

# *Hypertension*

*by Dr Swathi Swaroopa .B*

# *Introduction*

☞ *Hypertension is a common disease that is simply defined as **persistently elevated arterial blood pressure (BP)**.*



☞ *The percentage of men with high BP is higher than that of women before the age of 45 years, but After age 45 years, the percentage is slightly higher with women.*

☞ *BP values increase with age, and hypertension (persistently elevated BP values) is very common in the elderly.*

*Hypertension doubles the risk of*

*❧ Cardiovascular diseases, including*

*❧ Coronary heart disease (CHD),*

*❧ Congestive heart failure (CHF),*

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*❧ Ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke,*

*❧ Renal failure, and*

*❧ Peripheral arterial disease.*

# *Types of hypertension*

## *☞ Essential or primary hypertension*

*No identifiable cause for their disorder. This form of hypertension cannot be cured, but it can be controlled.*

*90% of individuals with high BP have essential hypertension*

## *☞ Secondary hypertension*

*Have a specific identified cause for elevated BP . If the cause can be identified, hypertension in these patients has the potential to be cured.*

*Fewer than 10% of patients have secondary hypertension*

## ❧ *Pseudo hypertension*

*An artificially and falsely elevated blood pressure obtained due to arteriosclerotic, calcified blood vessels which do not physiologically compress with pressure, results in high blood pressure reading than it truly ought to be.*

## ❧ *White-Coat Hypertension*

*White-coat hypertension describes patients who have consistently elevated BP values measured in a clinical environment in the presence of a health care professional (e.g., physician's office), yet when measured elsewhere or with 24-hour ambulatory monitoring, BP is not elevated.*

# *Etiology*

## *Essential/primary hypertension*

❧ *No identifiable cause*

❧ *Genetic factors*

❧ *Genetic mutations*

# *Secondary hypertension etiology*

## *Disease*

*Primary aldosteronism*

*Renovascular disease*

*Thyroid disease*

*Parathyroid disease*

*Pheochromocytoma*

*Coarctation of the aorta*

*Obstructive sleep apnea*

*Cushing's syndrome*

*Chronic kidney disease*

## *Drugs and food*

*Prednisone , cyclosporine and tacrolimus*

*Nonsteroidal*

*antiinflammatory drugs,*

*cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitors*

*β-blocker or centrally acting*

*α-agonists (when abruptly*

*discontinued) Cocaine*

*Nicotine withdrawal*

*Ephedra alkaloids*

*Sodium*

*Ethanol*

*Licorice*

## Drugs and Other Products Associated with Hypertension<sup>a</sup>

### Disease

Chronic kidney disease  
Cushing's syndrome  
Coarctation of the aorta  
Obstructive sleep apnea  
Parathyroid disease  
Pheochromocytoma  
Primary aldosteronism  
Renovascular disease  
Thyroid disease

### Prescription drugs

- Amphetamines (amphetamine, dexamethylphenidate, dextroamphetamine, lisdexamfetamine, methylphenidate, phendimetrazine, phentermine) and anorexiant (sibutramine)
- Antivascular endothelin growth factor agents (bevacizumab, sorafenib, sunitinib)
- Corticosteroids (cortisone, dexamethasone, fludrocortisone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, prednisolone, prednisone, triamcinolone)

## Disease

## Drugs and Other Products Associated with Hypertension<sup>a</sup>

- Calcineurin inhibitors (cyclosporine, tacrolimus)
- Decongestants (pseudoephedrine, phenylephrine)
- Ergot alkaloids (ergonovine, methysergide)
- Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (erythropoietin, darbepoetin)
- Estrogen-containing oral contraceptives
- Nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs—  
cyclooxygenase-2 selective (celecoxib) and  
nonselective (aspirin, choline magnesium  
trisalicylate, diclofenac, diflunisal, etodolac,  
fenoprofen, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen,  
indomethacin, ketoprofen, ketorolac,  
meclofenamate, mefenamic acid, meloxicam,  
nabumetone, naproxen, naproxen sodium,  
oxaprozin, piroxicam, salsalate, sulindac,  
tolmetin)

## Disease

## Drugs and Other Products Associated with Hypertension<sup>a</sup>

- Others: desvenlafaxine, venlafaxine, bupropion

Situations:  $\beta$ -blocker or centrally acting

$\alpha$ -agonists (when abruptly discontinued);

$\beta$ -blocker without  $\alpha$ -blocker first when

treating pheochromocytoma; use of a

monoamine oxidase inhibitor (isocarboxazid,

phenelzine, tranylcypromine) with tryamine-

containing foods or certain drugs

### Street drugs and other products

Cocaine and cocaine withdrawal

Ephedra alkaloids (e.g., Ma huang), "herbal  
ecstasy," other analogues

Nicotine and withdrawal, anabolic steroids,  
narcotic withdrawal, ergot-containing herbal  
products, St. John's wort

### Food substances

Sodium

Ethanol

Licorice

## *Classification of hypertension for adults*

<b>BLOOD PRESSURE CLASSIFICATION</b>	<b>SBP MMHG</b>	<b>DBP MMHG</b>
<b>NORMAL</b>	<b>&lt;120</b>	<b>and &lt;80</b>
<b>PREHYPERTENSION</b>	<b>120–139</b>	<b>or 80–89</b>
<b>STAGE 1 HYPERTENSION</b>	<b>140–159</b>	<b>or 90–99</b>
<b>STAGE 2 HYPERTENSION</b>	<b>≥160</b>	<b>or ≥100</b>

# *Hypertensive crisis*

*☞ Hypertensive crises are clinical situations where BP values are very elevated, typically greater than 180/120 mm Hg.*



*☞ They are categorized as either*

*☞ Hypertensive emergency*

*☞ Hypertensive urgency.*

*☞ Hypertensive emergencies are extreme elevations in BP that are accompanied by acute or progressing target-organ damage.*

*☞ Hypertensive urgencies are high elevations in BP without acute or progressing target-organ injury.*

*☞ Isolated systolic hypertension Patients with DBP values less than 90 mm Hg and SBP values  $\geq 140$  mm.*



# ***PATHOPHYSIOLOGY***

# **1) HUMORAL MECHANISMS**

***RAAS (Renin–Angiotensin–Aldosterone System)***

***Natriuretic hormones,***

***Insulin resistance and hyperinsulinemia***

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# **2) NEURONAL REGULATION**

***Autonomic nervous system***

***Baroreceptors***

***Central nervous system***

# **3) PERIPHERAL AUTOREGULATORY COMPONENTS**

# **4) VASCULAR ENDOTHELIAL MECHANISMS**

# **5) ELECTROLYTES AND OTHER CHEMICALS**

# *Renin–Angiotensin–Aldosterone System*

☞ *RAAS is primarily governed by the kidney*

☞ *RAAS regulates sodium, potassium, and fluid balance.*

☞ *Renin is an enzyme that is stored in the juxtaglomerular cells, which are located in the afferent arterioles of the kidney.*

☞ *Juxtaglomerular cells function as a baroreceptor-sensing device.*

↓ *Sodium and chloride delivered to the distal tubule*

↑ *Sympathetic tone*

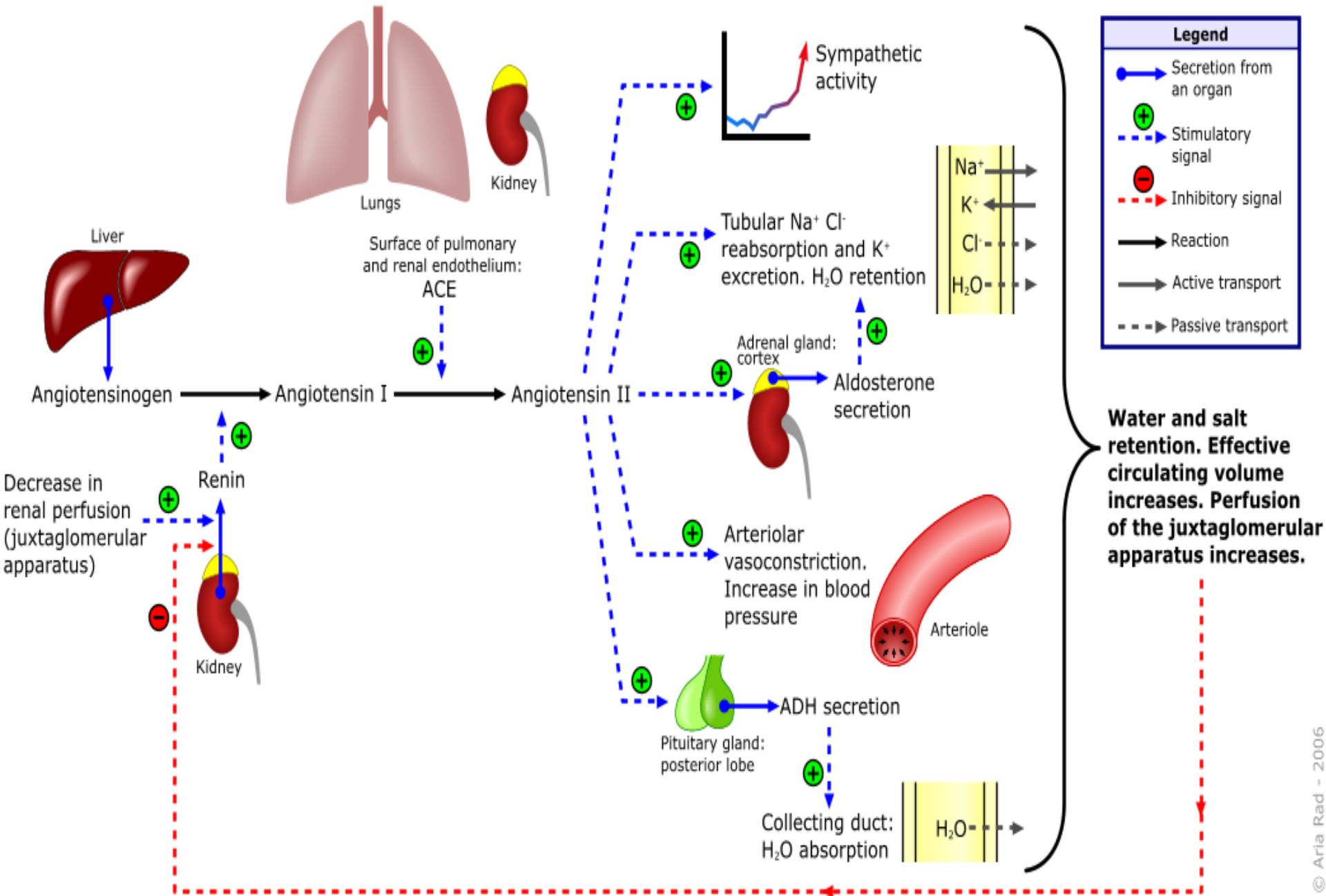


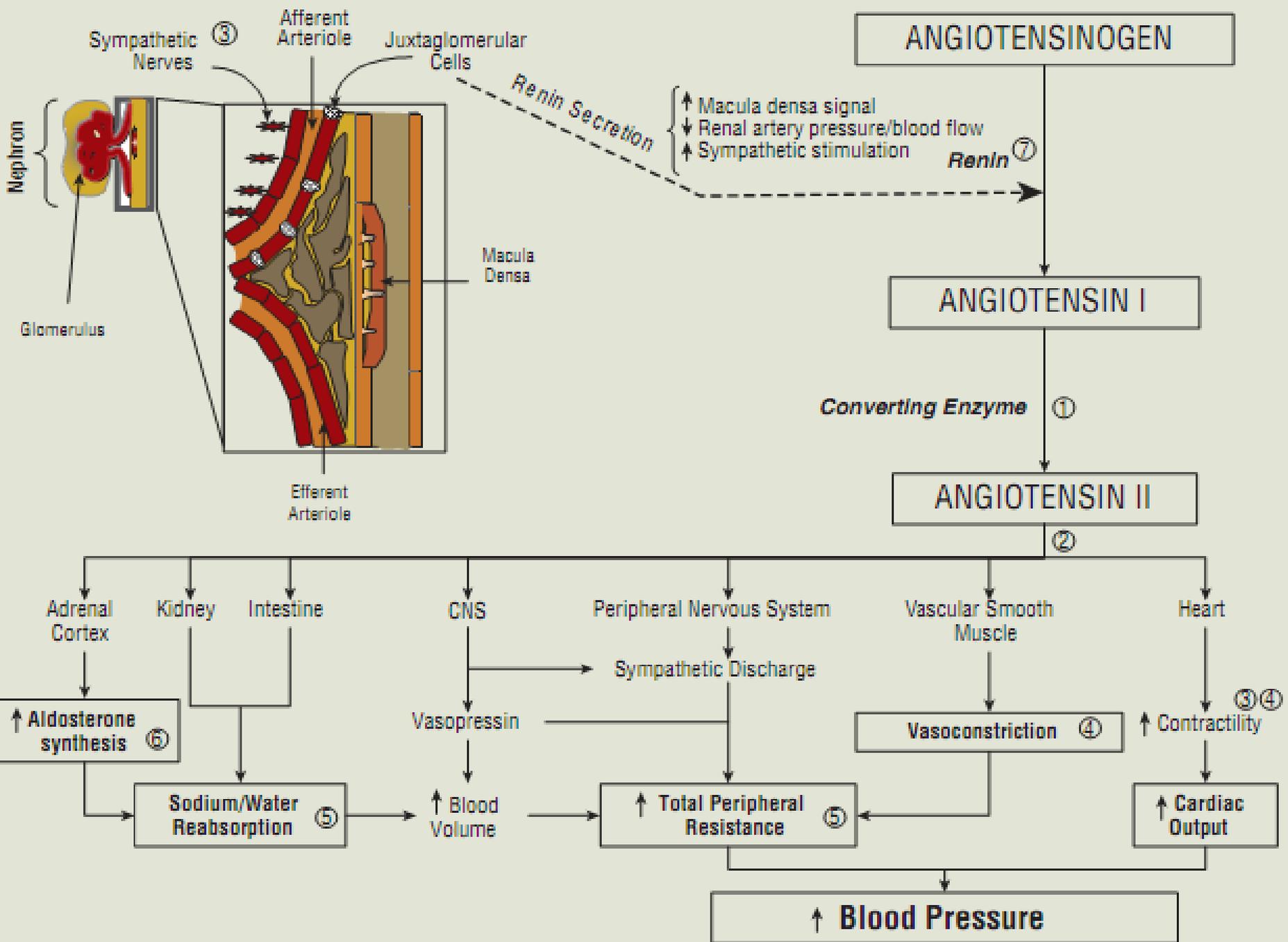
↓ *Serum potassium and/or intracellular calcium*

↓ *BP*

*All these 4 factors activate the juxtaglomerular cells resulting in renin secretion.*

# Renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system





ANGIOTENSINOGEN

ANGIOTENSIN I

ANGIOTENSIN II

Converting Enzyme ①

②

Adrenal Cortex

Kidney

Intestine

CNS

Peripheral Nervous System

Vascular Smooth Muscle

Heart

↑ Aldosterone synthesis ⑥

Sodium/Water Reabsorption ⑤

↑ Blood Volume

↑ Total Peripheral Resistance ⑤

Vasoconstriction ④

↑ Contractility ③ ④

↑ Cardiac Output

Vasopressin

Sympathetic Discharge

↑ Blood Pressure

Nephron

Glomerulus

Sympathetic Nerves ③

Afferent Arteriole

Juxtaglomerular Cells

Macula Densa

Efferent Arteriole

Renin Secretion

- ↑ Macula densa signal
- ↓ Renal artery pressure/blood flow
- ↑ Sympathetic stimulation

Renin ⑦

❧ *Circulating angiotensin II can elevate BP through pressor and volume effects*

❧ *Pressor effects include direct*

❧ *Vasoconstriction,*

❧ *Stimulation of catecholamine release from the adrenal medulla,*

❧ *Centrally mediated increases in sympathetic nervous system activity.*

❧ *Volume effect-*

❧ *Aldosterone synthesis from the adrenal cortex. This leads to sodium and water reabsorption that increases plasma volume, total peripheral resistance, and ultimately BP.*

# *Atrial natriuretic peptide/ hormone*

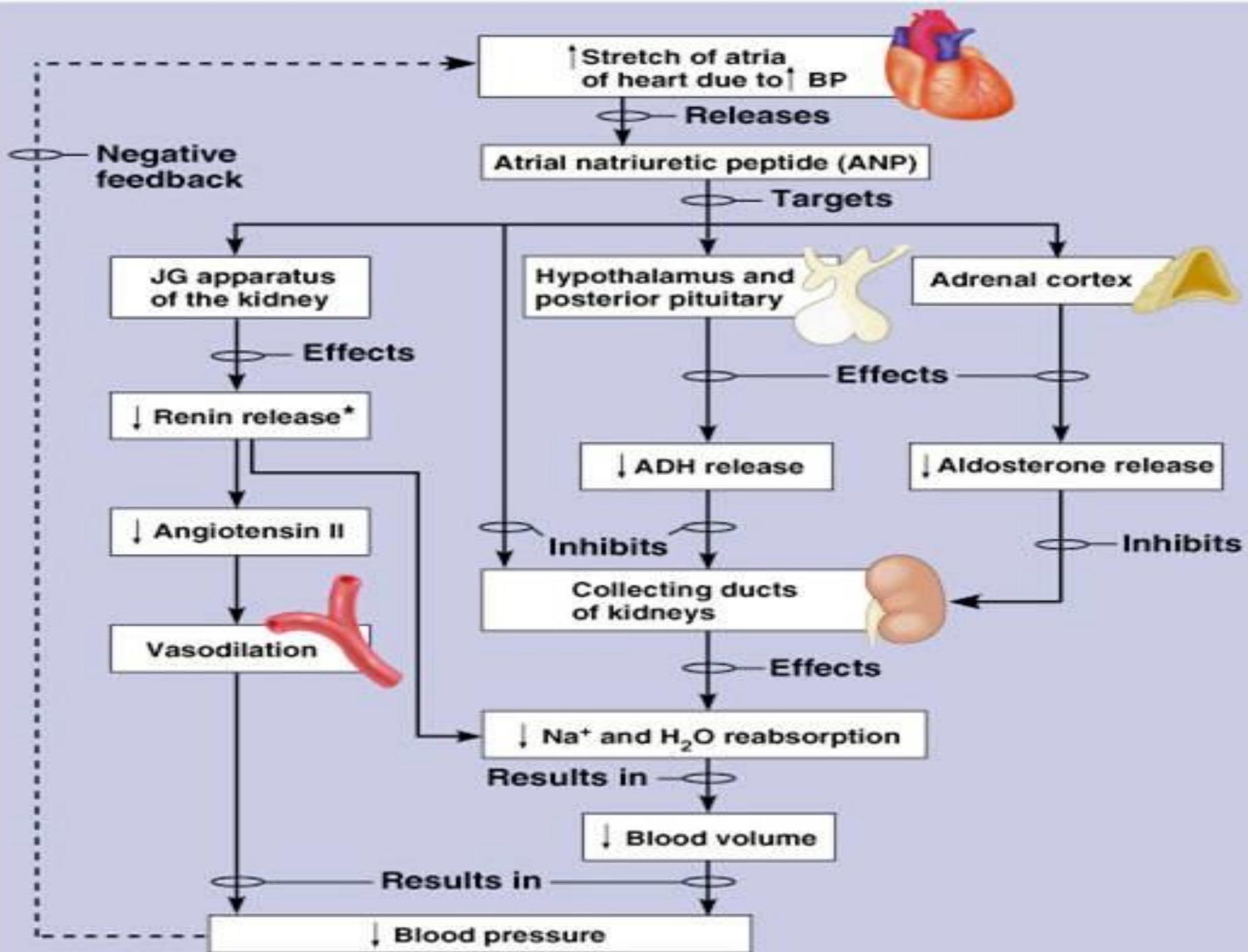
*Atrial natriuretic peptide (ANP) is a powerful vasodilator, and a protein (polypeptide) hormone secreted by heart muscle cells.*



*ANP is secreted in response to:*

*Increased intravascular volume*

*Atrial distention*



*Natriuretic hormone inhibits sodium and potassium-ATPase and thus interferes with sodium transport across cell membranes*

*Inherited defects in the kidney's ability to eliminate sodium can cause increased blood volume.*

*A compensatory increase in the concentration of circulating natriuretic hormone theoretically could increase urinary excretion of sodium and water.*

*However, this hormone might block the active transport of sodium out of arteriolar smooth muscle cells.*

*The increased intracellular sodium concentration ultimately would increase vascular tone and BP.*

# *Insulin Resistance and Hyperinsulinemia*

☞ *The development of hypertension and associated metabolic abnormalities is referred to as the **metabolic syndrome**.*

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☞ *Increased insulin concentrations may **increase renal sodium retention** and **enhanced sympathetic nervous system activity***

☞ *Insulin has growth hormone–like actions that can induce **hypertrophy of vascular smooth muscle cells***

☞ *Also may elevate BP by **increasing intracellular calcium**, which leads to increased vascular resistance.*

## 2) NEURONAL REGULATION

### *Autonomic nervous system*

❧ *Autonomic nervous system is involved in the regulation of arterial BP.*

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❧ *The  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  presynaptic receptors play a role in negative and positive feedback to the norepinephrine-containing vesicles located near the neuronal ending.*

❧ *Stimulation of **presynaptic  $\alpha$ -receptors ( $\alpha_2$ )** exerts a negative inhibition on norepinephrine release.*

# *Autonomic nervous system*

☞ Stimulation of *presynaptic  $\beta$ receptors* facilitates norepinephrine release.



☞ Stimulation of *postsynaptic  $\alpha 1$  receptors* in smooth muscles elicit vasoconstriction.

☞ Stimulation of  *$\beta 1$ -receptors in the heart* results in an increase in heart rate and contractility.

☞ Stimulation of  *$\beta 2$ -receptors in the arterioles and venules* causes vasodilation.

# *Baroreceptors*

❧ *The baroreceptor reflex system is the major negative-feedback mechanism that controls sympathetic activity.*



❧ *Baroreceptors are **nerve endings** lying in the walls of **large arteries**, especially in the **carotid arteries** and **aortic arch**.*

❧ ***Changes in arterial pressure** rapidly activate baroreceptors that then transmit impulses to the **brainstem** through the **ninth cranial nerve** and **vagus nerves**.*

# *Baroreceptors*

☞ *In this reflex system, a decrease in arterial BP stimulates baroreceptors, causing **reflex vasoconstriction** and **increased heart rate** and **force of cardiac contraction**.*

☞ *These baroreceptor reflex mechanisms may be **blunted** (less responsive to changes in BP) in the **elderly** and those with diabetes.*

**Impulse traveling along afferent nerves from baroreceptors:**  
Stimulate cardio-inhibitory center  
(and inhibit cardio-acceleratory center)

Baroreceptors in carotid sinuses and aortic arch stimulated

Inhibit vasomotor center

Sympathetic impulses to heart decline ( $\downarrow$  HR)

Arterial blood pressure rises above normal range

Stimulus: Rising blood pressure

Imbalance

Homeostasis: Blood pressure in normal range

Imbalance

Stimulus: Declining blood pressure

$\uparrow$  CO and  $\uparrow$  R return blood pressure to homeostatic range

$\uparrow$  Cardiac output (CO)

Sympathetic efferents stimulate increased heart rate and force

Impulses from baroreceptors: Stimulate cardio-acceleratory center (and inhibit cardio-inhibitory center)

Arterial blood pressure falls below normal range

$\uparrow$  Peripheral resistance (R)

Vasomotor fibers stimulate vasoconstriction

Stimulate vasomotor center

Baroreceptors in carotid sinuses and aortic arch inhibited

Rate of vasomotor impulses declines, allows vasodilation ( $\uparrow$  vessel diameter)

$\downarrow$  CO  
 $\downarrow$  R

$\downarrow$  CO and  $\downarrow$  R return blood pressure to homeostatic range ( $\downarrow$  BP)

## *Central nervous system*

*☞ Stimulation of certain areas within the central nervous system (nucleus tractus solitarius, vagal nuclei, vasomotor center, and the area postrema) can either increase or decrease BP.*

*☞ For example,*

*Adrenergic stimulation within the central nervous system decreases BP through an inhibitory effect on the vasomotor center.*

*Angiotensin II increases sympathetic outflow from the vasomotor center, which increases BP.*

❧ *The **purpose** of these neuronal mechanisms is to regulate BP and maintain homeostasis.*

❧ *Pathologic disturbances in ~~any~~ of the four major components could conceivably lead to chronically elevated BP.*

❧ *Autonomic nerve fibers,*

❧ *Adrenergic receptors,*

❧ *Baroreceptors, or*

❧ *Central nervous system.*

### **3) PERIPHERAL AUTOREGULATORY COMPONENTS**

***Abnormalities in renal or tissue autoregulatory systems could cause hypertension.***



***When BP drops, the kidneys respond by increasing retention of sodium and water.***

***These changes lead to plasma volume expansion that increases BP and vice versa when BP increases.***

### **3) PERIPHERAL AUTOREGULATORY COMPONENTS**

***☞ Tissue autoregulatory processes maintain adequate tissue oxygenation.***



***☞ When tissue oxygen demand is normal to low, the local arteriolar bed remains relatively vasoconstricted.***

***☞ However, increases in metabolic demand trigger arteriolar vasodilation that lowers peripheral vascular resistance and increases blood flow and oxygen delivery through autoregulation.***

❧ *Intrinsic defects in these renal adaptive mechanisms could lead to plasma volume expansion and increased blood flow to peripheral tissues, even when BP is normal.*



❧ *Local tissue autoregulatory processes that vasoconstrict would then be activated to offset the increased blood flow.*

❧ *This effect would result in increased peripheral vascular resistance, and if sustained, would also result in thickening of the arteriolar walls.*

#### 4) VASCULAR ENDOTHELIAL MECHANISMS

- ❧ *Vascular endothelium and smooth muscle play important roles in **regulating blood vessel tone and BP** mediated by vasoactive substances that are synthesized by endothelial cells.*
- ❧ ***Nitric oxide** is produced in the endothelium, relaxes the vascular epithelium, and is a very potent vasodilator.*
- ❧ *The nitric oxide system is an important regulator of arterial BP.*

❧ *Patients with hypertension may have an intrinsic **deficiency in nitric oxide**, resulting in inadequate vasodilation*



❧ *It has been postulated that a **deficiency** in the local synthesis of vasodilating substances (prostacyclin and bradykinin)*

*or*

❧ ***Excess** vasoconstricting substances (angiotensin II and endothelin I) contribute to essential hypertension, atherosclerosis, and other CV diseases*

# 5) *ELECTROLYTES AND OTHER CHEMICALS*

## *Sodium*

❧ *Excess sodium intake will lead to hypertension*

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❧ *The exact mechanisms by which excess sodium leads to hypertension are unknown.*

❧ *When NaCl intake exceeds the capacity of the kidney to excrete sodium, vascular volume initially expands and cardiac output increases.*

# *Sodium*

❧ *Atrial natriuretic hormone is thought to block the active transport of sodium out of arteriolar smooth muscle cells.*

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❧ *The increased intracellular sodium concentration ultimately would **increase vascular** tone and BP.*

# Calcium

- ❧ *A lack of dietary calcium hypothetically can disturb the balance between intracellular and extracellular calcium, resulting in an **increased intracellular calcium concentration**.*
- ❧ *This imbalance can alter vascular smooth muscle function by **increasing peripheral vascular resistance**.*

# *Potassium*

❧ *The role of potassium fluctuations is also inadequately understood.*



❧ *Potassium depletion may **increase peripheral vascular resistance**, but the clinical significance of small serum potassium concentration changes is unclear.*

## *Symptoms*

❧ *Most patients with hypertension are asymptomatic*

❧ *A "hypertensive headache" observed in patients with severe hypertension which occurs in the morning and is localized to the occipital region.*

*Signs: Previous BP values in either the prehypertension or the hypertension category*

*Other nonspecific symptoms*

❧ *Dizziness ,*

❧ *Palpitations ,*

❧ *Easy fatigability.*

# Complications

- Damage to the heart and coronary arteries,
- Stroke
- **CKD**
- Vision loss
- **Ischeic heart disease**
- **Heart failure**
- **Myocardial infarction**
- Erectile dysfunction
- **Cognitive changes**
- **Fluid in the lungs**
- **Hepatomegaly**
- **Cor-pulmanale**
- Angina
- Peripheral artery disease





**Thank you**