

Development of the male reproductive organs

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Reproductive block-Embryology-Lecture 3

Editing file



Objectives

At the end of the lecture, students should be able to:

- List the causes of differentiation of genitalia into the male type.
- Describe the origin of each part of the male internal & external genitalia.
- List the causes & describe the events of descent of testis.
- List the common anomalies of male genital system & describe the causes of each of them.

Color guide : Only in boys slides in **Green** Only in girls slides in **Purple** important in **Red** Notes in **Grey**



Male genital system

1 Gonad : • Testis.

Genital Ducts:

2

- 1. Epididymis.
- 2. Vas deferens.
- 3. Urethra.



Genital Glands:

- 1. Seminale vesicle.
- 2. Prostate.
- 3. Bulbourethral Glands.





3

Development of Gonads

Gonads are derived from 3 sources:

- 1) Primordial germ cells
- 2) Underlying mesenchyme
- 3)Mesothelium (epithelium lining the coelomic cavity)
- During 5th week gonadal development occurs.
- Until 7th week gonads are similar in both sexes and called INDIFFERENT GONADS





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Development of Testis

The genetic sex determined at fertilization and the presence of Y chromosome representante the male phenotype and it has a testis- determining factor (TDF) that differentiates primitive gonad into testis and also differentiates germ cell

At 7th week

- 1. Regression of cortex & differentiation of medulla (of primitive gonad) into testis.
- 2. The characteristic feature is the development of a thick fibrous capsule (tunica albuginea) that separates the enlarging testis from mesonephros.
- 3. Gonadal cords condense & extend into all the medulla (Medullary cords) to form Seminiferous cords.
- 4. Seminiferous cords develop into + Seminiferous tubules.
- 5. Seminiferous tubules remain solid until puberty and Its walls are composed of:
 - A) Sertoli cells
- derived from surface epithelium of testis (mesothelial cells)
- Spermatogonia 🔶 derived from primordial germ cells (endodermal in origin).

At 8th week

B)

Mesenchyme surrounding seminiferous cords mesothelial cells gives rise to interstitial cells (of Leydig) secreting testosterone.





Development of internal genitalia

1) Ducts

Cell	Leydig cells	Sertoli cells		
Secretes	Testosterone (8th week)	Müllerian inhibiting substance (Anti- Müllerian hormone) (7th week)		
Function	 Masculine differentiation of mesonephric duct epididymis, vas deferens, seminal glands, ejaculatory duct. Masculine differentiation of external genitalia 	Suppression of development of paramesonephric (Müllerian) duct		

2) Glands

Glands	
Seminal	mesodermal outgrowth from mesonephric duct
Prostate	endodermal outgrowth from prostatic urethra.
Bulbourethral	endodermal outgrowth from spongy urethra



Stroma & Smooth muscles in prostate and bulbourethral glands are derived from surrounding **mesenchyme**.



Capillary

Summary from male slides



Mesodermal structures	Endodermal structures		
Testis: from medulla of genital ridge.	Spermatogonia: from primordial germ cells of yolk sac.		
Seminiferous tubules: from medullary cords of ridge.	Prostate gland: from prostatic urethra.		
Sertoli cells: from mesothelial cells of ridge.	Bulbourethral gland: from spongy urethra.		
Leydig cells: from mesenchyme surrounding the tubules.			
Epididymis, vas deferens, seminal gland, ejaculatory duct: from mesonephric duct.			

Development of external genitalia

Indifferent Stage

(from 4th to 7th week)

Genital tubercle

produced from mesenchyme at the cranial end of cloacal membrane. It elongates to form a primordial phallus

Urogenital folds	Labioscrotal swellings	
develop on each side of cloacal membrane	develop on each side of urogenital folds	

Different Stage

- Stimulated by testosterone
- Begins at 9th week
- Complete differentiation at 12th week:
- 1. The phallus enlarges to form the penis
- 2. The urogenital folds fuse to form the spongy (penile) urethra
- 3. The labioscrotal folds (swellings) fuse to form the scrotum



Descent of testis

- **Gubernaculum**: a mesenchymal band extending from inferior pole of gonad to labioscrotal fold.
- Inguinal canal: a pathway formed by gubernaculum through layers of anterior abdominal wall.
- **Processus vaginalis**: a peritoneal fold passing through inguinal canal before testis, to facilitate its descent
- Descent of testis occurs in 2 steps:

Types	1.Internal	2.External		
Definition	Descent of testis from posterior abdominal wall to deep inguinal ring.	Descent of testis from deep inguinal ring, through inguinal canal, to scrotum		
Time	During 12th week	Begins in 7th month and takes 2 to 3 days		
Causes	a relative movement resulting from elongation of cranial part of abdomen away from its caudal part (future pelvic Inguinal canal cavity).	 Controlled by androgens. Guided by gubernaculum. Facilitated by processus vaginalis. Helped by increased intra-abdominal pressure resulting from growth of abdominal viscera. 		









External Descent of Testis

- 1. More than 97% of full-term newborn males have both testes in scrotum.
- 2. During first 3 months after birth, most undescended testes descend into scrotum.
- 3. No spontaneous descent occurs after the age of 1 year.

Complete descent of testis is associated by:

3

Degeneration of gubernaculum.

Obliteration of stalk of processus vaginalis.

Persistence of part of processus vaginalis surrounding the testis in the scrotum to form "tunica vaginalis"



Congenital Deformities

Cryptorchidism

- **Incidence:** is up to 30% of premature & 3-4% of full term males
- **Cause:** deficiency of androgens.
- **Common sites:** Cryptorchid testes may be in the abdominal cavity or anywhere along the usual path of descent of the testis, but they are usually in the inguinal canal. look to figure.

• Complications:

Sterility, if bilateral.
 Testicular cancer (20-44%).

Accumulation of fluid in spermatic cord due to a non-obliterated portion of stalk of processus vaginalis

Hydrocel

Obliterated portion

nica vaginali

Hydrocele of spermatic

cord

Congenital inguinal hernia

Hydrocele of testis

-Definition: Herniation of a loop of intestine through a nonobliterated processus vaginalis . -Types: A: incomplete B: complete (inscrotum)

-**Cause:** The processus vaginalis does not obliterate & remains in open communication with the peritoneal cavity



Accumulation of fluid in tunica vaginalis (in scrotum) due to non-obliteration of the whole stalk of Processus vaginalis



QUIZ

- Q1: which one of the following is considered indifferent gond?
- A. Gonadal ridge
- **B.** Gonadal cord
- C. Primordial germ cells
- D. All of above
- Q2: interstitial cells (of Leydig) secreting testosterone. happen...?
- A. During 5th week
- B. During 6th week
- C. At 7th week
- D. By 8th week
- Q3: Mesodermal outgrowth from spongy urethra is:
- A. Seminal gland
- **B.** Prostate gland
- C. Bulbourethral gland
- D. Non of above
- Q4: Complete descent of testis is associated by:
- A. Formation of gubernaculum
- B. Obliteration of stalk of processus vaginalis
- C. Degradation of tunica vaginalis
- D. All of above

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8
D	D	D	В	В	D	A	С

Q5: Deficiency of androgens cause? A. Inguinal hernia **B.** Cryptorchidism C. Hydrocele of spermatic cord **D. Hydrocele Of Testis Q6:** Accumulation of fluid in tunica vaginalis cause: A. Inguinal hernia **B.** Cryptorchidism C. Hydrocele of spermatic cord **D. Hydrocele Of Testis Q7:** The processus vaginalis remains in open communication with the peritoneal cavity cause: A. Inguinal hernia **B.** Cryptorchidism C. Hydrocele of spermatic cord **D. Hydrocele Of Testis Q8:** Accumulation of fluid in spermatic cord cause: A. Inguinal hernia **B.** Cryptorchidism C. Hydrocele of spermatic cord **D. Hydrocele Of Testis**

Members board

Team leaders

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