

## Mythology and history

In Greek mythology, Priapus or Priapos ,was a minor rustic fertility god, protector of livestock, fruit plants, gardens and male genitalia. Priapus is marked by his absurdly oversized, permanent erection, which gave rise to the medical term priapism







Statuette of Osiris with phallus and am<mark>ulets</mark>



Phallic-Head Plate, Gubbio, Italy, 1536



Polyphallic wind chime from Pompeii; a bell hung from each phallus

# The male hormonal control



#### Hormonal Control of Male Reproductive Functions

•GnRH, FSH, and LH

•Testosterone

gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH), released by the hypothalamus to stimulate the release of pituitary gonadotropins - follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) and luteinizing hormone (LH) from the anterior pituitary gland.

In both males and females these two hormones act to promote gametogenesis and androgen/estrogen secretion.







## Hormones that Affect Male Reproductive Processes

H	IORMONES	THAT AFFECT THE MALE REPRODUCTIVE PROCESSES	
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HORMONE	SOURCE	ACTION
GnRH	Hypothalamus	Stimulates pituitary gland to secrete the gonadotropins FSH and ICSH
ICSH (LH)	Pituitary	Stimulates interstitial cells (cells of Leydig) in the testes to produce androgens, especially testosterone
FSH	Pituitary	Along with testosterone, stimulates spermatogenic cells in seminiferous tubules to produce sperm
Testosterone	Testes (interstitial cells)	Stimulates developement of a man's primary and secondary sex characteristics and affects his sexual behavior; along with FSH, stimulates spermatogenic cells to undergo spermatogenesis; feeds back to hypothalamus and pituitary, where it inhibits GnRH secretion to pituitary and LH production by the pituitary gland
Inhbin	Testes (Sertoli cells)	Maturing sperm causes Sertoli cells in seminiferous tubules to secrete inhibin, which feeds back to the pituitary, inhibiting its production of FSH

# The Influence of Testosterone

skin hair growth, balding, sebum production —

liver \_\_\_\_\_ synthesis of serum proteins

male sexual organs penile growth spermatogenesis prostate growth and function *brain* libido, aggression

*muscle* increase in strength and volume

kidney stimulation of erythropoietin production

bone marrow stimulation of stem cells

bone

accelerated linear growth closure of epiphyses

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#### The Pituitary Gland

Located in the center of your brain, it tells the testicles to produce testosterone

#### **Physical Health**

- Reduced muscle mass and strength result from low testosterone
- Increased body fat, such as a "pot belly," is another symptom

#### The Testicles

Produce testosterone and help keep normal levels in the body

#### The Brain

 Regulates testosterone production by sending a signal to the pituitary gland

#### **Bone Health**

 Prolonged periods of low testosterone decrease bone density, increasing your risk of osteoporosis

#### Sexual Health

 Low testosterone can lead to problems achieving or maintaining erections In short, this is a known list of sex organs that evolve from the same tissue in a human life.

Indifferent Gonad Mullerian duct Mullerian duct Wolffian duct Mesonephric tubules Wolffian duct Wolffian duct Wolffian duct Wolffian duct Urogenital sinus Urogenital sinus Genital swelling **Urogenital folds** Genital tubercle Prepuce

Male Testis Appendix testis Prostatic utricle Rete testis Efferent ducts Epididymis Vas deferens Seminal vesicle Prostate Bladder, urethra **Bulbourethral gland** Scrotum Distal urethra Penis Foreskin Bulb of penis Glans penis Crus of penis

Female Ovary **Fallopian tubes** Uterus, proximal vagina Rete ovarii Epoophoron Gartner's duct Skene's glands Bladder, urethra, distal vagina Bartholin's gland Labia majora Labia minora Clitoris Clitoral hood Vestibular bulbs Clitoral glans Clitoral crura

## The anatomy and abnormalities it self

# The male reproductive system

- Two testes
- Scrotum
- Spermatic cords
- Accessory glands
- **Penis**
- Prepuce
- The male duct system
  - vasa efferentia
  - vas deferens
  - urethra external



## Male Reproductive System

- Pathway of spermatozoa
  - Epididymis
  - Ductus deferens (Vas deferens)
  - Ejaculatory duct
- Accessory organs
  - Seminal vesicles
  - Prostate gland
  - Bulbourethral glands
  - Scrotal sac encloses testes
  - Penis



Figure 28.1

#### The Male Reproductive System in Anterior View



# The foreskin has twelve known functions.

- They are: to cover and bond with the synechia so as to permit the development of the mucosal surface of the glans and inner foreskin.
- to protect the infant's glans from feces and ammonia in diapers.
- to protect the glans penis from friction and abrasion throughout life.
- to keep the glans moisturized and soft with emollient oils.
- to lubricate the glans.
- to coat the glans with a waxy protective substance.
- to provide sufficient skin to cover an erection by unfolding.
- to provide an aid to masturbation and foreplay.
- □ to serve as an aid to penetration.
- **to reduce friction and chafing during intercourse.**
- to serve as erogenous tissue because of its rich supply of erogenous receptors.
- to contact and stimulate the G-spot of the female partner.



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- 1. Testicles
- 2. Epididymis
- 3. Corpus cavernosa
- 4. Foreskin
- 5. Frenulum
- 6. Urethral opening
- 7. Glans penis
- 8. Corpus spongiosum
- 9. Penis
- 10. Scrotum







# Epispadias







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The word "penis" is taken from the Latin word for "tail."



















Aphallia (penile agenesis) results from failure of the genital tubercle to develop incidence: 1/10,000,000 live male births (only 70 reported cases) usually has appearance of welldeveloped scrotum with bilaterally descended testes, but no penile shaft

urethral opening most often on the anal verge adjacent to a small skin tag; otherwise, may be in rectum associated anomalies:

cryptorchidism,
horseshoe kidney,
renal agenesis,
imperforate anus





- Diphallus: duplication of the penis
- rare anomaly that
   may range from
   small accessory
   penis to the real
   deal...times two.
- associated anomalies: hypospadias, bifid scrotum, duplicated bladder, renal agenesis/ ectopia,
#### **Control of erection**

Hypothalamus (conscious control)

<u>Parasympathetic nerves</u> neurotransmitter- nitric oxide promotes blood flow into penis (Viagra- promotes vasodilation)

Control of emission and ejaculation

sympathetic nerves- muscle contraction

•The man whose non-erect penis is smallish will usually achieve about a 100 per cent increase in length during sexual excitement.

•The man whose non-erect penis is on the largish size will probably manage about a 75 per cent increase.

•This means the great majority of penises measure between 15cm and 18cm (6-7 inches) when erect, with the average figure being about 16.5cm (6.5 inches).





### A view of the frenulum, foreskin retracted





Penis post ejaculation, notice all the vasculature [veinous]







One can more readily infer the examiner's effort to retract the foreskin in this image. Ecchymoses of unknown origin are conspicuous about 2 cm behind the preputial orifice, and are not ulcerated.

# Scrotum

- □ Skin
- Dartos muscle (smooth)
- Septum
- Cremaster muscle (skeletal)







## Scrotum

- Temperature
  - Optimal for sperm development is 3°C below body temp (~91 F)
  - Controlled by muscles
- Spermatic cord
  - Testicular artery
  - Plexus of veins
  - Nerves
  - vas deferens





24.2



### The Scrotum

Intrascrotal temperature is kept constant by two sets of muscles:

<u>**Dartos**</u> – smooth muscle that wrinkles scrotal skin. regulate the temperature of the testicles, which promotes spermatogenesis. I does this by expanding or contracting to wrinkle the scrotal skir Contraction reduces the surface area available for heat loss, th reducing heat loss and warming the testicles.

Conversely, expansion increases the surface area, promoting he loss and thus cooling the testicles.

•<u>Cremaster</u> – bands of skeletal muscle that elevate the testes, I function is to raise and lower the testes in order to regulate the temperature of the testes and promote spermatogenesis. Contraction may also occur during arousal which can prevent in to the testicles during sex

In human females, the cremaster muscle is smaller and is found on the round ligament.









Figure 1 – Incision of the tunica albuginea on the left corpus cavernosum. A longitudinal band in the tunica (of about 0.5 cm) is prepared.



# Testes



## MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

### • TESTIS

#### TUNICA ALBUGINEA

- thick connective tissue capsule
- connective tissue septa divide testis into 250 lobules
- each lobule contains 1-4 <u>seminiferous tubules</u> and <u>interstitial connective tissue</u>
- (1) SEMINIFEROUS TUBULES
  - produce sperm

INTERSTITIAL TISSUE

- contains Leydig cells which
- produce testosterone
- (2) RECTUS TUBULES
- (3) RETE TESTIS
- (4) EFFERENT DUCTULES
- (5) EPIDIDYMIS







### Testes (single testis)

Divided into 200-300 wedge shaped lobules. Testes and ovaries are from the same tissue

Seminiferous tubules: Cells specialties 1). Leydig cells 2). Spermatogenic cells

#### (a)

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### Testis



•Testes are formed in abdomen and descend into scrotum at 7<sup>th</sup> month of development

•Temperature in scrotum is slightly lower than in body

•Spermatogenesis (formation of sperm)

- sperm-forming cells
- Sertoli cells
- interstitial cells-produce testosterone

•Process takes about 9 weeks



## Testes

The testes have, like the ovaries, two functions:

they produce the male gametes or spermatozoa,
they produce male sexual hormone, testosterone, which stimulates the accessory male sexual organs and causes the development of the masculine extragenital sex characteristics.

The testis is surrounded by a thick capsule,

•the tunica albuginea,

• from which a conical mass of connective tissue, the mediastinum testis, projects into the testis.

•The tunica albuginea is covered externally by a serosa.

From the mediastinum, delicate fibrous septa radiate towards the tunica albuginea and divide the parenchyma of the testis into about 300 lobuli testis.

Each lobule contains 1-4 convoluted seminiferous tubules (about 150-300 µm in diameter, 30-80 cm long).

Interstitial tissue between the convoluted tubules is continuous with a layer of loose vascular connective tissue, the tunica vasculosa testis, which is found beneath the tunica albuginea.

Each seminiferous tubule continues near the mediastinum into a straight tubule, a tubulus rectus. The straight tubules continue into the rete testis, a labyrinthine system of cavities in the mediastinum



Figure 28.4













# The Epididymus



(b)

## BulbourethralGlands (Cowper's Glands)

Pea-sized glands inferior to the prostate
 Produce thick, clear, alkaline mucus prior to
 ejaculation that neutralizes traces of acidic urine in the urethra

## **Contents of Semen**

- □ Typical ejaculate = 2-5 ml fluid
  - Contains between 20 100 million spermatozoa per ml
- Seminal fluid
  - A distinct ionic and nutritive glandular secretion

## MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

### • TESTIS

TUNICA VAGINALIS TUNICA ALBUGINEA SEMINIFEROUS TUBULES SEMINIFEROUS EPITHELIUM

- complex stratified epithelium containing two basic cell populations:

(1) SPERMATOGENIC CELLS

(2) SERTOLI CELLS










# Male reproductive tract

- Testes produce mature spermatozoa
- □ Sperm enter epididymus
  - Elongated tubule with head, body and tail regions
  - Monitors and adjusts fluid in seminiferous tubules
  - Stores and protects spermatozoa
  - Facilitates functional maturation of spermatozoa

### • TESTIS

### SEMINIFEROUS TUBULES

### SEMINIFEROUS EPITHELIUM

- complex stratified epithelium containing two basic cell populations:
- (1) SPERMATOGENIC CELLS

stem cells which regularly replicate and differentiate into mature sperm as they migrate toward the lumen (2) SERTOLI CELLS nonreplicating physical support cells INTERSTITIAL CONNECTIVE TISSUE (1) LEYDIG CELLS

produce and release testosterone





### **Function of the Seminal Vesicles**

Each seminal vesicle is a tortuous, loculated tube lined with a secretory epithelium that secretes a mucoid material containing an abundance of fructose, citric acid, and other nutrient substances, as well as large quantities of prostaglandins and fibrinogen.

During the process of emission and ejaculation, each seminal vesicle empties its contents into the ejaculatory duct shortly after the vas deferens empties the sperm.

This adds greatly to the bulk of the ejaculated semen, and the fructose and other substances in the seminal fluid are of considerable nutrient value for the ejaculated sperm until one of the sperm fertilizes the ovum.

#### Prostaglandins are believed to aid fertilization in two ways:

(1) by reacting with the female cervical mucus to make it more receptive to sperm movement
(2) by possibly causing backward, reverse peristaltic contractions in the uterus and fallopian
tubes to move the ejaculated sperm toward the ovaries (a few sperm reach the upper ends of
the fallopian tubes within 5 minutes)

# SPERMATOGENESIS

SPERM FORMATION

### Seminiferous tubules

- Contain spermatogonia
  - Stem cells involved in spermatogenesis
- Contain sustentacular cells
  - Sustain and promote development of sperm



### Hormonal Factors That Stimulate Spermatogenesis

We shall discuss the role of hormones in reproduction

later, but at this point, let us note that several hormones

play essential roles in spermatogenesis. Some of these are as follows:

**1. Testosterone,** secreted by the Leydig cells located

in the interstitium of the testis, is essential forgrowth and division of the testicular germinal cells, which is the first stage in forming sperm.

### Maturation of Sperm in the Epididymis

After formation in the seminiferous tubules, the sperm require several days to pass through the 6-meter-long tubule of the epididymis.

Sperm removed from the seminiferous tubules and from the early portions of the epididymis are nonmotile, and they cannot fertilize an ovum.

However, after the sperm have been in the epididymis for some 18 to 24 hours, they develop the capability of motility, even though several inhibitory proteins in the epididymal fluid still prevent final motility until after ejaculation

2. Luteinizing hormone, secreted by the anterior pituitary gland, stimulates the Leydig cells to secrete testosterone.

3. Follicle-stimulating hormone, also secreted by the anterior pituitary gland, stimulates the Sertoli cells; without this stimulation, the conversion of the spermatids to sperm (the process of spermiogenesis) will not occur.

4. Estrogens, formed from testosterone by the Sertoli cells when they are stimulated by folliclestimulating hormone, are probably also essential for spermiogenesis.

5. Growth hormone (as well as most of the other body hormones) is necessary for controlling background metabolic functions of the testes.

Growth hormone specifically promotes early division of the spermatogonia themselves; in its absence, as in pituitary dwarfs, spermatogenesis is severely deficient or absent, thus causing infertility.

### Storage of Sperm. The two testes of the human adult

form up to 120 million sperm each day.

A small quantity of these can be stored in the epididymis, but most are stored in the vas deferens.

#### They can remain stored, maintaining their fertility, for at least a month.

During this time, they are kept in a deeply suppressed inactive state by multiple inhibitory substances in the secretions of the ducts.

Conversely, with a high level of sexual activity and ejaculations, storage may be no longer than a few days.

After ejaculation, the sperm become motile, and they also become capable of fertilizing the ovum, a process called *maturation*.

The Sertoli cells and the epithelium of the epididymis secrete a special nutrient fluid that is ejaculated along with the sperm.

This fluid contains hormones (including both testosterone and estrogens), enzymes, and special nutrients that are essential for sperm maturation.





### • SPERMATOGENESIS

#### THREE PHASES:

- (1) Spermatogonial Phase (Mitosis)
- (2) Spermatocyte Phase (Meiosis)
- (3) Spermatid Phase (Spermiogenesis)
  - acrosome formation; golgi granules fuse to form acrosome that contains hydrolytic enzymes which will enable the spermatozoa to move through the investing layers of the oocyte
  - flagellum formation; centrioles and associate axoneme (arrangement of microtubules in cilia)
  - changes in size and shape of nucleus; chromatin condenses and shedding of residual body (cytoplasm)





# Spermiogenesis and Spermatozoon Structure



### • SPERMATOGENESIS

#### THREE PHASES:

(1) Spermatogonial Phase (Mitosis)

- spermatogonia proliferate by <u>mitotic</u> divisions to provide stem cells and cells which will proceed through spermatogenesis (1° spermatocytes)

- (2) Spermatocyte Phase (Meiosis)
  - diploid cells (2n) created in spermatogonial phase give rise to haploid cells (1n)
  - Meiosis I (reduction division) & Meiosis II (equatorial division)
  - 1° spermatocytes enter Meiosis I to form
     2° spermatocytes which then enter
     Meiosis II and result in spermatids
- (3) Spermatid Phase (Spermiogenesis)
- spermatid differentiation into spermatazoa

# MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM







### • SPERMIOGENESIS

Mature sperm 60µm long and acquire full motility in epididymis

- (1) HEAD
  - nucleus and acrosome
- (2) NECK
  - centriole and connecting piece
- (3) TAIL
  - middle piece (axoneme, outer dense fibers, mitochondial sheath)
  - principal piece
  - (axoneme, outer dense fibers, fibrous sheath)
  - end piece
  - (axoneme)



• SPERMIOGENESIS













 HORMONAL REGULATION OF MALE REPRODUCTIVE FUNCTION
 HYPOTHALAMUS REGULATES ACTIVITY OF ANTERIOR PITUITARY (ADENOHYPOPHYSIS)

ADENOHYPOPHYSIS SYNTHESIZES HORMONES (LH and FSH) THAT MODULATE ACTIVITY OF SERTOLI AND LEYDIG CELLS

<u>Luteinizing Hormone</u> (LH): stimulates testosterone production by Leydig cells

<u>Follicle Stimulating Hormone</u> (FSH): stimulates production of sperm in conjunction with testosterone by regulating activity of Sertoli cells

SERTOLI CELLS STIMULATED BY FSH AND TESTOSTERONE RELEASE ANDROGEN BINDING PROTEIN WHICH BINDS TESTOSTERONE; THEREBY INCREASING TESTOSTERONE CONCENTRATION WITHIN THE SEMINIFEROUS TUBULES AND STIMULATING SPERMATOGENESIS



• EFFERENT DUCTULES

CONNECT RETE TESTIS WITH EPIDIDYMIS

IRREGULAR LUMINAL APPEARANCE DUE TO <u>TALL CILIATED CELLS</u> AND <u>SHORT</u> <u>NON-CILIATED CELLS</u> CILIATED CELLS BEAT TOWARD EPIDIDYMIS; THIN LAYER OF SMOOTH MUSCLE ALSO AIDS MOVEMENT INTO EPIDIDYMIS



• EPIDIDYMIS

**RECEIVES EFFERENT DUCTULES** 

DIVIDED INTO HEAD, BODY, AND TAIL

PSEUDOSTRATIFIED EPITHELIUM CONSISTING OF PRINCIPAL AND BASAL CELLS

SMOOTH MUSCLE IN HEAD AND TAIL CONTRACT SPONTANEOUSLY; SMOOTH MUSCLE IN TAIL REQUIRES SYMPATHETIC INNERVATION FOR CONTRACTION











• VAS DEFERENS

CONNECTS EPIDIDYMIS WITH SEMINAL VESICLES PSEUDOSTRATIFIED COLUMNAR EPITHELIUM

SMOOTH MUSCLE ARRANGED IN 3 LAYERS

SMOOTH MUSCLE CONTRACTION VIA SYMPATHETIC STIMULATION DURING EJACULATION



#### • VAS DEFERENS

### MALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

Ductus Deferens and Ejaculatory Duct Runs from the epididymis through the inguinal canal into the pelvic cavity

Its terminus expands to form the ampulla and then joins the duct of the seminal vesicle to form the ejaculatory duct

Propels sperm from the epididymis to the urethra

Vasectomy – cutting and ligating the ductus deferens, which is a nearly 100% effective form of birth control




#### • SEMINAL VESICLES

#### MUCOSA HIGHLY FOLDED

EPITHELIUM PSEUDOSTRATIFIED

SECRETIONS ARE HIGH IN FRUCTOSE AND BASIC

REGULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE CONTRACTS DURING EJACULATION



• SEMINAL VESICLES

EPITHELIUM PSEUDOSTRATIFIED



#### • PROSTATE

SIMPLE OR PSEUDOSTRATIFIED COLUMNAR EPITHELIUM

30-50 TUBULOALVEOLAR GLANDS WHICH EMPTY INTO URETHRA

PROSTATIC SECRETIONS RICH IN CITRIC ACID, ACID PHOSPHATASE, AND PROTEOLYTIC ENZYMES



#### • PROSTATE

SIMPLE OR PSEUDOSTRATIFIED COLUMNAR EPITHELIUM



#### • PROSTATE

PROSTATIC CONCRETIONS

- precipitation of secretory product







# Sustentacular (Sertoli) cells

- Nurse cells
- Extend from basal lamina to lumen
- Connected to each other by tight junctions
- Nourish spermatogenic cells
- Transport spermatogenic cells
- Phagocytize excess cytoplasm
- Secretions regulate spermatogenesis

24.4c



## Sustentacular cells

2 Sertoli cells with associated spermatogenesis cells.



24.4c

# Interstitial (Leydig) cells

- Secretes testosterone
- sER for steroid production
- Controlled by LH from pituitary



24.3b

## The Ductus Deferens and Accessory Glands



## Accessory glands

#### Seminal vesicles

- Active secretory gland
- Contributes ~60% total volume of semen
- Secretions contain fructose, prostaglandins, fibrinogen
- □ 60% of semen
- Fructose to nourish sperm

## Accessory glands

### Prostate gland

- Secretes slightly acidic prostate fluid
- Bulbourethral glands
  - Secrete alkaline mucus with lubricating properties

# PROSTATE

### Prostate

- Macroscopically the prostrate can be divided into lobes,
- In good histological sections it is possible to distinguish three concentric zones, which surround the prostatic part of the urethra.
- The peripheral zone contains large, so-called main glands, whose ducts run posteriorly to open into the urethra.
- □ The internal zone consists of the so-called submucosal glands, whereas
- □ the innermost zone contains mucosal glands.
- □ This subdivision of the prostate is of clinical importance.
- With age the prostate becomes enlarged due to benign nodular hyperplasia.
- □ The onset age of these hyperplastic changes is 45.
- $\Box$  About 3/4 of the males above 60 are affected of which half will be symptomatic.
- This condition affects the mucosal glands. Cancer of the prostate, which is the second most common malignant tumor in western males, involves the peripheral zone.

- During orgasm, sperm is transmitted from the ductus deferens into the male urethra via the ejaculatory ducts, which lie within the prostate gland.
- □ The prostate is sometimes referred to as the "male G-spot".
- Some men are able to achieve orgasm solely through stimulation of the prostate gland, such as prostate massage or receptive anal intercourse.
- Men who report the sensation of prostate stimulation often give descriptions similar to female's accounts of G-spot stimulation

#### Function of the Prostate Gland

The prostate gland secretes a thin, milky fluid that contains calcium, citrate ion, phosphate ion, a clotting enzyme, and a profibrinolysin.

During emission, the capsule of the prostate gland contracts simultaneously with the contractions of the vas deferens so that the thin, milky fluid of the prostate gland adds further to bulk of the semen.

A slightly alkaline characteristic of the prostatic fluid may be quite important for successful fertilization of the ovum, because the fluid of the vas deferens is relatively acidic owing to the presence of citric acid and metabolic end products of the sperm and, consequently, helps to inhibit sperm fertility.

Also, the vaginal secretions of the female are acidic (pH of 3.5 to 4.0). Sperm do not become optimally motile until the pH of the surrounding fluids rises to about 6.0 to 6.5.

Consequently, it is probable that the slightly alkaline prostatic fluid helps to neutralize the acidity of the other seminal fluids during ejaculation, and thus enhances the motility and fertility of the sperm.





## Corpora amylacea

Are small hyaline masses of unknown significance found in the prostate gland, neuroglia, and pulmonary alveoli.

They are derived from degenerate cells or thickened secretions and occur more frequently with advancing age.

While their significance is unknown, they can be used to identify these organs microscopically

# Prostate Gland

- Prostate gland
  - Surrounds prostatic urethra
  - □ 30% of semen
  - Supports sperm







(b)



24.9

The prostate gland is shaped like an inverted cone and lies just below the neck of the urinary bladder.

It is about 5 cm (3 inches) long and 3-4cm wide.

The urethra, which runs from the bladder through the middle of the prostate gland and through the penis, carries urine from the bladder. The smooth muscle of the urethra is the internal urinary sphincter.

Just below the prostate gland is a muscular diaphragm that acts as the external urinary sphincter.

This sphincter, which encircles the urethra, is under both reflex and voluntary control

Along the back wall of the urethra in the prostate, there is an elevation called the verumontanum, and it is into this elevation that sperm (through the ejaculatory ducts) and spermatic secretions from the seminal vesicles and prostate enter the urethra











#### Normal prostate



Normal prostate doesn't inter-fere with the urethra or urination.



Benign tumors may squeeze and narrow the urethra.



Infected prostate may cause pain with urination.



Malignant tumors in early stages don't cause symptoms.



### Ducts

- Epididymis
- Ductus deferens
- Ejaculatory duct
- □ (urethra)





# Epididymis

 Located in scrotum
Between seminiferous tubules and vas deferens
~6 m long

24.3a

# Epididymis

- Pseudostratified columnar epithelium
  - With stereocilia (long microvilli)
  - Smooth muscle
  - Sperm mature and stored



24.6a

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**Epididymis:** 

## Ductus (vas) deferens

- □ From scrotum to pelvis
- Forms ejaculatory duct with seminal vesicle duct
- Empties into prostatic urethra
- Thick muscularis
- Propels sperm during ejaculation



24.1

# Ductus deferens

- Microscopic anatomy
- Pseudostratified epithelium
- 🗆 Lamina propria
- Muscularis
  - Inner longitudinal
  - Middle circular
  - Outer longitudinal



24.6b

# Urethra

- □ Shared with urinary system
- Prostatic urethra
- Membranous urethra
- Spongy (penile) urethra





#### • URETHRA

PROSTATIC, MEMBRANOUS, SPONGY (PENILE)


#### Urethra

Conveys both urine and semen (at different times)

Consists of three regions

**<u>Prostatic</u>** – portion surrounded by the prostate

<u>Membranou</u>s – lies in the urogenital diaphragm

<u>Spongy, or penile</u> – runs through the penis and opens to the outside at the external urethral orifice

# Ejaculation

- Sympathetic activation
- Peristaltic contraction of smooth muscles in ducts and glands ejaculation
- Constriction of arteries
- $\square \downarrow$  blood pressure in erectile bodies



24.8



## **Brain-Testicular Axis**

- Hormonal regulation of spermatogenesis and testicular androgen production involving the
  - hypothalamus,
  - anterior pituitary gland,
  - the testes

- Testicular regulation involves three sets of hormones:
  - GnRH, from the hypothalamus stimulates the pituitary to produce gonadotropins:
  - Follicle stimulating hormone (FSH)
  - Luteinizing hormone (LH)
  - Gonadotropins, directly stimulate the testes
  - Testicular hormones, which exert negative feedback controls

Hormonal Regulation of Testicular Function

- □ The hypothalamus releases gonadotropinreleasing hormone (GnRH)
- □ GnRH stimulates the anterior pituitary to secrete FSH and LH
- FSH stimulates sperm production by causing sustentacular cells to release androgen-binding protein (ABP)
- □ ABP prompts spermatogenic cells to bind and concentrate testosterone
- LH stimulates interstitial cells to release testosterone
  - Stimulates spermatogenesis
  - Causes secondary sexual characteristics

#### Feedback inhibition on the hypothalamus and pituitary results from:

- Rising levels of testosterone
- Increased inhibin

### Mechanism and Effects of Testosterone Activity

- Testosterone is synthesized from cholesterol
- □ It must be transformed to exert its effects on some target cells
- Prostate it is converted into dihydrotestosterone (DHT) before it can bind within the nucleus
- Neurons it is converted into estrogen to bring abou stimulatory effects in certain neurons
- Testosterone targets all accessory organs and its deficiency causes these organs to atrophy

### Male Secondary Sex Characteristics

Male hormones make their appearance at puberty and induce changes in nonreproductive organs, including

Appearance of pubic, axillary, and facial hair Enhanced growth of the chest and deepening of the voice Skin thickens and becomes oily Bones grow and increase in density Skeletal muscles increase in size and mass Testosterone is the basis of libido in both males and females