EFFECTS OF INTRACELLULAR GLUCOPENIA ON PULSATILE GROWTH HORMONE SECRETION: MEDIATION IN PART BY SOMATOSTATIN

by

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A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Graduate of Studies and Research in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science

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Running title:

MECHANISMS OF GROWTH HORMONE RESPONSE TO GLUCOPENIA

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# "Le génie scientifique, c'est d'inventer le monde tel qu'il est."

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### ABSTRACT

The present investe tion war ined the effects of 2-decixy-th- cluck set (2) - 1 \*\* + + - tra + 111+ - 1140 penter on growth & rome ]11 , + + + + , + , ( <sup>11</sup>) , 901 - 11. 1/11/11/11 In free to array 12.1 r it Sarat and a second 1 1 · . . ! . . ··/)-1 1 4 tra alas as 1 2 to as as 14 ") /Fr \*3Ti 1.... 1 1 1 - 10 1 1 1 inter a stration of st 40 · I 1. 1 11.11 1 1 1 1 101lass no is loss to be 50 rait, 1 , if , 1C373\* +1 1111 1 1+5 method tipertyl W) + 3117 . r . r tration & low toppe  $f_{21} = f_{41} + 0$  , in  $f_{21} + 0$ 11 1 +1 40 markedly stor ated of processinglit, in an tas -1 , 1 -sma alu ose levels, but these low sees were reffe 116 2000 interted (7, surgesting a contral rite of act m.

To elucidate the methacism(c) methating the Co Subjeression response to gl, oprivation, I accessed the "volvement of the two hypothalamic GM-regulatory peptides, schatostitin (SRIF) and GH-releasing factor (GPF). Passize immunization of 2DG-treated rats with a specific SRIF antiperur caused an initial surge of GH release and counifyrant elevation of both trough and mean 6-b plasma GH levels. HOWEVER, SHIT AS failed to restore the amplitude of GH pulses to normal levels. Administration of 3 iv boluses of SGRF (19 µg), at 90 min intervals, to 2DG-treated rats resulted in GH release which was variable and time-dependent; the magnitude of the first response was significantly less than that of the other Immunoneutralization with SRIF antiserum eliminated two. this difference and significantly enhanced hGRF-induced GH release.

These results demonstrate that intracellular glucopenia is a potent inhibitor of pulsatile GH secretion in the rat, and that this response is mediated, at least in part, by an increase in SRIF release. The longer lasting suppression of GH pulses observed after glucose deprivation may be due to decreased output of GRF from the hypothalamus.

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### résumé

L'étude suivante examine les effets de la glucopénie intracellulaire arovog se pro le se xy-f-ilucose (2DG sur la secretion to 12 mone that assaring (GPL, de l'Ansuline et du à siere her this part Trill. to the tenne - Int - NATE - SVAPtric ai \* \* T \* "Rat , Mur it mini trati e migt DIF tre 1 (4) 1 ··· . . ] . • · voie .nt+ . . .-1 1 · 1 11++ ILL Sec des finite de SI The n 164 η, 1111. 1 1914 1 der rant. · pá. ' cons. ter ........ []m] ( ~ , ..t 12.1 . 1. 1111 11112remert Give & pertint n(-) \* āt. 10 /man tinst .... 1 . 11 deme the regreat. art to der on der (1 let D t R mg/l ul, thur trée lans système ++P "T+111 entro. produisent le rame et di fire qu'e les sient Ineft 1a(105 lorsqu'administres per vole introvenne se.

Afin the clarifier le (c les "éclisaisme ) d'+ tion du 2DG, les riles : la comatostatione (SRIF) et co la comatocripine (GFF) oft EtA SvaluAs. Cimmup. sation de rittraités à 200 produir antischum A-) stéplificule à SAIF provoque in brave secretion de Ge suivie d'une augmentation du niveau noven des creux de GB sans te tefois rétariir la concentration remale to GH tans le plasma. Far cortre, l'administration de trais doses massiver de no RP (10 µg/0.3 ml) à 90 min d'intervalle entraîne une décharie variable de GH, la première (1 h après l'administration de 2DG) Stant systématiquement moins importante que les deux autres. L'administration concomitante de SRIF AS et de hGRF parvient cependant à éliminer cette différence relative au temps d'injection. Ces résultats indiquent donc que chez le rat, la glucopénie intracellulaire telle que déclarchée par le 2DG, diminue la sécrétion de GH et qu'une augmentation de sécrétion de SRIF semble, du moins en partie, responsable de cette réponse. Cette hypothèse n'exclut toutefois pas la possibilité que la sécrétion de GRF en provenance de l'hypothalamus soit diminuée par l'administration du 2DG.

#### INTRODUCTION

Growth hormone (GH) is a trophic hormone of the anterior piturtary gland with a large molecular weight which, asopposed to most other hormones of the pituitary, does not a specific target organ. have Growth hormone has a more generalized action, in that it promotes somatic growth in both soft and skeletal tissues, and its action on these metabolically active tissues may vary depending on the tissue (Cheev and Hill, 1974). Growth hormone is also implicated in the metabolic control of intermediary metabolites such as carbonydrates, lipids and proteins (Reichlin, 1974). These observations have suggested to many earlier investigators that GH release may be regulated by metabolism and that adequate plasma concentration of this hormone was important for normal metabolic functions. It is therefore of interest to understand the mechanisms whereby this control is achieved  $\eta$ and its importance in day-to-day metabolism.

#### Metabolic Regulation of GH Secretion

<u>GH and carbohydrate metabolism</u>. The role and action of GH in modulating carbohydrate metabolism was evidenced by the finding that administration of GH to animals produced alterations in carbohydrate metabolism. Altszuler and his co-workers in 1959 (Altszuler, Steele, Wall, Dunn and De

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Bodo, 1959) presented the first report showing that GH was capable of increasing both glucose production and utilization in normal as well as in hypophysectomized animals (dogs). Thereafter, it was found that the effect of GH was biphasic, with an early insulin-like effect resulting in a fall in plasma glucose level, followed by an anti-insulin-like action (Altszuler, Steele, Rathgeb and De Bodo, 1968; Altszuler, 1974; Merimee, 1979). These earlier findings raised the possibility that GH release might be regulated by carbohydrate metabolism and perhaps be involved in maintaining glucose homeostasis, as well as regulating the metabolic adjustments to fasting and other situations of substrate deficiency (Cahill, Herrera, Morgan, Soeldner, Steinke, Levy, Reichard and Kipnis, 1966).

Roth and his co-workers, in 1963, were the first to report that hypoglycemia induced by insulin was a potent stimulator of GH secretion (Roth, Glick, Yalow and Berson, 1963(a)). They demonstrated that hypoglycemia stimulated GH release in fasted subjects and that this response was blocked by simultaneous infusion of glucose and insulin. These findings were at that time interpreted to indicate a direct relationship between plasma glucose and GH level. Furthermore, other stimuli such as moderate exercise, fasting and inhibition of intracellular glucose utilization were all found to cause a significant elevation of plasma GH level in

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normal human subjects, (Faiman, 1965; Marks, Howorth and Greenwood, 1965; Hunter, Rigal and Sukkar, 1968), while administration of glucose produced an abrupt fall in plasma GH (Roth, Glick, Yalow and Berson, 1963(b), and 1964). In the light of these observations it was hypothesized that GH was directly involved in glucose homeostasis (Luft and Cerasi, 1968). However, the insulin-induced hypoglycemia test used in these studies does not simulate a normal physiological condition and the GH response observed might therefore, not be part of daily glucoregulatory mechanisms. Several experiments questioned the role of GH in glucose homeostasis. Induction of a small decrease in plasma glucose level by administration of low doses of insulin did not result in significant GH release (Koh, Kohn, Catt and Burger, 1968). In addition, this study also demonstrated that spontaneous fluctuations in plasma GH occurred with no apparent relation to the changes in plasma glucose levels. In 1970, Glick (Glick, 1970) presented a study in which he showed that the threshold fall in blood glucose that was necessary to induce significant GH release was beyond that observed under normal circumstances. The use of sequential blood sampling in normal adults demonstrated that changes in plasma concentration of GH were independent of plasma glucose during a 24-hour fast (Quabbe, Schilling and Helge, 1966) as well as independent of feeding regimens. Glick and Goldsmith

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(Glick and Goldsmith, 1968) reported that rhythmic fluctuations of plasma GH occurred in both fasting and feeding conditions in normal male and female subjects. Thereafter, it was shown that neither glucose nor proteins are directly involved in modulation of GH secretion, and that the periodic rhythmic secretion of GH was independent of normal daily metabolic processes (Goldsmith and Glick, 1970). More recent investigations in man were not able to establish a direct correlation between plasma glucose level and GH release (Cryer, 1981; Tse, Clutter, Shah, Miller and Cryer, 1983) ruling out the possibility of a specific role for GH in glucose homeostasis under normal physiological conditions in healthy adult human subjects.

Similar findings were observed in other animals species although there appeared to be a wide degree of species specificity (Machlin, Takahashi, Horino, Hertelendy, Gordon and Kipnis, 1968). While the monkey was found to have a pattern of GH release that was similar to human (Meyer and Knobil, 1967), the pig exhibited only a slight elevation in plasma GHin response to an hypoglycemic challenge (Machlin, Horino, Hertelendy and Kipnis, 1968). Moreover, the rabbit (McIntyre and Odell, 1974), the cat (Kokka, Garcia, Morgan and George, 1971) and the mouse (Müller, Miedico, Giustina and Cocchi, 1971) were unresponsive to such a stimulus. Conflicting data have been reported in the rat. While earlier investigators reported a decrease (Takahashi, Daughaday and Kipnis, 1971)

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in plasma GH level in response to cellular glucopenia, as well as decreased GH content in the anterior pituitary gland of starved rats (Friedman and Reichlin, 1965), more recent investigators have demonstrated both a decrease (Tannenbaum, Martin and Colle, 1976) and an increase (Bluet-Pajot and Schaub, 1977 and 1978; Okajima, Motomastu, Kato and Ibayashi, 1980) in plasma GH in response to hypoglycemia. These conflicting results further complicated the problem and thus this issue remains unclear and warrants further investigation..

GH and protein metabolism. Growth hormone stimulates protein synthesis (Kostyo and Nutting, 1974; Merimee, 1979) thus creating a positive nitrogen balance. In the light of this action of GH, the effects of protein and various amino acids on the secretion of GH were investigated. Even though infusion of arginine was followed by significant release of GH in the plasma of normal male and female subjects (Knopf, Conn, Fajans, Floyd, Guntsche and Rull, 1965; Merimee, Burgess and Rabinowitz, 1966), Best and his collaborators (Best, Catt and Burger, 1968) presented data suggesting that the GH response to an arginine infusion test was not a specific response since GH fluctuations were also observed in the plasma of control subjects only receiving a saline injection. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that in humans, amino acids, and consequently proteins, have a major role in GH regulation.

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GH and fat metabolism. Growth hormone is also known to play an important role in the control of fat metabolism, since it shifts general metabolism towards fat mobilization from Goodman and Knobil, 1959; Goodman adipose fissue and Schwartz, 1974; Heubi, Burstein, Sperling, Gregg, Subbiah and Matthews, 1983). More specifically, GH causes inhibition of lipogenesis while it accelerates fat catabolism' (Goodman, **1963).** However, beside the ruminants (Hertelendy and Kipnis, 1973) in which plasma free fatty acids were shown to play an important role in GH homeostasis, it was not possible to obtain such proof for other species; only supraphysiological levels of fat in the plasma of monkeys were able to induce a GH response (Blackard, Boylen, Hinson and Nelson, 1969). Moreover, the time lapse between the administration of the fat surplus and the GH response was often too great to establish a direct correlation (Glick, 1969). It was thence concluded that free fatty acids only play a minor role in GH regulation under normal circumstances.

#### Central Nervous System Regulation of GH Secretion

Hypothalamic control of GH secretion. Evidence for central nervous system (CNS) regulation of GH secretion arises from several clinical and experimental observations. From a clinical point of view, it was observed that patients with pituitary stalk section for non-pituitary disorders had

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reduced plasma GH concentration with partial or complete loss of GH response to insulin-induced hypoglycemia (Glick, Roth, Yalow and Berson, 1965). These observations suggested that the integrity of the CNS-pituitary axis was essential for the reflex GH response to an hypoglycemic challenge. Direct experimental evidence for brain control of GH release was obtained from experimental investigations whereby discrete hypothalamic areas were either lesioned or stimulated.

Lesion experiments. Reachlan (Reachlan, 1960 and 1961) was the first to demonstrate that, in rats, extensive lesions located at the base of the hypothalamus, including the median caused a decrease in somatic growth, depleted eminence, pituitary GH content and decreased plasma GH levels as determined by the tibial epiphyseal assay. Moreover, Abrams and his coworkers (Abrams, Parker, Blanco, Reichlin and Daughaday, 1966) showed, using radioimmuoassay (RIA), that in the squirrel monkey hypothalamic lesions restricted to the median eminence resulted in failure of the GH response to insulin-induced hypoglycemia. More specifically, it was observed that lesions limited to the ventromedial hypothalaspared the median eminence, mic area which (VMH) but infringed on the arcuate nucleus, caused growth retardation associated with depletion of pituitary GH content and decreased plasma GH concentration in weanling rats (Frohman and Bernardis, 1968). It was also shown that the extent of the

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deficit was proportional to the lesion size (Bernardis and Frohman, 1970).

More recent, investigations using the neurotoxic agent monosodium glutamate, which selectively destroys the arcuate nucleus (Terry, Epelbaum and Martin, 1981; Millard, Martin jr., Audet, Sagar and Martin, 1982), or electrolytic lesion of the VMH-arcuate complex (Martin, Renaud and Brazeau, 1974; Eikelboom and Tannenbaum, 1983) demonstrated that the mediobasal hypothalamus was stimulatory to GH secretion since its destruction was followed by suppressed plasma GH concentra-Furthermore, animals in which all the neural connection. tions between the anterior and medio-basal hypothalamus were interrupted were found to have normal and often increased GH secretion (Collu, Jéquier, Letarte, Leboeuf and Ducharme, 1973; 'Mitchell, Hutchins, Schindler and Critchlow, 1973; Willoughby, Terry, Brazeau and Martin, 1977; Critchlow, Rice, Abe and Vale, 1978; Antoni, Makara and Rappay, 1981) and similarly, lesioning the medial preoptic anterior hypothalamic area resulted in elevated plasma GH concentration (Epelbaum, Willoughby, Brazeau and Martin, 1977; Willoughby and Martin, 1978; Critchlow, Abe, Urman and Vale, 1981). Taken together, these data provided support for the view that the medio-basal hypothalamus, more specifically the VMHarcuate region, contained the putative GH-releasing factor (GRF) neurons, with the anterior-medial preoptic hypothalamic

region as the GH-inhibitory regulatory center.

Stimulation experiments. Data from experiments whereby selective brain regions were stimulated provided additional support to the idea that GH secretion was under hypothalamic control. Electrical stimulation of the VMH-arcuate complex was shown to be capable of inducing a prompt rise in plasma GH concentration within five minutes after the termination of the stimulus with the peak GH level reached by 10-15 minutes (Frohman, Bernardis and Kant, 1968; Bernardis and Frohman, 1971). Furthermore, positive GH responses were also obtained from regions located outside the hypothalamus (Martin, 1972); both dorsal and ventral hippocampus, and the basolateral amygdala were stimulatory loci to GH secretion while the corticomedial amygdala was inhibitory to the secretion of the hormone. In addition, electrical stimulation of the anterior hypothalamus caused a decrease in plasma GH levels further implicating this region as an inhibitory locus for GH control (Martin, Tannenbaum, Willoughby, Renaud and Brazeau, 1975).

#### Neurohormonal Control of GH Secretion

In parallel to the early lesion and stimulation experiments mentioned above, and in view of the existence of a . chemical connection between the hypothalamus and the pituitary gland via the portal circulation, other investigators were interested in studying the effects of administration of hypo-

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thalamic extracts on GH release to possibly identify the hypothalamic GH-regulatory factors. Deuben and Meites (Deuben and Meites, 1964) were the first to demonstrate the existence of a GH-releasing factor in acid extracts of rat hypothalamus. This factor was able to cause a four to six fold increase in the amount of bioassayable GH released by cultured rat anterior pituitaries. Furthermore, administration of extracts derived from other brain regions were ineffective in inducing GH release. With the advent of a specific RIA to measure GH in the plasma, it became possible evaluate more precisely the effects of hypothalamic to extracts on GH release from the anterior 'pituitary. In the rhesus monkey, in vivo administration of sheep hypothalamic extracts caused a significant increase in plasma GH level with a time course resembling that observed following an hypoglycemic challenge (Garcia and Geschwind, 1966). Similar observations were made in other specie's as well. Intracarotid administration of extracts from bovine stalk median eminence fragments induced an increase in the basal plasma GH level of sheep (Machlin, Horino, Kipnis, Phillips and Gordon, 1967) and intravenous administration of porcine hypothalamic extracts was very effective in inducing a GH response in rats (Malacara and Reichlin, 1971). Later, it was observed that other brain peptides were also effective in stimulating GH release from the pituitary gland although none of them was

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specific to GH (Martin, Brazeau, Tannenbaum, Willoughby, Epelbaum, Terry and Durand, 1978). Other experiments, however, have shown that GH release was also under the control of inhibitory hypothalamic influences. Frulich and his co-warkers (Krulich, Dhariwal and McCann, 1968; Frulich, Illuer, Fawcetz, Ourjada and McCann, 1971) presented data indicating that boving hypothalamic extracts also possessed the capacity to inhibit both synthesis and release of GH in <u>vitro</u> suggesting a dual control of GH secretion. However, it was not until later that the true nature of this GH-inhibitory factor was elucidated.

<u>Somatostatin</u>. Somatostatin (SRIF) is a tetradecapeptide which was discovered on the basis of its ability to inhibit GH release from pituitary cells in culture (Brazeau, Vale, Burgus, Ling, Butcher, Rivier and Guillemin, 1973). It was first isolated and characterized from sheep hypothalamic extract. The discovery of this peptide stimulated research and it soon became evident that SRIF was a potent inhibitor of GH release to virtually all known stimuli, both <u>in vivo</u> and <u>in vitro</u>, and in a wide variety of species including man (Martin, Tannenbaum, Willoughby, Renaud and Brazeau, 1975). Moreover, it was shown to have a widespread inhibitory effect on hormone release in general. Immunocytochemical studies have localized SRIF in various brain regions with the primary

somatostatinergic neurons in the anterior-preoptic hypothalamus (Brownstein, Arimura, Sato, Schally and Kizer, 1975; Alpert, Brawer, Patel and Reichlin, 1976; Filby and Gross, 1983) which is consistent with the earlier physiologic studies. In addition, SRIF was found in several peripheral organs such as the pancreatic islets (Luft, Efendic, Hökfelt, Johansson and Arimura, 1974; Pelletier, Leclerc, Arimura and Schally, 1975) and the gastrointestinal tract (Arimura, Sato, Coy and Schally, 1975; Patel and Reichlin, 1978). These later findings fitted well with the observations that SRIF was also effective in suppressing insulin (Alberti, Christensen, Christensen, Prange Hansen, Iversen, Lundbaek, Sever-Hansen and Ørskov, 1973; Koerker, Ruch, Chideckel, Palmer, Ensinck, Goodner and Gale, 1974), glucagon (Gerich, Lorenzi, Schneider, Karam, Rivier, Guillemin and Forsham, 1974; Dobbs, Sakurai, Sasaki, Faloona, Valverde, Baetens, Orci and Unger, 1975), gastrin (Bloom, Mortimer, Thorner, Besser, Hall, Gomez-Pan, Roy, Russell, Coy, Kastin and Schally, 1974) and secretin release (Boden, Sivitz, Owen, Essa-Koumar and Landor, 1975).

Finally, experiments using a specific antiserum to SRIF have shown that SRIF has a physiological role in the regulation of GH secretion under both normal and pathological conditions. Administration of SRIF antiserum elevated basal GH levels in normal animals (Ferland, Labrie, Jobin, Arimura

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Schally, 1976; Steiner, Stewart, Barber, and Koerker, Goodner, Brown, Illner and Gale, 1978; Terry and Martin, 198]; Eikelboom and Tannenbaum, 1983), blocked stress-induced GH suppression (Arimura, Smith and Schally, 1976; Terry, Willoughby, Brazeau, Martin and Patel, 1976), and restored amplitude GH levels in both starved (Tannenbaum, hiah Epelbaum, Colle, Brazeau and Martin, 1978) and strept rotocin diabetic rats (Tannenbaum, 1981) exhibiting suppressed plasma GH concentration. Studies of animal models of both diabetes (Patel, Cameron, Bankier, Malaisse-Lagae, Ravazzola, Studer and Orci, 1978; Tannenbaum, Colle, Wanamaker, Gurd, Goldman and Seemayer, 1981) and starvation (Tannenbaum, Rorstad and Brazeau, 1979) have confirmed marked alterations in tissue somatostatin content suggesting a role for SRJF in these conditions.

<u>Growth hormone-releasing factor (GRF)</u>. Despite compelling evidence for GRF activity this peptide has only recently been isolated and characterized by two groups of investigators (Guillemin, Brazeau, Böhlen, Esch, Ling and Wehrenberg, 1982; Rivier, Spiess, Thorner and Vale, 1982). Three peptides with 37, 40 and 44 amino acids, respectively, were isolated from two carcinoid pancreatic tumors of patients exhibiting severe symptoms of acromegaly. All three peptides exhibit potent GH-releasing activity, both <u>in vitro</u> (Brazeau, Ling, Böhlen, Esch, Ying and Guillemin, 1982; Vale, Vaughan, Yamamoto,

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Spiess and Rivier, 1983) and in vivo in a variety of species (Wehrenberg, Ling, Brazeau, Esch, Böhlen, Baird, Ying and Guillemin, 1982; Chihara, Minamitani, Kaji, Kodama, Kita and Fjuita, 1983; Gelato, Pescovitz, Cassorla, Loriaux and Merriam, 1983; Szabo, Dudlak, Thominet and Frohman, 1983; Harvey, Scanes and Marsh, 1984; Scanes, Carsia, Lauterio, Huybrechts, Pivier and Vale, 1984; Thorner, Rivier, Spiess, Borges, Vance, Bloom, Rogol, Cronin, Kaiser, Evans, Webster, MacLeod and Vale, 1983; Tannenbaum and Ling, 1984). The 44 amino acid form of the peptide was later found to be identical in structure and biological potency to the native peptide isolated from human hypothalamus (Ling, Esch, Böhlen, Brazeau, Wehrenberg and Guillemin, 1984). In addition, this peptide has been found to interact in a non-competitive manner with SRIF to control GH release both in vitro (Brazeau, Ling, Böhlen, Esch, Ying and Guillemin, 1982) and in vivo (Tannenbaum and Ling, 1984). More recently, Spiess and his collaborators (Spiess, Pivier and Vale, 1983) have reported the isolation and characterization of a 43 amino acid peptide which they proposed to be the rat hypothalamic GRF. Immunocytochemical studies soon thereafter localized GRF primarily within the arcuate nucleus of the hypothalamus Brazeau, Ling, Böhlen, Esch, Wehrenberg, Benoit, (Bloch, Bloom and Guillemin, 1983; Lin, Bollinger, Ling and Reichlin, 1984) as well as within some cell bodies within the VMH nucleus (Merchenthaler, Vigh, Schally, and Petrusz, 1984),

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confirming the stimulatory role of these brain regions in GH control.

#### Growth Hormone Secretory Pattern

all species investigated .experimentally thus far Ιn (Meyer and Knobil, 1967; Machlin, Horino, Hertelendy and 1968;Takahashi, Daughaday Kipnis, and Kipnis, 1971; Tsushima, Irie and Sakuma, 1971), including humans (Quabbe, Schilling and Helge, 1966; Goldsmith and Glick, 1970), GH secretion is characterized by wide variations. Although factors such as sleep, exercise and stress are implicated in the physiologic variations observed in GH secretion, many of the surges are spontaneous. Typically, in healthy adult men, plasma GH levels may vary from basal levels of less than 5 ng/ml to levels as high as 60 ng/ml (Martin, Tannenbaum, Willoughby, Renaud and Brazeau, 1975). The highest levels are often observed during night sleep (Takahashi, Kipnis and Daughaday, 1968; Mendelson, Jacob, Gillin and Wyatt, 1979), and also during the stages of adolescence (Miller, Tannenbaum, Colle and Guyda, 1982). In the rat, GH secretion is also characterized by spontaneous bursts of GH release. In particular, in this species, GH secretion is governed by a striking ultradian rhythm (Tannenbaum and Martin, 1976) with a periodicity of approximately 3-4 hours, which in the male entrained to the light-dark cycle of is rat, the dav

(Tannenbaum and Martin, 1976). The GH rhythm continues to function independent of environmental lighting and feeding and is not correlated to changes in plasma glucose or insulin, indicating that it is a true endogenous biological rhythm, likely controlled by CNS mechanisms (Tannenbaum, Martin and Colle, 1976). In male rats, the CH secretory episodes are often multiphasic in nature with two or even three spikes of GH released within each large GH secretory episode. This pattern of GH secretion persists unchanged throughout the 24-hour day (Tannenbaum and Martin, 1976). Figure 1 shows two individual, representative GH secretory profiles of rats sampled for periods of 6 hours which the author has obtained in this laboratory.

In summary, it is now generally believed that the regulation of GH release from the pituitary gland is mediated via the CNS by at least two hypothalamic factors which are released into the hypothalamic hypophyseal portal circulation. These factors which are both inhibitory (SRIF,) and stimulatory (GRF) have been demonstrated to interact in a non-competitive manner and likely generate the episodic rhythmic secretory pattern which characterizes GH release in many species (for review, see Tannenbaum, 1985).

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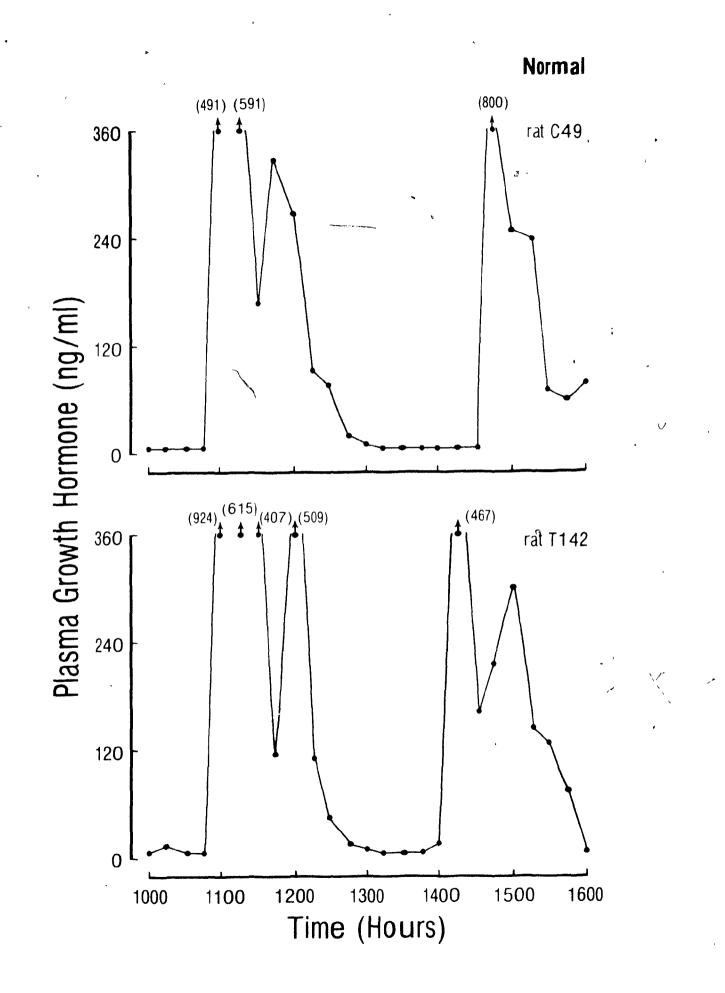
FIGURE 1

Individual rhythmic GH secretory patterns in two animals sampled over a 6-h period. Pulsatile GH secretion in the male rat monitored over this time interval (1000 - 1600 h) is characterized by two major episodes of GH secretion occurring at approximately 3 h intervals and separated by a trough period of mostly undetectable GH levels. A uniformity in the timing of the GH pulses is evident.

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#### Aim of the Present Investigation

As was pointed yout in the above discussion, GH is actively involved in the regulation of various metabolic processes, and its secretion is, in turn, controlled by metabolic as well as neuroendocrine factors. The possibility that GH might play a role in the regulation of glucose homeostasis after hypoglycemic stimulation, or prolonged periods of fasting, has been considered by many investigators in earlier studies. While there is general agreement that GH secretion in man is increased in response to insufficient glucose metabolism provoked by either insulin (Roth, Glick, Yalow and Berson, 1963(a); Luft and Cerasi, 1968), or the non-metabolizable glucose analog, 2DG (Roth, Glick, Yalow and 1963(b); Wegienka, Grodsky, Berson, Karam, Grasso and Forsham, 1967; Brodows, Pi-Sunyer and Campbell, 1973; Woolf, Lee, Leebaw, Thompson, Lilavivathana, Brodows and Campbell, 1977; Wakabayashi, Demura, Miki, Ohmura, Miyoshi and Shizume, 1980), conflicting results have been obtained in rats. Rat GH secretion has been shown to be either inhibited (Takahashi, Daughaday and Kipnis, 1971; Tannenbaum, Martin and Colle, 1976) or stimulated (Bluet-Pajot and Schaub, 1978) insulin-induced hypoglycemia, and both response to in а decrease (Takahashi, Daughaday and Kipnis, 1971) and increase (Okajima, Motomatsu, Kato and Ibayashi, 1980) in plasma GH

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have been reported after 2DG treatment. Since spontaneous GH secretion in the rat exhibits a striking ultradian rhythm (Tannenbaum and Martin, 1976) it is possible that this disagreement stems from either the use of inappropriate blood sampling techniques, stressful anesthesia and/or differences in the route of administration of the glucopenic stimulus. series of experiments in Thus, first the present the investigation was undertaken to clarify the GH response to intracellular glucoprivation by examining the effects of both systemic and central administration of 2DG on GH secretory dynamics in conscious freely-behaving rats. The 2DG stimulus has the advantage of providing a more controlled stimulus and avoiding the superimposed systemic effects of insulin (See Appendix I).

The mechanism mediating the GH response to insufficient glucose remains to be elucidated. Participation of the CNS is indicated by reports of the existence of glucose-sensitive cells within the hypothalamus which modulate the GH response hypoglycemia Schalch and Reichlin, to (Blanco, 1966; Himsworth, Carmel and Frantz, 1972). Ιt is now well-recognized that brain control of the rhythmic secretion of GH is achieved by way of the complex interaction of two hypothalamic hormones, GRF and SRIF (Tannenbaum and Ling,

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1984). Yet, to date, the <u>in vivo</u> involvement of the two hypothalamic GH-regulatory peptides in glucose regulation of GH secretion has not been assessed. The recent isolation and characterization of GRF peptides from both human pancreas tumors and hypothalamus, together with the availability of a specific antiserum to SRIF, now provide powerful tools to address this question. In the second series of experiments reported here I investigated the involvement of SRIF and GRF in mediating the GH response to 2DG-induced intracellular glucopenia.

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#### MATERIAL AND METHODS

#### Animals and Surgery

Adult male Sprague Dawley rats weighing 280-310 grams at the start of each experiment were obtained from Charles River Canada (St. Constant, Québec). All rats were implanted with chronic intracardiac venous cannulae under sodium pentobarbital (50 mg/kg, ip) anesthesia using a method previously described (Tannenbaum and Martin, 1976). The cannula which consisted of sterile silastic tubing (ID 0.025 in., OD 0.047 in.; 10 cm) was inserted into the right external jugular vein, 40 mm from the right atrium of the heart. The free end was brought subcutaneously to the skull surface, fastened to hypodermic tubing and affixed to the skull with dental In some instances, a chronic intracerebroventricular cement. (icv) cannula, constructed of aluminum, was simultaneously inserted into left lateral ventricle the of the brain (Tannenbaum, 1980). With the incisor bar at +5 mm, stereotaxic coordinates were: 1 mm posterior to bregma, 1 mm lateral to the mid-line and 4.5 mm below the skull surface (coordinates were taken from the Pellegrino and Cushman After surgery, each rat was injected with 0.3 Atlas, 1967). cc Penicillin G (300,000 IU/ml). They were immediately placed in isolation test chambers (lights on between 0600-1800 hours (h)) in a temperature  $(22+2^{\circ}C)$  - and humidity

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controlled room with Purina rat chow and tap water available ad libitum, until body weight returned to preoperative levels (usually 5-7 days). During this period, the rats were weighed and handled daily to habituate them to the experimental procedure to be used on the test day and thus minimize any stress associated with handling. The venous cannula was maintained patent by rinsing with a solution of 20% heparin (Heparin sodium 10,000 U.S.P. Units/ml, Hepalean) every 4-5 days.

#### Experimental Procedures

On the day prior to the test day, the animals were prepared with polyethylene (PE 100: void volume, 0.3 ml) tubing filled with 20% heparinized saline which extended from the hypodermic tubing on their head to the outside of the isolation cubicle via a stainless steel spring attached to a roller bearing at the top of the cage. This assembly permitted the animal to be freely-moving during all experimental manipulations. The tubing was connected to a 1.0 cc syringe and the animals were left so prepared overnight. On the test day, in most experiments, food was removed from the cage 1.5-2 h before the start of the experiment, at 1000 h, and returned at the end at 1600 h. Blood samples (0.45 ml) were withdrawn every 15 minutes (min) for periods of 6 h (1000 -1600 h). All blood samples were immediately centrifuged and đ

the plasma was separated in six aliquots and stored at -20°C for subsequent assays of GH, insulin and glucose. The red blood cells were then resuspended in 0.25 ml normal saline (0.9% Nacl) and returned to the animal following removal of the next blood sample. This sampling technique allowed longitudinal sampling without hemodynamic depletion. At the termination of the experiments the accuracy of 1CV the cannula placement was determined by injection of 10 al methylene blue dye via the cannula and macroscopic observance of the dye in the ventricles of the brain.

Study 1. In the first series of experiments, 8 groups of animals were used to investigate the effects of systemic and central administration of 2DG on GH, insulin and glucose secretory dynamics. Three groups were administered 2DG (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO), iv, at three different doses, (400 mg/kg, 8 mg/kg and 4 mg/kg) whereas a fourth group received 2DG iv in a dose of 400 mg/kg and was allowed to feed ad libitum during the test. A known amount of rat chow pellets was given to these animals at 1000 h, at the start of the experiment. At the end of the test (1600 h), the remaining food was weighed and the amount eaten determined. Two other groups received 2DG icv in doses of 4 mg/10  $\mu$  and 8 mg/10  $\mu$ 1. In all experiments the 2DG was diluted in normal saline just before use and was injected after removal of the third blood sample (1030 h). Two additional groups

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served as controls and received normal saline iv (0.6 ml) or icv (10  $\mu$ L) at the same time point.

The second series of experiments was undertaken to Study 2. assess the involvement of the two hypothalamic GH-regulatory peptides, SRIF and GRF, in the 2DG-induced GH suppression To examine the role of endogenous SRIF, one group response. of 2DG-treated rats (400 mg/kg, iv) was administered 1 ml of a specific SRIF antiserum, iv, 15 min after administration of the 2DG (i.e. at 1045 h). This antiserum which was raised in sheep is specific for SRIF and does not bind other brain or qut peptides (Tannenbaum, Epelbaum, Colle, Brazeau and Martin, 1978). At a final dilution of 1/20,000 this antiserum binds 35% of  $(^{125}I-Tyr_1)-SRIF$  and can detect 10 pg/assay tube of synthetic SRIF. A second 2DG-treated group (400 mg/kg, iv) served as control and received 1 ml of normal sheep serum at the same time point.

To evaluate the possible involvement of GRF in mediating the GH response to the glucopenic stimulus, the ability of 2DG-treated animals to respond to exogenously administered GRF was assessed. For these experiments, two other groups of rats, treated with the same dose of 2DG (400 mg/kg, iv), were given three iv bolus injections, 90 min apart, (at 1130, 1300 and 1430 h) of either the 44-amino acid peptide, human (h)GRF (kindly provided by Dr. N. Ling, Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA) or normal saline as a control. The GRF peptide; which was a synthetic replicate of the original peptide, was synthesized by solid phase techniques using a Beckman 990 peptide synthesizer (Ling, Esch, Davis, Mercado, Regno, Böhlen, Brazeau and Guillemin, 1980). The peptide was diluted in normal saline just before use to attain a concentration of 10  $\mu$ g/0.3 ml. In order to document the rapidity of the response to hGRF, an additional blood sample was obtained 5 min after each injection.

Finally, to examine the interaction of GRF with endogenous circulating SRIF in glucopenic animals, I administered 1 ml SRIF antiserum, iv, at 1045 h followed by three iv bolus injections of hGRF (10  $\mu$ g/0.3 ml), as described above, to 2DG (400 mg/kg, iv)-treated animals.

#### Hormone Assays

Plasma GH concentrations were determined in duplicate by a double antibody RIA using materials supplied by the National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIADDK, Bethesda, MD). This assay allowed accurate estimation of plasma GH in a small sample volume (25  $\mu$ l). The averaged plasma GH values are reported in terms of the rat GH reference preparation (rGH-RP-1) which was used in the standard curve of the assay. The rGH purified antigen (NIADDK-rGH-I-5) was iodinated with <sup>125</sup>I using a modification of the chloramine T method (Greenwood, Hunter and

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Glover, 1963). Monkey anti-rat serum (anti-rGH-S-4) served as the first antibody and was used at a final dilution of 1:30,000 to obtain approximately 40% binding in the assay. Goat anti-monkey serum (gamma-globulin, G-6-1, P4. Antibodies Inc., CA), at a dilution ranging from 1:9 to 1:7, was used as the precipitating antibody after 72 h of incubation at room temperature. Normal monkey serum (Flow Lar. Ltd., Ont.) was used as a carrier protein for the goat anti-m nkey serum. The minimum and maximum detection limits of the assay were When it was possible, 6.2 and 800 ng/ml, respectively. plasma samples with concentrations of GH greater than 800 ng/ml were reassayed at dilutions of 1:5 or 1:10, otherwise such values were expressed as 7800 ng/ml and considered to be 800 ng/ml in statistical analyses. Similarly, plasma samples with concentrations of GH less than 6.2 ng/ml were expresed as <6.2 ng/ml and considered to be 6.2 ng/ml in statistical intra-assay coefficients of and analyses. The intervariation were 12.6% and 11.8%, respectively, for duplicate samples from pooled plasma containing a mean GH concentration of 28.3 ng/ml.

Plasma immunoreactive insulin (IRI) was measured by a dextran-coated charcoal method (Herbert, Lau, Gottlieb and Bleicher, 1965) using guinea pig antiporcine insulin serum at a dilution of 1:60,000 to attain a binding of approximately 60%. Purified crystalline rat insulin (lot No. 615-244-260,

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courtesy of Dr. R. Chance, E. Lilly Co., Indianapolis, IN) served as a reference standard. Purified porcine insulin was iodinated with  $^{125}I$  using the Chloramine T method and was repurified on the day of the assay. Separation of free and bound hormone was accomplished by addition of a 2.5% charcoal solution after 48 h of incubation at 4°C. The minimum and maximum detection limits of the assay were 0.32 and 20 ng/ml respectively and all samples (50 µl) were determined in duplicate. Plasma smaples with IRI concentrations less than 0.32 ng/ml were expressed as <0.32 and considered to be 0.32 in statistical analyses.

Plasma glucose, 10 µl aliquots, was measured by an automated glucose oxidase method (Glucose analyzer 2, Beckman Instruments, Palo Alto, CA). The apparatus determines the rate of oxygen consumption, which is directly proportional to the concentration of glucose in the sample.

#### SRIF Binding Capacity of Plasma of Rats after Administration of SRIF Antiserum

The SRIF binding capacity of plasma samples of rats treated with SRIF antiserum was assessed by determining the ability of aliquots of rat plasma (100  $\mu$ l) obtained 45 min before, and 15, 165 and 315 min after administration of SRIF antiserum to bind ( ${}^{125}I-Tyr_1$ )-SRIF. Plasma samples from each rat were diluted 1:100 in the SRIF assay buffer (0.5 M. phosphate buffer, pH 7.2), and binding to labeled SRIF was

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determined under standard conditions used for RIA of SRIF in this laboratory (Tannenbaum, Rorstad and Brazeau, 1979) using a double antibody RIA. In order to document that the normal sheep serum administered to the control group did not possess any SRIF binding capacity, plasma samples from control animals were also tested in the SRIF RIA.

#### Statistical Analyses

Analysis of variance for repeated measures and Student's, t test were used for statistical comparisons between experimental groups (Winer, 1971). Student's paired t test was used to evaluate significant treatment effects within groups.

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#### RESULTS

#### Effects of Intravenous Administration of 2DG on GH, Glucose, and Insulin Secretory Dynamics

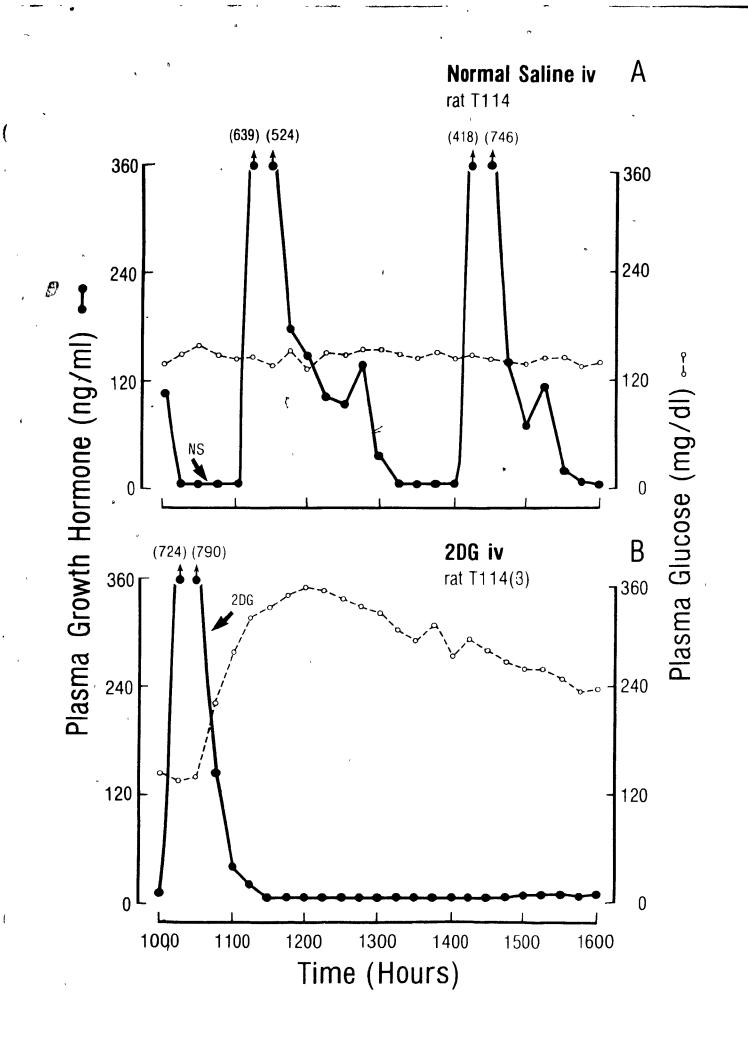
Saline-injected control animals exhibited the typical pulsatile pattern of GH secretion previously documented in normal freely-moving rats (Tannenbaum and Martin, 1976) with two major episodes of GH secretion evident during the 6-h sampling period (Fig. 2A). As was the case for normal animals (See Fig. 1), the GH surges had a rapid onset and were mostly multiphasic in nature. The peak GH values often exceeded 500 ng/ml and the mean peak GH level in this group was 703.6+58.2 ng/ml. In all rats the secretory episodes were separated by 'trough periods characterized by mostly undetectable (<6.2 ng/ml) plasma GH levels. In addition, there was a synchrony in the timing of the GH pulses indicating entrainment to the light-dark cycle regimen. Typically, the first GH secretory episode occurred between 1100-1230 h with a second surge evident between 1400 and 1530 h. The duration of the episodes was somewhat variable with the mean duration being 111.6+4.5 min. During trough periods, the plasma GH levels remained low for 65.0+4.6 min and the mean plasma GH value for this period was 8.0+0.9.ng/ml (range 6.2-14.2 ng/ml).

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FIGURE 2

Individual, representative 6-h plasma GH and glucose profiles in a rat treated with normal saline (A) in comparison to those in the same . rat after 2DG treatment (B). The intravenous injection of 400 mg/kg 2DG caused a significant suppression in amplitude and duration of spontaneous GH pulses. Plasma GH levels remained low for the entire sampling period this response was accompanied by a and pronounced hyperglycemia. Arrows indicate time of injection.

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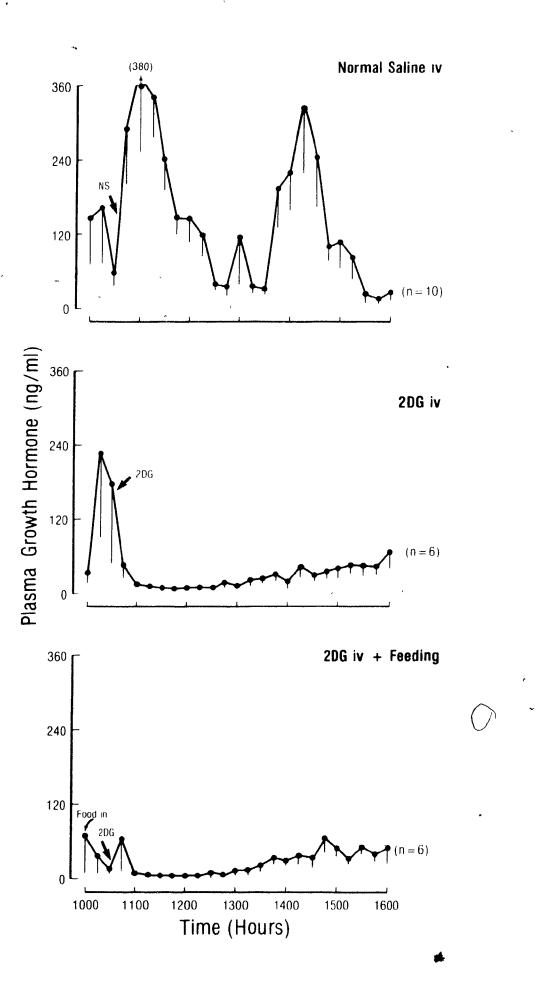
In striking contrast, the 6-h plasma GH profiles of rats administered 400 mg/kg 2DG exhibited a marked suppression in both amplitude and duration of GH secretory episodes which was evident 30 min after the injection of 2DG. Typically, in these rats, the ultradian GH rhythm was lost and GH secretory peaks were no longer discernable (Fig. 2B); plasma GH levels seldom exceeded 90 ng/ml and a large proportion of the GH values were near or below the detectable limit of the GH RIA. In all rats, this suppression in amplitude and duration of spontaneous GH pulses was evident throughout the 6-h sampling period and mean 6-h plasma GH levels were significantly (P<0.001) depressed compared to those of the normal saline-treated control group (mean 6-h plasma GH level: 28.7+4.8 vs 146.9+12.2 ng/ml) (Fig. 3 and Table 1). In some instances, recovery of GH secretion began to occur at the end of the sampling period.

Concomitant with the striking GH suppression, the iv administration of 2DG caused a pronounced hyperglycemia (Fig. 2B) with a characteristic time course. This hyperglycemia was evident within 15 min after injection and the mean plasma glucose level at this time point,  $256.0\pm9.5$  mg/dl was significantly (P<0.001) higher than the preinjection value of  $142.1\pm6.2$  mg/dl. Plasma glucose levels reached a peak  $97.5\pm9.2$  min after administration of 2DG and gradually declined thereafter, although remaining significantly

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FIGURE 3 Effect of iv administration of either normal saline (top graph) or 400 mg/kg 2DG in nonfeeding (middle graph) and feeding (bottom graph) animals on mean 6-h plasma GH levels. Intravenous injection of a high dose of 2DG consistently caused a significant suppression • of GH secretory pulses and plasma GH levels remained severely depressed for up to 5 h after the injection. Allowing the animals to eat did not prevent the suppression of GH and mean plasma GH levels in this group were similar to those observed in non-feeding 2DG-Arrows indicate time treated rats. of injection. Vertical bars represent the standard error of the mean (SEM). The number of animals in each group is shown in parentheses.

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#### TABLE 1

Summary of the effects of intravenous administration of 2DG on mean plasma growth hormone, glucose and insulin levels

Experimental groups	No. of animals per group	Mean 6-h plasma GH levels (ng/ml)	5	Mean 6-h plasma insulin levels (ng/ml)	
Normal Saline iv	10	146.9 ± 12.2	145.9 ± 2.8	0.77 ± 0.15	
2DG (400 mg/kg) iv	6	28.7 ± 4.8 <sup>a</sup>	307.1 ± 13.4ª	· 0.59 ± 0.08	- 36
2DG (400 mg/kg) iv & Feeding	6	29.8 ± 8.0ª	277.5 ± 10.6 <sup>a</sup>	6.94 ± 1.12 <sup>a</sup>	1
2DG (8 mg/kg) 1v	6	113.3 ± 15.3	141.6 ± 1.3	0.70 ± 0.14	
2DG (4mg/kg) ıv	6	161.1 ± 24.4	141.2 ± 2.3	0.88 ± 0.17	

Numbers represent mean  $\pm$  standard error of the mean (S.E.M.) a P<0.001 compared to normal saline-treated control group. (P<0.001) elevated until the last sample at 1600 h (221.0 $\pm$  13.6 mg/dl) when compared to normal saline controls whose plasma glucose levels fluctuated minimally throughout the 6-h sampling period (Fig. 2A). Mean 6-h plasma glucose levels of 2DG-treated rats were significantly greater than those of the normal saline-treated group (Table 1).

Despite the marked hyperglycemia, there was no significant difference in mean 6-h plasma IRI levels of 2DG-treated animals compared to saline controls (Table 1).

When the animals were allowed to free feed during the sampling period, they ate 9.0+0.5 g of the provided food. However, feeding did not modify the hormonal effects induced by the iv administration of 2DG (400 mg/kg); the mean 6-h plasma GH level in this group (29.8+8.0 ng/ml) was not significantly different from that of the non-feeding 2DG-treated group (28.7+4.8 ng/ml) (Fig. 3 and Table 1). Similarly, exhibited the typical hyperglycemic profile these rats observed in all animals receiving 400 mg/kg of 2DG iv (Table 1). Nevertheless, feeding resulted in the typical marked fluctuations in plasma IRI levels usually observed in responto food intake and therefore significantly (P<0.001)se elevated mean 6-h plasma IRI levels in this group (6.94+1.12 ng/ml) compared to the normal saline treated group  $(0.77\pm0.15)$ ng/ml) (Table 1).

Intravenous administration of fifty- to hundred-fold smaller doses of 2DG failed to induce any of the hormonal changes observed following the iv administration of the larger dose. The 6-h plasma GH profiles of these animals exhibited the typical rhythmic GH secretory pattern with two major episodes of GH secretion evident during the 6-h sampling period and many peak values greater than 400 ng/ml (Fig. 4). Mean 6-h plasma GH levels in these two groups of animals were not significantly different from those of the control group administered normal saline iv (Table 1). Similarly, plasma glucose and insulin levels fluctuated minimally and remained within their normal physiologic range throughout the 6-h sampling period (Table 1).

## Effects of Intracerebroventricular Administration of 2DG on GH, Glucose and Insulin Secretory Profiles

Central administration of  $10^{\prime}\mu$ l normal saline did not alter the typical GH, glucose and insulin secretory patterns previously observed in the normal saline iv-injected control group. All animals in this control group exhibited two episodes of GH secretion (Fig. 5A) with peak GH values > 400 ng/ml. Plasma glucose and insulin levels fluctuated minimally during the sampling period (Table 2).

Intracerebroventricular administration of 2DG in doses of 4 mg and 8 mg/10  $\mu$ l resulted in a significant dosedependent suppression of pulsatile GH secretion. Administra-

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FIGURE 4 Individual representative 6-h plasma GH profiles in two rats administered either 4 mg/kg or 8 mg/kg 2DG iv. The iv injection of fifty- to hundred-fold smaller doses of 2DG did not alter the typical rhythmic GH secretory pattern evident in normal rats under standard unstressed conditions. Arrows indicate time of injection.

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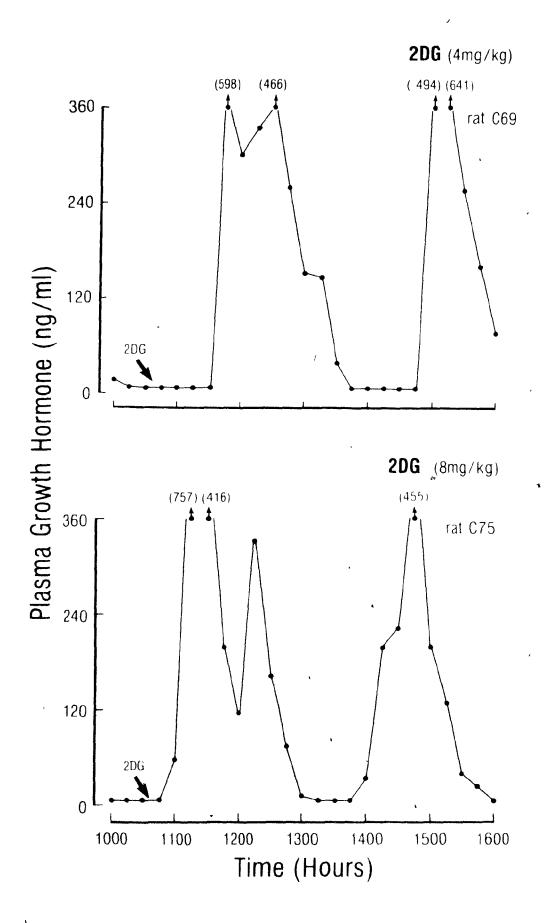
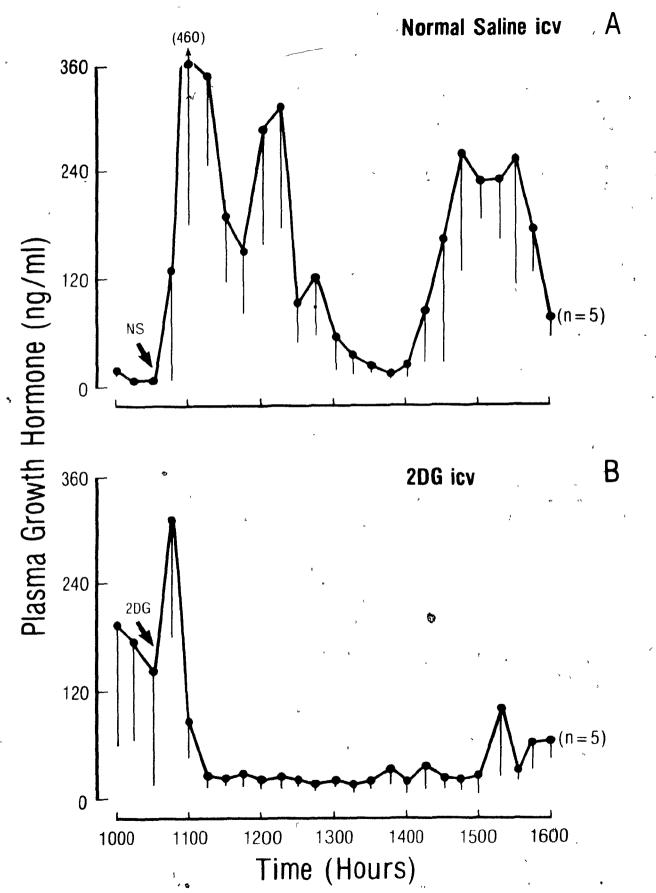


FIGURE 5

administration of icv Effects o£ either normal saline (A) or 8 mg/10  $\mu$ l 2DG (B) on mean 6-h plasma GH levels. Central injection of the small dose of 2DG caused a significant; suppression of pulsatile GH secretion within 30 minutes after injection. Plasma GH levels remained severely depressed for the entire duration of the sampling period. Arrows indicate the time of injection. Vertical lines represent SEM. The number of animals in each group is shown in parentheses.

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# TABLE 2

## Summary of the effects of intracerebroventricular administration of 2DG on mean plasma growth hormone, glucose and insulin levels.

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	Mean 6-h plasma insúlin levels (ng/ml)	glucose levels 🖉	GH levels	of animals	Experimental groups
$2DG (4 mg/10 \mu 1) icv 5$ $80.1 \pm 8.4^{a}$ $176.6 \pm 8.4^{b}$	1.43 ± 0.75	129.6 ± 7.0	170.3 ± 31.7		Normal Saline icv 🕋
	0.83* (n=1)	176.6 ± 8.4 <sup>b</sup>	80.1 ± 8.4 <sup>a</sup>	5	2DG (4 mg/10 µl) icv
2DG (8 mg/10 $\mu$ 1) icv 5 $48.6 \pm 14.2^{b}$ 217.1 $\pm$ 7.4 <sup>c</sup>	0.98 ± 0.13 °	217.1 ± 7.4° -	$48.6 \pm 14.2^{b}$	5	2DG (8 mg/10 µl) icv

a P<0.05 b P<0.01 c P<0.001

\* Because of a technical problem with the insulin RIA it is not possible to present the mean data for this group. Only the samples from one animal were assayed. tion of the smaller dose caused a partial but significant (P<0.05) decrease in mean 6-h plasma GH concentration compared to normal saline icv-injected controls (Table 2). Although GH pulses were still evident in these animals, they were markedly attenuated. Concomitant with this GH suppression response there was a significant increase in plasma glucose level 45 min after the injection of 2DG and plasma glucose values remained significantly elevated for 255 min after injection. The mean 6-h plasma glucose level in this group was significantly greater than that of the saline icv-injected control group (Table 2).

Intracerebroventricular administration of 8 mg/10  $\mu$ 1 2DG caused a greater degree of GH suppression. Plasma GH levels in these rats were severely reduced with no major GH secretory episode evident during the 6 h of sampling (Fig. 5B). This suppression was similar in magnitude to that previously observed following the iv administration of the larger dose of 2DG (400 mg/kg). The depression in GH pulse amplitude was evident within 30 min after injection of the 2DG (Fig. 5B) and plasma GH levels remained significantly reduced for the 6-h period compared to normal saline controls (48.6±14.2 vs 170.3±31.7 ng/ml; P<0.01). It is interesting to note that in some instances, whether 2DG was administered iv or icv, some recovery of GH secretion was observed during the last 45 min of the sampling period (Fig. 5B).

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This GH suppression response was accompanied by marked hyperglycemia (Table 2) with a time course similar to that observed following iv administration of the large dose of 2DG. In this group, significant elevation of plasma glucose levels occurred within 15 min and lasted until the last sample at 1600 h.

#### Effects of Somatostatin Antiserum on GH Secretory Profiles in 2DG-Treated Animals

Individual GH secretory profiles of 2DG (400 mg/kg), iv-treated rats administered normal sheep serum (NSS) were comparable to those of rats which had received 2DG alone. They continued to show a marked suppression in both GH pulse amplitude (Fig. 6, left panel) and mean 6-h plasma GH level (Fig. 7) associated with the hyperglycemia which usually accompanies iv administration of 400 mg/kg 2DG (mean 6-h plasma glucose level: 291.1+14.3 mg/dl). Administration of SRIF antiserum (AS) caused an initial increase in plasma GH level in most animals (Fig. 6, right panel) and mean plasma GH levels 15 min after injection were significantly elevated to those observed in 2DG-NSS treated controls compared (115.9+42.2 vs 13.6+5.7 ng/ml; P<0.02). In addition, passive immunization with SRIF AS caused a significant elevation of subsequent GH trough levels (mean GH trough level: 17.0+3.2 .vs 6.2+0 ng/ml; P<0.01)(Table 3). However, immunoneutralization of 2DG-treated rats with SRIF AS, although signifi-

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FIGURE 6

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Effect of passive immunization with somatostatin antiserum (SRIF AS) on individual, representative 6-h plasma GH secretory profiles in rats administered 400 mg/kg 2DG, iv (right panel) compared to 2DG-treated rats given normal sheep serum (NSS) (left panel). Administration of SRIF AS caused an initial surge of GH secretion and significant elevation of GH trough levels. Nevertheless, it failed to restore the high amplitude of GH pulses. Arrows indicate the times of injection.

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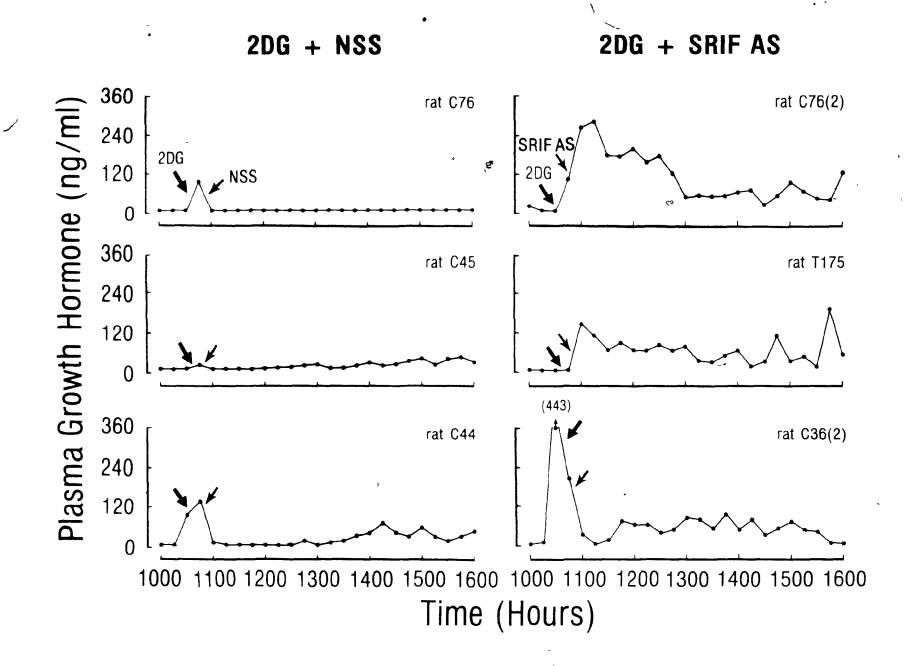


FIGURE 7 Mean 6-h plasma GH levels in the 4 groups of rats. Administration of SRIF AS to 2DGtreated rats caused a significant elevation of mean 6-h plasma GH levels compared to 2DG-NSS-treated controls, however it failed to restore the mean 6-h GH level to normal values. Each bar represents the mean <u>+</u> SEM and the number of animals in each group is shown in parentheses. \*P<0.01 compared to</p>

saline and

normal

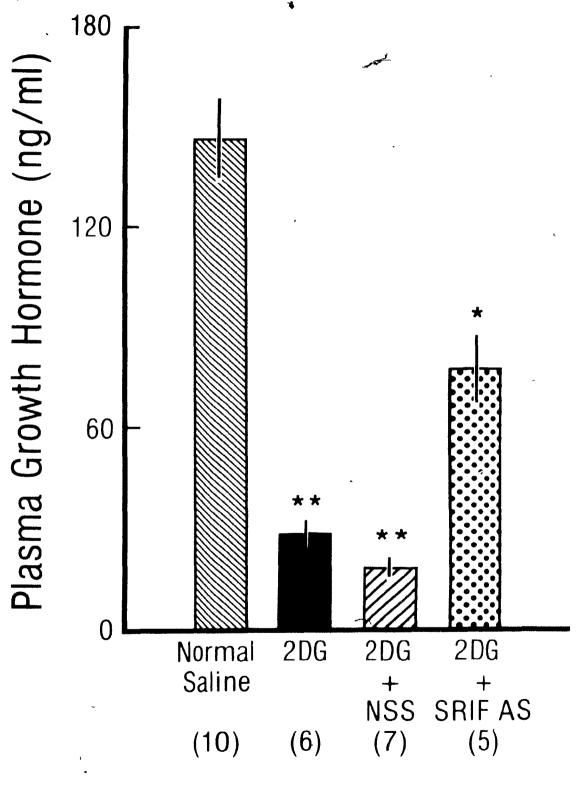
2 DG +

\*\* P<0.001 compared to normal saline group.

NSS

groups.

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cantly (P<0.02) elevating mean GH peak levels compared to 2DG-NSS controls, failed to restore the high amplitude of GH pulses previously observed in normal saline-treated control animals (Table 3). The highest GH peak level observed in this group ranged from 92.2 to 284.5 ng/ml which was significantly (P<0.001) lower than that observed under control conditions (range: 372.0 to 1049.9 ng/ml). Nevertheless, the mean 6-h plasma GH level of the 2DG-SRIF AS treated group (77.7+10.7 ng/ml) was significantly (P 0.01) greater than that of the 2DG-NSS control group (18.8+3.0 ng/ml) although, significantly (P'0.01) less than that of the normal salinetreated control group (Fig. 7), suggesting only a partial restoration of plasma GH concentration. Treatment with SRIF AS did not alter the typical effect of 2DG on plasma glucose IRI levels; these parameters were not significantly and different from those observed in 2DG-NSS treated animals (mean 6-h plasma glucose level: 305.4+27.6 vs 291.1+14.3 mg/dl and mean 6-h plasma IRI level: 0.69+0.09 vs 0.59+0.08 ng/ml).

#### Effects of hGRF on GH Release in 2DG-Treated Animals

Intravenous administration of normal saline to 2DGtreated animals did not modify the depressed plasma GH profiles and mean 6-h plasma GH levels were similar to those of rats treated with 2DG alone (Fig. 8). Administration of 3 iv boluses of 10 µg hGRF, at 90 min intervals, to 2DG-treated

## TABLE 3

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# Effects of passive immunization with SRIF AS on mean peak and trough GH levels in 2DG-treated rats

Experimental groups	No. of animals per group	*	Mean 6-h plasma GH trough levels (ng/ml)
Normal Saline iv	10	703.6 ± 58.2	8.0 ± 0.9
2DG (400 mg/kg) 1v	6	101.6 ± 20.7 <sup>b</sup>	7.0 ± 0.7
2DG + NSS	7	83.9 ± 15.1 <sup>5</sup>	6.2 ± 0.0
2DG + SRIF AS	5	178. ± 34.7 <sup>b</sup> . <sup>c</sup>	17.0 ± 3.2 <sup>a</sup>

а	P、0.01	compared to the normal saline-,
		2 DG-,
		and 2DG + NSS treated groups.
b	540.00J	compared to normal saline control group.
С	P<0.02	compared to 2DG + NSS control group.

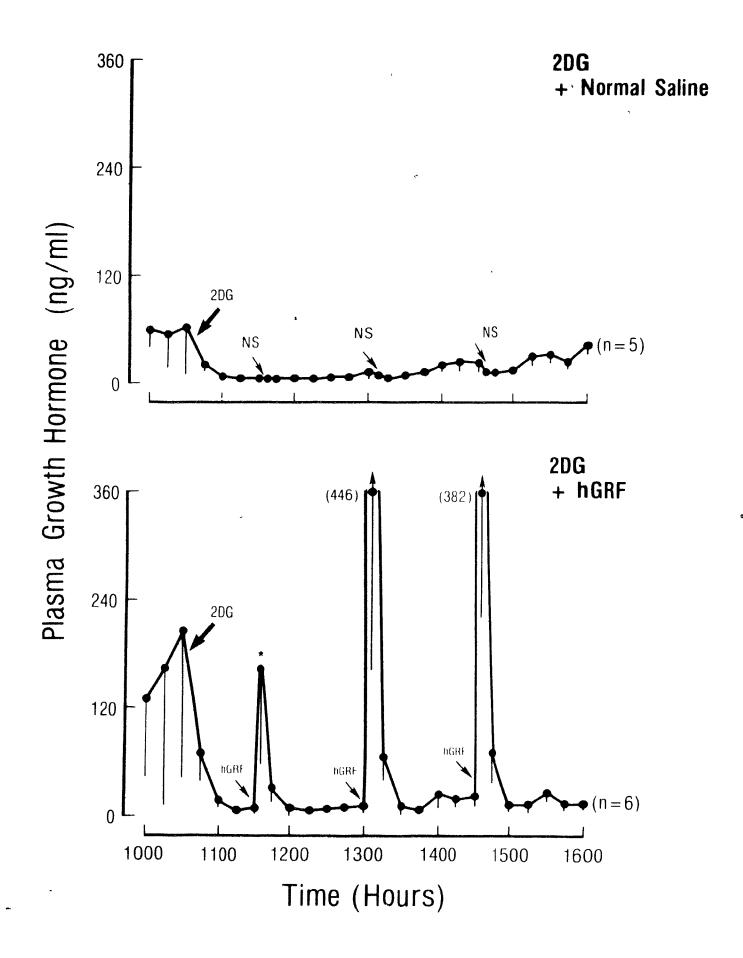
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FIGURE 8

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Comparison of the effects of iv administration of either normal saline or 10  $\mu g$  hGRF on mean 6-h plasma GH levels in 2DG (400 mg/kg, The GRF peptide caused a iv)-treated rats. surge of GH release after each injection which variable and time-dependent. was Arrows indicate times of injection. Vertical lines represent the SEM. The number of animals in each group is shown in parentheses. \* P<0.05 compared to hGRF-induced GH release. at 1430 h.



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animals caused release of GH within 5 min after injection. However, this release was highly variable and dependent on the time of injection, the first response being consistently the weakest in all the animals investigated (Figs. 8 and 9). Peak GH responses in individual animals ranged from nil to values as high as 1246.9 ng/ml (Fig. 9) and the mean GH release observed 5 mın after the first hGRF bolus (163.2+106.6 ng/ml) was significantly (P 0.05) lower than that observed after the administration of the third bolus (382.8+133.0 ng/ml) (Fig. 8). Despite the fact that the higher second response had a mean plasma GH value, (446.9+198.4 ng/ml) this difference failed to reach significance because of the wide range of variation in response to hGRF at this particular time point (range: 22.5-1246.9 ng/ml).

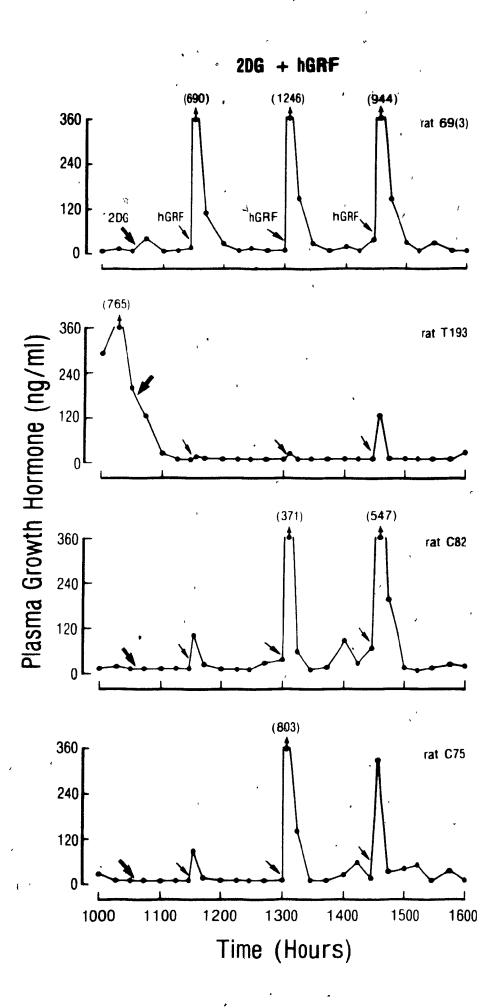
## Effects of Immunoneutralization with SRIF AS on hGRF-Induced GH Release in 2DG-Treated Animals

Figure 10 illustrates the mean plasma GH response to hGRF in 2DG-treated rats administered SRIF AS. Neutralization of endogenous circulating SRIF significantly enhanced the weak GH response to hGRF previously observed at 1130 h and also augmented GH release in response to exogenous administration of hGRF at 1300 h and 1430 h. Of interest, is the finding that pretreatment with SRIF AS eliminated the timedependent difference in the magnitude of the hGRF-induced GH - 55 -

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FIGURE 9 Individual, representative 6-h plasma GH profiles of 2DG-treated rats administered 3 iv boluses of hGRF (10 µg/0.3 ml). The GH responses to the peptide were highly variable with the first response being consistently the weakest. Arrows indicate the times of injection.

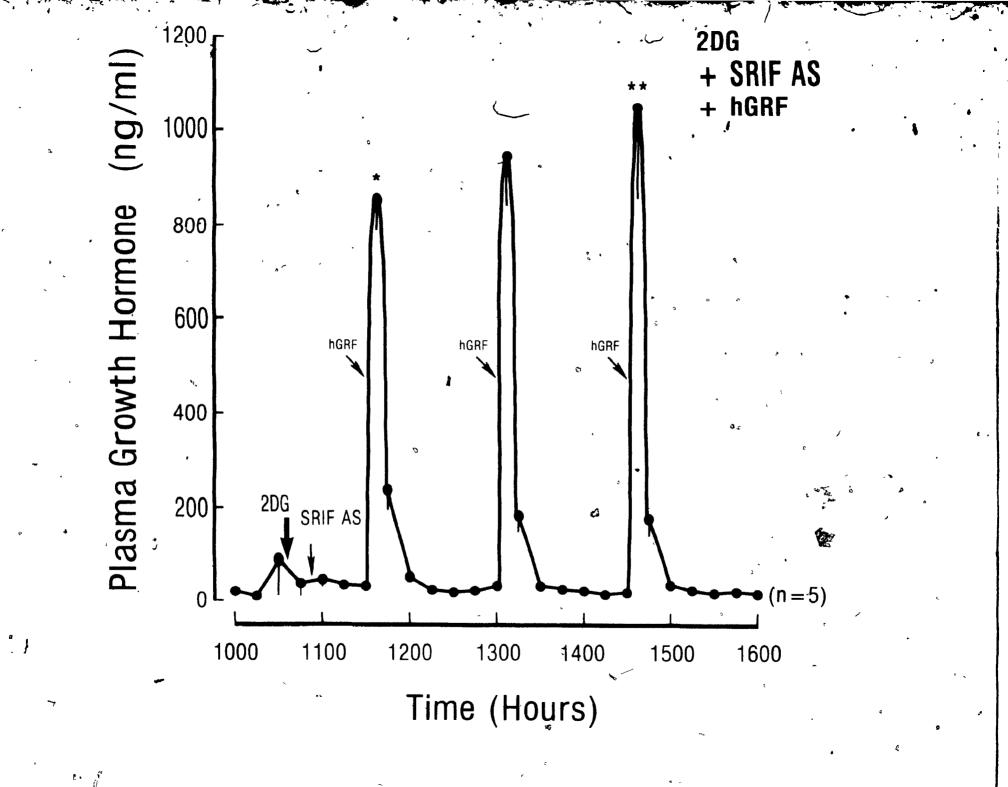
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FIGURE, 10 Effects of immunoneutralization with SRIF AS on hGRF-induced GH release in 2DGtreated rats. Administration of SRIF AS eliminated the time-dependent difference and significantly augmented the GH responses at 1130 h (\*P<0.001) and 1430 (\*\*P<0.02) h compared to those observed after hGRF alone (see Fig. 8). Arrows indicate times of injections. The number of animals is shown in parentheses. Vertical bars represent the SEM.



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release in 2DG-treated animals. Thus, there was no longer a statistically significant difference between the first and the third response to the peptide. Plasma GH levels in this group of animals reached values which were comparable to those seen in normal animals during spontaneous GH \*ecretory episodes (range: 506.0 - 1654.0 ng/ml).

# SRIF Binding of Rat Plasma after SRIF AS Administration.

The mean binding of a 1:100 dilution of plasma 45 min before and 15 min, 165 min and 315 min after SRIF AS treatment was found to be  $0.5\pm0.2$ %,  $42.3\pm3.8$ %,  $43.0\pm3.3$ % and  $38.0\pm1.1$ % respectively. No significant binding was observed in the plasma of rats treated with NSS.

#### DISCUSSION

Maintenance of adequate plasma glucose concentration and its metabolism are important in daily body function and critical for survival. Both human and animal species have evolved efficient mechanisms, either physiological or behavioral, to prevent excessive hypoglycemia or glucopenia. Among the physiological responses involved in glucoregulation, hormonal responses are of primary importance. Several hormones are known to be involved either directly or indirectly in glucoregulation. Of importance are insulin, which is the primary glucoregulatory hormone, glucagon, adrenaline, cortisol and to a lesser degree GH and thyroid stimulating hormone (Bolli, Gottesman, Cryer and Gerich, 1984). Each of these hormones has some specific function in carbohydrate metabolism, and understanding their mechanisms of control under both normal and pathological conditions is important in assessing their role in day-to-day metabolism. The experiments described in this thesis were undertaken to provide insight into the mechanism(s) controlling some the GH response to insufficient glucose metabolism as induced by the administration of 2DG in the rat.

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The findings of the present study confirm that both systemic and central administration of 2DG cause a significant hyperglycemia without the expected rise in plasma insulin levels. These observations have been reported by several investigators in the past (Brown and Bachrach, 1959; Brown, 1962; Frohman, Müller and Cocchi, 1973; Müller, Frohman and Cocchi, 1973). The hyperglycemia is known to result from CNS-mediated activation of mechanisms involved in the defense of substrate availability. This response involves multisynaptic descending catecholamine pathways of the sympathetic limb of the autonomic nervous system, (Brown and Bachrach, 1959) and this whole activation system can be shut off by simple adrenal demedullation and denervation (Frohman, Müller and Cocchi, 1973) or spinal cord transsection (Brodows, Pi-Sunyer and Campbell, 1973). These pathways in turn stimulate the output of adrenaline (Hökfelt and Bydgeman, 1961) from the adrenal medulla which finally results in release of glucose from the liver via an increase in gluconeogenesis (Brown and Bachrach, 1959). The greater hyperglycemia we observed following systemic versus central administration of 2DG is likely due to the combination of the CNS effects superimposed upon the peripheral competition of 2 DG and The importance of the CNS in glucose (see Appendix I). mediating 2DG-induced hyperglycemia is further demonstrated by the present finding that low doses of 2DG (4 mg and 8 mg),

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which were capable of inducing marked hyperglycemia when given centrally, were ineffective when administered via the peripheral route.

The absence of an increase in insulin release, despite the hyperglycemia following central administration of 2DG, suggested to earlier investigators (Frohman, Müller and Cocchi, 1973) that the insulin response to cellular glucopenia was mediated via the CNS, probably via glucoreceptors located within the VMH area (Desiraju, Banerjee and Anand, 1968; Mayer and Arees, 1968; Oomura, Ono, Ooyama and Wayner, which originate the sympathoadrenal 1969) from fibers controlling adrenaline release. Furthermore, the finding that this insulin response was blocked by adrenal demedullation, suggested to these investigators that 2DG-induced insulin suppression was the result of adrenaline action on the B-cells of the pancreas (Brodows, Pi-Sunyer and Campbell, 1973; Frohman, Müller and Cocchi, 1973; Müller, Frohman and Cocch1, 1973).

Deoxyglucose is also a potent stimulator of appetite (Balagura and Kanner, 1971; Müller, Cocchi and Mantegazza, 1972; Smith, Gibbs, Strohmayer and Stokes, 1972; Thompson and Campbell, 1977; Ritter, Slusser and Stone, 1981). However, allowing the animals to eat after 2DG treatment in the present study did not alter the hyperglycemia, although it did cause significant elevation of plasma insulin levels.

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These data suggest that the feeding response to 2DG-induced cellular glucopenia may be involved in reestablishing a normal level of glucose utilization by increasing insulin release directly via stimulation of the pancreas.

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The ultradian GH rhythm was dramatically altered following 2DG-induced cellular glucopenia. The plasma longitudinal GH profiles of rats administered a large dose of 2DG intravenously exhibited a severe reduction in both amplitude and duration of spontaneous GH secretory episodes and plasma GH concentrations remained significantly suppressed for up to 5 h after the injection. The minimal GH release usually observed during the last 45 minutes of the sampling period may reflect some recovery of GH secretion which may be accounted for by the dissipation of 2DG from tissue. Allowing the animals to eat during the test did not modify the GH response induced by the administration of 2DG, and plasma GH levels were still markedly depressed suggesting that, feeding although stimulated by 2DG, was not a counterregulatory response to the depressed plasma GH levels.

The 2DG-induced suppression response we observed is in agreement with an earlier report (Takahashi, Daughaday and Kipnis, 1971) based on single blood sampling in the rat, indicating that systemic administration of a large dose of 2DG was capable of suppressing plasma GH levels. However, our results are in disagreement with a previous study

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demonstrating that central administration of 2DG caused an increase in plasma GH in urethane anesthetized rats (Okajima, Motomatsu, Kato and Ibayashi, 1980). However, urethane itself has been reported to affect both plasma GH levels and blood glucose (Krzemien and Lipowska-Zabawska, 1976; Saito, Ogawa, Ishimaru, Oshima and Saito, 1979); and thus, the anesthesia, per se, may be a confounding variable in that study.

The finding that small doses of 2DG were ineffective in inducing GH suppression when given systemically, yet were potent inhibitors of GH release when administered centrally, provides strong support for the hypothesis of a central site of action for 2DG-induced GH suppression. In 1966, Blanco and his collaborators (Blanco, Schalch and Reichlin, 1966) reported that hyperglycemia induced locally in the median eminence of squirrel monkeys caused a suppression in plasma GH levels suggesting the existence of CNS glucoreceptors involved in GH regulation. Other investigators were able to localize glucose-sensitive cells to the ventromedial and lateral hypothalamic areas of the brain. They showed that the activity of these neurons was selectively altered by variations in the surrounding glucose concentration and by cellular glucopenia (Desiraju, Banerjee and Anand, 1968; Oomura, Ono, Ooyama and Wayner, 1969). These earlier findings were soon confirmed by the work of Himsworth and his

co-workers which showed that direct administration of 2DG to these brain regions (i.e. the ventromedial and lateral hypothalamic areas) of the monkey had marked effects on GH secretion (Himsworth, Carmel and Frantz, 1972). Of interest, is the fact that these glucose-sensitive brain sites encompass the GH hypothalamic regulatory centers. Thus we hypothesized that 2DG was having its effects on GH secretion via an action on the hypothalamic peptidergic neuronal system, both inhibitory (SRIF) and stimulatory (GRF), involved in GH regulation.

One potential explanation for the changes in the plasma GH levels observed after the administration of 2DG may be related to a direct effect of the compound on the brain somatostatinergic system. That is, the 2DG-induced GH suppression could be due to increased release of SRIF into the hypophyseal portal circulation. Evidence for direct stimulation of hypothalamic SRIF in response to insufficient glucose metabolism comes from recent in vitro studies which demonstrated that SRIF release from incubated rat hypothalamic fragments increased after addition of 2DG to the (Berelowitz, Dudlak culture medium and Frohman, 1982; Lengyel, Nieuwenhuyzen-Kruseman, Grossman, Rees and Besser, 1984). The specificity of this effect is indicated in that neither SRIF release from other brain regions such as the cerebral cortex (Berelowitz, Dudlak and Frohman, 1982) nor

the release of other hypothalamic releasing factors (i.e. LHRH) (Lengyel, Grossman, Nieuwenhuyzen-Kruseman, Ackland and Rees, 1984) was altered by changes in glucose metabolism. Τo assess the involvement of SRIF in vivo, 2DG-treated rats were passively immunized against SRIF with a specific SPIF antiserum. This antiserum was identical to that used in several previous studies and has been shown to reverse GH suppression in both starved (Tannenbaum, Epelbaum, Colle, Brazeau and Martin, 1978) and diabetic rats (Tannenbaum, 1981). lmmunoneutralization with SRIF antiserum caused an initial surge of GH release and significant elevation of both trough and mean 6-h plasma GH levels compared to 2DG-treated rats administered normal sheep serum. However, the antiserum failed to restore either the amplitude of the GH pulses or the mean 6-h plasma GH levels to normal values. It is unlikely that inadequate immunoneutralization can account for the incomplete restoration of the GH pulses since significant SRIF antibody binding was measured in the plasma of SRIF antiserum-treated animals for the entire sampling period. These data therefore suggest that increase SRIF release is not the sole mechanism mediating the 2DG-induced GH suppression response and provide support for only a partial role of endogenous SRIF in this response. The results also suggest that additional mechanism(s) may be involved in glucose modulation of GH secretion; one such mechanism may be decreased release of the GH-stimulatory peptide, GRF.

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several situations in which In GH secretion is decreased, in both animal species (Tannenbaum, Eikelboom and Ling, 1983; Harvey, Scanes and Marsh, 1984) and in man (Takano, Hizuka, Shizume, Asakawa, Miyakawa, Hirose, Shibasaki and Ling, 1984), it has been demonstrated that exogenous administration of GRF successfully released GH from the pituitary, indicating that the pituitary is still capable of responding to GRF. To assess the capacity of GRF to release GH from the pituitary of 2DG-treated rats we administered hGRF at a dose which has previously been shown to be a potent GH secretagoque in the rat in vivo (Tannenbaum, Eikelboom and Ling, 1983). In these experiments, exogenous administration of three intravenous boluses of hGRF caused a surge of GH release after each injection. However, the amount of GH released was variable and time-dependent. Ιn particular, the hGRF-induced GH release observed 1 h after 2DG treatment was consistently less than that observed at the other two time points. Possible explanations for the weak GH response at this time point may be related to the following. First, this low responsiveness may result from a depletion of pituitary GH content as a consequence of decreased GH synthesis secondary to the blockade of glucose metabolism in the somatotrophs. This is unlikely to occur since it was reported that, in vitro, a decrease in GH synthesis in the pituitary somatotrophs was only observed after 5 h of incuba-

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tion in the presence of 2DG (Betteridge and Wallis, 1974). Another possibility is that it is due to interference or antagonism by endogenous SRIF at the level of the pituitary as a result of increased SRIF release. The finding that immunoneutralization with SRIF antiserum eliminated the timedependent difference in hGRF-induced GH release at 1130 h provides support for the view that endogenous circulating SRIF is interfering with the ability of hGRF to release GH at this time point (1130 h). The observation that passive immunization with SRIF antiserum also augmented the GH responsiveness at the other time points (although to a lesser degree) is also consistent with earlier reports demonstrating antagonism between SRIF and GRF both in vitro (Brazeau, Ling, Böhlen, Esch. Ying and Guillemin, 1982) and in vivo (Tannenbaum and Ling, 1984). While these results provide additional (in vivo) support for the view that SRIF release is increased in response to glucose deprivation, the data indicate that the time course of this response is of limited This in vivo finding concords well with an duration. `i,n vitro observation of Dr. Michael Berelowitz (University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio) that 2DG induced a short-lived, delayed stimulation of hypothalamic SRIF release with the peak response occurring at 20-25 min and a duration of 60 min (Personal Communication).

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In summary, these <u>in vivo</u> results demonstrate that intracellular glucopenia is a potent inhibitor of pulsatile GH secretion in the rat and that this response is mediated, at least in part, by increased SRIF release. While the present findings are compatible with the hypothesis that glucoprivation induces an acute SRIF release in the rat, further experimentation is necessary to determine whether GRF release is also sensitive to changes in glucose utilization. A longer lasting decrease in GRF release could potentially account for the marked suppression in GH secretroy pulses observed several hours after 2DG administration. The ability to directly measure GRF levels in response to altered glucose metabolism may shed light on this question.

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## APPENDIX I

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## Actions of 2-deoxy-D-glucose

Deoxy-D-qlucose has been used extensively both in vitro and in vivo in studies on carbohydrate metabolism and on the effects of intracellular glucopenia (See Table 4). Deoxy-Dglucose is a non-metabolizable glucose analog which is transported into the cells under insulin stimulation via the same carrier as glucose and is phosphorylated to form 2DG-phosphate which acts as an inhibitor of the enzymes phosphoisomerase and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (Brown and Bachrach, 1959). Therefore, 2DG and glucose are mutual competitive inhibitors. In the presence of 2DG, less glucose is metabolized and 2DG accumulates intracellularly as 2DG-6phosphate which cannot be converted to fructose-6-phosphate and therefore induces a state of generalized intracellular Administration of 2DG in both humans and rats glucopenia. will induce a host of metabolic, hormonal and behavioral modification which are summarized in the following Table.

## TABLE 4

## Summary of Metabolic, Hormonal and Behavioral Effects induced by 2DG in Humans and Rats

#### Humans

Metabolic

intracellular glucopenia (3,25,27)
hyperglycemia (25,26)

free fatty acids (13)
flactate (13)
fsympathetic activity
(3)

Rats

intracellular
glucopenia (4,5)
hyperglycemia
(4,16,22)

free fatty acids (6)

triglycerides (10)

sympathetic activity
(8)

fgastric acid
secretion (7)

Hormonal

fadrenaline (13)
fcortisol (13)
fglucagon (3)
fgrowth hormone
(26,27)

\*prolactin (27)

Behavioral

feeding (23)
warmth, sweating,
flushing and
drowsiness, foral
temperature (25)

Addrenaline (11,12)
Acorticosterone (23)
Vinsulin (6,9,17)
VAGROWTH hormone
(19,24)
Athyroid stimulating
hormone (15)
Abrain somatostatin
(2,14)
Vprolactin (19)

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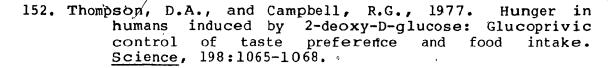
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