



processes such as cell signaling, nucleotide metabolism, energy metabolism, membrane function and bone mineralization. Chronic Pi insufficiency results in impaired bone mineralization, rickets or osteomalacia. Elevated Pi concentrations are observed in patients with chronic renal failure. Parathyroid hormone (PTH) and vitamin D regulate Pi metabolism in the intestine, kidney and bone. Pi transport is also regulated by the variety of local factors. Phosphatonins are peptides which can inhibit Pi reabsorption in the proximal tubule. Several phosphatonins such as fibroblast growth factor 23 (FGF-23), secreted frizzled-related protein-4 (sFRP-4), extracellular phosphoglycoprotein (MEPE) and fibroblast growth factor 7 (FGF-7) have been shown to play a pathogenic role in several hypophosphatemic disorders such as tumor-induced osteomalacia (TIO), autosomal dominant hypophosphatemic rickets (ADHR), X-linked hypophosphatemic rickets (XLH), autosomal recessive hypophosphatemia (ARHP) and McCune-Albright syndrome.