

# Ch. 39 Endocrine System



# The Endocrine System

- The endocrine system is made up of glands that release their products into the bloodstream
- These products deliver messages throughout the body

# Hormones

- Hormones - chemicals released in 1 part of the body, that travel through the bloodstream, & affect activities of cells in other parts of the body; “chemical messengers”
- Target cells (receptor cells) - cells that have receptors for a particular hormone

# Glands

- A gland is an organ that produces & releases a substance, or secretion
- Exocrine glands - release their secretions (hormones) through ducts (tubes), directly to the organs that use them

# Glands

- Endocrine glands - release their secretions (hormones) directly into the bloodstream

### Hypothalamus

The hypothalamus makes hormones that control the pituitary gland. In addition, it makes hormones that are stored in the pituitary gland.

### Pituitary gland

The pituitary gland produces hormones that regulate many of the other endocrine glands.

### Parathyroid glands

These four glands release parathyroid hormone, which regulates the level of calcium in the blood.

### Thymus

During childhood, the thymus releases thymosin, which stimulates T cell development and proper immune response.

### Adrenal glands

The adrenal glands release epinephrine and norepinephrine, which help the body respond to stress.

### Pineal gland

The pineal gland releases melatonin, which is involved in rhythmic activities, such as daily sleep-wake cycles.

### Thyroid

The thyroid produces thyroxine, which regulates metabolism throughout the body.

### Pancreas

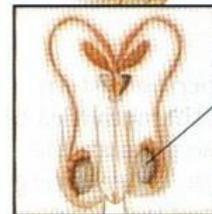
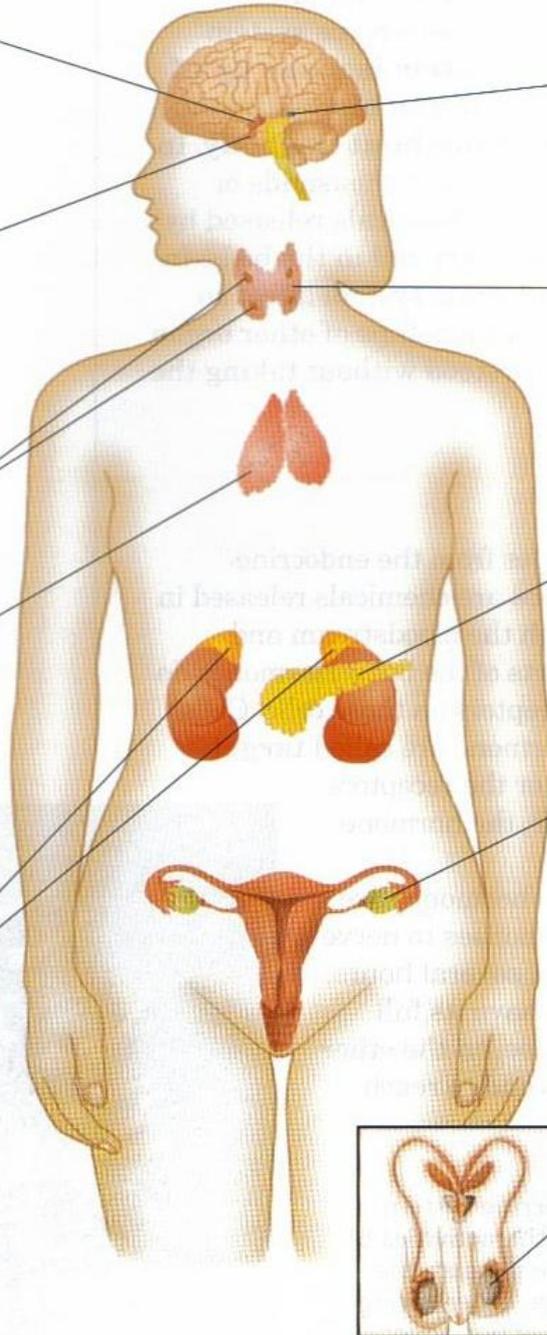
The pancreas produces insulin and glucagon, which regulate the level of glucose in the blood.

### Ovary

Ovaries produce estrogen and progesterone. Estrogen is required for the development of female secondary sex characteristics and for the development of eggs. Progesterone prepares the uterus for a fertilized egg.

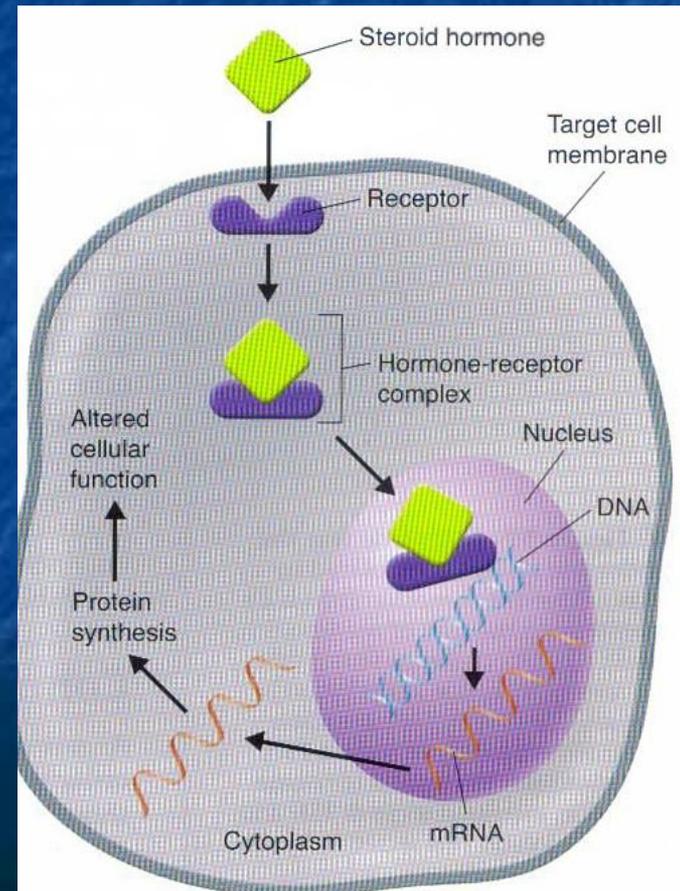
### Testis

The testes produce testosterone, which is responsible for sperm production and the development of male secondary sex characteristics.



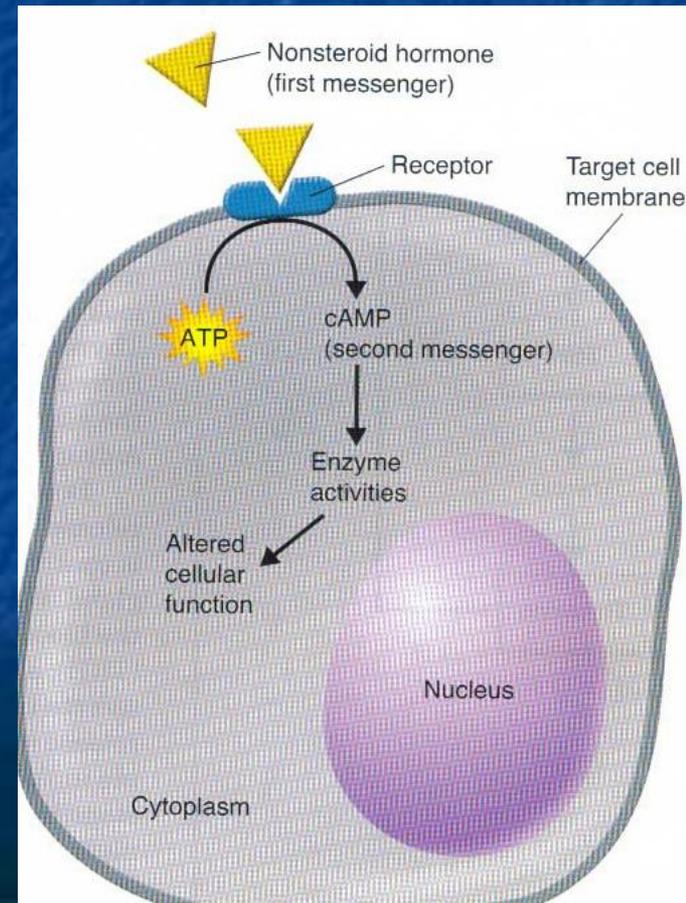
# Hormone Action

- Steroid hormones:
  - Because they are lipids, they can cross cell membranes, passing directly into the cytoplasm the nuclei of target cells



# Hormone Action

- Nonsteroid hormones:
  - They generally cannot pass through the cell membrane of their target cells



# Prostaglandins

- Prostaglandins - modified fatty acids that produce cells, affecting other nearby cells & tissues (“local hormones”)
  - Ex.) some cause smooth muscle tissue to contract

# Control of the Endocrine System

- Like most systems of the body, the endocrine system is regulated by feedback mechanisms that function to maintain homeostasis
  - Ex.) Pancreas releasing insulin: blood sugar level increases after lunch, pancreas releases insulin, blood sugar level decreases, pancreas stops releasing insulin

# Human Endocrine Glands

- The human endocrine system regulates a wide variety of activities
- Any improper functioning of an endocrine gland may result in a disease or disorder

# Human Endocrine Glands

- The major glands of the endocrine system are: the pituitary gland, the hypothalamus, the thyroid gland, the parathyroid glands, the adrenal glands, the pancreas, & the reproductive glands

# Pituitary Gland

- Pituitary gland - divided into 2 parts: anterior & posterior; it secretes 9 hormones that directly regulate many body functions & controls the actions of several other endocrine glands

## Pituitary Gland Hormones

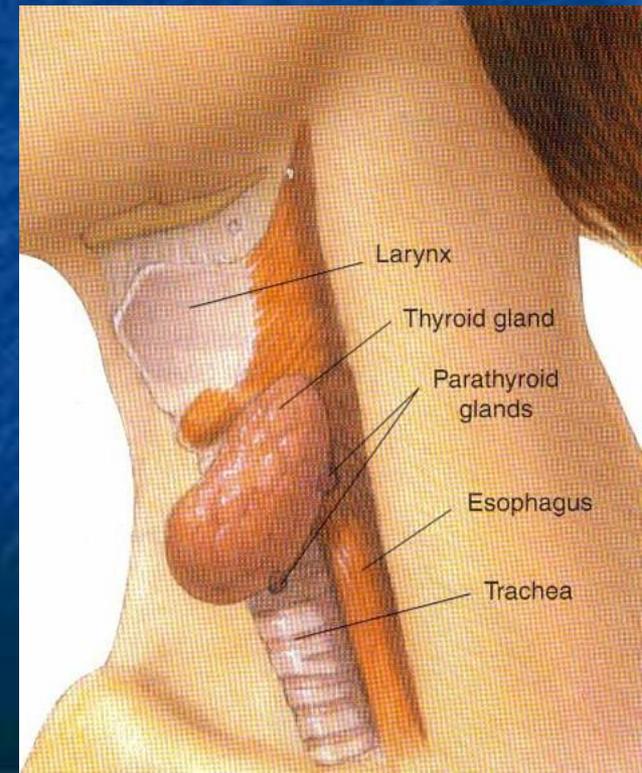
Pituitary Gland	Hormone	Action
Posterior pituitary	Antidiuretic hormone (ADH)	Stimulates the kidneys to reabsorb water from the collecting tubules
	Oxytocin	Stimulates contractions of uterus during childbirth; releases milk in nursing mothers
Anterior pituitary	Follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH)	Stimulates production of mature eggs and sperm
	Luteinizing hormone (LH)	Stimulates ovaries and testes; prepares uterus for implantation of fertilized egg
	Thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH)	Stimulates the synthesis and release of thyroxine from the thyroid gland
	Adreno-corticotropic hormone (ACTH)	Stimulates release of some hormones from the adrenal cortex
	Growth hormone (GH)	Stimulates protein synthesis and growth in cells
	Prolactin	Stimulates milk production in nursing mothers
	Melanocyte-stimulating hormone (MSH)	Stimulates the melanocytes of the skin, increasing their production of the skin pigment melanin

# Hypothalamus

- The hypothalamus controls the secretions of the pituitary gland
- The close connection between the hypothalamus & the pituitary gland, means that the nervous & endocrine systems can act together to help coordinate body activities

# Thyroid Gland

- The thyroid gland has the major role in regulating the body's metabolism
- Releases thyroxin which increases metabolism, & cellular respiration



# Thyroid Gland

- Unable to produce thyroxin produces condition known as cretinism
- 2 effects of cretinism are dwarfism & severe mental retardation
- Can be prevented by adding small amounts of iodine to table salt

# Parathyroid Glands

- The 4 parathyroid glands are found on the back surface of the thyroid gland
- Hormones from the thyroid gland & the parathyroid glands act to maintain homeostasis of calcium levels in the blood

# Adrenal Glands

- There are 2 adrenal glands that sit on top of the kidneys, like little hats
- The adrenal glands release hormones that help the body prepare for & deal with stress

# Adrenal Glands

- The 2 hormones secreted by the adrenal glands are: epinephrine and norepinephrine
- The hormones produce the “fight or flight” response to stress

# Pancreas

- The pancreas has both exocrine & endocrine functions
- It is a digestive gland whose enzymes help break down food
- However, different cells in the pancreas release hormones into the blood

# Pancreas

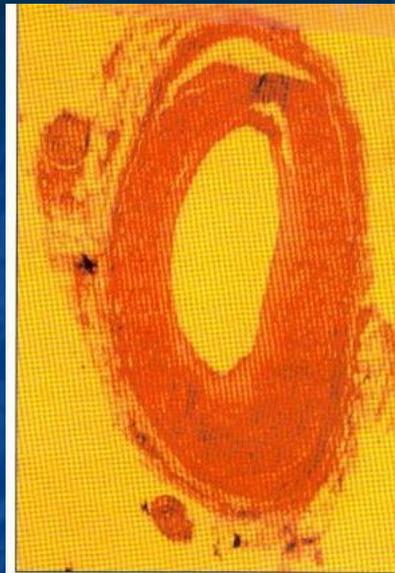
- Insulin & glucagon are released from the pancreas to help keep the blood glucose level stable
- Insulin stimulates liver cells to remove sugar from the blood & store it as glycogen
- Glucagon stimulates the liver to break down stored glycogen & release sugar back into the blood

# Pancreas

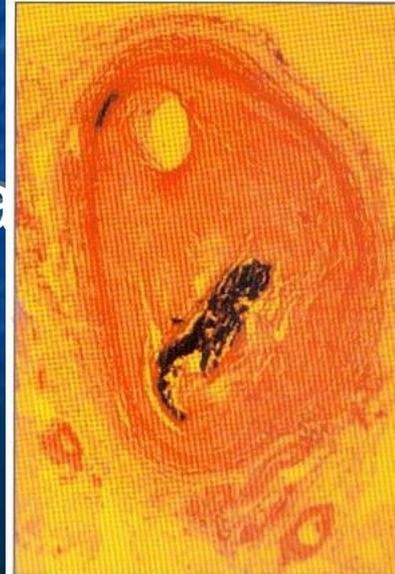
- Diabetes mellitus - when the pancreas does not produce insulin
- There are 2 types of diabetes, Type I and Type II
- Type I requires daily injections of insulin, due to the fact that the body produces no insulin

# Pancreas

- Type II develops in people after the age of 40, produces normal insulin but cells don't respond properly to the hormone
- Usually controlled through diet, exercise, & medication taken orally



Normal Coronary Artery



Coronary Artery Totally Blocked