

Faculty: Physiotherapy •

1<sup>st</sup> year \ Class: •

Semester: Two •

Genetics and molecular :Course Title &code •

.(19 \ -GEN-ME)biology

( \ 0 ) :Batch No •

# RNA Biosynthesis (Transcription)

# Learning outcomes:

- ***By the end of this session you should:***
- Define transcription, promotor region, exon, intron, splicing of exon.
- Locate the transcription process in the cell and the direction of this process.
- List the RNA biosynthesis requirements.
- Recognize the transcriptional unit contents.
- Describe the steps of mRNA biosynthesis
- Differentiate between different RNA polymerases and their roles in transcription in both prokaryotes and eukaryotes.
- Discuss the post-transcription process modifications

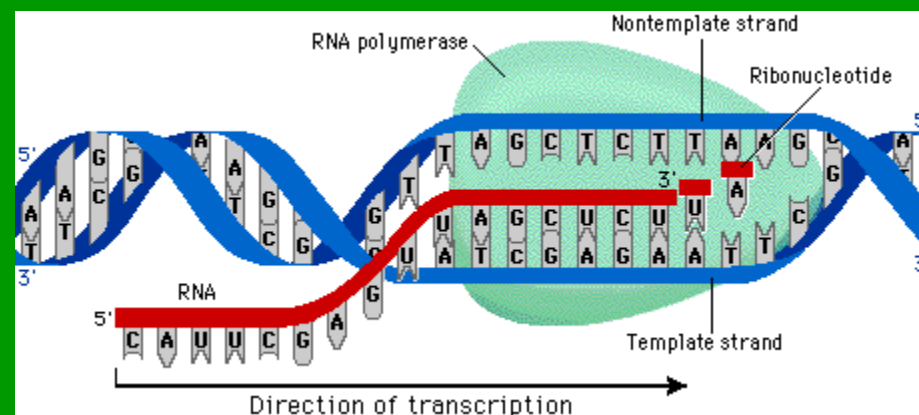
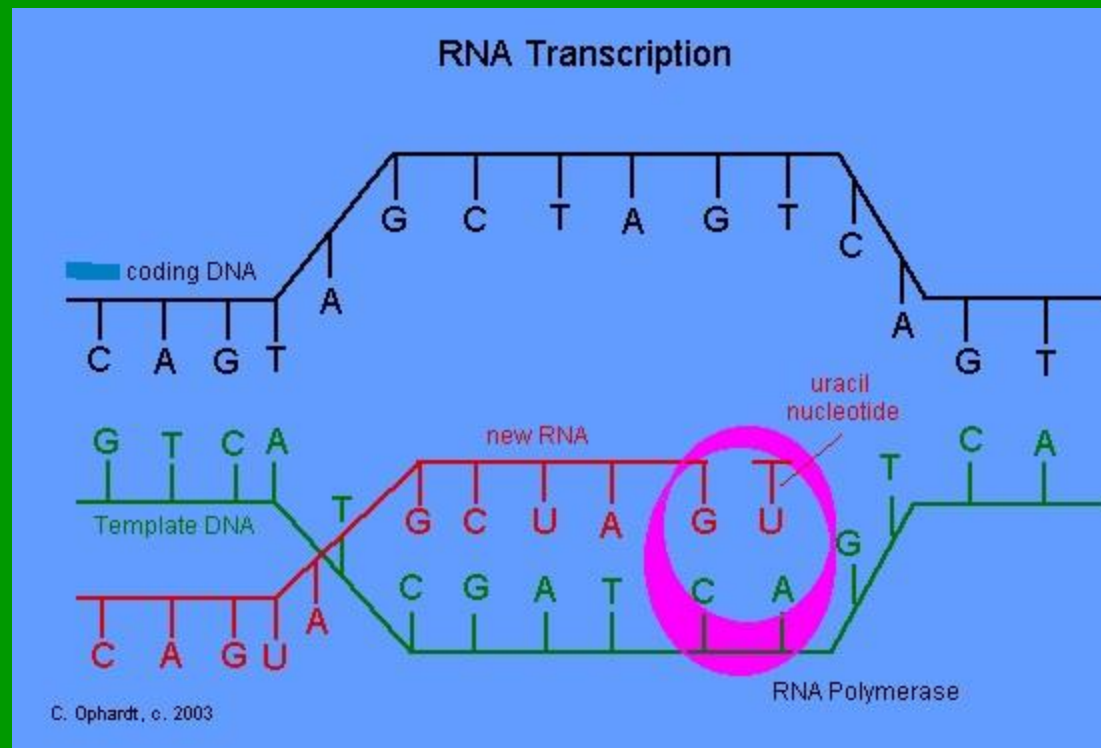
# Contents:

- Introduction.
- Biosynthesis requirements.
- Transcription unit.
- RNA polymerase enzymes.
- Steps of RNA Biosynthesis.
- RNA processing.
- Summary.

# Introduction

- RNA biosynthesis is the process of synthesis of RNA molecule from DNA .
- The process is important for protein synthesis.
- Changes in the synthesis, processing, and splicing of mRNA transcripts may causes a disease.
- The process involves one of the groups of RNA polymerase enzymes and a number of associated proteins.

- Transcription occurs on one of the two strands of DNA.



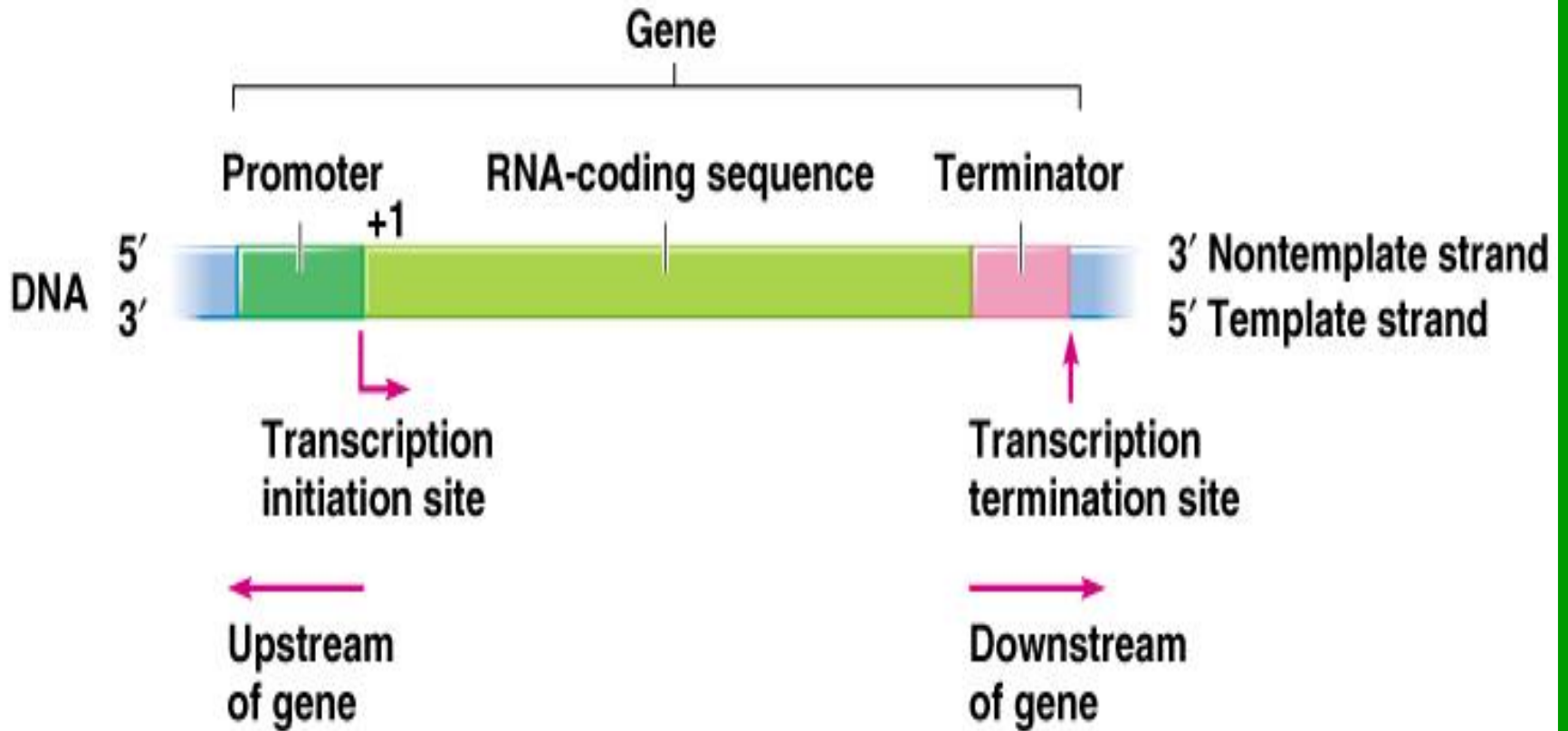
# RNA biosynthesis requirements

- The process requires the following:
- (1) Transcription unit.
- (2) Ribonucleotide triphosphates (ATP, GTP, CTP and UTP)
- (3) RNA polymerase enzymes.

# Transcription unit

- It is the part of DNA which is the site of transcription.
- This unit includes:
  - (1) promoter region..
  - (2) Transcription region.
  - (3) Termination region
  - (4) Enhancers.





# Promoter region

- It is a certain sequence of bases located at the beginning of the transcription unit.
- It is important for initiation of transcription to occur.
- It can be recognized by RNA polymerase.

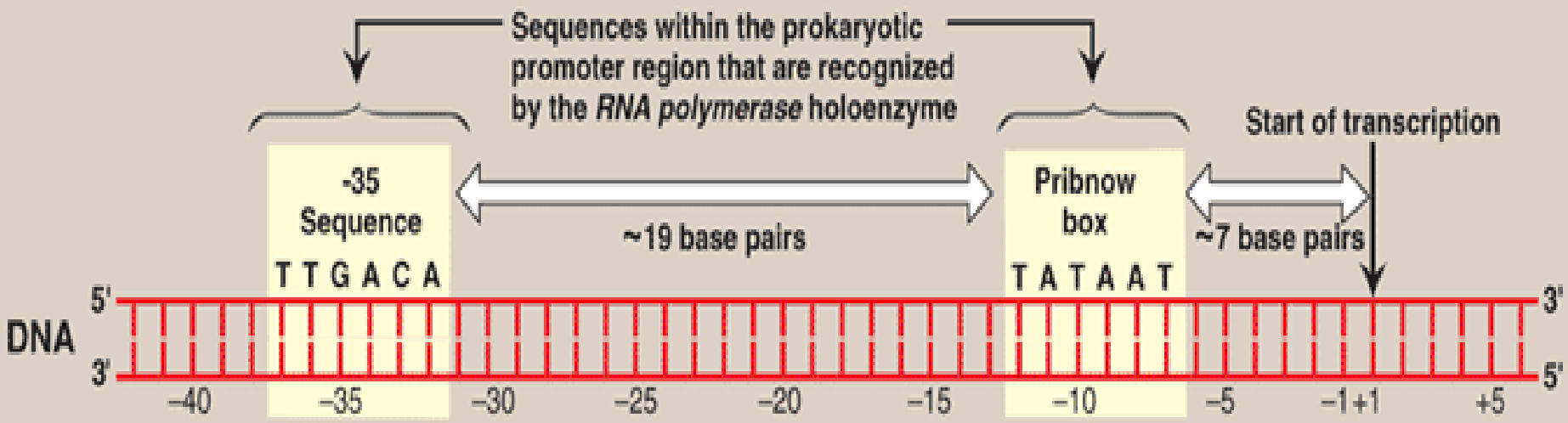
It is composed of:

(1) Pribnow box which is stretch of 6 nucleotides (TATAAT), locate about 10 bases to the left of the transcription initiation site.

(2) A second nucleotide stretch (TTGACA) that located about 35 bases to the left of the transcription initiation site.

(3) 19 bases (nucleotide) in between two stretches.

(4) Both Pribnow box and (TTGACA) are regions that can be recognized by RNA polymerase.



# Transcription & Termination region

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- Transcription region is the part of DNA that is to be transcribed into RNA molecule.
- Termination region is the region of DNA.. located at the end of the transcribed DNA.

- **Enhancers** are specific segments present in DNA which control and increase the rate of transcription in eukaryotes

# Transcription factors

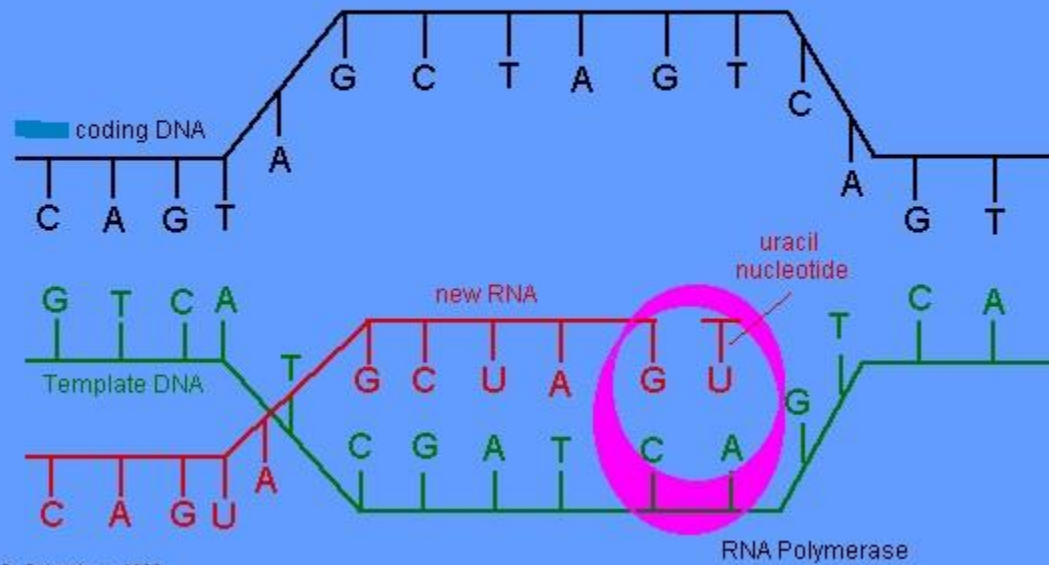
: TF II D, TF II A, TF II B, TF II F, TF II E, TF II H, TF II J bind to the DNA around the TATA box and form a platform for RNA polymerase II to bind. TF binding in a specific order .

# RNA polymerase enzymes

- RNA polymerase (RNAP) catalyzes the polymerization of ribonucleotides into an RNA sequence that is complementary to the template strand of the gene.
- The RNA transcript has the same polarity (5' to 3') as the coding strand but contains U rather than T.



## RNA Transcription

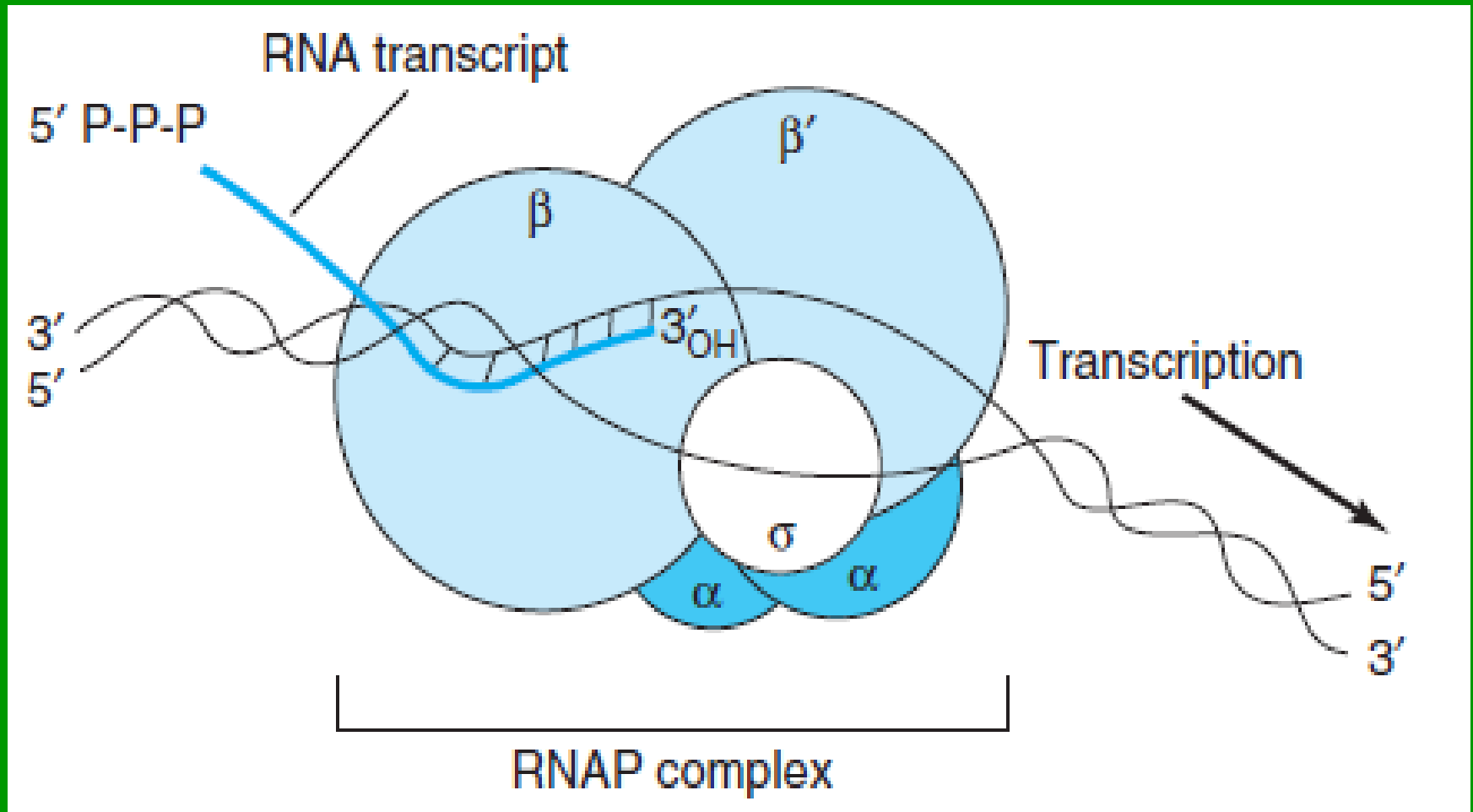


C. Ophardt, c. 2003

# Prokaryotic RNA polymerase enzymes

- The holo enzyme of the RNA polymerase consists of:
- (1) The core molecule of 4 sub units, 2  $\alpha$  sub units the other 2 are  $\beta'$  &  $\beta$  subunits .
- (2) sigma factor ( $\sigma$ ) enables polymerase to recognize promoter region on DNA and helps the core enzyme to attach tightly to the promoter site.

# RNA polymerase enzymes



# Eukaryotic RNA polymerase enzymes

- There are three species of RNA polymerase enzyme in eukaryotic cells.
- (1) RNA polymerase I: Which synthesizes the large ribosomal RNAs in the nucleolus.
- (2) RNA Polymerase II: which synthesizes messenger RNA and recognizes the promoter region.
- (3) RNA polymerase III: which synthesizes the small RNAs including the tRNA and the small ribosomal RNA.

# Steps of RNA Biosynthesis

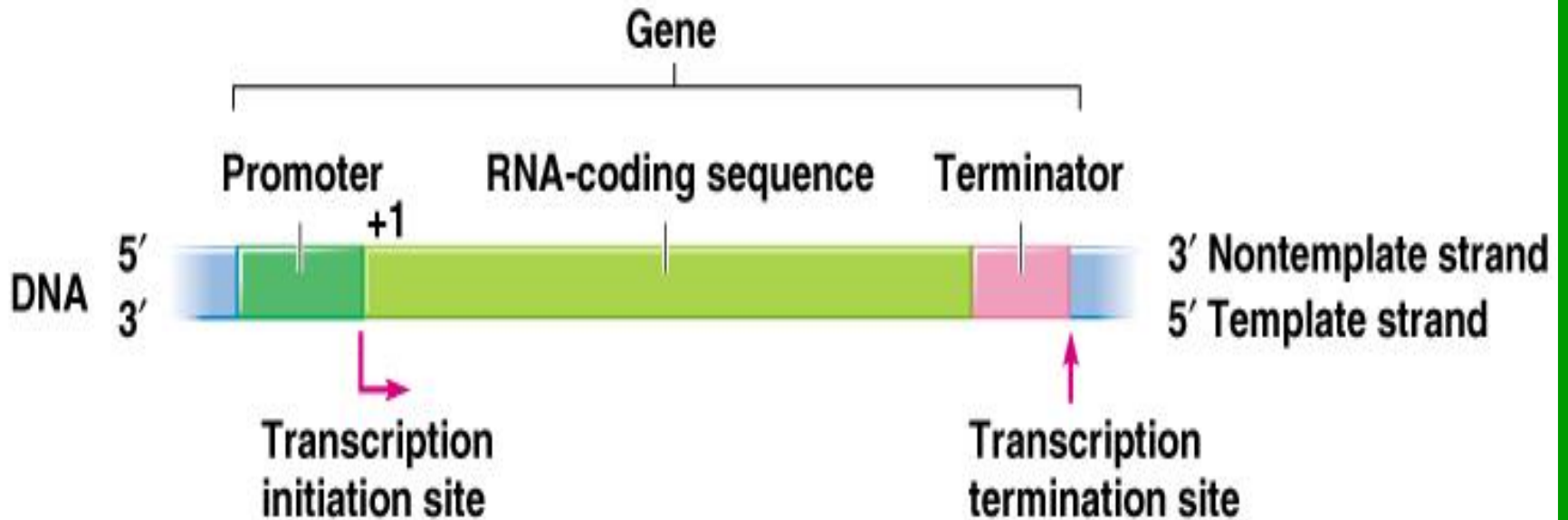
- There are three steps of RNA biosynthesis:
  - (1) Initiation .
  - (2) Elongation.
  - (3) Termination.

# Initiation

- RNA polymerase holo enzyme binds with the promoter area :
  - (1) Sigma  $\sigma$  sub unit enables polymerase to recognize promoter region on DNA.
  - (2)  $\beta'$  subunit binds to the DNA template.
  - (3)  $\beta$  subunit binds to the nucleotide substrates

- Binding of RNA polymerase to DNA template leads to local separations (unwinding) of double helix into sense and anti sense strands.
- Template strand = antisense (-) strand, non template strand = sense(+) strand, coding strand
- The first nucleotides of RNA at the initiation site is always Purine.

# initiation





# Elongation

- At the sense strand, formation of RNA begins at 5' end by the core enzyme with release of sigma factor.
- Then the elongation of RNA occurs from 5' to 3' end anti parallel to the template.
- The nucleotide building blocks are 5' ribonucleoside triphosphate (ATP, GTP, CTP and UTP).
- They are inserted in the RNA molecules according to the pairing rule i.e. A.U, G.C, T.A and C.G.

- Pyrophosphate (PPi) is released when each nucleotide is added to growing chain .



- RNA polymerase forms phosphodiester bond between the 3' OH of one ribose sugar and 5' OH of next ribose .
- The process of the elongation of RNA chain continues until a terminating region is reached.

- Initiation:  $\sigma$  subunit of RNA holoenzyme recognize and bind -35 box →
- a closed (DNA remains as a double helix) promoter complex is formed →
- DNA double helix partially dissociate at the -10 box to give an open promoter complex →
- $\sigma$  subunit dissociate leaving core enzyme →
- the first two nucleotides bind to DNA and first phosphodiester bond forms

The RNA polymerase moves along the DNA molecule melting and unwinding the double helix as it progresses.

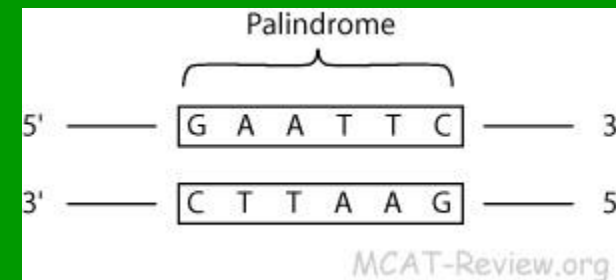
RNA molecule is growing by adding ribonucleotide that is paired with DNA template.

# Termination

Termination involves release of transcript and the core enzyme and initiate another round of transcription.

# Termination

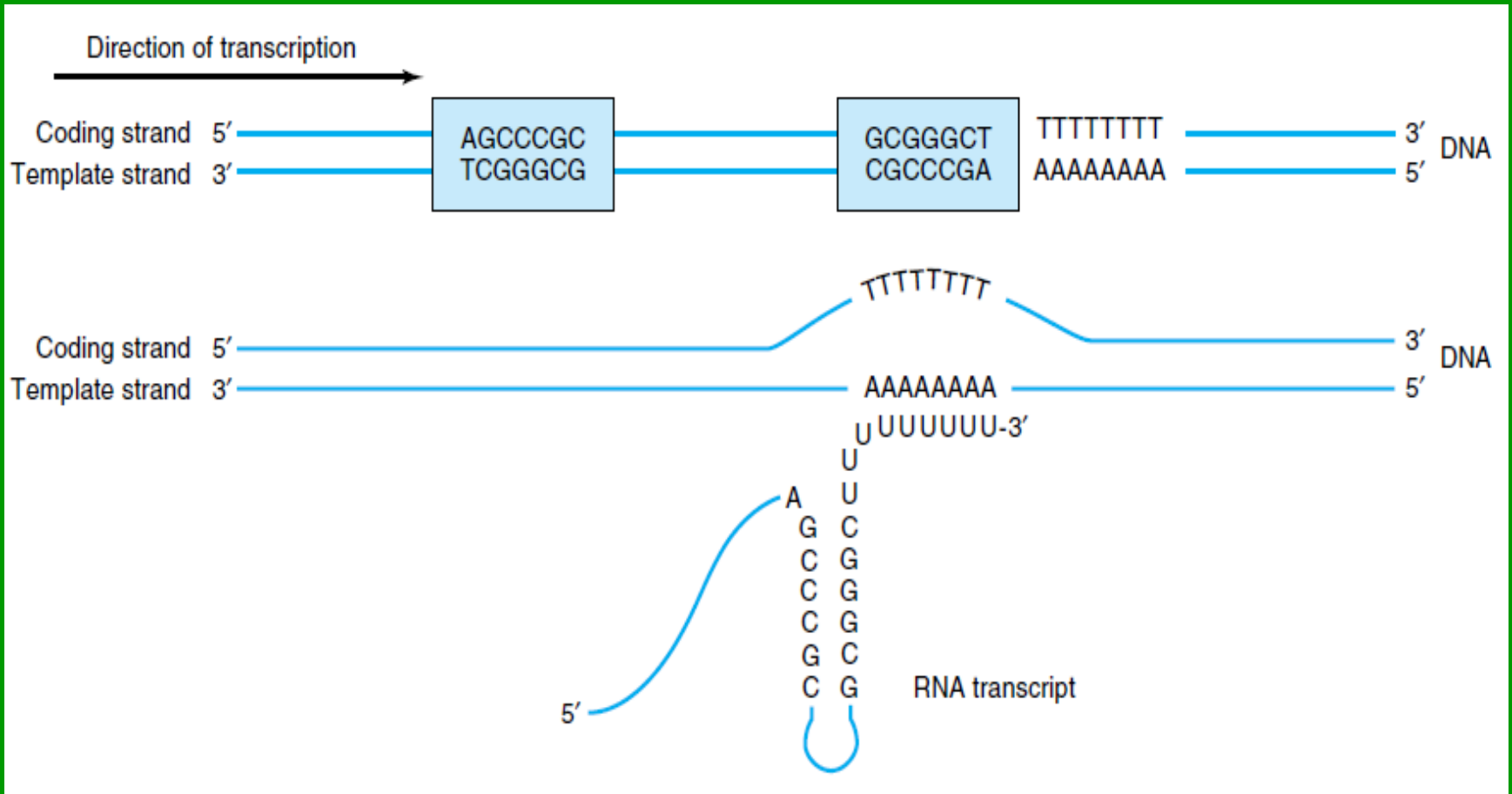
- Termination region on DNA can be recognized by:
  - (a) rho (ρ) factor which may be required for the release of both RNA strand and RNA polymerase
  - (b) RNA polymerase enzyme itself (rho independent termination).
- Termination results from one of the following processes:
  - (a) Binding of rho factor to polymerase enzyme.
  - (b) Slowing down of RNA polymerase at the termination site (palindrome)



# Pallindromes

termination occurs at pallindromes, such that a stem-loop structure of RNA (Fig. ) will form after transcription.

# Termination



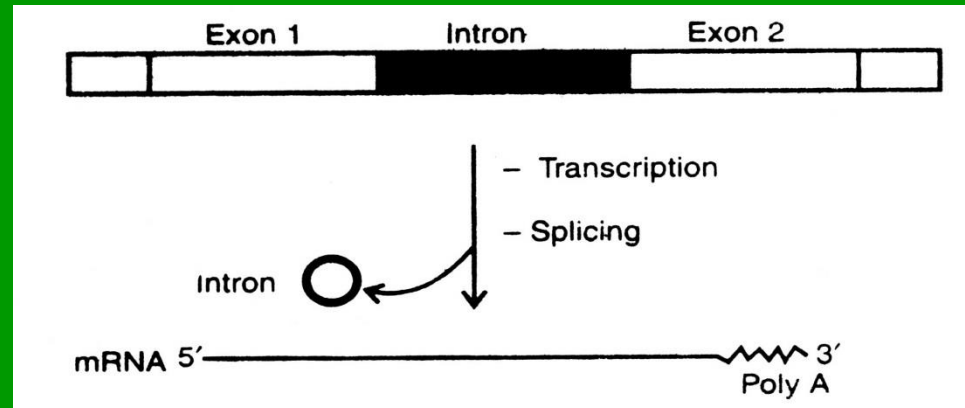


# Transcription in eukaryotes

Similar to prokaryotes, but are more complex in initiation, termination does not involve stem-loop structure and transcription carried out by three RNA polymerases.

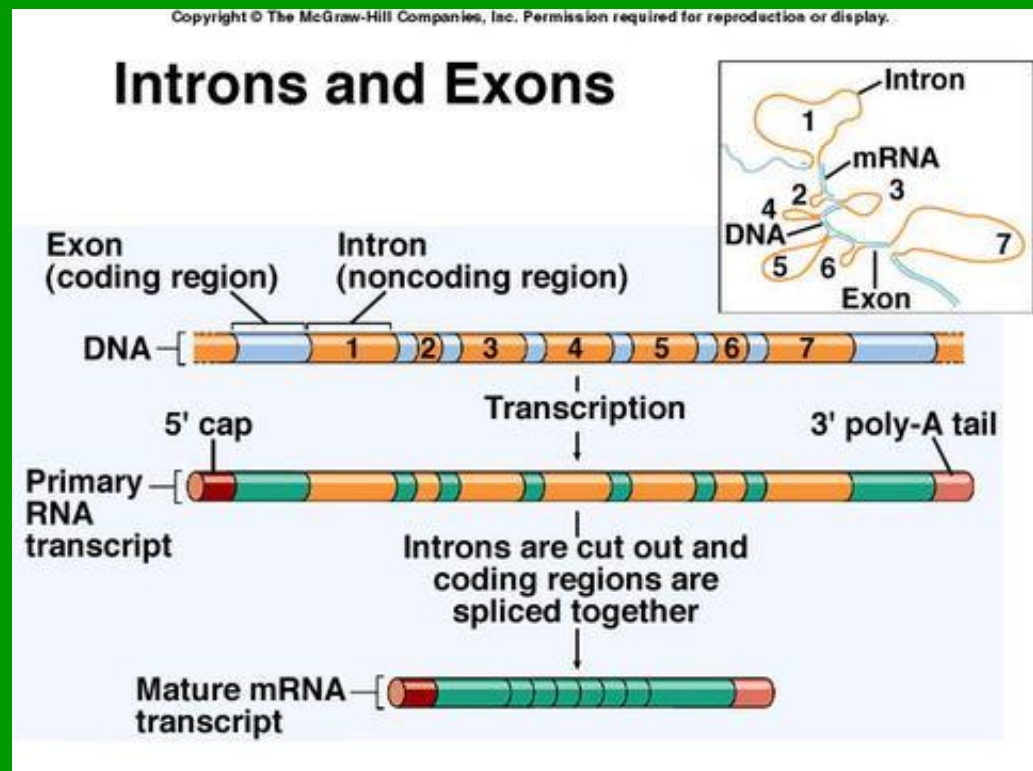
# Processing of RNA

- Eukaryote pre-mRNAs often have intervening introns that must be removed during RNA processing.
- intron = non-coding DNA sequences between exons in a gene.
- exon = expressed DNA sequences in a gene, code for amino acids.

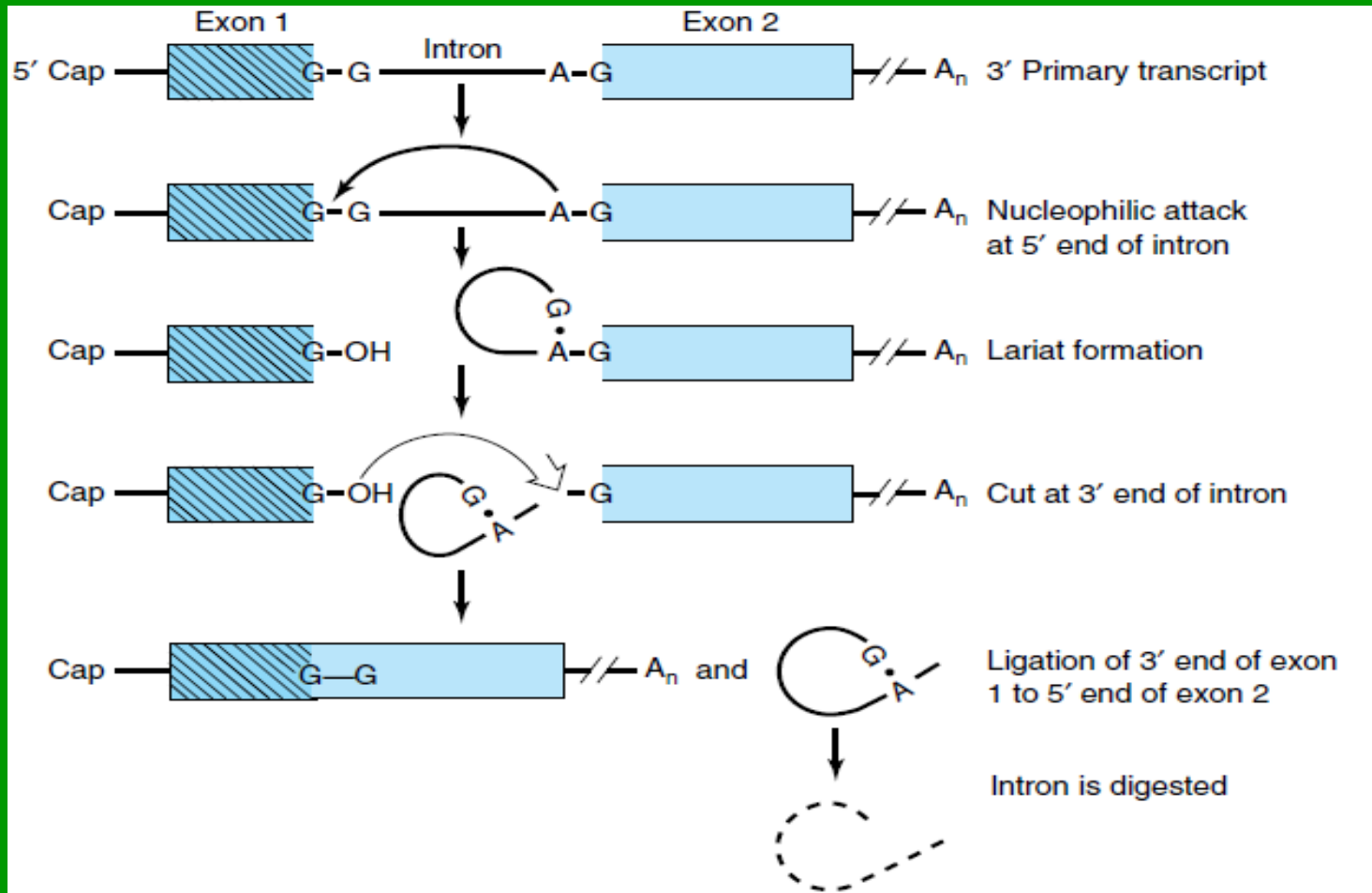


# mRNA splicing of exons and removal of introns

- Splicing is mediated by spliceosomes, complexes of small nuclear RNAs (snRNAs) and proteins, that cleave the intron at the 3' end and join the exons.
- Introns are degraded by the cell.



# The processing of the primary transcript to mRNA



# Summary

- RNA is synthesized from a DNA template by the enzyme RNA polymerase.
- There are three distinct nuclear DNA-dependent RNA polymerases in mammals:  
RNA polymerases I, II, and III. these control the transcriptional function.
- Transcription exhibits three phases: initiation, elongation, and termination.
- During the process of RNA , pre-mRNAs often have intervening introns that must be removed\_ and exons that are joined

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