Foundation Block



# Epithelial Tissue ——

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**Editing File** 



### **General Characteristics**

#### • Cells are tightly joined with little intercellular space.

(The difference between the size of the intercellular space varies for each type of epithelial cell which helps us distinguish them from each other, however in general they are all little.)

- **Rest on basement membrane** (Located deep compared to the epithelial cells)
- High power of regeneration.
- Avascular (No blood vessels, it gets nourishment via diffusion)
- Highly sensitive (rich in nerve endings that send messages to your brain when you feel sensations such as heat, cold, and pain)



### **Classification:**

There are more but only need to know these two.

### **Epithelial membranes:**

- Simple epithelium: One layer
- Stratified Epithelium: More than one layer

### **Glands (Glandular epithelium)**

#### Common Features: All are one layer

# I. Simple Epithelium



# 1) Simple Squamous

### **Features:**

- One Layer
- They are flat cells
- They have flat nuclei
- Provides smooth thin surface

### **Examples of sites:**

• Endothelium (lining of the Cardiovascular System, CVS (Heart and

blood vessels)

• Alveoli of lung (pulmonary) (They are tiny air sacs that function as basic respiratory unit)

Q1) Where is the (simple squamous, simple columnar, stratified columnar, etc) distributed? Q2) What is the localization of (simple squamous, simple columnar, stratified columnar, etc)? Ans: the examples given for each type.





# 2) Simple Cuboidal

### **Features:**

- One Layer
- Cuboidal cells (shaped like a cube)
- Central rounded nuclei

### **Examples of sites:**

• Thyroid follicles (follicle means small secretory cavity, sac or gland)





# 3) Simple Columnar

### **Features:**

- One Layer
- Columnar cells (tall cells)
- Basal oval nuclei (basal means located at the bottom)

Types: (Columnar is the only one with 2 types)

- Non-Ciliated:
  - Example of sites: Stomach and Intestines (with goblet cells)

(goblet cells look like a goblet cup and they secrete mucus)

- Ciliated:
  - Example of sites: Fallopian (uterine) tubes

In the examples given goblet cell is only present in intestine.

Simple Columnar Epithelium

This is called a

goblet

wide from the top

Narrow from

the bottom

### 4) Pseudostratified Columnar

pseudo means almost, impression that there is more than one layer of cells (stratified), when in fact this is a true simple epithelium (all the cells rest on the basement membrane).

### **Features:**

- One Layer
- Columnar cells
- Some tall and some short (Some reach the surface and others don't)
- Nuclei appears at different levels
- All rest on basement membrane

### Types:

- Non-Ciliated:
  - Example of sites: parts of male urethra
- Ciliated with Goblet cells: (Has cilia and has goblet cells)
  - Example of sites: (Respiratory epithelium) trachea and Bronchi





## 1) Stratified Squamous

#### Features:

- Surface cells are flat
- Flat nuclei

**Common Features:** 

- Multiple Layers of cells
- Intermediate cells are polygonal with central rounded nuclei
- Basal cells are columnar with
  basal oval nuclei

**Types:** (In the stratified epithelial, squamous is the only one that has more than one type)

- Keratinized: Has layer of keratin (Also called horny layer) on the surface
  - example of sites: Epidermis of skin
- Non-Keratinized: Without layer of keratin on the surface
  - example of sites: Esophagus



## 2) Transitional Epithelium

#### **Features:**

- Surface cells are large cuboidal
- **Convex free surface** (The membrane is dome-shaped)
- May be binucleated (contain two nuclei)

#### **Common Features:**

- Multiple Layers of cells
- Intermediate cells are polygonal with central rounded nuclei
- Basal cells are columnar with basal oval nuclei



In empty bladder (relaxed) the transitional epithelium appears cuboidal and thick.



In Full Viscus

In full bladder (stretched) it appears squamous and thin.

### **Examples of sites:**

- **Urinary bladder** (It's because transitional epithelium helps the urinary bladder to contract and expand.)
- Ureter

## 3) Stratified Columnar Epithelium

#### **Features:**

• Surface cells are columnar

#### **Common Features:**

- Multiple Layers of cells
- Intermediate cells are polygonal with central rounded nuclei
- Basal cells are columnar

with basal oval nuclei

#### Examples of sites:

• Parts of male urethra





### **Functions of epithelium**

**439:** hey i am just a **"PASSER"** and my name is epithelium

Protection as in epidermis of skin

Absorption as in small intestine.

Secretion as in gonads.

<u>Smooth lining</u> as in blood vessels.

Excretion as in kidney.

<u>Reproduction</u> as in gonads.



### MCQs

1- What is the localization of ciliated simple columnar epithelial?					
A- Intestine	B- Thyroid follicle	C- Heart	D- Fallopian tubes		

2- What is the shape of the basal cells in stratified squamous epithelium?					
A- Columnar	B- Circular	C- Polygonal	D- Flat		

3- Which of these features is not true about pseudostratified columnar epithelium?					
A-Multiple layers	B- Tall and short	C- Located in	D- Nuclei appears		
	cells	Trachea	in different levels		

### MCQs

4- What is the nature of secretion in the parotid gland?					
A) Serous	B- Muco-serous	C- Mucous	D- Watery		
5- Example of transitional epithelium:					
A) Urinary bladder	B) Epidermis	C) Ureter	D) A and C		

## The Team

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