

Endocrine System II - Solutions

Hormone	Source	Conditions that cause hormone release	Target Organ/Cells	Result
Oxytocin	 Produced by hypothalamus Stored and released by the posterior pituitary gland 	Fetus stimulates cervix and vaginaInfant suckling the breastSexual arousal (in males)	 Uterus Mammary glands Glands in male reproductive system and sperm duct 	 Stimulates smooth muscle contraction for labor and delivery Promotes milk release Possibly involved in ejaculation and sperm transport
Thyrotropin- releasing hormone (TRH)	- Hypothalamus	- Low levels of thyroid hormones	- Anterior pituitary gland	Promotes secretion of thyroid- stimulating hormone (TSH) and prolactin (PRL)
Gonadotropin- releasing hormone (GnRH)	- Hypothalamus	Low estrogen and progesterone levels in blood	- Anterior pituitary gland	Promotes secretion of follicle- stimulating hormone (FSH) and luteinizing hormone (LH)
Corticotropin- releasing hormone (CRH)	- Hypothalamus	Stimulated by nervous activity in the brainCan increase with stress	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Promotes secretion of adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH)
Growth hormone- releasing hormone (GHRH)	- Hypothalamus	- Low levels of growth hormone in blood	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Promotes secretion of growth hormone (GH)
Prolactin-inhibiting hormone (PIH)	- Hypothalamus	High levels of PRL in blood	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Inhibits PRL secretion
Somatostatin	- Hypothalamus	- High levels of GH and TSH in blood	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Inhibits GH and TSH secretion



Antidiuretic hormone (ADH)	 Produced by hypothalamus Stored and released by the posterior pituitary gland 	 Low blood pressure or blood volume Increase in angiotensin II 	- Nephrons of the kidneys	- Increases water reabsorption
Follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH)	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Increase in GnRH levels	- Ovaries - Testes	Growth of ovarian follicles and secretion of estrogenSperm production
Luteinizing hormone (LH)	- Anterior pituitary gland	- High GnRH levels	- Ovaries - Testes	 Ovulation; maintenance of corpus luteum and secretion of estrogen and progesterone Testosterone secretion
Thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH)	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Increase in TRH levels	- Thyroid gland	- Stimulates growth of thyroid gland and secretion of thyroid hormone (e.g. thyroxine and triiodothyronine)
Adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH)	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Increase in CRH levels	- Suprarenal cortex	- Promotes secretion of glucocorticoids (e.g. cortisol)
Prolactin (PRL)	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Increase in TRH levels	- Mammary glands	Stimulates mammary gland development and milk production
Growth hormone	- Anterior pituitary gland	- Increase in GHRH	- All tissues; skeletal muscle cells and cartilage cells are particularly sensitive to GH	- Stimulates cell growth and replication
Estrogen	- Ovary	Increase in FSH Presence of corpus luteum; increase in LH	- Many tissues	 Stimulates female reproductive development and development of secondary sexual characteristics Regulates the menstrual cycle
Progesterone	- Ovary	- Presence of corpus luteum; increase in LH	- Uterus	Regulates the menstrual cycleInhibits GnRH release



Testosterone	- Testes	- Increase in LH	- Many tissues	- Stimulates male reproductive development, muscle growth, sperm production and development of secondary sexual characteristics
Thyroxine (T ₄) and triiodothyronine (T ₃)	- Thyroid gland	- Increase in TSH	- Many tissues	Increase metabolic rate, heat production, oxygen consumption, growth and development
Cortisol	- Suprarenal cortex	- Increase in ACTH	- Most tissues	 Anti-inflammatory effects Accelerates glucose synthesis, glycogen formation and breakdown of fats
Calcitonin	- Thyroid gland	- Increase in Ca ²⁺ levels in blood	OsteoclastsNephrons of the kidneys	 Osteoclasts are inhibited – no Ca²⁺ is released from bones Less Ca²⁺ reabsorbed
Parathyroid hormone (PTH)	- Parathyroid gland	- Decrease in Ca ²⁺ levels in blood	OsteoclastsNephrons of the kidneysDigestive tract	 Osteoclasts stimulated to release stored Ca²⁺ from bones More Ca²⁺ reabsorbed Increases Ca²⁺ absorption from the digestive system
Calcitrol	- Kidneys	- Decrease in Ca ²⁺ levels in blood	- Digestive tract	 Increases Ca²⁺ absorption from the digestive system Increases blood Ca²⁺ levels
Epinephrine and Norepinephrine	- Suprarenal medulla	- Stimulation from sympathetic nervous system	- Most tissues	Increases cardiac activity, blood pressure, metabolism
Insulin	- Pancreas	Increase in glucose levels in the blood	- Most cells	 Increases glucose uptake and usage and storage of lipids and glycogen Decreases blood glucose levels
Glucagon	- Pancreas	- Decrease in glucose levels in the blood	- Liver - Adipose tissue	 Stimulates hydrolysis of glycogen – increases blood glucose levels Increases metabolism of lipids



Erythropoietin (EPO)	- Kidneys	- Low oxygen levels in the blood	Red bone marrowDigestive tract	 Stimulates red blood cell production Stimulates calcium and phosphate absorption
Aldosterone	- Suprarenal cortex	Low blood pressure or blood volumeIncrease in angiotensin II	- Nephrons of the kidneys	 Increases Na⁺ reabsorption and K⁺ secretion – Cl⁻ and water passively reabsorbed
Natriuretic peptides	- Heart	- High blood volume	- Kidneys	Inhibits renin release — increases water loss at the kidneys

