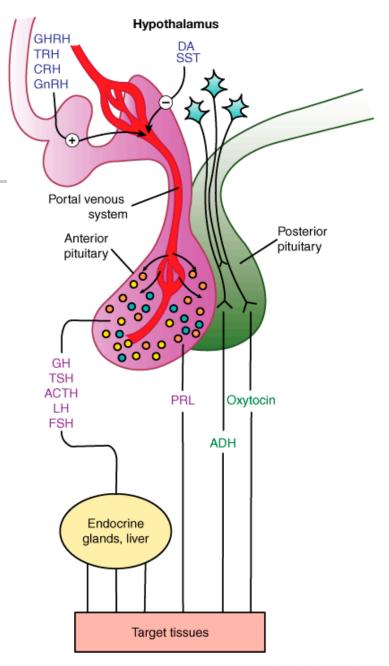
# Hypothalamic & Anterior pituitary hormones

## The hypothalamic-pituitary endocrine system



Source: Katzung BG, Masters SB, Trevor AJ: Basic & Clinical Pharmacology, 11th Edition: http://www.accessmedicine.com

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## hypothalamic, anterior pituitary, and target organ hormone Primary Target

Anterior Pituitary Hormone	Hypothalamic Hormone	Target Organ	Organ Hormone or Mediator
Croudh harman	Growth hormone-	Liver, muscle,	

bone,

others

Adrenal cortex

**Thyroid** 

Gonads

**Breast** 

kidney, and

Insulin-like growth

Thyroxine,

Estrogen,

factor-1 (IGF-1)

triiodothyronine

mineralocorticoi

ds, androgens

progesterone,

testosterone

Glucocorticoids,

releasing hormone

hormone (TRH) (+)

hormone (CRH) (+)

Somatostatin (-)

Thyrotropin-releasing

Corticotropin-releasing

Gonadotropin-releasing

Dopamine (-)

hormone (GnRH)  $(+)^2$ 

(GHRH) (+)

Growth hormone

somatotropin)

Thyroid-stimulating

Adrenocorticotropin

Follicle-stimulating

Luteinizing

Prolactin (PRL)

hormone (FSH)

hormone (LH)

(+), stimulant; (-), inhibitor.

(ACTH)

hormone (TSH)

(GH,

## Clinical uses of hypothalamic hormones and their analogs

<b>Hypothalamic Hormone</b>	Clinical Uses
Growth hormone-releasing hormone (GHRH)	Used rarely as a diagnostic test for GH responsiveness
Thyrotropin-releasing hormone (TRH, protirelin)	Used rarely to diagnose hyper- or hypothyroidism
Corticotropin-releasing hormone (CRH)	Used rarely to distinguish Cushing's disease from ectopic ACTH secretion
Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH)	Used rarely in pulses to treat infertility caused by hypothalamic dysfunction
	Analogs used in long-acting formulations to inhibit gonadal function in men with prostate cancer and women undergoing assisted reproductive technology (ART) or women who require ovarian suppression for a gynecological disorder
Dopamine	Analogs used for treatment of hyperprolactinemia

## Diagnostic uses of thyroid-stimulating hormone and adrenocorticotropin

Hormone	Diagnostic Use
Thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH; thyrotropin)	In patients who have been treated surgically for thyroid carcinoma, to test for recurrence by assessing TSH-stimulated whole-body 131 scans and serum thyroglobulin determinations
Adrenocorticotropin (ACTH)	In patients suspected of adrenal insufficiency, to test for a cortisol response.
	In patients suspected of congenital adrenal hyperplasia, to identify 21-hydroxylase deficiency, 11-hydroxylase deficiency, and 3β-hydroxy-Δ <sup>5</sup> steroid dehydrogenase deficiency, based on the steroids that accumulate in response to ACTH administration



- Replacement therapy for hormone deficiency states
- Antagonists for diseases that result from excess production of pituitary hormones
- Diagnostic tools for identifying several endocrine abnormalities

# GROWTH HORMONE (SOMATOTROPIN)

### Introduction

- Peptide hormones
- Important effects on lipid and carbohydrate metabolism
- Its effects are primarily mediated via
  - insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1, somatomedin C)
  - insulin-like growth factor 2 (IGF-2).

# **Chemistry & Pharmacokinetics**

#### STRUCTURE:

 is a 191-amino-acid peptide with two sulfhydryl bridges

#### rhGH

- Somatropin has a 191-amino-acids
- Somatrem has 192 amino acids

### **Pharmacodynamics**

- Mediates its effects via cell surface receptors of the JAK/STAT cytokine receptor superfamily
- Has complex effects on
  - growth, body composition
  - carbohydrate, protein, and lipid metabolism
- The growth-promoting effects are mediated through IGF-1
- GH has anabolic effects in muscle and catabolic effects in lipid cells



### **Clinical Pharmacology**

GROWTH HORMONE DEFICIENCY

 PEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH SHORT STATURE

Other Uses of Growth Hormone

#### Clinical uses of recombinant human growth hormone

<b>Primary Therapeutic Objective</b>	Clinical Condition
Growth	Growth failure in pediatric patients associated with:
	Growth hormone deficiency Chronic renal failure Prader-Willi syndrome Turner syndrome
	Small for gestational age with failure to catch up by age 2
	Idiopathic short stature in pediatric patients
Improved metabolic state, increased lean body mass, sense of well-being	Growth hormone deficiency in adults
Increased lean body mass, weight, and physical endurance	Wasting in patients with AIDS

Improved gastrointestinal function

Short bowel syndrome in patients who are also

receiving specialized nutritional support

# Toxicity & Contraindications

 A rarely reported side effect is intracranial hypertension, which may manifest as vision changes, headache, nausea, or vomiting



- Is a complex of
  - recombinant human IGF-1 (rhIGF-1)
  - recombinant human insulin-like growth factor-binding protein-3 (rhIGFBP-3)
- For treatment of severe IGF-1 deficiency
- The most important adverse effect is hypoglycemia

# GROWTH HORMONE ANTAGONISTS

#### Somatostatin

- It inhibits the release of GH, glucagon, insulin, and gastrin
- has limited therapeutic usefulness

#### Octreotide

- reduces symptoms caused by a variety of hormone-secreting tumors
  - acromegaly; the carcinoid syndrome; gastrinoma; glucagonoma; nesidioblastosis
  - the watery diarrhea, hypokalemia, and achlorhydria (WDHA) syndrome; and diabetic diarrhea.



### Pegvisomant

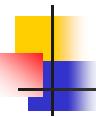
- Is a GH receptor antagonist
- Useful for the treatment of acromegaly
- The polyethylene glycol (PEG) derivative of a mutant GH, B2036,

### THE GONADOTROPINS

- FSH
- LH
- human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG)
- Are dimers that share
  - lacktriangle an identical  $\alpha$  chain
  - in addition to a distinct β chain

# **Chemistry & Pharmacokinetics**

- MENOTROPINS
- FOLLICLE-STIMULATING HORMONE
  - Urofollitropin,
  - follitropin alfa and follitropin beta
- LUTEINIZING HORMONE
  - Lutropin,
- HUMAN CHORIONIC GONADOTROPIN



### **Pharmacodynamics**

Effects through G protein-coupled receptors

## **Clinical Pharmacology**

### OVULATION INDUCTION

- to induce ovulation in women with anovulation due to:
  - hypogonadotropic hypogonadism
  - polycystic ovary syndrome
  - obesity
- MALE INFERTILITY

# Toxicity & Contraindications

- ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome
- multiple pregnancies
- Headache, depression, edema, precocious puberty



- Pulsatile GnRH secretion is required to stimulate the gonadotroph cell to produce and release LH and FSH
- Sustained, nonpulsatile administration of GnRH or GnRH analogs inhibits the release of FSH and LH by the pituitary

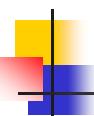
# **Chemistry & Pharmacokinetics**

#### STRUCTURE

- GnRH is a decapeptide found in all mammals
- Gonadorelin is an acetate salt of synthetic human GnRH
- Synthetic analogs include goserelin, histrelin, leuprolide, nafarelin, and triptorelin.

#### PHARMACOKINETICS

 GnRH analogs can be administered subcutaneously, intramuscularly, via nasal spray or as a subcutaneous implant



### **Pharmacodynamics**

 GnRH exhibit complex dose-response relationships that change dramatically from the fetal period through the end of puberty.

## **Clinical Pharmacology**

#### STIMULATION

- Female infertility
- Male infertility
- Diagnosis of LH responsiveness

#### SUPPRESSION

- Controlled ovarian hyperstimulation
- Endometriosis
- Uterine leiomyomata (uterine fibroids)
- Prostate cancer
- Central precocious puberty
- Other
  - advanced breast and ovarian cancer



- Headache, light-headedness, nausea, and flushing
- Contraindications to the use of GnRH agonists in women include
  - pregnancy and breast-feeding

## GNRH RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS

### Ganirelix and cetrorelix

- Pharmacokinetics
  - absorbed rapidly after subcutaneous injection
- Clinical Pharmacology
  - preventing the LH surge during controlled ovarian hyperstimulation
- Toxicity
  - nausea and headache



- Is a 198-amino-acid peptide hormone
- Its structure resembles that of GH

### **DOPAMINE AGONISTS**

- Bromocriptine, cabergoline, pergolid and Quinagolide
- Pharmacokinetics
  - All available dopamine agonists are active as oral preparations
- Clinical Pharmacology
  - HYPERPROLACTINEMIA
  - PHYSIOLOGIC LACTATION
  - ACROMEGALY
- Toxicity & Contraindications
  - nausea, headache, light-headedness, orthostatic hypotension, and fatigue