

Scopes:

- >- To describe adrenal hormones
- >- To clarify circadien release pattern of adrenal hormones
- >- To clarify glucocorticoid receptors and signaling pathways
- >- To describe physiological effects of adrenal hormones
- >- To describe the premissive effects of adrenal hormones
- >- To describe the pathologies related to adrenal hormone defects

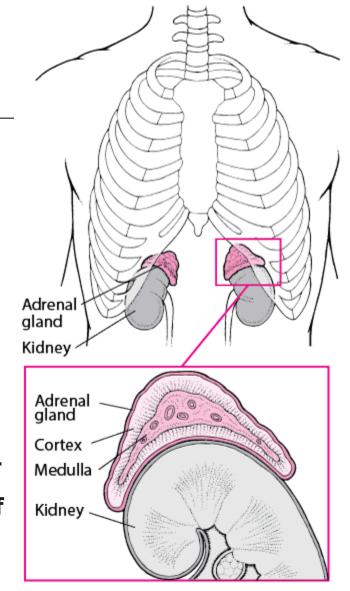
Overview

- -- INTRODUCTION
- -- HORMONES OF ADRENAL CORTEX
- MINERALOCORTICOIDS
 - Aldosterone
- -- RENIN-ANGIOTENSIN SYSTEM
- -- REGULATION OF ALDOSTERONE SECRETION
- -- ACTIONS OF ALDOSTERONE

Adrenal Gland Hormones

- The adrenal glands have two parts: the cortex and the medulla
- √- The cortex is the outer part of the gland.
 - It produces the hormones aldosterone and cortisol.
- ✓- The medulla, meanwhile, is the inner part of the gland.
 - It produces the hormones adrenaline (epinephrine) and noradrenaline.
 - ➤ Each layer produces steroid hormones from the precursor cholesterol.

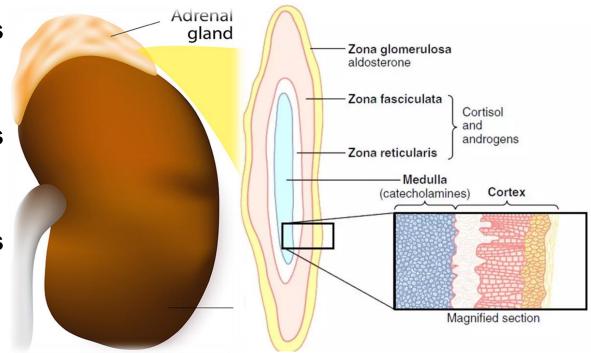
 However, the specific steroid hormone produced differs in each layer because of zonal specific enzymes.



Adrenal Cortex

❖ The adrenal cortex takes part in steroidogenesis, It has 3 distinct functional and histological zones:

- ✓ The zona glomerulosa (outermost layer) produces mineralocorticoids
- ✓ The zona fasciculata (middle layer) produces glucocorticoids
- ✓ The zona reticularis (innermost layer) produces androgen precursors



MINERALOCORTICOIDS

• Mineralocorticoids are the corticosteroids that act on the minerals (electrolytes), particularly promote sodium retention and Potassium excretion from kidneys to maintain Na balance.

- Mineralocorticoids are:

- 1. Aldosterone
- 2. 11-deoxycorticosterone

ALDOSTERONE

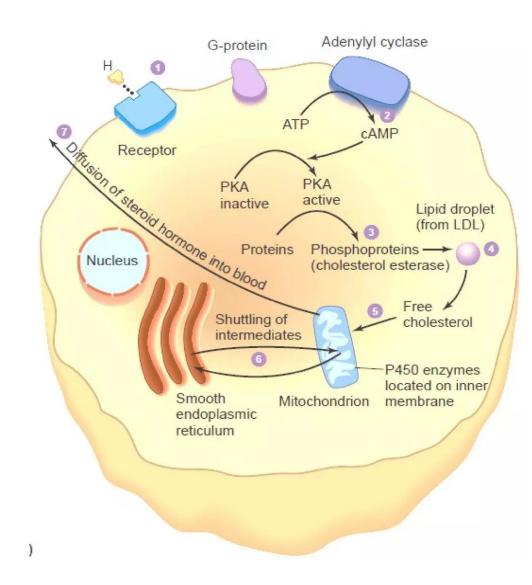
What is Aldosterone Hormones?

It is a steroid hormone synthesized in the **zona glomerulosa** of the adrenal cortex responsible for electrolyte (**sodium**, **chloride**, and **potassium**) and fluid balance in the body. Therefore, Aldosterone is known a **mineralocorticoid** hormone.

Chemistry and half-life

- Mineralocorticoids are C21 steroids having 21 carbon Atoms.
- Half_ life of mineralocorticoids is **20 minutes**.
- Approximately **80** % of the cholesterol used for steroid synthesis is provided by low density lipoproteins (LDL) in the circulating plasma.

- The LDLs, which have high concentrations of Cholesterol
- It diffuse from the plasma into the interstitial fluid.
- Attach to specific receptors contained in structures called Coated pits on the adrenocortical cell membranes.
- The coated Pits are then internalized by endocytosis, forming vesicles.
- That Eventually fuse with cell lysosomes and release cholesterol that can be used to synthesize adrenal steroid hormones.



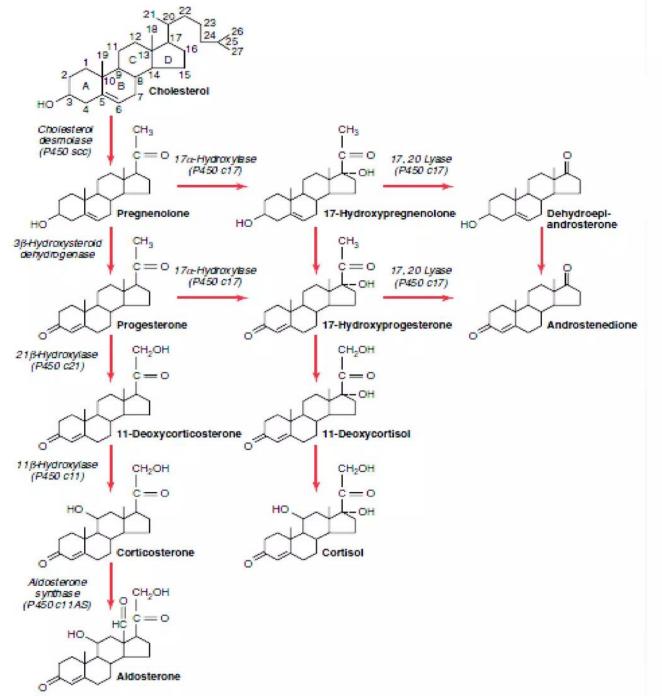
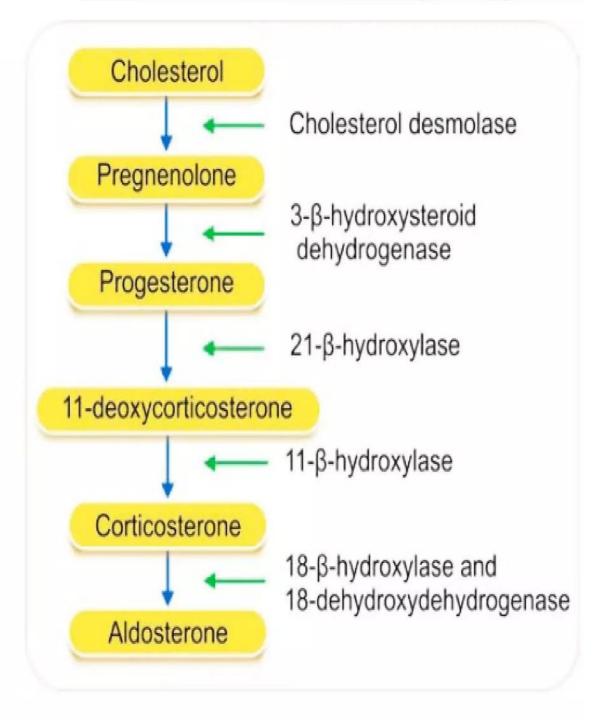


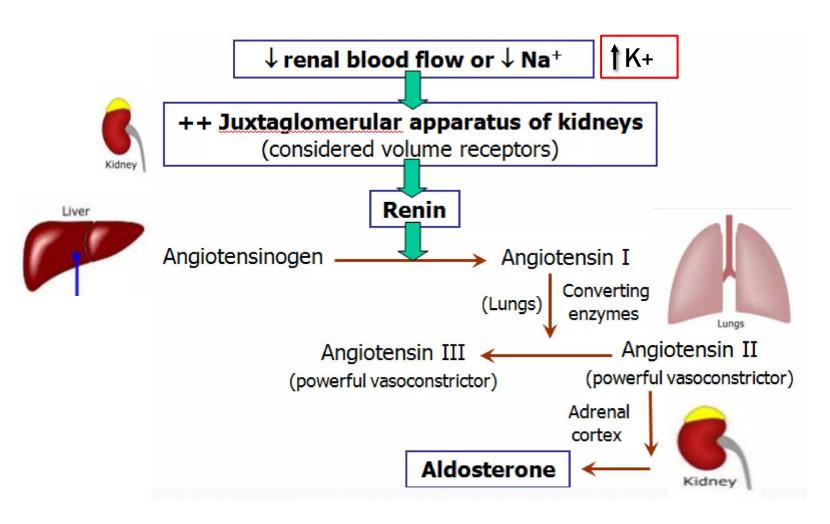
Figure 77-2 Pathways for synthesis of steroid hormones by the adrenal cortex. The enzymes are shown in italics.

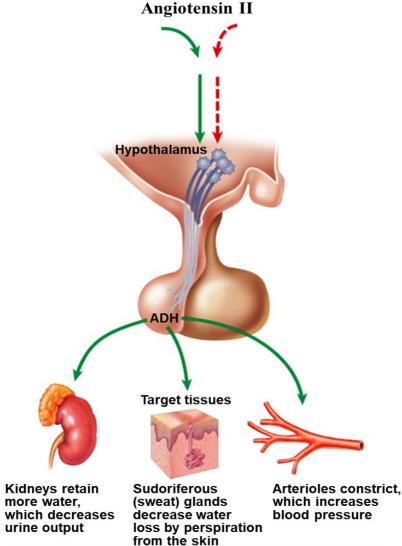


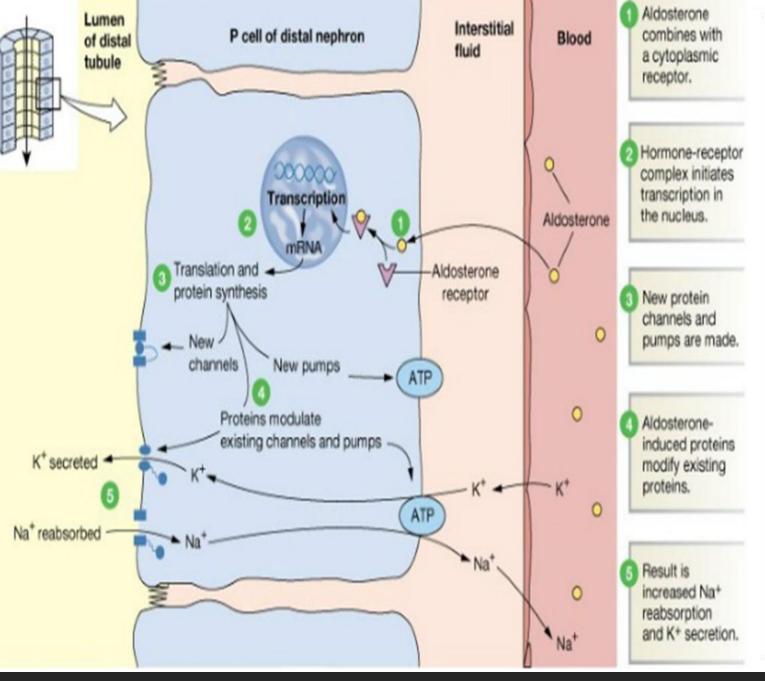
Regulator of Aldosterone Synthesis

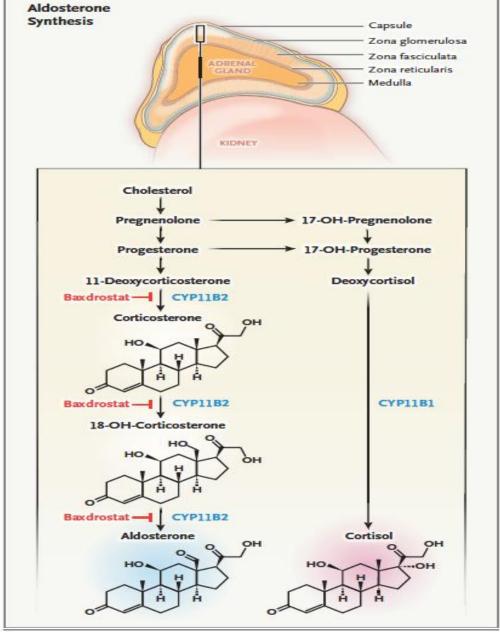
- **The 2 primary regulators of aldosterone are :**
- (1) The renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS)
- (2) Potassium levels

Renin-angiotensin-aldosterone System









TRANSPORT

- In the plasma, 40% aldosterone circulates in free form and 60% in bound form.
- •Aldosterone is weakly bound to the specific aldosterone-binding globulin to transcortin and to albumin.

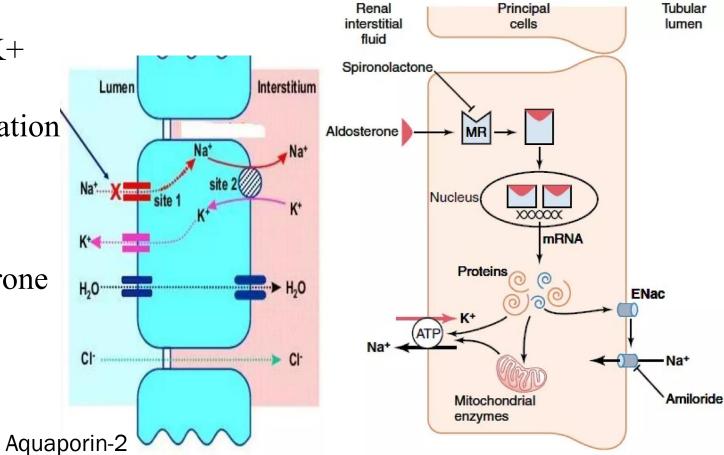
ACTIONS OF ALDOSTERONE

1. Conservation of Na+ & excretion of K+

2. Water excretion & ECF Volume Regulation

3. Relationship with Acid – Base balance

4. Secondary effects of excess of aldosterone



1. Effects on Renaltubules

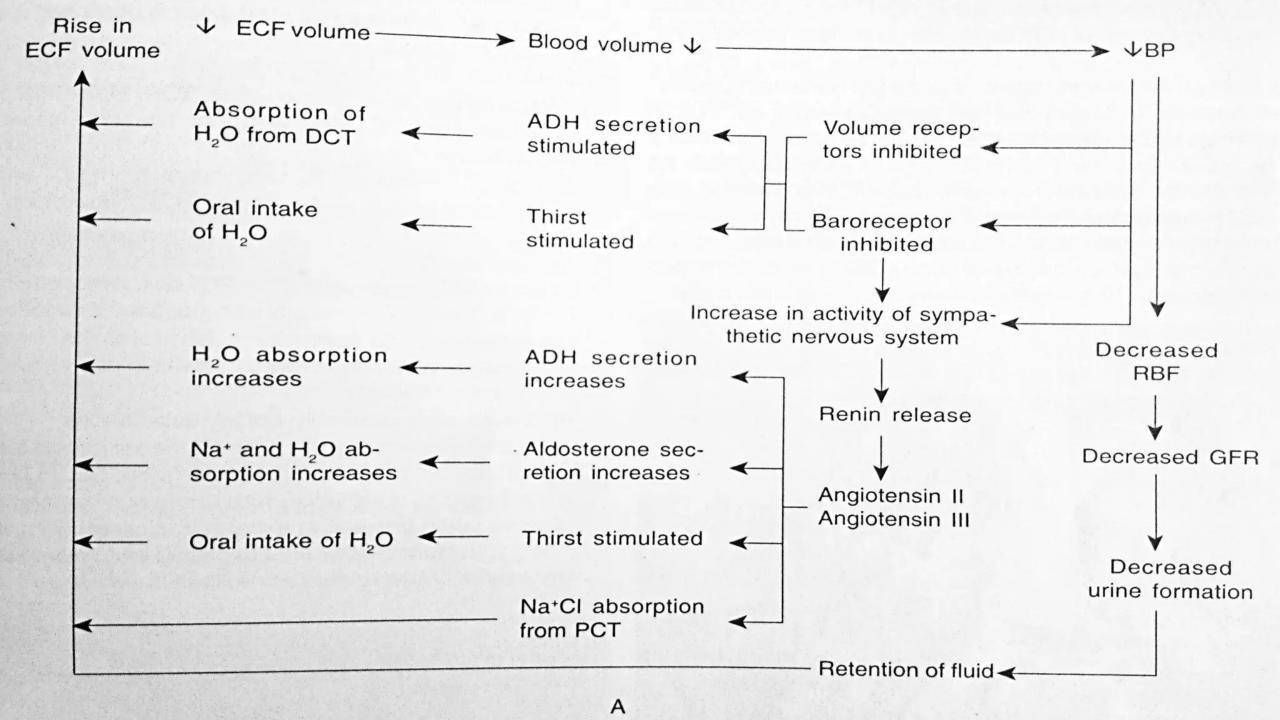
Aldosterone acts on late distal tubules and collecting ducts of kidney and causes following effects:

- I. Sodium reabsorption from the tubular fluid into the Renal tubular epithelial cells.
- II. Potassium excretion. In the kidney, the active reabsorption of Na+ occurs in exchange of K+ and H+. Thus, Aldosterone not only causes reabsorption of Na+, but Excretion of K+ as well by renal tubular epithelial cells.
- III. H+ excretion. Aldosterone also enhances the tubular Secretion of H+ as Na+ is reabsorbed.
- IV. Ammonium and Magnesium excretion is also increased by aldosterone.

- It increases Na+ reabsorption from GIT, salivary gland and sweat glands.
- It may also lead to \uparrow ses in K+ and \downarrow ses the Na+ in muscle & brain cells
- Stimulation of K+ excretion is greatly depends on dietary Na+ proved by Animal studies
- Excess aldosterone leads to :
- ◆ ↑sed plasma Na+/K+ Conc. Ratio due to ↑ses K+ excretion
- Decline in urine Na+/ K+ Conc. Ratio due to ↓ses Na+ and ↑ses K+ excertion
- Removal of adrenal cortex results in :
- Na+ & Water loss, but Na+ loss excess then water
- Result decreased in ECFV produces hypotension, dehydration, circulatory collapse, finally death.
- Retention of K+ produces hyperkalemia, dehydration and circulatory collapse.

2. Water excretion & ECF Volume Regulation

- Aldosterone has no direct effects on GFR, renal plasma flow or renin production.
- By stimulating Na+ reabsorption it causes water retention.
- The result expansion of ECFV then leads to \uparrow ses in GFR, RPF & \downarrow ses renin production.
- High circulating aldosterone level is common finding in cirrhosis of liver, nephrosis, CHF, etc.



3. Relationship with Acid – Base balance

Metabolic alkalosis*

↑ acid loss

- Prolonged vomiting/ loss of gastric fluid
- Conns, Cushings, Bartter's syndrome

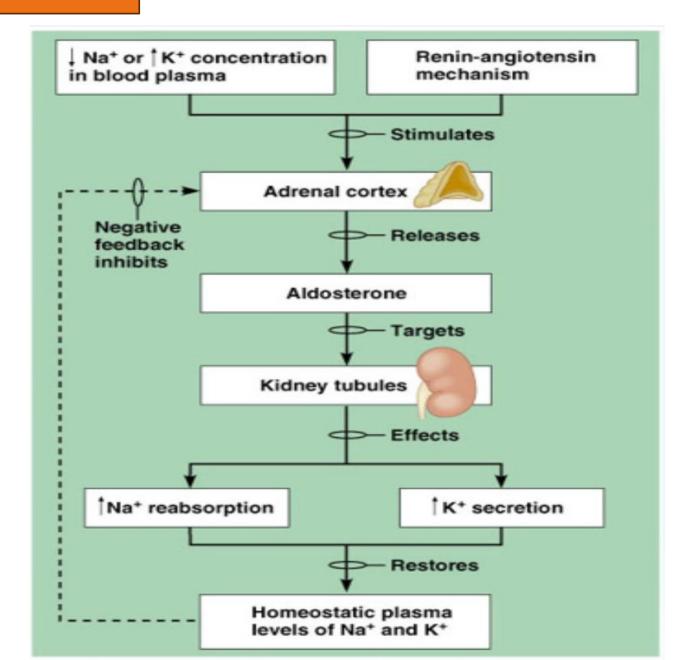
† Base administration, retention or concentration

- Given Excess bicarbonate
- Loss of Na⁺ K⁺ Cl⁻ (eg diuretics)
- Renal compensation/retention of bicarbonate
- Potassium deficiency

4. Secondary effects of excess of aldosterone

- Increased secretion of K+ in DCT increases its excretion in urine causing marked hypokalemia
- Characterized by muscular weakness, ↑ses H+ secretion acidic urine etc
- Affects on BP –
- Increase in ECF volume and the blood volume finally leads to increase in blood pressure.

Negative Feedback



Aldosterone: Role in diseases

Complete failure to secrete aldosterone leads to death (dehydration, low blood volume).

Hyperaldosterone states: Contribute to hypertension associated with increased blood volume.

Over production of aldosterone

primary causes, ie. Conn's syndrome

adenoma, nodular hyperplasia of zona glomerulosa

secondary

cirrhosis, ascites, nephrotic syndrome

symptoms, signs

 headache, hypokalemia causing muscle weakness, hypernatremia, hypervolemia, nocturnal polyuria, hand cramping

