# DIGESTIVE PHYSIOLOGY

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## TASTE

- The filiform papillae, found at the front of the tongue, are rough and are important in licking.
- The fungiform papillae and the circumvallate papillae, found toward the back of the tongue, all contain taste buds.
- □ There are four tastes: sweet, sour, salt, and bitter.

## Saliva

- Saliva is 99.5% water, which provides a medium for dissolving foods. The remaining 0.5% consists of solutes:
- Chlorides which activate the salivary enzyme amylase
- Amylase initiates the breakdown of complex carbohydrates like starch and glycogen into simple sugars.
- Bicarbonates and phosphates, which are buffer chemicals, keep the saliva at a slightly acidic pH of 6.35 to 6.85.
- Urea and uric acid are waste products.
- Mucin forms mucus to lubricate food.
- □ The enzyme lysozyme destroys bacteria, thus protecting the mucous membrane from infection and the teeth from possible decay.





















Deglutition (swall	owing)
Control	
<ul> <li>Nerves</li> <li>Glossopharyngeal</li> <li>Vagus</li> <li>Accessory</li> </ul>	SWALLOWING REFLEX Impulses travel in V, IX, X nerves to stimulate medulla,and efferent pass through V, VII, IX, X, XII nerves to pharynx and tongue
<ul> <li>Brain stem</li> <li>Deglutition center</li> <li>Medulla oblongata</li> <li>Pons</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Disorders</li> <li>Dysphagia</li> <li>Aphagia</li> </ul>	





# Water Balance Digestive tract receives about 9 L of water/day -.7 L in food, 1.6 L in drink, 6.7 L in secretions - 8 L is absorbed by small intestine and 0.8 L by large intestine Water is absorbed by osmosis following the absorption of salts and organic nutrients Diarrhea occurs when too little water is absorbed - feces pass through too quickly if irritated - feces contains high concentrations of a solute (lactose)

## Absorption and Motility

- Transit time is 12 to 24 hours
- reabsorbs water and electrolytes
- Feces consist of water and solids (bacteria, mucus,
- undigested fiber, fat and sloughed epithelial cells
- Haustral contractions occur every 30 minutes
- distension of a haustrum stimulates it to contract
- Mass movements occur 1 to 3 times a day
- triggered by gastrocolic and duodenocolic reflexes
- filling of the stomach and duodenum stimulates motility
- moves residue for several centimeters with each contraction

### Absorption

### The small intestine is the main site of absorption

•Most *water-soluble nutrients* such as monosaccharides, small fatty acids, and many amino acids are absorbed by either active transport or facilitated diffusion.

Once in the lining cells, they may pass freely into the numerous *capillaries* of the mucosa's connective tissue (the lamina propria).

The "finishing enzymes" (brush border enzymes) in the small intestine help to break up disaccharides and small chain polypeptides that are still just a wee bit to large to absorb through the membrane.

•*Fat-soluble nutrients* cannot be absorbed so simply, and must be processed by the lining cells. •After packaging lipids into little bubbles of membrane they are exuded from the cell and pass into lymphatic capillaries called *lacteals* in the villus.

• Like most nutrients, these will find themselves headed for the liver for processing.





# Nervous Control of the GI Tract

## Intrinsic controls

- Nerve plexuses near the GI tract initiate short reflexes
- Short reflexes are mediated by local enteric plexuses (gut brain)

## <u>Extrinsic controls</u>

- Long reflexes arising within or outside the GI tract
- CNS centers and extrinsic autonomic nerves



### **TYPES OF MOTILITY:** PERISTALSIS: Propulsion of material in the aboral (away from mouth) direction. • Rate of peristalsis varies in region, but peristaltic generally gets slower as we move down the tract. Peristalsis occurs by segmental hyperpolarization followed by depolarization of muscle. Mechanism: Bolus of food in a particular location stimulates mechanoreceptors and chemoreceptors in the GI lumen, ultimately resulting in peristalsis: Relaxation of the muscle occurs distal to the bolus, so that the food can go forward. This is mediated by VIP / NO. Contraction of Longitudinal Muscle layer also occurs distal to bolus, because longitudinal contraction causes widening of the GI lumen. Contraction of the muscle occurs proximal to the bolus, in order to propel the bolus forward. There is a basal level of VIP inhibition in the muscle, and a bolus of food turns off this inhibition: distension of lumen by a bolus will cause inhibition of release of VIP / NO -----> contraction of proximal region. RHYTHMIC SEGMENTATION: Mixing and churning of materials without propelling them forward in the tract. П Only involved the circular muscle -- not longitudinal Common in small and large intestine п TONIC CONTRACTION: Blocking of the passage of material, as in sphincters. Tonic Contraction is myogenic -- it doesn't depend on innervation.



food stuff	first site	agents	products	absorbed form
carbohydrate	mouth	amylase	maltose	monosaccharide
protein	stomach	pepsin & HCl	peptides	amino acids
fats	duodenum	lipase & bile salts	fatty acids &	FA & glycerol

□ Are secreted by:

- salivary glands
- tongue
- stomach
- pancreas
- Break molecular bonds in large organic molecules:
  - carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, and nucleic acids
  - in a process called hydrolysis

## Digestive Enzymes





## Functions of the digestive system

- □ Ingestion
- Mechanical processing
- Digestion
- Secretion
- Absorption
- Excretion

## Movement of digestive materials

- Visceral smooth muscle shows rhythmic cycles of activity
  - Pacemaker cells
- Peristalsis
  - Waves that move a bolus
- Segmentation
  - Churn and fragment a bolus

## Esophagus

- Function food passageway
- $\Box$  Location from pharynx  $\rightarrow$  stomach
- □ 1. passes thru mediastinum
- $\Box$  2. behind the trachea
- □ 3. moves through diaphragm
- Esophageal sphincter distal end of esophagus prevents regurgitation of food











## Functions of Saliva

Moistens ingested food and helps turn it into a semisolid bolus that is more easily swallowed.

Moistens and cleanses the oral cavity structures.

First step in chemical digestion occurs when amylase in saliva begins to break down carbohydrates.

Contains antibodies and an antibacterial element called lysozyme that help inhibit bacterial growth in the oral cavity.

Watery medium into which food molecules are dissolved so taste receptors can be stimulated.

## Salivary glands – what is their function?

- □ Two main purposes:
- □ 1. secrete saliva chemical digestion
- 2. solvent dissolves food so can taste cleanses mouth and teeth

# <complex-block>





# Taste physiology The sense of taste is equivalent to excitation of taste receptors, and receptors for a large number of specific chemicals have been identified that contribute to the reception of taste. Despite this complexity, five types of tastes are commonly recognized by humans: Sweet - usually indicates energy rich nutrients Umami - the taste of amino acids (e.g. meat broth or aged cheese) Salty - allows modulating diet for electrolyte balance Sour - typically the taste of acids Bitter - allows sensing of diverse natural toxins





## 4/10/2009



# **Gastric Secretions**

- <u>3 Main cells:</u>
  - 1. Mucous cells mucous
  - 2. chief digestive enzymes
    - a. Pepsin digests protein
    - b. Alkaline substance protects lining
    - c. Intrinsic factor absorbs Vitamin B12
  - 3. parietal cells → hydrochloric acid







## Stomach

- J shaped
- Can hold about a liter Functions:
- □ 1. receives food
- 2. mixes food with gastric juice
- 3. moves food to small intestine

## Mixing in the Stomach

Chyme – semifluid made by mixing food

with digestive juices.

- 1. pushed toward small intestine
- 2. water moves right through
- 3. Movement thru fastest to slowest:

carbs→proteins→fats (4-6hrs for fats)



# Microscopic Anatomy Antral Glands Gastrin cells Location- mucosa of distal stomach Stimulus- amino acids Secretion- Gastrin (stimulates HCl production by way of parietal cells) Somatostatin Location- mucosa of distal stomach + Duodenum Stimulus- HCl or low pH in duodenum Actions- Inhibits gastric emptying, Pancreatic secretions, and gallbladder contraction

TABLE 15.4		HORMONES OF THE DIGESTIVE TRACT
HORMONE	SOURCE	FUNCTION
Gastrin Cholecystokinin	Gastric cells, in response to food Intestinal wall cells, in response to proteins and fats in the small intestine	Causes gastric glands to increase their secretory activity Causes gastric glands to decrease their secretory activity and inhibits gastric motility; stimulates pancreas to secrete fluid with a high digestive enzyme concentration; stimulates gallbladder to contract and release bile
Secretin	Cells in the duodenal wall, in response to acidic chyme entering the small intestine	Stimulates pancreas to secrete fluid with a high bicarbonate ion concentration

- Cardia mucus, endocrine and undifferentiated cells
- Fundus & body oxyntic glands
  - Parietal, chief, endocrine, mucus neck, undifferentiated cells
- Antrum & pylorus pyloric glands
  - Endocrine, mucus neck, G-cells

- Endocrine cells
  - G cells secrete gastrin
- Paracrine cells
  - D cells secrete somatostatin
  - Enterochromaffin-like (ECL) cells secrete histamine

# Parietal Cell

- Stimulated by histamine, gastrin, acetylcholine
- Inhibited by somatosatin, prostaglandins

# Somatostatin

- Secreted by D cells
- Stimulated by CCK
- Effects H<sup>+</sup> secretion via inhibitory effects
   on oxyntic ECL cells and pyloric G cells
- D cell in pylorus stimulated by acid

# CCK

- Produced by duodenal endocrine cells in response to dietary fatty acids and amino acids
- In vitro stimulates parietal cells
- In vivo inhibits acid production through D cells

# Secretin

- Produced by duodenal S cells in response to H<sup>+</sup>
- Inhibits gastric acid secretion, stimulates pancreatic HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> production

# Pepsinogens

- Pepsins cleave peptide bonds formed by phenylalanine and tyrosine
- PG secretion stimulated by acetylcholine analogs, histamine, gastrin, secretin
- Inhibited by somatostatin

# Intrinsic Factor

Secreted by parietal cells Binds cobalamin( $B_{12}$ ) to facilitate absorption 2 cobalamin binding proteins – IF/R Initially binds to cobalamin R in acidic stomach then is cleaved in duodenum and binds to IF Attaches to ileal mucosa  $B_{12}$  malabsorption may result from IF deficiency, achlorhydria or hypochlorhydria, bacterial overgrowth, pancreatic insufficiency, ileal

astrin	distention of stomach, vagus	stom ach wall	release gastric secretions
secretin	acid in duonenum	duodenum	release pancreatic chyme
cholecy stok inin	fatty acids in duodenum	duodenum	<ol> <li>slow peristalsis</li> <li>contract gall bladder</li> <li>suppress appetite</li> </ol>











## Inhibition of Gastric Secretion

- Important for protection of duodenum
- Gastric pH < 3 ---> gastric D cells release somatostatin which inhibits gastrin release
- Acid in duodenum ---> secretin & CCK---> inhibits gastric secretion and motility
- Acid, fats, hyper-osmotic solutions in the duodenum ---> release of enterogastrones ---> inhibit gastric motility and secretion

•Gastric Inhibitory Peptide (GIP) from duodenum ---> inhibits parietal cell function

### Inhibitors of Gastric Secretion

- GIP
- CCK
- Secretin

## **Gastric Acid Secretion**

- Basolateral membrane of the parietal cell contains specific receptors for the three major stimulants of acid production
  - Histamine
  - Gastrin
  - Acetylcholine
- Each stimulant has its own 2<sup>nd</sup> messenger system which allows for stimulation of the parietal cell












#### **Other Factors** Bicarbonate Stomach Fundus Secreted from the gastric mucosa Esophagus Theory is that bicarbonate is secreted to maintain a neutral pH Pylorus at the mucosal surface, even if acidic in lumen Mucosa Cholinergic agonist, vagal nerve Submucosa stimulation have been shown to Duodenum Muscle layers increase gastric bicarbonate production Serosa Rugae















### Defecation cycle,

- □ is normally a combination of both voluntary and involuntary processes.
- The defecation cycle is the interval of time between the completion of one bowel movement, and the completion of the following bowel movement.
- At the start of the cycle, the rectum ampulla (anatomically also: *ampulla recti*) acts as a temporary storage facility for the unneeded material.
- □ As additional fecal material enters the rectum, the rectal walls expand.
- A sufficient increase in fecal material in the rectum causes stretch receptors from the nervous system located in the rectal walls to trigger the contraction of rectal muscles, relaxation of the internal anal sphincter and an initial contraction of the skeletal muscle of the external sphincter.
- The relaxation of the internal anal sphincter causes a signal to be sent to the brain indicating an urge to defecate.

If this urge is not acted upon, the material in the rectum is often returned to the colon by reverse peristalsis where more water is absorbed, thus temporarily reducing pressure and stretching within the rectum.

The additional fecal material is stored in the colon until the next mass 'peristaltic' movement of the transverse and descending colon.

If defecation is delayed for a prolonged period the fecal matter may harden, resulting in constipation.

Once the voluntary signal to defecate is sent back from the brain, the final phase of the cycle begins.

The rectum now contracts and shortens in peristaltic waves, thus forcing fecal material out of the rectum and out through the anal canal.

The internal and external anal sphincters along with the puborectalis muscle allow the feces to be passed by pulling the anus up over the exiting feces in shortening and contracting actions.

Defecation is normally assisted by taking a deep breath and trying to expel this air against a closed glottis (Valsalva maneuver).

This contraction of expiratory chest muscles, diaphragm, abdominal wall muscles, and pelvic diaphragm exert pressure on the digestive tract.

Ventilation at this point temporarily ceases as the lungs push the chest diaphragm down in order to exert the pressure.

### **Cardiovascular aspects**

During defecation, the thoracic blood pressure rises, and as a reflex response the amount of blood pumped by the heart decreases.

Death has been known to occur in cases where defecation causes the blood pressure to rise enough to cause the rupture of an aneurysm or to dislodge blood clots

Also, in release of the Valsalva maneuver blood pressure falls, this coupled often with standing up quickly to leave the toilet results in a common incidence of blackouts in this situation.

### **Neurological aspects**

•When defecating, the external sphincter muscles relax.

•The anal and urethal sphincter muscles are closely linked, and experiments by Dr. Harrison Weed at the Ohio State University Medical Center have shown that they can only be contracted together, not individually, and that they both show relaxation during urination This explains why defecation is frequently accompanied by urination, and why urination is frequently accompanied by flatulence.

•Defecation may be involuntary or under voluntary control.

•Young children learn voluntary control through the process of toilet training.

•Once trained, loss of control causing fecal incontinence may be caused by physical injury (such as damage to the anal sphincter that may result from an episiotomy), intense fright, excessive pressure placed upon the abdomen, inflammatory bowel disease, impaired water absorption in the colon and psychologicalor neurological factors.

•The loss of voluntary control of defecation is experienced frequently by those undergoing a terminal illness

### Feces

- Makeup: water, undigested food, electrolytes, mucous, shed intestinal cells, and bacteria
- □ 75% water
- Odor usually a result of bacterial action





The functions of the liver are so numerous and important that we cannot live without it.

□ It produces heparin, prothrombin, and thrombin.

□ Its Kupffer's cells phagocytose bacteria and worn-out blood cells.

It stores excess carbohydrates as glycogen. It stores copper, iron, and vitamins A, D, E, and K.

It stores or transforms poisons into less harmful substances.

It produces bile salts that emulsify or break down fats.

### Liver Functions:

<ul> <li>Helps in the break down of carbohydrates</li> <li>Maintains blood sugar level</li> <li>Breaks down fatty acids – lipoproteins, cholesterol and phospholipids</li> <li>Breaks down amino acids</li> <li>Stores glycogen, iron and Vitamins A,D, B12</li> <li>Breaks down old and damaged RBC</li> <li>Removes toxins</li> <li>Secretes bile</li> </ul>		iver i unchons:	
		Helps in the break down of carbohydrates Maintains blood sugar level Breaks down fatty acids – lipoproteins, cholesterol and phospholipids Breaks down amino acids Stores glycogen, iron and Vitamins A,D, B12 Breaks down old and damaged RBC Removes toxins Secretes bile	Hepatocytes' functions include: •Production of bile •Processing bloodborne nutrients •Storage of fat-soluble vitamins •Detoxification •Secreted bile flows between hepatocytes toward bile ducts in portal triads

## **Metabolic function**

Carbohydrate metabolism

- Gluconeogenesis
- Glycogenolysis and glycogenesis
- Hormone metabolism
- Lipid Metabolism
  - Synthesis of fatty acids, cholesterol, lipoproteins
  - Ketogenesis
- Drug Metabolism
- Protein Metabolism
  - Synthesis of plasma proteins
  - Urea synthesis

Storage function

- •Glycogen
- All fat-soluble vitamins (A, D, E, K) and some
- •water soluble vitamins (B12)
- Iron

#### Protection

Detoxification – converts noxious or insoluble compounds into less toxic or more water soluble forms Kupffer cells ingest bacteria or other foreign material from blood















#### NORMAL BILIRUBIN • Uptake of bilirubin by the liver is mediated by a carrier protein (receptor) METABOLISM Bilirubin metabolism • Uptake may be competitively inhibited by other organic anions • On the smooth ER, bilirubin is conjugated with glucoronic acid, red blood cell xylose, or ribose • Glucoronic acid is the major conjugate - catalyzed by UDP blood unconjugated bilirubin complexed with albumin glucuronyl tranferase bilirubin uptake liver conjugation of bilirubin with glucuronic acid •"Conjugated" bilirubin is water soluble and is secreted by the hepatocytes into the biliary canaliculi • Converted to stercobilinogen (urobilinogen) (colorless) by gut conjugated bilirubin bacteria in the gut kidney • Oxidized to stercobilin which is colored urobilin (stercobilin) • Excreted in feces feces • Some stercobilin may be re-adsorbed by the gut and remajor pathway urine minor pathway excreted by either the liver or kidney





The causes of jaundice			
Туре	Cause	Clinical example	Frequency
Prehepatic	hemolysis	autoimmune abnormal hemoglobin	uncommon depends on region
intrahepatic	infection	hepatitis A, B, C	common/very common
	chemical/drug	acetaminophen alcohol	common common
	genetic errors: bilirubin metabolism	Gilbert's syndrome Crigler–Najjar syndrome Dubin–Johnson syndrome Rotor's syndrome	1 in 20 very rare very rare very rare
	genetic errors: specific proteins	Wilson's disease $\alpha_1$ antitrypsin	1 in 200 000 1 in 1000 with genotype
	autoimmune	chronic active hepatitis	uncommon/ rare
	neonatal	physiologic	very common
Posthepatic	intrahepatic bile ducts	drugs primary bilary cirrhosis cholangitis	common uncommon common
	extrahepatic bile ducts	gall stones pancreatic tumor cholangiocarcinoma	very common uncommon rare

Diff	erential diagnos	sis of jaundice	
	Prehepatic	Intrahepatic	Posthepatic
conjugated bilirubin AST or ALT ALP urine bilirubin urine urobilinogen	absent normal normal absent present	↑ ↑ normal present present	↑ normal ↑ present absent

Bile
<ul> <li>Yellowish green liquid</li> <li>Make up: bile salts, bile pigments, cholesterol and electrolytes.</li> </ul>
Bile salts – breaks down fat into smaller molecules.

## **Components of Bile**

- 50% Bile Acids (Cholic, chenodeoxycholic, deoxycholic, and lithocholic acid
  - Product of Cholesterol + 7a-Hydroxylase, most is recycled from distal ileum
  - Form micelles- amphipathic
  - pK= approx. 7 if unconjugated
  - conjugated to taurine or glycine- pK goes down, allows them to be soluble in the intestine <sup>(2)</sup>
- Phospholipids (lecithin)
  - solubilized by bile salts
- Cholesterol
- Bile pigments
  - bilirubin glucuronide





- Composition of Bile A yellow-green, alkaline solution containing bile salts, bile pigments, cholesterol, neutral fats, phospholipids, and electrolytes
- Bile salts are cholesterol derivatives that:
  - Emulsify fat
  - Facilitate fat and cholesterol absorption
    - Help solubilize cholesterol
- Enterohepatic circulation recycles bile salts
- The chief bile pigment is bilirubin, a waste product of heme

- Regulation of Bile Release Acidic, fatty chyme causes the duodenum to release:
  - Cholecystokinin(CCK) and secretin into the bloodstream
- Bile salts and secretin transported in blood stimulate the liver to produce bile
- Vagal stimulation causes weak contractions of the gallbladder
- Cholecystokinin causes:
  - The gallbladder to contract
  - The hepatopancreatic sphincter to relax
- As a result, bile enters the duodenum





# **FUNCTIONS OF BILE**

- It breaks down the fats that you eat so that your body can utilize them.
- 2. Bile is a very powerful antioxidant which helps to remove toxins from the liver.











### Functions

Most (> 80%) of the cells in the pancreas are involved in the exocrine activity of the organ:

- The production and export of inactive precursors, known collectively as the zymogens, for twenty major digestive enzymes including proteases, lipases, nucleases, and amylase. The pancreas produces more protein per gram of tissue than any other organ.
- The secretion of a bicarbonate-rich alkaline fluid (1200 ml/day in humans) which functions to neutralize the acidic chyme produced in the stomach. The alkalinization is necessary for digestive enzyme activity.

The remainder of the cells are responsible for the production of hormones (predominantly insulin and glucagon) that are released into the blood stream (endocrine function). They are organized in the islets of Langerhans

 Exocrine function - Secretes pancreatic juice which breaks down all categories of foodstuff Water solution of enzymes and electrolytes (primarily HCO3-)

- Neutralizes acid chyme
- Provides optimal environment for pancreatic enzymes
- Enzymes are released in inactive form and activated in the duodenum.
  - Examples include
    - Trypsinogen is activated to trypsin
    - Procarboxypeptidase is activated to carboxypeptidase
- Active enzymes secreted
  - Amylase, lipases, and nucleases
  - These enzymes require ions or bile for optimal activity
- The pancreas also has an endocrine function release of insulin and glucagon
- Regulation of Pancreatic Secretion Secretin and CCK are released when fatty or acidic chyme enters the duodenum
- CCK and secretin enter the bloodstream
- Upon reaching the pancreas:
  - CCK induces the secretion of enzyme-rich pancreatic juice
  - Secretin causes secretion of bicarbonate-rich pancreatic juice
- Vagal stimulation also causes release of pancreatic juice

### **Pancreatic Secretions:**

Hydrelatic

- HCO3<sup>-</sup> rich aqueous fluid
- neutralizes stomach HCI
- dilutes the chyme

#### Ecbolic

- enzyme rich secretion
- Proteases endopeptidases
- Trypsinogen ---> trypsin
- Chymotrypsinogen --> chymotrypsin
- Proelastase --> elastase
  Proteases exopeptidases
- Procarboxypeptidase --> carboxypeptidase
- Proaminopeptidase --> aminopeptidase
- amylase
- Lipases
- Ribonuclease
- Deoxyribonuclease

#### **Protease Activation**

- Pancreatic secretion contains trypsinogen and trypsin inhibitor
- Enterokinase in intestine activates trypsin
- Trypsin inhibitor is diluted by chyme

### Hormonal Regulation of Pancreatic Secretion Secretin

peptide hormone

pancreatic secretion rich in HCO3<sup>-</sup>

Cholecystokinin (CCK)

peptide hormone (33 amino acids)

pancreatic secretion rich in enzyme

### Pancreatic Secretion:

#### • <u>Cephalic Phase</u>

Sight, taste, smell of food Release of ACh & gastrin in response to vagal stimulation

Increased pancreatic flow, especially ecbolic

#### • Gastric Phase

Protein in chyme --> gastrin Gastric distention --> ACh from vagus Increased pancreatic secretion, esp. ecbolic

#### Intestinal Phase

Acid in chyme --> secretin hydrelatic secretion Long chain fatty acids & amino acids and peptides in chyme CCK & vagovagal reflex ecbolic secretion

### Bile Acids

Primary from cholesterol by addition of OH and COOH Secondary formed in intestine by resident bacteria conjugated to taurine or glycine Bile Flow Released as CCK causes contraction of gall bladder and relxation of Sphincter of Oddi CCK (33 amino acid hormone) released in response to fatty acids and lipids in chyme

Bile from the Liver

## Pancreatic and Bile Secretions

- Acid in Duodenum activates Secretion of Secretin to initiate HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> secretion
- AA, Lipids stimulate Gastrin (quick response) and CCK (prolonged response) to initiate pancreatic enzyme secretion.
- CCK also causes GB contraction, Sphincter of Oddi relaxation, and increased Bile Salt excretion by the liver.

## Physiology – Exocrine Pancreas

- Secretion of water and electrolytes originates in the centroacinar and intercalated duct cells
- Pancreatic enzymes originate in the acinar cells
- Final product is a colorless, odorless, and isosmotic alkaline fluid that contains digestive enzymes (amylase, lipase, and trypsinogen)

# Physiology – Exocrine Pancreas

- □ 500 to 800 ml pancreatic fluid secreted per day
- Alkaline pH results from secreted bicarbonate which serves to neutralize gastric acid and regulate the pH of the intestine
- Enzymes digest carbohydrates, proteins, and fats

### **Bicarbonate Secretion**

- Centroacinar cells and ductular epithelium secrete 20 mmol of bicarbonate per liter in the basal state
- Fluid (pH from 7.6 to 9.0) acts as a vehicle to carry inactive proteolytic enzymes to the duodenal lumen
- Sodium and potassium concentrations are constant and equal those of plasma
- Chloride secretion varies inversely with bicarbonate secretion





- Acinar cells secrete isozymes
   amylases, lipases, and proteases
- Major stimulants
   Chalamatakinin Asstulateling Sematin )
  - Cholecystokinin, Acetylcholine, Secretin, VIP
- Synthesized in the endoplasmic reticulum of the acinar cells and are packaged in the zymogen granules
- Released from the acinar cells into the lumen of the acinus and then transported into the duodenal lumen, where the enzymes are activated.

### Enzymes

### Amylase

- only digestive enzyme secreted by the pancreas in an active form
- functions optimally at a pH of 7
- hydrolyzes starch and glycogen to glucose, maltose, maltotriose, and dextrins

Lipase

- function optimally at a pH of 7 to 9
- emulsify and hydrolyze fat in the presence of bile salts

### **Enzymes of Pancreas**

- Proteases
  - essential for protein digestion
  - secreted as proenzymes and require activation for proteolytic activity
  - duodenal enzyme, enterokinase, converts trypsinogen to trypsin
  - Trypsin, in turn, activates chymotrypsin, elastase, carboxypeptidase, and phospholipase
- Within the pancreas, enzyme activation is prevented by an antiproteolytic enzyme secreted by the acinar cells

### Insulin

- Synthesized in the B cells of the islets of Langerhans
- 80% of the islet cell mass must be surgically removed before diabetes becomes clinically apparent
- Proinsulin, is transported from the endoplasmic reticulum to the Golgi complex where it is packaged into granules and cleaved into insulin and a residual connecting peptide, or C peptide

### Insulin

- Major stimulants
  - Glucose, amino acids, glucagon, GIP, CCK, sulfonylurea compounds, β-Sympathetic fibers
- □ Major inhibitors
  - somatostatin, amylin, pancreastatin, α-sympathetic fibers

# Glucagon

- Secreted by the A cells of the islet
- Glucagon elevates blood glucose levels through the stimulation of glycogenolysis and gluconeogenesis
- Major stimulants
  - $\square$  Aminoacids, Cholinergic fibers,  $\beta$ -Sympathetic fibers
- Major inhibitors
  - **Glucose**, insulin, somatostatin, α-sympathetic fibers

### Somatostatin

- Secreted by the D cells of the islet
- □ Inhibits the release of growth hormone
- □ Inhibits the release of almost all peptide hormones
- □ Inhibits gastric, pancreatic, and biliary secretion
- □ Used to treat both endocrine and exocrine disorders

# To resume

Hormone	Hormone Family	Site of Secretion	Stimuli for Secretion	Actions
Gastrin	Gastrin-CCK	G cells of the stomach	Small peptides and amino acids Distention of the stomach Vagal stimulation (GRP)	↑ Gastric H <sup>+</sup> secretion Stimulates growth of gastric mucosa
Cholecystokinin (CCK)	Gastrin-CCK	I cells of the duodenum and jejunum	Small peptides and amino acids Fatty acids	<ul> <li>↑ Pancreatic enzyme secretion</li> <li>↑ Pancreatic HCO<sub>3</sub> secretion</li> <li>Stimulates contraction of the gallbladder and relaxation of the sphincter of Oddi</li> <li>Stimulates growth of the exocrine pancreas and gallbladder</li> <li>Inhibits gastric emptying</li> </ul>
Secretin	Secretin-glucagon	S cells of the duodenum	H <sup>+</sup> in the duodenum Fatty acids in the duodenum	<ul> <li>↑ Pancreatic HCO<sub>3</sub> secretion</li> <li>↑ Biliary HCO<sub>3</sub> secretion</li> <li>↓ Gastric H<sup>+</sup> secretion</li> <li>Inhibits trophic effect of gastrin on gastric mucosa</li> </ul>
Gastric inhibitory peptide (GIP)	Secretin-glucagon	Duodenum and jejunum	Fatty acids Amino acids Oral glucose	$  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \  \$

Substance	Source	Actions
Acetylcholine (ACh)	Cholinergic neurons	Contraction of smooth muscle in wall Relaxation of sphincters ↑ Salivary secretion ↑ Gastric secretion ↑ Pancreatic secretion
Norepinephrine (NE)	Adrenergic neurons	Relaxation of smooth muscle in wall Contraction of sphincters ↑ Salivary secretion
Vasoactive intestinal peptide (VIP)	Neurons of mucosa and smooth muscle	Relaxation of smooth muscle ↑ Intestinal secretion ↑ Pancreatic secretion
Gastrin-releasing peptide (GRP) or bombesin	Neurons of gastric mucosa	↑ Gastrin secretion
Enkephalins (opiates)	Neurons of mucosa and smooth muscle	Contraction of smooth muscle ↓ Intestinal secretion
Neuropeptide Y	Neurons of mucosa and smooth muscle	Relaxation of smooth muscle ↓ Intestinal secretion
Substance P	Cosecreted with ACh	Contraction of smooth muscle ↑ Salivary secretion

#### **Gastric Phase** a) Begins with arrival of food b) Stimuli include (1)Distension of the stomach (2) Increase in pH of stomach contents (3) Presence of undigested materials Lasts about 3-4 hours c) d) Main action is to release more products from chief cells and parietal cells (1)Also increased muscle contractions to mix chyme e) Neural response - stimulation by chemo and stretch receptors coordinate short reflexes and chief and parietal cell releases Hormonal response - gastrin enters the capillaries at the f) stomach and stimulate chief and parietal cells

### 3. Intestinal Phase

2.

- a) Starts when chyme enters the small intestine
- b) Small amounts of liquidy material is squirted into the small intestines
- c) Lasts a long time

d) Primary action is to inhibit gastric acid and pepsinogen production, reduction of gastric mixing

e) Hormonal response - stimulation of CCK (cholecystokinin) and gastric inhibitory peptide (GIP)

f) Release of buffers in the small intestine to bring the pH back up

- Enzymes of the Small Intestine
  (1) Enterokinase activates proenzymes secreted by the pancreas
  (2) Gastrin, cholecystokinin and secretin

Inte	stinal Hormones
1.	Enterocrinin - hormone stimulates the Submucosal glands
2. a)	Secretin - cause an increase in the secretion of bile and buffers Secondarily reduces gastric motility and secretory rates (to duodenum)
3. a) b)	Cholecystokinin – accelerates the secretion of all digestive enzymes Increase pancreatic enzymes Push pancreatic secretions and bile into duodenum
4. a) b) c)	Gastric Inhibitory Peptide Inhibit gastric activity [Glucose dependent] Activates the Submucosal glands Works to make glucose go into the blood and target the fat cells
5.	Gastrin - facilitates large amounts of protein enzymes to be released

### **Small Intestine**

#### Mucosa

- Absorptive cells
- Goblet cells -- mucous
- Enteroendocrine cells -- cholecystokinin (CCK), secretin
- GIP glucose dependent insulinotropic peptide
- Somatostatin
- Intestinal crypts (Crypts of Lieberkühn)
- Submucosa
- Brunner's glands in duodenum alkaline secretion
- Peyer's patches in ileum.
- 5. Surface area increasing structures plicae circulares, villi, microvilli
- □ 6. Segmentation and Peristalsis