

7.5 nm Thick

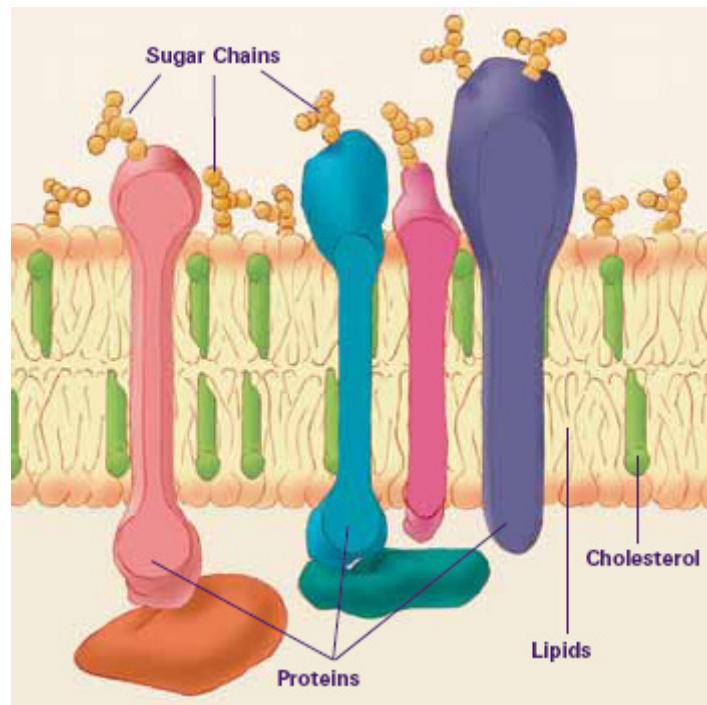


Image: National Institute of General Medical Sciences

- Cell membranes are sheet-like structures, typically 7.5 nm thick
- They consist mainly of lipid and protein, and may also contain sugars
- Membrane lipids are relatively small molecules that have both hydrophilic and hydrophobic properties
- Specific proteins mediate specific functions in membranes, e.g., transport and energy generation
- Membranes are asymmetric
- Membranes are fluid structures
- Note: Nanometer = 1×10^{-9} meter
- Fluid Mosaic Model // phospholipid bilayer