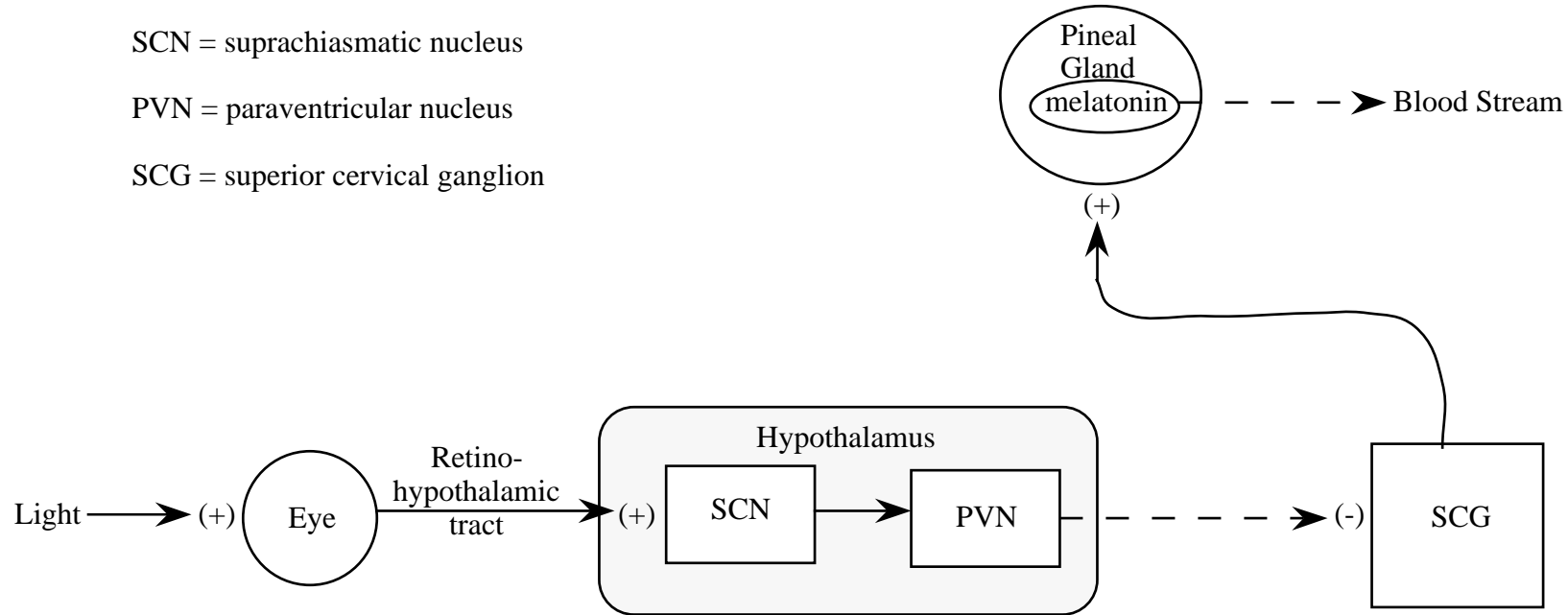


Circadian Circuit

SCN = suprachiasmatic nucleus

PVN = paraventricular nucleus

SCG = superior cervical ganglion



Features of the Circuit (as determined in the rodent brain)

- 1] Neurons in the SCN are most active during the day.
- 2] Melatonin is released in high amounts throughout the night.
- 3] In hamsters a short pulse (1 msec) of light during the night is sufficient to inhibit melatonin secretion for the remainder of that night.