UGS Lecture – 11)2021(

Development of the Ovaries

- In female with an XX sex chromosome, the gonadal cords extend into medulla and then dissociate into irregular cell clusters containing groups of primitive germ cells.
- Latter, cell clusters degenerate and disappear, and are replaced by a vascular stroma that forms ovarian medulla.
- The surface epithelium of female gonad, unlike that of male, continues to proliferate.

- In 7th W it gives rise to a 2nd generation of cords, cortical cords, which penetrate underlying mesenchyme but remain close to surface.
- In 4th Mon, these cords split into isolated cell clusters called primordial follicles.
- Each follicle consists of an oogonium derived from primordial germ cells, surrounded by a single layer of follicular cells derived from surface epithelium.
- Active mitosis of oogonia give rise to thousands primordial follicles.

- However, many oogonia degenerate before birth, and the two million or so, remain enlarge to become primary oocytes before birth.
- No oogonia form postnatally.
- After birth the surface epithelium of ovary flattens to a single layer of cells that is continuous with mesothelium of peritoneum at hilum.
- Epithelium becomes separated from the follicles in the cortex by a thin fibrous capsule, the tunica albuginea.



Development of the Ovaries



Development of the Ovaries

Development of Male Genital Ducts

- The fetal testes produce testosterone and MIS.
- Testosterone stimulates mesonephric ducts to form male genital ducts.
- MIS results in degeneration of paramesonephric ducts.
- As mesonephros degenerates, some mesonephric tubules persist and are transformed into efferent ductules.

- These ductules open into cranial part of mesonephric duct.
- The cranial part of each mesonephric ducts elongate and become highly convoluted, forming epididymis.
- From tail of epididymis to outbudding of seminal vesicle, the mesonephric ducts obtain a thick muscular coat and form the ductus (vas) deferens.
- The region of duct beyond seminal vesicles forms ejaculatory duct.

The seminal vesicles are a lateral outgrowth from caudal end of each mesonephric duct.



Development of the Male Genital ducts

Development of the Prostate and Bulbourethral Glands

- Prostate develop as multiple endodermal outgrowths from prostatic part of urethra into surrounding mesenchyme.
- The glandular epithelium differentiates from this endoderm.
- The connective tissue and muscle differentiate from adjacent mesenchyme.
- Bulbourethral glands are two pea-sized glands developed as two endodermal outgrowths fro3 penile part of urethra.

Connective tissue differentiates from adjacent mesenchyme.



Development of the Male Genital Glands

Development of Female Genital Ducts

- In female, mesonephric ducts regress because of lack of testosterone.
- The paramesonephric ducts develop because of the absence of MIS and form most of female genital duct.
- The uterine tubes develop from unfused cranial parts of paramesonephric ducts.
- The caudal, fused portions of these ducts form uterovaginal primordium, which gives rise to uterus and the superior portion of vagina.

The endometrial stroma and myometrium are derived from surrounding mesenchyme.



- Fusion of paramesonephric ducts also brings together two peritoneal folds that form right and left broad ligament and two peritoneal compartments, rectouterine pouch and vesicouterine pouch.
- The vaginal lining epithelium is derived from endoderm of urogenital sinus, whereas fibromuscular wall of vagina develops from surrounding mesenchyme.
- The tip of uterovaginal primordium reaches urogenital sinus, and shortly after they make contact, two solid endodermal evaginations, sinovaginal bulbs, grow out from pelvic part of urogenital sinus.

They proliferate and fused to form vaginal plate.









- The central cells of this plate break down, forming lumen of vagina.
- The peripheral cells of the plate form vaginal lining epithelium.
- By 5th Mon the vaginal outgrowth is entirely canalized.
- The vaginal fornices are of paramesonephric origin.
- Thus the vagina has a dual origin, with upper portion derived from uterovaginal primordium and lower portion derived from urogenital sinus.

- The lumen of vagina remains separated from cavity of urogenital sinus by a thin tissue plate or membrane called hymen, which is formed by invagination of posterior wall of urogenital sinus.
- The hymen consists of epithelial lining of the sinus and a thin layer of vaginal cells.
- It usually develops a small opening during perinatal life.

Development of Genital Glands

- Buds grow from urethra into surrounding mesenchyme, forming mucus-secreting urethral and paraurethral glands.
- Outgrowths from urogenital sinus form bilateral great vestibular (Bartholin) glands.
- These tubuloalveolar glands also secrete mucous.





Indifferent Stage of Development of External Genitalia

 In 3rd W of development, mesenchyme cells originating in region of primitive streak migrate around cloacal membrane to form a pair of slightly elevated cloacal folds.

- Cranial to cloacal membrane, the folds unite to form genital tubercle.
- Caudally the folds are subdivided into urethral (urogenital) folds anteriorly and anal folds posteriorly.

- In the meantime, another pair of elevations, the genital (labioscrotal) swellings, develops on each side of urethral folds.
- Until 7th W, external sexual organs remain undifferentiated.
- Distinguishing sexual characteristics begin to appear during 9th W, but however, external genitalia are not fully differentiated until 12th W.
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Indifferent Stage of development of External

Development of Male External Genitalia

- Development of external genitalia in male is under influence of testosterone and is characterized by rapid enlargement and elongation of genital tubercle, to become penis, and is now called phallus.
- During this elongation phallus pulls urethral folds forward so that they form lateral walls of urethral groove.
- This groove extends on ventral aspect of elongated phallus, but does not reach most distal part, glans penis.
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- The epithelial lining of the groove, which is endodermal in origin, forms urethral plate.
- At end of 3rd Mon, the two urethral folds fuse with each other and close over urethral plate to form penile urethra.
- This canal does not extend to tip of phallus (glans penis).
- The most distal portion of urethra is formed during the 4th Mon, when ectodermal cells from tip of glans penetrate inward to form a solid ectodermal cord, which meets penile urethra.

- During 12th W, a circular ingrowth of ectoderm occurs at periphery of glans penis.
- When this ingrowth breaks down, it forms prepuce.
- The corpora cavernosa and corpus spongiosum develop from mesenchyme in phallus.
- The genital swelling, known in male as scrotal swellings, arise in inguinal region.
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- With further development they move caudally toward each other and fuse to form scrotum.
- The line of fusion of these scrotal swellings is clearly visible as scrotal raphe.
- This raphe indicates position of scrotal septum, which divides scrotum into two halve.
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Development of Male External Genitalia



Development of Male External Genitalia

Development of Female External Genitalia

- Factors controlling development of external genitalia of female are not clear, but estrogens play a role.
- Genital tubercle elongates only slightly and forms clitoris.
- The clitoris develops in same way as penis, but urethral folds do not fuse and form labia minora.
- The urethral groove remains open and forms vestibule.

 The genital (labial) swelling enlarged and fuse anteriorly to form anterior labial commissure and mons pubis, and posteriorly to form posterior labial commissure.

- Between anterior and posterior commissures, labial swellings remain unfused and form two large folds of skin called labia majora.
- Although genital tubercle does not elongate extensively in female, it is larger than in male during early stages of development.

 In fact, using tubercle length as a criterion (as monitored by ultrasound) has resulted in mistakes in identification of sexes during 3rd & 4th Mon of gestation.



Development of Female External Genitalia



Development of Female External Genitalia