SYSTEMS 订出三 ENDOCRINE SYSTEM BASIC SCIENCE AND CLINICAL CONDITIONS Edited by Joy Hinson Peter Raven Shern Chew



INTRODUCTION 1

What is endocrinology? 2
Endocrine regulation 2
Types of hormone: their synthesis and secretion 2
Hormones in blood 5
Different mechanisms of action of hormones 5
Endocrine regulation 7
Endocrine disorders and investigations of endocrine function 8
Endocrine investigations: general principles 10



THE HYPOTHALAMUS AND PITUITARY PART I: THE HYPOTHALAMUS AND POSTERIOR PITUITARY 15

Introduction 16
Where can I find the hypothalamus and pituitary? 16
Connection between the hypothalamus and pituitary 18
Development of the hypothalamus and pituitary 18
The hormones of the posterior pituitary 20
Release of posterior pituitary hormones is part of a neuroendocrine reflex: oxytocin secretion and actions 20
Regulation of vasopressin secretion 21
Actions of arginine vasopressin 21
Disorders of vasopressin secretion and action 22
Thirst 23



THE HYPOTHALAMUS AND PITUITARY PART II: THE ANTERIOR PITUITARY 25

The hormones of the anterior pituitary 26
Regulation of hormone secretion in the anterior pituitary 28
Stress hormones 31
Actions of the anterior pituitary hormones growth hormone and prolactin 31
Disorders of anterior pituitary function: over-secretion 32
Disorders of under-secretion of anterior pituitary hormones 34
Tests for hypopituitarism 35
Insufficient growth hormone secretion 35



THE ADRENAL GLANDS 37

Introduction 38
Adrenal cortex 39
Therapeutic uses of corticosteroids and disorders of adrenal steroids 46
The adrenal medulla 49



THE THYROID GLAND 53

Introduction 54 Thyroid anatomy What is a goitre? Blood supply 55 Structure of the thyroid 55 Synthesis of thyroid hormones 56 Thyroxine and T3: the thyroid hormones 57 Control of thyroid function 57 . Functions of thyroid hormones 57 Effects of excess thyroid hormone secretion – thyrotoxicosis 60 Disorders of the thyroid: hyperthyroidism 60 Treatment of thyrotoxicosis 61 Effects of thyroid hormone insufficiency – myxoedema 61 Causes of thyroid hyposecretion 62



HORMONAL CONTROL OF REPRODUCTION PART I: MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM 65

Where are the testes? 66
What are the testes? 66
Testicular blood supply 68
Spermatogenesis 69
Androgen production 69
Hormonal control of testicular function 69
Transport of testosterone in blood 71
Actions of testosterone 71
Disorders of male reproduction 72
Abuse of anabolic androgenic steroids 74
Declining sperm counts 74



HORMONAL CONTROL OF REPRODUCTION PART II: FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM 77

Introduction 78
Structure of the ovary 78
Ovarian hormones 80
Transport of ovarian hormones in blood 82
Hormonal regulation of ovarian function 82
The menstrual cycle 82
Disorders of the menstrual cycle 85
The endocrinology of pregnancy 86



HORMONAL CONTROL OF REPRODUCTION PART III: SEX HORMONES DURING DEVELOPMENT 91

Introduction 92
Gender determination and differentiation 92
Hormonal control of sexual differentiation 92
Abnormalities of sexual differentiation 93
Hormones during development: puberty and menarche 94
Disorders of puberty 96
Menopause and the climacteric 96
Premature ovarian failure 97
Symptoms of the menopause 97
Hormone replacement therapy 99
Alternative therapies 100
Hormonal control of fertility: contraception 101
Hormonal control of fertility: assisted conception 102



INSULIN AND THE REGULATION OF PLASMA GLUCOSE 105

Introduction 106
Glucose in urine 107
Insulin and the response to high blood glucose levels 108
Disorders of blood glucose regulation 112
The metabolic syndrome – a growing problem? 117



HORMONAL REGULATION OF PLASMA CALCIUM AND CALCIUM METABOLISM 121

Introduction 122
Serum calcium 122
Parathyroid hormone 123
Calcitriol: source and activation of vitamin D 124
Disorders of hypercalcaemia 127
Disorders of hypocalcaemia 127
Diseases of bone: osteoporosis and Paget's disease 129
A brief mention of calcitonin 129
Regulation of serum phosphate 130



MISCELLANEOUS HORMONES 131

Erythropoietin 132
Immune–endocrine interactions: cytokines and eicosanoids 133
Age-related changes in hormone secretion 134
Melatonin 134
Gut hormones 136
Multiple endocrine neoplasia (MEN) 136
The hormonal control of appetite: fat as an endocrine tissue 136
Regulation of blood pressure and volume 138
The next 100 years of endocrinology 139



EXTENDED MATCHING QUESTIONS 141

Answers 146

Glossary 159

Index 162