

Comparative Vertebrate Endocrinology

The long-awaited third edition of this popular textbook retains the successful format of previous editions, dealing with the nature, actions and roles of hormones among vertebrate animals. Special emphasis is placed on the evolution and origins of hormones and their receptors, on the role of hormones in the physiological coordination of vertebrates, and on dealing with each endocrine process in the context of the organism's physiology, ecology and evolution.

Comparative Vertebrate Endocrinology discusses the intimate physiology of the endocrine system and the pivotal role of hormones in coordinating basic body processes such as nutrition, reproduction, calcium metabolism and osmoregulation, as well as their contributions to animal coloration, molting and development. The species included range from lower chordates through to mammals, including marsupials.

Peter Bentley graduated from the University of Western Australia where his first degree was in Zoology and his PhD in Physiology.

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Dedicated to the memory of Hans Heller and Harry Waring,
who introduced me to comparative endocrinology

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[More information](#)

Contents

<i>Preface to the third edition</i>	xiii
<i>Preface to the second edition</i>	xv
<i>Preface to the first edition</i>	xvii
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xviii
1 Introduction	1
The transfer of information in animals	1
What is comparative endocrinology?	3
Occurrence of vertebrate hormones in other organisms	4
Molecular evolution and the endocrine system	5
The methods used in comparative endocrinology	7
The uses of comparative endocrinology	8
The diversity of vertebrates as a background for endocrine variation	12
Conclusions	14
2 Comparative morphology of the endocrine tissues	15
The pituitary gland	16
Comparative morphology of the pituitary	18
The hypothalamus	24
Endocrinology and the evolutionary origins of the pituitary gland	25
The endocrine glands of the pharynx: thyroid, parathyroids, and ultimobranchial bodies	28
The adrenals	34
The endocrine hormones of the gut	44
The gonads	51
The juxtaglomerular apparatus	54
The pineal gland	57
The corpuscles of Stannius	60
The urophysis	61
Unconventional endocrine tissues	62
Conclusions	64
3 The chemical structure, polymorphism, and evolution of hormones	65
Steroid hormones	67
Hormones that are amino acid derivatives	77
The peptide hormones of the neurohypophysis	84

The neurohormones of the hypothalamus	93
Paracrine and autocrine modulation of the hypothalamo–hypophysial system	101
The caudal neurosecretory peptides: the urotensins	103
Melanin-concentrating hormone	105
The renin–angiotensin system	106
Parathyroid hormone, calcitonin, and stanniocalcin	109
The hormones of the islets of Langerhans and the gastrointestinal tract	116
Hormones of the opioid prohormone family	137
The gonadotropin–thyrotropin family: luteinizing hormone, follicle-stimulating hormone, and thyroid-stimulating hormone	144
The transforming growth factor- β superfamily	151
The growth hormone–prolactin family	155
Leptin	164
The natriuretic peptide family	165
The guanylin peptide family	169
Adrenomedullin	170
The evolution of hormones and their receptors: summary	170
Conclusions	175
4 The life history of hormones	177
The formation of hormones	177
The release of hormones from the endocrine glands	189
The concentration of hormones in the blood	205
Transport of hormones in the blood	207
Peripheral activation of hormones	211
Termination of the actions of hormones	212
Mechanisms of hormone action	214
Conclusions	221
5 Hormones and nutrition	223
Endocrines and digestion	224
The transformation of metabolic substrates: the role of hormones	227
Hormones and thermogenesis	238
The storage of nutrients and their utilization during fasting	245
Migration and fasting	252
Hormones and lactation	262
Storage of nutrients in the egg	265
Conclusions	268
6 Hormones and calcium metabolism	269
The discovery of parathyroid hormone and calcitonin	274
Vitamin D and $1\alpha, 25$ -dihydroxycholecalciferol	277
Mechanisms and interactions of parathyroid hormone, calcitonin, and vitamin D_3 on calcium metabolism	278
Phyletic differences in the role of hormones in calcium metabolism	288
Conclusions	301

7	Hormones and the integument	303
	Hormones and molting	304
	Hormones and skin glands	308
	Hormones and pigmentation	310
	Physiological color change	315
	Evolution of color change mechanisms in vertebrates	326
	Morphological color change	328
	Has there been an evolution of the roles of MSH and MCH?	333
	Conclusions	335
8	Hormones and osmoregulation	337
	Osmoregulation in terrestrial environments	338
	Osmoregulation in fresh water	339
	Osmoregulation in the sea	341
	The role of hormones in osmoregulation	345
	Conclusions	377
9	Hormones and reproduction	379
	The reproductive apparatus of vertebrates	382
	Secondary sex characters in vertebrates	383
	Periodicity of the breeding season: rhythms in sexual activity	388
	Maturation of the gametes—the gonadal cycles	394
	Hormones and the evolution of viviparity: a summary	440
	The control of metamorphosis in fish and amphibians	443
	Sex determination and differentiation	449
	Conclusions	454
	<i>References</i>	457
	<i>Index</i>	515

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P.J. Bentley
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Preface to the third edition

This edition has been extensively revised and contains nearly 1000 new references and over 60 new or modified figures. This proliferation reflects advances in our knowledge of hormones and their actions, and a persistent interest in the application of this knowledge to the domain of comparative endocrinology. Both of the dedicatees of this book are now deceased. When they first became interested in this subject over 60 years ago they utilized contemporary pharmacology to help to lay the foundations of the discipline. Its recent propagation largely reflects the use of the techniques of molecular biology and the unravelling of the genome to decipher the interrelationships of hormones in both vertebrates and their invertebrate progenitors.

It would not have been possible for me to prepare this edition without the collaboration of The University of Western Australia, particularly the Physiology Department and Professor Trevor Redgrave. All members of the department helped by making me feel welcome there. The Biological Sciences Library is the principal repository of the new information that I have used. Its comprehensive collection and helpful staff provided a pleasant venue for many hours of searching.

*Peter Bentley
The University of Western Australia
December 1997*

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Frontmatter

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Preface to the second edition

It is over 6 years since the first edition of this book went to press. Interest in comparative endocrinology has not waned in that time, as shown by the steady stream of papers and the organization of meetings and symposia on this subject. Several new hormones have been identified and described in the interim. Information about the synthesis of proteins that act as prohormones has provided enlightenment about the existence of more “hormone families” with consequent speculation about their evolution. An increased utilization of radioimmunoassays and immunohistochemistry has promoted many of these advances. There has also been an increased appreciation of commonalities of the endocrine and nervous systems, as described in the discipline of neuro-endocrinology. However, because the basic information about the endocrine system has not really changed, it has been unnecessary to alter significantly the conclusions at the end of each chapter.

In view of the great expansion of the literature, the preparation of this edition has been especially challenging. I have generally refrained from substituting new references for old ones, a practice that would ignore the seniority of discoveries and distort the historical perspective of the subject. There are thus many more references in the text. I hope that this does not distract the students for whom this book is primarily intended. They should “read around” the references and use them as a source if necessary. More senior readers may find the expanded bibliography more useful. Finally, I would like to apologize to the many endocrinologists whom it has not been possible to quote but without whose discoveries our knowledge of this subject would be much poorer.

P. J. Bentley
New York
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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Preface to the first edition

This book has been written primarily for use as a textbook by undergraduate, as well as graduate, students. It is hoped that it may serve as a basis for course work in comparative endocrinology and also as an auxiliary text to aid in the teaching of comparative animal physiology. In order to gain the most from this book, the reader should have a basic knowledge of zoology and animal physiology. I have nevertheless attempted to put the endocrinology that is described into a broader biological framework by relating it to the animal's physiology, ecology, and evolutionary background. This is one of the reasons why I have departed from the more usual format of previous textbooks in this area, which generally deal with each endocrine gland in succession, chapter by chapter. Instead, I have attempted to describe certain broad and basic biological processes, the functioning of which is often coordinated by the secretion from several endocrine glands.

No attempt has been made to describe invertebrate endocrinology, as the rapid growth of this area really justifies a separate textbook. The book by K. G. Highnam and L. Hill (*Comparative Endocrinology of the Invertebrates*, Elsevier: Amsterdam, 1970) deals admirably with this subject.

It has not been possible in a book of this nature to give a complete list of original references. There are far too many of these, and many of the earlier observations are already a part of the "classical literature". Instead, I have attempted to refer the reader to more recent papers and reviews that contain references to the material described and can act as useful "starting points" for the students who wish to study the subject further. In order to keep abreast of developments in the various subject areas described, the current literature should be consulted. The principal journals where papers on these subjects are published are *General and Comparative Endocrinology*, *Journal of Endocrinology*, *Endocrinology*, and *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology*. In addition, many papers appear in the standard physiological journals, especially *Journal of Physiology* and *American Journal of Physiology*.

P.J.B.

Mount Sinai School of Medicine of The City University of New York
September 1974

Some abbreviations used in endocrinology

ACTH	corticotropin (adrenocorticotrophic hormone)
ADH	antidiuretic hormone
AMH	antimullerian hormone
ANP	atrial natriuretic peptide (s)
AVP	arginine-vasopressin
cyclic AMP	cyclic adenosine-3'5'-monophosphate (cAMP)
CaBP	calcium-binding protein
CBG	corticosteroid (cortisol)-binding globulin
CCK	cholecystokinin
cDNA	complementary DNA
CG	chorionic gonadotropin
CGRP	calcitonin gene-related peptide
CRE	cyclic AMP response (or regulatory) element
CREB	cyclic AMP response element binding protein
CRF	corticotropin-releasing factor
CRH	corticotropin-releasing hormone
CT	calcitonin
DAG	diacylglycerol
DHEA	dehydroepiandrosterone
DHT	dihydrotestosterone
EDLF	endogenous digitalis-like factor
ER	estrogen receptor
FSH	follicle-stimulating hormone
GABA	γ -aminobutyric acid
GH	growth hormone (somatotropin)
GH-RF (or -RH)	growth hormone-releasing factor (or hormone)
GIP	gastric inhibitory polypeptide (glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide)
GLP-I, GLP-II	glucagon-like peptide I, II
GMP	guanosine 5'-monophosphate
GnRH	gonadotropin-releasing hormone (LHRH)
GR	glucocorticoid receptor
GSD	genotype sex determination
GTH-I, GTH-II	gonadotropic hormone (in fish) I, II
hCG	human chorionic gonadotropin

ABBREVIATIONS

xix

hCS	human chorionic somatomammotropin (hPL)
hPL	human placental lactogen
HRE	hormone-response element
5-HT	5-hydroxytryptamine (serotonin)
-IF	-inhibiting factor
IGF-I, IGF-II	insulin-like growth factor (s) I, II
-IH	-inhibiting hormone
IP ₃	inositol-1,4,5-trisphosphate
IT	isotocin
JAK	janus kinase
KT	ketotestosterone
LH	luteinizing hormone
LVP	lysine-vasopressin
MAO	monoamine oxidase
MCH	melanin-concentrating hormone
MIP	molluscan insulin-related peptide
mRNA	messenger RNA
MR	mineralocorticoid receptor
MSH	melanocyte-stimulating hormone (melanotropin)
MT	mesotocin
NHP	nasohypophysial protein
NPY	neuropeptide Y (or neuropeptide tryptosine)
OT	oxytocin
PACAP	pituitary adenylate cyclase activating protein
PG	prostaglandin
PIP ₂	phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate
PKA	protein kinase A
PKC	protein kinase C
PL	placental lactogen
PLC	phospholipase C
PMSG	pregnant mare's serum gonadotropin
PMY	peptide MY (methionine-tyrosine)
PNMT	phenylethanolamine- <i>N</i> -methyltransferase
POMC	proopiomelanocortin
PP	pancreatic polypeptide
PR	progesterone receptor
PRL	prolactin
PTH	parathyroid hormone
PTHrP	parathyroid hormone-related protein
PYY	peptide YY (or peptide tyrosine-tyrosine)
-R	receptor (suffix)
RAS	renin-angiotensin system
-RF	-releasing factor
-RH	-releasing hormone
-R-IH	-release-inhibiting hormone
rT ₃	reverse T ₃

SHBG	sex hormone-binding globulin
SRIF	somatotropin release-inhibiting factor (somatostatin)
STC	stanniocalcin
T ₃	triiodothyronine
T ₄	thyroxine
TBG	thyroid hormone-binding globulin
TDF	testis-determining factor
TGF	transforming growth factor
TNF	tumor necrosis factor
TR	thyroid hormone receptor
TRH	thyrotropin-releasing hormone
TSD	temperature-dependent sex determination
TSH	thyroid-stimulating hormone (thyrotropin)
VIP	vasoactive intestinal peptide
VNP	ventricular natriuretic peptide
VP	vasopressin