

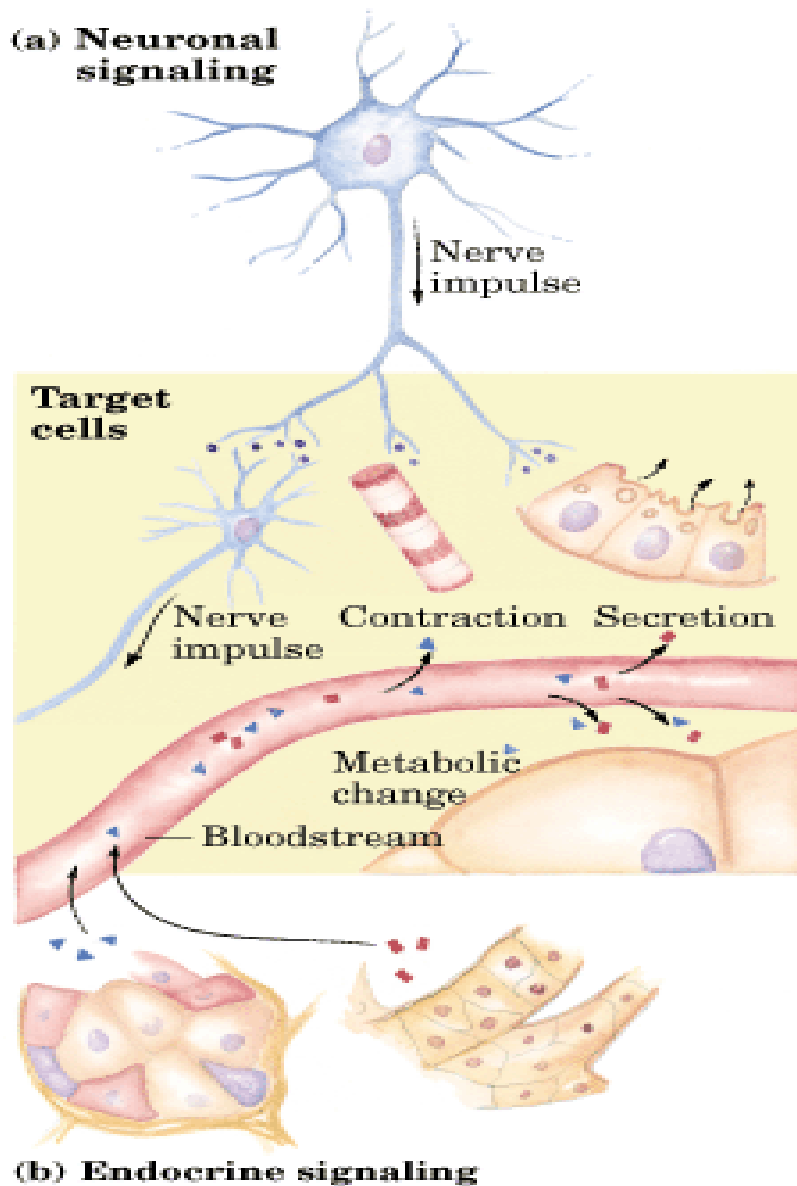
# Chapter 11

# Endocrinology

Dr. Huamin Xu (徐华敏)

huamin102@163.com

Rm 423, Boya Bld

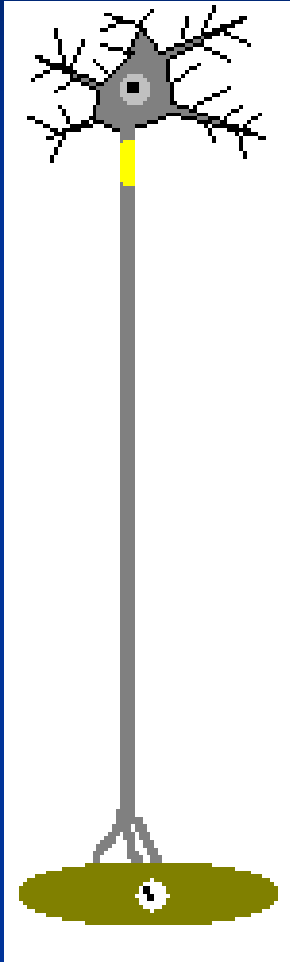


**Neuro-  
Endocrine-  
immune  
Network  
-1977**

# Endocrine vs. Nervous Systems

- Major communication systems in the body
- Integrate stimuli and responses to changes in external and internal environment
- Both are crucial to coordinated functions of highly differentiated cells, tissues and organs
- Unlike the nervous system, the endocrine system is anatomically discontinuous.

# Nervous system



- **The nervous system** exerts point-to-point control through nerves, similar to sending messages by conventional telephone.
- Nervous control is electrical in nature and fast.

# Hormones travel via the bloodstream to target cells



- **The endocrine system** broadcasts its hormonal messages to essentially all cells by secretion into blood and extracellular fluid.
- Like a radio broadcast, it requires a receiver to get the message –
- in the case of endocrine messages, cells must bear a *receptor* for the hormone being broadcast in order to respond.

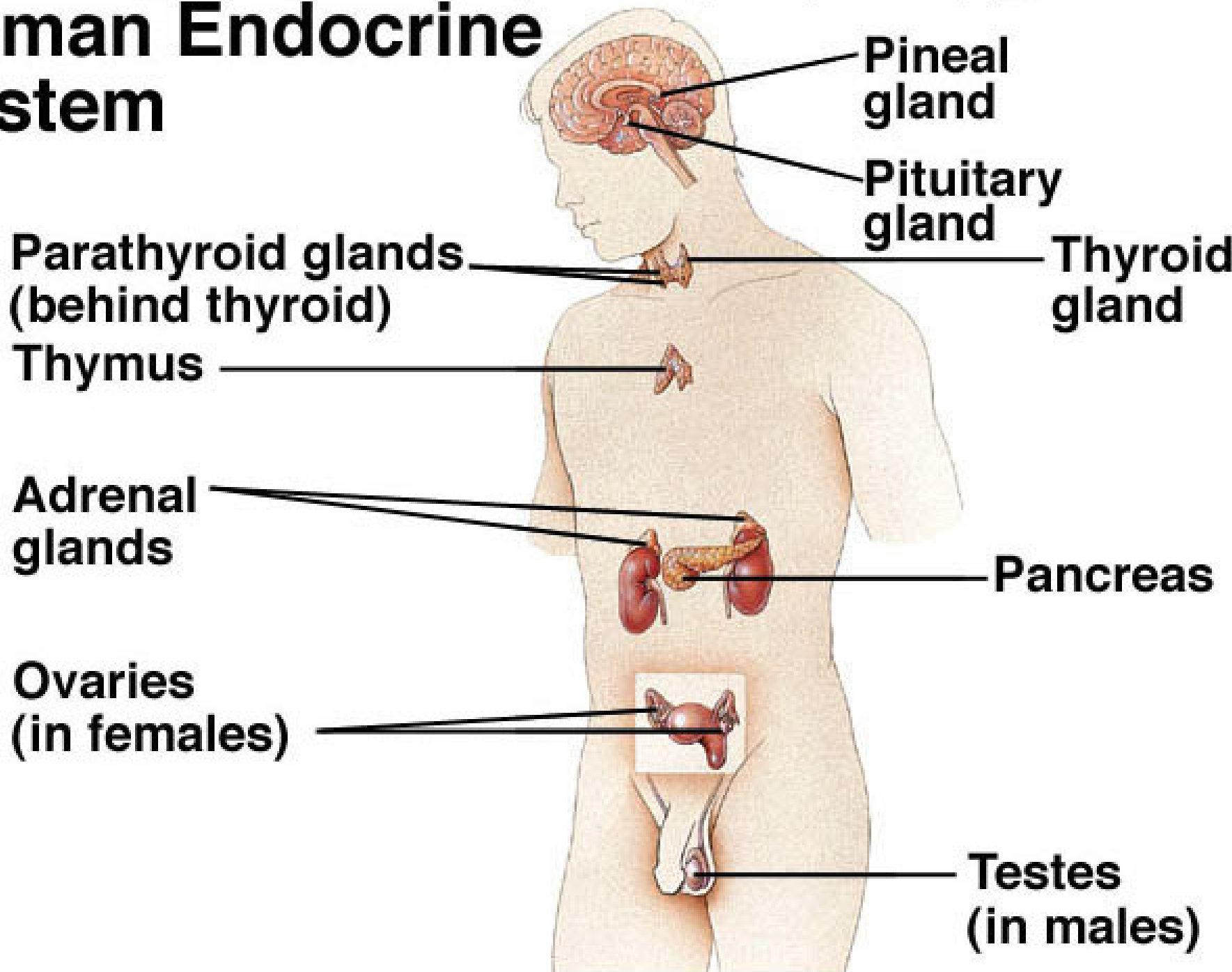
# Section 1 Introduction

## I. Organization of Endocrine System

The functions of the body are regulated by the nervous and the endocrine system.

The endocrine system consists of endocrine glands and cells that secrete hormones in various tissues.

# Human Endocrine System



**Endocrine glands:** Glands that do not use ducts to convey the secretion to a neighboring target, they are also called ductless glands.

The secretions, known **hormones**, circulate all over the body in the blood but may produce effects only in selected sites.

The **target organ(s)** may or may not be near the site of production of the hormone.



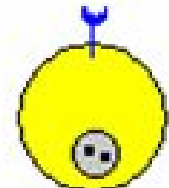
# A hormone –

## Definition

- chemical substance
- is secreted into the internal body fluids by one specialized cell or a group of cells and
- has a physiological control effect on other cells of the body.

### ■ **Functions**

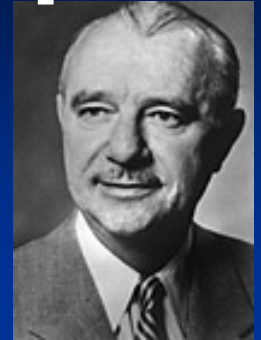
- Regulation of metabolism, growth and development, water and electrolyte balance, reproduction, and behavior



Bayliss & Starling discovered secretin [1902]  
W.B.Hardy introduced the term hormone [1905]

- ◆ **Vincent du Vigneaud** synthesized polypeptide hormones (oxytocin and vasopressin) [1955\*]

**Vincent du Vigneaud**  
1901-1978



- ◆ **Frederick Sanger** determined the structure of insulin [1958\*]

**Frederick Sanger**  
1918-



- ◆ **Rosalyn Yalow** developed radioimmunoassay for measurement of hormone concentrations [1977\*]

**Rosalyn Yalow**  
1921- 2011



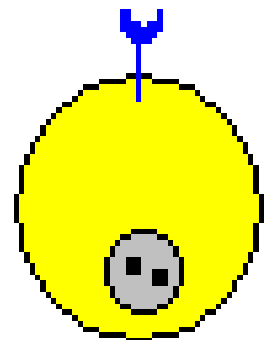
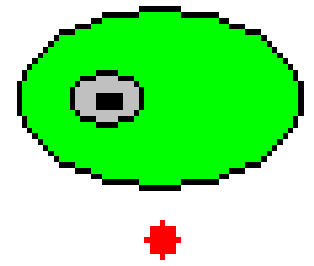
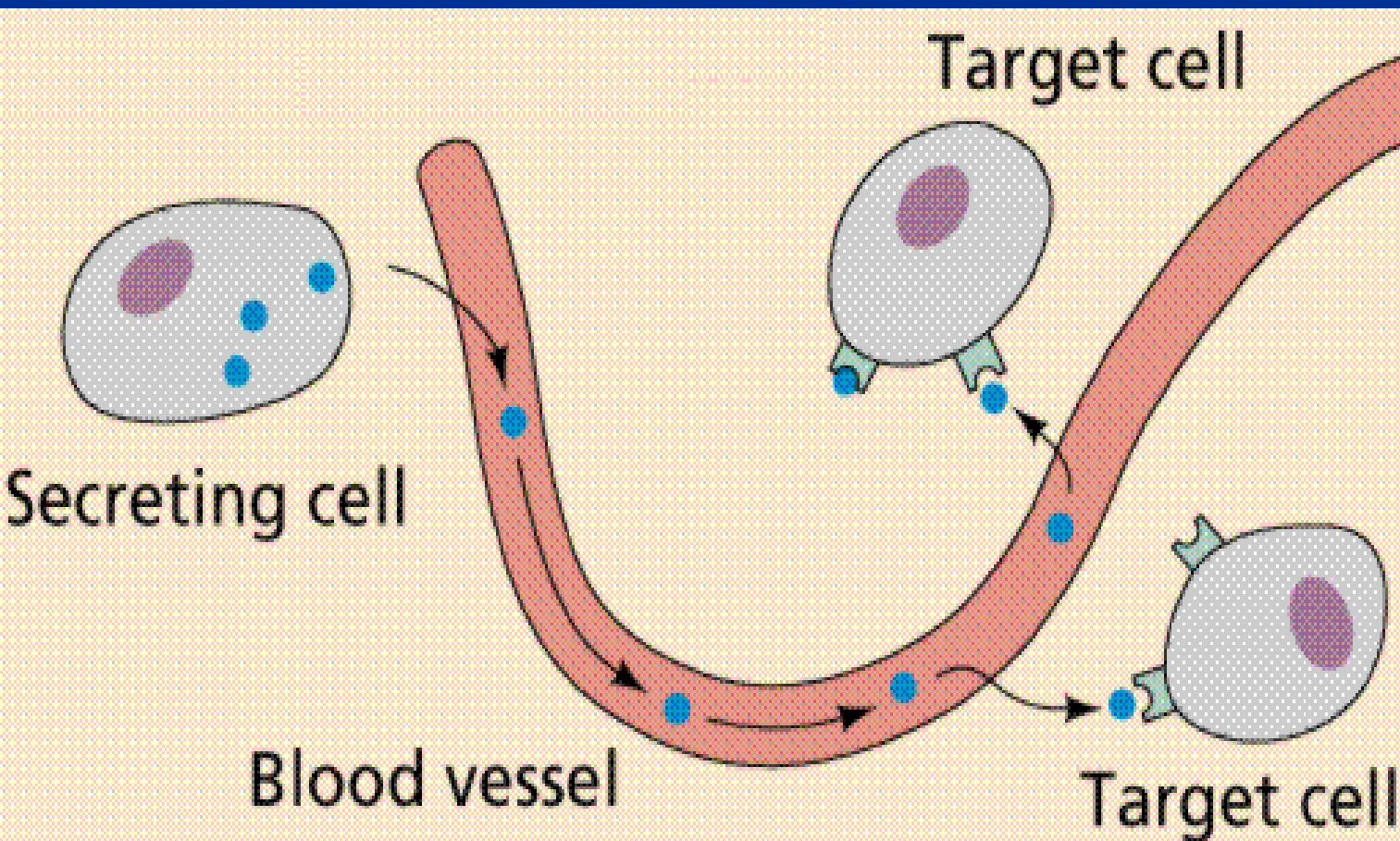
\* Nobel Prize year

# Patterns of the hormone action

- **Telecrine**
- **Paracrine**
- **Autocrine**
- **Neurocrine**

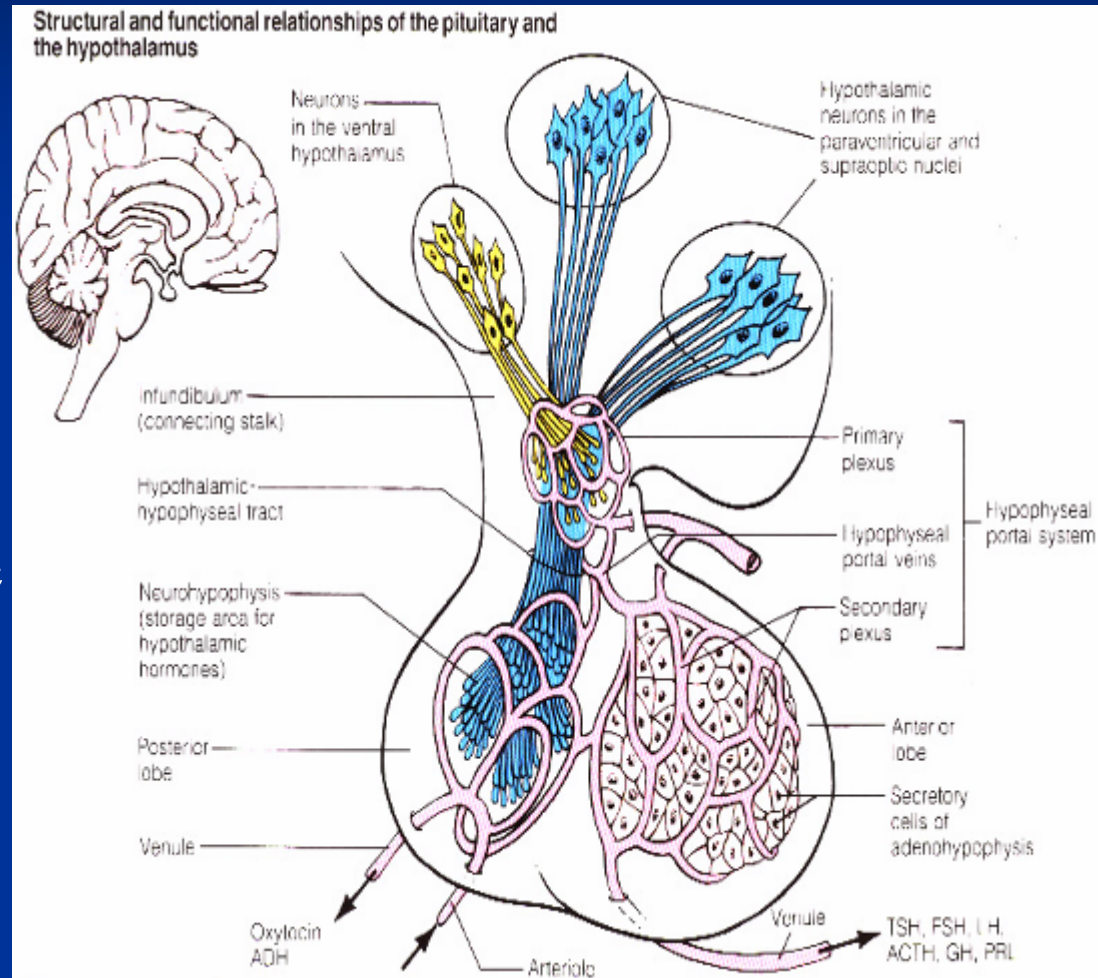
# Transportation of Hormones

**1. Endocrine, or telecrine:** glands or specialized cells release hormones into the circulating blood that influence the function of cells at another location in the body.



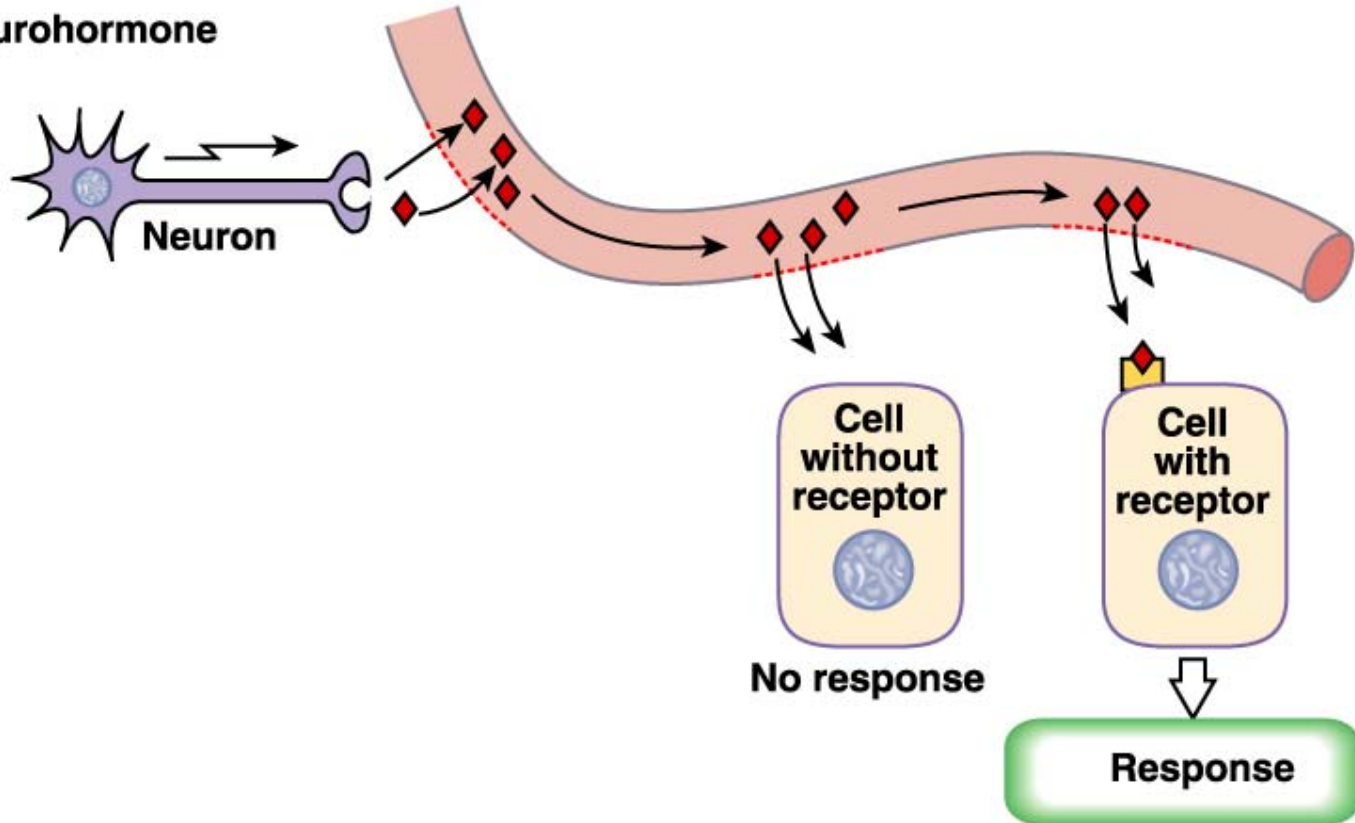
# Transportation of Hormones

**2, Neuroendocrine:** neurons secrete substances (neurohormones) that reach the circulating blood and influence the function of cells at another location of the body.



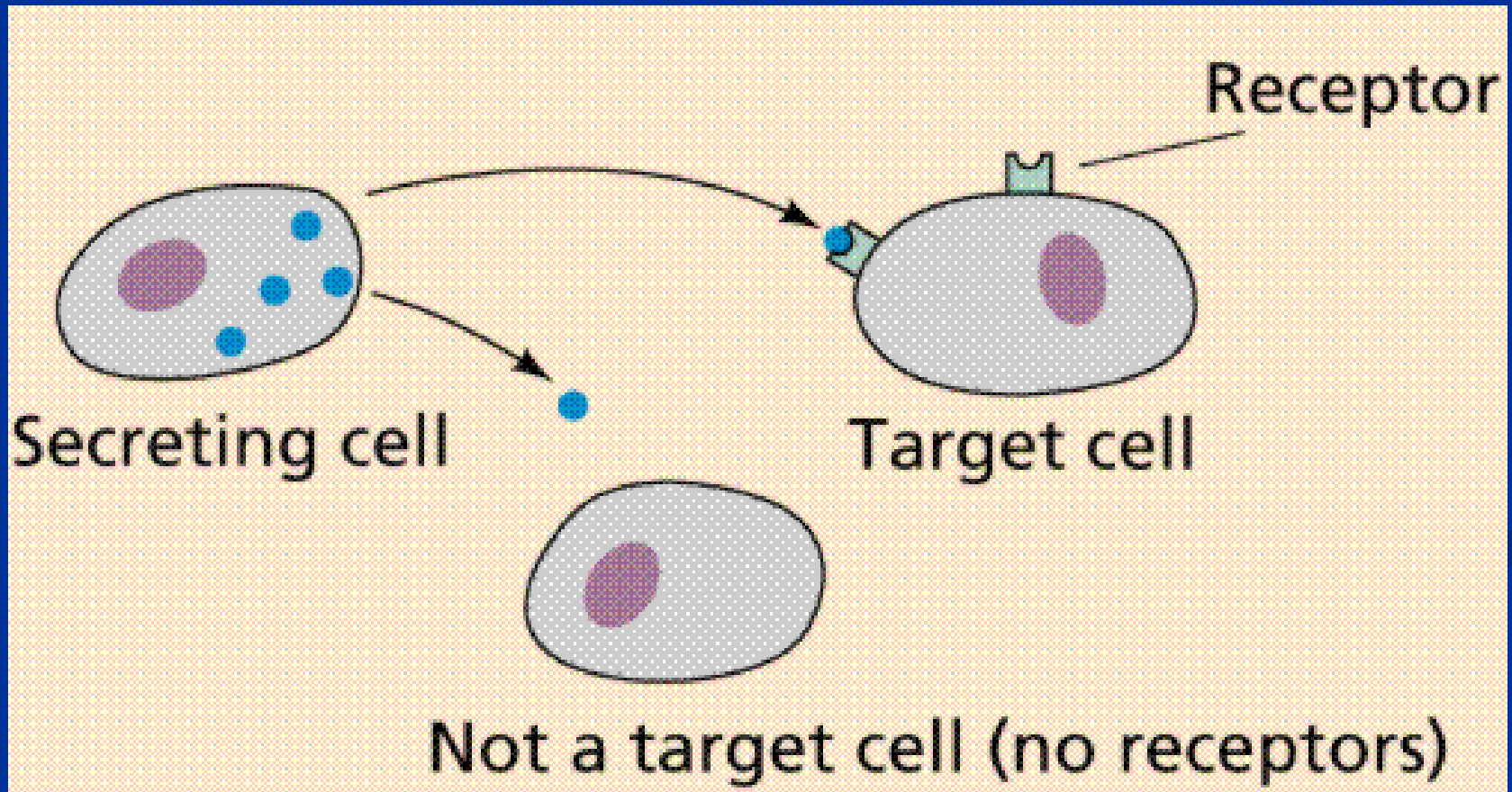
# • Neurocrine

Neurohormone



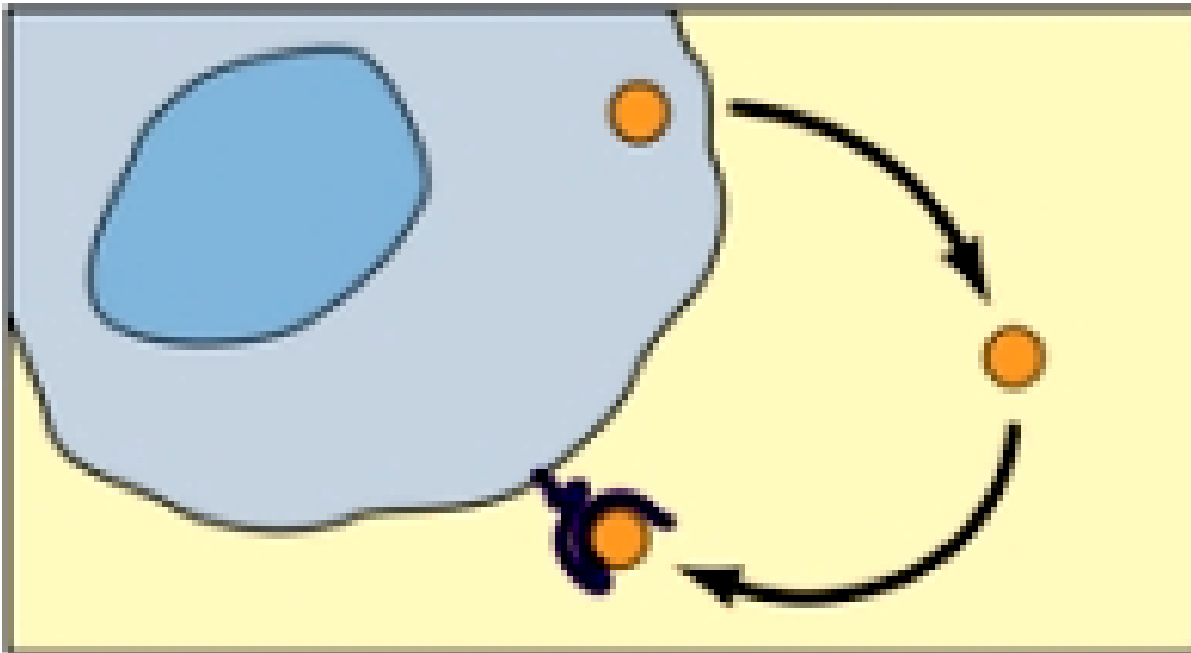
# Transportation of Hormones

**3. Paracrine**, in which cells secrete substances that diffuse into the extracellular fluid and affect neighboring cells.



- **Autocrine**

(C) Autocrine signaling





# Chemical Classification of Hormones

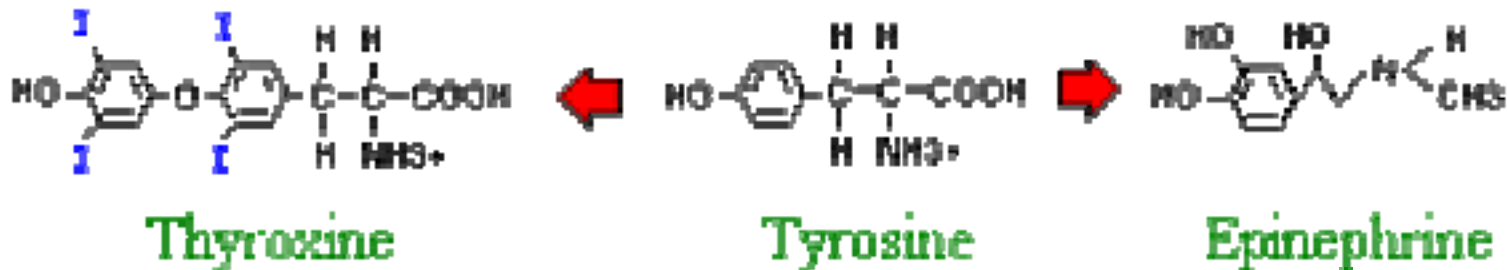
1. **Amine hormones**
2. **Peptide and protein hormones**
3. **Lipid hormones**

Steroids hormones

Fatty acid derivative-Eicosanoids

# Amine Hormones

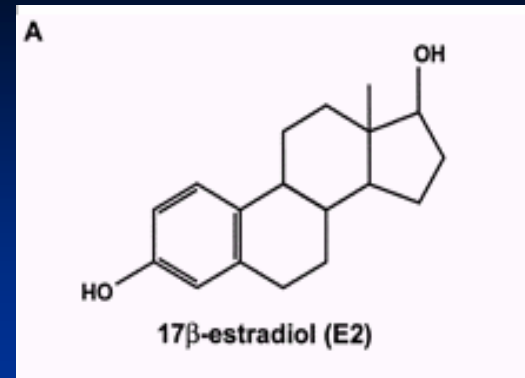
- Derived from the amino acid
  - epinephrine and norepinephrine (tyrosine)
  - thyroid hormones (tyrosine)
  - Melatonin (tryptophane)



# Protein & Polypeptide Hormones

- Transcribed from genes
  - hypothalamic regulatory peptides, neurohypophysis hormones, adenohypophysis hormones
  - parathyroid hormone, insulin, calcitonin, gastrointestinal hormone

# Steroids



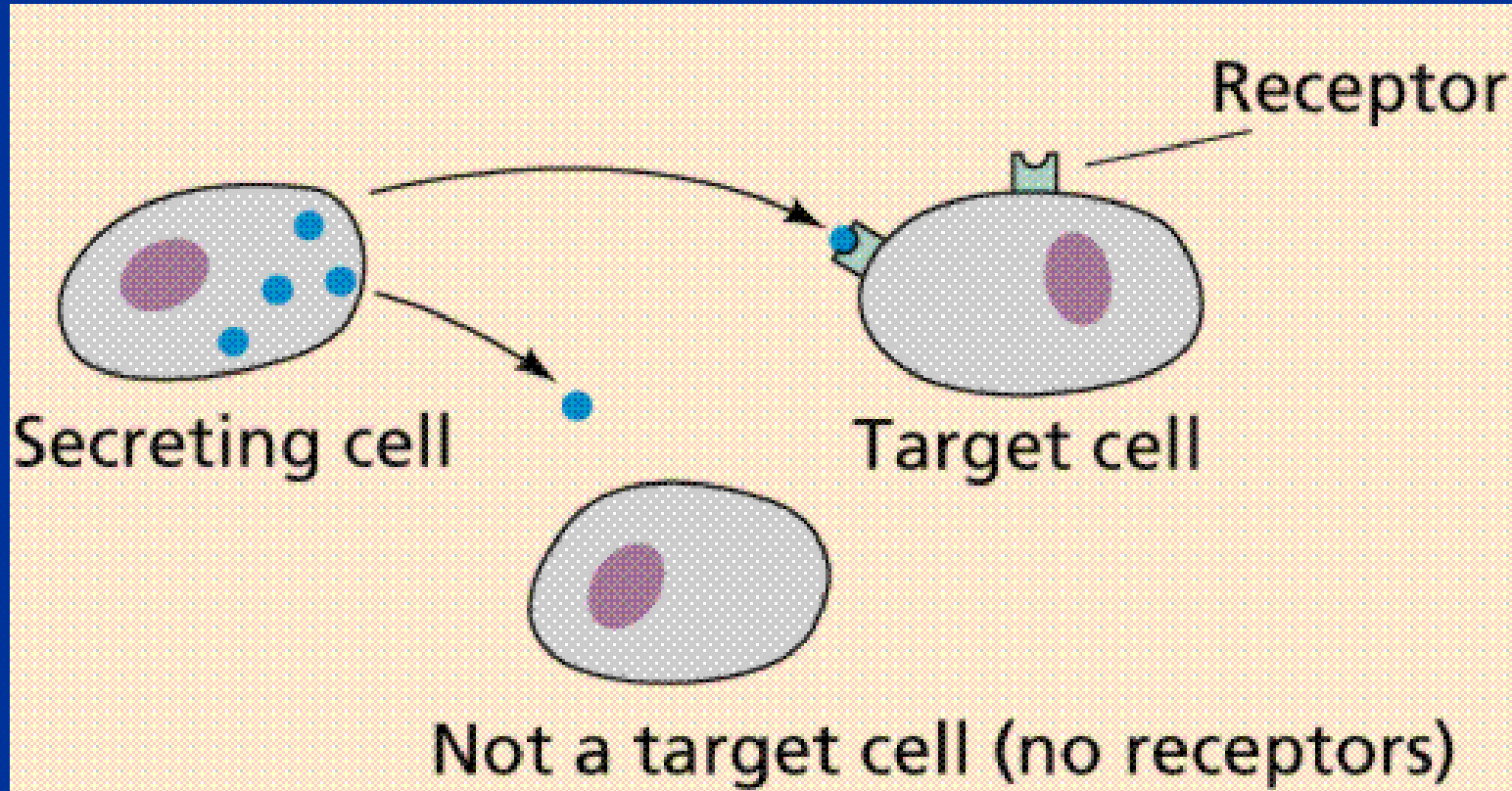
- Derived from cholesterol
- Steroids are lipophilic molecules that freely cross membranes
- glucocorticoids, mineralocorticoids  
androgens, estrogens & progesterone

# Characteristics of hormone action

1. Relative specificity
2. Message transmission
3. Biological amplification
4. Interaction of hormones  
(*permissive action*)

# 1. Specificity

The special feature of the target cells is the presence of **receptors** which can “attract” and interact with the hormone.



The receptors may be present either on the plasma membrane, or in the cytoplasm, or in the nucleus.

These receptor molecules are protein in nature and may contain carbohydrate or phospholipid moieties.

## 2. Signal Transmission

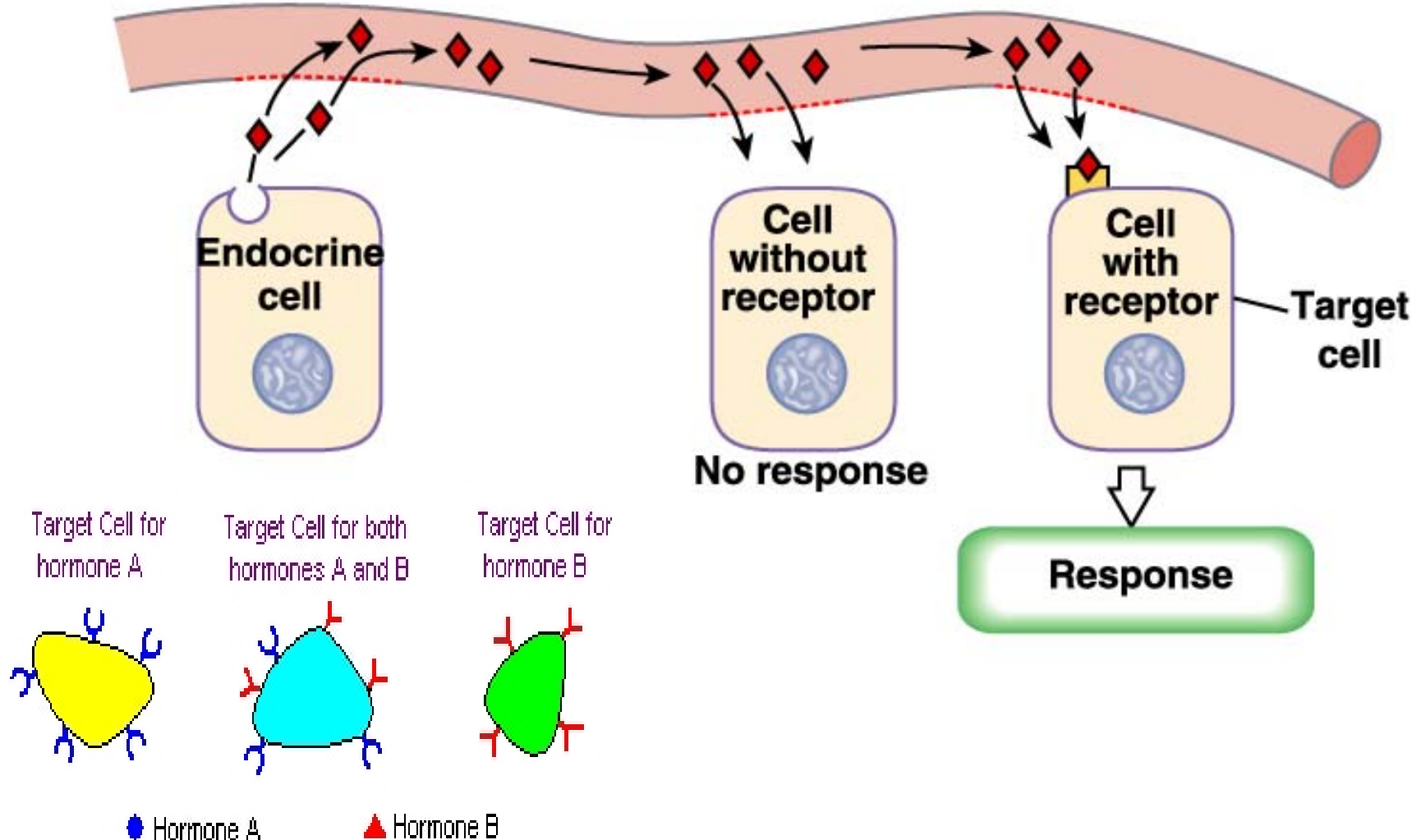
The role of the hormones is to transmit the regulatory signals from the control (endocrine) system to the target cells (organs or glands).

It could enhance or inhibit some function of the target.



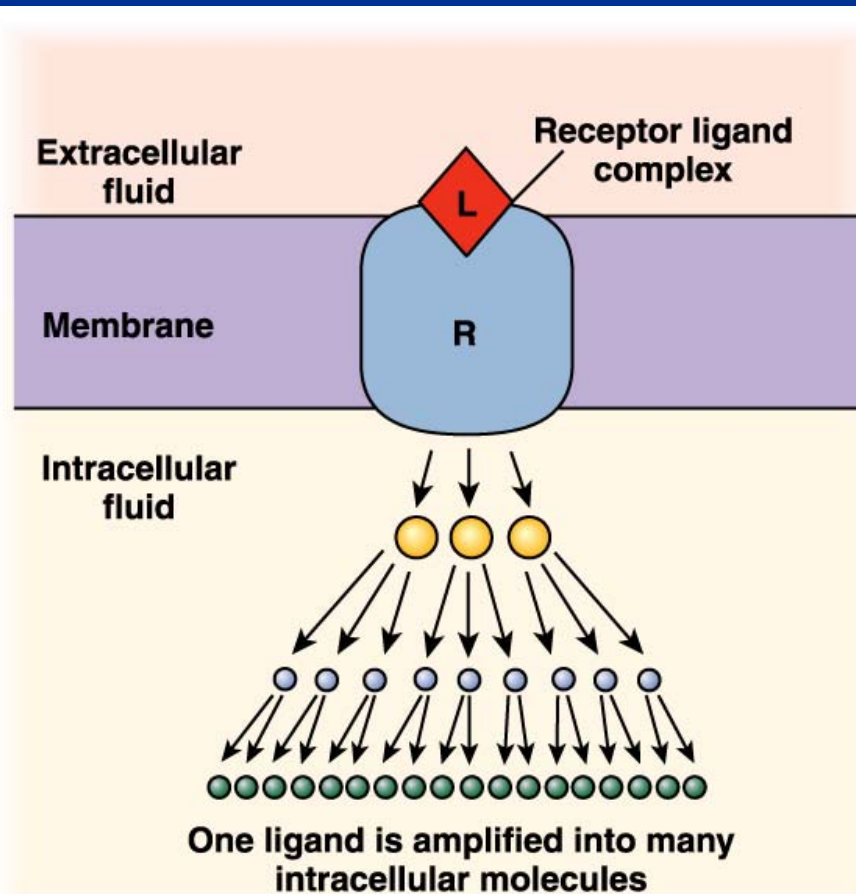
# Relative specificity & Message transmission

Hormone

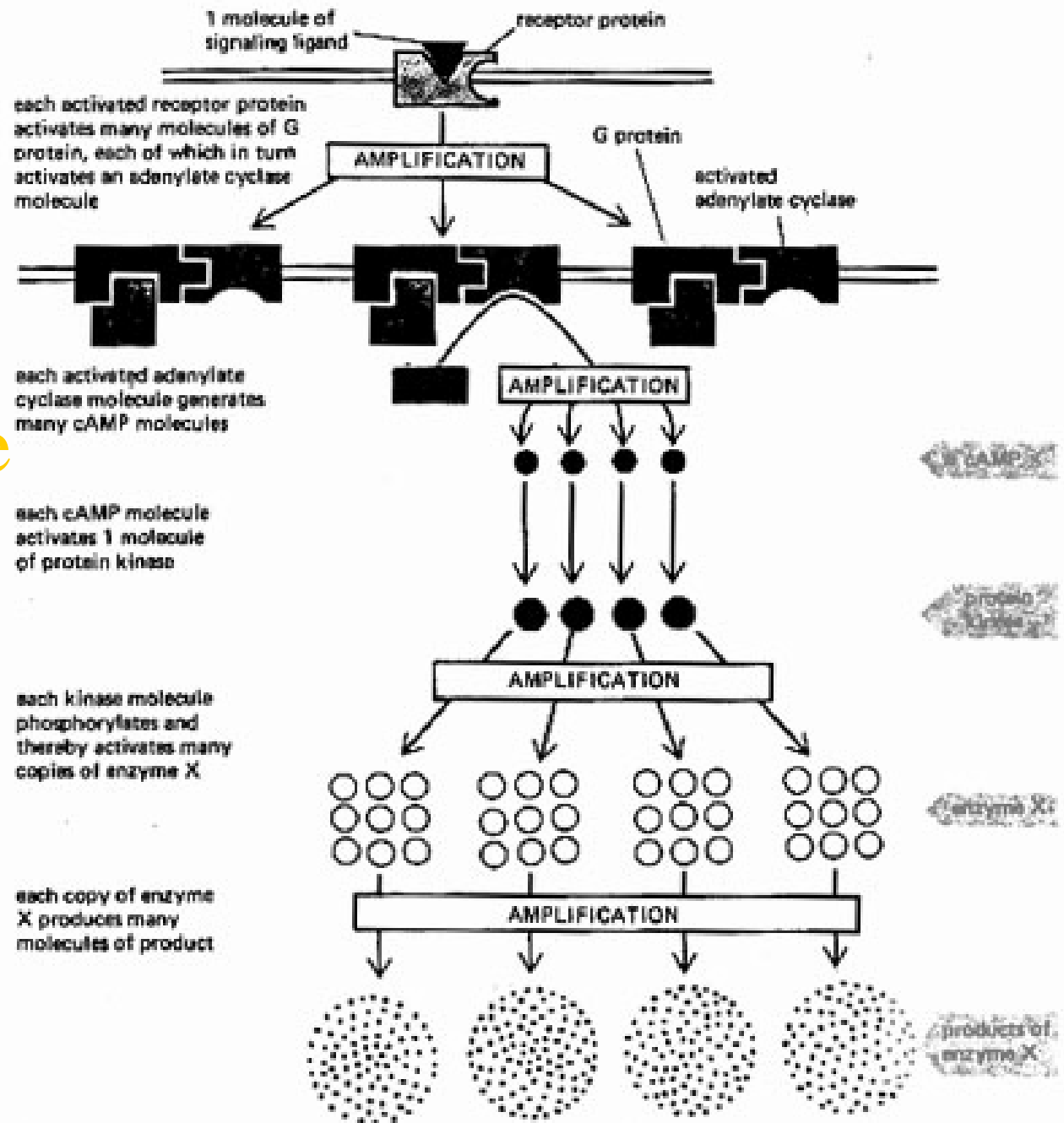


### 3. High Biological Efficiency

Low plasma concentration (nmol – pmol/L) → great regulatory function



Signal amplification during the transmembrane and intracellular transmission



# 4. Interaction Between the Hormones

(1) **Synergistic effects.** When two or more hormones work together to produce particular result their effect are said to be synergistic.

These effects may be **additive** or **complementary**.

**Additive:** Same effect of the hormones on one target organ, for example, epinephrine and norepinephrine on the heart rate

**Complementary:** Work on different stages of a physiological procedure, for example, FSH (initiation) and testosterone (maintenance) on spermatogenesis

(2) **Permissive effect.** A hormone is said to have a permissive effect on the action of a second hormone when it **enhances** the responsiveness of a target organ to the second hormone or when it **increases** the activity of the second hormone.

Estrogen – Expression of progesterone receptors on uterus – progesterone effect on the uterus.

Glucocorticoids – effects of catecholamines on cardiovascular system

**(3) Antagonist Effects.** In some situations the actions of one hormone antagonize the effects of another.

Lactation during pregnancy is prevented because the high concentration of estrogen in the blood inhibits the milk secretion and action of prolactin.

# Mechanisms of hormone action

- ◆ **All hormone action is receptor mediated.**
- ◆ **Hormones act through specific receptors that define tissue selectivity and response.**

# Mechanisms of Hormonal Action

The first step of a hormone's action is to bind to specific **receptors** at the target cell.

Locations for the different types of hormones:

1) On the **surface of the cell membrane.**

protein, peptide, and catecholamine hormones

2) In the **cell cytoplasm.**

steroid hormones

3) In the **cell nucleus.**

thyroid hormones ( $T_3$  and  $T_4$ )



# **(—) Cell membrane receptors**

- ◆ **Cell membrane receptors:**  
**Includes receptors for amine, protein, and peptide hormones (except thyroid hormone)**

# **Second Messengers (Sutherland;1965)**

for Mediating Intracellular Hormonal Functions

Hydrophilic hormones (proteins, peptides and catecholamine)

--bind the receptors on the membrane,

--activate some enzyme on the membrane

-- regulate the concentration of some messengers (**second messengers**) in the cytoplasm. .



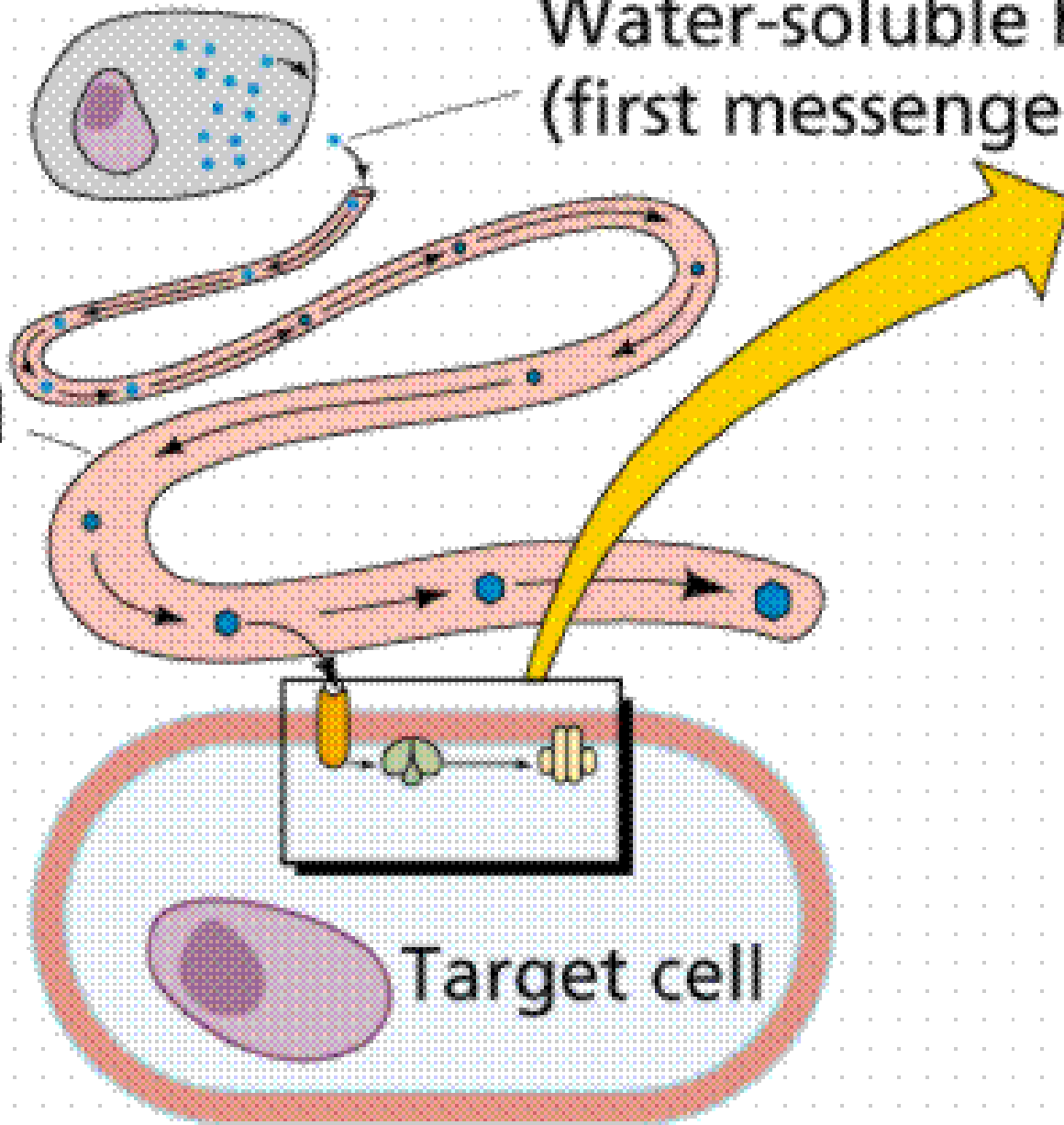
Earl W. Sutherland, Jr.  
Vanderbilt University  
1915--1974

Endocrine gland cell

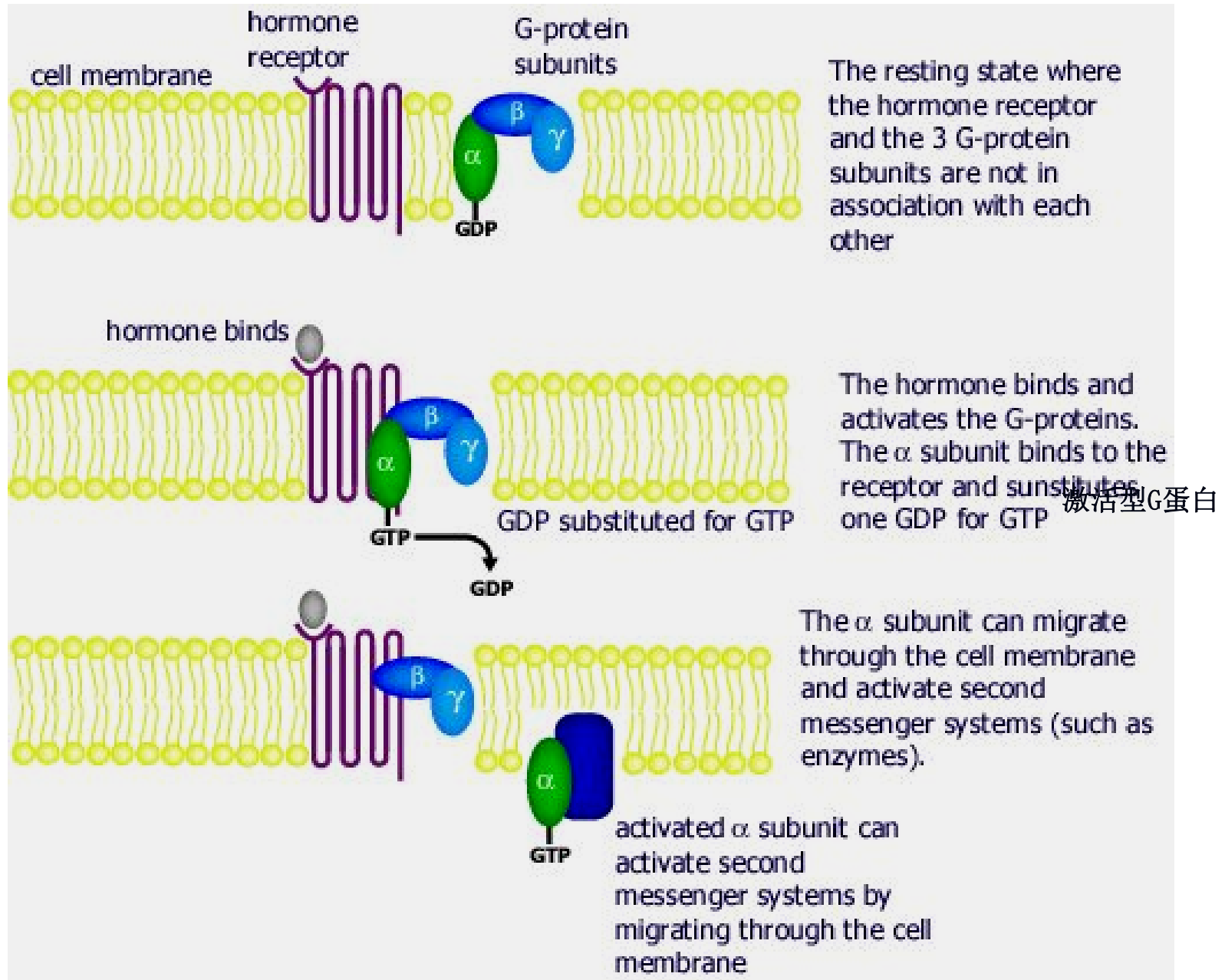
Water-soluble hormone (first messenger)

Blood

Target cell



# G-protein coupled receptor pathway



1.

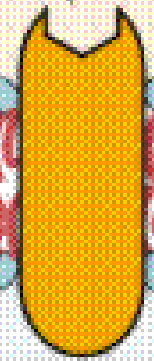
Outside of cell

Inside of cell

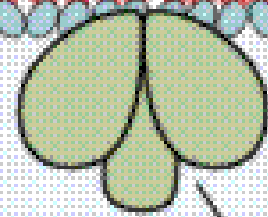


Hormone

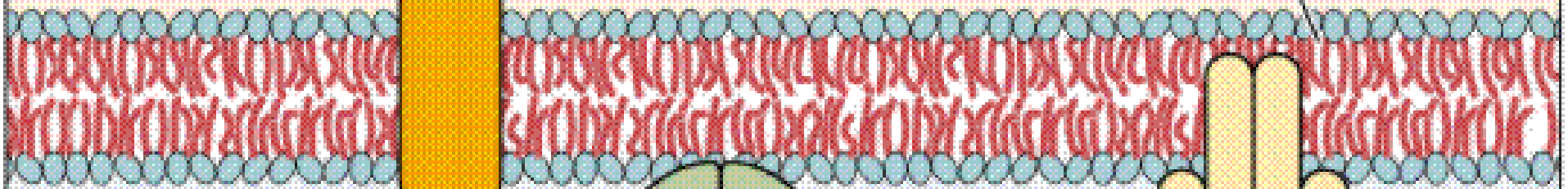
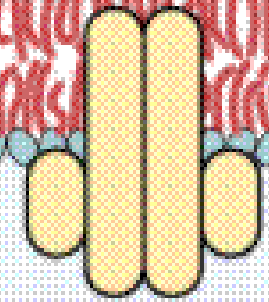
Plasma membrane



Receptor molecule

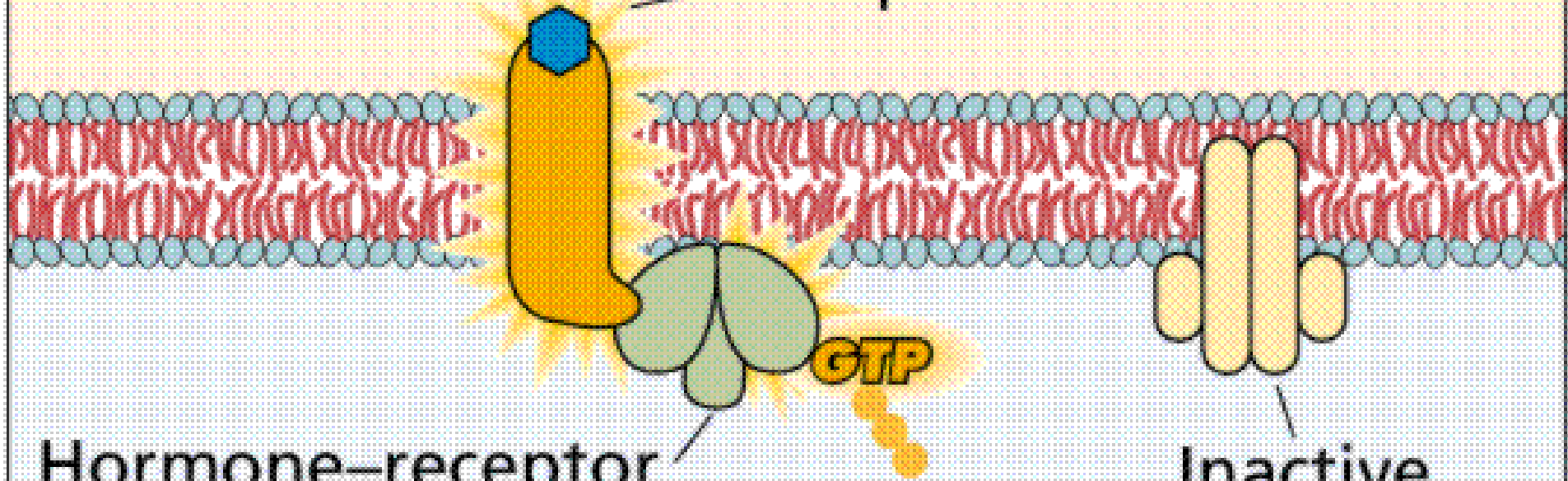


Inactive G-protein



2.

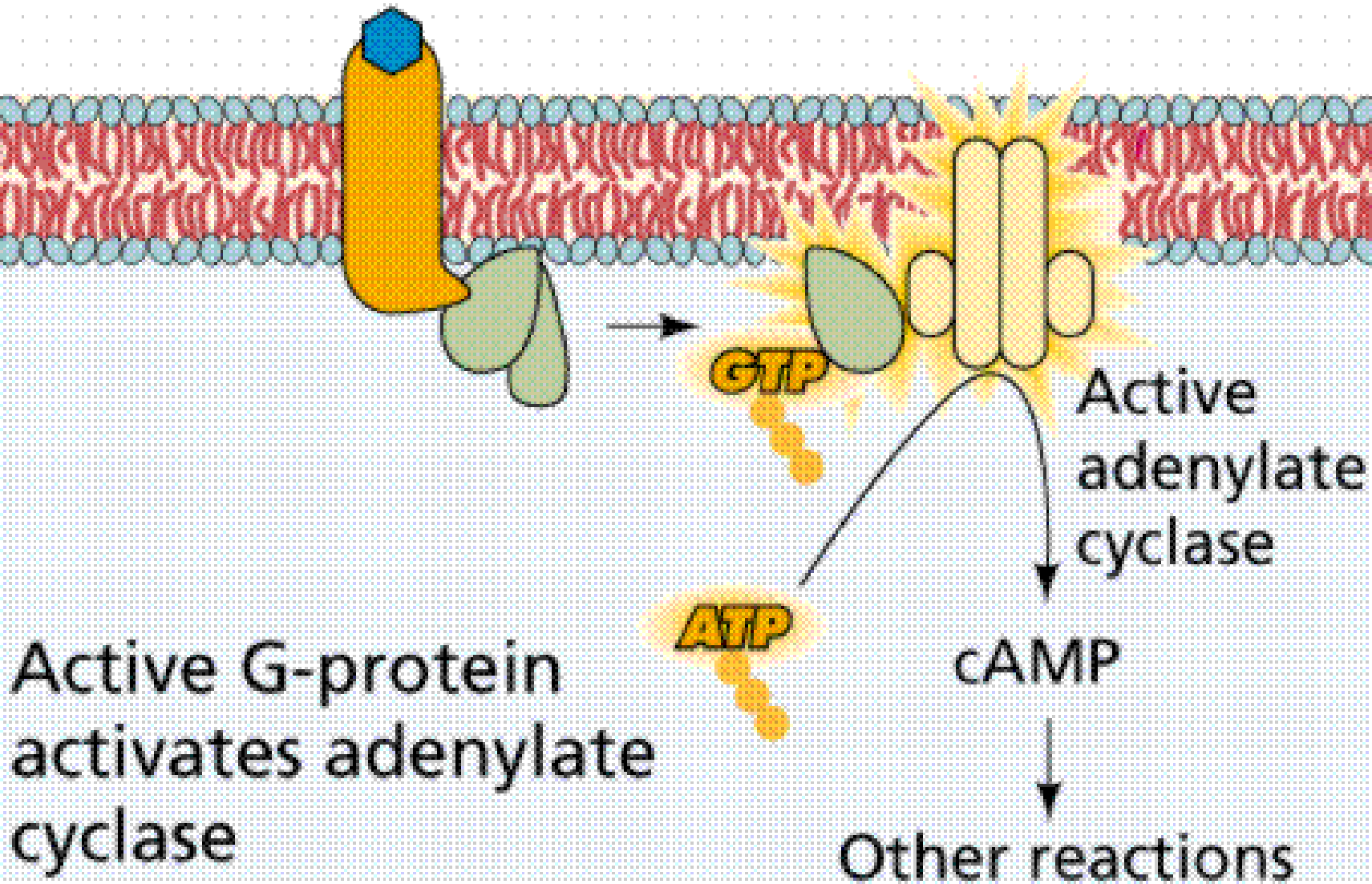
Receptor binds hormone



Hormone-receptor complex activates G-protein

Inactive adenylate cyclase

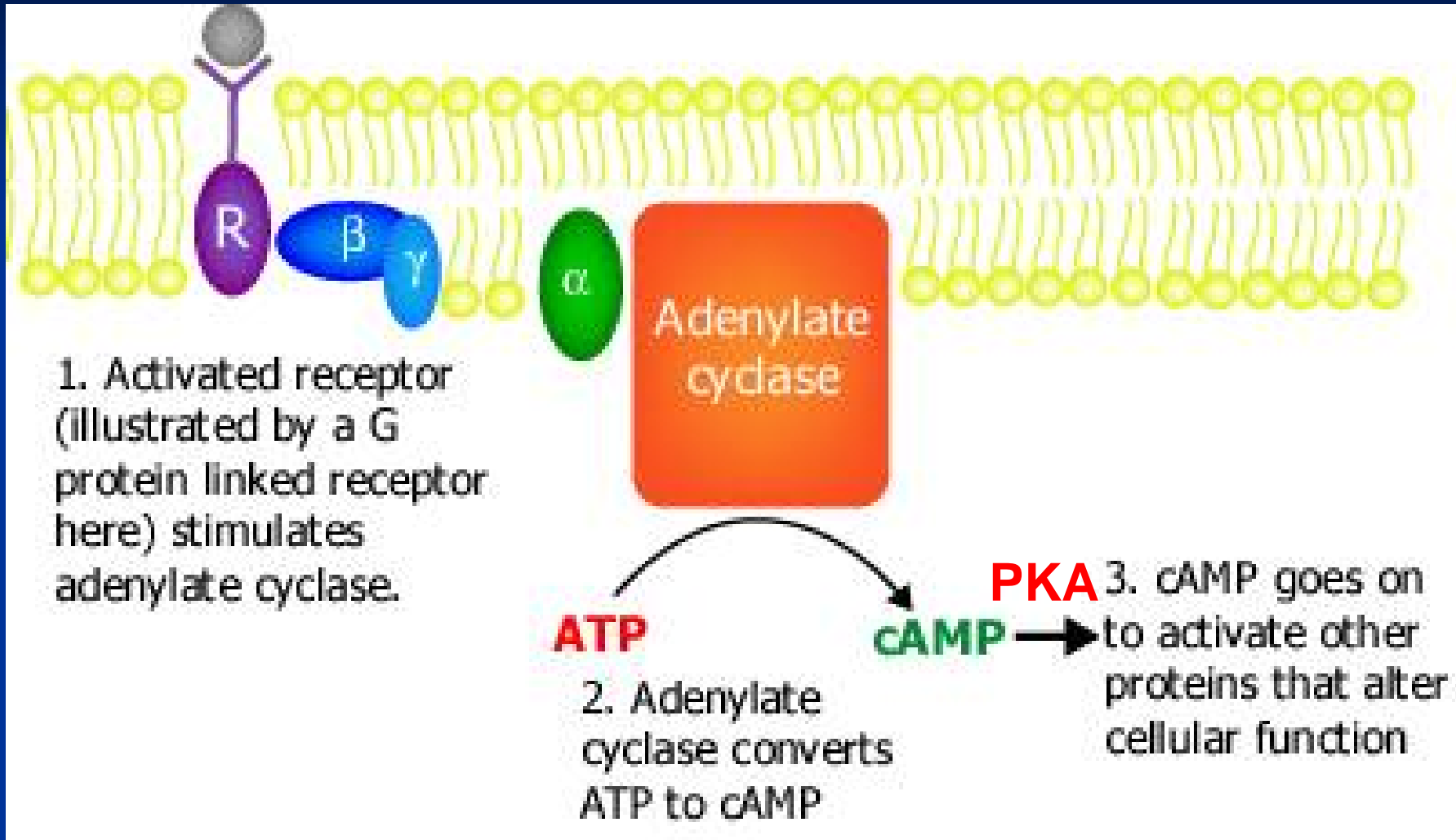
3.



There are at least three kinds of second messengers: cAMP, Calcium ions and products of membrane phospholipid metabolism.

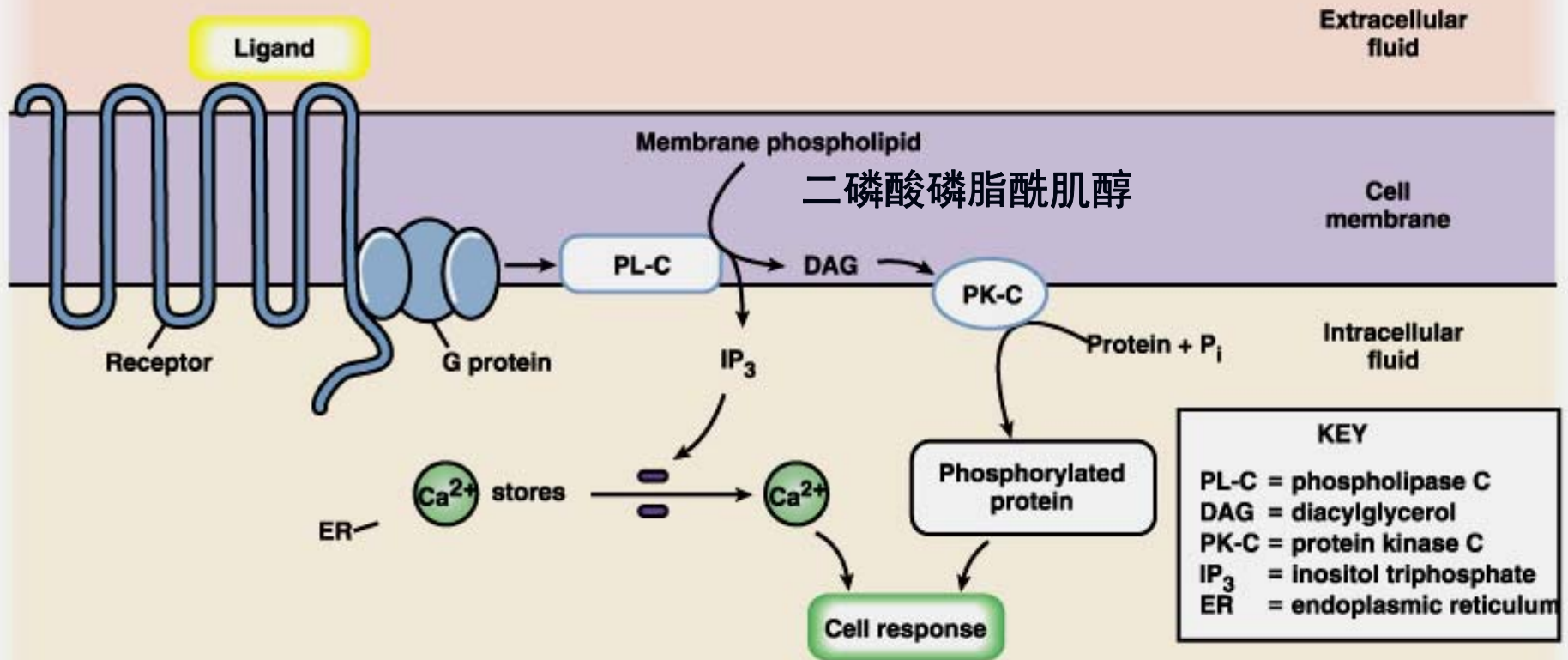


# cAMP as second messenger



**CRH, GHRH, TSH, Glucagon, E, LH...**

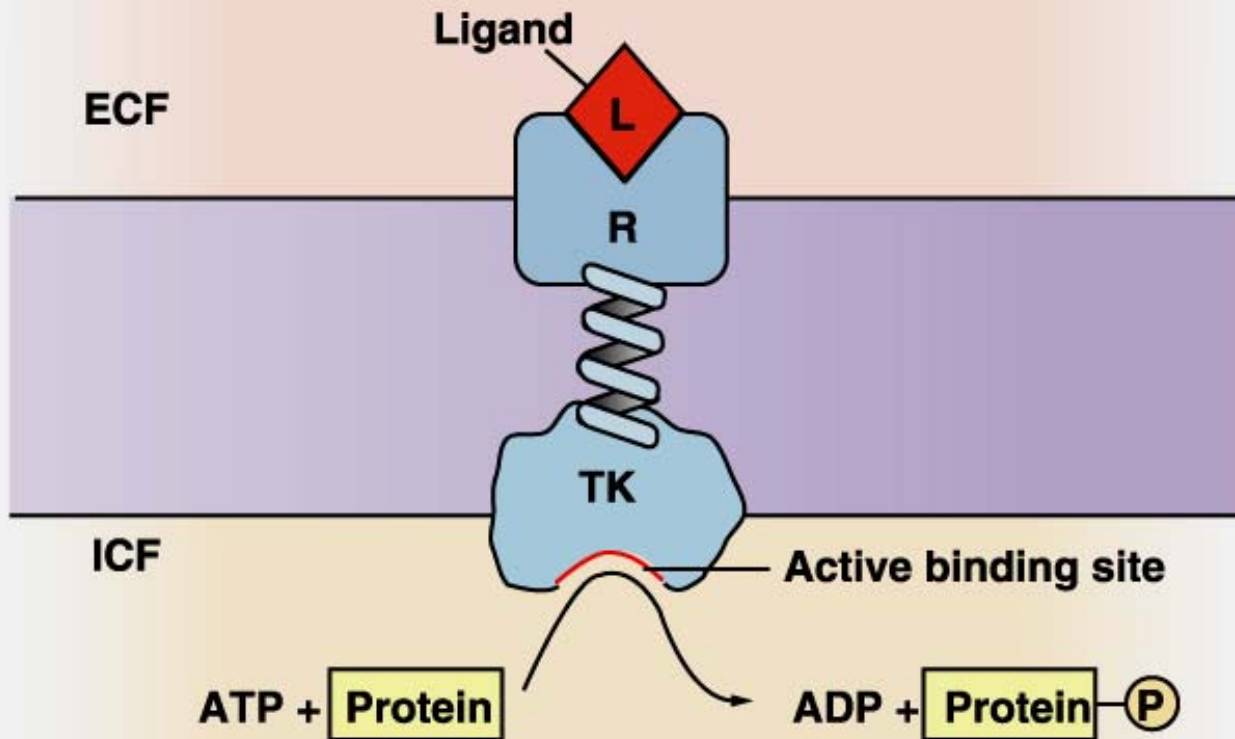
# IP<sub>3</sub>, DG & Ca<sup>2+</sup> as second messenger



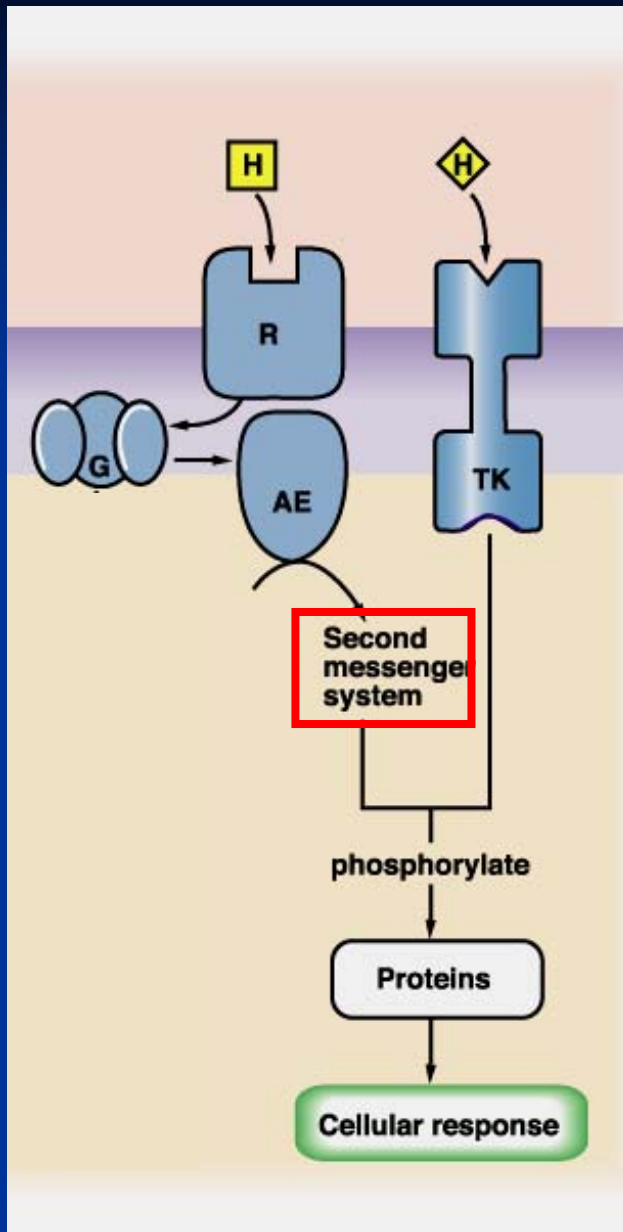
GnRH, TRH, OXT, VP ...

# Enzyme coupled receptor pathway

Tyrosine kinase receptor  
Guanylyl cyclase receptor



**GH, IGF-I, Insulin...**



**(1) AC-cAMP-PKA**

**(2) PLC-IP3/DG-CaM/PKC**

**(3) GC-cGMP-PKG**

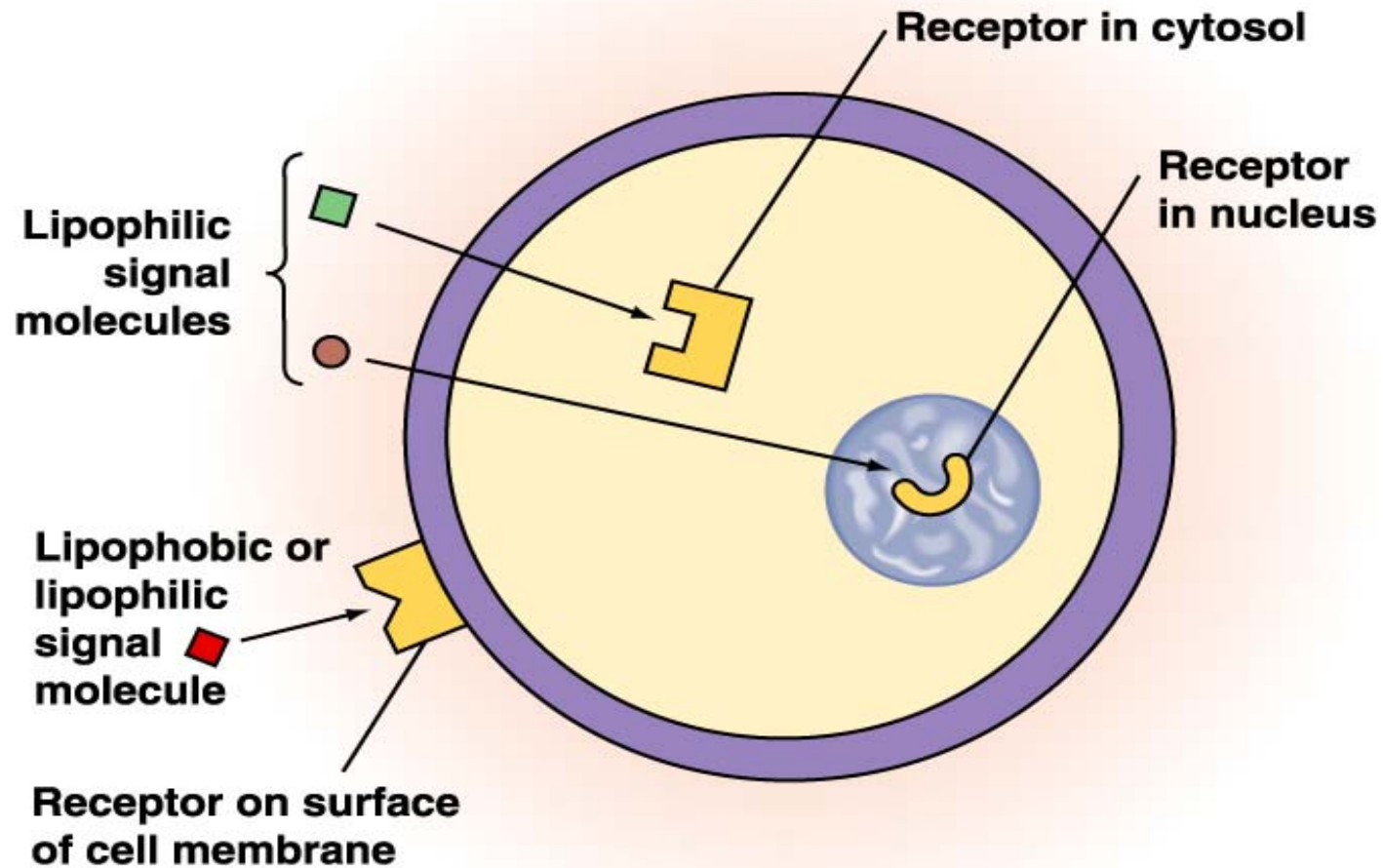
**(4) Tyrosine kinase (TK)**

## **(二) Intracellular receptors**

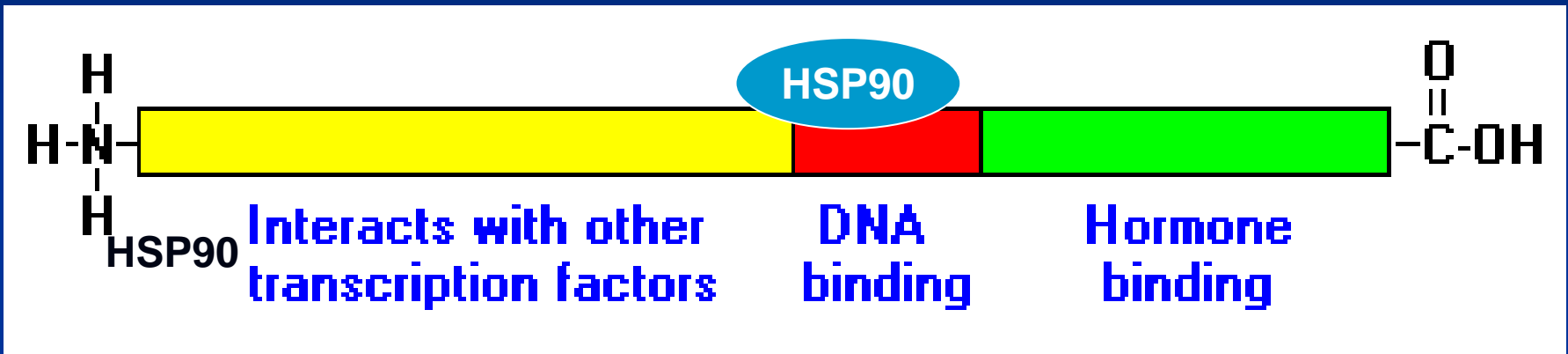
- ◆ **Intracellular receptors:**

**Includes receptors for steroid and thyroid hormones**

# Steroid/thyroid hormone mechanism



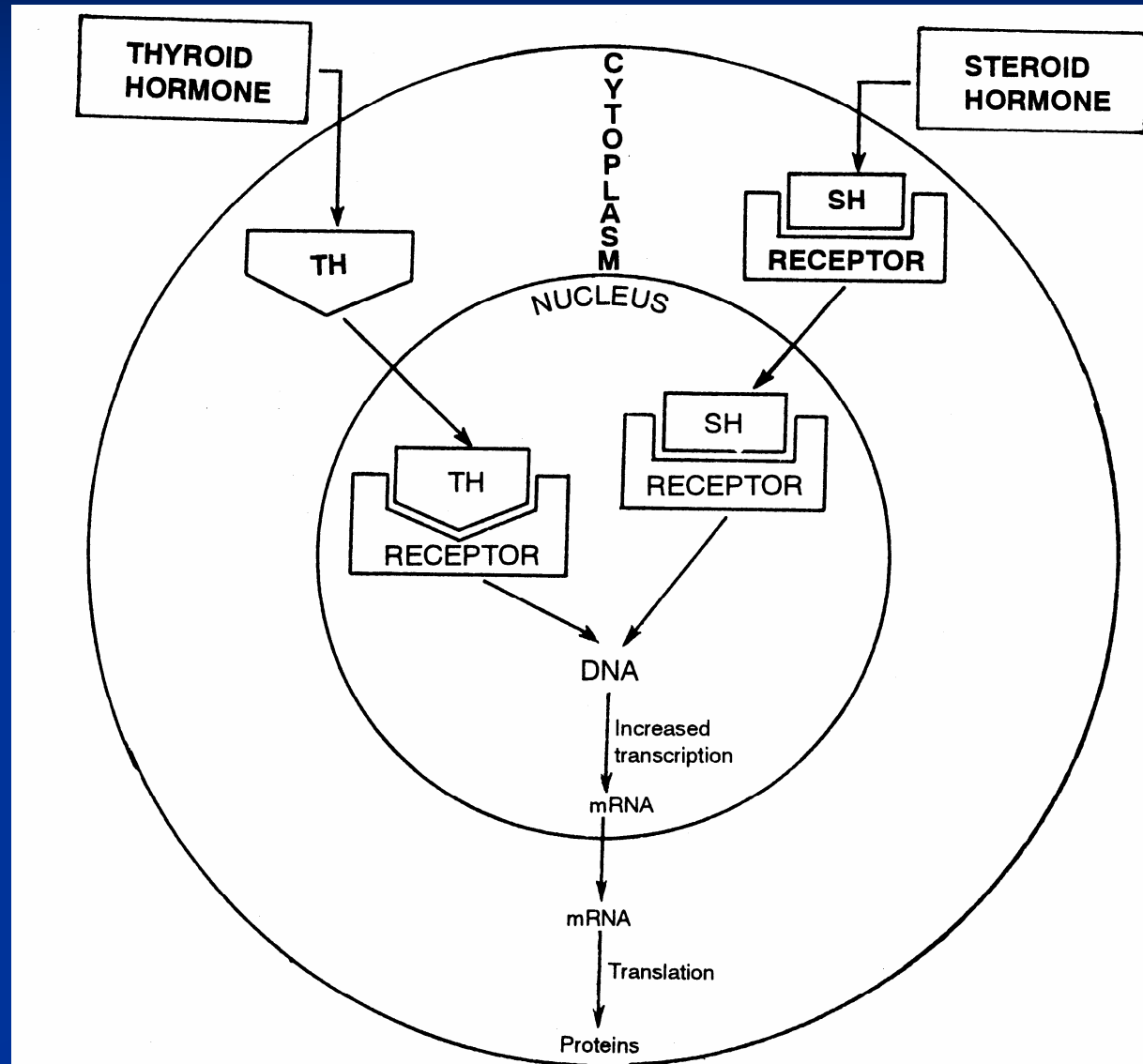
# Steroid Receptor Domains



# Hormones That Act Mainly on the Genetic Machinery of the Cell

(1) Steroid hormones increase protein synthesis

(2) Thyroid hormones increase gene transcription in the cell nucleus



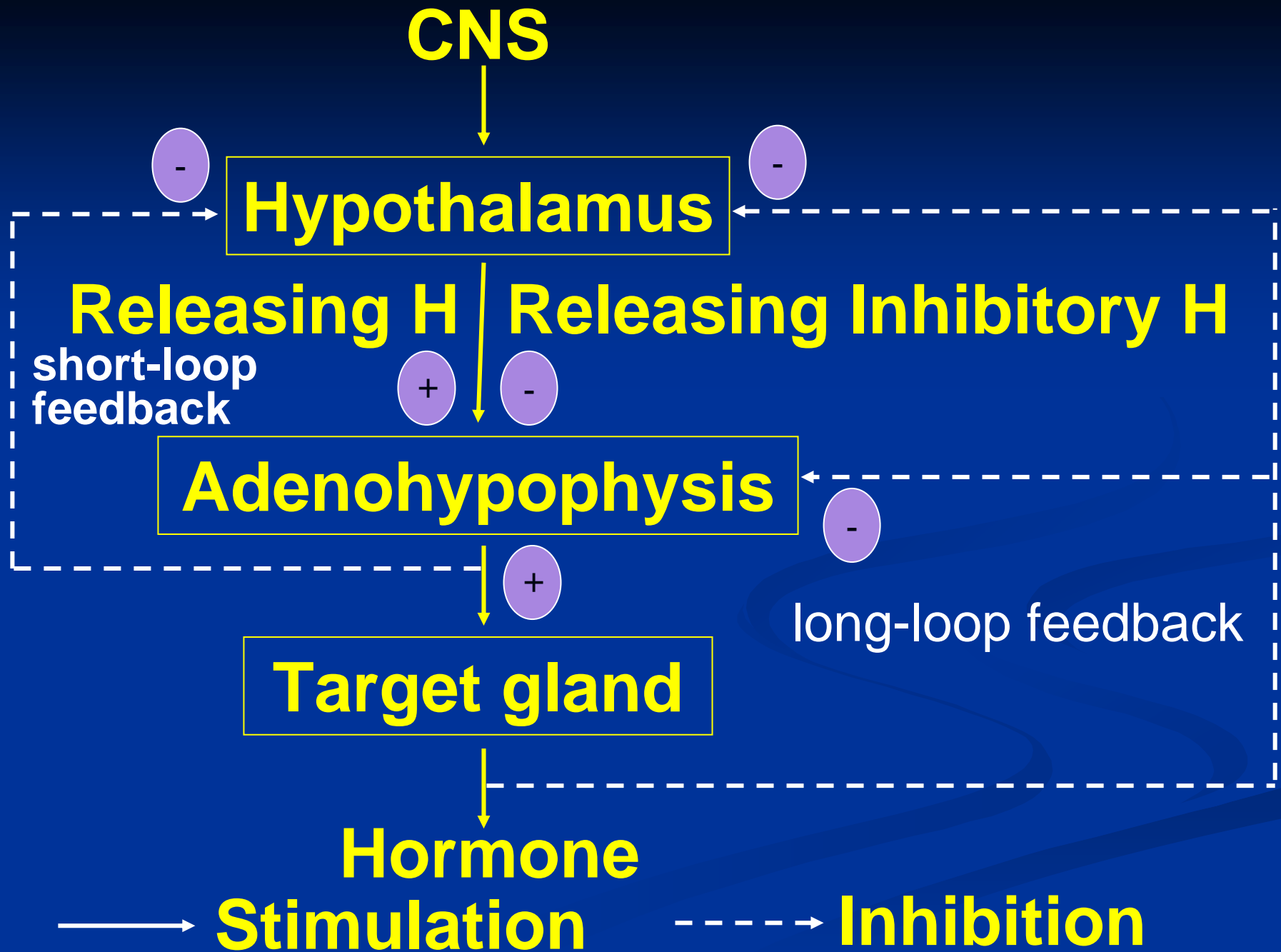


# Regulation of hormone secretion

- 1. Hypothalamic-pituitary-gland axis***
- 2. Feedback through metabolites***
- 3. Nervous regulation***

## **(→) *Hypothalamic-pituitary-gland***

- ◆ **Three main axes involving hypothalamus and pituitary control much of endocrine system**
  - **Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Thyroid axis (HPT)**
  - **Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Adrenal axis (HPA)**
  - **Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Gonadal axis (HPG)**

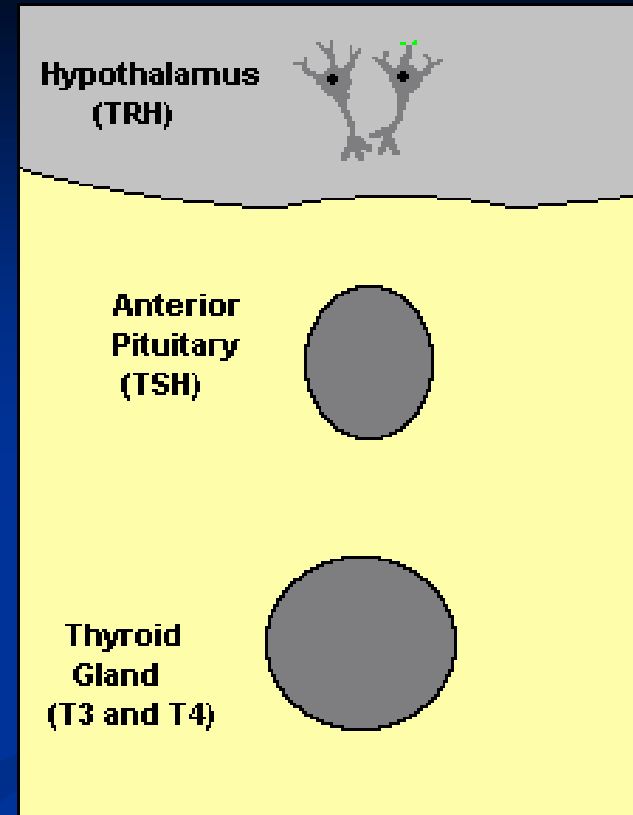


# Negative Feedback

- Most common control mechanism
- Feedback to hypothalamus (and pituitary) limits releasing signal

# Positive Feedback

- Less common mechanism
- Used when signal amplification is needed



## **(二) *Feedback through metabolites***

✓ **Glucose**

✓ **Na<sup>+</sup> K<sup>+</sup>**

✓ **Ca<sup>2+</sup>**

## **(三) *Nervous regulation***

✓ **Sympathetic nerve**

✓ **Parasympathetic nerve**

# Summary of Section 1

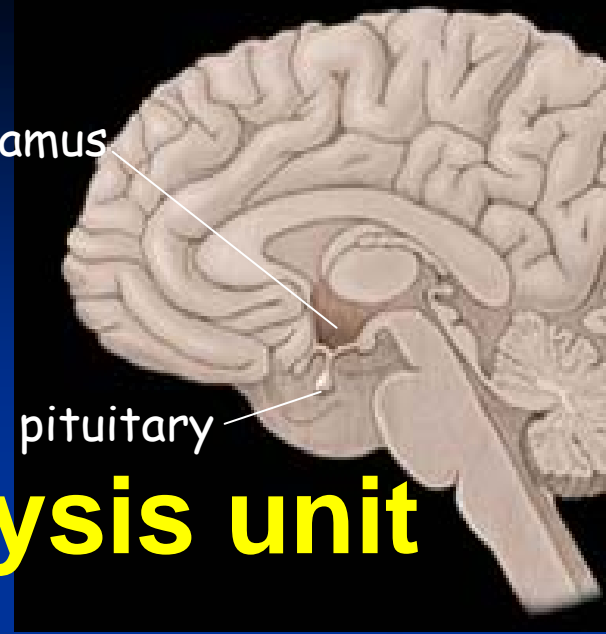
- ✓ **Definition of the endocrine (system) hormone, permissive action**
- ✓ **Chemical classification of hormone**
- ✓ **Patterns and Feature of hormonal action**
- ✓ **Mechanisms of hormonal action**

## Section 2

# Hypothalamus and Pituitary Gland

Hypothalamus  
(1%)

pituitary



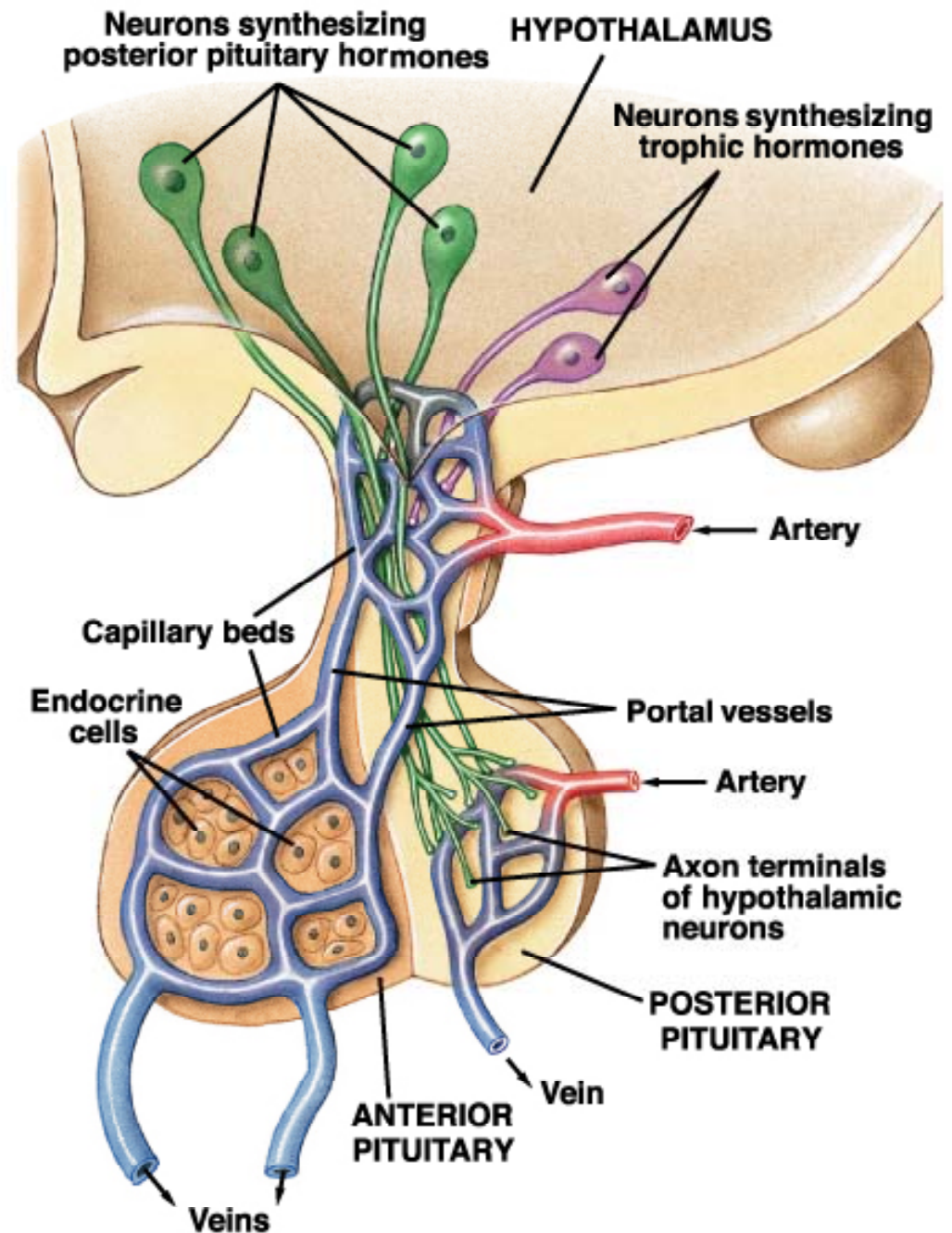
## ❖ Hypothalamus-hypophysis unit

- hypothalamo-adenohypophysis system

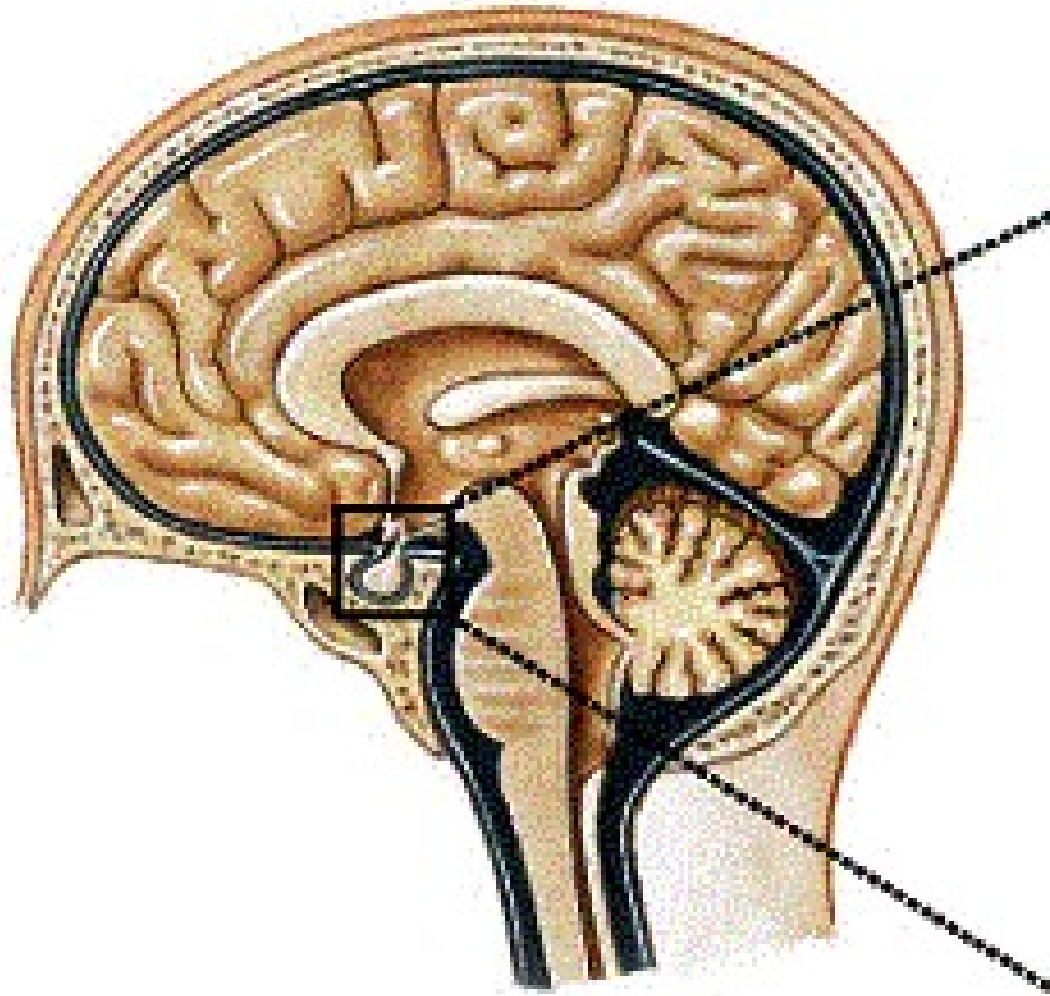
- hypothalamo-neurohypophysis system



I. Anatomical and Functional Connection Between the Hypothalamus and Pituitary (hypothalamo-hypophyseal portal system and tract)

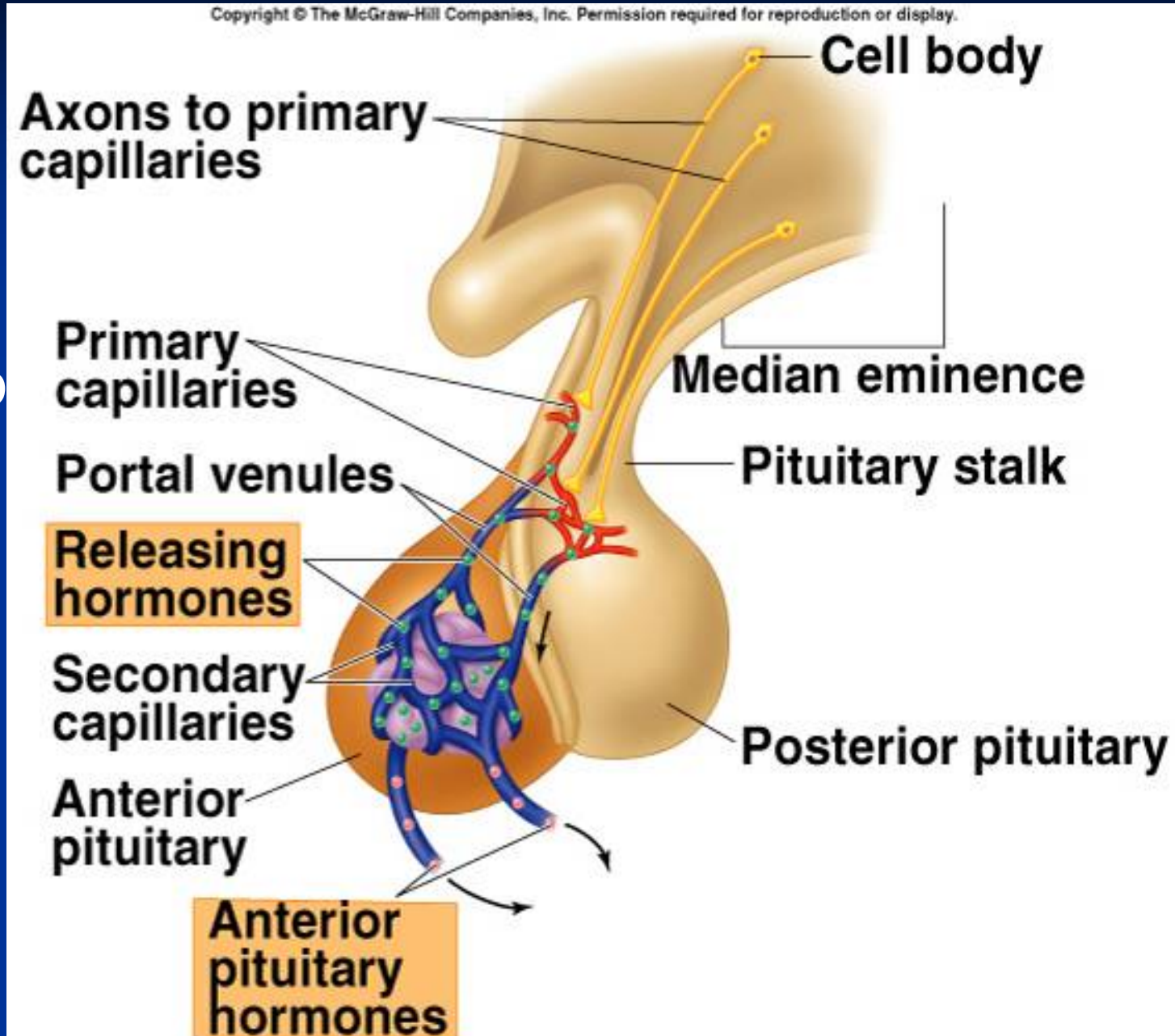


# Location of the Pituitary



# 1. The Pituitary Gland

**Anterior  
pituitary,**  
also known  
as the  
**adenohypophysis,**



Important peptide hormones that secreted by the anterior pituitary and the targets:

TSH, Thyroid stimulating hormone

ACTH, Adrenocorticotropin hormone

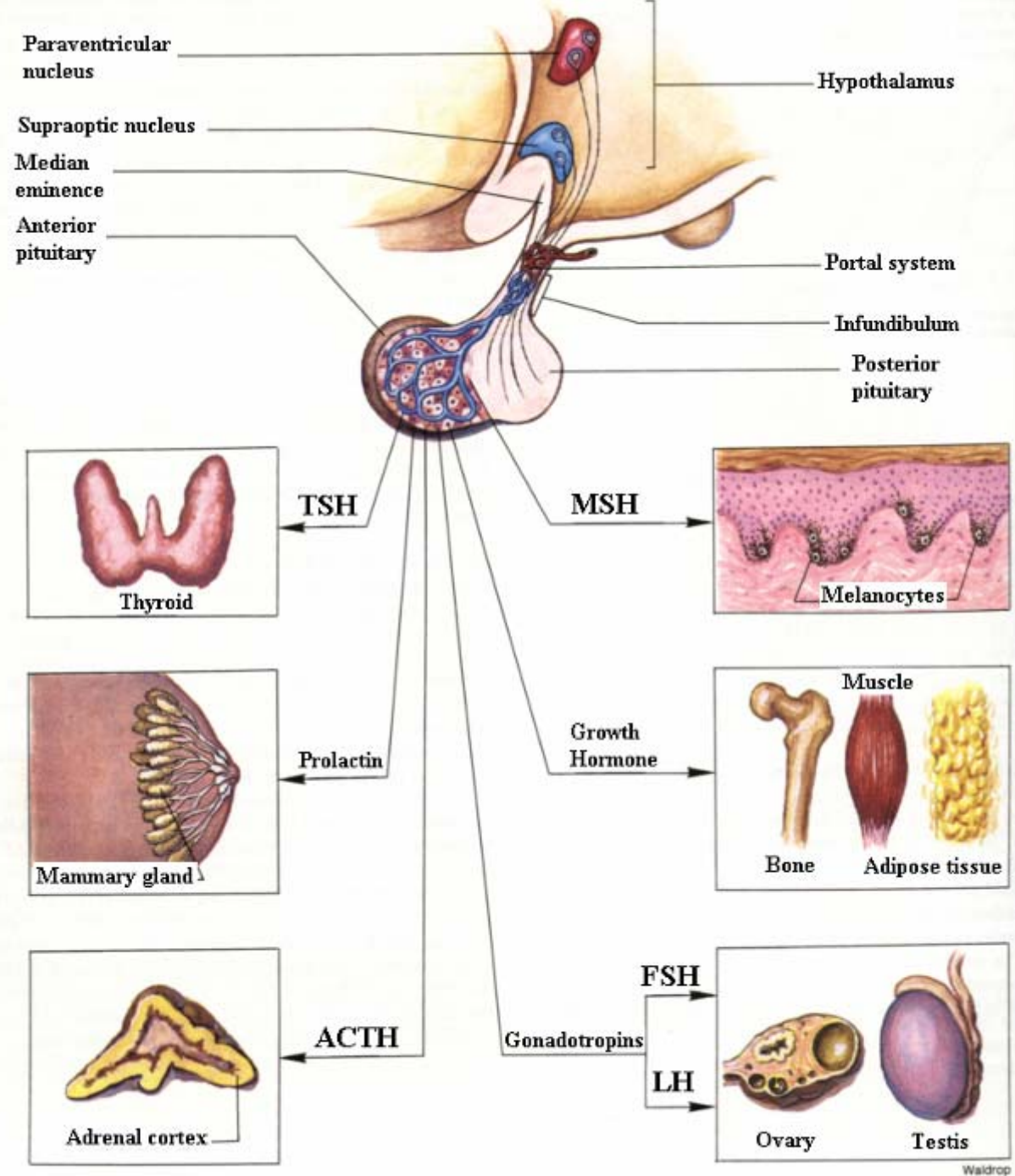
FSH, Follicle-stimulating hormone

LH, Luteinizing hormone

MSH, Melanophore-stimulating hormone

GH, Growth Hormone;

PRL, Prolactin



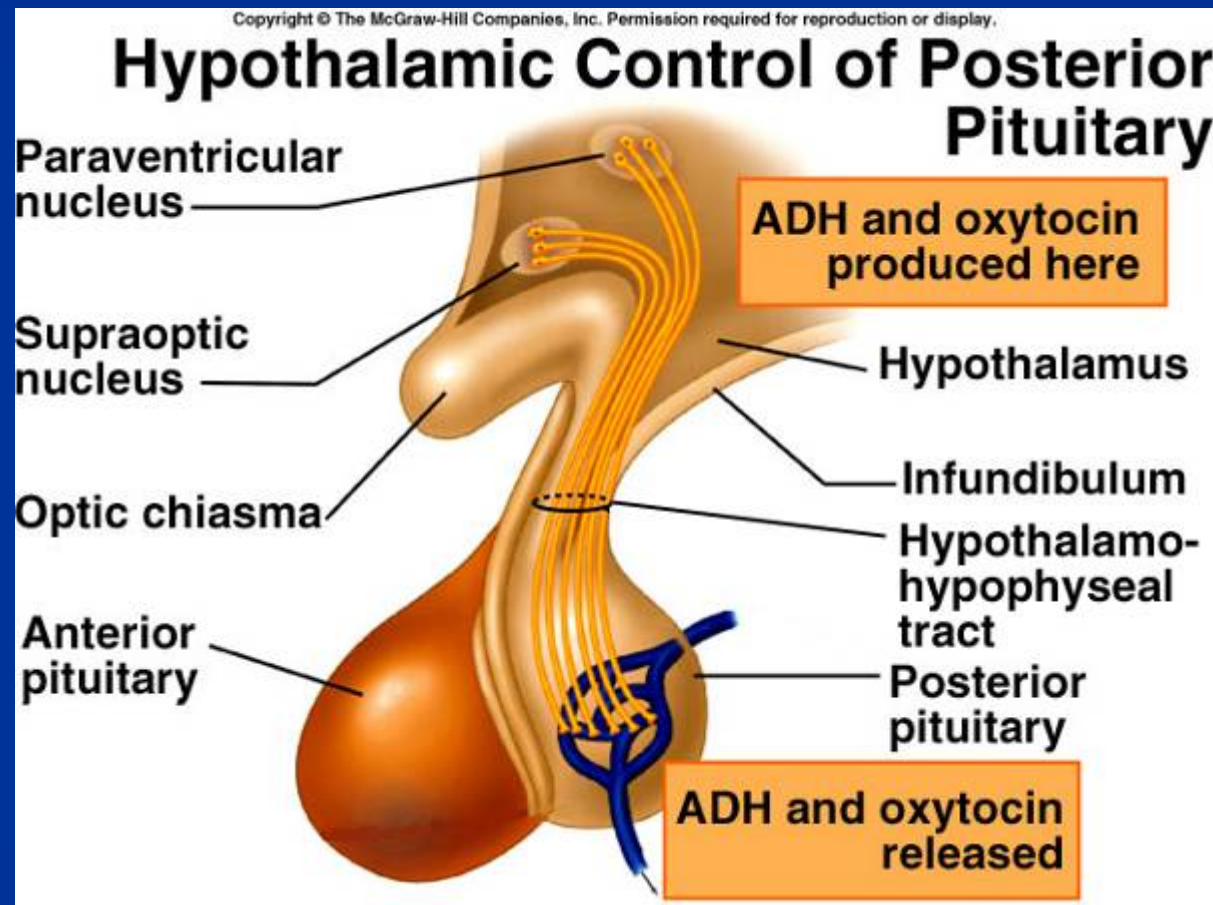
The **posterior pituitary**, also known as the **neurohypophysis**.

Two important peptide hormones that secreted by the posterior pituitary,

**ADH**

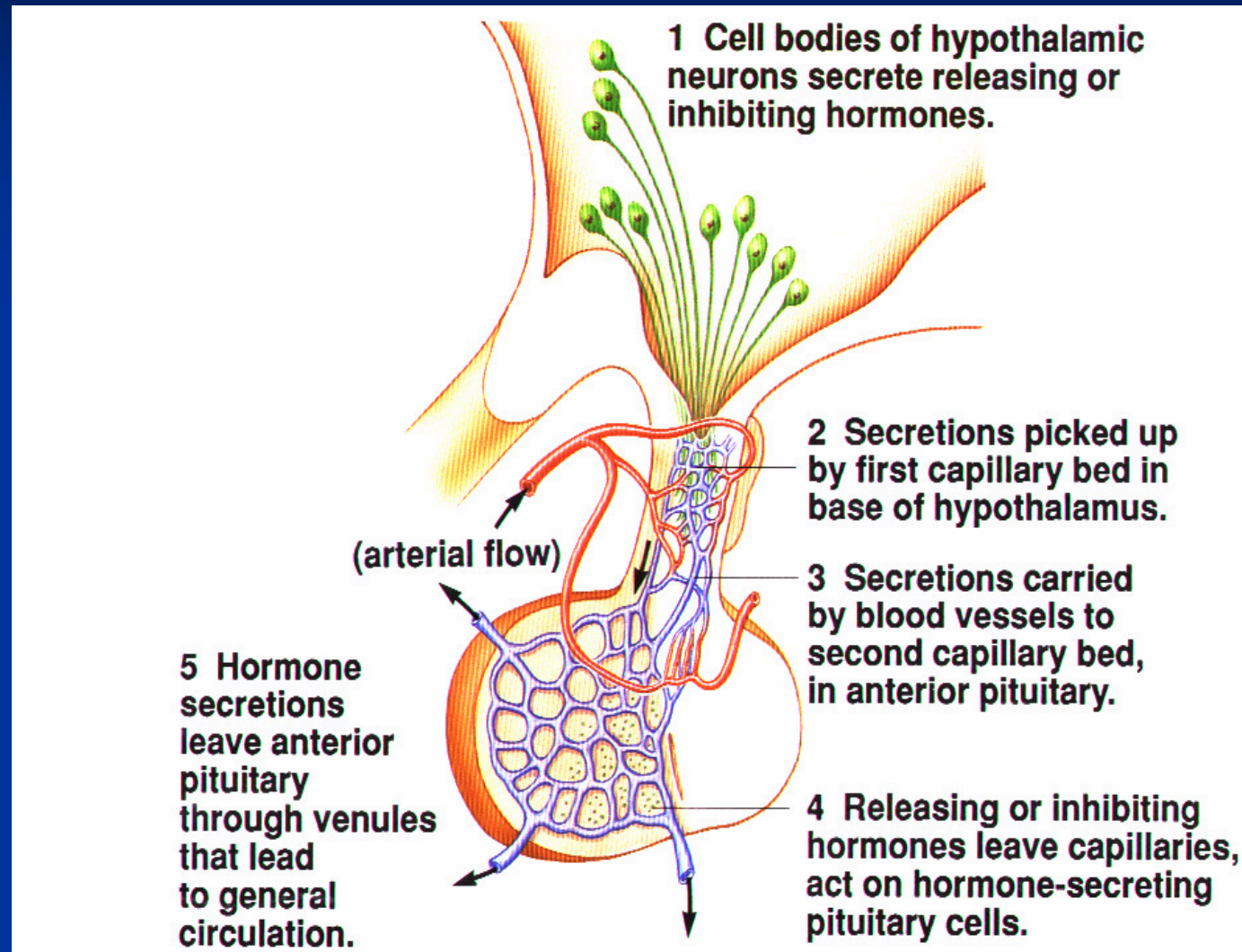
(or vasopressin)

**oxytocin**

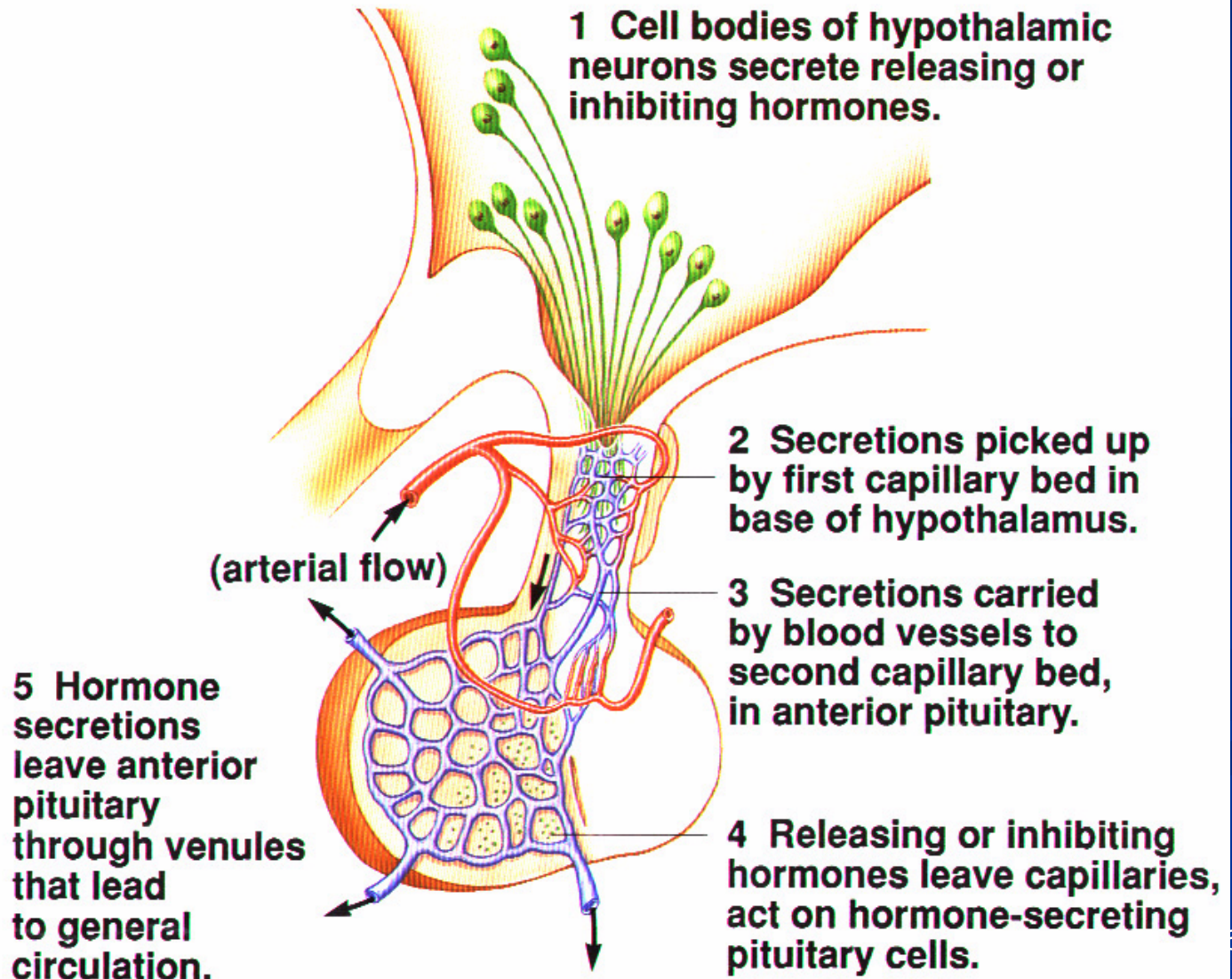


## 2. Relationship Between the Hypothalamus and Anterior Pituitary

Neurons in the hypothalamus secrete **releasing hormones** into the blood vessels of the hypothalamo-hypophyseal portal system.



These **releasing hormones** regulate the anterior pituitary to secrete its hormones in the general circulation.





### 3. Hormones Secreted by the Hypothalamus and Their Effects on Anterior Pituitary

Corticotropin-releasing hormone (CRH) – Stimulates secretion of ACTH (adrenocorticotropic hormone)

Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) Stimulates secretion of FSH (follicle-stimulating hormone) and LH (luteinizing hormone)

Thyrotropin-releasing hormone (TRH)-stimulates secretion of TSH (thyroid-stimulation hormone)

Melanocyte-stimulating hormone release inhibiting factor (MIF)-inhibits secretion of MSH (Melanocyte-stimulating hormone)

Melanocyte-stimulating hormone releasing factor (MRF)-stimulate secretion of MSH

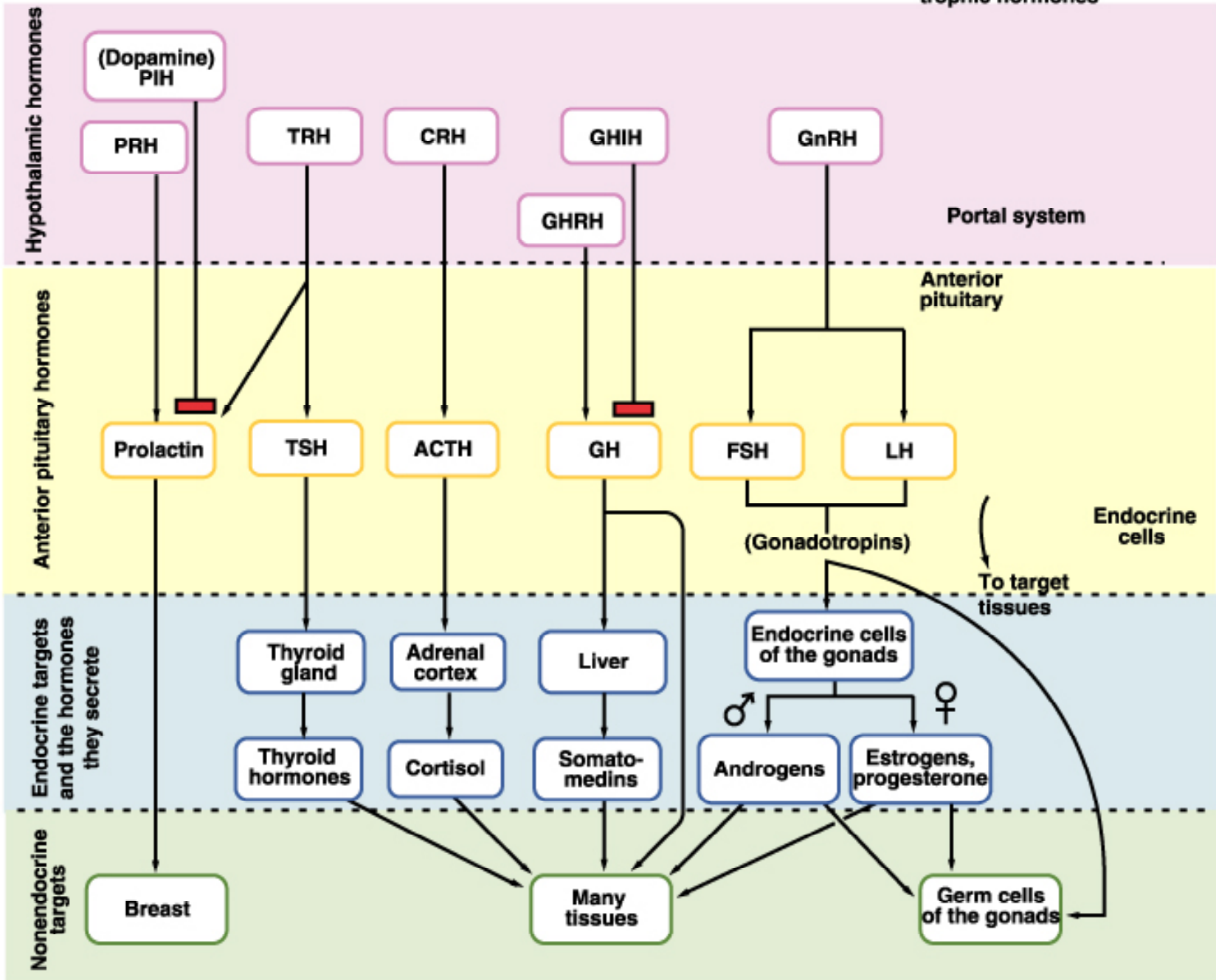
Growth hormone release inhibiting hormone (GHRIH) or Somatostatin (SS) – inhibits secretion of growth hormone

Growth hormone-releasing hormone (GHRH)– stimulates growth hormone secretion

Prolactin-inhibiting factor (PIF)- inhibits prolactin secretion

Prolactin-releasing factor (PRF)-stimulates prolactin secretion

Neurons secreting trophic hormones

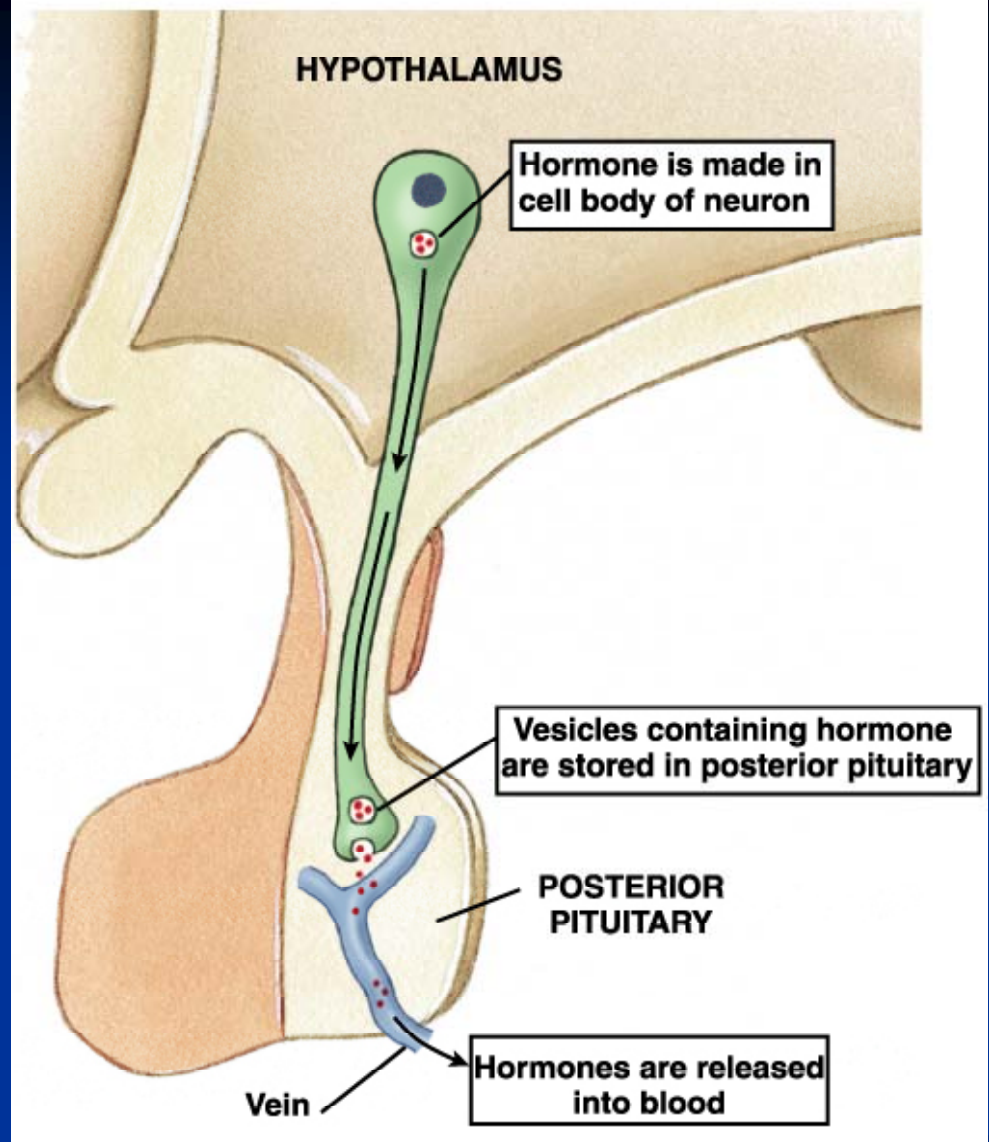


## 4. Hormones Secreted from the Posterior Pituitary

vasopressin and oxytocin

produced in neuron cell bodies within the supraoptic and paraventricular nuclei of the hypothalamus

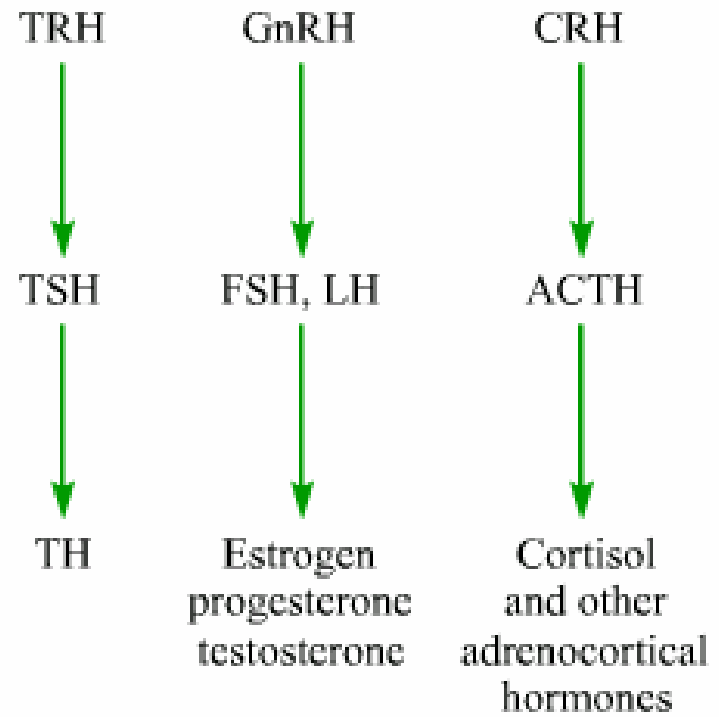
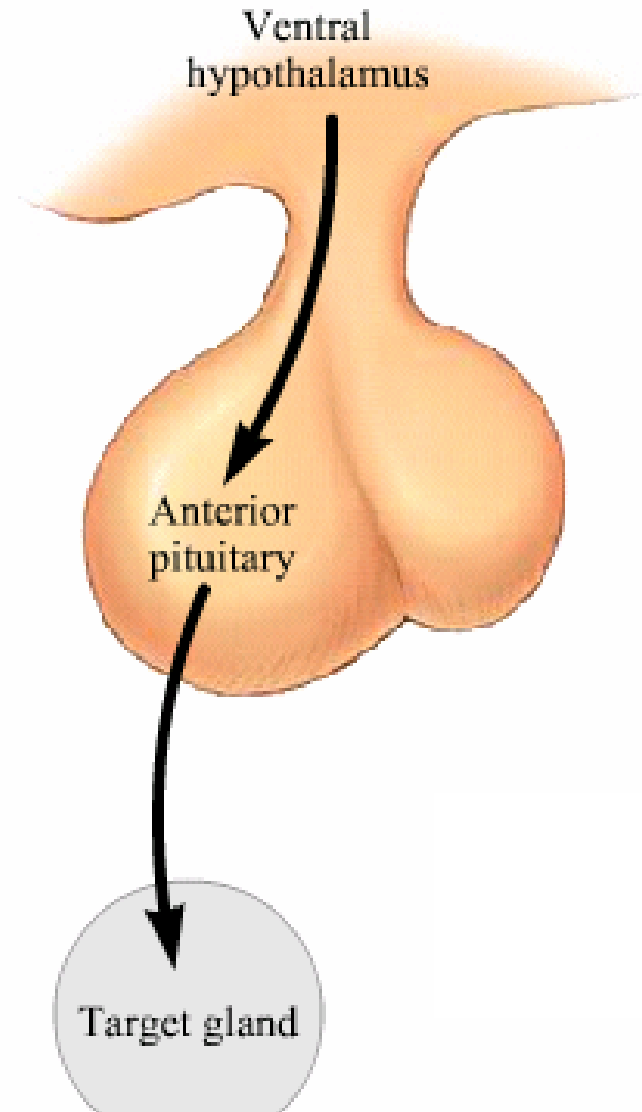
transported to the posterior pituitary by nerve fibers of the hypothalamo-hypophyseal tract.



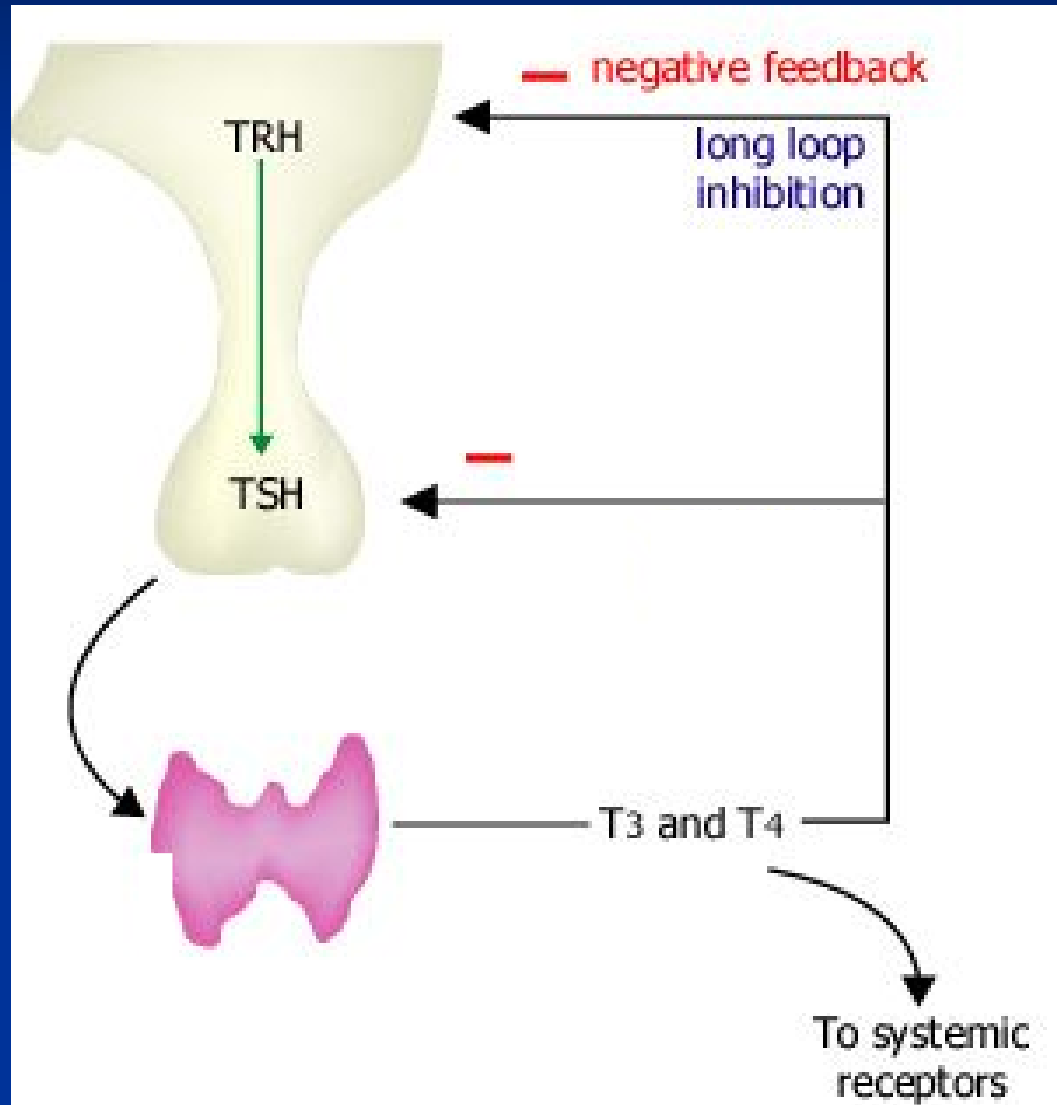
# II. Physiological Function of Hormones Secreted From Anterior and Posterior Pituitary

# Adenohypophysis hormone

- ◆ **TSH** (thyroid stimulating hormone)
- ◆ **ACTH** (adrenocorticotropic hormone)
- ◆ **FSH** (follicle stimulating hormone)
- ◆ **LH** (luteinizing hormone)
- ◆ **GH** (growth hormone)
- ◆ **PRL** (prolactin)
- ◆ **MSH** (melanophore stimulating hormone)

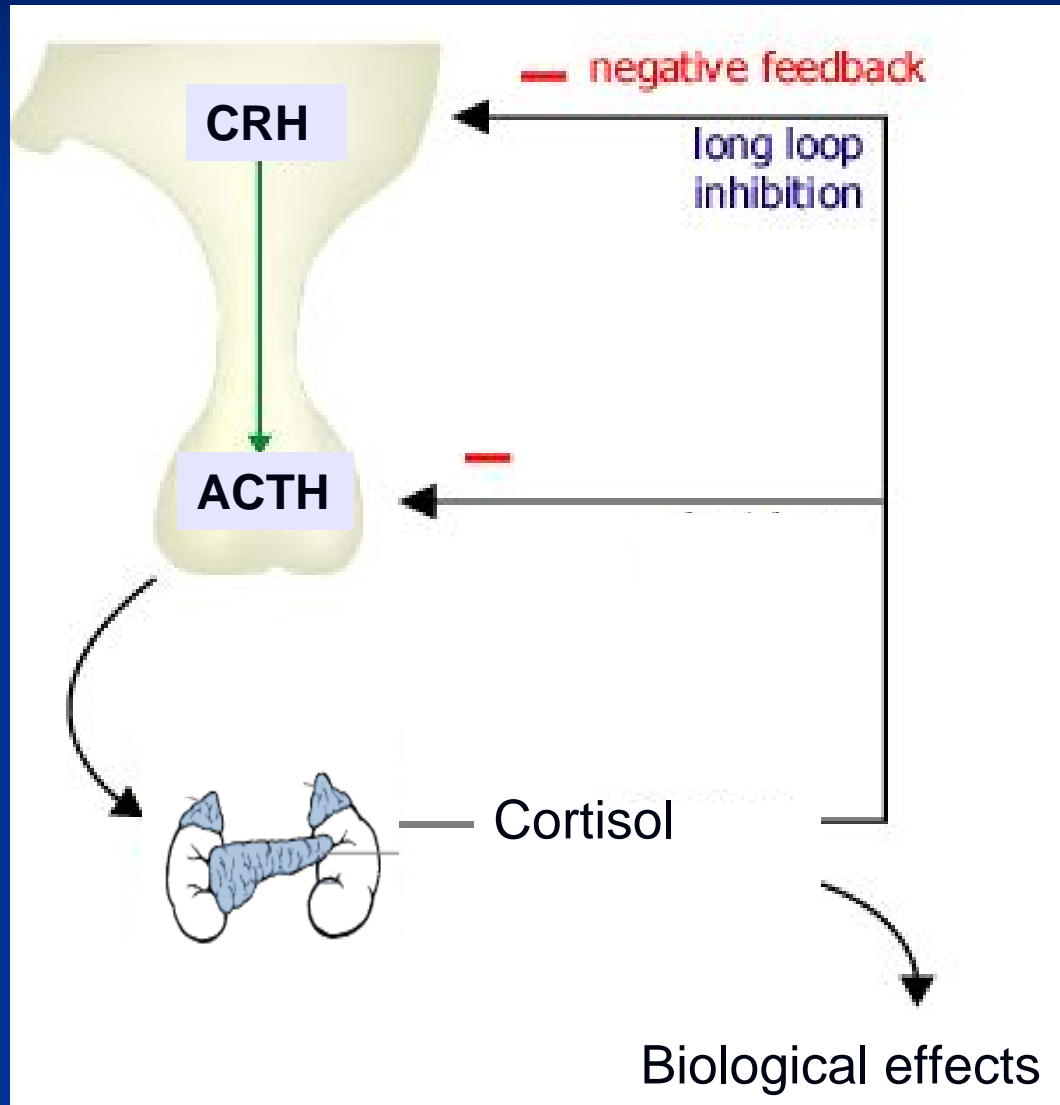


# Hypothalamus-Adenohypophysis-Thyroid Axis

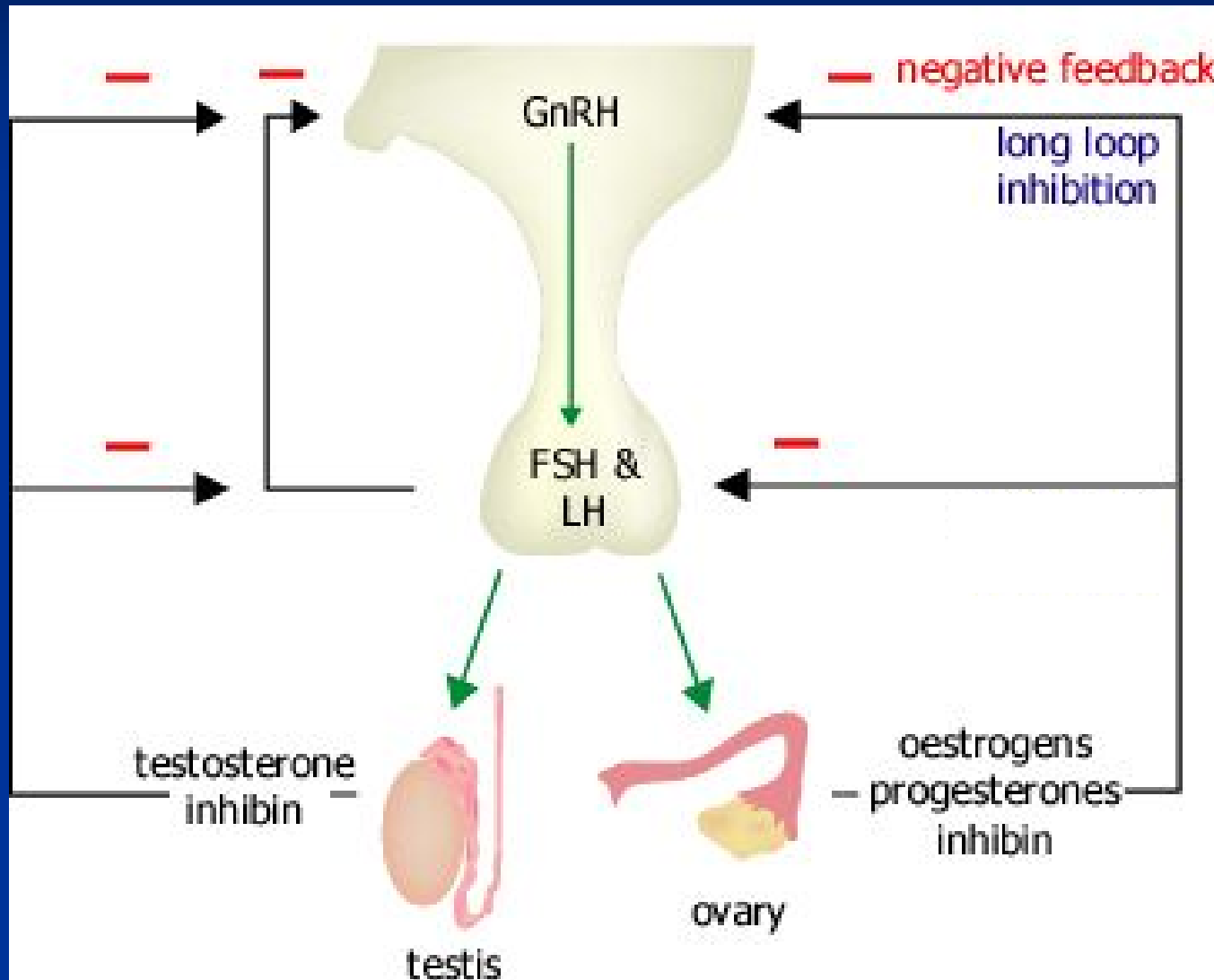




# Hypothalamus-Adenohypophysis-Adrenocortical Axis



# Hypothalamus-Adenohypophysis-Gonadal Axis



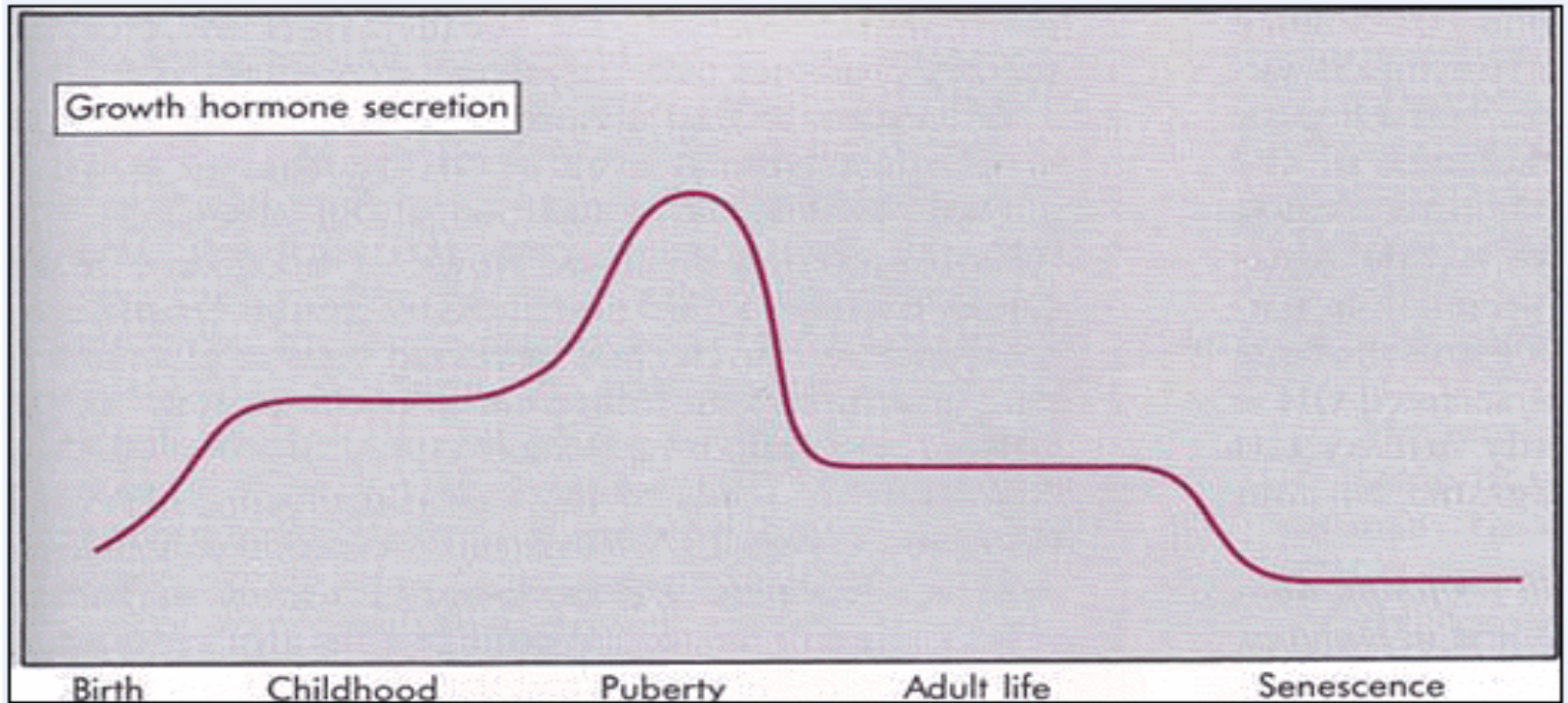
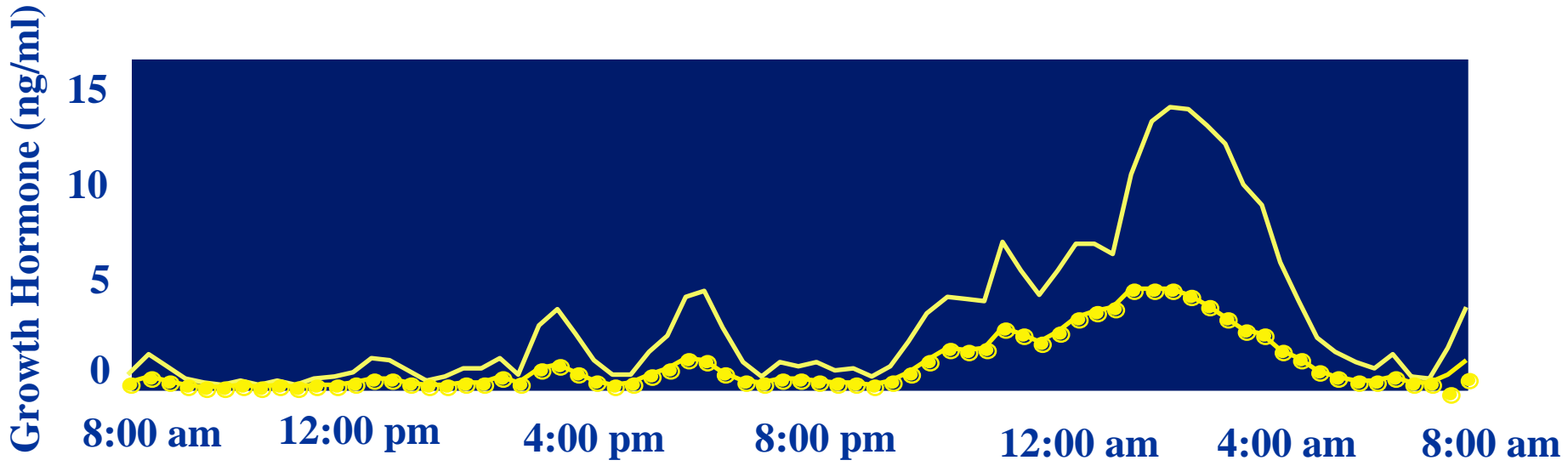
# Adenohypophysis hormone

- ◆ TSH (thyroid stimulating hormone)
- ◆ ACTH (adrenocorticotropic hormone)
- ◆ FSH (follicle stimulating hormone)
- ◆ LH (luteinizing hormone)
- ◆ GH (growth hormone)
- ◆ PRL (prolactin)
- ◆ MSH (melanophore stimulating hormone)

# Growth hormone

## ❖ General introduction

- 8.5mg/g
- 191 aa; MW: 22kD
- hGH: male < 5 $\mu$ g/L, female < 10 $\mu$ g/L
- Half time : 6-20 min
- Pulsatile secretion:
  - produced in small bursts (1-4h)



# 1. Growth Hormone

(1) Physiological functions of growth hormone.

1) Growth effect

Growth hormone stimulates cell division, especially in muscle and epiphyseal cartilage of long bones.

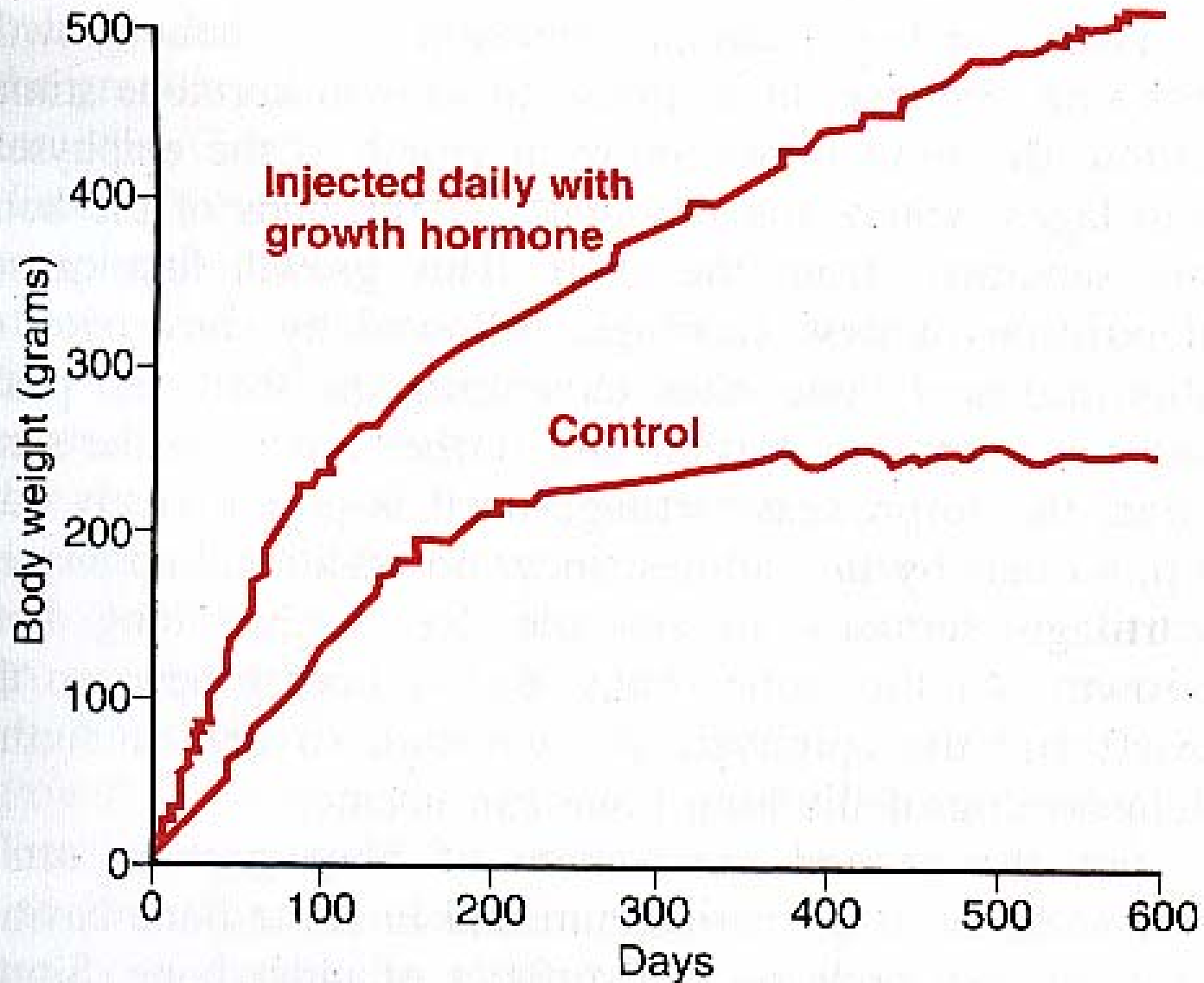
The result is muscular growth as well as linear growth.

GH also stimulates growth in several other tissues, e.g.

skeletal muscle, heart, skin, connective tissue, liver, kidney, pancreas, intestines, adrenals and parathyroids.

Hypersecretion of GH leads to cause **gigantism** in children and **acromegaly** in adult.

Hyposecretion of GH results in **dwarfism** during childhood.



**FIGURE 75 - 5**

Comparison of weight gain of a rat injected daily with growth hormone with that of a normal littermate.





Effect of hypophysectomy on growth of the immature rhesus monkey.

Both monkeys were the same size and weight 2 years previously, when the one on the left was hypophysectomized.

Effect of growth hormone treatment for 4 days on the proximal tibial epiphysis of the hypophysectomized rat.

Note that increased width of the unstained cartilage plate in the tibia of the right, compared with the control in the left.

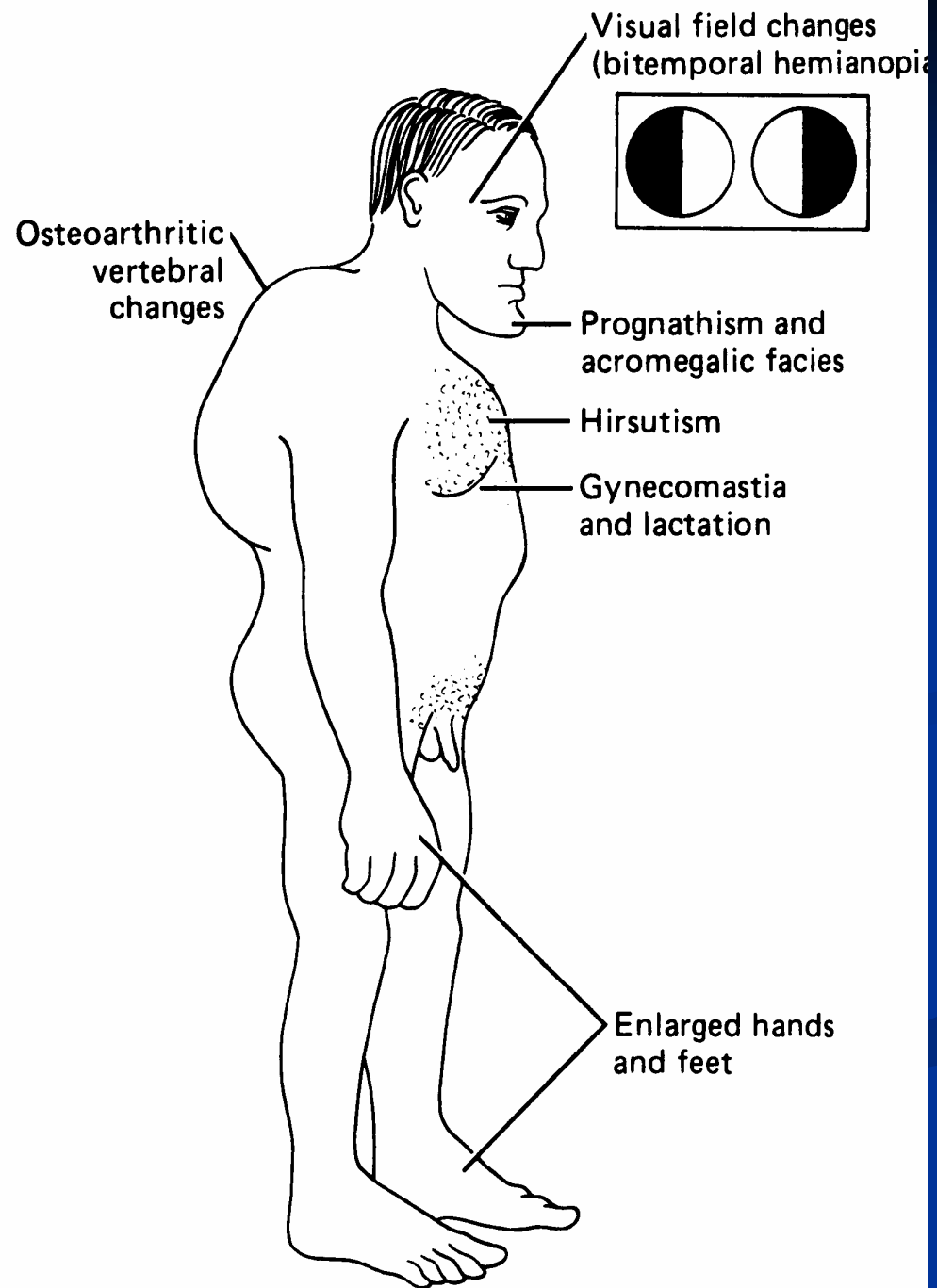


# Growth Hormone Excess

- in childhood leads to GIGANTISM

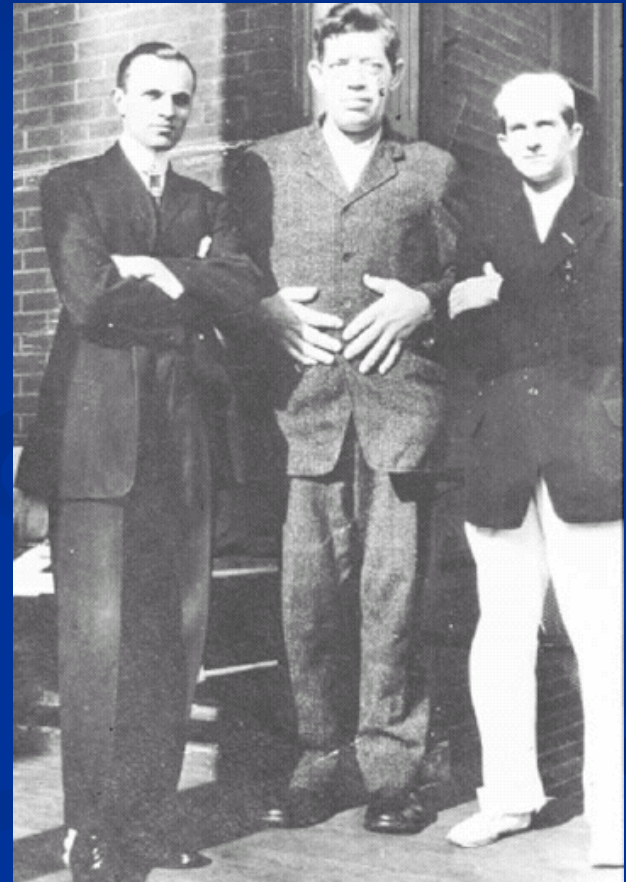
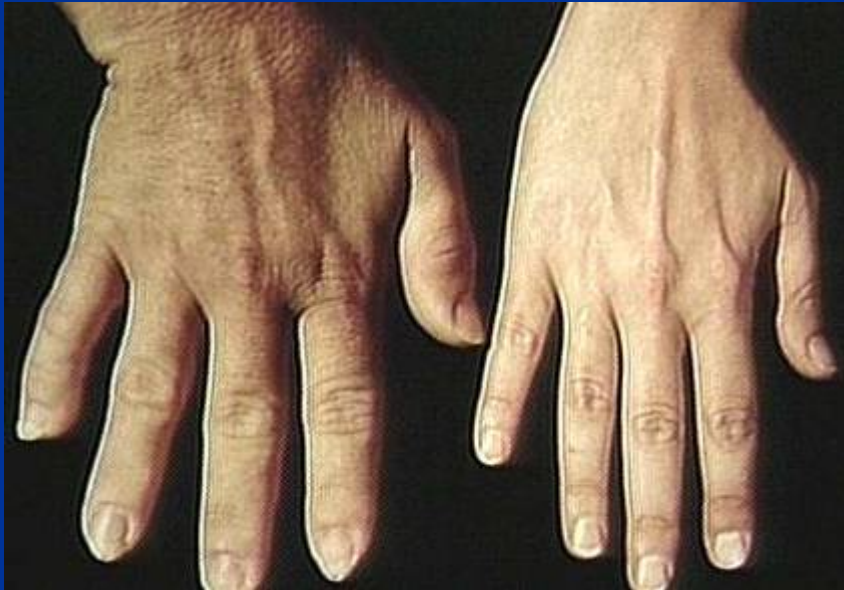


If an acidophilic tumor occur after adolescence – that is , after the epiphyses of the lone bones have fused with shafts – the person cannot grow taller, but the soft tissue can continue to grow and the bones can grow in thickness. This condition is known as **acromegaly**.

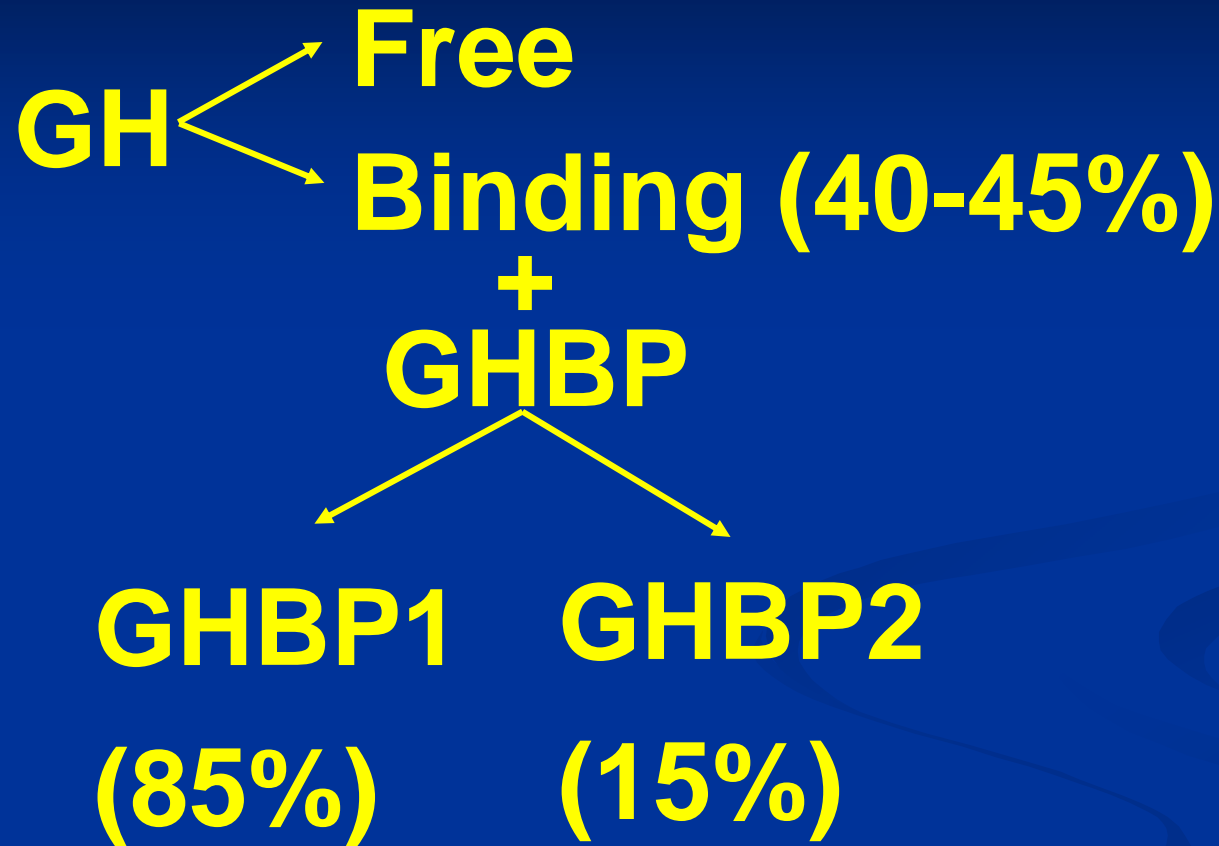


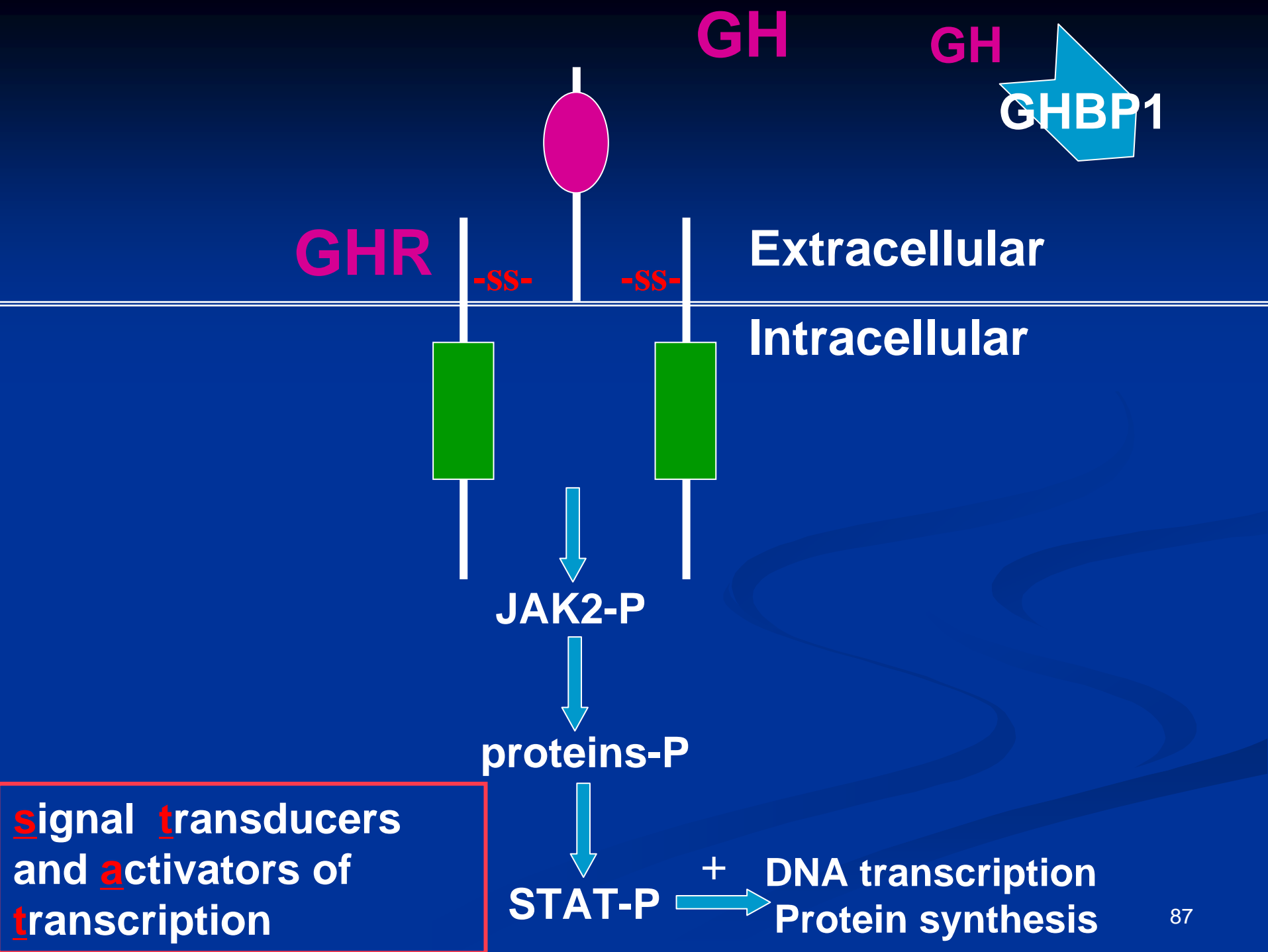
# Growth Hormone Excess

- in adulthood leads to ACROMEGALY



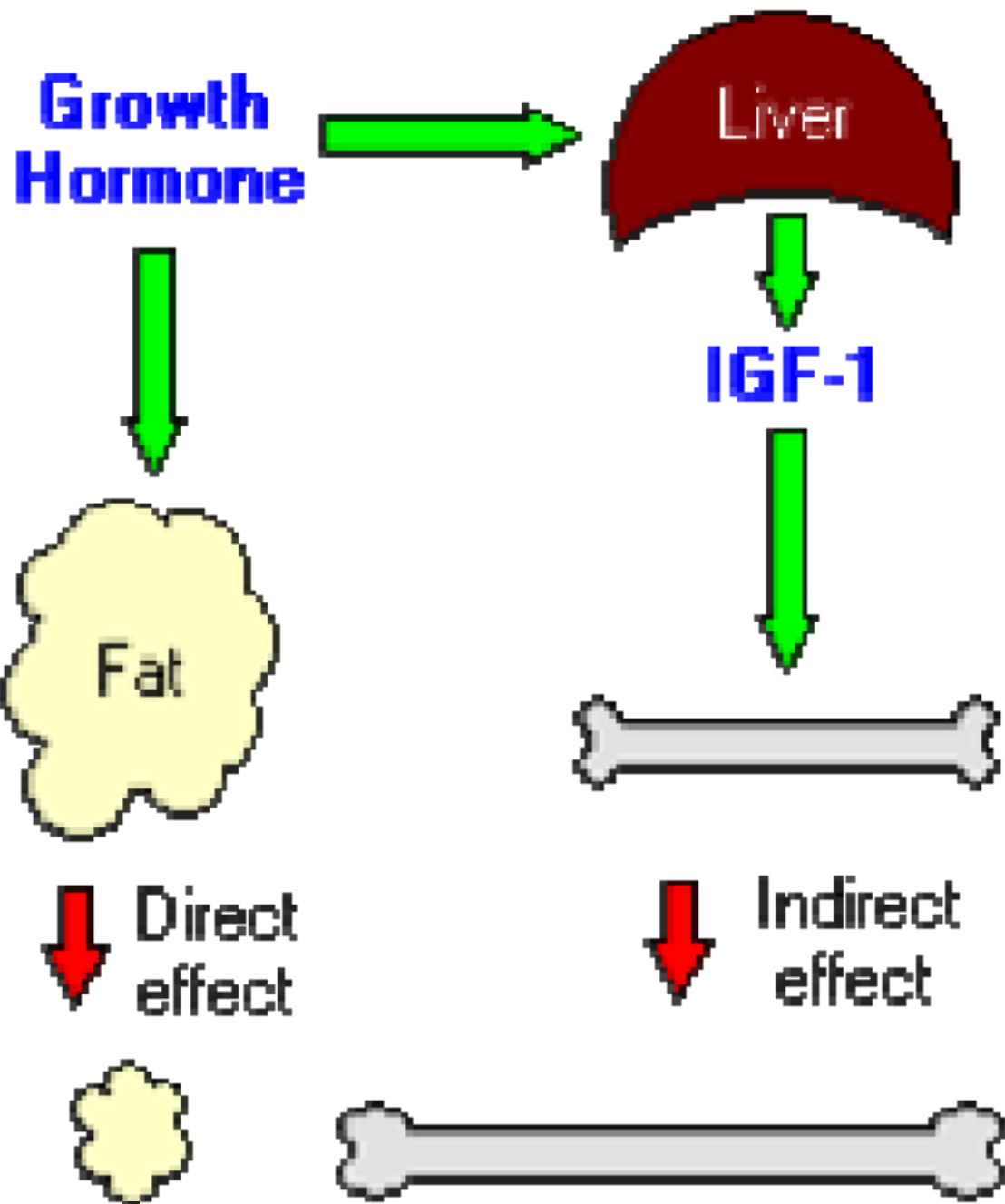
# Mechanisms of GH action





Receptor mechanism of the growth hormone effect

GH  $\longrightarrow$  somatomedins (SM) (also called insulin-like growth factor, IGF) in the liver  $\longrightarrow$  growth of bone and other peripheral tissues.





- ◆ **GH exert much of its effects through intermediate substances called “somatomedins”, also called “*insulin-like growth factors*” (IGF)**

**somatomedin (SM):**

**IGF I: adult**

**IGF II: fetus, cancer**

**IGF-I**

**IGF-I**  
**IGFBPs**

**Extracellular**

**Intracellular**

**-SS-**

**-SS-**

YP-

-YP

YP-  
YP-  
YP-

-YP  
-YP  
-YP

**T  
K**

**T  
K**

YP-  
YP-  
YP-

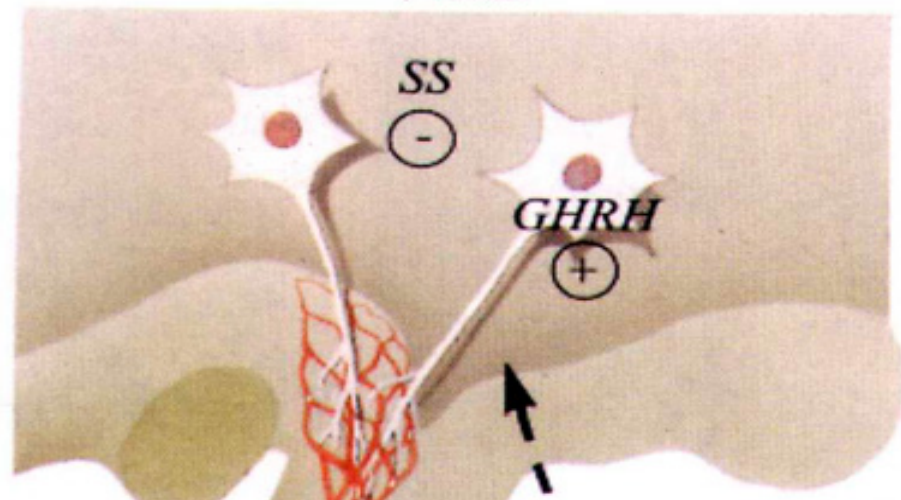
-YP  
-YP  
-YP

**Differentiation**

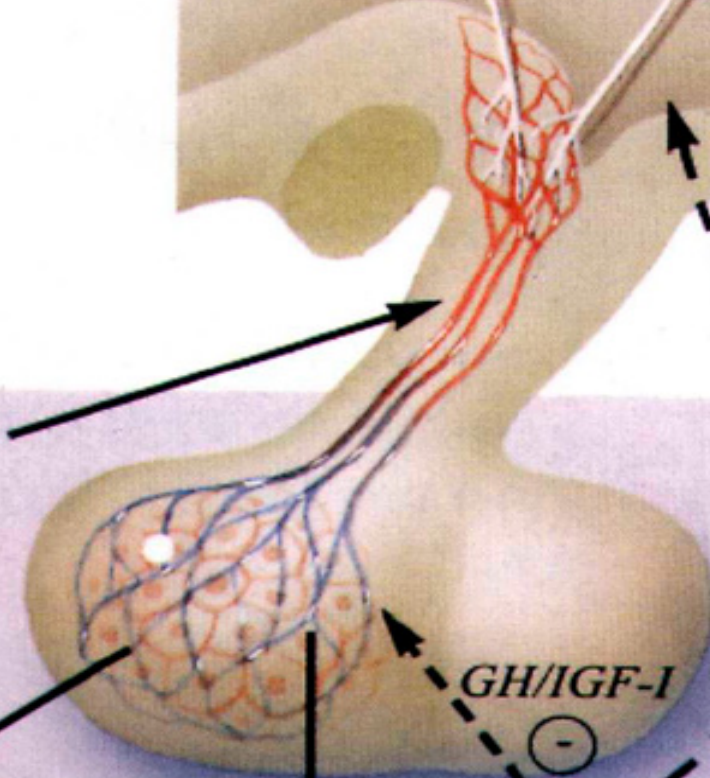
**Survival**

**Proliferation**

下丘脑



门静脉



Liver

GH

95%

IGF-I

GH

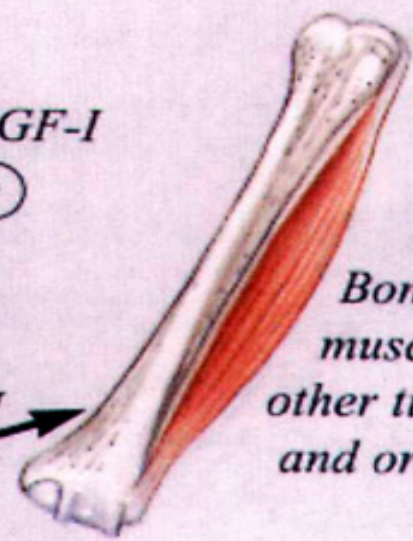
GH/IGF-I

GH/IGF-I

GH/IGF-I

General circulation

Bone, muscle, other tissues and organs



**GH**

**GHR (liver, kidney, muscle)**

**Inducing IGF secretion in liver**

**JAK-STAT pathway**

**Binding with IGF-R**

**Promoting DNA transcription and protein synthesis**

**Mediated by enzyme-coupled R (IGF-1) / G protein-coupled R (IGF-2 )**

**Promoting growth, metabolism**

## 2) Metabolic effects of GH

### A, On Protein metabolism

Enhance amino acid transport to the interior of the cells and increase RNA translation and nuclear transcription of DNA to form mRNA, and so increase rate of protein synthesis.

GH also reduces the breakdown of cell proteins by decreasing catabolism of protein.

- **↑ protein deposition**
  - **↑ AA transport through the cell membranes**
  - **↑ RNA translation**
  - **↑ DNA transcription**
- **↓ Catabolism of protein and AA**

## B, On fat metabolism

Cause release of fatty acids from adipose tissue and then increasing the concentration of fatty acids.

Therefore, utilization of fat is used for providing energy in preference to both carbohydrates and proteins.

- ↑ Fat utilization for energy



## C. On glucose metabolism

Decreases cellular uptake of glucose and glucose utilization,

leads to increase of the blood glucose concentration.

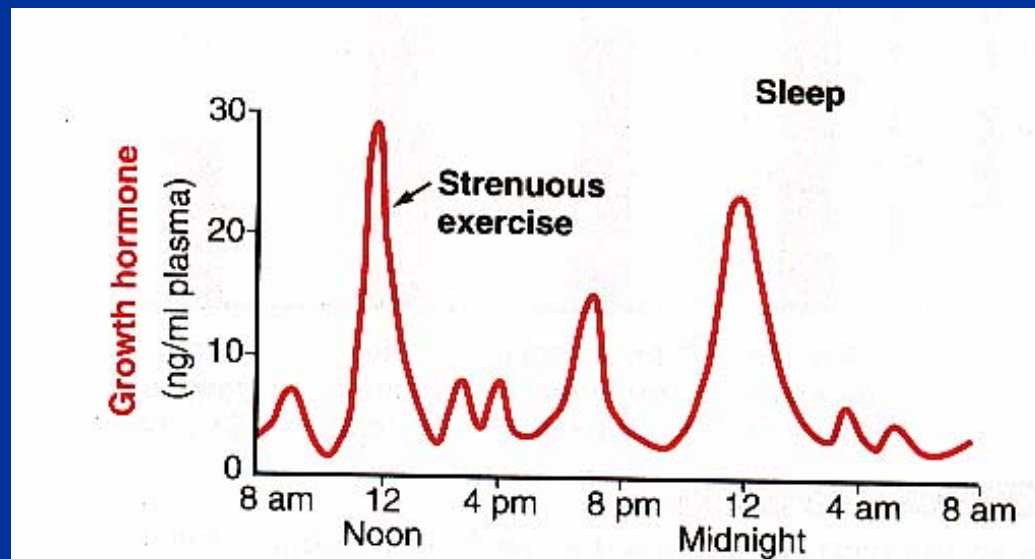
- ↓ Carbohydrate utilization
  - ↓ Glucose uptake
  - ↑ Glucose production by the liver

pituitary glycosuria

## (2) Regulation of GH secretion

The plasma concentration of GH changes with age. 5 – 20 years old, 6ng/ml; 20 – 40 years old, 3ng/ml; 40 – 70 years old, 1.6ng/ml.

The change of GH concentration within one day.



**FIGURE 75-6**

Typical variations in growth hormone secretion throughout the day, demonstrating the especially powerful effect of strenuous exercise and also the high rate of growth hormone secretion that occurs during the first few hours of deep sleep.



# Regulation of GH secretion

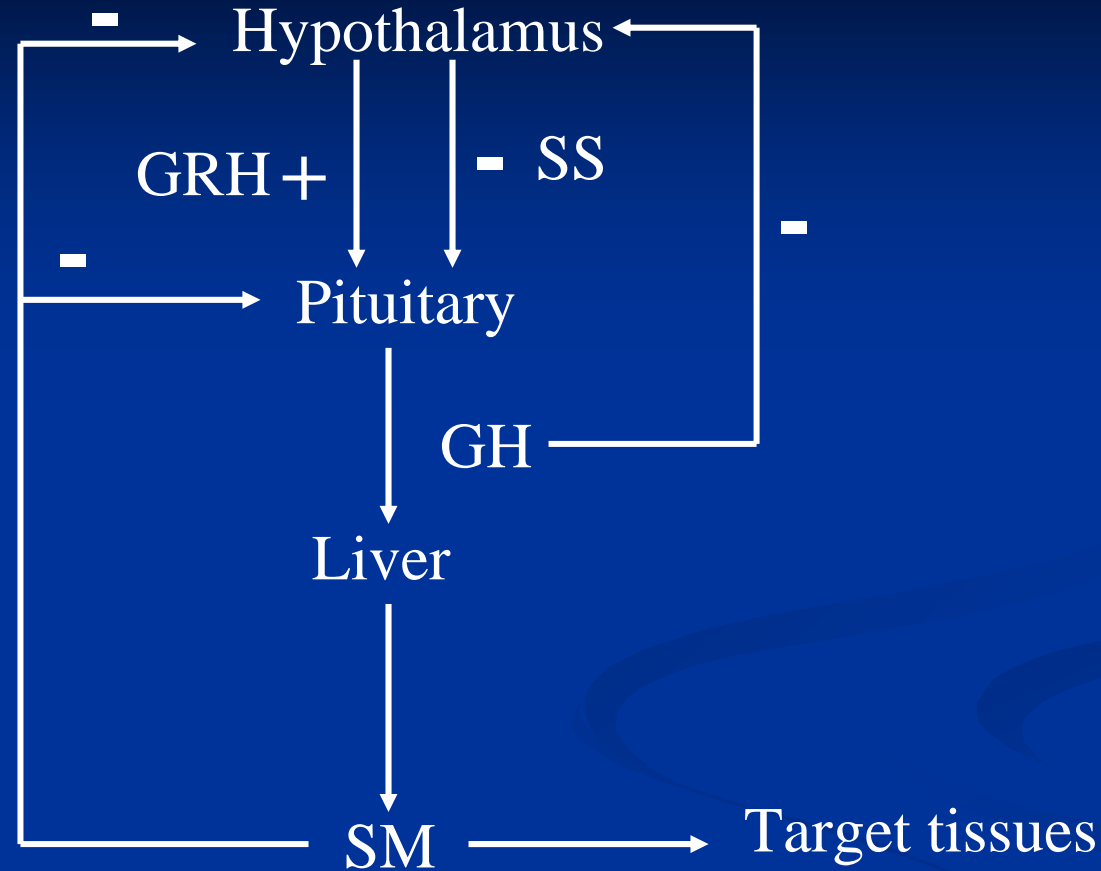
## 1) Hypothalamic regulation

- ◆ GHRH: normal
- ◆ GHIH: excess (stress)

## 2) Feedback regulation

## 3) The other mechanisms

# 1) Role of hypothalamus and feedback mechanism



+ increase the secretion; - inhibit the secretion

## 2) Other factors that affect the GH secretion

A, Starvation, especially with severe protein deficiency

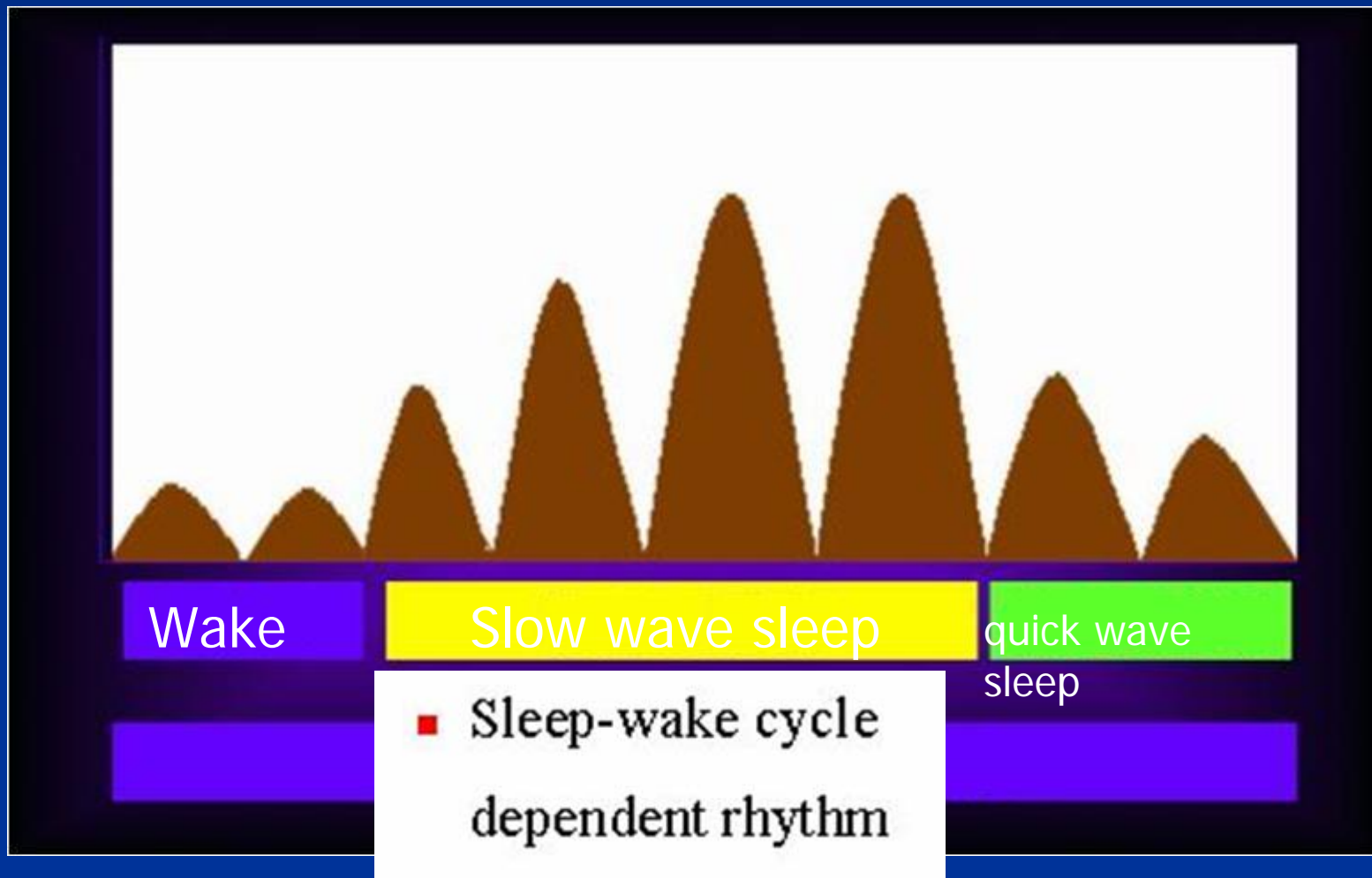
B, Hypoglycemia or low concentration of fatty acids in the blood

C, Exercise

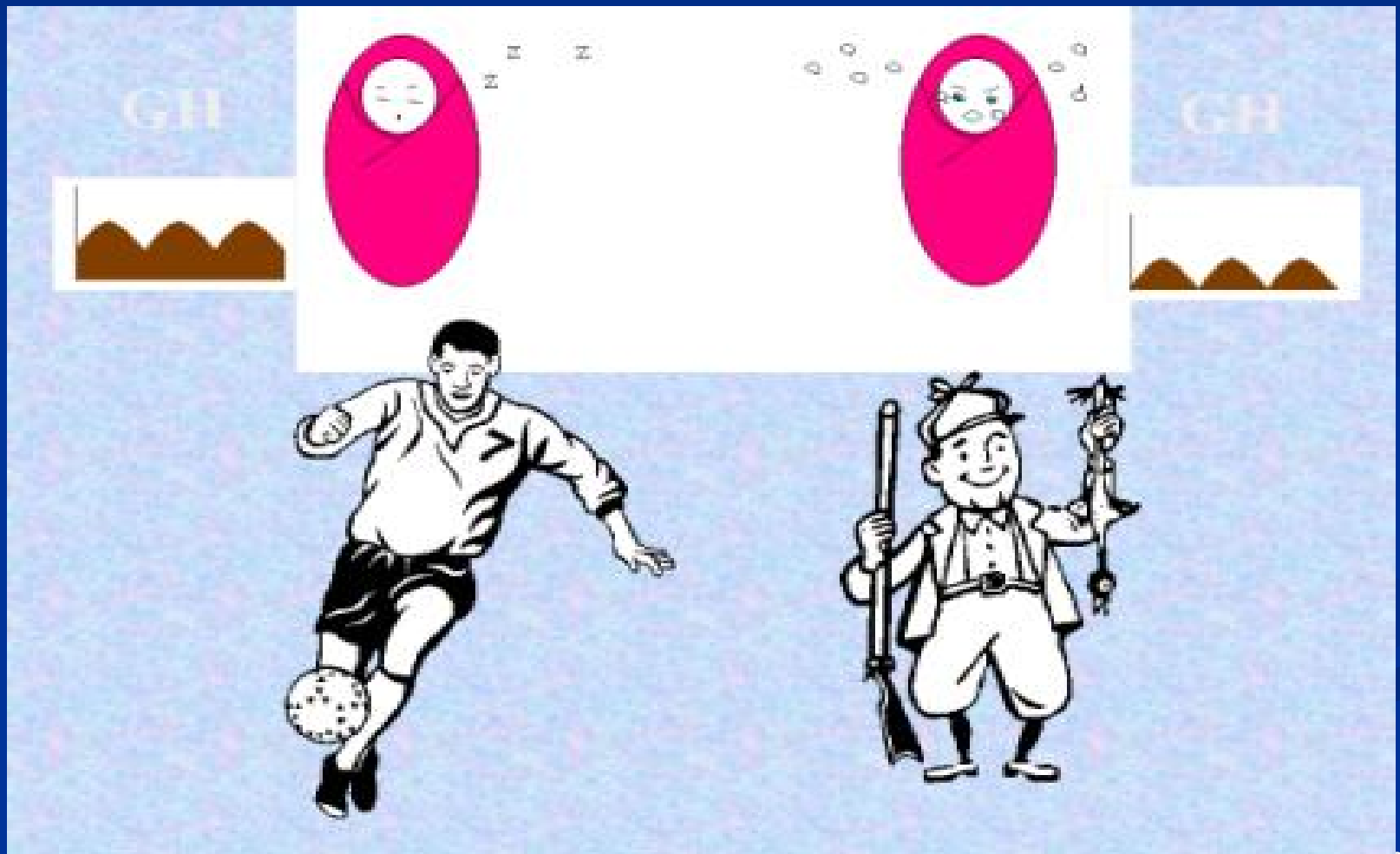
D, Excitement

E, Trauma

# The other mechanisms



# The other mechanisms



# The other mechanisms



Stress



Hormones

## 2. Prolactin (PRL)

### (1) Physiological function of PRL

1) On breast: stimulate the development and milk secretion

In women, breasts development at **puberty** is stimulated by estrogen, progesterone, growth hormone, cortisol, insulin, thyroid hormones and prolactin.

**During pregnancy**, great growth of breast tissues occurs by stimulation of estrogen, progesterone and prolactin but estrogen and progesterone inhibit the secretion of milk.

**Immediately after the baby is born**, the sudden loss of estrogen and progesterone secreted by the placenta allows the lactogenic effect of PRL to assume its nature milk promoting role, initiating milk secretion.

**After birth of the baby**, the level of PRL secretion returns to the normal level before pregnancy but each time the mother nurses her baby causes a 10 to 20 fold surge in PRL secretion that lasts for about 1 hour. Lactation is maintained for nursing period.





Prolactin (plus several other hormones)

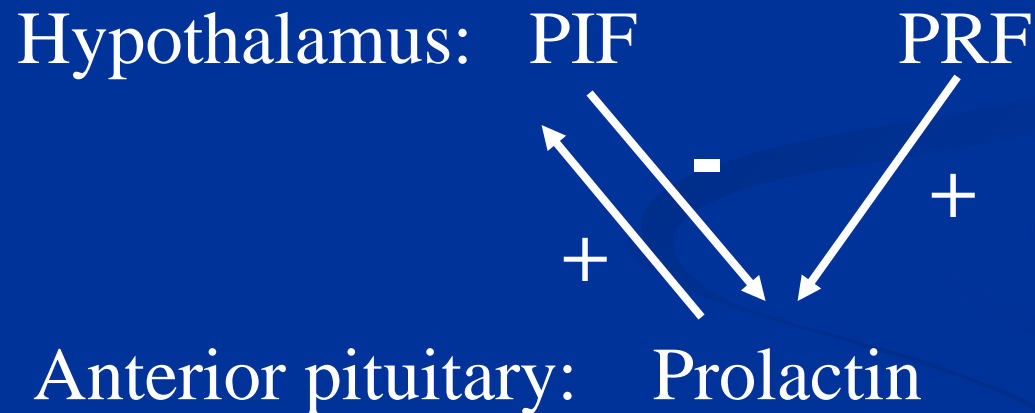
## 2) Effect on sexual organs

In women, PRL combined with PRL receptors in granulosa cells stimulates production of LH receptors. Through LH receptors, LH promotes ovulation and then formation of corpus luteum. (permissive effect)

In male, PRL promotes growth of prostate glands and seminal vesicle, enhancing the effect of LH on the interstitial cells producing testosterone.

## (2) Regulation of PRL secretion

### 1) Hypothalamic hormones and feedback mechanism



+ increase the secretion; - inhibit the secretion

## 2) Milk rejection reflex



Sucking, tactile stimulation



Afferent nerve (somatic nerve)



Centers including spinal cord and hypothalamus



PRF secretion



PRL secretion



Milk production increase



Oxytocin secretion



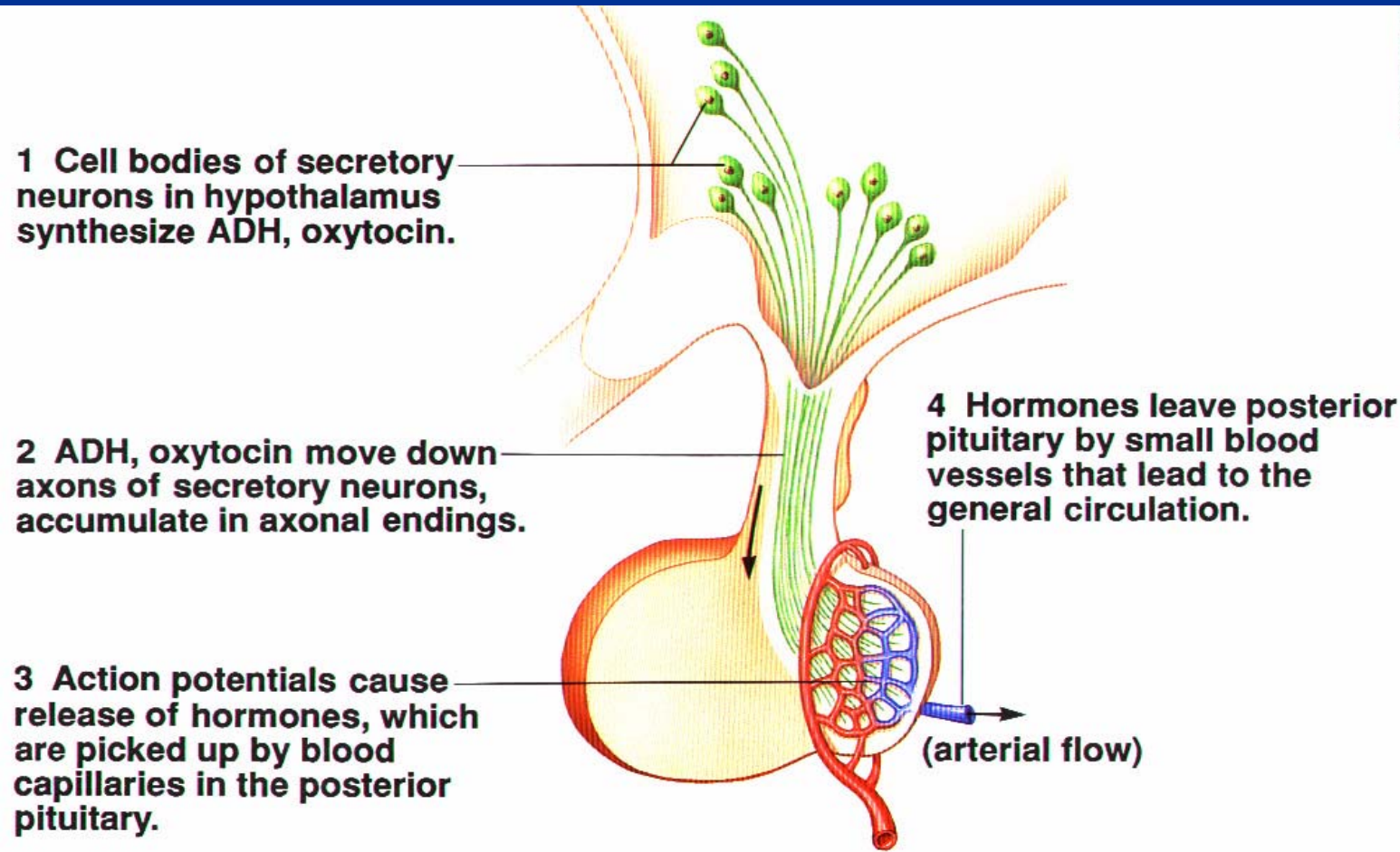
Myoepithelial cells contraction  
of mammary glands



Milk flows

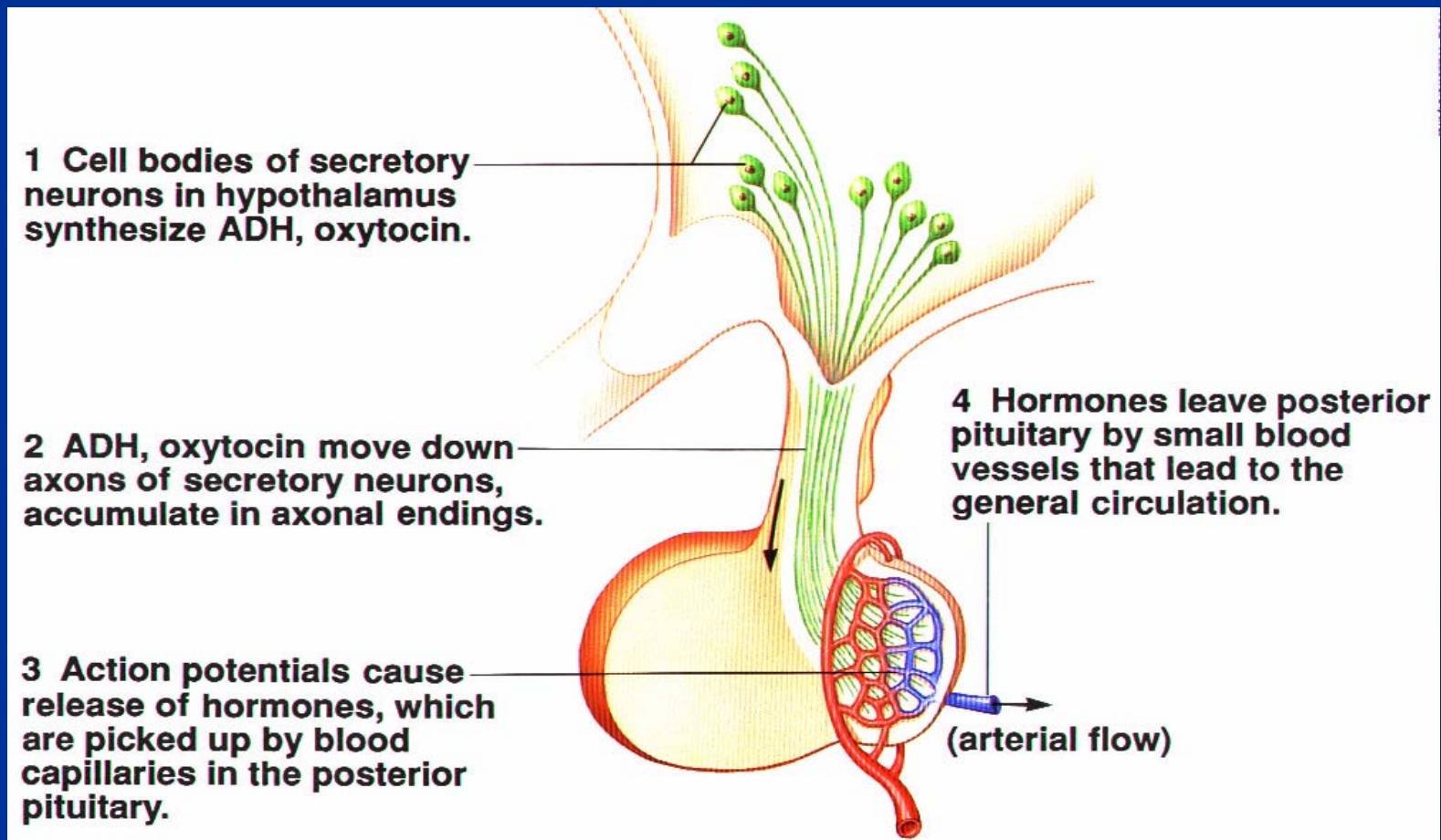
### 3. Synthesis and Release of Vasopressin (VP) and Oxytocin (OXT)

Cells in neurohypophysis do not synthesize hormones but act simply as supporting structure for nerve fibers.



Vasopressin (VP), also called ADH, and oxytocin (OXT) are initially synthesized in the cell bodies of the supraoptic and paraventricular nuclei of hypothalamus

and are transported down to the nerve endings in the neurohypophysis by hypothalamic hypophyseal tract.



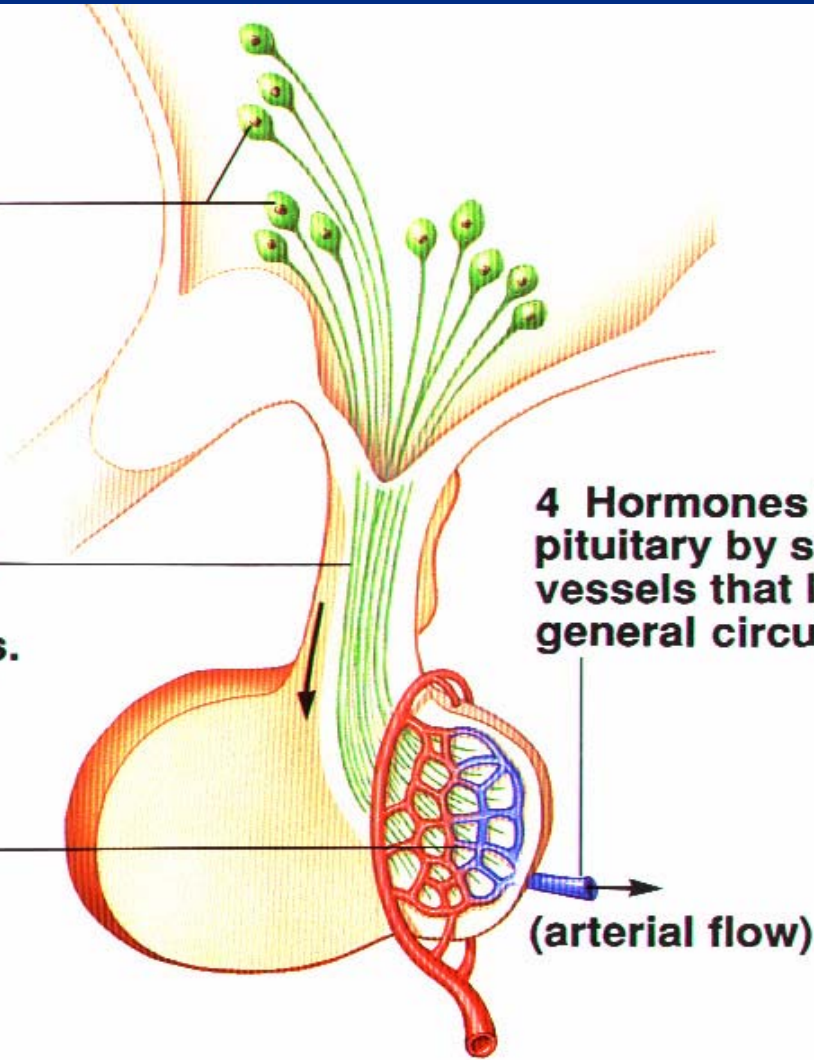
When nerve impulses are transmitted downward along the fibers from nuclei, the hormone is immediately released from secretory granules in the nerve endings by exocytosis and is absorbed into adjacent capillaries.

**1 Cell bodies of secretory neurons in hypothalamus synthesize ADH, oxytocin.**

**2 ADH, oxytocin move down axons of secretory neurons, accumulate in axonal endings.**

**3 Action potentials cause release of hormones, which are picked up by blood capillaries in the posterior pituitary.**

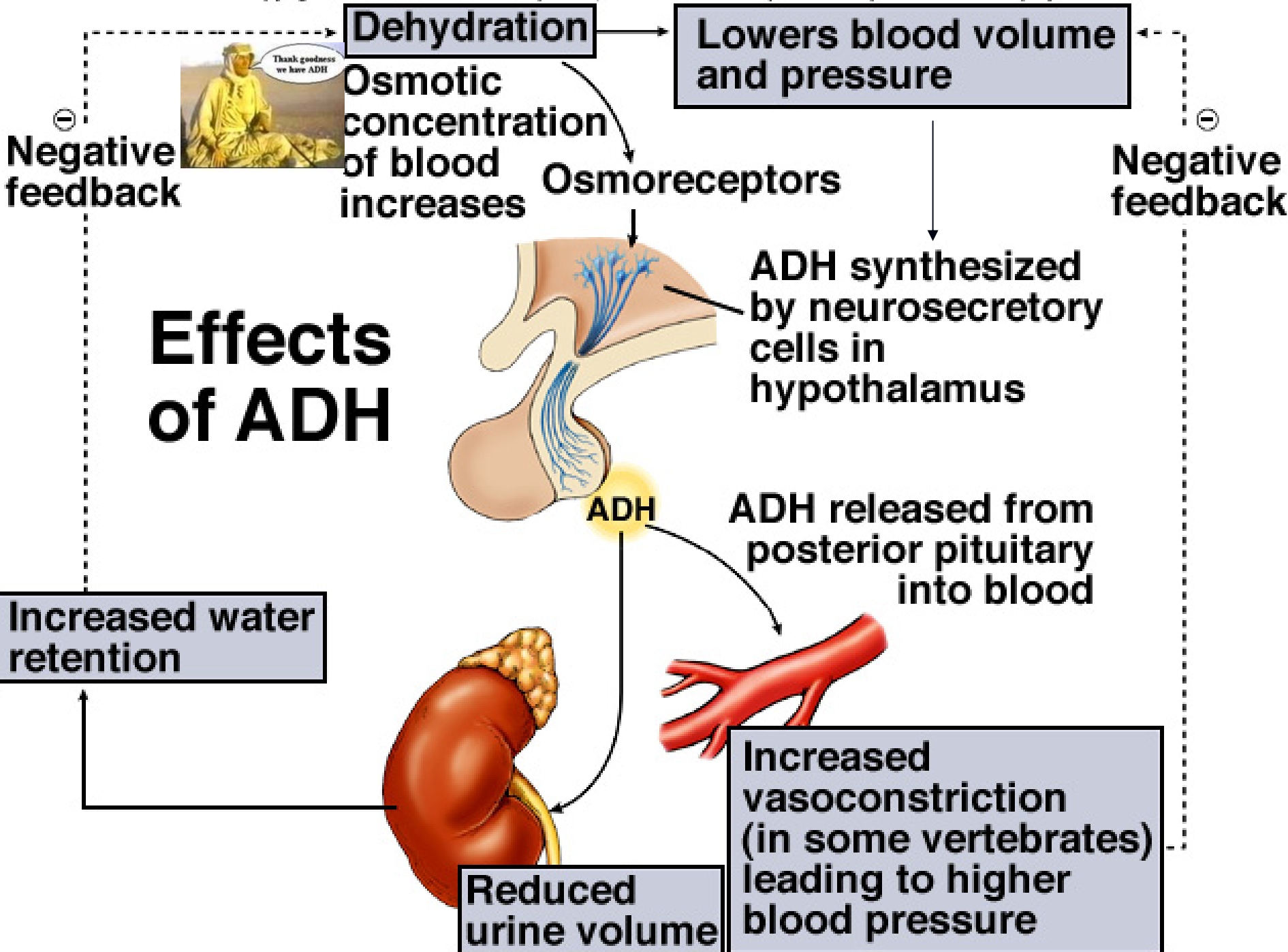
**4 Hormones leave posterior pituitary by small blood vessels that lead to the general circulation.**



# (1) Roles of ADH

- 1) Antidiuretic effect (refer to chapter 8)
- 2) Pressure effect. High concentration of ADH have a potent effect of constricting the arterioles everywhere in the body, raise the resistance blood flow and blood pressure





# Vasopressin

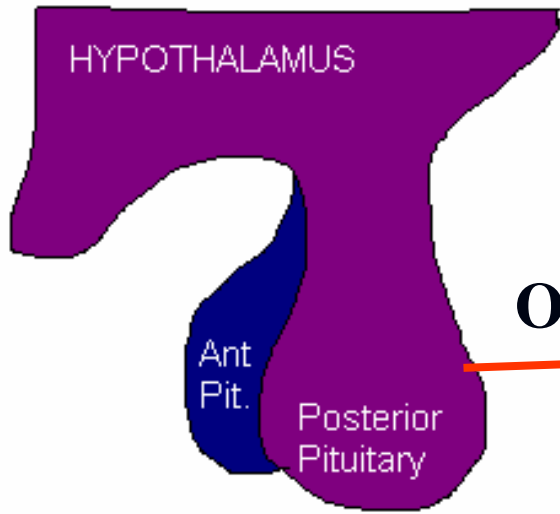
- Antidiuretic hormone  $V_2$ -receptor:  
collecting duct
- Vasopressor hormone  $V_1$ -receptor:  
vascular smooth muscle

## (2) Role of Oxytocin (OXT)

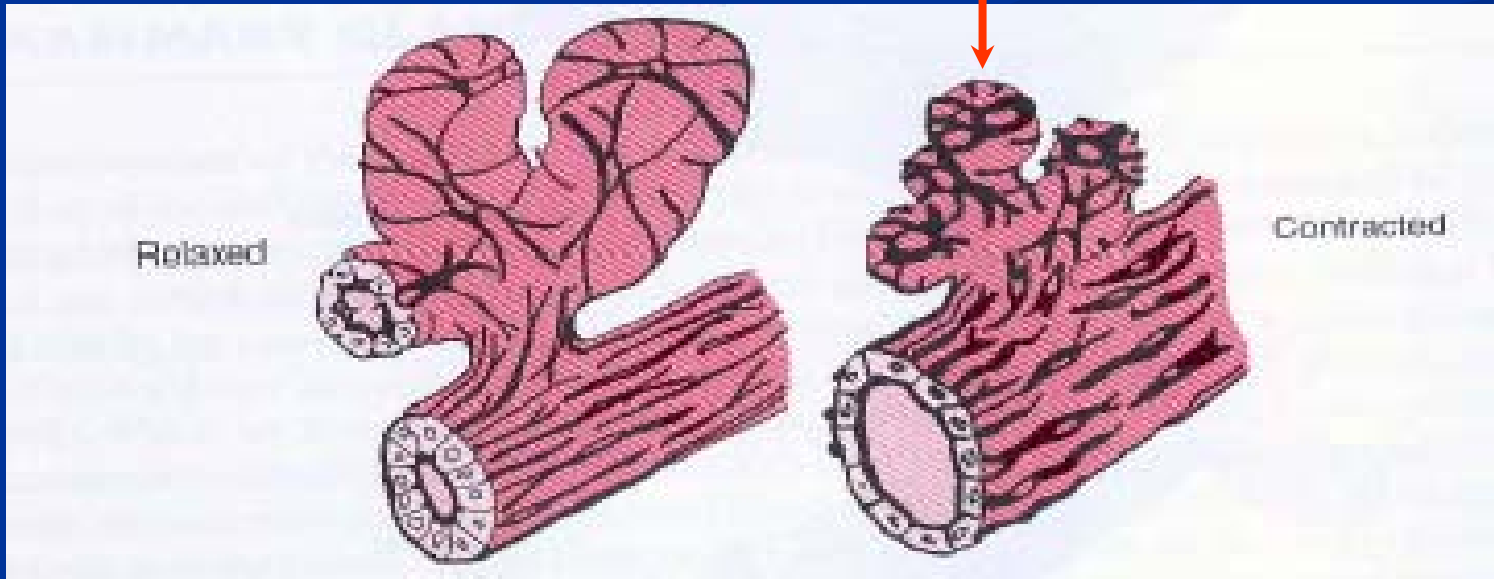
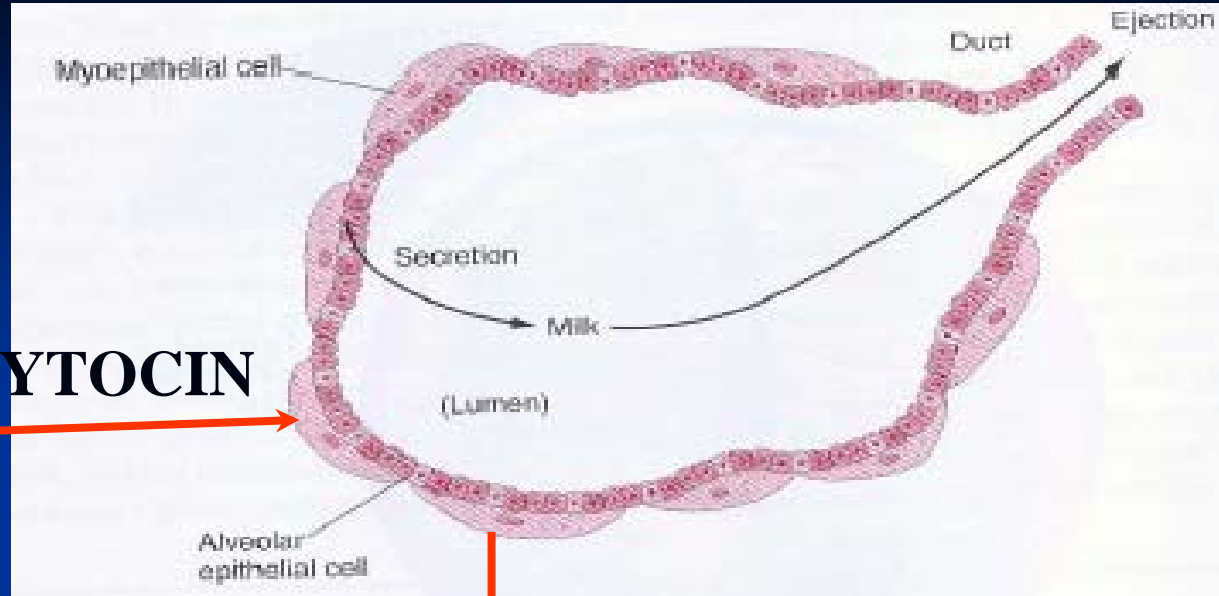
### 1) Effect on mammary glands.

Cause the contraction of the myoepithelial cells that surround the outer walls of the alveoli of the mammary glands, press the milk from the alveoli to the duct and make it flow out --- milk ejection

Unconditioned and conditioned reflex



**OXYTOCIN**

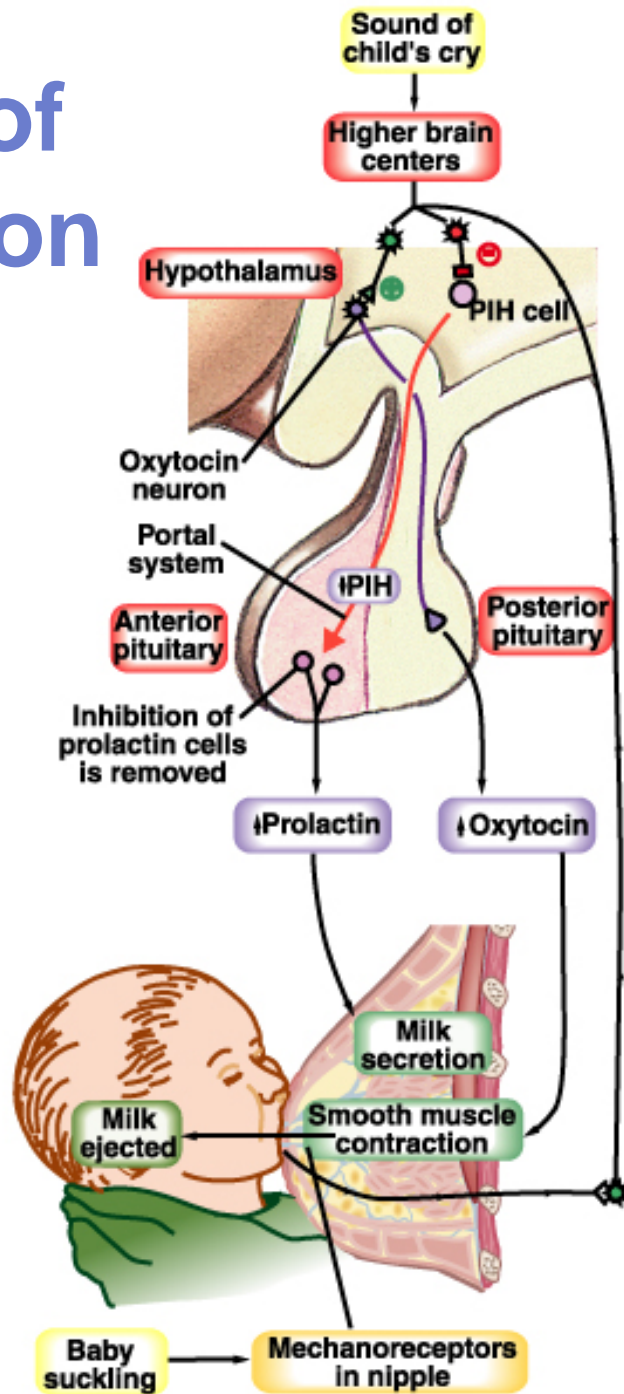


# Milk ejection reflex

- Nipple stimulation produces neural stimulation of hypothalamus
- Transmits through hypothalamohypophysial tract
- Stimulates oxytocin release
- Oxytocin causes constriction of mammary glands
- Milk ejection rewards suckling infant



# Regulation of OXT secretion



## 2) Effect on uterus

OXT powerfully stimulates the smooth muscle contraction, especially that towards the end of gestation.

It is believed that OXT is at least partially responsible for causing birth of the baby

# Summary of Section 2

- ✓ **Hypothalamus-hypophysis unit**
- ✓ **Adenohypophysis**
- ✓ **GH, PRL**
- ✓ **Neurohypophysis**
- ✓ **VP & OXT**

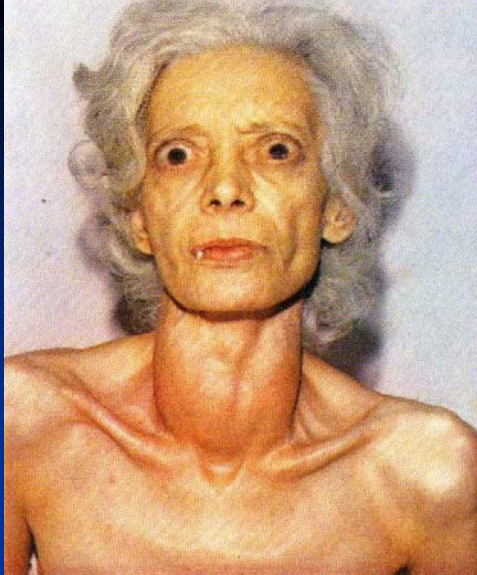


## Section 3

# The Thyroid Gland

# Learning issues

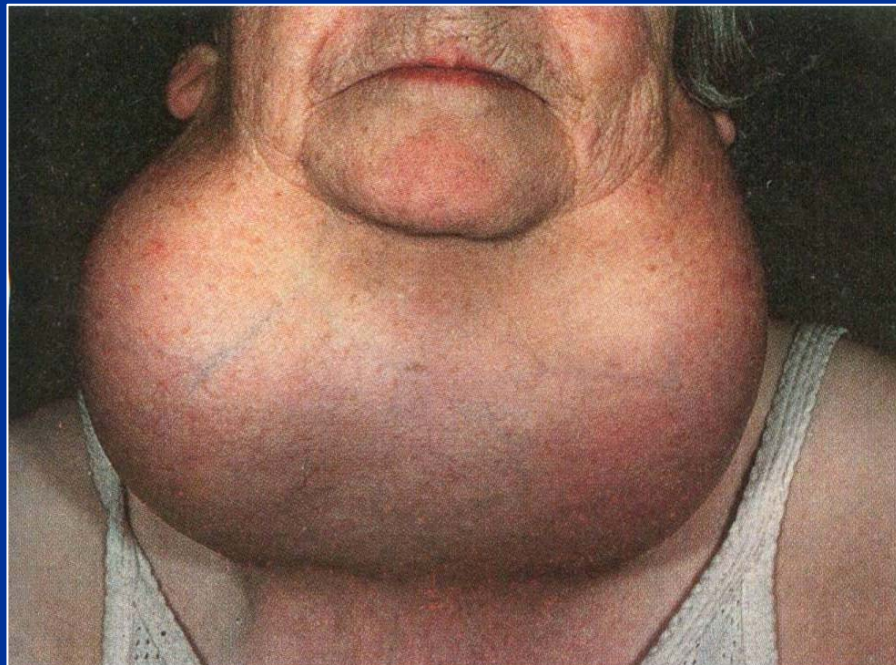
- ❁ **Formation, Secretion & Transport of the thyroid hormone**
- ❁ **Functions of the thyroid hormones**
- ❁ **Regulation of thyroid hormone secretion**
- ❁ **Diseases of the thyroid**



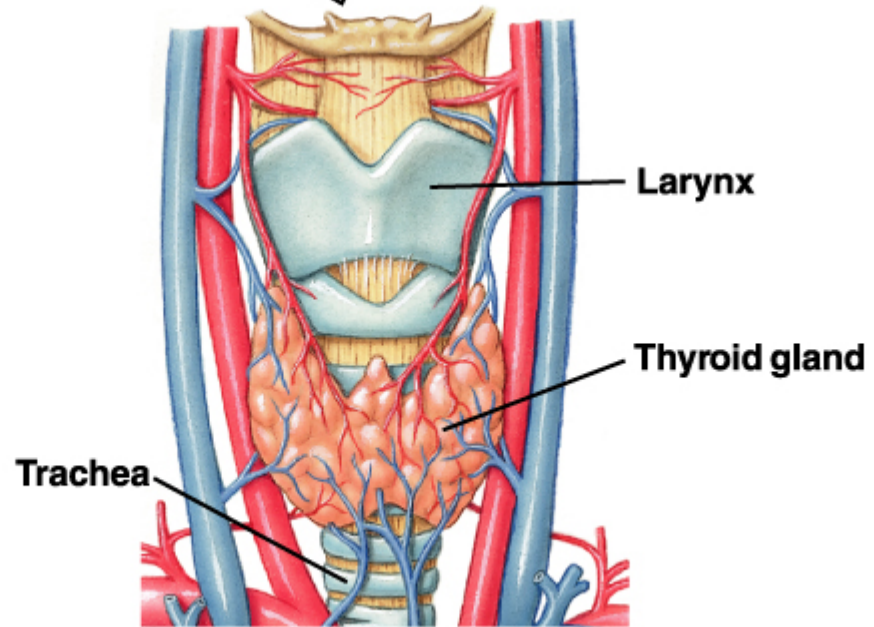
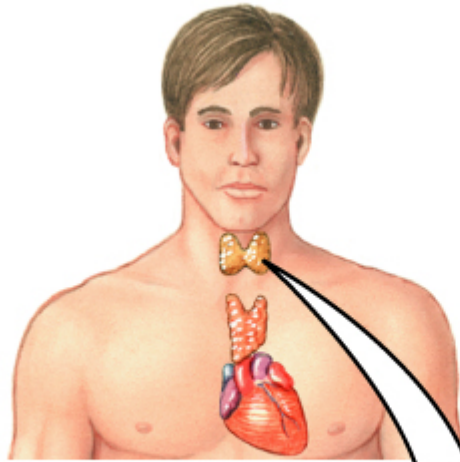
Hyperthyroidism



Overt hypothyroidism  
after thyroidectomy



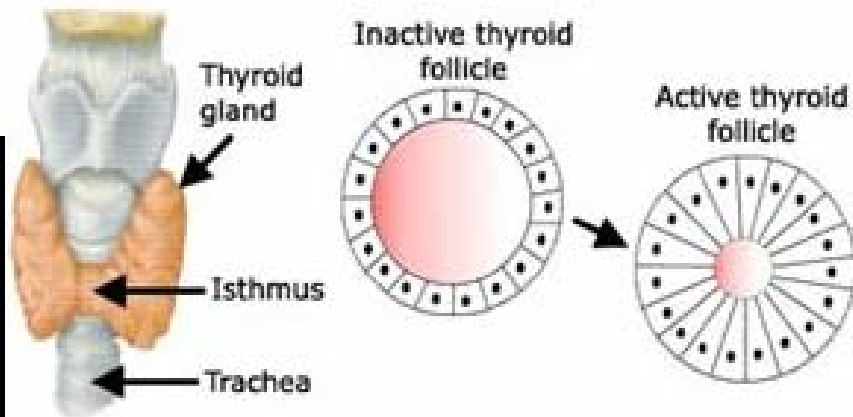
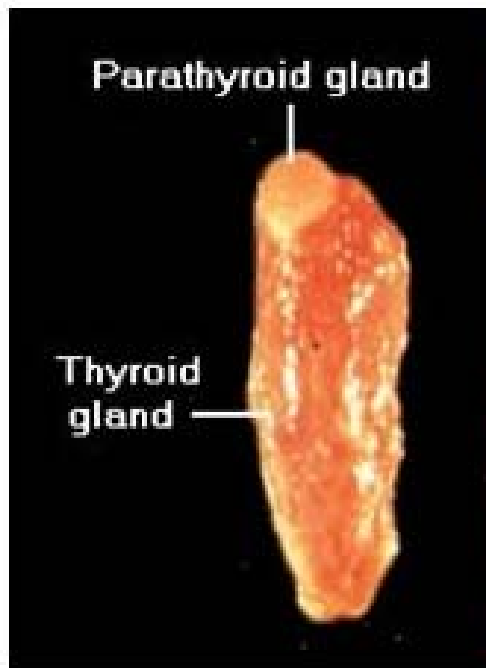
Goiter



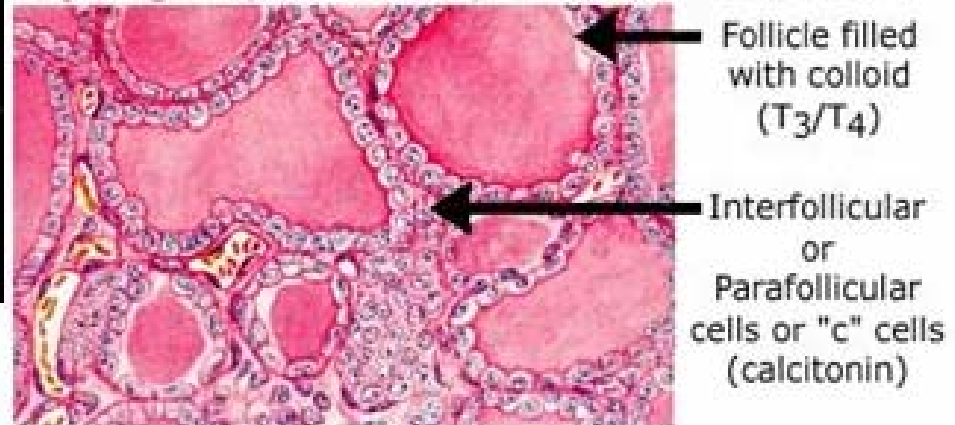
# 1. Thyroid Gland: Hormones and Iodine Metabolism

- C-cells – calcitonin (covered later)
- Follicule cells
  - Amine hormones:
  - thyroxine,  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  &  $T_3$  (triiodothyronine)
    - ↑ growth
    - ↑ metabolism
    - Thermogenic

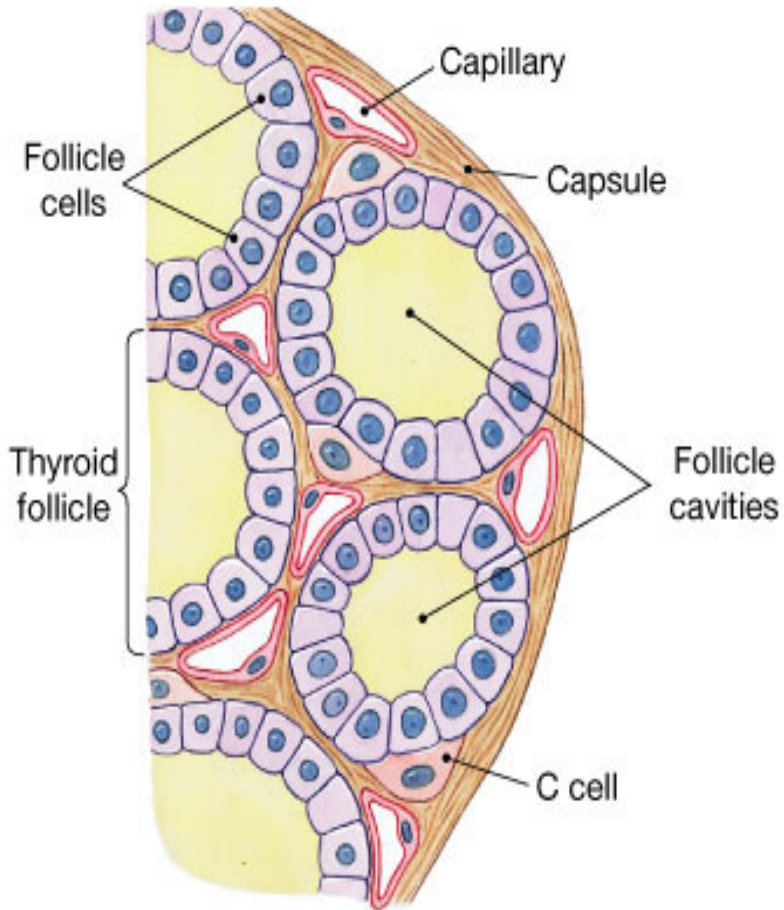
# The Thyroid Gland



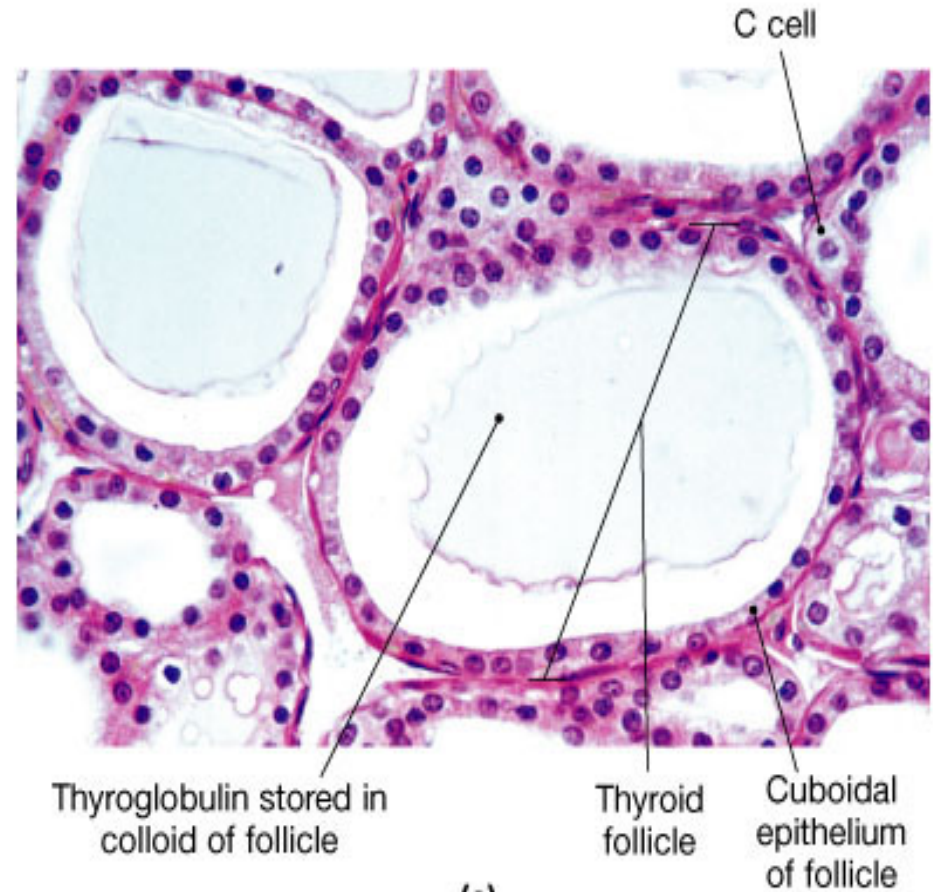
Thyroid gland (sectional view) [hematoxylin-eosin stain]



# Thyroid Gland Histology 1

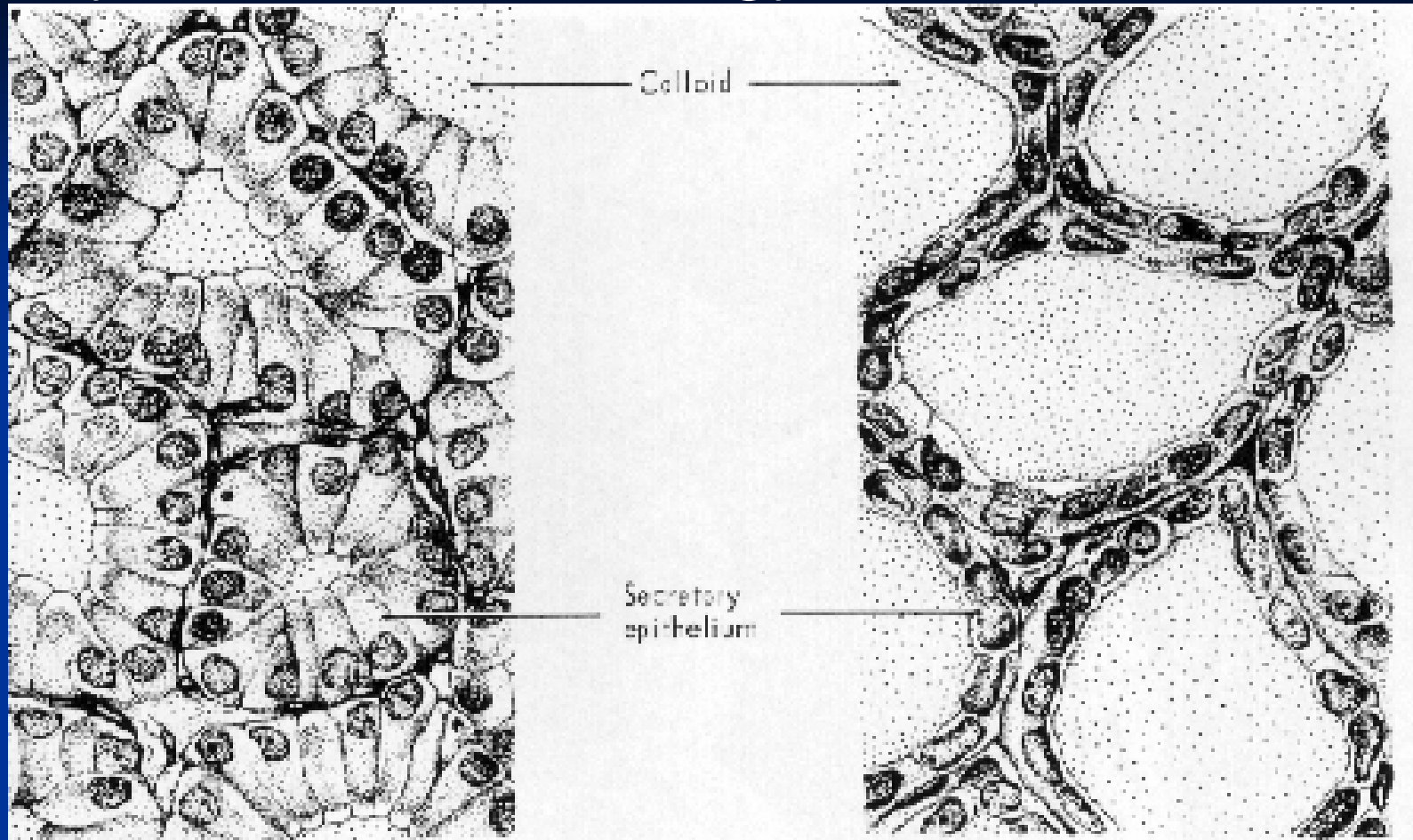


(b)



(c)

# Thyroid Gland Histology 2



## active gland

- *columnar epithelium*
- *reduced colloid*

## inactive gland

- *cuboidal epithelium*
- *abundant colloid*



# Biosynthesis and metabolism of thyroid hormone

- ◆ **Thyroxin, 3,5,3',5'-tetraiodothyronine (T4)**
- ◆ **3,5,3'-triiodothyronine (T3)**
- ◆ **3,5,5'-triiodothyronine (rT3)**
- ◆ **Iodide and thyroglobulin (TG)**

# Synthesis

(一) Uptake of the iodide ( $I^-$ ) by follicle cells

(二) Activation of  $I^-$  (thyroperoxidase)

(三) Iodination of tyrosine from

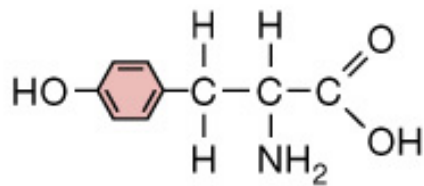
thyroglobulin and synthesis of TH

$MIT + DIT \longrightarrow T3$

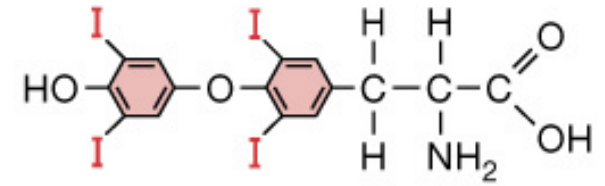
$DIT + DIT \longrightarrow T4$

# Thyroxine and its precursors: Structure & Synthesis

**Tyrosine**

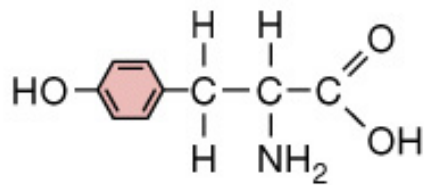


**Thyroxine (T<sub>4</sub>)**

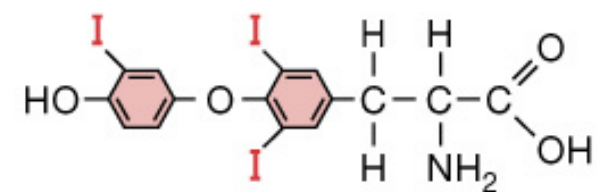


(2 tyrosine + 4 I)

**Tyrosine**



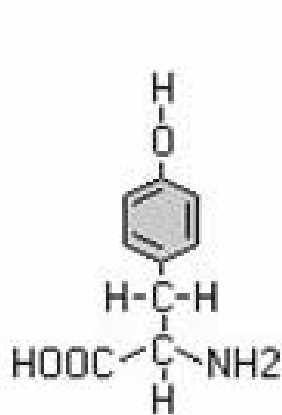
**Triiodothyronine (T<sub>3</sub>)**



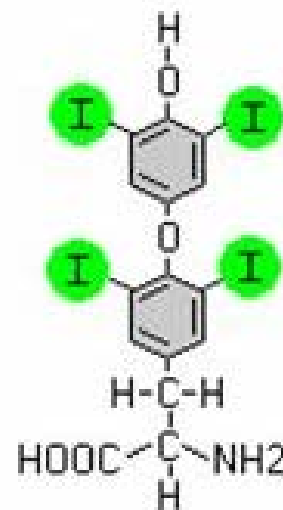
(2 tyrosine + 3 I)

# The Thyroid Hormones

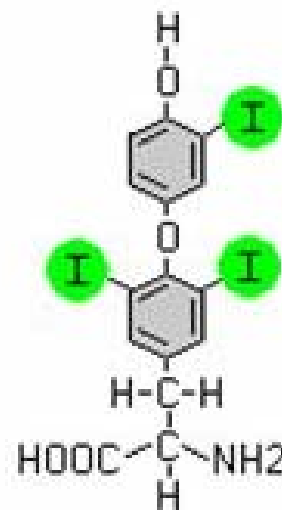
## ■ Types



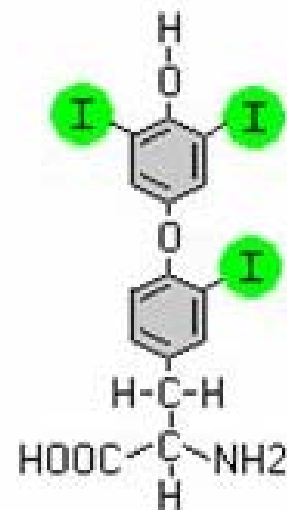
**Tyrosine**



**Thyroxine (T4)**



**Triiodothyronine (T3)**



**"Reverse T3"  
(inactive)**



# The Thyroid Hormones

---

## ■ Concentration

- Thyroxine(T<sub>4</sub>): 93%
- Triiodothyronine(T<sub>3</sub>): 7%
- T<sub>4</sub> → T<sub>3</sub>

## ■ Activity

- T<sub>3</sub> = 5 T<sub>4</sub>



# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Synthesis**

- **Materials**

- **Iodine (in the form of iodide—I<sup>-</sup>)**

- 50mg/year

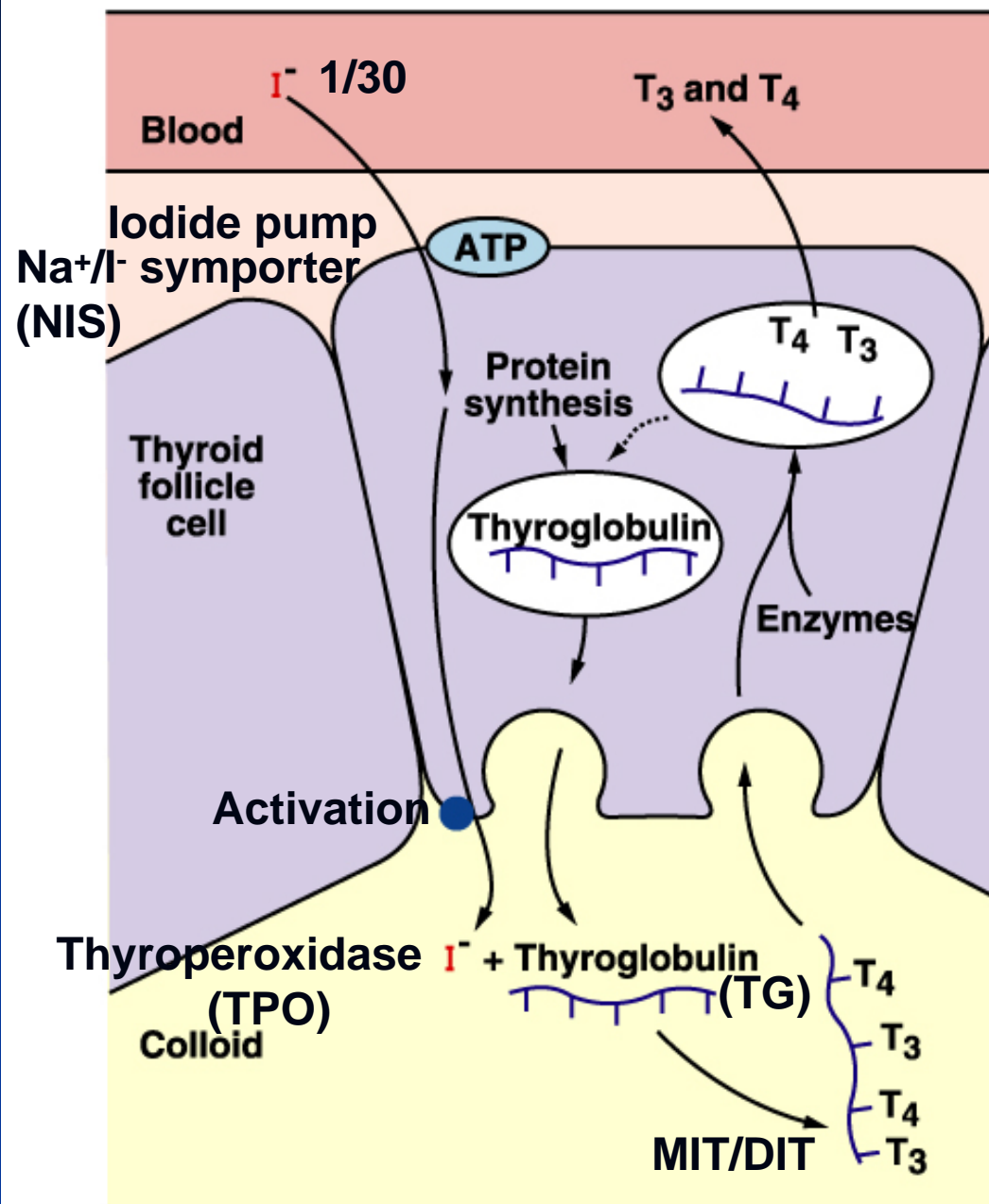
- Iodized table salt (1 sodium iodide/100,000 NaCl)

- **Tyrosine**

- Thyroglobulin (TG): 70 tyrosines

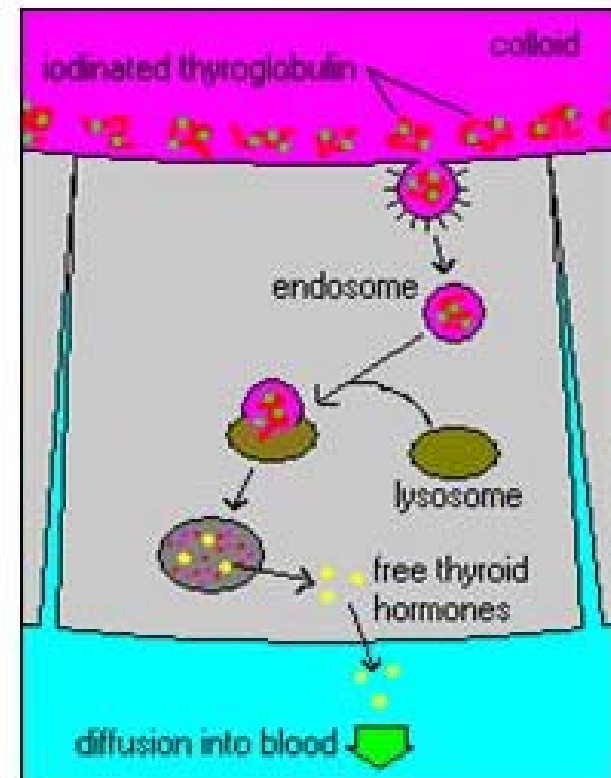
# Synthesis

- Iodide trapping
  - Iodide pump
- Oxidation of the iodide ion
  - Peroxidase:  $I^- \rightarrow I^0$  or  $I_3^-$
- Iodination of tyrosine
  - Peroxidase
  - MIT and DIT
- Formation of  $T_3$ ,  $T_4$



# The Thyroid Hormones

- **Storage**
  - In the follicles
  - In the form of TG (30 T<sub>4</sub>)
  - For 2 ~3 months
- **Release**
  - TSH
  - Proteinase(lysosome)







# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Transport**
  - **Bound to plasma proteins: T<sub>4</sub> (slow release)**
    - Thyroxine-binding globulin(TBG): mainly
    - Thyroxine-binding prealbumin
    - Albumin
  - **Free: T<sub>3</sub>**
- **Concentration in plasma**
  - T<sub>3</sub>: 1.2 ~3.4 nmol/L
  - T<sub>4</sub>: 85 ~142 nmol/L

## 2. Physiology functions of thyroid hormone

# The Thyroid Hormones

## ■ Physiological functions

### ■ Effect on growth

#### ■ Mainly in growing children

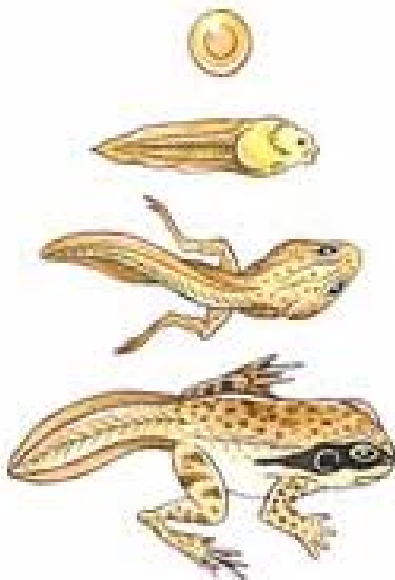
- ↑ Skeletal growth

- ↑ Growth and development of brain (fetus and baby)

#### ■ Tadpole → frog

- **Cretinism** Maturation of the CNS is absolutely dependent on TH in the perinatal period

TH deficiency caused cretinism





# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Physiological functions**
  - **Effects on metabolism**
    - **Stimulation of carbohydrate metabolism**
      - ↑ Uptake of glucose
      - ↑ Glycolysis
      - ↑ Gluconeogenesis
      - ↑ Rate absorption of G
      - ↑ Insulin secretion
    - **Hyperthyroidism: G ↑**



# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Physiological functions**
  - **Effects on metabolism**
    - **Stimulation of fat metabolism**
      - Lipid mobilization from the fat tissue
      - ↑Free fatty acid concentration in the plasma
      - ↑Oxidation of free fatty acid

# The Thyroid Hormones

- **Physiological functions**

- **Effects on metabolism**

- **Protein metabolism**

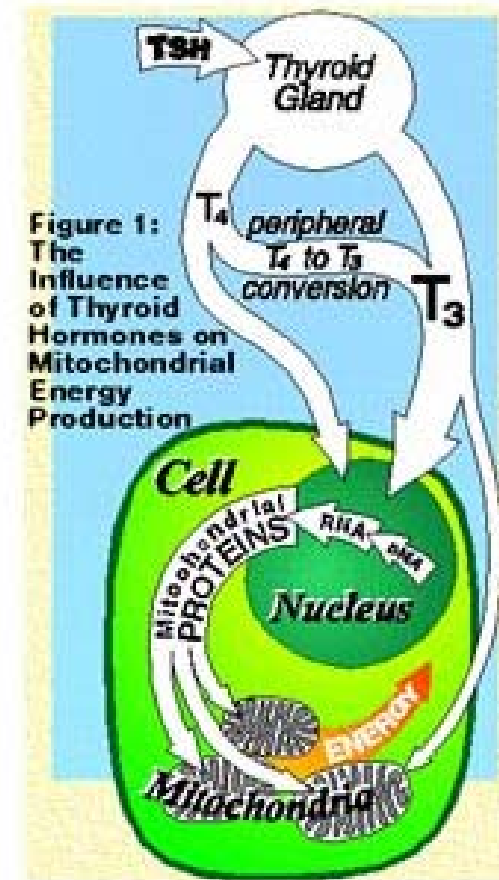
- ↑ Protein synthesis (normal)
      - ↑ Protein catabolism (hyperthyroidism)

- **Hypothyroidism: myxedema**



# The Thyroid Hormones

- Physiological functions
  - Effects on metabolism
    - $\uparrow$ BMR
      - 60 ~100%
    - Hyperthyroidism
      - Intolerance to heat





# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Physiological functions**
  - **Effects on the cardiovascular system**
    - ↑ Blood flow and cardiac output
    - ↑ HR
    - ↑ Heart strength
    - Normal mean arterial pressure





# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Physiological functions**
  - ↑ **Respiration**
  - ↑ **Gastrointestinal motility**
  - **Excitatory effects on the CNS**



# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Physiological functions**
  - **Effect on the function of the muscles**
    - Weakened ( $\uparrow \uparrow T_3, T_4$ )
    - Fine muscle tremor ( $\uparrow \uparrow T_3, T_4$ )
    - Sluggish ( $\downarrow \downarrow T_3, T_4$ )
  - **Effect on sleep**
    - Constant tiredness ( $\uparrow \uparrow T_3, T_4$ )
    - Difficult to sleep ( $\uparrow \uparrow T_3, T_4$ )



# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Physiological functions**
  - Effect on other endocrine glands
  - Effect on sexual function



Fraternal twins, age 8 years.  
The boy has congenital  
hypothyroidism.

- If treatment is started at birth, the prognosis for normal growth and development is good, and mental retardation can generally be avoided; for this reason, screening tests for congenital hypothyroidism are routine in all states of the USA and most other developed countries.
- Adult hypothyroidism, myxedema. the BMR falls to about 40%. The hair is coarse and sparse, the skin is dry and yellowish (carotenemia), and cold is poorly tolerated. The voice is husky and slow, memory is poor

# Hyperthyroidism

- Hyperthyroidism is characterized by nervousness; weight loss; hyperphagia; heat intolerance; increased pulse pressure; a fine tremor of the outstretched fingers; a warm, soft skin; sweating; and an increased BMR **as high as +80%**.

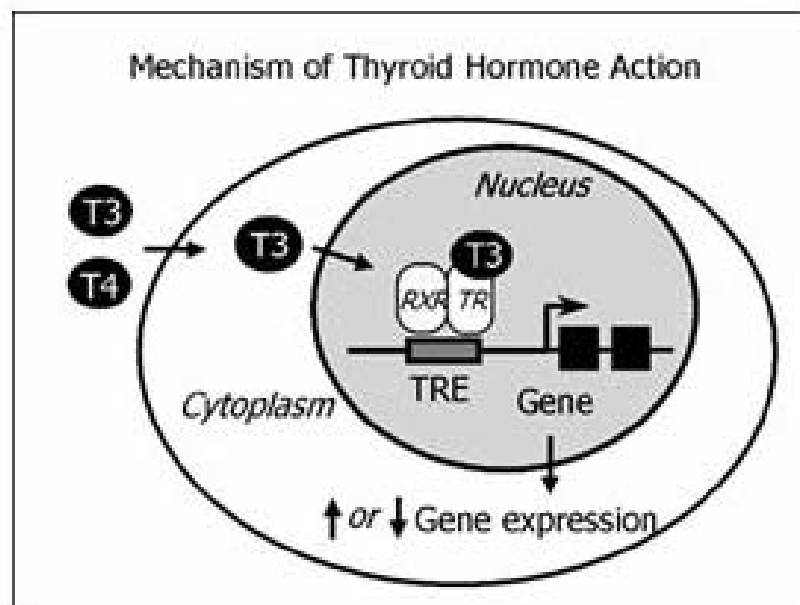


## Graves disease

- much more common in women, is an autoimmune disease.
- producing protrusion of the eyeballs (**exophthalmos**)

# The Thyroid Hormones

- **Mechanisms of action**
  - ↑ Transcription of large numbers of genes
  - ↑ Synthesis of great numbers of proteins



# 3 .The regulation of thyroid hormone secretion

# Regulation of TH secretion

- 1. Hypothalamic-pituitary control- TRH and TSH**
- 2. Feedback regulation of TH on pituitary and hypothalamus**
- 3. Autoregulation of thyroid**
- 4. Effect of autonomic nervous system on thyroid**



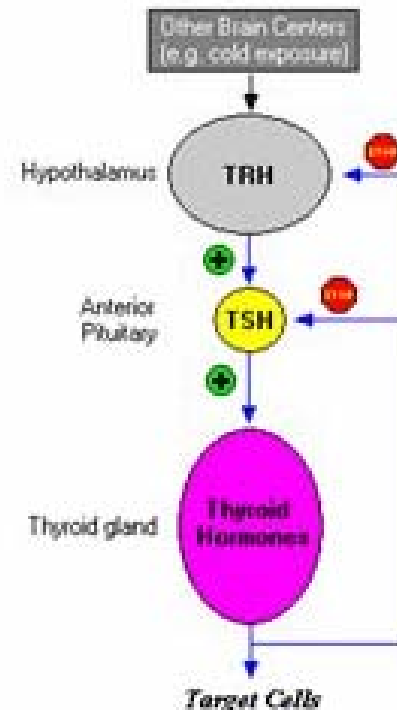
# The Thyroid Hormones

## ■ Regulation of thyroid hormone secretion

### ■ Hypothalamus-adenohypophysis-thyroid axis

#### ■ TRH

- Tripeptide amide
- ↑ TSH secretion
- Cold: ↑ TRH release



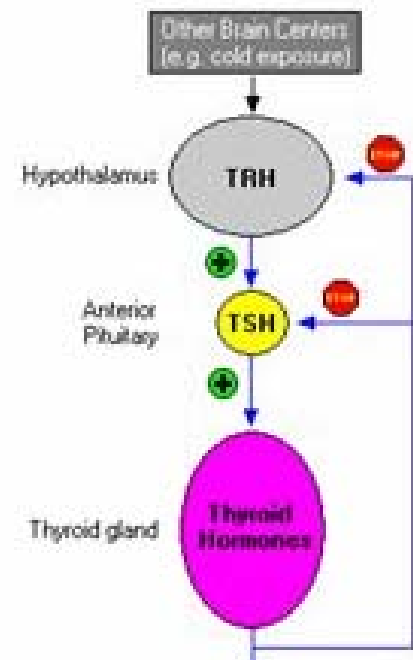
# The Thyroid Hormones

## ■ Regulation of thyroid hormone secretion

### ■ Hypothalamus-adenohypophysis-thyroid axis

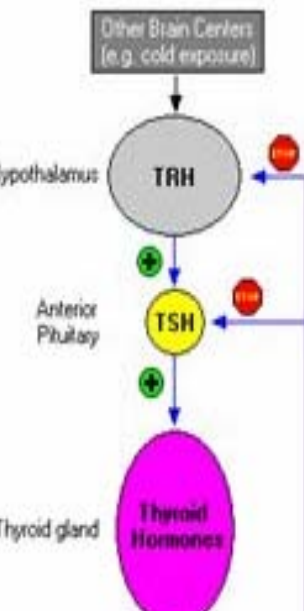
#### ■ TSH

- Glycoprotein
- ↑ T<sub>3</sub>, T<sub>4</sub> synthesis and release
- ↑ Size of the thyroid cells
- cAMP mediated mechanism



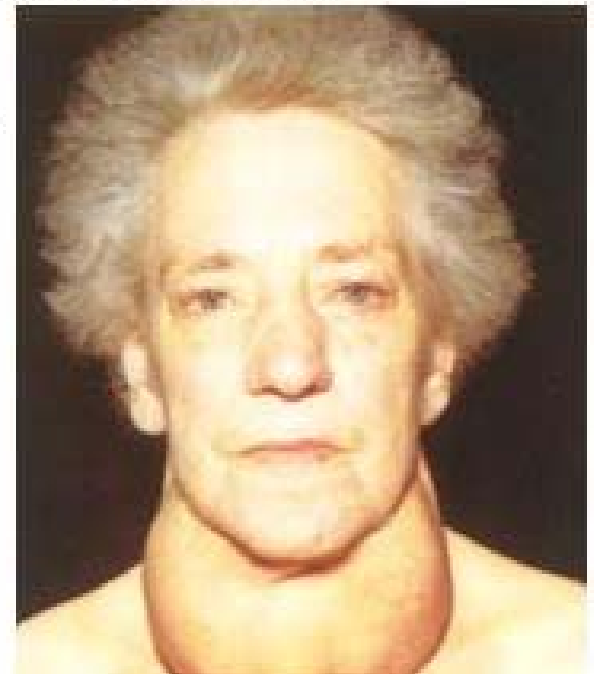
# The Thyroid Hormones

- Regulation of thyroid hormone secretion
  - Hypothalamus-adenohypophysis-thyroid axis



## Feedback effect of thyroid hormone

- Negative feedback





# The Thyroid Hormones

---

- **Regulation of thyroid hormone secretion**
  - **Autoregulation**
    - **Wolff-Chaikoff effect**

# Feedback Mechanisms of Thyroid Hormones

$T_3$  and  $T_4$   $\longrightarrow$  **inhibitory protein** in anterior pituitary  
reduces production and secretion of TSH,  
decrease response of pituitary to TRH.

Because of the negative mechanism, the concentration of free thyroid hormone in the blood can be maintained within a normal range.

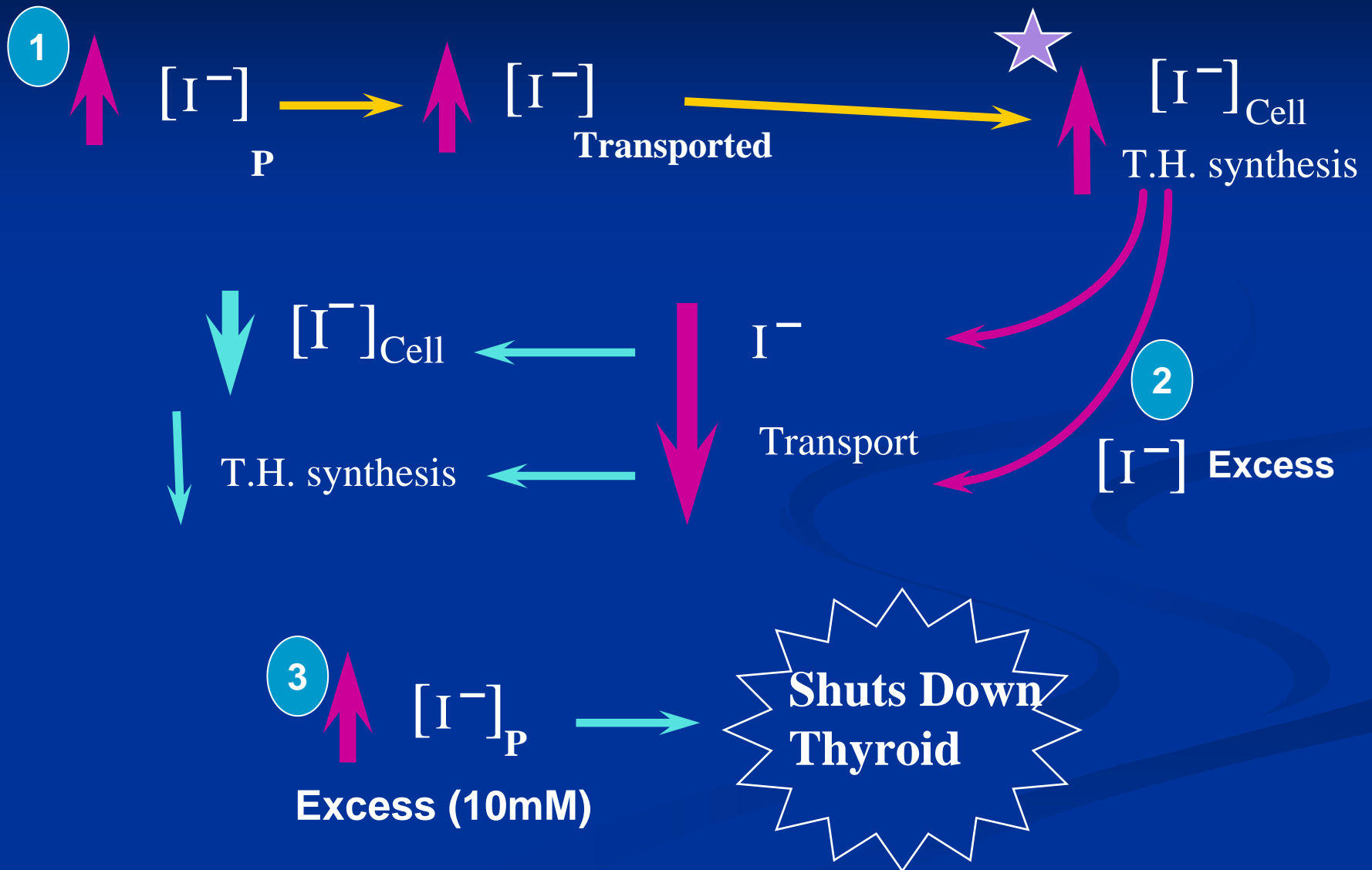
# 3. Autoregulation of Thyroid Hormone Secretion

Without control of TSH, the thyroid gland can adapt itself function to iodide uptake, which is the autoregulation of thyroid gland.

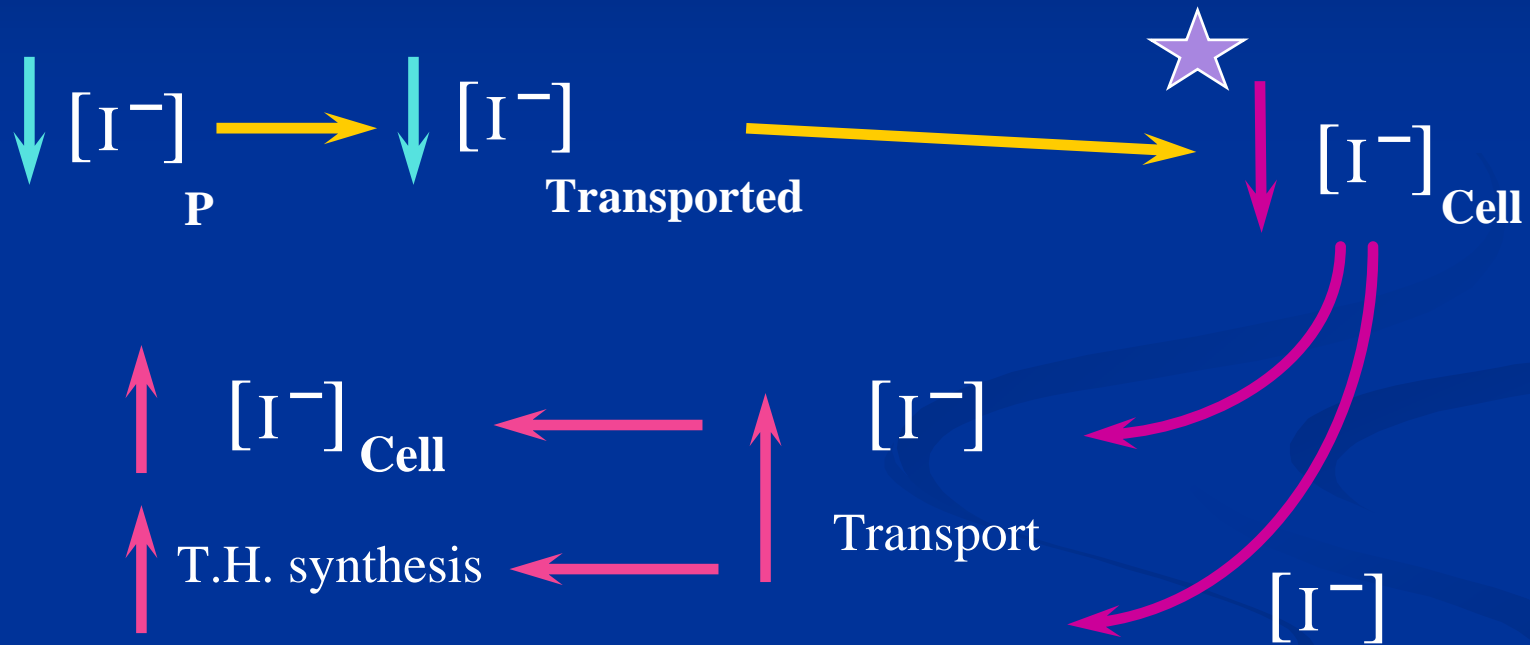
In normal individuals, large doses of iodide act directly on the thyroid gland to produce a mild and transit inhibition of hormone synthesis.

When iodine is insufficient, the thyroid gland increases formation of hormones.

# Wolff-Chaikoff Effect



# Autoregulation of Hormone Release





# Summary of Section 3

- ✓ **Biosynthesis & metabolism of TH**
- ✓ **Biological effects of TH**
- ✓ **Regulation of TH secretion**

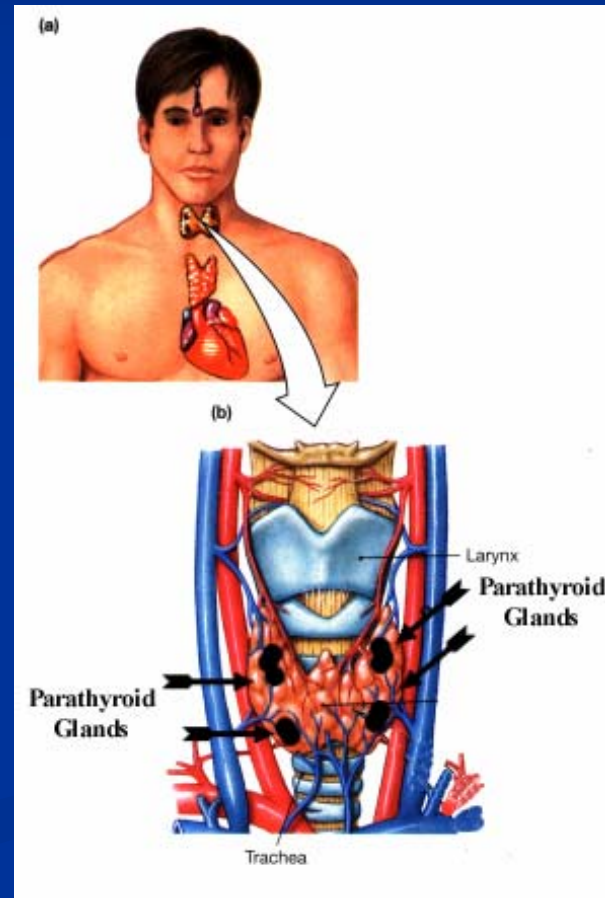
# Section 4 Hormones related to calcium and phosphate metabolism

- ❖ **Half of the calcium in the blood is ionized (biologically active form)**
- ❖ **Is bound to proteins**
- ❖ **Is complexed with anions: phosphate and sulfate**
- ❖ **Blood  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  homeostasis is produced through the interaction of bones, kidney, and small intestine**

- ❖ **Parathyroid hormone**
- ❖ **Calcitonin**
- ❖ **1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub>**

# 1. Parathyroid Gland Anatomy

- Four Parathyroid glands are usually found posterior to the thyroid gland
- Total weight of parathyroid tissue is about 150mg
- Parathyroid hormone (PTH) is made by these glands



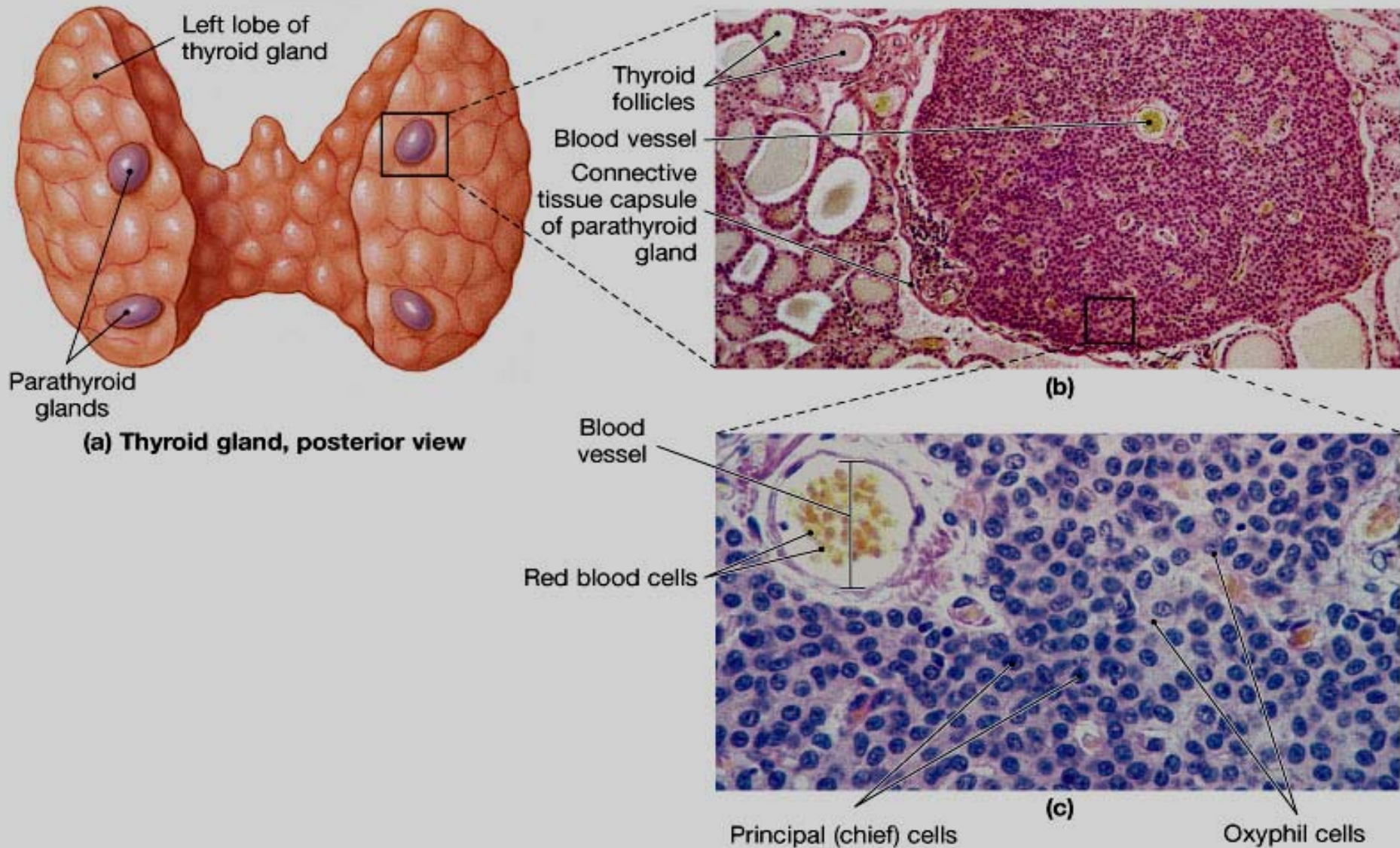
# Parathyroid hormone, PTH

- Is the major hormone for the
  - regulation of serum Ca & P (phosphorus)
  - 84 aa, MW 9500
  - Circadian rhythm
  - Half life: 20-30 min

# Biosynthesis, Storage & Secretion of PTH

- PTH is synthesized as the preprohormone (Preproparathyroid Hormone) by parathyroid gland chief cells
- The active form of PTH is cleaved from the preprohormone before release from the gland
- PTH is synthesized continuously (it is either released from the gland or degraded)
- PTH is released by exocytosis in response to reduced plasma calcium
- Vitamin D feeds back to reduce PTH secretion as a secondary mechanism

# Parathyroid glands





**(一) Biological effects of PTH**  
**(Ca<sup>2+</sup>↑ & Phosphate↓)**  
**(kidney, bone and intestine)**

99% of stored calcium

# Biological Activity of PTH

## ■ BONE

- PTH stimulates bone osteoclasts to increase growth & metabolic activity
- PTH stimulated bone releases calcium & phosphate into blood

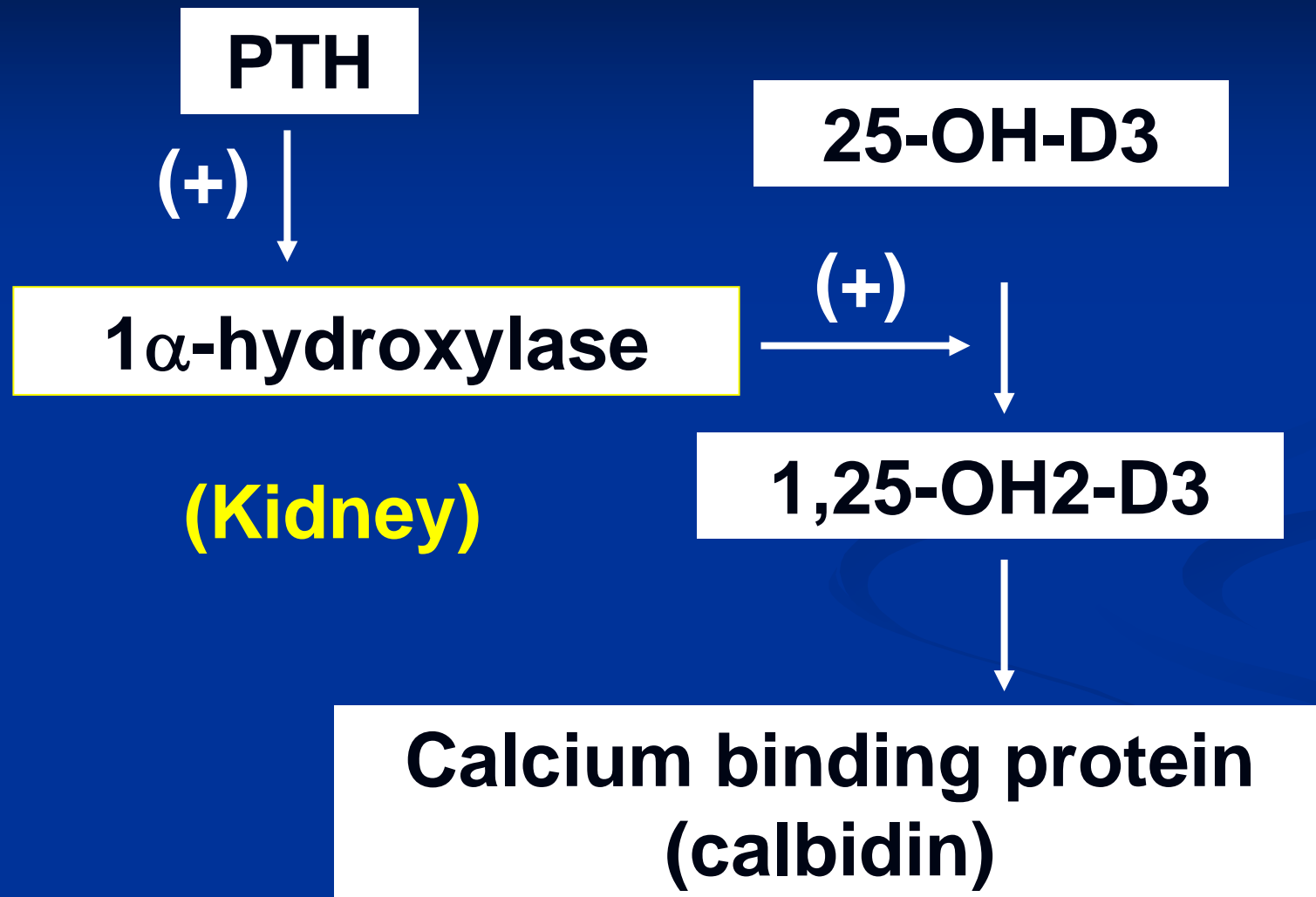
## ■ KIDNEY

- PTH increases reabsorption of calcium & reduces reabsorption of phosphate
- Net effect of its action is increased calcium & reduced phosphate in plasma

## ■ INTESTINE

- Increases calcium reabsorption via vitamin D

# Increased intestinal $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{P}$ absorption

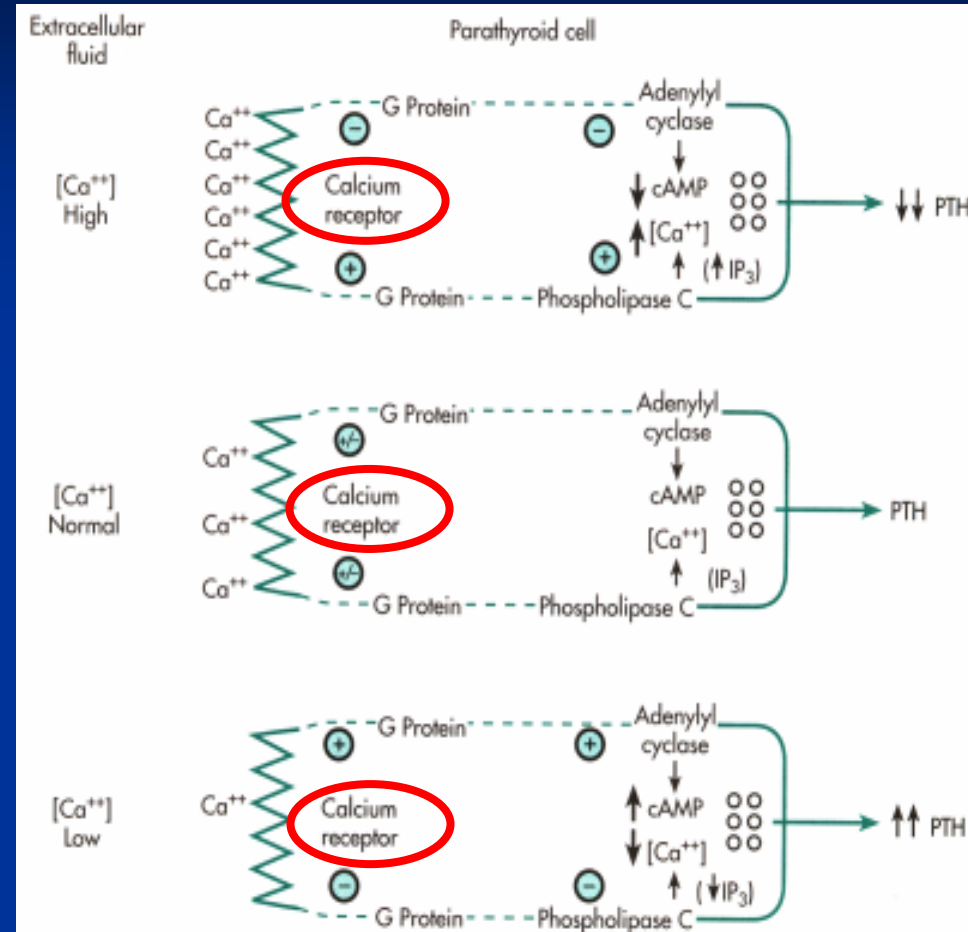


# (二) Regulation of PTH secretion

## 1. Blood $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ level

Negative  
feedback

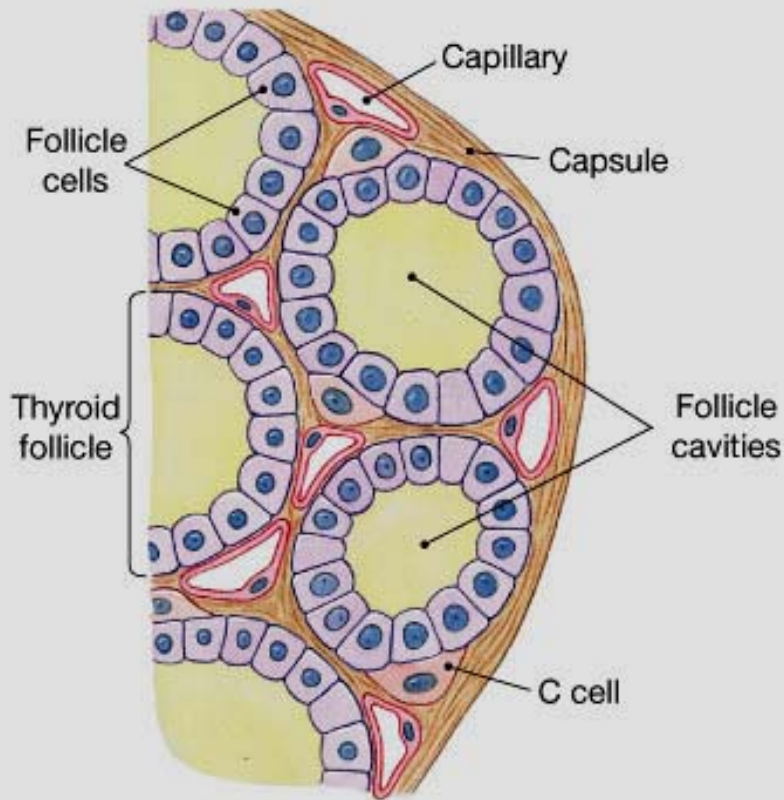
1 min



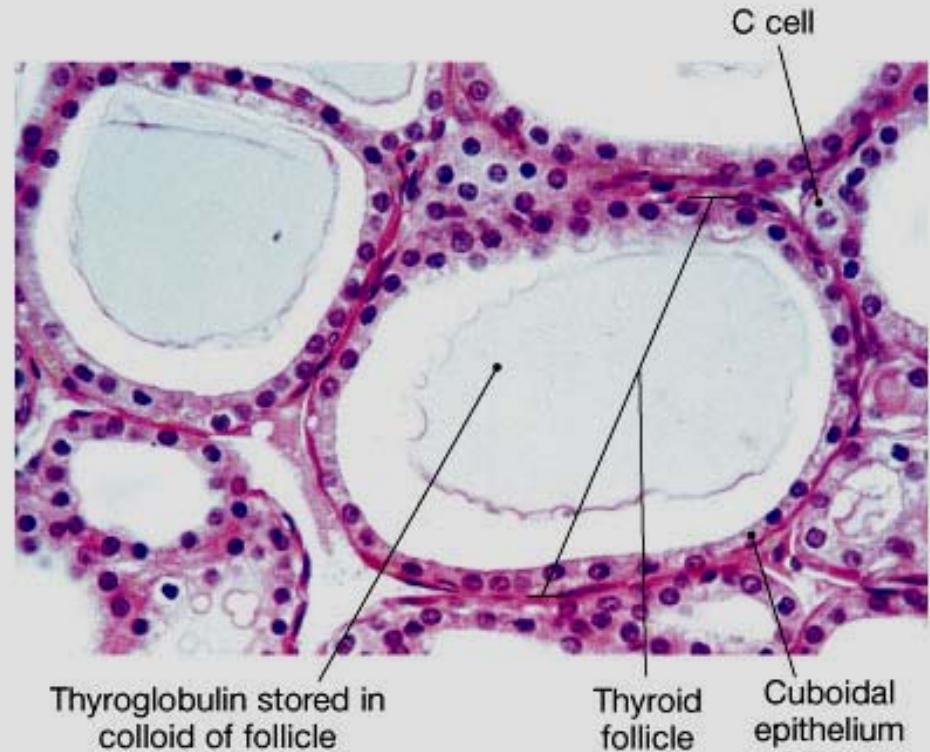
2. Blood phosphate  $\uparrow$  or  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$   $\downarrow$

3. GHIH

# 二. Calcitonin, CT



(b)



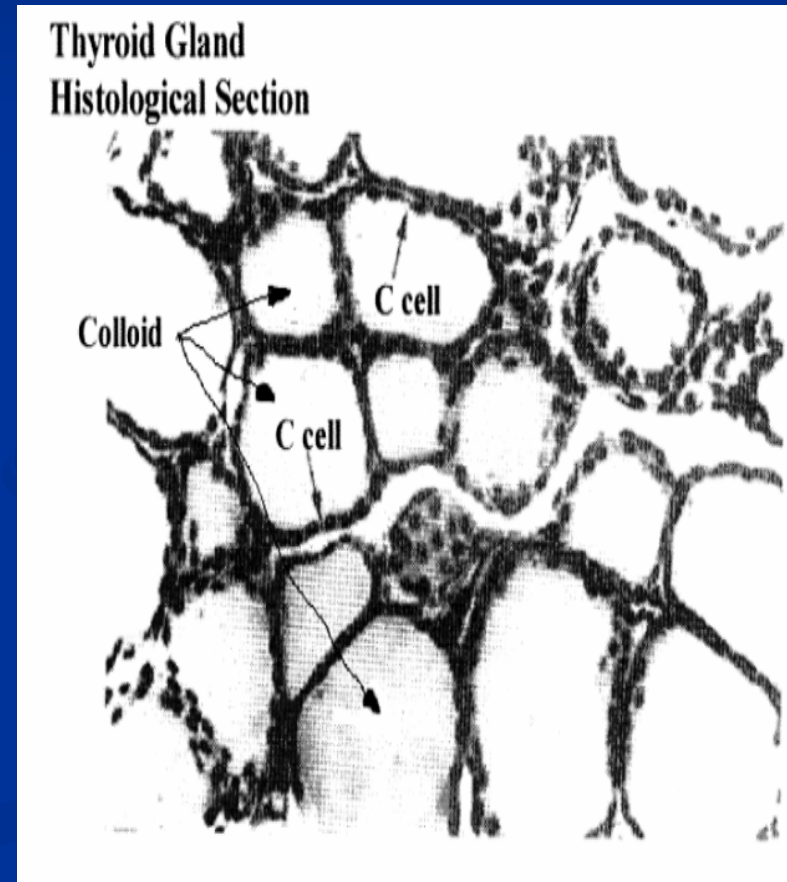
(c)

- 32 aa, MW 3500

- Half life: <1h

# Calcitonin

- Calcitonin is a peptide hormone secreted by the parafollicular or “C” cells of the thyroid gland
- It is synthesized as the preprohormone & released in response to high plasma calcium
- Calcitonin acts on bone osteoclasts to reduce bone resorption.
- Net result of its action is a decline in plasma calcium & phosphate



# Regulation of CT secretion

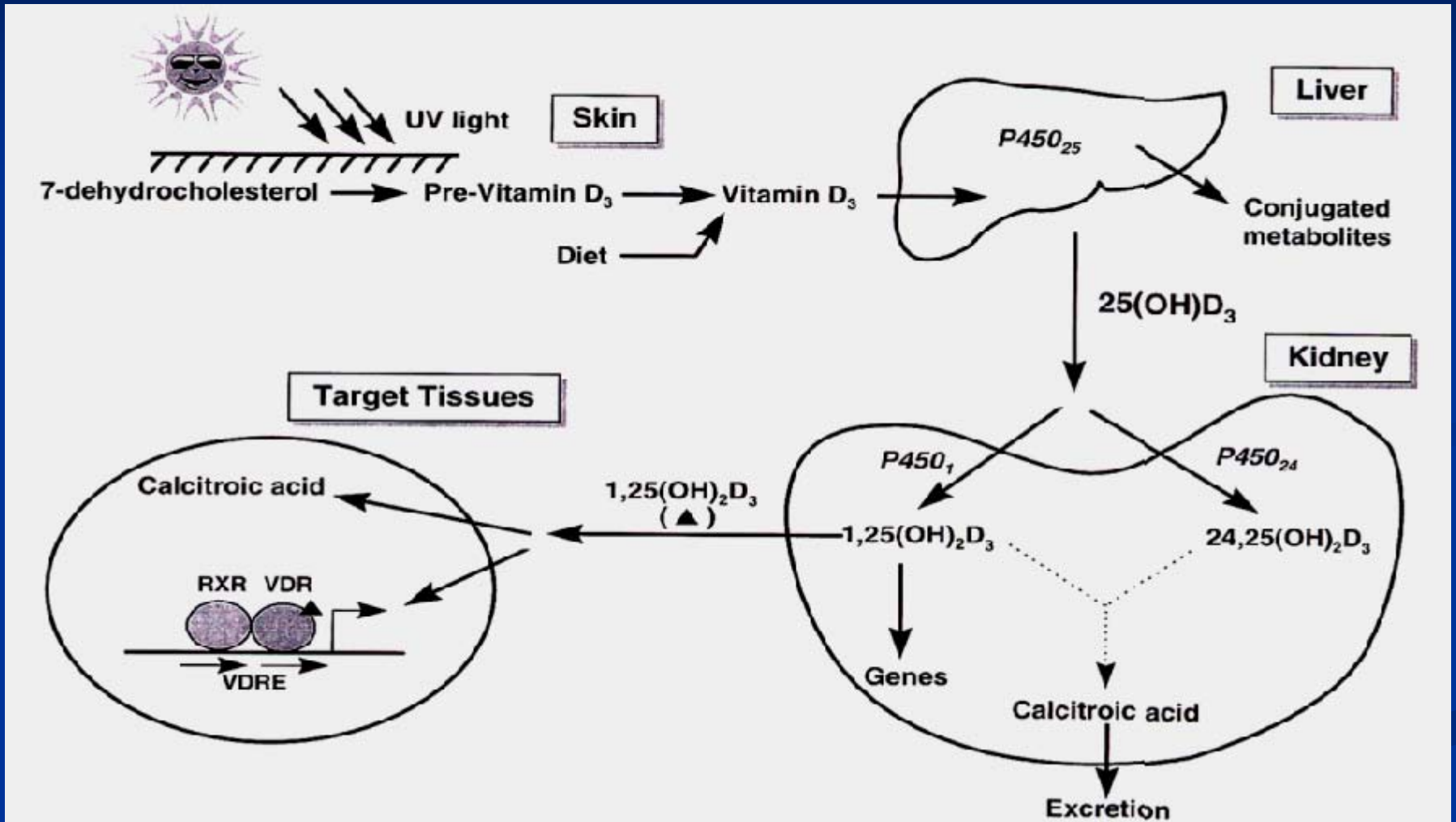
1. Blood  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  level

2. The others mechanism:

**Gastrin, secretin, glucagon...**

**Blood  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ↑**

# 三. 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub>

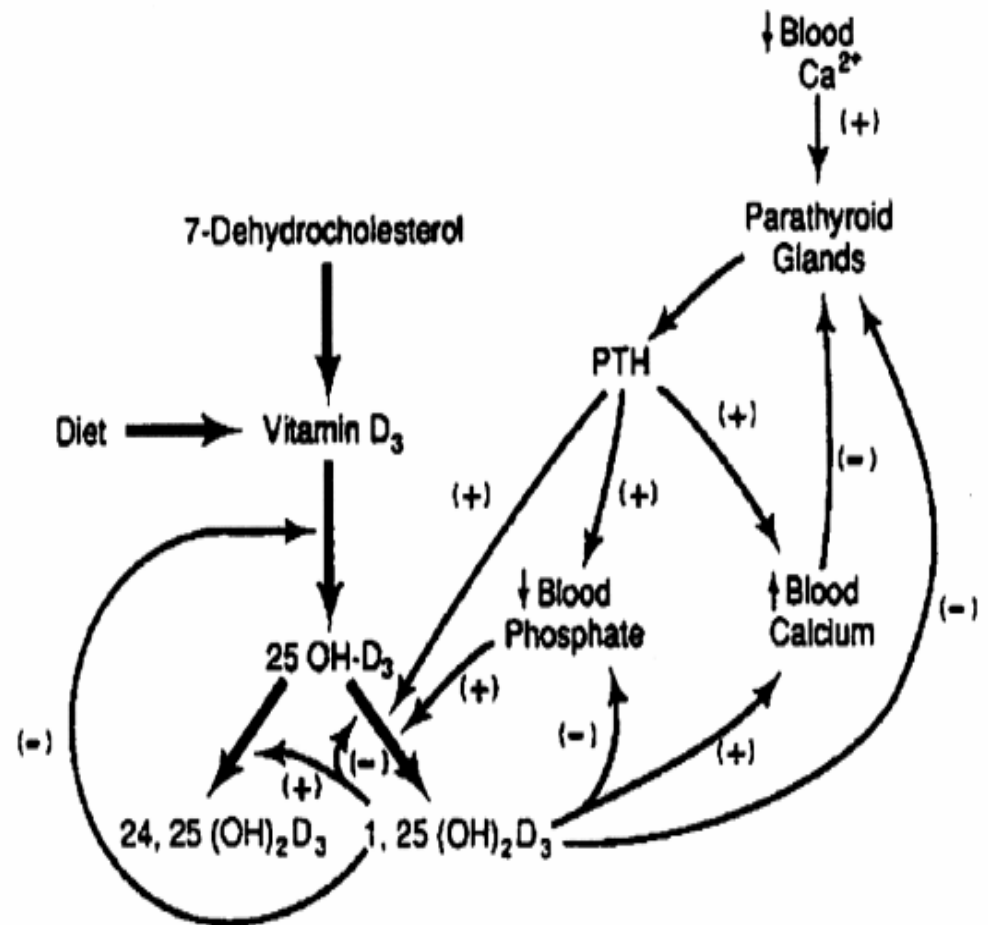




# Vitamin D

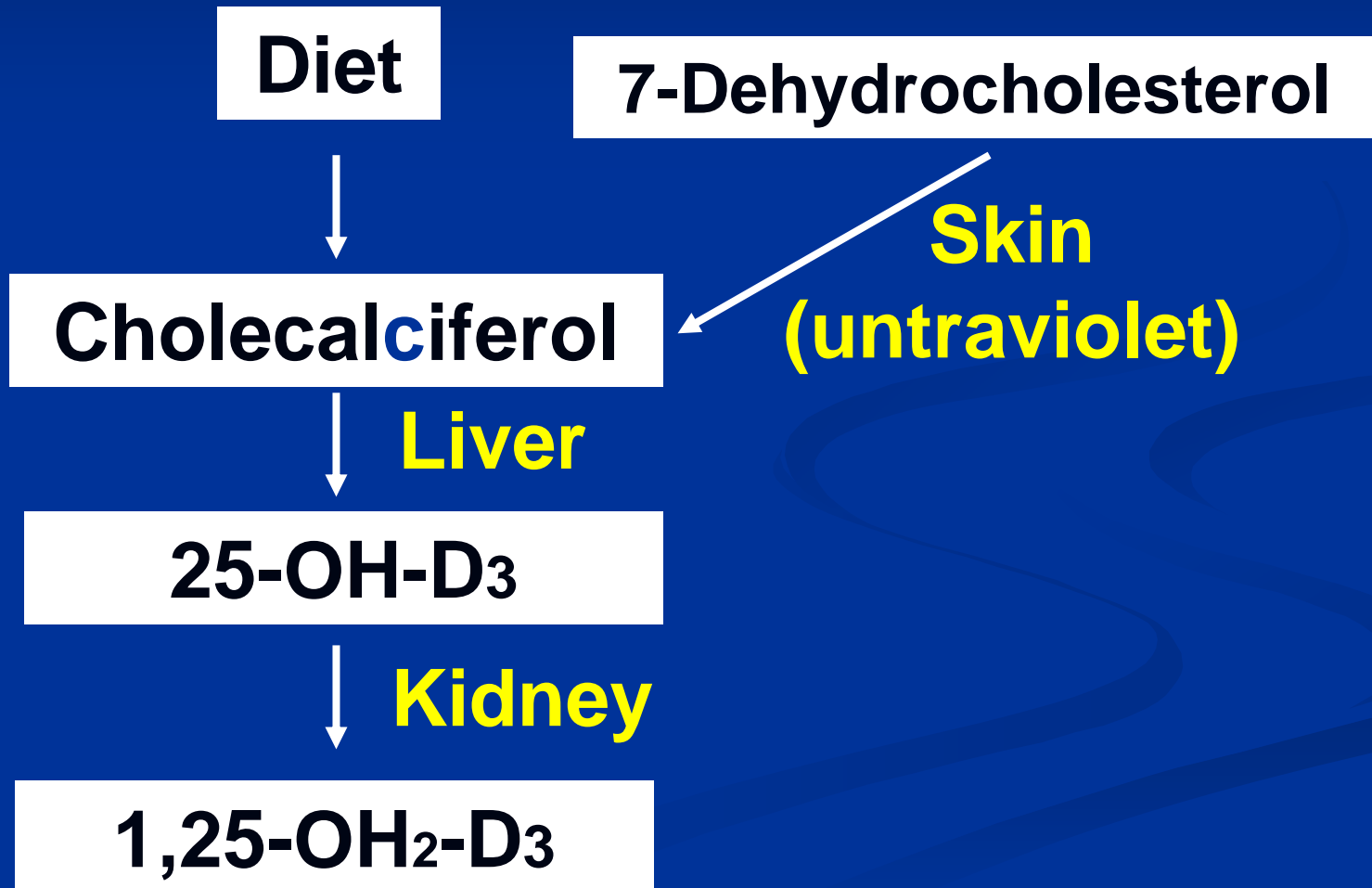
- Vitamin D3 is may be obtained from the diet or made in the skin
- It is converted to the active form (1,25-OH-D3) by sequential enzymatic reactions in the liver and kidney (stimulated by PTH)
- Vitamin D3 stimulates intestinal calcium uptake, increased bone calcium resorption & increased kidney phosphate uptake

## Regulation of the synthesis of active Vitamin D



# (一) Synthesis of 1,25-(OH)<sub>2</sub>D<sub>3</sub>

- is derived from cholesterol



# **(二) Biological effects of 1,25-(OH)<sub>2</sub>D<sub>3</sub>**

**(Ca<sup>2+</sup>↑ & Phosphate ↑)**

**(kidney, bone and intestine)**

**1. Increased intestinal Ca<sup>2+</sup> and phosphate absorption**

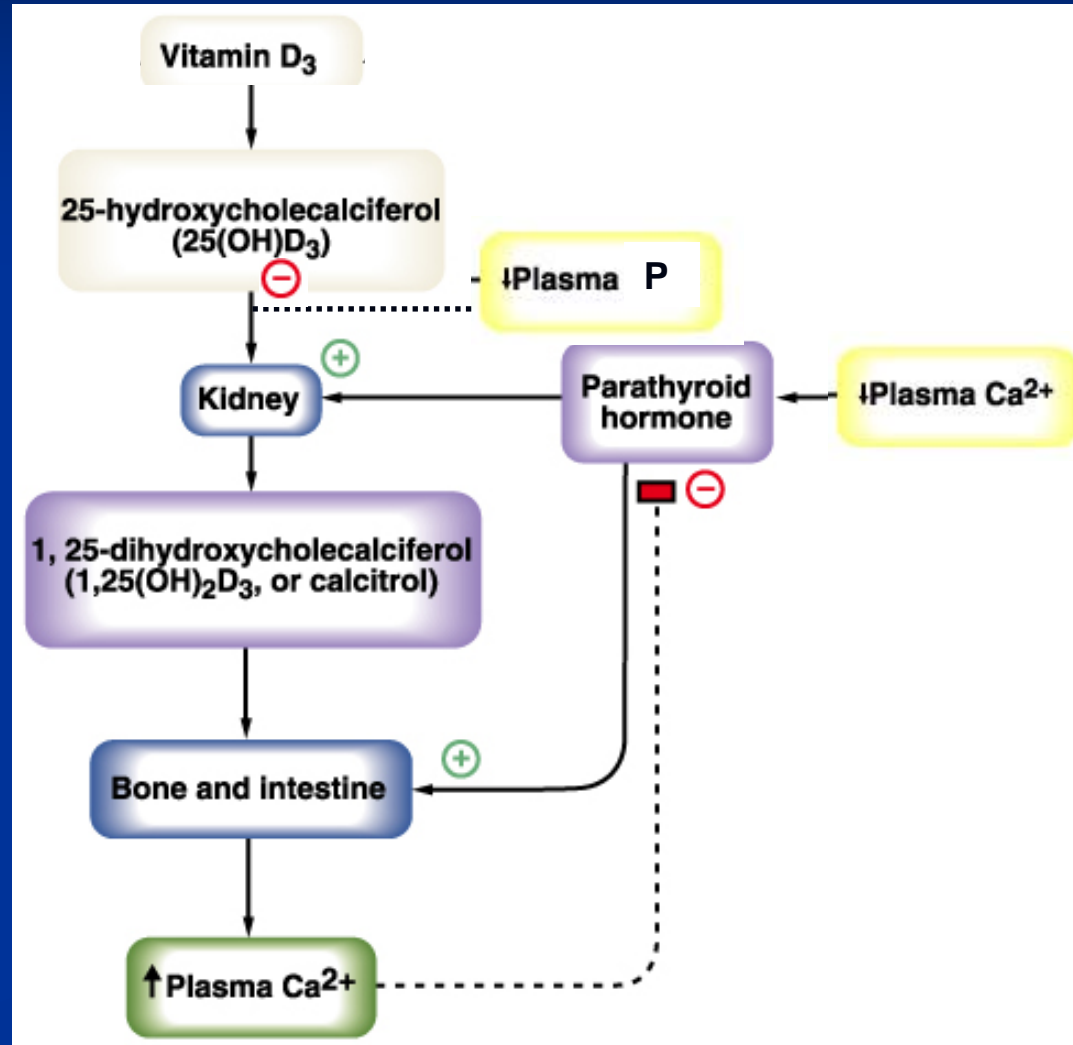
**Ca<sup>2+</sup> -binding protein (calbindin)**

**2. Increased bone resorption**  
**- stimulated osteoclast (main) and osteoblast**

**3. Increased renal resorption**

# (≡) Regulation of $1,25\text{-(OH)}_2\text{D}_3$ secretion

- 1. Blood  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  & phosphate
- 2. PTH
- 3. Hormones  
e.g. Estrogen

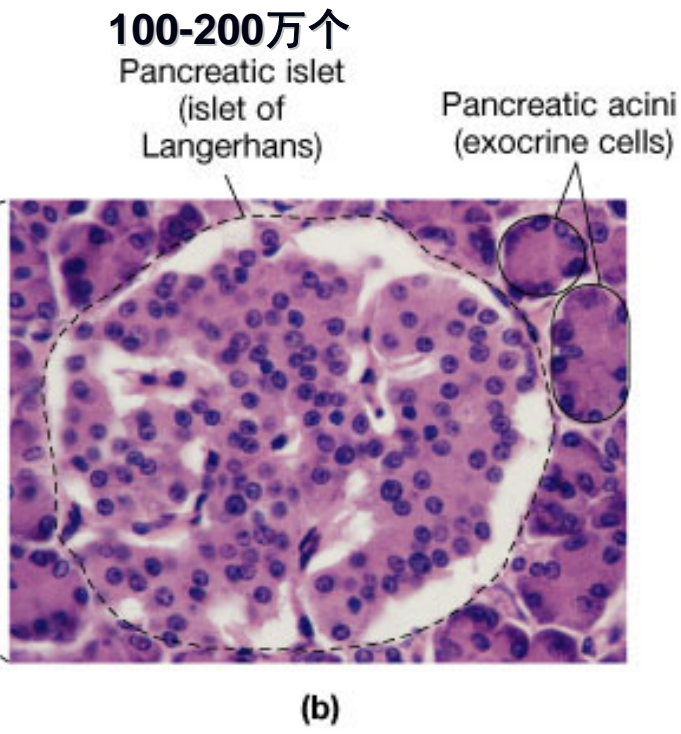
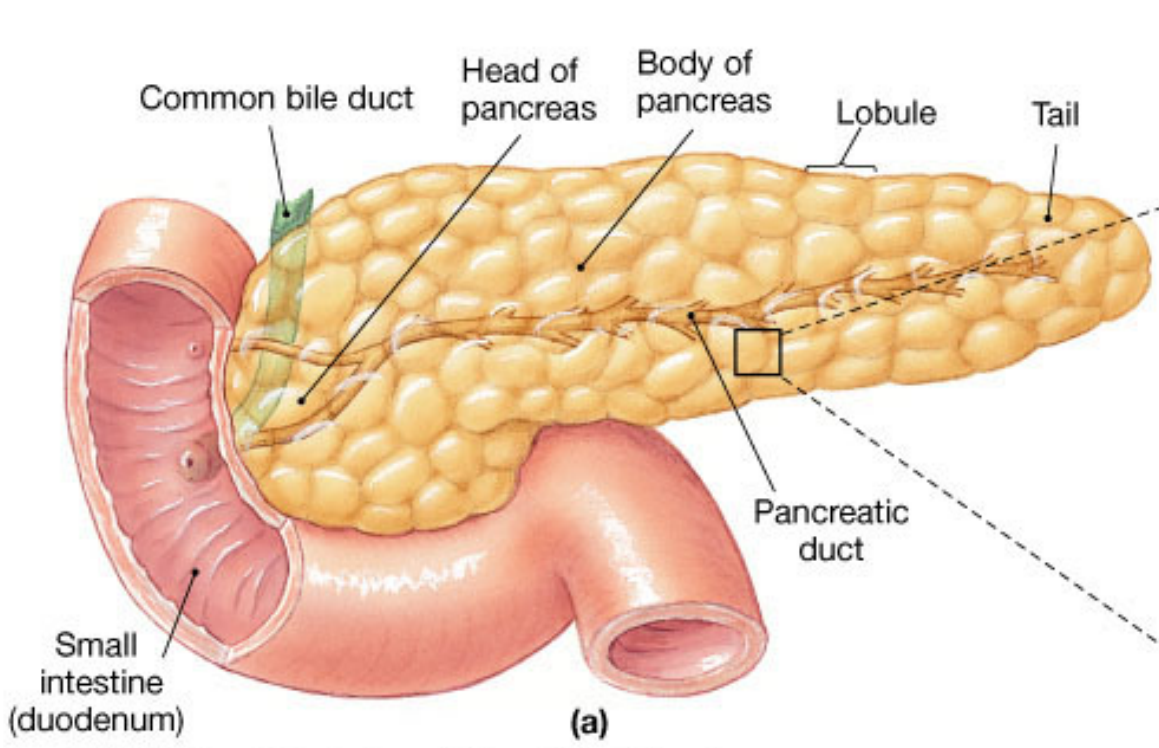


	<b>PTH</b>	<b>Vitamin D</b>	<b>Calcitonin</b>
<b>Stimulus</b>	Serum $[Ca^{2+}]$ ↓	Serum $[Ca^{2+}]$ ↓	Serum $[Ca^{2+}]$ ↑
<b>Action on:</b>			
<b>Bone</b>	mobilization ↑	mobilization ↑	mobilization ↓
<b>Kidney</b>	$Ca^{2+}$ resorption ↑ P resorption ↓	$Ca^{2+}$ /P resorption ↑	$Ca^{2+}$ /P resorption ↓
<b>Intestine</b>	$Ca^{2+}$ /P absorption ↑	$Ca^{2+}$ /P absorption ↑	
<b>Overall effect on:</b>			
<b>Serum <math>[Ca^{2+}]</math></b>	↑	↑	↓
<b>Serum [phosphate]</b>	↓	↑	↓

# Summary

- PTH & calcitonin release are regulated by plasma Ca levels
- Bone Ca & phosphate serve as a ready reserve for maintenance of plasma levels
- Bone, kidney & intestine participate in the regulation of plasma calcium
- PTH, Vitamin D, & calcitonin balance plasma  $[Ca^{++}]$  for bone synthesis, muscle contraction, & cell signaling
- Endocrine diseases result from pathway or glandular hypo or hyper secretion

**Section 6**  
**Endocrine function of**  
**Pancreatic Islets**



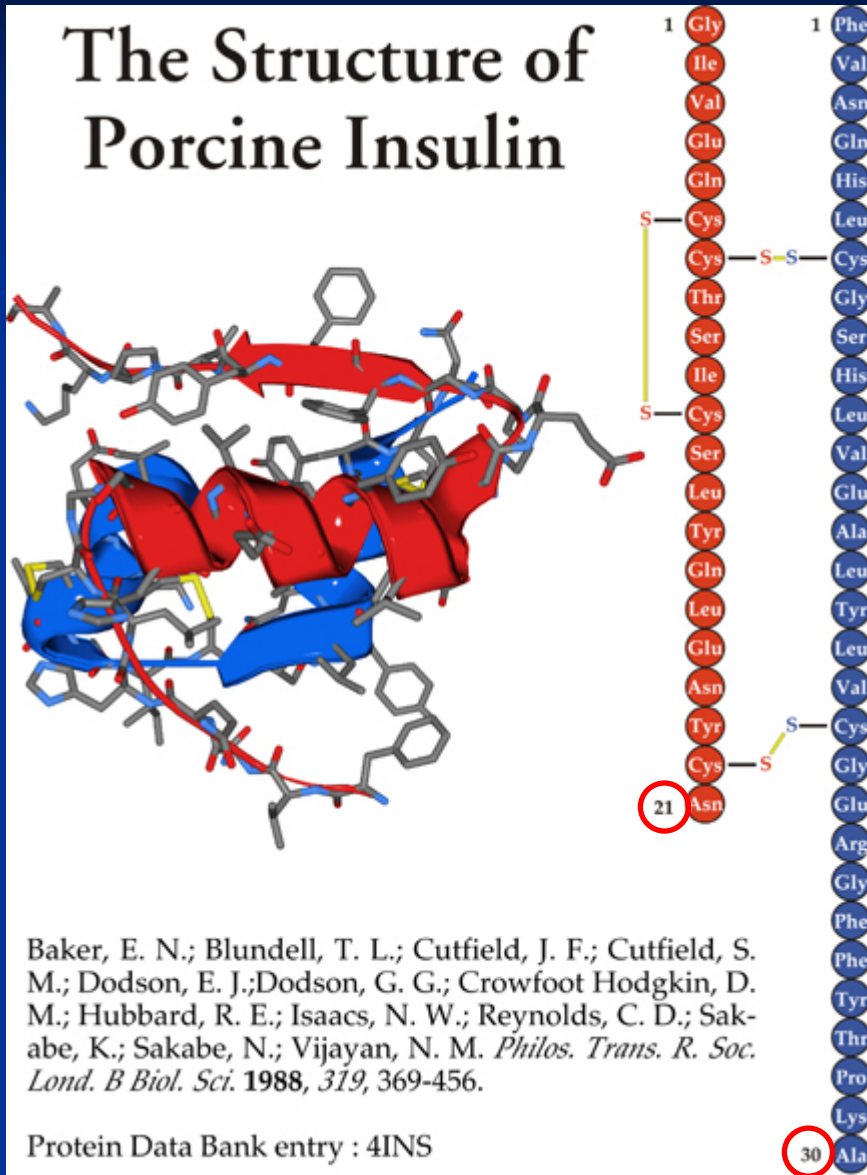


# Cell types of the islet of Langerhans

Type of Cell	Function
A cells (25%)	Secrete glucagon
B cells (60-70%)	Secrete insulin
D cells (5%)	Secrete somatostatin
D1 cells	Secrete vasoactive intestinal peptide
F (PP) cells	Secrete pancreatic polypeptide

# Insulin

## The Structure of Porcine Insulin



- Discovered in 1922 by Banting and Best
- Consist of **A** & B chains linked by 2 disulfide bonds (plus additional disulfide in A)
- 51aa
- Half time: 5-8 min

# The discovery of insulin.



When the pancreatic duct was closed by ligatures, the cells of the pancreas which secrete trypsin degenerate, but that the Islets of Langerhans remain intact. Banting and Best tied off the pancreatic ducts of several dogs for 7 weeks. A solution was extracted from them. The injection of this extract into diabetic dogs (ie, dogs whose pancreas had been removed) quickly restored the health of the dogs.

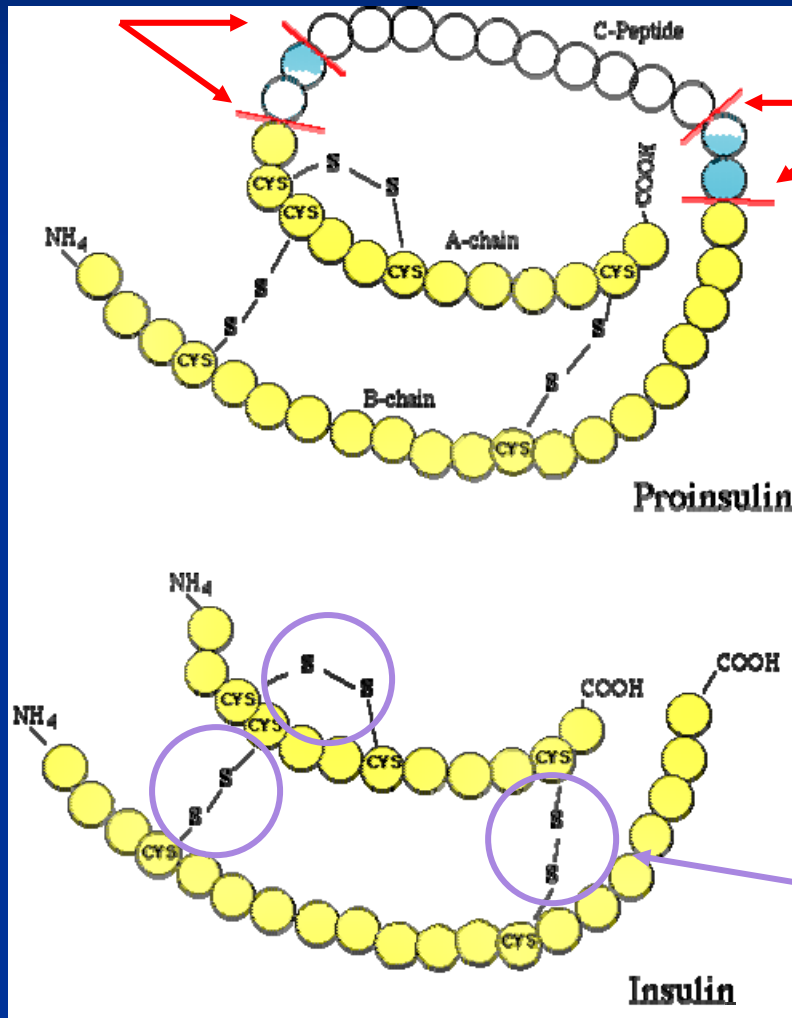


**F.G. Banting shared the 1923 Nobel Prize with J.J.R. MacLeod for the discovery of insulin.**

# Chemistry of Insulin

## synthesis as a prohormone (proinsulin):

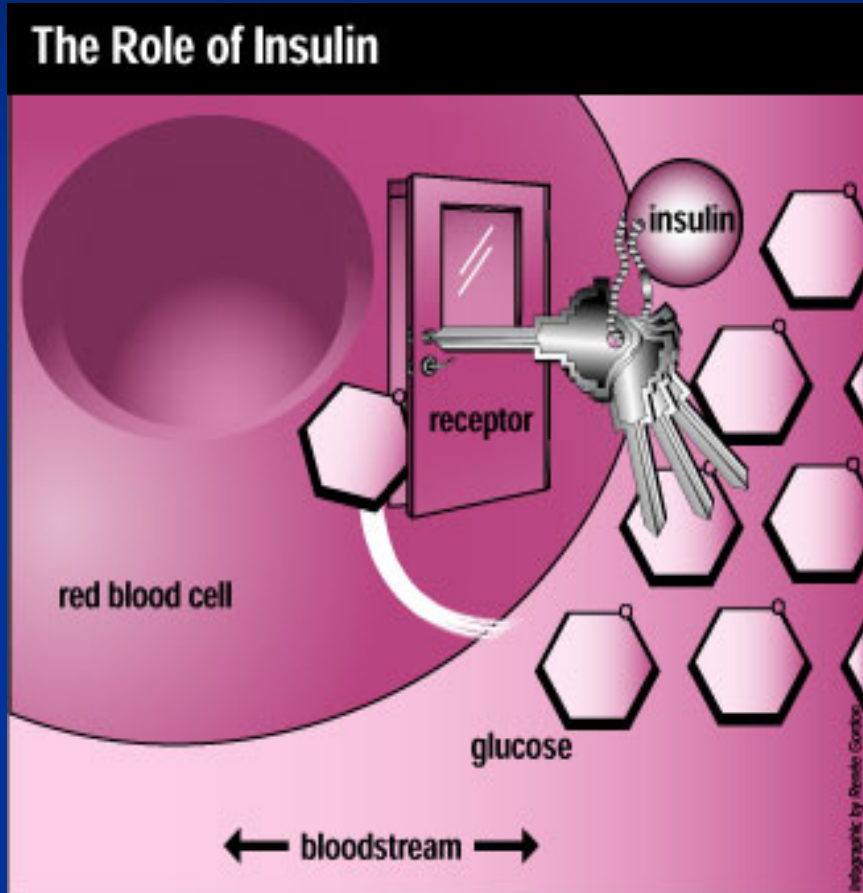
cleavage  
(Lys-Arg)



cleavage (Arg-Arg)

3 S-S bonds required  
for biological activity

# The Role of Insulin



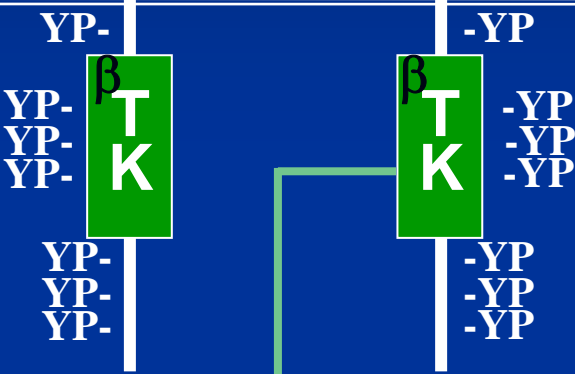
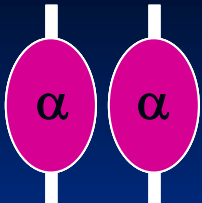
Tyrosine Kinase receptors are the locks in which the insulin key fits

- Involved in **signal transduction** (insulin hormone being 1<sup>st</sup> messenger)

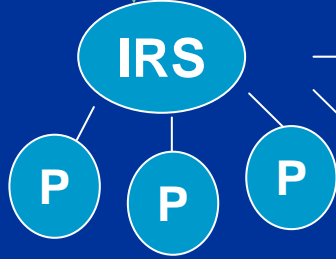
# Insulin

Extracellular

Intracellular



insulin receptor substrate-1



Glucose, Ion, transport

Amplification effects

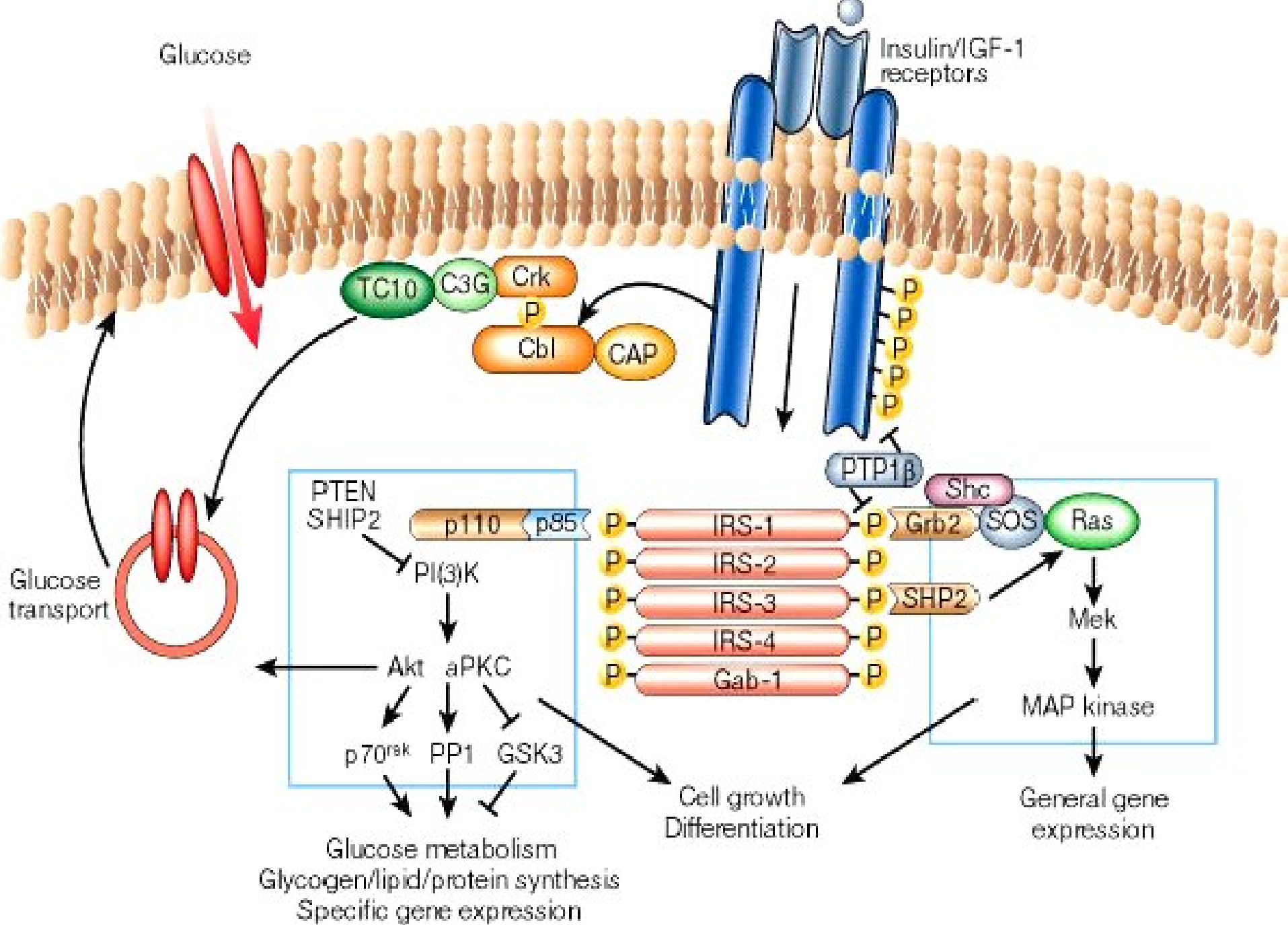
Protein synthesis

Adipose metabolism

Glycogen synthesis and metabolism

Glucose





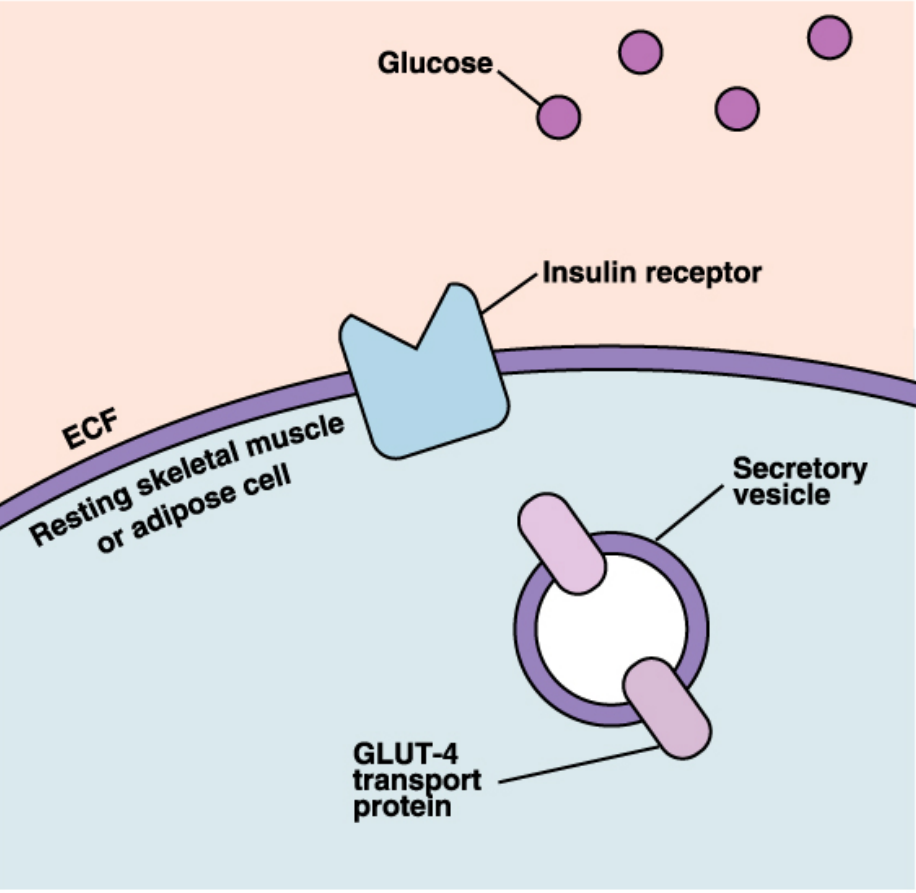
# Distinct biological effects of insulin:

## 一、Decrease blood glucose level

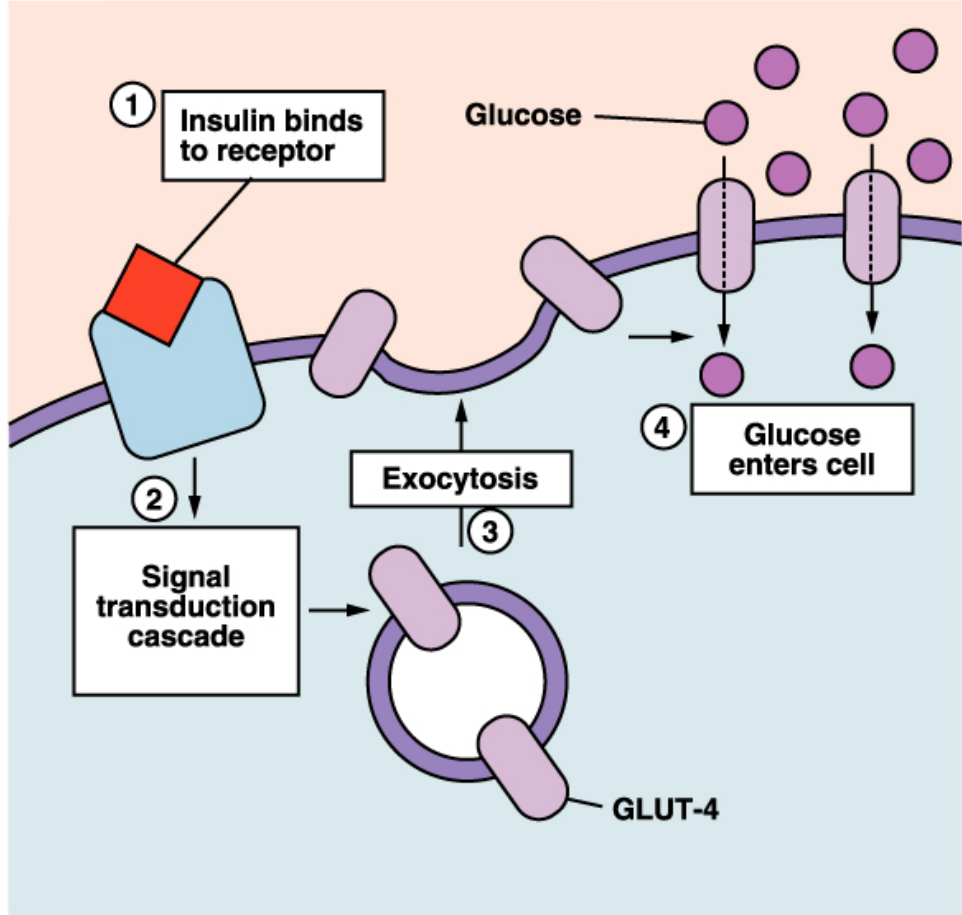
1. promote glucose transport and utilize
2. inhibit glyconeogenesis
3. promote of glycogen synthesis
4. promote glucose transform to fatty acid



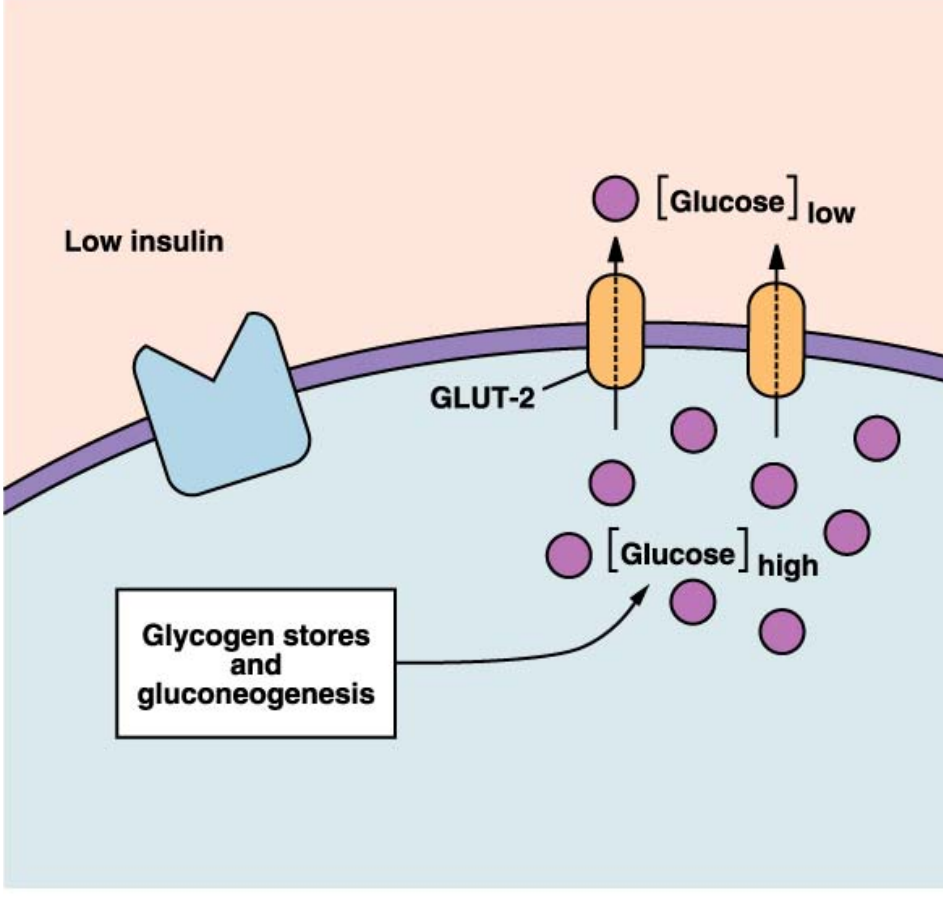
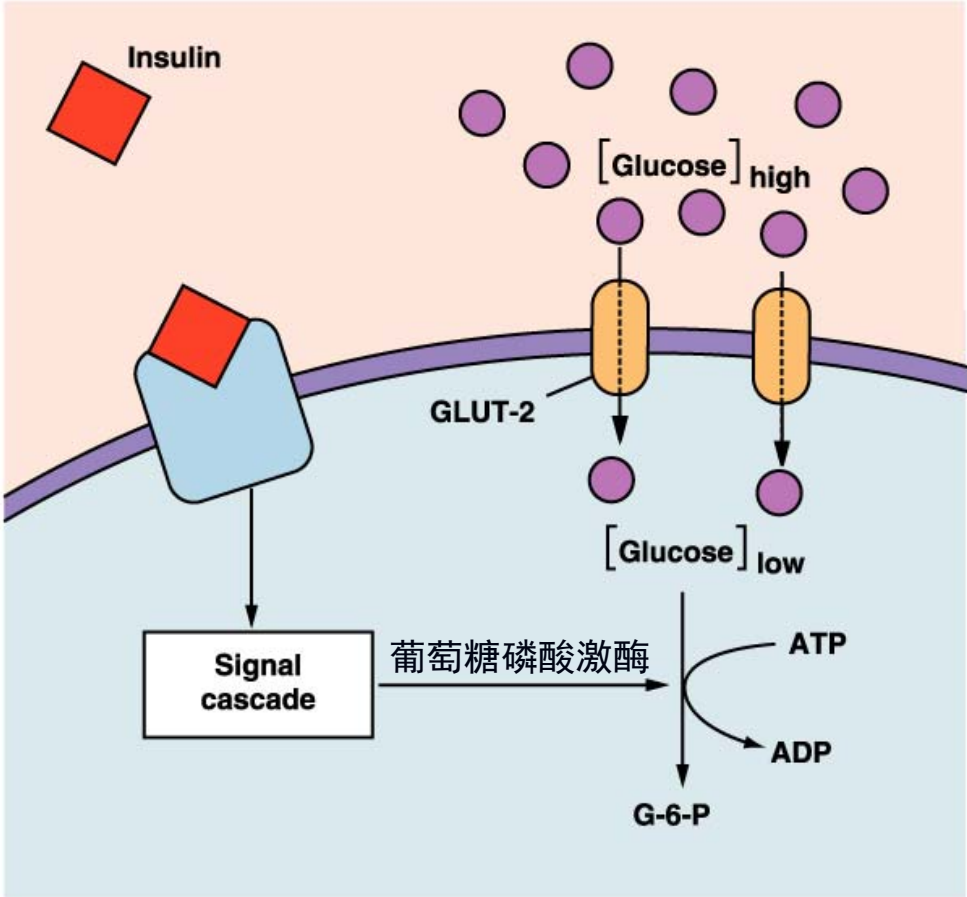
In the absence of insulin, glucose cannot enter the cell



Insulin allows glucose to enter



# Hepatocytes



## **二、 promote adipose synthesis**

- 1. promote fatty acid synthesis in liver  
and then stored in adipocytes**
- 2. stimulate glucose into adipocytes**
- 3. inhibit lipase activity**

### **三、 promote protein synthesis**

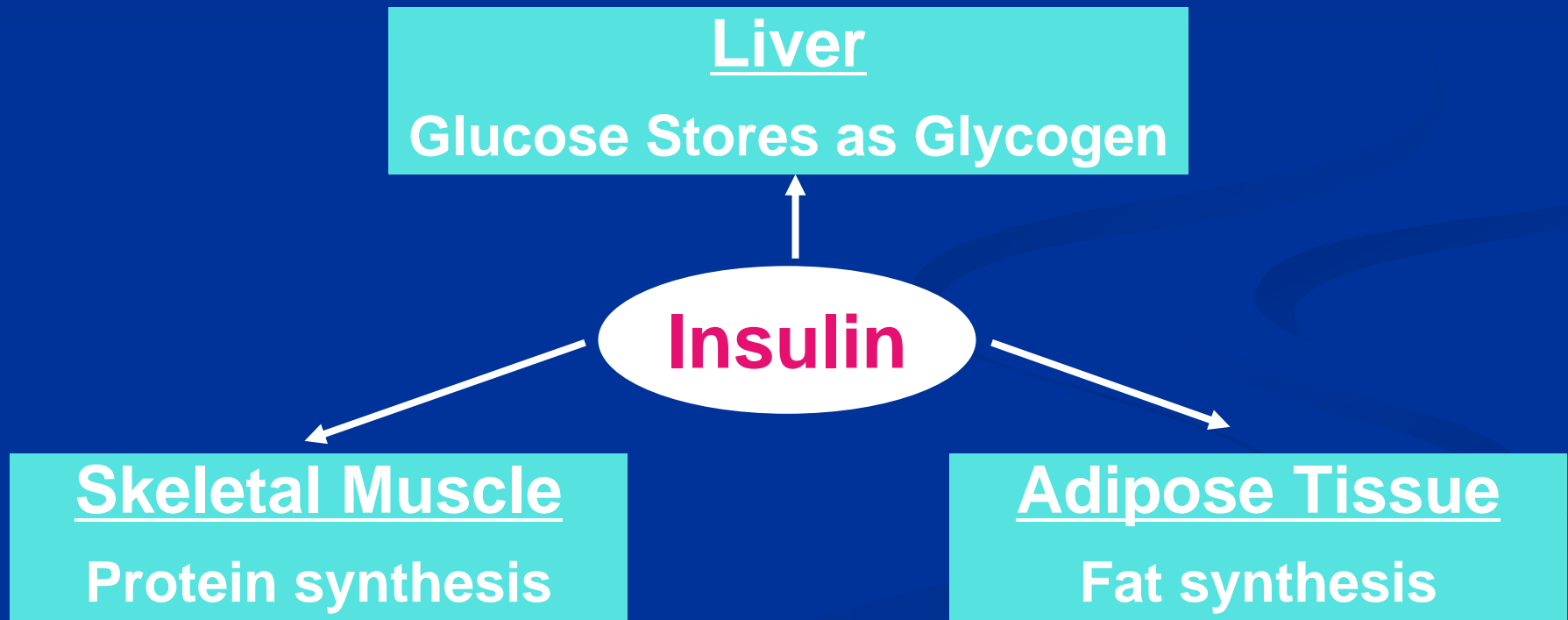
- 1. promote amino acid uptake into tissue**
- 2. promote DNA/RNA synthesis in nucleus**
- 3. Promote protein translation**
- 4. inhibit protein break down**

## 四、Promote growth

# Biological effects of insulin

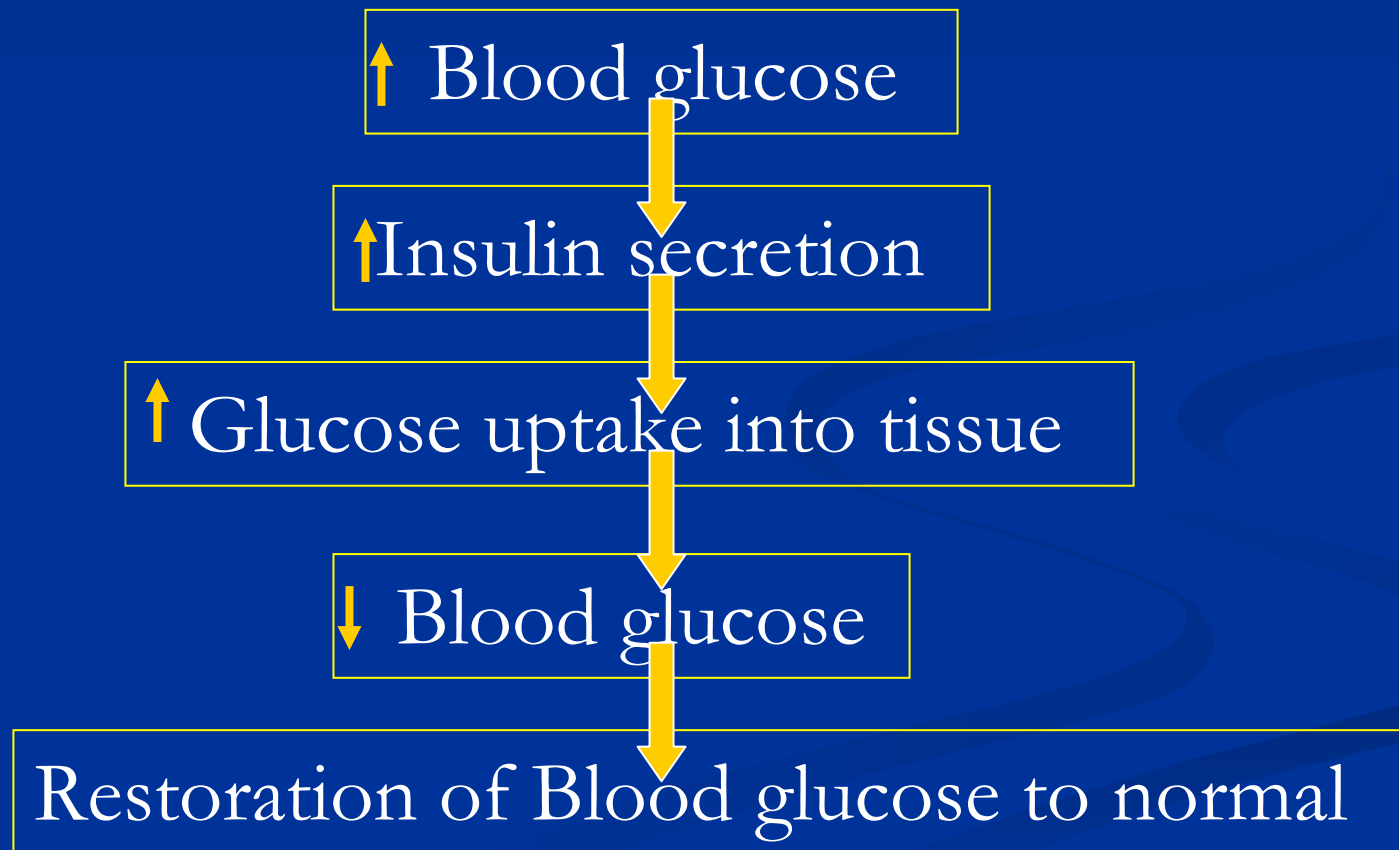
- exert anabolic effects

- maintain blood glucose concentration



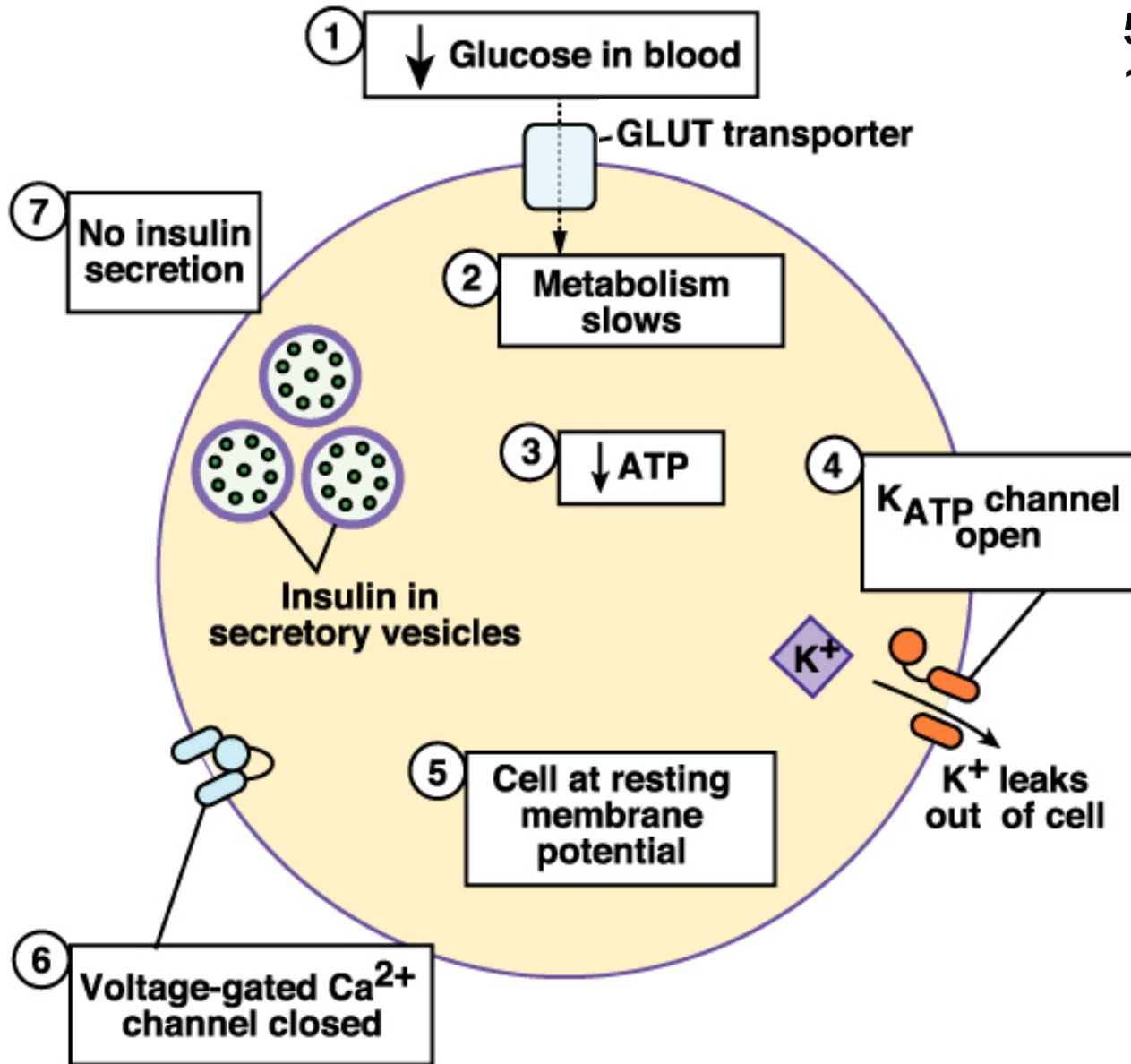
# Regulation of insulin secretion

## Increased blood glucose



**Beta cell at rest**

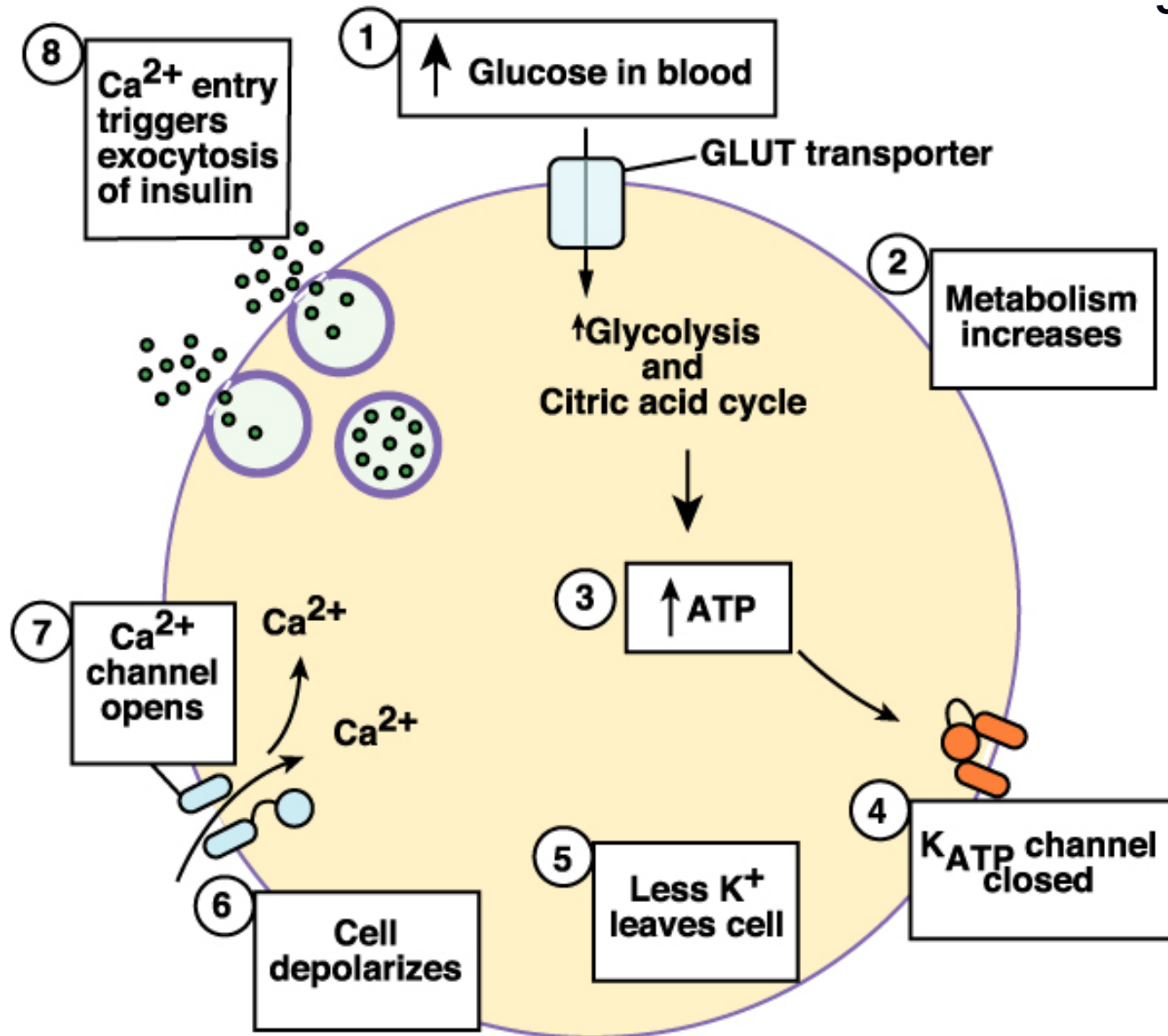
**Glucose: 5 mmol/L  
5.5 mmol/L  
17 mmol/L**





# Beta cell secretes insulin

5min



# Regulation of insulin secretion

➤ fatty acid/amino acid

➤ Hormones

1. gastrointestinal hormone

Gastric inhibitory peptide (GIP)

Gastrin, secretin, CCK

Entero-insular axis: feed-forward regulation

2. paracrine of islets

glucagon, somatostatin

3. other hormones

GHRH, GH, TRH, TH, CRH, cortisol

# Regulation of insulin secretion

## Autonomic nervous system

### 1. Parasympathetic:

Acetylcholine  $\xrightarrow{M}$   $\uparrow$  insulin

### 2. sympathetic :

epinephrine  $\xrightarrow{\alpha 2}$   $\downarrow$  insulin  
 $\xrightarrow{\beta 2}$   $\uparrow$

# Glucagon

- A cells
- 29 aa
- MW: 3485
- Serum: 50~100ng/L
- Half life: 5~10min

# Summary

- **hormone** –is a chemical substance secreted into the internal body fluids by one specialized cell or a group of cells and has a physiological control effect on other cells of the body.
- **Patterns of the hormone action:** Telecrine, Paracrine, Autocrine, Neurocrine
- **Characteristics of hormone action:** Relative specificity  
Message transmission, Biological amplification, Interaction of hormones
- **Permissive effect.** A hormone is said to have a permissive effect on the action of a second hormone when it **enhances** the responsiveness of a target organ to the second hormone or when it **increases** the activity of the second hormone.

- **Hormones Secreted from the Posterior Pituitary:**  
*vasopressin and oxytocin*
- **GH exert much of its effects through intermediate substances called “somatomedins”, also called “*insulin-like growth factors*” (IGF)**
- **What is the physiological functions of growth hormone.**
- **What is the physiological functions of thyroid hormone**
- ***Calcium Parathyroid hormone(PTH), calcitonin, and vitamin D* are the three hormones of Ca homeostasis.**
- ***Distinct biological effects of insulin***