DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – (DSC-11)
Hormones: Biochemistry and Function

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Hormones: Biochemistry and Function (BCH-DSC-402)	**4**	**2L**	**0**	**2P**	**Class XII with Science and Biology**	**NIL**

Learning Objectives

The course is designed to enable the students to understand and appreciate the delicate network and balance of hormones required for the healthy functioning of the human body. The course emphasizes on studying the different types of hormones along with their physiological action. The students will be taught the consequences of any hormonal imbalances (over and underproduction of hormones) with special emphasis on human diseases. It provides an understanding of the different endocrine factors that regulate metabolism, growth, electrolyte and mineral homeostasis, glucose homeostasis, stress physiology and reproductive function. It also prepares a student for postgraduate studies in any course related to molecular medicine.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the molecular mechanism and signaling pathways mediating Hormone Action
2. Describe the physiological role of each hormone in regulating growth, appetite, metabolism and reproduction
3. Examine the regulatory mechanisms regulating Hormone secretion and release.
4. Discuss the basis of endocrine diseases taking case studies.

SYLLABUS OF DSC-11

BCH-DSC-11 : HORMONES : BIOCHEMISTRY AND FUNCTION
Semester – IV

2.2 Course Contents
Theory (2 credits)

Total Hours: 30

Unit 1: Introduction to hormones and Hypothalamic- hypophyseal system: (5 Hours)

Introduction to hormones; Hypothalamic - pituitary axis- anatomy, histology, vasculature, and secretions. Physiological and biochemical actions of hypothalamic hormones and Anterior

pituitary hormones; Hormone feed- back regulatory cascade. Posterior pituitary hormones – structure, physiology and biochemical actions of AVP and Oxytocin; Diabetes insipidus.

Unit 2: Hormones regulating growth, energy metabolism and calcium homeostasis
(10 Hours)

Regulation of Growth: growth hormone and somatomedin, Endocrine disorders - gigantism, acromegaly, dwarfism, pygmies.

Thyroid gland- Biosynthesis of thyroid hormone and its regulation: Role of TRH, TSH in T_4 synthesis and response. Physiological and biochemical action of Thyroxine. Pathophysiology of thyroxine secretion: Goiter, Graves' disease, cretinism, myxedema.

Regulation of calcium homeostasis: PTH, Vitamin D and calcitonin. Mechanism of Ca^{2+} regulation involving bone, skin, liver, gut and kidneys. Pathophysiology - rickets, osteomalacia, osteoporosis.

Unit 3: Hormones regulating glucose homeostasis, stress physiology and electrolyte balance: (10 Hours)

Hormones of the Pancreas: structure, synthesis, regulation of release, incretins, physiology and biochemical actions of insulin and glucagon. Role of these hormones in blood glucose homeostasis; Pathophysiology - diabetes type I and type II. GIT hormones: Secretin, gastrin and incretins.

Physiology and action of Aldosterone; the Renin Angiotensin System. Physiology and Biochemical actions of Cortisol; Role of POMC and CRH in cortisol synthesis; Adrenal medullary hormones: epinephrine and norepinephrine. The Fight or flight response; Dual receptor hypothesis. General adaptation syndrome: acute and chronic stress response. Pathophysiology – Addison's disease, Conn's syndrome, Cushing syndrome.

Unit 4: Reproductive hormones: (5 Hours)

Male and female sex hormones. Interplay of hormones during ovarian and uterine phases of menstrual cycle; Placental hormones; role of hormones during parturition and lactation. Hormone based Contraceptives.

2.3 Practical (2 Credits)

Total Hours: 60

1. Glucose tolerance test.
2. Estimation of serum Ca^{2+}.
3. Determining the thyroid profile by estimating T_4 and TSH under normal and pathophysiological conditions. Or Estimation of estrogen during different days of the menstrual cycle.
4. Presentation Assignments on GI Tract hormones and Adipokines
5. HCG based pregnancy test.
6. Estimation of serum electrolytes.
7. Case studies: Diabetes Insipidus, Acromegaly and dwarfism, Diabetes Mellitus, Rickets, Osteoporosis, Cushing syndrome

2.4 Essential readings:

1. Vander's Human Physiology (2008) 11th ed.,Widmaier, E.P., Raff, H. and Strang, K.T. McGraw Hill International Publications, ISBN: 978-0-07-128366-3.
2. Sherwood, L. (2012) Introduction to Human Physiology 8th edition; Brooks/Cole, Cengage Learning. ISBN-13: 978-1133104544.
3. Victor Rodwell, David Bender, et al. (2018) ISE Harper's Illustrated Biochemistry Thirty-First Edition, McGraw Hill (A and L Lange series), ISBN-10. 1259837939; ISBN-13. 978-1259837937

Suggested readings:

1. Endocrinology (2007) 6th ed., Hadley, M.C. and Levine, J.E. Pearson Education (New Delhi), Inc. ISBN: 978-81-317-2610-5.
2. Guyton, A.C. and Hall, J.E., (2016) Reed Textbook of Medical Physiology 13th ed., Elseviers India Pvt. Ltd. (New Delhi). ISBN: 978-1455770052

3. Keywords

Hypothalamic-hypophyseal axis, hormones, calcium and glucose homeostasis, hormonal disorders.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.