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7.1.1 The Labile Iron Pool

Sommario/riassunto

Iron is of fundamental importance to the growth, development and well-being of almost all living organisms. Multiple biological systems have evolved for the uptake, utilisation, storage, and homeostasis of iron in microbes, plants and mammals. Both iron deficiency and iron overload are found extensively in humans; the intimate links between iron and oxidative stress are associated with a wide range of pathologies. Iron has a well established role in infections by a range of microorganisms and parasites. Other metals such as copper and zinc are also closely linked with iron metabolism. Iron ove