HISTOLOGY – EPITHELIUM TISSUE

UNIT 4 – CHAPTER 3

BODY TISSUES

• Cells are generalized for particular functions

Tissue

• Groups of cells that are similar in structure and function

Histology

• Study of tissues

BODY TISSUES

- 4 Primary Tissue Types
 - 1. Epithelium
 - Protection, secretion, absorption, filtation
 - 2. Connective
 - Support, structure
 - 3. Nervous
 - Communication, control
 - 4. Muscle
 - Movement (internal & external)

PRIMARY GERM LAYERS

Endoderm (Epithelial)	Mesoderm (Epithelial, Muscle, Connective)	Ectoderm (Epithelial, Nervous)
Digestive & respiratory epithelium	Muscles	Epidermis
Urethra epithelium	Skeleton (bones & cartilage)	Lining of mouth, anus, nostrils
Bladder	Blood	Sweat & sebaceous glands
Liver & pancreas	Blood vessel epithelium	Hair
	Dermis	Brain & spinal cord
	Excretory & reproductive organs	Eyes, nose, ear epithelium

EPITHELIUM TISSUES

- Epithelium
 - Epithe = laid on or covering
 - The lining, covering, and glandular tissue of the body
- Glandular epithelium forms various glands in the body
- Covering and lining epithelium covers all free body surfaces
 - Outer layer of skin
 - Line body cavities
- Nearly all substances given off or received by the body must pass through epithelium

EPITHELIAL TISSUES

- Epithelial Functions
 - 1. Protection
 - 2. Sensory
 - 3. Secretion
 - 4. Absorption
 - 5. Excretion

CHARACTERISTICS OF EPITHELIUM

- High Cellularity
 - Cells fit closely together
 - Very little extracellular matrix
- Contains specialized contacts
 - Tight junctions & desmosomes
- Avascular
 - No blood vessels within it
 - Diffusion provides nutrients & carries wastes away
 - Lots of nerve fibers

CHARACTERISTICS OF EPITHELIUM

- Reinforcement & Connection
- Defines Boundaries
 - Remember cancer causes a breach in these boundaries
- Regenerates easily if well nourished
- Found in areas of high friction
- Exposed surfaces of some epithelia are slick and smooth but others exhibit cell surface modifications, such as microvilli or cilia

CHARACTERISTICS OF EPITHELIUM

Membranes always have one free surface or edge

- Apical Surface
 - Exposed to the body's exterior or to the cavity of an internal organ

 The lower surface of an epithelium rests on a <u>basement</u> <u>membrane</u>, a material secreted by the cells





CLASSIFICATION OF EPITHELIUM

- Epithelium is given 2 names
 - Name is a combination of the number of cell layers and the shape of the cells
 - 1st indicates the relative number of cell layers
 - Simple = one layer of cells
 - Stratified = two or more layers of cells
 - 2nd describes the shape of its cells at the **free surface**
 - Squamous = flattened like fish scales
 - Cuboidal = cube-shaped like dice
 - Columnar = shaped like columns





Simple squamous



Simple cuboidal



Simple columnar



Pseudostratified









Stratified squamous

Stratified cuboidal

Stratified columnar

Transitional

CLASSIFICATION OF EPITHELIUM

• Pseudostratified

- "False" layers
- Ciliated (respiratory tract)
- Non-ciliated (male urethra)

• Transitional

- Multiple layers of epithelial cells, "hodge-podge"
- Found in urinary tract
 - Can look cuboidal until bladder stretches, then looks squamous





SIMPLE EPITHELIA

- Simple epithelia are most concerned with absorption, secretin, and filtration
 - Because they are usually very thin, protection is not one of their specialties



SIMPLE SQUAMOUS EPITHELIUM

Simple squamous

- Structure
 - Single layer of flat, hexagonal cells
 - Cells are so flat, the nuclei appear as bumps on a cross section

• Distribution

- Lining of blood & lymph vessels (endothelium)
- Small ducts, aveoli of the lungs, loop of Henle in kidney tubules
- Lining of serous membranes (mesothelium), and inner surface of the eardrum

Function

- Diffusion, filtration, secretion, absorption
- Protection against friction







STRATIFIED SQUAMOUS EPITHELIUM

Structure

- Multiple layers are cuboidal in basal layer and progressively flatten toward the surface
- Moist stratified squamous
 - Epithelium surface cells retain a nucleus and cytoplasm
- Keratinized cells
 - Cytoplasm is replaced by keratin
- Cells are dead
- Distribution
 - Moist mouth, throat, larynx, esophagus, anus, vagina, inferior urethra, and cornea
 - Keratinized skin
 - Function

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Protection against abrasion and infection







SIMPLE CUBOIDAL EPITHELIUM

Structure

- Single layer of cube-shaped cells
- Some have cilia or microvilli
- Distribution
 - Glands and their ducts
 - Terminal bronchioles of lungs
 - Kidney tubules
 - Choroid plexus of the brain
 - Surface of the ovaries

Function

- Absorption and secretion by cells of the kidney tubules; secretion by cells of the choroid plexus and glands
- Movement of mucus particles out of the terminal bronchioles by ciliated cells



STRATIFIED CUBOIDAL EPITHELIUM

• Structure

- Multiple layers of somewhat cubeshaped cells
- Distribution
 - Sweat gland ducts & ovarian follicular cells

• Function

• Secretion, absorption, and protection against infection





Structure

- Single layer of tall, narrow cells
- Some cells have cilia (bronchioles of lungs, audiotyr tubes, uterine tubes, uterus) or microvilli (intestines)

• Distribution

 Glands and some ducts, bronchioles of lungs, auditory tube, uterus, uterine tubes, stomach, intestines, gallbladder, bile ducts, & ventricles of the brain

• Function

- Movement of particles out of the bronchioles of the lungs
- Partially responsible for the movement of the egg through the uterine tubes by ciliated cells
- Secretion by cells of the glands, the stomach, and the intestine
- Absorption by cells of the intestine



STRATIFIED COLUMNAR EPITHELIUM

• Structure

- Multiple layers of cells with tall, thin cells resting on layers of more cuboidal cells
- Ciliated in the larynx

Distribution

- Mammary gland duct, larynx, and a portion of the male urethra
- Function
 - Protection & secretion



PSEUDOSTRATIFIED CILIATED COLUMNAR EPITHELIUM

• Structure

- Single layer of cells
- All the clels are attached to the basement membrane
- Some cells are tall and thin and reach the free surface and other don't
- Nuclei of these cells are at different levels and appear stratified
- Cells are almost always ciliated and are assoiciated with goblet cells

Distribution

Larynx, nasal cavity, paranasal sinuses, pharynx, auditory tube,
trachea, and bronchi of the lungs

Function

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• Movement of fluid (often mucus) that contains foreign particles





TRANSITIONAL EPITHELIUM

Structure

 Stratified cells that appear cube-like when the organ or tube is relaxed and appear squamous when the organ or tube is distended by fluid

• Distribution

 Urinary bladder, ureters, and superior urethra

Function

- Formation of a permeability barrier and protection against caustic effect of urine
- Accommodation of fluid-content fluctuations in organ or tube



EPITHELIAL MEMBRANES

Mucous Membranes

- Line body cavities OPEN to exterior
- Examples: digestive, respiratory, urogenital
- Mucus protects by trapping microorganisms, substances in mucus

Cutaneous Membranes

- Skin
- Helps waterproof & protect body
- First line of defense in immune system

Serous Membranes

- Lines all CLOSED body cavities
- Serous fluid located between layers to reduce friction due to organ motion

