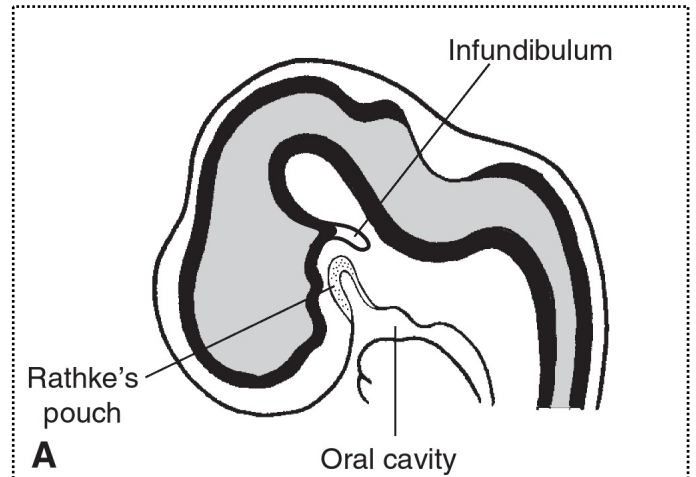


EXTRA

Hypophysis (pituitary gland) Endocrine block

Hypophysis (pituitary gland)

The hypophysis, or pituitary gland, develops from two completely different parts: (1) an ectodermal outpocketing of the stomodeum (**primitive oral cavity**) immediately in front of the oropharyngeal membrane, known as **Rathke's pouch**, and a downward extension of the **diencephalon**, the infundibulum.



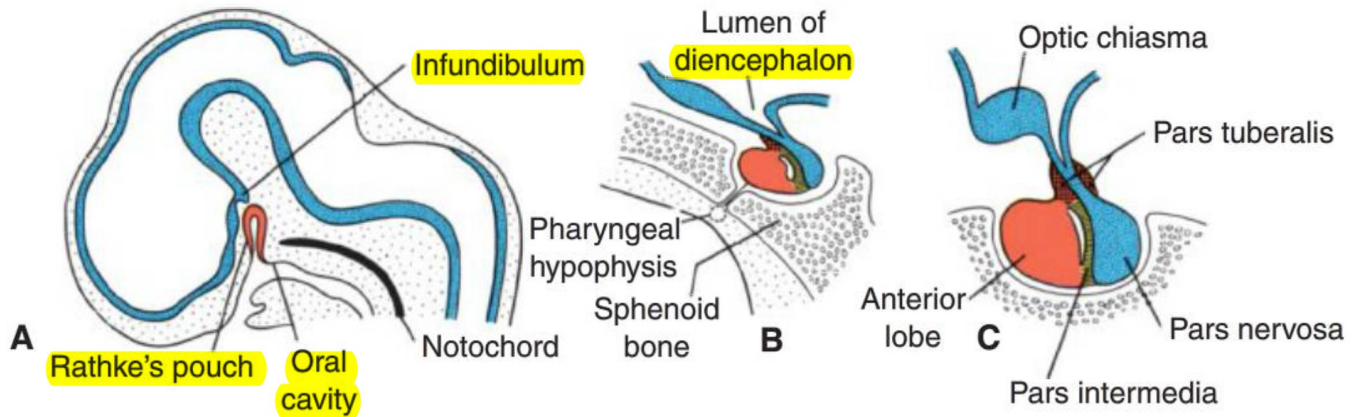
1- **Anterior lobe (adenohypophysis)** develops from **Rathke's pouch**, which is an ectodermal diverticulum of the primitive oral cavity.

Clinically: Remnants of Rathke's pouch may give rise to a **craniopharyngioma**. A craniopharyngioma is the most common supratentorial tumor occurring in childhood and is the most common cause of hypopituitarism in children.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) shows a craniopharyngioma (arrows), which lies suprasellar in the midline, compressing the optic chiasm and hypothalamus.



2-**Posterior lobe (neurohypophysis)** develops from the **infundibulum**, which is a neuroectodermal ventral evagination of the hypothalamus.



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