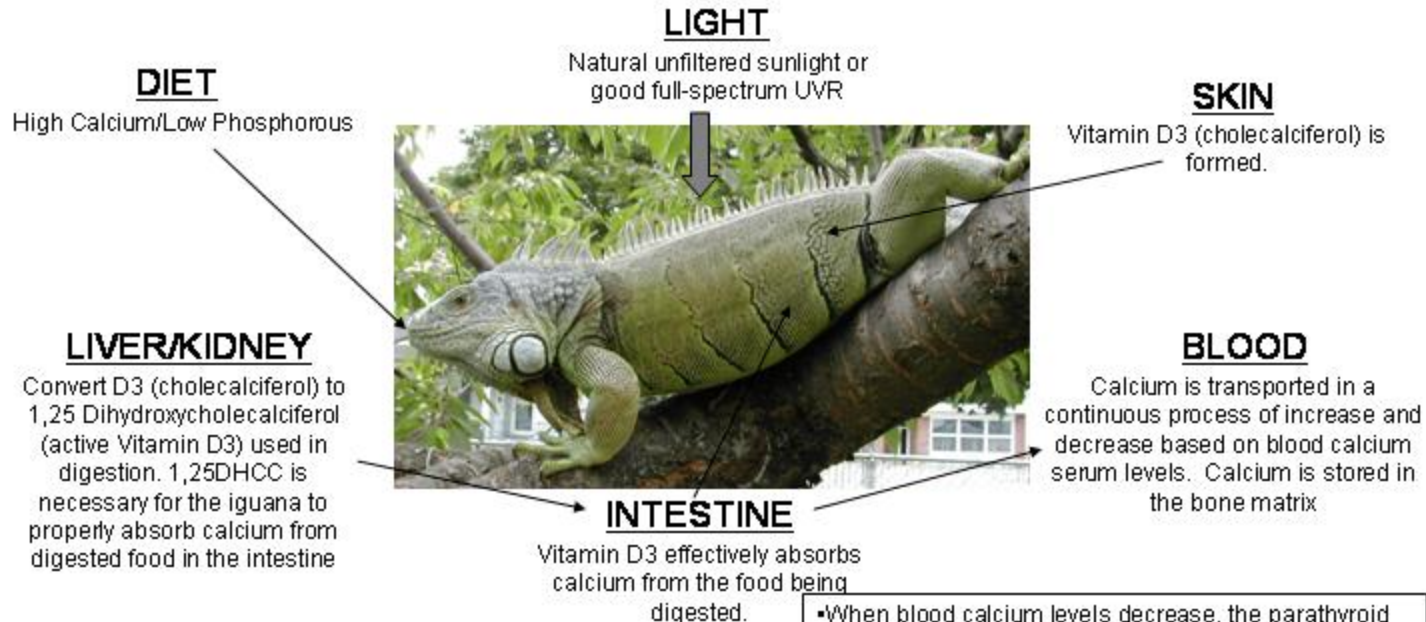


# CALCIUM METABOLISM IN IGUANAS

By: Dominick P. Giorgianni 7-24-04



**OSTEOCLASTS:** Cells, stimulated by PTH, responsible for the demineralization of bone and the release of calcium into the blood.

**OSTEOBLASTS:** Cells, stimulated by (CT), responsible for resorption of calcium from blood and the production of bone.

•When blood calcium levels decrease, the parathyroid gland secretes a hormone (PTH) which stimulates osteoclast activity and releases calcium from bone material into the blood.

•Once blood calcium levels return to normal, the thyroid gland secretes calcitonin (CT) a hormone which decreases osteoclast activity, thereby inhibiting the release of stored calcium from the bone. Increased osteoclast activity resorbs the calcium from the blood into the bone matrix

SOURCE INFORMATION: *Iguana Times*, Vol. 9 Num. 1 & 2. Calcium Metabolism In Iguanas, Bruce Bogoslavsky, DVM Animal Veterinary Hospital of Orlando FL32809  
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