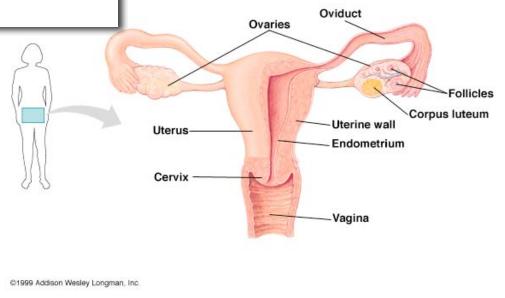


# Female Reproductive Anatomy



# Ovary - Primary Organ

- Ovary Gross anatomy
  - usually paired
  - may be solid or hollow
  - size can vary greatly depending on species and stage of reproductive activity

## Gross Anatomy - Mammal



Human

- ◆Paired, solid
- Size changes little with reproductive activity
  - 'Blisters on the surface'

## Gross Anatomy - Reptile

- Paired, solid ovary
- Enlarged dramatically with reproductive activity



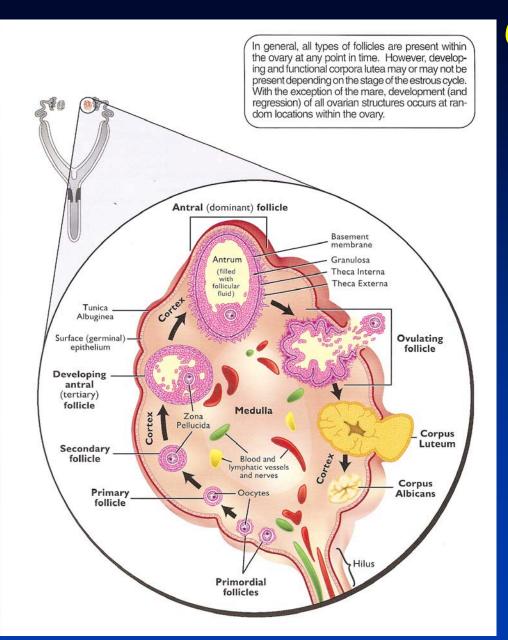


Alligator

# Gross Anatomy - Fish



Perch

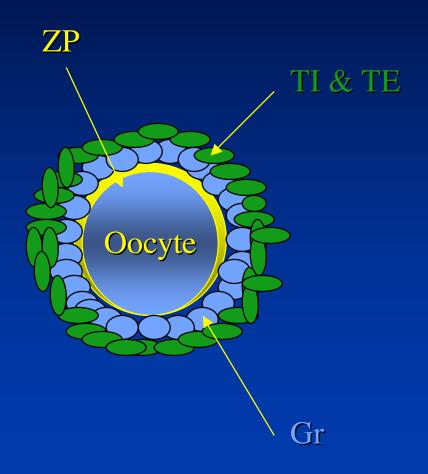


### Ovarian Histology

- serosa outer covering of tough connective tissue
- germinal epithelium single layer of cells once
   thought to produce the
   germ cells thus its name
- ovarian stroma or cortex

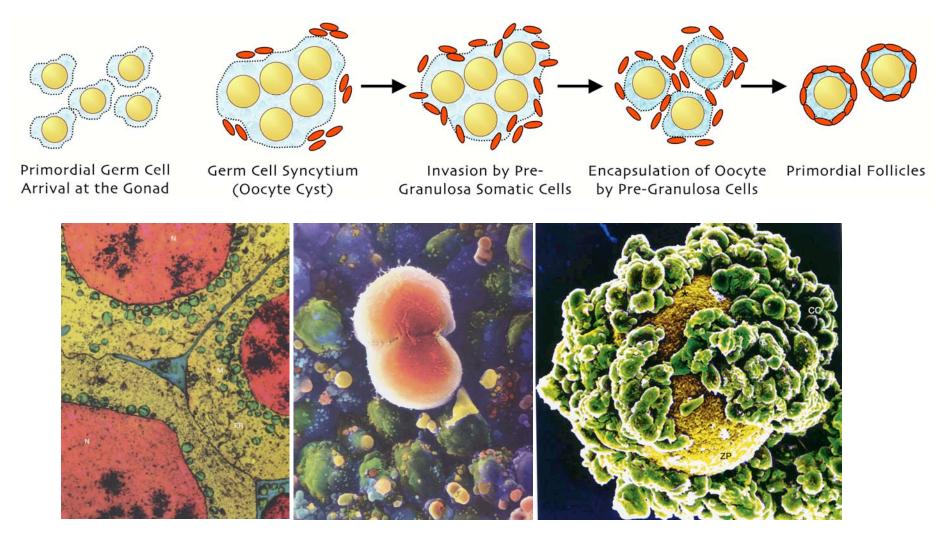
   contains follicles and
   scar tissue, some blood
   vessels
- ovarian hylus or medulla contains blood vessels, nerves, lymph

#### Ovarian Follicle

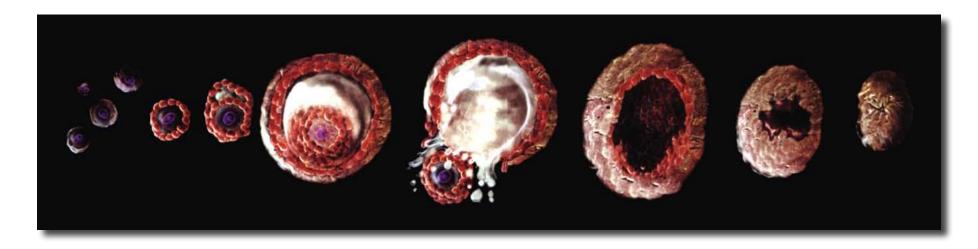


- follicle composite structure that will produce mature oocyte
  - primordial follicle germ cell (oocyte) with a single layer of mesodermal cells around it
  - as development of follicle progresses, oocyte will obtain a 'halo' of cells and membranes that are distinct:
    - + 1. zona pellucide (ZP)
    - + 2. granulosa (Gr)
    - → 3. theca interna and externa (TI & TE)

#### Germ Cells Division and Follicle Formation



from Makabe and van Blerkom, 2006

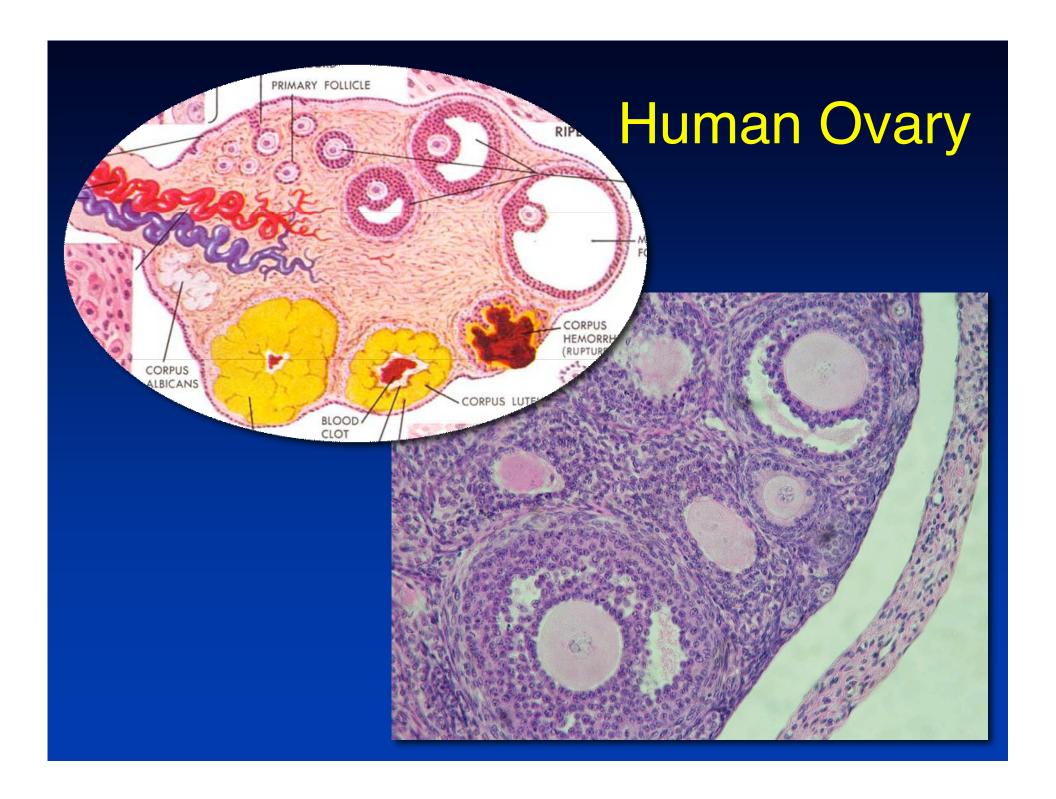


#### **Summary:**

The **follicle** is the functional unit of the ovary.

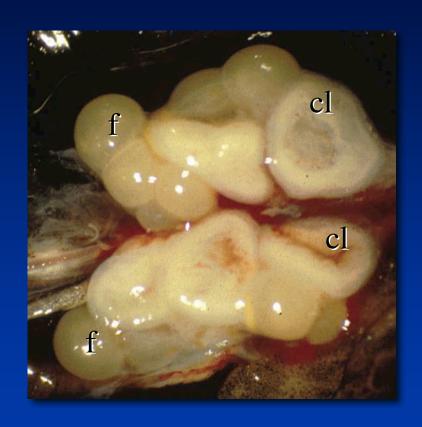
One female gamete, the oocyte is contained in each follicle.

The **granulosa cells** produce hormones (estrogen and inhibin) that provide 'status' signals to the pituitary and brain about follicle development.



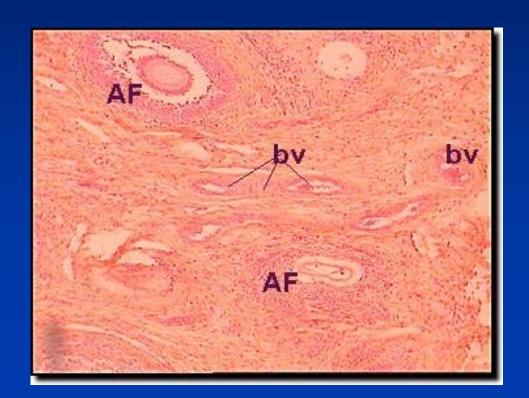
## Corpora Lutea (CL)

- remnant of ovulated follicle
  - following ovulation theca and granulosa cells remain in ovary
  - these cells luteinize and produce progesterone
  - will remain 'active' for a species specific period of time and then undergo luteolysis luteal death



#### Atresia

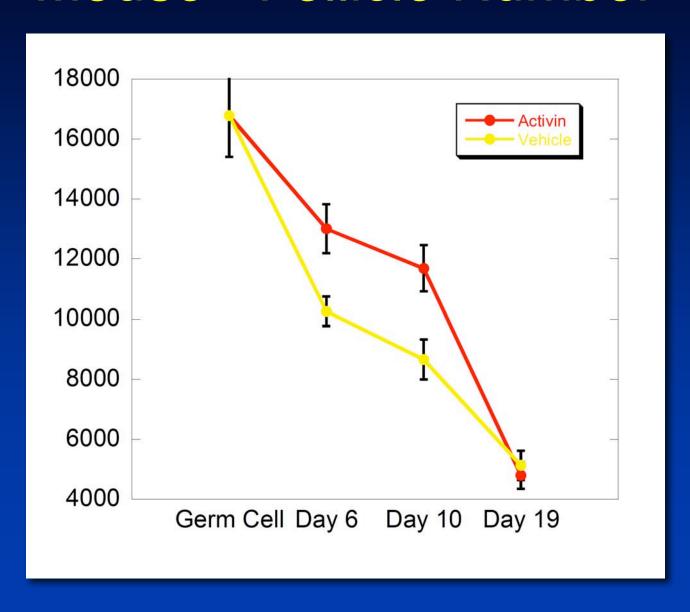
◆ Atretic follicles - follicles undergoing death = atresia



## Human Ovary

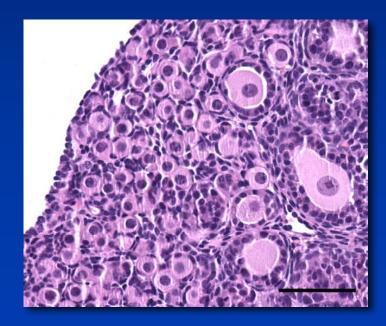
- at 5 months in utero ovary has>3,500,000 germ cells
  - they then begin to die atresia
- at birth each ovary has 400,000 germ cells
  - all she will have for rest of life
- at puberty = 83,000/ovary
- at 35 yrs = 30,000 follicles

### Mouse - Follicle Number



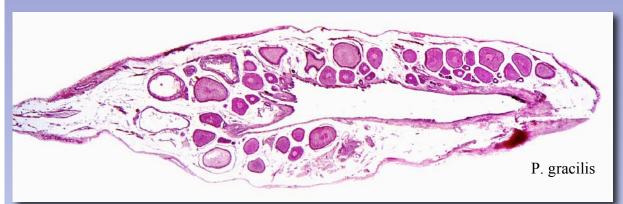
# Oogonial Nests

- ◆ Oogonial Nests
  - some species (adults) retain clumps of oogonia that undergo mitosis to generate new follicles.
  - Not found in mammals or birds





## Fish Ovary - Histology

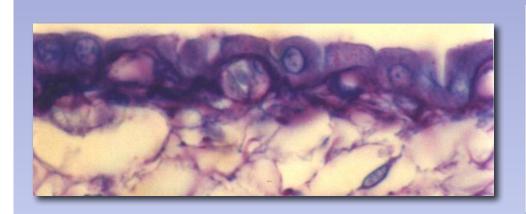




 Ovulation toward the central cavity



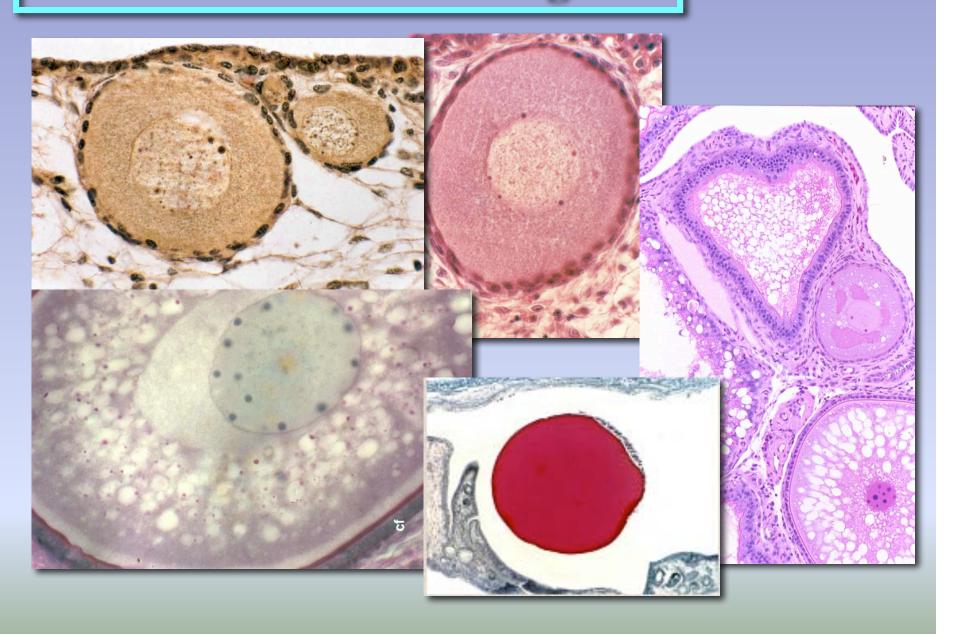
## Fish Ovary - Germinal Epithelium



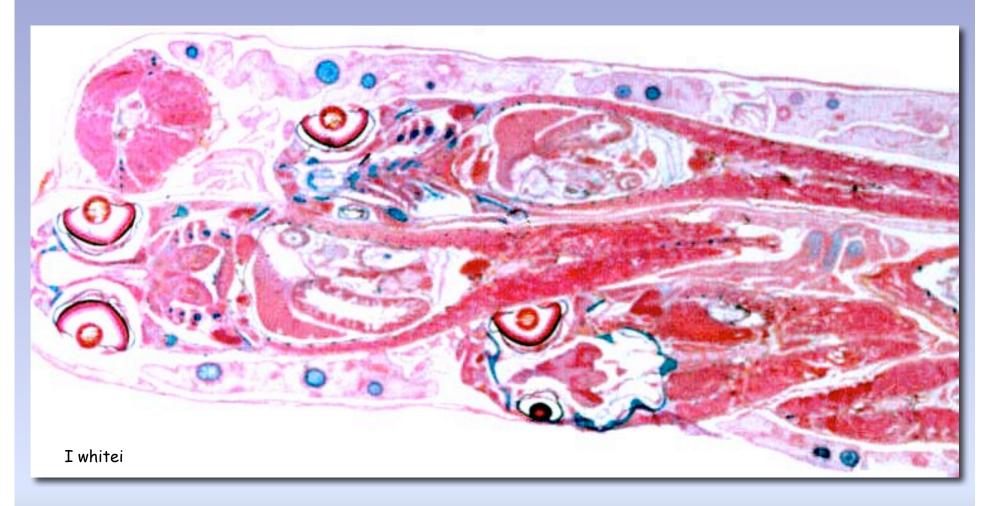


• Germ cells (oogonia) lie below surface of ovarian epithelium

## Follicles at various stages



## What is this?

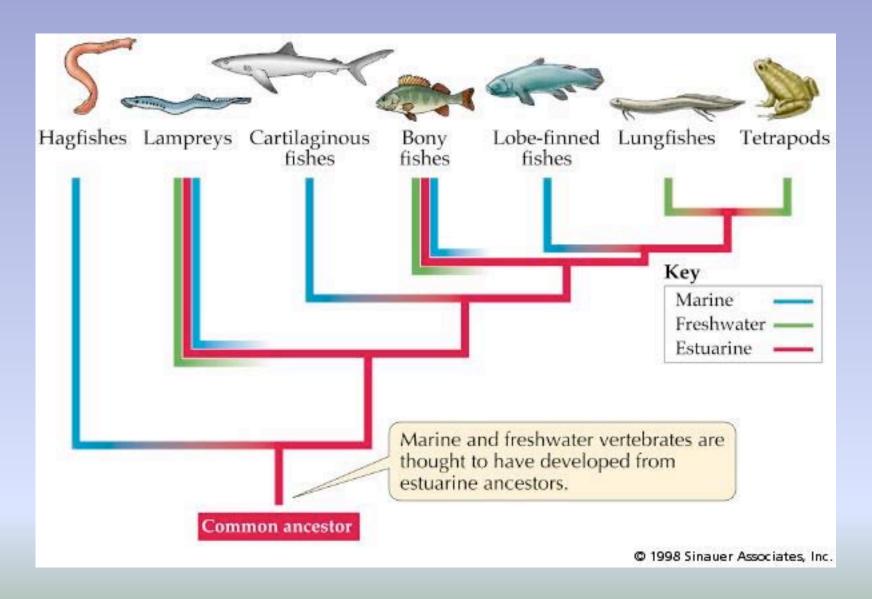


Ovary of viviparous fish with developing embryos in it!

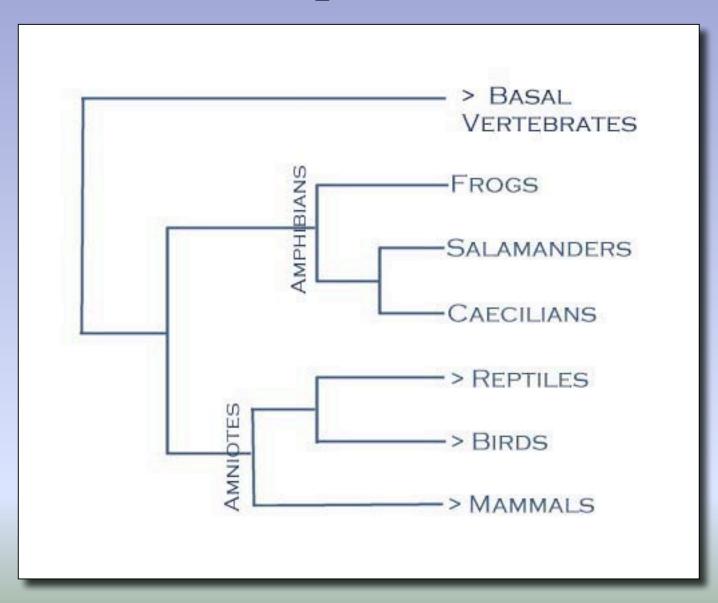
## Summary - Ovary

- Chondrichthyes- paired, fused, solid
- Osteichthyes
  - Teleosts paired, fused, hollow
  - Holostean paired, separate, solid
- Amphibians paired, separate, solid
- Reptiles paired, separate, solid (some ribbon)
- Birds paired, separate, solid
- Mammals paired, separate, solid

#### Vertebrate Tree



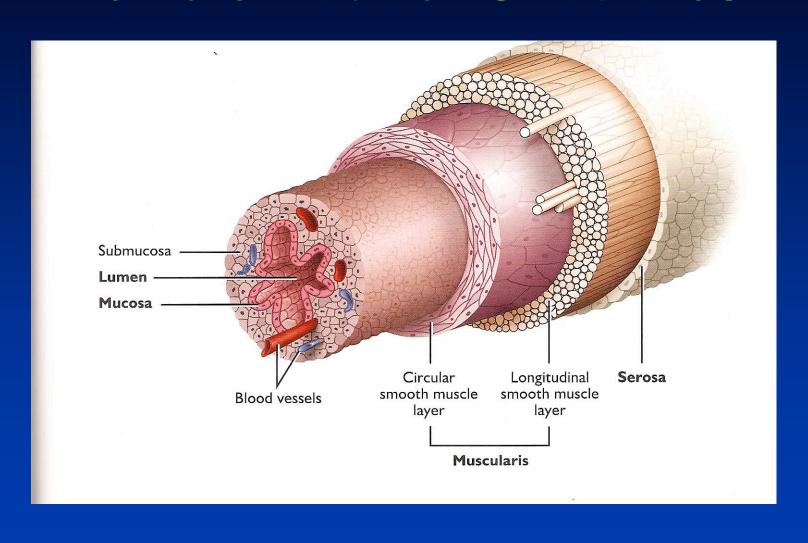
## Tetrapod Tree



## Duct system

- all derived from the embryonic Müllerian duct
- •whole duct is termed oviduct in comparative biology
  - in mammals oviduct usually refers to Fallopian tube

## Female Tubular Structures



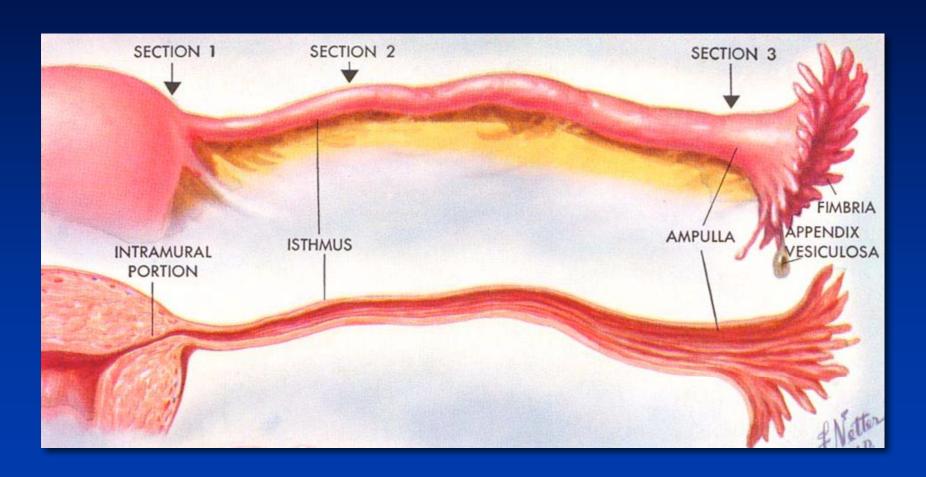
## Fallopian tube

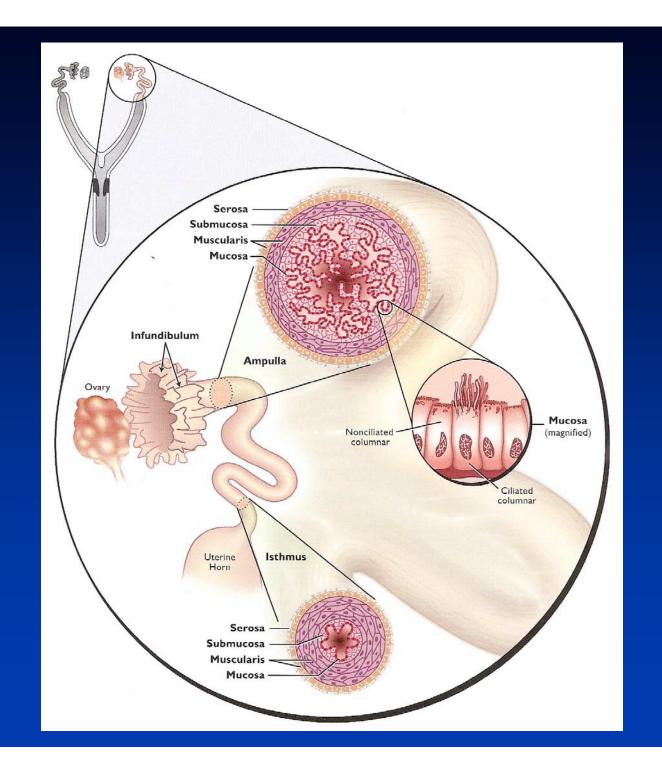
- after Fallopius
- three regions
  - infundibulum, ampulla, isthmus (& intramural region)
- infundibulum top thin walled region that receives the egg
  - opening is ostium
  - finger-like projections are fimbria
- ampulla ciliated for sperm and ova transport
  - region where egg is fertilized in many species
  - egg 'white' or albumen is secreted
- isthmus junction with uterus
  - usually aglandular
  - Intramural region region thru wall of uterus (mammals)

## Fallopian Tube

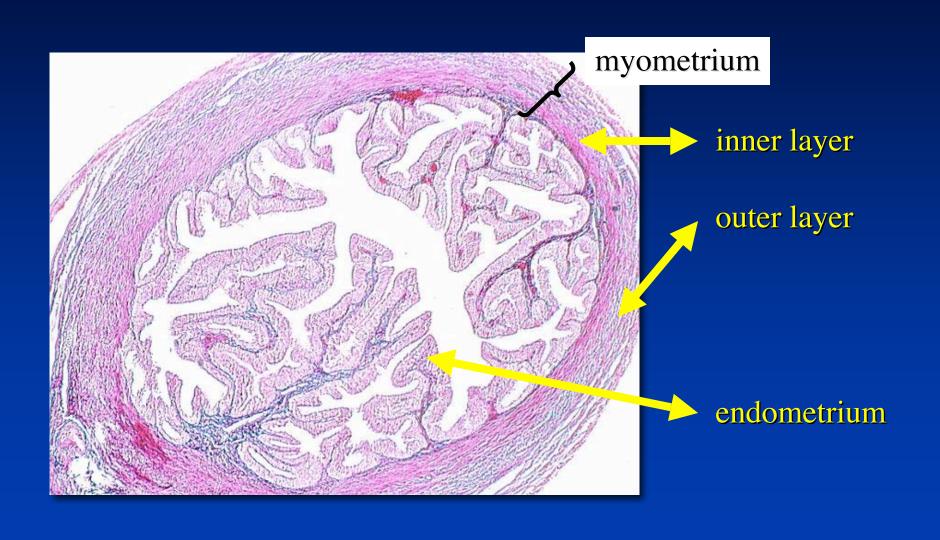
- thin walled muscular tube
- three layers
  - Serosa outer connective tissue covering
  - Myometrium thin layers of smooth muscle
    - + Inner layer circular
    - + Outer layer longitudinal
  - Endometrium layer(s) of epithelial cells
    - + Can be 'thrown into folds'

## Mammalian Fallopian tube anatomy

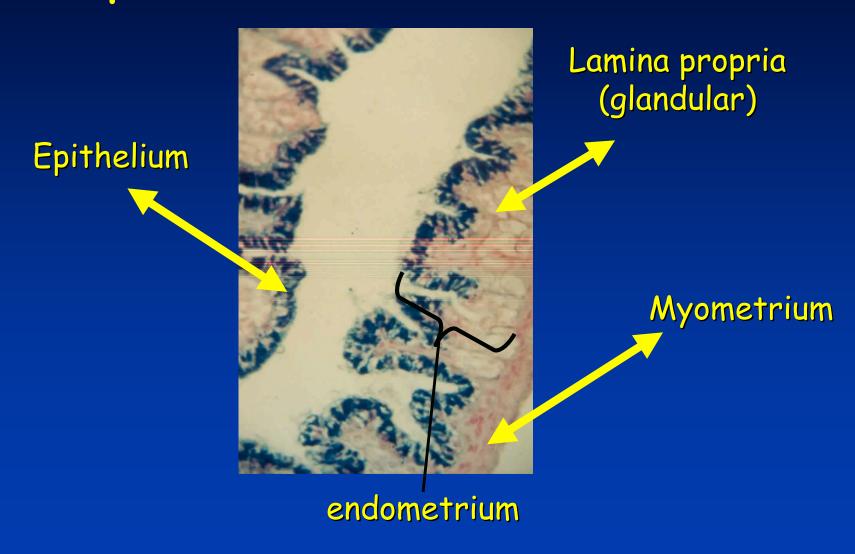




## Mammalian Tube - Isthmus



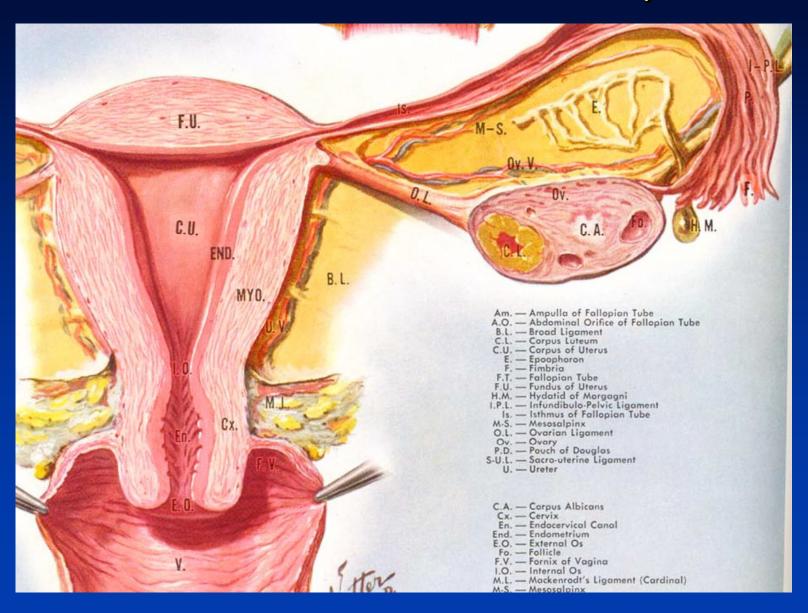
## Reptilian Tube - Isthmus

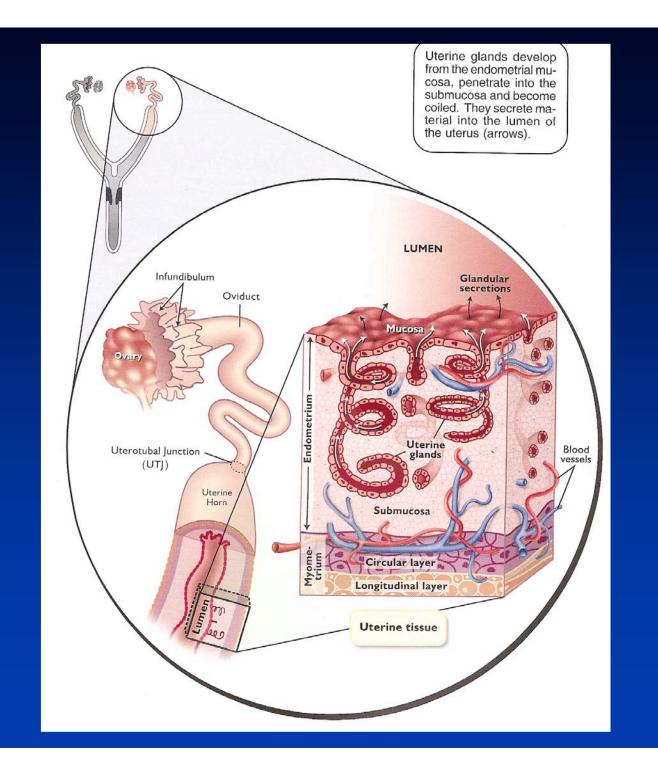


#### Uterus

- thick walled muscular tube
- three layers
  - serosa, myometrium, endometrium
- region for egg / embryo development in viviparous species
- egg shell protein and calcium secreted in oviparous species
- structure and shape variable depending on species and stage of reproductive activity

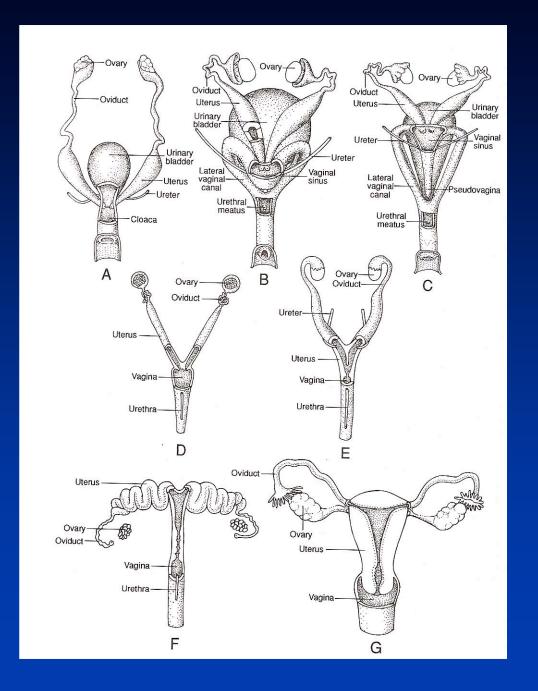
## Human Uterine Anatomy



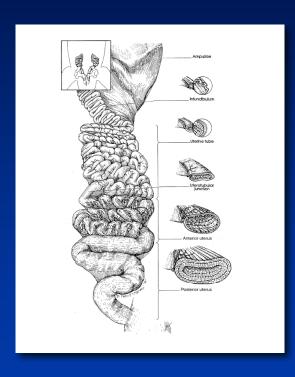


#### Mammalian Uteri

- ◆ A = Monotreme (Echidna)
- ◆ B = Marsupial (Opossum)
- ◆ C = Marsupial (Kangaroo)
- $\bullet$  D = Eutherian (Rat)
- $\bullet$  E = Eutherian (Cat)
- F = Eutherian (Pig)
- ◆ G = Eutherian (Woman)



# Comparative Duct Systems

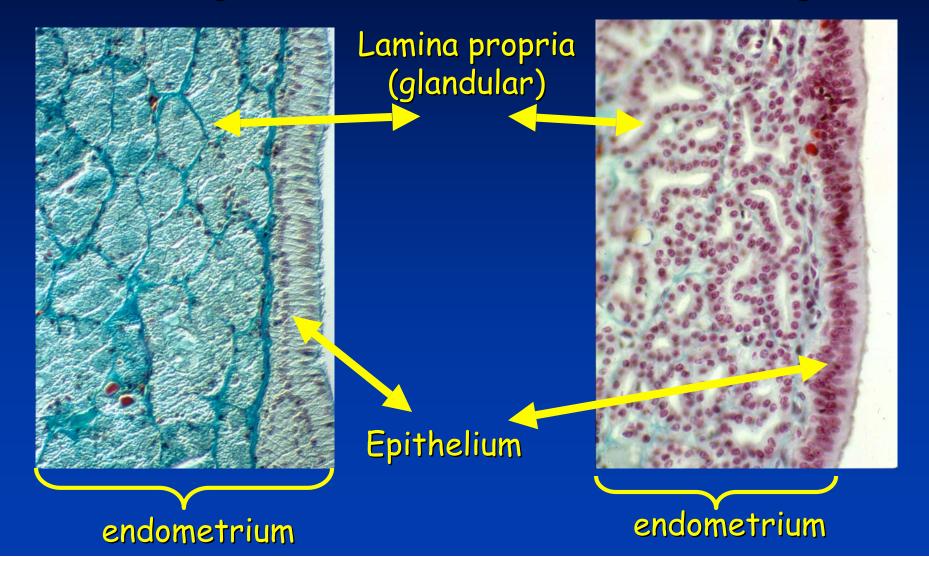


- ◆ Derived from Mullerian duct
- May have one or two 'horns'
  - Most birds have one
- Functions
  - Sperm transport
  - Egg shell/jelly production
  - Growth factor synthesis

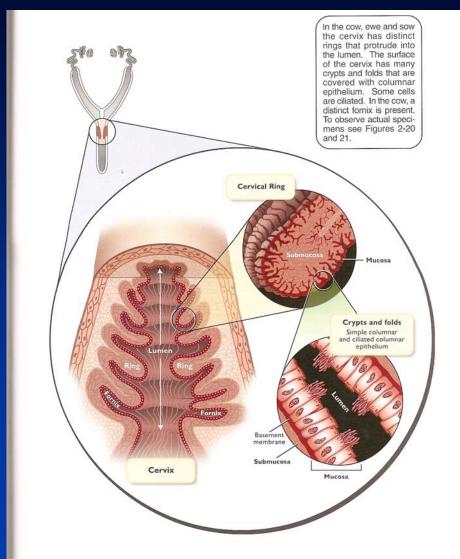
## Alligator Uterus - Isthmus

Fiber Region

Calcium Region







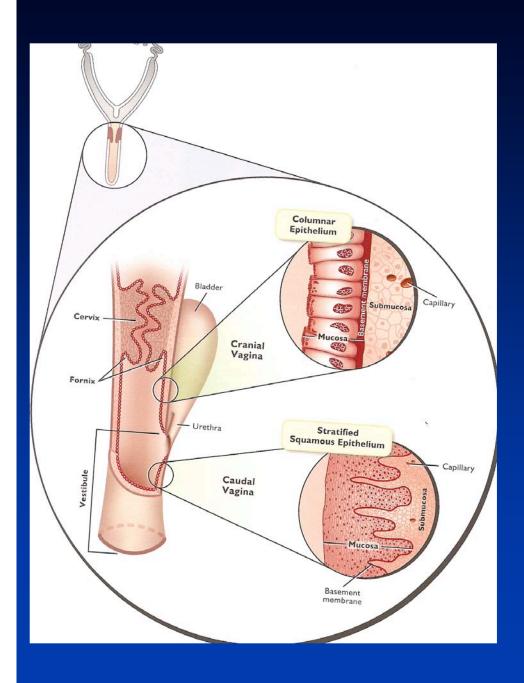
#### Cervix

- ◆ Highly muscular walls
- ♦ Barrier to sperm
- Functions to retain egg in uterus

2

## Vagina/Cloaca

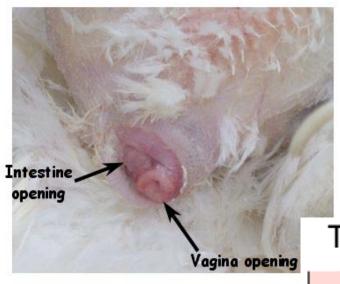
- communicates with outside and connects uterus via cervix
- receives sperm in internal fertilizers
- in some connects to cloaca common vestibule for urinary, digestive and reproductive systems



### Vagina

- ◆ Thick muscular walls
- Sperm transport and selection
- Embryologically from two origins
  - Mullerian duct
  - External genitalia

#### Cloaca of Chicken



#### Cloaca

- ◆ Common region into which the vagina and intestine open
- ◆ Latin for 'sewer'
- ◆ Common in birds, reptiles

#### **Typical Cloaca**

