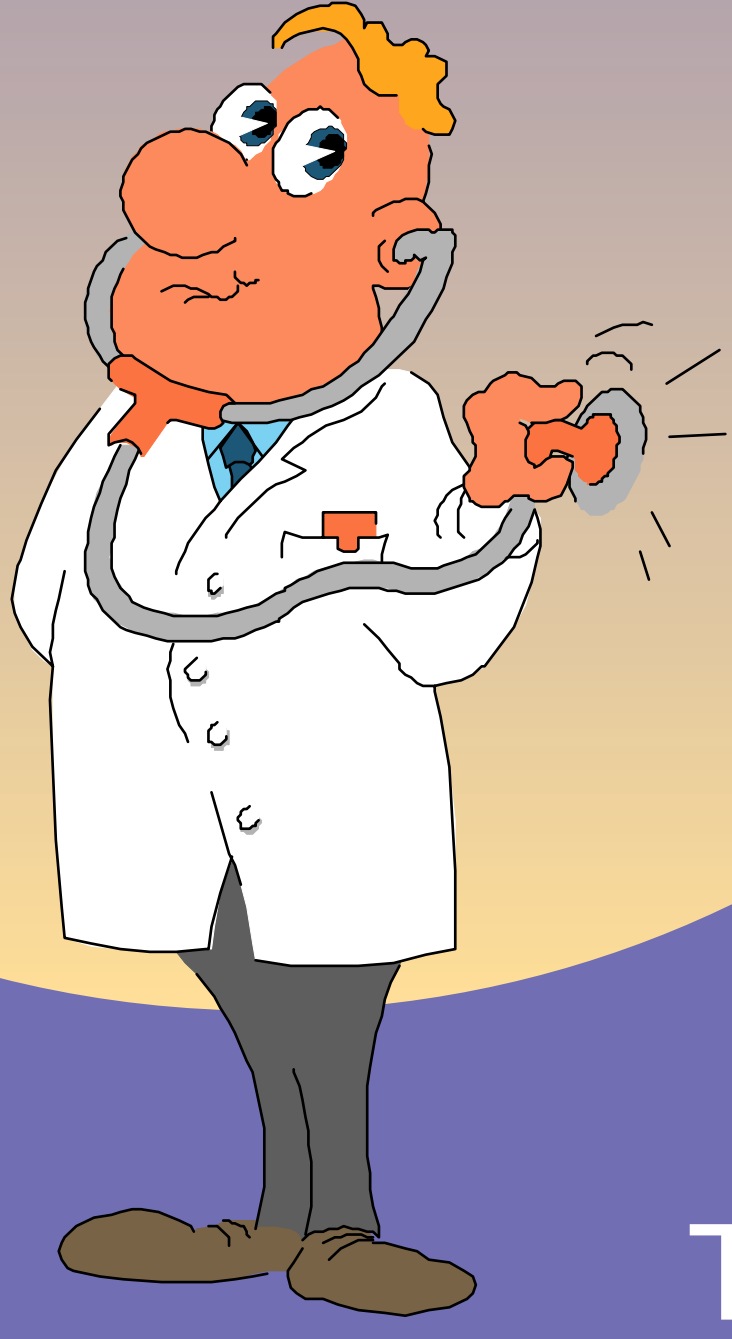


# How is Pituitary Disease Treated?



Your doctor will discuss with you the best form of treatment for you. It is important that your hormones are well balanced so you can feel well. The size and growth of any pituitary tumour needs to be controlled.

## Hormone Replacement

If your body is not making enough hormones your doctor may prescribe some medications to replace the hormones your body normally makes. These may be given as tablets, patches, creams, implants, injections or nasal preparations.

## Hormone Suppression

If your body is making too many hormones it may be possible to control your hormones by one or a combination of the following:

- Medication
- Surgery
- Radiotherapy

These options are also used to control tumour size and growth.

## Medication

- Some types of pituitary tumours can respond to medication with control of excess hormone secretion and tumour growth.

## Surgery

- Tumours can be removed surgically using two main ways:
  1. Transsphenoidal hypophysectomy - removal of the tumour via the nose; and
  2. Craniotomy - a less common procedure which removes the tumour by opening the front of the skull.

## Radiotherapy

- Aims to shrink the tumour and control excess hormone secretion.