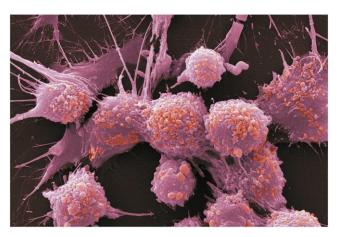
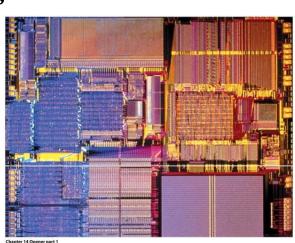
## Ch 20.1 Signal transduction pathways

- Allows cells to respond to an ever changing environment
  - Chemical signals are crucial for coordinating physiological responses
- Signal transduction pathways function like computer chips
  - Components have ON/OFF switches
- To create a robust response, the hormone that is released/stimulated must increase to and exceed some "threshold concentration" which then triggers a chain of events that converts the message being presented to a physiological response. This is called **signal transduction**





Signal \*

Reception 3

**Transduction** 

Response(s

**Amplification** 

## **Overview of Hormone Action**

- 3 Examples of vertebrate hormonal signals:
- Amino acid derivatives
  - When a mammal is threatened epinephrine (adrenaline) stimulates mobilization of energy stores and leads to improved cardiac and respiratory function
  - Catecholamines, thyroxine
- Peptides or polypeptides
  - Insulin is secreted after you eat to ensure glucose is taken up from bloodstream and stored as glycogen
  - glucagon
- Steroids
  - Epidermal growth factor (EGF) stimulates specific cells to grow and divide after a wound
  - Glucocorticoids and sex hormones

Hormone Class	Components	Example(s)
Amine Hormone	Amino acids with modified groups (e.g. norepinephrine's carboxyl group is replaced with a benzene ring)	Norepinephrine OH NH <sub>2</sub> OH
Peptide Hormone	Short chains of linked amino acids	Oxytocin  Gly  Leu  Pro  Cys  Asp  Glu  Tyr  Ile
Protein Hormone	Long chains of linked amino acids	Human Growth Hormone
Steroid Hormones	Derived from the lipid cholesterol	Testosterone Progesterone  CH <sub>3</sub> C = O  H <sub>3</sub> C  H <sub>3</sub> C  H <sub>3</sub> C