Chapter 59:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

On completion of this chapter, the reader will be able to:

1. Describe the roles of the various zones of the adrenal cortex in hormone synthesis.
2. Explain the regulation of glucocorticoid, adrenal androgen, and mineralocorticoid secretion.
3. Describe and differentiate the various etiologies of Cushing’s syndrome.
4. Interpret the results of lab tests used to diagnose Cushing’s syndrome.
5. Compare and contrast therapeutic regimens for treatment of Cushing’s syndrome, based on the etiology of the disease in a particular patient.
6. Discuss the methods of, and rationale behind, steroid replacement in the treatment of adrenal adenoma.
7. Explain the difference between primary and secondary aldosteronism.
8. Interpret the results of lab tests used to diagnose primary aldosteronism.
9. Recommend a therapeutic regimen for treatment of primary aldosteronism, based on the etiology of the disease in a particular patient.
10. Compare and contrast the symptoms and presentation of patients with primary and secondary adrenal insufficiency.
12. Describe how specific enzyme deficiencies lead to congenital adrenal hyperplasia.
13. List several options for the treatment of hirsutism.
14. Discuss some of the potential side effects of systemic glucocorticoid use, and how the risk of developing these side effects may be minimized.
15. Recommend appropriate counseling points for a patient initiating long-term glucocorticoid therapy.