Chapter 6.1 Reproductive Anatomy

Female Anatomy



Female Tract



- Ovary the ovary is comparable to the male testicle and is the site of <u>gamete</u> production.
 - Ova are fully developed at puberty and are not continuously produced as in the male.
 - All species contain two functional ovaries except for the hen which has only a left functioning ovary.
 - Suspended from the Broad Ligament.
 - Great blood supply: Carries Oxygen and nutrients, plus carries hormones to and from the ovary.



- Each ovary:
- Inner medulla: Receives blood and nerve supply.
- Outer cortex: Contains the ova.
 - Graafian (mature) follicles develop.
 - Estrogen is produced.
 - After Graafian Follicle ruptures and ova is released, corpus luteum develops.
 - Follicular Cyst: Result when ovulation does not occur (follicle does not rupture) and continues to grow or when a Graafian Follicle involutes (collapses on itself).



The ovaries have three major functions:

- Gamete production
- Secrete estrogen (hormone), results in:
 - absence of muscle development
 - development of mammary glands
 - development of reproductive systems and external genitalia
 - fat deposition on hips and stomach (source of energy)
 - triggering of heat
- Form the corpus luteum (CL):
 - Develops where an ovum has been shed.
 - Tissue regresses if conception does not occur.
 - Conception occurs: produces progesterone maintains
 pregnancy.



- Infundibulum the funnel shaped portion of the fallopian tube near the ovary that catches the ovulated egg. Contains the Fimbria.
- Oviducts (Fallopian Tubes in Humans) pair of small tubes leading from the ovaries to the horns of the uterus (5 – 6 inches).
 - Fertilization occurs in the oviduct at the Ismus-Ampulla Junction.
 - Egg travels from ovary to uterine horn in 3 4 days.
 - Site of "Tubal Pregnancy" in humans. Life threatening and requires surgery and removal.

- Uterine Horns The anterior, divided end of the uterus in the cow, ewe, and mare.
- Cow and sow bicornuate: mostly horn, small body
- Mare bipartite: mostly body, small horns
- Human simple: all body, no horns
- Uterus Muscular sac connecting fallopian tubes and cervix. Suspended by the broad ligament.



Uterine Functions:

- 1. Sustains the sperm and aids in its transport.
- 2. Provides the site for implantation of the embryo and placentation (development of the placenta).
- 3. Supports embryo and fetus during gestation.
- 4. Expels fetus at parturition.
- 3 layers of uterus and uterine horns:
 - 1. Outer covering.
 - 2. Myometrium: intermediate smooth layer, uterine contractions.
 - 3. Endometrium: innermost lining, glandular.

Cervix

- Area between the uterus and vagina, "Gateway to the Uterus."
- Normally closed.
- Opens at estrus and parturition.
- 2 –3 inches long
- Os cervix opening to the cervix, protrudes into the vagina cavity.



- Cervix: Thick mucus plug produced while pregnant.
- Sow: corkscrew shaped, accepts the boar's corkscrew-shaped penis.
- Cow: 3 rings. Feel the AI rod 'pop' going through each ring.
- Ewe: like a cow, rings, very difficult to manipulate an AI rod through.

Vagina – the female organ of copulation

- 1. admits penis
- 2. receives semen (except in sow)
- 3. passageway for fetus at parturition
- Bladder storage organ for urine
- Vulva extended genitalia; opening for both urinary and genital tracts.
 - Covers the clitoris, same embryonic origin as the Glans penis.
 - Swelling of vulva occurs during estrus helps with heat detection.





Male Anatomy



Male Reproduction

- Male role is much LESS complex than that of the female.
- Two basic roles:
 - 1. Produce ample amounts of viable sperm.
 - Be willing and able to deliver semen into the reproductive tract of the female in natural service or into a receptacle for use in artificial insemination.

Male reproductive system consists of:

Testicles - produce sperm.

Duct system - delivers sperm and semen.

Accessory glands - produce fluid to lubricate and carry sperm.

Penis (male organ of copulation) – deposits semen in the female.



Male Reproduction

• Scrotum

- external sac that holds testicles outside of the body to keep sperm at 4–8°F cooler than the body temperature.
- Production and survival of spermatozoa cannot occur at normal body temps (except poultry).
- Cold weather not nearly as harmful to sperm production and survival as HOT!

Testicular Temperature Regulation

- Regulated by three systems that work together.
- I. External Cremaster muscle: Contracts during cold weather to hold the testicles closer to the abdominal wall (heat!) and relaxes during hot weather to allow the testicles to be farther from the body (cooler).
- 2. Tunica dartos: Smooth muscle fibers within the skin of the scrotum. Contracts to reduce total skin area. Closer to the body during cold weather, relax during hot weather.
- 3. Pampiniform plexus: Network of blood vessels above the testicles. Cooler venous blood cools the warmer arterial blood as it enters the testicles. Important in stallion and boar – testicles less pendulous.

- Testicles the primary male organs of reproduction
 - to produce sperm (spermatogenesis).
 - to secrete testosterone (male sex hormone, androgen).



Testicles

- Internal structure is lobes of connective tissue.
- Within the lobes are seminiferous tubules 90% of total mass of testicle.
- Seminiferous tubules produce spermatozoa cells from primary sex cells located within their walls.
- Sertoli cells located within Seminiferous tubules, nourish and guide spermatids to the lumen (hollow center) of the Seminiferous tubule.
- During migration toward the lumen, each spermatid is transformed into a spermatozoa with developed head, mid-piece, and tail.
- Spermatogenesis is regulated by Follicle Stimulating Hormone (produced by pituitary gland).

- Rete testis: Area in the testicles where the Seminiferous tubules converge into a network of central connecting tubules.
- Connects to the Epididymis.
- Epididymis Long coiled tube that is a path for sperm.
 - Four Functions:
 - Transportation moves sperm from testes to penis
 - Maturation Sperm mature from head to tail
 - Concentration increase sperm numbers per fluid unit
 - Storage hold sperm until time of ejaculation

- Vas Deferens slender tube from epididymis to urethra which moves sperm to the urethra at ejaculation.
- Urethra long tube from bladder to penis; passageway for urine and sperm out of the body.
- Spermatic cord: Tissue above the testicles: blood vessels, nerves, vas deferens, external cremaster muscle – clamped or severed by non-surgical castration.

- Penis male organ of copulation which conveys semen and urine out of the body
- Penis retractor muscle allows extension and retraction of the penis; sigmoid flexure extends in copulation
- Penis Types
 - Fibroelastic: Bull, Boar, Ram composed of fibrous connective tissue and is essentially erect all the time. Sigmoid Flexure.
 - Vascular: Stallion, Human network of blood vessels, requires blood engorgement for erection. No Sigmoid Flexure.

Penis Types



- Accessory Glands:
 - Seminal vesicles add fructose and citric acid to nourish the sperm.
 - **Prostate Gland** located at the neck of the bladder
 - Cleans the urethra prior to and during ejaculation.
 - Provides minerals for sperm.
 - Provides the medium for sperm transport.
 - Provides the characteristic odor of semen.
 - Cowper's gland
 - Also called the Bulbourethral gland.
 - Paired organs.
 - Cleans the urethra prior to semen passage.
- Relatively non-motile sperm become activated upon contact with the fluids.

Male Sex Hormones



- Testosterone is principal androgen.
- Produced by Cells of Leydig (Interstitial Cells) located in spaces between seminiferous tubules.
- Luteinizing Hormone controls production of testosterone. Produced by anterior pituitary.
- Testosterone for typical male development and behavior.
 - Accessory sex glands and sex drive (libido).
 - Secondary sex characteristics:
 - Heavier muscle development, masculine body conformation.



