# HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY-II UNIT-IV

# **Endocrine system Local Hormones**



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# LOCAL HORMONES

- > A number of body tissues not normally described as endocrine glands secrete
- substances that act locally. Some of these are described below.

#### Histamine

- > This hormone is synthesized by mast cells in the tissues and basophils in blood.
- > It is released as part of the inflammatory process, increasing capillary permeability and dilatation.
- It also causes contraction of smooth muscle of the bronchi and alimentary tract and
- stimulates the secretion of gastric juice.
- Serotonin (5-hydroxytryptamine, 5-HT)
- > This is present in platelets, in the brain and in the intestinal wall.
- > It causes intestinal secretion and contraction of smooth muscle and its role in haemostasis (blood clotting).

## **Prostaglandins (PGs)**

- ➤ These are lipid substances that act as local hormones and have wide-ranging physiological effects in:
- the inflammatory response
- potentiating pain
- fever
- regulating blood pressure
- blood clotting
- uterine contractions during labour.

Other chemically similar compounds include leukotrienes and thromboxanes. They are active substances found in only small amounts, as they are rapidly degraded.

## **Erythropoietin**

This hormone is synthesized by the kidneys and increases erythropoiesis (the rate of red blood cell formation).

### **Gastrointestinal hormones**

Several local hormones, including gastrin, secretin and cholecystokinin (CCK), influence the secretion of digestive juices and their functions.

