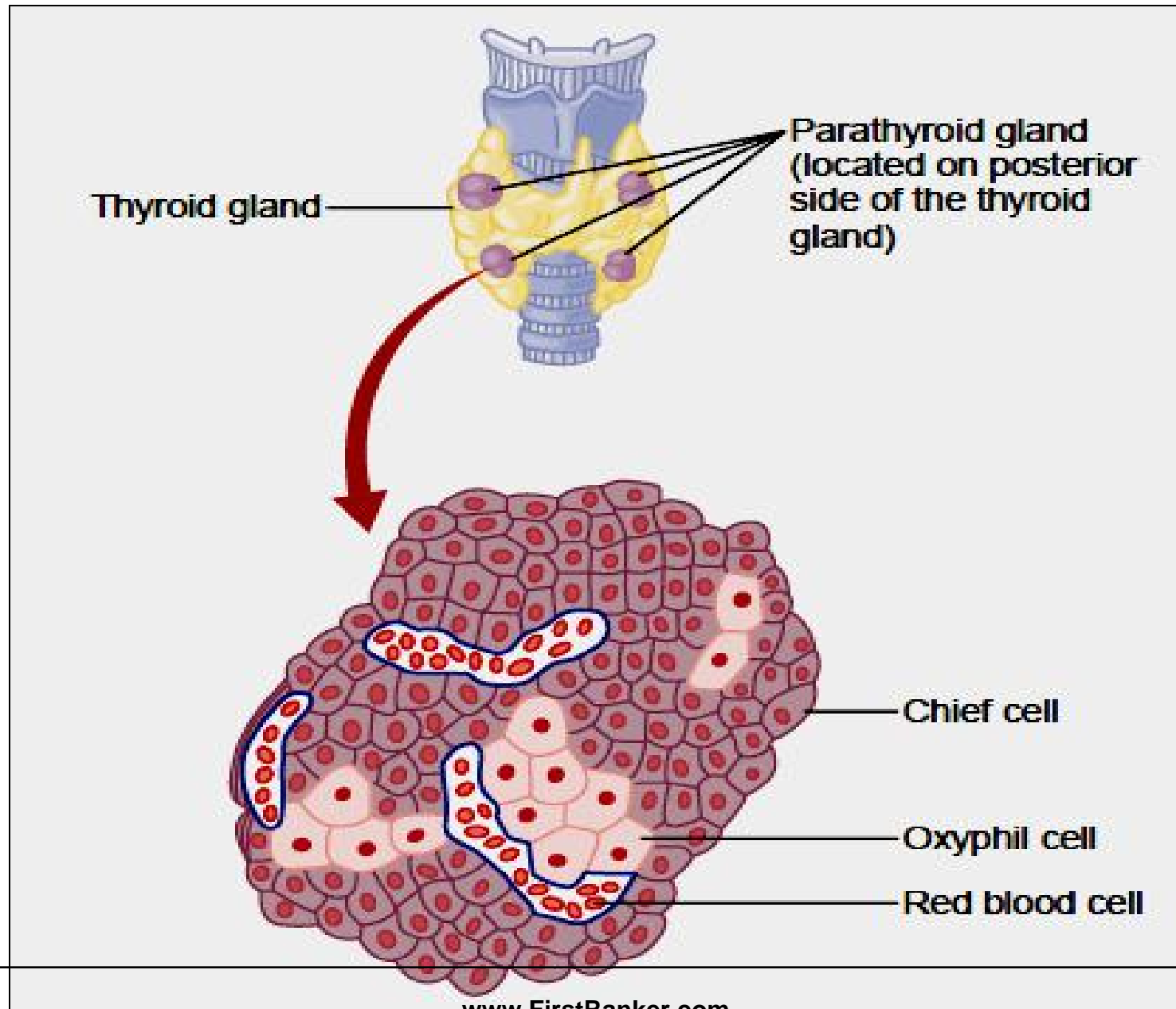


# Parathyroid hormone from parathyroid glands



# Anatomy

Humans have **4** parathyroid glands.

- 2 in superior pole of thyroid and 2 in its inferior pole.
- Contain 2 distinct cells

**chief cells:** contains golgi apparatus +ER + secretory granules.

➤ Secreates **PTH**.

**Oxyphil cells** : contains numerous mitochondria +oxyphil granules.

➤ Seen before puberty and no. ↑es with age.

➤ Function unknown

# Parathyroid hormone

- Polypeptide hormone
- Secreted by parathyroid glands

Preprohormone (110 A.As)ER



prohormone (90 A.As)Golgi apparatus



hormone (84 A.As - ---->packed in secretory granules)

➤ Normal level of PTH in plasma 10-55pg/ml.

Half life approx. 10 min , removed by liver.

# Physiological actions

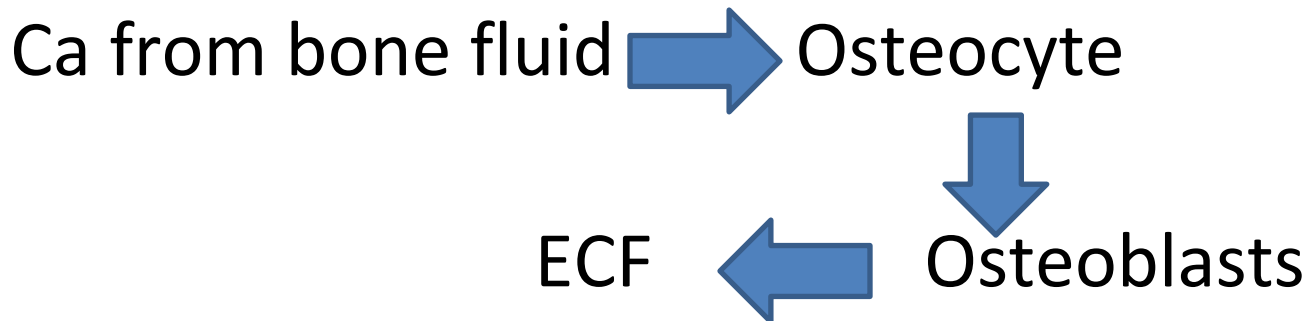
↑ plasma calcium level (by its effect on bone, kidney, intestine)

On bone :-

- Stimulates osteoclastic activity (*indirect action*) bone resorption.
- PTH stimulates precursor cells(monocyte,macrophages,etc;)into osteoclast.
- *Hydroxyproline excretion in urine is an index of osteoclastic activity*
- fast  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  efflux into the plasma from the small labile pool

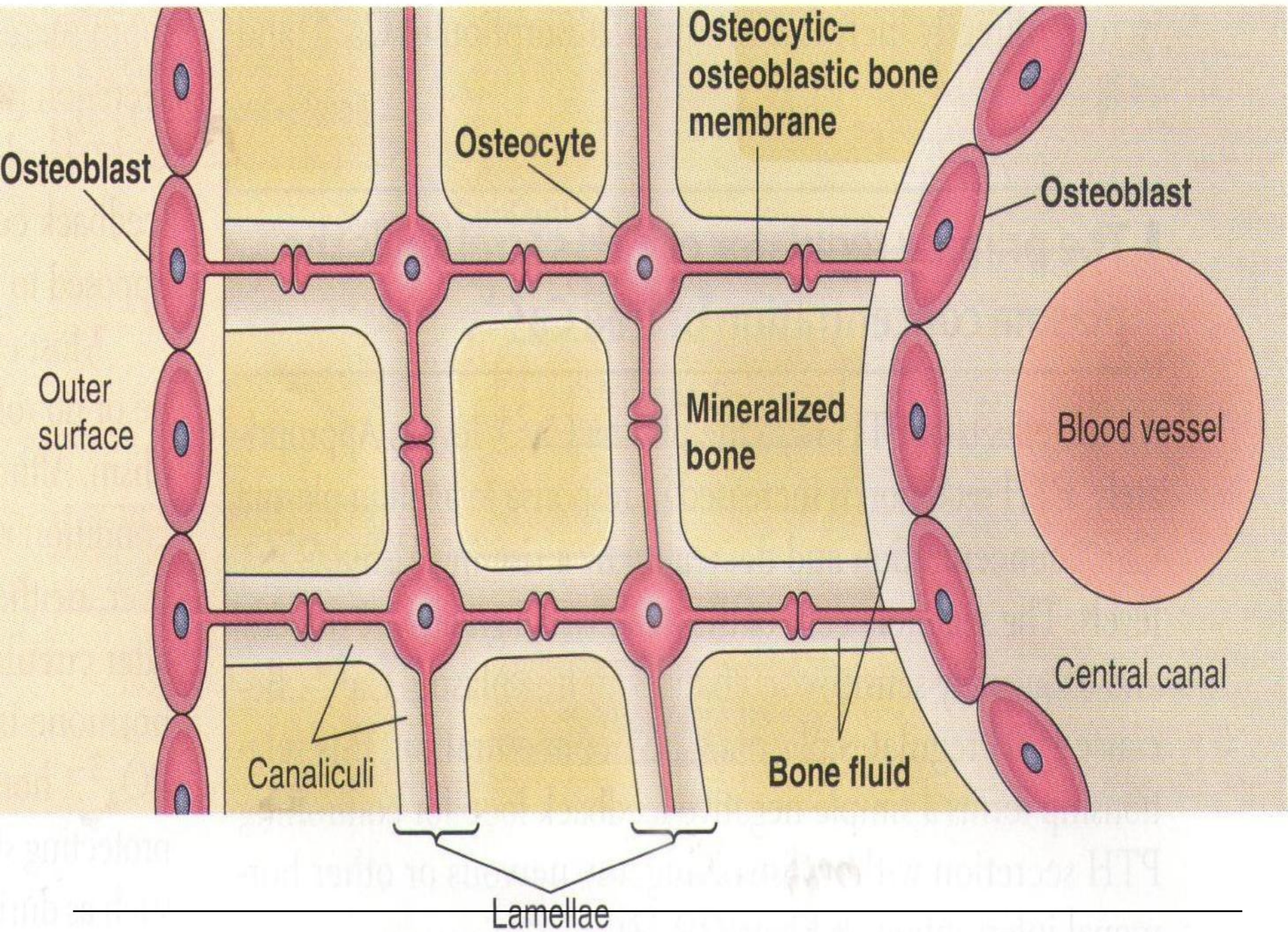
## Contd.

- Stimulation of osteolysis: PTH activate the process of **osteocytic osteolysis**.



- PTH also **inhibits** the synthesis of collagen by osteoblasts.
- **Net effect** is ↑ in bone mass in low conc. And ↓ in bone mass in high conc.







## On kidney

- ↑  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  reabsorption (late DCT, collecting tubule, ascending limb of Henle's loop) by *regulating the expression of TRPV5 channels*
- ↑  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  excretion (PCT) ---> *phosphaturia by inhibiting Na-Pi II a*  
enhances the activation of vitamin D by kidney

## On intestine

- Indirectly increases both Calcium and Phosphate absorption from the small intestine by activating vitamin D.

**Final effect : ↑ed plasma calcium;  
↓ed phosphate**

## Regulation of PTH secretion

### Plasma concentration of ionized Calcium .

- Inverse relationship
- parathyroid glands hypertrophy :-rickets, pregnancy, lactation
- Recently, *calcium sensing receptors(CaSR)* has been identified on *chief cells*.
- CaSR is a *G- protein coupled receptor* attached to *phospholipase C* and on binding to Ca generates IP3 & DAG.
- IP3 & DAG release Ca from cytosolic store and *activate protein kinase C* that *inhibits PTH secretion*.



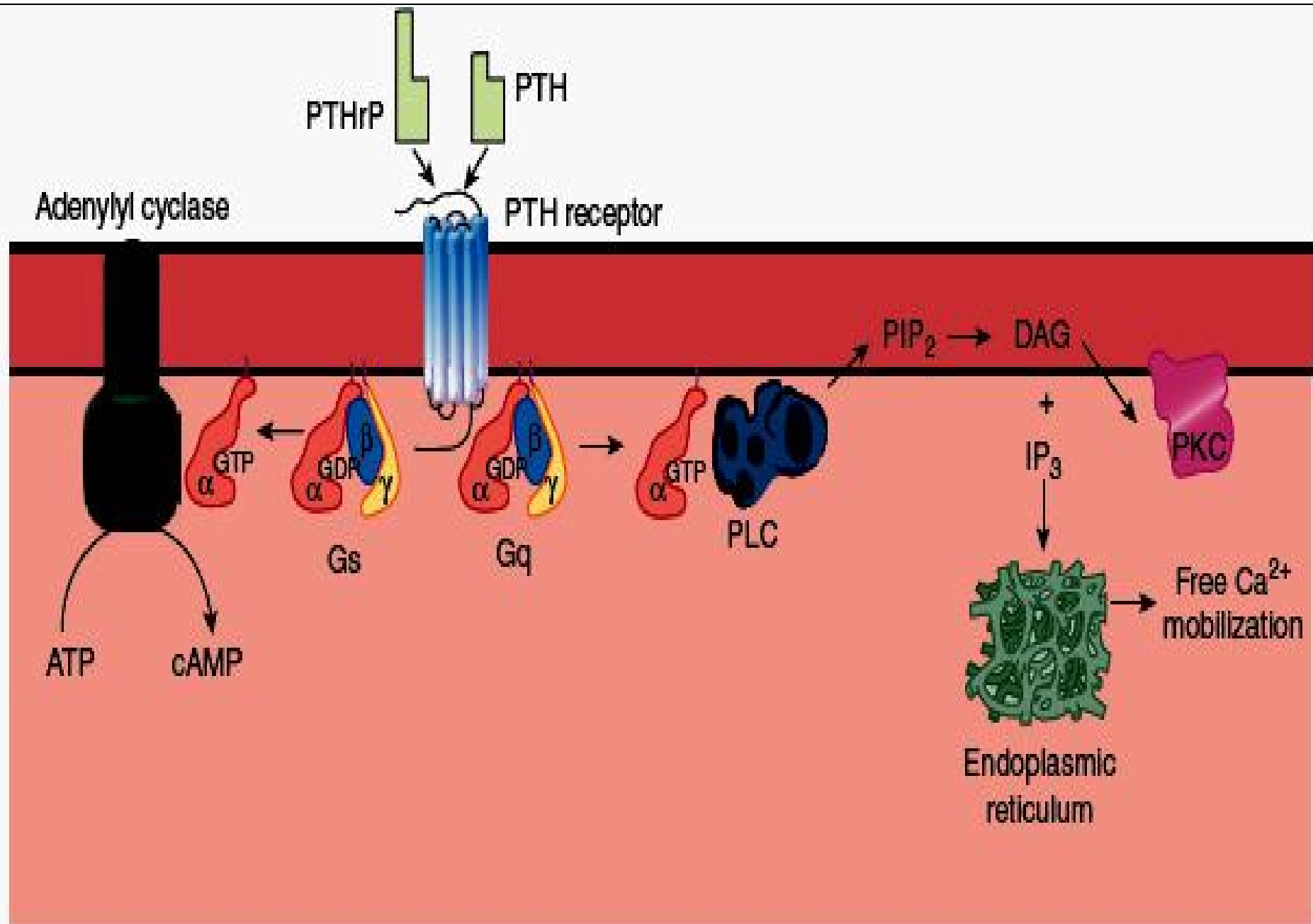
- Vitamin D : ↓ es formation of preproPTH
- Plasma phosphate  
Rise in plasma phosphate : stimulates PTH
- Other factors :  
cAMP,  $\beta$  agonists, dopamine, histamine - ↑ level  
 $\alpha$  agonists, prostaglandins - ↓ level

## Mechanism of action:-

3 receptors:-

1. **hPTH/PTHrP receptor** : binds to PTH & PTHrP, main receptor to regulate plasma calcium.
2. **PTH2 (hPTH2-R)** : binds to PTH, but not to PTHrP . Found in brain, placenta & pancreas
3. **CPTH** which reacts with the carboxyl terminal rather than the amino terminal of PTH.

PTH binds to its receptors and activates both **adenylyl cyclase** and **phospholipase C pathway**



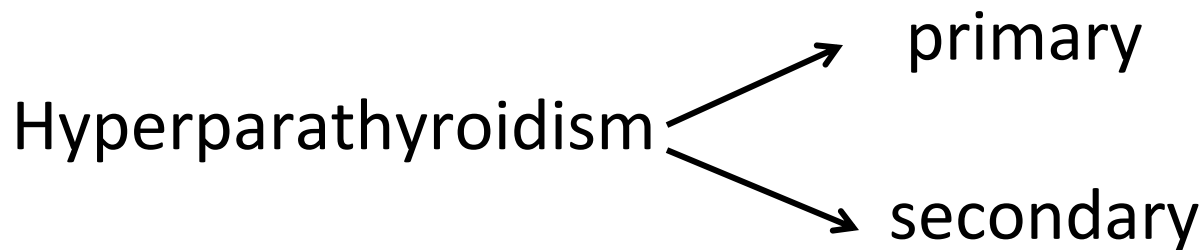
# PTHrP

- Another protein with PTH activity..
- Has 140 amino acid, encoded by gene on ch.12 whereas PTH by ch.11.
- Although **both bind on same receptor** hPTH/PTTrP, yet their **physiological actions are different**.
- PTHrP acts close to where it is formed (paracrine factor).
- Has effect on cartilage ,brain,placenta ,smooth muscle in utero.
- It is also present in enamel epithelium of teeth.

## Applied physiology

Hyperparathyroidism

Hypoparathyroidism



### Primary hyperparathyroidism

Tumor of parathyroid gland

Features :-

hypercalcemia, hypophosphatemia, demineralisation of bone, hypercalciuria, renal stones

**Extreme PTH** : parathyroid poisoning, metastatic calcification





- *high level of plasma alkaline phosphatase --- an important diagnostic finding*
- **Secondary hyperparathyroidism**
  - Seen in chronic renal disease, rickets.
  - In these diseases ,the chronic hypocalcemia causes ↑PTH secretion.

# Hypoparathyroidism

## True hypoparathyroidism

- m/c : damage to glands/their blood supply/inadvertent removal e.g;.during thyroidectomy.

## Pseudo-hypoparathyroidism

- PTH level normal/elevated

Defect : receptors/ post-receptor

## Features :-

- hypocalcemia (6-7mg/dL)
- Hyperphosphatemia (6-16mg/dL)

## Tetany

- Carpopedal spasm
- Laryngeal spasm leading to asphyxia
- Convulsions & seizures

• Paraesthesia

## CVS :-

- dilatation of heart
- arrhythmias
- prolonged ST & QT intervals
- hypotension
- heart failure

## *Latent tetany : subclinical tetany*

- Neuromuscular hyperexcitability d/t hypocalcemia
- Provocative tests:-
  - Chvostek's sign
  - Trousseau's sign

## Management of hypoparathyroidism

- PTH
- Vitamin D (100,000units/day) along with calcium (1-2gms/day)
- Injections of calcium salts



??????

- Is parathyroid gland essential for life?
- Why hypoparathyroidism is common after thyroid surgery and its effects ?
- What is the role of plasma calcium & vit D in the regulation of PTH secretion?
- Difference between primary and secondary hyperparathyroidism ?
- In hypocalcemic tetany ,hyperexitibility is due to .....
- List physiological actions of PTH.

- Hypercalcemia of malignancy?
- Local osteolytic hypercalcemia?