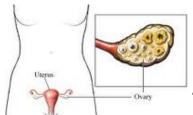


The Human Ovaries

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What is an Ovary?

The ovary is the reproductive organ which produces the ovum.

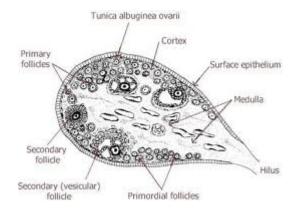


The Ovum is commonly known as egg and it produced in the female body

approximately 1/month.

It always present as a pair in the female reproductive organ.

often found in pairs as part of the vertebrate female reproductive system. The ovary is a gonad.



Anatomy of Ovary

- Oval shaped
- Human ovary size is 3 cm x 1.5 cm x 1.5 cm approximately.
- Located in the lateral wall of the pelvis.
- Location of ovary is known as<u>ovarian fossa</u>.
- The fossa lies beneath the external iliac artery and in front of theureter and the internal iliac artery.

Hormones

Ovaries secrete two important hormonesestrogen and progesterone.

1.Estrogen

- Responsible for the appearance of secondary sex characteristics of females at puberty
- Also responsible for maturation of reproductive organs
- Maintain the reproductive organs in their mature functional state.

2. Progesterone

- Promotecyclic changes in the endometrium
- The endometrium is prepared for pregnancy by progesterone.
- Maintains the endometrium in a healthy state during pregnancy.

Ligaments

Within the pelvic cavity paired ovaries lie on either side of the uterus. The ovaries are tethered to the body wall via the <u>suspensory</u> ligament of the ovary.

Mesovarium is the part of the <u>broad ligament of the uterus</u> covers the ovary Thus, the ovary invaginated into the peritonium, making it the only interperitoneal organ.

Extremities

The Two extremities to the ovary:

- 1. Tubal extremity: The end to which theuterine tube attaches
- 2. **Uterine extremity:** Attached to the uterus through the ovarian ligament.

Histology of Ovary

Cell Types

- Follicular cells
- Granulosa cells
- Gametes
- Germinal epithelium
- The tunica albuginea covers the cortex.
- The ovarian cortex consists of ovarian follicles and stroma in between them.
- Cumulus oophorus, membrana granulosa corona radiata, zona pellucida, and primary oocyte are included in the follicles.
- Follicle hastThe zona pellucida, theca of follicle, antrum and liquor folliculi
- The corpus luteum derived from the follicles is in the cortex.
- Ovarian medulla is the innermost layer.

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Reference Links:

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ovary
- http://womenshealth.about.com/cs/ovarianconditions/a/yrovrisovuovads.htm
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpRio7E2FXw

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