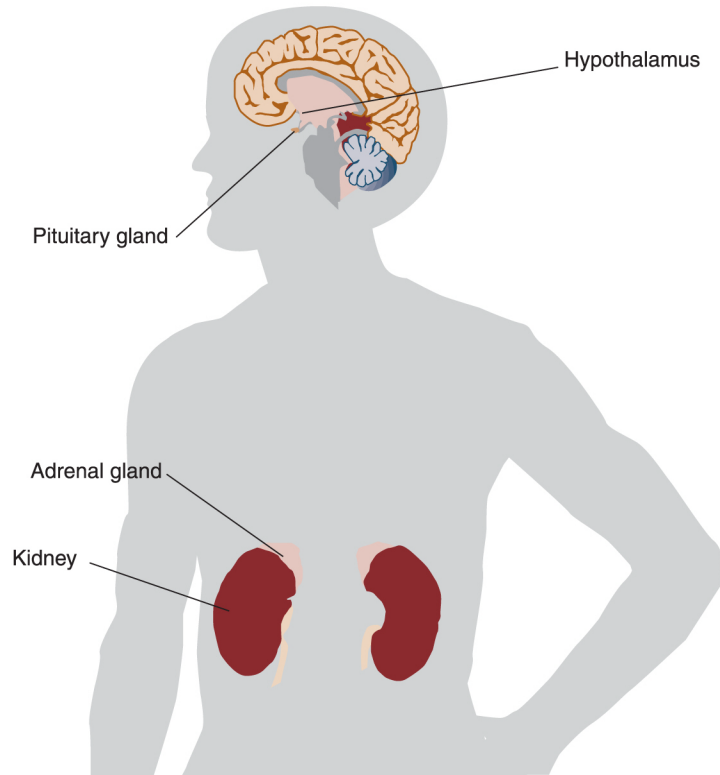


Location of the components of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis



The hypothalamus is located in the brain, directly above the pituitary gland. The adrenal glands are located in the lower back, one atop each kidney.

Source: Adinoff, B., et al. Disturbances of the stress response: The role of the HPA axis during alcohol withdrawal and abstinence. *Alcohol Health & Research World* 22(1):67-72, 1998.

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