



## What is the endocrine system?

The endocrine system is made up of glands and organs that produce hormones, regulate physical processes like growth and control functions across the body. Hormones are released into the bloodstream and trigger events, which a specific organ responds to, leading to a response or an action.

The endocrine system regulates body processes by using specialized organs, glands, and hormones. Glands and organs release hormones into the bloodstream, which then travel through the body. The glands of the endocrine system are: hypothalamus, pituitary gland, thyroid gland, parathyroid glands, adrenal gland, pineal gland, and testes/ovaries.

The hypothalamus is a small gland located in the brain. It produces hormones that control the pituitary gland, which in turn controls other glands in the endocrine system.

# Physiology

*Modified no.*



### Heart

The heart is a muscular organ that pumps blood throughout the body. It is located in the chest cavity, between the lungs. The heart is made up of four chambers: the right atrium, right ventricle, left atrium, and left ventricle. The right side of the heart pumps blood to the lungs, and the left side pumps blood to the rest of the body.

## The endocrine system and hormones

The function of hormones is controlled by feedback from different parts of the body. When a hormone is released into the blood, it triggers a response in the target organ. This response can be to increase or decrease the production of the hormone, or to increase or decrease the activity of the target organ.

## The pineal gland

The pineal gland is a small, pea-sized gland located in the brain. It produces hormones that regulate the body's circadian rhythm and sleep-wake cycle.



## Thyroid and parathyroids

The thyroid gland is a small, butterfly-shaped gland located in the neck. It produces hormones that regulate the body's metabolism and energy levels. The parathyroid glands are four small glands located on the thyroid gland. They produce parathyroid hormone, which regulates the body's calcium levels.

## Digestive system

The digestive system is responsible for breaking down food into nutrients that the body can use. It consists of the mouth, esophagus, stomach, and intestines.



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# Signal Transduction

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# Chemical classes of hormones

- ❑ Lipid-soluble hormones- use transport proteins in the **plasma**
  - ❑ Steroid: Lipids derived from cholesterol.
    - Are lipophilic hormones.
      - ❑ Testosterone.
      - ❑ Estradiol.
      - ❑ Cortisol.
      - ❑ Progesterone.
  - ❑ Thyroid ( amine but lipid soluble)
  - ❑ Nitric oxide (NO)

# Chemical classes of hormones

- ❑ Water-soluble – circulate in “free” form in the plasma
  - Amines:
    - ❑ Hormones derived from tyrosine and tryptophan.
  - Polypeptides and proteins:
    - ❑ Polypeptides:
      - Chains of < 100 amino acids in length.
        - ❑ ADH.
    - ❑ Protein hormones:
      - Polypeptide chains with > 100 amino acids.
      - Growth hormone.
  - Eicosanoid (prostaglandins) derived from arachidonic acid (20 carbon 4 double bonds)

peptide hormones are synthesized by transcription and translation

# Chemical Classification of Hormones

- Glycoproteins:
  - Long polypeptides (>100) bound to 1 or more carbohydrate (CHO) groups.
    - FSH and LH, TSH and hCG (human chorionic gonadotropin)  
They have  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits ( $\alpha$  is common and  $\beta$  is specific)
- Hormones can also be divided into:
  - Polar:
    - H<sub>2</sub>O soluble.
  - Nonpolar (lipophilic):
    - H<sub>2</sub>O insoluble.
      - Can gain entry into target cells.
      - Steroid hormones and T<sub>4</sub> (thyroxine –tetraiodothyronine))

\* hormones sometimes are not synthesized in their final form

## Prohormones and Prehormones

- **Prohormone:**
  - Precursor is a longer chained polypeptide that is cut and spliced together to make the hormone.
    - Proinsulin – gives insulin
- **Preprohormone:** The earlier step
  - Prohormone derived from larger precursor molecule.
    - Preproinsulin.
- **Prehormone:**
  - Molecules secreted by endocrine glands that are inactive until changed into hormones by target cells.
    - $T_4$  converted to  $T_3$  (tri-iodothyronin)  
 $T_4$  is inactive and it is activated when it change to  $T_3$  (by remove iodine group)

So preproinsulin cut and spliced to make proinsulin which is spliced to form insulin

# Synthesis and secretion of peptide hormones

Transcription



translation



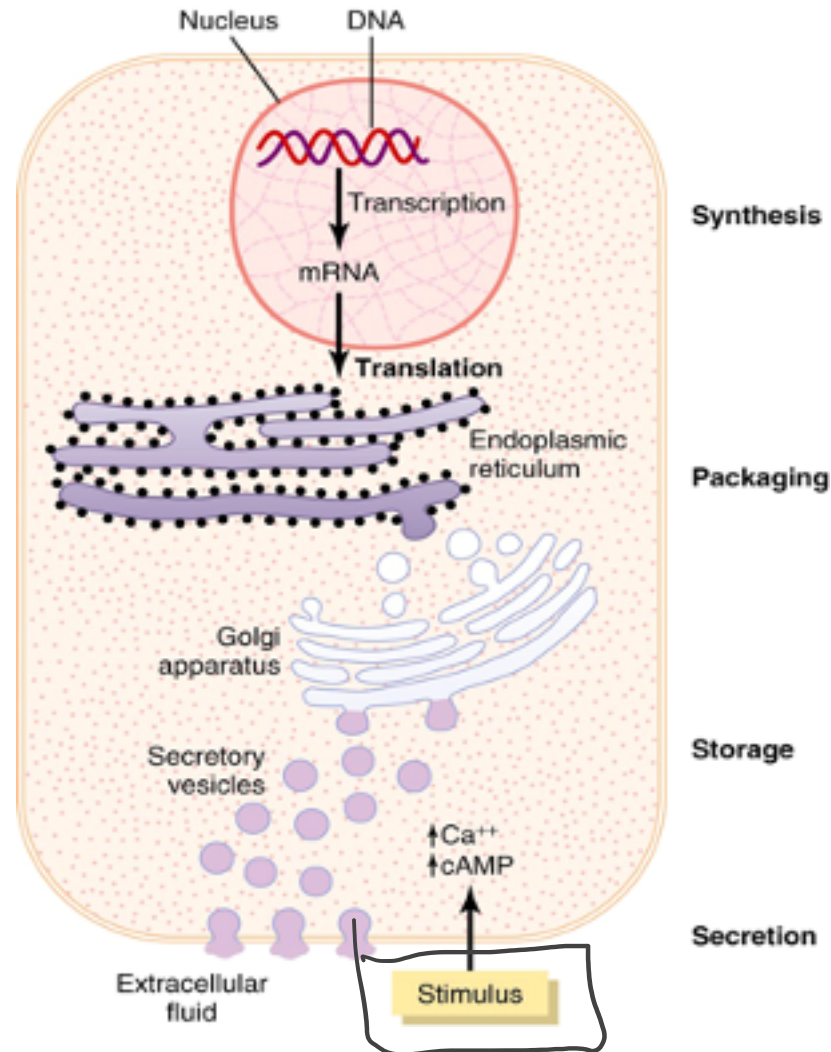
Synthesize polypeptide



Golgi for modification



Store in vesicles



To stimulate the secretion of hormones from its vesicles ,there must be a signal

# Chemical classification of hormones

**Table 10-4 Chemical Classification and Function of Hormones**

Chemical Classification	Examples	Regulated Function
<b>Endocrine Hormones</b>		
Amino acid derivatives <small>They are amino acids with modifications Ex: carboxylation ,decarboxylation ...etc</small> <small>They are not peptides BUT derived from amino acid</small>	Epinephrine (adrenaline) and norepinephrine (both derived from tyrosine)	Stress responses: regulation of heart rate and blood pressure; release of glucose and fatty acids from storage sites
Peptides	Thyroxine (derived from tyrosine) Antidiuretic hormone (vasopressin) Hypothalamic hormones (releasing factors) <small>↳ These factors stimulate other hormones from other glands</small>	Regulation of metabolic rate Regulation of body water and blood pressure Regulation of tropic hormone release from pituitary gland
Proteins	Anterior pituitary hormones	Regulation of other endocrine systems
Steroids	Sex hormones (androgens and estrogens)  Corticosteroids	Development and control of reproductive capacity  Stress responses; control of blood electrolytes
<b>Paracrine Hormones</b>		
Amino acid derivative	Histamine	Local responses to stress and injury
Arachidonic acid derivatives	Prostaglandins	Local responses to stress and injury

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The doctor did not say anything about functions

Lipid BUT soluble in water BECAUSE it is negatively charged



# Peptide & Protein Hormones

These hormones can not enter the cell so receptors are required on cell surface

## Gland/Tissue

## Hormones

## Gland/Tissue

## Hormones

Hypothalamus

- TRH, GnRH, CRH  
GHRH, Somatostatin,

Placenta

- HCG, HCS or HPL

Anterior pituitary

- ACTH, TSH, FSH, LH,  
PRL, GH

Kidney

- Renin

Posterior pituitary

- Oxytocin, ADH

Heart

- ANP

Thyroid

- Calcitonin

G.I. tract

- Gastrin, CCK,  
Secretin, GIP,  
Somatostatin

Pancreas

- Insulin, Glucagon,  
Somatostatin

Adipocyte

- Leptin

Liver

- Somatomedin C (IGF-1)

Parathyroid

- PTH

You do not have to distinguish between protein and peptide hormones

# Amine Hormones

## Gland/Tissue

## Hormones

Hypothalamus

- Dopamine water soluble

Thyroid

- T<sub>3</sub>, T<sub>4</sub> Lipid soluble

Adrenal medulla

- Epinephrine and Norepinephrine (NE, EPI) water soluble

# Synthesis of Amine Hormones

Enzymes are not important to memorize

The main point to remember that depending on the enzymes that found in a specific cell, the hormone synthesized

So for example because of enzymes that present in adrenal glands, Tyrosine is converted to Epinephrine not dopamine 😊

**Tyrosine**

*tyrosine hydroxylase* ↓

*dopa* **L-Dopa**

*decarboxylase* ↓

**Dopaminergic Neurons**

**Dopamine**

*dopamine β-hydroxylase* ↓

**Adrenergic Neurons**

**Norepinephrine**

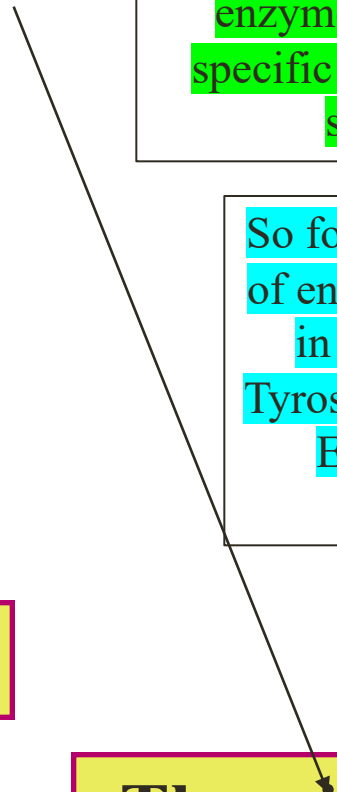
*phenylethanolamine-N-methyltransferase*

**Epinephrine**

**Adrenal Glands**

**Thyroid Hormones**

**Thyroid Gland**



# Steroid Hormones

## Gland/Tissue

Adrenal Cortex

Testes

Ovaries

Corpus Luteum

Placenta

Kidney

## Hormones

- Cortisol, Aldosterone, Androgens

- Testosterone

- Estrogens, Progesterone

- Estrogens, Progesterone

- Estrogens, Progesterone

- 1,25-Dihydroxycholecalciferol (calcitriol)

# Hormone Activity

- Hormones affect only specific target tissues with specific receptors
- Receptors are dynamic and constantly synthesized and broken down
  - Down-regulation- decrease in receptor number or response
  - Up-regulation- increase in receptor number or activity

To get a response :

1-The concentration of hormone must be suitable

2-Have a receptor on target cell

without receptors there will be no response even if the concentration of hormone is high

There is no constant number of receptors on the cells , the receptors are dynamic and the same cell may have different densities of receptors depending on the condition of the cell

# Effects of [Hormone] on Tissue Response

- Priming effect (upregulation):
  - Increase number of receptors formed on target cells in response to particular hormone.
  - Greater response by the target cell.
- Desensitization (downregulation):
  - Prolonged exposure to high [polypeptide hormone].
    - Subsequent exposure to the same [hormone] produces less response.
      - Decrease in number of receptors on target cells.

Insulin in adipose cells.

- Pulsatile secretion may prevent downregulation.



Glands secrete hormones as pulses so it is not continuous secretion of hormone all the time and this prevent downregulation

Diabetes type II is an example of Desensitization

Insulin is stimulated for along time , this makes insulin receptors less sensitive to insulin and thus the response will be decreased

# Effects of hormone concentration on Tissue Response

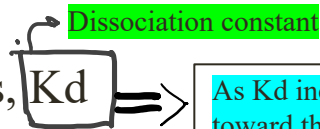
Hormone concentration in the blood depends on:

1-the rate of secretion of the gland.

2-half-life

- [Hormone] in blood reflects the rate of secretion.
- Half-life:
  - Time required for the blood [hormone] to be reduced to  $\frac{1}{2}$  reference level.
  - Minutes to days.

- Affinity of receptors to ligands,



When hormone is favorable binding to its receptors . This means that we need lower concentrations to cause the response

As  $K_d$  increase , this means less affinity of hormone toward the receptor . So we need a higher concentration of hormone to cause response.

As  $K_d$  decrease , this means higher affinity of hormone toward receptor .So we need a lower concentration of hormone to cause response.

- Normal tissue responses are produced only when [hormone] are present within physiological range.
- Varying [hormone] within normal, physiological range can affect the responsiveness of target cells. The response may differ if concentration is more or less than physiological response

**HYPOTHETICAL TARGET CELL**

