

Human Growth and Development Reviewer

Chapter 1: Gametogenesis

Gametogenesis

- Process of forming male (sperm) and females (oocyte/egg)
- Starts from Primordial Germ Cell (PGCs)

Primordial Germ Cells

- Development begins with fertilization
- Male gamete (sperm) and female gamete (oocyte) give rise to a zygote

Chromosome theory of inheritance

- Traits of a new individual are determined by specific genes on chromosomes inherited from the father and the mother
- Humans have approximately 35,000 genes on **46 chromosomes**

Mitosis

- The process where one cell divides
- Give rise to 2 daughter cells (genetically identical to parent cells) = 24 chromosomes
- Each chromosome replicates its deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) "photocopy"
- Replication phase

Phases of Mitosis

- **Prophase** - "**Pack**" chromosome coils and condense DNA "**Prepare**" Spindle fibers form to move chromosomes
- 2 sister chromatids, joined together at the centromere

- **Metaphase**- Chromosomes line up at the equatorial plane
- Each attached by microtubules extending from centromere to centriole, forming mitotic spindle
- Centromere of each chromosome divides, marks the beginning of **Anaphase**
- **Anaphase**- Migration of chromatids to opposite poles of the spindle
- **Telophase**- Chromosomes have reached the opposite side of the cell. Uncoils, Cytoplasm divides, produces 2 daughter cells.

Meiosis 1

- Male and female germ cells replicate their DNA at the beginning
- Each of the 46 chromosomes is duplicated into sister chromatids
- Homologous chromosomes align themselves in pairs
- "Synapsis"
- **Cross over**- Prophase 1 of meiosis, homologous chromosomes exchange pieces of DNA. New combinations of genetic information, the chiasma is the X-shaped point where exchange occurs

Meiosis 2

- the 2 cells from meiosis divide again
 - The sister chromatids separate
 - Each cell divides into 2
- Results: 4 cells total, 23 chromosomes each, each chromosome has 1 chromatid

Polar Bodies

Oogenesis (female)

- 1 primary oocyte
- Only 1 becomes mature oocyte
- The other 3 polar bodies disappear

Spermatogenesis

- 1 primary spermatocyte
- All 4 become sperm cells
- 2 sperm carry X, 2 sperm carry Y

MITOSIS AND MEIOSIS

	MITOSIS	MEIOSIS
Purpose	Growth, repair, and replacement of body cells	Production of gametes (sperm and oocytes)
Number of divisions	1 division	2 divisions
Starting cell	Diploid (46 chromosomes)	Diploid (46 chromosomes)
End result	2 daughter cells	4 daughter cells
Chromosomes	46 chromosomes	23 chromosomes
Genetically identical?	Yes – generally identical to the parent cell	No – genetically different
Where?	Somatic/body cells	Germ cells in the gonads
Main role	Make more body cells	Make sex cells/gametes

Chromosomal and Genetic Abnormalities

- chromosomal abnormalities are a major cause of congenital malformations and spontaneous abortions.

A. Numerical

- occur due to nondisjunction (failure of homologous chromosomes and chromatids to separate) during meiosis.

1. Trisomy 21 (Down Syndrome)

- extra copy of **chromosomes 21**
- Usually caused by meiotic nondisjunction
- **MANIFESTATIONS**
 - growth and development
 - intellectual disability
 - upward-slanting eyes and epicanthal folds
 - flat facial appearance
 - small ears
 - Hypotonia
 - congenital heart defects
 - increased risk of infections, leukemia, and thyroid problems
 - increased risk of Alzheimer later in life

2. Trisomy 18(Edward's Syndrome)

- Those born alive usually die by age 2 months
- Incidence: **1 in 5000** newborns
- **Features:**
 - Mental retardation
 - Congenital heart defects
 - Low-set ears
 - Flexion of fingers and hands

- micrognathia, renal anomalies, syndactyly, and malformations of the skeletal system

3. Trisomy 13 (Patau Syndrome)

- Incidence: **1 in 20,000 live births**
- Over 90% of infants die in the first month after birth

- Features

- mental retardation
- holoprosencephaly
- congenital heart defects
- deafness
- cleft lip and palate

4. Klinefelter Syndrome

- **Incidence: 1 in 500 males**
- Patients have **48 chromosomes**: 44 autosomal and 4 sex chromosomes (XXXY)
- **(+) Barr Body / Sex Chromatin Body**
 - Formed by condensation of an inactive PDAX sex chromosomes

- clinical features found only in males and usually detected during puberty
- sterility
- testicular atrophy
- hyalinization of seminiferous tubules
- gynecomastia

- **Turner Syndrome**

- The only Monosomy compatible with life
- Patients appear female in appearance

- Characterized by the absence of ovaries (gonadal dysgenesis) and a short stature

- **Features:**

- Webbed neck
- Lymphedema of the extremities
- skeletal deformities
- a broad chest with widely spaced nipples

B. STRUCTURAL ABNORMALITIES

- usually result from chromosomal breakage
- Breaks are caused by environmental factors (viruses, radiation, drugs)
- Partial deletion
 - Broken piece of a chromosome is lost and the infants with partial deletion of a chromosome is abnormal

CRI-DU-CHAT SYNDROME

- Partial Deletion of the short arm of chromosome 5
- Features:
 - cat like
 - Microcephaly
 - Mental retardation
 - Congenital heart disease

ANGELMAN SYNDROME

- Deletion on the maternal chromosome
- **Features:**
 - Mental retardation
 - Cannot speak

- Poor motor development
- Prone to unprovoked and prolonged periods of laughter

PRADER-WILLI SYNDROME

- Deletion on the paternal chromosome
- Features:
 - Hypotonia
 - Obesity
 - Mental retardation
 - Hypogonadism
 - Cryptorchidism

MILLER-DIEKER SYNDROME

- Deletion on either parental chromosome
- Features:
 - Lissencephaly
 - Developmental delay
 - Seizures
 - Cardiac and facial abnormalities

SHPRINTZEN SYNDROME

- Deletion on either parental chromosome
- Features:
 - Palatal defects
 - Conotruncal heart defects
 - Speech delay
 - Learning disorders

- Schizophrenia-like disorder

FRAGILE X SYNDROME

- CGG repeats on the site on the long arm of the **X chromosome**
- **Males** are affected more than females
- Second to Down Syndrome as a cause of mental retardation because of chromosomal abnormalities
- Features:
 - Mental retardation
 - Large ears
 - Prominent jaw Pale
 - blue irise

Morphological changes during maturation of gametes (oogenesis and spermatogenesis)

Oogenesis 1

- Maturation of Oocytes begins before birth
- Primordial germ cell (PGCs) migrate to the female gonad and differentiate into Oogonia
- Follicular cells originate from the ovarian surface and form clusters around oogonia
- Primary oocytes form when oogonia stop dividing by mitosis and arrest in prophase of meiosis 1
- Primordial follicle consists of one surviving oocyte surrounded by a single layer of flat epithelial follicular cells

Oogenesis 2

- **Maturation of oocytes continues at puberty**
- Primary oocytes enter the bplotene stage
- Due to Oocyte Maturation Inhibitor (OMI)- a substance secreted by follicular cells

Oocyte number and aging

- At birth: 700,000-2 million total number of primary oocytes
- Beginning of puberty: 400,000 are present
- Increase maternal age= high risk and vulnerable to damages

Follicular development

- As primary oocyte begins to grow — Surrounding follicular cells change from flat to cuboidal and produce a stratified epithelium of granulosa cells — becomes a primary follicle

Follicle structure

- Granulosa cells rest on a basement membrane separating them from surrounding stromal cells that form theca folliculi
- Granulosa cells and the oocyte secrete a layer of glycoproteins on the surface of the oocyte, forming zona pellucida
- Zona Pellucida- Glycoproteins

Theca layers

- As the follicles continue to grow, cells of the theca folliculi organize into:
- Theca interna - inner layer of secretory cells, composed of cells having characteristics of steroid secretion, rich in blood vessels.
- Theca externa - outer fibrous capsule, gradually merges with the ovarian stroma

Secondary Follicle

- As development continues, fluid filled spaces appear between granulosa cells and the follicle becomes a secondary follicle
- At maturity, the secondary follicle may be 25 mm or more in diameter

Ovulation and meiosis

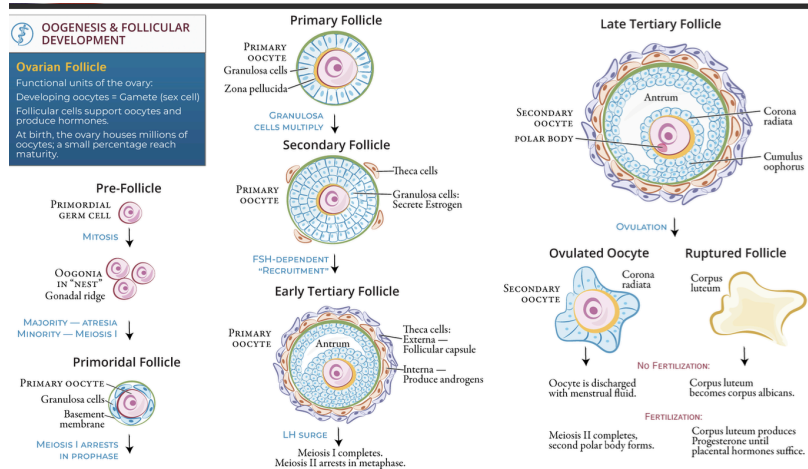
- When matures, a surge in Luteinizing Hormone (LH) induces a preovulatory growth phase
- Meiosis 1 is completed
- Results in formation of 2 Daughter cells of unequal size, each with 23 double structures chromosomes

Daughter cells

- 1 secondary cells: receives most of the cytoplasm, cell membrane lies in the perivitelline space
- 1st polar body: receives none of the cytoplasm, cell membrane lies between zona pellucida

Meiosis 2 Arrest

- The cell then enters meiosis 2 but arrest in metaphase approximately 3 hours before ovulation
- Meiosis 2 is completed only if the oocyte is fertilized, otherwise the cell degenerates approximately 24 hrs after ovulation.



Spermatogenesis

- Maturation begins at puberty
- Spermatogonia are transformed into spermatozoa
- At birth, germ cells in the male can be recognized in the sex cords of the testis as large, pale cells surrounded by supporting cells
- Supporting cells become sustentacular or sertoli cells
- Before puberty, the sex cords acquire lumen and become the semeniferous tubules at the same time, primordial germ cells gives rise to **spermatogonial stem cells**
- **Type A spermatogonia**: Production marks the initiation of spermatogenesis, Undergo a limited number of mitotic divisions to form a clone of cells.

- **Type B Spermatogonia**: Formed by the last cell division of type A, Further divide to form primary spermatocyte.
- **Primary Spermatocytes**: Enter a prolonged Prophase (22 days) followed by rapid completion of meiosis 1 and the formation of secondary spermatocytes.
- **Secondary spermatocytes**: immediately begin to form haploid **spermatids**.

Sertoli Cells

- Where spermatogonia and spermatids remain embedded throughout their development
- **Support and protect the germ cells**, participate in their nutrition, and assist in the release of mature spermatozoa.

Luteinizing Hormones (LH)

- Produced by Anterior Pituitary gland to regulate.
- LH binds to receptors — **stimulates testosterone production** — Binds sertoli cells to promote spermatogenesis

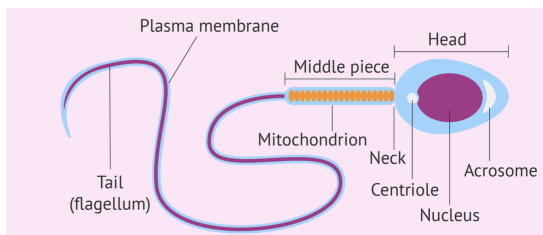
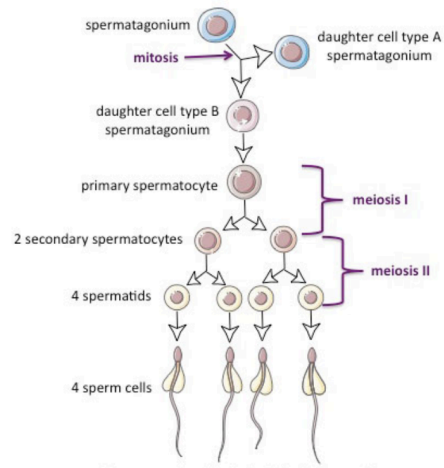
Follicle Stimulating Hormone

- Its binding to the sertoli cells **stimulates testicular fluid production** and synthesis of intracellular androgen receptor proteins

Results:

- Formation of the acrosome
- Covers half of the nuclear surface and contains enzymes to assist in penetration of the egg and its surrounding layers
- Condensation of the nucleus
- Formation of the neck, middle piece and tail

- Shedding of the most of the cytoplasm
- 64 days for spermatogonium to develop into a mature spermatozoon



Chapter 3: 2nd week of development: Bilemnar Germ Disk

Day 8:

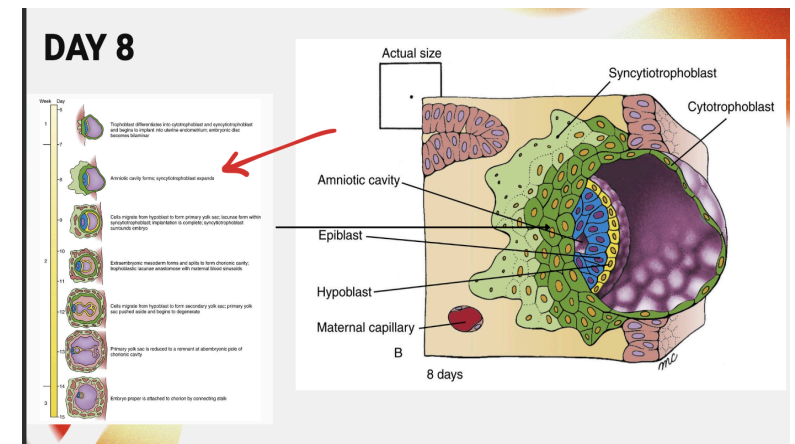
- The blastocyst is partially embedded in the endometrial stroma
- The trophoblast has differentiated into 2 layers:

Outer layer- Multinucleated zone without distinct cell boundaries, the **syncytiotrophoblast**

Inner layer- Mononucleated cells, the **cytotrophoblast**

Differentiated into:

- **Hypoblast layer-** layer of small cuboidal cells adjacent to the blastocyst cavity
- **Epiblast layer-** a layer of high columnar cells adjective to the amniotic cavity



Day 9

- The blastocyst is more deeply embedded in the endometrium
- The trophoblast shows considerable progress in development
- **Lucnar Stage:** phase of trophoblast development when vacuoles fuse and form a large lacunae
- **Exocoelomic cavity or primitive yolk sac-** lined by a thin membrane originating from the hypoblast

Days 11 and 12

- The blastocyst is completely embedded in the endometrial stroma
- The blastocyst now produces a slight protrusion into the lumen of the uterus
- The trophoblast is characterized by lacunar spaces in the syncytium that form an intercommunication network
- Cells of the syncytiotrophoblast penetrate deeper into the stroma and erode the endothelial lining of the maternal capillaries
- These capillaries are known as **sinusoids**
- Establishment of the uteroplacental circulation: happens when the trophoblast continues to erode more and more sinusoids, maternal blood begins to flow through the trophoblastic system

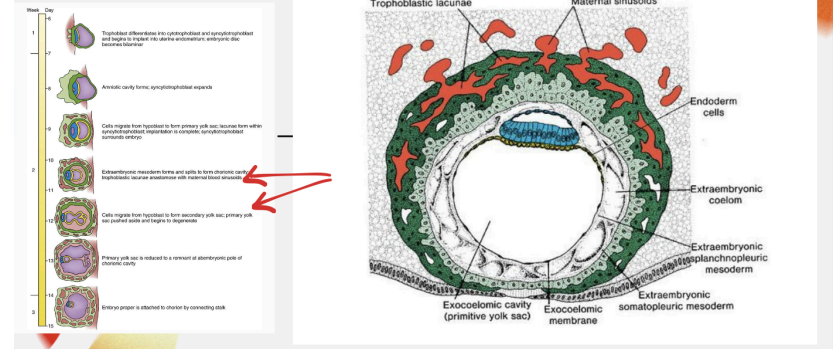
Extraembryonic Mesoderm

- Loose connective tissue formed by cells derived from yolk sac cells
- Fills all of the space between the trophoblast externally and the amnion and exocoelomic membrane
- It can be divided into two parts
- **Extraembryonic somatic mesoderm**- lines the cytotrophoblast and amnion
- **Extraembryonic splanchnic mesoderm**- this lines the yolk sac

Extraembryonic Coelom or Chorionic Cavity

- A new space formed by the large cavities developing into the extraembryonic mesoderm
- Surrounds the primitive yolk and amniotic cavity

DAYS 11 and 12



- Bleeding may occasionally occur at the implantation site as a result of increased blood flow into lacunar spaces
- The trophoblast is characterized by **villous structures**
- Hypoblast produces additional cells that migrate along inside of the **exocoelomic membrane** these cells proliferate and gradually form a new cavity within the exocoelomic cavity

Secondary yolk sac or definitive yolk sac

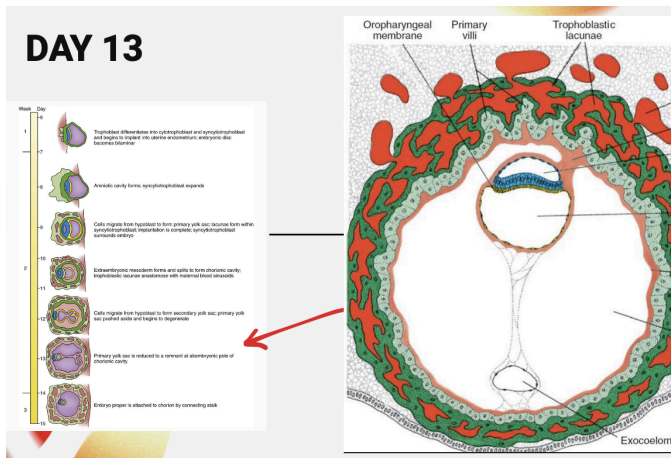
- New cavity formed inside the exocoelomic cavity or primitive yolk sac

Extraembryonic coelom

- Expands and form a large cavity/ chorionic cavity

Connecting stalk

- The only place where extraembryonic mesoderm traverses the chorionic cavity
- Becomes the umbilical cord with the development of blood vessels



Chapter 4: 3rd week of development: trilemnar germ disc

1. Gastrulation: Formation of Embryonic mesoderm and endoderm

- The process that establishes all **three layers** in the embryo
 - Ectoderm
 - Mesoderm
 - Endoderm
- Begins with formation of the primitive streak on surface of the epiblast
- Primitive streak:
 - In a 15 to 16 day embryo, it is visible as a narrow groove with slightly bulging region on either side
 - Primitive node: cephalic end of the streak
 - **Invagination:** inward movement when the cells of the epiblast migrate toward the primitive streak — embryonic endoderm

- Some cells come to lie between the epiblast and newly created endoderm to form **mesoderm**
- Cells remaining in the epiblast then form the ectoderm
- Epiblast- during gastrulation, it is the source of the germ layers, cells in these layer will give rise to all of the tissues and organs in the embryo

2. Formation of the notochord

- **Pre-notochordal cells**
- Found in the primitive pit
- Move forward cephalad until they reach the prechordal plate
 - Forms between the tip of the notochord and the buccopharyngeal membrane
 - Importance for induction of the forebrain
- **Notochord plate**
Formed by the two cell layers of the midline of the embryo
- **Neurenteric canal**
Connects the amniotic and yolk sac cavities where the primitive pit forms an indentation in the epiblast
- **Cloacal membrane**
- Formed at the caudal end the embryonic disc
- Consists of tightly adherent ectoderm and endoderm cells
- **Allantoenteric Diverticulum or allantois**
- Formed by the posterior wall of the yolk sac
- Appears on the 16th day of development

- May be involved in abnormalities of bladder development
- Takes place before and during the period of gastrulation.
- **Anterior Visceral Endoderm (AVE)**
 - Expresses genes essential for head formation including transcription factor: OTX2, LIM1, HESX1
 - And secreted factor: **Cerberus**
 - These genes establish the cranial end of the embryo before gastrulation
- **Nodal**
 - A member of the transforming growth factor beta family
 - Initiate and maintains the primitive streak
 - Once the streak is formed, a number of genes regulate formation of dorsal and ventral mesoderm and head and tail structure

3. Establishment of the body axes

- **Bone morphogenetic protein-4 (bmp-4)**
 - Secreted throughout the embryonic disc
 - Along with fibroblast growth factors (FGF), mesoderm will be ventralized to contribute to kidneys, blood, and body wall mesoderm
- **Hepatocyte nuclear factor 3- Beta (HNF-3 beta)**
 - Maintains the node and later induces regional specificity in the forebrain and midbrain area

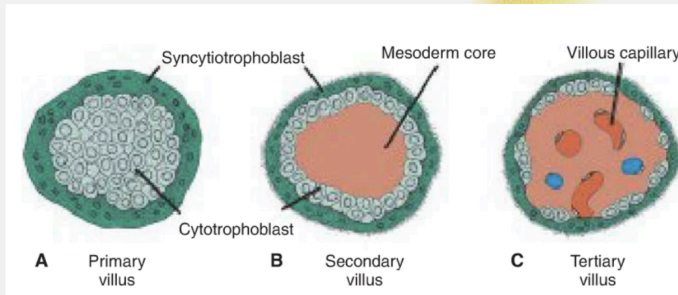
- Without this, embryos fail to gastrulate properly and lack forebrain and midbrain structures
- **Transcription factor goosecoid**
 - Contributes to regulation of head development
- **Brachyury (T) gene**
 - Controls the regulation of dorsal mesoderm formation in mid and caudal regions of embryo
- **Fibroblast Growth Factor**
 - Secreted by cells in the node and primitive streak and induces expression of nodal but only on the left side of the embryo
- **Embryonic Disc**
 - Initially flat and almost round
 - Gradually becomes elongated,, with a broad cephalic and a narrow caudal end
- **End of 4th week**
 - Primitive streak shows regressive changes, rapidly shrinks and soon disappears

5. Further Development of trophoblast

- **Primary villi-** Consist of a cytotrophoblastic covered by a syncytical layer
- **Secondary villi-** Formed by the penetration of the mesodermal cells of the core primary villi and growth toward the decidua
- **Tertiary villus-** “Definitive placental villus”, Capillaries in this structure will make contact with capillaries

developing in mesoderm of the chorionic plate and in the connecting stalk

V. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF TROPHOBLAST



-

Stem / Anchoring Villi

- Villi that extend from the **chorionic plate** → **decidual plate**.
- Their main job is to **anchor/support** the developing structure.
- **Remember: Stem = Anchor**

Free / Terminal Villi

- These **branch from the stem villi**.
- They are where **nutrient and substance exchange** happens.
- **Remember: Terminal = Exchange**

Chorionic Cavity

- The **chorionic cavity** gets **larger** as development continues.
- By around the **19th–20th day**, the embryo is connected to the trophoblastic shell by a **connecting stalk**.

Umbilical Cord

- The **connecting stalk** develops into the **umbilical cord**.
- It connects the **placenta** and **embryo/fetus**.

V. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF TROPHOBLAST

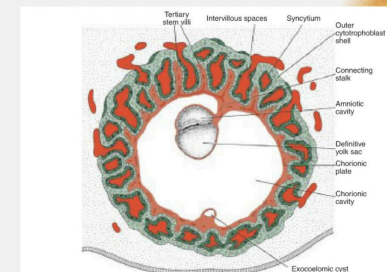


FIGURE 5.12 Presomite embryo and the trophoblast at the end of the third week. Tertiary and secondary villi give the trophoblast a characteristic radial appearance. Intervillous spaces, which are found through the trophoblast, are lined with syncytium. Cytotrophoblastic cells surround the trophoblast entirely and in direct contact with the endometrium. The embryo is suspended in the chorionic cavity by means of connecting stalk.