The hypophysis is an amalgam of two tissues. Early in gestation a finger of ectoderm grows upward from the roof of the mouth. This protrusion is called *Rathke's pouch* and will develop into the anterior pituitary or adenohypophysis.
ACROMEGALY:
~ Caused by excessive secretion of growth hormones
~ Characterized by excessive growth in the form of swelling of hands, legs, soft tissue.

SYMPTOMS:
> Swelling of hands and feet
> Facial features become coarse as bones grow
> Protruding jaw
> Degenerative arthritis
> Enlargement of organs

Gigantism
- Over-secretion of growth hormone prior puberty
- Excessive growth of long bones
- Treatment: drug therapy to inhibit GH release

Dwarfism
- Under-production of growth hormone during childhood
- Body is proportioned and intelligence is normal
- Treatment: early diagnosis and injection of GH for 5 or more years