EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY

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Difference between Exercise Physiology & Sports Physiology:

- Exercise Physiology : Study of how bodies structure & function are altered when we are exposed to acute & chronic bouts of exercise.
- Sports Physiology: It applies the concepts of exercise physiology to training the athlete and enhancing the athlete's sports performance.

STRUCTURE OF SKELETAL MUSCLE

Structure of skeletal muscle is divided into two types :

- a. Gross structure.
- B. Microscopic structure.

Gross structure.

Structure of a Skeletal Muscle



Gross Structure:

- Outermost covering of the muscle (made of connective tissue) is EPIMYSIUM.
- Bundles of Fasciculi; connective sheath sorrounding each fasciculi is Perimysium.
- Bundles of muscle fibres are covered by a sheath of connective tissue called Endomysium.

Structure of muscle fibre:

- Outermost covering is called Sarcolemma.
- Filled with a jelly like substance called Sarcoplasm.
- Contains fat, protiens, glygogen, necessary organelles.
- Sarcoplasmic Reticulum : Made of network of tubules & vesicles; contains Longitudinal tubules.
- Longitudinal tubules terminate to form Cisterns/outer vessicles.

Outer vessicles & T-tubules form a Tiad.
Calcium ions are stored in outer vessicle.



MICROSCOPIC STRUCTURE OF MUSCLE

- Myofibril : Myofibril are protein thread like strands which are embedded in the sarcoplasm.
- Constitutes two protein filaments : Actin & Myosin.
- Actin & Myosin results in the formation of I-Band & A-Band.
- I-Band constitutes of Actin filament (thin filament).

- A-Band constitutes of Myosin filament (thick filament).
- Adjoining actin filaments are connected by Z-Line.
- H- Zone is found in between the A- Band.
- Region of low density found in centre of H Zone & Dark centre portion called the M-Line.

ACTIN FILAMENT

- Arranged like a double pearl necklace which is twisted into a spiral helix.
- Consists of Troponin & Tropomyosin.

- Tropomyosin : a long string like portion found on surface of actin filaments.During rest condition tropomyosin filaments cover the active sites on the actin filament.
- Troponin: a complex of three globular protien molecules, inserted at every two-third the distance of tropomyosin to actin.

- MYOSIN FILAMENT
- Myosin filaments (thicker filaments) occupy the A- Band.made up of fibrous protien called myosin.
- Myosin cross bridges are formed by the two heads & a part of the shaft which is an extension of the rod like structure.

STRUCTURE OF ACTIN & MYOSIN FILAMENT



SLIDING FILAMENT THEORY OF MUSCULAR CONTRACTION

- This theory was proposed by H.E.Huxley(1969).It explains the mechanical & chemical basis of muscular contraction.
- Actin slides over the myosin filament.
- Theory states that when a muscle is stimulated through certain physiological & bio-chemical process actin slides over the myosin filament resulting in shortening of the muscle.

Mechanical, physiological & biochemical process which are involved in this process can be explained in five different stages:

- a. Rest.
- b. Excitation Coupling.
- c. Contraction.
- d. Recharging.
- e. Relaxation.

a. Rest:

- Myosin cross bridges extend towards the actin filament but do not form a bond with actin filament.
- A molecule of ATP is present at the end of the crossbridge.
- During rest, this complex is called "Uncharged ATP Cross – Bridge complex".
- Due to absence of calcium ions actin filaments inhibits the binding of actin

b. Excitation - Coupling :

- Nerve impulse reaches the neuromuscluar junction through motor nerve, acetylcholine is released.
- □ It stimulates the generation of impulses in sarcolemma.
- Nerve impulses help in the release of Calcium ions from the vessicles of Sarcoplasmic reticulum.
- Calcium ions are immediately taken up by Troponin molecules.
- □ It leads to "turning on" of active sites of actin filament.
- Uncharged ATP cross- bridge leads to charged ATP crossbridge complex. It leads to physical – chemical coupling of actin & myosin resulting in ACTOMYOSIN COMPLEX.

• c. Contraction

- Actomyosin formation activates enzyme MyosinATPase.It breaks the ATP molecule into ADP & Pi and Energy.
- Release energy leads the cross bridge move to a new angle, such that actin slides over myosin.
- □ Tension developed in muscle & it shortens.
- □ H-Zone disappears; shortening of the I-band.
- □ No change in the length of the A-Band occurs.
- □ No change in the length of the actin & myosin filament.

d. Recharging

- Myosin cross bridges may make & break bond with active sites of actin filament.
- Reloading the myosin cross-bridge with a fresh molecule of ATP through resynthesis.
- Active site is made available for recycling.

• e. Relaxation :

- Nerve impluse ceases, calcium ions is pumped back to outer vessicles.
- □ Removal of calcium ions leads to "turn off" of actin filament.
- □ No bond between actin & myosin filament.
- □ Activity of myosin ATPase is stopped.
- □ No more ATP is broken down.
- □ Muscle filaments return to original position & muscle relaxes.



CHARACTERISTICS OF SKELETAL MUSCLE

- 1. Contractibility.
- 2. Extensibility.
- 3. Elasticity.
- 4. Irritability.
- ▶ 5. Tonus.
- 6. All or None Law.
- 7. Fatigue.