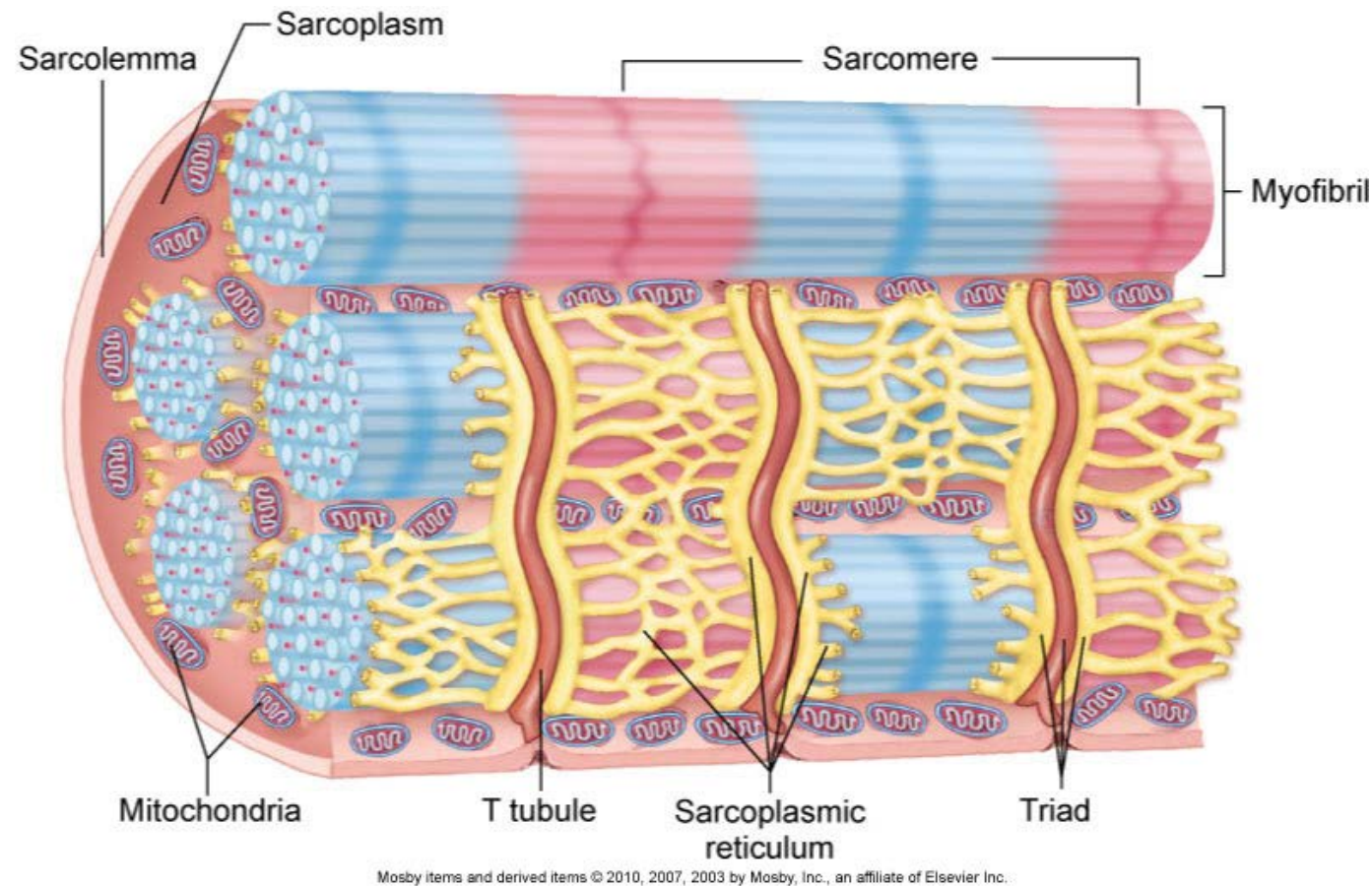
## 2. Structure of Skeletal Muscle



Muscle – muscle bundle – muscle cell – myofibril – sarcomere – myofilaments  
myocyte  
muscle fibre



## 2. Skeletal Muscle: Muscle Cell



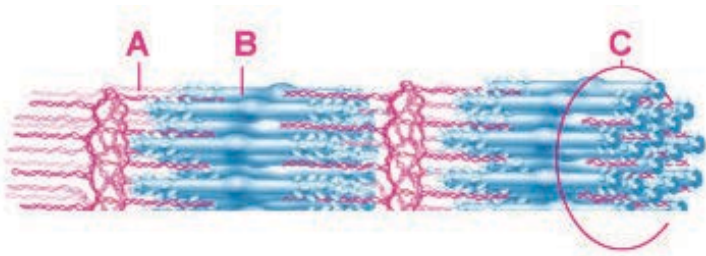
Sarcolemma = Plasma membrane of the muscle cell  
Sarcoplasm = Cytoplasm of the muscle cell

Sarcoplasmic Reticulum = SR, internal calcium store  
T-tubule = transverse tubule, invaginated sarcolemma  
Triad = T-tubule sandwiched between two SR

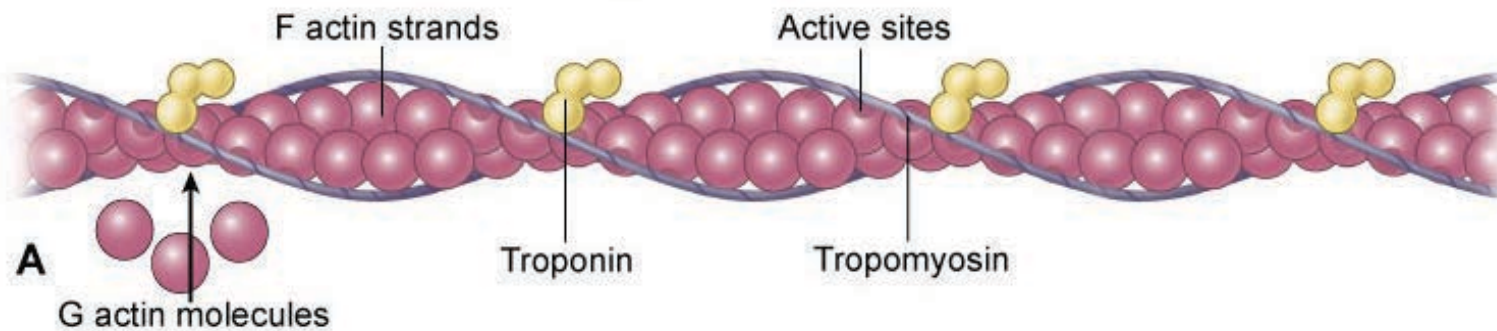
Muscle cell = contains >1000 myofibrils  
Myofibril = contains 15,000 sarcomeres  
Sarcomere = myofilament between two Z-disks = basal contractile unit

Mitochondria = energy production

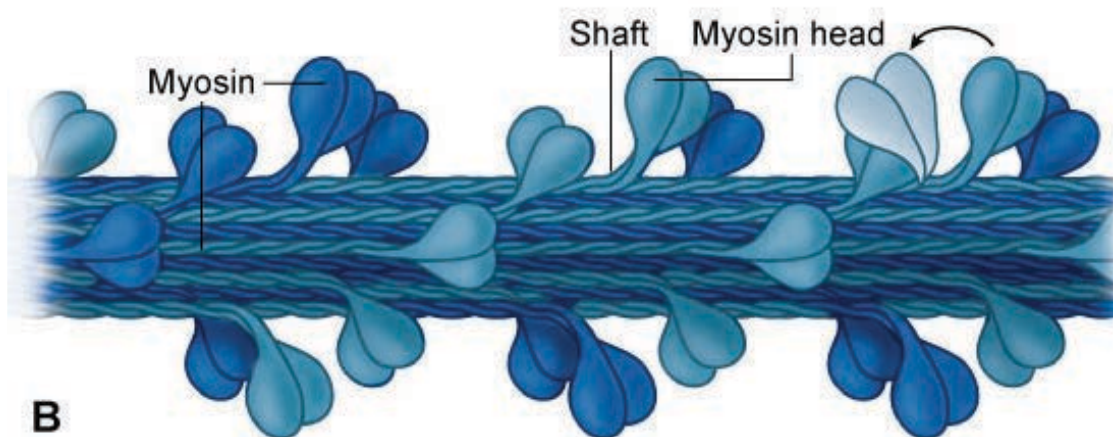
## 2. Skeletal Muscle: Myofilaments



Thin filament – actin, tropomyosin, troponin



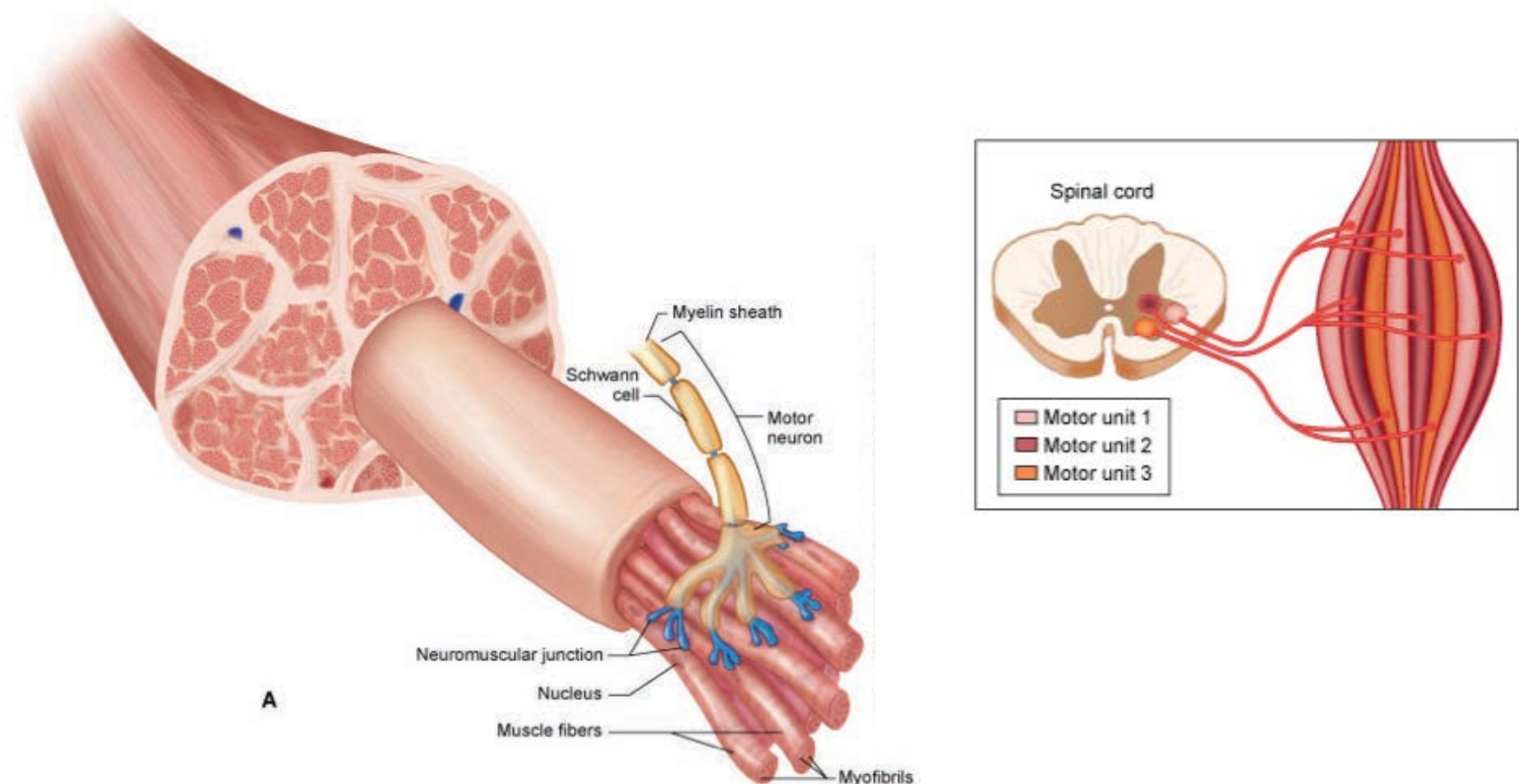
Thick filament – myosin, myosin heads





# 3. The Motor Unit

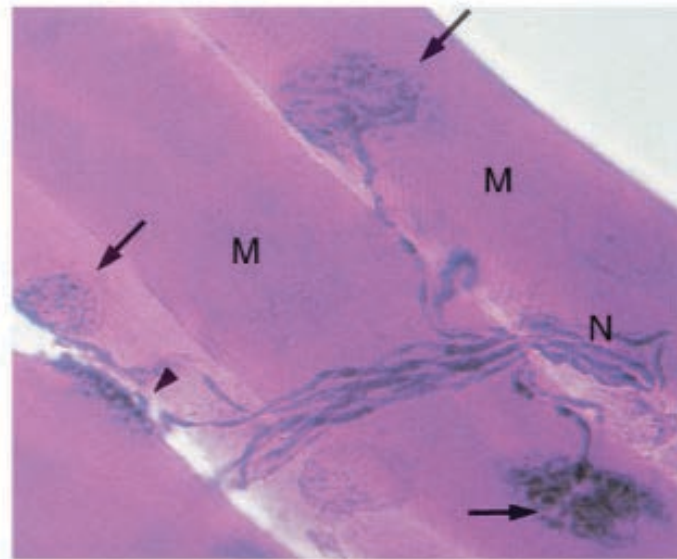
**Motor Unit:** one somatic Motor Neuron and Muscle Fibres innervated by its branches



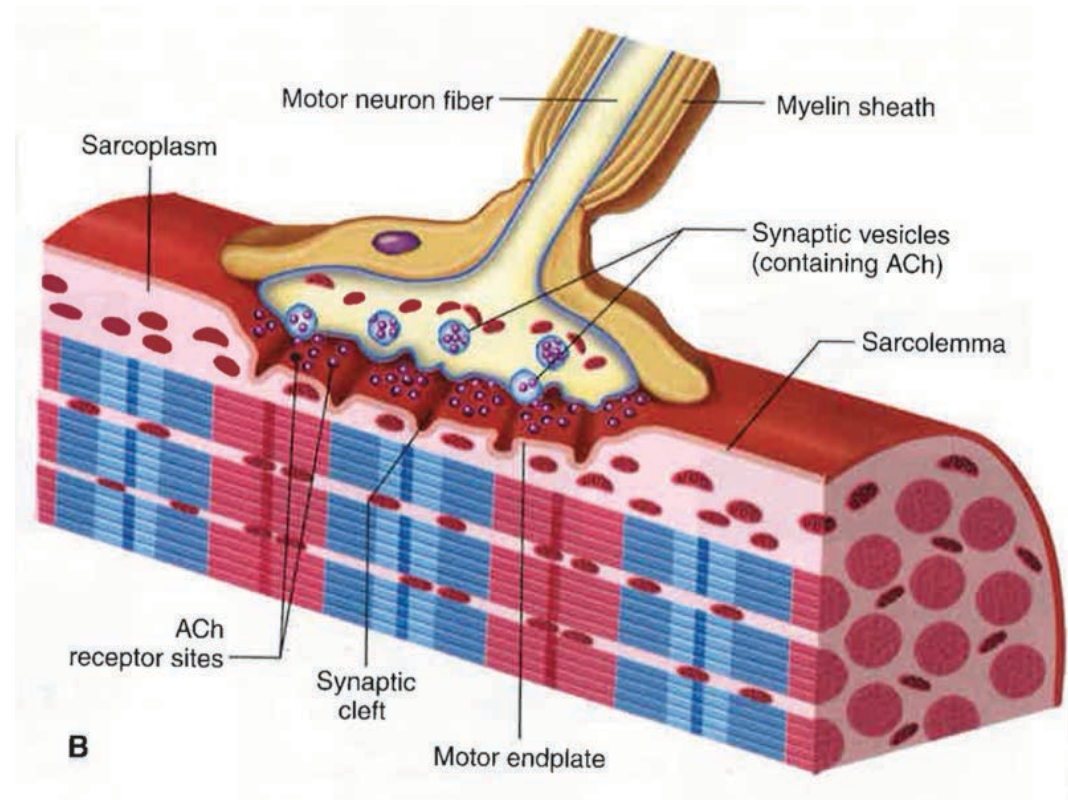
A Muscle Fibre is innervated by only one Motor Neuron

One Motor Neuron innervates multiple Muscle Fibers (# indicates precision of function)

### 3. Motor Unit: NeuroMuscular Junction



A



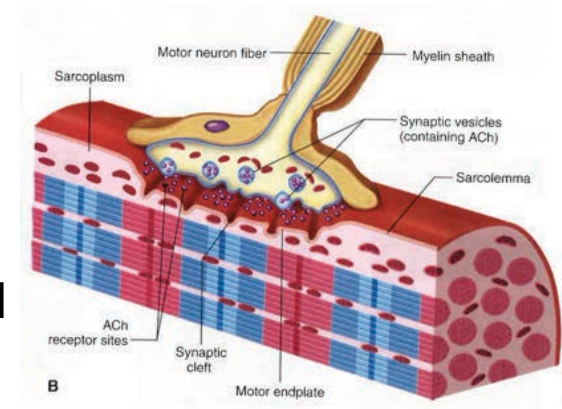
B

# Example Question!

# 4. Mechanism of Contraction of Skeletal Muscle

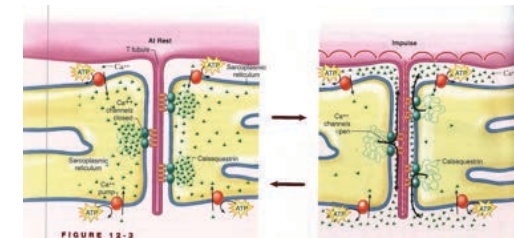
## 1. Excitation

- Neuronal Action Potential
- Acetylcholine (ACh) release from nerve terminal
- Action Potential on Muscle Fibre



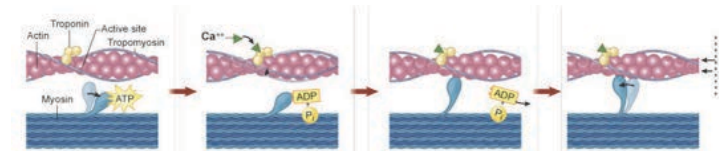
## 2. Contraction

- $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release from the internal  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  store
- Crossbridge formation of myofilaments
- Contraction – Sliding filaments



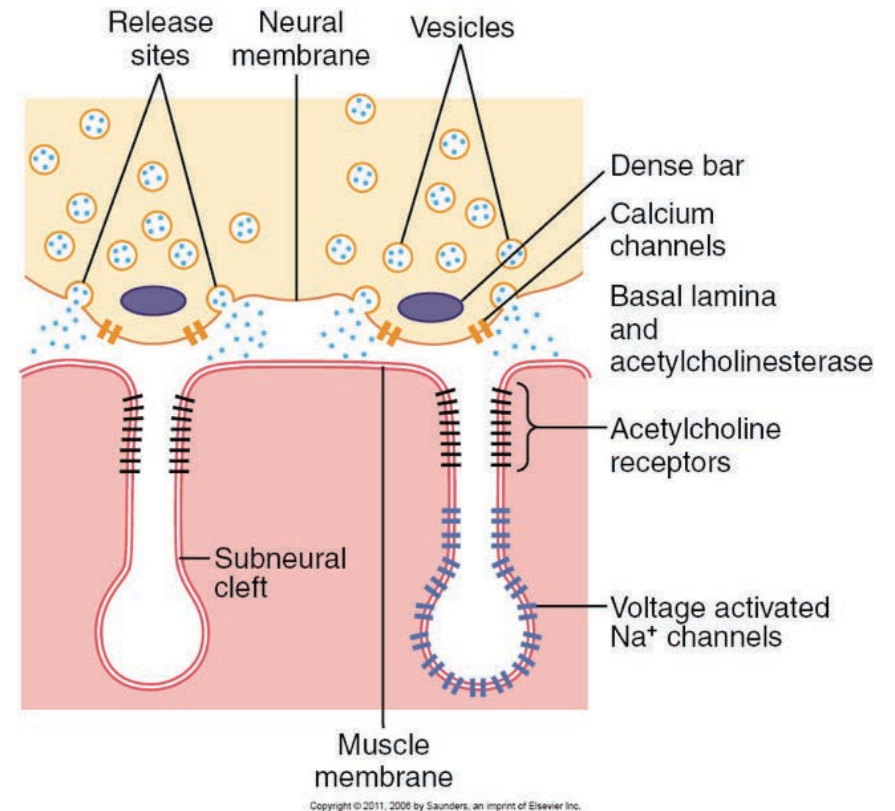
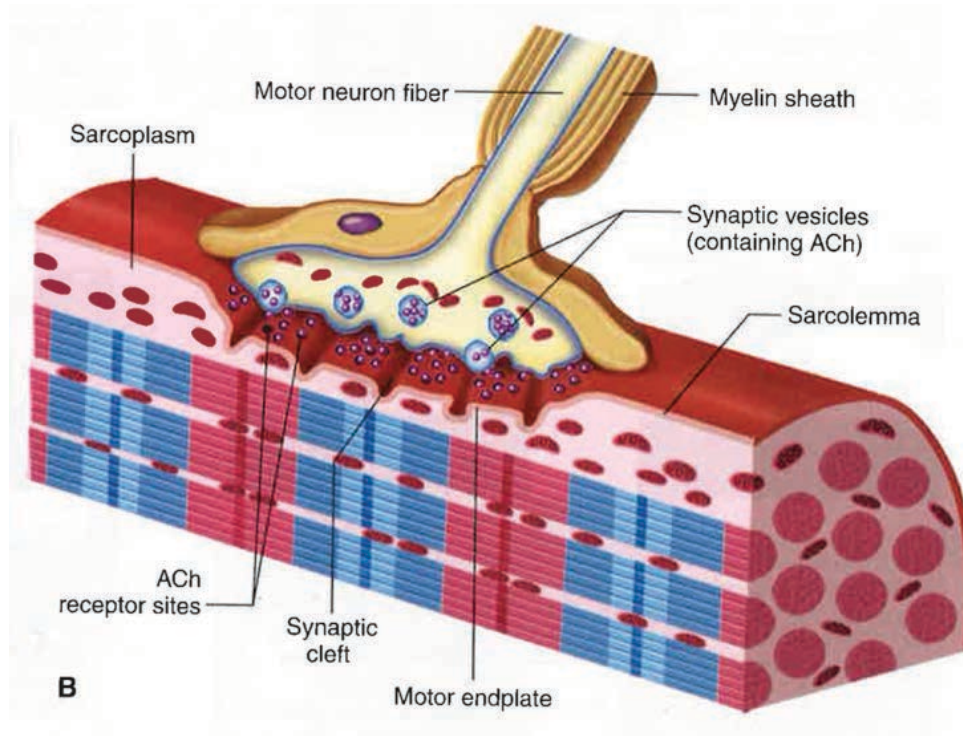
## 3. Relaxation

- $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  re-uptake into internal  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  store
- Uncoupling crossbridge





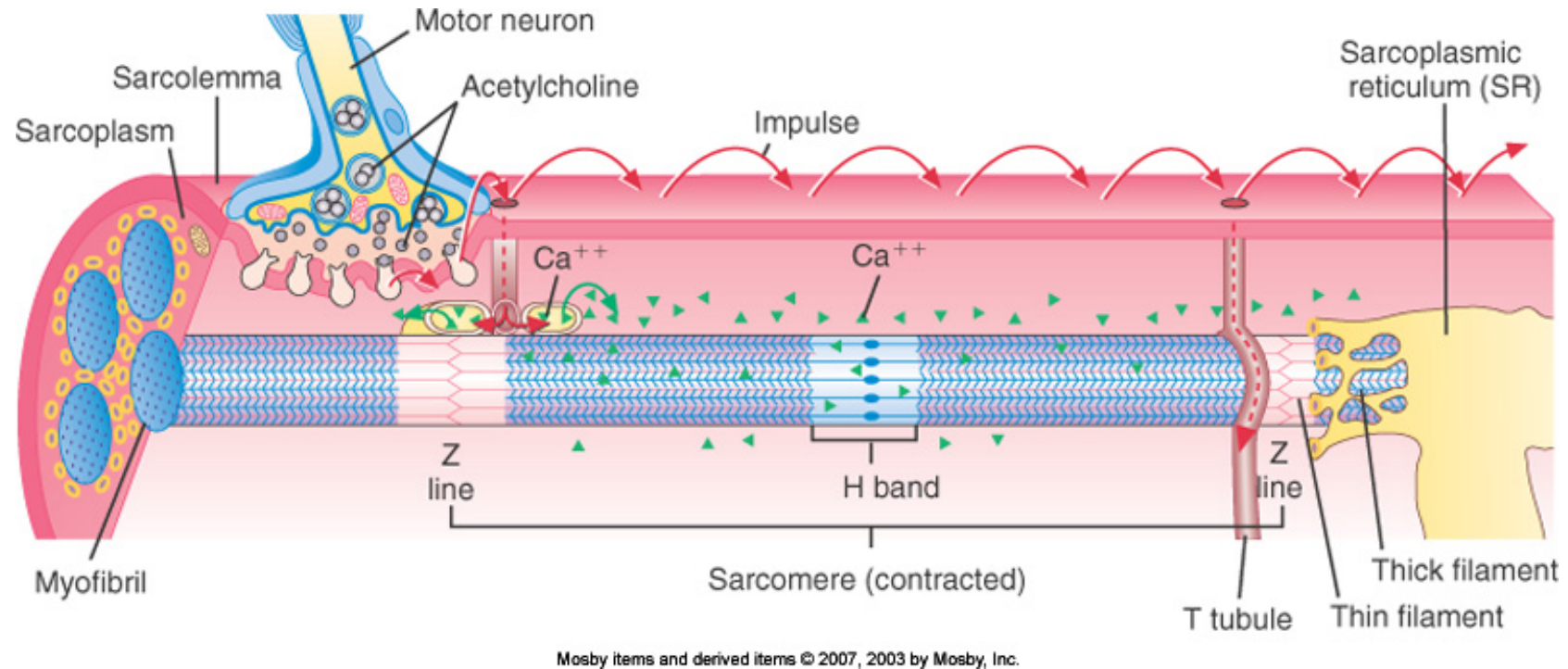
# 4.1 Excitation



- AP reaches end of motor neuron, which causes Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry into nerve terminal
- Synaptic vesicles release ACh, which diffuses into synaptic cleft
- ACh stimulates ACh-receptors on the adjacent muscle fibre
- Depolarisation of muscle sarcolemma, initiating an action potential
- Electro – Chemical – Electro coupling

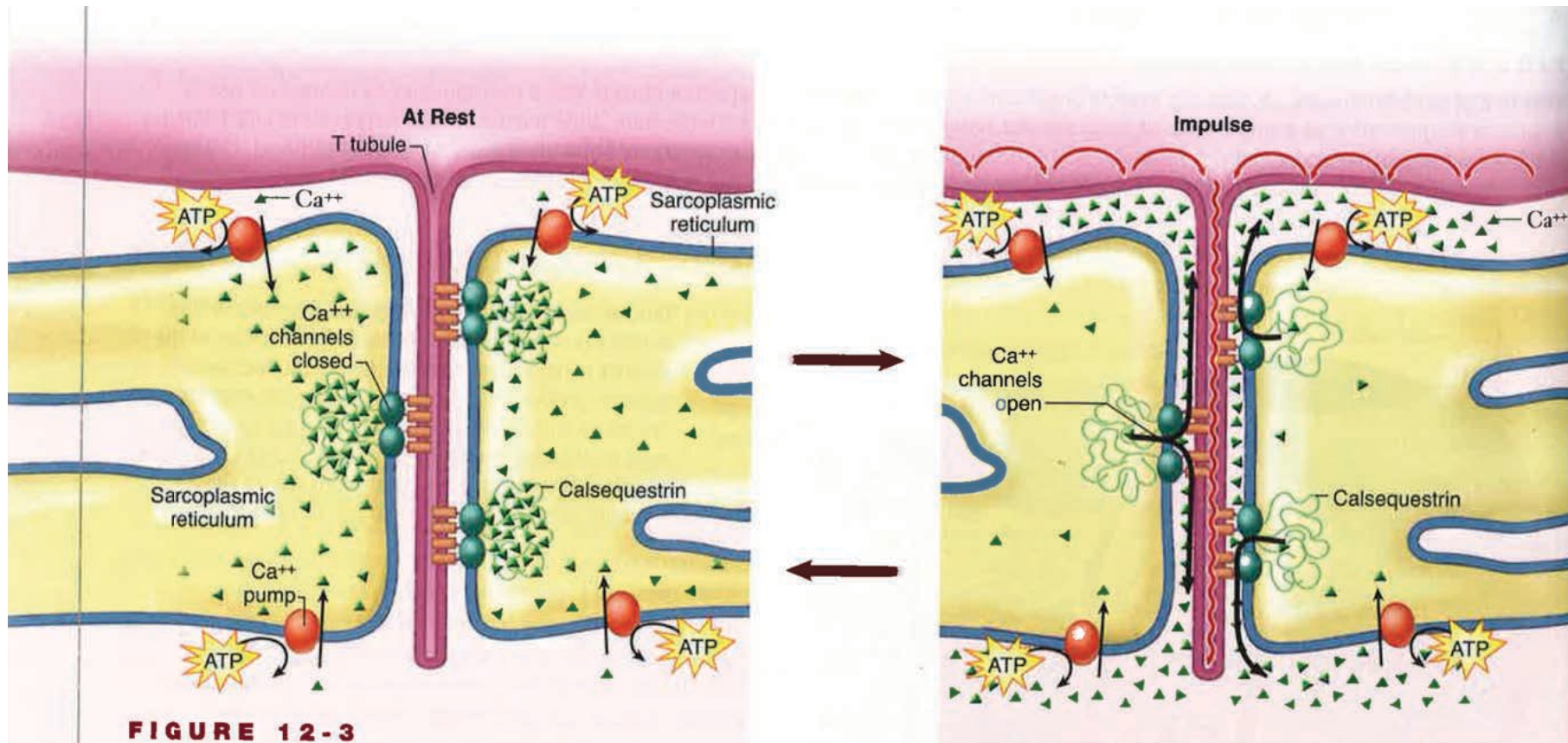


## 4.2 Excitation-Contraction



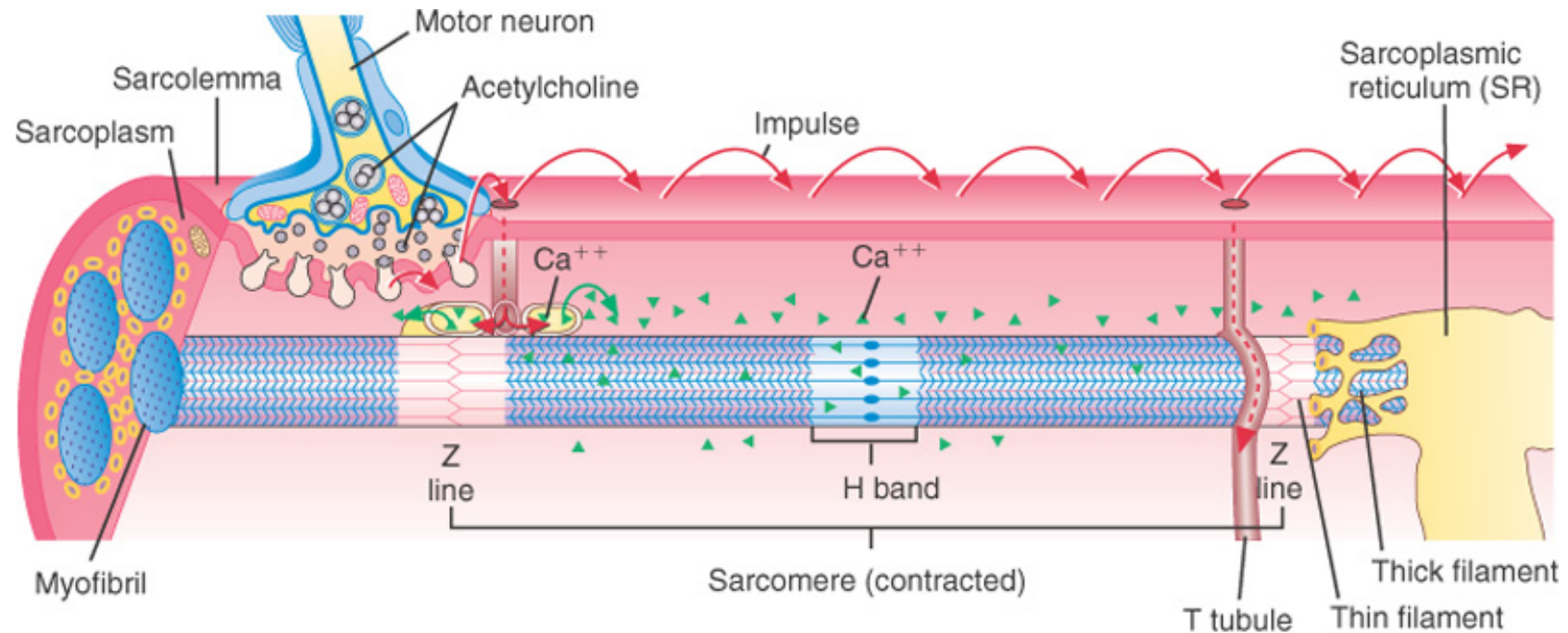
- AP travels over sarcolemma and T-tubules, triggering release of  $Ca^{2+}$  ions from the adjacent sarcoplasmic reticulum (SR)

## 4.2 Contraction



- AP travels over the T-Tubules, triggering release of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ions from the adjacent sarcoplasmic reticulum (SR)

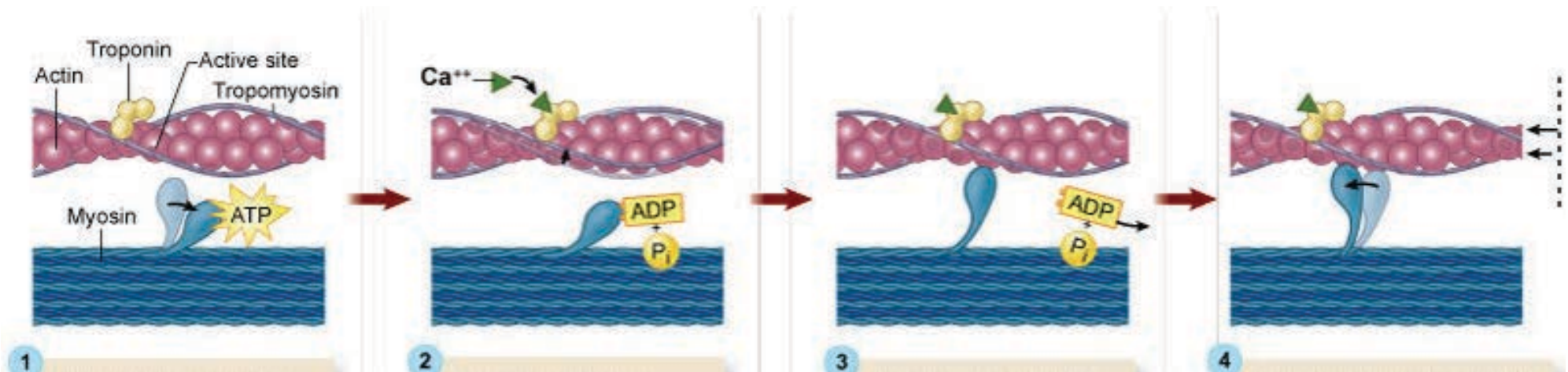
## 4.2 Contraction



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- $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ions diffuse to the myofilaments to trigger crossbridge formation

## 4.2 Contraction



Myosin head is in its ENERGISED state, with ATP bound

$\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -troponin interaction exposes active sites

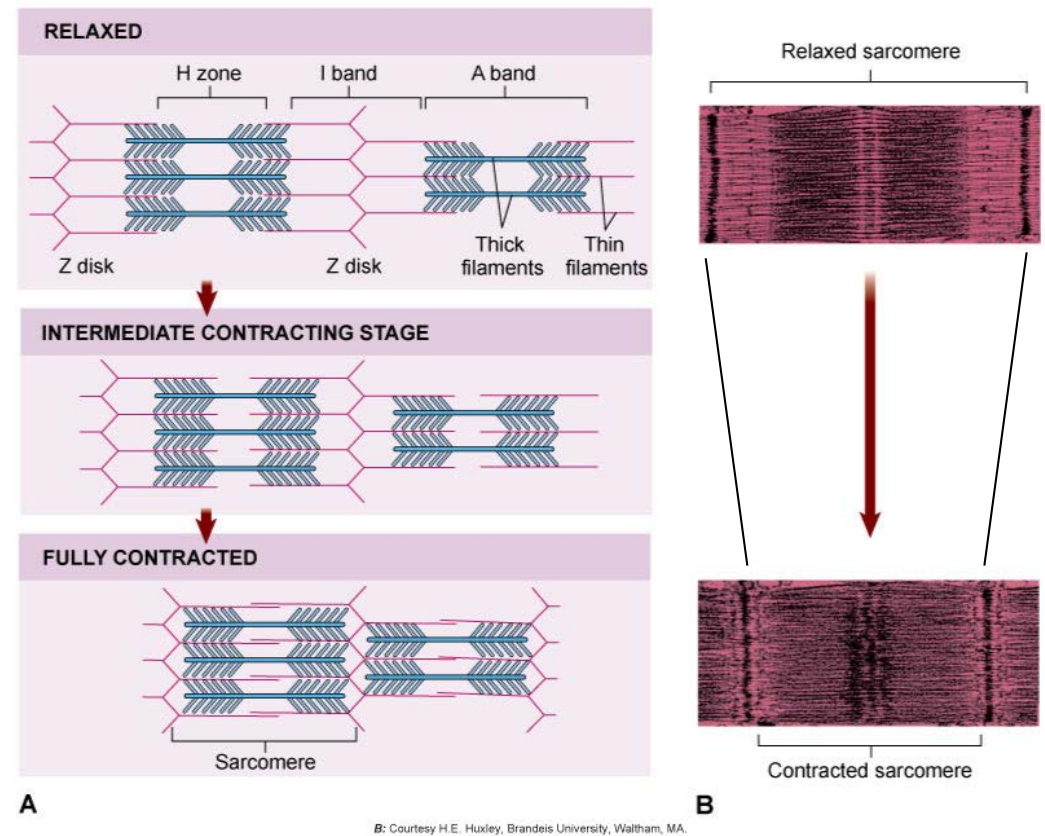
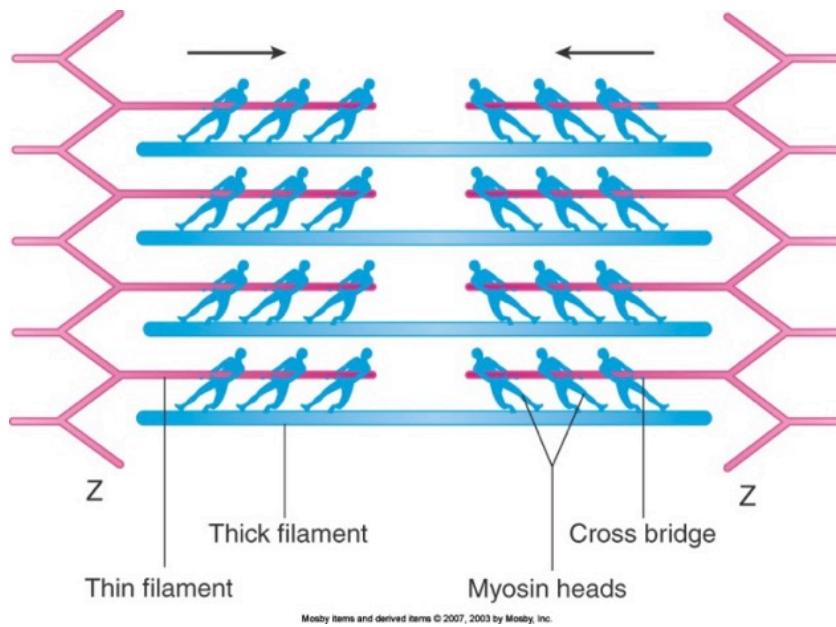
Actin and Myosin interact: CROSS-BRIDGE

Energised myosin head pulls the actin POWERSTROKE

Each cycle is driven by high energy bonds of adenosine triphosphate ( ATP )



## 4.2 Contraction: Sliding Filament Model



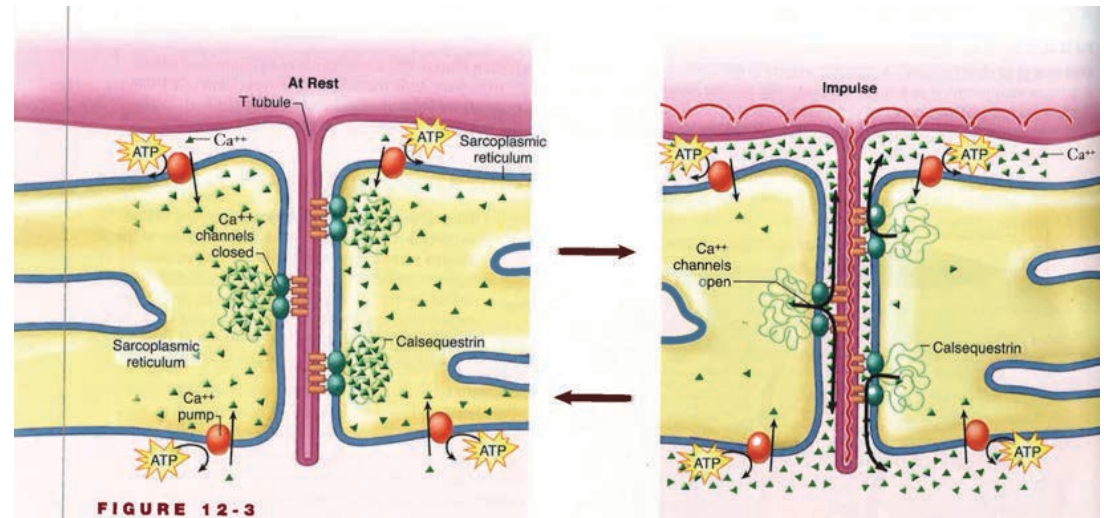
Myofibril shortens (z-lines closer)

Myofilaments, actin and myosin, do not shorten!

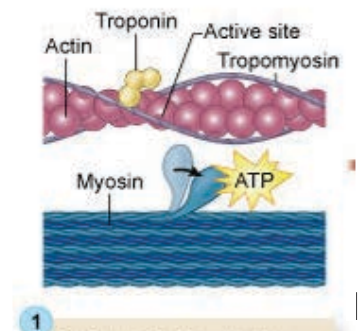
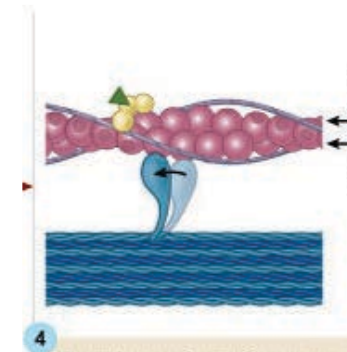


## 4.3 Relaxation

- No new AP - sarcolemma repolarises



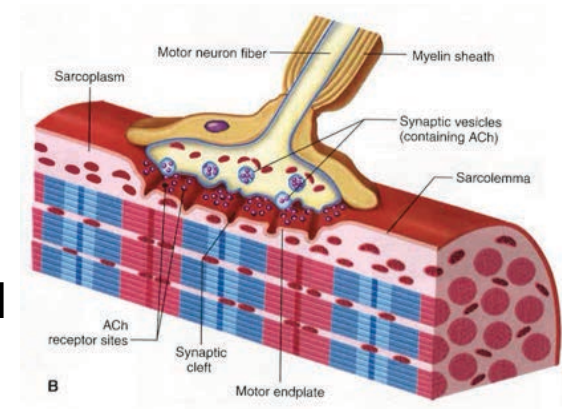
- $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ions no longer bind to Troponin (reduced affinity)
- Actin and Myosin are still bound, but not enough  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ions to initiate new crossbridges
- ATP must bind, for Actin and Myosin to uncouple (uncoupling of crossbridge)
- Muscle Fibre returns to its resting state and .....



# 4. Mechanism of Contraction of Skeletal Muscle

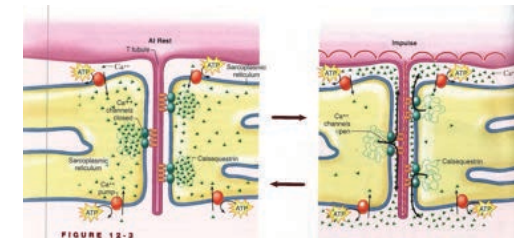
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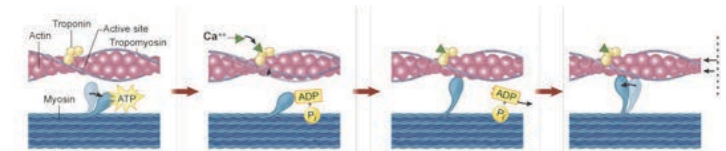
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- $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  re-uptake into internal  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  store
- Uncoupling crossbridge



# HUBS191

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