بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

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Introduction to Histology and Cell Structure

Content & Objectives

In this lecture you are expected to learn:
What is histology and how it is studied?
Composition of the cell: Light microscopic (L/M) and electron microscopic (E/M) and function of each component:

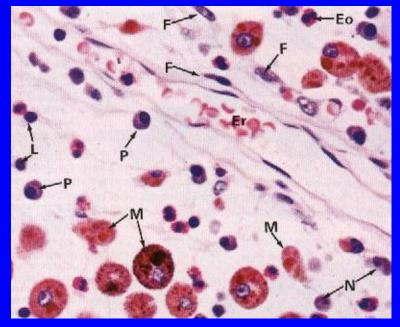
- Nucleus.
- Cytoplasm:
 - » Organelles: membranous and nonmembranous.
 - » Inclusions.

INTRODUCTION

- Histology is the microscopic study of normal tissues.
- Types of microscopes: LM & EM
- Organs are made of <u>tissues</u> and tissues are made of <u>cells</u>.
- Thin sections are cut and mounted on glass slides. Sections are stained with Hematoxylin (H) and Eosin (E).
 - Nucleus is always blue (basophilic).
 - Cytoplasm may be red (acidophilic), or blue -(basophilic).

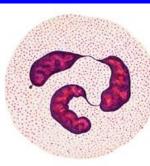
THE CELL

- It is the structural & functional unit of all living tissues.
- Cells have different shapes & sizes.
- THE CELL is made of:
 - 1- Nucleus ____
 2- Cytoplasm -





NUCLEUS (L/M) Shape of nuclei



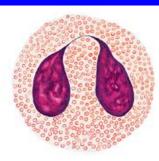
Neutrophilic granulocyte



Basophilic granulocyte







Eosinophilic granulocyte



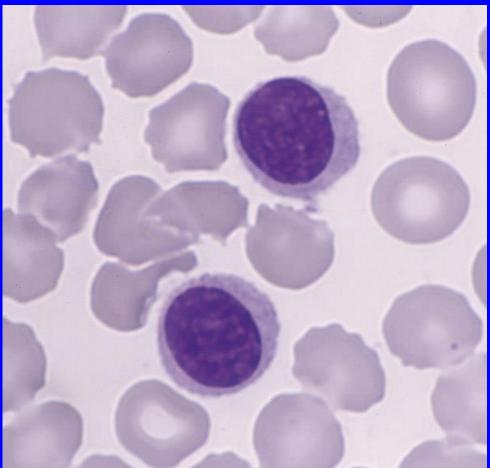
Lymphocyte



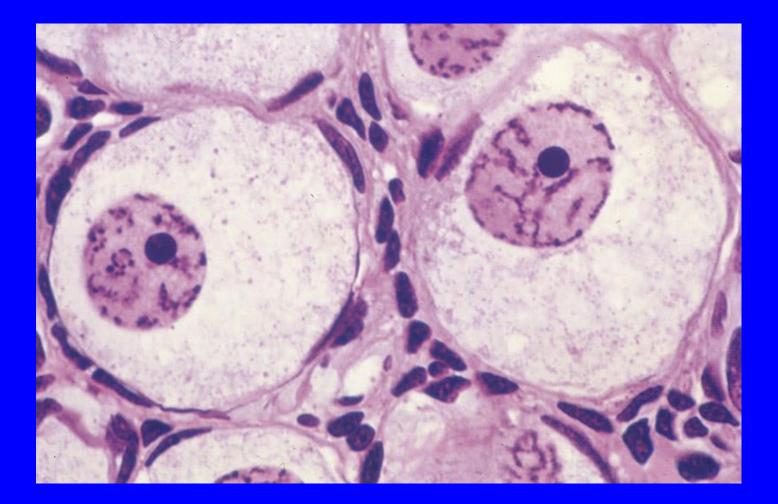
Monocyte

Appearance of nuclei (1) Dark Nucleus (Deeply-stained nucleus)

Deeply basophilic Nucleus

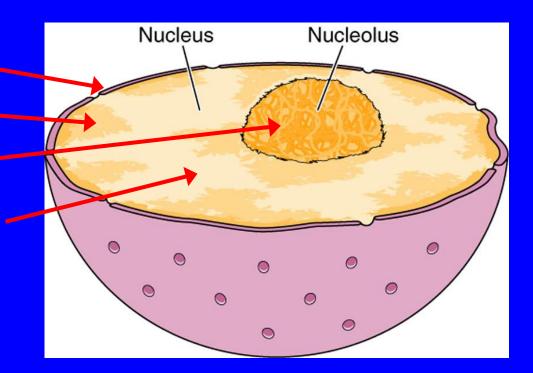


(2) Vesicular (open face) Nucleus





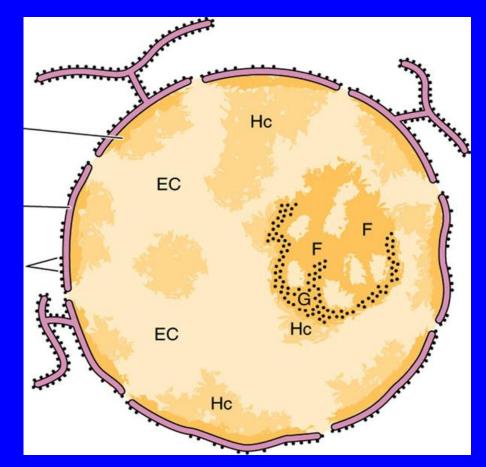
Formed of: 1. Nuclear envelope 2. Chromatin 3. Nucleolus 4. Nucleoplasm



1. Nuclear Envelope

A double membrane with many pores.
 a) Outer membrane.
 b) Inner membrane.
 c) Nuclear pores: provide

communication between nucleus and cytoplasm.



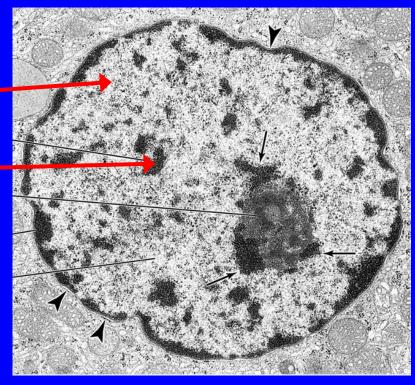
2. Chromatin

Formed of <u>DNA</u>.

- <u>2 Forms</u>:
 - <u>Euchromatin</u>: extended active chromatin (pale= electron-lucent areas).
 - <u>Heterochromatin</u>:
 condensed inactive
 chromatin (dark = electron
 dense areas).

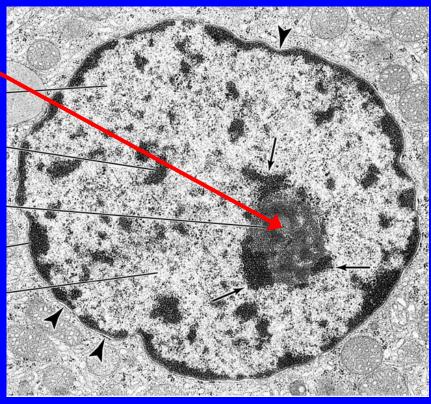
Functions:

- Carries genetic information.
- Directs protein synthesis.



3. Nucleolus

- E/M: It is mostly dark mass (electron-dense) not surrounded by a membrane.
- <u>Usually</u> one.
- L/M: It is a spherical dark basophilic mass.
- Function: formation of ribosomal RNA (rRNA), which is responsible for protein synthesis in the cytoplasm.

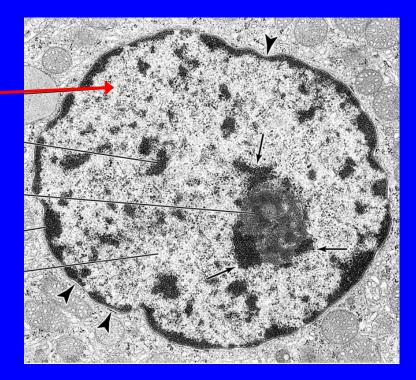


4. Nucleoplasm

It is a clear fluid medium in which all the contents of the nucleus are embedded.

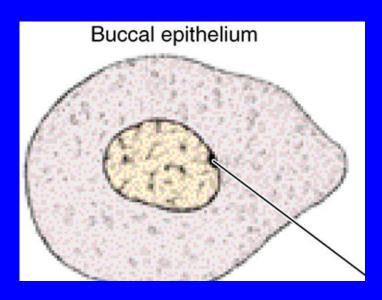
Function:

Provides a medium for movement of 3 types of RNA (ribosomal, messenger and transfer RNA) from the nucleus to the cytoplasm.



Sex Chromatin (Barr Body)

- A dark stained mass of chromatin, usually adherent to the inner aspect of the nuclear envelope of female somatic cells e.g. Buccal epithelial cells. A drumstick mass protruding from the nucleus of neutrophils. Represents one of the two X chromosomes which is inactive (condensed) in normal female. Seen in normal female cells. Absent in females with Turner's syndrome XO. Seen in males with Klinefelter's
 - Seen in males with Klinefelter's syndrome XXY.



Polymorphonuclear leukocyte (Neutrophil)

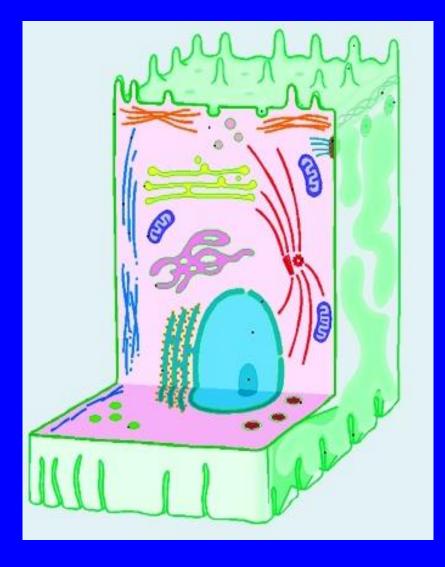
Functions of the Nucleus

- 1- It is essential for the vitality and division of the cell.
- 2- It is the site of storage of genetic information.
- 3- It is the site of formation of the three types of RNA.

CYTOPLASM

is formed of:

- ORGANELLES: They are specialized structures,
 ESSENTIAL for vital processes of the cell.
- 2- INCLUSIONS: They are not essential for vitality of cells. may be present or absent. Examples are lipids, glycogen and pigments like melanin & lipofuscin.



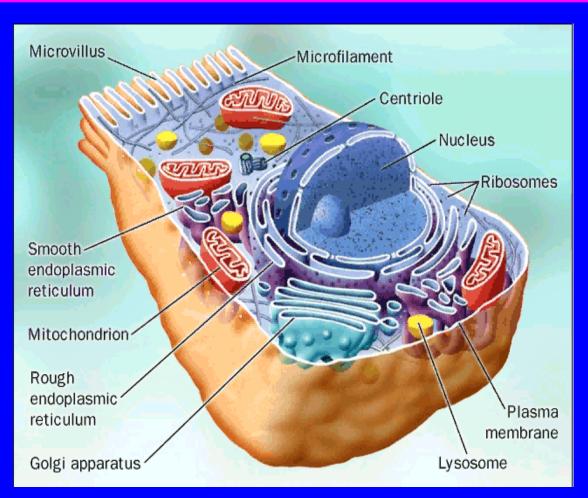
CYTOPLASMIC ORGANELLES

A. Membranous:

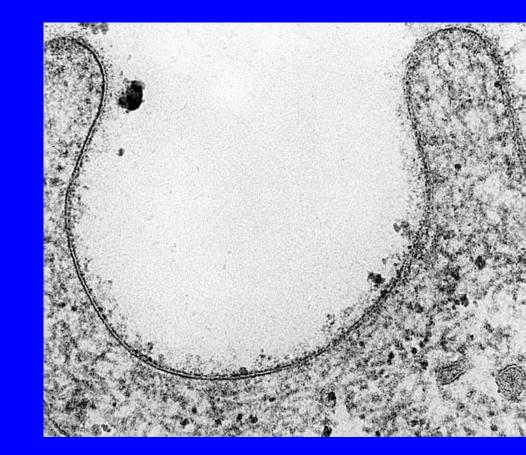
- 1. Cell membrane.
- 2. Mitochondria.
- 3. Endoplasmic reticulum (rough & smooth).
- 4. Golgi apparatus.
- 5. Lysosomes.
- 6. Secretory vesicles.

B. Non-membranous:

- 1. Ribosomes.
- 2. Centrioles.
- 3. Cilia & Flagella.
- 4. Filaments:
 - Actin, Myosin & Intermediate filaments.
- Cytoskeleton (actin, intermediate filaments & microtubules).



- A very thin membrane that surrounds the cell.
- LM: Not visible.
- EM: appears as 2 dark lines (electron dense), separated by a light one (electron-lucent). (trilaminar appearance).



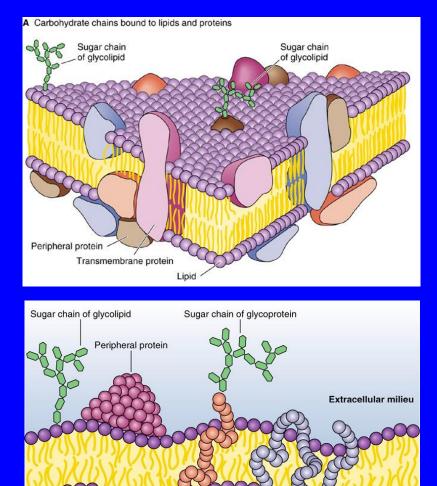
Function: selective barrier.

Cell membrane

Chemical Structure:

- 1- Phospholipid molecules: arranged in 2 layers.
- 2- Protein molecules:
 - a) <u>Peripheral protein</u> b) <u>Integral protein</u>
- 3- Carbohydrate molecules: attached to either proteins or lipids (glycoproteins and glycolipids), forming the surface or cell coat (Glycocalyx):

a) Protection of the cell.b) Cell recognition and adhesion.



Transmembrane protein

Cytosol

Transmembrane protein

Specializations:

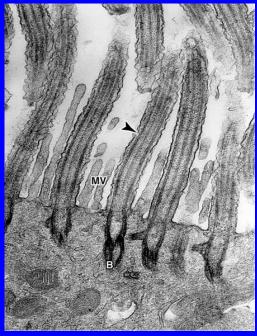
<u>Cilia</u>:

- Long motile hair-like structures surrounded by cell membrane.
- Their core is formed of microtubules.

Microvilli (Brush border):

- Cylindrical cytoplasmic projections of apical surface to increase surface area.
- Their core contains actin filaments.



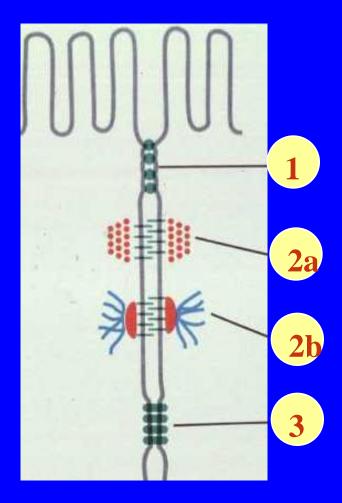


Specializations:

Intercellular Junctions:

- 1. <u>Occluding (Tight) Junction</u>: seals the intercellular space.
- 2. <u>Adherening Junction</u>: fixes adjacent cells together:
 - a. Zonula Adhering Junction.
 - b. <u>Desmosome</u> (Macula Adherening Junction).
- 3. <u>Gap junction</u>: Allow free communication between the cells.

When a combination of 1, 2a and 2b is present, this is called a junctional complex.

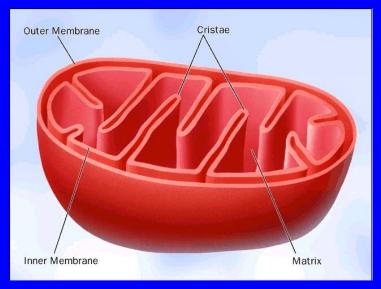


Mitochondria

- Each mitochondrion is rod-shaped.
- The wall is composed of 2 membranes.
- The outer is smooth, the inner is folded to form cristae.
- The cavity is filled with mitochondrial <u>matrix</u>, which contains enzymes. Also contains its own DNA.

Functions:

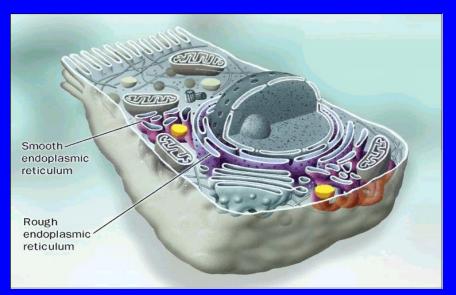
- 1- <u>Generation of ATP</u> which is the source of energy for the cell. They are called the power-house of the cell.
- 2- They can form their own proteins and undergo self replication.

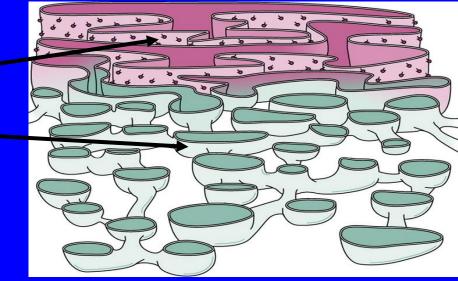




Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER)

It is a system of communicating membranous tubules, vesicles, and flattened vesicles (cisternae). There are 2 types: - Rough (rER). - Smooth (sER).



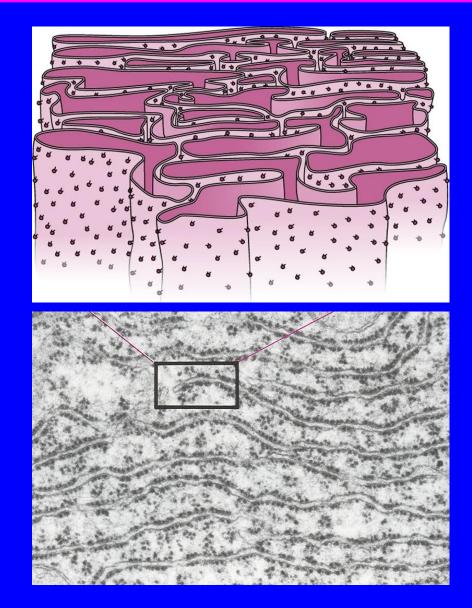


Rough Endoplasmic Reticulum

 Membranous sheets of flattened tubules & vesicles with ribosomes on the surface.

Functions:

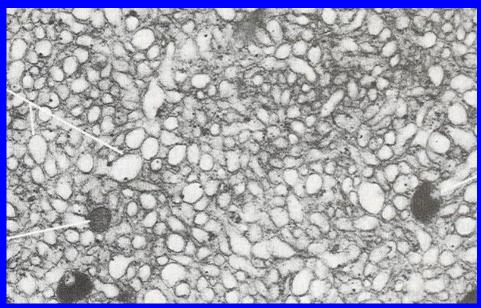
- Synthesis of proteins by ribosomes on its outer surface.
- 2. Transfer vesicles transfer the formed protein to Golgi.



Smooth Endoplasmic Reticulum

- Membranous tubules and vesicles, with no ribosomes on the surface.
- Functions:
 - 1. Synthesis of lipids & cholesterol.
 - 2. Synthesis of steroid hormones, e.g. cortisone.
 - 3. Helps muscle contraction, by acting as a calcium pump.
 - 4. Detoxification of drugs & toxins.



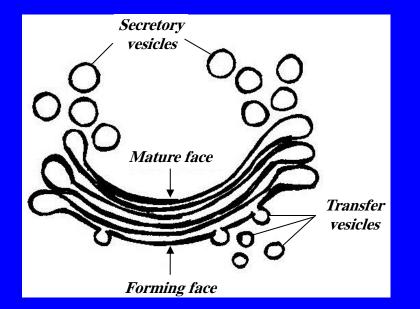


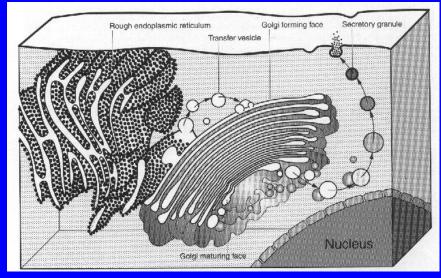
Golgi Apparatus

- The secretory apparatus of the cell.
- Consists of stacked saucershaped flattened vesicles.
- Each vesicle has two faces: <u>Convex (forming) face</u>, receives transfer vesicles.
 <u>Concave (mature) face</u>, forms secretory vesicles.

Functions:

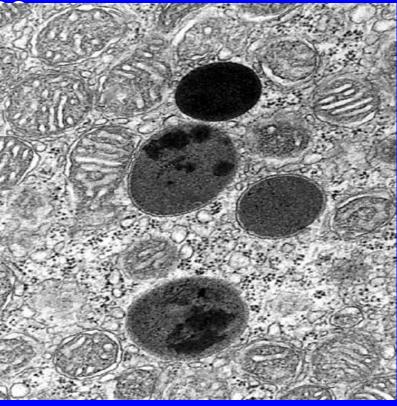
- 1. Sorting, modification & packaging of proteins.
- 2. Secretory vesicles formation.
- **3.** Formation of lysosomes.





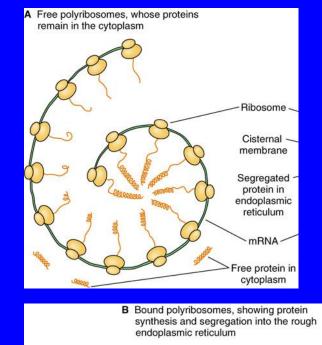


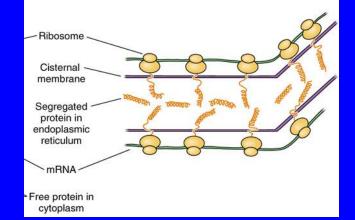
- The digestive apparatus of the cell.
- E/M: Spherical membranous vesicles.
- Contain hydrolytic enzymes.
- Originate from mature surface of the Golgi apparatus, while their hydrolytic enzymes are formed in the rough endoplasmic reticulum.
- Function: intracellular digestion of ingested material or old organelles.



Ribosomes

- LM:Basophilic cytoplasm is due to numerous ribosomes.
- Consist of ribosomal RNA (rRNA), combined with proteins.
- EM:Formed of 2 subunits.
- Free in the cytoplasm (may form polyribosomes) or attached to rER.
- Formed in the nucleolus.
- Function: Protein synthesis



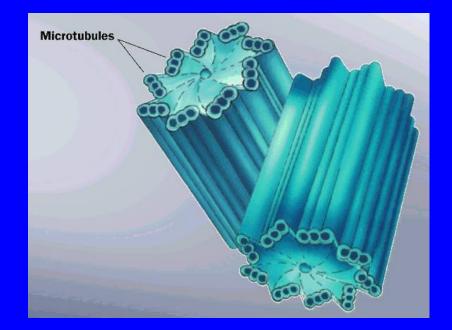


Centrioles

- 2 cylinders, perpendicular to each other.
- Wall is made of 9 triplets of microtubules, i.e. 27 microtubules.

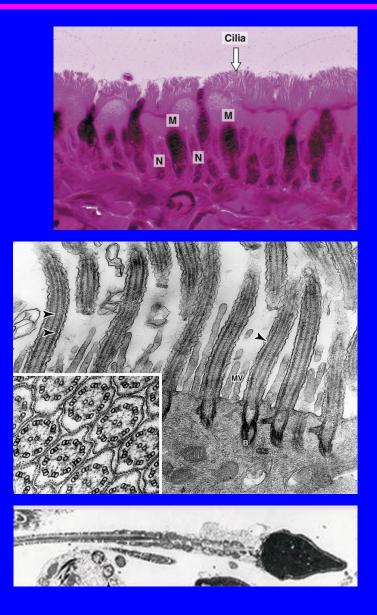
Functions:

- 1-Essential for cell division.
- 2- Formation of cilia and flagella.



Microtubules-Containing Organelles

- 1. <u>Centrioles</u>: see before.
- 2. <u>Cilia</u>:
- Hair-like striations on the free surface of some cells.
- Basal body is similar to centriole.
- Shaft is formed of 9 doublets and 2 central singlets of microtubules, i.e. 20 microtubules..
- Function: movement of particles or fluids on the free surface of the cell in one direction.
- 3. Flagella:
- Longer and larger than cilia.
- Form the tails of sperms.
- Function: important for movement of the sperms.



Clinical application

Immotile cilia syndrome:

- Disorder that causes infertility in male and chronic respiratory tract infection in both sexes.
- is caused by immobility of cilia and flagella induced by deficiency of dynein.
- Dynein protein is responsible for movements of cilia and flagella.

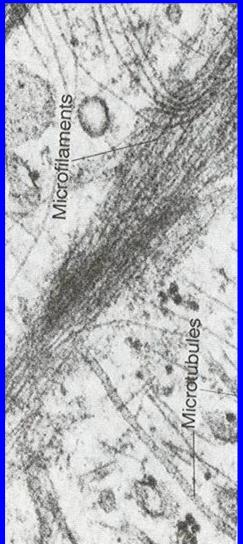


It is the structural skeleton of the cell. Functions:

- Maintains shape of the cell.
- Helps transport of material within the cell.

Consists of:

- Microfilaments (actin).
- Intermediate filaments, e.g. Keratin.
- Microtubules.



Suggested Histology References

For Theoretical:

- Color Textbook of Histology,
 L.P. Gartner and J.L. Hiatt,
 Latest Edition.
- For Practical:
 - Di Fiore's Atlas of Histology,
 V.P. Eroschenko,
 Latest Edition.