



# Endocrine

434 Physiology team  
presents to you:

# Mineralocorticoids

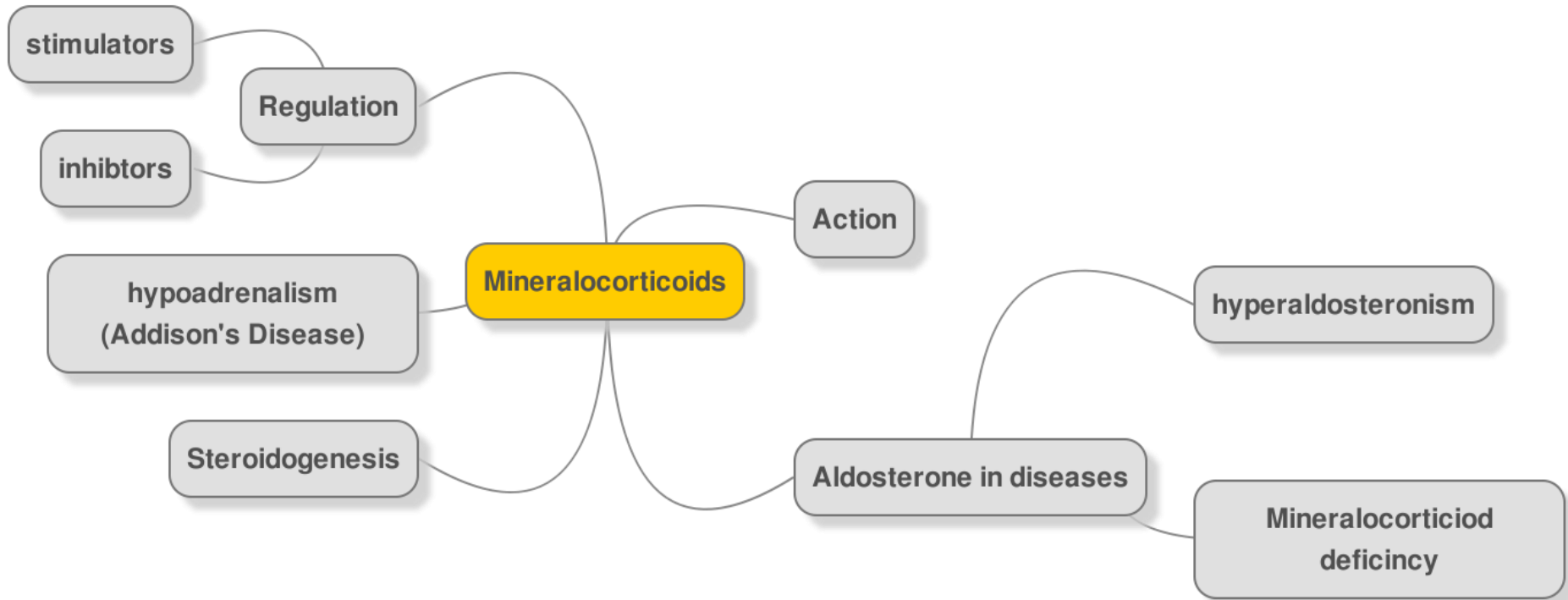
- Important
- Further explanation
- Based on male slides



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▪ **Please check out this link before viewing the file to know if there are any additions/changes or corrections. The same link will be used for all of our work [Physiology Edit](#)**

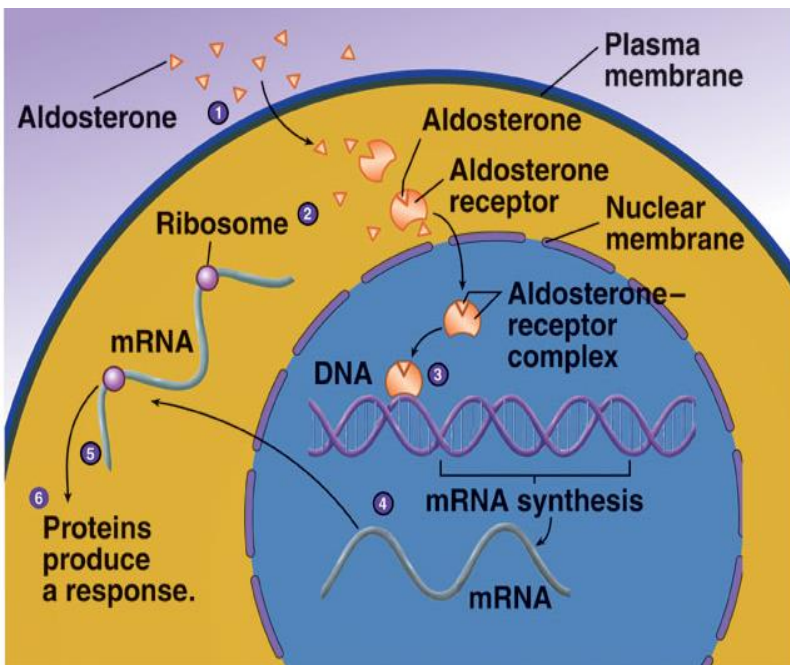


# Mineralocorticoids

## Aldosterone :

- it's an essential **steroid** hormone secreted from from zona glumerulosa.
- Aldosterone levels are in parallel to **cortisol** rhythms which are highest during morning (8 AM) and lowest during night (11 PM).
- Aldosterone exerts **90%** of the mineralocorticoids activity while cortisol's activity is **10%** only (1/400<sup>th</sup> that of aldosterone), while in plasma cortisol is at 1000 fold higher concentration than aldosterone

## Mechanism of Aldosterone action



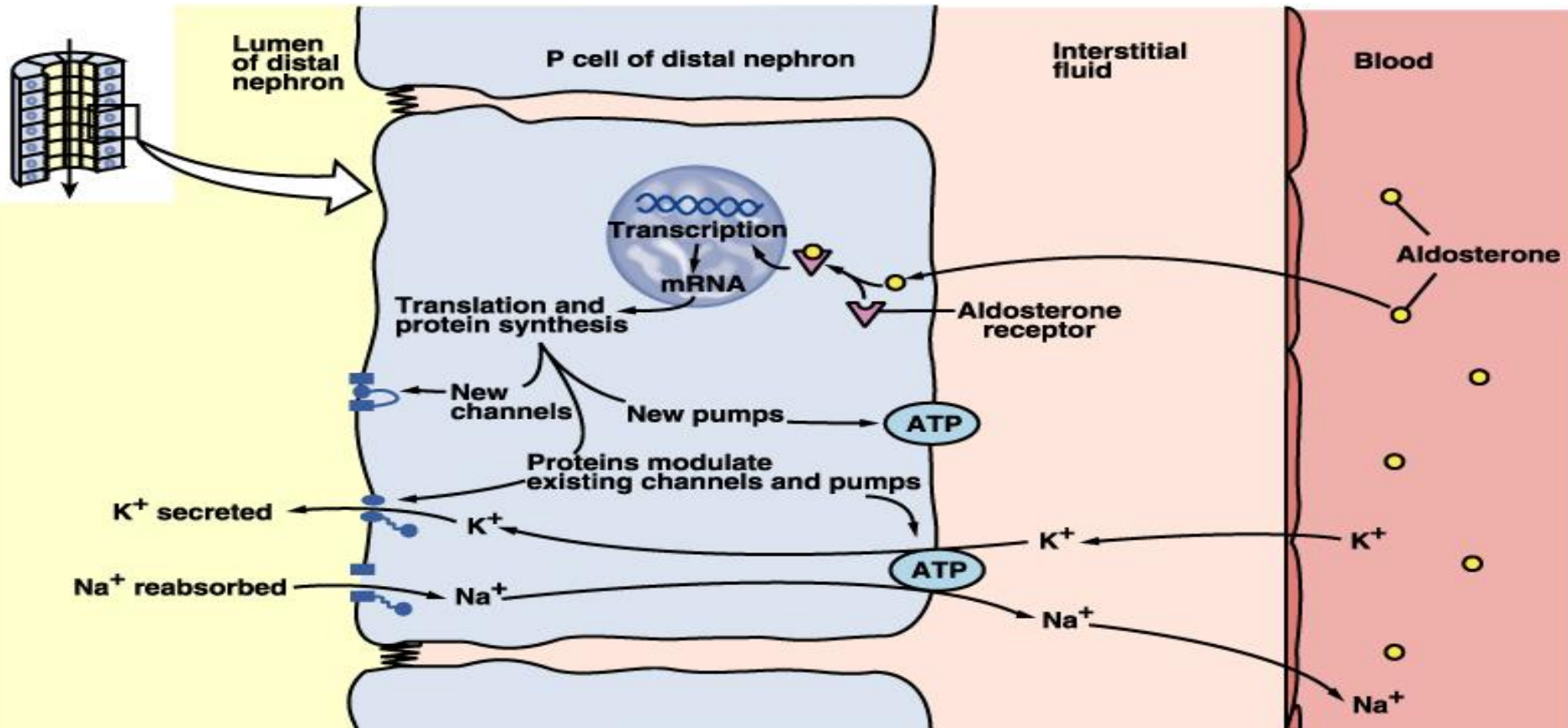
Since Aldosterone is a steroid hormone, it will diffuse easily through the cell membrane and act intracellularly.

It will bind to its receptor on the cytoplasm ( aldosterone-receptor complex ).

The aldosterone-receptor complex will diffuse into the nucleus and induce the DNA to synthesize mRNA.

mRNA will then produce the protein needed in the cytoplasm with the help of ribosomes

# Actions of aldosterone



- Aldosterone will **increase** the reabsorption of **sodium** in the Principal (P) cells (target cells ) of the distal convoluted tubules and the collecting ducts.
- It will also **increase** the reabsorption of **sodium** in sweat, salivary and intestinal cells by stimulating the synthesis of more Na/K-ATPase pumps.
- It will stimulate **active secretion** of **potassium** and **H<sup>+</sup>** from distal tubular cells into urine.
- Finally aldosterone will maintain extracellular volume

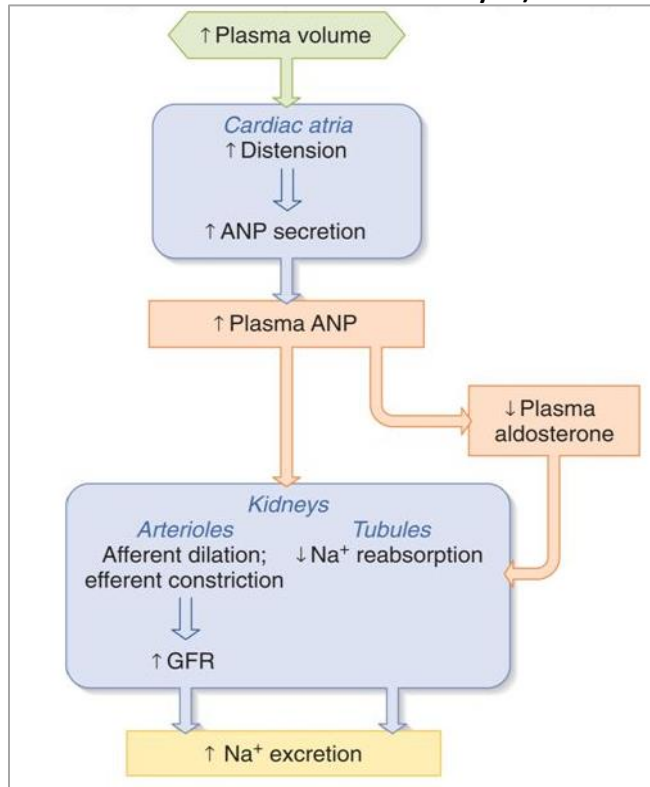
# Regulation of aldosterone



## Direct stimulators :

- High plasma potassium level. (less plasma sodium  $\rightarrow$  less  $H_2O$   $\rightarrow$  less blood volume  $\rightarrow$  MORE aldosterone).

- ACTH. (will stimulate the adrenal gland to secrete aldosterone however, ACTH stimulation is more **transient** than other stimuli & is diminished within several days.)



## Indirect stimulators :

- Ang II ( RAAS ).

RAAS will be activated by renal ischemia.

( will be explained in next slides )

potassium ion concentration and the renin-angiotensin system are by far the most potent in regulating aldosterone secretion.

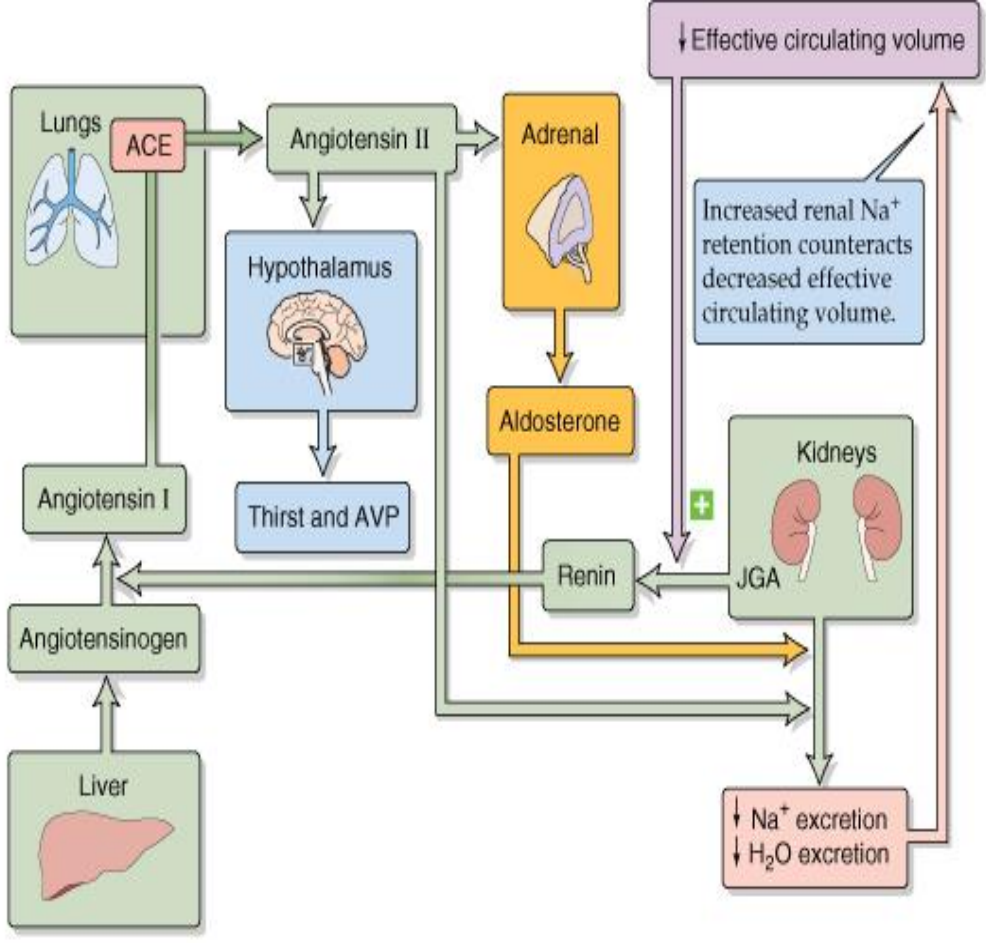
## Inhibitors :

- Atrial natriuretic peptide

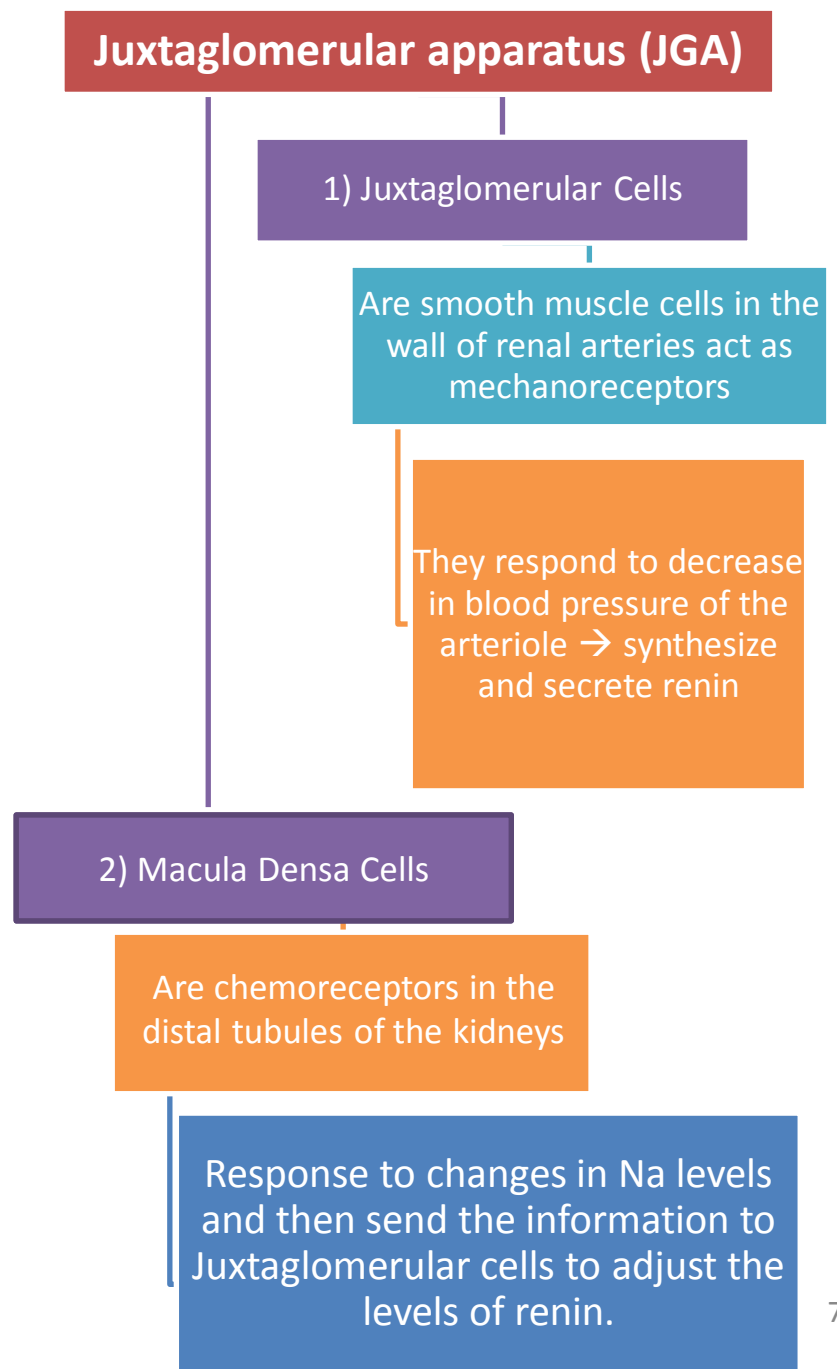
Right atrium by its baroreceptors will sense the increase in blood pressure and then release ANP.

ANP will **inhibit** Renin and Aldosterone  $\rightarrow$  decreased Na reabsorption





When blood pressure is decreased renin will be released from the Juxtaglomerular cells → it will change angiotensinogen (synthesized by the liver ) to Angiotensin I → then ACE will change ang I to ang II that will acts on *zona glomerulosa* to stimulate aldosterone synthesis via increased intracellular cAMP which will decrease Na excretion. Dr. Nervana said that ang II can act via cAMP as well as phospholipids mechanisms



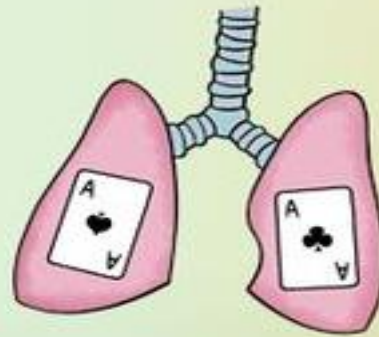
# RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM

## PART ONE

THE KIDNEYS SENSE A DECREASE IN BLOOD PRESSURE AND RELEASE RENIN FROM THE JUXTAGLOMERULAR APPARATUS (JGA)



RENIN CONVERTS ANGIOTENSINOGEN TO ANGIOTENSIN I



ACE



IN THE LUNGS, ANGIOTENSIN-CONVERTING ENZYME (ACE) CONVERTS ANGIOTENSIN I TO ANGIOTENSIN II

# RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM

## PART TWO

ANGIOTENSIN II CAUSES VASOCONSTRICTION, RESULTING IN INCREASED BLOOD PRESSURE



ANGIOTENSIN II ALSO STIMULATES THE ADRENAL GLANDS TO RELEASE ALDOSTERONE

WITHIN THE KIDNEYS, ALDOSTERONE PROMOTES THE REABSORPTION OF SODIUM AND WATER



THE CIRCULATING BLOOD VOLUME INCREASES, FURTHER RAISING THE BLOOD PRESSURE



# Steroidogenesis

processes by which cholesterol is converted to biologically active steroid hormones



**LDLs** —> diffuse into the interstitial fluid and attach to **coated pits** on the adrenocortical cell membranes.—> forming vesicles by endocytosis —> fuse with lysosomes and release cholesterol —> cholesterol is delivered to the mitochondria, where it is cleaved by cholesterol desmolase to form **pregnenolone** (The first and rate-limiting step in the synthesis of all steroid hormones) —> Newly synthesized steroid hormones are **rapidly** secreted from the cell ( they are synthesized & secreted on demand -not stored-)



**\*Steroids are derivatives of cholesterol**

# Hypoadrenalism (Adrenal Insufficiency)— **Addison's Disease**

results from an inability of the adrenal cortices to produce sufficient adrenocortical hormones (Glucocorticoid, mineralocorticoid and sex steroids ,, but Aldosterone is the main one), and its most frequently caused **by primary atrophy** or **bilateral destruction of the adrenal cortices**.

## **Causes:**

1. Autoimmunity.(causes atrophy in about 80 % of the cases)
2. TB (cause tuberculous destruction of the adrenal glands)
3. Malignancy (lung cancer love to go the Adrenal gland)
4. Radiation.

In some cases, adrenal insufficiency is secondary to impaired function of the pituitary gland, (failure to produce ACTH) → leading to decrease in production of cortisol and aldosterone and atrophy of adrenal (due to lack of ACTH stimulation).

**Secondary adrenal insufficiency is much more common than Addison's disease.**

## Clinical features:

1- bronze pigmentation of skin (in 90% of patients)

(due to ↑ production of POMC by the pituitary , which split to yield **ACTH** + melanocyte stimulating hormone **MSH**)

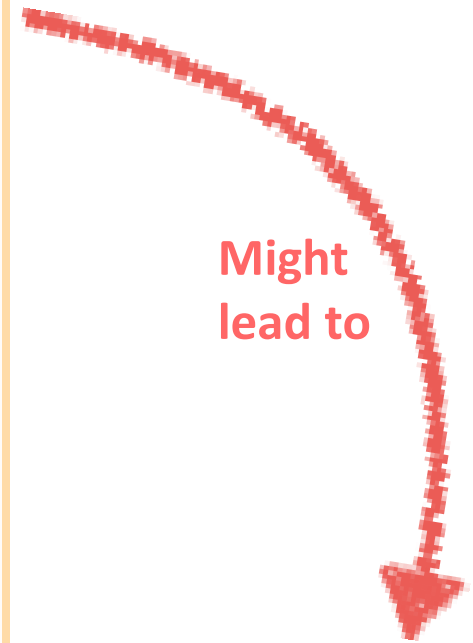
2-changes of body hair

3-GI disturbances

4-weakness

5-hypoglycemia

6-postural hypotension (due to hypovolaemia and sodium loss, is present in 80–90% of cases)



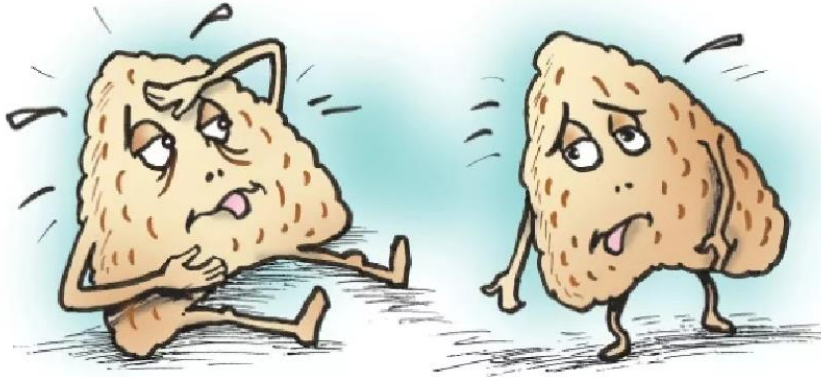
## Addisonian crisis

1. Profound fatigue
2. Dehydration
3. Vascular collapse
4. Renal shut down
5. ↓ serum Na
6. ↑ serum K

## Role of Aldosterone in diseases



**Hyperaldosterone** states:  
↓  
**Hypertension** + ↑ blood volume.



Complete **failure** to secrete aldosterone



**death**



Due to dehydration & low blood volume.

### Lack of Aldosterone; leads to:

1. Increased loss of sodium, chloride, water
2. Decrease ECF volume.
3. Hyperkalemia
4. Mild acidosis
5. Plasma sodium decreases and may lead to circulatory collapse, Decrease cardiac output – > shock —> death within 4 days to a 2 weeks if not treated.

**Mineralocorticoid Deficiency**

# Overproduction of aldosterone

## Hyperaldosteronism

### Primary

- primary aldosteronism (**conn's syndrome**)  
small tumor of the zona glomerulosa cells  
→ secretes large amounts of aldosterone.

### secondary

- cirrhosis
- ascites
- nephrotic syndrome

### Diagnostic tests for Primary Aldosteronism

Test	Range
• Plasma supine aldosterone at 0800h	> 15 ng/dl
• Urinary aldosterone metabolites	
-18-Monoglucuronide	> 20 ug/24h
-Tetrahydroaldosterone	> 65 ug/24h
• NaCl infusion/suppression test	> 10 ng/dl

### treatment :

- 1- surgery for adenoma
- 2-Spironolactone (mineralocorticoid receptor antagonist)



# Overproduction of aldosterone

## Hyperaldosteronism

**The most important effects are:**

1-hypokalemia

2-mild alkalosis, due to ↑ tubular (intercalated cells) H<sup>+</sup> secretion.

3- increase in extracellular fluid volume and blood volume

4-hypernatremia.

5- **almost always hypertension.**

6-heart palpitations

7- intermittent muscle paralysis (due to hypokalemia)

8-headache

9-nocturnal polyuria and polydipsia (small increases in ECF sodium conc. stimulate thirst and increased water intake → ↑ ECF volume → ↑ arterial pressure → ↑ kidney excretion of salt and water, called pressure natriuresis and pressure diuresis, despite the excess aldosterone this mechanism is referred to as Aldosterone escape)

10-hand & muscle cramping

11-weakness, paresthesia (tingling of fingers).

## Excess aldosterone

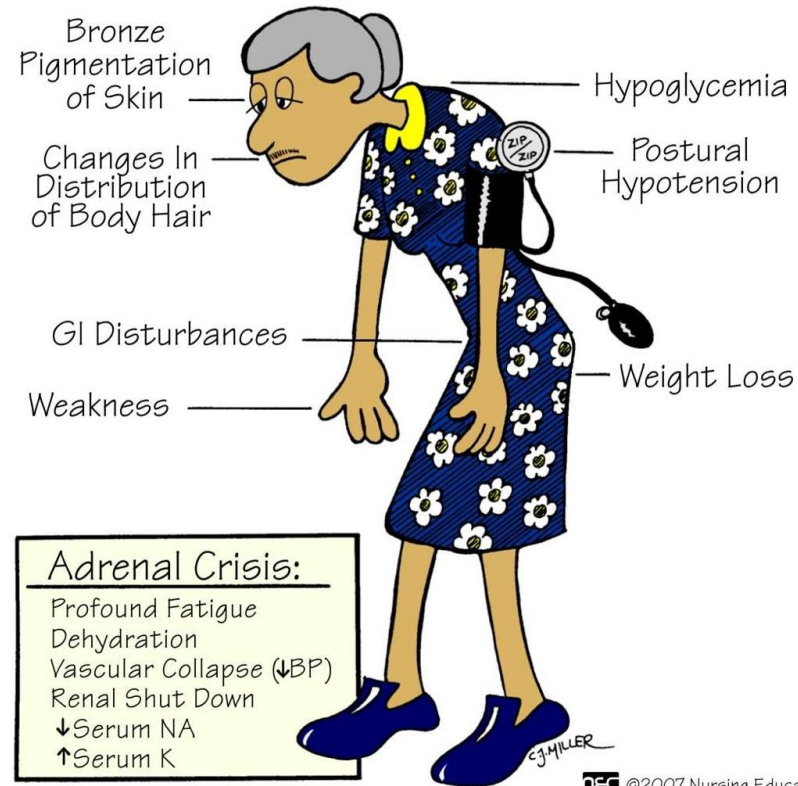
- increase extracellular fluid volume and arterial pressure (hypertension)
- hypernatremia
- hypokalemia and muscle weakness
- alkalosis

## aldosterone Deficiency

- decrease extracellular fluid volume, dehydration and low blood volume ( ↓ CO) → shock like state — > death (3D - 2W)
- hyperkalemia and cardiac toxicity

Summary

## ADDISON'S DISEASE



1- Are modified smooth muscle cells in the wall of afferent arteriole

- A. Macula densa cells
- B. ACE
- C. Juxtaglomerular cells
- D. P cells

2- Aldosterone is secreted by

- A. Zona glomerulosa
- B. Zona reticularis
- C. Zone fasciculata
- D. Macula densa

3- RAAS system is

- A. Direct stimulator
- B. Indirect stimulator
- C. Direct inhibitor
- D. Indirect inhibitor

4- Aldosterone will

- A. Increase secretion of Na
- B. Increase secretion of H<sub>2</sub>O
- C. Increase excretion of K
- D. Decrease excretion of H

5- Mineralocorticoid Deficiency leads to

- A. Hypokalemia
- B. Decrease ECF volume.
- C. Mild Alkalosis
- D. Non of the above

6- primary aldosteronism is caused by:

- A. small tumor of the zona glomerulosa cells
- B. cirrhosis
- C. small tumor of the zona fasciculata cells
- D. autosomal recessive disease

7- Addison's Disease Is due to:

- A. Malignancy
- B. Autoimmunity
- C. Hyperplasia of the adrenal cortices
- D. A & B

8- which one is true about Steroidogenesis?

- A. Cholesterol is cleaved by cholesterol desmolase
- B. cholesterol is delivered to Golgi apparatus
- C. Steroids are derivatives of amino acids
- D. New steroid hormones are slowly secreted from cell

**Q1:Name the 3 layers of the adrenal cortex and their hormones.**

Ans: zona fasciculata → Glucocorticoids.  
Zona glumerulosa → Mineralocorticoids.  
Zona reticularis → Androgens.

**Q2:Name 2 Actions of Aldosterone.**

Ans:1- Active reabsorption of Na and H<sub>2</sub>O  
2- Active secretion of K and H

**Q3:How does ANP work in regulation of Aldosterone secretion ?**

Ans:Baroreceptors in atrium will sense the increase in BP and release ANP that will inhibit Renin and Aldosterone.

**Q4:whats the role of Aldosterone in diseases ?**

Ans: 1-hyperaldosterone state → HTN + increase blood volume  
2-failure of secretion → dehydration + low blood volume → death

**Q5:types of Hyperaldosteronism**

Ans: - Primary → Conn's syndrome  
- Secondary → cirrhosis, ascites, nephrotic syndrome

**Q6:what are the tests Confirming Primary Aldosteronism**

Ans: 1-Plasma supine aldosterone at 0800h  
2-Urinary aldosterone metabolites  
3-NaCl infusion/suppression test

Thanks for checking our work

*Good Luck*

**Done by:**

Nourah AlShathri

Malak AlKahtani

