



**Figure 11.2.** Model for the first steps in the amylose use system of *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron*, a Gram-negative colon anaerobe. A complex of outer membrane (OM) proteins binds the amylose and translocates it across the OM, possibly nicking it in the process. In the periplasm (PP), the amylose is further degraded, and degradation products are transported through the cytoplasmic membrane (CM) into the cytoplasm.