In situ hybridization for the neuro-endocrine gene product VGF, in rat gastric oxyntic mucosa. VGF mRNA is prominent here in both enterochromaffin-like (ECL) and somatostatin endocrine cells, as well as in certain exocrine cells, namely pepsinogen-producing principal cells. An intriguing diversity of cleaved VGF peptides, some of which can affect metabolic balance, feeding, or gastric muscle contraction, are selectively produced in each of the above locations and in further gastric endocrine cells, including ghrelin cells. Original magnification: 250 X. This image is published in an article by Brancia et al. titled ‘Selective expression of TLQP-21 and other VGF peptides in gastric neuroendocrine cells and modulation by feeding’. The full article can be accessed at: http://dx.doi.org/10.1677/JOE-10-0189

Credit: Carla Brancia and colleagues
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