## FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

## UTERUS

(made up of muscular walls, a lining called the endometrium, and a cervix. The uterus is also called "womb")

- houses and protects embryo/fetus/baby
- allows nutrient & waste exchange with
- nourishes an embryo, before a placenta



\*ADAM.

#### CERVIX

- the bottom section of the uterus
- produces fluids to help sperm travel
- produces a mucous plug to keep germs out during pregnancy



ADAM.

## Vagina

- allows passage of sperm
- produces fluids to cleanse and lubricate itself and to help sperm travel
- allows passage of shed endometrium during menstruation
- allows passage of baby
- provides sensation (has many nerve endings especially in the outer third)
- a collapsed tube, like a deflated balloon



# Hymen (the Cherry)

- membrane partly covering vaginal opening
- some girls are born without a hymen
- may be stretched during sexual intercourse or by using a tampon or with fingers



## OVA

- carry strings of genes called chromosomes which mix with chromosomes of sperm to direct fetal development if fertilized and implanted in the uterus
- they dissolve in the Fallopian tube after about 24 hours if not fertilized

#### **\*\*NOT ON DIAGRAM**

#### **Ovaries**

- provide storage for ova
- allow maturation of ova
- produce sex hormones (estrogen, progesterone, androgens)



## **Fallopian Tubes**

- allow passage of ova toward uterus
- allow passage of sperm from uterus



### Fimbria

- guides a mature ovum, when it is released from ovary, into a Fallopian tube
- fringe-like or finger-like outer ends of the Fallopian tube



## **Skene's Gland**

- area of firm tissue anterior (towards the front) to the wall of the vagina, surrounding the urethra
- responds to pressure sometimes causing orgasm5 and sometimes produces fluid (it is not urine)
- also known as Graffenberg-spot (G-spot) or the female prostate gland



#### Vulva

(made up of labia majora, labia minora, and clitoris)

- protect openings of urethra and vagina, as eyelids protect eyes
- provide sensation (has many nerve endings)
- labia are folds of skin
- outer labia (labia majora) have pubic hair



© MAYO FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

## Clitoris

(made up of shaft, crura [internal branches], glans and hood)

- provides sensation (has many nerve endings)
- each internal branch of erectile tissue is about 3½" long
- the glans (the visible part of the clitoris) is usually ¼-½" long, comparable in size to a pearl at front of vulva, where the labia meet



### **Clitoral Hood**

- protects the glans of the clitoris
- provides sensation (has many nerve endings)
- like a cap, mostly covers the clitoris, when it isn't erect



## **Male Reproductive System**

#### PENIS

(made up of shaft, glans, and sometimes foreskin)

- allows passage of urine and of semen
- provides sensation (has many nerve endings)
- the average penis measures 3-4" when it's not erect (flaccid) and 5-7" when erect



#### Foreskin

- protects the glans of the penis
- provides sensation
- males who've been circumcised don't have one



## Scrotum

- muscular sac which is shorter when cold, longer when warm
- holds testes
- controls temperature
- provides sensation



### Testes

- produce sperm and sex hormones (androgens, testosterone)
- each is made of 500-1,200 feet of tightly coiled tubes



## **Epididymis**

• allows maturation of sperm



@ MAYO FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

## Spermatazoa (Sperm)

- cell from a man (commonly called "sperm")
- they carry strings of genes (called "chromosomes") or DNA instructions in case the sperm cell meets with an egg cell and fertilizes it.

#### \*\*NOT ON DIAGRAM but where would it be?

## **Spermatic Cords**

- suspend the testis
- supply blood to the testis
- provide sensation
- carry sperm from the testis



@ MAYO FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

#### Vas Deferens

- provides storage for sperm
- allow passage of sperm
- as big around as sewing thread
- they lead into the abdomen, where (behind the bladder) they widen into storage sacs



## **Seminal Vesicles**

• contribute fructose (sugar) to semen for nourishing the sperm



#### Semen

- helps sperm live longer and travel better
- about a teaspoon full per ejaculation

**\*\*NOT ON DIAGRAM** 

## **Prostate Gland**

• produces most of the fluid that makes up semen



#### **Cowper's Gland**

- pair of glands
- produce fluid called pre-ejaculate or "pre-cum" that cleanses the urethra of acid (from urine) to protect the sperm



#### **Reproductive Systems**

FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM	
Uterus	
Cervix	
Vagina	
Hymen	
Ova	
Ovary	
Fallopian Tubes	
Fimbria	
Skene's Gland	
Vulva	
Clitoris	
Clitoral Hood	

Male Reproductive System	
Penis	
Foreskin	
Scrotum	
Testes	
Epididymis	
Spermatazoan	
Spermatic Cords	
Vas Deferens	
Seminal Vesicles	
Semen	
Prostate Gland	
Cowper's Gland	