## **Supporting Information**

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**Fig. S1.** GHRH triggers calcium responses, but not calcium waves, in lateral wing extremities of male pituitary slices. (*A*) Monitoring of calcium responses to GHRH (10 nM) in GH-GFP cells loaded with the fluorescent calcium dye fura-2. (*B*) Correlation maps, calculated at 5 min intervals, identifying significantly correlated GHRH-responsive GH-GFP cell pairs (Pearson's *R*). Red dots indicate the location of all GHRH-responsive GH cells. Significantly correlated cell pairs are connected with a straight line, the color of which represents the correlation strength; the bottom bar provides the color code.



**Fig. 52.** Subpopulations of GH cells respond to successive GHRH stimuli. Calcium imaging in a pituitary slice from female adult mice exposed to a first GHRH stimulus (A) and to a second GHRH stimulus given 60 min later (B). Circles identify GH-eGFP cells in the imaged field. In A, green circles represent GH cells responding to GHRH with increased calcium spike activity (Fig. 1), and blue circles represent nonresponding cells. In B, green circles represent cells that responded to the first, but not to the second, GHRH stimulus; yellow circles represent cells that responded to both stimuli; red circles represent cells that responded only to the second GHRH application; and blue circles represent cells that did not respond to either GHRH stimulus.



**Fig. S3.** Postnatal GH cell network architecture in male and female GH-eGFP mice. (*Lower*) The graph depicts the effect of age on the volume-to-surface (V/S) ratio of the GH cell network in male ( $\bullet$ ) and female ( $\blacktriangle$ ) GH-eGFP mice. Data are mean  $\pm$  SEM. \*\*\**P* < 0.001. (*Upper*) Representative 3D reconstructions of two-photon image stacks of the GH cell network in both male (*Left*) and female (*Right*) 60-d-old GH-GFP mice.



**Fig. S4.** Testosterone supplementation in ovariectomized females partially restores a male-like pattern of GHRH calcium responses. (*A*) Monitoring of calcium responses to GHRH (10 nM) in GH-eGFP cells in a pituitary slice prepared from an ovariectomized female supplemented with testosterone. (*B*) Proportion of GHRH-responsive cells in ovariectomized females supplemented with testosterone. Data are mean  $\pm$  SD.



Movie S1. Image stacks of the heat maps of correlated activity in GH cell pairs in males, shown in Fig. 1Ab.

Movie S1



Movie S2. Image stacks of the heat maps of correlated activity in GH cell pairs in females, shown in Fig. 1Bb.

Movie S2