## **Biomarkers of stress**

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#### **Conceptual Roadblocks: Biomarkers**

- Much can be said
- I use many: ambulatory ECG, BP, actigraphy, blood, urine, salivary markers, imaging
- Barrier: modeling complexity of systems
  - Feedback loops (e.g., HPG axis)
  - Pulsatility (e.g., LH)
  - What we can measure = what we study
  - Change over time/aging/development
  - Chaos/derangement in system

## **Reproductive Endocrinology**

GHRH, (hypothalamus) +

Gonadotropins, (LH, FSH; pituitary) +



# Endocrinology of fat and HPG axis



### **Conceptual Roadblocks: Biomarkers**

- Issues even more acute in population-based work
  - Important to addressing large populationrelevant questions
  - Single visit annually, demand for low burden
  - Cross-system indices?
  - Exposures and outcomes over years and decades: How well capturing?
  - SWAN Daily Hormone Study (N=900)

## Other Conceptual Roadblocks

- Interdisciplinary/Transdisciplinary Science
  - Complex health problems require inter/transdisciplinary approach
  - Challenges:
    - Bridge languages and methods
    - What constitutes "good science" can vary
    - Willingness to adopt "beginners mind"
    - Appeal to disciplinary reviewers and funders