



(Figure 1.7): A model for cellular uptake and degradation of insulin (Duckworth et al., 1998).

The biological role of this partially degraded insulin is unknown, although some degradative products of insulin retain receptor binding and biological activity (Duckworth, 1988).

Most receptor-bound insulin is internalized into endosomes where degradation is initiated. Internalization is a property of the insulin receptor (Duckworth et al., 1997). While the concept that different forms of the insulin receptor have different functions and effects on different pathways is attractive and probably true, it seems unlikely that the complexity of insulin-cell interaction and insulin action will be so easily defined.