Tuberoinfundibular Pathway (Dopaminergic)



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Dopamine Pathway
Doberman Pathway
The tuberoinfundibular dopaminergic pathway is one of the four dopaminergic pathways involved in the release of dopamine.

Location

Arcuate Nucleus
Archery-arrow and Nuclear-Symbol
The tuberoinfundibular pathway begins in the arcuate (infundibular) nucleus of the hypothalamus.

Median Eminence
Median-road with Eminem the Rapper
The tuberoinfundibular pathway ends at the median eminence of the hypothalamus.

Characteristics

Dopamine Inhibits Prolactin (PRL)
Doberman and Inhibiting-chains with Pro-milk
Within the tuberoinfundibular pathway, the release of dopamine naturally inhibits the secretion of prolactin from the anterior pituitary gland.

Defect

Antipsychotics
Ant-tie-psychiatrist
The use of antipsychotics contributes to a dopamine blockade. Therefore, with dopamine blocked, prolactin levels can increase and contribute to hyperprolactinemia.

Increased Prolactin
Up-arrow Pro-milk
If there is a defect or the inhibition of the tuberoinfundibular pathway, this inhibits the release of dopamine. With dopamine inhibited, this leads to increased levels of prolactin.

Sexual Dysfunction
Limp-weiner
Defects of the tuberoinfundibular pathway will lead to decreased dopamine and increased levels of prolactin. Hyperprolactinemia can lead to conditions such as sexual dysfunction, decreased libido, gynecomastia, and galactorrhea.

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Gynecomastia

Man-boobs

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Galactorrhea

Lactating and Pumping Breast-milk

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