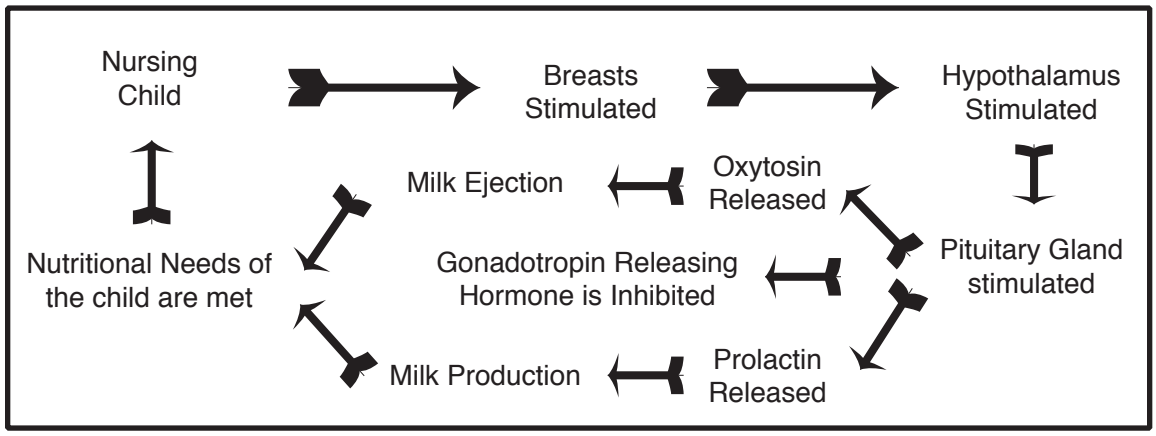
Milk Production and Release



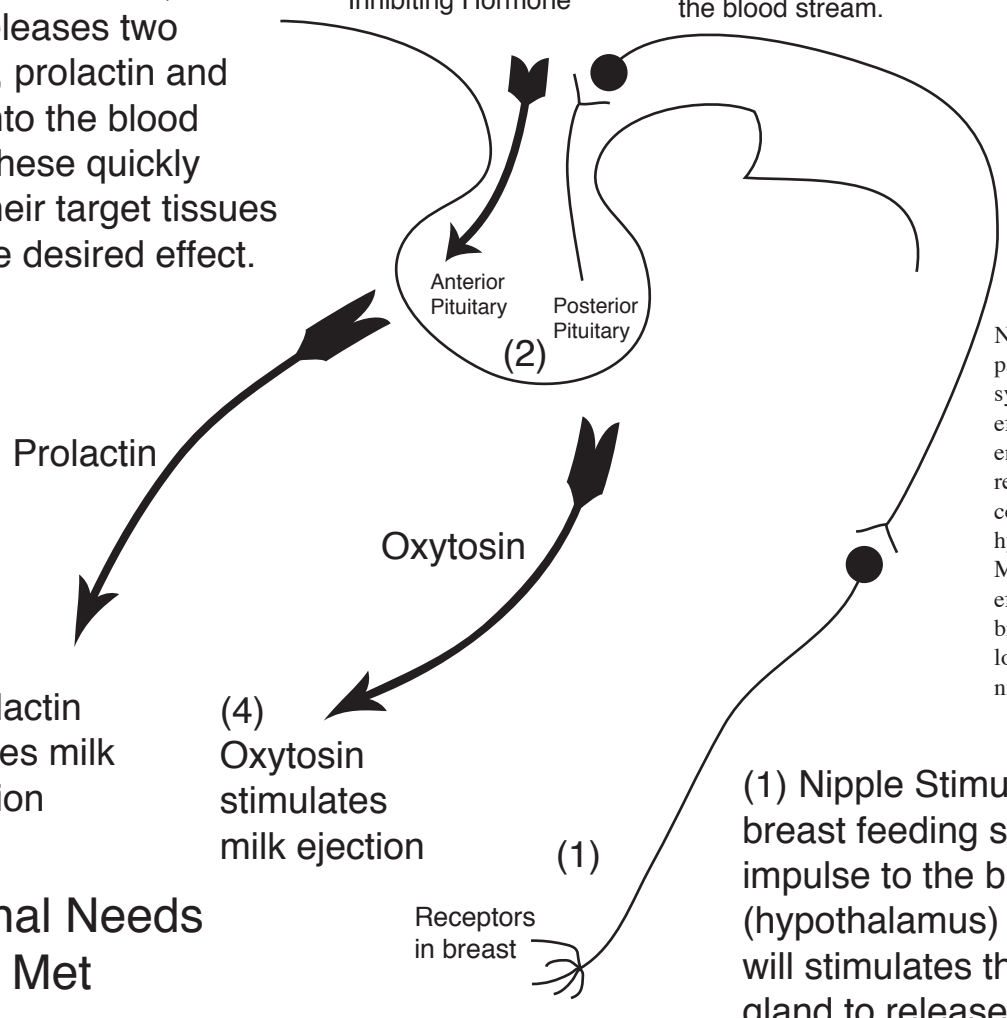
Hypothalamus

Prolactin Releasing Hormone is increased and Prolactin Inhibiting Hormone

Oxytosin is secreted by neurosecretory cells into the blood stream.

Gonadotropin Releasing Hormone (GnRH) is inhibited. Therefore FSH is not secreted and follicle development is depressed.

(2) Once stimulated, the pituitary releases two hormones, prolactin and oxytosin into the blood stream. These quickly arrive at their target tissues to have the desired effect.



Note: The afferent pathway is a nervous system response and the efferent pathway is an endocrine system response. The primary control center is the hypothalamus of the brain. Muscular and glandular effectors are located in the breasts. Receptors are located in the region of the nipple.

(3) Prolactin stimulates milk production

(4) Oxytosin stimulates milk ejection

(1) Nipple Stimulation during breast feeding sends a nerve impulse to the brain (hypothalamus) which in turn will stimulates the pituitary gland to release oxytosin and prolactin.

Nutritional Needs of Baby Met

Nutritional Needs of Baby in Want