



MATILDA

EFFECT



Pionierinnen der Forschung **Female Pioneers of Research**

Pt. 39
Gerty Cori



BESSEr@KIT





Gerty Cori (1896-1957)

Biochemist & Nobel Laureate

Despite severe restrictions on women's education, she was able to study medicine at the *German University*

in Prague starting in 1914.

In 1922, two years after graduating, she emigrated to the United States together with her husband.





Together with her husband, she took a position at the *Institute for the Study of Malignant Diseases* (now *Roswell Park Cancer Institute*) in Buffalo, NY.

She specialized in carbohydrate metabolism, particularly the processing of glucose and the hormones involved in it.

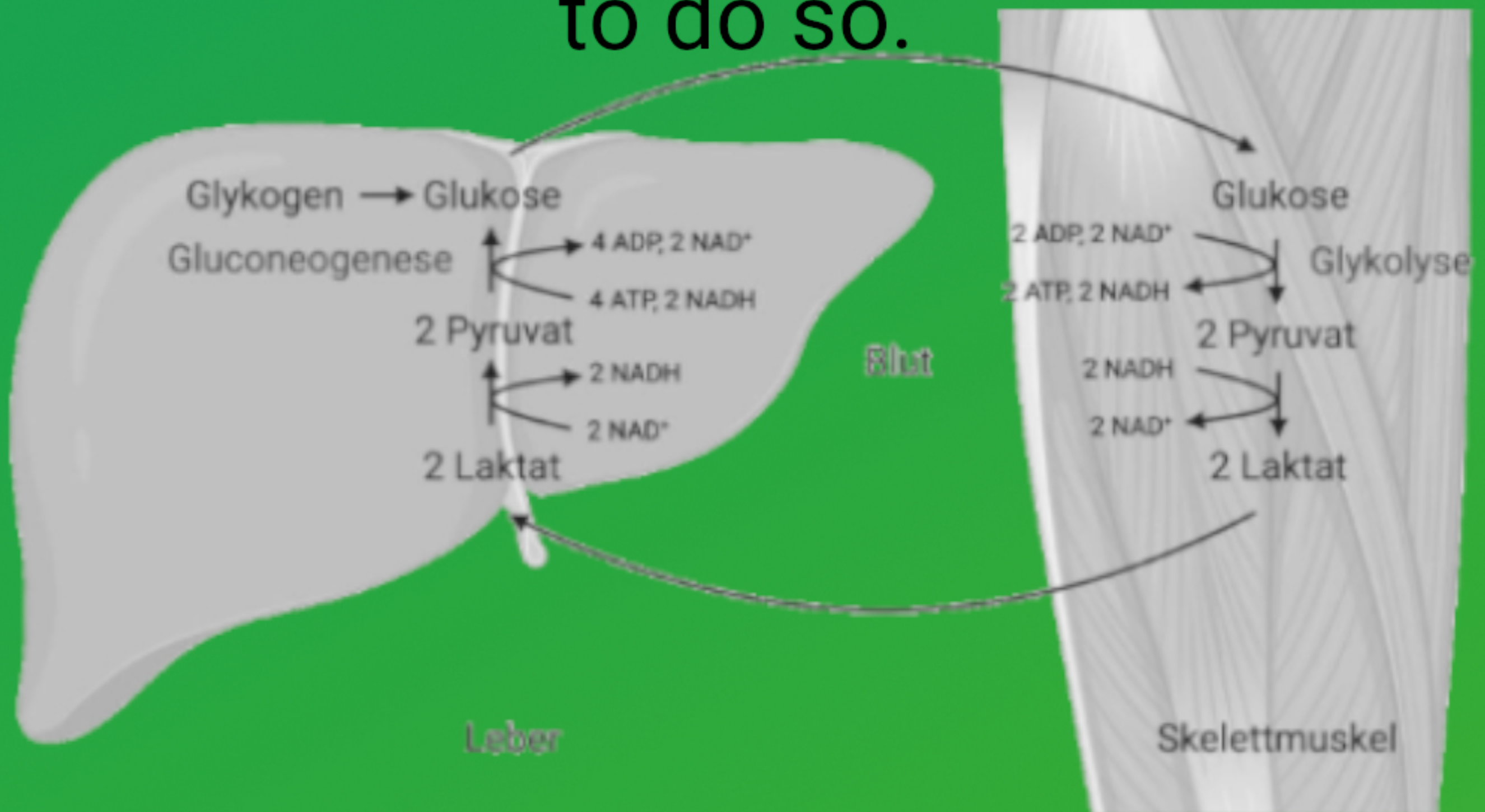
She published eleven scientific papers as a sole author on this topic.

In 1931, they moved to *Washington University in St. Louis*, where they discovered the 'Cori cycle'.



The "Cori cycle" describes the energy metabolism between muscles and the liver. It enables muscles to produce energy even when there is not enough oxygen available. This is especially relevant during short bursts of activity, such as sprints.

As part of a team with her husband and a colleague, Cori received the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1947 for this discovery, becoming the first American woman to do so.



Trotz ihrer Leistungen und Veröffentlichungen erfuhr sie jahrelang Diskriminierungen und Benachteiligungen. Unter anderem wurde ihr angedroht entlassen zu werden, sollte sie weiterhin mit ihrem Mann zusammenarbeiten; ihrem Mann wurden diverse Professuren angeboten, wenn er auf die Zusammenarbeit verzichten würde.



Despite her achievements and publications, she experienced years of discrimination and disadvantage.

Among other things, she was threatened with dismissal if she continued to work with her husband; her husband was offered various professorships on the condition that he would give up their collaboration.

