Histology Team 431



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1- Capsule: dense irregular collagenous C.T.

THYROID GLAND STROMA

- 2- **Septa** (Interlobular septa)
- 3- Reticular fibers: Thin C.T. composed mostly of reticular fibers with rich capillary plexus surrounds each thyroid follicle.

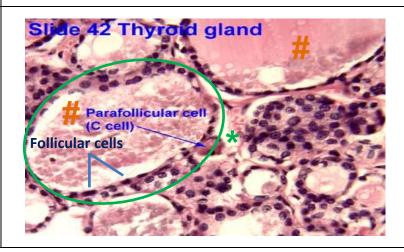
PARENCHYMA OF THYROID GLAND <u>Thyroid Follicle:</u> The structural and functional unit of the thyroid gland, each follicle is surrounded by thin basal lamina (*)

1- Simple cuboidal epithelium:

L/M:

- a- Follicular cells.
- b- Parafollicular cells.
- 2- Colloid (#): central colloid-filled lumen.





Thyroid Follicle		
	Follicular (Principal) Cells	Parafollicular (Clear) Cells (C-Cells)
L/M	 Basophilic cytoplasm Simple cuboidal cells, round nucleus with prominent nucleoli. Apical surface reaches the lumen of the thyroid follicle. 	 Pale-stained cells (Clear Cells), have round nucleus Do not reach the lumen of the follicle (Are found singly or in clusters in between the follicular cells) Are larger than follicular cells (2-3 times). Only 0.1% of the epithelial cells (fewer)
E/M	 Mitochondria RER Supranuclear Golgi Complex (to form thyroglobulin) Numerous dispersed small vesicles: contain newly formed thyroglobulin. Numerous apically-located lysosomes. Numerous apical short microvilli (to increase surface area) 	 Mitochondria. RER (moderate). Well-developed Golgi.
Function	Synthesis of thyroid hormones (T4 & T3) These endocrine cells are unique because they store their hormones in the colloid lumen, not in the cytoplasm	Secrete Calcitonin

QUESTIONS

1-What is true regarding the follicular cells?

- A- Basophilic cytoplasm
- **B- Pale-Stained**
- C- Acidophilic cytoplasm

2-Which ONE of the following is the function of the parafollicular cells?

- A- Synthesis of the thyroid hormones.
- **B- Secrete calcitonin**
- **C-** Secrete growth hormone