

## **Effect of dopamine infusion on plasma levels of growth hormone in normal subjects and in acromegalic patients.**

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In ten normal subjects and in twenty acromegalic patients plasma levels of growth hormone were studied after administration of L-dopa and a dopamine infusion. In the ten normal subjects L-dopa, but not dopamine, increased plasma levels of GH. In the acromegalic patients both L-dopa and dopamine were followed by an inhibition of GH release. Since **dopamine does not cross the blood-brain barrier**, these results, although not excluding a site of action at median eminence level, support the thesis that the inhibitory effect of dopaminergic stimulation on GH release in acromegaly possibly involves receptors present on GH-secreting cells.