Cell signaling

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CELL SIGNALING

- A biological mechanism that occurs in cells which gives cells an ability to receive or generate the signals in response to their surrounding environment
- Cell to cell communication between cells is mediated by extracellular signal molecules. Some of those operate over long distances

WHY DO CELLS COMMUNICATE?

- Maintenance of homeostasis
- Control of division and cell death
- Adaptation to environmental conditions
- Control of development and growth
- Release and production of hormones and others regulatory molecules
- Regulation of metabolism

Steps in cell signaling

Synthesis of signaling molecule Release of signaling molecule Transport of signal to target cell Detection and binding of signal by specific receptor

Changes due to receptorsignal complex Signal removal and response terminatio n

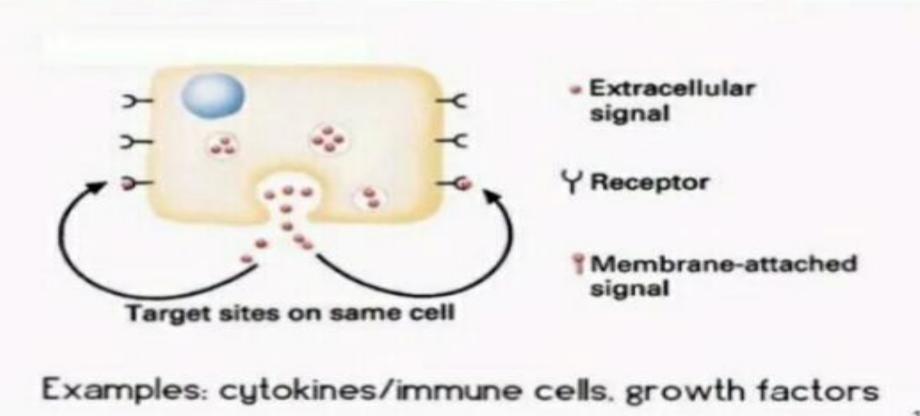
Types of intercellular signaling pathways

- Autocrine signaling
- Paracrine signaling
- Endocrine signaling
- Juxtacrine signaling

Autocrine signaling

- Autocrine signals target the cell itself. Sometimes autocrine cells can target cells close by if they are the same type of cell as the emitting cell
- An example of this are immune cells

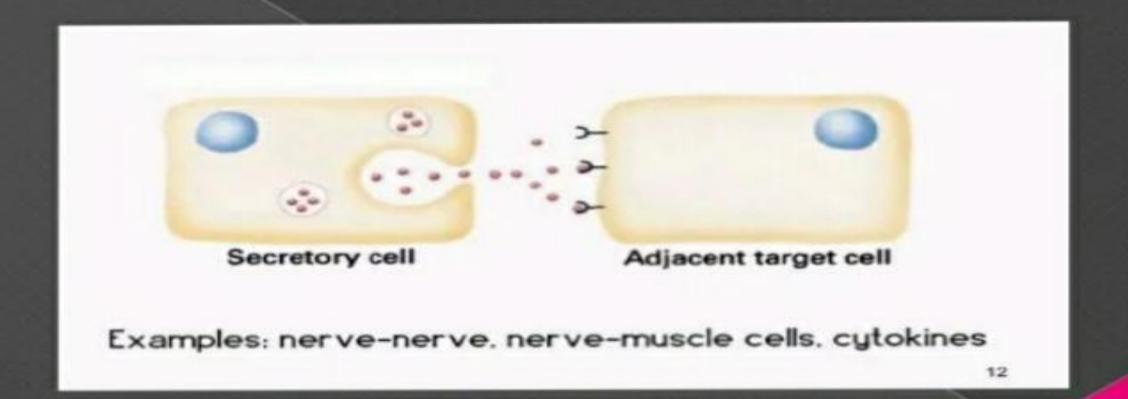
Autocrine signaling



Paracrine signaling

- Paracrine signals target cells in the vicinity of the emitting cell
- Neurotransmitters represent an example

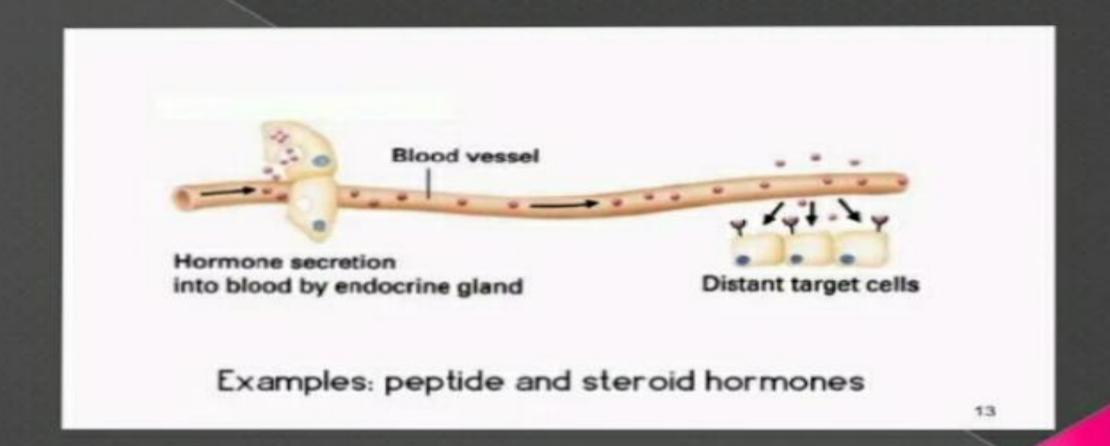
Paracrine signaling



Endocrine signaling

- Endocrine signals target distant cells
- Produce hormones that travel through the blood to reach all the parts of the body

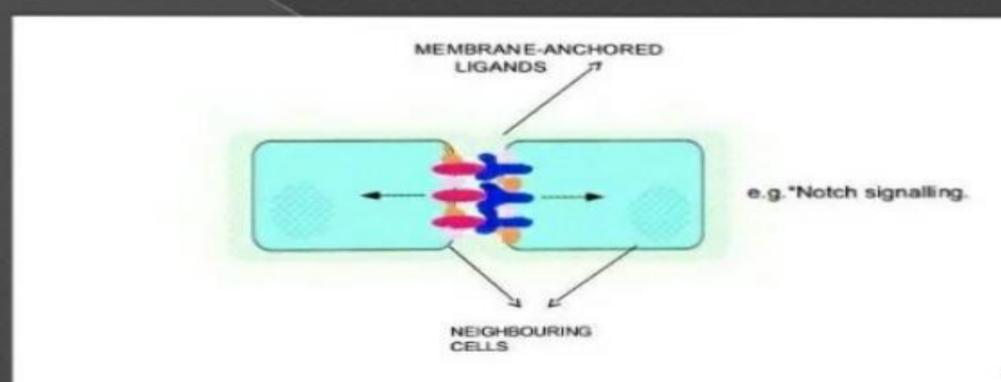
Endocrine signaling



Juxtacrine signaling

- Juxtacrine signals target adjacent (touching)cells
- Transmitted along cell membranes via protein or lipid components integral to the membrane
- Capable of affecting either the emitting cell or cells immediately adjacent

Juxtacrine signaling



Thank-you