

#### **Catecholamines and Wool Growth**

Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by; Dr. Peter Wynn, The University of Sydney.



#### **Catecholamines**

- Adrenaline
  - released from adrenal medulla
- Noradrenaline
  - released from the ends of nerves

- Control fight or flight response
  - short term
  - increase energy supply
  - increase breakdown of glycogen to release glucose
  - increase lactate release from muscles
  - vasoconstriction

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### Effect of catecholamines on cell division in the follicle

No. of bulb cells undergoing mitosis 2 h after colchicine

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Treatment	CDR
Control	4.72 ± 2.48
Noradrenaline (50μg)	2.04 ± 1.66*
Noradrenaline (100µg)	3.26 ± 2.08*
Adrenaline (50μg)	4.42 ± 2.47
Adrenaline (100µg)	2.95 ± 1.77*



## Action of Catecholamines in the Skin

- Adrenergic receptors present in dermal papilla
  - is this a possible stimulation of an inhibitory factor?

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# Indirect effect of noradrenaline on wool growth

Catecholamines regulate blood flow

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Blood vessel constriction leads to decreased wool growth



If the sympathetic
/nervous system is cut,
the blood vessels all
dilate and there is an
increase in wool growth



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