

These extrinsic proteins make a boundary between the cytoskeleton and the plasma membrane. They control cell shape, delimit specialized membrane domains and help in cell adhesions (attachment with other cells and to the substrates). The network consisting of these boundary proteins, which are responsible for association of plasma membrane with underlying cytoskeleton, is described as membrane skeleton. For erythrocytes, the component of this membrane skeleton is where a network consisting of spectrin, actin and other proteins is attached to plasma membrane through "ankyrin" and proteins. The membrane skeleton also has proteins adduction, transmembrane, claudin, which do not directly to the membrane, but add to the stability of membrane skeleton.

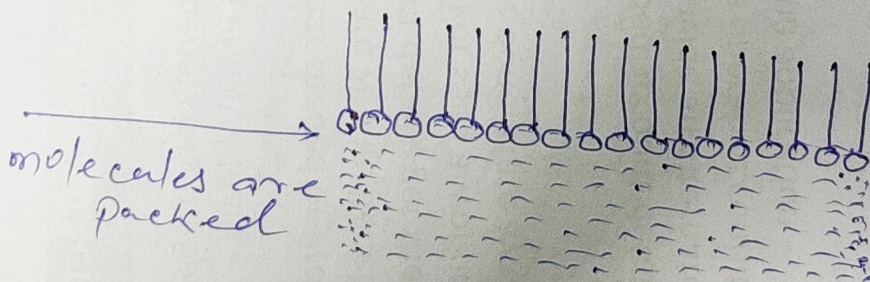


Fig: Cytoskeleton

Vishwanath Sah

Guest Teacher

Dept of Zoology

J.N. College, Madhuvan