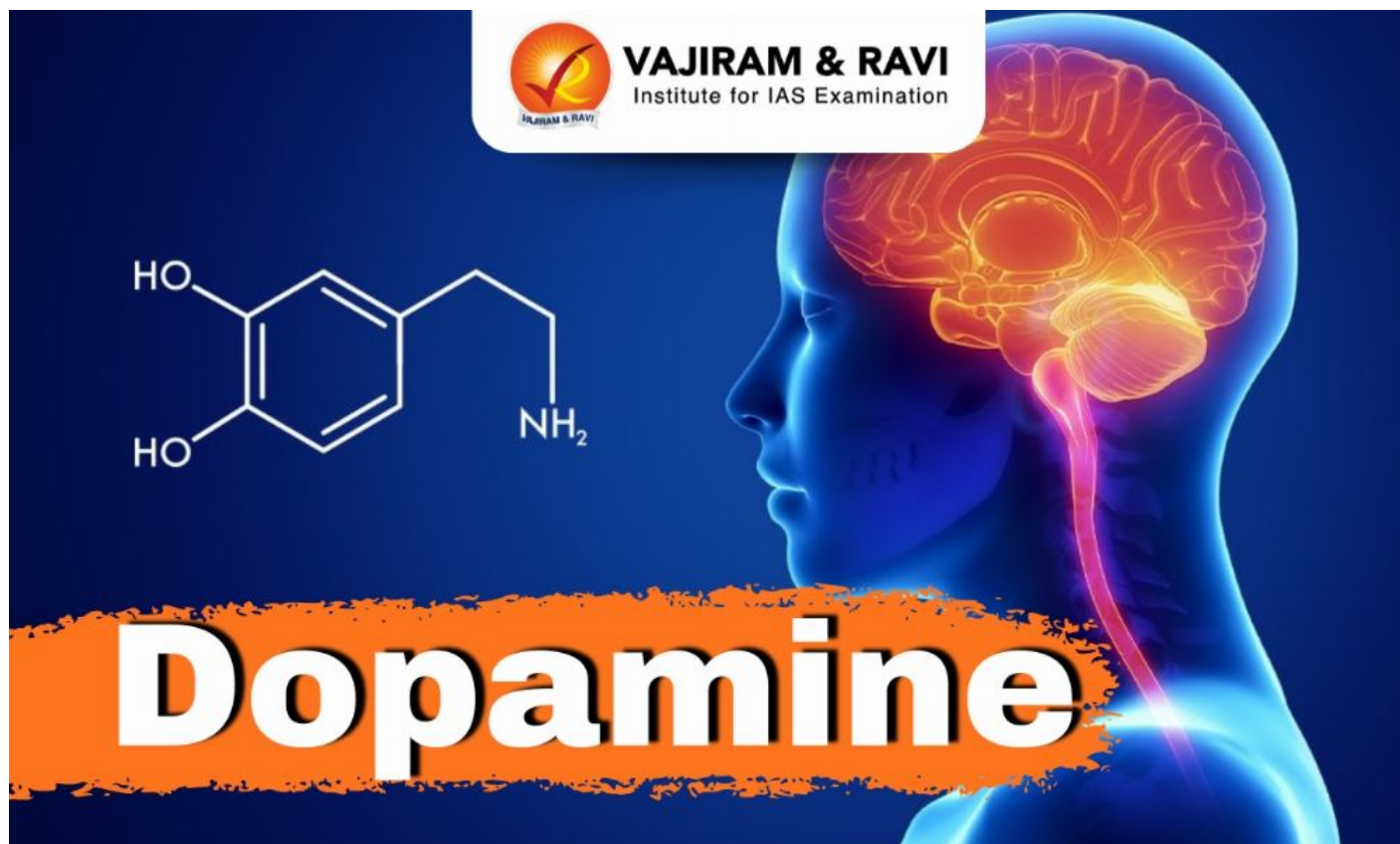


## Dopamine

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### Dopamine Latest News

Researchers recently showed for the first time that dopamine dysfunction in the entorhinal cortex, a critical memory-related brain region, contributes directly to impaired memory formation.

### About Dopamine

- Dopamine is a **hormone** and a type of **neurotransmitter**, or **chemical messenger**, made in your brain.
- Your **nervous system** uses it to **send messages between nerve cells**. These **messages** also **travel between your brain** and the rest of your **body**.
- This unique neurotransmitter **affects your body, brain, and behavior**.
- Dopamine is the chemical that **mediates pleasure** in the brain.
  - It is **released when** your **brain is expecting a reward**.
  - When you come to associate a **certain activity with pleasure**, **mere anticipation** may be enough to **raise dopamine levels**.

- It's a big **part of our unique human ability to think and plan**. It **helps us focus, work** towards goals, and **find things interesting**.
- Dopamine also plays a role in these **functions**:
  - **learning** and attention
  - **mood**
  - **movement**
  - heart rate
  - **kidney function**
  - blood vessel function
  - sleep
  - **pain processing**
  - lactation.
- **High or low dopamine levels** are associated with **diseases including Parkinson's disease, restless legs syndrome, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)**.
- Dopamine is **also made in other parts of your body**, where it **acts as a hormone**.
- Dopamine **acts as a hormone to help**:
  - **relax or tighten your blood vessels** when needed
  - **control your salt levels** and **urine production**
  - **control** how much **insulin you make**
  - **slow down** some parts of your **digestion**
- Dopamine is **found in humans as well as animals**, including both vertebrates and invertebrates.

Source: **ME**

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Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/dopamine/>

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