



Male & Female Reproductive System

Similarities / Differences

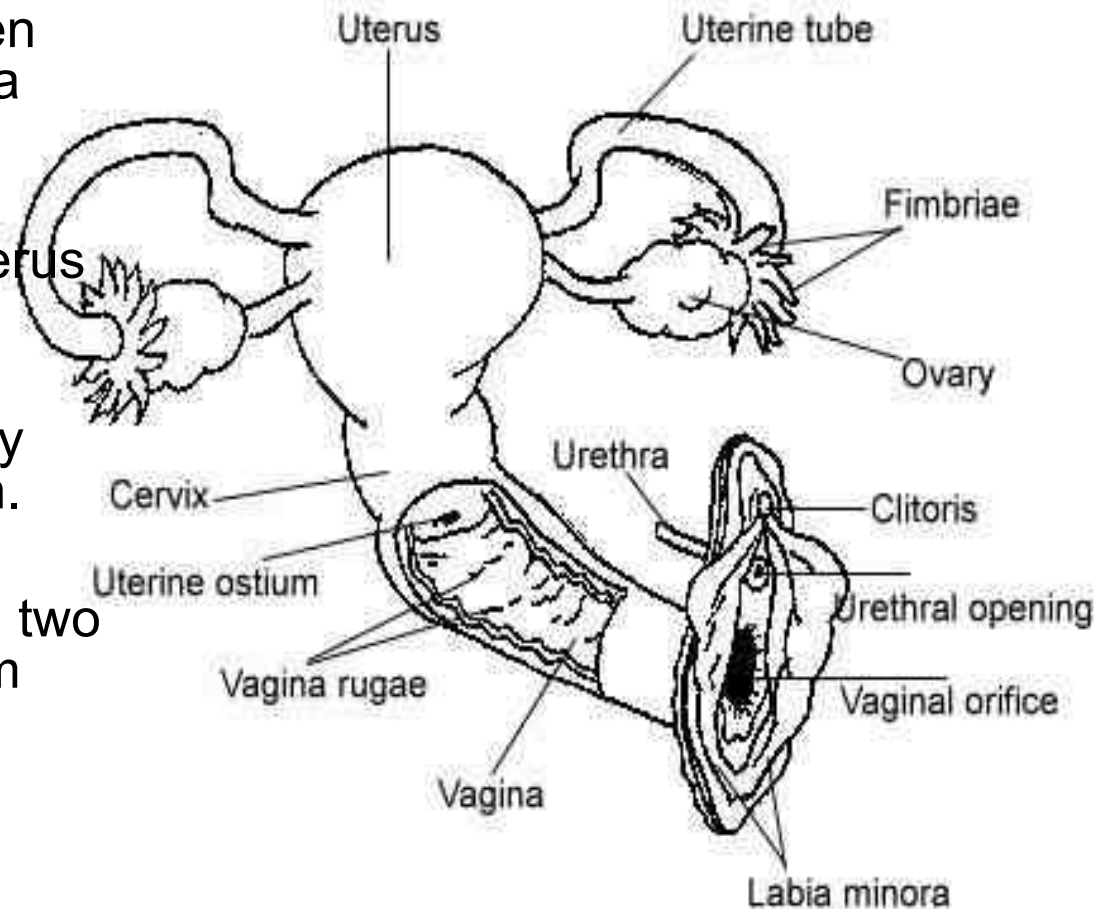
- Develop very similar structures of sex glands
- Two genital tubes
- Manufacture the hormones of the other sex.
- Hormones of one sex are often used to treat illness in the other sex.
- Both sexes have reproductive organs call GENITALS or GENITALIA, designed for the purpose of intercourse and conception.
- Only the female has organs for pregnancy and childbirth.

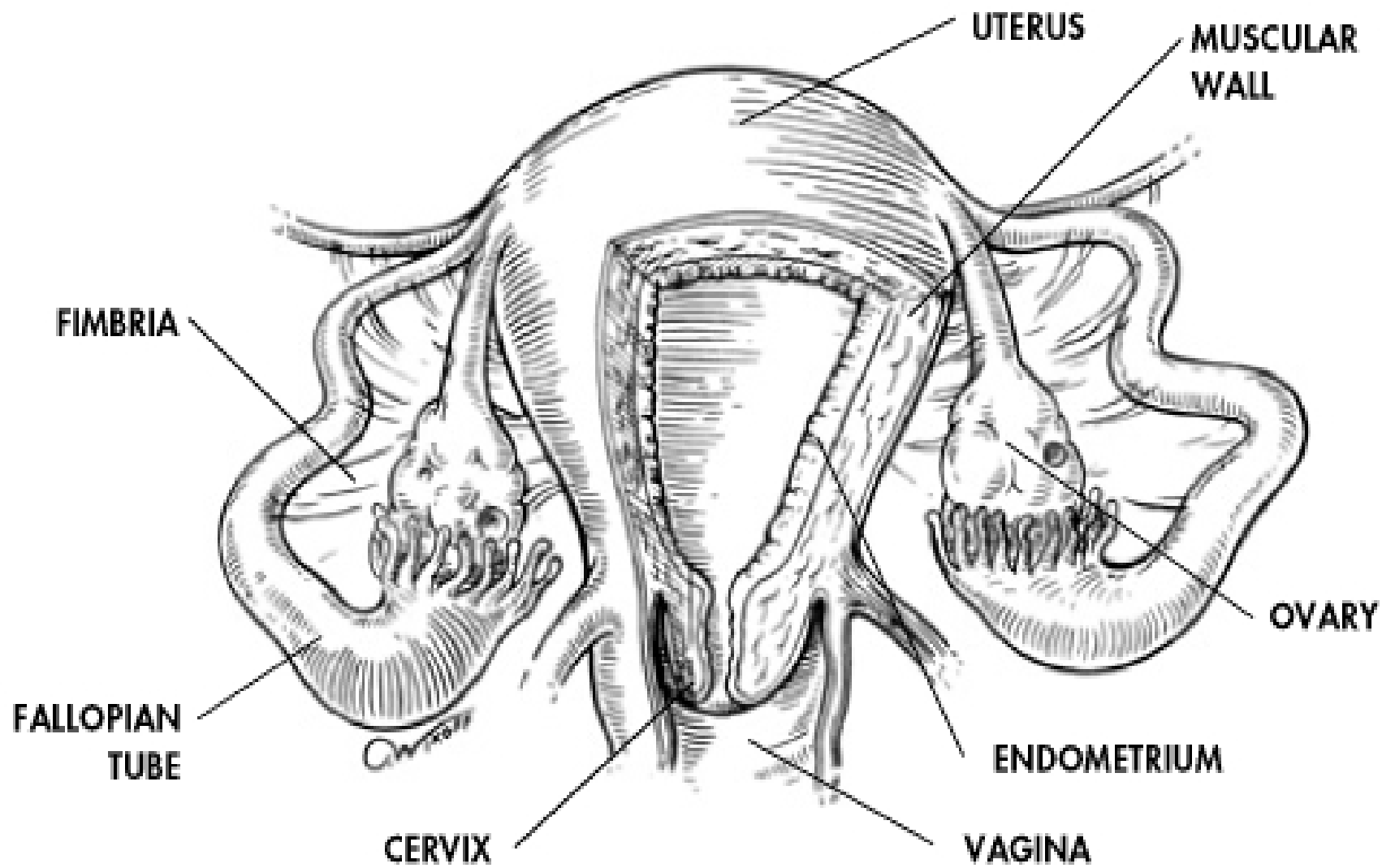
External Female Anatomy

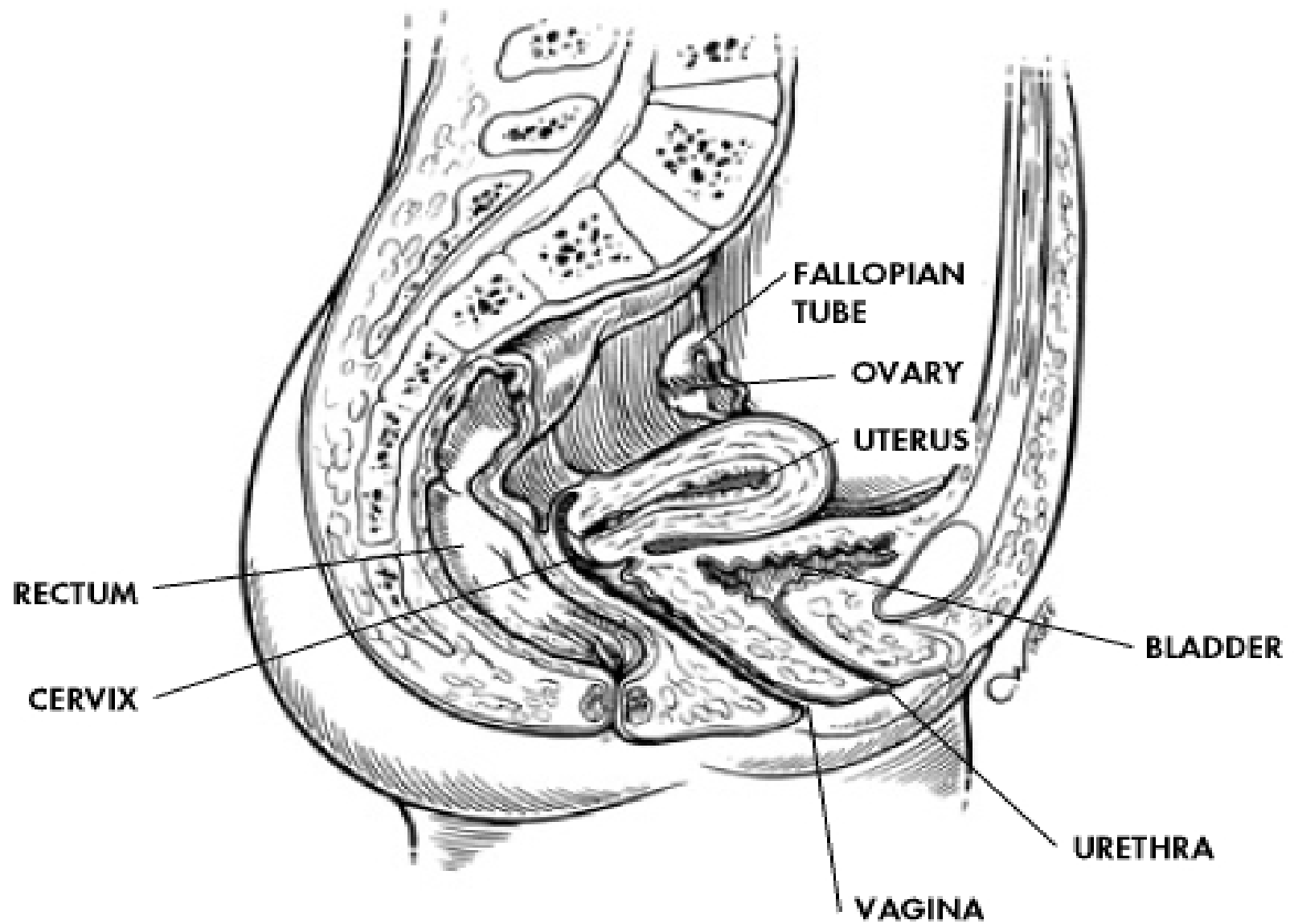
- **Vulva:** woman's external genital area.
- **Pudendum or Pubes:** the area in the body where the sex organs are located.
- **Mons Pubis:** a mound of fatty tissue which covers the pubic bone.
- **Labia Majora:** (large lips) two folds of skin running from the mons pubis to below the vaginal opening
- **Labia Minora:** two smaller folds of tissue which lie just within the labia majora.
- **Clitoris:** a small, pea-shaped bump at the front of the labia that contains erectile tissue (counter part to male penis.)
- **Urethra:** below the clitoris, the opening to the bladder.

Internal Organs

- **Hymen:** a narrow fold of tissue encircling the entrance to the vagina.
- **Vagina:** passageway between the uterus and the outside of a woman's body.
- **Cervix:** Opening from the uterus to the vagina.
- **Uterus:** place where the baby grows in a woman's abdomen.
- **Oviducts (Fallopian Tubes):** two tubular structures leading from the ovaries to the uterus
- **Ovaries:** organs holding a woman's eggs.







Other related concerns

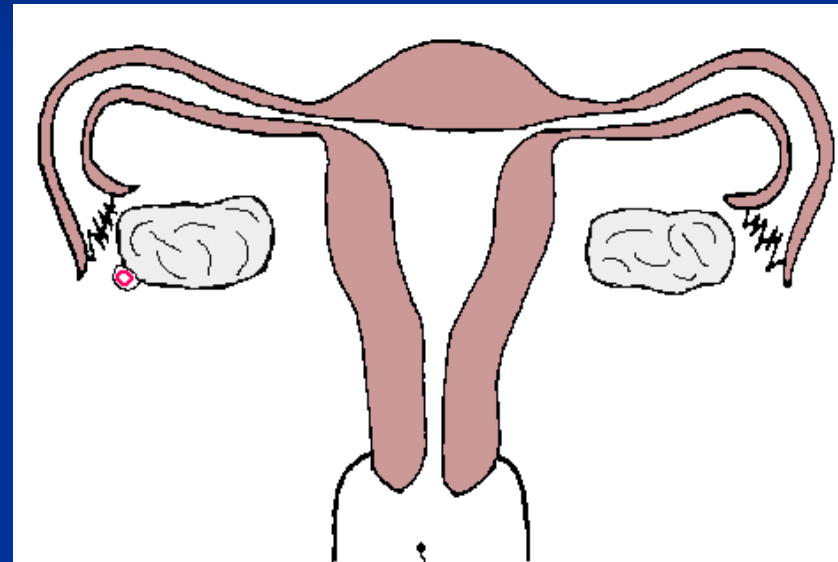
- **D&C:** dilation and curettage, a common minor operation on women.
- **Endometriosis:** fragments of the endometrium in abnormal places.
- **Orgasm:** characterized by the massive release of muscle tension which has built up during excitement.
- **Dysmenorrhea:** painful menstruation
- **Hysterectomy:** surgical removal of uterus.

- **Tubal Ligation:** an operation for sterilization of women.
- **PMS:** premenstrual syndrome.
- **Menstrual Cycle:** the process of passing the blood and tissue lining of the uterus from the body.
- **Toxic Shock Syndrome:** caused by bacteria that live in the vagina, which then multiply and causes infection.
- **Menopause:** the remaining ova no longer ripen or develop.

- **Estrogen:** the hormone responsible for secondary sex characteristics and for the sex drive in females. The “egg producing” hormone.
- **Progesterone:** builds up the lining of the uterus to prepare it for the fertilized ovum.; the “egg-setting” hormone.
- **Ovulation:** time when the egg is released from the ovary.

Fertilization (conception): a sperm entering an ovum.

- **Follicle-stimulating Hormone (FHS):** a substance which brings to life a few of the ovum in one of the ovaries.
- **Luteinizing Hormone (LH):** causes the follicle to burst, and allows ovum to fall into the opening of the fallopian tube.
- **Ova –plural, Ovum—singular:** the female reproductive cell.
- **Ovaries:** organs holding a woman's eggs.

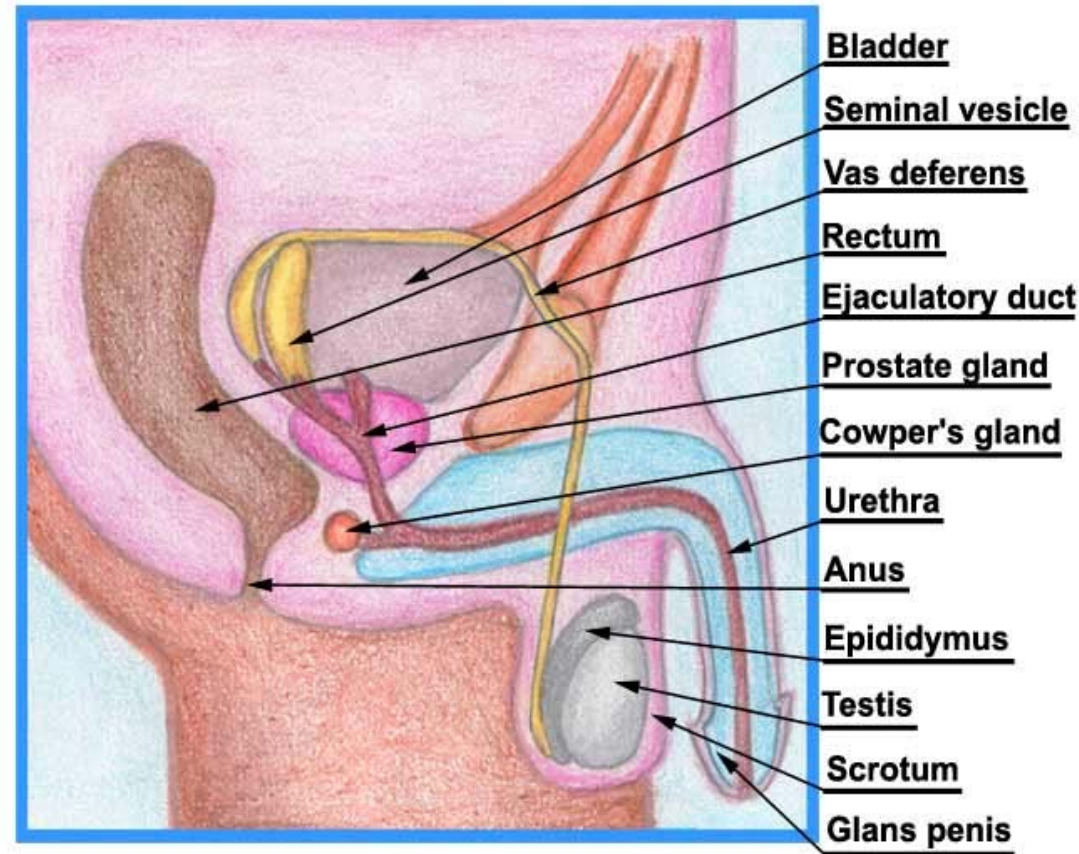


External Male Reproductive

- **Testosterone:** the male reproductive hormone made by the testicles which causes the changes of puberty.
- **Penis:** the organ of transfer of sperm to female.
- **Scrotum:** pouch-like sac holding both testicles in a separate compartment that hang underneath the penis.
- **Testicles – Testes Gland:** two glands in the male, located in the scrotum, which produce male hormones (testosterone).

Internal Male Organs

- **Sperm:** the microscopic cells produced by the male's testicles which can fertilize the female's ovum.
- **Prostate Gland:** a man's gland that helps make semen.
- **Cowper's Glands:** behind the base of the penis which secrete fluid to make semen and neutralize acid during sexual excitement.
- **Ejaculatory duct:** a short straight tube that passes into the prostate gland and opens into the urethra.

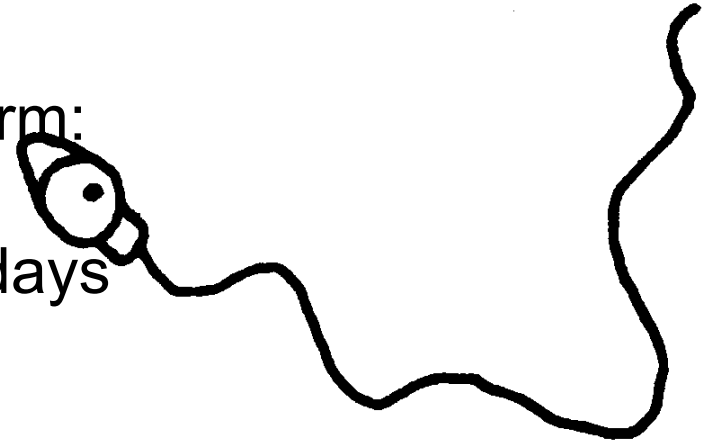


Swimming for your life

A sperm is a tiny package with a big responsibility – to fertilize the egg and create a human life. So that tiny package is loaded with “gear” for its important journey.

A few facts:

- Daily sperm production by a healthy man:
10 million to 50 million
- Contents of average ejaculation:
50 million sperm; 25 million moving; 20 million deformed
- Maturation: 72 days
- Average swimming speed of a sperm:
8 inches per hour
- Survival time in a woman: 2 to 7 days



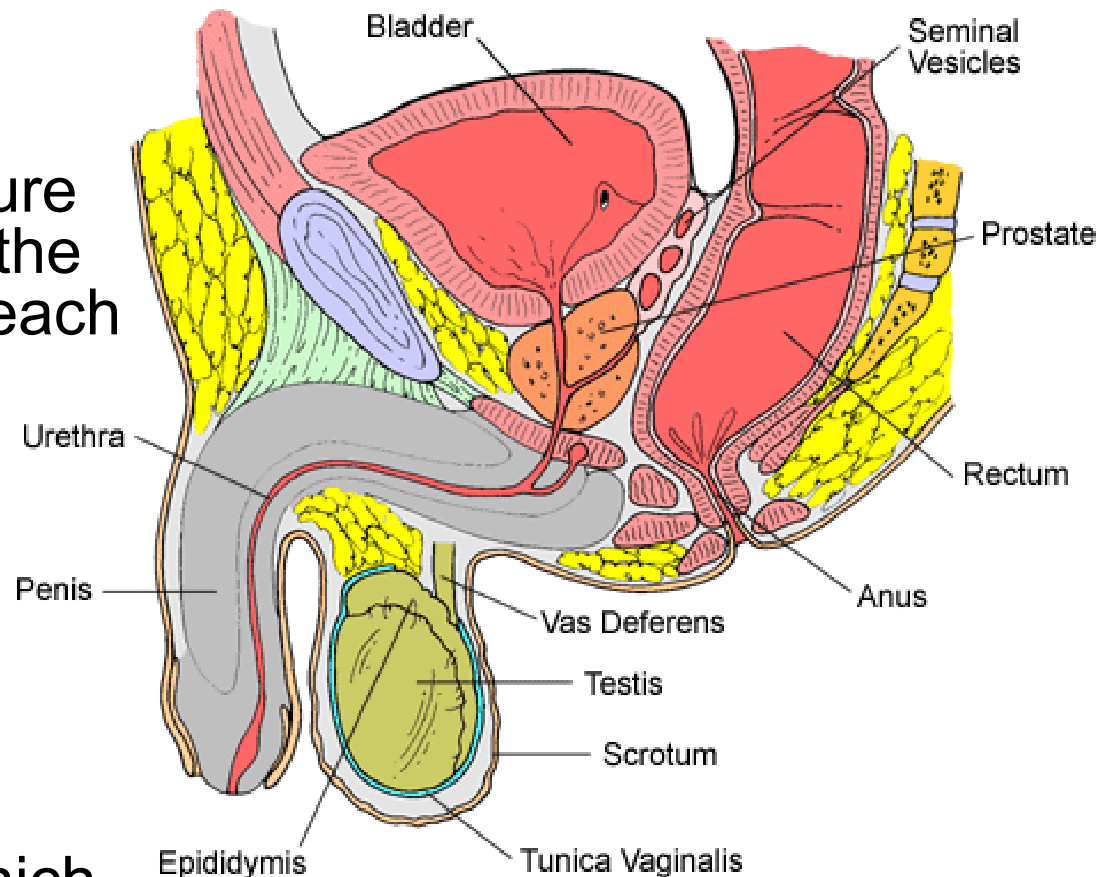
- **Urethra:** a tube that connects with the vas deferens to carry sperm cells out of the body.

- **Epididymis:** the structure that forms a mass over the back and upper part of each testes.

- **Vas Deferens (singular):** two tubes leading from the epididymis to the seminal vesicles.

- **Seminal Vesicles:** two pouch-like structures which serve to store mature sperm until ejaculated.

Male Reproductive Tract



Other related concerns

- **Circumcision:** A process that surgically removes the flap of skin that covers the glans of the penis.
- **Ejaculation:** when semen carrying sperm spurts out of penis
- **Semen:** the thick, sticky fluid which contains sperm ejaculated by the male from the penis during orgasm (climax).
- **Nocturnal Emissions:** normal, involuntary ejaculation of semen and sperm while a male is asleep.
- **Impotence:** the failure to get or maintain an erection
- **Vasectomy:** surgical procedure for sterilization of the male.

Timelines

Male Time Line:

Infancy	Erections begin
Ages 11-14	Secondary sex characteristics appear
Ages 13-16	Sperm produced in adult amounts (puberty)
Late teens	Peak sexual urges for boys
Throughout life	If good health is present, there is the sex urge and ability to father children.

Female Time Line:

Ages 9-12	Secondary sex characteristics appear
Ages 11-14	Menstrual cycle begins
Late 20-30's	Peak sexual urges
Ages 45-55	menopause (cycle stops, but sex urge continues)